

Visualization Experiment for Sliding Bubble Behaviors on a Horizontal Tube Heater

Yu-Na Kim , Jae Soon Kim , Goon-Cherl Park , Hyoung Kyu Cho
rladbsk0828@snu.ac.kr

Nuclear Thermal Hydraulic Engineering Lab.
Seoul National University, Republic of Korea

May 13, 2016

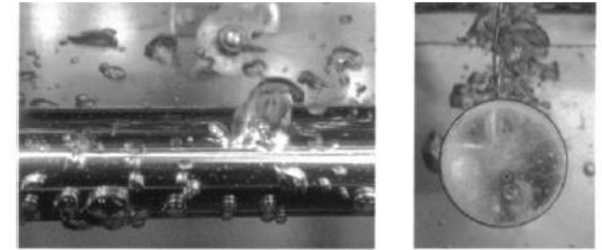
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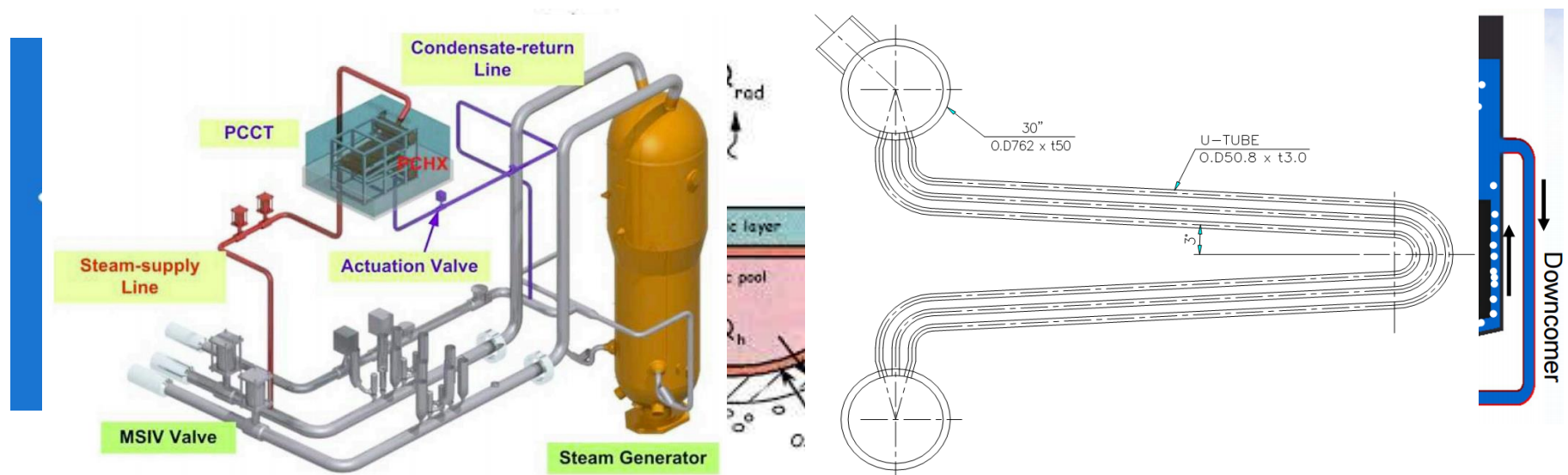
1. Introduction

❖ Boiling heat transfer on downward heating surface

- Horizontal tube, inclined channel and hemisphere
 - Steam generator U-tube
 - External Reactor Vessel Cooling
 - Fuel rod, Calandria tube, Calandria tank of CANDU
 - Core catcher
 - [Passive Auxiliary Feed-water System \(PAFS\)](#)



• Kang, 2005



• Calandria tube of CANDU

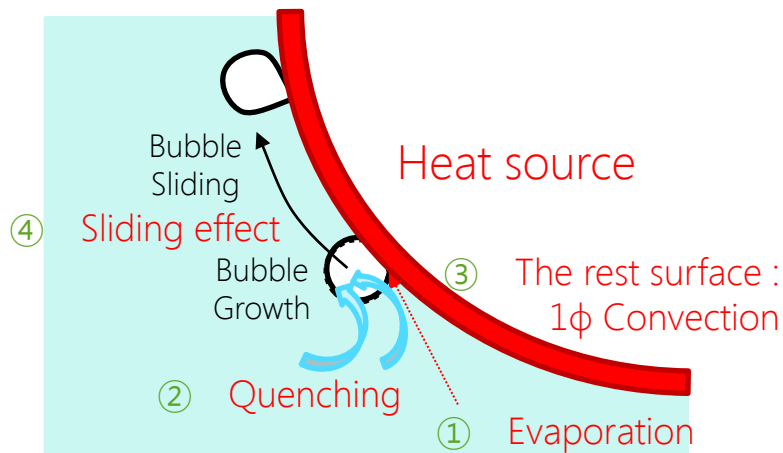
• IVR-ERVC (Duspiva, 2014)

• Core catcher (Lee, 2013)

1. Introduction

❖ Heat partitioning model

- Widely accepted boiling heat transfer model in Computational Fluid Dynamics(CFD)
- Decomposition of heat transfer mechanism
 - ① Evaporation
 - ② Quenching
 - ③ Single-phase convection
 - + ④ Sliding bubble effect(vertical surface, tube)



- Schematic of boiling heat transfer on tube outside

$$q_{tot} = \overset{\textcircled{1}}{(q_{me} + q_{tc})} \overset{\textcircled{2}}{x_{st}} + \overset{\textcircled{4}}{(q_{mes} + q_{tcs})} \overset{\textcircled{3}}{x_s} + q_{sp}$$

$$q_{mes} = \frac{1}{6} \pi (d_l^3 - d_d^3) \rho_v h_{fg} n_b f$$

$$q_{tcs} = 2 \sqrt{\frac{k_f \rho_f c_{pf}}{\pi t_w}} \Delta T n_b t_w f \int_{t_d}^{t_l} K d(t) U_b(t) dt$$

☐ : Bubble parameters

☐ : Fluid properties

Kurul, "Multidimensional effects in forced convection subcooled boiling", Heat Transfer Conference (1990)

