

1059
B.E. (Biotechnology) Fourth Semester
BIO-413: Chemical Reaction Engineering

Allowed: 3 Hours

Max. Marks: 50

Attempt five questions in all, including Question No. 1 which is compulsory and selecting two questions from each Section.

x-x-x

- 1) Compare the performances of the plug flow and the stirred tank reactors behaving ideally.
- 2) Derive expressions for the overall conversions for a reaction of known order.
- 3) A simple autocatalytic reaction is represented by $A+B \rightarrow B+B$. starting with a small concentration of B, show in a plot how the rate will rise as B is formed.
- 4) What is the relation between initial concentration (C_0) and final concentration (C_4) for a system of 4 equal sized mixed reactors in series? Assume reaction is of first order and t is the residence time.
- 5) Differentiate between an elementary and a non-elementary reaction with suitable examples.
- 6) What is understood by order of a chemical reaction? How is this different from "molecularity of the reaction", if a difference between the two exists?
- 7) Given the reaction $2NO_2 + 1/2O_2 \rightarrow N_2O_5$. What is the relation between the rate of formation and disappearance of the three components of the reaction?
- 8) For a gas reaction the rate is reported as $-dp_A/dt = k p_A^2$ atm/hr. What are the units of rate constant?
- 9) State the distinguishing characteristic of each of the following reactions. Single, multiple, elementary and non-elementary.
- 10) Define temperature dependency as per Arrhenius law. (1 x 10)

SECTION-A

2. To explain the kinetics of the given reaction, it has been postulated that, with hydrogen ions as catalyst, normal unreactive H_3PO_2 is transformed reversibly into an active form, the nature of which is unknown. This intermediate then reacts with the oxidizing agent to give H_3PO_4 . For the reaction $H_3PO_2 \rightarrow H_3PO_3$; under the influence of oxidizing agents, hypo phosphorous acid is transformed into phosphorous acid. At a low concentration of oxidizing agent, $r_{H_3PO_3} = k[\text{Oxidizing agent}][H_3PO_2]$

At high concentration of oxidizing agent, $r_{H_3PO_3} = k'[H^+][H_3PO_2]$

Show that this scheme does explain the observed kinetics. (10)

- 3. a) A radioactive isotope decays at a rate proportional to the amount of isotope present. If the concentration of the isotope is C ($mg\ l^{-1}$), its rate of decay is: $r_c = k_1 C$.
- i) A solution of radioactive isotope is prepared at concentration C_0 . Show that the half-life of the isotope is equal to $\{\ln 2/k_1\}$.

P.T.O.

(2)

- ii) A solution of the isotope ^{32}P is used to radioactively label DNA for hybridization studies. The half-life of ^{32}P is 14.3 days. As per institutional safety requirements, the solution cannot be discarded until the activity is 1% of its present value. How long will this take?
- b) Distinguish between the methods available for establishing the kinetics of chemical reactions from the data obtained in a batch or continuous reactor. (5,5)
4. *Aspergillus niger* is used to produce gluconic acid. Product synthesis is monitored in a fermenter in a fermenter; gluconic acid concentration is measured as a function of time for the first 39 hours of culture.
- | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------|---|-----|----|----|----|----|-----|
| Time (h): | 0 | 16 | 24 | 28 | 32 | 39 | |
| Acid Concentration: | - | 3.6 | 22 | 51 | 66 | 97 | 167 |

- i) Determine the rate constant. (10)
- ii) Estimate the product concentration after 20 h. (1)

SECTION-B

5. A homogeneous first order reaction is carried out in a batch reactor under adiabatic conditions. Develop a suitable method to find the relation temperature-conversion-time. State the assumptions made. (10)
6. Suggest methods for evaluating the rate constants of the M-M equation. Discuss any one method in detail. (10)

7. a) Starting with separate feeds of reactant A and B of given concentration for the following reaction as
- $$A + B \rightarrow R \text{ (desired)} \dots\dots\dots r_1$$
- $$R + B \rightarrow S \text{ (undesired)} \dots\dots\dots r_2$$

Sketch the best contacting patterns for the continuous and non-continuous operations

i) $r_1 = k_1 C_A C_B^2$ & $r_2 = k_2 C_R C_B$ ii) $r_1 = k_1 C_A C_B$ & $r_2 = k_2 C_R C_B^2$

iii) $r_1 = 1.0 C_A^{1.5} C_B^{0.3}$ & $r_2 = 1.0 C_A^{0.5} C_B^{1.8}$

- b) Discuss that for the reactions in parallel, the key to the proper control of product distribution is the concentration level of the reactants. (6,4)

x-x-x