

Final Exam  
Administered: Monday, December 10, 2018  
10:15 AM – 12:15 PM  
24 points

**Problem 1. (6 points)**

Diffusion in solids is often an activated process, in which the diffusivity can be approximated by an Arrhenius-type temperature dependence.

$$D = D_o \exp\left(-\frac{E_a}{RT}\right)$$

where  $D$  is the diffusivity,  $T$  is the temperature,  $R$  is the gas constant (8.314 J/mol/K),  $E_a$  is the activation energy and  $D_o$  is the exponential prefactor.

- (a) Linearize this equation so that it is linear in the unknown parameters,  $E_a$  and  $D_o$ .
- (b) Using the table of data providing  $D$  and  $T$  in the file “xm4p01\_f18.txt” on the exam portion of the course website, perform a linear regression to determine the mean values of  $E_a$  and  $D_o$  for this data.
- (c) Also report the standard deviations of  $E_a$  and  $D_o$ .

**Solution:**

- (a) Linearize this equation so that it is linear in the unknown parameters,  $E_a$  and  $D_o$ .

Convert the data into a linear form necessary for a linear regression.

$$D = D_o \exp\left(-\frac{E_a}{RT}\right)$$

$$\ln(D) = \ln(D_o) - \frac{E_a}{RT}$$

This equation is in linear form,  $y = mx + b$ , where the independent variable,  $x = -\frac{1}{RT}$ , the dependent variable,  $y = \ln[D]$ , the slope,  $m = E_a$ , and the intercept,  $b = \ln(D_o)$ .

- (b) Using the table of data providing  $D$  and  $T$  in the file “xm4p01\_f18.txt” on the exam portion of the course website, perform a linear regression to determine the mean values of  $E_a$  and  $D_o$  for this data.

I used the code `linreg1.m` for linear regression with one independent variable.

I wrote the small script `xm4p01_f18.m`

```

clear all;
format long;

M = [1      1.05057E-11
     1.1    3.69164E-11
     1.2    1.08156E-10
     ... omitted a bunch of data here ...
     1800   2.58202E-06
     1900   1.42443E-06];

n = max(size(M));
R = 8.314;
for i = 1:1:n
    x(i) = -1.0/(R*M(i,1));
    y(i) = log(M(i,2));
end
[b,bsd,MOF] = linreg1(x, y)
Ea_mean = b(2)
Do_mean = exp(b(1))

Ea_sd = bsd(2)
Do_sd = abs(bsd(1)/b(1))*Do_mean

```

At the command line prompt, I executed the script

```
>> xm4p01_f18
```

This generated the following output for the means, standard deviations and Measure of Fit.

```
>> xm4p01_f18
```

```

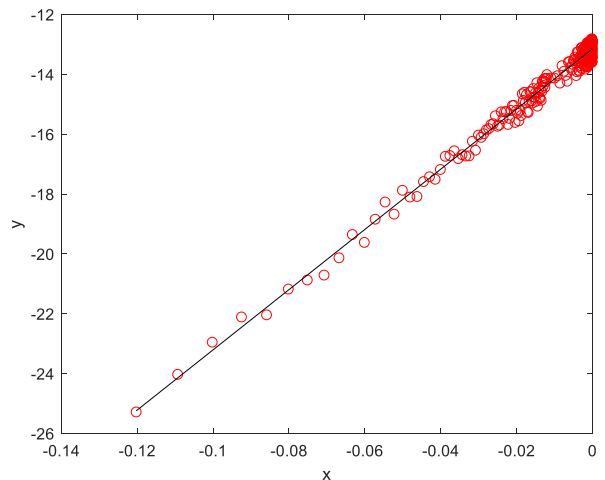
b = 1.0e+02 *
    -0.131434625777366
     1.005956757207290

bsd =
     0.016154541590667
     0.725060410001251

MOF = 0.985763368900783

Ea_mean = 1.005956757207290e+02
Do_mean = 1.958243661081438e-06
Ea_sd = 0.725060410001251
Do_sd = 2.406864133442713e-09

```



The mean value of  $E_a$  is 100.6 J/mol.  
The mean value of  $D_o$  is  $1.96 \times 10^{-6} \text{ cm}^2/\text{s}$

The code also generated a plot, shown here.

