# Reaction Kinetic ofα-methylstyrene (AMS) Hydrogenation

# Zaidoon M. Shakoor\*, Mumtaz A. Zablouk\* & Adel A. Shuhaib\*

Received on: 1/9/2008 Accepted on: 26/1/2009

### **Abstract**

In this research hydrogenation kinetic of alpha-methylstyrene (AMS) on  $Pd/Al_2O_3$  catalyst was studied. The reaction is mildly exothermic ( $\Delta H$ =-109 kJ/mol). Intrinsic kinetic law was investigated under wide range of operating conditions 0.1 and 0.2 gm catalyst loading, 0.5-100 wt% AMS, 10, 15 and 20 bar pressure and 343-373 K temperature.

The experiment data are fitted to estimate the kinetic parameters for different reaction mechanisms by using ACM (Aspen Custom Modeler) software. Finally the results of produced reaction mechanisms are compared with experimental results to obtain the optimum reaction mechanism.

**Keywords:** α-methylstyrene, hydrogenation, mechanism, catalytic reaction.

# دراسة ميكانيكية تفاعل هدرجة الالفاميثيل ستايرين

الخلاصة

في هذا البحث تمت دراسة ميكانيكية تفاعل الهدرجة لمادة الفاميثيل ستايرين ( $\alpha$ -methylstyrene) على سطح عامل مساعد من نوع  $Pd/Al_2O_3$  في مدى واسع من الظروف التشغيلية. حيث كانت كمية العامل المساعد 0.1 , 0.1 غم والنسبة الوزنية لمادة الفاميثيل ستايرين 0.5-100% وزن والضغوط المستخدمة كانت 10, 15 , 20 بار و درجة الحرارة 343-373 كلفن. علما أن تفاعل الهدرجة هو تفاعل باعث بشكل معتدل حيث تبلغ طاقة التفاعل  $(\Delta + 10)$ 

تم حساب الثوابت الخاصة للميكانيكيات المقترحة بالاعتماد على النتائج العملية باستخدام برنامج ( Aspen ). في النهاية تمت مقارنة النتائج العملية مع نتائج الميكانيكيات وبعدها تم اختيار أحسن ميكانيكية والتي تعطى اقل نسبة من الخطأ.

# 1.Introduction

Many reactions proceed much faster in the presence of a substance that is not a product or reactant in the usual since. This substance is called a catalyst, and the process is called catalytic reaction (Shuhaib 2008). Catalysts increase the reaction rate by lowering the energy requirements for the reaction. Thus, from the ability of the catalyst to form bonds for reaction intermediates to offset the energy required to break reaction bonds.

The presence of the catalyst does not affect the Gibbs energy of reactants or product therefore it does not affect the equilibrium constant for the reaction (Missen et al., (1999)).

The hydrogenation of  $\alpha$ -methyl styrene (AMS) to cumene over a palladium on  $\gamma$ -alumina catalyst is well known system used to understand three-phase reactor performance under mass transfer limited condition (e.g. Cini and Harold (1991), Khadilkar et al. (1996), Frank et al. (1999)

and Bauer et al. (2005)), because of its high intrinsic reaction rates.

 $C_6H_5C(CH_3)=CH_2+H_2 \rightarrow C_6H_5CH-(CH_3)_2$  $\alpha$  – methyl styrene cumence

Germain et al., (1974) used a semi-batch stirred tank slurry reactor to study AMS hydrogenation. They observed a reaction order of 0.64 when mass transfer resistance eliminated. Also they observed that the reaction selectivity to cumene is 100 %.

Mochizuki and Matsui, (1976) studied Styrene hydrogenation in the range of temperature 323-353 K, and hydrogen pressure 0.12-0.44 MPa. They observed that the reaction rate in this conditions is in the range  $2.5-20 \times 10^{-4} \text{ mol/ kg}_{cat} \cdot \text{s}$ ).

The first order behavior of hydrogen pressure on the styrene hydrogenation rate was found by Chaudhari et al. (1986). They concluded that the reaction is first order in hydrogen up to a pressure of at least 30 bar.

Babcock et al. (1957) proposed two rate equations depending on the hydrogen pressure  $P_{\rm H}$ . At low hydrogen pressure, AMS and dissociated  $H_2$  were found to compete for the same active sites.

$$r = \frac{k_{rr} K_{AMS} C_{AMS} K_{H} P_{H}}{(1 + K_{AMS} C_{AMS} + \sqrt{K_{H} P_{H}})^{3}} \dots (1)$$

Also at higher pressure (above 0.3 MPa), the reaction take place between AMS and atomic H adsorbed on different types of active sites.

$$r = \frac{k_r K_{AMS} C_{AMS} K_H P_H}{(1 + K_{AMS} C_{AMS})(1 + \sqrt{K_H P_H})^2} \qquad ....(2)$$

\White et al. (1974) used a simplified rate

expression exhibiting zeroth order in AMS and first order in hydrogen (hydrogen pressure of 0.4 MPa).

Cini and Harold (1991) investigated the intrinsic kinetics of the reaction, identifying

that there were no transport limitations at temperatures below 313 K. They proposed three rate expressions all based on different mechanisms:

(i) an Eiley-Rideal mechanism.

$$r = \frac{k_r K_{AMS} C_{AMS} P_H}{1 + K_{AMS} C_{AMS}} \qquad (3)$$

(ii) a noncompetitive adsorption process of dissociated hydrogen and AMS.

$$r = \frac{k_r K_{AMS} C_{AMS} \sqrt{K_H P_H}}{(1 + K_{AMS} C_{AMS})(1 + \sqrt{K_H P_H})} \dots (4)$$

(iii) a competitive adsorption process of dissociated hydrogen and AMS.

$$r = \frac{k_r K_{AMS} C_{AMS} \sqrt{K_H P_H}}{(1 + K_{AMS} C_{AMS} + \sqrt{K_H P_H})^2} \dots (5)$$

