A New Approach of Dedusting for IGCC by a Two-Stage Moving Granular Bed Filter

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Abstract: We propose a dust removal technology in which a two-stage moving granular bed filter was employed using coarse and fine filtering granules. The pressure drop, collection efficiency, and dust particulate size distributions were investigated using various mass flow rates for coarse and fine granules at room temperature. In addition, the ratio of mass consumption was used to reveal the actual mass flow. The ratio of mass consumption influenced the pressure drop, collection efficiency, and dust particulate size distributions. Particulates larger than 1.775 µm were removed by the filter. Our results showed that a mass flow of 330 g/min for coarse granules and a mass flow of 1100 g/min for fine granules provided optimal collection efficiency and particulate size distribution. The proposed design can aid the development of high-temperature systems in power plants.

Keywords: gas cleanup; collection efficiency; moving granular bed filter; two-stage granules

1. Introduction

Coal is a general fossil fuel used in steel and power plants and industrial facilities due to its abundance, requiring a low capital investment. However, greenhouse gas emissions generated from the combustion of coal have harmful effects on human life and the environment. The International Agency for Research on Cancer of the World Health Organization announced that particulate matter in coal combustion residuals is carcinogenic [1]. To mitigate the effects of coal on human health and protect the environment, coal-cleaning technologies have attracted attention to protect the environment [2]. Pressurized fluidized bed combustion (PFBC) and integrated gasification combined cycle (IGCC) systems are the most promising coal-cleaning technologies for coal gasification [3–7]. However, synthesis gases generated by PFBC and IGCC emit particulate matter, such as sulfur oxides (SOX) and nitrogen oxides (NOX), which are released by gasification processes. These emissions damage downstream gas turbines and pollute the environment.

Ceramic barrier filters are among the well-known technologies for protecting the environment by removing particulates. However, economic concerns, discontinuous operation, and thermal fracture mechanisms have been reported for ceramic filters [8,9]. Compared to ceramic filters, granular bed filters (GBFs) are more advantageous, offering cheaper filter granules, continuous operation, and functionality under low-pressure conditions [10]. Therefore, GBFs are used in hot gas cleaning applications.

Previous studies [8,11–13] involved experimental and simulation results regarding the collection efficiency, pressure drop, surface velocity of the filtering granule free surface, mass flow rates of filtering granules, and filter bed depth of GBFs involving mono-sized filtering granules. However, mono-sized filtering granules fall short of providing sufficient collection efficiency. Decreasing the size of the filtering granules can thus appropriately
increase the pressure drop and collection efficiency. Thus, two-stage or multi-stage filters have been developed [14,15], especially for water treatment systems using ultrafine particles [16,17]. By using different granule sizes in the same filtering system, better filtering efficiency and flow behavior were observed in comparison with using mono-sized granules. In addition, the collection efficiency was improved, and pressure drops were reduced [18]. With the powder-grain level, the combined dual-layer GBF demonstrated better collection efficiency (99.835%) than those of individual layers (96.240% and 89.905%) [19]. Based on the vertical configuration of dual-layer GBFs, the collection efficiency was 1.3 times better than that of single-layer GBFs with particulate diameters of 1–10 μm [20]. These studies [14–20] showed that two-stage or multi-stage filters improve collection efficiency, increase dust loading, and offer acceptable pressure drops. However, these filters cause operational problems in long-term industrial applications [10] because prior studies have focused on the fixed-bed mode; limited studies have been dedicated to developing moving beds.

This study introduced a novel concept for the three-dimensional movement and continuity of filtering granules. The two-stage moving granular bed filter (MGBF) in our previous study [21] used a two-dimensional asymmetrical geometric design for two granule sizes, which vertically flow from the upper hopper to the lower filter, thus diminishing stagnant zones. The three-dimensional apparatus of the two-stage MGBF was built from a two-dimensional setup for cold filtration tests (Figure 1). A series of cold tests with a two-stage MGBF were conducted to investigate its dust collection efficiency. Five mass flow rates for coarse granules and one mass flow rate for fine granules and vice versa have been examined in real time, and pressure drops, collection efficiencies, and particulate size distributions ($D_{50}$) were determined. Furthermore, the ratio of mass consumption (mass of coarse granules divided by the mass of fine granules) was analyzed. The real-time experimental results obtained from this study show that the designed two-stage MGBF can be deployed in high-temperature environments [22].