(c) Also report the standard deviations of  $E_a$  and  $D_o$ .

Since the slope was  $E_a$ , the standard deviation of  $E_a$  is simply the standard deviation of the slope.  
The standard deviation of  $E_a$  is 0.73 J/mol.

For the standard deviation of  $D_o$ , we use the relation for the propagation of error that the relative error of  $D_o$  is equal to the relative error of the intercept.

$$\frac{s_{D_o}}{\bar{x}_{D_o}} = \left| \frac{s_b}{\bar{x}_b} \right| \text{ so } s_{D_o} = \left| \frac{s_b}{\bar{x}_b} \right| \bar{x}_{D_o}$$

The standard deviation of  $D_o$  is  $2.41 \times 10^{-9} \text{ cm}^2/\text{s}$ .

**Problem 2. (6 points)**

Consider the following steady-state mass and energy balance for a non-isothermal continuous stirred tank reactor with an irreversible first order reaction:

$$0 = F_{in}C_{A,in} - F_{out}C_A - C_A V k_o e^{-\frac{E_a}{RT}}$$

$$0 = \Delta H_r C_A k_o e^{-\frac{E_a}{RT}} - \dot{Q}$$

where  $F_{in} = F_{out} = 10.0 \text{ l/s}$ ,  $C_{A,in} = 1.0 \text{ mol/l}$ ,  $V = 100.0 \text{ l}$ ,  $k_o = 1.0 \cdot 10^{-1} \text{ 1/s}$ ,  $E_a = 10.0 \text{ kJ/mol}$ ,  $\Delta H_r = 50.0 \text{ kJ/mol}$ ,  $\dot{Q} = 0.2 \text{ kJ/l/s}$  and  $R = 0.008314 \text{ kJ/mol/K}$ .

- Is this system of equations linear or nonlinear?
- What is the appropriate technique to solve this system of equations?
- Determine the steady values of the outlet concentration of A,  $C_A$ , and the temperature,  $T$ .

**Solution:**

- Is this system of equations linear or nonlinear?

This system of equations is non-linear in the unknowns,  $C_A$  and  $T$ .

- What is the appropriate technique to solve this system of equations?

I would use the multivariate Newton Raphson method with numerical approximations to the derivatives to solve a set of non-linear algebraic equations,

$$f_1(C_A, T) = F_{in}C_{A,in} - F_{out}C_A - C_A V k_o e^{-\frac{E_a}{RT}} = 0$$

$$f_2(C_A, T) = \Delta H_r C_A k_o e^{-\frac{E_a}{RT}} - \dot{Q} = 0$$

- Determine the steady values of the outlet concentration of A,  $C_A$ , and the temperature,  $T$ .

I wrote a little script in the file xm4p02\_f18.m

```
clear all;
CA = 0.5;
T = 500.0
x0 = [CA, T];
tol = 1.0e-6;
iprint = 1;
[x,err,f] = nrndn(x0,tol,iprint)
```

I modified the input function for nrndn.m as follows

```
function f = funkeval(x)
n = max(size(x));
f = zeros(n,1);
%
Ca = x(1);
T = x(2);
%
Fin = 10.0; % 1/s
Fout = 10.0; % 1/s
Cain = 1.0; % mol/l
V = 100.0; % l
ko = 1.0e-1; % 1/s
Ea = 10.0; % kJ/mol
Qdot = 0.2; % kJ/l/s
R = 0.008314; % kJ/mol/K
dHr = 50.0; % kJ/mol
rate = ko*exp(-Ea/(R*T));
%
f(1) = Fin*Cain - Fout*Ca - Ca*V*rate;
f(2) = dHr*Ca*rate - Qdot;
```

