Gas Absorption

Isabel Coelhoso

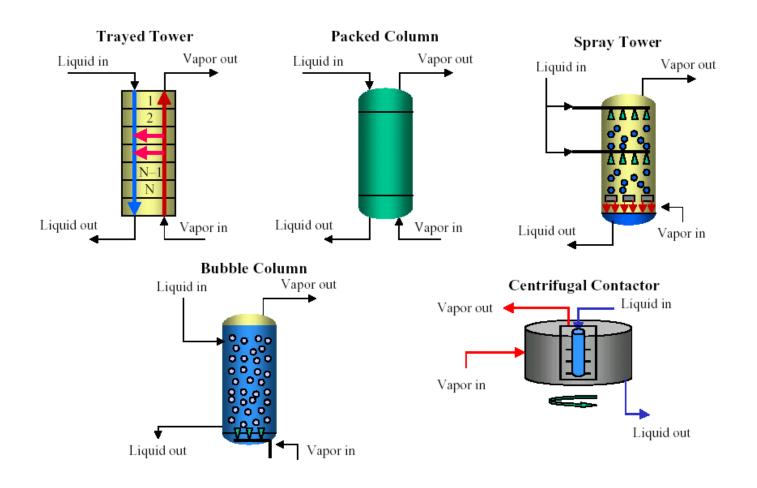
imrc@fct.unl.pt

M I Engenharia Química e Bioquímica Lic. Engenharia Química e Biológica

Processos de Separação

Gas Absorption

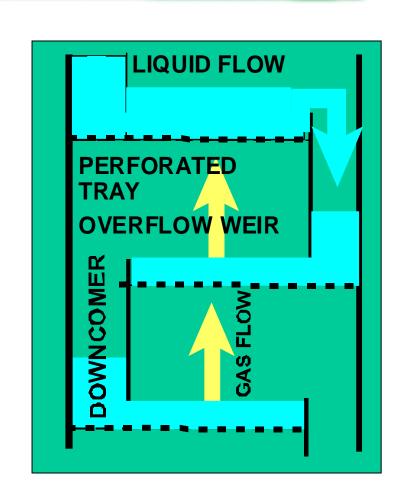
Absorption and Stripping Equipment



Gas Absorption - Tray Columns

CONTACT OCCURS IN THE LIQUID IN THE TRAY

- ✓ LIQUID CIRCULATES IN PARALLEL
- ✓ GAS CIRCULATES PERPENDICULARLY



TRAYS

SIEVE

- Construção simples
- Baratos
- ·Fáceis de limpar

BUBBLE

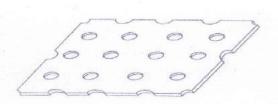
- ·Construção complexa
- Dispendiosos
- ·Problemas de "fouling"
- ·Menos flexíveis

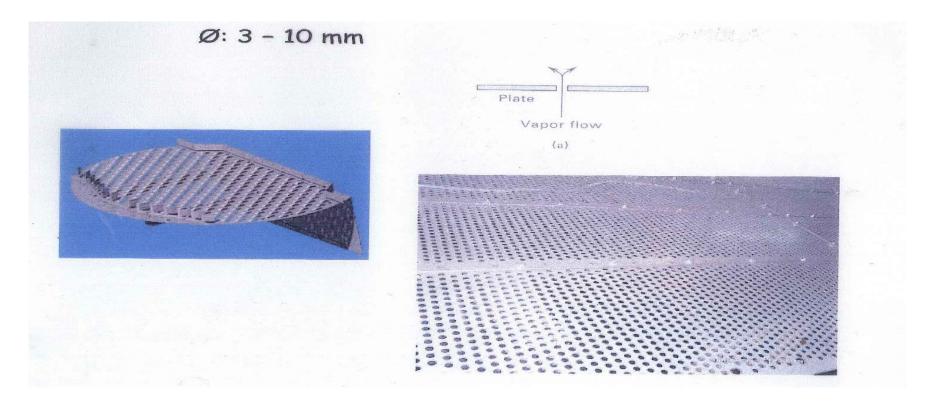
VALVE

- Construção mais complicada
- •Mais caros (+ 20%)
- ·Problemas de "fouling"
- ·Versáteis (larga gama de caudais)

