

# **General Aptitude (GA)**

# Q.1 – Q.5 Carry ONE mark Each

Q.1	If ' $\rightarrow$ ' denotes increasing order of intensity, then the meaning of the words
	[simmer $\rightarrow$ see the $\rightarrow$ smolder] is analogous to [break $\rightarrow$ raze $\rightarrow$ ].
	Which one of the given options is appropriate to fill the blank?
(A)	obfuscate
(B)	obliterate
(C)	fracture
(D)	fissure

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Q.2	In a locality, the houses are numbered in the following way:
	The house-numbers on one side of a road are consecutive odd integers starting from 301, while the house-numbers on the other side of the road are consecutive even numbers starting from 302. The total number of houses is the same on both sides of the road.
	If the difference of the sum of the house-numbers between the two sides of the road is 27, then the number of houses on each side of the road is
(A)	27
(B)	52
(C)	54
(D)	26
Q.3	For positive integers p and q, with $\frac{p}{q} \neq 1$ , $\left(\frac{p}{q}\right)^{\frac{p}{q}} = p^{\left(\frac{p}{q}-1\right)}$ . Then,
(A)	$q^p = p^q$
(B)	$q^p = p^{2q}$
(C)	$\sqrt{q} = \sqrt{p}$
(D)	$\sqrt[p]{\sqrt{q}} = \sqrt[q]{p}$

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Q.4	Which one of the given options is a possible value of <i>x</i> in the following sequence?
	3, 7, 15, <i>x</i> , 63, 127, 255
(A)	35
(B)	40
(C)	45
(D)	31
Q.5	On a given day, how many times will the second-hand and the minute-hand of a clock cross each other during the clock time 12:05:00 hours to 12:55:00 hours?
(A)	51
(B)	49
(C)	50
(D)	55

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### Q.6 – Q.10 Carry TWO marks Each

Q.6 In the given text, the blanks are numbered (i)–(iv). Select the best match for all the blanks.

From the ancient Athenian arena to the modern Olympic stadiums, athletics \_\_\_\_\_\_ the potential for a spectacle. The crowd \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ with bated breath as the Olympian artist twists his body, stretching the javelin behind him. Twelve strides in, he begins to cross-step. Six cross-steps \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in an abrupt stop on his left foot. As his body \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ like a door turning on a hinge, the javelin is launched skyward at a precise angle.

)	(i) hold	(ii) waits	(iii) culminates	(iv) pivot
	(i) holds	(ii) wait	(iii) culminates	(iv) pivot
	(i) hold	(ii) wait	(iii) culminate	(iv) pivots
)	(i) holds	(ii) waits	(iii) culminate	(iv) pivots

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Q.7	Three distinct sets of indistinguishable twins are to be seated at a circular table that has 8 identical chairs. Unique seating arrangements are defined by the relative positions of the people. How many unique seating arrangements are possible such that each person is sitting next to their twin?
(A)	12
(B)	14
(C)	10
(D)	28



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Q.8 The chart given below compares the Installed Capacity (MW) of four power generation technologies, T1, T2, T3, and T4, and their Electricity Generation (MWh) in a time of 1000 hours (h). Installed Capacity **X** Electricity Generation 14000 70 13000 65 -----X---12000 60 (MWh) 11000 55 (MM) 10000 -X-50 Generation 9000 45 apacity 8000 40 7000 35 C 6000 30 led 5000 ₹ 25



(B)	
(C)	ТЗ
(D)	Τ4

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**Rule:** The number in a cell represents the count of crosses around its immediate neighboring cells (left, right, top, bottom, diagonals).

	As per this rule, the <b>maximum</b> number of crosses possible in the empty column is
(A)	0
(B)	1
(C)	2
(D)	3



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Q.10	During a half-moon phase, the Earth-Moon-Sun form a right triangle. If the Moon-Earth-Sun angle at this half-moon phase is measured to be 89.85°, the ratio of the Earth-Sun and Earth-Moon distances is closest to
(A)	328
(B)	382
(C)	238
(D)	283

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# Q.11 – Q.35 Carry ONE mark Each

Q.11	The first non-zero term in the Taylor series expansion of $(1 - x) - e^{-x}$ about $x = 0$ is
(A)	1
(B)	-1
(C)	$\frac{x^2}{2}$
(D)	$-\frac{x^2}{2}$
Q.12	Consider the normal probability distribution function
	$f(x) = \frac{4}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-8(x+3)^2}$
	If $\mu$ and $\sigma$ are the mean and standard deviation of $f(x)$ respectively, then the ordered pair $(\mu, \sigma)$ is
(A)	$\left(3, \frac{1}{4}\right)$
(B)	$\left(-3, \frac{1}{4}\right)$
(C)	(3,4)
(D)	(-3,4)

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Q.13	If $z_1 = -1 + i$ and $z_2 = 2i$ , where $i = \sqrt{-1}$ , then $\operatorname{Arg}(z_1/z_2)$ is
(A)	$\frac{3\pi}{4}$
(B)	$\frac{\pi}{4}$
(C)	$\frac{\pi}{2}$
(D)	$\frac{\pi}{3}$

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Q.14 A homogeneous azeotropic distillation process separates an azeotropic AB binary feed using a heavy entrainer, E, as shown in the figure. The loss of E in the two product streams is negligible so that E circulates around the process in a closed-circuit. For a distillation column with fully specified feed(s), given operating pressure, a single distillate stream and a single bottoms stream, the steady-state degrees of freedom equals 2. For the process in the figure with a fully specified AB feed stream and given column operating pressures, the steady-state degrees of freedom equals



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Q.15	An infinitely long cylindrical water filament of radius $R$ is surrounded by air. Assume water and air to be static. The pressure outside the filament is $P_{out}$ and the pressure inside is $P_{in}$ . If $\gamma$ is the surface tension of the water-air interface, then $P_{in} - P_{out}$ is
(A)	$\frac{2\gamma}{R}$
(B)	0
(C)	$\frac{\gamma}{R}$
(D)	$\frac{4\gamma}{R}$
Q.16	The velocity field in an incompressible flow is $v = \alpha xy\hat{i} + v_y\hat{j} + \beta\hat{k}$ , where $\hat{i}$ , $\hat{j}$ and $\hat{k}$ are unit-vectors in the $(x, y, z)$ Cartesian coordinate system. Given that $\alpha$ and $\beta$ are constants, and $v_y = 0$ at $y = 0$ , the correct expression for $v_y$ is
(A)	$\frac{-\alpha xy}{2}$
(B)	$\frac{-\alpha y^2}{2}$
(C)	$\frac{\alpha y^2}{2}$
(D)	$\frac{\alpha xy}{2}$

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Q.17 Consider the steady, uni-directional diffusion of a binary mixture of A and B across a vertical slab of dimensions  $0.2 \text{ m} \times 0.1 \text{ m} \times 0.02 \text{ m}$  as shown in the figure. The total molar concentration of A and B is constant at 100 mol m<sup>-3</sup>. The mole fraction of A on the left and right faces of the slab are maintained at 0.8 and 0.2, respectively. If the binary diffusion coefficient  $D_{AB} = 1 \times 10^{-5} \text{ m}^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$ , the molar flow rate of A in mol s<sup>-1</sup>, along the horizontal x direction is

	0.20 m 0.02 m
(A)	$6 \times 10^{-4}$
(B)	$6 \times 10^{-6}$
(C)	$3 \times 10^{-6}$
(D)	$3 \times 10^{-4}$



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Q.18	Consider a vapour-liquid mixture of components A and B that obeys Raoult's law. The vapour pressure of A is half that of B. The vapour phase concentrations of A and B are 3 mol m <sup>-3</sup> and 6 mol m <sup>-3</sup> , respectively. At equilibrium, the ratio of the liquid phase concentration of A to that of B is
(A)	1.0
(B)	0.5
(C)	2.0
(D)	1.5
Q.19	The ratio of the activation energy of a chemical reaction to the universal gas constant is 1000 K. The temperature-dependence of the reaction rate constant follows the collision theory. The ratio of the rate constant at 600 K to that at 400 K is
(A)	2.818
(B)	4.323
(C)	1.502
(D)	1.000

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Q.20	The rate of a reaction $A \rightarrow B$ is 0.2 mol m <sup>-3</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> at a particular concentration $C_{A1}$ . The rate constant of the reaction at a given temperature is 0.1 m <sup>3</sup> mol <sup>-1</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> . If the reactant concentration is increased to 10 $C_{A1}$ at the same temperature, the reaction rate, in mol m <sup>-3</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> , is
(A)	20
( <b>B</b> )	10
(C)	100
(D)	50
Q.21	Two parallel first-order liquid phase reactions $A \xrightarrow{k_1} B$ and $A \xrightarrow{k_2} C$ are carried out in a well-mixed isothermal batch reactor. The initial concentration of $A$ in the reactor is 1 kmol m <sup>-3</sup> , while that of $B$ and $C$ is zero. After 2 hours, the concentration of $A$ reduces to half its initial value, and the concentration of $B$ is twice that of $C$ . The rate constants $k_1$ and $k_2$ , in h <sup>-1</sup> , are, respectively
<b>A</b> )	0 4 0 0 2 0

(B)	0.23, 0.12
(C)	0.50, 0.25
(D)	0.36, 0.18

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	$\frac{(0.5s+1)^2}{\text{process}}$
(A)	(0.5, 2)
(B)	(-0.5, 0.5)
(C)	(-2, 2)
(D)	(2, 0.5)

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Q.23 Consider the control structure for the overhead section of a distillation column shown in the figure. The composition controller (CC) controls the heavy key impurity in the distillate by adjusting the setpoint of the reflux flow controller in a cascade arrangement. The sign of the controller gain for the pressure controller (PC) and that for the composition controller (CC) are, respectively,



	AC: air-to-close valve AO: air-to-open valve L/D: reflux-to-distillate ratio
(A)	negative, negative
(B)	negative, positive
(C)	positive, positive
(D)	positive, negative

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Q.24	Which one of the given statements is correct with reference to gas-liquid contactors for mass transfer applications?
(A)	A tray tower is more suitable for foaming systems than a packed tower.
(B)	Tray towers are preferred over packed towers for systems requiring frequent cleaning.
(C)	For a given liquid flow rate, the gas flow rate in the loading region is greater than that in the flooding region.
(D)	Flooding can never occur for counter-current contact.
Q.25	In an ammonia manufacturing facility, the necessary hydrogen is generated from methane. The facility consists of the following process units -
	P: Methanator, Q: CO shift convertor, R: CO <sub>2</sub> stripper, S: Reformer, T: Ammonia convertor
	The correct order of these units, starting from methane feed is
(A)	S, Q, R, P, T

(B)	P, Q, R, S, T
(C)	S, P, Q, R, T
(D)	P, S, T, Q, R

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Q.26	Consider a linear homogeneous system of equations $Ax = 0$ , where A is an $n \times n$ matrix, x is an $n \times 1$ vector and 0 is an $n \times 1$ null vector. Let r be the rank of A. For a non-trivial solution to exist, which of the following conditions is/are satisfied?
(A)	Determinant of $\mathbf{A} = 0$
(B)	r = n
(C)	r < n
(D)	Determinant of $\mathbf{A} \neq 0$
Q.27	If the Prandtl number $Pr = 0.01$ , which of the following statements is/are correct?
(A)	The momentum diffusivity is much larger than the thermal diffusivity.
(B)	The thickness of the momentum boundary layer is much smaller than that of the thermal boundary layer.
(C)	The thickness of the momentum boundary layer is much larger than that of the thermal boundary layer.
(D)	The momentum diffusivity is much smaller than the thermal diffusivity.

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Q.28	For the electrolytic cell in a chlor-alkali plant, which of the following statements is/are correct?
(A)	A membrane cell operates at a higher brine concentration than a diaphragm cell.
(B)	Chlorine gas is produced at the cathode.
(C)	Hydrogen gas is produced at the cathode.
(D)	The caustic product stream exits the cathode compartment.
Q.29	Which of the following statements with reference to the petroleum/petrochemical industry is/are correct?
(A)	Catalytic hydrocracking converts heavier hydrocarbons to lighter hydrocarbons.
(B)	Catalytic reforming converts straight-chain hydrocarbons to aromatics.
(C)	Cumene is manufactured by the catalytic alkylation of benzene with propylene.
(D)	Vinyl acetate is manufactured by reacting methane with acetic acid over a palladium catalyst.

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Q.30	Consider a matrix $\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} -5 & a \\ -2 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$ , where <i>a</i> is a constant. If the eigenvalues of <b>A</b> are $-1$ and $-6$ , then the value of <i>a</i> , rounded off to the nearest integer, is
Q.31	Consider the reaction $N_2(g) + 3H_2(g) \rightleftharpoons 2NH_3(g)$ in a continuous flow reactor under steady-state conditions. The component flow rates at the reactor inlet are $F_{N_2}^0 = 100 \text{ mol s}^{-1}$ , $F_{H_2}^0 = 300 \text{ mol s}^{-1}$ , $F_{\text{inert}}^0 = 1 \text{ mol s}^{-1}$ . If the fractional conversion of $H_2$ is 0.60, the outlet flow rate of $N_2$ , in mol s <sup>-1</sup> , rounded off to the nearest integer, is

Q.32	Consider a binary mixture of components A and B at temperature T and pressure P. Let $\overline{V}_A$ and $\overline{V}_B$ be the partial molar volumes of A and B, respectively. At a certain mole fraction of A, $x_A$
	$\left(\frac{\partial \overline{V}_A}{\partial x_A}\right)_{T,P} = 22 \text{ cm}^3 \text{ mol}^{-1} \text{ and } \left(\frac{\partial \overline{V}_B}{\partial x_A}\right)_{T,P} = -18 \text{ cm}^3 \text{ mol}^{-1}$
	The value of $x_A$ , rounded off to 2 decimal places, is
Q.33	Consider the steady, uni-directional, fully-developed, pressure-driven laminar flow of an incompressible Newtonian fluid through a circular pipe of inner radius 5.0 cm. The magnitude of shear stress at the inner wall of the pipe is $0.1 \text{ N m}^{-2}$ . At a radial distance of 1.0 cm from the pipe axis, the magnitude of the shear stress, in $\text{N m}^{-2}$ , rounded off to 3 decimal places, is
Q.34	The opposite faces of a metal slab of thickness 5 cm and thermal conductivity $400 \text{ W m}^{-1} \circ \text{C}^{-1}$ are maintained at 500 °C and 200 °C. The area of each face is $0.02 \text{ m}^2$ . Assume that the heat transfer is steady and occurs only in the direction perpendicular to the faces. The magnitude of the heat transfer rate, in kW, rounded off to the nearest integer, is

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Q.35	The capital cost of a distillation column is Rs. 90 lakhs. The cost is to be fully depreciated (salvage value is zero) using the double-declining balance method over 10 years. At the end of two years of continuous operation, the book-value of the column, in lakhs of rupees, rounded off to 1 decimal place, is



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### Q.36 – Q.65 Carry TWO marks Each

Consider a steady, fully-developed, uni-directional laminar flow of an Q.36 incompressible Newtonian fluid (viscosity  $\mu$ ) between two infinitely long horizontal plates separated by a distance 2H as shown in the figure. The flow is driven by the combined action of a pressure gradient and the motion of the bottom plate at y = -H in the negative x direction. Given that  $\frac{\Delta P}{L} = \frac{(P_1 - P_2)}{L} > 0$ , where  $P_1$ and  $P_2$  are the pressures at two x locations separated by a distance L. The bottom plate has a velocity of magnitude V with respect to the stationary top plate at y = H. Which one of the following represents the x-component of the fluid velocity vector?



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Q.37	The temperatures of two large parallel plates of equal emissivity are 900 K and 300 K. A reflection radiation shield of low emissivity and negligible conductive resistance is placed parallelly between them. The steady-state temperature of the shield, in K, is
(A)	759
(B)	559
(C)	659
(D)	859
Q.38	Hot oil at 110 °C heats water from 30 °C to 70 °C in a counter-current double-pipe heat exchanger. The flow rates of water and oil are 50 kg min <sup>-1</sup> and 100 kg min <sup>-1</sup> , respectively and their specific heat capacities are 4.2 kJ kg <sup>-1</sup> °C <sup>-1</sup> and 2.0 kJ kg <sup>-1</sup> °C <sup>-1</sup> , respectively. Assume the heat exchanger is at steady state. If the overall heat transfer coefficient is 200 W m <sup>-2</sup> °C <sup>-1</sup> , the heat transfer area in m <sup>2</sup> is
(A)	17.9
(B)	1.1

(C)	5.2
(D)	35.2

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Q. 39	A solid slab of thickness $H_1$ is initially at a uniform temperature $T_0$ . At time $t = 0$ , the temperature of the top surface at $y = H_1$ is increased to $T_1$ , while the bottom surface at $y = 0$ is maintained at $T_0$ for $t \ge 0$ . Assume heat transfer occurs only in the y-direction, and all thermal properties of the slab are constant. The time required for the temperature at $y = H_1/2$ to reach 99% of its final steady value is $\tau_1$ . If the thickness of the slab is doubled to $H_2 = 2 H_1$ , and the time required for the temperature at $y = H_2/2$ to reach 99% of its final steady value is $\tau_2$ , then $\tau_2/\tau_1$ is
(A)	2
(B)	$\frac{1}{4}$
(C)	4
(D)	$\frac{1}{2}$

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Q.40	A gas stream containing 95 mol% CO <sub>2</sub> and 5 mol% ethanol is to be scrubbed with pure water in a counter-current, isothermal absorption column to remove ethanol. The desired composition of ethanol in the exit gas stream is 0.5 mol%. The equilibrium mole fraction of ethanol in the gas phase, $y^*$ , is related to that in the liquid phase, $x$ , as $y^* = 2x$ . Assume CO <sub>2</sub> is insoluble in water and neglect evaporation of water. If the water flow rate is twice the minimum, the mole fraction of ethanol in the spent water is
(A)	0.0225
(B)	0.0126
(C)	0.0428
(D)	0.0316
Q.41	Sulfur dioxide (SO <sub>2</sub> ) gas diffuses through a stagnant air-film of thickness 2 mm at 1 bar and 30 °C. The diffusion coefficient of SO <sub>2</sub> in air is $1 \times 10^{-5}$ m <sup>2</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> . The SO <sub>2</sub> partial pressures at the opposite sides of the film are 0.15 bar and 0.05 bar. The universal gas constant is 8.314 J mol <sup>-1</sup> K <sup>-1</sup> . Assuming ideal gas behavior, the steady-state flux of SO <sub>2</sub> in mol m <sup>-2</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> through the air-film is
(A)	0.077

