

- π = dimensionless function of Prandtl number
 \sim = average solid particle phase density, g./cc.
 ρ_p = specific density of solid, g./cc.
 ρ = total density ($\rho_p + \rho_v$), g./cc.
 ρ_t = density of vapor, g./cc.
 Σ = $[(D_p^2/3N_{Nu,p} \cdot S)(\lambda/\lambda^*)(\tilde{\rho}_p/\rho_p)]^{1/2}$, cm.

Subscripts

- m = momentum
 p = particle
 s = saturation conditions
 t = thermal
 v = vapor or vapor film
 w = wall conditions

Superscripts

- 0 = unperturbed pure vapor phase

- 1 = two-phase without vaporization

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Simultaneous Flow and Temperature Correction in the Equilibrium Stage Problem

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Iterative methods for the solution of the steady state equilibrium stage problem are studied. Equations are first developed for calculating the effect of a change in temperature or flow rate on all energy balances, and then it is shown that these equations can be used in the multiple variable form of the Newton-Raphson correction process to correct either the temperatures or the flow rates when only energy balance errors are used. Similar equations for material balance errors which have been developed previously are then combined with the energy balance equations to provide a method for simultaneous correction of the temperatures and the flow rates. Because first-order interactions between flow rates and temperatures are included the method is applicable to a wide range of equilibrium stage problems. Sample problems are presented, and it is shown that quadratic convergence is obtained for the simultaneous correction process.

The solution of the equilibrium stage problem is of both historical and practical importance to chemical engineers. Over the years many methods have been proposed, such as analytic solutions, graphical solutions, and numerical approximations. In the last few years there has been an emphasis on numerical methods because of the availability of large computing machines. In a previous paper (1) it was pointed out that the computer solution is usually stated as that of finding a set of temperatures and flow rates which will satisfy all material and energy balances. For a system with n stages, there are n temperatures and n flow rates to be fixed, and there are n material balances and n energy balances to be satisfied. Direct solution is not possible, and iterative methods are used. At each step of the iterative process the material balance and energy

balance errors are reduced by correcting the temperatures and flow rates. A linear correction process can be defined as:

$$(\Psi) \begin{bmatrix} C_t \\ C_v \end{bmatrix} = - \begin{bmatrix} D_m \\ D_e \end{bmatrix} \quad (1)$$

where (C_t, C_v) is a vector containing the corrections to be made in the temperatures and flow rates, and (D_m, D_e) is a vector containing the material balance errors and energy balance errors. Ψ is the correction matrix. There are many ways in which Ψ can be defined, but in this paper it will be the Jacobian matrix of the errors. It can be shown that the Jacobian matrix will give quadratic convergence in the vicinity of the solution, and this is the most rapid convergence possible with a linear correction

process.

\mathbf{V}^* can be partitioned into four $n \times n$ matrices,

$$\mathbf{V}^* = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{E}_t & \mathbf{E}_v \\ \mathbf{J}_t & \mathbf{J}_v \end{bmatrix} \quad (2)$$

It was shown (1) that \mathbf{E}_t is the only correction needed for the constant molal overflow problem and \mathbf{E}_v is the only correction needed for the constant temperature extraction problem. Equations for \mathbf{E}_t and \mathbf{E}_v are summarized in Table 1. Two minor modifications should be noted. One is that the equation for \mathbf{X}_v^j is written in a different but equivalent form. The second is that the normalization matrix \mathbf{N} has not been included in the equation for \mathbf{E}_v . This point will be discussed later.

In this paper the equations for \mathbf{J}_t and \mathbf{J}_v will be derived. It will then be shown that they can be used singly for certain problems or combined with \mathbf{E}_t and \mathbf{E}_v to provide simultaneous quadratic convergence of temperatures and flows. Because \mathbf{J}_t and \mathbf{J}_v are based on the energy balance errors, it is first necessary to obtain an expression for the energy balance and to define the error measures which will be used.

TEMPERATURE CORRECTION USING ENERGY BALANCE ERRORS

If there is no shaft work, and if kinetic and potential energy effects are negligible, the energy balance error can be written in vector form as:

$$D_e = \mathbf{L} H + \mathbf{V} G + Q + Q_f \quad (3)$$

where H and G are liquid and vapor enthalpy vectors, Q is the vector of heat exchange with the surroundings, and Q_f is the vector of feed enthalpies. At the solution to the equilibrium stage problem, D_e will be zero.