SIEVE TRAYS

Pratos perfurados "sieve trays"

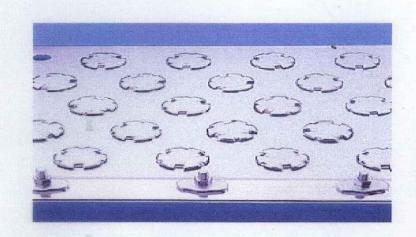


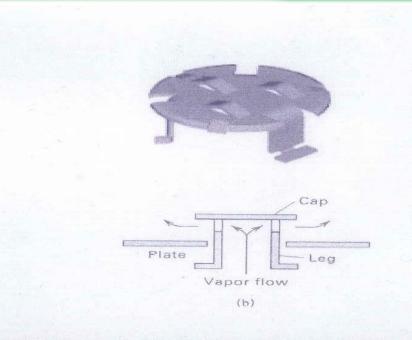


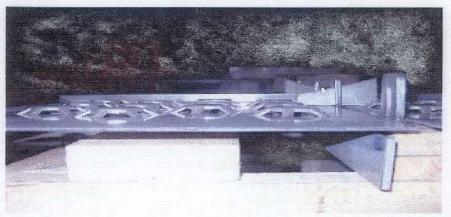
VALVE TRAYS

Pratos com válvulas "valve trays"

Ø: 35 - 50 mm



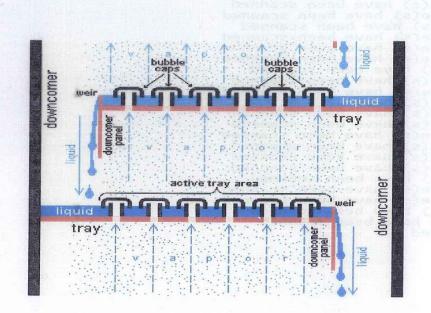




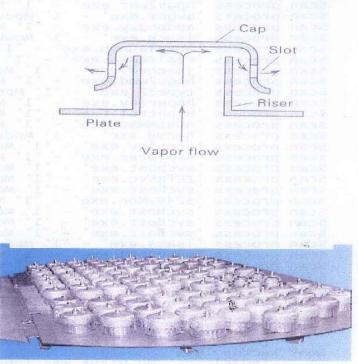
BUBBLE TRAYS

Campánulas de borbulhamento "bubble trays"

Ø: 50 - 76 mm





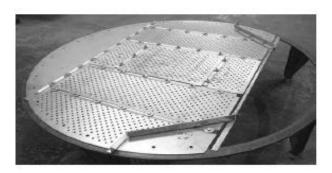




Bubble Cap Tray: http://www.wermac.org/



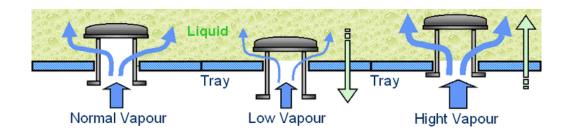
Perforated Tray: https://www.sulzer.com/

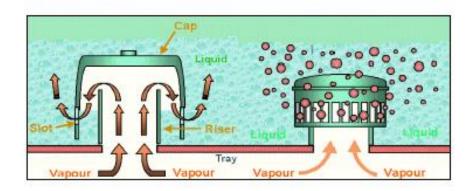


Sieve Tray: http://www.wermac.org/



Valve Tray: http://www.wermac.org/





http://www.wermac.org

www.wermac.org www.sulzer.com



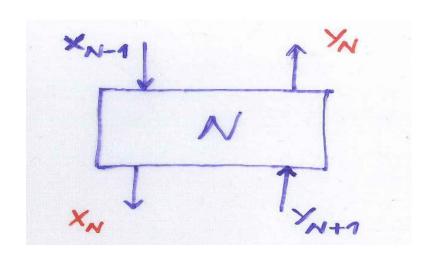
Tray Stack.
Sulzer Chemtech Ltd., Switzerland.

