

Heavy liquid metal modelling activities and CFD applications

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**5th Int. Workshop on Materials for
Heavy Liquid Metal cooled Reactors and
Related Technology (HeLiMeRT 2009)
SCK-CEN, Mol, Belgium, April 20-22, 2009**

HLM Related studies in flow modeling group at IKET

ASSESSING ONGOING EXPERIMENT

- Rod Bundle Experiments
- Heated rod experiment
- **FREE SURFACE ANALYSIS OF XTADS TARGET WATER EXPERIMENT**

Fundamental studies and model development

- Liquid Metal Forced convection over a Vertical Backward Facing Step
- **Circular HYDRAULIC JUMP**
- **1D THERMOHYDRAULIC ANALYSIS**

Liquid metal cooled reactors

- **Motivation**

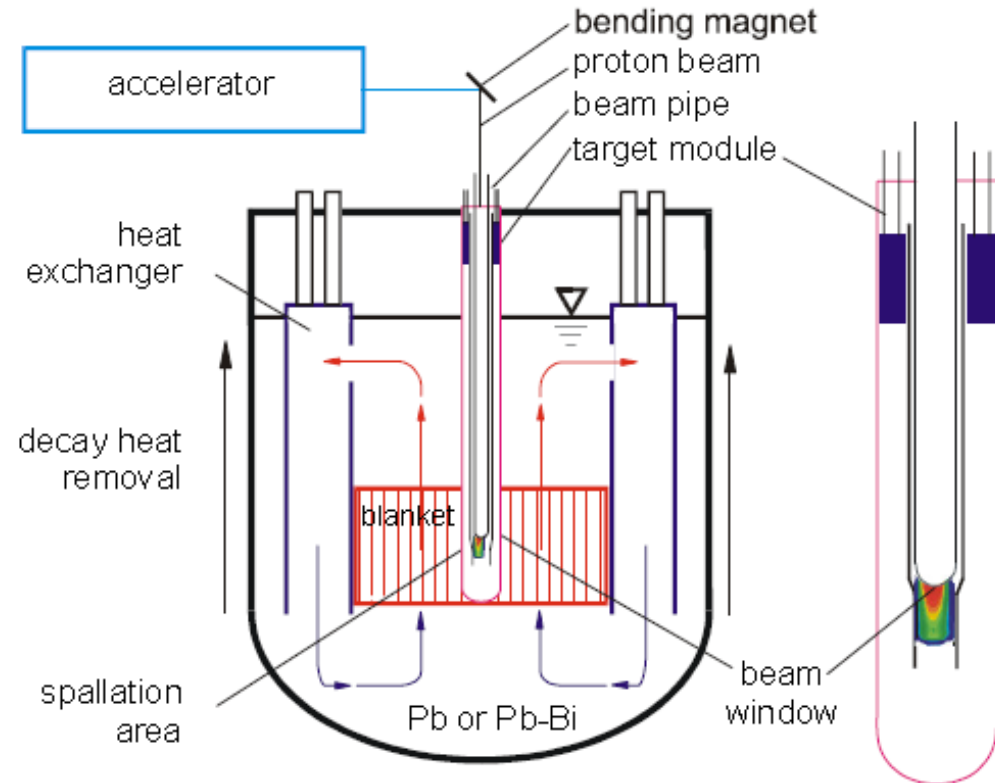
Minimization of Radio-toxicity of long lived fission products(Am,Cu,Np,..)

- **Realization options**

- Accelerator Driven Systems
- Fast critical reactors

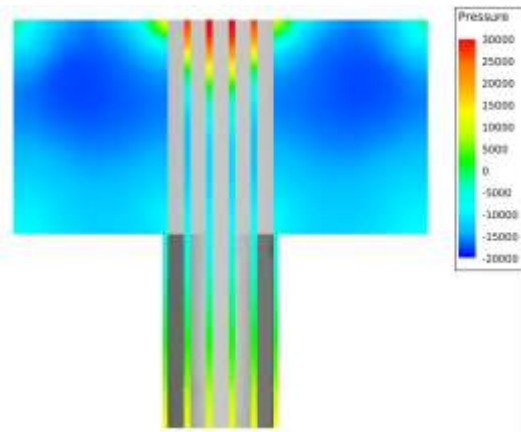
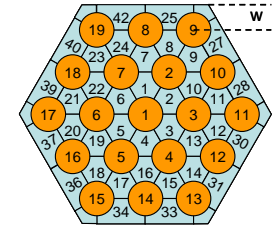
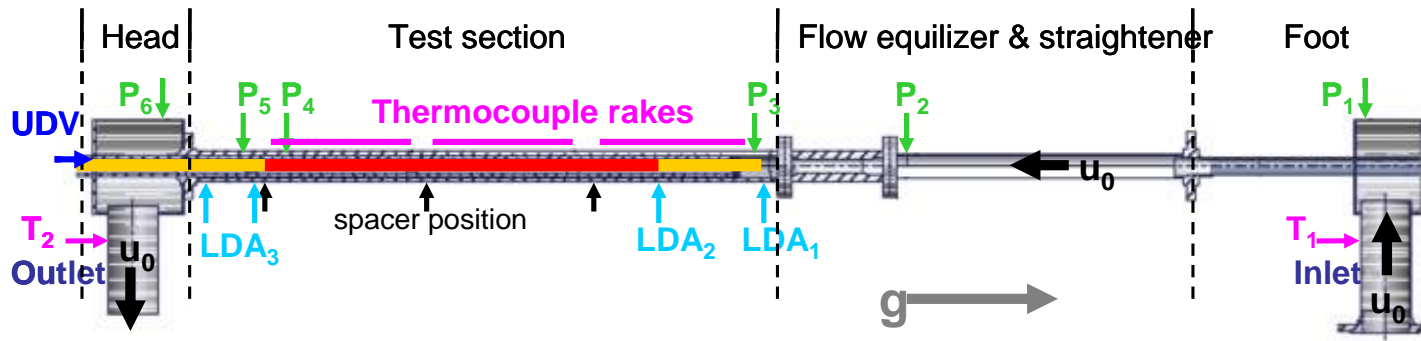
- **Open issues**

- Turbulent liquid heat transfer along fuel pins and bundles



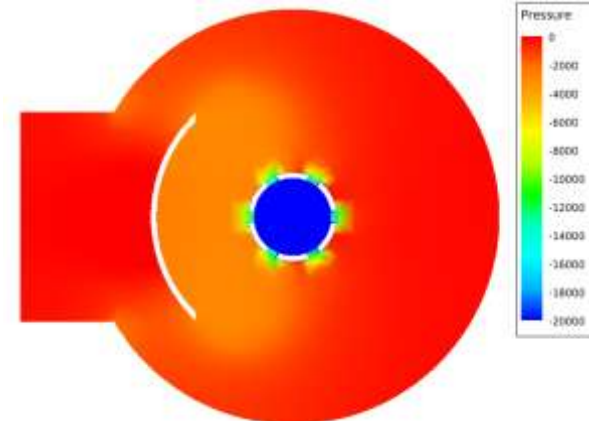
Sketch of ADS

Rod bundle experiment



Outlet plenum (Head), optimized length

Results: outlet length is optimized so that the stagnation pressure does not penetrate in the bundle

