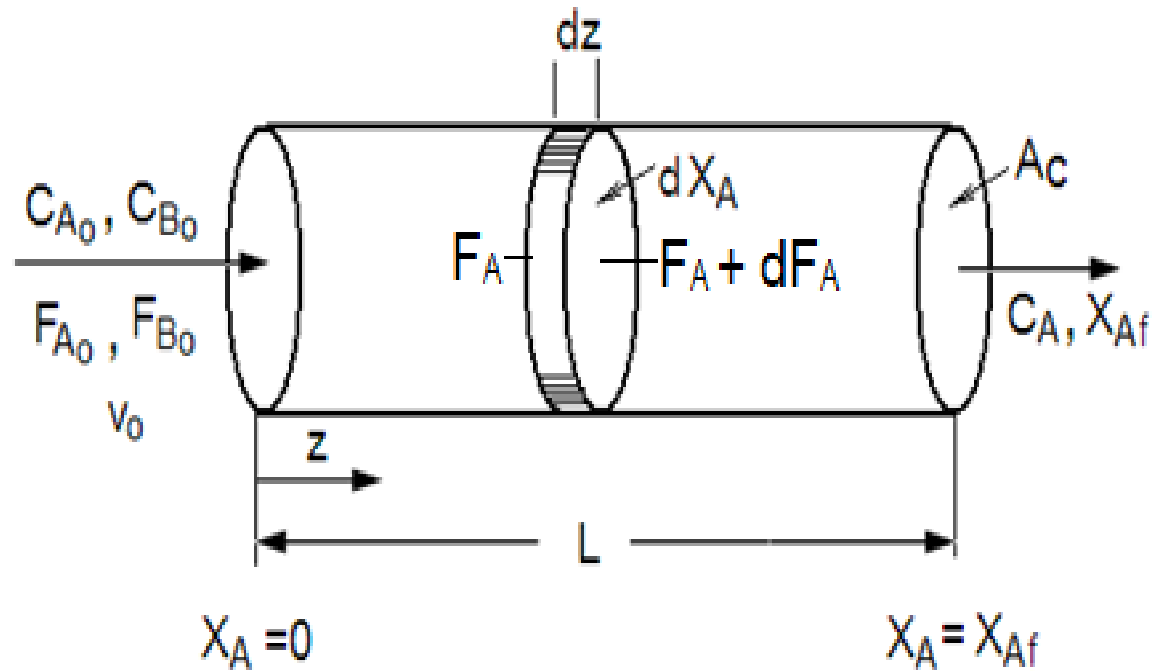


Plug Flow Reactor

J. K Basu

Plug Flow Reactor



Mole Balance: $F_A = (F_A + dF_A) + (-r_A)dV$

$$-dF_A = (-r_A)dV \quad \text{or,} \quad -\frac{dF_A}{dV} = -r_A$$

Design of Plug Flow Reactor(PFR)

Volume basis(Homogeneous reaction):

$$\text{As, } F_A = F_{A0}(1 - X_A) \quad \text{then } F_{A0} \frac{dX_A}{dV} = -r_A$$

