

Modeling and Analysis of SO₂ Emissions under Fast Fluidized Bed Conditions Using One Dimensional Model

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Abstract

Fluidized bed combustion behavior of coal and biomass is of practical interest due to its significant involvement in heating systems and power plant operations. This combustion behavior has been studied by many experimental techniques along with different kinetic models. In this study, SO₂ emissions have been studied out in a pilot scale test facility of Circulating Fluidized Bed combustor (70 KW) under fast fluidized bed conditions burning coal with Pakistani wheat straw. One dimensional Mathematical model is being developed to predict the SO₂ emissions under different operating conditions like bed temperature, Ca/S molar ratio, solids circulation rate, excess air ratio and secondary to primary air ratio. These parameters are varied to validate the model and encouraging correlation is found between the experimental values and model predictions.

Keywords

Fast Fluidization, Emissions, Modelling

1. Introduction

Biomass as an alternative energy source is getting a lot of attention due to the environmental and cost benefits. Globally, attention has been diverted for the replacement of fossil fuels with biomass. In UK, utilization of the

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fossil fuels will be replaced with renewables by 10% up to 2010 and 20% up to 2020 [1]. CO₂ and SO₂ emissions from coal fired power plants can effectively be reduced by co-firing the CO₂ neutral fuels with coal. About 534.23 million tons of wheat straw is produced worldwide in 2011 [2]. A major portion of the wheat stubble is burned in the field which causes significant environmental and health problems [3]. Reduced SO₂ emissions have been reported during the combustion of coal and Pakistani wheat straw under fast fluidized bed conditions [4]. About 1200 circulating fluidized bed combustion (CFBC) plants with installed capacity of 65 GW_{th} are in operation worldwide [5]. Along with reduction of CO₂, biomass also reduces NO_x, SO₂ and CO emissions in co-combustion with coal [6]-[8]. Gaseous emissions from co-firing have also being reported as the function of operating conditions [4] [9].

The objective of the present study is to model the CFB rig for the estimation of SO₂ emissions under different operating conditions and compare the model values to the experimental values. The values of bed temperature, Ca/S molar ratio, solids circulation rate, excess air ratio and secondary to primary air were varied to validate the model.

Hannes classified the different types of model based on complexity as global models, one dimensional model, multi-dimensional model (computational fluid dynamics) and scaling and expert systems [10]. Hartleben introduced the first model for atmospheric and pressurized circulating fluidized beds in which an empirical approach was used for the fluid dynamics and particle size distribution [11]. One dimensional model based on different blocks was also developed for a boiler at Tsinghua University, China [12]. Another dynamic model was developed for the multi solid fluidization in CFB to predict the temperature along the height [13] [14]. Basu introduced a new generalized model with sensitivity analysis based on two zones vertically to find the temperature, sulphur capture and NO_x formation [15]-[17]. Different models had been developed to estimate the concentrations of CO, CO₂, and NO_x [18] and to calculate the oxygen concentration, carbon fraction and char size distribution [19]. Another detail modelling was done to calculate the char combustion, temperature distribution, pollutant formation and heat transfer [20]. Haider developed a detailed CFBC model to cover the cyclone and external heat exchanger performance along with fluid dynamics and chemistry of the reactions involved [21] [22]. In **Table 1**, an overview of some models from the literature is being summarized.

Hannes developed a very detail and comprehensive model for the coal combustion in CFB boiler [10] [23] [24]. In this model, sub models were developed for each calculation and then recalled into main program. Sub models covered the fluidization pattern of solid flow, development of the particle size distribution, gas flow, coal conversion reactions, homogeneous and heterogeneous gas reactions and heat transfer mechanisms.

2. Material and Methods

2.1. Experimental Setup

CFB combustor used in this investigation is shown in **Figure 1**. The system comprised of a riser of 0.152 m i.d. and 6.2 m height, two high efficiency cyclones in series, an external heat exchanger (EHE) and an L-valve. The

Table 1. Comparison of some models given in literature.

