

Outline

ANSYS

- Introduction
- Wall boiling modeling in ANSYS CFD
- Bartolomej testcase (PWR)
- Lee testcase (BWR)
- Wall boiling with conjugate heat transfer
- Wall boiling in fuel assemblies
- Summary & Outlook

Vapour 1. Volume Fraction

5.000e-02
3.750e-02
2.500e-02
1.250e-02
0.000e+00

Courtesy by E. Krepper (FZD)

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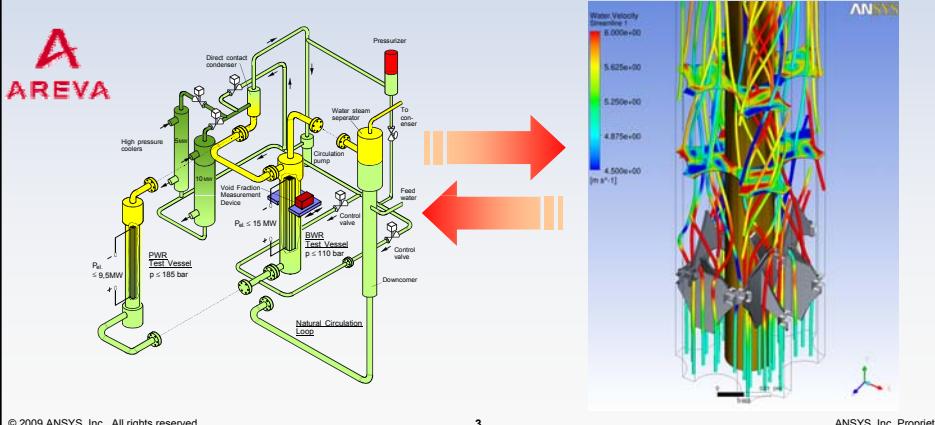
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Introduction – Towards CFD for Flows through Nuclear Fuel Assemblies



- Prediction of boiling flow through fuel assemblies
- Optimization of fuel assembly and spacer grid design
- Replacement/supplementation of very expensive experiments by knowledge obtained from CFD simulations

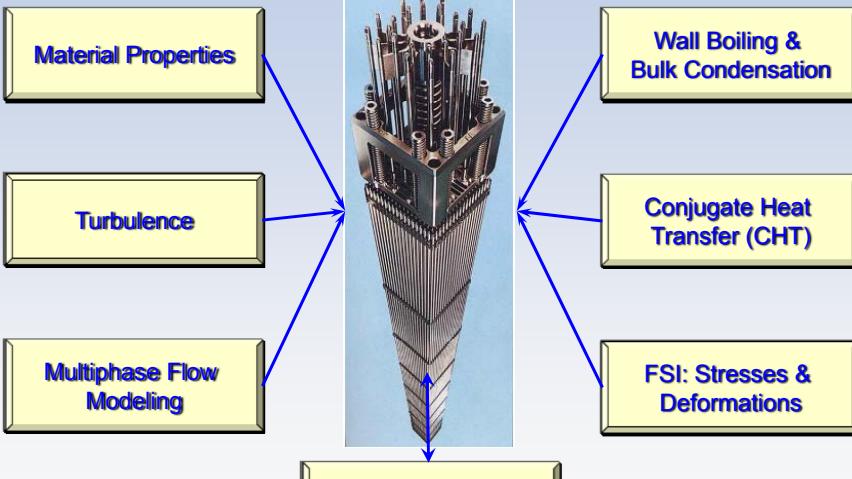


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CFD Simulation for Fuel Assemblies in Nuclear Reactors

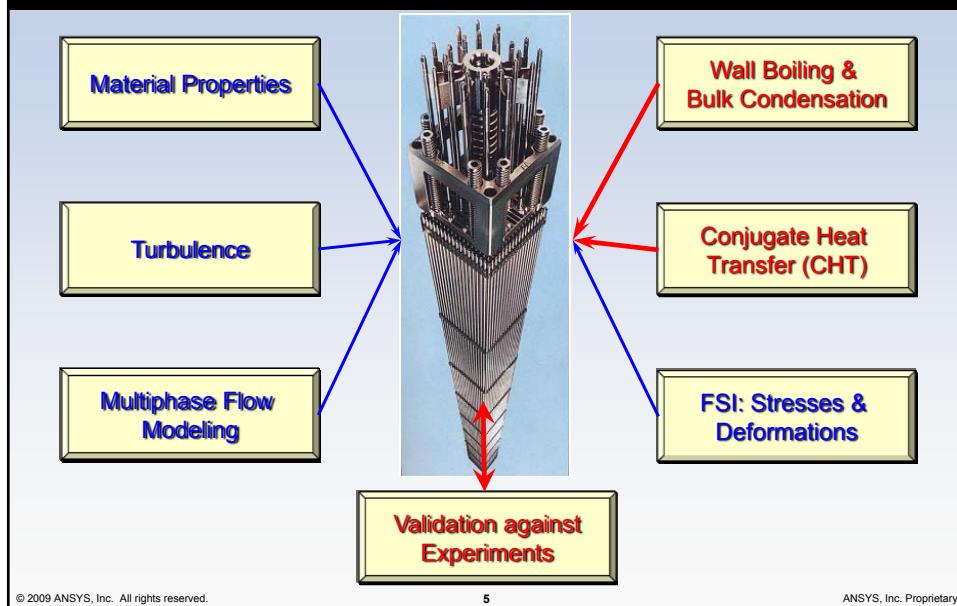


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CFD Simulation for Fuel Assemblies in Nuclear Reactors



Wall Boiling in Fuel Assemblies

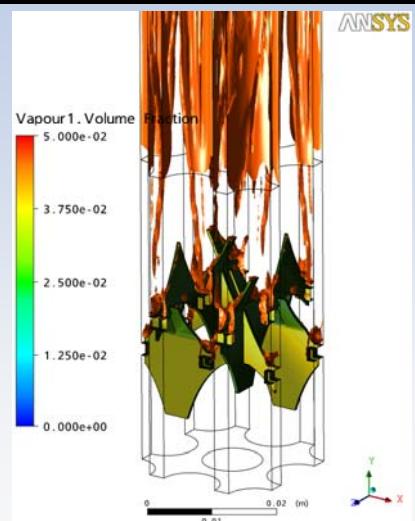


The applications:

- PWR: nuclear reactor safety scenarios
- BWR: normal regime of operation

Model history:

- Original mechanistic model developed by Podowski et al. @ RPI
- 1st prototype for ANSYS CFX in EC project ECORA
- Release of the model in ANSYS CFX 12.0
- RPI wall boiling model available as UDF for ANSYS Fluent 12.0



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The RPI Wall Boiling Model



Why special modeling for wall boiling?

- For subcooled flows with superheated walls, standard thermal phase change models for bulk boiling/condensation will underpredict mass transfer rates
- Accounts for steam bubble growth on nucleation sites and bubble departure
- Mechanistic model for wall driven boiling

Model outline:

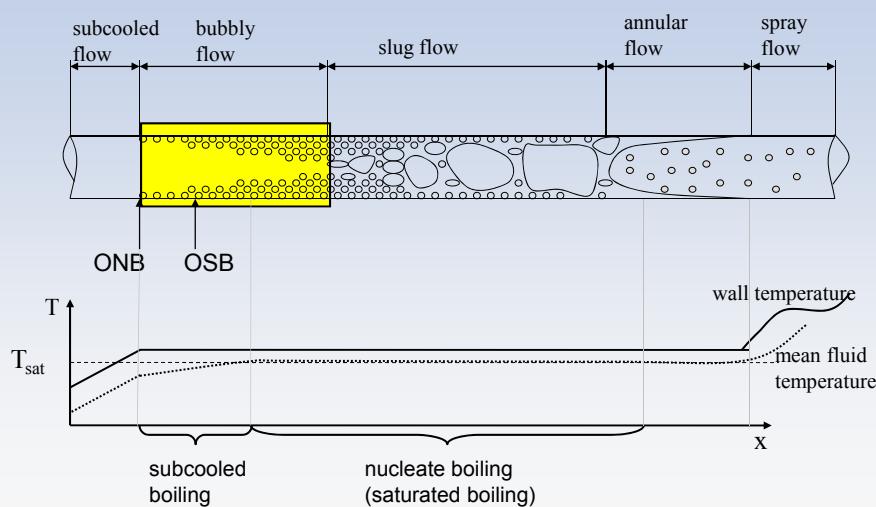
- Mechanistic wall heat flux splitting
→ convective heat transfer, evaporation, quenching
- Empirical submodels required for closure
- Available for different BC's: prescribed T_{wall} or q_{wall} , CHT walls
- Activated per boundary patch with individual T_{wall} or q_{wall}

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Multiphase Flow Regimes for Boiling Water Flow



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Flows with Subcooled Boiling (DNB) – RPI-Wall Boiling Model



Mechanistic wall heat partitioning model:

$$\dot{q}_{\text{Wall}} = \dot{q}_F + \dot{q}_Q + \dot{q}_E$$

convective heat flux

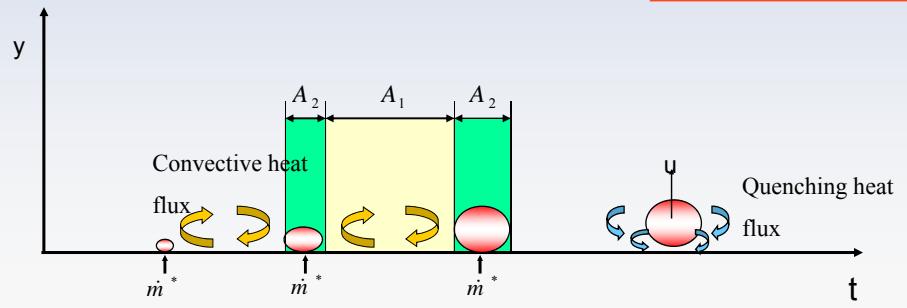
$$\dot{q}_F = A_1 \cdot h_F \cdot (T_w - T_L)$$

quenching heat flux

$$\dot{q}_Q = A_2 \cdot h_Q \cdot (T_w - T_L)$$

evaporation heat flux

$$\dot{q}_E = \dot{m} \cdot (h_G - h_L)$$



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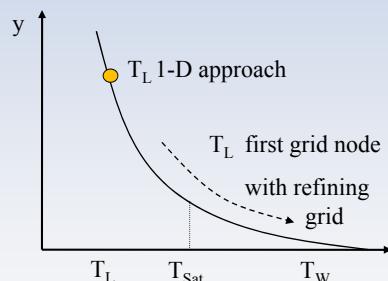
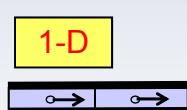
Grid dependent correlations



• Quenching heat flux

$$\dot{q}_Q = A_2 \cdot h_Q \cdot (T_w - T_L)$$

$$h_Q = 2f \sqrt{\frac{t_w \rho_L C_{PL} \lambda_L}{\pi}}$$



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- **Evaporation heat flux**

$$\dot{q}_E = \dot{m} \cdot (h_G - h_L)$$

d_w – bubble departure diameter

n – nucleation site density per m²

$$\dot{m} = \frac{\pi d_w^3}{6} \rho_G f n$$

f – bubble departure frequency

$$d_w = \min \left\{ 1.4mm, 0.6 \text{ mm} \cdot \exp \left(-\frac{T_s [\text{K}] - T_L [\text{K}]}{45 [\text{K}]} \right) \right\}$$

small quenching & overestimated evaporation on fine grids

wrong heat flux partitioning

→ tends to film boiling on fine grids (due to $T_L \rightarrow T_w$)

