

# Lectures on Thermal-Hydraulics in Nuclear Energy Engineering

## Lecture No 07

Title:

Boiling Channel – Part III: Void Fraction and Pressure Drop

Henryk Anglart

Nuclear Reactor Technology Division

Department of Physics, School of Engineering Sciences

KTH

Autumn 2022

# Outline of the Lecture

- Void fraction in saturated region
  - Drift Flux Model
  - Void distribution in BWR fuel assembly
- Void fraction in subcooled region
- Pressure drop in saturated region
  - Rod bundle correlations
  - Integral friction multipliers using HEM

# Void Fraction Calculation

- Prediction of void fraction is important because it affects the moderator density, thus, it affects power generation in nuclear reactors
- Two models are widely used in saturated region:
  - Homogeneous Equilibrium Model (HEM)
  - Drift-Flux Model (DFM)
- Void fraction in subcooled region
  - Onset of Nucleate Boiling (ONB)
  - Onset of Significant Void (OSV)
  - Actual quality model

# Void Fraction - HEM (1)

- In HEM, it is assumed that both phases are in the thermodynamic equilibrium and flow with the same speed

- Void fraction is calculated in two steps:

- first the value of the equilibrium quality ( $x_e$ ) is found as  $x_e(z) \equiv \frac{i(z) - i_f}{i_{fg}}$

- next the value of void fraction is calculated from the following equation:

$$\alpha(z) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } x_e \leq 0 \\ \frac{1}{1 + \frac{\rho_g}{\rho_f} \cdot \left( \frac{1 - x_e(z)}{x_e(z)} \right)} & \text{for } 0 < x_e < 1 \\ 1 & \text{for } x_e \geq 1 \end{cases}$$

# Void Fraction - DFM

- Drift flux model allows for:
  - different velocities for both phases
  - thermodynamic equilibrium/non-equilibrium
- The void fraction is calculated from the following relationship:

$$\alpha = \frac{J_v}{C_0 J + U_{vj}}$$

$$J = J_v + J_l$$

$$J_v = \frac{G_v}{\rho_v} = \frac{xG}{\rho_v}$$

$$J_l = \frac{G_l}{\rho_l} = \frac{(1-x)G}{\rho_l}$$

- here  $C_0$  and  $U_{vj}$  are the distribution parameter and the drift velocity, respectively. They are flow-regime dependent.
- $J_v$  and  $J$  are superficial velocities for vapor and for the mixture, respectively

# DFM in Thermodynamic Equilibrium

Flow pattern	Distribution parameter	Drift velocity
Bubbly $0 < \alpha \leq 0.25$	$C_0 = \begin{cases} 1 - 0.5p/p_\sigma & D \geq 0.05m \\ 1.2 & p/p_\sigma < 0.5 \\ 1.4 - 0.4p/p_\sigma & p/p_\sigma \geq 0.5 \end{cases} \quad D < 0.05m$ <sup>1)</sup>	$U_{vj} = 1.41 \left( \frac{\sigma g (\rho_l - \rho_v)}{\rho_l^2} \right)^{0.25}$
Slug/churn $0.25 < \alpha \leq 0.75$	$C_0 = 1.15$	$U_{vj} = 0.35 \left( \frac{gD(\rho_l - \rho_v)}{\rho_l} \right)^{0.5}$
Annular $0.75 < \alpha \leq 0.95$	$C_0 = 1.05$	$U_{vj} = 23 \left( \frac{\mu_l j_l}{\rho_v D_h} \right)^{0.5} \frac{(\rho_l - \rho_v)}{\rho_l}$
Mist $0.95 < \alpha < 1$	$C_0 = 1.0$	$U_{vj} = 1.53 \left( \frac{\sigma g (\rho_l - \rho_v)}{\rho_v^2} \right)^{0.25}$

<sup>1)</sup>  $p_\sigma$  – critical pressure       $\sigma$  – surface tension       $D=D_h$  – hydraulic diameter

# Example: Void in BWR Assembly

- Example:** Calculate the mean void fraction at the exit of a BWR fuel assembly using Drift Flux Model. Given:

Flow area: (A)  $23.44 \cdot 10^{-4} \text{ m}^2$

Hydraulic diameter: ( $D_h$ ) 11.5 mm

Mass flux: (G)  $1770 \text{ kg/m}^2\cdot\text{s}$

Pressure: (p) 7 MPa

Inlet subcooling: ( $\Delta T_{\text{sub}}$ ) 10 K

Total thermal power: (q) 2.3 MW

Exit specific enthalpy is found from the energy balance:  $i_{\text{ex}} = i_{\text{in}} + q/(G \cdot A)$

$$i_{\text{in}} = i(p, T_{\text{sat}} - \Delta T_{\text{sub}}) = 1214.5 \text{ kJ/kg}$$

Exit quality is found as:

$$x = x_{\text{ex}} = (i_{\text{ex}} - i_f)/i_{\text{fg}} = 0.3332$$

# Example: Void in BWR Assembly

- Solution:** We guess that the flow conditions correspond to annular flow, for which we find:

$$C_0 = 1.05 \qquad U_{vj} = 23 \left( \frac{\mu_f J_f}{\rho_g D_h} \right)^{0.5} \frac{(\rho_f - \rho_g)}{\rho_f}$$

From water property tables we get:  $\rho_f = 739.7 \text{ kg/m}^3$ ;  
 $\rho_g = 36.5 \text{ kg/m}^3$ ;  $\mu_f = 9.13 \cdot 10^{-5} \text{ Pa.s}$ ;  $J_f = (1-x)G/\rho_f = 1.596 \text{ m/s}$ ; Thus

$$U_{vj} = 23 \left( \frac{9.13 \cdot 10^{-5} \cdot 1.596}{36.5 \cdot 0.0115} \right)^{0.5} \frac{(739.7 - 36.5)}{739.7} = 0.407 \text{ m/s}$$



# Example: Void in BWR Assembly

- Superficial velocity of vapor is found as:  $J_g = x^*G/\rho_g = 16.15 \text{ m/s}$
- The void fraction is now found as

$$\alpha = \frac{J_g}{C_0 J + U_{vj}} = \frac{16.15}{1.05(16.15 + 1.60) + 0.407} = 0.848$$

As can be seen, this high void fraction corresponds to annular flow.