	Fluid Dynamics	State	Coal Comb.	Size Distrib.	SO ₂	NO _x	Re-Circulat
Mori	Block	Dyn	✓				✓
Basu	1.5-dim	Std	✓		✓		
Lin	1-dim	Std	✓		✓	✓	
Halder	1-dim	Std	✓				
IST	1-dim	Std	✓		✓	✓	
Alstrom	1-dim	Dyn	✓				
Haider	1.5-dim	Std	✓			✓	
IEA	1.5-dim	Std	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Std = steady state; Dyn = dynamic.

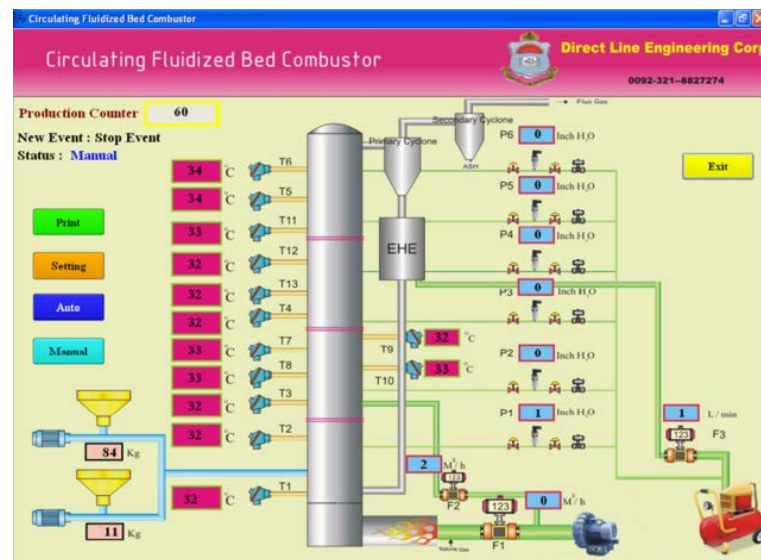


Figure 1. PLC view of CFB rig.

coal and wheat straw were supplied from gravimetric hoppers with screw feeders coupled with variable speed motors. More detail regarding the experimental setup and operation can be seen elsewhere [4]. Silica sand, having sauter mean diameter (SMD) of 125 μm and particle density of 2500 kg/m^3 is used as the circulating bed material. Wheat straw (SMD = 0.85 mm) and Pakistani subbituminous coal (SMD = 0.49 mm) are used as the fuel in this study. Analyses and heating values of the feed materials are given in Table 2. Reported values are the mean of three values taken as per ASTM standards. The concentrations of SO_2 , NO_x and CO in flue gas are measured by on line gas analyzers. Dry flue gas is also sampled in Teflon bags to analyze in gas chromatograph, Perkin Elmer Auto system GC Arnel. All reported values are corrected to 6% O_2 in the flue gas. Limestone (98.8% CaCO_3 , SMD= 129 μm and $\rho = 2730 \text{ kg}/\text{m}^3$) is also added as the sulfur capture sorbent through feeder.

Coal combustion model developed by Hannes [10] was used as a base model in this study. Effect of bed temperature, Ca/S molar ratio, solids circulation rate and secondary to primary air ratio, on the sulphur retention was predicted from the mathematical model at different blend ratios. Model results have been compared with the experimental results to see the reliability and synergy effect.

2.2. Modelling Approach

All main reactions were assumed to take place in the riser as in the return leg, temperature dropped and the availability of oxygen was small. For the use of matrix solver, it was reasonable to continue the annular phase into the dense bed, so that bed and freeboard could be solve together and continuously. The lateral mixing between core and annulus in the dense bed region was set high enough to equalize both phases to a common dense bed. All balances were setup by setting the time dependent term to zero to achieve steady state conditions. The gas flows were split using the values from the pre-calculations of the bubble holdup and the annulus width. The gas flow was balanced as molar flow. Changes caused by reactions which were not equimolar were assumed to have no influence on fluidization. The balanced flows were the convective flow in each phase (cor, ann, bub), cross flows from core to annulus (cor-ann), core to bubble (cor-bub) and vice versa, and mixing flows between the phases (corannx, corbubx).

