

# Mechanistic-based multi-scale modeling of tribocharging of powders during pneumatic transport

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Professeur des universités

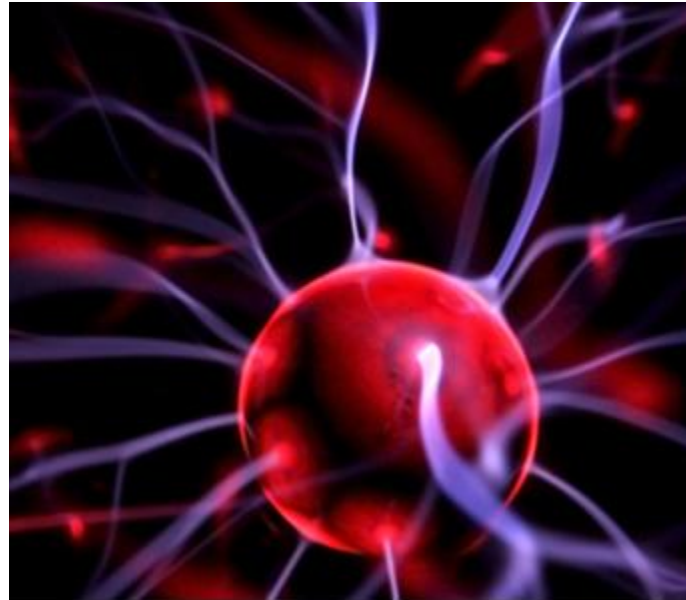
Technologies des poudres et  
suspensions

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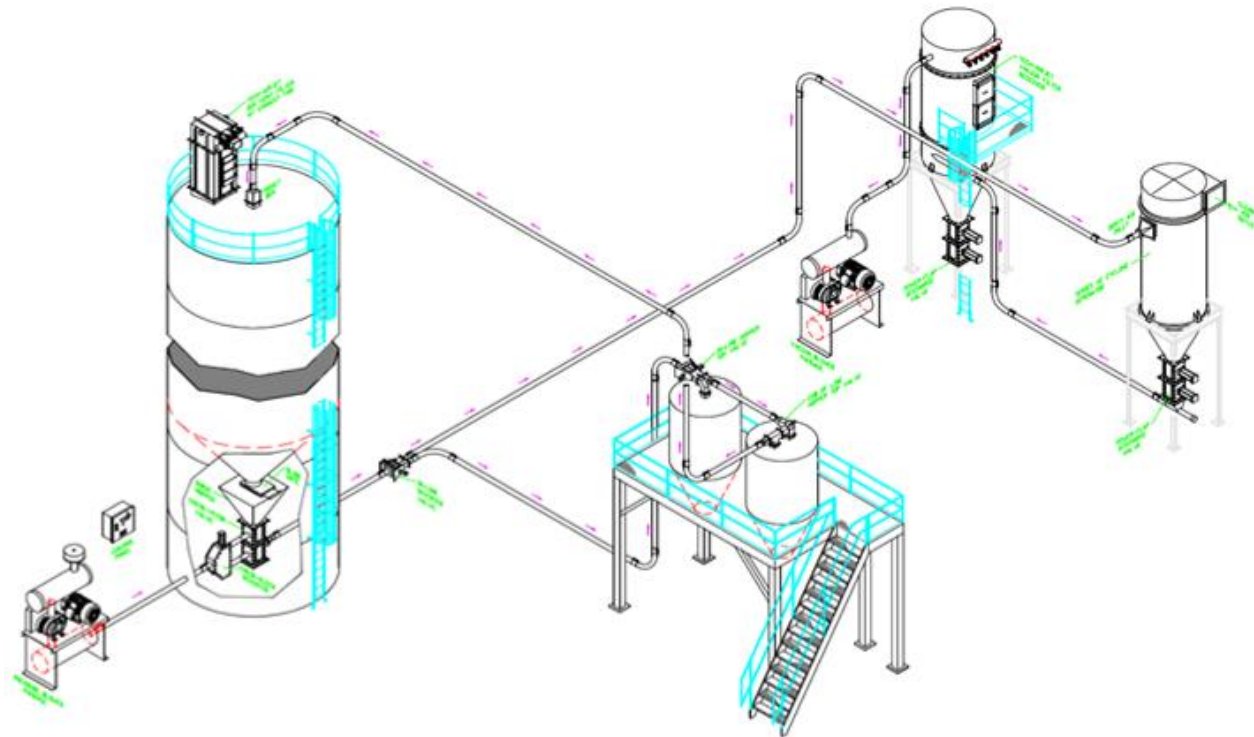
*STEP-1*

[The first small international workshop on Static-Tribo-Electricity of Powder](#)

19th-21st December, 2014

## Pneumatic Transport (PT) :

Conveying a bulk material suspended in, or forced by, a gas stream from one point to another through a network of horizontal and/or vertical pipes by compressed air or by vacuum

