

High-speed imaging of drops and bubbles



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- **How fast do free-surface flows move?**
 - Drop and bubble oscillations
 - Coalescence Cascade of a drop
- **Imaging and high-speed camera types**
 - Rotating mirror cameras
 - Image converter cameras
 - Very fastest cameras
 - CCD and CMOS high-speed video cameras
- **The pinch-off of a drop or a bubble from a nozzle**
 - Relevant forces
 - Low viscosity pinch-off
 - Effect of higher viscosity
- **Coalescence of two drops or two bubbles**
 - Similarity solutions
 - Experimental considerations
 - Simple dynamical models
 - Interface shape and capillary waves
 - Miscible drops

Outline

- **1. How fast do free-surface flows move?**
why 1,000,000 fps?
- **2. Imaging and high-speed camera types**
high-speed CCD video cameras
- **3. The pinch-off of a drop or a bubble
from a nozzle**
Different dynamics!
- **4. Coalescence of two drops or two bubbles**
Miscible drops

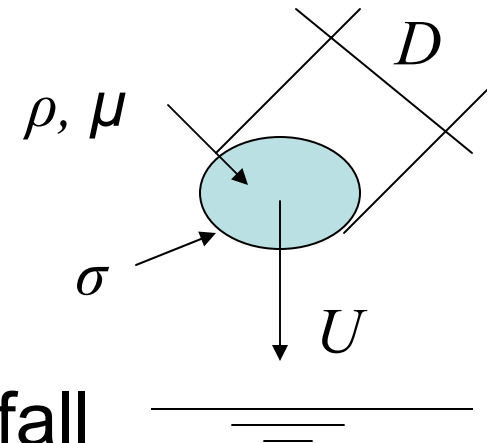
Parameter Space

- **Relevant forces:**

1. Surface tension, σ
2. Inertia
3. Viscous forces

- **Ignore Gravity**, $dx = \frac{1}{2} g t^2$

in $t = 1 \text{ ms}$, $dx = 5 \mu\text{m}$ in free-fall



- $Re = \rho U D / \mu$

- $We = \rho D U^2 / \sigma$ **kinetic / surface energies**

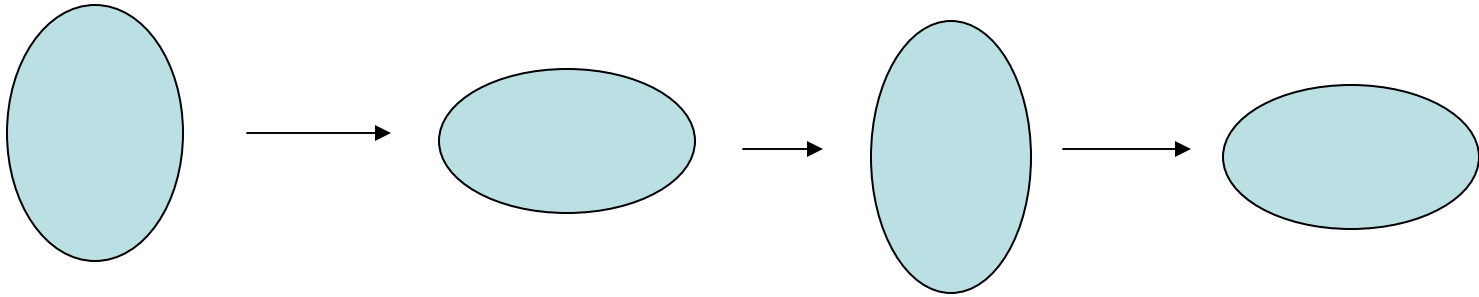
- $Ca = \mu U / \sigma$

-
-

Dynamic air pressure!

Drop shape

1. How fast do free-surface flows move?



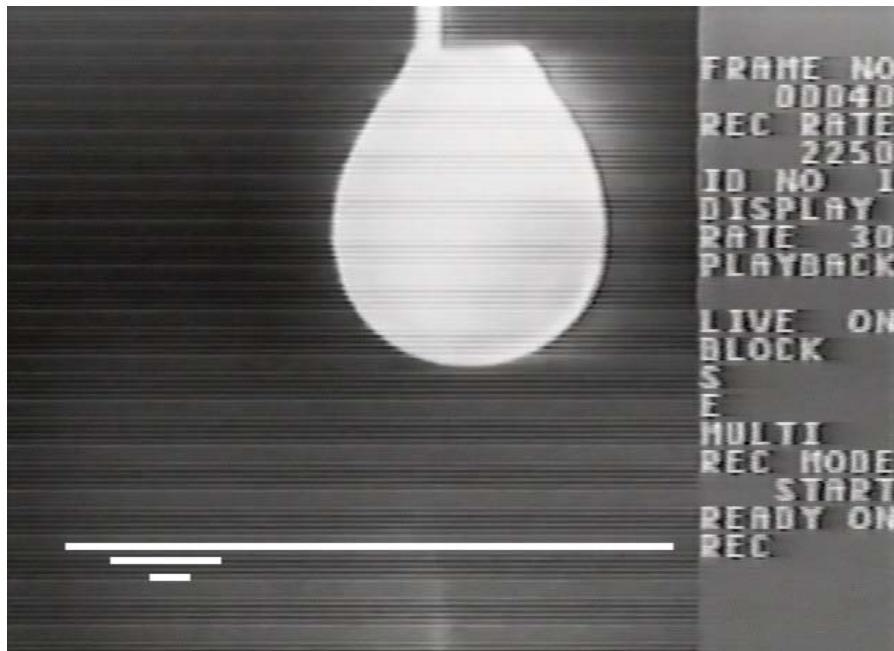
$$\omega_n = \sqrt{\frac{\sigma}{\rho R_i^3} n(n-1)(n+2)}$$

$$\omega_2 = \sqrt{\frac{\sigma}{\rho R_i^3}} 8$$

$$R = 100, \quad 10, \quad 1 \text{ } \mu\text{m}$$

$$\omega_2 = 3.8, \quad 120, \quad 3800 \text{ kHz}$$

Small impact velocity Drop rests on pool surface

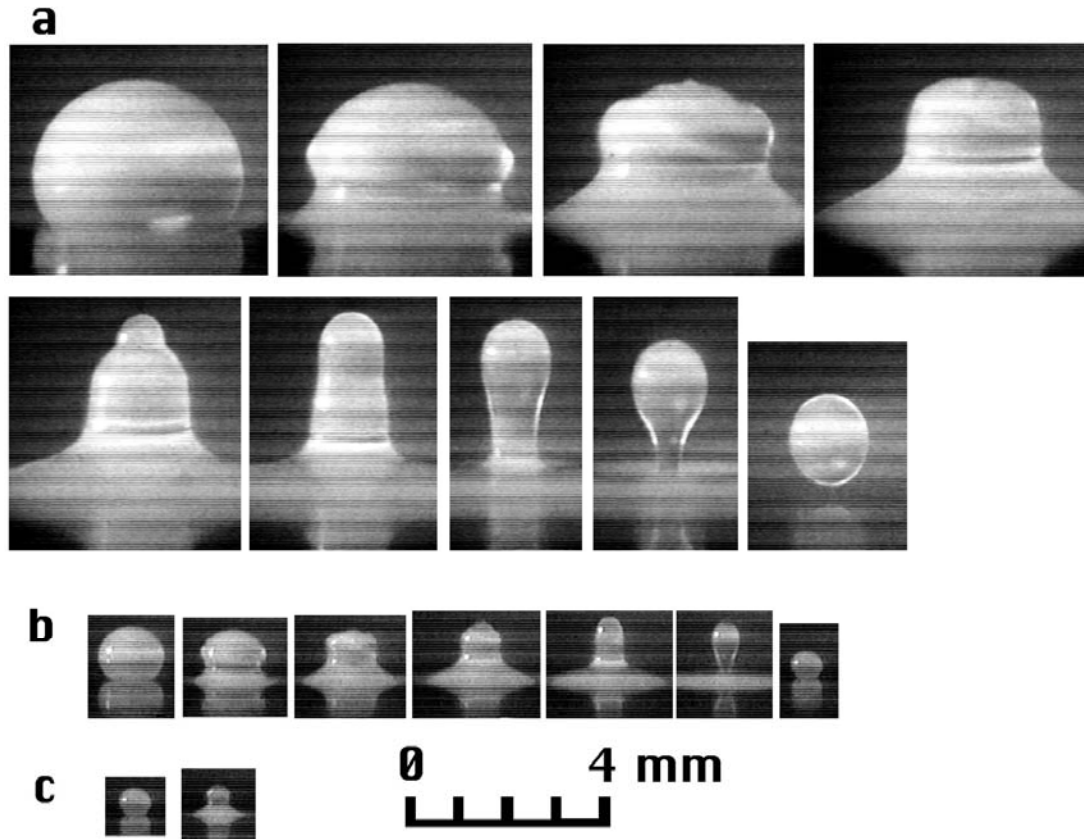


Real time



2250 frames/s

Coalescence Cascade

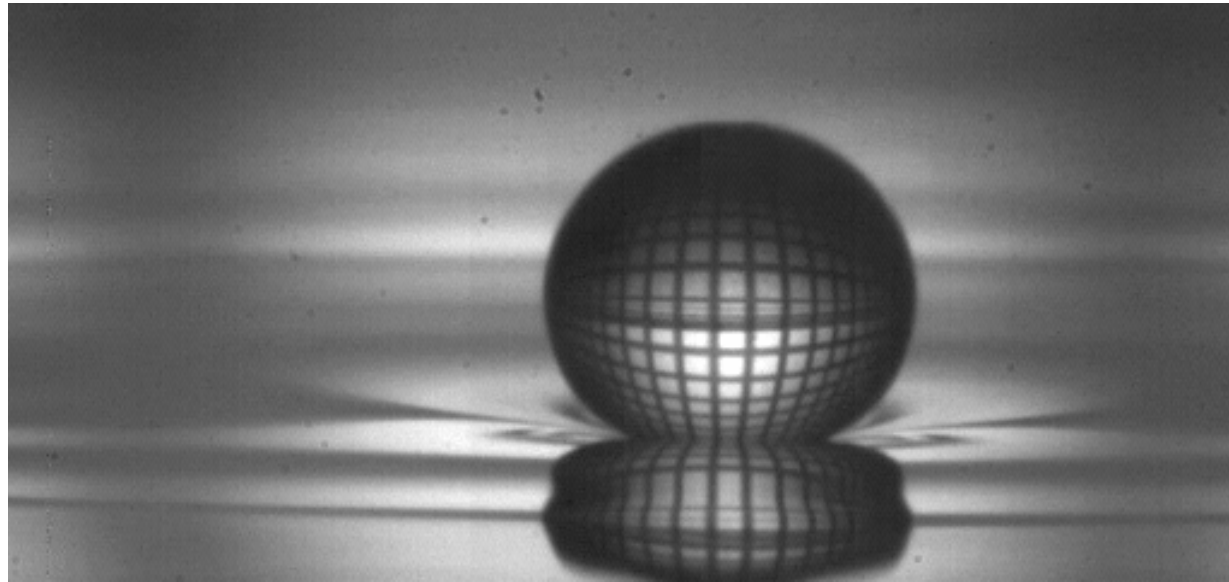


Six steps

In cascade!

