SIMULATED ANNEALING TECHNIQUE TO DESIGN MINIMUM COST EXCHANGER

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Owing to the wide utilization of heat exchangers in industrial processes, their cost minimization is an important target for both designers and users. Traditional design approaches are based on iterative procedures which gradually change the design and geometric parameters to satisfy a given heat duty and constraints. Although well proven, this kind of approach is time consuming and may not lead to cost effective design as no cost criteria are explicitly accounted for. The present study explores the use of non-traditional optimization technique called simulated annealing (SA), for design optimization of shell and tube heat exchangers from an economic point of view. The optimization procedure involves the selection of the major geometric parameters such as tube diameters, tube length, baffle spacing, number of tube passes, tube layout, type of head, baffle cut, etc., and minimization of total annual cost is considered as the design target. The presented simulated annealing technique is simple in concept, few in parameters and easy for implementations. Furthermore, the SA algorithm explores the good quality solutions quickly, giving the designer more degrees of freedom in the final choice with respect to traditional methods. The methodology takes into account the geometric and operational constraints typically recommended by design codes. Three different case studies are presented to demonstrate the effectiveness and accuracy of proposed algorithm. The SA approach is able to reduce the total cost of the heat exchanger compared to cost obtained by the previously reported GA approach.

Keywords: simulated annealing; heat exchanger design; optimization; heat transfer; mathematical modeling.

Chemical process industries are currently facing the economic squeeze. Global demand for oils and chemical products is low, revenue has fallen quickly and economic downturn has reduced the availability of financing for working capital and investment. This cut throat competition and shrinking profit margin forced the process industries to introspect critically the new investment decision. Shell and tube heat exchangers (STHE) are the most common type of thermal equipment employed in chemical process Industries and contribute a major portion of capital investment in new projects. Because of their sheer large numbers in any chemical plants, small improvements in STHE design strategies offer big saving opportu-
rious geometrical parameters such as tube length, shell diameter and the baffle spacing based on experience to arrive at a possible design. If the design does not satisfy the constraints, a new set of geometrical parameters must be chosen to check if there is any possibility of reducing the heat transfer area while satisfying the constraints. Although well proven, this kind of approach is time consuming and may not lead to cost effective design as no cost criteria are explicitly accounted for. Since several discrete combinations of the design configurations are possible, the designer needs an efficient strategy to quickly locate the design configuration having the minimum heat exchanger cost. Thus the optimal design of heat exchanger can be posed as a large scale, discrete, combinatorial optimization problem [1].

In literature, attempts to automate and optimize the heat exchanger design process have been proposed for a long time and the subject is still evolving. The suggested approaches mainly vary in the choice of the objective function, in the number and kind of sizing parameters utilized and in the numerical optimization method employed. In commercial software, heat exchanger cost function has been recently incorporated and cost minimization is performed by applying mainly gradient based methods. Depending upon the degree of non-linearity and initial guess, most of the traditional optimization techniques based on gradient methods have the possibility of getting trapped at local optimum. Hence, these traditional optimization techniques do not ensure global optimum and also have limited applications. In the recent past, some expert systems based on natural phenomena (evolutionary computation) such as simulated annealing [2] and genetic algorithms [3,4] have been developed to overcome this problem.

Chaudhuri et al. [1] used simulated annealing for the optimal design of heat exchangers and developed a command procedure, to run the HTRI design program coupled to the annealing algorithm, iteratively. They have compared the results of the SA program with a base case design and concluded that significant savings in the heat transfer area and hence the STHE cost can be obtained using SA. Manish et al. [5] used a genetic algorithm framework to solve this optimal problem of heat exchanger design along with SA and compared the performance of SA and GAs in solving this problem. They also presented GA strategies to improve the performance of the optimization framework. Recently, Caputo et al. [6] also used GA based optimization of heat exchanger design. Selbas et al. [7] used genetic algorithm for optimal design of STHEs, in which pressure drop was applied as a constraint for achieving optimal design parameters. All of the above researchers concluded that these algorithms result in considerable savings in computational time compared to an exhaustive search, and have an advantage over other methods in obtaining multiple solutions of the same quality, thus providing more flexibility to the designer. Fesanghary et al. [8] used global sensitivity analysis to identify the most influential geometrical parameters (like tube diameter, shell diameter, baffle spacing, etc.) that affect total cost of STHEs in order to reduce the size of optimization problem and carried out optimization by applying harmonic search. Recently, Patel and Rao [9] have applied particle swarm optimization technique to design lowest cost heat exchangers.

In view of the encouraging results found out by the above researchers, an attempt has been made in the present study to apply a strategy called simulated annealing (SA), to the optimal heat exchanger design problem. Simulated annealing (SA), a recent optimization technique, is an exceptionally simple evolution strategy that is significantly faster and robust at numerical optimization and is more likely to find a function’s true global optimum. Simulated annealing (SA) algorithms that are members of the stochastic optimization formalisms have been used with a great success in solving problems involving very large search spaces. This optimization technique resembles the cooling process of molten metals through annealing. The cooling phenomenon is simulated by controlling a temperature like parameter introduced with the concept of the Boltzmann probability distribution. According to the Boltzmann probability distribution, a system in thermal equilibrium at a temperature $T$ has its energy distributed probabilistically according to $P(E) = \frac{1}{Z} e^{-E/kT}$, where $k$ is the Boltzmann constant. This expression suggests that a system at high temperature has almost uniform probability of being in a high energy state. Therefore, by controlling the temperature $T$ and assuming that the search process follows the Boltzmann probability distribution, the convergence of an algorithm can be controlled. There are numerous papers in literature discussing application of SA in various problems. In a comprehensive study of SA, Johnson et al. [10-12] discuss the performance of SA on four problems: the travelling salesman problem (TSP), graph partitioning problem (GPP), graph coloring problem and number partitioning problem. In general, the performance of SA was mixed - in some problems, it outperformed the best known heuristics for these problems, and, in other cases, specialized heuristics performed better.
The main objective of this study is to explore the effectiveness of Simulated Annealing technique in the design optimization of STHEs from economic point of view. Ability of the SA based technique is demonstrated using different case studies and parametric analysis.

The second objective of the present study is to design the optimum heat exchanger, which would comply with tubular exchangers manufactures association (TEMA) standards and obey the industrial requirement of geometric, velocity and pressure drop constraints. Most of the optimum solutions (say tube diameter, tube length, baffle spacing, shell diameter, etc.) found in the literature are not available as per TEMA standard sizes and thus makes the fabrication of heat exchanger costly due to nonstandard sizes. Also, some practical design rules such as geometric constraints, velocity and pressure drop constraints are usually ignored in the algorithms present in the literature, which restrains the effective application of design solutions found. In spite of the new algorithmic developments applied to heat exchanger design in literature, the complexity of the task allows some criticism of the effectiveness of optimization procedures for real industrial problems [13]. In this context of the development of new design algorithms, this paper presents an optimization procedure integrated with practical design guidelines, aiming to provide a feasible alternative in an engineering point of view.

With the application of SA algorithm, it is found in the present study that multiple heat exchanger configurations are possible with practically same cost or with little cost difference. The lowest cost exchangers are not always performing best in actual shop floor. Maintainability, ease of cleaning of tubes and shells, less fouling tendency, less flow induced vibrations, less floor space requirement, compactness of design etc are some of the criteria which must be considered in industrial scenario. All these solutions are feasible and user has flexibility to choose any one of them based on his requirement and engineering judgment. This paper collects some practical guidelines from literature regarding how to choose the best exchangers among various alternatives.

THE OPTIMAL HEAT EXCHANGER DESIGN PROBLEM

The procedure for optimal heat exchanger design includes the following step:

a. Estimation of the exchanger heat transfer area based on the required duty and other design specifications assuming a set of design variable.

b. Evaluation of the capital investment, operating cost and the objective function.

c. Utilization of the optimization algorithm to select a new set of values for the design variables.

d. Iterations of the previous steps until a minimum of the objective function is found.

The entire process is schematized in Figure 1.

User input. Following parameters are required as a user defined input to calculate the heat exchanger area:

1. Mass flow rate and inlet/outlet temperatures of shell side and tube side fluids.
2. Thermophysical properties of both fluids, e.g., density, viscosity, heat capacity, thermal conductivity.
3. Fouling resistances, $R_{foul,shell}$ and $R_{foul,tube}$.

