



Filling Phase Optimization
with
MAGMASOFT® in HPDC

Çağatay Zadeoğlu

October 2024 - Frankfurt

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Electrification



Processes

FOUNDRY		MACHINING	ASSEMBLY		
<p>Each casting machine is equipped with its own holding furnace, automatic die lubrication, die heating-cooling device, jet cooling, vacuum unit and able to cast the parts weight from 50 gr. to 20 kg.</p> <p>Melting Furnaces</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▶ Shaft 2,0 Ton / Hr▶ Shaft 2,0 Ton / Hr▶ Shaft 1,0 Ton / Hr▶ Crucible 0,25 Ton / Hr			Press (Ton)	Pcs	Brand
			400	1	Metal Press
			550	2	Metal Press
			550	1	Era Press
			750	2	Colosio
			1000	1	Colosio
			1100	1	Metal Press
			1100	2	Era Press
			1600	1	Idra
			1900	5	Idra
			Total	16	

As with all casting techniques,
High Pressure Die Casting
also consists of two basic stages.

FILLING

1.Phase This is the phase where the liquid metal fills the chamber up to the gate level, ensuring no air remains in the chamber.

2.Phase This phase involves filling the part and overflow cavity within approximately 80ms.

SOLIDIFICATION

3.Phase This is the solidification stage where the liquid metal inside the mold is solidified under approximately 1000Bar pressure with the controlled heat transfer.

THE MAGMA APPROACH



OBJECTIVES

- Reduction of scrap rate.
- Reducing the number of redundant casting trials.
- Elimination of the trial and error method that creates waste.



VARIABLES

- 1st Phase Velocity
- 2nd Phase Velocity
- Switch Over



CRITERIA

- Prevent air entrapment in the chamber.
- Optimization of gate velocity in accordance with the PQ^2 diagram.
- Machine acceleration capability.



EFFICIENCY

- The part model was simplified by keeping the volume constant.
- Optimizations were carried out by dividing into segments.



METHOD

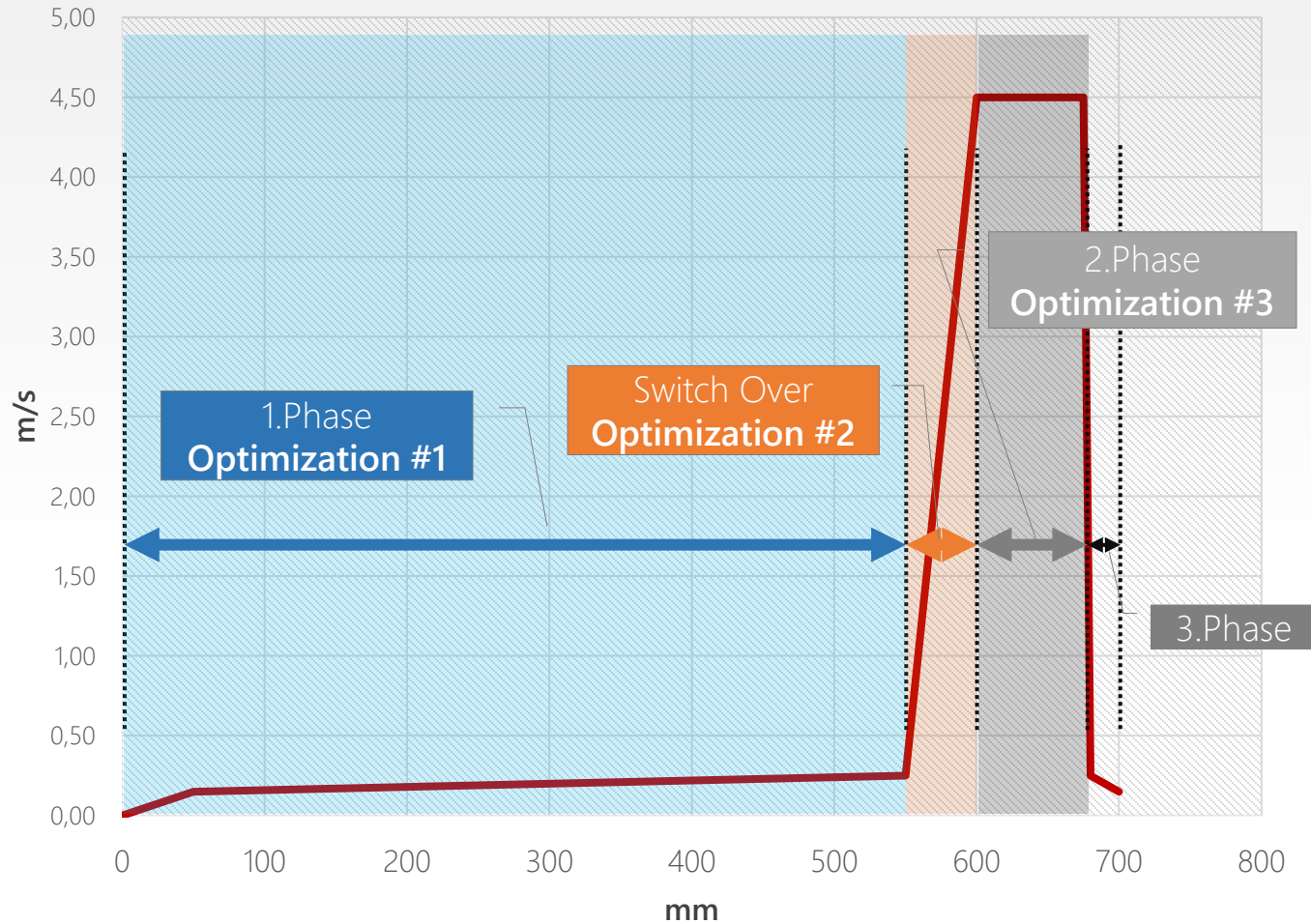
- SOBOL METHOD
- PQ^2 Diagram
- Parametric Function



ACT & CHECK

- Correct result achieved in one go.
- Significant reduction in the number of casting trials.
- Reduction in scrap rates.

Injection Curve



Optimization #1 - 1.Phase

In Phase 1, the piston velocity accelerates starting from "0" and then continues at an accelerated or constant velocity value.

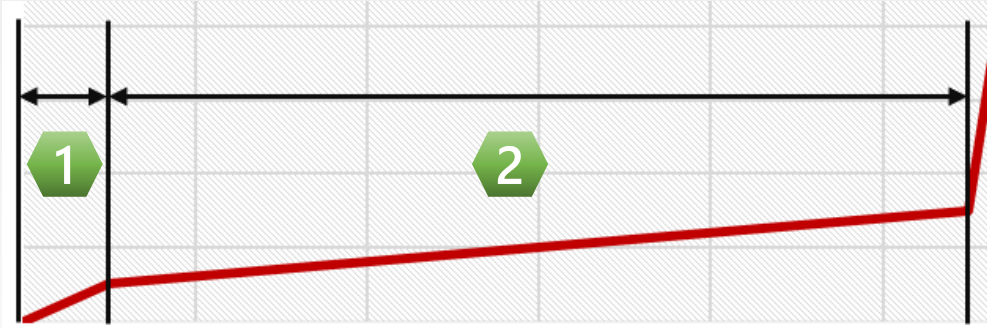
Optimization #2 – Switch Over

Refers to the acceleration between 1st phase and 2nd phase. In the optimization, the position of this movement and its compatibility with the machine are examined.

Optimization #3 – 2.Phase

2nd Phase velocity is achieved in this optimization. With the help of the PQ² diagram, the machine capability is questioned in that velocity value.

