

# Comparative Thermal Analysis of Shell and Tube Heat Exchanger using Bell Coleman Method and CFD

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**Abstract**— Design, analysis and optimization of shell and tube heat exchanger using Bell Coleman Method and CFD. Design variables: tube outer diameter, tube pitch, tube length, number of tube passes, no of shell, shell head type, shell layout, baffle spacing and baffle cut are taken for optimization. Bell's method is used to find the heat transfer area for a given design configuration. The optimal analysis be the one tube, sectional one tube and sectional heat exchanger.

**Keywords**—Bell Coleman Method, One tube, sectional tube, sectional heat exchanger, shell and tube heat exchanger, Computational Fluid Dynamics.

## I. INTRODUCTION

### A. Background Study

Heat exchangers are widely used in heat transfer from one to another fluid. It is used equipment in various industries such as process, power generation, and transportation and refrigeration industry.

### B. Shell and tube heat exchanger

The basic principle of operation is fluid flow in shell and tube side with different temperature. The fluids can be either liquids or gases on either the shell or the tube side. In this system the large surface area used to heat transfer is the tube wall leading to use many tubes.

## II. DESIGN BY USING BELL COLEMAN METH

### Nomenclature

Q = Total Heat Generated  
 Wc = Cold fluid flow rate (Water)  
 Cc = Specific Heat of cold fluid  
 Tco = Cold fluid outlet  
 Tci = Cold fluid inlet  
 Wh = Hot fluid flow rate (steam)  
 Ch = Specific Heat of hot fluid  
 Thi = Hot fluid inlet  
 Tho = Hot fluid outlet  
 LMTD = Log Mean Temperature Difference  
 Ft = Temperature Difference Factor  
 Fc = Caloric Temperature Factor  
 ID = Internal Diameter  
 B = Baffle Spacing  
 Gs = Mass velocity

As = Shell Side flow area  
 Pt = Tube pitch  
 BWG = Birmingham Wire Gauge  
 Re = Reynolds number  
 De = Effective Diameter  
 C = Specific Heat  
 $\mu$  = Viscosity at the caloric temperature  
 $\mu_w$  = Viscosity at the tube wall temperature  
 K = Thermal Conductivity  
 Gt = Tube Side Mass velocity  
 At = Tube Side flow area  
 $h_0$  = Corrected coefficient  
 Uc = Clean overall coefficient  
 U<sub>D</sub> = Design Overall Coefficient  
 R<sub>d</sub> = Dirt Factor  
 $d_e$  = Equivalent Diameter  
 $\Delta P_s$  = Pressure Drop in Shell Side  
 f = Friction factor sqft/sq in  
 (N+1) = Number of Baffles in the Shell  
 $\Delta P_t$  = Tube side Pressure Drop  
 n = number of passes  
 $\Delta P_r$  = Return Crosses Pressure Drop  
 $\Delta P_T$  = Total pressure drop of entire tube

### A. Heat Balance:-

Tube Side  
 $W_c = 20 \text{ TPH} = 5.556 \text{ kg/s}$ ,  $1 \text{ TPH} = 2205 \text{ lb/hr}$   
 $W_c = 20 \times 2205 = 44100 \text{ lb/hr} = 5.55 \text{ Kg/s}$   
 $C_c(\text{Water}) = 1 \text{ Btu/lb}^{\circ}\text{f}$   
 $T_{co} = 176^{\circ}\text{f} = 80^{\circ}\text{C}$ ,  $T_{ci} = 86^{\circ}\text{f} = 30^{\circ}\text{C}$   
 $Q = W_c \times C_c \times (T_{co} - T_{ci})$   
 $Q = 44100 \times 1 \times (176 - 86)$   
 $Q = 3969000 \text{ Btu/hr} = 1163199.07 \text{ Watt}$   
 $W_h = 4 \text{ TPH} = 1.11 \text{ kg/s}$ ,  $1 \text{ TPH} = 2205 \text{ lb/hr}$   
 $W_h = 4 \times 2205 = 8820 \text{ lb/hr} = 1.1113 \text{ Kg/s}$   
 $Ch(\text{Steam at } 572^{\circ}\text{f} = 300^{\circ}\text{C}) = 1.3 \text{ Btu/lb}^{\circ}\text{f}$   
 $Thi = 572^{\circ}\text{f} = 300^{\circ}\text{C}$ ,  $Tho = ?$   
 $Q = 3969000 \text{ Btu/hr} = 1163199.07 \text{ Watt}$   
 $Q = W_h \times Ch \times (Thi - Tho)$   
 $3969000 = 8820 \times 1.3 \times (572 - Tho)$   
 $Tho = 225.846^{\circ}\text{f} = 107.69^{\circ}\text{C}$

