

### Example 6.5—Flow Through an Annular Die

Following the discussion of polymer processing in the previous section, now consider flow through a die that could be located at the exit of the screw extruder of Example 6.4. Consider a die that forms a *tube* of polymer (other shapes being sheets and filaments). In the die of length  $L$  shown in Fig. E6.5, a pressure difference  $p_2 - p_3$  causes a liquid of viscosity  $\mu$  to flow steadily from left to right in the annular area between two fixed concentric cylinders. Note that  $p_2$  is chosen for the inlet pressure in order to correspond to the extruder exit pressure from Example 6.4. The inner cylinder is solid, whereas the outer one is hollow; their radii are  $r_1$  and  $r_2$ , respectively. The problem, which could occur in the extrusion of plastic tubes, is to find the velocity profile in the annular space and the total volumetric flow rate  $Q$ . Note that *cylindrical* coordinates are now involved.

**Assumptions and continuity equation.** The following assumptions are realistic:

1. There is only one nonzero velocity component, namely that in the direction of flow,  $v_z$ . Thus,  $v_r = v_\theta = 0$ .
2. Gravity acts vertically downwards, so that  $g_z = 0$ .
3. The axial velocity is independent of the angular location; that is,  $\partial v_z / \partial \theta = 0$ .

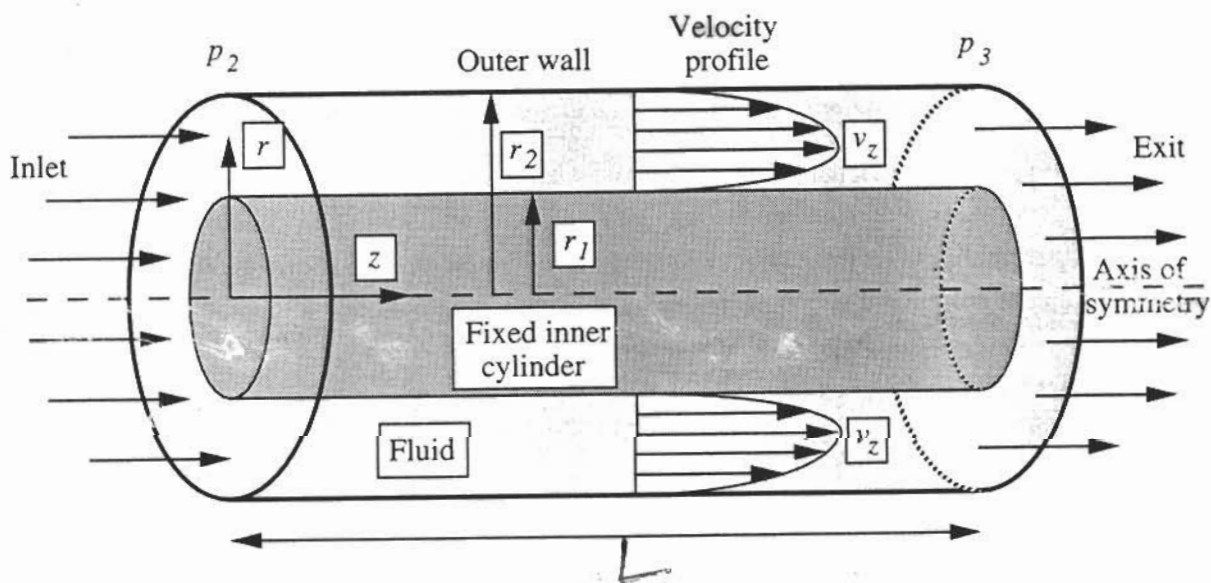


Fig. E6.5 Geometry for flow through an annular die.

Solution:

Continuity equation:  $\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial(\rho r v_r)}{\partial r} + \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial(\rho r v_\theta)}{\partial \theta} + \frac{\partial(\rho v_z)}{\partial z} = 0,$

$\Rightarrow \frac{\partial v_z}{\partial z} = 0$  ,  $v_z \neq f(z)$  also for axisymmetric flow  
 $v_z \neq f(\theta) \Rightarrow v_z = f(r)$  only.

# Navier-Stokes Equations:

$$v_r = v_\theta = 0, \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta}(\text{any thing}) = 0 \quad \left( \begin{array}{l} \text{axisymmetric} \\ \text{problem} \end{array} \right)$$

ss, and  $v_z = f(r)$  only.