2.3. Mass and Energy Balances

For mass balance, gaseous flows were balanced based on the following differential equation:

$$\frac{dn_g}{dt} = u_g \frac{\partial n_g}{\partial z} + \Psi_{\text{source}} + \Psi_{\text{exchange}} \quad (1)$$

An overall population balance was done to get the size distribution of the bed inventory. Then size classes (i)

Table 2. Analysis of coal and wheat straw.

	Proximate analysis			Elemental analysis				GCV	
	VM	FC	Ash	C	H	N	S		O
Salt range Coal (%) ^{db}	38.60	43.90	17.50	68.90	9.8	0.56	4.2	16.54	25.55
Wheat Straw (%) ^{db}	73.12	19.98	6.90	47.50	7.35	1.20	-	43.95	18.20

db = dry basis.

of the different materials (m), (coal, limestone, sand and ash) were balanced separately for each cell (L). The following differential equation was discretized for each phase (cr, anl) considering size, materials and location (cell) of the solids.

$$\frac{dm_s}{dt} = u_s \frac{dm_s}{dz} + \Psi_{s,source} \quad (2)$$

In the lowest cell of the riser, all annular material had to be returned to the core to conserve the mass balance.

Reactive species such as CaO and the combustibles in the coal were modelled as solid fractions. For better system solubility, the mass flow of the particles was kept constant, only the species fractions might vary. The fluidization pattern and char holdup was assumed not to be influenced by these changes. Coal mass was treated as virtual fraction, it did not influence the flow pattern but delivered the source terms for evaporated water and released volatiles. Only the ash residue in the char was balanced in the size distribution calculation. The fixed carbon was treated as ash load. The fraction balance was based on the following equation:

$$\frac{\partial(m_s \cdot x)}{\partial t} = u_s \frac{d(m_s \cdot x)}{dz} + \Psi_{s,source} + kM_s x \quad (3)$$

Where the last term represents the release or reaction influence. “ k ” is a release or reaction constant depending on local gas concentrations and temperature. Drying and devolatilization are time dependent processes. The time dependent fraction was determined and averaged for each cell (L) and class (i) as under:

$$x_{avg}(i, L) = \int_0^{\tau} \frac{\partial x(i, L, t)}{\partial t} dt \quad (4)$$

All these equations were written as first order equations for concentrations. The solution of the concentration equations is done analogue to the enthalpy balances.

The enthalpy balance delivered the average cell temperature. Enthalpy balance was based on the convective flows of gas and solids, changes in formation enthalpies due to reactions and the heat transfer to the walls. Following differential equation was used for the energy balance.

$$\left(n_g C_{pg} + m_s C_{ps} \right) \frac{dT}{dt} = \left(u_g n_g C_{pg} + u_s m_s C_{ps} \right) \frac{dT}{dz} + \Psi_{\text{reac}} + Q_{\text{heatexch}} \quad (5)$$

The total balance system was consisted of the first order and solved through the matrix mechanism by arranging core and annular cells in the form of arrays. More detail about the sequence of calculations can be seen elsewhere [10].

2.4. Sulphation Model

Lime stone is added into the CFB combustor to capture SO_2 directly. It is very tough to model the self-desulphurization of the coal, done by the mineral and metallic fractions in coal. The self-desulphurization of the coal is not explicitly modelled, however it can be taken into account by reducing the sulphur content in the coal by the amount of available calcium [25]. The capture of sulphur with limestone particles undergoes three principle reaction steps which are as follows:

1) calcination:



2) oxidation:



3) sulphation:



Overall reaction can be written as under:



Thus, the sulphur capture capability strongly depends on the residence time, the fragmentation behaviour, and the pore structure of the sorbent. Calcium-sulphur compounds do not only exist as CaSO_4 but may also exist as CaS , depending upon oxidizing or reducing boundary conditions, respectively. Since in fluidized beds the residence times of the particles are high and the sulphation reaction is slow, particle tracking is nearly impossible to distinguish in reducing and oxidizing zones as they mix within short times. Therefore, only the oxidizing conditions are considered in the following model.

