

## CM3120: Module 4

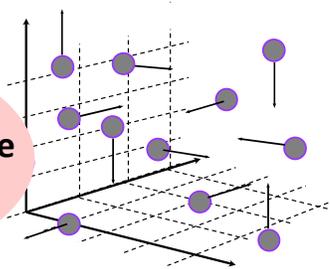
### Diffusion and Mass Transfer II

- I. Classic diffusion and mass transfer: d) EMCD
- II. Classic diffusion and mass transfer: e) Penetration model
- III. Unsteady macroscopic species A mass balances (Intro)
- IV. Interphase species A mass transfers—To an interface— $k_x, k_G, k_p$
- V. Unsteady macroscopic species A mass balances (Redux)
- VI. Interphase species A mass transfers—Across multiple resistances— $K_L, K_G$
- VII. Dimensional analysis
- VIII. Data correlations

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## CM3120: Module 4

Module 4 Lecture VI  
**Interphase Transfers Across Multiple Resistances**  
 (Overall Mass Transfer Coefficients)



*Professor Faith A. Morrison*

Department of Chemical Engineering  
 Michigan Technological University

[www.chem.mtu.edu/~fmorriso/cm3120/cm3120.html](http://www.chem.mtu.edu/~fmorriso/cm3120/cm3120.html)

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Modeling practical devices involving mass transfer

**Example 6:** Height of a packed bed absorber

How can we use mass transfer to design a packed bed gas absorber to achieve a desired separation?

**Example 6** is presented as a series of **linked examples** that navigate around apparent “dead ends” in modeling mass-transfer units

**LECTURES**

Identify a question	Invent something	Try to use it
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ How can we model a large, practical device dependent on mass transfer? <b>III</b></li> <li>✓ How can we account for A going between phases? <b>IV</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Apply the species A mass balance to a macroscopic C.V. <b>III</b></li> <li>✓ Invent <math>k_x</math> through linear driving force (LDF) model <b>IV</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Lack a system to account for A going between phases <b>PAUSE III</b></li> <li>✓ Gets A <u>to</u> the boundary, but not <u>across</u> <b>PAUSE V</b></li> </ul>
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Modeling Mass Transfer Equipment—Overall Mass-Transfer Coefficient

**Modeling Mass Transfer Equipment with the Overall Mass-Transfer Coefficient**

We have concerned ourselves with mass transfer to and from the **bulk** region of a phase and the **interface** with another phase

For mass transfer:  $N_A = k_y(y_{A,bulk} - y_{A,i})$

**Linear-driving-force model:** the flux of A from the bulk in the gas is proportional to the difference between the bulk composition and the composition at the interface.

This is the defining equation for the mass-transfer coefficient,  $k_y$ .

We seek a **combined** model that allows us to describe mass transfer to/from **bulk** gas and **bulk** liquid. This will help us to design and optimize chemical engineering mass-transfer units.

Our solution is inspired by how **heat exchangers** are modeled with overall heat transfer coefficient,  $U$  ...

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Modeling Mass Transfer Equipment—Overall Mass-Transfer Coefficient

Heat Transfer review

**Heat exchangers** are modeled with overall heat transfer coefficient,  $U$ :

$$\dot{Q} = UA\Delta T_{lm}$$

**The Simplest Heat Exchanger:**  
Double-Pipe Heat exchanger - counter current

*We will do an open-system energy balance on a differential section to determine the correct average temperature difference to use.*

**Overall heat transfer coefficient,  $U$**

Analysis of double-pipe heat exchanger

FINAL RESULT:

$$Q = U \underbrace{(2\pi RL)}_A \underbrace{\frac{(T_1' - T_1) - (T_2' - T_2)}{\ln \frac{(T_1' - T_1)}{(T_2' - T_2)}}}_{\equiv \Delta T_{lm}}$$

$Q = UA\Delta T_{lm}$

$\equiv \Delta T_{lm}$   
=log-mean temperature difference

**Overall driving force  $\Delta T_{df}$  for heat transfer (bulk to bulk)**

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Modeling Mass Transfer Equipment—Overall Mass-Transfer Coefficient

**Heat exchangers** are modeled with overall heat transfer coefficient,  $U$ :

$$\dot{Q} = UA\Delta T_{df}$$

$\Delta T_{driving\ force} = (T_{bulk1} - T_{bulk2})_{lm\ av}$

Overall driving force ( $df$ ) for heat transfer (bulk to bulk)

**Gas absorbers and distillation columns** are modeled with overall mass transfer coefficient,  $K$ :

**Will this work?**

$$N_A = K\Delta c_{df}$$

$\Delta c_{driving\ force} = (c_{bulk1} - c_{bulk2})_{av}$

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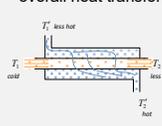
Modeling Mass Transfer Equipment—Overall Mass-Transfer Coefficient

**Yes**, but there are differences between heat and mass transfer that need to be established.

**What is  $\Delta c_{df}$ ?**

There are some subtleties in mass transfer driving force.

Heat exchangers are modeled with overall heat transfer coefficient,  $U$ :



$$\dot{Q} = UA\Delta T_{df}$$

$$\Delta T_{driving\ force} = (T_{bulk1} - T_{bulk2})_{lm\ av}$$

Overall driving force ( $df$ ) for heat transfer (bulk to bulk)

$$\dot{Q} = UA\Delta T_{df}$$

**Will this work?**

Gas absorbers and distillation columns are modeled with overall mass transfer coefficient,  $K$ :

$$N_A = K\Delta c_{df}$$

$$\Delta c_{driving\ force} = (c_{bulk1} - c_{bulk2})_{av}$$

$$N_A = K\Delta c_{df}$$

?

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Modeling Mass Transfer Equipment—Overall Mass-Transfer Coefficient

**Yes**, but there are differences between heat and mass transfer that need to be established.

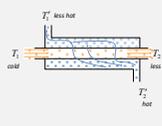
**What is  $\Delta c_{df}$ ?**

There are some subtleties in mass transfer driving force.

**What is  $K$ ?**

We seek to write this in terms of our previous discussions of mass transfer (film coefficients  $k_x, k_p, k_c$ , diffusion coefficients  $D_{AB}$ ).

Heat exchangers are modeled with overall heat transfer coefficient,  $U$ :



$$\dot{Q} = UA\Delta T_{df}$$

$$\Delta T_{driving\ force} = (T_{bulk1} - T_{bulk2})_{lm\ av}$$

Overall driving force ( $df$ ) for heat transfer (bulk to bulk)

$$\dot{Q} = UA\Delta T_{df}$$

**Will this work?**

Gas absorbers and distillation columns are modeled with overall mass transfer coefficient,  $K$ :

$$N_A = K\Delta c_{df}$$

$$\Delta c_{driving\ force} = (c_{bulk1} - c_{bulk2})_{av}$$

$$N_A = K\Delta c_{df}$$

?

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Modeling Mass Transfer Equipment—Overall Mass-Transfer Coefficient

**Yes**, but there are differences between heat and mass transfer that need to be established.

**What is  $\Delta c_{df}$ ?**

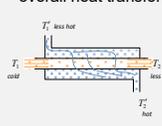
There are some subtleties in mass transfer driving force.

**What is  $K$ ?**

**This first**

We seek to write this in terms of our previous discussions of mass transfer (film coefficients  $k_x, k_p, k_c$ , diffusion coefficients  $D_{AB}$ ).

Heat exchangers are modeled with overall heat transfer coefficient,  $U$ :



$$\dot{Q} = U A \Delta T_{df}$$

$$\Delta T_{driving\ force} = (T_{bulk1} - T_{bulk2})_{lm\ av}$$

Overall driving force ( $df$ ) for heat transfer (bulk to bulk)

Gas absorbers and distillation columns are modeled with overall mass transfer coefficient,  $K$ :

**Will this work?**

$$N_A = K \Delta c_{df}$$

$$\Delta c_{driving\ force} = (c_{bulk1} - c_{bulk2})_{av}$$

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Modeling Mass Transfer Equipment—Overall Mass-Transfer Coefficient

### Driving Force for Mass Transfer

**Thought experiment**

Bromine has a higher affinity for benzene than for water and benzene is lighter than water.

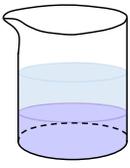
Two solutions are prepared: bromine in benzene and bromine in water. The concentrations  $c_A$  moles bromine/volume solution are the same in both solutions.

The two solutions are put into contact, with the benzene solution floating on top of the water solution.

