

# EXPERIMENTATION TO PREDICT THE THERMAL PERFORMANCE OF CLOSED LOOP PULSATING HEAT PIPE WITH ACETONE AND METHANOL AS WORKING FLUID

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## Abstract

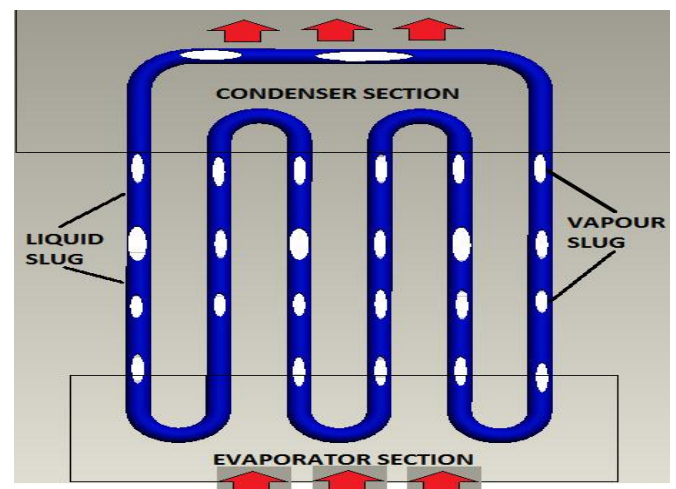
The closed-loop pulsating heat pipe is a type of small heat transfer device with a very high thermal conductivity. It was invented to meet the requirement for smaller heat transfer devices. It can transfer sufficient heat for heat dissipation applications in modern electronic devices. The objective of this work is to study thermal performance of closed loop pulsating heat pipe with acetone and methanol as working fluid.. Copper has been selected as material for heat pipe due to compatibility of copper with acetone and methanol as working fluid. Filling ratio of the working fluid significantly influence on the performance closed loop pulsating heat pipe. From the past studies it was observed that filling ratio of 30-75 % provides the best result hence 60 % filling ratio has been selected for this filing ratio the thermal performance of closed loop pulsating heat pipe with acetone and methanol as working fluid is investigate.

**Keywords:** closed loop pulsating heat pipe, condenser, evaporator, working fluid, filling ratio.

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

The closed-loop pulsating heat pipe is a type of small heat transfer device with a very high thermal conductivity. It was invented to meet the requirement for smaller heat transfer devices. It can transfer sufficient heat for heat dissipation applications in modern electronic devices. The Closed loop pulsating heat pipe is made of a long copper capillary tube, bent into an undulating tube and connected at the ends to form a closed-loop with no internal wick structure [1]. Working fluid is partially filled in the tube. The closed loop pulsating heat pipe has a condenser, evaporator section and adiabatic section. As any other two-phase passive thermal control device, heat is acquired from the source through the evaporator section transferring it to the working fluid where the slug/plug pumping action will be generated. The fluid then flows by the adiabatic section towards the condenser section. On a closed loop configuration, the fluid is allowed to circulate and after being condensed, the fluid returns to the evaporator section to complete the loop. The tube is evacuated and consequently partially filled with working fluid. Since an inner diameter of the tube is very small and then meets a capillary scale, the inside working fluid forms into liquid slugs alternating with vapour slugs along the entire length of the tube [2].



**Fig 1:** Closed loop pulsating heat pipe

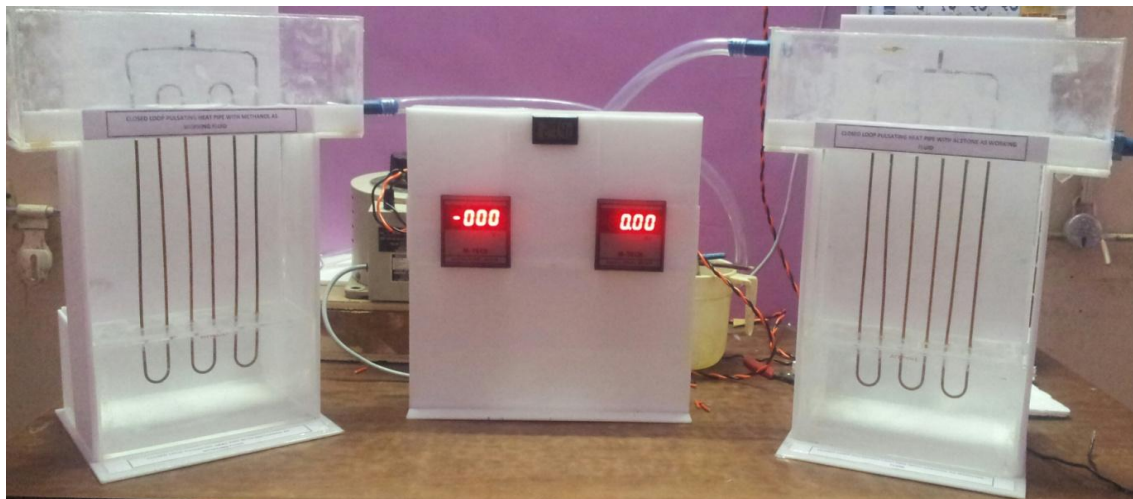
When one end of the closed-loop pulsating heat pipe, called 'evaporator section', is subjected to heat or high temperature, the working fluid, which is in liquid slug form, will evaporate, expand, and move through the no heat transferring zone, or 'adiabatic section', toward a cooler section, 'condenser section'. Then, the vapour slugs will condense, collapse, and release the heat into the environment. Therefore, the vapour slug evaporating in the evaporator section will consequently flow to replace the vapour slug collapsing in the condenser section. Due to this mechanism, the working fluid can circulate and continuously transfer heat in a cycle. The structure of the closed loop pulsating heat pipe is as shown in Figure 1.