During the calcination, the equilibrium between CaCO_3 and CaO is dependent on the partial pressure of CO_2 in the surrounding gas, and on temperature. Baker [26] stated, that this equilibrium pressure can be written as:

$$p\text{CO}_{2,\text{eq}} = 1.2 \times 10^7 \exp\left(-\frac{19124K}{T}\right) (\text{bar}) \quad (10)$$

For a given partial pressure of CO_2 , calcination will only take place above the corresponding temperature. Dennis and Fieldes [27] have calculated the calcination time t_{calc} by:

$$t_{\text{calc}} = \frac{R_{p,0} M_{\text{CaCO}_3}}{k_0 (p\text{CO}_{2,\text{eq}} - p\text{CO}_2 - pX_{\text{CO}_2})} \quad (11)$$

With $k_0 = 207$ ($\text{mol}/\text{bar}\cdot\text{m}^2\cdot\text{s}$) and an empirical variable describing a constant molar fraction of CO_2 which is 0.065 at 825°C , 0.1 at 875°C and 0.17 at 925°C .

For a kinetically controlled shrinking-core model, Kunii and Levenspiel [28] correlate the calcination time with the core radius and the conversion degree as:

$$\frac{t}{t_{\text{calc}}} = 1 - \frac{R_{\text{core}}}{R_{p,0}} = 1 - (1 - x_{\text{calc}})^{0.33} \quad (12)$$

The combination with residence time of the particles is done with a residence time distribution:

$$E(t) = \frac{1}{\tau} \exp\left(-\frac{t}{\tau}\right) \quad (13)$$

Where the average residence time is the quotient of limestone mass in the furnace and limestone feed flow. The average calcination degree is

$$1 - x_{\text{calc}} = \int_0^{t_{\text{calc}}} \left(1 - \frac{t}{t_{\text{calc}}}\right)^3 \frac{\exp\left(-\frac{t}{\tau}\right)}{t} dt \quad (14)$$

On integration

$$x_{\text{calc}} = 3\left(\frac{\tau}{t_{\text{calc}}}\right) - 6\left(\frac{\tau}{t_{\text{calc}}}\right)^2 + 6\left(\frac{\tau}{t_{\text{calc}}}\right)^3 \left(1 - \exp\left(-\frac{t_{\text{calc}}}{\tau}\right)\right) \quad (15)$$

During calcination, the released CO_2 leaves the limestone with No. of pores which increases the inner surface area and subsequently sulphation reactions. Shrinking core model was used for the sulphation reaction due to its validity [24] as shrinking core models consider the “particle as a porous sphere”, surrounded by a thin gas layer and consisting of an unreacted core in the particle surrounded by a shell of already sulphated material [28]. The radius of the unreacted core shrinks with time enlarging the shell which causes a higher diffusion resistance for the penetrating gases [29] [30].

Gas-solid reaction model, describing the reactions taking place at the individual particles is combined with the hydrodynamic model delivering the particle flow rates and concentrations. This model has differentials in time and radius, which are to be solved properly. So Wolff approach is implemented into the sulphation model, based on an analytical way to solve the radius dependent integral, so that only a forward integration in time remains [30]. The basic balance is the deliverance of the reactants by diffusion and the reaction at the surface of the unreacted core [23]:

$$4\pi r^2 \left(D_{\text{SO}_2} \cdot \frac{dC_{\text{SO}_2}}{dr} + D_{\text{SO}_3} \cdot \frac{dC_{\text{SO}_3}}{dr} \right) = 4\pi r \cdot k_{\text{sulf}} \cdot c_{\text{SO}_3} \quad (16)$$

Where the equilibrium between SO_2 and SO_3 can be expressed by:

$$c_{\text{SO}_3} = K_0 \cdot c_{\text{SO}_2} \sqrt{c_{\text{O}_2}} \quad \text{with } K_0 = 0.154 \sqrt{\frac{\text{m}^3}{\text{mol}}} \quad (17)$$

The reaction rate at the core surface can be stated as [10]:

$$\frac{dn_{\text{CaO}}}{dt} = -\gamma \cdot k_{\text{sulf}} \cdot 4\pi r^2 \cdot K_0 \cdot \sqrt{c_{\text{O}_2}} \cdot C_{\text{SO}_2,r} \quad (18)$$

