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# Simulative Study and Investigation of Cavity Formation and Its Effect on the Performance of Water Jet Pump

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**Abstract:** For water jet systems operating in any type of machines cavitations are the phenomenon that often occurs. The presence of vapour in the flow affects the performance of the water jet system and as the cavity grows the system efficiency drastically reduces to a level where the system cannot operate normally. Liquid handling capacity of the processing plant has become crucial with increasing field water cut and more jet pump installations. Jet pump performance optimization for maximum efficiency has now started to play an important role in not only reducing the burden of the processing facility but also in improving the production profile of the wells. This study will discuss the use of a methodology based on an in-house developed algorithm for monitoring the efficiency of the pumps, with supporting field examples. This paper will also make an attempt to analyze the effect of different operating conditions on the pump performance curves published in the literature. In analyzing the performance of pump systems, the presence of cavitation can have a significant impact on the performance of the pump. Cavitation bubbles emerge when the local static pressure of the working fluid (a liquid) falls below the vapor pressure. Vigorous cavitation can lead to loss of head rise and, in many cases, structural damage due to erosion from collapsing vapor bubbles striking the pump body. When we change the inlet pressure the pressure drop is decreased and cavity is reduced or vapor pressure is reduced in efficient manner. Again when we simulate the problem by increasing both inlet and outlet pressure same phenomenon we found. Beyond the inlet pressure (6.49e5 Pascal) no change will appear and in whole simulation system is stable in nature so fluid flow system is stable in nature which shows good results and excellent accuracy that maintain.

**Key words:** Jet pump, Cavity, Numerical Simulation, CFD, Ansys, Bubble Cavity, developed cavity etc.

## I. INTRODUCTION

For water jet systems operating in any type of machines cavitations are the phenomenon that often occurs. The presence of vapour in the flow affects the performance of the water jet system and as the cavity grows the system efficiency drastically reduces to a level where the system cannot operate normally. Liquid handling capacity of the processing plant has become crucial with increasing field water cut and more jet pump installations. Jet pump performance optimization for maximum efficiency has now started to play an important role in not only reducing the burden of the processing facility but also in improving the production profile of the wells. This study will discuss the use of a methodology based on an in-house developed algorithm for monitoring the efficiency of the pumps, with supporting field examples. This paper will also make an attempt to analyze the effect of different operating conditions on the pump performance curves published in the literature.

### A. Bubble Cavitation

Individual bubbles are travelling with the convecting flow as they expand and collapse. This phenomenon occurs for low pressure gradient flows, corresponding to a flow around a hydrofoil at a low incidence angle (Figure 1.1).

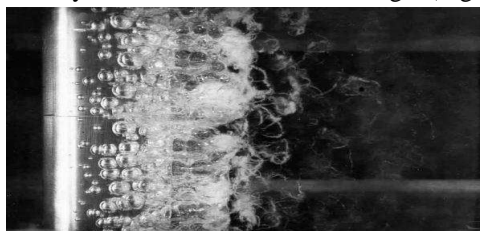


Figure 1.1: Bubble Cavitation

## II. LITERATURE

1. Hou-lin LIU\*, Dong-xi LIU, Yong WANG, Xian-fang WU, Jian WANG. Considering the compressibility of the cavity in the cavitating flow, this paper presents a modified k- $\bar{A}$  model for predicting the cavitating flow in a centrifugal pump, in which the modified k- $\bar{A}$  model and Schnerr-Sauer cavitation model were combined with ANSYS CFX. To evaluate the modified and standard k- $\bar{A}$  models, numerical simulations were performed with these two models, respectively, and the calculation results were compared with the experimental data. Numerical simulations were executed with three different values of the flow coefficient, and the simulation results of the modified k- $\bar{A}$  model showed agreement with most of the experimental data. The activating flow in the centrifugal pump obtained by the modified k- $\bar{A}$  model at the design flow coefficient of 0.102, was analyzed. When the cavitation number decreases, the cavity initially generates on the suction side of the blade near the leading edge and then expands to the outlet of the impeller, and the decrease of the total pressure coefficient mainly occurs upstream of the impeller passage, while the downstream remains almost unaffected by the development of cavitation.