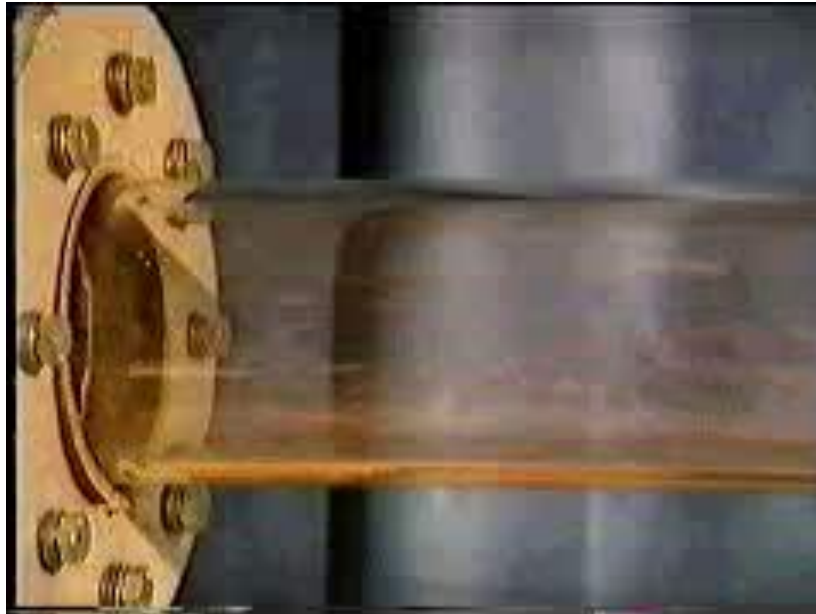


**TYPICAL DILUTE PHASE SYSTEM #2**



# Transport Regimes

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**Dilute (lean) phase**

$U_g : >20 \text{ m/s}$

**Engineering aspects**

**High pressure loss**  
**Attrition**



**Dense phase**

$U_g : 8-15 \text{ m/s}$

**Low pressure loss/kg of powder**

**Engineering aspects**  
**Not always possible**



# Main Issues

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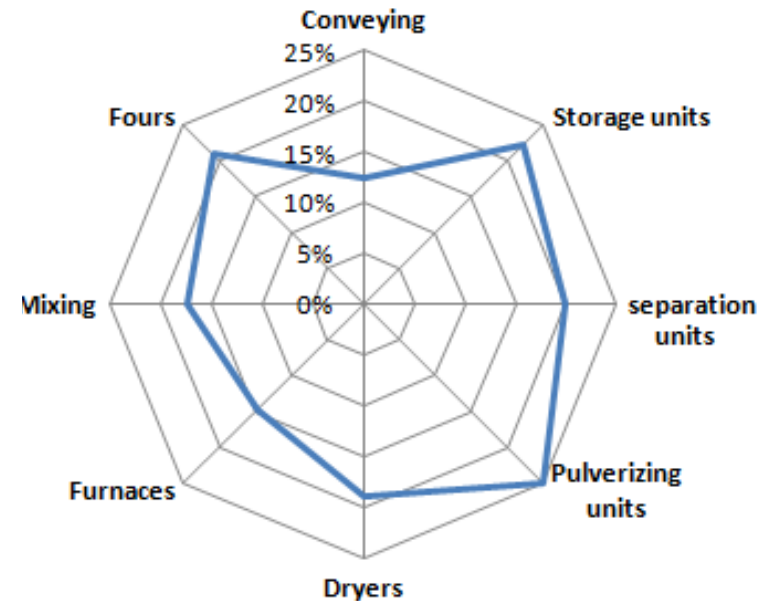
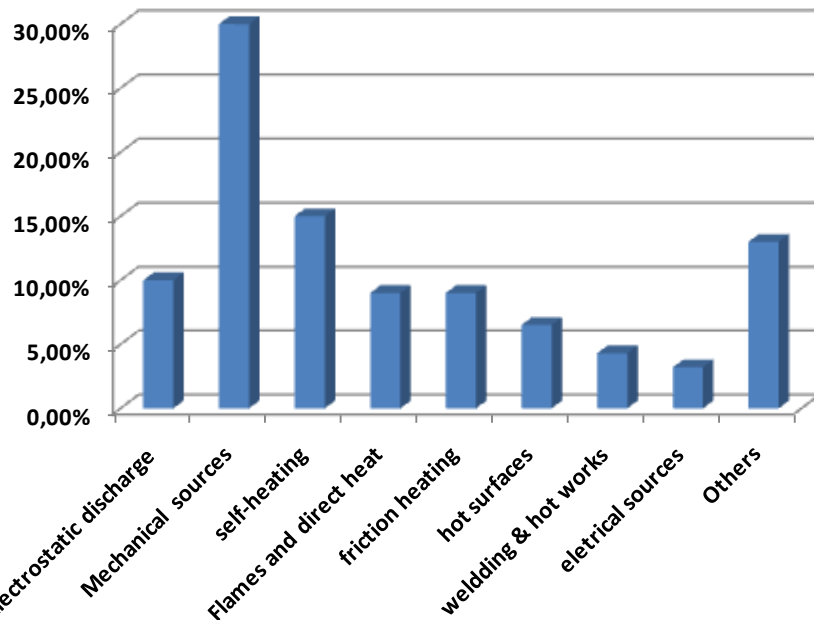
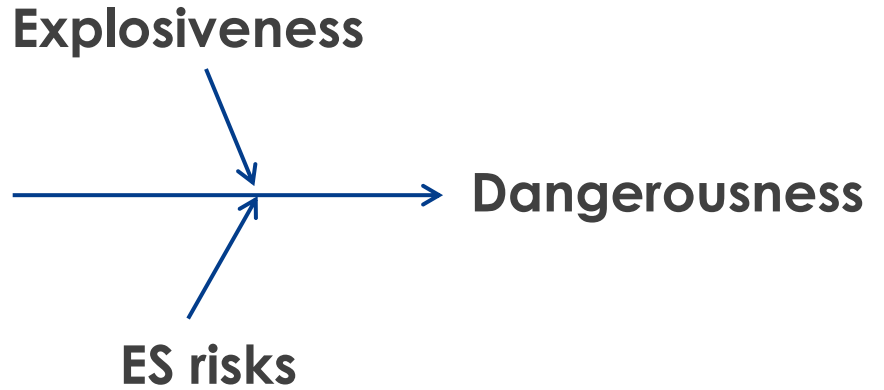
## Electrostatic charging & Pneumatic Transport :

- Hazard Concerns
- Pressure loss & energy consumption
- Electrostatic probes for flow measurement
- Pneumatic transport as a tribo-charging test

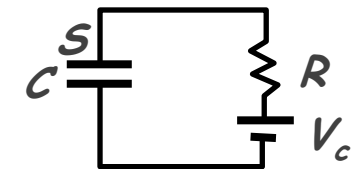
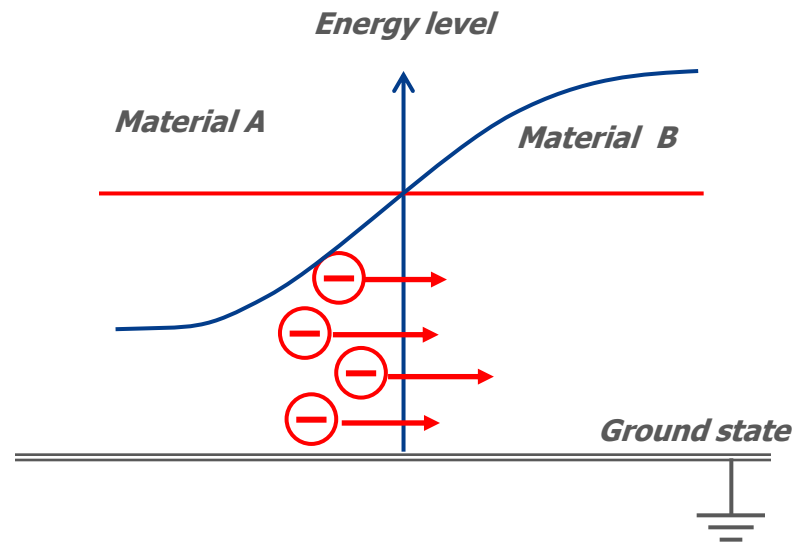
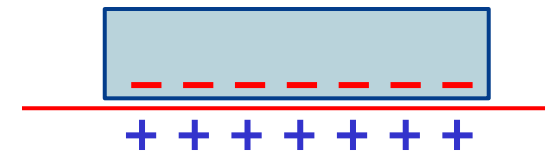
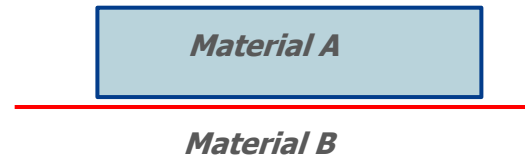


# Hazard concerns

Relevant tests and models to measure the aptitude of powders to acquire ES charges



# Contact charging (triboelectrification)



$$dq = C.S \{1 - \exp(-dt / \tau)\} V_c$$

**Three different cases :**

**Conductor-Conductor**

**Conductor-Insulator**


**Insulator-Insulator**



# Electron potential energy for metal–metal contact.


Chemical Engineering Science 65 (2010) 5781–5807

Contents lists available at ScienceDirect



## Chemical Engineering Science

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/ces](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/ces)



