



## What is Fluid Mixing?

- A combination of two or more species through mechanical means to produce a desired result
- A rotating agitator produces high velocity liquid streams which come into contact with stagnant or slower moving liquid, therefore momentum transfer occurs.

#### **Dimensionless Groups**

- Mathematical models obeying the laws of conservation of mass and momentum yields a few significant groups applicable to fluid motion
- Will not derive the groups from the Navier-Stokes equation, rather they will be presented and significance explained

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#### **Froude Number**

- A measure of the ratio of Inertial to Gravitational Forces
- + N<sub>Fr</sub> = N<sup>2</sup> D/g = 7.2 x 10<sup>-7</sup> N<sup>2</sup> D (N = rpm, D = inches)
- Used in Gas Dispersion and Solids Draw Down Applications
- In many applications, gravitational effects are unimportant and the Froude Number is not significant

#### Power Number -- N<sub>p</sub>

- Dependent upon type/design of impeller and fluid properties
- N<sub>p</sub> = f ( N<sub>Re</sub> , N<sub>Fr</sub> )
- Oftentimes  $N_{Fr}$  is not an effect and for high  $N_{Re}$  (Low Viscosity) the power number is constant
- Experiments at different speeds, impeller diameters, and fluid properties shows:
   P % N<sup>3</sup>
   P % D<sup>5</sup>
   P % Sg
- The ratio of Power to N,D, & Sg is the Power Number:  $N_n \% P/(N^3 D^5 Sg)$









## What Affects Pumping Rate?

- Fluid Properties: Viscosity, Presence of Gas, Specific Gravity
  Impeller Properties: Type of Impeller, Pitch, Width, Diameter, Clearance, etc.
- Rotational Speed
- Geometric Affects: Tank Diameter, Liquid Levels, Draft Tubes, Baffles, etc.



Pumping	Rate Calculation
Q (gpm)	$= 4.33 \text{ x } 10^{-3} \text{ N } \text{D}^3 \text{ Nq}$
Where:	
N =	Impeller Rotation Speed, rpm
D =	Impeller Diameter, inches
Nq =	Impeller Pumping Number
	AND
15	







Biona mile	
<ul> <li>For 99% Uniformity t<sub>99</sub> = 4.605/k</li> </ul>	
Degree of Uniformity	Relative Blend Time
90	0.50
95	0.65
99	1.00
99.9	1.50
99.99	2.00
99.999	2.50
	AND

#### **Blend Time**

- Blend times for higher viscosity fluids ( $N_{Re}$ below turbulent) are corrected from a N<sub>Re</sub> -vs- blend time chart
- · Ways to improve Blend Time
- · Do not start from "Stratified" state · Introduce additions near impeller
- Pre-blend with Static Mixers (High Viscosity,Sg,
- and Volume Ratios)

# What determines Agitator Size?

- · In simple terms, the size of the agitator gearbox is rated on "Torque"
- Torque is proportional to Hp and Speed

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- J % Hp/N
- J (in-lbs.) = 63,025 Hp/N

#### Torque

- 3 hp at 68 rpm → 2,780 in-lbs.
- 10 hp at 100 rpm → 6,302 in-lbs.
- The 10 hp at 100 rpm, would be a size "3" and the 3 hp at 68 rpm unit would be a size "1" agitator
- Relative cost difference is about 40%
- For the same type impellers: Higher Torque = Higher Flow = Higher Cost



# **Impeller Styles**

- Turbine Style Impellers Axial Flow (High Efficiency)
- Radial Flow (Straight Blade/Disc)
- Close Clearance Impellers
- Helix/Anchor
- High Shear
- Rotor/Stator

# **Commercial Impellers** · Following Impellers Show types of

- Impellers · Examples of the impellers are from Chemineer
- Other Manufacturers Manufacture
- similar impeller styles

# High Efficiency Impeller

- Liquid Blending, Solids Suspension, Heat Transfer, Upper Impeller in Gas Dispersion
   Low Shear, High Pumping, Axial Flow
   Reynolds Numbers \$100
   Turbulent Np = 0.28 (0.26 0.30)
   For a given agitator, the appropriate HE impeller is 20 percent larger than a pitched blade
   Jet Foil Impellers will adhere to similar characteristics







