

# Collision and Coagulation of Particles

- Important especially for the case of high concentration
- Particle collision leads to a reduction in total number and an increase in the average size
- Influence the determination of particle growth & morphology
- Why does collision occur ?

: difference in particle velocity (in vector)

(Brownian motion, Shear flow, turbulent motion,  
Differential sedimentation, External force(electrically,  
acoustically))



# Collision and Coagulation of Particles

- Fast coalescence limit : can assume spherical particle (competition between collision and coalescence)

$N_{ij}$  : number of collisions per unit time per unit volume between particles of volumes  $(v_i, v_j)$  : (unit #/cm<sup>3</sup> sec)

$$N_{ij} = \beta(v_i, v_j)n_i n_j$$

$\beta$  : collision frequency function or coagulation coefficient : cm<sup>3</sup>/sec



## Rate of formation of particles of size $v_k$

$$v_i + v_j = v_k \quad \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i+j=k} N_{ij}$$

For the case of  $i=j$ ,  $\frac{1}{2} \beta(v_i, v_j) n_i n_j$ .

← due to the indistinguishability of two equal sized particles.)

half particle: red : half particle: blue

$$\beta(v_i, v_j) \frac{n_i}{2} \frac{n_i}{2} = \frac{1}{4} \beta n_i^2 \quad \beta(v_i, v_j) \left( \frac{n_i}{4} \frac{n_i}{4} + \frac{n_i}{4} \frac{n_i}{4} \right) = \frac{1}{8} \beta n_i^2$$

$$\beta(v_i, v_i) \left( \frac{n_i}{8} \frac{n_i}{8} + \frac{n_i}{8} \frac{n_i}{8} + \frac{n_i}{8} \frac{n_i}{8} + \frac{n_i}{8} \frac{n_i}{8} \right) = \frac{1}{16} \beta n_i^2$$

$$\therefore \beta n_i^2 \left( \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{16} + \dots \right), \text{ since } \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} 2^{-n} = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \beta n_i^2 \text{ as a result of indistinguishability of coagulating particles}$$



## Rate of loss of particles of $v_k$

$$\text{loss} = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} N_{ik}$$

$$\therefore \frac{dn_k}{dt} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i+j=k} N_{ij} - \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} N_{ij}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i+j=k} \beta(v_i, v_j) n_i n_j - n_k \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \beta(v_i, v_j) n_i$$

Particle dynamics equation for discrete size when coagulation alone is considered.



# Coagulation mechanisms

- **Brownian Coagulation**
- **Laminar Shear**
- **Turbulent Shear**
- **Differential Sedimentation**



## Brownian coagulation : important for $d_p \ll 1\mu\text{m}$

$\lambda_g < d_p < 1\mu\text{m} \rightarrow$  continuum approach

: thermal motion of gas molecules and its associated random motion of small particles

1. equal-sized particles of radius  $r_p$  at concentration  $n_0$

: imagine one particle to be stationary

: point particle deposition on the fixed particle

$$\frac{\partial n}{\partial t} = D \left( \frac{\partial^2 n}{\partial r^2} + \frac{2}{r} \frac{\partial n}{\partial r} \right) \quad n(r, 0) = n_0 \quad n(\infty, t) = n_0 \quad n(2r_p, t) = 0$$

$$\text{Sol. } n(r, t) = n_0 \left( 1 - \frac{2r_p}{r} \operatorname{erfc} \left( \frac{r - 2r_p}{2\sqrt{Dt}} \right) \right)$$



# The rate at which particles arrive at the surface $r=2r_p$

$$J = 16\pi r_p^2 D \left. \frac{\partial n}{\partial r} \right|_{r=2r_p} = 8\pi r_p D n_0 \left( 1 + \frac{2r_p}{\sqrt{\pi D t}} \right)$$

initially very rapid collision, but

$$\frac{2r_p}{\sqrt{\pi D t}} \ll 1,$$

collision rate approaches the steady state

$$\rightarrow 8\pi r_p D n_0$$



When  $r_{p1}$  and  $r_{p2}$  have Brownian motion simultaneously,

$$D_{ij} = \frac{\overline{|\vec{x}_i - \vec{x}_j|^2}}{2t} = \frac{\overline{|\vec{x}_i|^2}}{2t} + \frac{\overline{|\vec{x}_j|^2}}{2t} - 2 \frac{\overline{(\vec{x}_i \cdot \vec{x}_j)}}{2t}$$

$$\langle x^2 \rangle = 2Dt$$

$r_{p1}$  : fixed  $\rightarrow$  same problem

$D \rightarrow D_{12}$   $r \rightarrow r_{p1} + r_{p2}$

$$n_2 = n_{20} \left( 1 - \frac{r_{p1} + r_{p2}}{r} \operatorname{erfc} \left( \frac{r - (r_{p1} + r_{p2})}{2\sqrt{D_{12}t}} \right) \right)$$