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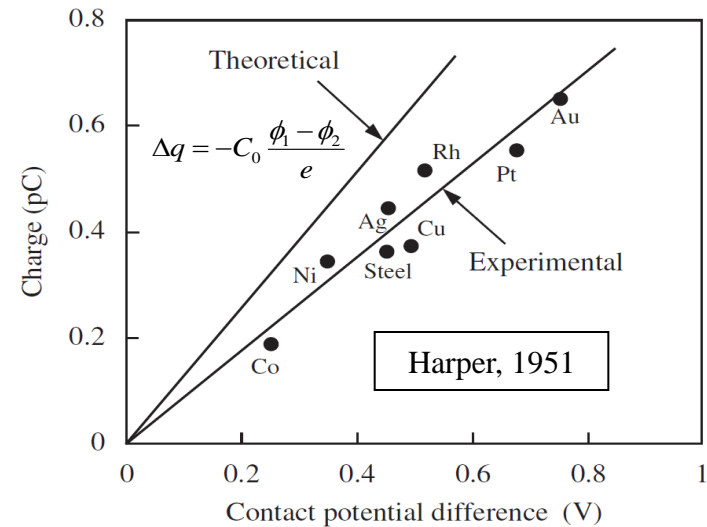
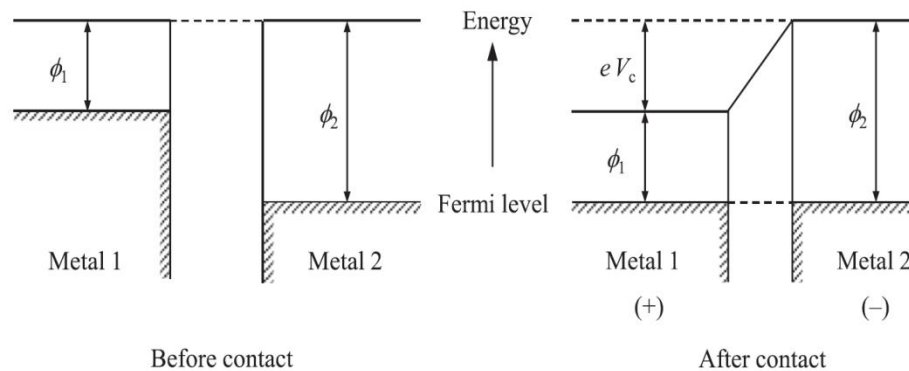
Review

### Triboelectric charging of powders: A review

S. Matsusaka <sup>a,\*</sup>, H. Maruyama <sup>a</sup>, T. Matsuyama <sup>b</sup>, M. Ghadiri <sup>c</sup>

## Charge transfer tends to equalize the energy level

$$\Delta q = -C_0 \frac{\phi_1 - \phi_2}{e}$$



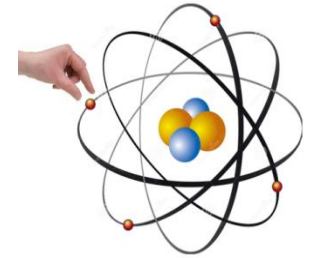
Main reasons for error: Surface roughness, impurities, oxidized layer, separation speed.

## Electron potential energy for metal–metal contact.

### Electron Transfer based on the Contact Potential Difference (CPD)

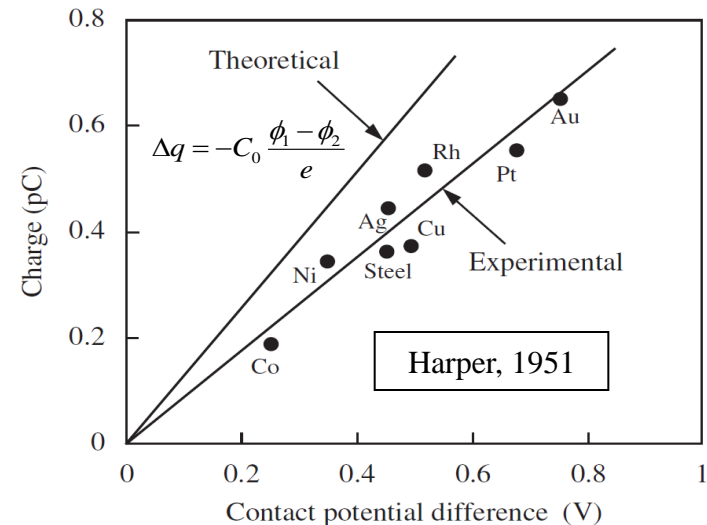
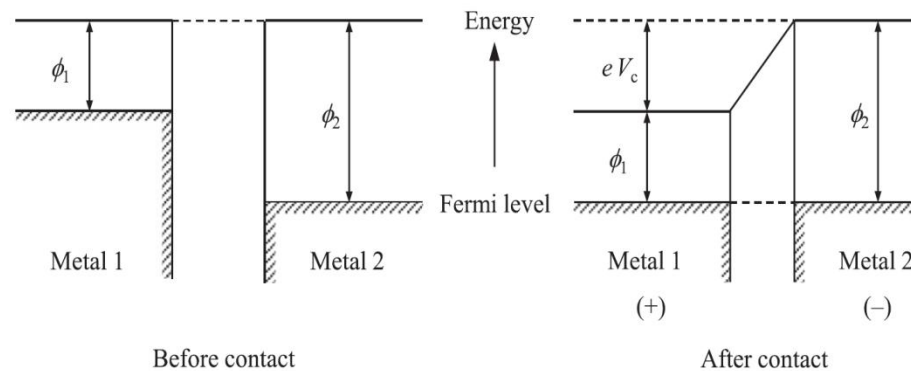
work function : the minimum amount of energy needed to remove an electron from the metal

Fermi Level : the energy of the electrons of the outer layer of atoms



Charge transfer tends to equalize the energy level

$$\Delta q = -C_0 \frac{\phi_1 - \phi_2}{e}$$



Main reasons for error: Surface roughness, impurities, oxidized layer, separation speed.

