

Drops sliding down an incline: Singular "corners".

Laurent Limat

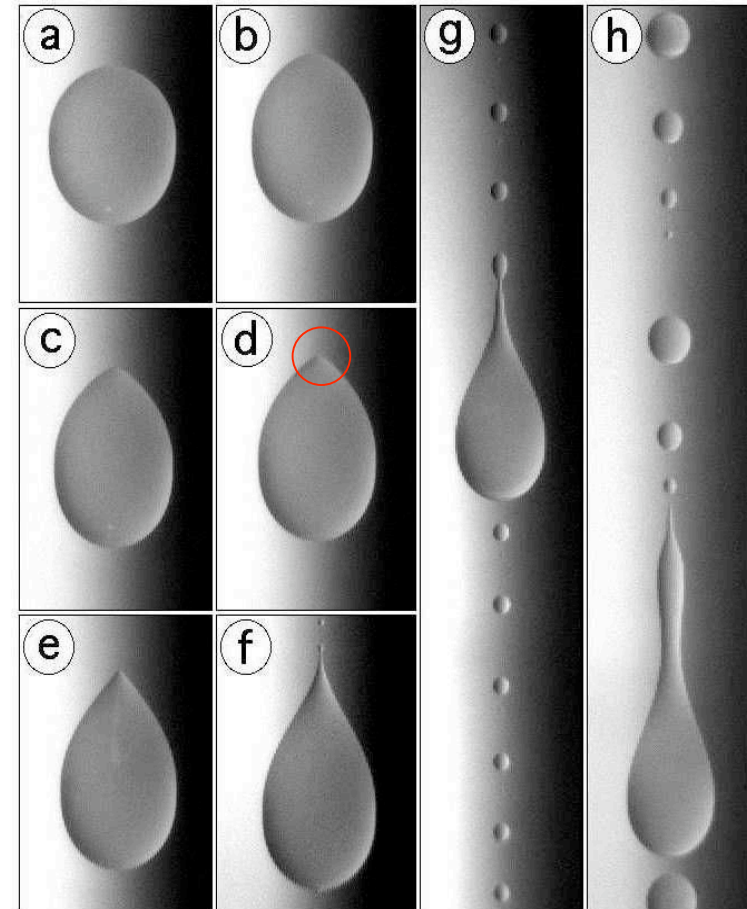
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limat@pmmh.espci.fr

with:

-Jean-Marc Flesselles , Thomas Podgorski
(initial experiments)

-Adrian Daerr, Nolwenn Le Grand
Bruno Andreotti, Emmanuelle Rio, Ivo
Peters (3D visualization + PIV+optics)

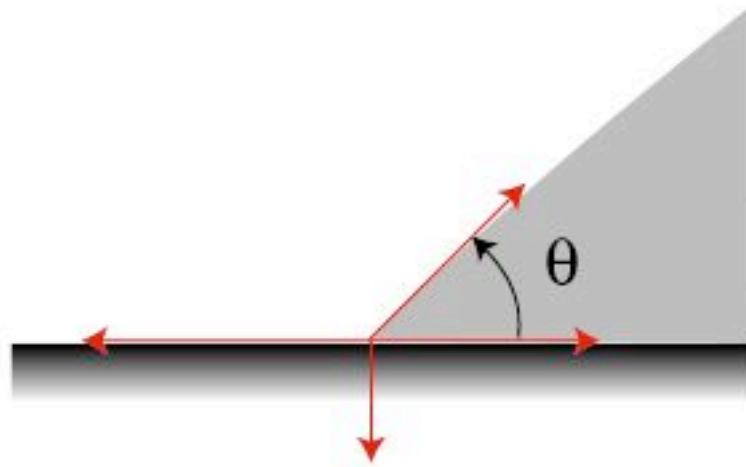
- Jacco Snoeijer, Howard Stone, Jens
Eggers (corner models)



Partial wetting

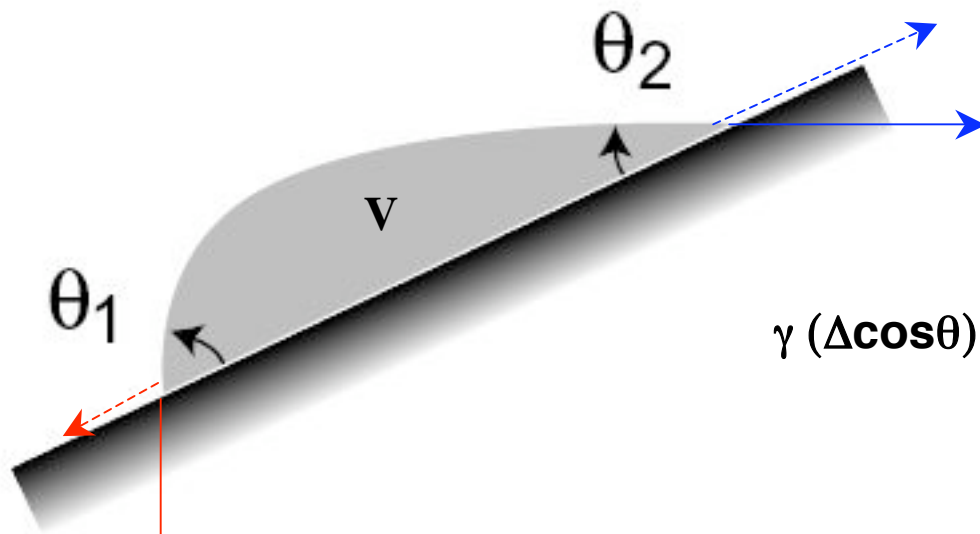


$$\gamma_{sv} < \gamma_{sl} + \gamma$$



$$\gamma_{sv} = \gamma_{sl} + \gamma \cos\theta$$

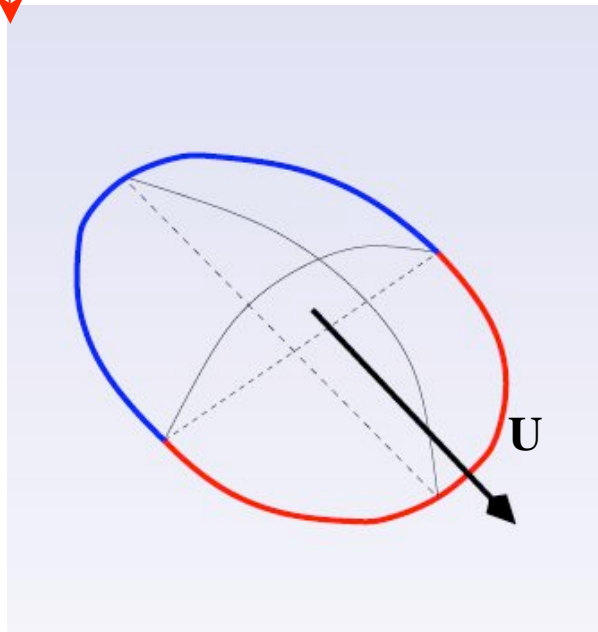
What happens on a tilted plate?



Hysteresis: drop can remain pinned...

$$\gamma (\Delta \cos \theta) \sim \rho g V^{2/3}$$

or begins to slide...



-viscous effects -> shape changes?

-wetting dynamics...

with 3D aspects -> ?

-Inclined, curved contact line possibly developing a singular point

3D Sliding drops:

- Bikerman, JCS 1950, Furmidge, JCS 1962 -> onset of motion
- Dussan (and Chow), JFM 1983, 1985 -> calculations for rounded drops
yield condition
- Kim, Lee + Kang, JCIS 2002 -> sliding velocities of oval drops
related to viscous dissipation

- Podgorski, Flesselles, LL, PRL 2001 -> Singularity at drop rear
- Le Grand, Daerr, LL, JFM 2005 -> 3D structure of interface
- Rio, Daerr, Andreotti, LL, PRL 2004 -> flow structure, contact angle
distribution

- Stone + LL, Europhys. Lett. 2004 -> similarity solution of hydrodynamics
- Snoeijer, Le Grand, Rio, LL, Phys. Fl. 2005 -> flow structure, rounded corners...
- Snoeijer, Le Grand, LL, Stone, Eggers, Phys. Fl. 2007 -> opening angle selection,
pearling transition

- Other model: Cummins, Ben Amar, Pomeau, Phys. Fl. 2003 -> model based on Laplace
+directional Young condition

Numerical simulations:

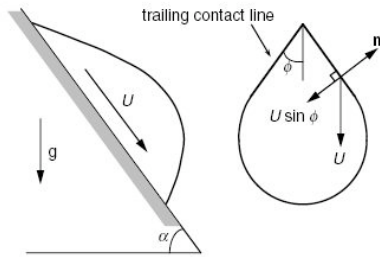
- Schwartz et al., Physica D, 2005
- Thiele et al
- Gaskell et al. (Leeds)

Corners, Cusps, and Pearls in Running Drops

T. Podgorski,* J.-M. Flesselles,† and L. Limat

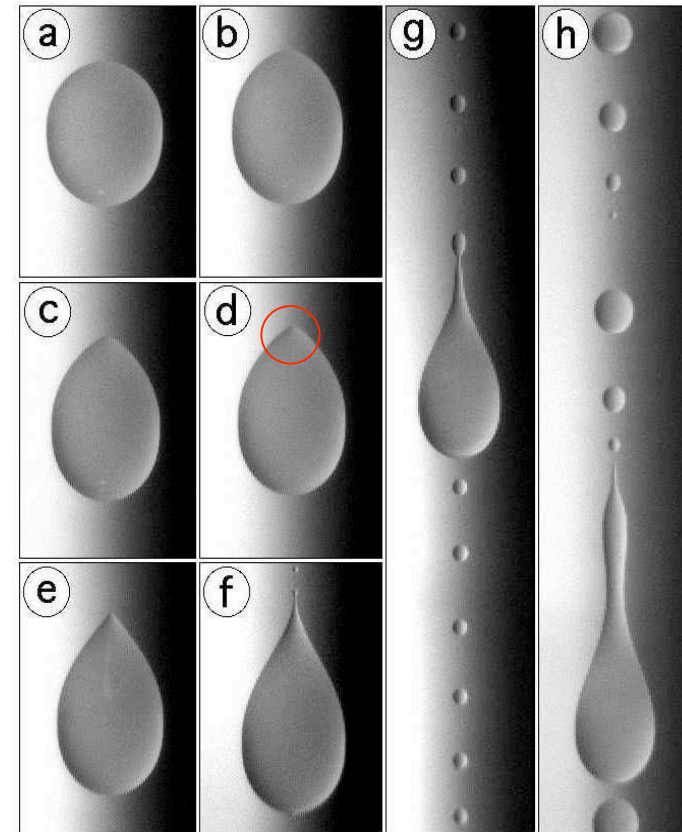
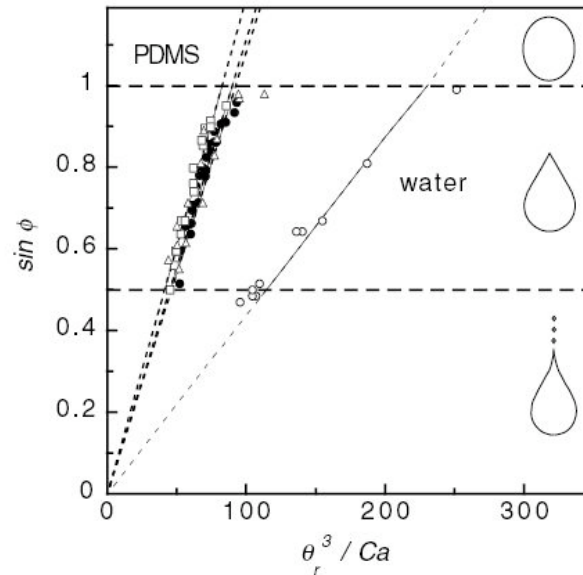
Physique et Mécanique des Milieux Hétérogènes, UMR 7636 CNRS-ESPCI, 10 rue Vauquelin, 75231 Paris Cedex 05, France

(Received 6 February 2001; published 27 June 2001)

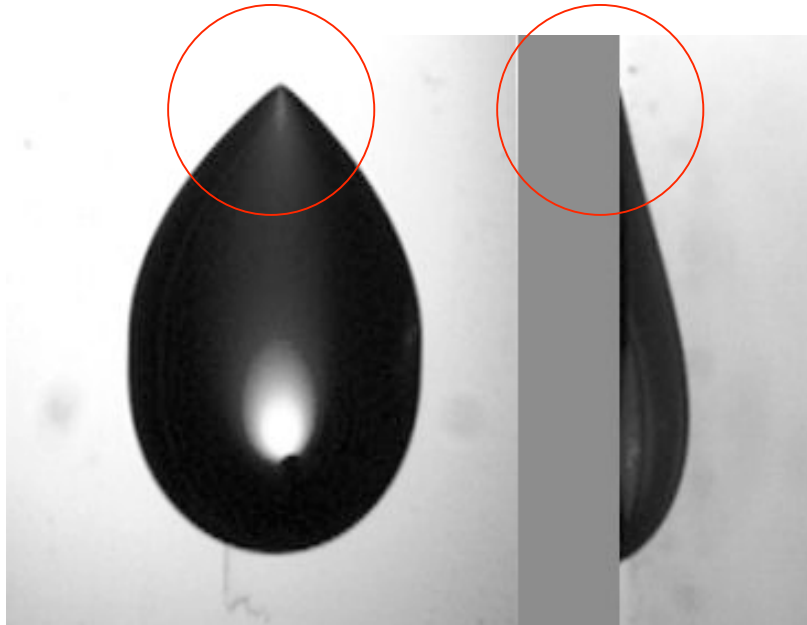


$$Ca = \eta U / \gamma$$

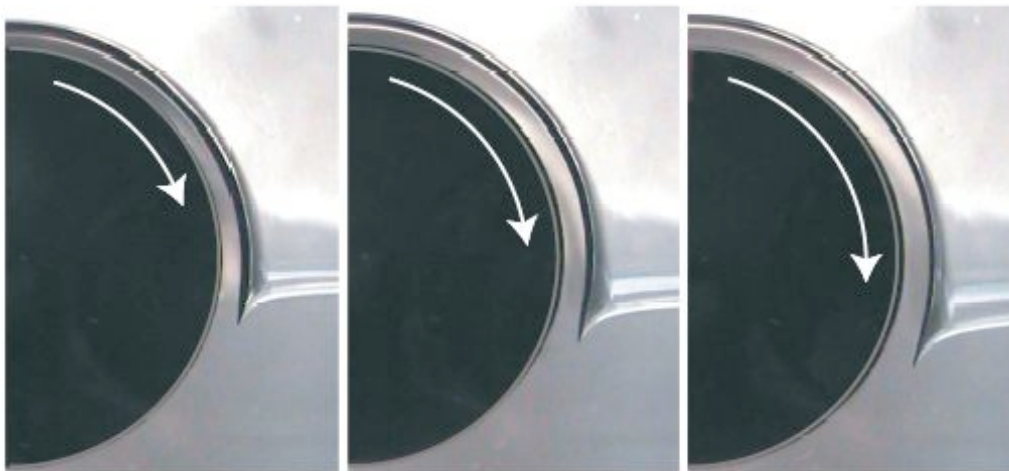
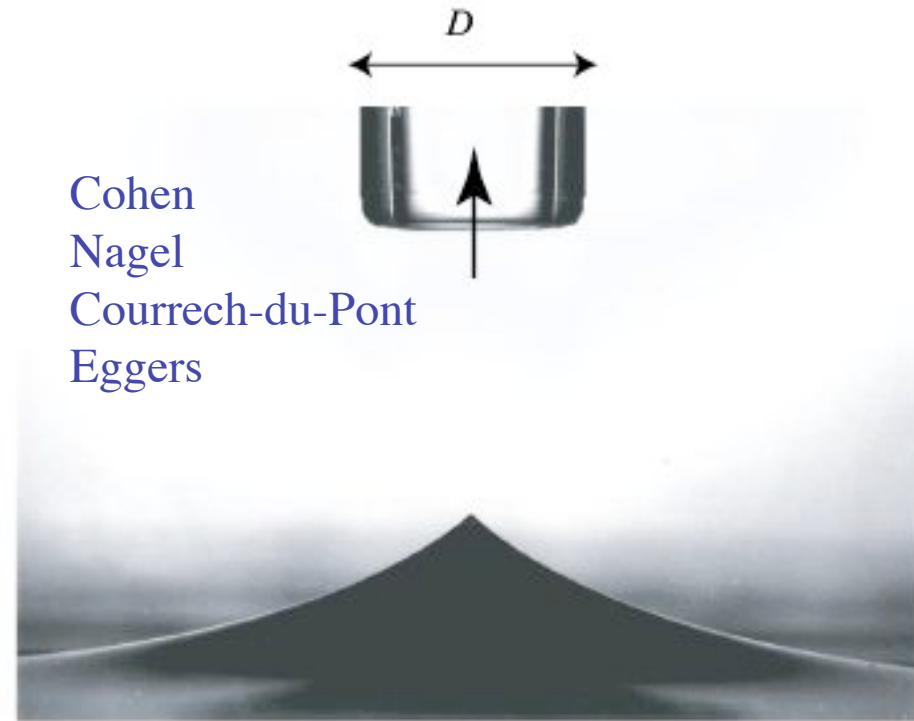
$$\sin \phi \sim 1/Ca$$