2. Frederick STERN, Zhaoyuan WANG, Jianming YANG- An overview is provided of CFDShip-Iowa modelling, numerical methods and high performance computing (HPC), including both current V4.5 and V5.5 and next generation V6. Examples for naval architecture highlight capability and needs. High fidelity V6 simulations for ocean engineering and fundamental physics describe increased resolution for analysis of physics of fluids. Uncertainty quantification research is overviewed as the first step towards development stochastic optimization.

3. H. Nouraei, K. Kowsari, B. Samareh, J.K. Spelt, M. Papini- Abrasive slurry jet micro-machining (ASJM) uses a relatively high-speed jet of fine abrasive slurry to precisely machine controlled-depth micro-features such as channels. Existing surface evolution models, developed for air-driven erosion processes, cannot account for the effect of slurry flow on the channel sidewall erosion that leads to the progressive channel widening observed in the ASJM of ductile materials. This paper presents a novel numerical-empirical model to predict the profiles of micro-channels in ductile materials (i.e. poly methyl methacrylate (PMMA), 6061-T6 aluminum alloy, 316L stainless steel and Ti-6Al-4V titanium alloy) using ASJM. The specific erosion rates of these materials were measured as a function of jet angle using a 10  $\mu$ m nominal diameter aluminum oxide slurry. The erosion rate-impact angle relations were corrected using computational fluid dynamic (CFD) models to account for the local impact angles and velocities of the particles. The erosion rate-impact angle relations were then used in three-dimensional CFD models to obtain the particle trajectories, impact angles, and velocities on a shallow eroded profile, and thus predict the erosion for deeper profiles. The model was verified by comparison with experiments which showed the previously-observed widening of the machined channels as the depth increased due to secondary erosion by particles impacting the channel sidewalls. The widening effect was found to be substantial in the PMMA but less important in Ti-6Al-4V titanium alloy due to its greater erosion resistance. The numerical-empirical approach could accurately estimate the widening and predicted the channel cross-sections up to an aspect ratio of approximately 1 with a maximum error of less than 5%.

4. Jinya Zhang, Cong Xu, Yongxue Zhang, Xin Zhou- Liquefied natural gas (LNG) cryogenic submerged pumps are important transmission devices in LNG terminals and filling stations. In this study, the impeller of a two-stage LNG submerged pump was designed by the quasi-3D hydraulic design method based on the  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  relative stream surfaces theory. In the design procedure, the finite element method (FEM) with a quadrilateral nine-node element was adopted for the  $S_1$  stream surfaces calculation, and the quasi-orthogonal method was used for the average  $S_2$  stream surface calculation. The flow field was obtained by the iterative computations of  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  stream surfaces. Given a reasonable velocity moment distribution along streamlines considered cavitation, the blade drawing was realized by iterating the camber lines and circulation equations on an average  $S_2$  stream surface. Moreover, a steady numerical simulation of the designed pump was conducted. The simulation result showed that the head of the designed pump was 260.15 m and the efficiency was 62.82% at the designed flow rate condition. The net positive suction head required (NPSHr) at the conditions with 0.9  $Q_0$ , 1.0  $Q_0$  and 1.1  $Q_0$  were, respectively, 1.69 m, 2.54 m and 3.12 m, which met the industrial needs. Furthermore, both the cavitation and hydraulic performance of an impeller designed by the method presented in this study were better than those of an impeller which was designed by the two-dimensional method.

## III. OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

Our main Objective of the study is to detect the exact location of the Bubble cavity in water jet Pump so that we can provide Optimum solution for eliminating the cavity effect on performance. This study examines the pressure-driven cavitating flow of water through a sharp-edged orifice. This is a typical configuration in fuel injectors, and brings a challenge to the physics and numeric's of cavitations models because of the high pressure differentials involved and the high ratio of liquid to vapour density. Using the multiphase modelling capability of ANSYS FLUENT, we will be able to predict the strong cavitation near the orifice after flow separation at a sharp edge. This study demonstrates how to do the following:



- A. Set boundary conditions for internal flow.
- B. Use the mixture model with cavitations effects.
- C. Calculate a solution using the pressure-based coupled solver.

A numerical investigation of Cavitating flows using the mixture model has to be implemented in the FLUENT commercial code. The inter-phase mass flow rate has to be modelled with a simplified Rayleigh equation applied to bubbles uniformly distributed in computing cells. The cavitation model has to be validated for the flow around a blunt fore-body cavitator.