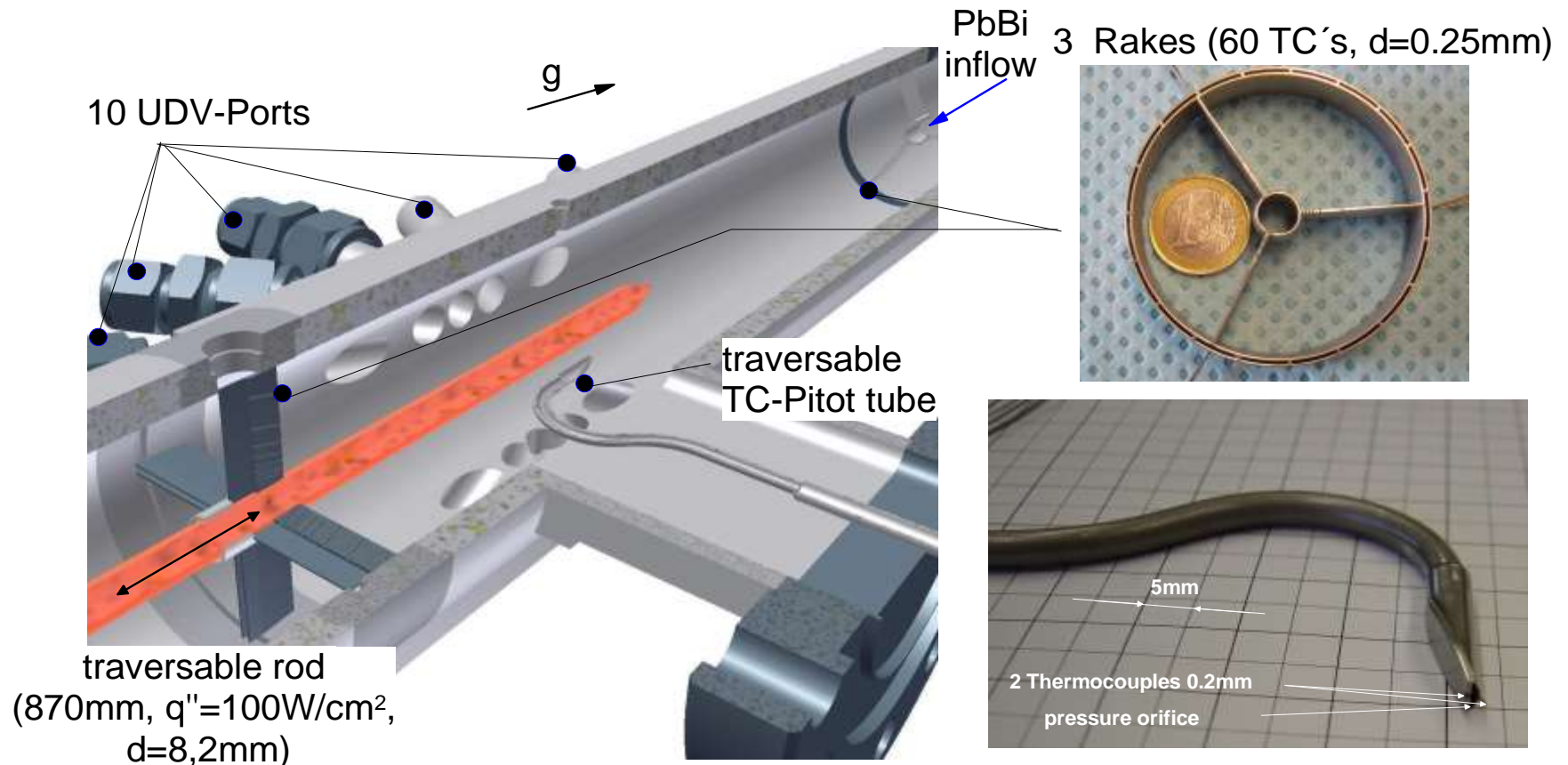


Optimized inlet plenum (Foot)

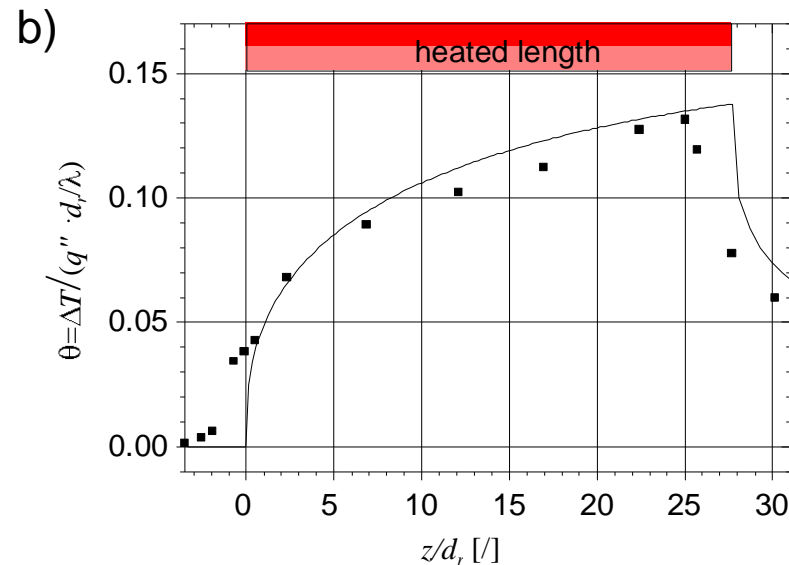
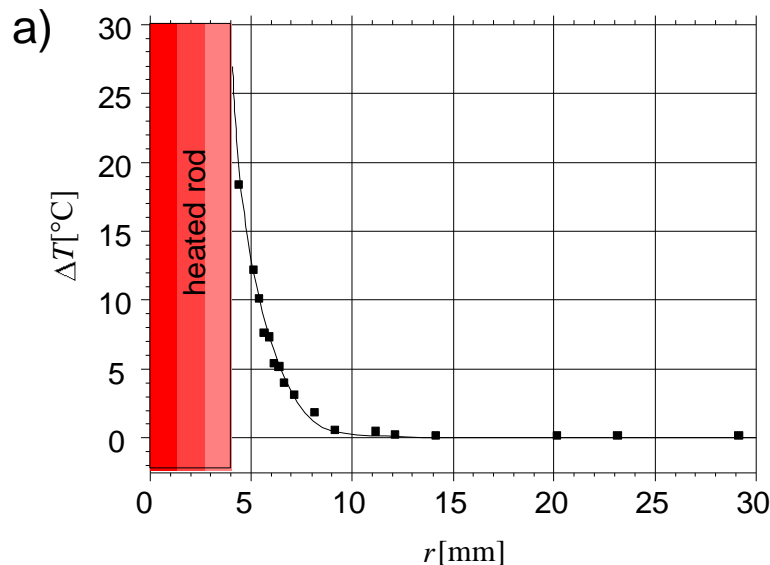
CFD optimized inlet plenum ensures nearly uniform inlet conditions

Single Rod Experiment

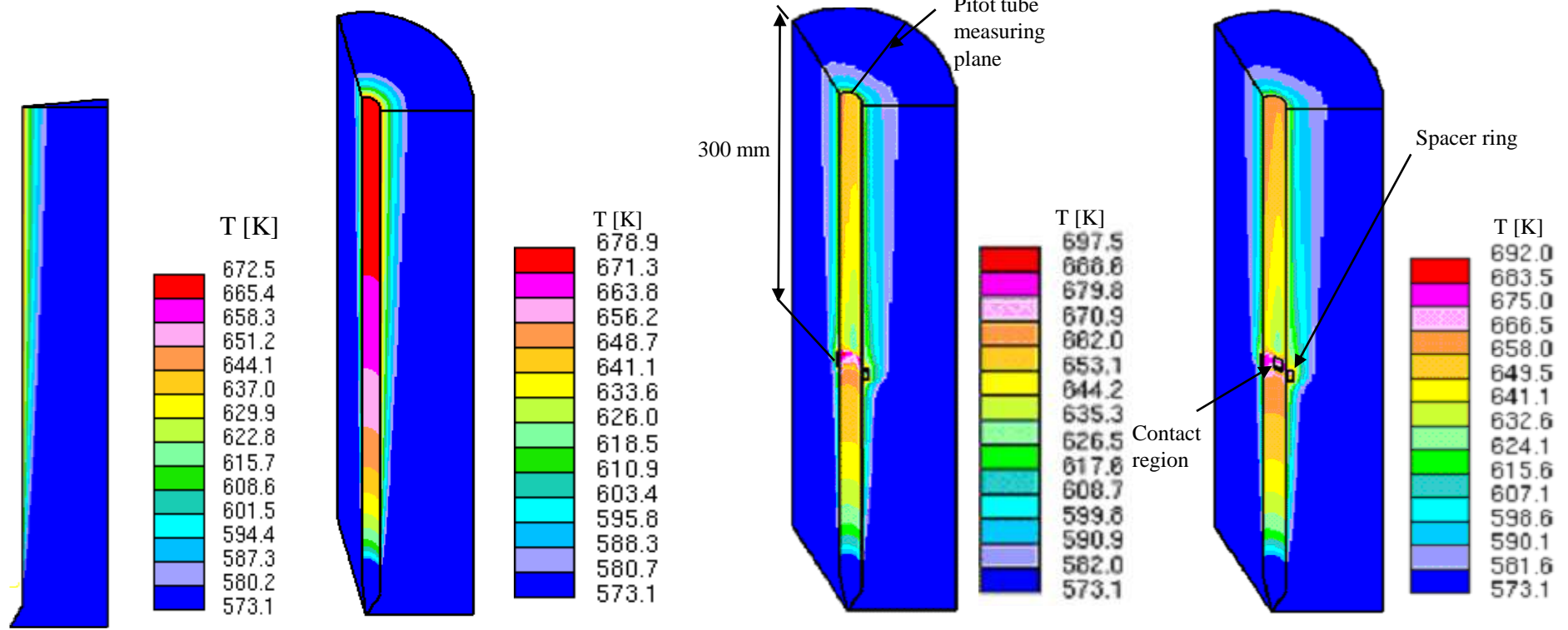
- Turb. heat transfer in forced, mixed and buoyant convec. flows ($Re \rightarrow 6 \cdot 10^5$)
- Aim:
 - Development of models for turbulent heat flux
 - Determination of Nu -correlations
 - Evaluation of transition regimes (forced \rightarrow mixed \rightarrow buoyant)
 - Assessment of applicable CFD turbulence models and their validity)



