

# Analysis of Fuel Injection System in Blast Furnace with the Help of CFD Software Approach

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**Abstract-** This paper described the combustion characteristics of pulverized coal injection (PCI) in the blow pipe tuyere assembly using injection patterns are simulated, to improving the practical performance of the blast furnace. In these study a three dimensional mathematical models has been developed based on computational fluid dynamics software gambit & fluent. The model was capable of handling steady state, three dimensional multi phase flow of pulverized coal injection. The model was applied to simulate the flow pattern of the pulverized coal inside the tuyere. The information including mean temperature distribution and combustion characteristics has been obtained in details.

**Index Terms-** Pulverized Coal Injection (PCI), Tuyere, Gambit & Fluent, Lance.

## I. INTRODUCTION

The blast furnace is fundamentally a vertical shaft varying in height from 24 to 33 meters with a diameter at the hearth of about 8.5 m<sup>[4]</sup>. It is the most widely used iron making process. The total volume is more than 1400 cubic meters. The blast furnace has charging arrangements at the top and a means of running off the pig iron and slag at the bottom. Air is blown in near the bottom of the furnace, and this increases the speed of combustion and maintains the necessary higher temperature. Pulverized coal injection has assisted the steel industry to lower operating costs, extended oven life and lower green house emissions. A tuyere is a tube, nozzle or pipe through which air is blown into a furnace or hearth Air or oxygen is injected into a hearth under pressure from bellows or a blast engine or other devices. This causes the fire to be hotter in front of the blast than it would otherwise have been, enabling metals to be smelted or melted or made hot enough to be worked in a forge<sup>[7]</sup>. This applies to any process where a blast is delivered under pressure to make a fire hotter.



Fig.1 pulverized coal injection system<sup>[5]</sup>

Shan-Wen Du<sup>[1]</sup> solved the Navier–Stokes equation, the thermal-energy-balance equation with conjugated heat transfer, and the mass transfer equation at steady state to predicts the decrease in temperature of the eroded hearth of the blast furnace Chen ching –wen<sup>[2]</sup> Modified single lance injection into double lance injection for pulverized coal injection (PCI) system they developed a three-dimensional mathematical model on computational fluid dynamics software PHOENICS to simulate the fluid flow phenomena inside blast furnace tuyere D.Maldonad<sup>[3]</sup> validated three-dimensional numerical model of the blowpipe/tuyere/raceway for various plant-specific investigations of blast parameters such as oxygen enrichment, blast temperature and atomic oxygen-to-carbon ratio. The methodology combines 3-D CFD model, which is used to predict the hot face temperature for a given inner profile, 1-D heat transfer model, which is used to predict fine tune the inner profile. The conclusion was made that many of the research is already done in hearth portion. From this, the conclusion is made to study some other part of the blast furnace except hearth, then after getting deep into the blast furnace, a point was made that only a few researchers did study in the tuyere portion.

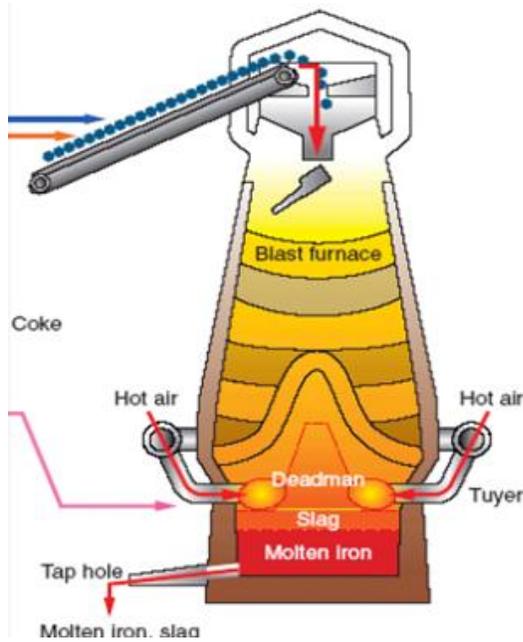


Fig. 2 schematic diagram of blast furnace [8]

## II. SIMULATION PROCEDURE

The model geometry is based on a commercial blast furnace. The main dimensions of the model geometry are shown in Table (1). The lance, blowpipe and tuyere are in actual dimensions, the raceway is designed in the shape of a ‘balloon’, rather than a divergent ‘tube’, as used elsewhere [3]

Tuyere Length	3.59 cm
Inner dia. of tuyere or outlet of the blowpipe	12.46cm
Outer diameter of tuyere	10.5cm
Lance inlet angle	7deg.
Inner dia. Of lance	.95cm
Outer dia. of lance	1.89cm
Lance length	15.3cm

Table 1 Design parameter

Boundary condition is taken for analysis of blast furnace Tuyere is shown in below [6]:

- Inlet velocity — lance inlet
- Pressure inlet --- tuyere inlet
- Mass flow rate --- tuyere
- Pressure outlet --- tuyere out

Using slandered IGES format to developed the model and analysis [4]:

- Grid check
- Choosing models :- k-epsilon model, steady flow, considering energy equation as well as radiation,
- Species selection: - transport and reaction: - By this proximate analysis is done in partial combustion species.

