



# A Technical Review on Cryogenic Grinding

**Abstract**— Cryogenic grinding makes it possible to inexpensively ground heat sensitive, thermoplastic and elastic materials to extremely fine particles. Before size reduction, the cryogenic process breaks up the material and regulates the thermal increase in the grinding system. It results in high quality of the product and high quality of the system. Cryogenic broiling includes the cooling with a cryogenic liquid (usually liquid nitrogen) or carbon dioxide of a material below the embitterment temperature. The material is put into an impact mill after refolding, where it is mostly reduced in size by fracture. For spices, thermoplastics, elastomers, color concentrates and similar materials, cryogenic grinder is utilized. It also is utilized for the recovery of various scrap materials, such as rubber scraping factory and scrap tires, and for composition separation of components.

**Keywords:** Cryogens, Cell disruption, Cryogenic grinding, Polyamide, Cry milling, Freezer milling.

Shubham Thorat<sup>1</sup>  
shubhamthorat2001@gmail.com

A. A. Kamble<sup>2</sup>  
kambleashwin31@gmail.com

<sup>1</sup>Student, Department of Mechanical Engineering, JSPM Narhe Technical Campus, Pune, Maharashtra, India

<sup>2</sup>Assistant Professor, Department of Mechanical Engineering, JSPM Narhe Technical Campus, Pune, Maharashtra, India

## I. INTRODUCTION

The name "cryogenics" is derived from the Greek word meaning cold creation or manufacturing. With rising energy prices and increased environmental concerns, proper waste disposal becomes complex and costly, the recovery of resources becomes an important issue for today's company [1]. The most difficult materials may efficiently be cut by cryogenic grinding technology and can also assist the cryogenic recycling of hard composite and compositional trash materials. The cryo-grind system is at the heart of this technology. Instead of frozen herbs, the cryogenic grinding process begins with aerosol herbs [2].

Strong materials, by way of hammer mills, attrition mills, granulators and other machinery, are ground or pulverized.

To further process the material, such as in combining it with other materials, lower particle size is frequently required. A finer component also helps to melt rubber and shaping plastics. But many materials at room temperatures are either very soft or very robust. These may be broken up in little particles by chilling to cryogenic temperatures using liquid nitrogen [3].

In the case of Frontier Herbs, in the autumn of 1996, a science-controlled research was undertaken which compared cryogenic grinding with standard grinding processes. Feverfew, valerian, and echinacea were evaluated for the grasses. All of the components evaluated in the cryogenic grass were larger in quantities. The largest change was shown by the Feverfew herb, the principal active ingredient being the cryogenic ground herb having 21.8 percent more parthenolide [4]. When cryogenic, valerian root exhibited a rise of 18.7 percent of valerianic acid. Berberine has increased by 16.4% and hydration by 10.7% for Goldenseal root. Finally, in the cryogenic root, Echinacea purpurea root has shown a 12.1% rise in total PH content. HPLC (high-efficiency liquid chromatography) procedures were achieved for test results [5].

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The active component levels of herbs were affected dramatically by cryogenic grinding. The research findings indicated on average a 15.6 percent increase in components evaluated when ground cryogenically in four therapeutic plants [6]. The variation from 10.7% to 21.8% was that certain herbs are more impacted by the conditions at which they are founded than others [7].

Not only does heavy grinding temperature decrease tool life, but the machined surface also suffers from many deficiencies, such as tensile stress generating [8], surface blacking and discoloration, microfractures, dimensional abnormalities and other thermal damages [9]. When low grinding index materials are machined, this issue is exacerbated. In this case, the machine operator depends primarily on molding fluids to limit these defections dramatically [10].

In recent decades, extreme fluid cutting technologies have changed, ranging from advanced formulation coolants to more direct means of supplying grinding fluids to cutting areas and thermal areas, although the imminent health and environmental risk associated with grinding fluid are still there with these technological advances [11]. The recycling of slurry fluids is not only a nuisance but also represents a major concern to health for personnel in and around the workplace [12].

It has been demonstrated that several upper and lower breathing conditions and illnesses as well as numerous malignancies and skin infections are caused by metalworking fluids (MWF) such as grinding fluids [13]. Many studies have attempted and evaluated Cryogenics as a green alternative to conventional MWF and shown favorable reactions to grinding effects [14]. This study provides an overview of current breakthroughs in cryogenic cooling in metal cutting, particularly metal cutting, and additional research will be carried out on the practicality of such a liquid in the manufacturing sector [15].