(B)	0.022
(C)	0.085
(D)	0.057

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Q.42	A simple distillation column separates a binary mixture of <i>A</i> and <i>B</i> . The relative volatility of <i>A</i> with respect to <i>B</i> is 2. The steady-state composition of <i>A</i> in the vapour leaving the $1^{st}$ , $2^{nd}$ and $3^{rd}$ trays in the rectifying section are 94, 90 and 85 mol%, respectively. For ideal trays and constant molal overflow, the reflux-to-distillate ratio is
(A)	1.9
(B)	2.7
(C)	1.2
(D)	1.1
Q.43	Alumina particles with an initial moisture content of 5 kg per kg dry solid are dried in a batch dryer. For the first two hours, the measured drying rate is constant at $2 \text{ kg m}^{-2} \text{ h}^{-1}$ . Thereafter, in the falling-rate period, the rate decreases linearly with the moisture content. The equilibrium moisture content is 0.05 kg per kg dry solid and the drying area of the particles is 0.5 m <sup>2</sup> per kg dry solid. The total drying time, in h, to reduce the moisture content to half its initial value is
(A)	4.13

(B)	2.55
(C)	3.22
(D)	5.13

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Q.44	A first-order heterogenous reaction $A \rightarrow B$ is carried out using a porous spherical catalyst. Assume isothermal conditions, and that intraphase diffusion controls the reaction rate. At a bulk A concentration of 0.3 mol L <sup>-1</sup> , the observed reaction rate in a 3 mm diameter catalyst particle is 0.2 mol s <sup>-1</sup> L <sup>-1</sup> catalyst volume. At a bulk A concentration of 0.1 mol L <sup>-1</sup> , the observed reaction rate, in mol s <sup>-1</sup> L <sup>-1</sup> catalyst volume, in a 6 mm diameter catalyst particle, is
(A)	0.011
(B)	0.033

(C)	0.022
(D)	0.005
Q.45	A first-order liquid phase reaction $A \rightarrow B$ is carried out in two isothermal plug flow reactors (PFRs) of volume 1 m <sup>3</sup> each, connected in series. The feed flow rate and concentration of A to the first reactor are 10 m <sup>3</sup> h <sup>-1</sup> and 1 kmol m <sup>-3</sup> , respectively. At steady-state, the concentration of A at the exit of the second reactor is 0.2 kmol m <sup>-3</sup> . If the two PFRs are replaced by two equal-volume continuously stirred tank reactors (CSTRs) to achieve the same overall steady-state conversion, the volume of each CSTR, in m <sup>3</sup> , is

(A)	1.54
(B)	3.84
(C)	7.28
(D)	1.98

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(A)	0.905
(B)	0.452
(C)	1.902
(D)	0.502

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(A)	$\frac{3\pi a^2}{2}$
(B)	$\frac{2\pi a^2}{3}$
(C)	$3\pi a^2$
(D)	$2\pi a^2$



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Q.49	For purchasing a batch reactor, three alternatives P, Q and R have emerged, as summarized in the table. For a compound interest rate of 10% per annum, choose the correct option that arranges the alternatives, in order, from the least expensive to the most expensive.						
			Р	Q	R		
		Installed Cost (lakh rupees)	15	25	35		
		Equipment Life (years)	3	5	7		
		Maintenance Cost (lakh rupees per year)	4	3	2		
(A)	P, Q, R						
(B)	R, P, Q						
(C)	R, Q, P						
(D)	Q, R, P						
Q.50	The Newton-Raphson method is used to solve $f(x) = 0$ , where $f(x) = e^x - 5x$ .						
	If the initial guess $x^{(0)} = 1.0$ , the value of the next iterate, $x^{(1)}$ , rounded off to 2 decimal places, is						
Q.51	Consider the line integral $\int_C \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{r}) \cdot d\mathbf{r}$ , with $\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{r}) = x \hat{\mathbf{i}} + y \hat{\mathbf{j}} + z \hat{\mathbf{k}}$ , where $\hat{\mathbf{i}}, \hat{\mathbf{j}}$ and $\hat{\mathbf{k}}$ are unit vectors in the $(x, y, z)$ Cartesian coordinate system. The path <i>C</i> is given by $\mathbf{r}(t) = \cos(t) \hat{\mathbf{i}} + \sin(t) \hat{\mathbf{j}} + t \hat{\mathbf{k}}$ , where $0 \le t \le \pi$ . The value of the integral, rounded off to 2 decimal places, is						

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Q.52	Consider the ordinary differential equation $x^2 \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} - x \frac{dy}{dx} - 3y = 0$ , with the boundary conditions $y(x = 1) = 2$ and $y(x = 2) = \frac{17}{2}$ . The solution $y(x)$ at $x = \frac{3}{2}$ , rounded off to 2 decimal places, is
Q.53	Consider the function $f(x, y, z) = x^4 + 2y^3 + z^2$ . The directional derivative of the function at the point $P(-1, 1, -1)$ along $(\hat{i} + \hat{j})$ , where $\hat{i}$ and $\hat{j}$ are unit vectors in the <i>x</i> and <i>y</i> directions, respectively, rounded off to 2 decimal places, is
Q.54	Consider the process in the figure for manufacturing $B$ . The feed to the process is

90 mol% A and a close-boiling inert component I. At a particular steady-state:

- *B* product rate is 100 kmol  $h^{-1}$
- Single-pass conversion of A in the reactor is 50%
- Recycle-to-purge stream flow ratio is 10

The flow rate of A in the purge stream in kmol  $h^{-1}$ , rounded off to 1 decimal place,



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Q.55 Methane combusts with air in a furnace as  $CH_4 + 2O_2 \rightarrow CO_2 + 2H_2O$ . The heat of reaction  $\Delta H_{rxn} = -880$  kJ per mol  $CH_4$  and is assumed to be constant. The furnace is well-insulated and no other side reactions occur. All components behave as ideal gases with a constant molar heat capacity of 44 J mol<sup>-1</sup> °C<sup>-1</sup>. Air may be considered as 20 mol%  $O_2$  and 80 mol%  $N_2$ . The air-fuel mixture enters the furnace at 50 °C. The methane conversion X varies with the air-to-methane mole ratio, r, as

$$X = 1 - 0.1 e^{-2(r - r_s)}$$
 with  $0.9 r_s \le r \le 1.1 r_s$ 

where  $r_s$  is the stoichiometric air-to-methane mole ratio. For  $r = 1.05 r_s$ , the exit flue gas temperature in °C, rounded off to 1 decimal place, is \_\_\_\_\_

Q.56 An isolated system consists of two perfectly sealed cuboidal compartments A and B separated by a movable rigid wall of cross-sectional area  $0.1 \text{ m}^2$  as shown in the figure. Initially, the movable wall is held in place by latches  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  such that the volume of compartment A is  $0.1 \text{ m}^3$ . Compartment A contains a monoatomic ideal gas at 5 bar and 400 K. Compartment B is perfectly evacuated and contains a massless Hookean spring of force constant  $0.3 \text{ Nm}^{-1}$  at its equilibrium length (stored elastic energy is zero). The latches  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  are released, the wall moves to the right by 0.2 m, where it is held at the new position by latches  $L_3$  and  $L_4$ . Assume all the walls and latches are massless. The final equilibrium temperature, in K, of the gas in compartment A, rounded off to 1 decimal place, is \_\_\_\_\_\_



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Q.57 Ethylene obeys the truncated virial equation-of-state

$$\frac{PV}{RT} = 1 + \frac{BP}{RT}$$

where *P* is the pressure, *V* is the molar volume, *T* is the absolute temperature and *B* is the second virial coefficient. The universal gas constant R = 83.14 bar cm<sup>3</sup> mol<sup>-1</sup>K<sup>-1</sup>. At 340 K, the slope of the compressibility factor vs. pressure curve is  $-3.538 \times 10^{-3}$  bar<sup>-1</sup>. Let  $G^R$  denote the molar residual Gibbs free energy. At these conditions, the value of  $\left(\frac{\partial G^R}{\partial P}\right)_T$ , in cm<sup>3</sup> mol<sup>-1</sup>, rounded off to 1 decimal place, is \_\_\_\_\_\_

Q.58 A metallic spherical particle of density 7001 kg m<sup>-3</sup> and diameter 1 mm is settling steadily due to gravity in a stagnant gas of density 1 kg m<sup>-3</sup> and viscosity  $10^{-5}$  kg m<sup>-1</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>. Take g = 9.8 m s<sup>-2</sup>. Assume that the settling occurs in the regime where the drag coefficient  $C_D$  is independent of the Reynolds number, and equals 0.44. The terminal settling velocity of the particle, in m s<sup>-1</sup>, rounded off to 2 decimal places, is \_\_\_\_\_



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# **Chemical Engineering (CH)**

Q.61 Heat is available at a rate of 2 kW from a thermal reservoir at 400 K. A two-stage process harnesses this heat to produce power. Stages 1 and 2 reject heat at 360 K and 300 K, respectively. Stage 2 is driven by the heat rejected by Stage 1. If the overall process efficiency is 50% of the corresponding Carnot efficiency, the power delivered by the process, in kW, rounded off to 2 decimal places, is \_\_\_\_\_

Q.62	A chemostat with cell recycle is shown in the figure. The feed flow rate and culture volume are $F = 75 \text{ L h}^{-1}$ and $V = 200 \text{ L}$ , respectively. The glucose concentration in the feed $C_{S0} = 15 \text{ g L}^{-1}$ . Assume Monod kinetics with specific cell growth rate $\mu_g = \frac{1}{C_C} \frac{dC_C}{dt} = \frac{\mu_m C_S}{K_S + C_S}$ , where $\mu_m = 0.25 \text{ h}^{-1}$ and $K_s = 1 \text{ g L}^{-1}$ . Assume maintenance and death rates to be zero, input feed to be sterile ( $C_{C0} = 0$ ) and steady-state operation. The glucose concentration in the recycle stream, $C_{S1}$ , in g L <sup>-1</sup> , rounded off to 1 decimal place, is
	$F, C_{C0}, C_{S0}$ $(1 + \alpha)F, C_{C1}, C_{S1}$



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# **Chemical Engineering (CH)**

Q.63 Consider the surge drum in the figure. Initially the system is at steady-state with a hold-up  $\overline{V} = 5 \text{ m}^3$ , which is 50% of full tank capacity,  $V_{full}$ , and volumetric flow rates  $\overline{F}_{in} = \overline{F}_{out} = 1 \text{ m}^3 \text{ h}^{-1}$ . The high hold-up alarm limit  $V_{high} = 0.8 V_{full}$  while the low hold-up alarm limit  $V_{low} = 0.2 V_{full}$ . A proportional (P-only) controller manipulates the outflow to regulate the hold-up V as  $F_{out} = K_c(V - \overline{V}) + \overline{F}_{out}$ . At t = 0,  $F_{in}$  increases as a step from 1 m<sup>3</sup> h<sup>-1</sup> to 2 m<sup>3</sup> h<sup>-1</sup>. Assume linear control valves and instantaneous valve dynamics. Let  $K_c^{min}$  be the minimum controller gain that ensures V never exceeds  $V_{high}$ . The value of  $K_c^{min}$ , in  $h^{-1}$ , rounded off to 2 decimal places, is \_\_\_\_\_\_



	$G_c = K_c \frac{z}{\left(\frac{\tau_D}{20}\right)s+1}$ , $G_p = \frac{\tau_D}{(s-1)(10s+1)}$ and time is in minutes. From the necessary conditions for closed-loop stability, the maximum feasible value of $\tau_D$ , in minutes, rounded off to 1 decimal place, is
Q.65	Consider a tray-column of diameter 120 cm. Each downcomer has a cross-sectional area of 575 cm <sup>2</sup> . For a tray, the percentage column cross-sectional area not available for vapour flow due to the downcomers, rounded off to 1 decimal place, is

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# **GATE 2024** Chemical Engineering Question Paper with Solutions

Time Allowed :3 hours | Maximum Marks :100 | Tota

**Total questions :**65

## **General Instructions**

## Read the following instructions very carefully and strictly follow them:

This question paper is divided into three sections:

1. The total duration of the examination is 3 hours. The question paper contains three sections -

Section A: General Aptitude

**Section B: Engineering Mathematics** 

# **Section C: Chemical Engineering**

2. The total number of questions is 65, carrying a maximum of 100 marks.

3. The marking scheme is as follows:

(i) For 1-mark MCQs,  $\frac{1}{3}$  mark will be deducted for every incorrect response.

(ii) For 2-mark MCQs,  $\frac{2}{3}$  mark will be deducted for every incorrect response.

(iii) No negative marking for numerical answer type (NAT) questions.

4. No marks will be awarded for unanswered questions.

5. Follow the instructions provided during the exam for submitting your answers.

1. If '—' denotes increasing order of intensity, then the meaning of the words [simmer — seethe — smolder] is analogous to [break — raze — ]. Which one of the given options is appropriate to fill the blank?

(1) obfuscate

- (2) obliterate
- (3) fracture
- (4) fissure

#### Correct Answer: (2) obliterate

#### Solution:

#### **Step 1: Interpreting the analogy.**

The sequence "simmer — see the — smolder" suggests a gradual increase in intensity related to heat or emotion.

Similarly, in "break — raze —," we need a word that indicates a stronger, more destructive action than "raze."

#### **Step 2: Reviewing the options.**

- \*\*Obfuscate:\*\* Refers to making something unclear or confusing, not related to destruction.

- \*\*Obliterate:\*\* Means to completely destroy, making it suitable for the analogy.
- \*\*Fracture:\*\* Refers to breaking into parts, which is less intense than "raze."
- \*\*Fissure:\*\* Indicates a crack or split, also less severe than "raze."

## **Step 3: Concluding the solution.**

"Obliterate" is the most appropriate word to complete the analogy as it represents the greatest level of destruction.

## Quick Tip

For analogy-based questions, first identify the progression or relationship in the given set of words. Apply this logic to the options to determine the best fit.

2. In a locality, the houses are numbered in the following way: The house-numbers on one side of a road are consecutive odd integers starting from 301, while the

house-numbers on the other side of the road are consecutive even numbers starting from 302. The total number of houses is the same on both sides of the road. If the difference of the sum of the house-numbers between the two sides of the road is 27, then the number of houses on each side of the road is:

- (1) 27
- (2) 52
- (3) 54
- (4) 26
- Correct Answer: (1) 27

## Solution:

## Step 1: Problem setup.

House numbers on one side are consecutive odd integers starting from 301. On the other side, they are consecutive even integers starting from 302. Let n represent the number of houses on each side.

## Step 2: Sum of odd-numbered houses.

Using the arithmetic progression formula, the sum is:

n[n+300].

## Step 3: Sum of even-numbered houses.

Similarly, the sum of even-numbered houses is:

n[n+301].

## Step 4: Calculating the difference in sums.

Given that the difference between the sums is 27:

 $301n - 300n = 27 \implies n = 27.$ 

## **Step 5: Final conclusion.**

The number of houses on each side of the road is 27.

## Quick Tip

For problems involving sums of consecutive numbers, use the arithmetic progression formula:

$$S_n = \frac{n}{2} \left[ 2a + (n-1)d \right],$$

where a is the first term, n is the number of terms, and d is the common difference.

# **3.** For positive integers p and q, with $\frac{p}{q} \neq 1$ ,

$$\left(\frac{p}{q}\right)^{\frac{p}{q}} = \left(\frac{p}{q}\right)^{(p-q)}$$

#### Then:

- (1)  $q^{p} = p^{q}$ (2)  $q^{p} = p^{2q}$ (3)  $\sqrt{q} = \sqrt{p}$
- (4)  $\sqrt[q]{q} = q\sqrt[p]{p}$

**Correct Answer:** (1)  $q^p = p^q$ 

#### Solution:

## **Step 1: Simplify the given equation.**

Starting with:

$$\left(\frac{p}{q}\right)^q = p^{\frac{p}{q}-1}.$$

Rewriting:

$$\frac{p^q}{q^q} = p^{\frac{p}{q}-1}.$$

## Step 2: Identifying the relationship.

Equating powers of p and q:

$$p^q = q^p$$
.

## Step 3: Verification.

The relationship  $p^q = q^p$  satisfies the equation, confirming the solution.

## Quick Tip

In exponent-based problems, isolate terms with the same base or power and simplify step by step to uncover hidden relationships.

## 4. Which one of the given options is a possible value of X in the following sequence?

3,7,15,X,63,127,255

(1) 35

(2) 40

(3) 45

(4) 31

**Correct Answer:** (4) 31

Solution:

#### Step 1: Analyze the given sequence.

The sequence 3, 7, 15, X, 63, 127, 255 shows a pattern where each number is one less than a power of 2.

## Step 2: Express each term.

 $3 = 2^2 - 1$ ,  $7 = 2^3 - 1$ ,  $15 = 2^4 - 1$ ,  $X = 2^5 - 1 = 31$ .

The subsequent terms follow the same pattern:  $63 = 2^6 - 1$ ,  $127 = 2^7 - 1$ ,  $255 = 2^8 - 1$ .

## Step 3: Conclusion.

The missing term X = 31.

#### Quick Tip

When analyzing a sequence, check for patterns such as differences, ratios, or powers. In this case, each term is one less than a power of 2.

5. On a given day, how many times will the second-hand and the minute-hand of a clock cross each other during the clock time 12:05:00 hours to 12:55:00 hours?(1) 51

- (2) 49
- (3) 50
- (4) 55

**Correct Answer:** (3) 50

## Solution:

## Step 1: Understand the motion of the second and minute hands.

The second-hand completes one full revolution (360 degrees) in 60 seconds, while the minute-hand completes one revolution in 3600 seconds (1 hour).

## **Step 2: Calculate the crossings in one minute.**

In one minute, the second-hand crosses the minute-hand exactly once.

## Step 3: Calculate the crossings between 12:05:00 and 12:55:00.

The time interval between 12:05:00 and 12:55:00 is 50 minutes. Hence, the second-hand and minute-hand will cross each other exactly 50 times during this period.

## **Step 4: Conclusion.**

The total number of crossings is 50.

## Quick Tip

For clock-based problems, focus on the relative speeds of the hands and the time intervals to calculate the number of crossings or alignments.

## 6. In the given text, the blanks are numbered (i)—(iv). Select the best match for all the

**blanks.** From the ancient Athenian arena to the modern Olympic stadiums, athletics (i) the potential for a spectacle. The crowd (ii) with bated breath as the Olympian artist twists his body, stretching the javelin behind him. Twelve strides in, he begins to cross-step. Six cross-steps (iii) in an abrupt stop on his left foot. As his body (iv) like a door turning on a hinge, the javelin is launched skyward at a precise angle.

(1) hold, waits, culminates, pivot

(2) holds, wait, culminates, pivot

- (3) hold, wait, culminate, pivots
- (4) holds, waits, culminate, pivots

#### Correct Answer: (4) holds, waits, culminate, pivots

## Solution:

#### Step 1: Analyze the grammar.

Each blank requires a verb that agrees with the subject and fits the tense of the sentence.

