

# COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

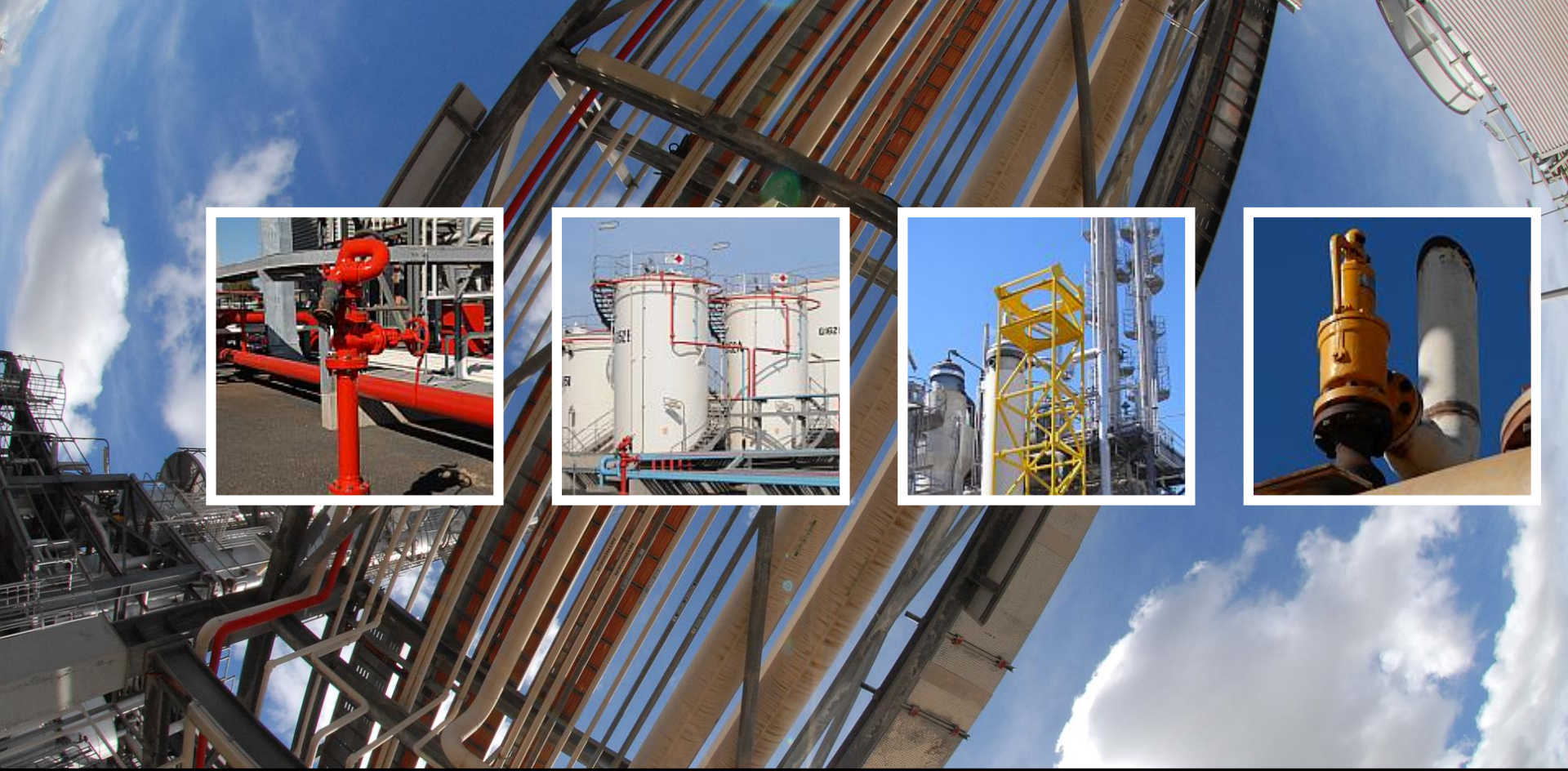
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**CHEN20010 Material and Energy Balances**

# **Material Balances**



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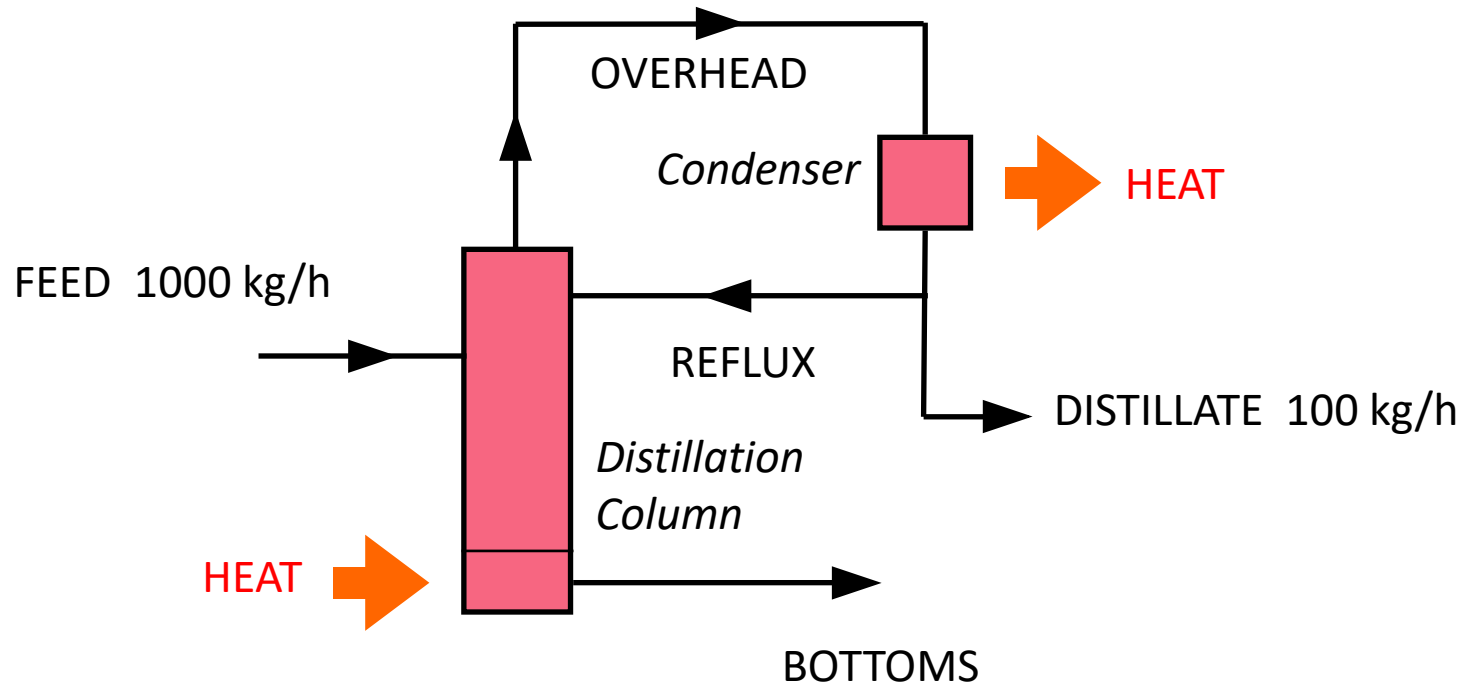
# Material Balances – Module Learning Outcomes

A student is expected to be able to:

- Define the terms: system, surroundings, boundary, continuous, batch, steady-state
- Determine a suitable system boundary, and illustrate on a BFD
- Perform basic material balances (without chemical reactions):
  - Total, component, and elemental balances
  - Around single and multiple units
  - Calculate flow rates and composition, as required
- Define and treat appropriately in a balance: tie component, mixers, splitters, separators, feeds, product streams, recycles, bypasses, makeup.

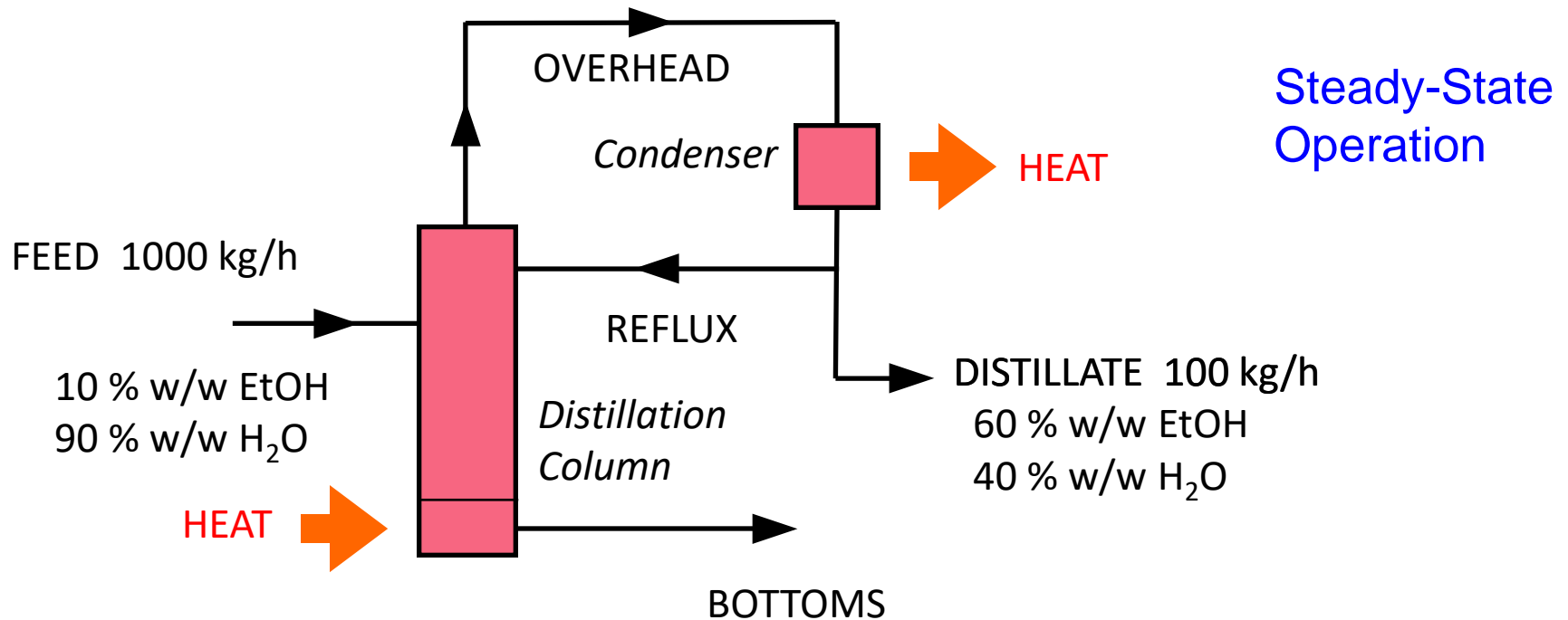
# Material Balances

## Distillation Problem - Direct Solution



# Material Balances

## Distillation Problem - Direct Solution



What are the flow rate and composition of the bottoms stream ?

# Consider the population of a city:



If we wish to determine the increase in population of Melbourne over a year what is the first thing which we must do ?

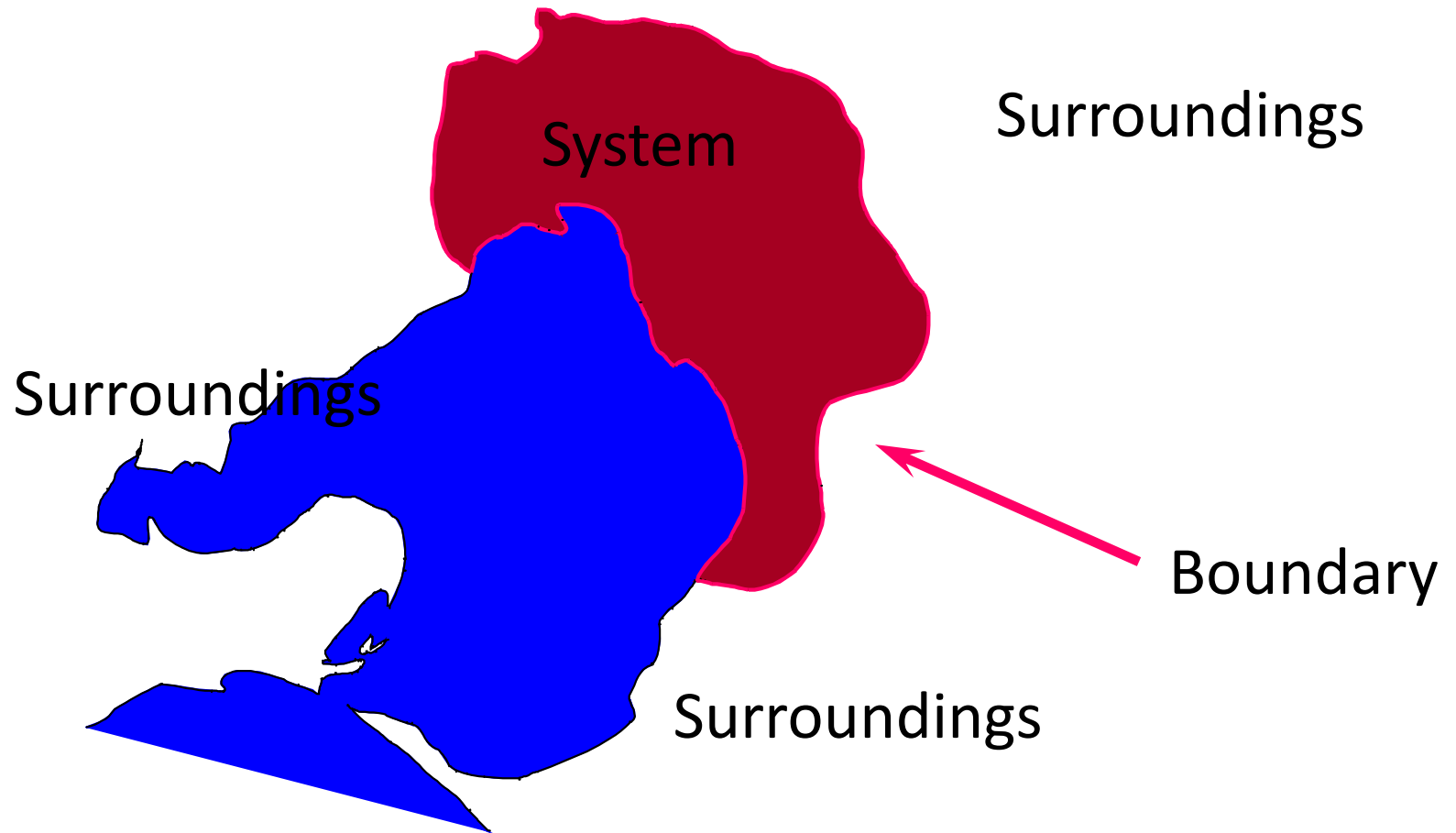




Define what we mean by Melbourne



Consider the population of a city:



Define what we mean by Melbourne.

Consider the population of a city:



Over one year ....

$$\left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Populati} \\ \text{on} \\ \text{Increase} \end{array} \right) = \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{People} \\ \text{Enteri} \\ \text{ng} \end{array} \right) - \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Peopl} \\ \text{e} \\ \text{Leavi} \end{array} \right) + \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Peop} \\ \text{le} \\ \text{Born} \end{array} \right) - \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Peop} \\ \text{le} \\ \text{Dyin} \end{array} \right)$$

Consider the population of a city:

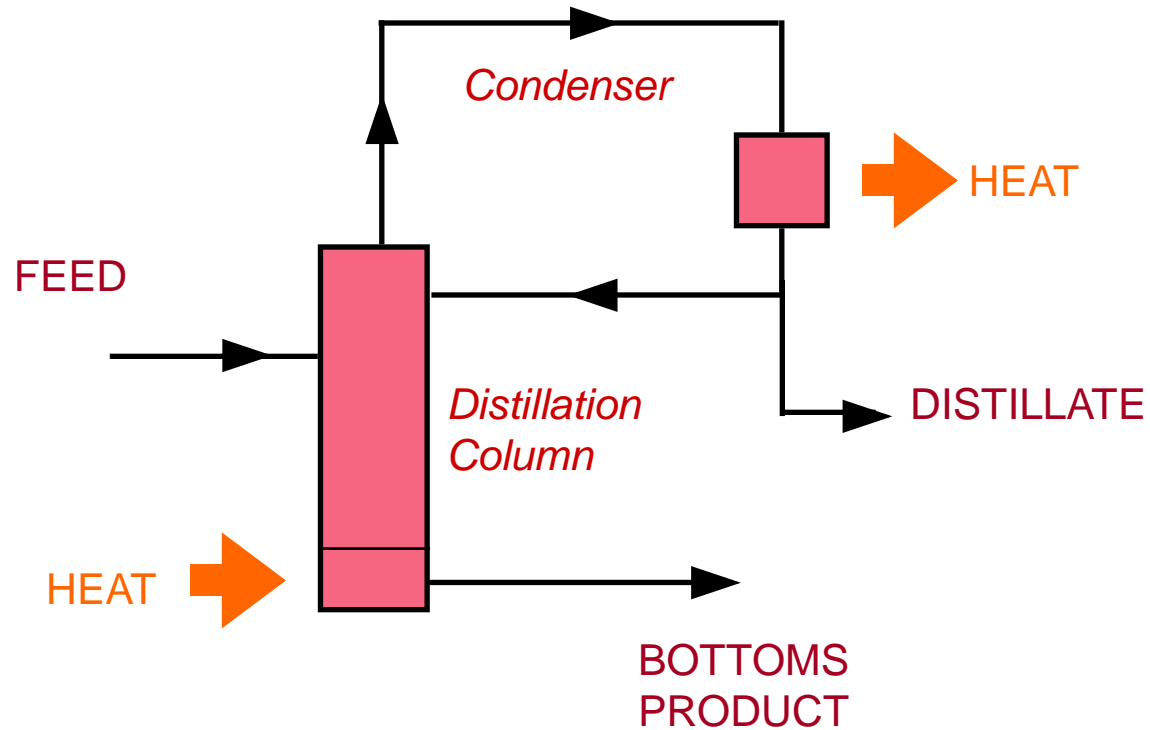


Over one year ....

$$\left( \text{Accumulation} \right) = \left( \text{Input} \right) - \left( \text{Output} \right) + \left( \text{Generation} \right) - \left( \text{Consumption} \right)$$

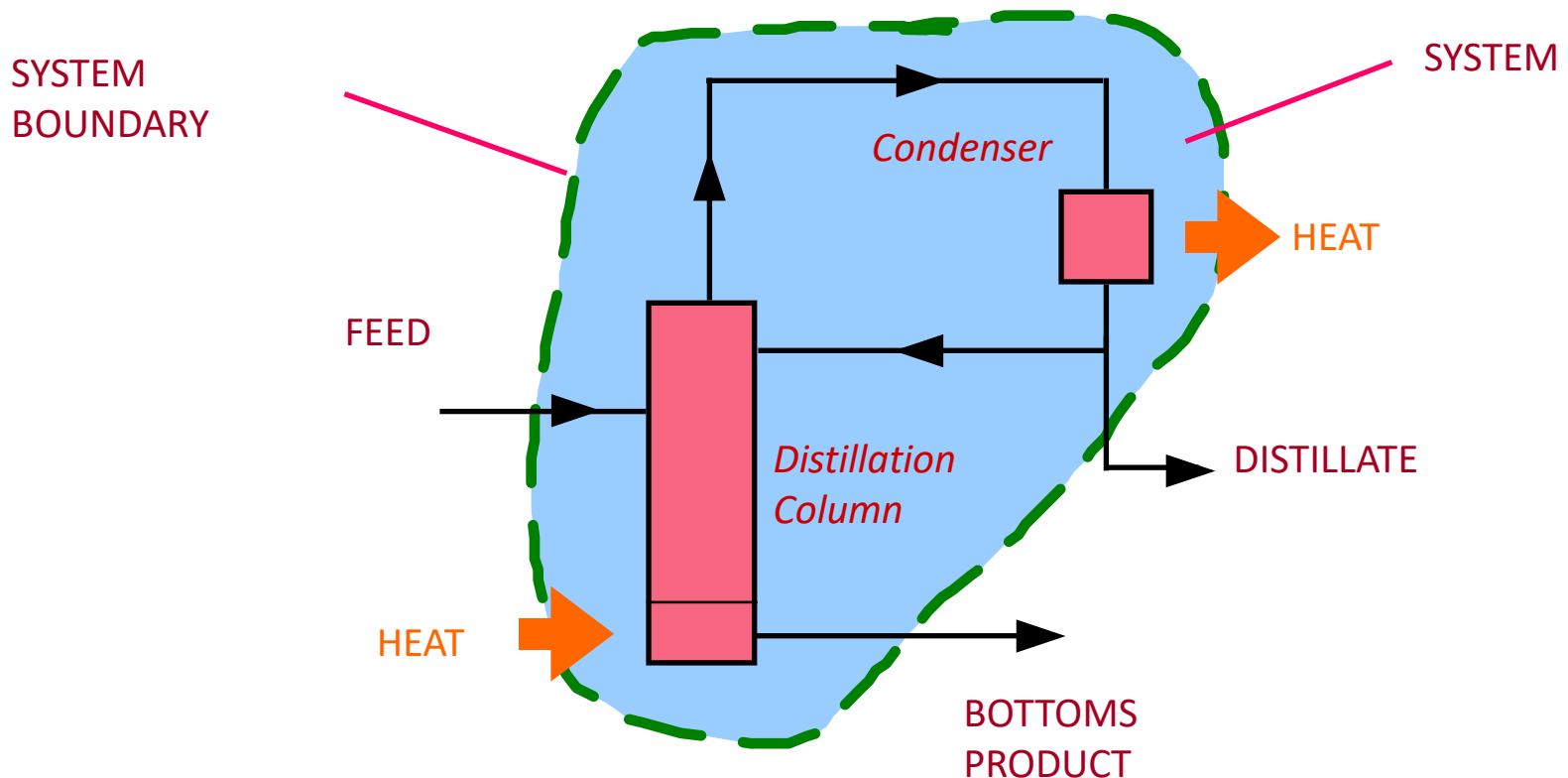
# Material Balances

We perform MATERIAL BALANCES by first defining the SYSTEM.



# Material Balances

**SYSTEM** : The volume of space under consideration, separated by **BOUNDARIES** from the **SURROUNDINGS**. Boundaries must be clearly defined.



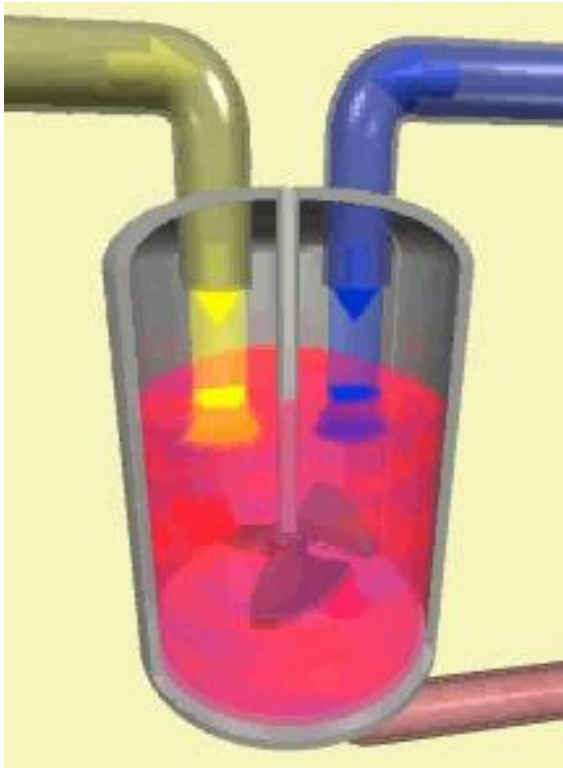
# Material Balances

**SYSTEM** : The volume of space under consideration, separated by **BOUNDARIES** from the **SURROUNDINGS**. Boundaries must be clearly defined.

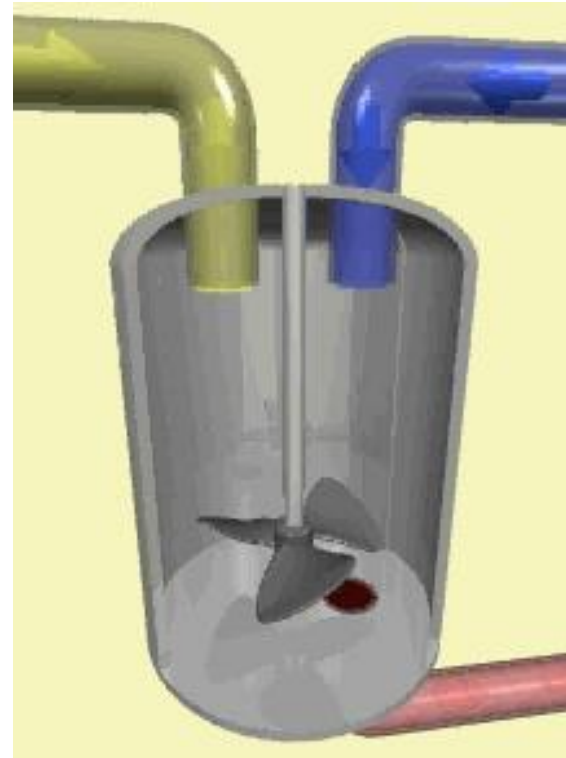
**CONTINUOUS PROCESS** (open system): Mass flows across the system boundary continuously. The distillation column is an example.

**BATCH PROCESS** (closed system): No mass flows across the system boundary. Baking a cake is an example.

**STEADY-STATE OPERATION**: Compositions, conditions and flow rates do not change with time.



Continuous Process



Batch Process

# Material Balances

## Basic Material Balance Equation:

This is a statement of the conservation of matter with regards to a system:

$$\begin{aligned} \left[ \begin{array}{c} \text{ACCUMULATION} \\ \text{within system} \end{array} \right] &= \left[ \begin{array}{c} \text{INPUT} \\ \text{across system} \\ \text{boundaries} \end{array} \right] - \left[ \begin{array}{c} \text{OUTPUT} \\ \text{across system} \\ \text{boundaries} \end{array} \right] \\ &+ \left[ \begin{array}{c} \text{GENERATION} \\ \text{within system} \end{array} \right] - \left[ \begin{array}{c} \text{CONSUMPTION} \\ \text{within system} \end{array} \right] \end{aligned}$$



# Material Balances

**Balance Items - these must be consistent**

**MASS** - Use consistent units (e.g. all items must be in the same units, i.e., all as kg, lb<sub>m</sub> etc).

**MOLES** - Use with care when chemical reactions are involved. Use consistent units.

**RATES** - Items may be amounts (e.g. kg, moles) or rates of amounts (e.g. kg/hr, moles/min).

**BASIS OF CALCULATION** - Must be clearly stated

# Material Balances

## Total Balance

Balance items are total amounts or flow rates of streams, irrespective of the composition.

**Mass units** : generation, consumption terms must be zero (except for a nuclear reactor).

**Mole units** : generation, consumption terms may not be zero if a chemical reaction is involved.

# Material Balances

## Component Balance

Balance items are in terms of a particular, specified chemical compound e.g.,  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$ , ash,  $\text{CH}_4$

No chemical reactions occurring :

generation and consumptions terms are both zero (for mass and moles).

Chemical reactions occurring :

generation and consumption terms must be evaluated based upon the reaction stoichiometry.

# Material Balances

## Component Balance

Balance items are in terms of a particular, specified chemical compound e.g.,  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$ , ash,  $\text{CH}_4$

Consider  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  :

$$\begin{aligned} \left[ \begin{array}{c} \text{Accumulation} \\ \text{of } \text{H}_2\text{SO}_4 \\ \text{within system} \end{array} \right] &= \left[ \begin{array}{c} \text{Input} \\ \text{of } \text{H}_2\text{SO}_4 \\ \text{into system} \end{array} \right] - \left[ \begin{array}{c} \text{Output} \\ \text{of } \text{H}_2\text{SO}_4 \\ \text{out of system} \end{array} \right] \\ &+ \left[ \begin{array}{c} \text{Generation} \\ \text{of } \text{H}_2\text{SO}_4 \\ \text{within system} \end{array} \right] - \left[ \begin{array}{c} \text{Consumption} \\ \text{of } \text{H}_2\text{SO}_4 \\ \text{within system} \end{array} \right] \end{aligned}$$

# Material Balances

## Elemental Balance

Balance items are in terms of the elements (e.g. O, C, H, S and N) irrespective of the state they are in (e.g. whether the C is present as C, CO, CO<sub>2</sub> or CH<sub>4</sub>).

Since we can neither create, destroy nor transmute elements outside a nuclear reactor then the generation and consumption terms are zero.

