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Thermodynamic effects on Venturi cavitation characteristics

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Abstract

In this paper the thermodynamic effect is systematically studied by Venturi cavitation in a blow-down type tunnel for the first time, using water at temperatures up to relatively high levels, and at controlled dissolved gas contents in the supply reservoir (measured by dissolved oxygen, DO). The mean attached cavity length $<L_{\text{att}}>$ is chosen to reveal the thermodynamic effect, and the cavitation characteristics are analyzed from the experiments. With an increase of the thermodynamic parameter $\Sigma^*$, a decrease of $<L_{\text{att}}>$ vs. the pressure recovery number $\kappa$ is observed, which is consistent with suppression of cavitation by the thermodynamic effect, but the decrease is related not only to this effect. Based on the experimental results, a model is presented of the attached cavity cloud that develops from the Venturi throat. It is found that either the length of this cloud oscillates stably around a mean value, or the cloud breaks regularly at some upstream position, allowing that a detached cavity cloud is shed, flows downstream and collapses, while the remaining attached cloud regenerates. Applying this model to experimental results obtained first with cold water, then with hot water, we find that when the mean length of the attached cavity cloud oscillates stably, temperature increase causes reduction of the mean cavitation length. This is interpreted to be a consequence of the thermodynamic effect. When detachment of large cavity clouds occurs, the mean length is increased at temperature increase. This is a consequence of cloud configuration changes being superposed on changes due to the thermodynamic effect. These observations explain conflicting results reported for attached cavity clouds in relation to the thermodynamic effect. The gas content in the water is found to be without significance within the range of dissolved oxygen tested.

Keywords: thermodynamic effect; dissolved gas content; Venturi cavitation characteristics

1. Introduction

Cavitation occurs in the liquid flow of fluid machinery, such as pumps, turbines, propellers, and rocket turbopumps etc. [1], causing performance deterioration, pressure fluctuations, vibrations and noise [2]. Hence a large number of research studies have focused on the flow mechanism and the control of cavitation in these engineering applications [3,4].

Cavitation bubbles are formed locally by pressure reduction in regions of the liquid where sufficient tensile stress is achieved. During the bubble growth, the evaporation of water and the expansion of the gas in the bubble remove latent heat from the ambient liquid within a thin thermal boundary layer around each bubble. The associated temperature drop makes the vapor pressure drop slightly. Theoretically, this phenomenon retards the further growth of the cavities, known as the thermodynamic effect of cavitation [2]. This thermodynamic effect is present in all liquids at cavitation, but the physical properties of the liquids determine its strength.

In turbine and propeller research the working liquid is usually water at the room temperature [3-7]. In such studies the cavitation number $\sigma = \frac{p_{\text{ref}} - p_v}{0.5 \rho V^2}$ is the primary parameter relevant for expressing and controlling the degree of cavitation since the thermodynamic effect is weak. Here $p_{\text{ref}}$ is the reference pressure, $p_v$ is the saturated vapor pressure, $\rho$ is the density, and $V$ is the upstream velocity. Considering the complexity of flow conditions in hydraulic machinery, researchers often investigate the characteristics of cavitation using a hydrofoil or a Venturi [8-32]. Different cavitation patterns, including supercavitation, cloud cavitation, and sheet cavitation are produced by changing $\sigma$ [8-12]. At unsteady cavitation conditions, averaged quantities (e.g. cavitation length) [8,13,14] and
frequencies of cavitation cloud shedding [13,15-18] are applicable for characterizing different cavitation patterns. High-speed videos and pressure fluctuation measurements are used for analysis through data post-processing. A large number of studies [8,13-15,17-21,29-32] have focused in depth on cloud cavitation, since cloud shedding may result in large pressure fluctuations and strong cavitation erosion. The role of a re-entrant jet in causing cloud shedding has been studied [8,13,15,22-28], but recent studies have questioned this interpretation [33,34].

In addition to water at room temperature, other liquids, such as the cryogenic LH2/LO2, refrigerants, and high temperature water etc., are used in various engineering applications [35-38]. The working temperatures of these liquids are usually close to their critical points. Compared with water at room temperature, their saturated vapor pressures are very sensitive to temperature changes. These liquids also have small liquid-vapor density ratios and thermal conductivities which significantly change the heat transfer characteristics, thus affecting the cavitation phase change processes [1,2]. These properties of the liquids result in a strong thermodynamic effect of cavitation, which cannot be neglected in modeling or analyzing the cavitation phenomena. In order to understand the differences between cavitation in the liquids mentioned above and in water at room temperature, studies have been carried out from the perspective of the thermodynamic effect, using the cavitation number as the control parameter [38-55].

In this connection, a number of researchers have proposed models to estimate the thermodynamic effect of cavitation. Firstly, Stepanoff proposed a B-factor [38] as a dimensionless measure of the temperature depression and the reduced cavity growth at temperature rise. Then, Moore and Ruggeri [39] introduced a semi-empirical B-factor based on results from experiments with pumps in different liquids. And from the Rayleigh-Plesset equation, governing the dynamics of a spherical bubble in an extended liquid, Brennen [40] defined a thermal parameter $\Sigma^*$, which depends only on the fluid temperature and the physical properties of the liquid. Franc et al. [41-43] rearranged and non-dimensionalized Brennen’s equation, using the dependency of a travelling bubble on the flow velocity and a spatial parameter to replace the time dependency of the thermal term of the Rayleigh equation. For scaling of sheet/cloud cavitation at geometric similar profiles of inducers, hydrofoils and Venturies, they proposed, based on their non-dimensional equation, to use the cavitation number for operating at similar conditions of phase transition, and the dimensionless $\Sigma^*$ for scaling of the thermodynamic effect on cavity clouds. It means that in flow systems the strength of the thermodynamic effect on cavity clouds is related not only to temperature and liquid physical properties, but also to the liquid flow velocity and a characteristic geometrical size.

Other researchers discussed the influence of the thermodynamic effect on cavitation characteristics (e.g. cavitation patterns, cavitation length, unsteady cavitation behavior) using the above-mentioned liquids [44-48,55]. It should be noted that the cavitation number as well as the thermodynamic effect need to be considered simultaneously to describe the cavitation conditions effectively.