- **Grid invariance of the model required**
- **determine T_L from temperature wall function (Kader, 1981)**

$$T^+ = Pr \cdot y^+ e^{(-\Gamma)} + [2.12 \cdot \ln(y^+) + \beta] \cdot e^{(-1/\Gamma)}$$

$$y^+ = \frac{\rho_L \cdot \Delta y \cdot u_\tau}{\mu}$$

- **from definition:**

$$T^+ = \frac{\rho \cdot c_{PL} \cdot u_\tau}{\dot{q}_w} (T_w - T_L)$$

→ evaluating T^+ at 2 different locations

Revisited RPI Boiling Model



- heat flux in boundary layer identical at both locations

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \dot{q}_{W, y^+ = \text{first cell}} &= \frac{\rho \cdot c_{PL} \cdot u_\tau}{T_{y^+ = \text{first cell}}^+} (T_W - T_L)_{y^+ = \text{first cell}} \\ \dot{q}_{W, y^+ = \text{const}} &= \frac{\rho \cdot c_{PL} \cdot u_\tau}{T_{y^+ = \text{const}}^+} (T_W - T_L)_{y^+ = \text{const}} \end{aligned} \right\} \text{heat fluxes are equal}$$

$$(T_W - T_L)_{y^+ = \text{const}} = \frac{T_{y^+ = \text{const}}^+}{T_{y^+ = \text{first cell}}^+} \cdot (T_W - T_L)_{y^+ = \text{first cell}}$$

- additional factor in correlations for $d_w, \dot{q}_F, \dot{q}_Q$
- assumption of $y^+_{\text{const}} = 250$; model parameter

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RPI-Wall Boiling Model – Submodels for Model Closure



Submodels for closure of RPI wall boiling model:

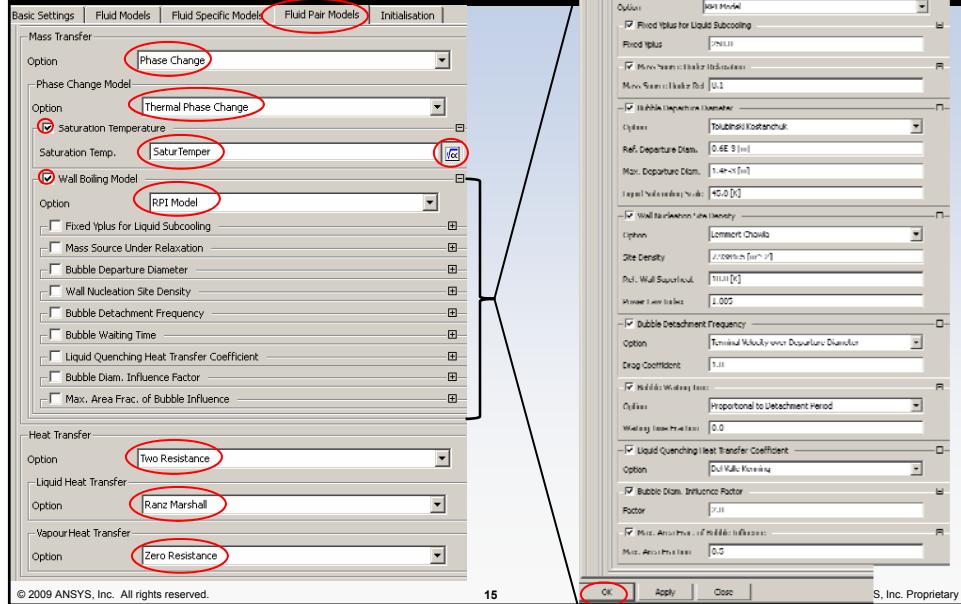
- Nucleation site density: Lemmert & Chawla , User Defined
- Bubble departure diameter:
Tolubinski & Kostanchuk, Unal, Fritz, User Defined
- Bubble detachment frequency:
Terminal rise velocity over Departure Diameter, User Defined
- Bubble waiting time:
Proportional to Detachment Period, User Defined
- Quenching heat transfer: Del Valle & Kenning, User Defined
- Turbulent Wall Function for liquid convective heat transfer coefficient
- Correlation for bulk flow mean bubble diameter required:**
→ e.g. Kurul & Podowski correlation via CCL
- Supported combination of wall boiling & CHT in the solid**
 - GGI & 1:1 solid-fluid interfaces

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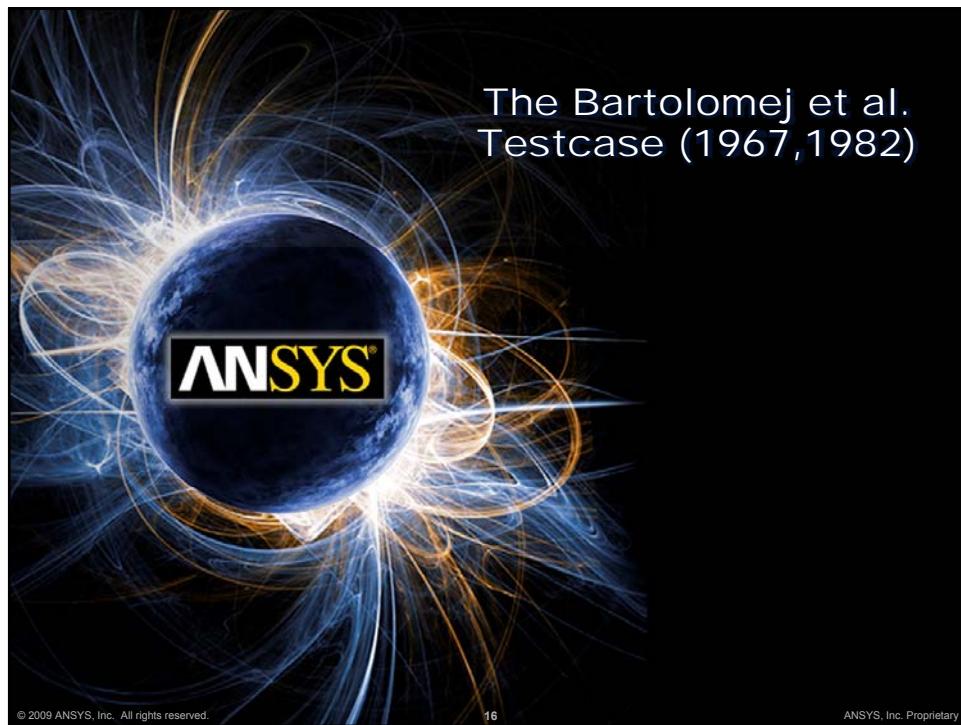
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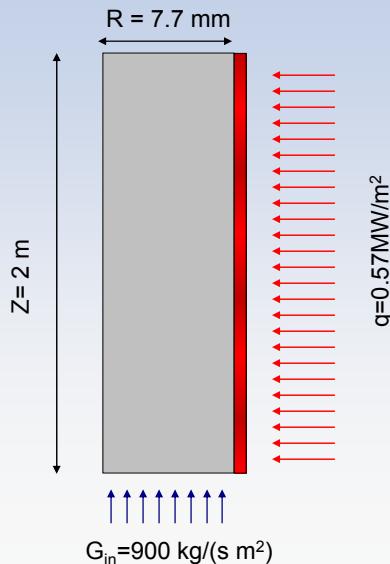
RPI Wall Boiling Model in the ANSYS CFX-Pre 12.0 GUI



The Bartolomej et al.
Testcase (1967, 1982)



The Bartolomej Test Case



Variable	Value
P	4.5 MPa
R	7.7 mm
G_{in}	900 kg/(s m ²)
\dot{q}	0.57 MW/m ²
Subcooling	58.2 K

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Numerical Grids



- Validation on mesh hierarchy with regular refinement factor of 4 (2d meshes)

Grid	Grid1	Grid2	Grid3
# Nodes (uniform)	20x150	40x300	80x600
Max y^+	264	133	69
Δt [s]	10^{-2}	10^{-3}	5×10^{-4}

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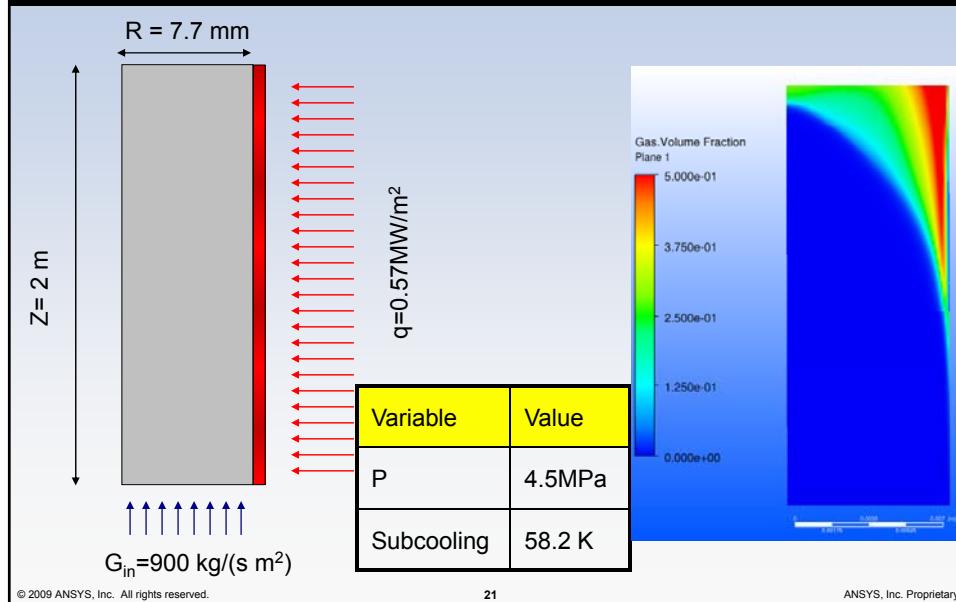
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- **Steam-Water 2-phase flow:**
 - Water: continuous phase
 - Water Steam: disperse bubbles (particle model)
- **Material properties (EOS):**
 - IAPWS-IF97 water - water steam property tables
- **Modified law for interfacial area**
 - Accounting for higher volume fraction of the steam phase
- **Bubble bulk diameter**
 - Bubble diameter dependent on local fluid temperature (Kurul-Podowski)

- **Mass transfer model**
 - CFX Thermal Phase Change Model
- **Momentum transfer models**
 - Grace drag
 - FAD turbulent dispersion force
 - Tomiyama lift force
 - Wall lubrication force (none, Antal, Tomiyama)
- **Heat transfer models**
 - Steam phase → set to local saturation temperature
 - Two resistance model
 - Ranz Marshall correlation for bubble heat transfer

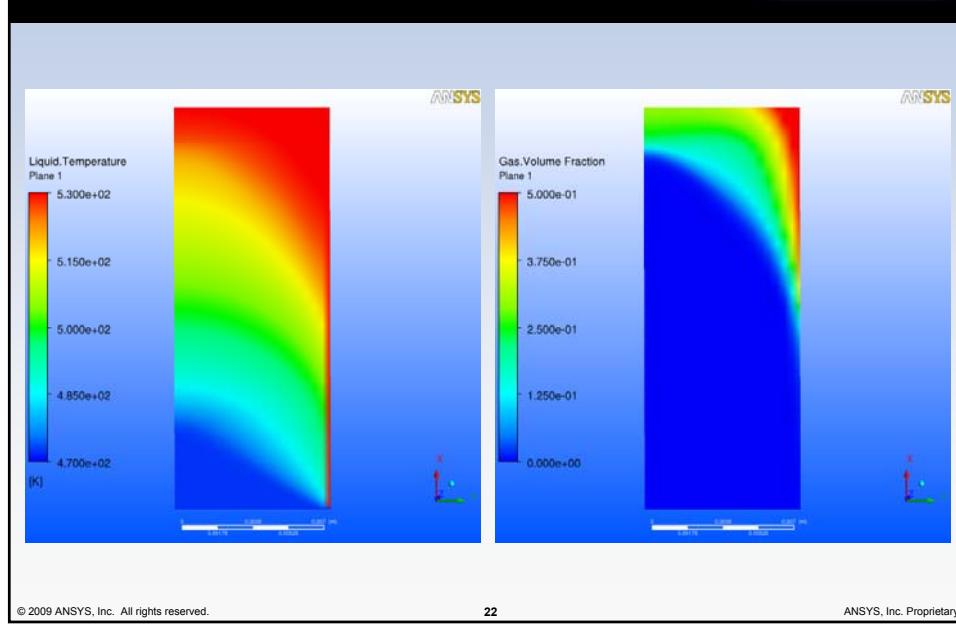
Validation for Test Case of Bartolomej et al. (1967, 1982)

