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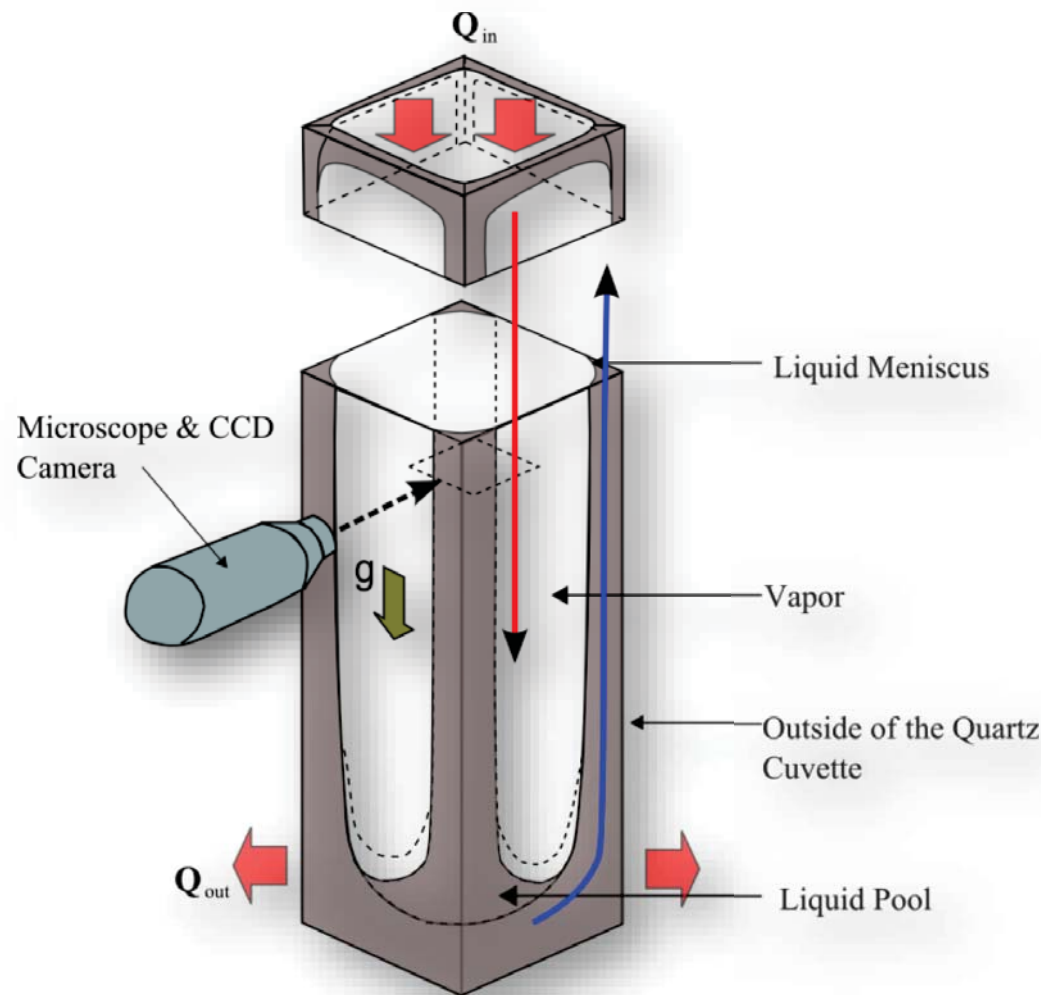
# CVB: The Constrained Vapor Bubble Capillary Experiment on the International Space Station MARANGONI FLOW REGIMEN

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# THE CVB HEAT TRANSFER SYSTEM



- The CVB is a Constrained Vapor Bubble inside a quartz cuvette with a working fluid like pentane.
- Inside 3mm x 3mm ~ 30 or 40 mm long
- Liquid rises along the sharp corners and across the flat surfaces due to interfacial forces.
- Heat source at one end.
- Inside Radiation and Radiation to the surroundings Important
- Evaporation from the hotter regions; condensation in the cooler regions;
- Important visual observation through the cuvette gives unprecedented insight into transport processes.
- Emissivity = 0.775 for thermal radiation frequencies.

A transparent “heat pipe” – ideal for studying basic fluid flow and heat transfer due to interfacial forces inside .

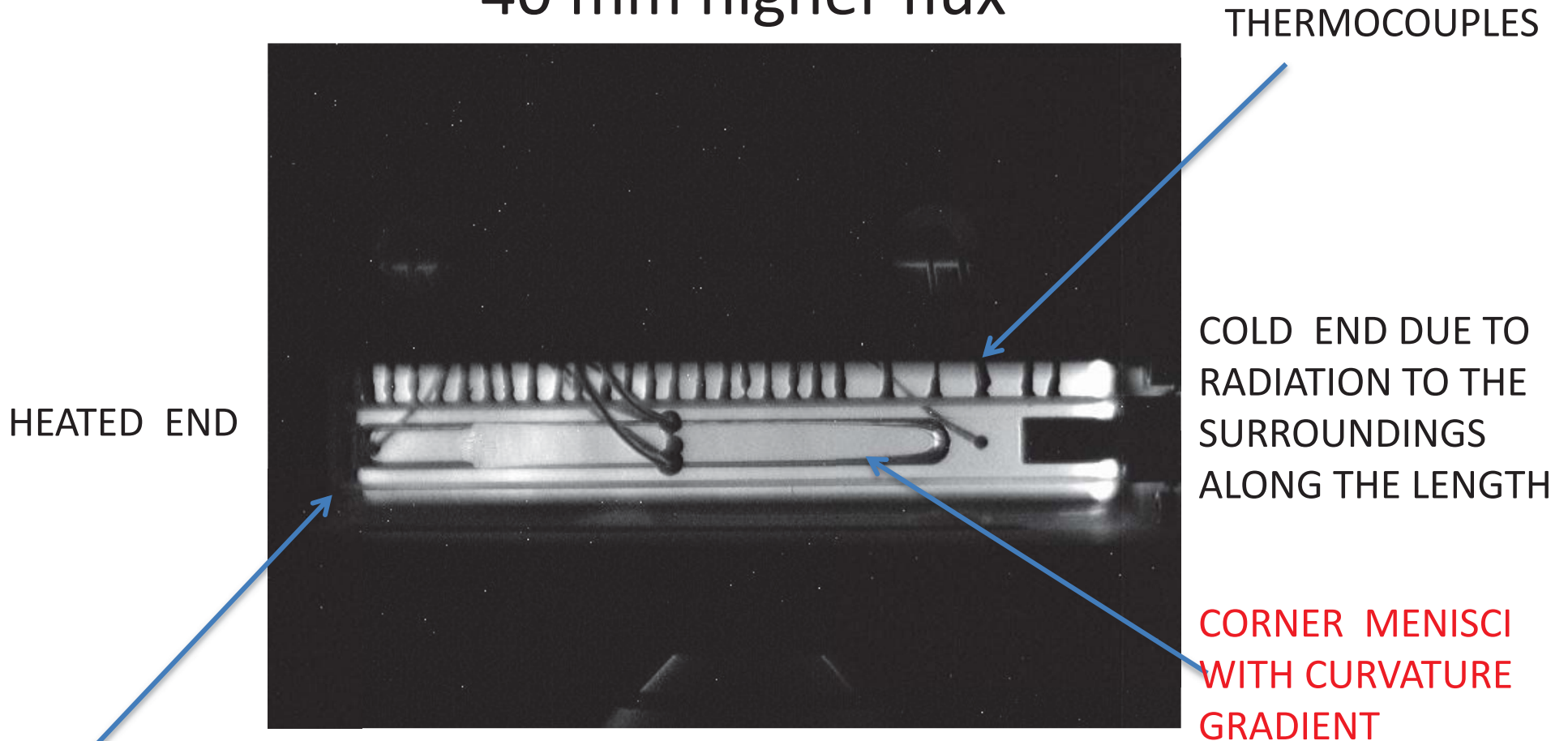
APPARENTLY SIMPLE CONCEPT

HOWEVER, WE FIND EXPERIMENTALLY

THAT THERE ARE MANY COMPLEX

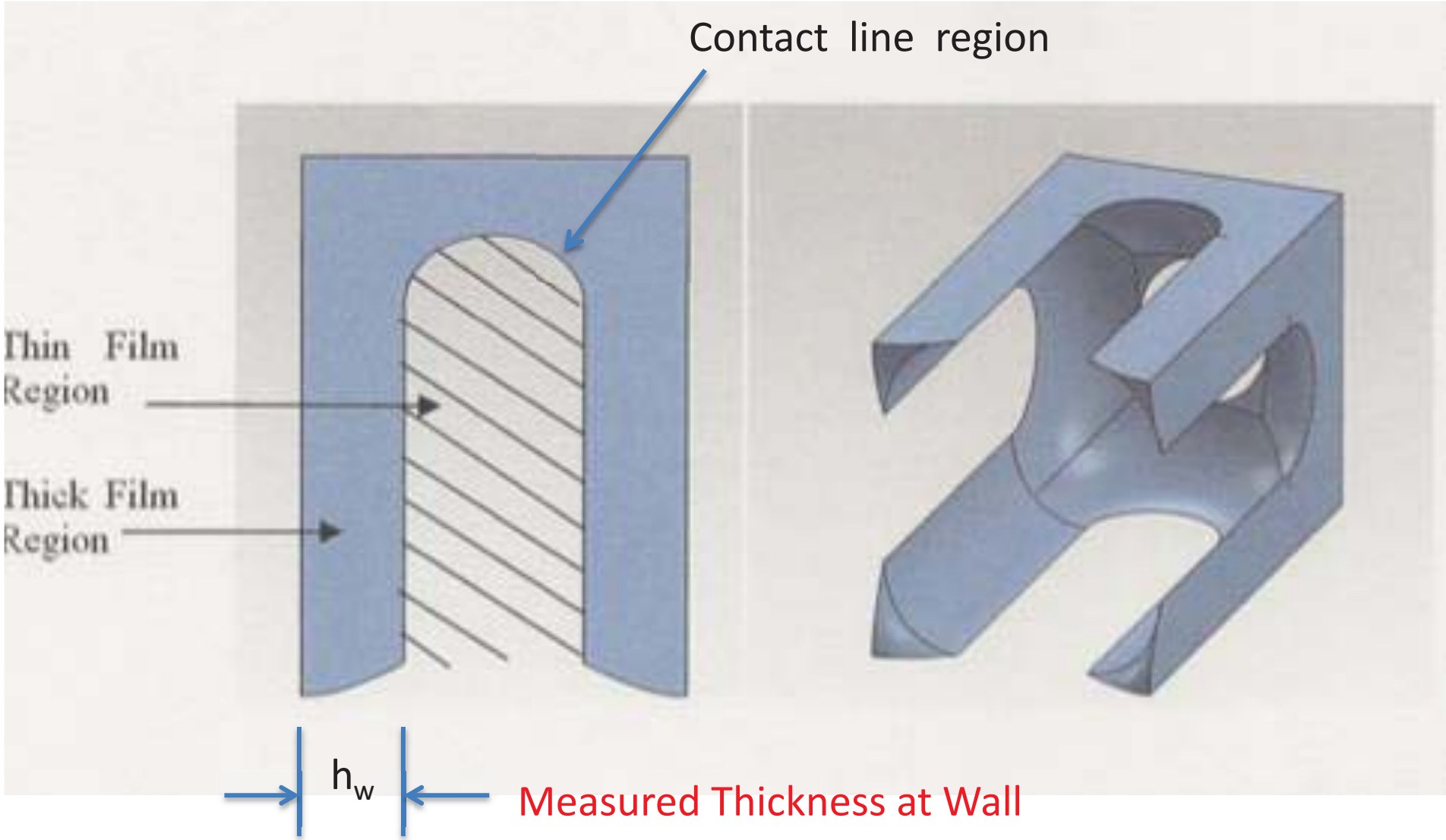
3D INTERFACIAL REGIONS