Most previous studies of the thermodynamic effect focused on the perspective of temperature. Thus, Cervone et al. [44] conducted experiments with a hydrofoil using water at 293 K and 343 K. Their results showed that cavitation instability was suppressed while cavitation length increased with an increasing temperature. The latter finding was inconsistent with the suppression theory of the thermodynamic effect. De Giorgi et al. [45] carried out experiments in an internal orifice using water at different temperatures, and likewise found that the cavitation length increased with increasing temperature. Similar studies were conducted by Gustavsson et al. [46] and Kelly et al. [47], who found that high temperature enhanced the development of sheet/cloud cavitation. However, the thermodynamic effect is related to the growth of the individual cavities inside a cavity cloud at different temperatures, these effects being accumulated across cross sections of the cloud. Temperature may likewise directly affect the velocity dependent cloud configuration and size. As the above studies have a view only to the thermodynamic effect when evaluating the temperature related changes observed, their results are not necessarily directly comparable with the suppression theory of the thermodynamic effect.

Watanabe et al. [48] analyzed the cavitation length and the cavitation instability in hydro-fluoro-ether using a Venturi. They conducted their experiments at around 298 K, and adjusted the strength of the thermodynamic effect through changes of the flow velocity. When the thermodynamic effect was increased, the cavitation length was increased. However, in hydro-fluoro-ether a pressure higher than the vapor pressure was measured inside the cavitation cloud, suggesting non-condensable gases dissolved in the liquid phase being present also in the bubbles. A modified cavitation number was proposed, based on the pressure measured, instead of on the vapor pressure. By using the
modified cavitation number, it was shown that actually the thermodynamic effect suppressed the cavitation length. In their experiments, the dissolved gas content was roughly estimated instead of being controlled accurately.

In addition, Ito et al. [49], Petkovšek et al. [50,51], Yamaguchi et al. [52] and Niiyama et al. [53] conducted cavitation experiments on a hydrofoil or a Venturi with liquid nitrogen and hot water. They mainly concentrated on the temperature drop in the cavitation region instead of on the cavitation length and cavitation instability. This is not sufficient for discussing further the influence of the thermodynamic effect on cavitation characteristics.

We notice that in most experimental studies the flow velocity and the dissolved gas content are not mentioned, and only rarely the dimensionless parameter of the thermodynamic effect $\Sigma^*$ is discussed. While the influence of dissolved gas content on cavitation inception [56], on lift/drag characteristics of a hydrofoil in the cavitating flow [57], and on cavitation damage [58] have been widely investigated, its effect on unsteady cavitation behavior at different degrees of thermodynamic effect still remains unclear. For the present study, a blow-down type tunnel was designed to operate with a constant content of dissolved gases (measured by dissolved oxygen, DO) and a constant temperature during each blow-down experiment. A systematic experimental study of Venturi cavitation in this tunnel was carried out using water as the working liquid, and with controlled DO content at temperatures up to high levels, hereby varying the degree of the thermodynamic effect. The cavitation patterns, lengths and unsteady behaviors at different levels of DO content and degrees of thermodynamic effect are discussed.

2. Experimental setup

2.1 Experimental rig

The experiments were conducted in a blow-down-type cavitation tunnel (Fig. 1). It contains an open-loop hydraulic system (including two 10-liter tanks, a transparent test section of acrylic glass, connecting pipes, valves, etc.), a heater, a measurement system and a pressure regulation system, as shown in Fig. 1a.

To regulate the pressure in the tanks, both were connected to a vacuum pump and an air compressor. In order to conduct the cavitation experiments under different thermally sensitive conditions a 1 kW electrical heater was mounted in the upstream tank, and it heated and maintained the water at the desired temperature, controlled by a thermostat. A straight tube of 80 mm length and 16 mm inner diameter, and a ball valve, connected the upstream tank to the Venturi section. To avoid flow separation, a smooth contraction connected the circular tube cross section to the 10 mm × 10 mm Venturi channel inlet. A convergent-divergent Venturi nozzle (divergent angle = 8°) in the test section (Fig. 1b) produced the flow and pressure distribution desired for generating body-attached cavitation, see previous related research [13,19-21]. A geometrical symmetry of the flow channel was used to allow interchangeable flow directions.

A Leno T21S piezoresistive pressure sensor was installed in each of the two tanks, and they were coupled to a dynamic signal acquisition device (Beijing Zhongtaiyanchuang Technology Co. Ltd, EM9118B) for recording of the pressures. The uncertainty in these measurements was ±0.1%. Pressure signals were acquired at a sampling rate of 100 kHz for each channel. The degassing of the system was achieved by applying vacuum to the upstream tank prior to the experiments. To quantify the dissolved gas content according to Henry’s law [59], the content of dissolved oxygen
(DO) in the upstream tank was measured by a DO meter (Hangzhou Puchuan Technology Co., Ltd PD-200) with an uncertainty of ±0.01 ppm. The temperature was measured with a Pt100 sensor of uncertainty ±0.05 K. A high-speed CCD (charge coupled device) video camera (Phantom v711) was used to capture the spatio-temporal behavior of the cavitating flow. A framing rate of 100,000 fps was chosen, and the images were digitally processed for further analysis of the cavitation characteristics.

2.2 Experimental procedure and conditions

Before the experiments, the downstream ball valve was closed. The upstream tank was almost filled with working liquid (water in these experiments), while the downstream tank was almost empty. The desired water temperature was achieved by use of the heater after vacuum degassing the upstream tank, and subsequently the DO content in the water was measured at atmospheric pressure and the desired temperature. After degassing and heating the water, the upstream and downstream tanks were closed, and their initial pressures were set as around 500 kPa and 100 kPa, respectively. Then the downstream ball valve was opened rapidly, so that water was driven through the Venturi section by the pressure difference between the two tanks, and cavitation was generated at the throat, and also further downstream. During the blow-down process, the air in the downstream tank was compressed by the in-flow water. Hence, the pressure in the upstream tank decreased while the pressure in the downstream tank increased slightly as shown in Fig. 2. The dynamic signal acquisition device and the high-speed video camera were triggered shortly after the full opening of the downstream valve. The trigger time was the starting condition in Fig. 2, which lead to an initial downstream pressure that was higher than the atmospheric pressure.

The pressure recovery number,

$$\kappa = \frac{p_1 - p_2}{p_1 - p_v}$$

with $p_1$ and $p_2$ being the pressure upstream and downstream of the Venturi, respectively, and the pressure $p_v$ being the vapor pressure in the Venturi throat, quantifies the pressure recovery in the Venturi section. However, we here chose $p_1$ and $p_2$ to be the pressures in the upstream and downstream tanks, Tank 1 and Tank 2 respectively [51], which means that frictional losses in the upstream and downstream flow channels are included. The uncertainty of the pressure recovery numbers determined in the present experiments is <0.5%.