### B. LMTD ( $\Delta t$ ):-

$\Delta t_2 = Thi - Tco = 572 - 176 = 396^{\circ}\text{f}$   
 $\Delta t_1 = Tho - Tci = 225.84 - 86 = 139.84^{\circ}\text{f} = 59.91^{\circ}\text{C}$

$$LMTD (\Delta t) = \frac{\Delta t_2 - \Delta t_1}{\ln \Delta t_2 / \Delta t_1}$$

$$= \frac{396 - 139.84}{\ln (396/139.84)}$$

$$LMTD(\Delta t) = 246.09 \text{ } ^\circ f = 118.93 \text{ } ^\circ C$$

C. Shell Side Detail:-

- 1) Flow Area (As)

$$A_s = \frac{ID \times C \times B}{144 \times Pt} \text{ Ft}^2$$

Where ID,C,B,Pt are in inches

ID of shell = 15.25 inch = 381.25mm = 1.27 ft

C = Pt - OD of tube = 1.25 - 1 = 0.25 inch = 6.25 mm

B = (0.2 to 1) ID = 15.25 inch = 381.25 mm

$$A_s = \frac{15.25 \times 0.25 \times 15.25}{144 \times 1.25} \text{ Ft}^2$$

$$A_s = 0.323 \text{ ft}^2 = 0.0300076 \text{ m}^2$$

- 2) Mass Velocity

$$G_s = \frac{W_h}{A_s} \text{ lb/hrft}^2$$

$$= \frac{2205 \times 4}{0.323}$$

$$G_s = 27306.50 \text{ lb/hrft}^2 = 37.0339 \text{ Kg/s m}^2$$

- 3) Reynolds Number

$$Re = De \times G_s / \mu$$

Where De = de/12 = 0.99/12 = 0.0825

$$\mu = C_p \times 2.42 \text{ lb/ft-hr}$$

$$= 0.015 \times 2.42$$

$$\mu = 0.0363 \text{ lb/ft-hr} = 0.0363 \text{ Kg/m hr}$$

$$Re = De \times G_s / \mu$$

$$= \frac{0.0825 \times 27306.50}{0.0363}$$

$$Re = 62059.09$$

- 7)  $J_H = 100$

$$8) K = 0.3117 \text{ Btu/hr-ft}^2 (^\circ f/ft) = 53.9109 \text{ KW/m}^2 \text{ } ^\circ C$$

$$9) h_o/\phi_s = J_H \times K/De \times (c_p/\mu)^{1/3} \text{ Btu/ft-hr } - ^\circ f$$

$$= 100 \times \frac{0.3117}{0.0825} \times \left( \frac{1.36 \times 0.0363}{0.3117} \right)^{1/3}$$

$$h_o/\phi_s = 204.54 \text{ Btu/ft-hr } - ^\circ f = 354 \text{ watt/m } ^\circ K$$

- 11) Tube Wall Temperature (Tw)

$$T_w = T_c + \frac{h_o/\phi_s}{h_o/\phi_s + h_{io}/\phi_t} (T_c - t_c)$$

$$T_w = 322.76 + \frac{204.54}{204.54 + 62.124} (322.76 - 116.6)$$

$$T_w = 480.891 \text{ } ^\circ f = 249.384 \text{ } ^\circ C$$

$$\mu_w = 0.018 \times 2.42$$

$$\mu_w = 0.04356$$

$$\phi_s = (\mu/\mu_w)^{0.14}$$

$$= (0.0363/0.04356)^{0.14}$$

$$\phi_s = 0.9747$$

- 12) Corrected Coefficient

$$h_o = (h_o/\phi_t) \times \phi_t \text{ Btu/hr-ft}^2 \text{ } ^\circ f$$

$$= 204.54 \times 0.9747$$

$$h_o = 199.365 \text{ Btu/hr-ft}^2 \text{ } ^\circ f = 1131.29 \text{ w/m}^2 \text{ K}$$

D. Tube side Detail:-

- 1) Flow Area (As)

$$A_t = \frac{N_t \times a_t}{144 \times n} \text{ Ft}^2$$

Where At is in inches

ID of tube = 0.834 inch = 20.85mm

Thickness of tube = 0.083 inch = 2.075 mm

OD of tube = 1 inch = 25mm

Length of tube = 72 inch = 1800 mm

BWG = 14

$$a_t = 0.268 \text{ inch}^2$$

$$A_t = \frac{81 \times 0.268}{144 \times 1} \text{ Ft}^2$$

$$A_t = 0.15075 \text{ ft}^2 = 0.014005 \text{ m}^2$$

- 2) Mass Velocity

$$G_t = \frac{W_c}{A_t} \text{ lb/hrft}^2$$

$$= \frac{2205 \times 20}{0.15075}$$

$$G_t = 58507.46 \text{ lb/hrft}^2 = 8507.46 \text{ Kg/s m}^2$$

- 3) Reynolds Number

$$Re = D_t \times G_t / \mu$$

Where Dt = 0.834 inch

$$G_t = 58507.46 \text{ lb/hrft}^2$$

$$\mu = C_p \times 2.42 \text{ lb/ft-hr}$$

$$= 0.6 \times 2.42$$

$$= 1.452 \text{ lb/ft-hr}$$

$$Re = \frac{Dt \times Gt}{\mu} = \frac{0.834 \times 58507.46}{1.452}$$

Re = 33605.52

1)  $J_H = 110$

5)  $K = 0.3543 \text{ Btu/hr-ft}^2 (\text{ }^{\circ}\text{f/ft}) = 0.6127 \text{ w/m}^{\circ}\text{K}$

$$6) \frac{hi}{\phi_t} = J_H \times \frac{K}{Dt} \times (c\mu/k)^{1/3} \text{ Btu/ft-hr } -^{\circ}\text{f}$$

$$= 110 \times \frac{0.3543}{0.834} \times \left(\frac{0.99 \times 1.452}{0.3543}\right)^{1/3}$$

$\frac{hi}{\phi_t} = 74.49 \text{ Btu/ft-hr } -^{\circ}\text{f} = 128.83 \text{ w/m}^{\circ}\text{K}$

7)  $\frac{h_{io}}{\phi_t} = \frac{hi}{\phi_t} \times \frac{ID}{OD} \text{ Btu/ft-hr } -^{\circ}\text{f}$

$\frac{h_{io}}{\phi_t} = 74.49 \times 0.834$

$\frac{h_{io}}{\phi_t} = 62.124 \text{ Btu/ft-hr } -^{\circ}\text{f} = 107.52 \text{ w/m}^{\circ}\text{K}$

**E. Pressure drop:-**  
Shell side

1)  $\Delta P_s = \frac{f \times G_s^2 \times D_s \times (N+1)}{5.22 \times 10^{10} \times D_e \times S \times \phi_s}$   
 $S = 0.91$  for steam at  $300^{\circ}\text{C}$   
 $D_s = ID/12 \text{ ft} = 15.25/12$   
 $D_s = 1.27 \text{ ft} = 0.38709 \text{ m}$   
 Number of crosses  $(N+1) = 12L/B = 12 \times 6.66/15.25 = 5.241$   
 $G_s = 27306.50$   
 $D_e = 0.0825 \text{ ft}$   
 $\phi_s = 0.973$

$$\Delta P_t = \frac{0.00018 \times 27306.50^2 \times 1.27 \times 5.241}{5.22 \times 10^{10} \times 70 \times 0.0825 \times 0.91 \times 0.973}$$

$\Delta P_t = 0.00479 \text{ lbf/ft}^2 = 0.0002018 \text{ Kg/m}^2$

Tube Side

1)  $\Delta P_t = \frac{f \times G_t^2 \times L \times N}{5.22 \times 10^{10} \times D_t \times S \times \phi_t}$   
 $S = 1$  for water

$$\Delta P_t = \frac{0.00017 \times 58507.46^2 \times 6.666 \times 81}{5.22 \times 10^{10} \times 70 \times 10^{-3} \times 1 \times 1.2141}$$

