

# Problem 3

Equimolar Diffusion

## Problem 3.1.a

Determine  $t$  when  $x_{Xe} = 0.6$  in bulb 1

Starting with an integral mol balance,

$$\frac{d}{dt} \int c_{Xe} dV = - \int x_{Xe} c v_M \cdot adS - \int J_{Xe} \cdot adS + \int S_{Xe} dV \quad (1)$$

we know that  $v_M = 0$  and there is no reaction so (1) goes to

$$\frac{d}{dt} \int c_{Xe} dV = - \int J_{Xe} \cdot adS$$

which can be evaluated to be

$$cV_0 \frac{dx_{Xe}^0}{dt} = J_{Xe}^0 A_c \quad (2)$$

Since  $N = 0$  the following relationship holds

$$N_{Xe} = x_{Xe} N + J_{Xe} = J_{Xe} \quad (3)$$

so (2) becomes

$$cV_0 \frac{dx_{Xe}^0}{dt} = N_{Xe} A_c \quad (4)$$

It is also true that

$$A_c J_{Xe}^0 = A_c J_{Xe}^L$$

which implies that  $J_{Xe}$  and  $N_{Xe}$  are constant. Using Fick's law to find  $N_{Xe}$

$$J_{Xe} = N_{Xe} = -cD_{AB} \frac{dx_{Xe}}{dz}$$

rearranged is

$$N_{Xe} \int_0^L dz = -cD_{AB} \int_0^L dx_{Xe}$$

and evaluate to get

$$N_{Xe} = \frac{-cD_{AB}}{L} (x_{Xe}^L - x_{Xe}^0) \quad (5)$$

where  $L$  is the length of the tube

Now (5) can be substituted in for (4) to get

$$V_0 \frac{dx_{Xe}^0}{dt} = \frac{A_c D_{AB}}{L} (x_{Xe}^L - x_{Xe}^0) \quad (6)$$

$x_{Xe}^L$  can be found by doing a total mol balance on both bulbs,

$$cx_{Xe}^0 V_0 + cx_{Xe}^L V_L = cx_{Xe}^\infty (V_0 + V_L)$$

which is rearranged to get

$$x_{Xe}^L = x_{Xe}^\infty \left(1 + \frac{V_0}{V_L}\right) - x_{Xe}^0 \frac{V_0}{V_L} \quad (7)$$

(7) can be inserted into (6) and evaluated to get

$$x_{Xe}^0 = x_{Xe}^\infty + (x_{Xe}^0 - x_{Xe}^\infty) \exp(-\beta D_{AB} t) \quad (8)$$

where

$$\beta = \frac{A_c}{V_0 L} \left(1 + \frac{V_0}{V_L}\right)$$

$x_{Xe}^\infty$  can also be found by the overall mole balance because  $c$  cancels out and  $V_0 = V_L$ .  
 $\therefore$

$$V(x_{Xe}^0 + x_{Xe}^L) = x_{Xe}^\infty (2V)$$

and rearranging gives

$$x_{Xe}^\infty = \frac{x_{Xe}^0 + x_{Xe}^L}{2}$$

At  $t = 0$ :  $x_{Xe}^0 = 1$  and  $x_{Xe}^L = 0$  which means  $x_{Xe}^\infty = 0.5$  (8) will be used in the following code to answer part a

```
In [ ]: import numpy as np
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
```

```
In [ ]: d = .2 #tube diam cm
L = 10 #tube len cm
DAB = .180 #diffusiv cm2/sec
D = 15 #bulb diam cm
VL = 4/3*np.pi*(.5*D)**3 #volume of bulb cm3
V0=4/3*np.pi*(.5*D)**3
xinf = .5 #x at t=inf
Ac = np.pi*(.5*d)**2 #cross sectional area
xa00 = 1 #x at t=0 in bulb1

beta1 = Ac/V0/L*(1+V0/VL)
```

```
In [ ]: def t(xa0):
        t = -np.log((xa0-xinf)/(xa00-xinf))/beta1/DAB
        return t/3600
        print(t(.6))
```

