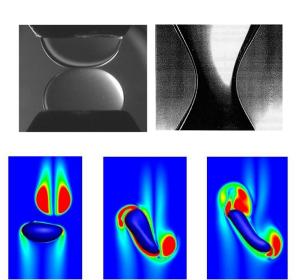
# Coalescence & Breakup in emulsions and bubbly flows

Bubble column



Liquid-liquid pipe flow



"Fluides, Energétique & Procédés"

Olivier Masbernat, <u>Benjamin Lalanne</u>.

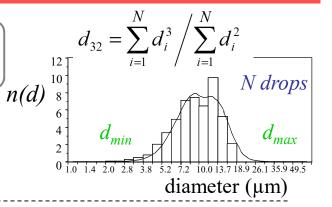
<u>Benjamin.Lalanne@ensiacet.fr</u>

# **Evolution of interfacial area**

Interfacial phenomena make evolve the size distribution of droplets, bubbles or particles in a given flow.

Sauter diameter:  $d_{32} = \int_{d_{\text{min}}}^{d_{\text{max}}} n(d)d^3 \delta d / \int_{d_{\text{min}}}^{d_{\text{max}}} n(d)d^2 \delta d$ 

number density function



*d*<sub>32</sub> ↑

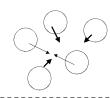
Coalescence



Drops or bubbles



Aggregation

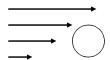


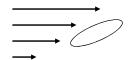
**Particles** 



Breakup (drop or bubble)

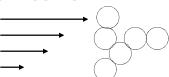
$$d_{32} \downarrow$$

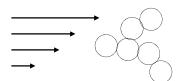


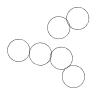




Breakup (aggregate)







# Formulation of the Population Balance Equation (PBE)

# Equation of balance on the <u>number density</u> n of particles v

in a perfectly mixed zone (i.e. with homogeneous hydrodynamics), without mass transfer (i.e. without growing/dissolution of the particles):

$$\frac{\partial n(v,t)}{\partial t} = \frac{1}{2} \int_{0}^{v} n(v-v',t) n(v',t) Q(v-v',v') dv' - n(v,t) \int_{0}^{\infty} n(v',t) Q(v,v') dv'}{\text{Birth by aggreg./coalesc.}}$$

$$+ \int_{v}^{\infty} \beta(v,v') \Gamma(v') n(v',t) dv' - \Gamma(v) n(v,t)$$
Birth by breakup

Death by breakup

$$v - v'$$

$$v' \rightarrow v' + v'$$

NB: Case of <u>heterogeneous flows</u>: coupling of CFD (Two fluid approach) & PBE

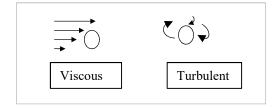
 $\rightarrow$  Birth/death terms are introduced in a transport equation for n(v, t)

examples in Marchisio et al., AIChE 2003 - Amokrane et al., Can J Chem Eng, 2013

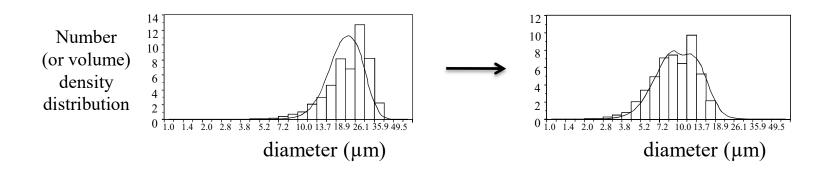
# **Engineering approach**

<u>Time evolution of the size distribution</u>: depends on the <u>local hydrodynamics</u> and the <u>physico-chemical properties</u> of the two phases and the interface.

- 1) Existing phenomena in the device: *breakup* or/and *coalescence*?
- 2) Determine the cause of deformation/collision.→ physics at the particle scale



- 3) Select the accurate *kernel* for the Population Balance Equation (PBE) → model for frequency and size distribution
- 4) Solve the PBE to simulate the time evolution of the population



# The interfacial tension: a mechanical property of the interface

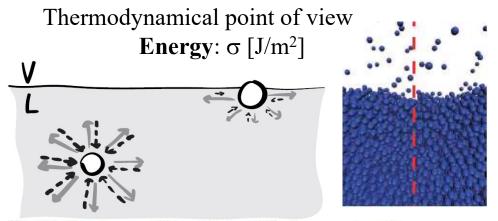
Interfacial tension → resisting force to surface deformation

Its importance on interfacial phenomena

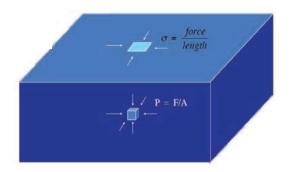
Influence of surfactants



# Interfacial tension $\sigma$ : energy or force of the interface



Mechanical point of view **Force**: σ [N/m]



Sketch showing repulsive (dashed black arrows) and attractive (gray arrows) forces in the bulk and at the surface.

A molecule in the bulk is surrounded by neighbors in all directions (equilibrium of energy of attraction and repulsion), while a molecule at the interface has a reduced number of neighbors => it is in an *energetically unfavorable state*: **creation of new surface is energetically costly**, and **a fluid system will act to minimize surface of the interface**.

→ Interfacial tension: work (energy) that must be provided to increase the surface of an interface, in isothermal, isobaric and reversible conditions, because interactions are different at the interface:

$$dG = \sigma dA$$

G is the Gibbs free energy (or free enthalpy)

→Interfacial tension: Force per unit length parallel to the interface (i.e. in the tangent plane), exerted perpendicular to any line drawn in the surface:

$$dF = \sigma dl$$

#### Interfacial tension $\sigma$

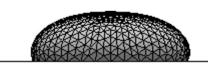
σ: Energy [J/m<sup>2</sup>] or force [N/m] of the interface

→ Explains why free bubbles are spherical (when no deformed by gravity *i.e.* at low Bond number Bo):

spherical shape = surface that minimizes the surface area for a given volume

→ A droplet on a solid substrate:





Without gravity (Bo << 1)

With gravity (Bo  $\geq 1$ )

http://phyexpdoc.script.univ-paris-diderot.fr/projets\_/sites\_01\_02\_2/goutte/Approchetheorique.html



Tintin (Hergé) – "Explorers on the Moon" (1976)  $\rightarrow$  A whisky drop at Bo = 0

→ Some values of surface tension for clean interfaces:

Water/air:  $\sigma = 72 \text{ mN/m}$ 

Water/hexane:  $\sigma = 50 \text{ mN/m}$ 

Water/butanol:  $\sigma = 2.1 \text{ mN/m}$ 

 $\sigma = 0$ : when the phases are totally miscible

Interface G-L: Interface L-L: superficial tension interfacial tension

# Laplace-Young equation for a bubble or droplet

# **Pressure jump** across a static interface (without flow)

### Across a sphere

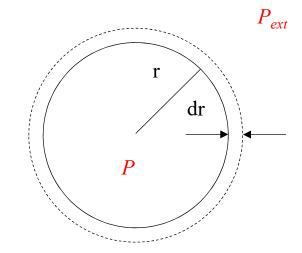
$$dG_1 = \sigma d(4\pi r^2) = 8\pi r \sigma dr$$

→ Variation of free enthalpy

$$dG_2 = -(P - P_{ext})4\pi r^2 dr$$

At equilibrium: 
$$dG_1 + dG_2 = 0$$
 =>  $P - P_{ext} = 2\frac{\sigma}{r}$ 

$$P - P_{ext} = 2\frac{\sigma}{r}$$



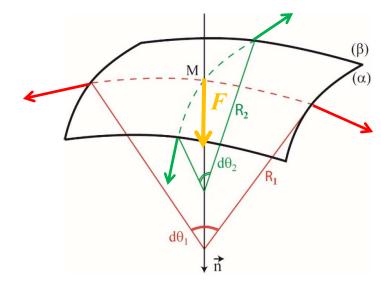
# General case – Across a surface of two radii of curvature R1 and R2

$$\Delta P = P - P_{ext} = \sigma(\frac{1}{R_1} + \frac{1}{R_2})$$

Laplace law

F: resultant of surface tension forces

- → resultant is in the normal direction
- $\rightarrow$  balances  $\Delta P$

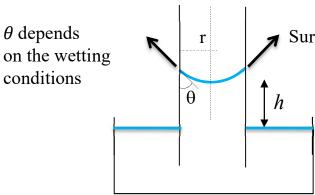


# **Interfacial tension: examples**

Surface tension force: pulling on the surface (tangent to the interface)

# Examples:

# Capillary rise of a liquid



Surface tension force

Jurin's law:

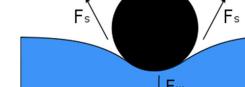
$$\Delta \rho g h = 2 \frac{\sigma \cos \theta}{r}$$

Vertical component of surface tension force:

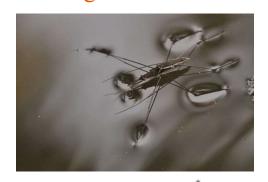
$$F_s = \sigma \cos(\theta) 2\pi r$$

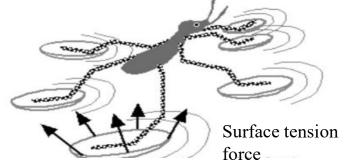
Balanced by the buoyancy force on the raised water:

$$P = \Delta \rho \ g \pi r^2 \ h$$



# a Gerris walking on the water surface





Flottation of a sphere

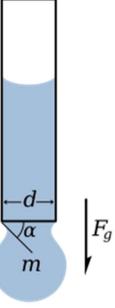
# **Interfacial tension: examples**

A measurement method of surface tension: pendant drop test. Simple method, commonly used.

A drop of liquid is suspended at a capillary tube by surface tension.

α: contact angle with the tube

Write the force balance on the droplet, giving the value of  $\sigma$ .



