

Fed Batch Fermentation Reactor

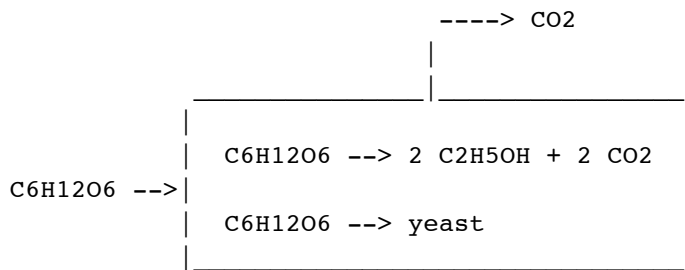
JCK 9/20/2012

2/18/2014 Removed dependencies on other Matlab functions

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Fermentation Reactor (Murphy, Example 3.11)



- Inlet flow of glucose is 20 g/hr
- 10% of the glucose is converted to yeast
- The total consumption rate of glucose is $R_g = -2.8 \cdot \exp(0.1 \cdot t)$ g/hr
- Initial charge of glucose is 1000g

Mass Balances

After simplification, mass balances for the semi-batch fermentation reactor lead to a set of two differential equations and one algebraic

$$\frac{dm_g}{dt} = m_{g_in} - M_{Wg} \cdot X_1 - M_{Wg} \cdot X_2;$$

$$\frac{dm_e}{dt} = +2 \cdot M_{We} \cdot X_1$$

$$0 = -m_{c_out} + 2 \cdot M_{Wc} \cdot X_1$$

```

mg_in = 20;
MWg = 180.16;
MWe = 46.07;

```

```
MWc = 44.01;
```

Extents of Reaction

There are two extents of reaction, X1 and X2. We know that the total rate of consumption of glucose is given in mass units by

$$R_g = -MW_g \cdot (X_1 + X_2)$$

X1 accounts for 90% of the total consumption. So

$$0.9 \cdot R_g = -MW_g \cdot X_1$$

$$0.1 \cdot R_g = -MW_g \cdot X_2$$

Solving for X1 and X2

$$X_1 = -(0.9 \cdot 2.8 / MW_g) \cdot \exp(0.1 \cdot t)$$

$$X_2 = -(0.1 \cdot 2.8 / MW_g) \cdot \exp(0.1 \cdot t)$$

These are implemented as Matlab functions of time.

```
X1 = @(t) (0.9*2.8/180)*exp(0.1*t);  
X2 = @(t) (0.1*2.8/180)*exp(0.1*t);
```

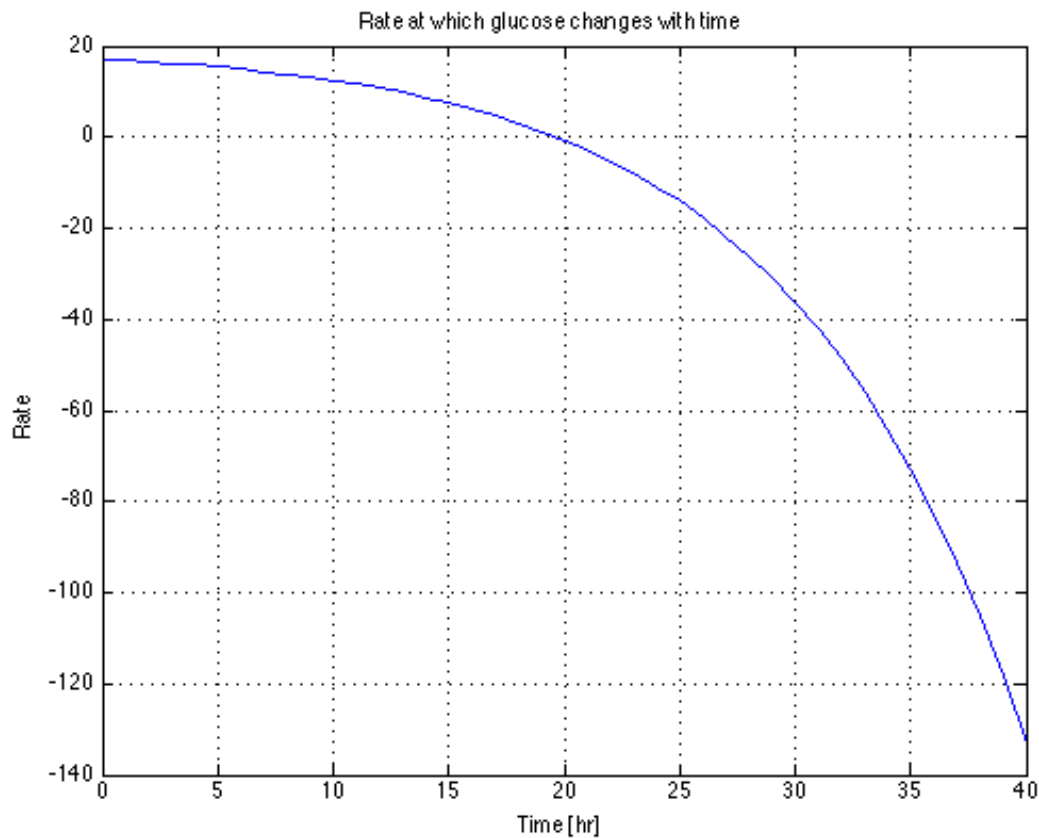
Part 1. Plot the rate at which glucose changes with time.

