

# Stepwise drainage of thin liquid films stabilized by colloidal particles

Jerzy Bławzdziwicz<sup>1</sup>

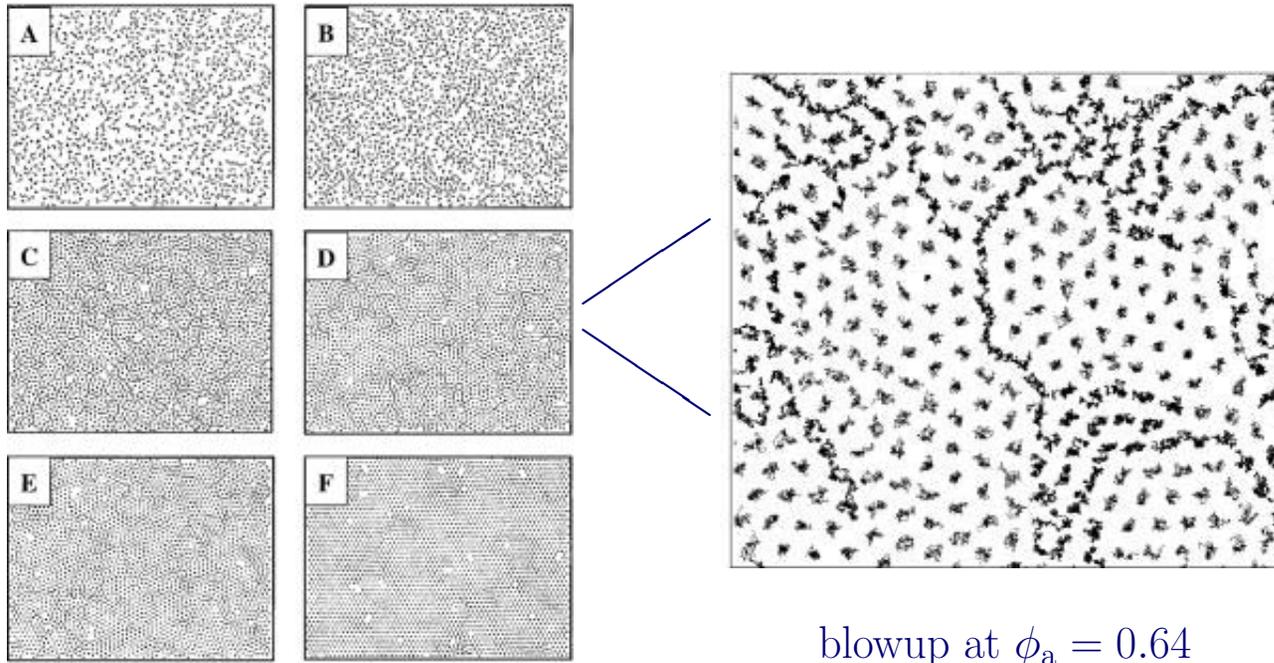
and

Eligiusz Wajnryb<sup>1,2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Mechanical Engineering, Yale University*

<sup>2</sup>*IPPT, Warsaw, Poland*

# Quasi-two-dimensional colloidal suspension

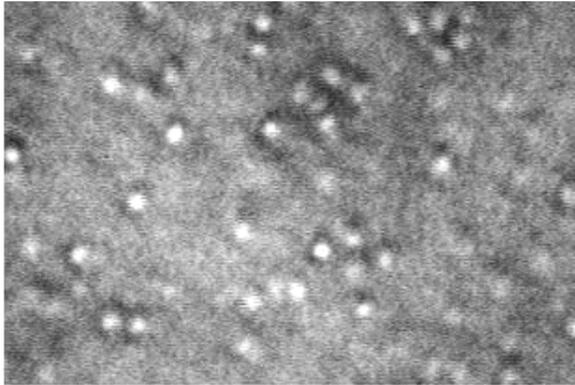


particle trajectories at different  
area fractions  $\phi_a$

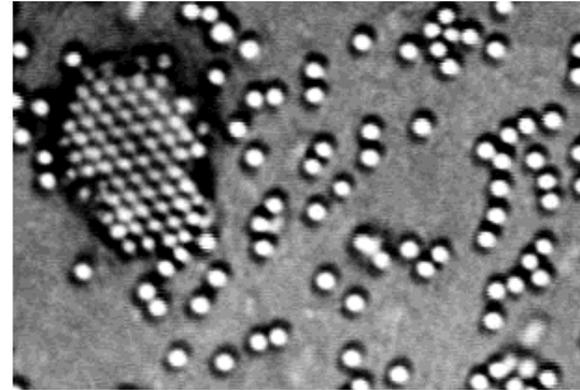
blowup at  $\phi_a = 0.64$

Cui, Lin & Rice (2001)

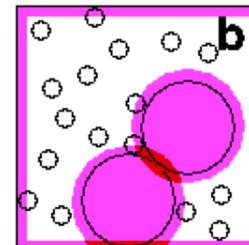
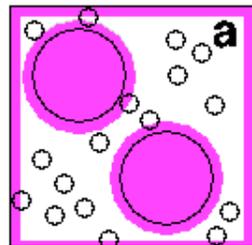
# Structural interactions



without macromolecules

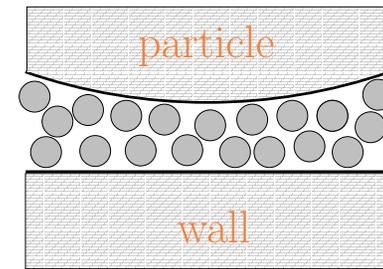
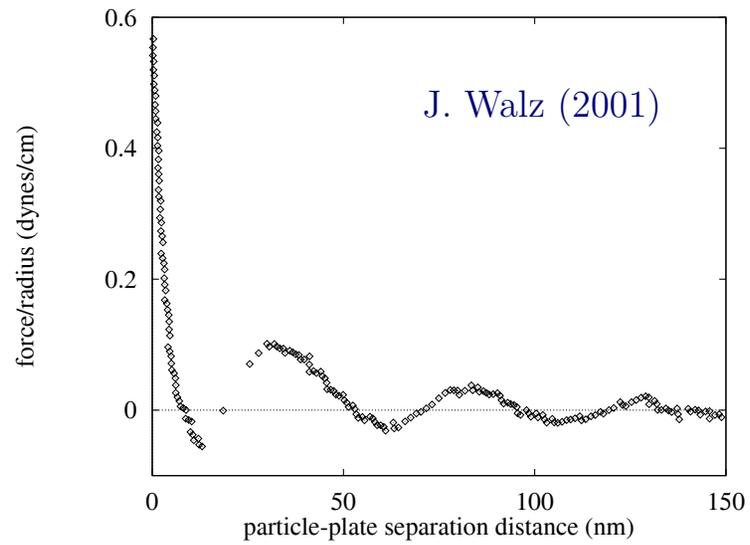


with macromolecules



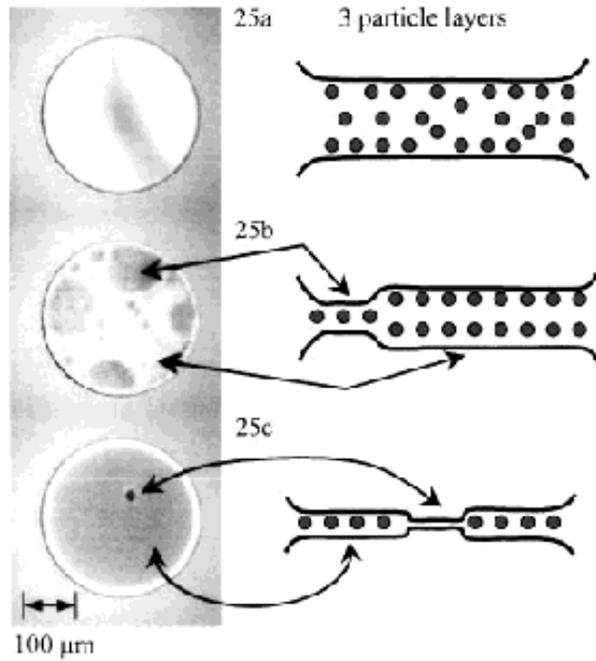
Dinsmore, Yodh, & Pine (2000)

# Effective structural force



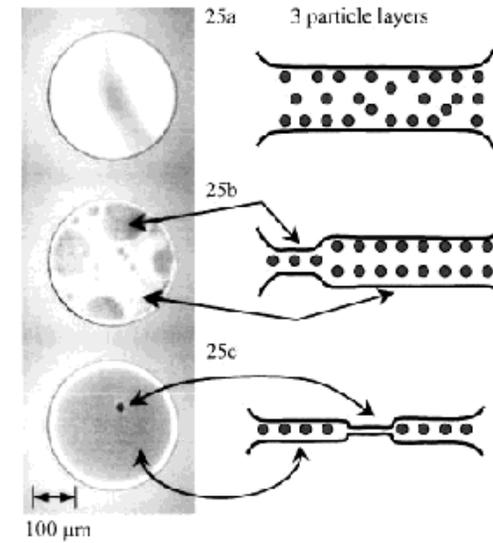
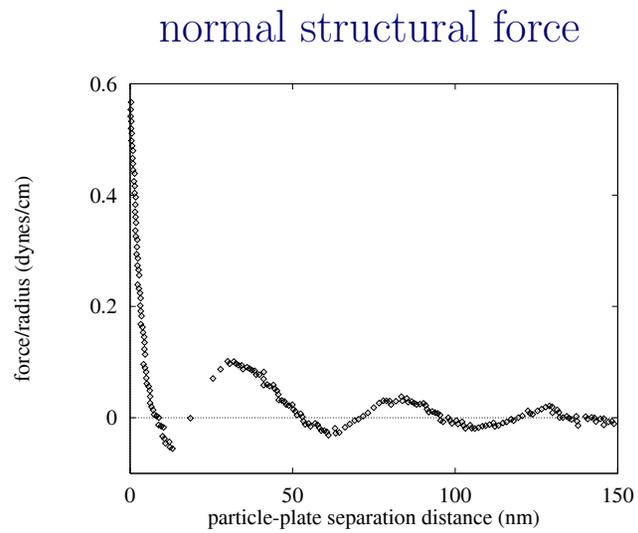
# Stratification of particle-stabilized liquid films

