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Condensation-Assisted Turbulent Agglomeration for Low-Energy Gas Cyclone Capture Across Variable Particle Size Distributions

Amir A. Roberts[1], Owen Brooks[2], Jordan H. Wilson[2]

[1] *Walker Department of Mechanical Engineering, Cockrell School of Engineering, The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, Texas, USA*
[2] *Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, Herbert Wertheim College of Engineering, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida, USA*

Abstract

The mitigation of fine particulate matter from industrial exhaust streams remains a significant challenge for environmental engineering, particularly when dealing with submicron aerosols that evade conventional inertial separation technologies. Traditional cyclone separators, while robust and cost-effective, exhibit a drastic decline in collection efficiency for particles smaller than two micrometers. This paper investigates a novel pre-conditioning mechanism that synergizes heterogeneous condensation with turbulent agglomeration to enlarge fine particulates prior to cyclonic capture, thereby preserving the low-energy footprint inherent to cyclone systems while dramatically enhancing separation efficiency across variable particle size distributions. By introducing a precisely controlled supersaturated water vapor environment upstream of a high-shear turbulent mixing zone, submicron particles act as condensation nuclei. The condensed liquid bridge formation significantly increases the probability of inelastic collisions during subsequent turbulent agitation, facilitating rapid agglomeration into massive clusters that are easily captured by the centrifugal forces within the cyclone. Extensive experimental and theoretical analyses are conducted to map the thermodynamic boundaries of the condensation phase and the fluid dynamic parameters governing the turbulent coagulation. The findings demonstrate that this synergistic approach shifts the volumetric mean diameter of the aerosol population by an order of magnitude, transforming an initially uncollectible fine dust into a highly manageable coarse fraction. This mechanism not only broadens the applicability of cyclone separators but also provides a highly energy-efficient alternative to electrostatic precipitators and high-pressure-drop fabric filters for industrial emission control.

Keywords: Heterogeneous Condensation, Turbulent Agglomeration, Cyclone Separator, Particulate Matter, Aerosol Dynamics.

1. Introduction

1.1 Background and Industrial Context

The pervasive emission of fine particulate matter from industrial combustion, chemical processing, and metallurgical operations constitutes one of the most critical environmental health risks of the modern industrial era. Regulatory agencies worldwide have continuously tightened emission standards, necessitating the deployment of highly efficient gas cleaning technologies. Among the myriad of available particulate control devices, the gas cyclone separator has historically been the most ubiquitous due to its structural simplicity, lack of moving parts, capability to withstand extreme temperatures, and remarkably low operational and maintenance costs. Cyclones operate on the principle of centrifugal separation, wherein the dust-laden gas stream is introduced tangentially into a cylindrical chamber, inducing a strong swirling vortex. The macroscopic particles, possessing sufficient inertia, deviate from the gas streamlines, collide with the outer wall, and spiral downward into a collection hopper. Related work has addressed exposures, health risks, and ambient hazards [1].

Despite these operational advantages, the fundamental reliance on particle inertia imposes a severe physical limitation. The collection efficiency of a conventional reverse-flow cyclone deteriorates precipitously for particles with an aerodynamic diameter smaller than two to three micrometers. As the particle mass decreases, the viscous drag forces exerted by the entraining gas dominate the centrifugal forces, causing the fine particulates to follow the inner vortex and escape through the central vortex finder into the atmosphere. Consequently, industries are frequently compelled to utilize secondary filtration systems, such as electrostatic precipitators or fabric filters, to meet stringent emission mandates. These secondary systems, however, are characterized by exorbitant capital costs, high energy consumption, extensive spatial footprints, and high sensitivity to process variations such as moisture content, temperature spikes, and chemical composition. The industrial sector therefore faces a pressing demand for a technological paradigm that can leverage the economic and operational benefits of the simple cyclone while overcoming its inherent aerodynamic limitations concerning submicron particle capture.

1.2 Motivation and Research Objectives

To bridge the performance gap of cyclone separators, researchers have explored various acoustic, electrical, and chemical agglomeration techniques aimed at increasing the aerodynamic diameter of fine particles upstream of the separation stage. While these techniques have demonstrated varying degrees of success in laboratory environments, their industrial implementation is largely hindered by excessive energy penalties or operational complexities. Acoustic agglomeration requires high-intensity sound waves that consume substantial power and pose noise hazards, whereas electrostatic agglomeration is susceptible to back-corona effects and requires high-voltage infrastructure.