Previous literature traditionally refers to $\kappa$ as a ‘modified cavitation number’, but in a precise definition $\kappa$ is not a cavitation number. The cavitation number represents similarity of flow conditions in relation to incipient cavitation in an ideal liquid that has no tensile strength. In the Venturi flow, where cavitation arises at the throat, the cavitation number,

$$\sigma = \frac{p_{ref} - p_v}{0.5\rho V^2}$$

is determined from $V = V_\infty$ in the flow channel upstream of the Venturi and $p_{ref} = 0.5\rho V_\infty^2 \approx p_1$. Thus, during a blow-down experiment at low temperatures, where $p_v \approx 0$, we find $\sigma \approx 1$. An example of a genuinely modified cavitation number is the Keller cavitation number in which $p_v$ is exchanged with the cavitation pressure $p_{cav}$, hereby including the actual tensile strength (TS) of the liquid, $p_{cav} = p_v - TS$, but the physics behind it is unchanged. It represents the flow similarity condition for incipient cavitation in a real liquid [60].

The pressure recovery number ($\kappa$), Eq. (1), is a number that gives the ideal pressure recovery in the flow downstream of the Venturi throat versus the pressure recovery actually achieved. The pressure $p_2$ is decisive for the development of the cloud cavitation in the flow downstream of the Venturi throat, but it does not affect the flow upstream of the Venturi throat.

The thermodynamic effect is dominated by the parameter,
\[ \Sigma = \frac{\rho_v^2 \xi}{\rho_i^2 c_p T_\infty \sqrt{\alpha_i}} \]  

(2)

in which \( \rho_v \) is the density of the vapour, \( \rho_i \) is the density of the liquid, \( \alpha_i \) is the thermal diffusivity, \( c_p \) is the specific heat, \( L \) is the latent heat of vaporization, and \( T_\infty \) is the free field Kelvin temperature [40]. The parameters of the liquid depend on temperature, and at fast change of the size of a bubble, the temperature of its gas and vapor content as well as that of a thin layer of the liquid surface are changed for a short time \( t \), which at high temperatures is decisive for the vapor pressure. \( \Sigma \) represents the thermodynamic effect on a spherical cavitation bubble, and when it has a high value, it affects notably the development of a spherical cavity through the thermal term of the Rayleigh equation

\[ R \dot{R} + \frac{3}{2} \dot{R}^2 + \Sigma \dot{R} \dot{R}_T = \frac{P_i(T_\infty) - P_\infty}{\rho_i}. \]

\( \Sigma \) has the dimension of \((\text{length})/\text{(time)}^{3/2}\), but it may be non-dimensionalized relative to the flow system considered as \( \Sigma^* = \frac{\Sigma H_w^{1/3}}{U_{th}^{2/3}} \) brought up by Franc et al. [42], in which \( H_w \) is the wedge height at the throat, and \( U_{th} \) is the flow velocity through it. When \( T \) is increased or \( U_{th} \) is reduced, \( \Sigma^* \) is increased. \( \Sigma^* \) expresses how the thermodynamic effect influences a cavity cloud. The non-dimensional form \( \Sigma^* \) is supported by some studies of cavitating flow [41-43], where it is shown that in some ways \( \Sigma^* \) can describe the degree of thermodynamic effect. Introducing \( 0.5 \rho_i U_{th}^2 = p_i - \Delta p_w - p_\infty \), where \( \Delta p_w \) is the frictional pressure loss in the upstream flow system, and assuming in a first approach \( \Delta p_w \approx 0 \), we get the non-dimensional parameter of thermodynamic effect,

\[ \Sigma^* = \frac{H_w}{(2(p_i - p_\infty)/\rho_i)^{3/2}} \]  

(3)

The uncertainty of the non-dimensional thermodynamic parameter is <0.6%.

The non-dimensional DO content is defined as

\[ DO^* = \frac{DO_m}{DO_s} \]  

(4)

where \( DO_m \) and \( DO_s \) are the measured and saturated DO content at the experimental temperature and atmospheric pressure, respectively. In order to evaluate the influence of the pressurization process on the DO, we measured the DO before and after the water was pressurized for 5 min at the different temperatures, and found the DO increased less than 7%. Based on the DO meter and the temperature sensor mentioned before, the non-dimensional DO content in Tank 1 is available with an uncertainty of <4% during the blow-down.

![Figure 2 Pressure difference at κ = 1.50, Σ* ≈ 0.13 (T=335 K) and DO*≈0.99](image-url)
During a blow-down experiment, duration \( \sim 2 \) s, the flow velocity in the Venturi channel changes because the pressure in Tank 1 drops as shown in Fig. 2, while the pressure in the throat remains close to \( p_v \). However, during the 0.1 s used for each video recording, the change of the pressure difference \( p_t - \Delta p_{up} - p_v \) does not exceed 5\%, and \( p_t \) may be considered constant. The characteristic frequency of the fluctuations of the cavity clouds in our experiments was 24–400 Hz (shown in the following section), corresponding to a characteristic time scale of \(<0.04\) s. Hence each video recording presents repeated cavitation events at quasi-steady conditions [49,51].

When changing the temperature of the liquid, all its physical property values required for the non-dimensional parameters were adjusted to the temperature of the experiment. In our data processing, these values were calculated using the REFPROP V9.0 software developed by National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). During cavitating blow-down \( \kappa \) monotonically increased from 1.2 to 1.8. Ignoring the pressure loss in the upstream flow, the velocity at the throat is estimated by \( U_{th} \approx \sqrt{\frac{2(p_t - p_v)}{\rho}} \). During blow-down at given temperature \( U_{th} \) varied from 30.2 m/s to 24.5 m/s. Therefore, the velocity factor in \( \Sigma^* \) changed from 0.008 (m/s)\(^{3/2}\) to 0.006 (m/s)\(^{3/2}\), a change which had insignificant influence on the estimates of \( \Sigma^* \), being averaged for each temperature.

The experiments were conducted under controlled DO conditions in Tank 1 at four different \( \Sigma^* \)-values:

\[
\begin{align*}
\Sigma^* &= 0.003 \quad (T=298 \text{ K}), \quad 1.2 < \kappa < 1.8, \text{ and } 0.09 < \text{DO}^* < 0.64; \\
\Sigma^* &= 0.044 \quad (T=325 \text{ K}), \quad 1.2 < \kappa < 1.7, \text{ and } 0.19 < \text{DO}^* < 1.02; \\
\Sigma^* &= 0.13 \quad (T=335 \text{ K}), \quad 1.2 < \kappa < 1.7, \text{ and } 0.24 < \text{DO}^* < 1.04; \\
\Sigma^* &= 1.2 \quad (T=366 \text{ K}), \quad 1.2 < \kappa < 1.8, \text{ and } 0.14 < \text{DO}^* < 0.98.
\end{align*}
\]

The experimental results are discussed in Section 3.