![Figure 1. Schematic of the two-stage filtration mode.](image)

### 2. Experimental Methodology

The two-stage MGBF used in this study consisted of an upper hopper, an MGBF, a conveyer (585 mm × 1090 mm × 600 mm, rated frequency: ~0–60 Hz) for mass flow rate control, an air compressor (Fusheng, Model: FTA-150II, 15 HP), a dust feeder (500 mm × 300 mm × 300 mm, capacity: 10 kg, feeding amount: max 200 g/min), and a process particle counter (PPC, Process Metrix, LLC. Model: PPC-P), as shown in Figure 2. The designed MGBF was based on quasi-two-dimensional tests reported in our previous study [21]. The dimensions were 1570 mm (height), 380 mm (width), and 500 mm (depth). An asymmetrical flow-corrective insert was placed in the MGBF, and clean filter granules were stored in the upper hopper, which was connected to the MGBF. These filtering granules flew from the top to the bottom of the filter due to gravity. Accordingly, a cross-flow filtration mechanism occurred as the clean air flew horizontally through the filter from the left side to the right...
side. Table 1 shows two groups of mass flow rates: C and F groups. The C group included various mass flow rates (110, 330, 440, 550, and 1100 g/min) of coarse granules (\(\dot{m}_C\)) and a fixed mass flow rate of fine granules (for C1, C2, C3, C4, and C5, respectively). Conversely, the F group included various mass flow rates (110, 330, 440, 550, and 1100 g/min) of fine granules (\(\dot{m}_F\)) and a fixed mass flow rate of coarse granules (for F1, F2, F3, F4, and F5, respectively). A mass flow rate of 330 g/min was concluded to be the optimal setup, as determined in our previous study [21]. These coarse and fine granules were controlled by two variable-frequency conveyers located under the MGBF. The ratio of mass consumption (\(R_M\)) was used to characterize the total mass consumption by coarse and fine granules:

\[
R_M = \frac{M_{C,3\text{hours}}}{M_{F,3\text{hours}}}
\]

where \(M_{C,3\text{hours}}\) is the total mass consumption of coarse granules, and \(M_{F,3\text{hours}}\) is the total mass consumption of fine granules in three hours of a moving-bed phase.

Figure 2. Schematic of the apparatus. The red and green arrows represent the direction of the airstream and filtration granules, respectively.

Table 1. Experimental setups for different mass flow rates of coarse granules and fine granules.

| Test | Mass Flow Rate (g/min) | Mass Consumption (kg) | Ratio |
|------|------------------------|-----------------------|-------|
|      | Coarse Granules | Fine Granules | Coarse Granules | Fine Granules |
| C1   | 110               | 74.4                  | 62.5               | 1.19            |
| C2   | 330               | 77.8                  | 90.5               | 0.86            |
| C3   | 440               | 138.5                 | 94.2               | 1.47            |
| C4   | 550               | 157.1                 | 102.7              | 1.53            |
| C5   | 1100              | 198.6                 | 223.1              | 0.89            |
| F1   | 110               | 69.7                  | 67.0               | 1.04            |
| F2 ¹ | 330               | 77.8                  | 90.5               | 0.86            |
| F3   | 330               | 103.0                 | 125.6              | 0.82            |
| F4   | 550               | 123.5                 | 122.3              | 1.01            |
| F5   | 1100              | 235.0                 | 178.0              | 1.32            |