Thoroddsen & Takehara (2000) *Phys. Fluids*, **12**, p. 1265

Liquid-Liquid case → Charles & Mason (1960) *J. Colloid Sci.* **15**, 105

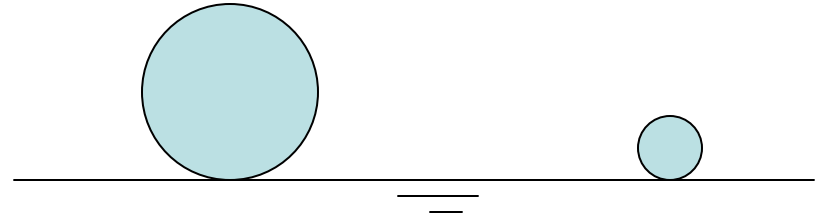


Time-scale of each step T_s

Time between first contact \rightarrow daughter drop pinch-off

Capillary-inertial Scaling

- Geometric similarity:



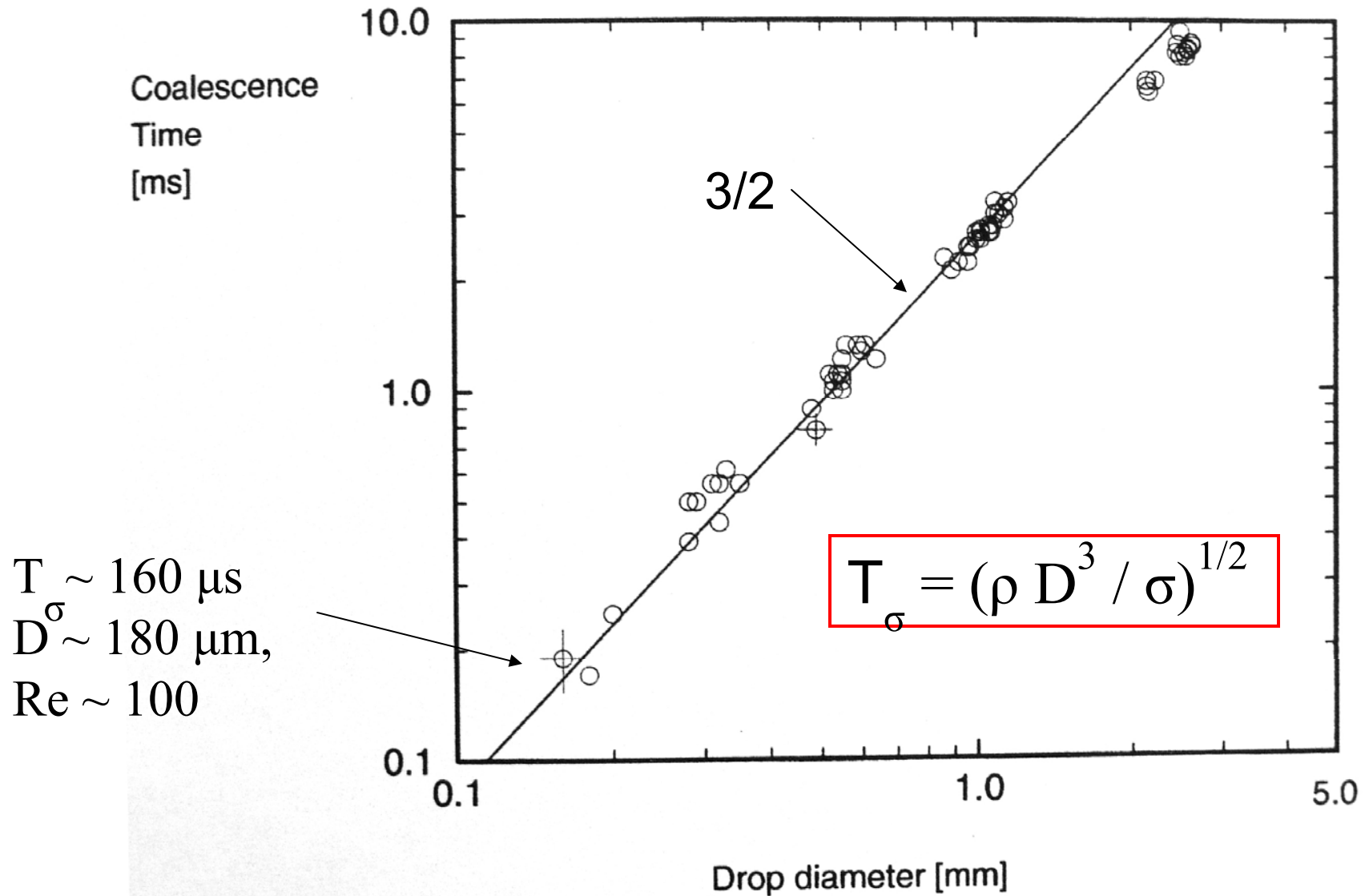
- Dynamic similarity:

$$T_{\sigma} = (\rho D^3 / \sigma)^{1/2} \quad \Rightarrow \quad U = D / T_{\sigma}$$

$$\begin{aligned} We &= \rho D U^2 / \sigma = \rho D \left(D / (\rho D^3 / \sigma)^{1/2} \right)^2 / \sigma \\ &= \rho D D^2 / (\rho D^3 / \sigma) / \sigma = 1 \end{aligned}$$

How small?

Coalescence Times for alcohol



$$U = D / T_\sigma$$

Viscosity?

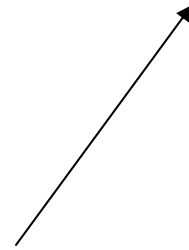
$$\begin{aligned} Re &= \rho D U / \mu = \rho D (D / (\rho D^3 / \sigma)^{1/2}) / \mu \\ &= (\rho D \sigma)^{1/2} / \mu \sim D^{1/2} \end{aligned}$$

weak $\neq D$

Smallest drop, $D \sim 180 \mu m \Rightarrow Re = 60$

$$Re = \rho DU/\mu$$

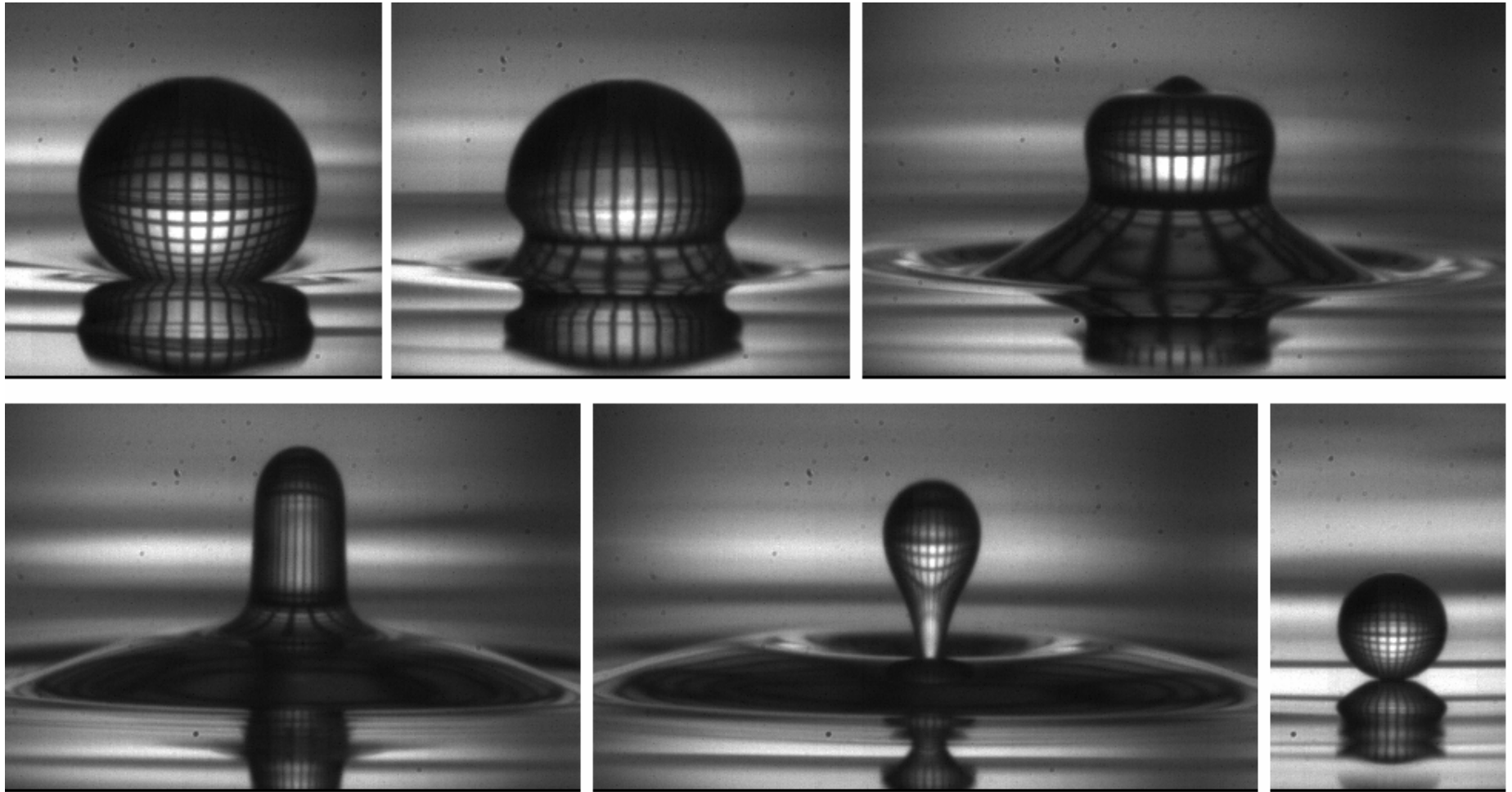
$$Oh = \mu / (\rho D \sigma)^{1/2} < 0.026$$



Blanchette & Bigioni (2006) *Nature Phys.* **2**, 254-257

For water, smallest mother drop $R = 22 \mu\text{m}$

Mercury, $R = 0.5 \mu\text{m}$.