By definition of the Jacobian matrix, the elements of the k th column of \mathbf{J}_t are obtained by differentiating Equation (3) with respect to the temperature in the k th stage.

$$\frac{\partial D_e}{\partial t_k} = \mathbf{L} \frac{\partial H}{\partial t_k} + \mathbf{V} \frac{\partial G}{\partial t_k} \quad (4)$$

Varying k from 1 to n will generate all the columns of \mathbf{J}_t . \mathbf{H}_t and \mathbf{G}_t are defined as the matrices whose k th columns are $(\partial H / \partial t_k)$ and $(\partial G / \partial t_k)$ respectively, then

$$\mathbf{J}_t = \mathbf{L} \mathbf{H}_t + \mathbf{V} \mathbf{G}_t \quad (5)$$

The effect of temperature on liquid and vapor enthalpy can be evaluated by expressing the enthalpies in terms of the partial enthalpies and then differentiating with respect to temperature

$$H = \sum_j [\mathbf{H}^{*j} X^{(j)}] \quad (6)$$

$$G = \sum_j [\mathbf{G}^{*j} Y^{(j)}] \quad (7)$$

where \mathbf{H}^{*j} and \mathbf{G}^{*j} are diagonal matrices which have as elements the partial enthalpies of component j in the liquid and vapor phases. The derivatives of Equations (6) and (7) with respect to t_k are:

$$\frac{\partial H}{\partial t_k} = \sum_j \left\{ \mathbf{H}^{*j} \left[\frac{\partial X^{(j)}}{\partial t_k} \right] \right\} + \sum_j \left\{ \left[\frac{\partial \mathbf{H}^{*j}}{\partial t_k} \right] X^{(j)} \right\} \quad (8)$$

$$\frac{\partial G}{\partial t_k} = \sum_j \left\{ \mathbf{G}^{*j} \left[\frac{\partial Y^{(j)}}{\partial t_k} \right] \right\} + \sum_j \left\{ \left[\frac{\partial \mathbf{G}^{*j}}{\partial t_k} \right] Y^{(j)} \right\} \quad (9)$$

The first term in Equations (8) and (9) takes into ac-

count changes in enthalpy caused by changes in composition. The vector $[\partial X^{(j)} / \partial t_k]$ is already known from the calculations for \mathbf{E}_t and is the k th column of \mathbf{X}_t^j , defined by Equation (T14) in Table 1. Similarly $[\partial Y^{(j)} / \partial t_k]$ is the k th column of \mathbf{Y}_t^j in Equation (T15) of Table 1.

The second term in Equations (8) and (9) accounts for changes in partial enthalpy due to changes in temperature at constant composition. It will be recalled that \mathbf{H}^{*j} and \mathbf{G}^{*j} are diagonal matrices, and the k th diagonal element is the partial enthalpy on the k th tray. When the partial derivative with respect to t_k is taken, there will be only one nonzero term in the matrix. The product of the derivative with $X^{(j)}$ will be a vector with only one nonzero term.

By varying k from 1 to n in Equations (8) and (9) and assembling the vectors, it can be shown that

$$\mathbf{H}_t = \sum_j (\mathbf{H}^{*j} \mathbf{X}_t^j + \mathbf{M}_3^j) \quad (10)$$

$$\mathbf{G}_t = \sum_j (\mathbf{G}^{*j} \mathbf{Y}_t^j + \mathbf{M}_4^j) \quad (11)$$

where

$$\mathbf{M}_3^j = \text{diag} (m_{3,i}^j); \quad m_{3,i}^j = x_{ij} \left(\frac{\partial h_i^{*j}}{\partial t_i} \right) \quad (12)$$

$$\mathbf{M}_4^j = \text{diag} (m_{4,i}^j); \quad m_{4,i}^j = y_{ij} \left(\frac{\partial g_i^{*j}}{\partial t_i} \right) \quad (13)$$

The partial derivatives in Equations (12) and (13) are fundamental properties of the materials themselves and are assumed to be known. For ideal solutions the derivatives are the heat capacities of the pure components.