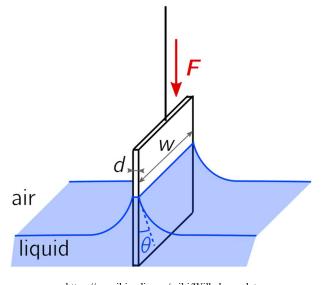
# **Interfacial tension: examples**

Another measurement method of surface tension: Wilhelmy plate.

For air-liquid or liquid-liquid interfaces

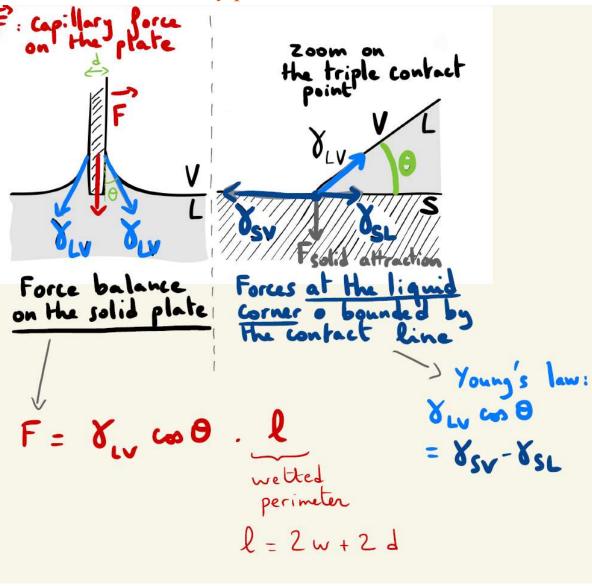
Plate perpendicular to the interface

Measure of the capillary force **F** exerted on the plate



 $https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wilhelmy\_plate$ 

Adapted from Marchand et al., (2011)

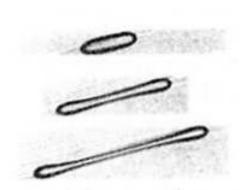


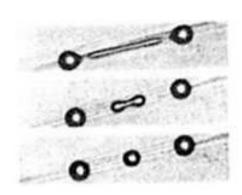
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# Importance of surface tension in interface phenomena

# Surface tension resists to surface deformation, and acts to minimize the area of the interface.

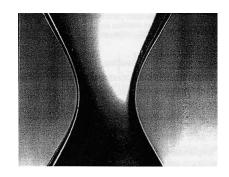
Breakup of a stretched droplet (Stone, 1994)





Coalescence of two droplets approaching at constant velocity (Klaseboer, 1998)





Wetting of a droplet on a substrate (Pétrissans, 1996) Non-ideal surfaces





=> contact angle hysteresis effects (advancing and receding angles)

#### Surfactants: variation of interfacial tension

The Gibbs equation describes the *lowering* of surface tension due to surfactant adsorption (generally a decrease)

# Variation of free enthalpy dG due to a variation of chemical potential (at constant area)

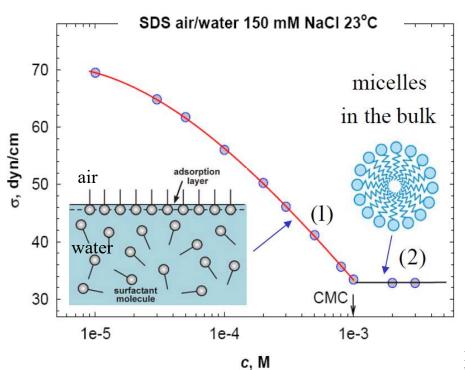
$$dG = Ad\sigma = -\sum_{i} n_{i}^{S} d\mu_{i}^{S}$$

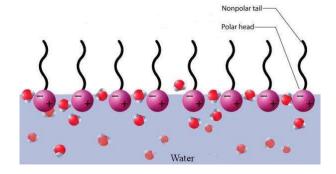
Surface concentration of adsorbed species

Bulk concentration

$$=> d\sigma = -\sum_{i} \frac{n_{i}^{S}}{A} d\mu_{i}^{L} = -\sum_{i} \Gamma_{i} d\mu_{i}^{L}$$

Adsorption equilibrium: ex, Langmuir isotherm aC
Relationship surface / bulk concentration:  $\Gamma = \frac{aC}{1+bC}$ 



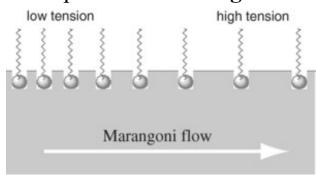


**Surfactant**: hydrophilic head, hydrophobic tail. At the interface, it decreases the interactions between molecules of the bulk fluids.

=> It becomes *energetically less defavorable* for the system to increase the interface area.

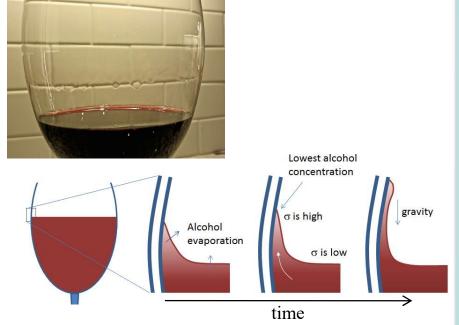
# Gradients of interfacial tension: Marangoni effect → change of hydrodynamics at interface

Gradients of  $\sigma$  (due to gradients of surface concentration of surfactants, or temperature) induce surface stresses, which correspond to a **Marangoni flow** along the interface.



# Some consequencies:

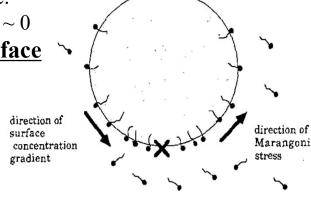
Tears of wine!



Figures from: http://iopscience.iop.org/article/10.1088/1751-8113/43/24/242001 https://www.comsol.com/multiphysics/marangoni-effect

Rising drops and bubbles  $\rightarrow$  Reduced terminal velocity  $U_{\infty}$ 

- $U_{\infty}$  becomes the same as for a solid particle
- At the interface: tangential velocity  $\sim 0$
- → <u>immobile interface</u>

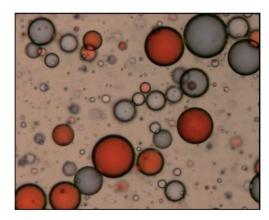


A. Frumkin and V.G. Levich, Zh. Fiz. Khim. 21, 1183 (1947) 14

# Presence of surfactants at an interface, consequencies on fragmentation and coalescence

In **emulsions**, surfactants are present (naturally or introduced) in the fluid system.

They are widely used in the industry (generally at large coverage rate of the interfaces) to prevent drop coalescence and ensure emulsion stability.

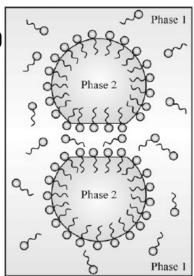


Bremond & Bibette, Soft Matter (2012)

## Surfactants

- change the interfacial tension
- modify the hydrodynamics at the interface

  (Marangoni stresses and/or surface viscosity → interface immobilization) and give elasticity and viscosity to the interface
  - $\rightarrow$  <u>complex surface rheology</u> not only described by  $\sigma$
- can modify the molecule surface charges
- → <u>Strong changes of the coalescence and breakup rates</u> in the presence of surfactants.
- lower  $\sigma =>$  lower resistance to interface deformation
- drop coalescence considerably reduced.



Danov (2010), Thin Liquid Films: Drainage and Stability; Role of Surfactant.

# Breakup: physics and modelling

Causes of drop or bubble deformation

Physical parameters describing breakup (rupture)

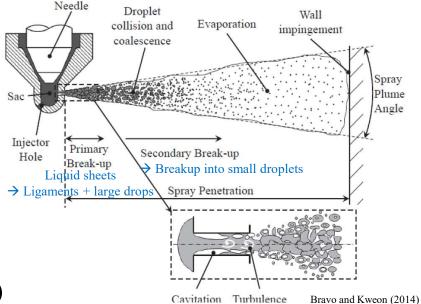
Breakup kernels: how to model breakup frequency & daughter drop size distribution



Example of applications
Chemical reactors with
bubbly flows, extraction columns:
High rate of breakup desired
to increase interfacial area
(then mass transfer)

Atomization, sprays (diesel engines, aerosols...)

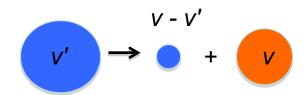
High surface area desired for efficient evaporation/combustion



# Objective: modelling drop breakup mechanisms – Focus on "secondary breakup"

**Problem:** Modelling breakup and selecting accurate kernels:

- Breakup frequency:  $\Gamma(v)$
- Daughter drop size distribution after breakup:  $\beta(v,v')$



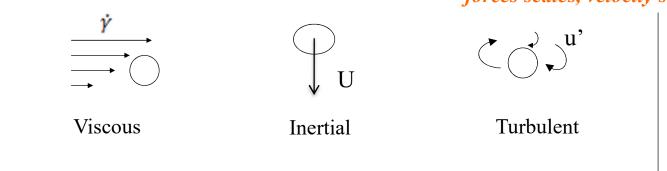
**Secondary breakup** =

Breakup of already formed droplets

as a function of

- all physico-chemical properties of the fluid system
- local properties of the hydrodynamics field.

Question: important time scales, forces scales, velocity scales?

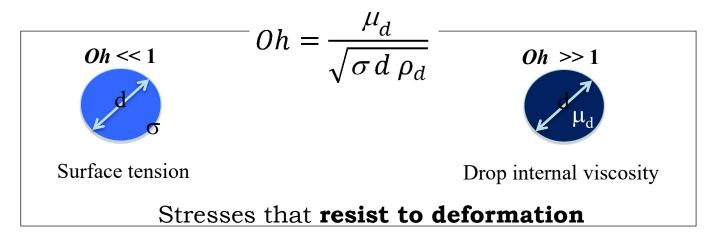


# Methodology:

- → analysis of breakup phenomena at local scale in controlled hydrodynamics conditions
- → derivation of statistical models

# Stresses that resist to deformation: surface tension & drop internal viscosity

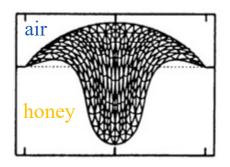
• Surface tension and viscous stresses are compared in the **Ohnesorge number** of the drop:



- Provided droplet viscosity is not too high (Oh << 1), stress that resists to deformation is **due to surface tension** =  $\sigma$  / d [Pa]
- case *mainly* studied in the following

- *In case of high viscosity of the deforming interface* (*large Oh*): stress that controls deformation is due to viscosity.
  - Ex: deformation of an interface honey air

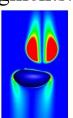
    → the relaxation process (after deformation) is controlled by viscosity, surface tension effects can be ignored.

