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Measurements and modeling of the gas flow in a microchannel: influence of aspect ratios, surface nature and roughnesses

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7 Abstract

5

This article extends in various directions our previous studies related to gas flow in long rectangular cross-section microchannels. In the present article, the mass flow rate of various gases through microchannels with different aspect ratios and, various surface coatings (Au and SiO_2) and surface roughnesses (from 0.9) to 12nm) is measured under isothermal conditions. Previously, we developed a method to calculate the mass flow rate through rectangular microchannels that allows taking into account the real dimensions of the rectangular channel cross-section. In the present article, this method was applied to extract the velocity slip and tangential momentum accommodation coefficients in the frame of the Maxwell diffuse-specular scattering kernel. An extension of the previous approach is also proposed in the present paper. This extension allows considering the possible difference in properties (roughness or material) between the vertical and horizontal channel walls by introducing different accommodation coefficients for each wall. By applying the new method, we can extract a single accommodation coefficient for all the channel walls under the assumption of homogeneous material and roughness and two different accommodation coefficients for the horizontal and vertical walls in the case when the two walls have different properties (roughness or material).

8 1. Introduction

With arriving of MEMS technologies, a great diversity appears in the manufacturing of micro-systems. These new possibilities widen the choice of materials for a micro-systems substrate as well as of deposit layers and thus allow the extension of the micro-systems functionalities. All these micro-devices have the same characteristic property: their surface-to-volume ratio is much larger compared to the conventional devices. Therefore, the gas-surface interaction affects the flow characteristics considerably in such micro-systems.

For several decades, the influence of the surface nature and surface roughness on the flow properties at small scale was studied experimentally, see for example

the review papers [1], [2]. However, only a few experimental works explored the 18 gas/wall interaction by varying the nature and the roughness of the walls [3], 19 [4], [5], [6]. The authors of Refs. [3], [6] studied the roughness influence and 20 reported smaller values of the Tangential Momentum Accommodation Coeffi-21 cient (TMAC) for rough surfaces compared to that of smooth surfaces for both 22 monoatomic and polyatomic gases. However, the opposite trend was reported 23 in Ref. [4], where a large value of TMAC and substantial backscattering with 24 surfaces of large roughness (cooper, $5\mu m$ grooves) were measured, as compared 25 to sapphire, glass, and electronically polished gold surfaces. The authors of Ref. 26 [5] also reported larger values of TMAC for rough surfaces compared to pol-27 ished steel spheres surfaces. From an experimental point of view, the difficulty 28 of this kind of studies lies notably in the correct consideration of the fabrication 29 process and in the precise geometrical characterization of studied systems. 30

Recently, several numerical studies have been performed, where the surface 31 roughness was simulated by regular structures of various shapes. These sim-32 ulations were carried out in the frame of different approaches: the continuum 33 modeling (Navier-Stokes equations), [7], [8], the DSMC modeling [9] and the 34 kinetic modeling (S-model) [10]. The influence of the random roughness was 35 studied by using the Molecular Dynamics (MD) simulations in Refs. [11], [12]. 36 The random roughness was also simulated by Weierstrass-Mandelbrot fractal 37 function by applying a linearized BGK equation and the generalized Reynolds 38 equation [13]. A significant influence of the surface roughness was found in the 39 case of the Poiseuille and Couette flows [13]. A different approach was proposed 40 by the authors of Ref. [14]: new scattering kernel allowed to incorporate the 41 roughness effect directly in the boundary conditions. Despite numerous studies, 42 the problem is far to be completely resolved, and new experimental data are 43 needed to characterize gas-surface interaction. 44

Extending the topics of previous studies, [15], [16], [17], experimental and 45 theoretical analysis of the influence of the surface roughness and the surface na-46 ture on gas flow properties at small scale is realized in this work. This analysis 47 allows us to enhance the understanding of the gas-solid surface interaction by 48 considering the behaviors of the same gases on different surfaces. The rectangu-49 lar microchannels used in this work are fabricated by silicon etching technology. 50 The internal surfaces of these channels are covered by a gold layer of different 51 roughnesses or by a layer of silica. The relatively moderate roughness ($\approx 0.1\%$ 52 of the channel high) was chosen to avoid affecting the rectangular shape of chan-53 nel cross-section. In this work, we analyze and quantify the influence of various 54 factors on the flow properties: the gas itself, the wall materials, the solid surface 55 roughness and the height/wide ratio, characterizing the geometry of the channel 56 cross-sections. 57

Finally, we present a brief summary of a complete analytical modeling of flow in the slip regime that takes into account the two lateral channel dimensions. By comparing experimental values and analytical results, we deduce various values of the tangential momentum accommodation coefficient, by assuming that it is not the same for the horizontal and vertical walls. Indeed, in the fabrication process, the roughness of the vertical channel walls is not measured. Therefore, we extend our bi-dimensional treatment by introducing different accommodation
 coefficients for the vertical and horizontal walls.

⁶⁶ 2. Microchannel Properties and Experimental Setup

In this section, short description of the method used to fabricate the microchannels is provided. Then, the experimental technique used for the measurements of the mass flow rate through the microchannels is briefly introduced.

70 2.1. Microchannels Fabrication Summary

The details of the microchannel fabrication process are shown in Figure 1. 71 First, a silicon wafer is prepared and cleaned to remove any metal or organic 72 contaminations from the surface. Then, a drop of photoresist resin solution 73 (SPR 220) is deposed in the center of the silicon wafer. The wafer is then spun 74 at high speed between 500 to 5000 rpm for 30 to 60 seconds. The rotation 75 speed and the viscosity of the resin solution determine the resulting thickness 76 of the photoresist resin layer. After spinning, the silicon wafer is heated to 77 evaporate the solvent from the resin solution to form a solid resin layer (step a). 78 Second, the photoresist resin is exposed to UV light through a mask to define the 79 shape of the channels. This procedure allows to obtain two parts: exposed and 80 81 unexposed regions. The exposed resin is then removed (step b). The next step (c) is the Deep Reactive-Ion Etching (DRIE) [18], [19], [20] in the parts where 82 the resin is removed. During etching the silicon wafer is attacked with Argon 83 ions (Ar^+) jet that strikes the surface perpendicularly, removing the material 84 until achieving the desired half depth (h/2) of the microchannel. After etching 85 step a layer of gold (Au) or silica (SiO_2) is generated on the wafer surfaces, 86 87 by cathodic sputtering for gold deposition and by oxidation for silicon dioxide deposition (step d). Then, the resin remaining from the first development is 88 stripped off and the layer of gold or silica is attacked with ions to obtain the 89 desired roughness of the surface (step e). Another layer of photoresist resin is 90 deposed again on the wafer by sputtering technique (step f). The photoresist 91 resin is exposed to the UV light and the resin layer is removed in the non-92 etched regions (step q). Finally, a layer of gold of 100 nm is deposed on the 93 wafer to be used in the bonding step (step h) and the remaining photoresist 94 resin is stripped away (step i). The last step is the wafer bonding: the wafers 95 fabricated with the same width (w) and depth (h/2) are assembled together 96 using the thermocompression technique at the eutectic point (636K, 2.85% Si 97 and 97.15% Au) by applying a moderate pressure on the wafers at a temperature 98 of 573 K (step j). After the fabrication steps the assembled wafers are cut by 99 a precise saw in order to obtain the microchannels. 100

The rectangular microchannels, used in the present study, were fabricated in two different ways. First, for the channels of A group and S1 channel, two identical silicon wafers with a cavity of h/2 depth, etched using the DRIE technique, are bounded together, Fig. 1((j) Wafers bonding channels A and S1). Second, for the E and S2 - S4 channels, a wafer with a cavity of h depth, etched using

Channel	Material	Roughness $[10^{-9} m]$	$h \ [10^{-6} \ m]$	$w \ [10^{-6} \ m]$	$L \ [10^{-3} \ m]$
A1	Au	0.9	27.8	$52.2 {\pm} 0.5$	15.07
A2		0.9	27.6	$107.6{\pm}0.5$	15.00
A3		0.9	27.9	$504.0 {\pm} 1.5$	15.06
A4		1.1	25.8	1005.5 ± 3.0	14.87
E1	Au	12.0	33.5	$55.5 {\pm} 0.5$	15.02
E2		12.0	35.2	$103.8{\pm}0.5$	15.19
E3		12.0	34.9	$505.0{\pm}1.5$	15.22
E4		12.0	34.2	1001.3 ± 3.0	15.06
S1	S_iO_2	1.1	24.3	$50.1 {\pm} 0.5$	13.68
S2		1.1	42.3	$100.0{\pm}0.5$	15.06
S3		1.1	42.0	$500.0 {\pm} 1.5$	15.06
S4		1.1	41.5	1000.0 ± 3.0	15.06

Table 1: Dimensions of the rectangular microchannels. The uncertainty of the microchannel height h measurements is $\pm 0.5 \mu m$, the uncertainty on the measurements of the microchannel width, w, depends on the channel width value and it is provided in Table; the uncertainty on the measurements of the channel length L is equal to ± 0.1 mm.

the DRIE technique, is bounded with a flat wafer, Fig. 1((j) Wafers bonding the channels S2 - S4 & E).

108 2.2. Microsystems Description

All the microchannels, fabricated using the technique, described in the previous Section, have rectangular cross-sections of different aspect ratios. They were divided into three groups noted by letters A, E and S according to the surface coating and surface roughness:

• The first group, referenced with letter A, corresponds to the microchannels coated using a gold layer (Au) on all internal surfaces with a mean roughness of $1nm^{-1}$.

• The second group, referenced with letter E, corresponds to the microchannels coated also with a layer of gold on all internal surfaces, but with a mean roughness of 12*nm*.

• The third group, referenced with the letter S, corresponds to the microchannels coated with silica (SiO_2) layer on all internal surfaces with a mean roughness of 1.1nm.

The microchannels that are in the same group differ only by their aspect ratio.Table 1 summarizes the properties and dimensions of the microchannels.