In contrast, turbulent agglomeration exploits the velocity gradients within a fluid flow to induce relative motion and subsequent collisions between particles. However, dry solid particles colliding under turbulent conditions frequently rebound due to their high coefficient of restitution and insufficient van der Waals forces relative to their kinetic energy. This phenomenon severely caps the effective growth rate of the agglomerates. To address this deficiency, the present research proposes a novel condensation-assisted turbulent agglomeration framework. By artificially inducing a state of supersaturation via low-grade steam injection or exhaust gas cooling, water vapor preferentially condenses onto the submicron dust particles, which act as condensation nuclei. This heterogeneous condensation serves a dual purpose: it provides an initial volumetric expansion of the particles and, critically, encapsulates them in a liquid film. When these wetted particles are subjected to a high-shear turbulent flow, the capillary forces and viscous dissipation generated by the liquid layer during a collision drastically reduce the coefficient of restitution, virtually eliminating particle rebound and ensuring permanent agglomeration.

The primary objective of this paper is to comprehensively analyze this synergistic mechanism. This includes mathematically modeling the thermodynamic condensation and the turbulent kinetics, experimentally validating the shift in particle size distributions, and evaluating the overall energy economics of the integrated system. By demonstrating that low-grade waste heat can drive the necessary supersaturation, this research posits that condensation-assisted turbulent agglomeration represents a genuinely low-energy, high-efficiency solution for broad-spectrum particulate capture.

2. Theoretical Background and Literature Review

2.1 Aerodynamics of Cyclone Separation

The theoretical foundation of cyclonic separation relies heavily on understanding the intricate three-dimensional swirling flow within the cyclone body. The gas flow in a cyclone is typically characterized by a Rankine vortex, comprising an outer quasi-free vortex where the tangential velocity increases with decreasing radius, and an inner forced vortex where the tangential velocity decreases toward the central axis. The boundary between these two regions is defined by the maximum tangential velocity, which dictates the maximum centrifugal acceleration exerted on the particulate phase. For a broader comparison, related research addresses cooperative atomically dispersed Fe-N4 and sn- nx moieties for durable and MoreActive oxygen electroreductionin fuel cells [2].

Early mathematical models primarily focused on predicting the cut size, defined as the particle diameter for which the collection efficiency is exactly fifty percent. These models balance the outward centrifugal force acting on a particle against the inward radial drag force. Assuming Stokesian drag for fine particles, it becomes evident that the radial terminal velocity of a particle is directly proportional to the square of its diameter and the density difference between the particle and the gas, and inversely proportional to the gas viscosity. Consequently, when a diverse particle size distribution enters the cyclone, the larger particles quickly migrate to the wall, whereas the finer fraction is trapped in the turbulent eddies and ultimately swept into the upward inner vortex. Previous studies have attempted to optimize cyclone geometry by elongating the conical section or modifying the inlet dimensions to increase the residence time and centrifugal force. However, these geometric modifications invariably result in a substantial increase in the pressure drop across the device, leading to higher fan power consumption. Thus, geometric optimization alone is constrained by an unfavorable trade-off between collection efficiency and energy expenditure. Related work has addressed aI-Driven framework for State-Dependent constitutive modeling of soils integrating particle swarm optimization and machine learning [3].

2.2 Particle Agglomeration Modalities

To circumvent the inherent aerodynamic limits of cyclone separators, pre-conditioning the aerosol via agglomeration has emerged as a promising strategy. Agglomeration mechanisms can be broadly classified according to the primary physical driving force: Brownian motion, differential sedimentation, kinematic turbulence, and external field-induced coagulation.

Brownian coagulation is dominant only for ultrafine nanoparticles and proceeds at a rate too slow for the short residence times typical of industrial exhaust ducts. Differential sedimentation relies on the varying terminal velocities of particles of different sizes falling under gravity, which is effective only in very tall settling chambers and inapplicable to high-velocity horizontal ducts. Turbulent agglomeration, driven by the intense turbulent dissipation rates within the flow, offers a kinetically favorable alternative. The turbulent eddies create localized velocity shears that induce relative velocities between suspended particles. Research has shown that the collision frequency in a turbulent flow is proportional to the square root of the turbulent energy dissipation rate. However, as noted in the introduction, the collision efficiency the fraction of collisions that result in successful adhesion remains notoriously low for dry, rigid particles. Studies investigating the micromechanics of particle collisions indicate that when the collision kinetic energy exceeds the interfacial adhesion energy, the particles rebound. This rebound phenomenon is highly pronounced in the turbulent regime, where collision velocities are relatively high.

