

```
1
2 #+NAME: Yang Song
3 #+ANDREWID: yangsong
4 #+COURSE: 06-625
5 #+ASSIGNMENT: thiele-1
6 '''A first-order heterogeneous, irreversible reaction is taking place within a
   spherical catalyst pellet coated with catalyst. The reactant
   concentration halfway between the outer surface and the center of the
   pellet ( $r = R/2$ ) is equal to 1/10th of the surface concentration. The
   surface concentration is 0.001 mol / L, the particle diameter is  $2e-3$  cm,
   and the diffusion coefficient is  $0.1 \text{ cm}^2 / \text{s}$ .
7
8 a) Estimate the effectiveness factor of this catalyst particle
9 b) What diameter should the particle be decreased to get an effectiveness
   factor of 0.8. Provide an assessment of your answer.
10 '''
11
12 import numpy as np
13 from scipy.optimize import fsolve
14 CAs = 0.001 # mol / L
15
16 R = 1.e-3 # cm
17
18 De = 0.1 # cm^2 / s, diffusivity
19
20 a = R / 3.0 # characteristic length scale defined by the volume to surface
   ratio for a sphere.
21
22 # Define dimensionless radius as  $r_ = r / a$ , dimensionless concentration as  $c_$ 
   = CA / CAs
23 # The reaction is first-order and irreversible, assume it is elementary, then
   the analytical solution for catalytical reaction in a spherical catalyst
   particle is:
24 #  $c_ = (3 * \sinh(\phi) * r) / (r_ * \sinh(3 * \phi))$ 
25 # The effectiveness factor is :  $\eta = 1 / \phi * (1 / \tanh(3 * \phi) - 1 / (3 * \phi))$ 
26 # Where  $\phi$  is the Thiele modulus, defined as  $\phi = \sqrt{k * a^2 / De}$ ,  $k$  is
   the rate constant.
27
28 # Note: the above two analytical solutions are adapted from Dr. Kitchin's note
   part 4 page 17.
29
30 # We know at  $r_ = R/2 / a$ ,  $c_ = CA / CAs = 0.1$ 
31 def func( $\phi$ ):
32      $eq1 = 0.1 - (3 * np.\sinh(\phi * R / 2 / a)) / (R / 2 / a * np.\sinh(3 * \phi))$ 
33     return eq1
34
35 guess = [0.5]
36  $sol, = fsolve(func, guess)$ 
37  $\phi = sol$ 
38
39  $\eta = 1.0 / \phi * (1.0 / np.\tanh(3.0 * \phi) - 1.0 / (3 * \phi))$ 
```

```
40 print 'Effectiveness factor of this catalyst particle is: {0}.'.format(eta)
```

Effectiveness factor of this catalyst particle is: 0.417427288901.

```
38
39 # We can know the rate constant now:
40 k = phi ** 2 * De / a ** 2
41
42 # We can find the radius of particle by using fsolve.
43 def func2(D):
44     R = D / 2.0
45     a = R / 3.0
46     phi = np.sqrt(k * a ** 2 / De)
47     eq1 = 0.8 - 1.0 / phi * (1.0 / np.tanh(3.0 * phi) - 1.0 / (3 * phi))
48     return eq1
49
50 sol2, = fsolve(func2, [1.e-3])
51 print 'Diameter of the catalyst particle should be reduced to {0} cm.'.format(
    sol2)
```

Diameter of the catalyst particle should be reduced to 0.00068223386046 cm.

```
52
53 # When the particle diameter is reduced, mass transfer handicap is reduced and
    the concentration profile along the catalyst particle radius should be
    overall higher, making the catalyst working closer to ideal conditions
    that concentration at any position within the particle is equal to surface
    concentration. Therefore effectiveness factor is also higher.
```

hostname: yangsong-PC.home
ipaddr: 192.168.1.6
mac: 145169596412



Press to select grade Grade: