

# Reaction/Diffusion Equation with Michaelis-Menten Kinetics in Microdisk Biosensor: Homotopy Perturbation Method Approach

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This paper presents the non steady state model of a microdisk enzyme based biosensor where the enzyme reacts directly on the electrode itself. The model is based on diffusion equation containing a non-linear term related to Michaelis-Menten kinetics of enzymatic reaction. We have reported for the first time the utilization of new approaches of the homotopy perturbation method (HPM) to solve nonlinear partial differential equations in microdisk biosensor. Our analytical solution was also compared with numerical solutions and satisfactory agreement was noted. The influence of various parameters on the concentration are also discussed.

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**Keywords:** Biosensors, Mathematical model, Homotopy perturbation method, Nonlinear equation, Chemical sciences.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The action of biosensors can be well-defined as physical, chemical and biological sciences, which are modeled by nonlinear partial differential equations [1]. These biosensors have many applications in different domain. Hence mathematical modeling of biosensor is highly needed. This will help in prefiguring various characteristics [2]. Recently, a two-dimensional mathematical models has been suggested considering the perforation geometry [3]. However, a simulation of the biosensor based on the 2-D model is more time-consuming than a simulation based on the 1-D model. Eswari and Rajendran [4] derived the steady state concentration and current occurring at a microdisk enzyme electrode. A closed-form of an analytical expression of concentration for the full range of enzyme kinetics has been obtained. Saravana Kumar and Rajendran [5] presented an approximate analytical

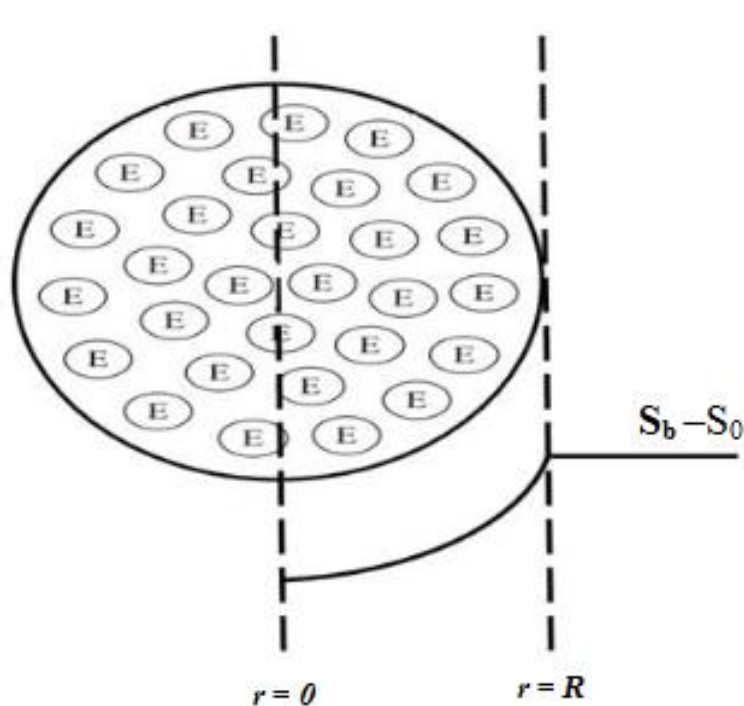
method (Modified Adomian decomposition method) to solve the non-linear differential equations for Michaelis-Menten kinetics that described the concentrations of substrates within the enzyme based biosensor.

Analytical expression for the steady state current at a microdisk chemical sensor has been reported by Dong *et al.*[6] and Lyons *et al.*[7]. Galceran and Co-workers [8] have described the current at a microdisk biosensor where an enzyme is present in bulk solution. But a model for immobilized enzymes on microdisk had not been reported. Phanthong and Somasundrum[9]obtained the approximate expression of steady state concentration and current in integral form for microdisk biosensor when Michaelis-Menten constant is large.

Homotopy perturbation method (HPM) is applied to solve all nonlinear problems in physical and chemical sciences. The homotopy perturbation method gives a rapid convergence and accurate solution with few iterations [10]. To the best of our knowledge this is the first time we have successfully extended the application of the He's HPM [10] to solve the nonlinear partial differential equation in microdisk biosensor for non steady state conditions. The obtained results confirm the power, simplicity and easiness of the mathematical methodology to be implemented.

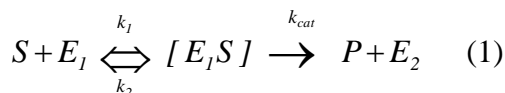
## 2. MATHEMATICAL FORMULATION OF THE PROBLEM

**Fig. 1**



**Figure 1.** Schematic of the problem (substrate concentration profile in immobilized enzyme in a spherical porous matrix)

We assume the polymer/enzyme droplet takes a hemispherical shape on an insulating plane, into which the microdisk is inlaid (Fig-1). When enzymes are immobilized on the internal surface of a porous spherical support, the substrate diffuses thorough the pathway among the pores, and reacts with the immobilized enzyme. The mathematical formulation of the microdisk biosensor is described in Phanthong and Somasundrum *et al.*[9]. It is assumed that the enzyme concentration is uniform and the enzyme reaction follows Michaelis-Menten kinetics, in which case the reaction in the film is [9]



