# A SHORT INTRODUCTION TO TWO-PHASE FLOWS Void fraction:

Experimental techniques and simple models

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#### PHASE PRESENCE FUNCTION

• Phase presence function definition:

$$X_k(\mathbf{r}, t) \triangleq \begin{cases} 1 & \text{si } M(r) \in \text{ phase } k, \\ 0 & \text{si } M(r) \notin \text{ phase } k. \end{cases}$$

- Phase indicator, FIP, fonction indicatrice de phase,  $\chi_k$ .
- Space averaging:

 $- \Theta^{-}$ 

Conditional, 
$$\langle f \rangle_n \triangleq \frac{1}{D_{kn}} \int_{D_{kn}} f_k dV$$
,  
Plain,  $\langle f \rangle_n \triangleq \frac{1}{D_n} \int_{D_n} f dV$ .

#### AVERAGING OPERATORS (CT'D)

• Time averaging:

Conditional, 
$$\overline{f}_{k}^{X}(t) \triangleq \frac{1}{T_{k}} \int_{[T_{k}]} f(\tau) d\tau$$
,  
Plain,  $\overline{f}(t) \triangleq \frac{1}{T} \int_{[T]} f(\tau) d\tau$ .

• Commutativity of averaging operators:

$$\overline{R_{kn} < f_k >_n} = \langle \alpha_k \overline{f}_k^X \rangle_n.$$

- Void fraction: average of the phase presence function
- Void fraction, gas hold-up: taux de présence du gaz, taux de vide.

# VOID FRACTION ( $\alpha$ )



 $\tilde{\Theta}$ 

• Local time fraction (gas, void fraction) :

$$\alpha_G(\mathbf{r},t) \triangleq \overline{X_G} = \frac{T_G}{T}.$$

- Instantaneous space fraction.
  - Line fraction:

$$R_{G1}(t) \triangleq \langle X_G \rangle_1 = \frac{L_G}{L_G + L_L} = \frac{L_G}{L}$$

– Area fraction:

$$R_{G2}(t) \triangleq \langle X_G \rangle_2 = \frac{A_G}{A_G + A_L} = \frac{A_G}{A}$$

– Volume fraction:

$$R_{G3}(t) \triangleq \langle X_G \rangle_3 = \frac{V_G}{V_G + V_L} = \frac{V_G}{V}$$

#### BASIC IDENTITIES

- Commutativity (f = 1):  $\overline{R_{kn}} = \langle \alpha_k \rangle_n = \overline{\langle X_k \rangle_n}$ .
- Mean phase fraction.
  - Mean line-averaged,

$$\overline{R_{G1}} = \frac{1}{T} \int_{[T]} R_{G1}(\tau) \,\mathrm{d}\tau = \frac{1}{L} \int_{L} \alpha_{G} \mathrm{d}L$$

– Mean area-averaged,

$$\overline{R_{G2}} = \frac{1}{T} \int_{[T]} R_{G2}(\tau) \,\mathrm{d}\tau = \frac{1}{A} \int_A \alpha_G \mathrm{d}A$$

– Mean volume averaged,

$$\overline{R_{G3}} = \frac{1}{T} \int_{[T]} R_{G3}(\tau) \,\mathrm{d}\tau = \frac{1}{V} \int_{V} \alpha_{G} \mathrm{d}V$$

• 7 precise definitions of the void fraction. The one to keep depends on the context (model). VF is always some average of  $X_k$ .

## OTHER RELATED DEFINITIONS



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• Instantaneous interfacial area:

$$\Gamma_3(t) \triangleq \frac{A_i(t)}{V}$$

• Local interfacial area, is a time-averaged quantity:

$$\gamma = \sum_{\text{disc.}\in[\mathbf{T}]} \frac{1}{|\mathbf{v}_i.\mathbf{n}_k|}$$

• Identity (commutativity of interaction terms), mean interfacial area:

$$\overline{\Gamma_3} \equiv \not< \gamma \not>_3$$

•  $\Gamma_3$  and  $\gamma$  can be measured.

