

# キャピラリーチューブ内の減圧沸騰を伴う 冷媒二相流の可視化とボイド率分布の計測

Visualization and Void Fraction Measurement of Decompressed Boiling Flow in a Capillary Tube

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## Background

Capillary tube is often used in a refrigerator as an expansion tool of refrigerant. In order to design a tube diameter and length, it is necessary to estimate pressure difference for given mass flow rate and inlet condition. Since refrigerant usually flows into capillary tube as a subcooled liquid, and evaporates due to decompression by frictional pressure loss, it is required to clarify the boiling inception point and gas-liquid two-phase flow characteristics.

## Purpose

- To specify the boiling inception point
- To clarify boiling two-phase flow behavior on which intense centrifugal force is acting

## Conclusion

- Onset of boiling could be measured from void fraction distribution obtained by image processing.
- Radial liquid distribution was successfully obtained by a CT method using a radiograph as sinogram.
- It could be estimated that flow pattern transition of gas-liquid two-phase flow from intermittent to annular flow was occurred with void fraction of about 0.45.

## Experimental outline

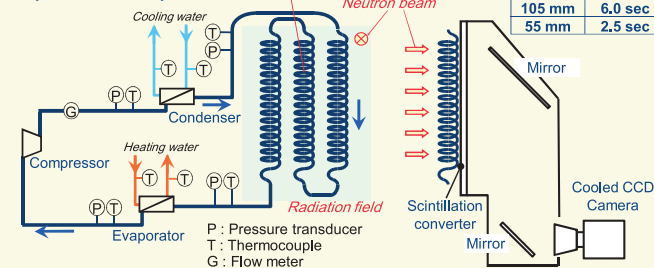
### Visualization object

Refrigerant flow of **HFC 134a** ( $C_2H_2F_4$ ) in a **copper** capillary tube (3.0 mm OD × 1.5 mm ID × 19 mm coil dia.)

### Attenuation coefficient

$\mu = 0.485 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  (liquid at 40 °C)

### Experimental setup



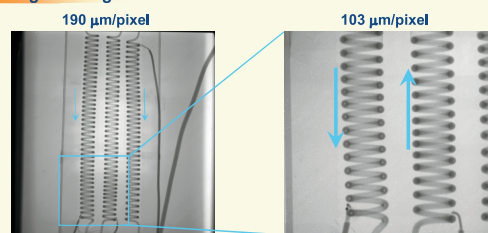
### Imaging condition

1024 × 1024 pixels  
16 bit intensity level

Camera lens	Exposure time	Spatial resolution [μm/pixel]
105 mm	6.0 sec	103
55 mm	2.5 sec	190

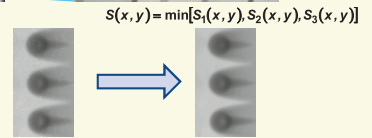
## Visualized image

### Original image

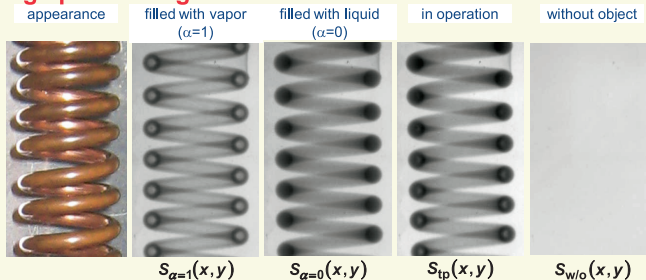


### Noise reduction

White spot noise was reduced by a minimum filter among three images for the same condition.



## Image processing for void fraction measurement and its results



### Brightness of radiographs

$$S_{tp}(x, y) = G(x, y) \exp[-\rho_w \mu_{mw} \delta_w(x, y) - \rho_l \mu_{ml} \delta_c(x, y) \{1 - \alpha(x, y)\}] + O(x, y)$$

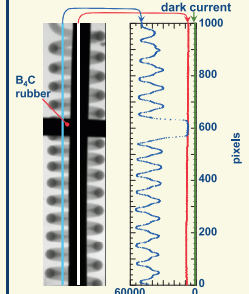
$$S_{\alpha=1}(x, y) = G(x, y) \exp[-\rho_w \mu_{mw} \delta_w(x, y)] + O(x, y)$$

$$S_{\alpha=0}(x, y) = G(x, y) \exp[-\rho_l \mu_{ml} \delta_c(x, y)] + O(x, y)$$

$$S_{w/o}(x, y) = G(x, y) + O(x, y)$$

The value of  $O(x, y)$  was evaluated by umbra method using a rubber tape with B<sub>2</sub>C. A constant value  $O$  was used, since the value was quite lower than measured brightness.

### Offset estimation

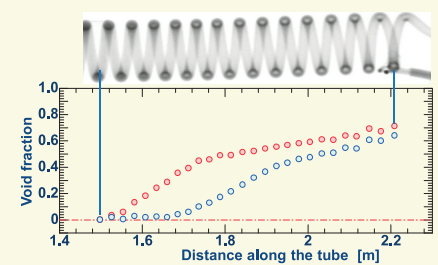


### Volumetric average void fraction

$$\bar{\alpha} = 1 - \frac{\sum_A \left[ \sum_l (\rho_l \mu_l \delta_l) \right]_{\alpha=1} - \sum_A \left[ \sum_l (\rho_l \mu_l \delta_l) \right]_{\alpha=0}}{\sum_A \left[ \sum_l (\rho_l \mu_l \delta_l) \right]_{\alpha=0} - \sum_A \left[ \sum_l (\rho_l \mu_l \delta_l) \right]_{\alpha=1}}$$

	Inlet condition	Exit condition
Run #1	1.09 MPa, 29.8 °C $\Delta T_{sub} = 12.8 \text{ K}$ , $P_{sat}(T) = 0.766 \text{ MPa}$	0.327 MPa $x_{eq} = 0.190$
Run #2	1.82 MPa, 40.2 °C $\Delta T_{sub} = 23.2 \text{ K}$ , $P_{sat}(T) = 1.02 \text{ MPa}$	0.467 MPa $x_{eq} = 0.202$

$\Delta T_{sub}$ : subcooling degree,  $P_{sat}(T)$ : saturation pressure at  $T$ ,  $x_{eq}$ : thermal equilibrium quality

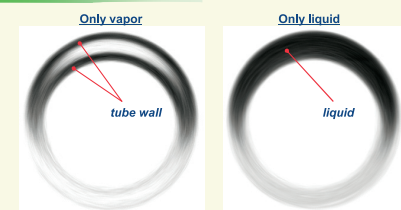


## Measurement of cross-sectional void fraction distribution by CT-method

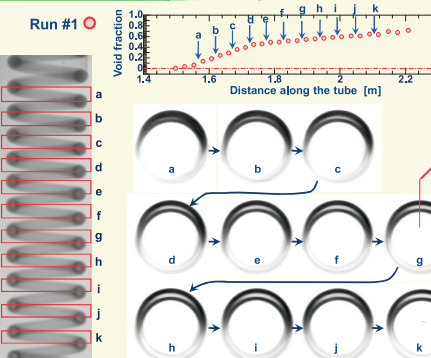
### Sinogram

Only vapor  
Only liquid  
0°  
180°  
This distribution can be available as a sinogram for half rotation.

### Reconstructed results



## Measurement example for two-phase flow



## Attenuation distribution in radial direction

