

HI Batch Reactor

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Introduction

The batch reactor is a widely used system for production of chemicals in various chemical industries. This reactor type together with the continuous stirred tank reactor (CSTR) and plug-flow reactor can be treated as ideal. In the case of the batch reactor, ideal conditions equal perfectly mixed conditions, meaning that temperature and compositions are the same throughout the reactor, and thus that the problem can be modeled in 0D.

In this example the isothermal and nonisothermal behaviors of the gaseous hydrogen iodine (HI) reaction are modeled in a perfectly mixed Batch reactor. The model utilizes the Batch reactor feature with constant volume within the Reaction Engineering interface of the Chemical Reaction Engineering Module.

Model Description

A classical example on reaction kinetics, namely the hydrogen iodine reaction (Ref. 1), is modeled. The reversible bimolecular reaction is here assumed to properly describe the kinetics:

$$H_{2}(g) + I_{2}(g) = 2HI(g)$$

The model simulates experiments where an initially equimolar mixture of gas reacts. The reaction runs in a perfectly mixed batch reactor of constant volume. The balance equation for each species, i, that is solved in the Reaction Engineering interface is expressed as:

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}c_i}{\mathrm{d}t} = \sum_{j=1}^{n_r} \mathsf{v}_{ij} r_j$$

where c_i is the concentration (SI unit: mol/m³) and R_i the sum of the reaction rate contributions from each participating reaction (SI unit: mol/(m³s)), which will give the production rate of species *i*. In this case we only have one reaction. Both isothermal and nonisothermal conditions are modeled. An energy balance for the Batch reactor is by default defined in the latter case, according to:

$$V_{\rm r} \sum_{i} c_i C_{p,i} \frac{\mathrm{d}T}{\mathrm{d}t} = Q + Q_{\rm ext} + V_{\rm r} \frac{\mathrm{d}p}{\mathrm{d}t}$$

where V_r denotes the reactor volume (SI unit: m³), c_i is the species concentration (SI unit: mol/m³), $C_{p,i}$ is the species molar heat capacity (SI unit: J/(mol·K)), T is the temperature (SI unit: K), and p the pressure (SI unit: Pa). On the right-hand side, Q is the heat due to

chemical reaction (SI unit: W), and Q_{ext} denotes heat added to the system (SI unit: W). The heat of reaction is calculated from the reactor volume, the molar enthalpy, H_i (J/mol), and the reaction rate, as given in the following equation:

$$Q = -V_{\rm r} \sum_i H_i r_i$$

The results are used to compare the conditions and to determine the reaction's equilibrium constant at 700 K.

Results and Discussion

The concentration of the reactants and products for both reaction conditions are displayed in Figure 1. The reactant concentrations overlap. The plot shows that the reactor is close to steady state after roughly 36,000 s (10 hours) for the isothermal case. In the nonisothermal case, steady state is reached much faster, after approximately 2000 s.



Figure 1: Reactant and product concentrations as functions of time for the isothermal and nonisothermal conditions.

The equilibrium quotient, K_Q , is monitored with the following relationship:

$$K_{\rm Q} = \frac{c_{\rm HI}^2}{c_{\rm H_2} c_{\rm I_2}}$$

which at steady state should yield the equilibrium constant. Figure 2 shows that the equilibrium expression asymptotically reaches the value of roughly 54.9 at isothermal conditions, which is also the relationship between $k_{\rm f}$ and $k_{\rm r}$ in the model.



Figure 2: Equilibrium expression at isothermal conditions.

In Figure 3, the temperature is shown to increase 109 K to 809 K as steady state is reached.



Figure 3: Reactor temperature as a function of time.

Figure 4 shows the heat of reaction for isothermal and adiabatic reactor. Note the logarithmic scale on the x-axis, and hence, how much faster the adiabatic reaction is compared to the isothermal case.



Figure 4: Heat of reaction for isothermal and adiabatic reactor.

Reference

1. J.H. Sullivan, "Mechanism of the 'Bimolecular' Hydrogen — Iodine Reaction," *J. Chem. Phys.*, vol. 46, p. 73, 1967.

Application Library path: Chemical_Reaction_Engineering_Module/ Thermodynamics/hi_batch_reactor

Modeling Instructions

From the File menu, choose New.

NEW

In the New window, click 🙆 Model Wizard.

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MODEL WIZARD

- I In the Model Wizard window, click 0D.
- 2 In the Select Physics tree, select Chemical Species Transport>Reaction Engineering (re).
- 3 Click Add.
- 4 Click 🔿 Study.
- 5 In the Select Study tree, select General Studies>Time Dependent.
- 6 Click M Done.

GLOBAL DEFINITIONS

Add a set of model parameters by importing their definitions from a data text file provided with the **Application Library**.