# Example: Void in BWR Assembly

- **Example:** Calculate the mean void fraction at 2 m distance from the inlet in a BWR fuel assembly using Drift Flux model and assuming the cosine axial power distribution. Given:  $H=3.66$  m,  $d = 10$  cm

Flow area:  $23.44 \cdot 10^{-4} \text{ m}^2$

Mass flux:  $1770 \text{ kg/m}^2\cdot\text{s}$

Ref. Pressure:  $7 \text{ MPa}$

Inlet subcooling:  $10 \text{ K}$

Total thermal power:  $2.25 \text{ MW}$

Hydraulic diameter:  $11.5 \text{ mm}$

$(i_{\text{in}} = 1214.5 \text{ kJ/kg}; i_{\text{fg}} = 1505.1 \text{ kJ/kg}; i_{\text{f}} = 1267.4 \text{ kJ/kg})$

# Example: Void in BWR Assembly

- **Solution:** The heat flux in the bundle is distributed as:

$$q''(z) = q_0'' \cdot \cos\left(\frac{\pi z}{\tilde{H}}\right)$$

Thus the total bundle power can be found as:

$$q = q_0'' \cdot P_H \int_{-H/2}^{H/2} \cos\left(\frac{\pi z}{\tilde{H}}\right) dz = q_0'' \cdot \frac{2P_H \tilde{H}}{\pi} \sin\left(\frac{\pi H}{2\tilde{H}}\right)$$

thus

$$\frac{q\pi}{2P_H \tilde{H} \sin\left(\frac{\pi H}{2\tilde{H}}\right)} = q_0''$$

and

$$q''(z) = \frac{q\pi}{2P_H \tilde{H} \sin\left(\frac{\pi H}{2\tilde{H}}\right)} \cdot \cos\left(\frac{\pi z}{\tilde{H}}\right)$$

# Example: Void in BWR Assembly

- **Solution:** Energy balance up to 2 m from the inlet ( $z = 2 - H/2 = 0.17$  m):

$$q_{2-H/2} = \int_{-H/2}^{2-H/2} P_H q''(z) dz = \frac{q\pi}{2\tilde{H} \sin\left(\frac{\pi H}{2\tilde{H}}\right)} \cdot \int_{-H/2}^{2-H/2} \cos\left(\frac{\pi z}{\tilde{H}}\right) dz =$$
$$\frac{q}{2 \sin\left(\frac{\pi H}{2\tilde{H}}\right)} \left[ \sin\left(\frac{2-H/2}{\tilde{H}} \pi\right) + \sin\left(\frac{H\pi}{2\tilde{H}}\right) \right]$$

substituting data gives:  $q_{2-H/2} = 1.28 \text{ MW}$

# Example: Void in BWR Assembly

- **Solution:** thermodynamic equilibrium quality at 2 m from inlet:

$$i_{2-H/2} = i_{in} + \frac{q_{2-H/2}}{GA} = 1.523 \text{ MJ / kg}$$

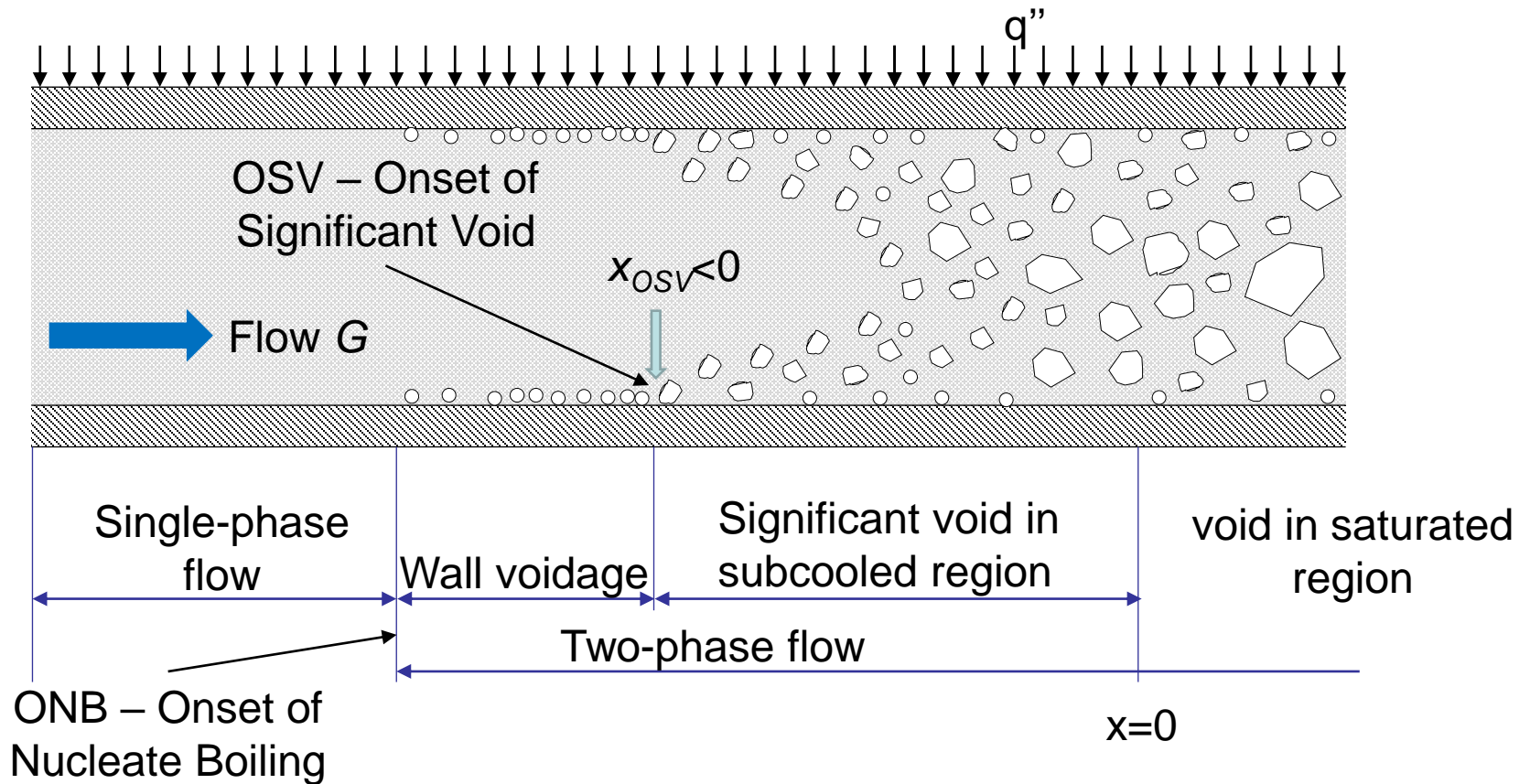
$$x_{2-H/2} = \frac{i_{2-H/2} - i_f}{i_{fg}} = 0.170$$

