ENVE 301 Environmental Engineering Unit Operations

Lecture 2

Reaction Kinetics, Mass Balances, and Reactor Types

SPRING 2012 Assist. Prof. A. Evren Tugtas



Course material is prepared using following references

- Reynolds, T. D., and P. A. Richards. Unit Operations and Processes in Environmental Engineering. 2nd ed. Boston, MA: PWS Publishing Company, 1996. (Textbook)
- Clark M.M. Transport Modelling for Environmental Engineers and Scientists. John Wiley&Sons, 1996 ISBN: 0-47112348X
- 3) Other sources



Reaction Kinetics - Stoichiometry

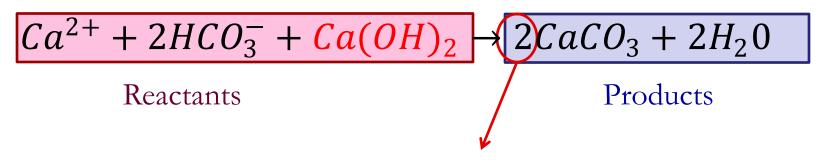
 Reactions usually result in the loss of a reactant and the formation of a product.

REACTANTS -----> PRODUCTS

- In reactions we are interested in;
 - the amount of product formed from reactants (*stoichiometry*)
 - the rate at which the process occured (*kinetics*)



Stoichiometry



Moles or Stoichiometric coefficients

 Irreversible reactions; Reactants (-), products (+)
 Reversible reactions; Reactants and products (+)



Reaction Types

- 1) Homogenous reactions: Reactants are in the <u>same phase</u>
 - Liquid-liquid, gas-gas
 - Components are evenly mixed
- 2) Heterogenous reactions: Reactants are in <u>two or</u> <u>more phases</u>
 - Reactions between gas liquid, solid liquid, solid gas
 - Surface area affects the rate of heterogenous reactions



Reaction rate

Select a component in the reaction

Rate of reaction \rightarrow The rate of change in the concentration of reactant or product (uncompressible fluids – volume is constant) $r_A = \frac{d[A]}{dt} = -k[A]^n$ $\frac{mol}{L.t}$ Homogenous rxn

$$\frac{mol}{m^2.t}$$
 Heterogenous rxn

- •If A is reactant $r_A < 0$
- •If A is product $r_A > 0$



Reaction Rates and Stoichiometry

$aA + bB \longrightarrow cC + dD$

Rate = $-\frac{1}{a}\frac{\Delta[A]}{\Delta t} = -\frac{1}{b}\frac{\Delta[B]}{\Delta t} = \frac{1}{c}\frac{\Delta[C]}{\Delta t} = \frac{1}{d}\frac{\Delta[D]}{\Delta t}$



Reaction rate/order

| Case | Initial A Concentration | | Observed Initial Rate | |
|------|----------------------------|------|--------------------------|--|
| | (M) | (M) | (M/s) | |
| 1 | 0.03 | 0.01 | 1.2 x 10 ⁻⁵ | As B doubles, rate doubles |
| 2 | 0.03 | 0.02 | 2.4 x 10 ⁻⁵ | |
| 3 | 0.03 | 0.04 | 4.8 x 10 ⁻⁵ | |
| 4 | 0.01 | 0.03 | 2.1 x 10 ⁻⁵ | |
| 5 | 0.02 | 0.03 | 4.2 x 10 ⁻⁵ | \rightarrow As A doubles, rate doubles |
| 6 | 0.04 | 0.03 | 8.4 x 10 ⁻⁵ | |

$A + B \longrightarrow C + D$

- •Rate proportional to A
- •Rate proportional to B
- •Rate = k [A][B] equation is the rate law, k is the rate constant



Reaction rate/order

$$r_A = \frac{d[A]}{dt} = -k[A]^n$$

n is the order of the reaction

$$r_A = -k[A]^n [B]^m$$

n is the order of the reaction wrt reactant Am is the order of the reaction wrt reactant Bn+m is the overall order of the reaction

$$r_A = -k[A]^0$$

$$r_A = -k[A]^1$$

$$r_A = -k[A]^2$$



Variables affecting the rate of reaction

- 1) Physical state of the reactants
 - In order to react, molecules must come in contact with each other.
 - The more homogeneous the mixture of reactants, the faster the molecules can react.
- 2) Concentration of reactants.

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- As the concentration of reactants increases, so does the likelihood that reactant molecules will collide.
- Higher concentration of reactants causes more effective collision per unit time, which causes increasing reaction rate (except for zero order reactions)

Variables affecting the rate of reaction

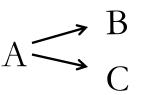
- 3) Temperature
 - The rates of most chemical reactions increase with temperature.
 - Temperature is defined as the <u>measure of average</u> <u>kinetic energy</u> of the molecules
 - Isothermal systems \rightarrow Constant temperature
- 4) Presence of catalyst
 - Catalysts speed up reactions by changing the mechanism of the reaction.
 - Catalysts are not consumed during the course of the marginal reaction.

