

UNIVERSITÁ DEGLI STUDI DI SALERNO FACOLTÀ DI INGEGNERIA

Models based on population balance approach

by M. Miccio

Dept. of Industrial Engineering (Università di Salerno) Prodal Scarl (Fisciano)

Rev. 4.81 of November 22, 2013

Population Balance models

The population balance equation (PBE) is a statement of continuity for particulate systems, originally derived in 1964.

Population balances are of key relevance to a very diverse group of scientists, including astrophysicists, high-energy physicists, geophysicists, colloid chemists, biophysicists, materials scientists, meteorologists and chemical engineers.

Chemical engineers have put population balances to most use, with applications in the areas of crystallization; gas-liquid, liquid-liquid, and solid-liquid dispersions; liquid membrane systems; fluidized bed reactors; aerosol reactors; and microbial cultures.

Engineers encounter particles in a variety of systems. The particles are either naturally present or engineered into these systems. In either case these particles often significantly affect the behavior of such systems.

This modeling approach provides a framework for analyzing these dispersed phase systems and describes how to synthesize the behavior of the population particles and their environment from the behavior of single particles in their local environments

Population Balance models

Ramkrishna provides a clear and general treatment of population balances with emphasis on their wide range of applicability. New insight into population balance models incorporating random particle growth, dynamic morphological structure, and complex multivariate formulations with a clear exposition of their mathematical derivation is presented. **Population Balances** provides the only available treatment of the solution of inverse problems essential for identification of population balance models for breakage and aggregation processes, particle nucleation, growth processes, and more. This book is especially useful for process engineers interested in the simulation and control of particulate systems. Additionally, comprehensive treatment of the stochastic formulation of small systems provides for the modeling of stochastic systems with promising new areas of applications such as the design of sterilization systems and radiation treatment of cancerous tumors.

Doraiswami Ramkrishna,

Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana, U.S.A. "**Population Balances. Theory and Applications to Particulate Systems in Engineering**", Academic Press, ISBN: 0-12-576970-9, Pages: 355, Publication Date: 8 August 2000, Price: £83.99

3

Population Balances

Formulation

The Population Balance Equation was originally derived in 1964, when two groups of researchers studying crystal nucleation and growth recognized that many problems involving change in particulate systems could not be handled within the framework of the conventional conservation equations only, see Hulburt & Katz (1964) and Randolph (1964) .

They proposed the use of an equation for the continuity of particulate numbers, termed population balance equation, as a basis for describing the behavior of such systems.

This balance is developed from the general conservation equation:

Input - Output + Net Generation = Accumulation

 § 4.4 in Himmelblau D.M. and Bischoff K.B., "Process Analysis and Simulation", John Wiley & Sons Inc., 1967 (**Collocazione: 660.281 HIM 1**)

 \overline{A}

Elements necessary for a population balance Model

Entity distribution function

Physical meaning

$$
\psi(x, y, z, \zeta_1, \ldots, \zeta_m, t)dx dy dz d\zeta_1 \ldots d\zeta_m
$$

is the fraction of entities at time **t** that are:

- contained in the infinitesimal volume *d*V=*d*x*d*y*d*z
- characterized by values of properties in the ranges $\zeta_1 \div \zeta_1 + d\zeta_1, \ldots, \zeta_m \div \zeta_m + d\zeta_m$

Congruence constraint

$$
\int_{\Omega} \psi(x, y, z, \zeta_1, \dots, \zeta_m, t) dx dy dz d\zeta_1 \dots d\zeta_m = 1
$$

Where Ω is the (3+m)-dimensional space of the independent variables:

3 spatial or external coordinates (**x, y, z**)

m properties or internal coordinates (**ζⁱ** with i = 1,2...m)

 \odot time **t** may be one additional independent variable

Conservation law

Generation

Positive and Negative terms are defined as:

Entity born

 $N = \frac{Entity both}{(time unit)(volume unit)(unitary variation of the "i" property)}$

Entity disappearance

 $M = \frac{Bntity}{(time unit)(volume unit)(unitary variation of the "i" property)}$

Hypotheses:

- large, arbitrary, time-varying sub-space $R(t) \subseteq \Omega$
- closed sub-space, with no input or output of entities