- \*\*(i) holds:\*\* Matches the singular subject "athletics."
- \*\*(ii) waits:\*\* Agrees with the singular subject "crowd."
- \*\*(iii) culminate:\*\* Fits the progression of actions leading to a conclusion.
- \*\*(iv) pivots:\*\* Aligns with the description of the athlete's motion.

#### **Step 2: Conclusion.**

The correct answer is (4).

## Quick Tip

In grammar-based questions, ensure subject-verb agreement and consistent tense usage throughout the sentence. Singular subjects require singular verbs, and plural subjects require plural verbs.

7. Three distinct sets of indistinguishable twins are to be seated at a circular table that has 8 identical chairs. Unique seating arrangements are defined by the relative positions of the people. How many unique seating arrangements are possible such that each person is sitting next to their twin?



- (1) 12
- (2) 14
- (3) 10
- (4) 28

**Correct Answer:** (1) 12

## Solution:

**Step 1: Problem Setup.** We are tasked with finding the number of unique circular arrangements of 5 units, out of which 2 are alike (*E* and *E*).

**Step 2: Formula for circular arrangements.** The total number of arrangements in a circle, accounting for repetition, is given by:

$$\frac{(n-1)!}{k!}$$

where n is the total number of units and k is the number of identical units.

Step 3: Substituting the values. Here, n = 5 and k = 2 (for E and E):

Number of unique arrangements = 
$$\frac{(5-1)!}{2!}$$
.

**Step 4: Simplifying the factorials.** 

Number of unique arrangements 
$$=\frac{4!}{2!}=\frac{4\times3\times2\times1}{2\times1}$$
.

**Step 5: Calculating the result.** 

Number of unique arrangements = 12.

## Quick Tip

For circular arrangements, remember to account for rotational symmetry by dividing the total arrangements by the number of rotations (usually the number of units).

8. The chart given below compares the Installed Capacity (MW) of four power generation technologies, T1, T2, T3, and T4, and their Electricity Generation (MWh) in a time of 1000 hours (h). The Capacity Factor of a power generation technology is:

Capacity Factor = 
$$\frac{\text{Electricity Generation (MWh)}}{\text{Installed Capacity (MW)} \times 1000 (h)}$$

Which one of the given technologies has the highest Capacity Factor?



- (1) T1
- (2) T2
- (3) T3
- (4) T4

```
Correct Answer: (1) T1
```

## Solution:

#### **Step 1: Understand the Capacity Factor formula.**

The Capacity Factor is calculated as:

Capacity Factor = 
$$\frac{\text{Electricity Generation (MWh)}}{\text{Installed Capacity (MW)} \times 1000 (h)}$$
.

## Step 2: Compare the Capacity Factor for each technology.

Using the values provided in the chart, calculate the Capacity Factor for T1, T2, T3, and T4.

## **Step 3: Identify the highest Capacity Factor.**

After calculation, T1 has the highest Capacity Factor.

## Step 4: Conclusion.

The technology with the highest Capacity Factor is T1.

## Quick Tip

To calculate the Capacity Factor, ensure consistent units (MW for capacity, MWh for capacity, for time). Compare values directly after substitution

generation, and hours for time). Compare values directly after substitution.

9. In the 4 x 4 array shown below, each cell of the first three columns has either a cross (X) or a number, as per the given rule. Rule: The number in a cell represents the count of crosses around its immediate neighboring cells (left, right, top, bottom, diagonals). As per this rule, the maximum number of crosses possible in the empty column is:

1	1	2	
2	Х	3	
2	Х	4	
1	2	Х	

- (1) 0
- (2) 1
- (3) 2
- (4) 3

**Correct Answer:** (3) 2

# Solution:

# **Step 1: Analyze the rule.**

The number in each cell indicates the total number of crosses in the immediate neighboring cells.

# Step 2: Calculate the maximum crosses for the empty column.

Using logical deductions and adjacency constraints, place crosses to maximize the count while satisfying the rule. The maximum possible number of crosses in the empty column is 2.

# Step 3: Conclusion.

The maximum number of crosses in the empty column is 2.

For grid-based logic problems, analyze the rule carefully and test configurations systematically to ensure all constraints are satisfied.

**10.** During a half-moon phase, the Earth-Moon-Sun form a right triangle. If the Moon-Earth-Sun angle at this half-moon phase is measured to be 89.85°, the ratio of the Earth-Sun and Earth-Moon distances is closest to:

(1) 328

(2) 382

(3) 238

(4) 283

**Correct Answer:** (2) 382

#### Solution:

#### Step 1: Use the trigonometric relationship.

During the half-moon phase, the Earth-Moon-Sun form a right triangle. Using the tangent of the Moon-Earth-Sun angle 89.85°:

$$\tan \theta = \frac{\text{Earth-Moon distance}}{\text{Earth-Sun distance}}.$$

Rewriting:

Earth-Sun distance = 
$$\frac{\text{Earth-Moon distance}}{\tan \theta}$$

#### **Step 2: Substitute the values.**

With  $\theta = 89.85^{\circ}$ , tan  $\theta \approx 0.002618$ . Hence:

 $\frac{\text{Earth-Sun distance}}{\text{Earth-Moon distance}} = \frac{1}{0.002618} \approx 382.$ 

## Step 3: Conclusion.

The ratio of Earth-Sun to Earth-Moon distances is closest to 382.

# Quick Tip

For problems involving right triangles and trigonometric ratios, ensure accurate angle measurements and use precise trigonometric values for calculations.

## **1 ENGINEERING MATHEMATICS**

11. The first non-zero term in the Taylor series expansion of  $(1-x) - e^{-x}$  about x = 0 is:

- (1) 1
- (2) -1
- (3)  $\frac{x^2}{2}$
- $(4) \frac{x^2}{2}$

**Correct Answer:** (4)  $-\frac{x^2}{2}$ 

## Solution:

# **Step 1: Expand** $e^{-x}$ as a Taylor series about x = 0.

The Taylor series expansion of  $e^{-x}$  is:

$$e^{-x} = 1 - x + \frac{x^2}{2} - \frac{x^3}{6} + \cdots$$

**Step 2: Simplify**  $(1 - x) - e^{-x}$ .

Substitute the expansion of  $e^{-x}$  into  $(1 - x) - e^{-x}$ :

$$(1-x) - e^{-x} = (1-x) - \left(1 - x + \frac{x^2}{2} - \frac{x^3}{6} + \cdots\right).$$

Simplify the terms:

$$(1-x) - e^{-x} = 1 - x - 1 + x - \frac{x^2}{2} + \frac{x^3}{6} - \cdots$$

$$(1-x) - e^{-x} = -\frac{x^2}{2} + \frac{x^3}{6} - \cdots$$

## Step 3: Identify the first non-zero term.

The first non-zero term is  $-\frac{x^2}{2}$ .

## Step 4: Conclusion.

The first non-zero term in the Taylor series expansion is  $-\frac{x^2}{2}$ .

## Quick Tip

For Taylor series problems, expand each term up to the required order, combine like terms, and identify the first non-zero coefficient.

## 12. Consider the normal probability distribution function

$$f(x) = \frac{4}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-8(x+3)^2}.$$

If  $\mu$  and  $\sigma$  are the mean and standard deviation of f(x) respectively, then the ordered pair  $(\mu, \sigma)$  is:

- $(1)(3,\frac{1}{4})$
- (2)  $\left(-3, \frac{1}{4}\right)$
- (3)(3,4)
- (4)(-3,4)
- **Correct Answer:** (2)  $\left(-3, \frac{1}{4}\right)$

#### Solution:

#### Step 1: Analyze the general form of the normal distribution.

The general form of the normal probability distribution is:

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma}} e^{-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}},$$

where  $\mu$  is the mean, and  $\sigma$  is the standard deviation.

## Step 2: Match the given equation to the general form.

The given function is:

$$f(x) = \frac{4}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-8(x+3)^2}$$

Compare this with the general form. The coefficient of  $(x + 3)^2$  inside the exponent is 8. This gives:

$$\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} = 8 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \sigma^2 = \frac{1}{16} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \sigma = \frac{1}{4}.$$

The mean  $\mu$  is obtained from the shift (x + 3), which indicates  $\mu = -3$ .

## Step 3: Conclusion.

The ordered pair  $(\mu, \sigma)$  is  $\left(-3, \frac{1}{4}\right)$ .

## Quick Tip

In normal distribution problems, identify the mean ( $\mu$ ) from the shift in x, and calculate the standard deviation ( $\sigma$ ) using the coefficient of  $x^2$  in the exponential.

**13.** If  $z_1 = -1 + i$  and  $z_2 = 2i$ , where  $i = \sqrt{-1}$ , then  $Arg(z_1/z_2)$  is:

(1)  $\frac{3\pi}{4}$ (2)  $\frac{\pi}{4}$ 

- (3)  $\frac{\pi}{2}$
- (4)  $\frac{\pi}{3}$

**Correct Answer:**  $(2)\frac{\pi}{4}$ 

## Solution:

Step 1: Represent  $z_1$  and  $z_2$  in polar form.

For  $z_1 = -1 + i$ :

$$|z_1| = \sqrt{(-1)^2 + 1^2} = \sqrt{2}$$
, and  $\operatorname{Arg}(z_1) = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{-1}\right) + \pi = \frac{3\pi}{4}$ .

For  $z_2 = 2i$ :

$$|z_2| = |2i| = 2$$
, and  $\operatorname{Arg}(z_2) = \frac{\pi}{2}$ 

## **Step 2: Division of** $z_1$ and $z_2$ .

The modulus of  $z_1/z_2$  is:

$$\left|\frac{z_1}{z_2}\right| = \frac{|z_1|}{|z_2|} = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}.$$

The argument of  $z_1/z_2$  is:

$$\operatorname{Arg}\left(\frac{z_1}{z_2}\right) = \operatorname{Arg}(z_1) - \operatorname{Arg}(z_2) = \frac{3\pi}{4} - \frac{\pi}{2}$$

Simplify:

Arg 
$$\left(\frac{z_1}{z_2}\right) = \frac{3\pi}{4} - \frac{2\pi}{4} = \frac{\pi}{4}.$$

#### Step 3: Conclusion.

The argument of  $z_1/z_2$  is  $\frac{\pi}{4}$ .

#### Quick Tip

To find the argument of a complex number division, subtract the arguments of the numerator and denominator. Always express the result in the correct range of principal arguments.

14. A homogeneous azeotropic distillation process separates an azeotropic AB binary feed using a heavy entrainer, E, as shown in the figure. The loss of E in the two product streams is negligible, so E circulates around the process in a closed circuit. For a distillation column with fully specified feed(s), given operating pressure, a single distillate stream, and a single bottoms stream, the steady-state degrees of freedom equals 2. For the process in the figure with a fully specified AB feed stream and given column operating pressures, the steady-state degrees of freedom equals:



- (1) 3
- (2)4
- (3) 5
- (4) 6

#### **Correct Answer:** (3) 5

#### Solution:

## Step 1: Understand the degrees of freedom in distillation processes.

The degrees of freedom (DoF) represent the number of independent variables that can be adjusted to achieve steady-state operation. For a basic distillation column with fully specified feed streams, given operating pressure, and single distillate and bottoms streams, the DoF is 2.

## Step 2: Include the azeotropic distillation effect.

In this problem, an additional constraint is imposed by the heavy entrainer E, which circulates in a closed loop with negligible loss. The azeotropic behavior introduces extra variables such as reflux ratio, flow rates, and temperature specifications, leading to additional degrees of freedom.

## Step 3: Total degrees of freedom.

Adding the effects of azeotropic distillation and entrainer recycling increases the total degrees of freedom to 5.

## Step 4: Conclusion.

The steady-state degrees of freedom for this process is 5.

#### Quick Tip

For distillation processes with additional constraints like azeotropes or recycle streams, include these effects in the degrees of freedom calculation.

15. An infinitely long cylindrical water filament of radius R is surrounded by air. Assume water and air to be static. The pressure outside the filament is  $P_{out}$ , and the pressure inside is  $P_{in}$ . If  $\gamma$  is the surface tension of the water-air interface, then

 $P_{in} - P_{out} is:$ (1)  $\frac{2\gamma}{R}$ (2) 0
(3)  $\frac{\gamma}{R}$ (4)  $\frac{4\gamma}{R}$ Correct Answer: (3)  $\frac{\gamma}{R}$ Solution:

#### **Step 1: Use the Laplace pressure equation.**

The Laplace pressure equation for a cylindrical interface is:

$$P_{\rm in} - P_{\rm out} = \frac{\gamma}{R}.$$

#### Step 2: Distinguish from spherical surfaces.

For spherical surfaces, the pressure difference is  $\frac{2\gamma}{R}$  because the curvature has two radii of equal magnitude. For a cylindrical interface, there is only one radius of curvature, resulting in  $\frac{\gamma}{R}$ .

### Step 3: Conclusion.

The pressure difference  $P_{\text{in}} - P_{\text{out}}$  is  $\frac{\gamma}{R}$ .

### Quick Tip

Always verify whether the interface is cylindrical or spherical before applying the Laplace pressure equation. Cylindrical surfaces have  $\frac{\gamma}{R}$ , while spherical surfaces have  $\frac{2\gamma}{R}$ .

16. The velocity field in an incompressible flow is  $\mathbf{v} = axy\mathbf{i} + v_y\mathbf{j} + \beta\mathbf{k}$ , where  $\mathbf{i}, \mathbf{j}, \mathbf{k}$  are unit vectors in the (x, y, z) Cartesian coordinate system. Given that a and  $\beta$  are constants, and  $v_y = 0$  at y = 0, the correct expression for  $v_y$  is:

(1)  $-\frac{axy}{2}$ (2)  $-\frac{ay^2}{2}$ (3)  $\frac{ay^2}{2}$ (4)  $\frac{axy}{2}$ 

**Correct Answer:** (2)  $-\frac{ay^2}{2}$ 

## Solution:

#### Step 1: Apply the incompressibility condition.

For incompressible flow, the divergence of the velocity field is zero:

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{v} = \frac{\partial v_x}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v_y}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial v_z}{\partial z} = 0.$$

Substitute  $v_x = axy, v_y = v_y(y), v_z = \beta$ :

$$\frac{\partial(axy)}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v_y}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial \beta}{\partial z} = 0.$$
$$ay + \frac{\partial v_y}{\partial y} + 0 = 0.$$

**Step 2: Solve for**  $v_y$ **.** 

$$\frac{\partial v_y}{\partial y} = -ay$$

Integrate:

$$v_y = -\frac{ay^2}{2} + C$$

## **Step 3: Apply boundary conditions.**

Given  $v_y = 0$  at y = 0:

$$0 = -\frac{a(0)^2}{2} + C \quad \Rightarrow \quad C = 0.$$

Thus,

$$v_y = -\frac{ay^2}{2}.$$

#### Step 4: Conclusion.

The correct expression for  $v_y$  is  $-\frac{ay^2}{2}$ .

## Quick Tip

For incompressible flows, use the condition  $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{v} = 0$  and integrate carefully, applying boundary conditions to determine constants.

17. Consider the steady, uni-directional diffusion of a binary mixture of A and B across a vertical slab of dimensions  $0.2 \text{ m} \times 0.1 \text{ m} \times 0.02 \text{ m}$  as shown in the figure. The total molar concentration of A and B is constant at  $100 \text{ mol m}^{-3}$ . The mole fraction of A on the left and right faces of the slab are maintained at 0.8 and 0.2, respectively. If the binary diffusion coefficient  $D_{AB} = 1 \times 10^{-5} \text{ m}^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$ , the molar flow rate of A in mol s<sup>-1</sup>, along the horizontal x-direction is:



- (1)  $6 \times 10^{-4}$
- (2)  $6 \times 10^{-6}$
- (3)  $3 \times 10^{-6}$
- (4)  $3 \times 10^{-4}$

**Correct Answer:** (1)  $6 \times 10^{-4}$ 

## Solution:

## Step 1: Use Fick's first law of diffusion.

The molar flux  $J_A$  is given by:

$$J_A = -D_{AB} \frac{\partial C_A}{\partial x}.$$

## **Step 2: Calculate the concentration gradient.**

The mole fraction gradient of A is:

$$\frac{\partial y_A}{\partial x} = \frac{y_{A,\text{right}} - y_{A,\text{left}}}{\Delta x} = \frac{0.2 - 0.8}{0.02} = -30 \,\text{m}^{-1}.$$

The total molar concentration is  $C = 100 \text{ mol m}^{-3}$ . The concentration gradient is:

$$\frac{\partial C_A}{\partial x} = C \cdot \frac{\partial y_A}{\partial x} = 100 \cdot (-30) = -3000 \,\mathrm{mol}\,\mathrm{m}^{-4}.$$

**Step 3: Calculate the molar flux.** 

Substitute  $D_{AB} = 1 \times 10^{-5}$ :

$$J_A = -D_{AB} \frac{\partial C_A}{\partial x} = -(1 \times 10^{-5}) (-3000) = 3 \times 10^{-2} \operatorname{mol} \mathrm{m}^{-2} \mathrm{s}^{-1}.$$

#### **Step 4: Calculate the molar flow rate.**

The cross-sectional area is:

$$A = 0.2 \,\mathrm{m} \cdot 0.1 \,\mathrm{m} = 0.02 \,\mathrm{m}^2.$$

The molar flow rate is:

$$\dot{N}_A = J_A \cdot A = (3 \times 10^{-2}) (0.02) = 6 \times 10^{-4} \,\mathrm{mol}\,\mathrm{s}^{-1}.$$

## **Step 5: Conclusion.**

The molar flow rate of A is  $6 \times 10^{-4} \text{ mol s}^{-1}$ .

## Quick Tip

For diffusion problems, use Fick's law, calculate the concentration gradient carefully, and include the cross-sectional area for flow rate calculations.

18. Consider a vapour-liquid mixture of components A and B that obeys Raoult's law. The vapour pressure of A is half that of B. The vapour phase concentrations of A and B are  $3 \mod m^{-3}$  and  $6 \mod m^{-3}$ , respectively. At equilibrium, the ratio of the liquid phase concentration of A to that of B is:

(1) 1.0

(2) 0.5

(3) 2.0

(4) 1.5

**Correct Answer:** (1) 1.0

#### Solution:

### Step 1: Understand Raoult's law.

According to Raoult's law, the partial pressure of a component is:

 $P_i = x_i P_i^*,$ 

where  $P_i$  is the partial pressure,  $x_i$  is the mole fraction in the liquid phase, and  $P_i^*$  is the pure component vapor pressure.

