




Module 9: Mass Transfer

Lecture 40: Analysis of Concentration Boundary Layer

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The concentration boundary layer

In a flowing system, there will be a relative transport of species and species conservation must be satisfied at each point in the concentration boundary layer. The pertinent form of the conservation equation may be obtained by identifying the processes that affect the **transport** and **generation** of species A for a differential control volume in the boundary layer.

[Derivation is similar to thermal boundary layer equation; - carry out. Hints: Species A may be transported by advection (with the mean velocity of the mixture) and by diffusion (relative to the mean motion) in each of coordinate directions.]

The rate at which the mass of species **A** is generated per unit volume due to such reactions as \dot{n}_A . If the total mass density ρ is assumed to be constant we get

$$u \frac{\partial \rho_A}{\partial x} + v \frac{\partial \rho_A}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(D_{AB} \frac{\partial \rho_A}{\partial x} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(D_{AB} \frac{\partial \rho_A}{\partial y} \right) + \dot{n}_A \quad (9.71)$$

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in the moral form

$$u \frac{\partial C_A}{\partial x} + v \frac{\partial C_A}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(D_{AB} \frac{\partial C_A}{\partial x} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(D_{AB} \frac{\partial C_A}{\partial y} \right) + \dot{N}_A \quad (9.72)$$

For mass transfer problems, \mathbf{v} can no longer be zero at the surface. However, it will be reasonable to assume $\mathbf{v} = 0$ which is equivalent to assuming that mass transfer has a negligible effect on velocity boundary layer. We note that with mass transfer, the boundary layer fluid is a binary mixture of species A and B. In all problems of interest $C_A \ll C_B$ and it is reasonable to assume that the boundary layer properties (k, μ, C_p etc) are those of species C_B .

Because boundary layer thickness are typically very small, the following inequality will apply.

$$\frac{\partial C_A}{\partial y} \gg \frac{\partial C_A}{\partial x}$$

Using the following non-dimensional variables.

$$X = x/L, Y = y/L, U = u/U_{\infty}, V = v/U_{\infty}$$

$$\text{and } C_A^* = \frac{C_A - C_{A,W}}{C_{A,\infty} - C_{A,W}}$$

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Eqn (9.72) becomes

$$U \frac{\partial C_A^*}{\partial X} + V \frac{\partial C_A^*}{\partial Y} = \frac{1}{Re_L S_c} \frac{\partial^2 C_A}{\partial y^2} \quad (9.73)$$

where, S_c is **Schmidt Number** = μ/D_{AB}

S_c is the ratio of momentum and mass diffusivities. For mass transfer in a gas flow over an evaporating liquid or sublimating solid, the convection mass transfer coefficient h_m depends on.

L, D_{AB}, ρ, μ and U_{av} .

$$C_A^* = f(X, Y, Re_L, S_c) \quad (9.74)$$

Again,

$$h_m = -\frac{D_{AB}}{L} \frac{(C_{A,\infty} - C_{A,w})}{(C_{A,w} - C_{A,\infty})} \left. \frac{\partial C_A^*}{\partial y} \right|_{y=0}$$

$$h_m = \frac{D_{AB}}{L} \left. \frac{\partial C_A^*}{\partial y} \right|_{y=0}$$

Which is dimensionless concentration gradient at the surface.

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$$\text{Sh} = \text{Sherwood number} = \frac{h_m L}{D_{AB}} = \left. \frac{\partial C_A^*}{\partial y} \right|_{y=0}$$

$$\begin{aligned} Nu &= f(X, Y, Re_L, Pr) \\ Sh &= f(X, Y, Re_L, Sc) \end{aligned} \quad (9.75)$$

We have already seen that the significance of **Prandtl number**

$$\frac{\delta}{\delta_t} \approx Pr^n \quad (9.76)$$

where **n** is a positive exponent. Hence for a gas $\delta_t \approx \delta$; for a liquid metal $\delta_t \gg \delta$; for oil $\delta_t \ll \delta$.