# High Efficiency/Hydrofoil Impeller Liquid Blending, Heat Transfer, Solids Suspension Low Shear, Axial Flow, High Pumping Similar in performance to HE-3 Wp = 0.55 (0.5 to 0.6) Curved design of blade/hub results in higher strength: lower weight •Design requires cast impeller hubs ST N SC-3 Impeller

# High Efficiency High Solidity Impeller Np = 0.85 (0.8 to 0.95) Wide Blade hydrofoil impeller, axial flow Applications which require a high solidity axial flow impeller: three-phase systems, gas dispersion, abrasive solids, transitional flow (100>Nre<2,000) Maxflo W







\* BT-6

-\_\_\_\_\_ CD-6

\_ D-6











#### **Choosing Impellers**

- •Flow Controlled Processes: •Blending Miscible Fluids, Heat Transfer, Solids Susp. •High Efficiency/Pitched Blade/High Solidity
- •Dispersion Processes •Gas Dispersion, Immiscible Fluids •Radial Flow Impellers •Combination: Lower Radial (Disk)/Upper Axial

Imp	eller Performanc	e - Example
100	High Pumping/Low Sh	ear
	HE-3 JF3 SC-3 Maxflo W P-4 S-4 BT-6 CD-6 D-6 Rotor/Stator Low	
	Pumping/High Shear	



#### Baffles

· Baffles are used to prevent swirling in lower viscosity applications and promote "top to bottom" mixing.

· Baffled Tanks produce the best mixing results

· Baffling not required in angled or vertical off center mixing

In certain situations, special baffle configurations may be used. Examples include vortex induction, baffles with internal fluid flow for heat transfer capability



Impeller Equations	
<ul> <li>Primary Pumping Capacity</li> </ul>	
• Q (gpm) = 4.33 x 10 <sup>-3</sup> N D	<sup>3</sup> Nq
<ul> <li>Impeller Horsepower Draw</li> </ul>	
$\bullet P = 6.556 \ x \ 10^{\cdot 14} \ N^3 \ D^5 \ Sg$	Np
<ul> <li>Impeller Reynold's Number</li> </ul>	
• $N_{Re} = 10.7 \ N \ D^2 \ Sg /$ ;	
Where: N = Rotational Speed, rpm D = Impeller Diameter, inche	s
Nq = Impeller Pumping Numb Np = Impeller Power Number Sg = Fluid Specific Gravity	er
: = Fluid Viscosity, cp	Inclusions Printerio metalities

#### Impeller Summary

•Many different impeller styles available •Agitator design starts with impeller selection

•Need to match impeller performance with process requirements as impeller efficiency can affect agitation.

High efficiency impellers can improve agitation for a given torque by generating a more uniform, axial flow pattern

•Special impellers such as the BT-6 improve gas handling.

•Wide blade hydrofoils (Maxflo W) are very good in 3-phase flow and as pumping impellers above a gas dispersion impeller.

# **Mixing Classifications**

- Blending and Motion
- Solids Suspension
- Gas Dispersion

# **Blending and Motion**

- Liquid in contact with another liquid • Examples:
  - Liquid Liquid Reactions
  - Blending of Miscible Liquids
  - Heat Transfer Improvement
  - Blending out Dissimilarities
  - Low Solids Slurries (< 2% Solids)



# **Determining Process Requirements** • It is difficult to state the process result with precision. Such as how do you relate flow rate and blend time to: • Design of a pH adjustment tank? • A Chemical Reaction? • Blend two very dissimilar components?

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#### **Blending and Motion Design**

- Fundamental Dynamic Response for Blending and Motion is:
   Bulk Fluid Velocity
   Characteristic of all velocities in the agitated fluid
- Design logic starts with the selection of a "Dynamic Response"
- Design Agitators to produce that response

#### **Determining Process Requirements**

- Experience has shown the majority of Blending and Motion problems are solved with Bulk Fluid Velocities of 6 to 60 ft/min
- It is then possible to assign "Agitation Intensity Levels" to these Velocities
- Chemineer calls these levels "ChemScale"

# **Blending and Motion**



- The lower the intensity level, the lower the characteristic velocity, the lower the flow rate, and the smaller the Agitator
- ChemScale Levels can be used to describe Process Results in more detail,
- which is called a Dynamic Response

MILD characterist achieve the	AGITATION tic of application process result.	Agitation levels 1 and 2 are ons requiring minimum fluid velocities to
Scale of	Bulk fluid	
agitation	velocity, ft/min	Description
1	6	Agitators capable of level 1-2 will:
	-	Blend miscible fluids to uniformity if the specific gravity differences are less than 0.1.
2	12	Blend miscible fluids to uniformity if the viscosity of the most viscous is less than 100 times that of the other.
		Establish complete fluid-batch control.
		Produce a flat, but moving surface.

