

# He3/4 ratio from sound velocity measurement

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# Background of the study

Dilution refrigeration is often used for cooling of PT

We want to optimize temperature and cooling power

**Monitoring He<sup>3</sup>/<sup>4</sup> ratio** is important

System of measurement

- Mass spectrum meter ( usually )
- Sound velocity measurement



**Gas sampling is needed (loss of gas)**



**Real time monitoring is possible**

# Principle of He3/4 ratio determination from sound velocity measurement

Theorem equation of sound velocity in gas

$$V = \sqrt{(\gamma RT/M)}$$

V : sound velocity(m/s)     $\gamma$  : specific heat-ratio

R : gas constant    T: temperature (K)

M: averaged molecular weight of gas

→ (fixed temperature condition)

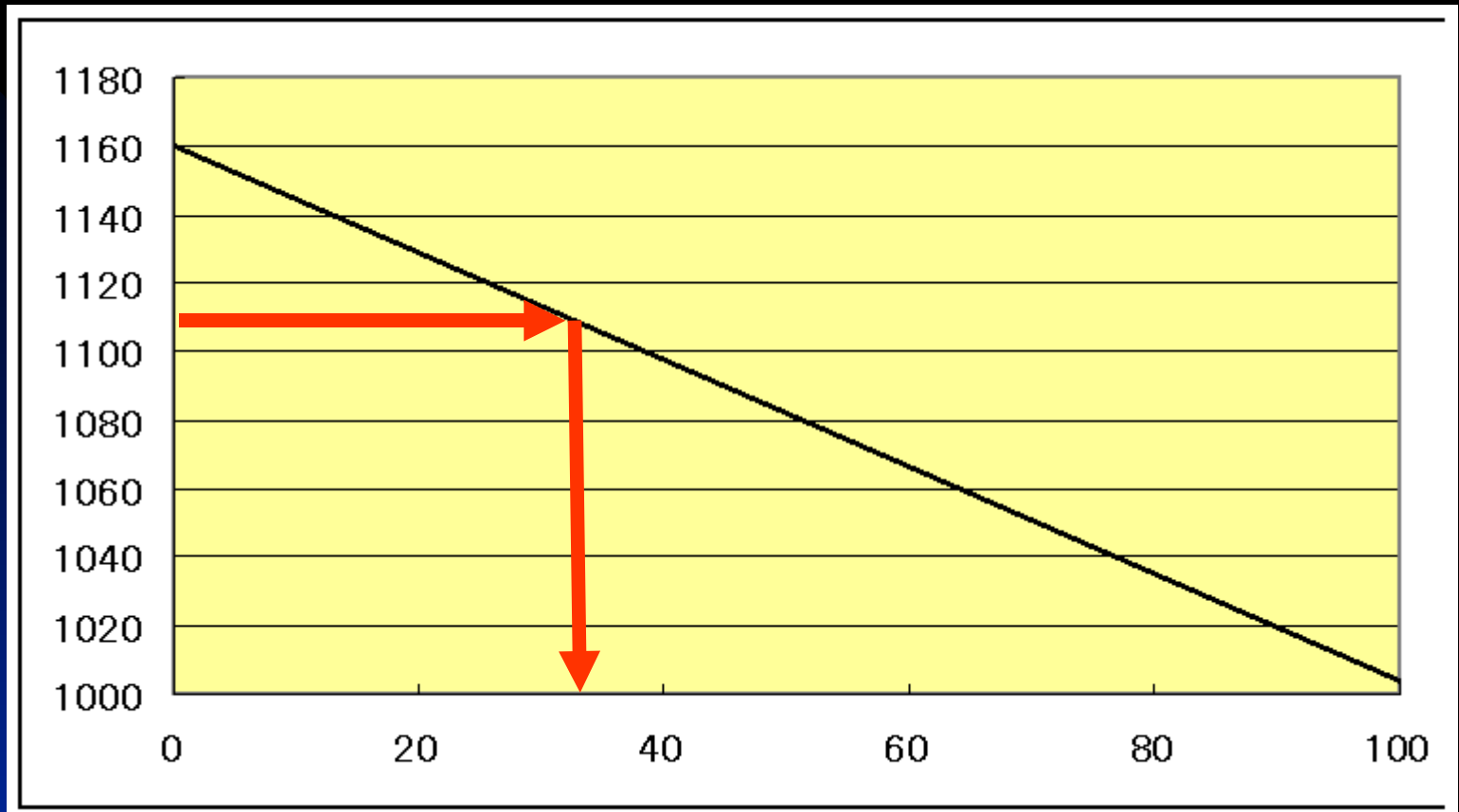
V depends on the contents and the fractions of the mixed gas\_