Equation (18) can be solved as follows:

$$n_{\text{CaO}} = \frac{4}{3} \pi r^3 \cdot \frac{C_{\text{O}_2} \rho_{\text{lime}}}{M_{\text{CaCO}_3}} \cdot x_{\text{calc}} \cdot x_{\text{CaCO}_3} \quad (19)$$

Integration over the reacted shell and the gas film leads to the concentration of SO_2 on the core surface dependent on the bulk SO_2 concentration.

$$C_{\text{SO}_2,r} = \frac{C_{\text{SO}_2,R+\delta}}{1 + K_0 \sqrt{C_{\text{O}_2}} k_{\text{sulf}} r^2 (f_{\text{film}} + f_{\text{shell}})} \quad (20)$$

Substitution back into Equation (16) and rewriting yields:

$$\frac{dr}{dt} = \frac{\gamma \cdot \frac{C_{\text{SO}_2,R+\delta}}{\frac{\rho_{\text{lime}}}{M_{\text{CaCO}_3}} \cdot x_{\text{calc}} \cdot x_{\text{CaCO}_3}}}{\frac{1}{k_s \cdot k_0 \cdot \sqrt{C_{\text{O}_2}}} + r^2 (f(D_{\text{film}}) + f(D_{\text{shell}}))} \quad (21)$$

From the integration of left side of Equation (16) over the gas shell and over the reacted shell, the diffusion functions f_{film} and f_{shell} can be derived [25], which are:

$$f_{\text{film}} = \frac{1}{D_{\text{SO}_2,\text{film}} + D_{\text{SO}_3,\text{film}} K_0 \sqrt{C_{\text{O}_2}}} \left(\frac{1}{R} - \frac{1}{R+\delta} \right) \quad (22)$$

$$f_{\text{shell}} = \frac{1}{D_{\text{SO}_2,\text{shell}} + D_{\text{SO}_3,\text{shell}} K_0 \sqrt{C_{\text{O}_2}}} \left(\frac{1}{r} - \frac{1}{R} \right) \quad (23)$$

The conversion α_{lime} can be understood as reacted volume fraction of the particle

$$\alpha_{\text{lime}}(t) = 1 - \frac{r^3(t)}{R^3} \quad (24)$$

Averaged conversion is approached with a residence time distribution function [24],

$$\alpha_{\text{lime}} = \int_0^\infty \alpha_{\text{lime}}(t) \cdot E(t) dt \quad \text{where } E(t) = \frac{1}{\tau} \cdot \exp\left(-\frac{t}{\tau}\right) \quad (25)$$

Above equation can be solved analytically using a substitution of Equation (24) into Equation (21).

$$\frac{1}{f(\alpha_{\text{lime}})} = \frac{1}{3\tau C_1} \left(C_2 (1 - \alpha_{\text{lime}})^{-\frac{2}{3}} + C_3 (1 - \alpha_{\text{lime}})^{-\frac{1}{3}} + (C_4 - C_3) \right) \quad (26)$$

With values of C_1 , C_2 , C_3 and C_4 as

$$C_1 = \gamma \frac{C_{\text{SO}_2, R+\delta}}{\frac{\rho_{\text{lime}}}{M_{\text{CaCO}_3}} x_{\text{calc}} x_{\text{CaCO}_3}}, \quad C_2 = \frac{R}{k_{\text{sulf}} K_0 \sqrt{C_{\text{O}_2}}}$$

$$C_3 = \frac{R^2}{D_{\text{SO}_2, \text{shell}}}, \quad C_4 = \frac{R^3}{D_{\text{SO}_2, \text{film}}} \left(\frac{1}{R} - \frac{1}{R + \delta} \right)$$

Final integration of Equation (26) is,

$$\int_0^{\alpha_{\text{lime}, \text{max}}} \frac{1}{f(\alpha_{\text{lime}})} = \frac{1}{\tau C_1} \left(C_2 \left(1 - (1 - \alpha_{\text{lime}})^{\frac{1}{3}} \right) + \frac{C_3}{2} \left(1 - (1 - \alpha_{\text{lime}})^{\frac{2}{3}} + \frac{C_4 - C_3}{3} \alpha_{\text{lime}} \right) \right) \quad (27)$$

This equation is replaced with residence time distribution function and numerically integrated using a modified Euler method. The function has as very steep gradient for very small values of α_{lime} and flattens with increasing values.

