

is $5 \times 10^{-6} \text{ cm}^2/\text{s}$. Beads of calcium alginate are most conveniently made as spheres with a 4-mm diameter. Assume the beads are made 25% by volume of plant cells. Assume the plant cells are 90% water and that the diffusivity of IAA in the gel is the same as in water. If the external concentration is maintained at $2 \text{ } \mu\text{mol}$, will IAA penetrate to the center of the bead?

- 13.2. Gel-immobilized cells of *Papaver somniferum* (opium poppy) can make codeine from codeinone. The rate of codeinone uptake is first order, with a rate constant of $3.3 \times 10^{-8} \text{ l/g cells dry weight} \cdot \text{s}$. The diffusivity of codeinone in the gel is $0.2 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m}^2/\text{s}$. For a gel particle of 4-mm diameter with a 25% volume loading of cells (95% water), what will be the effectiveness factor?
- 13.3. The $k_L a$ of a small bubble column (2 l) has been measured as 20 h^{-1} at an airflow of 4 l/m in. If the rate of oxygen uptake by a culture of *Catharanthus roseus* is $0.2 \text{ mmol O}_2/\text{g dry weight} \cdot \text{h}$ and if the critical oxygen concentration must be above 10% of saturation (about 8 mg/l), what is the maximum concentration of cells that can be maintained in the reactor?
- 13.4. *C. roseus* cells immobilized in Ca-alginate beads of diameter 0.5 mm are used for production of indole alkaloids (IA) in a fluidized-bed bioreactor. The rate limiting nutrient is glucose and no intraparticle diffusion limitations exist. Use the following data: Flow rate of the feed: $Q = 1 \text{ l/h}$, Glucose in the feed: $S_o = 30 \text{ g/l}$, Plant Cell Concentration: $X = 6 \text{ g/l reac}$. The rate constant for IA formation: $k = 5 \text{ d}^{-1} (\text{g/l})^{-1}$, $K_s = 0.4 \text{ g/l}$, Column diameter: $D_o = 0.15 \text{ m}$. Growth is negligible and Monod kinetics is valid. Determine the following:
 - a. For 95% glucose conversion determine required hydraulic residence time, volume, and the height of the column
 - b. If $Y_{p/s}$ is 0.02 g IA/g glu , determine IA concentration in the effluent and the productivity.