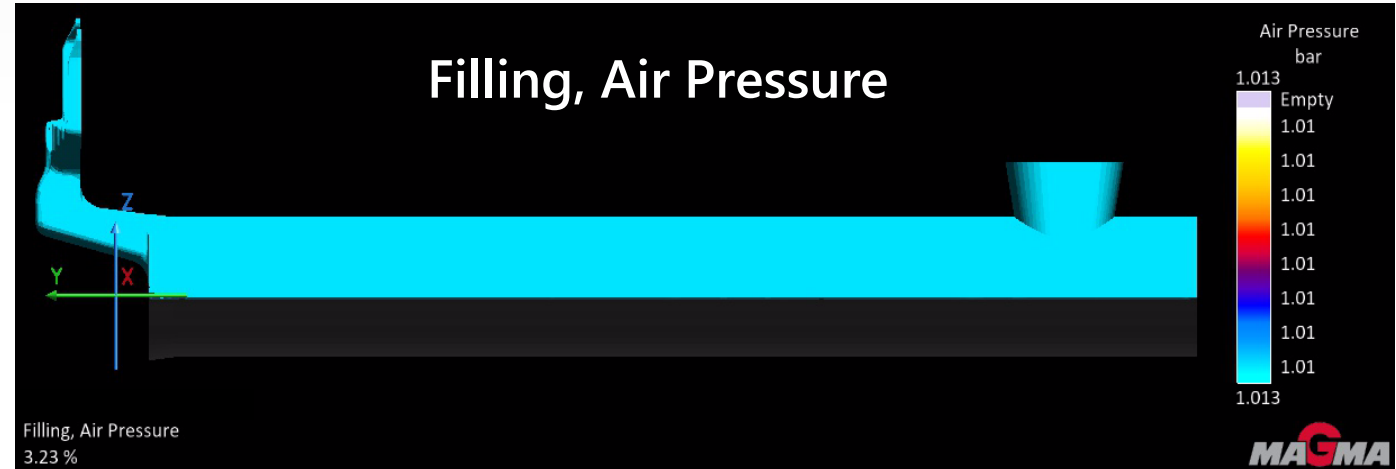
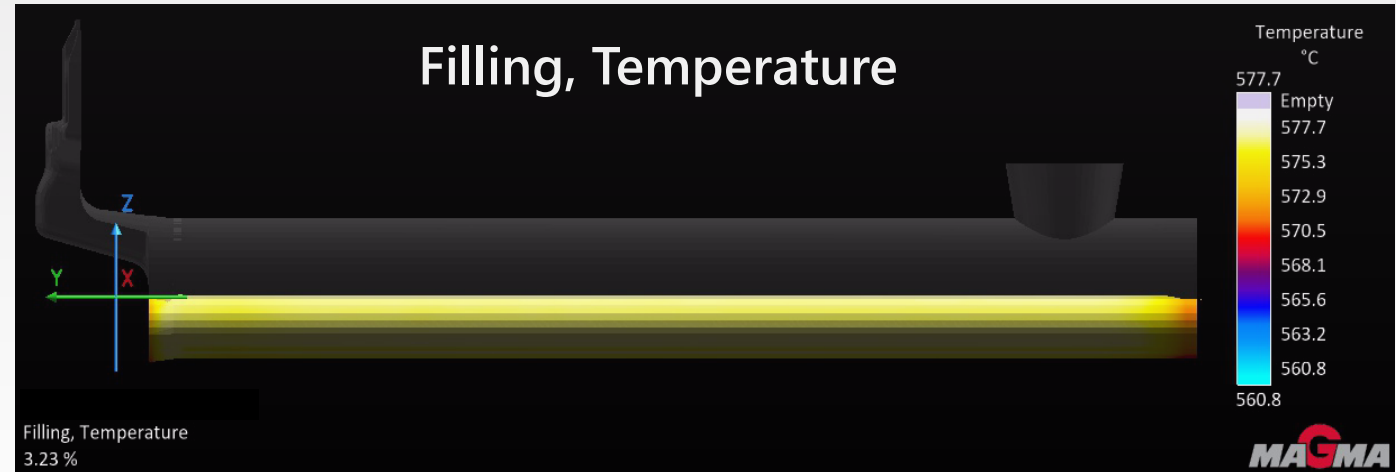
Optimization #1 – 1st Phase



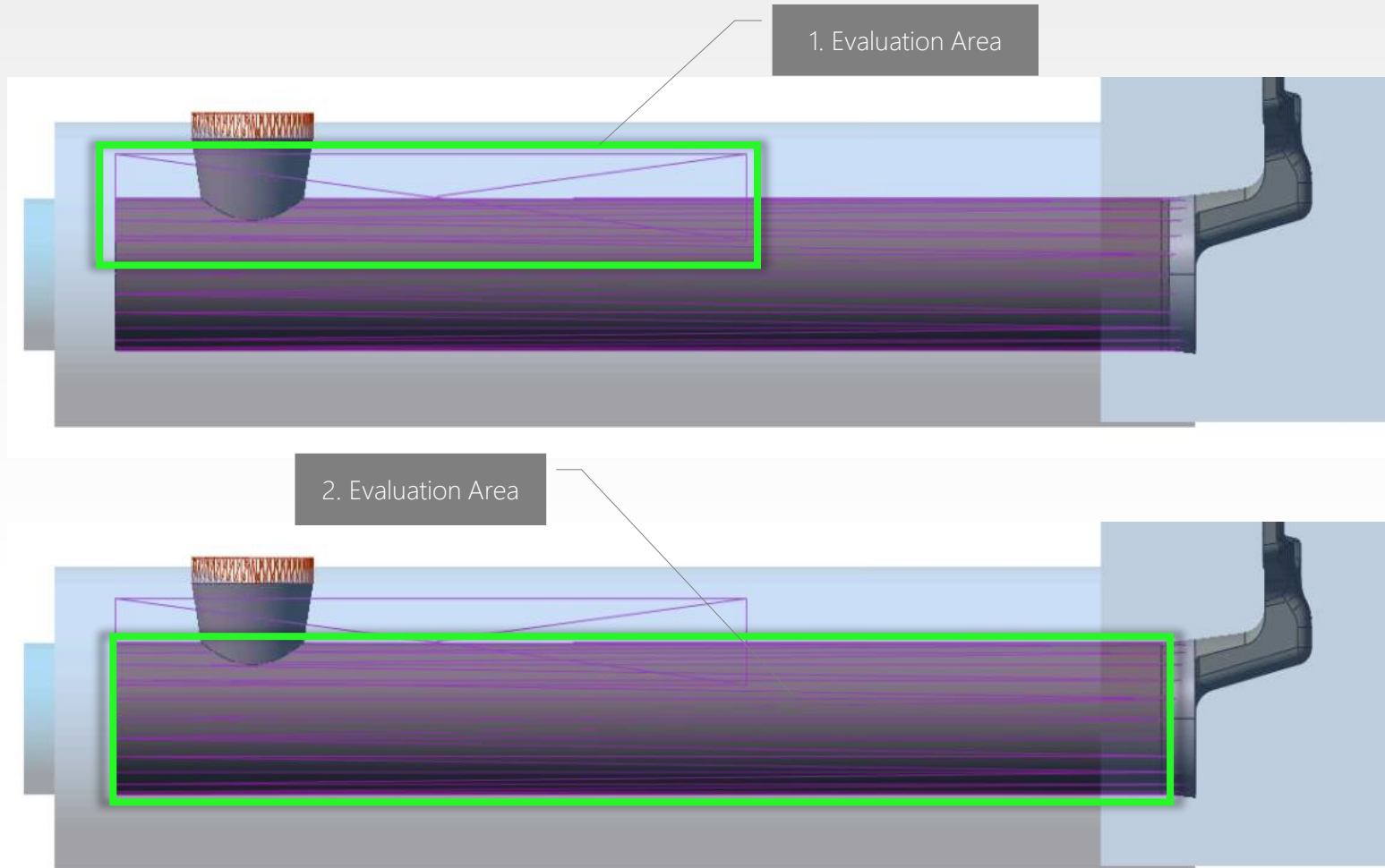
Phase 1 consists of two main step.

In the first step; the piston will overcome the frictional force, gain acceleration and start its first movement. Acceleration at this stage can cause an undesired wave motion in the liquid metal.

In the second step; the piston, which performs its first movement, should move with the metal wave it creates in front of it and move at a velocity or acceleration that will not cause air entrapment in the chamber.



