A General Correlation for Heat Transfer During Dispersed-Flow Film Boiling in Tubes

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A general correlation for heat transfer during film boiling in tubes is presented. It is based on the two-step model. It has been verified with data for nine fluids flowing up in tubes. The fluids include water, cryogens, refrigerants, and chemicals. The range of data includes pressures from 1 to 215 bar, reduced pressures from 0.0046 to 0.97, mass velocities from 4 to 5,176 kg/m² s, tube diameters from 1.1 to 24.3 mm, and qualities from 0.1 to 2.4. The 546 data points are predicted with a mean deviation of 15.2%. Deviation is defined as the difference between the measured and predicted heat transfer coefficients divided by the measured heat transfer coefficient, the heat transfer coefficients being based on the saturation temperature. Three other well-known correlations are also compared to the same data and found to have much larger deviations. The correlation is also compared with a limited amount of data from horizontal tubes; the results are encouraging.

A wide variety of heat exchangers involve film boiling during normal or upset conditions. Examples are cryogenic coolers, refrigerant evaporators, and nuclear reactors after a postulated loss-of-coolant accident. Hence reliable prediction of film boiling heat transfer is of much practical importance. Consequently, a large number of experimental studies have been done and numerous predictive techniques have been proposed for heat transfer estimation. These have been reviewed by, among others, Andreani and Yadigaroglu [1], Chen and Costigan [2], Shah [3], and Groeneveld and Snoek [4].

In most of the experimental studies, fluid temperature was not measured. Therefore the presence of nonequilibrium has been inferred from the behavior of measured wall temperatures. However, there have been several studies in recent years which have directly shown the presence of nonequilibrium.

Most of the early predictive techniques were modifications of single-phase heat transfer correlations and took no account of the physical phenomena such as nonequilibrium. One of the most successful correlations of this type is that of Groeneveld [5]. Such correlations have only a limited range of validity and are applicable to only a single fluid.

Researchers at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the U.K. Atomic Energy Authority independently developed the two-step model, according to...
which heat is first transferred from the wall to the vapor and then from the vapor to the liquid droplets suspended in the vapor stream. Dry or wet interactions between the liquid droplets and the wall are also considered possible. Radiation heat transfer is also considered in some models. Many mechanistic analysis techniques have been developed based on this model. Examples are those of Bennet et al. [6], Forslund and Rohsenow [7], and Yoder and Rohsenow [8]. A recent mechanistic analysis is the three-dimensional model of Andreani and Yadigaroglu [9]. While this rational approach is highly desirable, the solution of the model equations still involves the use of empirical relations and factors for calculating parameters such as droplet size and distribution, interfacial heat transfer, effect of droplets on vapor velocity profile, etc. Calculations are very laborious and take a lot of time even on high-speed computers.

A number of correlations have been developed which take into account the nonequilibrium and are much easier to use than the mechanistic analyses. The most verified among such correlations appear to be those of Groeneveld and Delorme [10], Saha [11], and Hein and Kohler [12]. The last mentioned was applicable to water only but has been generalized by Katsounis [13] to make it applicable to other fluids; in this article this generalized form is called the Kohler correlation. These correlations are in mathematical form and hence suitable for computerized calculations, as indeed are most of the other correlations.

A well-verified correlation was earlier presented by one of the present authors [14]. It is based on the two-step model and is consistent with the physical phenomena. It was verified with data for water and several other fluids over a wide range of parameters. Yoder and Rohsenow [8] also presented a graphical predictive technique which was verified with data for three fluids. While the graphical correlations are very convenient for hand calculations, their use is limited because most calculations these days are done on computers.

Review articles cited earlier indicate that the empirical and nonequilibrium correlations available at present for computerized calculations are not fully satisfactory. The mechanistic models have had limited verification and require a large amount of computer time. Therefore, there is still need for a simple and accurate predictive technique for computerized calculations. This research was undertaken to fulfill this need. The starting point for this work was the Shah correlation [14]. Presented here is a general correlation for heat transfer during film boiling which has been verified with data for water and eight other fluids flowing upward in vertical tubes, over a wide range of parameters. The correlation can be used easily for hand calculations as well as for computerized calculations. Results of comparison of the new correlation as well as three other leading correlations with data are presented. A limited amount of data for horizontal tubes is also analyzed, and applicability of the new correlation to horizontal tubes is discussed.

It is to be noted that in this article, the terms CHF occurrence, dryout, burnout, and boiling crisis have been used interchangeably; no particular mechanism is implied.

**PHYSICAL MODEL FOR THE CORRELATION**

This correlation is intended for dispersed-flow conditions. It was decided to limit the equilibrium vapor qualities to 10% or greater to exclude other flow patterns. The same limit has also been used by Hammouda et al. [15]. The physical model assumed for developing the correlation is as follows.