Silicon oil drops on fluoropolymers

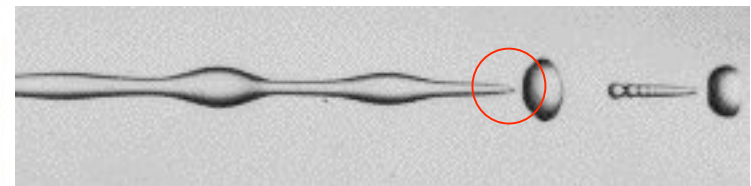


Daerr, Le Grand, LL, 2005

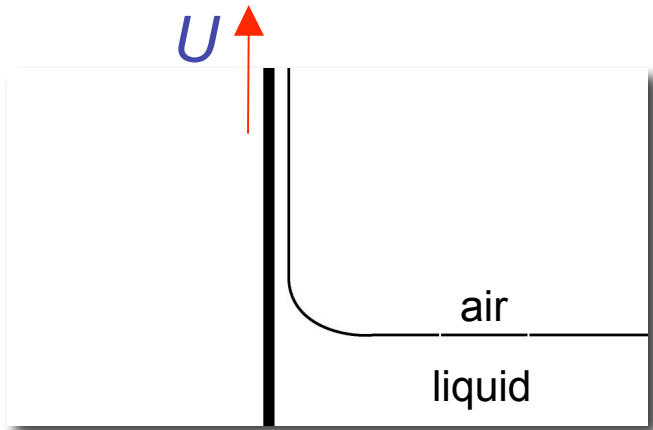


Quéré, Lorenceau

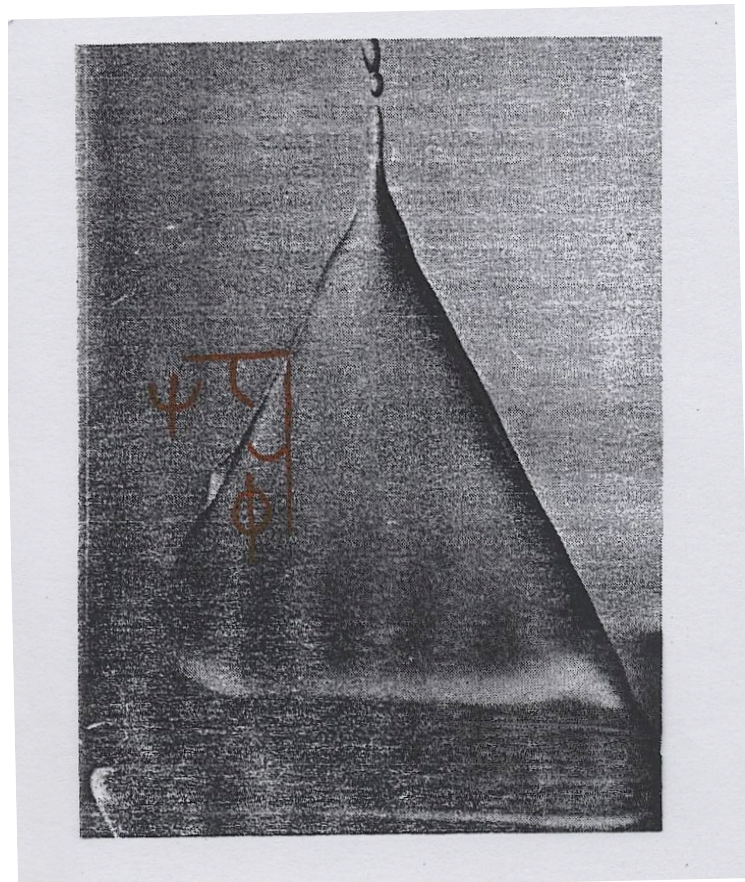
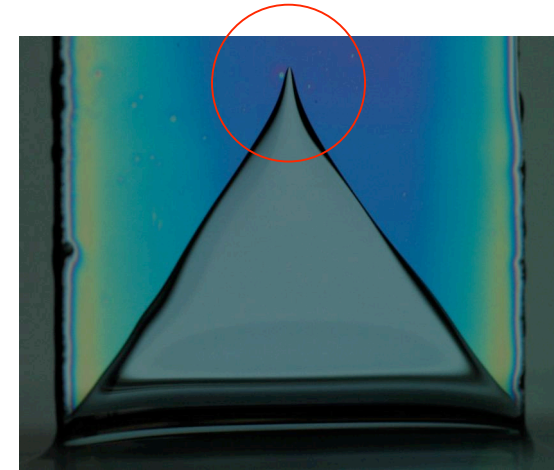
Singularities at interfaces



(Rutland and Jameson '71)

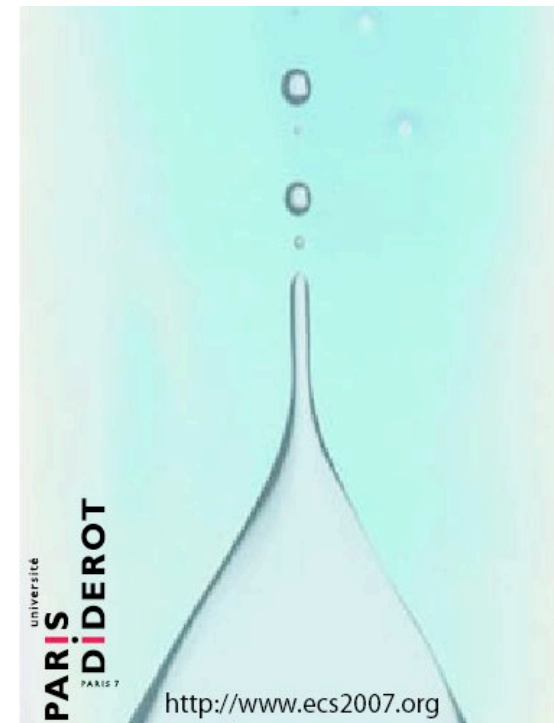


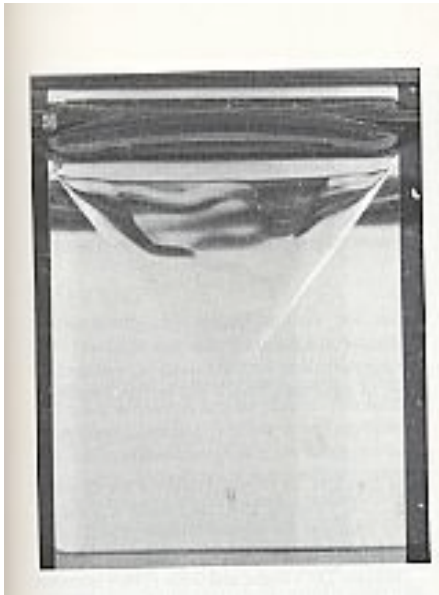
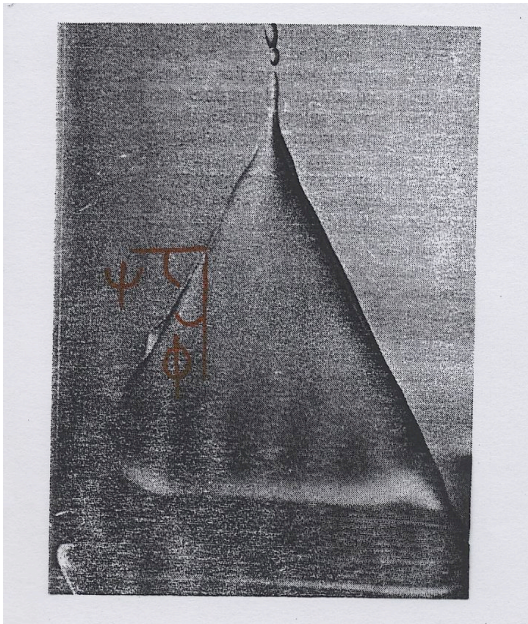
Analogy with
Landau-Levich



Blake, Ruschak
(Nature 1979)

Snoeijer, Delon,
Andreotti, Fermigier
PRL 2006

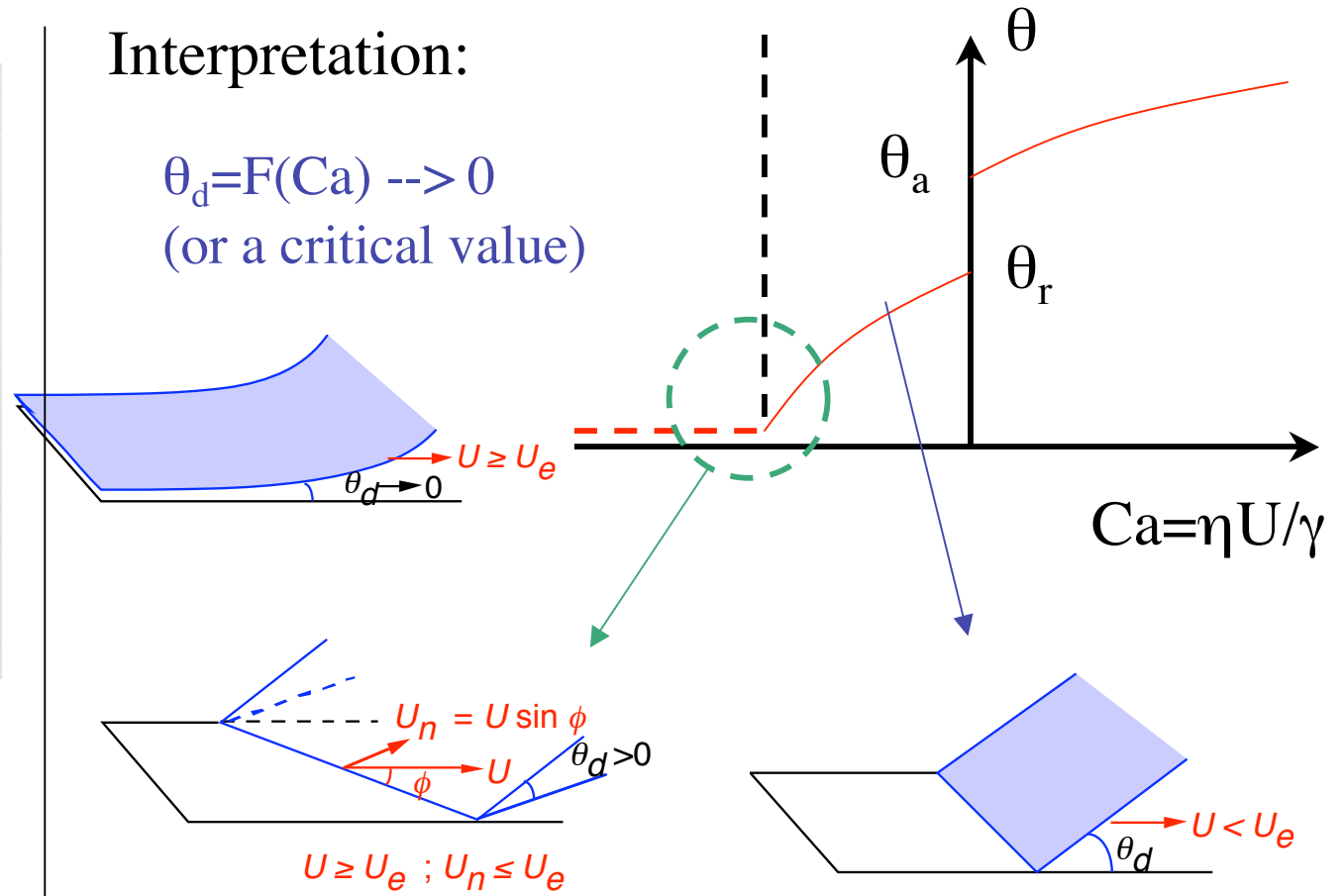




Interpretation:

$$\theta_d = F(Ca) \rightarrow 0$$

(or a critical value)



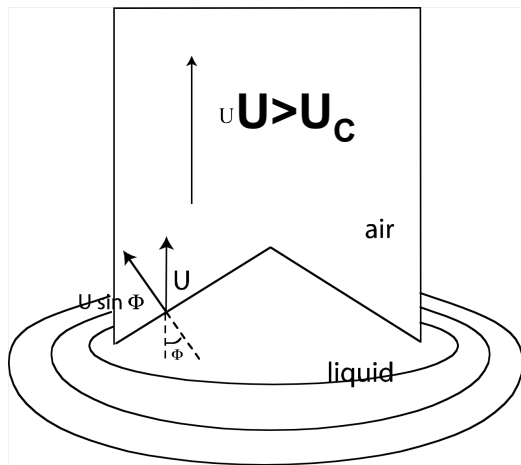
$$\theta_d = F(Ca \sin \phi) \approx 0 \Rightarrow$$

$$\sin \phi = \frac{Ca_c}{Ca}$$

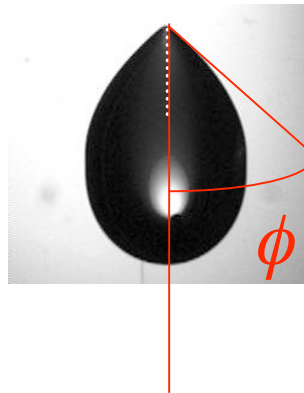
Blake, Ruschak (Nature 1979)

Other point of view: Drops avoid wetting by tilting contact lines

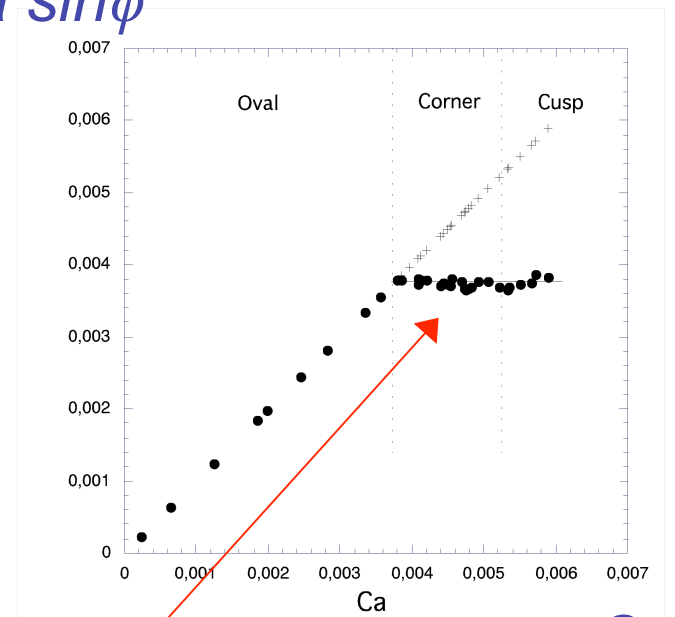
plate withdrawn
from bath



Blake and Ruschak '79



$Ca \sin \phi$



Ca

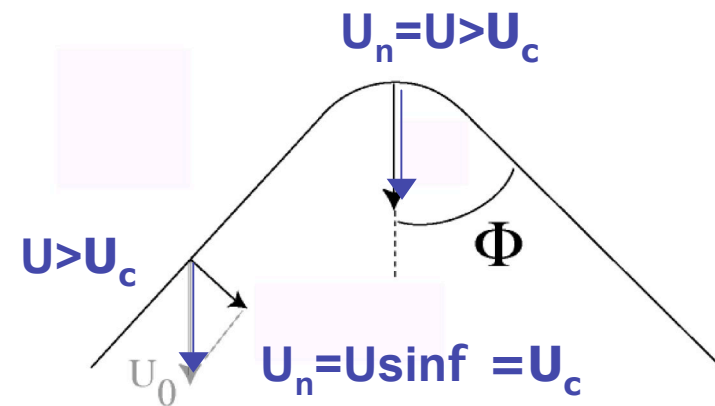
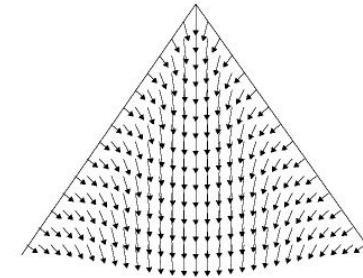
normal velocity: maximum speed= U_c