**Sound velocity is independent of pressure**

# Sound velocity of He3/4 mixed gas as a function of $^4\text{He}$ fraction

Sound velocity of He3/4 mixed gas (m/s)

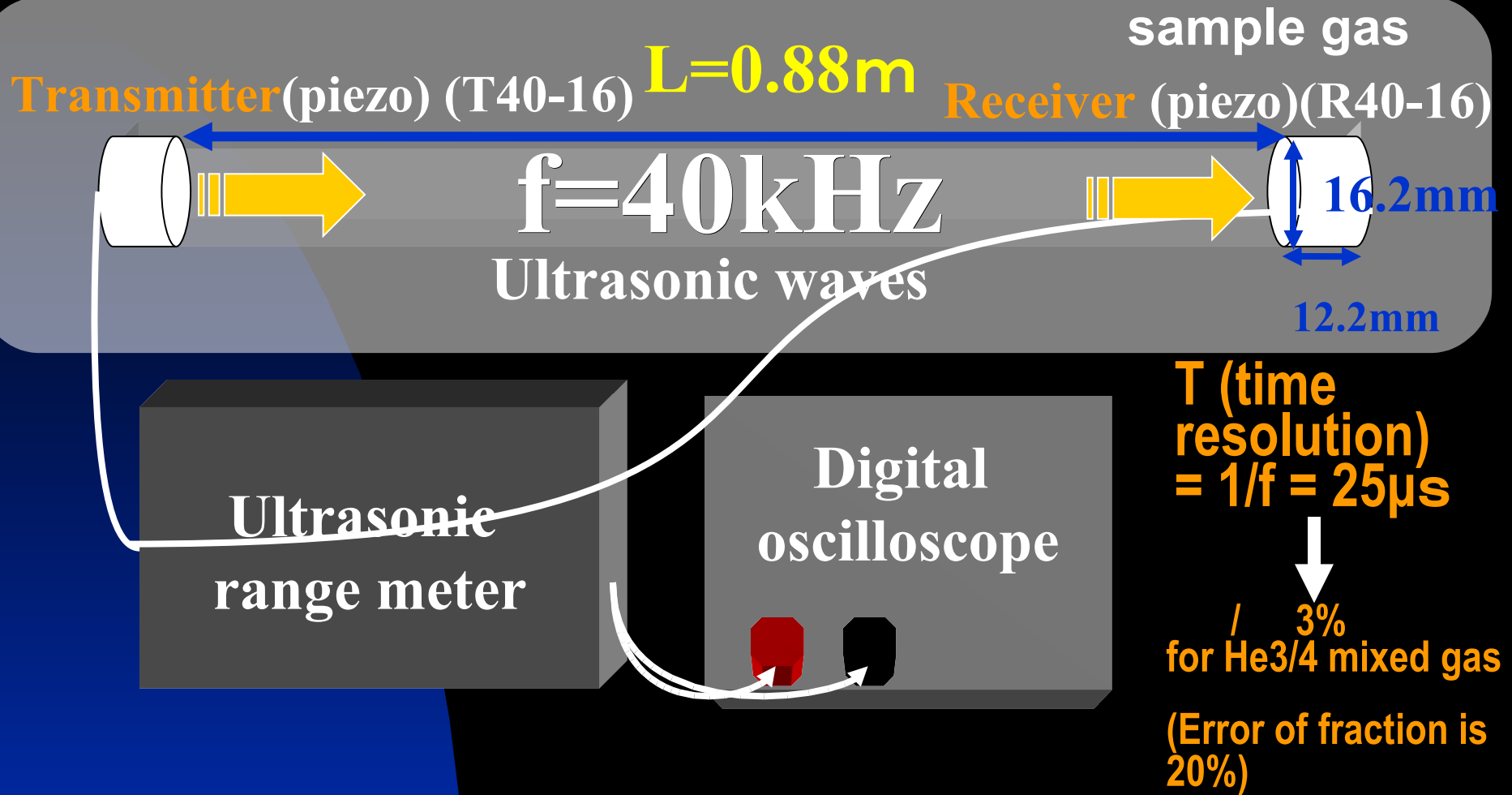
T = 22



$^4\text{He}$  fraction(%)