Thoroddsen (2006) *Nature Phys.*, **2**, 223-224
Blanchette & Bigioni (2006) *Nature Phys.*, **2**, 254-257

Thoroddsen & Li

Mercury, smallest mother drop $\approx 0.5 \mu\text{m}$.
Time of phenomenon $\approx 0.1 \mu\text{s}$

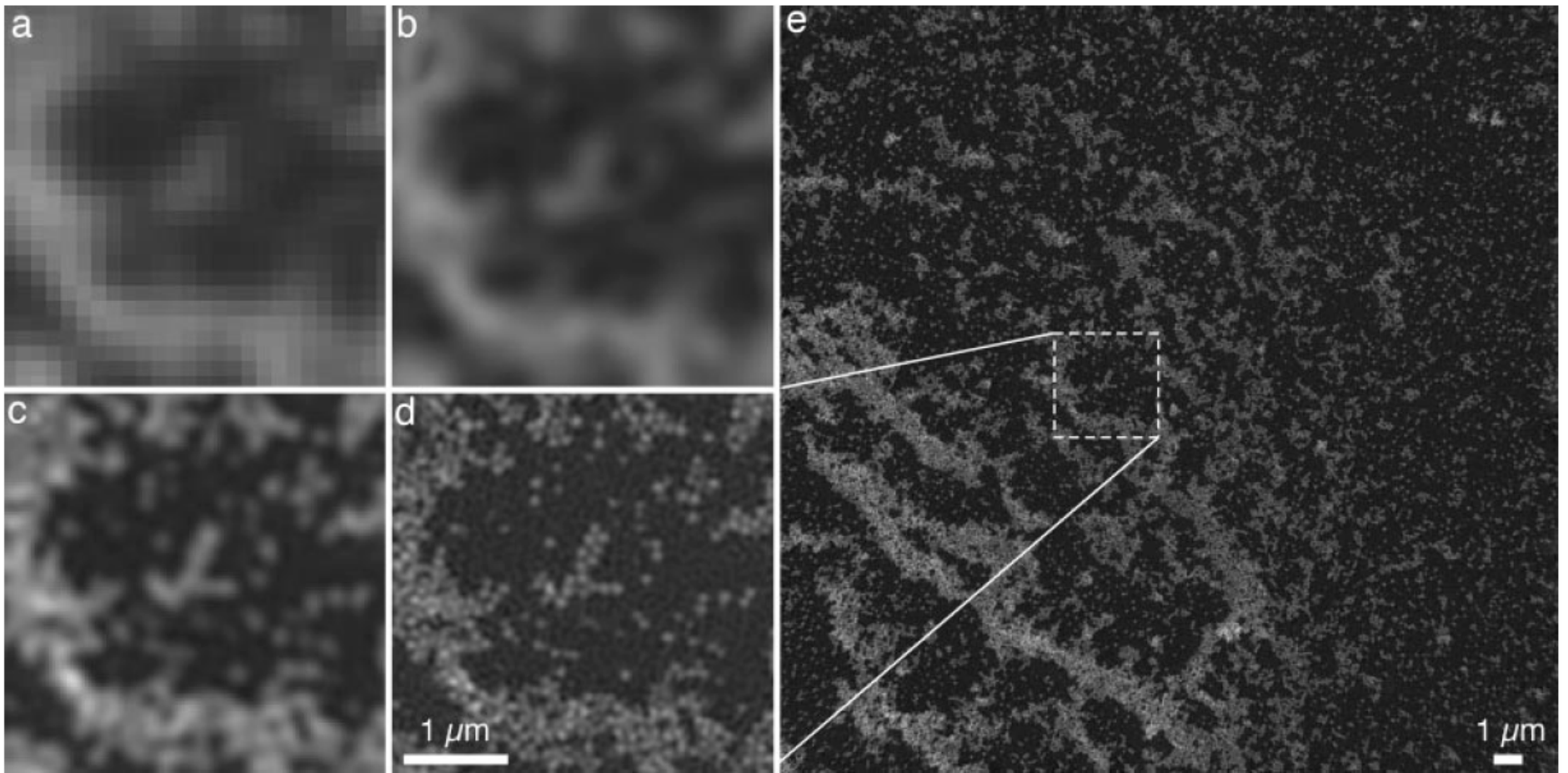
Optical magnification

- Microscopic observations
- Velocity of 1 m/s \Rightarrow 1 μm in 1 μs
- Diffraction limit \sim 0.5 μm

\rightarrow TEM ?

Transmission Electron Microscopes

Structured illumination



Gustafsson (2005) *PNAS*, **102**, pp. 13081-86

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2. Imaging and high-speed camera types

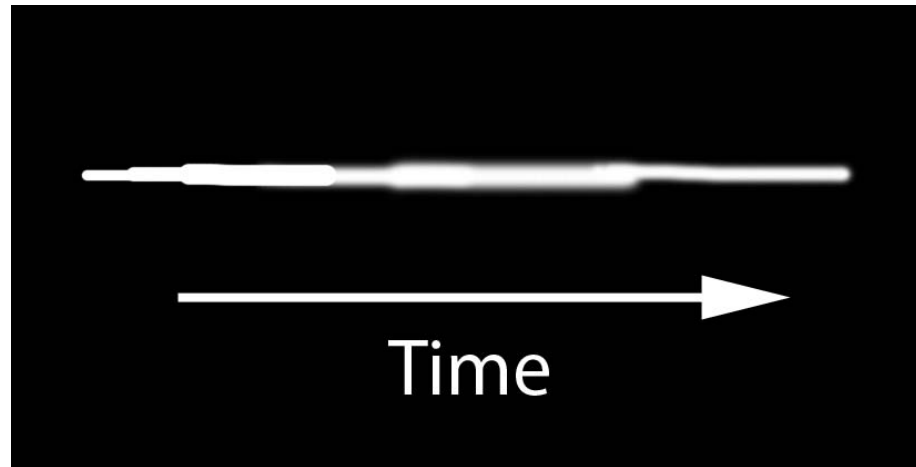
- Rotating mirror cameras
- Image converter cameras
- Very fastest cameras
- CCD and CMOS high-speed video cameras

Streak cameras

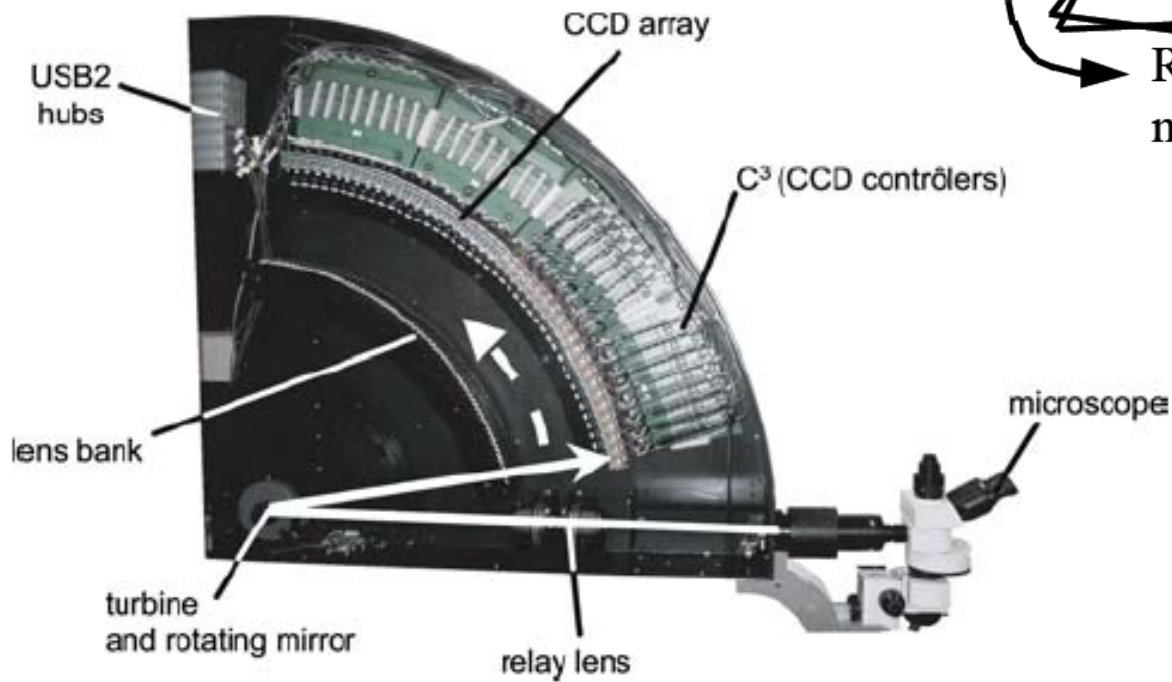
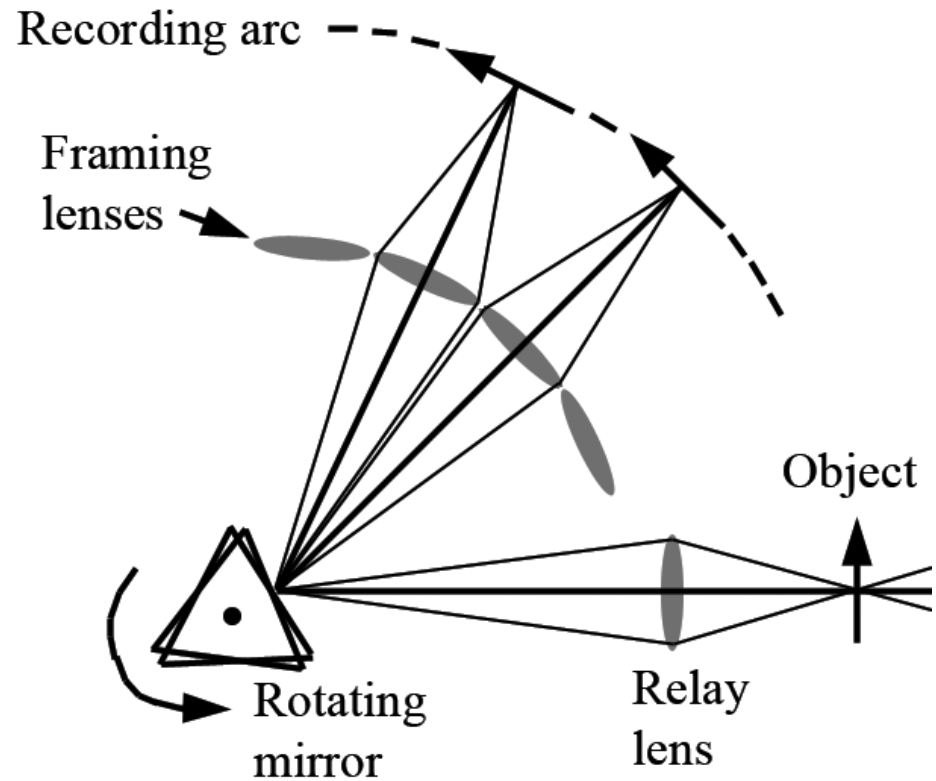
Move the image point