- a.) Meas. and calculated mean radial temperature profile at $z/d_f=22.6$.
b.) Meas. and calc. dim.-less axial fluid-wall interface temperature. Both for $Pr=0.022$ and $Re=2.67 \cdot 10^5$.



Temperature contours due different tested cases



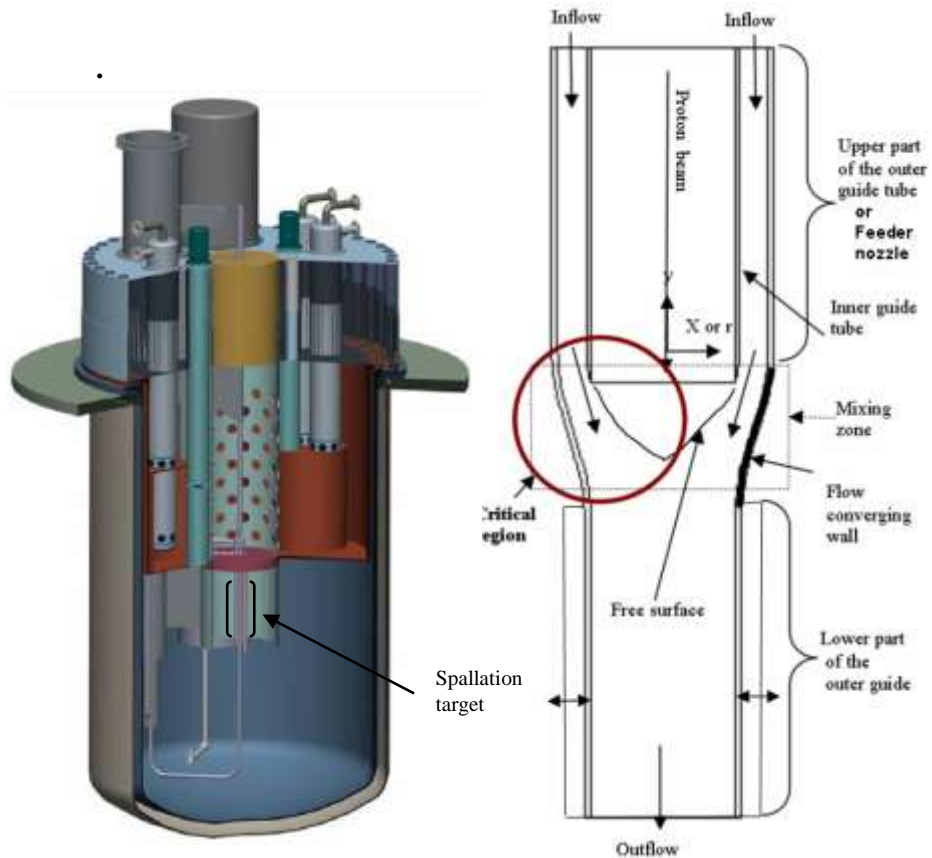
a) Axis-symmetry, developing flow length of 1.223 m

b) No spacer, axis-symmetry

c) Spacer has no contact with rod

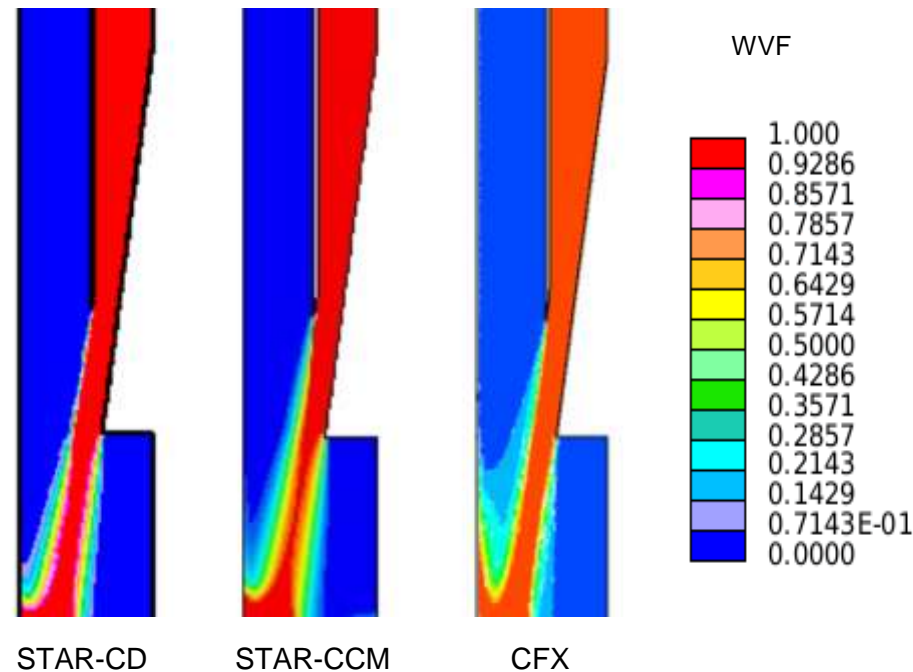
d) Spacer in contact with the rod

XT-ADS target design



Final Design for XT-ADS Water experiment

Water volume fraction results obtained from STAR-CD, STAR-CCM and CFX codes for nominal flow, 10 l/s, 0 denotes water and 1 denotes vapor



Heat Flux Modelling

- Turbulent energy equation

$$\rho c_p \left(\overline{u \frac{\partial T}{\partial x}} + \overline{v \frac{\partial T}{\partial y}} \right) = - \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(- \lambda \frac{\partial \overline{T}}{\partial y} + \rho c_p \overline{v' T'} \right) ,$$

- Standard approximation: Gradient hypothesis

$$\overline{u_i' T'} = - \varepsilon_H^i \frac{\partial T}{\partial x_i} \quad \rightarrow \quad \overline{u_i' T'} = - \varepsilon_H \frac{\partial T}{\partial x_i}$$

enforced isotropic exchange coefficient ε_H

- Reynolds – Analogy (Standard in all CFD-Codes)

$$\overline{u_i' T'} = - \varepsilon_H^i \frac{\partial T}{\partial x_i} \approx - \frac{\varepsilon_M}{Pr_t} \frac{\partial T}{\partial x_i} \quad \text{with} \quad Pr_t = \frac{\varepsilon_M}{\varepsilon_H}$$

- Typical problems (CFD Simulation with standard value $Pr_t = 0.9$)
 - u and T - Statistics completely different
 - Pr_t is function of $Pr_t = (y, Re, Pr, Gr)$
 - No anisotropic diffusivity
 - Missing transport characteristics (diffusor, recirculation flows, free jets)
 - Unphysical in case of non-hydraulically developed flows
 - Heat flux opposite to T -Gradient possible (?)

