1. Continuous acetic acid fermentation

EtOH + Acetobacter aceti \rightarrow acetic acid (under aerobic condition)

• continuous process using A. aceti (in stationary phase) immobilized on gelatin beads

wants to produce 2 kg/hr acetic acid, max tolerable acetic acid concentration is 12%
aeration rate of 200 gmol/hr

● extra data : - MW: EtOH=46, AcOH=60, O₂=32, N₂=28, H₂O=18

- composition of air: 21% O_2 + 79% N_2

- gas vol % = mol %
- no evaporation of EtOH, AcOH, and H₂O
- O₂ transfer is rapid enough (always aerobic fermentation)

a) What is the reaction equation for this fermentation?

b) What is the minimum amount of ethanol to produce 2 kg/hr acetic acid?

- c) Volume composition of gas at the fermenter outlet?
- d) Min. amount of water to dilute the ethanol below AcOH inhibition level?

feed off-gas ethanol: E kg/hr \rightarrow G kg/hr water: W kg/hr \rightarrow Fermenter air product 200 mol/hr \rightarrow P kg/hr 42 mol $O_2/hr = 1.344$ kg/hr 2 kg/hr $158 \text{ mol } N_2/hr = 4.424 \text{ kg/hr}$ (or 12% acetic acid) (5.768 kg air/hr)

2. Aerobic bacterial growth on hexadecane as substrate

 $C_{16}H_{34} + 16.28 \ O_2 + 1.42 \ NH_3 \rightarrow 1.65 \ C_{4.4}H_{7.3}O_{1.2}N_{0.86} + 8.74 \ CO_2 + 13.11 \ H_2O_{1.6}O_{1.$

- (a) Is the stoichiometric equation balanced?
- (b) What grams are 1 mole of cells and hexadecane, respectively?
- (c) Assuming 100% conversion, what is the yield of cells from hexadecane in g/g?
- (d) Assuming 100% conversion, what is the yield of cells from oxygen in g/g?
- (e) to produce 2.5 kg cells in a 3000 liter reactor
 - i) minimum amount of $C_{16}H_{34}$?
 - ii) min concentration of $C_{16}H_{34}$ in 3 m³?
 - iii) mim vol of air at 20°C and 1 atm ? (air = 24.07 l/mol)