Early observations: Johnot (1906), Perrin (1918)



Sethumadhavan,  
Nikolov & Wasan (2001)

## Standard explanation:

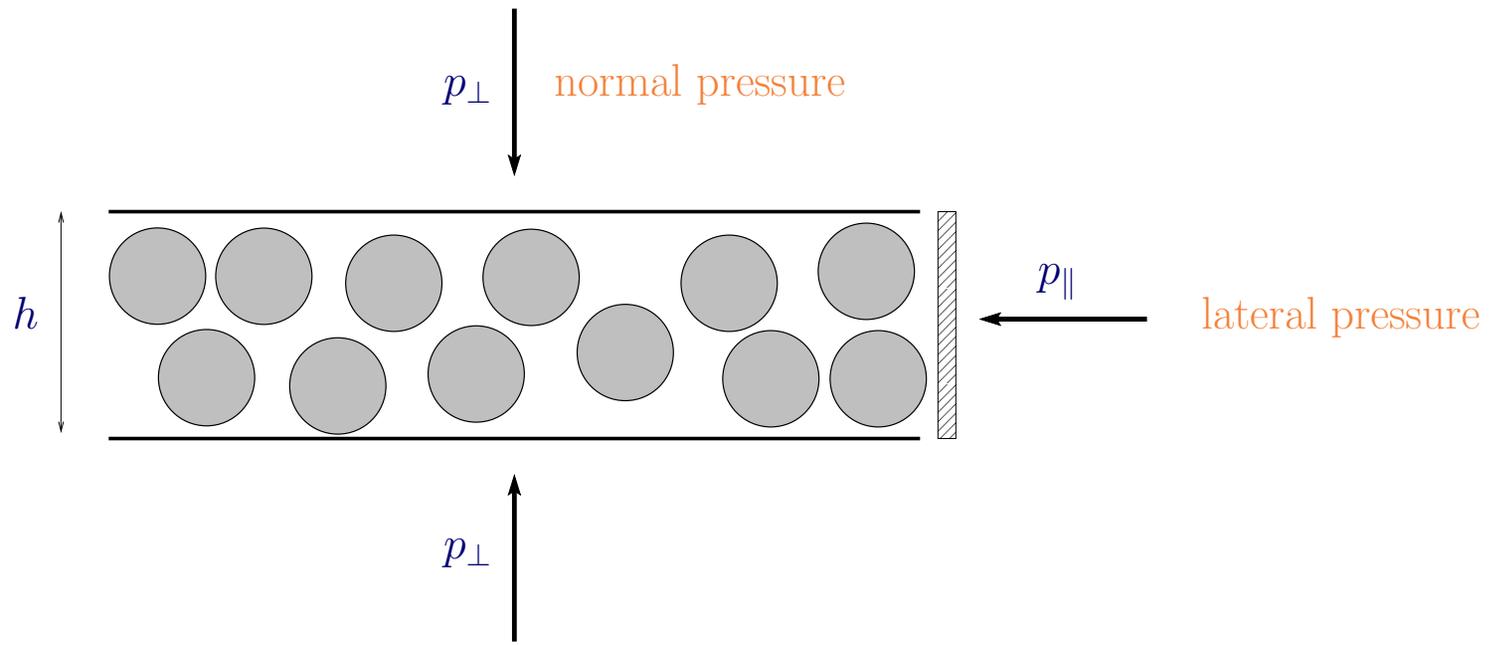


Missing: lateral force balance

## Outline

- Normal and lateral structural forces
- Thermodynamics of particle-stabilized films
- Constrained and unconstrained phase equilibria
- Irreversible thermodynamics
- Evaluation of transport coefficients
- Interfaces with different boundary conditions

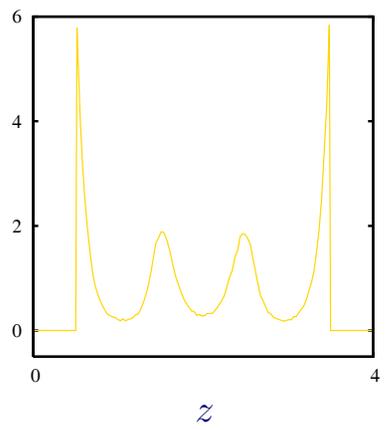
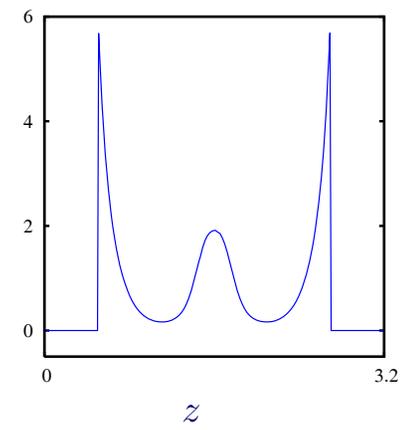
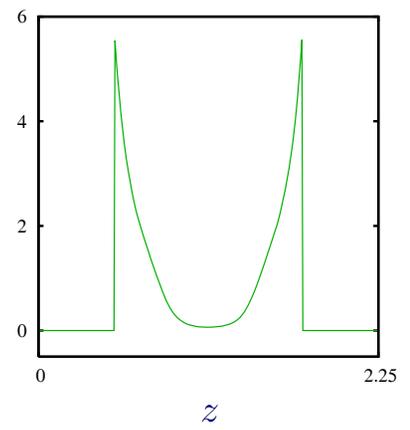
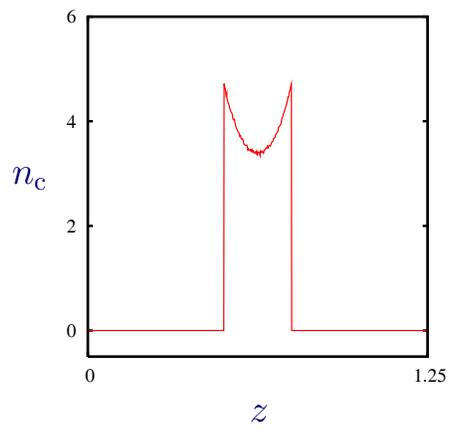
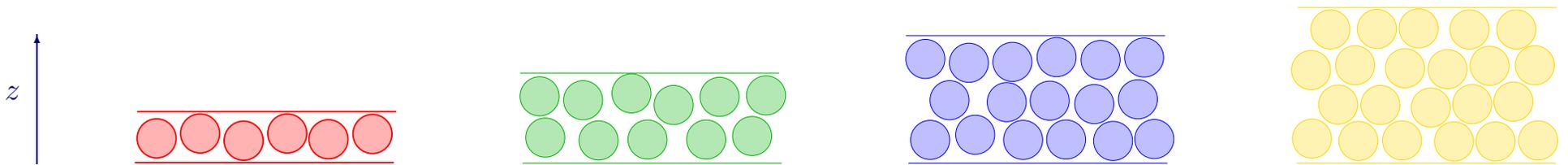
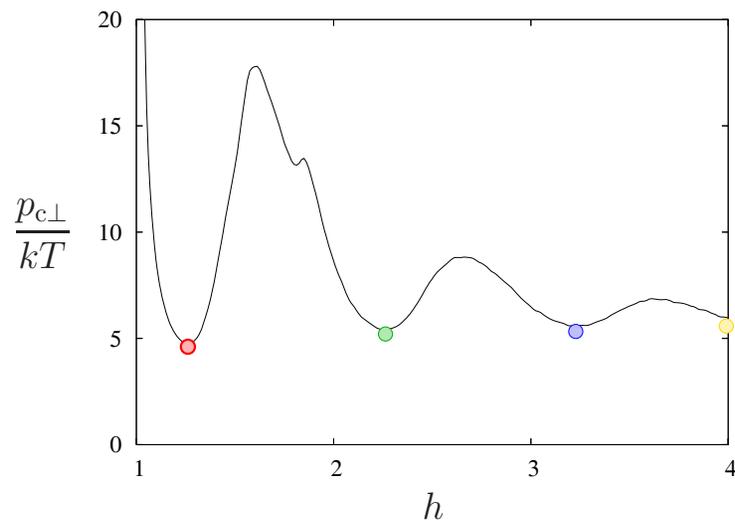
- Normal and lateral structural forces