Heat Flux Modelling

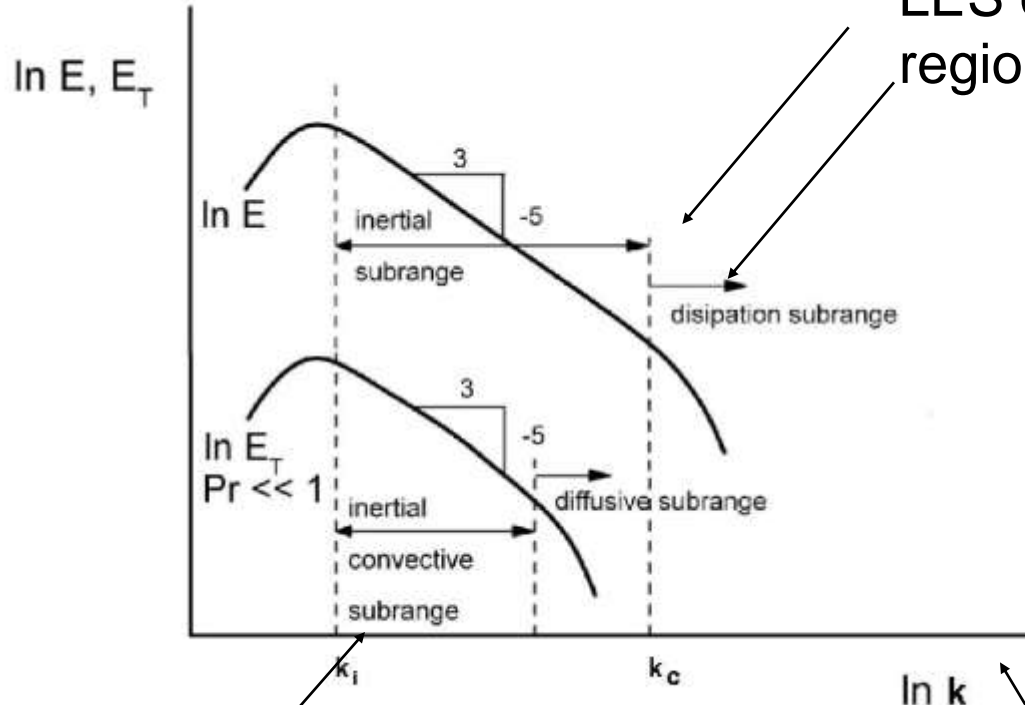
| Model order | Momentum field Isotropic turbulent transport | Energy field Anisotropic turbulent transport | Number of transport equations |
|-----------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1 st | Gradient models, eddy conductivity models | | 0 |
| | <i>Pr_t</i> - Reynolds analogy | | 0 |
| | <i>l_{hy}</i> mixing length models | <i>l_{th}</i> mixing length models | 0 |
| | <i>k-ε-T²</i> , <i>k-ε-T²-ε_T</i> | | 2+1, 2 |
| | Non-linear Algebraic heat flux models | | 2+2 |
| ? | | (AHM)with <i>T²</i> | 1,2 |
| 2 nd | Transport equations for all 2 nd order closure moments | | |
| | | Equations for complete heat flux vector | 3+1,2 |

- Commercial Fluid Dynamic codes
- Scientific codes (TMBF; TRIO-U; Turbit)

Fundamental study for turbulent flow calculation

Liquid Metal Forced convection over a Vertical Backward Facing Step

Energy



LES can be used in this region for flow calculation

DNS can be used for temperature calculation.

big cells coarse grid size

small cells fin grid size

Example of application,

Numerical Investigation of Turbulent Low-Prandtl-Number Forced Convection Over a Vertical Backward-Facing Step

$$Re_{Li} = 10\,000$$

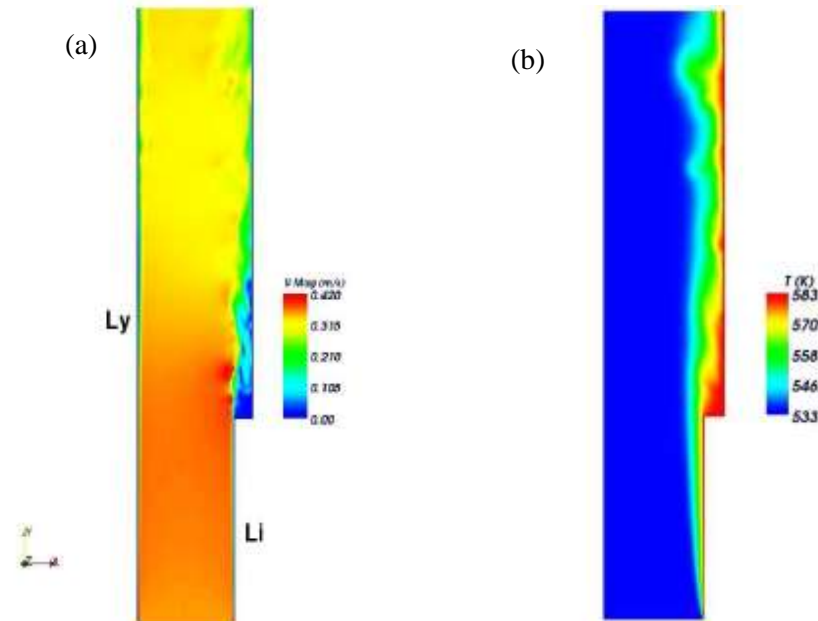
$$Pr = 0.006$$

Grid 70X60X20

$$Ly = 30h$$

$$Lx = Lz = 6h$$

$$Li = 10h$$



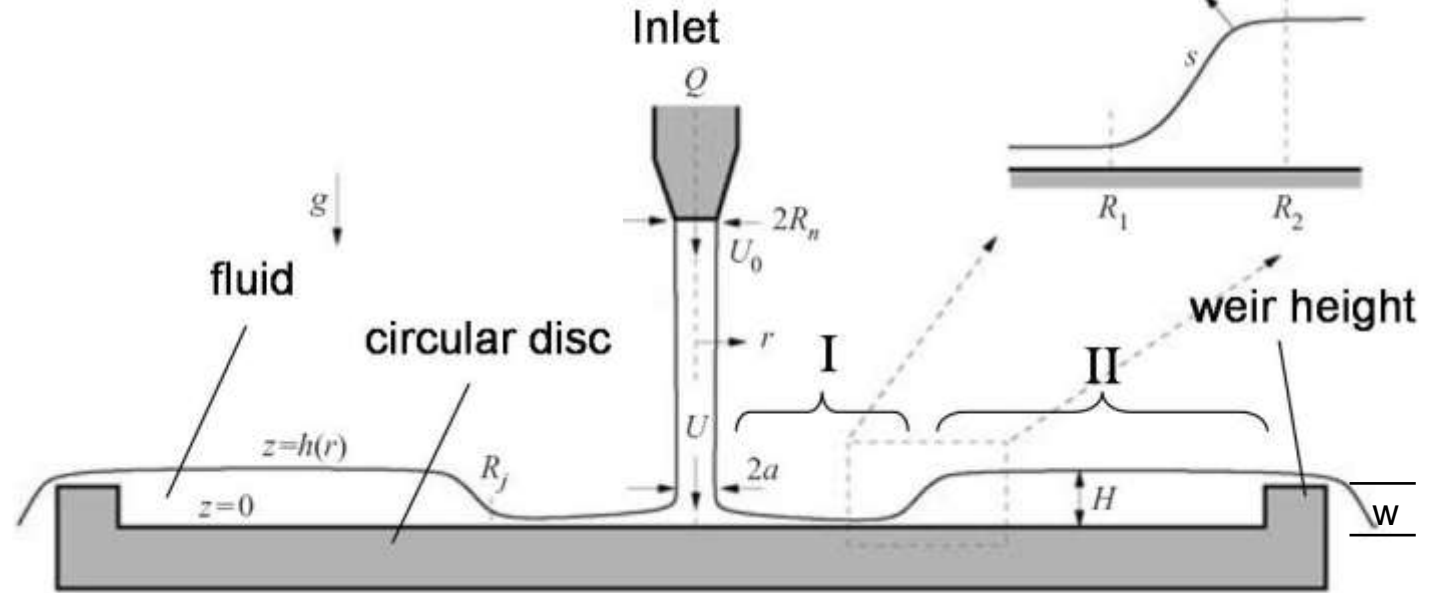
Velocity turbulence are not reflected in the temperature field due to large thermal diffusivity of sodium.

