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Evalution of elemental mercury removal by different adsorbents

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Mercury is regarded as the hazardous air pollutant and it exists in coal combustion flue gas in different forms, such as particle-bound mercury, oxidized mercury and elemental mercury (Hg^0) that is difficult to collect by existing air pollution control devices due to its highly volatile and nearly insoluble in water. Adsorption has excellent potential for Hg^0 removal from flue gases. This study aims to evaluate Hg^0 removal by two types of adsorbents in a lab-scale reactor. At influent Hg^0 concentration of $0.89 \sim 0.91 \, \mu g/m3$, the Hg^0 removal was 28.4% by molecular sieve at a Space Velocity (SV) of $12,000 \, hr^{-1}$, while $45.3\% \, Hg^0$ removal under the condition of $9,000 \, hr^{-1}$. On the other hand, the Hg^0 removal by activated carbon increased from 97.9% to 99.3% as SV decreased from $12,000 \, to \, 9,000 \, hr^{-1}$. Therefore, the SV played an important role on the Hg^0 adsorption. In summary, the Hg^0 removal by activated carbon at a low SV can achieve over 99%.

Biography

Hsing-Wang Li is currently working as an Air Pollution Control Engineer at China Steel Corporation. His work is to reduce air pollutant emission from any possibile sources during the production line.

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