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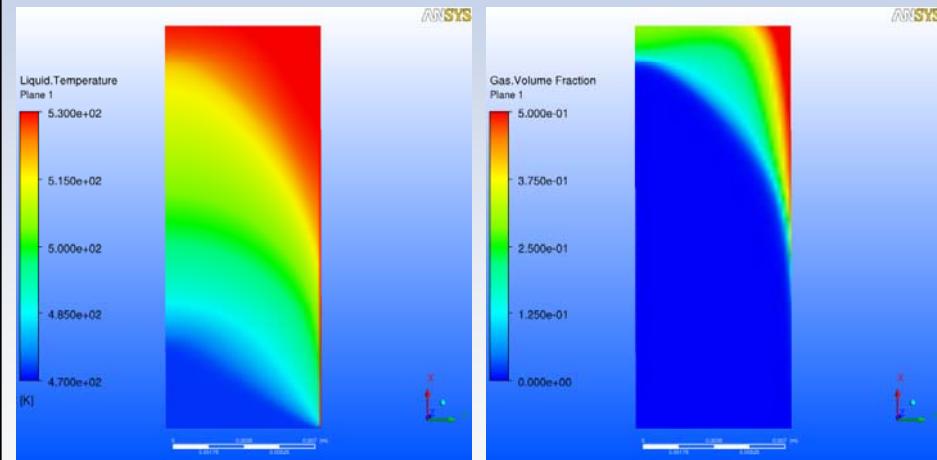
Grid1

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Grid 2

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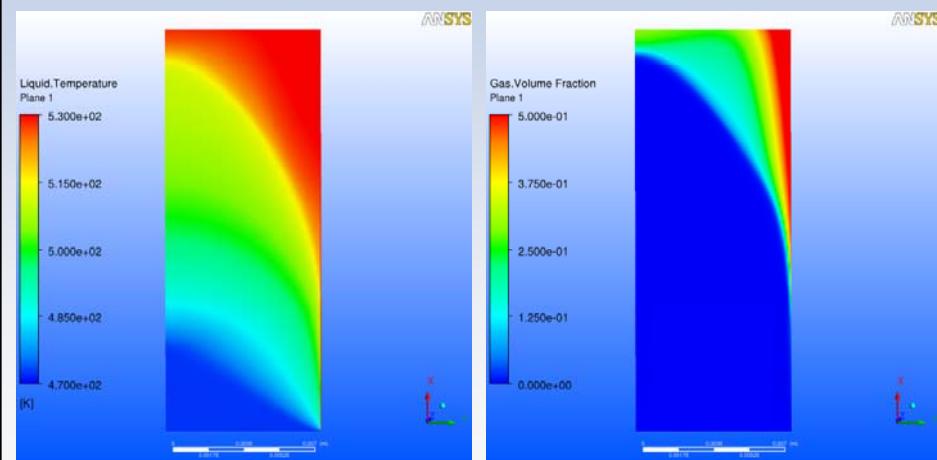
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Grid 3

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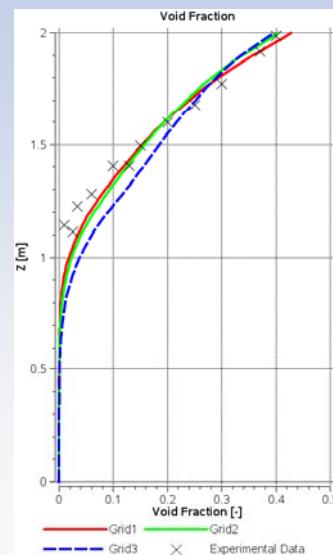
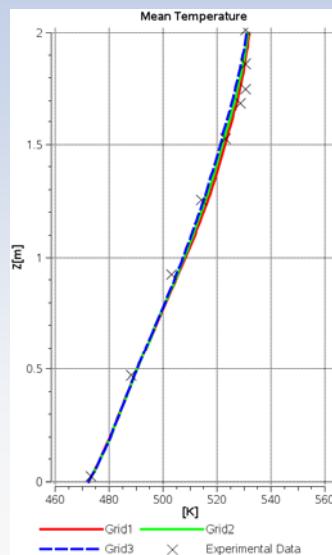


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Comparison to Experimental Data



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Total Gas Content



Grid	Gas Content
Grid1	0.0894
Grid2	0.0892
Grid3	0.0997

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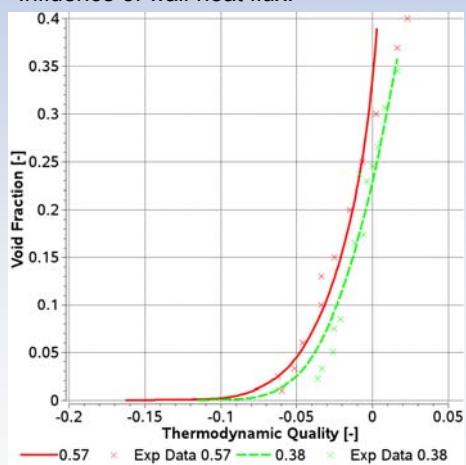
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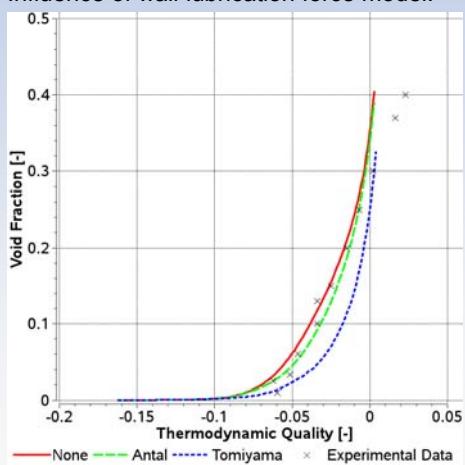
Comparison to Experimental Data - Parameter & Model Variation



Influence of wall heat flux:



Influence of wall lubrication force model:

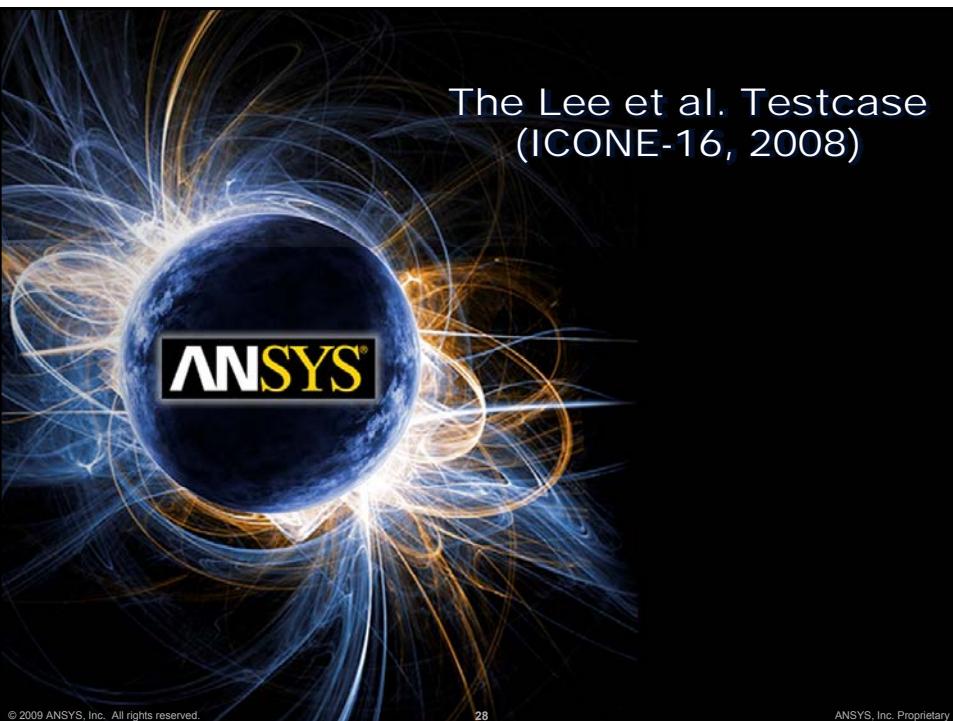


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The Lee et al. Testcase
(ICON-16, 2008)



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Lee et al. (2008) Testcase



- Axially symmetric circular annulus

- Radial dimensions

- Inner radius of outer tube: $R = 18.75 \text{ mm}$
- Outer radius of inner tube: $R_0 = 9.5 \text{ mm}$
- Core radius: $R_C = 3/4 R_0$
- Annulus width: **9.25 mm**

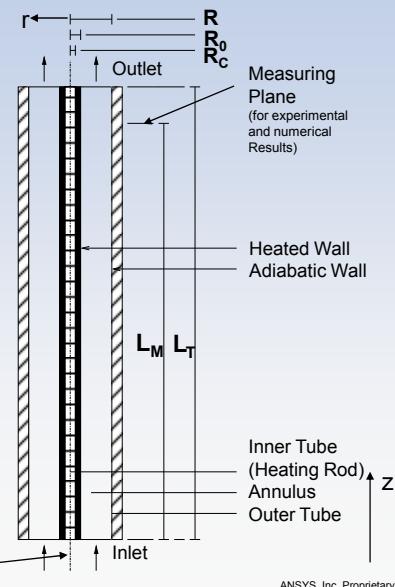
- Axial dimensions

- Total heating section height: $L_T = 1670 \text{ mm}$
- Distance between inlet and measuring plane: $L_M = 1610 \text{ mm}$

- Radial Position: R_P

- Dimensionless, radial distance from inner tube ($R_P = 0$) to outer tube ($R_P = 1$) across the annulus:

$$R_P = \frac{(r - R_0)}{(R - R_0)}$$



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Geometry and Mesh



Geometry & Mesh generation:

Figure 1: 25° segment of the geometry

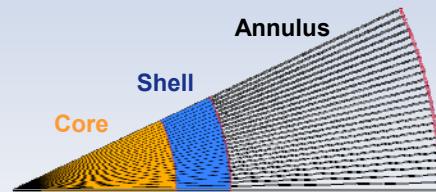


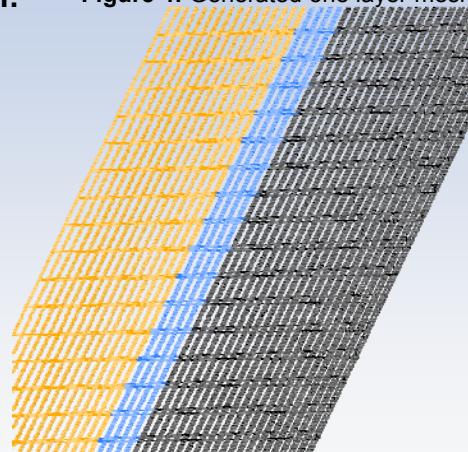
Figure 2: 1° simulated segment of the geometry



Figure 3: 1° segment with one-layer mesh example



Figure 4: Generated one layer mesh



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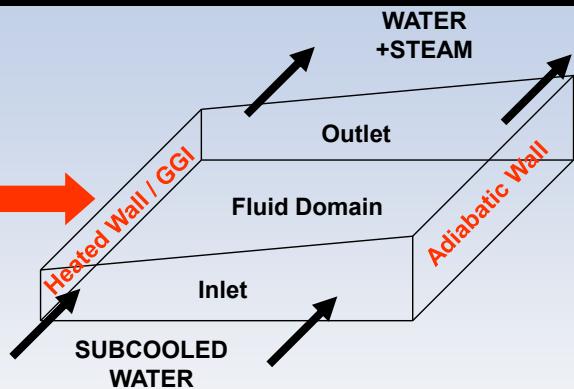
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Boundary Conditions



– Adiabatic Wall

- Liquid: no slip
- Gas: free slip



– Heated Wall / GGI

- Liquid: no slip
- Gas: free slip
- Thermal BC:
 - **HFO** → specified heat flux at wall
 - **CHT** → heat source in core / heat transfer in solid
- RPI wall boiling model

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CFD Setup of the Lee et al. Testcase



1. Material properties:

- IAPWS IF97 water-water steam property tables

2. Liquid Phase:

- SST turbulence model
- Thermal Energy equation

3. Gaseous Phase:

- Particle model
- Kurul & Podowski type bulk bubble diameter
- Grace drag, Tomiyama lift, FAD turb. disp. force
- 0-eq. disperse phase turbulence model
- Sato bubble enhanced turbulence model
- $T_{Steam} = T_{Sat}$

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CFD Setup of the Lee et al. Testcase (cont.)