3. Results and discussions

3.1 Image post-processing

Venturi cavitation is characterized primarily by an attached cavity cloud developing from the edge of the Venturi throat. The length of such a cloud \( L_{cav} \) either oscillates cyclically around a mean value when clusters or small clouds of detached cavities collapse at its tail, or larger parts of the cloud break off at some upstream position, flow downstream and collapse while the remaining attached cavity cloud grows again. At given flow conditions, the cavitation intensity may be quantified by the mean length \( \langle L_{cav} \rangle \) of the attached cavity cloud (calculated from several cycles of observed cloud oscillations, each of varying mean length \( \langle L_{cav} \rangle \), and from the mean value of the oscillation amplitudes \( \langle \Delta L_{cav} \rangle \), and their oscillation frequencies \( f \).

In the present research the image post-processing method proposed in Reference [61] is used for estimation of the cavity cloud length, and the procedure is briefly described as follows. The first step is to normalize the instantaneous image intensity distribution \( I \) of each frame by a background image \( I_0 \) (the image intensity distribution of a non-cavitating flow), by calculating the ‘grey-level’ \( (I - I_0) / I_0 \) for each pixel. To evaluate the mean cavitation length \( \langle L_{cav} \rangle \) the grey-levels are calculated for all images of the cavitation cycles in each blow-down experiment, and mean values and standard deviations are determined from the number of cycles available. The position of the cavity cloud closure is then taken to be located where the standard deviation of the grey level reaches its maximum value, calculated from the stack of images at disposal in the video at a specified \( \kappa \). In the present work, where 10 000 images are used, 5000 images would be enough to evaluate the mean and standard deviation of the mean cavitation length, as shown in the Table 1. The mean cavitation length \( \langle L_{cav} \rangle \) is measured from the Venturi throat to the closure line with an uncertainty of \(<2\%\).

Table 1 The dependence of the calculated mean cavitation length on the number of images for evaluating at \( \kappa = 1.50 \)
Figure 3 shows an example of the calculation of \( \langle L_{cav} \rangle \) for the cloud oscillation at \( \kappa = 1.50 \), \( \Sigma^* \approx 0.13 \) (\( T=335 \) K) and \( DO^* = 0.99 \). The mean values of the grey-level, Fig. 3a, indicate the averaged cavitation behaviour. The white regions represent cavitation, while the black regions are liquid phase. Standard deviations of the grey levels are shown in Fig. 3b. The maximum standard deviation in transverse direction is plotted in Fig. 3c, and it demonstrates the local instability of the cavity-cloud/liquid interface. The first peak (at pixel=78) indicates the transition from sheet cavitation close to the Venturi throat to bubble cloud cavitation a little downstream, and the second peak (at pixel=201) shows the closure of the attached cavitation cloud, i.e. the location of \( \langle L_{cav} \rangle \). We notice that \( \langle L_{cav} \rangle \) includes detached cavity clouds/clusters, but it gives no further information of the detached cavity clouds/clusters or how they are generated, see Fig. 3d. In Fig. 3, \( \langle L_{cav} \rangle = 22.4 \) mm and using the wedge height at the throat \( H_w \) for normalization \( \langle L_{cav} \rangle^* = \langle L_{cav} \rangle / H_w = 4.48 \).

**Figure 3** Image post-processing at \( \kappa = 1.50 \), \( \Sigma^* \approx 0.13 \) (\( T=335 \) K) and \( DO^* = 0.99 \) for calculation of \( \langle L_{cav} \rangle \). (a) the \((I-I_0)/I_0\) averaged image obtained in 100 ms. (b) the standard deviations of the grey-level, white representing high standard deviation. (c) the profile of maximum transverse standard deviation. (d) a cycle of the cloud oscillation, video-recorded within \( 1.24 \) s<\( t < 1.26 \) s in Figure 2, frame interval \( \Delta t = 2.28 \times 10^{-3} \) s, the averaging thus covering 4 - 5 cycles.

### 3.2 The cavitating Venturi flow

From the videos of Figures 4 and 5, we notice that the Venturi flow detaches at the throat edge. The throat divides the Venturi flow into an upstream region and a downstream region, connected through the boundary conditions at the throat: the pressure \( p_\text{th} \), the flow velocity \( U_{th} \), and the cavitation nuclei at the throat are quantities which are all governed by the upstream system alone. The upstream region can be considered a quasi-stationary flow that supplies liquid through the throat to the non-stationary downstream region. The physics model used for the flow has basic structures as shown in Fig. 6.

A high-speed jet of water moves along the upper channel wall, initially at the velocity \( U_{th} \), and the tensile stress in the jet causes cavitation not only along its lower boundary, but also at the tunnel walls bounding the jet. Though the bubbles are not homogeneously distributed across the jet cross section, we may interpret these cavities as a jet-cloud of cavitation bubbles, see also Fig. 6. These bubbles collapse again at a position further downstream, the closure of the jet-cloud here forming a shock front - a locus of phase transition from two-phase to single-phase flow [62,63].

Shear forces at the interface between the jet and the liquid below it transfer momentum from the jet into the below region, which is closed at the throat. This downstream transport of liquid sets up a tensile stress that reaches a
maximum near the throat, deflects the jet boundary towards the diffuser wall, and sucks liquid upstream along the diffuser wall towards the throat. The lower boundary of the widening jet eventually stagnates on the diffuser wall, as shown in Fig. 6. The pressure rise along the stagnating interface flow makes the jet flow run along the downstream diffuser wall and the lower channel wall so that it fills the downstream flow channel. Upstream of the stagnation line a recirculation cell is created with upstream flow along the upstream diffuser wall, the flow inside the cell being driven by the jet. This upstream flow is a potential flow, but with dissipation of energy in the boundary layer at the diffuser wall. The upstream flow of liquid (traditionally termed a ‘re-entrant jet’, but it is not a jet—it is a continuous flow! [33]) carries gaseous nuclei of small tensile strength, created from collapsed cavitation bubbles. They have a tensile strength much smaller than those entering the downstream region through the throat. If the tensile stresses that build up in the recirculation cell are sufficient, an attached cavity cloud develops in the recirculation cell, as shown in Fig. 6. Downstream of the closure of the attached cavity cloud we usually observe detached cavity clusters or clouds that move embedded in the liquid flow, see also Fig. 6.