¹ Test F2 has the same setup as Test C2.
Fine granules had a diameter from 0.2 to 0.5 mm ($D_{50} = 0.412$ mm), whereas the diameter of coarse granules ranged from 2 to 4 mm ($D_{50} = 2.483$ mm). Table 2 shows the properties of coarse and fine granules. The granules comprised silicon dioxide (95%) and additional chemicals (Al$_2$O$_3$, Fe$_2$O$_3$, MgO, CaO, and NaO, 5%). The fixed filtration superficial velocity of the filtering granule free surface was 7.4 cm/s, which was maintained using an air compressor at the inlet of the filter. The pressure drops were measured by pitot tubes between the inlet and outlet of the filter. The concentration of dust particulates was stimulated via the dust feeder, which provided a fixed value of 15,000 ppmw at the inlet, and the raw data of the concentration from the outlet was measured by the PPC. The source of dust particulates was obtained from a coal-fired plant in Linkou, Taiwan. The size of dust particulates ranged from 3.905 to 344.206 $\mu$m with a nearly Gaussian distribution. The mass median diameter ($D_{50}$) of dust particulates was 41.043 $\mu$m, and the bulk density of the dust was 898.56 kg/m$^3$. The size distribution of dust particulates is shown in Figure 3.

![Size distribution of dust particulates](image)

**Figure 3.** Size distribution of dust particulates.

**Table 2.** Properties of coarse granules and fine granules.

|                      | Coarse Granules | Fine Granules |
|----------------------|----------------|--------------|
| Mean size, $D_{50}$ (mm) | 2.483         | 0.412        |
| Wall friction angle, $\phi_w$ (°) | 15.78         | 20.90        |
| Bulk density, $\rho_b$ (kg/m$^3$) | 1420          | 1530         |

Before filtration, first, coarse granules were introduced into the whole filter until the vessel was full. Secondly, fine granules were placed in the part of the outlet on the right side of the filter until the right side of the vessel was full. Subsequently, the two granule types were left to circulate for two hours to achieve a steady two-stage flow because a steady circulation of filtering granules flowing without the dust in the filter is necessary. In other words, a steady flow of two-stage granules was realized before the filtration test. For moving-bed tests, $m_C$ and $m_F$ were controlled using two different conveyers. The air and dust were mixed in the dust feeder to simulate the dirty synthesis gas, which was then released into the filter. Using the cross-flow mechanism, the dust in the air is caught and separated through the clean filter granules. The concentration of particulates in the filtrated air was measured using a PPC device, and a flow chart of the procedures is shown in Figure 4.
3. Mechanism of GBF

Based on the constant value of the inlet concentration in this study, the removal filtration of a filter was determined by the outlet concentration, which was measured using a PPC. Thus, the collection efficiency was expressed as follows:

$$\eta(\%) = \left[1 - \left(\frac{C_{\text{out}}}{C_{\text{in}}}\right)\right] \times 100$$ (2)

where $\eta$ is the mass of the collection efficiency, $C_{\text{out}}$ is the mass of the concentration at the outlet, and $C_{\text{in}}$ is the mass of the concentration at the inlet. The collection efficiency is the weight ratio of the dust concentration measured by the introduced dust concentration.

The collection mechanisms could include diffusion, gravitational settlement, interception, inertial impaction, and electrostatic attraction (Figure 5) [23]. Among these mechanisms, inertial impaction is the most important mechanism for GBFs and can be characterized by the Stokes number, $St$, which is expressed as follows [24]:

$$St = \frac{2\rho_p r_p^2 U C}{9 \mu r_g}$$ (3)

where $\rho_p$ is the dust particulate density, $r_p$ is the dust particulate radius, $U$ is the superficial velocity, $C$ is the Cunningham correction factor, $\mu$ is the gas viscosity, and $r_g$ is the radius of a filter granule. The inertial impaction effect is negligible when the Stokes number is lower than 0.1 [25]. Nevertheless, the contribution of inertial impaction is significant for collecting fine particulates (5–50 $\mu$m) on filter granules larger than 1 mm [12]. According to the theory of inertial impaction, the aerosol particulate flows in a suspending airstream and keeps moving straight due to its inertia. When the suspending airstream passes around a larger granule, the aerosol particulate tends to keep flowing toward the granule and attach to it. The inertial impaction was the main mechanism observed in this study, explaining the tackling of micron-sized particulates in the cross-section of the GBF. The particulates can be tackled efficiently by a single granule due to the inertial impaction that depends on the relative velocity between particulates versus granules and the size of target granules.
In this study, the different mass flow rates of coarse and fine granules affected the relative mass flow rate between coarse granules versus fine granules and dust particulates versus filtration granules.

