

Agglomeration solver FFT

General description

Performs calculation of the agglomeration process in form of birth $B_{agg}(n, v, t)$ and death $D_{agg}(n, v, t)$ terms based on a separable approximation of the agglomeration kernel and a subsequent fast Fourier transformation:

$$\frac{\partial n(v, t)}{\partial t} = B_{agg}(n, v, t) - D_{agg}(n, v, t),$$

$$B_{agg}(n, v, t) = \frac{1}{2} \beta_0 \int_0^v \beta(u, v-u) n(u, t) n(v-u, t) du,$$

$$D_{agg}(n, v, t) = \beta_0 n(v, t) \int_0^\infty \beta(u, v) n(u, t) du$$

- v and u are volumes of agglomerating particles
- $n(v, t)$ is the number density function
- $B_{agg}(n, v, t)$ and $D_{agg}(n, v, t)$ are the birth and death rates of particles with volume v caused due to agglomeration
- β_0 is the agglomeration rate constant, dependent on operating conditions but independent from particle sizes
- $\beta(v, u)$ is the agglomeration kernel describing the agglomeration frequency between particles of volumes v and u , which produce a new particle with the size $(v + u)$
- t is time

The agglomeration kernel $\beta(v, u)$ is represented in a separable form with the separation rank M as:

$$\beta(v, u) = \sum_{i=1}^M a_i(v) b_i(u).$$

Then birth and death terms are transformed to:

$$B_{agg}(n, v, t) = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^v \psi_i(v-u, t) \varphi_i(u, t) du,$$

$$D_{agg}(n, v, t) = \psi_i(v, t) \int_0^\infty \varphi_i(u, t) du,$$

$$\psi_i = a_i n$$

$$\varphi_i = b_i n$$

The separation turns the birth rate agglomeration integral into a convolution form $\varphi_i * \psi_i$, which after piecewise constant discretization, is computed based on the convolution theorem

$$\varphi_i * \psi_i = \text{IFFT}(\text{FFT}(\varphi_i) \odot \text{FFT}(\psi_i)),$$

applying the direct and inverse fast Fourier transformation (FFT/IFFT) and the elementwise product \odot .

Kernels separation

Kernel	Separation
Constant	$\beta(u, v) = \sum_{i=1}^1 a_i(v) b_i(u)$ $a_1(v) = 1, b_1(u) = 1$
Sum	$\beta(u, v) = \sum_{i=1}^2 a_i(v) b_i(u)$ $a_1(v) = v, a_2(v) = 1, b_1(u) = 1, b_2(u) = u$
Brownian	$\beta(v, u) = \sum_{i=1}^3 a_i(v) b_i(u)$ $a_1(v) = \sqrt{2}, \quad a_2(v) = v^{\frac{1}{3}}, \quad a_3(v) = v^{-\frac{1}{3}},$ $b_1(u) = \sqrt{2}, \quad b_2(u) = u^{-\frac{1}{3}}, \quad b_3(u) = u^{\frac{1}{3}}$
Product, Shear, Peglow, Coagulation, Gravitational, Kinetic energy, Thompson	<p>Approximated by a rank-M separable function</p> $\beta(v, u) \approx \sum_{i=1}^M a_i(v) b_i(u)$ <p>using adaptive cross approximation</p>

Requirements

- Solid phase
- Particle size distribution
- Equidistant volume grid for particle size distribution
- Grid for particle size distribution, starting with 0

References

V. Skorych, M. Dosta, E.-U. Hartge, S. Heinrich, R. Ahrens, S. Le Borne, *Investigation of an FFT-based solver applied to dynamic flowsheet simulation of agglomeration processes*, *Advanced Powder Technology* 30 (3) (2019) 555-564.

S. Le Borne, L. Shahmuradyan, K. Sundmacher, *Fast evaluation of univariate aggregation integrals on equidistant grids*. *Computers and Chemical Engineering* 74 (2015) 115-127.