## EXPERIMENTAL TECHNIQUES FOR VOID FRACTION

- Local void fraction.
  - Electrical probes
  - Optical probes
- Line averaged void fraction.
  - Light attenuation (X or  $\gamma$  rays)
- Area-averaged void fraction.
  - X-rays ou  $\gamma\text{-rays},$  (one-shot)
  - Multi-beam densitometry
  - Neutrons diffusion (steel, steam-water, HP-HT)
  - Impedance probes
- Volume averaged void fraction,
  - Quick closing values,
  - Gravitational (hydrostatic) pressure drop,
  - Ultrasound attenuation (Bensler, 1990).
- Medical imaging, CT, MRI.

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## LOCAL VOID FRACTION

Electrical probes (different resistivity): Determination of the liquid phase indicator,  $X_L(\mathbf{r}, t)$ .







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## LOCAL VOID FRACTION

Optical probes (different refraction index) : Determination of the gas indicator,  $X_G(\mathbf{r}, t)$ . Principle: dish washer, rinsing liquid level indicator.





## HOW TO SET THE THRESHOLD LEVEL?



•  $\alpha = \overline{X_L}$ , depends on threshold:

$$S_1 > S_2 \Rightarrow \alpha_{L1} < \alpha_{L2}.$$

• Reference method:

$$\Delta p \to \overline{R_{G2}}$$

• It is recalled,

$$\langle \alpha_G \rangle_2 = \overline{R_{G2}}$$

• Determine  $\alpha_G(S)$  on the section. Find S such that,

$$\langle \alpha_G(S) \rangle_2 = \overline{R_{G2}}$$

• Consistency check, not a calibration.

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## ELECTRICAL & OPTICAL PROBES







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#### MULTIPLE TIP SENSORS



- 2-sensor probe. Add assumptions: spherical bubbles, chord distribution→mean diameter, mean gas velocity.
- 4-sensor probe. Determine interface orientation  $(\mathbf{n}_k)$ , geometrical surface velocity,  $\mathbf{v}_i \cdot \mathbf{n}_k$
- Local interfacial area,

$$\gamma = \sum_{\text{disc.}\in[\mathbf{T}]} \frac{1}{|\mathbf{v}_i.\mathbf{n}_k|}$$

• Mean sauter diameter  $(D_{32})$ , identity (bubbles),

$$\gamma \equiv \frac{6\alpha}{D_{SM}}$$

## LIGHT (PHOTONS) ATTENUATION



- X-rays or  $\gamma$ -rays.
- Collimated beam, single spectral line
- Beer-Lambert relation:

 $dI = -\mu I dx, \quad [\mu] = L^{-1}$ 

- Exponential absorption,  $\mu$  absorption coefficient.
- $\frac{\mu}{\rho}$ : mass energy-absorption coefficient depends on f.

## PRACTICAL IMPLEMENTATION



- X-Rays generator,  $\gamma$  source
- Detection: photo multiplier (NaI, semiconductors), counter.
- Collimation: thick heavy metal block, drilled, 0,5 mm
- Collimated beam, single spectral line,
- Integrate B-L on a finite length,

$$I = I_0 \exp(-\mu L) = I_0 \exp\left(-\frac{\mu}{\rho}\rho L\right)$$

• At low pressure, little absorption in the gas.

## MEASURING THE LINE PHASE FRACTION



Air-water flow, steam-vapor.