The diffusion coefficients consist of the Knudsen diffusion effects in the pores and the diffusion of a binary mixture of gases [21].

In the gas film, only binary diffusion occurs [22], so it can be assumed that $D_{\text{SO}_2, \text{film}} = D_{\text{mix}}$. In the shell, *i.e.* in the pores, Knudsen and gas diffusion must be considered [23]:

$$D_{\text{SO}_2, \text{shell}} = D_{\text{pore}} = \frac{\rho_{\text{lime}} \cdot V_{\text{pore}}}{\tau_{\text{tot}}} \cdot \left(\frac{1}{D_{\text{knud}}} + \frac{1}{D_{\text{mix}}} \right) \quad (28)$$

The calculation of the thickness of the gas film layer δ is estimated by the mass transport coefficient k_{SO_2} [14]:

$$\delta = \frac{1}{\frac{k_{\text{SO}_2, \text{film}}}{D_{\text{SO}_2, \text{shell}}} + \frac{1}{R}} \quad (29)$$

where

$$k_{\text{SO}_2} = \frac{St \cdot u_g}{\varepsilon_g}, \quad St = 0.81 \cdot Re_p^{-0.5} \cdot Sc^{-0.66}$$

$$Sc = \frac{\mu_g}{\rho_g \cdot D_{\text{mix}}}, \quad Re_p = \frac{\rho_g \cdot u_g \cdot d_p}{\mu_g}$$

So the reaction rates and concentrations were calculated and following parameters were used in the model,

$K_0 = 0.154$ (SO_4/SO_3 equilibrium constant) [35];

$\tau_{\text{tot}} = 3$ (tortuosity factor) [32];

$\alpha_{\text{max}} = 0.5$ (maximum conversion degree) [28];

$k_{\text{sulf}} = 0.15$ (sulphation constant m/s) [32].

Since the residence time of limestone particles and their sulphation takes place over hours, while gas residence time is in seconds, the sorbent is balanced as a homogenous phase. This is done by considering fragmentation and attrition of the sorbent which enlarges the available reactive surface. The conversion rate is calculated with an averaged SO_2 bulk concentration. The gas reaction is calculated depending on local holdup of sorbent in the riser. Weighing the local SO_2 concentrations with the local hold-up of sorbent provides the average gas concentration for the calculation to determine the conversion of the sorbent. The steady state sorbent conversion and gas concentration is established during the overall mass balance in the program.

To see the synergy effects and validate the model, its predictions were compared with the experimental data taken from the CFB test rig.

3. Results and Discussions

Typical results obtained through the model and experimental studies are shown from **Figures 2-6**. There is a good agreement between the model predictions and the experimental results in accordance with the synergy effects of coal and biomass combustion, on emissions of SO_2 . Model was run with a series of input values but reported values are, for bed temperature, excess air factor, secondary to primary air ratio, solid circulation rate and Ca/S molar ratio, for 5%, 10% and 20% blends of wheat straw with coal on weight basis.

It was believed that an increase in bed temperature can accelerate the calcination reaction resulting in low SO_2 concentration. High bed temperature also resulted in low CO concentrations which adversely affect the decompositions reactions of CaSO_4 . Model predictions were in agreement when compared to the experimental values for different bed temperatures as shown in **Figure 2**. At higher temperature, higher conversion of lime stone and higher reaction rates of sulphation reactions were depicted in model as experimentally found to be happening in the furnace.

Agreement between model predictions and experimental results were found to be very encouraging for the effect of Ca/S molar ratio on SO_2 emission as shown in **Figure 3**. Predicted values are more close to the experimental values for Ca/S molar ratios of 2 compared to that of 3. Model was also producing the reliable values at low wheat straw ratio in coal. Deviation at high wheat straw ratio in coal blend might be due to the different devolatilization kinetics of biomass compared to the coal.