**What happens? Is there mass transfer?**

**What is  $\Delta c_{df}$ ?**

**(bulk to bulk)**



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Modeling Mass Transfer Equipment—Overall Mass-Transfer Coefficient

### Driving Force for Mass Transfer

What is  $\Delta c_{af}$ ?  
(bulk to bulk)

**Thought experiment**

Bromine has a higher affinity for benzene than for water

$$N_A \stackrel{?}{=} K(c_{A,bulk} - c_{A,bulk})$$

Cussler p262 figure 8.5-1 © Faith A. Morrison, Michigan Tech U.

Modeling Mass Transfer Equipment—Overall Mass-Transfer Coefficient

### Driving Force for Mass Transfer

What is  $\Delta c_{af}$ ?  
(bulk to bulk)

**Thought experiment**

Bromine has a higher affinity for benzene than for water

$$N_A \stackrel{?}{=} K(c_{A,bulk} - c_{A,bulk}) = 0$$

Cussler p262 figure 8.5-1 © Faith A. Morrison, Michigan Tech U.

Modeling Mass Transfer Equipment—Overall Mass-Transfer Coefficient

### Driving Force for Mass Transfer

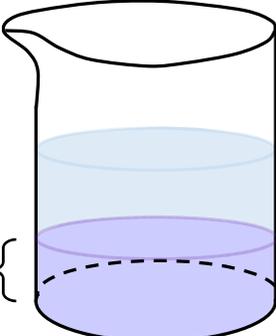
**Thought experiment**

Bromine has a higher affinity for benzene than for water

**bromine in water**  
 $c_A = c_{A,bulk}$

What is  $\Delta c_{df}$ ?  
(bulk to bulk)

**bromine in benzene**  
 $c_A = c_{A,bulk}$



$$N_A \stackrel{?}{=} K(c_{A,bulk} - c_{A,bulk}) = 0$$

**Not correct:**  
**Species A does move between phases**  
 **$N_A \neq 0$**

Cussler p262 figure 8.5-1 © Faith A. Morrison, Michigan Tech U.

Modeling Mass Transfer Equipment—Overall Mass-Transfer Coefficient

### Driving Force for Mass Transfer

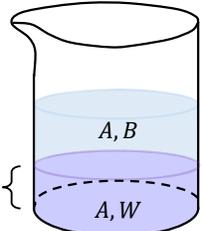
**What drives the motion?**

The two phases are not in equilibrium

**bromine in water**  
 $c_A = c_{A,0}$

What is  $\Delta c_{df}$ ?  
(bulk to bulk)

**bromine in benzene**  
 $\tilde{c}_A = \tilde{c}_{A,0}$



The two phases are brought into contact, and mass transfer occurs, moving bromine (A) from the A,W phase to the A,B phase

When equilibrium is reached, the concentrations of the two phases are on the **equilibrium curve**,

$$\tilde{c}_A^* (c_A^*)$$

in benzene
in water

Cussler p262 Figure 8.5-1 © Faith A. Morrison, Michigan Tech U.

Modeling Mass Transfer Equipment—Overall Mass-Transfer Coefficient

**What drives the motion?** What is  $\Delta c_{df}$ ?

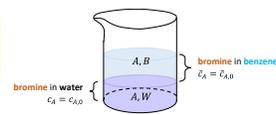
The **driving force for mass transfer** is not only concentration differences; rather it's differences in chemical nature that include concentration, but includes other "preferences" that are linked to the species' chemical structures. (bulk to bulk)

Scientists have unified the energetic effects of species moving around in mixtures through the definition of the **chemical potential**.

Mass transfer occurs in the bromine thought experiment because of the higher affinity bromine has for benzene.

**Overall Mass Transfer of Species A: Bromine**

The two phases are **not** in equilibrium



The two phases are brought into contact, and mass transfer occurs, moving bromine (A) from the A,W phase to the A,B phase

When equilibrium is reached, the concentrations of the two phases are on the equilibrium curve,  $e_A^*(c_A)$

in benzene      in water

*The driving force for mass transfer is distance from chemical equilibrium*

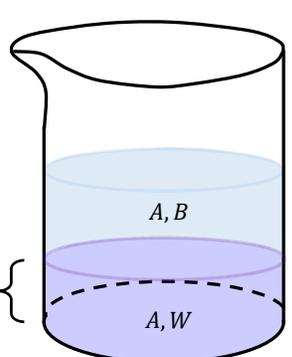
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Modeling Mass Transfer Equipment—Overall Mass-Transfer Coefficient

**Driving Force for Mass Transfer** What is  $\Delta c_{df}$ ?

(bulk to bulk)

$t = 0$



$\tilde{c}_A = \tilde{c}_{A0}$

In the **A,B bromine in benzene phase:**

$t \geq 0$        $N_A = K_{AB}(\tilde{c}_A^*(c_A) - \tilde{c}_A)$

In the **A,W bromine in water phase:**

$t \geq 0$        $N_A = K_{AW}(c_A - c_A^*(\tilde{c}_A))$

**Mass transfer driving force related to distance from chemical equilibrium**

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Modeling Mass Transfer Equipment—Overall Mass-Transfer Coefficient

**Progress!**

**Now,**

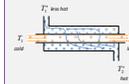
**Yes, but there are differences that need to be established.**

**What is  $\Delta c_{df}$ ?**

There are some subtleties in mass transfer driving force

**What is  $K$  in terms of our previous discussions mass transfer (film coefficients  $k_x, k_p, k_c$ , diffusion coefficients  $\mathcal{D}_{AB}$ )?**

Heat exchangers are modeled with overall heat transfer coefficient,  $U$ :



$\dot{Q} = U A \Delta T_{df}$

$\Delta T_{driving\ force} = (T_{bulk1} - T_{bulk2})_{lm\ av}$

Overall driving force ( $df$ ) for heat transfer (bulk to bulk)

Gas absorbers and distillation columns are modeled with overall mass transfer coefficient,  $K$ :

**Will this work?**

$N_A = K \Delta c_{df}$

$\Delta c_{driving\ force} = (c_{bulk1} - c_{bulk2})_{av}$

**What is  $K$ ?**

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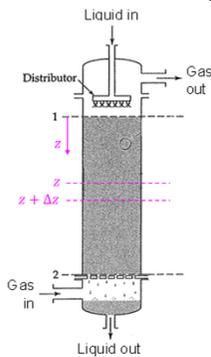
Modeling Mass Transfer Equipment—Overall Mass-Transfer Coefficient

**We return to modeling a gas absorption column**

**Example 6:** Height of a packed bed absorber

How can we use mass transfer to design a packed bed gas absorber to achieve a desired separation?

(started in Module 4, Lecture III)

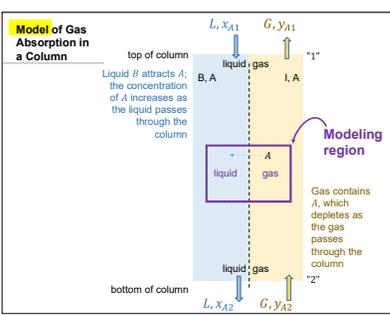


**What is  $K$ ?**

**(bulk to bulk)**

**Example 6—Revisited, again**

**Model of Gas Absorption in a Column**



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Modeling practical devices involving mass transfer

**Example 6:** Height of a packed bed absorber

How can we use mass transfer to design a packed bed gas absorber to achieve a desired separation?

**Example 6** is presented as a series of **linked examples** that navigate around apparent “dead ends” in modeling mass-transfer units

**LECTURES**

Identify a question	Invent something	Try to use it
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ How can we model a large, practical device dependent on mass transfer? <b>III</b></li> <li>✓ How can we account for A going between phases? <b>IV</b></li> <li>✓ How can we improve LDF model to cross the boundary (bulk-to-bulk transfer)? <b>VI</b></li> <li>4. Can we model a large, practical device, incorporating <math>K_L, K_G</math> to account for mass xfer between phases? <b>VI</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Apply the species A mass balance to a macroscopic C.V. <b>III</b></li> <li>✓ Invent <math>k_x</math> through linear driving force (LDF) model <b>IV</b></li> <li style="border: 2px solid red;">3. Write LDF in both phases and combine to create overall effect of multiple resistances <b>VI</b></li> <li>4. Yes <b>VI</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Lack a system to account for A going between phases <b>PAUSE III</b></li> <li>✓ Gets A <u>to</u> the boundary, but not <u>across</u> <b>PAUSE V</b></li> <li>3. Working, but can we devise a convenient shorthand? <b>PAUSE VI</b></li> </ul>

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Applied Heat Transfer

In a previous course, we developed a model so that we can characterize heat exchangers

What is  $K$ ?  
(bulk to bulk)

We divided the heat exchanger into **slices** with bulk temperatures  $T$  and  $T'$  at location  $x$  and applied Newton's law of cooling ( $h_1, h_2$ ) and Fourier's law ( $k$ )

We integrated over  $0 \leq x \leq L$  to obtain the total heat transferred  $Q$ .