Input optimization variables. The optimization variables, with values assigned iteratively by the optimization techniques (e.g. SA) are given in Table 1.

Calculation sequence

1. Assume overall heat transfer coefficient based on type of shell and tube side fluid.
2. Based on the actual values of the design specifications and on the current values of the optimization variables, the exchanger design routine determines the values of the shell side and tube side heat transfer coefficients, the overall exchanger area, the number of tubes, the shell diameter and tube side and shell side flow velocities, thus defining all constructive details of the exchanger satisfying the assigned thermal duty specifications.
3. Overall actual heat transfer coefficient is then calculated and compared with the assumed values of $U$.
4. If the difference between assumed and actual values is within 0.5%, then algorithm goes to the next step. Otherwise it assigns new $U_{assumed} = U_{calc}$ and iterates the step 2 until the $U_{assumed}$ and $U_{calc}$ values are within 0.5% agreement.
5. The computed values of flow velocities and the constructive details of the exchanger structure are then used to evaluate the cost objective function. The optimization algorithm, based on the value of the objective function, updates the trial values of the optimization variables which are then passed on to the design routine to define a new architecture of the heat exchanger. The process is iterated until a minimum of the objective function is found or a prescribed convergence criterion is met.

Heat exchanger design procedure

This section describes step by step calculation procedure to evaluate heat exchanger area, tube side
and shell side pressure drop and total cost of heat exchanger. Equations (1) to (28) can be found from Kern [14], Sinnott [15], Caputo et al. [6] as well as Patel and Rao [9].

The logarithmic mean temperature difference (LMTD) is determined by:

\[
\text{LMTD} = \frac{(T_{m1} - T_{m2}) - (T_{m2} - T_{m1})}{\ln \left(\frac{T_{m1} - T_{m2}}{T_{m2} - T_{m1}}\right)}
\]  

(1)

For sensible heat transfer, the heat transfer rate is given by:

\[
\text{Sensible Heat Transfer Rate} = \dot{Q} = \sum \text{Heat Transfer Coefficients} \times \text{Surface Areas}
\]
The correction factor, $F$, for the flow configuration involved is found as a function of dimensionless temperature ratio for most flow configurations of:

$$F = \frac{1 - P}{1 - PR} \ln(2 - P(R + 1 - \sqrt{R^2 + 1}))$$

(3)

where the correction coefficient $R$ is given by:

$$R = \frac{T_{so} - T_{co}}{T_{co} - T_{ci}}$$

(4)

Efficiency $P$ is given by:

$$P = \frac{T_{co} - T_{ci}}{T_{so} - T_{ci}}$$

(5)

Assuming the overall heat transfer coefficient $U_{assumed}$, the heat exchanger surface $S$ is computed by:

$$S = \frac{Q}{U_{assumed}FLMTD}$$

(6)

**Tube side calculations.** Number of tubes, $N_t$, and tube bundle diameter, $D_b$, are calculated as follows:

$$N_t = \frac{S}{\pi d_0 L}$$

(7)

$$D_b = d_0 \left( \frac{N_t}{K_1} \right)^{1/n_1}$$

where $K_1$ and $n_1$ are coefficients that take values according to flow arrangement and number of passes as per table given by Sinnott [15].

Velocity through tubes is found by:

$$v_t = \frac{m_i}{\pi d_i^n}$$

(9)

The Darcy friction factor $f_t$ is calculated as follows:

$$f_t = (1.82 \log_{10} Re_t - 1.64)^{-2}$$

(10)

where $Re_t$ is the tube side Reynolds number and given by:

$$Re_t = \frac{\rho v d_i}{\mu_t}$$

(11)

where $d_i$ is the inside diameter of tube and for simplicity kept constant as $d_i = 0.8d_0$ in this work. However, for more rigorous calculations, instead of keeping it constant, variable pipe thickness can be used from tables of tube manufacturers: schedules 40 or 80 or standard tubing gages: B.W.G. and Stub's gage.

$Pr_t$ is the tube side Prandtl number given by:

$$Pr_t = \frac{\mu C_{pr}}{k_t}$$

(12)

According to flow regime, the tube side heat transfer coefficient ($h_t$) is computed from following correlation for $Re_t \leq 10000$:

$$h_t = \frac{k_t}{d_i} \left[ (f_i / 8) (Re_t - 1000) Pr_t \left(1 + \frac{d_i}{0.07} \right)^{1/3} \right] (1 + \frac{d_i}{0.07})^{0.14}$$

(13)

and for $Re_t > 10000$:

$$h_t = 0.027 \frac{k_t}{d_i} Re_t^{0.6} Pr_t^{-0.13} \left(\frac{\mu_t}{\mu_{air}}\right)^{0.14}$$

(14)

**Shell side calculation**

Clearance between tube bundle diameter and shell diameter is calculated from the figure given by Sinnott [15] for different head types as follows:
Clearance = \( D_s - D_b = mD_b + c \)

where \( m \) and \( c \) are empirical constants and assume following values for different head type:
- fixed and U tube (0.01, 0.008), outside packed head (0.0, 0.038), split ring floating head (0.027, 0.0446), pull through floating head (0.009, 0.0862).

Baffle spacing is calculated as:
\[
B = R_{c0}D_b
\]  
(15)

Cross-sectional area normal to flow direction is determined by:
\[
S_s = D_bB(1 - \frac{d_0}{P_t})
\]  
(16)

where \( P_t \) is tube pitch and given by \( P_t = 1.25d_0 \).

Flow velocity for shell side can be obtained from:
\[
v_s = \frac{m}{\rho_sS_s}
\]  
(17)

Reynolds number and Prandtl number for shell side can be calculated as:
\[
Re_s = \frac{mD_e_s}{\mu_s}
\]  
(18)

\[
Pr_s = \frac{\mu_sC_{ps}}{k_s}
\]  
(19)

where \( D_e_s \) is the shell hydraulic diameter and computed as:
- For triangular pitch:
\[
D_e_s = 4\left(0.435\pi^2 - \left(0.5\pi d_0^2 / 4\right)\right) / 0.5\pi d_0
\]  
(20)
- For square pitch:
\[
D_e_s = 4\left(S_s^2 - \left(\pi d_0^2 / 4\right)\right) / \pi d_s
\]  
(21)

Kern’s formulation for segmental baffle shell-and-tube exchanger is used for computing shell side heat transfer coefficient \( h_s \):
\[
h_s = j_sKRePr_s^{0.333} / D_e_s
\]  
(22)

where coefficient \( j_s \) is calculated from the figure given by Sinnott [15] for different baffle cuts.

The following approximate equation was used:
\[
j_s = mRe_s^k
\]

where coefficients \( m \) and \( c \) are evaluated from figure given by Sinnott [15] for different baffle cuts, as follows: 15% baffle cut (-6.7 \times 10^{-8}; 0.100067); 25% baffle cut (-4.5 \times 10^{-8}; 0.070045); 35% baffle cut (-4.4 \times 10^{-8}; 0.063044); 45% baffle cut (-3.4 \times 10^{-8}; 0.050034).

The overall heat transfer coefficient is calculated as follows:
\[
U_{calc} = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{h_{fs}} + \frac{1}{d_s}(R_{fs} + \frac{1}{h_{fs}})}
\]  
(23)

Compare and check the absolute error, \%, between \( U_{assumed} \) and \( U_{calc} \) as per following:
\[
\text{Error} [\%] = 100 \frac{U_{assumed} - U_{calc}}{U_{assumed}}
\]  
(24)

If error is more than 0.5%, assume new \( U \) as \( U_{assumed} = U_{calc} \) and go back to Eq. (5) and recalculate everything until error reaches less than 0.5%.

When error is less than 0.5%, i.e., \( U_{assumed} \) and \( U_{calc} \) is very near to each other proceeding for further calculations as follows:
- Exchanger area:
\[
S = \frac{Q}{U_{calc}FLMTD}
\]  
(25)

The tube side pressure drop includes distributed pressure drops along the tube length and concentrated pressure losses in elbows and in the inlet and outlet nozzles:
\[
\Delta P_t = \frac{f_s\rho V^2}{2} \frac{L}{d_s} (f_t + 2.5)n
\]  
(26)

The shell side pressure drop is given by:
\[
\Delta P_s = \frac{f_s\rho V^2}{2} \frac{L}{B D_e_s}
\]  
(27)

where \( f_s \) is given by:
\[
f_s = 2b_sRe_s^{-0.15}
\]  
(28)

where \( b_s = 0.72 \) valid for \( Re_s < 40000 \).