Rapidly across the recording medium

Convert time into space coordinate on the 'film'

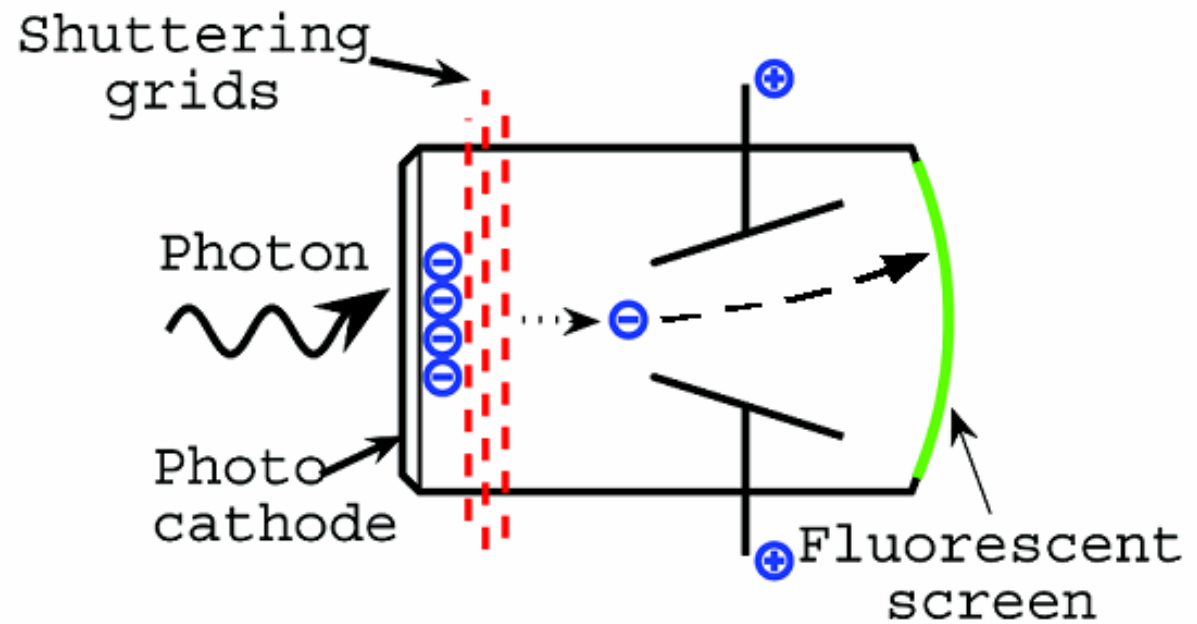


Rotating Mirror
Streak / Framing
cameras



Brandaris 128
Lohse, Versluis, De Jong
Twente University

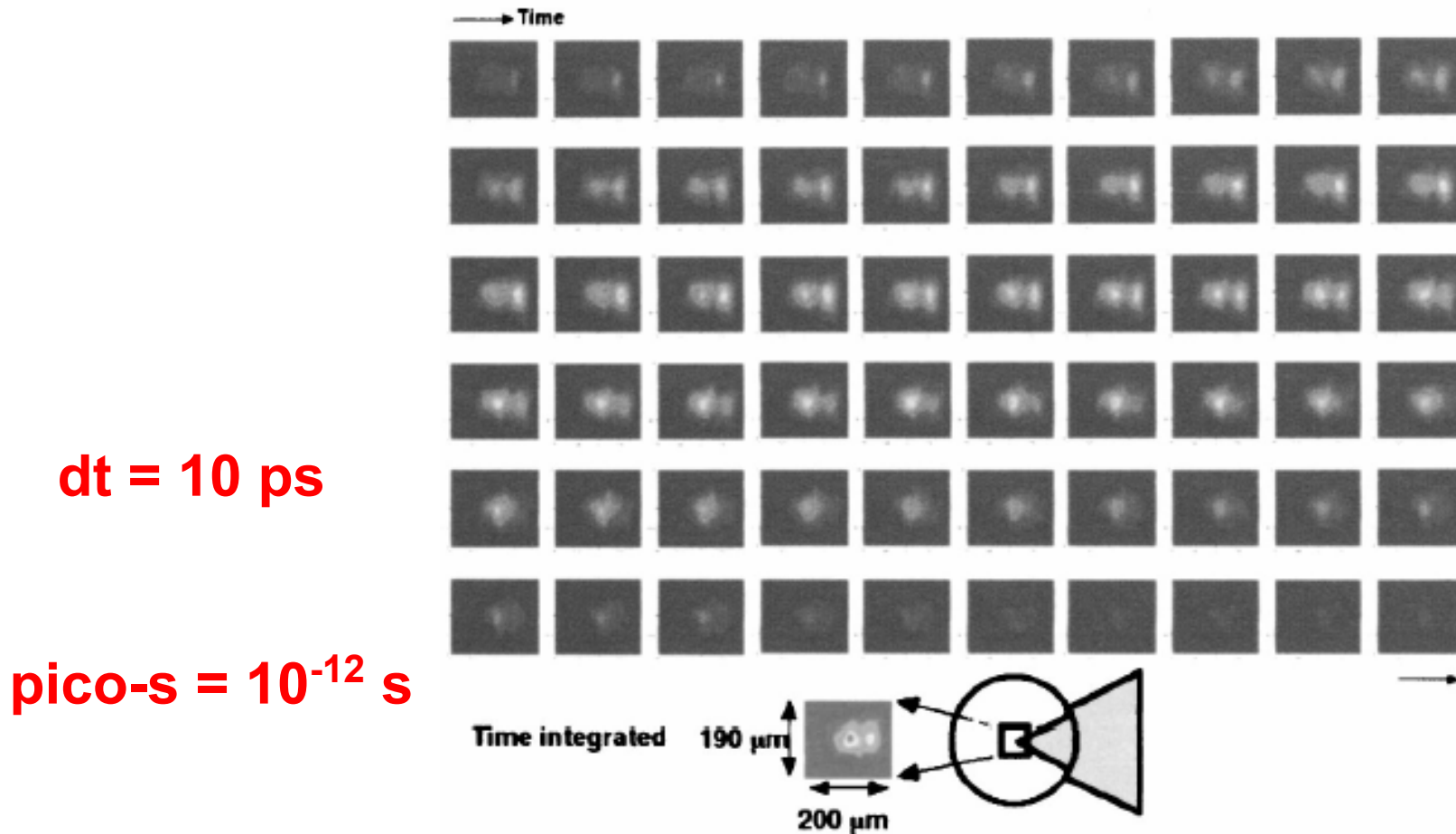
Image-converter cameras



Drawbacks:

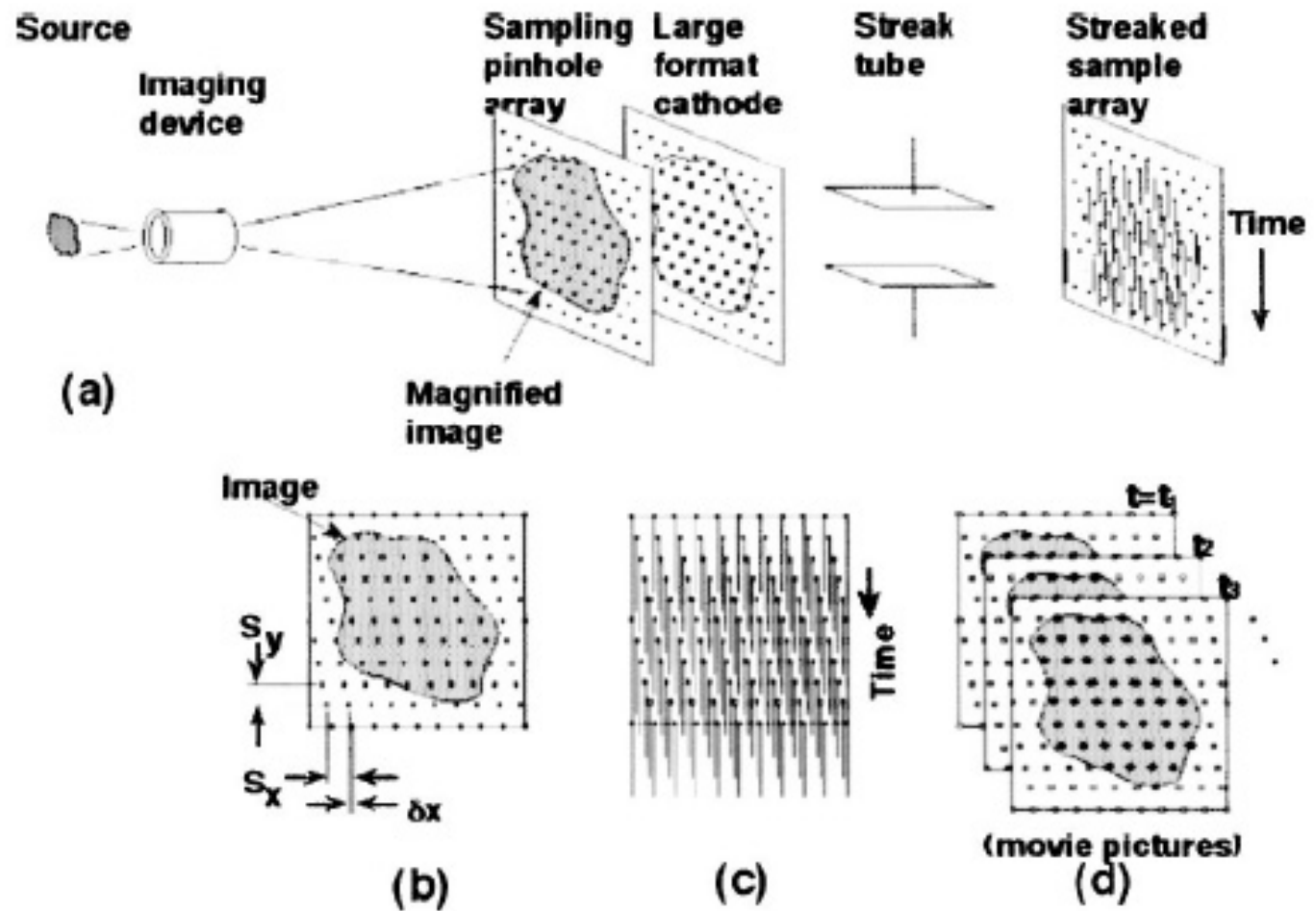
Few frames, poor image quality

The very fastest cameras



Laser Implosion of pellet, Inertial Confined Fusion

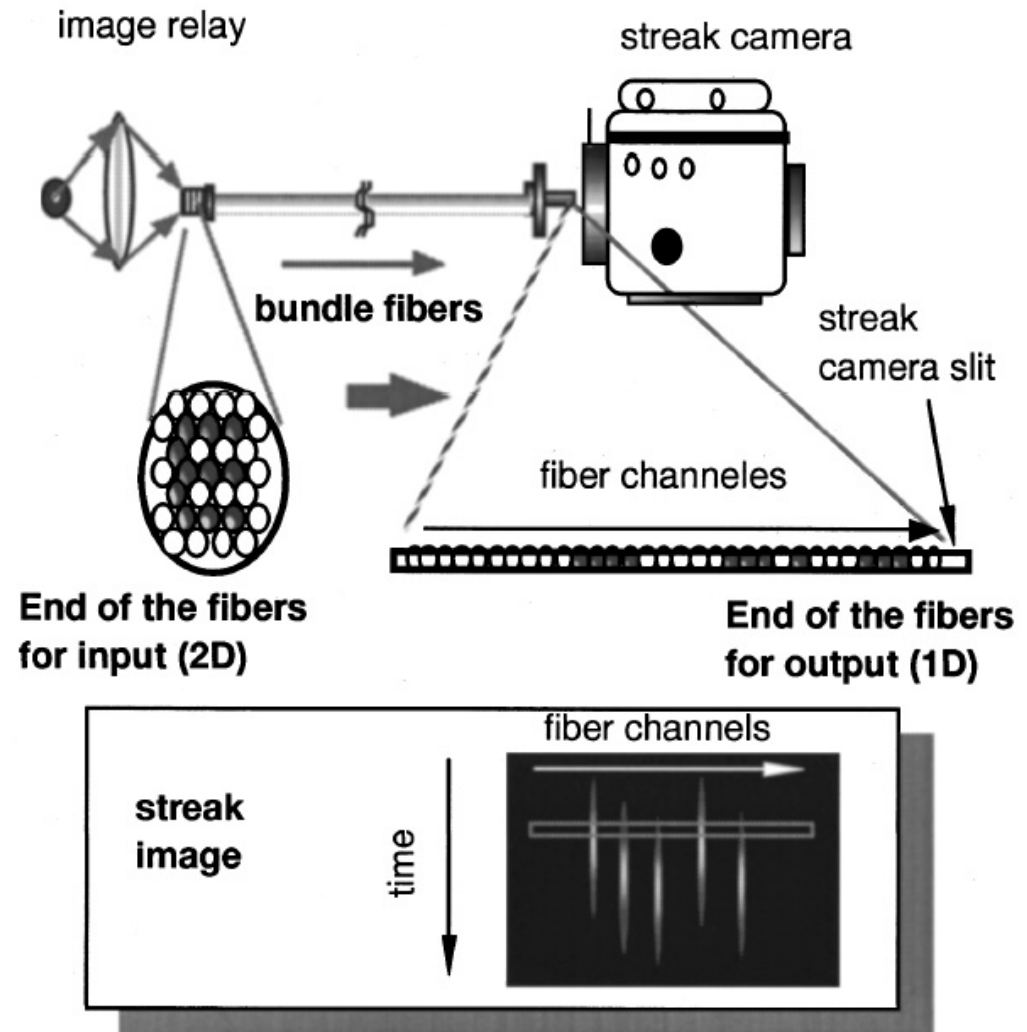
X-rays



Shiraga et al. (2004)

Rev. Sci. Instrum. **75**, 3921-25

Using UV light



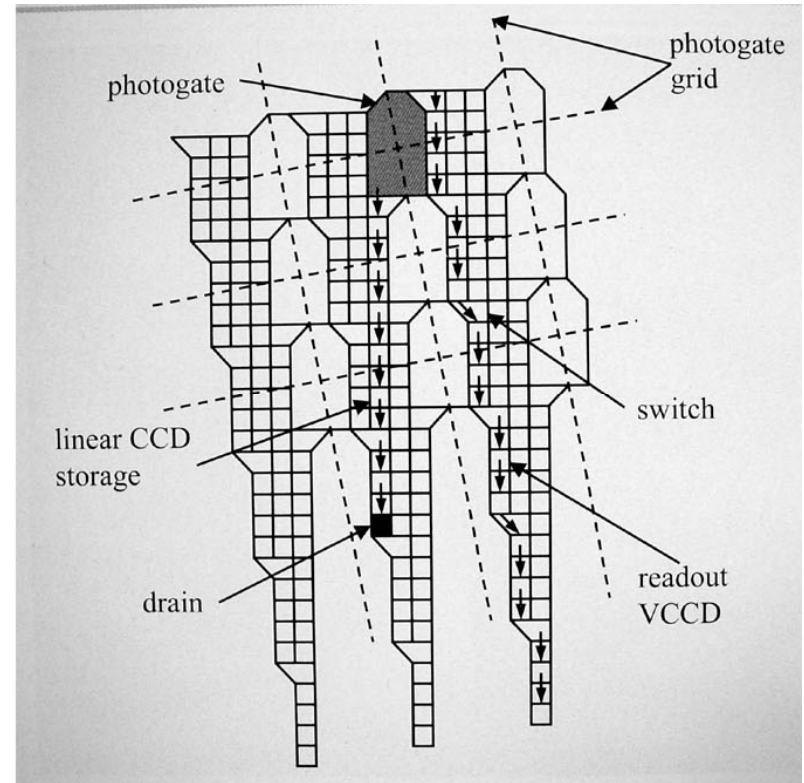
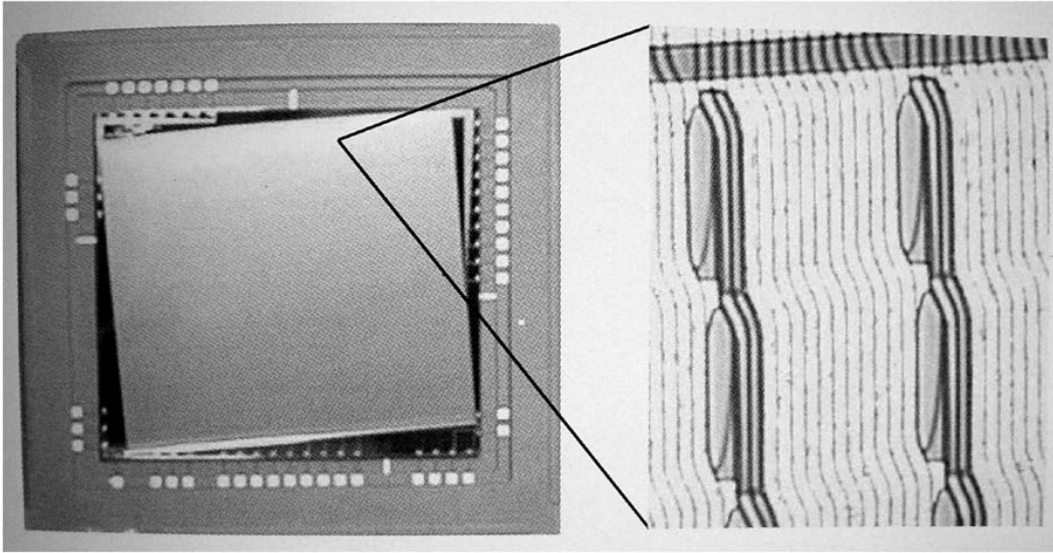
Kodama et al. (1999)

Rev. Sci. Instrum. **70**, 625 - 628

CCD vs CMOS sensors

- Both based on
Metal Oxide Semiconductors
using the *Photo-electric* effect
- Differences:
Transfer of electron packages
between registers