//Mach cone

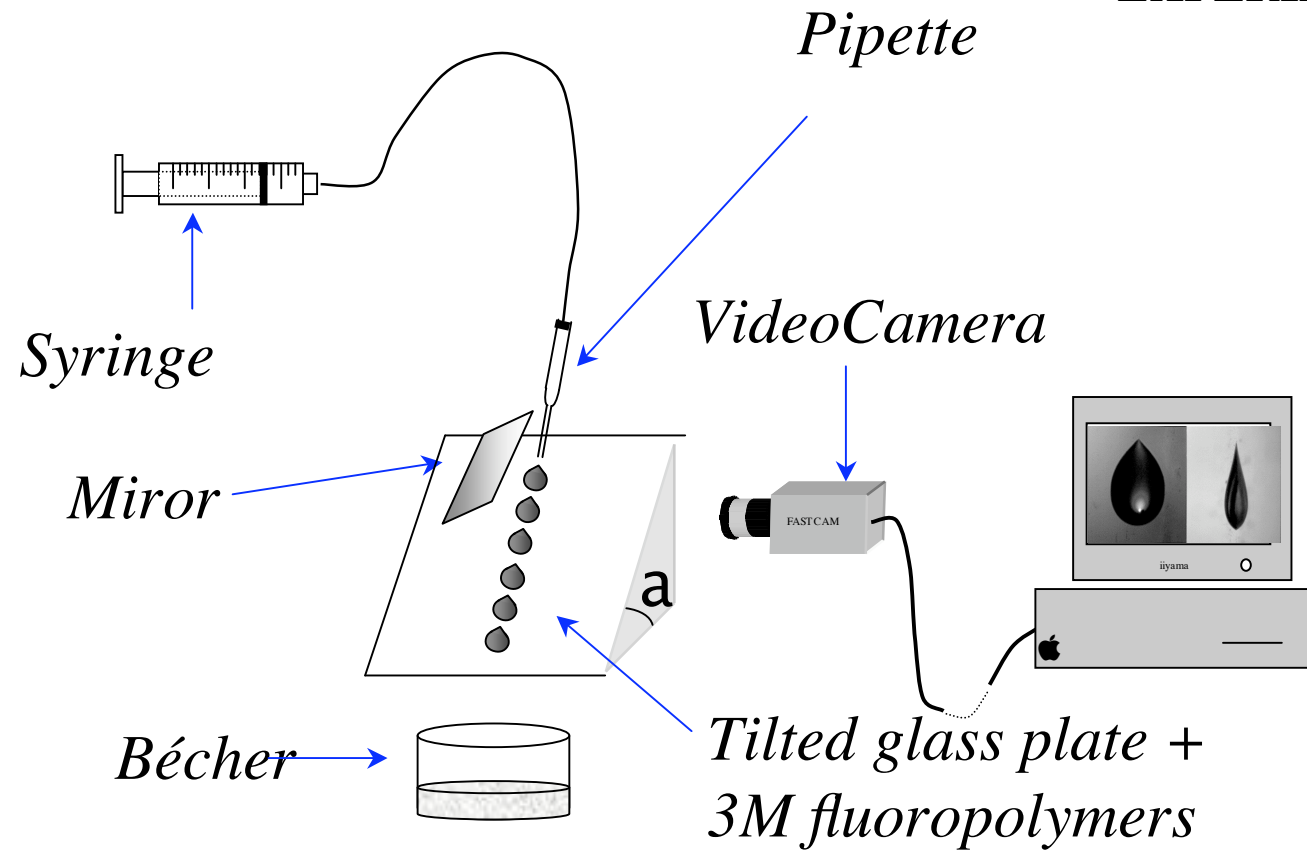
$\Rightarrow \sin \phi \sim 1/Ca$

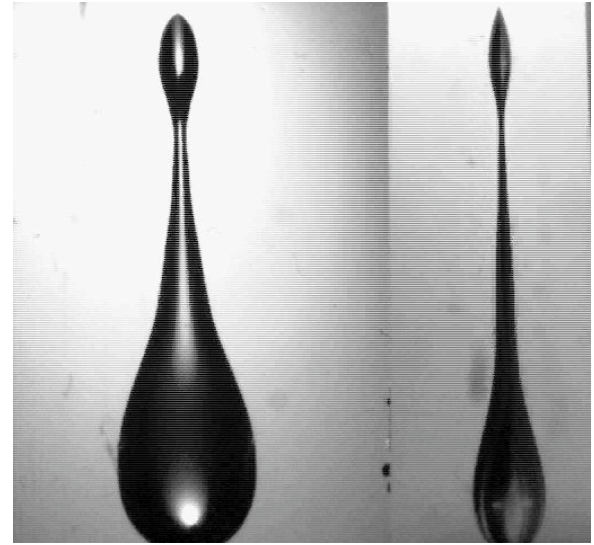
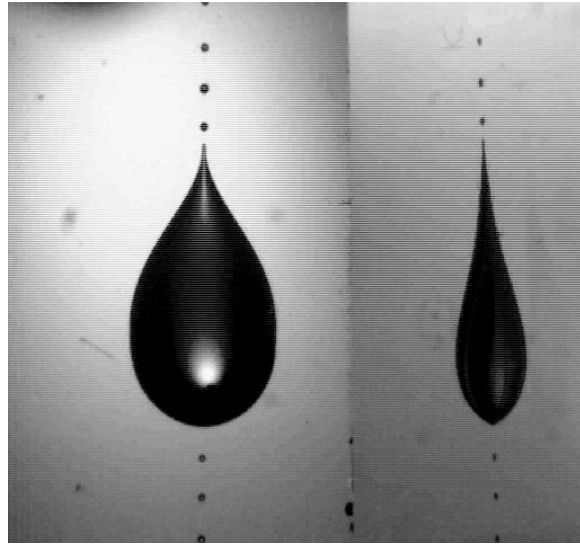
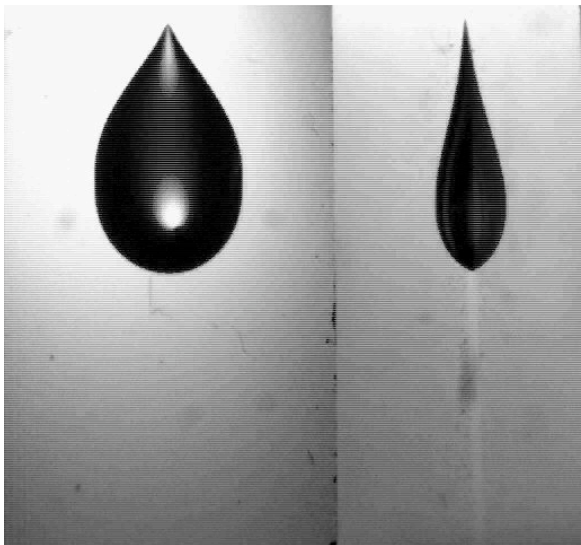
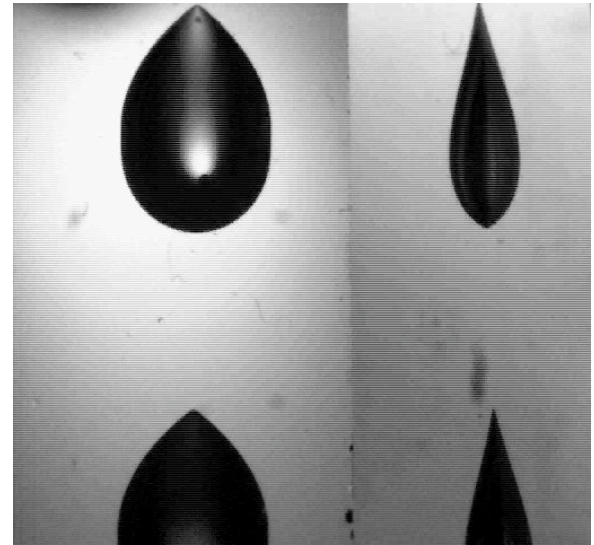
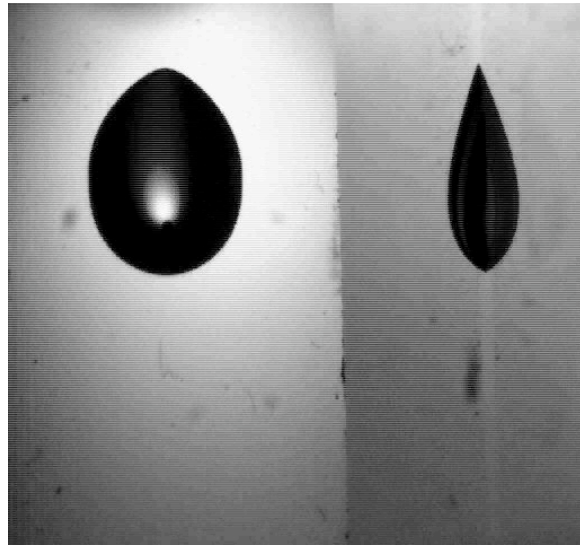
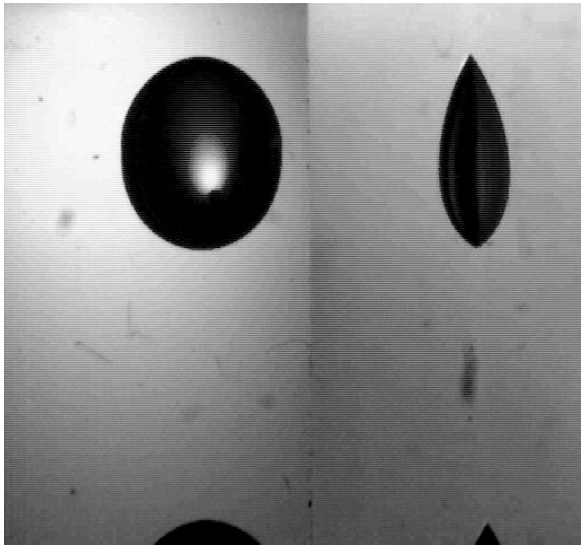
Outline:

- Experiment - Observations
- 3D structure and flow in sliding drops
 - 3D geometry of sliding drops
 - flow structure - autosimilarity
- Matching with contact lines
 - opening angle selection
 - pearling transition
- Curvature at the tip
 - curved contact lines
 - divergence of curvature



EXPERIMENT

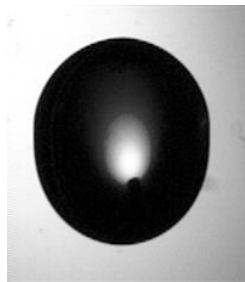




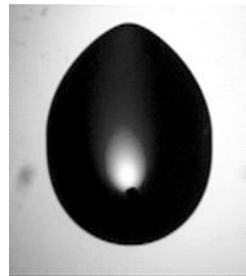
sliding silicon oil drops...

Podgorski, Flesselles Limat , PRL '01
Le Grand, Daerr, Limat JFM '05

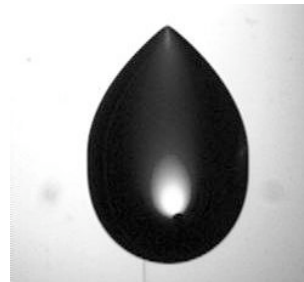
increasing $Ca = \eta U_0 / \gamma$



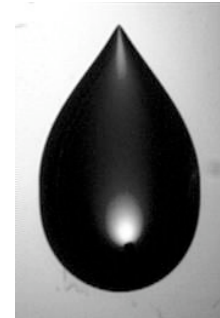
rounded



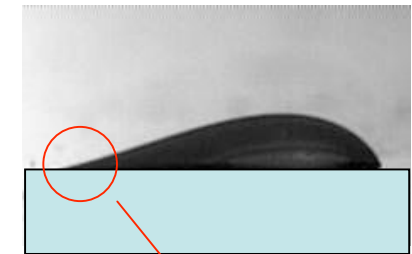
corner



cusp



Side views

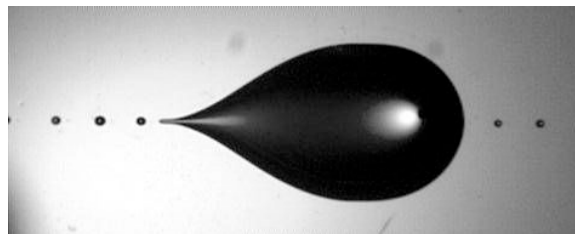
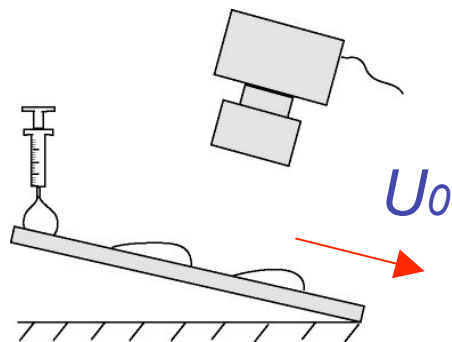


conical singularity

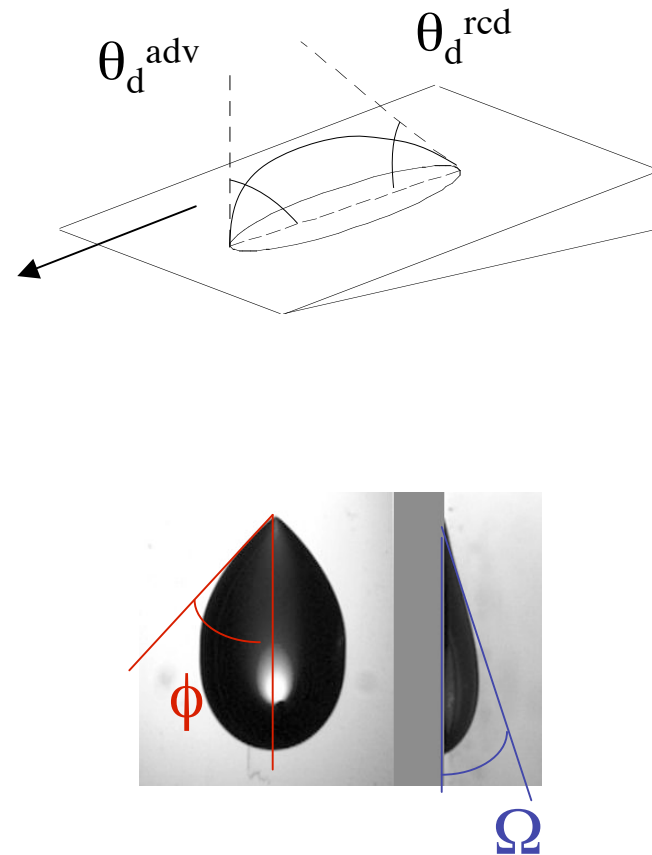
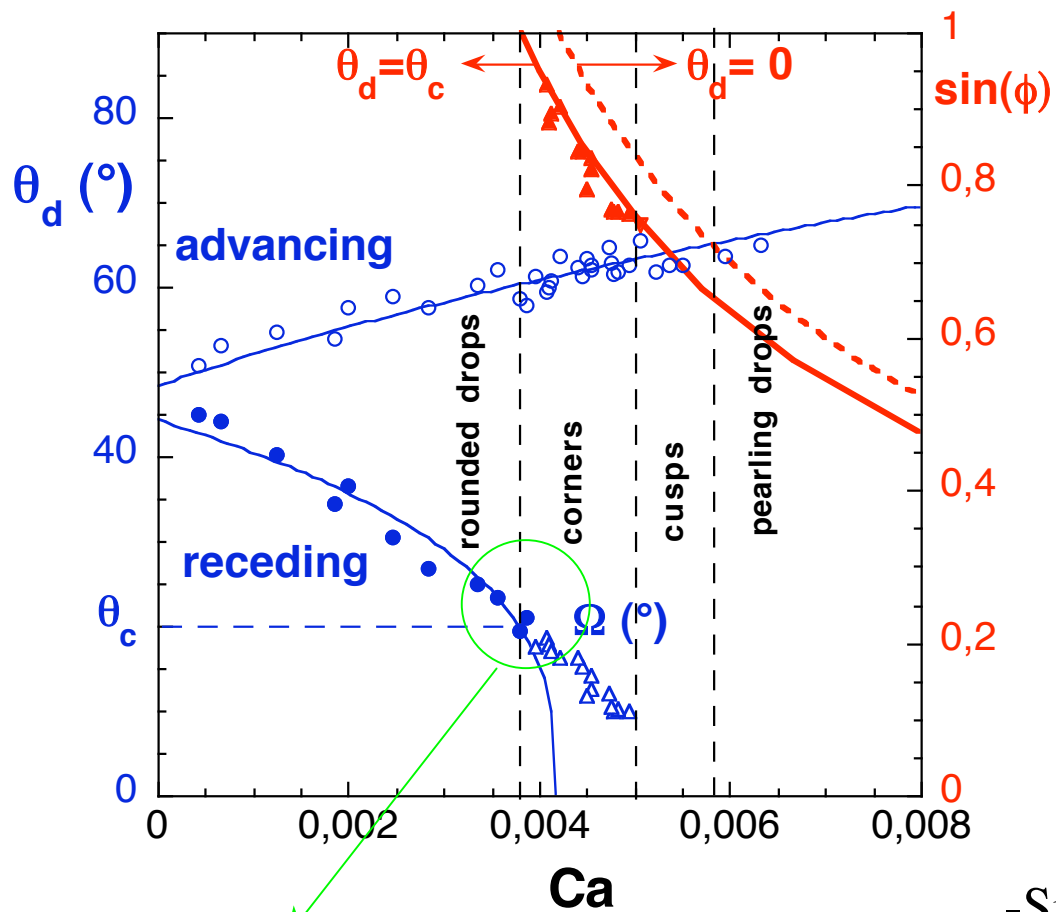


pearling

Stone, LL, Europhys. '04



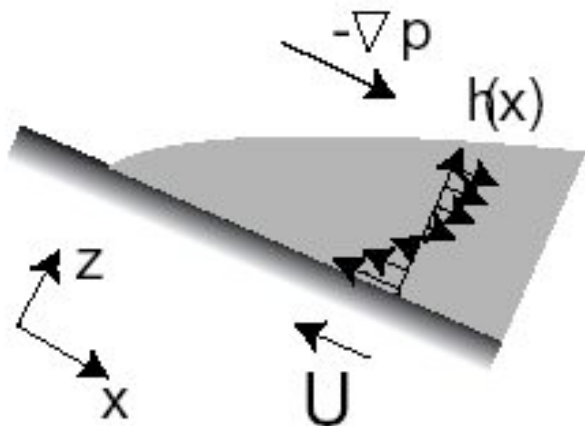
Glass plate + fluoropolymer coating
Partial wetting: contact angle 45°



? Non-zero
 // De Gennes...
 // Raphaël, Golestanian...

