

Numerical Heat Transfer

Chapter 13 Application examples of fluent for flow and heat transfer problem



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数值传热学

第 13 章 求解流动换热问题的Fluent软件应用举例



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13. A2 Flow and heat transfer in porous media

多孔介质流动换热问题

Focus: in this example, first the **background of porous media** is introduced, and then **governing equations** for fluid flow and heat transfer in porous media are discussed in detail.

13. A2 Flow and heat transfer in porous media

Known: Steady state fluid flow and heat transfer of air in a channel filled with porous medium made of Aluminum (铝). The porosity (孔隙率) of the porous medium is 0.8. The permeability (渗透率) of the porous medium is $7.E-8 \text{ m}^2$. The computational domain is shown in Fig. A1. The boundary condition is as follows.

- Inlet: $u=5\text{m/s}$; $T=300\text{K}$
- Pressure outlet: Gauge pressure (表压) : 0 Pa.
- Top and bottom boundary: 2rd boundary condition
Heat flux: $q=10000 \text{ W/m}^2$

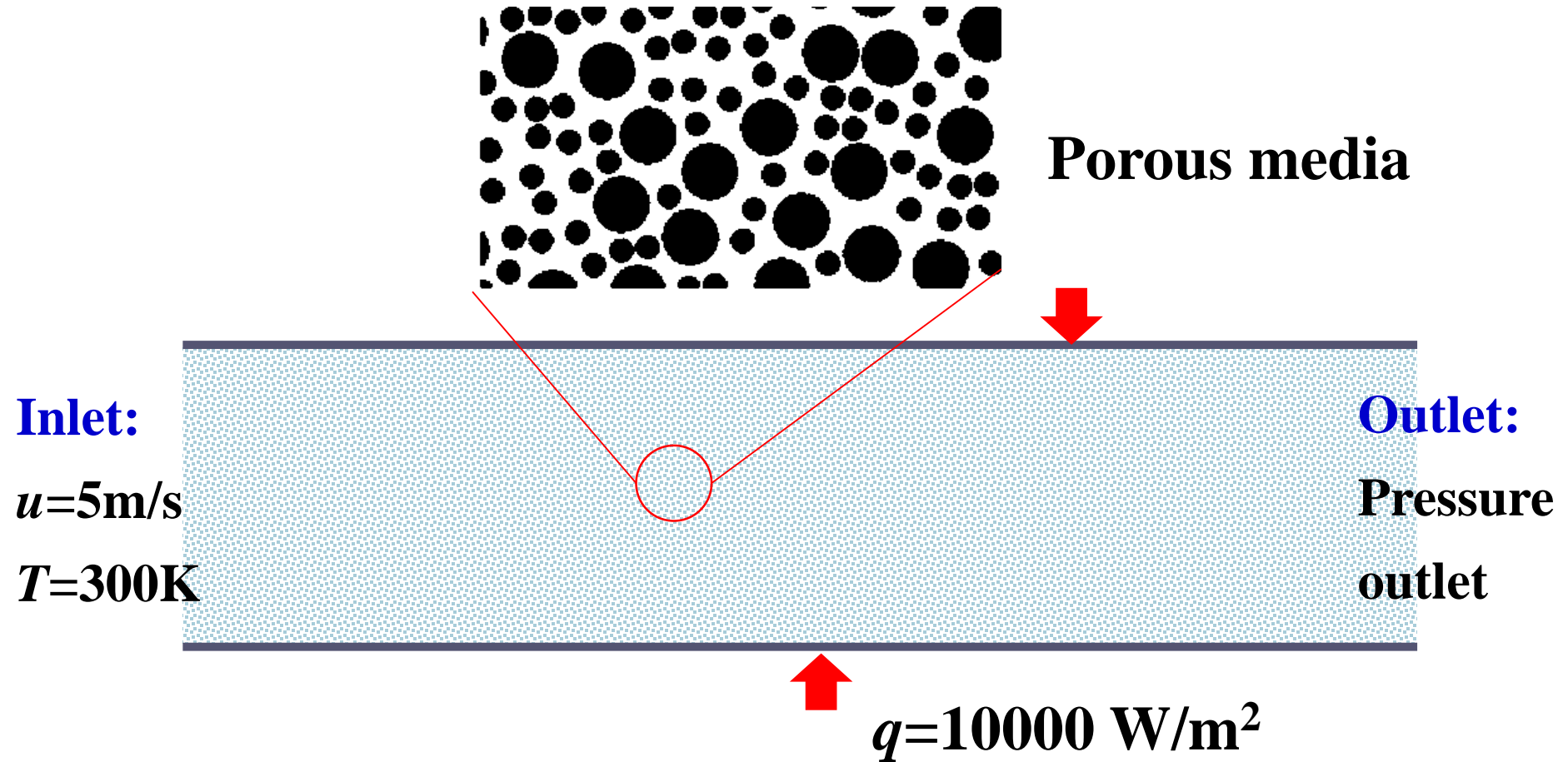


Fig.1 Computational domain

Find: Temperature and velocity distribution in the domain

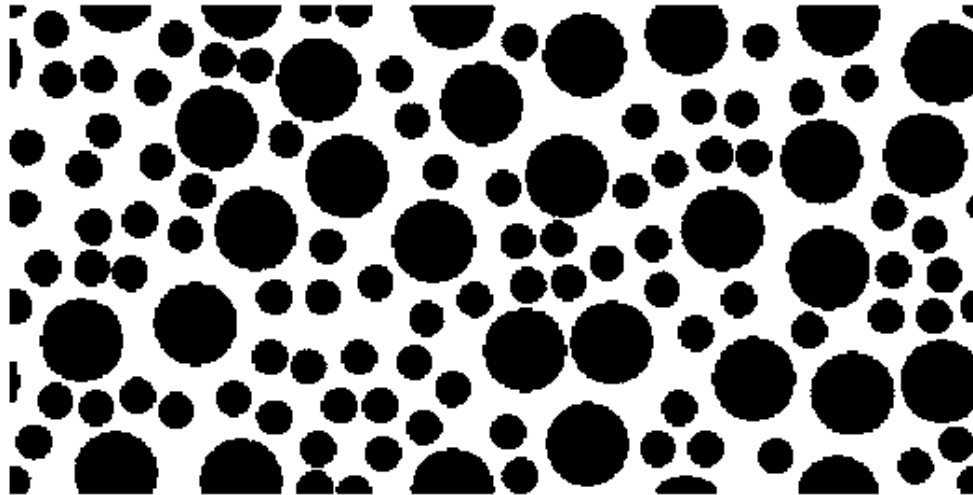
Solution:

Continuity, momentum and energy equation for
porous media????

The governing equations for porous media are quite different from the original NS equation. Thus, we will study together background information of porous media and then derive the governing equations.

Introduction to Porous media

A porous medium is a material that contains plenty of pores (孔) between solid skeleton (骨架) .



Black: solid

White: pores

Two necessary elements in a porous medium:

Skeleton : maintaining the shape of a porous medium

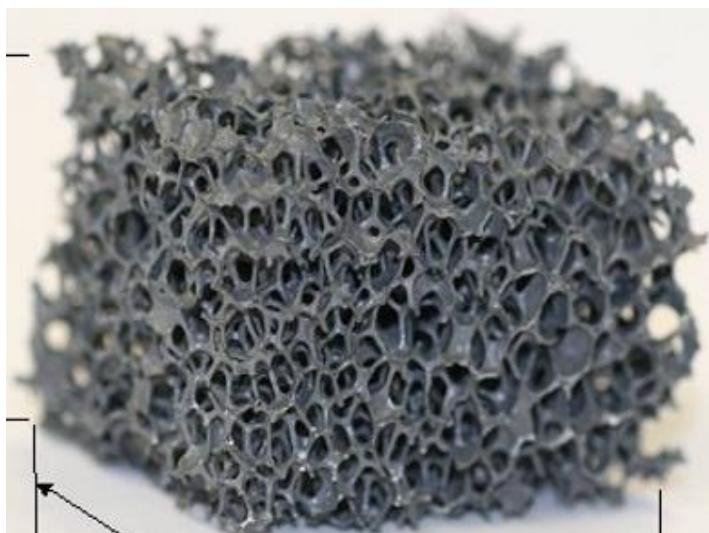
Pores: providing pathway for fluid transport.