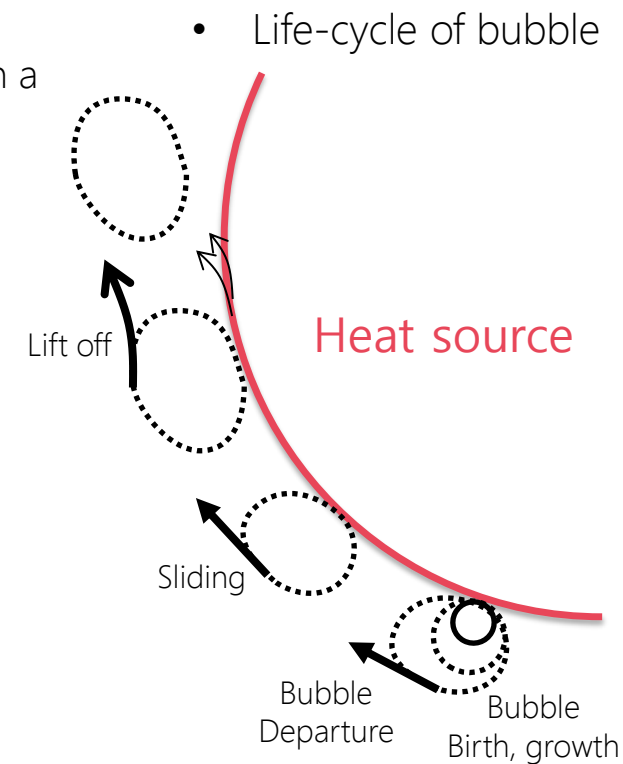
G. Sateesh, "Analysis of pool boiling heat transfer: effect of bubbles sliding on the heating surface", International Journal of Heat and Mass Transfer(2005)

❖ Sliding bubble behaviors

- Bubble parameters
 - Lift-off diameter, departure diameter, bubble frequency, waiting time, bubble diameter, bubble velocity etc.
 - Distinctive characteristics of a sliding bubble on a curved surface
 - Location of the nucleation site
 - Continuously varying force direction of the forces exerted on a bubble
- ➔ Needs of experimental results on horizontal tube

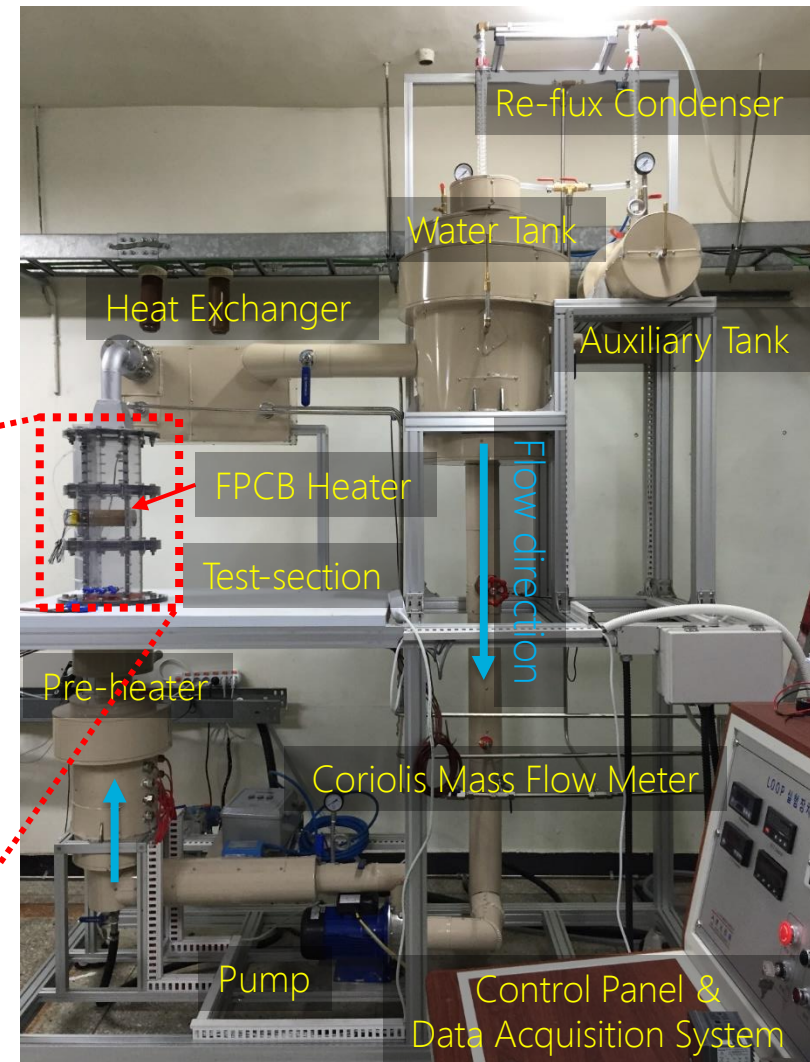
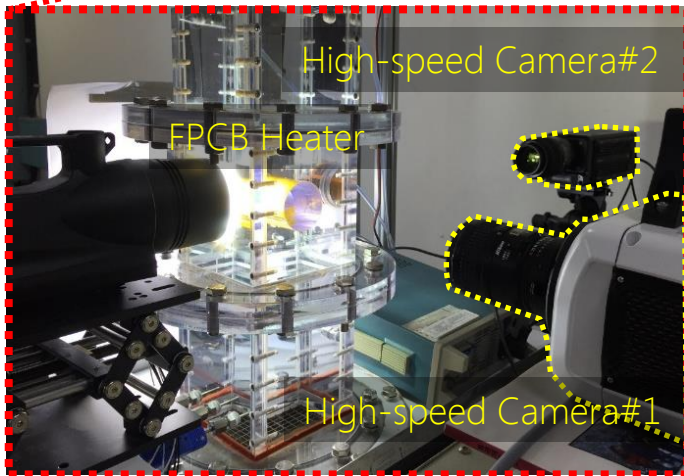
❖ Objective of this study

- To visualize the boiling bubble on horizontal heater
- To measure key parameters of boiling heat transfer model



2. Visualization Experiment (1/6)

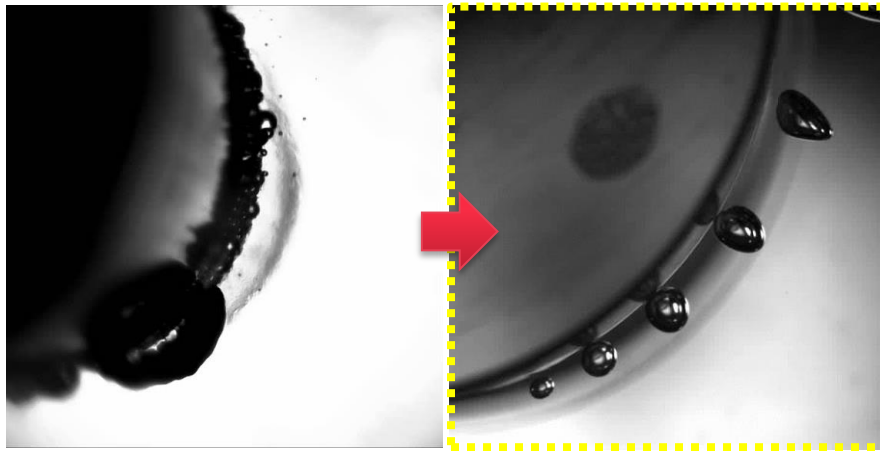
- ❖ Measurement method
 - 2 Synchronized high-speed cameras
 - Shadowgraphy for bubble motion
- ❖ Experimental condition
 - Atmospheric pressure
 - Nearly saturation temperature
 - 15~30mm/s flow velocity