- $\sin\phi \sim 1/Ca$, but
- non-zero critical angle θ_c
- Conical interface : θ, Ω non-zero

Voinov-Cox model



- Mass conservation:

$$Uh = \frac{h^3}{3\eta} \gamma (h_{xx})_x$$

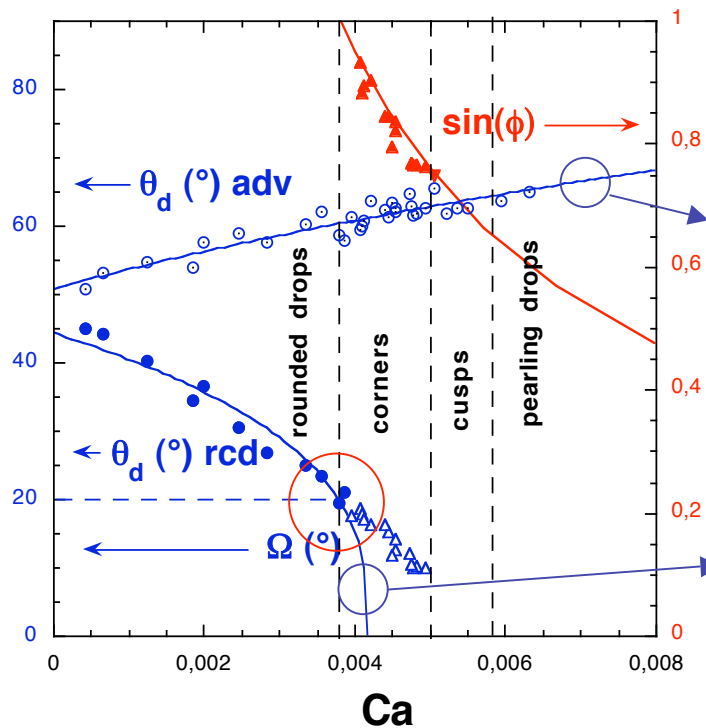
$$3 \frac{Ca}{h^2} = h_{xxx}$$

- To be completed with :

$$\theta = \theta_e \text{ for } x=a$$

**everything
is singular for h=0**

and a matching with an
outer solution for $x \rightarrow \infty$



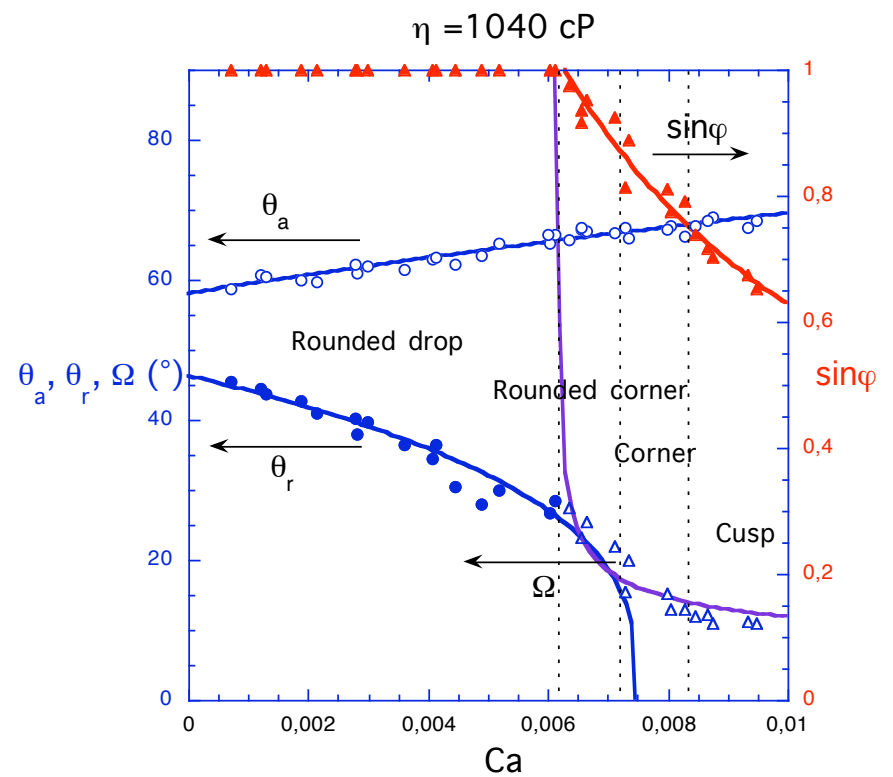
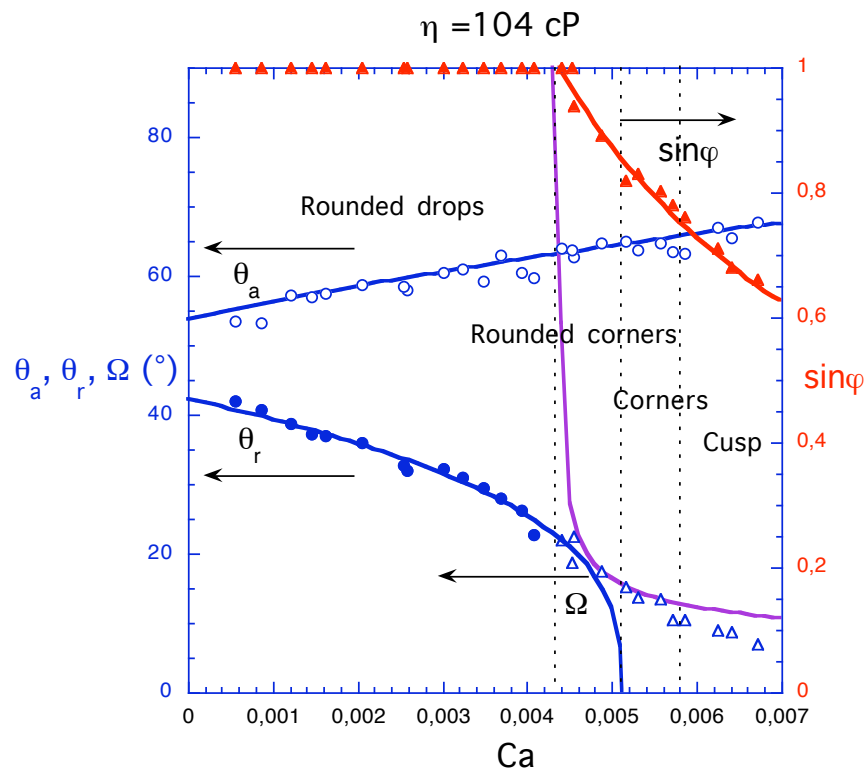
$$9 \text{Log}(b/a) = 130$$

macroscopic microscopic

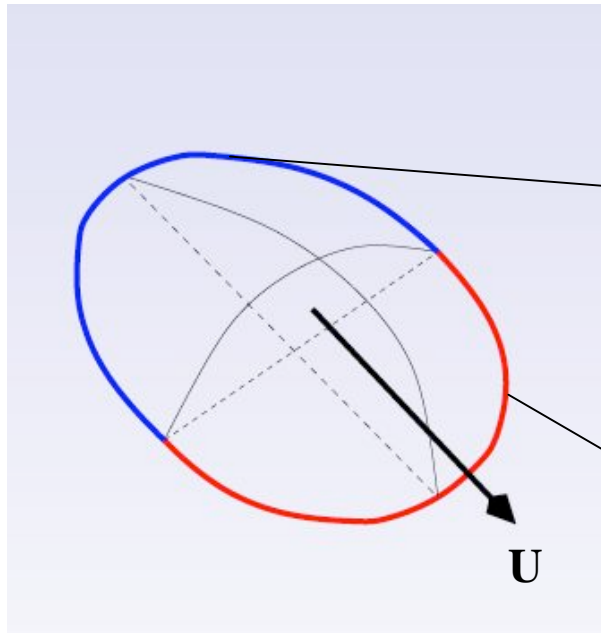
$$\theta^3(b) = \theta^3(a) \pm 9Ca \text{Log}(b/a)$$

θ_e
(equilibrium angle)

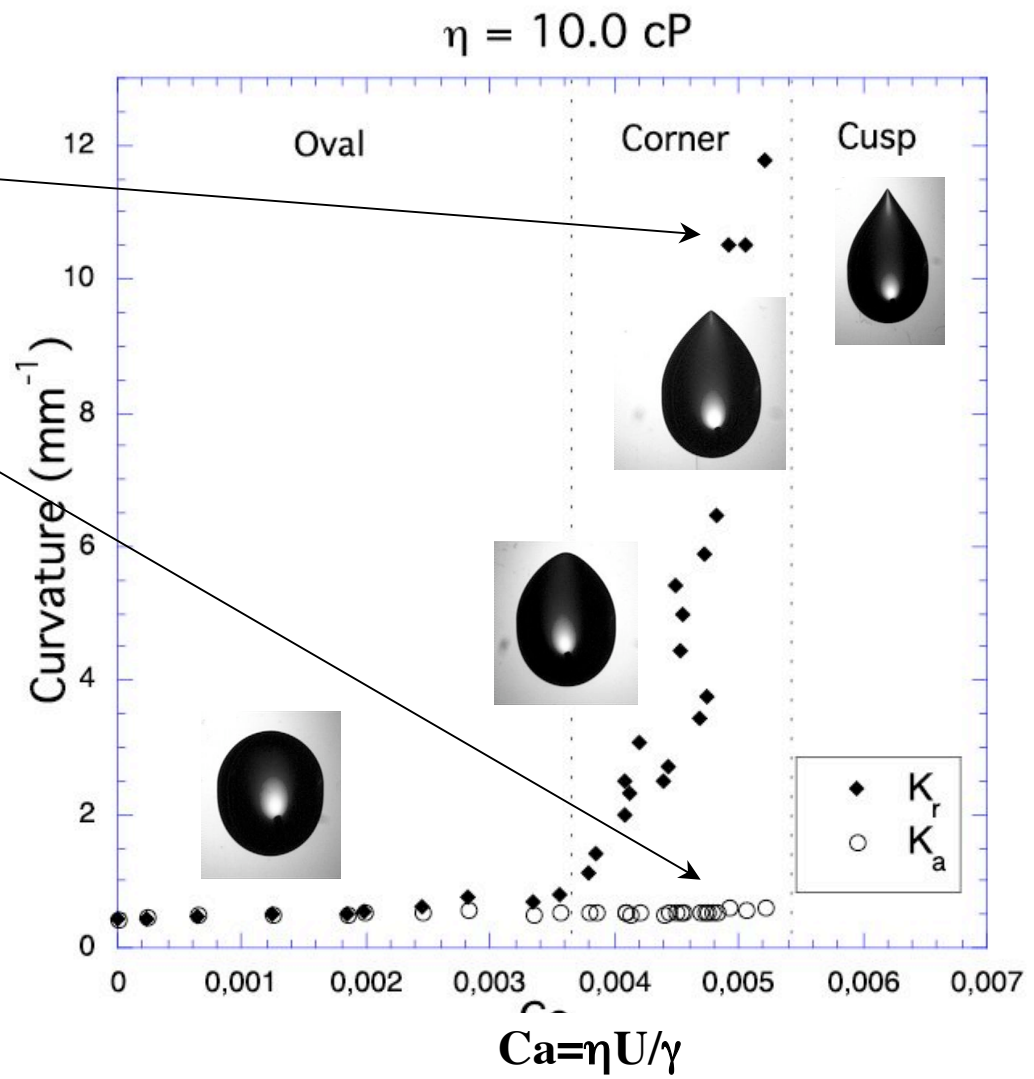
$$9 \text{Log}(b/a) = 130$$



Same with two other viscosities....



Front and rear curvatures



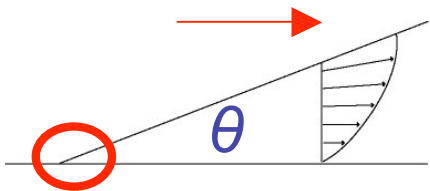
Structure of the singularity

$h(x,y) ?$

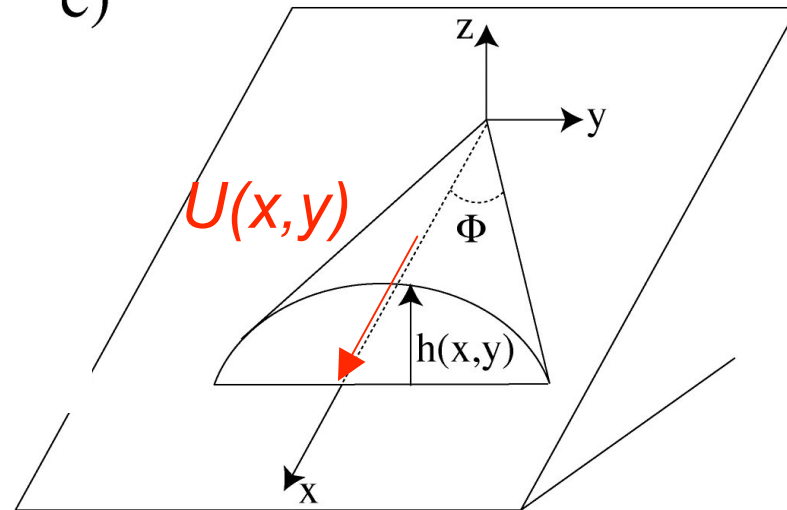
$$\vec{U}(x,y) = \langle \vec{v}(x,y,z) \rangle_{/z} ?$$

$$-\vec{\nabla}p + \eta\Delta\vec{v} + \cancel{\rho\vec{g}} = \vec{0}$$

$$\vec{U}(x,y) = -\frac{h^2}{3\eta} \nabla P$$



c)



Flow driven by capillary pressure

$$p = p_0 - \gamma\Delta h$$

Stone + LL, Europhys '04
 Snoeijer et al., Phys. Fluids '05

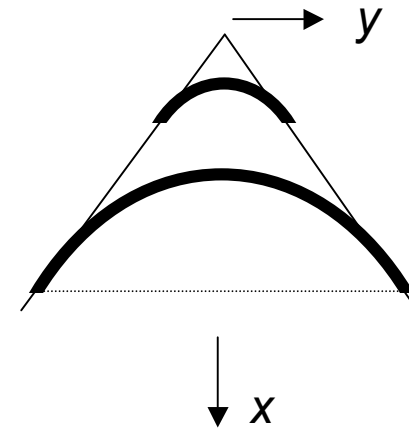
corner model

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t h + \vec{\nabla} \cdot (h \vec{U}) = 0 \\ \vec{U}(x, y) = \frac{h^2}{3\eta} \nabla(\Delta h) \end{cases}$$