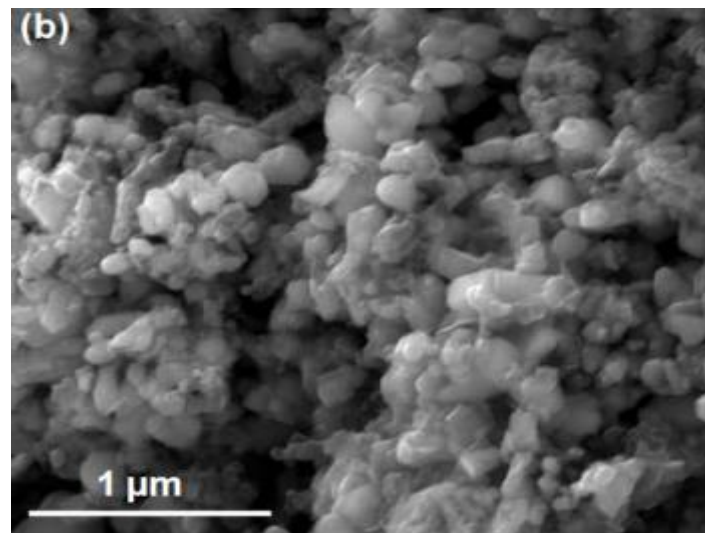
Stone



Carbon fiber (碳纤维)



Metal foam (金属泡沫)



Catalyst

Structure Characterization (结构表征)

Porosity (孔隙率)

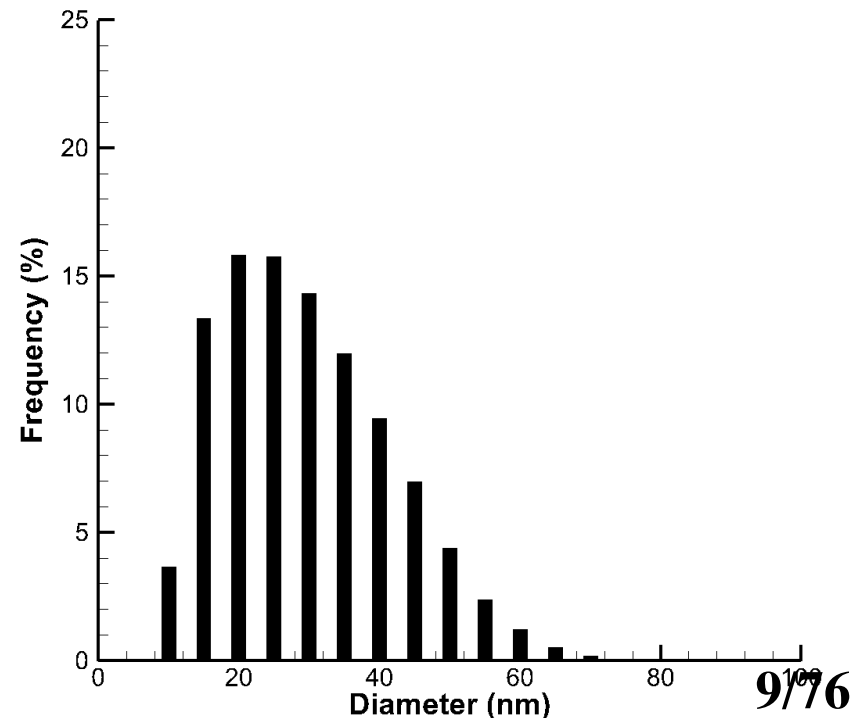
The volume ratio between pore volume and total volume

$$\varepsilon = \frac{V_{\text{pore}}}{V_{\text{total}}}$$

In the range of 0~1.

Pore size (孔径分布)

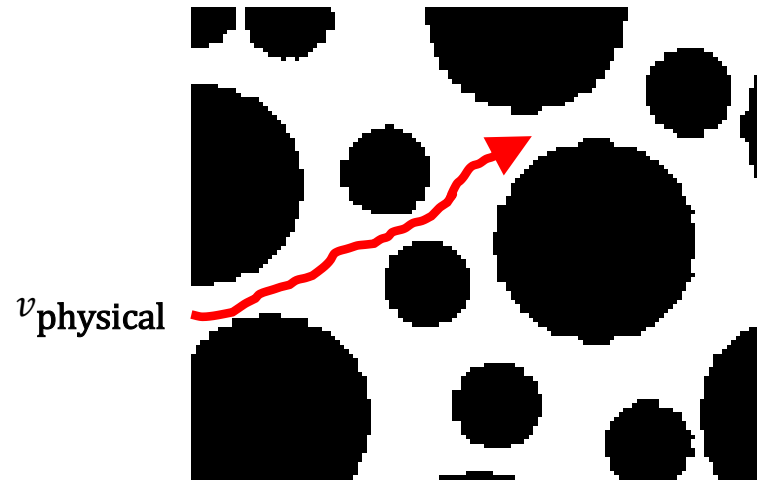
The size of pores. Use **pore size distribution (PSD)** to character (表征) size of pores in a porous medium.



Two velocity definition in a porous medium:

$$V_{\text{superficial}} = \epsilon v_{\text{physical}}$$

Porosity



V_{physical} (真实速度) : the actual flow velocity in the pores.

$V_{\text{superficial}}$ (表观速度): the averaged velocity in the entire domain.

$$V_{\text{superficial}} < V_{\text{physical}}$$

Fluent uses superficial velocity as the default velocity.

Original continuity and momentum equation

$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\rho \mathbf{u}) = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial(\rho \mathbf{u})}{\partial t} + (\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla)(\rho \mathbf{u}) = -\nabla p + \eta \nabla^2 \mathbf{u}$$

Continuity equation for porous media:

As the total mass of fluid is $\rho V_f = \rho \varepsilon V_{total} = \rho \varepsilon \Delta x \Delta y \Delta z$

$$\frac{\partial(\varepsilon \rho)}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\varepsilon \rho \mathbf{u}_{\text{physical}}) = 0$$

Fluent uses superficial velocity as the default velocity.

$$\frac{\partial(\varepsilon \rho)}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\rho \mathbf{u}_{\text{superficial}}) = 0$$

Momentum equation for porous media:

$$\frac{\partial(\rho \mathbf{u})}{\partial t} + (\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla)(\rho \mathbf{u}) = -\nabla p + \eta \nabla^2 \mathbf{u}$$

$$\rho u_p V_f = \rho u_p \varepsilon V_{total} = \rho u_p \varepsilon \Delta x \Delta y \Delta z$$

$$\frac{\partial(\varepsilon \rho \mathbf{u}_{physical})}{\partial t} + (\mathbf{u}_{physical} \cdot \nabla)(\varepsilon \rho \mathbf{u}_{physical}) = -\varepsilon \nabla(p) + \eta \varepsilon \nabla^2 \mathbf{u}_{physical} + \mathbf{F}$$



Force due to porous media

$$\frac{\partial(\rho \mathbf{u}_{superficial})}{\partial t} + \left(\frac{\mathbf{u}_{superficial}}{\varepsilon} \cdot \nabla \right) (\rho \mathbf{u}_{superficial}) = -\varepsilon \nabla(p) + \varepsilon \eta \nabla^2 \left(\frac{\mathbf{u}_{superficial}}{\varepsilon} \right) + \mathbf{F}$$

For incompressible steady state problem:

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u}_{superficial} = 0$$

$$\left(\frac{\mathbf{u}_{superficial}}{\varepsilon} \cdot \nabla \right) (\mathbf{u}_{superficial}) = -\frac{1}{\rho} \varepsilon \nabla(p) + \eta \nabla^2 (\mathbf{u}_{superficial}) + \mathbf{F}$$

The fluid-solid interaction is strong in porous media. Porous media are modeled by adding a momentum source term:

$$\mathbf{F} = -\frac{\varepsilon \nu}{k} \mathbf{u}_{\text{superficial}} - \frac{\varepsilon F_{\varepsilon}}{\sqrt{k}} |\mathbf{u}_{\text{superficial}}| \mathbf{u}_{\text{superficial}}$$

The first term is the **viscous loss term** (黏性项) or the **Darcy term**.

The second term is **inertial loss term** (惯性项) or the **Forchheimer term**.