Parameters 1

- I In the Model Builder window, under Global Definitions click Parameters I.
- 2 In the Settings window for Parameters, locate the Parameters section.
- 3 Click **b** Load from File.
- 4 Browse to the model's Application Libraries folder and double-click the file hi_batch_reactor_parameters.txt.

REACTION ENGINEERING (RE)

- I In the Model Builder window, under Component I (compl) click Reaction Engineering (re).
- 2 In the Settings window for Reaction Engineering, locate the Reactor section.
- 3 Find the Mass balance subsection. In the V_r text field, type V_reactor.
- **4** Locate the **Energy Balance** section. In the *T* text field, type Tinit.

Reaction I

- I In the **Reaction Engineering** toolbar, click 👗 **Reaction**.
- 2 In the Settings window for Reaction, locate the Reaction Formula section.
- 3 In the Formula text field, type H2+I2<=>2HI.
- 4 Locate the Rate Constants section. Select the Use Arrhenius expressions check box.
- **5** In the A^{f} text field, type Af_reaction.
- **6** In the E^{f} text field, type Ef_reaction.
- 7 In the A^{r} text field, type Ar_reaction.
- 8 In the $E^{\mathbf{r}}$ text field, type Er_reaction.

Initial Values 1

- I In the Model Builder window, click Initial Values I.
- **2** In the Settings window for Initial Values, locate the Volumetric Species Initial Values section.
- **3** In the table, enter the following settings:

Species	Concentration (mol/m ³)
H2	cinit_H2
н	cinit_HI
12	cinit_I2

DEFINITIONS

Variables 1

I In the Model Builder window, under Component I (compl) right-click Definitions and choose Variables.

Add some variables that need to be investigated. Note that since this is assumed to be an ideal solution, the expression for the equilibrium constant contains the concentration variables instead of the activities.

- 2 In the Settings window for Variables, locate the Variables section.
- **4** Browse to the model's Application Libraries folder and double-click the file hi_batch_reactor_variables.txt.
- 5 In the Reaction Engineering toolbar, click A Thermodynamics and choose Thermodynamic System.

SELECT SYSTEM

- I Go to the Select System window.
- 2 Click Next in the window toolbar.

SELECT SPECIES

- I Go to the Select Species window.
- 2 In the Species list, select hydrogen iodide (10034-85-2, HI).
- 3 Click + Add Selected.
- 4 In the Species list, select hydrogen (1333-74-0, H2).
- 5 Click + Add Selected.

- 6 In the Species list, select iodine (7553-56-2, 12).
- 7 Click + Add Selected.
- 8 Click Next in the window toolbar.

SELECT THERMODYNAMIC MODEL

- I Go to the Select Thermodynamic Model window.
- 2 Click **Finish** in the window toolbar.

REACTION ENGINEERING (RE)

- I In the Model Builder window, under Component I (compl) click Reaction Engineering (re).
- **2** In the **Settings** window for **Reaction Engineering**, click to expand the **Mixture Properties** section.
- 3 Select the Thermodynamics check box.
- 4 Locate the Species Matching section. In the table, enter the following settings:

Species	From Thermodynamics
H2	H2
HI	н
12	12

5 Locate the Energy Balance section. From the list, choose Exclude.

STUDY I

Solve first for isothermal conditions.

Step 1: Time Dependent

- I In the Model Builder window, under Study I click Step I: Time Dependent.
- 2 In the Settings window for Time Dependent, locate the Study Settings section.
- 3 In the **Output times** text field, type **0.5e5**.
- **4** In the **Home** toolbar, click **= Compute**.

STUDY I

Solution I (soll)

- I In the Model Builder window, expand the Study I>Solver Configurations node.
- 2 Right-click Solution I (soll) and choose Solution>Copy.

Isothermal

- I In the Model Builder window, right-click Solution I Copy I (sol2) and choose Rename.
- 2 In the Rename Solution dialog box, type Isothermal in the New label text field.
- 3 Click OK.

Select nonisothermal settings in the **Reaction Engineering** interface.

REACTION ENGINEERING (RE)

- I In the Model Builder window, under Component I (compl) click Reaction Engineering (re).
- 2 In the Settings window for Reaction Engineering, locate the Energy Balance section.
- **3** From the list, choose **Include**.

Initial Values 1

- I In the Model Builder window, under Component I (compl)>Reaction Engineering (re) click Initial Values I.
- 2 In the Settings window for Initial Values, locate the General Parameters section.
- **3** In the T_0 text field, type Tinit.

Solve for nonisothermal conditions.

STUDY I

In the **Home** toolbar, click **= Compute**.

Solution 1 (soll)

In the Model Builder window, under Study I>Solver Configurations right-click Solution I (soll) and choose Solution>Copy.

Nonisothermal

- I In the Model Builder window, right-click Solution I Copy I (sol3) and choose Rename.
- 2 In the Rename Solution dialog box, type Nonisothermal in the New label text field.
- 3 Click OK.