I executed the script and received the following output:

```
>> xm4p02_f18

iter =    1, err = 1.52e+02 f = 3.22e+00
iter =    2, err = 8.73e+01 f = 2.04e-01
iter =    3, err = 2.06e+01 f = 8.39e-02
iter =    4, err = 8.05e-01 f = 3.03e-03
iter =    5, err = 1.42e-03 f = 5.33e-06
iter =    6, err = 4.43e-09 f = 1.66e-11

x = 1.0e+02 *
    0.00960000000000000    3.784676214146318

err = 4.427839677216035e-09
f = 1.662775493878008e-11
```

Based on this information, the steady state concentration of A is 0.96 mol/l and the final temperature is 378.5 K.

### Correction:

In the exam as given, there was a typographical error in the second equation, in which the sign of the heat removal term,  $\dot{Q}$ , was positive instead of negative.

$$f_2(C_A, T) = \Delta H_r C_A k_o e^{-\frac{E_a}{RT}} + \dot{Q} = 0$$

In this case, there are no real roots to this system of equations.

**Problem 3. (8 points)**

Consider the following transient mass and energy balance for a non-isothermal continuous stirred tank reactor with an irreversible first order reaction:

$$V \frac{dC_A}{dt} = F_{in} C_{A,in} - F_{out} C_A - C_A V k_o e^{-\frac{E_a}{RT}}$$

$$C_p \frac{dT}{dt} = \Delta H_r C_A k_o e^{-\frac{E_a}{RT}} - \dot{Q}$$

where all the variables are the same as they were in problem 2 and the heat capacity per unit volume,  $C_p = 2.3 \text{ kJ/l/K}$ .

- Is this system of ordinary differential equations linear or nonlinear?
- What is the appropriate technique to solve this system of equations?
- Solve the transient behavior of the concentration of A,  $C_A$ , and the temperature,  $T$ , up to 1000 seconds, if the initial concentration of the reactor is  $C_{A,o} = C_{A,in}$  and the initial temperature is  $T_o = 400.0 \text{ K}$ . Sketch a plot of the concentration and temperature.
- Report values of the concentration of A,  $C_A$ , and the temperature,  $T$  at 1000 seconds.

**Solution:**

- Is this system of equations linear or nonlinear?

This system of equations is non-linear in the unknowns,  $C_A$  and  $T$ .

- What is the appropriate technique to solve this system of equations?

I would use the classical fourth order Runge-Kutta method to solve this system of two first order ordinary differential equations.

- Solve the transient behavior of the concentration of A,  $C_A$ , and the temperature,  $T$ , up to 1000 seconds, if the initial concentration of the reactor is  $C_{A,o} = C_{A,in}$  and the initial temperature is  $T_o = 400.0 \text{ K}$ . Sketch a plot of the concentration and temperature.
- Report values of the concentration of A,  $C_A$ , and the temperature,  $T$  at 1000 seconds.

I wrote a little script in the file xm4p03\_f18.m

```
clear all;
format long

n = 1000;
xo = 0;
xf = 1.0e+3;
Cao = 1.0; % mol/l
T = 400.0; % K
yo = [Cao, T];
```

```
[x,y]=rk4n(n,xo,xf,yo);
Ca_f = y(n+1,1)
T_f = y(n+1,2)
```

I modified the input function for rk4n.m as follows

```
function dydx = funkeval(x,y);
Ca = y(1);
T = y(2);
%
Fin = 10.0; % l/s
Fout = 10.0; % l/s
Cain = 1.0; % mol/l
V = 100.0; % l
ko = 1.0e-1; % 1/s
Ea = 10.0; % kJ/mol
Qdot = 0.2; % kJ/l/s
R = 0.008314; % kJ/mol/K
dHr = 50.0; % kJ/mol
rate = ko*exp(-Ea/(R*T));
Cp = 2.30; % kJ/mol/K
%
dCadt = 1/V*(Fin*Cain - Fout*Ca - Ca*V*rate);
dTdt = 1/Cp*(dHr*Ca*rate - Qdot);
dydx(1) = dCadt;
dydx(2) = dTdt;
```