- D, diameter, e/2 wall thickness.
- Beer-Lambert equation:

$$I = I_0 \exp(-\mu_p e) \exp(-\mu_L (1 - R_{G1})D)$$
$$\exp(-\mu_G R_{G1}D)$$

• Definition of the gas line fraction:

$$R_{G1}(z,t) \triangleq \frac{L_G}{L_G + L_L} = \frac{L_G}{D}$$

• Low pressure assumption:

$$I_G = I_0 \exp(-\mu_p e)$$
$$I_L = I_0 \exp(-\mu_p e) \exp(-\mu_L D)$$
$$I = I_0 \exp(-\mu_p e) \exp(-\mu_L (1 - R_{G1})D)$$
$$\boxed{R_{G1} = \frac{\ln I/I_L}{\ln I_G/I_L}}$$

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#### UNCERTAINTY FACTORS

• Contrast  $\rightarrow$  low energy

$$\frac{I_G}{I_L} \approx \exp\left(\frac{\mu_L}{\rho_L}\rho_L D\right)$$

• Statistical errors with counters  $\rightarrow$  high energy

$$I \propto N, \quad \frac{\Delta N}{N} \propto \sqrt{\frac{1}{N}}$$



Energy (keV)

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•  $R_{L1}$  fluctuations,  $I \propto \exp(R_{G1})$  and  $\overline{\exp f} \neq \exp \overline{f}$ ,

 $\Delta R_G \approx 0, 20 \text{ (slug)}, \quad \Delta R_G \approx 0, 05 \text{ (churn)}.$ 

- Source stability: reference beam method,  $I \to \frac{I}{I'_0}$ .
- Spectral hardening, direct calibration,  $I(R_L)$ , or use filters.



• No water flow,  $J_L = 0$ :  $\overline{R_{G2}} = 0.01, 0.04, 0.07, 0.10, 0.13, 0.16, 0.19.$ 

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MEAN LINE GAS FRACTION



After Bensler (1990, p. 61)

- Two-phase flow,  $J_L = 2 \text{ m/s}$ :  $\overline{R_{G2}} = 0.03, 0.061, 0.069, 0.089, 0.123.$
- Wall peaking, still an open problem for modeling...

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• Transition in profile shape, bubble clustering, slug flow.

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## MEAN AREA FRACTION



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• Mean area fraction,  $\overline{R_{G2}}$ ,

$$\overline{R_{G2}} = \frac{1}{\pi R^2} \int_{-R}^{R} \overline{R_{G1}}(y) \sqrt{R^2 - y^2} dy$$

• Computed tomography, axis-symmetric,

 $\overline{R_{G1}}(y) \Leftrightarrow \alpha_G(r)$ 

$$\overline{R_{G1}}(y,\theta) \Leftrightarrow \alpha_G(X,Y)$$

- Instantaneous surface fraction,  $R_{G2}(t)$
- Known limitations, Compton, diffusion

 $\Delta R_{G2} \leqslant 0,05$ 

$$0 < R_{G2} < 0, 8$$

#### MEAN AREA FRACTION



• Multibeam densitometer,

$$R_{G1}(\theta) \Leftrightarrow \alpha_G(r)$$

• XCT, medical scanner

$$\overline{R_{G1}}(\theta,\phi) \Leftrightarrow \alpha_G(x,y)$$

- Neutron diffusion, 90  $^\circ$
- Low attenuation in steel, diffusion on H nucleus
- Neutron cinematography.



#### SUPER MOBY DICK



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#### THE ULTIMATE METHOD?

- Nuclear magnetic resonance, NMR, MR imaging
  - Non intrusive method,
  - Magnetization (H, F), magnetic fields
  - Density (void fraction), velocity
- Space and time resolution
  - 0D, 1D, 2D, etc.
  - Time averaged quantities, arbitrary space filters (LES).
  - Turbulent transport phenomena.
- Routine for medicine, body (static) imaging, 1 mm<sup>3</sup>, arterial flow rate, still under development for flow imaging.

#### FLOW IMAGING OF A LEVITATED DROP



Velocity imaging, after Amar et al. (2005, Fig. 13).

## VELOCITY & VOID FRACTION IN BUBBLY FLOW



Horizontal bubbly flow, D = 13.9 mm, after Sankey *et al.* (2009, Figs 7 and 10). Velocity scale is m/s, not mm/s.