2. Visualization Experiment (2/6)

❖ Flexible Printed Circuit Board(FPCB) heater

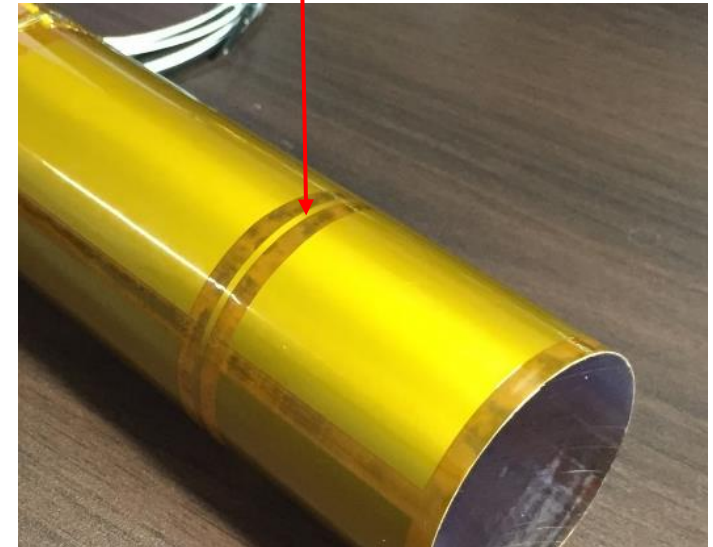
- To overcome the visual interference by overlapping bubbles
- Narrow heating width (0.5mm, 1.0mm, 1.5mm)



- Boiling on conventional cartridge heater

- Boiling on FPCB heater

Heating area

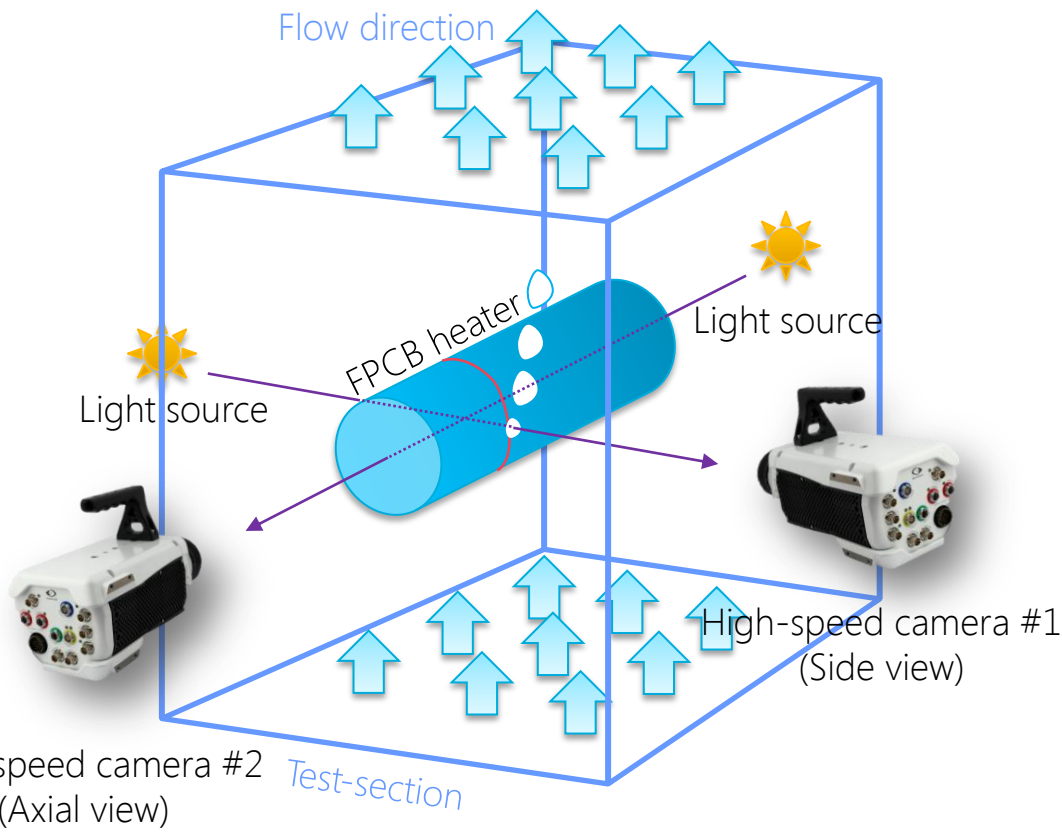


- FPCB heater

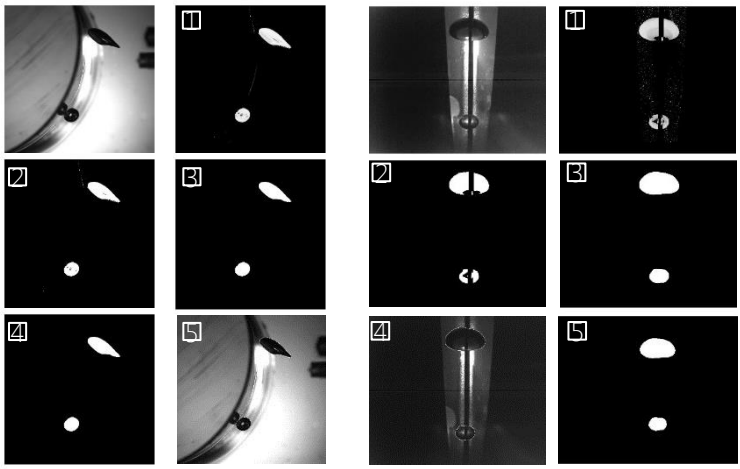
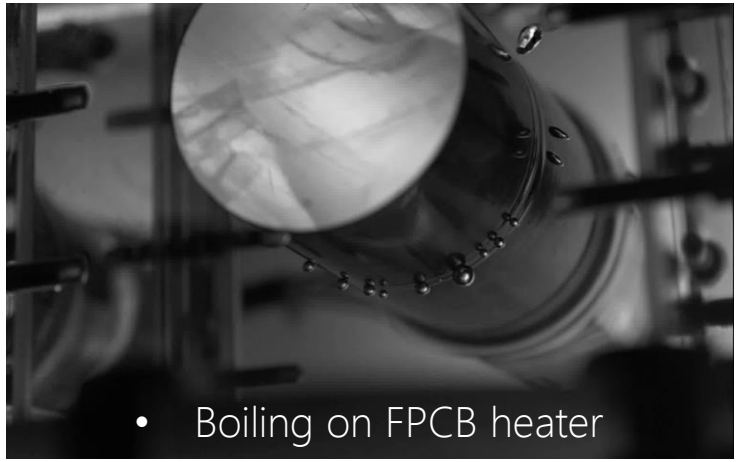
2. Visualization Experiment (3/6)

