2015

Boiling Heat Transfer from an Array of Round Jets with Hybrid Surface Enhancements

M. Rau  
*Purdue University*

S V. Garimella  
*Purdue University*, sureshg@purdue.edu

E. M. Dede  
*Toyota*

S. N. Joshi  
*Toyota*

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http://dx.doi.org/DOI: 10.1115/1.4029969]
Boiling Heat Transfer From an Array of Round Jets With Hybrid Surface Enhancements

The effect of a variety of surface enhancements on the heat transfer achieved with an array of impinging jets is experimentally investigated using the dielectric fluid HFE-7100 at different volumetric flow rates. The performance of a 5 \times 5 array of jets, each 0.75 mm in diameter, is compared to that of a single 3.75 mm diameter jet with the same total open orifice area, in single-and two-phase operation. Four different target copper surfaces are evaluated: a baseline smooth flat surface, a flat surface coated with a microporous layer, a surface with macroscale area enhancement (extended square pin-fins), and a hybrid surface on which the pin-fins are coated with the microporous layer; area-averaged heat transfer and pressure drop measurements are reported. The array of jets enhances the single-phase heat transfer coefficients by 1.13–1.29 times and extends the critical heat flux (CHF) on all surfaces compared to the single jet at the same volumetric flow rates. Additionally, the array greatly enhances the heat flux dissipation capability of the hybrid coated pin–fin surface, extending CHF by 1.89–2.33 times compared to the single jet on this surface, with a minimal increase in pressure drop. The jet array coupled with the hybrid enhancement dissipates a maximum heat flux of 205.8 W/cm² (heat input of 1.33 kW) at a flow rate of 1800 ml/min (corresponding to a jet diameter-based Reynolds number of 7800) with a pressure drop incurred of only 10.9 kPa. Compared to the single jet impinging on the smooth flat surface, the array of jets on the coated pin–fin enhanced surface increased CHF by a factor of over four at all flow rates.

Keywords: jet impingement, jet arrays, boiling, two-phase cooling, heat transfer, surface enhancement, HFE-7100, microporous coating

1 Introduction

Liquid jet impingement, especially when combined with two-phase operation, offers the potential for achieving excellent cooling performance while at the same time reducing the pumping power and energy usage in running the cooling loop itself. Still greater performance gains may be realized with the use of arrays of jets impinging on surfaces that are suitably engineered.

There has long been interest in using arrays of impinging jets to more effectively distribute the high heat transfer coefficients achieved with impinging jets [1–3]. In a design study comparing the size and number of jets in an array, Maddox and Bar-Cohen [4] concluded that a large number of small jets were advantageous for superior cooling capabilities at reduced pumping power compared to fewer, larger jets. Garimella and Schroeder [5] provided a direct experimental comparison between single jets and arrays of confined impinging air jets. In their comparison study, the diameter of the orifices in the arrays was identical to that of the single jets. Their study showed that jet arrays not only enhance the area-averaged heat transfer coefficient, but can also result in a decrease in pressure drop several times greater than the corresponding reduction in area-averaged heat transfer coefficient. In one example case tested, a nine-jet array provided similar area-averaged heat transfer coefficients to that of a single jet but with a 36 times lower pressure drop. Arrays of jets are advantageous in two-phase operation as well, extending CHF and area-averaged heat transfer coefficients relative to single jets [6,7].