Figure 4 Typical sequence of images for cavitation at \( DO^* = 0.32 \), \( \Sigma^* = 0.003 \) (\( T = 298 \, \text{K} \)) and four values of \( \kappa \), with a time interval \( \Delta t = 5 \times 10^{-4} \, \text{s} \), (a) \( \kappa = 1.27 \), (b) \( \kappa = 1.41 \), (c) \( \kappa = 1.54 \), (d) \( \kappa = 1.63 \).

Figure 5 Typical sequence of images for cavitation at \( DO^* = 0.32 \), \( \Sigma^* = 0.13 \) (\( T = 335 \, \text{K} \)) and four values of \( \kappa \), with a time interval \( \Delta t = 5 \times 10^{-4} \, \text{s} \), (a) \( \kappa = 1.27 \), (b) \( \kappa = 1.41 \), (c) \( \kappa = 1.54 \), (d) \( \kappa = 1.63 \).
In Figs. 4a and 5a, the length of the attached cavity clouds oscillates, these oscillations being driven by the elevated downstream pressure, which first makes the detached cavity clusters collapse, then makes the closure positions of the attached cavity cloud and the jet-cloud oscillate around equilibrium positions, though with different amplitudes. New small detached cavity clusters are produced and collapse cyclically at the tail of the attached cavity cloud.

In Figs. 4b and 5b, where \( U_{\omega} \) is lower than in Figures 4a and 5a, no jet cloud is observed, and the attached cavity cloud is of reduced length. Here the length of the attached cavity cloud does not just oscillate around an equilibrium length, but the cloud breaks-up abruptly well upstream of the tail of the attached cavity cloud, and the shed tail moves downstream as a detached cloud. Apparently, the break-up is caused by a pressure wave moving upstream in the jet. After the break-up the remaining attached cavity cloud is not at equilibrium, and it expands in downstream direction, trying to reach a stable \( L_{\text{cav}} \). At this flow condition, the attached cavity cloud sheds large detached cavity clouds.

When we study the flow region at the throat edge, detachment occurs close to the edge, and here a sheet cavity forms. Adjacent to the free surface of this sheet cavity, but inside the jet, cavitation bubbles are observed. After their inception at the throat edge they move downstream along the jet boundary (Figures 4 to 6). The sheet cavity is of oscillating extension and shifts into the attached bubble cloud that occupies the space beneath the jet. The closure of the sheet cavity is positioned where the upstream flow velocity along the diffuser wall is halted by the shear-forces, imposed by the high-velocity jet-flow.

From Figures 4 and 5 we see that the length of the attached cavity cloud is strongly dependent on \( \kappa \). At low values (Figures 4a and 5a: \( \kappa = 1.27 \)) \( U_{\omega} \) is high, and in the upstream end of the recirculation cell the tensile stress is sufficient to make many cavitation nuclei turn supercritical, when they arrive with the re-circulating flow along the diffuser wall. However, at the jet/recirculation cell interface the strong cavitation activity reduces the effective viscosity of the bubbly medium, and the recirculation cell of the attached cavity cloud grows beyond the extension of the diffuser before \( p_2 \) can stop the growth of the cloud.

When during the blow-down experiment \( p_1 \) drops (and \( p_2 \) goes up slightly) \( U_{\omega} \) is reduced, and higher values of \( \kappa \) are achieved. Then the attached cavity cloud shrinks because the kinetic energy in the jet is reduced, and the jet is more easily deflected to fill the diffuser – the stagnation line moves upstream. Eventually the recirculation cell becomes non-cavitating, and only the sheet cavity at the throat is left visible, (Figures 4d and 5d: \( \kappa = 1.63 \)). Now the pressure recovery is governed primarily by the liquid flow through the diffuser, which makes the loss of energy the smallest possible.

An influence of the thermal sensitivity on the attached cavity cloud is revealed by comparing Figures 4 and 5. An increase of \( \Sigma^* \) from 0.003 (\( T = 298 \) K) to 0.13 (\( T = 335 \) K) causes a visible reduction of the cavitation intensity, and it may be quantified by finding \( \ll L_{\text{cav}} \gg \) from the videos.
3.3 Influence of thermodynamic effect on mean cavitation length

The non-dimensional mean cavitation lengths $<L_{\text{cav}}>$ obtained at three values of the thermodynamic parameter $\Sigma^*$, keeping the gas content within $0.24 < \text{DO}^* < 0.45$, are presented in Fig. 7. Good repeatability was obtained at each $\Sigma^*$ value. We see that $<L_{\text{cav}}>$ decreases strongly at an increase of $\kappa$, but it also depends on $\Sigma^*$.

By Eqs. (1) and (5) the dependency of $<L_{\text{cav}}>$ on $\kappa$ is actually a dependency on $U_{\text{th}}$ as well as $p_2$ and $p_1$. In the blow-down tunnel used $U_{\text{th}}$ drops monotonically by time and $p_2$ grows with the integrated mass flow of water from Tank 1 to Tank 2. We may see blow-down experiments as independent ones because the initial conditions vary a little from one experiment to the next. $U_{\text{th}}$ is responsible firstly for the generation of the throat-attached sheet cavity, next for the shear forces that lead to the formation of the cavitating re-circulation cell, while $p_2$ governs the position of its termination. Thus, a balance between the effects of $U_{\text{th}}$ and $p_2$ is decisive for $<L_{\text{cav}}>$, and this balance is expressed in Fig. 7, where, the cavitation length $<L_{\text{cav}}>$ decreases monotonically when $\kappa$ increases. Within the range of DO content tested the DO has no influence on $<L_{\text{cav}}>$ (discussed further in Section 3.4).

When $\Sigma^*$ is increased $<L_{\text{cav}}>$ decreases, the low-temperature $<L_{\text{cav}}>$ curve essentially being displaced to smaller $<L_{\text{cav}}>$-values. This observation fits with the theory of the thermodynamic effect [1,2], according to which the growth of a cavitation bubble is retarded at increase of the temperature, but other factors also contribute.

From the videos it is found that at increase of $\kappa$ beyond a certain value the cavitating re-circulation cell becomes non-cavitating, and we explain the transition from the interfacial shear force being insufficient for setting up the tensile stress in the cell, required for cavitation inception. Then only the sheet cavity, and cavitation bubbles, convected to the tail of the re-circulation cell after their inception at the throat edge, are visible. In Fig. 7 the transition line shows that for increasing $\Sigma^*$, the transition shifts to lower $\kappa$-values. To explain this experimental result, we notice that the shear stress at the jet/attached-cavity-cloud interface drops when bubbles grow in the liquid, the more the larger the void fraction. When at a given $\kappa$ the temperature is increased, $L_{\text{cav}}$ is reduced according to Fig. 7, but it weakens the re-circulating flow in the cell, and reduces the tensile stress. To compensate this, $U_{\text{th}}$ has to be increased, and hereby $\kappa$ is reduced. This explains the experimental transition line shown in Fig. 7, and it is valid also for the maintenance of constant inception conditions in the re-circulation cell at changes of the temperature when $\kappa$-values lower than that of transition are considered, but the shift of $\kappa$ is not necessarily the same.

