

Master Thesis Experiment Report VIII : Clot dissolution

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Abstract

Dissolving the clot

1 Context

Now that we have a fully stable and functioning branching system with a clot, we will attempt to dissolve it progressively.

2 Description

The clot is defined by a force field $K(x, y, t)$ which forces the PDFs in the opposite direction. The dissolution in the case of Thrombolysis comes from a coagulant such as tPA, which binds to fibrin and facilitates the conversion of plasminogen to plasmin, a molecule that cleaves the fibrin strands. The amount of tPA present in the system can be considered proportionnal to the flow of the fluid :

$$flow(x, y, t) = \|u(x, y, t)\|_2 * \rho(x, y, t) \quad (1)$$

where $u(x, y, t)$ is the velocity at coordinate (x, y) and time t , and ρ the density. As in a 2DQ9 lattice the velocity is bi-directionnal, we use here norm2 to compute the total amount of velocity in any given cell. Using said proportionality, we implemented a first equation to determine the amount of dissolution for each clot site :

$$\tau(x, y, t) = d * flow(x, y, t) * K(x, y, t) \quad (2)$$

where d is the dissolution rate. The new clot resistance value K is then computed following the equation :

$$K(x, y, t) = K(x, y, t - 1) - \tau(x, y, t) \quad (3)$$

In addition, we now added a systematic control: if the result K after equation 3 is smaller than 0, we cap it to 0 as no clot means $K = 0$.

3 Experiments

3.1 Experiment 1

3.1.1 Description

To test the dissolution method, we started from a stable system state which was obtained using viscosity $\nu = 0.01$, initial density $\rho = 2.5$, pulse field acceleration $F = [0, -0.001]$ and initial clot resistance $K = [0.001, 0.001]$ after running for 60'000 iterations. To make the dissolution faster for testing purposes, we set $d = 2$.

3.1.2 Results

To monitor the dissolution, we displayed the K values within the clot and followed the results every 10 iterations. Figure 1 shows the results. We can see that the clot dissolves starting from the center : as the fluid follows a Poiseuille parabola, the particle density is higher in the center than in the border of the tube. As such, the clot dissolves from the center to its outside layer.

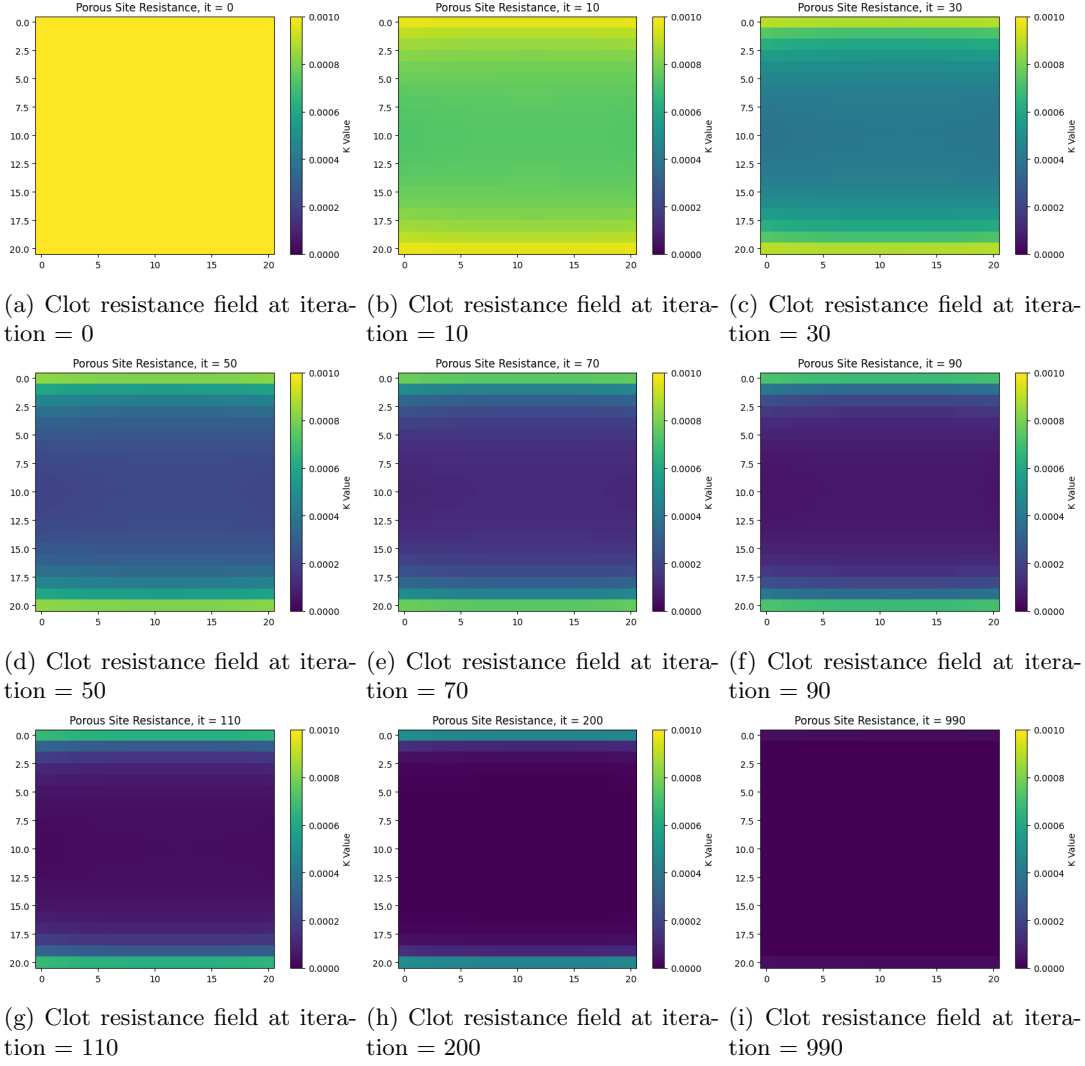


Figure 1: Clot dissolution

4 Conclusion

5 References