698.5407606050782

It will take about 699. hours for  $x_{Xe} = 0.6$  in bulb 1

## Problem 3.1.b

A similar approach was taken as part a to derive

$$x_{Xe}^L = x_{Xe}^\infty + (x_{Xe_0}^L - x_{Xe}^\infty) \exp(-\beta D_{AB} t) \quad (9)$$

where

$$\beta = \frac{A_c}{V_L L} \left(1 + \frac{V_L}{V_0}\right)$$

```
In [ ]: xa0L = 0 #x in bulb2 at t=
beta2 = Ac/VL/L*(1+VL/V0)
def t(xaL):
    t = np.log((xaL-xinf)/(xa0L-xinf))/-beta2/DAB
    return t/3600
    print(t(.3))
```

397.69563015371307

It will take about 398. hours for  $x_{Xe} = 0.3$  in bulb 2

## Problem 3.2

To determine the molar flux at  $t = 90$  for both Xe and Ar, (8), (9), and (5) can be used. I will first use (8) and (9) to solve for the molar fractions in both bulbs and then plug those values into (5).  $N_{Xe} = -N_{Ar}$ .  $c$  will be found by using the ideal gas law.

$$\frac{n}{V} = c = \frac{P}{RT} \quad (10)$$

```
In [ ]: P = 1 #pres
T = 105+273.15 #
R = 82.057 #gas constant
c = P/R/T #starting
def xa0(t):
    xa0 = xinf + (xa00-xinf)*np.exp(-beta1*DAB*t)
    return xa0

def xaL(t):
    xaL = xinf + (xa0L-xinf)*np.exp(-beta2*DAB*t)
    return xaL

def NA(xa0,xaL):
    NA = -c*DAB/L*(xaL-xa0)
```

```
return NA
```

```
NA = NA(xa0(90*3600),xaL(90*3600))
print(NA)
```

4.7145197722612887e-07

$$N_{Xe} = 4.71e - 7 \frac{\text{mol}}{\text{cm}^2 \text{sec}} \quad N_{Ar} = -4.71e - 7 \frac{\text{mol}}{\text{cm}^2 \text{sec}}$$

## Problem 3.3

To find the velocities, I first derive an expression for  $x_{Xe}(z)$ . As established before:

$$J_{Xe} = N_{Xe} = -cD_{AB} \frac{dx_{Xe}}{dz}$$

which can be rewritten as

$$N_{Xe} \int_0^z dz = -cD_{AB} \int_{x_{Xe}^0}^{x_{Xe}^z} dx_{Xe}$$

and evaluated to be

$$x_{Xe}^z - x_{Xe}^0 = -\frac{N_{Xe}}{cD_{AB}} z$$

Now (5) can substitute into  $N_{Xe}$  to give

$$x_{Xe} = x_{Xe}^0 + (x_{Xe}^L - x_{Xe}^0) \frac{z}{L} \quad (11)$$

and

$$x_{Ar} = 1 - x_{Xe} \quad (12)$$

Velocity of each species can be written as

$$v_i = \frac{N_i}{cx_i} \quad (13)$$

$N_i$  and  $c$  were calculated previously.

```
In [ ]: def xA(z, xa0, xaL):
    xA = xa0 + (xaL-xa0)*z/L
    return xA

def v(x, spec):
    if spec == 1:
        return NA/c/x
    elif spec == 2:
        return -NA/c/x

z = np.linspace(0,10,999)
```