Objective function

Total cost \( C_{tot} \) is taken as the objective function, which includes capital investment \( (C_i) \), energy cost \( (C_e) \), annual operating cost \( (C_o) \) and total discounted operating cost \( (C_{od}) \):
\[
C_{tot} = C_i + C_{od}
\]  
(29)
Adopting Hall’s correlation, the capital investment \( (C_i) \) is computed as a function of the exchanger surface area:

\[
C_i = a_1 + a_2S^{a_3}
\]

where \( a_1 = 8000 \), \( a_2 = 259.2 \) and \( a_3 = 0.93 \) for exchanger made with stainless steel for both shell and tubes.

The total discounted operating cost related to pumping power to overcome friction losses is computed from the following equation:

\[
C_0 = PC_eH
\]

\[
C_{od} = \sum_{i=1}^{m} \frac{C_0}{(1+i)^t}
\]

where pumping power \( P \) is computed from:

\[
P = \frac{1}{\eta} \left( \frac{m_t}{\rho_t} \Delta P_t + \frac{m_s}{\rho_s} \Delta P_s \right)
\]

Based on all above calculations, total cost is computed from Eq. (29) for case studies 1 and 2. The cost objective function is kept exactly same as case study by GA approach by Caputo et al. [6] to enable the performance comparison of SA approach and GA approach.

However, for case study 3 the authors did not use same cost function in their case studies. Some of the authors [16] use total annual cost slightly differently as follows: the total cost consists of five components: the capital cost of the exchanger, the capital costs for two pumps, and the operating (power) costs of the pumps. The expression for the total annual cost is of the form:

\[
C = A_t(C_{exc} + C_{pump,T}) + C_{pump,s}
\]

\[
= A_t((C_a + C_bA^2_t) + (C_a + C_f(\frac{m_t}{\rho_t} \Delta P_t)^{a_3} + \frac{C_e + C_f(\frac{m_s}{\rho_s} \Delta P_s)^{a_3}})
\]

where \( C_{exc}, C_{pump,T}, \) and \( C_{pump,s} \) are the capital costs for the exchanger, tube side and shell side pumps, respectively.

\[
C_{od} = \frac{1}{\eta(\frac{m_t}{\rho_t} \Delta P_t + \frac{m_s}{\rho_s} \Delta P_s)C_{pow}H}
\]

\[
C_{tot} = C_t + C_{od}
\]

This new cost calculation is used in case study 3 to have a same basis for comparison of performance of SA approach and GA approach.

**Constraints**

Though the lowest cost exchanger is the main selection criterion for STHEs, this is not the only criterion for commercial plants. The concept of a good design involves aspects that cannot be easily described in a single economic objective function e.g. fouling suppression, maintenance ease, mechanical resistance, simplicity, flow distribution, potential tube vibration etc. These criteria, though subjective, have a profound effect on exchanger performance in commercial plants. These criteria are sometimes expressed as geometric and hydraulic and service constraints [17].

**Geometric constraints**

The STHE candidate must respect a series of geometric constraints, involving the following rules: the ratio between tube length and shell diameter must be between 3 and 15, the ratio between baffle spacing and shell diameter must be between 0.2 and 1; the baffle spacing cannot be lower than 50 mm; the baffle spacing must obey the maximum unsupported span. These constraints can be represented by the following mathematical expressions:

\[
3 \leq L/D_s \leq 5
\]

\[
0.2 \leq R_{bs} \leq 1
\]

\[
0.05D_s \leq R_{bs} \leq 0.5D_s^\text{max} / D_s
\]

**Velocity constraints**

These constraints represent fluid velocity limits in order to reduce fouling and erosion problems. The tube and shell side velocity must obey lower and upper bounds:

\[
V_{t}^\text{min} \leq V_t \leq V_t^\text{max}
\]

\[
V_{s}^\text{min} \leq V_s \leq V_s^\text{max}
\]

High velocities will give high heat transfer coefficients but also a high pressure drop. The velocity must be high enough to prevent any suspended solids settling, but not so high as to cause erosion. High velocities will reduce fouling. Plastic inserts are sometimes used to reduce erosion at the tube inlet. Typical design velocities are given below [15].

**Liquids** Tube-side, process fluids: 1 to 2 m/s, maximum 4 m/s if required to reduce fouling; water: 1.5 to 2.5 m/s; shell-side: 0.3 to 1 m/s.

**Vapors** For vapors, the velocity used will depend on the operating pressure and fluid density; the lower values in the ranges given below will apply to high molecular weight materials; vacuum: 50 to 70
m/s; atmospheric pressure: 10 to 30 m/s; high pressure: 5 to 10 m/s.

In this work, the following constraints were imposed on objective function:

\[ 1 \leq v_i \leq 2 \text{ m/s and } 0.3 \leq v_s \leq 1 \text{ m/s} \]

**Service constraints**

The hydraulic requirements of the service are represented by upper bounds on the pressure drop of both streams:

\[ \Delta P_t \leq \Delta P_{t}^{\max} \] \hspace{1cm} (42)

\[ \Delta P_s \leq \Delta P_{s}^{\max} \] \hspace{1cm} (43)

The values suggested below can be used as a general guide, and will normally give designs that are near the optimum. [15].

**Liquids.** For fluids having Viscosity <1 mN s/m² maximum pressure drop: 35 kN/m² [15]. For fluids having viscosities 1 to 10 mN s/m², maximum pressure drop: 50-70 kN/m² [15].

**Gas and vapors.** High vacuum: 0.4-0.8 kN/m²; medium vacuum: 0.1×absolute pressure; 1 to 2 bar: 0.5×system gauge pressure; above 10 bar: 0.1×system gauge pressure.

For the present case study following constraints were imposed:

\[ \Delta P_t \leq 35000 \text{ Pa; } \Delta P_s \leq 35000 \text{ Pa} \]

The prerequisite of a good design is to choose the lowest cost exchanger with standard dimensions (as per TEMA standard) while obeying the above constraints. Attempt has been made in this work to apply SA optimization technique to design a lowest cost heat exchanger with TEMA dimensions and satisfying all of the above constraints.

However, the value of the constraints of pressure drop and velocity is dependent on the detailed design and very much problem specific. In this work, the values of constraints are selected as per general guidelines given by Sinnot [15] and the user is not restricted to adhere this value. The value of these constraints must be judiciously selected as they have a big impact on final solution and cost. In case the user does not have specific restriction on these values, the constraints should be kept as broad as possible. This will facilitate the lowest cost heat exchanger.

**Handling the constraints**

The original problem can be set as:

Minimize \( C_{tot}(x) \)

Subject to \( g_i(x) \geq 0 \) where \( i = 1, 2, m \)

where \( x \) is the vector of optimization variables (Table 1). The set of constraints \( g_i(x) \) corresponds to the inequalities given by Eqs. (37)-(43).

For implementation of the SA algorithm, we used a penalty function in the objective function, to provide the following objective function to be minimized [16].

\[ Obj(x) = C_{tot}(x) + \text{penalty}(x) \] \hspace{1cm} (44)

The penalty function accounts for the violation of the constraints such that:

\[ \text{Penalty}(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } x \text{ is feasible} \\ \sum_{i} r_i g_i^2(x) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \] \hspace{1cm} (45)

where \( r_i \) is a variable penalty coefficient for the \( p \)-th constraint, \( r_i \) varies according to the level of violation.

**Simulated annealing: at a glance [22]**

**What is simulated annealing?**

The simulated annealing method is based on the simulation of thermal annealing of critically heated solids. When a solid (metal) is brought into a molten state by heating it to a high temperature, the atoms in the molten metal move freely with respect to each other. However, the movements of atoms get restricted as the temperature is reduced. As the temperature reduces, the atoms tend to get ordered and finally form crystals having the minimum possible internal energy. The process of formation of crystals essentially depends on the cooling rate. When the temperature of the molten metal is reduced at a very fast rate, it may not be able to achieve the crystalline state; instead, it may attain a polycrystalline state having a higher energy state compared to that of the crystalline state. In engineering applications, rapid cooling may introduce defects inside the material. Thus, the temperature of the heated solid (molten metal) needs to be reduced at a slow and controlled rate to ensure proper solidification with a highly ordered crystalline state that corresponds to the lowest energy state (internal energy). This process of cooling at a slow rate is known as annealing.

**Procedure [22]**

The simulated annealing method simulates the process of slow cooling of molten metal to achieve the minimum function value in a minimization problem. The cooling phenomenon of the molten metal is simulated by introducing a temperature-like parameter and controlling it using the concept of Boltzmann’s probability distribution. The Boltzmann’s probability distribution implies that the energy (\( E \)) of a system in
thermal equilibrium at temperature \( T \) is distributed probabilistically according to the relation:

\[
P(E) = e^{-\frac{E}{kT}}
\]  

(46)

where \( P(E) \) denotes the probability of achieving the energy level \( E \), and \( k \) is called the Boltzmann’s constant. Equation (46) shows that at high temperatures the system has nearly a uniform probability of being at any energy state. However, at low temperatures, the system has a small probability of being at a high-energy state. This indicates that when the search process is assumed to follow Boltzmann’s probability distribution, the convergence of the simulated annealing algorithm can be controlled by controlling the temperature \( T \). The method of implementing the Boltzmann’s probability distribution in simulated thermodynamic systems, suggested by Metropolis et al. [18] can also be used in the context of minimization of functions. In the case of function minimization, let the current design point (state) be \( X_i \) with the corresponding value of the objective function given by \( f_i = f(X_i) \). Similar to the energy state of a thermodynamic system, the energy \( E_i \) at state \( X_i \) is given by:

\[
E_i = f_i = f(X_i)
\]  

(47)

Then, according to the Metropolis criterion, the probability of the next design point (state) \( X_{i+1} \) depends on the difference in the energy state or function values at the two design points (states) given by:

\[
\Delta E = E_{i+1} - E_i = f(X_{i+1}) - f(X_i)
\]  

(48)

The new state or design point \( X_{i+1} \) can be found using the Boltzmann’s probability distribution:

\[
P(E_{i+1}) = \min \left( 1, e^{-\frac{\Delta E}{kT}} \right)
\]  

(49)

The Boltzmann’s constant serves as a scaling factor in simulated annealing and, as such, can be chosen as 1 for simplicity. Note that if \( \Delta E \leq 0 \), Eq. (49) gives \( P(E_{i+1}) = 1 \) and hence the point \( X_{i+1} \) is always accepted. This is a logical choice in the context of minimization of a function because the function value at \( X_{i+1} \), \( f_{i+1} \), is better (smaller) than at \( X_i \), \( f_i \), and hence the design vector \( X_{i+1} \) must be accepted. On the other hand, when \( \Delta E > 0 \), the function value \( f_{i+1} \) at \( X_{i+1} \) is worse (larger) than the one at \( X_i \). According to most conventional optimization procedures, the point \( X_{i+1} \) cannot be accepted as the next point in the iterative process. However, the probability of accepting the point \( X_{i+1} \), in spite of its being worse than \( X_i \) in terms of the objective function value, is finite (although it may be small) according to the Metropolis criterion. Note that the probability of accepting the point \( X_{i+1} \) is not same in all situations. As can be seen from Eq. (50), this probability depends on the values of \( \Delta E \) and \( T \). If the temperature \( T \) is large, the probability will be high for design points \( X_{i+1} \) with larger function values (with larger values of \( \Delta E = \Delta f \)). Thus at high temperatures, even worse design points \( X_{i+1} \) are likely to be accepted because of larger probabilities. However, if the temperature \( T \) is small, the probability of accepting worse design points \( X_{i+1} \) (with larger values of \( \Delta E = \Delta f \)) will be small. Thus as the temperature values get smaller (that is, as the process gets closer to the optimum solution), the design points \( X_{i+1} \) with larger function values compared to the one at \( X_i \) are less likely to be accepted.

\[
P(E_{i+1}) = e^{-\frac{\Delta E}{kT}}
\]  

(50)

**Algorithm [22]**

The SA algorithm [22] can be summarized as follows. Start with an initial design vector \( X_i \) (iteration number \( i = 1 \)) and a high value of temperature \( T \). Generate a new design point randomly in the vicinity of the current design point and find the difference in function values:

\[
\Delta E = \Delta f_{i+1} - \Delta f_i = f(X_{i+1}) - f(X_i)
\]  

(51)

If \( f_{i+1} \) is smaller than \( f_i \) (with a negative value of \( \Delta f \)), accept the point \( X_{i+1} \) as the next design point. Otherwise, when \( \Delta f \) is positive, accept the point \( X_{i+1} \) as the next design point only with a probability \( \exp(-\Delta E / kT) \). This means that if the value of a randomly generated number is larger than \( \exp(-\Delta E / kT) \), accept the point \( X_{i+1} \); otherwise, reject the point \( X_{i+1} \). This completes one iteration of the SA algorithm. If the point \( X_{i+1} \) is rejected, then the process of generating a new design point \( X_{i+1} \) randomly in the vicinity of the current design point, evaluating the corresponding objective function value \( f_{i+1} \), and deciding to accept \( X_{i+1} \) as the new design point, based on the use of the Metropolis criterion, Eq. (50), is continued. To simulate the attainment of thermal equilibrium at every temperature, a predetermined number \( n \) of new points \( X_{i+1} \) are tested at any specific value of the temperature \( T \). Once the number of new design points \( X_{i+1} \) tested at any temperature \( T \) exceeds the value of \( n \), the temperature \( T \) is reduced by a pre-specified fractional value \( c \) (0 < \( c < 1 \)) and the whole process is repeated. The procedure is assumed to have converged when the current value of temperature \( T \) is sufficiently small or when changes in the function values (\( \Delta f \)) are observed to be sufficiently small. The choices of the initial temperature \( T \), the number of
iterations $n$ before reducing the temperature, and the temperature reduction factor $c$ play important roles in the successful convergence of the SA algorithm. For example, if the initial temperature $T$ is too large, it requires a larger number of temperature reductions for convergence. On the other hand, if the initial temperature is chosen to be too small, the search process may be incomplete in the sense that it might fail to thoroughly investigate the design space in locating the global minimum before convergence. The temperature reduction factor $c$ has a similar effect. Too large a value of $c$ (such as 0.8 or 0.9) requires too much computational effort for convergence. On the other hand, too small a value of $c$ (such as 0.1 or 0.2) may result in a faster reduction in temperature that might not permit a thorough exploration of the design space for locating the global minimum solution. Similarly, a large value of the number of iterations $n$ will help in achieving quasi equilibrium state at each temperature but will result in a larger computational effort. A smaller value of $n$, on the other hand, might result either in a premature convergence or convergence to a local minimum (due to inadequate exploration of the design space for the global minimum). Unfortunately, no unique set of values is available for $T$, $n$, and $c$ that will work well for every problem. As per recommendation of Rao [22], the initial temperature $T$ can be chosen as the average value of the objective function computed at a number of randomly selected points in the design space. The number of iterations $n$ can be chosen between 50 and 100 based on the computing resources and the desired accuracy of solution. The temperature reduction factor $c$ can be chosen between 0.4 and 0.6 for a reasonable temperature reduction strategy (also termed the cooling schedule). More complex cooling schedules, based on the expected mathematical convergence rates, have been used in the literature for the solution of complex practical optimization problems. In spite of all the research being done on SA algorithms, the choice of the initial temperature $T$, the number of iterations $n$ at any specific temperature, and the temperature reduction factor (or cooling rate) $c$ still remain an art and generally require a trial-and-error process to find suitable values for solving any particular type of optimization problems. The SA procedure is shown as a flowchart in Figure 2 [22].

**Features of the method**

Some of the features of simulated annealing as found from literature [22] are as follows:

1. The quality of the final solution is not affected by the initial guesses, except that the computational effort may increase with worse starting designs.
2. Because of the discrete nature of the function and constraint evaluations, the convergence or transition characteristics are not affected by the continuity or differentiability of the functions.
3. For problems involving behavior constraints (in addition to lower and upper bounds on the design variables), an equivalent unconstrained function can be formulated as in the case of genetic algorithms.