Consider C :

$$\left[ \begin{array}{c} \text{Accumulation} \\ \text{of C} \\ \text{within system} \end{array} \right] = \left[ \begin{array}{c} \text{Input} \\ \text{of C} \\ \text{into system} \end{array} \right] - \left[ \begin{array}{c} \text{Output} \\ \text{of C} \\ \text{out of system} \end{array} \right]$$

# Material Balances

## Accumulation Term

Accumulation accounts for the change in the amount of material within the system boundaries.

For steady state processes, accumulation term = 0

So material balances become :

TOTAL :

$$\text{INPUT} = \text{OUTPUT}$$

mass

$$\text{INPUT} = \text{OUTPUT} - \text{GENERATION} + \text{CONSUMPTION}$$

moles

COMPONENT :

$$\text{INPUT} = \text{OUTPUT} - \text{GENERATION} + \text{CONSUMPTION}$$

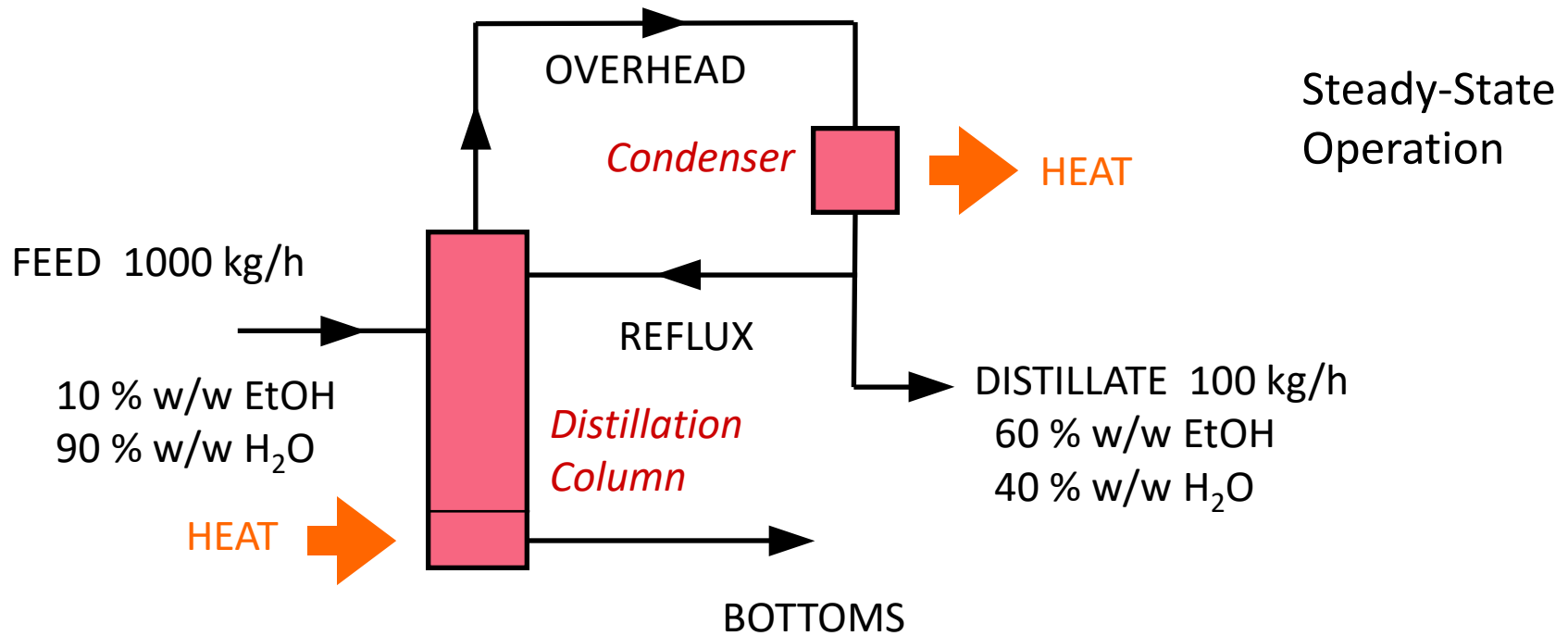
ELEMENTAL :

$$\text{INPUT} = \text{OUTPUT}$$

Accumulation must only be evaluated for  
**unsteady state processes.**

# Material Balances

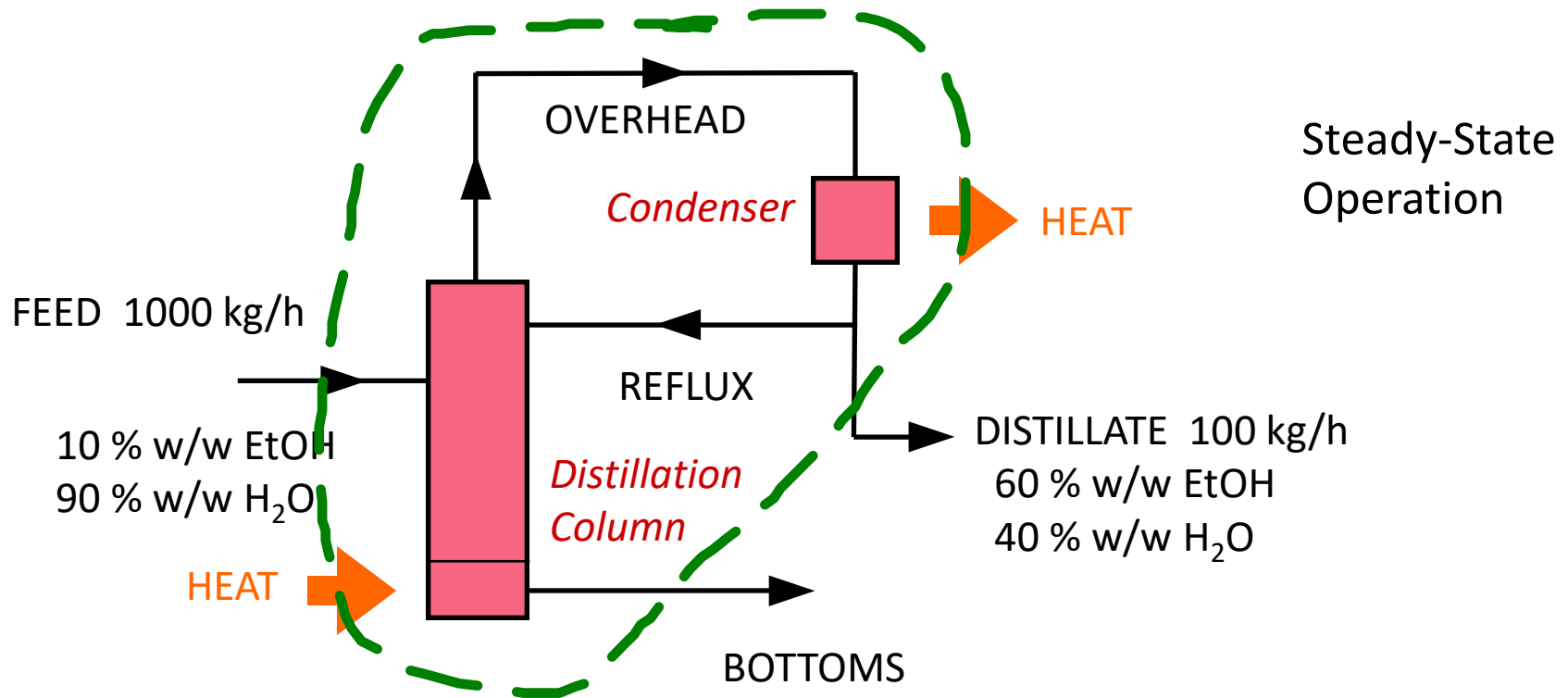
Distillation problem : Direction Solution



What are the flow rate and composition of the bottoms stream ?

# Material Balances

Distillation problem : Direction Solution

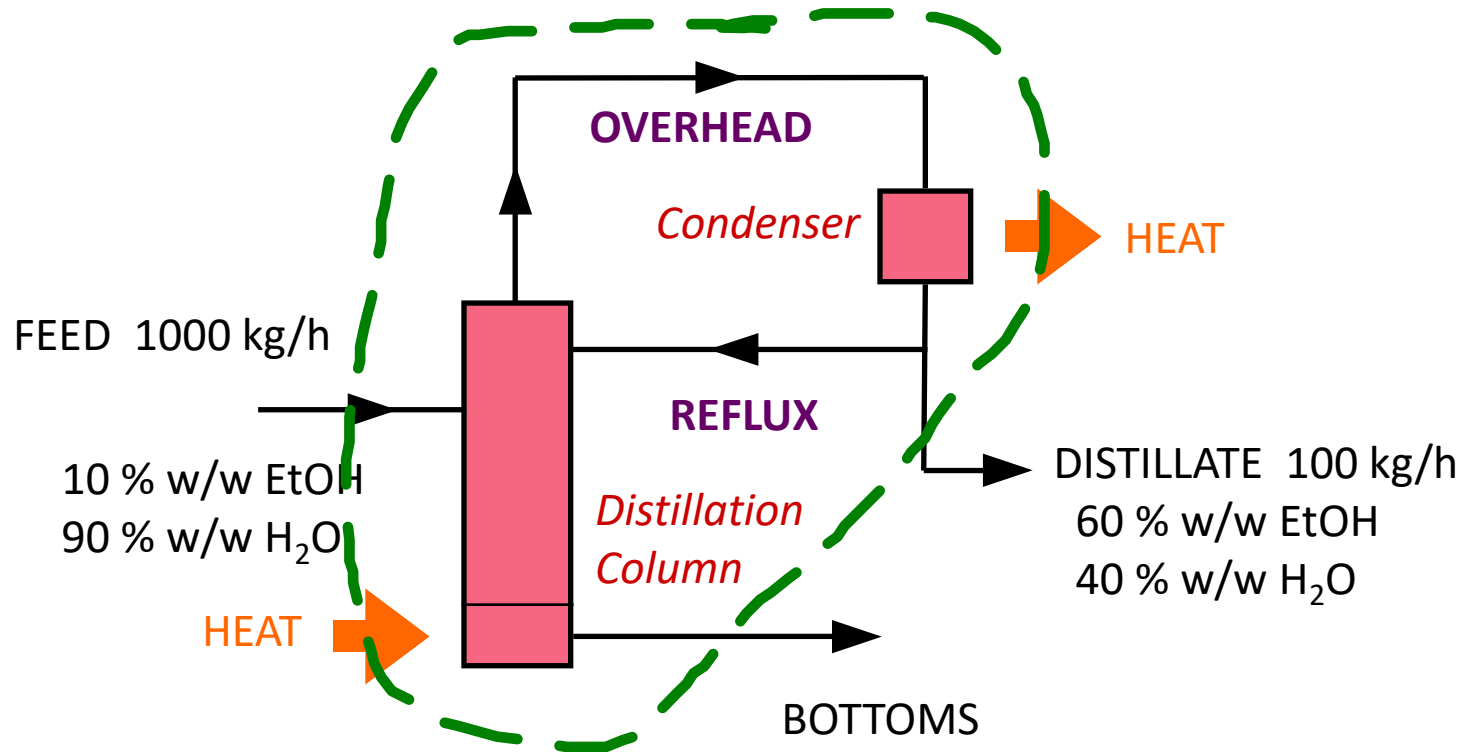


The **SYSTEM BOUNDARY** is chosen so that it crosses the streams with the unknown flow rates and compositions, and the streams with the known parameters.



# Material Balances

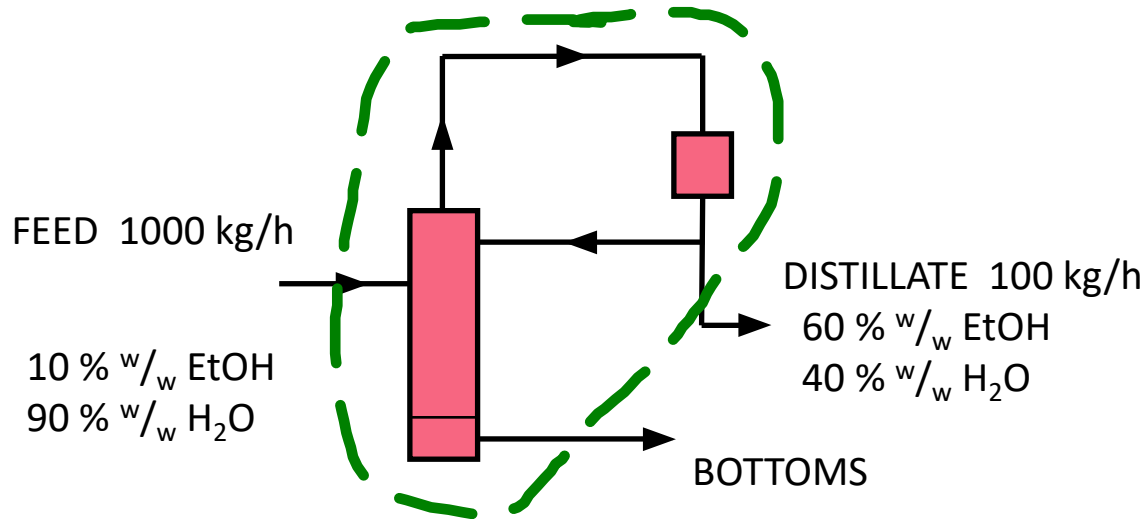
Distillation problem : Direction Solution



The **OVERHEAD** and **REFLUX** streams are inside the system and **DO NOT CROSS** the boundary, so do not appear in the balance.

# Material Balances

Distillation problem : Direction Solution



Basis of Calculation:  
1000 kg of feed  
i.e. 1 hour

Steady State Operation, so

No Chemical Reactions, so

and

Accumulation = 0

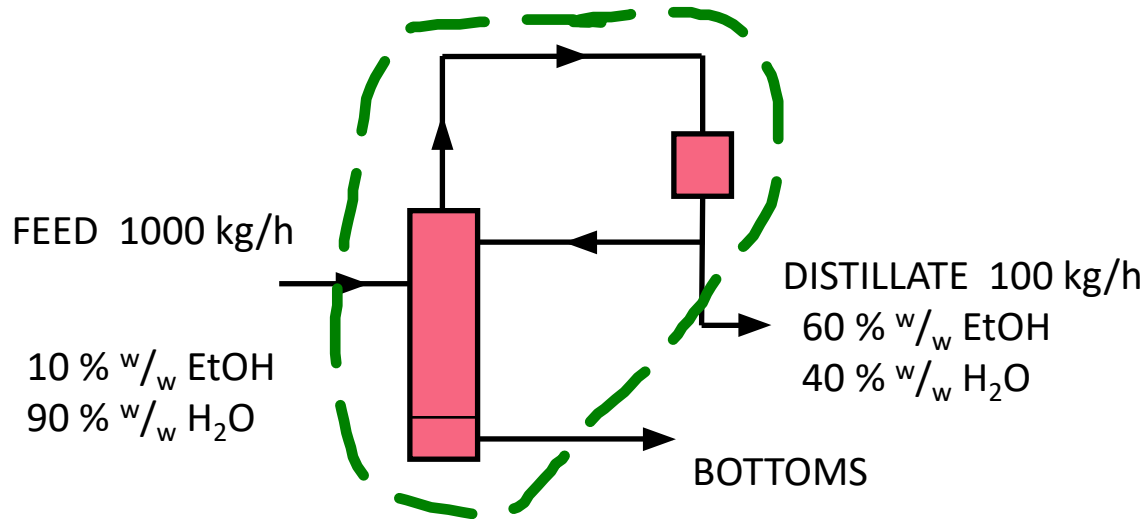
Generation = 0

Consumption = 0

$\therefore$  Input = Output

# Material Balances

Distillation problem : Direction Solution

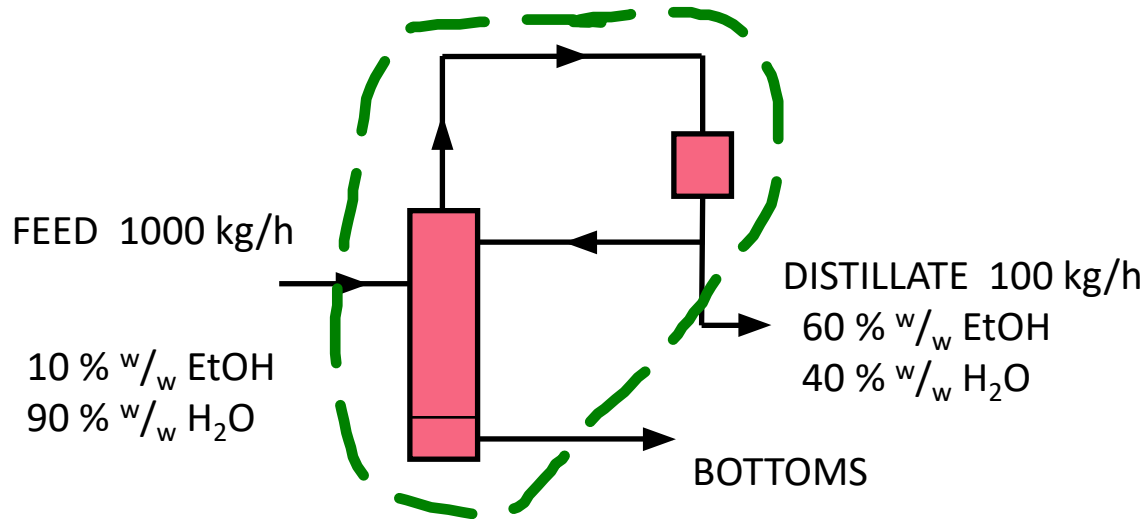


Basis of Calculation:  
1000 kg of feed  
i.e. 1 hour

	Feed (1000 kg)		Distillate (100 kg)		Bottoms
	% w/w	kg	% w/w	kg	kg
EtOH	10	100	60	60	
H <sub>2</sub> O	90	900	40	40	
		<u>1000</u>		<u>100</u>	<u>          </u>

# Material Balances

Distillation problem : Direction Solution



Basis of Calculation:  
1000 kg of feed  
i.e. 1 hour

Bottoms

kg

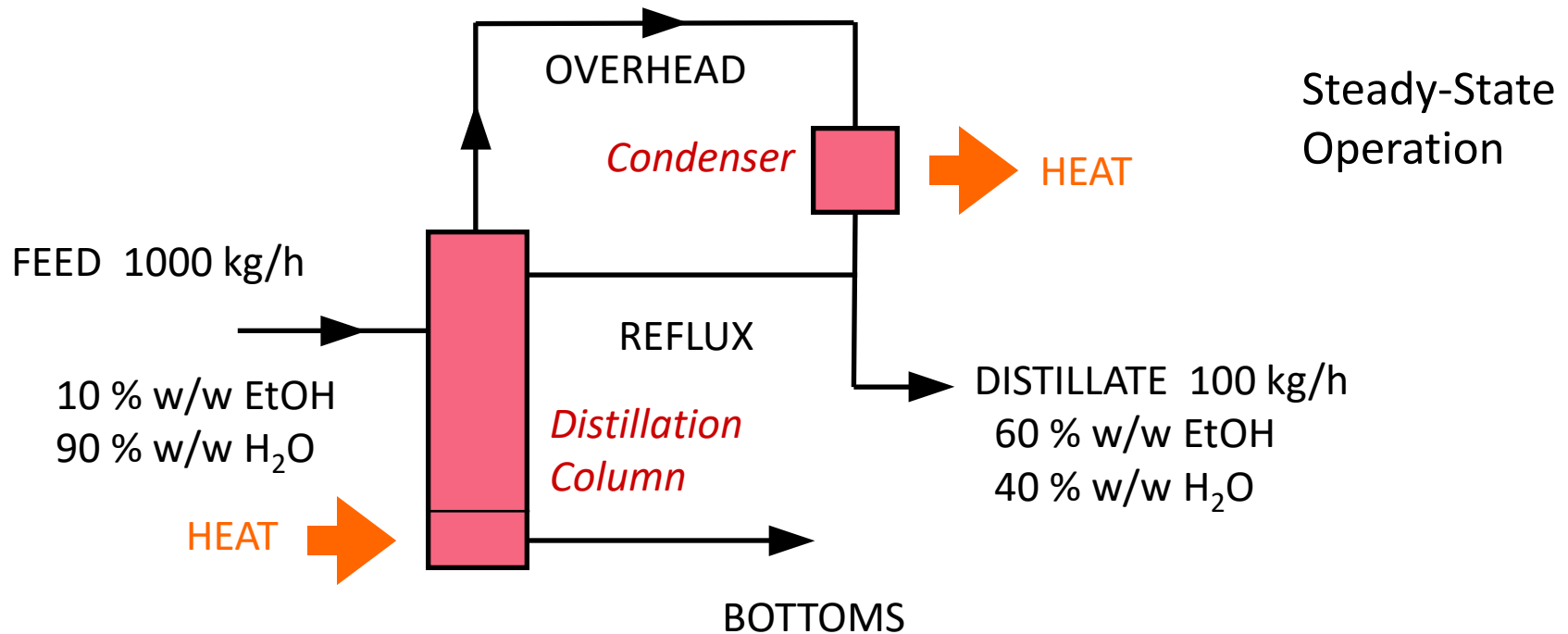
EtOH	40	( = 100 - 60 )
H <sub>2</sub> O	<u>860</u>	( = 900 - 40 )
	900	

Composition of bottoms

=

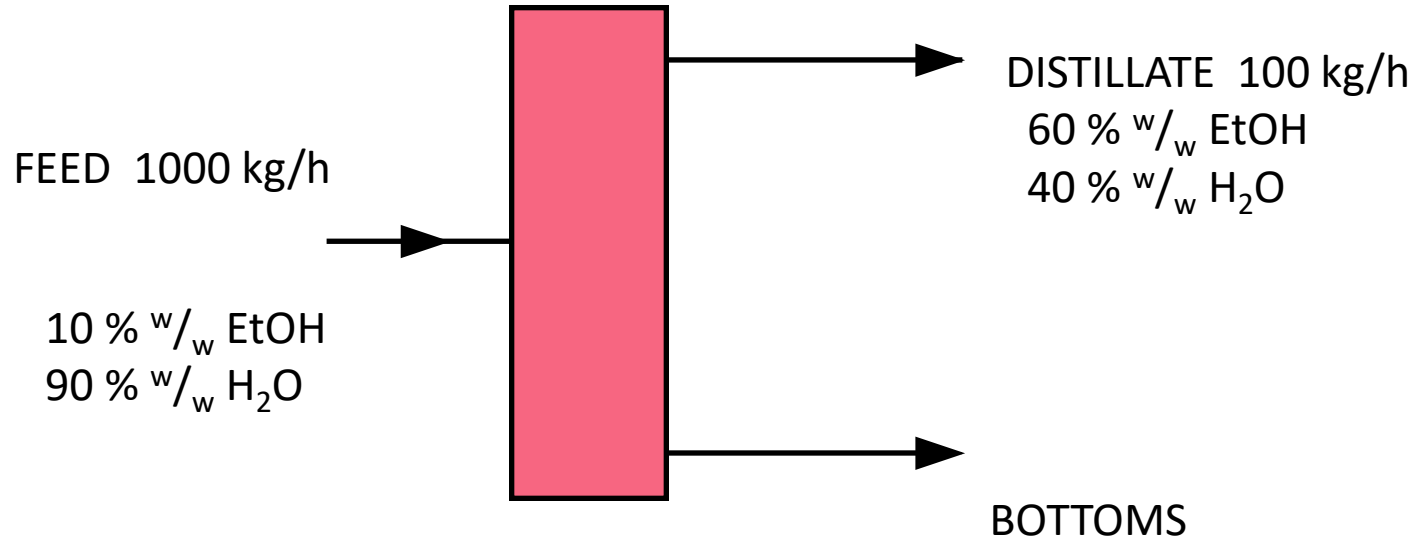
# Material Balances

This diagram can be re-drawn as .....



**What are the flow rate and composition of the bottoms stream ?**

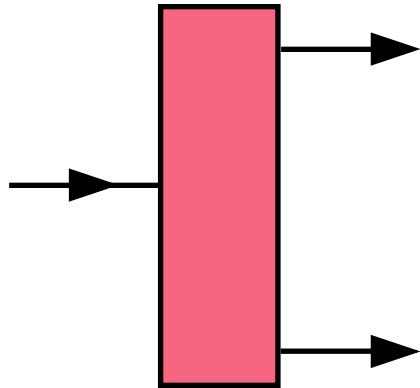
# Material Balances



..... as this diagram.

# Material Balances

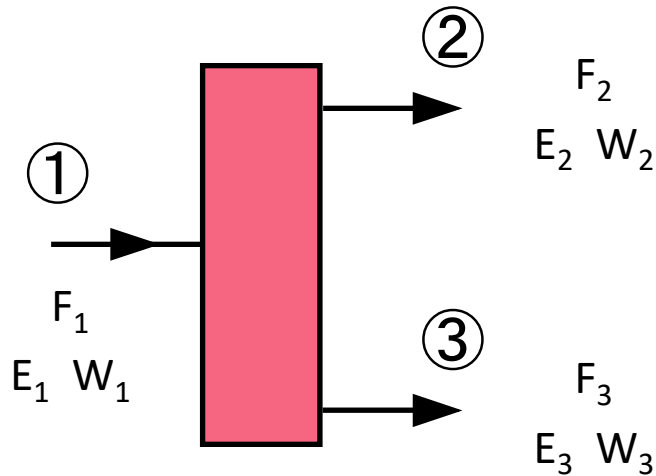
Distillation problem : Algebraic Solution



Note that the **block** at left is not the **distillation column** alone, but represents the complete system, including the **column**, **reboiler** and **condenser**, and the **overhead** and **reflux** streams.

# Material Balances

Distillation problem : Algebraic Solution



Always use a simple and logical notation system.

Let  $F_i$  denote mass flow rate of stream  $i$ .

Let  $E_i$  denote mass fraction of EtOH in stream  $i$ .

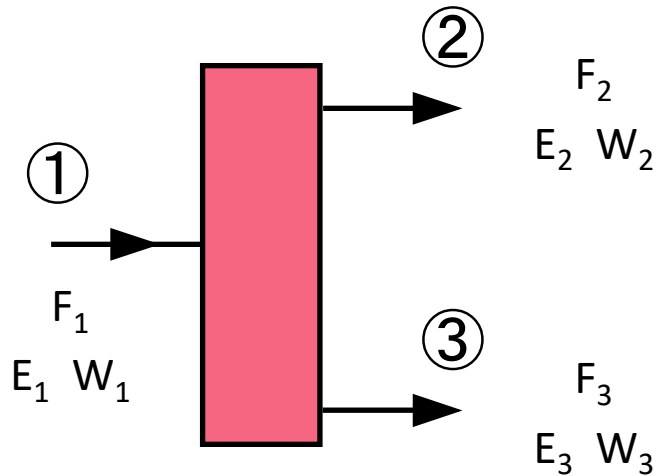
Let  $W_i$  denote mass fraction of  $H_2O$  in stream  $i$ .

$\therefore F_2$  is total mass flow rate of stream 2  
and,  $E_3$  is mass fraction of EtOH in stream 3.



# Material Balances

Distillation problem : Algebraic Solution



Basis of Calculation: 1 hour

Total balance :

$$F_1 = F_2 + F_3 \quad (1)$$

Component balance for EtOH :

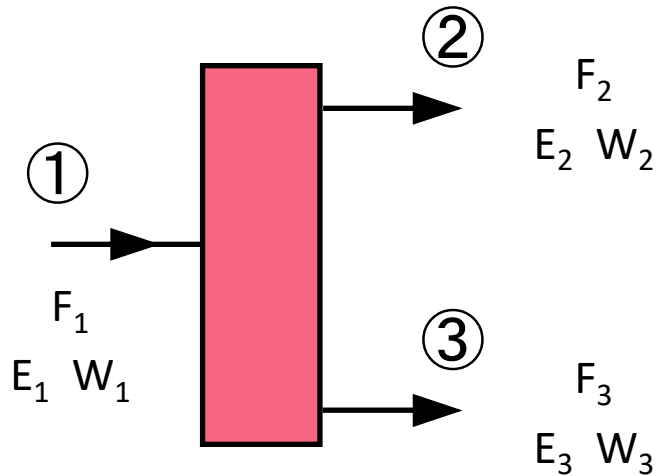
$$F_1 E_1 = F_2 E_2 + F_3 E_3 \quad (2)$$

Component balance for H<sub>2</sub>O :

$$F_1 W_1 = F_2 W_2 + F_3 W_3 \quad (3)$$

# Material Balances

Distillation problem : Algebraic Solution



$$F_1 = F_2 + F_3 \quad (1)$$

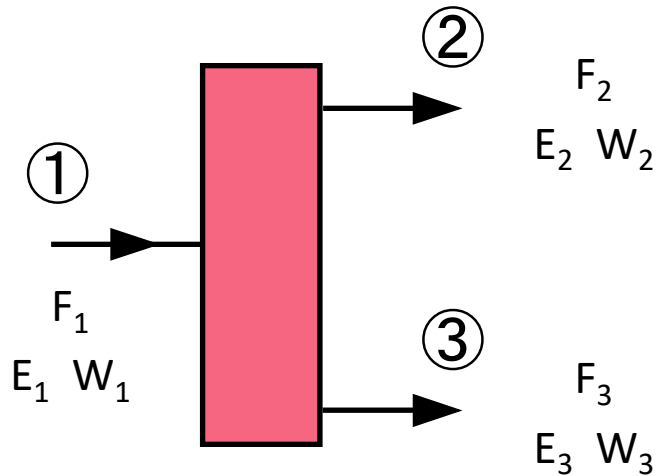
$$F_1 E_1 = F_2 E_2 + F_3 E_3 \quad (2)$$

$$F_1 W_1 = F_2 W_2 + F_3 W_3 \quad (3)$$

Note that since there are only 2 components, E and W, we may write  $E_i + W_i = 1$  for all streams. Thus only 2 of the 3 equations are **INDEPENDENT** as any one equation may be derived directly from the other 2.