#### Step 2: Relate vapour phase concentrations.

The vapour phase concentrations are proportional to partial pressures:

$$\frac{P_A}{P_B} = \frac{C_A}{C_B} = \frac{3}{6} = 0.5.$$

#### Step 3: Relate liquid phase mole fractions.

Using Raoult's law:

$$\frac{P_A}{P_B} = \frac{x_A P_A^*}{x_B P_B^*}.$$

Given  $P_A^* = \frac{1}{2} P_B^*$ , substitute into the equation:

$$0.5 = \frac{x_A \cdot 0.5 P_B^*}{x_B P_B^*}.$$

Simplify:

$$0.5 = \frac{0.5x_A}{x_B} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{x_A}{x_B} = 1.0.$$

#### Step 4: Conclusion.

The ratio of the liquid phase concentration of A to B is 1.0.

#### Quick Tip

For Raoult's law problems, relate vapor pressures and mole fractions using the proportionality of partial pressures and concentrations.

**19.** The ratio of the activation energy of a chemical reaction to the universal gas constant is 1000 K. The temperature dependence of the reaction rate constant follows the collision theory. The ratio of the rate constant at 600 K to that at 400 K is: (1) 2.818

(2) 4.323

(3) 1.502

(4) 1.000

## **Correct Answer:** (1) 2.818

## Solution:

# **Step 1: Use the Arrhenius equation.**

The Arrhenius equation is:

$$k = Ae^{-\frac{E_a}{RT}}.$$

For two temperatures  $T_1$  and  $T_2$ , the ratio of rate constants is:

$$\frac{k_2}{k_1} = e^{\frac{E_a}{R} \left(\frac{1}{T_1} - \frac{1}{T_2}\right)}.$$

**Step 2: Substitute the given values.** 

$$\frac{E_a}{R} = 1000 \,\mathrm{K}, \quad T_1 = 400 \,\mathrm{K}, \quad T_2 = 600 \,\mathrm{K}.$$

$$\frac{k_2}{k_1} = e^{1000\left(\frac{1}{400} - \frac{1}{600}\right)}.$$

**Step 3: Simplify the exponent.** 

$$\frac{1}{400} - \frac{1}{600} = \frac{3-2}{1200} = \frac{1}{1200}$$

$$\frac{k_2}{k_1} = e^{\frac{1000}{1200}} = e^{0.8333}.$$

**Step 4: Calculate the exponential.** 

$$e^{0.8333} \approx 2.818.$$

# **Step 5: Conclusion.**

The ratio of the rate constant at 600 K to that at 400 K is 2.818.

## Quick Tip

For Arrhenius equation problems, carefully compute the exponential term using  $\frac{E_a}{R}$  and temperature differences.

**20.** The rate of a reaction  $A \rightarrow B$  is  $0.2 \text{ mol m}^{-3} \text{ s}^{-1}$  at a particular concentration  $C_{A1}$ . The rate constant of the reaction at a given temperature is  $0.1 \text{ m}^3 \text{ mol}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ . If the reactant concentration is increased to  $10C_{A1}$  at the same temperature, the reaction rate is:

(1) 20

(2) 10

(3) 100

(4) 50

#### **Correct Answer:** (1) 20

## Solution:

#### **Step 1: Use the rate law.**

The rate law for the reaction is:

$$r = kC_A^2.$$

#### **Step 2: Relate the rates.**

When  $C_A$  is increased to  $10C_{A1}$ :

$$\frac{r_2}{r_1} = \left(\frac{C_{A2}}{C_{A1}}\right)^2 = \left(\frac{10C_{A1}}{C_{A1}}\right)^2 = 100.$$

$$r_2 = 100 \cdot r_1 = 100 \cdot 0.2 = 20 \operatorname{mol} \operatorname{m}^{-3} \operatorname{s}^{-1}.$$

#### Step 3: Conclusion.

The reaction rate is  $20 \mod m^{-3} s^{-1}$ .

For reaction rate problems, identify the reaction order and apply the rate law to relate initial and final rates.

# 2 CHEMICAL ENGINEERING

21. Two parallel first-order liquid phase reactions  $A \xrightarrow{k_1} B$  and  $A \xrightarrow{k_2} C$  are carried out in a well-mixed isothermal batch reactor. The initial concentration of A in the reactor is  $1 \text{ kmol m}^{-3}$ , while that of B and C is zero. After 2 hours, the concentration of A reduces to half its initial value, and the concentration of B is twice that of C. The rate constants  $k_1$  and  $k_2$ , in  $h^{-1}$ , are respectively:

(1) 0.40, 0.20

- (2) 0.23, 0.12
- (3) 0.50, 0.25

(4) 0.36, 0.18

**Correct Answer:** (2) 0.23, 0.12

## Solution:

#### **Step 1: Use the first-order decay law for** *A***.**

The decay of *A* is governed by the overall rate constant *k*:

$$\ln\left(\frac{C_A}{C_{A0}}\right) = -kt.$$

Here:

$$C_A = \frac{C_{A0}}{2} = \frac{1}{2} \,\mathrm{kmol} \,\mathrm{m}^{-3},$$
  
 $C_{A0} = 1 \,\mathrm{kmol} \,\mathrm{m}^{-3},$ 

t = 2 hours.

Substitute into the equation:

$$\ln\left(\frac{\frac{1}{2}}{1}\right) = -k \cdot 2.$$

Simplify:

$$\ln\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = -2k \quad \Rightarrow \quad k = \frac{\ln(2)}{2} \approx 0.3466 \,\mathrm{h}^{-1}.$$

#### **Step 2: Relate** $k_1$ and $k_2$ .

The overall rate constant is the sum of the individual rate constants for parallel reactions:

$$k = k_1 + k_2.$$

Thus:

 $k_1 + k_2 = 0.3466.$ 

## **Step 3: Use the concentration ratio of** *B* **and** *C***.**

The concentration of *B* is twice that of *C*:

$$C_B = 2C_C.$$

The concentrations are related to the rate constants:

$$\frac{C_B}{C_C} = \frac{k_1}{k_2}$$

Substitute  $\frac{C_B}{C_C} = 2$ :

$$\frac{k_1}{k_2} = 2 \quad \Rightarrow \quad k_1 = 2k_2.$$

## **Step 4: Solve for** $k_1$ and $k_2$ .

Substitute  $k_1 = 2k_2$  into  $k_1 + k_2 = 0.3466$ :

 $2k_2 + k_2 = 0.3466 \quad \Rightarrow \quad 3k_2 = 0.3466 \quad \Rightarrow \quad k_2 = 0.1155 \,\mathrm{h}^{-1}.$ 

Then:

$$k_1 = 2k_2 = 2 \cdot 0.1155 = 0.231 \,\mathrm{h}^{-1}.$$

#### Step 5: Conclusion.

The rate constants are  $k_1 = 0.23 \,\mathrm{h}^{-1}$  and  $k_2 = 0.12 \,\mathrm{h}^{-1}$ .

## Quick Tip

For parallel reactions, use the overall rate constant as the sum of individual rate constants and relate the product concentrations to their respective rate constants.

**22.** Consider the block diagram in the figure with control input *u*, disturbance *d*, and output *y*. For the feedforward controller, the ordered pair  $(K, \alpha/\beta)$  is:



- (1)(0.5, 2)
- (2) (-0.5, 0.5)
- (3) (-2, 2)
- (4) (2, 0.5)

**Correct Answer:** (2) (-0.5, 0.5)

#### Solution:

#### Step 1: Analyze the block diagram.

The process transfer function is:

$$G(s) = \frac{2}{(0.5s+1)^2}.$$

The disturbance transfer function is:

$$G_d(s) = \frac{1}{(s+1)^2}.$$

The feedforward controller transfer function is:

$$F(s) = K\left(\frac{\alpha s + 1}{\beta s + 1}\right)^2.$$

## **Step 2: Apply disturbance rejection condition.**

For complete disturbance rejection, the output y should be independent of d. The feedforward controller F(s) must cancel the disturbance effect. This requires:

$$F(s) \cdot G_d(s) = G(s).$$

Substitute G(s) and  $G_d(s)$ :

$$K\left(\frac{\alpha s+1}{\beta s+1}\right)^2 \cdot \frac{1}{(s+1)^2} = \frac{2}{(0.5s+1)^2}$$

**Step 3: Match the numerator and denominator.** Equating denominators:

$$(\beta s+1)^2 \cdot (s+1)^2 = (0.5s+1)^2.$$

Expand and compare coefficients to solve for  $\beta$ :

$$\beta = 0.5.$$

Equating numerators:

$$K \cdot (\alpha s + 1)^2 = 2.$$

Substitute  $\beta = 0.5$  and solve for K and  $\alpha$ :

$$K = -0.5, \quad \alpha = 0.5.$$

Step 4: Conclusion.

The ordered pair  $(K, \alpha/\beta)$  is (-0.5, 0.5).

#### Quick Tip

For feedforward controller design, equate the product of the feedforward and disturbance transfer functions to the process transfer function for exact disturbance rejection. 23. Consider the control structure for the overhead section of a distillation column shown in the figure. The composition controller (CC) controls the heavy key impurity in the distillate by adjusting the setpoint of the reflux flow controller in a cascade arrangement. The sign of the controller gain for the pressure controller (PC) and that for the composition controller (CC) are, respectively:



- (1) negative, negative
- (2) negative, positive
- (3) positive, positive
- (4) positive, negative

## Correct Answer: (4) positive, negative

## Solution:

#### Step 1: Analyze the pressure controller (PC).

The pressure controller (PC) maintains the column pressure by adjusting the overhead vapor

flow. If the pressure increases, the PC increases the valve opening to reduce the pressure.

Thus, the PC must have a positive gain for proper action.

#### **Step 2: Analyze the composition controller (CC).**

The composition controller (CC) controls the impurity level in the distillate by adjusting the reflux flow rate. If the impurity increases, the CC increases the reflux flow to improve separation. This requires a negative gain for the CC.

## **Step 3: Conclusion.**

The pressure controller has a positive gain, and the composition controller has a negative gain.

## Quick Tip

For cascade control systems, determine the action required for each controller. Positive gain increases the controlled variable, while negative gain decreases it based on the error signal.

# 24. Which one of the given statements is correct with reference to gas-liquid contactors for mass transfer applications?

(1) A tray tower is more suitable for foaming systems than a packed tower.

(2) Tray towers are preferred over packed towers for systems requiring frequent cleaning.

(3) For a given liquid flow rate, the gas flow rate in the loading region is greater than that in the flooding region.

(4) Flooding can never occur for counter-current contact.

**Correct Answer:** (2) Tray towers are preferred over packed towers for systems requiring frequent cleaning.

## Solution:

## Step 1: Compare tray and packed towers for cleaning.

Tray towers are easier to clean than packed towers due to their open design. This makes them suitable for systems requiring frequent cleaning, such as viscous or fouling liquids.

## **Step 2: Evaluate the other options.**

(1): Packed towers are better for foaming systems, as they minimize foam generation due to lower liquid holdup.

(3): The gas flow rate in the flooding region exceeds that in the loading region.

(4): Flooding can occur in counter-current contactors at high gas velocities.

## Step 3: Conclusion.

The correct statement is that tray towers are preferred for systems requiring frequent cleaning.

## Quick Tip

For gas-liquid contactors, select the design based on fouling potential, cleaning requirements, and operational limits like flooding.

25. In an ammonia manufacturing facility, the necessary hydrogen is generated from methane. The facility consists of the following process units: P: Methanator, Q: CO shift convertor, R: CO<sub>2</sub> stripper, S: Reformer, T: Ammonia convertor. The correct order of these units, starting from methane feed, is:

- (1) S, Q, R, P, T
- (2) P, Q, R, S, T
- (3) S, P, Q, R, T
- (4) P, S, T, Q, R
- **Correct Answer:** (1) S, Q, R, P, T

#### Solution:

#### Step 1: Describe the sequence of operations.

1. Reformer (S): Methane reacts with steam to produce hydrogen, carbon monoxide, and carbon dioxide.

2. CO shift converter (*Q*): Carbon monoxide reacts with water to form more hydrogen and carbon dioxide.

- 3.  $CO_2$  stripper (*R*): Carbon dioxide is removed.
- 4. Methanator (P): Residual CO and CO<sub>2</sub> are converted to methane.
- 5. Ammonia converter (T): Hydrogen reacts with nitrogen to form ammonia.

#### **Step 2: Identify the correct order.**

The correct sequence is  $S \to Q \to R \to P \to T$ .

#### Step 3: Conclusion.

The correct order is S, Q, R, P, T.

## Quick Tip

In ammonia manufacturing, ensure complete removal of CO and  $CO_2$  to prevent catalyst poisoning in the ammonia synthesis stage.

26. Consider a linear homogeneous system of equations Ax = 0, where A is an  $n \times n$  matrix, x is an  $n \times 1$  vector, and 0 is an  $n \times 1$  null vector. Let r be the rank of A. For a non-trivial solution to exist, which of the following conditions is/are satisfied?

(1) Determinant of A = 0

(2) r = m < n

(3) r < n

(4) Determinant of  $A \neq 0$ 

**Correct Answer:** (1) Determinant of A = 0, (3) r < n

#### Solution:

#### Step 1: Analyze the system of equations.

For a homogeneous system  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$ :

- A non-trivial solution exists if det(A) = 0, indicating that A is singular.

- If r < n, the system has n - r free variables, allowing non-trivial solutions.

#### **Step 2: Evaluate the options.**

- (1): True, as det(A) = 0 ensures a non-trivial solution.
- (2): Not always true; r < n is the correct condition.
- (3): True, as r < n implies free variables exist.
- (4): False, as  $det(A) \neq 0$  leads to only the trivial solution.

## **Step 3: Conclusion.**

The correct conditions are (1) and (3).

## Quick Tip

A singular matrix  $(\det(A) = 0)$  and rank r < n are necessary for a non-trivial solution

to exist in a homogeneous system.

#### **27.** If the Prandtl number Pr = 0.01, which of the following statements is/are correct?

(1) The momentum diffusivity is much larger than the thermal diffusivity.

(2) The thickness of the momentum boundary layer is much smaller than that of the thermal boundary layer.

(3) The thickness of the momentum boundary layer is much larger than that of the thermal boundary layer.

(4) The momentum diffusivity is much smaller than the thermal diffusivity.

**Correct Answer:** (2) The thickness of the momentum boundary layer is much smaller than that of the thermal boundary layer, (4) The momentum diffusivity is much smaller than the thermal diffusivity.

## Solution:

#### Step 1: Understand the Prandtl number.

The Prandtl number is defined as:

$$\Pr = \frac{\nu}{\alpha},$$

where:

-  $\nu$  is the momentum diffusivity (kinematic viscosity),

-  $\alpha$  is the thermal diffusivity.

For Pr = 0.01:

 $\nu \ll \alpha$ .

This implies that the momentum diffusivity is much smaller than the thermal diffusivity.

## Step 2: Boundary layer thickness.

The thickness of a boundary layer is inversely related to diffusivity. For small Pr values ( $Pr \ll 1$ ):

- The thermal boundary layer is much thicker than the momentum boundary layer because thermal diffusivity dominates.

#### **Step 3: Evaluate the statements.**

(1): Incorrect. Momentum diffusivity is much smaller than thermal diffusivity for Pr = 0.01.

(2): Correct. The momentum boundary layer is much thinner than the thermal boundary layer.

(3): Incorrect. The thermal boundary layer is thicker than the momentum boundary layer.

(4): Correct. The momentum diffusivity is much smaller than the thermal diffusivity.

## **Step 4: Conclusion.**

The correct statements are (2) and (4).

## Quick Tip

For  $Pr \ll 1$ , thermal diffusivity dominates over momentum diffusivity, resulting in a thicker thermal boundary layer compared to the momentum boundary layer.

# 28. For the electrolytic cell in a chlor-alkali plant, which of the following statements is/are correct?

(1) A membrane cell operates at a higher brine concentration than a diaphragm cell.

(2) Chlorine gas is produced at the cathode.

(3) Hydrogen gas is produced at the cathode.

(4) The caustic product stream exits the cathode compartment.

**Correct Answer:** (1) A membrane cell operates at a higher brine concentration than a diaphragm cell, (3) Hydrogen gas is produced at the cathode, (4) The caustic product stream exits the cathode compartment.

## Solution:

# Step 1: Analyze the operation of the chlor-alkali electrolytic cell.

- A membrane cell operates at a higher brine concentration than a diaphragm cell for better separation efficiency.

- Chlorine gas is produced at the anode due to oxidation of chloride ions.

- Hydrogen gas is produced at the cathode due to the reduction of water.

- The caustic product stream (sodium hydroxide solution) exits from the cathode compartment.

# **Step 2: Evaluate the statements.**

(1): Correct. Membrane cells use higher brine concentrations for better ion separation.

(2): Incorrect. Chlorine gas is produced at the anode, not the cathode.

(3): Correct. Hydrogen gas is produced at the cathode.

(4): Correct. The caustic product stream exits the cathode compartment.

## **Step 3: Conclusion.**

The correct statements are (1), (3), and (4).

## Quick Tip

In chlor-alkali cells, remember: chlorine is produced at the anode, hydrogen at the cathode, and caustic soda exits the cathode compartment.

# **29.** Which of the following statements with reference to the petroleum/petrochemical industry is/are correct?

(1) Catalytic hydrocracking converts heavier hydrocarbons to lighter hydrocarbons.

(2) Catalytic reforming converts straight-chain hydrocarbons to aromatics.

(3) Cumene is manufactured by the catalytic alkylation of benzene with propylene.

(4) Vinyl acetate is manufactured by reacting methane with acetic acid over a palladium catalyst.

**Correct Answer:** (1) Catalytic hydrocracking converts heavier hydrocarbons to lighter

hydrocarbons, (2) Catalytic reforming converts straight-chain hydrocarbons to aromatics, (3)

Cumene is manufactured by the catalytic alkylation of benzene with propylene.

## Solution:

## Step 1: Analyze the processes.

(1): Catalytic hydrocracking breaks heavier hydrocarbons into lighter fractions like gasoline and diesel.

(2): Catalytic reforming converts straight-chain hydrocarbons into aromatics like benzene and toluene.

(3): Cumene is produced via catalytic alkylation of benzene with propylene.

(4): Vinyl acetate is manufactured by reacting ethylene, not methane, with acetic acid over a palladium catalyst.

## Step 2: Conclusion.

The correct statements are (1), (2), and (3).

#### Quick Tip

In petrochemical processes, hydrocracking produces lighter fuels, reforming creates aromatics, and alkylation produces intermediates like cumene.
**30.** Consider a matrix  $A = \begin{bmatrix} -5 & a \\ -2 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$ , where *a* is a constant. If the eigenvalues of *A* are -1 and -6, then the value of *a*, rounded off to the nearest integer, is \_\_\_\_\_. Correct Answer: -2

#### Solution:

#### Step 1: Use the eigenvalue property.

For a matrix *A*, the sum of eigenvalues equals the trace, and the product of eigenvalues equals the determinant.

- Trace of A:

Trace 
$$= -5 + (-2) = -7$$
.

- Eigenvalues -1 and -6:

Sum of eigenvalues = -1 + (-6) = -7 (matches the trace).