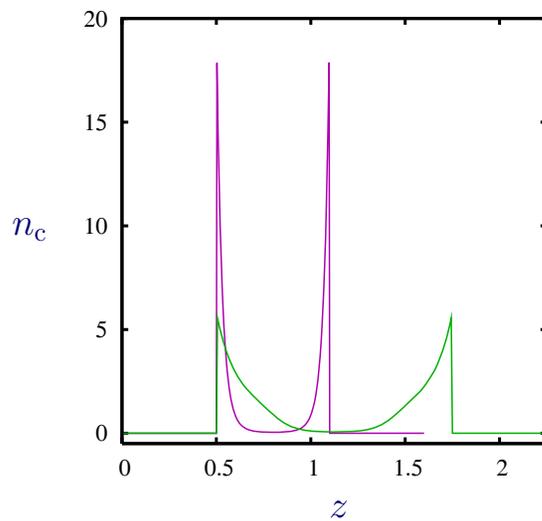
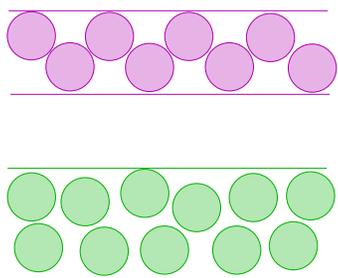
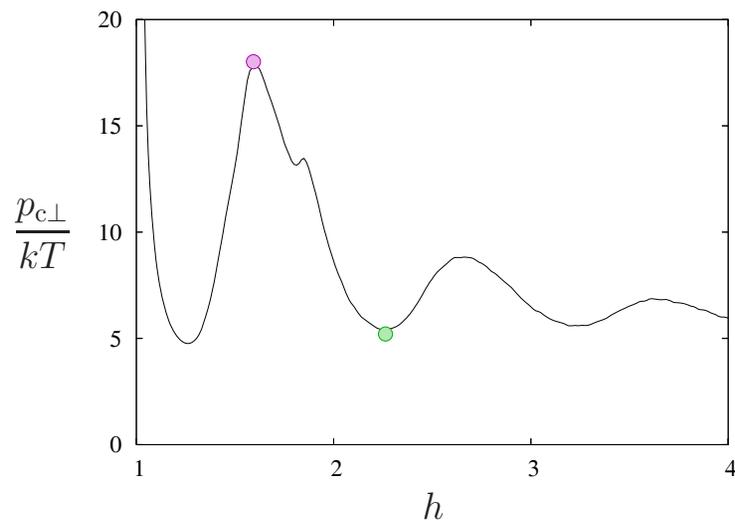
confined suspension of hard spheres

# Normal pressure

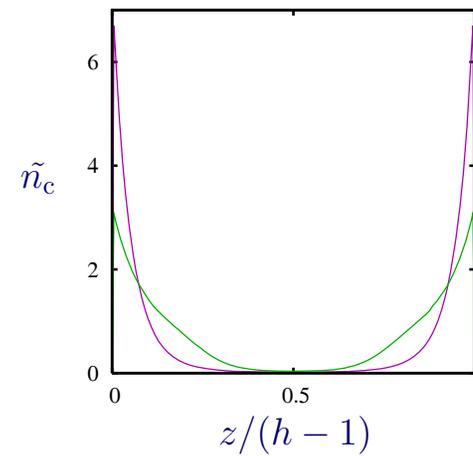
volume fraction  $\phi_c = 0.4$



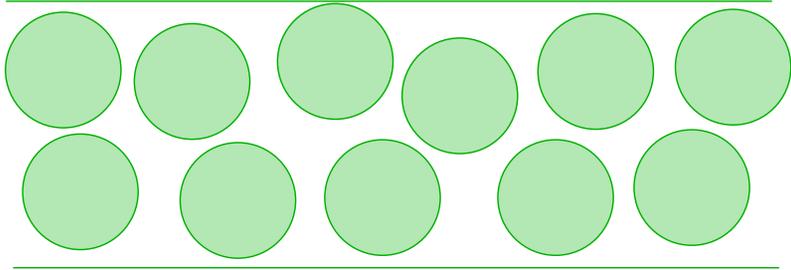
**Normal pressure**  
 volume fraction  $\phi_c = 0.4$



rescaled  $\longrightarrow$



# Lateral pressure



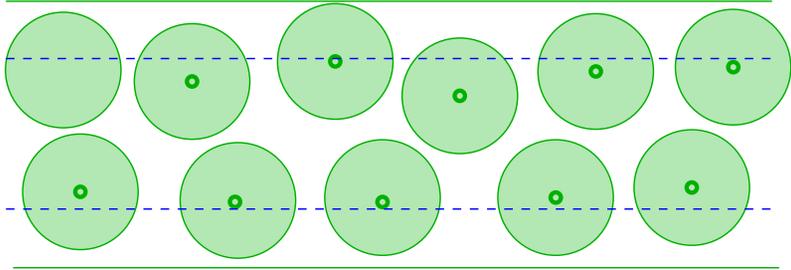
Non-isotropic particle distribution



$$\mathbf{p}_c = p_{c\perp} \hat{\mathbf{e}}_z \hat{\mathbf{e}}_z + p_{c\parallel} \mathbf{l}_s$$

$$\mathbf{l}_s = \hat{\mathbf{e}}_x \hat{\mathbf{e}}_x + \hat{\mathbf{e}}_y \hat{\mathbf{e}}_y$$

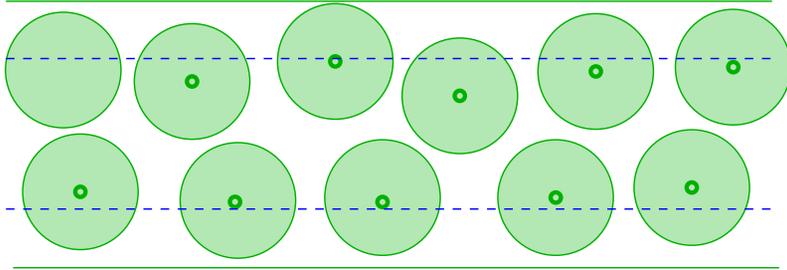
# Lateral pressure



$$\mathbf{p}_c = p_{c\perp} \hat{\mathbf{e}}_z \hat{\mathbf{e}}_z + p_{c\parallel} \mathbf{I}_s$$

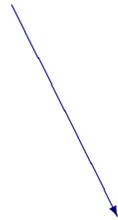
$$\mathbf{I}_s = \hat{\mathbf{e}}_x \hat{\mathbf{e}}_x + \hat{\mathbf{e}}_y \hat{\mathbf{e}}_y$$

# Lateral pressure



$$\mathbf{p}_c = p_{c\perp} \hat{\mathbf{e}}_z \hat{\mathbf{e}}_z + p_{c\parallel} \mathbf{I}_s$$

$$\mathbf{I}_s = \hat{\mathbf{e}}_x \hat{\mathbf{e}}_x + \hat{\mathbf{e}}_y \hat{\mathbf{e}}_y$$



---


$$\mathbf{p}_c = p_{c\perp} \hat{\mathbf{e}}_z \hat{\mathbf{e}}_z$$

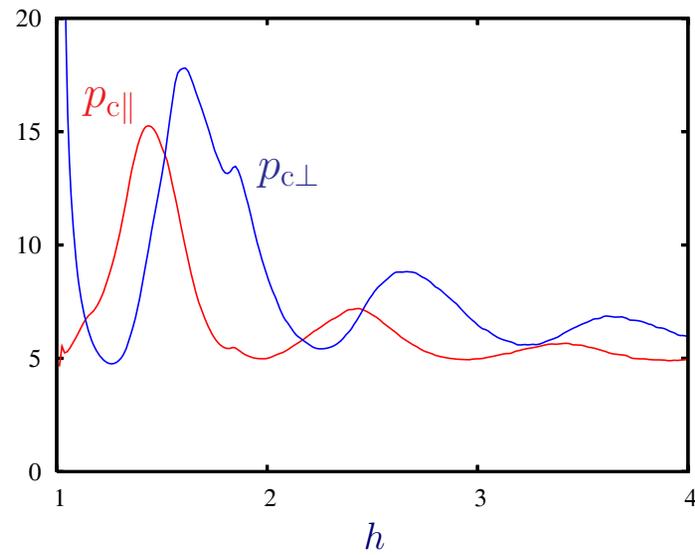
$$\frac{p_c}{kT} = n'_c + \frac{1}{2} d^3 \left\langle \int d^2 \hat{r} \hat{\mathbf{r}} \hat{\mathbf{r}} n_2^{\text{eq}}(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_1 - d\hat{\mathbf{r}}) \right\rangle_{V'}$$

---


$$\mathbf{p}_c = p_{c\perp} \hat{\mathbf{e}}_z \hat{\mathbf{e}}_z$$

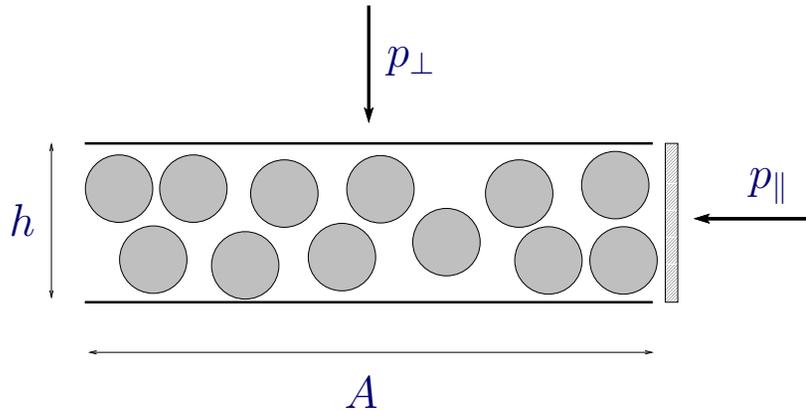

---

# Components of pressure tensor



$$\phi_c = 0.4$$

- Thermodynamic description



### Work

$$dW = -Ap_{\perp} dh + (2\sigma - hp_{\parallel}) dA$$

$$\Downarrow \quad \gamma = h(p_{\perp} - p_{\parallel}) + 2\sigma \quad \text{film tension}$$