# Material Balances

Distillation problem : Algebraic Solution



$$F_1 = F_2 + F_3 \quad (1)$$

$$F_1 E_1 = F_2 E_2 + F_3 E_3 \quad (2)$$

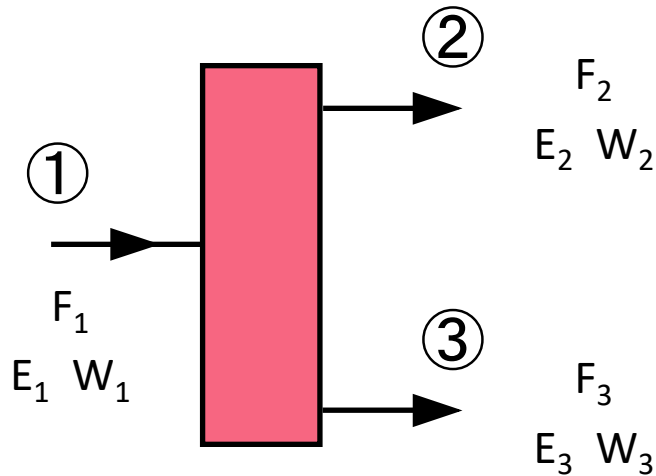
$$F_1 W_1 = F_2 W_2 + F_3 W_3 \quad (3)$$

Adding equations (2) and (3) yields:

But we know that  $E_1 + W_1 = 1$ , etc

# Material Balances

Distillation problem : Algebraic Solution



$$F_1 = F_2 + F_3 \quad (1)$$

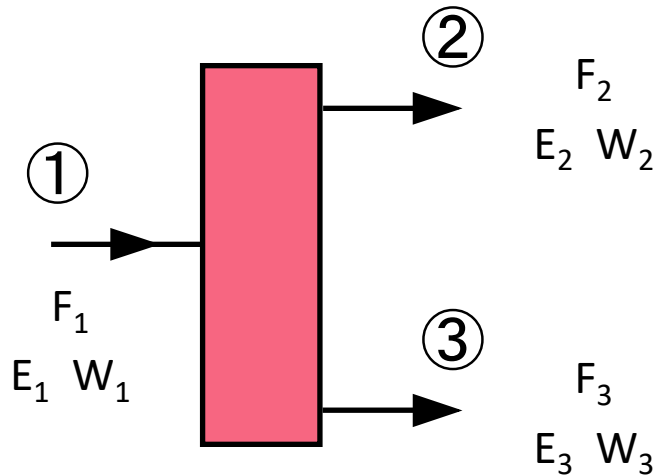
$$F_1 E_1 = F_2 E_2 + F_3 E_3 \quad (2)$$

$$F_1 W_1 = F_2 W_2 + F_3 W_3 \quad (3)$$

- Whenever we have 2 components and no chemical reactions we may write 2 independent material balances.
- Whenever we have N components and no chemical reactions we may write N independent material balances.

# Material Balances

Distillation problem : Algebraic Solution



$$F_1 = F_2 + F_3 \quad (1)$$

$$F_1 E_1 = F_2 E_2 + F_3 E_3 \quad (2)$$

$$F_1 W_1 = F_2 W_2 + F_3 W_3 \quad (3)$$



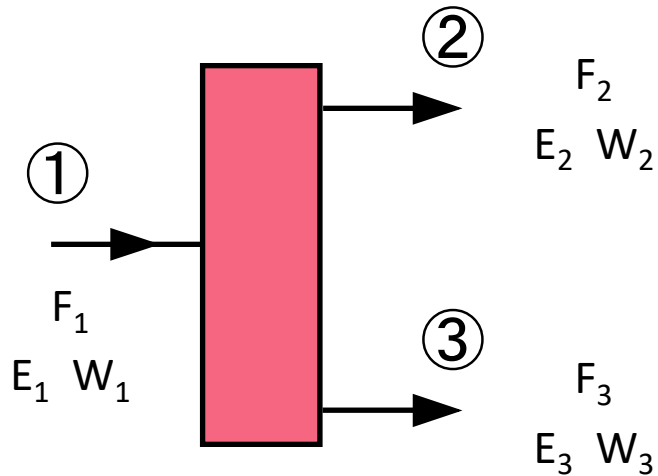
We know the values of these variables.



These variables are unknown.

# Material Balances

Distillation problem : Algebraic Solution



$$F_1 = F_2 + F_3 \quad (1)$$

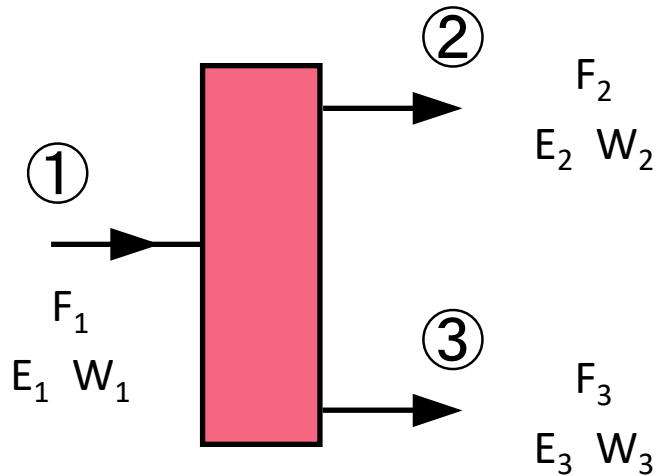
$$F_1 E_1 = F_2 E_2 + F_3 E_3 \quad (2)$$

$$F_1 W_1 = F_2 W_2 + F_3 W_3 \quad (3)$$

Since, no. of unknowns = no. of equations, we can solve these equations.

# Material Balances

Distillation problem : Algebraic Solution

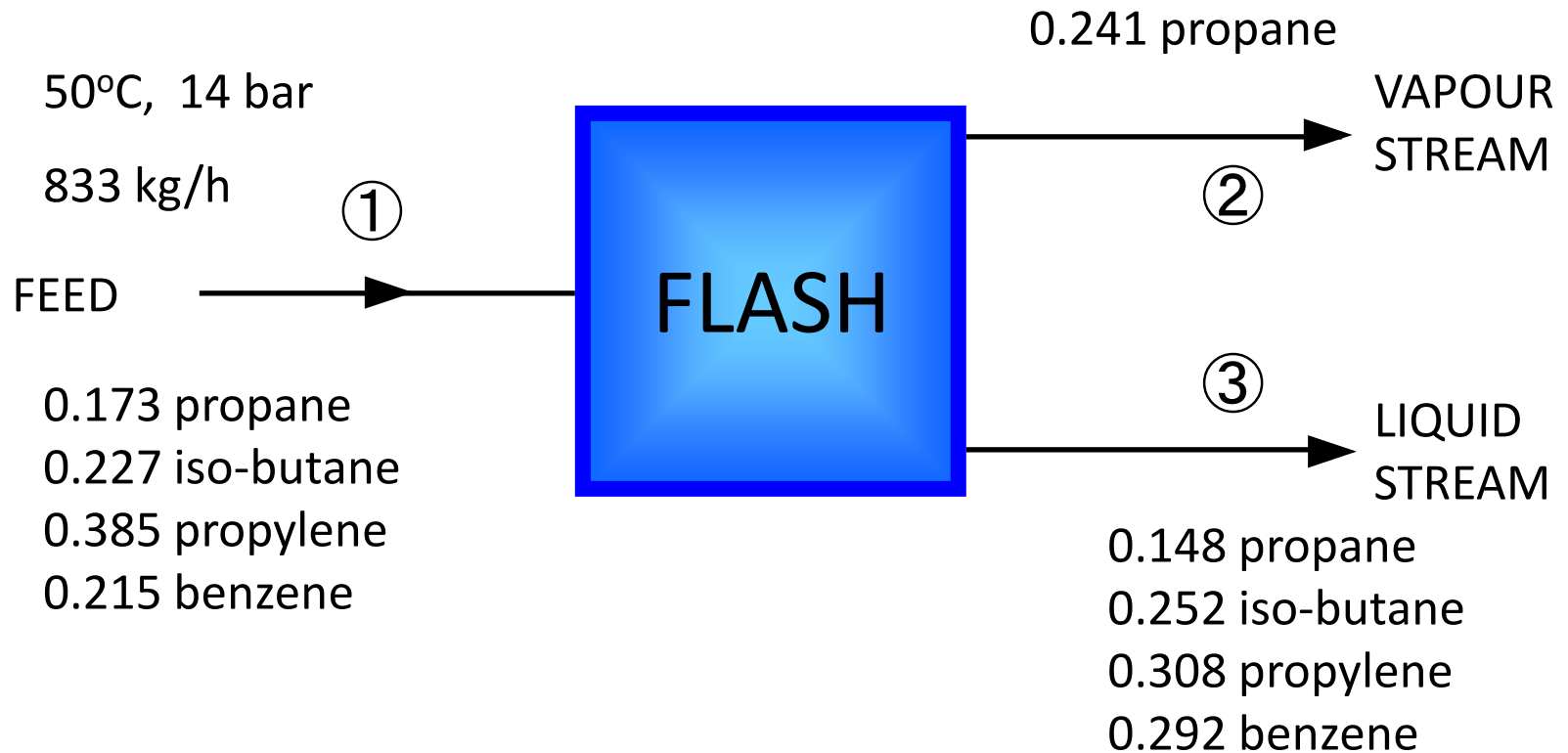


$$F_1 = F_2 + F_3 \quad (1)$$

$$F_1 E_1 = F_2 E_2 + F_3 E_3 \quad (2)$$

$$F_1 W_1 = F_2 W_2 + F_3 W_3 \quad (3)$$

# Material Balances



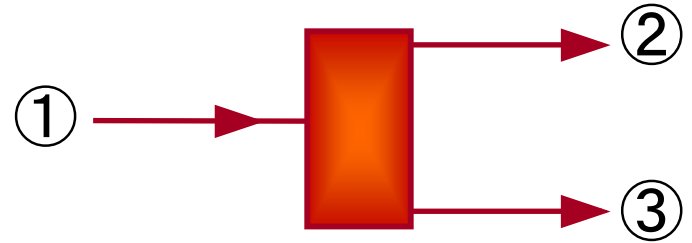
Calculate :

- i) product stream flow rates
- ii) vapour stream composition



# Material Balances

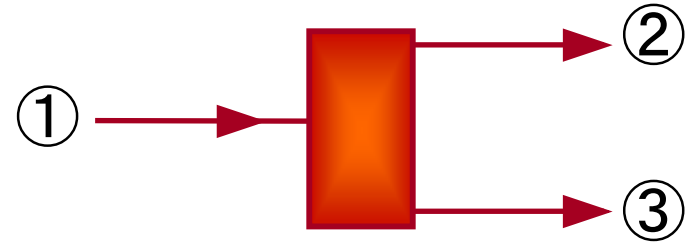
Denote propane as P  
iso-butane as I  
propylene as R  
benzene as B



It is always very useful to choose a simple and obvious nomenclature system.

# Material Balances

Denote propane as **P**  
iso-butane as **I**  
propylene as **R**  
benzene as **B**



Let  $F_i$  be mass flow rate of stream  $i$

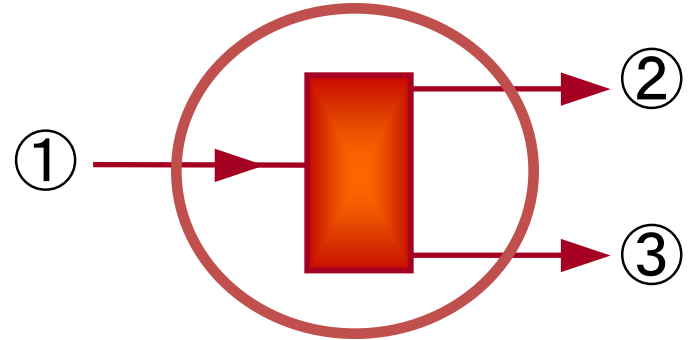
Let  $P_i$  be mass fraction of **P** in stream  $i$

**Basis of Calculation** : 1 hour

**Assume** : steady state operation  
no reactions are occurring

# Material Balances

We begin by putting a **system boundary** around the entire process.



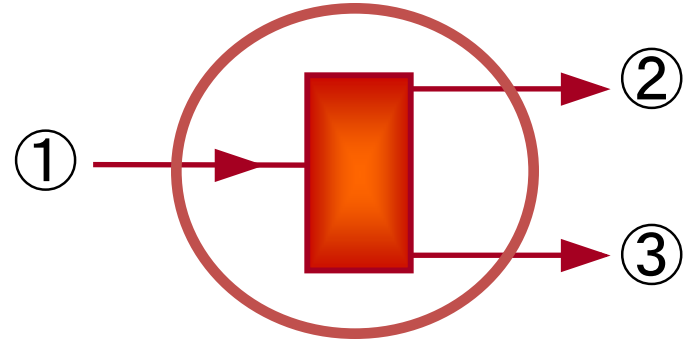
Total balance over the FLASH is :

$$F_1 = F_2 + F_3$$

Component balance for P over the FLASH is :

$$P_1 F_1 = P_2 F_2 + P_3 F_3$$

# Material Balances

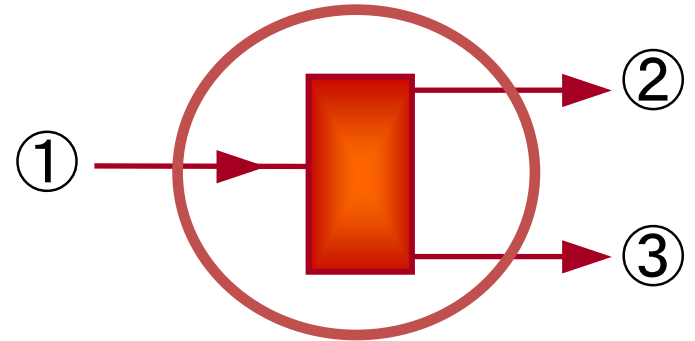


Substituting this expression for  $F_3$  in equation (2) :

Simplifying :

So, we now know the flow rates of the two product streams. Now let's find the composition of the vapour stream.

# Material Balances



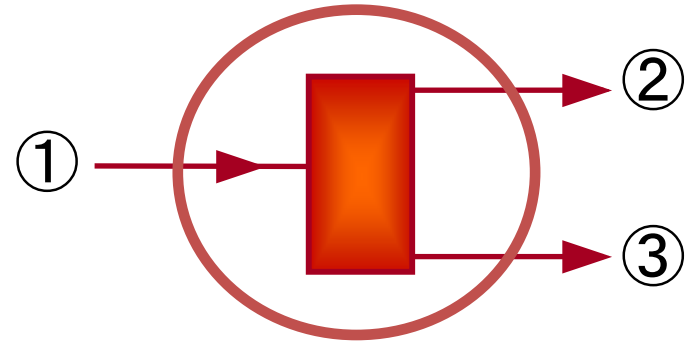
Component balance for I over the FLASH is :

$$I_1 F_1 = I_2 F_2 + I_3 F_3$$

Component balance for R over the FLASH is :

$$R_1 F_1 = R_2 F_2 + R_3 F_3$$

# Material Balances



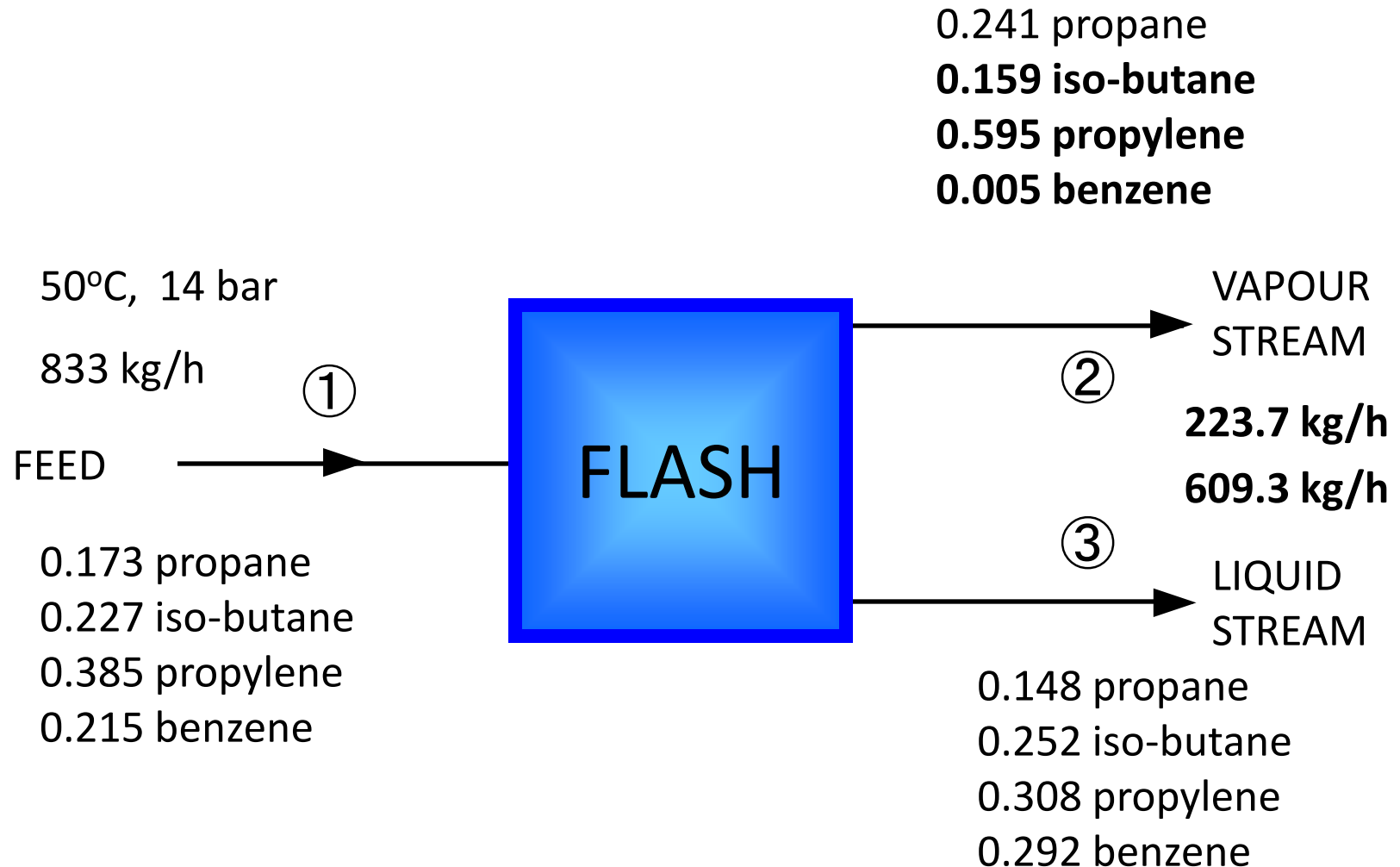
Component balance for B over the FLASH is :

$$B_1 F_1 = B_2 F_2 + B_3 F_3$$

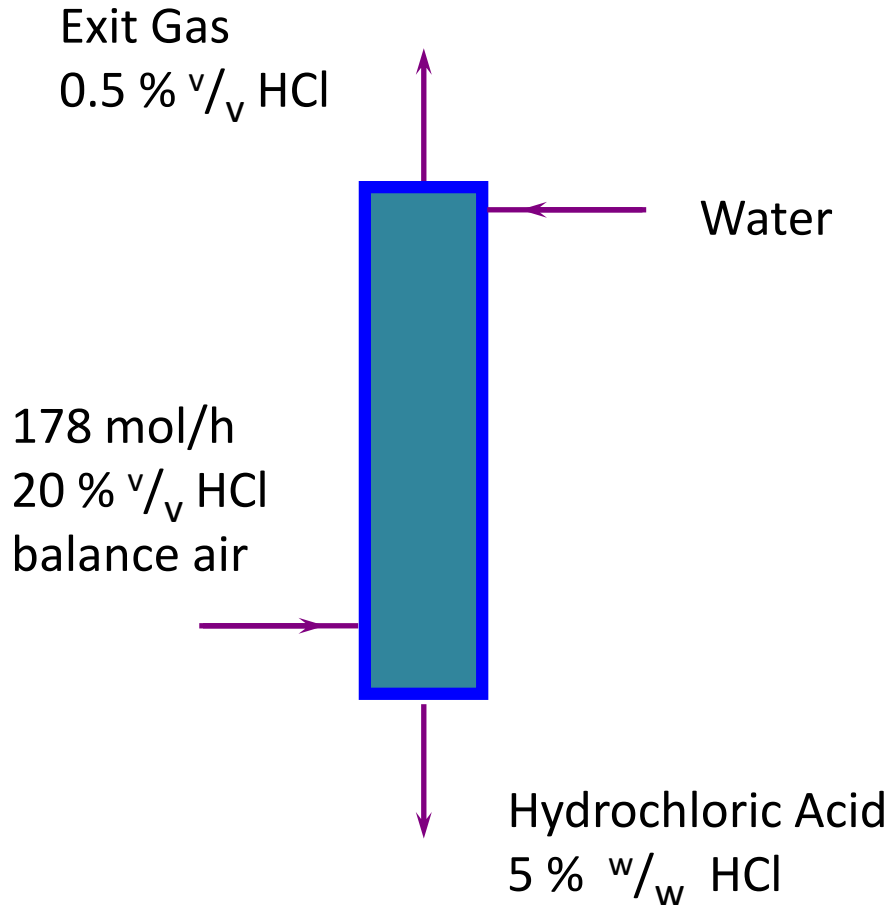
but, we know that  $P_2 + I_2 + R_2 + B_2 = 1$

# Material Balances

The problem has been solved.



# Gas Absorption Problem – Direction Solution



Assume :

- no evaporation of  $H_2O$
- air is insoluble in aqueous phase
- no chemical reactions
- steady-state operation

What is the production rate of the acid ?



# Gas Absorption Problem

Basis of Calculation : 1 hour

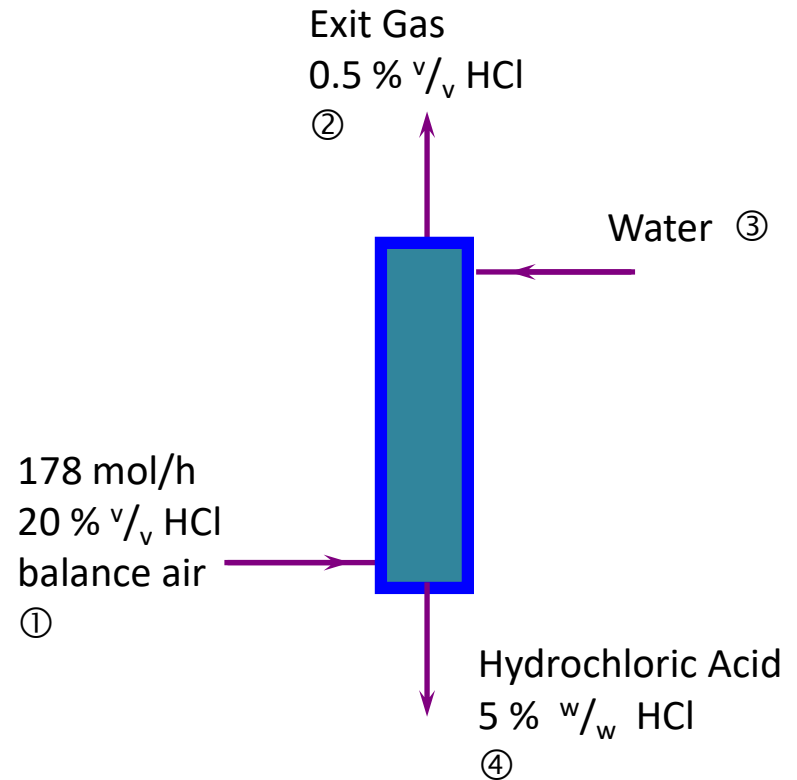
Input gas stream ①:

HCl =

Air =

Output gas stream ②:

Air out =



This amount of air is 99.5 mol % of the total flow rate of the exit gas.  
The remaining 0.5 mol % is the gaseous HCl.

∴ HCl out in the exit gas =

# Gas Absorption Problem

HCl out in the exit gas = 0.715 mol

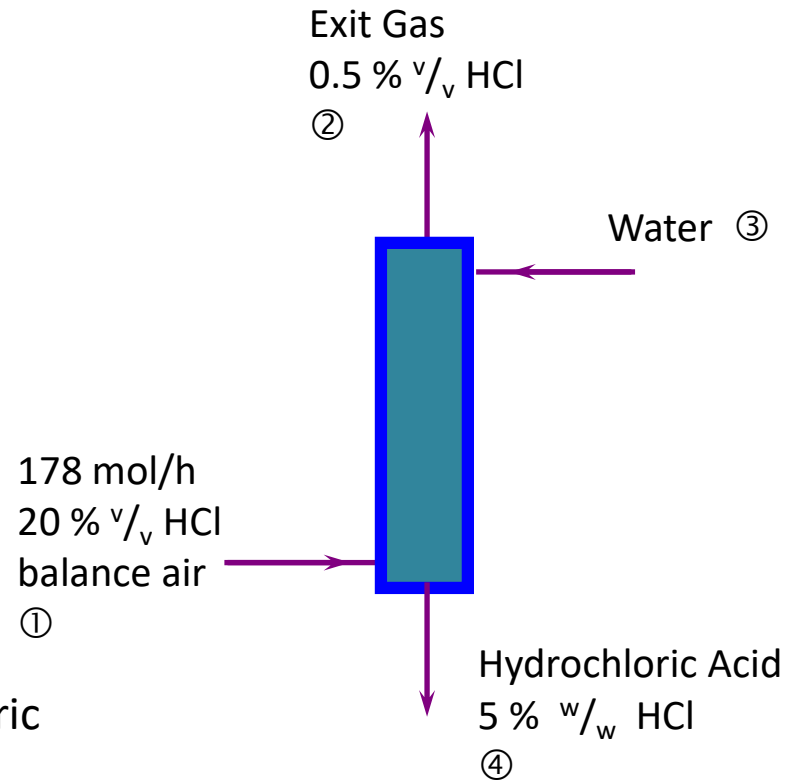
So how much of the HCl is absorbed in the water and leaves the tower in the hydrochloric acid stream ?

HCl absorbed by water  
=

The HCl concentration in the acid stream is given on a weight basis, so we must convert to a mass.

MW ( HCl ) =

∴ HCl absorbed by the water =

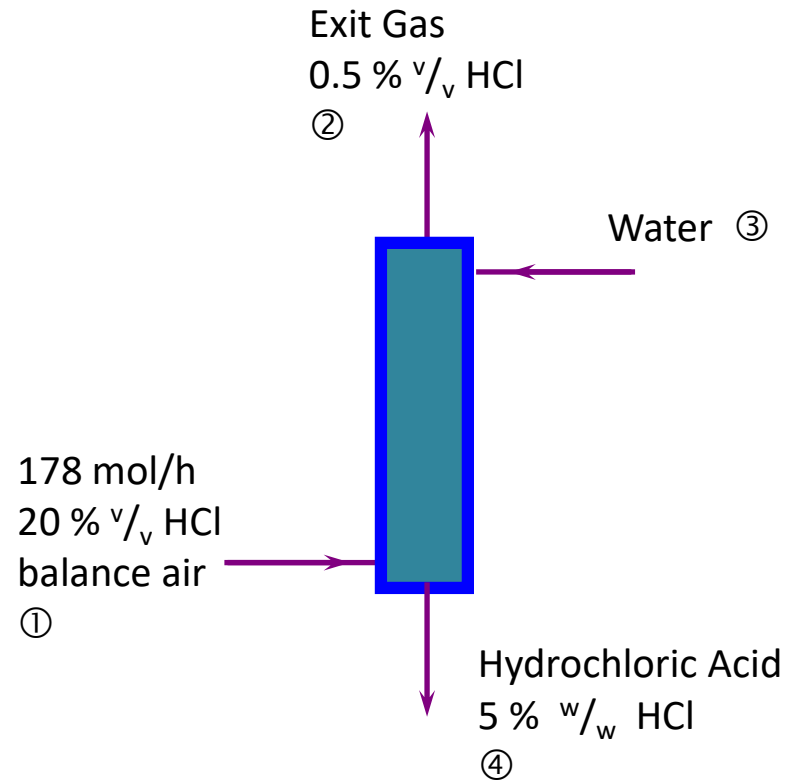


# Gas Absorption Problem

HCl absorbed in water =

This is 5 % of the total mass of the hydrochloric acid leaving the tower. Now we calculate the total mass of the acid stream produced.

