

Abstract Submitted
for the DPP06 Meeting of
The American Physical Society

The impact of non-Fickian diffusion on entropy production in a simple model¹ T. DEBORDE, A.S. WARE, University of Montana — Recent theoretical work has suggested that the standard model of Fickian diffusion is not appropriate for inhomogeneous systems [B. Ph. van Milligen, *et al.*, *Eur. J. Phys.* **26**, 913 (2005)]. As an alternative, van Milligen *et al.* suggested a Fokker-Planck diffusivity law. The flux from Fick's law is given by $\Gamma(x, t) = -D(x, t) \partial n(x, t) / \partial x$ while the flux from the Fokker-Planck diffusivity law is $\Gamma(x, t) = -\partial [D(x, t) n(x, t)] / \partial x$. In this work, a simple model is used to analyze the effect of the two different diffusivity laws on the production of entropy. Three cases are considered: (1) the spatial dependence of the diffusivity is due solely to a density-dependent diffusivity, $D = D_0 n^\alpha$; (2) an arbitrary spatial dependence in the diffusivity, $D = D(x)$; and (3) a coupled density and temperature model with both the diffusivity and the conductivity as functions of the density and temperature, $D = D_0 n^{\alpha_1} T^{\alpha_2}$ and $\chi = \chi_0 n^{\alpha_3} T^{\alpha_4}$. Analytic and numerical results for each of these cases will be presented with a focus on the transport and production of entropy.

¹Work supported by U.S. Department of Energy under Grant DE-FG02-03ER54699 at the University of Montana.

Andrew Ware
University of Montana

Date submitted: 20 Jul 2006

Electronic form version 1.4