$J = 4\pi(r_{p1} + r_{p1})D_{12}n_{20}(1 + \dots) \leftarrow$  steady solution per a single #1 particle





**When there are more than one #1 particle, total collision rate between #1 and #2 particles per unit volume**

$$J = 4\pi(r_{p1} + r_{p1})D_{12}n_{20}n_{10} \leftarrow \#/\text{cm}^3 \text{ sec}$$

$$= N_{ij} = \beta(v_i, v_j)n_i n_j$$

$$\beta(v_i, v_j) = 4\pi(D_1 + D_2)(r_{p1} + r_{p2})$$

$$= 2\pi(D_1 + D_2)(d_{p1} + d_{p2})$$

$$= \frac{2kT}{3\mu} \left( \frac{1}{v_1^{1/3}} + \frac{1}{v_2^{1/3}} \right) \left( v_1^{1/3} + v_2^{1/3} \right)$$

$$D_1 = \frac{kT}{3\pi\mu d_{p1}} \quad D_2 = \frac{kT}{3\pi\mu d_{p2}}$$



**free-molecular regime, i.e.,  $d_p \ll \lambda_g \rightarrow$  kinetic theory**

$f(v)d^3v$ : mean number of particles  
per unit volume with center  
of mass velocity in the range  
between  $v$  and  $v + dv$

$$f(v) = n \left( \frac{m}{2\pi kT} \right)^{3/2} \exp\left(-mv^2/2kT\right)$$

: Maxwell-Boltzmann distribution



$$\bar{v} = \frac{1}{n} \int v f(v) d^3v$$

$$d^3v = dv_x dv_y dv_z$$

in spherical coordinate

$$d^3v = v^2 dv \sin \theta d\theta d\vartheta$$

$$\therefore \bar{v} = \frac{1}{n} \int_0^\infty \int_0^\pi \int_0^{2\pi} v^2 dv \sin \theta d\theta d\vartheta f(v)v$$

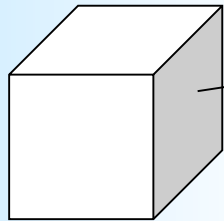
$$= \frac{4\pi}{n} \int_0^\infty f(v)v^3 dv = \left( \frac{8kT}{\pi m} \right)^{1/2} : \text{mean speed}$$



# Collision rate per unit area

#/m<sup>2</sup>sec : number of collisions per unit area per unit time

i) crude calculation



number of particle having Z-direction velocity

$\approx \frac{n}{6}$  per unit volume

particle with  $\bar{v}$  moves  $\bar{v}dt$  in  $dt$ , which makes volume  $\bar{v}dtA$

∴ total number of particles which strike

per unit area per unit time  $\square \frac{1}{6}n\bar{v} \square n\bar{v}$



ii) Exact calculation : consider the distribution of particle velocity

consider particles with velocity  $v$  to  $v+dv$  its

direction  $\theta$  to  $\theta + d\theta$  and  $\vartheta$  to  $\vartheta + d\vartheta$

$f(v)d^3v v dt dA \cos \theta$ : number of particles of this type that strike the area  $dA$  in time  $dt$   
total number of particles that strike a unit area of the wall per unit time

$$\Phi_0 = \int f(v)v \cos \theta d^3v$$

$$0 < v < \infty \quad 0 < \vartheta < 2\pi \quad 0 < \theta < \frac{\pi}{2} \quad \frac{\pi}{2} < \theta < \pi$$

: particles leaving from the wall

$$d^3v = v^2 dv \sin \theta d\theta d\vartheta$$

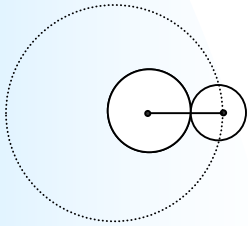
$$\therefore \Phi_0 = \int_0^\infty f(v)v^3 dv \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \sin \theta \cos \theta d\theta \times \int_0^{2\pi} d\vartheta = \pi \int_0^\infty f(v)v^3 dv$$

$$\bar{v} = \frac{4\pi}{n} \int_0^\infty f(v)v^3 dv \quad \therefore \Phi_0 = \frac{1}{4} n \bar{v} \quad \text{Effusion flux}$$