$\Delta P_t = 0.07154 \text{ lbf/ft}^2 = 0.003014 \text{ Kg/m}^2$

2) Return Crosses

$$\Delta P_r = \frac{4 \times n}{S} \times \frac{v^2}{2g}$$

$n = \text{Number of passes} = 1, \frac{v^2}{2g} = 0.04$

$$\Delta P_r = \frac{4 \times 1}{1} \times 0.04$$

$\Delta P_r = 0.160 = 0.006742 \text{ kg/m}^2$

3) Total pressure Drop of Entire Tube

$$\Delta P_T = \Delta P_t + \Delta P_r = 0.07076 + 0.160 = 0.23076 \text{ lbf/ft}^2 = 0.009721 \text{ kg/m}^2$$

**III. ANALYSIS BY USING CFD**

CFD is a sophisticated computationally-based design and analysis technique. CFD software gives you the power to simulate flows of gases and liquids, heat and mass transfer. CFD is one of the branches of fluid mechanics that uses numerical methods and algorithm can be used to solve and analyse problems that involve fluid flows and also simulate the flow over a piping, vehicle or machinery. Three different models have been presented in this paper as follow.

**A. One tube with full length**

| Parameter         | Dimension                |
|-------------------|--------------------------|
| Tube Length       | 1800 mm                  |
| Tube Diameter     | 21 mm                    |
| Mass flow in Tube | 0.069 Kg/cm <sup>2</sup> |

Table1:-Detail dimension of tube with full length

**B. Sectional tube**

| Parameter         | Dimension                |
|-------------------|--------------------------|
| Tube Length       | 668.5 mm                 |
| Tube Diameter     | 21 mm                    |
| Mass flow in Tube | 0.069 Kg/cm <sup>2</sup> |

Table2:-Detail dimension of sectional tube

C Sectional heat exchanger

Shell side Detail:-

| Sr.No | Parameter            | Unit           | Dimension |      |
|-------|----------------------|----------------|-----------|------|
| 1     | Shell Diameter       | mm             | 381.25    |      |
| 2     | Shell Length         | mm             | 768.5     |      |
| 3     | Baffle Spacing       | mm             | 381.25    |      |
| 4     | Shell inlet fluid    |                | Steam     |      |
| 5     | Inlet Temperature    | <sup>0</sup> C | 300       |      |
| 6     | Shell side mass flow | Kg/s           | 1.11      | 4TPH |
| 7     | Shell length         | mm             | 888.5     |      |

Table3:-Detail dimension of Shell side

Tube side Detail:-

| Sr. No | Parameter                         | Unit           | Dimension |       |
|--------|-----------------------------------|----------------|-----------|-------|
| 1      | Tube ID                           | mm             | 21        |       |
| 2      | Tube OD                           | mm             | 25        |       |
| 3      | Tube pitch                        | mm             | 31.25     |       |
| 4      | Tube length                       | mm             | 668.5     |       |
| 5      | Arrangement of tube bundles       |                | Square    |       |
| 6      | Number of tubes                   |                | 81        |       |
| 7      | Tube in the fluid                 |                | Water     |       |
| 8      | Mass flow rate per tube           | Kg/s           | 0.069     |       |
| 9      | Mass flow rate of total tube side | Kg/s           | 5.5       | 20TPH |
| 10     | Inlet temperature of tube         | <sup>0</sup> C | 30        |       |
| 11     | Outlet temperature of tube        | <sup>0</sup> C | 80        |       |

Table 4:-Detail dimension of Tube side

IV. MESHING OF MODEL IN ICEM

In this model used global mesh size be 4element,all triangular mesh type and mesh method patch dependent for surface. Fluids (water) mesh type be tetra mixed and mesh type Quick Delaunay used.The Total mesh count of one tube with full length is 17000, sectional tube is 6000 and sectional heat exchanger is 6 million.