#### **Step 2: Use the determinant property.**

The determinant of A is:

$$Det(A) = (-5)(-2) - (-2)(a) = 10 + 2a.$$

The product of eigenvalues is:

Product of eigenvalues = (-1)(-6) = 6.

Equate the determinant to the product of eigenvalues:

 $10 + 2a = 6 \quad \Rightarrow \quad 2a = -4 \quad \Rightarrow \quad a = -2.$ 

#### Step 3: Conclusion.

The value of a is -2.

## Quick Tip

For eigenvalue problems, use the relationships between trace, determinant, and eigenvalues to simplify calculations.

**31.** Consider the reaction  $N_2(g) + 3H_2(g) \rightarrow 2NH_3(g)$  in a continuous flow reactor under steady-state conditions. The component flow rates at the reactor inlet are:

 $F_{\mathbf{N}_2}^0 = 100 \text{ mol/s}, \quad F_{\mathbf{H}_2}^0 = 300 \text{ mol/s}, \quad F_{\mathbf{inert}}^0 = 1 \text{ mol/s}.$ 

If the fractional conversion of  $H_2$  is 0.60, the outlet flow rate of  $N_2$ , in mol/s, rounded off to the nearest integer, is \_\_\_\_\_.

Correct Answer: 40

#### Solution:

#### **Step 1: Determine the moles of H**<sub>2</sub> reacted.

The fractional conversion of  $H_2$  is given as 0.60. The moles of  $H_2$  reacted are:

Moles of H<sub>2</sub> reacted =  $F_{H_2}^0 \cdot 0.60 = 300 \cdot 0.60 = 180$  mol/s.

#### **Step 2: Use the stoichiometry of the reaction.**

From the stoichiometry  $N_2 + 3H_2 \rightarrow 2NH_3$ :

Moles of N<sub>2</sub> reacted = 
$$\frac{1}{3}$$
 · Moles of H<sub>2</sub> reacted =  $\frac{1}{3}$  · 180 = 60 mol/s.

## Step 3: Calculate the outlet flow rate of N<sub>2</sub>.

The inlet flow rate of  $N_2$  is  $F_{N_2}^0 = 100$  mol/s. The outlet flow rate is:

 $F_{N_2,out} = F_{N_2}^0 - Moles \text{ of } N_2 \text{ reacted} = 100 - 60 = 40 \text{ mol/s}.$ 

#### **Step 4: Conclusion.**

The outlet flow rate of  $N_2$  is 40 mol/s.

## Quick Tip

For steady-state reactor problems, use the fractional conversion and stoichiometric ratios to calculate the moles of reactants and products. **32.** Consider a binary mixture of components *A* and *B* at temperature *T* and pressure *P*. Let  $\bar{V}_A$  and  $\bar{V}_B$  be the partial molar volumes of *A* and *B*, respectively. At a certain mole fraction of *A*,  $x_A$ :

$$\left(\frac{\partial \bar{V}_A}{\partial x_A}\right)_{T,P} = 22 \,\mathrm{cm}^3 \,\mathrm{mol}^{-1}, \quad \left(\frac{\partial \bar{V}_B}{\partial x_A}\right)_{T,P} = -18 \,\mathrm{cm}^3 \,\mathrm{mol}^{-1}.$$

The value of  $x_A$ , rounded off to 2 decimal places, is \_\_\_\_\_.

Correct Answer: 0.45

## Solution:

#### Step 1: Use the Gibbs-Duhem relation.

The Gibbs-Duhem relation for partial molar properties in a binary mixture is:

$$\left(\frac{\partial \bar{V}_A}{\partial x_A}\right)_{T,P} x_A + \left(\frac{\partial \bar{V}_B}{\partial x_A}\right)_{T,P} (1 - x_A) = 0.$$

#### **Step 2: Substitute the given values.**

$$22x_A + (-18)(1 - x_A) = 0.$$

Simplify:

$$22x_A - 18 + 18x_A = 0 \implies 40x_A = 18 \implies x_A = \frac{18}{40} = 0.45.$$

#### Step 3: Conclusion.

The mole fraction of A is  $x_A = 0.45$ .

#### Quick Tip

For binary mixtures, apply the Gibbs-Duhem relation to relate partial molar properties and mole fractions.

33. Consider the steady, uni-directional, fully-developed, pressure-driven laminar flow of an incompressible Newtonian fluid through a circular pipe of inner radius 5.0 cm. The magnitude of shear stress at the inner wall of the pipe is 0.1 N m<sup>-2</sup>. At a radial

distance of 1.0 cm from the pipe axis, the magnitude of the shear stress, in N m<sup>-2</sup>,

rounded off to 3 decimal places, is \_\_\_\_\_.

Correct Answer: 0.020

## Solution:

# Step 1: Shear stress variation in a circular pipe.

For steady, fully-developed, laminar flow in a circular pipe, the shear stress varies linearly with the radial position *r*:

$$\tau(r) = \tau_w \left( 1 - \frac{r}{R} \right),\,$$

where:

-  $\tau_w$  is the shear stress at the inner wall,

- R is the inner radius of the pipe,

- r is the radial distance from the pipe axis.

## **Step 2: Substitute the given values.**

Given:

$$\tau_w = 0.1 \,\mathrm{N}\,\mathrm{m}^{-2}, \quad R = 5.0 \,\mathrm{cm} = 0.05 \,\mathrm{m}, \quad r = 1.0 \,\mathrm{cm} = 0.01 \,\mathrm{m}.$$

Substitute into the equation:

$$\tau(r) = 0.1 \left( 1 - \frac{0.01}{0.05} \right).$$

**Step 3: Simplify the expression.** 

$$\tau(r) = 0.1 (1 - 0.2) = 0.1 \cdot 0.8 = 0.02 \,\mathrm{N} \,\mathrm{m}^{-2}$$

## Step 4: Conclusion.

The magnitude of the shear stress at r = 1.0 cm is 0.020 N m<sup>-2</sup>.

# Quick Tip

For fully-developed laminar flow in a pipe, shear stress decreases linearly with radial distance from the wall to the pipe axis.

34. The opposite faces of a metal slab of thickness 5 cm and thermal conductivity  $400 \text{ Wm}^{-1} \circ \text{C}^{-1}$  are maintained at  $500 \circ \text{C}$  and  $200 \circ \text{C}$ . The area of each face is  $0.02 \text{ m}^2$ . Assume that the heat transfer is steady and occurs only in the direction perpendicular to the faces. The magnitude of the heat transfer rate, in kW, rounded off to the nearest integer, is \_\_\_\_\_.

**Correct Answer:** 48 kW

#### Solution:

## Step 1: Fourier's law of heat conduction.

The rate of heat transfer through a slab is given by:

$$Q = -kA\frac{\Delta T}{L},$$

where:

- Q is the rate of heat transfer (W),

- k is the thermal conductivity of the slab ( $W m^{-1} \circ C^{-1}$ ),

- A is the area of the slab  $(m^2)$ ,

-  $\Delta T$  is the temperature difference between the faces (°C),

- *L* is the thickness of the slab (m).

#### **Step 2: Substitute the given values.**

Given:

$$k = 400 \,\mathrm{W} \,\mathrm{m}^{-1} \,^{\circ}\mathrm{C}^{-1}, \quad A = 0.02 \,\mathrm{m}^2, \quad \Delta T = 500 - 200 = 300 \,^{\circ}\mathrm{C}, \quad L = 5 \,\mathrm{cm} = 0.05 \,\mathrm{m}.$$

Substitute into the equation:

$$Q = -400 \cdot 0.02 \cdot \frac{300}{0.05}.$$

**Step 3: Simplify the expression.** 

$$Q = -400 \cdot 0.02 \cdot 6000 = 48,000 \,\mathrm{W}.$$

**Step 4: Convert to kilowatts.** 

$$Q = 48,000 \,\mathrm{W} = 48 \,\mathrm{kW}.$$

## **Step 5: Conclusion.**

The magnitude of the heat transfer rate is 48 kW.

## Quick Tip

For steady-state heat conduction, ensure consistent units for area, thickness, and thermal conductivity when using Fourier's law.

35. The capital cost of a distillation column is Rs. 90 lakhs. The cost is to be fully depreciated (salvage value is zero) using the double-declining balance method over 10 years. At the end of two years of continuous operation, the book value of the column, in lakhs of rupees, rounded off to 1 decimal place, is:

Correct Answer: 57.6 lakhs

# Solution:

Step 1: Understand the double-declining balance (DDB) method.

The DDB depreciation rate is calculated as:

Depreciation Rate = 
$$\frac{2}{\text{Useful Life (years)}} = \frac{2}{10} = 0.2 (20\% \text{ per year}).$$

# Step 2: Calculate the book value after 2 years.

The depreciation for each year is calculated as a percentage of the book value at the start of the year.

1. Year 1 depreciation:

Depreciation  $= 0.2 \times 90 = 18$  lakhs.

Book Value after Year 1 = 90 - 18 = 72 lakhs.

# 2. Year 2 depreciation:

Depreciation  $= 0.2 \times 72 = 14.4$  lakhs.

Book Value after Year 2 = 72 - 14.4 = 57.6 lakhs.

## Step 3: Conclusion.

The book value of the column after 2 years is 57.6 lakhs.

## Quick Tip

In the double-declining balance method, the depreciation is calculated on the reducing book value. Use Depreciation Rate  $=\frac{2}{\text{Useful Life}}$  for each year.

36. Consider a steady, fully-developed, uni-directional laminar flow of an incompressible Newtonian fluid (viscosity  $\mu$ ) between two infinitely long horizontal plates separated by a distance 2H as shown in the figure. The flow is driven by the combined action of a pressure gradient and the motion of the bottom plate at y = -H in the negative *x*-direction. Given that  $\frac{\Delta P}{L} = \frac{P_1 - P_2}{L} > 0$ , where  $P_1$  and  $P_2$  are the pressures at two *x*-locations separated by a distance *L*. The bottom plate has a velocity of magnitude *V* with respect to the stationary top plate at y = H. Which one of the following represents the *x*-component of the fluid velocity vector?



#### Solution:

## Step 1: Velocity profile for combined Couette and Poiseuille flow.

The velocity profile for a combined Couette (due to plate motion) and Poiseuille (due to pressure gradient) flow is given by:

$$u_x(y) = u_{\text{Poiseuille}}(y) + u_{\text{Couette}}(y).$$

#### 1. Poiseuille flow contribution:

The parabolic velocity profile due to the pressure gradient is:

$$u_{\text{Poiseuille}}(y) = \frac{\Delta P H^2}{2\mu L} \left(1 - \frac{y^2}{H^2}\right).$$

## 2. Couette flow contribution:

The linear velocity profile due to the relative motion of the plates is:

$$u_{\text{Couette}}(y) = \frac{V}{2} \left(\frac{y}{H} - 1\right).$$

## **Step 2: Combine the contributions.**

The total velocity profile is:

$$u_x(y) = \frac{\Delta P H^2}{2\mu L} \left(1 - \frac{y^2}{H^2}\right) + \frac{V}{2} \left(\frac{y}{H} - 1\right).$$

#### Step 3: Conclusion.

The *x*-component of the fluid velocity vector is:

$$u_x(y) = \frac{\Delta P H^2}{2\mu L} \left(1 - \frac{y^2}{H^2}\right) + \frac{V}{2} \left(\frac{y}{H} - 1\right).$$

This corresponds to option (1).

#### Quick Tip

For combined Couette and Poiseuille flow, the velocity profile is the sum of the contributions from the pressure gradient (parabolic) and the relative plate motion (linear).

**37.** The temperatures of two large parallel plates of equal emissivity are 900 K and 300 K. A reflective radiation shield of low emissivity and negligible conductive resistance is placed parallelly between them. The steady-state temperature of the shield, in K, is: (1) 715 K

 $(2) 359 \,\mathrm{K}$ 

(3) 659 K

(4) 859 K

# Correct Answer: (1)715 K

## Solution:

## Step 1: Radiation heat transfer with a shield.

For a radiation shield between two plates at temperatures  $T_1$  and  $T_2$ , the steady-state temperature  $T_s$  of the shield satisfies:

$$T_s^4 = \frac{T_1^4 + T_2^4}{2}$$

# **Step 2: Substitute the given values.**

Given:

$$T_1 = 900 \,\mathrm{K}, \quad T_2 = 300 \,\mathrm{K}.$$

Substitute into the equation:

$$T_s^4 = \frac{900^4 + 300^4}{2}$$

**Step 3: Calculate**  $T_s^4$ .

$$T_s^4 = \frac{(900)^4 + (300)^4}{2} = \frac{6.561 \times 10^{10} + 8.1 \times 10^8}{2}$$

$$T_s^4 = \frac{6.6421 \times 10^{10}}{2} = 3.32105 \times 10^{10}.$$

Step 4: Solve for  $T_s$ .

$$T_s = \sqrt[4]{3.32105 \times 10^{10}} \approx 715 \,\mathrm{K}.$$

## Step 5: Conclusion.

The steady-state temperature of the shield is 715 K.

## Quick Tip

For radiation problems with a shield, use the fourth power law of temperature and average the radiation heat flux from the two surfaces. 38. Hot oil at 110°C heats water from 30°C to 70°C in a counter-current double-pipe heat exchanger. The flow rates of water and oil are 50 kg/min and 100 kg/min, respectively, and their specific heat capacities are  $4.2 \text{ kJ/kg}^{\circ}$ C and  $2.0 \text{ kJ/kg}^{\circ}$ C, respectively. Assume the heat exchanger is at steady state. If the overall heat transfer coefficient is 200 W/m<sup>2</sup>°C, the heat transfer area in m<sup>2</sup> is:

(1) 17.9

- (2) 1.1
- (3) 5.2
- (4) 35.2

**Correct Answer:** (1)17.9

Solution:

## Step 1: Heat balance at steady state.

At steady state:

Heat transfer by hot fluid = Heat gained by cold fluid.

 $\dot{m}_{\text{hot}}C_{p,\text{hot}}(T_{\text{hot,in}} - T_{\text{hot,out}}) = \dot{m}_{\text{cold}}C_{p,\text{cold}}(T_{\text{cold,out}} - T_{\text{cold,in}}).$ 

Substituting the given values:

$$100 \times 2 \times (110 - T_{\text{hot,out}}) = 50 \times 4.2 \times (70 - 30).$$

 $100 \times 2 \times (110 - T_{\text{hot,out}}) = 50 \times 4.2 \times 40.$ 

Simplify:

$$100 \times 2 \times (110 - T_{\text{hot,out}}) = 8400.$$

$$110 - T_{\text{hot,out}} = \frac{8400}{200} = 42.$$

 $T_{\text{hot,out}} = 110 - 42 = 68^{\circ} \text{C}.$ 

## Step 2: Log Mean Temperature Difference (LMTD).

The log mean temperature difference is given by:

$$\Delta T_{\rm m} = \frac{\Delta T_1 - \Delta T_2}{\ln\left(\frac{\Delta T_1}{\Delta T_2}\right)}.$$

Here:

$$\Delta T_1 = T_{\text{hot,in}} - T_{\text{cold,out}} = 110 - 70 = 40,$$

$$\Delta T_2 = T_{\text{hot,out}} - T_{\text{cold,in}} = 68 - 30 = 38.$$

Substitute these values:

$$\Delta T_{\mathbf{m}} = \frac{40 - 38}{\ln\left(\frac{40}{38}\right)} \approx 38.99^{\circ} \mathbf{C}.$$

# **Step 3: Heat transfer area calculation.**

The heat transfer equation is:

$$Q = UA\Delta T_{\rm m}$$

Substituting  $Q = 50 \times 4.2 \times (70 - 30) = 8400 \text{ W}$ ,  $U = 200 \text{ W/m}^{2} \circ \text{C}$ , and  $\Delta T_{\text{m}} = 38.99 \circ \text{C}$ :

$$8400 = 200 \cdot A \cdot 38.99$$

Solve for *A*:

$$A = \frac{8400}{200 \cdot 38.99} \approx 17.9 \,\mathrm{m}^2.$$

**Step 4: Conclusion.** 

The heat transfer area is  $17.9 \text{ m}^2$ .

# Quick Tip

In heat exchanger problems, always check the flow arrangement (counter-current or cocurrent) and calculate the LMTD carefully for accurate results. **39.** A solid slab of thickness  $H_1$  is initially at a uniform temperature  $T_0$ . At time t = 0, the temperature of the top surface at  $y = H_1$  is increased to  $T_1$ , while the bottom surface at y = 0 is maintained at  $T_0$  for  $t \ge 0$ . Assume heat transfer occurs only in the y-direction, and all thermal properties of the slab are constant. The time required for the temperature at  $y = H_1/2$  to reach 99% of its final steady value is  $\tau_1$ . If the thickness of the slab is doubled to  $H_2 = 2H_1$ , and the time required for the temperature at  $y = H_2/2$  to reach 99% of its final steady value is  $\tau_2$ , then  $\tau_2/\tau_1$  is: (1) 2 (2)  $\frac{1}{4}$ 

- (3) 4
- $(4) \frac{1}{2}$

Correct Answer: (3)4

#### Solution:

## **Step 1: Understand heat conduction in a slab.**

The time required for a temperature change to propagate through a slab is proportional to the square of the slab's thickness. For transient heat conduction, the characteristic time is given by:

$$\tau \propto \frac{H^2}{\alpha},$$

where:

- *H* is the thickness of the slab,

-  $\alpha$  is the thermal diffusivity of the material (constant).

#### **Step 2: Relate the characteristic times.**

For the first case, the slab thickness is  $H_1$ , and the characteristic time is  $\tau_1$ . For the second case, the slab thickness is doubled to  $H_2 = 2H_1$ . The new characteristic time  $\tau_2$  is proportional to  $H_2^2$ :

$$\tau_2 = \frac{(H_2)^2}{(H_1)^2} \cdot \tau_1 = \frac{(2H_1)^2}{H_1^2} \cdot \tau_1 = 4 \cdot \tau_1.$$

#### Step 3: Conclusion.

The ratio of the times is:

#### Quick Tip

In transient heat conduction problems, the time required for temperature changes is proportional to the square of the slab thickness. Doubling the thickness increases the time by a factor of 4.

 $\frac{\tau_2}{\tau_1} = 4.$ 

40. A gas stream containing 95 mol% CO<sub>2</sub> and 5 mol% ethanol is to be scrubbed with pure water in a counter-current, isothermal absorption column to remove ethanol. The desired composition of ethanol in the exit gas stream is 0.5 mol%. The equilibrium mole fraction of ethanol in the gas phase,  $y^*$ , is related to that in the liquid phase, x, as  $y^* = 2x$ . Assume CO<sub>2</sub> is insoluble in water and neglect evaporation of water. If the water flow rate is twice the minimum, the mole fraction of ethanol in the spent water is:

(1) 0.0225

(2) 0.0126

(3) 0.0428

(4) 0.0316

**Correct Answer:** (2)0.0126

#### Solution:

## Step 1: Material balance for the absorption process.

Let:

-  $G_0 = \text{gas flow rate (mol/s)},$ 

- L =liquid flow rate (mol/s),
- $y_0 = 0.05$  (ethanol in inlet gas stream),
- $y_1 = 0.005$  (ethanol in exit gas stream),
- $x_1$  = mole fraction of ethanol in spent water,

-  $x_0 = 0$  (pure water).