Fix  $d_{p1}$  particle

$$\overline{v_{12}} = \left( \overline{v_1^2} + \overline{v_2^2} \right)^{1/2} : \text{mean speed}$$



$$\therefore \pi \left( d_{p1} + d_{p2} \right)^2 \frac{1}{4} n_2 \overline{v_{12}}$$

collision rate per single particle of 1

$\therefore$  total collision rate between 1 and 2 particles per unit volume

$$N_{12} = \pi \left( d_{p1} + d_{p2} \right)^2 \frac{1}{4} n_2 \overline{v_{12}} n_1$$

$$\therefore \beta = \frac{\pi}{4} \left( d_{p1} + d_{p2} \right)^2 \overline{v_{12}}$$



$$\overline{v_{12}} = \sqrt{v_1^2 + v_2^2} = \frac{4(3kT)^{1/2}}{\pi\rho_p^{1/2}} \left( \frac{1}{d_{p1}^3} + \frac{1}{d_{p2}^3} \right)^{1/2}$$

$$\therefore \beta = \left( \frac{3kT}{\rho_p} \right)^{1/2} (d_{p1} + d_{p2})^2 \left( \frac{1}{d_{p1}^3} + \frac{1}{d_{p2}^3} \right)^{1/2}$$

$$v_1 = \frac{1}{6} \pi d_{p1}^3 \quad v_2 = \frac{1}{6} \pi d_{p2}^3$$

$$\left( \frac{6v_1}{\pi} \right)^{1/3} = d_{p1} \quad \left( \frac{6v_2}{\pi} \right)^{1/3} = d_{p2}$$

$$\beta = \left( \frac{3}{4\pi} \right)^{1/6} \left( \frac{6kT}{\rho_p} \right)^{1/2} \left( \frac{1}{v_i} + \frac{1}{v_j} \right)^{1/2} \times \left( v_i^{1/3} + v_j^{1/3} \right)^2 \quad \text{Eq. (7-17)}$$



# Transition regime? Fuchs formula

TABLE 10.1 Fuchs Form of the Brownian Coagulation Coefficient K12

$$K_{12} = 2\pi(D_1 + D_2)(D_{p1} + D_{p2}) \left[ \frac{D_{p1} + D_{p2}}{D_{p1} + D_{p2} + 2g_{12}} + \frac{8(D_{p1} + D_{p2})}{\bar{c}_{12}(D_{p1} + D_{p2})} \right]^{-1}$$

$$D_i = \frac{kT}{3\pi\mu D_{pi}} \left[ \frac{5 + 4Kn_i + 6Kn_i^2 + 18kn_i^3}{5 - Kn_i + (8 + \pi)Kn_i^2} \right] \text{Phillips(1975)}$$

$$g_{12} = (g_1^2 + g_2^2)^{1/2} \quad g_1 = \left( \frac{1}{(3D_{pi}l_i)} \right) \left[ (D_{pi} + l_i)^3 - (D_{pi}^2 l_i^2)^{3/2} \right] - D_{pi}$$

$$l_i = \frac{8D_i}{\pi \bar{c}_i} \quad \bar{c}_i = \left( \frac{8kT}{\pi m_1} \right)^{1/2} \quad Kn_i = \frac{2\lambda_{air}}{D_{pi}}$$

$$\bar{c}_{12} = (\bar{c}_1^2 + \bar{c}_2^2)^{1/2}$$





**TABLE 10.1. Fuchs Form of the Brownian Coagulation Coefficient  $K_{12}$**

$$K_{12} = 2\pi(D_1 + D_2)(D_{p1} + D_{p2}) \left[ \frac{D_{p1} + D_{p2}}{D_{p1} + D_{p2} + 2g_{12}} + \frac{8(D_1 + D_2)}{\bar{c}_{12}(D_{p1} + D_{p2})} \right]^{-1}$$

$$D_i = \frac{kT}{3\pi\mu D_{pi}} \left[ \frac{5 + 4Kn_i + 6Kn_i^2 + 18Kn_i^3}{5 - Kn_i + (8 + \pi)Kn_i^2} \right] \quad \text{Phillips (1975)}$$