4. Results and Discussion

4.1. Pressure Drop under Different Mass Flow Rates of Coarse and Fine Granules

Pressure drop measurements over time at a fixed superficial velocity (7.4 cm/s) are shown in Figure 6, where the results were obtained using five $m_C$ values (110, 330, 440, 550, and 1100 g/min) and one $m_F$ (330 g/min) for fine granules. As shown in the figure, the pressure drop tendency did not change greatly until the pressure reached around 130 Pa at 300 min during the fixed-bed phase. In the fixed-bed phase, dust particulates continually passed through the fixed bed and were trapped by filtering granules; hence, the pressure drop increased over time. The depositional dust particulates in the fixed bed became saturated slowly as they accumulated in the bed, while the slope of the increase became smaller. Consequently, the operation of the fixed-bed phase was changed into a moving-bed phase. When the moving-bed phase started at around 300 min, the pressure drop rapidly fell for all tests. The rate of reduction was more significant from 300 to 330 min with the higher mass flow rates before reaching a steady state. This phenomenon was only seen for the C group of tests because the higher mass flow rate of coarse granules caused higher granule porosity, facilitating the airstream passing through the filter to the outlet. In addition, comparing the C group tests with the F group test, we found that the coarse/fine granules affected each other during the moving-bed phase. Thus, the behavior of pressure drops was not affected simply due to using only one $m_C$ or $m_F$. Test C1 had the highest mass flow rate and, as a result, the largest steady pressure drop; this was followed by, in order, tests C3, C4, C5, and C2. (see more details of discussion in the next paragraph).
Figure 6. Variation in pressure drop versus time for tests C1, C2, C3, C4, and C5, where \( \dot{m}_C = 110, 330, 440, 550, \) and \( 1100 \text{ g/min} \), respectively, and \( \dot{m}_F = 330 \text{ g/min} \).

Figure 7 shows pressure drop variations at a fixed superficial velocity (7.4 cm/s) over time by employing an \( \dot{m}_F \) of 110, 330, 440, 550, and \( 1100 \text{ g/min} \) and an \( \dot{m}_C \) of 330 g/min. During the fixed-bed phase, the pressure drop tendency was similar to that shown in Figure 6.

Figure 7. Variation in pressure drop versus time for tests F1, F2, F3, F4, and F5, where \( \dot{m}_F = 110, 330, 440, 550, \) and \( 1100 \text{ g/min} \), respectively, and \( \dot{m}_C = 330 \text{ g/min} \).
After the pressure drops continued until 440 min, they remained steady with slight oscillations at the end of the tests. Unlike Group C, tests from Group F required less than 50 min to reach a steady state for two reasons. First, the variation parameters for fine granules in Group C were located on the right side of the filter, i.e., the second stage, causing the pressure drop response to be relatively slow than group C. Second, the fine granules have a higher bulk density and, as a result, a higher flow resistance than coarse granules. The dust particulates in the airstream encountered higher flow resistance (lower porosity) passing through the filter to the outlet and thus took more time to reach a steady state. Notably, Test F5 with the highest pressure drop gave a different result of pressure drop in the steady state from that of Test C1. The pressure drops by the order of the rest mass flow rates from high to low were F1, F4, F2, and F3. Generally, a low-mass flow rate led to a high pressure drop because of the superficial velocity against the high residence by slowing granules. In the present study, the $\dot{m}_C$ and $\dot{m}_F$ affected with each other because of the mixed zone existing below the flow-corrective insert at the lower region of a filter. Thus the overall porosity of the filter cannot be demonstrated by single $\dot{m}_C$ or $\dot{m}_F$. When the difference was too large between the original setup of the $\dot{m}_C/\dot{m}_F$ (e.g., 110/330, 330/1100 g/min, see Table 1), the actual $\dot{m}_C$ or $\dot{m}_F$ started to change in the mixed zone, thereby the overall porosity of the filter was changed. Table 1 lists the mass consumed for both coarse and fine granules during the entire test. The ratio stood for the ratio of mass consumption by the mass of coarse granules divided by the mass of fine granules. Hence, the ratio of mass consumption could reflect the actual flow behaviors of coarse and fine granules. According to this point of view, the porosity of overall granules during the moving-bed phase depended on the actual flow behaviors of coarse and fine granules.

