

Chemical & Biomolecular Engineering 142  
**Chemical Kinetics and Reaction Engineering**  
**Midterm 2**

Thursday, November 3, 2011

*The exam is 100 points total and 20% of the course grade. Please read through the questions very carefully before answering. Make sure to show all your work. Good luck !*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Student ID \_\_\_\_\_

Problems	Points (Max.)	Points Received
1	40	
2	44	
3	16	

You are allowed one 8.5" x 11" sheet of paper and a calculator for this exam. A list of (possibly) useful integrals is provided on the last page of this exam.

**Problem 1**

Consider a non-isothermal liquid-phase batch reactor initially charged with inert solvent and reagent A, which reacts according to zero-order kinetics to yield product B in the exothermic reaction  $A \rightarrow B$ . Please make sure to read all parts of this question, and clearly show your reasoning. Answers without justification/reasoning automatically receive no credit.

Additional Information:

Zero-order rate constant $k$ ( $\text{mol}/\text{m}^3 \text{ s}$ ) $k = C_1 + C_2 T$ , where $C_1$ and $C_2$ are constants independent of $T$ ( $T$ = reactor temperature (K)) (Note: Instead of the usual Arrhenius expression involving exponentials, the $k$ above has been linearized in the temperature window of interest using a Taylor series expansion)
$U$ = overall heat transfer coefficient ( $\text{W}/\text{m}^2 \text{ K}$ )
$A$ = heat transfer area available in reactor ( $\text{m}^2$ )
$T_{\text{am}}$ = ambient temperature (K)
$\Delta H_{\text{rxn}}^0$ = standard-state enthalpy change of reaction per mole of A reacted $< 0$
$V$ = reactor volume
$C_p$ = same molar heat capacity for all species in reactor including inert solvent ( $\text{J}/\text{mol K}$ )
$N_{A0}$ = initial amount of A charged to reactor (moles)
$N_s$ = amount of inert solvent charged to reactor (moles)
$T_0$ = reactor temperature at $t=0$

- (a) Derive an analytical expression for the reactor temperature  $T$  as a function of time  $t$  before reactant A is completely depleted in the reactor. (10 points)

Energy Balance:

For a batch reactor.

$$\dot{Q} = \frac{dH}{dt}$$

$$UA(T_h - T) = - \frac{dN_A}{dt} \Delta H_{rxn}^{\circ} + N_{T0} C_p \frac{dT}{dt}$$

$$\frac{dT}{dt} = \frac{UA(T_h - T) + \frac{dN_A}{dt} \Delta H_{rxn}^{\circ}}{\underbrace{(N_A + N_B + N_S)}_{N_{T0}} C_p} \quad (+2 \text{ pts})$$

Mole Balance:

$$r_A V = \frac{dN_A}{dt}$$

$$-kV = \frac{dN_A}{dt}$$

$$-(C_1 + C_2 T)V = \frac{dN_A}{dt} \quad (+2 \text{ pts})$$

Plug in:

$$\frac{dT}{dt} = \frac{UA(T_h - T) - \Delta H_{rxn}^{\circ} (C_1 + C_2 T)V}{(N_{A0} + N_S) C_p} \quad (+1 \text{ pt})$$

$$\frac{dT}{dt} = \underbrace{\frac{UA T_h - \Delta H_{rxn}^{\circ} C_1 V}{(N_{A0} + N_S) C_p}}_{\alpha} - \underbrace{\frac{UA + C_2 V \Delta H_{rxn}^{\circ}}{(N_{A0} + N_S) C_p}}_{\beta} T$$

$$\frac{dT}{dt} = \alpha - \beta T$$

$$\frac{dT}{\alpha - \beta T} = dt$$

$$+11 \quad -\frac{1}{\beta} \log(\alpha - \beta T) \Big|_{T_0}^{T(t)} = t$$

$$\log \frac{\alpha - \beta T(t)}{\alpha - \beta T_0} = -\beta t \quad (+2 \text{ pts})$$

$$\alpha - \beta T(t) = (\alpha - \beta T_0) \exp(-\beta t)$$

$$T(t) = \frac{\alpha - (\alpha - \beta T_0) \exp(-\beta t)}{\beta}$$

$$T(t) = \frac{UA T_h - \Delta H_{rxn}^{\circ} C_1 V}{UA + C_2 V \Delta H_{rxn}^{\circ}} \quad (+1 \text{ pt})$$

$$- \frac{UA(T_h - T_0) - \Delta H_{rxn}^{\circ} V(C_1 + C_2 T_0)}{UA + C_2 V \Delta H_{rxn}^{\circ}} \exp(-\beta t) - \frac{UA + C_2 V \Delta H_{rxn}^{\circ}}{(N_{A0} + N_S) C_p}$$