## NOMENCLATURE [11]

$A_p$	particle projected area, m <sup>2</sup>
$C_1, C_2$	turbulent model constants
$C_D$	drag coefficient
$C_p$	particle heat capacity, J kg <sup>-1</sup> K <sup>-1</sup>
$D$	external diffusion coefficient of oxygen in Gibb model, m <sup>2</sup> s <sup>-1</sup>
$f_D$	drag force from a particle, N
$H$	enthalpy, J kg <sup>-1</sup>
$[i]$	molar fraction of reactant species i
$k$	turbulent kinetic energy, m <sup>2</sup> s <sup>-2</sup>
$\dot{m}$	mass transfer rate from a particle, kg s <sup>-1</sup>
$n_p$	particle number per unit volume, m <sup>-3</sup>
$q$	Heat transfer from a particle, W
$Re$	Reynolds number
$T$	temperature, K
$T_c$	activation energy in Gibb/Field model, K
$T_s$	constant in Gibb model, 6240 K
$U$	mean (true) velocity of gas, m s <sup>-1</sup>
$u, v, w$	gas velocity components, m s <sup>-1</sup>
$\nu_i$	stoichiometric coefficient of species i.
$W_i$	reaction rate of species i (per unit volume), kg m <sup>-3</sup> s <sup>-1</sup>
$Y_i$	mass fraction of species i

## Greek letters

$\alpha$	Volume/internal surface area ratio in Gibb model
$\alpha_1, \alpha_2$	volatile yield
$\epsilon$	Turbulent dissipation rate, m <sup>2</sup> s <sup>-3</sup>
$\epsilon_p$	Particle emissivity
$k$	thermal conductivity, Wm <sup>-1</sup> K <sup>-1</sup>
$\sigma_k, \sigma$	turbulence model constant
$\sigma_B$	Stefan–Boltzmann constant, 5.67x 10 <sup>-8</sup> Wm <sup>-2</sup> K <sup>-4</sup>
$\phi$	mechanism factor in Gibb model
$\rho$	density, kg m <sup>-3</sup>
$\gamma$	volume porosity ( $\gamma = 1$ for cavity)
$\mu$	dynamic viscosity, Pa s
$\mu_t$	turbulent viscosity, Pa s
$\Gamma_i$	molecular diffusivity of species i, kgm <sup>-1</sup> s <sup>-1</sup>

## Subscripts

$g$	gas
$p$	particle

**Mathematical model****Governing equations for the gas and particle phases <sup>[11]</sup>**


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Phase Mass	$\nabla \cdot (\rho U) = \sum_{n_p} m$
Momentum	$\nabla \cdot (\rho U U) - \nabla \cdot (\mu + \mu_t) ((\nabla U) + (\nabla U)^T) = -\nabla (P + \frac{2}{3} \rho K) + \sum_{n_p} f_D$
Energy	$\nabla \cdot (\rho U H - (\frac{\gamma}{C_p} + \frac{\mu_t}{\sigma_H}) \nabla H) = \sum_{n_p} q$
Gas species I	$\nabla \cdot (\sigma U Y_i - (\tau_i + \frac{\mu_t}{\sigma_{Y_i}} - (\Gamma_i + \frac{\mu_p}{\sigma_{Y_i}}) \nabla Y_i)) = W_i$
Turbulent kinetic	$\nabla \cdot (\rho U k - (\mu + \frac{\mu_t}{\sigma_k}) \nabla k) = (P_k - \sigma \varepsilon)$
Turbulent dissipation Rate	$\nabla \cdot (\rho U \varepsilon - (\mu + \frac{\mu_t}{\sigma_\varepsilon}) \nabla \varepsilon) = \frac{\varepsilon}{K} (C_1 P_k - C_2 \sigma \varepsilon)$
For a particle in the Particle phase Mass	$\frac{dm_p}{dt} = -m$
Momentum	$m_p \frac{dm_p}{dt} = -f_D$ $-f_D = \frac{1}{8} \pi d_p^2 \rho C_D  U - U_p  (U - U_p)$
Energy	$m_p C_p \frac{dt_p}{dt} = -q$ $-q = \pi d_p \lambda N U (T_g - T_p) + \sum \frac{dm_p}{dt} H_{react} + A_p \varepsilon_p (\pi l - \sigma_{BT}^4)$