#### D. Problem Formulation

To simulate Cavitating flows, the two phases, liquid and vapour, need to be represented in the problem, as well as the phase transition mechanism between the two. Here, we consider at one fluid, single-fluid (mixture), introduced through the local vapour volume fraction and having the spatial and temporal variation of the vapour fraction described by a transport equation including source terms for the mass transfer rate between the phases. The numerical model solves the Reynolds averaged Navier-Stokes equations, coupled with a localized vapour transport model for predicting cavitation.

## IV. METHODOLOGY

### Basic Steps to perform CFD Analysis

#### A. Preprocessing

- 1) *CAD Modeling*: Creation of CAD Model by using CAD modeling tools for creating the geometry of the part/assembly of which we want to perform FEA. CAD model may be 2D or 3d.
- 2) *Meshing*: Meshing is a critical operation in CFD. In this operation, the CAD geometry is discretized into large numbers of small Element and nodes. The arrangement of nodes and element in space in a proper manner is called mesh. The analysis accuracy and duration depends on the mesh size and orientations. With the increase in mesh size (increasing no. of element), the CFD analysis speed decrease but the accuracy increase.
- 3) *Type of Solver*: Choose the solver for the problem from Pressure Based and density based solver. Physical model: Choose the required physical model for the problem i.e. laminar, turbulent, energy, multiphase, etc.
- 4) *Material Property*: Choose the Material property of flowing fluid
- 5) *Boundary Condition*: Define the desired boundary condition for the problem i.e. velocity, mass flow rate, temperature, heat flux etc.

#### B. Solution

- 1) *Solution Method* : Choose the Solution method to solve the problem i.e. First order, second order
- 2) *Solution Initialization*: Initialized the solution to get the initial solution for the problem.

#### C. Post processing.

Post Processing: For viewing and interpretation of Result. The result can be viewed in various formats: graph, value, animation etc.

CFD Analysis of Water jet pump model using Ansys Fluent 14.5

- 1) *Pre-processing: Mesh*:Generate the mesh in the Ansys Mesh software .

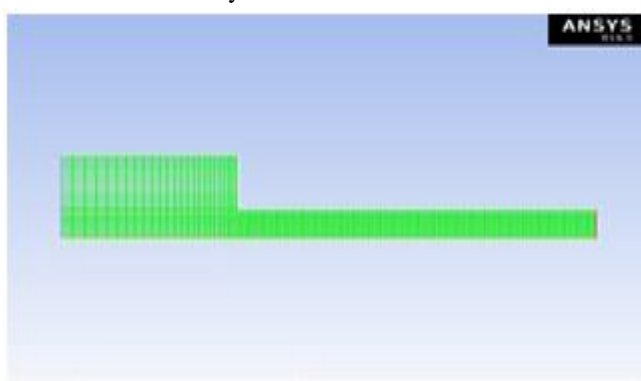


Figure 4 Mesh model Mesh Type: grid meshing

Element Edge Length = 3.15e-003 m

No. of Nodes = 14058

No. of Element = 8047

Fluent setup: After mesh generation define the following setup in the Ansys fluent.

- 2) *Problem Type* : 2D axisymmetric
- 3) *Type of Solver*: Pressure-based solver.
- 4) *Physical model*: Viscous: K-epsilon two equation turbulence model.
- 5) *Material Property*: Flowing fluid is water
- 6) *Density of water* = 1000 kg/m<sup>3</sup>
- 7) *Viscosity* = 0.001kg/m-s Second fluid is water (vapour)
- 8) *Viscosity* = 1.26e-6 kg/m-s

Phases- Water is select for primary phase Water vapour is secondary phase

Cavitation model is enabled –No. of mass transfer mechanism is 1 and ensure that mass transfer is occurred from liquid phase to water vapour. In cavitation model- Bubble density is 1e13kg/m<sup>3</sup> and vaporization pressure is 3250 pa. For the multiphase mixture model, we will specify conditions for the mixture (i.e., conditions that apply to all phases) and the conditions that are specific to the primary and secondary phases. In this tutorial, boundary conditions are required only for the mixture and secondary phase of two boundaries: the pressure inlet (consisting of two boundary zones) and the pressure outlet. The pressure outlet is the downstream boundary, opposite the pressure inlets.