If the solution is stirred uniformly, so that the substrate  $S$  is constantly supplied to the film. At non steady state, the mass balance for  $S$  will be given by the equation (2) [9].

$$\frac{D_s}{R^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial R} \left( R^2 \frac{\partial c_s}{\partial R} \right) - \frac{K_{cat} c_E c_s}{c_s + K_M} = \frac{\partial c_s}{\partial t} \quad (2)$$

where  $c_s$  is the concentration profile of substrate,  $c_E$  is the concentration profile of enzyme,  $D_s$  is its diffusion coefficient, and  $K_M$  is the Michaelis constant, defined as  $K_M = (k_{-1} + k_{cat})/k_1$ . Then the initial and boundary conditions at the electrode surface and at the film surface ( $r_1$ ) are given by

$$t = 0, \quad c_s = 0 \quad (3)$$

$$R = 0 \quad \frac{\partial c_s}{\partial R} = 0 \quad (4)$$

$$R = r_1 \quad c_s = c_s^* \quad (5)$$

where  $c_s^*$  is the bulk concentration of  $S$  scaled by the partition coefficient of the film. The boundary condition at  $R=0$  ensures that the substrate distribution is symmetric at the center of the sphere where as the boundary condition at  $R = r_1$  states that the substrate at the surface of the sphere is constant [11].

By defining the following dimensionless parameters

$$u = \frac{c_s}{c_s^*}; r = \frac{R}{r_1}; \tau = \frac{D_s t}{r_1^2}; \alpha = \frac{K_M}{c_s^*}; k = \frac{K_{cat} c_E r_1^2}{D_s c_s^*} \quad (6)$$

dimensionless nonlinear equation in a biosensor can be written as follows [1,9]:

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial r^2} + \frac{2}{r} \frac{\partial u}{\partial r} - \frac{k u}{1 + \alpha u} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial \tau} \quad (7)$$

where  $u$  is dimensionless concentration of substrate,  $k$  and  $\alpha$  are reaction constant. This type of equation (Lane Emden equation) also has been used to model several phenomena in mathematical physics and astrophysics [12-15] and the references cited therein. The dimensionless initial and boundary conditions are represented as follows [16]:

$$\tau = 0, \quad u = 0 \quad (8)$$

$$r = 0, \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial r} = 0 \quad (9)$$

$$r = 1, \quad u = 1, \quad (10)$$

### 3. APPROXIMATE ANALYTICAL EXPRESSION FOR THE CONCENTRATION USING HPM

A great number of problems in natural and engineering sciences have been modeled by nonlinear differential equations [17]. Homotopy perturbation method is the recent advance method used to solve many nonlinear equations [18-20]. The basic principle of this method is described in Appendix A. We have obtained the analytical expression of the concentration of substrate by solving the nonlinear equation (1) using new approach of homotopy perturbation method (Appendix B&C).

$$u(r, \tau) = \frac{\sinh(\sqrt{mr})}{r \sinh(\sqrt{m})} + \frac{2\pi}{r} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{-n+1} \left\{ \frac{n \sin(n\pi r)}{(n^2 \pi^2 + m)} \right\} \exp[-\{n^2 \pi^2 + m\} \tau] \quad (11)$$

where  $m = k / (1 + \alpha)$ . (12)

The above equation (11) satisfies the boundary conditions (9) and (10) whereas it satisfies the initial condition approximately when  $m > 25$ . When  $m = 0$  or  $k = 0$  (there is no reaction) Eqn.(11) becomes

$$u(r, \tau) = \frac{1}{r} + \frac{2}{r} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{-n+1} \left\{ \frac{\sin(n\pi r)}{n\pi} \right\} \exp(-n^2 \pi^2 \tau) \quad (13)$$

This is the well-known solution of Eqn.(7) when  $k = 0$ .

**Limiting cases:**

**Limiting case 1: Unsaturated (first order) catalytic kinetics.**

We initially consider the major limiting situation where the substrate concentration in the film  $u(r, \tau)$  is less than the Michaelis constant  $k$ . In this case the product  $\alpha u < 1$ . Hence Eqn. (7) reduces to

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial \tau} = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial r^2} + \frac{2}{r} \frac{\partial u}{\partial r} - \frac{k}{\alpha} \quad (14)$$

Solving the above equation using the initial and boundary conditions (Eqns.(8) to (10)), we can obtain the concentration of substrate as follows (Appendix D):

$$u(r, \tau) = 1 - \frac{k}{6\alpha} (1 - r^2) - \frac{2k}{\pi^3 \alpha r} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n^3} e^{-n^2 \pi^2 \tau} \sin(n\pi r) \quad (15)$$

The alternative form of expression of concentration for small values of  $\tau$  is

$$u(r, \tau) = \frac{k\tau}{\alpha} - \frac{4k\tau}{\alpha r} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} i^2 \operatorname{erfc}\left(\frac{(2n+1)-r}{2\sqrt{\tau}}\right) - i^2 \operatorname{erfc}\left(\frac{(2n+1)+r}{2\sqrt{\tau}}\right) \quad (16)$$

