

# MANICALAND STATE UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES

## FACULTY OF ENGINEERING

CHEMICAL AND PROCESSING ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

REACTOR ANALYSIS AND DESIGN II/CHEMICAL REACTION ENGINEERING II

CODE: CHEP 224/HCHE 312

SESSIONAL EXAMINATIONS

DECEMBER 2022

DURATION: 3 HOURS

EXAMINER: DR M. CHIGONDO

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### ***INSTRUCTIONS***

1. *Answer **all** questions*
  2. *Each question carries 25 marks*
  3. *Total marks 100*
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### Question one

(a) For the gas-liquid reaction:  $A(l \rightarrow g) + B(l) \rightarrow R(l)$  with  $C_{Ai}$  less than  $C_{Bi}$  sketch the concentration profiles of  $A$  and  $B$  in liquid film and bulk for the following situations, indicating where the reaction takes place

- (i) instantaneous reaction
- (ii) Fast reaction, such that Hatta's modulus is greater than 2
- (iii) Very slow reaction such that Hatta's modulus is less than 0.02 [10]

(b) Gaseous ammonia (A) is to be absorbed and reacts with nitric acid (B) as follows:  
 $A(l \rightarrow g) + B(l) \rightarrow R(l)$ ,  $r_{Ai} = kC_A C_B$  in a packed such that Hatta's modulus is less than 0.02. For each case state suitable type of conductor.

Given that:

$$p_A = 100 \text{ Pa and } C_B = 100 \text{ mol/m}^3 \text{ liquid}$$

$$k = 10^{-2} \text{ m}^3/\text{mol}^2 \cdot \text{h}$$

$$k_{Ag} = 0.01 \text{ mol/h} \cdot \text{m}^2 \text{ of reactor} \cdot \text{Pa}$$

$$a = 100 \text{ m}^2/\text{m}^3 \text{ of reactor}$$

$$k_{Al} a = 100 \text{ m}^3 \text{ liquid} / (\text{m}^3 \text{ reactor h})$$

$$H_A = 10^5 \text{ (Pa m}^3 \text{ liquid)/mol}$$

$$f_l = 0.1 \text{ m}^3 \text{ liquid/m}^3 \text{ reactor}$$

$$\mathcal{D}_{Ai} = \mathcal{D}_{Bi} = 10^{-6} \text{ m}^2/\text{hr}$$

- (i) Calculate the resistances in gas and liquid films and in the bulk liquid and locate the major resistance. [10]

(ii) Locate the reaction zone [1]

(iii) Is the reaction pseudo-first order? Explain your answer. [2]

(iv) Calculate the rate of reaction in mol/hr m<sup>3</sup>(react). [2]

### Question two

(a) Write a brief description of the *shrinking core* and *progressive conversion* models. Draw representative profiles to aid your explanations. [10]

(b) For the gas-liquid reaction,  $A(l \rightarrow g) + B(l) \rightarrow R(l)$  and with  $C_{Ai}$  comparable with  $C_{Bl}$ , sketch the concentration profiles of A and B in the liquid film and bulk for the following situations, indicating where the reaction takes place:

(i) instantaneous reaction [3]

(ii) fast reaction, such that the Hatta modulus  $> 2$  [3]

(iii) very slow reaction such that the Hatta modulus  $< 0.02$  [3]

(iv) for each case, name one type of reactor which would be suitable and explain your choice. [6]

### Question three

(a) With the aid of sketch diagrams show **five** contacting patterns in fluid-solid reactors. [5]

(b) State the three rate controlling mechanisms of the shrinking core model for fluid-particle reaction [3]

(c) Spherical particles of graphite of size  $R = 5$  mm are roasted isothermally in a stream of air. The time-conversion data obtained in **Table 1**

**Table 1**

$t, \text{ min}$	15	30	60
$X_B$	0.334	0.584	0.880

(i) By using three appropriate formulae, find the values of  $\tau$  (the time required for complete conversion) for the three rate controlling mechanisms. [3]

(ii) Using the data in **Table**, find rate mechanism controlling the of the roasting process [9]

(iii) Calculate the time required for complete combustion of graphite particles (pure Carbon), for which the reaction proceeds according to the shrinking particle model, if the graphite particles (radius 5 mm and density of  $2200 \text{ kg/m}^3$ ) are exposed to a high-velocity 10%-oxygen stream at 1173 K and 1 atm. The rate constant is  $20 \text{ cm/s}$  [5]

#### Question four

(a) (i) What is a *contactor*? [1]

(ii) What is the difference between a tank and a tower in fluid -fluid reactor design [2]

(b) State the type of contactor for the following situations:

(i) If the liquid film dominates

(ii) If the resistance is in the main body of the liquid

(iii) Relative flow rates of about  $F_l/F_g$ , is 10 at 1 bar [3]

(c) State **any three** characteristics a contactor [3]

(d) An engineering process plans to remove 80 % of reactant present in a gas stream by absorption in water. Find the volume of the tower for a countercurrent operation by straight mass transfer.