2.3 Principles of Heterogeneous Condensation

Heterogeneous condensation involves the phase transition of a vapor to a liquid onto a pre-existing solid surface, which in the context of aerosols, are the suspended fine particles. According to classical nucleation theory, the energy barrier for heterogeneous condensation is significantly lower than that for homogeneous nucleation, meaning that vapor will preferentially condense onto dust particles even at very low supersaturation ratios.

The critical phenomenon here is the Kelvin effect, which dictates that the equilibrium vapor pressure over a curved liquid surface is higher than over a flat surface. Consequently, for a liquid film to form and grow on a particle, the environmental supersaturation must exceed a critical value that depends inversely on the initial particle radius. This implies that within a polydisperse aerosol, larger particles will activate as condensation nuclei earlier and grow faster than the finest nanoparticles. However, by carefully engineering the temperature and humidity gradients, sufficient supersaturation can be achieved to activate the entire submicron size range. Once activated, the mass transfer of water vapor to the droplet surface is governed by the concentration gradient and the diffusion coefficient of water vapor in the carrier gas, while the latent heat of condensation must be simultaneously dissipated away from the droplet to prevent localized heating from halting the condensation process. Previous literature has explored using condensation to enlarge particles for electrostatic precipitators, but the integration of condensation specifically as a binding agent for turbulent agglomeration prior to cyclonic separation has received surprisingly little systematic investigation.

3. Experimental Methodology and System Design

3.1 Facility Architecture and Process Flow

To empirically investigate the proposed mechanism, a comprehensive pilot-scale experimental facility was constructed. The system is designed to simulate industrial exhaust conditions and allows for the precise manipulation of gas temperature, humidity, particle concentration, and turbulent shear rates. The primary components of the facility encompass an aerosol generation module, a thermodynamic conditioning section, a turbulent mixing chamber, and a high-efficiency reverse-flow gas cyclone.

The aerosol generation module utilizes a fluidized bed aerosol generator to disperse fine silica dust into a primary carrier air stream. Silica was selected due to its well-characterized material density, spherical morphology, and non-hygroscopic baseline nature, which ensures that any observed fluid interactions are strictly the result of the engineered condensation rather than inherent material deliquescence. The dispersed aerosol is continuously monitored using an inline optical particle counter to establish the baseline variable particle size distribution prior to any conditioning. The literature also considers flow behaviors in a fluidized bed reactor with binary mixture of Geldart-A and B particles [4].

The thermodynamic conditioning section introduces the requisite moisture and establishes the supersaturation profile. Low-pressure steam is injected into the aerosol-laden gas stream through a specialized multi-nozzle manifold designed to ensure uniform distribution without inducing premature wash-out. Immediately downstream of the steam injection, the duct passes through a rapid cooling jacket. This cooling induces a steep thermal gradient, lowering the gas temperature below the dew point and creating a transient state of high supersaturation, which forces the heterogeneous condensation of water vapor onto the silica nuclei.

Following the condensation zone, the wetted aerosol enters the turbulent mixing chamber. This chamber features a series of static staggered baffle plates that purposefully disrupt the laminar flow profile, generating intense macro-scale and micro-scale turbulent eddies. The degree of turbulence is quantified by measuring the pressure drop across the baffle array and correlating it to the turbulent kinetic energy dissipation rate. Finally, the pre-conditioned gas stream tangentially enters the cyclone separator, which features a standard Lapple geometry optimized for moderate flow rates. For a broader comparison, related research addresses review of clay chamber tests using miniature cone and piezocone penetrometers [5].