4. Interfacial Heat & Mass Transfer

- RPI wall boiling model
- Bulk boiling model
- Two resistance interfacial heat transfer model
 - Water: Ranz Marshall
 - Steam: zero resistance

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Mesh Hierarchy



Mesh Name	Grid 01 (coarse)		Grid 02 (medium)		Grid 03 (fine)		
Domains (1 = HFO, 2 = CHT) *	1	2	1	2	1	2	
No. of Nodes		1: 6342 2: 12684		1: 24682 2: 49364		1: 97362 2: 194724	
No. of Elements (hexahedra)		1: 20x150 2: 40x150		1: 40x300 2: 80x300		1: 80x600 2: 160x600	
y⁺ max (at 1 st node near wall)	Set16	~84		~41		~24	
	Set25	~88		~45		~25	
Tstep Δt [s]	Set16	0.001		0.002		0.0002	
	Set25	0.1		0.0125		0.0002	

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Selection of Extreme/Limiting Testcase Conditions



- Concentrating on 2 (out of 12) datasets:

Set 25
(least of all steam)

Set 16
(most of all steam)

- Parameter comparison

Set No.*	q'' [kW m^-2]	G [kg m^-2s]	T _{in} [°C]	P _{in} [kPa]
16	320.4	718.8	83.8	121.1
25	220.0	1057.2	90.1	134.4

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Required Parameter Modifications in Comparison to PWR Conditions



Found that submodels need modifications for BWR conditions (see also Tu&Yeoh, Anglart et al., Koncar):

1. Bulk bubble diameter (BBD)
Kurul & Podowski → $d_{B,max} \sim 1.5\text{mm}$ @ wall
modified d_B law → $d_{B,max} \sim 4.0\text{mm}$ @ wall
2. Bubble departure diameter (BDD)
Tolubinski & Kostanchuk → $d_w \sim 0.5\text{mm}$ max.
const. bubble dept. diam. → $d_w = 1\text{mm} - 3\text{mm}$
3. A₂ - Wall area fraction influenced by steam bubbles
default → 0.5
increased up to 2.0

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BBD Modification Overview



	d_{B1} [mm]	d_{B2} [mm]	T_{sub1} [K]	T_{sub2} [K]
K&P	0.10	2.0	13.5	-5.0
dbmod01	0.15	4.0	13.5	-5.0
dbmod02	0.15	4.0	13.5	5.0
dbmod03	0.15	4.0	25.0	5.0

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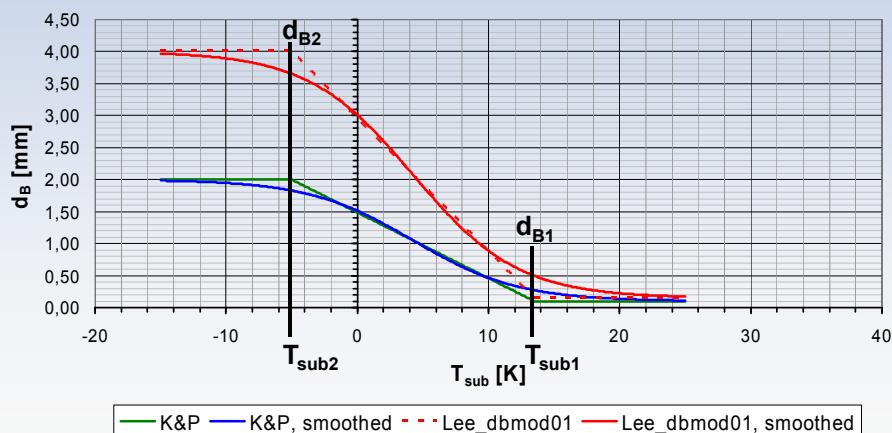
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BBD Modification dbmod01



Bulk Bubble Diameter Law: Modification 01 (dbmod01)



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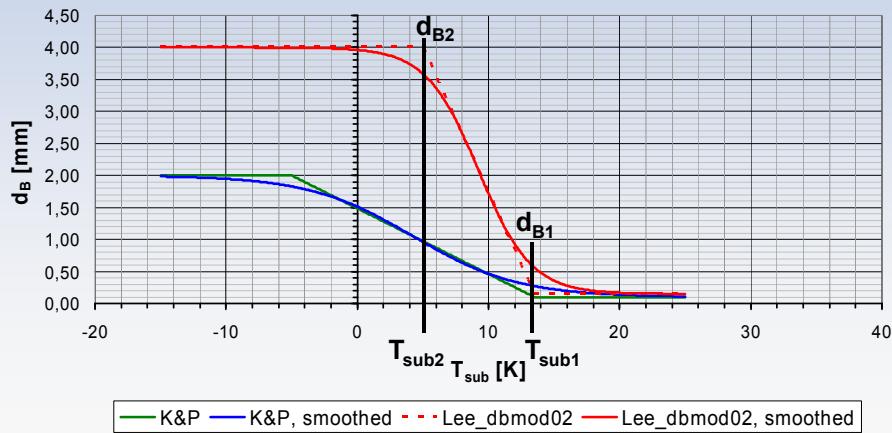
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BBD Modification dbmod02

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Bulk Bubble Diameter Law: Modification 02 (dbmod02)



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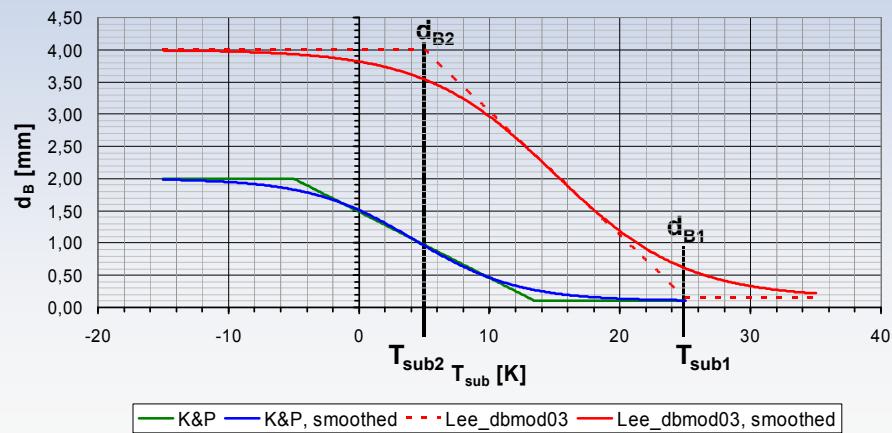
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BBD Modification dbmod03

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Bulk Bubble Diameter Law: Modification 03 (dbmod03)



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BBD & BDD Modifications Test Matrix Overview



- Trying to systematically increase Bubble Departure Diameter to investigate its influence on Heat Flux to Vapor (Q_v) profile
 - Test series with increasing BDD starting from $d_{w,max} \approx 0.5$ mm
 - 1 mm; 2 mm; 3 mm
 - T&K * 4.0

	BDD Tolubinsky & Kostanchuk	BDD User defined d_w [mm]
K&P	yes	-
bbdmod01	-	1 = const.
bbdmod02	-	2 = const.
bbdmod03	-	3 = const.

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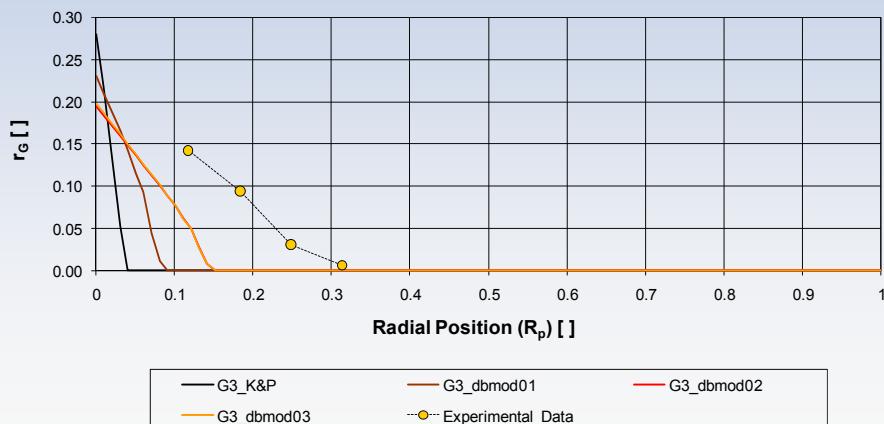
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BBD Modification / Set 25: Gas Volume Fraction @ z = 1610 [mm]



Set25 : Bulk Diam. Mod. Comparison: Gas Volume Fraction (r_g)



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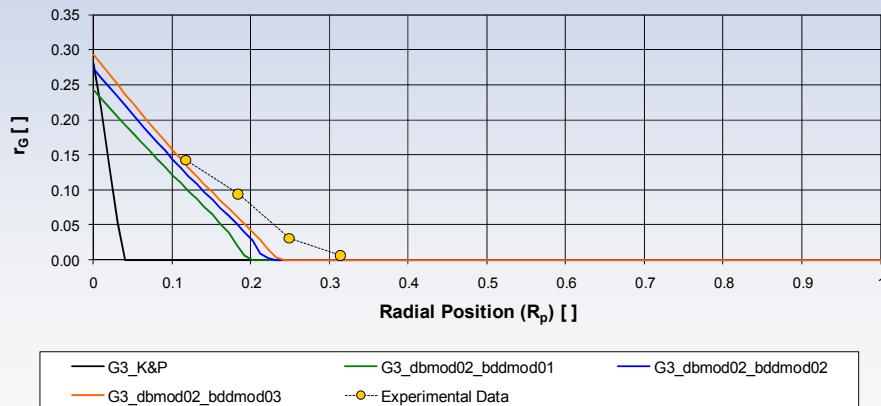
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BDD Modification / Set 25:
Gas Volume Fraction @ $z = 1610$ [mm]



Set25 Bubble Dept. Diam. Mod. Comparison: Gas Volume Fraction (r_G)



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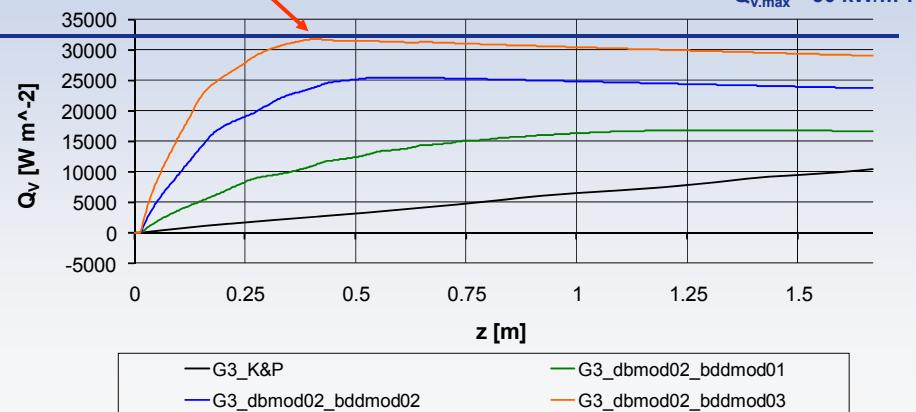
BDD Modification / Set 25:
Heat Flux to Vapor @ Heated Wall



Set25 Bubble Dept. Diam. Mod. Comparison: Heat Flux to Vapor (Q_V)

Decreasing HFtV over pipe length indicates some limiter effect

$Q_{V,max} \approx 30 \text{ kW/m}^2$!



