

# EFFECTS OF IMPACT VELOCITY AND ANGLE ON COLLISION

A. D. SALMAN, A. VERBA, ZS. LUKENICS and M. SZABÓ

Department of Mechanical Engineering for the Chemical Industry  
Technical University H-1521, Budapest

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## Abstract

In this work the effect of the particle impact velocity on the value of the restitution coefficient and the effect of the impact angle on the value of the normal coefficient of collision for four types of spherical particles are examined. It is found with increasing particle velocity its effect on the value of the restitution coefficient decreases and at impact angles exceeding 50°—60°, the impact angle has no effect on the value of the normal coefficient of collision. In a previous paper [1] the effect of particle diameter and the wall thickness on the value of the coefficient of restitution have been reported.

## Introduction

The particle in the course of its movement in a pneumatic conveying system is colliding with the pipe and bend walls several times. The collision of the particle is taking place at different impact velocities and impact angles, it is seldom a normal impact. To be able to study the particle movement, the effect of the impact angle and the impact velocity on the collision should be examined.

It is necessary to mention that there are different definitions for the coefficient of restitution. BRAUER [2] and SHELDON [3] used the following:

$$\text{restitution coefficient} = CP_u/CP_e \quad (1)$$

where  $CP_u$  and  $CP_e$  are the particle velocity after and before collision, respectively.

OKUDA [4], OTTJES [5], SAWATZKI [6], TABOR [7], YAMAMOTO [8] and TSUJI [9] used the

$$\text{restitution coefficient} = VP_u/VP_e \quad (2)$$

where  $VP_u$  and  $VP_e$  are the normal components of the particle velocity after and before collision, respectively.

If the gravity force is much greater than the drag force, the restitution coefficient can be calculated from

$$\text{Restitution coefficient} = \sqrt{hi/H} \quad (3)$$

where  $H$  is the height from which the particle is dropped and  $hi$  is the rebound height after collision.

To be able to make distinction between the above ratios, the following definitions will be used in this work

$$\begin{aligned} \text{coefficient of collision } e_0 &= CP_u/CP_e \\ \text{normal coefficient of collision } e_n &= VP_u/VP_e \\ \text{tangential coefficient of collision } e_t &= UP_u/UP_e \\ \text{restitution coefficient } e &= (CP_u/CP_e)_{\alpha_e} = 90^\circ \end{aligned}$$

In the case of normal impact  $e_n = e = e_0$ .

#### *Previous work*

The effect of the normal component of the impact velocity on the value of the normal coefficient of collision  $e_n$  has been reported by OTTJES [5], TABOR [7], OKUDA [4] and SAWATZKI [6]. As they did not report the value of the impact angle, it is expected that  $\alpha_e = 90^\circ$ , so  $e = e_n$  and  $CP_e = VP_e$ . OTTJES [5] stated an experimental relation between the restitution coefficient and the impact velocity

$$e = \frac{0.7}{\left(1 + \frac{CP_e}{10}\right)} \quad (4)$$

The results of TABOR [7] and SAWATZKI [6] and OKUDA [4] are shown in Fig. 1. According to the results of [4 and 7] the coefficient of restitution decreases rapidly with increasing impact velocity, however with a further increase in the impact velocity, the value of  $e$  converged to a definite value. Sawatzki's results are different from the above ones, namely he has found with increasing impact velocity the restitution coefficient definitely decreases.

The impact angle is the angle between the direction of movement of the particle and the target wall. The effect of the impact angle on the normal coefficient of collision has been examined by BRAUER [2] and YAMAMOTO [8]. BRAUER used steel pellets of  $d=6.0$  mm and polymethylmethacrylate (PMMA) surface, (Fig. 2a) to his experiments. Due to the difficulty in measuring the  $e_n$  value in the small impact angle range, Brauer assumed that at  $\alpha_e = 0^\circ$  the normal coefficient of collision is equal to 1 and extended the nearest measured value to this point. In another series of measurements Brauer