GAS ABSORPTION

Theoretical Plate

The solute compositions in the gas and liquid leaving the tray are in equilibrium.

 Y_N in equilibrium with X_N



How calculate N?

Total molar balance

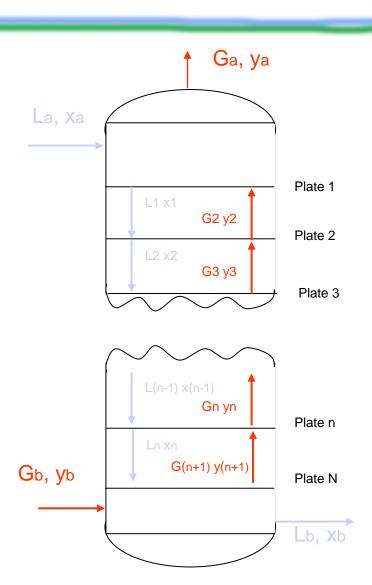
$$L_a + G_{n+1} = L_n + G_a$$

A molar balance

$$L_a x_a + G_{n+1} y_{n+1} = L_n x_n + G_a y_a$$

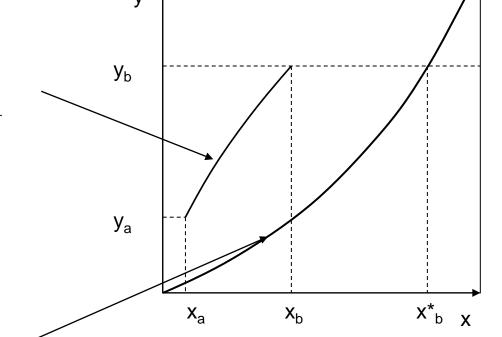
Operating line

$$y_{n+1} = \frac{L_n}{G_{n+1}} x_n + \frac{G_a y_a - L_a x_a}{G_{n+1}}$$



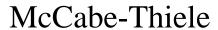
Operating line

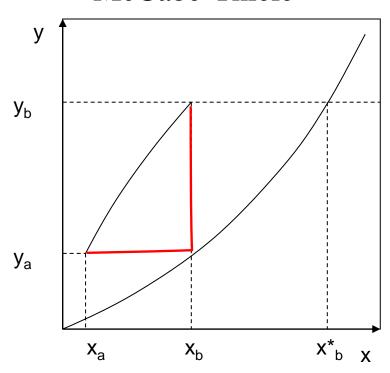
$$y_{n+1=\frac{L_n}{G_{n+1}}x_n+\frac{G_ay_a-L_ax_a}{G_{n+1}}}$$



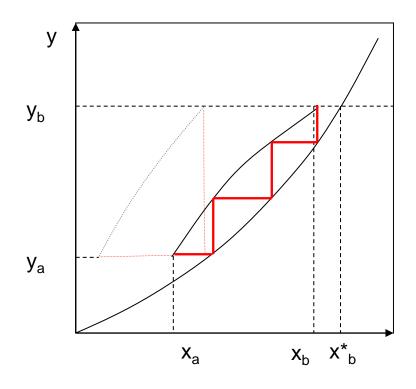
$$y_A^* = f(x_A)$$

Equilibrium line





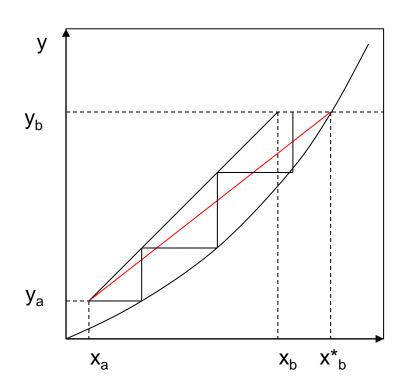
McCabe-Thiele



Constant flowrate

L, G constant -> L/G constant

$$y_b = \frac{L}{G}x_b^* + \frac{Gy_a - Lx_a}{G} \Longrightarrow \left(\frac{L}{G}\right)_{\min} = \frac{y_b - y_a}{x_b^* - x_a}$$