#### D. Boundary Condition:

- 1) Pressure inlet for the mixture-Gauge Total Pressure-4.49E+05 to 6.49E+05 Pascal as case 1
- 2) Temperature inlet – 290k, 295 k and 300 k as Case 2 Supersonic/Initial Gauge Pressure (Standard operating pressure)-449000 Pascal
- 3) Pressure inlet for the phase that is vapour –volume fraction is zero.
- 4) Pressure outlet for the mixture- Gauge Total Pressure-95000 Pascal
- 5) Pressure outlet for the vapour-Backflow vapour fraction is set to zero

#### E. Solution

##### 1) Solution Method

Pressure- velocity coupling – Scheme -SIMPLE

Pressure – Standard

Momentum – Second order

Turbulent Kinetic Energy (k) Second order

Turbulent Dissipation Rate (e) Second order

Solution Initialization: Initialized the solution to get the initial solution for the problem.

- 2) *Run Solution*: Run the solution by giving 2000 no of iteration for solution to converge.
- 3) *Post-Processing*: For viewing and interpretation of Result. The result can be viewed in various formats: graph, value, animation etc.

## V. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

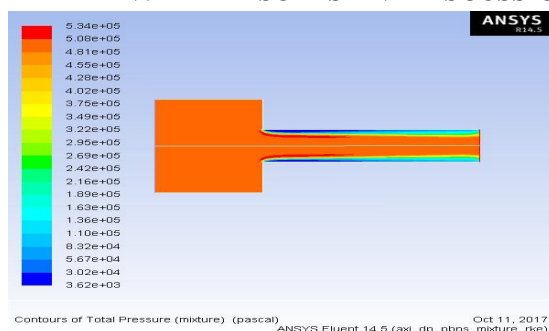


Figure 1: Contours of Total Pressure

It is noticed that dramatic pressure drop at the flow restriction in Figure 1: Contours of Total Pressure. Low static pressure is the major factor causing cavitations. In Contours image we see that as the pressure is increased cavity will be decreased continuously.