# Surveillance Camera Image: 40 mm higher flux



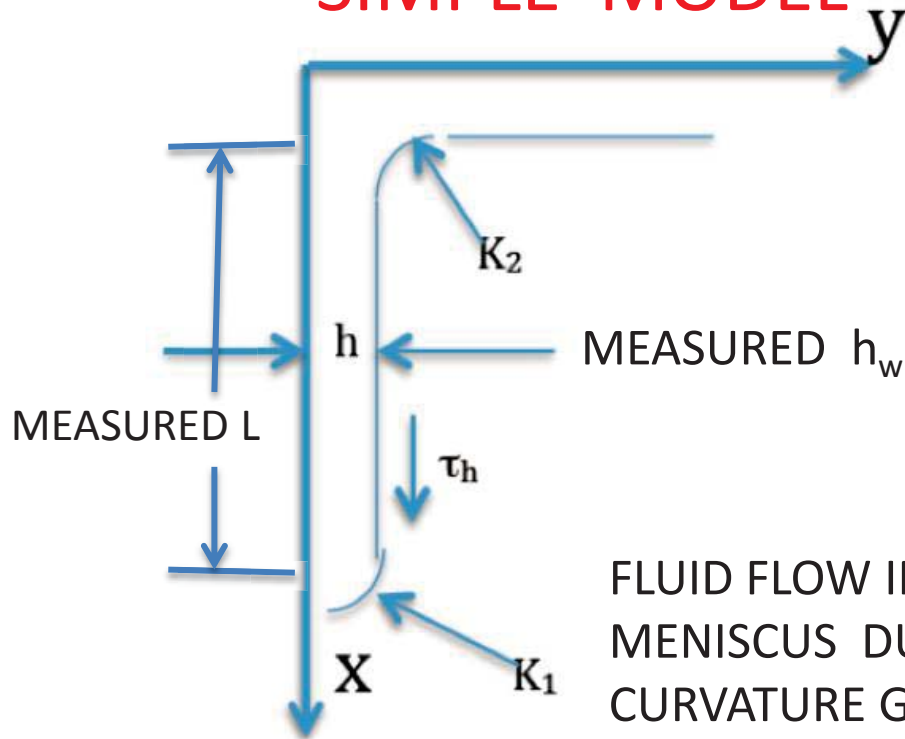
**“Excess” fluid flooding at hot end due to large capillary flow, which we will discuss.**