Surface enhancements have been shown to greatly improve the single-phase cooling capability of single jets [8–10] and arrays of round jets [11]. Surface modifications targeted at boiling enhancement are also effective when paired with two-phase jet impingement. The impinging action of jets has been shown to extend CHF as compared to pool boiling on account of improved liquid replenishment and vapor removal from the heated surface [12–15]. These convective fluid transport mechanisms may be gainfully combined with boiling surface enhancement features, for which vapor clogging and limited liquid replenishment can present limitations (as reviewed in a companion paper [16]). Wadsworth and Mudawar [17] investigated boiling from miniature pin–fin and straight-fin heat sinks placed under an impinging slot jet; heat fluxes in excess of 100 W/cm² were achieved with a dielectric liquid at modest jet velocities. Copeland [18] experimentally investigated enhanced boiling heat transfer from micropin fins with two-phase jet impingement. For the jet arrays investigated, CHF increased with the number of nozzles in the jet arrays. In a study of hybrid macro/microscale surface enhancements, Lay and Dhir [19] showed the potential of finned surfaces designed to effectively evacuate vapor using the jet flow. The boiling heat transfer from a surface under a single impinging round jet was investigated for three macrostructured features: circumferential ridges, radial grooves, and radial fins. The radial fins provided the best nucleate boiling heat transfer and highest CHF at all jet
velocities, and this was attributed to superior supply of liquid to the boiling surface.

In a recent investigation, Rau and Garimella [16] achieved significant increases in boiling heat transfer performance by combining impingement from a single jet and surfaces augmented with hybrid features of different scales. The hybrid enhancement studied included the effects of increased nucleation sites by means of a microporous coating with area-enhancing extended surfaces. While limited investigations of such hybrid enhancements have been published for pool boiling [20–22] and jet impingement [19], they have not been studied in combination with arrays of impinging jets. Different enhanced surface structures are compared for their contribution to enhanced heat transfer from a 5 × 5 array of impinging jets of HFE-7100. The two-phase heat transfer and pressure drop are measured for four surfaces: a baseline smooth flat surface, a flat surface coated with a microporous layer, a surface with macroscale area enhancement (extended square pin–fins), and a hybrid surface on which pin–fins are coated with the microporous layer. The performance of the jet array is compared to that of a single jet with the same orifice open area, so that the total flow rate and jet velocity remain the same between the two sets of experiments.

2 Experimental Setup

2.1 Flow Loop and Test Section. The test facility used in this experimental study is identical to that reported in a companion paper where two-phase operation of a single jet impinging on enhanced surfaces was investigated [16]. Important details are summarized here. A magnetically coupled gear pump is used to circulate HFE-7100 (κ = 0.069 W/mK, ρ = 1481 kg/m³, c_p = 1183 J/kg K, μ = 5.63 × 10^-4 kg/ms at 25 °C, T_sat = 61 °C at atmospheric pressure [23]) through the flow loop and test section. Volumetric flow rates are finely controlled by a metering valve and measured using turbine flowmeters with ranges of 100–1000 ml/min and 500–5000 ml/min. The fluid temperature at the inlet to the test section is controlled by an upstream inline heater, while a liquid-to-air heat exchanger cools the fluid (condensing any vapor generated) after it exits the test section.

The boiling performance of HFE fluids is especially susceptible to oil contaminants, which can leach from elastomer seals used in the flow loop [24]. A carbon filter is used to remove any plasticizers and other organic contaminants from the fluid. An expandable reservoir and a membrane contactor are included to degas the fluid prior to testing as described in Ref. [16]. A 40 μm particulate filter ensures that any particulates in the primary flow loop are removed.

A photograph of the confined and submerged jet impingement test section is shown in Fig. 1(a) (a cross-sectional diagram of the test section is presented in Ref. [16]). The test section, which is made from polyether ether ketone and polycarbonate, accommodates different orifice geometries, orifice-to-target spacings, and heat sources. For the current investigation, an orifice plate with a 5 × 5 array of 0.75 mm diameter (d) orifices is used. The orifices, illustrated in Fig. 1(b), are spaced at a dimensionless pitch, s/d, of 4 and have a dimensionless orifice length, l/d, of 2. The orifice-to-target spacing is controlled by resting the bottom of the plenum assembly, which can be translated vertically and is sealed by an O-ring on its outer diameter, on three precision-machined spacing pins. The 3 mm-long pins used in the current investigation (yielding a dimensionless spacing, H/d, of 4) ensure that the confinement gap between the orifice plate and impingement surface is precisely defined and parallel.