1. Flow consists entirely of liquid droplets dispersed in the vapor stream.
2. At the dryout point, there is complete thermodynamic equilibrium. This assumption is common to almost all analyses, including those of Bennet et al. [6] and Yoder and Rohsenow [8]. This assumption appears to be very reasonable, as there is equilibrium just upstream of the dryout point.
3. The turbulence structure and the temperature distribution of vapor flow is not affected by the presence of droplets. Thus the wall-to-vapor heat transfer can be calculated by single-phase correlations. This assumption is common to most predictive techniques, though differing views have been expressed by some researchers, e.g., Varone and Rohsenow [16].
4. At low to moderate reduced pressures, the effects of liquid droplet–wall interactions are negligible. Essentially all heat is removed from the wall by vapor which in turn heats the liquid droplets.
5. At high reduced pressures, the effects of liquid droplet–wall interactions become significant, as shown by Bailey et al. [17]. Heat is then removed from the wall by droplet–wall interactions as well as through convection by vapor.
6. Heat transfer by radiation is negligible. This assumption is common to most predictive techniques, though some researchers have expressed differing views—for example, Chen [18].

**DEVELOPMENT OF THE CORRELATION**

Developing the correlation involved the selection of physically meaningful dimensionless groups/factors on which nonequilibrium may depend and then finding the relation between them. This effort is briefly described in the following.
Several studies have showed that the burnout quality \( x_c \) affects nonequilibrium. A notable example is the work of Hynek et al. [19]. They carried out tests in which all parameters were the same except the critical quality. The wall temperatures were found to be very different in such runs, indicating that for the same equilibrium qualities, actual vapor qualities were different.

Several experimental studies show that nonequilibrium is affected by heat flux. Hence it will be reasonable to expect the nonequilibrium to depend on the nondimensional heat flux. The boiling number, Bo, is defined as

\[
Bo = \frac{q_w}{G i_{fg}}
\]

(1)

where \( q_w \) is the total wall heat flux, \( G \) is the mass velocity, and \( i_{fg} \) is the latent heat. Bo may be interpreted as the dimensionless heat flux. It may also be mentioned that the mechanistic analysis of Yoder and Rohsenow [8] shows that Bo affects the magnitude of nonequilibrium.

Examination of data from most experimental studies indicates that nonequilibrium increases with decreasing mass velocity. A study which shows it particularly well is that of Forslund and Rohsenow [7] with nitrogen. Thus it appears that as the mass velocity decreases, heat transfer between vapor and droplets deteriorates more than the heat transfer between vapor and tube wall. A dimensionless group containing \( G \) is the Froude number, \( \text{Fr}_L \):

\[
\text{Fr}_L = \frac{G^2}{\rho_L g D}
\]

(2)

where \( \rho_L \) is the liquid density, \( g \) is the acceleration due to gravity, and \( D \) is the tube diameter. The Froude number is the ratio of inertia forces to gravitational forces. Soo [20] has shown through an analysis of the governing differential equations that the Froude number is a parameter for the similarity of dilute suspensions of solids in gases flowing through pipes. Varone and Rohsenow [16] have shown that the behavior of liquid droplet suspensions during film boiling in tubes is similar to that of gas–solid suspensions in tubes. Thus the Froude number can be expected to be a similarity parameter for dispersed-flow film boiling in tubes. It has been used in many two-phase heat transfer correlations, for example, by Shah [21] for critical heat flux in vertical tubes [21], for heat transfer in tubes prior to dryout [22]. Griffith and Wallis [23] used the Froude number in their correlation for flow patterns in vertical tubes. A Weber number based on the tube diameter was also tried in the early stages, but it did not give satisfactory correlation.

Thus \( x_c \), Bo, and Fr were identified as possible correlating parameters. Data at moderate pressures for various fluids and from many studies were analyzed in terms of these parameters and a graphical correlation was developed. When it was compared to high-pressure data, it was found to overpredict wall temperatures, i.e., underpredict heat transfer coefficients. Bailey et al. [17] had reported similar results with the analytical solution of Bennet et al. [6] and attributed it to droplet–wall interactions. Hewitt [24] also expressed the same opinion. A factor to account for this effect was developed and incorporated into the correlation.

The correlation was developed using data analyzed by Shah [14]. The other data were used for verification. Thus none of the data for helium, R-12, R-22, and R-134a were used in developing the correlation. Also not used in developing the correlation were the low-pressure water data of Annunziato et al. [25], Evans et al. [26], Chen [18], and Gottula et al. [27].

**THE CORRELATION**

This correlation is described by the following equations.

The total heat flux \( q_w \) removed from the wall is expressed by

\[
q_w = q_c + q_{dc} = F_{dc} h_g (T_w - T_g)
\]

(3)

where \( q_c \) is the heat flux removed from the wall by convection to vapor, \( q_{dc} \) is the heat flux removed by wall–droplet interaction, \( h_g \) is the wall-to-vapor convective heat transfer coefficient, \( T_w \) is the wall temperature, \( T_g \) is the actual bulk vapor temperature, and \( F_{dc} \) is a factor to account for the enhancement due to wall–droplet interactions.