Optimization #1 – 1st Phase

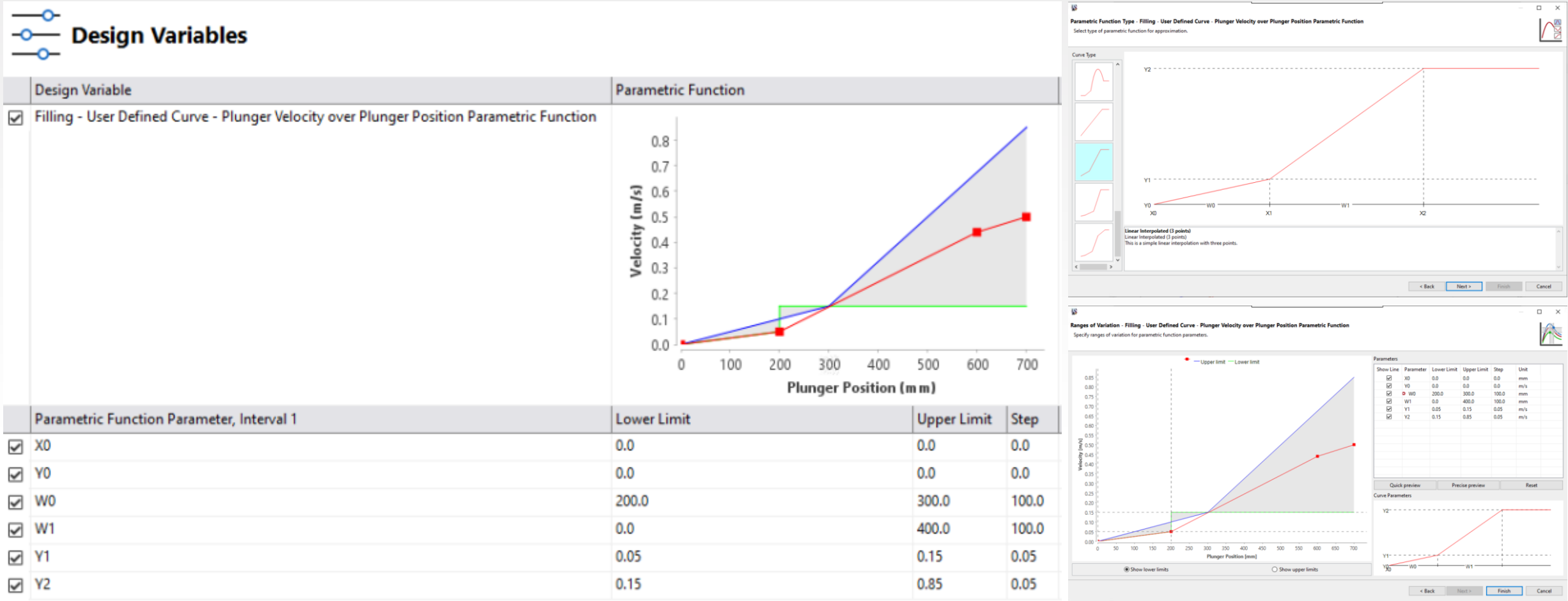


Two different 'Evaluation Areas' are defined for the optimization setup.

In the **1st Evaluation Area**, velocity differences are analyzed.

In the **2nd Evaluation Area**, air entrapment is also analyzed together with the velocity results.

Optimization #1 – 1st Phase



Optimization #1 – 1st Phase

The screenshot displays the 'Start Sequence' application window. It features a table with 28 design rows and 4 columns. The first column lists design IDs from 1 to 28. The subsequent columns represent different parameters, with values ranging from 0.0 to 400.0. A dialog box titled 'Generate Start Sequence' is open, prompting the user to 'Add Designs to Start Sequence'. It offers four algorithm options: 'User Defined', 'Sobol' (selected), 'Full Factorial', and 'Reduced Factorial'. The 'Parameters' section shows 'Number of designs' set to 40. A callout box highlights this value. At the bottom of the dialog are 'Generate' and 'Cancel' buttons. The status bar at the bottom of the application shows 'Number of designs: 39', 'Unfeasible: 0', and 'Duplicate: 0'.

Design ID	Filling - User Defined Curve - Plunger Velocity over Plunger Position Parametric Function, Interval 1, W0 (mm)	Filling - User Defined Curve - Plunger Velocity over Plunger Position Parametric Function, Interval 1, W1 (mm)	Filling - User Defined Curve - Plunger Velocity over Plunger Position Parametric Function, Interval 1, W2 (mm)
1	300.0	200.0	300.0
2	200.0	300.0	100.0
3	300.0	100.0	300.0
4	200.0	300.0	100.0
5		100.0	200.0
6		400.0	100.0
7		300.0	100.0
8		100.0	300.0
9		300.0	100.0
10		100.0	300.0
11		300.0	100.0
12		100.0	300.0
13		300.0	100.0
14		100.0	300.0
15		300.0	100.0
16		100.0	300.0
17		300.0	100.0
18		100.0	300.0
19		300.0	100.0
20		100.0	300.0
21		300.0	100.0
22		100.0	300.0
23		300.0	100.0
24		100.0	300.0
25		300.0	100.0
26		100.0	300.0
27		300.0	100.0
28		100.0	300.0

450 different design examples were reduced to 40 designs using the *Sobol Method*.

Optimization #1 – 1st Phase

Objectives

	Name	Type	Value	Expression
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Air	Minimize	▼	{Cycle 1/Filling/Air/25.0 %/Avg/Cast Alloy Class, Evaluation Area ID 1}
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Velocity	Minimize	▼	{Cycle 1/Filling/Velocity/Absolute Velocity/Max/Cast Alloy Class, Evaluation Area ID 2}
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Temperature	Minimize	▼	690-{Cycle 1/Filling/Temperature/25.0 %/Avg/Cast Alloy Class, Evaluation Area ID 1}
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	VOF	Minimize	▼	{Cycle 1/Filling/VOF/Max Free Surface of Cast Alloy Class, Evaluation Area ID 1}
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Velocity1	Minimize	▼	{Cycle 1/Filling/Velocity/25.0 %/Velocity Y/Max Diff/Cast Alloy Class, Evaluation Area ID 1}
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Velocity2	Minimize	▼	{Cycle 1/Filling/Velocity/Velocity Y/Normalized Average Direction of Cast Alloy Class, Evaluation Area ID 1}

Air

The objective is to minimize the amount of air entrapment in the chamber at the 25% of the filling stage.

Temperature

The objective is to minimize temperature changes in the liquid metal.

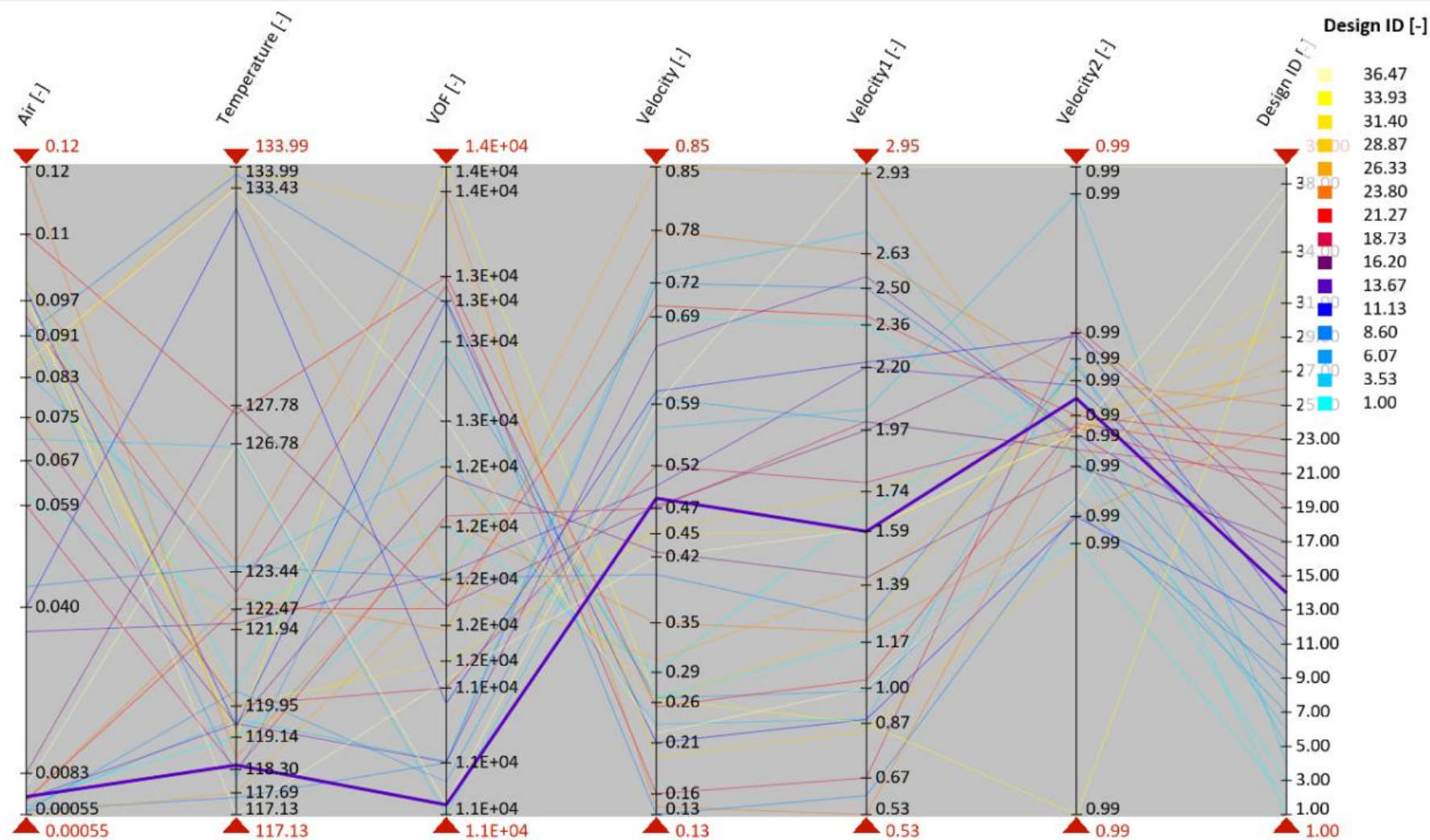
VOF

The objective is to minimize the amount of free surface of the liquid metal.