A T-type thermocouple measures the fluid temperature just upstream of the jet orifice plate, which is taken as the jet inlet temperature. A differential pressure transducer with a 0–103 kPa (calibrated uncertainty of ±0.13 kPa) range measures the pressure drop across the orifice plate via pressure taps at the inlet temperature location and in the bottom wall of the test section chamber. A gauge pressure transducer with a 0–103 kPa (calibrated uncertainty of ±0.13 kPa) range measures the pressure in the test section chamber.

The current study utilizes a copper block heat source powered by embedded cartridge heaters. The block is first installed into insulation components as described in Ref. [16] and then mounted into the bottom of the test section. The copper heat source is mounted and sealed such that a 25.4 mm × 25.4 mm wetted area sits flush with the bottom of the test section chamber. Twelve 36 Ω embedded cartridge heaters supply heat to the block, while four T-type thermocouples positioned along the axis of the block (spaced vertically at 2.54 mm intervals) allow calculation of the temperature gradient. The uncertainty in the thermocouple measurements is estimated to be 0.3 °C based on the bias errors of the calibration equipment and curve-fitting [16]. The surface temperature of the heating block is obtained by extrapolating the embedded thermocouple measurements, resulting in surface temperature uncertainties of 0.4 °C at low heat fluxes rising to approximately 1.5 °C at 200 W/cm². The twelve cartridge heaters are powered by two, 1 kW DC power supplies (DCS, Sorenson) wired in series.

2.2 Surface Enhancements. The same enhanced surfaces that were evaluated with a single jet in Ref. [16] are tested in this study with the 5 × 5 array of impinging jets, as shown in Fig. 2. The pin–fin surface consists of 0.5 mm wide square pin–fins, 2.5 mm tall, machined directly into the top surface of the copper heating block. The fins enhance the exposed area by a factor of three compared to the flat surface. Note that the fins are spaced such that the 0.75 mm diameter jets in the 5 × 5 array impinge between the square pin–fins. The two coated surfaces were created by coating the flat and pin–fin surfaces with a metallic microporous coating. The microporous metallic boiling enhancement coating made by 3M was chosen as it can be fused to three-dimensional surface features without any applied pressure (the
firing procedure used is given in Ref. [16]). The coating consists of sub-20 μm diameter copper particles and is applied as an approximately 150 μm-thick layer uniformly to all wetted surfaces of the flat and pin-fin surfaces. The porosity of the coating was estimated by its powder weight-to-volume packing fraction prior to firing to be approximately 58%. The coating is found to be very robust, as shown in the SEM images in Fig. 3. Figure 3(a) shows the coated pin-fin surface prior to any testing, while Fig. 3(b) shows the same surface after all of the experiments with the single jet in Ref. [16] and the 5 × 5 array of jets in the current study were completed (~64 hr of testing under vigorous boiling conditions). No flaking or delaminating of the coating is observed.

The surfaces of the uncoated copper heating blocks are left in their as-machined condition. Characterization using an interferometric optical profiling system (NewView 7300, Zygo) shows that the machined flat and pin-fin surfaces have similar surface roughness (Rₚ ≈ 0.5–0.7 μm).

2.3 Experimental Procedures. Once the heating block is installed in the test section, the liquid in the flow loop is degassed prior to testing as described in Ref. [16]. The test surface is prepared by vigorously boiling it while immersed in the degassed HFE-7100 and allowing it to cool to ambient for 12–14 hr while still immersed. This surface preparation consistently floods as many of the cavities on each surface as possible, so that the onset of nucleate boiling (ONB) conditions observed in each test are unfluenced by gas trapped on the surfaces [25].

After degassing, the fluid is circulated through the flow loop at the desired flow rate and heated to produce an inlet subcooling of 10°C using the inline heater. The fluid saturation temperature is calculated based on the pressure measured in the test section chamber. Since the desired operating conditions have been achieved, power to the cartridge heaters is incremented through the desired steps and steady-state data obtained at each heat flux by averaging over 4 min of readings. The expandable reservoir in the flow loop is used to maintain a constant operating pressure in the test section throughout testing, as described in Refs. [6,16].

