Bubbleformer

Forecasting Boiling with Transformers

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Collaborators





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Boiling and its Applications

- Ubiquitous form of heat transfer
- Complex multiphase-multi physics phenomena
- Understanding crucial for thermal management



Boiling and its Applications

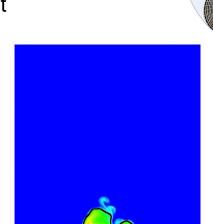
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Pool Boiling

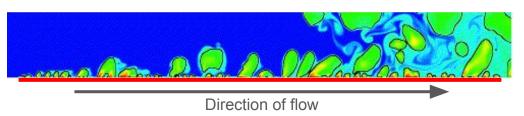
A **pool of liquid** sitting on a **heated surface**, can model the cooling of **nuclear reactors**

Flow Boiling

A liquid *flowing* across a **heated surface**, can be used to model **liquid cooling** in data centers



Constant Heater Temperature



BubbleML 2.0

Hugging Face

- Extended version of BubbleML^[1]
- 160 high fidelity simulations for Pool and Flow Boiling
 - o Liquids: Dielectric, Refrigerant, Dielectric
 - Flow Regimes: Bubbly, Slug and Annular flow
- Open source and extensible
- Ground truths for liquid & vapor phases, temperature, pressure, and velocity
- Additional physical fields: mass flux and interface normals



BubbleML 2.0

Pool Boiling

Outflow

16 x 16

No Slip

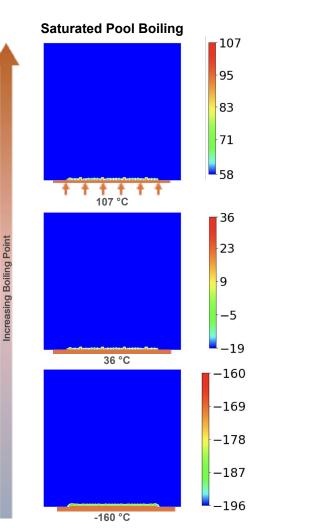
Constant Temperature

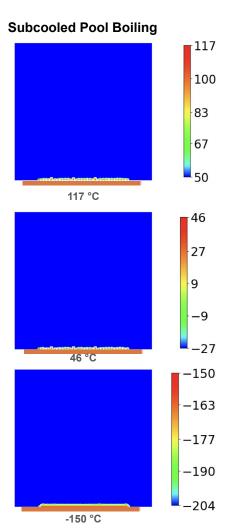




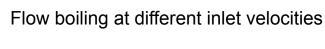


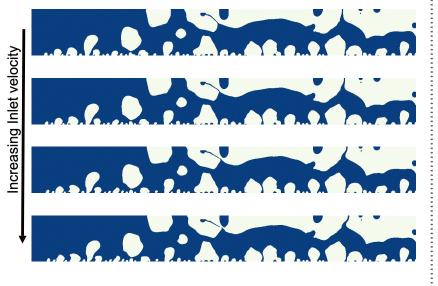




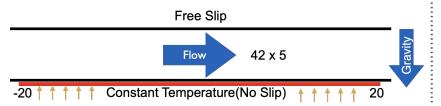


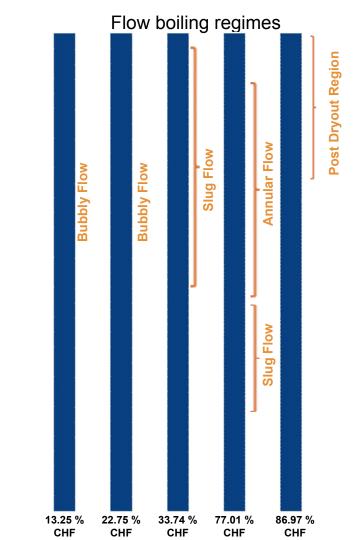
Flow Boiling





Constant Heat Flux q₁(No Slip)





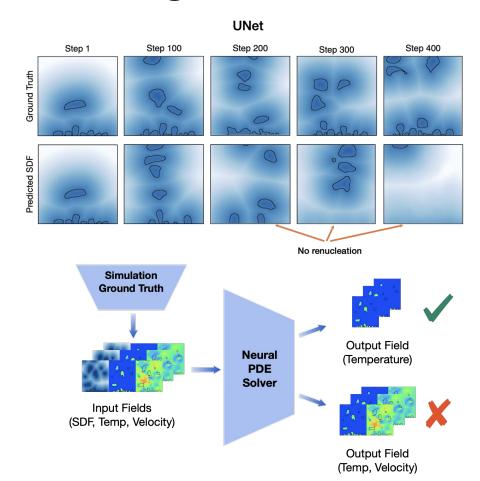
Failure Modes of Boiling ML Surrogates

Simulation independent forecasting

- Model input → Past state (bubble position, temperature and velocity)
- Model output → Future state (bubble position, temperature and velocity)
- Autoregressive forecasting models fail to re-nucleate new bubbles