The major areas in which cryogenics find its applications are:

A. Air separation gas industry: Air separation, cooling and separation are of great importance to the volumes of nitrogen and oxygen produced by cryogenic air separation. In the separation column, the difference in

the boiling spots of the air components is used. As the gas supply. For instance, fluid oxygen on board vaporizes the breathing oxygen needed for the fighter pilots. That reduces the weight by 65% and reduces the space by 85%.

- B. As a space simulation and rocket propellant.
- C. Compared to others, cryogenic fuels have comparatively high specific pulse characteristics. The cryogenic combustible value is around 500 whereas it's around 250 in alcohol oxygen mixtures. Biological – for disease conservation and treatment.
- D. For food and food processing in the food industry.
- E. Electronics - speed signal electronics, etc. Electronics for semiconductors and superstructures.
- F. In different applications such as cryogenic grinder, repair pipes freeze, shrink fit, fire fight, etc.
- G. Magneto Cardiography (MRG), etc. in medical applications. Magnet Resonance Spectroscopy, MRG.
- H. Nuclear and high energy physics and metal producers

## II. CRYOGENICS GRINDING

Since nearly every substance is broke when it is cold, the reduction in cryogenic size utilises cold energy, from liquid nitrogen to cool, broken and inert materials, before and during the grinding process. The candidate for reduced cryogene size is all materials with low melting points, volatile or greasy chemicals, low combustion temperatures and oxygen sensitive properties [16].

By separating the air into its components in an air separation system, liquid nitrogen physical characteristics are created and transported to the end-user in vacuum vessels insulated by transit when kept in a storage vessel insulated in vacuum till utilized. The liquid nitrogen at atmospheric pressures is -320 degree F and contains 94 BTU/LB latent energy, leading to total refrigerating energy content of 179,6 BTU/LB. Nitrogen, which makes up 78.09 percent of the air that humans breathe, is a combustible nonpoisonous and nerve gas. It does not form any compound at normal temperatures and pressure only when high temperatures occur. it has inert gas features. Drawn from the fluid phase,

the purity of nitrogen is usually 99.998% with a point of dew less than 100 deg F and it is extremely dry.

At 77.6 K, Liquid Nitrogen is utilized to fracture a material before the decrease in size. It is significantly easier to grind when the material is fragile. Two different occurrences occur when a CRYO-GRIND system is utilized for recycling compound or multi-component materials. First, as each component would normally have a distinct heat contraction coefficient, a large thermal stress is generated by a fast cryogenic cooling at the interface between the components. Second, because of the different temperatures of each component, selective embrittlement is permitted, which further improves the efficacy of the separation. The breakthrough components are reduced in size. Cleaner separation and regeneration of individual components is achieved by precise control over thermal stress and congestion with operating temperature.

#### A. Cryogenic Grinding System

Quantifiable and recurring findings may be produced using the system for laboratory or production computations. From HP 7-1/2 to HP 200, the size of mills is. Knowledge about our cream grinding machine is enhanced by interplay of the equipment and its working circumstances. Factors such as consistent feed rate, accurate temperature assessment, operational parameters and pressure control are essential in the evaluation of cryogenic slurry and cryogenic slurry systems. (Figure 1).

#### B. Cryogenic Grinding Technology

The cryogenic grinding technique boosts productivity and reduces energy costs while spraying various materials. Many elastics or soft materials require long cycle durations and the high energy consumption is particularly difficult to pulverize. This combination needlessly reduced productivity and cost.

Cryogenic grinding includes a freezing of the material under the embrittlement temperature by utilizing cryogenic fluid, usually liquid nitrogen or, in some situations, carbon dioxide. The material is put into an impact mill after refraining, where it is mostly reduced in size by fracture.



Figure 1. Cryogenic Grinding System

The advantages of this strategy are:

- Capacity for processing relatively "soft" or non-substantial materials
- Enhanced power consumption
- Lesser particle size
- Minimal loss of volatile components
- Lower investment in capital.