For each case, testing begins in single-phase operation. The ONB is identified as a sudden reduction in the measured surface temperature, and also confirmed by visual observation of the formation of incipient bubbles. Due to the unpredictability of the ONB, the surface temperature and heat flux at the ONB are extracted from the transient data as described in Ref. [16]. In every case, the heat flux is increased until CHF is achieved, an event that is marked by a large and sudden temperature rise for a very small increase in heater power. In some cases, the large temperature rise does not occur directly following the heater power increase, and the surface temperature and heat flux corresponding to CHF are extracted from the transient data (similar to the ONB determination) as described in Ref. [16]. When this gradual transition does not occur, CHF is reported as the last steady-state data point prior to the large temperature increase.

The surface temperature of the copper heating block, T, is calculated by extrapolating the embedded thermocouple measurements along its centerline, assuming one-dimensional conduction. The surface temperature determined with this method was confirmed to be a good approximation of the area-averaged surface temperature based on comparison to single-phase area-averaged jet impingement heat transfer correlations from the literature [26].

The heat flux entering the fluid is calculated from a 3D heat loss model, as described in Ref. [16]. The total heat loss, q̇_loss, is found to range from approximately 20% at low heat fluxes to 2% at the highest heat fluxes. The heat losses calculated from the model are then used to determine the area-averaged heat flux entering the fluid through the test surface, q̇, according to

\[ q = \frac{P}{A_b} - q_{loss} \]  

where P is the electrical power input to the heater and A_b is the base surface area under consideration. Effective surface efficiencies, η_e, for the pin-fin surfaces are calculated as

\[ \eta_e = 1 - \frac{N A_f}{A_b (1 - \eta_t)} = \frac{q^* A_b}{h_{ch} A_b \Delta T_b} \]  

where N is the total number of fins, A_f is the total exposed surface area, A_b is the exposed area of one fin assuming a convective heat exchange.
transfer tip condition, and \( \Delta T_b = T - T_j \). The effective fin efficiency, \( \eta_f \), is calculated for a pin–fin with

\[
\eta_f = \frac{\tanh(mL_c)}{mL_c}
\]

(3)

where \( m = \sqrt{4h_{eq}/k_w} \) and the corrected fin length is \( L_c = L + w/4 \). Equations (2) and (3) are iteratively solved to calculate \( \eta_{eq} \) and \( \eta_f \). For consistency with two-phase jet impingement literature, the average heat transfer coefficient is referenced to the jet inlet temperature

\[
h = \frac{q''}{(T - T_j)}
\]

(4)

The jet inlet temperature, \( T_j \), is maintained at 10 °C below the fluid saturation temperature in all tests.

The experimental uncertainties are estimated as described in Ref. [16]. Based on the uncertainty in the flow meter reading and manufacturing tolerances of the jet orifices, the uncertainty in jet velocity is estimated to range from 0.03 m/s to 0.1 m/s from the lowest to highest flow rates, respectively. The uncertainty in the area-averaged convection coefficient is found to range from 11% at low heat fluxes to 2% at high heat fluxes and is shown for representative points in Fig. 4. The uncertainty in the calculated heat flux is estimated to be less than 2% using a 95% confidence interval and is shown for representative points in Figs. 5 and 6. The uncertainty in CHF is estimated as the uncertainty in the heat flux measurement plus half of the heat flux increment applied just prior to the temperature excursion. The uncertainty in extrapolated surface temperature is the main contributor to error in this experiment.

3 Results and Discussion

The performance of a confined and submerged 5 \( \times \) 5 array of round jets is reported for four surfaces: a baseline smooth flat surface, a flat surface coated with a microporous layer, a surface with macroscale area enhancement (extended square pin–fins), and a hybrid surface on which the pin–fins are coated with the microporous layer. Each orifice in the array has a diameter, \( d \), of 0.75 mm and the orifice plate is positioned to maintain a orifice-to-target spacing, \( H/d \), of 4. This dimensionless spacing corresponds to a 3 mm gap between the heated surface and confining jet orifice plate, resulting in only a 0.5 mm gap between the tips of the uncoated pin–fins and jet orifice plate. The experiments are conducted at three flow rates, 450, 900, and 1800 ml/min, resulting in Reynolds numbers of 1900, 3800, and 7800, respectively.