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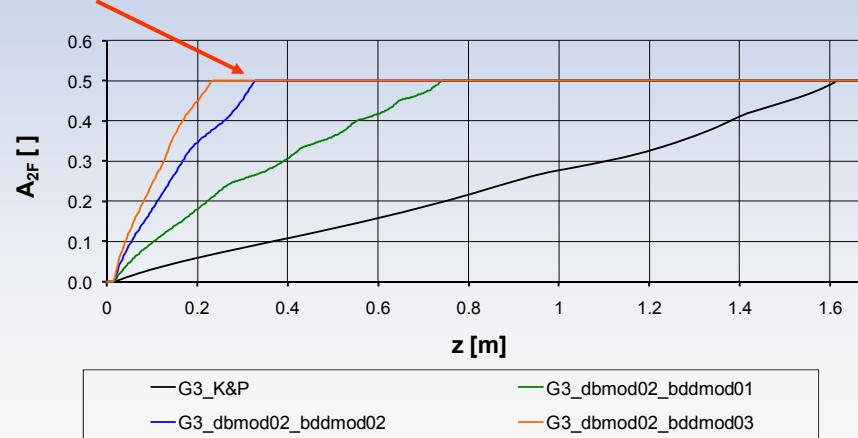
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BDD Modification: Bubble Influenced Area Fraction @ Heated Wall



Set25 Bubble Dept. Diam. Mod.: Bubble Influenced Area Fraction (A_{2F})

A_{2F} limiter becomes dominating factor with increased $d_w \rightarrow$ raising this limitation

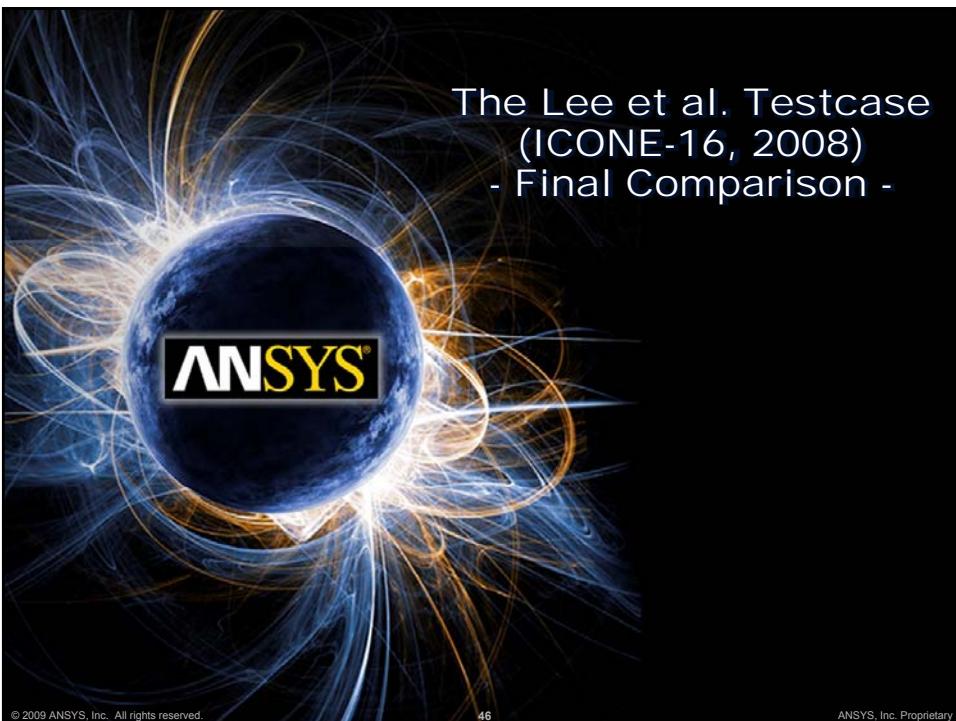


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The Lee et al. Testcase
(ICON-E16, 2008)
- Final Comparison -



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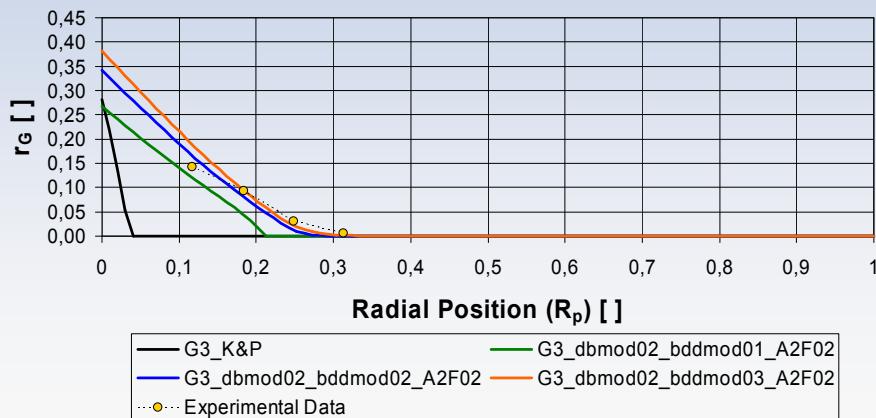
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A_{2F} Limiter Modification: Results Set 25,
Gas Volume Fraction @ z=1610[mm]



Set25 A_{2F} Mod Comparison:
Gas Volume Fraction (r_G)



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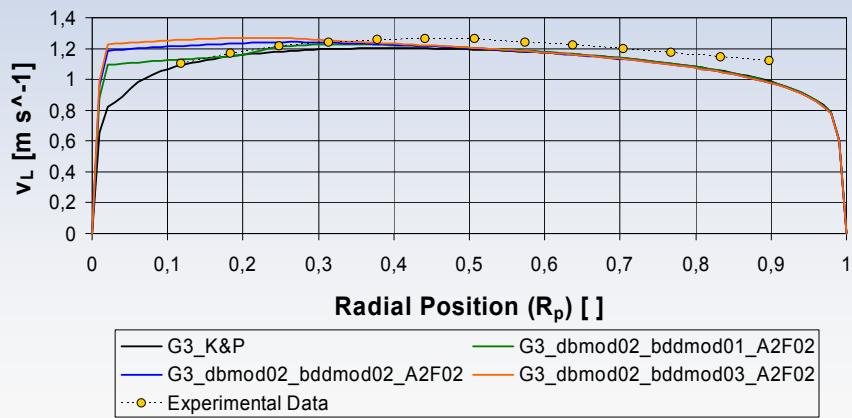
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A_{2F} Limiter Modification: Results Set 25,
Liquid Velocity @ z = 1610 [mm]



Set25 A_{2F} Mod Comparison:
Liquid Velocity (v_L)



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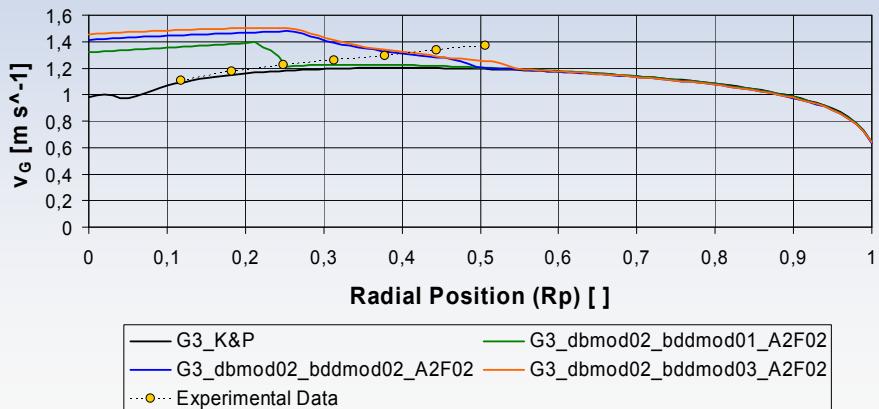
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A_{2F} Limiter Modification: Results Set 25,
Gas Velocity @ z = 1610 [mm]



Set25 A_{2F} Mod Comparison:
Gas Velocity (v_G)



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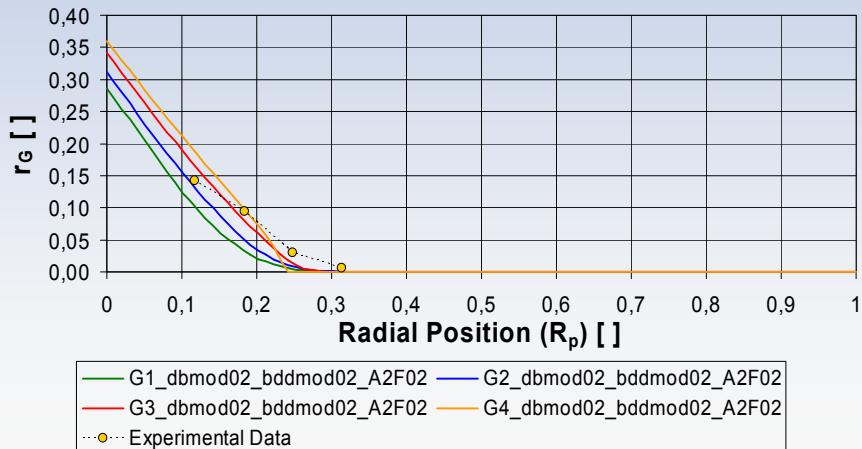
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Grid Independency: Results Set 25,
Gas Volume Fraction @ z = 1610 [mm]



Set25 New Grid Comparison:
Gas Volume Fraction (r_G)



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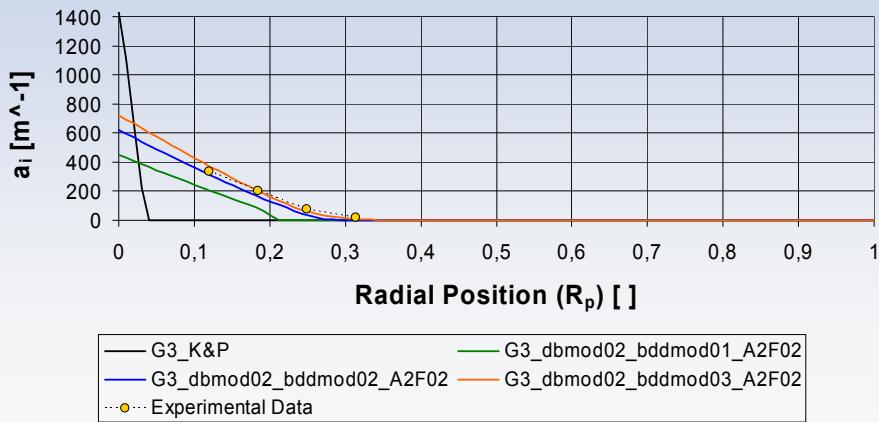
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A_{2F} Limiter Modification: Results Set 25,
Interfacial Area Density @ $z=1610[\text{mm}]$



Set25 A2F Mod Comparison:
Interfacial Area Density (a_i)