dmg

$$--- = mg_{in} - MW_g \cdot X_1 - MW_g \cdot X_2;$$

dt

```
% Set up time grid  
t = 0:40;  
  
% Plot  
plot(t, mg_in - MW_g*X1(t) - MW_g*X2(t));  
xlabel('Time [hr]');  
ylabel('Rate');  
title('Rate at which glucose changes with time');  
grid
```



Part 2. Plot mass of glucose and ethanol as a function of time

This requires solution of the differential equation. The following two functions compute values corresponding to the right hand side of the differential equations for m_g and m_e , respectively.

```

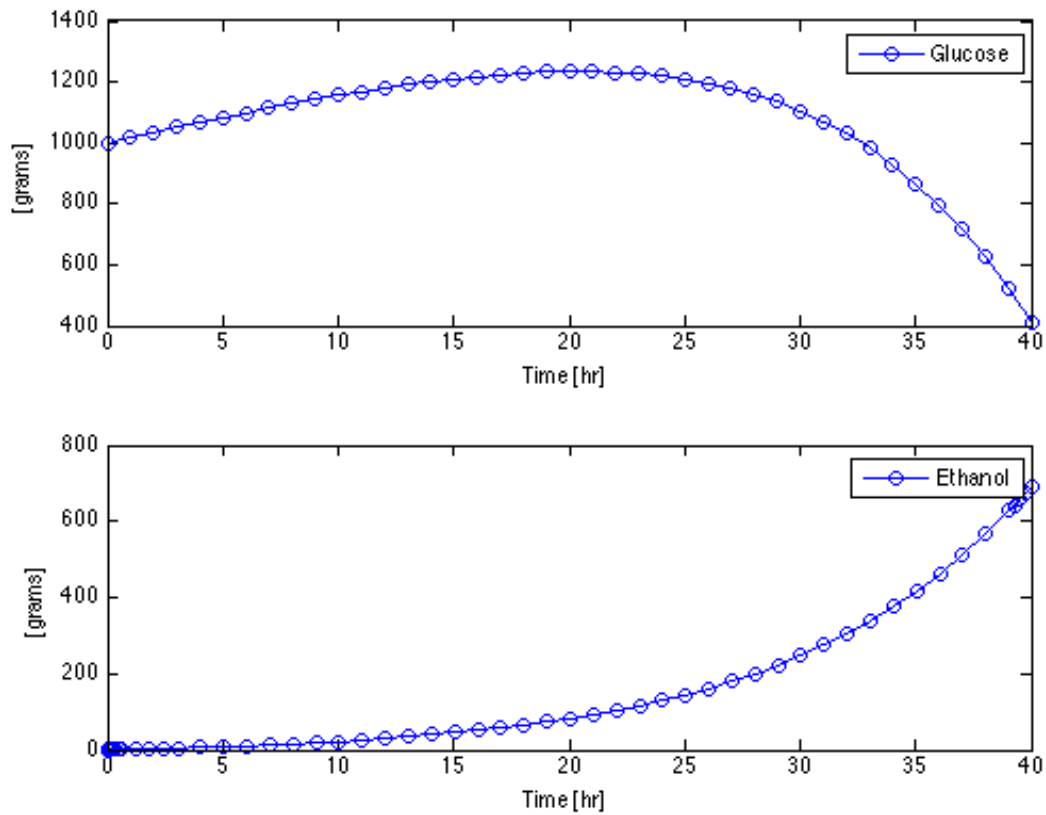
rhs_mg = @(t,mg) mg_in - MWg*X1(t) - MWe*X2(t);
rhs_me = @(t,me) +2*MWe*X1(t);

tspan = [0 40];

subplot(2,1,1);
ode45(rhs_mg,tspan,1000)
xlabel('Time [hr]');
ylabel('[grams]');
legend('Glucose');

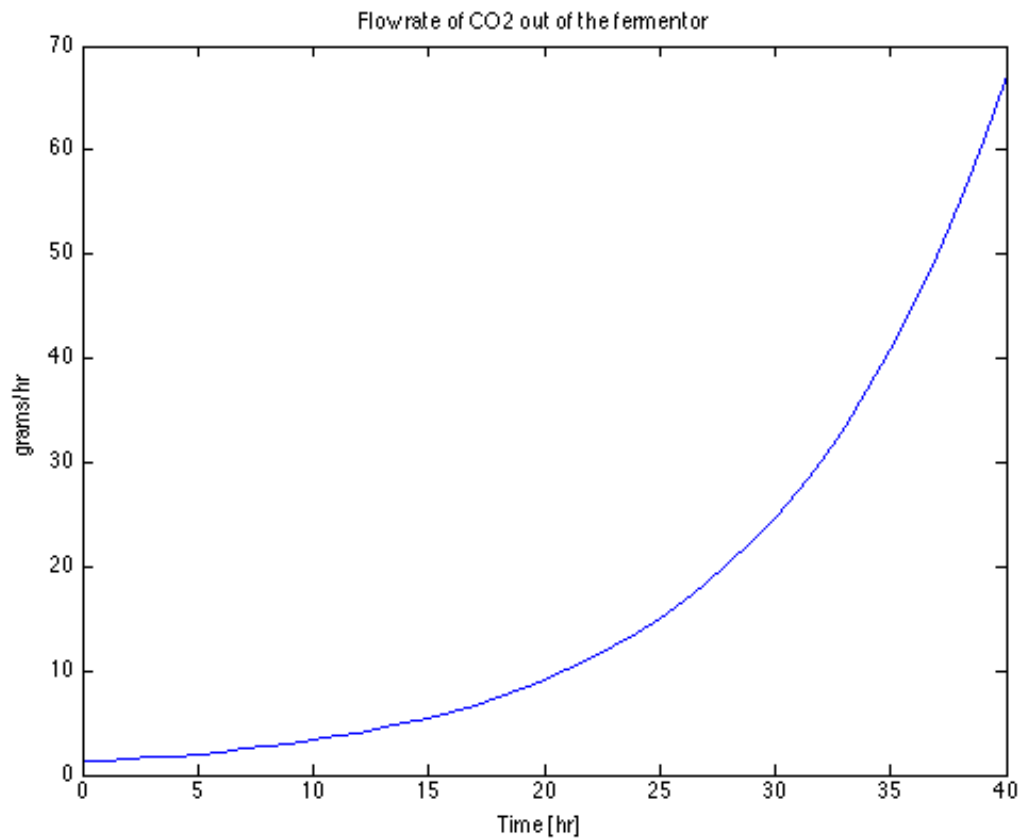
subplot(2,1,2);
ode45(rhs_me,tspan,0)
xlabel('Time [hr]');
ylabel('[grams]');
legend('Ethanol');

```



Part 3. Calculate CO₂ flow rate out as a function of time.

```
clf;  
mc_out = 2*MWc*X1(t);  
plot(t,mc_out);  
xlabel('Time [hr]');  
ylabel('grams/hr');  
title('Flow rate of CO2 out of the fermentor');
```



Part 4. How long will it take for the glucose to drop to zero?

This is readily solved using some of the more advanced features of Matlab's ODE solvers. Here we simply demonstrate how this is done. The trick is to first solve over a time span long enough to include the zero crossing, then use `fzero` to solve for the zero crossing.

```
mg = ode45(rhs_mg,[0 50],1000);
tzero = fzero(@(t)deval(mg,t),40);

fprintf('Glucose concentration is zero at %6.1f [hrs]\n',tzero);

me = ode45(rhs_me,[0 50],0);
fprintf('Ethanol concentration at tzero is %6.1f [g]\n',deval(me,tzero));
```

```
Glucose concentration is zero at 42.8 [hrs]
Ethanol concentration at tzero is 923.5 [g]
```