❖ Visualization and phase separation

- Stereoscopic observation
- Shadowgraphy



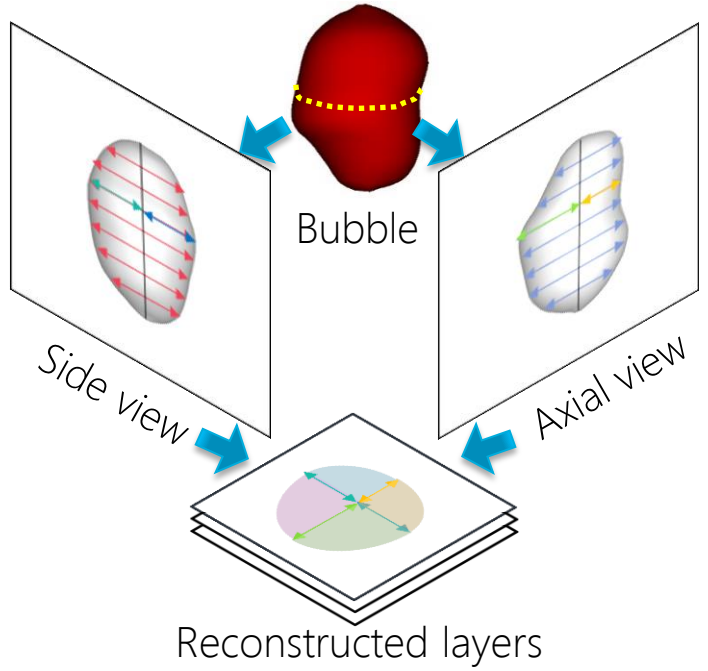
• Schematic of visualization systems setup



- Phase discrimination process
 1. Image complement & background removal
 2. Binarization
 3. Filling holes + convex hull
 4. Verification

2. Visualization Experiment (4/6)

❖ 3-Dimensional bubble reconstruction



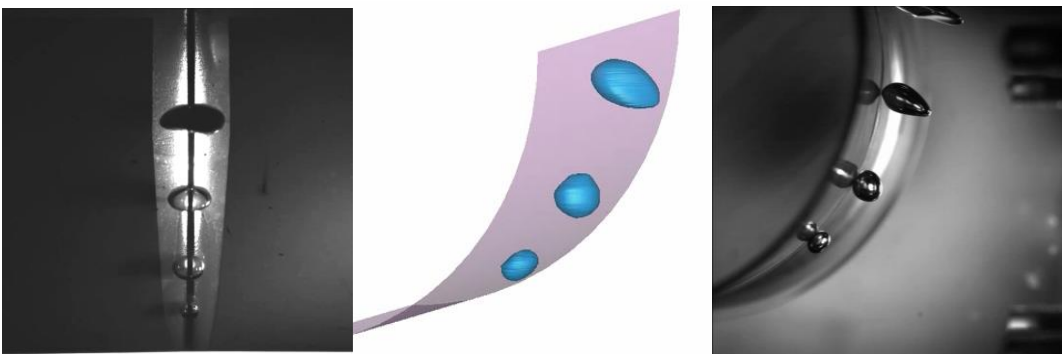
- Reconstruction process

Side view

Axial view



- 95kW/m^2 , 27.6mm/s , 45°

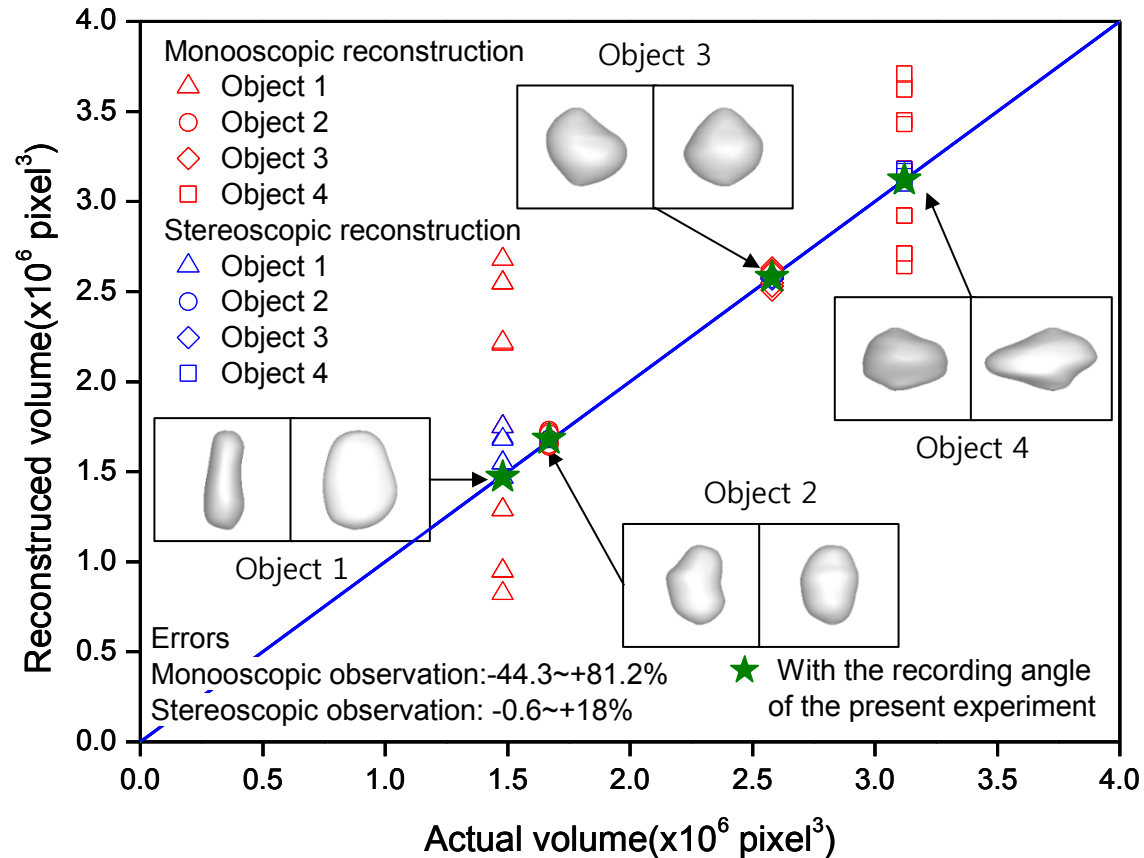


- 129kW/m^2 , 27.6mm/s , 45°
- Reconstruction results

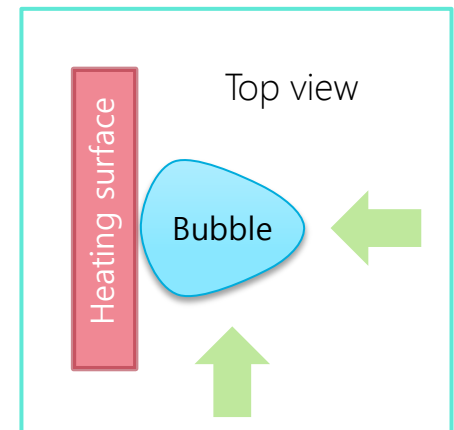
2. Visualization Experiment (5/6)