Balance equation

Accumulation = Net Generation

$$
\frac{d}{dt}\int_{R(t)}\psi dR = \int_{R(t)} (N-M) dR \tag{I}
$$

 $dR = dxdydzd\zeta_1 ... d\zeta_m$

Leibnitz formula

One dimension\n
$$
\frac{d}{dt} \int_{a(t)}^{b(t)} f(x, t) dx = \int_{a(t)}^{b(t)} \left[\frac{\partial f(x, t)}{\partial t} + \frac{d}{dx} \left[\frac{dx}{dt} f(x, t) \right] \right] dx = \int_{a(t)}^{b(t)} \frac{\partial f(x, t)}{\partial t} dx + f[b(t), t] \frac{db(t)}{dt} - f[a(t), t] \frac{da(t)}{dt}
$$

Multi-dimensional

$$
\frac{d}{dt}\int_{R(t)} f dR = \int_{R(t)} \left[\frac{\partial f}{\partial t} + \sum_{l} \frac{\partial}{\partial l} \left(\frac{dl}{dt} f \right) \right] dR = \int_{R(t)} \left[\frac{\partial f}{\partial t} + \nabla \bullet \left(\dot{I} f \right) \right] dR
$$

where: R(t) is a time-variable region of the space Ω f(•) is a scalar function *l* stands for any of the non-time variables x, y, z, ζ_1 , ζ_2, the sum Σ is over all such variables

8

Generalized population balance model on «microscopic scale»

The total derivates with respect to time included in the Leibnitz formula can be explained in a physical way: \sim

$$
\frac{dx}{dt} = \mathcal{V}_x; \frac{dy}{dt} = \mathcal{V}_y; \frac{dz}{dt} = \mathcal{V}_z; \frac{d\mathcal{L}_i}{dt} = \mathcal{V}_i
$$

 v_i is the change rate with respect to the time or kinetics of the property ζ_i

The Equation (I) becomes:

$$
\int_{R(t)} \left\{ \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (v_x \psi) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} (v_y \psi) + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} (v_z \psi) + \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{\partial}{\partial \zeta_i} (v_i \psi) + M - N \right\} dR = 0
$$

As the region R(t) is arbitrary, the necessary condition for that equation to be true is that the integrating term is null

$$
\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (v_x \psi) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} (v_y \psi) + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} (v_z \psi) + \sum_{i=1}^{m} \frac{\partial}{\partial \zeta_i} (v_i \psi) + M - N = 0
$$

This is the **generalized population balance model on microscopic scale**

 $(in x, y, z \text{ coordinates})$ 9

Switch to «macroscopic scale»

Often ψ spatial dependence is not known or not desired, while only averaged value on system geometric volume V is requested. The volume-averaged entity distribution is: V

$$
\overline{\psi} = \frac{1}{V} \int_{V} \psi dV \qquad dV = dx dy dz
$$

Integrating over the whole volume the **generalized population balance model**:

$$
\int_{V} \left\{ \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial t} + \nabla \bullet (\vec{v} \psi) + \sum_{i=1}^{m} \frac{\partial}{\partial \zeta_{i}} (v_{i} \psi) + (M - N) \right\} dV = 0
$$

Let's examine the various terms:

The term (I) can be obtained by an inversion of the multi-dimensional Leibnitz formula, restricted to the spatial coordinates only:

$$
\int_{V} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial t} dV = \frac{d}{dt} \int_{V} \psi dV - \int_{V} \nabla \cdot (\overline{v_s \psi}) dV_{\text{Where } \vec{v}_s \text{ indicates the surface S which contatranslation and varying}}
$$

speedness of the aines the volume V

According to **Gauss divergence theorem**, the term *V* becomes: \overline{v}

$$
\int_{V} \nabla \bullet (\overrightarrow{v_s}\psi) dV = \int_{S} \vec{n} \bullet (\overrightarrow{v_s}\psi) dS
$$

vector \vec{v}_s indicates the speedness for every point of the surface S containing control volume V

 \vec{n} is the normal versor to S directed toward the external

The term *II* is transformed by the same **Gauss theorem**

$$
\int_{V} \nabla \bullet \left(\vec{v} \psi\right) dV = \int_{S} \vec{n} \bullet \left(\vec{v} \psi\right) dS
$$