Lange et al. (1999) considered a noncompetitive adsorption of AMS and nondissociated H<sub>2</sub>.

$$r = \frac{k_r K_{AMS} C_{AMS} K_H P_H}{(1 + K_{AMS} C_{AMS})(1 + K_H P_H)} \qquad \dots (6)$$

The experimental investigation of the kinetics of the hydrogenation of a-methylstyrene also was performed by Meille et al. (2002). They expressed the intrinsic reaction rate by the following rate equation:

$$r = k_0 \times \exp\left\{\frac{x}{e} - \frac{E_A}{RT} \frac{\ddot{0}}{\dot{\theta}} \frac{K_{H_1}C_{H_2}}{\left(1 + \sqrt{K_{H_1}C_{H_2}}\right)^2}\right\} \qquad \dots (7)$$

# 2. Thiele modulus and Pore efficiency

The Thiele modulus provides a dimensionless ratio to describe the influence of the diffusion inhibition for the reaction rate.

An explicit calculation of Thiele modul is for simplifying assumptions, since the gas inhibition is much greater than the inhibition of AMS, a model for a single cylindrical pore formed in the reaction  $A \rightarrow$  product. For the investigated hydrogenation of AMS, is zero order for a AMS and first order with respect to hydrogen (Chaudhari et al. (1986)).

The general equation of Thiele modulus for the hydrogenation AMS reaction, first order states (Meille et al., (2002)):

$$M_T = L_T \cdot \sqrt{\frac{-r_{H_1, \text{intr}}}{C_{H_r} D_{\text{eff}}}} \qquad \dots (8)$$

The characteristic particle size  $L_T$  for spherical is 1/6 of the ball diameter.

For the definition Thiele module is the intrinsic, that is not directly measurable on the catalyst particle volume related reaction rate  $r_{H2,intr}$ .

According to Herskowitz et al.(1978) the equilibrium concentration of hydrogen in pure AMS is given in equation (9) in the range of temperatures 288-347 K.

$$C_{u_1} = \frac{r}{bar} \frac{x}{6} 0.0145 \frac{T}{K} - 1.6985 \frac{\ddot{0}}{\pi} \frac{mol}{m^3}$$
 .... (9)

Meille et al., (2002) observed that hydrogen solubility in cumene is the same as that in AMS. Also they used equation (9) in calculation of hydrogen concentration  $C_{H2}$  in the liquid phase containing AMS and cumene.

Since  $r_{\rm H2}$  on the solid volume terms is not directly measured, therefore the conversion is required.

$$r_{H_1,\exp} = \frac{1}{V} \cdot \frac{d_{nH_1}}{dt} \qquad \dots (10)$$

Using the equation (10) follows an expression for the diffusion inhibited through pores of the solid volume related reaction rate.

$$r_{H_2, \exp.} = \frac{\left(1 - e\right)p_{cat}}{m_{cat}} \frac{dCH_2}{dt} V_R \qquad \dots (11)$$

The following description for the thiele module is formed from equations (9), (10), and (11):

$$M_T^2 = \frac{d_{cat}^2}{36} \cdot \frac{(1-e)p_{cat}}{m_{cat}} \frac{dC_{H_2,intr.}}{dt} V_R \cdot \frac{1}{C_{H_2}D_{eff}} \dots (12)$$

A direct calculation of the measured parameters is not possible, so the pores efficiency  $(\eta)$  which represent the ratio of experimental and intrinsic reaction rate, calculated using the following equation:

$$h = \frac{r_{H_2.\exp}}{r_{H_2.intr,}} \qquad \dots (13)$$

For spherical particles Levenspiel (1999) developed an equation for the pore efficiency in which only depend on Thiele module occurs:

$$h = \frac{1}{M_T} \frac{\acute{e}}{\mathring{e}} \frac{1}{\tanh(3.M_T)} - \frac{1}{3.M_T} \mathring{u} \qquad \dots (14)$$

### 3. Experimental Set-Up

The experimental work taken place in the department of chemical engineering and plant design-university of Dresden in Germany. Figure (1) shows a schematic diagram of the experimental set-up. The stirred tank reactor (STR) is operating in semi-batch mode in which the gas phase (H<sub>2</sub>) is feed continuously to the reactor which contains liquid phase (AMS). The experiments were carried out in 5100 fixed head bench top reactor with stainless steel cylinder. It was supplied by Parr Instrument Company. Pressure and temperature limits are 100 psi and 225 °C respectively. The different sections of the experimental setup discussed as below.

#### 3.1 Reactor Section

The reactor was offered in size of 300 ml with metal cylinder and heated using an electrical heating tape wound externally to the central portion of the reactor where the catalyst was placed in the reactor for each run. The reactor temperature was controlled by temperature controller.

# 3.2 Measuring devices

### 1. Pressure gage

- **2.** A 150 psi gage pressure with a T 316 stainless steel Bourdon tubes is mounted on the reactor head using attachment fittings.
- **3. Thermocouple** A J type thermocouple in a (1/8) inch diameter

stainless steel sheath is furnished with the reactor. This thermocouple is inserted into the head of thermo well and connected to the thermocouple socket on the rear panel of the temperature controller.

### 3. Refractometer

For analysis of the liquid samples, the refractometer RE 40D Company Metter Toledo, was used. The measuring principles based on the determination of the refractive indexes. The refractive index of the medium depends on its composition.