Variation of sound velocity  
→ **Variation of He3/4 ratio**

# Device of measurement

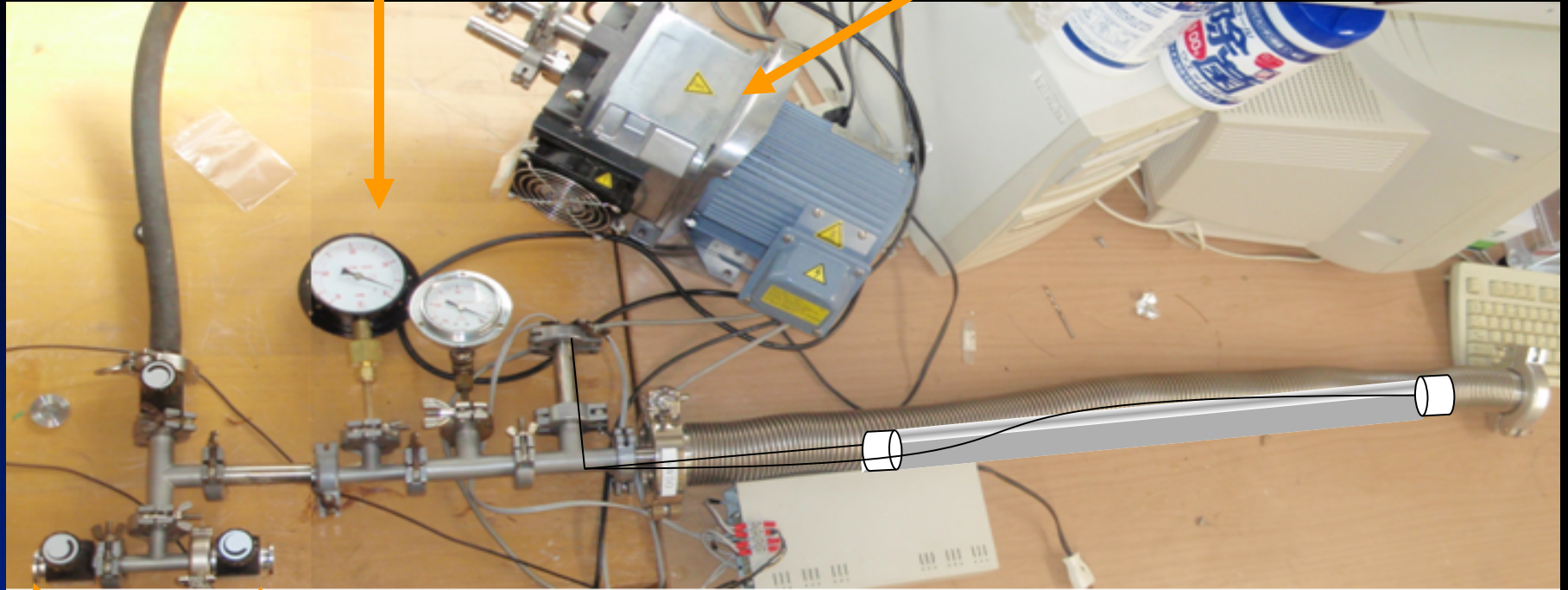


We observe time difference between transmitter signal and receiver signal

# Device of measurement

**Bourdon gauge tube barometer**

**Vacuum pump**



**$N_2$ . $O_2$ . $^4He$ . $^3He$ .Ar  
gas entrance**

**Ultrasonic range meter  
(Japan Elekit A type kit)**