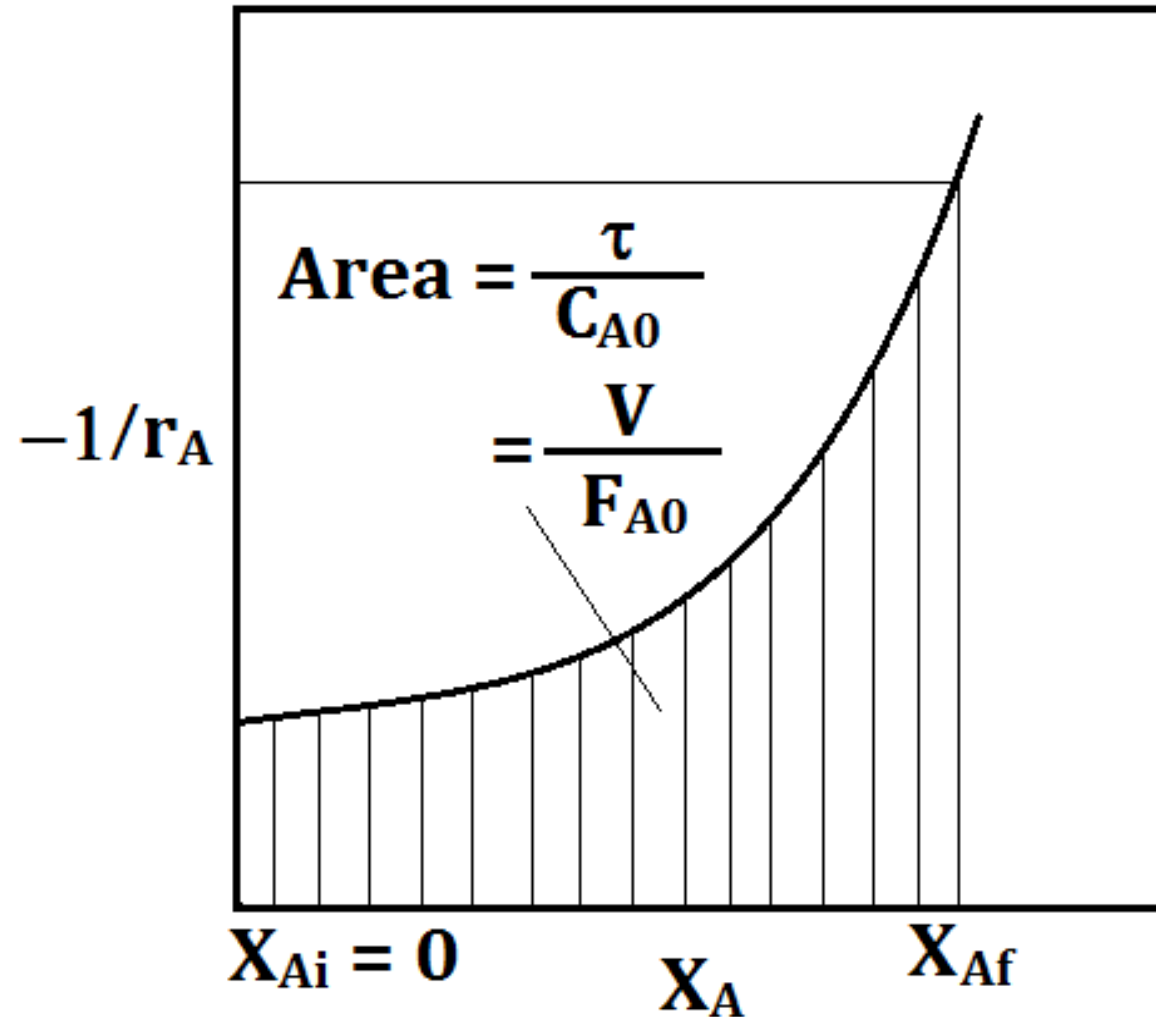
$$\frac{V}{F_{A0}} = \int_0^{X_{Af}} \frac{dX_A}{-r_A} \text{ or, } \frac{\tau}{C_{A0}} = \int_0^{X_{Af}} \frac{dX_A}{-r_A}$$

Catalyst weight basis(Heteroneous reaction):

$$-\frac{dF_A}{dW} = -r'_A$$

$$\frac{W}{F_{A0}} = \int_0^{X_{Af}} \frac{dX_A}{-r'_A}$$

Graphical Analysis for PFR design



Plug Flow Reactor for Variable Density with First-Order Kinetics

$$\textbf{Rate equation : } -r_A = kC_A$$

$$\tau = C_{A0} \int_{X_{Ai}}^{X_{Af}} \frac{(1 + \varepsilon_A X_A) dX_A}{kC_{A0}(1 - X_A)}$$

$$k\tau = \int_0^{X_A} \frac{dX_A}{1 - X_A} + \varepsilon_A \int_0^{X_A} \frac{X_A dX_A}{1 - X_A}$$

$$\textbf{k}\tau = -(\textbf{1} + \varepsilon_A) \ln(\textbf{1} - X_A) - \varepsilon_A X_A = \textbf{f}(X_A)$$

For constant volume

$$\varepsilon_A = \textbf{0} : \quad \textbf{k}\tau = -\ln(\textbf{1} - X_A) = \textbf{f}(X_A)$$

Plug Flow Reactor for Variable Density with Second-Order Kinetics

$$\text{Rate equation : } -r_A = kC_A^2$$

$$\text{Mole Balance: } \tau = C_{A0} \int_0^{X_{Af}} \frac{dX_A}{-r_A}$$

$$\tau = C_{A0} \int_0^{X_{Af}} \frac{X_A (1 + \varepsilon_A X_A)^2 dX_A}{kC_{A0}^2 (1 - X_A)^2}$$

$$C_{A0}k\tau = 2\varepsilon_A(1 + \varepsilon_A) \ln(1 - X_A) + \varepsilon_A^2 X_A + (1 + \varepsilon_A)^2 \frac{X_A}{1 - X_A}$$

$$\tau = \frac{A_c L}{v_0}, \quad \text{where } A_c \text{ is the cross sectional area}$$

$C_{A0}k\tau$ is called as Damköhler number(Flow reactor)

$C_{A0}^{n-1}k\tau$ is the Damköhler number for nth order reaction(Flow Reactor)

$X_A = kC_{A0}^{n-1}\tau(1 - X_A)^n$ is the mole balance in CSTR

Damköhler number for batch reactor

- For batch reactor ' τ ' will be replaced by 't'
- For batch reactor first-order reaction $k\tau = kt$
- For batch reactor n-th order reaction $C_{A0}^{n-1}kt$
- All are dimensionless groups