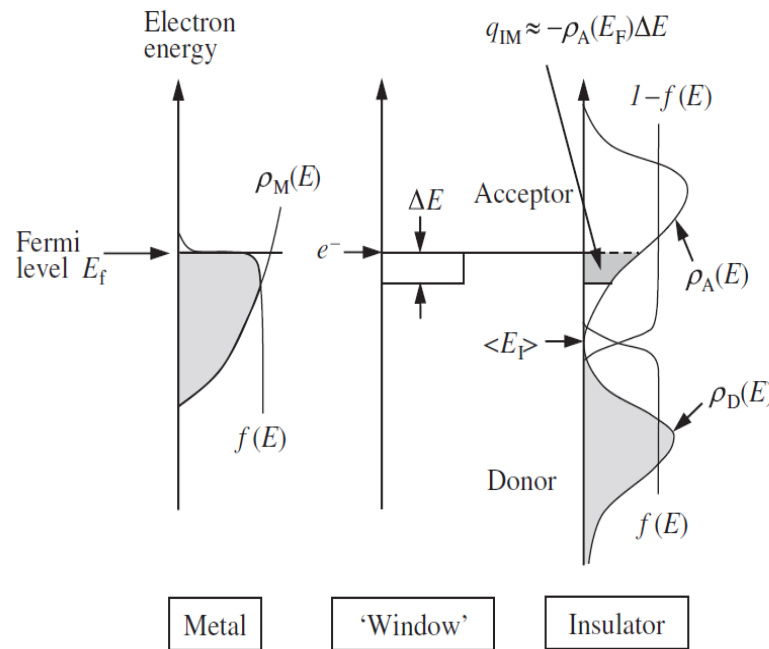




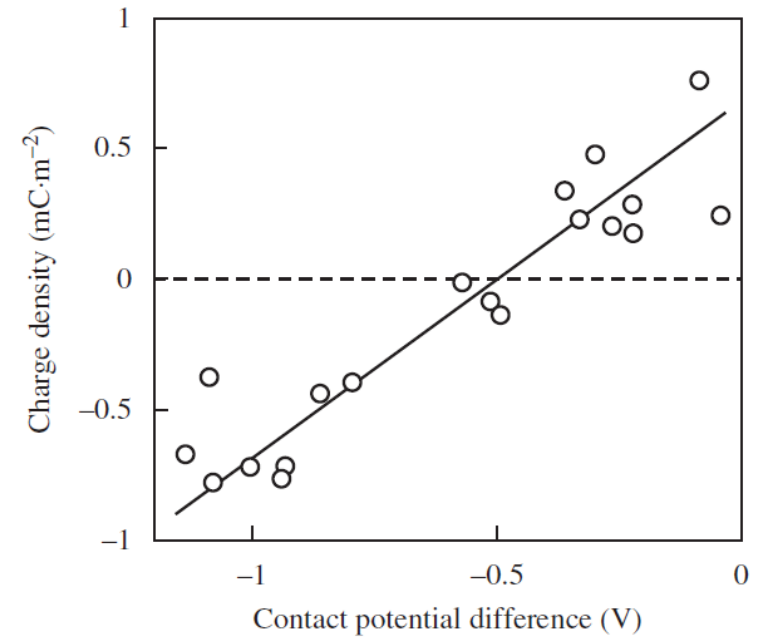
~~Classical Physics~~ ⇒ Quantum Physics (Tunnel effect)

**Analogous concept of "effective work function"**

$$\Delta q = -C_0 \frac{\phi_I - \phi_M}{e}$$



**Fig. 5.** Molecular-ion-state model for a metal-insulator contact (electron injection into acceptor states of polymer).

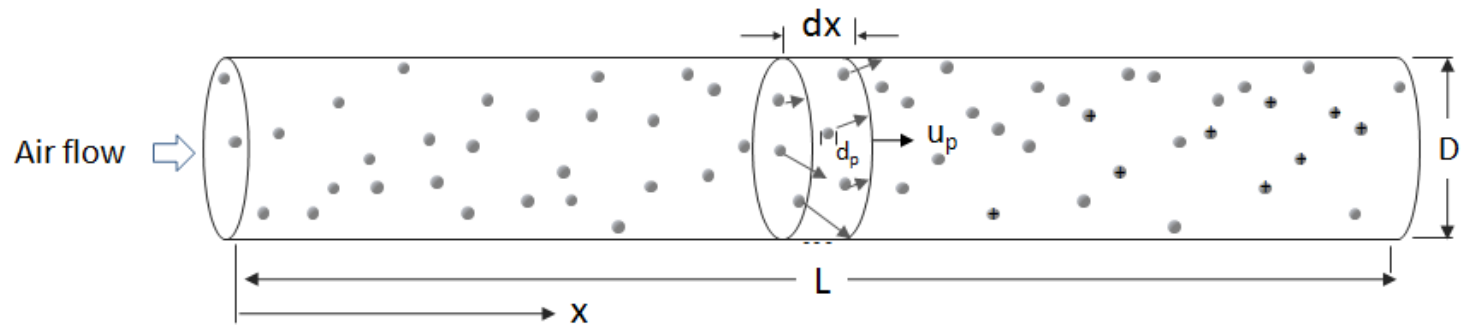


**Fig. 3.** Charge density of Nylon 66 by contact with various metals. The horizontal axis is the CPD of gold against each metal  $V_{Au/M}$  (Davies, 1969).

☞ The effective work function can't be measured directly but must be established at specified conditions by application tests



# Modelling of charge transfer in dilute phase transport

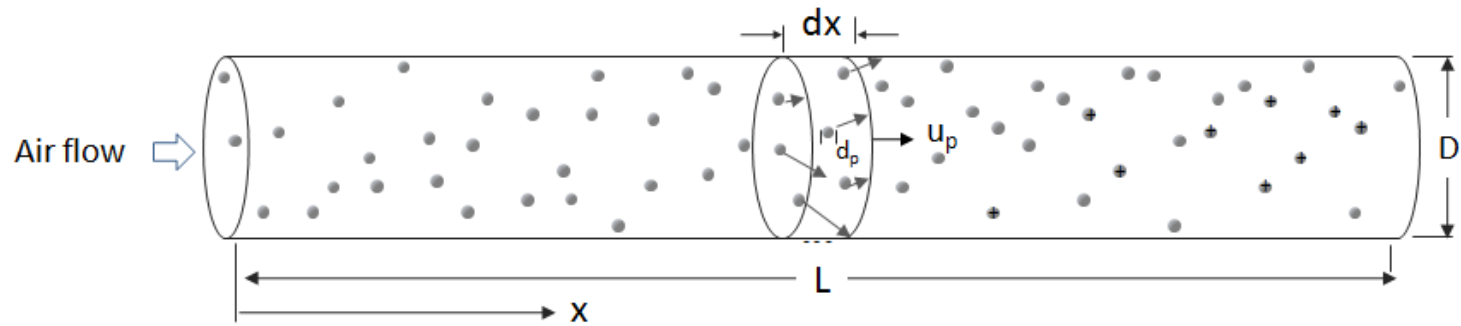


## Model's Hypothesis:

- *dilute phase transport*  $\Rightarrow$  *particle-wall collisions are dominant*
- *the flow of both particles and the carrier gas is uniform*
- *all particles have the same probability to collide with the wall*
- *charge distribution and bi-polar charging are neglected*
- *the charge is evenly distributed all over the solids surfaces*
- *the system is considered to be lowly to moderately charging (charge-to-surface ratios less than  $10^{-2}C.m^{-2}$ )*