$$dW = -p_{\perp} dV + \gamma dA$$

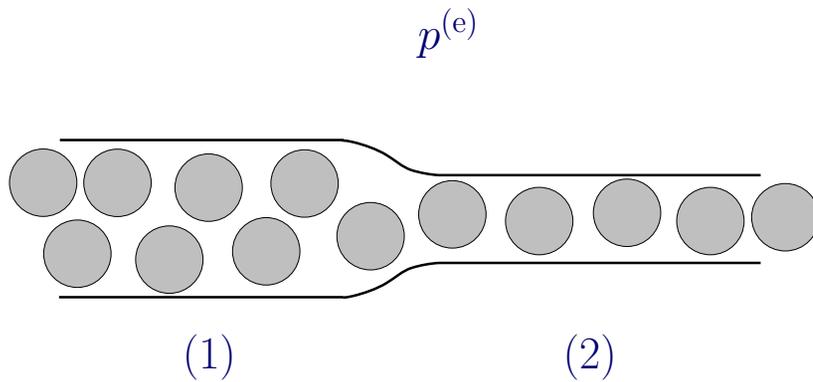
### Gibbs free energy

$$dF = -S dT - p_{\perp} dV + \gamma dA + \mu_c dN_c + \mu_f dN_f$$

$V, A$  extensive

$p_{\perp}, \gamma$  intensive

# Phase equilibria



$$\mathbf{p} = p_{\perp} \mathbf{l} + (p_{\parallel} - p_{\perp}) \mathbf{l}_s \quad \text{inside}$$

$$\mathbf{p} = p^{(e)} \mathbf{l} \quad \text{outside}$$

$$\gamma = h(p_{\perp} - p_{\parallel}) \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{excess} \\ \text{lateral force} \end{array}$$

## Equilibrium conditions

mechanical

$$p_{\perp}^{(1)} = p_{\perp}^{(2)} = p^{(e)}$$

$$\gamma^{(1)} = \gamma^{(2)}$$

chemical

$$\mu_c^{(1)} = \mu_c^{(2)}$$

$$\mu_f^{(1)} = \mu_f^{(2)}$$

## Colloidal contributions

$$p = p_{fl} + p_c$$

isotropic fluid pressure + nonisotropic osmotic pressure

$\implies$

equilibrium conditions

$$p_{c\perp}^{(1)} = p_{c\perp}^{(2)}$$

$$\gamma_c^{(1)} = \gamma_c^{(2)}$$

## Fundamental relation

$$dF_c = -p_{c\perp} dV + \gamma_c dA + \mu_c dN_c$$

( $T = \text{const}$ )

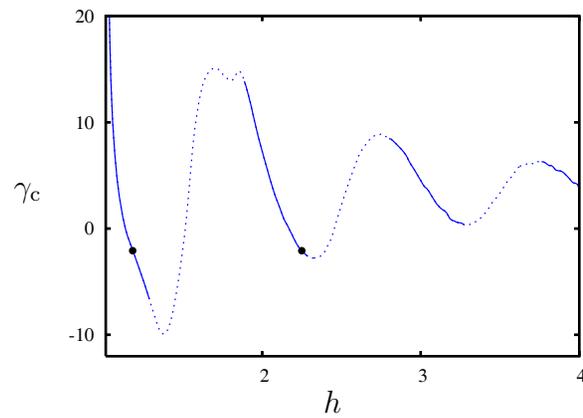
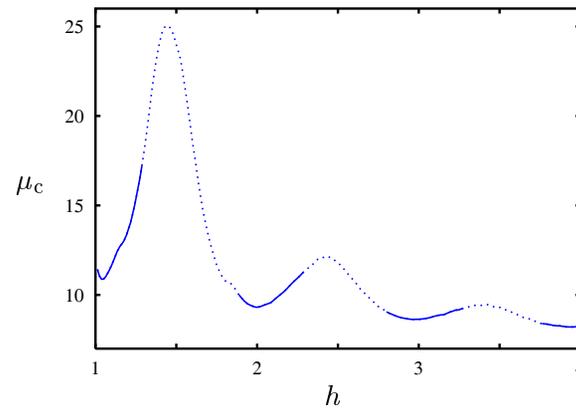
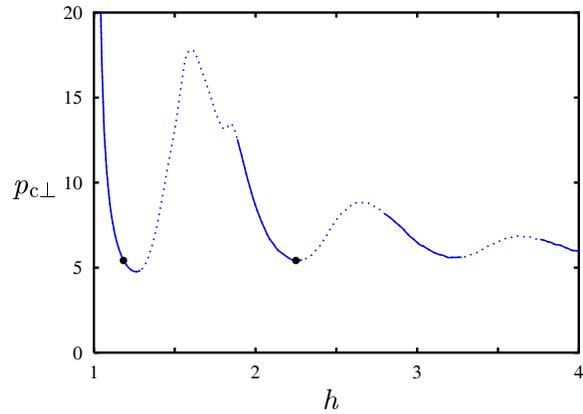
Chemical potential

$$d\mu_c = v dp_{c\perp} - a d\gamma_c$$

Gibbs–Duhem relation

$$v = V/N_c, \quad a = A/N_c$$

## Equations of state (Volume fraction $\phi_c = 0.4$ )



**Stability condition**

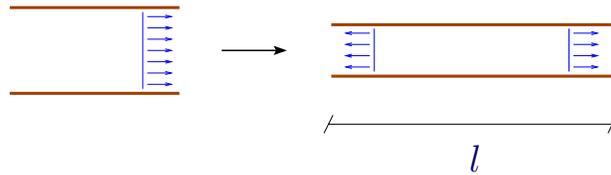
$$(\partial p_{c\perp} / \partial h)_{T\mu_c} < 0$$

# • Constrained and unconstrained phase equilibria

## Three relaxation mechanisms (surfactant-free film)

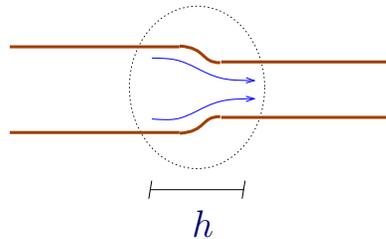
- area exchange

$$\tau_1 \sim \eta / (n_c kT)$$



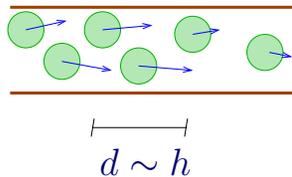
- volume exchange

$$\tau_2 \sim (l/h)\tau_1$$



- particle exchange

$$\tau_3 \sim (l/h)\tau_2$$



Energy-dissipation argument

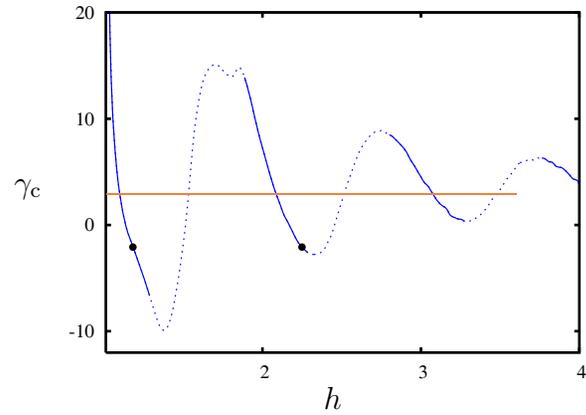
$$\eta(\nabla u)^2 V_d \sim n_c kT \frac{dV}{dt}$$

energy  
dissipation      work of  
structural  
force

# Anticipated equilibration phases

- **Timescale  $\tau_1$ :**  
area exchange by film-tension relaxation
- **Timescale  $\tau_2 \gg \tau_1$ :**  
normal-pressure relaxation by volume exchange at  $\phi_c = \text{const}$
- **Timescale  $\tau_3 \gg \tau_2$ :**  
chemical-potential relaxation by particle exchange