I executed the script and received the following output:

```
>> xm4p03_f18

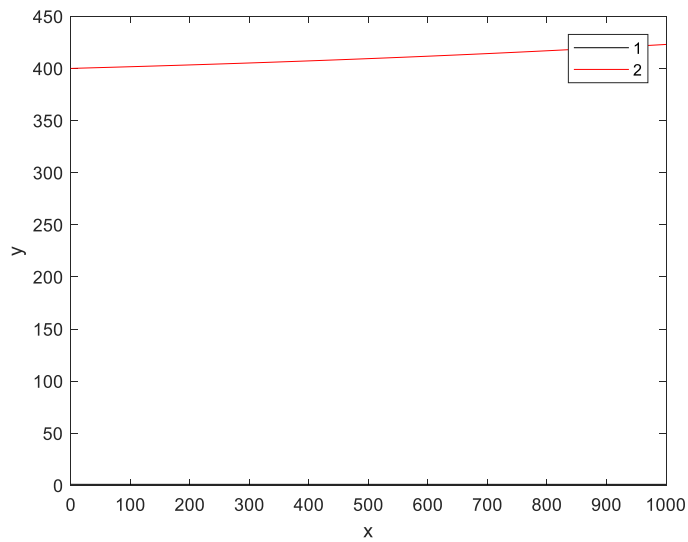
Ca_f = 0.945075647006488
T_f = 4.230343591271803e+02
```

Based on this information, the steady state concentration of A is 0.945 mol/l and the final temperature is 423.0 K.

If I repeat the calculation with  $n = 10,000$  time steps, I get the following result, which is the same to our desired tolerance.

```
Ca_f = 0.945075647006525
T_f = 4.230343591272344e+02
```

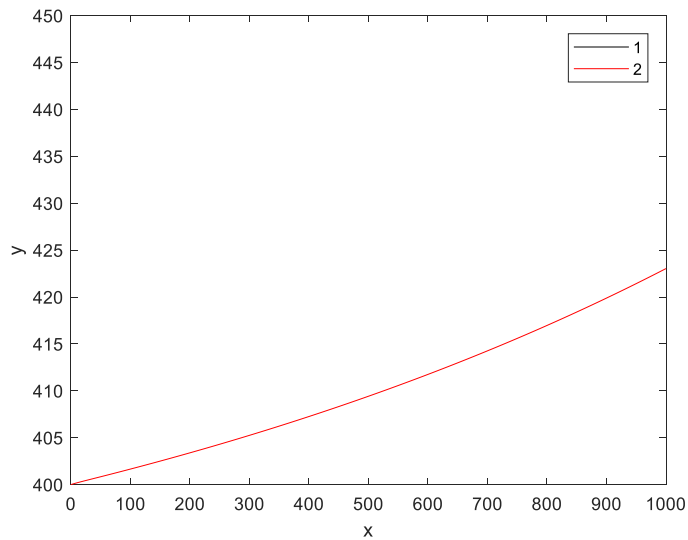
The plot of the transient behavior looks like this:



If we zoom in on the temperature, using the following commands

```
>> figure(1)
>> axis([0 1000 400 450])
```

we observe a steady rise in the temperature.

