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System of Models for Transient Multiphase Flow in UTN, Slidegate, SEN, and CC mold

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Acknowledgments

- Continuous Casting Consortium Members (ABB, ArcelorMittal, Baosteel, Magnesita Refractories, Nippon Steel and Sumitomo Metal Corp., Nucor Steel, Postech/ Posco, Severstal, SSAB, Tata Steel, ANSYS/ Fluent)
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Problem Description





Models of Gas Flow Through Heated Porous Refractory (UTN)

Heat Conduction:	$\nabla \cdot (k \nabla T) = 0$	(1)
Ideal Gas Law:	$p = \rho RT$	(2)
Mass Conservation (or continuity):	$\nabla \cdot (\rho \mathbf{v}) = 0$	(3)

Full Set of Navier-Stokes Equations for flow in porous media:







Pressure Threshold for Bubble Formation

• In order for gas to enter the liquid and form bubbles, interfacial surface tension force must be overcome:



One-Way Flow Pressure Boundary Condition

At refractory-liquid interface: $(1-a(\mathbf{x}))\frac{\partial p(\mathbf{x})}{\partial n} + a(\mathbf{x})p(\mathbf{x}) = a(\mathbf{x})g(\mathbf{x})$





Validation with Lab Experiment Bubble Distribution on UTN Inner Surface



Effect of nozzle thermal conductivity



Parametric study: Gas velocity profiles along UTN

Effects of: bottom leakage, pressure threshold, refractory conductivity



Base case:

- Max flow where slits are closest to UTN inner surface

Decreasing conductivity:

- Steepens temp. gradient
- Lowers inlet T & viscosity (higher permeability)
- Increases flow 30% (net)

Ignoring pressure threshold: - increases flow (unrealistic)

Bottom seal leakage:

 Greatly increases flow everywhere (to keep constant pressure: otherwise pressure drops,
 y revealing leakage)

Gas flow changes can greatly affect mold flow and quality
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Estimation of Active Sites Number at UTN Refractory Inner Surface

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Estimation of Mean Bubble Size using a Two-Stage Model













Slide-gate-position-based Model

Equation for gate-position-based model (including gas effect):

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{Q}_{SEN} &= A_{eff} \sqrt{\frac{2g(H_1 + H_2)}{\left(\frac{A_{SEN}}{A_{port}} - 1\right)^2 + f\frac{L_{SEN}}{D_{SEN}} + \left(\frac{1}{\mu} - 1\right)^2 \left(\frac{A_{SEN}}{A_{GAP}}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{A_{SG}}{A_{GAP}} - \frac{A_{GAP}}{A_{SG}}\right)^2 \left(\frac{A_{SEN}}{A_{SG}}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{A_{SEN}}{2A_{port}}\right)^2} \\ \text{where} \qquad \mu = 0.63 + 0.37 \left(\frac{A_{GAP}}{A_{SG}}\right)^3 \qquad A_{eff} = \begin{cases} A_{SEN} & \text{single phase flow} \\ \frac{V_c WT}{Q_{gas} + V_c WT} A_{SEN} & \text{two phase flow} \end{cases} \\ \text{For continuous caster, an extra term should be added to account for pressure drop due to clogging:} \\ Q_{SEN} = A_{eff} \sqrt{\frac{2g(H_1 + H_2)}{\left(\left(\frac{A_{SEN}}{A_{port}} - 1\right)^2 + f\frac{L_{SEN}}{D_{SEN}} + \left(\frac{1}{\mu} - 1\right)^2 \left(\frac{A_{SEN}}{A_{GAP}}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{A_{SG}}{A_{GAP}} - \frac{A_{GAP}}{A_{SG}}\right)^2 \left(\frac{A_{SEN}}{A_{SG}}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{A_{SEN}}{2A_{port}}\right)^2 + C \end{cases}} \end{aligned}$$

In current study, C=0 is assumed (no clogging).



Average Mold Level Equation (AMLE)









Mold Top Surface Level Variation -- Sloshing Case



- Mold level sloshes mainly in the form of a standing wave across half mold;
- Traveling wave occurs near SEN towards narrow face;
- Sloshing amplitude increases with time at a decreasing rate.





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