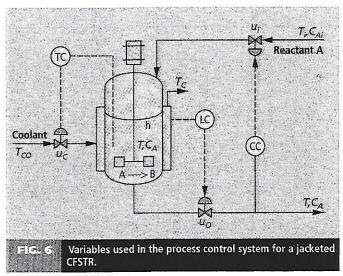


Options. The spreadsheet is now a greatly enhanced equation-solving program, and has been used in solving reaction engineering problems. 14 Because of its flexibility and convenience, it has served as a valuable tool to solve more meaningful problems, and to examine the solutions in detail by manipulating various parameters (e.g., flowrate, reactor volume) to determine their effect. The model example developed in this article was once solved using the high level language (e.g., Fortran language). However, the power of the spreadsheet has made it easier for modelers and designers to solve some complex problems. The built-in graphics capability has enabled simultaneous viewing of graphs and numerical solution techniques.

Inspecting the differential equations in the model would enable control strategies to be studied. For example, if the temperature of the reactor is to be controlled at a fixed value, then the residence time and, in turn, the level must be controlled such that  $x_A/x_B$  in the effluent product meets the quality standard. 15 An understanding of the process gained in the formulation of the mathematical models results in better synthesis of solutions to the overlapping process modification and control system problems. HP

## NOMENCLATURE

a	The decay parameter, min <sup>-3</sup>
A	Cross-sectional area of the vessel, m <sup>2</sup>
$C_A$	Concentration of component A, mol/dm3
Car	Inlet concentration of component A, mol/dm <sup>3</sup>
C40	Initial concentration of component A, mol/dm <sup>3</sup>
C.	Specific heat of the reacting mixture, J/mol K
Ć.	Specific heat of the coolant, J/mol K
k.	Rate constant, min-1
CAO Cp Cpc ko	Decay rate constant, min-1
b	Liquid level in the reactor, m
$\left(\frac{-\Delta H_s}{a}\right)$	Heat of reaction, J/mol. of $A$
T	Reactor temperature of component A, °C
$T_C$	Jacket temperature, °C
$T_{CO}$	Coolant inlet temperature, °C
$T_{CO}$ $T_i$	Inlet temperature of component A, °C
$(-r_A)$	Reaction rate, mol/dm3 min
и	Volumetric flowrate, dm <sup>3</sup> /min
$u_C$	Coolant volumetric flowrate, m3/min
$u_i$	Inlet volumetric flowrate, m <sup>3</sup> /min
$u_0$	Outlet volumetric flowrate, m3/min
$V_C$	Volume of the coolant jacket, m <sup>3</sup>
$V_C V_R$	Reactor volume, dm <sup>3</sup>
$x_A$	weight fraction of component $A$
$x_B$	weight fraction of component B
ρ	Fluid density, kg/m <sup>3</sup>
PC	Density of cooling fluid, kg/m <sup>3</sup>



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The author would like to thank Dr. C. J. Mumford, Emeritus Reader at Aston University, Birmingham, UK, for his comments and suggestions for this article.

## LITERATURE CITED

- 1 Mackenzie, J. and M. Allen, "Mathematical Power Tools: Maple, Mathematica, Mathlab and Excel," Chemical Engineering Ed., Vol. 32, No. 2, pp. 156-160,
- <sup>2</sup> Slaughter, J. M., et al., "Use of PC Based Mathematics Software in the Undergraduate Curriculum," Chemical Engineering Ed., pp. 54-60, Winter
- Burns, M. A., and J. C. Sung, "Design of Separation Units Using Spreadsheets," *Chemical Engineering* Ed., pp. 62–69, Winter 1996.
   Pattee, H. A., "Selecting Computer Mathematics," *Mechanical Engineering*,
- September, 1995.
- <sup>5</sup> Julian, F. M., "Flowsheets and Spreadsheets," Chemical Engineering Progress,
- pp. 35–39, September 1985.

  <sup>6</sup> Julian, F. M., "Process Modeling On Spreadsheets," *Chemical Engineering* Progress, pp. 33-40, December 1989.
- 7 Booker, N. A., and R. B. Brooks, "Scale-up of the rapid sewage treatment SIROFLOC™ process," Trans. IChemE, Vol. 72, Part B, p. 109, 1994.
- 8 Coker, A. K., "Effluent waste treatment plant using the SIROFLOC process," Internal design report, Davy Energy & Environmental, UK, 1991.
- 9 Ahmed, S. M., "Ease Relief System Design and Documentation," Chemical Engineering Progress, pp. 43-50, May 2002.
- 10 Ramirez, W. F., Computational Methods for Process Simulation, Second Ed., Butterworth-Heinemann, 1997.
- 11 Anthony, J., "Elements of Calculation Style," Chemical Engineering Progress, pp. 50-55, November 2001.
- 12 Seider, W. D., J. D. Seader, and D. R. Lewin, Process Design Principles-Synthesis, Analysis and Evaluation, John Wiley & Sons, Inc., 1999.
- 13 Newell, R. B., and P. L. Lee, Applied Process Control, Prentice-Hall of Australia, Brookvale, NSW, 1988.
- 14 Coker, A. K., Modeling of Chemical Kinetics and Reactor Design, Butterworth-Heinemann, 2001.
- 15 Perry, R. H., Perry's Chemical Engineers' Handbook, Sixth Ed. McGraw-Hill, 1984.

A. K. Coker is Chairman of Chemical & Process Engineering Technology at Jubail Industrial College in Saudi Arabia. Prior experience includes process engineering for H&G Engineering in Glasgow, Scotland, Davy Energy and Environmental Ltd. UK, Shell Petroleum Development Co. of Nigeria, and research and development for Blue Circle Industry in the UK, and a consultant for A.K.C. Technology. Dr. Coker holds a BSc (Hons) degree in chemical engineering, an MSc in process analysis and development, and a PhD in chemical engineering, all from Aston University, Birmingham, U.K., and a Teachers' certificate in Education at University of London. He has published several articles in international journals, and an author of Fortran Programs for Chemical Process Design, Analysis and Simulation, Gulf Publishing Co., Modeling of Chemical Kinetics and Reactor Design, Butterworth-Heinemann and a book chapter in Encyclopedia of Chemical Processing and Design, vol. 61., Marcel Dekker. Dr. Coker is also a chartered scientist, chemical engineer and corporate member of the Institution of chemical Engineers in the UK.