Velocity

The objective is to minimize the difference in metal velocity along the **Y-axis**.

Optimization #1 – 1st Phase



As a result of the optimization, the most suitable values were obtained in the 14th design.

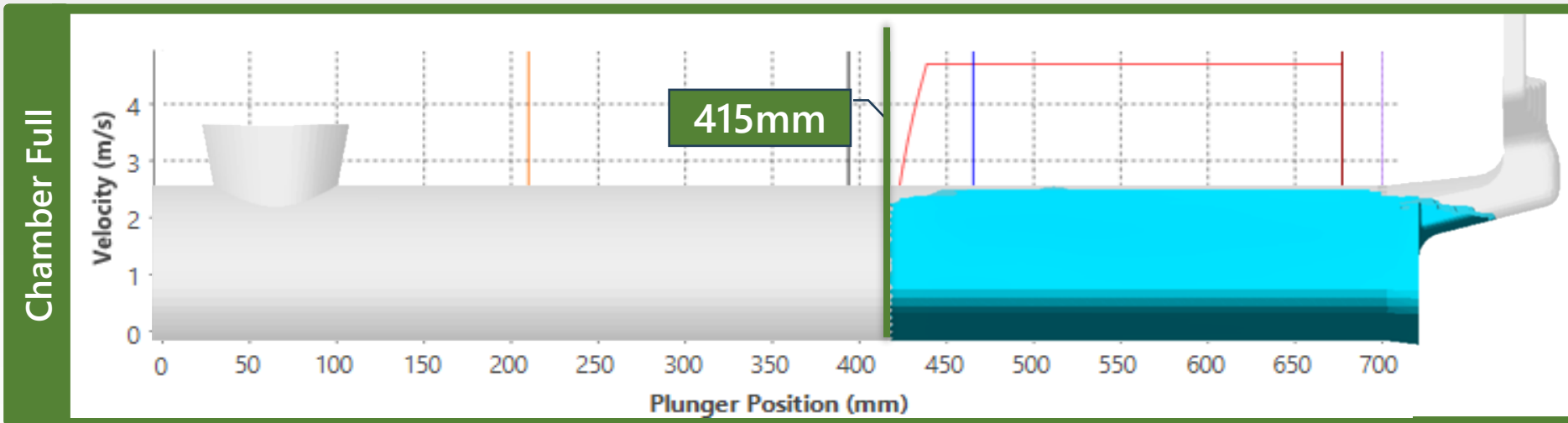
Selected Design(s): 14





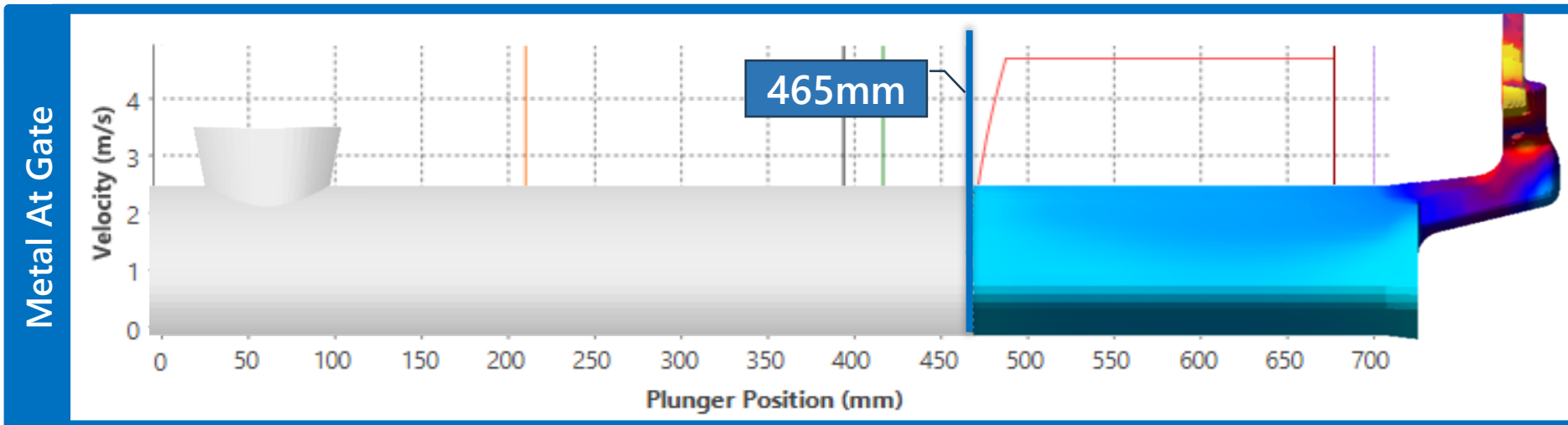
Each relevant objective is examined in the table depending on the corresponding variable.

Optimization #2 – Switch Over




Between 1st Phase and 2nd Phase, there is a transition area called “switch over” which depends on the machine capabilities.

Except for extreme examples, this acceleration distance should be between the “*metal at gate*” or “*chamber full*” positions depending on the part character and runner design.



Optimization #2 – Switch Over




Design Variables

	Design Variable	Lower Limit (mm)	Upper Limit (mm)	Step (mm)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Filling - Acceleration Phase - Start - At Plunger Position	415.0	465.0	5.0

In the **switch over optimization**, design variables were selected between 415mm (chamber full) and 465mm (metal at gate) with 5mm steps. A total of 10 different designs were created and the simulation was run.

Optimization #2 – Switch Over

 Objectives				
	Name	Type	Value	Expression
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Air	Minimize	▼	{Cycle 1/Filling/Air/from 0.0 % to 100.0 % every 0.1 %/Max/Runner ID 1}
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Velocity	Minimize	▼	{Cycle 1/Filling/Velocity/Velocity Z/Normalized Average Direction of Runner ID 1}
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	VOF	Minimize	▼	{Cycle 1/Filling/VOF/Max Free Surface of Runner ID 1}
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Air Contact	Minimize	▼	{Cycle 1/Filling/Air Contact/End of Filling/Min/Runner ID 1}

Air

The objective is to minimize the amount of air entrapment in the chamber at the 100% of the filling stage.

Velocity

The objective is to minimize the velocity difference in the **Z axis** in metal velocity.