**Limiting case 2: Saturated (zero order) catalytic kinetics**

Now we consider the next major limiting situation where the substrate concentration in the film  $u(r, \tau)$  is greater than the Michaelis constant  $k$ . In this case  $\alpha u > 1$  and Eqn. (7) reduces to

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial \tau} = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial r^2} + \frac{2}{r} \frac{\partial u}{\partial r} - ku \quad (17)$$

Solving the above equation using HPM for the boundary conditions (8) to (10), we get the following expression for the concentration [21].

$$u(r, \tau) = \frac{\sinh(\sqrt{k} r)}{r \sinh(\sqrt{k})} + \frac{2\pi}{r} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{-n+1} \left\{ \frac{n \sin(n\pi r)}{(n^2 \pi^2 + k)} \right\} \exp[-\{n^2 \pi^2 + k\} \tau] \quad (18)$$

For the case of steady state the above equation becomes as follows:

$$u(r, \tau) = \frac{\sinh(\sqrt{k} r)}{r \sinh(\sqrt{k})} \tag{19}$$

#### 4. NUMERICAL SIMULATION

The nonlinear reaction diffusion equation (1) for the corresponding initial and boundary conditions (Eqns.(2)-(4)) are also solved numerically by using Scilab program (Appendix E). The numerical solutions are compared with our analytical results in Table-1 and Fig.3(b) and satisfactory agreement has been noted.

**Table 1.** Comparison of normalized non steady-state concentration  $u$  with simulation results for various values of  $\tau$  and for some other fixed values of parameters ( $k = 1$  and  $\alpha = 1$ )

$r$	Concentration $u$								
	when $\tau = 0.05$			when $\tau = 0.1$			when $\tau = 1$		
	Eq.(11)	Simulation	% of error deviation	Eq.(11)	Simulation	% of error deviation	Eq.(11)	Simulation	% of error deviation
0	0.0332	0.0328	1.20	0.2819	0.2773	1.63	0.9212	0.9190	0.23
0.2	0.0550	0.0549	0.18	0.3197	0.3160	1.15	0.9244	0.9223	0.22
0.4	0.1414	0.1431	1.20	0.4307	0.4293	0.32	0.9336	0.9321	0.16
0.6	0.3373	0.3439	1.95	0.6024	0.6049	0.41	0.9492	0.9485	0.07
0.8	0.6516	0.6653	2.10	0.8059	0.8127	0.84	0.9712	0.9717	0.05
1	0.9992	1.0000	0.01	0.9996	1.0000	0.04	1.0000	1.0000	0.00
	Average error %		1.106	Average error %		0.731	Average error %		0.121

**Table 2.** Comparison of normalized steady-state concentration  $u$  with simulation results for various values of parameters .

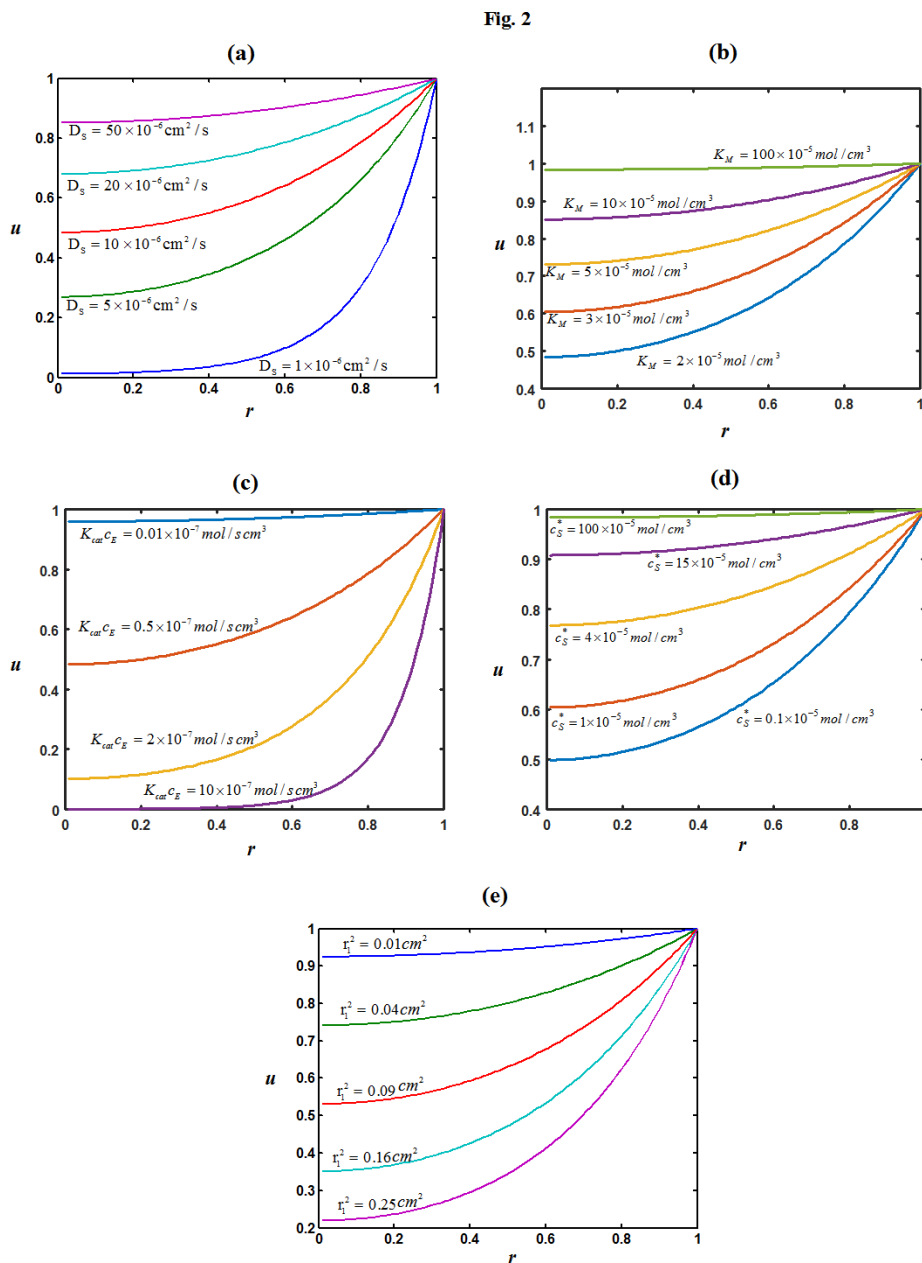
$r$	Concentration $u(k = 1, \text{ and } \alpha = 0.01)$					Concentration $u(k = 1, \text{ and } \alpha = 1)$				
	Simulation	This work Eq.(19)	% of error deviation	Praveen et al.[22] Eq.(20)	% of error deviation	Simulation	This work Eq.(19)	% of error deviation	Praveen et al. [22] Eq.(20)	% of error deviation
0	0.8522	0.8527	0.05	0.8527	0.05	0.9213	0.9210	0.03	0.9361	1.58
0.2	0.8580	0.8593	0.15	0.8593	0.15	0.9244	0.9243	0.01	0.9393	1.58
0.4	0.8754	0.8789	0.39	0.8789	0.39	0.9339	0.9336	0.03	0.9489	1.58
0.6	0.9048	0.9116	0.74	0.9116	0.74	0.9497	0.9491	0.06	0.9649	1.57
0.8	0.9471	0.9576	1.09	0.9576	1.09	0.9722	0.9712	0.10	0.9876	1.55
1	1.0000	1.0170	1.67	1.0170	1.67	1.0000	1.0000	0.00	1.0170	1.67
Average error			0.6816	Average error	0.6816	Average error		0.038	Average error	1.588