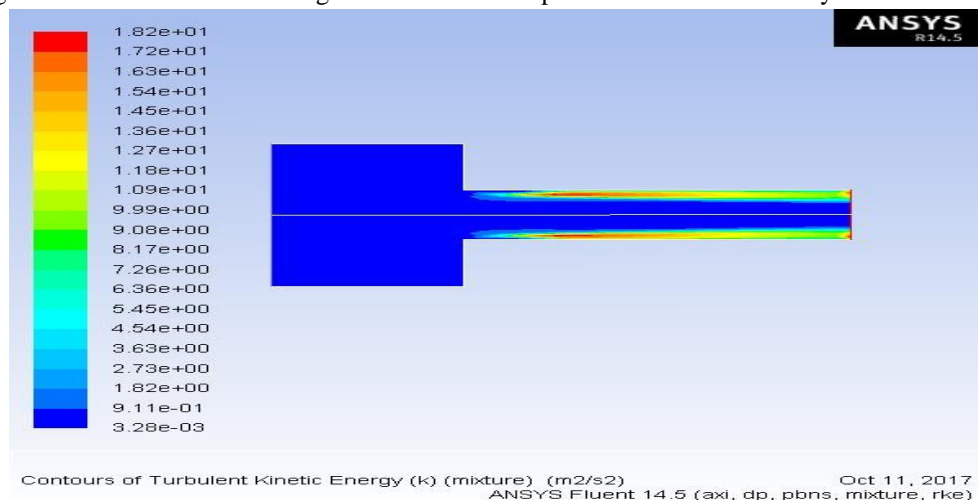


Figure 2: Contours of Turbulent Kinetic Energy

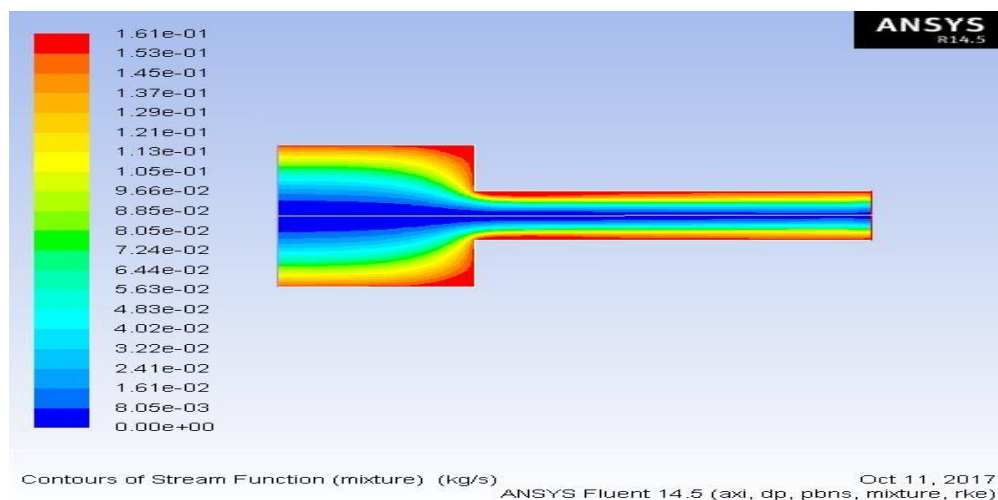


Figure 3: Contours of Velocity stream

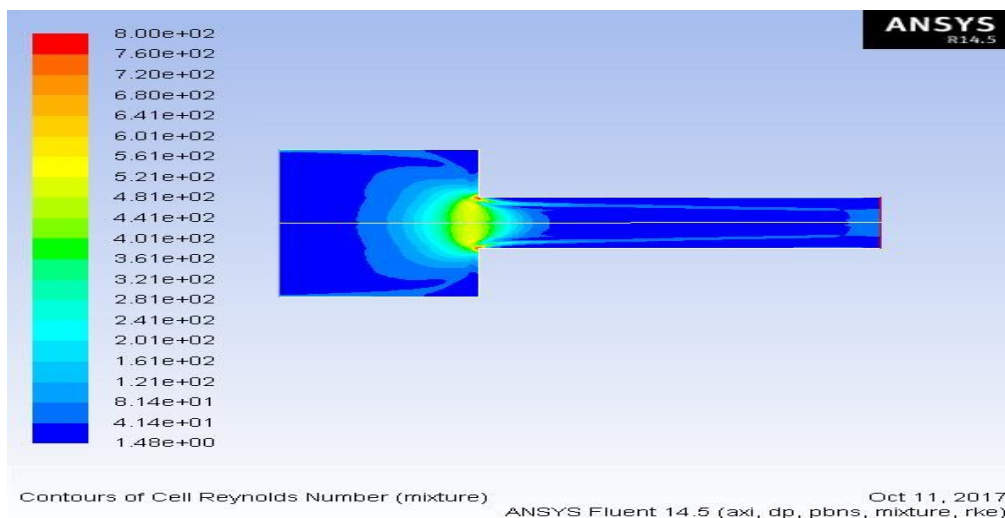


Figure 4: Contours of Reynolds number

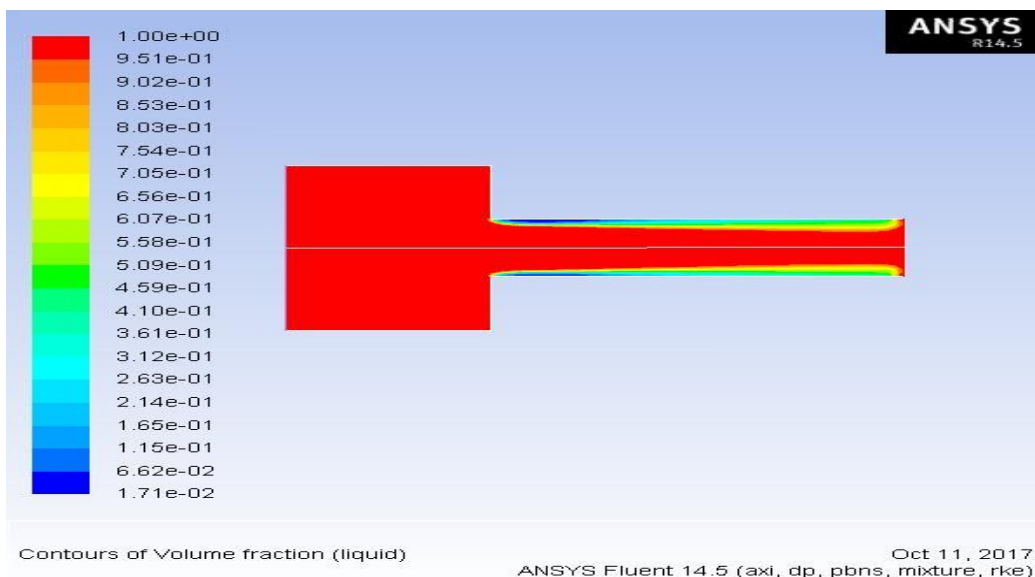