We guess annular flow and take corresponding values of  $C_0$  and  $U_{vj}$  :  $C_0=1.05$ ;  $U_{vj}=0.454$  m/s, thus the void is found:  $\alpha = 73.6$  %. As can be seen this corresponds to slug/churn flow and iteration is needed

# Example: Void in BWR Assembly

- **Solution:** using the slug/churn model we get  $\alpha = 67.5 \%$ , thus this is taken as the answer.

# Void Fraction in Subcooled Region



# Void Fraction – Subcooled Boiling (1)

- It can be assumed that void fraction is negligible up to the Onset of Significant Void (OSV) point.
- This point occurs at the location, where equilibrium quality becomes (Saha-Zuber model):

$$x_{e,OSV} = \begin{cases} -0.0022 \frac{q'' \cdot D_h \cdot c_{pf}}{i_{fg} \cdot \lambda_f} & \text{for } Pe < 70000 \\ -154 \frac{q''}{G \cdot i_{fg}} & \text{for } Pe \geq 70000 \end{cases}$$

– here  $Pe$  is the Peclet number, defined as:

$$Pe = Re \cdot Pr = \frac{G \cdot D_h \cdot c_{pf}}{\lambda_f}$$

$q''$  – heat flux, W/m<sup>2</sup>  
 $D_h$  – hydraulic diameter, m  
 $c_{pf}$  – fluid spec. heat, J/kgK  
 $\lambda_f$  – thermal conduct. W/mK



# Void Fraction – Subcooled Boiling (2)

- The actual quality is approximated as (Levy's model):

$$x_a(z) = x_e(z) - x_e(z_{OSV}) \cdot e^{\frac{x_e(z)}{x_e(z_{OSV})} - 1}$$

- The void fraction is then found as:

$$\alpha = \frac{J_v}{C_0 J + U_{vj}}$$

$$J_v = \frac{x_a G}{\rho_g} \quad \text{superficial velocity of vapour}$$

– where  $C_0 = \beta \left[ 1 + \left( \frac{1}{\beta} \right)^b \right]$

$$J_l = \frac{(1 - x_a) G}{\rho_f} \quad \text{Superficial velocity of liquid}$$

$$\beta = \frac{1}{1 + \frac{\rho_g}{\rho_f} \frac{1 - x_a(z)}{x_a(z)}}$$

$$b = \left( \frac{\rho_g}{\rho_f} \right)^{0.1}$$

$$U_{vj} = 2.9 \left( \frac{\sigma g (\rho_f - \rho_g)}{\rho_f^2} \right)^{0.25} \quad \sigma - \text{surface tension, N/m}$$

# Example 5

- Calculate the void fraction at the exit from a PWR subchannel and find the location of  $z_{OSV}$  and  $z_{SUB}$
- Given:  
pressure 15.5 MPa (everywhere the same), inlet temperature  $T_{in} = 300$  °C, uniform heat flux 850 kW/m<sup>2</sup>, rod diameter  $d_r = 9.4$  mm, fuel rod pitch 12.5 mm, length of fuel assembly  $H = 3.67$  m

# Example 5

- SOLUTION: we find first  $z_{SUB}$  from the energy balance as:

$$z_{SUB} = \frac{GA_{sch} (i_f - i_{in})}{q'' P_H} = 3.935 \text{ m} > L$$

- Thus at the exit there is subcooled water. We find the exit quality as:

$$\underbrace{\frac{i_{ex} - i_f}{i_{fg}}}_{x_{ex}} = \underbrace{\frac{i_{in} - i_f}{i_{fg}}}_{x_{in} \approx -0.302} + \underbrace{\frac{q'' P_H H}{GA_{sch} i_{fg}}}_{\Delta x \approx 0.282} = -0.0183$$