### 5. DISCUSSION

Equation (11) represent the concentration profile of substrate as a function of  $D_S, K_M, K_{cat}, c_E, c_S^*, r_1$  and  $\tau$ . In constant value of initial substrate concentration, enzymatic reaction rate is a function of  $K_{cat}$  and  $c_E$ . By reducing  $K_M$  or increasing  $K_{cat} c_E$ , the rate of enzymatic reaction increases, and consequently, the substrate’s concentration reduces in various layers of the spherical support. Recently Praveen *et al.*[22] obtained the analytical expression of concentration for steady state condition using ADM as follows:

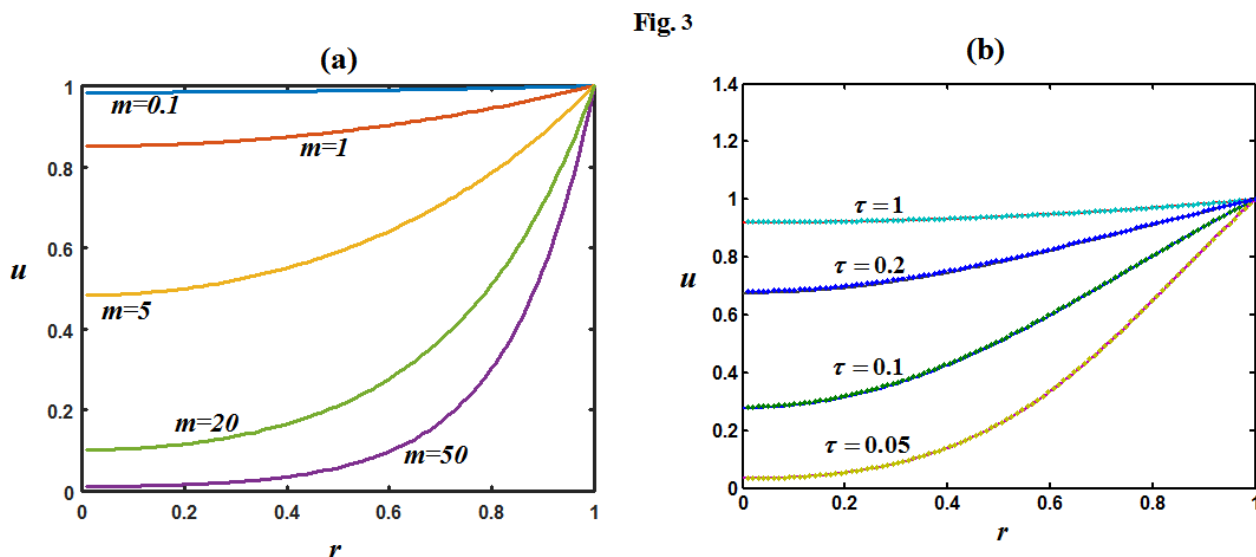
$$u(r) = 1 - \frac{k}{12} + \frac{7k^2}{360} + \left[ \frac{k}{12} - \frac{k^2}{288} \right] r^2 + \left[ \frac{k^2}{960} \right] r^4 \tag{20}$$

In Table 2, our steady state result is compared with Praveen *et al.*[22] result and satisfactory agreement is noted.