In Rau and Garimella [16], experiments were performed with the same surfaces but with a single confined and submerged impinging round jet. The single jet orifice used in Ref. [16], shown in Fig. 1(b), has a diameter, \( d \), of 3.75 mm, and was maintained at a dimensionless orifice-to-target spacing, \( H/d \), of 4. The hybrid surface was found to greatly enhance heat transfer, and provided superior single-phase performance, displayed very low wall superheats in nucleate boiling, and enhanced CHF by 1.88–2.42 times depending on the flow rate. In the present work, the heat transfer capabilities and boiling characteristics with each surface type are compared with each other for the 5 \( \times \) 5 array of impinging round jets, as well as with the single-jet data from Ref. [16].

3.1 Single-Phase Enhancement. The single-phase performance of the array of jets impinging on each surface is first presented and compared to that of the single jet to delineate the respective enhancement mechanisms. Figure 4 shows the average convection coefficient as a function of the jet velocity for both the 5 \( \times \) 5 array and the single jet. For all surfaces, the convection coefficient from the array increases with increasing jet velocity as for the single jet. The array, however, provides an enhancement in heat transfer coefficient of 1.13–1.29 times relative to the single jet. It has been shown that arrays of small jets provide superior single-phase heat transfer compared to single jets of the same open area and velocity by distributing the peak stagnation-region convection coefficients across a larger area [6].

In single-phase operation, the addition of the porous coating on the flat surface does not appear to provide any overall enhancement for the array of jets except at the highest jet velocity. This enhancement is attributed to increased turbulence induced at the highest velocity by the greater roughness created by the particles in the coating layer [16,27], offsetting any small added conduction resistance of the thin metallic coating. The pin–fins, which increase the wetted surface area by 3 times, result in an enhancement in convection coefficient of 2.35–2.62 times relative to the smooth surface. The coated pin–fin surface displays the highest heat transfer enhancement in single-phase operation for the 5 \( \times \) 5 array of jets (a total of 3.16–3.48 times compared to the baseline smooth surface). The superiority of this surface is explained by its gross area enhancement and increased surface roughness created by the coated pin–fins. Conformally coating the fins with the
150 \mu \text{m}-thick porous coating results in an additional \approx 40\% increase in surface area due to the effective enlargement of the three-dimensional fins. The added surface area, combined with the increased turbulence induced by the rough coating, is credited with the high single-phase performance of this surface with the array of jets.

### 3.2 Boiling Heat Transfer

The boiling curves presented in this work are referenced to the fluid saturation temperature, \( T_{\text{sat}} \), for ease of comparison with the pool boiling literature. Figure 5 shows the boiling curves for the 5 \times 5 array of jets and the single jet on each surface at a flow rate of 1800 ml/min (the arrow on each curve indicates the occurrence of CHF). Each curve for the array of jets consistently overlaps with the single-jet curve in the fully developed nucleate boiling regime for a given surface type, displaying similar wall superheats for a given heat flux (e.g., 18°C for both jet types at 30 W/cm² on the baseline smooth surface). The overlap in nucleate boiling results suggests that distributing the fluid through an array of orifices instead of a single orifice has little effect on the heat transfer at these heat fluxes and that boiling is the dominant heat transfer mechanism.

All surface enhancements provide superior heat transfer characteristics when compared to the smooth surface. Adding a porous coating to the flat surface results in a drastic reduction in wall superheat and a very steep slope for the boiling curve, a result that is consistent with many porous-surface boiling investigations [19,25,28]. The coating provides enhancement in boiling performance by creating many stable nucleation sites for bubbles to grow and depart from the surface. The addition of uncoated pin–fins also results in lower nucleate boiling wall superheats compared to the flat surface (by \approx 6°C), which is due to an increase in the wetted surface area and the number of nucleation sites.