![Figure 2. Simulated annealing procedure [22].](image-url)
The design variable $x_1$ takes 12 values for tube outer diameter in the range of 0.00635 m to 0.0635 m (corresponds to 0.25-2.5”; refer to Table 1 for exact discrete values); the variable $x_2$ takes eight values of the various tube lengths in the range 1.2192 m to 7.3152 m represented by numbers 1 to 8; $x_3$ takes seventeen values for the variable baffle spacing, in the range 0.2 to 1 times the shell diameter; $x_4$ takes number of tube passes 1-1, 1-2, 1-4, 1-6, 1-8 represented by numbers from 1 to 5; $x_5$ represents the tube pitch - either triangular or square - taking two values represented by 1 and 2; $x_6$ takes the shell head types: fixed tube sheet or U tube, outside packed head, split ring floating head, and pull through floating head represented by the numbers 1, 2, 3 and 4, respectively; $x_7$ takes four values for the baffle cut in the range 15 to 45%.

In the present study, the geometric constraints, velocity and pressure drop on the fluids exchanging heat is considered to be the feasibility constraint. For a given design configuration, whenever any of the above constraints exceeds the specified limit, a high value for the heat exchanger cost is returned through penalty($x$) function (refer Eq. (44)) so that as an infeasible configuration it will be eliminated in the next iteration of the optimization routine. The total number of design combinations with these variables are $12 \times 8 \times 17 \times 5 \times 2 \times 4 \times 4 = 261120$. This means that if an exhaustive search is to be performed it will take at the maximum 261120 function evaluations before arriving at the global minimum heat exchanger cost. So the strategy which takes few function evaluations is the best one. Considering minimization of heat exchanger cost as the objective function, simulated annealing technique is applied to find the optimum design configuration with geometry, velocity and pressure drop as the constraint.

The code was developed in a Matlab environment. The main steps of the approach are shown in Figures 1 and 2.

### Case studies

The effectiveness of the present approach using SA algorithm is assessed by analyzing three case studies.

**Case 1:** 4.34 MW duty, methanol-brackish water exchanger [15].

**Case 2:** 1.44 MW duty, kerosene-crude oil exchanger [14].

**Case 3:** 4.54 MW duty, oil-cooling water exchanger [19].

The first two case studies were analyzed by Caputo et al. [6] using GA approach and taken from literature [15,14]. The third case studies was analyzed by Ponce-Ortega et al. [16] using GA approach and taken from the literature [19-21].

The original design specifications, shown in Table 2, are supplied as inputs to the described SA algorithm for each of the three cases. The resulting optimal exchanger architectures obtained by SA are compared with the results obtained by Caputo et al. [6] using GA approach and with original design solution given by Sinnot [15] and Kern [14]. In order to allow a consistent comparison, cost functions of first two approaches are computed as described (Eq. (29)-(33)). Also for the same reason, all the values related to cost are taken from the work of Caputo et al. [6] who tried all the case studies by GA approach.

In the SA approach upper and lower bounds for the optimization variables are given in Table 1. All the values of discounted operating costs are computed with $ny = 10$ yr, annual discount rate ($i$) = 10%, energy cost ($Ce$) = 0.12 €/kW h and an annual amount of work hours $H = 7000$ hr/yr.

Table 3 shows the optimized parameters of the case studies obtained using SA and comparison with the optimized parameters obtained by Caputo et al. [6] using GA approach, while Figure 3 shows the cost comparison of both the approaches for all the three case studies. From Table 3 it is clear that the proposed SA approach has ability to reduce the total cost.

### Table 2. Process inputs and physical properties for different case studies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Condition</th>
<th>Mass flow, kg/s</th>
<th>$T_{input} / ^\circ$C</th>
<th>$T_{output} / ^\circ$C</th>
<th>$\rho / \text{kg m}^{-3}$</th>
<th>$C_p / \text{kJ kg}^{-1} \text{K}^{-1}$</th>
<th>$\mu / \text{Pa s}$</th>
<th>$K / \text{W m}^{-1} \text{K}^{-1}$</th>
<th>$R_{fouling} / \text{m}^2 \text{K W}^{-1}$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Case 1</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shell side:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>methanol</td>
<td>27.80</td>
<td>95.00</td>
<td>40.00</td>
<td>750.00</td>
<td>2.84</td>
<td>0.00034</td>
<td>0.19</td>
<td>0.00033</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sea water</td>
<td>68.90</td>
<td>25.00</td>
<td>40.00</td>
<td>995.00</td>
<td>4.20</td>
<td>0.00008</td>
<td>0.59</td>
<td>0.0002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Case 2</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shell side:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kerosene</td>
<td>5.52</td>
<td>199.00</td>
<td>93.30</td>
<td>850.00</td>
<td>2.47</td>
<td>0.0004</td>
<td>0.13</td>
<td>0.00061</td>
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<tr>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>crude oil</td>
<td>18.80</td>
<td>37.80</td>
<td>76.70</td>
<td>995.00</td>
<td>2.05</td>
<td>0.00358</td>
<td>0.13</td>
<td>0.00061</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Case 3</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shell side:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>oil</td>
<td>43.60</td>
<td>114.00</td>
<td>66.00</td>
<td>820.00</td>
<td>2.17</td>
<td>0.00024</td>
<td>0.13</td>
<td>0.00070</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tube side:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cooling water</td>
<td>45.38</td>
<td>26.00</td>
<td>50.00</td>
<td>993.00</td>
<td>4.17</td>
<td>0.00068</td>
<td>0.63</td>
<td>0.00015</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
of heat exchanger by 3.9, 8.4 and 11.1%, respectively, as compare to previously reported cost. This demonstrates the effectiveness of present approach over previously reported GA approach [6,16].

In commercial software (HTFS, HTRI), the heat exchanger cost function has been recently incorporated and cost minimization is performed by applying mainly gradient based methods. Heat exchanger solution domain with multiple constraints is very complex and can have several local minima. Depending upon the degree of non-linearity and initial guess, most of the traditional optimization techniques based on gradient methods have the possibility of getting trapped at local optimum. Hence, these traditional optimization techniques do not ensure global optimum and also have limited applications. As SA is a random algorithm, it has the advantage of not getting trapped in local optima and has greater possibility to reach the global minima of cost function. In this respect, using of SA algorithm is preferred over traditional optimization technique adopted in commercial software.

Case 1: 4.34 MW duty, methanol-brackish water exchanger

The original design as well as the design proposed by Caputo et al. [6] using GA approach assumed an exchanger with two tube side passages and one shell side passage. The input parameters for heat exchanger design are given in Table 2 and comparisons of final results by different algorithm are shown in Table 3.

The following observations are made by comparing the optimum results of present approach and GA approach by Caputo et al. [6]. The total annual cost has reduced by 3.89% even the pumping costs (operating costs) has increased 66.3% with respect to GA approach considered by Caputo et al. [6]. 15.8% reduction in surface area makes it possible to reduce heat exchanger capital investment by 12.19%. This was achieved by 44% more heat transfer co-efficient in tube side by using smaller diameter tube and higher velocity in tube side. There is no velocity constraints adopted in either GA approach [6] and literature case. However, tube side velocity has increase to 1 m/sec to satisfy the constraint in present approach. This higher velocity will help to prevent fouling inside the tube. This is one major difference between the present approach vs. earlier approaches. This comes as a cost of higher tube side pressure drop. However shell side pressure drop decrease by 11% by decreasing shell side velocity and using lesser number of baffles. As a net effect 66.3% increment in the annual pumping cost is observed in the present case. Another advantage of the present design that the final exchanger conform TEMA standard and satisfies all the geomet-