**Table 1:** Compatibility of closed loop pulsating heat pipe material with the working fluid [2]

Working fluid	Compatible Material
Methanol	Stainless Steel, Iron, Copper, Brass, Silica, Nickel
Acetone	Stainless Steel, Copper, Brass, Silica

**Table 2:** Boiling point and operating ranges of working fluid [2]

Working fluid	Boiling point At 1 atm in K	Temperature ranges in K
Acetone	329.4	273-393
Methanol	337.8	283-403
Ethanol	351.5	273-403



**Fig 2:** Experimental setup of closed loop pulsating heat pipe with acetone and methanol as working fluid

**2. EXPERIMENTATION AND TESTING CLOSED LOOP PULSATING HEAT PIPE WITH ACETONE AND METHANOL AS WORKING FLUID**

**Table 3:** Evaporator temperature of closed loop pulsating heat pipe with methanol as working fluid at variable heat input

S.N	VOLTAGE (V)	CURRENT (A)	HEAT INPUT (Watt)	EVAPORATOR TEMPERATURE OF METHANOL IN <sup>0</sup> C						AVERAGE EVAPORATOR TEMPERATURE
				T <sub>1</sub>	T <sub>2</sub>	T <sub>3</sub>	T <sub>4</sub>	T <sub>5</sub>	T <sub>6</sub>	
1	10	0.1	1	24.9	24.9	24.9	24.7	24.7	24.9	24.83333333
2	20	0.2	4	24.4	24.5	24.5	24.5	24.5	24.5	24.48333333
3	50	0.53	26.5	28.4	28.7	29	29	28.9	28.9	28.81666667
4	60	0.63	37.8	30.8	30.9	31	31	31	30.9	30.93333333
5	70	0.73	51.1	33.2	33.1	33.1	33.1	32.9	32.6	33
6	80	0.84	67.2	35.6	35.7	35.7	35.5	35.5	35.1	35.51666667
7	90	0.94	84.6	38.5	38.6	38.6	38.7	38.6	38.4	38.56666667
8	100	1.04	104	41.1	40.8	40.8	40.3	40.3	39.5	40.46666667
9	165	1.73	285.45	70.8	70.8	70.8	70.4	70.4	70.4	70.6
10	175	1.77	309.75	71.6	71.6	71	70.8	70.5	70.2	70.95
11	185	1.95	360.75	71.9	70.7	71.4	72.2	72.4	72	71.76666667

**Table 4:** Condenser temperature of closed loop pulsating heat pipe with methanol as working fluid at variable heat input

S.N	VOLTAGE (V)	CURRENT (A)	HEAT INPUT (Watt)	CONDENSER TEMPERATURE OF METHANOL IN <sup>0</sup> C						AVERAGE CONDENSER TEMPERATURE
				T <sub>7</sub>	T <sub>8</sub>	T <sub>9</sub>	T <sub>10</sub>	T <sub>11</sub>	T <sub>12</sub>	
1	10	0.1	1	23.9	24	23.9	24	23.8	23.9	23.91666667
2	20	0.2	4	23.8	23.8	23.6	23.7	23.8	23.9	23.76666667

3	50	0.53	26.5	24	24	24.1	24.3	24.3	24.5	24.2
4	60	0.63	37.8	24.9	24.8	24.8	24.8	24.8	24.6	24.78333333
5	70	0.73	51.1	24.5	24.6	25.2	25.2	25.2	25.3	25
6	80	0.84	67.2	25.3	25.3	25.4	25.4	25.4	25.5	25.38333333
7	90	0.94	84.6	25.3	25.8	26	26	26	26.1	25.86666667
8	100	1.04	104	26.1	25.9	26.1	26	26	26.2	26.05
9	165	1.73	285.45	33.5	33.3	32.3	31	30.2	30.1	31.73333333
10	175	1.77	309.75	34	33.5	33	30.9	30.1	30.1	31.93333333
11	185	1.95	360.75	33.8	33.6	33.6	31.2	30.8	30.1	32.18333333