Acid production =

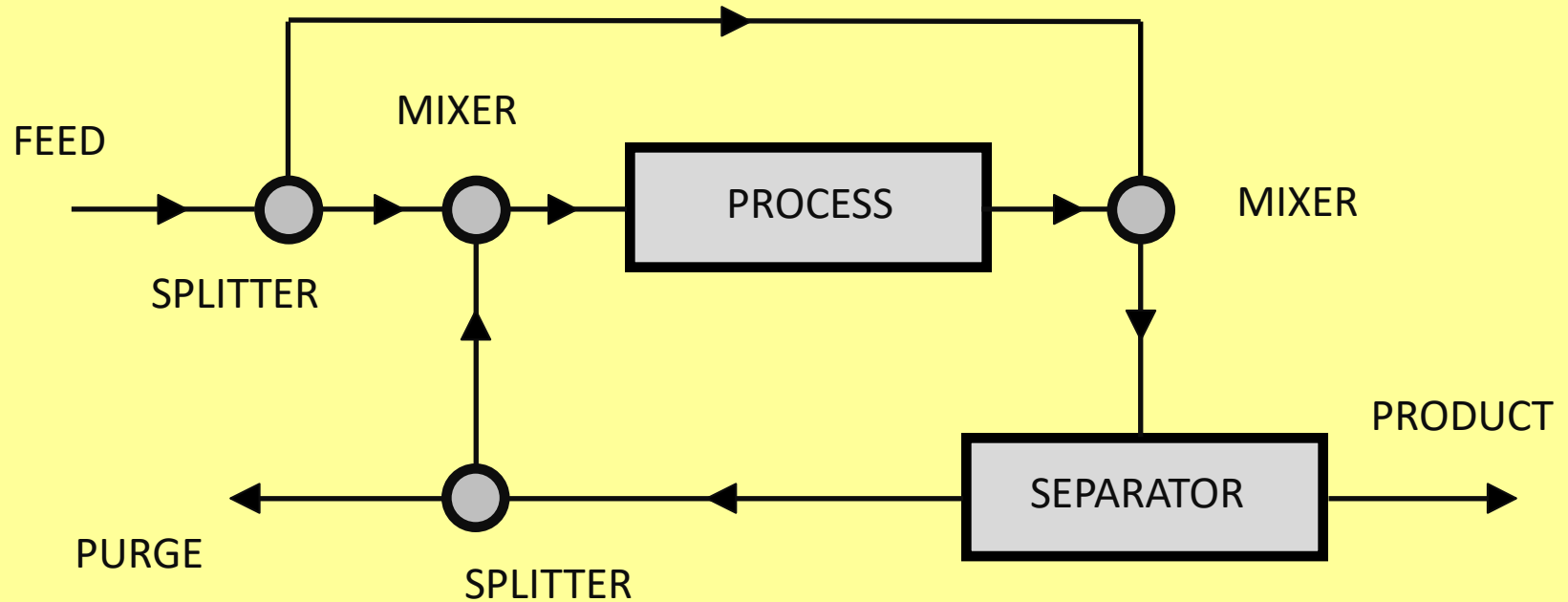


# Tie Component or Tie Element

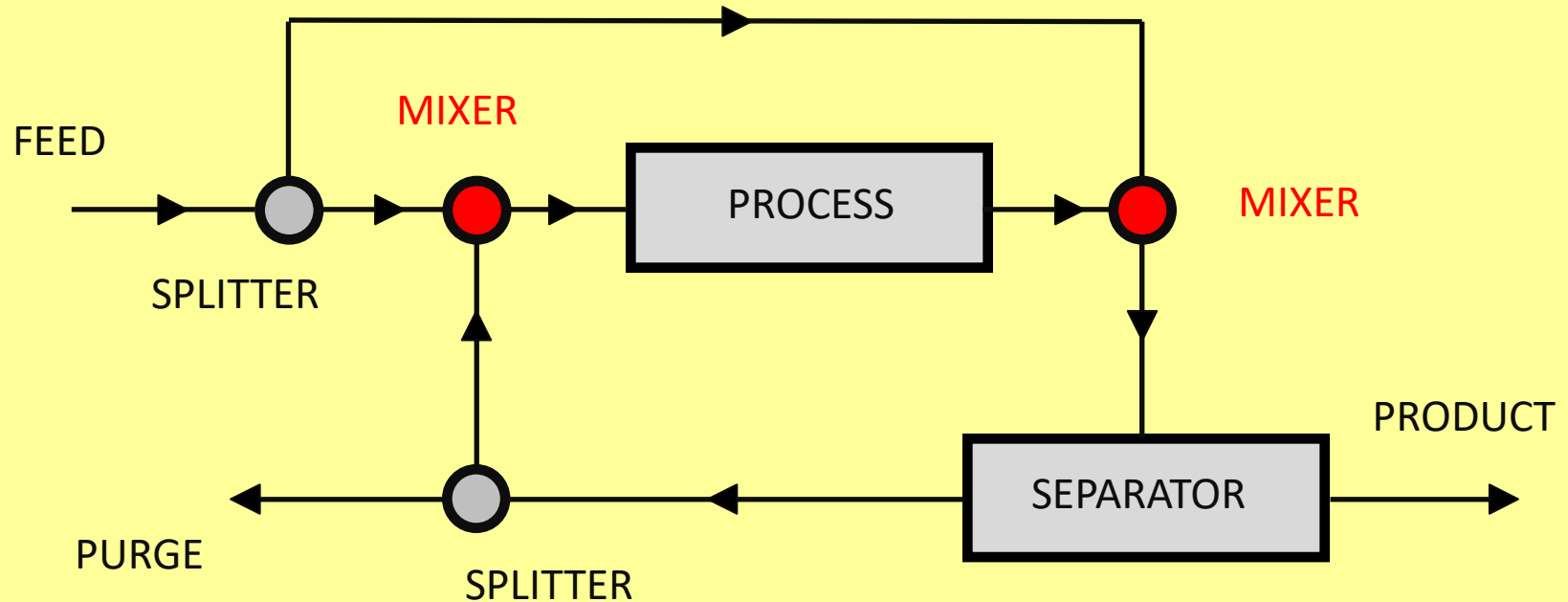
A **tie component** is a component that enters the system in one stream only, leaves in one stream only, and is not consumed or generated within the system.

Tie components allow simple material balances to be constructed quickly.

# Multiple Unit Operations

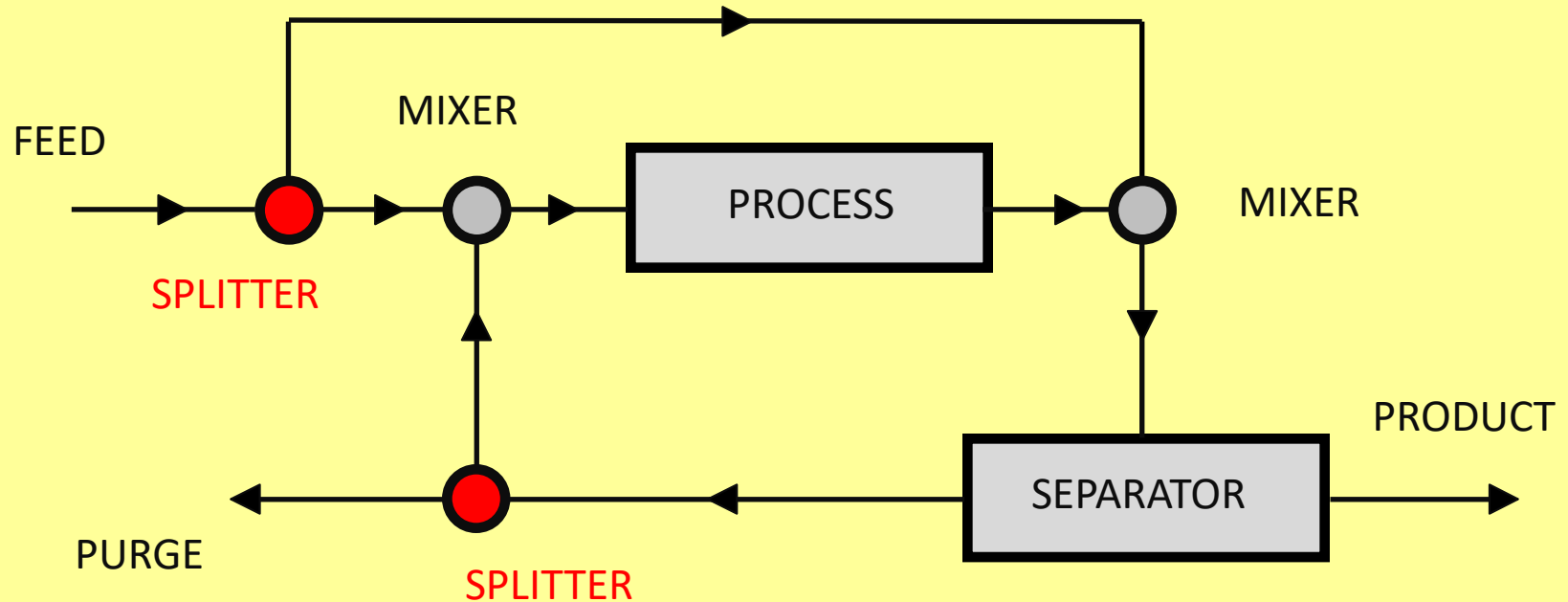


# Multiple Unit Operations



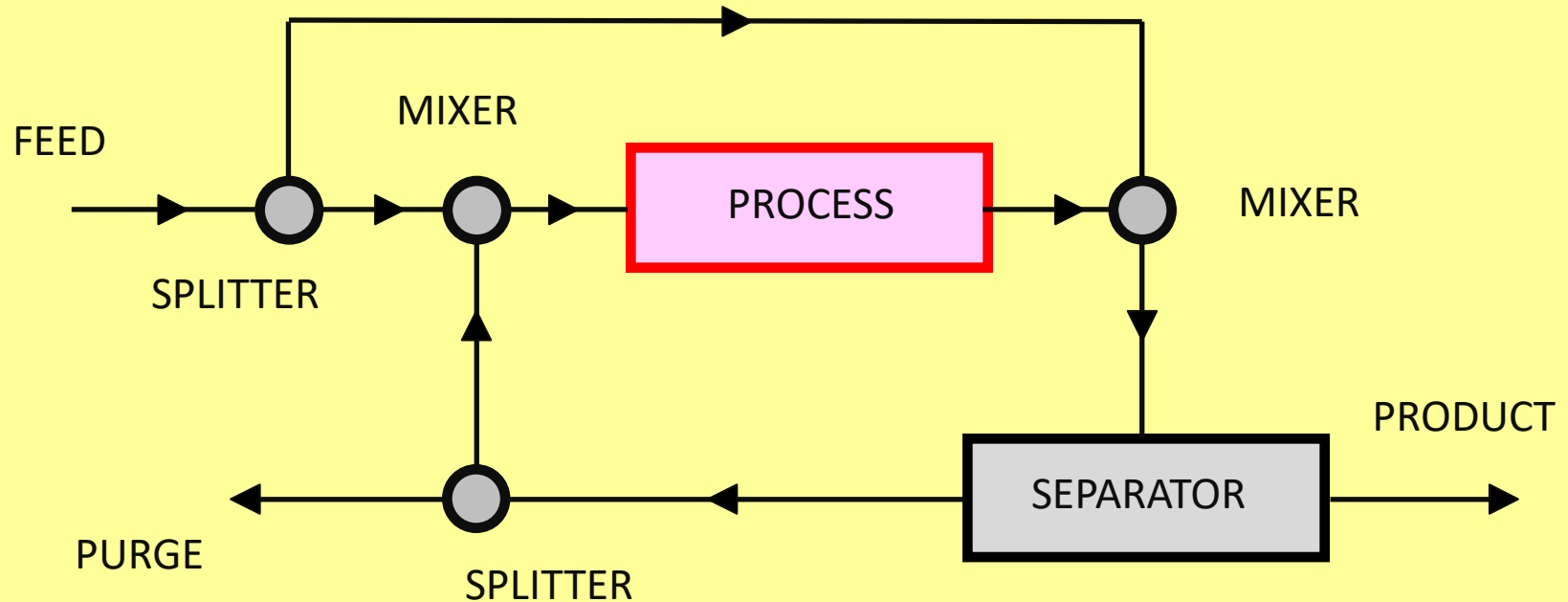
**MIXER** : Unit with one outlet stream but two or more inlet streams.

# Multiple Unit Operations



**SPLITTER** : Unit with one inlet stream but two or more outlet streams all having the same composition but possibly different flow rates.

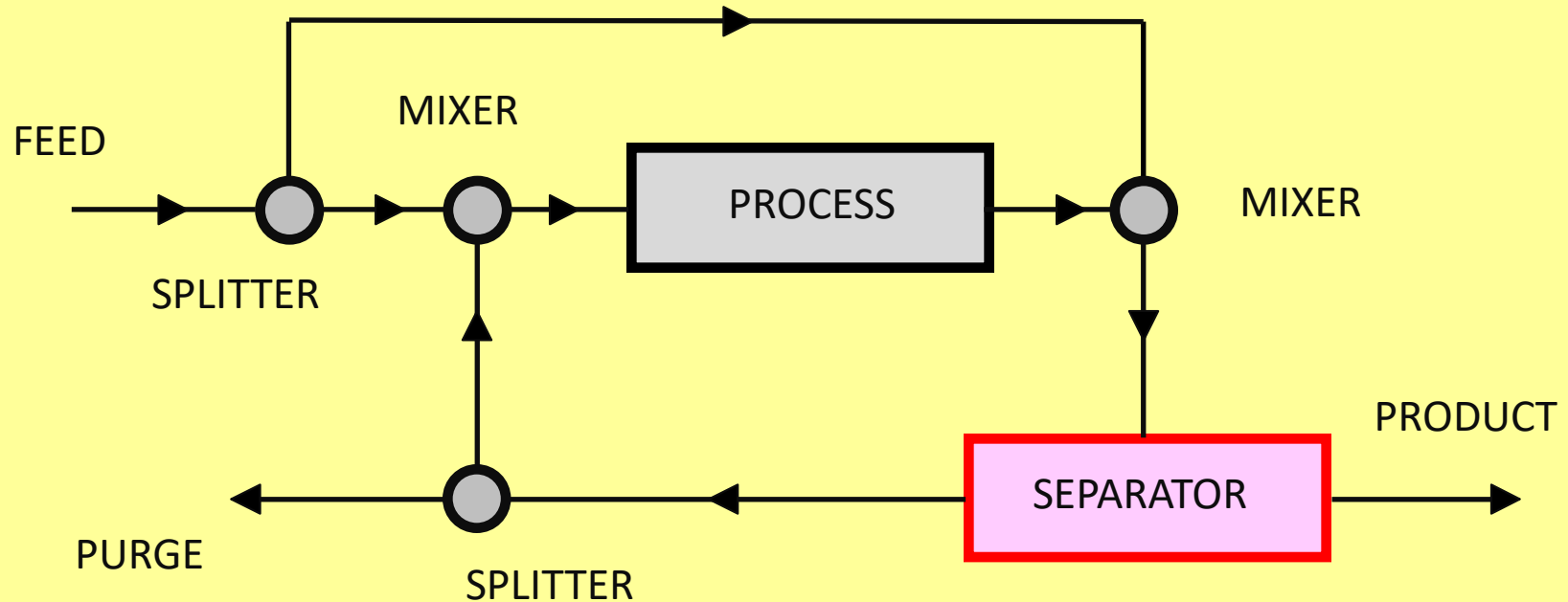
# Multiple Unit Operations



**PROCESS** : General process unit such as a reactor.

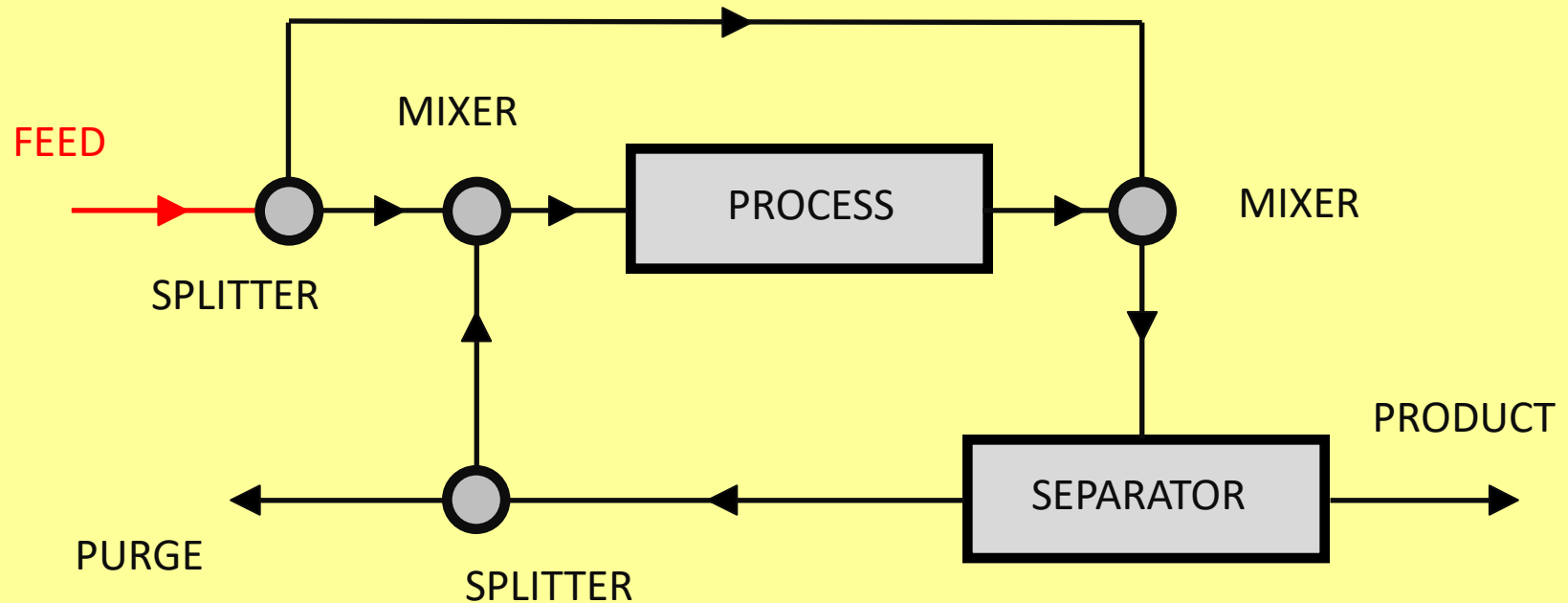


# Multiple Unit Operations



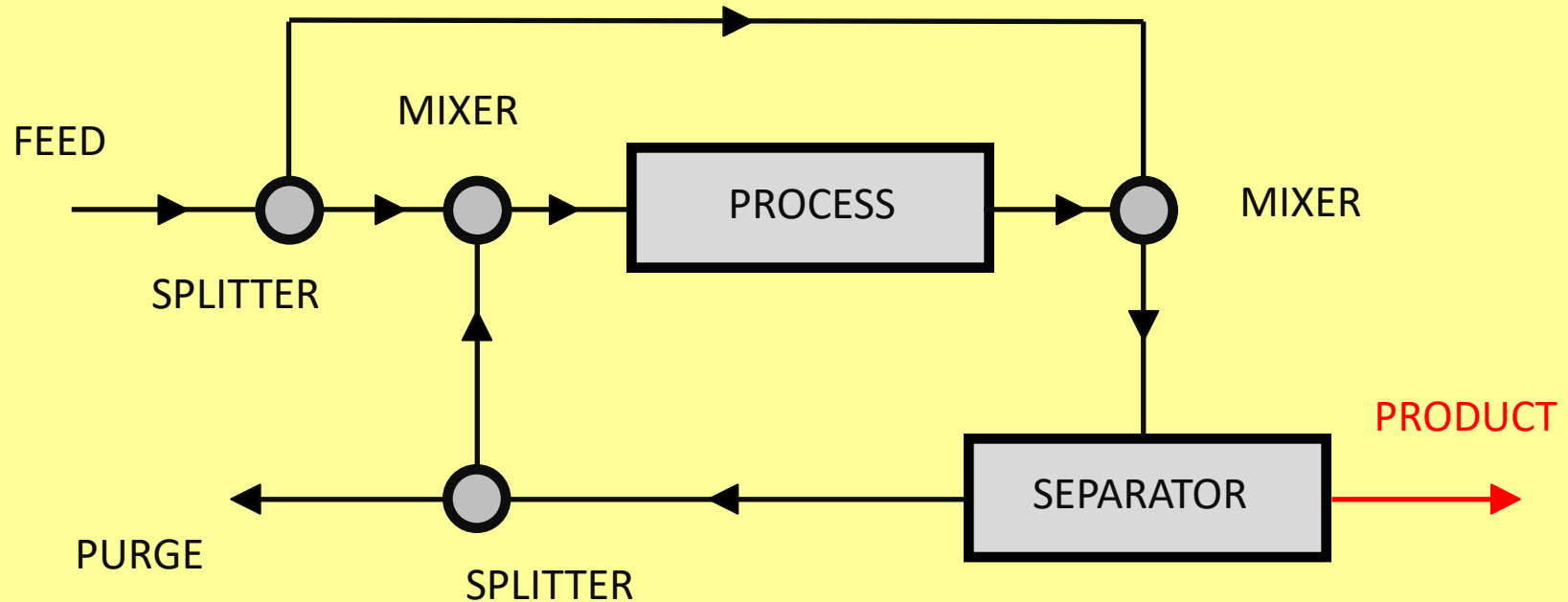
**SEPARATOR** : Unit with more than one outlet stream, all having different compositions. Note the difference between the **SEPARATOR** and the **SPLITTER**.

# Multiple Unit Operations



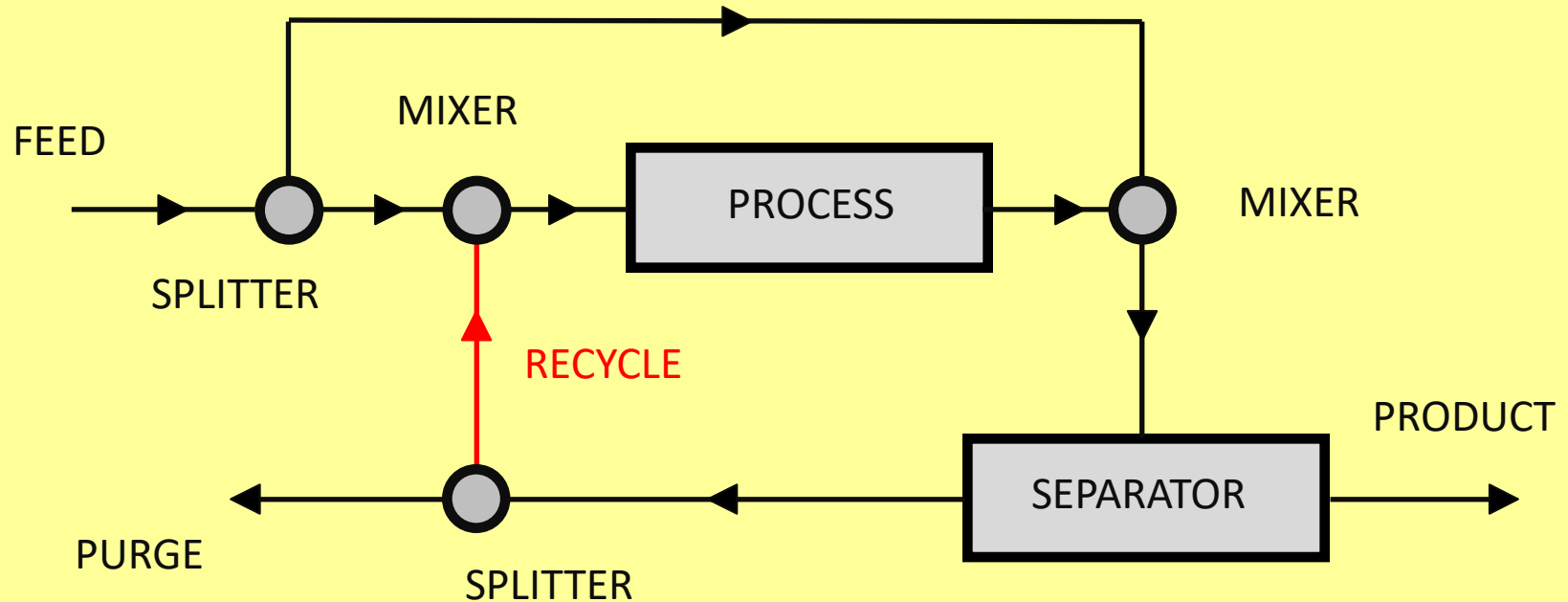
**FEED** : Stream that enters any process unit. Note that **FRESH FEED** is the name usually given to a stream that feeds an entire process or subprocess.

# Multiple Unit Operations



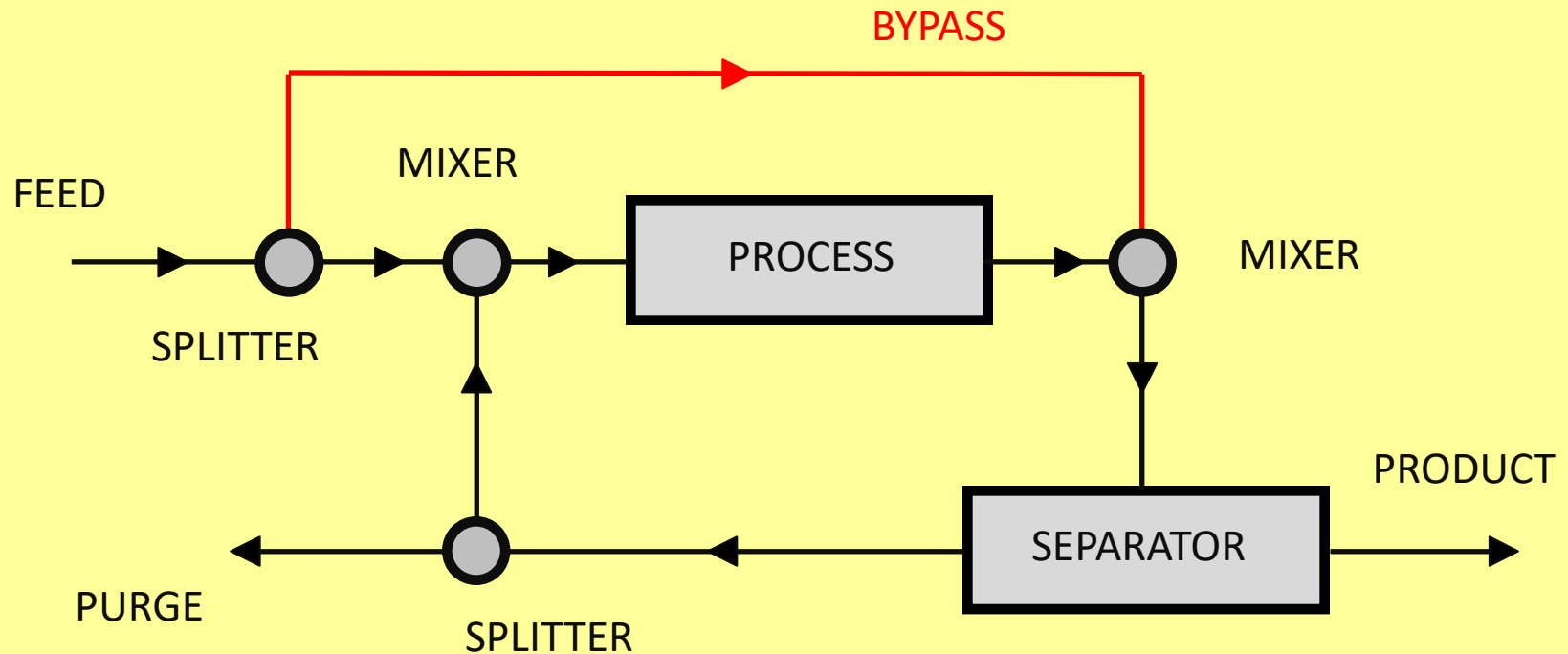
**PRODUCT** : Stream that leaves a process unit. It is the stream that usually contains the desired product.