¹Root Mean Square (RMS)

The uncertainty on the microchannel height and width measurements are 124 related essentially to the uncertainty on the micro-ruler used to measure the 125 cross-section dimensions and to some eventual other errors related to the quality 126 and sharpness of the pictures taken with the microscope. The uncertainty on 127 the microchannel height is estimated as $\pm 0.5 \ \mu m$, see Table 1. The uncertainty 128 on the microchannel width depends on the average width of the microchannel 129 and it is provided in Table 1. This uncertainty variation is related to the zoom 130 used to take the pictures of the microchannels cross-section. The uncertainty 131 on the microchannels length is only related to the caliper uncertainty and it is 132 equal to ± 0.1 mm. 133

The roughness of the microchannels was measured using a profilometer 134 (Alpha-Step IQ) before the bonding step of the two wafers. The measurements 135 are made in three sections: beginning, center and end of the microchannel. Fig-136 ure 2 shows an example of roughness measurement made for the microchannel 137 S3. The typical Root Mean Square (RMS) roughness is given in Table 1 for each 138 group of microchannels. One can remark that the roughness of the microchan-139 nel A4 is not equal to that of the other microchannels of this group, because the 140 microchannel A4 was fabricated separately, not at the same fabrication condi-141 tions as the other microchannels. However, it was maintained in the group A 142 because its roughness remains close to those of the other microchannels of that 143 group. 144

145 2.3. Mass Flow Rate Measurement Technique

The mass flow rate though a microchannel can be calculated from the equation of state for an ideal gas

$$pV = M\mathcal{R}T,\tag{1}$$

¹⁴⁸ by assuming steady flow conditions. Here V is the volume, p and T are, respec-¹⁴⁹ tively, the pressure and temperature of a gas, M is the mass of a gas and \mathcal{R} is ¹⁵⁰ the specific gas constant. Using the constant volume technique, the mass flow ¹⁵¹ rate can be derived from Eq. (1) as it was shown in [21] and [15]

$$\dot{M} = \frac{dM}{dt} = \frac{V}{\mathcal{R}T}\frac{dp}{dt}(1-\theta), \quad \text{with} \quad \theta = \frac{dT/T}{dp/p}.$$
 (2)

In above equation, θ represents the ratio of fractional change of the temperature to the fractional change of pressure. If θ is small enough compared to 1 then it can be neglected. Below we estimate the order of θ in our experimental conditions.

In this work, we consider an isothermal flow through a microchannel connecting two large tanks maintained at pressures p_{in} and p_{out} , which remain close to constant values. The pressure variations in each tank during a measurement are less than 1%, thus the flow may be considered as a steady flow. Consequently, the relative pressure variation dp/p in a tank is of the order of 10^{-2} . The relative variation of the temperature dT/T is calculated from the standard 162 deviation (dT/T = s)

$$s = \sqrt{\frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{i=1}^{n} (T_i - \overline{T})^2},$$
 (3)

where \overline{T} is the average temperature during the experimental time, T_i is the instantaneous temperature measurement and n is the number of measurements during the experimental time. This standard deviation s is smaller than 2×10^{-4} for all the experiment series, so dT/T is of the order of 10^{-4} . θ in Eq.(2) is clearly less than 2×10^{-2} , so this term can be neglected.

Thus, from Eq. (2) the mass flow rate M^{exp} expression can be simplified as

$$\dot{M}^{exp} = \frac{V}{\mathcal{R}T} \frac{dp}{dt}.$$
(4)

¹⁶⁹ To calculate the mass flow rate using Eq. (4), the registered data of the pressure ¹⁷⁰ p_i at different time instants t_i are used. The stationary assumption can justify ¹⁷¹ physically the implementation of first order polynomial expression in t_i

$$p(t_i) = at_i + b,\tag{5}$$

where the slope a of the function $p(t_i)$ is equal to dp/dt.

The global uncertainty on the mass flow rate measurements is around 5%. This includes the uncertainty of the volume measurements, which is of the order of 2%. The error on the coefficient *a* determination, Eq. (5), is of the order of 1%. The relative error related to the neglecting of term θ in Eq. (2) is of the order of 2% and it is included also in the global uncertainty estimation of the mass flow rate measurements.

¹⁷⁹ 3. Analytical Method in the Slip Regime

In this section we present analytical results related to the influence of the 180 lateral wall on gas flow in rectangular cross-section microchannels. In the fol-181 lowing we continue to use the same notations, as those already introduced in 182 Section 2.2, namely, we denote the channel height h, the channel width w and 183 the channel length L, see Fig. 3. The main results are presented in Ref. [17]. 184 We recall here only some important parts that are indispensable to go forward 185 with the new analytical calculations that will permit to take into account the 186 different properties of the channel walls. 187

188 3.1. Governing Equations and Slip Boundary Conditions

As it is well known, for an isothermal gas flow through long microchannel, the system of the Navier-Stokes (NS) equations may be simplified at the zero order of the small channel aspect ratio parameter $\varepsilon_{hL} = h/L \ll 1$. Then, the momentum conservation equation appears under the form of the Stokes equation as

$$\frac{\partial^2 u_z}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u_z}{\partial y^2} = \frac{1}{\mu} \frac{dp}{dz}.$$
 (6)

Here u_z is the gas velocity along the z axis, and x, y are the directions that correspond to the channel width and height, respectively, see Fig. 3. The gas viscosity μ in Eq. (6) is calculated in the frame of the Variable Hard Sphere (VHS) model [22] as $\mu = \mu_{ref} (T/T_{ref})^{\omega}$, where ω is the viscosity index, which depends on the gas nature, μ_{ref} is the reference viscosity at the reference temperature T_{ref} .

As mentioned previously, we consider here the slip flow regime characterized 200 by a Knudsen number varying in the range 0.01 < Kn < 0.3. The Knudsen 201 number, $Kn = \lambda/h$, is defined as the ratio of the molecular mean free path λ to 202 the characteristic channel cross-section dimension h, see Fig. 3(b). As it is well 203 known, in the slip regime, the Stokes equation (6) must be supplemented with 204 slip boundary conditions. Moreover, it is important to remember that, since 205 we have an axis (or a plane) of symmetry, the second order terms with respect 206 to the Knudsen number are negligible in the conservation equation system and 207 they are important only when they result from the slip boundary condition [23]. 208 Therefore, in the geometry considered here, according to the results given in 209 Ref. [23], a pertinent slip velocity boundary condition may be written at the 210 second order following λ as 211

$$u_{z}\Big|_{s} = \pm A_{1}\lambda \frac{\partial u_{z}}{\partial \vec{n}}\Big|_{s} - A_{2}\lambda^{2}\Delta u_{z}\Big|_{s},\tag{7}$$

where the mean free path λ is calculated using the VHS model [22] as

$$\lambda = k_{\lambda} \frac{\mu}{p} \sqrt{2\mathcal{R}T}, \qquad k_{\lambda} = \frac{(7 - 2\omega)(5 - 2\omega)}{15\sqrt{\pi}}.$$
(8)

In Eq. (7) the subscript "s" corresponds to the quantities, calculated at the surface, \vec{n} represents the normal to the surface, and A_1 and A_2 are the coefficients depending on the gas-surface interaction. Moreover, in a more recent study, it was shown [24] that the Knudsen layer influence does not modify the form of Eq. (7), only the analytical form of A_1 and A_2 coefficient becomes different, when the contribution of the Knudsen layer is taken into account [24].

Now we will resolve Eq. (6) subjected to boundary condition, Eq. (7). It results from Eq. (6) that Δu_z does not depend on the *x* and *y* coordinates whatever the point considered in the channel cross-section. Thus, $\Delta u_z \Big|_s$ in Eq. (7) is constant at any point of the section perimeter. The same comment may be applied to the molecular mean free path λ , due to the negligent variation of pressure in the cross section. Then, it is convenient, first from a calculation simplification point of view, to use the function change

$$u^* = u_z + A_2 \lambda^2 \Delta u_z \Big|_s. \tag{9}$$

Applying this change does not change the form of Eq. (6) and the system, Eqs. (6) and (7), can be rewritten using u^* as

$$\Delta u^* = \frac{1}{\mu} \frac{dp}{dz},\tag{10}$$

$$u^*\Big|_s = \pm A_1 \lambda \frac{\partial u^*}{\partial n}\Big|_s. \tag{1}$$

1)

Using the symmetry planes of the problem $(x \ge 0 \text{ and } y \ge 0)$, the boundary conditions (11) in a quarter of the channel cross-section may be detailed as following:

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial u^*}{\partial x}(0,y) = 0, \\ u^*(w/2,y) = -A_1 \lambda \frac{\partial u^*}{\partial x}(w/2,y), \end{cases}$$
(12)

232 and

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial u^*}{\partial y}(x,0) = 0, \\ u^*(x,h/2) = -A_1 \lambda \frac{\partial u^*}{\partial y}(x,h/2). \end{cases}$$
(13)

233 3.2. Basic Solving Methodology

The present approach is mainly based on the spectral properties of the partial Laplace operators included in the Stokes equation (10). When applied to the vector space of the L_2 functions, defined on a finite spatial domain D (here the channel cross-section), the Laplacian (or the partial Laplacian) is characterized by an eigen-function discrete spectrum.

Expanding the solution u^* of Eq. (10) on the eigen functions $f_n(y)$ of the 239 partial Laplacian $\frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2}$, where functions $f_n(y)$ verify border conditions of can-240 cellations, similar to Eq. (13), we change Eq. (10) into a set of differential 241 equations easy to solve. Indeed the $f_n(y)$ set provides an orthogonal basis of 242 the space $L_2(y)$ of the y functions, defined on the channel cross-section and ver-243 ifying, at the limits, conditions similar to Eq. (13). Moreover, the eigenvalues 244 associated with $f_n(y)$ form a discrete countable series of real negative numbers 245 $-\nu_n^2$. Thus, the solution u^* has the form 246

$$u^* = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} g_n(x) f_n(y),$$
(14)

where n is a natural integer. Taking into account the properties of f_n functions, we find

$$f_n(y) = a_n \cos(\nu_n y),\tag{15}$$

249

$$\cot(\beta_n) = 2A_1 K n \beta_n, \tag{16}$$

250

$$\beta_n = \nu_n h/2. \tag{17}$$

The $g_n(x)$ functions in Eq. (14) have to be calculated in next Section to find the solution u^* .

²⁵³ 3.3. Search for $g_n(x)$ and for the reduced velocity

Now we will obtain the explicit expression for $g_n(x)$ functions involved in Eq.(14). The second member of Eq. (10) depends only on the z space variable and may be expanded on the $f_n(y)$ basis functions. Then, from Eq. (10) and using u^* velocity expansion in form of Eq. (14), we obtain a linear second order differential equation giving $g_n(x)$. Finally, solving this equation and taking also into account Eqs. (12), (15), (16) and (17) we deduce

$$u^* = \frac{h^2}{\mu} \frac{dp}{dz} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \phi_n(x, y), \qquad (18)$$

260 where

$$\phi_n(x,y) = \frac{\sin(\beta_n)\cos(2\beta_n y/h)}{\beta_n^2(2\beta_n + \sin(2\beta_n))} \left(\frac{\cosh(2\beta_n x/h)}{\cosh(\beta_n w/h) + \beta_n \varepsilon \sinh(\beta_n w/h)} - 1\right).$$
(19)

In the previous expression, the small parameter ε is defined as

$$\varepsilon = 2A_1 K n, \qquad \varepsilon \ll 1.$$
 (20)

Let us remind that in Ref. [17] we explained why, when transforming Eq. 262 (6) into Eq. (10), the precision of the results given by the NS equations is not 263 physically modified, and, more practically, why resolving first the system, Eqs. 264 (10) and (11), and using in fine Eq. (9) to attain u_z we obtain strictly the 265 same physical result as by solving the system, Eqs. (6) and (7). Hereafter, we 266 apply the correlative remark of Ref. [17] explaining that in u^* expression only 267 the first order terms following the Knudsen number are physically significant. 268 Therefore, expression (18) of u^* is expanded up to the first order according to 269 the small parameter ε , defined in (20) as proportional to the Knudsen number. 270 Precisely 271

$$u^* = u_0^* + \varepsilon \left(\frac{du^*}{d\varepsilon}\right)_0,\tag{21}$$

272 where

$$u_0^* = u^* \Big|_{\varepsilon=0}, \qquad \left(\frac{du^*}{d\varepsilon}\right)_0 = \frac{du^*}{d\varepsilon}\Big|_{\varepsilon=0}.$$
 (22)