# SKETCH OF 3D CORNER MENISCI WITH THIN FILM IN THE HOT END REGION

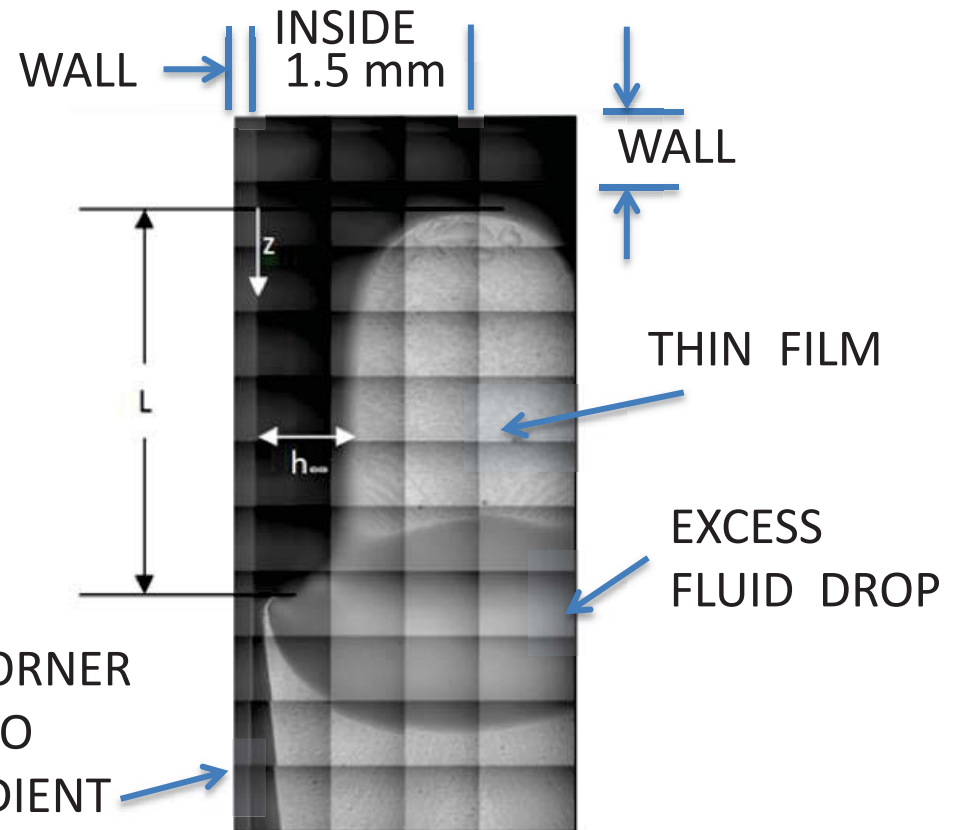


# BALANCE OF PRESSURE GRADIENT, $(\sigma K)'$ , DUE TO CAPILLARITY AND MARANGONI SHEAR, $\tau_h$ , DUE TO TEMPERATURE GRADIENT

## SIMPLE MODEL

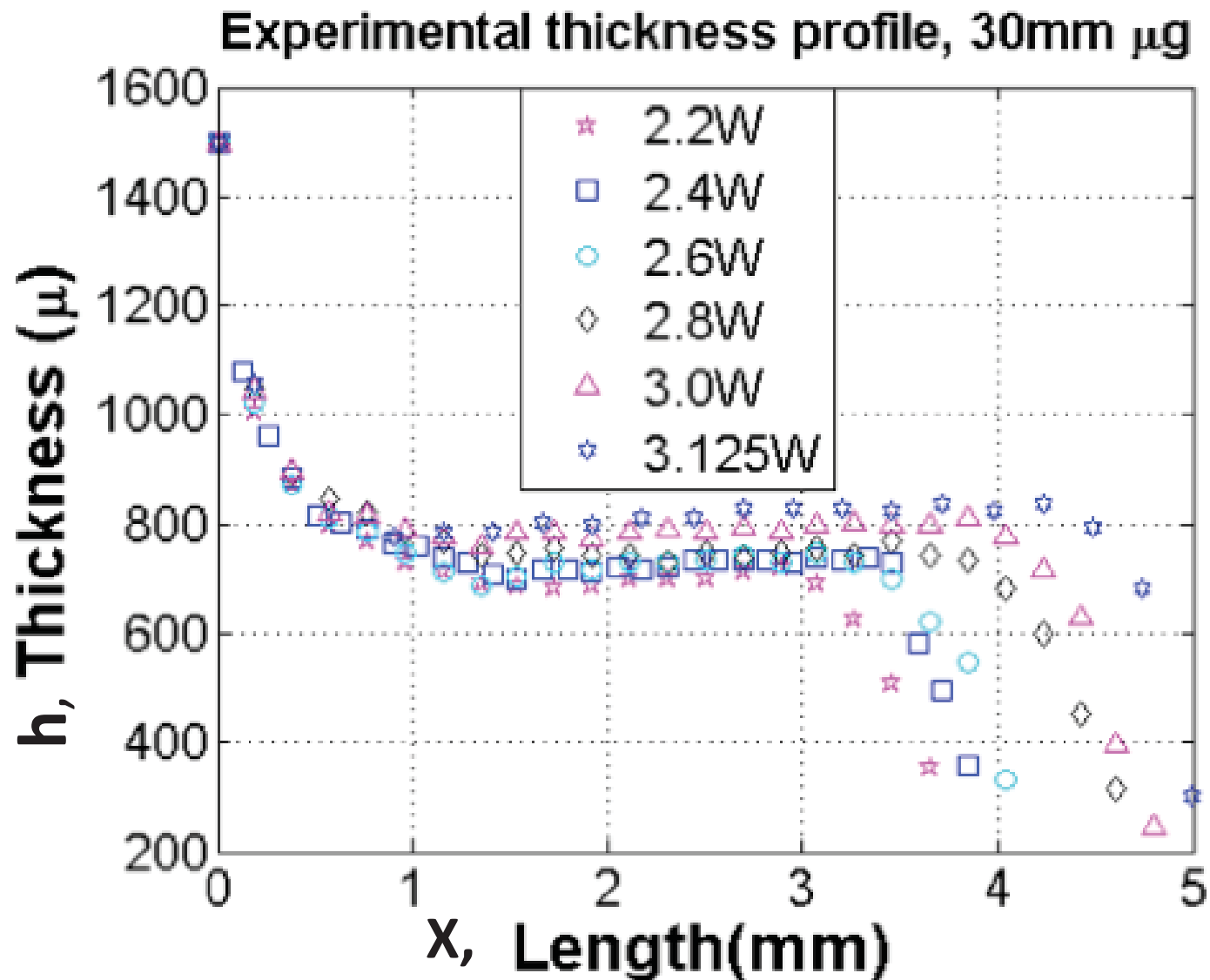


FLUID FLOW IN CORNER MENISCUS DUE TO CURVATURE GRADIENT GIVES "EXCESS FLUID"