Substituting Equations (10) and (11) into Equation (5) gives the desired result for \mathbf{J}_t .

$$\mathbf{J}_t = \mathbf{L} \sum_j (\mathbf{H}^{*j} \mathbf{X}_t^j + \mathbf{M}_3^j) (\mathbf{N}) + \mathbf{V} \sum_j (\mathbf{G}^{*j} \mathbf{Y}_t^j + \mathbf{M}_4^j) (\mathbf{N}) \quad (14)$$

A normalization matrix has been included in Equation (14) to compensate for the fact that the mole fractions used in calculating \mathbf{X}_t^j , \mathbf{Y}_t^j , \mathbf{M}_3^j , and \mathbf{M}_4^j do not sum up to one. A normalizing of the compositions should help, but experience to date has indicated that it has not made much difference in the problems tested.

FLOW RATE CORRECTIONS BASED ON ENERGY BALANCE ERRORS

To obtain \mathbf{J}_v it is necessary to differentiate Equation (3), with respect to the independent flow variables, by holding temperatures constant. There can be only one independent flow variable per stage in variable flows. These variables are elements in the diagonal matrix \mathbf{V}^* . There is a corresponding matrix for the total liquid leaving each stage in variable flows, called \mathbf{L}^* . Through the overall material balance, \mathbf{L}^* can be expressed as a function of \mathbf{V}^* , so \mathbf{L}^* is not an independent variable. The relation is given in Equation (T21) of Table 1, each element in \mathbf{R} being the rate of change of one of the liquid rates with respect to one of the vapor rates. A more complete discussion of the definitions of the flow variables is given elsewhere (1).

The k th column of \mathbf{J}_v will be obtained by differentiating Equation (3) with respect to the k th independent flow variable, v_k^* ,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial D_e}{\partial v_k^*} = & \mathbf{B} \left(\frac{\partial \mathbf{L}^*}{\partial v_k^*} \right) H + \mathbf{L} \left(\frac{\partial H}{\partial v_k^*} \right) \\ & + \mathbf{A} \left(\frac{\partial \mathbf{V}^*}{\partial v_k^*} \right) G + \mathbf{V} \left(\frac{\partial G}{\partial v_k^*} \right) \end{aligned} \quad (15)$$

By varying k from 1 to n , \mathbf{J}_v can be assembled. The result

TABLE 1. EQUATION SUMMARY

Flow matrices: $L = B L^* + L'$	(T1)
$V = A V^* + V'$	(T2)
Equilibrium relationship: $Y^{(j)} = K^j X^{(j)}$	(T3)
Component material balance: $(L + V K^j) X^{(j)} = -F^{(j)}$	(T4)
$Z^j X^{(j)} = -F^{(j)}$	(T5)
Overall material balance: $(L + V)U + F U = 0$	(T6)
Correction vectors: $C_t = (T)_{\gamma+1} - (T)_{\gamma}$	(T7)
$C_v = (V^*)_{\gamma+1} - (V^*)_{\gamma}$	(T8)
Material balance error measure: $D_m = (X - Y)U$	(T9)
Correction equations: $E_t C_t + E_v C_v = -D_m$	(T10)
$J_t C_t + J_v C_v = -D_e$	(T11)
Jacobian matrices E_t and E_v :	
$E_t = \sum_j (X_t^j - Y_t^j) N$	(T12)
$E_v = \sum_j (X_v^j - Y_v^j)$	(T13)
$X_t^j = -(Z^j)^{-1} V M^j$	(T14)
$Y_t^j = M^j + K^j X_t^j$	(T15)
$X_v^j = (Z^j)^{-1} (B M_1^j - M_2^j)$	(T16)
$Y_v^j = K^j X_v^j$	(T17)
$M^j = \text{diag} \left[\left(\frac{dk_1^j}{dt_1} \right) x_{1j}, \dots, \left(\frac{dk_i^j}{dt_i} \right) x_{ij}, \dots \right]$	(T18)
$M_1^j = (m_{1,ik}) = (r_{ik} x_{ij})$	(T19)
$M_2^j = (m_{2,ik}) = (a_{ik} y_{kj})$	(T20)
$R = B^{-1} A = (r_{ik}) = \left(\frac{\partial l_i^*}{\partial v_k^*} \right)$	(T21)
$N = \text{diag} \{ 1/[\sum_j (x_{ij})], \dots, 1/[\sum_j (x_{ij})], \dots \}$	(T22)

can be written as:

$$J_v = B W_1 + L H_v + W_2 + V G_v \quad (16)$$

By comparing Equation (15) with (16) the previously undefined matrices, W_1 , H_v , W_2 , and G_v can be identified. Expressions for each of them will be developed in the next few paragraphs.