**Figure 2** Profiles of the normalized concentration  $u$  versus dimensionless distance  $r$  calculated using equation (11) for various values of parameters.

- (a)  $r_1^2 = 0.01 \text{ cm}^2$ ,  $c_S^* = 3 \times 10^{-8} \text{ mol/cm}^3$ ,  $\tau = 1$ ,  $K_{cat}c_E = 1 \times 10^{-7} \text{ mol/cm}^3$ ,  $K_M = 2 \times 10^{-5} \text{ mol/cm}^3$
- (b)  $r_1^2 = 0.01 \text{ cm}^2$ ,  $D_S = 1 \times 10^{-6} \text{ cm}^2/\text{s}$ ,  $\tau = 1$ ,  $K_{cat}c_E = 1 \times 10^{-9} \text{ mol/cm}^3$ ,  $K_M = 2 \times 10^{-5} \text{ mol/cm}^3$
- (c)  $D_S = 1 \times 10^{-6} \text{ cm}^2/\text{s}$ ,  $c_S^* = 1 \times 10^{-6} \text{ mol/cm}^3$ ,  $\tau = 1$ ,  $K_{cat}c_E = 1 \times 10^{-9} \text{ mol/cm}^3$ ,  $K_M = 2 \times 10^{-5} \text{ mol/cm}^3$
- (d)  $r_1^2 = 0.001 \text{ cm}^2$ ,  $D_S = 10 \times 10^{-7} \text{ cm}^2/\text{s}$ ,  $\tau = 1$ ,  $c_S^* = 3 \times 10^{-6} \text{ mol/cm}^3$ ,  $K_M = 7 \times 10^{-5} \text{ mol/cm}^3$
- (e)  $D_S = 10 \times 10^{-6} \text{ cm}^2/\text{s}$ ,  $c_S^* = 3 \times 10^{-8} \text{ mol/cm}^3$ ,  $\tau = 1$ ,  $K_{cat}c_E = 1 \times 10^{-7} \text{ mol/cm}^3$ ,  $r_1^2 = 0.01 \text{ cm}^2$



**Figure 3.**(a).Substrate concentration with respect to distance for various values of  $m$  when  $\tau = 1$  (b).Substrate concentration with respect to distance for various values of  $time \tau$  when  $k = 1$  and  $\alpha = 1$ .

5.1 Effect of the diffusion coefficient on substrate concentration

Effect of the diffusion coefficient  $D_S$  on substrate concentration is shown in the Figure 2(a).With effective diffusivity increasing, substrate diffuses further and further in the interior layers of support and thus substrate profile gradient decreases when  $D_S$  increases from

$$D_S = 1 \times 10^{-6} \text{ cm}^2 / \text{ s to } 50 \times 10^{-6} \text{ cm}^2 / \text{ s}.$$

Diffusion coefficient reduction increases the difference of substrate concentration between the bulk medium and the center of immobilized enzyme support due to increasing of mass transport resistance through the immobilized enzyme. Also the substrate concentration equals to zero in the center of the support when  $D_S = 1 \times 10^{-6} \text{ cm}^2 / \text{ s}$  (see Figure 3a).

5.2 Effect of Michaelis-Menten constant  $K_M$  on concentration of substrate

The Michaelis-Menten constant is the substrate concentration, which is at half-maximum in the reaction rate. The value of  $K_M$  is related to the substrate, enzyme, pH and temperature. The influence of  $K_M$  have been shown on concentration of substrate in Figure 2(b).A low value of  $K_M$  suggests that the enzyme has a high affinity to react with the substrate; so, the substrate's concentration should be decreased with reduction of Michaelis-Menten constant  $K_M$ .

5.3 Effect of enzyme reaction rate  $(K_{cat} c_E)$  on concentration of substrate

Since enzyme reaction rate  $(K_{cat} c_E)$  is dependent on concentration of enzyme not to substrate, so effect of maximum reaction rate on substrate profile is demonstrated in Figure2(c). With increasing



the value of  $K_{cat}c_E$ , concentration of substrate reduces in the porous support and thus the substrate profile gradient increases. Concentration profile in various values of maximum reaction rate is shown in Figure 2(c). In the center of the support, substrate's concentration is zero when  $K_{cat}c_E = 10^{-8} \text{ mol/s cm}^3$ .

#### 5.4 Effect of initial substrate concentration $c_s^*$ on concentration of substrate

Based on Fick's law, by increasing the initial concentration of substrate in the bulk medium, concentration profile gradient increases between the center of the support and the bulk medium, and so the substrate diffuses into the support more quickly. As seen in Figures 2(d), initial substrate concentration is effective concentration profile. Substrate concentration approaches to 0 in half radius of the support when  $c_s^* = 10^{-8} \text{ mol/cm}^3$ , and increasing of the initial concentration increases the substrate concentration in the layers of matrices.