The terms *I* and *II* (included V) can be combined together:

$$
\iint_{V} \left\{ \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial t} + \nabla \bullet (\vec{v} \psi) \right\} dV = \frac{d}{dt} \int_{V} \psi dV + \int_{S} \vec{n} \bullet (\vec{v} - \vec{v}_{s}) \psi dS
$$

 $S₂$

In the term **VI** the surface S is considered as the sum of three contributions:

$$
S = S_1 + S_2 + S^*
$$

Where:
• S₁ is inlet surface to the system
• S₂ is the outlet surface from the system
• S^{*} is the remaining part of the surface (impenetrable)
The term VI becomes :

$$
\int_{S} \vec{n} \cdot (\vec{v} - \vec{v_s}) \psi dS =
$$
\n
$$
= \int_{S_1+S_2} \vec{n} \cdot (\vec{v} - \vec{v_s}) \psi dS + \int_{S^*} \vec{n} \cdot (\vec{v} - \vec{v_s}) \psi dS^* = -\int_{S_1} \nabla_1 \psi_1 dS_1 + \int_{S_2} \nabla_2 \psi_2 dS_2 + 0
$$

Where:

 \rightarrow \sim

- v_1 is the relative speedness in the inlet section (directed toward the opposite verse to the \bullet normal \vec{n}) $\vec{n} \cdot (\vec{v} - \vec{v}_s) = 0$
- \cdot v₂ is the relative speedness in the outlet section

• Term VII is null because on S^{*}
$$
\vec{n} \cdot (\vec{v} - \vec{v}_s) = 0
$$

Further Hypothesis:

 ψ_1 and ψ_2 are averaged and, therefore, constant, respectively on S₁ and S₂

The terms *VIII* and *IX* can be simplified as follows:

$$
\int_{S_1} \mathbf{V}_1 \boldsymbol{\psi}_1 dS_1 = \overline{\boldsymbol{\psi}}_1 \int_{S_1} \mathbf{V}_1 dS_1 = \overline{\boldsymbol{\psi}}_1 Q_1 \quad ; \quad \int_{S_2} \mathbf{V}_2 \boldsymbol{\psi}_2 dS_2 = \overline{\boldsymbol{\psi}}_2 \int_{S_2} \mathbf{V}_2 dS_2 = \overline{\boldsymbol{\psi}}_2 Q_2
$$

where Q_1 and Q_2 are volumetric flowrates through S_1 and S_2 , respectively.

The term *III* is integrated over the volume V and yields:

$$
\int_{V} \sum_{i=1}^{m} \frac{\partial}{\partial \zeta_{i}} (v_{i}\psi) dV = \sum_{i=1}^{m} \int_{V} \frac{\partial}{\partial \zeta_{i}} (v_{i}\psi) dV =
$$
\n
$$
= \sum_{i=1}^{m} \frac{\partial}{\partial \zeta_{i}} \int_{V} v_{i}\psi dV = \sum_{i=1}^{m} \frac{\partial}{\partial \zeta_{i}} \left[v_{i} \int_{V} \psi dV \right] = V \sum_{i=1}^{m} \frac{\partial}{\partial \zeta_{i}} (v_{i}\overline{\psi})
$$
\nThe term *IV* yields:
\n
$$
\int_{V} (M - N) dV = V (M - \overline{N})
$$

Population balance model on «macroscopic scale»

After replacing all the terms:

$$
V \frac{\partial}{\partial t} (\overline{\psi}) + V \sum_{i=1}^{m} \frac{\partial}{\partial \zeta_i} (v_i \overline{\psi}) + V(\overline{M} - \overline{N}) - Q_i \overline{\psi}_1 + Q_2 \overline{\psi}_2 = 0
$$

Dividing by V:

This is the **population balance model on «macroscopic scale»** (without x, y, z coordinates)

Example No. 1 Vapor Deposition in a gas-solid fluidized bed

 ch.14 pag.136, Daizo Kunii and Octave Levenspiel, Fluidization Engineering , 2nd. ed. Butterworth-Heinemann, 1991

Vapor Deposition in a gas-solid fluidized bed

17

Population Balance approach: the generation term

 $\Re(d)$ is the rate of particle size change with time (property kinetics)