To calculate the weight percent of AMS in the solution the following equation was used (Shuhaib 2008)):-

$$wt_{AMS} = \frac{\left(n_0 + 0.0005[T/{}^{0}C - 20] - 1.4917\right)}{0.0474}$$
 (15)

Further the following equation was used to calculate the concentration of AMS (Shuhaib 2008):-

$$C_{AMS} = \frac{1}{Mwt} \cdot \frac{1}{r} + \frac{1 - wt\% AMS}{wt\% AMS} \frac{1}{r}$$
 (16)

And the conversion of AMS calculated by using the following equation:-

$$X_{AMS} = \frac{C_{AMS_0} - C_{AMS}}{C_{AMS}} \tag{17}$$

## 3.3 Chemical

- 1. Liquid:- The liquid used in this work is  $\alpha$ -methylstyrene. The properties of AMS and cumene can be seen in Tables (1 and 2).
- **2. Gas:-** Two gases was used in the present work which are hydrogen and nitrogen, the hydrogen properties can bee seen in table (3). Nitrogen was used only to discharge the Oxygen in the reactor at start of each experiment (Reactor flashing).

### 3. Solid catalyst

The catalyst which used in the present work is palladium with  $\gamma$ -Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, The used catalyst consists of two-fabric system (carrier material and active component). The carrier material is nearly spherical  $\gamma$ -

Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> particles. The advantage of the carrier material is its high porosity and in comparison with the active component, low cost. The active layer consists of a washcoat with palladium. The mass proportion of active component is 0.3 wt% in the used catalyst. Table (4) contains the Characteristic of the used catalyst.

The catalyst porosity calculated using the following equation:

$$e = \frac{V_L / m_{cat}}{\underset{\xi}{\text{e}} \frac{V_L}{m_{cat}} + \frac{1}{\Gamma_s} \frac{\ddot{0}}{\dot{\xi}}}$$
(18)

And the catalyst density calculated by following equation:-

$$r_{cat} = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{r_{-}} + \frac{V_{L}}{m_{-}}} \tag{19}$$

# 4. Intrinsic Kinetics of Hydrogenation of AMS

Surface catalysis is involved in a large majority of industrial catalytic reactions. The rate laws developed in this section are based on the following assumptions:

- **1.** The surface of the catalyst contains a fixed number of sites.
  - 2. All the catalytic sites are identical.
- **3.** The reactivity's of these sites depend only on temperature.

These assumptions are based on the simplest rational explanation of surface catalytic kinetics and models are formulated by Langmuir and Hinshelwood (Missen et al., (1999)). Figure (2) represent Langmuir-Hinshelwood mechanism.

# <u>4.1</u> Languimer – Hinshelwood (LH) Kinetics

By combining surface – reaction rate lows with Langmuir expression for surface coverage, the Languimer-Hinshelwood (LH) rate lows for surface- catalyzed reactions can be obtained.

Although by focus on the intrinsic kinetics of the surface-catalyzed reaction, the LH model should be set the context of a broader kinetics scheme to appreciate the significance of this.

A kinetics scheme for an overall reaction expressed as below:

 $AMS + H_2(g) \rightarrow Cumene$ 

A=AMS

C=Cumene

As follows:-

 $A \rightarrow A$  (surface vicinity), mass transfer (fast)

 $H_2(g) \rightarrow H_2$  (surface vicinity), mass transfer (fast)

A (surface vicinity)+ $S_1 - \frac{34}{124}$  A. $S_1$  adsorption—desorption (fast)

 $H_2(surface vicinity)+S_2 - \frac{3}{4} \frac{4}{4} \otimes H_2.S_2$ adsorption—desorption

 $A.S_1 + H_2.S_2 \rightarrow C + S_1 + S_2$  surface reactions (slow)

The reaction mechanism is derived depending on the following assumptions:

- 1. Reactant AMS and H<sub>2</sub> is adsorped on different vacancy and H<sub>2</sub> adsorped as a molecule.
- **2.** Surface reaction is limiting step (determining step).
  - **3.** Reaction products is not desorbed. Therefore

AMS - adsorption

$$A + S_1 - 3/4 \otimes A. S_1$$

$$-r_1 = K_{aA} \frac{\acute{e}}{\grave{e}} C_A C_V - \frac{C_{AS_1} \grave{u}}{K_A \acute{a}} \tag{20}$$

H<sub>2</sub> – adsorption

$$H_2 + S_2 - \frac{3}{4} R H_2.S$$

$$-r_{2} = K_{aH_{2}} \stackrel{\text{\'e}}{\hat{\mathbf{g}}} C_{m_{2}} C_{V_{2}} - \frac{C_{H_{2}} \cdot S}{K_{H_{1}}} \stackrel{\text{\'e}}{\mathbf{m}}$$
(21)

**Surface reaction** 

$$A.S_1+H_2.S_2 - 344 R C+S_1+S_2$$

$$r_{g} = K_{3} \stackrel{\acute{e}}{\hat{e}} C_{A.S_{1}} C_{H_{2}.S_{2}} - \frac{C_{c} C_{V_{1}} C_{V_{2}}}{K_{3}} \stackrel{\grave{u}}{\acute{u}}$$
 (22)

Where

$$K_A = \frac{K_{aA}}{K_{dA}}, K_{H_2} = \frac{K_{aH_2}}{K_{dH_1}}$$

 $-\mathbf{r}_1$ ,  $-\mathbf{r}_2$  are fast reaction then at equilibrium  $-\mathbf{r}_1 = -\mathbf{r}_2 = 0$ 

Therefore from equation (20)

$$C_{AS_1} = K_A C_A C_V \tag{23}$$

From equation (21)

$$C_{H_{\bullet},S_{\bullet}} = K_{H_{\bullet}}C_{H_{\bullet}}C_{V_{\bullet}} \tag{24}$$

Total concentration of sites vacance

Type 1 
$$C_{v_i} = C_{v_i} + C_{AS_i}$$
 (25)