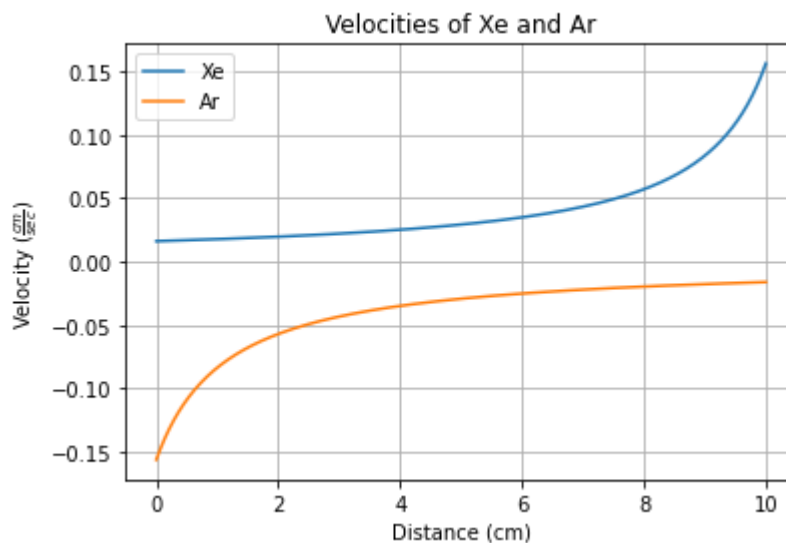
```
In [ ]: xa0_90 = xa0(90*3600)
        xaL_90 = xaL(90*3600)
        xa_z = xA(z,xa0_90,xaL_90)
        va = v(xa_z,1)

        xb0_90 = 1-xa0_90
        xbl_90 = 1-xaL_90
        xb_z = 1-xa_z
        vb = v(xb_z,2)
```

```
In [ ]: plt.plot(z,va,label='Xe')
        plt.plot(z,vb,label='Ar')
        plt.legend()
        plt.grid()
        plt.title('Velocities of Xe and Ar')
        plt.xlabel('Distance (cm)')
        plt.ylabel(''.join(['Velocity ',r'($\frac{cm}{sec}$)']))
        ;
        print(va[-1],'\n',vb[-1])
```

0.1562327457619987

-0.016140418446698973



At  $z = L$ ,  $v_{Xe} = 0.156 \frac{cm}{sec}$   $v_{Ar} = -1.61e - 2 \frac{cm}{sec}$

## Problem 3.4

At  $z = L$ ,  $v_M = 0$  as shown by

$$v_M = \frac{N}{c} = \frac{0}{c}$$

## Problem 3.5

The mass averaged velocity can be determined using

$$v_m = \frac{\sum m_i v_i}{m_{tot}}$$

$m_i$  can be determined by using the ideal gas law and the molar masses of each species

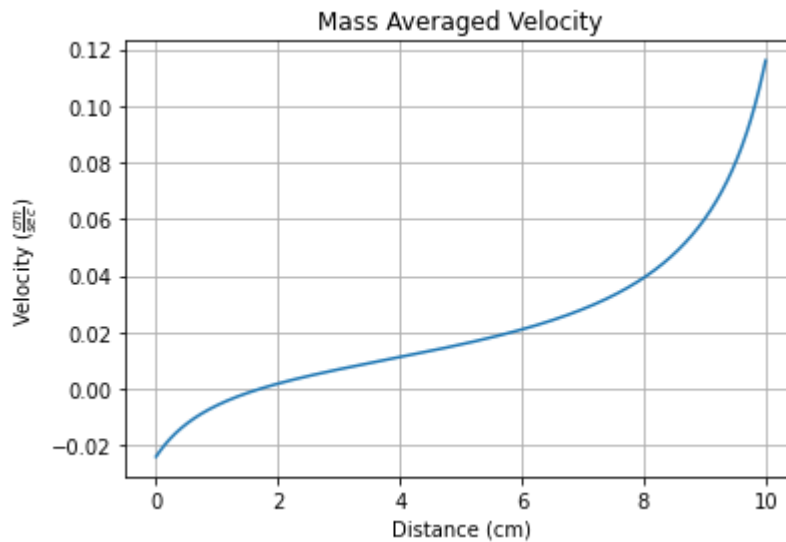
$$m = nM$$

where M is molar mass

```
In [ ]: Mx = 131.29 #molar mass of xe g/mol
        Ma = 39.948 #molar mass of ar g/mol
        n = P*V0/R*T #number of moles of each species
        mx = n*Mx #mass xe g
        ma = n*Ma #mass ar g

        vm = (mx*va+ma*vb)/(ma+mx)
        plt.plot(z,vm)
        plt.grid()
        plt.title('Mass Averaged Velocity')
        plt.xlabel('Distance (cm)')
        plt.ylabel(''.join(['Velocity ',r'(\frac{cm}{sec})']));
        print(vm[-1])
```

0.11601992405297935



At  $z = L$ ,  $v_m = 0.116 \frac{cm}{sec}$