A. One tube with full length

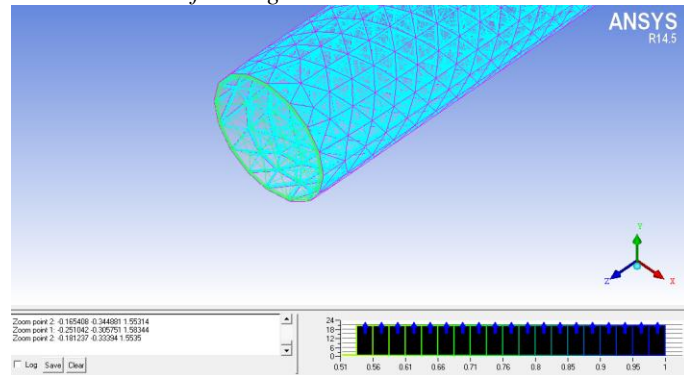


Fig1:- Single tube Full Length with mesh

B. Sectional tube

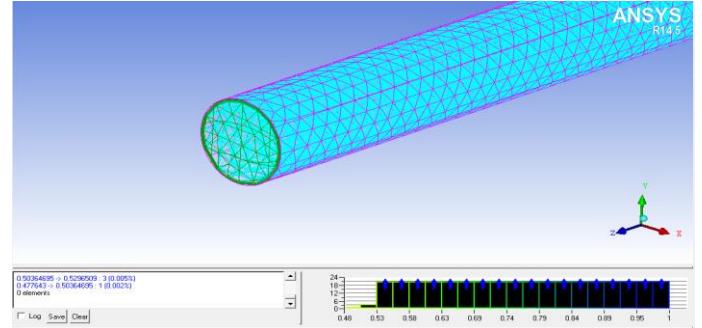


Fig2:- Sectional tube with mesh

C. Sectional heat exchanger

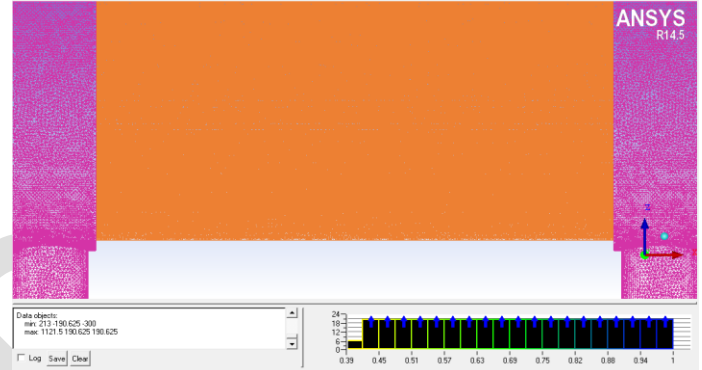


Fig3:- Sectional heat exchanger with mesh

V. FLUENT

Fluent is the pre-processing and solution devices give the input data (property data), initial and boundary condition. And solve algebraic equations.