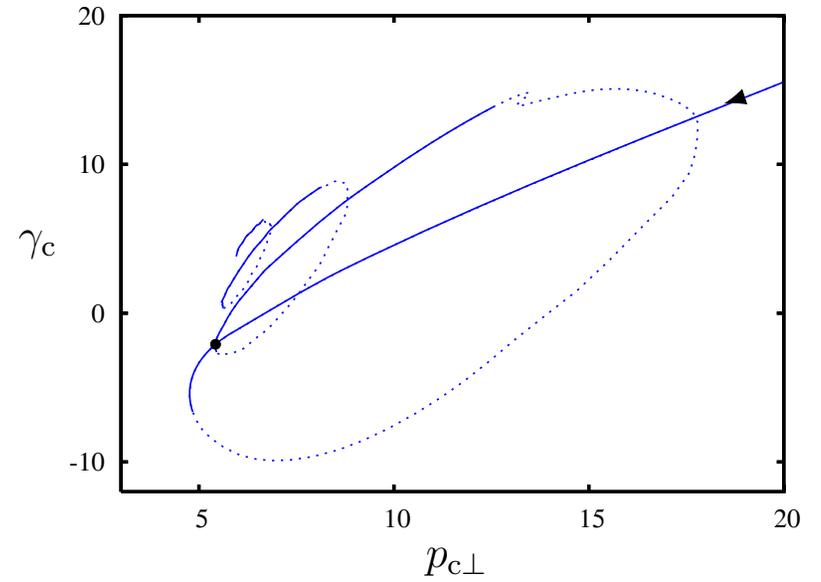
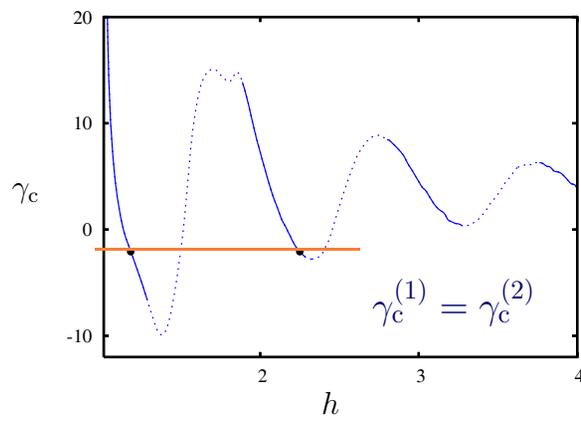
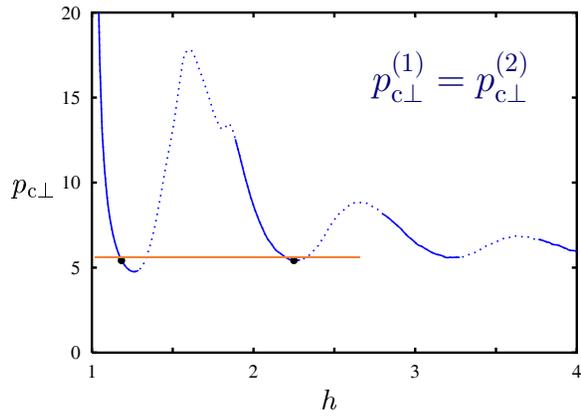
# Determination of equilibrium conditions



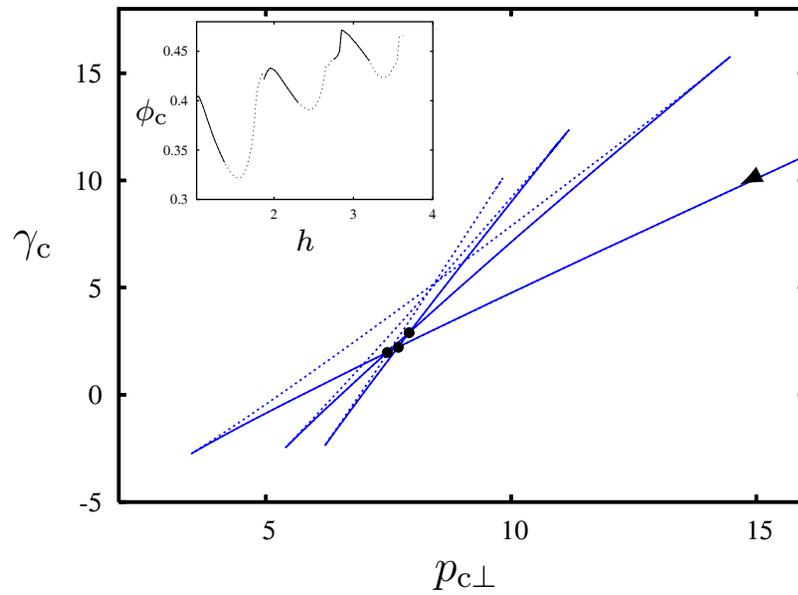
$$\gamma_c^{(1)} = \gamma_c^{(2)}$$

(partial equilibrium)

$$\phi_c = \text{const}$$



$\phi_c = \text{const}$   
 (partial equilibrium)



$\mu_c = \text{const}$   
**full equilibrium**

Explanation of plot shape:

$$\left( \frac{\partial \gamma_c}{\partial p_{c\perp}} \right)_{T\mu_c} = h,$$

which follows from Gibbs-Duhem relation  $d\mu_c = v dp_{c\perp} - a d\gamma_c$

# • Film hydrodynamics

long-wavelength limit  $\Rightarrow$  2D “compressible” flow

Conservation equations

$$\nabla_s \cdot (\gamma \mathbf{l}_s + \boldsymbol{\tau}_s) = -\mathbf{F}_s \quad \text{momentum}$$

$$\frac{\partial \nu_c}{\partial t} = -\nabla_s \cdot (\nu_c \mathbf{v}_s + \mathbf{j}_s) \quad \text{particle number}$$

$$\frac{\partial h}{\partial t} = -\nabla_s \cdot (h \mathbf{v}_s) \quad \text{volume}$$

$$\nu_c = N_c/A \quad (\text{particles per unit area})$$

Constitutive relations

$$\boldsymbol{\tau}_s = 2\eta_s [\nabla_s \mathbf{v}_s]_d + \kappa_s (\nabla_s \cdot \mathbf{v}_s) \mathbf{l}_s \quad \text{stress tensor}$$

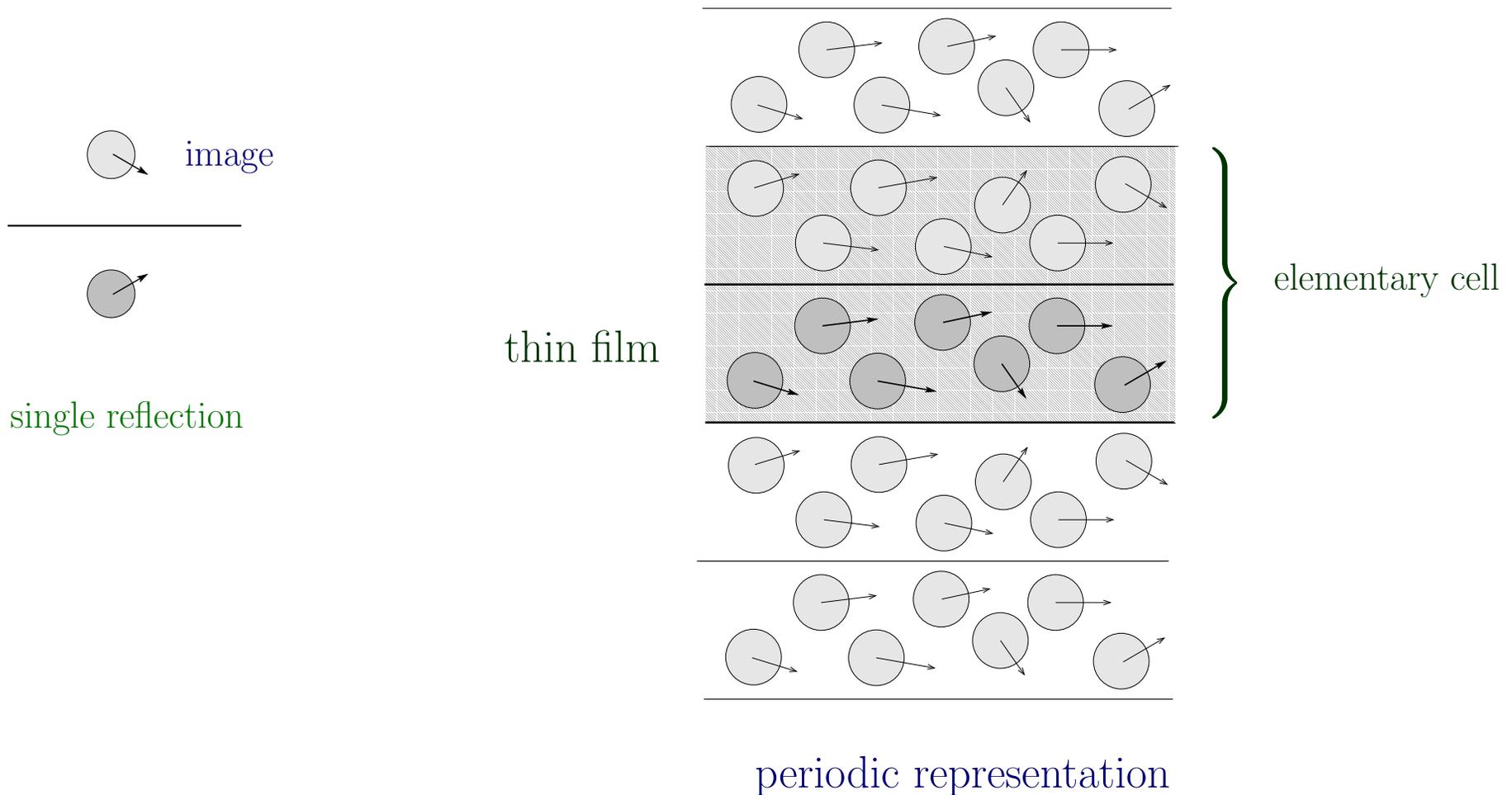
$$\mathbf{j}_s = -\nu_\mu \nabla_s (\mu_c + \psi_c) - \nu_p \nabla_s (p_{c\perp} - \psi_f) \quad \text{particle flux}$$

$$\mathbf{f}_f = -\nabla_s \psi_f, \quad \mathbf{f}_c = -\nabla_s \psi_c$$

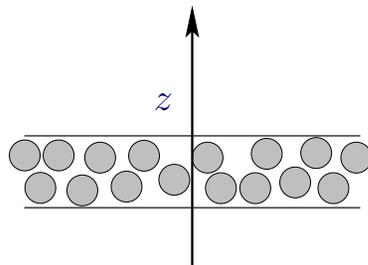
$$\mathbf{F}_s = h \mathbf{f}_f + \nu_c \mathbf{f}_c$$