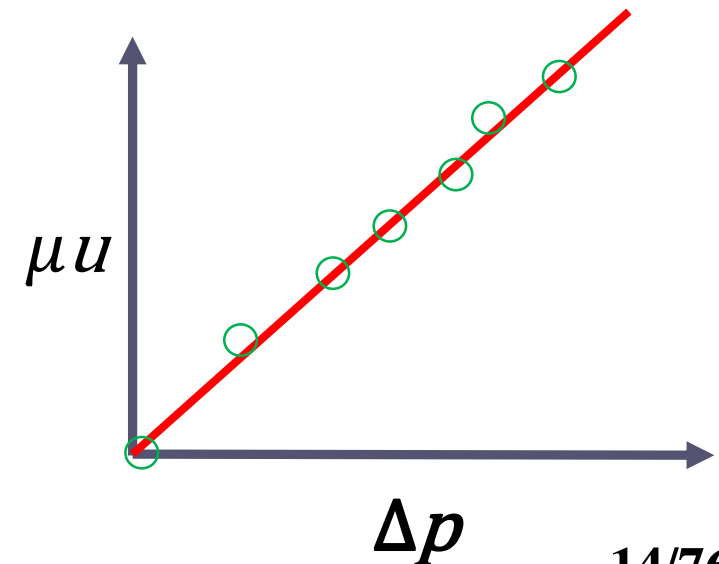
k is the **permeability** (渗透率) of a porous media, one of the most important parameter of a porous media

Permeability (渗透率)

In 1856, Darcy (法国工程师) noted that for laminar flow through porous media, the flow rate $\langle u \rangle$ is linearly proportional to the applied pressure gradient Δp , thus he introduced **permeability to describe the conductivity of the porous media**. The Darcy' law is as follows

$$\langle u \rangle = -\frac{k}{\mu} \frac{\Delta p}{l}$$

k is permeability with unit of m^2



In Fluent, this force source term is expressed as

$$\mathbf{F} = -\frac{\mu}{k} \mathbf{u} - C_2 \frac{1}{2} \rho |\mathbf{u}| \mathbf{u}$$

k : permeability; **C_2 : inertial resistance factor (惯性阻力)**

Here, viscous resistance(黏性阻力) is $1/k$!

Viscous Resistance

Direction-1 (1/m²)

constant

Direction-2 (1/m²)

constant

Permeability is a transport property of a porous medium, and there are database of k for different porous materials.

$$\mathbf{F} = -\frac{\mu}{k} \mathbf{u} - C_2 \frac{1}{2} \rho |\mathbf{u}| \mathbf{u}$$

The second term can be canceled if the fluid flow is slow

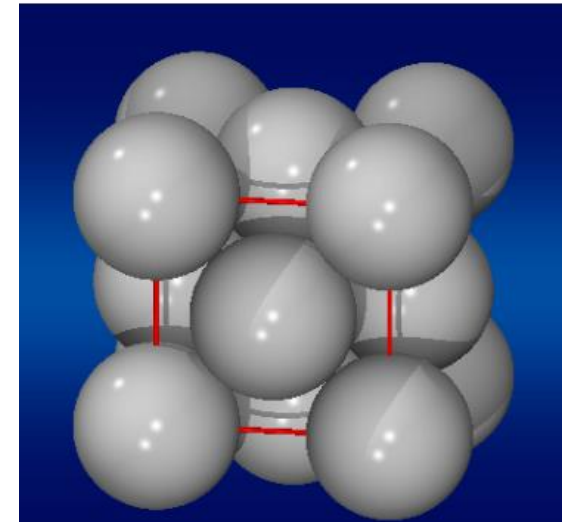
u is small, $\ll 1$, thus u^*u is smaller.

Otherwise, this term should be considered.

There have been lots of experiments in the literature to determine the relationship between pressure drop and velocity of different kinds of porous media, and thus to determine permeability.

Ergun equation is one of the most adopted empirical equations (经验公式) for packed bed porous media.

$$\frac{\Delta P}{l} = \frac{150\mu}{\underline{D_p^2}} \frac{(1-\varepsilon)^2}{\varepsilon^3} u + \frac{1.75\rho}{D_p} \frac{(1-\varepsilon)}{\varepsilon^3} u^2$$



Diameter of solid particle

$$\mathbf{F} = -\frac{\mu}{k} \mathbf{u} - C_2 \frac{1}{2} \rho |\mathbf{u}| \mathbf{u}$$

Comparing the two equations, you can obtain k and C_2 .

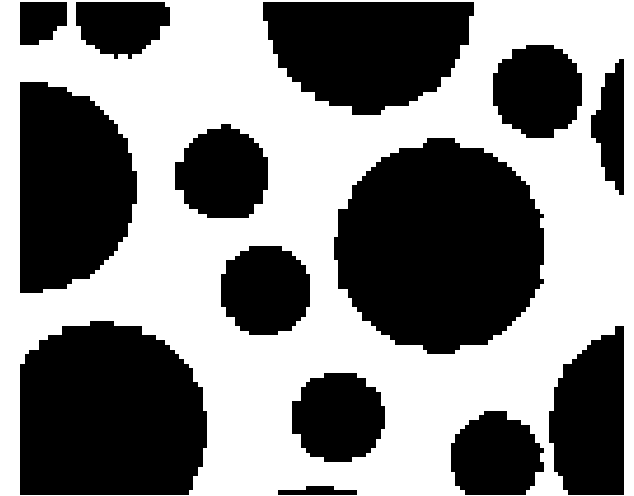
$$k = \frac{D_p^2}{150} \frac{\varepsilon^3}{(1-\varepsilon)^2}$$

$$C_2 = \frac{3.5(1-\varepsilon)}{D_p} \frac{1}{\varepsilon^3}$$

Energy equation

$$\frac{\partial(\rho C_p T)}{\partial t} + (\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla)(\rho C_p T) = \lambda \nabla^2 T + S$$

For porous media:



Heat transfer in fluid phase as well as in solid phase.

There are two models for heat transfer:

Equilibrium thermal model (热平衡模型)

Non-Equilibrium thermal model (非热平衡模型)

Equilibrium thermal model (热平衡模型)

Assume solid phase and fluid phase are in thermal equilibrium. In other words, the temperature of fluid and solid in a mesh is the same.

Original
$$\frac{\partial(\rho C_p T)}{\partial t} + (\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla)(\rho C_p T) = \nabla(\lambda \nabla T) + S$$

For the first term :

$$\begin{aligned} \rho C_p T V &= (1 - \varepsilon) V (\rho C_p)_{\text{solid}} T_{\text{solid}} + \varepsilon V (\rho C_p)_{\text{fluid}} T_{\text{fluid}} \\ &= \left[(1 - \varepsilon) (\rho C_p)_{\text{solid}} + \varepsilon (\rho C_p)_{\text{fluid}} \right] V T \end{aligned}$$

$$\rho C_p T = \left[(1 - \varepsilon) (\rho C_p)_{\text{solid}} + \varepsilon (\rho C_p)_{\text{fluid}} \right] T$$

For the second convection term:

$$(\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla)(\varepsilon \rho C_p T)$$

As convective term is only for fluid phase!