When $\kappa$ is beyond the transition to non-cavitating flow inside the re-circulation cell, then only the sheet cavity itself is effective in causing a thermodynamic effect on $<L_{\text{cav}}>$, set up by oscillations of the sheet cavity. The sheet

![Figure 7](image-url)
cavity is a single cavity, though not spherical as in the theory of the thermodynamic effect. It is not clear to which extent the thermodynamic effect on the cavities, which continuously nucleate, grow and collapse inside the recirculation cell, contribute to the changes of $<<L_{cav}>^*$ observed. However, several cavitation nuclei pass critical size almost simultaneously within a small region at the upstream end of the recirculation cell, and the thermodynamic effect on the size of the bubbles formed affects the development of the recirculation cell, smaller bubbles increasing the transfer of momentum from the jet to the recirculation cell, hereby reducing its length.

Generally, the unsteady behavior of Venturi cavitation is characterized by cyclical detachment of cavity clouds from an attached cloud, and the detached clouds subsequently collapse, while the attached cloud regenerates. The time required for this process is decisive for the oscillation frequency of the cavity length $L_{cav}$. The above discussion reveals that $U_{th}$ is extremely important for interpreting the measured $<<L_{cav}>^*$, and it is well known from the literature. Therefore, the experimental results of Figure 7 are plotted in Figure 8, which shows the relation of $<<L_{cav}>^*$ vs. $U_{th}$ at three different values of $T$ (or $\Sigma^*$).

![Graph](image.png)

Figure 8 $<<L_{cav}>^*$ vs. $U_{th}$ at three different values of $T$, $\Sigma^*$.

In Fig. 8, there are three regimes, one with stable length oscillations at high $U_{th}$-values, and another similar one at low $U_{th}$-values, and in between a regime with upstream break-off of part of the attached cavity cloud at regular intervals of time. Three data sets, one for each regime, were chosen to illustrate the influence of temperature, Table 2. In each set the $U_{th}$-values were almost the same. For the Sets 1 (points a and a') and 3 (points c and c') in Table 2, i.e. the regimes with stable length oscillations, the mean cavitation length decreases with increasing temperature and $\Sigma^*$. This is interpreted to be a consequence of the thermodynamic effect. For Set 2 (points b and b'), where $U_{th}$ is in the range about 27–29 m/s, i.e. the regime with break-off of large cavity clouds, the mean cavitation length increases at increasing temperature $T$ and $\Sigma^*$. We ascribe this to the structural change of the attached cavity cloud during the break-off process. The length measurements, when using the post-processing techniques, spans the attached cavity cloud and the cavity cloud that breaks off. In the upstream end of the recirculation cell a continuous inception of cavities takes place, and their fast initial growth is highly influenced by the thermodynamic effect. Further downstream in the attached cavity cloud the cavities are negligibly influenced by the thermodynamic effect until they collapse near the stagnation line of the jet/recirculation cell interface. The detached cavity cloud is not part of the recirculation cell, but by the measurement technique used its extension is added to that of the remaining attached cavity. Therefore, when large cavity clouds break off from the attached cavity cloud, the mean cavitation length is measured to increase at increase of $\Sigma^*$, i.e. the measurement technique hides the thermodynamic effect. From Table 2 we see that in all of the three cases presented, $\kappa$ decreases at temperature increase. The model of the recirculation cell relates this observation to the thermodynamic effect, as argued in relation to the transition line in Figure 7. This supports that in all the cases the thermodynamic effect reduces the length of the genuinely attached cavity cloud at temperature rise. These findings explain why some researchers measured an increase of the cavity length when the temperature was increased. The authors mainly focused on attached cavity clouds that produced detached cavity clouds by break-off.
In this context, a frame difference method (FDM) which highlights the difference between two consecutive images and show information of both overall and local cavitation processes is used for analyzing the cavitation videos [64,65]. Combining the classical spatio-temporal diagrams and the FDM image processing, the temporal development of transmission of light through the flow channel along the length of the cavitation region is analyzed to obtain quantitative information of the how the cavity clouds develop, of the motion of cavitation structures, and of pressure waves in the flow field. A brief introduction to the use of FDM is presented.

A video covering the time range of a few cycles of oscillations of $L_{cav}$ is selected for analysis. In each video-frame the light transmission levels $(I - I_0)/I_0$ are averaged in the direction normal to the main flow, which leads to a distribution of the light transmissivity, the grey-level, in the flow cross sections along the cavity cloud, observed at time $t$. By the FDM-method the changes of light transmission from one video frame to the next (in this work within an interval of time $\Delta t = 10^{-5}$ s) are then calculated along the flow axis (about 15 ms). These changes are presented in a (time $t$, position $x$)-graph, covering the whole range of time analyzed, using a grey-scale that is transformed so that the fastest increase of the light transmissivity is presented by black color, the fastest decrease by white color. Details are exemplified in Ref. [65].

As cavitation bubbles block the transmission of the light, a cavity surface (or a cavity cloud boundary) that moves away from the cross section considered causes an increase of the light transmission, i.e. it has a blackening effect, while such a surface passing the cross section leads to whitening. The final collapse of a cavity is fast and leads to blackening, while the subsequent bubble rebound causes whitening. The collapse and rebound process of a cavity as well as that of a cavity cloud or cluster produces an N-wave, emitted radially at the speed of sound from the location of collapse, and the tensile tail of the N-wave makes cavitation nuclei present in the liquid expand. It causes a short-lived long-range blocking of light, a blackening-whitening that spreads at the speed of sound, but it is attenuated with distance from its origin.

Figures 9a,b and 10a,b show FDM results for the videos in the Figures 4b, 5b and 4c, 5c, respectively. The FDM mappings are (time $t$, position $x$)-non-dimensionalized by $H_0$)-mappings of the cross-sectional light transmission, with the flow direction from top to bottom. A sheet cavity develops from the Venturi throat, and at its unsteady trailing edge (its motion by time is indicated by the yellow, dotted arrow B) it shifts into a cavitating recirculation cell, an attached cavity cloud that develops in downstream direction, indicated by the blue dotted arrow A. The tail of this cloud detaches during growth, thus forming a detached cavity cloud (green arrows in Figure 9a), and it collapses periodically. Initially the sheet cavity is very short (start of arrow B), and it grows and shrinks periodically.