The boiling curve for the hybrid coated pin–fin surface in Fig. 5 reflects a combination of the individual enhancement mechanisms. At low nucleate boiling heat fluxes just after ONB (\( q'' \approx 20 \text{ W/cm}^2 \)), the coated pins display a slightly lower wall superheat than the coated flat surface. The lower wall temperature is a result of the additional convective heat dissipation resulting from the area-enhancing pin–fins, without any loss in performance for the thin metallic porous coating due to its high thermal conductivity. The coated pin–fins also display a slightly reduced slope in the fully developed nucleate boiling range compared to the coated flat surface, which is most evident at 900 ml/min (Fig. 5(b)). The reduced slope is observed for both the single jet and array of jets and is due to the added conduction resistance of the fins. The trends presented for fully developed nucleate boiling on all surfaces are consistent across all flow rates, as shown for the boiling curves in Figs. 5 and 6.

The effective surface efficiency for both the pin–fin and coated pin–fin surfaces under the jet array is plotted as a function of heat flux in Fig. 7; for comparison, data for the single jet impinging on the same surfaces at a flow rate of 1800 ml/min are also included as a dashed line. The surface enhancement type results in distinct grouping of the curves in the figure. The uncoated pin–fin surface cooled by the 5 \times 5 array maintains a minimum surface efficiency of at least 0.76, meaning that further gains in total heat transfer rate could be attained with further increases in surface area (e.g., with longer fins). The coated pin–fins have a noticeably lower effective surface efficiency, with a minimum value of 0.65. The lower surface efficiency is caused by the higher effective heat transfer coefficients resulting from the porous coating in nucleate boiling. While an overall increase in heat transfer would still be realized with further increases in surface area for the coated fins, the relative gains would be lower than for the uncoated pin–fins. Both surfaces display an increase in effective surface efficiency toward the highest heat flux at a given flow rate. This increase is
caused by a reduction in the effective heat transfer coefficient, likely due to dryout or vapor clogging at the base of the fins [16].

3.3 CHF. The greatest advantage of the 5 × 5 jet array compared to the single jet impinging on the surface enhancements is realized at the upper heat flux range for each surface. Table 1 lists the CHF values achieved with each surface at each flow rate tested by both the single jet ($q_{CHF,SJ}$) and 5 × 5 array of jets ($q_{CHF}$). The relative enhancement in CHF for the 5 × 5 jet array compared to the single jet on each surface ($q_{CHF}/q_{CHF,SJ}$), as well as to the single jet on the baseline smooth flat surface ($q_{CHF}/q_{CHF,SJ}$), is also listed in Table 1.

The array consistently increases CHF compared to the single jet on all surfaces except on the coated flat surface, leading to the conclusion that simply distributing fresh liquid to a wider area on the surface with the array of jets is not an effective CHF enhancement mechanism for flat surfaces coated with a microporous layer. In this case, CHF appears to be completely dominated by the presence of the porous coating, and insensitive to flow distribution.

Figure 8(a) shows CHF of the array of impinging jets and single jet as a function of jet velocity. On the flat surface, the jet array extends CHF past that achieved by the single jet at all velocities, which is consistent with the literature comparing single and arrays of jets of the same open area and size [6,7]. The CHF increases with increasing jet velocity in a near-linear fashion for all cases except the array of impinging jets on the pin–fin and coated pin–fin surfaces. Doubling the jet velocity from 0.68 m/s to 1.36 m/s has a noticeably larger effect on enhancing CHF for these two surfaces than a similar velocity increase on the flat and coated flat surfaces. However, the extent of enhancement on the pin–fin and coated pin–fin surfaces is much greater than that achieved by the single jet. With the jet array, the pin–fins increase CHF by 2.62–3.28 times, and the coated pin–fins by as much as 5.39 times (and a minimum of 4.39 times), compared to the single jet on the flat surface. Both the pin–fin and coated pin–fin surfaces achieve