This allowed us to define overall heat transfer coefficient  $U$ , giving heat transfer at location  $x$ :

**The Simplest Heat Exchanger:**  
Double-Pipe Heat exchanger - counter current

$$Q = U_2 A_2 \Delta T$$

$$= \left( \frac{1}{\frac{1}{h_2 R_2} + \frac{1}{k \ln \frac{R_2}{R_1}} + \frac{1}{h_1 R_1}} \right) (2 \pi R_2 L) (T' - T)$$

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Applied Mass Transfer

**Example 6—Revisited, again**

**Example 6:** Height of a packed bed absorber

What is  $K$ ? (bulk to bulk)

In Lectures III and V, we began to model a gas absorber, using the same slicing strategy, but we needed a concept of how to model the mass transfer in the slice

We need to apply the film mass transfer coefficients to the slice of the gas absorber column

(\*spoiler: This will lead to the overall mass transfer coefficient)

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Modeling Mass Transfer Equipment—Overall Mass-Transfer Coefficient

**Example 6:** Height of a packed bed absorber

Bulk gas well mixed, bulk liquid well mixed

What is  $K$ ? (bulk to bulk)

$p_{A,bulk}$

$x_{A,bulk}$

interface

The mass transfer in a slice of the column can be modeled with film coefficients

WRF Ch29, Fig 29.4

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Modeling Mass Transfer Equipment—Overall Mass-Transfer Coefficient

**Example 6:** Height of a packed bed absorber

Bulk gas well mixed,  
bulk liquid well mixed

What is  $K$ ?  
(bulk to bulk)

**Interface:** species in the two phases are in equilibrium

**Equilibrium** is characterized by H, the Henry's law constant:  
 $p_A^* = Hx_A^*$

interface

Cussler, p262 23  
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Overall Mass-Transfer Coefficient

**Example 6:** Height of a packed bed absorber

Use the **linear driving force model** (film coefficients)

What is  $K$ ?  
(bulk to bulk)

**Gas: Linear driving force model:**

$$(N_A)_G = k_G(p_A - p_{A,i})$$

$$k_G [=] \frac{(\text{moles } A \text{ transferred})}{(\text{time} \cdot \text{area} \cdot \text{pressure})}$$

Species in the two phases at equilibrium at the interface

**Equilibrium** is characterized by H, the Henry's law constant:  
 $p_A^* = Hx_A^*$

**Liquid: Linear driving force model:**

$$(N_A)_L = k_L(x_{A,i} - x_A)$$

$$k_L [=] \frac{(\text{moles } A \text{ transferred})}{(\text{time} \cdot \text{area} \cdot \text{conc})}$$

At steady state:

$$(N_A)_G = (N_A)_L$$

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Overall Mass-Transfer Coefficient

**Example 6:** Height of a packed bed absorber

Use the **linear driving force model** (film coefficients)

What is  $K$ ? (bulk to bulk)

$(x_A, p_A) =$  bulk conditions ("operating point")  
 $(x_{A,i}, p_{A,i}) =$  interface point

at steady state:

$$(N_A)_G = (N_A)_L$$

In terms of film coefficients:

$$k_p(p_A - p_{A,i}) = k_x(x_{A,i} - x_A)$$

A line of slope  $(-k_x/k_p)$  connects the operating point (bulk conditions  $x_{A,b}, p_{A,b}$ ) and the interface point

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Overall Mass-Transfer Coefficient

**Example 6:** Height of a packed bed absorber

Use the **linear driving force model** (film coefficients)

What is  $K$ ? (bulk to bulk)

$(x_A, p_A) =$  bulk conditions ("operating point")  
 $(x_{A,i}, p_{A,i}) =$  interface point

at steady state:

$$(N_A)_G = (N_A)_L$$

In terms of film coefficients:

$$(p_A - p_{A,i}) = \frac{-k_x}{k_p} (x_A - x_{A,i})$$

A line of slope  $(-k_x/k_p)$  connects the operating point (bulk conditions  $x_{A,b}, p_{A,b}$ ) and the interface point

We need to determine the interface conditions (which is at equilibrium)

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We **PAUSE** **Example 6** for the third time to pursue the relationship between overall mass transfer coefficient  $K$  and the interface *film* mass transfer coefficients  $k_x$  and  $k_p$

Overall Mass-Transfer Coefficient

**Example 6:** Height of a packed bed absorber

Use the **linear driving force model** (film coefficients)

$(x_A, p_A) =$  bulk conditions ("operating point")

$(x_{Ai}, p_{Ai}) =$  interface point

at steady state:

$$(N_A)_G = (N_A)_L$$

In terms of film coefficients:

$$k_p(p_A - p_{Ai}) = k_x(x_A - x_{Ai})$$

A line of slope  $(-k_x/k_p)$  connects the operating point (bulk conditions  $x_{A,b}, p_{A,b}$ ) and the interface point

We need to determine the interface conditions (which is at equilibrium)

What is  $K$ ? (bulk to bulk)

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Modeling practical devices involving mass transfer

**Example 6:** Height of a packed bed absorber

How can we use mass transfer to design a packed bed gas absorber to achieve a desired separation?

**Example 6** is a part of a series of **linked examples** that navigate around apparent "dead ends" in modeling mass-transfer units

**LECTURES**

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Overall Mass-Transfer Coefficient

**Phase Equilibrium Data (material function)**

Phase equilibrium data are published in the literature

In the **dilute** regime, the equilibrium curve is linear (**Henry's law**):

$$p_A^* = Hx_A^*$$

In the non-dilute (concentrated) regime, the equilibrium curve is not linear

*(there is no resistance at the interface, equilibrium is established)*

What is K? (bulk to bulk)

WRF Ch29, Fig 29.2

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Overall Mass-Transfer Coefficient

**Example 11: What are the liquid and gas concentrations at the interface?**

What is K? (bulk to bulk)

**Equilibrium in mixtures dilute in A is characterized by H, the Henry's law constant:**

$$p_A^* = Hx_A^*$$

**dilute regime**

Let's try

**Gas Absorption**

Bulk gas well mixed, bulk liquid well mixed

$$N_A = k_p(p_A - p_{A,i}) = k_x(x_{A,i} - x_A)$$

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Overall Mass-Transfer Coefficient

**Example 11:** What are the liquid and gas concentrations at the interface?

**What is K?**  
(bulk to bulk)

Equilibrium in mixtures dilute in A is characterized by H, the Henry's law constant:  
 $p_A^* = Hx_A^*$   
 dilute regime

**Answer:**

$$\frac{p_{Ai}}{H} = x_{Ai} = \frac{k_p p_A + k_x x_A}{k_p H + k_x}$$

(Henry's law regime)

The diagram shows a vertical interface between bulk gas (left) and bulk liquid (right). In the gas phase, the pressure is  $p_{A,bulk}$  and at the interface it is  $p_{Ai}$ . In the liquid phase, the concentration is  $x_{A,bulk}$  and at the interface it is  $x_{Ai}$ . A red arrow indicates the direction of mass transfer from gas to liquid. A callout box notes that equilibrium at the interface is characterized by Henry's law constant:  $p_A^* = Hx_A^*$ .

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Overall Mass-Transfer Coefficient

**Example 12:** What is the flux from gas to liquid?

**What is K?**  
(bulk to bulk)

Equilibrium in mixtures dilute in A is characterized by H, the Henry's law constant:  
 $p_A^* = Hx_A^*$   
 dilute regime

**Let's try**

$$N_A = k_p(p_A - p_{Ai}) = k_x(x_{A,i} - x_A)$$

The diagram is identical to the one in Example 11, showing the interface between bulk gas and bulk liquid with partial pressures and concentrations.

