Gravity-based percolation of small particles through an assembly of large particles

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Context: Chemical-Looping Combustion







Solid-Fueled Moving Bed Operation

Hydrodynamics

- Transport/Separation (by Elutriation): carrier-fuel/waste
 - Flow regimes, Dispersion, Transit time, ...etc.
- Packed bed pressure drop

Heat and Mass transfers

- Temperature distribution
- Reaction rates



Percolation constraint (spherical particles):

 $\frac{D}{d_p} > 6.46$

→ Get insight first with "simple" flows: Gravity-based percolation



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Outline

- 1. Percolation Experiments of Lomine & Oger (2006)
 - $\,\circ\,$ "Simple" mono-disperse intruder flow
- **2. Discrete Element Method Simulations of Lomine & Oger's Exp.** • Goal: Gain Understanding to be fed into KTGF Models
- **3. Preliminary assessments of Poly-disperse KTGF models** o e.g. Syamlal's Friction-based Poly-disperse Particle-Particle Drag (1987)
- 4. Conclusion Future plans



Percolation Experiments of Lomine & Oger



$$N_p\left(N, \frac{d_p}{D}\right) = \frac{N\frac{\pi}{6}d_p^3}{\frac{\sqrt{2}-2\Omega}{12}\Phi_{RCP}D^3} \approx 31.5N\left(\frac{d_p}{D}\right)^3$$

Lominé F., Oger L., Journal of Statistical Mechanics: Theory and Exp. (2006)





□ What measurements were performed?

- 1. Collect intruder with respect to time (scale)
 - → Mean transit time (→ mean velocity)
- 2. Intruder total mass in each cell of collecting

box → Position variance (→ dispersion

coefficients)

Objective: Describe flow behavior using Advection-Dispersion model

$$\frac{\partial C(r,t)}{\partial t} + U \cdot \nabla C(r,t) = D_{\parallel} \frac{\partial^2 C(r,t)}{\partial r_{\parallel}^2} + D_{\perp} \frac{\partial^2 C(r,t)}{\partial r_{\perp}^2}$$
Mean velocity
Longitudinal & Transverse
dispersion coefficients

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Cooperative Percolation Flow Regimes





Lominé F., Oger L., Journal of Statistical Mechanics: Theory and Exp. (2006)

- (May be) useful to guide, design and operation of Ο the moving bed solid-fueled reactors
- How well can the flow regimes be captured with 0 **DEM models?**
- What mechanisms control these flow regimes? Ο (useful for the KTGF models)
 - Intruder-Intruder interactions (\rightarrow dispersion)
 - Intruder-Fixed bed interactions (\rightarrow dispersion)
 - Pore jamming
 - Bed dispersivity (local structure arrangement)



Packed Bed Generation



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(Lominé & Oger reported bed porosity around 0.4)

→ (*The effects*) Pore distribution, Tortuosity, Spatial randomness etc. ... have not been investigated yet

¹M. Skoge, A. Donev, F. H. Stillinger, and S. Torquato, Phys. Rev. E, Vol. 74: 041127 (2006)







Flow Regime Predictions





- Exp. data from Lominé F., Oger L., Journal of Statistical Mechanics: Theory and Exp. (2006)

- Percolation dynamics appears quite dependent on the inter-particle interaction models (especially for the collision-dominated regime)
- The <u>dependence of the restitution coefficient to</u> <u>impact velocity</u> with Hertz model force calculations (contrary to the Linear Spring-Dashpot) may have been critical in the predictions for that regime



→ The intruder particles percolate through the porous medium by remaining a bulb

→ Intruder scattering is wider at the bed with L.S.-D. compared to Hertz



Dispersion Coefficients





→ Wider spreading found with L.S-D. versus Hertz model: decrease of the probability of Intruder-Intruder interactions with L.S-D. model

→ Intruder bed expands more vertically with Hertz model as in the experiments

Exp. data from Lominé F., Oger L., Physical Review E 79 (2009)



Uncertainty due to Bed Porosity



→ Flow regime predictions appear independent of the uncertainty in the bed porosity,

even though the denser bed unsurprisingly slowed down the intruder particles



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Flow Regime Dependence on Intruder Size



Linear Spring-Dashpot

$$N_p\left(N, \frac{d_p}{D}\right) \approx 31.5N\left(\frac{d_p}{D}\right)^3$$

→ Larger size intruders transited slowly but percolation dynamics (in terms of flow regime) appears independent of the diameter ratio (at least using the Linear Spring-Dashpot force calculation).