# Modelling of charge transfer in dilute phase transport



## Charge conservation law:

$\psi$ : charge density inside the control volume

$\sigma$ : current density (i.e. electric current per unit area)

$$\frac{\partial \psi(x, t)}{\partial t} + \nabla \times \sigma(x, t) = R(x, t)$$

charge accumulation inside the elemental volume

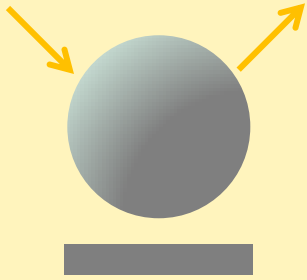
charge variation due to flow of charged particles

rate of charge transfer between the particles and the wall



# Charge conservation law

Particles



Wall

$$\psi_p(x, t) = \frac{6\beta}{d_p} \zeta_p(x, t)$$

$$\sigma = \frac{24\dot{m}}{\pi\rho_p d_p D^2} \zeta_p(x, t)$$

$$\frac{\partial \psi(x, t)}{\partial t} + \nabla \times \sigma(x, t) = R(x, t) \rightarrow R(x, t) = \frac{6f\beta}{\pi d_p^3} v(x, t)$$

$$\psi_w(x, t) = \frac{4}{D} \zeta_w(x, t)$$

$$\sigma = 0$$

$$v(x, t) = f(\zeta_p, \zeta_w)$$

Local charge density

Total charge

Particles

$$\frac{\partial \zeta_p(x, t)}{\partial t} + u_p \frac{\partial \zeta_p(x, t)}{\partial x} = \frac{f}{\pi d_p^2} v(x, t)$$

$$Q_p(t) = \frac{6\dot{m}}{\rho_p d_p} \int_0^t \zeta_p(L, t) dt$$

Wall

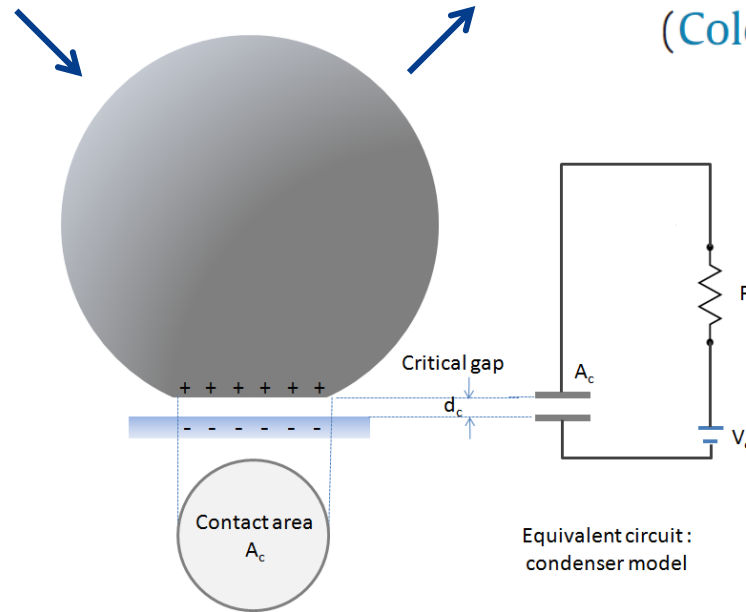
$$\frac{\partial \zeta_w(x, t)}{\partial t} = \frac{3f\beta D}{2\pi d_p^3} v(x, t)$$

$$Q_w(t) = \pi D L \int_0^L \zeta_w(x, t) dx$$



# Rate of charge transfer $R(x,t)$ ?

(Cole et al., 1969-70; Masuda et al., 1976).



$$v(x, t) = \alpha V_s$$

$$V_s = V_c - \frac{A_c}{4\pi\epsilon d_c} (\varsigma_p + \varsigma_w)$$



$$V_c = \varphi_p - \varphi_w$$

## Simple-condenser model

$$R(x, t) = \frac{6f\beta}{\pi d_p^3} v(x, t)$$

$$v(x, t) = \alpha \left( V_c - \frac{A_c}{4\pi\epsilon d_c} (\varsigma_p + \varsigma_w) \right)$$



# Normalized model equations

	Dimensionless local charge density	Dimensionless total charge
Particles	$\frac{\partial Y}{\partial t^*} + \frac{\partial Y}{\partial x^*} = K_p (1 - Y - Z)$	$Q_p^*(t^*) = \int_0^{t^*} Y(1, t^*) dt^*$
Wall	$\frac{\partial Z}{\partial t^*} = K_w (1 - Y - Z)$	$Q_w^*(t^*) = \int_0^1 Z(x^*, t^*) dx^*$

## Dimensionless variables

$x^* = \frac{x}{L}$	$t^* = \frac{u_p t}{L}$	$K_p = \frac{\beta f}{16\pi} \frac{\rho_p}{\dot{m}} \frac{LD^2}{d_p^2} \frac{A_c \alpha}{\epsilon d_c}$
$Y = \frac{A_c \zeta_p}{4\pi \epsilon d_c V_c}$	$Z = \frac{A_c \zeta_w}{4\pi \epsilon d_c V_c}$	$K_w = \frac{3f\beta^2}{32\pi} \frac{\rho_p}{\dot{m}} \frac{LD^3}{d_p^3} \frac{A_c \alpha}{\epsilon d_c}$
$Q_p^*(t^*) = \frac{A_c d_p}{6\pi^2 \epsilon d_c V_c \beta D^2 L} Q_p(t)$		$Q_w^*(t^*) = \frac{A_c}{4\pi^2 L^2 D \epsilon d_c V_c} Q_w(t)$



# Normalized model equations

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Chemical Engineering Science 102 (2013) 163–175

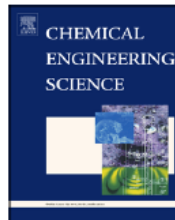


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Modelling of spatio-temporal evolution of electrostatic charge transfer during the pneumatic transport of powders: General solutions and special cases

Khshayar Saleh\*



# Normalized model equations

Dimensionless local charge density

Dimensionless total charge

Particles

$$\frac{\partial Y}{\partial t^*} + \frac{\partial Y}{\partial x^*} = K_p (1 - Y - Z)$$