**Determining Process Requirements** 

where: v = Bulk Fluid Velocity Q = Flow Rate A = Cross Sectional Area of

• Bulk Fluid Velocity Calculation:

v (ft/min) = Q (ft<sup>3</sup>/min) / A (ft<sup>2</sup>)

Tank

MEDIUM	AGITATION	Agitation levels 3-6 characteristic of fluid velocity in most chemical process industries
Scale of agitation	Bulk fluid velocity, ft\min	Description
3	18	Blend miscible fluids to uniformity if specific gravity differences are less than 0.3 (Scale 3) and 0.6 (Scale 6)
4	24	Blend miscible fluids to uniformity if the viscosity of the most viscous is less than 5,000 (Scale 3) or 10,000 (Scale 6) times that
5	50	or the other. Suspend trace solids (<2%) with settling rates of 2 to 4 ft/min.
6	36	Produce surface rippling at lower viscosities
61		

VIGORO AGITAT	DUS/VIOLENT ION	Agitation levels 7-10 characteristic of applications requiring high fluid velocity for the process result, such as critical reactors
Scale of agitation	Bulk fluid velocity, ft/min	Description
7	42	Blend miscible fluids to uniformity if Sg differences are less than 0.7 (Scale 7) or 1.0 (Scale 10).
8	48	Blend miscible fluids to uniformity if the viscosity of the most viscous is less than 70,000 (Scale 7) or 100,000 (Scale 10) times that of the other.
9	54	Suspend trace solids (<2%) with settling rates of 4 to 6 ft/min.
10	60	Provide surging surfaces at low viscosities.

Example	
Application	ChemScale
Media Prep Tank	1-2
Resin Prep Tank	1-2
Buffer Prep Tank	1-2
pH Adjustment	1-3
Reactor	6-10
Blend Tanks	4-7
Solids Dissolving	3-5

#### **Blending and Motion**

- Solving Blending and Motion problems also requires the selection of the optimum impeller type
- Impellers will produce a combination of flow and shear (or head)
- For Blending and Motion, increasing flow and decreasing shear is typically most desirable
- High Efficiency Impellers are used most often

#### Agitator Selection

## Process involves

- Pick Impeller Type
- Determine Size and Difficulty
- Determine Dynamic Response (ChemScale Level)
   Charts will provide Hp/Speed Combinations which when loaded properly will provide the Flow to produce desired Bulk Fluid Velocity and hence Agitation Level desired

#### **Blending and Motion**

- For a particular Hp/Speed Combination (Torque Level) the final steps are:
   Choose Impeller Diameter to draw the defined hp
  - Check geometric parameters D/T, C/T, Z/T
- Check other process parameters (Blend Time, Heat Transfer Rate, etc.)
- Mechanical Design (Gearbox, Shaft, Seal, etc.)

#### **Blending and Motion**

- Last step is Economic Evaluation
   Capital Cost Estimation
  - Operation Cost Estimation
  - Optimization
- Luckily, the calculations are computerized and a process and mechanical design can be done quickly

#### **Evaluating Agitation**

- Motor hp does not correlate directly to mixing performance
- Torque correlates better with mixing intensity (Chemscale)
- Why? For low horsepower and low speed combinations, a large impeller is utilized. Flow is proportional to N D<sup>3</sup>.
- Torque relates to capital cost. Motor hp relates to operating cost. Consider both when considering agitator purchase!
- considering agriator purchase:

# **Mixing Classifications**

- Blending and Motion
- Solids Suspension
- Gas Dispersion

#### **Solids Suspension**

- · Liquid in contact with Solids
- Examples:
  - Catalytic Media Suspension
  - Solids Incorporation
- Resin / Buffer / Media Prep tanks (depending on specific process)

#### Solids Suspension

- Solids suspension applications, like Blending and Motion problems, are "Flow Controlled"
- This leads us to use "Flow" impellers rather than "Shear" (or head) impellers
- High Efficiency Impellers are used most oftenHigh Efficiency Impellers also reduce particle
- shearing