Figure 9a shows typical results using FDM on an attached cavity cloud recorded at $\kappa = 1.41$, $\Sigma^* \approx 0.003$ $(T = 298 \text{ K})$ and $DO^* = 0.32$. The first frame of Fig. 4b is located in Fig. 9a at $t \approx 3.5$ ms. With a time interval $\Delta t = 0.5$ ms the $10^{th}$ frame is at $t \approx 8.0$ ms. Along the red arrow C, pointed drop-like structures (green arrows) are observed to start, stretching downstream to the tail of the attached cavity cloud. We interpret these structures to arise from cavitation nuclei that turn supercritical, the nuclei being supplied continuously with the upstream flow of liquid along the diffuser wall. Inception occurs near to the arrow C, and it temporarily causes a local stress relaxation, but cavitation bubbles already beyond their critical size expand, and they move downstream, forming the expanding drop-like structure that has a bright downstream edge and a dark upstream edge. (This shows us that in its inside the light transmission is low and relatively uniform - the structure represents cavitation). After a fraction of a millisecond the tensile stress is re-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Set</th>
<th>Point in Fig. 8</th>
<th>DO*</th>
<th>$T$ (K)</th>
<th>$U_0$ (m/s)</th>
<th>$\Sigma^*$</th>
<th>$\kappa$</th>
<th>$&lt;&lt;L_{cav}&gt;&gt;$*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1: Oscillating sheet cavity</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>0.32</td>
<td>298</td>
<td>25.43</td>
<td>0.003</td>
<td>1.58</td>
<td>3.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>a’</td>
<td>0.30</td>
<td>366</td>
<td>25.41</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>1.55</td>
<td>2.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2: cloud break-off</td>
<td>b</td>
<td>0.32</td>
<td>298</td>
<td>27.69</td>
<td>0.003</td>
<td>1.38</td>
<td>8.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>b’</td>
<td>0.25</td>
<td>366</td>
<td>27.50</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>1.31</td>
<td>9.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3: Oscillating attached cavity cloud</td>
<td>c</td>
<td>0.32</td>
<td>298</td>
<td>29.65</td>
<td>0.003</td>
<td>1.29</td>
<td>15.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>c’</td>
<td>0.25</td>
<td>366</td>
<td>29.57</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>1.22</td>
<td>12.91</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
established, and a new drop-like structure forms. These structures extend downstream to the tail of the re-circulation cell, where the cavities collapse due to a rising pressure at the downstream cell boundary.

The final collapse of a cavity, and also that of a cloud/cluster, is fast and causes an abrupt local pressure rise. The collapse leads to the formation of a black line, usually almost vertical, at the location of collapse, its length indicating the strength of the collapse. Cavity cloud collapse means phase transition in the convected bubbly medium, and if the final cloud collapse is only little faster than the flow velocity, the black line turns oblique, and of positive inclination. This is observed e.g. at \((t \approx 6.3 \text{ ms}, x^* \approx 7.5)\) of Fig. 9a.

The drop-like structures (green arrows) form just downstream of the sheet cavity that is of strongly fluctuating length, its tail approximately running along the red Arrow C in Fig. 9a, and it eventually shrinks to very small length – then it expands again along the yellow Arrow B. The sheet cavity exhibits a pattern of parallel lines, their inclination indicating disturbances that move at a velocity of \(~20\text{ m/s}\). The subsequent drop-like structures are of lower inclination, their upstream side move downstream at a velocity of \(~12\text{ m/s}\). At about \((t \approx 4.3 \text{ ms}, x^* \approx 3.5)\) two neighboring drop-like structures meet, making a black/white line of negative inclination, which fits with initial cavity cloud detachment, apparent at \(x^* \approx 4\) in frame 3 of Fig. 4b. As the cloud detachment proceeds and the detached cloud moves away from the attached cloud, a region of high transmissivity develops between them. In Fig. 9a this shows up by the drop-like structures again separating from each other, and subsequently the structures break up and vanish because the detached cloud, and also bubble structures at the tail of the attached cloud, collapse. In Fig. 9a these collapses produce long vertical black(grey)-white line-structures, primarily in the downstream direction. The tail of the attached cavity cloud now develops along the blue Arrow A, until a new detached cloud collapses at \(t \approx 12-13\text{ ms}\).

When the detached cavity cloud collapses, the elevated downstream pressure penetrates upstream in the jet flow along the upper channel wall, as well as along the diffuser wall, where the re-circulating flow in the attached cavity cloud is upstream directed, carrying gas bubble remnants of collapsed cavities. When this wave, strongly attenuated, arrives at the sheet cavity it makes the sheet cavity shrink.

When the temperature is increased to \(T = 335 \text{ K} (\kappa = 1.41, DO* = 0.32, \Sigma^* = 0.13)\), Figures 5b and 9b, we see a basically similar development in the cavitation region. In Fig. 5b the collapse of a large detached cavity cloud is observed just after frame 8. In Fig. 9b such collapses are observed at \(t \approx 5.4 \text{ ms}\), and at \(t \approx 12.8 \text{ ms}\). The other collapses are those of small clouds/clusters of cavities at the trailing end of the attached cavity cloud. We notice that the vertical black/white line pairs formed at cavity collapses within the frame interval of \(\Delta t = 10^{-5}\text{ s}\) seem shorter than at low temperatures. The initial cavity expansion is less violent due to a stronger cooling at the evaporation of water, and final cavity collapse is slowed down by increased heat release at condensation of water. Therefore, in particular the black/white line pairs are affected, the black lines being produced in the final moments of cavity cluster collapses, the white lines being produced by the subsequent expansion of gaseous cavitation nuclei due to the tensile tails of the emitted N-waves.
When $\kappa = 1.54$ the FDM-analyses for different $\Sigma^*$ show changing cavitation characteristics, apparent from Figures 10a,b.

For the low $\Sigma^*$-value in Fig. 10a we see a re-circulating attached cavity cloud which intermittently sheds a detached cavity cloud. The bubble velocities in the downstream direction inside the attached cavity cloud, and the velocity of nuclei moving in upstream direction along the diffuser wall, are ~15 m/s, i.e. higher than at the smaller $\kappa$ in Fig. 9. The frequency of the cavity cloud shedding is ~0.3 kHz. Further, we observe short vertical black stripes, created in the final cloud and cluster collapses, and vertical lines stretching downwards due to propagation of the associated pressure waves.