(+1 pt)

(+1 pt)

- (b) Derive an expression to find out the time it take to deplete all reactant A in the reactor. Your expression should consist of an implicit equation for time of the form  $f(t) = Y$ , where  $f(t)$  is some function of  $t$ . (15 points)

$$\frac{dN_A}{dt} = -(C_1 + C_2 T) V \quad (+2 \text{ pt})$$

$$\int dN_A = -\int (C_1 + C_2 T) V dt$$

$$N_{A0} - 0 = -\int_0^{t_{max}} (C_1 + C_2 T) V dt$$

$$N_{A0} = \int_0^{t_{max}} (C_1 + C_2 T) V dt \quad (+2 \text{ pt})$$

let  $T(t)$  be abbreviated as

$$T(t) = \gamma - \zeta \exp(-\phi t)$$

$$N_{A0} = V \int_0^{t_{max}} [C_1 + C_2 (\gamma - \zeta \exp(-\phi t))] dt$$

substitute in  $(+2 \text{ pt})$

$$C_{A0} = C_1 t + C_2 \gamma t + \frac{C_2 \zeta}{\phi} \exp(-\phi t) \Big|_0^{t_{max}}$$

correct integration  $(+3 \text{ pt})$

correct bounds  $(+2 \text{ pt})$

$$= (C_1 + C_2 \gamma) t_{max} + \frac{C_2 \zeta}{\phi} [\exp(-\phi t_{max}) - 1] \quad (+2 \text{ pt})$$

$$= (C_1 + C_2 \frac{UA T_0 - \Delta H_{rxn} C_1 V}{UA + C_2 V \Delta H_{rxn}}) t_{max} + C_2 \frac{UA (T_A - T_0) - \Delta H_{rxn} V (C_1 + C_2 T_0)}{(UA + C_2 V \Delta H_{rxn})^2} (N_{A0} + N_S) C_p$$

$$\times [\exp(-\frac{UA + C_2 V \Delta H_{rxn}^0}{(N_{A0} + N_S) C_p} t_{max}) - 1]$$

$(+2 \text{ pt})$

- (c) After a certain time, all reactant A will be depleted. Derive an analytical expression for the reactor temperature  $T$  as a function of time  $t$  after reactant A has been depleted in the reactor. (10 points)

After the reaction has gone to completion.

$$UA(T_A - T) = (N_{A0} + N_S) C_p \frac{dT}{dt} \quad (+3 \text{ pt})$$

$$\frac{UA}{(N_{A0} + N_S) C_p} dt = \frac{dT}{T_A - T}$$

$$\frac{UA}{(N_{A0} + N_S) C_p} t = -\log \frac{T_A - T}{T_A - T_{max}}$$

where  $T_{max} = T(t_{max})$ .  
 (+3 pt)  
 from last problem.  
 → Definition (+1 pt)

$$\frac{T_A - T}{T_A - T_{max}} = \exp - \frac{UA}{(N_{A0} + N_S) C_p} t$$

$$T = T_A - (T_A - T_{max}) \exp - \frac{UA}{(N_{A0} + N_S) C_p} t \quad (+3 \text{ pt})$$

- (d) What will the final temperature of the reactor be after a very long, infinite time?  
 (5 points)

Take the expression from part (c)

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} T(t) = T_A - (T_A - T_{max}) \underbrace{\exp - \frac{UA}{(N_{A0} + N_S) C_p} t}_{\rightarrow 0}$$

+3 pts for taking the limit

+2 pts for answer.

$$= T_A$$

## Problem 2

The elementary, exothermic, irreversible gas-phase reaction  $A \rightarrow B + C$  (rate constant  $k$ ) is carried out in an adiabatic reactor under steady state conditions. Species A and an inert I are fed to the reactor in equimolar amounts at temperature  $T_0$ . Species A, B and C all have the same heat capacity equal to  $C_p$ . And  $T_{\max}$  is the maximum temperature that can be sustained by the reactor.