\( T_g \) is calculated by the following basic heat balance equation:

\[
\frac{x_E - x_A}{x_A} i_{fg} = \int_{T_{SAT}}^{T_g} C_{pg} dT = i_g - i_{gSAT}
\]

(4)

where \( x_E \) is the equilibrium quality, \( x_A \) is the actual quality, \( T_{SAT} \) is the saturation temperature, \( C_{pg} \) is the specific heat of vapor at constant pressure, \( i_g \) is the enthalpy of vapor at the actual temperature, and \( i_{gSAT} \) is the enthalpy of saturated vapor.

At the dryout point \( x_A \) and \( x_E \) are assumed equal. Downstream of the dryout point, the following relations apply:

For \( Bo \gg 5 \times 10^{-4} \),

\[
x_A = f_n(x_c, x_E, \text{Fr}_L)
\]

(5)

At \( Bo = 0 \) (i.e., zero heat flux), there could obviously be no nonequilibrium. For \( Bo \times 10^4 < 5 \), \( (x_E - x_A) \) is
The present correlation for film boiling in tubes is calculated by linear interpolation using the following equation:

\[
(x_E - x_A) = (x_E - x_A)_0 \frac{Bo}{5 \times 10^{-4}}
\]

(6)

where \((x_E - x_A)_0\) is the value of \((x_E - x_A)\) at \(Bo \approx 5 \times 10^{-4}\) given by Eq. (5).

The functional relation of Eq. (5) is expressed graphically in Figure 1. It is expressed by the following equations.

For \(x_E \geq 0.4\),

\[
x_A = (A_1 + A_2 x_E + A_3 x_E^2 + A_4 x_E^3) Fr_L^n
\]

(7)

The value of \(x_A\) given by Eq. (7) is corrected by the following relations:

If \(x_A > x_E\), then \(x_A = x_E\)

(8)

If \(x_A > 1\), then \(x_A = 1\)

(9)

For \(x_E < 0.4\), the correlation is represented by straight lines joining \(x_A\) at \(x_E = 0.4\) given by Eq. (7) and intersecting the equilibrium line \((x_A = x_E)\) at

\[
x_{A,INT} = x_{E,INT} = 0.19 Fr_L^{0.16}
\]

(10)

In Eq. (7),

\[
A_1 = -0.0347 \quad A_2 = 0.9335
\]

\[
A_3 = -0.2875 \quad A_4 = 0.035
\]

\[
n = 0.064
\]

The curves shown in Figure 1 have been calculated from the above equations.

### Calculation of \(x_A\)

The procedure for graphical calculations is described in Appendix 1. Calculations using the equations are explained now.

Knowing \(x_E\), \(x_c\), \(Fr_L\), and \(Bo\), the calculations proceed as follows.

1. For the given \(Fr_L\), determine the intersection between the correlating curve and the equilibrium line. For \(Fr_L \geq 100\), this is done by simultaneous solution of Eq. (7) and the equation \(x_A = x_E\). For \(Fr_L < 100\), intersection point is given by Eq. (10).

2. If \(x_c \leq x_{E,INT}\), \(x_A = x_E\) for \(x_E \leq x_{E,INT}\). For \(x_E > x_{E,INT}\), \(x_A\) is obtained by Eqs. (7)–(10).

3. If \(x_c > x_{E,INT}\), determine the point where the tangent from the point \(x_E = x_A = x_c\) touches the curve given by Eq. (7). This point of tangency is at the intersection of Eqs. (7) and (11).

\[
x_A = x_c + (x_E - x_c) \times \left(2A_3 x_E + 3A_4 x_E^2\right) Fr_L^n
\]

(11)

Simultaneous solution of Eqs. (7) and (11) provides the tangent point \((x_{E,TAN}, x_{A,TAN})\). For \(x_E > x_{E,TAN}\), obtain \(x_A\) from Eq. (7). For \(x_E < x_{E,TAN}\), \(x_A\) is obtained from the line joining \((x_{E,INT}, x_{A,INT})\) with \((x_{E,TAN}, x_{A,TAN})\). Thus,

\[
x_A = \frac{(x_{A,TAN} - x_c) (x_{E,TAN} - x_E)}{(x_{E,TAN} - x_c)} + x_c \frac{(x_{E,TAN} - x_{A,TAN})}{(x_{E,TAN} - x_c)}
\]

(12)

4. If \(Bo < 5 \times 10^{-4}\), apply Eq. (6) to correct the \((x_E - x_A)_0\) calculated by the above procedure.

The above equations can be easily programmed for computerized calculations. In Appendix 2, calculations for the case of nonuniform heat flux are explained and the calculation of \(x_c\) is discussed.

### Calculation of \(F_{dc}\)

If \(p_r > 0.8\) and \(L/D > 30\), then

\[
F_{dc} = 2.64 p_r - 1.11
\]

(13)
Otherwise, $F_{dc} = 1$. Note that data for $L/D < 30$ have not been considered in developing the correlation, for reasons discussed later.

**Calculation of Single-Phase Heat Transfer Coefficient**

To calculate $h_g$ in Eq. (3), a single-phase heat transfer correlation is required. Numerous such correlations are available, many of which have been listed by Bhatti and Shah [28]. The following four correlations were tried.