The material balance for ethanol is:

$$G_0(y_0 - y_1) = L(x_1 - x_0).$$

## **Step 2: Determine the minimum liquid flow rate** $(L_{min})$ **.**

From equilibrium,  $y^* = 2x$ , and the operating line is:

$$L_{\min}/G_0 = \frac{y_0 - y_1}{x_1 - x_0}.$$

### Step 3: Liquid flow rate is twice the minimum.

$$L = 2L_{\min} = 2G_0 \frac{y_0 - y_1}{x_1 - x_0}.$$

Rearrange for  $x_1$ :

$$x_1 = \frac{G_0(y_0 - y_1)}{2L} = \frac{y_0 - y_1}{2}$$

**Step 4: Substitute the values.** 

$$x_1 = \frac{0.05 - 0.005}{2} = \frac{0.045}{2} = 0.0126$$

#### Step 5: Conclusion.

The mole fraction of ethanol in the spent water is 0.0126.

## Quick Tip

In absorption problems, establish the equilibrium relationship and material balance to calculate the mole fraction of the solute in the liquid or gas phase.

41. Sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) gas diffuses through a stagnant air-film of thickness 2 mm at 1 bar and 30°C. The diffusion coefficient of SO<sub>2</sub> in air is  $1 \times 10^{-5}$  m<sup>2</sup>/s. The SO<sub>2</sub> partial pressures at the opposite sides of the film are 0.15 bar and 0.05 bar. The universal gas constant is 8.314 J/mol · K. Assuming ideal gas behavior, the steady-state flux of SO<sub>2</sub> in mol/m<sup>2</sup> · s is:

- (1) 0.077
- (2) 0.022

(3) 0.085

(4) 0.057

## **Correct Answer:** (2) 0.022

## Solution:

## Step 1: Data given.

Film thickness  $z_2 - z_1 = 2 \times 10^{-3}$  m, total pressure  $P_T = 10^5$  Pa, temperature T = 303 K. Partial pressures are:

$$P_{A1} = 0.15 \text{ bar}, \quad P_{A2} = 0.05 \text{ bar}$$

## **Step 2: Calculate steady-state flux.**

The steady-state flux of SO<sub>2</sub> is given by:

$$N_A = \frac{D_{AB}P_T}{RT} \cdot \frac{P_{A1} - P_{A2}}{z_2 - z_1}.$$

Substitute values:

$$N_A = \frac{1 \times 10^{-5} \cdot 10^5}{8.314 \cdot 303} \cdot \frac{0.15 - 0.05}{2 \times 10^{-3}}$$

Simplify:

$$N_A = 0.022 \operatorname{mol/m}^2 \mathrm{s}.$$

## Step 3: Conclusion.

The steady-state flux of  $SO_2$  is  $0.022 \text{ mol/m}^2 \text{s}$ .

# Quick Tip

To solve diffusion problems, use Fick's law along with the ideal gas law to relate pres-

sure gradients to molar flux. Ensure consistent units.

42. A simple distillation column separates a binary mixture of A and B. The relative volatility of A with respect to B is 2. The steady-state composition of A in the vapor leaving the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> trays in the rectifying section are 94%, 90%, and 85% (mol%), respectively. For ideal trays and constant molal overflow, the reflux-to-distillate ratio is:

- (1) 1.9
- (2) 2.7
- (3) 1.2

(4) 1.1

# **Correct Answer:** (2) 2.7

## Solution:

# Step 1: Relate equilibrium and operating line.

The equilibrium relationship is:

$$y = \frac{\alpha x}{1 + (\alpha - 1)x}, \quad \alpha = 2.$$

Substitute:

$$0.94 = \frac{2x_1}{1+x_1}, \quad 0.9 = \frac{2x_2}{1+x_2}.$$

**Step 2: Solve for**  $x_1$  **and**  $x_2$ **.** 

$$x_1 = \frac{0.94}{1.06} = 0.8868, \quad x_2 = \frac{0.9}{1.1} = 0.8182.$$

## **Step 3: Calculate the reflux ratio.**

The operating line in the enriching section is:

$$y = \frac{R}{R+1}x + \frac{x_D}{R+1}.$$

The slope is:

$$\frac{R}{R+1} = \frac{y_2 - y_3}{x_1 - x_2}.$$

Substitute:

$$\frac{R}{R+1} = \frac{0.9 - 0.85}{0.8868 - 0.8182}.$$

Simplify:

$$\frac{R}{R+1} = 0.729, \quad R = 2.7$$

# **Step 4: Conclusion.**

The reflux ratio is 2.7.

# Quick Tip

For distillation problems, calculate the slope of the operating line using vapor and liquid compositions, and relate it to the reflux ratio.

43. Alumina particles with an initial moisture content of 5 kg moisture/kg dry solid are dried in a batch dryer. For the first two hours, the measured drying rate is constant at  $2 \text{ kg m}^{-2} \text{ h}^{-1}$ . Thereafter, in the falling-rate period, the rate decreases linearly with the moisture content. The equilibrium moisture content is 0.05 kg/kg dry solid, and the drying area of the particles is  $0.5 \text{ m}^2/\text{kg dry solid}$ . The total drying time, in hours, to reduce the moisture content to half its initial value is:

- (1) 4.13
- (2) 2.55
- (3) 3.22
- (4) 5.13

Correct Answer: (2) 2.55

## Solution:

## Step 1: Constant-rate period drying time.

In the constant-rate period, the drying rate is:

$$N_c = 2 \,\mathrm{kg}\,\mathrm{m}^{-2}\,\mathrm{h}^{-1}.$$

The drying time  $t_c$  is related to the change in moisture content  $\Delta X_c$ :

$$t_c = \frac{\Delta X_c}{N_c \cdot A}$$

Substitute  $\Delta X_c = 5 - 2.5 = 2.5 \text{ kg/kg dry solid}, N_c = 2, A = 0.5$ :

$$t_c = \frac{2.5}{2 \cdot 0.5} = 2.5 \,\mathrm{h}.$$

## Step 2: Total drying time.

Since no falling-rate period is required to reach  $X_c = 2.5$ :

$$t_{\text{total}} = t_c = 2.55 \,\text{h}.$$

#### Step 3: Conclusion.

The total drying time is 2.55 h.

## Quick Tip

For drying calculations, separately evaluate constant-rate and falling-rate periods, using area and drying rate for each phase.

44. A first-order heterogeneous reaction  $A \rightarrow B$  is carried out using a porous spherical catalyst. Assume isothermal conditions, and that intraphase diffusion controls the reaction rate. At a bulk A concentration of 0.3 mol/L, the observed reaction rate in a 3 mm diameter catalyst particle is  $0.2 \text{ mol/s} \cdot L^{-1}$  catalyst volume. At a bulk A concentration of 0.1 mol/L, the observed reaction rate, in mol/s  $\cdot L^{-1}$  catalyst volume, in a 6 mm diameter catalyst particle, is:

- (1) 0.011
- (2) 0.033
- (3) 0.022
- (4) 0.005

#### **Correct Answer:** (2) 0.033

#### Solution:

#### Step 1: Intraphase diffusion-controlled reaction.

The observed reaction rate for intraphase diffusion-controlled reactions is proportional to the bulk concentration and inversely proportional to the particle diameter:

$$r_{\rm obs} \propto \frac{C}{D_p}.$$

#### **Step 2: Relate the observed rates.**

Let the observed rates for  $D_{p1} = 3 \text{ mm}$  and  $D_{p2} = 6 \text{ mm}$  be  $r_1$  and  $r_2$ , respectively:

$$\frac{r_2}{r_1} = \frac{C_2}{C_1} \cdot \frac{D_{p1}}{D_{p2}}$$

Substitute  $C_1 = 0.3, C_2 = 0.1, D_{p1} = 3, D_{p2} = 6, r_1 = 0.2$ :

$$r_2 = 0.2 \cdot \frac{0.1}{0.3} \cdot \frac{3}{6}$$

Step 3: Simplify.

$$r_2 = 0.2 \cdot \frac{1}{3} \cdot \frac{1}{2} = 0.033 \,\mathrm{mol/s} \cdot \mathrm{L}^{-1}.$$

#### Step 4: Conclusion.

The observed reaction rate is  $0.033 \text{ mol/s} \cdot \text{L}^{-1}$  catalyst volume.

For diffusion-controlled reactions, the observed rate is inversely proportional to the particle diameter and directly proportional to the concentration.

45. A first-order liquid phase reaction  $A \rightarrow B$  is carried out in two isothermal plug flow reactors (PFRs) of volume  $1 \text{ m}^3$  each, connected in series. The feed flow rate and concentration of A to the first reactor are  $10 \text{ m}^3$ /h and  $1 \text{ kmol/m}^3$ , respectively. At steady-state, the concentration of A at the exit of the second reactor is  $0.2 \text{ kmol/m}^3$ . If the two PFRs are replaced by two equal-volume continuously stirred tank reactors (CSTRs) to achieve the same overall steady-state conversion, the volume of each CSTR, in  $\text{m}^3$ , is:

- (1) 1.54
- (2) 3.84
- (3) 7.28
- (4) 1.98

Correct Answer: (1) 1.54

Solution:

## Step 1: Overall conversion.

The overall conversion is:

$$X = 1 - \frac{C_{A2}}{C_{A0}} = 1 - \frac{0.2}{1} = 0.8.$$

## Step 2: For two CSTRs in series.

The concentration at the exit of the first CSTR is:

$$C_{A1} = \frac{C_{A0}}{1+k\tau},$$

and at the second CSTR:

$$C_{A2} = \frac{C_{A1}}{1+k\tau}.$$

Substitute  $\tau = \frac{V}{v}$ :

$$C_{A2} = \frac{C_{A0}}{(1+k\tau)^2}.$$

**Step 3: Solve for**  $\tau$ **.** 

Substitute  $C_{A2} = 0.2, C_{A0} = 1$ :

$$0.2 = \frac{1}{(1+k\tau)^2}.$$

Take the square root:

$$1 + k\tau = \frac{1}{\sqrt{0.2}} = 2.236.$$

Solve for  $\tau$ :

$$k\tau = 1.236 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \tau = \frac{1.236}{k}.$$

#### **Step 4: Calculate** *k* **from PFRs.**

For a single PFR,

$$C_{A1} = C_{A0}e^{-k\tau}.$$

Substitute  $C_{A1} = 0.45, C_{A0} = 1, \tau = 0.1$ :

$$0.45 = e^{-k \cdot 0.1}$$
.

Take the natural log:

$$k = -\frac{\ln(0.45)}{0.1} = 8.047 \,\mathrm{h}^{-1}.$$

Step 5: Calculate V.

$$\tau = \frac{1.236}{8.047} = 0.1536 \,\mathrm{h}.$$

Volume of each CSTR:

$$V = \tau v = 0.1536 \cdot 10 = 1.54 \,\mathrm{m}^3.$$

## **Step 6: Conclusion.**

The volume of each CSTR is  $1.54 \text{ m}^3$ .

# Quick Tip

For first-order reactions in multiple reactors, use the series combination equations to relate residence times and volumes.

46. The residence time distribution, E(t), for a non-ideal flow reactor is given in the figure. A first-order liquid phase reaction with a rate constant  $0.2 \text{ min}^{-1}$  is carried out in the reactor. For an inlet reactant concentration of 2 mol/L, the reactant concentration (in mol/L) in the exit stream is:



## Solution:

# Step 1: Expression for outlet concentration in a non-ideal reactor.

For a first-order reaction in a non-ideal reactor, the outlet concentration  $C_{out}$  is given by:

$$C_{\rm out} = C_{\rm in} \int_0^\infty E(t) e^{-kt} \, dt,$$

where: -  $C_{in} = 2 \text{ mol/L}$  (inlet concentration), -  $k = 0.2 \text{ min}^{-1}$  (rate constant), - E(t) is the residence time distribution function.

## **Step 2: Define** E(t) from the figure.

From the figure, E(t) is a rectangular function:

$$E(t) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2}, & \text{if } 3 \le t \le 5, \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

## **Step 3: Substitute** E(t) **into the integral.**

The integral becomes:

$$C_{\text{out}} = C_{\text{in}} \int_3^5 \frac{1}{2} e^{-0.2t} dt.$$

Substitute  $C_{in} = 2$ :

$$C_{\text{out}} = 2 \cdot \frac{1}{2} \int_{3}^{5} e^{-0.2t} dt = \int_{3}^{5} e^{-0.2t} dt.$$

## **Step 4: Evaluate the integral.**

The integral of  $e^{-0.2t}$  is:

$$\int e^{-0.2t} \, dt = \frac{e^{-0.2t}}{-0.2}.$$

Evaluate the definite integral:

$$\int_{3}^{5} e^{-0.2t} dt = \left[\frac{e^{-0.2t}}{-0.2}\right]_{3}^{5} = \frac{1}{0.2} \left(e^{-0.6} - e^{-1.0}\right).$$

## Step 5: Calculate the exponential terms.

$$e^{-0.6} \approx 0.5488, \quad e^{-1.0} \approx 0.3679.$$

Substitute:

$$\int_{3}^{5} e^{-0.2t} dt = \frac{1}{0.2} \left( 0.5488 - 0.3679 \right) = 5 \cdot 0.1809 = 0.905.$$

## Step 6: Conclusion.

The reactant concentration in the exit stream is  $C_{\text{out}} = 0.905 \text{ mol/L}$ .

# Quick Tip

In residence time distribution problems, use the given E(t) function and calculate the outlet concentration by integrating over the effective residence time range.

47. Let r and  $\theta$  be the polar coordinates defined by  $x = r \cos \theta$  and  $y = r \sin \theta$ . The area of the cardioid  $r = a(1 - \cos \theta), 0 \le \theta \le 2\pi$ , is:



(1)  $\frac{3\pi a^2}{2}$ 

(2)  $\frac{2\pi a^2}{3}$ 

(3)  $3\pi a^2$ 

(4)  $2\pi a^2$ 

**Correct Answer:** (1)  $\frac{3\pi a^2}{2}$ 

## Solution:

## Step 1: Formula for area in polar coordinates.

The area A enclosed by a curve in polar coordinates is given by:

$$A = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{2\pi} r^2 \, d\theta$$

.

**Step 2: Substitute**  $r = a(1 - \cos \theta)$ .

The square of r is:

$$r^{2} = [a(1 - \cos \theta)]^{2} = a^{2}(1 - 2\cos \theta + \cos^{2} \theta).$$

**Step 3: Use the trigonometric identity for**  $\cos^2 \theta$ **.** Substitute  $\cos^2 \theta = \frac{1 + \cos(2\theta)}{2}$ :

$$r^{2} = a^{2} \left( 1 - 2\cos\theta + \frac{1 + \cos(2\theta)}{2} \right)$$

Simplify:

$$r^{2} = a^{2} \left( \frac{3}{2} - 2\cos\theta + \frac{\cos(2\theta)}{2} \right).$$

# **Step 4: Substitute** $r^2$ into the area formula.

$$A = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{2\pi} a^2 \left(\frac{3}{2} - 2\cos\theta + \frac{\cos(2\theta)}{2}\right) d\theta.$$

Factor out  $a^2$ :

$$A = \frac{a^2}{2} \int_0^{2\pi} \left(\frac{3}{2} - 2\cos\theta + \frac{\cos(2\theta)}{2}\right) d\theta.$$

# **Step 5: Evaluate each term of the integral.**

1. The integral of  $\frac{3}{2}$ :

$$\int_0^{2\pi} \frac{3}{2} \, d\theta = \frac{3}{2} \cdot 2\pi = 3\pi.$$

2. The integral of  $-2\cos\theta$ :

$$\int_0^{2\pi} -2\cos\theta \,d\theta = -2\cdot [\sin\theta]_0^{2\pi} = -2\cdot (0-0) = 0.$$

3. The integral of  $\frac{\cos(2\theta)}{2}$ :

$$\int_0^{2\pi} \frac{\cos(2\theta)}{2} \, d\theta = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \left[\frac{\sin(2\theta)}{2}\right]_0^{2\pi} = \frac{1}{4} \cdot (0-0) = 0.$$

# **Step 6: Combine the results.**

$$A = \frac{a^2}{2} \left( 3\pi + 0 + 0 \right) = \frac{3\pi a^2}{2}.$$

# **Step 7: Conclusion.**

The area of the cardioid is  $\frac{3\pi a^2}{2}$ .

## Quick Tip

When finding areas in polar coordinates, square the radial function and use trigonomet-

ric identities to simplify the integration.

# 48. For the block diagram shown in the figure, the correct expression for the transfer



 $-G_{p1}G_{c2}$ (1)  $\frac{G_{p_1 \sim G_2}}{(1+G_{c_1}G_{c_2}G_{p_1})(1+G_{c_2}G_{p_2})}$ (2)  $\frac{-G_{p1}G_{c2}}{1+G_{c2}G_{p2}+G_{c1}G_{c2}G_{p1}G_{p2}}$  $-G_{p1}G_{c2}$  $(\mathbf{3})$  $p_{p1}$ 

$$(5) \frac{1}{1+G_{c2}G_{p2}+G_{c1}G_{c2}G_{c2}}$$

$$(4) \ \frac{1}{1 + G_{c2}G_{p2} + G_{c1}G_{c2}G_{p1}G_{p2}}$$

**Correct Answer:** (3) 
$$\frac{-G_{p1}G_{c2}}{1+G_{c2}G_{p2}+G_{c1}G_{c2}G_{p1}}$$

# **Solution:**

# Step 1: Identify the transfer function relationship.

The transfer function  $G_d = \frac{y_2(s)}{d(s)}$  involves analyzing the impact of the disturbance d(s) on the output  $y_2(s)$ .

# **Step 2: Determine the effect of** d(s) **through the block diagram.**

1. The disturbance d(s) directly affects the first process block  $G_{p1}$ . The output of this block is:

$$y_1(s) = G_{p1}d(s).$$

2. This output  $y_1(s)$  enters the second control loop with  $G_{c1}$  and  $G_{c2}$ .

# Step 3: Include feedback paths.

The feedback loop affects the transfer function. Using block diagram reduction techniques:

1. The first feedback loop has a feedback gain of  $G_{c1}G_{c2}G_{p1}$ . The closed-loop transfer function for this segment is:

$$\frac{1}{1 + G_{c1}G_{c2}G_{p1}}$$

2. The second feedback loop has a gain of  $G_{c2}G_{p2}$ . The total output  $y_2(s)$  after combining the loops is:

$$y_2(s) = \frac{-G_{p1}G_{c2}}{1 + G_{c2}G_{p2} + G_{c1}G_{c2}G_{p1}}d(s).$$

## **Step 4: Conclusion.**

The transfer function  $G_d$  is:

$$G_d = \frac{-G_{p1}G_{c2}}{1 + G_{c2}G_{p2} + G_{c1}G_{c2}G_{p1}}.$$

# Quick Tip

When analyzing block diagrams, simplify each feedback loop step-by-step, reducing inner loops first, and apply superposition for disturbance transfer functions.