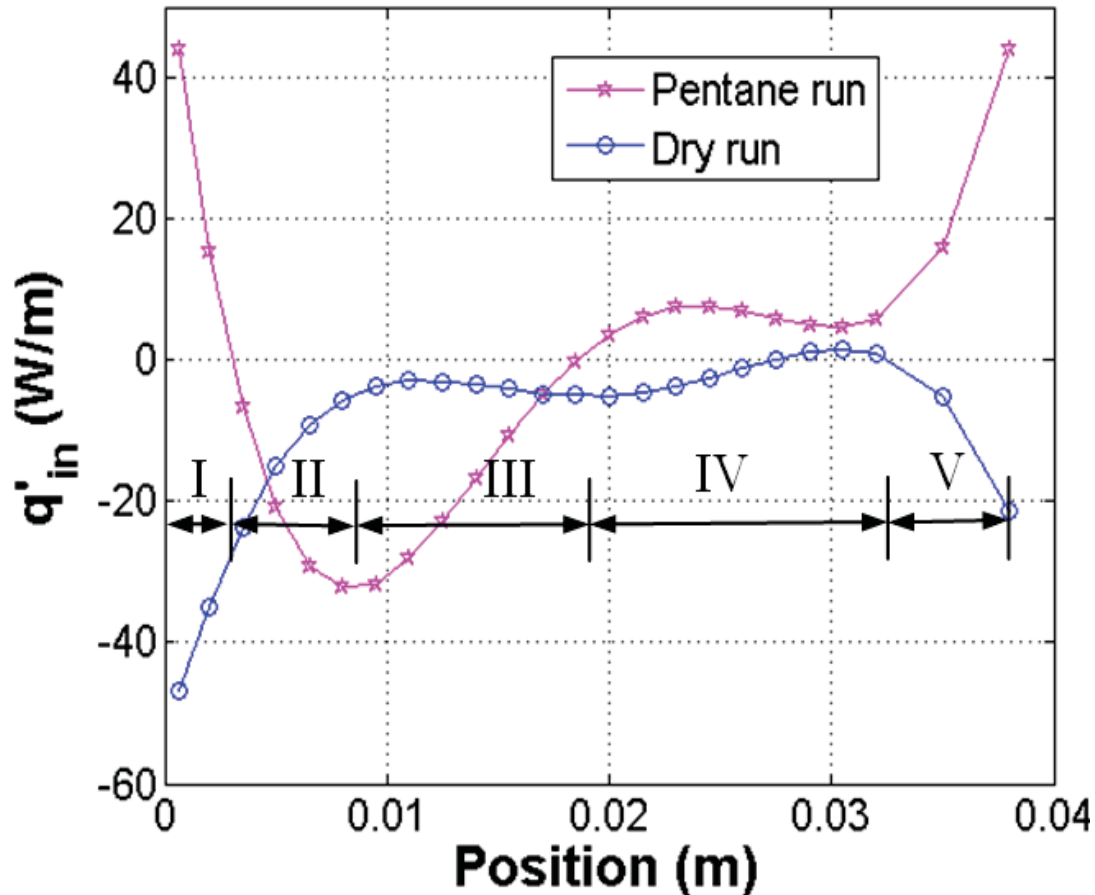


10 X PICTURES STITCHED TOGETHER  
MEASURED  $K_1$  REGION AFFECTED BY DROP AND FLOW IN MENISCUS

Liquid thickness at wall,  $h_w = f(x)$ , in the Marangoni dominated region.



# ID Heat Analysis Model



Inside heat transfer rate per unit length for 2W  
40 mm  $\mu$ g run

## Pentane Run

- Region I: Radiation emitted by heater wall.
- Region II: Marangoni flow at the heated end with net evaporation.
- Region III: Classic evaporation.
- Region IV: Classic condensation.
- Region V: Accumulation of liquid near the cooler end due to interactions with the cold finger.

$q'_{in} < 0$  : flux out of wall



# INITIAL EVALUATION OF TRANSPORT PROCESSES

## VERY SIMPLE FLUID FLOW MODEL WITH INTERFACIAL PHASE CHANGE

### ASSUMPTIONS:

- the flow is 1D
- steady state with phase change,  $\Gamma$
- The capillary pressure gradient due to cohesion adjusts to a constant over the distance  $L$  and is balanced by Marangoni surface shear

$$\frac{d\sigma_{yx}}{dy} - \frac{dP}{dx} = 0$$

# VELOCITY PROFILE IN CORNER MENISCUS

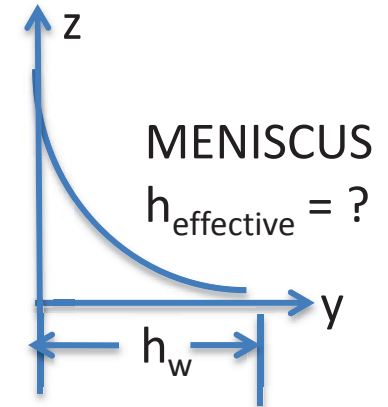
- ASSUMING

$$v_x = 0 \quad \text{at } y = 0$$

$$\Gamma_h = \frac{d\Gamma}{dx} = \frac{d\Gamma}{dT} \frac{dT}{dx} \quad \text{at } y = h_w$$