$$\begin{aligned} \rho \left( \frac{\partial v_r}{\partial t} + v_r \frac{\partial v_r}{\partial r} + \frac{v_\theta}{r} \frac{\partial v_r}{\partial \theta} - \frac{v_\theta^2}{r} + v_z \frac{\partial v_r}{\partial z} \right) \\ = -\frac{\partial p}{\partial r} + \mu \left[ \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial(r v_r)}{\partial r} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial^2 v_r}{\partial \theta^2} - \frac{2}{r^2} \frac{\partial v_\theta}{\partial \theta} + \frac{\partial^2 v_r}{\partial z^2} \right] + \rho g_r, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \rho \left( \frac{\partial v_\theta}{\partial t} + v_r \frac{\partial v_\theta}{\partial r} + \frac{v_\theta}{r} \frac{\partial v_\theta}{\partial \theta} + \frac{v_r v_\theta}{r} + v_z \frac{\partial v_\theta}{\partial z} \right) \\ = -\frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial p}{\partial \theta} + \mu \left[ \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial(r v_\theta)}{\partial r} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial^2 v_\theta}{\partial \theta^2} + \frac{2}{r^2} \frac{\partial v_r}{\partial \theta} + \frac{\partial^2 v_\theta}{\partial z^2} \right] + \rho g_\theta, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \rho \left( \frac{\partial v_z}{\partial t} + v_r \frac{\partial v_z}{\partial r} + \frac{v_\theta}{r} \frac{\partial v_z}{\partial \theta} + v_z \frac{\partial v_z}{\partial z} \right) \\ = -\frac{\partial p}{\partial z} + \mu \left[ \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( r \frac{\partial v_z}{\partial r} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial^2 v_z}{\partial \theta^2} + \frac{\partial^2 v_z}{\partial z^2} \right] + \rho g_z. \end{aligned}$$

simplify:  $0 = -\frac{\partial p}{\partial z} + \mu \left[ \frac{1}{r} \frac{d}{dr} \left( r \frac{dv_z}{dr} \right) \right]$

pressure variation in z-direction is linear

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\partial p}{\partial z} = \frac{\Delta p}{L}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{r} \frac{d}{dr} \left( r \frac{dv_z}{dr} \right) = \frac{\Delta p}{\mu L}$$

integrate twice:

$$v_z = \frac{\Delta p}{4\mu L} r^2 + C_1 \ln(r) + C_2$$

boundary conditions :

$$r = r_1 \quad v_z = 0 \quad (\text{no-slip BC})$$

$$r = r_2 \quad v_z = 0 \quad (\text{no-slip BC})$$

$$\Rightarrow 0 = \frac{\Delta P}{4\mu L} r_1^2 + c_1 \ln(r_1) + c_2 \quad \dots \quad (1)$$

$$0 = \frac{\Delta P}{4\mu L} r_2^2 + c_1 \ln(r_2) + c_2 \quad \dots \quad (2)$$

$$(1) - (2) \Rightarrow \frac{\Delta P}{4\mu L} (r_1^2 - r_2^2) + c_1 \ln\left(\frac{r_1}{r_2}\right) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow c_1 = \frac{\frac{\Delta P}{4\mu L} (r_2^2 - r_1^2)}{\ln\left(\frac{r_1}{r_2}\right)}$$

substitute in (2) :

$$c_2 = - \frac{\Delta P}{4\mu L} r_2^2 - \frac{\frac{\Delta P}{4\mu L} (r_2^2 - r_1^2)}{\ln\left(\frac{r_1}{r_2}\right)} \ln(r_2)$$

substitute  $c_1$  &  $c_2$  in velocity profile

$$\Rightarrow v_z = \frac{\Delta P}{4\mu L} \left[ (r^2 - r_2^2) + \frac{r_2^2 - r_1^2}{\ln\left(\frac{r_1}{r_2}\right)} \ln\left(\frac{r}{r_2}\right) \right]$$

Volumetric flow rate

$$Q = \int_A v_z \, dA$$

$$Q = \int_0^{2\pi} \int_{r_1}^{r_2} v_z r dr d\theta$$

do it yourself

$$Q = \frac{\pi (r_2^2 - r_1^2)}{8\mu} \frac{\Delta p}{L} \left[ \frac{r_2^2 - r_1^2}{\ln(r_2/r_1)} - (r_2^2 + r_1^2) \right]$$

Stress Tensor:

recall  $v_r = v_\theta = 0$   $\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} ( ) = 0$

$v_z = f(r)$  only

$$\tau_{r\theta} = \tau_{\theta r} = \mu \left( r \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( \frac{v_\theta}{r} \right) + \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial v_r}{\partial \theta} \right),$$

$$\tau_{\theta z} = \tau_{z\theta} = \mu \left( \frac{\partial v_\theta}{\partial z} + \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial v_z}{\partial \theta} \right),$$

$$\tau_{zr} = \tau_{rz} = \mu \left( \frac{\partial v_z}{\partial r} + \frac{\partial v_r}{\partial z} \right).$$

$$\sigma_{rr} = -p + 2\mu \frac{\partial v_r}{\partial r} - \frac{2}{3}\mu \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v},$$

$$\sigma_{\theta\theta} = -p + 2\mu \left( \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial v_\theta}{\partial \theta} + \frac{v_r}{r} \right) - \frac{2}{3}\mu \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v},$$

$$\sigma_{zz} = -p + 2\mu \frac{\partial v_z}{\partial z} - \frac{2}{3}\mu \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}.$$

$$\tau_{rz} = \tau_{zr} = \mu \frac{dv_z}{dr}$$

$$= \frac{\Delta p}{4L} \left[ 2r + \frac{r_2^2 - r_1^2}{\ln(r_2/r_1)} \frac{1}{r} \right]$$