For the high $\Sigma^*$-value in Fig. 10b we see only the sheet cavity, and cavities/cavity clusters that collapse downstream of it, with only few tiny black stripes, and no vertical lines stretching downwards. The re-circulation flow is hardly distinguished and there are just small oscillations of the length of the attached cavity. At $\kappa = 1.54$, the experimental evidence shows that the thermodynamic effect changes the cavitation behavior.
3.4 Influence of dissolved gas content on the mean cavitation length

In order to investigate the influence of the dissolved gas content on cavitation at thermally sensitive conditions, experiments at different DO were conducted at different thermodynamic effect numbers $\Sigma^*$. Figure 11 shows the mean cavitation length $\langle L_{cav} \rangle^*$ at different $DO^*$ and $\Sigma^*$. Evidently, the DO has little influence, and $\langle L_{cav} \rangle^*$ depends primarily on $\kappa$. 

Figure 10 Image analysis results at $\kappa = 1.54$, $DO^* = 0.32$, (a) $\Sigma^* = 0.003$ ($T=298$ K), (b) $\Sigma^* = 0.13$ ($T=335$ K)
A simple physics explanation of this result is that the dissolved gases in the water, pressurized in Tank 1 to a high tensile strength, partially revert into the bubble nuclei during their convection to the Venturi throat at decreasing pressure, the nuclei hereby losing most of the tensile strength. The growth of the bubble nuclei at pressure drop allows gas in solution at their surface to be released, and already at the throat a moderate tensile strength is to be expected. At the throat edge a sheet cavity is formed, and inside this cavity vapor pressure exists. The cavitation bubbles that arise in the jet-flow expectedly get a strongly increased content of gas when they expand from nuclei into cavitation bubbles, so that when they collapse, gas nuclei of very small tensile strengths are left. These nuclei end up in the recirculation cell behind the sheet cavity, and at cavitation inception here, the repeated inception and collapse events of the recirculating flow further reduce their tensile strengths. Therefore, the initial DO in Tank 1 is not important unless it is very low, because the cavitation nuclei gradually lose their tensile strengths during convection and in the cavitation processes they are exposed to. The dramatic radial expansion of the nuclei at cavitation inception makes them see a supersaturated liquid, and the surface increase is decisive for the release of gas from a thin layer of the interfacial water.

4. Conclusion

In the present study of Venturi cavitation in a blow-down type high temperature tunnel, using water with controlled dissolved gas content (measured by dissolved oxygen, DO) as the working liquid, experiments at temperatures from 298 K to 366 K revealed how the thermodynamic effect, theoretically based on single-bubble dynamics, influences the cavitation clouds generated. The cavitation patterns, the mean cavitation length and unsteady cavitation behavior were investigated by high-speed video observations and image post-processing. The small-scale blow-down type tunnel allowed the dissolved gas content and the temperature of the water supplied to be constant during each experiment. The main results can be summarized as follows.

(1) A model of the attached cavity cloud that develops from the Venturi throat is presented. It is found experimentally that such clouds are attached to the throat by a sheet cavity, followed by a recirculation cell. Either the length of this cloud oscillates stably around a mean value, or the cloud breaks regularly at some upstream position, and a detached cavity cloud flows downstream and collapses, while the remaining attached cloud regenerates.

(2) The non-dimensional mean length of an attached cavity cloud $<L_{cav}>^*$ is governed by the throat velocity $U_{th}$ and the pressure recovery number $\kappa$, but also the thermodynamic parameter $\Sigma^*$ affects it, the cavitation intensity in the cloud being reduced at increase of $\Sigma^*$, which makes $<L_{cav}>^*$ shrink. This is observed experimentally by plotting $<L_{cav}>^*$ vs. $U_{th}$ for different temperatures, but only when the cloud length oscillates stably around a mean
value. When the attached cavity cloud sheds its tail, the detached cavity cloud is included in the measured $<L_{cav}>^*$ which therefore appears to increase. However, $\kappa$ is always reduced when $\Sigma^*$ is increased, and it indicates that the thermodynamic effect reduces the cavitation intensity in an attached cavity cloud, also when its tail is shed. These observations explain conflicting results reported for attached cavity clouds in relation to the thermodynamic effect.

(3) At thermally sensitive conditions the gas content has little influence, within the range of dissolved oxygen tested, on the mean cavitation length and on the unsteady cavitation characteristics. More working liquids need to be tested in the future to allow for discussions of similarity of cavitating flows at thermally sensitive conditions. The relevant pressures, the velocity and the temperature need to be controlled independently in order to decouple the non-dimensional parameters ($\kappa$, $\Sigma^*$), which was not fully achieved in the present study.

Acknowledgment

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References


**Diagram Description**

- **Air compressor** connected to **Vacuum pump** via a **Venturi section**.
- **DO meter** and **Temperature sensor** located within upstream and downstream tanks.
- **Upstream Tank 1** and **Downstream Tank 2** connected with ball valves and a heater.
- **Safety valve** at both ends of the system.

**Diagram Annotations**

- **Interchangeable flow direction** indicated by an arrow.
- **A-A cross section** shown with dimensions: 10mm, 8°, 75mm, 2mm, 5mm.
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![Graph showing pressure (p) over time (t) with two curves for $p_1$ and $p_2$.](image)

- **Starting condition**
- **Ending condition**

---

Enlarged view in 0.1s

- **$p_1$**
- **$p_2$**

- $p$ (Pa)
- $t$ (s)
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$T = 298 \text{ K}$

$T = 366 \text{ K}$

$T = 335 \text{ K}$

Transition from attached cavity cloud to sheet cavity

$DO^* = 0.30$

$DO^* = 0.25$

$DO^* = 0.32$

$DO^* = 0.24$

$DO^* = 0.45$

$DO^* = 0.39$

$DO^* = 0.41$

$\Sigma \approx 0.003$

$\Sigma \approx 0.13$

$\Sigma \approx 12$
$T = 298 \text{ K}$
$\Sigma^* \approx 0.003$
$DO^* = 0.32$
$DO^* = 0.39$
$DO^* = 0.45$

$T = 335 \text{ K}$
$\Sigma^* \approx 0.13$
$DO^* = 0.24$
$DO^* = 0.32$
$DO^* = 0.25$

$T = 366 \text{ K}$
$\Sigma^* \approx 1.2$
$DO^* = 0.30$
$DO^* = 0.41$

Length oscillation stable

Large detached clusters
Physics of Fluids

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A graph showing the relationship between $L_{cav}$ and $\kappa$. The points are color-coded by $DO^*$, with values ranging from 0.24 to 1.04. The trend lines indicate a decreasing $L_{cav}$ as $\kappa$ increases.