Since u^* depends on ε not only explicitly through relation (20), but also implicitly via β_n related with the local Knudsen number through Eq. (16); then by using Eq. (20), equation (16) is now written formally as:

$$F(\beta_n, \varepsilon) = \cot(\beta_n) - \varepsilon \beta_n = 0.$$
(23)

Therefore, the calculation of the total derivative of u^* must be written as:

$$\left(\frac{du^*}{d\varepsilon}\right)_0 = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{\partial u^*}{\partial \beta_n} \frac{d\beta_n}{d\varepsilon}\right)_0 + \left(\frac{\partial u^*}{\partial \varepsilon}\right)_0.$$
 (24)

The calculations of u_0^* , and the derivatives $\left(\frac{\partial u^*}{\partial \beta_n}\right)_0$ and $\left(\frac{\partial u^*}{d\varepsilon}\right)_0$ in Eq. (24) have been easily done by using successively Eqs. (18) and (19), and the following results deduced from Eq. (23):

$$(\beta_n)_0 = \frac{\pi}{2}(2n+1). \tag{25}$$

In addition, the calculation of expression $\left(\frac{d\beta_n}{d\varepsilon}\right)_0$ requires to use again Eq. (23), where F appears as an implicit function of β_n and ε . Expressing now the partial derivative of F one obtains

$$\left(\frac{d\beta_n}{d\varepsilon}\right) = -\frac{\partial F/\varepsilon}{\partial F/\beta_n} = -\frac{\beta_n}{1 + \cot^2(\beta_n) + \varepsilon}.$$
(26)

To calculate $\left(\frac{d\beta_n}{d\varepsilon}\right)_0$ from the second member of Eq. (26), we have to take $\varepsilon = 0$ and $(\beta_n)_0$ from Eq. (25), which leads to

$$\left(\frac{d\beta_n}{d\varepsilon}\right)_0 = -\frac{\pi}{2}(2n+1). \tag{27}$$

²⁸⁵ Then, we finally obtain following expression for velocity

$$u^{*} = \frac{h^{2}}{\mu} \frac{dp}{dz} \left(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} [\phi_{n}]_{0} + \varepsilon \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left([\varphi_{n}]_{0} + [\chi_{n}]_{0} \right) \right),$$
(28)

with $(\phi_n)_0$, $(\varphi_n)_0$ and $(\chi_n)_0$ given in Ref. [17], where the velocity u_z is deduced from Eq. (A 15).

288 3.4. Mass Flow Rate

289 Considering now the mass flow rate defined as

$$\dot{M} = \frac{p}{\mathcal{R}T} \int_{-w/2}^{w/2} \int_{-h/2}^{h/2} u_z(x, y) dx dy,$$
(29)

²⁹⁰ we obtain new mass flow rate expression

$$\dot{M} = \dot{M}_P \left(1 + 6A_1 \frac{T_n}{S_n} K n_m + \frac{A_2 \pi^4}{16S_n} \frac{\mathcal{P} + 1}{\mathcal{P} - 1} \ln \mathcal{P} K n_m^2 \right),$$
(30)

where \dot{M}_P is the analytical expression of the Poiseuille mass flow rate in the hydrodynamic flow regime

$$\dot{M}_P = \frac{h^3 w \Delta p p_m}{12 \mu \mathcal{R} T L} V_n. \tag{31}$$

In Eq. (30) Kn_m is the mean Knudsen number, based on the mean pressure $p_m = 0.5(p_{in} + p_{out})$ and on the characteristic length h, $\Delta p = p_{in} - p_{out}$, $\mathcal{P} = p_{in}/p_{out}$,

$$S_n = \frac{\pi^4}{96} - \frac{2h}{\pi w} S_1, \quad \text{with} \quad S_1 = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{tanh(0.5\pi(2n+1)w/h)}{(2n+1)^5}, \quad (32)$$

$$V_n = \frac{96}{\pi^4} S_n,\tag{33}$$

297 and

$$T_n = \frac{4}{3}S_n - \frac{1}{3}\left(1 - \frac{h}{w}\right)S_3, \qquad S_3 = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{tanh^2(0.5\pi(2n+1)w/h)}{(2n+1)^4}.$$
 (34)

²⁹⁸ 3.5. Extension to Two Surface Materials

It is possible to extend the method, briefly presented above and published 200 in Ref. [17], to the case when the walls of the channel are fabricated differently, 300 see comments in Section 2.2. But, unfortunately, it is then necessary to restrict 301 the new approach to the first order according to the Knudsen number. Indeed, 302 in this case, the second order term of the boundary condition, Eq. (7), does 303 not involve the Laplacian form of constant value in the channel cross-section. 304 Remember, that the presence of this term allowed us to make the function 305 change written in Eq. (9). 306

Thus, we consider hereafter, at the first order only, the case of a channel, 307 where both vertical channel walls are made from a first material corresponding 308 to a first order slip coefficient, A_{1w} , and both horizontal walls are made from 309 another material, characterized with the slip coefficient A_{1h} . In the following, 310 to avoid cumbersome expressions we use simplified notations A_w and A_h for the 311 slip coefficients related to the vertical and horizontal walls, respectively. The 312 boundary conditions on the wall reduce now to an equation similar to Eq. (11), 313 where u^* is now changed into u_z and where the slip coefficient changes following 314 the wall orientation. Of course, the Stokes equation directly solved here is Eq. 315 (6) involving u_z instead of Eq. (10) involving u^* . Detailing now the boundary 316 condition in the (x, y) coordinates we obtain equations similar to Eqs. (12) 317 and (13). Again, u^* is changed into u_z and A_1 is successively changed into A_w 318 and A_h which were respectively related to two dimensionless numbers, small 319 compared to one and associated to the Knudsen number: 320

$$\varepsilon_w = A_w K n, \qquad \varepsilon_h = A_h K n.$$
 (35)

³²¹ Consequently, Eqs. (14) - (17) are maintained, nothing however that the coef-³²² ficient A_1 is here changed into A_h because deriving from the new forms of Eqs. ³²³ (13) and (23), namely:

$$F(\beta_n, \varepsilon_h) = \cot(\beta_n) - \varepsilon_h \beta_n = 0.$$
(36)

Then, the search of u^* is now replaced by the search of u_z . We use practically the same equations, but as previously noticed, in Eq.(12), A_1 is changed into A_w . Consequently, in the new form of Eq. (19) only ε_w would appear explicitly, replacing ε . Thus, the u_z expansion takes the form

$$u_z = (u_z)_0 + \varepsilon_w \left(\frac{du_z}{d\varepsilon_w}\right)_0. \tag{37}$$

However, in expression $(\frac{du_z}{d\varepsilon_w})_0$ the parameter β_n is involved, but β_n is calculated from Eq. (36) and so related to ε_h , thus we obtain

$$\left(\frac{du_z}{d\varepsilon_w}\right)_0 = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{\partial u_z}{\partial \beta_n} \frac{d\beta_n}{d\varepsilon_h} \frac{d\varepsilon_h}{d\varepsilon_w}\right)_0 + \varepsilon_w \left(\frac{\partial u_z}{\partial \varepsilon_w}\right)_0.$$
(38)

In previous expression the derivative $\frac{d\beta_n}{d\varepsilon_h}$ is obtained from Eq. (36) in the same way as in Eq. (26), and where $\frac{d\beta_n}{d\varepsilon_w} = \frac{d\beta_n}{d\varepsilon_h} \frac{d\varepsilon_h}{d\varepsilon_w}$ with $d\varepsilon_h/d\varepsilon_w = A_h/A_w$. Finally, we obtain an expression close to Eq. (28), where ε is changed into ε_w and where appears the ratio A_h/A_w coming from the new derivative $d\beta_n/d\varepsilon_w$:

$$u_z = \frac{h^2}{\mu} \frac{dp}{dz} \left(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (\phi_n)_0 + \varepsilon_w \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left[\left(\frac{A_h}{A_w} \varphi_n \right)_0 + (\chi_n)_0 \right] \right).$$
(39)

Naturally the functions ϕ_n , φ_n , χ_n are exactly the same as the corresponding quantities given in [17]. To provide the complete analytical development these functions are also given in Appendix A.

Then, calculating the mass flow rate, we find expressions close to those presented in [17]. Considering the group of the equations, allowing the calculation of the mass flow rate, Eqs. (30) - (34), the second order term vanish, and A_1 becomes A_w , so new mass flow rate expression reads formally:

$$\dot{M} = \dot{M}_P \left(1 + 6\frac{A_w}{S_n} T_n(A_w, A_h) K n_m \right).$$
(40)

Then, parameter $T_n(A_w, A_h)$ in Eq. (34), is slightly modified and it becomes:

$$T_n(A_w, A_h) = \frac{4}{3} \frac{A_h}{A_w} S_n - \frac{1}{3} \left(\frac{A_h}{A_w} - \frac{h}{w} \right) S_3,$$
(41)

where S_3 is determined by Eq. (34). The other quantities remain exactly the same as previously.

³⁴⁴ 4. Implementation of the Methodology

The two analytical methods, discussed in Section 3, which are based on two different assumptions, are applied hereafter in order to model the gas flow through rectangular channel, taking into account the effect of its twodimensional cross-section area.

Following the first method, we suppose that for each channel all the walls (vertical and horizontal) are characterized by the same material and the same roughness. In this method we use a second order approach: for each channel we determine a global coefficient A_1 at the first order and another global coefficient A_2 at the second order according to the Knudsen number.

