

**c. Constant Reynolds number**

Assume geometric similarity and refer to Table 10.2

**Solution** Assume the vessel is a cylinder.

Thus,

$$V = (\pi/4) D_t^2 H.$$

but  $H = 3 D_t$ , so

$$V = (\pi/4) 3 D_t^3 = 10,000 \text{ cm}^3$$

Solving for  $D_t$ ,  $H$ , and  $D_i = 0.3 D_t$  gives:

$$D_t = 16.2 \text{ cm}$$

$$H = 48.6 \text{ cm}$$

$$D_i = 4.9 \text{ cm}$$

The scale-up factor is the cube root of the ratio of tank volumes, or

$$(10,000 / 1000)^{1/3} = 10$$

To maintain geometric similarity the larger vessel will have its dimensions increased by a factor of 10. That is:

$$D_t = 1.62 \text{ m}$$

$$H = 4.86 \text{ m}$$

$$D_i = 0.49 \text{ m}$$

- a.** For constant  $P/V$  to apply  $N^3 D_t^2$  must be the same in both vessels. Let subscript 1 refer to the small vessel and 2 to the large vessel.

$$N_2 = N_1 \left( \frac{D_{t1}}{D_{t2}} \right)^{2/3} = 500 \text{ rpm} (1/10)^{2/3} = 107 \text{ rpm}$$

- b.** For constant tip speed to apply  $ND_t$  must be the same in both vessels.

$$N_2 = N_1 \left( \frac{D_{t1}}{D_{t2}} \right) = 500 \text{ rpm} (1/10) = 50 \text{ rpm}$$

- c.** For constant  $Re$  to apply  $ND_t^2$  must be the same in both vessels.

$$N_2 = N_1 \left( \frac{D_{t1}}{D_{t2}} \right)^2 = 500 \text{ rpm} (1/10)^2 = 5 \text{ rpm}$$

Scale-up on the basis of constant  $P/V$  would be the most likely choice unless the culture was unusually shear sensitive. Scale-up based on constant  $Re$  would not be used.

**Example 10.4.<sup>†</sup>**

As fermenters are scaled up, the mixing time usually increases. Mixing time,  $t_M^{95}$ , can be defined as the time it takes for the concentration of a compound to return to 95% of the equilibrium value.

<sup>†</sup>Adapted from J. Jost, Chapter 3 in S. L. Sandler and B. A. Finlayson, eds., *Chemical Engineering Education in a Changing Environment*, Engineering Foundation, New York, 1988.