The columns of W_1 are the product of the diagonal matrix $(\partial L^* / \partial v_k^*)$ with the enthalpy vector H . It was mentioned above that the derivative of L^* with respect to vapor flow is given by R . Hence, the general element of W_1 is:

$$W_1 = (w_{1,ij}) = (r_{ij} h_i) \quad (17)$$

The columns of W_2 are obtained in a similar way, but the result is somewhat simpler because $(\partial V^* / \partial v_k^*)$ is a matrix with only one nonzero element, the diagonal element in the k th row which is a 1.0. By using this plus the definitions for A and G , the general element of W_2 is given by

$$W_2 = (w_{2,ij}) = (a_{ij} g_i) \quad (18)$$

Interpretation of W_1 and W_2 is as follows. Each element of W_1 gives the change in enthalpy of the liquid leaving stage i for a change of one unit in the vapor leaving stage j . Premultiplication by B , which is the liquid flow connection matrix, will give a matrix for which the ij element is the change in enthalpy of liquid phases that enter and leave stage i for a unit change in vapor flow leaving stage j with temperatures and compositions held constant. W_2 gives the corresponding term for the vapor phases, and is simpler because the vapor phase flows are the independent variables. A term will appear in element ij only if stage i is the origin or destination of the flow j which is being varied.

The other two terms in Equation (16) are H_v and G_v and are the changes in enthalpy per unit mass of material for a change in vapor flow at constant temperature. The only way that the enthalpy per unit mass can change under these conditions is through a change in composition. In

TABLE 2. ERROR MEASURES FOR SUCCESSIVE ITERATIONS OF FOUR STAGE ABSORBER PROBLEM

Iteration number	Temp. correction $ D_e ^*$	Flow correction $ D_e^* $	Simultaneous flow and temp. correction $ D_e ^*$ $ D_m ^*$	
0	2.4×10^3	2.5×10^2	2.4×10^3	3.4×10^{-1}
1	1.0×10^2	8.0	1.1×10^2	1.1×10^{-1}
2	1.6×10^{-1}	7.4×10^{-3}	2.3×10^{-1}	1.8×10^{-5}

* Based on one mole of absorber liquid.

terms of partial enthalpies

$$\frac{\partial H}{\partial v_k^*} = \frac{\partial [\sum_j H^{*j} X^{(j)}]}{\partial v_k^*} = \sum_j \left\{ H^{*j} \left[\frac{\partial X^{(j)}}{\partial v_k^*} \right] \right\} \quad (19)$$

The effect of flow changes on composition is given by Equations (T16) and (T17) in Table 1. It then can be shown that

$$H_v = \sum_j (H^{*j} X_v^j) \quad (20)$$

$$G_v = \sum_j (G^{*j} Y_v^j) \quad (21)$$

It will be noted that no normalization matrix is included in Equation (16). Although compositions are used in the calculation of X_v^j and Y_v^j examination of Equations (T19) and (T20) shows that the liquid composition involved in M_1 is that for the row, while the vapor composition involved in M_2 is that for the column. No simple normalization can be made, and the equations from reference 1 which include this term have been modified in Table 1.

SELECTION OF INDEPENDENT VARIABLES

In the equations developed in the previous sections, the stage temperatures, interstage flows, and phase compositions have been the dependent variables. All other variables are independent and must be fixed before a solution is possible. An interchange of an independent and dependent variable can be made, provided the column in the Jacobian matrix which corresponds to the dependent variable being removed is changed to accommodate the new variable. One very useful interchange which is used in one of the sample problems is to fix the vapor flow leaving a stage, and to let the heat duty to that stage become a dependent variable. The change in the Jacobian matrix is simple in this case. The entire column corresponding to the flow being fixed is set equal to zero except for the element in the row corresponding to the energy balance for the stage, and this element is set to 1.0. In the correction procedure, the change in heat duty to the stage will be determined, holding the vapor flow constant.