❖ Validation of 3D reconstruction

- Using various phantoms created with CAD
 - Visualization on major & minor axis of objects shows under 1% volumetric error.
 - It was concluded that the stereoscopic measurement can give reliable results.



- Recording angle



2. Visualization Experiment (6/6)

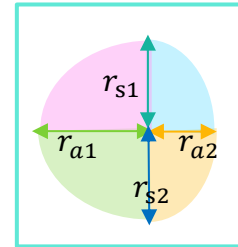
❖ Measurement of bubble parameters

- Bubble volume & equivalent diameter

- Sum of cross section area which consists of four different pieces of ellipses in each quadrant

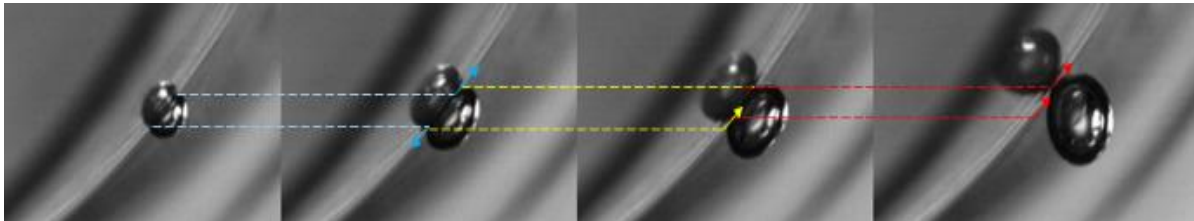
$$V_{bubble} = \sum_{bottom}^{top} \frac{1}{4} (r_{a1} \times r_{s1} + r_{s1} \times r_{a2} + r_{a2} \times r_{s2} + r_{s2} \times r_{a1}) dh$$

$$d_{equi} = \sqrt[3]{\frac{6}{\pi} V_{bubble}}$$



- Departure

- Moment when both contact points move to same direction



- lift-off

- Moment when contact diameter becomes zero

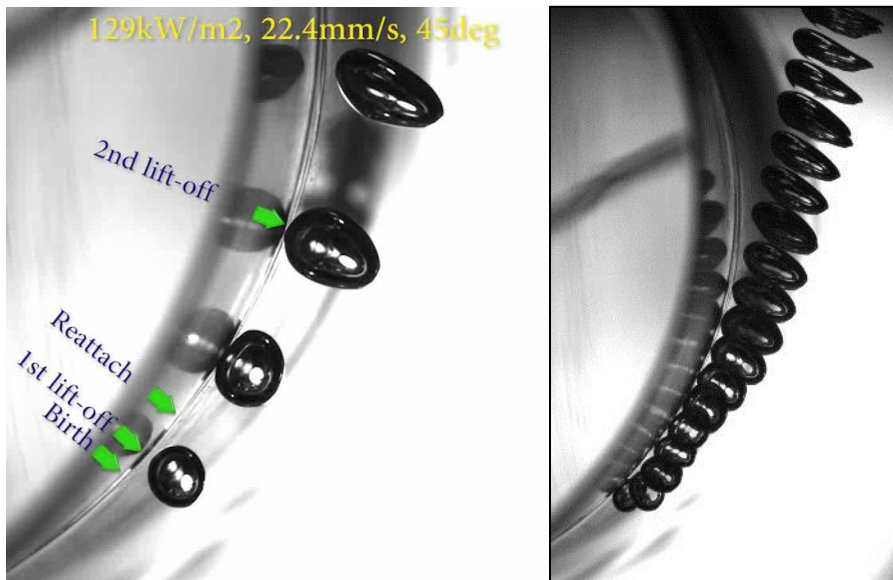
- Velocity

- Movement of center per unit time

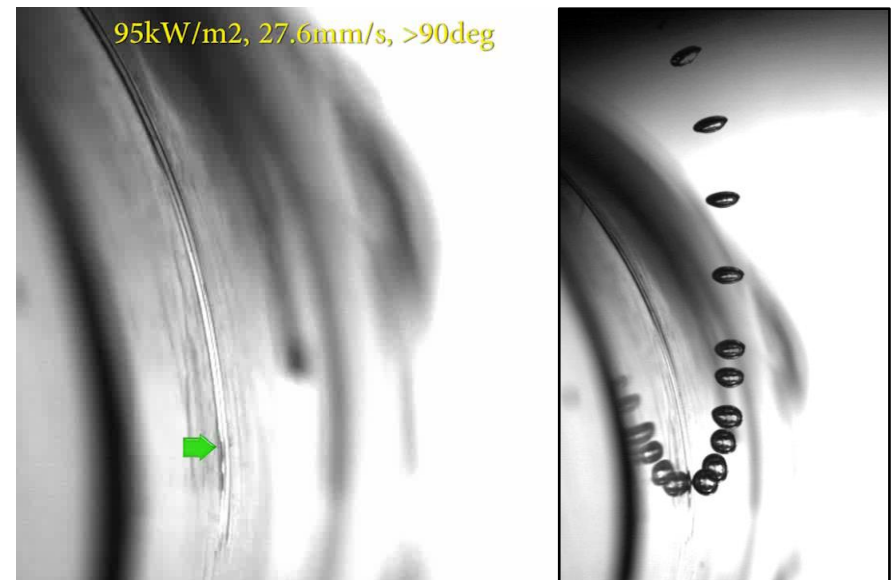
3. Experimental Results (1/6)

❖ Phenomena description

- Sliding occurs if the nucleation site is located at lower half of the heater.
- Bubble life cycle
 - Birth – departure – 1st lift-off – reattach – sliding – 2nd lift-off



- Sliding (under 90°)