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Overall Mass-Transfer Coefficient

**Example 12:** What is the flux from gas to liquid?

**What is  $K$ ?**  
(bulk to bulk)

Equilibrium in mixtures dilute in  $A$  is characterized by  $H$ , the Henry's law constant:  

$$p_A^* = Hx_A^*$$
 dilute regime

**Answer:**

$$N_A = \left( \frac{1}{\frac{H}{k_x} + \frac{1}{k_p}} \right) [p_A - Hx_A]$$

(Henry's law regime)

Includes both resistances

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Overall Mass-Transfer Coefficient

Modeling Mass Transfer Equipment—Overall Mass-Transfer Coefficient

**What was our goal?**

Heat exchangers are modeled with overall heat transfer coefficient,  $U$ :

$$\dot{Q} = UA\Delta T_{df}$$

$\Delta T_{driving\ force} = (T_{bulk1} - T_{bulk2})_{lm\ av}$   
 Overall driving force ( $df$ ) for heat transfer (bulk to bulk)

Gas absorbers and distillation columns are modeled with overall mass transfer coefficient,  $K$ :

$$N_A = K\Delta c_{df}$$

**What is  $K$ ?**

**What is  $\Delta c_{df}$ ?**

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Overall Mass-Transfer Coefficient

Modeling Mass Transfer Equipment—Overall Mass-Transfer Coefficient

Heat exchangers are modeled with overall heat transfer coefficient,  $U$ :

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Overall driving force ( $df$ ) for heat transfer (bulk to bulk)

Gas absorbers and distillation columns are modeled with overall mass transfer coefficient,  $K$ :

$$N_A = K\Delta c_{df}$$

**What was our goal?**

Develop a mass-transfer device analog to  $U$  in heat exchangers

What is  $K$ ?      What is  $\Delta c_{df}$ ?

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Overall Mass-Transfer Coefficient

Modeling Mass Transfer Equipment—Overall Mass-Transfer Coefficient

Heat exchangers are modeled with overall heat transfer coefficient,  $U$ :

$$\dot{Q} = UA\Delta T_{df}$$

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Overall driving force ( $df$ ) for heat transfer (bulk to bulk)

Gas absorbers and distillation columns are modeled with overall mass transfer coefficient,  $K$ :

$$N_A = K\Delta c_{df}$$

**What was our goal?**

Develop a mass-transfer device analog to  $U$  in heat exchangers

**Done.**

$p_A$  = bulk concentration (partial pressure) of the gas

$x_A$  = bulk concentration mole fraction) of the liquid

$$N_A = \left( \frac{1}{\frac{H}{K_G} + \frac{1}{K_P}} \right) [p_A - Hx_A]$$
 Gas side units       $K_G$        $\Delta c_{df}$

dilute regime

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**Overall Mass-Transfer Coefficient**

Overall Mass-Transfer Coefficient

Modeling Mass Transfer Equipment—Overall Mass-Transfer Coefficient

Heat exchangers are modeled with overall heat transfer coefficient,  $U$ :

$$\dot{Q} = UA\Delta T_{df}$$

$\Delta T_{driving\ force} = (T_{bulk1} - T_{bulk2})_{ln\ av}$   
Overall driving force ( $\Delta T$ ) for heat transfer (bulk to bulk)

Gas absorbers and distillation columns are modeled with overall mass transfer coefficient,  $K$ :

$$N_A = K\Delta c_{df}$$

**What was our goal?**

$p_A$  = bulk concentration (partial pressure) of the gas

$x_A$  = bulk concentration (mole fraction) of the liquid

$$N_A = \left( \frac{1}{\frac{H}{k_x} + \frac{1}{k_p}} \right) [p_A - Hx_A]$$

**Henry's law:**  
 $p_A^* = Hx_A^*$   
**dilute** regime

**Includes both L & G resistances**

$$N_A = K_G [p_A - Hx_A]$$

$$K_G \equiv \left( \frac{1}{\frac{H}{k_x} + \frac{1}{k_p}} \right)$$

$K_G$  is the **gas-side-units** overall mass transfer coefficient

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**Overall Mass-Transfer Coefficient**

Alternatively, focusing on the liquid side:

Overall Mass-Transfer Coefficient

Modeling Mass Transfer Equipment—Overall Mass-Transfer Coefficient

Heat exchangers are modeled with overall heat transfer coefficient,  $U$ :

$$\dot{Q} = UA\Delta T_{df}$$

$\Delta T_{driving\ force} = (T_{bulk1} - T_{bulk2})_{ln\ av}$   
Overall driving force ( $\Delta T$ ) for heat transfer (bulk to bulk)

Gas absorbers and distillation columns are modeled with overall mass transfer coefficient,  $K$ :

$$N_A = K\Delta c_{df}$$

**What was our goal?**

$p_A$  = bulk concentration (partial pressure) of the gas

$x_A$  = bulk concentration (mole fraction) of the liquid

$$N_A = \left( \frac{1}{\frac{H}{k_x} + \frac{1}{k_p}} \right) [p_A - Hx_A]$$

**Henry's law:**  
 $p_A^* = Hx_A^*$   
**dilute** regime

**Includes both L & G resistances**

$$N_A = K_L \left[ \frac{p_A}{H} - x_A \right]$$

$$K_L \equiv \left( \frac{1}{\frac{1}{k_x} + \frac{1}{Hk_p}} \right)$$

$K_L$  is the **liquid-side-units** overall mass transfer coefficient

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Overall Mass-Transfer Coefficient

The **Overall Mass-Transfer Coefficients** *equivalently* describe the steady state relationship between the bulk concentrations (gas and liquid) of a composite scenario (slice of gas absorber)

Overall Mass-Transfer Coefficient

Heat exchangers are included with overall heat transfer coefficient,  $U$

$$\dot{Q} = U A \Delta T_{eff}$$

Gas absorbers and distillation columns are modeled with overall mass transfer coefficient,  $K$

$$N_A = K \Delta c_{df}$$

**What was our goal?**

Henry's law:  
 $p_A^* = H x_A^*$   
 dilute regime

$$N_A = K_G [p_A - H x_A]$$

$$K_G \equiv \left( \frac{1}{\frac{H}{k_x} + \frac{1}{k_p}} \right)$$

$K_G$  is the gas-side-units overall mass transfer coefficient

$$N_A = K_L \left[ \frac{p_A}{H} - x_A \right]$$

$$K_L \equiv \left( \frac{1}{\frac{1}{k_x} + \frac{1}{H k_p}} \right)$$

$K_L$  is the liquid-side-units overall mass transfer coefficient

**Both include both resistances**

**Driving forces written differently, but are equivalent**

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Overall Mass-Transfer Coefficient dilute regime

We can visualize the various driving forces graphically:

If film coefficients  $k_G, k_L$  known from data correlations (dimensional analysis, literature), the operating point and the interface point may be linked.

The graph plots gas phase composition (y-axis) against liquid phase composition (x-axis). A green line represents the equilibrium relationship  $p_A^*(x_A^*)$ . The operating point is at  $(x_A, p_A)$ . The interface point is at  $(x_{Ai}, p_{Ai})$ . A dashed line connects the operating point to the interface point, with a slope of  $-\frac{k_x}{k_p}$ . The dilute regime is indicated in the upper left corner.

$$(p_A - p_{Ai}) = \frac{-k_x}{k_p} (x_A - x_{Ai})$$

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Overall Mass-Transfer Coefficient dilute regime

We can visualize the gas-phase-units driving force as a vertical segment:

**Gas-phase-units:**  
**Overall Linear driving force model:**  

$$N_A = K_G (p_A - Hx_A)$$

$$\Delta c_{df}$$

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Overall Mass-Transfer Coefficient dilute regime

We can visualize the gas-phase-units driving force as a vertical segment:

**Gas-phase-units:**  
**Overall Linear driving force model:**  

$$N_A = K_G (p_A - Hx_A)$$

$$\Delta c_{df}$$

**It turns out:**  $Hx_A = p_A^*(x_A) =$  The gas partial pressure that a liquid of concentration  $x_A$  (the liquid bulk mole fraction) would be in equilibrium with

**dilute regime**

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Overall Mass-Transfer Coefficient dilute regime

We can visualize the liquid-phase-units driving force as a horizontal segment:

**Liquid-phase-units Overall Linear driving force model:**

$$N_A = K_L \underbrace{\left( \frac{p_A}{H} - x_A \right)}_{\Delta c_{df}}$$

The graph plots partial pressure  $p_A$  on the y-axis against liquid mole fraction  $x_A$  on the x-axis. A curved saturation curve  $p_A^*(x_A)$  is shown. A horizontal dashed line at  $p_A$  intersects the saturation curve at  $x_A^*(p_A)$ . A point  $(x_A, p_A)$  is marked on the horizontal line. A vertical dashed line from  $x_A$  meets the saturation curve at  $p_A^*(x_A)$ . A green point  $(x_{Ai}, p_{Ai})$  is marked on the saturation curve. A blue arrow indicates the driving force  $\Delta c_{df}$  as the horizontal distance between  $x_A$  and  $x_{Ai}$ . Slopes  $\frac{k_x}{k_p}$  are indicated for the lines connecting  $(x_A, p_A)$  to  $(x_{Ai}, p_{Ai})$  and  $(x_A, p_A)$  to  $(x_A, p_A^*(x_A))$ .

