

**Example 6—  
concluded**

**Example 6 Solution:**

“rate” equation  
(gas-side, species A mass  
balance )

$$\frac{dy}{dz} = \frac{K_y a}{G} (y - Hx)$$

“operating line” equation  
(overall, species A mass  
balance )

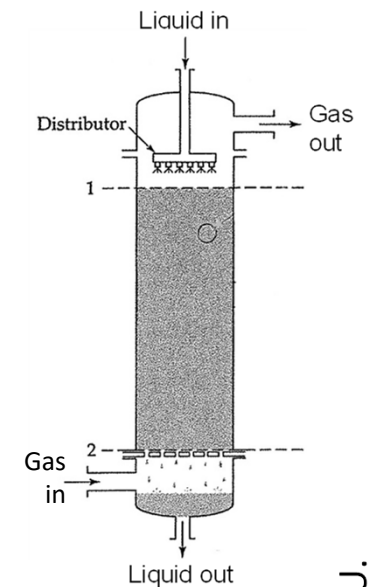
$$y = \frac{L}{G} (x - x_1) + y_1$$

“equilibrium line” equation  
(thermodynamic equilibrium,  
dilute mixtures)

$$y^* = Hx^*$$

Column height, **B**  
(result)

$$B = \frac{G}{K_y a} \left( \frac{1}{1 - \frac{G}{L} H} \right) \ln \left( \frac{y_2 - y_2^*}{y_1 - y_1^*} \right)$$



$$A_{xs} [=] m^2$$

$$y_2^* = y^*(x_2)$$

$$y_1^* = y^*(x_1)$$

**See Handnotes**

$$G [=] \frac{mol}{m^2 s}$$

$$L [=] \frac{mol}{m^2 s}$$

**HW 4.16**

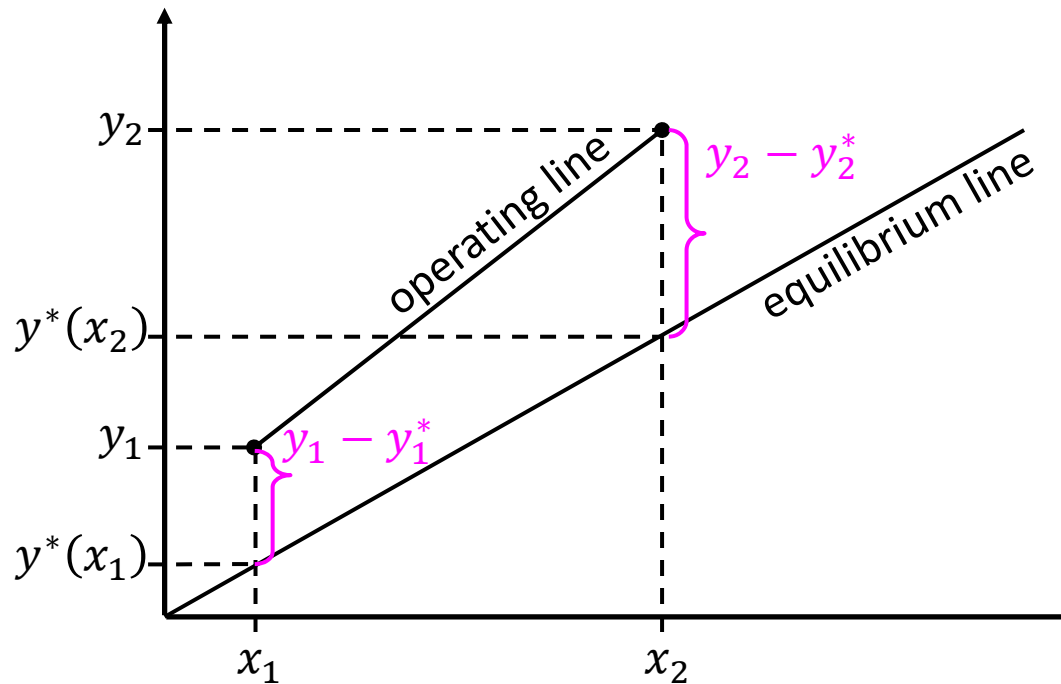
## Mass Transfer in an Absorption Column:

Species A from gas to liquid = Gas scrubbing

- operating line is above the equilibrium line

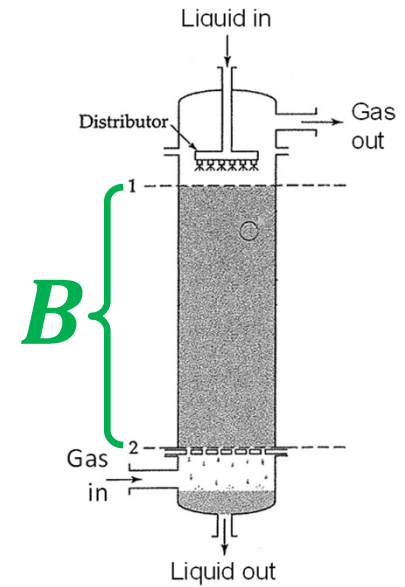
Species A from liquid to gas = Liquid stripping