$$\Gamma = \int_0^{h_w} v_x \, dy$$

$\Gamma$ , MEASURED PHASE CHANGE  
FROM HEAT BALANCE



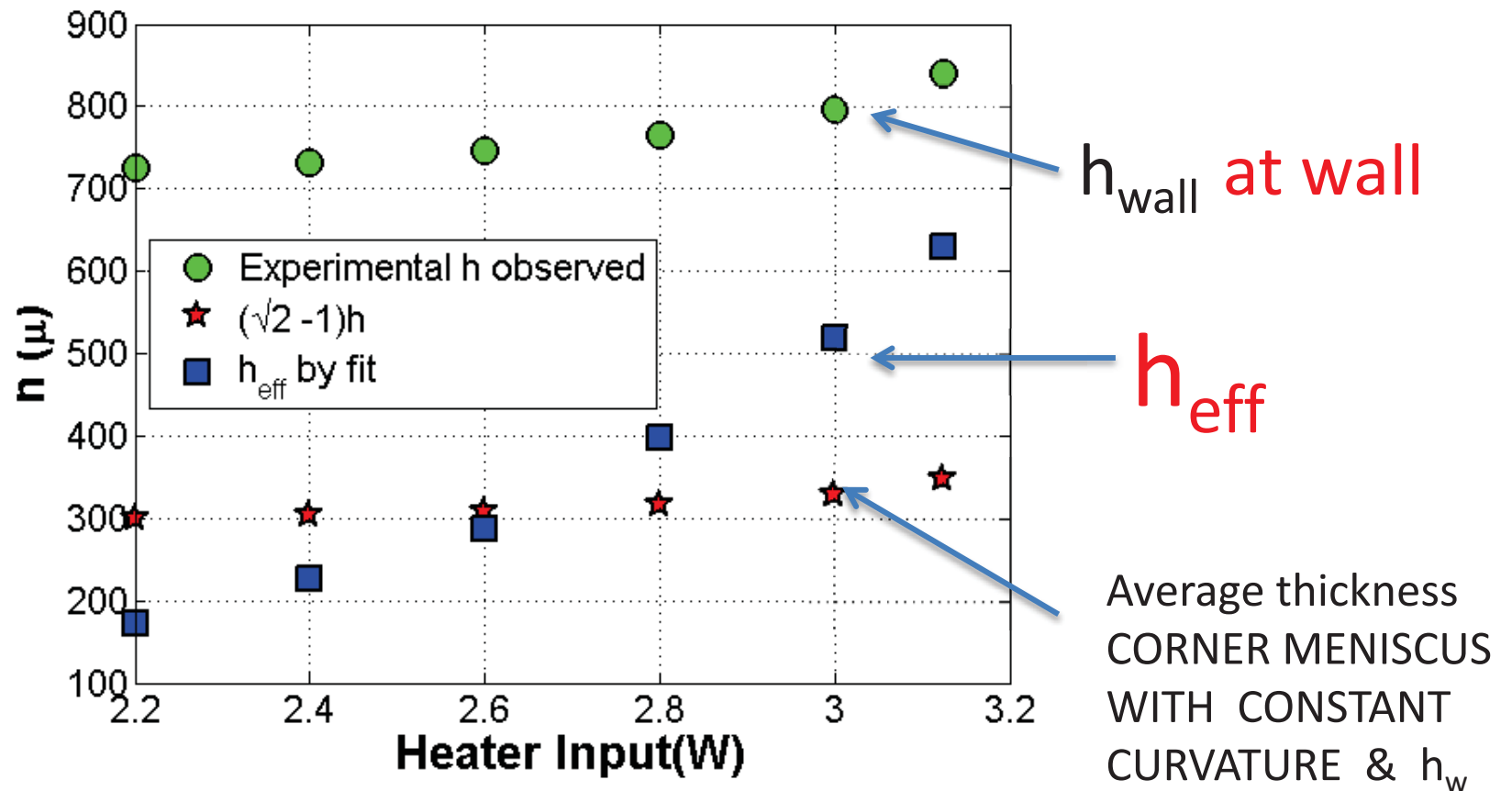
SOLVE FOR  $h_w \rightarrow h_{\text{effective}}$

# PREDICT EFFECTIVE FILM THICKNESS

$$h^3 - \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{3L}{(K_2 - K_1)\gamma} \right) \tau_h h^2 + \left( \frac{3L}{(K_2 - K_1)\gamma} \right) \mu \Gamma = 0$$

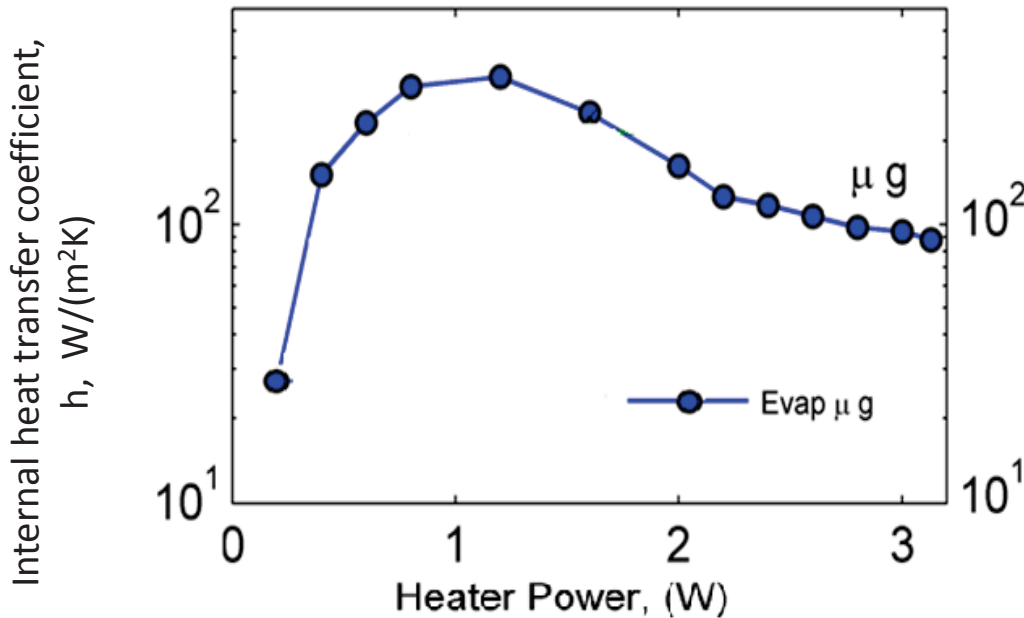
- SOLVE FOR **EFFECTIVE** FILM THICKNESS USING MEASUREMENTS OF PHASE CHANGE,  $\Gamma$ , FILM LENGTH,  $L$ , AND CURVATURES,  $K$ .