The second method is based on a different assumption. In this approach, we suppose that the etching process used to fabricate the channels can induce

a roughness difference between the vertical and horizontal walls. In this case, 356 we use a first order approach, which leads to two first order coefficients to be 357 determined, A_w and A_h , for the vertical and horizontal walls, respectively. But 358 to find these two coefficients we need an additional hypothesis, namely, in each 359 group of channels (A, E and S) all the vertical walls are considered similar, *i.e.* 360 characterized with a same A_w , while all the horizontal walls are supposed to 361 have the same A_h coefficient. Finally, considering the experimental values of the 362 mass flow rate, we calculate the coefficients, following each method described 363 above, then, we determine in each case what is the more pertinent method to 364 retain. 365

³⁶⁶ 4.1. Slip coefficient extraction with a single surface material method

It is assumed here that the horizontal and vertical walls material is the same 367 for each channel. The analytical expression for the mass flow rate, obtained 368 in Section 3.4, see Eq. (30), is used here to extract the "experimental" slip 369 coefficient. As it was obtained from the theoretical analysis, see Section 3.4, the 370 analytical mass flow rate can be expressed in the second order polynomial form 371 according to the Knudsen number. By dividing the dimensional mass flow rate, 372 Eq. (30), by the analytical expression of the Poiseuille mass flow rate in the 373 hydrodynamic flow regime, M_P , Eq. (31), we obtain the following dimensionless 374 analytical expression: 375

$$S^{T} = B_{0}^{T} + B_{1}^{T} K n_{m} + B_{2}^{T} K n_{m}^{2}, (42)$$

376 where

$$B_0^T = 1, \qquad B_1^T = 6A_1 \frac{T_n}{S_n}, \qquad \text{and} \qquad B_2^T = \frac{A_2 \pi^4}{16S_n} \frac{\mathcal{P} + 1}{\mathcal{P} - 1} \ln \mathcal{P}.$$
 (43)

We can also assume that the measured values of the mass flow rate can be represented by an analogous dimensionless second order polynomial form according to the Knudsen number:

$$S_f^{exp} = B_0^{exp} + B_1^{exp} K n_m + B_2^{exp} K n_m^2.$$
(44)

Comparing expressions (42), (43) and (44), the coefficients A_1 and A_2 are expressed as

$$A_{1} = \frac{\sigma_{p}}{k_{\lambda}} = \frac{B_{1}^{exp}S_{n}}{6T_{n}}, \quad \text{and} \quad A_{2} = \frac{\sigma_{2p}}{k_{\lambda}^{2}} = \frac{16B_{2}^{exp}S_{n}}{\pi^{2}\ln\mathcal{P}}\frac{\mathcal{P}-1}{\mathcal{P}+1}. \quad (45)$$

Therefore, the "experimental" slip coefficients of first and second order, σ_p and σ_{2p} , respectively, are found as

$$\sigma_p = \frac{B_1^{exp} k_\lambda S_n}{6T_n}, \quad \text{and} \quad \sigma_{2p} = \frac{16B_2^{exp} k_\lambda^2 S_n}{\pi^2 \ln \mathcal{P}} \frac{\mathcal{P} - 1}{\mathcal{P} + 1}. \quad (46)$$

It is clear from the previous expressions that the lateral wall influence is present in both coefficients B_1^{exp} and B_2^{exp} through the coefficients S_n and T_n , see Eqs. (32) - (34). The dependence of velocity slip coefficients, σ_p and σ_{2p} , on the molecular interaction model, here VHS model [22], comes from the coefficient k_{λ} , see Eqs. (8), (46).

³⁸⁹ By solving numerically the linearized BGK kinetic equation and using the ³⁹⁰ Maxwellian diffuse-specular scattering kernel for various values of the accom-³⁹¹ modation coefficient α , the authors of [25] have proposed the relation between ³⁹² the first order slip coefficient σ_p and the accommodation coefficient α . This ³⁹³ expression was further improved in [26] and it becomes:

$$\sigma_p(\alpha) = \frac{2 - \alpha}{\alpha} (\sigma_p(1) - 0.1211(1 - \alpha)),$$
(47)

where $\sigma_p(1) = 1.016$ is the velocity slip coefficient for $\alpha = 1$ calculated in [27]. 394 For all gases the second order treatment appeared us the most pertinent 395 in slip regime using the same criteria as those used in [15]. The values of the 396 main parameters used as criteria appear in Tables 8, 10 and 12. For each Knud-397 sen number range we calculated the determination coefficient, r^2 , the squared 398 residual sum $s_r = \sqrt{(1/(n-p)\sum_{i=1}^n e_i^2)}$, and the standard error on the fit curves $E_s = \sqrt{1/n\sum_{i=1}^n e_i^2}/\overline{S^{exp}}$, where $e_i = S_i^{exp} - S_{f_i}^{exp}$ is the local difference between the measured and fitting values and it represents the local fitting error, 399 400 401 n is the number of measurements, p is the number of the unknown coefficients 402 of the fitting model, and $\overline{S^{exp}} = 1/n \sum_{i=1}^{n} S_i^{exp}$ is the averaged value of the 403 measured values. Analyzing the values of these coefficients given in Tables 8, 10 404 and 12, respectively, for first and second order approaches, we found that the 405 determination coefficient of second order is slightly more closer to one than that 406 of first order. However, the squared residual sum and the standard error are 407 of the same order for the both fitting. Therefore, we can conclude that for the 408 studied cases both first and second fittings reproduce well the measurements. 409

410 4.2. Slip coefficient extraction with two surface materials method

It is assumed here that for each channel the horizontal and vertical walls roughnesses are different. By analogy with the previous methodology we can express the analytical mass flow rate, Eq. (40), in the following dimensionless first order polynomial form, by dividing expression (40) by \dot{M}_P :

$$S^{T} = C_0^T + C_1^T K n_m, (48)$$

415 where

$$C_0^T = 1, \qquad C_1^T = 6A_w \frac{T_n(A_w, A_h)}{S_n},$$
(49)

⁴¹⁶ here $T_n(A_w, A_h)$ and S_n are given by Eqs. (41) and (32), respectively. We ⁴¹⁷ assume also here that the measured values of the mass flow rate can be presented ⁴¹⁸ using a first order dimensionless polynomial form:

$$S_f^{exp} = C_0^{exp} + C_1^{exp} K n_m. {(50)}$$

 $_{419}$ Then, by comparing expressions (48) and (50) we obtain:

$$A_w T_n(A_w, A_h) = \frac{1}{6} C_1^{exp} S_n.$$
 (51)

However, practically we cannot calculate both values of A_w and A_h simultaneously, because we have only one equation (51) to determine them. Therefore, as it was mentioned previously, we will consider that all the channels belonging to the same group have the same coefficients A_w and A_h . Doing so, we can obtain, for each group of channels sufficient quantity of data to extract these two coefficients.

Practically we consider the following approach. The theoretical expression of the dimensionless mass flow rate, Eqs. (48), (49), can be written for a channel by equalizing it to the experimental expression, S^{exp} , as following:

$$A_0 + A_h(8 - S_0)Kn_m + A_w \frac{h}{w} S_0 Kn_m = S^{exp}, \qquad S_0 = 2\frac{S_3}{S_n}.$$
 (52)

The previous expression is then written for all measured values of the dimen-429 sionless mass flow rates S^{exp} and for all channels in each group. We write so 430 a large number of equations involving the same unknown coefficients A_0, A_w 431 and A_h . Here A_0 coefficient is a free parameter, which theoretically has to be 432 equal to 1. However, we decided to calculate its value from the fitting procedure 433 (multiple linear regression), as we have done for two other coefficients, A_w and 434 A_h . We obtain here an overdetermined system of equations taking a matrix 435 form, involving a vector of unknown coefficients, where each line corresponds 436 to a measurement. This system is classically resolved by minimizing the norm 437 of its residual vector, where the coefficients A_0 , A_w and A_h are included, then, 438 their convenient values are extracted. 439

440 5. Results and Discussion

The mass flow rates through all the microchannels considered in this study were measured for three gases, Helium, Nitrogen and Argon. Then, we extract the velocity slip and the accommodation coefficients from the mass flow rate measured for the series of channels type A, E and S by considering first the same roughness on the vertical and horizontal walls, Section 5.1, and then, by considering the second approach, Section 5.2, which allows us to consider different roughnesses on the vertical and horizontal walls.

The geometrical characteristics for the channels of group A are provided 448 in Table 1. The experimental conditions for the microchannels of this group 449 are summarized in Tables 2 and 3. To accomplish one of the goals fixed in 450 this article, namely the study of the surface roughness influence on the momen-451 tum transfer between a gas and a surface, we conducted an additional series 452 of mass flow rate measurements through the microchannels of group E which 453 have similar rectangular cross-section aspect ratios and the same material (Au)454 of the internal surfaces coating as the microchannels of group A. However, 455

the microchannels of group E have a surface roughness 12 times greater than that of the microchannels A, see Table 1. The experimental conditions for the microchannels of group E are summarized in Tables 4 and 5.

To study the influence of the surface nature on the momentum transfer 459 between a gas and a surface, the microchannels of the group S were fabricated 460 by coating the internal surfaces with a layer of silica (SiO_2) . The channel of 461 this group were etched in a wafer to a depth h, than covered by an other plate 462 wafer. This technology was different from the fabrication of A and E channels, 463 where two half parts of depth (h/2) were etched in a wafer. However, the surface 464 roughness of group S channels is similar to that of microchannels of the group 465 Α. Therefore, a comparison of the TMAC results between these two groups 466 can clarify the influence of the surface materials on the momentum exchange 467 between a gas and a surface. The experimental conditions for microchannels of 468 the group S are given in Tables 6 and 7. 469

470 5.1. Results for the single surface material method

In this Section we present the results of the first method, where the horizon-471 tal and vertical walls of each channel are considered to have the same properties 472 (material and roughness). The experimental data of the mass flow rate in two 473 Knudsen number ranges: [0, 0.1] and [0, 0.3] are fitted using the first and second 474 order polynomial forms, respectively, see Section 4.1. Then, the first order slip 475 coefficient in the case of the first order fit, and first and second order coefficients 476 in the case of the second order fit, are extracted. Finally, the tangential mo-477 mentum accommodation coefficients are calculated for each channel. All data 478 of the experimental fitting coefficient and the slip and tangential momentum 479 accommodation coefficients, are provided in Tables 8 - 13. Examples of the 480 first and second order polynomial fits of the experimental data are provided on 481 Figures 4 - 6. By analyzing these data, we will conclude on the validity of the 482 proposed methodology, as well as on the influence of the surface nature and the 483 surface roughness on the gas-surface interaction. 484

485 5.1.1. Influence of the channel cross-section aspect ratio

The influence of the microchannel aspect ratio on the gas flow through mi-486 crochannels is assumed to be taken into account by the factors S_n , T_n and V_n 487 in the expression for the mass flow rate, see Eqs. (30) - (34). Considering 488 the results, reported in Tables 8, 10 and 12, we found that the values of the 489 fitting coefficients, B_0^{exp} for all groups of channels are close to the theoretical 490 value $B_0^T = 1$, Eqs. (30) and (43). If we check carefully the values of the 491 coefficient B_0^{exp} for the S and A channels, they are different from 1 by 1.6% 492 and 2.7%, respectively. However, for the channels of group E the difference 493 increases to 6.6%, see Table 10. The detailed analysis of the possible nature of 494 this discrepancy, see Appendix B, allows us to conclude that the probable fac-495 tor influencing the results of the microchannels E can be the gold layer takeoff 496 inside the microchannels, which causes the change of their cross-section shape. 497 The fact that the fitting coefficients B_0^{exp} remains close to 1, when the chan-498 nel aspect ratio changes, confirms the correctness of the theoretical expression 499

of the mass flow rate, Eq. (30). In addition, by analyzing Tables 8, 10 and 12,
it can be seen that for each group of channels and for each gas, the extracted
coefficients (first and second order velocity slip and accommodation coefficients)
have very close values, regardless the channel cross-section changes.