The overall generation

$$
\overline{N}_{\text{tot}} = \int_0^\infty \overline{N}(d) \, d\theta =
$$
\n
$$
= \int_0^\infty \frac{3 \cdot W \cdot p(d) \cdot \Re(d)}{d} \, d\theta = \frac{\text{generated mass}}{\text{time}}
$$

19

Overall Mass Balances

IN – OUT + GEN = 0

on the solid phase with ref. to the whole fluid bed:

 $F_0 - F_1 + \overline{N}_{\text{tot}} = 0$ **1.**

This is NOT a Population Balance eq.

on the gas phase with ref. to the whole fluid bed:

 $\dot{m}_{IN} - \dot{m}_{OUT} - \overline{N}_{tot} = 0$ **1 bis.**

Further Hypotheses

Population Balance approach: integration of mass balance eq.

with ref. to an infinitesimal size interval located immediately below the feed size D_0 : $[D_0; D_0-dd]$
 $F_0 \cdot p_0(d) - F_1 \cdot p(d) - W \cdot \Re(d) \frac{dp(d)}{dd} - W \cdot p(d) \frac{d\Re(d)}{dd} + \frac{3 \cdot W \cdot p(d) \cdot \Re(d)}{d} = 0$
 $F_0 \cdot p_0(d)dd - F_1 \cdot p(d)dd - W \cdot \Re(d) \cdot dp$ $\frac{F_0 \cdot p_0(d) d d}{\Re(d)} - W dp(d) = 0$ \rightarrow **p(d)***d***d** = 0 **integration over [0, D₀] gives p(D₀):
** $\int_{0}^{D_{0}} \frac{F_{0} \cdot p_{0}(d)}{\Re(d)} d d - \int_{p(D)=0}^{p(D_{0})} W dp(d) = 0$ **
** $F_{0} \cdot \int_{0}^{D_{0}} \frac{p_{0}(d)}{\Re(d)} d d = W \cdot \int_{p(0)=0}^{p(D_{0})} dp(d)$ **d 0** D₀ \Rightarrow $p_0(d) = \delta(d - D_0)$

$$
\Rightarrow p_0(\mathbf{d}) = \delta(\mathbf{d} - \mathbf{D}_0)
$$

\n
$$
\Rightarrow \int_0^{D_0} \frac{\delta(\mathbf{d} - \mathbf{D}_0)}{\Re(\mathbf{d})} d\mathbf{d} = \frac{1}{\Re(\mathbf{D}_0)}
$$

\n4. $p(\mathbf{D}_0) = \frac{\mathbf{F}_0}{\mathbf{W} \cdot \Re(\mathbf{D}_0)} \neq 0$

Population Balance approach: integration of mass balance eq.

with ref. to an infinitesimal size interval [d;d+*d*d] located above the feed size D₀:

$$
F_0 \cdot p_0(d/dd - F_1 \cdot p(d)dd - W \cdot \mathfrak{R}(d) \cdot dp(d) - W \cdot p(d)dd \cdot \frac{d\mathfrak{R}(d)}{dd} + \frac{3 \cdot W \cdot \mathfrak{R}(d)}{d}p(d)dd = 0
$$

manipulation and integration over [D₀, d] with d>D₀ give:

$$
-\int_{D_0}^{d} \frac{F_1}{W \cdot \Re(d)} dd - \int_{p(D_0)}^{p(d)} \frac{dp(d)}{p(d)} - \int_{\Re(D_0)}^{\Re(d)} \frac{d\Re(d)}{\Re(d)} + 3 \cdot \int_{D_0}^{d} \frac{dd}{d} = 0
$$

$$
-\frac{F_1}{W} \int_{D_0}^{d} \frac{d d}{\Re(d)} + \ln \frac{p(D_0)}{p(d)} + \ln \frac{\Re(D_0)}{\Re(d)} + 3 \cdot \ln \frac{d}{D_0} = 0
$$

Population Balance approach: entity distribution eq. p(d)

where d' is an integration variable

Population Balance approach: congruence condition for p(d)
 $\int_{D_0}^{\infty} p(d) d d = 1$
 $\int_{D_0}^{\infty} \frac{F_0}{W \cdot \Re(d)} \cdot \frac{d^3}{D_0^3} \cdot e^{-\frac{F_1}{W} \int_{D_0}^d \frac{d d'}{\Re(d')}} d d = 1$ W = $\frac{F_0}{D_0^3}$ $\cdot \int_{D_0}^{\infty} \frac{d^3}{\Re(d)} \cdot e^{-\frac{F_1}{W_{D_0}^d} \frac{dd'}{\Re(d')}} d d$

26

Population Balance approach: Final equations

$$
F_1 - F_0 = 3W \int_{D_0}^{\infty} \frac{p(d) \cdot \Re(d)}{d} d\alpha
$$

2.