SOLUTION OF SAMPLE PROBLEMS

The use of the equations derived in the last section for the solution of some sample problems will be discussed here. Results will be presented in terms of the Euclidean norm of the error vectors, which is defined as:

$$|D_m| = [\sum_i (d_{m,i})^2]^{1/2} \quad (22)$$

$$|D_e| = [\sum_i (d_{e,i})^2]^{1/2} \quad (23)$$

Stripper-Absorber Problem

In order to test J_t a four-stage, six component absorber

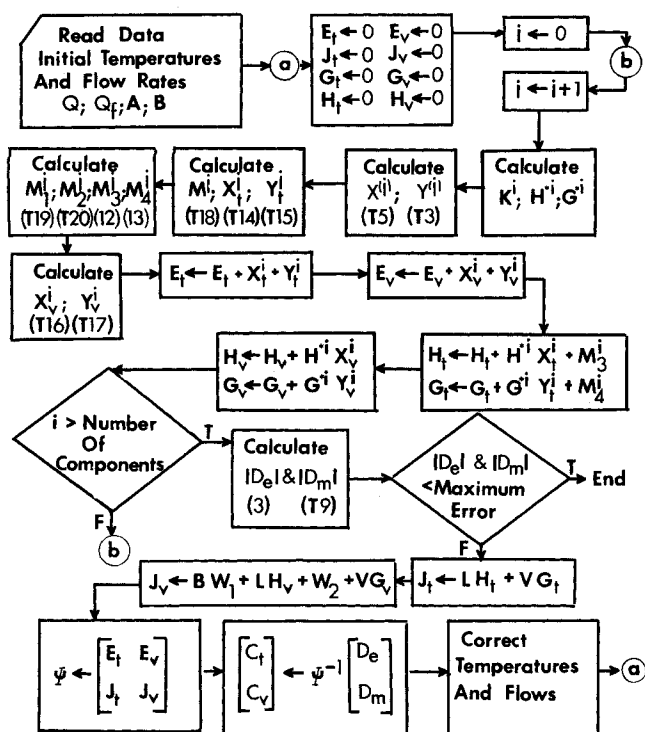


Fig. 1. Flow chart for simultaneous temperature and flow correction. Numbers in parentheses refer to equations in the text.

problem, described by Hanson (2) as *problem 7*, was solved by using the correct flow rates in all iterations and using J_t to correct the temperatures. J_v was tested by using the same problem but fixing the temperatures in all iterations and solving for the flow rates. Results are presented in Table 2, and it can be seen that convergence is rapid and quadratic. The problem was also solved by using simultaneous flow and temperature correction, and this of course required the calculation of the complete Jacobian matrix. Results are also summarized in Table 2, and behavior is very similar to that with either flow or temperature correction alone. Hanson, in using the same starting values, required thirty iterations to reduce $|D_e|$ to 31 and $|D_m|$ to 9.6×10^{-5} , not quite as good as obtained here in two iterations.

Distillation Problem

The second problem is a sixteen stage column with five components. It has been studied by Amundson (3), and Wang and Henke (4). They both used an alternating method in which the temperatures were corrected by the material balances errors and the flows by the energy balance errors. In the problem statement, the vapor prod-

uct flow rate is fixed, and the condenser duty is to be determined. The results in Table 3 were obtained using the change of variable described in the last section, and it is evident that quadratic convergence is obtained. The material balance error at the third iteration in Table 3 is roughly equivalent to that obtained by Amundson at the tenth iteration and by Wang and Henke at the fifth iteration. More significant than the number of iterations is the rate of convergence near the solution. The simultaneous method is improving by orders of magnitude, while the others converge much more slowly. The slow convergence is probably due to the effect of flow changes on the material balance equations, indicated by the fact that the flow rates obtained by the simultaneous method differed by as much as 5% from the other solutions.