1. The Dittus-Boelter correlation,

$$\text{Nu} = 0.023 \, \text{Re}^{0.8} \, \text{Pr}^{0.4}$$

(14)

where $\text{Nu}$ is the Nusselt number ($h_g D / k_g$), $k_g$ is the vapor thermal conductivity, $\text{Re}$ is the Reynolds number, and $\text{Pr}$ is the Prandtl number.

2. The correlation of Hallader and Bannerjee [29],

$$\text{Nu} = 0.00834 \, \text{Re}^{0.8774} \, \text{Pr}^{0.6112}$$

(15)

3. The Gnielinski correlation [30],

$$\text{Nu} = 0.012(\text{Re}^{0.87} - 280) \, \text{Pr}^{0.4}$$

(16)

4. The correlation of Pethukov et al. [31],

$$\text{Nu} = \frac{(f/2) \, \text{Re} \, \text{Pr}}{C + 12.7(f/2)^{0.5}(\text{Pr}^{2/3} - 1)}$$

(17)

where

$$C = 1.07 + \frac{900}{\text{Re}} - \frac{0.63}{1 + 10 \, \text{Pr}}$$

and $f$ is the Fanning friction factor for flow of fluids in tubes.

For use in the present film boiling correlation, $\text{Re}$ in the above formulas is defined as

$$\text{Re} = \frac{GDx_A}{\mu_g \alpha}$$

(18)

where $\mu_g$ is the vapor viscosity, and $\alpha$ is the void fraction. Calculations were done with all the above four correlations using properties at bulk fluid temperature as well as at film temperature. The film temperature is defined as the arithmetic average of the wall and bulk fluid temperatures. It was found that for water, film temperature properties gave better agreement, especially at higher pressures. For fluids other than water, bulk temperature properties generally gave better agreement. The deviations of these equations with the various data sets varied, but considering all data together, the mean deviations of all four correlations were about the same. After detailed study of the results, the following recommendations are made.

1. For $\text{Re} < 10^4$, use the Dittus-Boelter equation.
2. For $\text{Re} > 10^4$, use the Hallader equation.
3. For water, use the film temperature properties. For other fluids, use the bulk temperature properties.

**Calculation of Void Fraction**

With small liquid droplets suspended in vapor stream, it is reasonable to expect that there will be little slip between the phases. Koizumi et al. [32] report that the slip velocity in their R-113 data was 1 m/s or less. Groenevald and Delorme [10] have quoted other experimental studies showing low slip.

The void fraction was therefore calculated by the homogeneous model, which gives

$$\alpha = \frac{x_A \rho_L}{(1 - x_A) \rho_\delta + \rho_L x_A}$$

(19)

where $\rho_\delta$ is the vapor density.

**COMPARISON WITH EXPERIMENTAL DATA**

**Property Data**

Properties for water/steam were taken from the ASME Steam Tables, [33], using the computer program provided with it.

Properties for R-12, R-22, R-113, R-134a, and nitrogen were taken from the AECL code “PROPER.” Comparison with the data in the ASHRAE Handbook [34], to the extent possible, showed satisfactory agreement. The properties in this book are mostly limited to saturated vapors.

Properties of propane and methane were taken from Vargaftik [35].

For helium, property data from two sources were examined. These are McCarty [36] and Beaton and Hewitt [37]. These two sources differ widely, the latter giving much lower heat transfer. Those by McCarty appear to be more commonly used and gave better agreement with the heat transfer data analyzed here. Therefore the property data of McCarty were used in the final analysis.
Experimental Data Analyzed

This research was primarily intended for upward flow in vertical tubes. Attempts were made to collect data for this configuration, covering as wide a range as possible for this configuration. The data for vertical upward flow in tubes that have been analyzed are listed in Tables 1 and 2. The range covered by these data is summarized in Table 3. It is seen that it is very wide, including nine fluids over an extreme range of mass flux, pressure, and other parameters. Hydrogen data analyzed by Shah [14] were reevaluated, with essentially the same results. To deal adequately with this subject, a detailed study considering hydrogen data from many sources is needed. Hydrogen data are therefore not discussed here.

Data for \(L/D < 30\) have not been included in Tables 1–3, \(L\) being the distance from the CHF point. The phenomena in this region are very complex. These include entrance effects, developing boundary layers, splashing by liquid droplets, rapidly changing temperatures, etc. A separate study is needed to deal adequately with this region. Some researchers, for example, Nishikawa et al. [38] and Saha [11], have applied entrance effect factors for single-phase heat transfer in analyzing the film boiling data in the region close to the burnout point and found adequate agreement. This approach was also tried in the present work and the results are discussed later.