- Now we need to find the Peclet number:  $Pe = \frac{G \cdot D_h \cdot c_{pf}}{\lambda_f} = 9.1 \cdot 10^5$

# Example 5

- Since  $Pe > 70000$ , we find  $x_{OSV}$  as:

$$x_{e,OSV} = -154 \frac{q''}{G \cdot i_{fg}} = -0.0348$$

- Now from the energy balance we find the location of the OSV point as:

$$x_{e,OSV} = x_{in} + \frac{q'' P_H z_{OSV}}{GA_{sch} i_{fg}} \Rightarrow z_{OSV} = \frac{GA_{sch} i_{fg}}{q'' P_H} (x_{e,OSV} - x_{in}) \approx 3.482 \text{ m}$$

- Thus significant void starts at about 19 cm upstream of the exit

# Example 5

- We will now calculate the actual quality at the exit from the subchannel:

$$x_a(H) = x_e(H) - x_e(z_{OSV}) \cdot e^{\frac{x_e(H)}{x_e(z_{OSV})} - 1}$$

- or:

$$\begin{aligned} x_{a,ex} &= x_{e,ex} - x_{e,OSV} \cdot e^{\frac{x_{e,ex}}{x_{e,OSV}} - 1} = \\ &-0.0183 + 0.0351 \cdot e^{\frac{-0.0183}{-0.0351} - 1} \approx 0.003366 \end{aligned}$$

- Thus the actual quality at the exit from the subchannel is about 0.003366
- Using the expressions for subcooled void:  $\alpha_{ex} \approx 3.3\%$

# Pressure Drop in Two-Phase Flows

- Steady-state momentum equation for a homogeneous two-phase mixture flow in a channel can be written as,

$$-\frac{dp}{dz} = \left( \frac{dp}{dz} \right)_w + \rho_m g \sin \varphi + \frac{1}{A} \frac{d}{dz} \left( \frac{G^2 A}{\rho_M} \right)$$

- Where two definitions of mixture density are introduced:

- Mixture static density  $\rho_m = \sum_k \rho_k \alpha_k$

- Mixture dynamic density  $\rho_M = \left( \sum_k \frac{x_k^2}{\rho_k \alpha_k} \right)^{-1}$

# Local Pressure Loss in Two-Phase Flows

- Local pressure losses in two-phase flows are calculated as:

$$-\Delta p_{loc} = \phi_{lo,d}^2 \xi \frac{G^2}{2\rho_f}$$

Here:

$G$  - total mass flux, kg/m<sup>2</sup>.s

$\xi$  - local (single-phase) loss coefficient

$$\phi_{lo,d}^2 = \left[ 1 + \left( \frac{\rho_f}{\rho_g} - 1 \right) x \right] \text{ - HEM local two-phase multipl.}$$

# Friction pressure loss in two-phase flows

- It can be shown that the ratio of two-phase friction loss to single-phase friction loss is as follows,

$$\left(\frac{dp}{dz}\right)_{w,tp} / \left(\frac{dp}{dz}\right)_{w,lo} = \frac{C_{f,tp}}{C_{f,lo}} \frac{\rho_l}{\rho_m}$$

- The above ratio is called a two-phase friction multiplier and is as follows

$$\phi_{lo}^2 = \left(\frac{dp}{dz}\right)_{w,tp} / \left(\frac{dp}{dz}\right)_{w,lo} = \frac{C_{f,tp}}{C_{f,lo}} \frac{\rho_l}{\rho_m}$$

- It should be noted that it is a local variable



# Two-Phase Friction Multiplier using HEM

- For Homogeneous Equilibrium Model, it can be shown that the two-phase friction multiplier is the following function of the local equilibrium quality:

$$\phi_{lo}^2 = \left[ 1 + \left( \frac{\mu_f}{\mu_g} - 1 \right) x \right]^{-0.25} \left[ 1 + \left( \frac{\rho_f}{\rho_g} - 1 \right) x \right]$$

- where it is assumed that mixture viscosity is given as:

$$\frac{1}{\mu_m} = \frac{x}{\mu_g} + \frac{1-x}{\mu_f}$$

- it should be noted that other models of mixture viscosity are used as well (see Compendium in Thermal-Hydraulics)

# Rod Bundle Correlations for $\phi_{lo}^2$

- Local two-phase friction multiplier in general depends on local conditions (pressure, mass flux, heat flux) and geometry (pipe, bundle)
- For a rod bundle geometry the following correlation has been obtained (FRIGG)

$$\phi_{lo}^2 = 1 + (2234 - 0.348G) \left( \frac{x}{p} \right)^{0.96}$$

x – quality

p – pressure (bar)

G – mass flux (kg/m<sup>2</sup>s)

- To capture the effect of heating:

$$\frac{(\phi_{lo}^2)_{diabatic}}{(\phi_{lo}^2)_{adiabatic}} = 1 + C \left( \frac{q''}{G} \right)^{0.7}$$

C – constant coefficient

q'' - heat flux (W/m<sup>2</sup>)

G – mass flux (kg/m<sup>2</sup>s)

# EPRI Correlation for $\phi_{lo}^2$

$$\phi_{lo}^2 = \left[ 1 + x \left( \frac{\rho_f}{\rho_g} - 1 \right) C \right]$$

$$C = \begin{cases} 1.02x^{-0.175}G_R^{-0.45} & \text{for } p > 4.137 \text{ MPa} \\ 0.357(1 + p_R)x^{-0.175}G_R^{-0.45} & \text{for } 2.068 < p \leq 4.137 \text{ MPa} \end{cases}$$

$$p_R = \frac{p}{p_{cr}}; G_R = \frac{G}{1356.2}$$

$x$  – equilibrium quality

$p$  – pressure (Pa)