Visualization of the instantaneous fields at the same time: (a) velocity (b) temperature. The difference between the fields is due to the low molecular Prandtl number.

Hydraulic Jump



(Bush, Aristoff 2003)

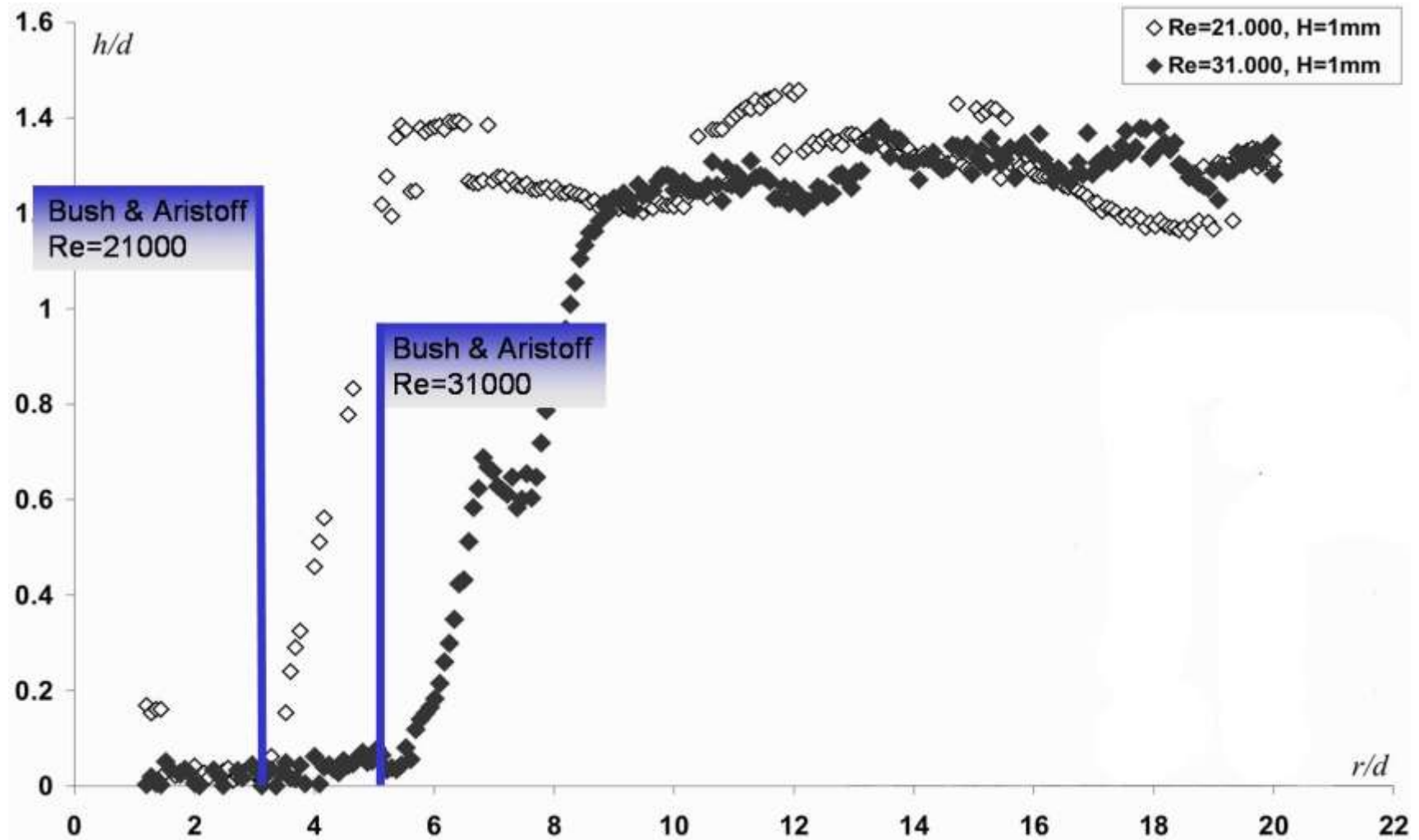


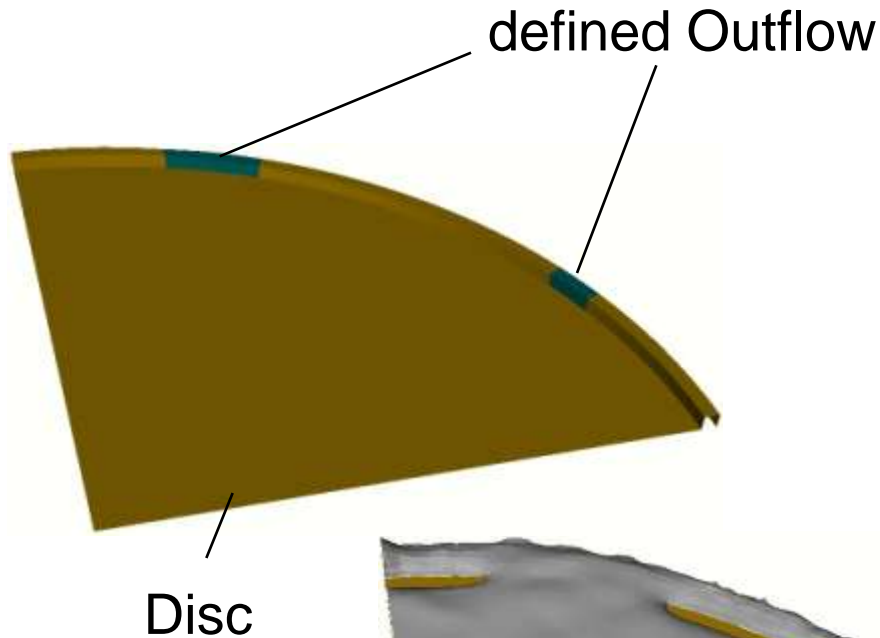
Hydraulic Jump

- transition between supercritical ($Fr \gg 1$) and subcritical ($Fr < 1$) flow

$$\text{Froudenumber } Fr = \frac{u}{\sqrt{g \cdot l}}$$

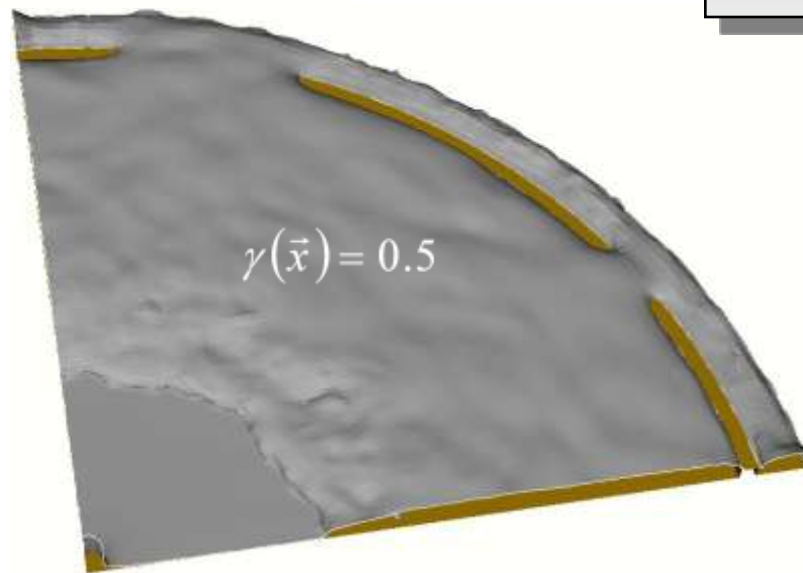
- discontinuous
- jump position based on equilibrium of forces
- rotationally symmetric





defined outflow

- no fluctuations at the weir
- outflow width 2mm and 1mm
- better comparability experiment - numerics