For the diffusion term:

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla(\lambda \nabla T)V &= \nabla(\lambda_s \nabla T_s)V(1-\varepsilon) + \nabla(\lambda_f \nabla T_f)V\varepsilon \\ &= \nabla(\lambda_s(1-\varepsilon)\nabla T)V + \nabla(\lambda_f \varepsilon \nabla T)V \\ &= V\nabla(\lambda_s(1-\varepsilon)\nabla T + \lambda_f \varepsilon \nabla T) \\ &= V\nabla(\lambda_{\text{eff}}\nabla T)\end{aligned}$$

$$\lambda \nabla^2 T = \left[(1-\varepsilon)\lambda_s + \varepsilon\lambda_f \right] \nabla^2 T$$

For the source term

$$SV = (1-\varepsilon)VS_s + \varepsilon VS_f$$

$$\frac{\partial \left[(1-\varepsilon)(\rho C_p)_{\text{solid}} + \varepsilon(\rho C_p)_{\text{fluid}} \right] T}{\partial t} + (\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla)(\varepsilon \rho C_p T)$$

$$= \left[(1-\varepsilon)\lambda_s + \varepsilon\lambda_f \right] \nabla^2 T + \left[(1-\varepsilon)S_s + \varepsilon S_f \right]$$

$$(\rho C_p)_{\text{eff}} = \left[(1-\varepsilon)(\rho C_p)_{\text{solid}} + \varepsilon(\rho C_p)_{\text{fluid}} \right]$$

$$\lambda_{\text{eff}} = (1-\varepsilon)\lambda_s + \varepsilon\lambda_f$$

$$S_{\text{eff}} = (1-\varepsilon)S_s + \varepsilon S_f$$

The final energy equation for porous media

$$\frac{\partial \left((\rho C_p)_{\text{eff}} T \right)}{\partial t} + (\mathbf{u}_{\text{superficial}} \cdot \nabla)(\rho C_p T) = \lambda_{\text{eff}} \nabla^2 T + S_{\text{eff}}$$

No equilibrium thermal model (非平衡热模型)

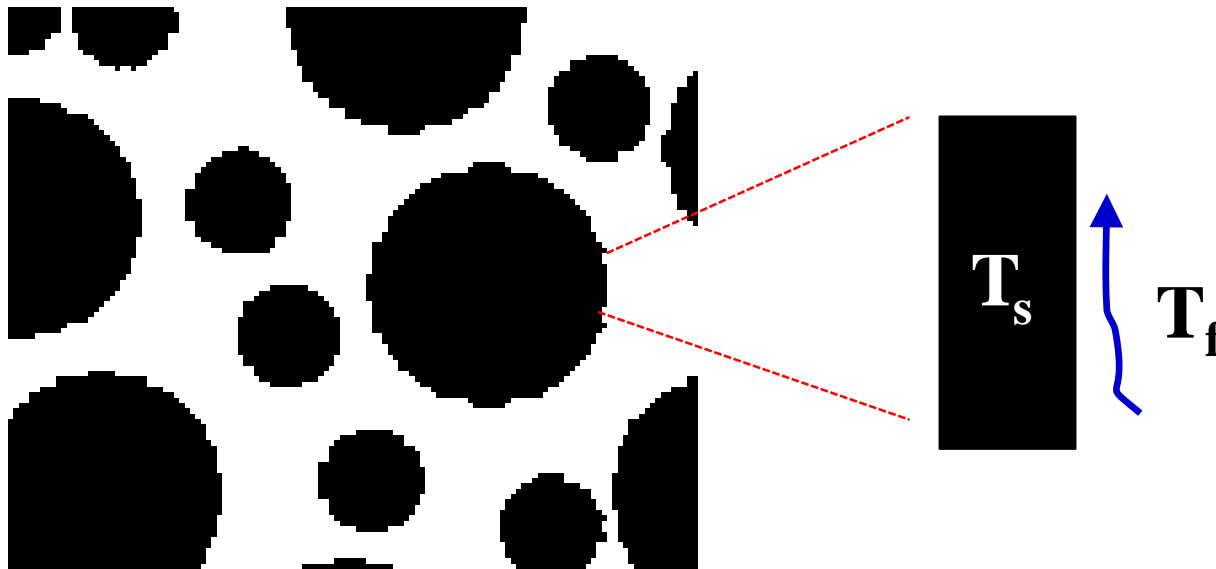
Solid phase and fluid phase are not in thermal equilibrium. The energy equation are solved for fluid and solid region respectively. At the fluid-solid phase, they are coupled **by convective boundary condition**.

Fluid region

$$\frac{\partial([\varepsilon(\rho C_p)_{\text{fluid}}]T_f)}{\partial t} + (\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla)(\varepsilon \rho C_p T_f) \\ = [\varepsilon \lambda_f] \nabla^2 T_f + [\varepsilon S_f] + hA(T_f - T_s)$$

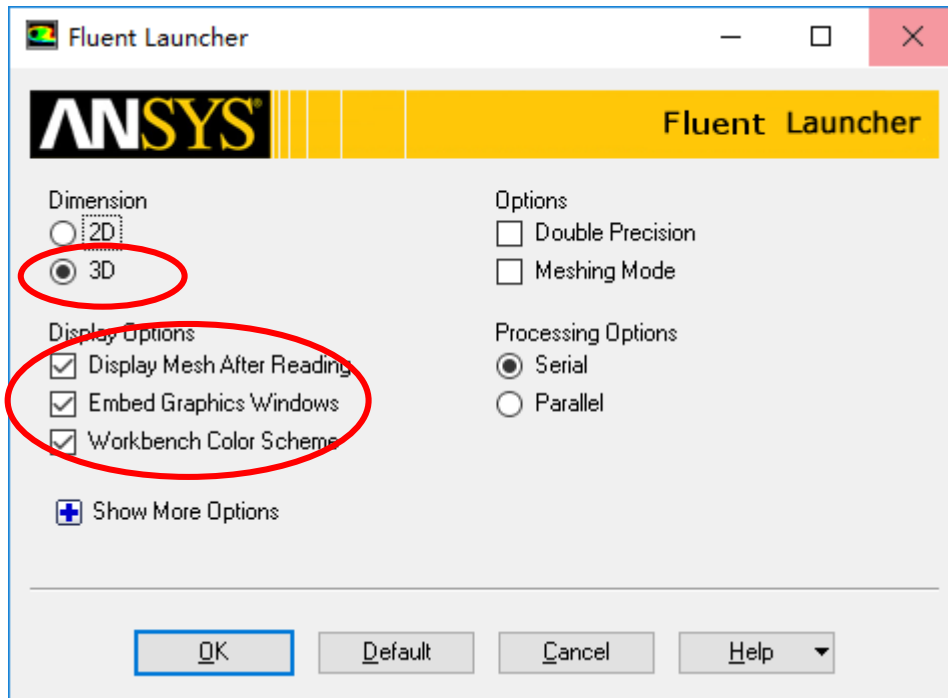
Solid region

$$\frac{\partial \left[(1-\varepsilon)(\rho C_p)_{\text{solid}} T \right]}{\partial t} = \left[(1-\varepsilon)\lambda_s \right] \nabla^2 T + \left[(1-\varepsilon)S_s \right] + \underline{hA(T_f - T_s)}$$



Two equations are solved separately, and 3rd boundary condition is adopted to couple the two equations.