Figure 5: Contours of Vapour volume fraction at inlet pressure is 4.49e5 Pascal

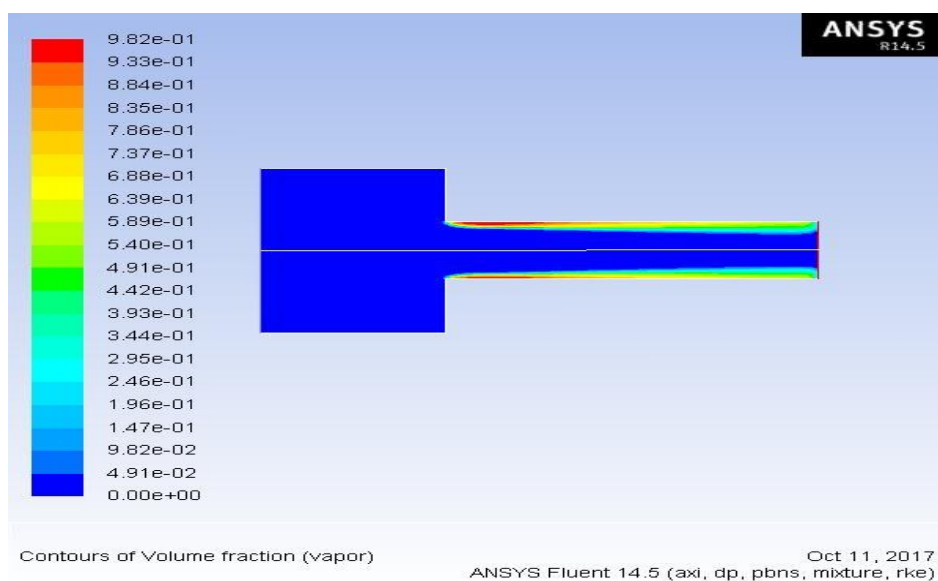


Figure 6: Contours of Vapour volume fraction at inlet pressure is 5.49e5 Pascal

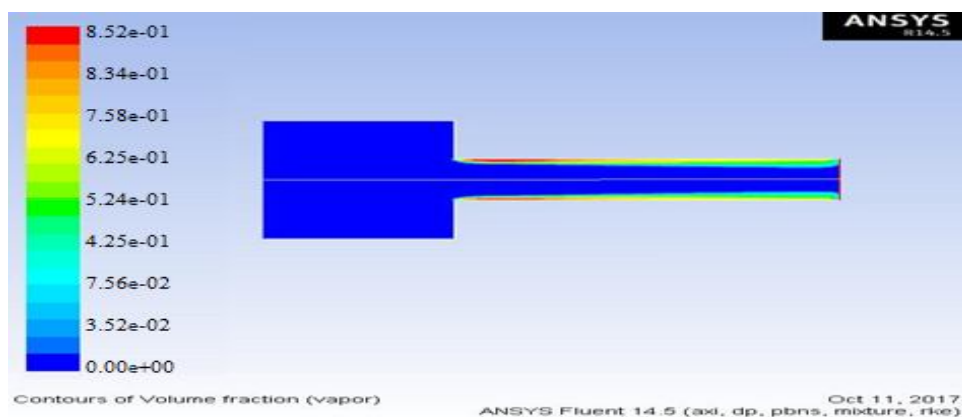


Figure 7: Contours of Vapour volume fraction at both inlet and outlet pressure is 6.49e5 Pascal