# Principle of measurement

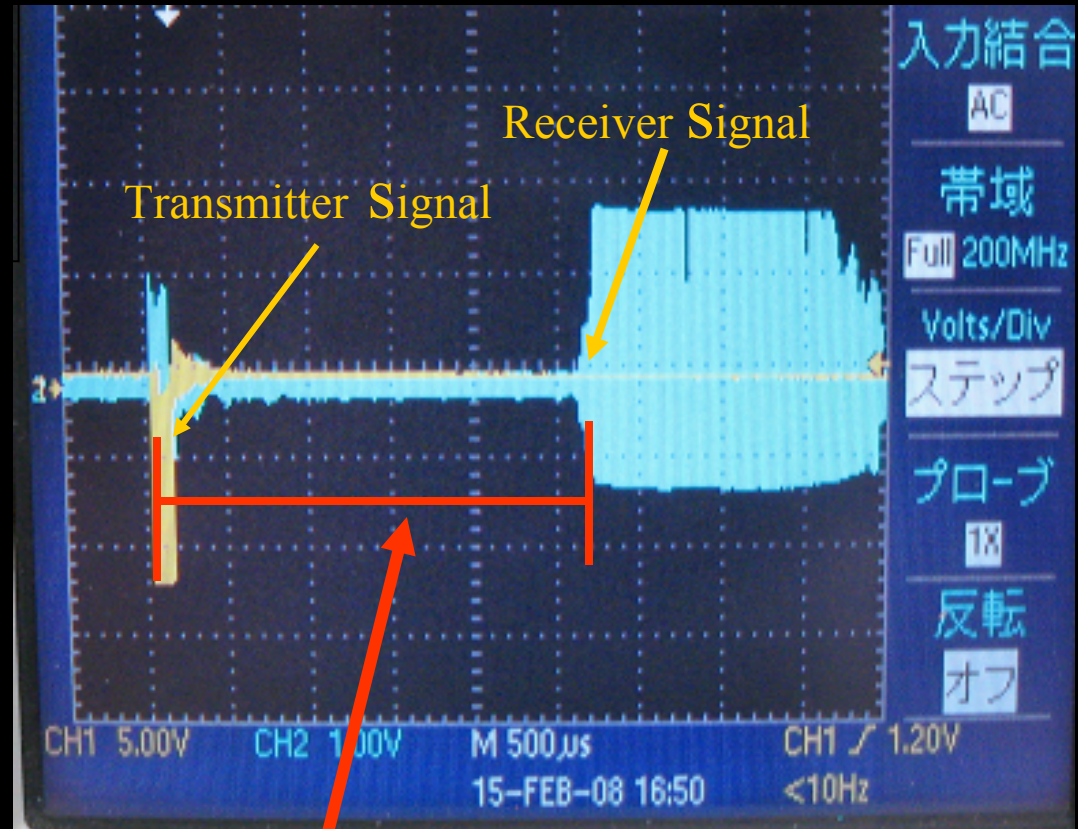
Experiment condition

Fixed Temperature

T 22

Variation of sound velocity gives variation of  $\tau'$

In this experiment We measure variation of  $\tau'$



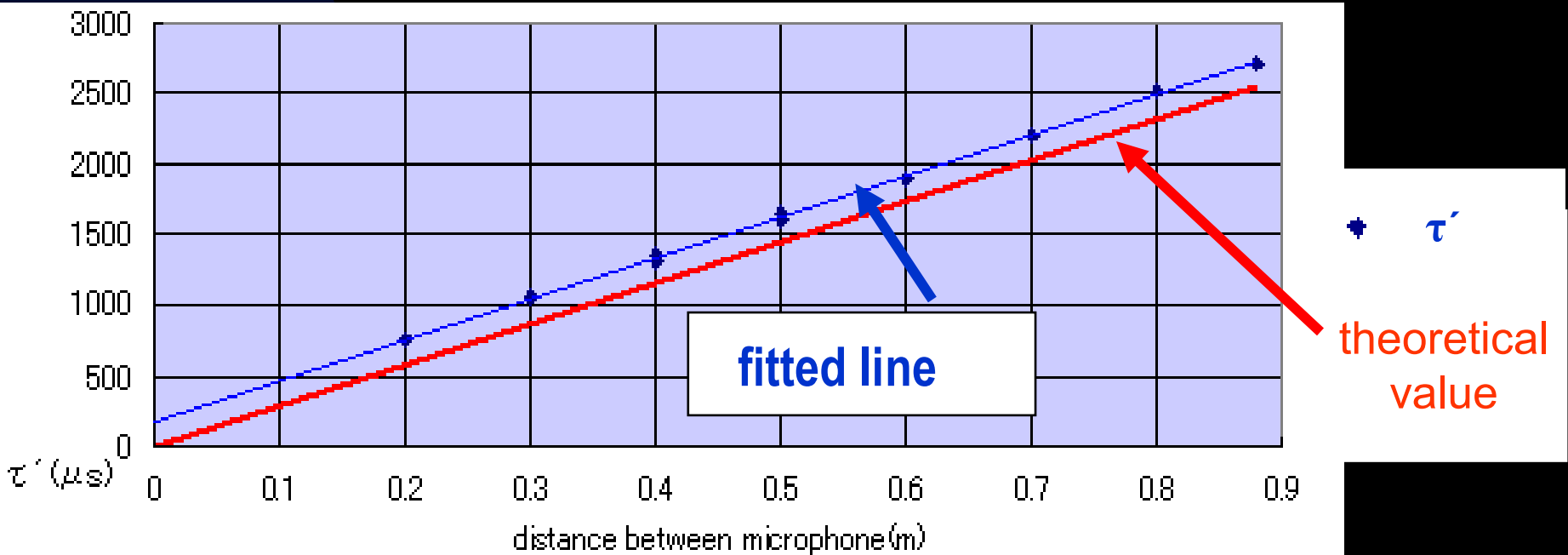
$\tau'$  (measured value of time difference between the two signals )