#### Solids Suspension

- Design Procedure
- Size
- Difficulty
- Process/Dynamic Response

# Solids Suspension • Size • V<sub>eq</sub> = V Sg<sub>st</sub>



# Process Result/Dynamic Response There are (4) levels of Suspension No Solids Motion Solids Motion on Bottom Complete Suspension Complete and Uniform Suspension

# **Design Procedure**

 Calculate settling velocity from solids and liquid properties or measure experimentally
 Calculate Njs (Just-Suspended Speed) based on TSR, Impeller, Geometry --D/T,

ISP

- based on TSR, Impeller, Geometry --D/T etc.
- If N > Njs => Complete Suspension
  Calculate Cloud Height or % "Unsuspended"



# Design Procedure Parameters which Change Answers Particle Size & Shape Larger particles have higher settling velocities and require more torque to suspend leide-Like or unusual shapes increase difficulty Liquid Viscosity Higher Viscosity hinders settling and makes suspension easier Problem of Particle Size Particle size distribution is important information to design optimum unit



# **Gas Dispersion**

- · Liquid in contact with Gas
- Examples:
- Aeration Tanks
- Fermentation
- BioReactors

#### Gas Dispersion

- Gas Dispersion applications, unlike Blending & Motion and Solids Suspension, are "Shear Controlled"
- This leads us to use "Shear" (or head) impellers
- Disc Impellers are most often used (high gas flow).
- Flow impellers can be used in low gas flow applications
- Flow impellers are used as upper impellers in Gas Dispersion Applications

# Design Procedure

#### 1

- SizeDifficulty
- Process Result/Dynamic Response

#### Gas Dispersion • Size • V<sub>eq</sub> = Sg<sub>L</sub> V • Difficulty • Actual Gas Flow Rate • Process Result/Dynamic Response • Mass Transfer, kla • Break gas into smaller bubbles to increase surface area







#### **Gas Dispersion**

- Power Requirements
  - Power draw will drop when impeller is "gassed"
  - Typically referred to as: Pg/Po
  - Designing agitator for the "gassed" state will yield better results, but need to account for low or no gas situations
- ACVF Drives







#### **Design Procedure**

- First step is to design the agitator so the impeller is not "Flooded"
- Above flooding, increasing the gas rate will increase kla (mass transfer coefficient):
  - kla  $\% (P_g/V)^a$
- Increased power input will increase
  mass transfer in the system

#### **Design Procedure**

- Determine specific Mass Transfer Rate based on process
- Calculate economical combination of power consumption and gas rate to satisfy the process demands
- Optimization in pilot plant and then scale-up is often times used

#### <section-header><section-header> Cas Dispersion -- Impellers A lower Dispersion Impeller is comonly used to disperse gas and this impeller is "Concave" Using Concave impellers improves the kla becaue it pumps more than flat blade disks, which helps minimize "Coalescence" The gas is often introduced through a sparge ring located directly under the impeller Recent designs include upper "Flow" impellers particularly in biological systems to: Almitain more uniform dissolved-oxyge Provide excellent overalt take blending Computational Fluid Design (CFD) can aid in agitator design Computational Fluid Design (CFD) can aid in agitator design Computational Fluid Design (CFD) can aid in agitator design Computational Fluid Design (CFD) can aid in agitator design Computational Fluid Design (CFD) can aid in agitator design Computational Fluid Design (CFD) can aid in agitator design Computational Fluid Design (CFD) can aid in agitator design Computational Fluid Design (CFD) can aid in agitator design Computational Fluid Design (CFD) can aid in agitator design Computational Fluid Design (CFD) can aid in agitator design Computational Fluid Design (CFD) can aid in agitator design Computational Fluid Design (CFD) can aid in agitator design Computational Fluid Design (CFD) can aid in agitator design Computational Fluid Design (CFD) can aid in agitator design Computational Fluid Design (CFD) can aid in agitator design Computational Fluid Design (CFD) can aid in agitator design Computational Fluid Design (CFD) can aid in agitator design Computational Fluid Design (CFD) can aid in agitator design Computational Fluid Design (CFD) can aid in agitator design Computational Fluid Design (CFD) can aid in agitator design Computational Fluid Design (CFD) can aid in agitator design Computational Fluid Design (CFD) ca

