#### 中性子ラジオグラフィ法による流通式 水熱合成装置における混合過程の可視化

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#### Hydrothermal synthesis of metal oxide nanoparticles



## Hydrothermal synthesis reactors



Reaction time

~ 5 min

T.Adschiri, et al., J.Am. Ceram. Soc. 75, 1019 (1992)

~ 10 s

# Synthesis with plug-flow reactor

#### Plug-flow reactor

#### Size of products



#### Mixing of supercritical water and reactants affects the products



## Experimental approaches

#### Model fluid



#### View cell



#### Cascade down

Buoyancy force

T.Aizawa, et al., J. Supercrit. Fluids **43**, 222 (2007).

Blood, et al., Chem. Eng. Sci. 59, 2853 (2004).

# Mixing of two water streams



Difference in water density can be visualized.



## Experimental setup



@ B4 port of Kyoto University Research Reactor Institute

S. Takami et al., J. Supercrit. Fluids 63, 46 (2012).

## Kyoto University Research Reactor Institute











## I/I<sub>0</sub> images





## Averaged water density



## Comparison between mixing modes





#### 50 ms

Flow velocity after mixing = 119 mm/s



Nanoparticles were produced using these mixer.

## Simulation by Prof.Tsukada



K. Sugioka, et al., J. Supercrit. Fluids 109, 43 (2016).

Unsteady-state vortex flow

## Further questions

Density (temperature at constant pressure) was visualized by radiography.



However, temperature is affected by heat transfer from tube wall, in addition to mixing.

#### Questions

- Distribution of reactant solution (flow from side)
- Chemical reaction of metal ion
- Nucleation and growth of particles

# Visualization of reactant solution



Mixing of Gd<sup>3+</sup> solution with heated water



#### Experimental setup



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## Experimental condition

Tube diameter	<mark>Qsc</mark> (g/min)	Q <sub>RT</sub> (g/min)	T <sub>sc</sub> (°C)	T <sub>mix</sub> (°C)	C <sub>Gd</sub> <sup>3+</sup> (mol/L)	
I/4 in. (4.8 mm)	16	8	23	23	0.1,0.2	
			219	113	0.1	5 MW
			285	181	0.1	
			388	331	0.025	IMW
I/8 in. (2.3 mm)	20	4	384	279	0.1	IMW

60 s for I image (I MW)30 s for I image (5 MW)5 images for I condition



#### Mixing at room temp.

#### Absorption by solution



#### Absorption by solute



5 mm

Distribution of metal ion solution was visualized.



# Mixing at ~113°C

#### Mixing with water

#### Mixing with Gd<sup>3+</sup> solution





15 s for 1 image40 images



# Mixing at ~113°C

#### Mixing with water

#### Mixing with Gd<sup>3+</sup> solution



Deposition of  $Gd(OH)_3$  on the inner wall of tube occurred.



## Other conditions

#### H<sub>2</sub>O, 20 g/min, $H_2O$ , 16 g/min, ~384°C ~388°C 0.1 M Gd<sup>3+</sup>, 0.025 MGd<sup>3+</sup>, 4 g/min, ~24°C 8 g/min, ~26°C 1/8 in. tube 1/4 in. tube 60 s for 1 image 60 s for 1 image 10 images 40 images

Plugging occurred in both cases.

# Product from Gd(CH<sub>3</sub>COO)<sub>3</sub>



 $Gd(OH)_3$  was produced by hydrothermal reaction.



## Summary

Neutron radiography was performed to visualize the mixing of reactant solution with water in plug-flow reactor.

- Distribution of reactant solution around mixing point was visualized using Gd(CH<sub>3</sub>COO)<sub>3</sub>.
- Gd(OH)<sub>3</sub> was produced during imaging.
- Deposition of Gd(OH)<sub>3</sub> on the inner wall of reactor occurred at high temperature.

To visualize the distribution of reactant solution, we will try

- Diluted Gd<sup>3+</sup> solution / Inactive Gd species
- Synthesis of Gd-containing compound nanoparticles
- Use of Gd<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> nanoparticles as a tracer
- Use of B<sup>3+</sup> or other metal ions in heavy water