To ensure exclusion of the data for transition boiling, data for wall temperature below the Leidenfrost temperature have been excluded. The following equation of Spiegler et al. [39] was used to predict the Leidenfrost temperature, \(T_{LEID}\):

\[
T_{LEID} = (0.13p_r + 0.84)T_c
\]

Table 1 Water data analyzed and results of their comparison with the present correlation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>(D) (mm)</th>
<th>(G) (kg/m² s)</th>
<th>(q_w) (kW/m²)</th>
<th>Bo</th>
<th>Re (\times 10^3)</th>
<th>Fr (\times 10^{-3})</th>
<th>(x_E)</th>
<th>(p_r)</th>
<th>(T_{LEID})</th>
<th>Percent deviation of correlation</th>
<th>Number of data points</th>
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<tr>
<td>Annunziato et al. [25]</td>
<td>12.4</td>
<td>3.7</td>
<td>2.4</td>
<td>2.6</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>0.00012</td>
<td>0.65</td>
<td>0.0046</td>
<td>22.0</td>
<td>51.1</td>
<td>NC</td>
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<td>Chen [18]</td>
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<td>9.4</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>5</td>
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<td>Gottula et al. [27]</td>
<td>15.4</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>26</td>
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<td>0.017</td>
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<td>Janssen &amp; Kervinnen [58]</td>
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<td>1,016</td>
<td>838</td>
<td>5.5</td>
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<td>15.3</td>
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heat transfer engineering vol. 21 no. 4 2000
where \( p_r \) is the reduced pressure and \( T_c \) is the critical temperature. (Note that both \( T_c \) and \( T_{LEID} \) are to be in K or R.) The Leidenfrost temperature predicted by this formula is a little lower than the critical temperature of the fluid. It is realized that this equation may not be accurate, but a rough approximation is adequate for our purpose. Groeneveld and Delorme [10] had deleted data for wall temperature below 400 ± C in evaluating their correlation against water data for the same reason; the critical temperature of water is 374°C.

Where the publications in hand gave a large amount of data, representative data were picked out at reasonable intervals of parameters including the extreme values of parameters. This was to avoid excessive effort which would not have given any new information. Thus the data points analyzed are representative of many more data points.

### Other Correlations Which Have Been Evaluated

So that the present correlation may be viewed in perspective, it was decided to compare the same database with the best available nonequilibrium correlations. From the literature survey, it appeared that the among

<table>
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<th>( D ) (mm)</th>
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<th>( q_w ) (kW/m²)</th>
<th>Bo ( \times 10^4 )</th>
<th>Re ( \times 10^{-3} )</th>
<th>( x_E )</th>
<th>( p_r )</th>
<th>( T_c ) (K)</th>
<th>( T_{LEID} ) (K)</th>
<th>( p_{cr} ) (bar)</th>
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Table 3 Complete range of all vertical tube data analyzed

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<tr>
<th>Fluid</th>
<th>Water, helium, nitrogen, methane, propane, R-12, R-22, R-113, R-134a</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
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<td>Tube ID, mm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pressure, bar</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>( p_r )</td>
<td>0.0046–0.97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( q_w ), kW/m²</td>
<td>0.6–1,921</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( G ), kg/m² s</td>
<td>3.7–5,176</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( T_c ), K</td>
<td>5–1,065</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( T_{LEID} ) (K)</td>
<td>5–1,065</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bo ( \times 10^4 )</td>
<td>1.5–59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Re ( \times 10^{-3} )</td>
<td>1.3–1,078</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( x_E )</td>
<td>0.13–2.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( x_c )</td>
<td>-1.4 to +0.96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. of data points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mean deviation</td>
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</table>
the best are the correlations of Saha [11], Kohler (Hein and Kohler [12], as generalized by Katsounis [13], and Groeneveld-Delorme [10]. Attempt was made to compare the entire database with these correlations together with the present correlation.

The values of $x_c$ for the data analyzed here were the measured values given in these data themselves. General methods for calculating $x_c$ are discussed in Appendix 2.

**Results of Data Analysis**

Results of comparison of the measured heat transfer coefficients in vertical tubes with the present and the other three correlations are given in Tables 1 and 2. These show that the 546 data points analyzed are predicted by the present correlation with a mean deviation of 15.2%. The deviations of the other three correlations are seen to be considerably higher. In these tables, deviation is defined as follows:

\[
\text{Deviation} = \frac{(\text{predicted } h_{TP} - \text{measured } h_{TP})}{\text{measured } h_{TP}}
\]

(21)

where

\[
h_{TP} = \frac{q_w}{T_w - T_{SAT}}
\]

(22)

where $T_{SAT}$ is the saturation temperature.

The complete range of vertical tube data analyzed is summarized in Table 3. Figures 2–7 show comparison of wall temperatures from some runs with the various correlations. Figures 8 and 9 show comparison of measured vapor temperatures with various correlations.

**DISCUSSION OF RESULTS OF DATA ANALYSIS**

**Range of Data Analyzed**

The data analyzed include nine fluids with widely differing properties: cryogens, chemicals, refrigerants, and water. The range of dimensional and dimensionless parameters is very wide. Mass velocity of water ranges

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**Figure 2** Comparison of the present correlation with the measured wall and vapor temperatures. Fluid: water, $D = 15.4$ mm, $p = 3.7$ bar, $G = 17.3$ kg/m$^2$s, $q_w = 18$ kW/m$^2$. Dashed line is the prediction for $L/D < 30$. Data of Gottula et al. [27].