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Overall Mass-Transfer Coefficient dilute regime

We can visualize the liquid-phase-units driving force as a horizontal segment:

**Liquid-phase-units Overall Linear driving force model:**

$$N_A = K_L \underbrace{\left( \frac{p_A}{H} - x_A \right)}_{\Delta c_{df}}$$

The graph plots partial pressure  $p_A$  on the y-axis against liquid mole fraction  $x_A$  on the x-axis. A curved saturation curve  $p_A^*(x_A)$  is shown. A horizontal dashed line at  $p_A$  intersects the saturation curve at  $x_A^*(p_A)$ . A point  $(x_A, p_A)$  is marked on the horizontal line. A vertical dashed line from  $x_A$  meets the saturation curve at  $p_A^*(x_A)$ . A green point  $(x_{Ai}, p_{Ai})$  is marked on the saturation curve. A blue arrow indicates the driving force  $\Delta c_{df}$  as the horizontal distance between  $x_A$  and  $x_{Ai}$ . Slopes  $\frac{k_x}{k_y}$  are indicated for the lines connecting  $(x_A, p_A)$  to  $(x_{Ai}, p_{Ai})$  and  $(x_A, p_A)$  to  $(x_A, p_A^*(x_A))$ .

**It turns out:**  $\frac{p_A}{H} = x_A^*(p_A)$  = The liquid mole fraction that a gas of partial pressure  $p_A$  (the gas bulk partial pressure) would be in equilibrium with

**dilute regime**

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Overall Mass-Transfer Coefficient dilute regime

### Overall Mass Transfer Coefficients

Two equivalent versions of  $K$  and  $\Delta c_{df}$ ; one based on gas-phase customary units, one based on liquid-phase customary units

**Liquid-phase-units**  
Overall Linear driving force model:

$$N_A = K_L \left( \frac{p_{A,b}}{H} - x_{A,b} \right)$$

**Gas-phase-units:**  
Overall Linear driving force model:

$$N_A = K_G (p_{A,b} - Hx_{A,b})$$

The expressions relate steady state **bulk** concentrations in the liquid and gas phases, reflecting the net effect of multiple (two) resistances

**both versions include both resistances**

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Overall Mass-Transfer Coefficient concentrated and dilute regimes

### Overall Mass Transfer Coefficients

Two equivalent versions of  $K$  and  $\Delta c_{df}$ ; one based on gas-phase customary units, one based on liquid-phase customary units

**Liquid-phase-units**  
Overall Linear driving force model:

$$N_A \equiv K_L (x_A^*(p_{A,b}) - x_{A,b})$$

**Gas-phase-units:**  
Overall Linear driving force model:

$$N_A \equiv K_G (p_{A,b} - p_A^*(x_{A,b}))$$

We can choose to use the driving-force relationships that resulted from the dilute regime to **define** overall mass-transfer coefficients for the **concentrated regime**

**both versions include both resistances**

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Overall Mass-Transfer Coefficient concentrated and dilute regimes

**Many concentration units may be used**

**$K_L$**

**Liquid-phase-units**  
Overall Linear driving force model, defined:

$$N_A \equiv K_x(x_A^*( ) - x_{A,b})$$

$$N_A \equiv K_{cL}(c_{AL}^*( ) - c_{AL,b})$$

( ) =  $p_{A,b}$  or  $c_{A,b}$  or  $y_{A,b}$

**$K_G$**

**Gas-phase-units:**  
Overall Linear driving force model, defined:

$$N_A \equiv K_p(p_{A,b} - p_A^*( ))$$

$$N_A \equiv K_{cG}(c_{AG,b} - c_{AG}^*( ))$$

$$N_A \equiv K_y(y_{A,b} - y_A^*( ))$$

( ) =  $x_{A,b}$  or  $c_{AL,b}$

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Overall Mass-Transfer Coefficient concentrated and dilute regimes

**But, how do we relate these overall mass-transfer coefficients back to the film coefficients?**

**Liquid-phase-units**  
Overall Linear driving force model:

$$N_A \equiv K_x(x_A^*(y_{A,b}) - x_{A,b})$$

**Gas-phase-units:**  
Overall Linear driving force model:

$$N_A \equiv K_y(y_{A,b} - y_A^*(x_{A,b}))$$

Let's return to the **graphical representation**

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Overall Mass-Transfer Coefficient

### Gas-phase-units

**concentrated regime**

$$\frac{N_A}{K_y} = (y_{Ab} - y_A^*(x_{Ab})) = a + b = (y_{Ab} - y_{Ai}) + b$$

$$m' = \frac{\text{rise}}{\text{run}} = \frac{b}{(x_{Ai} - x_{Ab})}$$

$$\frac{N_A}{K_y} = (y_{Ab} - y_{Ai}) + m'(x_{Ai} - x_{Ab})$$

$$\frac{N_A}{K_y} = \frac{N_A}{k_y} + m' \left( \frac{N_A}{k_x} \right)$$

$$\frac{1}{K_y} = \frac{1}{k_y} + \frac{m'}{k_x}$$

$$K_y = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{k_y} + \frac{m'}{k_x}}$$

WRF pp600-603

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Overall Mass-Transfer Coefficient

### Liquid-phase-units

**concentrated regime**

$$\frac{N_A}{K_x} = (x_A^*(y_{Ab}) - x_{Ab}) = c + d = (x_{Ai} - x_{Ab}) + d$$

$$m'' = \frac{\text{rise}}{\text{run}} = \frac{y_{Ab} - y_{Ai}}{d}$$

$$\frac{N_A}{K_x} = (x_{Ai} - x_{Ab}) + \frac{(y_{Ab} - y_{Ai})}{m''}$$

$$\frac{N_A}{K_x} = \frac{N_A}{k_x} + \frac{1}{m''} \left( \frac{N_A}{k_y} \right)$$

$$\frac{1}{K_x} = \frac{1}{k_x} + \frac{1}{m'' k_y}$$

$$K_x = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{k_x} + \frac{1}{m'' k_y}}$$

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concentrated and dilute regimes

<p><b>Liquid-phase-units</b>  <b>Film</b> Linear driving force model:</p> $N_A \equiv k_x(x_{A,i} - x_{A,b})$ $N_A \equiv k_{cL}(c_{AL,i} - c_{AL,b})$	<p><b>Gas-phase-units:</b>  <b>Film</b> Linear driving force model:</p> $N_A \equiv k_p(p_{A,b} - p_{A,i})$ $N_A \equiv k_{cG}(c_{AG,b} - c_{A,i})$ $N_A \equiv k_y(y_{A,b} - y_{A,i})$
<p><b>Liquid-phase-units</b>  <b>Overall</b> Linear driving force model:</p> $N_A \equiv K_x(x_A^*( ) - x_{A,b})$ $N_A \equiv K_{cL}(c_{AL}^*( ) - c_{AL,b})$ <p>( ) = <math>p_{A,b}</math> or <math>c_{A,b}</math> or <math>y_{A,b}</math></p>	<p><b>Gas-phase-units:</b>  <b>Overall</b> Linear driving force model:</p> $N_A \equiv K_p(p_{A,b} - p_A^*( ))$ $N_A \equiv K_{cG}(c_{AG,b} - c_{AG}^*( ))$ $N_A \equiv K_y(y_{A,b} - y_A^*( ))$ <p>( ) = <math>x_{A,b}</math> or <math>c_{AL,b}</math></p>
$K_x = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{k_x} + \frac{1}{m''k_y}}$	$K_y = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{k_y} + \frac{m'}{k_x}}$

**Let's take these tools out for a spin!**

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Overall Mass-Transfer Coefficient

**Example 13:** Liquid stripping process (remove  $H_2S$  from water)

## Overall Mass Transfer Coefficients

**Example 13:**

A liquid stripping process (20°C, 1.5 atm) is used to transfer hydrogen sulfide ( $H_2S$  = species A) dissolved in water into an air stream. At a particular elevation in the column, the mole fraction of  $H_2S$  in the gas phase is 0.010 and the mole fraction of  $H_2S$  in the liquid phase is  $6.0 \times 10^{-5}$ . Calculate the flux, the overall mass transfer coefficients, and the interface composition.

