

In order to determine as precisely as possible the flow of a liquid flow inside a tube with minimal technical and, in particular, minimal equipment costs the invention provides
670 a method and an apparatus for determining the flow of a liquid flow, in which it is provided, in accordance with the method, for the liquid to be heated by means of an optical heating beam and for the heating location to be irradiated by an optical detection beam, the optical axes of
675 the heating and detection beams coinciding at least at the heating location, and the detection beam being absorbed via an array of detectors. The apparatus is configured in such a way that the device for heating an inner region of a defined inner region of the liquid and an optical arrangement
680 guiding the beam of the laser are arranged in such a way that a measuring beam irradiates the heated region at the absolute location of heating thereof.