Substitution equation (23) into equation (25) will give

$$\mathbf{C}_{\mathbf{T}} = \mathbf{C}_{\mathbf{v}} + \mathbf{K}_{\mathbf{A}} \mathbf{C}_{\mathbf{A}} \mathbf{C}_{\mathbf{v}_{\mathbf{I}}}$$

$$\mathbf{C}_{\mathbf{T}_{1}} = \mathbf{C}_{\mathbf{V}_{1}} \left[ \mathbf{1} + \mathbf{K}_{\mathbf{A}} \mathbf{C}_{\mathbf{A}} \right]$$

$$\setminus C_{\nu_i} = \frac{C_{\tau_i}}{|1 + K_{\perp}C_{\perp}|} \tag{26}$$

Type 2 
$$C_{T_0} = C_{V_0} + C_{H_0,S_0}$$
 (27)

Substitution equation (24) into equation (27) will give:

$$C_{T_2} = C_{V_2} + C_{H_2.S_2}$$

$$\mathbf{C}_{\mathrm{T}_{1}} = \mathbf{C}_{\mathrm{V}_{2}} \left[ \mathbf{1} + \mathbf{K}_{\mathrm{H}_{1}} \mathbf{C}_{\mathrm{H}_{1}} \right]$$

$$C_{v_2} = \frac{C_{\tau_2}}{1 + K_{u} C_{u_2}} \tag{28}$$

Sub. equations (23, 24) into equation (22) will give

$$- r_3 = \frac{K_3 C_{T_1} C_{T_2} K_{H_2} K_A C_{H_2} C_A}{\left[1 + K_A C_A\right] \left[1 + K_{H_1} C_{H_2}\right]}$$

$$\mathbf{K} = \mathbf{K}_{3} \mathbf{C}_{T} \mathbf{C}_{T}$$

$$-r_{3} = \frac{KK_{A}K_{H_{2}}C_{A}C_{H_{2}}}{|1 + K_{A}C_{A}||1 + K_{H}C_{H}}$$
(29)

Also the other mechanisms for hydrogenation of AMS are derived in same way by using different assumption, this mechanisms can bee seen in table (5).

# 4.2 Catalyst activation

Activation means treating the catalyst to its full capacity before any experiment. There are three options to activation (without activation, wet activation, and dry activation). A wet activation means that the catalyst in a cumene liquid in the reactor and the hydrogen was feed to it. The disadvantage of this procedure is that the concentration of hydrogen in the liquid is limited. For this reason, a dry activation was used always, in dry activation the catalyst in the reactor and hydrogen was feed. The advantage of the dry activation is that the catalyst can be enabled for several tests.

Therefore, in this work a dry activation is used. In figure (3) its clear the difference of the color between treated catalyst and untreated.

### 5. Results and discussion

Table (6) contains all of the experimental sets.

# 5.1 Effect of temperature

Experiments have been performed at different temperatures (343-373 K<sup>0</sup>). From these experiments an Arrhenius plots has been constructed to determine the apparent activation energy of the reaction.

The rate in this figure is corrected using a first-order assumption for decreasing hydrogen pressure as a result of increasing vapor pressure with temperature. For uses range, the reaction rate reaction increased with increasing temperature because the mass transfer coefficients ( $K_{GL}$ ,  $K_{LS}$ ,  $K_{GS}$ ) are proportional directly to the diffusivity and hence direct proportional to the temperature.

When temperature increases the reaction rate constant further increased, therefore the reaction rate increase (see Figure 4).

# 5.2 Effect of pressure

Experiments were performed at different hydrogen partial pressure to determine the reaction order for the reaction in hydrogen (Figure (5)). It can bee seen that at pressure up to 20 bar the reaction shows a first order behavior in hydrogen. This type of behavior was anticipated and is common for hydrogenation reaction. At higher hydrogen pressure the reaction rate levels off. This behavior of hydrogen on the catalyst surface (in that case the reaction rate no longer increases once the catalyst surface is fully occupied with hydrogen). Fitting such Langmuir-Hinshelwood expressions to the observed pressure dependency did not produce acceptable results. (Nijhuis et al., (2003)).

All the mass transfer coefficients are proportional to the hydrogen pressure, and increasing hydrogen pressure will enhance the mass transfer rates and then the reaction rate.

### 5.3 Effect of catalyst loading and size

The measured reaction rate at temperature (363  $^{0}$ K) is proportional to the catalyst weight (0.1 and 0.2 gm) of catalyst (see experiment 7 and 13) and it can be seen that the difference between them from figure (6).

The reaction rate was increased with increasing the amount of catalyst, because the increasing in surface area for the reaction and increasing vacancy concentration. The two experiments (5 and 15) at the same operating condition accept the particle size of the catalyst was different (4.28 and 37.36  $\mu_m$ ). The rate of reaction decreasing with increasing particle size because of decreasing in surface are  $\frac{a}{b}aa\frac{1}{dp}\frac{\dot{a}}{\dot{a}}$ where (a) is the surface area. The activity obtained with smaller particles was approximately 40% higher than that of the larger catalyst particles (see Fig. 7).

# 5.4 Effect of stirring speed

Experiments (7 and 14) at the same operating condition but at different of stirrer speed (1400 and 1000 rpm) respectively.

Figure (8) show different reaction rates at different stirrer speed. It can be seen that at a stirrer speed 1400 rpm the reaction rate is faster than that at 1000 rpm, indicating that hydrogen dissolution were limiting the reaction. Increasing the stirrer speed give high performance of mixing and there is no concentration gradient and increasing solubility of hydrogenation AMS.

#### 6. Mechanism and kinetic mode

Based on the Langmuir-Hanshelwood theory and depending on the literature, various models were proposed to describe the reaction mechanism. The mechanisms vary in assumptions, such as number of different activated catalyst sites, the status of hydrogen and the rate-controlling step. The kinetic parameter estimation was performed with the ACM (Aspen Custom Modeler) software.