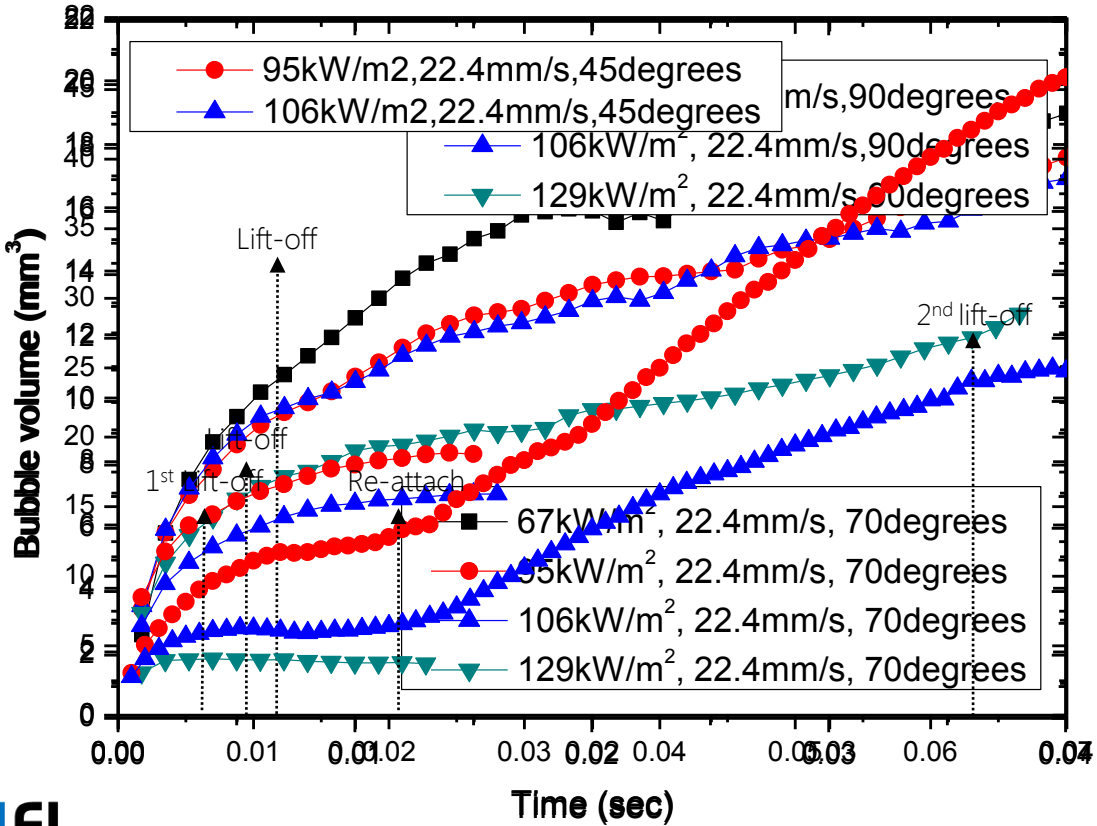
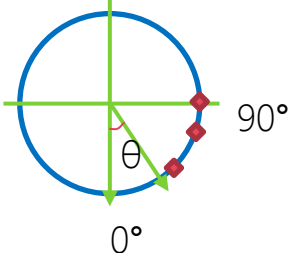


- No sliding (over 90°)

3. Experimental Results (2/6)

❖ Measured bubble parameters

- Bubble volume transient (bubble growth history)
 - The transient is closely related with the bubble life cycle.
 - Lower heat flux → lower bubble frequency → longer waiting time → formation of superheated layer → larger bubble volume

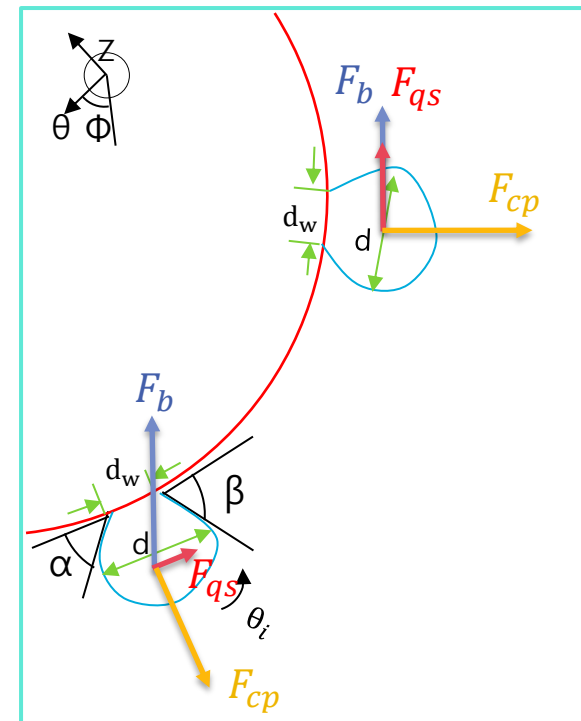
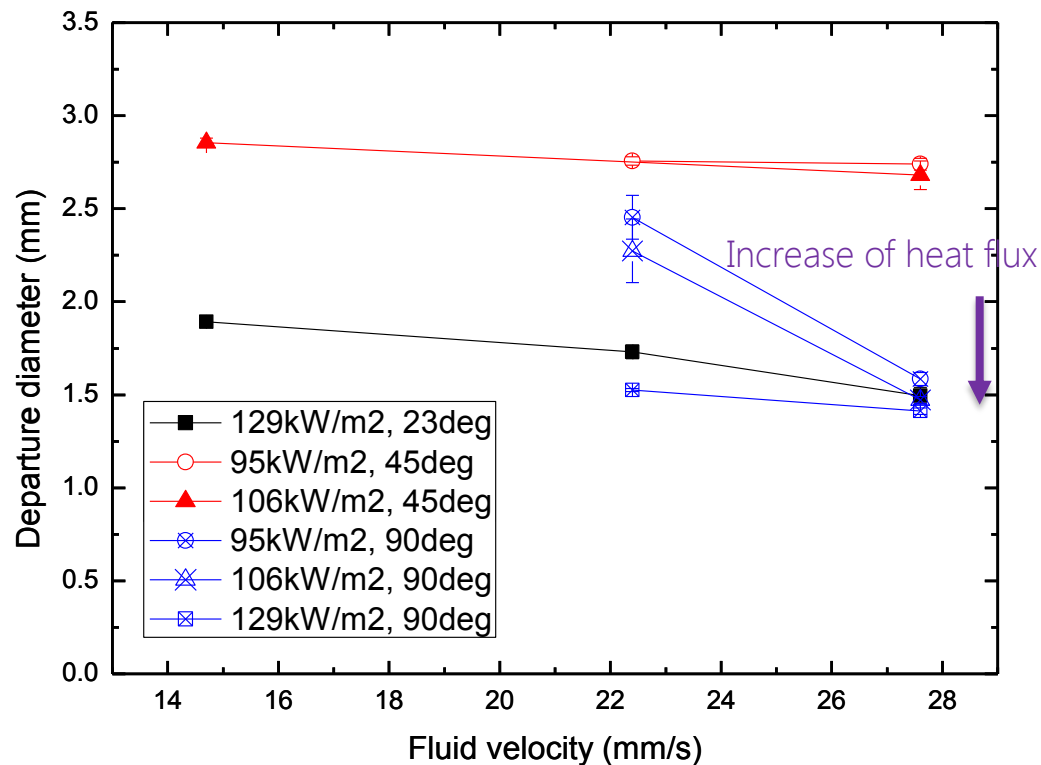