Making use of experimental and numerical results analytical description of the jump for HLM is being prepared

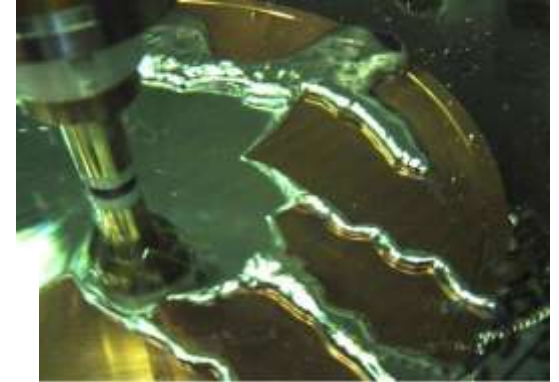
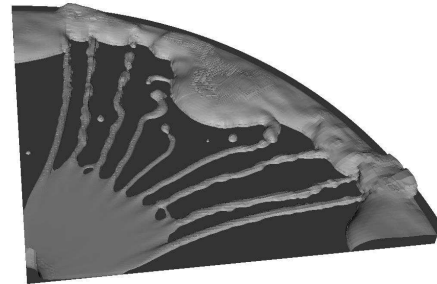
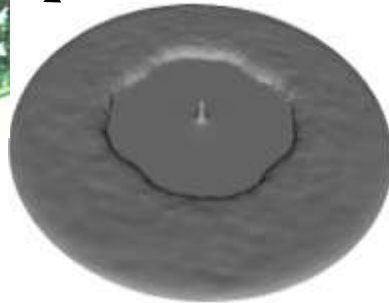
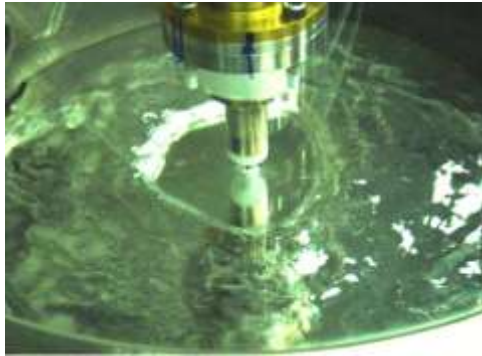
Hydraulic jump

Gallium indium tin
Ga68In20Sn12

$$\rho = 6363.2 \text{ kg/m}^3$$

$$\sigma = 0.532 \text{ N/m}$$

θ



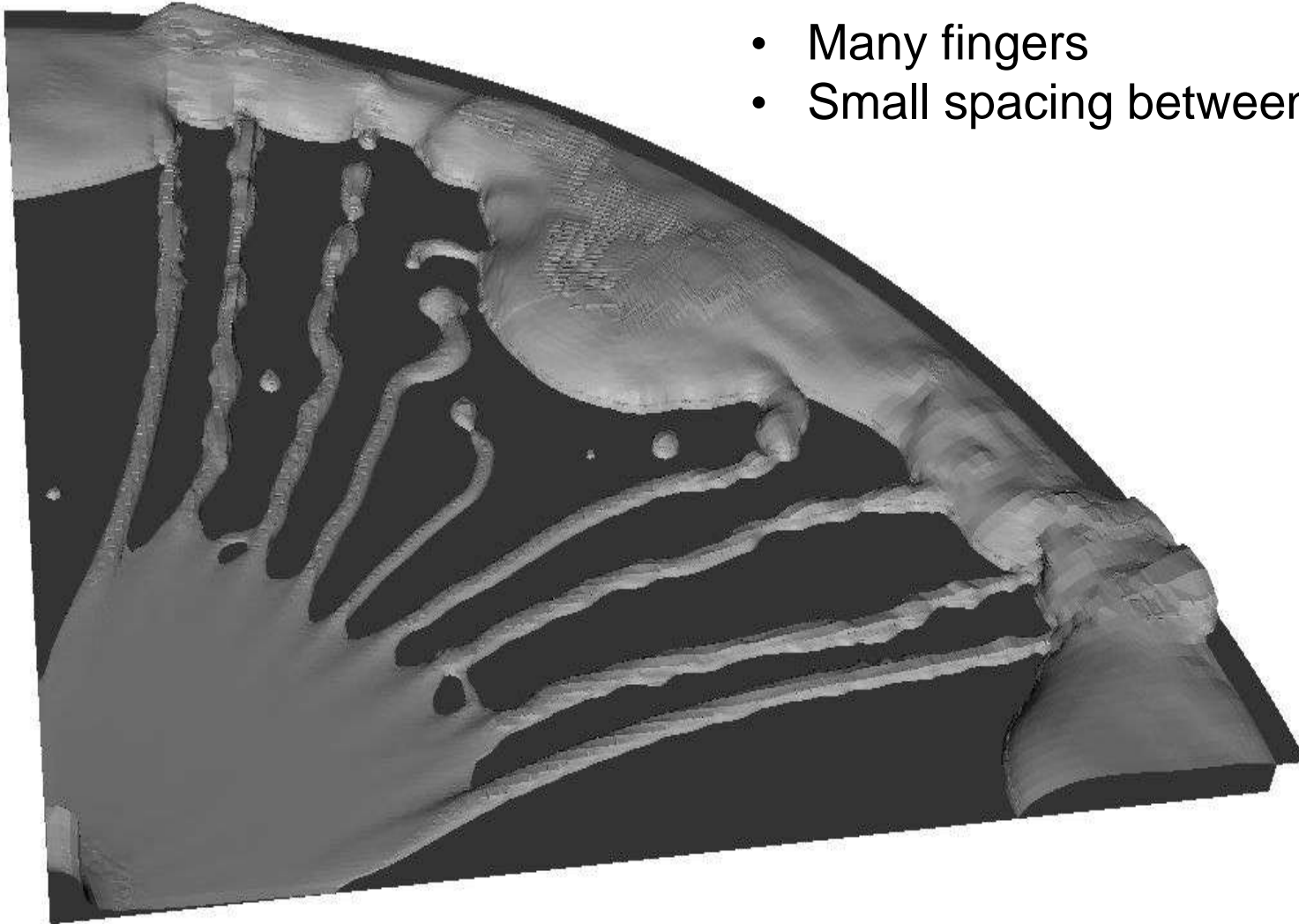
Experiment shows two distinct flow configurations at identical flow rates