# Sound velocity of air at atmospheric pressure

## Examine performance of the device

$\tau'$  (measured value of time difference) as a function of distance of propagation

Sound velocity data used as theoretical value : 345.59m/s  
temperature 22 humidity 40% (laboratory's condition)



**difference between measured value and theoretical value  
It is considered to be circuit's offset**

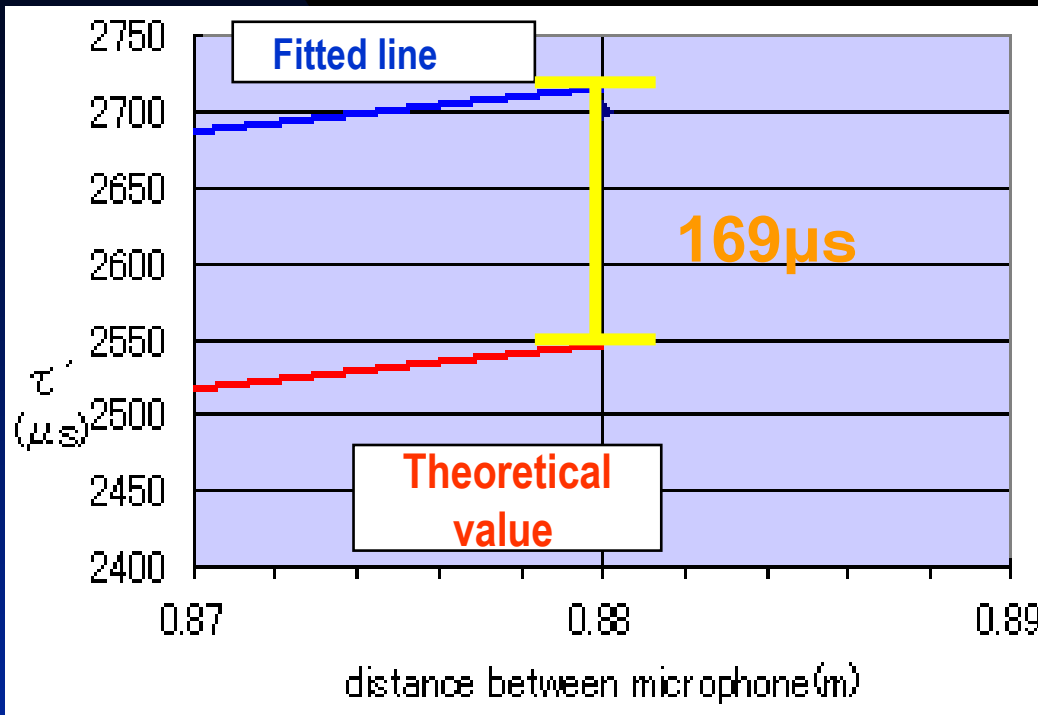


# Determination of $\tau_0$ (offset value)

## Comparison of fitting value and theoretical value

theoretical value (0.88m)  
 $T = 2546 \mu\text{s}$

fitting value of the data points (0.88m)  
 $T = 2715 \mu\text{s}$



0.88m (length which is actually used for measuring He3/4 ratio)