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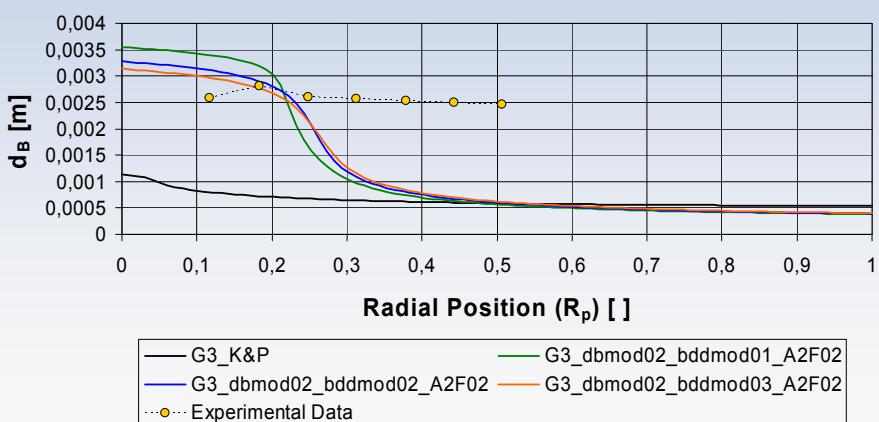
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A_{2F} Limiter Modification: Results Set 25,
Bulk Bubble Diameter @ $z=1610[\text{mm}]$



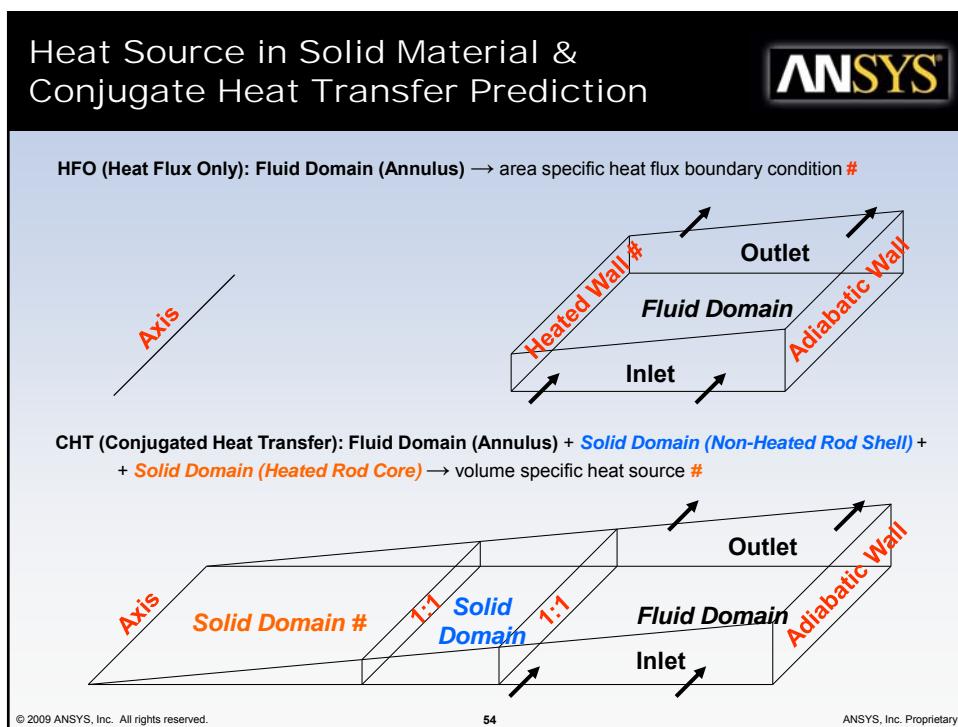
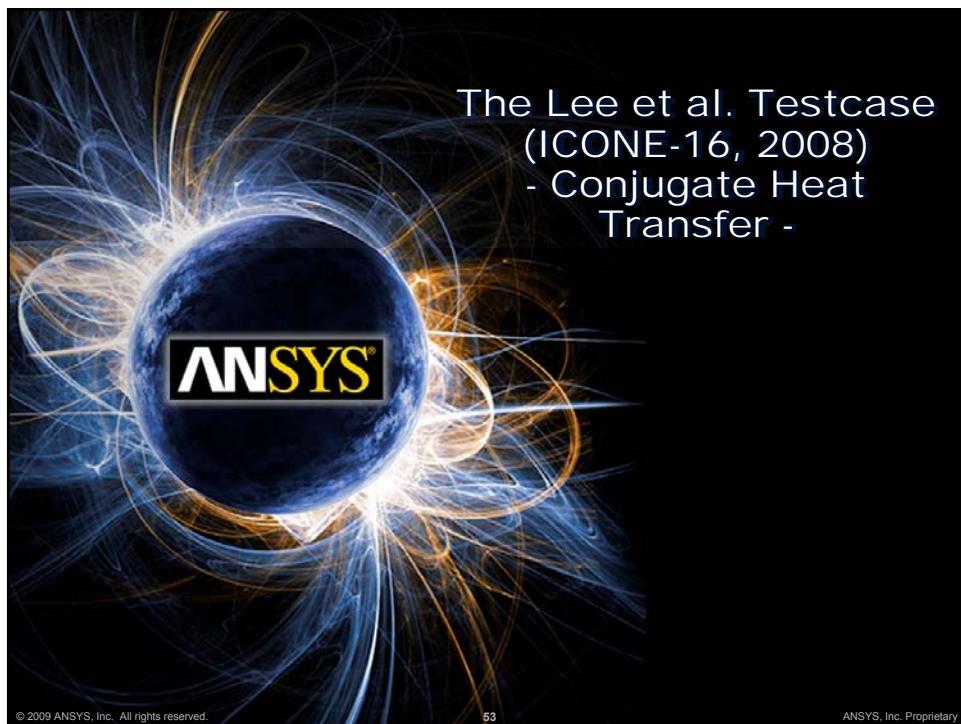
Set25 A2F Mod Comparison:
Bubble Bulk Diameter (d_B)



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The RPI Wall Boiling Model: Lee et al. Testcase with CHT

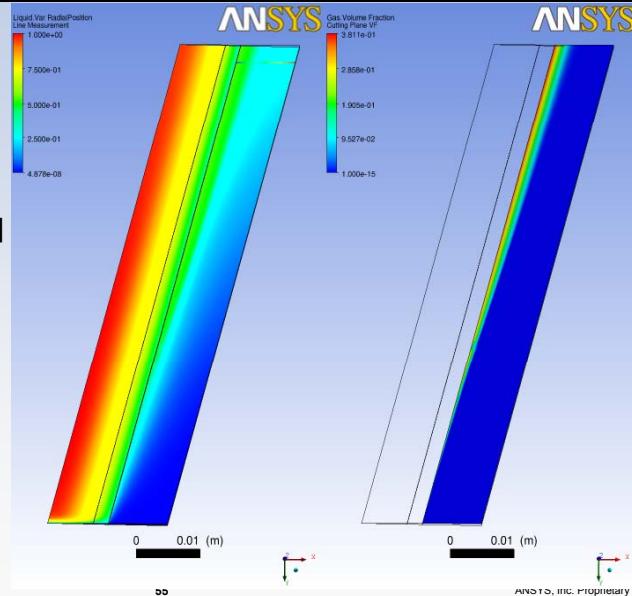


- Specific energy source in solid material, Set25 (equiv. to q_{Wall}):

$$E_{\text{Core}} = 8.23 \cdot 10^7 \text{ [W/m}^3\text{]}$$

- Temperature and Steam VF distribution in vertical plane

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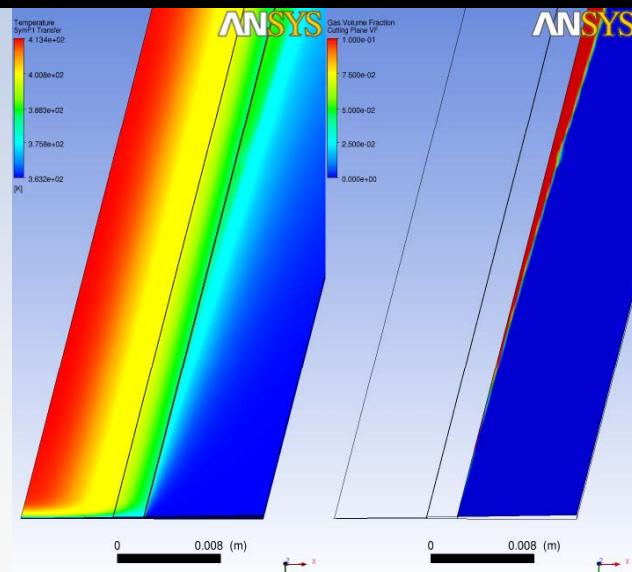
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The RPI Wall Boiling Model: Lee et al. Testcase with CHT



- Temperature and Steam VF distribution @ Inlet
- Isothermal BC for solid core bottom wall:
 $T_{\text{Wall}} = T_{\text{Water, Inlet}}$

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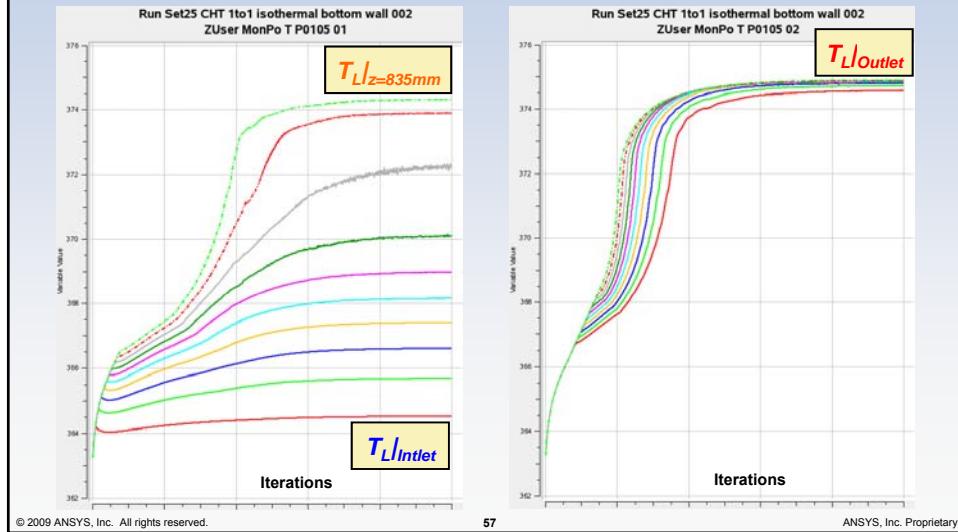


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The RPI Wall Boiling Model: Lee et al. Testcase with CHT



Set25 & CHT: Water temperature monitors $\Delta x_w=1.5\text{mm}$, $\Delta z=83.5\text{mm}$,

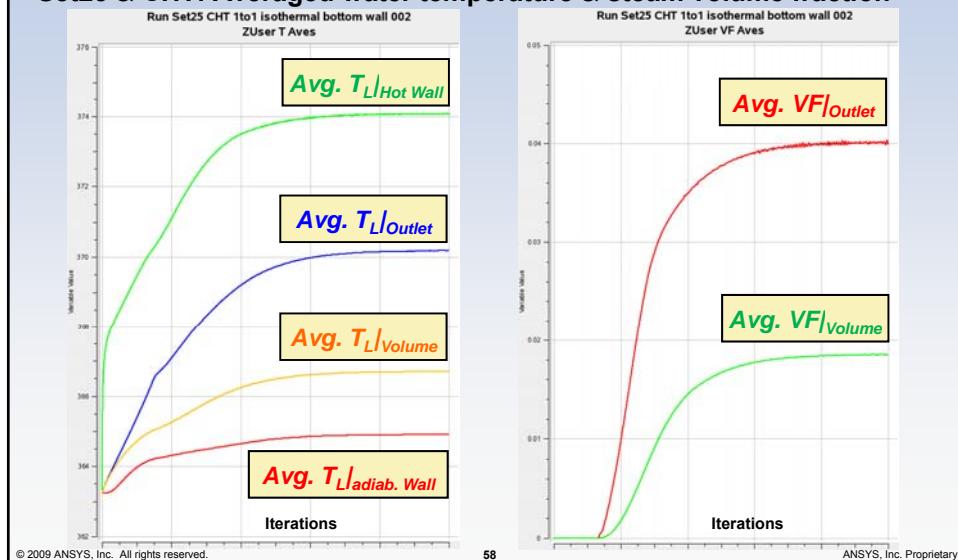


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The RPI Wall Boiling Model: Lee et al. Testcase with CHT