The Arrhenius equation represent the dependence of the reaction rate constant K on the temperature. With this equation from two measuring points in different temperatures the activation energy  $(E_A)$  of the reaction was calculated.

$$K = K_0 \cdot \exp \frac{\acute{e}}{\hat{g}} - \frac{E_A \grave{u}}{R \cdot T \, \acute{u}} \tag{30}$$

And to describe the adsorption the van't Hoff equation used. With this equation a correlation between temperature and adsorption equilibrium constants  $K_i$  and change in enthalpy of adsorption  $\Delta H_{ads}$  for component i.

$$K_{i} = K_{i0} \cdot \exp \hat{\mathbf{e}}_{\hat{\mathbf{e}}} \frac{DH_{ads}}{RT} \hat{\mathbf{u}}$$
(31)

Figure (9) represent a plot of sum of square error for each mechanism. The experimental data with the greatest correspondence was attained by two different expressions for the reaction mechanism (mechanism 3 and 4, table 7).

### 7. Conclusion

Hydrogenation of AMS on Pd is very fast reaction, and this leads to mass-transfer limitations, most often internal, or external. Therefore the stirrer speed is not sufficiently affected on the reaction rate such as the other conditions (temperature, pressure and catalyst weight).

In the present study, there are two most represented kinetic expressions for AMS hydrogenation as following.

$$- r_{AMS} = \frac{kK_A K_{H_2} C_A C_{A_2}}{\left(1 + K_A C_A + \sqrt{K_{H_2}} C_{H_2}\right)^3}$$

$$- r_{AMS} = \frac{kK_A K_{H_2} C_A C_{A_2}}{\left(1 + K_A C_A\right) \left(1 + \sqrt{K_{H_2}} C_{H_2}\right)^2}$$

These two mechanisms and there estimated parameters can be used in future to study the behavior of AMS hydrogenation in the monolith reactors or trickle bed reactors.

### **Notation**

C: Concentration (mol/m<sup>3</sup>)

D: Diffusivity (m<sup>2</sup>/s)

dp: Particle mean diameter (m)

Ea: Activation energy (J/mol)

Kr: Rate constant (m/s)

K<sub>0</sub>: Preexponential factor (m/s)

K<sub>i</sub>: adsorption equilibrium constant of component (-)

 $K_{GL}$ : gas-Liquid volumetric masstransfer coefficient (1/s)

K<sub>LS</sub>: Liquid-Solid volumetric masstransfer coefficient (1/s)

K<sub>GS</sub>: Gas-Solid volumetric mass-transfer coefficient (1/s)

M<sub>T</sub>: Thiele modulus (-)

L<sub>T</sub>: Particle size (m)

Mwt: Molecular weight (gm/mol)

P: Pressure (bar)

r: rate of reaction (mol/s.kg.catalyst)

R: Gas law constant (J/mol·K)

T: Temperature (K)

V: Volume (m3)

wt%: Weight fraction (-)

X: Conversion (-)

# **Greek Letters**

ε: Holdup

η: Catalyst effectiveness factor

 $\rho$ : Density (kg/·m<sup>3)</sup>

# **Subscripts**

AMS: α-methylstyrene

cat: catalyst

C: Cumene

eff:effective diffusivity.

exp:experimental

G: gas

H: Hydrogen

Int: intrinsic

L: Liquid

P: Particle

Pd: Palladium

R: Reactor

S: Solid

### References

- [1] Shuhaib A. A., " $\alpha$ -Methyl Styrene Hydrogenation In a Batch and Single Channel Monolithic Reactors", Ph.D. Thesis (2008)
- [2] Babcock, B. D.; Medjell, G. T., Hougen, O. A., "Catalyzed Gas-Liquid Reactions in Trickling-Bed Reactors", AIChE J. ,3, 366, (1957).
- [3] Bauer, T., Guettel, R., Roy., S., Schubert, M., Al-dahhan, M. and Lange, R., "Modelling and Simulation of the Monolithic Reactor for Gas-Liquid-Solid Reactions", Trans IChemE, Part A, (July 2005).

- [4] Cini, P., Harold, M. P. "Experimental Study of the Tubular Multiphase Catalyst", AIChE J., 37, 997, (1991).
- [5] Chaudhari, R. V., Jaganathan, R., Kolhe, D. S., Emig, G. and Hofmann, H., "Kinetic modeling of a complex consecutive reaction in a slurry reactor: hydrogenation of phenyl acetylene", Chemical Engineering Science, 41(12): 3073-81, (1986).
- [6] Frank, M. J. W., Kuipers, J. A. M., Versteeg, G. F., Van Swaaij, W. P. M. "The performance of structure packings in tricklebed reactors", Trans. Inst. Chem. Eng., 77, 567, (1999).
- [7] Germain, A. H., Lefebvre, A. G., L'Homme, G. A. "Experimental Study of a Catalytic Trickle-Bed Reactor", Chem. React. Eng., II, Chapter 13, 164, (1974).
- [8] Khadilkar, M. R., Wu, Y. X., Al-Dahhan, M. H., Dudukovic, M. P., Colakyan, M. "Comparison of Trickle-Bed and Upflow Reactor Performance at High Pressure: Model Predictions and Experimental Observations", Chem. Eng. Sci., 51, 2139, (1996).
- [9] Meille, V., de Bellefon, C. and Schweich, D., "Kinetics of amethylstyrene hydrogenation on Pd/Al2O3", Ind. Eng. Chem. Res., 41(7): 1711–1715, (2002,).
- [10] Missen, R., Mims, Ch., and Saville, B., "Introduction to chemical reaction engineering and kinetics", Wiley J., and Sons, Inc., New York, (1999).
- [11] Mochizuki, S. and Matsui, T., "
  Selective hydrogenation and mass transfer in a fixed-bed catalytic reactor with gas-liquid concurrent upflow",
  A.1.Ch.E. J. 22, 904-909, (1976).
- [12] Lange, R.; Gutsche, R.; Hanika, J. "Forced Periodic Operation of a

- Trickle-Bed Reactor", Chem. Eng. Sci., 54, 2569, (1999).
- [13] Levenspiel, O., "Chemical Reaction Engineering", (3rd ed.). New York, (1999).
- [14] Nijhuis, T.A., Dautzenberg, F.M. and Moulijn, J.A., "Modeling of monolithic and trickle-bed reactors for the hydrogenation of styrene", Chem Eng Sci, 58(7): 1113–1124, (2003).
- [15] Herskowitz, M.; Morita, S.; Smith, J. M. "Solubility of Hydrogen in R-Methylstyrene", J. Chem. Eng. Data, 23, 227, (1978).
  - [16] White, D. E.; Litt, M.; Heymach, G. J. "Diffusion-Limited Heterogeneous Catalytic Reactions on a Rotating Disk. I. Hydrogenation of R-Methylstyrene", Ind. Eng. Chem. Fundam. 13,143, (1974).