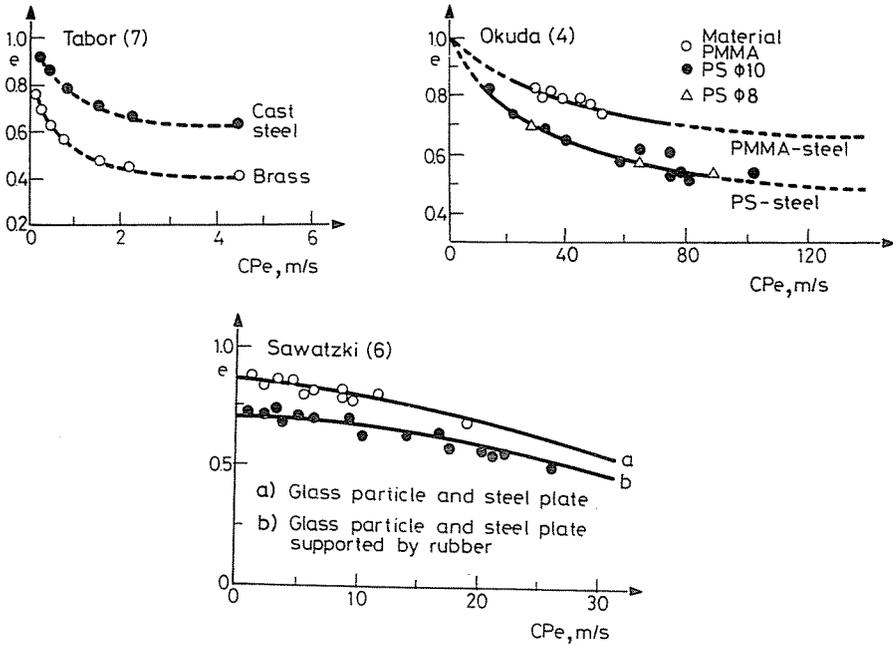


Fig. 1. Relation between the normal component of the impact velocity and  $e$  value

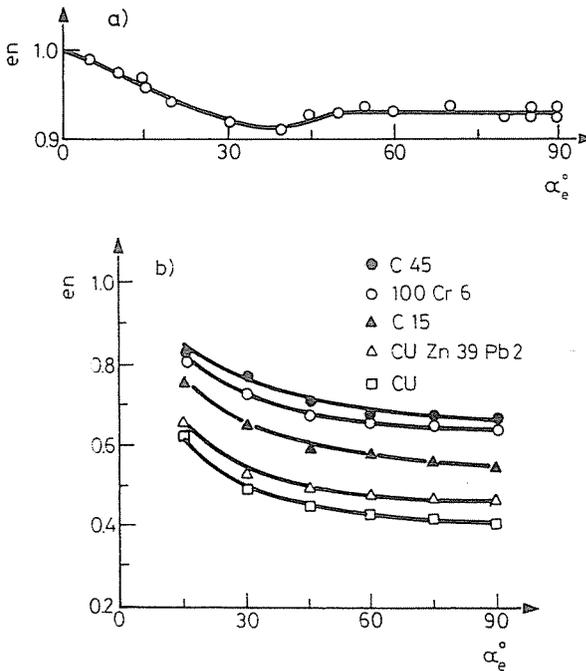


Fig. 2

measured the  $e_0$  value as function of the impact angle  $\alpha_e$  and  $\Delta\alpha$  using steel particles of  $d=6.0$  mm impacted on 12 different types of surface material. From these measurements and Eq. (5), the relation between the impact angle and  $e_n$ , for five types of surface materials is drawn in Fig. 2b.

$$e_n = \frac{e_0}{\sin(\alpha_e) \sqrt{\frac{1}{\tan^2(\alpha_e + \Delta\alpha)} + 1}} \quad (5)$$

This figure shows that the larger the impact angles, the lower is the normal coefficient of collision  $e_n$ .

YAMAMOTO [8] reported that for polyethylene particles of 3 mm diameter and  $\varphi_p = 1040 \text{ kg/m}^3$ , the  $e_n$  value did not change with the impact angle. SHELDON [3] impacted ball bearings of diameter 3.175 mm on aluminium surface. By processing his results Fig. 3 has been drawn, which shows that with increasing impact angle the value of  $e_0$  abruptly decreases.

Effect of impact velocity on the value of the coefficient of restitution:

We dropped polystyrene particles of  $d=7.4$  mm diameter from different heights ( $H=.2, .4, .6, .8, 1.0$  and  $1.36$  m) on a steel plate of 1 mm thickness ( $\alpha_e=90^\circ$ ), (Fig. 4) and recorded the rebound distance ( $hi$ ) for every  $H$  value. The restitution coefficients for every  $H$  value were calculated by two methods:

1— If the drag force acting on the particle is neglected, the impact velocity prior to collision can be calculated by Eq. (6)

$$CP_e = \sqrt{2Hg} \quad (6)$$

The restitution coefficient is calculated using Eq. (3).

2— If the drag force is taken into consideration, the impact velocity can be calculated by using the differential equation of motion Eq. (7), with the initial condition  $Y = -H$  and  $t = 0$ .

$$\frac{dCP}{dt} = g - \frac{3}{4d} \frac{\varphi_a}{\varphi_p} CD CP^2 \quad (7)$$

$CD$  is the drag coefficient calculated by the Kaskas equation  $CD = 24/Rep + 4/\sqrt{Rep} + .4$  where  $Rep = \frac{CPd}{\varrho}$ .