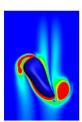


# Cause responsible for drop or bubble breakup

Breakup: process that converts one drop/bubble into two or more fragments.

- deformation with surface increase
- eventually: growing of instabilities
- fragmentation in daughter droplets.







Deformation not critical here!

Condition of appearing of a **critical deformation**, given by:

Stress that deforms the droplet > Stress that resists to deformation

(Hinze, 1955)

depends on the type of flow when dominated by  $\sigma$  (= at Oh << 1)

- $\rightarrow$  Breakup if the ratio  $T/_{\sigma/d}$  is larger than a critical value
- → Breakup kernels are related to this critical number



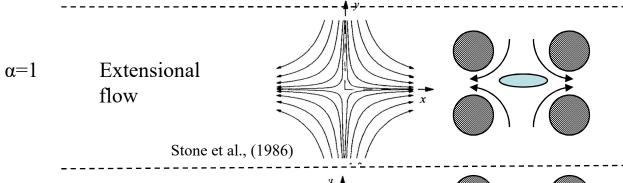
Critical number depending on the stress responsible for Viscous Inertial Turbulent deformation Hydrodynamics stresses leading to deformation

# 1) Breakup in the viscous regime

# Drop/bubble deformed by a velocity gradient $G_c$ - Without inertia: $Re_p$ =

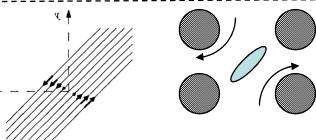
 $Re_p = \frac{\rho_c G_c R^2}{\mu_c} \ll 1$ 

Experiment of the « four roll mills » (Taylor, 1934)

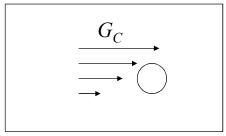


$$\nabla \overrightarrow{U} = \frac{1}{2} G_c \begin{pmatrix} 1 + \alpha & 1 - \alpha \\ -1 + \alpha & -1 - \alpha \end{pmatrix}$$

 $\alpha$ =0 Shear flow



Breakup condition: critical capillary number  $Ca_{crit}$ 



$$Ca_{c} = \frac{\mu_{c}G_{c}R}{\sigma}$$

$$\lambda = \frac{\mu_{d}}{\sigma}$$

$$Ca_{crit}(\lambda)$$

Hydrodynamic stress responsible for breakup:

$$T = \mu_c G_c$$

**Velocity gradient** 

seen by the droplet (shear rate)

# 1) Breakup in the viscous regime

# Experiment on the « four roll mills » device, in steady flow - $Re_p < 1$

→ With pure shearing: 'optimal' breakup at  $\lambda \sim 1$ 

 $\rightarrow$  Ca<sub>crit</sub> 'high' at  $\lambda << 1$ : difficulty in creating internal pressure gradients

→ Ca<sub>crit</sub> lowest for extensional flow ( $\alpha$ =1); for  $\lambda$  > 4, breakup not possible *with pure shearing* very long filament *in extensional flow* 



 $\lambda >> 1$ :

 $Ca_{crit}$  independent on  $\lambda$ 

The filament becomes very thin, and *a capillary instability develops* because surface tension wants to minimize the interfacial area.

Surface tension
becomes the force that
drives breakup at the end!
Only for largely extended drops (length > 20 R)

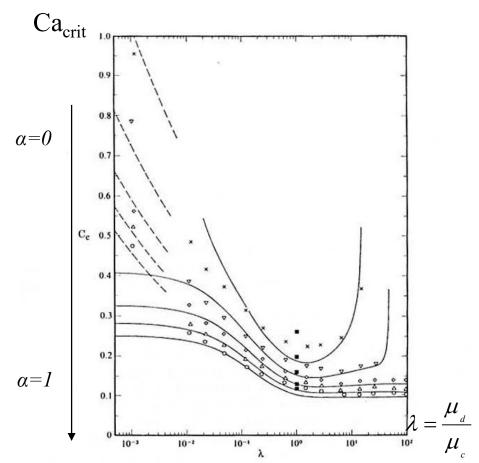
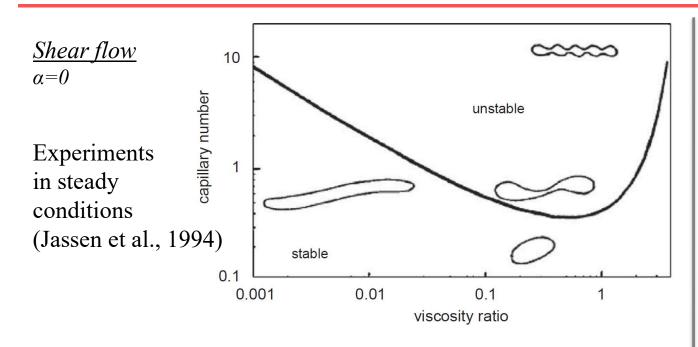
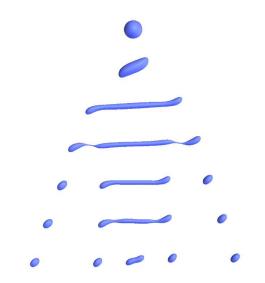


Figure 4 Effects of flow-type on the critical capillary number for drop breakup. Experimental results are presented for flow types  $\alpha = 1.0$  ( $\bigcirc$ ), 0.8 ( $\triangle$ ), 0.6  $\diamondsuit$ ), 0.4 ( $\nabla$ ), 0.2 ( $\times$ ). The solid curves are the prediction of the  $O(\mathbb{C}^2)$  small deformation theory and the dashed curves are the prediction of slender body theory (Bentley & Leal 1986b). The  $\blacksquare$  symbols are the boundary integral numerical results of Rallison (1981).

# 1) Breakup in the viscous regime



A simulation with  $\lambda = 2.5$ : time evolution of drop shape



https://www.aiche.org/conferences/aiche-annualmeeting/2012/proceeding/paper/361c-lattice-boltzmannsimulations-drop-deformation-and-breakup-shear-flow

⇒Breakup frequency law:  $t_b \sim \frac{\mu_c R}{\sigma} f(\lambda)$ 

$$t_b \sim \frac{\mu_c R}{\sigma} f(\lambda)$$
 breakup time

$$\Gamma(v) \sim \frac{cste}{t_b}$$

Grace (1982), Elemans et al. (1993), Wieringa et al. (1996)

→ Number and size of fragments after breakup:

$$Ca_{crit} \le Ca \le 2 Ca_{crit}$$
  
2 fragments + 1 satellite

Ca<sub>crit</sub> << Ca Series of *n* fragments of same size

# 1) Breakup in the viscous regime – Unsteady conditions

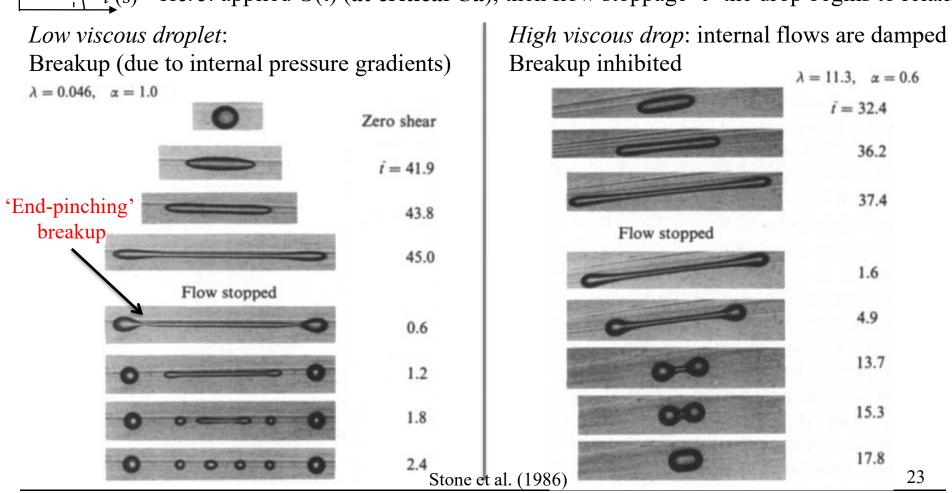
Steady flows not realistic... 

Influence of abrupt changes in flow conditions

G (s<sup>-1</sup>)

Breakup and drop size distribution depend on the history of the applied flow

t(s) Here: applied G(t) (at critical Ca), then flow stoppage  $\rightarrow$  the drop begins to relax.



# 1) Breakup in the viscous regime – Case of an emulsion

# $\rightarrow$ Influence of the volume fraction $\phi$ of droplets

For suspensions or concentrated emulsions: At low particulate Reynods number  $Re_p$ , assumption of equivalent media: effective density and viscosity, depending on  $\phi$ .

$$\frac{\mu_e}{\mu_c} = (1 - a\emptyset)^{-n}$$

 $\rightarrow$  Emulsion = non-Newtonian fluid: shear thinning effects at high  $\phi$ 

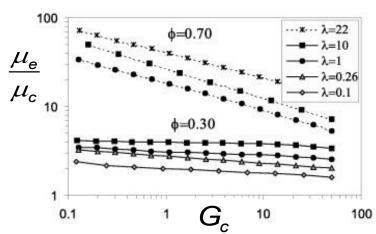
Experiments of breakup in a *pure shearing* flow show:

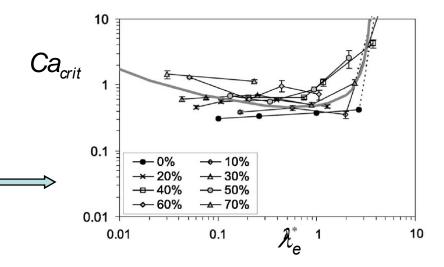
same results as for a dilute emulsion, by using an equivalent capillary number:

$$\mu_c \rightarrow \mu_e$$

$$Ca_{crit} = \frac{\mu_e G_{crit} R}{\sigma} = f(\lambda_e = \frac{\mu_d}{\mu_e})$$







Jansen et al., (2001)

#### Exercise: emulsification in a colloidal mill

A colloidal mill is a rotor stator device, widely used in food processing or pharmaceutical manufacturing to produce emulsions with desired size.