# PREDICTED EFFECTIVE THICKNESS, $h_{eff}$

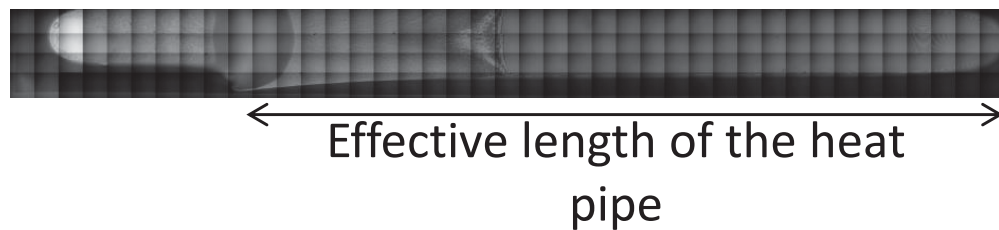


**FLOODING INCREASES WITH HEAT FLUX**

# Internal Heat Transfer Coefficient of the CVB



- Earlier theoretical mathematical analysis have predicted 'Dryout region'. [1-2]
- Maximum internal heat transfer coefficient at 1.2 W
- Marangoni dominated flow starts from 1.6 W onwards
- Internal resistance to the heat transfer of the heat pipe increases due to onset of 'Flooding' of the heater end and not due to 'Dryout' of the heater.
- The effective length of the heat pipe is decreased.



1. Savino, R., and Paterna, D., "Marangoni effect and heat pipe dryout", *Phys. Fluids*, 18, 118103, (2006).
2. Yang, L., and Homsy, G. M., "Steady three-dimensional thermocapillary flows and dryout inside a V-shaped wedge", *Phys. Fluids*, 18, 042107, (2006).

# CONCLUSIONS

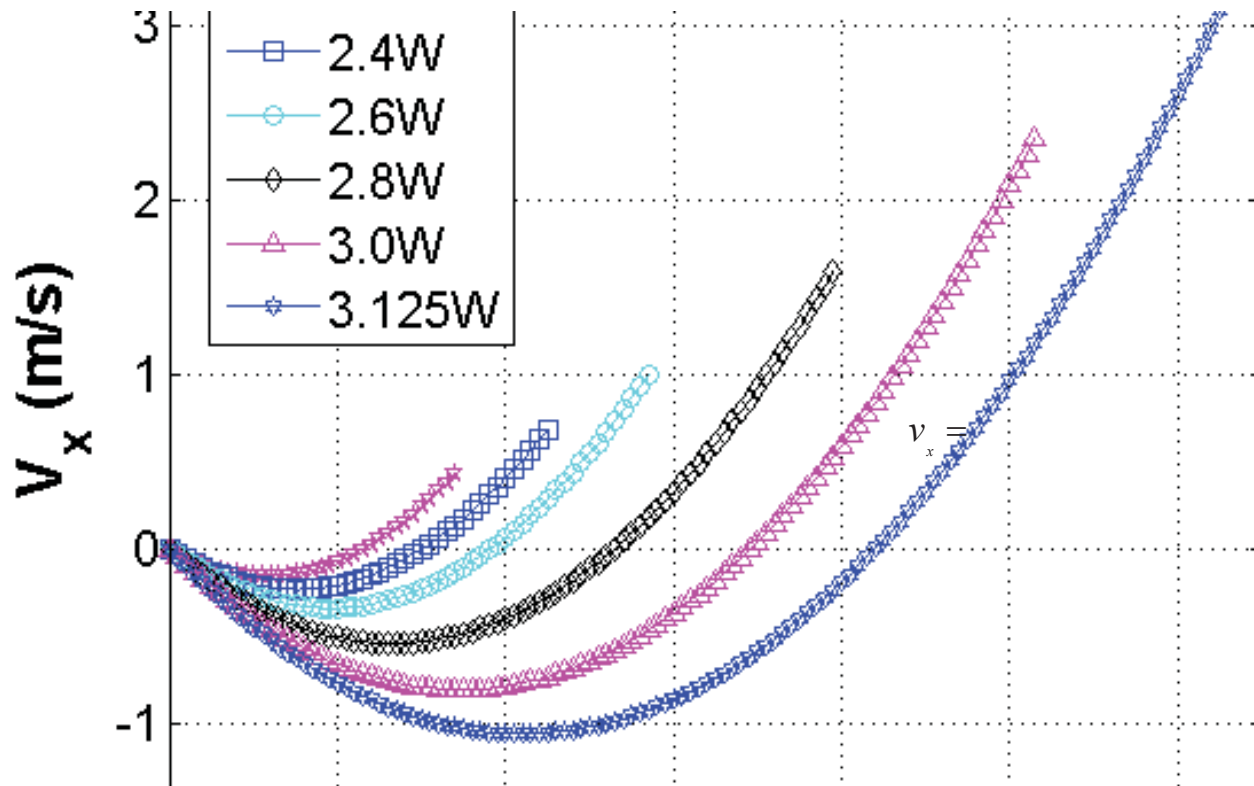
- Apparently “simple ‘wickless heat pipe’ system” has multiple complex 3D zones of fluid flow, evaporation, condensation, and radiation.
- A simple 1D Marangoni stress model confirms that there is significant evaporation in the steady state region at the heated end.
- There is flooding (not dry-out) at the heated end in  $\mu\text{g}$ , which gives a decrease in performance.

