Particle and flow dynamics in wall-bounded environments

Modeling & simulation of particle agglomeration

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Complex Days, February 7th, 2023





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General context: Physics at play

• What are the key mechanisms in dispersed two-phase flows?



A range of physico-chemical mechanisms

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General context: Applications

- What are the applications for particle agglomeration?
 - Environmental applications:
 - Geo-morphology: Sedimentation in river delta formation
 - Meteorology: Formation of clouds

Droplet growth

- Astrophysics:
- ohysics: Growth of dust in planet formation



- Industrial applications
 - Waste-water: Separation through settling
 - Combustion:
 - Food industry:
- Flocculation
- Growth of soot particles
- try: Dry milk powders



A range of scales and applications

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Methodology: A multi-scale approach



Spatial scales

Methodology: Tools used



Methodology: Information exchanged



Conclusion & perspectives

Take home message

• Multi-scale modeling approach for the simulation of particle agglomeration

Future works

- Study of the agglomeration of non-spherical, possibly flexible, particles
- Extension of population balance approaches for correlated agglomeration events

Further reading:

- Ramkrishna, 2000. Population balances: Theory and applications to particulate systems in engineering. Elsevier.

- Rodríguez et al, 2020. Applied Mathematical Modelling, 90, 582-614.
- Rodríguez et al, 2021. International Journal of Multiphase Flow, 149, 103962.

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