1. Film coefficients:  $k_x = 0.30 \frac{\text{kmol}}{\text{m}^2 \text{ s}}$ ,  $k_y = 4.5 \times 10^{-3} \frac{\text{kmol}}{\text{m}^2 \text{ s}}$  (obtained from data correlations).
2. Equilibrium relationship:  $p_A^*(\text{atm}) = \bar{H} c_A^* \left( \frac{\text{mol } H_2S}{\text{m}^3} \right)$ , where  $\bar{H} = 8.8 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m}^3 \text{ atm/mol}$ .

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Overall Mass-Transfer Coefficient

**Example 13:** Liquid stripping process (remove  $H_2S$  from water)

**Overall Mass Transfer Coefficients**

**Example 13:**

A liquid stripping process ( $20^\circ C$ ,  $1.5 \text{ atm}$ ) is used to transfer hydrogen sulfide ( $H_2S$  = species  $A$ ) dissolved in water into an air stream. At a particular elevation in the column, the mole fraction of  $H_2S$  in the gas phase is  $0.010$  and the mole fraction of  $H_2S$  in the liquid phase is  $6.0 \times 10^{-5}$ . Calculate the flux, the overall mass transfer coefficients, and the interface composition.

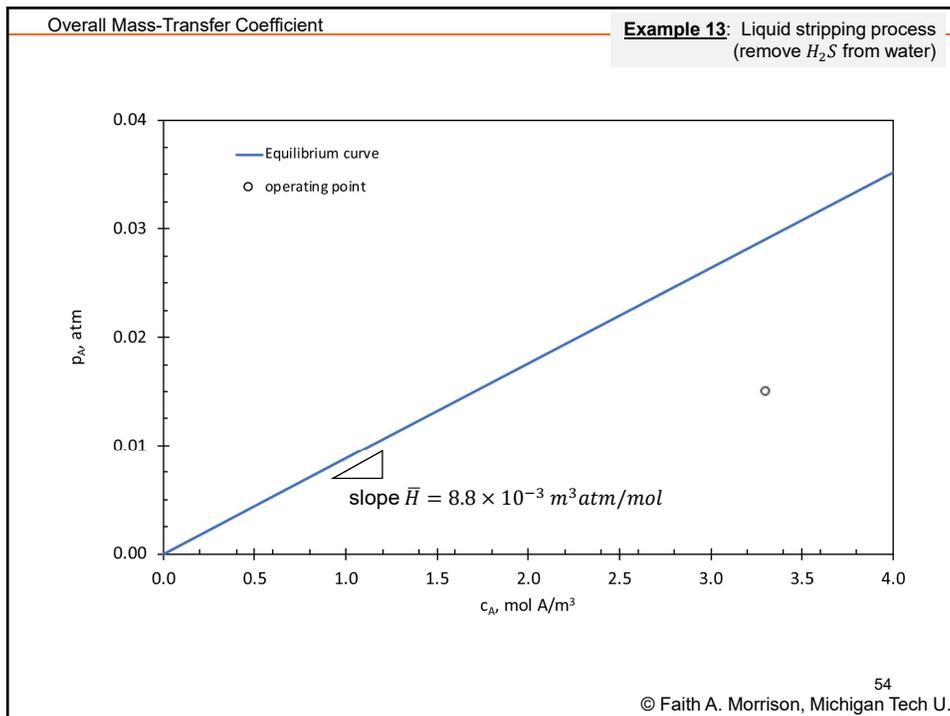
1. Film coefficients:  $k_x = 0.30 \frac{\text{kmol}}{\text{m}^2 \text{ s}}$ ,  $k_y = 4.5 \times 10^{-3} \frac{\text{kmol}}{\text{m}^2 \text{ s}}$  (obtained from data correlations).

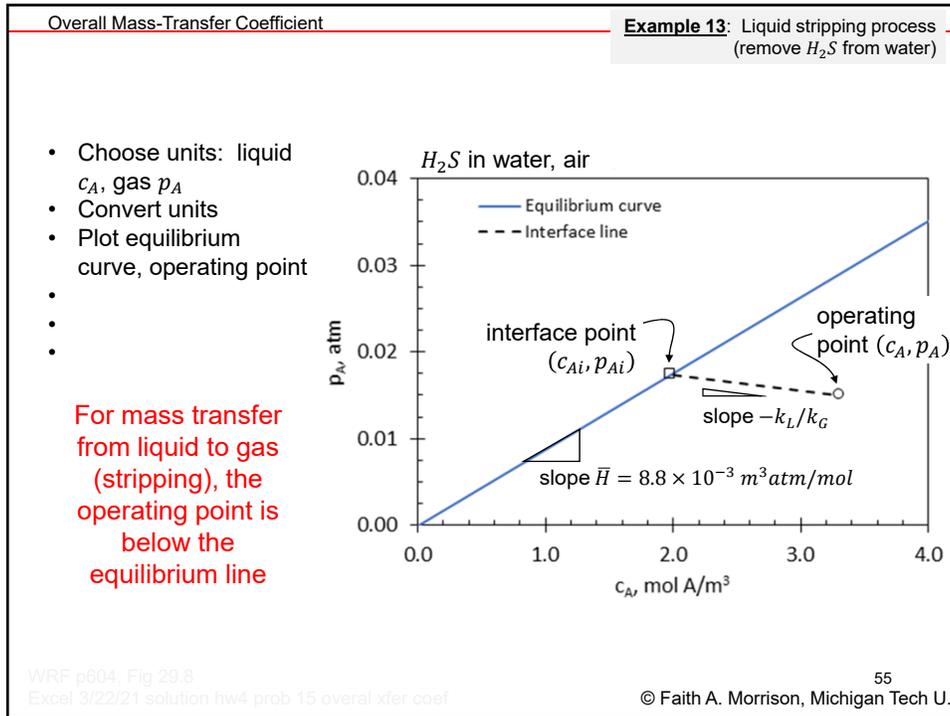
2. Equilibrium relationship:  $p_A^*(\text{atm}) = \bar{H} c_A^* \left( \frac{\text{mol } H_2S}{\text{m}^3} \right)$ , where  $\bar{H} = 8.8 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m}^3 \text{ atm/mol}$ .

Let's try

WRF, Ch29, Ex 1 53

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Overall Mass-Transfer Coefficient

**Example 13:** Liquid stripping process (remove  $H_2S$  from water)

**Many concentration units may be used**

$K_L$	$K_G$
<p><b>Liquid-phase-units</b> Overall Linear driving force model:</p> $N_A \equiv K_x (x_A^* ( ) - x_{A,b})$ $N_A \equiv K_{cL} (c_{AL}^* ( ) - c_{AL,b})$ <p>( ) = <math>p_{A,b}</math> or <math>c_{A,b}</math> or <math>y_{A,b}</math></p>	<p><b>Gas-phase-units:</b> Overall Linear driving force model:</p> $N_A \equiv K_p (p_{A,b} - p_A^* ( ))$ $N_A \equiv K_{cG} (c_{AG,b} - c_{AG}^* ( ))$ $N_A \equiv K_y (y_{A,b} - y_A^* ( ))$ <p>( ) = <math>x_{A,b}</math> or <math>c_{AL,b}</math></p>
<p>In the chosen units:</p> $K_G = K_p = \frac{1}{\frac{\bar{H}}{k_c} + \frac{1}{k_p}} = 5.1 \times 10^{-4} \frac{\text{kmol}}{\text{m}^2 \text{atm s}}$ $K_L = K_c = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{k_c} + \frac{1}{\bar{H}k_p}} = 4.5 \times 10^{-3} \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}}$	<p>slope <math>\bar{H} = 8.8 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m}^3 \text{atm/mol}</math></p>

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Overall Mass-Transfer Coefficient

**Example 13:** Liquid stripping process (remove  $H_2S$  from water)

- Choose units: liquid  $c_A$ , gas  $p_A$
- Convert units
- Plot equilibrium curve, operating point
- Calculate interface point (convert units of  $k_y, k_x$ )
- Calculate  $K_G, K_L$
- Calculate  $N_A$

**See hand notes for start**

$N_A = -7.2 \times 10^{-6} \text{ kmol/m}^2\text{s}$

**Homework 4, problem 4.15**

**We must use care with units!**

WRF p604, Fig 29.8  
Excel 3/22/21 solution hw4 prob. 15 overall xfer coef

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Overall Mass-Transfer Coefficient

Now, what can we do with this new tool, **overall mass transfer coefficient  $K$** , in a device?

