

Let the two plates be at temperatures T_1 (one closer to the Sun), and T_2 such that $T_1 > T_2$. We assume that inside the plate there is a device that converts heat into electrical energy with maximum theoretical efficiency (Carnot's engine) of $\eta = 1 - \frac{T_2}{T_1} = \frac{P}{Q}$, where P is the output power, and Q the input heat power (therefore $P = Q(1 - \frac{T_2}{T_1})$). On the other side, as we are looking for constant P , we have to use the expressions for gray body radiation and make sure the two plate sides are in equilibrium. We label with ϵ_1 and ϵ_2 the two emissivities (Note: the absorptivity is equal to the emissivity) and write the equations for sides 1 and 2 respectively (it doesn't matter if the paint is applied in a pattern, we can still find an effective emissivity ϵ_{eff}).

$$\epsilon_1 SA = \epsilon_1 \sigma AT_1^4 + Q \quad (1)$$

$$\epsilon_2 \sigma AT_2^4 = Q_C \equiv Q - P \quad (2)$$

Dividing (2) by (1) after we put Q on the left we have

$$\frac{\epsilon_2}{\epsilon_1} \left(\frac{T_2}{T_1}\right)^4 = \frac{Q - Q(1 - \frac{T_2}{T_1})}{\epsilon_1 SA - Q} \quad (3)$$

Labeling with x the ratio $\frac{T_2}{T_1}$ we have

$$\frac{\epsilon_2}{\epsilon_1} x^4 = \frac{Qx}{\epsilon_1 SA - Q} \quad (4)$$

$$Q = \frac{\epsilon_2 x^4 SA}{x + \frac{\epsilon_2}{\epsilon_1} x^4} \quad (5)$$

From $P = Q(1 - x)$

$$P = \frac{\epsilon_2 x^3 SA(1 - x)}{1 + \frac{\epsilon_2}{\epsilon_1} x^3} \quad (6)$$

If divided by ϵ_2 we see that the denominator is lowest if both ϵ_1 and ϵ_2 are equal to 1 (the whole plate is therefore painted black; radiation from the sides is neglected as the plate is very small compared to its surface area). Using those values we have to minimize P . There are many ways to do that: because x is between 0 and 1 one can find it by guessing, by setting the derivative to zero and solving the equation (here it will be of a higher order than 2 so Newton's method could be used until 4-significant figures are obtained) or plotting the function.

Graphed in Desmos (looking only at the segment where $0 < x < 1$) the highest point on the graph has coordinates (0.6925, 0.0767) so the answer for maximal power is $\boxed{P = 0.0767SA}$.