difference  $169 \mu\text{s}$

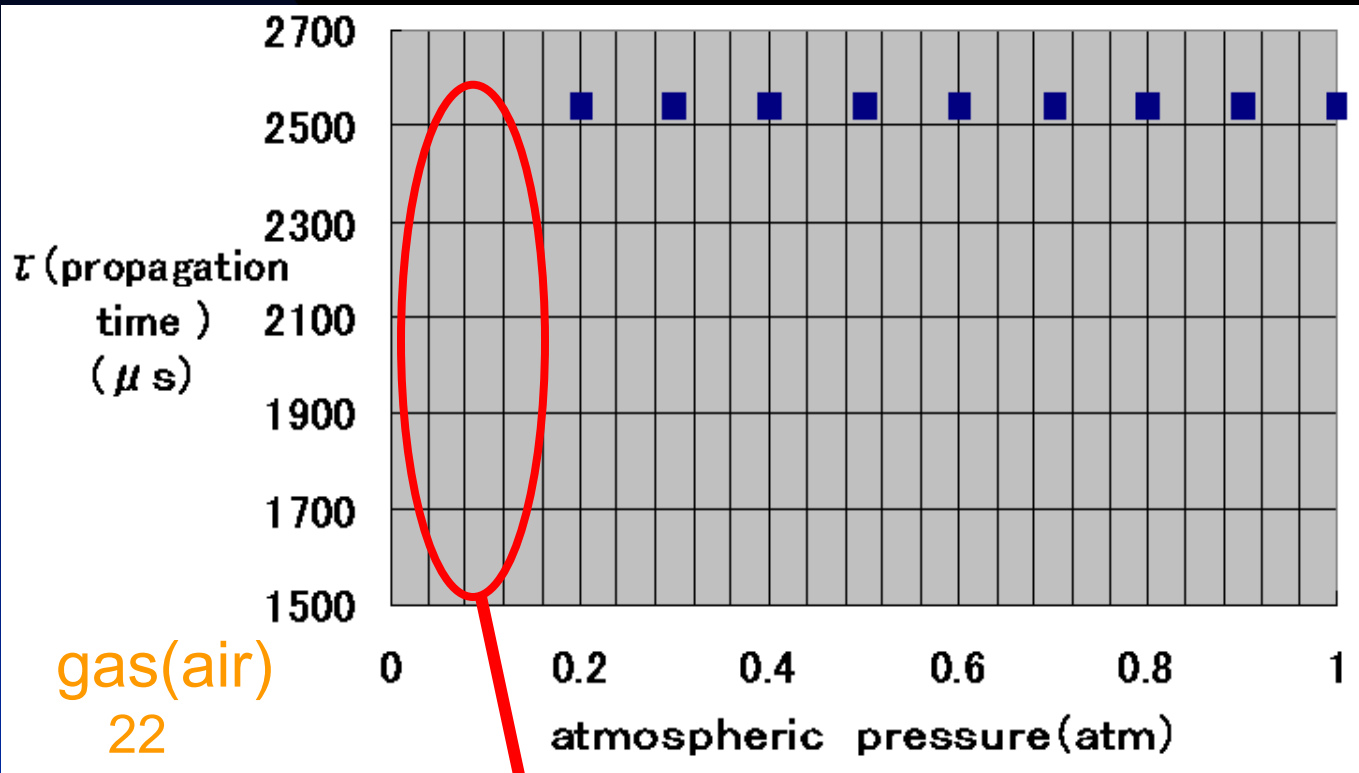
$\tau_0$  is determined to be  $169 \mu\text{s}$

$\tau$  (propagation time) =  $\tau'$  (measured time) -  $\tau_0$  ( $169 \mu\text{s}$ )

From now,  $\tau$  is compared with theoretical value

# Pressure dependence

$\tau$ (propagation time) as a function of gas pressure



This data shows sound velocity does not depend on **pressure**

Lower pressure ,smaller receiver signal.  
Signals could not be observed below 0.2 atm