## Additional Information:

$C_p$ (molar heat capacity of A, B and C) = $30 \text{ J mol}^{-1} \text{ K}^{-1}$
$C_{p,I}$ (molar heat capacity of Inert, I) = $5 \text{ J mol}^{-1} \text{ K}^{-1}$
$F_{T_0}$ (total molar flow rate of the feed) = $40 \text{ mol min}^{-1}$
$T_0$ (feed temperature) = $500 \text{ K}$
$T_{\max}$ (maximum temperature sustained by the reactor) = $1000 \text{ K}$
$\Delta H_{\text{rxn}}^\circ$ (300 K) (standard heat of reaction) = $-800 \text{ J mol}^{-1}$
$k(T)$ (first order rate constant) = $0.02 + 0.01(T-300) \text{ min}^{-1}$
$v_0$ (initial volumetric flow rate of the feed) = $10 \text{ dm}^3/\text{min}$

(a) In words, describe what two enthalpies have to be equal to each other in any adiabatic reactor. (5 points)

$\therefore$  Adiabatic reactor

$\Rightarrow$  No communication of heat with surroundings  
(All energy would remain in reactor)

$\Rightarrow$  Enthalpy change to change feed temp to reactor temperature = Enthalpy change due to heat of reaction

$$F_{A_0} \sum \theta_i C_{p,i} (T - T_0) = -(-\Delta H_{\text{rxn}}) F_{A_0} X_A$$

5/5

(b) Given the constraints above, find the maximum conversion that can be achieved in the reactor. Write all the assumptions made and explanation of why you made those assumptions in few words. (10 points)



Energy Balance :-

$$(1 \text{ pt}) \quad \cancel{Q} - \cancel{W_s} + \sum F_{i0} H_{i0} - \sum F_i H_i = \frac{dE_{sys}}{dt}$$

$\begin{matrix} = 0 \\ \text{(Adiabatic reactor)} \end{matrix}$ 
 $\begin{matrix} (= 0 \text{ (1pt)}) \\ \text{negligible} \end{matrix}$ 
 $\begin{matrix} (= 0, \text{ (1pt)}) \\ \text{Steady state} \end{matrix}$

$$\text{So, } \sum F_{i0} H_{i0} = \sum F_i H_i$$

$$F_{A0} H_{A0} + F_{I0} H_{I0} = F_A H_A + F_B H_B + F_C H_C + F_I H_I$$

$$F_{A0} H_{A0} + F_{I0} H_{I0} = F_{A0} (1 - X_A) H_A + F_{A0} X_A H_B + F_{A0} X_A H_C + F_{I0} H_I$$

$$F_{A0} (H_{A0} - H_A) + F_{I0} (H_{I0} - H_I) = F_{A0} X_A \underbrace{[H_B + H_C - H_A]}_{= \Delta H_{rxn}(T)}$$

$$\therefore H(T) = H(T_{ref}) + \int C_p dT$$

$$\Rightarrow F_{A0} (C_{PA}(T_0 - T)) + (\theta_I F_{A0}) (C_{PI}(T_0 - T)) = F_{A0} X_A [\Delta H_{rxn}(T)] \quad (\text{No phase change})$$

$$\Rightarrow -F_{A0} \sum \theta_i C_{Pi} (T - T_0) = F_{A0} X_A (\Delta H_{rxn}(T)) \quad (2 \text{ pt})$$

$$\Delta H_{rxn}(T) = \Delta H_{rxn}^{\circ}(T_{ref}) + \Delta C_p (T - T_{ref}) \quad (1 \text{ pt})$$

$$T_{ref} = 300, \Delta C_p = C_{PB} + C_{PC} - C_{PA} = C_p + C_p - C_p = C_p \quad (1 \text{ pt}), \sum \theta_i C_{Pi} = C_{PA} + \theta_I C_{PI}$$

$$\Delta H_{rxn}(T) = \Delta H_{rxn}(300) + C_p (T - 300)$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{-F_{A0} (C_{PA} + \theta_I C_{PI}) (T - T_0) = F_{A0} X_A [\Delta H_{rxn}^{\circ}(300 \text{ K}) + C_p (T - 300)]}$$

$$\Rightarrow (C_{PA} + \theta_I C_{PI})(T_0 - T) = X_A \left[ \Delta H_{rxn}^{\circ}(300K) + C_p(T - 300) \right]$$

when  $T = T_{max}, (= 1000 K)$

$$X_{A \text{ at } T_{max}} = \frac{[30 + (1 \times 5)] [500 - 1000]}{[-800 + 30(1000 - 300)]} \Rightarrow \frac{-17500}{20300} \Rightarrow -0.8660$$

$X_{A \text{ at } T_{max}} \neq 0.866$  doesn't make sense.

check  $T$  at  $X_A = 1$

$\Rightarrow$

$$(30 + 5)(500 - T) = 1[-800 + 30(T - 300)]$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{T \Rightarrow 420 K}$$

$$T < T_{max} (= 1000 K)$$

thus maximum conversion achievable is (3pt)

100% conversion. ( $\because T \downarrow$ , thus it would

never reach  $T$  above 1000 K in reactor.)