$$Q_p^*(t^*) = \int_0^{t^*} Y(1, t^*) dt^*$$

Wall

$$\frac{\partial Z}{\partial t^*} = K_w (1 - Y - Z)$$

$$Q_w^*(t^*) = \int_0^1 Z(x^*, t^*) dx^*$$

## Analytical solution

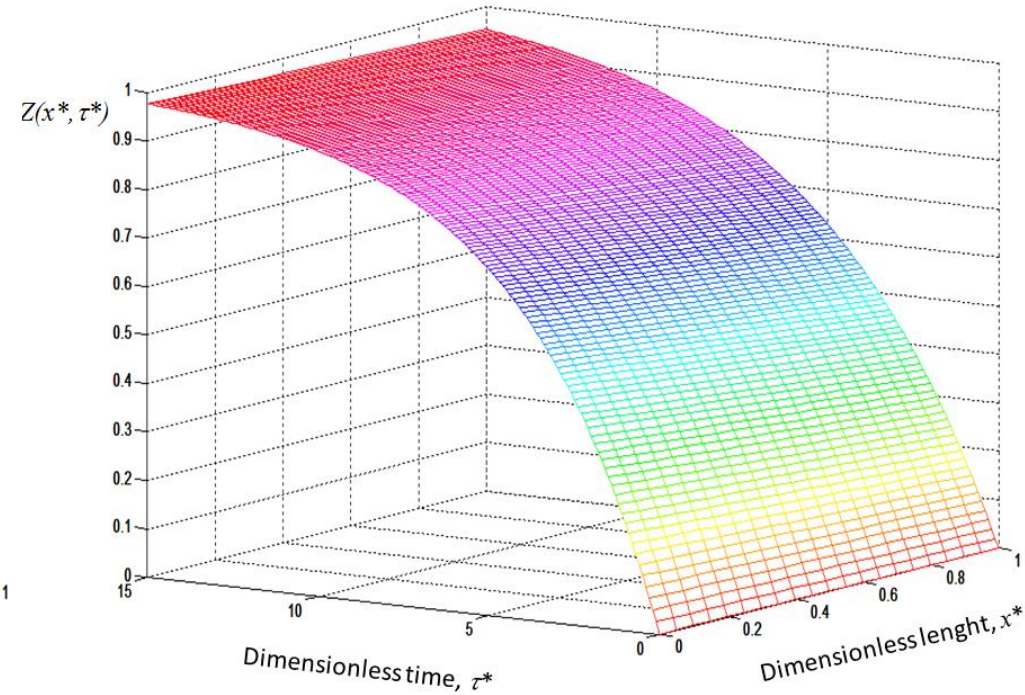
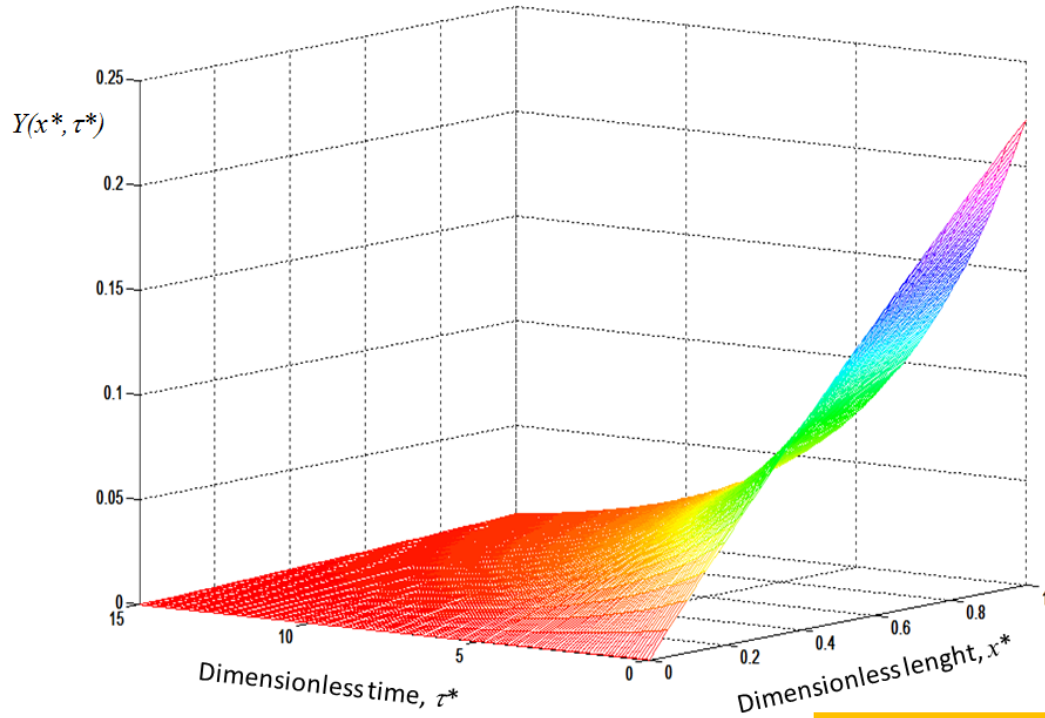
$$Y(x^*, \tau^*) = Y_0 + K_p (1 - Y_0 - Z_0) \left( 1 - J \left( \frac{x^*}{K_p}, K_w \tau^* \right) \right)$$

$$Z(x^*, \tau^*) = (Y_0 + Z_0 - 1) I_0 \left( 2 \sqrt{K_p K_w x^* \tau^*} \right) \exp(-K_p x^* - K_w \tau^*) + 1 - Y(x^*, \tau^*)$$





# Example of Modelling results



## Model Parameters

$$K_p = K_w = 0.25$$

$$Y_0 = Z_0 = 0$$



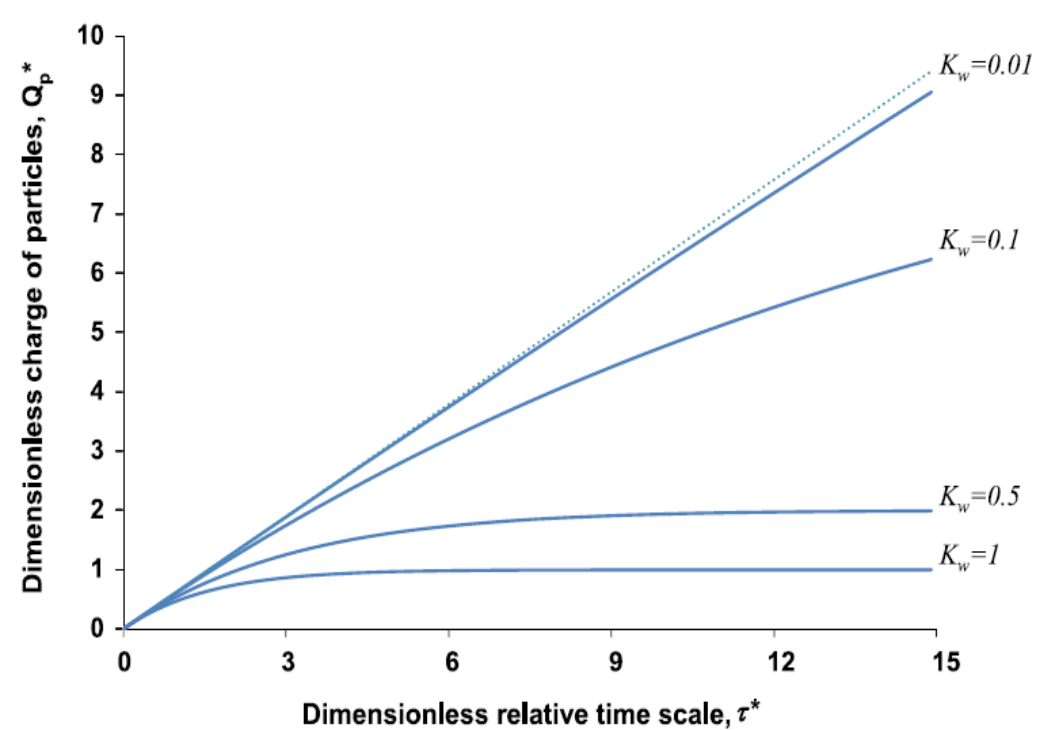
## Analytical solution

$$Y(x^*, \tau^*) = Y_0 + K_p (1 - Y_0 - Z_0) \left( 1 - J \left( \frac{x^*}{K_p}, K_w \tau^* \right) \right)$$

