

CEN 3313

MASS TRANSFER

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Fick's Law of Diffusion

- For transfer of species A in a binary mixture of A&B

$$J_A^* = -cD_{AB}\nabla x_A \quad (\text{molar flux of species A})$$

$$J_A^* = -cD_{AB}\frac{dx_A}{dx} \quad (\text{1D molar flux of species A})$$

D_{AB} ; Mass diffusivity or binary diffusion constant

j_A : Amount of A transferred per unit time per unit area \perp to the direction of transfer and it is proportional to mixture mass concentration



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- For transfer of species A in a binary mixture of A&B

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$$j_A = -\rho D_{AB} \frac{dm_A}{dx} \quad (\text{1D mass flux of species A})$$

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J_A^* : Molar flux of species A.

It is proportional to $C = C_A + C_B$ and gradient in x_A

when ρ and $C = \text{constant}$

$$j_A = -D_{AB} \frac{d\rho_A}{dx}$$

$$J_A^* = -D_{AB} \frac{dC_A}{dx}$$



Your Turn:

Molecular Diffusion of Helium in Nitrogen

A mixture of He and N₂ gas is contained in a pipe at 298 K and 1 atm total pressure which is constant throughout. At one end of the pipe at point 1 the pressure p_{A1} of He is 0.6 atm and the other hand 0.2 m (20 cm) $p_{A2} = 0.2$ atm. Calculate the flux of at steady state if D_{AB} of the He-N₂ mixture is 0.687×10^{-4} m²/s.



References

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