

usually occurs at low pressures for which h_c^0 is small, and with thin condensate films for which m'' is large. The aforementioned Example 10.9 of Mills (1995) shows a value of $B_h = -6.77$ and $h_c/h_c^0 = 6.78$, which is not significantly lower than 1.4 as suggested by Webb. Of course, the effect of vapor superheat on the condensation rate remains small.

5 Webb's Fig. 1 shows a comparison of his model predictions with experimental data. There is no similar evaluation of the well-established Ackermann model. However, given the expected uncertainty in the experimental data due to random and bias error, and the scatter shown in Fig. 1, it is doubtful if any conclusion could be drawn from this comparison.

References

- Ackermann, G., 1937, "Heat Transfer and Molecular Mass Transfer in the Same Field at High Temperatures and Large Partial Pressure Differences," *Forsch. Ing. Wes. VDI, Forschungsheft*, Vol. 8, p. 232.
- Mills, A. F., 1995, *Heat and Mass Transfer*, Richard D. Irwin, Chicago, IL.
- Spalding, D. B., 1963, *Convective Mass Transfer*, McGraw-Hill, New York.

Author's Closure¹

Prior to addressing Professor Mills comments it is helpful to review the chronology of the analysis methods referenced by Mills and in the present work. The 1934 Colburn and Haugen analysis was the first to address the effect of noncondensable gas on condensation. They proposed that the heat transfer rate is the sum of the latent (condensation) and sensible load (cooling of vapor to saturation temperature), which is the same as Eq. (2) in the present work. They worked an example for gas condensing on the outside of tubes. Their analysis did not include a correction for the effect of mass transfer on the sensible heat term. The 1937 analysis of Ackermann formulated a correction factor to account for the effect of mass transfer on the sensible heat term. Present day analysis (e.g., Collier and Thome (1994) and Hewitt et al. (1994)) of the noncondensable gas problem typically includes use of the "Ackermann correction factor" in the Colburn and Haugen equation.

We were not aware of Mills analysis of vapor velocity effect, which he references in his discussion. It appears that the Mills analysis is intended to treat the fundamentals of the problem by giving the differential equation that is to be solved, as opposed to giving a *solution* as is done in the present work. Mills analysis derives the Colburn and Haugen differential equation with the Ackermann correction factor.

There are two basic ways to solve convective heat transfer problems: one is to solve a differential equation (for a given flow geometry) by integrating the temperature profile across the flow field to obtain the temperature profile. Then, one calculates the heat flux by calculating $k(dT/dy)$ at the wall. This is the approach described by Mills, although he did not actually solve the differential equation. The other approach is to use heat transfer coefficients and thus calculate the heat flux using $q = h(T_{\text{sat}} - T_w)$, as is done in the present work. We have formulated a composite heat transfer coefficient using Eq. (2) and have given a generalized solution method (Eq. (9)) that is applicable for any flow geometry.

¹ Professor Ralph Webb, Department of Mechanical Engineering, Pennsylvania State University, University Park PA 16802.

Equation (2) properly states the underlying theory of the Colburn-Haugen equation as stated on page 1179 of the Colburn and Haugen paper, or the present Eq. (2). However, as noted above, Colburn and Haugen did not correct h_{fc} for mass transfer. We have included a correction factor for mass transfer as is included in Eq. (7).

It appears that the principal concern expressed by Professor Mills relates to our use of a different formulation to obtain the correction factor to the single-phase heat transfer coefficient to account for mass transfer. Our formulation could have been developed using the "Ackermann correction factor." However, we chose not to use the Ackermann formulation, which is based on the *assumption* of Couette (laminar between two parallel plates with the upper plate moving at a specified velocity). The present formulation is more general and is applicable to laminar or turbulent flow and is applicable to any geometry. The present formulation uses an energy balance to: (1) determine the mass flux to the interface, (2) write the bulk convection of sensible heat in terms of a heat transfer coefficient, and (3) define a composite heat transfer coefficient (h_{fc}^*) to include the effect of bulk convection to the single-phase term in Eq. (2). The result is Eq. (8). One may manipulate Eq. (8), which I will call Eq. (8a) here to yield

$$\frac{h_{fc}^*}{h_{fc}} = 1 + \frac{c_{pv}q_{\text{lat}}}{i_{fg}h_{fc}} \quad (8a)$$

Equation (8a) is equivalent in concept to the Ackermann correction factor (Mills, Eq. (2)). Mills argues that Eq. (8a) does not have the same asymptotes as his Eq. (2). I agree that it is not asymptotic to his Eq. (2), because the detailed formulation leading to Eq. (8a) is different. There is no reason why it should have the asymptotes of his Eq. (2), because it is not based on the same assumptions or restrictions (e.g., the laminar flow model of Ackermann). Should the reader be interested in the Ackermann analysis, it is given in detail on p. 604 of Hewitt et al. (1994).

If one prefers, they could use the Ackermann correction factor (Mills, Eq. (2)), rather than Eq. (8) to account mass transfer effects on the q_{sens} term in Eq. (2). Because the latent heat term dominates Eq. (2), it is possible that one would see little practical difference between the two formulations. However, I have not performed a sample calculation to evaluate the difference between the two formulations.

Mills item 3 criticism states that "the relation $(m_v/A) = q_{\text{lat}}/i_{fg}$ is generally invalid; it is untrue if the condensate film resistance depends on vapor superheat." We do not argue that the condensate film resistance should depend on superheat. Nothing in the present model says that.

Professor Mills is critical of the predictive ability of the Lee (1991) model, and he further implies that the Lee data are not very good. We feel that his criticism is unjustified. The predictive ability of the model is shown in Fig. 1 and is good. Professor Mills admits that "there is no similar evaluation of the well-established Ackermann model."

In summary, we have presented a formulation based on use of heat transfer coefficients for condensation and single-phase heat transfer that is applicable to any flow geometry. If one prefers to use the Ackermann correction factor (rather than Eq. (8a) above), one may do so. We have shown that the predicted results are in good agreement with the convective condensation data of Lee.