+ steady state solutions:

$$h(x - U_0 t, y)$$

$$3Ca \frac{\partial h}{\partial x} = \nabla \cdot [h^3 \nabla(\Delta h)]$$



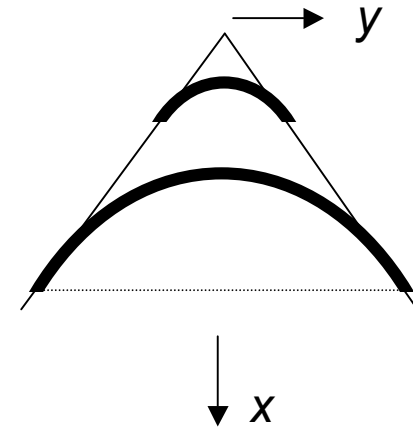
$$Ca = \eta U_0 / \gamma$$

corner geometry

$$3Ca \frac{\partial h}{\partial x} = \nabla \cdot [h^3 \nabla(\Delta h)]$$

equation allows similarity solutions:

$$h(x,y) = Ca^{1/3} x H(y/x)$$

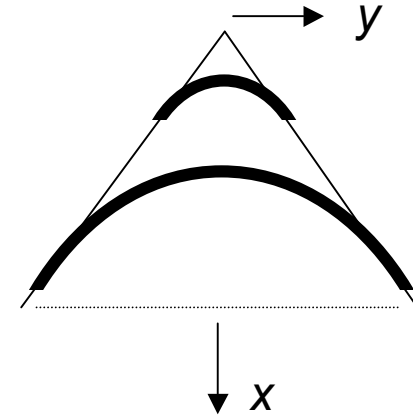


$$\begin{aligned} & (1 + \zeta^2)^2 (H^3 H_{\zeta\zeta\zeta})_{\zeta} + 3\zeta (1 + \zeta^2) (H^3 H_{\zeta\zeta})_{\zeta} + \\ & 2\zeta (1 + \zeta^2) H^3 H_{\zeta\zeta\zeta} + (1 + 3\zeta^2) H^3 H_{\zeta\zeta} = 3(H - \zeta H_{\zeta}). \end{aligned}$$

Note: Ca has disappeared

corner geometry

$$3Ca \frac{\partial h}{\partial x} = \nabla \cdot [h^3 \nabla(\Delta h)]$$



equations allow similarity solutions:

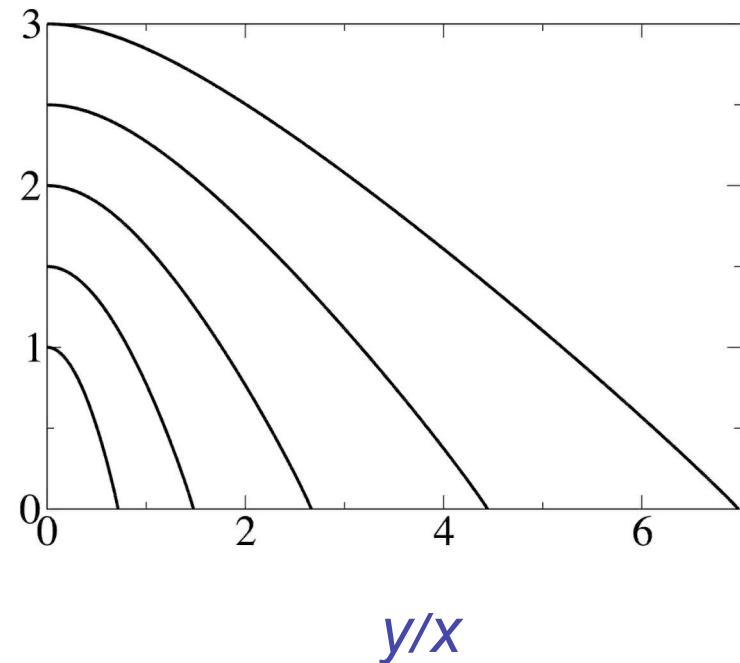
$$h(x,y) = Ca^{1/3} x H(y/x)$$

1-parameter family:

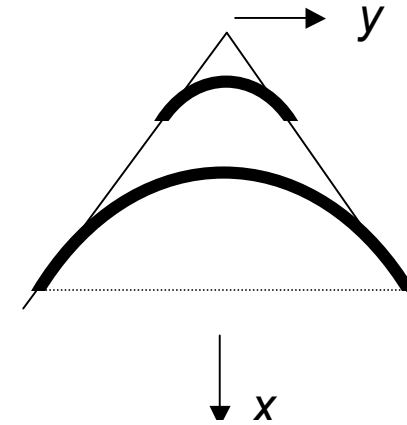
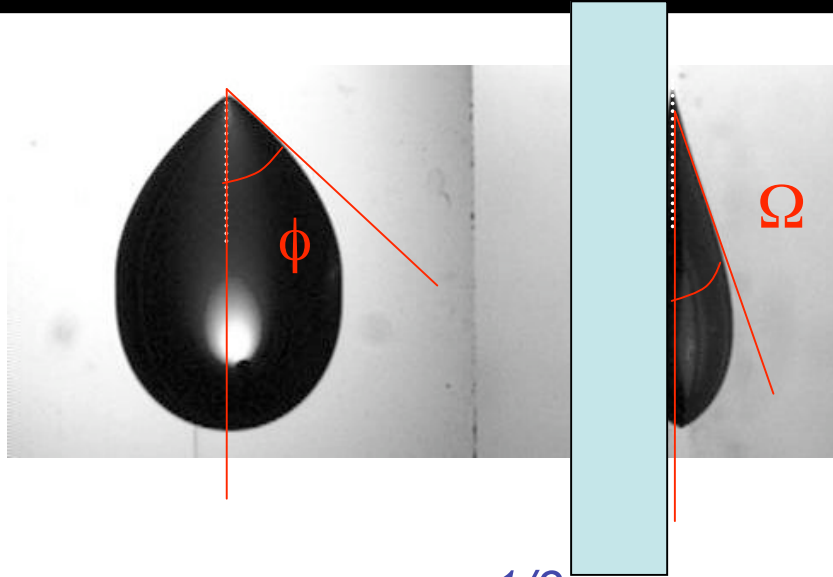
b.c: $H' = H''' = 0$ (symmetry)
 $H_0 \rightarrow H''$ (continuity)

Note: Ca has disappeared

H

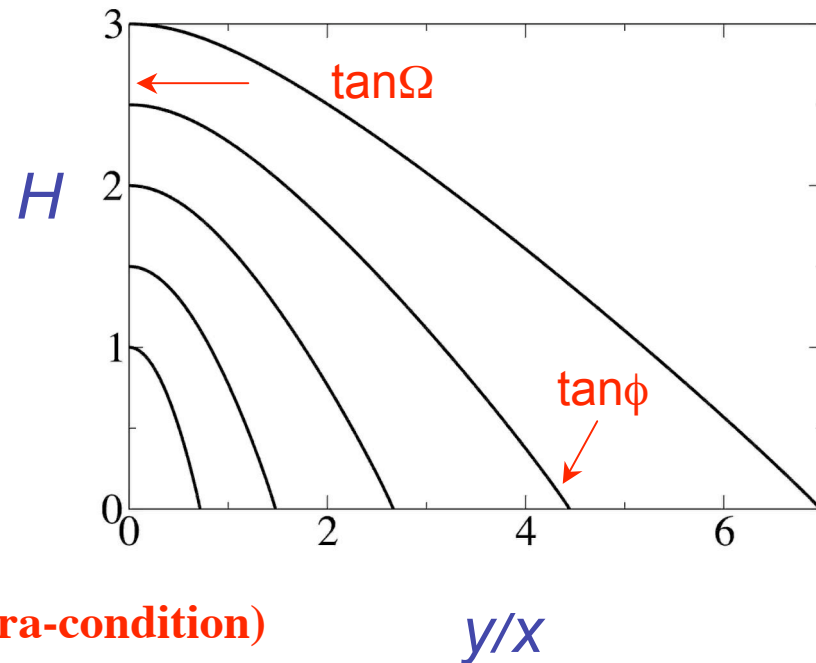


corner geometry



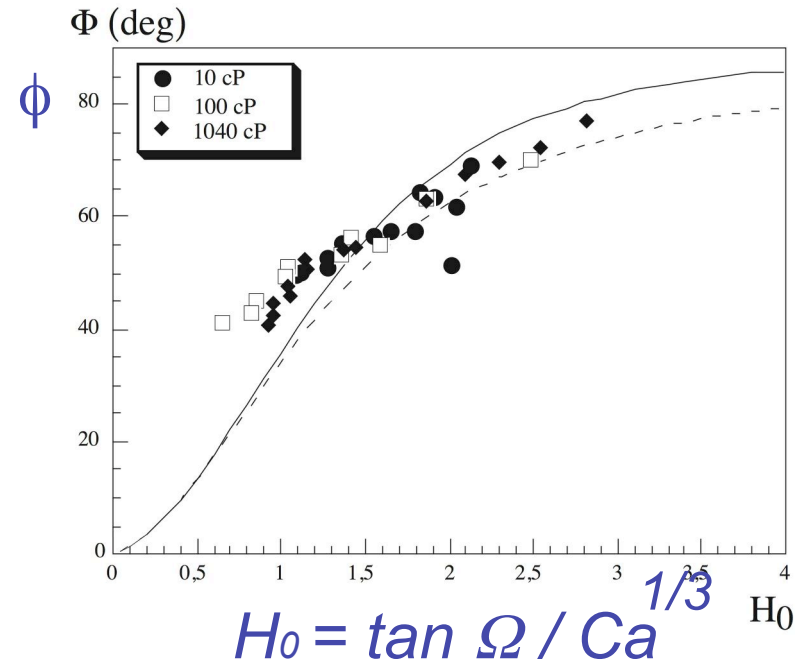
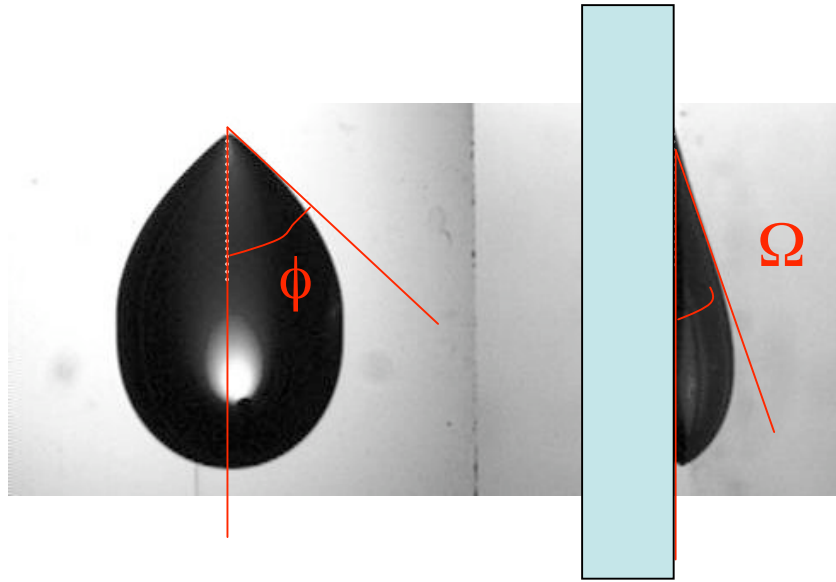
$$h(x,y) = Ca^{1/3} x H(y/x)$$

$$H_0 = \tan \Omega / Ca^{1/3}$$



**Infinite number of solutions,
irrespectively of Ca (we will need later an extra-condition)**

relation Ω and ϕ



(no adjustable parameters)

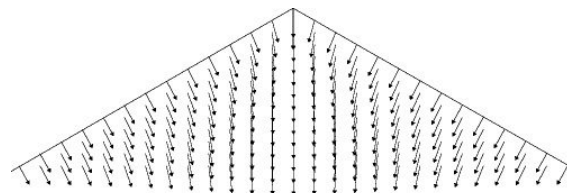
dashed: $(\tan \Omega)^3 = \frac{35}{16} Ca (\tan \phi)^2$

velocity field

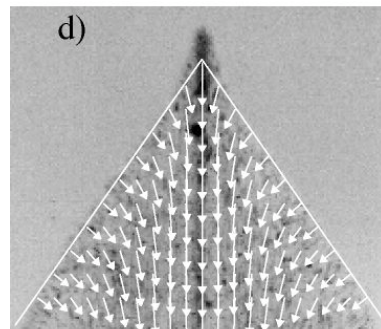
$$h(x,y) \longrightarrow \vec{U}(x,y) = U_0 \vec{F}(y/x)$$

F deduced from H

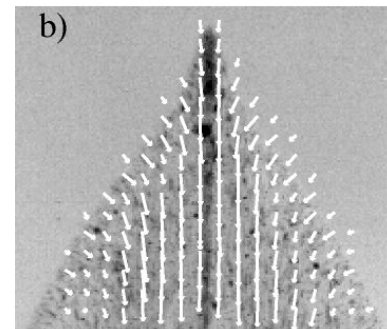
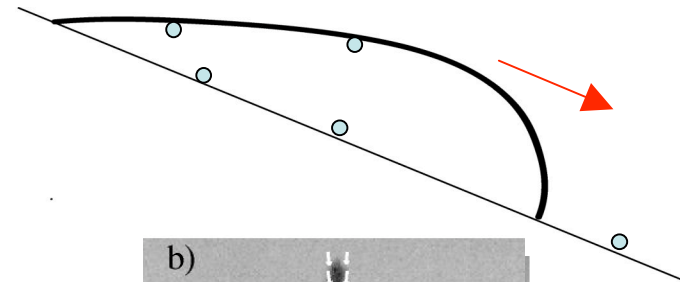
PIV experiment:
tracers



$\Phi = 60^\circ$

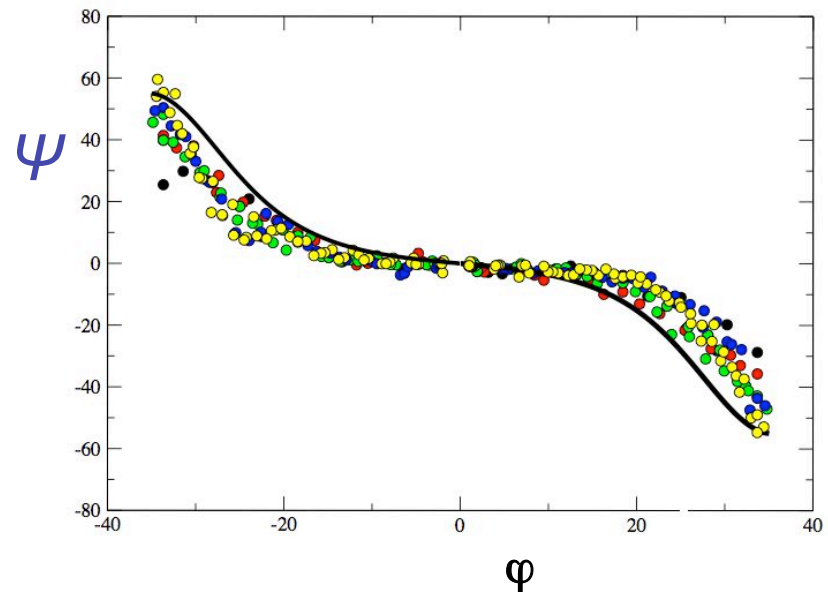
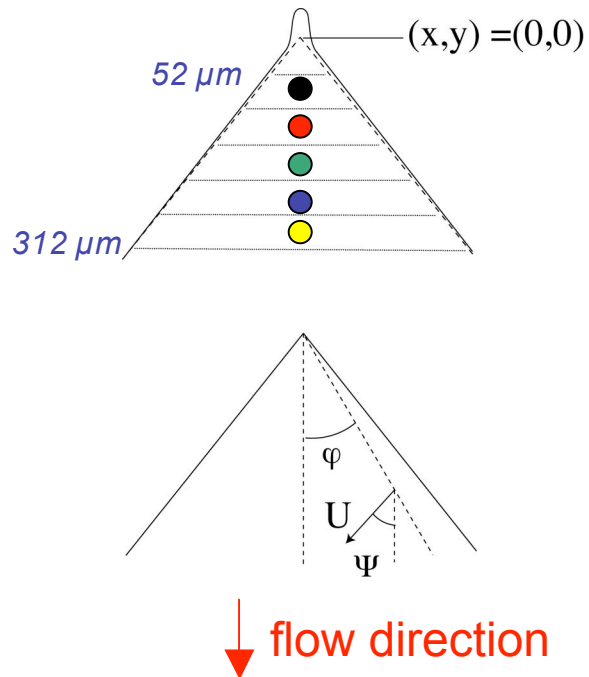