#### 5.5 Effect of radius $r$ on concentration of substrate

The influence of radius on concentration of substrate is described in Figure 2(e). From the figure it is inferred that when radius increases the concentration at the center of the sphere is also decreases. From this figures it is also observed that the concentrations substrate are depleted at the center of the microsphere ( $r=0$ ) as they are consumed by the enzyme reaction.

## 6. CONCLUSIONS

The non-steady state concentration at a microdisk enzyme based biosensor with Michaelis-Menten kinetics has been discussed in some detail. Approximate analytical solution to the nonlinear reaction diffusion equation have been presented. In particular a novel and closed -form of approximation has been developed that can be used to integrate the reaction diffusion equation. The theoretical model presented for the non-steady state responds has been used to quantify the steady state substrate response profile. Good agreement was obtained between numerical and theoretical results. The effects of various fundamental kinetic parameters such as Michaelis-Menten constant, diffusion coefficients, enzyme reaction rate and bulk concentration on the concentration of substrate is discussed. By a proper transcription of variables, this method will be extended to derive concentration at microdisk biosensor and rotating disc electrodes with convective and diffusive processes.

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**Appendix A: Basic Concepts of the HPM**

The HPM method has overcome the limitations of traditional perturbation methods. It can take full advantage of the traditional perturbation techniques, so a considerable deal of research has been conducted to apply the homotopy technique to solve various strong non-linear differentialequations. To explain this method, let us consider the following nonlinear differential equations:

$$L(u) + N(u) - f(r) = 0 \quad (A1)$$

By the homotopy technique, we construct a homotopy  $v(r, p) : \Omega \times [0,1] \rightarrow R$  that satisfies:

$$H(v, p) = L(v) - L(u_0) + pL(u_0) + p[N(v) - f(r)] = 0 \quad (A2)$$

where  $p \in [0,1]$  is an embedding parameter, and  $u_0$  is an initial approximation of Eq.(A1)that satisfies the boundary conditions.

When  $p = 0$ , Eq.(A2) become linear equation. When  $p = 1$ ,they become nonlinear equation. The process of changing  $p$  from zero to unity is that of  $L(v) - L(u_0) = 0$  to  $L(v) + N(v) - f(r) = 0$ . We first use the embedding parameter  $p$  as a “small parameter” and assume that the solutions of Eqs.(A2) can be written as a power series in  $p$ :

$$v = v_0 + pv_1 + p^2v_2 + \dots \quad (A3)$$

Setting  $p = 1$  results in the approximate solution of Eq.(A1):

$$u = \lim_{p \rightarrow 1} v = v_0 + v_1 + v_2 + \dots \quad (A4)$$

This is the basic idea of the HPM.

**Appendix B: Approximate Analytical Solution Eqn.(12) using HPM Method**

We construct the new homotopy for the Eqn.(12) as follows [15]:

$$(1 - p) \left[ \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial r^2} + \frac{2}{r} \frac{\partial u}{\partial r} - \frac{ku}{(1 + \alpha u(x=1))} - \frac{\partial u}{\partial \tau} \right] + p \left( (1 + \alpha u) \left[ \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial r^2} + \frac{2}{r} \frac{\partial u}{\partial r} - \frac{\partial u}{\partial \tau} \right] - ku \right) = 0 \quad (B1)$$

where  $p \in [0,1]$  is an embedding parameter. Now assume that the solution of the Eqn. (1) is

$$u = u_0 + pu_1 + p^2u_2 + p^3u_4 + \dots \quad (B2)$$

Substituting the above eqn. (B2) in eqn. (B1) and equating the like coefficient of  $p$  on both side we obtain:

$$p^0 : \frac{\partial^2 u_0}{\partial r^2} + \frac{2}{R} \frac{\partial u_0}{\partial r} - \left( \frac{k}{1 + \alpha} \right) u_0 - \frac{\partial u_0}{\partial \tau} = 0 \quad (B3)$$

In Laplace plane this equation becomes:

$$\frac{d^2 \bar{u}_0}{dr^2} + \frac{2}{r} \frac{d\bar{u}_0}{dr} - (m + s) \bar{u}_0 = 0 \quad (B4)$$

where  $m = \frac{k}{1 + \alpha}$  and  $s$  is a Laplace variable. The boundary conditions become:

$$r = 0, \quad \frac{d\bar{u}_0}{dr} = 0 \quad (B5)$$

$$r = 1, \quad \bar{u}_0 = \frac{1}{s} \quad (B6)$$

The eqn. (B4) can be written as follows:

$$\frac{d^2 \bar{u}_0}{dr^2} + P \frac{d\bar{u}_0}{dr} + Q\bar{u}_0 = R \text{ (B7)}$$

Where  $P, Q, R$  are function of  $R$ . Using reduction of order, from eqn. (B1), we have

$$P = \frac{2}{r}; \quad Q = -(m + s); \quad \text{and} \quad R = 0 \text{ (B8)}$$

$$\text{Let } u_0 = vw \text{ (B9)}$$

be the general solution of eqn. (B7). If  $v$  is so chosen that

$$2 \frac{dv}{dr} + Pv = 0 \text{ (B10)}$$

Substituting the value of  $P$  in the above eqn. (B10), we obtain:

$$v = \frac{1}{r} \text{ (B11)}$$

Then eqn. (B7) reduces to:

$$w'' + Q_1 w = R_1 \text{ (B12)}$$

$$\text{where } Q_1 = Q - \frac{1}{2} \frac{dP}{dr} - \frac{P^2}{4}; \quad R_1 = \frac{R}{v} \text{ (B13)}$$