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#### IMPEDANCE DENSITOMETRY





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• Two-phase medium impedance, excitation voltage, E, signal: current I.

$$I = DE\sigma_C(T, c_1, c_2, \cdots)f(R_{G3}, \cdots)$$

• Resistive,  $\sigma_{2\phi}$ , capacitive,  $\epsilon_{2\phi}$ 

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## COMPOSITION-IMPEDANCE RELATION

- Electrode pattern: depends on flow regime.
  - Rings: stratified flow, quasi-linear  $I(R_{L2})$ , 1D-conductor.
  - Facing electrodes, confine the measuring volume (guard electrodes), bubbly flow, density waves.
- Small integration volume:  $R_{G3} \approx R_{G2}(t)$
- Temperature sensitivity:  $1^{\circ}C \approx 1\%$  void fraction.
- Reference method, compensate for effects  $\sigma_C$  variations  $I \to \frac{I}{I_0}, I_0 = DE\sigma_C(T, c_1, c_2, \cdots)f(0)$
- Calibration (reference method), numerical modeling (BEM)
- Optimization of electrodes shape (BEM):  $f(R_{G2}, \dots) \approx g(R_{G2})$ .



## OIL-WATER FLOWS



• After Boyer (1992, p. 98)

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• Theory for dispersions, Maxwell, Bruggemann,  $\sigma_D/\sigma_C \rightarrow 0$ ,

$$\sigma_{2\phi} \approx \sigma_C (1 - R_{D3})^{3/2}$$
$$\epsilon_{2\phi} \approx \frac{3}{2} \epsilon_D + \left(\epsilon_C - \frac{3}{2} \epsilon_D\right) (1 - R_{D3})^{3/2}$$

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## VOLUME FRACTION



• Quick closing valves, liquid settling:

$$R_{L3} = \frac{V_L}{V}$$



• Gravitational (hydrostatic) pressure drop ( $v_L \ll 1 \text{ m/s}$ ),

$$\Delta p = \rho g H$$

$$\rho \triangleq \rho_G R_{G3} + \rho_L (1 - R_{G3})$$

## BASIC VOID FRACTION MODELS



- Mechanical equilibrium, force balance, bubbly flow (drag-buoyancy), foam (Marangoni-drag-gravity), not inertia controlled.
- Effect of different gas and liquid velocities:  $\overline{w}_G^X \neq \overline{w}_L^X$  (on/off)
- Effet of velocity profiles (on/off).

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#### THE HOMOGENEOUS MODEL (1D-1V)

• 1D-1V, 
$$\overline{w}_G^X = \overline{w}_L^X = w$$

- What is known: 
$$\overline{Q}_G, \overline{Q}_L$$
.

- What is unknown: 
$$\overline{R_{G2}} = \langle \alpha_G \rangle_2$$
.

• Identical derivation for the 4 models. Mean volume flow rate definition,

$$\overline{Q}_G \triangleq \int_{A_G} w_G \, \mathrm{d}A = \overline{A_G < w_G >_2} = A\overline{R_{G2} < w_G >_2}$$

• Commutativity of averaging operators, uniform velocity profile,

$$\overline{Q}_G = A\overline{R_{G2}} < w_G >_2 = A \not\leqslant \alpha_G \overline{w}_G^X \not\geqslant _2 = A\overline{R_{G2}} w_G$$

• For the liquid and gas phase,

$$\overline{Q}_L = A(1 - \overline{R_{G2}})w_L, \quad \overline{Q}_G = A\overline{R_{G2}}w_G$$

• Identical mean velocities,

$$\frac{\overline{Q}_G}{\overline{Q}_L} = \frac{\overline{R_{G2}}}{1 - \overline{R_{G2}}}, \qquad \overline{R_{G2}} = \frac{\overline{Q}_G}{\overline{Q}_G + \overline{Q}_L} = \beta$$





# BANKOFF MODEL(2D-1V)

• 2D-1V, 
$$\overline{w}_G^X = \overline{w}_L^X = w_C \left(\frac{y}{R}\right)^{\frac{1}{m}}, \quad \alpha_G = \alpha_C \left(\frac{y}{R}\right)^{\frac{1}{m}}$$