106kW/m², 22.4mm/s, 45 degrees

3. Experimental Results (3/6)

❖ Measured bubble parameters

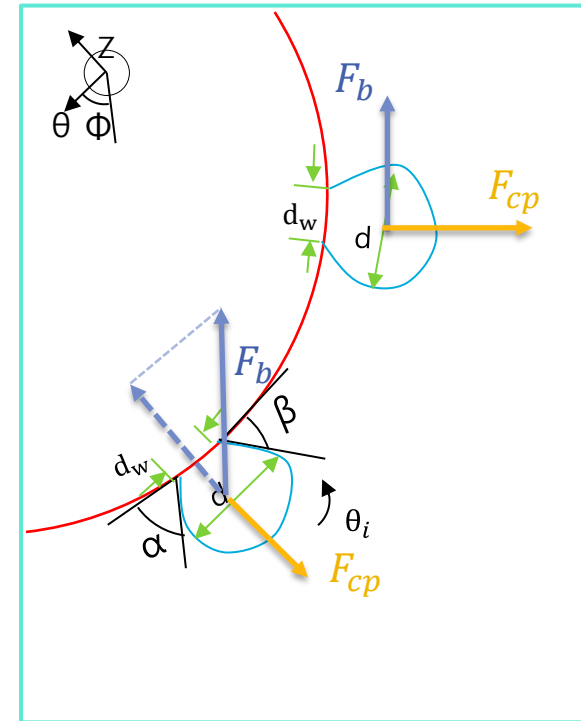
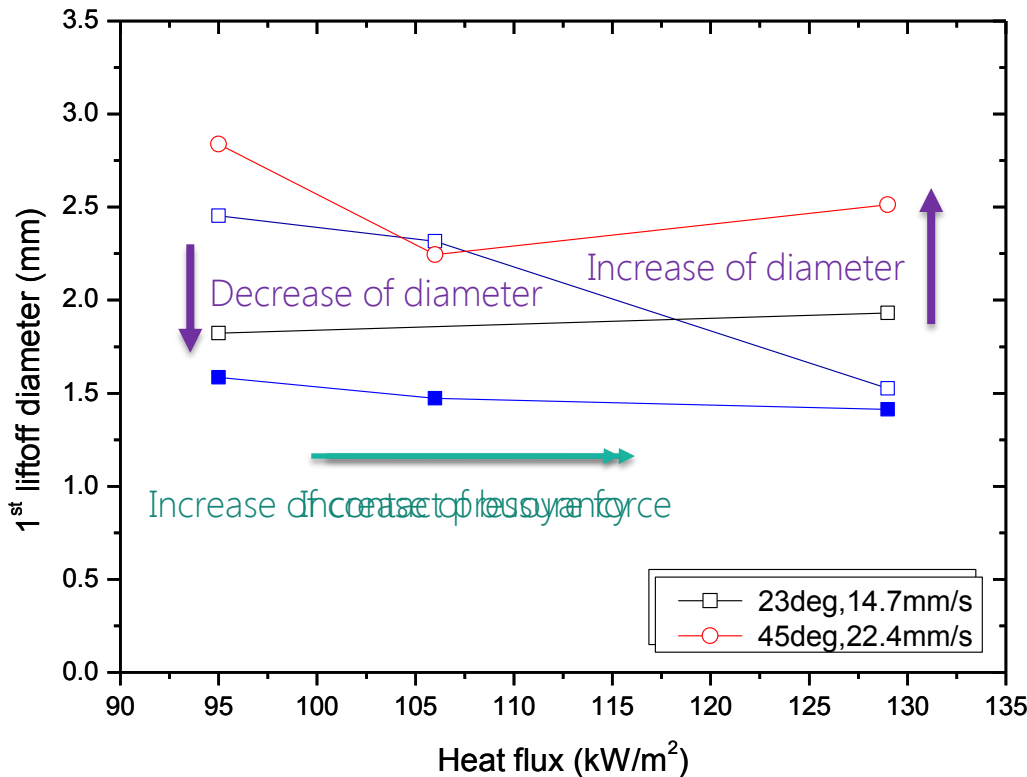
- Departure diameter(or 1st lift-off diameter): 1.0~3.0mm
 - Competition of forces determines the departure diameter.
 - Buoyancy force, contact pressure force, drag force
 - When the angle of nucleation site is small,
 - The normal directional forces to the surface : dominant effect on departure.



3. Experimental Results (4/6)

❖ Measured bubble parameters

- 1st lift-off diameter: 1.0~3.0mm
 - Higher heat flux → larger contact pressure force → smaller lift-off diameter
 - At 45°, 106kW/m² → 129kW/m² (22.4mm/s)
 - : even if contact pressure force increases, 1st lift-off diameter increases due to large buoyancy.