Start the Fluent software

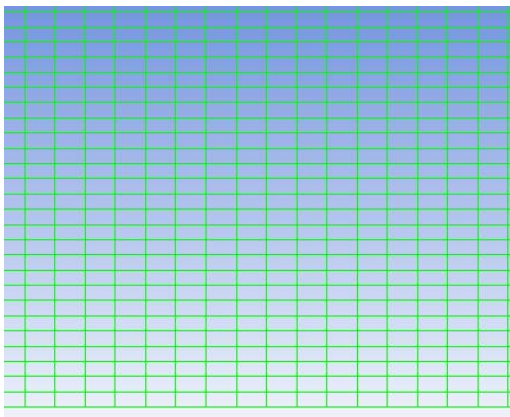


1. Choose **2-Dimension**
2. Choose display options
3. Choose Serial processing option



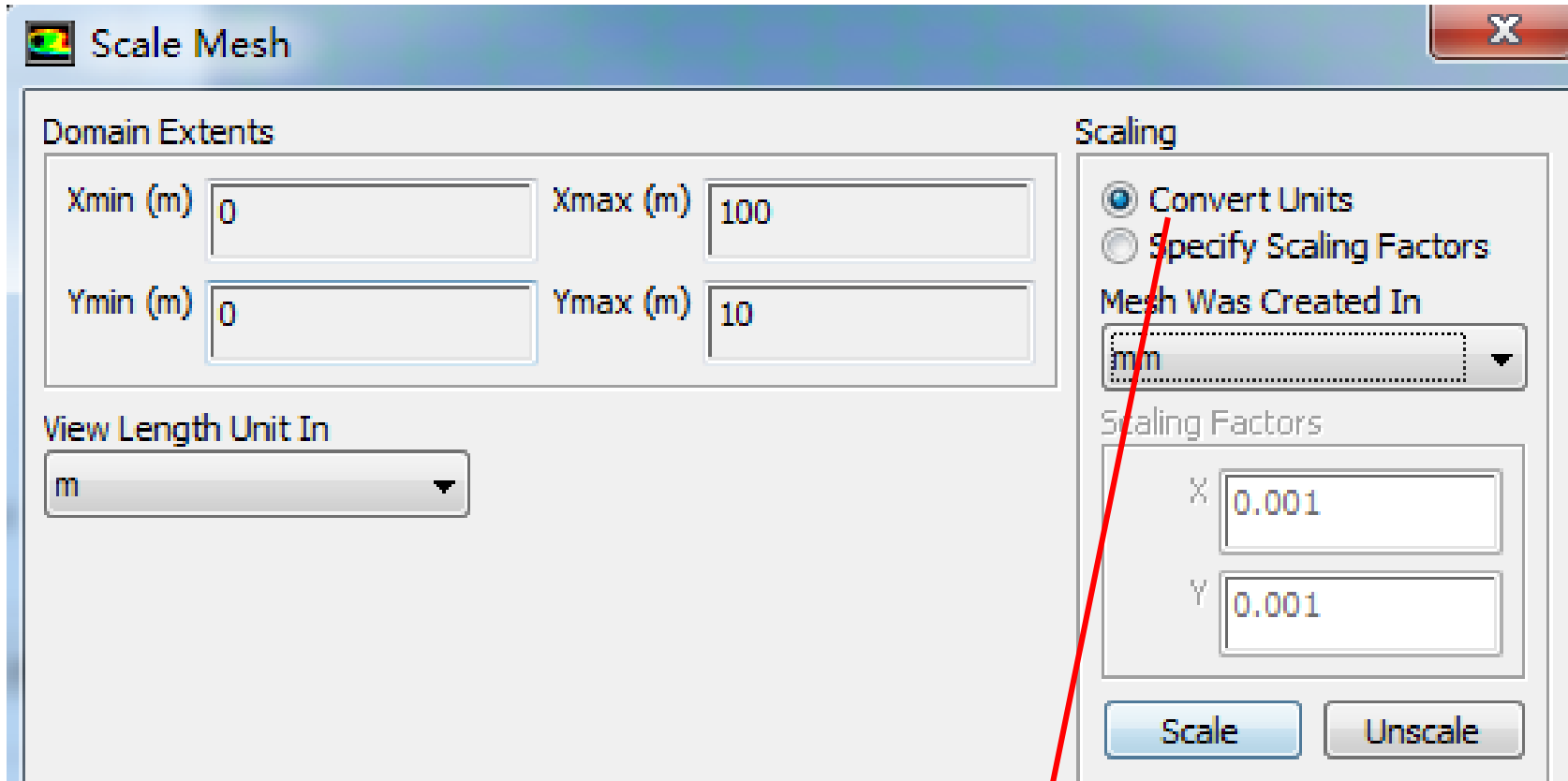
Step 1: **Read** and check the mesh

Read the mesh and check the quality and topological information of the mesh.



```
Done.  
  
Preparing mesh for display...  
Done.  
  
Domain Extents:  
  x-coordinate: min (m) = 0.000000e+00, max (m) = 1.000000e+02  
  y-coordinate: min (m) = 0.000000e+00, max (m) = 1.000000e+01  
Volume statistics:  
  minimum volume (m3): 2.024164e-02  
  maximum volume (m3): 2.024260e-02  
  total volume (m3): 1.000000e+03  
Face area statistics:  
  minimum face area (m2): 1.010094e-01  
  maximum face area (m2): 2.004013e-01  
Checking mesh.....  
Done.
```

Step 2: Scale the domain size



The mesh is generated in Fluent using unit of **mm**. Fluent import it as unit of **m**. Thus, “**Convert units**” is used.

Step 3: Choose the physicochemical model

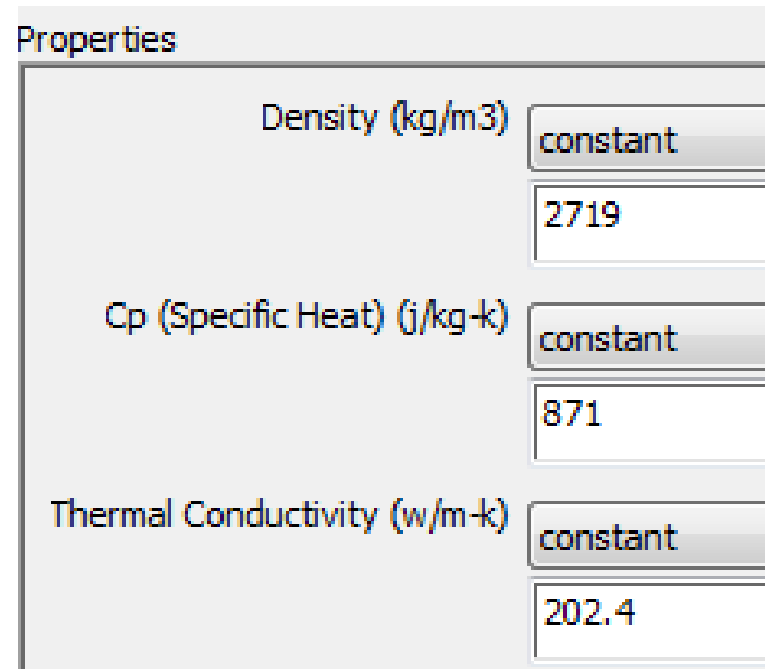
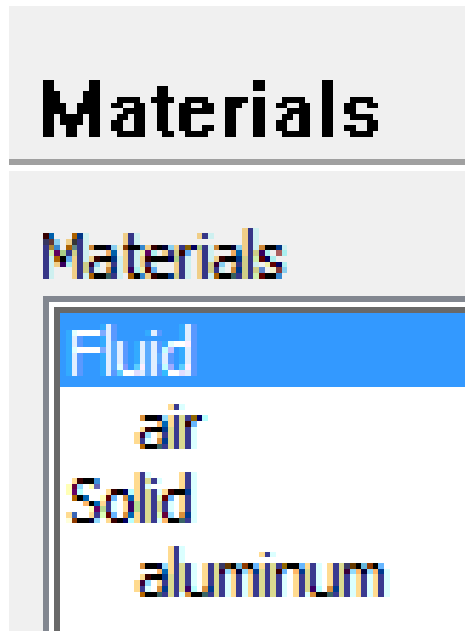
Activate fluid flow and energy model in Fluent.

The image shows the Fluent software interface. On the left is a tree view with categories: Meshing, Solution Setup, Solution, and Results. Under Solution Setup, 'Models' is selected. The 'Models' panel on the right lists various models: Multiphase - Off, Energy - On (highlighted with a red box), viscous - Laminar, Radiation - Off, Heat Exchanger - Off, Species - Off, Discrete Phase - Off, Solidification & Melting - Off, and Acoustics - Off. An 'Energy' dialog box is open in the foreground, showing a checked checkbox for 'Energy Equation' and buttons for 'OK', 'Cancel', and 'Help'.

Step 4: Define the material

Define the materials and their properties required for modeling!

In Fluent, the default fluid is **air** and the default solid is **Al**. They are the materials we will use in Example A2.

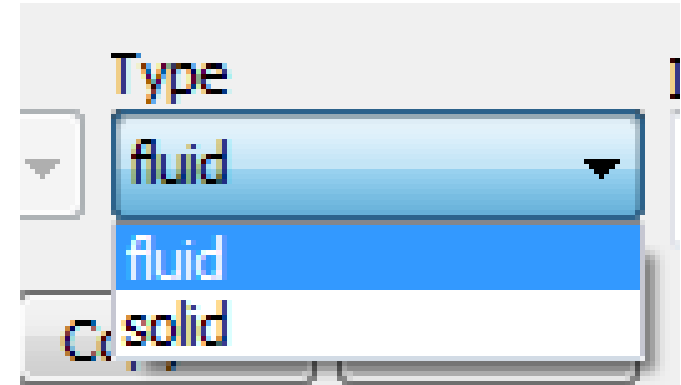


Step 5: Define zone condition

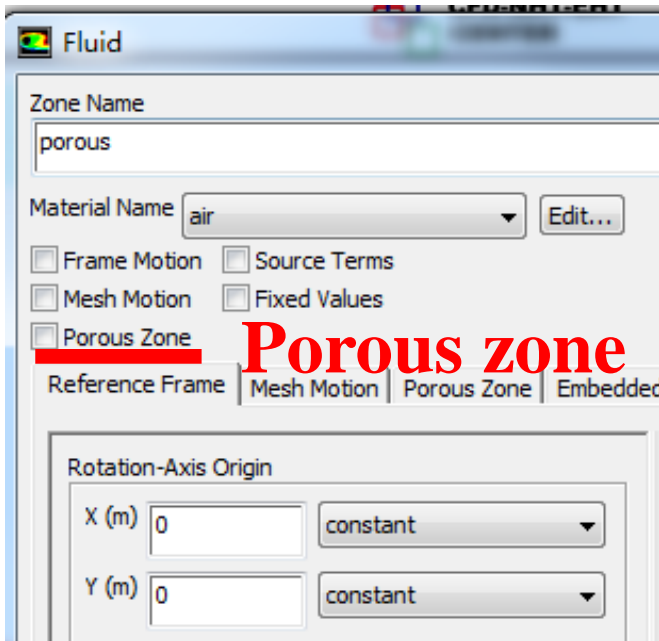
There are two options in Fluent for zone condition:

Fluid

Solid



Porous media is treated as Fluid in Fluent.