Furthermore, in our bi-dimensional modeling, we supposed that all channel walls are homogeneous and that the gas-surface interaction is the same for the upper, bottom and lateral walls. Therefore, when a remaining influence of the cross-section aspect ratio appears in the behavior of the first and second order velocity slip coefficients, it may be explained by the difference of the gas-surface interaction between the vertical and horizontal walls or by the deformation of the cross-section shape.

⁵¹¹ 5.1.2. Influence of the surface nature

We are going to focus our analysis on the microchannels of groups A and S. 512 The wall roughness of the channels in these groups is very low, of the order of one 513 nanometer and the aspect ratio ranges are comparable, see Table 1. It is clear 514 that practically only the nature of the walls is different between these groups of 515 microchannels. The microchannels of group A are covered with gold (Au) and 516 the microchannels of group S are covered with Silica (SiO_2) . For all channels of 517 group A, and for all the used gases, the tangential momentum accommodation 518 coefficients are found to be very close, each other, except for microchannel A1, 519 which has an accommodation coefficient smaller than the other microchannels 520 of this group, see Table 9. 521

For the microchannels of group S, see Figure 7, all the tangential momentum accommodation coefficients are very similar and their values are around 0.92. These small deviations of the tangential momentum accommodation coefficient from its mean value are most of the time of the order of the uncertainty of measurement, see Table 13. Therefore, in this case the TMAC seems to be weakly dependent on the gas nature.

However, if comparing the TMAC values, obtained for all S group microchannels with those obtained for the microchannels A2, A3 and A4, one can notice that lower values are globally obtained for the microchannels of group S. As previously noted, both groups of microchannels A and S have almost the same surface roughness, therefore, from this comparison it can be concluded that the gold (Au) material is slightly more diffusive than the silica (SiO_2) .

534 5.1.3. Influence of the surface roughness

The microchannels of both groups (A and E) differ only by roughness of 535 their internal surfaces, see Table 1. The other characteristics, like the surface 536 material, or the gas species involved in this analysis, are the same. The re-537 spective cross-section aspect ratios are also similar. Therefore, it would be very 538 interesting to compare directly the influence of the surface roughness through 539 the respective slip and accommodation coefficients, obtained for the channels of 540 groups A and E. But, unfortunately, as it is explained in Appendix B, a prob-541 able gold layer takeoff inside the microchannels E modified the cross sections 542 and the flows, which made them unsuitable for the extraction of both exact 543

coefficients in the frame of the models developed in this work. Nevertheless, qualitative and comparative descriptions are possible notably concerning the different gases behaviors. The analysis is focused here on the dependence of σ_p and α coefficients on the molecular mass of the gases.

From Table 11 one can observe for microchannels E that higher is the molec-548 ular mass smaller is the accommodation coefficient, even for diatomic gas like 549 N_2 . However, in some cases, this hierarchy may be perturbed due to the influ-550 ence of the internal energy of the polyatomic gas molecules. Conversely, in the 551 case of groups A and S, we have mentioned in the previous paragraphs that for 552 the microchannels of these groups, the TMAC dependence on the gas nature, 553 hence on its molecular mass, is not significant, almost null, for several cases, see 554 Tables 9 and 13. 555

Comparing the gases behavior obtained in three groups of channels, one 556 can conclude that the wall roughness plays an important role on the TMAC 557 dependence on the molecular mass. First, the smooth surfaces of microchannels 558 A and S make the influence of the gas type, *i.e.* of the gas molecular mass, on the 559 TMAC almost nonexistent. Then, when the surface roughness increases, the gas 560 molecules stand out by their molecular mass, such as the highest TMAC value 561 is obtained for the lightest gas, at least for the monoatomic molecules. Finally, 562 the influence of the roughness on the value of the accommodation coefficient 563 itself will be discussed below, in the global frame of two theoretical approaches. 564

565 5.1.4. Second order velocity slip coefficient

When the experimental data are fitted using the second order polynomial form, Eq. (44), two velocity slip coefficients, σ_p and σ_{2p} , are extracted using expressions (45) and (46). The values of both coefficients are presented in Tables 9, 11 and 13. Most of σ_{2p} values lie in the range from 0.15 to 0.25. However, for the microchannels with small aspect ratios, smaller and even negative values of σ_{2p} coefficient are obtained, see Tables 9, 11 and 13.

The discussion about the physical significance of the second order velocity 572 slip coefficient and its theoretical values can be found in Refs. [28], [23], [29], 573 [24], where the values of σ_{2p} coefficient were found to be equal to 0.884, 0.766, 574 0.243 and 0.184, respectively. The measured here values of the second velocity 575 slip coefficient are close to the two last theoretical values. In addition, in Ref. 576 [30] the authors tested the influence of the accommodation coefficient on the σ_{2n} 577 coefficient and it was found that this coefficient varies very slightly with accom-578 modation coefficient variations. In our experimental conditions the variation of 579 σ_{2p} coefficient is also weak. 580

The dependence of σ_{2p} coefficient on the molecular mass of a gas and on 581 the aspect ratio of the channel cross-section was weakly investigated in the 582 literature, see Refs, [31], [32], [33], [16], [34]. The authors of Refs, [33], [16], [34] 583 showed experimentally that σ_{2p} coefficient increases with the molecular mass of 584 a gas. This conclusion was derived by analyzing the gas flow in microchannels 585 of the circular, Refs. [33], [34], and rectangular, Ref. [16], cross-sections. In 586 the present study, the same behavior of the coefficient σ_{2p} increasing with the 587 gas molecular mass is also observed, particularly for the microchannel A4 (see 588

Table 9). However, by analyzing globally the behavior of σ_{2p} coefficient, one can notice that the influence of the gas molecular mass is not significant. The values obtained for each microchannel are very similar, almost within their uncertainties, but that could be related to the small variation of σ_{2p} depending on the accommodation of molecules. Taking into account the previous comments we would like to underline that the variation of σ_{2p} coefficient is generally small.

595 5.2. Results for non-homogenous walls method

In Section 4.2, we presented a new generalization of the previously devel-596 oped methodology [17], which allows to take into account different properties of 597 the vertical and horizontal walls of a microchannel. This difference in the ver-598 tical and horizontal walls properties can appear during the fabrication process 599 (channel etching), see Section 2.1, or just due to the wall coating with differ-600 ent materials. The new approach introduces two velocity slip coefficients, σ_{ph} , 601 and σ_{pw} , that are related to the properties of the horizontal and vertical walls, 602 respectively. 603

In this Section, we consider the same experimental data for the channels 604 A, E and S that were used in the previous Sections to extract the velocity 605 slip and tangential momentum accommodation coefficients, to implement the 606 new approach and obtain two velocity slip coefficients and two accommodation 607 coefficients, related to the vertical and horizontal walls. As it was explained 608 in Section 4.2, for the two coefficients A_w and A_h , which are related to the 609 velocity slip coefficients, we have only one equation. Therefore, we have to use 610 all the experimental data from each group of channels together to obtain the A_w 611 and A_h coefficients, and then, the σ_{pw} and σ_{ph} coefficients, for that particular 612 group of channels. The obtained results for all groups of channels, A, E and S, 613 and two gases, Helium and Argon are given in Tables 14 and 15. Even if the 614 absolute values obtained for group E channels are not sure, we try to detect a 615 systematic relation between same parameters of A and S groups and E groups. 616 In our analysis of the channel of S group we do not included the S1 channel in 617 our analysis, because it was fabricated by different process compared to S2-S4618 channels: namely the channel S1 was made using the half heigh (h/2) cavities 619 bounding, see Section 2.2 and Fig. 1. We do not include in our analysis the 620 results for Helium, because the determination coefficient for this gas was found 621 very low and therefore the fitting used was not representative for these data. 622

⁶²³ Before deriving some general tendencies of the accommodation coefficients ⁶²⁴ behavior, we need to note that we do not have any measurements of the vertical ⁶²⁵ wall roughness. However, generally the range of the vertical wall roughness ⁶²⁶ created by DRIE techniques, see Ref. [35], is between 100nm and $1\mu m$.

We analyzed all groups of channels and only two gases, see Tables 14 and 15, but from these results we can derive some common properties:

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1. The tangential momentum accommodation coefficients of the horizontal walls, α_h , are always greater than those of the vertical walls, α_w .

2. The tangential momentum accommodation coefficients of the horizontal walls, α_h , are not very sensitive to the gas nature and these coefficients α_h are close to one (near full diffusive reflection of molecules).

3. The tangential momentum accommodation coefficients of the vertical walls, α_w , of group A channels are always smaller than those of group E and globally the tangential momentum accommodation coefficients of the vertical walls, α_w , are not purely diffusive.

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4. The observations related to point 1 and the fact that the roughness of the vertical wall is larger than that of the horizontal wall, seem to indicate that in our measurements, the accommodation coefficient increases when the roughness of the surface decreases.

5. For the channels of group A the tangential momentum accommodation coefficient of the vertical wall, α_w , depends on the nature of the gas. However, in point 2, it was found that the tangential momentum accommodation coefficient of the horizontal walls, α_h , is not very sensitive to the gas nature. However, the roughness of two walls is very different and probably there is a specific threshold of the roughness value, above which the gas nature starts to influence the accommodation coefficient.

5.3. Comparison between the results of the first and second methods

Let us note first that the second method was applied only for two groups of 650 channels, A and E. In addition, the quantitative comparison is possible only 651 for the channels of group A, because, as explained in Appendix B, the channels 652 of group E are probably affected by a gold layer take off modifying their cross-653 section. Thus, when considering group A channels, the values of the various 654 accommodation coefficients obtained by the first method for He and Ar, see 655 Table 9, may be compared to the unique pair of values for He and Ar, given 656 by the second approach in Table 14. Let us remind the general comment given 657 above in Section 5.1.1, where the various accommodation coefficients of group 658 A channels are found close to each other in the first method and that the aspect 659 ratio has a weak influence. This fact brings a support for that hypothesis used 660 in the second method: an unique pair of coefficients for a group of channels. 661

Nevertheless, an apparent small contradiction seems to appear about the 662 trend of the accommodation coefficient variation with the roughness variation. 663 Indeed, in point 4, just here above, we have pointed out that the accommodation 664 coefficient increases when the surface roughness decreases. But, when detailing 665 the roughness in group A, we can observe using the first method, that the A4666 channel has highest roughness (20% compared to the other channels in the same)667 group, see Table 1) and highest accommodation coefficient, see Table 9, which 668 seems to contradict the property given here above. In fact, the value given in 669 Table 1 for the roughness, characterizes only the horizontal walls of the channels. 670 Furthermore, we have seen in Section 5.2 that the vertical walls have a higher 671 roughness. Consequently, in the first method, all the unique accommodation 672 coefficients are decreased under this influence. But, in the A4 channel the 673 relative vertical wall influence is the smallest because it has the largest aspect 674 ratio, see Table 1. Therefore, it is not possible to predict and compare the 675 mean roughness really acting on the coefficients of the first method. Thus, the 676 previous comparison may not be considered as significant. 677

Finally, the new second method used to analyze the result does not seem to 678 contradict the first method. Conversely, it seems to be a good generalization, 679 able to capture some physical information on the local nature of a surface. 680 The analysis of the results with two different accommodation coefficients of 681 horizontal and vertical walls of a channel, seems to be pertinent if the surface 682 ratio between horizontal and vertical walls remains moderate (weak aspect ratio 683 influence) and if the probable roughness is different between these walls. To use 684 all the advantages, offered by this last approach, we plan to apply it in the 685 future to other type of channels. 686

687 6. Conclusion

Experimental and theoretical slip regime approaches, developed previously, 688 were applied here to the gas flow through rectangular microchannels of differ-689 ent aspect ratios, materials and roughnesses. Our measurements and model-690 ings allowed us to extract the velocity slip coefficients using the Maxwell type 691 specular-diffuse gas-wall interaction model. We used two theoretical modelings 692 for the flow, taking into account the two-dimensional effect of the rectangular 693 cross-section. The first approach used a single accommodation coefficient for all 694 the walls (horizontal and vertical) of a channel. However, the second approach 695 employed two different accommodation coefficients: α_h for the two horizontal 696 walls and another coefficient α_w for the two vertical walls. Moreover, this pair 697 of coefficients remains the same for all channels of the same group. 698

Using the first method (single accommodation coefficient for all walls), it appears that the aspect ratio does not significantly influence the values of the velocity slip and tangential momentum accommodation coefficients and, in a more general way, the physical properties characterizing the flow through the channels of a same surface coating. This result gives credibility to the assumption used in second method: existence of a same pair of accommodation coefficients in each group of channels having the same surface coating.