Using eqn. (B8) and eqn. (B7) reduces to:

$$w'' - (m + s)w = 0 \text{ (B14)}$$

Integrating eqn. (B9) twice, we obtain

$$w = C_1 \exp(\sqrt{m + s}r) + C_2 \exp(-\sqrt{m + s}r) \text{ (B15)}$$

Substituting eqn. (B7) and eqn. (B11) in eqn. (B5), we have:

$$u_0(r, s) = \frac{1}{r} (C_1 \exp(\sqrt{m + s}r) + C_2 \exp(-\sqrt{m + s}r)) \text{ (B16)}$$

Using the boundary conditions eqs. (B6) and (B7), we can obtain the value of the constants:

$$C_1 = \frac{1}{2s \sinh(\sqrt{m + s})} \quad \text{and} \quad C_2 = -\frac{1}{2s \sinh(\sqrt{m + s})} \text{ (B17)}$$

Substituting eqn. (B17) in eqn. (B16), we obtain

$$u_0(r, s) = \frac{1}{r} \left( \frac{\sinh(\sqrt{m + s}r)}{s \sinh(\sqrt{m + s})} \right) \text{ (B18)}$$

### Appendix C: Inverse Laplace Transform of Eqn. (B18) Using Complex Inversion Formula.

In this Appendix we indicate how equation (B18) may be inverted using the complex inversion formula. If  $\bar{y}(s)$  represents the Laplace transform of a function  $y(\tau)$ , then according to the complex inversion formula we can state that:

$$y(\tau) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{c-i\infty}^{c+i\infty} \exp[s\tau] \bar{y}(s) ds = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint_c \exp[s\tau] \bar{y}(s) ds \text{ (C1)}$$

where the integration in equation (C1) is to be performed along a line  $s = c$  in the complex plane where  $s = x + iy$ . The real number  $c$  is chosen such that  $s = c$  lies to the right of all the singularities, but is otherwise assumed to be arbitrary. In practice, the integral is evaluated by

considering the contour integral presented on the right-hand side of equation (C1), which is then evaluated using the so-called Bromwich contour. The contour integral is then evaluated using the residue theorem which states for any analytic function  $F(z)$

$$\oint_c F(z) dz = 2\pi i \sum_n \text{Res}[F(z)]_{z=z_0} \tag{C2}$$

where the residues are computed at the poles of the function  $F(z)$ . Hence from eqn(C2), we note that:

$$y(\tau) = \sum_n \text{Res}[\exp[s\tau] \bar{y}(s)]_{s=s_n} \tag{C3}$$

From the theory of complex variables we can show that the residue of a function  $F(z)$  at a simple pole at  $z = a$  is given by the following equation:

$$\text{Res}[F(z)]_{z=a} = \lim_{z \rightarrow a} \{(z - a)F(z)\} \tag{C4}$$

Hence in order to invert equation (B18) we need to evaluate:

$$\text{Res} \left[ \frac{\sinh(\sqrt{m+s})r}{s \sinh(\sqrt{m+s})} \right]$$

The poles are obtained from  $s \sinh \sqrt{m+s} = 0$ . Hence there is a simple pole at  $s = 0$  and there are infinitely many poles given by the solution of the equation  $\sinh \sqrt{k+s} = 0$  and so  $s_n = -(n^2 \pi^2 + m)$  where  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$

Hence we note that:

$$u(r, \tau) = \text{Res} \left[ \frac{\sinh(\sqrt{m+s})r}{s \sinh(\sqrt{m+s})} \right]_{s=0} + \text{Res} \left[ \frac{\sinh(\sqrt{m+s})r}{s \sinh(\sqrt{m+s})} \right]_{s=s_n} \tag{C5}$$

The first residue in equation (C5) is given by the following equation:

$$\text{Res} \left[ s \sinh(\sqrt{m+s}) \right]_{s=0} = \lim_{s \rightarrow 0} \left[ \frac{\exp(s\tau) \sinh(\sqrt{m+s})r}{s \sinh(\sqrt{m+s})} \right] = \frac{\sinh \sqrt{m} r}{\sinh \sqrt{m}} \tag{C6}$$

The second residue in equation (C5) is given by:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Res} \left[ s \sinh(\sqrt{m+s}) \right]_{s=s_n} &= \lim_{s \rightarrow s_n} \left[ \frac{\exp(s\tau) \sinh(\sqrt{m+s})r}{s \sinh(\sqrt{m+s})} \right] \\ &= \lim_{s \rightarrow s_n} \left[ \frac{\exp(s\tau) \sinh(\sqrt{m+s})r}{s \frac{d}{ds} \sinh(\sqrt{m+s})} \right] \\ &= \frac{2 \exp[-(n^2 \pi^2 + m)\tau] (i\pi) \sinh(i\pi r)}{-(n^2 \pi^2 + m) \cosh(i\pi)}, n = 1, 2, \dots \end{aligned} \tag{C7}$$