# Multiple Unit Operations



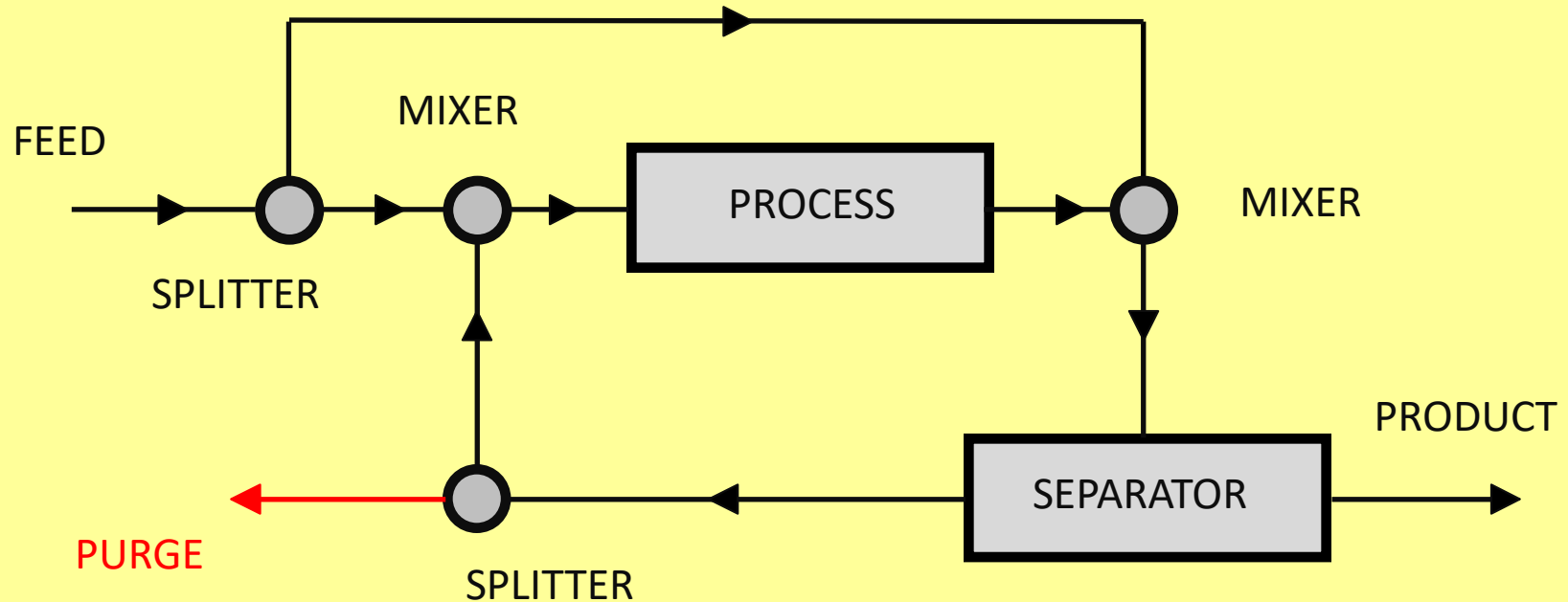
**RECYCLE** : Stream that passes back towards the beginning of the process.

# Multiple Unit Operations



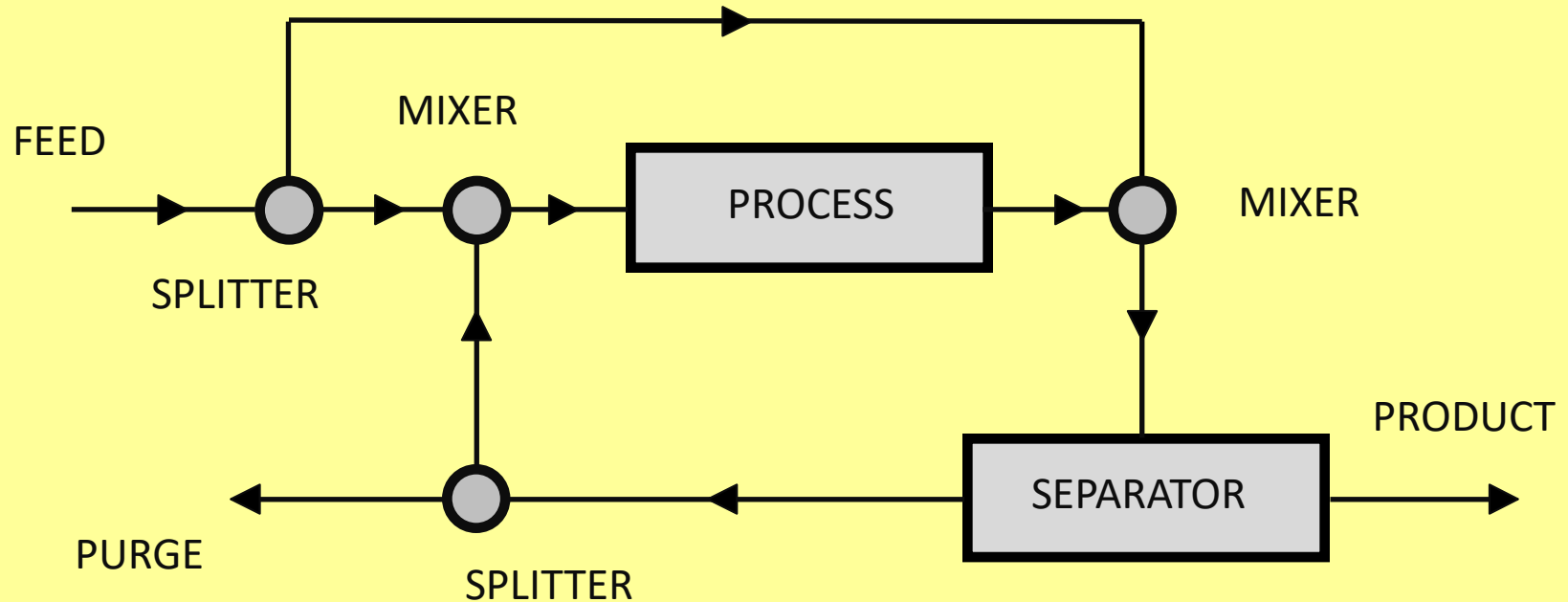
**BYPASS** : Stream that bypasses around a process unit or group of units.

# Multiple Unit Operations



**PURGE** : Stream that is used to get rid of undesired material which would otherwise buildup within the process.

# Multiple Unit Operations

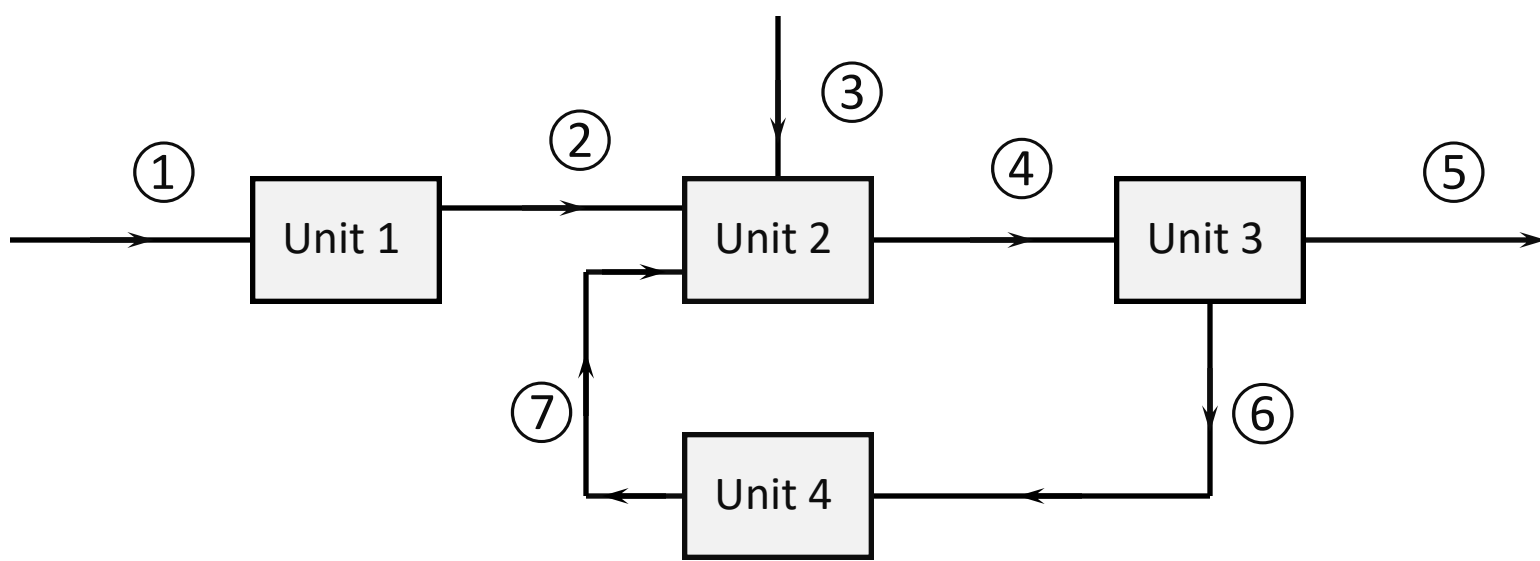


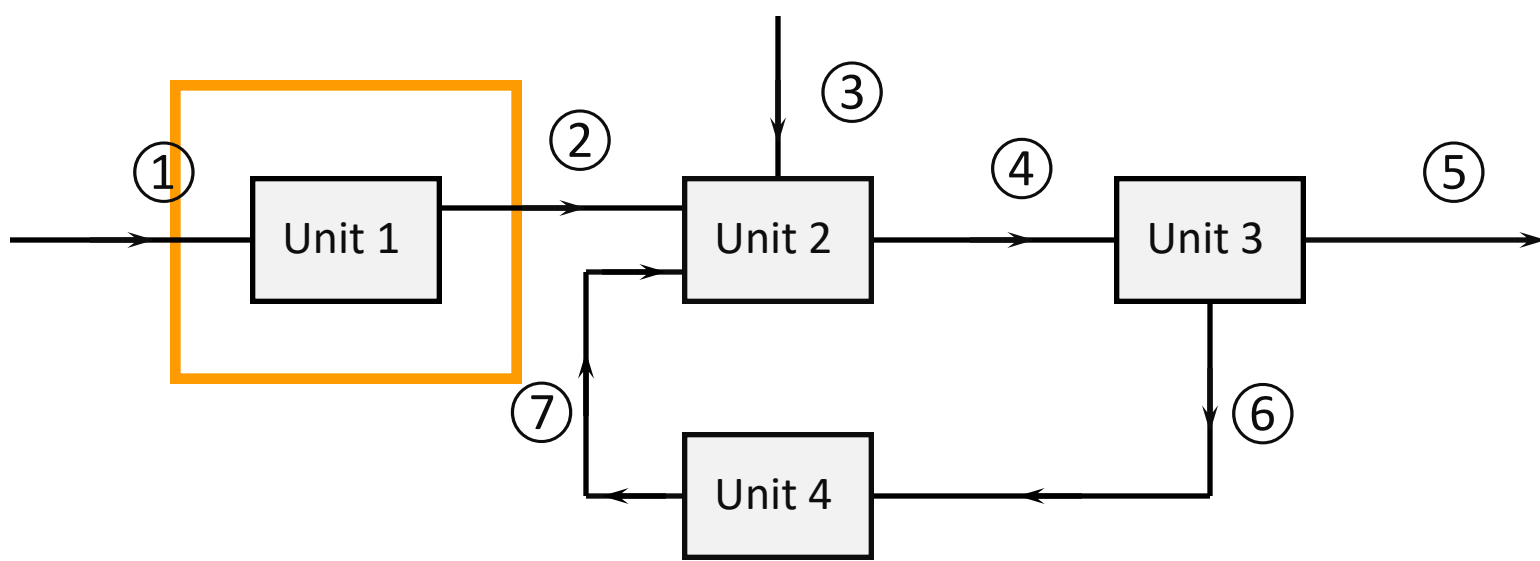
**MAKE-UP STREAM** : An inlet stream to the process as a whole, but not the primary feed stream. (Not shown above).

# Multiple Unit Operations

Now let's consider the following system ...

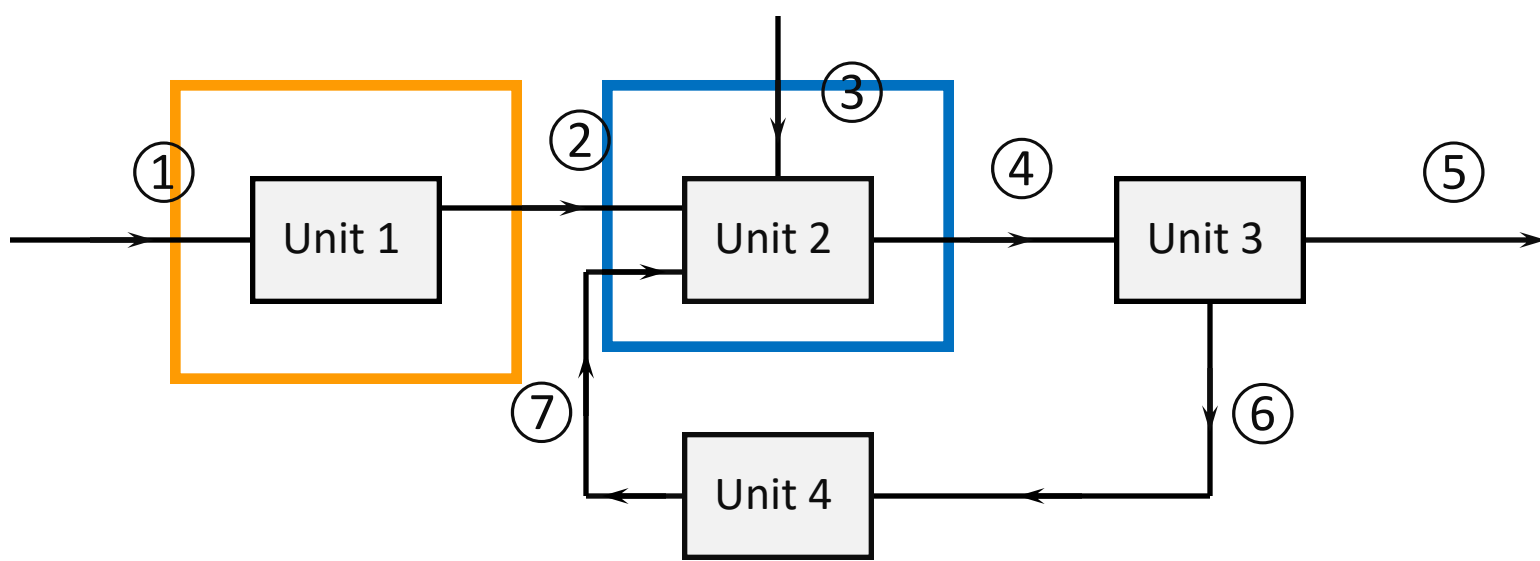






Unit 1

$$F_1 = F_2$$

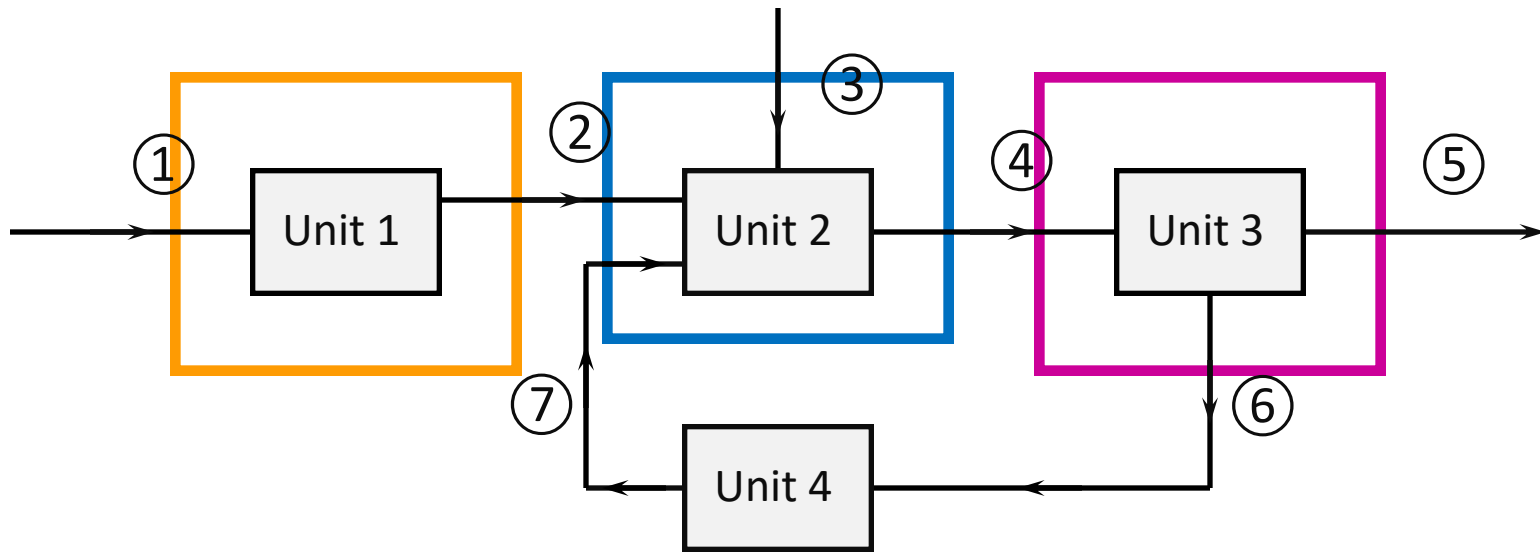


Unit 1

Unit 2

$$F_1 = F_2$$

$$F_2 + F_3 + F_7 = F_4$$



Unit 1

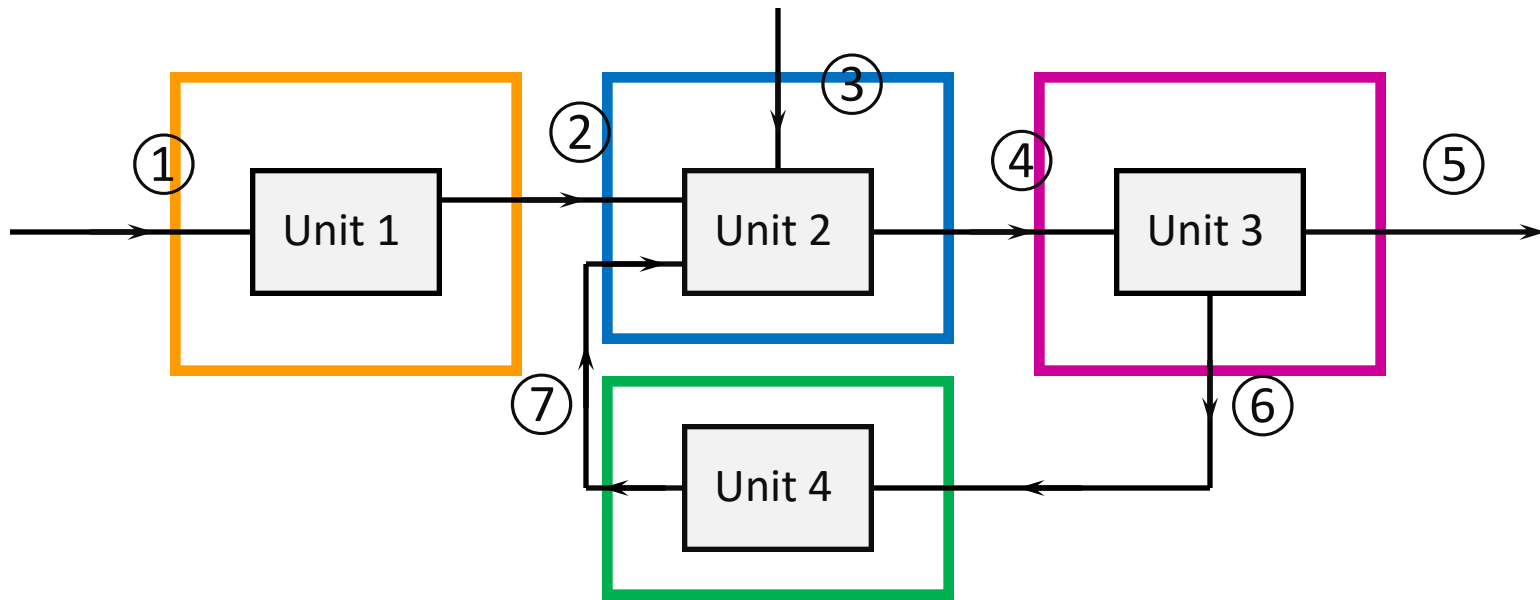
Unit 2

Unit 3

$$F_1 = F_2$$

$$F_2 + F_3 + F_7 = F_4$$

$$F_4 = F_5 + F_6$$



Unit 1

Unit 2

Unit 3

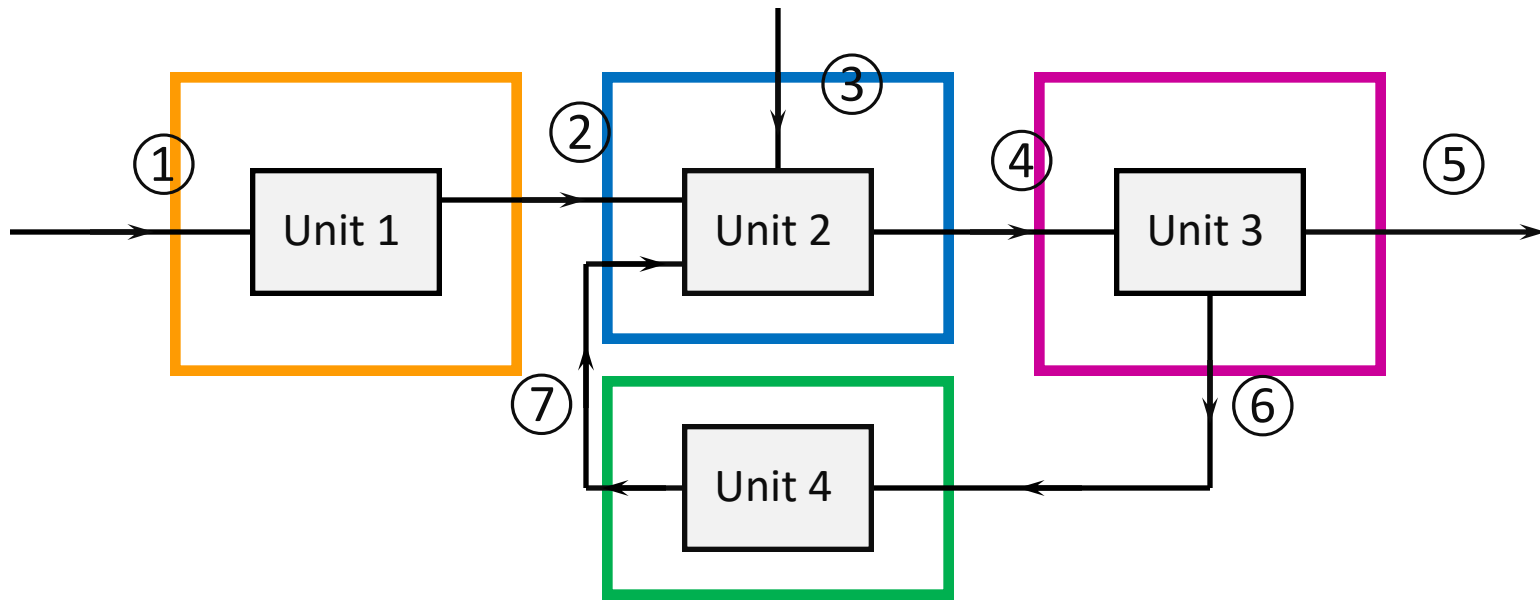
Unit 4

$$F_1 = F_2$$

$$F_2 + F_3 + F_7 = F_4$$

$$F_4 = F_5 + F_6$$

$$F_6 = F_7$$



Unit 1

Unit 2

Unit 3

Unit 4

$$F_1 = F_2$$

$$F_2 + F_3 + F_7 = F_4$$

$$F_4 = F_5 + F_6$$

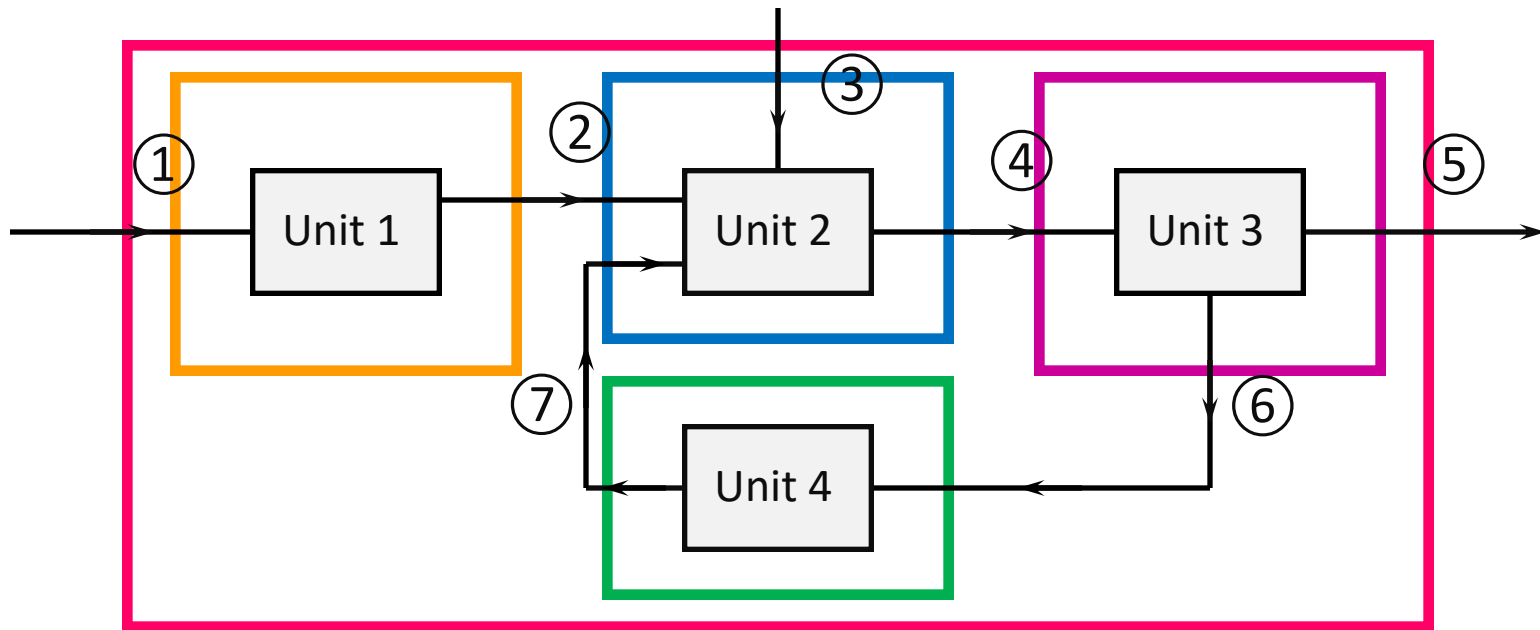
$$F_6 = F_7$$

Summing,

$$F_1 + \cancel{F_2} + F_3 + \cancel{F_7} + \cancel{F_4} + \cancel{F_6} = \cancel{F_2} + \cancel{F_4} + F_5 + \cancel{F_6} + \cancel{F_7}$$