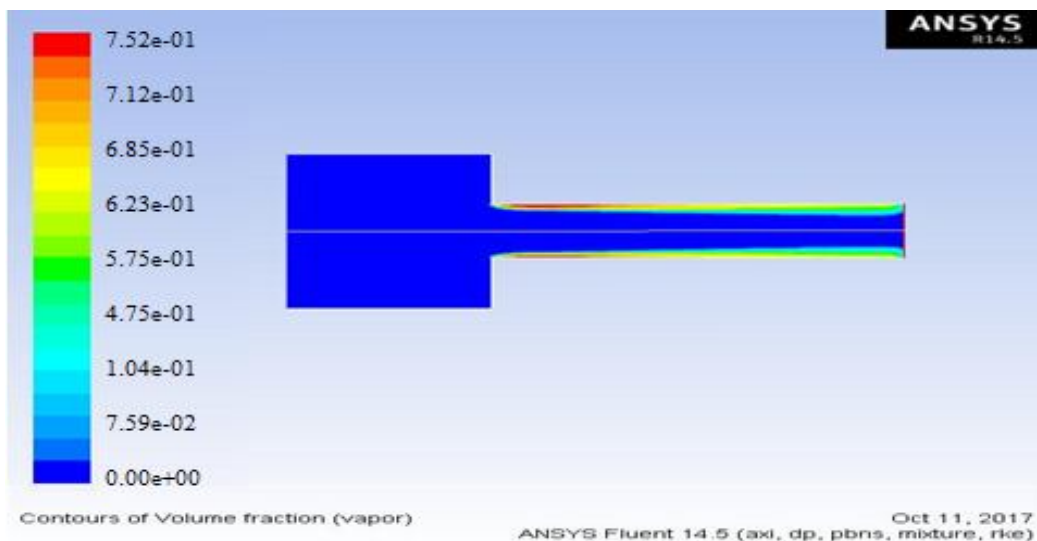


Figure 8: Contours of Vapour volume fraction at Operating Temperature 300 k

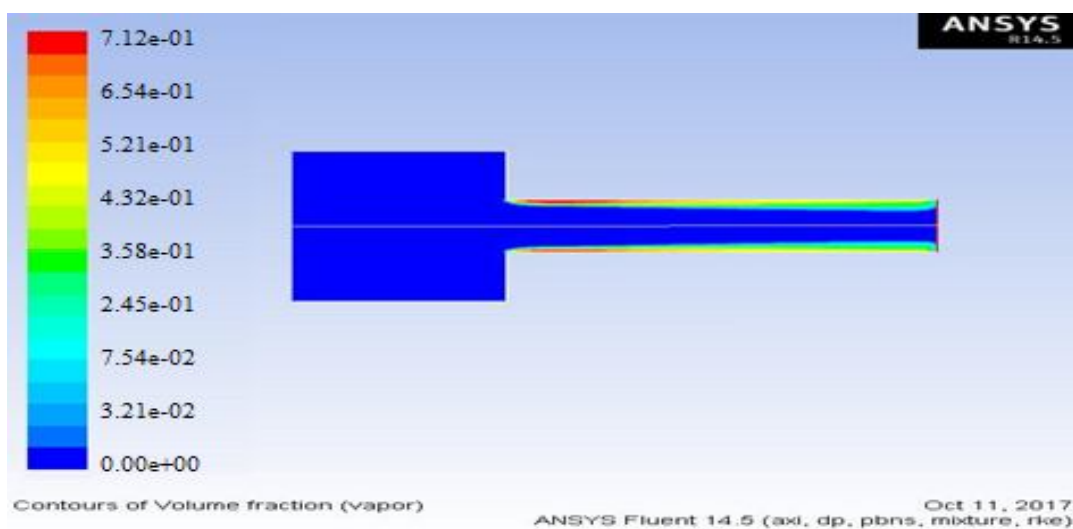


Figure 9: Contours of Vapour volume fraction at Operating Temperature 295 k

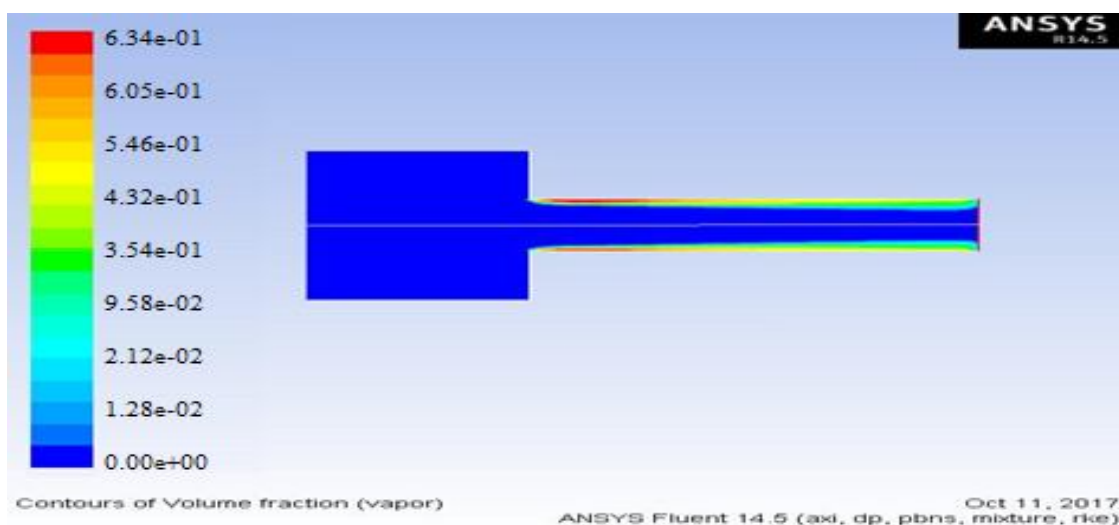


Figure 10: Contours of Vapour volume fraction at Operating Temperature 290 k

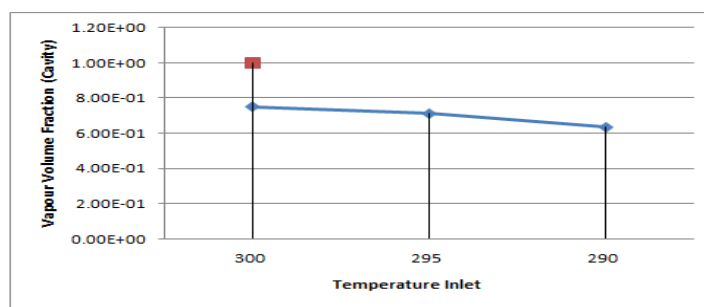


Results table no. 1

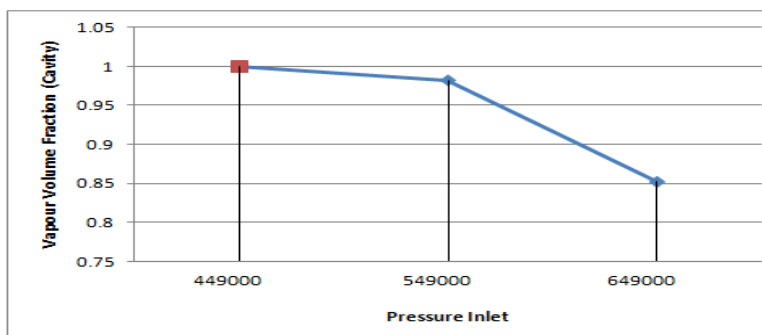
OPERATING TEMPERATURE	PRESSURE INLET	VAPOUR VOLUME FRACTION (CAVITY)
300° K	4.49E5 Pascal	1.00e+00
300° K	5.49E5 Pascal	9.82e-01
300° K	6.49E5 Pascal	8.52e-01

Results table no. 2

OPERATING TEMPERATURE	PRESSURE INLET	VAPOUR VOLUME FRACTION (CAVITY)
300° K	6.49e5 Pascal	7.52e-01
295° K	6.49e5 Pascal	7.12e-01
290° K	6.49e5 Pascal	6.34e-01



Graph no.1 Temperature Inlet Vs Vapour Volume Fraction (Cavity)



Graph no.2 Pressure Inlet Vs Vapour Volume Fraction (Cavity)

## VI. CONCLUSION

The high turbulent kinetic energy region near the neck of the orifice in Figure 5. Contours of Turbulent Kinetic Energy coincide with the highest volume fraction of vapor in Figure 6: Contours of Vapor Volume Fraction. This indicates the correct prediction of a localized high phase change rate. The vapor then gets convected downstream by the main flow. When we change inlet pressure the pressure drop is decreased and cavity is reduced or vapor pressure is reduced in efficient manner. Again when we simulate the problem by increasing both inlet and outlet pressure same phenomenon we found. Beyond the inlet pressure (6.49e5 Pascal) no change will appear and in whole simulation system is stable in nature so fluid flow system is stable in nature which shows good results and excellent accuracy that maintain

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