# Sample gases



**O<sub>2</sub> gas**

**M = 32**

**$\gamma = 7/5$**

**V = 327(m/s)**



**Ar gas**

**M = 40**

**$\gamma = 5/3$**

**V = 320(m/s)**



**N<sub>2</sub> gas**

**M = 28**

**$\gamma = 7/5$**

**V = 350(m/s)**

**<sup>4</sup>He gas**

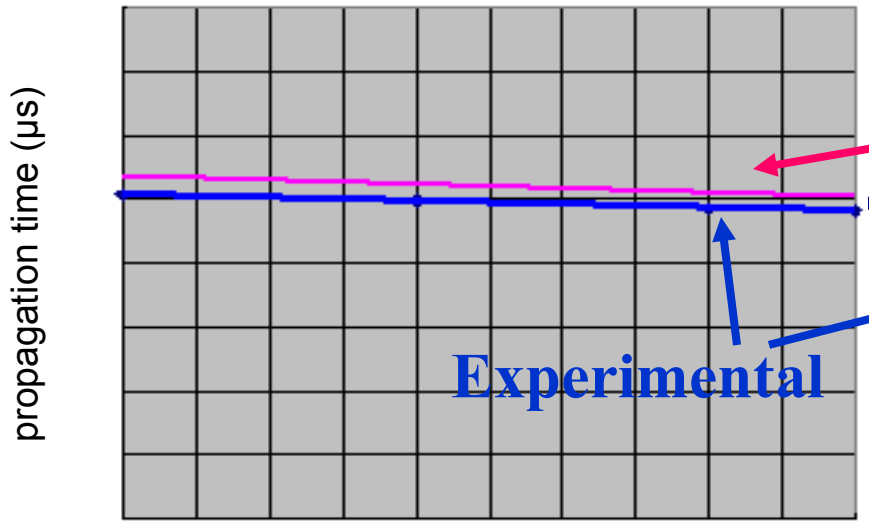
**M = 4**

**$\gamma = 5/3$**

**V = 1011(m/s)**

# Measurement results

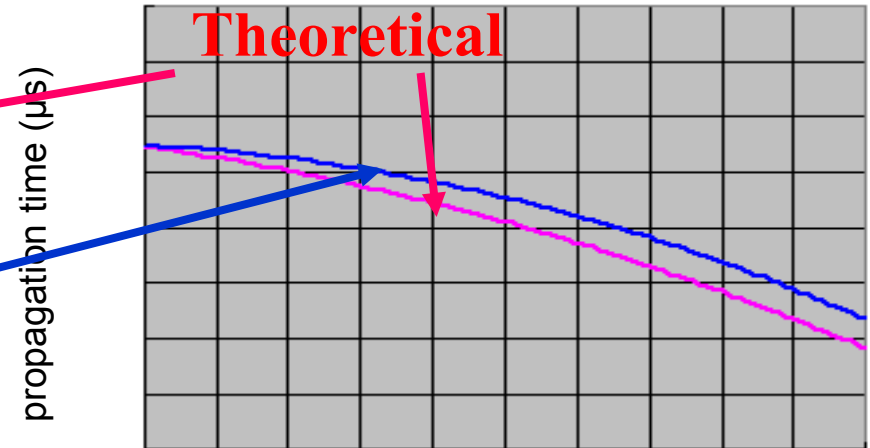
Propagation time in N / O



T=22

$N / (O + N) \times [\%]$

Propagation time in He/Ar



T=22

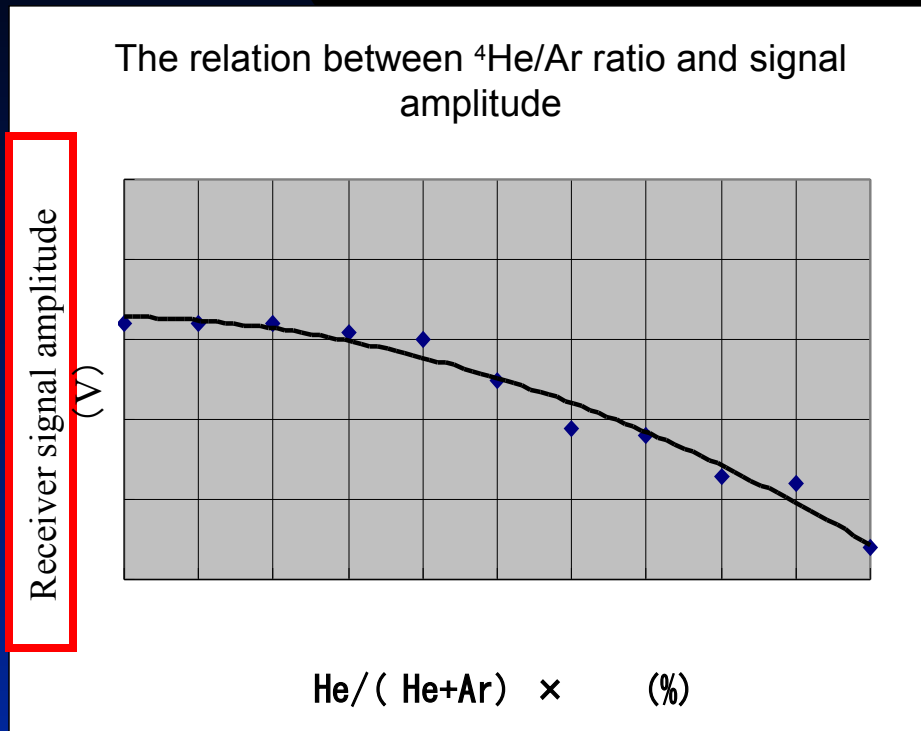
$He / (He + Ar) \times [\%]$

Difference between theoretical and experimental values still remains.

However, we can determine ratio of mixed gas by using calibration with measured values.

# Problems of signal amplitude

>  $^4\text{He}/\text{Ar}$  ratio measurement is possible.

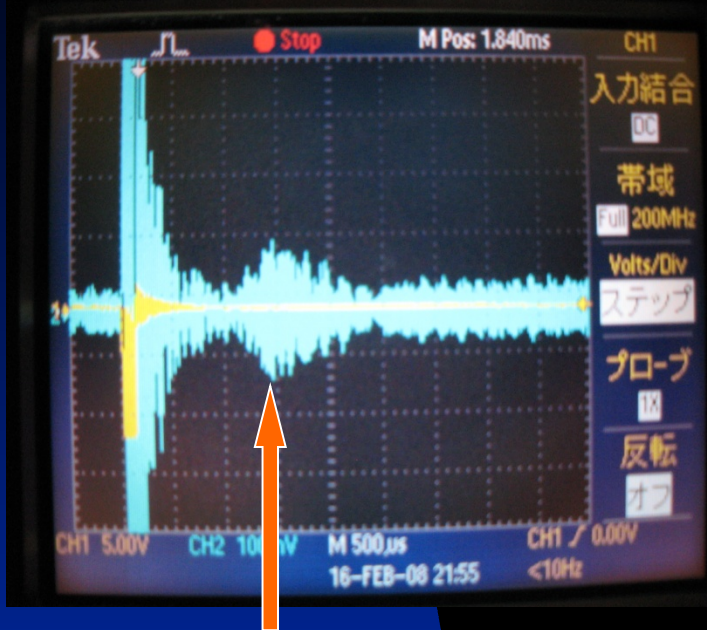


> But ! As  $^4\text{He}$  fraction increases, receiver signal becomes small.

> For pure  $^4\text{He}$  gas, signal is quite small !

# Problems of signal amplitude

> $^4\text{He}/\text{Ar}$  ratio measurement is possible.



signal !?

>But ! As  $^4\text{He}$  fraction increases, receiver signal becomes small.

>For pure  $^4\text{He}$  gas, signal is quite small !