The shear rate  $\gamma$  in the thin gap can be adjusted by varying the rotation speed.

- (a) With the target to produce an emulsion with droplets of diameter inferior to d=100  $\mu$ m, with a continuous phase of density  $\rho_c = 1000$  kg/m<sup>3</sup> and *effective* viscosity  $\mu_c = 0.006$  Pa.s, what minimal value of  $\dot{\gamma}$  has to be produced in the gap?
- (b) Verify that the continuous flow regime is laminar in the gap of thickness h=0.3 mm (the transition Reynolds number for such a flow in a Couette device with smooth surfaces is superior to 10000).
- (c) Is breakup due to viscous forces or to inertial forces in this system? Comment.

# Data available for the fluid system:

- The interfacial tension is found to be  $\sigma = 5$  mN/m.
- Schuch et al. (2013) report a critical capillary number close to 3 based on the biggest droplet diameter of the emulsion for an emulsion with a viscosity ratio  $\lambda = 16.7$  (inner phase viscosity  $\mu_d = 0.1$  Pa.s).

rotor and stator: smooth or toothed teeth: various design

# 2) Breakup in the inertial regime (determinist flows)

# Drop/bubble deformed by inertial forces

Resisting stress to deformation is due to *surface tension*.

→ Breakup criterion: based on a **critical Weber number** 

We consider determinist flows here: deformation in extensional, oscillatory, rotating flows, due to impulsive accelerations, Inertial stress:  $T = \rho_c U^2$ 

$$We = \frac{\rho_c U^2 d}{\sigma} = Ca$$
. Re

= drop relative velocity or the velocity based on a characteristic velocity gradient

t(ms)

due to the fall or rise of a bubble/drop with strong relative velocity...

Ex: **secondary breakup** in atomization sprays, liquid propellant combustion... 3.79 'Aerodynamic fragmentation' 15.87 (g) bag nodes 17.94 Drop in a gas stream We = 12.5Wierba (1990) 20.01 Simulation of a drop in a high-speed gas flow at We=20 Experimental picture of bag breakup at We=20 (> We<sub>crit</sub>) - Jain et al. (2015) 26

# 2) Breakup in the inertial regime: examples

**Extensional flow:** Velocity gradient  $G_C$  in the flow direction

 $\rightarrow$  Inertial stress at the drop scale based on  $U = G_a R$ 

⇒ Inertial stress at the drop scale based on 
$$U = G_c R$$

For a bubble:  $\left(\frac{1}{We_{crit}}\right)^{10/9} = \left(\frac{1}{2.76}\right)^{10/9} + \left(\frac{1}{0.247Re_p^{3/4}}\right)^{10/9}$ 

Ex: converge

$$We = \frac{\rho_c (G_c R)^2 d}{\sigma}$$
Ex: convective acceleration  $G_c \sim \frac{\partial u}{\partial x}$ 

<u>Rising / falling drops or bubbles:</u>  $U=U_R$  relative velocity (terminal velocity in a quiescent external phase)

$$Re_{p} = \frac{\rho_{c}U_{R}d}{\mu_{c}} \qquad We = \frac{\rho_{c}U_{R}^{2}d}{\sigma} \qquad Bo = \frac{\Delta\rho gd^{2}}{\sigma} \qquad Mo = \frac{\Delta\rho g\mu_{c}^{4}}{\rho_{c}^{2}\sigma^{3}}$$

$$We = \frac{\rho_c U_R^2 d}{\sigma}$$

$$Bo = \frac{\Delta \rho g d^2}{\sigma}$$

$$Mo = \frac{\Delta \rho g \mu_c^4}{\rho_c^2 \sigma^3}$$



Picture adapted from

Falling drops in quiescent air

$$Bo_{crit} = 12.4$$

$$We_{crit} = 12$$

 $We_{crit} = 12$  see Pilch & Erdman (1987), Jain et al. (2015)

Drops at terminal velocity in a quiescent liquid (valid for Mo<256)

$$Bo_{crit} = \frac{10}{1 + 0.5 \left(4.5 \left(\frac{\rho^*}{1 + \rho^*}\right) - 0.35 \left(\frac{2 + 3\rho^*}{1 + \rho^*}\right)^{2.27} \left(1 + Mo^{1/4}\right)^{0.36}\right)}$$

$$We_{crit} = 0.5Bo_{crit}$$

$$\rho^* = \frac{\rho_d}{\rho_c} \sqrt[3]{2}$$

Bubbles rising in a quiescent liquid

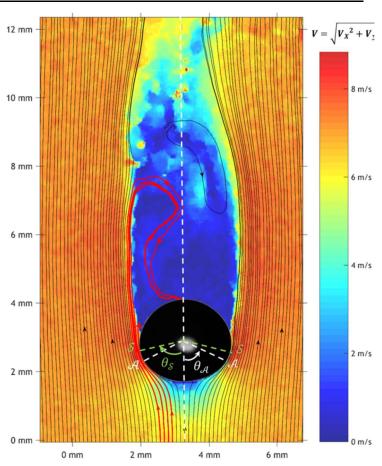
$$Bo_{crit} = 733(1 + Mo^{1/4})^{1.66}$$
  $We_{crit} = 0.5Bo_{crit}$ 

$$We_{crit} = 0.5Bo_{crit}$$

# Exercise: breakup due to inertia

Based on the critical breakup condition, estimate (i) the highest possible diameter of a raindrop and (ii) its terminal velocity.

$$Bo_{crit} = 12.4$$
  $We_{crit} = 12$  (critical value for breakup in the bag regime, Taylor 1949)



Instantaneous air flow around a raindrop (Re $\sim$ 2000, We  $\leq$  We<sub>crit</sub> – Lemaitre et al., Atmosphere (2020)

# Drop/bubble deformed by turbulent fluctuations

Breakup of droplets in the turbulent zone downstream of an orifice



Mean flow

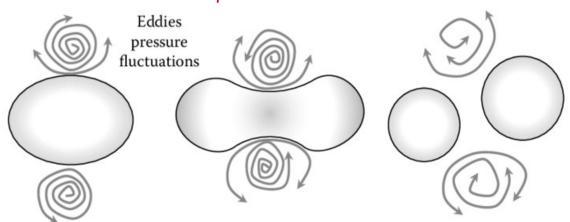




Existence of *two regimes*, depending on the drop size compared to the flow length scales:

# Turbulent inertial regime

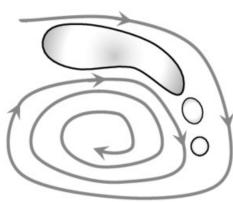




Drops are larger than the smallest eddies and deform by the action of hydrodynamic pressure fluctuations

Turbulent viscous regime





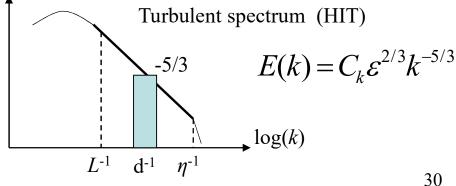
Drops are smaller than the smallest eddies and deform under the action of viscous stress inside and between the eddies

Rayner (2015)

 $\eta$ : Kolmogorov length scale

 $L: Integral\ length\ scale$ 

Size of the smallest eddies:  $\eta \sim \varepsilon^{-1/4} \rho_c^{-3/4} \mu_c^{3/4}$ with  $\varepsilon$  the dissipation rate log(E(k))



Theory proposed by Hinze (1955):

# **Turbulent inertial regime**: $\eta < d < L$

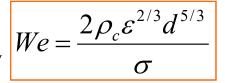
*Main assumption*: only the turbulent vortices of size comparable to the (initial) droplet diameter d are efficient for breakup. u'(x+d)

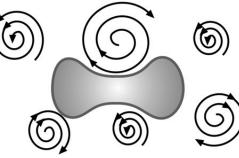
$$\delta u'_c^2(d) = \overline{[u'_c(x+d) - u'_c(x)]^2} = 2 (\varepsilon d)^{2/3}$$

Inertial stress T (turbulent pressure fluctuation):

$$\rho_c \delta u_c^{\prime 2} \sim \rho_c (\varepsilon d)^{2/3}$$

a We number to quantify the risk of breakup





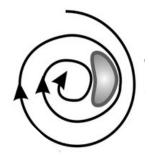
Hinze-Kolmogorov theory

# **Turbulent viscous regime:** $d < \eta$

Viscous gradient seen by the droplet: 
$$G_c = \frac{U_{\eta}}{\eta} \sim \left(\frac{\rho_c \varepsilon}{\mu_c}\right)^{1/2}$$
 Viscous stress  $T$   $T = \mu_c G_c$ 

u'(x)

$$T = \mu_c G_c$$



 $U_{\eta}$  is given by: inertial = viscous stresses  $\rho_c(\varepsilon \eta)^{2/3} \sim \mu_c \frac{U_{\eta}}{\eta}$ 

$$\rho_c(\varepsilon\eta)^{2/3} \sim \mu_c \frac{U_{\eta}}{\eta}$$

a Ca number to quantify the risk of breakup

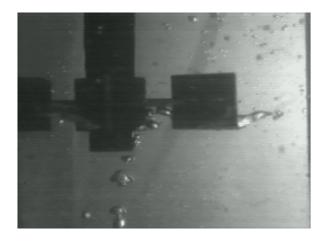
$$Ca = \left(\frac{2}{15}\right)^{1/2} \frac{\left(\rho_c \mu_c \varepsilon\right)^{1/2} R}{\sigma}$$

# Ex: Breakup of bubbles in a stirred tank

Assumption: the velocity field created by the agitator in the tank is supposed to be a homogeneous isotropic turbulent flow (HIT).