(c) If conversion of A achieved in the reactor is 80 %, what is the temperature at the outlet of the reactor? (10 points)

using the same equation as part (b) -

$$\sum F_{i0} H_{i0} = \sum F_i H_i \quad (2 \text{ pt})$$

$$(C_{PA} + \theta_I C_{PI})(T_0 - T) = X_A \left[ \Delta H_{rxn}^{\circ}(300\text{K}) + C_p (T - 300) \right]$$

$$\therefore X_A = 0.8$$

$$\Rightarrow (3045)(500 - T) = 0.8 \left[ -800 + 30(T - 300) \right] \quad (4 \text{ pt})$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{T = 429.49 \text{ K}} \quad (4 \text{ t})$$

(d) If the reaction in part (c) is actually carried out in an adiabatic (i) CSTR or (ii) PFR, would the temperature for both of these cases at the outlet be lower, higher or same as calculated in part (c)? Why? (1-2 sentences) (4 points)

T would be same in CSTR as well as in PFR. (2pt)

∴ All the Energy is in reactor. Adiabatic balance is just depend on Enthalpies now which is state function. Thus, doesn't depend on reactor type. (2pt)

(e) Consider now that the reaction in part (c) is carried out in an ideal adiabatic CSTR. What should be the volume of the reactor to achieve 80% conversion of A in the reactor? (10 points)

Mol Balance on (A) —

$$In - Out + Gen = Acc$$

$$F_{A0} - F_A + (\delta_A V) = \frac{dN_A}{dt} \rightarrow (0, SS)$$

$$\begin{array}{l}
 A \rightarrow B + C \\
 F_{A0} \quad 0 \quad 0 \\
 F_{A0}(1-X_A) \quad F_{A0}X_A \quad F_{A0}X_A \\
 \frac{v}{v_0} = \frac{F_{T0}(T_0) F_{A0} + F_{I0}}{F_{T0}(T) F_{A0}(1+X_A) + F_{I0}} \\
 (\because F_{B0} = F_{A0}) \\
 \frac{v}{v_0} = \frac{(1) 2 F_{A0}}{(1) F_{A0}(2+X_A)} \rightarrow \frac{(T)}{(1+X_A/2)} \quad (2pt)
 \end{array}$$

$$F_{A0} X_A = (-\delta_A V) = R_C A V = \frac{R F_A V}{v} = \frac{R F_{A0}(1-X_A) v}{v_0 (1+X_A/2) v}$$

$$F_{A0} X_A = \frac{R F_{A0} (1-X_A) V}{v_0 (1+X_A/2) (T/T_0)}$$

$$V = \frac{v_0 (1+X_A/2) X_A (T/T_0)}{R (1-X_A)} = \frac{10 (1+0.4) (0.8) (429.49)}{(0.2) \times [0.02 + 0.01 (429.29)]}$$

$$V = 36.63 \text{ dm}^3 \quad (3pt)$$

$$[R=0.1]$$

(f) If a heat exchanger with a coolant stream is added to the reactor system with heat transfer coefficient  $U$  and heat transfer area  $A$ , how would your mole and energy balance for part (c) and (e) change? Write balance(s) to reflect this change. Do not solve the equations. (5 points)

Mol Balance  $\rightarrow$  No effect (2pt)

Energy Balance  $\rightarrow$

$$\dot{Q} - \underbrace{w_s}_{=0} + \sum \dot{F}_{i0} H_{i0} - \sum \dot{F}_i H_i = \frac{dE_{sys}}{dt} \quad (=0, ss)$$