$$g_{12} = (g_1^2 + g_2^2)^{1/2}$$

$$g_i = (1/(3D_{pi}l_i))[(D_{pi} + l_i)^3 - (D_{pi}^2 + l_i^2)^{3/2}] - D_{pi}$$

$$l_i = 8D_i/\pi\bar{c}_i$$

$$\bar{c}_i = (8kT/\pi m_i)^{1/2}$$

$$Kn_i = 2\lambda_{air}/D_{pi}$$

$$\bar{c}_{12} = (\bar{c}_1^2 + \bar{c}_2^2)^{1/2}$$



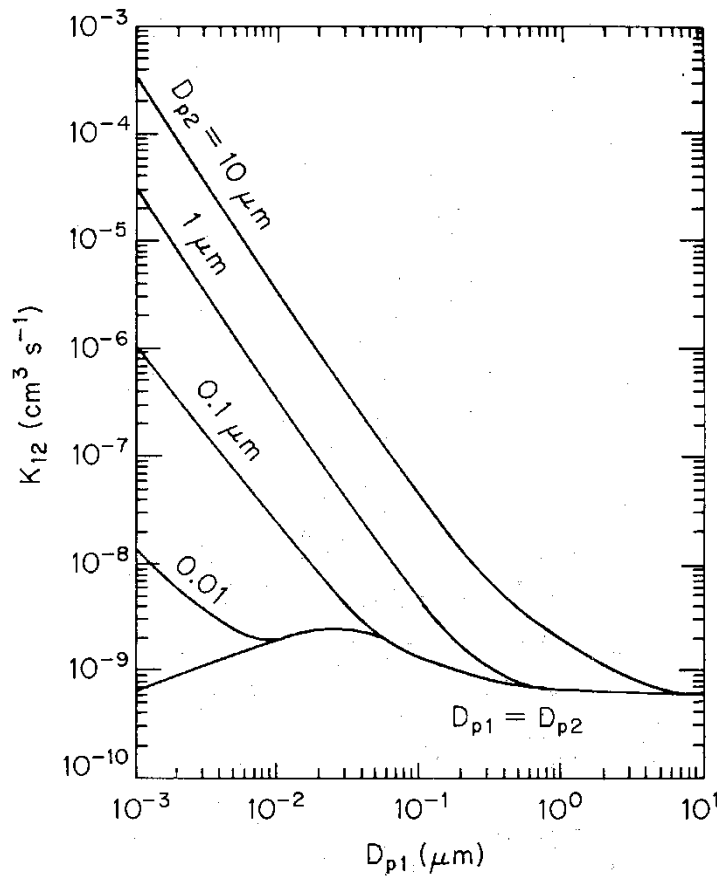


Fig.13 Brownian coagulation coefficient  $K(D_{p1}, D_{p2})$  for particles of density  $\rho_p = 1 \text{ g cm}^{-3}$  in air at 298K, 1atm



- continuum regime  $d_{p1} = d_{p2}$

$$\rightarrow \beta = \frac{8kT}{3\mu} \quad ; \text{ independent of particle size}$$

$$\text{free molecular} \rightarrow \beta = 4 \left( \frac{6kT}{\rho_p} \right)^{1/2} d_p^{1/2}$$

The maximum occurs near  $0.02\mu\text{m}$  ( $\rho_p = 1 \text{ g/cc}$ )

The reason is that large particle has low diffusivity and small particle has small cross-section area  $\rightarrow$

The maximum near  $0.02\mu\text{m}$



- For given  $d_{p1}$ , if  $d_{p2}$  becomes larger,  
target area increases proportionally to  $d_p^2$   
but, diffusivity decreases with  $\frac{1}{d_p}$

$$\lim \beta = \frac{2kT}{3\mu} \frac{d_{p2}}{d_{p1}} \quad \therefore d_{p2}^2 \times \frac{1}{d_{p2}} = d_{p2}$$

for free molecular regime,  $\lim_{d_{p2} \gg d_{p1}} \beta = \left( \frac{3kT}{\rho_p} \right)^{1/2} \frac{d_{p2}^2}{d_{p1}^{3/2}}$



**Coagulation coefficient increases more rapidly with  $d_p^2$  for free molecular regime than for continuum regime**



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