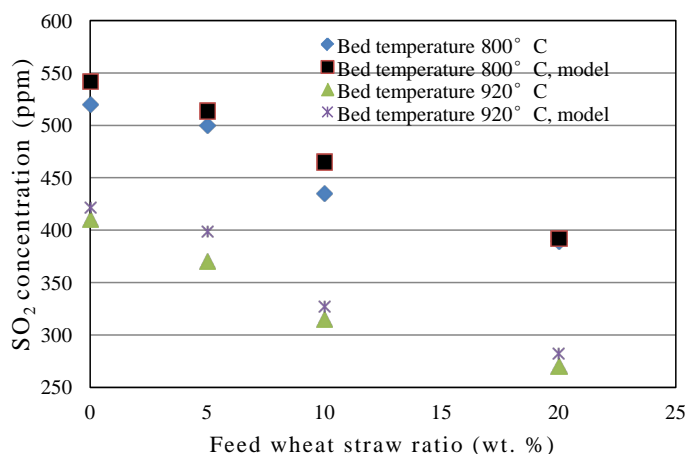


Figure 2. Bed temperature vs. SO_2 concentration, experimental results and model predictions.

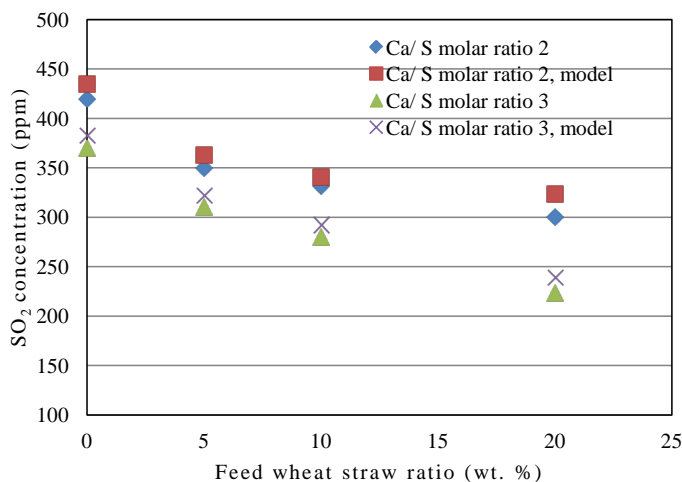


Figure 3. Ca/S molar ratio vs. SO_2 concentration, experimental results and model predictions.

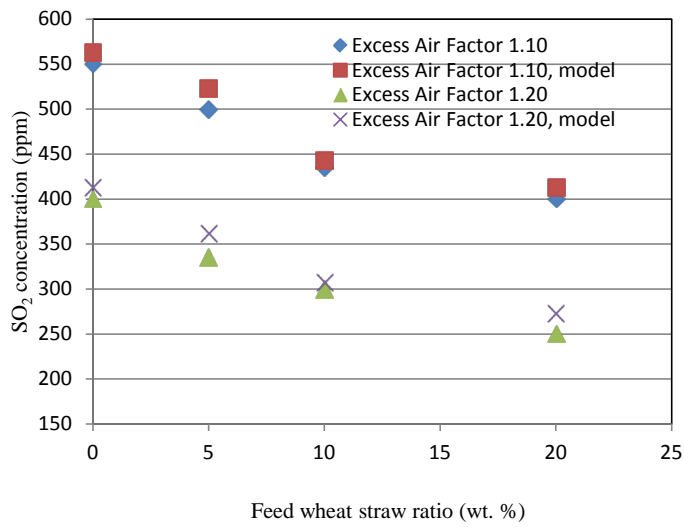


Figure 4. Excess air factor vs. SO₂ concentration, experimental results and model predictions.