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Flow rate (ml/min)</th>
<th>Surface</th>
<th>Single jet $q_{CHF,SJ}$ [16] $(W/cm^2)$</th>
<th>5 × 5 jet array $q_{CHF}$ $(W/cm^2)$</th>
<th>$q_{CHF}/q_{CHF,SJ}$</th>
<th>$q_{CHF}/q_{CHF,SJ}$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>450</td>
<td>Smooth</td>
<td>25.6</td>
<td>27.7</td>
<td>1.08</td>
<td>1.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pin–fin</td>
<td>54.6</td>
<td>67.1</td>
<td>1.23</td>
<td>2.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Coated flat</td>
<td>37.5</td>
<td>40.9</td>
<td>1.09</td>
<td>1.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Coated pin–fin</td>
<td>62.0</td>
<td>117.4</td>
<td>1.89</td>
<td>4.59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>900</td>
<td>Smooth</td>
<td>30.3</td>
<td>37.8</td>
<td>1.25</td>
<td>1.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pin–fin</td>
<td>61.6</td>
<td>99.5</td>
<td>1.62</td>
<td>3.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Coated flat</td>
<td>45.7</td>
<td>45.8</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>1.51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Coated pin–fin</td>
<td>68.0</td>
<td>163.4</td>
<td>2.40</td>
<td>5.39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1800</td>
<td>Smooth</td>
<td>46.9</td>
<td>50.2</td>
<td>1.07</td>
<td>1.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pin–fin</td>
<td>77.1</td>
<td>124.2</td>
<td>1.61</td>
<td>2.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Coated flat</td>
<td>62.2</td>
<td>58.7</td>
<td>0.94</td>
<td>1.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Coated pin–fin</td>
<td>88.3</td>
<td>205.8</td>
<td>2.33</td>
<td>4.39</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The 5 × 5 array of jets displays relative CHF increases similar to the single jet with increasing jet velocity on the flat and coated flat surfaces. However, the extent of enhancement on the pin–fin and coated pin–fin surfaces is much greater than that achieved by the single jet. With the jet array, the pin–fins increase CHF by 2.62–3.28 times, and the coated pin–fins by as much as 5.39 times (and a minimum of 4.39 times), compared to the single jet on the flat surface. Both the pin–fin and coated pin–fin surfaces achieve
the greatest enhancement at a jet velocity of 1.36 m/s, pointing to
the existence of an intermediate jet velocity where the enhance-
ment effect is greatest.

The benefit of the array configuration can be explained based
on the liquid replenishment and vapor evacuation characteristics
of each impinging jet. Figure 9 shows a high-speed photograph
taken of the single jet impinging on the coated pin-fin surface at
1800 ml/min and a heat flux of 85.7 W/cm². The single jet imping-
ing at the center of the orthogonal array of pin-fins creates four
preferential outflow paths through the fins for the impinging fluid,
as shown schematically in Fig. 9. Large areas at the four cor-
ers of the heat sink are left relatively unaffected by the impinging
flow. Vapor generated in these regions is not effectively evacuated
from the heated surface, moves upwards due to buoyancy forces,
and can be re-entrained into the impinging jet flow. In contrast,
the 5 × 5 array of jets distributes liquid across a large-area of the
surface (Fig. 9). By comparing these schematic outflow paths,
it is evident that a much greater area on the heated surface is
exposed to the impinging and evacuating fluid flow with the jet
array than with the single jet. While high-speed imaging of the
desired quality could not be performed for the array due to the
low orifice-to-target spacing of 3 mm, the thermal performance
makes it clear that the distribution of liquid by the array provides
superior liquid replenishment and evacuates vapor more effec-
tively from the pin-fin and coated pin-fin surface than does the
single jet.

The array configuration thus beats the typically assumed limita-
tion on the extent of heat transfer and CHF enhancement (that it
cannot exceed the area enhancement ratio due to the extended
surfaces) and actually achieves enhancements in CHF greater than
the gross area enhancement afforded by the extended surfaces.
The uncoated pin-fins provide 3 times greater surface area com-
pared to the smooth surface, yet a 3.28 times greater CHF is real-
ized with the jet array at a velocity of 1.36 m/s when compared to
the single jet on the smooth surface. The jet array with the coated
pin-fins increases CHF still further, reaching a 5.39 times
enhancement compared to the single jet on the smooth surface at
this jet velocity.

