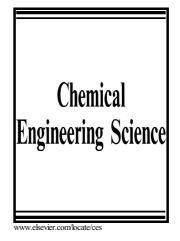
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Modelling of a Simulated Moving Bed in case of non-ideal hydrodynamics

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Abstract

The one-dimensional hydrodynamic model proposed by Gomes et al. (2015) is coupled with adsorption and validated by comparing the concentration profiles of the one-dimensional model with those given by the CFD model of one adsorption column including obstacles as distribution network and beams. This one-dimensional model is capable of predicting the CFD results for different mass transfer rates, while the traditional dispersed plug flow (DPF) model is relevant for slow mass transfer rates only. The model proposed by Gomes et al. (2015) is capable of reproducing the adsorber Residence Time Distribution (RTD) while dissociating the selective zones from the non-selective ones. It is based on the CFD techniques developed by Liu and Tilton (2010) and Liu (2012) that transport the moments of the fluid age distribution and consequently calculate the degree of mixing (Danckwerts, 1958 and Zwietering, 1959). Then, this new model is integrated in a cyclic solver in order to perform Simulated Moving Bed (SMB) studies. The new model provides a detailed hydrodynamic description, which appears to be mandatory especially when mass transfer exchanges are fast, without undergoing the prohibitive simulation times of CFD models.

Keywords: Adsorption, CFD, Simulated Moving Bed, 1D modelling

NOTATIONS

b_i	adsorbent coefficient of affinity for the component <i>i</i> (m ⁻³ kg ⁻¹)
C _i	concentration of the component i in the bulk phase (kg m ⁻³)
$C_{m,i}$	concentration of the component i in the macro-porous liquid phase (kg m ⁻³)
D_M	molecular diffusion coefficient (m ² s ⁻¹)
D_P	mechanical dispersion coefficient (m ² s ⁻¹)
d_p	particle diameter (m)
D_T	turbulent diffusivity coefficient (m ² s ⁻¹)
J	degree of mixing (dimensionless)
K	bed permeability (m ²)
k_1	fluid film mass transfer coefficient (s ⁻¹)

- k_2 internal mass transfer coefficient (s⁻¹)
- m_n raw moment of order n (sⁿ)
- *N* number of equivalent CSTR (dimensionless)
- N_i^{ε} mass flux between the bulk phase and the macro-porous phase (mol m³ s⁻¹)

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