Ultra-High-Speed ISIS Video CCD Sensor



260 x 312 pixels, 103 frames

Triggering

Shimadzu Corp. \$ 250 k

160 Gb / sec

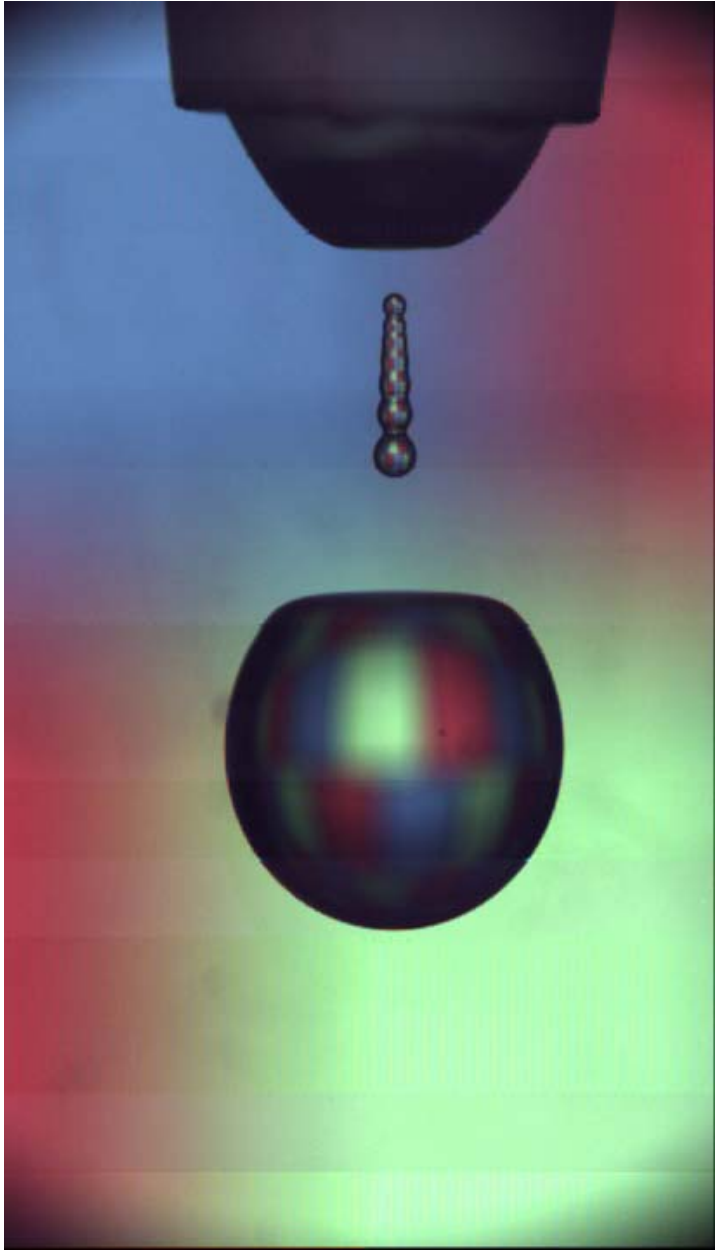
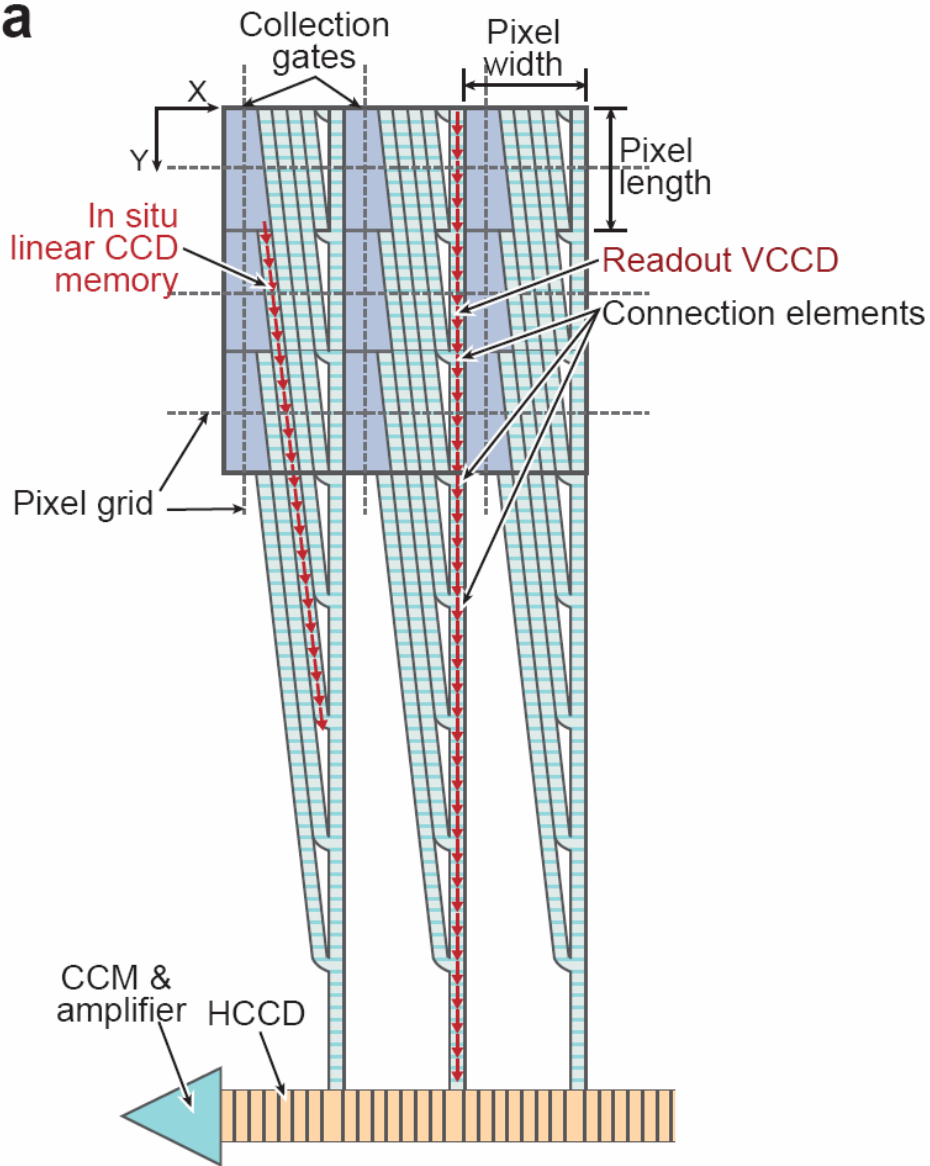
Etoh, Poggemann, Kreider *et al.* (2003)
IEEE Trans. on Electron Dev. **50**, 144--151.

“An image sensor which captures 100 consecutive frames at 1000,000 frames/s”

Challenges

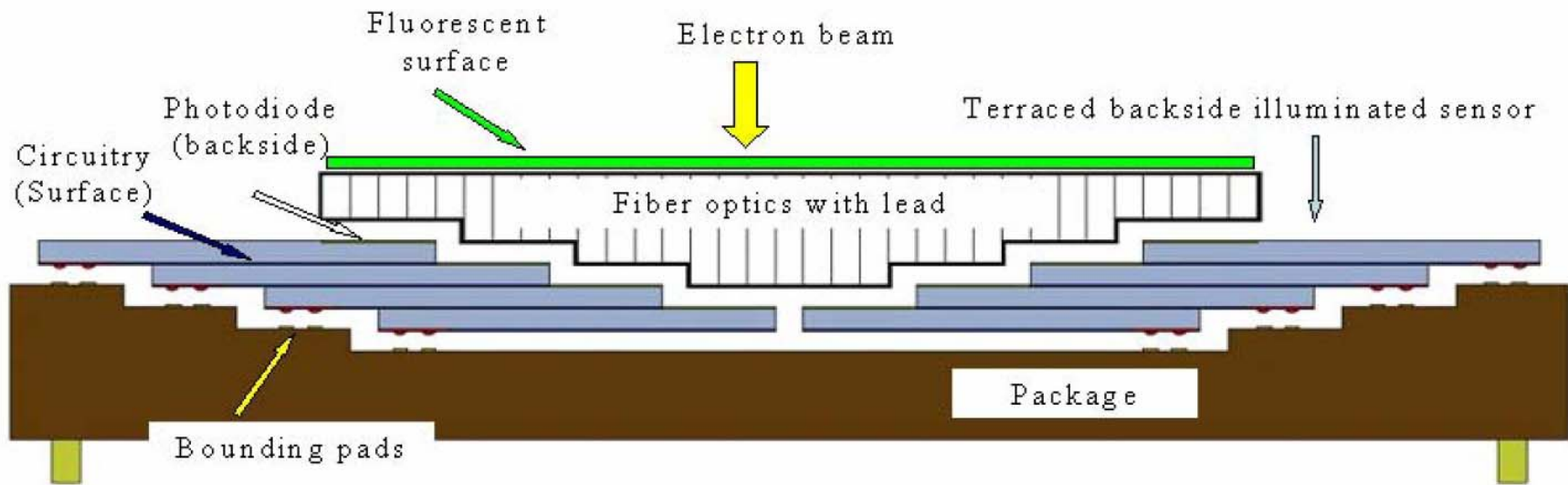
- Higher frame-rates
 - Drive signal damping
 - Larger number of pixels
 - Total number of frames
 - Space for the storage element
- Terraced sensors