**Figure 3** Comparison of the various correlations with the data of Nishikawa et al. [47] for R-22. $D = 9$ mm, $p = 42$ bar, $G = 400$ kg/m$^2$s, $q_w = 20$ kW/m$^2$, $x_c = 0.54$. Dashed line is for $L/D < 30$.

**Figure 4** Comparison of the variable heat flux data of Annunziato et al. [25] for water with the present and the Groenevald-Delorme correlations. $D = 12.4$ mm, $p = 1.01$ bar, $G = 4$ kg/m$^2$s.
from 4 to 5,176 kg/m² s. The reduced pressure varies from 0.0046 to 0.97, an extremely wide range. Data for all fluids over the entire range are reasonably well correlated.

Very low velocities together with low pressures occur during reflooding of nuclear reactors. Such data are adequately predicted by the present correlation as seen in Figures 2 and 4 as well as in Table 1, while the deviations of other correlations are considerably higher.

**Mode of Dryout Occurrence**

In the data analyzed here, the boiling crisis was produced in several ways. These include increasing heat flux until dryout occurs (e.g., Bennet et al. [6]), quenching a preheated tube (for example, Hynek et al. [19]), and application of hot patch (for example, Hammouda et al. [15]). While most of the data are from steady-state runs, some quasi-steady-state data for slowly moving quench fronts are also included, for example, Evans et al. [26]. Data from runs of all these types are satisfactorily correlated.

**Nonuniform Heat Flux**

The only data for nonuniform heat flux included here are those of Annunziato et al. [25]. These also happen to be the data at the lowest mass flux and also at the lowest pressure. The agreement of the present correlation is

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**Figure 5** Comparison of the data of Ling et al. [46] for water with various correlations. \( D = 14.9 \text{ mm}, \ p = 119 \text{ bar}, \ G = 500 \text{ kg/m}^2 \text{ s}, \ q = 510 \text{ kW/m}^2 \).
reasonably good, and is comparable to that of other low-pressure and low-mass-flux data at uniform heat flux. Thus the results with nonuniform heat flux data are promising, but more verification is needed to confirm the applicability to nonuniform heat flux.

The Groeneveld-Delorme correlation performed poorly with these data. These data were not compared with the Kohler and Saha correlations.

**Vapor Temperature**

There have been very few studies in which vapor temperature inside the tube has been measured. Such studies whose data have been analyzed here are those of Evans et al. [26], Gottula et al. [27], Nijhawan et al. [40, 41], and Annunziato et al. [25]; the first three of these are from a laboratory at Lehigh University. All of these data are for water at low pressure and flow rate to simulate reactor reflooding conditions.

Figure 2 compares the present correlation with the data of Gottula et al. [27]. The present correlation is seen to predict the vapor temperature accurately.

Figure 8 shows the comparison of the data of Annunziato et al. [25] with the present and the Groeneveld-Delorme correlations. The present correlation’s predictions are in reasonable agreement with the data, while the Groeneveld-Delorme correlation predicts very high temperatures.

Figure 9 shows the comparison of the Lehigh University data with the various correlations. It is seen that the present correlation predicts the data fairly well. The deviations of the other correlations are much larger.

It should also be noted that accurate measurement of vapor temperature in dispersed-flow film boiling is quite difficult, and some of the reported temperatures may not be accurate.

Thus the present correlation performs reasonably well in the prediction of vapor temperatures, and considerably better than the other correlations. However, the range of data available and analyzed is rather narrow.

As the agreement of the present correlation with measured vapor temperatures is better than those of the other correlations, its comparative performance in predicting heat transfer coefficients would have been even better had the heat transfer coefficients been based on the actual vapor temperatures.

**The Region L/D = 0 to 30**

For $L/D < 30$, we tried the following entrance effect factor given by McAdams [42] for single-phase flow:

$$\frac{h_z}{h} = 1 + \left(\frac{D}{L}\right)^{0.7}$$ (23)

where $h_z$ is the heat transfer coefficient at $L/D = z$ and $h$ is the heat transfer coefficient at a large $L/D$. The 76 data points in this region had a mean deviation of 20.7%. This is quite good. However, the results were mixed: some data had very low deviations, while some had large deviations.

Accurate predictions close to the burnout point are very difficult due to the complexity of phenomena as well as the steep rise in temperatures for a small increase in quality. A small error in estimation of burnout quality could result in a large percent error in wall temperature. Hence the results with this simple approach may be considered good.

**Performance of Other Correlations**

Among the other correlations tested here, only the Groeneveld and Delorme correlation could be compared to all data points. The Kohler and Saha correlations cannot be used when burnout occurs at subcooled conditions. The void fraction equation in the Saha correlation sometimes gave void fractions greater than 1; predictions could not be made for such data points. As a result of these limitations, the number of uniform-heat-flux data points analyzed with the Kohler and Saha
correlations is 331 and 216, respectively, as compared to 530 with the present and the Groeneveld-Delorme correlations.