- Evaluation of transport coefficients

## Multiple-reflection method (free interface)



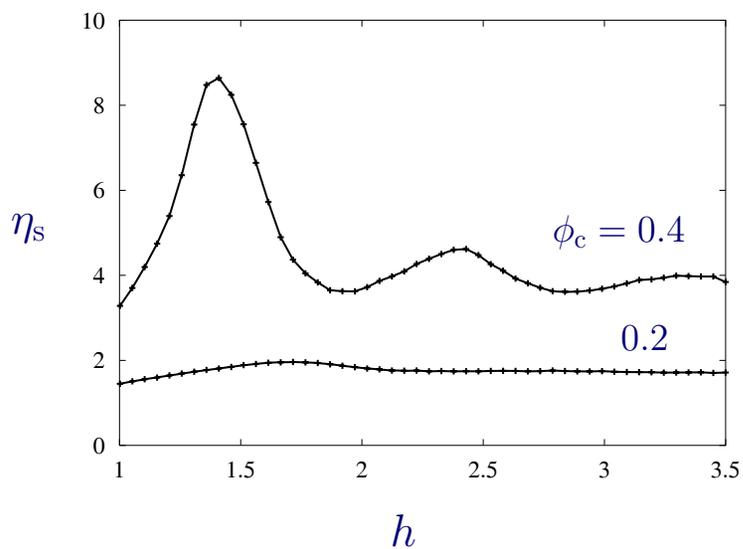
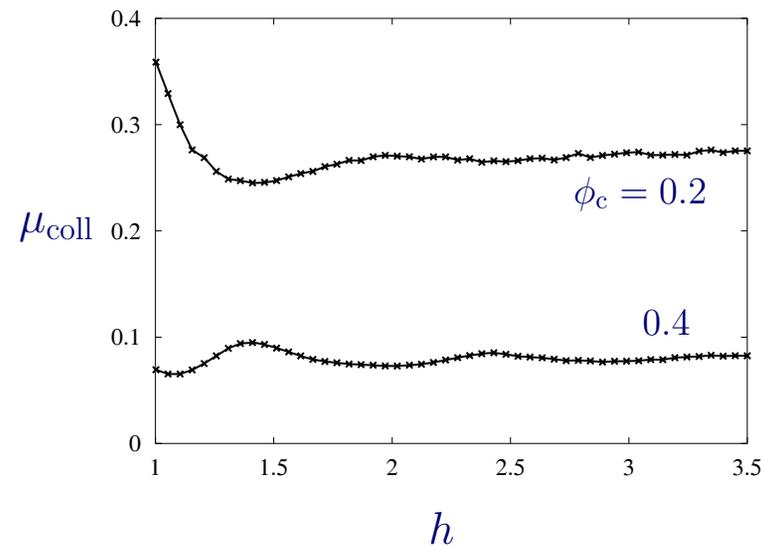
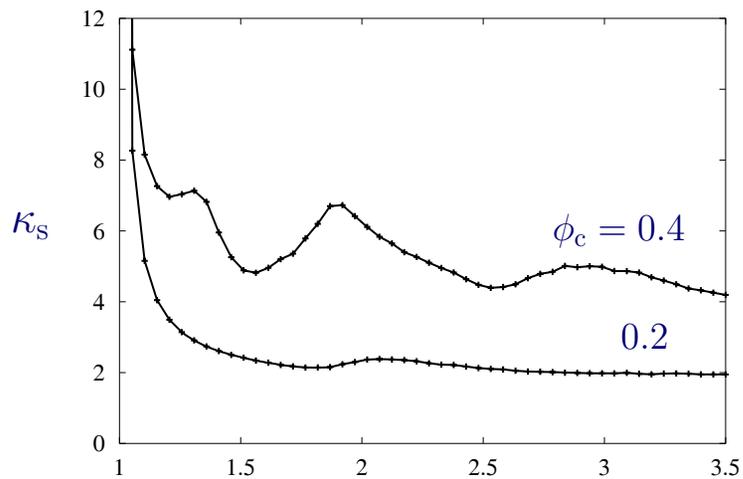
## Surface viscosity



$$\mathbf{E} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \longrightarrow \kappa_s \quad \text{compressional}$$

$$\mathbf{E} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \longrightarrow \eta_s \quad \text{shear}$$

# Numerical results



$$\mu_{\text{coll}} = h^{-1}(\nu_{\mu} + n_c^{-1}\nu_p)$$

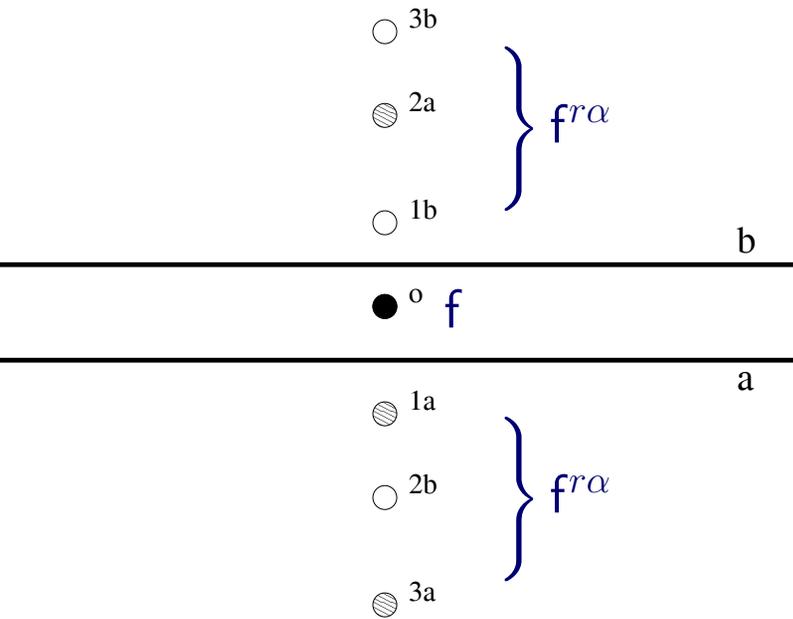
- Different boundary conditions

- surfactant-covered interfaces
- biological membranes
- rigid walls

collaborators: S. Bhattacharya  
M. Ekiel-Jezewska

# Image method

Image singularities



**Reflection matrix**

$$f^{r\alpha} = R^{r\alpha} \cdot f \quad r = 1, 2, \dots, \quad \alpha = a, b$$

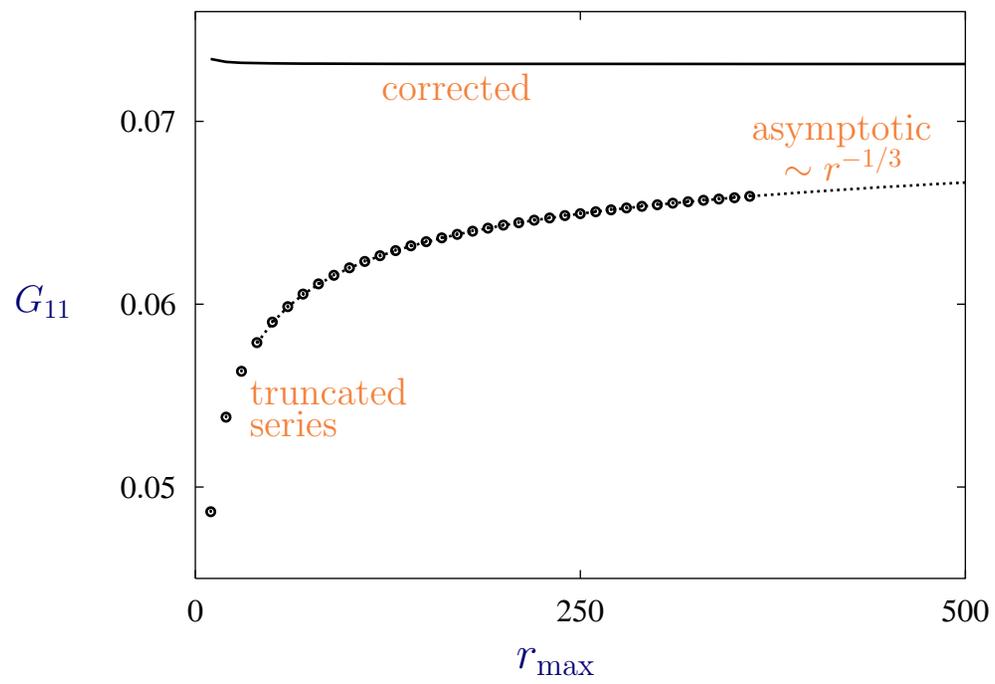
$$R^r = \prod_{i=1}^r R^{sw}(h^i) \quad \text{multiple reflections}$$

Rigid wall  $\Rightarrow$  order of  $f^{r\alpha} \geq$  order of  $f$

**Double reflection identity**

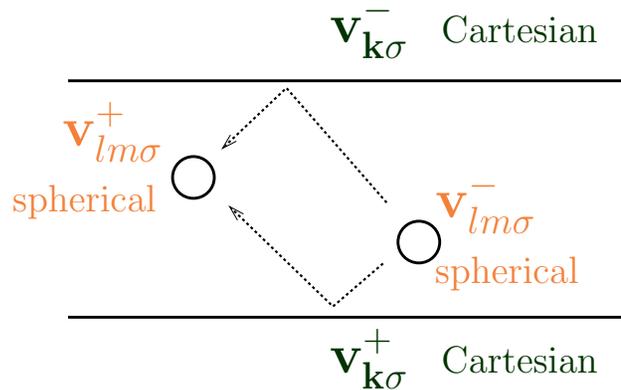
$$R^{sw}(h) \cdot R^{sw}(-h) = I \quad \Rightarrow \quad \text{commutation relations}$$