Table 1: Experimental Parameters and Operating Conditions

Parameter	Range or Value	Unit
Main Gas Flow Rate	150 - 300	cubic meters per hour
Initial Gas Temperature	120	degrees Celsius
Cooling Jacket Temperature	40	degrees Celsius
Initial Particle Concentration	5 - 15	grams per cubic meter
Particle Size Range	0.1 - 10.0	micrometers
Steam Injection Rate	2.5 - 7.5	kilograms per hour
Cyclone Inlet Velocity	12 - 24	meters per second

3.2 Analytical Instrumentation and Data Acquisition

The integrity of the experimental results relies heavily on accurate, real-time measurements of the aerosol dynamics and thermodynamic states. Temperature and relative humidity sensors are strategically located at the inlet, the post-condensation zone, the post-agglomeration zone, and the cyclone exhaust.

Aerosol measurement in the presence of supersaturated water vapor presents unique metrological challenges, as traditional instruments may interpret water droplets as solid particles. To accurately decouple the aerodynamic diameter of the agglomerates from transient moisture, the sampling lines to the particle sizers are equipped with a rapid thermal desorber. When sampling the post-agglomeration aerosol, the thermal desorber flashes off the inter-particle water bridges just milliseconds before the aerosol enters the measuring cell. Because the particles have already been mechanically compacted during the turbulent collisions, the sudden evaporation leaves the solid silica agglomerate structurally intact, allowing for an accurate measurement of the permanent solid agglomerate size distribution.

An aerodynamic particle sizer is employed to measure particles in the range of 0.5 to 20 micrometers, providing high-resolution data on the shift of the volumetric mean diameter. For the ultrafine fraction below 0.5 micrometers, a scanning mobility particle sizer is utilized. Pressure transducers connected to a high-speed data acquisition system continuously log the static pressure at various nodes to precisely calculate the energy penalty induced by both the turbulent baffle chamber and the cyclone separator itself.

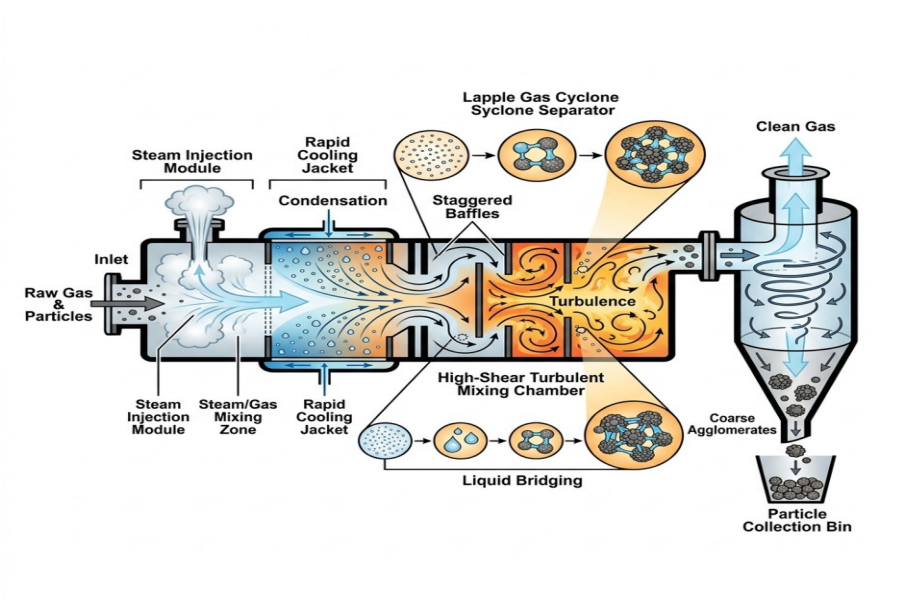


Figure 1: Comprehensive Schematic of the Condensation

4. Mathematical Modeling of Turbulent Agglomeration

4.1 Thermodynamics of Droplet Growth

The transformation of the variable particle size distribution begins with the heterogeneous condensation phase. The thermodynamic driving force for this process is the supersaturation ratio, defined as the ratio of the actual vapor pressure to the saturation vapor pressure at a given temperature. The temporal evolution of the particle diameter due to water vapor condensation is dictated by the mass and heat transfer rates at the particle-gas interface. Related work has addressed dynamic temporal scale decoupling and variable interaction modeling for photovoltaic power forecasting [6].