RESULTS

Concentration (re)

- I In the Model Builder window, expand the Results>Concentration (re) node, then click Concentration (re).
- 2 In the Settings window for ID Plot Group, locate the Legend section.
- **3** From the **Position** list, choose **Middle right**.

Global I

- I In the Model Builder window, click Global I.
- 2 In the Settings window for Global, locate the Data section.
- 3 From the Dataset list, choose Study 1/Isothermal (sol2).
- 4 Click to expand the **Title** section. From the **Title type** list, choose **None**.
- 5 Click to expand the Legends section. From the Legends list, choose Manual.
- **6** In the table, enter the following settings:

Legends	
Isothermal	c _{H₂}
Isothermal	c _{I₂}
Isothermal	c _{HI}

7 Click to expand the Coloring and Style section. From the Width list, choose 2.

Global 2

- I Right-click Results>Concentration (re)>Global I and choose Duplicate.
- 2 In the Settings window for Global, locate the Data section.
- 3 From the Dataset list, choose Study I/Nonisothermal (sol3).
- 4 Locate the Legends section. In the table, enter the following settings:

Legends

Nonisothermal c_{H₂}

Nonisothermal c_{I₂}

Nonisothermal c_{HI}

5 In the Concentration (re) toolbar, click **I** Plot.

Equilibrium constant

- I In the Home toolbar, click 🚛 Add Plot Group and choose ID Plot Group.
- 2 In the Settings window for ID Plot Group, type Equilibrium constant in the Label text field.
- 3 Locate the Data section. From the Dataset list, choose Study I/Isothermal (sol2).
- 4 Locate the **Plot Settings** section.
- **5** Select the **x-axis label** check box. In the associated text field, type Time (s).
- **6** Select the **y-axis label** check box. In the associated text field, type Equilibrium constant (-).

Global I

- I Right-click Equilibrium constant and choose Global.
- 2 In the Settings window for Global, click Replace Expression in the upper-right corner of the y-Axis Data section. From the menu, choose Component I (compl)>Definitions> Variables>K_equi - Equilibrium constant.
- **3** Locate the **Title** section. From the **Title type** list, choose **None**.
- 4 Locate the Legends section. Clear the Show legends check box.
- 5 Locate the Coloring and Style section. From the Width list, choose 2.
- 6 In the Equilibrium constant toolbar, click **I** Plot.

Temperature change

- I In the Home toolbar, click 🚛 Add Plot Group and choose ID Plot Group.
- 2 In the Settings window for ID Plot Group, type Temperature change in the Label text field.
- 3 Locate the Data section. From the Dataset list, choose Study I/Nonisothermal (sol3).
- 4 Locate the Plot Settings section.
- 5 Select the x-axis label check box. In the associated text field, type Time (s).
- 6 Select the y-axis label check box. In the associated text field, type Temperature change (K).
- 7 Click the **x-Axis Log Scale** button in the **Graphics** toolbar.

Global I

- I Right-click Temperature change and choose Global.
- In the Settings window for Global, click Replace Expression in the upper-right corner of the y-Axis Data section. From the menu, choose Component I (compl)>Definitions> Variables>T_change Temperature change K.
- **3** Locate the **Title** section. From the **Title type** list, choose **None**.
- 4 Locate the Legends section. Clear the Show legends check box.
- 5 Locate the Coloring and Style section. From the Width list, choose 2.
- 6 In the Temperature change toolbar, click 🗿 Plot.

Heat of reaction

- I In the Home toolbar, click 🚛 Add Plot Group and choose ID Plot Group.
- 2 In the Settings window for ID Plot Group, type Heat of reaction in the Label text field.
- 3 Locate the Legend section. From the Position list, choose Upper left.

Global I

- I Right-click Heat of reaction and choose Global.
- 2 In the Settings window for Global, locate the y-Axis Data section.
- 3 Click **Clear Table**.
- 4 Click Add Expression in the upper-right corner of the y-Axis Data section. From the menu, choose Component I (compl)>Reaction Engineering>re.Qheat Heat source of reactions W/m³.
- 5 Click to expand the Coloring and Style section. From the Width list, choose 2.
- 6 Click to expand the Legends section. From the Legends list, choose Manual.
- 7 In the table, enter the following settings:

Legends

Isothermal reactor

- 8 Locate the Data section. From the Dataset list, choose Study I/Isothermal (sol2).
- 9 Click to expand the Title section. From the Title type list, choose None.

Global 2

- I Right-click Global I and choose Duplicate.
- 2 In the Settings window for Global, locate the Legends section.
- **3** In the table, enter the following settings:

Legends

Nonisothermal reactor

4 Locate the Data section. From the Dataset list, choose Study I/Nonisothermal (sol3).

Heat of reaction

- I In the Model Builder window, click Heat of reaction.
- 2 In the Settings window for ID Plot Group, locate the Axis section.
- 3 Select the x-axis log scale check box.
- 4 In the Heat of reaction toolbar, click 💿 Plot.