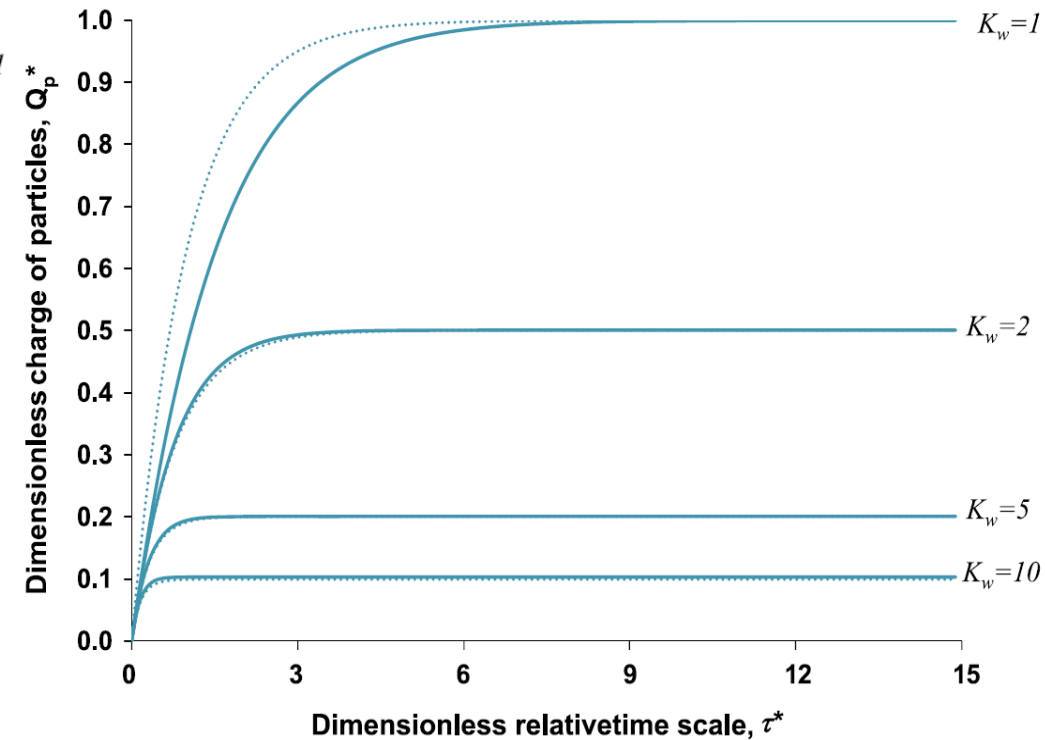
$$Z(x^*, \tau^*) = (Y_0 + Z_0 - 1) I_0 \left( 2 \sqrt{K_p K_w x^* \tau^*} \right) \exp(-K_p x^* - K_w \tau^*) + 1 - Y(x^*, \tau^*)$$

# Modelling results

Effect of the charge transfer constants,  $K_p$  &  $K_w$



$K_w < K_p$



$K_w > K_p$

Example of time evolution of the dimensionless accumulated charge of particles  
 ( $K_p=1$ ,  $Y_0=Z_0=0$ )

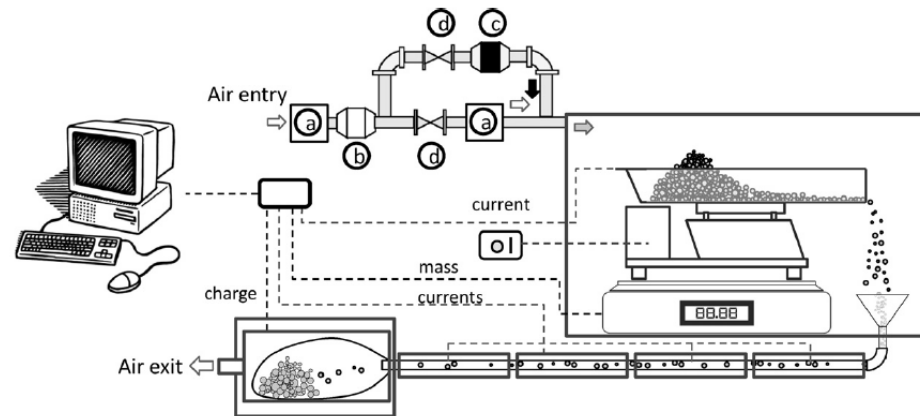
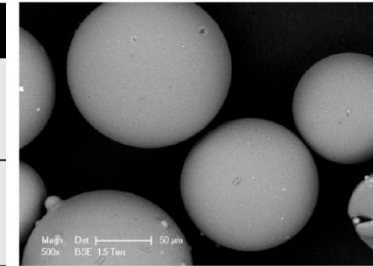


# Experimental validation of the model

## Parametric study

**Table 2 – some characteristics of material used.**

Particles	Size interval ( $\mu\text{m}$ )	Shape factor <sup>a</sup>	Density $\text{kg m}^{-3}$
Glass beads	75–150, 150–250, 250–500	$\approx 1$	2495
Crushed glass	150–250, 250–500	0.69	2495



(a) Mass flow meter

(b) Dehumidifier

(c) Humidifier

(d) Valve

## Objective :

- To identify the relevant parameters involved in tribocharging of powders during dilute phase PT and to study their effects

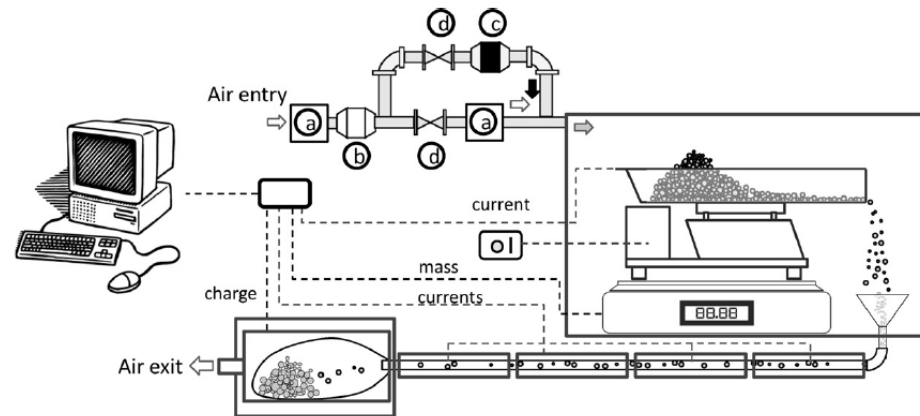
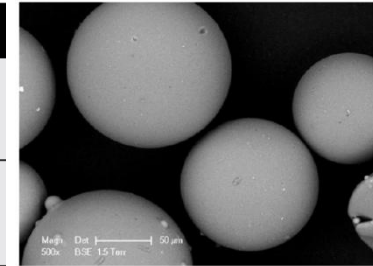