$\Phi = 35^\circ$



velocity field

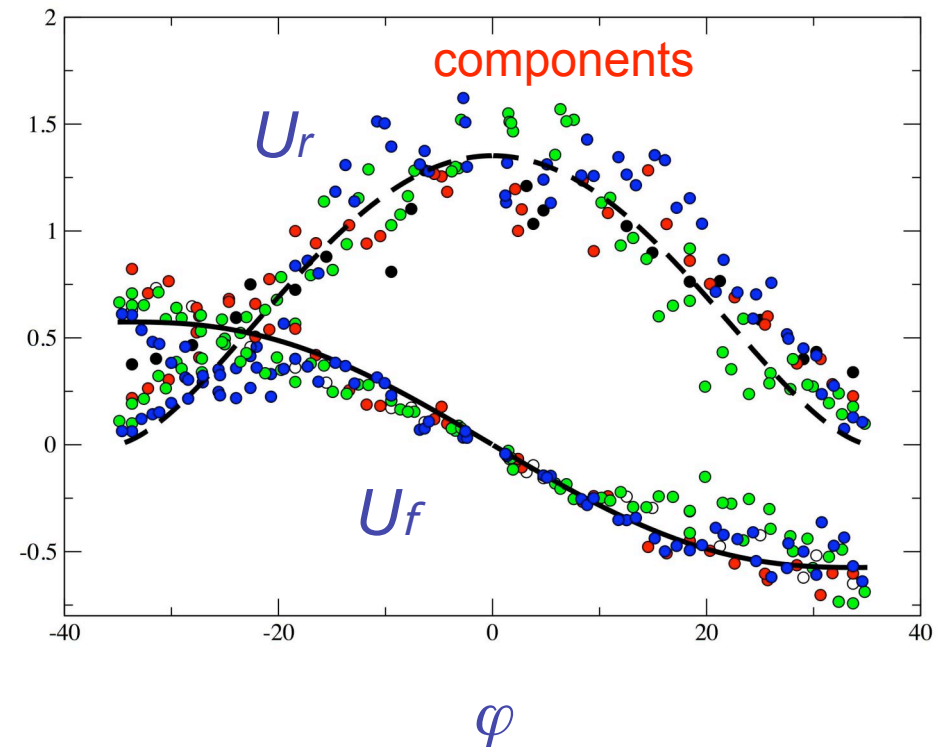
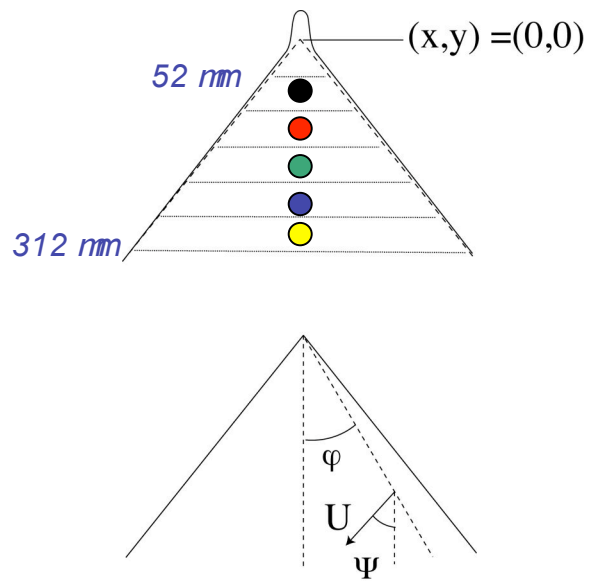
Theory: velocity self-similar $\longrightarrow \vec{U} = \vec{U}(y/x)$



Snoeijer *et al.* Phys Fluids '05

velocity field

Theory: velocity self-similar $\longrightarrow \vec{U} = \vec{U}(y/x)$

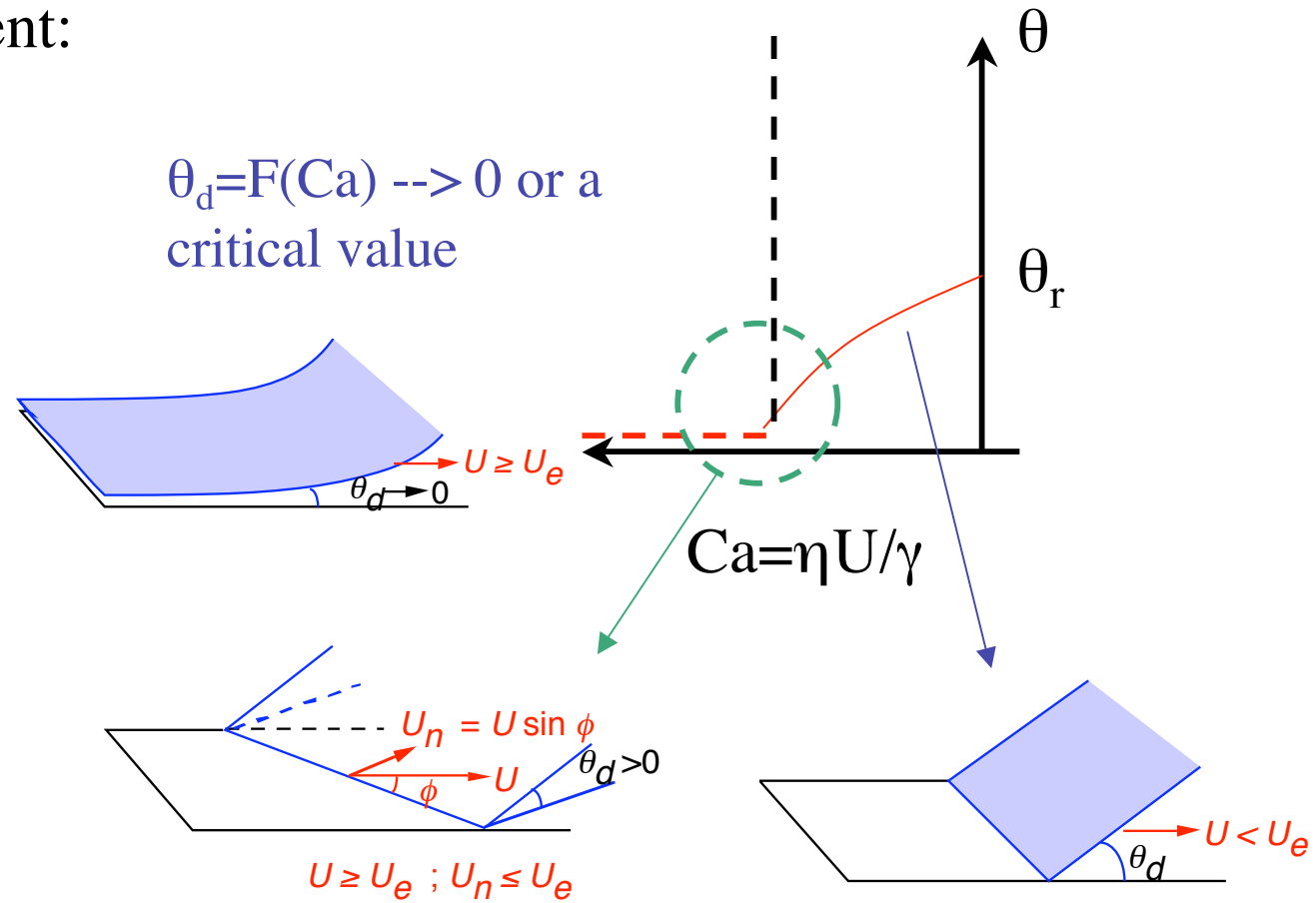


But....

- Selection of ϕ ?
- Prediction of 'pearling' instability ?

How to manage with the singularity at contact line?

Classical argument:

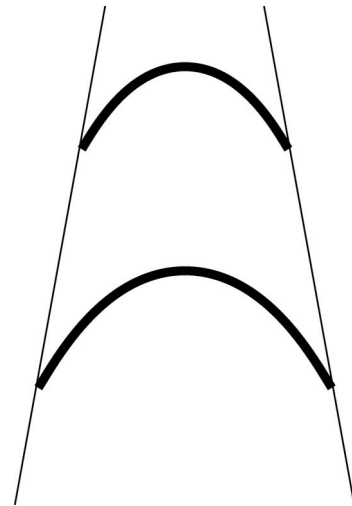
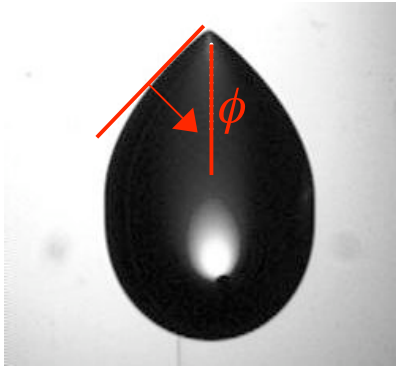


$$\theta_d = F(Ca \sin \phi) \approx 0 \Rightarrow$$

$$\sin \phi = \frac{Ca_c}{Ca}$$

Blake, Ruschak (Nature 1979)
Podgorski et al (PRL 2000)

Low ϕ paradox:



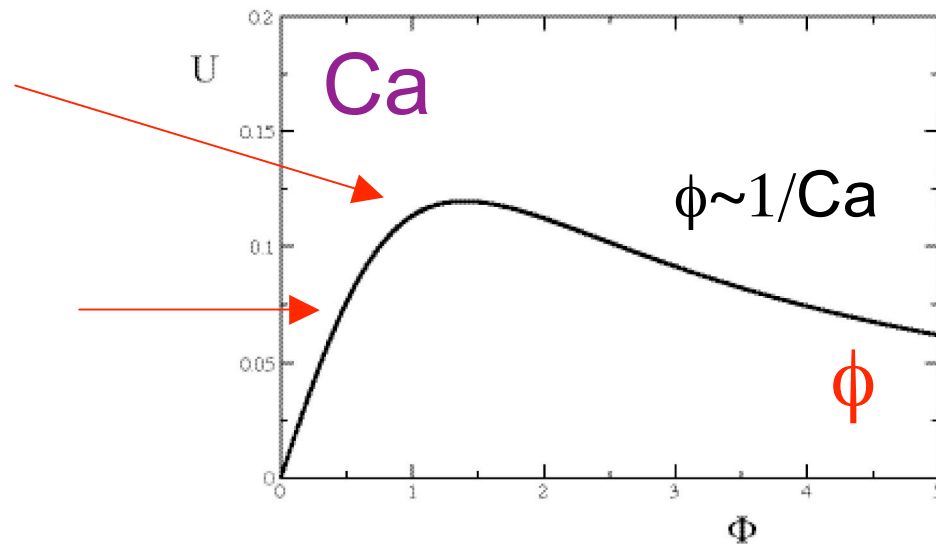
pressure gradients
become weaker...

velocity $\rightarrow 0$

$\phi \rightarrow 0$ implies drop speed $\rightarrow 0$

maximum speed !!

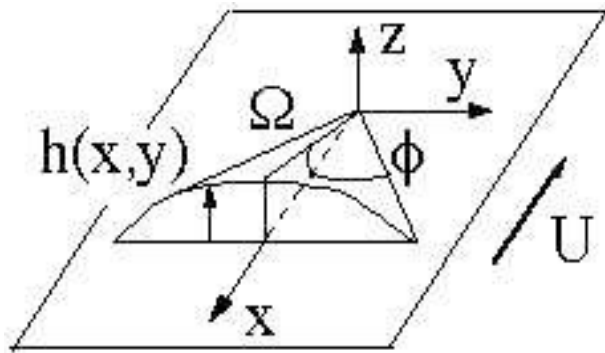
Breakdown of $1/Ca$ law



ϕ -selection : mixing contact line and bulk flow

$$\tan^3 \Omega \approx (35/16) Ca \tan^2 \phi$$

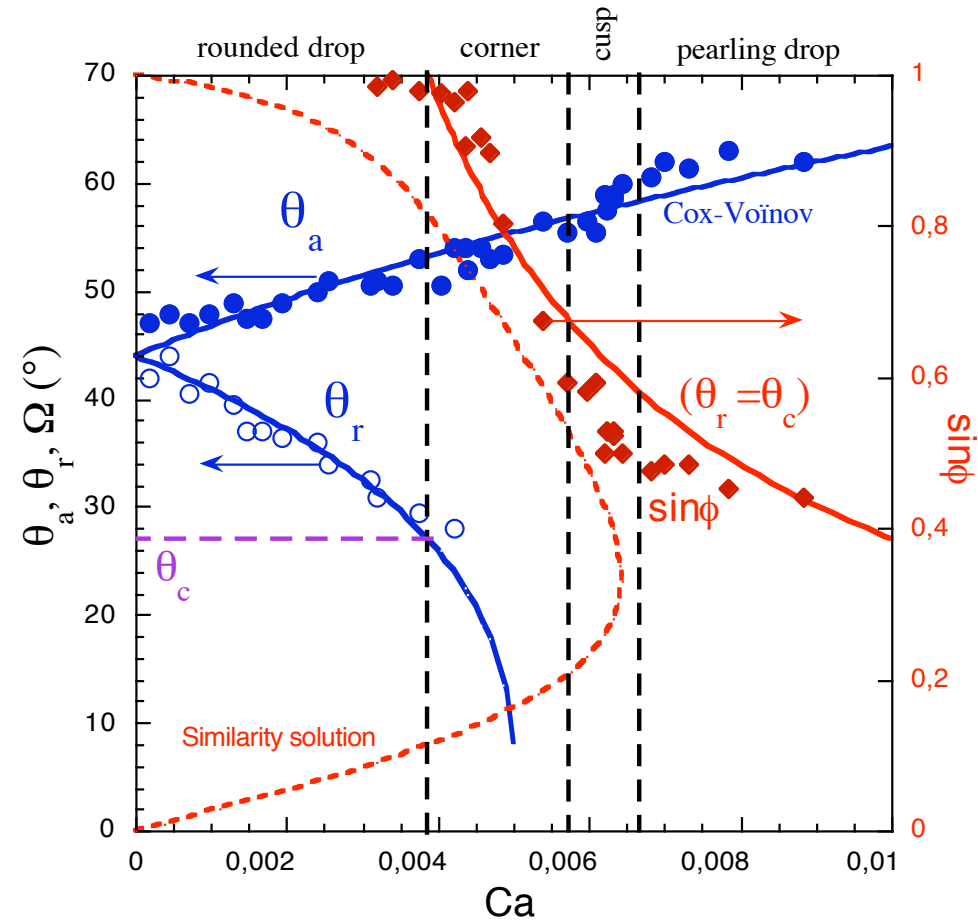
and:



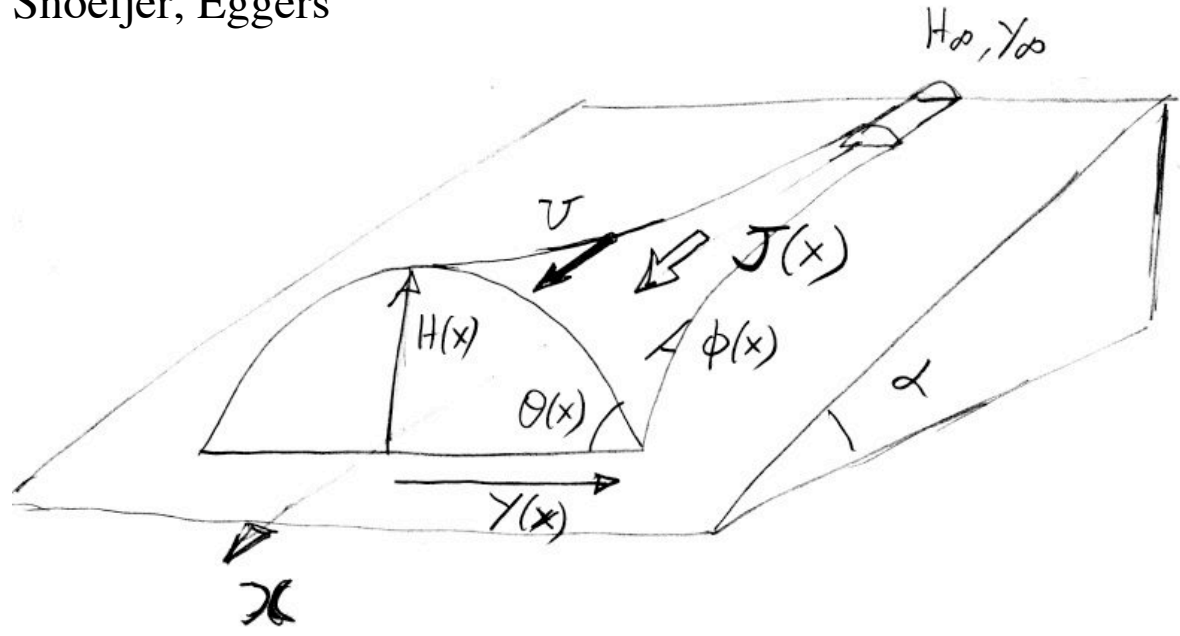
$$\theta \approx 2 \Omega / \sin \phi$$

and:

$$\theta^3 = \theta_e^3 - 9(Ca \sin \phi) \text{Log}(b/a)$$



$$\frac{Ca}{\theta_e^3} = \frac{1}{\sin \phi} \left[\frac{1}{9 \text{Log}(b/a) + \frac{70}{(\sin 2\phi)^2}} \right]$$



$$Ca = \eta U / \gamma$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} = \epsilon \frac{d}{dX}$$

small

- Lubrication + parabolic approx.