Considering that the vertical walls have a higher roughness than the horizontal ones, we deduced from the second method that in our roughness range (*i.e.* for rather low roughness) with the present wall material (Au), the tangential momentum accommodation coefficient decreases when the roughness increases. In the present range of roughness, using the results obtained with different wall materials, the calculations using the first method show that globally the rough material (Au) is slightly more diffusive than silica (SiO_2).

We have observed, according the two methods and in our condition of low roughness, that very small changes of the flow properties, notably of the accommodation coefficient occur when the molecular mass of the gas changes.

The previous comments show that the two modeling methods, proposed and employed here, are rather consistent and complementary. The second approach appears to potentially be able to detect some local properties of the gas-surface interaction. Consequently, we plan in the future to develop and to extend the application of this method in various directions: notably in rectangular channels having horizontal and vertical walls differing by their wall material or roughness.
Furthermore, concerning the roughness influence on the accommodation process,
the problem is more general and more complex. It would be interesting to
investigate how varies the accommodation beyond the weak roughness studied
in the present article; *i.e.* in a much larger range of roughness, and it would
be useful to diversify the wall materials and the flow regimes to conduct these
investigations.

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Microchannel	A	.1	A2		
Quantity	Min	Max	Min	Max	
Mass flow rate \dot{M}^{exp} $(10^{-12} kg/s)$	0.4	16000	0.1	34 400	
Inlet pressure p_{in} (Pa)	142.3	136 760	14.4	$129 \ 190$	
Outlet pressure p_{out} (Pa)	28.4	88 220	3.3	$93 \ 300$	
Average Knudsen number Kn_m	$1.7 \ 10^{-3}$	6.8	$1.8 \ 10^{-3}$	70.4	

Table 2: Experimental conditions for the microchannels A1 and A2.

Microchannel	A	3	A4		
Quantity	Min	Max	Min	Max	
Mass flow rate \dot{M}^{exp} $(10^{-12} kg/s)$	1.9	135000	3.4	285000	
Inlet pressure p_{in} (Pa)	61.6	125 100	64.9	$120\ 250$	
Outlet pressure p_{out} (Pa)	22.1	$79\ 200$	25.7	79500	
Average Knudsen number Kn_m	$1.7 \ 10^{-3}$	14.7	$2.1 \ 10^{-3}$	14.6	

Table 3: Experimental conditions for the microchannels A3 and A4.

Microchannel	E	1	E2		
Quantity	Min	Max	Min	Max	
Mass flow rate \dot{M}^{exp} $(10^{-12}kg/s)$	0.9	$21 \ 200$	0.8	66 100	
Inlet pressure p_{in} (Pa)	342.1	131 850	139.4	129 720	
Outlet pressure p_{out} (Pa)	89.7	94 900	23.1	89 600	
Average Knudsen number Kn_m	$1.1 \ 10^{-3}$	4.3	$1.4 \ 10^{-3}$	5.6	

Table 4: Experimental conditions for the microchannels E1 and E2.

Microchannel	E	3	E4		
Quantity	Min	Max	Min	Max	
Mass flow rate \dot{M}^{exp} $(10^{-12} kg/s)$	2.1	$253 \ 000$	2.3	$574\ 000$	
Inlet pressure p_{in} (Pa)	63.7	105 850	27.2	$114 \ 650$	
Outlet pressure p_{out} (Pa)	22.4	74000	8.8	80 000	
Average Knudsen number Kn_m	$6.6 \ 10^{-4}$	11.36	$1.6 \ 10^{-3}$	27.7	

Table 5: Experimental conditions for the microchannels E3 and E4.

Microchannel	S	1	S2		
Quantity	Min	Max	Min	Max	
Mass flow rate \dot{M}^{exp} $(10^{-12}kg/s)$	0.4	10 220	1.2	$174\ 600$	
Inlet pressure p_{in} (Pa)	234.8	$130 \ 220$	105.6	125000	
Outlet pressure p_{out} (Pa)	57.5	89 850	26.5	$31 \ 460$	
Average Knudsen number Kn_m	$2.0 \ 10^{-3}$	4.8	$1.6 \ 10^{-3}$	6.0	

Table 6: Experimental conditions for the microchannels S1 and S2.

Microchannel	S	3	S4		
Quantity	Min	Max	Min	Max	
Mass flow rate \dot{M}^{exp} $(10^{-12} kg/s)$	4.3	$372 \ 400$	3.9	$952\ 700$	
Inlet pressure p_{in} (Pa)	66.3	$131 \ 000$	25.9	$124 \ 380$	
Outlet pressure p_{out} (Pa)	22.9	108 650	9.1	$93 \ 300$	
Average Knudsen number Kn_m	$1.1 \ 10^{-4}$	9.3	$1.2 \ 10^{-4}$	24.0	

Table 7: Experimental conditions for the microchannels S3 and S4.

829

Appendix A. Useful expressions

To provide the complete definition of all functions used in the analytical derivation we give here the expressions for functions $(\phi_n)_0$, $(\chi_n)_0$ and $(\varphi_n)_0$, which can be found also in Appendix of Ref. [17]:

$$(\phi_n)_0 = \frac{4(-1)^n}{k_n^3} \cos(k_n y/h) \frac{\cosh(k_n x/h) - \cosh(\omega_n)}{\cosh(\omega_n)},\tag{A.1}$$

834 where $k_n = \pi (2n+1)$ and $\omega_n = k_n w/(2h)$.

$$(\chi_n)_0 = \frac{2(-1)^{n+1}}{k_n^2 \cosh(\omega_n)} \tanh(\omega_n) \cos(k_n y/h) \cosh(k_n x/h)$$
(A.2)

835

$$(\varphi_n)_0 = \frac{2(-1)^{n+1}}{k_n \cosh(\omega_n)} \left(\cosh(\omega_n) - \cosh(k_n x/h)\right) \times$$
(A.3)

$$\left(\frac{4}{k_n}\cos(k_ny/h) + \frac{2y}{h}\sin(k_ny/h)\right) - \cos(k_ny/h)\left(\frac{2x}{h}\sinh(k_nx/h) - \frac{w}{h}\sinh(\omega_n)\right) - \frac{w}{h}\tanh(\omega_n)\cos(k_ny/h)\left(\cosh(k_nx/h) - \cosh(\omega_n)\right).$$
 (A.4)

836

Channel	Gas	B_0^{exp}	B_1^{exp}	B_2^{exp}	s_r	r^2	$E_s(\%)$
A1	He	1.023 ± 0.008	10.625 ± 0.165	-	0.021	0.996	1.4
		$1.019 {\pm}~0.007$	$10.666 \pm \ 0.142$	1.635 ± 0.536	0.020	0.999	0.9
	N_2	1.009 ± 0.005	12.104 ± 0.111	-	0.016	0.998	1.1
		1.008 ± 0.006	12.181 ± 0.171	-1.555 ± 0.850	0.020	0.999	1.1
	Ar	1.012 ± 0.009	12.621 ± 0.190	-	0.028	0.995	1.9
		$1.027 {\pm}~0.014$	11.731 ± 0.390	3.115 ± 1.863	0.044	0.997	2.3
A2	He	1.001 ± 0.003	8.785 ± 0.056	-	0.008	0.999	0.6
		$1.000 \pm \ 0.008$	8.681 ± 0.183	2.324 ± 0.729	0.024	0.999	1.3
	N_2	0.996 ± 0.004	9.168 ± 0.098	-	0.015	0.997	1.1
		0.999 ± 0.008	8.701 ± 0.195	7.575 ± 0.812	0.027	0.999	1.5
	Ar	1.017 ± 0.005	9.580 ± 0.112	-	0.016	0.997	1.1
		1.014 ± 0.006	9.448 ± 0.157	6.699 ± 0.645	0.021	0.999	1.1
A3	He	1.011 ± 0.002	8.699 ± 0.046	-	0.006	0.999	0.5
		1.013 ± 0.003	$8.426 {\pm}~0.062$	3.981 ± 0.237	0.009	0.999	0.5
	N_2	1.003 ± 0.002	9.413 ± 0.042	-	0.007	0.999	0.5
		1.006 ± 0.002	9.047 ± 0.038	4.944 ± 0.144	0.006	0.999	0.3
	Ar	1.013 ± 0.003	10.078 ± 0.068	-	0.011	0.999	0.8
		$1.017 {\pm}~0.002$	9.593 ± 0.060	$5.767 {\pm}~0.256$	0.008	0.999	0.5
A4	He	0.988 ± 0.003	7.993 ± 0.073	-	0.008	0.998	0.6
		$0.984 {\pm}~0.005$	7.974 ± 0.106	4.072 ± 0.442	0.014	0.999	0.8
	N_2	0.989 ± 0.003	9.110 ± 0.080	-	0.010	0.998	0.8
		0.993 ± 0.005	$8.660 {\pm}~ 0.121$	6.555 ± 0.464	0.018	0.999	1.0
	Ar	1.007 ± 0.003	9.326 ± 0.074	-	0.012	0.998	0.9
		$1.008 {\pm}~0.007$	8.784 ± 0.177	9.661 ± 0.670	0.025	0.999	1.4

Table 8: Fitting coefficients of the dimensionless mass flow rate S^{exp} obtained with the first (first line) and second order (second line) approximations (44) in the mean Knudsen number ranges [0, 0.1] and [0, 0.3], respectively, for microchannels of the group A. The last three columns in this Table are: s_r is the squared residual sum, r^2 is the determination coefficient and $E_s(\%)$ is the standard error, see Section 4.1 for more details. We remind the dimensions of the microchannel A1 ($h = 27.8\mu m$, $w = 52.2\mu m$); A2 ($h = 27.6\mu m$, $w = 107.6\mu m$); A3 ($h = 27.9\mu m$, $w = 504.0\mu m$); A4 ($h = 25.8\mu m$, $w = 1005.5\mu m$), see Table 1.

