Autonomous structure formation processes in spray fluidized bed agglomeration

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MOTIVATION AND CHALLENGES

Spray fluidization: major process technology for agglomeration Agglomerate structure determines product properties



Key challenges

- Lack of dynamic models describing agglomerate structure formation in continuous spray fluidized beds
- Need for deliberate and intentional agglomerate structure formation in spray fluidized beds
- Inline monitoring and process control of structure formation are still in an infant state

WORK PROGRAM AND METHODS

Morphogenesis (WG Tsotsas)

- Under steady state or dynamic operation, one-pass vs. vibratory disintegrator loop
- Structural characterization and advanced modeling (kinetic Monte Carlo simulation)
- Agglomerate breakage, particle outflow



Control concepts (WG Kienle)

 Development of realtime capable models using hybrid and data-driven

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- Theoretical and experimental investigation of structure formation dynamics
- Elucidation of process-structure and structure-property relationships
- New realtime-capable, dynamic models for agglomerate structure formation in continuously operated fluidized bed spray agglomeration (with and without recycle)
- Novel multi-rate model-based soft-sensor for agglomerate structure formation
- Development, implementation and evaluation of new process control schemes for structure formation in SFB agglomeration processes

PRELIMINARY WORK

- WG Spray fluidized bed layering granulation with WGs Bück, Tsotsas and Heinrich (TUHH):
 - Particle size control to stabilize unstable operating points [1]



 Simultaneous particle size and porosity control for the production of particles with tailormade properties



- Spray fluidized bed agglomeration (WGs Bück, Tsotsas):
 - PBM in combination with data driven kernel identification for quantitative prediction of steady states [4]
 - Nonlinear control of particle size d_{32} using a nominal process model [5,6]

- dynamic image analysis (DIA)
- Advanced particle structure determination from image sequences

determination from

 Multi-rate soft sensor for structure elucidation (inline, offline data on multiple time scales)





Plant experiments (WGs Tsotsas, Bück and Kienle)



approaches

- Particle size control based on Parsum probe measurements
- Nonlinear control of particle size and structure formation using novel multi-rate soft sensor
- Comparison with robust linear approaches
- Plantwide control with disintegration cycle



Online determination of particle properties in layering granulation combining process models, simulation data and experiments

State estimation

(e.g., UKF) [7]

- Online measurement of PSD from CLD (spheres):
 - 30 20 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 0.9 10 0.8 0.7 0.6 0.5x [mm]





atching of

WG Tsotsas

WG

Bück

Characterization of fractal properties of agglomerates, Monte Carlo modeling (MC) of process dynamics and agglomerate formation

- Aggregate morphology models: 2D Box count vs.
 3D power law [9,10]
- Unified MC models for batch dynamics and structure formation [10]
- MC model of continuous spray agglomeration (only particle size) [11]



OUTLOOK PERIOD II

Extension of

- Structural models,
- Process models,
- Sensor and control methods, and
- Online implementation

to hetero-agglomerates



Additional complexity and design opportunity

SELECTED COOPERATIONS

- Antonyuk/Palis: Machine learning, Lyapunov-based nonlinear control
- Graichen/Huber/Schmidt: Hybrid modeling of particle formation, inline measurement and process control schemes
- Heinrich/Skiborowski: Modeling and optimization of FB layering granulation
- Hermann/Kwade: Modeling of structure formation, measurement augmentation
- Lorenz/Mangold/Sager: Physical modeling of particulate processes, machine learning, optimization and state estimation
- Nirschl/Meurer: Model-based control and soft-sensing of particle formulation processes

[1] Neugebauer, Bück, Kienle et al., Powder Technol. 354, 2019, 765-778.
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 [3] Neugebauer et al., IFAC-PapersOnLine 53(2), 2020, 11422-11427.
 [4] Otto, Bück, Tsotsas, Kienle et al., Adv. Powder Technol. 32(7), 2021, 2517-2529.
 [5] Otto, Kienle et al., IFAC-PapersOnLine 54(3), 2021, 231-236.

[7] Bück, Kienle, Tsotsas et al., AIChE J. 57(4), 2011, 929-941.
[8] Hagemeier, Bück, Tsotsas et al., Particuology 22, 2015, 39-51.
[9] Singh, Tsotsas et al., Energies 14, 2021, 7221.



[6] Otto, Kienle et al., J. Process Control 110, 2022, 99-109.

[10] Wang, Tsotsas et al., Chaos, Solitons & Fractals 2022 (in press)

[11] Du, Bück, Tsotsas et al., Powder Technol. 396, 2022, 113-126.