3.4 Pressure Drop. The pressure drop resulting from the
5 × 5 array of jets in combination with all four surfaces at each
flow rate is plotted as a function of heat flux in Fig. 10. This is
also compared to the same data for the single jet [16]. For the sin-
gle jet, the resulting pressure drop was previously found [16] to be
constant with heat flux and is displayed by the horizontal flat line
in Fig. 10. It is observed that the arrays of jets, even on the flat
surface, yield a slightly higher pressure drop than that of the large
single jet. These same arrays of orifices were characterized in
Ref. [6] and it was concluded that burrs introduced during manu-
ufacturing of the orifices (which are much smaller in diameter for
the array than for the single jet) were the most likely cause of the
pressure drop difference. Otherwise, the same pressure drop
should be expected because the 5 × 5 array has the same total
open orifice area and jet velocity as the single orifice.

The flat surface and coated flat surface do not show any
increase in pressure drop with heat flux (and vapor generation).
As with the single jet, the pressure drop in these cases is domi-
nated by the single-phase flow across the orifices, with a

![Fig. 9](a) High-speed photograph of the single jet impinging at 1800 ml/min at a heat flux of 85.7 W/cm², and schematic drawings of the liquid distribution resulting from the (b) single jet [16] and (c) 5 × 5 array of jets. Orifice position shown in black.

![Fig. 10](Pressure drop as a function of heat input for the jet array on all surfaces at all flow rates)
The high CHF achieved by the array comes at little cost in the form of increased operating pressure drop (a maximum increase of 1.5 kPa was measured). The array of jets impinging onto the hybrid coated pin–fin surface represents an extremely effective cooling scheme capable of dissipating high heat fluxes from large-area devices. At a flow rate of 1800 ml/min, the array of jets effectively dissipated 205.8 W/cm² at a pressure drop of only 10.9 kPa, resulting in a total heat dissipation of 1.33 kW from the heat source. The combination of low pressure drop and high heat dissipation makes impinging jet arrays in combination with boiling surface enhancements a very attractive approach for satisfying modern cooling demands while minimizing pumping power penalties.

Acknowledgment

The authors thank Toyota Motor Engineering and Manufacturing North America, Inc. for support of this work. The authors also thank Mr. Phillip Tuma of the 3M Company for applying the porous coating to the surfaces used in this work.

Nomenclature

\[ A = \text{area} \]
\[ c_p = \text{specific heat} \]
\[ d = \text{jet orifice diameter} \]
\[ h = \text{average heat transfer coefficient} \]
\[ H = \text{orifice-to-target spacing} \]
\[ k = \text{thermal conductivity} \]
\[ l = \text{length of orifice} \]
\[ L = \text{fin length} \]
\[ L_o = \text{corrected fin length} (L + w/4) \]
\[ N = \text{total number of fins} \]
\[ P = \text{electrical power input} \]
\[ q^* = \text{average heat flux} \]
\[ q_{\text{lost}} = \text{heat lost to the ambient} \]
\[ Re = \text{Reynolds number} (\rho V d/\mu) \]
\[ T = \text{temperature} \]
\[ T_i = \text{jet inlet temperature} \]
\[ T_{\text{sat}} = \text{saturation temperature of the fluid} \]
\[ V = \text{jet velocity} \]
\[ w = \text{fin width} \]
\[ \Delta P = \text{pressure drop} \]

Greek Symbols

\[ \eta_f = \text{effective fin efficiency} \]
\[ \eta_s = \text{effective surface efficiency} \]
\[ \rho_f = \text{dynamic fluid viscosity} \]
\[ \rho = \text{fluid density} \]

Subscripts

\[ \text{b} = \text{base} \]
\[ \text{CHF} = \text{critical heat flux} \]
\[ \text{eff} = \text{effective} \]
\[ f = \text{fin} \]
\[ \text{S} = \text{smooth surface} \]
\[ \text{SJ} = \text{single jet} \]
\[ t = \text{total} \]

References