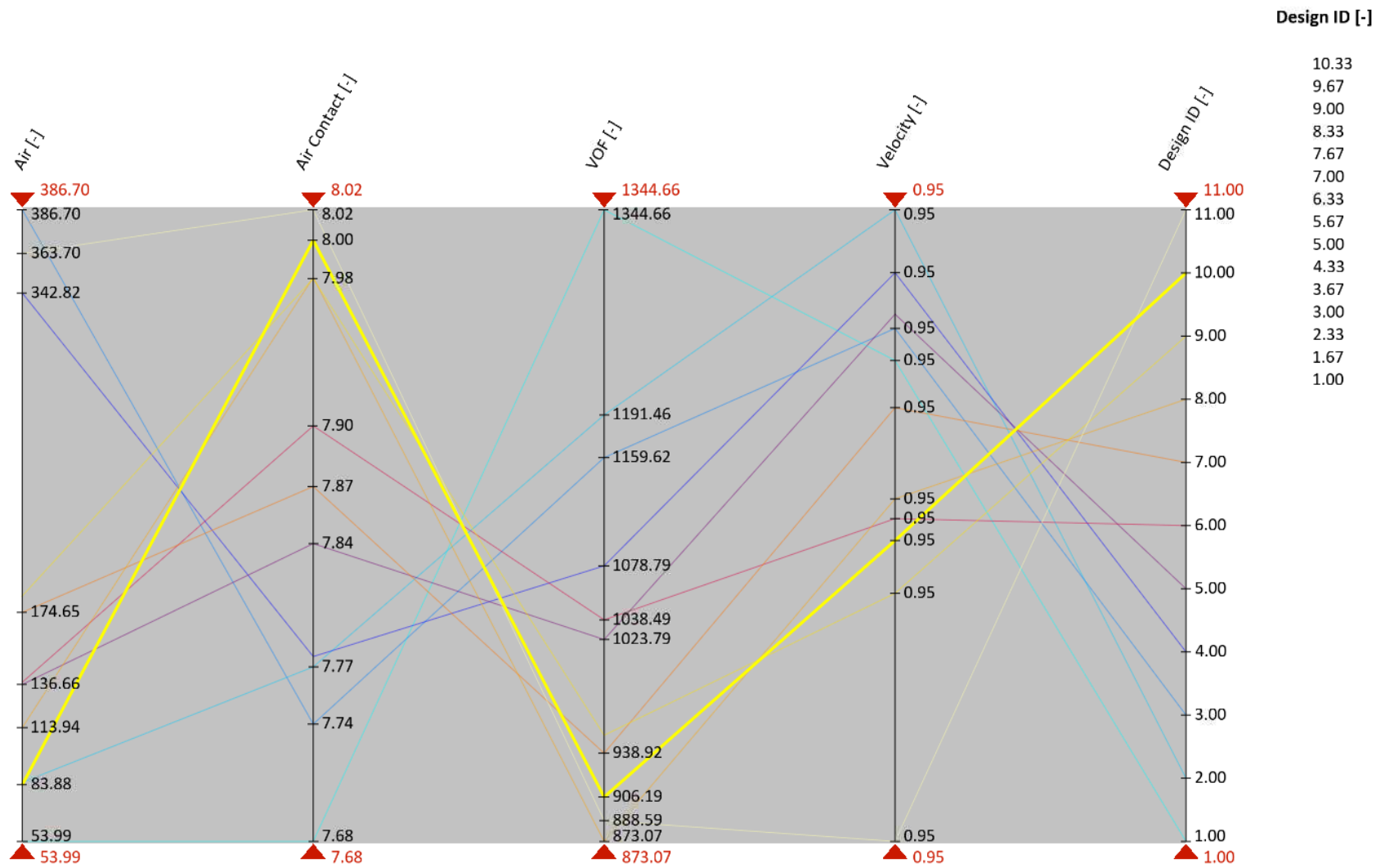
VOF

The objective is to minimize the amount of free surface of the liquid metal.

Air Contact

The objective is to minimizing the air contact surface of liquid metal.

Optimization #2 – Switch Over



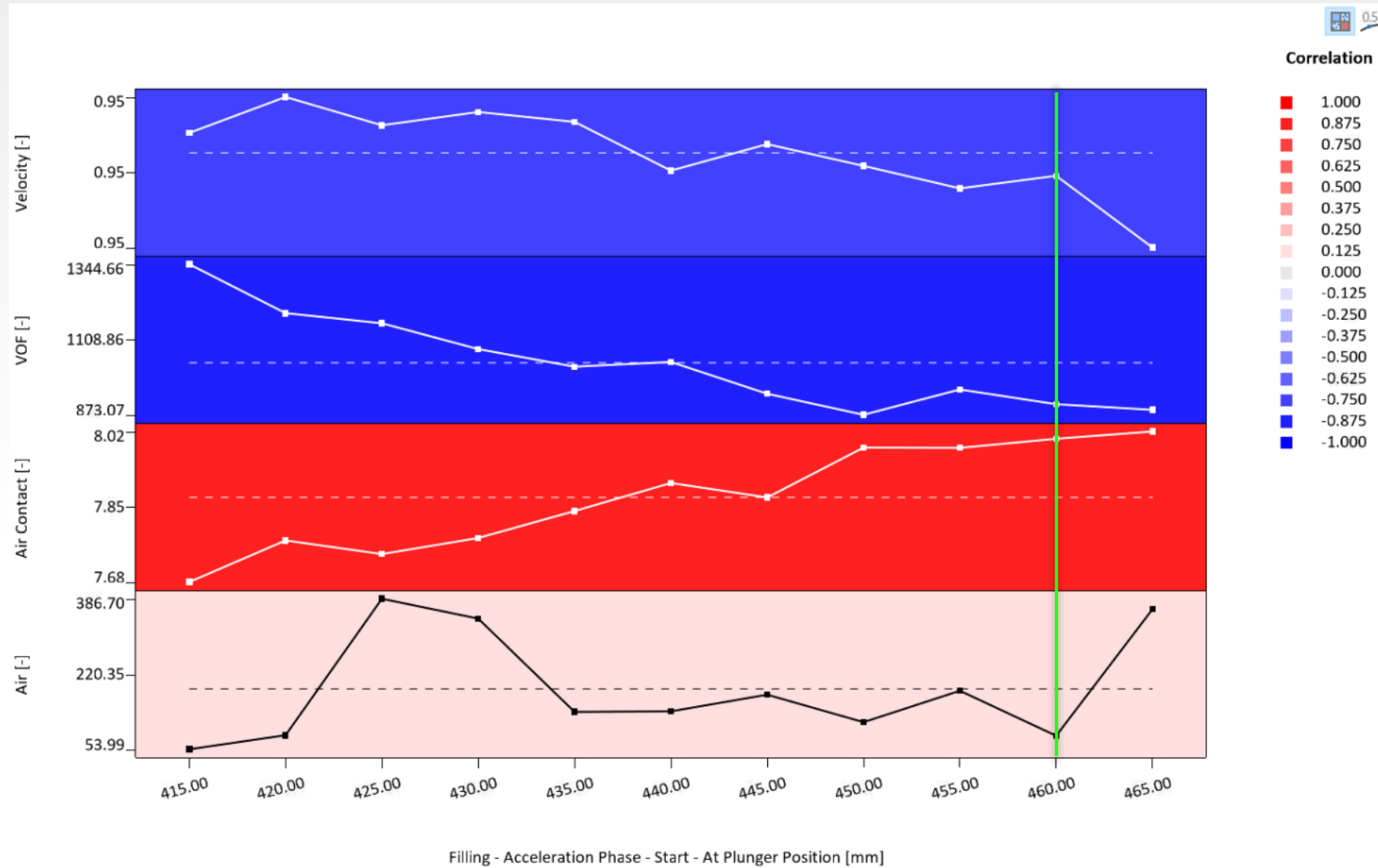
Selected Design(s): 10



As a result of the optimization, the most suitable values were obtained in the 10th design.

Although the 'Air Contact' results were selected at high values, the maximum and minimum values of 'Air Contact' do not have a wide range as seen in the graph.

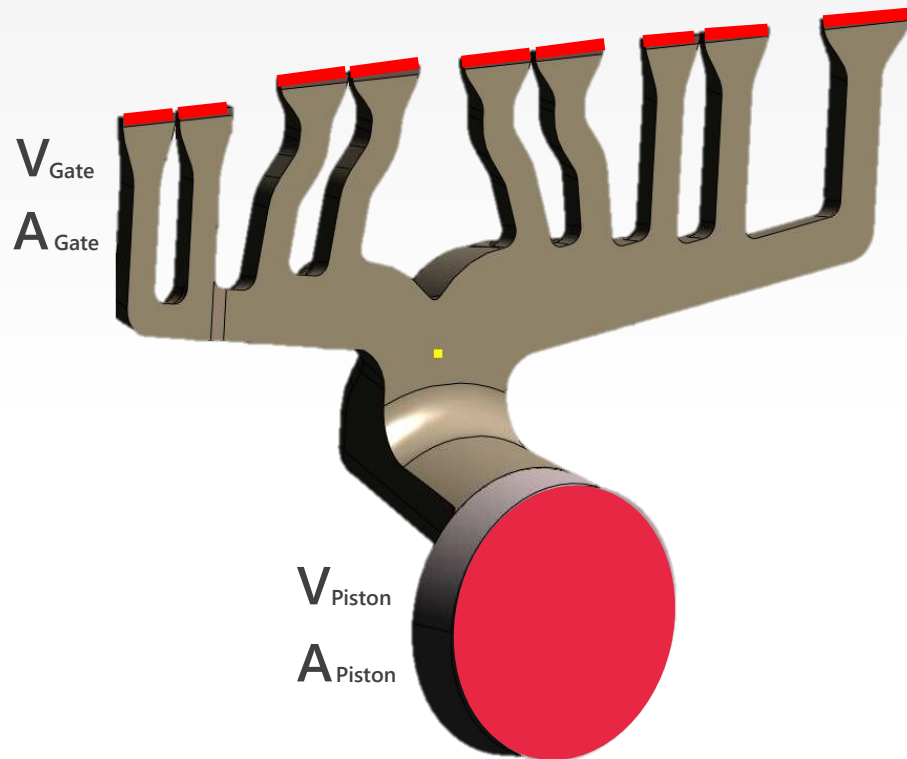
Optimization #2 – Switch Over



As a result of the optimization, the most suitable values were obtained in the 10th design.