Similarly, the **Schmidt number**, $\left(\frac{\nu}{D_{AB}}\right)$ provides a relative measure of the relative effectiveness of momentum and mass transport by diffusion in the velocity and concentration boundary layers, respectively.

$$\frac{\delta}{\delta_c} = Sc^n \quad (9.77)$$

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Another parameter which is related to **Pr and Sc**, is the **Lewis number**, It is defined as.

$$Le = \frac{\alpha}{D_{AB}} = \frac{Sc}{Pr} \quad (9.78)$$

and is relevant to any solution involving simultaneous heat and mass transfer by convection, **From (9.76) (9.78)**, it then follows that

$$\frac{\delta_t}{\delta_c} = Le^n \quad (9.79)$$

The Lewis number is therefore a measure of the relative thermal and concentration boundary layer thicknesses.

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Heat and Mass Transfer Analogy

The analogy may be used to directly relate the two convection coefficients.

Nu and **Sh** are generally proportional to Pr^n and Sc^n respectively ,

Here n is a positive exponent and the value is less than 1. Anticipating this dependence, we may then use (9.75) to obtain

$$Nu = f(X, Y, Re_L) Pr^n \quad \text{and} \quad Sh = f(X, Y, Re_L) Sc^n$$

in which case

$$\frac{Nu}{Pr^n} = f_1(X, Y, Re_L) = f_2(X, Y, Re_L) = \frac{Sh}{Sc^n}$$

or,

$$\frac{hL/k}{Pr^n} = \frac{h_m L / D_{AB}}{Sc^n}$$

or,

$$\frac{h}{h_m} = \frac{k}{D_{AB} Le^n} = \rho C_p Le^{1-n} \quad (9.80)$$

For a wide range of application , $n = \frac{1}{3}$

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9.16 Evaporate Cooling

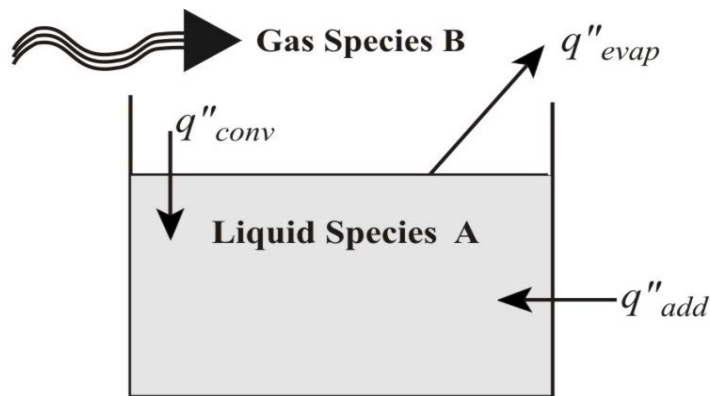


Figure 9.11: Evaporation from a liquid surface

Evaporation must occur from the liquid surface.

Energy associated with the phase change is **LATENT HEAT OF VAPORIZATION** of the liquid.

Evaporation occurs when liquid molecules near the surface experience collisions that increase their energy above that needed to overcome the surface binding energy.

Energy required to sustain the evaporation must come from the internal energy of the liquid, which then must experience a reduction in temperature yielding **cooling effect**.

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If steady state conditions are to be maintained, the latent energy lost by the liquid because of evaporation must be replenished by energy transfer to the liquid from its surroundings .

This transfer may be due to the convection of sensible energy from the gas or to the heat addition by other means.

$$\dot{q}_{conv} + \dot{q}_{add} = \dot{q}_{evap} \quad (9.81)$$

$$\dot{q}_{evap} = \dot{n}_A h_{fg} = \mu_A N_A h_{fg} \quad (9.82)$$

If there is no heat addition by other means, **equation (9.81)** will reduce to

$$h(T_\infty - T_w) = h_{fg} h_m [\rho_{A,sat}(T_w) - \rho_{A,\infty}] \quad (9.83)$$