CFD: Setting Expect	tations
What To Expect           • Trends           • Visualization           • Complements physical modeling.           • Comprehensive data not easily obtainable from experimental tests.           • Answers for "what if?" questions.           • Highlights the cause not just the effect.	What Not To Expect • Replacement for good engineering judgement • Complete replacement for testing • Accurate results require • Detailed models • Knowledge of your problem • Knowledge of your • Knowledge of
100	

#### How CFD will help you

- CFD predicts the flow field that rules the process.
- CFD predicts performance in meeting the intended task: blending time, mixing time scales, heat transfer
- coefficients, etc.Many different impeller styles can and have been analyzed.

local mass fractions of additional phases	Computational Fluid Dynamics The fluid flow domain is subdivided into a large number of computational cells. This is called the mesh or grid. Solve the mathematical conservation equations for: mass momentum energy turbulence chemical species chemical species edualide flow and shear fields temperature fields chemical concentrations and productivity
AND	local mass fractions of additional phases

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<ul> <li>Flo</li> </ul>	w patterns influence
• 1	Blend time
•	Level of solids suspension
• •	Overall inside heat transfer coefficients
•	Distribution of dissolved O <sub>2</sub> in fermentations
• :	Suspension of solids in the tank heel
• :	Selectivity in competitive/competitive consecutive reactions
<ul> <li>Flo</li> </ul>	w patterns can be affected by:
•	Impeller style
•	Impeller to tank diameter ratio
•	Relative off-bottom distance
•	Viscosity (Reynolds number)
•	impeller spacing











Agitator Drives
Types
- Built by Agitator Manufacturer
- Buy-Out with Modifications
- Buy-Out
Configuration
- Right-Angle
- Parallel/Inline
- Portable/Clamp
Gearing
- Spiral Bevel
- Helical
- Other (worm, planetary, etc.)
120















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#### Vessel Data

# Dimensions

- Diameter, Straight Side, Mounting Height, Top and Bottom Depths, Agitator Mounting Flange Size, Access Way Sizes
- Ratings
- Pressure and Temperature
- Internals
- · Baffles (Chemineer will recommend) Barries (Chemineer 4)
  Cooling/Heating Coils
  Other Obstructions

#### Process Data

- Blending and Motion
   Liquid Properties: Viscosity, Specific Gravity Additions to be made and quantities
- Heat Transfer properties (if required)
- Solids Suspension
- Liquid Properties: Viscosity, Specific Gravity
   Solids Properties: Particle Size, Sg, Weight %
- Gas Dispersion Temperature/Pressure of incoming gas
- Gas flow rates Gas now races
   Liquid viscosity
   Mass Transfer Requirements

#### Process Data

- Viscosity is most important for Blending and Motion and has greatest influence on agitator sizing
- Solids(Size,%,Sg)/Liquid(Viscosity, Sg) Data is most important for Solids Suspension
- The more accurate the data, the more optimized the agitator

#### **Alternate Agitator** Information for Agitator Sizing Conclusion Mechanical Data Designs · Specifying/Describing the problem is critical Materials of Construction for wetted Accurate data = Accurate Designs Bellow Assembly parts Viscosity is most important parameter on agitator size for Blending & Motion Sealing Requirements Shaft Mounting Requirements · Sealing, Materials, and other requirements affect the mechanical design of the agitator • Follow Baffle or Mounting recommendations • Many drive types and products to choose Other Special Requirements Impeller 🗸 <Motor Requirements <Polishing <Shaft Couplings Balance Cost, Features, Benefits, & Service ISPI



#### Sweeping Blade – New Approach

#### Eliminates:

- · Particle generation
- Rotating mechanical seals & maintenance In-Tank bearings used with bottom entry mixers
- Tank damage associated w/ decoupling of magnetic mixing impellers and/or bearing failures

#### Sweeping Blade Addresses:

- Zero contamination from wearing parts
- . Easy to clean with few crevices. Complete Draining.
- Zero leakage through seals.
- Effective mixing (usually low shear) without baffles.
- 10:1 turndown w/out avoidance range
- Low center of gravity to avoid top heavy tank/mixer configurations.
- Ability to produce very small batches. Small footprint.
- Lower Cost of ownership

# Summary

- The Sweeping blade configuration can effectively address the mixing and mechanical requirements of your systems
  Total cost of ownership is lower than traditional rotating mixers
  Design flexibility to match your needs
  Can retrofit top or bottom entry mixers