Optimization #3 – 2nd Phase

$$V_{\text{Piston}} \times A_{\text{Piston}} = V_{\text{Gate}} \times A_{\text{Gate}}$$



Bernoulli Principle
Equation of Continuity



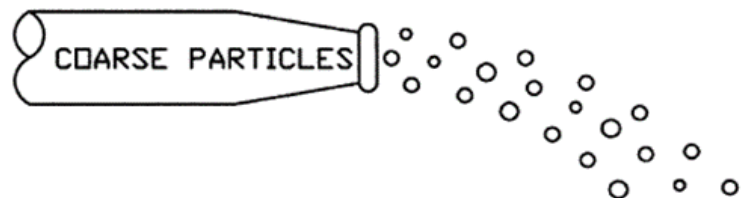
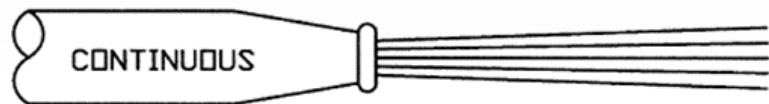
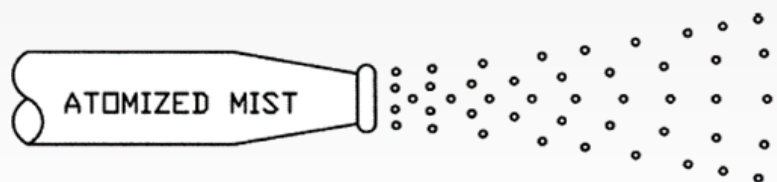
$$V_{\text{Piston}} \times A_{\text{Piston}} = V_{\text{Gate}} \times A_{\text{Gate}}$$

$$V_{\text{Gate}} = 35\text{m/s} - 50\text{m/s}$$

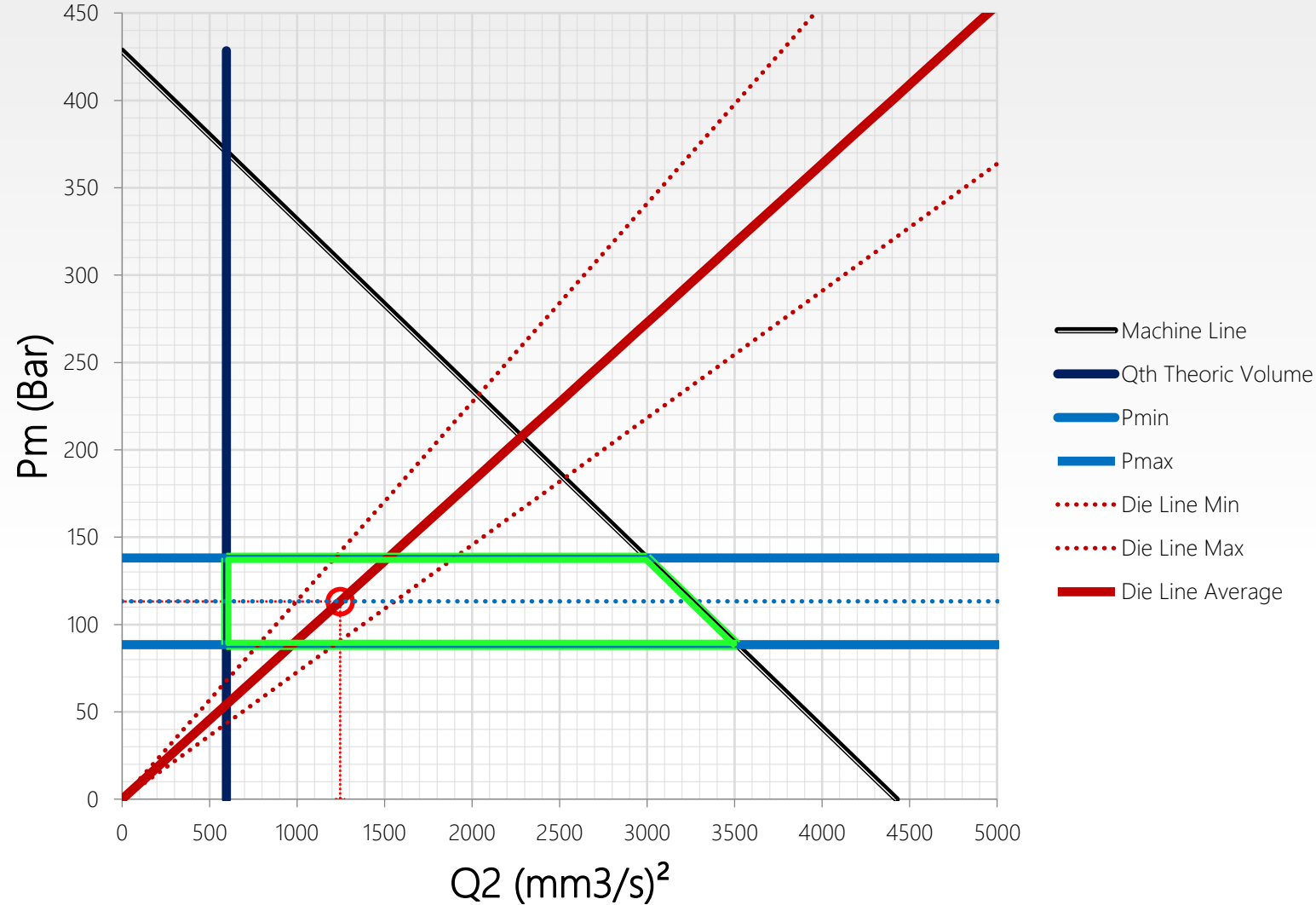
$$V_{\text{PMin}} = 35\text{m/s} \times 8,21\text{cm}^2 / 63,62\text{cm}^2$$

$$V_{\text{PMax}} = 50\text{m/s} \times 8,21\text{cm}^2 / 63,62\text{cm}^2$$

$$V_{\text{Piston}} = 4,5 - 6,5 \text{ m/s}$$




Optimization #3 – 2nd Phase



PQ² Diagram Shows that the desired 2nd phase velocity is within the capabilities of the machine. As can be seen in the diagram on the right, the calculated 2nd phase velocity is seen in the green frame. Therefore, the machine to be produced is capable of reaching the maximum speed we have calculated.

Optimization #3 – 2nd Phase




Design Variables

	Design Variable	Lower Limit (m/s)	Upper Limit (m/s)	Step (m/s)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Filling - Second Phase - Velocity	4.5	6.5	0.5

In Phase 2 Optimization, the calculated min - max velocity values of 4.5m/s and 6.5m/s were entered.

A total of 5 different simulations were run by setting the step as 0.5m/s.

Optimization #3 – 2nd Phase

 Objectives				
	Name	Type	Value	Expression
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Smooth Filling	Minimize	▼	{Cycle 1/Filling/VOF/Max Free Surface of Cast Alloy Class}
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Reduce Gate Velocities	Minimize	▼	{Cycle 1/Filling/Velocity/Absolute Velocity/Max/Gate All IDs}
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Avoid Misrun	Maximize	▼	{Cycle 1/Filling/Temperature/Min/Casting All IDs}
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Hot Spot FSTime	Minimize	▼	{Cycle 1/Solidification & Cooling until Eject/Hot Spot FSTime/Volume/Casting ID 1}
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Air Pressure	Minimize	▼	{Cycle 1/Filling/Air Pressure/End of Filling/Avg/Casting ID 1}

Air Pressure

The **objective** is to keep the amount of air entrapment in the casting to a minimum.