Using  $\cosh(i\theta) = \cos(\theta)$  and  $\sinh(i\theta) = i \sin(\theta)$

$$\lim_{s \rightarrow s_n} e^{s\tau} \frac{\sinh(\sqrt{m+s}r)}{\sinh(\sqrt{m+s})} = 2\pi \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{-n+1} \left( \frac{n \sin(n\pi r)}{n^2 \pi^2 + m} \right) \times \exp[-(n^2 \pi^2 + m)\tau] \tag{C8}$$

From (C6), (C7) and (C8) we conclude that:

$$u(r, \tau) = \frac{\sinh(\sqrt{m}r)}{r \sinh(\sqrt{m})} + \frac{2\pi}{r} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left[ \frac{(-1)^{-n+1} n \sin(n\pi r) e^{-(n^2\pi^2+m)\tau}}{(n^2\pi^2 + m)} \right] \quad (C9)$$

**Appendix D: Analytical Solution of Eqn. (16)**

Eqn. (13) can be written as

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial r^2} + \frac{2}{r} \frac{\partial u}{\partial r} - \frac{k}{\alpha} \quad (D1)$$

The initial and boundary conditions are

$$\tau = 0 ; u = 0$$

$$r = 1 ; u = 1 \quad (D2)$$

$$r = 0 ; \frac{\partial u}{\partial r} = 0$$

when  $u = \frac{v}{r}$ , the eqn. (D1) becomes

$$\frac{\partial v}{\partial t} = \left( \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial r^2} - \frac{kr}{\alpha} \right) \quad (D3)$$

Now initial and boundary condition becomes

$$\tau = 0 ; v = 0$$

$$r = 1 ; v = 1 \quad (D4)$$

$$r = 0 ; v = 0$$

Let  $v = w + \frac{kr^3}{6\alpha}$

Now equation(D3) becomes

$$\frac{\partial w}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial r^2} \quad (D5)$$

Initial and boundary condition becomes

$$\tau = 0 ; w = -\frac{kr^3}{6\alpha}$$

$$r = 1 ; w = 1 - \frac{k}{6\alpha} \quad (D6)$$

$$r = 0 ; w = 0$$

The solution of eqn.(D5) becomes

$$w(r, \tau) = \left( 1 - \frac{k}{\alpha} \right) r - \frac{12k}{\alpha\pi^3} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n^3} \sin n\pi r \exp(-n^2\pi^2\tau) \quad (D7)$$

$$v(r, \tau) = -\frac{k}{6\alpha} (1 - r^2) - \frac{2k}{\pi^3\alpha r} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n^3} \frac{\sin n\pi r}{r} \exp(-n^2\pi^2\tau) \quad (D8)$$

$$u(r, \tau) = 1 - \frac{k}{6\alpha} + \frac{kr^2}{6\alpha} - \frac{2k}{\pi^3\alpha} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n^3} \frac{\sin n\pi r}{r} \exp(-n^2\pi^2\tau) \quad (D9)$$

**Appendix E: Scilab Program to Find the Numerical Solution of Eqn. (1)**

```
function pdex2
m = 2;
x = linspace(0,1);
t=linspace(0,100);
sol = pdepe(m,@pdex2pde,@pdex2ic,@pdex2bc,x,t);
u1 = sol(:,:,1);
%-----
figure
plot(x,u1(end,:))
title('u1(x,t)')
xlabel('Distance x')
ylabel('u1(x,1)')
%-----
function [c,f,s] = pdex2pde(x,t,u,DuDx)
c = [1; 1; 1];
f = [1; 1; 1] .* DuDx;
a=10;
k=2;
F= (- g*u(1)*u(2))*((a*u(2)+u(1)*u(2)+u(1)*b)^(-1));
s=[F];
% -----
function u0 = pdex2ic(x)
u0 = [1; 0; 0];
% -----
function [pl,ql,pr,qr]=pdex4bc(xl,ul,xr,ur,t)
pl = [ul(1)-0; ul(2)-0; ul(3)-0];
ql = [1; 1; 1];
pr = [ur(1)-1; ur(2)-1; ur(3)-0];
qr = [0; 0; 0];
```

**Nomenclature**

symbols	Description	Units
$C_S$	Concentration profile of substrate	mol/cm <sup>3</sup>
$C_E$	Concentration profile of enzyme	mol/cm <sup>3</sup>

$C_s^*$	Concentration of profile in the external solution	mol/cm <sup>3</sup>
$D_s$	Diffusion coefficient	cm <sup>2</sup> / s
$K_{cat}$	Kinetic enzyme reaction rate	sec <sup>-1</sup>
$K_M$	Michaelis-Menten constant	mol/cm <sup>3</sup>
$F$	Faraday constant	C mol <sup>-1</sup>
$\tau$	Dimensionless time	None
$A$	Surface area of the electrode	cm <sup>2</sup>
$r_l$	Radius of the electrode	cm <sup>2</sup>
$t$	Time	S
$k$ & $\alpha$	Dimensionless reaction diffusion parameters	None
$r$	Dimensionless radius	None
$u$	Dimensionless of Concentration profile	None

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