In the grinding of "soft" or elastic material, cryogenic grinding is arguably the biggest benefit not to be grounded or can only be grounded for lengthy cycles and considerable energy consumption. The material with small energy cost may be readily manufactured by breaking in fine powder or crumbs. The performance of a given mill is improved significantly and reduces the power of the material per pound of soil, since the broken material breaks more quickly.

Cryogenic grinding also reduces the material particle size to levels that with environmental temperature grinding are difficult or impossible to accomplish. This is done in a dry, cold, inert atmosphere that minimizes material reactivity and reduces volatile component loss. Cryogenic grinding makes it easy to separate the various components when working with composite materials. Spices and other materials are processed using cryogenic grinding, as well as elastomers and color focused materials. They are also employed in composite materials to separate components and recover a range of scrap resources, for example manufacturing scrap and scrap tires.

The advantages of cryogenic grinding are-

1. Higher rate of production

2. Low usage of energy.
3. Finer size of the particle
4. More even dispersion of particles
5. Reduced cost of grinding
6. No excellent heat creation when spices, drugs and scrapping plastics are broiled.
7. Provides an inert atmosphere avoiding oxidation possibilities

### III. APPLICATIONS OF CRYOGENIC GRINDING

#### A. Cryo-Grinding of steel

During high-speed high feed machining and grinding, the substantial amount of thermal energy produced raises the temperature in the cutting areas to dangerously high. This rising temperature encourages plastic deformation and use of cutting edges under high cutting loads, resulting in increased cutting strength and early failure of the instrument. Traditional cutting fluids cannot fix the problem by employing jet or dung. Cryogenic cooling using liquid nitrogen is helpful in these cases. In such conditions. In a cryogenic slurry, fluid nitrogen is supplied to the appropriate cooling position from a reservoir under air pressure by a dump. The jet penetrates the work surface at the grinding spot from a proper distance and angle. The grinding depth will increase because to the reduction in temperature generated by cryocooling. Due to the powerful cooling action, the life of the grinder wheels is increased.

#### B. Thermoplastics

In a wide spectrum of applications, including adhesives and powder coating, polished materials such as nylon, powder coatings, fillers, resins and sintering and moulding materials are frequently used. Reduce these powders' cryogenic size at high production rates and are commonly used in tiny particle sizes.

#### C. Thermo sets

Clubbers are significant recyclable materials, both natural and manmade. These materials can be molten into fine powders used as fillers and recycled at high production rates with a decrease in cryogenic size.

#### D. Adhesives & Waxes

In general, these materials are foldable and sticky at room temperature, and develop excessive deposits at ground level, generate heat, increase the energy consumption and ultimately shut down the process of reduction in size. At cryogenic temperatures these items become fragile and may be crushed with much less energy and without deposition.

#### E. Explosives

Explosives explosives explode when they have an inflammatory oxygen temperature. They explosive. They explode. The decrease in cryogenic size achieved two goals when grinding explosive agents: to lower the material's temperature significantly below the ignition temperature and to eliminate the system of oxygen and to reduce combustion potential efficiently. The product to be grounded is fed into the volumetric screw feeder with the cryogenic pre-cooler tested accurately. Liquid nitrogen is injected into the cryogenic pre-cooler to cool down and break up the product. The product is subsequently shipped to the moulding factory where the evaporation of liquid nitrogen and chill gas are crushed. The product is then sorted and packaged in various particle sizes using a classifier. The material can be returned to the volumetric supply unit and returned to the system if it is exceptionally big. The cold gas of the mill is recycled into a filter or bag house and the maquillage air is returned to the mill. There is an abundance of chilly gas. In addition, both the classification system and the bag-house remain dry and inert with cold, dry nitrogen gas, limiting the risk of dust explosions and product buildup.

#### F. Spices

The flavor and smell is peculiar, including spices such as pot, cinnamon, chilly, Ginger, Cumin seed, Nutmeg, Glove, etc. These characteristics are important to be 'spice' in them. These qualities are given by the existence of etheric oils inside them. Etheric oils are boiling at temperatures of up to 50 degrees Celsius. Due to friction heat, the ground spice temperature during conventional grinding increases to around 90oC, leading to the degradation of the majority of

the etheric oils, leading to poor soil product quality. The taste and fragrance have decreased, showing a poorer quality.

#### IV. PROBLEMS WITH CONVENTION GRINDING

##### A. *Loss of etheric oil*

Heat loss (>99 percent) is the energy used. The outcome of this is the loss in the grinding area of ethereal oil at boiling temperatures between 50°C and 320°C at above 90°C. The quality of the ground product is therefore reduced.