Single or Multiple Reactions

- Single Reaction
 - Reaction going from reactant to products
- Multiple Reactions
 - Series reactions

 $A \longrightarrow B \longrightarrow C$ C is not formed unless B is formed

Parallel reactions



Reactions happen at the same time, B and C are competitive products

Side by side reactions



Elementary and Nonelementary Rxns

- Elementary reactions
 - These types of reactions occur exactly as written on a molecular scale. In other words, stoichiometry dictates the kinetics.

$$1A + 2B \longrightarrow 1C + 1D$$

 $r_A = -k[A][B]^2$



Elementary and Nonelementary Rxns

- Nonelementary reactions
 - Kinetic law is not dictated by stoichiometry

$1A + 2B \longrightarrow 1C + 1D$

$r_A = -k[A]^{0.5}[B]$



First-order reactions

1 mol A is converted to 1 mol B than the stoichiometry of an irreversible elemental reaction is:

$$A \rightarrow B$$
 $r_A = \frac{d[A]}{dt} = -k[A]^1$

Using calculus to integrate the rate law for a firstorder process gives us $\ln \frac{[A]_t}{[A]_0} = -kt$ $\ln [A]_t - \ln [A]_0 = -kt$

 $\ln [A]_t = -kt + \ln [A]_0 \qquad y = mx + b$ Marmara

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First-order reactions

$$\ln [A]_t = -kt + \ln [A]_0 \longrightarrow \text{Linear reaction}$$

Plot of ln[A] versus t will yield a straight line. Slope of the line will be -k

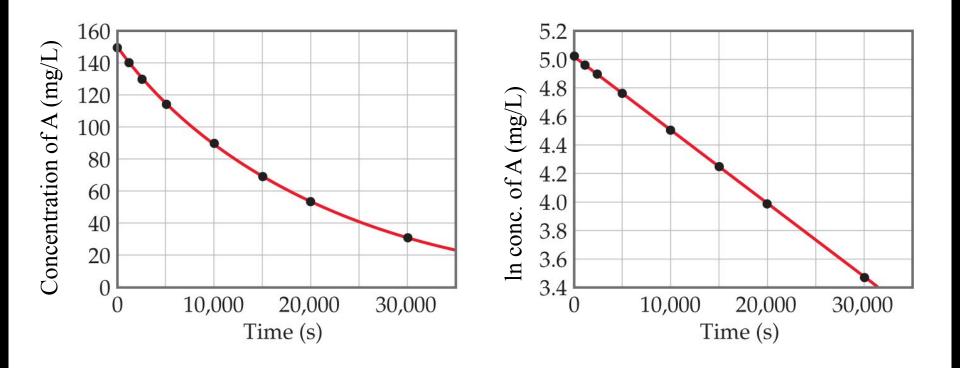
$$y = mx + b$$

$$[A] = [A]_0 \exp[(-kt)]$$

$$[B] = [A]_0 [1 - \exp(-kt)]$$
Unit of k $\rightarrow 1/time$



First order Reactions





Second order reactions

 $2A \rightarrow C+D$

$$r_A = \frac{d[A]}{dt} = -k[A]^2$$

Integrating the rate law for a process that is second-order in reactant A, we get;

$$\frac{1}{[A]_t} = kt + \frac{1}{[A]_0}$$

Which is also in the form of;

$$y = mx + b$$



Second-order reactions

$$\frac{1}{[A]_t} = kt + \frac{1}{[A]_0} \longrightarrow \text{Linear reaction}$$

Plot of 1/[A] versus t will yield a straight line. Slope of the line will be -k

$$y = mx + b$$

Unit of k \rightarrow L/mol.time



Pseudo-first order reactions

$A+B \rightarrow C+D$

If concentration of B is much greater than the concentration of A then the concentration of A becomes as negligible and the reaction behaves as the first order reaction



Zero-order reactions

A→ B

Sometimes the rate of consumption of A is not governed by first order kinetics, rate of consumption of A is independent of the concentration of A

$$r_A = \frac{d[A]}{dt} = -k$$

Unit of $k \rightarrow M/time = mol/L.time$



Equilibrium for Elementary reversible reactions

$$A + B \longleftrightarrow C + D$$

 $A + B \xrightarrow[k_1]{k_1} C + D$ Forward reaction

 $C + D \xrightarrow[k2]{} A + B$ Reverse reaction

At equilibrium, concentration of reactants and products are equal.Therefore, the forward and reverse reaction rates must balance each other

At equilibrium,
$$r_f = r_b$$



Equilibrium for Elementary reversible reactions

- $\mathbf{r}_{f} = \mathbf{k}_{f}[\mathbf{A}][\mathbf{B}]$
- $r_b = -k_r[C][D]$
- Reaction rate
- $r=r_f+r_b$ at equilibrium r=0 therefore,
- $r_f + r_b = 0$
- $k_{f}[A][B] k_{b}[C][D] = 0$

$$K = \frac{k_f}{k_b} = \frac{[C][D]}{[A][B]}$$



Molecularity

• The **molecularity** of a process tells how many molecules are involved in the process.