# Convergence problem



# Cartesian representation method

## Spherical and Cartesian basis fields



**Spherical:**

$$r^l Y_{lm}$$

$$\Downarrow$$

$$\mathbf{V}_{lm\sigma}^+$$

$$r^{-l-1} Y_{lm}$$

$$\Downarrow$$

$$\mathbf{V}_{lm\sigma}^-$$

Constructed from  
scalar potentials

**Cartesian:**

$$e^{+kz} e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot\boldsymbol{\rho}}$$

$$\Downarrow$$

$$\mathbf{V}_{\mathbf{k}\sigma}^+$$

$$e^{-kz} e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot\boldsymbol{\rho}}$$

$$\Downarrow$$

$$\mathbf{V}_{\mathbf{k}\sigma}^-$$

$\sigma$ : potential, vorticity  
& pressure solutions

$$\boldsymbol{\rho} = x\hat{\mathbf{e}}_x + y\hat{\mathbf{e}}_y \quad \mathbf{k} = k_x\hat{\mathbf{e}}_x + k_y\hat{\mathbf{e}}_y$$

## Transformation relations

Spherical  $\leftrightarrow$  Cartesian

$$\mathbf{v}_{lm\sigma}^{\pm} = \int d\mathbf{k} T_{SC}^{\pm\pm}(lm\sigma | \mathbf{k}\sigma') \mathbf{v}_{\mathbf{k}\sigma'}^{\pm}$$

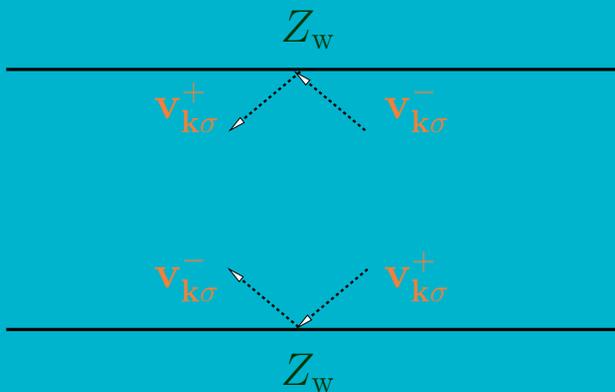
$$\mathbf{v}_{\mathbf{k}\sigma}^{\pm} = \sum_{lm\sigma'}^{\pm} T_{CS}^{\pm\pm}(\mathbf{k}\sigma | lm\sigma') \mathbf{v}_{lm\sigma'}^{\pm}$$

## Displacement relations

$$\mathbf{v}_{\mathbf{k}\sigma}(\mathbf{r}) \xrightarrow{S_C(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}')} \mathbf{v}_{\mathbf{k}\sigma}(\mathbf{r}')$$

$$\mathbf{v}_{\mathbf{k}\sigma}^{\pm}(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_{\sigma'} S_C^{\pm\pm}(\sigma | \sigma'; \mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}') \mathbf{v}_{\mathbf{k}\sigma'}^{\pm}(\mathbf{r}')$$

## Wall reflection

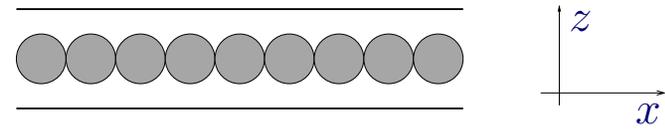
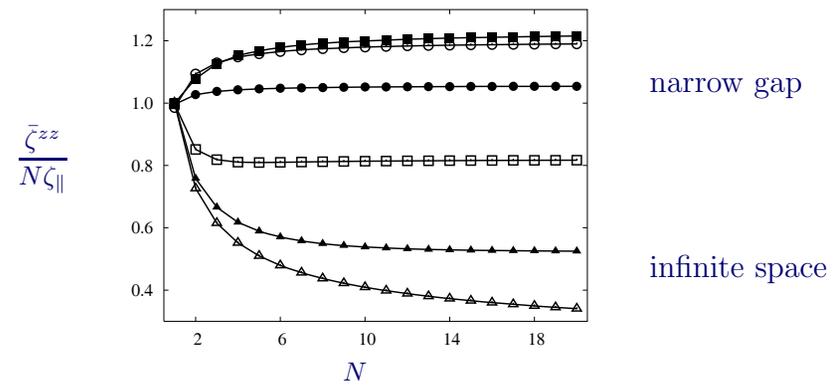
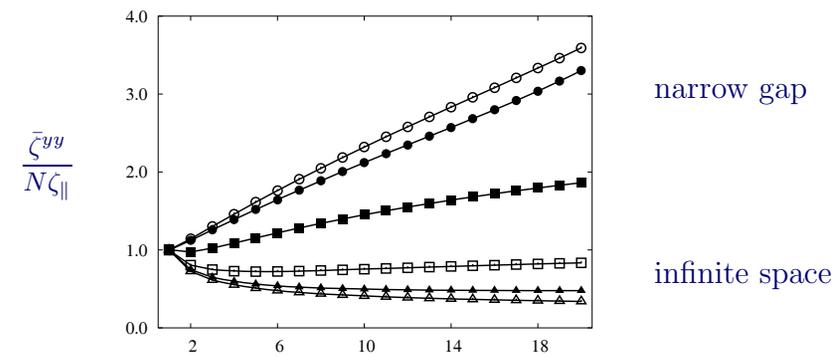
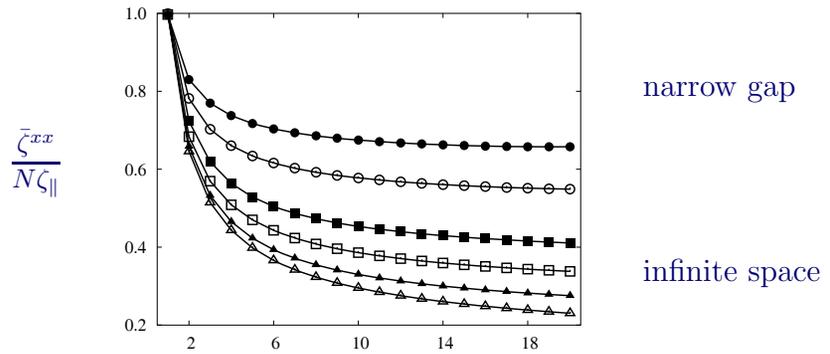


$$\mathbf{v}_{\mathbf{k}\sigma}^{\pm} \Rightarrow \sum_{\sigma'} Z_w(\sigma | \sigma') \mathbf{v}_{\mathbf{k}\sigma'}^{\mp}$$

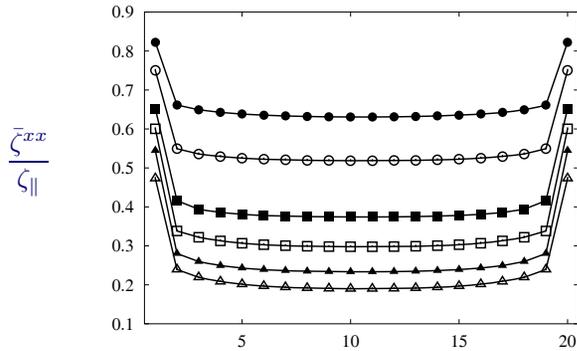
incident

reflected

# Linear polymer chains

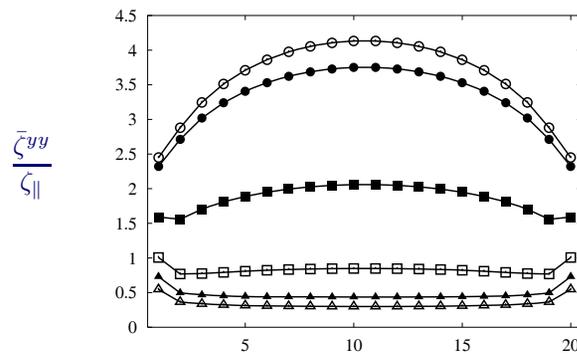


# Forces on individual spheres



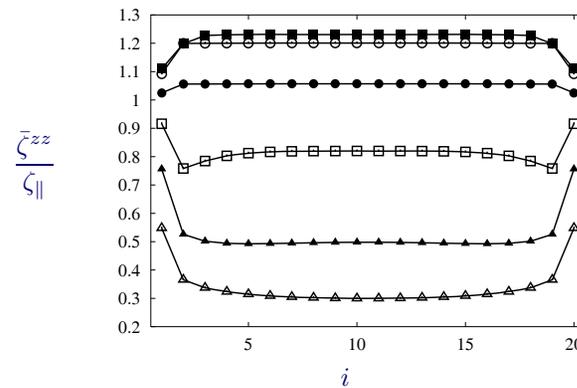
narrow gap

infinite space



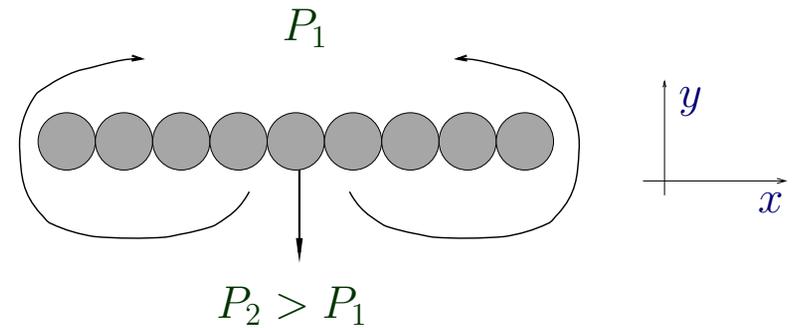
narrow gap  
(pressure effect)