$\therefore$

$$F_1 + F_3 = F_5$$



Unit 1

$$F_1 = F_2$$

Unit 2

$$F_2 + F_3 + F_7 = F_4$$

Unit 3

$$F_4 = F_5 + F_6$$

Unit 4

$$F_6 = F_7$$

Summing,

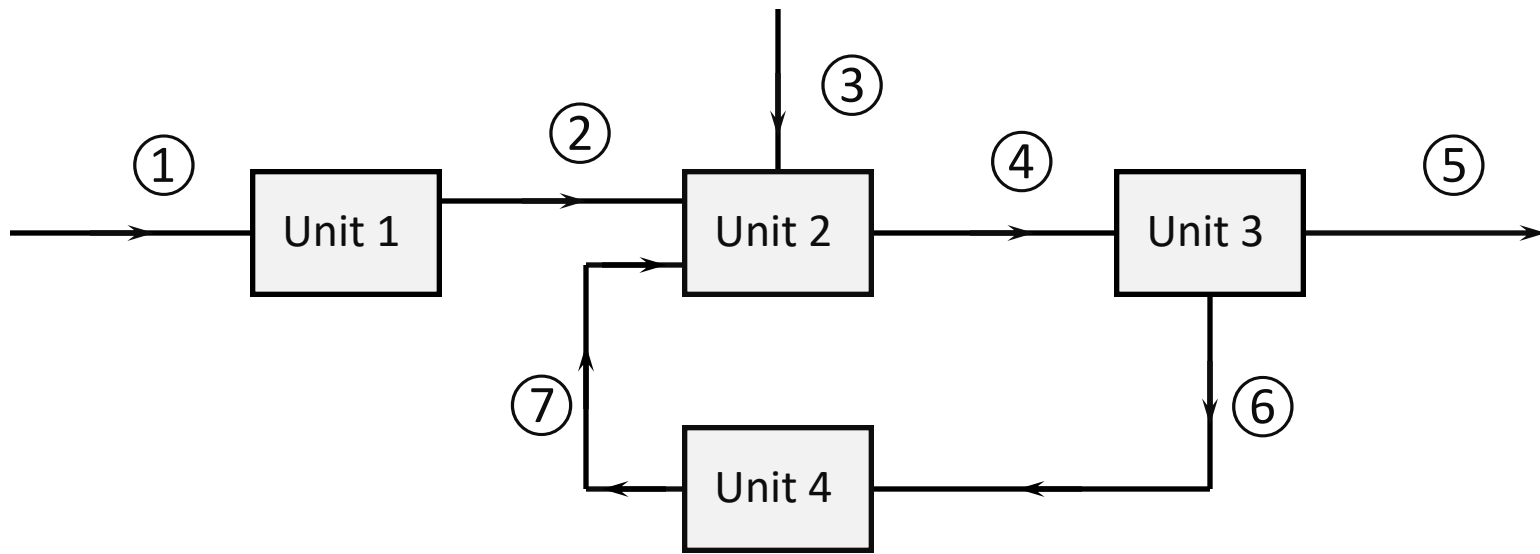
$$F_1 + F_2 + F_3 + F_7 + F_4 + F_6 = F_2 + F_4 + F_5 + F_6 + F_7$$

$\therefore$

$$F_1 + F_3 = F_5$$

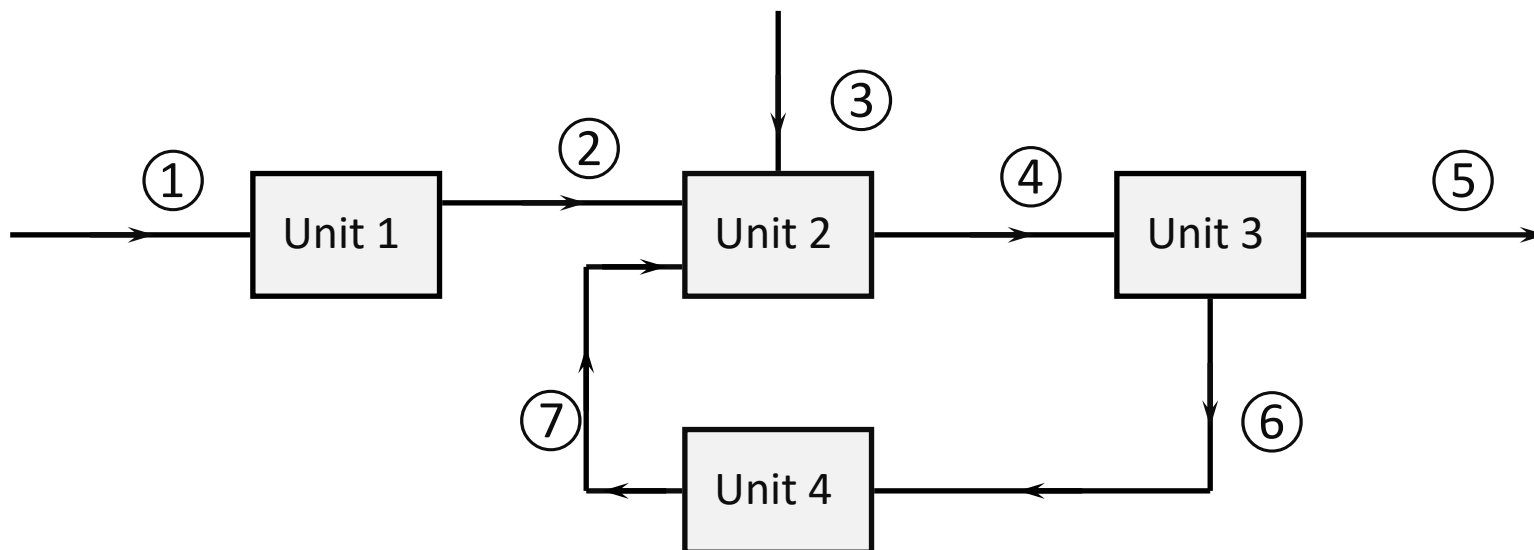
Units 1,2,3,4

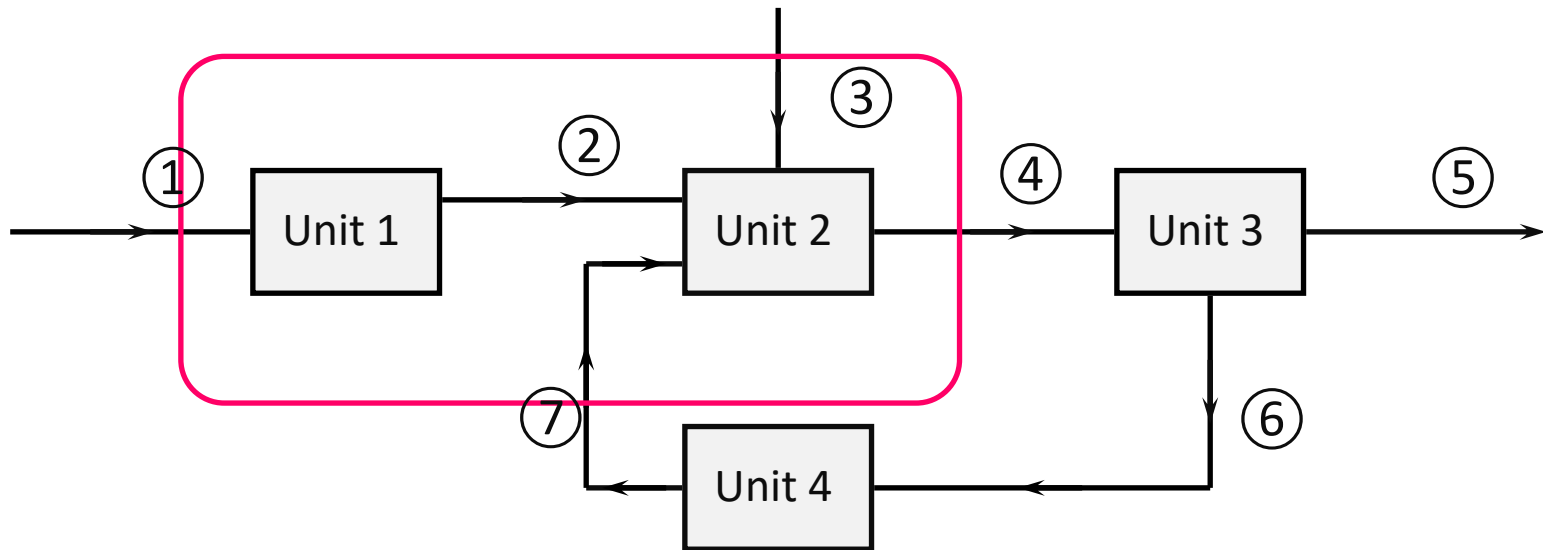
$$F_1 + F_3 = F_5$$



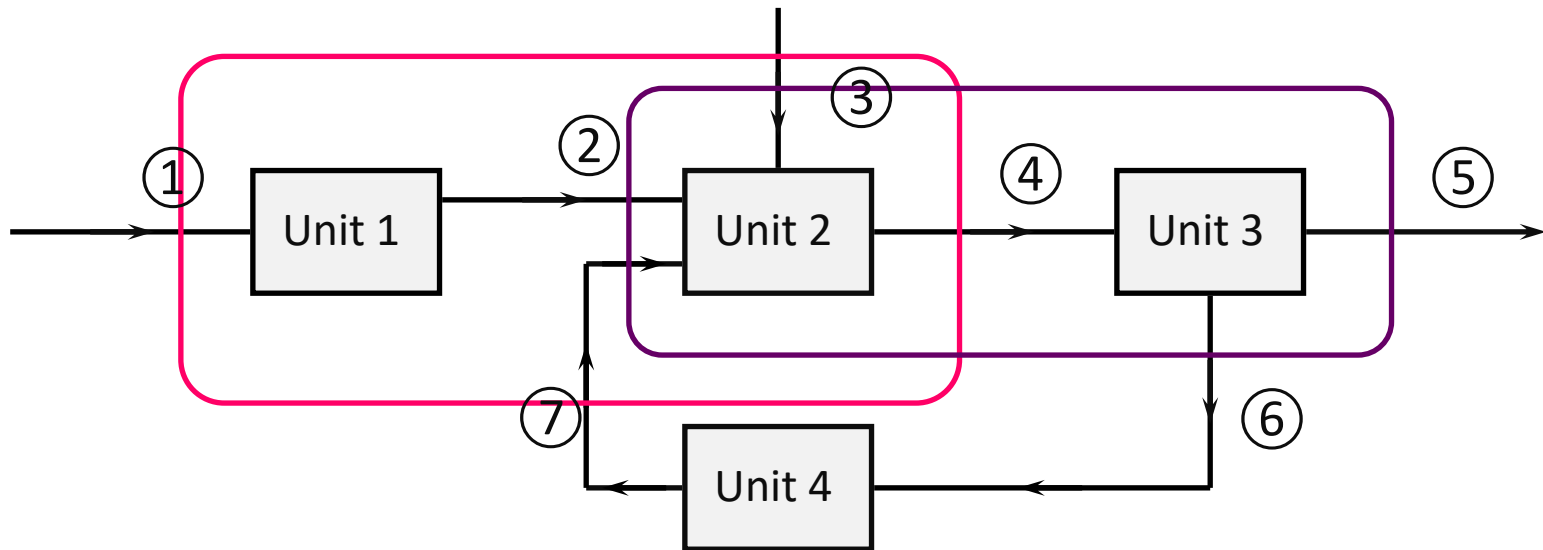
In general, if there are  $N$  process units, then we may write  $N$  sets of independent material balances.



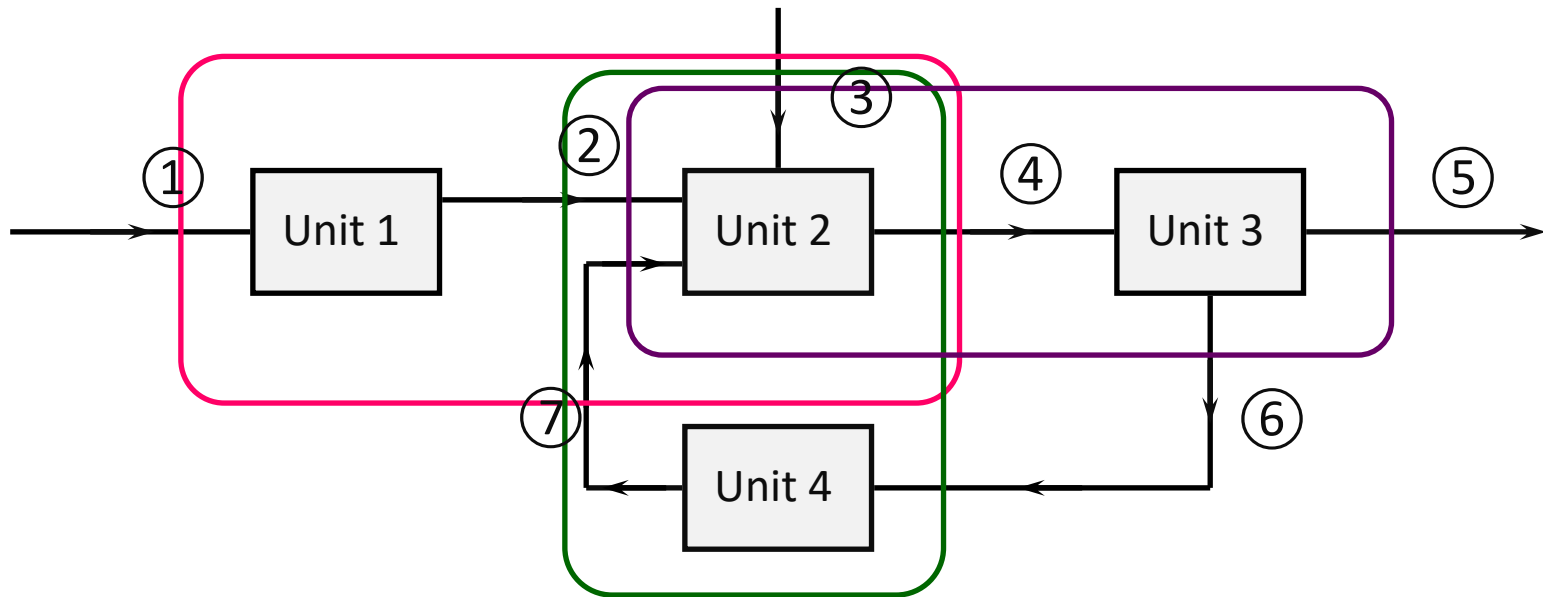




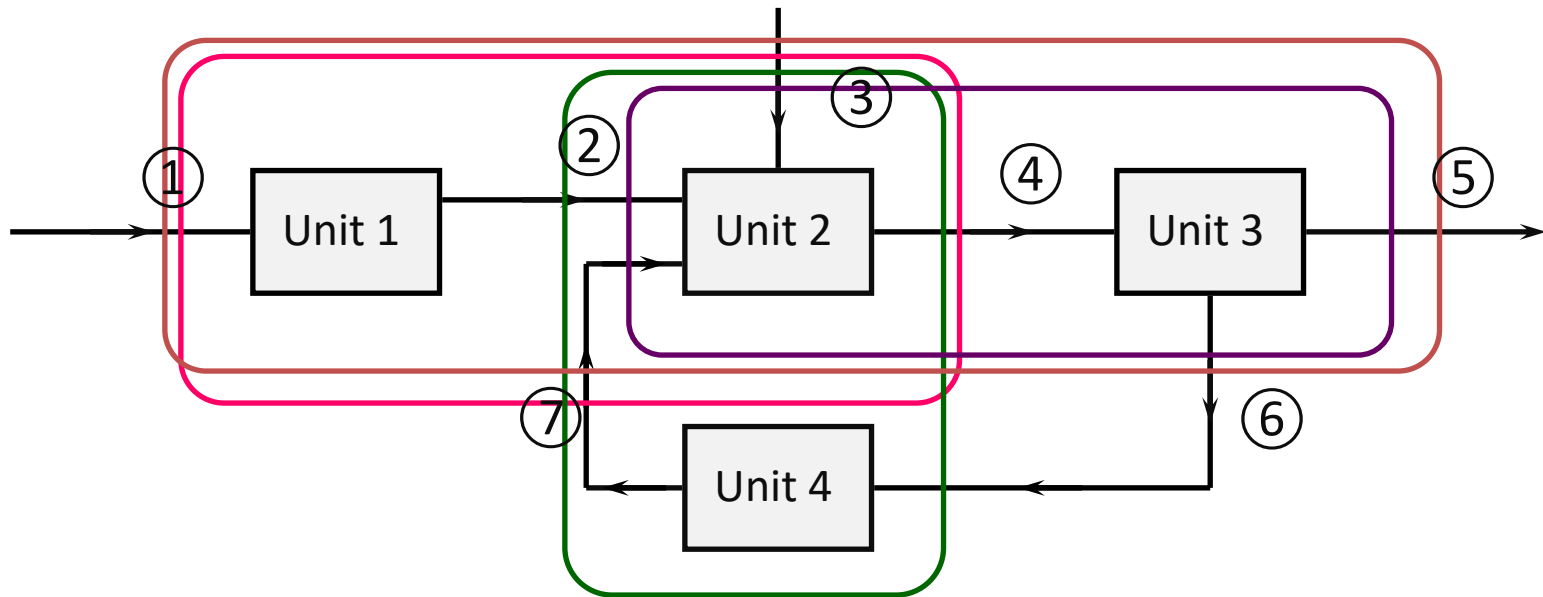
A system boundary may be placed around  
Units 1 and 2



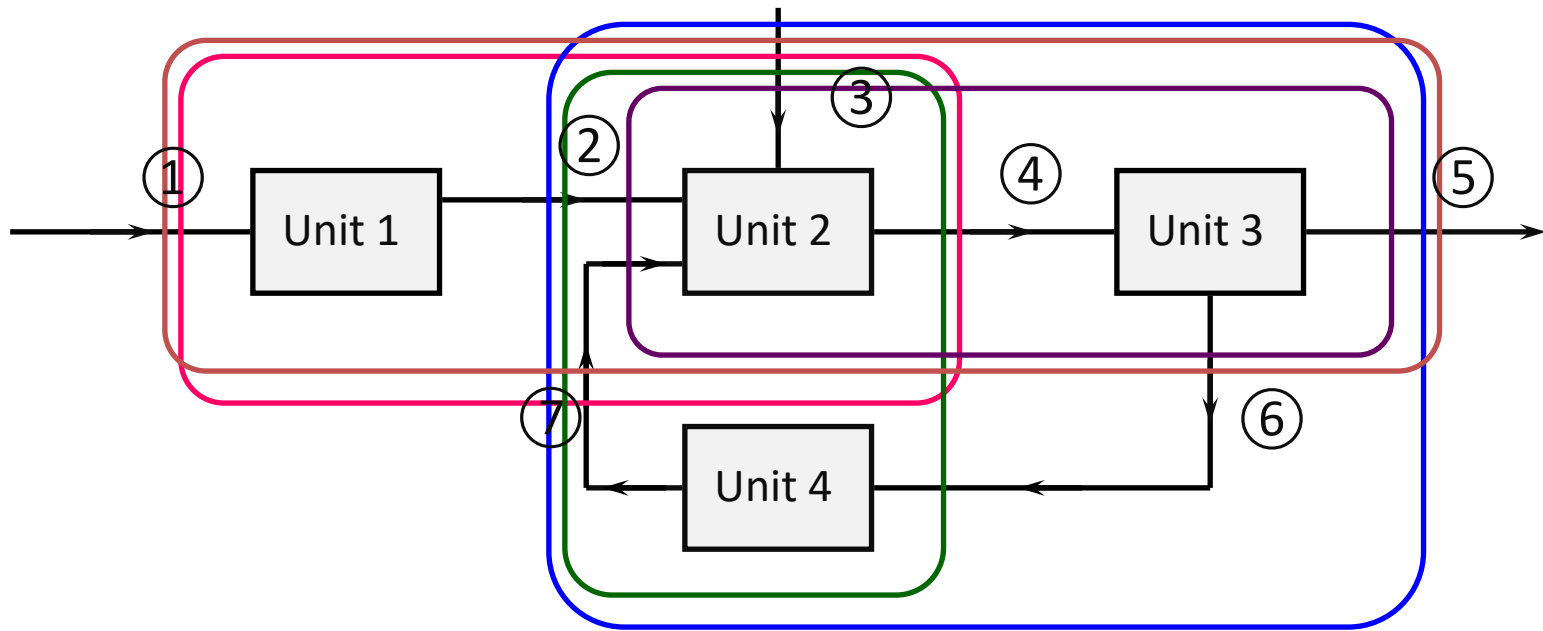
A system boundary may be placed around  
Units 2 and 3



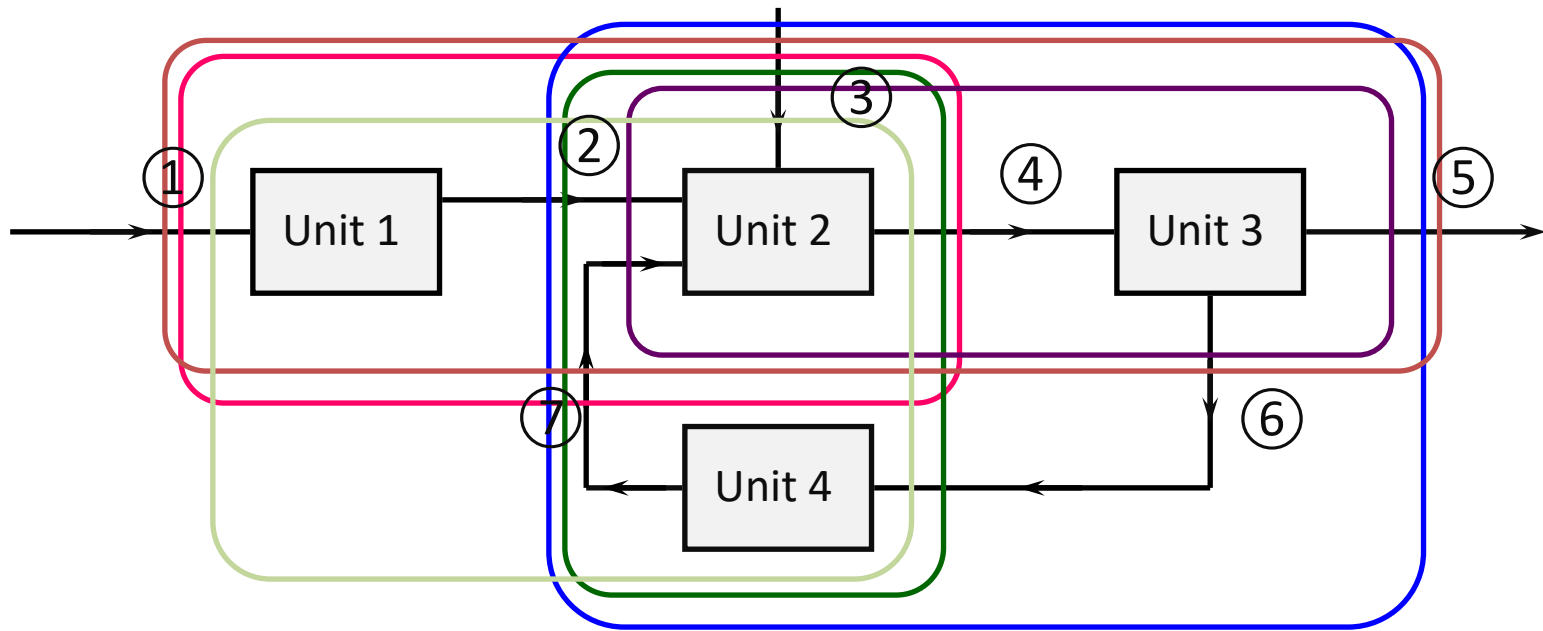
A system boundary may be placed around  
Units 2 and 4



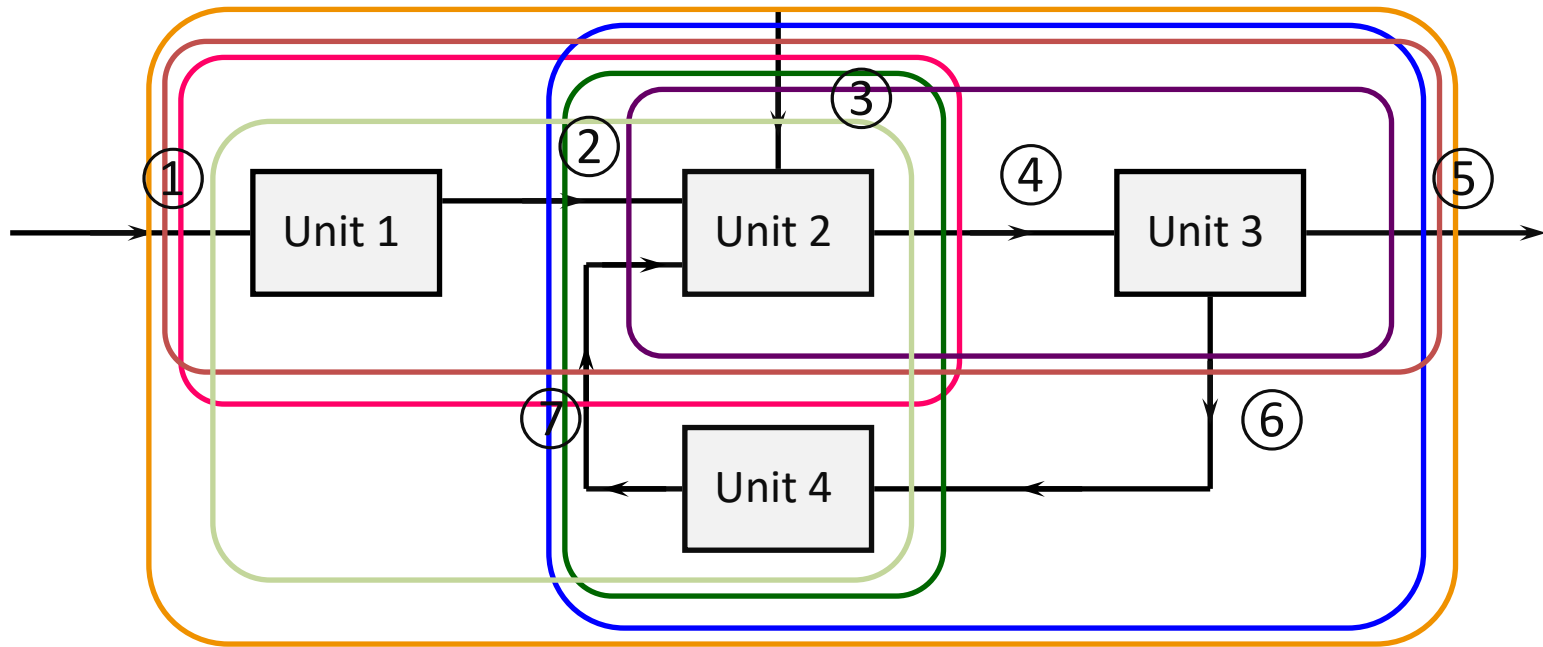
A system boundary may be placed around  
Units 1, 2 and 3



A system boundary may be placed around  
Units 2, 3 and 4



A system boundary may be placed around  
Units 1, 2 and 4



A system boundary may be placed around  
Units 1, 2, 3 and 4



Always take care when setting up your material balances around multiple process units to ensure that all the sets of equations are independent.

# Procedure for Solving Material Balance Problems

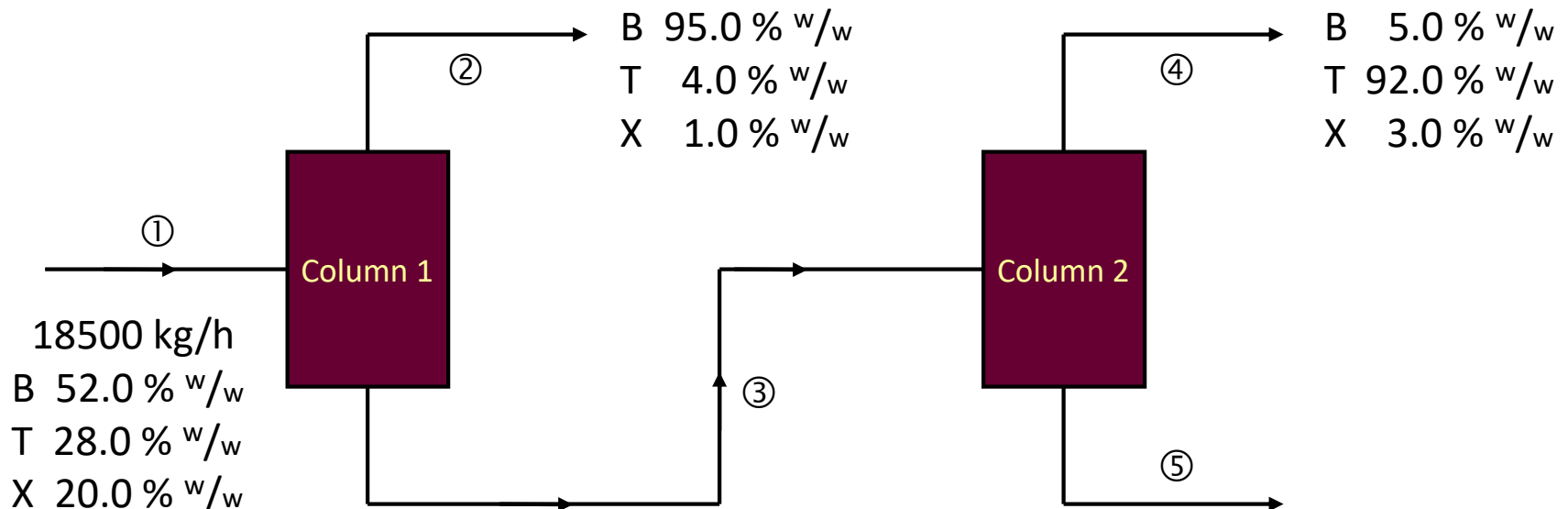
- 1. **Definition** : Draw a sketch or flow sheet showing streams as arrowed lines. Label each stream with flow rate, composition and any other data as appropriate, and identify with a name or number. List missing, unknown data using simple, practical notation.
- 2. **Select a Basis of Calculation** : Select the basis carefully as it is the starting point for all subsequent calculations. You can make an easy problem hard with the wrong choice of a basis of calculation.
- 3. **Select a Unit System** : Material balance must be in terms of mass or moles, but not volume. Be consistent with the units used.