• Molecularity has values of 1, 2 and 3

| Molecularity | Elementary Reaction | Rate Law |
|----------------------|---|---------------------|
| Unimolecular | $A \longrightarrow \text{products}$ | Rate = $k[A]$ |
| <i>Bi</i> molecular | $A + A \longrightarrow products$ | Rate = $k[A]^2$ |
| <i>Bi</i> molecular | $A + B \longrightarrow products$ | Rate = $k[A][B]$ |
| Termolecular | $A + A + A \longrightarrow \text{products}$ | Rate = $k[A]^3$ |
| <i>Ter</i> molecular | $A + A + B \longrightarrow products$ | Rate = $k[A]^2[B]$ |
| <i>Ter</i> molecular | $A + B + C \longrightarrow products$ | Rate = $k[A][B][C]$ |



- In a multistep process, one of the steps will be slower than all others.
- The overall reaction cannot occur faster than this slowest, rate-determining step.

$$A \longrightarrow B \longrightarrow C$$



$$NO_2(g) + CO(g) \longrightarrow NO(g) + CO_2(g)$$

The rate law for this reaction is found experimentally to be

Rate =
$$k[NO_2]^2$$

- CO is necessary for this reaction to occur, but the *rate* of the reaction does not depend on its concentration.
- This suggests that the reaction occurs in two steps.



- A proposed mechanism for this reaction is Step 1: NO₂ + NO₂ → NO₃ + NO (slow) Step 2: NO₃ + CO → NO₂ + CO₂ (fast)
 The NO₃ intermediate is consumed in the second step.
- As CO is not involved in the slow, rate-determining step, it does not appear in the rate law.



$2 \operatorname{NO}(g) + \operatorname{Br}_2(g) \longrightarrow 2 \operatorname{NOBr}(g)$

 The rate law for this reaction is found to be

Rate =
$$k[NO]^2 [Br_2]$$

 Because termolecular processes are rare, this rate law suggests a two-step mechanism.



•2 NO(g) + Br₂(g)
$$\longrightarrow$$
 2 NOBr(g)

A proposed mechanism is
Step 1: NO + Br₂ ← •NOBr₂ (fast)
Step 2: NOBr₂ + NO → 2 NOBr (slow)

•Step 1 includes the forward and reverse reactions.



- The rate of the overall reaction depends upon the rate of the slow step.
- The rate law for that step would be

Rate =
$$k_2$$
[NOBr₂] [NO]

• But how can we find [NOBr₂]?



- NOBr₂ can react two ways:
 - With NO to form NOBr.
 - By decomposition to reform NO and Br₂.
- The reactants and products of the first step are in equilibrium with each other.
- Therefore,

$$\operatorname{Rate}_{f} = \operatorname{Rate}_{r}$$



- Step 1: NO + $Br_2 \longrightarrow OBr_2$ (fast)
- Because $\operatorname{Rate}_f = \operatorname{Rate}_r$,

$k_1[NO] [Br_2] = k_{-1}[NOBr_2]$

• Solving for [NOBr₂], gives us

$\frac{k_1}{k_{-1}} \bullet [\text{NO}] [\text{Br}_2] = [\text{NOBr}_2]$



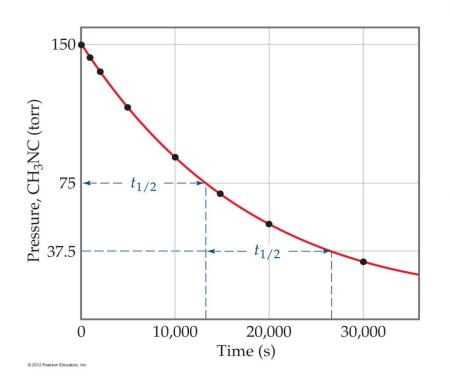
Substituting this expression for [NOBr₂] in the rate law for the rate-determining step, gives

Rate =
$$\frac{k_2 k_1}{k_{-1}}$$
 [NO] [Br₂] [NO]

 $= \&[NO]^2 [Br_2]$



Half-Life



- Half-life is defined as the time required for one-half of a reactant to react.
- Because [A] at $t_{1/2}$ is one-half of the original [A], [A]_t = 0.5 [A]₀.



Half-Life

For a first-order process, this becomes

$$\ln \frac{0.5 \, [A]_0}{[A]_0} = -kt_{1/2}$$

$$\ln 0.5 = -kt_{1/2}$$

$$-0.693 = -kt_{1/2}$$

$$\frac{0.693}{k} = t_{1/2}$$

•Note: For a first-order process, then, the half-life does not depend



Half-Life

For a second-order process,

$$\frac{1}{0.5 \,[A]_0} = kt_{1/2} + \frac{1}{[A]_0}$$

$$\frac{2}{[A]_0} = kt_{1/2} + \frac{1}{[A]_0}$$

$$\frac{2-1}{[A]_0} = \frac{1}{[A]_0} = kt_{1/2}$$
$$\frac{1}{k[A]_0} = t_{1/2}$$



Arrhenius Equation

Svante Arrhenius developed a mathematical relationship between k and E_a :

$$k = A e^{-E_a/RT}$$

Where A is the **frequency factor**, a number that represents the likelihood that collisions would occur with the proper orientation for reaction.