Table (1) properties of AMS and cumene (Shuhaib(2008))

Property	Symbol	Unit	AMS	C
Moleculer weight	$M_{\mathrm{wt}}$	g/mol	118.18	120.2
Boiling point	$T_{B}$	$^{0}$ K	438.5	425.6
Critical temperature	T <sub>c</sub>	$^{0}$ K	654	631.1
Critical pressure	P <sub>c</sub>	bar	34	32.1

Table (2) AMS and C density as a function temperature (Shuhaib(2008)).

Property	Component	Unit	Correlation
Density	AMS	g/l	920.89348 – 0.86311 T
Density	С	g/l	878.49298 – 0.83719 T

Table (3) hydrogen properties (Shuhaib(2008)).

Properties	Sample	Unit	Quantity
Molecular weight	$M_{\mathrm{wt}}$	g/mol	2
Acentric Factor	ω	-	- 0. 218
Critical temperature	$T_{\rm C}$	K°	33.2
Critical pressure	P <sub>C</sub>	Bar	13
Boiling point	$T_{B}$	K°	20.3
Critical molar volume	$v_{\rm C}$	Cm <sup>3</sup> /mol	60
Molar volume at normal pressure	υ	Cm <sup>3</sup> /mol	25.77
Relative temperature	$T_{rel}$	K	0.61144

**Table (4) Characteristic of catalyst** 

Active component	Palladium (Pd)
Associated material	$\gamma - Al_2O_3$
Palladium weight percent wt%	0.3
Specific area m <sup>2</sup> /g	210
Micro pore volume (r<10nm)[cm <sup>3</sup> /g]	0.71
Micro pore volume $(10\text{nm} \le r \le 50\text{nm})[\text{cm}^3/\text{g}]$	0.02
Micro pore volume (r>50nm)[cm <sup>3</sup> /g]	0.01
Catalyst density	0.58
Porosity (-)	0.74

Table (5) Variety of rate expressions for different assumptions

Entry	Assumption	Rate expression
1.	A is adsorbed	$- r_{AMS} = \frac{kK_A K_{H_2} C_A C_{H_2}}{(1 + K_A C_A)(1 + K_{H_2} C_{H_2})}$
	H <sub>2</sub> is adsorbed (molecular) in different	$(1 + K_A C_A)(1 + K_{H_2} C_{H_2})$
2.	A is adsorbed	$-r_{AMS} = \frac{kK_AK_{H_2}C_AC_{A_2}}{(1+K_AC_A+K_{H_2}C_{H_2})^2}$
	H <sub>2</sub> is adsorbed (molecular)	$(1 + K_A C_A + K_{H_2} C_{H_2})^2$
3.	A is adsorbed	$-r_{AMS} = \frac{kK_{A}K_{H_{2}}C_{A}C_{A_{2}}}{(1+K_{A}C_{A}+\sqrt{K_{H_{1}}C_{H_{2}}})^{3}}$
	H <sub>2</sub> is atomic desorbed	$(1 + K_A C_A + \sqrt{K_{H_2}} C_{H_2})^3$
4.	A is adsorbed	$-r_{AMS} = \frac{kK_AK_{H_2}C_AC_{A_2}}{(1 + K_AC_A)(1 + \sqrt{K_{H_2}C_{H_2}})^2}$
	H <sub>2</sub> is atomic desorbed in different	$(1 + K_A C_A)(1 + \sqrt{K_{H_2}} C_{H_2})^2$
5.	A is not adsorbed	$kK_{H_2}C_{A}C_{H_2}$
	H <sub>2</sub> is atomic desorbed	$- r_{AMS} = \frac{kK_{H_1}C_AC_{H_2}}{(1 + \sqrt{K_{H_1}C_{H_2}})^2}$
6.	A is not adsorbed	$- r_{AMS} = \frac{kK_{H_2}C_AC_{H_2}}{(1 + K_{H_2}C_{H_2})}$
	H <sub>2</sub> is adsorbed (molecular)	$^{\prime}_{AMS} = (1 + K_{H_2} C_{H_2})$
7.	A is adsorbed	$-r_{AMS} = \frac{kK_AK_{H_2}C_AC_{H_2}}{(1+K_C)}$
	H <sub>2</sub> is not adsorbed	$(1+K_{A}C_{A})$
8.	-	$kK_{A}C_{A}\sqrt{K_{HA}C_{HA}}$
		$- r_{AMS} = \frac{kK_{A}C_{A}\sqrt{K_{H_{2}}C_{H_{2}}}}{(1 + K_{A}C_{A})(1 + \sqrt{K_{H_{2}}C_{H_{2}}})}$
9.	-	
		$- r_{AMS} = \frac{kK_A C_A \sqrt{K_{H_2} C_{H_2}}}{(1 + K_A C_A + \sqrt{K_{H_2} C_{H_2}})^2}$

**Table (6) Set of experiments** 

T(C°)	P(bar)	m <sub>cast</sub> (gm)	n(rpm)	$V_R(ml)$
70	10	0.1	1400	200
70	15	0.1	1400	200
70	20	0.1	1400	200
80	10	0.1	1400	200
80	15	$0.1(4.28~\mu_m)$	1400	200
80	20	0.1	1400	200
90	10	0.1	1400	200
90	15	0.1	1400	200
90	20	0.1	1400	200
100	10	0.1	1400	200
100	15	0.1	1400	200
100	20	0.1	1400	200
90	10	0.2	1400	200
90	10	0.1	1000	200
80	15	$0.1(37.36~\mu_m)$	1400	200