$$Ca [HY - H_\infty Y_\infty] \approx -\frac{16}{35} H^3 Y \epsilon \left(\frac{H}{Y^2} \right)_X$$

Flowing down

Left behind

Viscous capillary flux

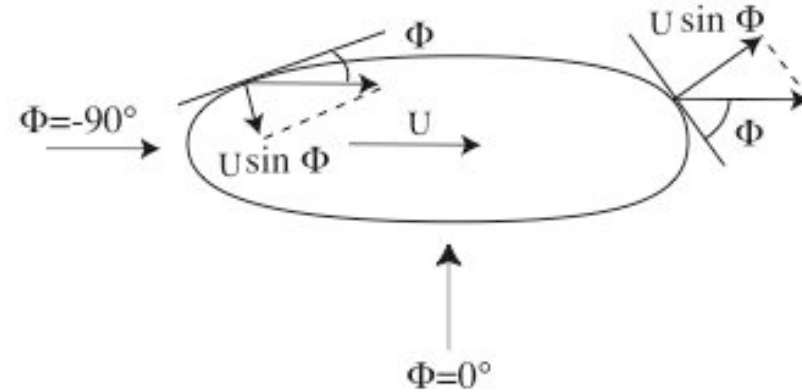
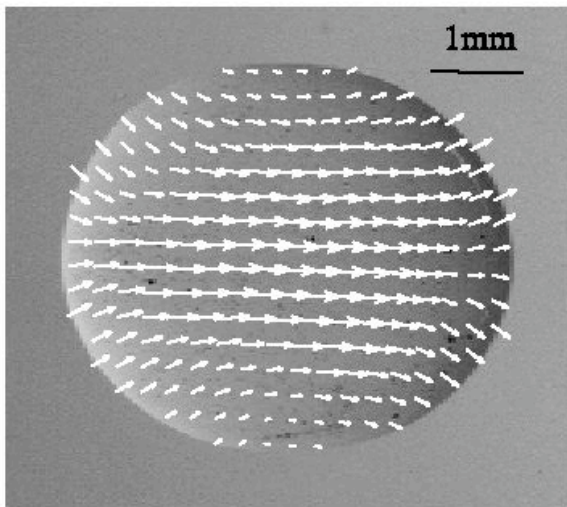
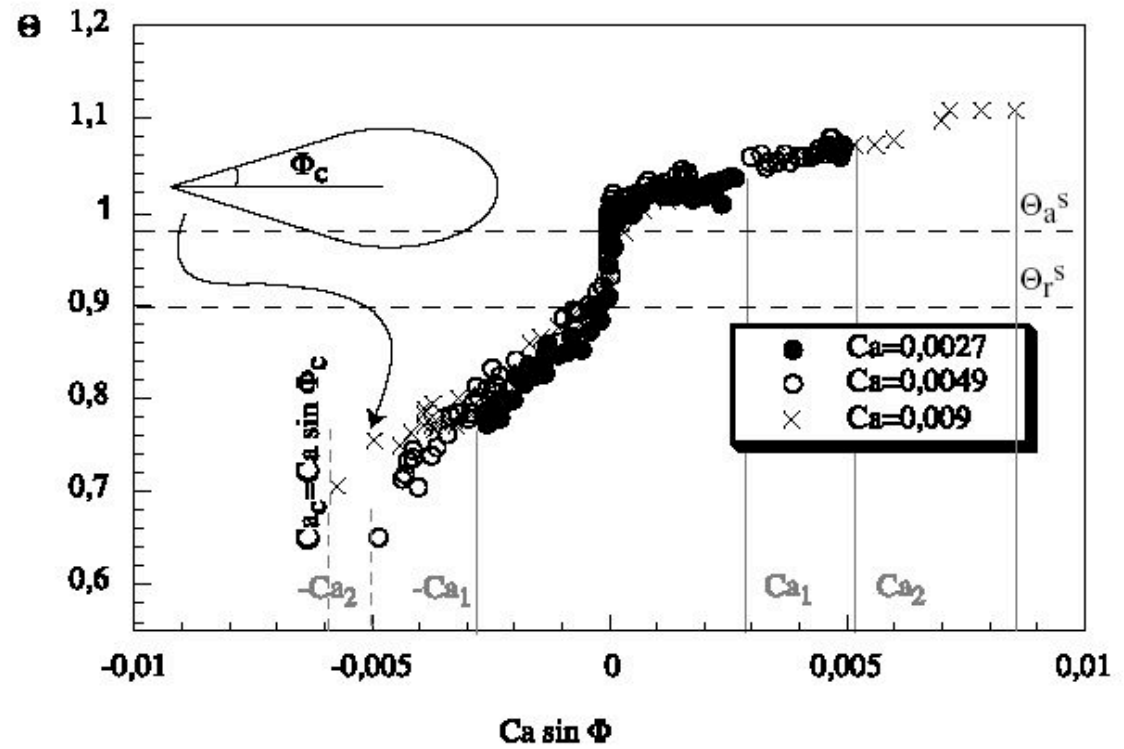
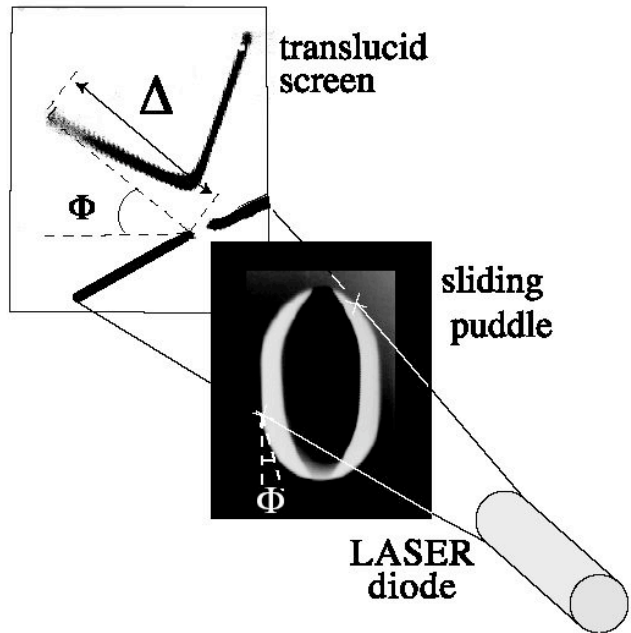
- Directional Cox-Voïnov law:

$$\theta^3 \approx \left(2 \frac{H}{Y} \right)^3 \approx \theta_e^3 - 9Ca (\epsilon Y_X) \text{Log}(b/a)$$

Consistency: $Ca \epsilon \text{Log}(b/a) \sim Ca/\epsilon \sim 1$

$Ca \sin \phi$

About directional Cox-Voïnov law



Lubrification:

$$\langle \vec{u} \rangle = -\frac{h^2}{3\eta} \nabla P$$

$$P \approx -\gamma \Delta h$$

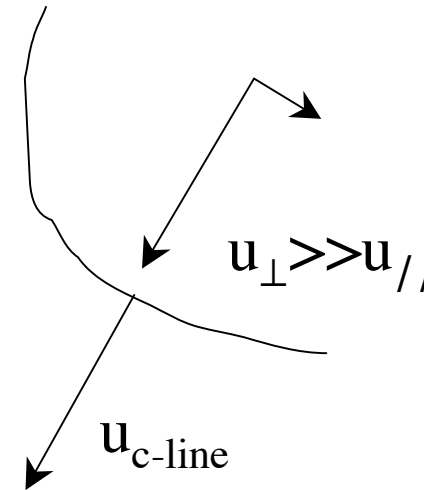
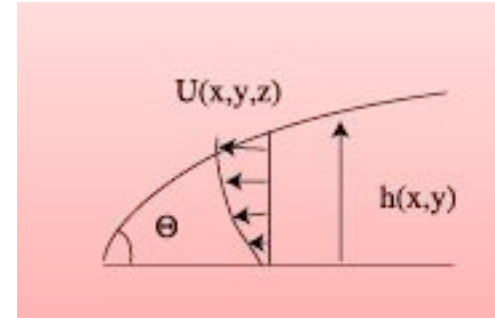
Singular at contact line

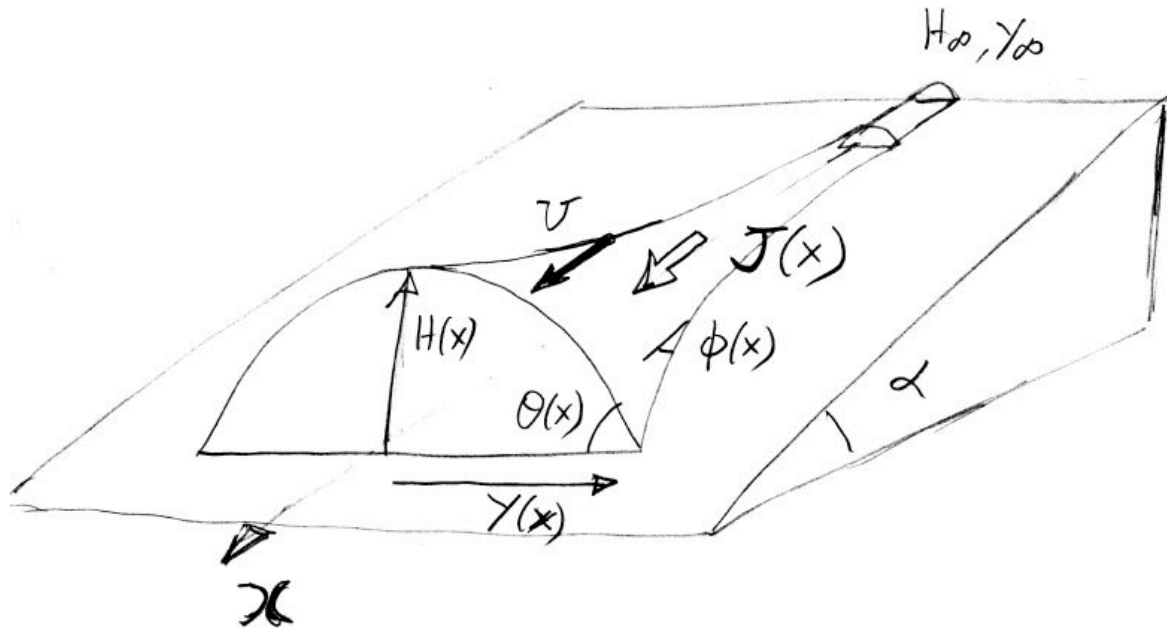
$$\partial / \partial x_{\perp} \gg \partial / \partial x_{\parallel}$$

Mass conservation:

$$\langle u_{\perp} \rangle = u_{\text{c-line}}$$

-> local 2D situation





$$Ca = \eta U / \gamma$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} = \varepsilon \frac{d}{dX}$$

small

- Lubrication + parabolic approx.

$$Ca [HY - H_\infty Y_\infty] \approx -\frac{16}{35} H^3 Y \varepsilon \left(\frac{H}{Y^2} \right)_X$$

Flowing down

Left behind

Viscous capillary flux

- Directional Cox-Voïnov law:

$$\theta^3 \approx \left(2 \frac{H}{Y} \right)^3 \approx \theta_e^3 - 9Ca(\varepsilon Y_X) \text{Log}(b/a)$$

Consistency: $Ca \varepsilon \text{Log}(b/a) \sim Ca/\varepsilon \sim 1$

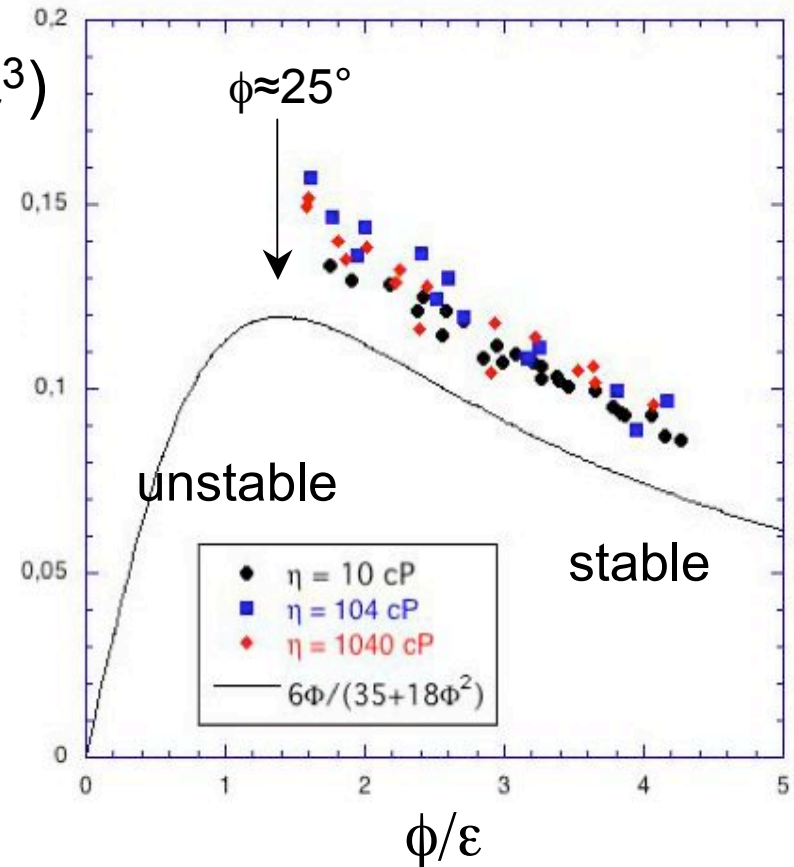
$Ca \sin \phi$

For $\varepsilon = 1/[\text{Ln}(b/a)]^{1/2}$ small

there exist corner solutions (H~Y~X) with:

$$\frac{3Ca}{\varepsilon\theta_e^3} \approx \frac{6(\phi/\varepsilon)}{35 + 18(\phi/\varepsilon)^2}$$

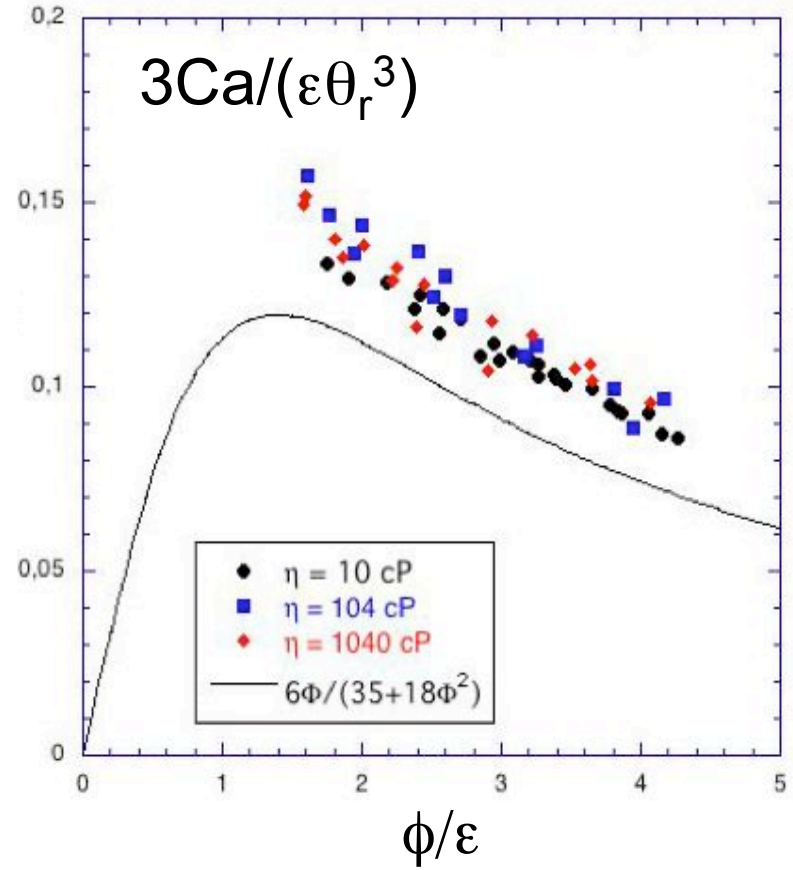
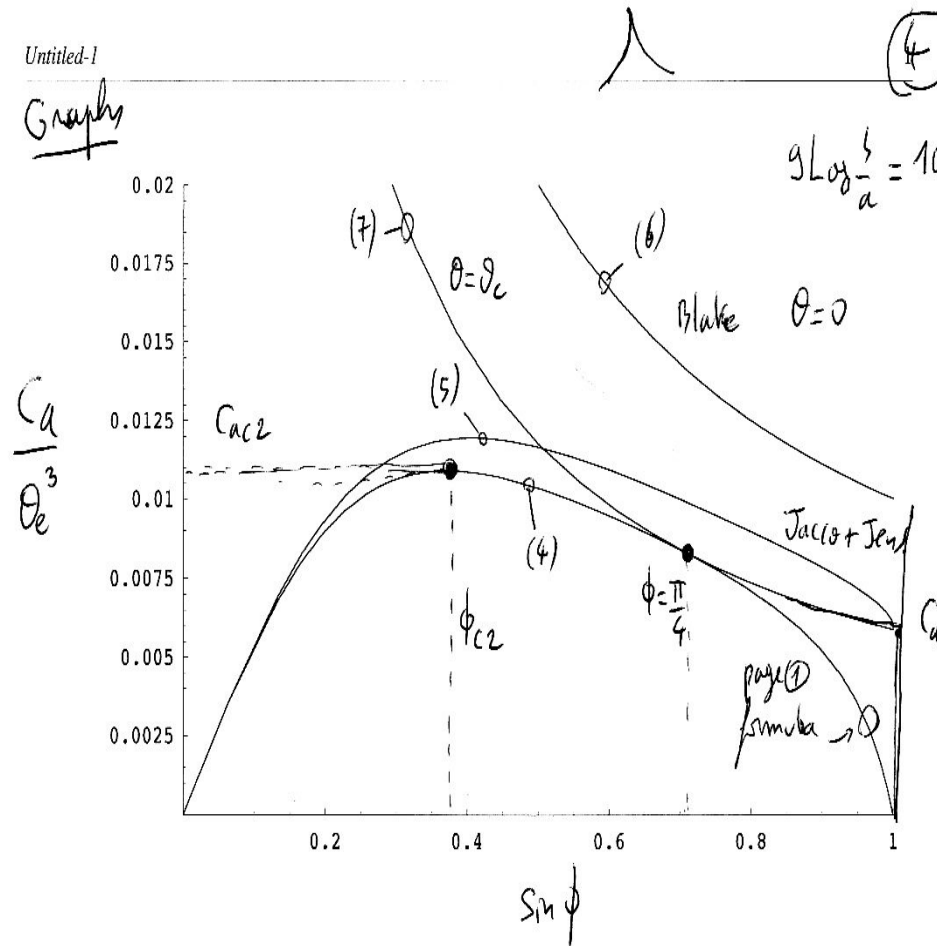
$$3Ca/(\varepsilon\theta_r^3)$$