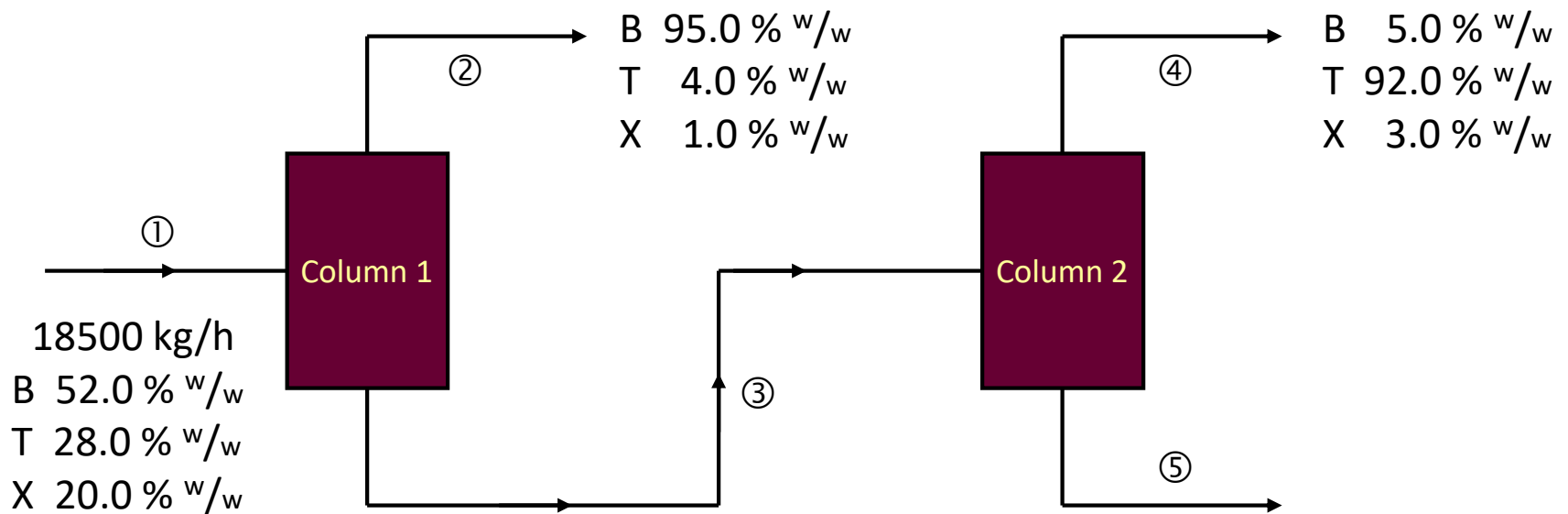
# Procedure for Solving Material Balance Problems

- 4. **In a Unique Solution Possible ?** : Check the number of unknowns against the number of independent equations.
- 5. **List Assumptions** : List all assumptions made before and during calculations.
- 6. **Select System Boundaries** : Select the boundaries such that the streams with the derived, unknown data cross the boundaries.
- 7. **Solve** : Use a solution method appropriate to the problem.
- 8. **Check the Solution** : Is the answer semi-sensible (i.e., realistic) ?

# Material Balance Example

The feed to a two-column fractionating system is 18,500 kg/h of a mixture containing 52.0 % benzene (B), 28.0 % toluene (T), and 20.0 % xylene (X) on a mass basis. The feed is introduced into column I and results in an overhead consisting of 95.0 % benzene, 4.0 % toluene, and 1.0 % xylene on a mass basis. The bottoms from column I are fed to the second column, resulting in an overhead from column II containing 5.0 % benzene, 92.0 % toluene, and 3.0 % xylene on a mass basis. Assume that 52.0 % of the feed appears as overhead in the first column and that 48.0 % of the benzene fed to the second column appears as overhead, calculate the composition and flow of the bottoms stream from the second column.





**Assume steady-state operation.**

**Assume no chemical reactions occur.**

Use a simple and unambiguous notation.

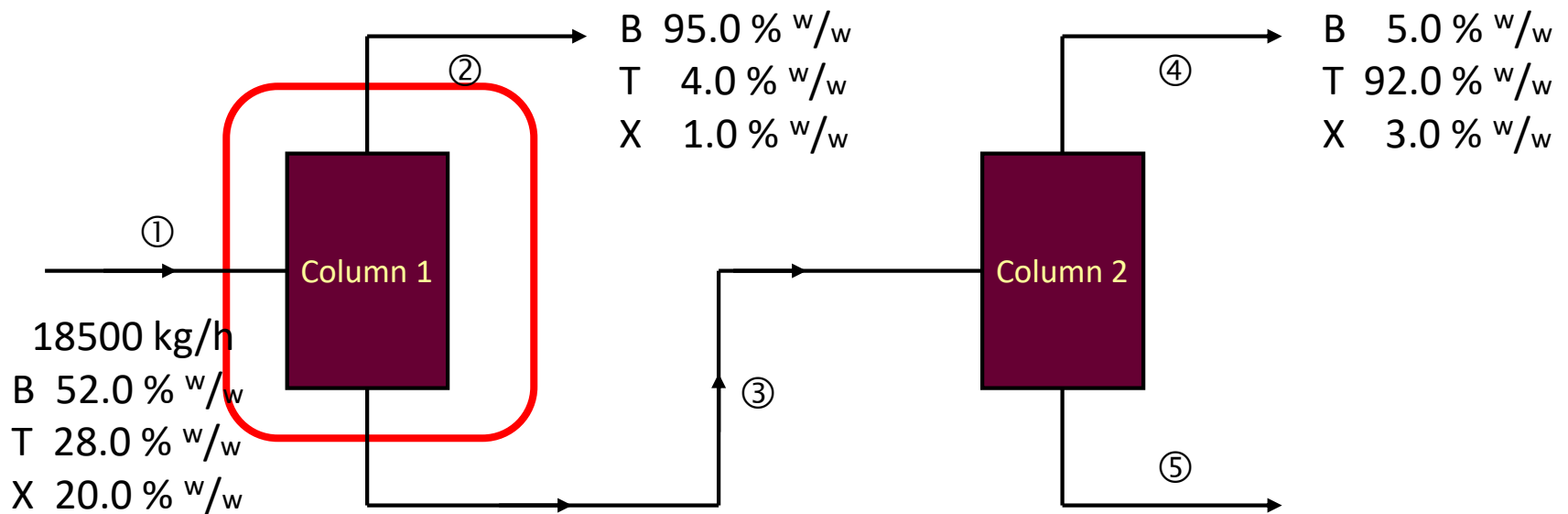
Let  $F_i$  denote the total mass flow rate of stream  $i$ .

Let  $B_i$  be the mass fraction of benzene in stream  $i$ .

Let  $T_i$  be the mass fraction of toluene in stream  $i$ .

Let  $X_i$  be the mass fraction of xylene in stream  $i$ .

So,  $B_i F_i$  is the mass of benzene in stream  $i$ .



Basis of calculation : 1 hour

Total balance around Column 1 :

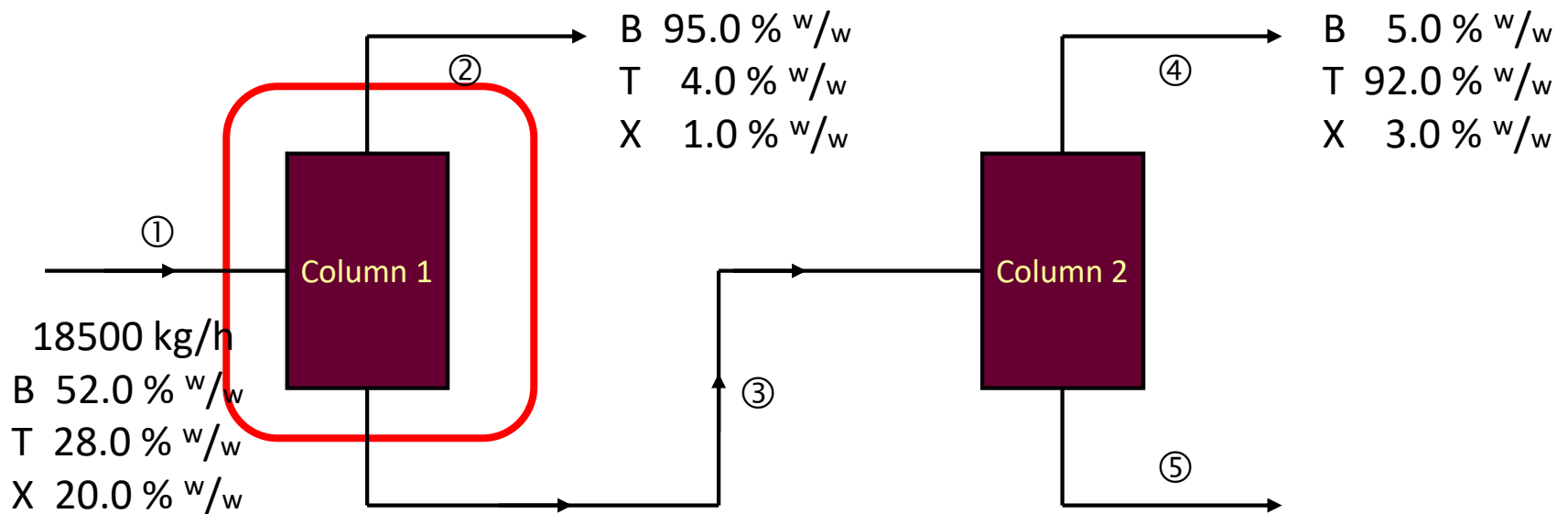
$$F_1 = F_2 + F_3$$

We know that  $F_1 = 18500$  kg

$$\text{So, } 18500 = F_2 + F_3 \quad (1)$$

We are told that 52% of stream ① leaves Column 1 in stream ②.

So,



The benzene component balance around the Column 1 :

$$B_1 F_1 = B_2 F_2 + B_3 F_3$$

The only unknown in this equation is  $B_3$ .

$$0.52 \times 18500 = 0.95 \times 9620 + B_3 \times 8880$$

$$\Rightarrow B_3 =$$

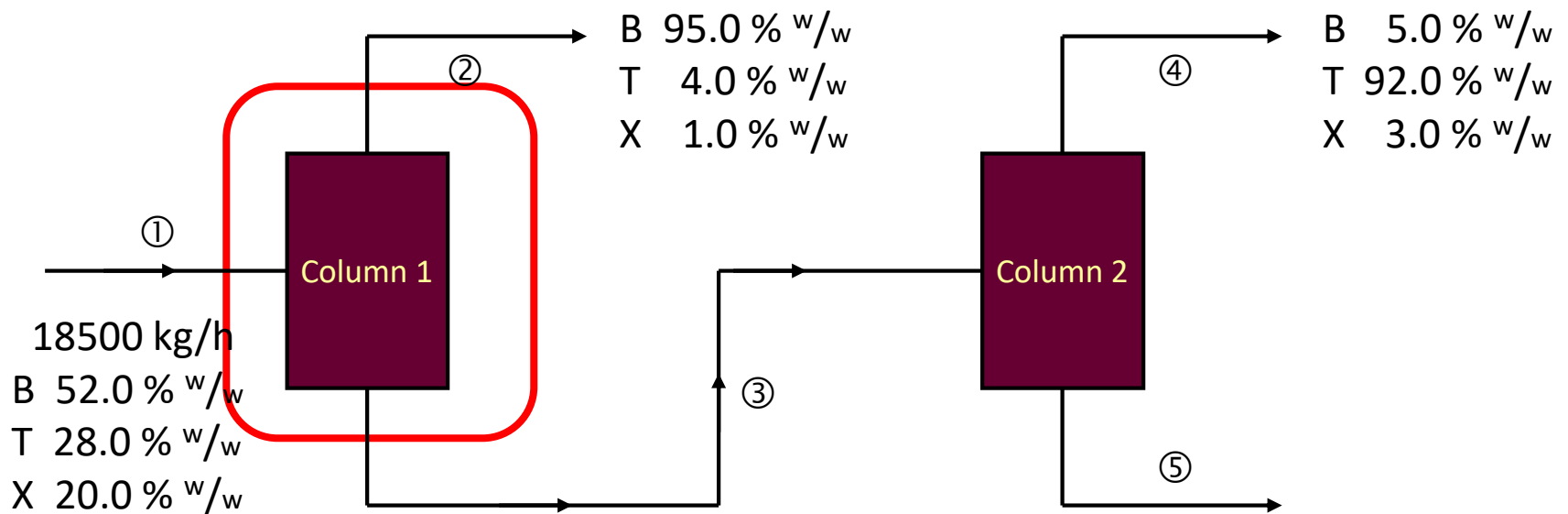
The toluene component balance around the Column 1 :

$$T_1 F_1 = T_2 F_2 + T_3 F_3$$

The only unknown in this equation is  $T_3$ .

$$0.28 \times 18500 = 0.04 \times 9620 + T_3 \times 8880$$

$$\Rightarrow T_3 =$$



$$B_3 = 0.0542$$

$$T_3 = 0.5400$$

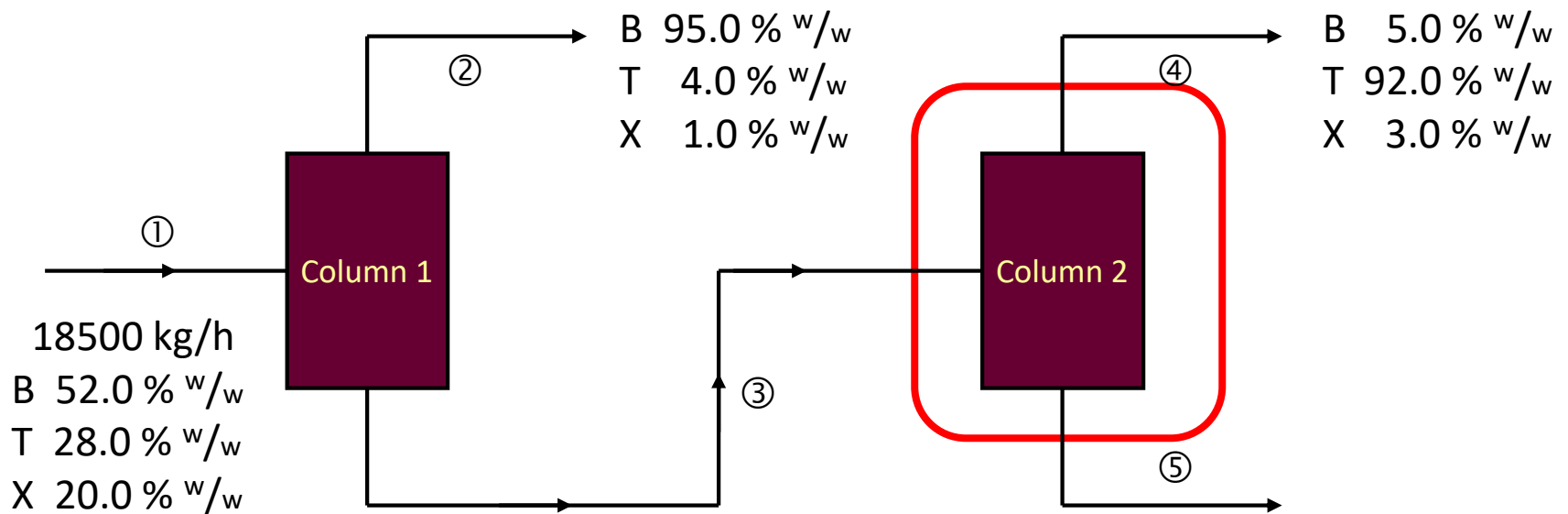
The sum of the mass fractions must be one.

$$1 = B_3 + T_3 + X_3$$

$$\therefore X_3 =$$

The composition of stream ③ is





Next consider Column 2. We are told that 48.0 % of the benzene entering Column 2 leaves in stream ④.

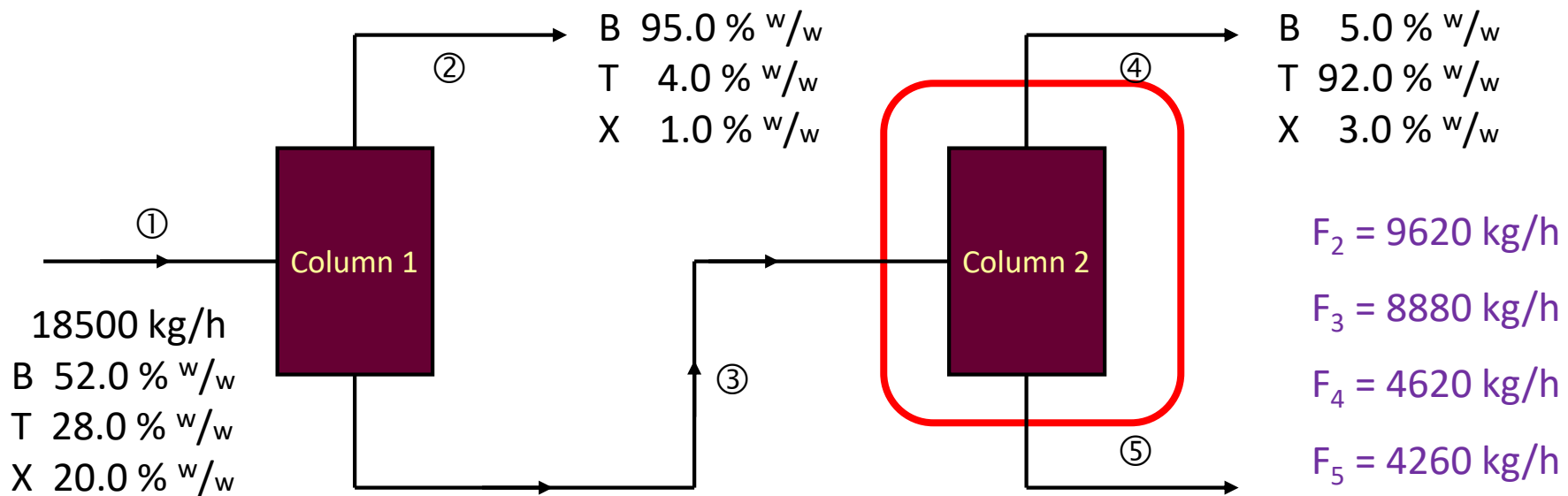
$$0.48 \times \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Mass of benzene} \\ \text{in stream ③} \end{array} \right) = \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Mass of benzene} \\ \text{in stream ④} \end{array} \right)$$

So,  $0.48 B_3 F_3 = B_4 F_4$

The only unknown in this equation is  $F_4$ .

$$0.48 \times 0.0542 \times 8880 = 0.05 F_4$$

$$\Rightarrow F_4 =$$



$$F_2 = 9620 \text{ kg/h}$$

$$F_3 = 8880 \text{ kg/h}$$

$$F_4 = 4620 \text{ kg/h}$$

$$F_5 = 4260 \text{ kg/h}$$

Total balance around Column 2 :

$$F_3 = F_4 + F_5$$

So,  $F_5 = F_3 - F_4 =$

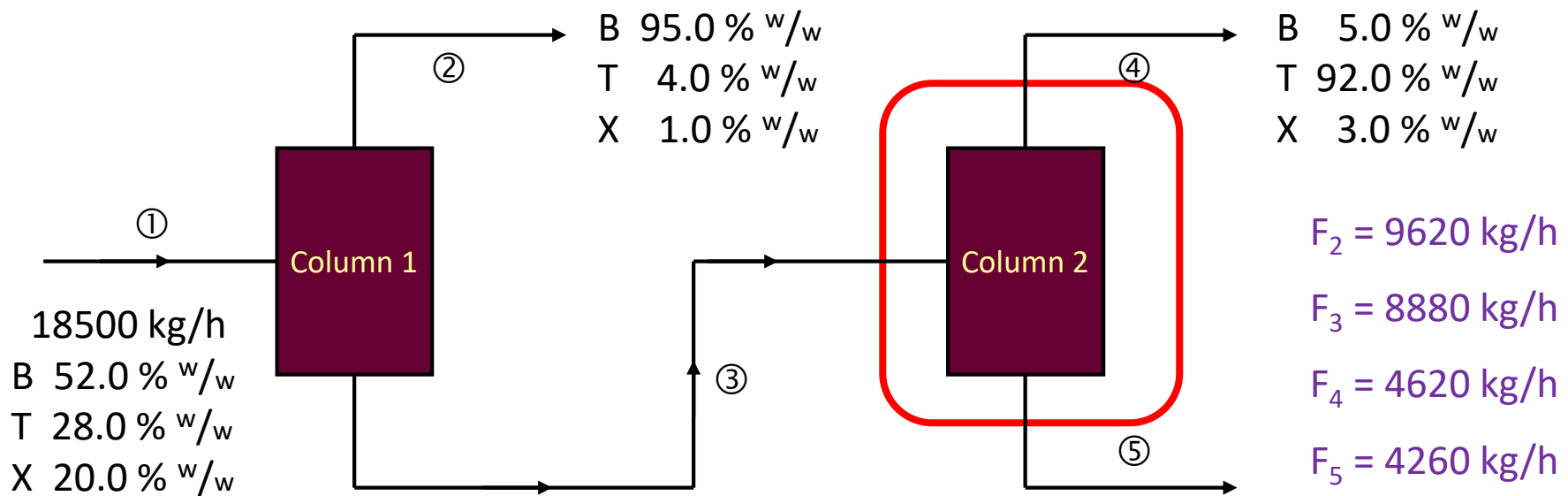
The benzene component balance around the Column 2 :

$$B_3 F_3 = B_4 F_4 + B_5 F_5$$

The only unknown in this equation is  $B_5$ .

$$0.0542 \times 8880 = 0.05 \times 4620 + B_5 \times 4260$$

$$\Rightarrow B_5 =$$



The toluene component balance around the Column 2 :

$$T_3 F_3 = T_4 F_4 + T_5 F_5$$

The only unknown in this equation is  $T_5$ .

$$0.5400 \times 8880 = 0.92 \times 4620 + T_5 \times 4260$$

$$\Rightarrow T_5 =$$

The sum of the mass fractions must be one.

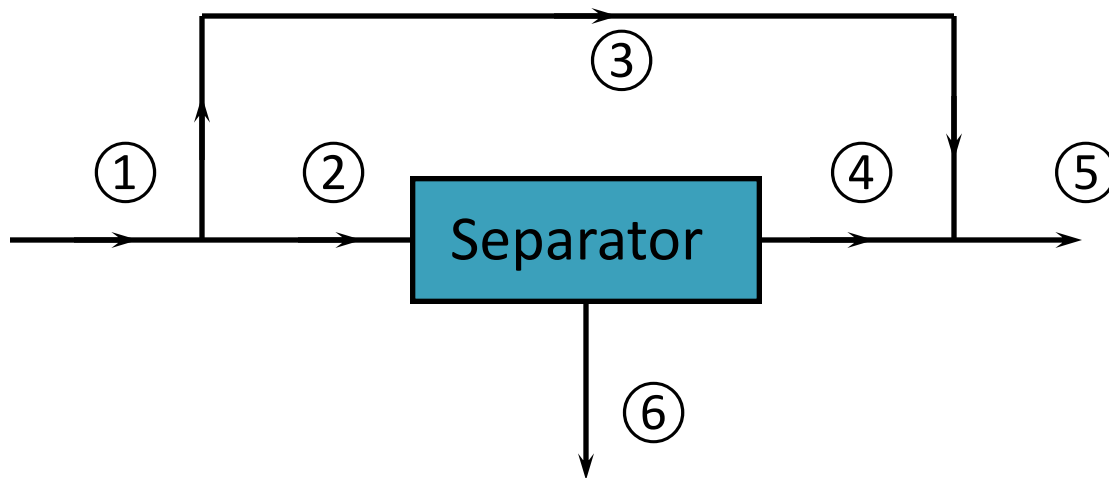
$$1 = B_5 + T_5 + X_5$$

$$\therefore X_5 =$$

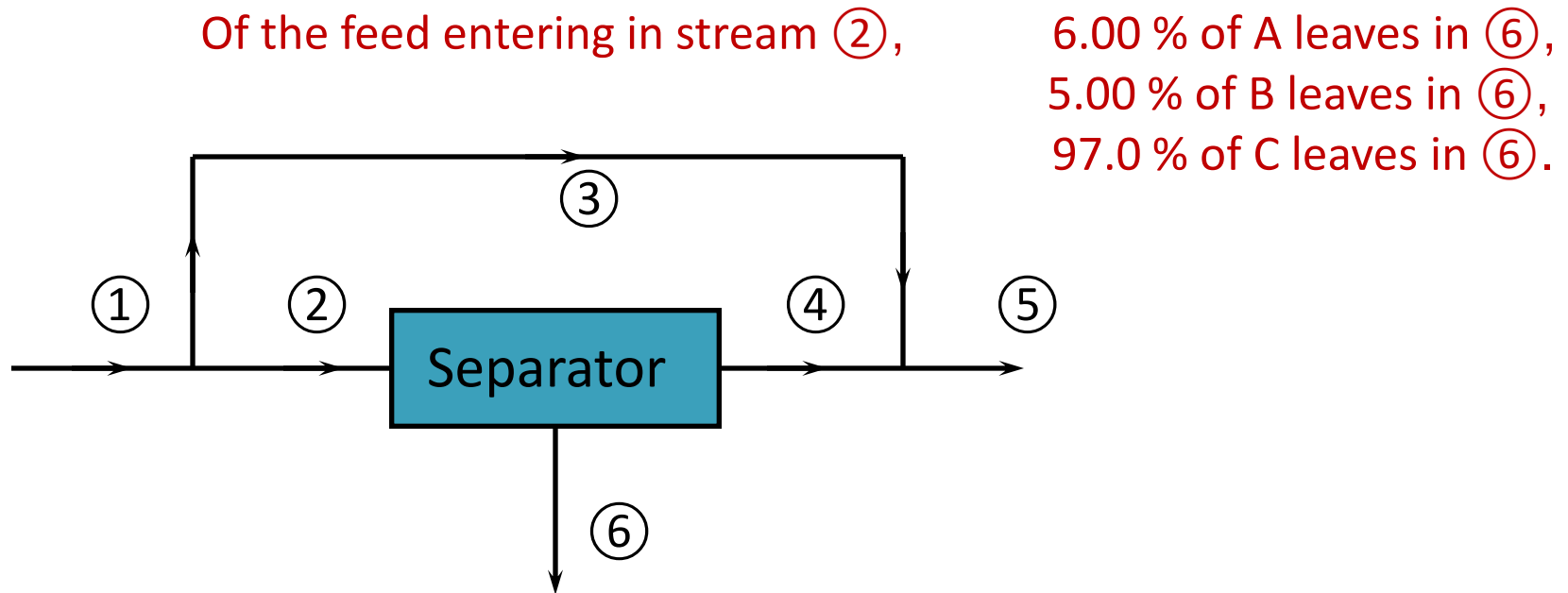
The composition of stream ⑤ is

# Material Balance Example

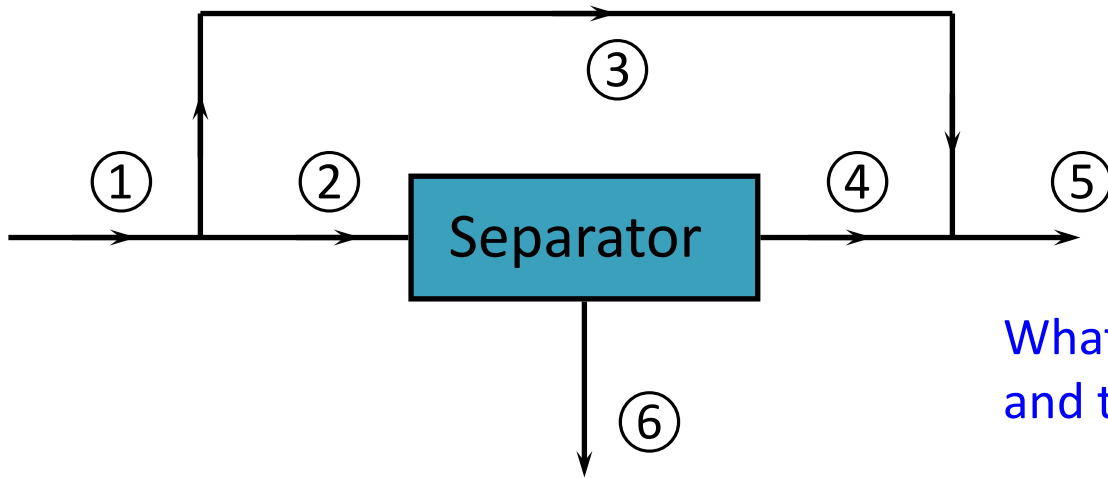
Consider the following problem which involves a bypass stream.