Preliminary assessments of KTGF models



Kinetic Theory-based Poly-Disperse Model

- Syamlal (1987): translational-based motion, friction between particles
- Maximum packing: Yu & Standish (1987)
- Constant restitution and friction coefficients (interaction between particles by collisions)

t=0.00s



Influence of the Fixed Bed Height: 10,000 small particles

	5.04		7.57		8.84		11.37	
H/D	Exp.	Sim.	Exp.	Sim.	Exp.	Sim.	Exp.	Sim.
Transit time [s]	0.471	0.599	0.724	0.806	0.900	0.909	1.259	1.124
$\langle (\Delta r)^2 \rangle [\text{cm}^2]$	-	2.915	-	4.023	10.07	4.020	-	2.951
$D_{\perp} [\rm cm^2/s]$	-	1.217	-	1.248	2.797	1.106	-	0.656
$\langle (\Delta z)^2 \rangle$ [cm ²]	-	1.687	-	2.826	-	3.511	-	5.371
$D_{\parallel} [\text{cm}^2/\text{s}]$	5.312	1.409	-	1.753	-	1.931	-	2.388

→ Relatively small errors in the prediction of mean transit time (27%, 11%, 1% and -11%)

→ Low scattering and expansion of intruder particles

Despite:

- □ Constant restitution, friction coefficients
- □ Translational-based motion Kinetic theory-based model (Syamlal, 1987) assuming:
 - Dirac velocity distribution function → momentum transfer doesn't account for agitation of the particles
 - Energy redistribution due to inter-particle collisions between different particle phases
- □ Additional dispersion induced by the porous medium assembly → dispersivity not accounted in the kinetic theory model (local structure of the arrangement)

Gray potato → iso-surface volume fraction small particles
 Blue color: fixed bed

Conclusion – Future works





- Hertz model (in contrast) to LS-D predicts the experimentally measured variation in the mean transit time (intruder velocity) with respect to the intruder concentration.
- Hertz under-predicts the transverse and axial dispersion
- LS-D over-predicts the transfer and under-predicts the axial dispersion
- Predicted sensitivity of the transit time with respective to material properties is consistent with experimental observations

• Future

- Trajectory/collision analysis
- Hertz model parameters sensitivity
- Continuum/large scale modeling



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Back-up: Post-process (as in experiments)

Mean transit time

$$\pi_{mean} = \int_0^\infty t \varphi(t) dt \quad \text{with} \quad \varphi(t) = \frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{m(t)}{\int_0^\infty m(t) dt} \right)$$

□ Transverse variance & dispersion (i.e. orthogonal to mean flow)

$$\langle (\Delta r)^2 \rangle = \sum_i p_i (r_i - \langle r \rangle)^2 = 4D_\perp \tau_{mean}$$

$$p_i = \frac{m_i(x_i, y_i)}{\sum_i m_i(x_i, y_i)}$$

$$m_i(x_i, y_i)$$

Longitudinal variance & dispersion (i.e. mean flow direction)

Assumption: Intruder transport through medium described by advection-dispersion model

$$m(z = H, t) = \frac{m_0}{2} \left[exp\left(\frac{zV}{D_{\parallel}}\right) erfc\left(\frac{z + Vt}{\sqrt{4D_{\parallel}t}}\right) + erf\left(\frac{z - Vt}{\sqrt{4D_{\parallel}t}}\right) \right]$$

$$\langle (\Delta z)^2 \rangle = 2D_{\parallel} \tau_{mean}$$

← Find D_{||} which best fits normalized collected mass (Nonlinear Least Squares minimization algorithm: augmented Gauss-Newton and Levenberg-Marquardt)

20cm

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