Dissipation rate by the agitation device:

$$\varepsilon \propto P/\rho_c V_{cuve} \propto N^3 D^2$$



Power consumption:

$$P \propto \rho_c V_{cuve} N^3 D^2$$

# Leading to:

$$d_{\rm max} \propto N^{-1.2}$$
 inertial regime: theory predicts  $d_{max} \sim \varepsilon^{-0.4}$  viscous regime: theory predicts  $d_{max} \sim \varepsilon^{-0.5}$ 

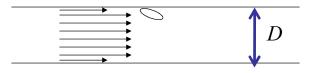
By varying N, experimental results show that

$$\frac{d_{32}}{D} = c_1 W e_D^{-0.6} \qquad W e_D = \frac{\rho_c N^2 D^3}{\sigma}$$

→ Turbulent inertial breakup regime Size of bubbles > η

# **Exercise:** breakup due to turbulence

# Drop breakup in turbulent pipe flow



Breakup probability of a droplet of diameter d is the highest in the near-wall region. We consider a droplet larger than the Kolmogorov scale.

The mean flow, of velocity U, induces an average wall shear rate of about  $\dot{\gamma} \approx k \frac{U}{D}$  it is considered here that k = 4.

The turbulent field is characterized by a dissipation rate  $\varepsilon = 2 f \frac{U^3}{D}$ , with f the friction factor (or pressure drop coefficient) given by the Blasius law:  $f=0.079 \text{ Re}^{-1/4}$ .

Give the condition where droplet deformation

- (a) is induced by viscous shearing due to the mean flow;
- (b) is induced by the turbulent fluctuations at the drop scale;

When will the risk of breakup due to turbulent fluctuations be higher than that due to viscous shearing at the wall? Write the condition as a criterion on d/D.

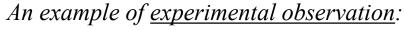
# Ex: Emulsification process – Transition between the two breakup regimes.

Production of an emulsion of micrometer size droplets in a narrow-gap homogeneizer

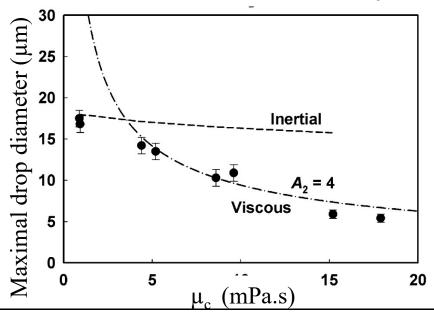
Study of Vankova et al. (2007)

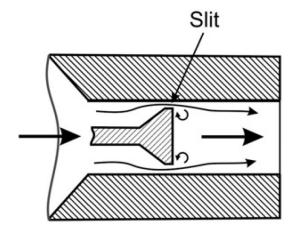
Use of high surfactant concentration

⇒ no coalescence, only breakup *due to turbulence* 



Breakup of a dilute emulsion of silicon oil in water: average drop size divided by 3 when  $\mu_c$  is multiplied by 20.





<u>Comparison with theories</u> for the maximal stable diameter in inertial and viscous regimes:

- $\rightarrow$  the regime of breakup changes from turbulent inertial (at low  $\mu_c$ ) to turbulent viscous (at higher  $\mu_c$ ).
- → Maximal stable diameter in viscous regime:

$$d_{max} \sim cste$$
 .  $\sigma$  .  $(\rho_{\rm c} \mu_c \varepsilon)^{-1/2}$ 

# Breakup kernels: (A) frequency and (B) daugher drop size distribution

# • (A) Breakup frequency:

Modelled by a *frequency of collisions* with vortices, times a *probability* that collisions lead to breakup:

$$\Gamma(v) = f_{coll}(v).P_{rupt}(v)$$

Several kernels available in the review of Liao and Lucas (2009)

Homogeneous Isotropic Turbulence (HIT):

velocity fluctuation associated to a vortex of size d

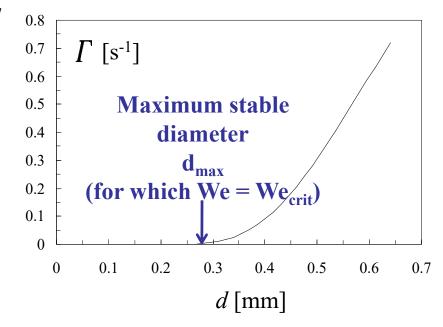
$$u'\cong (\varepsilon d)^{1/3}$$

=> collision frequency:

$$f_{coll} = C_1 \epsilon^{1/3} d^{-2/3}$$

Breakup probability:

$$P_{rupt} = \exp\left(-\frac{C_2}{We - We_{crit}}\right)$$



Constants  $C_1$  et  $C_2$  are not universal and are generally determined from experiments.

Effect of emulsion concentration: taken into account as a modulation of turbulence intensity  $\varepsilon$ .

# Breakup kernels: (A) frequency and (B) daugher drop size distribution

# • (B) Daughter drop size distribution:

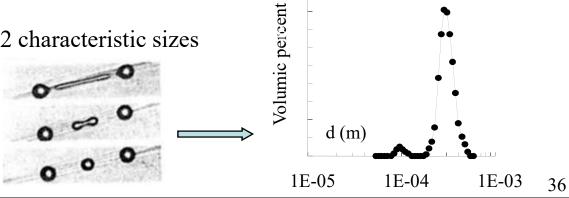
A model that gives the number  $N_f$  of fragments after breakup and the daughter size distribution function (or daughter drop volumes)

A distribution is assumed, depending generally on experimental observations: binary breakup,  $N_f$  fragments of same size, a Gaussian distribution for the fragments, ...

Ex: Gaussian distribution for  $N_f$  fragments; the daughter drops of volume V follow

$$\beta(v, v') = \frac{N_f}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{(v-m)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)$$
 Average volume  $m = \frac{v'}{N_f}$  & standard deviation  $\sigma$ 

Ex: Multimodal distribution with 2 characteristic sizes



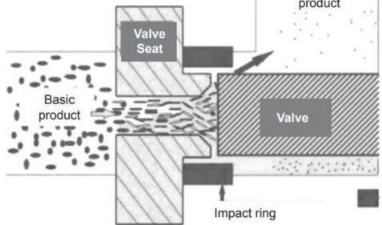
#### Open questions on breakup modelling

• A lot of existing models for breakup... predicting different breakup frequencies

→ physical reliability of the models to be improved

- Generally: *unsteady* conditions for breakup Stress is applied during a finite time
  - → Importance of *time of residence*
  - → Importance of *response time* of drops or bubbles to an instantaneous deformation

Risso and Fabre (1998) – Lalanne, Masbernat and Risso (2019)

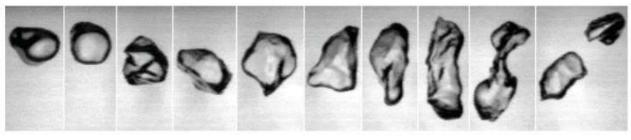


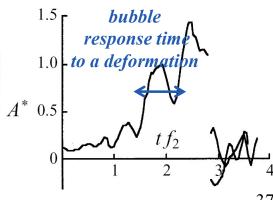
Homogenized

High pressure homogenizer (widely used in food industry for example)

Picture from: https://korpro.com/product/high-pressure-homogenizer-applications/648/

A bubble oscillating in an homogeneous turbulent flow



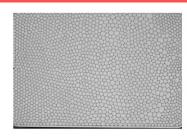


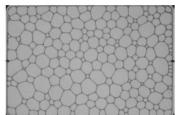
# Coalescence: physics and modelling

Physical description of coalescence

Hydrodynamics of film drainage process

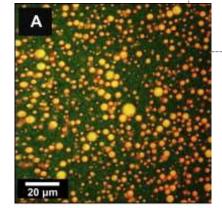
Coalescence kernels: how to model collision frequency, coalescence probability





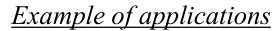
Time evolution of a foam

Rio (2013)



Milk = natural emulsion of fat globules in an aqueous phase

Garcia et al. (2014)



Stability of food or beverage emulsions (milk, soda...):

Coalescence has to be prevented to avoid ringing, creaming.

Ringing as a result of broken emulsions.

https://sensientfoodcolors.com/en-eu/emulsion\_stability\_in\_rtd\_sparkling\_beverages/

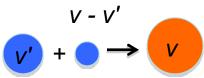
Separation of emulsions in chemical processes, crude oil recovery: Coalescence has to be fastened to enhance phase separation.

#### **Objective: modelling coalescence process**

**Problem:** Modelling coalescence and selecting accurate kernels for term Q(v,v') of the PBE.

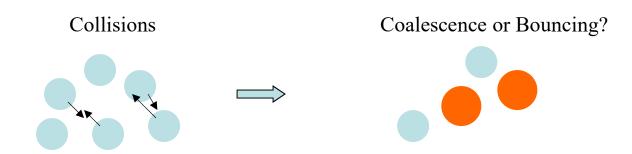
Coalescence rate:  $\mathbf{Q}(v,v') = \mathbf{C}(v,v') \mathbf{P}_{coal}(v,v')$   $\rightarrow$  same as for breakup rate

- Collision frequency: C
- Coalescence efficiency or Probability of Coalescence:  $P_{coal}$



which are functions of

- all physico-chemical properties of the fluid system
- local properties of the hydrodynamics field.



**Note**: <u>Coalescence</u>: only for drops / bubbles

Aggregation, flocculation, coagulation: only for solid particles, not mentioned hereafter.