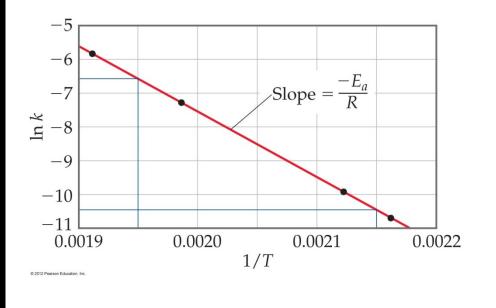
Modified and simplified equation

$$k_2 = k_1 \theta^{T_2 - T_1}$$

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θ: Dimensionless temperature coefficient Marmara

Arrhenius Equation



Taking the natural logarithm of both sides, the equation becomes $\ln k = -\frac{E_a}{R} \left(\frac{1}{T}\right) + \ln A$

y = mx + b

•Therefore, if k is determined experimentally at several temperatures, E_a can be calculated from the slope of a plot of $\ln k \operatorname{vs.} \frac{1}{T}$. Marmara Universitesi •© 2012 Pearson Education, Inc.

MASS BALANCE

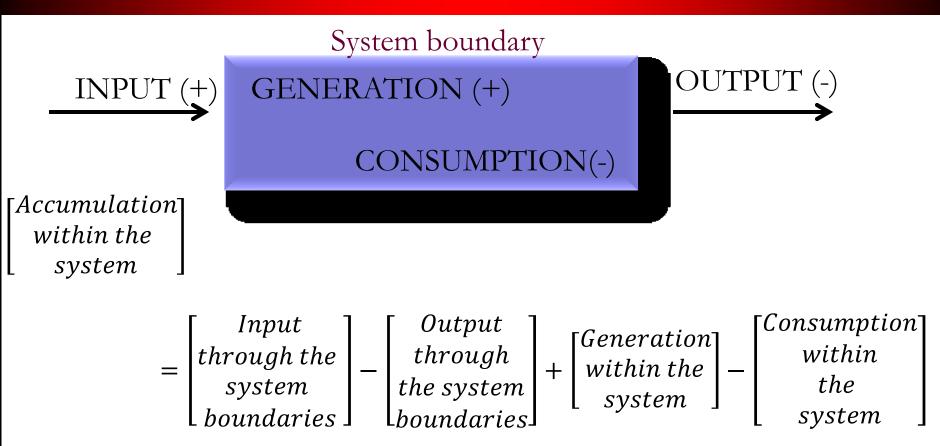


Mass Balance

- Mass is conserved
 - Mass is neither created nor destroyed
- Conservation Law is used
- System boundaries needs to be identified



Mass Balance



 Mass balance equation refers to a time interval, differential time, year, etc.



[Accumulation] within the system

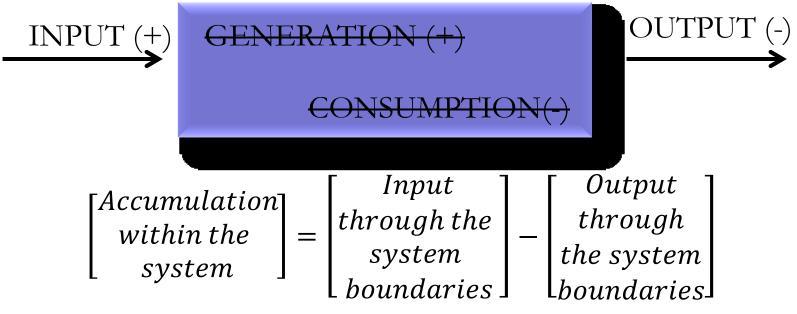
$$= \begin{bmatrix} Input \\ through the \\ system \\ boundaries \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} Output \\ through \\ the system \\ boundaries \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} Generation \\ within the \\ system \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} Consumption \\ within \\ the \\ system \end{bmatrix}$$

[Accumulation] = [Input] - [Output] + [Generation/Consumption]



Mass Balance – Conservative System

- Conservative systems are non-reactive
- There is no generation nor consumption in a conservative system





Conservative System

 $\begin{bmatrix} Accumulation \\ within the \\ system \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} Input \\ through the \\ system \\ boundaries \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} Output \\ through \\ the system \\ boundaries \end{bmatrix}$

[Accumulation] = [Input] - [Output]



Conservative System at Steady State Conditions

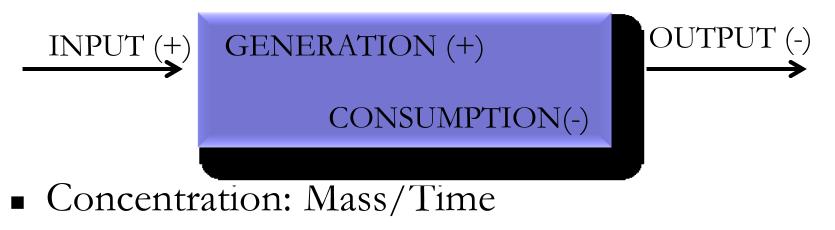
- At steady state conditions, time is not the factor.
- In mass balance time is related to accumulation
- At steady state, accumulation =0