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Where

$$\mu_t = C_\mu \sigma \frac{k^2}{\varepsilon}; P_K = (\mu + \mu_t) \nabla U \cdot (\nabla U)^T; C_D = \max\left(\frac{24(1+0.15 Re^{0.687})}{Re}, 0.44\right); i = O_2, CO_2; CO; VM, H_2, H_2O$$

In the present model, one single computational domain covers the lance, blowpipe, tuyere, raceway and coke bed, so that the effects of operational conditions and coke bed properties on coal combustion could be directly evaluated in real time. The blowpipe- tuyere-raceway region is treated as a cavity. The coke bed is treated as a porous media. The model includes the following physical and chemical processes: <sup>[15]</sup>

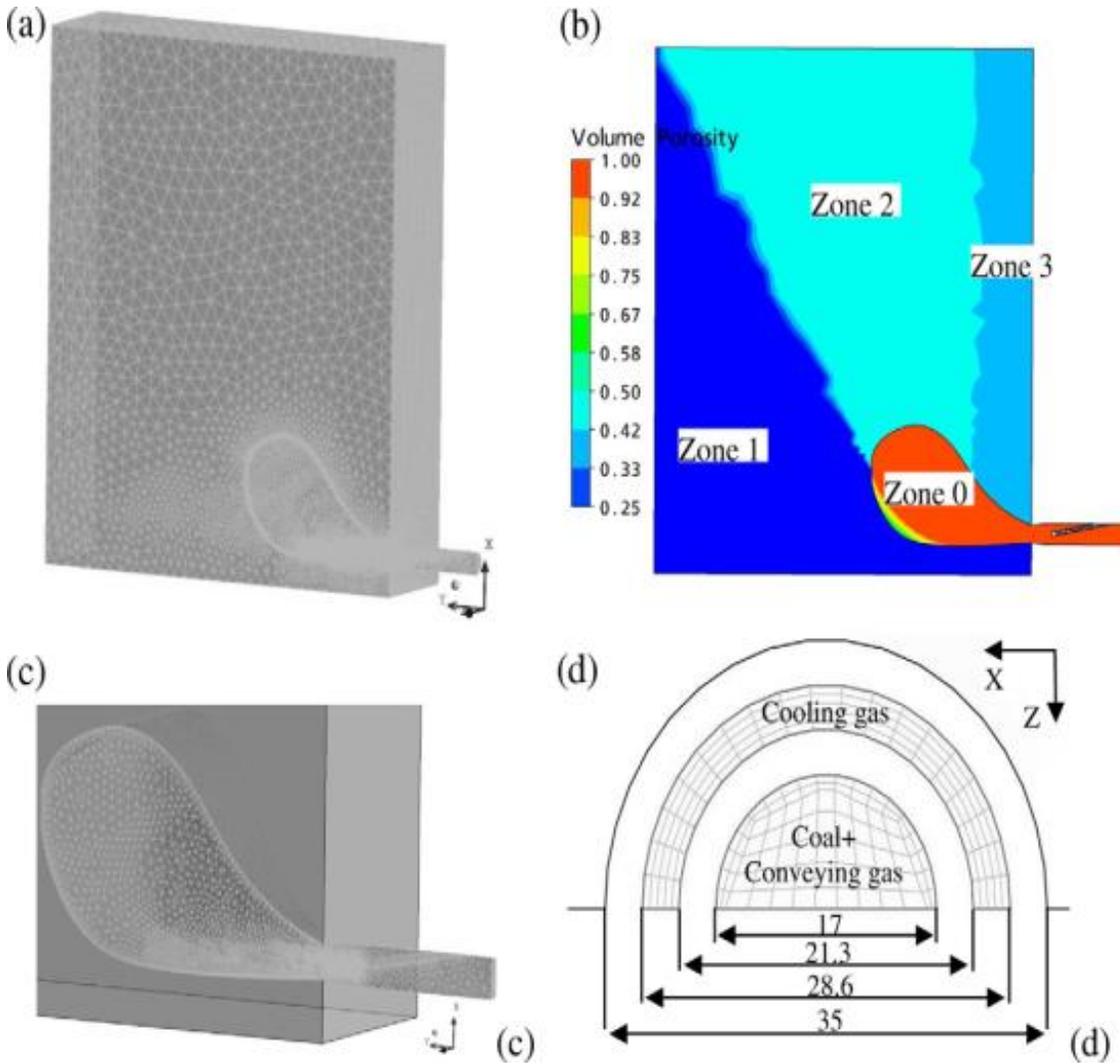
1. Turbulent gas-particle flow.