#### Physical description of the problem

**Coalescence**: process that merges two droplets or bubbles ( $\rightarrow$  a way for the system to minimize the surface per unit volume).

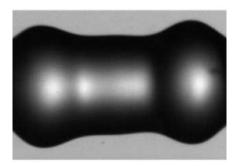
Steps: (each of these steps can limit the coalescence rate.)

- 1. Collisions: approach of two droplets
- 2. Drainage of the film between the droplets
- 3. Hole opening: an hole bridge is established between the drops
- 4. Hole growth: the bridge grows and eventually the droplets merge
- 5. Shape relaxation of the new droplet

Collision and film drainage

Hole opening and growth

Pictures from Chireux et al. (2017)

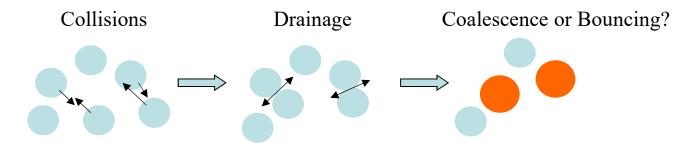


Shape relaxation

This course: case of coalescence limited by film drainage (step 2)

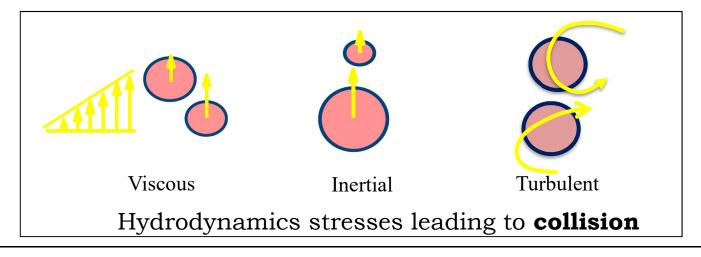
→ Generally a relevant case in bubble columns or emulsification processes with moderate surfactant concentrations (so that they do not induce molecular forces that retard hole opening).

#### **During a collision: coalescence or bouncing?**



An hydrodynamic stress causes collisions.

- Droplets interact during a characteristic time  $t_i$  (time of interaction or contact)
- Liquid **film drainage** requires a characteristic time  $t_d$
- Coalescence if  $t_d \leq t_i$ ; otherwise bouncing.
- → Coalescence probability depends on the ratio of these 2 time scales.
  - 1 drainage time 2 contact time

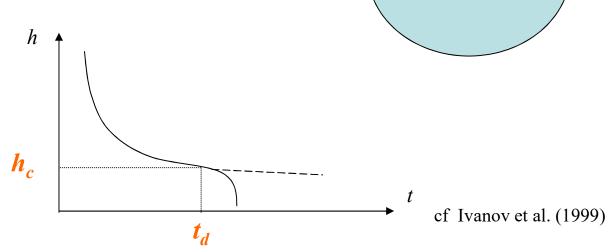


# 1) Hydrodynamics of film drainage

Kinetics of **film drainage** of the liquid film between two bubbles or droplets:

- Decrease of the film thickness h in time
- Until a critical thickness is reached, where the attractive van der Waals forces (short-range forces) become dominant and lead to hole opening in the absence of repulsive forces to coalescence due to surfactants.

Order of magnitude:  $h_c = 10$  nm for a droplet of d = 100 µm, with a decreasing  $h_c$  with d.



**Methodology:** Estimation of drainage time  $t_d$  required to reach  $h_c$  by modelling the hydrodynamics in the liquid film.  $\rightarrow$  Theoretical expressions in the following

Drainage

flow

liquid film

#### 1) Hydrodynamics of film drainage

#### Assumptions:

- $h/a \ll 1$  (a is the film radius, h its thickness)
- axial symmetry
- *Re<sub>film</sub>*<<1

Navier-Stokes equations in the film:

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
 & \downarrow & \downarrow \\
 & \downarrow u_I \\
\hline
 & \downarrow u_I \\$$

$$\frac{1}{r}\frac{\partial}{\partial r}(ru_r) + \frac{\partial}{\partial z}(u_z) = 0$$

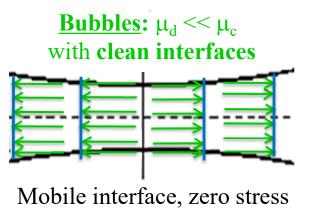
$$\frac{\partial P}{\partial z} \cong 0 \qquad \qquad P = P(r)$$

$$\rho_C \left( u_r \frac{\partial u_r}{\partial r} \right) = \mu_C \frac{\partial^2 u_r}{\partial r^2} + \frac{\partial P}{\partial r} + \mu_C \frac{\partial^2 u_r}{\partial z^2}$$

Film between bubbles

Liquid film between droplets

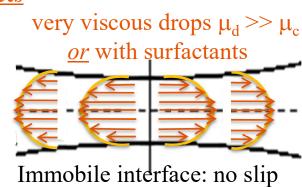
## Different boundary conditions for $u_I$ :



# **Droplets**

Clean interfaces (theoretical case) and  $\mu_d \approx \mu_c$ 

Mobile interface



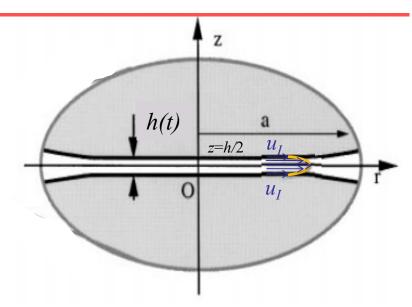
## 1) Hydrodynamics of film drainage – Reynolds equation

# Case of liquid film bewteen droplets

#### Lubrication flow:

 $Re_{film} << 1 \& h/a << 1$ 

Boundary condition: z=h/2:  $u_R = u_I$ = 0 *if* immobile interface



#### Momentum balance in the film:

$$\frac{\partial P}{\partial z} \cong 0$$

$$\frac{dP}{dr} \cong \mu_c \left( \frac{\partial^2 u_r}{\partial z^2} \right) = cst$$

Couette-Poiseuille velocity profile in the film if  $u_I \neq 0$ Poiseuille profile if  $u_I = 0$ 

Mass conversation (continuity equation integrated over z):

(1) and (2) => 
$$\frac{\partial h}{\partial t} = -\frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} (ru_I h) + \frac{1}{12\mu_c} \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} (rh^3 \frac{dP}{dr})$$

$$= relationship between drainage$$

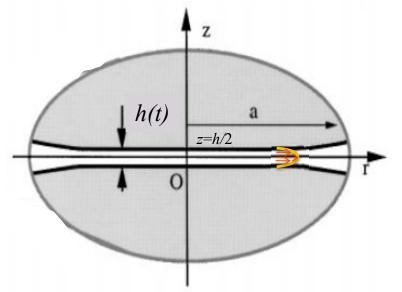
$$= relationship between drainage$$

**Drainage velocity** 

velocity and pressure gradient in the film 44

## 1) Hydrodynamics of film drainage – Droplets with immobile interface

# Case of liquid film bewteen droplets – case of immobile interfaces: $u_I = 0$



Drainage velocity (or droplet approach velocity):

$$V = \frac{dh}{dt} < 0$$

From equation of Reynolds with  $u_I = 0$ :

$$\frac{dP}{dr} = \frac{6\mu_c Vr}{h^3}$$

$$P(r) - P_c \cong \frac{3\mu_c Vr^2}{h^3} \text{ with } P_c = P(r=0)$$

Expression of the normal force F exerted on the liquid film during drainage:

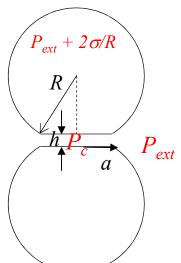
$$F = -2\pi \int_{0}^{r} (P(r') - P_c)r' dr' = -\frac{3\pi \mu_c V r^4}{2h^3}$$

→ Relationship between the exerted force and the drainage velocity

#### 1) Hydrodynamics of film drainage – Deformable droplets with immobile interface

# Liquid film between droplets - immobile interfaces

# Case of deformable interfaces



$$F = -\frac{3\pi\mu_c V a^4}{2h^3}$$

 $F = -\frac{3\pi\mu_c V a^4}{2h^3}$  Film with parallel edges =>  $P_c \cong P_{ext} + 2\sigma/R$  as given by the Laplace pressure:

$$F = \Delta P \pi a^2 \cong \frac{2\sigma}{R} \pi a^2$$

12

$$-\frac{1}{h^3}\frac{dh}{dt} \cong -\frac{8\pi\sigma^2}{3\mu_c R^2 F}$$

$$F = \Delta P \pi u^{2} \cong \frac{2\sigma}{R} \pi u^{2}$$

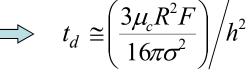
$$\Rightarrow a^{2} = -\frac{4\sigma}{3\mu RV} h^{3}$$

$$-\frac{1}{h^{3}} \frac{dh}{dt} \cong -\frac{8\pi\sigma^{2}}{3\mu_{c}R^{2}F}$$

$$\frac{1}{h^{2}} - \frac{1}{h_{0}^{2}} \cong \left(\frac{16\pi\sigma^{2}}{3\mu_{c}R^{2}F}\right) t$$

$$\Rightarrow t_{d} \cong \left(\frac{3\mu_{c}R^{2}F}{16\pi\sigma^{2}}\right) / h^{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow t_{d} \approx \left(\frac{3\mu_{c}R^{2}F}{16\pi\sigma^{2}}\right) / h^{2}$$



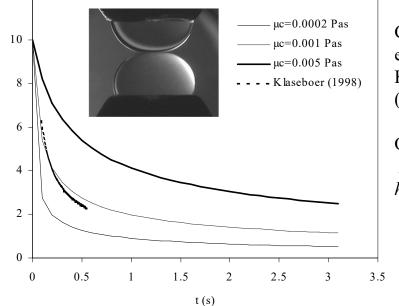
when  $h \ll h_0$  (at long time)