$$\dot{Q} \neq 0$$

$$\dot{Q} = UA(T_a - T)$$

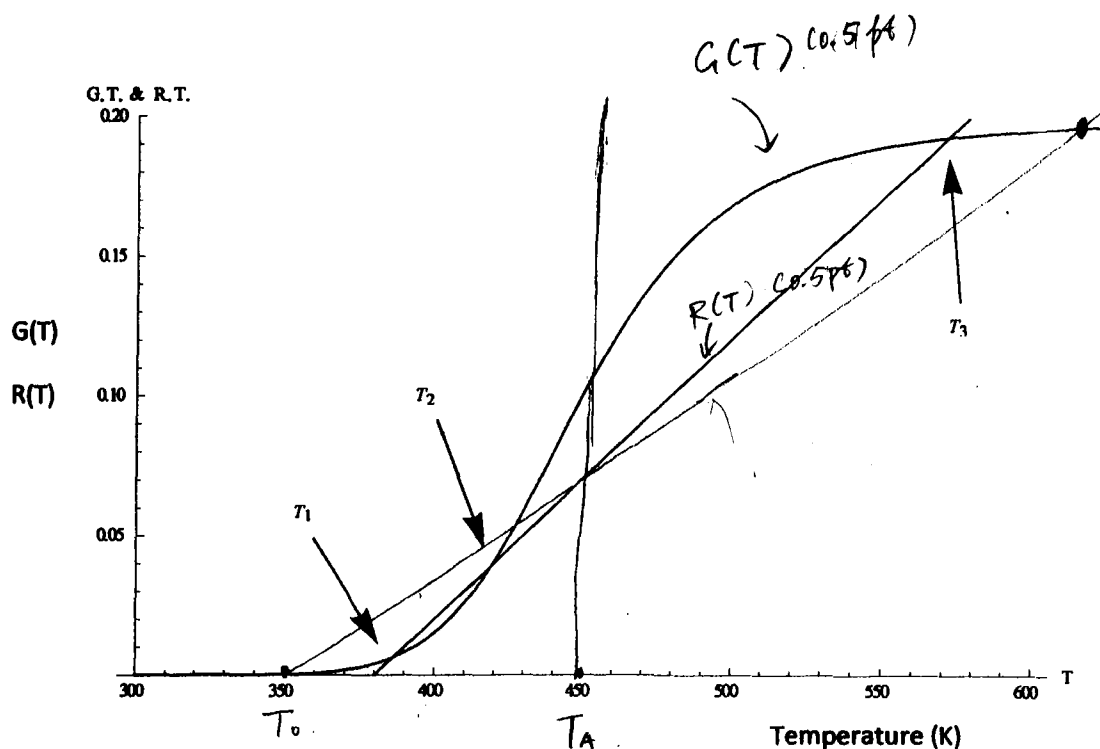
$$\Rightarrow UA(T_a - T) + \sum \dot{F}_{i0} H_{i0} - \sum \dot{F}_i H_i = 0$$

or

$$UA(T_a - T) + F_{A0} \sum \theta_i C_{p_i} (T_0 - T) - \Delta H_{rxn}(T) F_{A0} X_A = 0$$

(3pt)

Problem 3 (2 points each)



(a) Identify  $G(T)$  and  $R(T)$  on the graph. (label on graph)

According to the  $G(T)$  and  $R(T)$  plot above, what happens to the CSTR (heats up, cools down, etc.) if it is started up at the following conditions (part (b) – part (g)). For the purposes of this problem, assume perfect control of all imposed temperatures.

Inlet temperature  $T_0 = 350\text{K}$ , ambient /cooling jacket temperature  $T_A = 450\text{K}$ .

(b)  $T = 350\text{K}$

$G(T) > R(T)$  (1 pt)

Heats up  $\rightarrow T_1$  (1 pt)

(c)  $T = T_2$ 

$$G(T) = R(T).$$

(1 pt)

stays constant due to perfect control. (1 pt)

(d)  $T = 400K$ 

$$G(T) < R(T).$$

(1 pt)

cools down  $\rightarrow T_1$  (1 pt)(e)  $T = 500K$ 

$$G(T) > R(T)$$

(1 pt)

heats up  $\rightarrow T_3$  (1 pt)

(f)  $T=600K$ 

$$Q(T) < R(T) \quad (1 \text{ pt})$$

$$\text{cools down} \rightarrow T_3 \quad (1 \text{ pt})$$

(g) It is potentially unsafe to operate your reactor above 550K, what is the range of applicable initial temperatures of the reactor?

$$T \leq T_2 \quad (1 \text{ pt for stating } T < T_2)$$

(1 pt for stating  $T = T_2$  is also valid).

(h) An accident has happened and caused the cooling jacket to fail. The reactor is now operating adiabatically. Draw the new  $R(T)$  and clearly label the operating state of the reactor on the graph.

vertical line at  $T_a$  (0.5 pt)

triple intersection (0.5 pt)

correct  $R(T)$  (1 pt)

label steady state (1 pt)