Multiple Columns

The last problem is a twelve stage distillation column with a four stage side stripper, described by Hanson (2) as *problem 9*. From Table 4 it can be seen that quadratic convergence is also obtained with more complicated flow patterns than the strict countercurrent ones considered previously. After three iterations, the errors are somewhat less than those reported by Hanson after thirty-two iterations. One additional flow variable must be specified in a two column system. In Table 4, the liquid feed to the second column was treated as a fixed flow and entered in L' . Another method which gave quadratic convergence but is not reported in Table 4 is to fix the ratio of the amount of liquid removed from the drawoff tray to the amount passing to the next stage.

COMPUTATIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

The simultaneous correction method requires the estimation of the effect of every temperature and flow change on all material and energy balances. The use of matrix notation seems necessary, and it has been found desirable to organize the programming so that matrix handling sub-routines are used for most calculations. The order of calculation of the Jacobian matrix is also important. All calculations for one component should be done before the next component is started. Careful examination of the equations will show that this can be done. Calculations can be ordered by components because there is no reaction, and the partial enthalpies and equilibrium ratios are assumed independent of composition.

The flow chart used for the sample problems is shown in Figure 1. Equation references are indicated where appropriate. The program was written for an IBM 7090 with 32,000 words of core storage, and problems with up to twenty-five stages and 10 components can be solved without auxiliary storage. A detailed description of the program can be found elsewhere (5). The time required is roughly proportional to the number of components and to the square of the number of stages. The four stage problem required about 3 sec. per iteration, and the 16 stage prob-

TABLE 3. ERROR MEASURES FOR SUCCESSIVE ITERATIONS OF SIXTEEN STAGE DISTILLATION PROBLEM

Iteration number	Starting values (3)		Starting values (4)	
	$ D_e ^*$	$ D_m $	$ D_e ^*$	$ D_m $
0	4.1×10^3	5.1×10^{-1}	4.0×10^3	4.2×10^{-1}
1	5.8×10^2	1.3×10^{-1}	1.6×10^3	2.3×10^{-1}
2	2.9×10^1	8.9×10^{-3}	3.8×10^2	6.9×10^{-2}
3	8.3×10^{-2}	5.0×10^{-5}	4.4×10^1	7.8×10^{-3}
4			2.6×10^{-1}	3.6×10^{-5}
5			2.2×10^{-3}	6.9×10^{-8}

* Based on one mole of feed.

TABLE 4. ERROR MEASURES FOR SUCCESSIVE ITERATIONS OF MULTIPLE COLUMN PROBLEM

Iteration number	$ D_e ^*$	$ D_m ^*$
0	1.3×10^4	6.2×10^{-1}
1	2.5×10^3	3.0×10^{-1}
2	3.6×10^2	5.4×10^{-2}
3	2.1×10^1	1.5×10^{-3}
4	3.6×10^{-2}	4.0×10^{-6}

* Based on one mole of feed.

lems about 40 sec. per iteration.

CONCLUSIONS

The multivariable form of the Newton-Raphson iteration method can be successfully used in the solution of the steady state equilibrium stage problem. Equations have been developed for calculation of the partial derivatives needed in the Jacobian matrix, and it has been shown that the same equations can be used to solve a wide variety of problems such as distillation, extraction, absorption, and stripping. It has not been necessary in the problems studied to date to place limitations on the size of the corrections, although this might be a useful technique if the starting values are far from the solution. The flow patterns need not be countercurrent, and it has been shown that interchange of variables permits some flexibility in the problem statement, while still maintaining quadratic convergence.

In all the problems studied to date, the Jacobian matrix has been calculated for each iteration. This gives the fastest convergence, but it is not likely that it is the most efficient from the standpoint of computation. It has been observed that in the vicinity of the solution, the Jacobian matrix changes little, so that several iterations using the same correction matrix would seem to be a logical procedure. The utility of including interstage interactions in the correction process seems to be clearly established, but more work is needed to define the most efficient computational methods.

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NOTATION

(Matrices are indicated by bold face symbols, vectors by upper case symbols, and scalars by lower case symbols.)