Validation against measurements of film thickness time evolution

 $F = \Delta \rho g \frac{4\pi R^3}{2} \implies t_d \cong \frac{\Delta \rho g \mu_c R^5}{4\pi^2 h^2}$ 

By taking the buoyancy force as F:

→ Increase of drainage time with viscosity of the continuous phase



Comparisons with experimental data of Klaseboer et al. (1998)

Oil droplets R=1 mm $h_0=10\mu m$ 

#### 1) Hydrodynamics of film drainage – Summary of characteristic times of drainage

# <u>Immobile interfaces</u> (droplets) - constant force F

From the Reynolds equation:

**Deformable** droplets

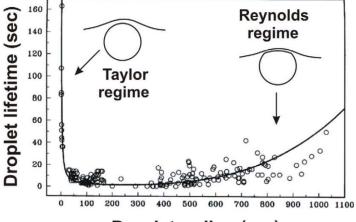
**Spherical** 

droplets

$$t_d \cong \left(\frac{3\mu_c R^2 F}{16\pi\sigma^2 h_{cr}^2}\right)$$

(see the previous slide)

→ Reynolds regime



Droplet radius (µm)

Danov et al. (2010)

 $h_c = \frac{3r}{R}$   $h_c + \frac{r^2}{R}$   $h_c = \frac{3r}{R}$   $h_c = \frac{3r}{R}$   $h_c = \frac{3r}{R}$ 

 $h_0$ : initial distance for drainage

→ Taylor regime, valid for *small spherical droplets* (Ca<<1)

Note a difference between deformable and spherical droplets:

Deformable  $\Rightarrow$  the higher is F, the higher the drainage time because of interface deformation.

Spherical  $\Rightarrow$  the higher is F, the lower the drainage time.

Eully mobile intenference (along bubbles) constant approach valority V

# Fully mobile interfaces (clean bubbles) - constant approach velocity V

$$t_d = \frac{3\mu_c R}{2\sigma} \ln(h_0/h_{cr})$$

Chesters, 1975

$$t_d = \frac{\rho_c V R^2}{8\sigma} \ln(h_0/h_{cr})$$

Summary of the different expressions in Chesters (1991)

#### Questions: emulsion destabilization

Case of an <u>emulsion with very small droplets</u>. Surfactants have been used as emulsion stabilizer.

Bo << 1 => spherical droplets

Re<sub>p</sub> << 1 => sedimentation or creaming negligible

Such an emulsion is stable over a long period of time.

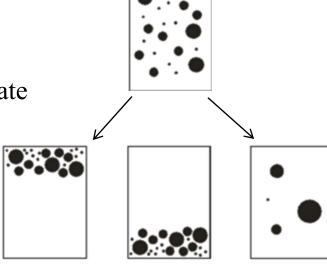
Centrifugation ("increased gravity") is used to accelerate the emulsion destabilization (= to observe if creaming/sedimentation/drop coalescence can occur).

 $\rightarrow$  Thus it is an experimental <u>test to simulate aging</u>.

Question: what is the effect of centrifugation on:

- o the drop sedimentation (or creaming) velocity?
- o the drainage time?

Mechanisms of emulsion destabilization



Creaming or sedimentation (depending on  $\Delta \rho$ )

Coalescence

# 1) Hydrodynamics of film drainage

Previous expressions are valid for droplets/bubbles of same radius, in the limit of small deformation h << a << R.

#### Case of droplets/bubbles of different sizes:

Chesters & Hofman (1982) have shown that these expressions remain valid provided an equivalent radius  $R_{eq}$  is used:

$$\frac{1}{R_{eq}} \cong \frac{1}{2} (\frac{1}{R_1} + \frac{1}{R_2})$$

1) 
$$R_2 = \frac{R_1}{2}$$

Examples: 1) 
$$R_2 = \frac{R_1}{2}$$
  $R_{eq} \cong \left[\frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{1}{R_2} + \frac{1}{2R_2}\right)\right]^{-1} = \frac{4}{3}R_2$ 

$$R_1$$

2) Drainage between a droplet and a planar interface:

$$R_{2} << R_{1} \qquad \qquad R_{eq} \cong \left[\frac{1}{2R_{2}}\right]^{-1} = 2R_{2} \qquad \frac{R_{1} \sim \infty}{\bigcirc R_{2}}$$

*⇒ Conclusion*: the radius of the smaller droplet drives the drainage kinetics.

#### 2) Time of interaction (or contact time)

Time of interaction  $t_i$  (or contact time): time spent by the fluid particles in close proximity

Expressions given in Chesters (1991)

#### Viscous collisions: droplets/bubbles are brought together by the flow

#### Shear flow



Contact force - Stokes regime 
$$F \sim 6\pi\mu_c RV \sim 6\pi\mu_c R^2 G_c$$
 Solid particles, droplets with surfactants, very viscous droplets.

Solid particles,

For clean bubbles or droplets:  $F \sim 6\pi\mu_c R^2 G_c f(\lambda)$  with  $\lambda$  the viscosity ratio

#### Turbulent viscous



$$\eta > a$$

$$G_c = \left(\frac{2}{15} \frac{\rho_c \varepsilon}{\mu_c}\right)^{1/2} \longrightarrow \begin{cases} F \sim 6\pi (2\rho_c \mu_c/15)^{1/2} R^2 \varepsilon^{1/2} \\ t_i \sim (2\rho_c \varepsilon/\mu_c)^{-1/2} \end{cases}$$

#### Inertial collisions: moderate and large Weber number

#### In a turbulent inertial regime (HIT)

Time for 2 droplets/bubbles to pass one another:  $\mathbf{d}/\mathbf{u}_d \sim \mathbf{d}^{2/3} \varepsilon^{-1/3}$  in HIT

But the time of interaction is typically smaller: because of inertia, droplets/bubbles need time to deform, and coalescence can only occur during this time... see next slide.







#### 2) Time of interaction (or contact time) – Inertial case

*In the presence of inertia:* 

Colliding drops/bubbles have kinetic energy

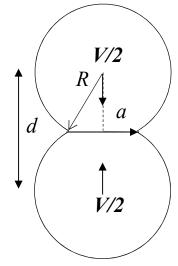
- → Converted into *surface energy*: drops deform and film is created
- → If no coalescence, converted again in *kinetic energy* (bouncing).

**Actual time of interaction** = time required for drop deformation.

Relative increase of surface: 
$$\frac{\Delta s}{s} = \left(\frac{a}{2R}\right)^4$$

Balance of energy: 
$$4\pi R^2 \sigma \left(\frac{a}{2R}\right)^4 \approx \frac{1}{2} m \left(\frac{V}{2}\right)^2$$

Chesters (1991) Kamp et al. (2001)

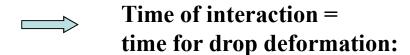


Idealized shape when relative motion is arrested

$$m = \frac{4}{3}\pi R^3 \rho_c (C_{am} + \rho_d / \rho_c)$$
 with  $C_{am}$ : added mass coefficient (1/2 for an isolated sphere, rising until 1 for spheres in close proximity)

$$=> (a/R) \cong (kWe/3)^{1/4}$$
 with  $We = 2\rho_c V^2 R/\sigma$  and  $k = C_{am} + \rho_d/\rho_c$ 

Distance variation z=2R-d between the drop centers is:  $z/R \cong (a/R)^2 \cong (kWe/3)^{1/2}$ 



$$t_i = z/V \cong \left(2k\rho_c R^3/3\sigma\right)^{1/2}$$

## Coalescence kernels: (A) coalescence probability and (B) collision frequency

# • (A) Probability of coalescence (or coalescence efficiency)

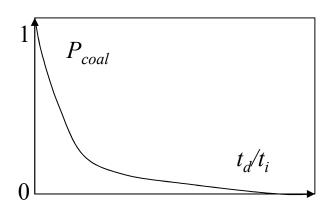
Several kernels available in the review of Liao and Lucas (2010)

$$P_{coal} = \exp\left(-\frac{t_d}{t_i}\right)$$

 $t_i$ : interaction (or contact) time

 $t_d$ : drainage time

→ Based on the expressions shown in the previous slides



General rules:

High contact time between droplets (as for concentrated media with low agitation)

=> high P<sub>coal</sub>

Short contact time as in turbulent flows:

=> low P<sub>coal</sub> - especially in case of high drainage time of film (case with surfactants).

#### Coalescence kernels: (A) coalescence probability and (B) collision frequency

## • (A) Probability of coalescence

Several kernels available in the review of Liao and Lucas (2010)

#### Drops in viscous simple shear

Partially mobile and deformable interfaces

$$t_{d} = \frac{\mu_{d}}{\sqrt{32\pi}} \left(\frac{FR^{3}}{\sigma^{3}}\right)^{1/2} \frac{1}{h_{c}} \qquad P_{coal} = \exp(-t_{d}/t_{i}) \sim \exp(-k_{0}\lambda Ca_{c}^{3/2}(8\pi\sigma R^{2}/A)^{1/3})$$

$$k_{0}, k_{1} \sim 1 \qquad Ca_{c} = \frac{\mu_{c}G_{c}R}{\sigma}$$

$$t_{d} \approx \left(\frac{3\mu_{c}R^{2}F}{16\pi\sigma^{2}h_{c}^{2}}\right) \qquad P_{coal} = \exp(-t_{d}/t_{i}) \sim \exp(-k_{1}Ca_{c}^{2}(8\pi\sigma R^{2}/A)^{2/3})$$

$$+ other expressions of t_{i} on slide 47$$

$$t_d \cong \left(\frac{3\mu_c R^2 F}{16\pi\sigma^2 h_c^2}\right)$$

$$P_{coal} = \exp(-t_d/t_i) \sim \exp(-k_1 C a_c^2 (8\pi \sigma R^2/A)^{2/3})$$

+ other expressions of  $t_d$  on slide 47

#### Bubbles in turbulent flow

$$t_d \sim \frac{\rho_c V R^2}{8\sigma}$$

$$t_d/t_i = \left(2k\rho_c R^3/3\sigma\right)^{1/2}$$

$$t_d/t_i = (2k\rho_c R^3/3\sigma)^{1/2}$$
 $P_{coal} = \exp(-t_d/t_i) \sim \exp(-\frac{1}{16}(3We/k)^{1/2})$ 

Probability of coalescence is higher at low Ca or We

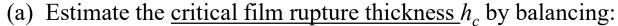
=> coalescence is not expected in zones where intense breakup occurs.