This time the restitution coefficient is calculated using Eq. (2).

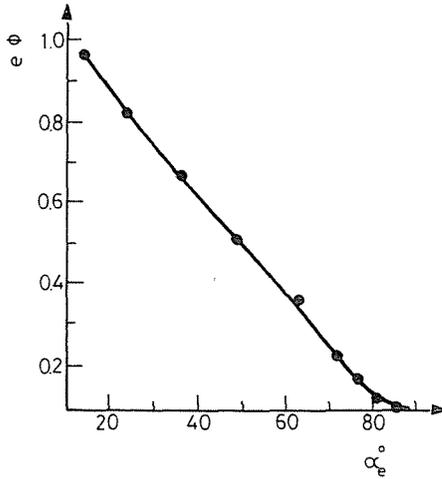


Fig. 3

It was found that the relative error between the two methods  $R_V$  increase with increasing  $H$  value, in the case of  $H=1.36$  m the relative error  $R_V=2.16\%$ . Since  $\alpha_e=90^\circ$ ,  $VP_e=CP_e$ .

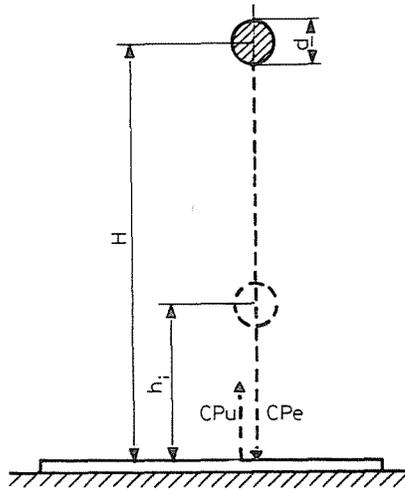


Fig. 4. Determination of the restitution coefficient

Figure 5 shows the relation between the coefficient of restitution  $e$  and  $CP_e$  for a POL particle of  $d=7.4$  mm. From this figure it can be seen that by increasing the particle velocity the value of  $e$  decreases, however on increasing the velocity further, the value  $e$  converges to a constant value.

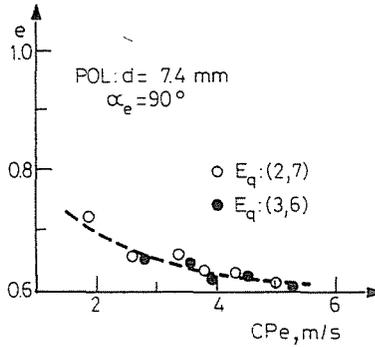


Fig. 5. Effect of the impact velocity on the value of the restitution coefficient

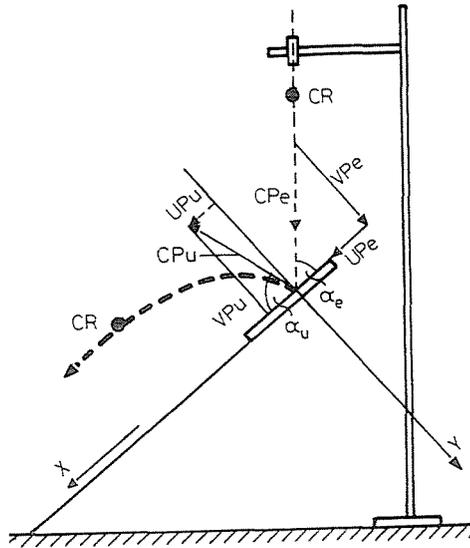


Fig. 6

Effect of impact angle on the value of the normal coefficient of collision:

The experimental work consisted of dropping particles of various diameters and materials (ALO, GLS, FER and POL) from the height  $H = .4$  m on an inclined steel plate of 1 mm thickness (Fig. 6). The component  $VP_e$  of the particle velocity normal to the plate before collision was calculated by Eq. (8).

$$VP_e = \sin(\alpha_e) \sqrt{2Hg} \tag{8}$$

The normal component of the particle velocity after collision  $VP_u$  is calculated from the trajectory of the particle after collision [10]. It was calculated by neglecting the drag force, so the horizontal component of