- left wetted surface
- Right partially wetted surface

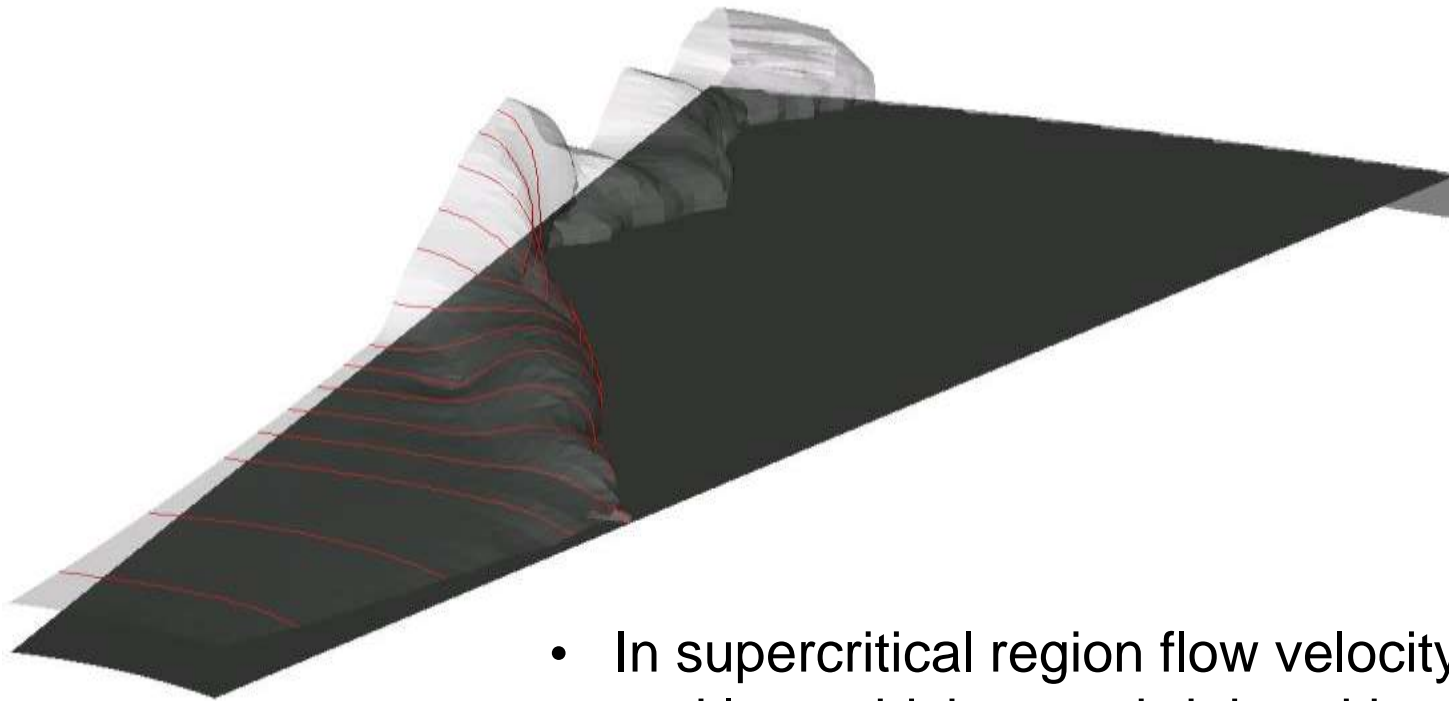
In nuclear applications fingering must be omitted

Only difference is that before the experiment on the right the surface was cleaned with an oily cloth

VoF Simulation $\theta = \pi/2$

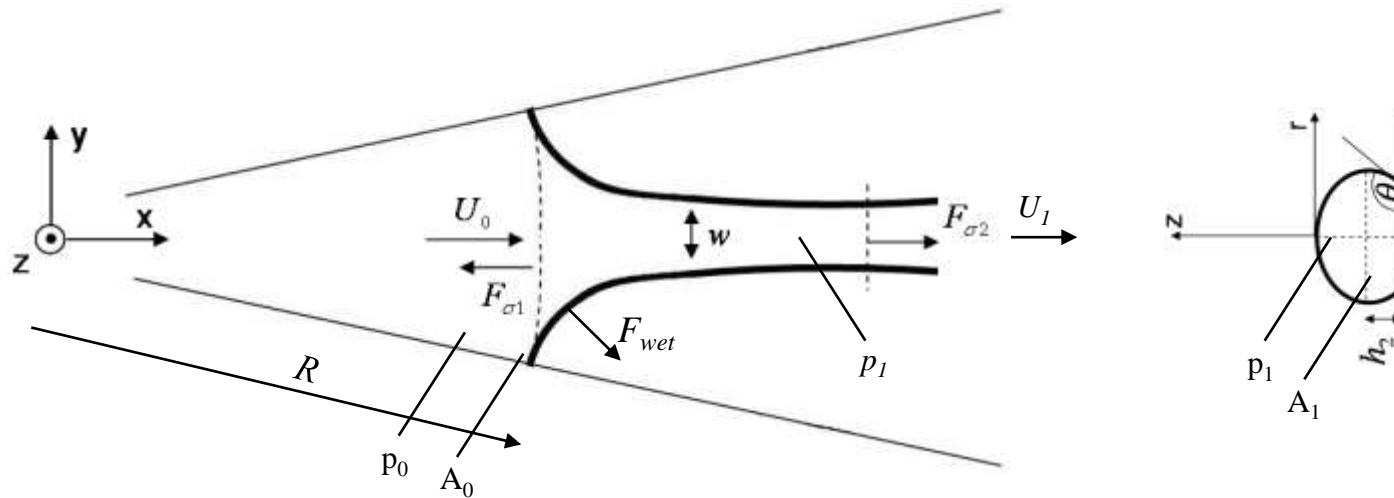


- Many fingers
- Small spacing between fingers



- In supercritical region flow velocity is constant and layer thickness shrinks with radius
- Transition region has triangular shape with constant layer thickness on centerline
- Unsteady surface waves on finger

Mathematical model



Continuity:

$$U_0 A_0 = U_1 A_1$$

Bernoulli:

$$U_0^2 + p_0 = U_1^2 + p_1$$

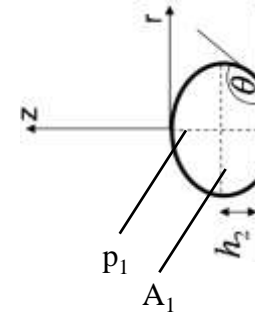
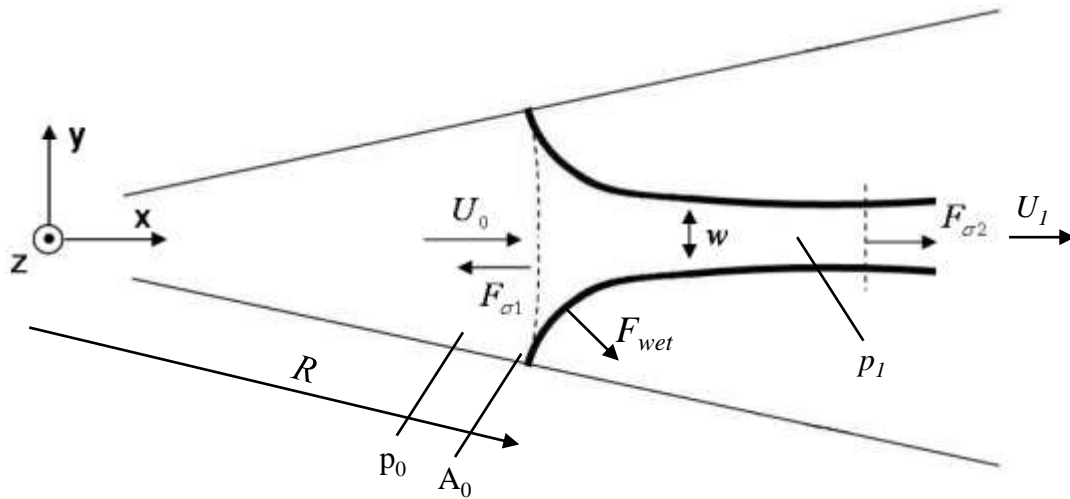
Forces;