- operating line is below the equilibrium line



Column height,  $B$   
(result)

$$B = \frac{G}{K_y a} \left( \frac{1}{1 - \frac{G}{L} H} \right) \ln \left( \frac{y_2 - y_2^*}{y_1 - y_1^*} \right)$$



$$G [=] \frac{\text{mol}}{\text{m}^2 \text{s}}$$

$$L [=] \frac{\text{mol}}{\text{m}^2 \text{s}}$$

$$A_{xs} [=] \text{m}^2$$

## Column Performance: HTU/NTU

Column height,  $B$

$$B = \frac{G}{K_y a} \left( \frac{1}{1 - \frac{G}{L} H} \right) \ln \left( \frac{y_2 - y_2^*}{y_1 - y_1^*} \right)$$

“rate” equation  
(gas-side, species A mass balance)

$$\frac{dy}{dz} = \frac{K_y a}{G} (y - Hx)$$

$$y^* = y^*(x) = Hx$$

$$\frac{dy}{dz} = \frac{K_y a}{G} (y - y^*)$$

$$\int_{y_1}^{y_2} \frac{dy}{(y - y^*)} = \int_0^B \frac{K_y a}{G} dz$$

**HTU =**  
height of a  
transfer unit

A measure of  
the efficiency of  
the equipment

$$G [=] \frac{\text{mol}}{\text{m}^2 \text{s}}$$

$$L [=] \frac{\text{mol}}{\text{m}^2 \text{s}}$$

$$A_{xs} [=] \text{m}^2$$

**NTU =**  
number of  
transfer units

A measure of  
difficulty of  
separation

$$B = \left( \frac{G}{K_y a} \right) \left( \int_{y_1}^{y_2} \frac{dy}{(y - y^*)} \right)$$

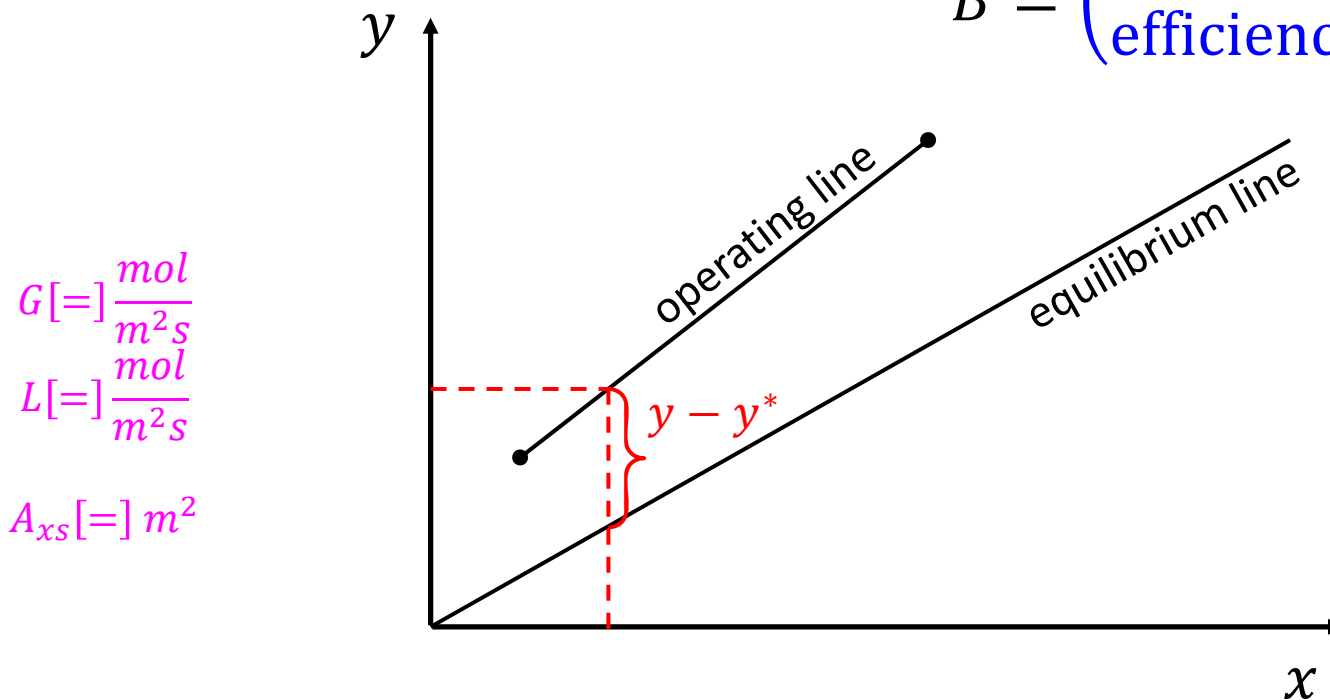
$$B = \text{HTU} \cdot \text{NTU}$$

- As the gap between the operating line and the equilibrium line narrows, NTU increases ( $B \propto$  integral of  $1/\text{gap}$ )

$$B = \left( \frac{G}{K_y a} \right) \left( \int_{y_1}^{y_2} \frac{dy}{(y - y^*)} \right)$$

$$B = \text{HTU} \cdot \text{NTU}$$

$$B = \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{column} \\ \text{efficiency} \end{array} \right) \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{difficulty} \\ \text{of separation} \end{array} \right)$$



HW 4.17

- Both operating and equilibrium lines are straight for dilute systems; When not dilute, both lines may be curved; integration then is done numerically (Excel)