- What is known:  $\overline{Q}_G$ ,  $\overline{Q}_L$ , what is unknown:  $\overline{R_{G2}} = \langle \alpha_G \rangle_2$ .
- Mean volume flow rate definitions,

$$\overline{Q}_G = A \not\leqslant \alpha \overline{w}_G^X \not\geqslant_2 = Af(w_C, \alpha_C, m, n), \ \overline{Q}_L = A \not\leqslant (1 - \alpha) \overline{w}_L^X \not\geqslant_2 = Ag(w_C, \alpha_C, m, n)$$

• Mean velocity and area fraction,

$$\langle \overline{w}_L^X \rangle_2 = w_C h(m), \quad \overline{R_{G2}} = \alpha_C k(n)$$

• Eliminate  $\alpha_C$  and  $w_C$ ,

P.

$$\overline{R_{G2}} = K\beta$$

$$K = \frac{2(m+n+mn)(m+n+2mn)}{(n+1)(2n+1)(m+1)(2m+1)}, \quad K = 0, 6 \div 1, \ 2 \leqslant m, n \leqslant 7$$

• Closure for steam-water, Bankoff dimensional correlation (p in bar),

$$K = 0,71 + 0,00145p$$

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# WALLIS MODEL (1D-2V)

- 1D-2V,  $\overline{w}_G^X = w_G$ ,  $\overline{w}_L^X = w_L$ ,  $\alpha_G(r) = \alpha_G$ ,  $w_G \neq w_L$
- What is known:  $\overline{Q}_G$ ,  $\overline{Q}_L$ , unknown:  $\overline{R_{G2}} = \langle \alpha_G \rangle_2$
- Mean flow rates definitions,

$$\overline{Q}_G = A \not\leqslant \alpha \overline{w}_G^X \not\geqslant_2 = A \overline{R_{G2}} w_G$$
$$\overline{Q}_L = A \not\leqslant (1 - \alpha) \overline{w}_L^X \not\geqslant_2 = A (1 - \overline{R_{G2}}) w_L$$

• Mean surface fraction,

$$\overline{R_{G2}} = \frac{\overline{Q}_G w_L}{\overline{Q}_L w_G + \overline{Q}_G w_L} = \frac{\beta}{1 + \frac{(1 - \overline{R_{G2}})(w_G - w_L)}{J}}$$

• Closure for bubbly flows,  $w_{\infty}$ , terminal velocity (Clift *et al.*, 1978)

$$w_G - w_L = w_\infty (1 - \overline{R_{G2}}), \quad w_\infty = f(D, \sigma, \rho_L, \rho_G, \mu_L, \cdots)$$

• Wallis diagram (Wallis, 1969), bubble columns, analogy with mass transfer modeling.



#### SETTING UP THE WALLIS DIAGRAM

• Volumetric flux:

$$j_k \triangleq \alpha_k \overline{w}_k^X = \overline{X_k w_k}, \quad j = j_1 + j_2$$

• Drift velocity: phase relative velocity wrt the center of volume,

$$v_{kj} \triangleq \overline{w}_k^X - j$$

• Drift flux, flux of volume in a frame moving with j,

$$j_{GL} = \alpha_G (\overline{w}_k^X - j)$$

• 1D assumption:

$$J_{GL} = \langle j_{GL} \rangle_2 = \overline{R_{G2}}(w_G - J) = (1 - \overline{R_{G2}})J_G - \overline{R_{G2}}J_L \qquad (1)$$

• By definition:  $J = J_G + J_L = \overline{R_{G2}}w_G + (1 - \overline{R_{G2}})w_L$ ,

$$J_{GL} = \overline{R_{G2}}(1 - \overline{R_{G2}})(w_G - w_L) = w_{\infty}\overline{R_{G2}}(1 - \overline{R_{G2}})^2$$
(2)

• NB: closure is needed  $(w_{\infty})$ , e.g bubbly flows, foam.