VI. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

A. One tube with full length

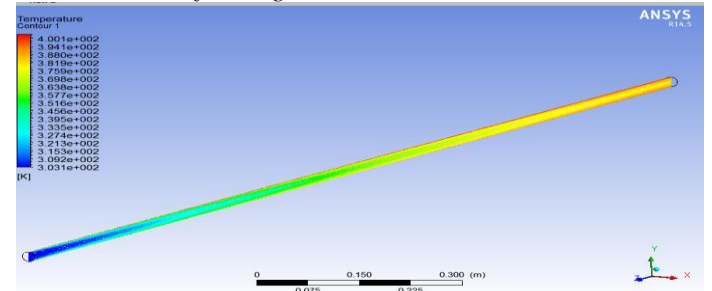


Fig 4:-Single Tube Full Length Temperature Contour

B. Sectional tube

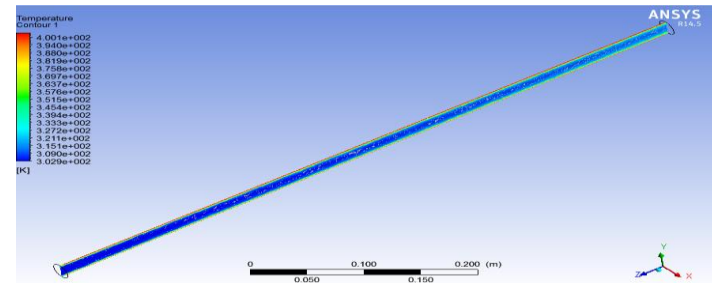


Fig 5:-Sectional tube Temperature Contour

C. Sectional heat exchanger

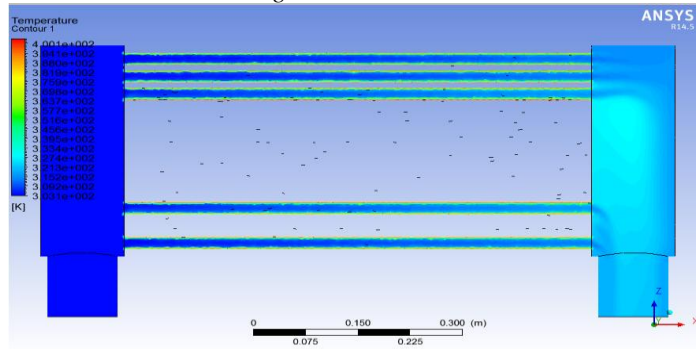


Fig 6:-Sectional heat exchanger Temperature Contour

D. Streamline diagram of sectional heat exchanger

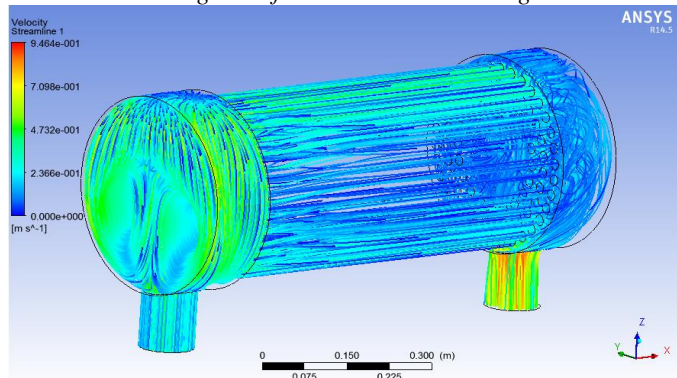


Fig 7:-Streamline diagram of sectional heat exchanger

temperature is 30<sup>0</sup> C and outlet temperature is 80<sup>0</sup> C with wall temperature 134.85<sup>0</sup>C. In analytical method (CFD) results shows three cases, one is full length tube, second is sectional tube and last is sectional heat exchanger.

In analysis of CFD the results for one tube full length inlet temp is 30<sup>0</sup> C and outlet temperature 108<sup>0</sup>C. For sectional tube inlet temp is 30<sup>0</sup> C and outlet temperature 66<sup>0</sup> C. Similarly for sectional heat exchanger inlet is 30<sup>0</sup> C and outlet temperature 66<sup>0</sup> C. With wall temperature of 130<sup>0</sup>C. The results of sectional tube and sectional heat exchanger is same. The full length tube outlet water temperature also gives required temperature.

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| <b>One tube Full Length</b>     |                                 |                            |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Content                         | Theoretical                     | Analytical(CFD)            |
| Inlet fluid temp                | 30 <sup>0</sup> C (303K)        | 30 <sup>0</sup> C (303 K)  |
| Outlet Fluid temp               | 80 <sup>0</sup> C (353K)        | 108 <sup>0</sup> C (381 K) |
| Wall temp                       | 134.85 <sup>0</sup> C (407.85K) | 130 <sup>0</sup> C (403 K) |
| <b>Sectional One Tube</b>       |                                 |                            |
| Inlet fluid temp                | 30 <sup>0</sup> C (303 K)       | 30 <sup>0</sup> C (303 K)  |
| Outlet Fluid temp               | -                               | 66 <sup>0</sup> C (339K)   |
| Wall temp                       | 134.85 <sup>0</sup> C(407.85K)  | 130 <sup>0</sup> C (403 K) |
| <b>Sectional Heat Exchanger</b> |                                 |                            |
| Inlet fluid temp                | 30 <sup>0</sup> C (303K)        | 30 <sup>0</sup> C (303 K)  |
| Outlet Fluid temp               | -                               | 66 <sup>0</sup> C = 339K   |
| Wall temp                       | 134.85 <sup>0</sup> C(407.85K)  | 130 <sup>0</sup> C (403 K) |

Table 5 :-Result Comparison of one tube full length,Sectional one tube and sectional heat exchanger.

VII. CONCLUSION

The present work represent the result of shell and tube heat exchanger by theoretical(Bell Coleman Method) and analytical(CFD)In theoretical calculation inlet water