$$F_{\sigma_2} - F_{\sigma_1} + U_0^2 A_0 - U_1^2 A_1 - p_1 + F_{wet} = 0$$

$$F_{\sigma_1} = R \cos \alpha, \quad F_{\sigma_2} = l_{arc}$$

$$F_{wet} = R \cos \alpha - w \cos \theta$$

Mathematical model



In A_1

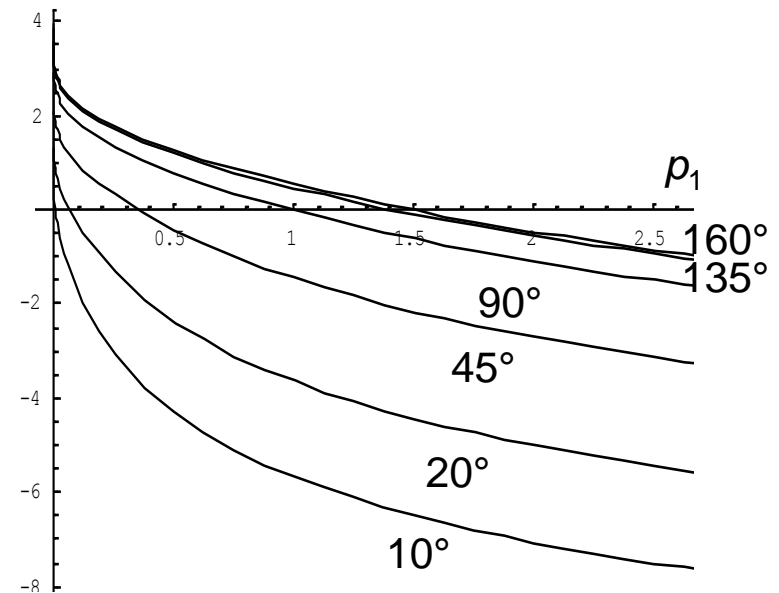
Young-Laplace-Equation:

$$z + p_1 = - \frac{d}{dz} \frac{y'(z)}{\sqrt{1 + y'(z)^2}} \Rightarrow y'(z)$$

$$h_1 = -p_1 + \sqrt{p_1^2 + 2 \sigma \cos \theta}$$

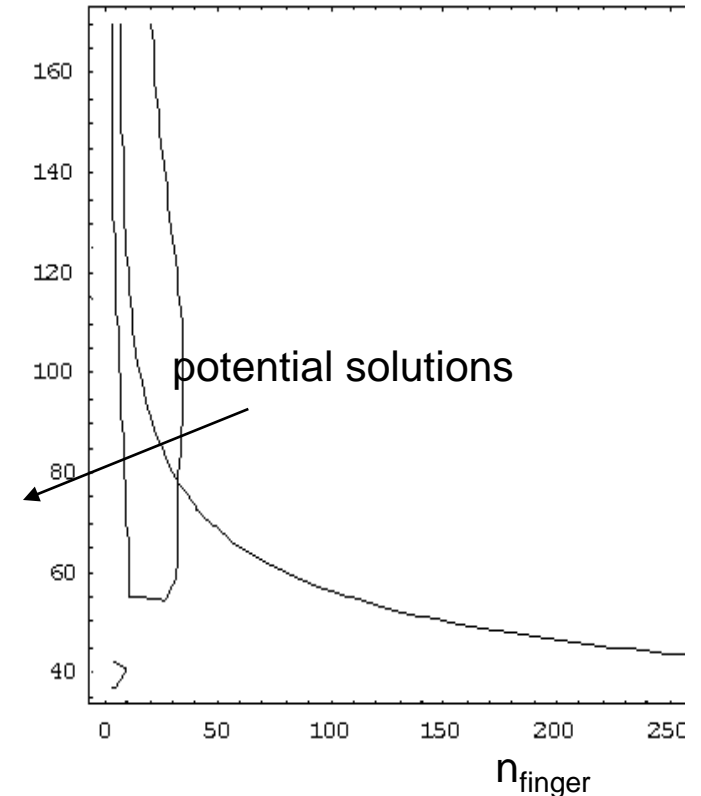
$$A_1 = \iint_{A_1} \nabla \cdot \mathbf{0}, z \, dA = 2 \int_0^{h_1} (h_1 - z) y'(z) \, dz$$

$$w = 2 \int_0^{h_1} y'(z) \, dz \quad l_{arc} = 2 \int_0^{h_1} \sqrt{1 + y'(z)^2} \, dz$$



- Fingering is initial value problem
- Strongly nonlinear dependence of cross section of fingers
- Froude number in finger must exceed unity
- Spacing between fingers must exceed curvature radius resulting from zero mean curvature
- Fingering only occurs if circular hydraulic jump is not established at a smaller radius

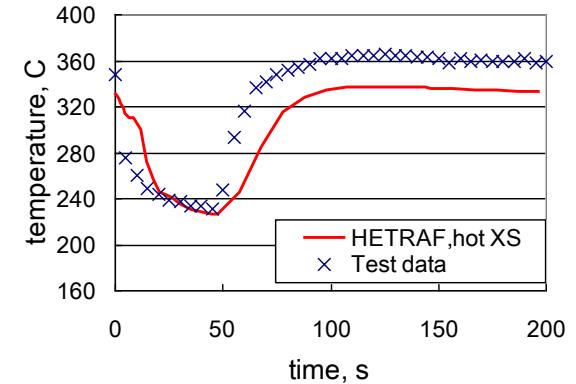
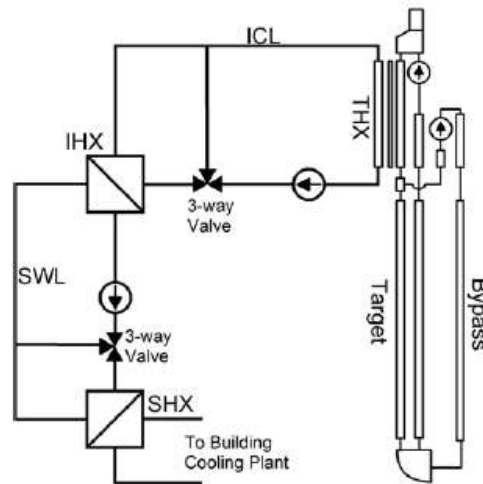
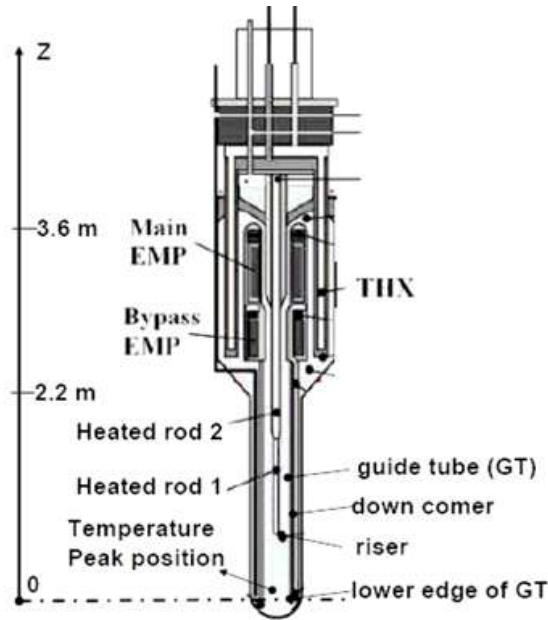
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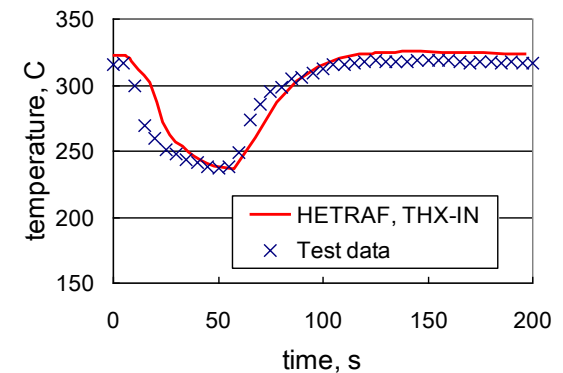
Minimum finger spacing curves ($d=2$), $\xi=.4$

Application for the HETRAF Code for 1 D thermohydraulics analysis

Example of a beam trip of the MEGAPIE



(a) LBE temperature at THX inlet



(b) LBE peak temperature

Summary

- In KALLA numerous experiments are performed which focus on component testing, HLM heat transfer, free surface flow, and HLM-instrumentation.
- Flow modeling group supports experiments by pre- and posttest calculations, improving the experiments design and interpretation of experimental data.
- CFD replaces experiments wherever possible.
- Accompanying fundamental studies allow improving confidence in CFD.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This work received financial support by the EU within the integrated project EUROTRANS under the contract number FI6W-CT-2004-516520.