Previous lectures

Let's try a practical problem

**Example 6** : Height of a packed bed absorber

How can we use mass transfer to design a packed bed gas absorber to achieve a desired separation?

Let's pick up where we paused last ...

BSL2 p742

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Modeling practical devices involving mass transfer

**Example 6:** Height of a packed bed absorber

How can we use mass transfer to design a packed bed gas absorber to achieve a desired separation?

**Example 6** is presented as a series of **linked examples** that navigate around apparent “dead ends” in modeling mass-transfer units

LECTURES

Identify a question	Invent something	Try to use it
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ How can we model a large, practical device dependent on mass transfer? <span style="float: right;">III</span></li> <li>✓ How can we account for A going between phases? <span style="float: right;">IV</span></li> <li>✓ How can we improve LDF model to cross the boundary (bulk-to-bulk transfer)? <span style="float: right;">VI</span></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Apply the species A mass balance to a macroscopic C.V. <span style="float: right;">III</span></li> <li>✓ Invent <math>k_x</math> through linear driving force (LDF) model <span style="float: right;">IV</span></li> <li>✓ Write LDF in both phases and combine to create overall effect of multiple resistances <span style="float: right;">VI</span></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Lack a system to account for A going between phases <span style="float: right;">PAUSE III</span></li> <li>✓ Gets A <u>to</u> the boundary, but not <u>across</u> <span style="float: right;">PAUSE V</span></li> <li>✓ Working, but can we devise a convenient shorthand? <span style="float: right;">PAUSE VI</span></li> </ul>
<p>4. Can we model a large, practical device, incorporating <math>K_L, K_G</math> to account for mass xfer between phases? <span style="float: right;">VI</span></p>	<p>4. Yes <span style="float: right;">VI</span></p>	

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Unsteady Macroscopic Species A Mass Balance—Gas Absorption

Example 6—Continued

Unsteady Macroscopic Species A Mass Balance—Intro

MOLES

accumulation = net flow in + production + introduction

$$\frac{d}{dt}(M_{A,sys}) = -\Delta \dot{M}_A + R_A V_{sys} - \sum_i (N_i S)_i$$

?

You try.

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Unsteady Macroscopic Species A Mass Balance—Gas Absorption

**Example 6—  
Continued**

We *paused*, most recently, because we did not have a tool to account for the **bulk-to-bulk mass transfer** between the phases in the apparatus

PAUSE

Now, we do.

**Liquid-phase-units**  
Overall Linear driving force model:

$$N_A \equiv K_x(x_A^*(y_{A,b}) - x_{A,b})$$

**Gas-phase-units:**  
Overall Linear driving force model:

$$N_A \equiv K_y(y_{A,b} - y_A^*(x_{A,b}))$$

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Unsteady Macroscopic Species A Mass Balance

**Example 6—  
concluded**

Now, let's *finish* our practical problem

**Example 6:** Height of a packed bed absorber

How can we use mass transfer to design a packed bed gas absorber to achieve a desired separation? We assume dilute concentrations in both gas and liquid.

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Unsteady Macroscopic Species A Mass Balance—Gas Absorption

**Example 6—concluded**

$a \equiv \frac{\text{interfacial area}}{\text{volume}}$

A property of the column and packing, in operation

Combined molar flux of species A from gas to liquid  $\equiv N_{A,z}$

$A_{xs} = \text{column cross section}$

$aA_{xs}\Delta z = \text{area for mass transfer, } S$

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Unsteady Macroscopic Species A Mass Balance—Intro

**MOLES**

*accumulation = net flow in + production + introduction*

$$\frac{d}{dt}(\mathcal{M}_{A,sys}) = -\Delta\dot{\mathcal{M}}_A + R_A V_{sys} - \sum_j (N_A S)_j$$

$R_A$  = net rate of production of moles of A in the C.V. by reaction, per unit volume  
 $R_A V_{sys} \Delta t$   
 $\mathcal{M}_A \Delta t$  moles of A that flows into the control volume between t and t + Δt  
 $\mathcal{M}_A \Delta t$  moles of A that flows out of the control volume between t and t + Δt  
 $-(N_A S)_j$  introduction of moles of A into the C.V. by mass transfer across the j<sup>th</sup> bounding control surface S<sub>j</sub> (C.S.)

$\mathcal{M}_{A,sys} = c_A V_{sys} = \text{total moles of A in the C.V.}$

$\Delta\dot{\mathcal{M}}_A = \sum_{j,outs} \dot{\mathcal{M}}_{A,j} - \sum_{j,ins} \dot{\mathcal{M}}_{A,j} = \text{bulk out}$

$R_A = \text{net rate of production of moles of A in the C.V. by reaction, per unit volume}$

$V_{sys} = \text{system volume}$

$N_{A_j} = K(\Delta c_{A_j}) = \text{molar flux of A out through the } j^{th} \text{ C.S.}$

We now have expressions for K and Δc<sub>Aj</sub>

$S_{sys} = \sum_j S_j$

Δ is "out" - "in"

C.S. = control surface

C.V. = control volume

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concentrated and dilute regimes

<p><b>Liquid-phase-units</b> Film Linear driving force model:</p> $N_A \equiv k_x(x_{A,i} - x_{A,b})$ $N_A \equiv k_{CL}(c_{AL,i} - c_{AL,b})$	<p><b>Gas-phase-units:</b> Film Linear driving force model:</p> $N_A \equiv k_p(p_{A,b} - p_{A,i})$ $N_A \equiv k_{CG}(c_{AG,b} - c_{AG,i})$ $N_A \equiv k_y(y_{A,b} - y_{A,i})$
<p><b>Liquid-phase-units</b> Overall Linear driving force model:</p> $N_A \equiv K_x(x_A^*( ) - x_{A,b})$ $N_A \equiv K_{CL}(c_{AL}^*( ) - c_{AL,b})$ <p>( ) = <math>p_{A,b}</math> or <math>c_{A,b}</math> or <math>y_{A,b}</math></p>	<p><b>Gas-phase-units:</b> Overall Linear driving force model:</p> $N_A \equiv K_p(p_{A,b} - p_A^*( ))$ $N_A \equiv K_{CG}(c_{AG,b} - c_{AG}^*( ))$ $N_A \equiv K_y(y_{A,b} - y_A^*( ))$ <p>( ) = <math>x_{A,b}</math> or <math>c_{AL,b}</math></p>

**Let's take these tools out for a spin!**  
**choose our mass transfer units (our tools)**

$$K_x = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{k_x} + \frac{1}{m''k_y}}$$

$$K_y = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{k_y} + \frac{m'}{k_x}}$$

, etc.

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Unsteady Macroscopic Species A Mass Balance—Gas Absorption

**Example 6—concluded**

$$\frac{d}{dt}(\mathcal{M}_{A,sys}) = -\Delta \dot{\mathcal{M}}_A + R_A V a_{sys} - \sum_j (N_A S)_j$$

steady

No homogenous reaction

$L, G = \frac{\text{moles}}{\text{column area} \cdot \text{time}}$

$A_{xs} = \text{column cross section}$

$a \equiv \frac{\text{interfacial area}}{\text{volume}}$

$$N_A S = (K_y \Delta c_{df})(a A_{xs} \Delta z)$$

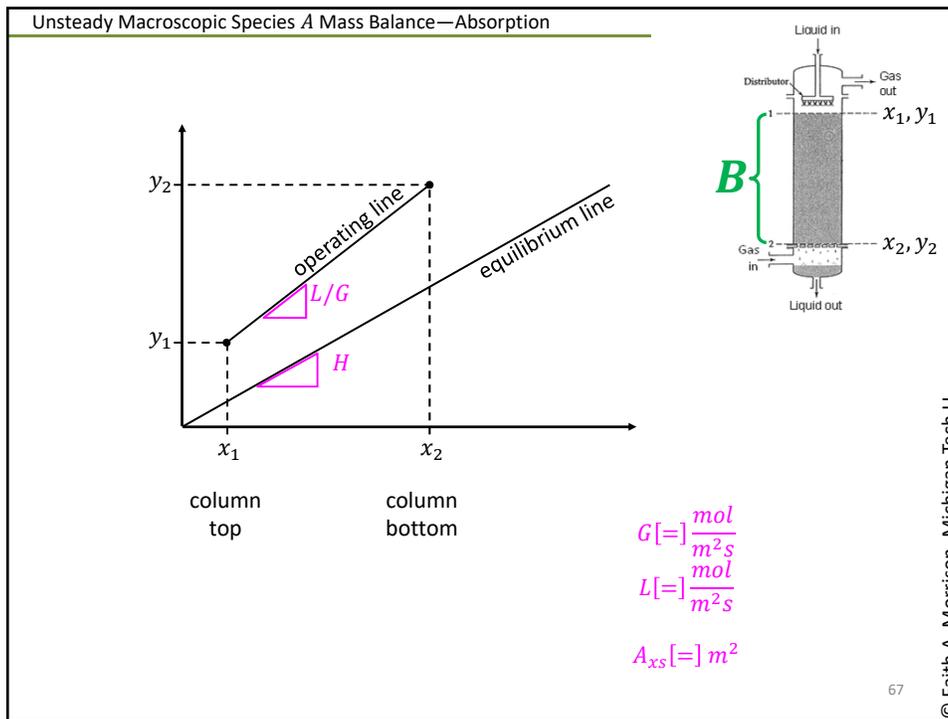
$$= \left( \frac{1}{\frac{H}{k_x} + \frac{1}{k_y}} \right) (y_A - H x_A)(a A_{xs} \Delta z)$$