##### B. *Clogging and gumming of the mill*

Spices such as musts, cloves, cinnamon, and others are high in fats, while their moisture content is high in capsicum, chilly, and others. These cause the factory to obstruct and jam up, decrease the throughput and degrade the ground output quality. The components of the mill tend to be adhered to by materials with high humidity content.

##### C. *Oxidation and related degradation*

Due to the intimate cyclone influence of air in the grinding region, aromatic chemicals in the material oxidize and acidize. The growth of new and exposed surfaces as a result of grinding further accelerates the oxidation process.

#### V. ADVANTAGES OF CRYOGRINDING WITH LIQUID NITROGEN

##### A. *Higher retention of etheric oils*

Due to the reduced operating temperatures, the etheric oils in the product are virtually completely preserved. This gives the ground product a stronger flavour and fragrance, as well as an increased spice content.

##### B. *Prevention of oxidation and rancidity*

The heat created during the molding process is absorbed into steam by fluid nitrogen. These vapors expel any air from the mill during grinding and provide an inert atmosphere. The oxidation potential is therefore removed. A low-cost, dry and inert environment is also developed for the storage and packing of ground products.

##### C. *Increased throughput and power saving*

As a result of application of liquid nitrogen, the raw material becomes fragile. This prevents blockages by keeping the oil and humidity throughout the melting process

crystalline. However, less effort is needed to crush the material when it is delicate. The decreased specific energy requirements increase the production by chilling with liquid nitrogen.

##### D. *Finer particle size*

Cryo-melts generate tiny particle sizes of ground-spice. This reduces the settling rate of spice powder and reduces spiking problems in liquid preparation.

##### E. *Reduction in microbial load*

After chilling with liquid nitrogen, certain bacteria can go to bed. When the ground product is heated in an inert nitrogen atmosphere, the microbial burden can be considerably reduced.

##### F. *Possibility of fine grinding of difficult spices*

When exposed to low temperatures, raw materials become breakable and fibers break down. Fibrous spices, such as ginger, may therefore easily be ground to a finer particle size. High-oil spices, for example musk, may easily be grinded. Cryogrinding may be utilized for the production without pre-drying and maintaining the original color of green spices like chilies.

#### VI. WORKING OF CRYOGRINDING PLANT

The spice is washed manually and placed in the jug. From the exit of the hopper, this spice is placed towards the helical tube conveyor with a tiny path. A vibration feeder can adjust the feed rate. The feed material goes horizontally to the grinding factory on an overall 1 meter helical screw conveyor. The scoop drive is powered by a 0.75 KW drive with a reduction gear and an inverter. The conveyor is sprayed from a storage container with liquid nitrogen. Changes in driving speed might affect the duration spice stays in the conveyor. A sensor monitors and automatically controls the temperature of the ground spice and optimizes the liquid nitrogen spray.

The grinding mill is powered by a 5.5 kW three-phase, 50 Hz motor. Between the engine pulley and the mill pulley runs a flat belt, which connects the mill to the engine. A disc on the shaft of the mill is fitted. The round grips mirror the

circular grips at the back of the front door Both revolving discs and stationary discs are covered by the soil spice. If this mill works, the spice is separated between the handles and is generated as a ground product by an optional sieve. Underneath the mill there is an inlay that collects the soil product. A rotating valve operated by a 0,37 KW motor is located at the foot of this conveyor bin. A rotary valve has 8 chambers in the same plane. This product was removed from the rotary valve and deposited in the container from the Hapman Helix carrier. The 0,37 KW motor drives this device. When the mill is recovered, a centrifugal blower pulls the nitrogen and flows through the filter mount (Figure 2).