Set25 & CHT: Averaged water temperature & steam volume fraction

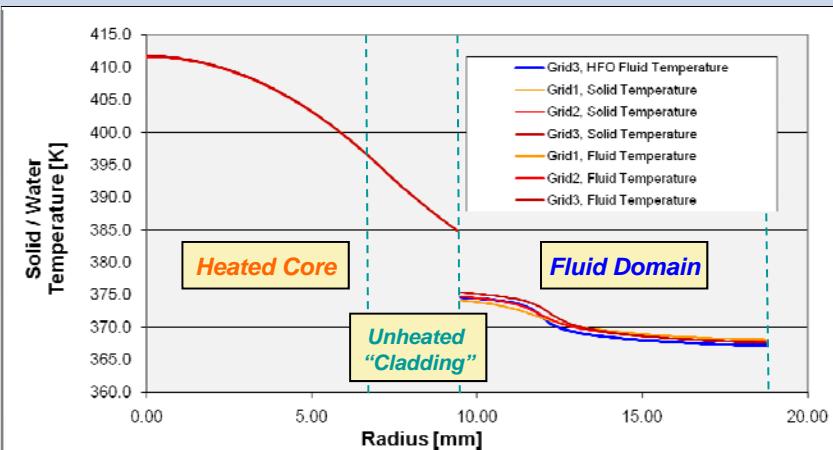


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The RPI Wall Boiling Model:
Lee et al. Testcase with CHT



Set25 & CHT: Grid independence for temperature distribution @ z=1610[mm]

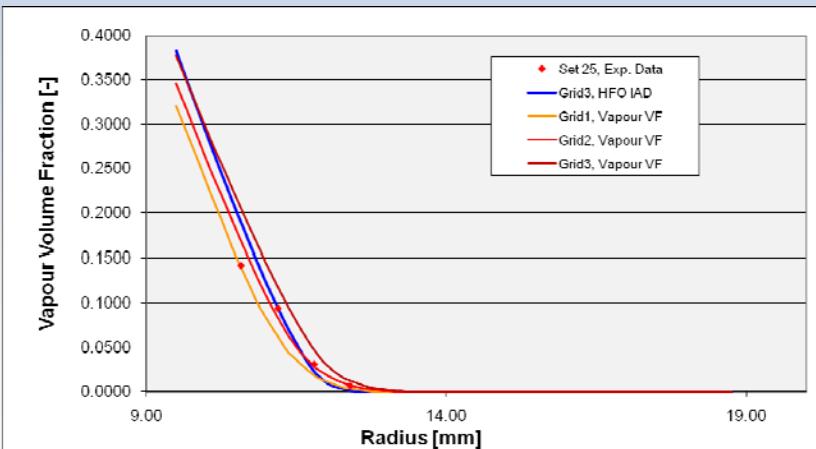


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The RPI Wall Boiling Model:
Lee et al. Testcase with CHT



Set25 & CHT: Vapour VF distribution @ z=1610[mm]

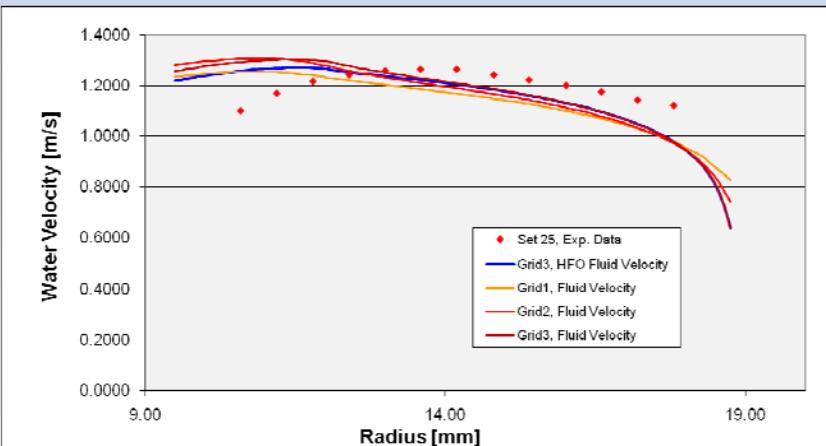


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The RPI Wall Boiling Model:
Lee et al. Testcase with CHT



Set25 & CHT: Water velocity distribution @ z=1610[mm]



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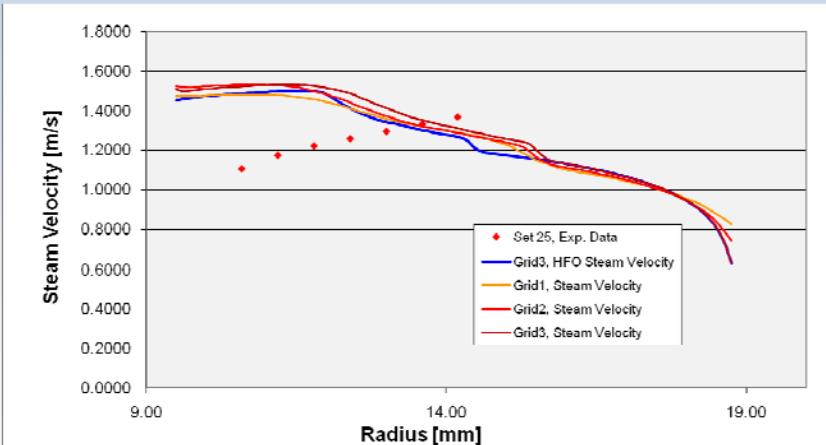
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The RPI Wall Boiling Model:
Lee et al. Testcase with CHT



Set25 & CHT: Vapour velocity distribution @ z=1610[mm]



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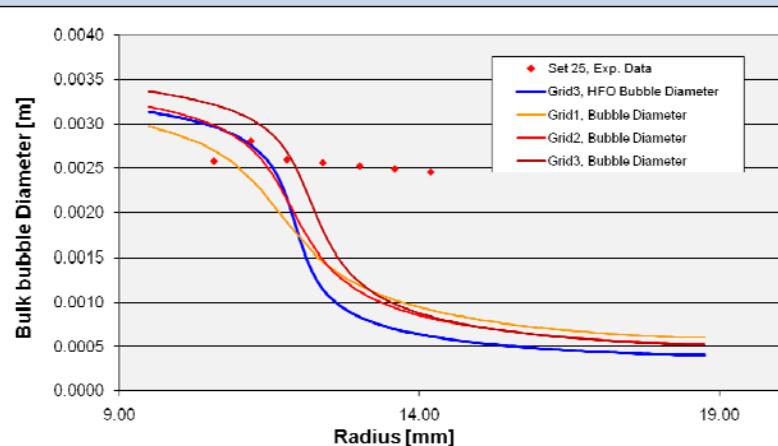
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The RPI Wall Boiling Model: Lee et al. Testcase with CHT



Set25 & CHT: Bulk bubble diameter distribution

@ z=1610[mm]



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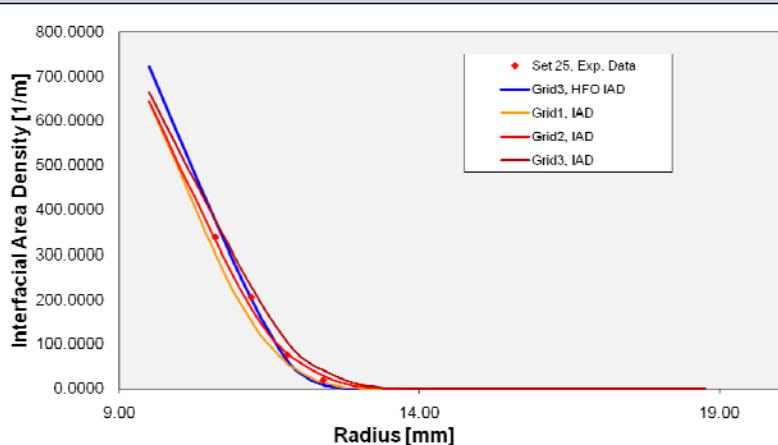
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The RPI Wall Boiling Model: Lee et al. Testcase with CHT



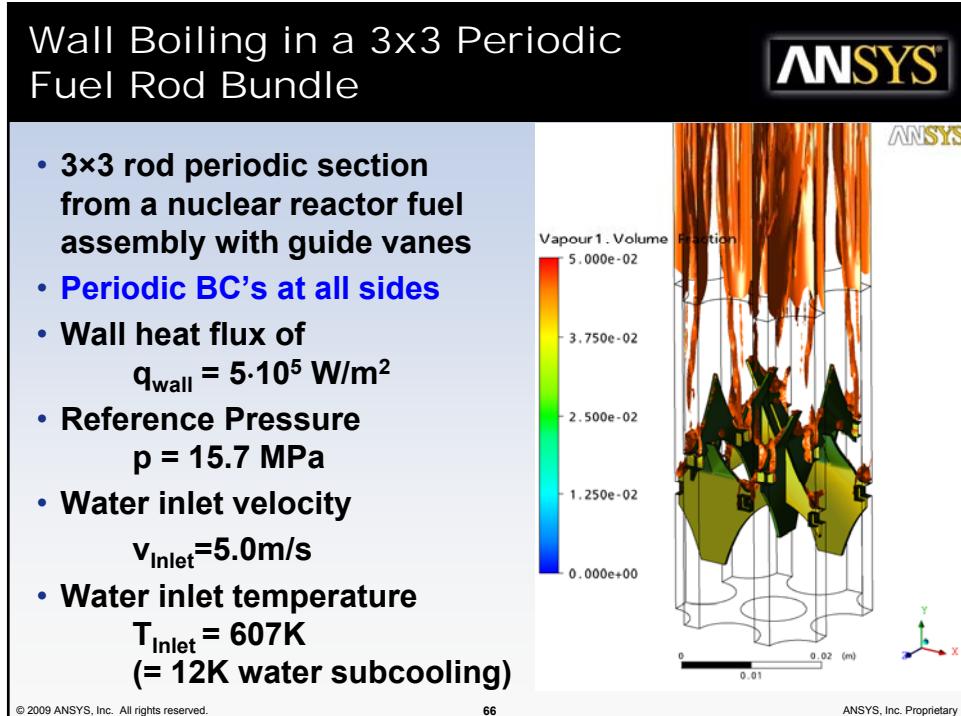
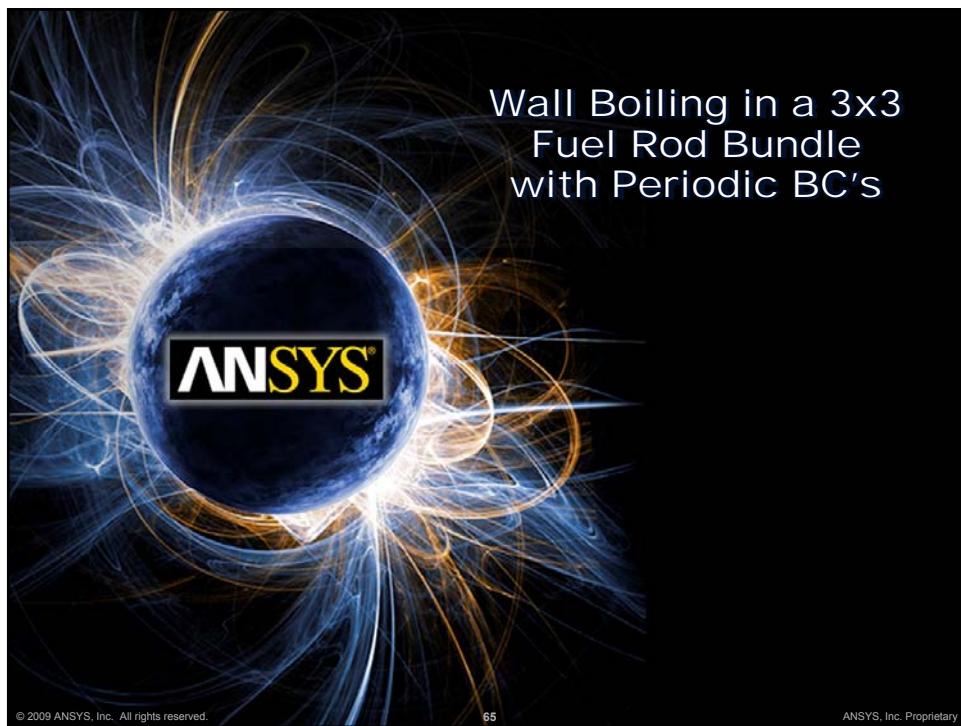
Set25 & CHT: IAD distribution @ z=1610[mm]