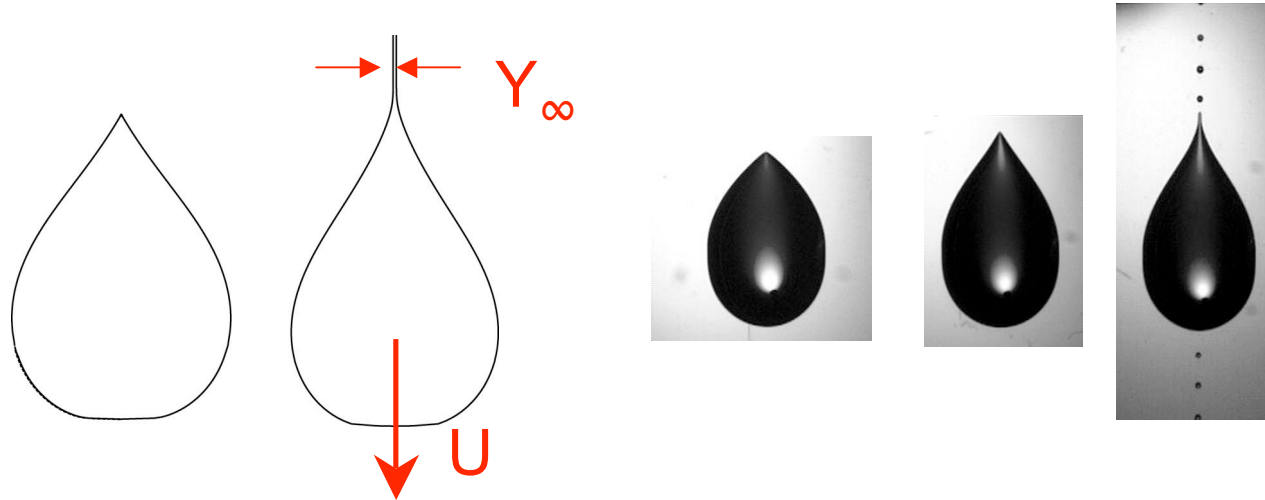
Oval drops $\rightarrow \text{Log}(b/a) \sim 10$
 $\varepsilon \sim 0.3$

Untitled-1

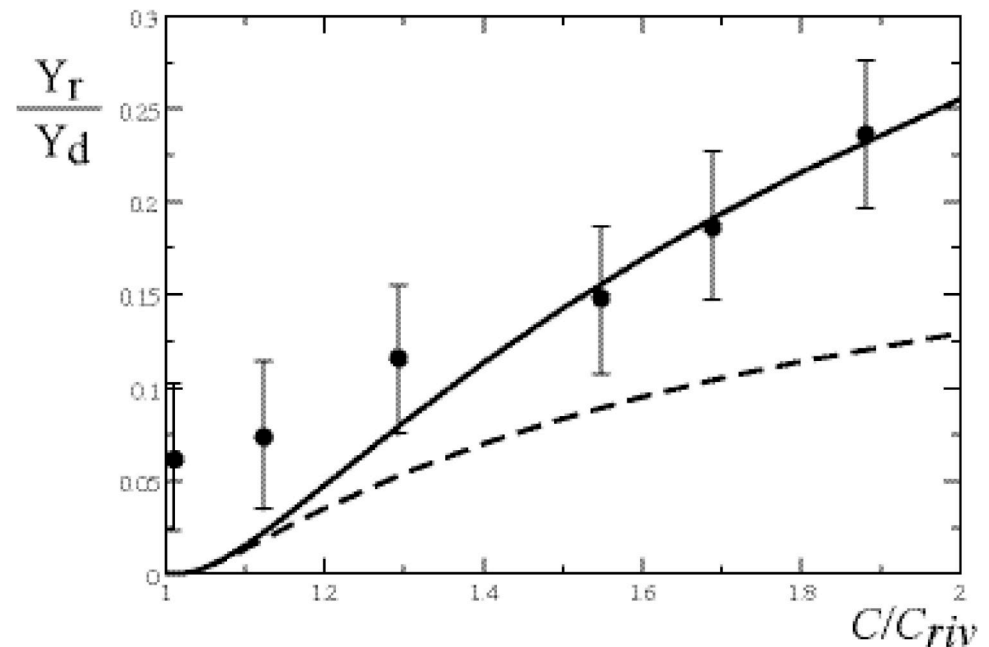
Graphs



- beyond maximum speed: rivulet solutions

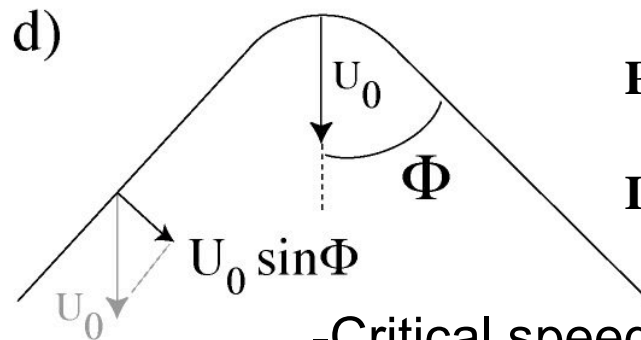
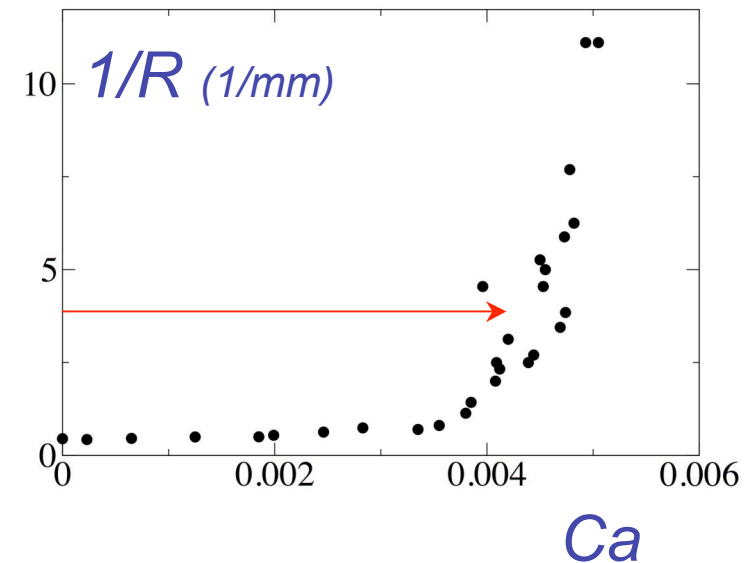
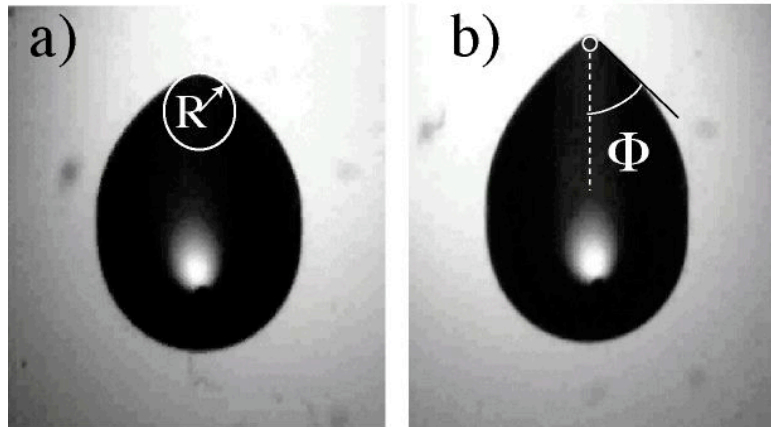


- rivulet width Y_∞ vs U



Curvature at the tip...

Le Grand *et al.* JFM '05



Problem: $U_0 \sin \phi = U_c \Rightarrow U_0 > U_c !!$

Idea: $U_c = f(R) \Rightarrow U_0 \sin \phi = U_c(R = \infty)$
 et $U_0 = U_c(R)$

-Critical speed $Ca(1/R) \Rightarrow$ calc. for « large » R

-> [Snoeijer et al. Phys. Fl. 2005](#)

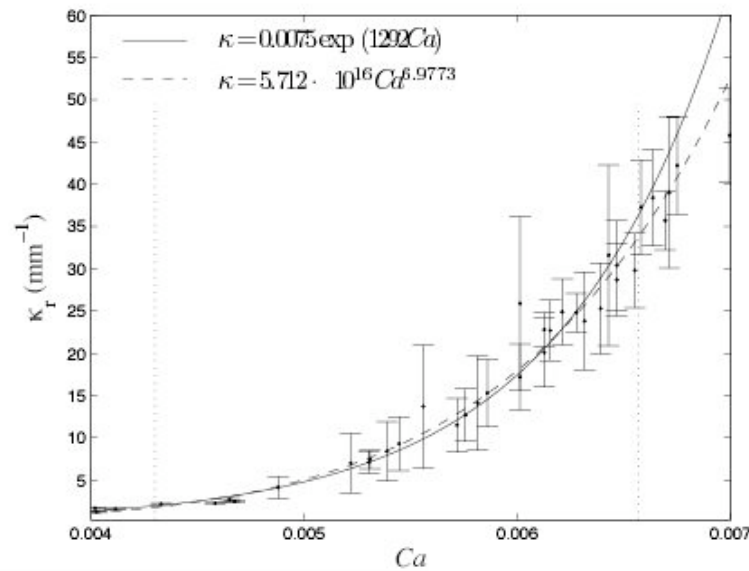
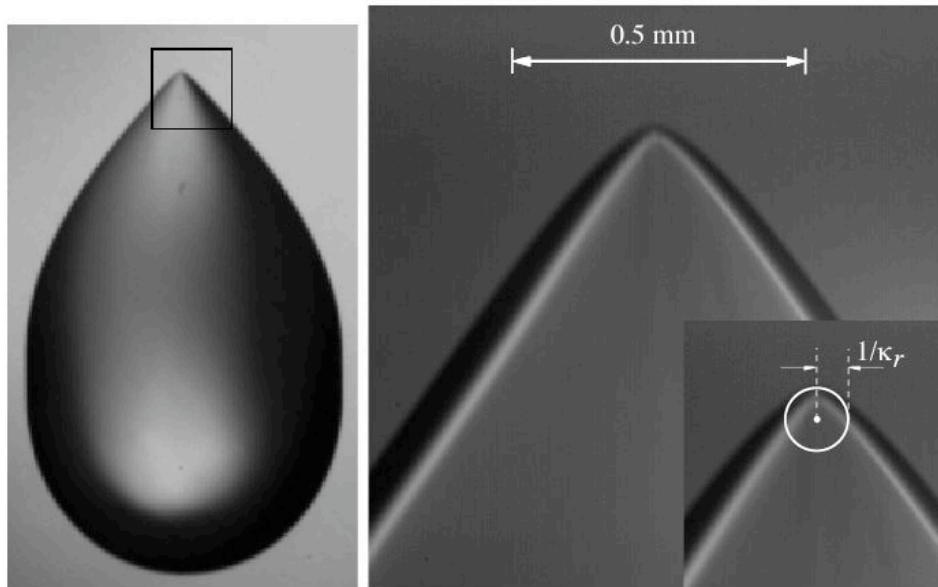
-Other question: $R(Ca)$? Scaling laws for tip equilibrium

An open issue: divergence of $1/R$

Ivo Peters

Adrian Daerr

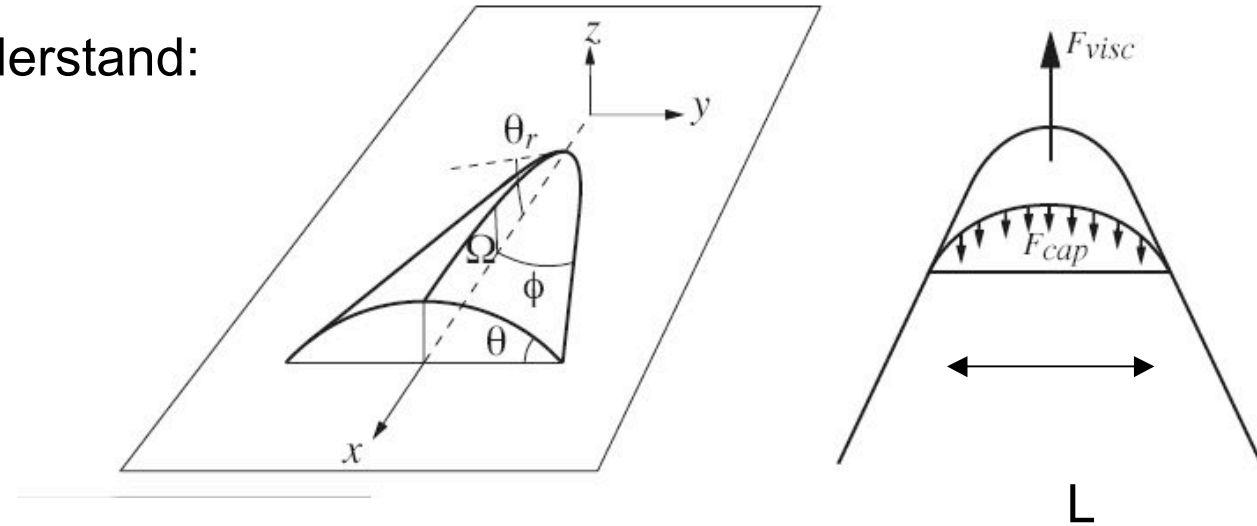
$$1/R \sim A \exp(B Ca)$$



Similar to Lorenceau



Difficult to understand:



$$F_{cap} \sim L\theta^2\gamma \sim F_{visc} \sim L \eta (U/\theta) \text{Log}(R/a)$$

$$\rightarrow 1/R \sim (1/a) \exp(\theta^3/Ca)$$

To get $1/R \sim (1/a) \exp(Ca/\theta^3)$

One would need $F_{visc} \sim L \eta (U/\theta) / \text{Log}(R/a) \dots$

Discussion

- drops have singular shapes to avoid wetting
 - inclined: reduces normal speed
 - curved: additional capillary forces
- 3D structure governed by similarity solutions.
- Matching with contact line (where the flow is perpendicular) selects opening angle.
- Matching becomes impossible above a critical Capillary number \rightarrow pearling
- Behavior of $1/R$ at the tip remains to be Understood...

Rio *et al.* PRL '05