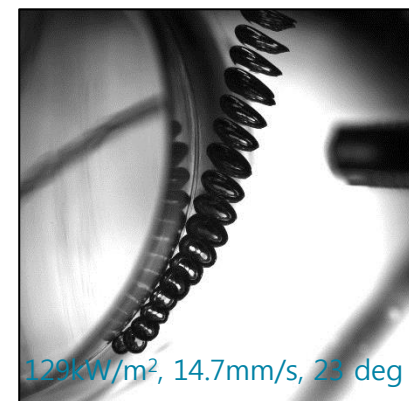
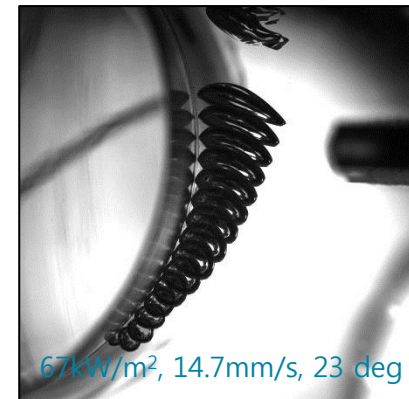
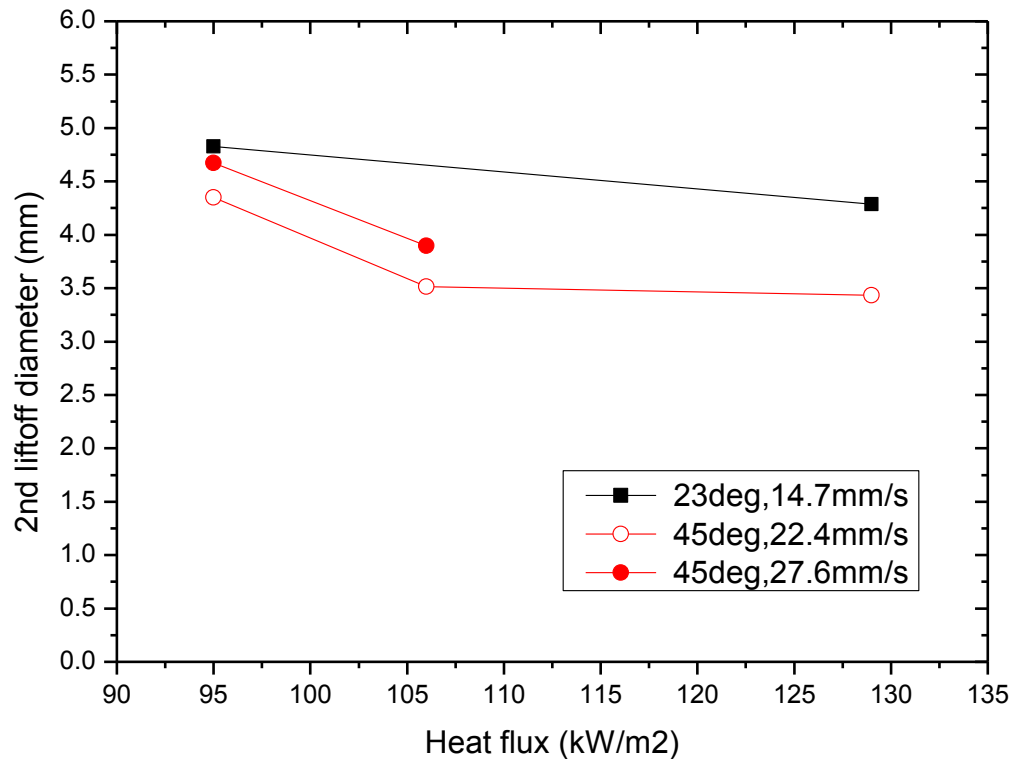


3. Experimental Results (5/6)

❖ Measured bubble parameters

- 2nd lift-off diameter: 3.0~5.0mm

- Smaller angle of nucleation site → longer sliding length → larger 2nd lift-off diameter
- Lower heat flux → lower bubble frequency → larger bubble volume → larger buoyancy → moving near heating surface → larger lift-off diameter



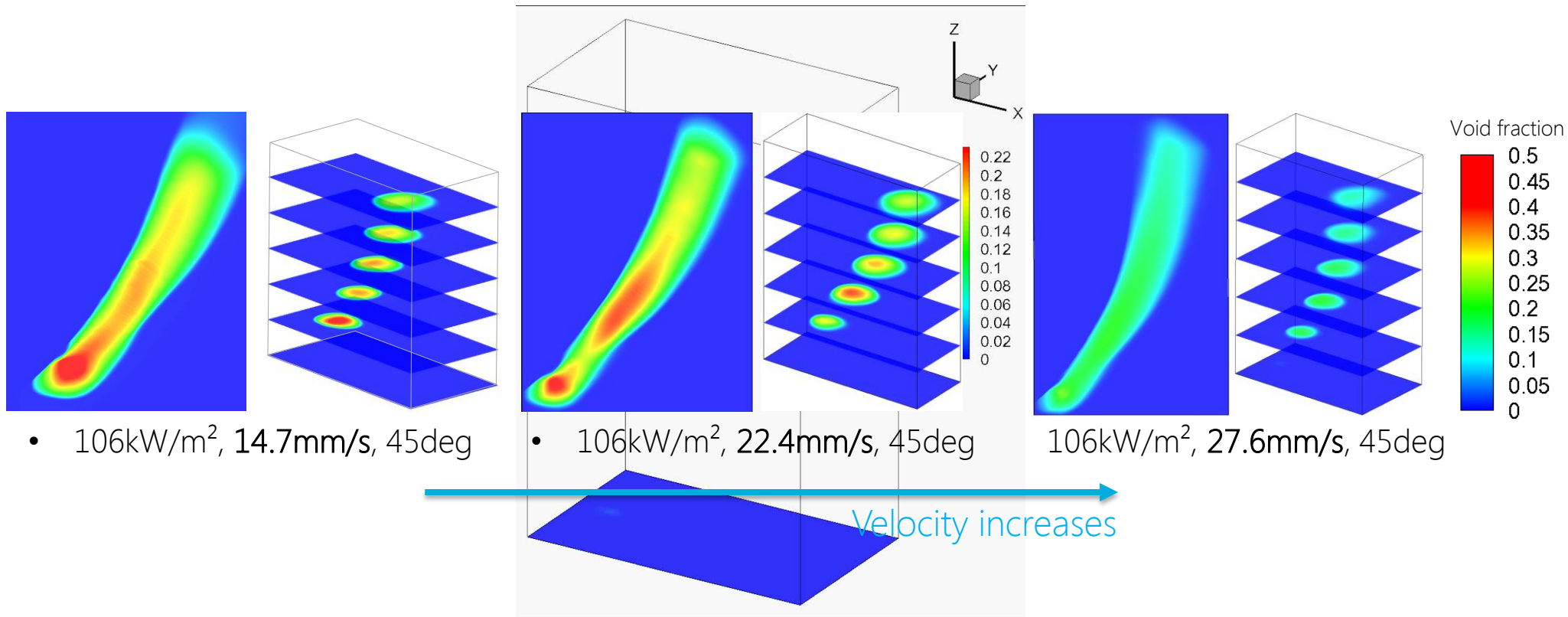
- lift-off diameter (d_l)

- Path of sliding bubble

3. Experimental Results (6/6)

❖ Measured bubble parameters

- Time averaged void fraction: volume fraction of bubble
 - One of the most important parameters for CFD two-phase analysis
 - Will be used for the boiling heat transfer model validation.



4. SUMMARY

❖ Improvement on experimental method

- Developed FPCB heater for visualization without interference
- 3D bubble reconstruction was conducted and its error was under 1%

❖ Measuring boiling parameters

- Observed boiling phenomena on horizontal tube outside
- Measured important bubble parameters for modeling

❖ Future works

- Development of the force balance model exerted on a boiling bubble
 - To predict the bubble departure diameter and lift-off diameter
- Validation of the existing boiling heat transfer models
 - Using the time averaged void fraction data
- Improve the wall boiling heat transfer model
 - Using the force balance model + validation result

Thank you!

김유나, 김재순, 박군철, 조형규

rladbsk0828@snu.ac.kr