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**Table 3. Optimal heat exchanger geometry using different optimization methods**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>Case study 1</th>
<th>Case study 2</th>
<th>Case study 3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Literature</td>
<td>GA</td>
<td>Present approach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$d_0$</td>
<td>0.02</td>
<td>0.016</td>
<td>0.009525</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$L$</td>
<td>4.83</td>
<td>3.379</td>
<td>2.438</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$R_b$</td>
<td>0.39</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>0.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$N_{pass}$</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$P_{op}$</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Headtype</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bafflecut</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$N_t$</td>
<td>918</td>
<td>1567</td>
<td>3031</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$D_t$</td>
<td>0.894</td>
<td>0.83</td>
<td>0.74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$v_t$</td>
<td>0.75</td>
<td>0.69</td>
<td>1.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>$v_s$</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>$h_t$</td>
<td>3812</td>
<td>3762</td>
<td>5428.64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$h_s$</td>
<td>1573</td>
<td>1740</td>
<td>2137.09</td>
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<tr>
<td>$U_{calc}$</td>
<td>615</td>
<td>660</td>
<td>782.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$S$</td>
<td>278.6</td>
<td>262.8</td>
<td>221.07</td>
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<tr>
<td>$\Delta P_t$</td>
<td>6251</td>
<td>4298</td>
<td>12690.22</td>
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<tr>
<td>$\Delta P_{p}$</td>
<td>35789</td>
<td>13267</td>
<td>11708.97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$C_i$</td>
<td>51507</td>
<td>49259</td>
<td>43250.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$C_{out}$</td>
<td>12973</td>
<td>5818</td>
<td>9679.63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$C_{in}$</td>
<td>64480</td>
<td>55077</td>
<td>52929.97</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ric, velocity and pressure drop constraints. In earlier GA approach [6] no such geometric, velocity and pressure drop constraints are imposed. These constraints are very much necessary in industrial scenario and ensure smooth functioning of heat exchanger in actual shop floor. Also in GA approach by Caputo et al. [6] the design variables (tube diameter, shell diameter etc.) are considered as continuous variable (as opposed to discrete variable which conforms TEMA standard considered in present case) and thus the final optimum solution may not conform TEMA standard. In this respect, the solutions obtained by present approach are much more preferable than that of GA approach. However, these limitations can be removed from GA approach by following the advanced constraints and corresponding modeling methodology adopted in the present approach.

It was reported by Caputo et al. [6] that the objective function converges within about 15 generations (each generations have 70 function calls as per 70 population) for this case against 703 function calls by SA algorithm to reach convergence. This shows for this case study, SA converges faster than GA with less number of function call. However this observation is limited to this case only and cannot be generalized. As the execution time is very negligible (1.5 s in Pentium 4 processors) in such type of design, the extensive exploration of solution space and goodness of the final solutions (i.e., least cost design) is more important here.

Case 2: 1.44 MW duty, kerosene crude oil exchanger

The original design as well as the design proposed by Caputo et al. [6] using GA approach assumed an exchanger with four tube side passages (with square pitch pattern) and one shell side passage. The same configuration is not retained in the present approach and number of tube passes and pitch pattern are kept as a free optimization variable. The input parameters for heat exchanger design are given in Table 2 and comparisons of final results by different algorithm are shown in Table 3. It is observed that in this case higher tube side flow velocity increases the tube side heat transfer coefficient by 123%. A 13.69% increment in overall heat transfer coefficient is observed in the present case because of the combined increment in tube side and shell side heat transfer coefficient. As a result of high overall heat transfer coefficient, a reduction of 15.83% in heat exchanger area and reduction of 43% in heat exchanger length is observed compared to GA approach considered by Caputo et al. [6]. The capital investment is decreased by 7.94% and pumping cost also reduced by 11.62%. Reduction of tube passes from 4 to 2 and 43% reduction of tube length reduce the tube side pressure drop by 31.3%. However higher shell side velocity and lower diameter of shell makes the pressure drop of shell side more than calculated by GA. Overall 8.43% reduction in total annual cost is observed using this approach as compared to the GA approach considered by Caputo et al. [6].

Figure 3. Cost comparisons.
Case 3: 4.54 MW duty, oil-cooling water exchanger

To demonstrate the effectiveness of SA technique, one more case study is considered which was originally analyzed by Serna and Jimenez [19], and later on improved by Ponce-Ortega et al. [16] using GA approach. The input parameters for heat exchanger design are given in Table 2 and comparisons of final results by different algorithm are shown in Table 3. For comparison of the results, cost function (refer Eq (34)-(36)) and all the values related to cost taken from Ponce-Ortega et al. [16] are as follows:

Capital cost of exchanger ($) =

\[ 30000 + 750S^{0.81} \]  \hspace{1cm} (52)

Capital cost of pump ($) =

\[ (2000 + 5\left( \frac{m_t}{\rho_t} \Delta P_t \right)^{0.68}) + (2000 + 5\left( \frac{m_s}{\rho_s} \Delta P_s \right)^{0.68}) \]  \hspace{1cm} (53)

Cost of power ($/W Hr): \hspace{1cm} C_{\text{pow}} = 0.000045 \hspace{1cm} (54)

Pump efficiency: \hspace{1cm} \eta = 70\% \hspace{1cm} (55)

Plant operation (h/year): \hspace{1cm} H = 8000 \hspace{1cm} (56)

Annualization factor (/year): \hspace{1cm} A_t = 0.322 \hspace{1cm} (57)

The design proposed by Ponce-Ortega et al. [16] using GA approach assumed an exchanger with four tube side passages (with square pitch pattern) and one shell side passage. The same configuration is not retained in the present approach and considers the tube side passes a free variable. Results show increment of tube side and shell side heat transfer coefficient (5.26% on tube side and 88.7% on shell side) resulted in 23.85% increment in overall heat transfer coefficient in the present approach. The higher overall heat transfer coefficient results in 23.85% reduction in heat exchanger area and 20.83% reduction in heat exchanger length in the present approach compared to GA approach. The capital investment is decreased by 3.69%. Less pressure drop in tube side (due to shorter tube length) and less pressure drop in shell side (due to less number of baffles) resulted in 66.45% reduction in pumping cost as compared to GA approach. In totality, the combined effect of capital investment and operating costs results in 11.16% reduction in the total cost/year in the present approach compared to GA approach considered by Ponce-Ortega et al. [16].

Various alternatives of exchangers

The solution space of cost objective function with multiple constraints is very much complicated with multiple local minima. Cost wise these local minima may be very near to each other but geometrically represent complete different sets of exchangers. To assess these multiple local minima, the SA program was run 100 times with new starting guess every time. For case study 2, i.e., different sets of solutions vectors \( x \) is assumed in every run. Most of the times SA converged to global minima but sometimes it were found that it got stuck to local minima depending upon the complexity of solution space. All these feasible solutions were collected and solution within 5% of minimum cost is presented in Table 4 for case study 2. From this table, it is clear that multiple heat exchanger configuration is possible with practically same cost or with little cost difference. All these solutions are feasible and the user has flexibility to choose any one of them based on his requirement and engineering judgment. For example, some users have very less space available in his company, so they may choose the lowest length heat exchanger and fixed tube head, as they have no space available to use a pull through heat exchanger. Selecting the best exchanger design from Table 4 is a combination of science and arts. Decision of best exchanger selection for a particular service and industry is based on multiple criteria including costs. These criteria sometimes influence the best selection decision much more than the simple lowest cost criteria. Maintainability, ease of cleaning of tubes and shells, less fouling tendency, flow induced vibrations, less floor space requirement, compactness of design, etc., are some of these criteria which must be considered in an industrial scenario. The lowest cost exchangers are not always performing best in actual shop floor. These criteria though very influential for final selection of exchanger are often qualitative and difficult to express quantitatively. It requires designer experience, engineering judgment, customer requirements and normally very problem specific. Following section describes some of the criteria which can facilitate the user to select the best exchanger for his case studies. These criteria are collected from literatures and based on experience of designers. The final decision is dedicated to the user.

Practical design considerations to find the best exchanger

This section describes some of the practical design criteria to help the user to choose the best ex-
changer from Table 4. These guidelines are chosen from variety of literature [14,15]. Some thumb rule is formulated to aid the user to choose the best among various alternatives.

**Tubes**

*Tube diameter*

Tube diameters in the range 5/8 in. (16 mm) to 2 in. (50 mm) are used. The smaller diameters 5/8 to 1 in. (16 to 25 mm) are preferred for most duties, as they will give more compact, and therefore cheaper, exchangers. Larger tubes are easier to clean by mechanical methods and would be selected for heavily fouling fluids. The tube size is often determined by the plant maintenance department standards, as clearly it is an advantage to reduce the number of sizes that have to be held in stores for tube replacement.

*Thumb rule 1.* Use smallest diameter for greater heat transfer area with a normal minimum of 3/4"OD tube due to cleaning considerations and vibration. 1/2"OD tubes can be used on shorter tube lengths, say < 4 ft. For chemical cleaning, smaller sizes can be used provided that the tubes never plug completely.

*Tube length*

Tube length affects the cost and operation of heat exchangers.

- Longer the tube length (for any given surface area);
- Fewer tubes are needed, requiring less complicated header plate with fewer holes drilled;
- Shell diameter decreases resulting in lower cost. The optimum tube length to shell diameter will usually fall within the range of 5 to 10.

