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# Numerical model of particle deposition on fin surface of heat exchanger

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## Highlights

- A numerical model of particle deposition was developed for predicting particle deposition rate on fin surface of heat exchanger.
- The transformation criterion was proposed to switch the impact type from particle-wall impact to particle-fouling layer impact.
- Both the sticking criterions and removal criterions were established for the incident particles and bed particles respectively.
- The particle distributions on fin surface predicted by the model agree well with the images captured in the visualization experiment.

**Abstract:** Dust particle deposition on fin surface has a significant influence on the performance of fin-and-tube heat exchangers, and the purpose of this study is to develop a numerical model for predicting the particle deposition rate on fin surface. In the model, the particle trajectories were calculated by the particle motion equation; the particle deposition on the fin surface was described based on the critical impact angle and the critical sticking velocity of incident particles; the particle deposition on the formed fouling layer was described based on the critical impact angle, the critical sticking velocity and the critical removal velocity of incident particles. The particle distributions on fin surface predicted by the model

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