**Table 5:** Condenser temperature of closed loop pulsating heat pipe with acetone as working fluid at variable heat input

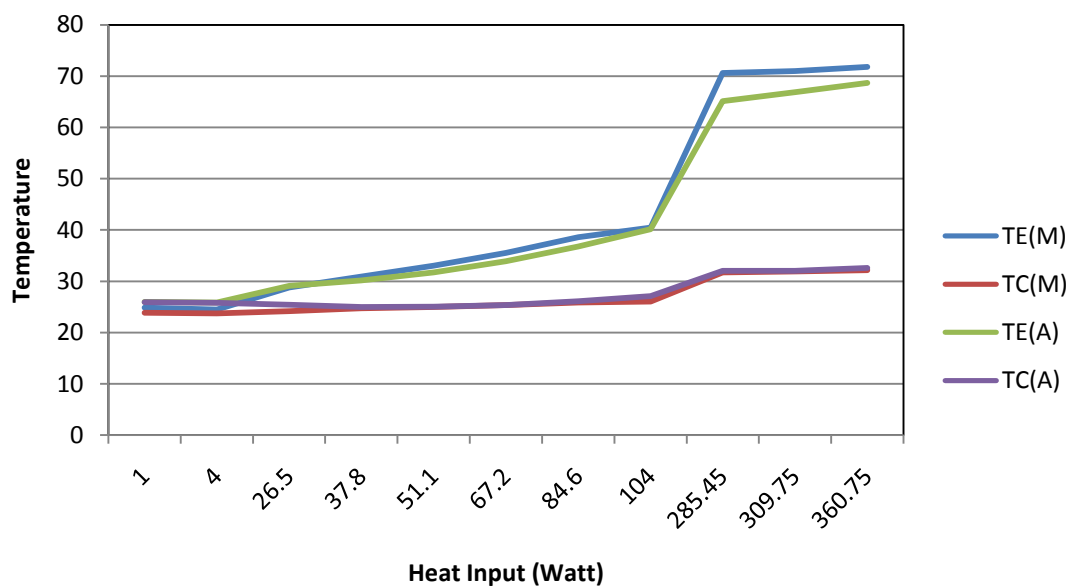
S.N	VOLTAGE (V)	CURRENT (A)	HEAT INPUT (Watt)	CONDENSER TEMPERATURE ACETONE IN <sup>0</sup> C						AVERAGE CONDENSER TEMPERATURE
				T <sub>7</sub>	T <sub>8</sub>	T <sub>9</sub>	T <sub>10</sub>	T <sub>11</sub>	T <sub>12</sub>	
1	10	0.1	1	25.8	26	25.8	26.1	25.8	26.1	25.93333333
2	20	0.2	4	25.8	25.9	25.8	25.8	25.7	25.9	25.81666667
3	50	0.53	26.5	25.5	25.5	25.5	25.5	25.3	25.5	25.46666667
4	60	0.63	37.8	25	25.1	25	25	25	25	25.01666667
5	70	0.73	51.1	25.2	25.1	25	24.9	25	25.2	25.06666667
6	80	0.84	67.2	25.5	25.5	25.5	25.5	25.2	25.3	25.41666667
7	90	0.94	84.6	26.4	26.4	26.4	26.1	25.9	25.7	26.15
8	100	1.04	104	26.9	27	27.2	27.3	27.3	27	27.11666667
9	165	1.73	285.45	31.7	32.6	32.9	32.7	31.7	30.6	32.03333333
10	175	1.77	309.75	32.4	32.3	32.5	32.5	32	30.7	32.06666667
11	185	1.95	360.75	33	33.2	33.2	32.8	32.8	30.7	32.61666667

**Table 6:** Evaporator temperature of closed loop pulsating heat pipe with acetone as working fluid at variable heat input