While the other correlations show good agreement with some of the data sets, their overall performance is not good. For all vertical tube data, the mean deviation of the present correlation is 15.2%, for Groeneveld-Delorme 36.0%, Kohler 28.3%, and Saha 25.6%. While the mean deviation of the Kohler and Saha correlations are lower than that of the Groeneveld-Delorme correlation, these could be applied to many fewer data points.

The major shortcoming of the Saha correlation is its void fraction prediction. As it often gives void fraction greater than 1, thus invalidating the calculations, one never knows whether this correlation can be applied to a particular problem. For the data for which it could be used, its predictions were better than the Groeneveld-Delorme and Kohler correlations. Another limitation is that it cannot be used when the boiling crisis occurs at negative qualities.

It may be mentioned that the computer time required by the Saha correlation is much more than for the other three correlations.

**Horizontal Tubes**

There have been comparatively few studies on horizontal tubes. Three studies were found in which vapor quality exceeded 10%. Two of these, by Kastner et al. [43] and by Kohler [44], appear to be from the same series of tests. Their range of parameters is listed in Table 4. These studies show that at high mass velocities, the phenomena are the same as in vertical tubes. At comparatively low velocities, the upper surface dries out first and its temperature rises while the bottom of the tube still has nucleate boiling. The bottom of the tube dries out eventually and its temperature also rises.

We applied the present correlation to the data for the top of the tube using the measured $x_c$ for the top of the tube. The measured wall temperatures at the side and bottom of the tube were similarly analyzed using the measured $x_c$ at the side and bottom of the tube. The other three correlations were applied in the same way. It should be clarified that this approach has not been recommended by the authors of those correlations. The results are summarized in Table 4. It is seen that the agreement with the data of Schnittger [45] is good, while that with the other two sources (which appear to be really one) is fair. The mean deviation of the present correlation with all data is 25.5%. This is not bad. Figure 10 shows the comparison of data from one of the runs with the present correlation.

The results obtained with this simple approach are encouraging. No definite conclusion can be reached from the limited amount of data analyzed. More study is required using more varied data. Some modifications to the correlation may be needed. A significant factor may be conduction through tube wall.

### Table 4 Summary of horizontal tube data analyzed

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<th>Source</th>
<th>Fluid</th>
<th>$D$ (mm)</th>
<th>$G$ (kg/m² s)</th>
<th>$q_w$ (kW/m²)</th>
<th>Bo $\times 10^4$</th>
<th>Re $\times 10^{-3}$</th>
<th>$F_{TL}$</th>
<th>$x_E$</th>
<th>$p_r$</th>
<th>Number of data points</th>
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<td>0.70</td>
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<td>15.5</td>
<td>1,151</td>
<td>5.5</td>
<td>0.84</td>
<td>0.68</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All data</td>
<td></td>
<td>12.5</td>
<td>384</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>167</td>
<td>0.23</td>
<td>0.38</td>
<td>0.23</td>
<td>25.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>24.3</td>
<td>2,467</td>
<td>605</td>
<td>15.5</td>
<td>1,495</td>
<td>80.7</td>
<td>1.08</td>
<td>0.91</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 10 Comparison of the present correlation with the data of Kastner et al. [43] for water in a horizontal tube. $D = 12.5$ mm, $p = 100$ bar, $G = 743$ kg/m² s, $q_w = 391$ kW/m².
SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

1. A general correlation, consistent with physical phenomena, is presented for heat transfer during film boiling, which can be conveniently used for computerized calculations as well as for hand calculations.

2. The present correlation has been shown to be in good agreement with a wide range of data for upflow in uniformly heated vertical tubes. The data include reduced pressures, from 0.0046 to 0.97, mass velocities from 4 to 5,176 kg/m² s, and nine fluids (water, helium, nitrogen, propane, methane, R-12, R-22, R-113, and R-134a).

3. A limited amount of data for nonuniformly heated tubes was also satisfactorily correlated.

4. In the region \( L/D < 30 \), use of a single-phase entrance effect factor gave reasonably good results, even though the phenomena involved are very complex.

5. The same database was also compared to the correlations of Saha [11], Hein and Kohler [12], and Groenevald-Delorme [10]. Their deviations were considerably higher. Further, the Saha and Kohler-Hein correlations are not applicable over the entire range of parameters.

6. The present correlation was also compared to data for horizontal tubes from three sources. The results are encouraging.

7. The correlation is recommended for application to vertical upflow in tubes in the range of data analyzed. This range is wide enough to cover most needs. Use outside this range should be made with caution.

8. More research is needed on horizontal tubes, nonuniformly heated tubes, and the region immediately downstream of the dryout point. Analysis of data for other fluids is also desirable.

NOMENCLATURE

All equations in this article are dimensionless. Hence any consistent system of units may be used.