infinite space



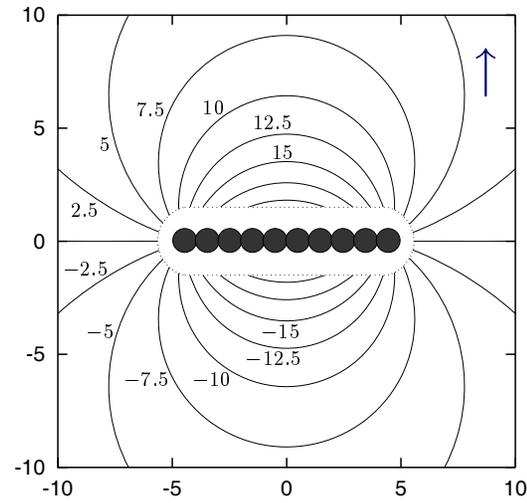
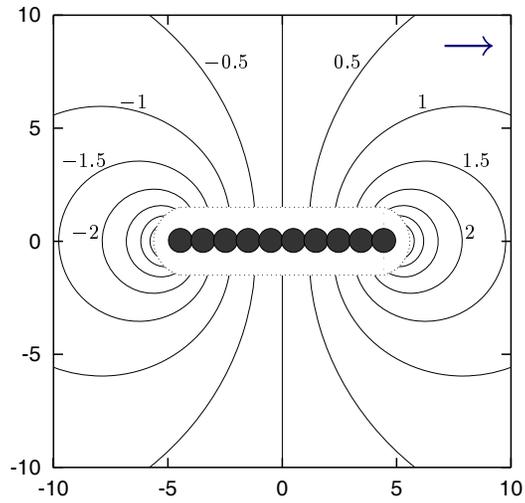
narrow gap

infinite space

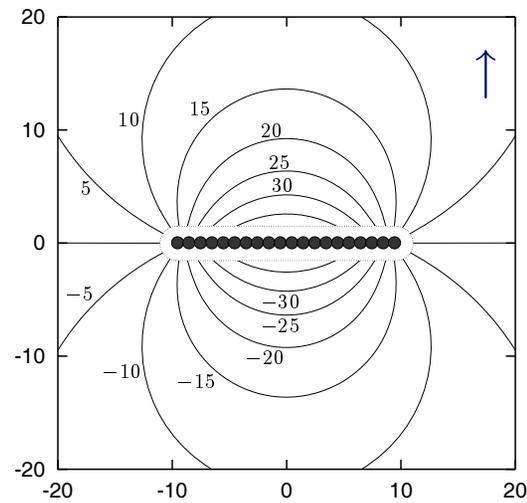
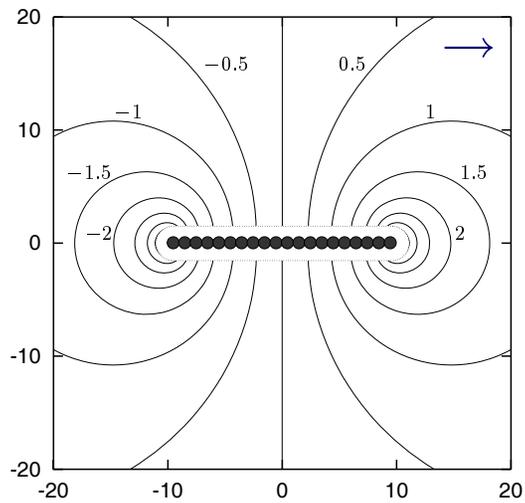


Pressure effect

# Far-field pressure



$$h = 1.05d$$



# Far-field approximation

## Hele–Shaw flow

$$\mathbf{v}^{\text{as}} \sim z(H - z)\nabla p^{\text{as}}$$

$$\nabla^2 p^{\text{as}}(x, y) = 0$$

flow determined by scalar field

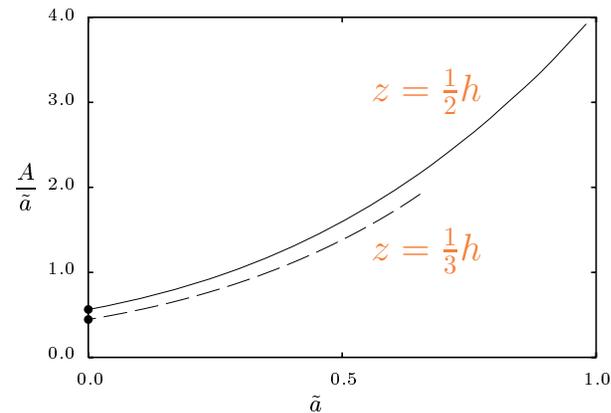
## Mutual friction matrix

$$p^{\text{as}} \sim \rho^{-1} \cos \phi \quad \text{far-field pressure}$$

⇓

$$\zeta_{12}^{yy} \approx -\zeta_{12}^{xx} = A\tilde{\rho}^{-2} + O(\tilde{\rho}^{-4})$$

In free space  $\zeta_{12}^{xx}, \zeta_{12}^{yy} = O(\tilde{\rho}^{-1}) > 0$

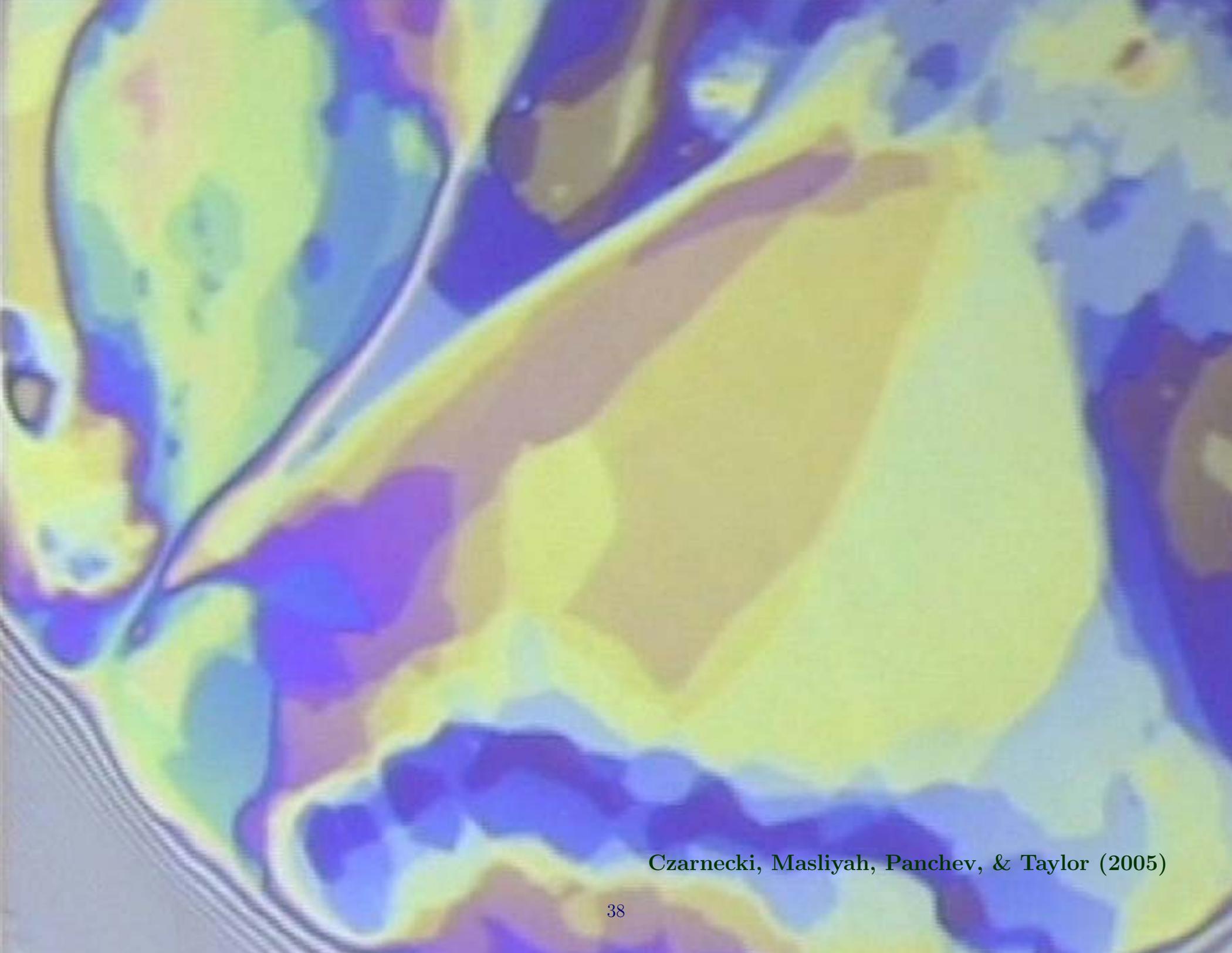


$$\tilde{a} = a/h$$

$$\tilde{\rho} = \rho/h$$

## Conclusions and future work

- Phase transitions in thin films
  - More realistic potentials
  - Transport through junction between regions of different thickness
  - Dynamics in presence of surfactants
  - Experimental: construct two-phase system in full equilibrium
- Development of hydrodynamic algorithms
  - Periodic systems
  - Iterative solvers
  - Fast-multipole or PPPM methods
- Cylindrical geometry: **Blood microcirculation!**



Czarnecki, Masliyah, Panchev, & Taylor (2005)