Latest Sensor: High-Definition



410 x 720 pixels

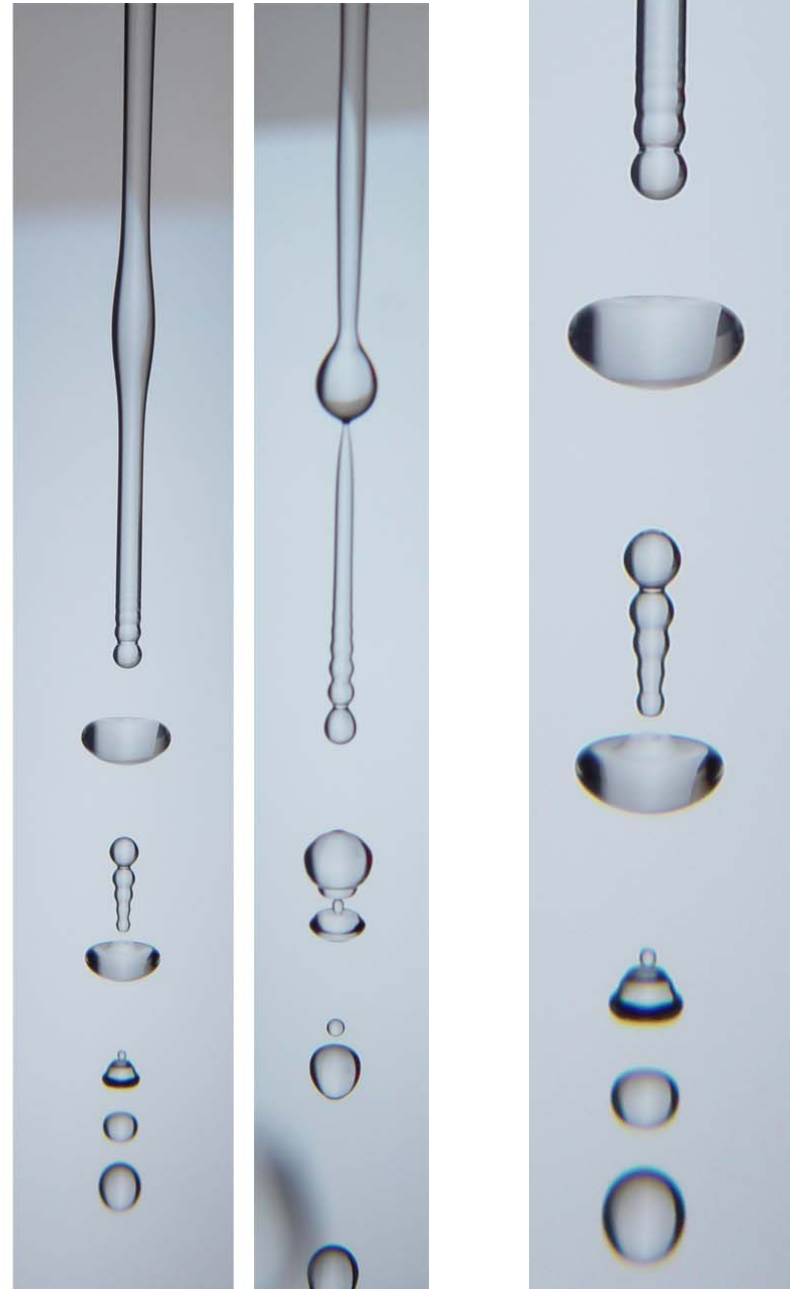
Terraced sensor



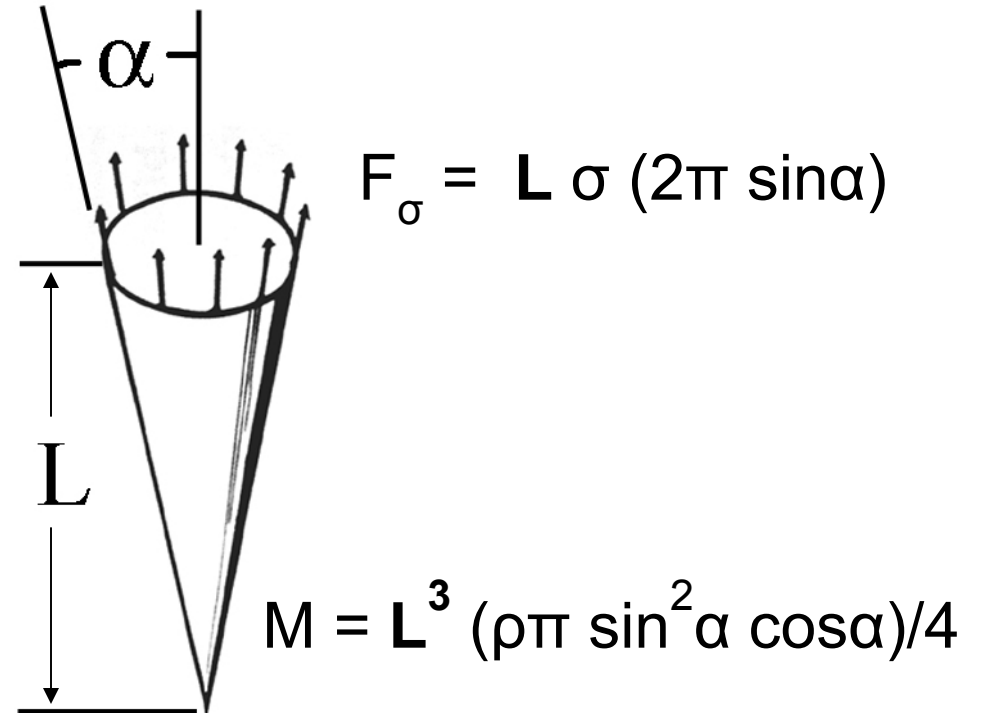
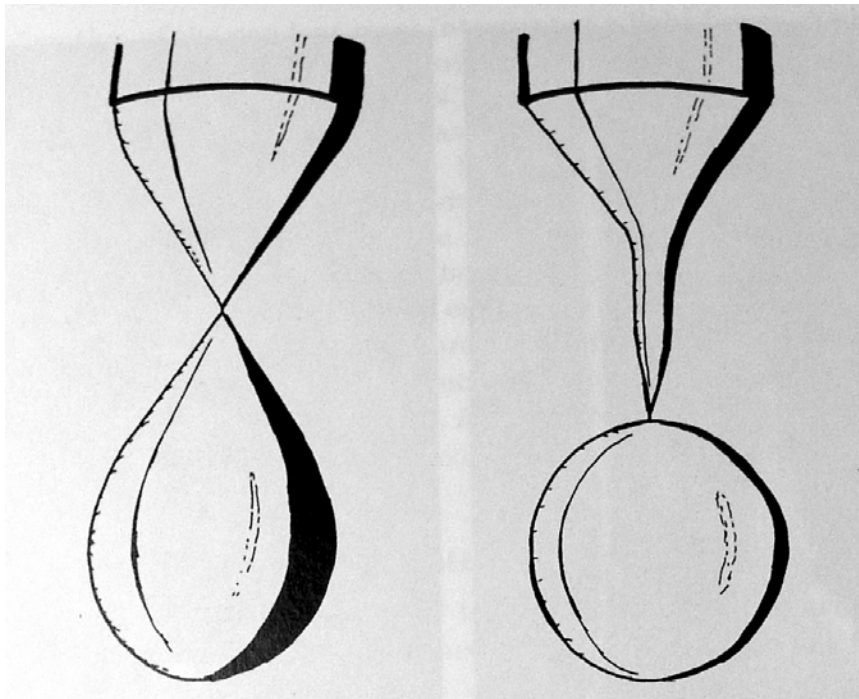
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3.a Pinch-off of a drop from a nozzle



Peregrine et al. *JFM* (1991)
& Keller & Miksis (1983)



acceleration $\sim F_{\sigma} / M \sim 1 / L^2$

acceleration tends to infinity for small L !

Drop pinch-off: driven by capillary-inertial dynamics

$$R \sim t^{2/3}$$

Eggers J. (1997)

Non-linear dynamics and breakup of free-surface flows.
Rev. Mod. Phys. **69**, 865 - 929

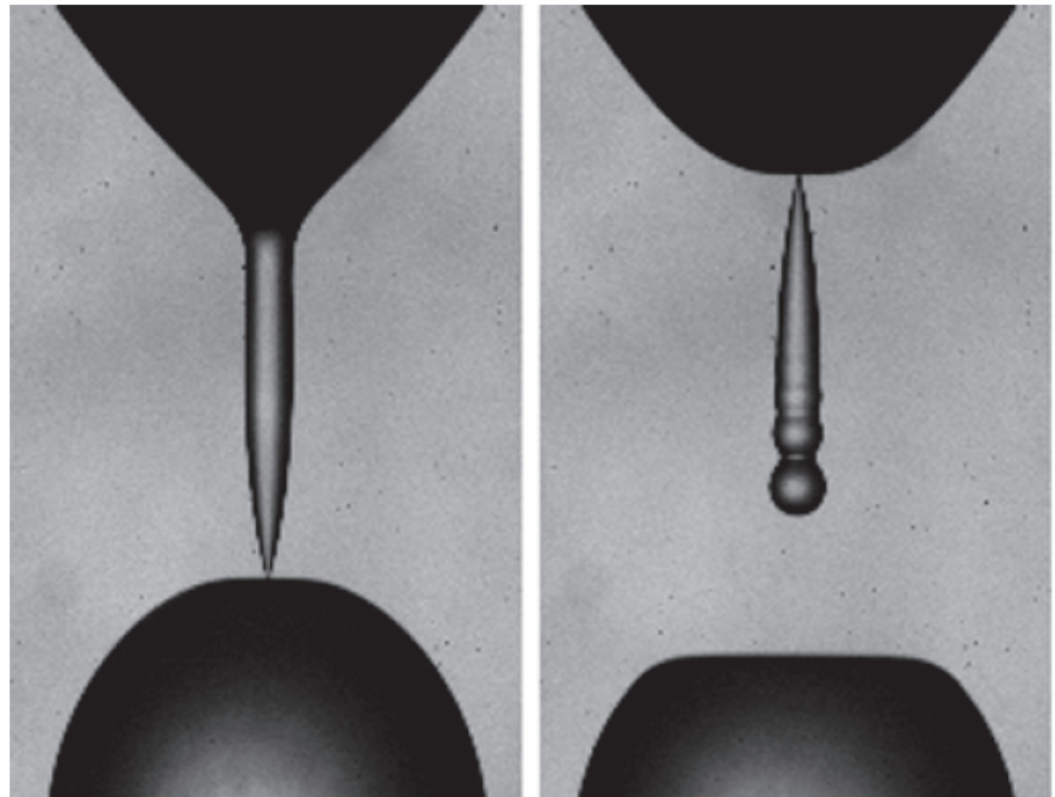
Bubble pinch-off:

Surface tension becomes irrelevant

$$R \sim t^{0.57}$$

Pinch-off of a water drop

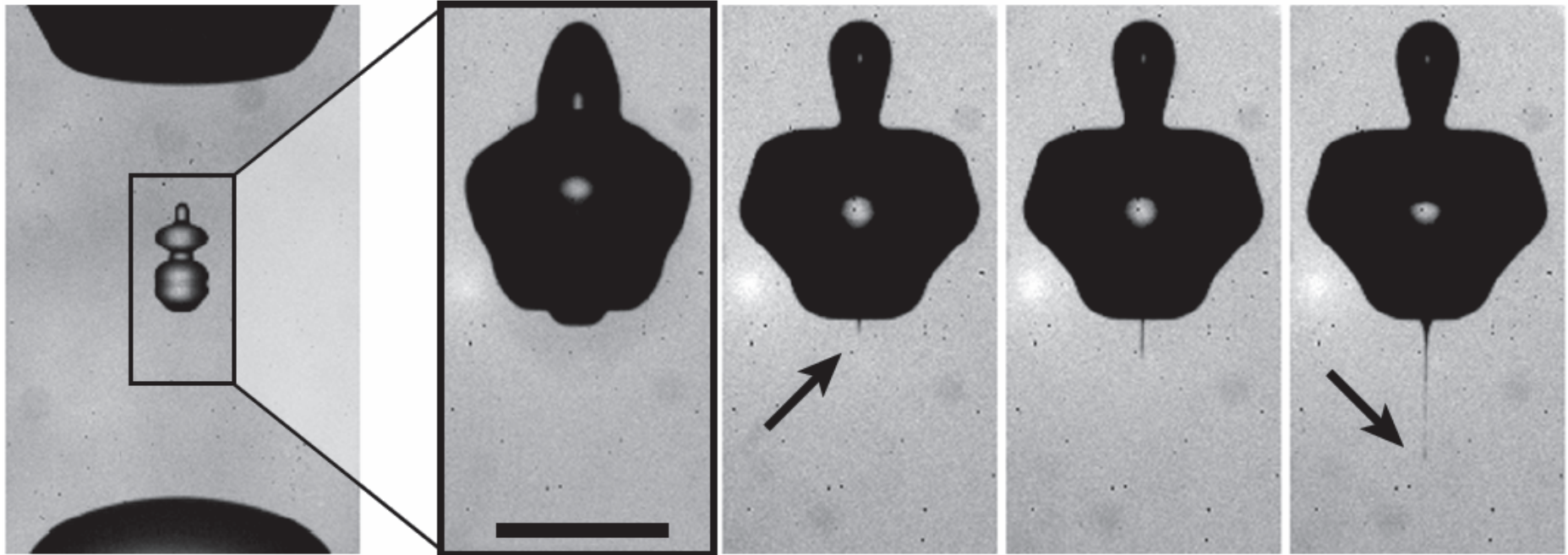
Formation of a satellite thread



Oscillations of the satellite

Formation of a bottom jet

Speed and size of jet?