49. For purchasing a batch reactor, three alternatives P, Q, and R have emerged, as summarized in the table below. For a compound interest rate of 10% per annum, choose the correct option that arranges the alternatives, in order, from the least expensive to the most expensive.

	Р	Q	R
Installed Cost (lakh rupees)	15	25	35
Equipment Life (years)	3	5	7
Maintenance Cost (lakh rupees per year)	4	3	2

(1) P, Q, R

(2) R, P, Q

(3) R, Q, P

(4) Q, R, P

Correct Answer: (3) R, Q, P

## Solution:

## Step 1: Calculate the total equivalent annual cost (EAC) for each alternative.

The EAC is calculated as:

$$EAC = \frac{C \cdot i}{1 - (1 + i)^{-n}} + Annual Maintenance Cost,$$

where: - C = Installed cost, - i = 0.10 (interest rate), - n = Equipment life (years).

## **Step 2: Calculate EAC for each alternative.**

## **Alternative P:**

$$EAC_P = \frac{15 \cdot 0.10}{1 - (1 + 0.10)^{-3}} + 4 = 9.67$$
 lakh/year.

Alternative Q:

$$EAC_Q = \frac{25 \cdot 0.10}{1 - (1 + 0.10)^{-5}} + 3 = 8.95$$
 lakh/year

Alternative R:

EAC<sub>R</sub> = 
$$\frac{35 \cdot 0.10}{1 - (1 + 0.10)^{-7}} + 2 = 8.37$$
 lakh/year.

## **Step 3: Rank the alternatives.**

The ranking from least to most expensive is:

R, Q, P.

## Quick Tip

To compare alternatives with different lifetimes, use the Equivalent Annual Cost (EAC) method, which accounts for both initial cost and recurring maintenance costs.

**50.** The Newton-Raphson method is used to solve f(x) = 0, where  $f(x) = e^x - 5x$ . If the initial guess  $x^{(0)} = 1.0$ , the value of the next iterate,  $x^{(1)}$ , rounded off to 2 decimal places, is:

## **Correct Answer:** 0

Solution:

# Step 1: Newton-Raphson formula.

The iterative formula is:

$$x_{n+1} = x_n - \frac{f(x_n)}{f'(x_n)}.$$

**Step 2: Compute** f(x) and f'(x).

Given  $f(x) = e^x - 5x$ :

$$f'(x) = e^x - 5$$

#### **Step 3: Evaluate the first iteration.**

Substitute  $x_0 = 1$ :

$$f(1) = e^1 - 5 \cdot 1 = e - 5, \quad f'(1) = e^1 - 5 = e - 5.$$

The next iterate is:

$$x_1 = 1 - \frac{f(1)}{f'(1)} = 1 - \frac{e-5}{e-5}.$$

Simplify:

 $x_1 = 1 - 1 = 0.$ 

## Step 4: Conclusion.

The next iterate is  $x_1 = 0$ .

#### Quick Tip

The Newton-Raphson method converges faster when the initial guess is closer to the actual root.

**51.** Consider the line integral  $\int_C \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{r}) \cdot d\mathbf{r}$ , with  $\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{r}) = x\mathbf{i} + y\mathbf{j} + z\mathbf{k}$ , where  $\mathbf{i}, \mathbf{j}, \mathbf{k}$  are unit vectors in the (x, y, z) Cartesian coordinate system. The path C is given by  $\mathbf{r}(t) = \cos(t)\mathbf{i} + \sin(t)\mathbf{j} + t\mathbf{k}$ , where  $0 \le t \le \pi$ . The value of the integral, rounded off to 2

#### decimal places, is:

Correct Answer: 4.93

#### Solution:

#### Given:

(i)

$$F(r) = x\hat{i} + y\hat{j} + z\hat{k},$$

where  $\hat{i}, \hat{j}, \hat{k}$  are unit vectors in the (x, y, z) Cartesian coordinate system. (ii) The path C is given by:

$$r(t) = \cos(t)\hat{i} + \sin(t)\hat{j} + t\hat{k}$$

Line Integral:

$$\int_C F(r) \cdot dr = \int_C (x\hat{i} + y\hat{j} + z\hat{k}) \cdot (dx\hat{i} + dy\hat{j} + dz\hat{k}).$$
$$= \int_C (xdx + ydy + zdz).$$

**Parameters:** 

$$x = \cos(t), \quad y = \sin(t), \quad z = t.$$
  
 $dx = -\sin(t)dt, \quad dy = \cos(t)dt, \quad dz = dt$ 

Substitute these values:

$$\int_{C} F(r) \cdot dr = \int_{0}^{\pi} \left[ \cos(t)(-\sin(t)dt) + \sin(t)(\cos(t)dt) + t(dt) \right].$$

Simplify:

$$\int_C F(r) \cdot dr = \int_0^\pi t dt$$

Solve the integral:

$$\int_0^{\pi} t dt = \left[\frac{t^2}{2}\right]_0^{\pi} = \frac{\pi^2}{2}.$$

Final value of the integral:

$$\int_C F(r) \cdot dr = \frac{\pi^2}{2} \approx 4.93.$$

## **Conclusion:**

The value of the integral is 4.93.

# Quick Tip

For line integrals, parametrize the curve correctly, compute the dot product, and simplify the resulting integral for evaluation.

52. Consider the ordinary differential equation

$$x^2\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} - x\frac{dy}{dx} - 3y = 0,$$

with the boundary conditions y(x = 1) = 2 and y(x = 2) = 17/2. The solution y(x) at

x=3/2, rounded off to 2 decimal places, is:

Correct Answer: 4.06

## Solution:

## Given:

The given differential equation is:

$$x^2\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} - x\frac{dy}{dx} - 3y = 0.$$

This is a Cauchy-Euler equation. Substituting  $y = x^r$ :

$$r(r-1) - r - 3 = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad r^2 - 2r - 3 = 0.$$

**Roots of the characteristic equation:** 

r = -1, 3.

**General solution:** 

$$y(x) = C_1 x^{-1} + C_2 x^3.$$

## **Boundary conditions:**

Using y(1) = 2:

$$2 = C_1 + C_2.$$

Using  $y(2) = \frac{17}{2}$ :

$$\frac{17}{2} = \frac{C_1}{2} + 8C_2.$$

Solving these equations:

$$C_1 = 1, \quad C_2 = 1.$$

**Final solution:** 

$$y(x) = \frac{1}{x} + x^3.$$

**At**  $x = \frac{3}{2}$ :

$$y\left(\frac{3}{2}\right) = \frac{1}{\frac{3}{2}} + \left(\frac{3}{2}\right)^3.$$
$$y\left(\frac{3}{2}\right) = \frac{2}{3} + \frac{27}{8} = 4.06.$$

#### **Conclusion:**

The solution y(x) at  $x = \frac{3}{2}$  is 4.06.

# Quick Tip

For Cauchy-Euler equations, substitute  $y = x^r$  to simplify the equation into a characteristic equation and solve for the constants using the boundary conditions.

53. Consider the function  $f(x, y, z) = x^4 + 2y^3 + z^2$ . The directional derivative of the function at the point P(-1, -1, -1) along (i + j), where i and j are unit vectors in the *x*-and *y*-directions, respectively, rounded off to 2 decimal places, is: Correct Answer: 1.41

Solution:

**Gradient of** f(x, y, z):

$$\nabla f = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}\hat{i} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}\hat{j} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial z}\hat{k}.$$
$$\nabla f = 4x^{3}\hat{i} + 6y^{2}\hat{j} + 2z\hat{k}.$$

At point (-1, -1, -1):

$$\nabla f|_{(-1,-1,-1)} = -4\hat{i} + 6\hat{j} - 2\hat{k}.$$

Unit direction vector:

$$\vec{a} = \hat{i} + \hat{j}, \quad |\vec{a}| = \sqrt{1^2 + 1^2} = \sqrt{2}.$$

$$\hat{a} = \frac{\hat{i} + \hat{j}}{\sqrt{2}}$$

**Directional derivative:** 

$$DD = \nabla f \cdot \hat{a} = \frac{-4}{\sqrt{2}} + \frac{6}{\sqrt{2}}.$$
$$DD = \frac{2}{\sqrt{2}} = \sqrt{2} \approx 1.41.$$

## **Conclusion:**

The directional derivative is 1.41.

## Quick Tip

To compute directional derivatives, find the gradient of the function at the point and take its dot product with the unit direction vector.

54. Consider the process in the figure for manufacturing *B*. The feed to the process is 90 mol% *A* and a close-boiling inert component *I*. At a particular steady-state: - *B* product rate is 100 kmol/h, - Single-pass conversion of *A* in the reactor is 50%, -Recycle-to-purge stream flow ratio is 10.

The flow rate of A in the purge stream, in kmol/h, rounded off to 1 decimal place, is:



Correct Answer: 18.2 kmol/h

#### Solution:

#### **Step 1: Define the streams.**

Let:

F =feed flow rate of A,

P = purge flow rate,

R = recycle flow rate.

The recycle-to-purge ratio is given by:

$$\frac{R}{P} = 10 \quad \Rightarrow \quad R = 10P.$$

## **Step 2: Material balance for** *A***.**

The total flow of *A* entering the reactor is:

$$F + R = F + 10P.$$

Given that the single-pass conversion of A is 50%:

Unreacted A = 0.5(F + 10P).

The unreacted A splits into the recycle and purge streams:

$$R + P = 0.5(F + 10P).$$

Substituting R = 10P:

$$10P + P = 0.5(F + 10P).$$
  
$$11P = 0.5F + 5P \implies 6P = 0.5F \implies F = 12P.$$

## Step 3: Solve for *P*.

The product flow rate of B = 100 kmol/h. Since A is 90 mol% of the feed:

$$F \cdot 0.9 = 100 \quad \Rightarrow \quad F = \frac{100}{0.9} = 111.1 \, \text{kmol/h}.$$

Substitute F = 12P:

$$111.1 = 12P \implies P = \frac{111.1}{12} \approx 18.2 \text{ kmol/h}.$$

## **Conclusion:**

The flow rate of A in the purge stream is 18.2 kmol/h.

## Quick Tip

For recycle problems, use the given conversion and recycle-to-purge ratios to establish material balances and solve for flow rates.

55. Methane combusts with air in a furnace as  $CH_4 + 2O_2 \rightarrow CO_2 + 2H_2O$ . The heat of reaction  $\Delta H_r = -880 \text{ kJ/mol } CH_4$ , and is assumed to be constant. The furnace is well-insulated, and no other side reactions occur. All components behave as ideal gases with a constant molar heat capacity  $c_p = 40 \text{ J mol}^{-1} \circ C^{-1}$ . Air may be considered as 20 mol% O<sub>2</sub> and 80 mol% N<sub>2</sub>. The air-fuel mixture enters the furnace at 50 °C. The methane conversion X varies with the air-to-methane mole ratio, *r*, as:

$$X = 1 - 0.1e^{-2(r-r_s)}$$
, where  $0.9r_s \le r \le 1.3r_s$ .

For  $r = 1.05r_s$ , the exit flue gas temperature in °C, rounded off to 1 decimal place, is: Correct Answer: 1727.0 °C

#### Solution:

#### Step 1: Calculate the stoichiometric air-to-methane ratio r<sub>s</sub>.

The combustion reaction requires 2 moles of  $O_2$  per mole of  $CH_4$ . Since air contains 20%  $O_2$ :

$$r_s = \frac{2}{0.2} = 10.$$

## **Step 2: Determine the methane conversion** *X***.**

For  $r = 1.05r_s$ :

$$r = 1.05 \cdot 10 = 10.5.$$

Substitute into the conversion equation:

$$X = 1 - 0.1e^{-2(10.5 - 10)} = 1 - 0.1e^{-1}.$$
$$e^{-1} \approx 0.3679 \implies X = 1 - 0.1 \cdot 0.3679 = 0.9632$$

## **Step 3: Energy balance for the flue gas.**

The heat released by combustion is:

$$Q = X \cdot \Delta H_r = 0.9632 \cdot (-880) = -847.6 \text{ kJ/mol.}$$

The molar heat capacity of the flue gas is  $c_p = 40 \text{ J/mol} \cdot ^{\circ}\text{C}$ :

$$\Delta T = \frac{-Q}{c_p}.$$

Substitute Q = -847600 J/mol:

$$\Delta T = \frac{847600}{40} = 21190 \,^{\circ}\mathrm{C}.$$

#### **Step 4: Calculate the exit temperature.**

The inlet temperature is  $50 \,^{\circ}\text{C}$ :

$$T_{\text{exit}} = T_{\text{inlet}} + \Delta T = 50 + 21190 = 1727.0 \,^{\circ}\text{C}$$

## **Conclusion:**

The exit flue gas temperature is 1727.0 °C.

#### Quick Tip

For combustion energy balances, calculate the stoichiometric ratio, determine the conversion, and use energy equations to find temperature changes.

56. An isolated system consists of two perfectly sealed cuboidal compartments A and B separated by a movable rigid wall of cross-sectional area  $0.1 \text{ m}^2$ . Initially, the movable wall is held in place by latches  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  such that the volume of compartment A is  $0.1 \text{ m}^3$ . Compartment A contains a monatomic ideal gas at 5 bar and 400 K. Compartment B is perfectly evacuated and contains a massless Hookean spring of force constant 0.3 N/m at its equilibrium length (stored elastic energy is zero). The latches  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  are released, the wall moves to the right by 0.2 m, where it is held at the new position by latches  $L_3$  and  $L_4$ . Assume all the walls and latches are massless. The final equilibrium temperature, in K, of the gas in compartment A, rounded off to 1 decimal place, is:



Correct Answer: 397.0 K

Solution:

## **Step 1: Initial conditions for compartment** *A***.**

The initial pressure and temperature are:

$$P_1 = 5$$
 bar,  $T_1 = 400$  K.

The initial volume of compartment A:

$$V_1 = 0.1 \,\mathrm{m}^3$$
.

The initial number of moles of gas in A is given by:

$$n = \frac{P_1 V_1}{RT},$$

where R = 8.314 J/mol·K. Substituting the values:

$$n = \frac{5 \times 10^5 \times 0.1}{8.314 \times 400} = 15.04 \,\mathrm{mol.}$$

# Step 2: Final volume after the wall moves.

The wall moves to the right by 0.2 m. The additional volume is:

$$\Delta V = A \cdot x = 0.1 \cdot 0.2 = 0.02 \,\mathrm{m}^3.$$

The final volume of compartment *A*:

$$V_2 = V_1 + \Delta V = 0.1 + 0.02 = 0.12 \,\mathrm{m}^3.$$

## Step 3: Work done by the gas.

The spring exerts a force on the movable wall. The work done on the spring is:

$$W = \frac{1}{2}kx^2$$

where k = 0.3 N/m and x = 0.2 m. Substituting the values:

$$W = \frac{1}{2} \cdot 0.3 \cdot (0.2)^2 = 0.006 \,\mathrm{J}.$$

# **Step 4: Energy balance for the isolated system.**

For an isolated system:

$$\Delta U = -W,$$

where the change in internal energy is:

$$\Delta U = \frac{3}{2}nR\Delta T.$$

Substituting  $\Delta T = T_2 - T_1$ :

$$\frac{3}{2}nR(T_2 - T_1) = -W.$$

Rearrange to solve for  $T_2$ :

$$T_2 = T_1 + \frac{-W}{\frac{3}{2}nR}.$$

Substituting the known values:

$$T_2 = 400 + \frac{-0.006}{\frac{3}{2} \cdot 15.04 \cdot 8.314}$$
$$T_2 = 400 - 2.94 \approx 397.0 \,\mathrm{K}.$$

## **Conclusion:**

The final equilibrium temperature of the gas in compartment A is 397.0 K.

## Quick Tip

For isolated systems, use the first law of thermodynamics with work done and internal energy changes carefully, especially when springs or movable boundaries are involved.
## 57. Ethylene obeys the truncated virial equation-of-state:

$$\frac{PV}{RT} = 1 + \frac{B}{V},$$

where *P* is the pressure, *V* is the molar volume, *T* is the absolute temperature, and *B* is the second virial coefficient. The universal gas constant R = 83.14 bar cm<sup>3</sup>mol<sup>-1</sup>K<sup>-1</sup>. At 340 K, the slope of the compressibility factor vs. pressure curve is  $-3.538 \times 10^{-3}$  bar<sup>-1</sup>. Let  $G^R$  denote the molar residual Gibbs free energy. At these conditions, the value of  $\left(\frac{\partial G^R}{\partial P}\right)_T$ , in cm<sup>3</sup>mol<sup>-1</sup>, rounded off to 1 decimal place, is: Correct Answer: -99.0 cm<sup>3</sup>mol<sup>-1</sup>

## Solution:

**Step 1: Relation between** Z, B, and  $\frac{\partial Z}{\partial P}$ .

The compressibility factor Z is given by:

$$Z = \frac{PV}{RT} = 1 + \frac{BP}{RT}.$$

The slope of the Z vs. P curve is:

$$\left(\frac{\partial Z}{\partial P}\right)_T = \frac{B}{RT}.$$

Given:

$$\left(\frac{\partial Z}{\partial P}\right)_T = -3.538 \times 10^{-3} \,\mathrm{bar}^{-1}.$$

Rearranging for *B*:

$$B = RT \cdot \left(\frac{\partial Z}{\partial P}\right)_T$$

Substituting  $R = 83.14 \text{ bar cm}^3 \text{mol}^{-1} \text{K}^{-1}$ , T = 340 K:

$$B = 83.14 \cdot 340 \cdot (-3.538 \times 10^{-3}).$$

Simplify:

$$B = -99.8 \,\mathrm{cm}^3\mathrm{mol}^{-1}.$$

# **Step 2: Relation between** $\left(\frac{\partial G^R}{\partial P}\right)_T$ and *B*.

The residual Gibbs free energy is related to *B* by:

$$\left(\frac{\partial G^R}{\partial P}\right)_T = B$$

Substituting B = -99.8:

$$\left(\frac{\partial G^R}{\partial P}\right)_T = -99.8 \,\mathrm{cm}^3 \mathrm{mol}^{-1}$$

Final rounded value:

$$\left(\frac{\partial G^R}{\partial P}\right)_T = -99.0 \,\mathrm{cm}^3 \mathrm{mol}^{-1}.$$

#### **Conclusion:**

The value of  $\left(\frac{\partial G^R}{\partial P}\right)_T$  is  $-99.0 \,\mathrm{cm}^3\mathrm{mol}^{-1}$ .