Table (7) Kinetic parameters using (ACM) program

Entry	Mechanism	Kinetic	Unit	Quantity
		parameter		
1	$- r_{AMS} = \frac{kK_{A}K_{H_{2}}C_{A}C_{H_{2}}}{(1 + K_{A}C_{A})(1 + K_{H_{2}}C_{H_{2}})}$	$\boldsymbol{E}_{\scriptscriptstyle A}$	KJ/mol	34.059
	$(1 + K_{A}C_{A})(1 + K_{H_{2}}C_{H_{2}})$	K <sub>o</sub>	mol/gm.min	2.96764×10 <sup>7</sup>
		DH ads.A	KJ/mol	-14.6361
		K	L/mol	1.94061×10 <sup>-3</sup>
		$\mathrm{D}oldsymbol{H}_{ads.H_2}$	KJ/mol	-1.9837×10 <sup>-4</sup>
		K	L/mol	0.0914643
2	$-r_{AMS} = \frac{kK_{A}K_{H_{2}}C_{A}C_{A_{2}}}{(1+K_{A}C_{A}+K_{H_{2}}C_{H_{2}})^{2}}$	$\boldsymbol{E}_{\scriptscriptstyle A}$	KJ/mol	32.1518
	$(1 + K_{A}C_{A} + K_{H_{2}}C_{H_{2}})^{2}$	$K_o$	mol/gm.min	$2.1015 \times 10^7$
		$\mathrm{D}oldsymbol{H}_{ads.A}$	KJ/mol	-16.1253
		K <sub>oA</sub>	L/mol	1.30063×10 <sup>-3</sup>
		$\mathrm{D}oldsymbol{H}_{ads.H_2}$	KJ/mol	-0.0405814
		K	L/mol	0.0659305
3	$- r_{AMS} = \frac{kK_A K_{H_2} C_A C_{A_2}}{(1 + K_A C_A + \sqrt{K_{H_2} C_{H_2}})^3}$	$\boldsymbol{E}_{\scriptscriptstyle A}$	KJ/mol	34.427
	$(1 + K_A C_A + \sqrt{K_{H_2} C_{H_2}})^3$	K <sub>o</sub>	mol/gm.min	$2.30198 \times 10^7$
		DH ads.A	KJ/mol	-17.4871
		K <sub>oA</sub>	L/mol	1.35032×10 <sup>-3</sup>
		$\mathrm{D}oldsymbol{H}_{ads.H_2}$	KJ/mol	-0.0414532
		$K_{_{_{_{_{_{_{_{_{_{_{_{_{_{_{_{_{_{_{$	L/mol	0.067506
		$\boldsymbol{E}_{\scriptscriptstyle A}$	KJ/mol	39.2601

		_		
4	$- r_{AMS} = \frac{KK_AK_{H_1}C_AC_{A_2}}{(1 + K_AC_A)(1 + \sqrt{K_{H_1}C_{H_2}}C_{H_2})^2}$	$K_{o}$	mol/gm.min	$3.24741\times10^7$
	$(\mathbf{I} + \mathbf{K}_A \mathbf{C}_A)(\mathbf{I} + \mathbf{V}_{H_2} \mathbf{C}_{H_2})$	$\mathrm{D}oldsymbol{H}_{ads.A}$	KJ/mol	-19.0777
		K	L/mol	3.40568×10 <sup>-3</sup>
		$\mathbf{D}\boldsymbol{H}_{ads.H_2}$	KJ/mol	-2.19613×10 <sup>-4</sup>
		$K_{_{0H_2}}$	L/mol	0.0746463
5	$- r_{AMS} = \frac{kK_{H_2}C_{A}C_{H_2}}{(1 + \sqrt{K_{H_1}C_{H_2}})^2}$	$\boldsymbol{E}_{\scriptscriptstyle A}$	KJ/mol	38.0635
	$(1 + \sqrt{K_{H_2}C_{H_2}})^2$	K <sub>o</sub>	mol/gm.min	1.54852×10 <sup>7</sup>
		$\mathrm{D}oldsymbol{H}_{ads.H_2}$	KJ/mol	-2.48624×10 <sup>-4</sup>
		$K_{\sigma H_2}$	L/mol	0.0501713
6	$- r_{AMS} = \frac{kK_{H_2}C_{A}C_{H_2}}{(1 + K_{H_1}C_{H_2})}$	$\boldsymbol{E}_{\scriptscriptstyle A}$	KJ/mol	40.8385
	$(1+K_{H_2}C_{H_2})$	$K_{o}$	mol/gm.min	$2.74084 \times 10^7$
		$\mathrm{D}oldsymbol{H}_{ads.H_2}$	KJ/mol	-1.6939×10 <sup>-4</sup>
		$K_{_{0H_2}}$	L/mol	0.082637
7	$-r_{AMS} = \frac{kK_AC_AC_{H_2}}{(1+K_AC_A)}$	$\boldsymbol{E}_{\scriptscriptstyle A}$	KJ/mol	45.103
	$(1 + K_A C_A)$	<b>K</b> <sub>o</sub>	mol/gm.min	2.1026×10 <sup>7</sup>
		$\mathrm{D}oldsymbol{H}_{ads.A}$	KJ/mol	-10.6116
		K	L/mol	0.0309901
8	$- r_{AMS} = \frac{kK_A C_A \sqrt{K_{H_2} C_{H_2}}}{(1 + K_A C_A)(1 + \sqrt{K_{H_2} C_{H_2}})}$	$\boldsymbol{E}_{\scriptscriptstyle A}$	KJ/mol	49.4625
	$= \frac{1}{(1 + K_A C_A)(1 + \sqrt{K_{H_2} C_{H_2}})}$	$K_{o}$	mol/gm.min	$3.00966 \times 10^7$
		DH ads.A	KJ/mol	-13.012
		<b>K</b> 0 A	L/mol	0.017507
		$\mathrm{D}oldsymbol{H}_{ads.H_2}$	KJ/mol	-0.00847844
		K	L/mol	0.570943
9	$kK_{A}C_{A}\sqrt{K_{H_{2}}C_{H_{2}}}$	$\boldsymbol{E}_{\scriptscriptstyle A}$	KJ/mol	46.0789
	$- r_{AMS} = \frac{K K_A C_A \sqrt{K_{H_2} C_{H_2}}}{(1 + K_A C_A + \sqrt{K_{H_2}} C_{H_2})^2}$	K <sub>o</sub>	mol/gm.min	4.98754×10 <sup>7</sup>
		DH ads.A	KJ/mol	-8.09857
		K	L/mol	0.0248671
		$\mathrm{D}oldsymbol{H}_{ads.H_2}$	KJ/mol	-4.76242
		$K_{_{oH_2}}$	L/mol	0.0355481