[Input] = [Output]



Conservative System at Steady State Conditions

To write a mass balance, you need to define your system



- Volume: L³
- Time interval : Δt



Mass Balance – Conservative System

- Accumulation
- Time \rightarrow t+ Δ t

Input/Output: Net flow across the system boundaries $dC_1V = QC_0dt - QC_1dt$

- dC₁: Change of component A in vessel, mass/volume
- V: Vessel volume
- Q: Flow rate, Volume/Time
- Co: Initial concentration, Mass/Volume
- C1: Final concentration, Mass/Volume
- dt: Time increment, time



Mass Balance – Non-Conservative System

- Accumulation
- Time \rightarrow t+ Δ t
- Input/Output: Net flow across the system boundaries $dC_1V = QC_0dt - QC_1dt - Vrdt$
- dC₁: Change of component A in vessel, mass/volume
- V: Vessel volume
- Q: Flow rate, Volume/Time
- Co: Initial concentration, Mass/Volume
- C1: Final concentration, Mass/Volume
- dt: Time increment, time
- R: rate at which component A reacts, mass/volume-time



Mass Balance – Non-Conservative System

• Check the units first

 $dC_1 V = QC_0 dt - QC_1 dt - Vr dt$ Divide it by dt $dC_1 V = QC_0 dt - QC_1 dt - Vr dt$

$$\frac{dC_1}{dt}V = QC_o - QC_1 - Vr$$



Mass Balance – Non-Conservative System

$$\frac{dC_1}{dt}V = QC_o - QC_1 - Vr$$

If the reaction is <u>first order:</u>

$$\frac{dC_1}{dt}V = QC_o - QC_1 - VkC_1$$

Accumulation



Mass Balance – First Order Non-Conservative System

$$\frac{dC_1}{dt}V = QC_o - QC_1 - VkC_1$$

Divide by V:

$$\frac{dC_{I}}{dt} = \frac{Q}{V}C_{o} - \frac{Q}{V}C_{1} - kC_{1}$$

at steady state:

$$0 = \frac{Q}{V}C_o - \frac{Q}{V}C_1 - kC_1$$



Mass Balance – First Order Non-Conservative System at Steady State

$$0 = \frac{Q}{V}C_o - \frac{Q}{V}C_1 - kC_1$$

•
$$V/Q = \theta$$

$$0 = \frac{C_o}{\theta} - \frac{C_1}{\theta} - kC_1$$

$$C_1 = \frac{C_o}{1 + k\theta}$$



Steps to be Followed for Solving Mass Balance Problems

- Find what the problem is
- Determine if you need additional data and if so find them or make assumptions if needed
- Draw a simplified picture of your system
 - Indicate important variables and provide symbols for them
 - Decide on dependend and independend variables
- If a reaction is involved, write it down and make sure its balances



Steps to be Followed for Solving Mass Balance Problems

- Draw system boundaries on which material balance will be applied
- Select a convenient on which numerical calculations will be based
- Set up governing equations of the problem. Write as many equations as the number of dependend variables
- CHECK your UNITS
- Write down equations in symbol not the actual



Steps to be Followed for Solving Mass Balance Problems

- Solve the equations once they are established
- Determine whether the answer seems reasonable



REACTOR TYPES & KINETICS



Flow Models

Processes and reactions occur in;

- Static environments (no flow)
- Environments with some type of flow
 - Sedimentation (ideal plug flow-piston flow) and
 - Coagulation (ideal completely mixed reactors) often occur in flowing systems

Flow models are useful in studies involving unit operations and unit processes



Flow Models

- Ideal Plug Flow
 - The elements of fluid move as a plug, enters and leave the system with flow
- Ideal Completely Mixed Flow
 - The elements of the fluid that enter the system are immediately dispersed uniformly throughout the system.
 - Properties of fluid within the system are identical.



Flow Models

Flow regimes that are classified in between the ideal models

- Plug flow with dispersion
- Dispersed plug flow
- Plug flow with longitudinal mixing
- Intermediate-mixed flow
- Arbitrary flow



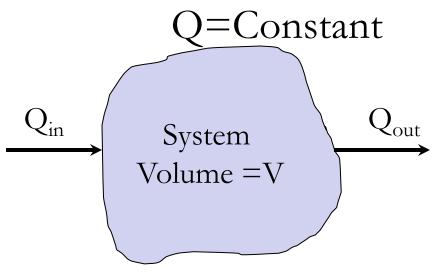
Ideal Plug Flow Regime

- Critical assumptions of ideal plug flow are that;
 - Velocity throughout the plug-flow system is
 - steady,
 - uniform,
 - no longitudinal mixing
 - laminar (Re=dV/ $\upsilon \leq 2000$), and
 - there is no molecular diffusion of the transported material.
- Plug flow is achieved in systems that have large length to width ratios (L:W, 50:1).