Mechanical cleaning is limited to tubes 20 ft and shorter, although standard exchangers can be built with tubes up to 40 ft.

Maximum tube length is dictated by:

- architectural layouts;
- transportation (to about 30 m);

Long tube lengths with few tubes may give rise to shell side distribution problems.

*Thumb rule 2.* The preferred lengths of tubes for heat exchangers are: 6 ft. (1.83 m), 8 ft (2.44 m), 12 ft (3.66 m), 16 ft (4.88 m) 20 ft (6.10 m), 24 ft (7.32 m). The shorter, the better, as it will require less floor space in plant.

*Tube-side passes*

The fluid in the tube is usually directed to flow back and forth in a number of "passes" through groups of tubes arranged in parallel, to increase the length of the flow path. The number of passes is selected to give the required tube-side design velocity. Exchangers are built with from one to up to about sixteen tube passes. The tubes are arranged into the number of passes required by dividing up the exchanger headers (channels) with partition plates (pass partitions).

The number of tube passes depends on the available pressure drop.

Higher velocities in the tube result in higher heat transfer coefficients, at the expense of increased pressure drop. Therefore, if a higher pressure drop is acceptable, it is desirable to have fewer but longer tubes (reduced flow area and increased flow length).

Long tubes are accommodated in a short shell exchanger by multiple tube passes.

The number of tube passes in a shell generally range from 1 to 16.

The standard design has one, two, or four tube passes.

An odd number of passes is uncommon and may result in mechanical and thermal problems in fabrication and operation.

*Thumb rule 3.* Select the number of tubes per tube side pass to give optimum velocity 3-5 ft/s (0.9-1.52 m/s) for liquids and reasonable gas velocities are 50-100 ft/s (15-30 m/s). If the velocity cannot be achieved in a single pass consider increasing the number of passes. Less number of tube passes is preferable as it will make the fabrication simple.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>$d_0 \times 10^3$</th>
<th>$L$</th>
<th>$P_{\text{max}}$</th>
<th>$P_{\text{min}}$</th>
<th>Head</th>
<th>Baffle</th>
<th>Cut</th>
<th>$N$</th>
<th>$D_t$</th>
<th>$v_t$</th>
<th>$v_s$</th>
<th>$h_t$</th>
<th>$h_s$</th>
<th>$U_{\text{calc}}$</th>
<th>$S$</th>
<th>$\Delta P_t$</th>
<th>$\Delta P_s$</th>
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Tube arrangements

The tubes in an exchanger are usually arranged in an equilateral triangular, square, or rotated square pattern. The triangular and rotated square patterns give higher heat-transfer rates, but at the expense of a higher pressure drop than the square pattern. A square, or rotated square arrangement, is used for heavily fouling fluids, where it is necessary to mechanically clean the outside of the tubes.

Triangular pattern provides a more robust tube sheet construction. Square pattern simplifies cleaning and has a lower shell side pressure drop.

For the identical tube pitch and flow rates, the tube layouts in decreasing order of shell-side heat transfer coefficient and pressure drop are: 30, 45, 60 and 90°.

The 90° layout will have the lowest heat transfer coefficient and the lowest pressure drop.

Thumb rule 4. The square pitch (90 or 45°) is used when jet or mechanical cleaning is necessary on the shell side. In that case, a minimum cleaning lane of 1/4 in. (6.35 mm) is provided. The square pitch is generally not used in the fixed header sheet design because cleaning is not feasible. The triangular pitch provides a more compact arrangement, usually resulting in smaller shell, and the strongest header sheet for a specified shell-side flow area. It is preferred when the operating pressure difference between the two fluids is large.

Tube pitch

The selection of tube pitch is a compromise between:
- close pitch (small values of \( P/d_0 \)) for increased shell-side heat transfer and surface compactness;
- open pitch (large values of \( P/d_0 \)) for decreased shell-side plugging and ease in shell-side cleaning.

Tube pitch \( P_T \) is chosen so that the pitch ratio is

\[ 1.25 < \frac{P}{d_0} < 1.5. \]

When the tubes are too close to each other (\( P/d_0 \) less than 1.25), the header plate (tube sheet) becomes too weak for proper rolling of the tubes and cause leaky joints.

Thumb rule 4. Preferably use \( P/d_0 = 1.25 \) unless otherwise specified.

Head type

The simplest and cheapest type of shell and tube exchanger is the fixed tube sheet design. The main disadvantages of this type are that the tube bundle cannot be removed for cleaning and there is no provision for differential expansion of the shell and tubes. As the shell and tubes will be at different temperatures, and may be of different materials, the differential expansion can be considerable and the use of this type is limited to temperature differences up to about 80 °C. In the other types, only one end of the tubes is fixed and the bundle can expand freely.

The U-tube (U-bundle) type requires only one tube sheet and is cheaper than the floating-head types; but is limited in use to relatively clean fluids as the tubes and bundle are difficult to clean. It is also more difficult to replace a tube in this type.

Exchangers with an internal floating head are more versatile than fixed head and U-tube exchangers. They are suitable for high-temperature differentials and, as the tubes can be rodded from end to end and the bundle removed, are easier to clean and can be used for fouling liquids. A disadvantage of the pull-through design is that the clearance between the outermost tubes in the bundle and the shell must be made greater than in the fixed and U-tube designs to accommodate the floating head flange, allowing fluid to bypass the tubes. The clamp ring (split flange design) is used to reduce the clearance needed. There will always be a danger of leakage occurring from the internal flanges in these floating head designs. In the external floating head designs the floating-head joint is located outside the shell, and the shell sealed with a sliding gland joint employing a stuffing box. Because of the danger of leaks through the gland, the shell-side pressure in this type is usually limited to about 20 bar, and flammable or toxic materials should not be used on the shell side.

Thumb rule 6. Preferably use fixed head type.

Shells

The British standard BS 3274 covers exchangers from 6 in. (150 mm) to 42 in. (1067 mm) diameter; and the TEMA standards, exchangers up to 60 in. (1520 mm). Up to about 24 in. (610 mm) shells are normally constructed from standard, close tolerance, pipe; above 24 in. (610 mm) they are rolled from plate. The shell diameter must be selected to give as close a fit to the tube bundle as is practical; to reduce bypassing round the outside of the bundle.

The design process is to fit the number of tubes into a suitable shell to achieve the desired shell side velocity 4 ft/s (1.219 m/s) subject to pressure drop constraints. Most efficient conditions for heat transfer are to have the maximum number of tubes possible in the shell to maximize turbulence.
Preferred tube length to shell diameter ratio is in the range 5 to 10.

Using the maximum number of tubes, subject to adequate provision for inlet nozzle, for a given shell size will ensure optimum shell side heat transfer in minimizing tube bundle bypassing. The heat transfer area required design margin is then achieved by adjusting the tube length subject to economic considerations. On low cost tube materials it may be more economical to use standard lengths and accept the increased design margin. It is a common practice to reduce the number of tubes to below the maximum allowed particularly with expensive tube material. In these situations the mechanical design must ensure suitable provision of rods, bar baffles, spacers, baffles to minimize bypassing and to ensure mechanical strength.

**Thumb rule 7.** Preferably use shell diameter to obey the constraints tube length to shell diameter ratio is in the range 5 to 10. The smaller, the better.

**Baffles**

Baffles are used in the shell to direct the fluid stream across the tubes, to increase the fluid velocity and so improve the rate of transfer. The most commonly used type of baffle is the single segmental baffle.

Baffles serve two functions: support the tubes for structural rigidity, preventing tube vibration and sagging and divert the flow across the bundle to obtain a higher heat transfer coefficient.

**Baffle cut**

The term “baffle cut” is used to specify the dimensions of a segmental baffle. The baffle cut is the height of the segment removed to form the baffle, expressed as a percentage of the baffle disc diameter. Baffle cuts from 15 to 45% are used. The upper limit ensures every pair of baffles will support each tube. Generally, a baffle cut of 20 to 25% will be the optimum, giving good heat-transfer rates, without excessive drop. There will be some leakage of fluid round the baffle as a clearance must be allowed for assembly. The clearance needed will depend on the shell diameter. The minimum thickness to be used for baffles and support plates are given in the standards.