The feed to a separator sub-system has a composition of 42.0 % w/w A, 37.0 % w/w B with the balance C. The flow rate is 1273 kg/h. The only separator available has a capacity limited to 800.0 kg/h, so a portion of the feed bypasses the separator as shown below.



What are the flow rate of stream ⑥, and the composition of stream ⑤ ?



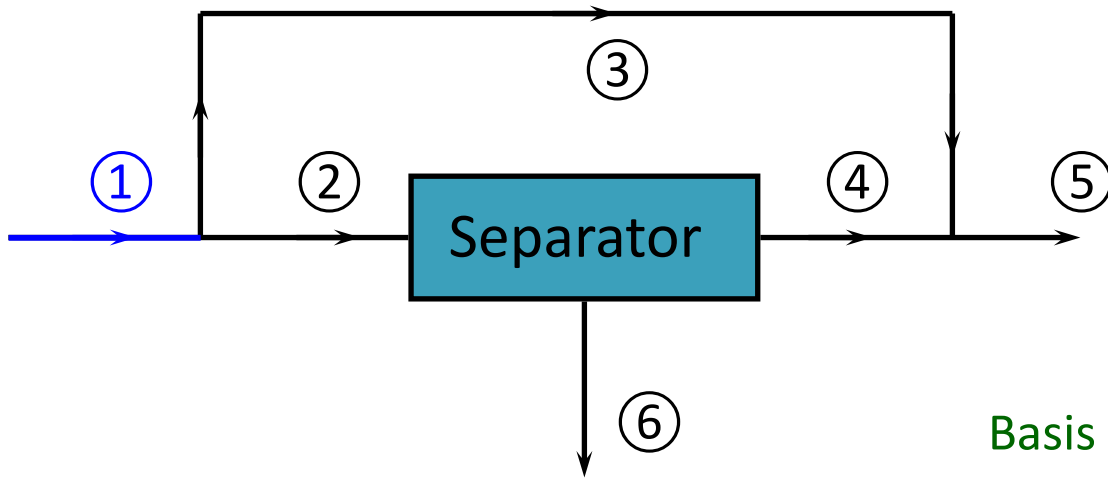
What are the flow rate of stream ⑥,  
and the composition of stream ⑤ ?

### Assumptions

Steady state operations, i.e., no accumulations.  
No reactions occur.

Therefore:

$$\left[ \begin{array}{c} \text{INPUT} \\ \text{across system} \\ \text{boundaries} \end{array} \right] = \left[ \begin{array}{c} \text{OUTPUT} \\ \text{across system} \\ \text{boundaries} \end{array} \right]$$



Basis of Calculations : 1 hour

- Stream 1 is 1273 kg/h, 42.0 % w/w A, 37.0 % w/w B with the balance C

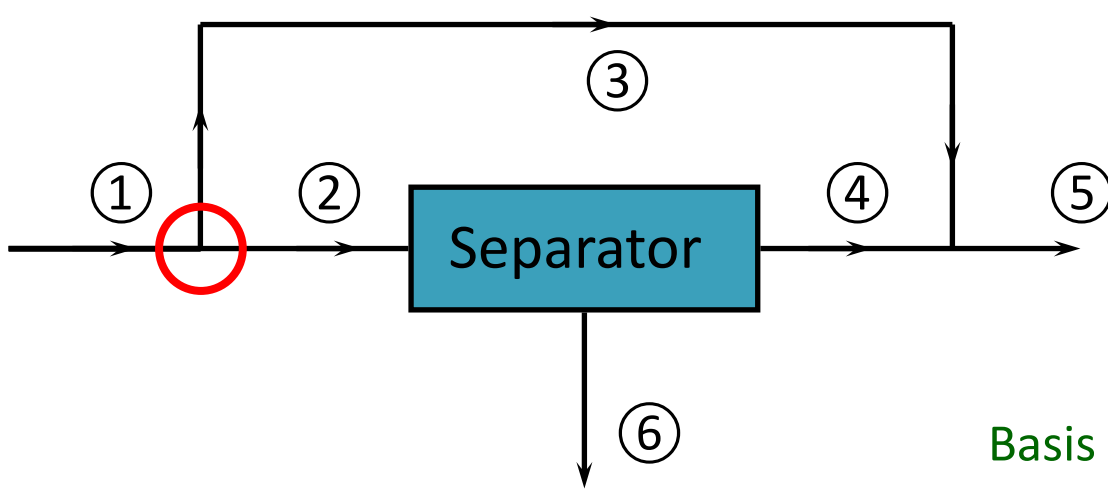
Stream ① contains :

$$A_1 F_1 = 0.420 \times 1273 = \quad \text{kg A}$$

$$B_1 F_1 = 0.370 \times 1273 = \quad \text{kg B}$$

$$C_1 F_1 = 0.210 \times 1273 = \quad \text{kg C}$$

and, of course,  $F_1 = 1273 \text{ kg}$



Basis of Calculations : 1 hour

Total balance over the **splitter** is :

$$F_1 = F_2 + F_3$$

but  $F_1 = 1273 \text{ kg}$  and  $F_2 = 800 \text{ kg}$

$$\therefore F_3 =$$

$$=$$

Compositions of stream ② and ③ are the same as that of stream ①.

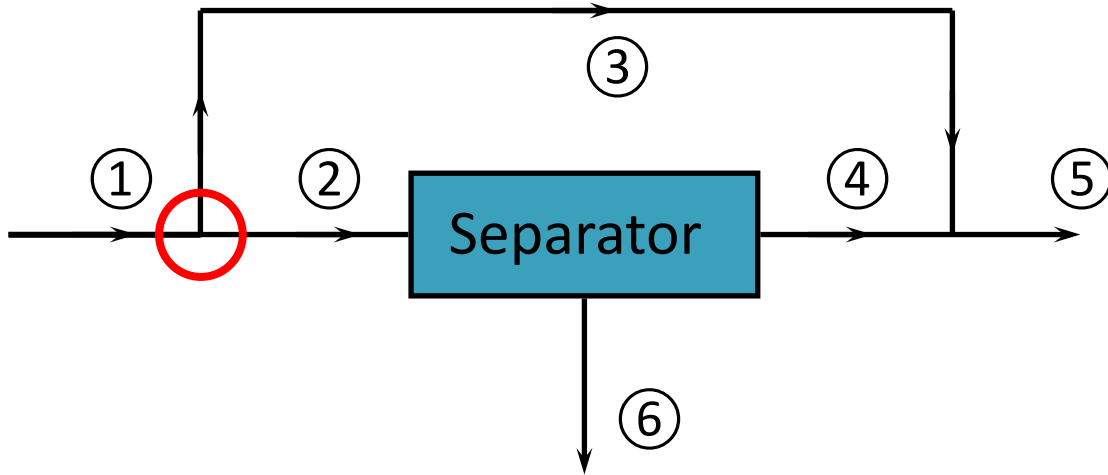
$$\therefore A_1 = A_2 = A_3 =$$

$$B_1 = B_2 = B_3 =$$

$$C_1 = C_2 = C_3 =$$

where,  $A_i$  is the mass fraction of component A in stream i.





So, stream ② contains :

$$A_2 F_2 = 0.420 \times 800 = \text{kg A}$$

$$B_2 F_2 = 0.370 \times 800 = \text{kg B}$$

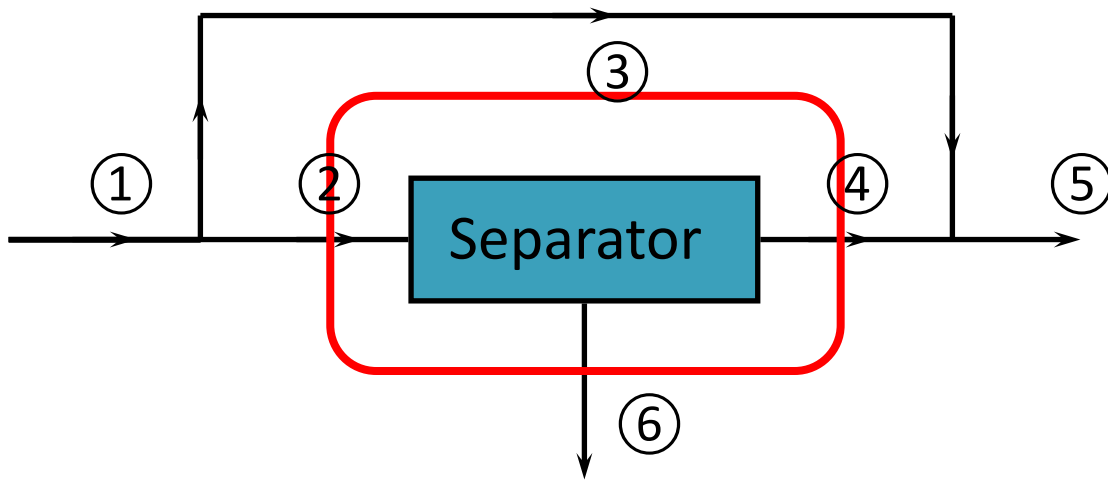
$$C_2 F_2 = 0.210 \times 800 = \text{kg C}$$

and stream ③ contains :

$$A_3 F_3 = 0.420 \times 473 = \text{kg A}$$

$$B_3 F_3 = 0.370 \times 473 = \text{kg B}$$

$$C_3 F_3 = 0.210 \times 473 = \text{kg C}$$



Now consider the **separator**. From the information given we may write:

$$\left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Mass of A} \\ \text{in } \textcircled{6} \end{array} \right) = 0.06 \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Mass of A} \\ \text{in } \textcircled{2} \end{array} \right)$$

$$\text{i.e. } A_6 F_6 = 0.06 \times 336.0$$

$$=$$

$$\left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Mass of B} \\ \text{in } \textcircled{6} \end{array} \right) = 0.050 \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Mass of B} \\ \text{in } \textcircled{2} \end{array} \right)$$

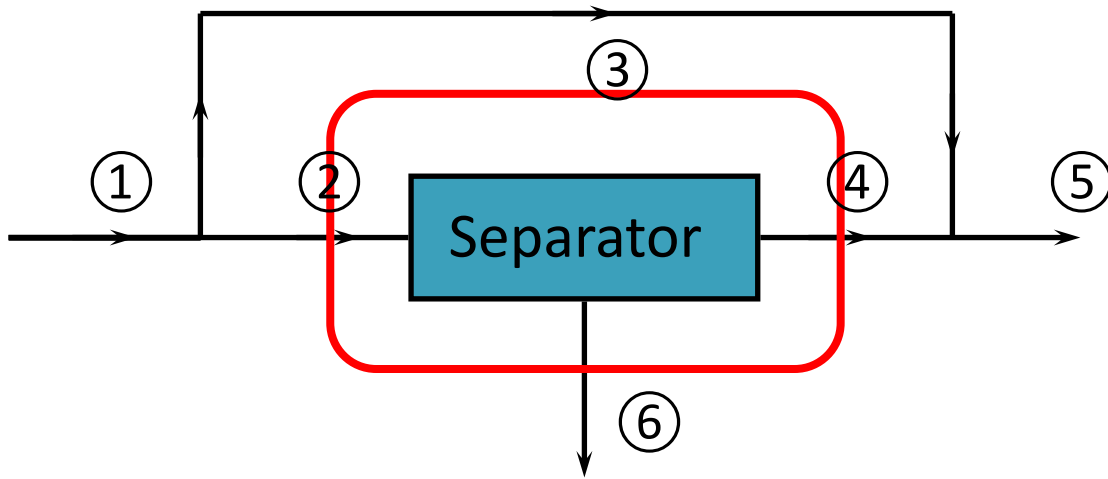
$$\text{i.e. } B_6 F_6 = 0.050 \times 296.0$$

$$=$$

$$\left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Mass of C} \\ \text{in } \textcircled{6} \end{array} \right) = 0.970 \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Mass of C} \\ \text{in } \textcircled{2} \end{array} \right)$$

$$\text{i.e. } C_6 F_6 = 0.970 \times 168.0$$

$$=$$

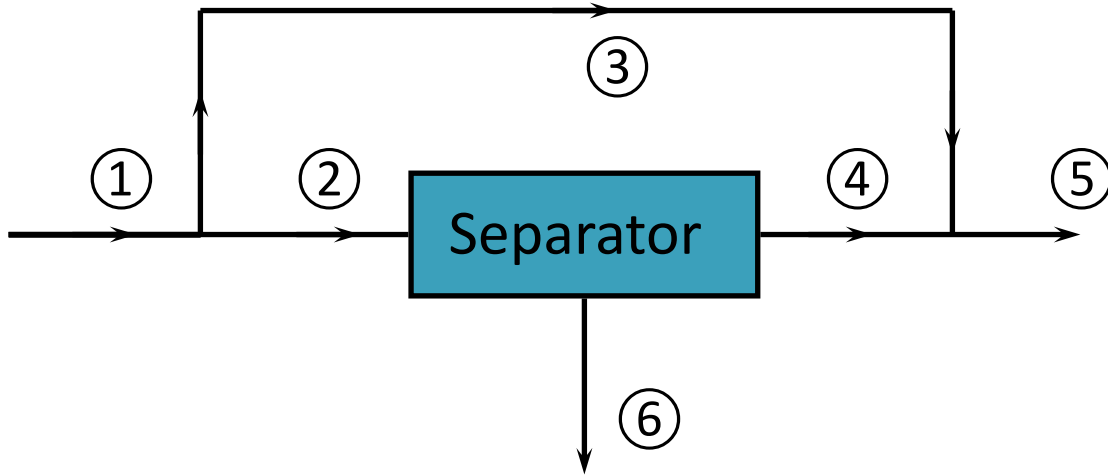


So,

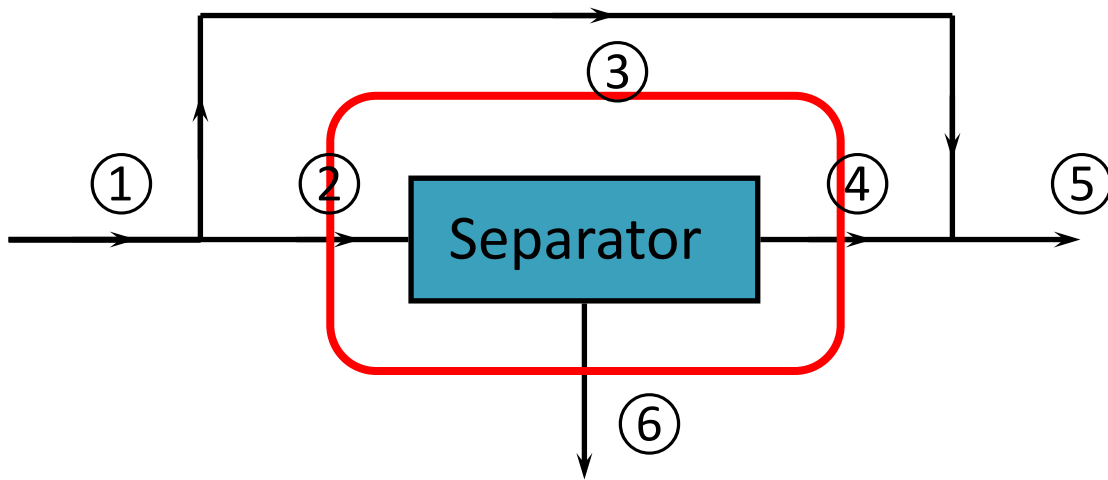
$$F_6 = \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Mass of A} \\ \text{in } \textcircled{6} \end{array} \right) + \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Mass of B} \\ \text{in } \textcircled{6} \end{array} \right) + \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Mass of C} \\ \text{in } \textcircled{6} \end{array} \right)$$

$$=$$

So flow rate of stream  $\textcircled{6}$  is



From this point there are two different strategies to solve the problem.



As a first approach we may write a component balance for A around the **separator** :

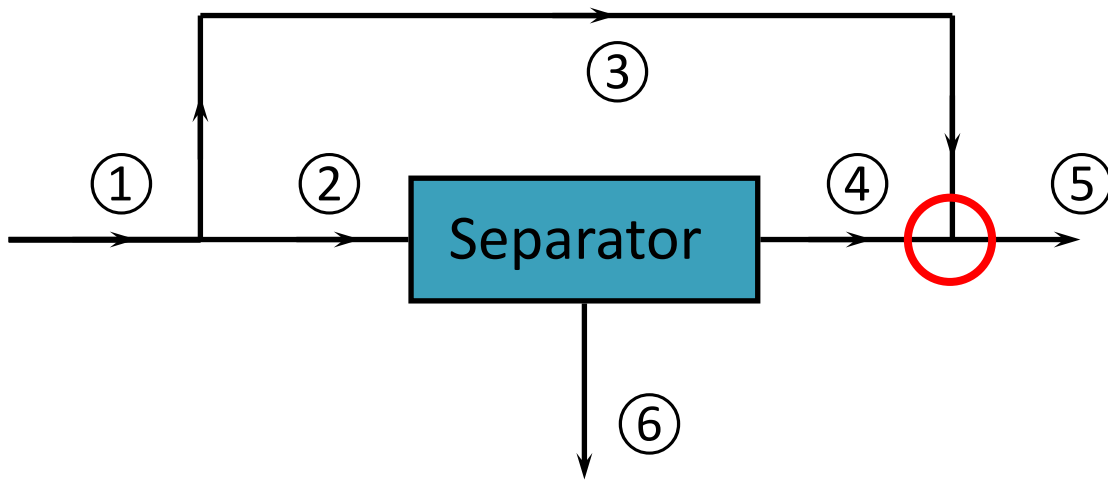
$$\left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Mass of A} \\ \text{in } \textcircled{4} \end{array} \right) = \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Mass of A} \\ \text{in } \textcircled{2} \end{array} \right) - \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Mass of A} \\ \text{in } \textcircled{6} \end{array} \right)$$

i.e.  $A_4 F_4 = 336.0 - 20.16 =$

Also, we may write component balances for B and C :

$$B_4 F_4 = 296.0 - 14.80 =$$

and,  $C_4 F_4 = 168.0 - 162.96 =$



Now consider the mixing point. A component balance around the mixing point for component A is :

$$\left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Mass of A} \\ \text{in } \textcircled{5} \end{array} \right) = \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Mass of A} \\ \text{in } \textcircled{3} \end{array} \right) + \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Mass of A} \\ \text{in } \textcircled{4} \end{array} \right)$$

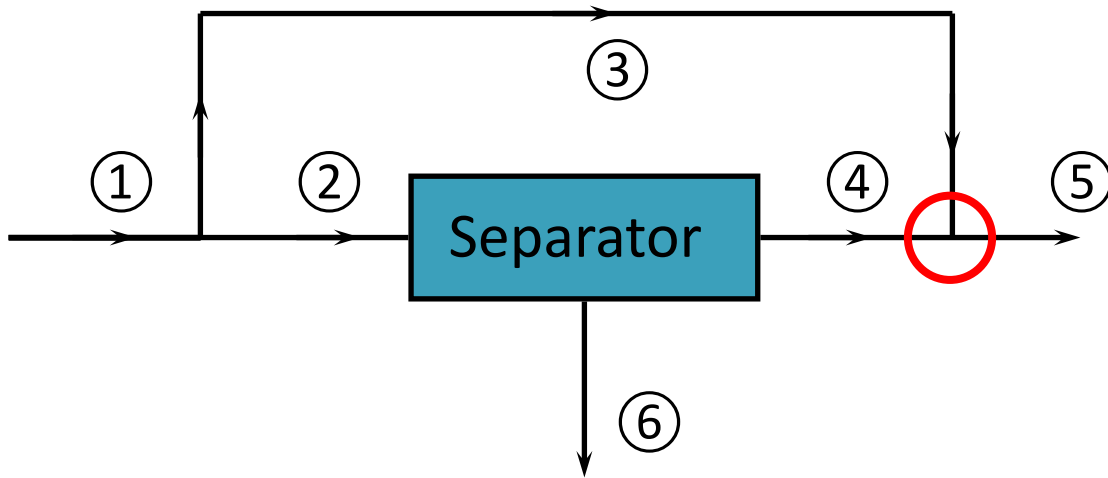
$$A_5 F_5 = 198.7 + 315.8 =$$

Also, we may write component balances for B and C :

$$B_5 F_5 = 175.0 + 281.2 =$$

$$\text{and,} \quad C_5 F_5 = 99.3 + 5.0 =$$

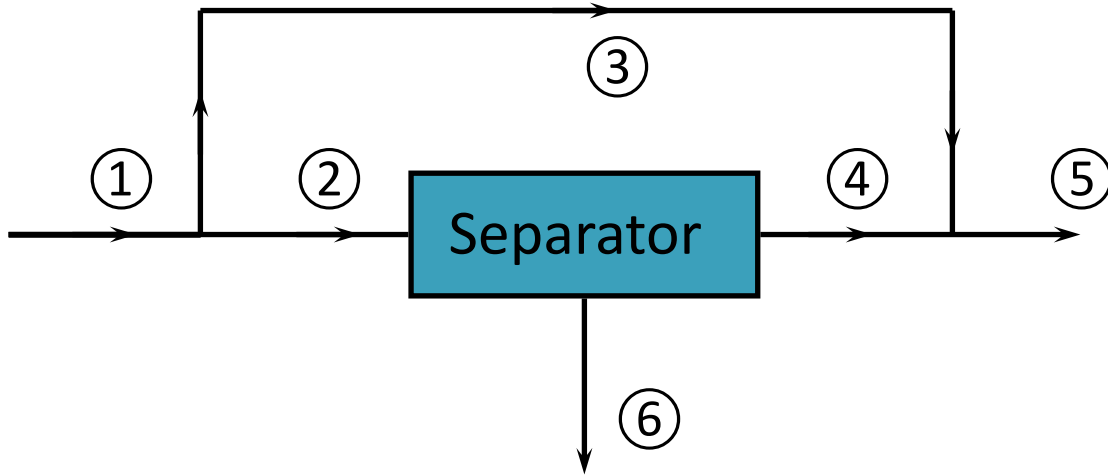
$$\text{So, } F_5 = 514.5 + 456.2 + 104.3 =$$



So composition of stream ⑤ is :

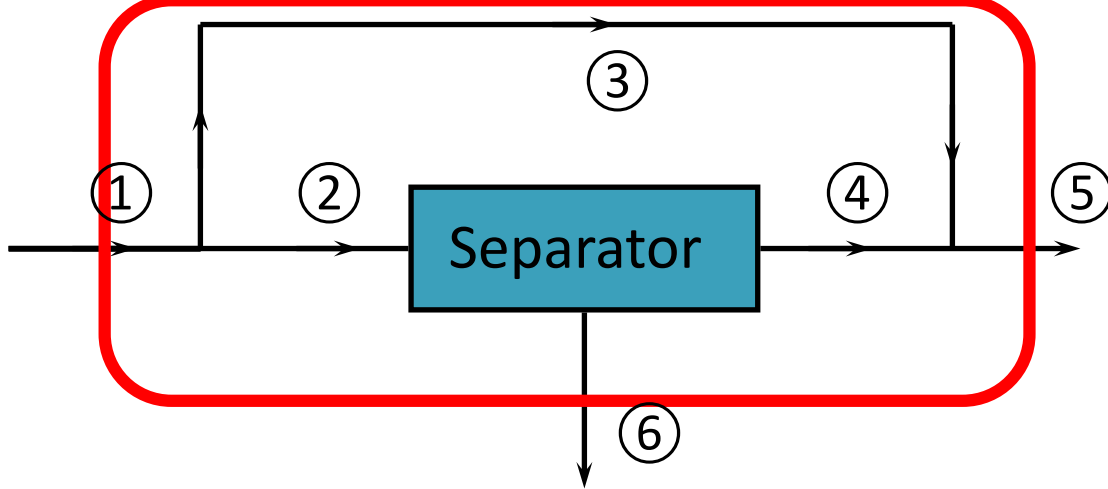
A	$514.5 / 1075.0 \times 100.0 =$	% w/w
B	$456.2 / 1075.0 \times 100.0 =$	% w/w
C	$104.3 / 1075.0 \times 100.0 =$	% w/w
		<hr/>
		100.0 % w/w

The composition of stream ⑤ is



From this point there are two different strategies to solve the problem.





As an alternative approach we could have written the overall mass balance :

$$F_1 = F_5 + F_6$$

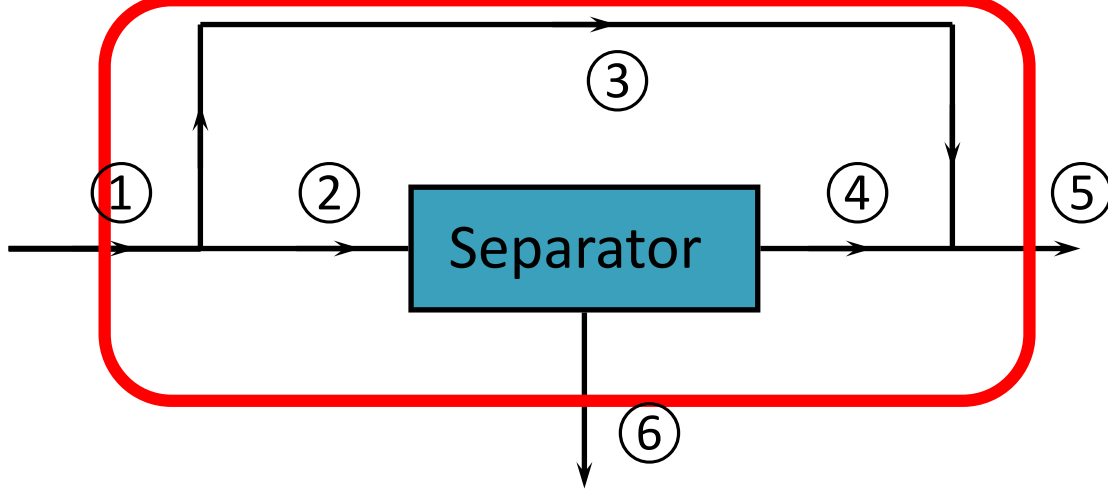
$$\therefore F_5 = 1273 - 197.9$$

$$=$$

Then we may write the component balance for A:

$$F_1 A_1 = F_5 A_5 + F_6 A_6$$

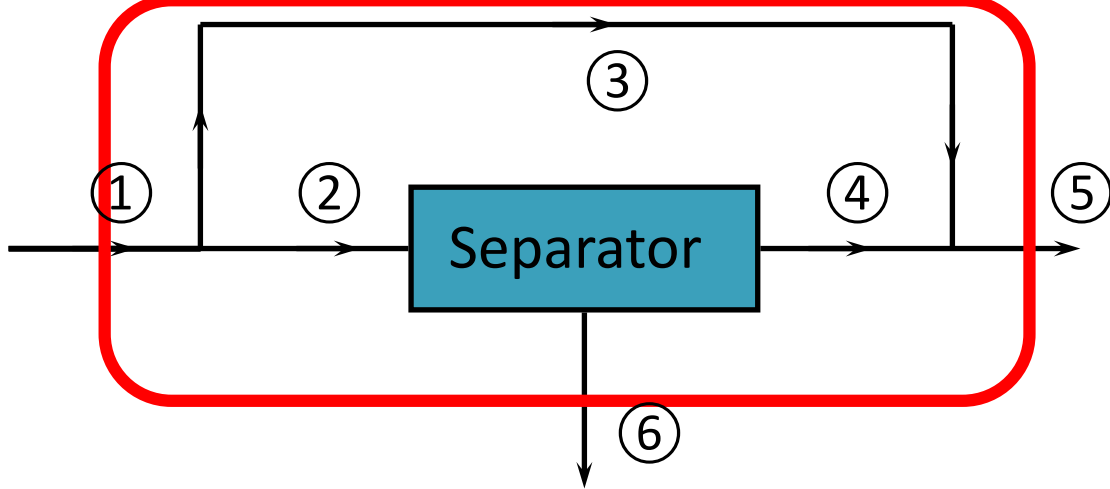
$$\therefore A_5 = \frac{F_1 A_1 - F_6 A_6}{F_5} =$$



Similarly we may find  $B_5$  and  $C_5$  using the other component balances:

$$B_5 = \frac{F_1 B_1 - F_6 B_6}{F_5} =$$

$$\text{and } C_5 = \frac{F_1 C_1 - F_6 C_6}{F_5} =$$



The composition of stream ⑤ is

# Material Balances – Module Learning Outcomes

A student is expected to be able to:

- Define the terms: system, surroundings, boundary, continuous, batch, steady-state
- Determine a suitable system boundary, and illustrate on a BFD
- Perform basic material balances (without chemical reactions):
  - Total, component, and elemental balances
  - Around single and multiple units
  - Calculate flow rates and composition, as required
- Define and treat appropriately in a balance: tie component, mixers, splitters, separators, feeds, product streams, recycles, bypasses, makeup