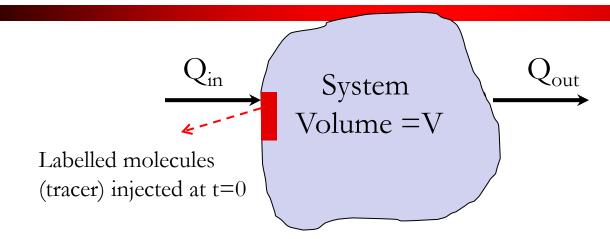
Simple Closed-Reactor and Residence Time Distributions

- Simple system/reactor: Single inlet and outlet
- Closed system: Enter the system once and leave the system once
- Flow is steady





Simple Closed-Reactor and Residence Time Distributions

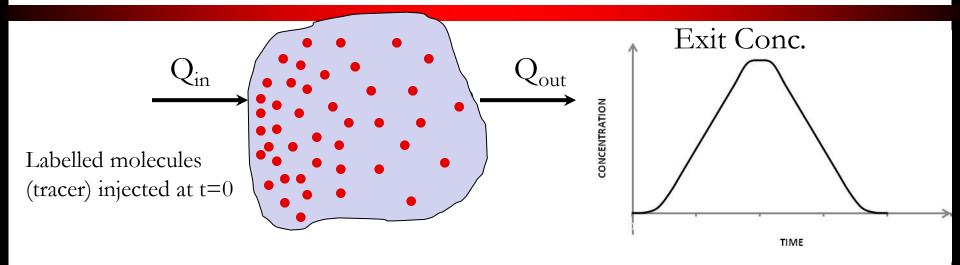


- Tracer molecules: Non-reacting, non-degradable, identical molecules. Tracer molecules are different in terms of;
 - Color
 - Light absorbency
 - Conductivity
 - or has a radioactive marker





Simple Closed-Reactor and Residence Time Distributions



- Residence time distrubution (RTD) plot is C_1/C_0 vs t/\bar{t} plot
- t = time after tracer release
- \bar{t} = mean residence time, V/Q
- C_1 = Concentration of tracer at the outlet
- C_0 = Concentration of tracer released

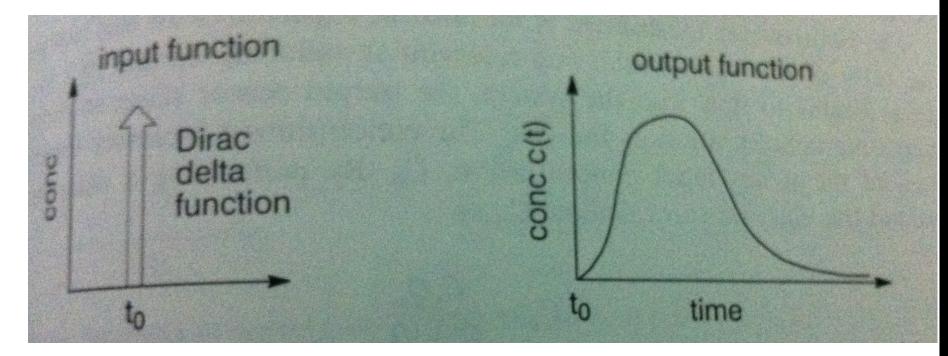
$$\bar{t} = \frac{V}{Q}$$



- If you are interested in measuring RTD in a chemical reactor, unit operation or natural systems, there are three main methods which can be used in closed systems;
- 1) Impulse method
- 2) Negative-step method
- 3) Positive-step method



Impulse method



Quick injection



Figure Ref: Clark M.M. Transport Modelling for Environmental Engineers and Scientists. John Wiley&Sons, 1996, page 479 (Figure 10.4)

Positive-step method

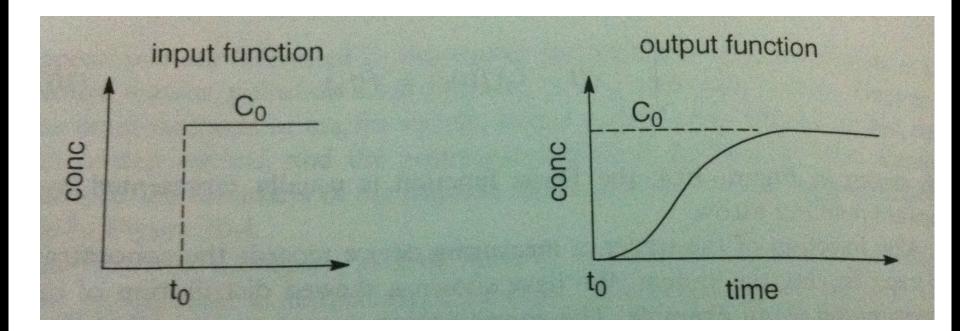




Figure Ref: Clark M.M. Transport Modelling for Environmental Engineers and Scientists. John Wiley&Sons, 1996, page 480 (Figure 10.5)