Hot Spot FS Time

The **objective** is reducing shrinkage by increasing the temperature of the kinetic energy inside the mold.

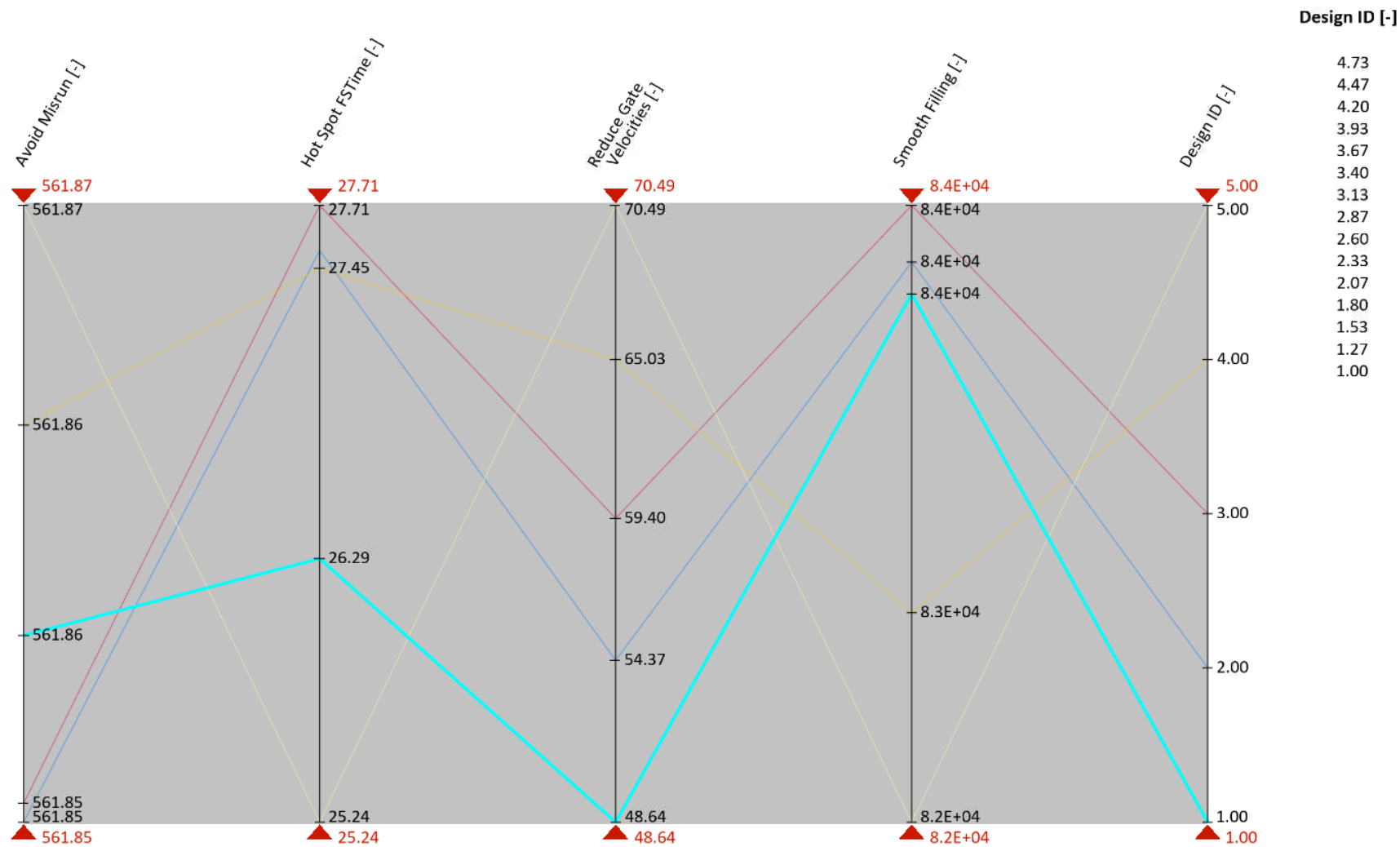
Reduce Gate Vel.

The **objective** is elimination of maximum velocity occurring at gate points.

Avoid Misrun

The **objective** is minimum turbulence formation in the flowing liquid metal.

Optimization #3 – 2nd Phase



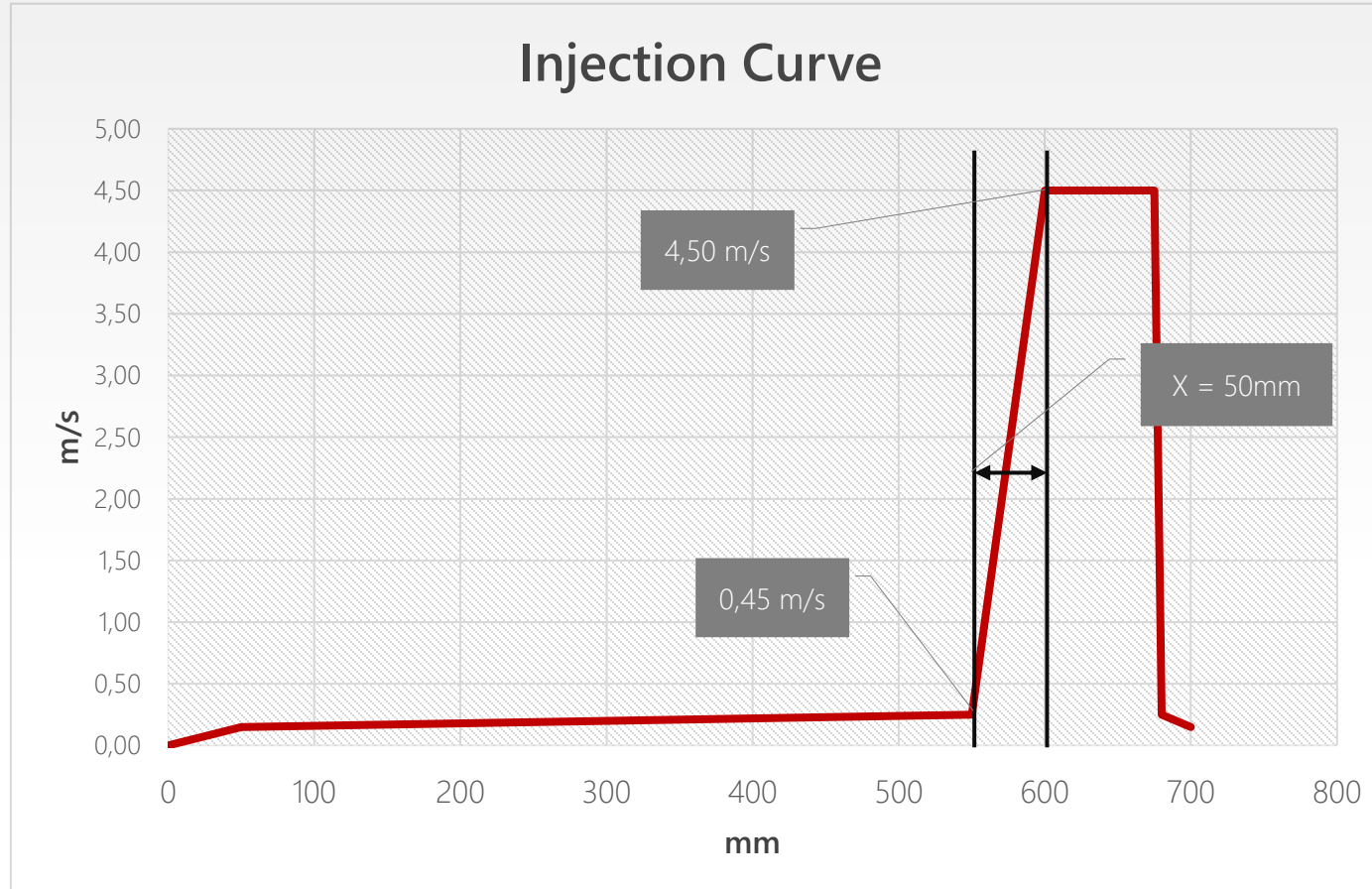
As a result of the optimization, the most suitable values were obtained in the 1st design.