$G$  – mass flux (kg/m<sup>2</sup>s)

$p_{cr}$  – critical pressure (22.1 MPa)

Parameter range:  $2.068 < p < 8.963$  MPa;  $0 < x < 1$ ;  $475 < G < 4475$  kg/m<sup>2</sup>s;  
 $5.08 < d < 15.24$  mm;  $127 < L < 2540$  mm; geometry: round tubes and vertical  
upflow; based on 1533 experimental points; RMS error: 9.7%

# Mean Value of $\phi_{lo}^2$ Over Channel Length

- Integration of  $\phi_{lo}^2$  along a channel length gives

$$r_3 = \frac{1}{L} \int_0^L \phi_{lo}^2 dz \qquad \phi_{lo}^2 = \left[ 1 + \left( \frac{\mu_f}{\mu_g} - 1 \right) x \right]^{-0.25} \left[ 1 + \left( \frac{\rho_f}{\rho_g} - 1 \right) x \right]$$

- The integral to calculate  $r_3$  is thus a function of the quality distribution along the channel.
- In particular, if  $x = \text{const}$  (unheated channel):

$$r_3 = \phi_{lo}^2$$

# Enthalpy and Quality in Heated Channel

- For heated channel, we have:

$$di = \frac{q''(z)P_H dz}{W} \Rightarrow d\left(\frac{i - i_f}{i_{fg}}\right) \equiv dx = \frac{q''(z)P_H dz}{Wi_{fg}}$$

thus, assuming  $z = 0$  at the inlet:

$$x(z) - x_{in} = \frac{P_H}{Wi_{fg}} \int_0^z q''(z') dz'$$

For uniformly heated channel:

$$x(z) = x_{in} + \frac{P_H q''}{Wi_{fg}} z$$

# Total Pressure Drop in Boiling Channel

- Integration of the momentum eq. gives the total pressure drop for two-phase flows in channel with length  $L$  as:

$$-\Delta p = \underbrace{r_3 C_{f,lo} \frac{4L}{D} \frac{G^2}{2\rho_f}}_{\text{friction}} + \underbrace{r_4 L \rho_f g \sin \varphi}_{\text{gravity}} + \underbrace{r_2 \frac{G^2}{\rho_f}}_{\text{acceleration}} + \underbrace{\left( \sum_{i=1}^N \phi_{lo,d,i}^2 \xi_i \right) \frac{G^2}{2\rho_f}}_{\text{local}}$$

- where:

- friction multiplier:  $r_3 = \frac{1}{L} \int_0^L \phi_{lo}^2 dz$

- gravity multiplier:  $r_4 = \frac{1}{L \rho_f} \int_0^L [\alpha \rho_g + (1-\alpha) \rho_f] dz$

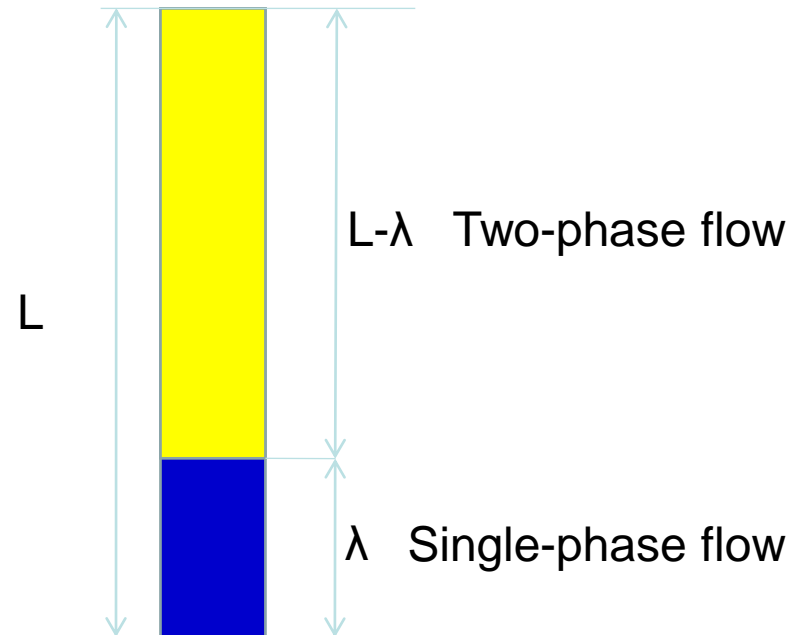
- acceleration multiplier:  $r_2 \equiv \rho_f \int_0^L \frac{d}{dz} \left[ \frac{x^2}{\alpha \rho_g} + \frac{(1-x)^2}{(1-\alpha) \rho_f} \right] dz = \left[ \frac{x^2 \rho_f}{\alpha \rho_g} + \frac{(1-x)^2}{(1-\alpha)} \right]_{ex} - \left[ \frac{x^2 \rho_f}{\alpha \rho_g} + \frac{(1-x)^2}{(1-\alpha)} \right]_{in}$

# Friction Loss in BWR Fuel Assembly

- Thus to find friction pressure drop in heated fuel assembly:
- Find the location of the onset of two-phase flow. If HEM is used, it will be at location where  $x = 0$
- Let  $z = \lambda = z_{\text{SUB}}$  where  $x = 0$

$$-\Delta p_{\text{fric}} = -\int_0^L \left( \frac{dp}{dz} \right)_{\text{fric}} dz =$$

$$-\int_0^{\lambda} \left( \frac{dp}{dz} \right)_{\text{fric}} dz - \int_{\lambda}^L \left( \frac{dp}{dz} \right)_{\text{fric}} dz$$