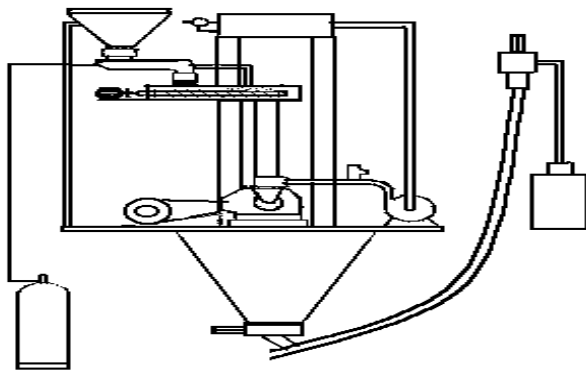


Figure 2. Cryogrinding Plant-For, Spices [5]

### VII. EXPERIMENTAL SET UP FOR CRYOGRINDING

Nitrogen is pushed on the work at the interface to reach the necessary temperature below zero. As indicated in fig Liq. The nitrogen liqueur is stored in a canister and then disseminated into this task with compressed ai. (Figure 3).

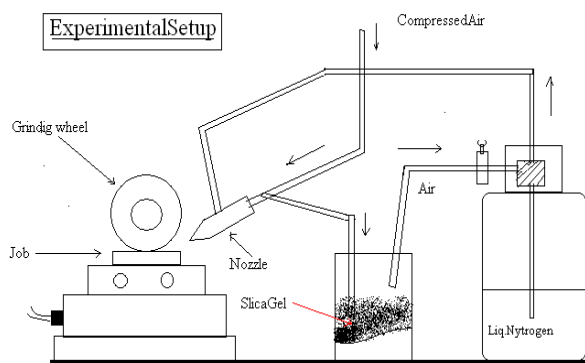


Figure 3. Experimental setup [7]

The oils in peppers are located predominantly on the skin and near the tip of the cortex. When the pepper gets crushed, the volatile oil and flavors escape and give the pepper its smell. These cells are fractured. Cryogrinding maintains a greater percentage of oils and flavor components compared to normally grounded articles. The next table indicates the opposite.

Cryogrinding's mill's performance was 50 kg/hour (at -50oC) with a 6A constant current of 2.25 times the usual mixing current, resulting in a performance of 22 kg/hour. The research clearly reveals that a 225 kg/hour output (compared to a normal room temperature rated 100 kg/hour by 100 kg/hour) may easily be reached by CryoGrinding by altering the cooler screw and employing a vibrational feeder.

### VIII. CONCLUSIONS

MWF strongly depends on the methods of the metal cutting industry as well as their capability to improve production and minimize damage to components and tools. It is a necessary instrument for any metal cutting process, thanks to the tremendous heat and stress load it creates. Although it is useful to use standard MWFs, there are some disadvantages. It might vary from reduced performance to environmental and health issues due to the restricted chemical composition of the MWF. The results of the study are summarized as follows:

- The MTB assists with the improvement in tool life, improves surface quality, reducing power and force needed in the removal of metal, and is a vital factor in metal cutting.
- While MWF minimizes high-temperature cutting, the massive temperature produced in the cutting zone of standard metalworking fluids is not completely maintained.
- Improper use of traditional fluids can lead to a wide range of health challenges, including the presence of possibly hazardous microbes and carcinogenic substances, such as polynuclear and N-nitro compounds.



- Cooling using LN2 greatly decreases the temperature of the cuts in the area, which makes the chip tool interaction more beneficial.
- LN2's inert feature allows the fluid to lubricate without changing the surface of the ground.
- Increased product quality through the management of heat impacts.
- No oxidation or surface burning occurs and no harm to the surface. Cryo grinding generates a surface rougher than conventional grinding.
- Strength and special energy reductions Cryo benefits for stronger and higher feed materials are larger. Cryo benefits are larger.

#### IX. FUTURE PROSPECTS

As the cost of raw materials and energy is increasing every day, maximum quantity must be used while the necessary quality is maintained. With the Cryogrinding technology, these criteria may be efficiently satisfied. This technology also allows us to recycle hard and composite materials. It offers many advantages over conventional grinding. This increases the worth of the product. Cryogrinding is a possible alternative if liquid nitrogen expenditures are not prohibitive. The top spice industry in our nation may gain substantial exchange by exporting more value-added spices than entire ones by applying Cryogrinding technology. The methodology may easily be expanded to processing PVC and industrial waste plastics for the recycling of non-biodegradable materials.

At the University of West Indies, the Department of Mechanical Engineering is working presently to close cryogenic machining gaps. The emphasis is on surface grinding, including effects of LN2 on surface finish, tool life, heat dispersion, sub-surface microstructure and other parameters that affect the process of grinding. Particular emphasis was paid to the effectiveness of LN2 in the fight against grinding and microstructure change.

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