3.

$$
W = \frac{F_0}{D_0^3} \cdot \int_{D_0}^{\infty} \frac{d^3}{\Re(d)} \cdot e^{-\frac{F_1}{W} \int_{D_0}^d \frac{dd'}{\Re(d')}} d d
$$

$$
p(d) = \frac{F_0}{W \cdot \Re(d)} \cdot \frac{d^3}{D_0^3} \cdot e^{-\frac{F_1}{W} \int_{D_0}^d \frac{dd'}{\Re(d')}
$$

Population Balance approach: Integro-differential equations

More generally, size distributions are time dependent. Ex.:

rate of change of the distribution (shape) depends on the whole distribution

Example No. 2 Sublimation in a gas-solid fluidized bed

29

Hypotheses

- Macroscopic approach
- Batch operation (dynamical system)
- "Active" particles (i.e., sublimating particles) different from the particles constituting the fluidized bed
- Perfect mixing
- All "Active" particles maintain the same composition
- Particles having spherical geometry
- Particles having constant density
- Negligible elutriation
- Negligible solid-solid and solid-wall attrition

NOMENCLATURE

- W_0 = overall mass of sublimating solid particles at time 0
- \cdot W(t) = overall mass of sublimating solid particles at time t

scheme of the fluidized bed Air

Population Balance approach: batch sublimation in fluidized bed

31

Population Balance approach: batch sublimation in fluidized bed

control volume in the "**property space**"

mass Balance on the size interval Δd and in the time interval Δt

$$
m(d + \Delta d, t) \frac{d\mathbf{d}}{dt} \Big|_{\mathbf{d} + \Delta \mathbf{d}} \Delta t - m(d, t) \frac{d\mathbf{d}}{dt} \Big|_{\mathbf{d}} \Delta t - \frac{3m(d, t)\Delta d\Re(\mathbf{d})}{d} \Delta t = \left\{ [m(d, t)]_{t + \Delta t} - [m(d, t)]_{t} \right\} \Delta \mathbf{d}
$$

where: $\Re(\mathbf{d}) = \frac{d\mathbf{d}}{dt} \Big[= \frac{m}{s}$

Population Balance approach: batch sublimation in fluidized bed

Population Balance approach: batch sublimation in fluidized bed

Comparison with the **population balance model on «macroscopic scale»**

Total mass at time t:

$$
W(t) = \int_0^{d_{max}} m(d, t) \, d\!d
$$

Population Balance approach: batch sublimation in fluidized bed

Particular cases for sublimation kinetics

1. Volume 2. Surface

$$
\frac{d\mathbf{m}_{\mathbf{p}}}{dt} = \rho_{\mathbf{p}} \frac{\pi}{6} \frac{d\mathbf{d}^{3}}{dt} = -c\pi \mathbf{d}^{2} \quad \left[= \right] \frac{\mathbf{kg}}{\mathbf{s}}
$$
\n
$$
\rho_{\mathbf{p}} \frac{3\pi \mathbf{d}^{2}}{6} \frac{d\mathbf{d}}{dt} = -c\pi \mathbf{d}^{2}
$$
\n
$$
\Re(\mathbf{d}) = -\mathbf{k}
$$
\n
$$
-\mathbf{k} \frac{\partial \mathbf{m}(\mathbf{d}, \mathbf{t})}{\partial \mathbf{d}} + \frac{3\mathbf{km}(\mathbf{d}, \mathbf{t})}{\mathbf{d}} = \frac{\partial \mathbf{m}(\mathbf{d}, \mathbf{t})}{\partial \mathbf{t}}
$$

Yeast cell distribution in a fermenter

Example of sine wave