# Friction Loss in BWR Fuel Assembly

- Thus: 
$$-\Delta p_{fric} = \left( \frac{4C_f \lambda}{D_h} + \frac{4C_{f,lo}}{D_h} \int_{\lambda}^L \phi_{lo}^2 dz \right) \frac{G^2}{2\rho_f} = \left[ \frac{4C_f \lambda}{D_h} + r_3 \frac{4C_{f,lo}(L-\lambda)}{D_h} \right] \frac{G^2}{2\rho_f}$$

- where 
$$r_3 = \frac{1}{L-\lambda} \int_{\lambda}^L \phi_{lo}^2 dz$$

Assuming uniform power distributions with  $q'' = \text{const}$

where 
$$x_{ex} = x_{in} + \frac{q'' P_H}{Wi_{fg}} L$$

$$r_3 = \int_0^1 \frac{1 + x_{ex} \left( \frac{\rho_f}{\rho_g} - 1 \right) \zeta}{\left[ 1 + x_{ex} \left( \frac{\mu_f}{\mu_g} - 1 \right) \zeta \right]^{0.25}} d\zeta$$

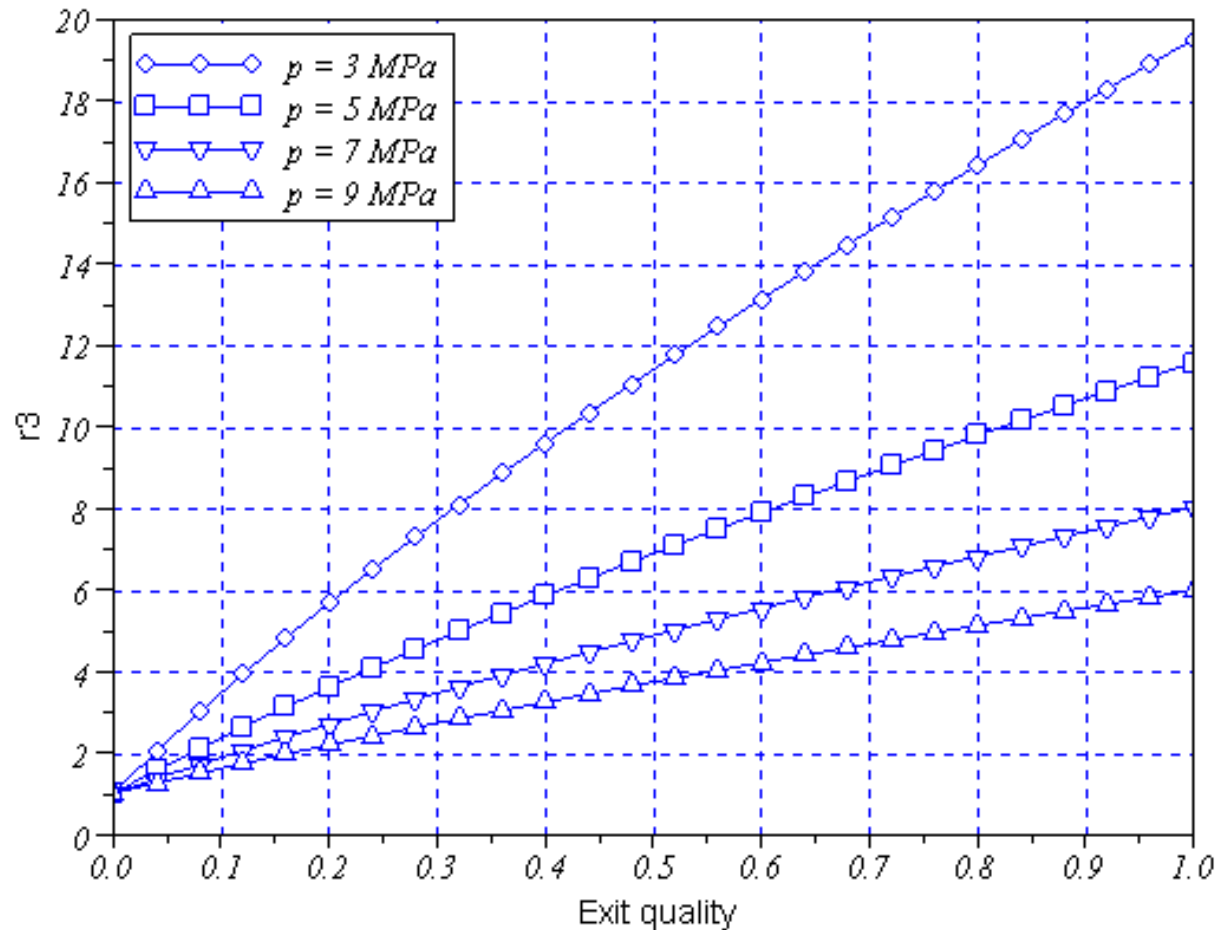
is the exit quality and  $x_{in}$  is the inlet quality



# Integral $r_3$ Multiplier

$$r_3 = \int_0^1 \frac{1 + x_{ex} \left( \frac{\rho_f}{\rho_g} - 1 \right) \zeta}{\left[ 1 + x_{ex} \left( \frac{\mu_f}{\mu_g} - 1 \right) \zeta \right]^{0.25}} d\zeta$$

This graph can be used to find the value of the  $r_3$  multiplier for known exit quality and system pressure in uniformly heated channel where inlet quality is zero

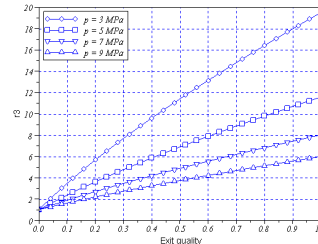


# BWR Fuel Assembly Friction Losses

- **Summary:** to find the friction pressure drop in uniformly heated channel, take the following steps:

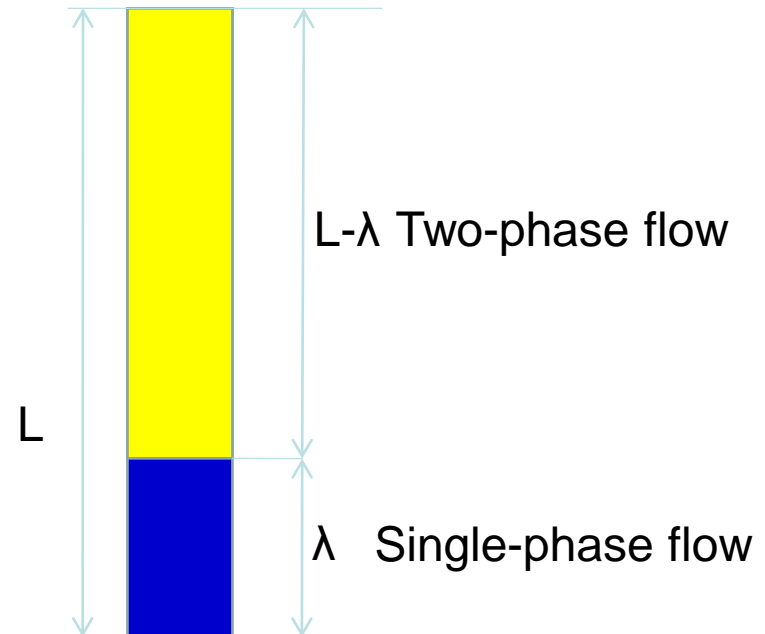
- find the single phase flow length  $\lambda$
- find  $C_f$  and pressure drop in single-phase region as:
- find exit quality  $x_{ex}$  from energy balance
- Find  $r_3$  from the plot

$$-\Delta p_{fric,sp} = \frac{4C_f \lambda}{D_h} \frac{G^2}{2\rho_f}$$



- find two-phase pressure drop:

$$-\Delta p_{fric,tp} = r_3 \frac{4C_{f,lo}(L - \lambda)}{D_h} \frac{G^2}{2\rho_f}$$



# Gravity Pressure Drop

- The gravity pressure drop multiplier is given as:

$$r_4 = \frac{1}{L\rho_f} \int_0^L [\alpha\rho_g + (1-\alpha)\rho_f] dz \quad \text{where using HEM}$$

the local void fraction is obtained as:

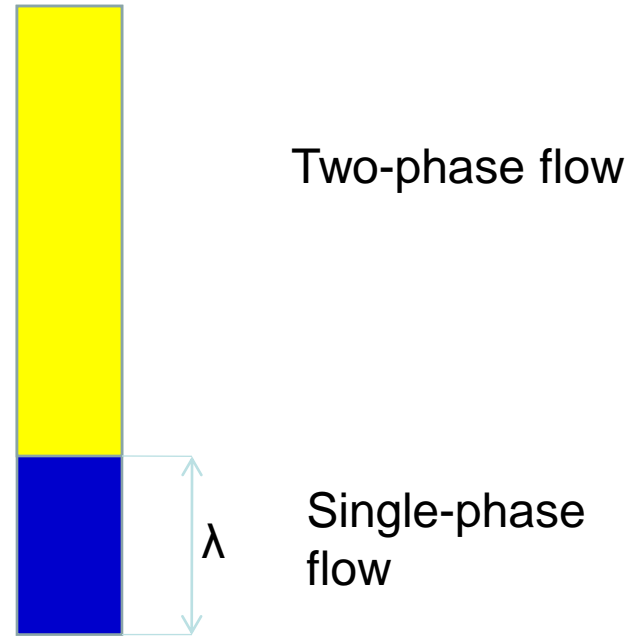
$$\alpha = \frac{1}{1 + \frac{\rho_g}{\rho_f} \cdot \left( \frac{1-x}{x} \right)} \quad \text{for } 0 < x < 1$$

The integral to calculate  $r_4$  is thus a function of the quality distribution along the channel.

# Gravity Pressure Drop in BWR Fuel Assembly

- Thus to find the gravity pressure drop in a heated fuel assembly:
  - Find the location of the onset of two-phase flow. If HEM is used, it will be at location where  $x = 0$
  - Let  $z = \lambda$  where  $x = 0$

$$-\Delta p_{grav} = -\int_0^L \left( \frac{dp}{dz} \right)_{grav} dz =$$
$$-\int_0^\lambda \left( \frac{dp}{dz} \right)_{grav} dz - \int_\lambda^L \left( \frac{dp}{dz} \right)_{grav} dz$$



# Gravity Pressure Drop in BWR Fuel Assembly

- Thus:

$$-\Delta p_{grav} = \int_0^{\lambda} \rho_l g \sin \varphi dz + \int_{\lambda}^L [\alpha \rho_g + (1 - \alpha) \rho_f] g \sin \varphi dz =$$

$$\lambda \rho_l g \sin \varphi + r_4 (L - \lambda) \rho_f g \sin \varphi$$

where:

$$r_4 = \frac{1}{(L - \lambda) \rho_f} \int_{\lambda}^L [\alpha \rho_g + (1 - \alpha) \rho_f] dz$$

assuming uniform power  
distribution:

$$r_4 = 1 - x_{ex} \int_0^1 \frac{\zeta}{\rho_g / (\rho_f - \rho_g) + x_{ex} \zeta} d\zeta$$