$$\mathcal{M}_{AG}|_{z+\Delta z} = G A_{xs} y_A|_{z+\Delta z}$$

$$\mathcal{M}_{AG}|_z = G A_{xs} y_A|_z$$

**See Handnotes**

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Unsteady Macroscopic Species A Mass Balance—Gas Absorption

**Example 6—concluded**

**Example 6 Solution:**

“rate” equation (gas-side, species A mass balance)  $\frac{dy}{dz} = \frac{K_y a}{G} (y - Hx)$

“operating line” equation (overall, species A mass balance)  $y = \frac{L}{G} (x - x_1) + y_1$

“equilibrium line” equation (thermodynamic equilibrium, dilute mixtures)  $y^* = Hx^*$

Column height,  $B$  (result)  $B = \frac{G}{K_y a} \left( \frac{1}{1 - \frac{G}{L} H} \right) \ln \left( \frac{y_2 - y_2^*}{y_1 - y_1^*} \right)$

$A_{xs} [=] \text{m}^2$

$y_2^* = y^*(x_2)$   
 $y_1^* = y^*(x_1)$

See Handnotes

HW 4.16

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Modeling practical devices involving mass transfer		Example 6: Height of a packed bed absorber
		How can we use mass transfer to design a packed bed gas absorber to achieve a desired separation?
<p><b>Example 6</b> is presented as a series of <b>linked examples</b> that navigate around apparent “dead ends” in modeling mass-transfer units</p>		
<p><b>Identify a question</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ How can we model a large, practical device dependent on mass transfer?</li> <li>✓ How can we account for A going between phases?</li> <li>✓ How can we improve LDF model to cross the boundary (bulk-to-bulk transfer)?</li> <li>✓ <b>Can we model a large, practical device, incorporating <math>K_L, K_G</math> to account for mass xfer between phases?</b></li> </ul>	<p><b>Invent something</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Apply the species A mass balance to a macroscopic C.V.</li> <li>✓ Invent <math>k_x</math> through linear driving force (LDF) model</li> <li>✓ Write LDF in both phases and combine to create overall effect of multiple resistances</li> <li>✓ <b>Yes</b></li> </ul>	<p><b>Try to use it</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Lack a system to account for A going between phases</li> <li>✓ Gets A <u>to</u> the boundary, but not <u>across</u></li> <li>✓ Working, but can we devise a convenient shorthand?</li> </ul>
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Unsteady Macroscopic Species A Mass Balance—Absorption

**Mass Transfer in an Absorption Column:**

Species A from gas to liquid = Gas scrubbing

- operating line is above the equilibrium line

Species A from liquid to gas = Liquid stripping

- operating line is below the equilibrium line

Column height,  $B$  (result)

$$B = \frac{G}{K_y a} \left( \frac{1}{1 - \frac{G}{L} H} \right) \ln \left( \frac{y_2 - y_2^*}{y_1 - y_1^*} \right)$$

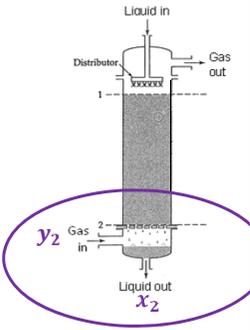
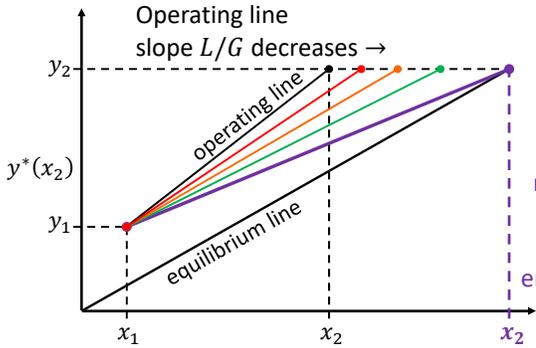
$G [=] \frac{\text{mol}}{\text{m}^2 \text{s}}$   
 $L [=] \frac{\text{mol}}{\text{m}^2 \text{s}}$   
 $A_{xs} [=] \text{m}^2$

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Unsteady Macroscopic Species A Mass Balance—Absorption

### Mass Transfer in an Absorption Column:

- operating line slope =  $\frac{L}{G}$
- equilibrium line slope =  $H = m$

Minimum slope, minimum  $L/G$  ratio, results when exit liquid condition  $x_2$  is in equilibrium with the entering gas condition  $y_2$  (cannot go lower)

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Unsteady Macroscopic Species A Mass Balance—Absorption

### Column Performance: HTU/NTU

Column height,  $B$

$$B = \frac{G}{K_y a} \left( \frac{1}{1 - \frac{G}{L} H} \right) \ln \left( \frac{y_2 - y_2^*}{y_1 - y_1^*} \right)$$

"rate" equation (gas-side, species A mass balance)

$$\frac{dy}{dz} = \frac{K_y a}{G} (y - Hx) \quad y^* = y^*(x) = Hx$$

$$\frac{dy}{dz} = \frac{K_y a}{G} (y - y^*)$$

$$\int_{y_1}^{y_2} \frac{dy}{(y - y^*)} = \int_0^B \frac{K_y a}{G} dz$$

$$B = \frac{G}{K_y a} \int_{y_1}^{y_2} \frac{dy}{(y - y^*)}$$

$$B = \left( \frac{G}{K_y a} \right) \left( \int_{y_1}^{y_2} \frac{dy}{(y - y^*)} \right)$$

$$B = HTU \cdot NTU$$

**HTU = height of a transfer unit**  
A measure of the efficiency of the equipment

**NTU = number of transfer units**  
A measure of difficulty of separation

$G [=] \frac{mol}{m^2 s}$   
 $L [=] \frac{mol}{m^2 s}$   
 $A_{xs} [=] m^2$

Cussler p318  
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Column Performance: HTU/NTU

- As the gap between the operating line and the equilibrium line narrows, NTU increases ( $B \propto \text{integral of } 1/\text{gap}$ )

$$B = \left( \frac{G}{K_y a} \right) \left( \int_{y_1}^{y_2} \frac{dy}{(y - y^*)} \right)$$

$$B = \text{HTU} \cdot \text{NTU}$$

$$B = \left( \text{column efficiency} \right) \left( \text{difficulty of separation} \right)$$

$G [=] \frac{\text{mol}}{\text{m}^2 \text{s}}$   
 $L [=] \frac{\text{mol}}{\text{m}^2 \text{s}}$   
 $A_{xs} [=] \text{m}^2$

HW 4.17

- Both operating and equilibrium lines are straight for dilute systems; When not dilute, both lines may be curved; integration then is done numerically (Excel)

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Overall Mass-Transfer Coefficient

### Overall Mass Transfer Coefficients Summary

- The driving force for species A mass transfer is distance from equilibrium (not bulk concentration difference)
- Both overall mass transfer coefficients  $K_G, K_L$  are the aggregation of all the resistances (gas side and liquid side)
- Film* and *overall* mass transfer coefficients may be expressed in many equivalent units
- $K_L, K_G$  are specific to a scenario or device (not a material property, not a detailed model of interphase mass transfer)
- Individual film mass transfer coefficients are needed to predict the overall transfer coefficients (obtain from literature);  $K_L, K_G$  may also be measured
- The correct average mass transfer driving force is determined by integrating over the entire column
- The efficiency of the column is reflected in the HTU
- The difficulty of the separation is reflected by the NTU

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