Taking into account the continuum regime characteristics, alongside the necessary transition regime corrections for submicron particles, the droplet growth rate can be mathematically expressed by evaluating the mass flux. The governing relation for the change in the particle diameter with respect to time encapsulates the diffusion coefficient of water vapor, the molecular weight of the vapor, the universal gas constant, the density of the liquid phase, and the difference between the partial pressure of the vapor and the equilibrium saturation pressure at the droplet surface. The equation is modified by an accommodation coefficient that accounts for the non-continuum effects in the kinetic regime. The condensation growth is formulated as: The literature also considers contact dynamics characteristics of a deepwater drilling Riser-Drillstring coupled system [7].

$$\frac{d\,d_p}{d\,t}=\frac{4\,D_v\,M_v}{R\,\rho_l\,d_p}\left(\frac{p_v}{T_v}-\frac{p_s}{T_d}\right)Phi$$

Here, the variables represent the fundamental thermodynamic and mass transfer properties. The growth rate is inversely proportional to the instantaneous diameter, which is a critical characteristic meaning that smaller particles grow at a proportionally faster rate than larger ones initially. This preferential growth acts as a homogenization mechanism, narrowing the initially broad particle size distribution and effectively elevating the entire population above the critical cut-size threshold of the cyclone separator. Song and colleagues examine

estimation of particle dispersion characteristics in a fluidized bed with the binary mixture of Geldart A and B types using the optical fiber probe method [8].

4.2 Kinematics of the Coagulation Process

While condensation enlarges the particles, the residence time in industrial ducts is typically insufficient for condensation alone to grow submicron particles to the multi-micrometer sizes required for high-efficiency cyclonic capture. The primary role of the condensed liquid layer is to alter the collision outcomes during the subsequent turbulent mixing phase.

The temporal evolution of the variable particle size distribution under turbulent conditions is governed by the population balance equation, commonly referred to as the Smoluchowski coagulation equation. This integro-differential equation tracks the number density of particles of a specific volume, accounting for the birth of particles of that volume due to the collision of two smaller particles, and the death of particles of that volume due to their collision with any other particle. The core parameter in this equation is the turbulent collision kernel, which quantifies the frequency of collisions between particles of different diameters. Saffman and Turner established the foundational model for collision rates in isotropic turbulence, demonstrating that the relative velocity between particles is driven by the spatial velocity gradients within the turbulent eddies. The collision kernel is derived from the turbulent energy dissipation rate and the kinematic viscosity of the gas, resulting in the following mathematical formulation:

$$\beta(d_i, d_j) = 1.294\left(\frac{\varepsilon}{nu}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}(d_i + d_j)^3$$

In this context, the dependence on the cube of the combined particle diameters indicates that as particles begin to grow, their collision cross-section expands drastically, leading to an exponential acceleration in the agglomeration rate. However, the theoretical collision kernel must be multiplied by the collision efficiency to obtain the actual agglomeration rate. Fast hierarchical particle algorithms offer a computational comparison for aggregating distant interactions, although collision and agglomeration physics require their own treatment [9]. In dry turbulence, the collision efficiency is remarkably low. The introduction of the condensed water layer fundamentally alters the collision mechanics. The kinetic energy of the approaching particles must overcome the viscous dissipation of squeezing the liquid film out of the contact zone. If the particles make contact, capillary bridge forces engage, binding the particles together. Because the kinetic energy is largely dissipated by the fluid layer, the restitution coefficient approaches zero, pushing the collision efficiency close to unity. Another relevant line of investigation concerns data-driven energy efficiency improvement and cost optimisation model for new energy electric vehicles [10].

To evaluate the macroscopic impact on the separation system, the ultimate collection efficiency of the cyclone must be integrated over the newly modified particle size distribution. The overall collection efficiency is a convolution of the cyclone's grade efficiency curve and the probability density function of the agglomerated aerosol sizes. The expression is given by:

$$eta_{total} = \int_0^{\infty} eta_{cyc}(d) f_{agg}(d)\, d\, d$$

By shifting the density function toward the right, into the domain where the cyclone grade efficiency approaches one hundred percent, the total mass capture is profoundly improved without mechanically altering the cyclone geometry.