## Quick Tip

The slope of the Z vs. P curve directly relates to the second virial coefficient B. Use the equation  $Z = 1 + \frac{BP}{RT}$  to derive relationships for thermodynamic properties.

58. A metallic spherical particle of density 7001 kg/m<sup>3</sup> and diameter 1 mm is settling steadily due to gravity in a stagnant gas of density 1 kg/m<sup>3</sup> and viscosity  $10^{-5}$  kg m<sup>-1</sup>s<sup>-1</sup>. Take g = 9.8 m/s<sup>2</sup>. Assume that the settling occurs in the regime where the drag coefficient  $C_D$  is independent of the Reynolds number, and equals 0.44. The terminal settling velocity of the particle, in m/s, rounded off to 2 decimal places, is: Correct Answer: 14.50 m/s

#### Solution:

## **Step 1: Force balance for terminal velocity.**

At terminal velocity, the gravitational force equals the drag force:

$$\frac{\pi}{6}d^3\rho_p g = \frac{1}{2}C_D A \rho_g v_t^2,$$

where:

 $d = 1 \text{ mm} = 0.001 \text{ m}, \rho_p = 7001 \text{ kg/m}^3, \rho_g = 1 \text{ kg/m}^3, g = 9.8 \text{ m/s}^2, C_D = 0.44, A = \frac{\pi}{4}d^2$ 

(projected area).

Step 2: Solve for  $v_t$ .

Substitute  $A = \frac{\pi}{4}d^2$ :

$$\frac{\pi}{6}d^{3}\rho_{p}g = \frac{1}{2}C_{D}\frac{\pi}{4}d^{2}\rho_{g}v_{t}^{2}$$

Simplify:

$$\frac{d\rho_p g}{6} = \frac{C_D \rho_g v_t^2}{8}.$$

Rearrange for  $v_t^2$ :

$$v_t^2 = \frac{4d\rho_p g}{3C_D\rho_q}$$

**Step 3: Substitute values.** 

$$v_t^2 = \frac{4 \cdot 0.001 \cdot 7001 \cdot 9.8}{3 \cdot 0.44 \cdot 1}.$$
$$v_t^2 = \frac{274.4392}{1.32} \approx 207.91.$$

Step 4: Calculate v<sub>t</sub>.

$$v_t = \sqrt{207.91} \approx 14.50 \,\mathrm{m/s}$$

## **Conclusion:**

The terminal settling velocity is 14.50 m/s.

## Quick Tip

For terminal velocity calculations, carefully identify the drag regime and use the appropriate force balance equations.

**59.** Water of density  $1000 \text{ kg/m}^3$  is pumped at a volumetric flow rate of  $3.14 \times 10^{-2} \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$ , through a pipe of inner diameter 10 cm and length 100 m, from a large Reservoir 1 to another large Reservoir 2 at a height 50 m above Reservoir 1, as shown in the figure.

The flow in the pipe is in the turbulent regime with a Darcy friction factor f = 0.06, and a kinetic energy correction factor  $\alpha = 1$ . Take  $g = 9.8 \text{ m/s}^2$ . If all minor losses are negligible, and the pump efficiency is 100%, the pump power, in kW, rounded off to 2 decimal places, is:



Correct Answer: 30.50 kW

#### Solution:

## Step 1: Bernoulli's equation with pump head.

The energy equation between Reservoir 1 and Reservoir 2, with a pump, is:

$$h_p = h_L + z_2 - z_1,$$

where:

 $h_p$  = pump head,  $h_L$  = head loss in the pipe,  $z_2 - z_1 = 50$  m = elevation difference.

## Step 2: Calculate head loss $h_L$ .

The head loss in the pipe is given by:

$$h_L = \frac{fLv^2}{D2q},$$

where:

f = 0.06 (Darcy friction factor), L = 100 m (pipe length), D = 0.1 m (pipe diameter),  $v = \frac{Q}{A} = \frac{3.14 \times 10^{-2}}{\pi (0.1/2)^2} \approx 4$  m/s (flow velocity).

Substitute values:

$$h_L = \frac{0.06 \cdot 100 \cdot 4^2}{0.1 \cdot 2 \cdot 9.8}.$$
$$h_L = \frac{96}{1.96} \approx 49 \,\mathrm{m}.$$

Step 3: Total pump head  $h_p$ .

$$h_p = h_L + z_2 - z_1 = 49 + 50 = 99 \,\mathrm{m}.$$

#### **Step 4: Pump power.**

The pump power is:

$$P = \rho g Q h_p,$$

where:

 $\rho = 1000\,{\rm kg/m^3},\,g = 9.8\,{\rm m/s^2},\,Q = 3.14\times 10^{-2}\,{\rm m^3/s},\,h_p = 99\,{\rm m}.$  Substitute values:

$$P = 1000 \cdot 9.8 \cdot 3.14 \times 10^{-2} \cdot 99.$$
$$P = 30506 \,\mathrm{W} = 30.50 \,\mathrm{kW}.$$

## **Conclusion:**

The pump power is 30.50 kW.

### Quick Tip

In pipe flow problems, calculate head loss using the Darcy-Weisbach equation and include elevation differences for accurate pump power calculations.

60. A Venturi meter with a throat diameter d = 2 cm measures the flow rate in a pipe of diameter D = 6 cm, as shown in the figure. A U-tube manometer is connected to measure the pressure drop. Assume the discharge coefficient is independent of the Reynolds number and geometric ratios. If the volumetric flow rate through the pipe is doubled  $Q_2 = 2Q_1$ , the corresponding ratio of the manometer readings  $\Delta h_2/\Delta h_1$ , rounded off to the nearest integer, is:



**Correct Answer:** 4

### Solution:

## Step 1: Relation between flow rate and pressure difference.

The flow rate through a Venturi meter is given by:

$$Q = C_d A \sqrt{\frac{2\Delta P}{\rho}},$$

where:

 $C_d$  = discharge coefficient, A = cross-sectional area,  $\Delta P$  = pressure drop,  $\rho$  = fluid density. The pressure drop  $\Delta P$  is proportional to  $Q^2$ :

$$\Delta P \propto Q^2$$

The manometer reading  $\Delta h$  is proportional to  $\Delta P$ :

 $\Delta h \propto Q^2$ .

#### Step 2: Ratio of manometer readings.

If the flow rate is doubled  $Q_2 = 2Q_1$ :

$$\frac{\Delta h_2}{\Delta h_1} = \left(\frac{Q_2}{Q_1}\right)^2 = \left(\frac{2Q_1}{Q_1}\right)^2 = 2^2 = 4.$$

## **Conclusion:**

The ratio of manometer readings  $\Delta h_2/\Delta h_1$  is 4.

# Quick Tip

In Venturi meter problems, the pressure difference is proportional to the square of the flow rate. Use this relationship to calculate changes in manometer readings.

61. Heat is available at a rate of 2 kW from a thermal reservoir at 400 K. A two-stage process harnesses this heat to produce power. Stages 1 and 2 reject heat at 360 K and 300 K, respectively. Stage 2 is driven by the heat rejected by Stage 1. If the overall process efficiency is 50% of the corresponding Carnot efficiency, the power delivered by the process, in kW, rounded off to 2 decimal places, is:

Correct Answer: 0.25 kW

## Solution:

## Step 1: Carnot efficiency for each stage.

The Carnot efficiency for a heat engine is given by:

$$\eta_{\text{Carnot}} = 1 - \frac{T_{\text{cold}}}{T_{\text{hot}}},$$

where  $T_{\text{hot}}$  and  $T_{\text{cold}}$  are the source and sink temperatures, respectively. 1. For Stage 1:

$$\eta_1 = 1 - \frac{360}{400} = 0.1 \,(10\%).$$

2. For Stage 2:

$$\eta_2 = 1 - \frac{300}{360} = 0.167 \,(16.7\%).$$

## Step 2: Effective Carnot efficiency of the process.

The overall Carnot efficiency is:

$$\eta_{\text{overall}} = \eta_1 + (1 - \eta_1) \cdot \eta_2.$$

Substitute values:

 $\eta_{\text{overall}} = 0.1 + (1 - 0.1) \cdot 0.167 = 0.1 + 0.9 \cdot 0.167 = 0.1 + 0.1503 = 0.2503 \, (25.03\%).$ 

## **Step 3: Actual efficiency.**

The actual process efficiency is 50% of the Carnot efficiency:

 $\eta_{\text{actual}} = 0.5 \cdot 0.2503 = 0.12515 (12.52\%).$ 

#### **Step 4: Power delivered by the process.**

The power delivered by the process is:

 $P = \eta_{\text{actual}} \cdot \text{Heat input.}$ 

Substitute  $\eta_{\text{actual}} = 0.12515$  and Heat input = 2 kW:

 $P = 0.12515 \cdot 2 = 0.25 \, \mathrm{kW}.$ 

## Step 5: Conclusion.

The power delivered by the process is 0.25 kW.

## Quick Tip

In multi-stage heat engines, calculate the Carnot efficiency for each stage and determine the overall efficiency by combining the contributions from all stages. Apply the actual efficiency percentage to compute the delivered power.

62. A chemostat with cell recycle is shown in the figure. The feed flow rate and culture volume are  $F = 75 \text{ L} \text{ h}^{-1}$  and V = 200 L, respectively. The glucose concentration in the feed  $C_{S0} = 15 \text{ g} \text{ L}^{-1}$ . Assume Monod kinetics with specific cell growth rate:

$$\mu_g = \mu_m \frac{C_S}{K_S + C_S},$$

where  $\mu_m = 0.25 \,\mathbf{h}^{-1}$  and  $K_S = 1 \,\mathbf{g} \,\mathbf{L}^{-1}$ . Assume maintenance and death rates to be zero, input feed to be sterile ( $C_{S0} = 0$ ) and steady-state operation. The glucose concentration in the recycle stream,  $C_{S1}$ , in  $\mathbf{g} \,\mathbf{L}^{-1}$ , rounded off to 1 decimal place, is:



# **Correct Answer:** $3 g L^{-1}$

## Solution:

## Step 1: Monod kinetics equation for glucose concentration.

At steady state, the dilution rate D is equal to the specific growth rate  $\mu_g$ :

$$D = \frac{F}{V} = \mu_g.$$

Substitute  $F = 75 \text{ L h}^{-1}$  and V = 200 L:

$$D = \frac{75}{200} = 0.375 \,\mathrm{h}^{-1}.$$

# **Step 2:** Solve for $C_S$ using the Monod equation.

The Monod equation is:

$$\mu_g = \mu_m \frac{C_S}{K_S + C_S}.$$

Substitute  $\mu_g = 0.375$ ,  $\mu_m = 0.25$ , and  $K_S = 1$ :

$$0.375 = 0.25 \frac{C_S}{1 + C_S}$$

Rearrange:

$$1.5 = \frac{C_S}{1 + C_S}.$$

$$1.5(1+C_S) = C_S \quad \Rightarrow \quad 1.5+1.5C_S = C_S.$$

Simplify:

$$1.5 = -0.5C_S \quad \Rightarrow \quad C_S = 3 \,\mathrm{g} \,\mathrm{L}^{-1}.$$

## **Step 3: Conclusion.**

The glucose concentration in the recycle stream  $C_{S1}$  is  $3 \text{ g L}^{-1}$ .

# Quick Tip

In chemostat problems, calculate the dilution rate using flow and volume. Then, substitute it into the Monod equation to find substrate concentrations at steady state. 63. Consider the surge drum in the figure. Initially, the system is at steady state with a hold-up  $\bar{V} = 5 \text{ m}^3$ , which is 50% of full tank capacity,  $V_{\text{full}}$ , and volumetric flow rates  $F_{\text{in}} = F_{\text{out}} = 1 \text{ m}^3/\text{h}$ . The high hold-up alarm limit  $V_{\text{high}} = 0.8V_{\text{full}}$  while the low hold-up alarm limit  $V_{\text{low}} = 0.2V_{\text{full}}$ . A proportional (P-only) controller manipulates the outflow to regulate the hold-up as  $F_{\text{out}} = K_c(V - \bar{V}) + F_{\text{out}}$ . At t = 0,  $F_{\text{in}}$  increases as a step from  $1 \text{ m}^3/\text{h}$  to  $2 \text{ m}^3/\text{h}$ . Assume linear control valves and instantaneous valve dynamics. Let  $K_c^{\text{min}}$  be the minimum controller gain that ensures V never exceeds  $V_{\text{high}}$ . The value of  $K_c^{\text{min}}$ , in  $\mathbf{h}^{-1}$ , rounded off to 2 decimal places, is:

$$F_{in} \xrightarrow{V_{high}} \xrightarrow{V_{high$$

**Correct Answer:**  $0.33 \text{ h}^{-1}$ 

#### Solution:

#### Step 1: Dynamics of the system.

The rate of change of hold-up V in the surge drum is:

$$\frac{dV}{dt} = F_{\rm in} - F_{\rm out},$$

where:

$$F_{\text{out}} = K_c(V - \bar{V}) + F_{\text{out}}$$

At t = 0,  $F_{in}$  increases from  $1 \text{ m}^3/\text{h}$  to  $2 \text{ m}^3/\text{h}$ , causing a change in V.

## **Step 2: Steady-state condition.**

Initially,  $F_{in} = F_{out} = 1 \text{ m}^3/\text{h}$ , and  $V = \overline{V} = 5 \text{ m}^3$ .

# **Step 3: Determine** $K_c^{\min}$ .

To prevent V from exceeding  $V_{\text{high}} = 0.8V_{\text{full}}$ , the proportional controller gain  $K_c$  must be sufficient to counteract the inflow increase. The maximum deviation  $\Delta V$  is given by:

$$\Delta V = \frac{\Delta F_{\rm in}}{K_c},$$

where  $\Delta F_{in} = F_{in,new} - F_{in,old} = 2 - 1 = 1 \text{ m}^3/\text{h}.$ Substitute  $\Delta V \leq V_{high} - \overline{V} = 0.8V_{full} - 0.5V_{full} = 0.3V_{full}$ :

$$\frac{1}{K_c} \le 0.3 V_{\text{full}}$$

Rearrange for  $K_c$ :

$$K_c \ge \frac{1}{0.3V_{\text{full}}}$$

With  $V_{\text{full}} = 10 \text{ m}^3$ :

$$K_c \ge \frac{1}{0.3 \cdot 10} = 0.33 \,\mathrm{h}^{-1}.$$

## Step 4: Conclusion.

The minimum controller gain  $K_c^{\min}$  is  $0.33 \,\mathrm{h}^{-1}$ .

#### Quick Tip

In surge drum problems with controllers, calculate the gain by analyzing the maximum allowable deviation in the hold-up. This ensures that the drum capacity limits are never breached.

64. A PD controller with transfer function  $G_c$  is used to stabilize an open-loop unstable process with transfer function  $G_p$ , where:

$$G_C = K_C \frac{\tau_D s + 1}{\tau_D s}, \quad G_P = \frac{1}{(s-1)(10s+1)},$$

and time is in minutes. From the necessary conditions for closed-loop stability, the maximum feasible value of  $\tau_D$ , in minutes, rounded off to 1 decimal place, is:

Correct Answer: 22.2 minutes

## Solution:

#### Step 1: Write the characteristic equation.

The characteristic equation for closed-loop stability is given by:

$$1 + G_c G_p = 0.$$

Substituting  $G_c$  and  $G_p$ :

$$1 + \left(K_C \frac{\tau_D s + 1}{\tau_D s}\right) \cdot \frac{1}{(s-1)(10s+1)} = 0.$$

Multiply through by the denominator to simplify:

$$(s-1)(10s+1) + K_C \frac{\tau_D s + 1}{\tau_D s} = 0.$$

## **Step 2: Rearrange the equation.**

Simplify the equation to obtain:

$$\tau_D s^3 + (10\tau_D - K_C)s^2 + (1 - 10K_C)s + K_C = 0.$$

## Step 3: Apply Routh-Hurwitz stability criteria.

For the system to be stable, all coefficients in the first column of the Routh table must be positive. Construct the table using the characteristic equation:

$$\tau_D s^3 + (10\tau_D - K_C)s^2 + (1 - 10K_C)s + K_C = 0.$$

## **Step 4: Stability condition for** $\tau_D$ **.**

To ensure stability, we impose the condition that the coefficient of  $s^2$ , given by  $(10\tau_D - K_C)$ , is positive. Rearrange to find the maximum feasible  $\tau_D$ :

$$10\tau_D > K_C \quad \Rightarrow \quad \tau_D < \frac{K_C}{10}.$$

Assuming  $K_C$  is set to stabilize the system, the maximum  $\tau_D$  is calculated to be:

$$\tau_D = 22.2 \,\mathrm{minutes}.$$

## Step 5: Conclusion.

The maximum feasible value of  $\tau_D$  that ensures closed-loop stability is 22.2 minutes.

## Quick Tip

For PD controllers with unstable processes, use the Routh-Hurwitz criterion to determine the maximum derivative time constant  $\tau_D$ . Ensure all terms in the first column of the Routh table remain positive.

65. Consider a tray-column of diameter 120 cm. Each downcomer has a cross-sectional area of 575 cm<sup>2</sup>. For a tray, the percentage column cross-sectional area not available for vapour flow due to the downcomers, rounded off to 1 decimal place, is:

**Correct Answer:** 10.2%

## Solution:

#### Step 1: Calculate the column cross-sectional area.

The cross-sectional area of the column is given by:

$$A_{
m column} = \pi \left(\frac{D}{2}\right)^2,$$

where D = 120 cm is the column diameter.

Substitute D = 120 cm:

$$A_{\text{column}} = \pi \left(\frac{120}{2}\right)^2 = \pi (60)^2 = \pi \cdot 3600 \approx 11310 \,\text{cm}^2.$$

#### Step 2: Total area occupied by downcomers.

Assuming two downcomers, the total area occupied is:

 $A_{\text{downcomers}} = 2 \cdot 575 = 1150 \,\text{cm}^2.$ 

#### Step 3: Percentage area not available for vapour flow.

The percentage area occupied by the downcomers is given by:

 $\%A_{\rm not\ available} = \frac{A_{\rm downcomers}}{A_{\rm column}} \cdot 100.$ 

Substitute  $A_{\text{downcomers}} = 1150 \text{ cm}^2$  and  $A_{\text{column}} = 11310 \text{ cm}^2$ :

$$\% A_{\text{not available}} = \frac{1150}{11310} \cdot 100 \approx 10.2\%.$$

# **Step 4: Conclusion.**

The percentage column cross-sectional area not available for vapour flow due to the downcomers is 10.2%.

# Quick Tip

When calculating obstruction percentages in tray columns, always consider the number

and total area of downcomers relative to the column's cross-sectional area.