Here you can click “**Porous zone**” to define the porous media.

Then you can define related porosity and transport properties.

Relative Velocity Resistance Formulation

Viscous Resistance

Viscous resistance

Direction-1 (1/m²)

0

constant

Direction-2 (1/m²)

0

constant

$\frac{1}{k}$



$$\mathbf{F} = -\frac{\mu}{k} \mathbf{u} - C_2 \frac{1}{2} \rho |\mathbf{u}| \mathbf{u}$$



C_2

Inertial Resistance

Alternative Formulation

Inertial resistance

Direction-1 (1/m)

0

constant

Direction-2 (1/m)

0

constant

KC equation is adopted, another equation obtained from experiments

$$\frac{\Delta P}{l} = \frac{180\mu}{D_p^2} \frac{(1-\varepsilon)^2}{\varepsilon^3} u$$

$$\mathbf{F} = -\frac{\mu}{k} \mathbf{u} - C_2 \frac{1}{2} \rho |\mathbf{u}| \mathbf{u}$$

$$k = \frac{D_p^2}{180} \frac{\varepsilon^3}{(1-\varepsilon)^2}$$

$$C_2 = 0$$

$$D_p = 1\text{mm}$$

$$\varepsilon = 0.8$$

$$k = 7.11\text{E-}8, 1/k = 1.4\text{E}7$$

$$C_2 = 0$$

Porosity

Fluid Porosity

Porosity

$k=7.11E-8, 1/k=1.4E7$

Relative Velocity Resistance Formulation

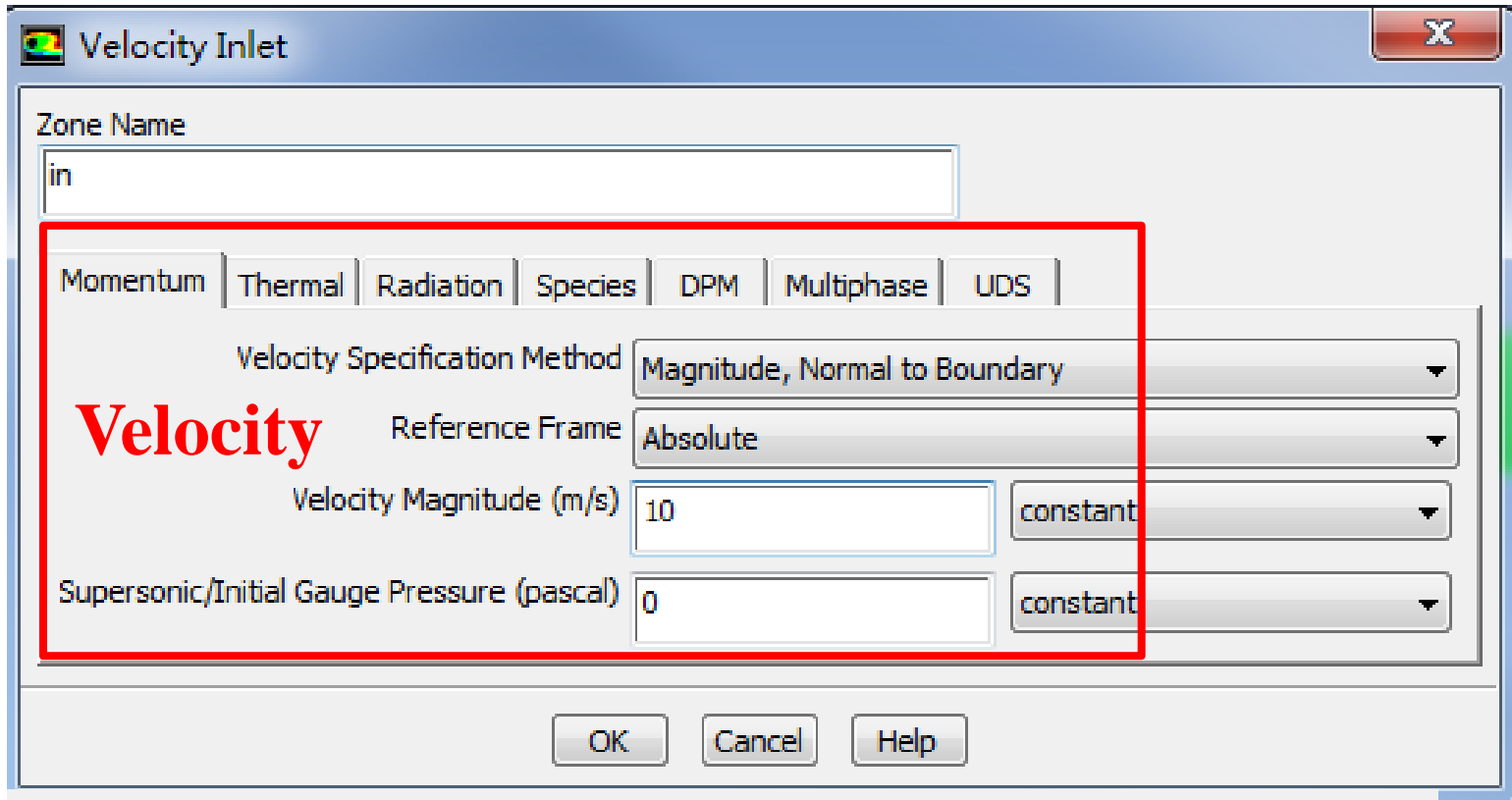
Viscous Resistance

Direction-1 (1/m²)

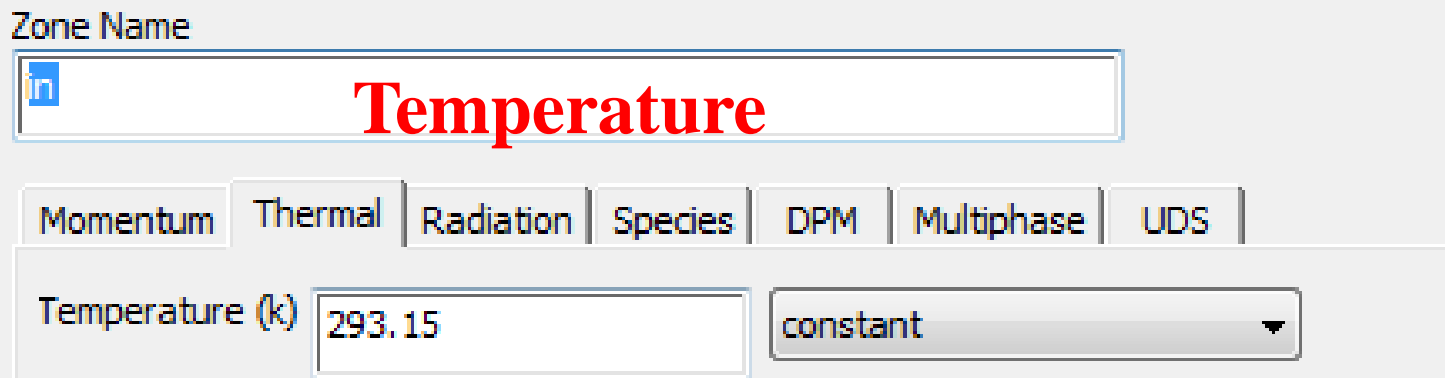
Direction-2 (1/m²)