Negative-step method

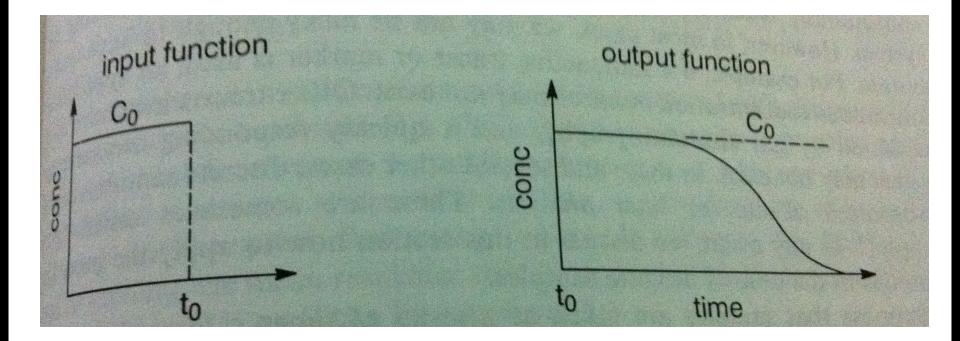
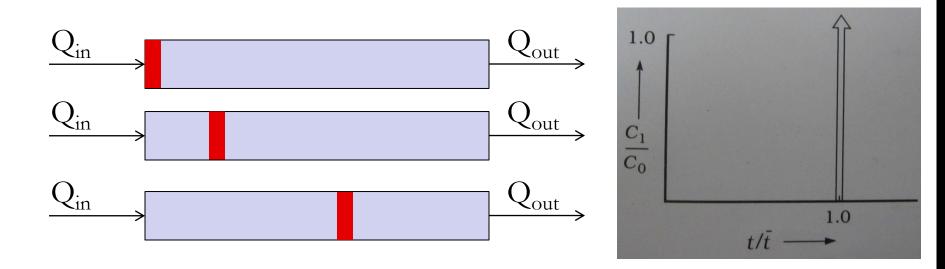




Figure Ref: Clark M.M. Transport Modelling for Environmental Engineers and Scientists. John Wiley&Sons, 1996, page 481(Figure 10.6)

Plug-Flow

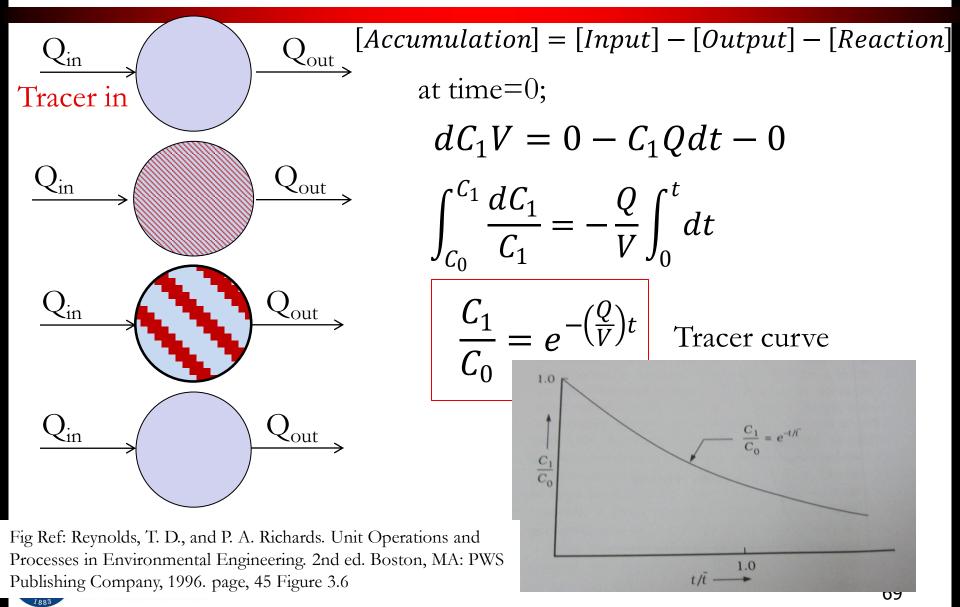


 $t/\overline{t} = 1$



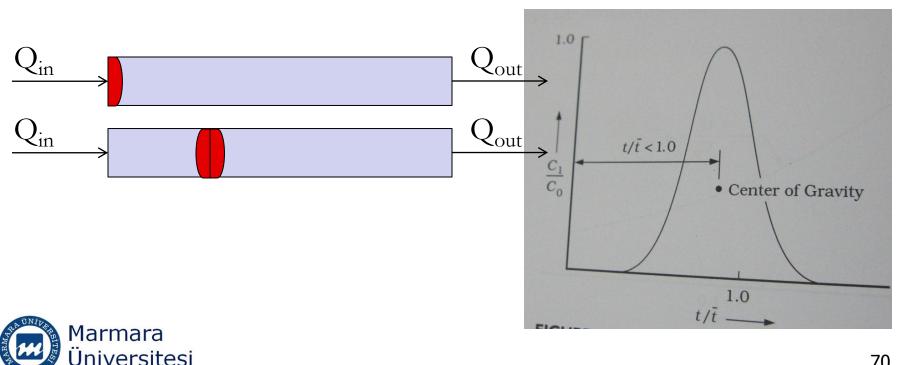
Fig Ref: Reynolds, T. D., and P. A. Richards. Unit Operations and Processes in Environmental Engineering. 2nd ed. Boston, MA: PWS Publishing Company, 1996. page, 43 Figure 3.4