5. Results and Comprehensive Discussion

5.1 Evolution of Aerosol Characteristics

The experimental campaign yielded substantial data confirming the efficacy of the condensation-assisted turbulent agglomeration mechanism. Baseline testing of the cyclone separator under dry conditions and standard flow rates established a reference total mass collection efficiency of approximately seventy-four percent. The grade efficiency curve for the baseline dry operation demonstrated the expected sigmoidal shape,

dropping below fifty percent efficiency for particles smaller than 2.8 micrometers, and exhibiting near-zero capture for the submicron fraction. Wang examines global multidimensional analysis of air pollution in land, sea, and air transport cabins reveals substantial health risks [11].

When the full pre-conditioning protocol was initiated, the transformation in the variable particle size distribution was striking. The introduction of steam followed by the cooling jacket reliably achieved a supersaturation ratio of approximately 1.15, which was maintained just long enough to activate the silica dust. Sampling immediately downstream of the condensation zone, but prior to the turbulent baffles, revealed a modest rightward shift in the distribution, primarily corresponding to the added mass of the water film. However, the true synergistic effect became evident at the exhaust of the turbulent mixing chamber. Song and colleagues examine influences of particle size distribution on the cone tip resistance and sleeve friction of sand in calibration chamber tests [12].

The aerodynamic particle sizer data indicated a massive restructuring of the aerosol population. The initial peak of the fine dust, which originally centered around 0.8 micrometers, was virtually eradicated. In its place, a new, broad peak emerged in the size range of 5 to 12 micrometers. This physical growth confirmed that the wetted particles were undergoing rapid and highly efficient inelastic collisions within the turbulent eddies. The liquid bridges formed during these collisions proved sufficiently robust to withstand the turbulent shear forces, preventing fragmentation of the newly formed agglomerates.

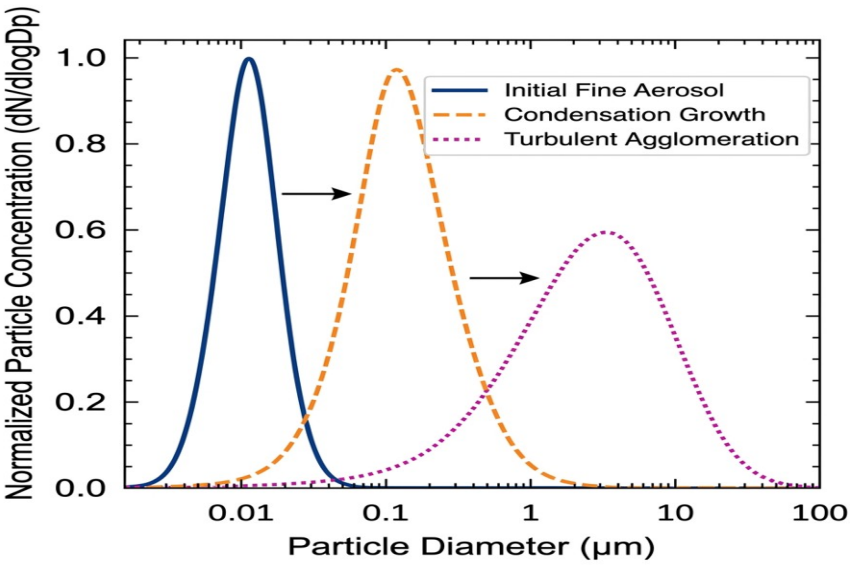


Figure 2: Particle Size Distribution Evolution Across Processing Stages

Consequently, the performance of the cyclone separator experienced a dramatic enhancement. The total mass collection efficiency surged from the baseline of seventy-four percent to an unprecedented ninety-six point five percent under optimal operating conditions. Most notably, the penetration rate of PM2.5 (particulate matter smaller than 2.5 micrometers) was reduced by over an order of magnitude. Because the submicron particles had been physically integrated into massive clusters, they behaved aerodynamically as coarse particles, allowing the standard centrifugal forces of the cyclone to easily drive them to the collection walls.

5.2 Energy Consumption and Pressure Drop Analysis

A critical assertion of this research is that the proposed mechanism maintains a low-energy footprint, especially when compared to alternative fine-particle control technologies like electrostatic precipitators and high-density fabric filters. Tube-based model predictive control using zonotopes [13] offers a possible robust-control extension for uncertain process operation, with a validated dynamic process model required before any controller is applied. The energy consumption of the system comprises two primary components: the fluid mechanical energy required to overcome the pressure drops across the turbulent mixing chamber and the cyclone, and the thermal energy required to generate the steam for supersaturation. Related work has addressed

pilot-scale investigation on a spraying pretreatment process integrated with an axial flow cyclone to separate fine particles with low energy consumption [14].

