

# Heat Transfer: Convection

## Forced Convection in Internal Flow and the LMTD

Prof. Dr.-Ing. Reinhold Kneer

Prof. Dr.-Ing. Dr. rer. pol. Wilko Rohlfs

Prof. dr.ir. C.H. Venner (Kees)

## Forced convection in internal flows:

- ▶ Knowledge of meaning of the **logarithmic mean temperature difference (LMTD)**
- ▶ Ability to apply and calculate the LMTD



## Change of mean temperature in pipe flow with **constant temperature b.c.**

### How to determine axial temperature profile in the pipe and outlet temperature?

#### Development of energy balance:

- Develop local energy balance for the temperature profile

→ **Energy balance:**  $0 = \dot{H}_{\text{in}} - \dot{H}_{\text{out}} + \dot{Q}_{\text{in}}$

$$\dot{H}_{\text{in}} = \dot{m}c_p T_m(x)$$

$$\dot{H}_{\text{out}} = \dot{m}c_p T_m(x + dx)$$

$$\dot{Q}_{\text{in}} = \alpha A(T_w - T_m) = \alpha \pi D dx (T_w - T_m(x))$$

#### Differential equation:

$$0 = -\dot{m}c_p \frac{\partial T_m(x)}{\partial x} + \alpha \pi D (T_w - T_m(x))$$

$$\frac{\partial T_m(x)}{\partial x} = \frac{\alpha \pi D (T_w - T_m(x))}{\dot{m}c_p}$$

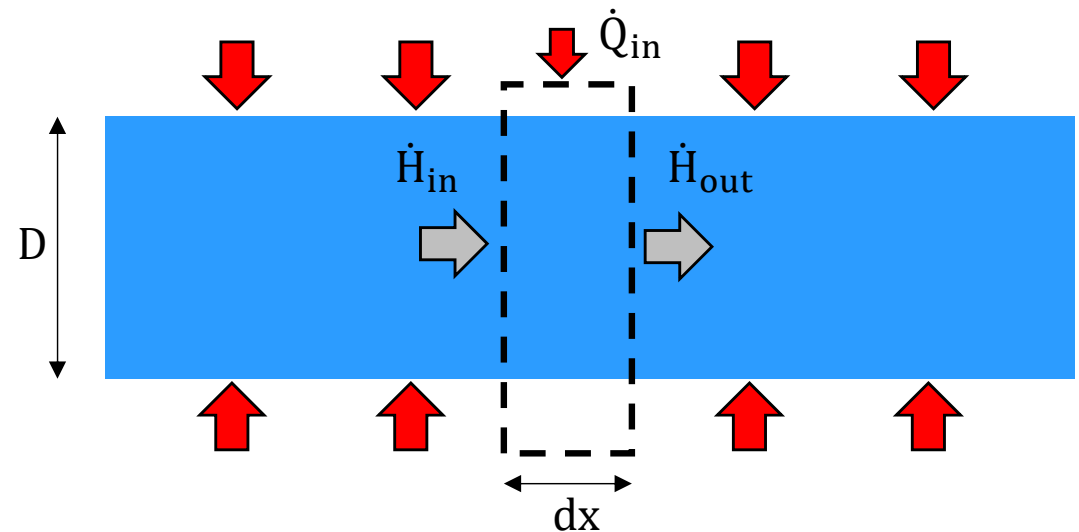


depends on  $T_m(x)$



Inhomogeneous differential equation

Inhomogeneous differential equation



# Change of mean temperature in pipe flow with **constant temperature b.c.**

## Homogenization of partial differential equation:

$$\frac{\partial T_m(x)}{\partial x} = \frac{\alpha \pi D (T_w - T_m(x))}{\dot{m} c_p}$$

$$\Theta = T_m(x) - T_w$$

## Solution for $\Theta$ :

$$\frac{\partial \Theta}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial T_m(x)}{\partial x} = -\frac{\Theta \alpha \pi D}{\dot{m} c_p}$$

$$\frac{\partial \Theta}{\Theta} = -\frac{\alpha \pi D}{\dot{m} c_p} dx \quad \text{Integration: } \ln(\Theta) = -\frac{\alpha \pi D}{\dot{m} c_p} x + C$$

$$\Theta = e^{-\frac{\alpha \pi D}{\dot{m} c_p} x + C} = C^* \cdot e^{-\frac{\alpha \pi D}{\dot{m} c_p} x}$$