2. Coal combustion (devolatilization, volatile combustion, and char reactions).
3. Coke combustion and gasification.

**Assumptions are made in this model for simplicity:**

- coal and coke particles are spherical;
- there is no break-up or coalescence of particles;
- Liquid flow in the raceway-coke bed region is not considered.

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**Fig. – 3 Geometry of the model: (a), the whole Model; (b), porosity distribution; (c), blowpipe and raceway; and (d), lance tip. The detailed dimensions are <sup>[11]</sup>.**

**III. RESULT**

After the simulation process some graphs show the results between temperature, velocity and mass

friction 3d view of mean mass fraction and mean density

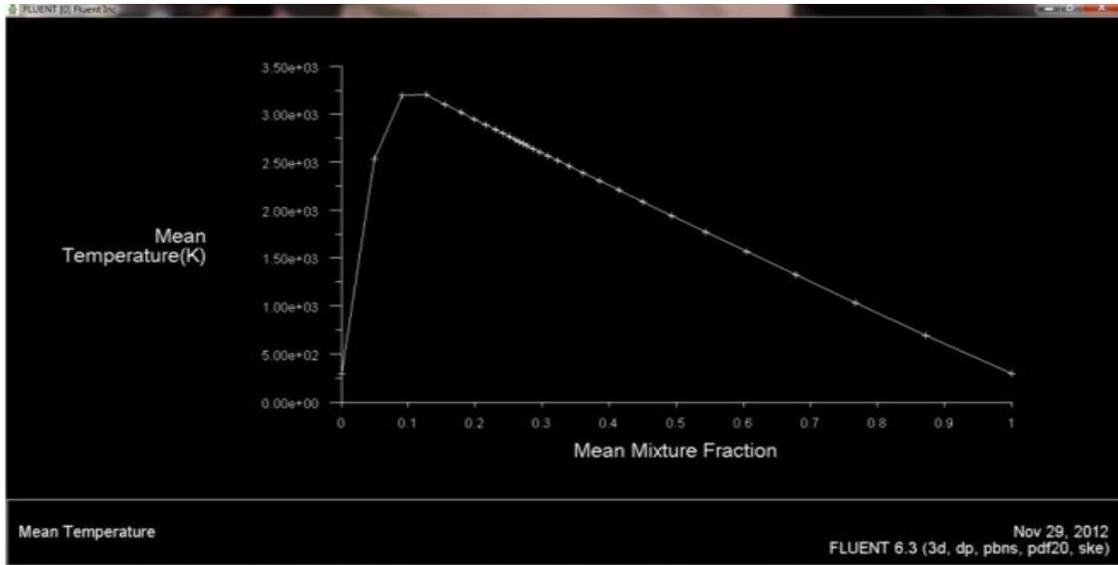


Fig.4 relation between Mean temperature and Mean Mixture Fraction

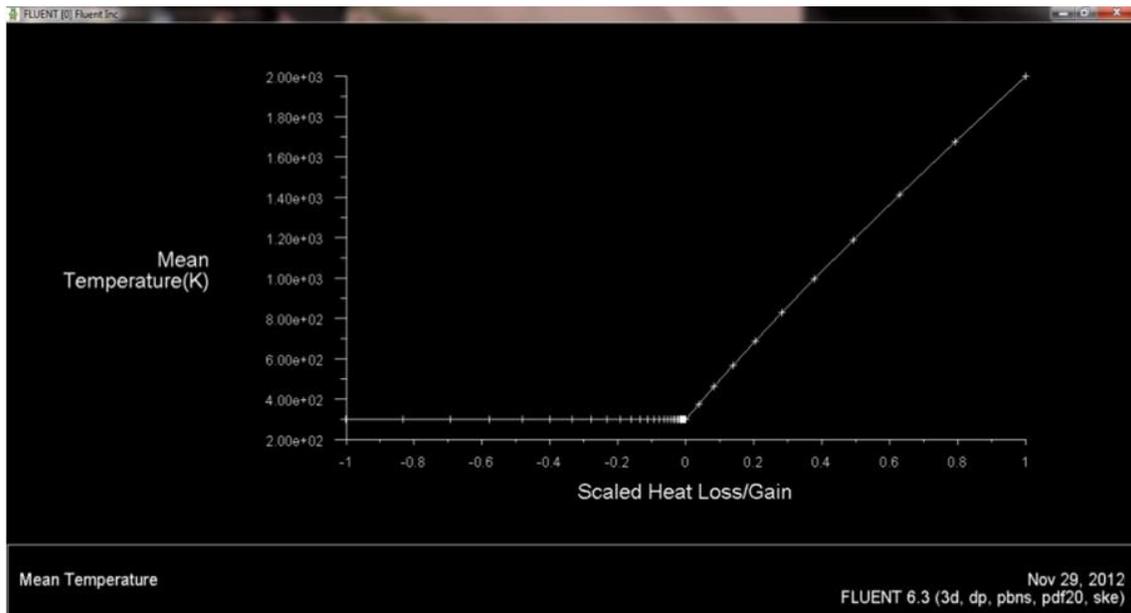


Fig. 5 relations between heat loss/gain and Mean Temperature

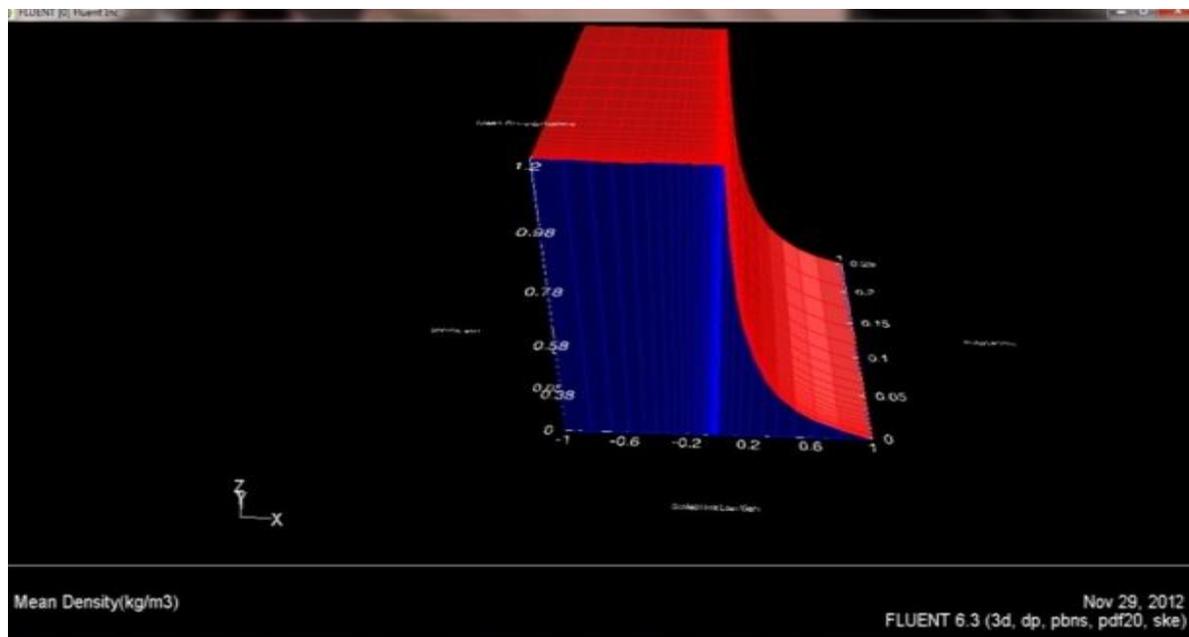


Fig. 6, 3D view of mean mass fraction and mean density

After the simulation the results are in graphical form which show the results in different areas of furnace in different boundary conditions. The simulation procedure is based on an algorithm which is predefined in this CFD software.

#### IV. CONCLUSION

Because the melting point of iron is 1539°C, for this we need higher temperature at the end. This is possible only when the higher temperature air blast is passed over the iron ore.

The PCI is coming from the lance system and while it comes out of the lance a high temperature air blast is passed through it so, the PCI coming from the lance gets combusted and generating a high temperature at the end of the tuyere. Here, a less angle of 7° is used because the higher the angle, higher will be the erosion of the wall because if the length of the lance is more and more angle is there, so, a high velocity will be injected on the wall. So, that the erosion of the wall takes place, that is the reason for short length and low angle of the lance.

A three-dimensional integrated model of coal/coke combustion is developed and then applied to the lance-blowpipe-tuyere-raceway coke bed region in a BF. Compared with other results which are based on mathematical modeling, these results are better in getting from software approach. The present model is thus useful in predicting the optimum particle size distribution and injection velocity for any given operating and physical conditions of the PCI.

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