- A** = vapor recycle: a_{ij} is fraction of total vapor leaving stage j that goes to stage i if $i \neq j$, and is -1 if $i = j$
- B** = liquid recycle: b_{ij} is fraction of total liquid leaving stage j that goes to stage i if $i \neq j$, and is -1 if $i = j$
- C_t, C_v = temperature and flow corrections: $c_{t,i}$ and $c_{v,i}$ are the temperature and flow corrections for stage i
- D_m, D_e = material and energy balance errors: $d_{m,i}$ and $d_{e,i}$ are the material and energy balance errors for stage i
- E_t, E_v = submatrices of Jacobian matrix \mathbf{J} : $e_{t,ij} = (\partial d_{m,i} / \partial t_j)$; $e_{v,ij} = (\partial d_{m,i} / \partial v_j^*)$
- F**, $F^{(j)}$ = feed matrix and j th column of **F**: f_{ij} is the amount of component j in feed to stage i
- G** = vapor enthalpy: g_i is enthalpy of a unit mass of vapor in stage i
- G^{*j} = partial enthalpy of vapor (diagonal): g_i^{*j} is the partial enthalpy of component j for vapor in stage i
- G_t = temperature dependence for vapor enthalpy: $g_{t,ij} = (\partial g_i / \partial t_j^*)$
- G_v = flow dependence for vapor enthalpy: $g_{v,ij} = (\partial g_i / \partial v_j^*)$
- H** = liquid enthalpy: h_i is enthalpy of a unit mass of liquid in stage i
- H^{*i} = partial enthalpy of liquid (diagonal): h_i^{*j} is the partial enthalpy of component j in stage i

- H_t = temperature dependence for liquid enthalpy: $h_{t,ij} = (\partial h_i / \partial t_j)$
- H_v = flow dependence for liquid enthalpy: $h_{v,ij} = (\partial h_i / \partial v_j^*)$
- J_t, J_v = submatrices of \mathbf{J} : $j_{t,ik} = (\partial d_{e,i} / \partial t_k)$; $j_{v,ik} = (\partial d_{e,i} / \partial v_k^*)$
- K^j = equilibrium ratio matrix (diagonal): $k_i^j = (y_{ij} / x_{ij})$
- L** = liquid flow, Equation (T1)
- L'** = fixed liquid flow. l'_{ij} is a flow of liquid from stage j to i which is held constant
- L^* = liquid flow variable (diagonal): l_i^* is the sum of all liquid flows leaving stage i except those included in **L'**
- L^* = vector formed from diagonal elements of L^*
- $M^i, M_1^j, M_2^j, M_3^j, M_4^j$ = defined by Equations (T18), (T19), (T20), (T21), (12), and (13)
- N** = normalization matrix (diagonal), Equation (T22)
- Q** = heat additions: q_i is heat energy added to stage i
- Q_f = feed enthalpy: $q_{f,i}$ is total enthalpy of all feeds to stage i
- R** = defined by Equation (T21)
- T** = temperature: t_i is temperature of stage i
- U** = a vector consisting of all ones
- V** = vapor flow, Equation (T2)
- V'** = fixed vapor flow: v'_{ij} is a flow of vapor from stage j to stage i which is held constant
- V^* = vapor flow variable (diagonal): v_i^* is the sum of all vapor flows leaving stage i except those in **V'**
- V^* = vector formed from diagonal elements of V^*
- W_1, W_2 = defined by Equations (17) and (18)
- X**, $X^{(j)}$ = liquid composition matrix and j th column of **X**: x_{ij} is composition of component j in liquid in stage i
- X_t^j = temperature dependence for liquid composition: $x_{t,ik}^j = (\partial x_{ij} / \partial t_k)$
- X_v^j = flow dependence for liquid composition: $x_{v,ik}^j = (\partial x_{ij} / \partial v_k^*)$
- Y**, $Y^{(j)}$ = vapor composition and j th column of **Y**: y_{ij} is composition of component j in vapor in stage i
- Y_t^j = temperature dependence for vapor composition, $y_{t,ik} = (\partial y_{ij} / \partial t_k)$
- Y_v^j = flow dependence for vapor composition, $y_{v,ik}^j = (\partial y_{ij} / \partial v_k^*)$
- $Z^j = L + V K^j$
- γ = subscript indicating iteration number
- \mathbf{J} = Jacobian matrix of errors

Subscripts

- e = energy balance
- f = feed
- i, j, k = indices for matrices or vectors
- m = material balance
- t = temperature
- v = flow

Superscripts

- j = component

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