## Solution for the temperature $T$ :

### ► Back transformation:

$$T_m(x) = C^* \cdot e^{-\frac{\alpha \pi D}{\dot{m} c_p} x} + T_w$$

### ► Temperature profile:

$$T_m(x) = (T_{\text{in}} - T_w) e^{-\frac{\alpha \pi D}{\dot{m} c_p} x} + T_w$$

### ► Boundary condition

$$T_m(0) = T_{\text{in}}$$

# Logarithmic mean temperature difference

## Outlet temperature:

$$T_{\text{out}} = (T_{\text{in}} - T_w)e^{-\frac{\alpha \pi D}{\dot{m} c_p} L} + T_w$$

$$\frac{T_{\text{out}} - T_w}{T_{\text{in}} - T_w} = e^{-\frac{\alpha \pi D}{\dot{m} c_p} L} \rightarrow \ln\left(\frac{T_{\text{out}} - T_w}{T_{\text{in}} - T_w}\right) = -\frac{\alpha A}{\dot{m} c_p}$$

$$\frac{1}{\ln\left(\frac{T_{\text{out}} - T_w}{T_{\text{in}} - T_w}\right)} = -\frac{\dot{m} c_p}{\alpha A}$$

## Total heat flux from fluid to wall:

$$\dot{Q}_{\text{tot}} = \alpha A \Delta T = \dot{H}_{\text{in}} - \dot{H}_{\text{out}}$$

What is the driving potential that describes the heat flux  $\dot{Q}_{\text{tot}}$  adequately?

$$\dot{H}_{\text{out}} = \dot{m} c_p T_{\text{out}}$$

$$\dot{H}_{\text{in}} = \dot{m} c_p T_{\text{in}}$$

$$\rightarrow \Delta T = \frac{\dot{m} c_p}{\alpha A} (T_{\text{in}} - T_{\text{out}})$$

# Logarithmic mean temperature difference

## Outlet temperature:

$$T_{\text{out}} = (T_{\text{in}} - T_w)e^{-\frac{\alpha \pi D}{\dot{m} c_p} L} + T_w$$

$$\frac{T_{\text{out}} - T_w}{T_{\text{in}} - T_w} = e^{-\frac{\alpha \pi D}{\dot{m} c_p} L} \rightarrow \ln\left(\frac{T_{\text{out}} - T_w}{T_{\text{in}} - T_w}\right) = -\frac{\alpha A}{\dot{m} c_p}$$

$$\frac{1}{\ln\left(\frac{T_{\text{out}} - T_w}{T_{\text{in}} - T_w}\right)} = -\frac{\dot{m} c_p}{\alpha A}$$

## Total heat flux from fluid to wall:

$$\dot{Q}_{\text{tot}} = \alpha A \Delta T = \dot{H}_{\text{in}} - \dot{H}_{\text{out}}$$

What is the driving potential that describes the heat flux  $\dot{Q}_{\text{tot}}$  adequately?

$$\dot{H}_{\text{out}} = \dot{m} c_p T_{\text{out}} \quad \dot{H}_{\text{in}} = \dot{m} c_p T_{\text{in}}$$

$$\rightarrow \Delta T = \frac{\dot{m} c_p}{\alpha A} (T_{\text{in}} - T_{\text{out}})$$

## Solution:

$$\frac{1}{\ln\left(\frac{T_{\text{in}} - T_w}{T_{\text{out}} - T_w}\right)} = \frac{\dot{m} c_p}{\alpha A}$$



$$\frac{\Delta T}{T_{\text{in}} - T_{\text{out}}} = \frac{\dot{m} c_p}{\alpha A}$$

► Logarithmic mean temperature difference (LMTD):

$$\Delta T = \frac{(T_{\text{in}} - T_{\text{out}})}{\ln\left(\frac{T_{\text{in}} - T_w}{T_{\text{out}} - T_w}\right)} = \frac{(\Delta T_{\text{in}} - \Delta T_{\text{out}})}{\ln\left(\frac{\Delta T_{\text{in}}}{\Delta T_{\text{out}}}\right)} = \Delta T_{\text{ln}}$$

What is the purpose of the LMTD?

$$\dot{Q}_{\text{tot}} = \alpha A \frac{(\Delta T_{\text{in}} - \Delta T_{\text{out}})}{\ln\left(\frac{\Delta T_{\text{in}}}{\Delta T_{\text{out}}}\right)}$$

# Logarithmic mean temperature difference

## Outlet temperature:

- ▶ Logarithmic mean temperature difference (LMTD):

$$\dot{Q}_{\text{tot}} = \alpha A \frac{(\Delta T_{\text{in}} - \Delta T_{\text{out}})}{\ln \left( \frac{\Delta T_{\text{in}}}{\Delta T_{\text{out}}} \right)}$$

- ▶ Applicable to calculate the heat flux transferred from fluid to wall in a heat exchanger if :
  - the heat transfer coefficient  $\alpha$  is constant
  - the specific heat of the fluid is constant (non-temperature dependent)
  - the wall temperature is constant
  - the mean fluid temperature changes spatially
  - the problem is stationary

Often this equation has to be used iteratively because the outlet temperature as well as the heat flux are unknown.

## Comprehension questions

---

**What is the meaning of the logarithmic mean temperature difference, and when do we need to apply this?**