Continuous Flow



Plug Flow with Dispersion

- Plug flow with longitudinal mixing
- It is an intermediate between plug flow and completely mixed flow



Reaction Types

- Homogenous / Heterogenous
 - not a clear-cut classification-borderline regions in enzyme-susbstrate rxns
- Exothermic / Endothermic
- Catalytic / Noncatalytic



Reactor Types

- Homogenous & Heterogenous reactors
- Batch & Continuous reactors
- Perfectly mixed flow & Plug flow reactors & Dispersed plug flow reactor
- Isothermal and non-isothermal reactors



Reactor Types

- Homogenous and Heterogenous reactors
- Homogenous reactors have one phase alone, heterogenous reactors have at least two phases
- Heterogenous reactors:
 - Fixed-bed reactor
 - Packed-bed reactor
 - Moving-bed reactor (upward fluid movement)
 - Fluidized-bed reactor

In homogenous reactions,

$$-r_A = -\frac{dC_A}{dt} = kC_A^n$$
 [Accumulation] = [Input] - [Output] - [Reaction]

In water and wastewater treatment, solutions are dilute and heat effects from the reaction are negligible. Volume is constant and the reactors are generally under constant pressure, therefore the density of the influent is considered same as the effluent

Batch Reactors



[Accumulation] = [Input] – [Output] – [Reaction]

[Accumulation] = -[Reaction]

$$-r_A = -\frac{dC_A}{dt} = kC_A$$

C_A

V

$$\int_{C_{A0}}^{C_{A1}} \frac{dC_A}{C_A} = -k \int_0^{\theta} dt$$

$$\frac{C_{A1}}{C_{A0}} = e^{-k\theta}$$

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Plug Flow Reactor at Steady State

$$Q_{in} \qquad Q_{out} \qquad \text{First order rxn}$$

$$[Accumulation] = [Input] - [Output] - [Reaction]$$

$$[Input] = [Output] + [Reaction]$$

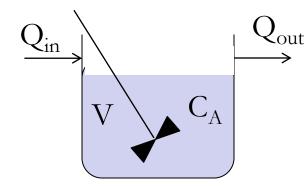
$$QC_A = Q(C_A - dC_A) + r_A dV$$

$$QdC_A = r_A dV$$

$$\int_{C_{A0}}^{C_{A1}} \frac{dC_A}{C_A} = -\frac{k}{Q} \int_0^V dt \qquad \ln\left(\frac{C_{A1}}{C_{A0}}\right) = -k\theta \qquad \frac{C_{A1}}{C_{A0}} = e^{-k\theta}$$



Perfectly Mixed Reactors (CFSTR)



First order rxn, @ steady state,

[Accumulation] = [Input] - [Output] - [Reaction]

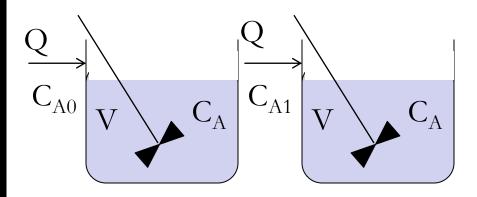
$$dC_{A1}V = C_{A0}Qdt - C_{A1}Qdt - kVC_{A1}dt$$

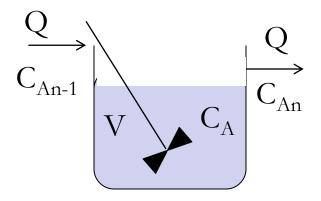
$$\frac{dC_{A1}}{dt} = C_{A0}\frac{Q}{V} - C_{A1}\frac{Q}{V} - kC_{A1}$$
$$0 = C_{A0}\frac{Q}{V} - C_{A1}\frac{Q}{V} - kC_{A1}$$



$$\theta = \frac{C_{A0} - C_{A1}}{kC_{A1}}$$

Multiple CFSTRs at steady state





[Output] = [Input] - [Reaction]

$$C_{A1}Q = C_{A0}Q - kVC_{A1}$$

 $C_{A1} = C_{A0} - \theta r_{A1}$ $C_{Ai} = C_{Ai-1} - \theta r_{Ai}$



Dispersed Plug Flow Reactors

Flow pattern is considered as non-ideal-flow regime

$$\frac{C_{A1}}{C_{A0}} = \frac{4iexp\left[1/2(\frac{vL}{D})\right]}{(1+i)^2 exp\left[i/2(\frac{vL}{D})\right] - (1-i)^2 exp\left[-i/2(\frac{vL}{D})\right]}$$

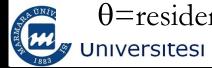
$$i = \left[1 + 4k\theta\left(\frac{D}{\nu L}\right)\right]^{0.5}, \text{ dimensionless}$$

v = velocity at the axial direction

L=reactor length

D=Longitudinal dispersion coeff (length²/time), relative to the degree of mixing

k=rate constant



 θ =residence time