It is considered that decrease of signal amplitude is due to decrease of average molecular weight

# Problems of signal amplitude

Ultrasonic energy  $E(\text{J}/\text{m}^3)$  is

$$E = 2\pi^2 A^2 f^2 \rho$$

(A : amplitude of sound (m)    f : frequency of vibration(Hz)

$\rho$  : density of gas( $\text{kg}/\text{m}^3$ ))

- >  $\rho_{\text{He}} = 1/7 \rho_{\text{air}}$  sufficient energy is not obtained compared with in air .
- > The same for  $^3\text{He}$  gas.
- > Velocity measurement is difficult for He 3/4 gas with this device.

# Summary

- > We constructed a gas ratio measurement system.
- > The contents and the fractions of the mixed gas were examined by using this device.
- > However, He gas molecular weight is small. So the receiver signal becomes small.
- > Now we have problems of measurement for He  $^{3/4}$  ratio. **But we found good potential of measurement !**



# Outlook

Increasing ultrasonic energy  $E$  is important

$$E = 2\pi^2 A^2 f^2 \rho$$

It is the most efficient to raise the frequency



Ideal In addition to time resolution  $f = 170 \text{ kHz}$  (Transmitter)

→ / 0.7% for He<sup>3</sup>/4 mixed gas (Error of fraction is 5%)

Other ways are

- Making distance of propagation longer
- Raising gas pressure

He<sup>3</sup>/4 Signal will be improved just like air

**Thank you for Listening**