where  $x_{ex}$  is the exit quality

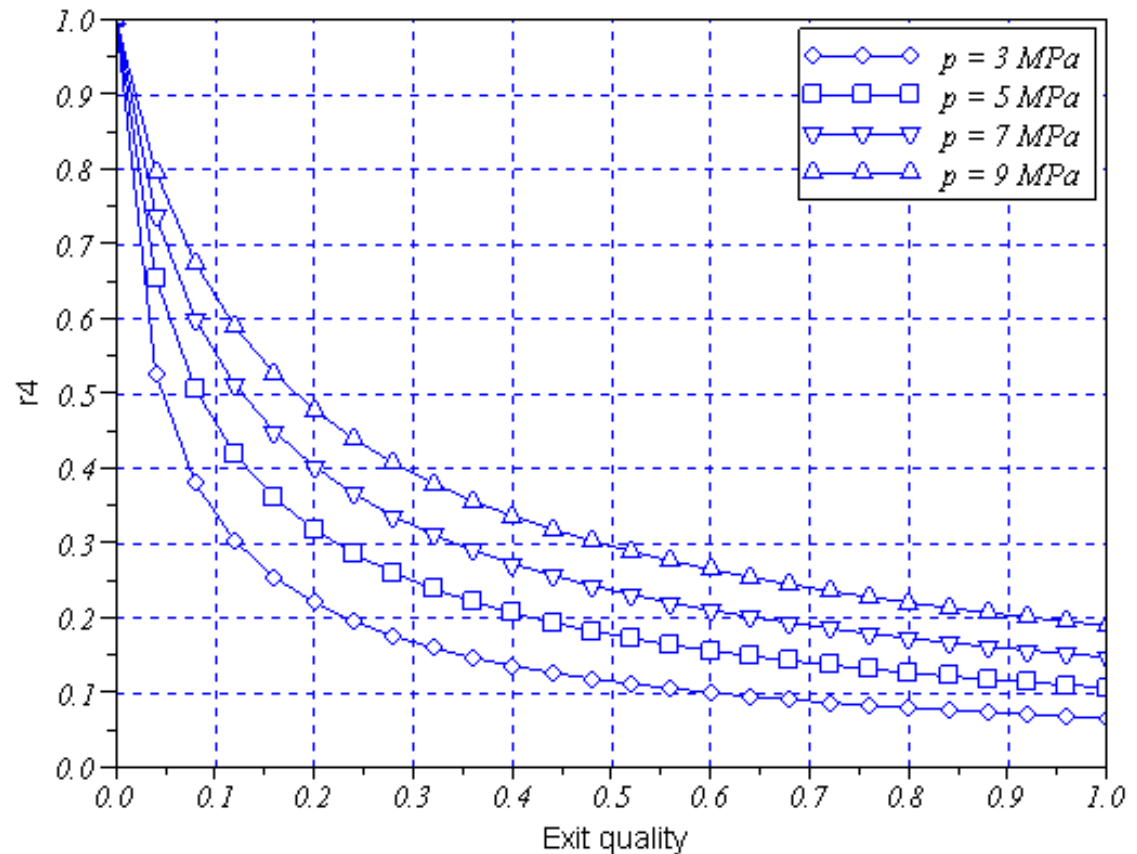
# Gravity Pressure Drop Multiplier

$$r_4 = 1 - x_{ex} \int_0^1 \frac{\zeta}{\rho_g / (\rho_f - \rho_g) + x_{ex}'} d\zeta$$

This graph can be used to find the value of the  $r_4$  multiplier for known exit quality and system pressure in uniformly heated channel and  $x_{in}=0$

The gravity pressure drop is then found as:

$$-\Delta p_{grav} = \lambda \rho_f g \sin \varphi + r_4 (L - \lambda) \rho_f \sin \varphi$$



# Acceleration Pressure Drop in Two-Phase Flows

For channel with subcooled water at inlet, the acceleration multiplier can be calculated as:

$$\begin{aligned}
 r_2 &\equiv \rho_f \int_0^L \frac{d}{dz} \left[ \frac{x^2}{\alpha \rho_g} + \frac{(1-x)^2}{(1-\alpha) \rho_f} \right] dz = \rho_f \int_0^\lambda \frac{d}{dz} \left[ \frac{x^2}{\alpha \rho_g} + \frac{(1-x)^2}{(1-\alpha) \rho_f} \right] dz + \\
 &\quad \rho_f \int_\lambda^L \frac{d}{dz} \left[ \frac{x^2}{\alpha \rho_g} + \frac{(1-x)^2}{(1-\alpha) \rho_f} \right] dz = \left[ \frac{x^2 \rho_f}{\alpha \rho_g} + \frac{(1-x)^2}{(1-\alpha)} \right]_{ex} - \underbrace{\left[ \frac{x^2 \rho_f}{\alpha \rho_g} + \frac{(1-x)^2}{(1-\alpha)} \right]_\lambda}_0 = \\
 &\quad \left[ \frac{x^2 \rho_f}{\alpha \rho_g} + \frac{(1-x)^2}{(1-\alpha)} \right]_{ex} - 1
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus:  $r_2 = \left[ \frac{x^2 \rho_f}{\alpha \rho_g} + \frac{(1-x)^2}{(1-\alpha)} \right]_{ex} - 1$

# Acceleration Pressure Drop Multiplier

$$r_2 = \left[ \frac{x^2 \rho_f}{\alpha \rho_g} + \frac{(1-x)^2}{(1-\alpha)} \right]_{ex} - 1$$

This graph can be used to find the value of the  $r_2$  multiplier for known exit quality and system pressure in a heated channel

The acceleration pressure drop is then found as:

$$-\Delta p_{acc} = r_2 \frac{G^2}{\rho_f}$$