In Figure 8, the pressure drop as a result of various mass consumption ratios is shown. Here, the average pressure drop was collected from steady pressure drops over 500–600 min for all the tests (Tests C2 and F2 had the same setup). The pressure drop increased with an increase in the ratio of mass consumption from 0.82 to 1.32, reaching a peak value at a ratio of 1.32, but then rapidly decreased afterward at the ratios of 1.47 and 1.53. At the steady state, the largest pressure drop was seen during test C1, which had the lowest mass flow rate, followed by, in order, C3, C4, C5, and C2. As seen in Figure 6, the pressure drop is caused by the overall porosity in the filter during a moving-bed phase. As the mass consumption ratio ($R_M$) increased, the interaction between coarse and fine granules became more intense, thereby increasing the mixing effect in the mixed zone below the flow-corrective insert in the lower region of the filter. As this mixing effect became stronger as $R_M$ increased, the local porosity became smaller, thereby increasing the pressure drop. The pressure drop thus decreased with decreasing $R_M$, in order, as C1, C5, and C2. As shown in Figure 7, the pressure drops of tests from Group F were similar to those of Group C before $R_M = 1.32$. At the highest $R_M$ (i.e., in Test F5), the largest pressure drop occurred. As $R_M$ decreased, so did the pressure drop (in decreasing order, F1, F4, F2, and F3), as was seen in Group C.

Figure 9 might explain why the pressure drops of C3 and C4 did not increase proportionally with the increase in the mass consumption ratio. The airstream flew through Sections A (upper part of filter) and B (lower part of filter) equally when the pressure drop difference between coarse and fine granules in the mixed zone was small, i.e., when $R_M < 1.32$. When $R_M > 1.32$, the pressure drop increased more in the mixed zone of Section B than in Section A; hence, part of the airstream bypassed Section B and flew through Section A more easily, shortening the path of the airstream flowing through the filter. This explains why the pressure drop did not increase with the increase in $R_M$ and instead decreased with $R_M > 1.32$. 
Figure 8. Pressure drop versus mass consumption ratio for tests C1–C5 and F1–F5.

Figure 9 might explain why the pressure drops of C3 and C4 did not increase proportionally with the increase in the mass consumption ratio. The airstream flew through Sections A (upper part of filter) and B (lower part of filter) equally when the pressure drop difference between coarse and fine granules in the mixed zone was small, i.e., when \( R_M < 1.32 \). When \( R_M > 1.32 \), the pressure drop increased more in the mixed zone of Section B than in Section A; hence, part of the airstream bypassed Section B and flew through Section A more easily, shortening the path of the airstream flowing through the filter. This explains why the pressure drop did not increase with the increase in \( R_M \) and instead decreased with \( R_M > 1.32 \).