THANK YOU

# EXTRA MATERIAL



# VELOCITY PROFILE ( $\Gamma = 0$ ) USING $h_{eff}$ AS THE UNKNOWN



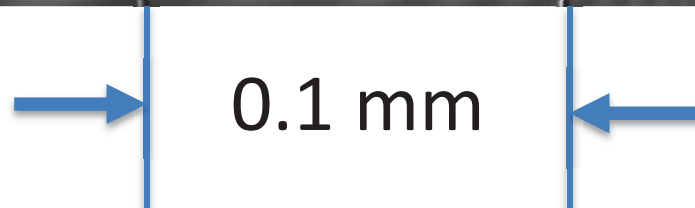
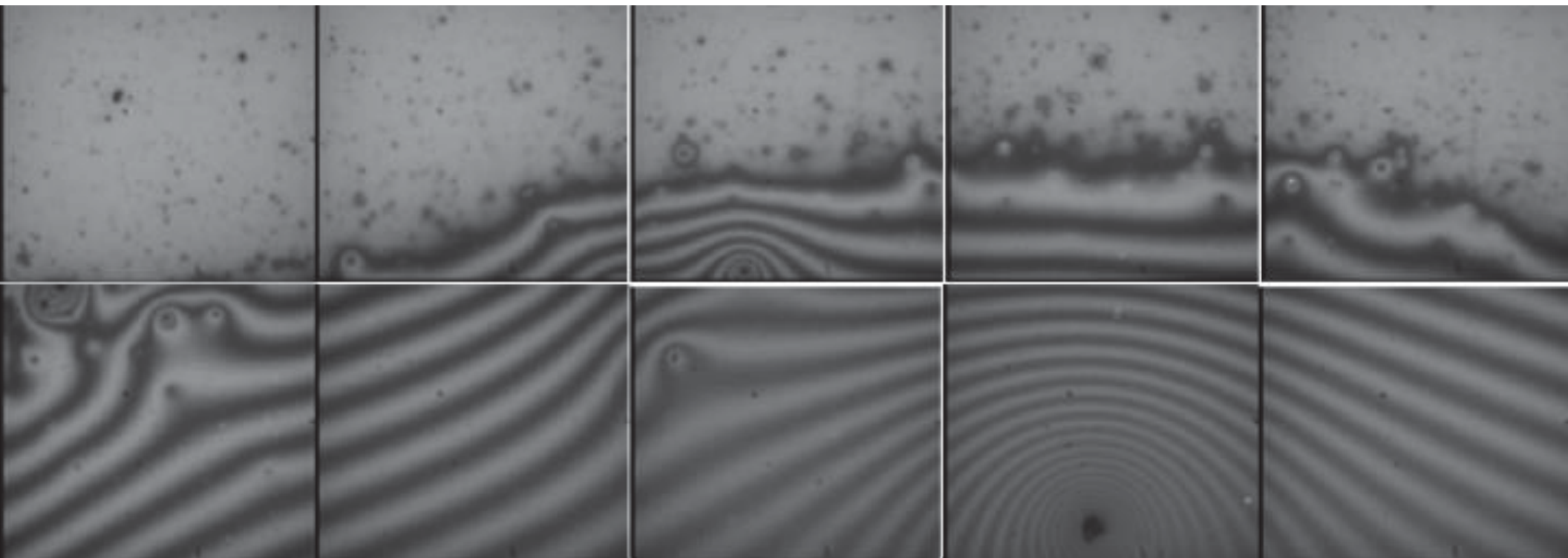
Flow towards  
cold end,  $V_x > 0$

$$v_x = \frac{\rho P}{\rho L} \left( \frac{y^2}{2} - y h_{eff} \right) + \frac{\rho h}{\rho} y$$

50x images stitched together: condensation region at the leading edge of the liquid.

Fringes give pressure field.

Note the effect of very small particles.



# PHASE CHANGE RATES, $\Gamma$

BASED ON EXPERIMENTAL  $h_w$

$\Gamma < 0$  EVAPORATION

$K_1$  = CURVATURE AT COOLER END OF FILM  
REQUIRES ADDITIONAL EVALUATION

Power Input (W)	$\Gamma$ (mm <sup>2</sup> /s) (matching experimental thickness)	
	$K_1 = 0$	$K_1 \neq 0$
2.2	- 3130.5	- 9023.4
2.4	- 2100.0	- 7488.1
2.6	- 1219.5	- 6362.6
2.8	+ 154.9	- 4445.9
3.0	+ 1358.8	- 3168.2
3.125	+ 2352.9	- 2395.5