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Modeling of fermentation process of Bacillus thuringiensis as a sporulating bacterium

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Sporulating bacteria constitute a large portion of industrial microorganisms. Many important bioproducts such as solvents, antibiotics, enzymes, and pesticides with applications in food, pharmaceutical, and chemical processes are produced by sporulating bacteria. *Bacillus thuringiensis* (Bt) is an aerobic, rod-shaped, and sporulating bacterium that during its sporulation process produces toxic crystal proteins, called delta endotoxins, which have insecticidal action. Due to the economic importance of this product, great efforts have been made to improve its operation and control procedures especially by means of mathematical models. As shown in Fig. 1, there are three distinct types of cells in a Bt culture: vegetative cells, sporangia, and mature spores. The aim of this work was to provide a mathematical model that can estimate the populations of these three types of cells. In this paper, a cell population balance model was used to represent the dynamic behavior of the process. An unstructured and non-segregated model was used for the dynamic fermentation process with 0%, 50% and 100% oxygen saturation in a fed-batch culture. The mathematical model consists of a partial differential equation (PDE) that describes the distribution of a cell population based on the cell age. To solve the mathematical model, the method of lines was used in MATLAB that approximates the PDE model by a set of nonlinear ordinary differential equations (ODEs). Then, the resulted ODEs were solved by the 4th order Rung-Kutta method. The results show that the proposed model can estimate the cell populations properly.

Biography

1 0 R V W R X Ā L V F X U U H Q W O \ D) X O O 3 U R I H V V R U R I & K H P L F D O (Q J L Q H H U L Q J D W W K H 8 Q L Y H U V L W \ R I 7 H K U D Q + \ H D U V + L V U H V H D U F K L Q W H U H V V W L Q F O X G H S U R F H V V P R G H O L Q J V L P X O D W L R Q D Q G R S W L P L J D W L R Q D Q G , U D Q \ V 8 Q L Y H U V L W \ R I 7 H K U D Q D Q G D 3 K ' L Q Ā X L G L J D W L R Q I U R P & D Q D G D \ V (F R O H 3 R O \ W H F K Q L T X H G H 0 R Q W F R Q I H U H Q F H V S O X V Ā Y H E R R N V D Q G I R X U E R R N F K D V S I M I T A L M E T H O D S F O R C H E M I C A L E N G I N E E R I N G W I T H I N T E R A P P L I C A T I O N S , P U B L I S H E D B Y P R E N T I C E H A L L P T R I N 1 9 9 9 . H e i s t h e F o u n d e r a n d E d i t o r - i n - C h i e f o f C h e m i c a l P r o d u c t a n d P r o c e s s M o d e l i n g p u b l i s h e d b y W a l t e r d e G r u y t e r G m b H , G e r m a n y a n d w i n n e r o f U n i v e r s i t y o f T e h r a n ' s I n t e r n a t i o n a l A w a r d , 2 0 1 5 . H e i s a l s o t h e U n i v e r s i t y o f T e h r a n ' s d i s t i n g u i s h e d R e s e a r c h e r , 2 0 1 3 .

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