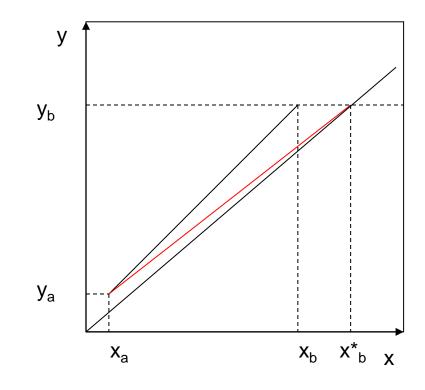
L, G constant -> L/G constant

Henry law

$$y_e = mx_e$$

$$y_b = \frac{L}{G} x_b^* + \frac{Gy_a - Lx_a}{G} \Longrightarrow$$

$$\left(\frac{L}{G}\right)_{\min} = \frac{y_b - y_a}{x_b^* - x_a} = \frac{y_b - y_a}{y_b / m - x_a}$$



$y_e = mx_e \Rightarrow y_n = mx_n$ Henry law

$$A = L/mG = const$$

$$y_{n+1} = Ay_n + y_a - Amx_a = Ay_n - Ay_a^* + y_a$$

For each plate
$$y_2 = Ay_a - Ay_a^* + y_a = y_a(1+A) - Ay_a^*$$

$$y_3 = Ay_2 - Ay_a^* + y_a = y_a(A+A^2) - A^2y_a^* - Ay_a^* + y_a =$$

$$= y_a(1+A+A^2) - y_a^*(A+A^2)$$

$$\vdots$$

$$y_{n+1} = y_a(1+A+A^2+...+A^n) - y_a^*(A+A^2+...+A^n)$$

$$y_N = y_b = y_a(1+A+A^2+...+A^N) - y_a^*(A+A^2+...+A^N)$$

Operating line

$$y_{n+1=\frac{L_n}{G_{n+1}}x_n+\frac{G_ay_a-L_ax_a}{G_{n+1}}}$$

$$y_{n+1} = y_b = y_a(1 + A + A^2 + ... + A^N) - y_a^*(A + A^2 + ... + A^N)$$

$$S_n = \frac{a_1(1-r^n)}{1-r}$$

$$y_b = y_a \frac{(1 - A^{N+1})}{1 - A} - y_a^* A \frac{(1 - A^N)}{1 - A}$$

Kremser equation

Analytical Solution

$$N = \frac{\ln\left[\left(\frac{y_1 - mx_2}{y_2 - mx_2}\right)(1 - 1/A) + 1/A\right]}{\ln A}$$

$$N = \frac{\ln\left[\left(\frac{x_2 - y_1/m}{x_1 - y_1/m}\right)(1 - A) + A\right]}{\ln(1/A)}$$

Kremser equation

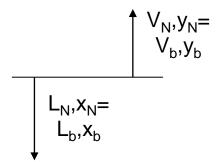
$$y_b = Ay_N - Ay_a^* + y_a = Ay_b^* - Ay_a^* + y_a$$
$$y_a - y_b = -A(y_b^* - y_a^*)$$