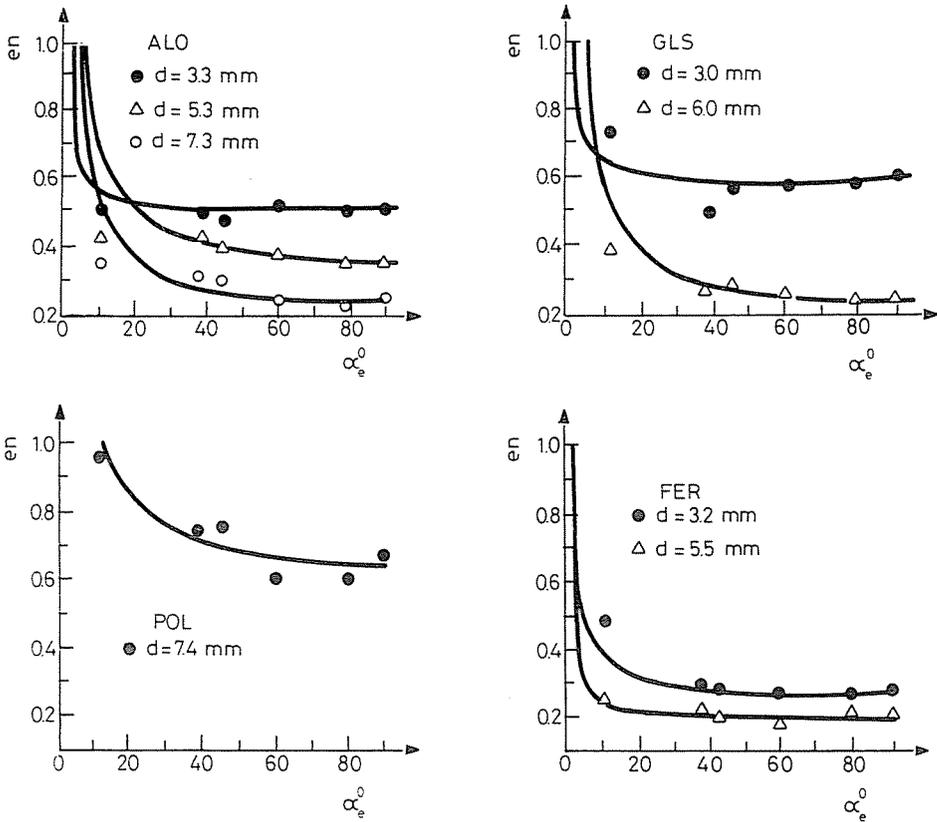


Fig. 7. Effect of the impact angle on the value of the normal coefficient of collision

acceleration is zero, and the acceleration in the normal direction is due only to the weight of the particle. By using 12 points of the trajectory of the particle after collision, the velocity after collision ( $VP_u$ ) was calculated by the least squares method. In the knowledge of the normal components of the particle velocity before and after collision  $e_n$  can be determined. The points shown in Fig. 7 represent the calculated  $e_n$  values for different impact angles. The curves plotted in the figure have been calculated by an approximate equation developed in a previous paper [10].

This figure shows that with increasing impact angle  $e_n$  decreases, up to angles of  $50^\circ$ – $60^\circ$ . Above that angle value the normal coefficient of collision does not change. The same phenomenon was found for other particle diameters.

In the horizontal conveying system, the impact angles between the particles and the wall were always small. As the effect of the impact angle on the  $e_n$  value increases with decreasing angle, it is expected that the effect of the

impact angle on  $e_n$  is very important in horizontal conveying systems. So it is not allowed to attribute a constant value to  $e_n$  in horizontal pneumatic conveying systems.

### *Nomenclature*

$CP$	: particle velocity (m/sec)
$CD$	: particle drag coefficient
$d$	: particle diameter (m)
$e$	: restitution coefficient $(CP_u/CP_e)_{\alpha_e} = 90^\circ$
$e_0$	: coefficient of collision $CP_u/CP_e$
$en$	: normal coefficient of collision $VP_u/VP_e$
$e_t$	: tangential coefficient of collision $UP_u/UP_e$
$g$	: acceleration of gravity (m/sec <sup>2</sup> )
$H$	: the height from which the particle is dropped (m)
$hi$	: rebound height of the particle after collision (m)
$Rep$	: particle Reynolds number
$R_v$	: relative error
$UP$	: component of the particle velocity parallel to the wall (m/sec)
$VP$	: component of the particle velocity normal to the wall (m/sec)
$\vartheta$	: kinematic viscosity of air (m <sup>2</sup> /sec)
$\varphi_a$	: density of air (kg/m <sup>3</sup> )
$\varphi_p$	: density of particle (kg/m <sup>3</sup> )
$\alpha_e$	: impact angle (degree)
$\alpha_u$	: reflection angle (degree)
$\Delta\alpha$	: $\alpha_e - \alpha_u$ (degree)

### *Suffix*

$e$	: value before collision
$u$	: value after collision

### *Subscripts*

ALO	: Aluminium oxide
GLS	: Glass
POL	: Polystyrene
FER	: Fertilizer

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Dr. Agba Daoud SALMAN  
Dr. Attila VERBA  
Dr. Zs. LUKENICS  
M. SZABÓ

} H-1521, Budapest