**Thumb rule 8.** Preferable use 25% baffle cut.

**Baffle spacing**

The baffle spacing used range from 0.2 to 1.0 shell diameters. A close baffle spacing will give higher heat transfer coefficients but at the expense of higher pressure drop. The optimum spacing will usually be between 0.3 to 0.5 times the shell diameter.

**Minimum spacing (pitch).** Segmental baffles normally should not be closer than 1/5th of shell diameter (ID) or 50.8mm (2 in.) whichever is greater.

**Maximum spacing (pitch).** Spacing does not normally exceed the shell diameter.

Tube support plate spacing determined by mechanical considerations e.g. strength and vibration.

Maximum spacing is given by $B = 74d_0^{0.75}$.

Most failures occur when unsupported tube length greater than 80% TEMA maximum due to designer trying to limit shell side pressure drop.

**Thumb rule 8.** Preferably use baffle spacing from 0.2 to 1.0 shell diameters. The smaller the number of baffle, the easier is the construction.

**Shell and tube fluid velocities**

High velocities will give high heat transfer coefficients but also a high pressure drop. The velocity must be high enough to prevent any suspended solids settling, but not so high as to cause erosion. High velocities will reduce fouling. Typical design velocities are given in section 2.3.

**Pressure drop**

In many applications the pressure drop available to drive the fluids through the exchanger will be set by the process conditions, and the available pressure drop will vary from a few mbars in vacuum service to several bars in pressure systems. When the designer is free to select the pressure drop an economic analysis can be made to determine the exchanger design which gives the lowest operating costs, taking into consideration both capital and pumping costs. However, a full economic analysis will only be justified for very large, expensive, exchangers. Typical values for pressure drop constraints are given in section 2.3. When a high-pressure drop is utilized, care must be taken to ensure that the resulting high fluid velocity does not cause erosion or flow-induced tube vibration.

**CONCLUSIONS**

Heat exchanger design can be a complex task and advanced optimization tools are useful to identify the best and cheapest heat exchanger for a specific duty. The present study has demonstrated successful application of SA technique for the optimal design of STHE from economic point of view. The presented SA technique is simple in concept, few in parameters and easy for implementations. These features boost the applicability of the SA particularly in thermal system design, where the problems are usually complex and have a large number of variables and discontinuity in the objective function. Furthermore, the SA
algorithm allows for rapid solutions of the design problems (as compare to exhaustive search of solution space by conventional design method) and enables to examine a number of alternative solutions of good quality, giving the designer more degrees of freedom in the final choice with respect to traditional methods. Important additional constraints, like geometric, velocity and pressure drop constraints, usually ignored in previous optimization schemes, are included in order to approximate the solution to the design practice. The solutions to case studies taken from literature show that cost of heat exchangers of previously reported designs can be improved through the use of the approach presented in this work.

Nomenclature

- $a_1$ = numerical constant ($\$$)
- $a_2$ = numerical constant ($\$/m^2$)
- $a_3$ = numerical constant
- $a_{ps}$ = shell side pass area (m$^2$)
- $B$ = baffles spacing (m)
- $B_{\text{Cut}}$ = Baffle cut ()
- $C_{\text{pow}}$ = energy cost ($\$/kWh)
- $C_i$ = capital investment ($\$$)
- $C_l$ = clearance (m)
- $C_o$ = annual operating cost ($\$/yr)
- $C_{\text{tot}}$ = total annual cost ($\$$)
- $C_{\text{ps}}$ = $C_p$ of shellside fluid (kJ/Kg K)
- $C_{\text{pt}}$ = $C_p$ of tubeside fluid (kJ/Kg K)
- $D_e$ = equivalent shell diameter (m)
- $D_0$ = Tube bundle diameter (m)
- $D_s$ = shell inside diameter (m)
- $d_i$ = tube inside diameter (m)
- $d_o$ = tube outside diameter (m)
- $F$ = temperature difference correction factor
- $f_t$ = Darcy friction factor tube side
- $H$ = annual operating time (hr/yr)
- $h_s$ = convective coefficient shell side (W/m2K)
- $h_t$ = convective coefficient tube side (W/m2K)
- $i$ = annual discount rate ()
- $j_s$ = Parameter for Baffle Cut
- $K_s$ = thermal conductivity shell side (W/m K)
- $K_t$ = thermal conductivity tube side (W/m K)
- $L$ = tubes length (m)
- $LMTD$ = mean logarithmic temperature difference (degC)
- $m_s$ = shell side mass flow rate (kg/s)
- $m_t$ = tube side mass flow rate (kg/s)
- $n_i$ = numerical constant
- $n$ = Number of passes (1, 2, 4, 6, 8)

$N_t$ = tubes number
$ny$ = equipment life (yr)
$P$ = pumping power (W)
$Pr_s$ = Prandtl number (shell side)
$Pr_t$ = Prandtl number (tube side)
$P_t$ = tube pitch (m)
$P_{\text{type}}$ = Pitch type
$\Delta P_s$ = shellside pressure drop (Pa)
$\Delta P_t$ = tubeside pressure drop (Pa)
$Q$ = heat duty (W)
$R_{\text{bs}}$ = Baffle Spacing / Shell Diameter Ratio
$Re_s$ = Reynolds number (shell side)
$Re_t$ = Reynolds number (tube side)
$R_{fs}$ = conductive fouling resistance shell side (m$^2$K/W)
$R_{ft}$ = conductive fouling resistance tube side (m$^2$K/W)
$S$ = heat exchange surface area (m$^2$)
$S_a$ = Cross-sectional area normal to flow direction
$T_i$ = inlet fluid temperature shell side (K)
$T_o$ = inlet fluid temperature tube side (K)
$T_{ni}$ = outlet fluid temperature shell side (K)
$T_{nt}$ = outlet fluid temperature tube side (K)
$U$ = overall heat transfer coefficient (W/m$^2$K)

Greek symbols

- $\nu_s$ = fluid velocity shell side (m/s)
- $\nu_t$ = fluid velocity tube side (m/s)
- $\mu_t$ = viscosity at tube wall temperature (Pa s)
- $\mu_w$ = viscosity at core flow temperature (Pa s)
- $\rho_s$ = fluid density shell side (kg/m3)
- $\rho_t$ = fluid density tube side (kg/m3)
- $\eta$ = overall pumping efficiency

REFERENCES

TEHNIKA SIMULIRANOG KALJENJA U PROJEKTOVANJU RAZMENJIVAČA TOPLOTE MINIMALNIH TROŠKOVA

Zbog širokog korišćenja razmenjivača toplole u industrijskim procesima, minimizacija njihovih troškova je važan cilj i za projektante i za korisnike. Tradicionalno projektovanje se bazira na iterativnim postupcima koji postepeno menjaju projektne i geometrijske parametre da bi zadovoljili zadatate uslove i ograničenja razmene toplote. Iako se pokazao dobrom, ovakav pristup zahteva dosta vremena i može da ne dovede do isplativog projekta pošto nikakvi troškovni kriterijumi nisu eksplicitno uzeti u obzir. Ovaj rad istražuje, sa ekonomske tačke gledišta, korišćenje netradicionalne tehnike optimizacije, tzv. simulirano kaljenje (SA), za optimizaciju razmenjivača toplole tipa „cevi u omotaju“. Optimizacioni postupak uključuje izbor glavnih geometrijskih parametara, kao što su: prečnik i dužina cevi, rastojanje između pregrad, broj prolaza kroz cevi, raspored cevi, vrstu glave, visina pregrad i tako dalje, dok se minimiziranje ukupnih godišnjih troškova postavlja kao projektni cilj. Prikazana tehnika SA je jednostavna po konceptiji, sa malim brojem parametara i jednostavna za implementaciju. Osim toga, SA algoritam istražuje brzo kvalitet rešenja, dajući projektantu više stepeni slobode u odnosu na tradicionalne metode. Ova metodologija uzima u obzir geometrijska i operativna ograničenja koja se uobičajeno preporučuju projektnim kodovima. Tri različite studije slučaj su predstavljene da bi se pokazala efikasnost i tačnost predloženog algoritma. SA pristup je u stanju da smanji ukupne troškove razmenjivača toplole u poređenju sa troškovima dobijenim GA pristup koji je ranije publikovan.

Ključne reči: simulirano kaljenje; projektovanje razmenjivača toplole; optimizacija; prenos toplole; matematičko modelovanje.