## WALLIS DIAGRAM



Bubble columns operation.

- Co-current flow:  $J_L > 0, J_G > 0,$ 1 operating condition.
- Counter-current:  $J_L < 0, J_G > 0,$ 2 operating conditions.
- Counter-current flow limitation,  $J_L < -J_{LT}$ .

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## ZUBER & FINDLAY MODEL (2D-2V)

- **2V-2D**: what is known:  $\overline{Q}_G$ ,  $\overline{Q}_L$ , unknown:  $\overline{R_{G2}} = \langle \alpha_G \rangle_2$ ,
- Definition of the local drift velocity,

$$\overline{w}_{Gj}^X = \overline{w}_G^X - j = (1 - \alpha_G)(\overline{w}_G^X - \overline{w}_L^X)$$

• Mean drift flux on the cross section,

$$\langle \alpha_G \overline{w}_{Gj}^X \rangle_2 = \langle \alpha_G \overline{w}_G^X \rangle_2 - \langle \alpha_G j \rangle_2$$

• Change of variables for unknown quantities:

$$\widetilde{w}_{GJ} = \frac{\langle \alpha_G \overline{w}_{Gj}^X \rangle_2}{\langle \alpha_G \rangle_2}, \quad C_0 = \frac{\langle \alpha_G j \rangle_2}{\langle \alpha_G \rangle_2 \langle j \rangle_2}$$

• Previous models are recovered by the Zuber & Findlay model,

$$\overline{R_{G2}} = \frac{J_G}{C_0 J + \widetilde{w}_{GJ}} = \frac{\beta}{C_0 + \frac{\widetilde{w}_{GJ}}{J}}$$

• Zuber & Findlay diagram:  $\frac{J_G}{R_G} = C_0 J + \widetilde{w}_{GJ}$ 



#### CLOSURES FOR THE ZUBER & FINDLAY MODEL

- ZF diagram, 2 closure relations:  $C_0$ , slope,  $\widetilde{w}_{GJ}$ , y-axis intersection. Flow regime dependent (Ishii, 1977).
- Here  $\overline{R_{G2}} \to R_G$  is to be understood,

$$C_0 = \left(1, 2 - 0, 2\sqrt{\frac{\rho_G}{\rho_L}}\right) \underbrace{\left(1 - \exp(-18R_G)\right)}_{\text{boiling only}}$$

• Bubbly flows:

$$\widetilde{w}_{GJ} = (C_0 - 1)J + 1, 4\left(\frac{\sigma g(\rho_L - \rho_G)}{\rho_L^2}\right)^{1/4} (1 - R_G)^{7/4}$$

• Slug flow:

$$\widetilde{w}_{GJ} = (C_0 - 1)J + 0,35 \left(\frac{gD(\rho_L - \rho_G)}{\rho_L}\right)^{1/2}$$

#### ZUBER & FINDLAY MODEL CLOSURES (CT'D)

• Churn flow:

$$\widetilde{w}_{GJ} = (C_0 - 1)J + 1, 4\left(\frac{\sigma g(\rho_L - \rho_G)}{\rho_L^2}\right)^{1/4}$$

• Annular flow:

$$\widetilde{w}_{GJ} = \frac{1 - R_G}{R_G + \left(\frac{1 + 75(1 - R_G)}{\sqrt{R_G}}\frac{\rho_G}{\rho_L}\right)^{1/2}} \left(\sqrt{\frac{gD(\rho_L - \rho_G)(1 - R_G)}{0,015\rho_L}}\right)$$



## REFERENCE GUIDE, WANT TO KNOW MORE

- Modeling the void fraction: Delhaye (2008).
- Drift flux modeling: Wallis (1969).
- Closures: Ishii (1977), see also the enhanced and revised edition by Ishii & Hibiki (2006).

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## SUGGESTED HOMEWORK ON VOID FRACTION



Objective of the homework: utilize the void fraction models to analyze NMR low liquid velocity data (35 cm/s). Build the Wallis and the Zuber & Findlay diagrams.

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