4.2. Collection Efficiency under Different Mass Flow Rates of Coarse and Fine Granules

Variations in collection efficiency at a fixed superficial velocity (7.4 cm/s) over time are shown in Figure 10, where the results were obtained using the \( \dot{m}_C \) values of 110, 330, 440, 550, and 1100 g/min and an \( \dot{m}_F \) of 330 g/min. The use of the PPC system detected the
real-time collection efficiency in a moving-bed phase from 300 to 600 min. The collection efficiency was the best in C1, followed by C3 and C4. In addition, higher pressure drop normally led to higher collection efficiency. When the overall porosity decreased because of the dust particulates being trapped by filtering granules in the filter, the pressure drop increased. The higher pressure drop then brought the higher collection efficiency, and the results of Figure 10 agreed well with the results of pressure drops (Figure 6). Figure 11 demonstrates the variations in collection efficiency using five different values of $\dot{m}_C$ of 110, 330, 440, 550, and 1100 g/min at fixed $\dot{m}_F$ (330 g/min) while employing a fixed superficial velocity (7.4 cm/s) over time. The figure showed that the collection efficiencies of F5 and F3 were the highest and lowest in this group, respectively. In comparison with the highest collection efficiency (99.18%) obtained in Test C1 in the C group (C1–C5), the highest collection efficiency (99.75%) obtained in Test F5 in the F group (F1–F5) was 0.571% higher, and the worst collection efficiency (96.20%) of the C group (C2) had 0.489% higher efficiency than the worst collection efficiency (95.73%) of the F group (F3).

Figure 10. Variation in collection efficiency versus time for tests C1, C2, C3, C4, and C5, where $\dot{m}_C = 110, 330, 440, 550, \text{ and } 1100 \text{ g/min}$, respectively, and $\dot{m}_F = 330 \text{ g/min}$.

Figure 12 shows the relationship between the collection efficiency and the ratio of mass consumption. The collection efficiency grew from the ratio of 0.82 to the highest ratio of 1.32 and then fell rapidly from the peak ratio of 1.32 to the ratio of 1.67. The highest ratio of 1.32 reached a collection efficiency of 99.75%, which is the best performance in all tests, and the ratio of 0.82 had the worst collection efficiency (95.73%). According to these results, the figure illustrated a tendency of peak point that was similar to the tendency seen for pressure drops (Figure 8). Based on Figure 9, a larger pressure drop difference of coarse and fine granules forced the airstream that included dust particulates to bypass Section B. Thus, the airstream flew through less area in the whole filter and passed through the cross-flow filtration area more quickly. The chance of dust particulates being attracted to filtering granules decreased, and therefore, the effect of inertia impaction decreased to reduce the overall collection efficiency. Figure 13 shows that the collection efficiency improved with the pressure drop. For the applications of IGCC, high collection efficiency is strongly correlated with a high pressure drop. However, sacrificing the high pressure drop
brings higher energy loss and reduces the efficiency of gas turbines [8], requiring further consideration.

![Figure 11](image1.png)

**Figure 11.** Variation in collection efficiency versus time for tests F1, F2, F3, F4, and F5, where $\dot{m}_F = 110, 330, 440, 550, \text{ and } 1100 \text{ g/min}$, respectively, and $\dot{m}_C = 330 \text{ g/min}$.

![Figure 12](image2.png)

**Figure 12.** Variation in collection efficiency versus mass consumption ratios of coarse and fine granules for tests C1–C5 and F1–F5.

![Figure 13](image3.png)

**Figure 13.** Correlation between pressure drop and collection efficiency using mass flow rates for tests C1–C5 and F1–F5 (C2 has the same setup as F2).

$$\eta = 94.655 + 0.0693 \times \Delta P$$

$R^2 = 0.9688$
4.3. Size Distribution of Dust Particulates under Different Mass Flow Rates