#### Exercise: shearing of an emulsion and drop size evolution

A dilute emulsion of castor oil ( $\rho_d = 961 \text{ kg/m}^3$ ,  $\mu_d = 0.742 \text{ Pa.s}$ ) dispersed in silicone oil ( $\rho_c = 963 \text{ kg/m}^3$ ,  $\mu_c = 0.048 \text{ Pa.s}$ ) was produced, having drops of average size  $d = 8.1 \mu m$  and an interfacial tension  $\sigma = 0.0043 \text{ N/m}$ . As surfactants were employed as emulsifiers (at low concentration) and  $\mu_d >> \mu_c$ , interfaces are immobile.

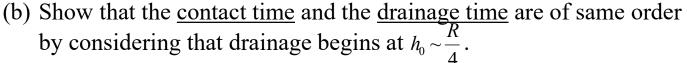
To study its evolution, the emulsion is sheared in a cone-and-plate device, at an average shear rate of 11 s<sup>-1</sup>.

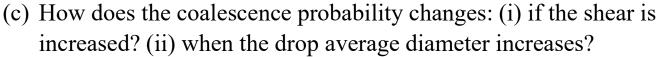
The drops are spherical, not deformed by gravity (Bo << 1), sedimentation or the imposed shear flow (Ca << 1).

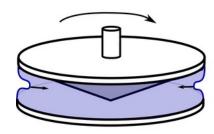


- the contact force exerted by the shear flow (drag in Stokes regime);
- the Van der Waals attraction force between equal spheres:

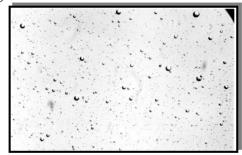
  Hamaker constant A ~  $10^{-20}$  J.  $F = \frac{AR}{12h_C^2}$



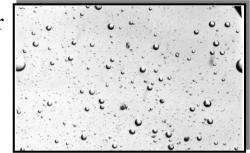




Cone and plate rheometer Hemingway et al. (2017)



Fresh emulsion  $d = 8.1 \mu m$ 



After 10mn of shearing:  $d = 12.9 \mu m$ 

# Coalescence kernels: (A) coalescence probability and (B) collision frequency

# • (B) Collision frequency between droplets/bubbles in the flow

It is defined based on the relative velocity  $u_d$  of the fluid particles of diameter d and d, times the section area of collision.

For droplets/bubbles of same size:

For droplets/bubbles of different sizes:

$$C(d,d) = -ku_d d^2 n^2$$

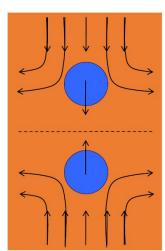
$$C(d,d) = -ku_d d^2 n^2$$
  $C(d,d') = ku_d (d_{eq}) \cdot d_{eq}^2 n(d) n(d')$ 

Collision frequency  $[m^3/s]$ 

$$d_{eq}^{-1} = \frac{d + d'}{2dd'}$$

 $u_d$  depends on the local properties of the carrier flow.

In a turbulent flow: high  $u_d =>$  high frequency of collisions. but low probability of coalescence.



Picture from Garg and Basaran

# Coalescence kernels: (A) coalescence probability and (B) collision frequency

# • (B) Collision frequency between droplets/bubbles

#### For dilute media

- Expressions for fluid particles of same size

$$C(d,d) = -ku_d d^2 n^2$$

Viscous shearing

$$u_d \sim G_c d$$
 et  $k = 2/3$ 



Turbulent inertial collision

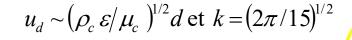
$$\eta < d < L$$

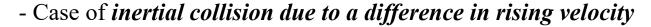
$$u_d \sim (\epsilon d)^{1/3} \text{ et } k = (8\pi/3)^{1/2}$$



Turbulent viscous collision

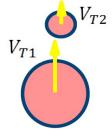
$$d < \eta$$





$$u_d \sim V_{T1} - V_{T2}$$

$$V_{T1} > V_{T2}$$
  
For  $d_1 > d_2$ 



#### For concentrated media

Concept of effective media: use of an effective density and viscosity for equivalent properties of the continuous phase

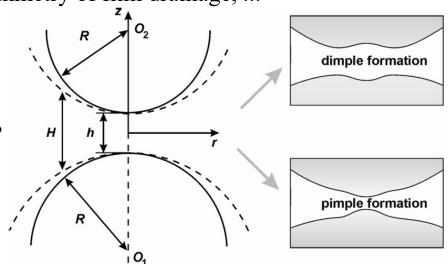
#### **Open questions on coalescence**

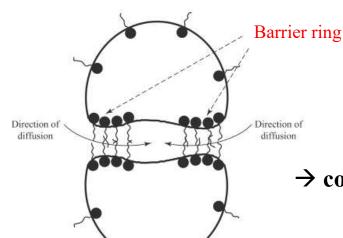
• Expressions for drainage time (and contact time) depend on theoretical assumptions: interface (im)mobility, drop and film shape, symmetry of film drainage, ...

→ need for experimental validations enabling a better understanding of coalecence

→ effect of mass transfer of a solute on drainage?

An instability in the gap can change the film topology from convex to concave shape Danov et al. (2010)





• Presence of <u>surfactants</u> at high concentrations (generally the case in *emulsions*): coalescence becomes limited by the formation of a hole:

barrier to coalescence due to molecular repulsive forces.

→ coalescence times become much larger than those of drainage, and experiments show that coalescence becomes 'stochastic'...

No predictive model of the coalescence time in this case!

Picture from Giribabu, Ghosh (2007)

#### Brief summary [including slides numbers for references]

Models for Population Balance Equation so as to predict bubble/drop size distribution: [2, 3, 4]

# **Breakup** kernels

• Breakup frequency  $\Gamma$ 

- [22, 35]
- Daughter drop size distribution  $\beta$
- [36]

#### **Coalescence** kernels

- Collision frequency C
- [55, 56]
- Coalescence Probability  $P_{coal}$  [53]

#### Depending on the physics at the bubble/drop scale

**Surface tension** resists to deformation (Oh << 1) [12-18] A hydrodynamic stress causes **deformation**: [19]



 $\bigcup_{U}$ 

Viscous breakup at small Re<sub>p</sub> [20-24] Inertial breakup at large Re<sub>p</sub> [26-28]

Critical Ca or We for breakup

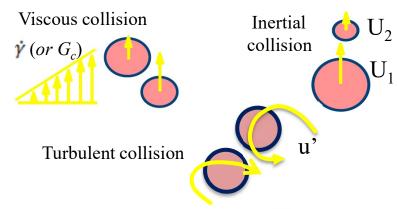


#### Turbulent breakup,

in the inertial regime (d > Kolmogorov scale) in the viscous regime (d < Kolmogorov scale)

[30-34]

A hydrodynamic stress causes **drop collisions**: [41]



Interaction time (contact time)  $t_i$  [50, 51] Drainage time for the film  $t_d$  [42-47, 49]

- → When drainage is the limiting step, risk of coalescence when  $t_d \le t_i$  [41, 52]
- → Surfactants inhibit coalescence [15,51]

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#### The main dimensionless numbers used to characterize interfacial phenomena

**Particulate** Reynolds number

$$\operatorname{Re}_{p} = \frac{\rho_{c} V d}{\mu_{c}}$$

#### **Inertial force / viscous force**

V = relative velocity between drop and bulk fluid

**Capillary** number

$$Ca_c = \frac{\mu_c V}{\sigma}$$
 or  $Ca_c = \frac{\mu_C G_C R}{\sigma}$  Viscous force / interfacial tension in a velocity gradient  $G_C$  experienced by the drop – see slide [20]

see slide [31] for Ca in the case of a <u>turbulent</u> flow

Weher number

$$We = \frac{\rho_c V^2 d}{\sigma} \quad or \quad We = \frac{\rho(G_c R)^2 d}{\sigma} \quad \text{Inertial force / interfacial tension}$$

$$We = Ca_c.Re_p$$
in a velocity gradient  $G_C$  experienced by the drop – see slide [27]

$$We = Ca_c.Re_{\mu}$$

see slide [31] for We in the case of a turbulent flow

Bond (or Eötvös) number

Bo or 
$$E\ddot{o} = \frac{\Delta \rho g d^2}{\sigma}$$

**Buoyancy force / interfacial tension** 

Characterizes the (static) drop deformation due to gravity forces

**Ohnesorge** number

$$Oh = \frac{\mu_d}{\sqrt{\sigma d \, \rho_d}}$$

**Internal viscous force /** (interfacial tension . inertial force)

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Characterizes the intensity of internal viscous forces, useful for highly viscous drops

#### **Table of contents**

# I- General approach: Population Balance Equations for dispersed two-phase flows

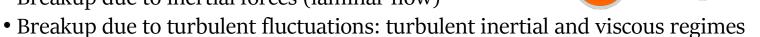
Need for closure models of breakup / coalescence

#### II- The interfacial tension: a mechanical property of the interface

- The interfacial tension: definition, examples and consequences
- Its role on interfacial phenomena
- Influence of surfactants

#### III- Breakup: physics and modelling

- General approach: definition of a critical non-dimensional number
- Breakup due to viscous forces
- Breakup due to inertial forces (laminar flow)



• Models of breakup frequency + daughter-drop size distribution

#### **IV- Coalescence: physics and modelling**

- Physical description of the coalescence process Coalescence or bouncing?
- Drainage flow and time scale
- Time of interaction
- Models for coalescence probability + collision frequency



#### V- Brief summary and main non-dimensional numbers