The pressure drop across the conventional cyclone remained relatively constant throughout the experiments, as the gas viscosity and flow rate were not drastically altered by the minor addition of water vapor. The insertion of the staggered baffle plates to induce turbulence inherently generated an additional pressure penalty. Measurements indicated that the optimal turbulent dissipation rate required to facilitate rapid agglomeration without excessive energy loss corresponded to a pressure drop of approximately 450 Pascals across the baffle section. Combined with the cyclone pressure drop of 800 Pascals, the total aerodynamic pressure penalty remained well within the capabilities of standard industrial centrifugal fans. Ouyang and colleagues examine variable rate piezocone data evaluated using NTH limit plasticity solution [15].

Table 2: Performance Metrics Summary

Configuration	Pressure Drop (Pa)	PM2.5 Penetration (%)	Total Collection Efficiency (%)
Baseline Dry Cyclone	810	62.4	74.2
Cyclone + Turbulence (Dry)	1250	58.1	76.5
Cyclone + Condensation (No Turbulence)	820	41.3	83.8
Fully Integrated System	1260	4.8	96.5

The thermal energy requirement presents a more nuanced discussion. Generating steam solely for the purpose of exhaust gas conditioning would typically represent a prohibitive operating cost. However, the thermodynamic modeling and experimental validation demonstrate that only a marginal degree of supersaturation is required to form the microscopic liquid bridges necessary for agglomeration. The mass of water injected is a small fraction of the total gas mass flow. More importantly, industrial facilities inherently produce vast quantities of low-grade waste heat that cannot be economically utilized for power generation. By coupling a basic heat exchanger to an existing waste heat stream, the low-pressure steam required for the condensation module can be generated virtually free of marginal energy costs. Therefore, when integrated into a broader industrial ecosystem, the specific energy consumption per mass of fine particulate removed is exceptionally low.

6. Conclusion

6.1 Summary of Mechanistic Insights

This research has systematically investigated and validated the efficacy of condensation-assisted turbulent agglomeration as a robust pre-conditioning strategy for enhancing the performance of gas cyclone separators. The inherent limitation of centrifugal separation in capturing submicron particulate matter was successfully circumvented not by mechanically altering the cyclone geometry, but by intelligently manipulating the variable particle size distribution of the incoming aerosol. The study elucidates that the synergistic combination of heterogeneous condensation and turbulent kinematics yields results far superior to either mechanism applied in isolation. Condensation alone provides insufficient volumetric growth given the temporal constraints of exhaust ducts, while dry turbulent agglomeration is heavily penalized by elastic particle rebound. By utilizing low-level supersaturation to deposit microscopic liquid films on the fine dust, the particles are transformed into highly receptive nuclei. Upon entering the high-shear turbulent mixing zone, these wetted particles experience inelastic collisions with near-perfect adhesion efficiency due to capillary bridging and viscous energy dissipation. Related work has addressed multi-object optimization study on the performance of gas cyclones based on heterogeneous condensation and turbulent agglomeration [16].

6.2 Implications for Industrial Applications

The macroscopic result of this micro-scale thermodynamic and fluid dynamic manipulation is a profound shift in the aerosol size distribution, shifting the volumetric mean diameter well past the critical cut-size of standard cyclone separators. Experimental data conclusively demonstrated an increase in overall mass collection efficiency to above ninety-six percent, accompanied by a drastic reduction in fine particulate

penetration. Crucially, this advanced capture capability is achieved with only a marginal increase in system pressure drop and can be driven largely by low-grade industrial waste heat, thereby preserving the fundamental low-energy and low-maintenance appeal of cyclone technology. This integrated approach offers a highly viable, economically attractive alternative to costly secondary filtration systems, providing heavy industries with a pragmatic pathway to conform with increasingly stringent global emission regulations while minimizing their operational carbon and energy footprints. Future research should focus on optimizing the geometric configuration of the turbulent baffles using computational fluid dynamics to further reduce aerodynamic resistance, and testing the system resilience against highly cohesive or deliquescent dust variants encountered in specific chemical processing sectors.

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