- Bo: boiling number \( [= q_w/(Gi_{fg})] \), dimensionless
- \( C_{pg} \): specific heat of vapor at constant pressure, J/kg K (Btu/lb F)
- D: inside diameter of tube, m (ft)
- f: Fanning friction factor for pipe flow \( [= (\Delta p/\Delta L)D\rho_Lg_c/G^2] \), dimensionless
- \( F_{dc} \): factor for enhancement resulting from liquid droplet–wall interaction, dimensionless
- Fr_L: Froude number \( [= G^2/(\rho L^2 g D)] \), dimensionless
- g: acceleration due to gravity, m/s² (ft/s²)
- \( g_c \): conversion factor, = 1 for SI units, = 32.2 for British units
- G: total mass flux, kg/m² s (lb/ft² s)
- \( h_g \): heat transfer coefficient between vapor and tube wall, W/m² K (Btu/s ft² °F)
- \( i_{fg} \): latent heat of vaporization, J/kg (Btu/lb)
- \( i_g \): enthalpy of vapor at actual temperature, J/kg (Btu/lb)
- \( i_{gSAT} \): enthalpy of saturated vapor, J/kg (Btu/lb)
- \( k_g \): thermal conductivity of vapor, W/m K (Btu/s ft °F)
- L: distance from dryout point, m (ft)
- Nu: Nusselt number, dimensionless
- p: absolute pressure, Pa (lb/ft²)
- \( p_c \): critical pressure, Pa
- \( p_r \): \( = p/p_c \), dimensionless
- \( \Delta p/\Delta L \): pressure drop per unit length, Pa/m (lb/ft² ft)
- Pr: Prandtl number of vapor, dimensionless
- q_c: heat flux removed from wall through convection by vapor, W/m² (Btu/s ft²)
- q_{dc}: heat flux removed from wall through liquid droplet cooling W/m² (Btu/s ft²)
- q_w: total heat flux at inside surface of tube, W/m² (Btu/s ft²)
- Re: Reynolds number, dimensionless
- \( T_g \): actual vapor temperature K (°F)
- \( T_{gSAT} \): temperature of saturated vapor, K (°F)
- \( T_w \): temperature of wall, K (°F)
- \( x_A \): critical quality, i.e., quality at dryout, dimensionless
- \( x_c \): vapor quality calculated by assuming thermodynamic equilibrium, dimensionless
- \( x_E \): vapor quality calculated by assuming thermodynamic equilibrium, dimensionless
- \( \alpha \): vapor void fraction, dimensionless
- \( \mu \): dynamic viscosity of vapor, N s/m² (lb/ft s)
- \( \rho \): density, kg/m³ (lb/ft³)

Subscripts

- \( v \): of vapor
- \( L \): of liquid

Abbreviations

- CHF: critical heat flux
- NA: not applicable
- NC: not calculated

REFERENCES


[38] Nishikawa, K., Yoshida, S., Mori, H., and Takamatsu, H., An Experiment on the Heat Transfer Characteristics in the
APPENDIX I: HAND CALCULATIONS WITH THE PRESENT CORRELATION

The steps in calculating $x_A$ by using Figure 1 are as follows:

1. Calculate $Fr_L$ and $x_c$ by a suitable correlation, such as that of Shah (1987).
2. Locate $x_c$ on the equilibrium line $AB$.
3. If this point is below the intersection of the $Fr_L$ curve and line $AB$, $x_A$ is read on the equilibrium line $AB$ and then directly along the $Fr_L$ curve.
4. If this point is above the intersection of the $Fr_L$ curve and the equilibrium line, draw a tangent to the $Fr_L$ curve from the $x_c$ point on the the line $AB$. $x_A$ is then read along the tangent up to the point of contact with the $Fr_L$ curve, and beyond that along the $Fr_L$ curve.

To illustrate these simple steps, the following two cases are shown in Figure 1A:

1. $Fr_L = 1.3$, $x_c = 0.1$
2. $Fr_L = 10$, $x_c = 0.6$

Figure 1A  Prediction of $x_A$ for two cases. Predicted $x_A$ is read along the solid lines.
Calculations When Heat Flux Is a Dependent Variable

If heat flux is an independent variable, as is the case in nuclear reactors and electrode boilers, heat flux and thus Bo are easily calculated. When heat flux is a dependent variable, as is the case when heating is by liquid or condensing vapor, calculations have to be done by trial and error. A heat flux is assumed, the film boiling heat transfer coefficient is calculated, the overall heat transfer coefficient is calculated, and then the heat flux is calculated. If the calculated heat flux differs from the assumed value, a new value of heat flux is assumed and the calculations are repeated. This procedure is continued until convergence is achieved.

Calculation of \( x_c \)

The dryout quality can be calculated using any predictive technique for critical heat flux, as the two are related. Numerous such predictive techniques ranging from interpolation formulas to theoretical derivations are available. It is suggested that the reader refer to books and articles dealing with this subject to select the best method for the application. The review article by Groeneveld and Snoek [4] is a good example. Some guidance is provided in the following.

For CHF upflow in uniformly heated vertical tubes, among the most verified is the Shah correlation [21]. In a recent comparison of several leading predictive techniques, Cheng et al. [59] found it to give the best agreement with data.

Predictive techniques for horizontal tubes are scarce. Kefer et al. [60] have given a simple correlation which agrees with their own data for water. The extent of its agreement with other data is not known.

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