Channel	Gas	molecular mass (g/mol)	σ_p	α	σ_{2p}
A1	He	4.00	1.263 ± 0.020	0.885 ± 0.008	-
			1.268 ± 0.017	0.883 ± 0.007	$0.053 {\pm}~0.018$
	N_2	28.02	1.338 ± 0.012	0.855 ± 0.005	-
			$1.346 \pm \ 0.019$	$0.851 {\pm}~0.007$	-0.043 ± 0.023
	Ar	39.95	1.305 ± 0.020	0.867 ± 0.008	-
			1.213 ± 0.040	0.906 ± 0.018	0.075 ± 0.045
A2	He	4.00	1.109 ± 0.007	0.953 ± 0.003	-
			$1.096 {\pm}~0.023$	$0.960 {\pm}~0.011$	$0.095 {\pm}~0.030$
	N_2	28.02	1.076 ± 0.011	0.969 ± 0.006	-
			1.021 ± 0.023	0.997 ± 0.012	0.265 ± 0.028
	Ar	39.95	1.052 ± 0.012	0.981 ± 0.006	-
			1.038 ± 0.017	0.989 ± 0.009	0.206 ± 0.020
A3	He	4.00	1.132 ± 0.006	0.943 ± 0.003	-
			$1.096 {\pm}~0.008$	$0.960 {\pm}~0.004$	0.192 ± 0.011
	N_2	28.02	1.138 ± 0.005	0.940 ± 0.002	-
			1.094 ± 0.005	0.961 ± 0.002	0.203 ± 0.006
	Ar	39.95	1.141 ± 0.008	0.938 ± 0.004	-
			1.086 ± 0.007	0.965 ± 0.003	0.208 ± 0.009
A4	He	4.00	1.044 ± 0.009	0.986 ± 0.005	-
			$1.041 {\pm}~0.014$	$0.987 {\pm}~0.007$	0.198 ± 0.022
	N_2	28.02	1.106 ± 0.010	0.955 ± 0.005	-
			$1.051 {\pm}~ 0.015$	0.982 ± 0.007	0.272 ± 0.019
	Ar	39.95	1.060 ± 0.008	0.978 ± 0.004	-
			0.998 ± 0.020	1.009 ± 0.011	0.351 ± 0.024

Table 9: Slip and tangential momentum accommodation coefficients found experimentally from the first (first line) and second order (second line) approximations of the dimensionless mass flow rate S^{exp} (44), respectively, for microchannels of the group A. We remind the dimensions of the microchannel A1 ($h = 27.8\mu$ m, $w = 52.2\mu$ m); A2 ($h = 27.6\mu$ m, $w = 107.6\mu$ m); A3 ($h = 27.9\mu$ m, $w = 504.0\mu$ m); A4 ($h = 25.8\mu$ m, $w = 1005.5\mu$ m), see Table 1.

Channel	Gas	B_0^{exp}	B_1^{exp}	B_2^{exp}	s_r	r^2	$E_s(\%)$
E1	He	1.042 ± 0.001	8.133 ± 0.032	-	0.005	0.999	0.4
		1.042 ± 0.003	$7.978 \pm \ 0.061$	3.081 ± 0.244	0.009	0.999	0.5
	N_2	1.037 ± 0.001	9.333 ± 0.033	-	0.005	0.999	0.4
		1.042 ± 0.003	$8.926 \pm \ 0.083$	4.359 ± 0.329	0.013	0.999	0.7
	Ar	1.048 ± 0.001	10.146 ± 0.035	-	0.005	0.999	0.4
		1.054 ± 0.002	9.562 ± 0.053	6.682 ± 0.233	0.007	0.999	0.4
E2	He	1.030 ± 0.001	7.227 ± 0.025	-	0.004	0.999	0.3
		1.032 ± 0.001	6.972 ± 0.024	3.177 ± 0.098	0.003	0.999	0.2
	N_2	1.027 ± 0.001	8.103 ± 0.023	-	0.004	0.999	0.3
		1.026 ± 0.003	7.976 ± 0.066	2.880 ± 0.269	0.010	0.999	0.6
	Ar	1.039 ± 0.001	8.704 ± 0.035	-	0.006	0.999	0.4
		1.039 ± 0.003	8.599 ± 0.073	2.536 ± 0.302	0.011	0.999	0.7
E3	He	1.036 ± 0.001	6.728 ± 0.022	-	0.003	0.999	0.3
		1.039 ± 0.001	6.424 ± 0.022	3.810 ± 0.090	0.003	0.999	0.2
	N_2	1.033 ± 0.001	7.572 ± 0.025	-	0.004	0.999	0.3
		1.034 ± 0.001	7.354 ± 0.032	3.508 ± 0.130	0.005	0.999	0.3
	Ar	1.045 ± 0.001	8.220 ± 0.034	-	0.005	0.999	0.4
		$1.046 \pm \ 0.001$	7.972 ± 0.033	3.773 ± 0.134	0.005	0.999	0.3
E4	He	1.054 ± 0.002	6.839 ± 0.044	-	0.007	0.999	0.5
		$1.056 {\pm}~0.003$	6.612 ± 0.074	3.223 ± 0.290	0.011	0.999	0.7
	N_2	1.055 ± 0.003	7.614 ± 0.078	-	0.011	0.997	0.9
		$1.055 {\pm}~0.005$	7.344 ± 0.135	4.930 ± 0.546	0.020	0.999	1.2
	Ar	1.062 ± 0.003	8.414 ± 0.071	-	0.010	0.998	0.8
		1.066 ± 0.006	7.980 ± 0.160	5.238 ± 0.641	0.024	0.999	1.4

Table 10: Fitting coefficients of the dimensionless mass flow rate S^{exp} obtained with the first (first line) and second order (second line) approximations in the mean Knudsen number ranges [0.0, 0.1] and [0.0, 0.3], respectively, for microchannels of the group E. The last three columns in this Table are: s_r is the squared residual sum, r^2 is the determination coefficient and $E_s(\%)$ is the standard error, see Section 4.1 for more details. We remind the dimensions of the microchannel E1 ($h = 33.5\mu$ m, $w = 55.5\mu$ m); E2 ($h = 35.2\mu$ m, $w = 103.8\mu$ m); E3 ($h = 34.9\mu$ m, $w = 505.0\mu$ m); E4 ($h = 34.2\mu$ m, w=1001.3\mum), see Table 1.

Channel	Gas	molecular mass (g/mol)	σ_p	α	σ_{2p}
E1	He	4.00	0.947 ± 0.004	1.038 ± 0.002	-
			$0.928 {\pm}~0.007$	1.048 ± 0.004	$0.094 {\pm}~0.007$
	N_2	28.02	1.010 ± 0.004	1.003 ± 0.002	-
			$0.966 {\pm}~0.009$	1.027 ± 0.005	0.115 ± 0.009
	Ar	39.95	1.027 ± 0.004	0.994 ± 0.002	-
			0.968 ± 0.005	1.026 ± 0.003	0.153 ± 0.005
E2	He	4.00	0.899 ± 0.003	1.065 ± 0.002	-
			$0.867 {\pm}\ 0.003$	$1.084 {\pm}~0.002$	0.123 ± 0.004
	N_2	28.02	0.937 ± 0.003	1.043 ± 0.002	-
			$0.922 {\pm}~0.008$	1.051 ± 0.004	0.095 ± 0.009
	Ar	39.95	0.942 ± 0.004	1.040 ± 0.002	-
			0.931 ± 0.008	1.047 ± 0.005	0.074 ± 0.009
E3	He	4.00	0.874 ± 0.003	1.080 ± 0.002	-
			$0.834 {\pm}~0.003$	1.104 ± 0.002	0.181 ± 0.004
	N_2	28.02	0.914 ± 0.003	1.056 ± 0.002	-
			0.888 ± 0.004	1.072 ± 0.002	0.142 ± 0.005
	Ar	39.95	0.929 ± 0.004	1.048 ± 0.002	-
			0.901 ± 0.004	1.064 ± 0.002	0.133 ± 0.005
E4	He	4.00	0.892 ± 0.006	1.069 ± 0.003	-
			0.863 ± 0.010	$1.087 {\pm}~0.006$	$0.155 {\pm}~0.014$
	N_2	28.02	0.923 ± 0.009	1.051 ± 0.005	-
			$0.891 {\pm}~ 0.016$	1.070 ± 0.010	$0.203 {\pm}~ 0.022$
	Ar	39.95	0.955 ± 0.008	1.033 ± 0.004	-
			$0.906 {\pm}~0.018$	1.061 ± 0.011	0.189 ± 0.023

Table 11: Slip and tangential momentum accommodation coefficients found experimentally from the first (first line) and second order (second line) approximations of the dimensionless mass flow rate S^{exp} , for microchannels of the group E. We remind the dimensions of the microchannel E1 ($h = 33.5\mu$ m, $w = 55.5\mu$ m); E2 ($h = 35.2\mu$ m, $w = 103.8\mu$ m); E3 ($h = 34.9\mu$ m, $w = 505.0\mu$ m); E4 ($h = 34.2\mu$ m, w=1001.3 μ m), see Table 1.

Channel	Gas	B_0^{exp}	B_1^{exp}	B_2^{exp}	s_r	r^2	$E_s(\%)$
S1	He	0.989 ± 0.003	9.380 ± 0.072	-	0.010	0.999	0.7
		$0.988 {\pm}~0.004$	9.222 ± 0.085	3.497 ± 0.315	0.013	0.999	0.7
	N_2	0.993 ± 0.003	10.203 ± 0.062	-	0.009	0.999	0.7
		$0.984 {\pm}~0.009$	$10.421 {\pm}~0.220$	3.158 ± 0.866	0.032	0.999	1.8
	Ar	1.000 ± 0.005	10.983 ± 0.112	-	0.017	0.997	1.2
		$0.991 {\pm}~ 0.011$	11.098 ± 0.286	4.876 ± 1.138	0.042	0.998	2.2
S2	He	0.997 ± 0.007	9.582 ± 0.135	-	0.017	0.996	1.1
		$0.997 {\pm}~0.007$	9.325 ± 0.147	$4.825 {\pm}~0.561$	0.018	0.999	0.9
	N_2	0.992 ± 0.004	10.941 ± 0.082	-	0.013	0.998	0.9
		0.989 ± 0.004	$10.868 \pm \ 0.104$	4.101 ± 0.410	0.016	0.999	0.9
	Ar	1.007 ± 0.003	11.493 ± 0.082	-	0.013	0.998	0.9
		1.008 ± 0.005	11.313 ± 0.134	3.289 ± 0.537	0.021	0.999	1.1
S3	He	0.998 ± 0.002	9.468 ± 0.033	-	0.006	0.999	0.4
		$1.002 {\pm}~0.002$	9.086 ± 0.042	$4.918 \pm \ 0.173$	0.006	0.999	0.4
	N_2	0.994 ± 0.003	10.085 ± 0.083	-	0.012	0.998	0.9
		0.993 ± 0.003	9.914 ± 0.082	5.369 ± 0.357	0.012	0.999	0.7
	Ar	1.006 ± 0.003	11.071 ± 0.080	-	0.011	0.998	0.8
		1.009 ± 0.003	10.722 ± 0.074	4.560 ± 0.315	0.011	0.999	0.6
S4	He	0.995 ± 0.002	9.515 ± 0.039	-	0.006	0.999	0.5
		$0.996 {\pm}~0.003$	9.266 ± 0.080	$4.015 {\pm}~0.345$	0.011	0.999	0.6
	N_2	0.991 ± 0.002	10.096 ± 0.042	-	0.006	0.999	0.5
		$0.993 {\pm}~ 0.002$	9.822 ± 0.049	$4.284 {\pm}~0.225$	0.007	0.999	0.4
	Ar	1.002 ± 0.003	10.654 ± 0.071	-	0.011	0.999	0.8
		1.003 ± 0.003	$10.386 \pm \ 0.076$	4.699 ± 0.330	0.011	0.999	0.7