Given the following data:

$$F_g/A_{cs} = 1 \times 10^5 \text{ mol/h m}^2 \text{ at } \pi = 10^5 \text{ Pa}$$

$$P_A = 500 \text{ Pa, } p_{Aout} = 100 \text{ Pa}$$

$$F_l/A_{cs} = 10.6 \times 10^5 \text{ mol/h m}^2, k_{Ag}a = 0.32 \text{ mol /hm}^3\text{.Pa}$$

$$k_{Al}a = 0.1/\text{h, } C_T = 28\,000 \text{ mol/h}$$

$$H_A = 15 \text{ Pa m}^3/\text{mol, } k = 0 \text{ m}^3/\text{mol h} \quad [14]$$

(e) By means of diagrams, illustrate the following types of contactors:

(i) *irrigated bed counter current is tower*

(ii) *staged bubble tower counter current tower.*

[2]

**END OF EXAM**

### LIST OF FORMULAE

#### Fluid fluid reactions

Fluid-fluid overall reaction equation:

$$-r_A''' = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{k_{Ag}a} + \frac{H_A}{k_{Al}aE} + \frac{H_A}{kC_{Bf_l}}} P_A$$

gas film  
resistance
liquid film  
resistance
liquid bulk  
resistance

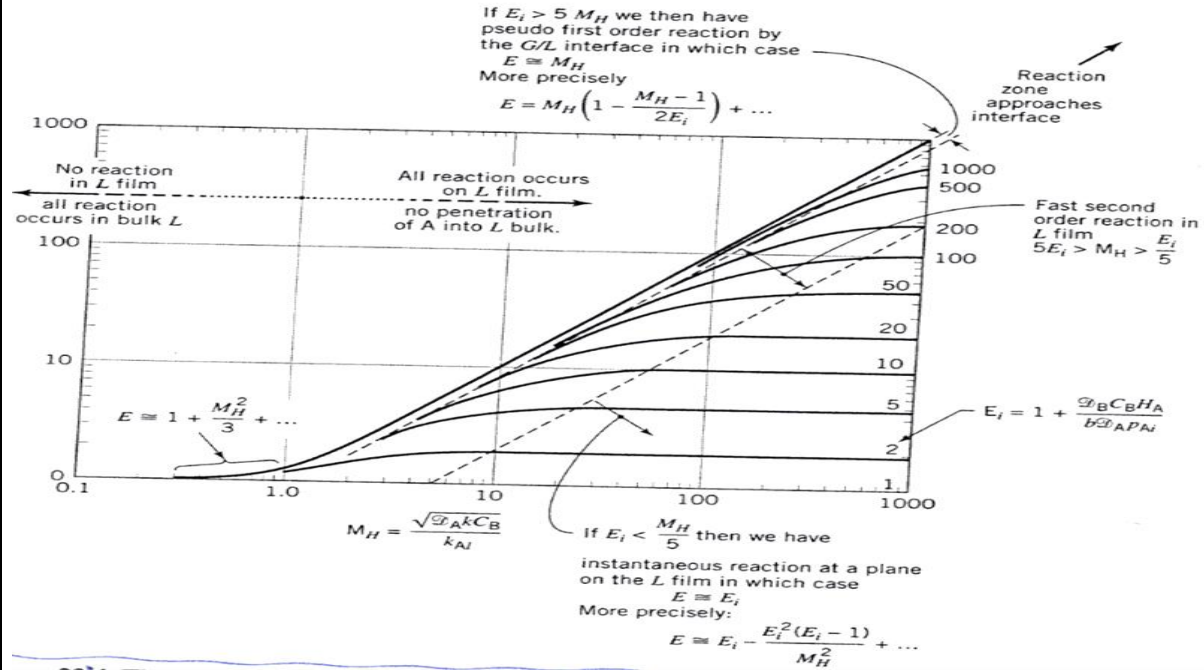
Fluid-fluid overall reaction equation for different cases:

Case	Formula of rate equation
A and B	$\left(k_{Ag}p_A \leq \frac{k_{Bl}C_B}{b}\right) \quad -r_A'' = -\frac{1}{S} \frac{dn_A}{dt} = k_{Ag}p_A$ <p><b>Case A:</b> if <math>k_{Ag}p_A \geq \frac{k_{Bl}C_B}{b}</math></p> <p><b>Case B:</b> if <math>k_{Ag}p_A \leq \frac{k_{Bl}C_B}{b}</math></p>
C	$-r_A''' = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{k_{Ag}a} + \frac{H_A}{k_{Al}aE}} p_A$
D	$-r_A''' = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{k_{Ag}a} + \frac{H_A}{a\sqrt{\mathcal{D}_A}kC_B}} p_A$
E and F	$-r_A'''' = \frac{1}{\underbrace{\frac{1}{k_{Ag}a}}_{\text{gas film resistance}} + \underbrace{\frac{H_A}{k_{Al}aE}}_{\text{liquid film resistance}} + \underbrace{\frac{H_A}{kC_Bf_l}}_{\text{liquid bulk resistance}}} p_A$
G	$-r_A'''' = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{k_{Ag}a} + \frac{H_A}{k_{Al}a} + \frac{H_A}{kC_Bf_l}} p_A$

H

$$-r_A''' = \frac{kf_l}{H_A} p_A C_B = kf_l C_A C_B$$

**Enhancement factor for fluid-fluid reactions as a function of  $M_H$  and  $E_i$ :**



**Fluid-fluid reactor design:**

For any two points in an absorber:

$$p_{A2} - p_{A1} = \frac{F_l \pi}{F_g C_T} (C_{A2} - C_{A1})$$

Volume of a contractor:

$$V_r = hA_{cs} = \frac{F_g}{\pi} \int_{p_{A1}}^{p_{A2}} \frac{dp_A}{-r_A'''} = \frac{F_l}{C_T} \int_{C_{A1}}^{C_{A2}} \frac{dC_A}{-r_A'''} = \frac{F_g}{\pi K_{Ag} a} \int_{p_{A1}}^{p_{A2}} \frac{dp_A}{p_A - p_A^*} = \frac{F_l}{C_T K_{Al} a} \int_{C_{A1}}^{C_{A2}} \frac{dC_A}{C_A^* - C_A}$$

coefficient on gas basis  $\frac{1}{K_{Ag}} = \frac{1}{k_{Ag}} + \frac{H_A}{k_{Al}}$       gas in equilibrium with liquid  $C_A$ , or  $p_A^* = H_A C_A$       coefficient on liquid basis  $\frac{1}{K_{Al}} = \frac{1}{H_A k_{Ag}} + \frac{1}{k_{Al}}$       liquid in equilibrium with gas  $p_A$ , or  $C_A^* = p_A / H_A$

### Fluid-particle reactor design:

Conversions-Time Expressions for Various Shapes of Particles, Shrinking core model:

	Film Diffusion Controls	Ash Diffusion Controls	Reaction Controls
Constant Size Particles	<b>Flat plate</b> $X_B = 1 - \frac{1}{L}$ $L = \text{half thickness}$	$\frac{t}{\tau} = X_B$ $\tau = \frac{\rho_B L}{bk_g C_{Ag}}$	$\frac{t}{\tau} = X_B$ $\tau = \frac{\rho_B L^2}{2b\mathcal{D}_i C_{Ag}}$
	<b>Cylinder</b> $X_B = 1 - \left(\frac{r_c}{R}\right)^2$	$\frac{t}{\tau} = X_B$ $\tau = \frac{\rho_B R}{2bk_g C_{Ag}}$	$\frac{t}{\tau} = X_B + (1 - X_B) \ln(1 - X_B)$ $\tau = \frac{\rho_B R^2}{4b\mathcal{D}_i C_{Ag}}$
	<b>Sphere</b> $X_B = 1 - \left(\frac{r_c}{R}\right)^3$	$\frac{t}{\tau} = X_B$ $\tau = \frac{\rho_B R}{3bk_g C_{Ag}}$	$\frac{t}{\tau} = 1 - 3(1 - X_B)^{2/3} + 2(1 - X_B)$ $\tau = \frac{\rho_B R^2}{6b\mathcal{D}_i C_{Ag}}$

### Mean conversion of the solids leaving a plug flow reactor:

$$1 - \bar{X}_B = \sum_{R(t_p=\tau)}^{R_m} [1 - X_B(R_i)] \frac{F(R_i)}{F}$$

### Chemical reaction controls:

$$[1 - X_B(R_i)] = \left(1 - \frac{t_p}{\tau(R_i)}\right)^3$$