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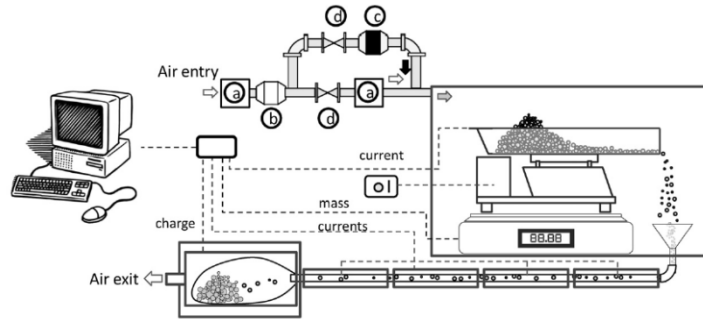
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### Relevant parameters involved in tribocharging of powders during dilute phase pneumatic transport

Khshayar Saleh\*, Adoum Traore Ndama, Pierre Guigon



# Experimental validation of the model

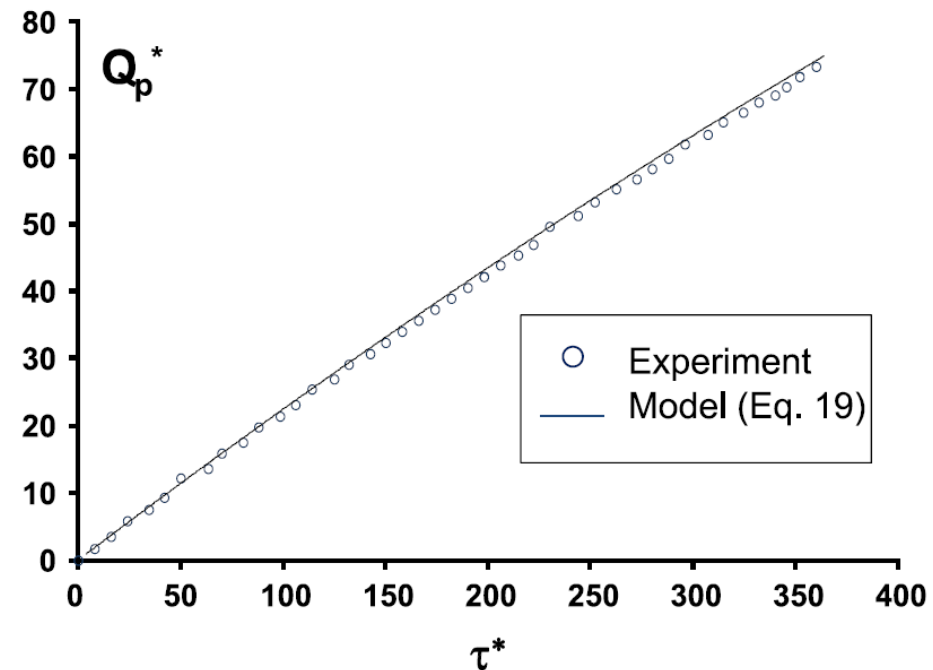
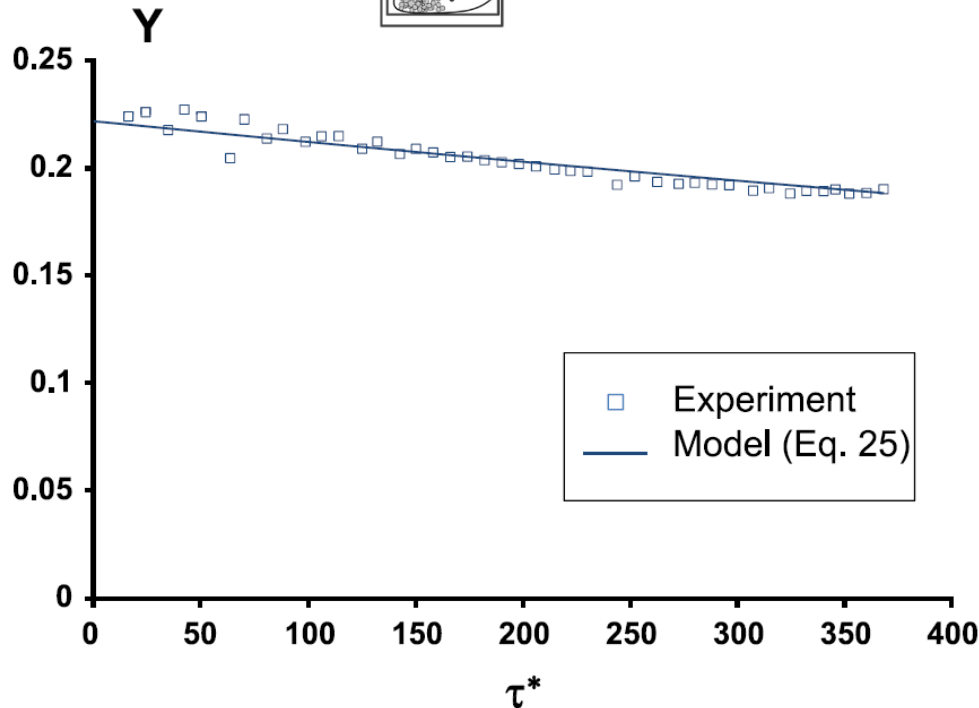


VS.

## Analytical solution

$$Y(x^*, \tau^*) = Y_0 + K_p(1 - Y_0 - Z_0) \left( 1 - J \left( \frac{x^*}{K_p}, K_w \tau^* \right) \right)$$

$$Z(x^*, \tau^*) = (Y_0 + Z_0 - 1) I_0 \left( 2 \sqrt{K_p K_w x^* \tau^*} \right) \exp(-K_p x^* - K_w \tau^*) + 1 - Y(x^*, \tau^*)$$



### Operating conditions.

Air flow rate ( $\text{kg s}^{-1}$ )	$7.85 \times 10^{-5}$
Particles flow rate ( $\text{kg s}^{-1}$ )	$2.00 \times 10^{-3}$
volume-based solids loading (-)	$1.02 \times 10^{-2}$
Relative humidity (%)	5
Temperature ( $^{\circ}\text{C}$ )	20

### Material properties.

Work function of glass beads, $\phi_p$ (J)	$8.0 \times 10^{-19}$
Work function of the wall (PTFE), $\phi_p$ (J)	$9.20 \times 10^{-19}$
Air permittivity ( $\text{F m}^{-1}$ )	$8.85 \times 10^{-12}$
Particle density ( $\text{kg m}^{-3}$ )	2495
Particle mean diameter ( $\mu\text{m}$ )	100

Identified parameters  $K_p=0.25, A_c/d_c=2 \times 10^{-5} \text{ m}$



# Conclusions

- A macroscopic multi-scale model was developed using a mechanistic approach for charge transfer during single collisions
- The model provides a general frame to describe the simultaneous evolution of particles and wall charging
- Better understanding and rational explanation of phenomena
- Could be extended to other operations (*e.g.* fluidization)
- Establish reliable triboelectric series
- STEP-2 : toward a predictive model?