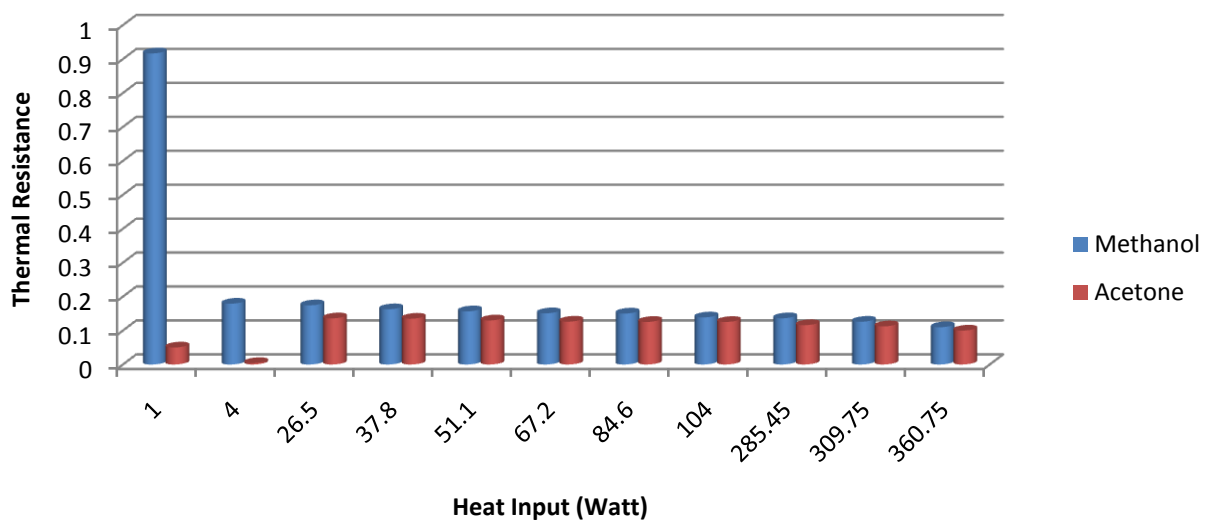
S.N	VOLTAGE (V)	CURRENT (A)	HEAT INPUT (Watt)	EVAPORATOR TEMPERATURE ACETONE IN <sup>0</sup> C						AVERAGE EVAPORATOR TEMPERATURE
				T <sub>1</sub>	T <sub>2</sub>	T <sub>3</sub>	T <sub>4</sub>	T <sub>5</sub>	T <sub>6</sub>	
1	10	0.1	1	26	26.1	25.8	26	26.1	25.9	25.98333333
2	20	0.2	4	26	26.1	25.9	25.7	25.5	25.8	25.83333333
3	50	0.53	26.5	29	29	29	29.1	29.1	29.2	29.06666667
4	60	0.63	37.8	30	30.1	30.2	30.2	30.1	30.1	30.11666667
5	70	0.73	51.1	31.8	31.7	31.7	31.6	31.7	31.7	31.7
6	80	0.84	67.2	34	33.9	33.9	33.9	33.9	33.8	33.9
7	90	0.94	84.6	36.9	36.9	36.9	36.6	36.7	36.6	36.76666667
8	100	1.04	104	39.9	40.2	40.2	40.2	40.2	40.2	40.15
9	165	1.73	285.45	65.1	65.1	65.1	65.1	65.1	65.1	65.1
10	175	1.77	309.75	66.5	66.5	66.8	67.1	67.1	67.1	66.85
11	185	1.95	360.75	68.7	68.7	68.7	68.5	68.5	68.8	68.65

**Table 7:** Thermal resistance of closed loop pulsating heat pipe with acetone and methanol as working fluid at variable heat input

S.N	HEAT INPUT (Watt) FOR ACETONE	THERMAL RESISTANCE OF ACETONE	THERMAL RESISTANCE OF METHANOL
1	1	0.05	0.916666667
2	4	0.004166667	0.179166667
3	26.5	0.135849057	0.174213836
4	37.8	0.134920635	0.162698413
5	51.1	0.129810828	0.156555773
6	67.2	0.126240079	0.150793651
7	84.6	0.125492514	0.150118203
8	104	0.125320513	0.138621795
9	285.45	0.115840486	0.136159281
10	309.75	0.112294861	0.125961797
11	360.75	0.0998845	0.10972511



**Fig 3:** Evaporator and condenser temperature of closed loop pulsating heat pipe with acetone and methanol as working fluid at variable heat input



**Fig 4:** Thermal resistance of closed loop pulsating heat pipe with acetone and methanol as working fluid at variable heat input

### 3. CONCLUSION

The thermal resistance of closed loop pulsating heat pipe decreases with increase in the heat input for both methanol and acetone hence the thermal performance of closed loop pulsating heat pipe increases with increase in the heat input. Also it was found from the experimental result that the thermal resistance offered by closed loop pulsating heat pipe with acetone as working fluid is comparatively less for the same heat input as compared to closed loop pulsating heat pipe with methanol as working fluid. Hence for the filling ratio of 60 % closed loop pulsating heat pipe with acetone as working fluid provides best thermal performance.

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