Table 12: Fitting coefficients of the dimensionless mass flow rate S^{exp} obtained with the first (first line) and second order (second line) approximations in the mean Knudsen number ranges [0.0, 0.1] and [0.0, 0.3], respectively, for microchannels of the group S. The last three columns in this Table are: s_r is the squared residual sum, r^2 is the determination coefficient and $E_s(\%)$ is the standard error, see Section 4.1 for more details. We remind the dimensions of the microchannel S1 ($h = 24.3 \mu m$, $w = 50.1 \mu m$); S2 ($h = 42.3 \mu m$, $w = 100.0 \mu m$); S3 ($h = 42.0 \mu m$, $w = 500.0 \mu m$); S4 ($h = 41.5 \mu m$, w=1000.0 \mu m), see Table 1.

Channel	Gas	molecular mass (g/mol)	σ_p	α	σ_{2p}
	He	4.00	1.130 ± 0.009	0.944 ± 0.004	-
			1.111 ± 0.010	$0.953 {\pm}~0.005$	$0.120 {\pm}~0.011$
	N_2	28.02	1.142 ± 0.007	0.938 ± 0.003	-
			1.167 ± 0.025	$0.927 {\pm}~0.011$	0.093 ± 0.025
	Ar	39.95	1.151 ± 0.012	0.934 ± 0.005	-
_			1.163 ± 0.030	0.928 ± 0.014	0.125 ± 0.029
	He	4.00	1.168 ± 0.016	0.926 ± 0.007	-
			1.137 ± 0.018	$0.940 {\pm}~0.008$	$0.157 {\pm}~0.018$
	N_2	28.02	1.240 ± 0.009	0.894 ± 0.004	-
			1.232 ± 0.012	0.898 ± 0.005	0.115 ± 0.012
	Ar	39.95	1.219 ± 0.009	0.903 ± 0.004	-
			1.200 ± 0.014	0.912 ± 0.006	0.081 ± 0.013
S3	He	4.00	1.227 ± 0.004	0.900 ± 0.002	_
			1.178 ± 0.005	$0.922 {\pm}~0.002$	0.232 ± 0.008
	N_2	28.02	1.215 ± 0.010	0.905 ± 0.004	-
			1.195 ± 0.010	0.914 ± 0.004	0.218 ± 0.014
	Ar	39.95	1.248 ± 0.009	0.891 ± 0.004	-
			1.209 ± 0.008	0.908 ± 0.004	0.161 ± 0.011
<i>S</i> 4	He	4.00	1.240 ± 0.005	0.894 ± 0.002	-
			1.208 ± 0.010	0.908 ± 0.005	$0.196 {\pm}~0.017$
	N_2	28.02	1.223 ± 0.005	0.902 ± 0.002	-
			1.190 ± 0.006	$0.916 {\pm}~0.003$	$0.180 {\pm}~0.009$
	Ar	39.95	1.208 ± 0.008	0.908 ± 0.004	-
			1.178 ± 0.009	0.922 ± 0.004	0.172 ± 0.012

Table 13: Slip and tangential momentum accommodation coefficients found experimentally from the first (first line) and second order (second line) approximations of the dimensionless mass flow rate S^{exp} , respectively, for microchannels of the group S. We remind the dimensions of the microchannel S1 ($h = 24.3 \mu m$, $w = 50.1 \mu m$); S2 ($h = 42.3 \mu m$, $w = 100.0 \mu m$); S3 ($h = 42.0 \mu m$, $w = 500.0 \mu m$); S4 ($h = 41.5 \mu m$, w=1000.0 \mu m), see Table 1.

Channels	Gas	A_0	A_h	A_w	r^2
$A1 \pm A2 \pm A3 \pm A4$	He	1.029	1.411	1.945	0.999
A1 + A2 + A3 + A4	Ar	1.011	1.564	2.858	0.997
F1 + F2 + F2 + F4	He	1.040	1.118	1.373	0.999
$\underline{E1 + E2 + E3 + E4}$	Ar	1.048	1.370	1.767	0.999
S2 + S3 + S4	Ar	1.032	1.654	3.645	0.930

Table 14: Fitting coefficients of the dimensionless mass flow rate S^{exp} , Eq. (52), obtained with the first order approximations in the mean Knudsen number ranges [0.0, 0.1]. The non-homogenous wall method is used. r^2 is the determination coefficient. The errors on the coefficients are not provided because they are smaller then 10^{-4} .

Channels	Gas	σ_{ph}	σ_{pw}	α_h	$lpha_w$
	He	1.110	1.529	0.953	0.786
A1 + A2 + A3 + A4	Ar	1.069	1.955	0.973	0.666
F1 + F2 + F3 + F4	He	0.879	1.080	1.077	0.968
E1 + E2 + E3 + E4	Ar	0.937	1.209	1.043	0.908
S2 + S3 + S4	Ar	1.131	2.493	0.943	0.557

Table 15: Slip and tangential momentum accommodation coefficients calculated from the measured mass flow rate by using the second approach with two accommodation coefficients, α_h and α_w , for the horizontal and vertical walls, respectively. The results for two groups of microchannels de types A, E and S are presented for two gases He and Ar, of molecular masses 4.00 and 39.95, respectively.

Appendix B. Microchannels of group E

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From Table 10, one can see that the values of the fitting coefficients, B_0^{exp} . 838 obtained with the first and second order polynomial form, are different from 839 the theoretical value $B_0^T = 1$, see Eq. (43). This surprising discrepancy, greater 840 than experimental uncertainty, may be caused by an error in the measurement 841 of microchannels dimensions (h and/or w) or by an error on the mass flow rate 842 measurements. The possible reasons for these surprising results are discussed 843 below. Several assumptions are made and analyzed in order to find the causes 844 of such results. 845

1. Due to the higher value of the coefficients B_0^{exp} , compared to 1, see Ta-ble 10, the first explanation on the obtained results is a possible error 846 847 in the measurements of the microchannels dimensions. By bringing back 848 the values of the coefficients B_0^{exp} to 1, either by increasing the value of 849 the microchannels height h (or width w), or both at the same time, the 850 values of coefficient σ_p decrease and then the values of the coefficient α 851 increase further. Thus, this hypothesis does not seem to solve the prob-852 lem. In addition, the same method of cross-section measurements is used 853 for the other microchannels of groups A and S, where reasonable results 854 were obtained. Therefore, we eliminate the hypothesis of an error in the 855 microchannels dimensions. 856

2. The second hypothesis is a possibility of an error in the experimental mass flow rate \dot{M}^{exp} , extracted from pressure measurements by using Eq. (4). In this case, there are two possible sources for such kind of errors: first, the measurement errors of the parameters used to calculate mass flow rate (essentially tank volumes), second, a leak or an outgassing problem caused by mishandling.

The possibility of an error in the measurements of the tanks volume was checked and cancelled. Very simple and accurate water weighting technique was used to measure the tanks volume. In addition, the measurements were repeated several times each and the results of these measurements were different within the experimental uncertainty of the volume

868		(less than 2.0%).
869		The second possible source of the problems is the outgassing or leak. The
870		outgassing and the leak are checked before each experiment, then these
871		two factors cannot be the sources of problems.
872	3.	In the same time, multiple reasons push us to think that the gold layer
873		takeoff is the cause of B_0^{exp} coefficient and the α values to be different
874		from their theoretical values:
875		• First, after eliminating all the previous hypotheses, it is the only one
876		that seems to be reasonable and tangible.
877		• Second, during the preliminary tests of microchannels we have en-
878		countered similar problem of gold layer takeoff with other microchan-
879		nels, where the takeoff blocked completely the microchannels.
880		For the microchannels E we think that the takeoff happened inside the
881		microchannels, that is why the verification which was conducted with the
882		microscope did not reveal anything. Further verification would involve the
883		use of very expensive cutting technique and could not be realized in the
884		frame of our project.
885	4.	Moreover, another verification of the theoretical nature in this time, was
886		used and it concerns the assimilation of the cross-section of the microchan-
887		nels E to a circular cross-section and to calculate the equivalent hydraulic
888		diameter. Using this technique of the hydraulic diameter calculation and
889		the analytical expression of the mass flow rate for tubes, the velocity slip
890		coefficient (σ_p) and TMAC (α) were calculated and their new values seem
891		to be more reasonable, <i>i.e.</i> in the interval determined by the Maxwell
892		model. The resulting TMAC values are in the range $[0.9, 1.0]$ for the
893		microchannels $E1$ and $E2$ and are of the order of 0.7 and 0.6 for the mi-
894		crochannels $E3$ and $E4$, respectively. Low TMAC values obtained for the
895		microchannels $E3$ and $E4$ are due to the large aspect ratio of these mi-
896		$\operatorname{crochannels},$ hence, their assimilation to a circular section is not pertinent.
897	F	inally, it was shown that the probable factor influencing the results of the
898	micro	ochannels E is the gold layer takeoff inside the microchannels, which causes
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the change of their cross-section shape. The change of the microchannels crosssection induces that the theoretical model used here for rectangular channels is not adapted for the analysis.



(j) Wafers bonding channels S & E

Figure 1: Rectangular microchannels fabrication process.



Figure 2: Graph of the roughness for the microchannel S3.



Figure 3: (a) Physical domain, (b) channel cross-section.



Figure 4: Dimensionless mass flow rate S^{exp} (44) plotted as function of the mean Knudsen number, fitted with first and second orders polynomial expressions for microchannel A3, upper and down figure, respectively.



Figure 5: Dimensionless mass flow rate S^{exp} plotted as function of the mean Knudsen number, fitted with first and second order polynomial expressions on the upper and down plots, respectively, for the microchannels E4.



Figure 6: Dimensionless mass flow rate S^{exp} plotted as function of the mean Knudsen number, fitted with first and second order polynomial expressions, upper and down plots, respectively, for the microchannels S4.



Figure 7: The TMAC for the microchannel of group S, obtained with the first order traitment.