The size distributions of dust particulates ($D_{50}$) flowing from the outlet for the different mass flow rates of the two-stage mode were concluded. Figure 14a shows the results of various $\dot{m}_C$ values with a fixed $\dot{m}_F$, which ranged from 1.660 to 1.775 $\mu$m. Test C1 especially demonstrated lower size distributions, which reached a collection efficiency of 99.18%. Because higher pressure drop follows higher collection efficiency, the size distribution results obtained from the smaller overall porosity of filtration granules owing to the higher pressure drop. Because of the small overall porosity of filtration granules, the effect of inertia impaction was more important here, especially for small dust particulates. However, the rest of the results of the size distribution did not support the above discussion. Tests C3 and C4 had relatively higher particulate size distributions in the group, and Tests C2 and C5 had relatively lower particulate size distributions in the group. It might be concluded that the particulates’ size distributions were also influenced by the ratio of mass consumption being larger than 1.32. Figure 14b demonstrates that the particulates’ sizes ranged from 1.474 to 1.765 $\mu$m, while different $\dot{m}_F$ values with a fixed $\dot{m}_C$ values were employed. Test F5, which achieved a collection efficiency of 99.75%, attained lower size distributions. Test F1 and Test F4 reached the second level of particulates size distributions, which had collection efficiencies of 98.92% and 97.89%, respectively. Note that oscillations in F1 and F4 from 400 to 500 min might be caused by the clogging of the long-period filtration test of the fine granules. F2 and F3 had rather high particulate size distributions in the test, reaching collection efficiencies of 96.20% and 95.73%, respectively. The mass consumption ratios in F1 and F4 were higher than 1, but on the contrary, mass consumption ratios in F2 and F3 were lower than 1. Figure 15 shows variations in particulate sizes versus mass consumption ratios. The results revealed a different tendency from the results of the pressure drop versus the ratio of mass consumption (Figure 8) and the collection efficiency versus the mass consumption ratio (Figure 12), indicating that the particulate size distribution is not correlated with the collection efficiency or pressure drop. However, it was still influenced by the ratio of mass consumption. According to the results of particulate size distributions...
shown in Figure 14a,b, these results both attained a level that overall particulate sizes were lower than 1.775 µm. These results were far below the 10 µm standard for safe application in gas turbines [26]. Dust particulates have been an important issue in the recent decade and are among the factors that may lead to cardiopulmonary morbidity diseases. The results also denoted that the dust particulate was smaller than 1.775 µm in all tests. Dust particulates (fly ash) were efficiently controlled owing to the dense granules of the two-stage mode with a ratio of mass consumption around 1 or higher. It can be concluded that the overall particulate size distributions decreased with the increase in the ratio of mass consumption; hence, the emission standards of IGCC systems were satisfied.

Figure 14. Variation in particulate size versus time for tests (a) C1–C5, where \( m_C = 110, 330, 440, 550, \) and 1100 g/min, respectively, and \( m_F = 330 \) g/min; (b) F1–F5, where \( m_F = 110, 330, 440, 550, \) and 1100 g/min, respectively, and \( m_C = 330 \) g/min.

Figure 15. Variation in particulate size versus mass consumption ratio.
5. Conclusions
We proposed a novel dust removal technology for cold filtration in which two-stage granules in a moving granular bed were employed. Experimental tests using different $\dot{m}_C$ values with a fixed $\dot{m}_F$ and different $\dot{m}_F$ values with a fixed $\dot{m}_C$ were performed. The resulting pressure drop, collection efficiency, and particulates size distributions were analyzed, and the following conclusions were drawn.

1. The pressure drop was affected by the interaction of coarse and fine granules in the mixed zone. The pressure drop increased with the increase in the mass consumption ratio until a mass consumption ratio of 1.32 but then decreased (i.e., Cases C3 and C4). Thus, a mass consumption ratio of 1.32 provided the maximum pressure drop.

2. The highest collection efficiency reached 99.75% at a mass consumption ratio of 1.32, which was enhanced by the pressure drop. The higher energy loss due to the high pressure drop might be critical to address in gas turbine applications.

3. In all setups of this study, the particulate size distribution of the dust at the filter’s outlet was <1.775 $\mu$m; this value is within a standard of 10 $\mu$m watershed required for the safe application of gas turbines.

4. Better collection efficiency and particulate size distributions were achieved when $\dot{m}_F = 1100$ g/min and $\dot{m}_C = 330$ g/min.

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