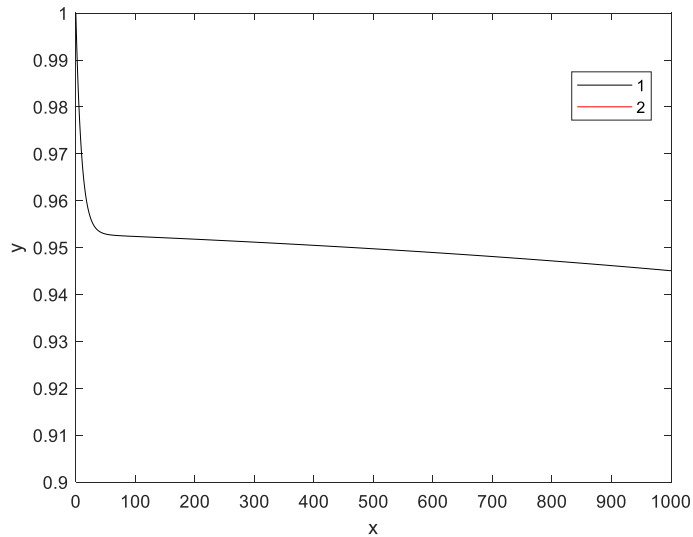


If we zoom in on the concentration, using the following commands

```
>> figure(1)
>> axis([0 1000 0.9 1])
```

we observe a sudden drop in the concentration of A, followed by a slower decrease.





### Correction:

In the exam as given, there was a typographical error in the second equation, in which the sign of the heat removal term,  $\dot{Q}$ , was positive instead of negative.

$$C_p \frac{dT}{dt} = \Delta H_r C_A k_o e^{-\frac{E_a}{RT}} + \dot{Q}$$

In this case, the values of the concentration and temperature at 1000 seconds are

$$Ca_f = 0.853462547803239$$

$$T_f = 6.860909864244846e+02$$

Based on this information, the steady state concentration of A is 0.853 mol/l and the final temperature is 686.0 K.



#### Problem 4. (4 points)

The gamma function is defined as

$$\Gamma(\alpha) = \int_0^{\infty} x^{\alpha-1} e^{-x} dx \quad \text{for } \alpha > 0$$

- (a) Evaluate the gamma function for  $\alpha = 6$  using the intrinsic gamma function in Matlab, gamma. You likely will need to use the `format long` statement in MatLab to get enough digits to display.
- (b) How many intervals so you need in the second-order Simpson's method to obtain this result to four significant digits? What did you use as your upper limit of integration?

#### Solution:

- (a) Evaluate the gamma function for  $\alpha = 6$  using the intrinsic gamma function.

```
>> format long
>> y = gamma(6)
y = 120
```

- (b) How many intervals so you need in the second-order Simpson's method to obtain this result to four significant digits? What did you use as your upper limit of integration?

I used the `simpson2.m` code and changed the integrand function to

```
function f = funkeval(x)
alpha = 6;
f = x^(alpha-1)*exp(-x);
```

From the command line prompt.

```
>> integral = simpson2(0,10,10000);
Using the Simpsons Second Order method
to integrate from 0.000000 to 10.000000 with 10000 nintervals,
integral = 1.119496844545163e+02
```

So using 10 as the upper limit & 10,000 intervals gives about 1 good significant digit.

```
>> integral = simpson2(0,100,1000)
Using the Simpsons Second Order method
to integrate from 0.000000 to 100.000000 with 1000 nintervals,
integral = 1.199999999999999e+02
```

So using 100 as the upper limit & 10,000 intervals gives about 15 good significant digits.

```
>> integral = simpson2(0,100,1000)
Using the Simpsons Second Order method
to integrate from 0.000000 to 100.000000 with 1000 nintervals,
integral = 1.200000000776258e+02
```

So using 100 as the upper limit & 1,000 intervals gives about 10 good significant digits.

```
>> integral = simpson2(0,100,100)
Using the Simpsons Second Order method
to integrate from 0.000000 to 100.000000 with 100 nintervals,
integral =      1.199808127755745e+02
```

So using 100 as the upper limit & 100 intervals gives about 4 good significant digits.