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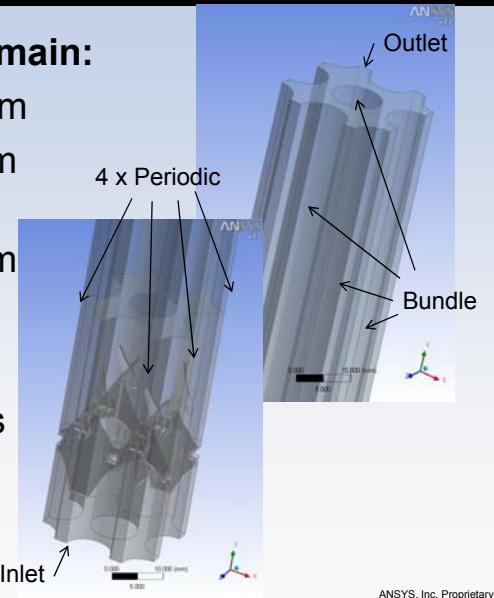


Wall Boiling in a 3x3 Periodic Geometry & Meshing



- **Dimensions of flow domain:**

- Length = 530 mm
- Tube diam. = 9.4 mm
- Subchannel width = 2.6 mm
- Heated rod walls
- Spacer grid treated as adiabatic walls



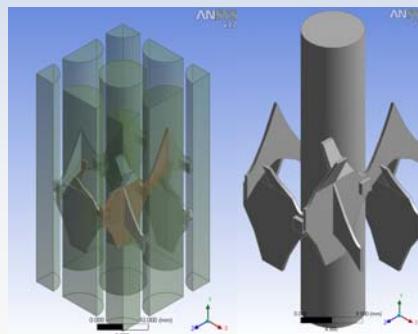
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Wall Boiling in a 3x3 Periodic Geometry & Meshing



- **Geometry preparation in ANSYS Design Modeler**
- **Extraction of periodic fluid domain**



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Wall Boiling in a 3x3 Periodic Geometry & Meshing



- **Meshing in ANSYS Workbench**

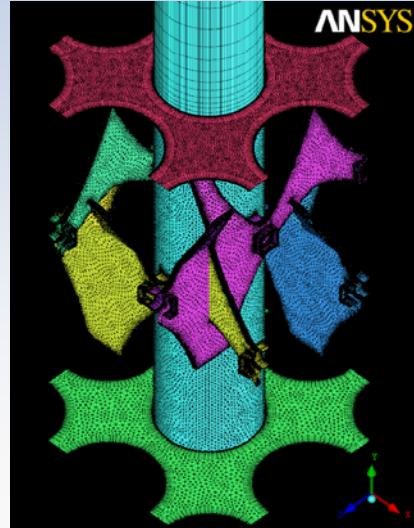
- **Tet/Prism in lower part**
- **Extruded prism mesh in upper part**

- **Mesh statistic**

- Tetra: 1,752,320
- Hexa: 838,800
- Prism: 2,088,820

- **Quality**

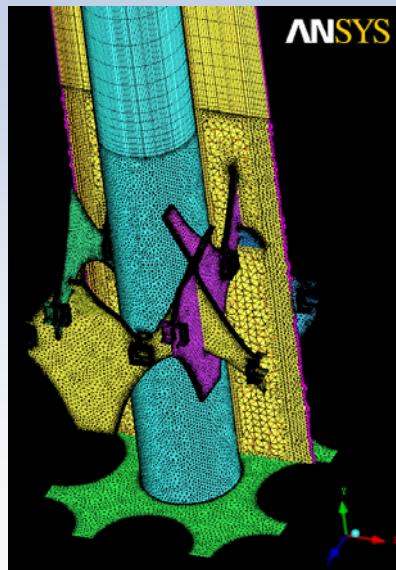
- Quality > 0.25
- Min Angle > 10 deg



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Wall Boiling in a 3x3 Periodic Geometry & Meshing



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Wall Boiling in a 3x3 Periodic Fuel Rod Bundle



1. Material:

- IAPWS IF97 water-water steam property tables

2. Liquid Phase:

- BSL RSM turbulence model
- Thermal Energy equation

3. Gaseous Phase:

- Particle model (Kurul-Podowski model)
- Grace drag & non-drag forces
- 0-eq. disperse phase turbulence model & Sato
- $T_{\text{Steam}} = T_{\text{sat}}$

4. Interfacial Heat & Mass Transfer

- RPI wall boiling model & bulk boiling model

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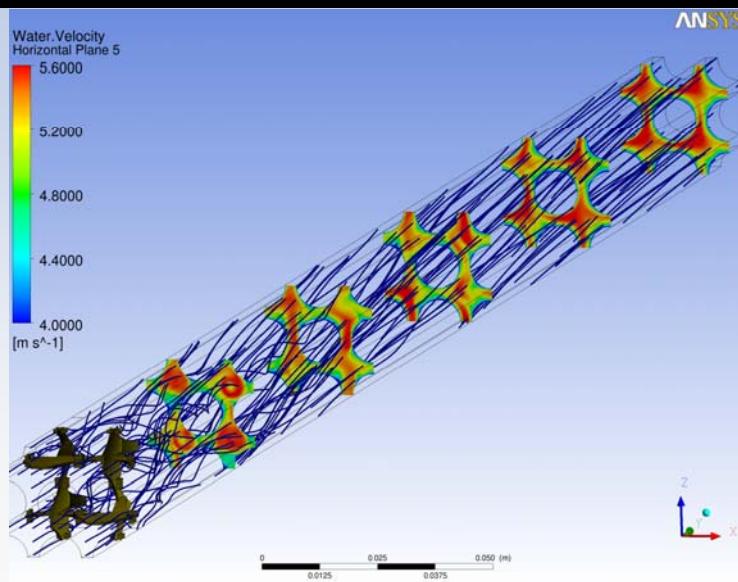
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Wall Boiling in a 3x3 Periodic Fuel Rod Bundle



**Streamlines
& water
velocity in
horizontal
planes**



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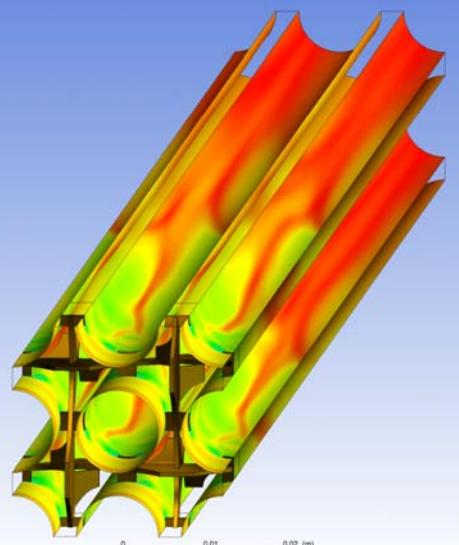
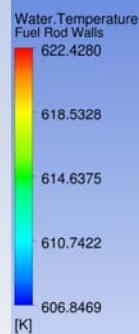
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Wall Boiling in a 3x3 Periodic Fuel Rod Bundle

ANSYS®

Near wall
water
temperature



ANSYS

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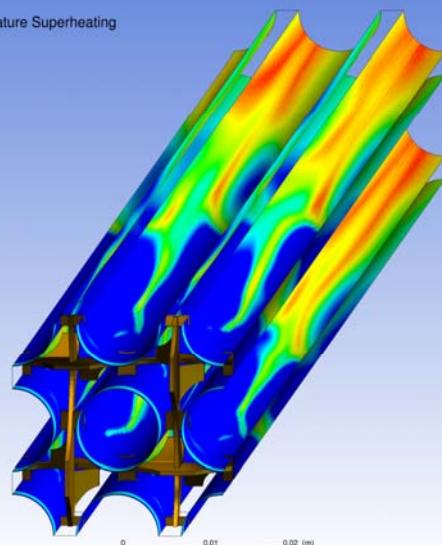
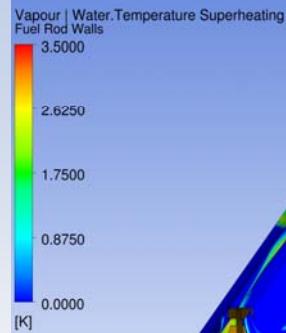
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Wall Boiling in a 3x3 Periodic Fuel Rod Bundle

ANSYS®

Wall
superheat



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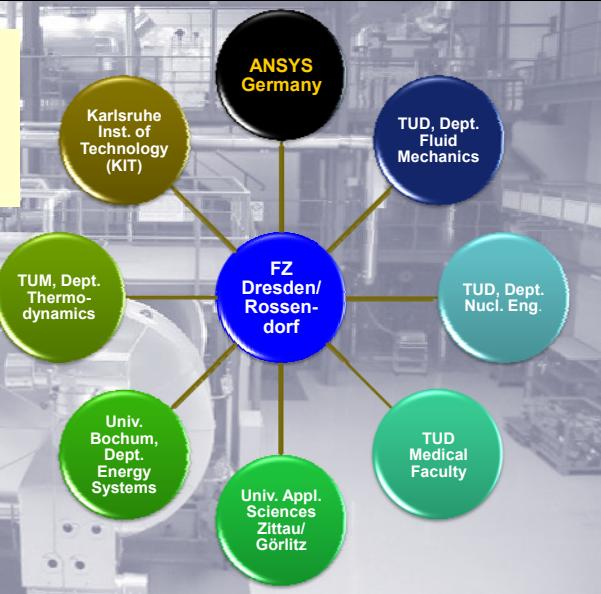
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Coming next...



R&D Initiative:
“Modeling, Simulation & Experiments for Boiling Processes in Fuel Assemblies of PWR”



**Modeling, Simulation & Experiments for
Boiling Processes in Fuel Assemblies of PWR**



- Ultrafast electron beam X-ray CT of fuel rod bundle in titanium pipe on TOPFLOW @ FZD:



Images by courtesy of U. Hampel, FZD

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Conclusions & Final Remarks



- ANSYS CFD 12.0 provides set of CFD models for boiling simulation in fuel assemblies
- Wall boiling model validation has shown good agreement for Bartolomej & Lee testcases
→ for PWR & BWR flow conditions
- Modified RPI wall boiling model delivers almost grid independent results
- Model compatibility with CHT (Conjugate Heat Transfer) in solid material
→ CFD simulation with prescribed volumetric energy source in the Uranium core of fuel rods
- Identification of submodel parameters for PWR & BWR flow conditions

Future Work



- ANSYS follows customer driven CFD software & model development
- Coupling of wall boiling model to inhomogeneous MUSIG / population balance
→ account for bubble size distribution changes
- Extension of the wall boiling model towards superheated steam, film boiling, CHF
- Multiphase flow regime transition
- Coupling of CFD with Neutron kinetics
- Continued & extended model validation



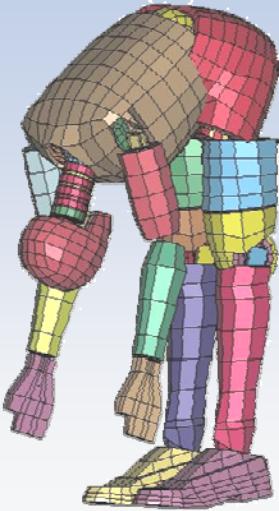
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Thank You!



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