From the operating line:

$$y_b = y_a \frac{(1 - A^{N+1})}{1 - A} - y_a^* A \frac{(1 - A^N)}{1 - A}$$

$$y_b (1 - A) = y_a (1 - A^{N+1}) - y_a^* (A - A^{N+1})$$

$$A^{N+1} (y_a - y_a^*) = A(y_b - y_a^*) + y_a - y_b$$



$$y_{a} - y_{b} = -A(y_{b}^{*} - y_{a}^{*})$$

$$A^{N+1}(y_{a} - y_{a}^{*}) = A(y_{b} - y_{a}^{*}) + y_{a} - y_{b}$$

$$A^{N+1}(y_{a} - y_{a}^{*}) = A(y_{b} - y_{a}^{*}) + A(y_{b}^{*} - y_{a}^{*})$$

$$A^{N} = \frac{y_{b} - y_{b}^{*}}{y_{a} - y_{a}^{*}};$$

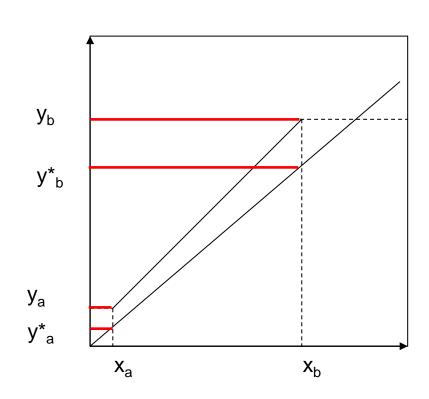
$$N = \frac{\ln[(y_{b} - y_{b}^{*})/(y_{a} - y_{a}^{*})]}{\ln \Delta}$$

$$y_e = mx_e \Rightarrow y_n = mx_n$$

Absorption factor

$$A = L/mG = const$$

$$N = \frac{\ln[(y_b - y_b^*)/(y_a - y_a^*)]}{\ln A}$$



Kremser equation (1930)

A stream of gas vented from a condenser in an aromatics plant has a flowrate of 200 kmol h⁻¹, a temperature of 25°C and a pressure of 5 bar. The composition (mole fractions) is

Hydrogen	0.900
Methane	0.07
Benzene	0.03

It is proposed to recover 98% of the benzene by absorption into an initially pure, non-volatile hydrocarbon oil using a plate column. Find:

- [i] The minimum feed rate kmol h⁻¹ of the oil for this separation
- [ii] The minimum number of theoretical stages required at an oil rate 30.25 kmol h⁻¹

m is taken as the slope of the x-y equilibrium line. Equilibrium data at 25°C and 5 bar.

Substance	$K_i = y_i/x_i$
Methane	43.0
Benzene	0.132

Gb=200kmol/h y*=0.132x yb=0.03 xa=0

xb*=yb/0.132=0.03/0.132=0.227

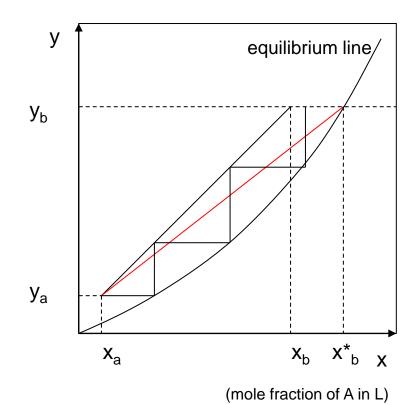
Gb yb= Gs Yb 200*0.03=Gs*(0.03/0.97)

Gs=194 kmol/h (error 3%) G=200 kmol/h

98% remoção ya= (1-0.98)*0.03=0.0006

G yb+ Lmin xa= G ya +Lmin xb*

Lmin=25.9kmol/h



La=30.25 kmol/h

G yb + L xa = G ya + L xb

xb=0.1944 yb*=0.132*xb=0.132*0.1944=0.0257 ya*=0.132*xa=0

A= L/mG=1.15

yb-yb*= 0.03-0.0257= 0.00434ya-ya*=0.0006

$$N = \frac{\ln[(y_b - y_b^*)/(y_a - y_a^*)]}{\ln A}$$

N=14.2