Figure (1) Experimental set-up.

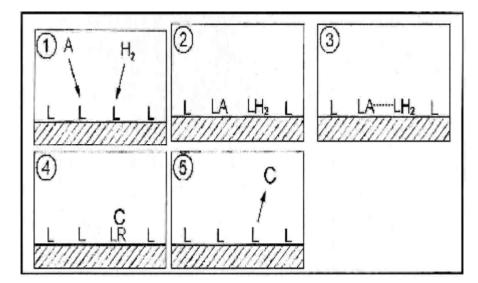


Figure (2) Lamgmuir-Hinshelwood- mechanism. (Missen et al. 1999)

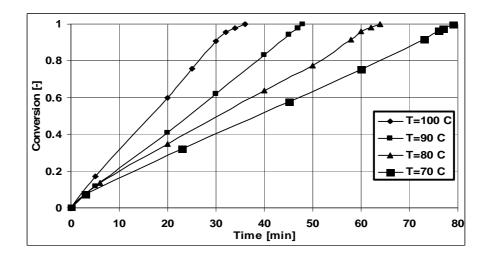


Figure (3) catalyst, right hand (treated) –Left (untreated)

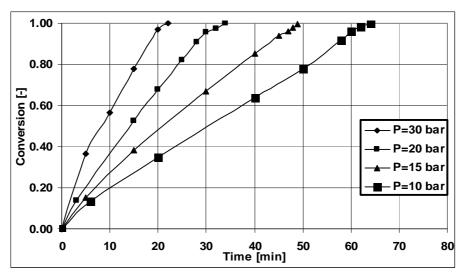


Figure (4) Effect of temperature on conversion (P=10 bar, RS=1400, Mcat=0.1 gm)

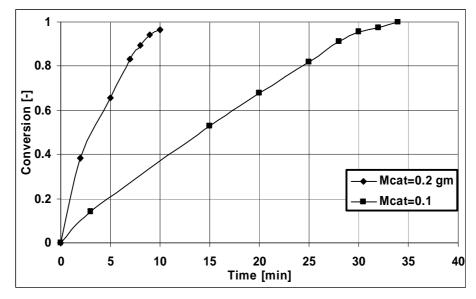


Figure (5) Effect of pressure on conversion for STR (T=80 C, S.S=1400 rpm, Mcat=0.1 gm)

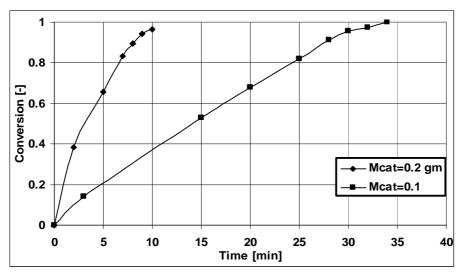


Figure (6) Effect of mass of catalyst on conversion for STR (P=20 bar, T=80 C, S.S=1400 rpm)

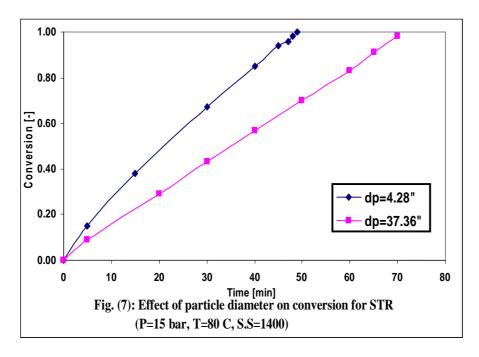


Figure (7) Effect of particle diameter on conversion for STR (P=15 bar, T=80 C, S. S=1400)

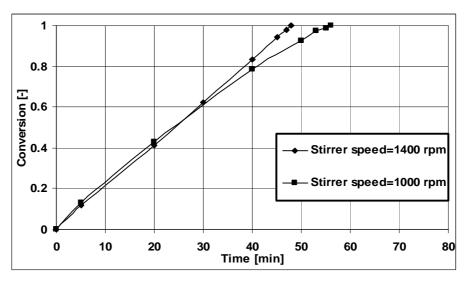


Figure (8) Effect of stirrer speed on conversion for STR (P=10 bar, T=90 C, Mcat=0.1 gm)

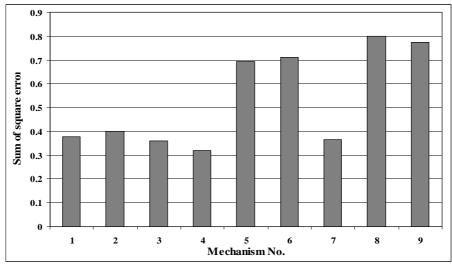


Figure (9) Sum of the square error vs mechanism