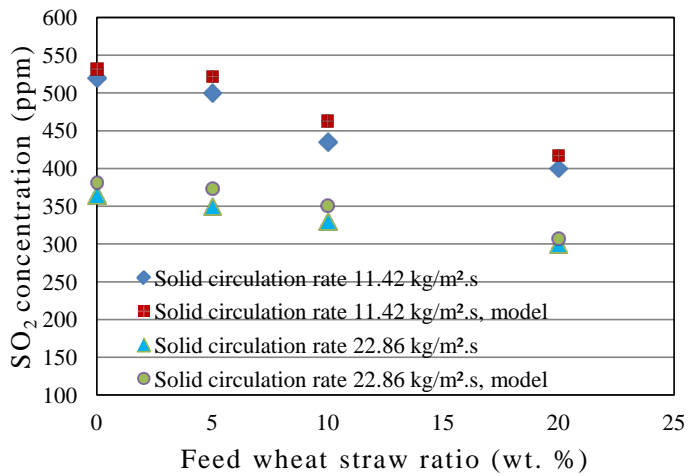


Figure 5. Solids circulation rate vs. SO₂ concentration, experimental results and model predictions.

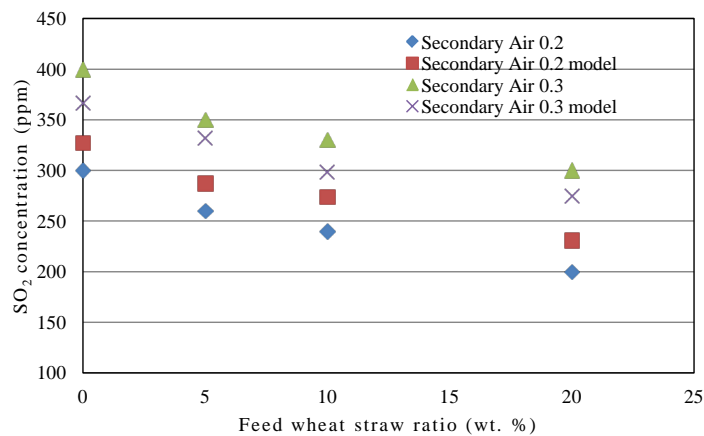


Figure 6. Secondary air to primary air ratio vs. SO₂ concentration, experimental results and model predictions.

Effect of variation of excess air factor on the SO₂ emission, predicted by the model is shown in **Figure 4**. Model has shown the correct tendencies for different values of excess air factor at different blends of wheat straw with coal on weight basis, although the model predictions were very slightly higher than the experimental ones. As incorporated in the model, increased concentrations of oxygen would facilitate the sulphation reaction, resulting in low SO₂ emission. With an excess air factor of 1.20, reaction rate of sulphation increased due to higher oxygen concentration in the riser. Based on the same scenario, SO₂ emission decreased in the actual experimental work.

Experimental and model results related to the effect of solids circulation rate on SO₂ emissions have been compared and reported in **Figure 5**. Model predictions have given the good relation in response to the variation in solid circulation rate, however minor deviations were also observed. At the value of 22.86 kg/m²·s, the error was small and model has given the good predictions especially at higher wheat straw ratio.

In **Figure 6**, model predictions of effect of secondary to primary air ratio on SO₂ emission have been compared with the experimental results. As clear from the results, model was unable to produce good correlation for the variation in secondary to primary air ratio for the SO₂ emission. Model predictions have given a positive error for lower secondary to primary air ratio while a negative error was observed for the higher values of secondary to primary air ratio. This might be due to the complex hydrodynamics inside the riser produced after the secondary air injection which could not be accounted in the present correlations used for the hydrodynamic modelling of the riser. As by the injection of secondary air, temperature of that region will be low and more oxidizing conditions would be made available making a precarious region regarding the model. Especially variation in the secondary to primary air ratio produced the undesired effect on the hydrodynamics of the riser that ultimately affected the SO₂ concentration.

4. Conclusion

A fluidized bed model for the steady state combustion and sulphation in a CFB was used to predict the SO₂ concentrations in the exit flue gases. It was based on the shrinking core model. Agreement between model prediction and experimental results was found encouraging for the parameters like bed temperature, fluidizing air velocity, excess air ratio and solids circulation rate. However for secondary to primary air ratio, some shortcomings in the model were observed.

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