Flow Boiling velocity prediction

- Lack of directional inductive bias
- Insufficient spatiotemporal integration



Bubbleformer Goals

Microscopic hydrodynamic response

- Velocity and temperature fields
- Bubble dynamics and nucleation

System level response

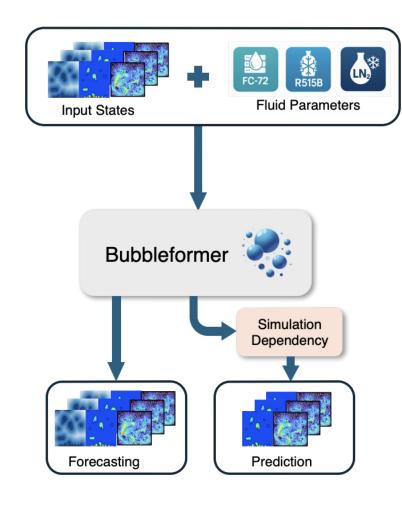
Heat flux, flow regime

Physics-based evaluation metrics

- **KL divergence:** Heat flux distribution
- **Eikonal loss:** Bubble dynamics
- Relative vapor volume error: Mass conservation

Generalize across fluids and geometries

Long and stable autoregressive rollouts

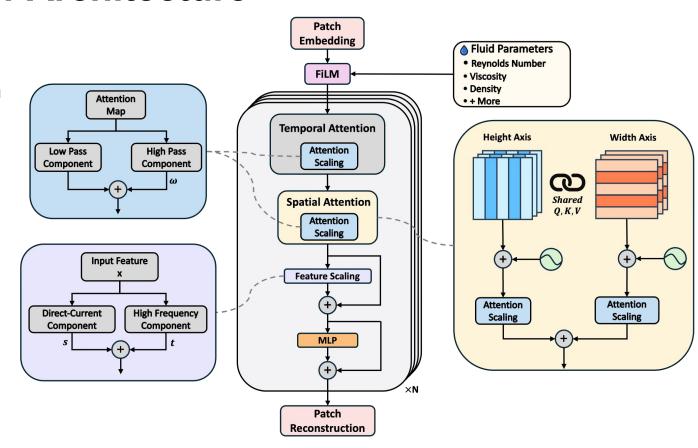


Bubbleformer Architecture

Spatiotemporal transformer blocks with temporal attention & axial attention across space

Attention and feature scaling for high frequency features

Feature-wise Linear Modulation (FiLM) to condition on fluid parameters

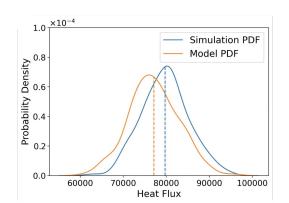


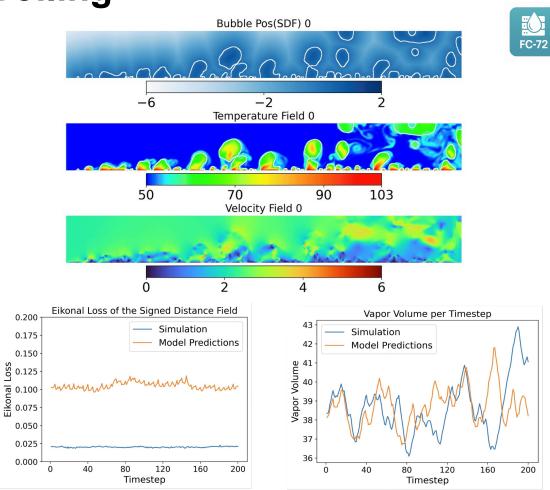
Forecasting: Flow Boiling

Can perform Flow Boiling downstream tasks

Stable forecasts for upto 200 timesteps

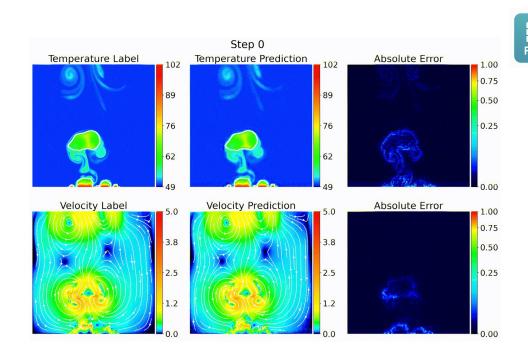
Consistent physics



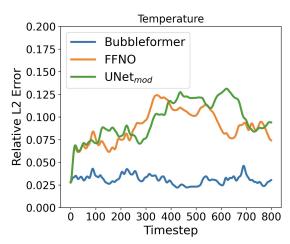


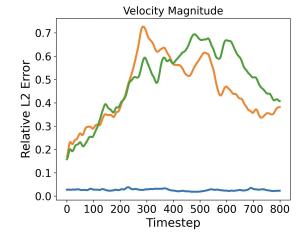


Subcooled Pool Boiling: BubbleML Benchmark



Pool Boiling predictions are improved. **Longer rollouts** are made possible.





Thank you!



BubbleML 2.0

Bubbleformer

https://bit.ly/bubbleformer

https://bit.ly/bubbleml 2