

Problem 1.

You are developing a process to extract exciting new flavors from MCO's novel cola nuts for a new soft drink.

The nuts are basically spherical, with a radius of 2 cm. The density of flavoring agents in the nuts is 0.02 gm/cm^3 . Using pure water as the extraction solvent, the effective diffusivity through nut is $D_{\text{eff}} = 8.7 \times 10^{-3} \text{ cm}^2/\text{min}$. The aqueous solubility of the flavoring agents is 50 gm/L of water. Assume that the extraction is controlled by diffusion of the flavoring agents through the nut matrix and that the flavor solution leaving the nut is saturated.

- A. Calculate the time (min) needed to extract 100% of the flavoring agents.
- B. Calculate the time (min) needed to extract 90% of the flavoring agents.

Problem 2.

For a 1st order reaction in a catalyst particle, calculate the effectiveness factors for a flat plate (thickness 2 cm), a cylinder (R=2 cm) and a sphere (R=2 cm). For the cylinder, use the chart. For the flat plate and the sphere, use both the analytical equation and the chart.

$$De = 5.31 \times 10^{-3} \text{ cm}^2/\text{s}$$

$$k_e = 0.18 \text{ s}^{-1}$$

Problem 3.

A catalyzed chemical reaction ($A \rightarrow B$) has an effective 1st order reaction constant $k_e = 0.2/\text{sec}$. The effective diffusivity of A in the catalyst particle is $7.2 \times 10^{-4} \text{ cm}^2/\text{sec}$. It has been proposed to use either spherical or cylindrical catalyst particles with a radius of 0.3 cm. Calculate the difference in effectiveness between these alternative catalyst particle shapes.