The magnitude of cooling effect

$$T_\infty - T_w = h_{fg} \left(\frac{h_m}{h} \right) [\rho_{A,sat} - \rho_{A,\infty}] \quad (9.84)$$

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$$T_{\infty} - T_w = \frac{h_{fg} M_A}{\Re \rho C_p L_e^{2/3}} \left[\frac{\rho_{A,sat}}{T_w} - \frac{\rho_{A,\infty}}{T_{\infty}} \right] \quad (9.85)$$

The gas (**species B**) properties ρ, c_p and Le should be evaluated at the arithmetic mean temperature of the thermal boundary layer, $T_{am} = (T_w + T_{\infty})/2$.

Equation (9.85) may generally be applied to a good approximation.

A somewhat less accurate, but more convenient, form may be obtained by assuming that T_w and T_{∞} are approximately equal to T_{am} . Accordingly,

$$(T_{\infty} - T_w) \approx \frac{M_A h_{fg}}{\Re C_p L_e^{2/3} \rho T_{am}} [p_{A,sat} - p_{A,\infty}] \quad (9.86)$$

Recognizing that $m_A \ll m_B$, we may introduce the expression $\rho T_{am} = p/(\Re/M_B)$ from the perfect gas law to obtain

$$(T_{\infty} - T_w) = \frac{M_A/M_B h_{fg}}{C_p L_e^{2/3}} \left[\frac{p_{A,sat}}{p} - \frac{p_{A,\infty}}{p} \right] \quad (9.87)$$

In numerous environmental and industrial applications, Eqn. (9.87) is used with a good degree of confidence.

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External Flows:**(a) Laminar Flows**

For convection heat and mass transfer at a surface of uniform temperature or species concentration, respectively the Nu_x and Sh_x are of the form.

$$\begin{aligned} Nu_x &= \frac{h_x x}{k} = 0.332 Re_x^{1/2} Pr^{1/3} \\ Sh_x &= \frac{h_{m,x} x}{k} = 0.332 Re_x^{1/2} Sc^{1/3} \end{aligned} \quad (9.88)$$

From the above, the average coefficients are calculated as:

$$\begin{aligned} \overline{Nu_L} &= \frac{\bar{h}L}{k} = 0.664 Re_L^{1/2} Pr^{1/3} \\ \overline{Sh_L} &= \frac{\bar{h}_m L}{k} = 0.664 Re_L^{1/2} Sc^{1/3} \end{aligned} \quad (9.89)$$

(b) Turbulent Flows

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\delta}{x} &= 0.37 Re_x^{-1/5} \\ Nu_x &= 0.296 Re_x^{4/5} Pr^{1/3} \\ Sh_x &= 0.296 Re_x^{4/5} Sc^{1/3} \end{aligned} \quad (9.90)$$

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however $\bar{h}_L = \frac{1}{L} \left(\int_0^{x_c} h_{lam} dx + \int_{x_c}^L h_{turb} dx \right)$, $\bar{h}_{m,L} = \frac{1}{L} \left(\int_0^{x_c} h_{m,lam} dx + \int_{x_c}^L h_{m,turb} dx \right)$

finally we obtain **(for plate with large length)**

$$Nu_L = (0.037 Re_L^{4/5} - 871) Pr^{1/3}$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} 0.6 < Pr < 60 \\ 5 \times 10^5 < Re_L \leq 10^8 \\ Re_{x,c} = 5 \times 10^5 \end{array} \right\} \quad (9.91)$$

$$Sh_L = (0.037 Re_L^{4/5} - 871) Sc^{1/3} \quad (9.92)$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} 0.6 < Sc < 3000 \\ 5 \times 10^5 < Re_L \leq 10^8 \\ Re_{x,c} = 5 \times 10^5 \end{array} \right\}$$

Finally for $L \gg x_c$

$$Nu_L = 0.037 Re_L^{4/5} Pr^{1/3}$$

$$Sh_L = 0.037 Re_L^{4/5} Sc^{1/3}$$

$$\bar{C}_{f,L} = 0.074 Re_L^{4/5}$$

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