EXPERIMENT No. 3

Rate Study in a Plug Flow Reactor

Objective:

- (1) To determine the order of reaction between sodium hydroxide and ethyle acetate using a Plug Flow Reactor
- (2) To find the rate constant at a particular temperature

Theory:

Stoichiometric Equation: $NaOH + CH_3COOC_2H_5 \rightarrow CH_3COONa + C_2H_5OH$ (A) (B)

Mole Balances: $\frac{V_R}{F_{A_0}} = \int_0^{X_A} \frac{dX_A}{-r_A}$

Rate Equation: $-r_A = k_1 C_{A_0}^2 (1 - X_A)(M - X_A)$

Assuming 2nd Order reaction,

Where $M=\frac{C_{B_0}}{C_{A_0}}$, $X_A=$ Conversion of A, $K_2=$ rate constant

$$\frac{V_R}{F_{A_0}} = \frac{V_R}{v_0 C_{A_0}} = \frac{\tau}{C_{A_0}} = \frac{1}{k_2 C_{A_0}^2 (M - 1)} ln \frac{M - X_A}{M (1 - X_A)} = \frac{1}{k_2} f(X_A)$$

Where $v_0 = v_A + v_B$ and $\tau = V_R/v_0$

Apparatus:

- (1) Stainless Steel Reactor in a constant temperature water bath
- (2) Stop Watch

Dimension of the reactor:

Length of the coil: 609.6 cm; inside dia. Of the tube = 1.23 cm;

Volume of the reactor (volume of tube): 0.724 liter

Chemicals:

- (i) Succinic Acid (N/50), (ii) NaOH (N/20), (iii) CH₃COOC₂H₅ (N/10) and
- (iv) Phenolphthalein indicator

Procedure:

- (i) Fill both the storage tanks of ethyl acetate and NaOH and calibrate the flow meters.
- (ii) Adjust the control valves to set the flow rates. Try to keep both flow rates equal.
- (iii) After attaining steady state, collect the sample in a flask from the outlet.
- (iv) Take 5 ml of this sample and titrate with the standard succinic acid solution with phenolphathalein as indicator.
- (v) Take 5 ml of supplied NaOH and titrate with the standard succinic acid solution to get $C_{A\alpha}^{\prime}$ gmol/lit
- (vi) Calculate X_A from C_A for various $\tau = V_R/v_0$

(vii)Plot $f(X_A)$ against τ and determine the rate constant from the slope.

N.B.:
$$C_{A_0} = \frac{v_A}{v_A + v_B} C'_{A_0}$$
 and $C_{B_0} = \frac{v_B}{v_A + v_B} C'_{B_0}$