Step 6: Define the boundary condition

Inlet

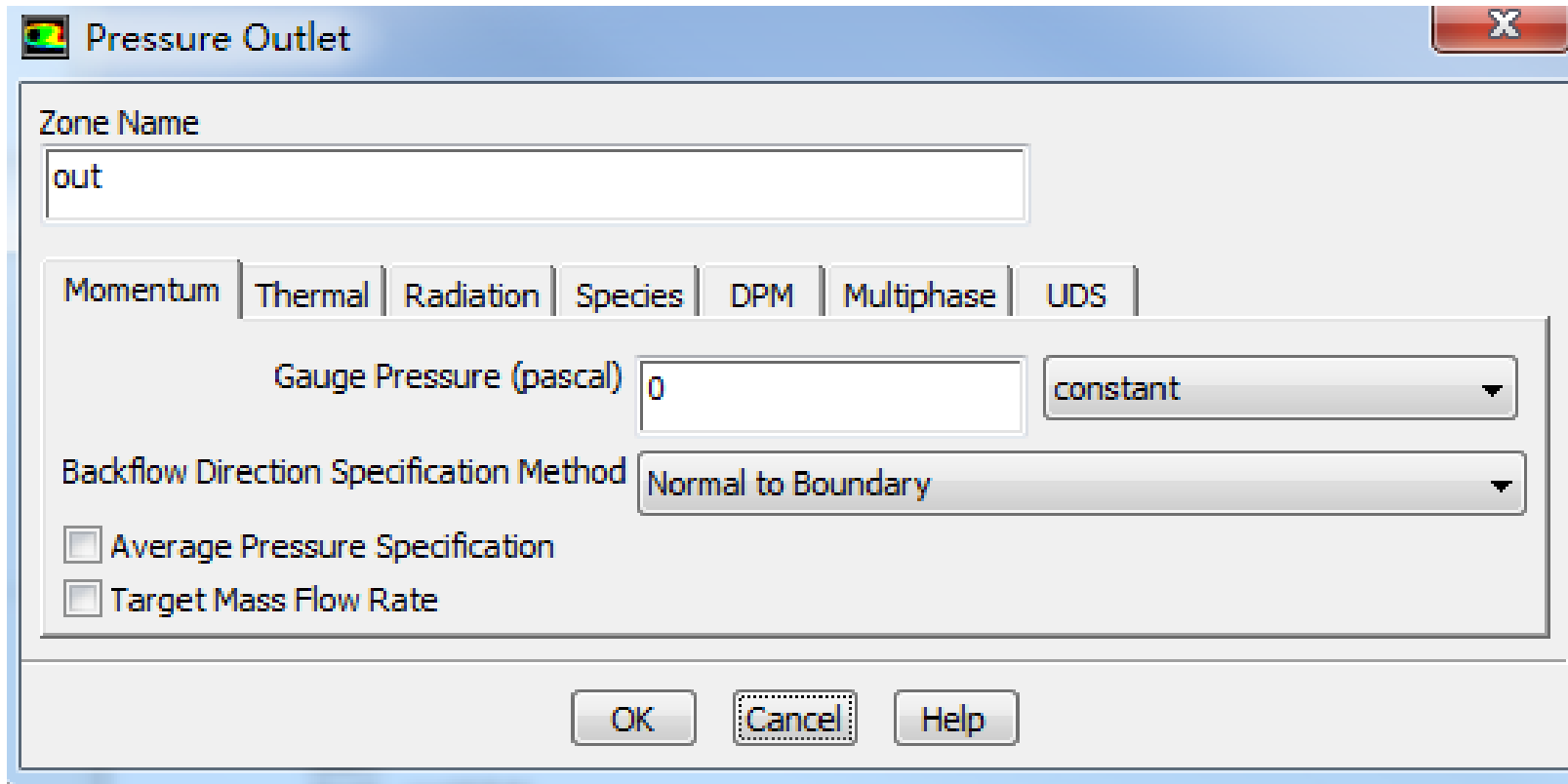


The image shows a 'Velocity Inlet' dialog box in a software interface. The 'Zone Name' field contains 'in'. Below this, there are several tabs: 'Momentum', 'Thermal', 'Radiation', 'Species', 'DPM', 'Multiphase', and 'UDS'. The 'Momentum' tab is selected. Under the 'Momentum' tab, the 'Velocity Specification Method' is set to 'Magnitude, Normal to Boundary'. The 'Reference Frame' is set to 'Absolute'. The 'Velocity Magnitude (m/s)' is set to '10' with a 'constant' dropdown menu. The 'Supersonic/Initial Gauge Pressure (pascal)' is set to '0' with a 'constant' dropdown menu. A red box highlights the 'Velocity Specification Method', 'Reference Frame', and 'Velocity Magnitude' fields. At the bottom, there are 'OK', 'Cancel', and 'Help' buttons.



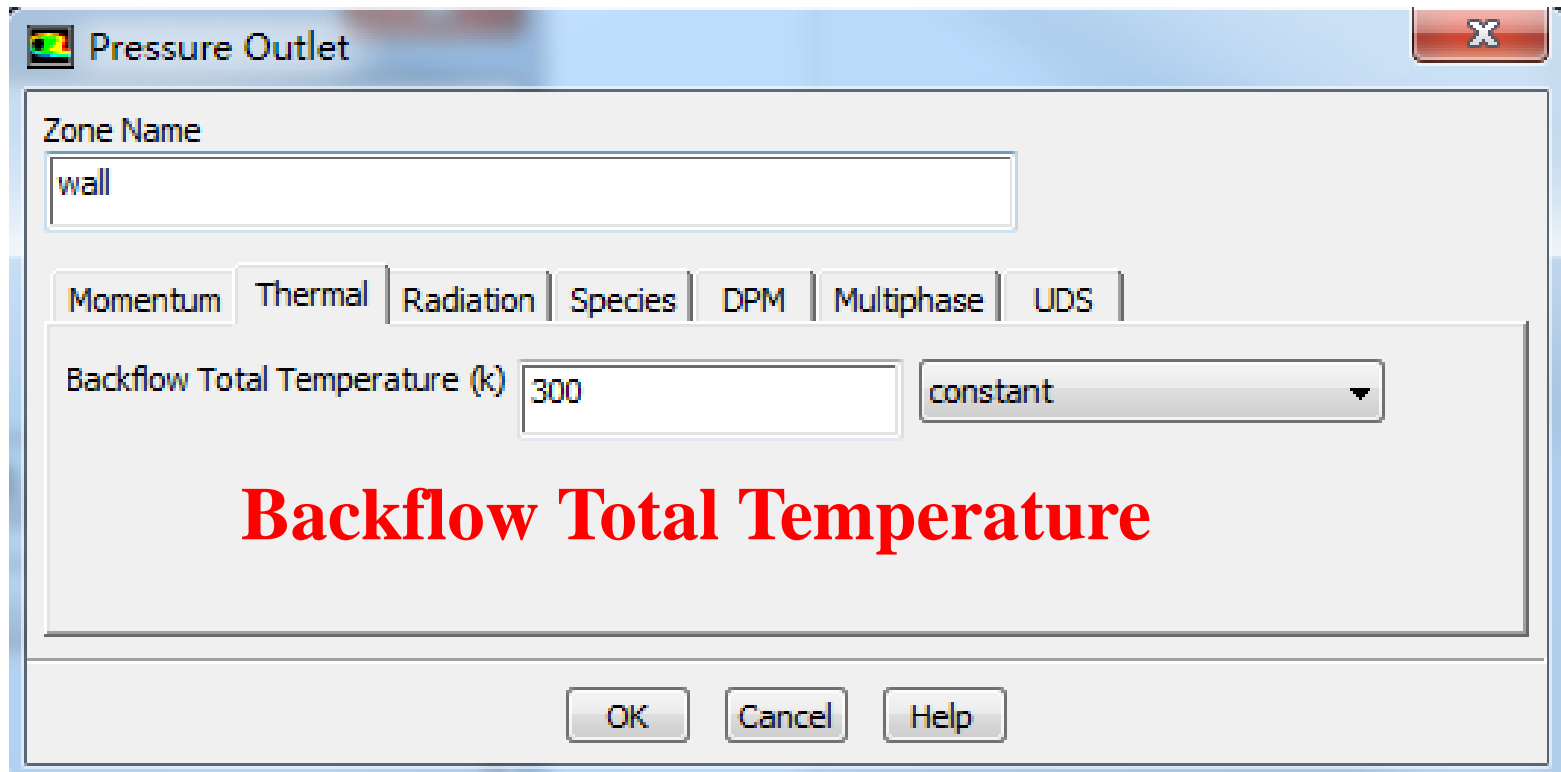
The image shows a 'Thermal' dialog box in a software interface. The 'Zone Name' field contains 'in'. Below this, there are several tabs: 'Momentum', 'Thermal', 'Radiation', 'Species', 'DPM', 'Multiphase', and 'UDS'. The 'Thermal' tab is selected. Under the 'Thermal' tab, the 'Temperature (k)' is set to '293.15' with a 'constant' dropdown menu.

