

Experimental Study of Solid/liquid Thermal Shock in Carbon Dioxide

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Abstract - In this paper, the generation of a thermal shock in carbon dioxide is studied experimentally. The aim of the project is to improve the knowledge of a specific phenomenon during an hypothetical nuclear accident scenario, namely a fuel coolant interaction, by studying the rapid (few milliseconds) deposit of energy in a fluid (carbon dioxide). The deposit method chosen is the Joule effect in a thin tungsten wire. This kind of transient heat deposit in the fluid should imply a shock wave. A consistent visualization of the bubble formation and behaviour had been linked to energy deposit and pressure peaks.

Keywords: Thermal shock, Vaporization, Visualization, Phase change.