When we carried out our examination from the perspective of parallel coordinates, design 1, which is below the maximum gate velocity and where targets such as turbulence hot spot are at acceptable levels, was selected.

Selected Design(s): 1



Optimization #3 – 2nd Phase



The piston velocity must increase from V_1 to V_2 within a distance of X . Therefore, the machine must provide this capability.

The acceleration calculated from the following "*equation of motion without time formula*" must be smaller than the maximum acceleration of the machine.

$$V^2 = V_0^2 + 2\alpha x$$

$$\alpha = \frac{V_2^2 - V_1^2}{2x} = \frac{(4,5)^2 - (0,45)^2}{2 \times 0,05}$$

$$\alpha = 200.475 \text{ m/s}^2 < \alpha_{\text{Machine}} = 500 \text{ m/s}^2$$

Results



Optimization #1 - 1.Phase
→ 14th Design

Optimization #2 – Switch Over
→ 10th Design

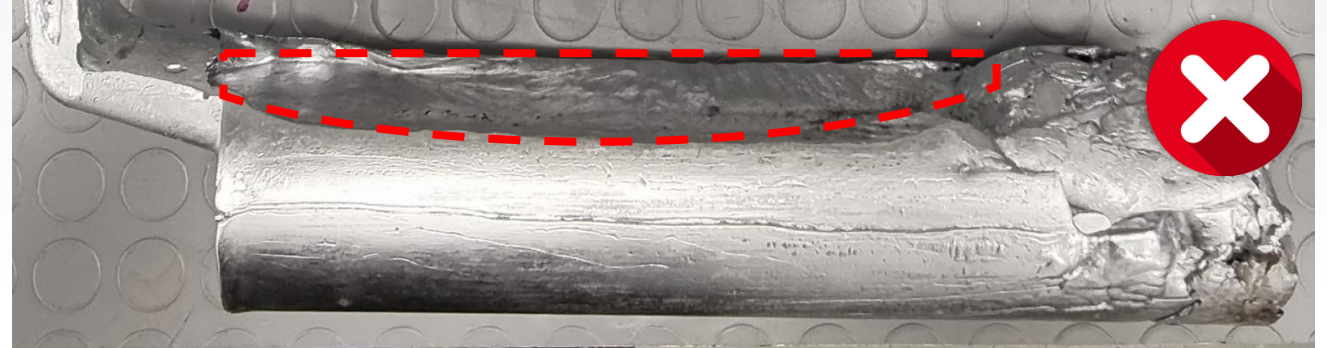
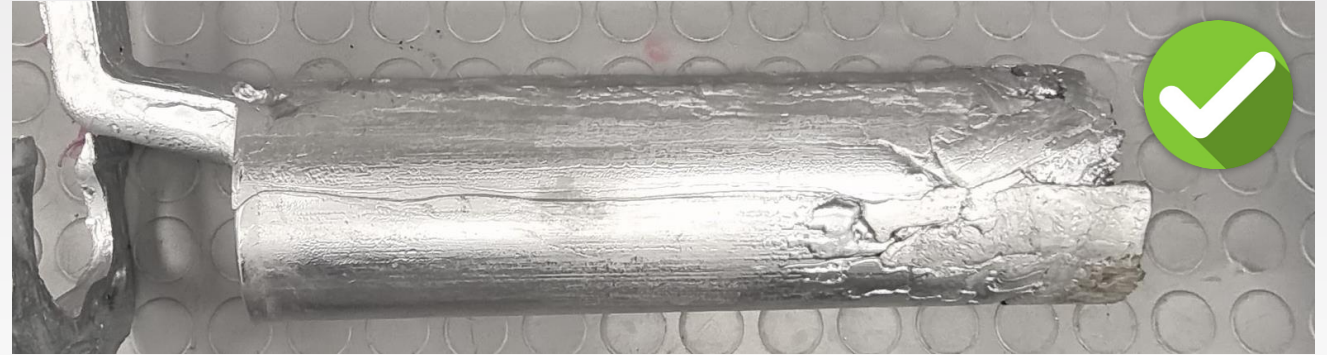
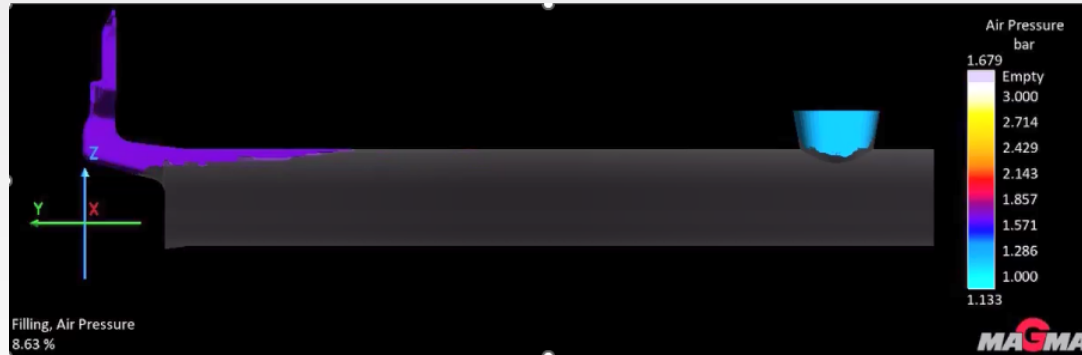
Optimization #3 – 2.Phase
→ 1st Design

On the side air pressure results were obtained by combining three different optimizations.

At the top, the filling result of the combined designs does not show any air entrapment. This is a result that we always aim for.

Clearly, we can see undesired air entrapment result at the bottom. A large amount of air is trapped in the last stage of the chamber filling.

Samples

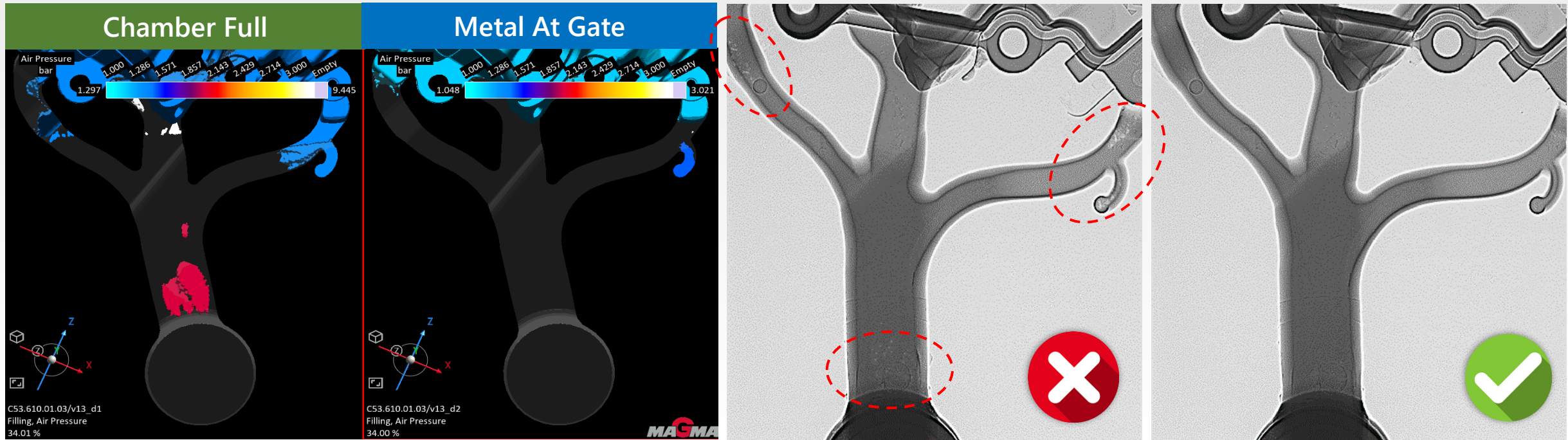


In the images above, we can see the results obtained in the previous slide with the "die filling test".

The first image does not show any air entrapment.

However, in the other image, there is a high amount of air entrapment in the marked region, which is also seen in the simulation result.

Samples



The filling results of two different simulations with both chamber full and metal at gate points are shown above.

Chamber full → In this example, at the switch over with chamber full, air entrapment is observed in the main runner as shown in the X-Ray results on the side.

Metal at gate → In the other result, 'metal at gate', no air entrapment was observed in the runner. X-Ray results also support the simulation.

Thank You

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