Outlet: pressure outlet



Gauge Pressure (表压)

For pressure outlet boundary condition, Fluent asks you to input the **Backflow Total Temperature**. However, it will play a role only if there is backflow. There is no information provided by Fluent Help File about what is the actual boundary condition for heat transfer.



Wall: heat flux

Zone Name
wall

Adjacent Cell Zone
porous

Momentum Thermal Radiation Species DPM Multiphase UDS Wall Film

Thermal Conditions

Heat Flux **heat flux** Temperature Convection Radiation Mixed via System Coupling

Heat Flux (w/m2) 10000 constant

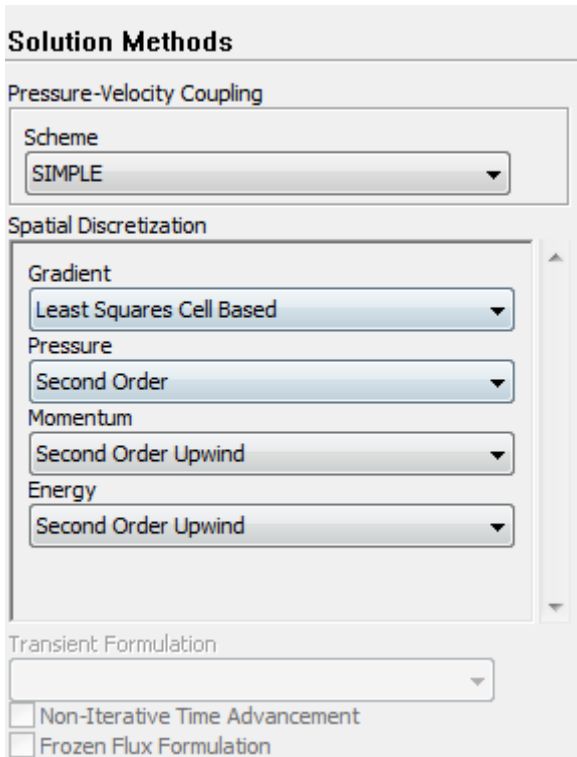
Wall Thickness (m) 0 P

Heat Generation Rate (w/m3) 0 constant

Material Name
aluminum Edit...

7st step: Define the solution

For algorithm and schemes, keep it as default. For more details of this step, one can refer to Example A1 of Chapter 13.



Algorithm: simple

Gradient: Least Square Cell Based

Pressure: second order

Momentum: second order upwind

Energy: second order Upwind

7st step: **Define the solution**

For under-relaxation factor, keep it default. For more details, refer to **Example A1**.

8st step: Initialization

Use the standard initialization, for more details of Hybrid initialization, refer to Example A1.

Step 9: Run the simulation

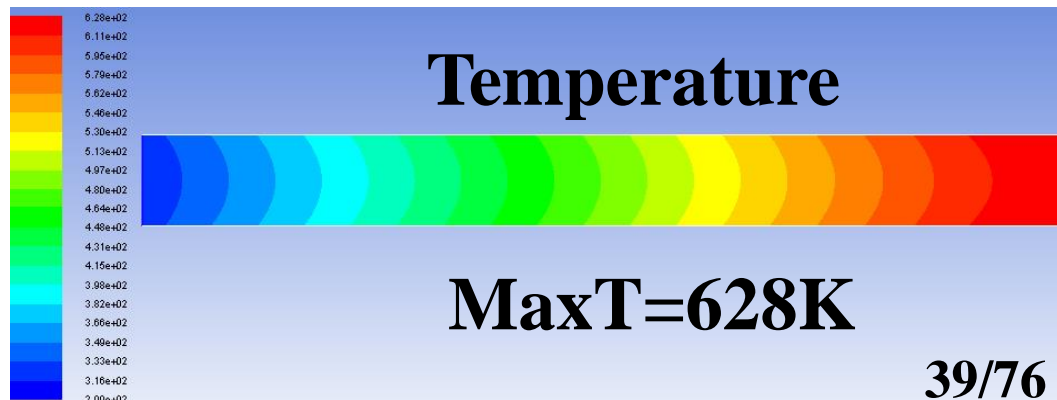
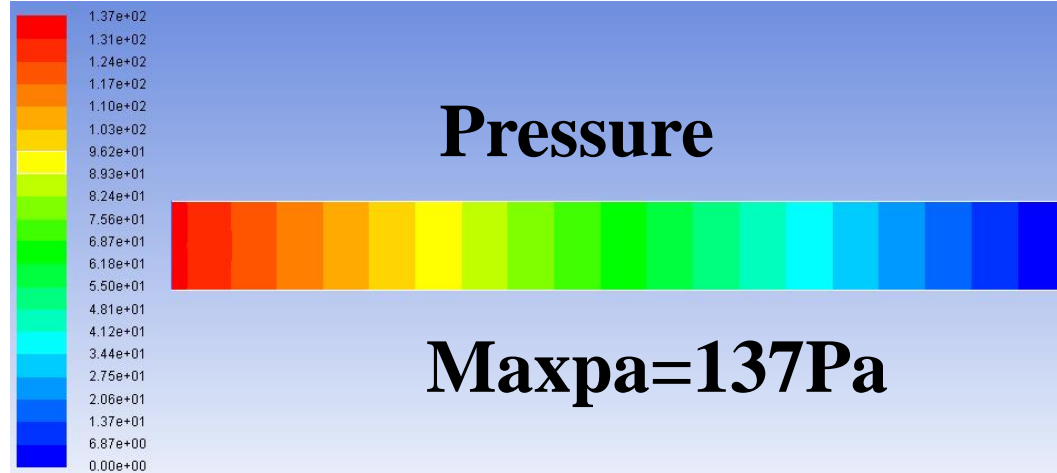
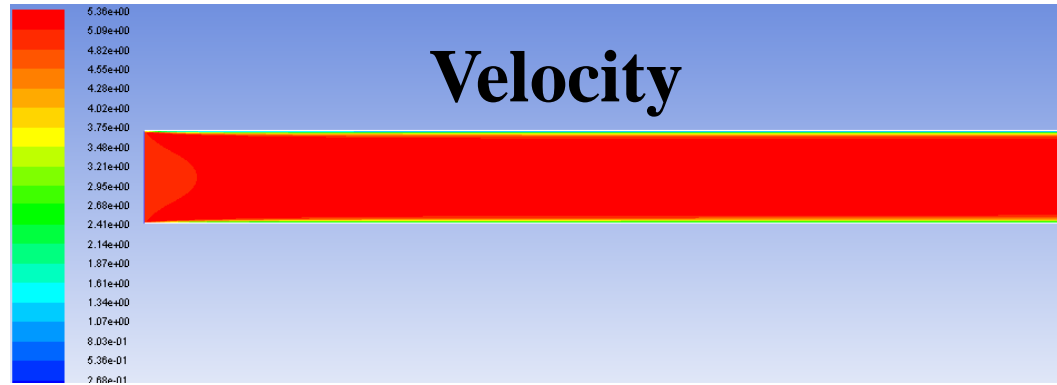
Step 10: Post-processing results

$$1/k=1.4E7$$

$$C_2=0$$

$$\text{Porosity}=0.8$$

$$u=5$$



2: Operating the Fluent software to simulate the example and post-process the results. (运行软件)

感谢各位同学!



同舟共济渡彼岸!

People in the same boat
help each other to cross
to the other bank,
where....