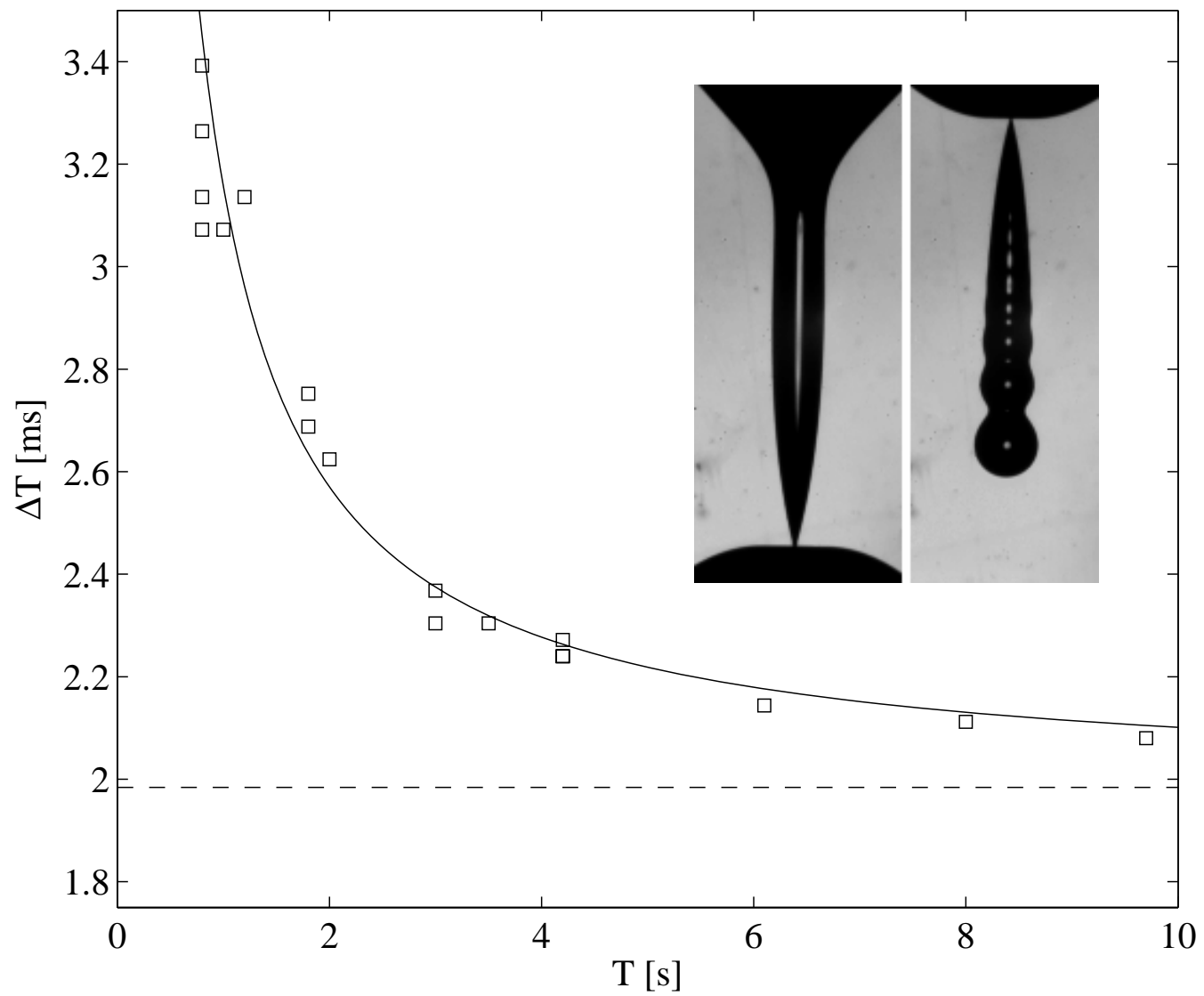


Thoroddsen, Etoh & Takehara (2007) Micro-jetting from wave focusing on oscillating drops. *Phys. Fluids* **19**, 052101

Satellite controls

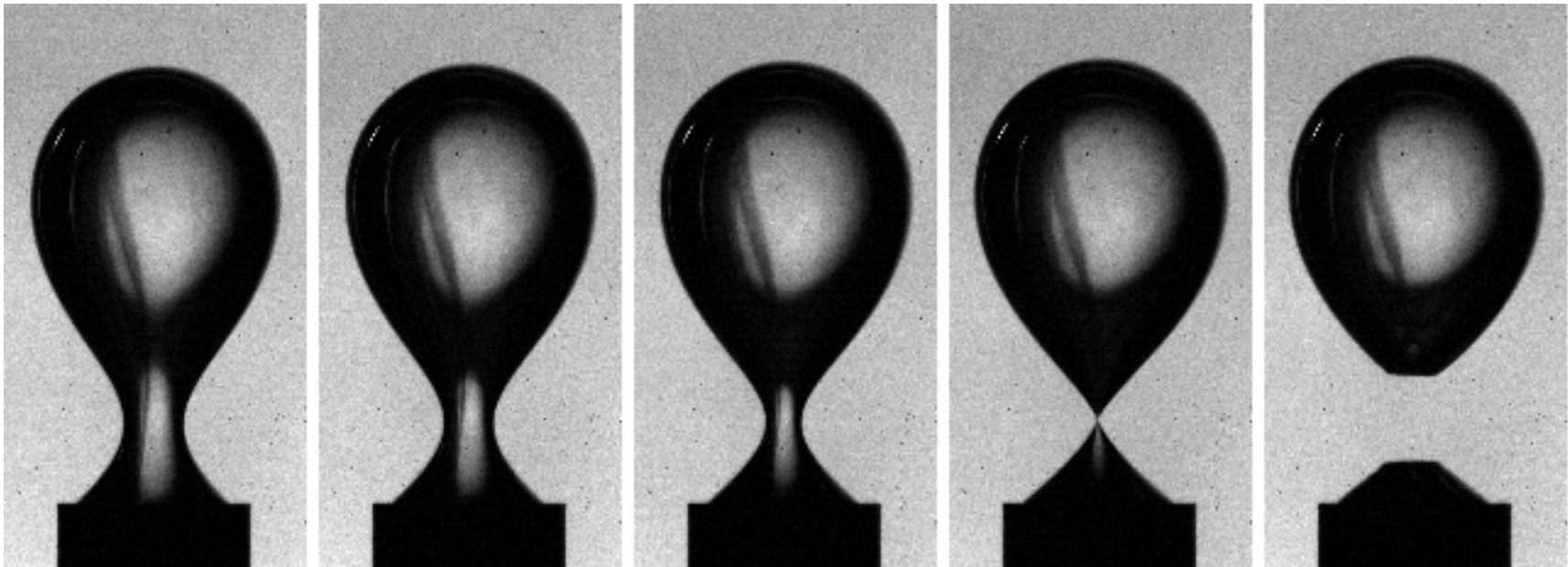
- Nozzle size
- Surface tension
- Liquid density
- Air density
- Liquid viscosity
- *Flow-rate into the drop*

Time
between
top and
bottom
pinch-off



Time between subsequent drop pinch-off

3.b The pinch-off of a bubble



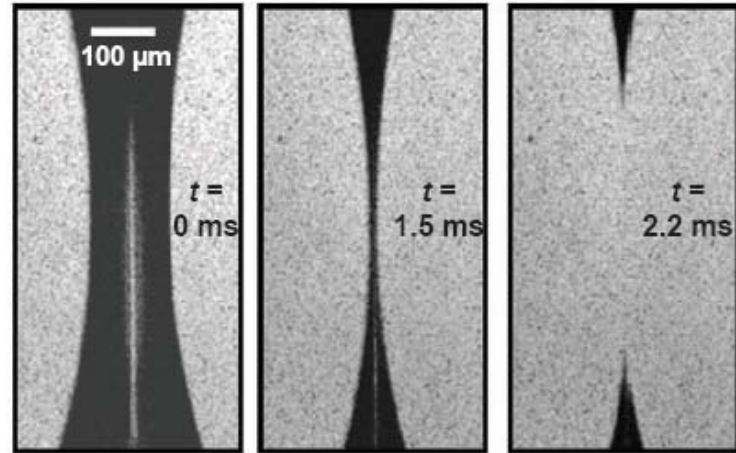
$dt = 0.5 \text{ ms}$
 $OD = 2.7 \text{ mm}$

Recent references on bubble pinch-off

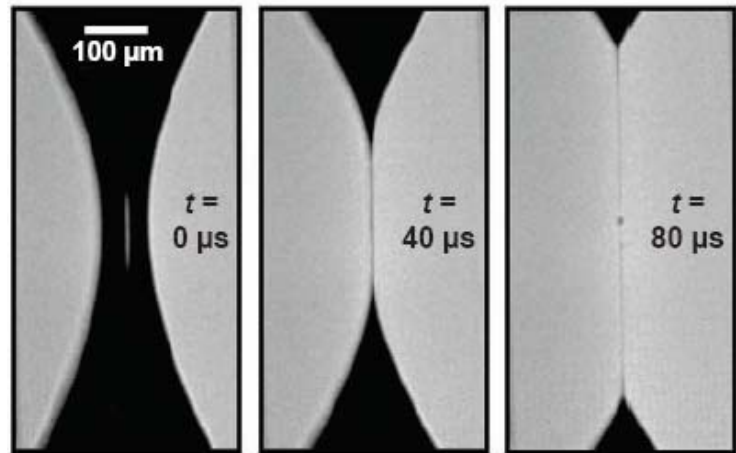
- [Burton, Waldrep & Taborek \(2005\)](#)
Scaling and instabilities in bubble pinch-off.
Phys. Rev. Lett. **94**, 184502
- [Keim, Møller, Zhang & Nagel \(2006\)](#)
Breakup of air bubbles in water: breakdown of cylindrical symmetry. *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **97**, 144503
- [Thoroddsen, Etoh & Takehara \(2007\)](#) Experiments on bubble pinch-off. *Phys.Fluids* **19**, 042101

Burton, Waldrep & Taborek (2005)

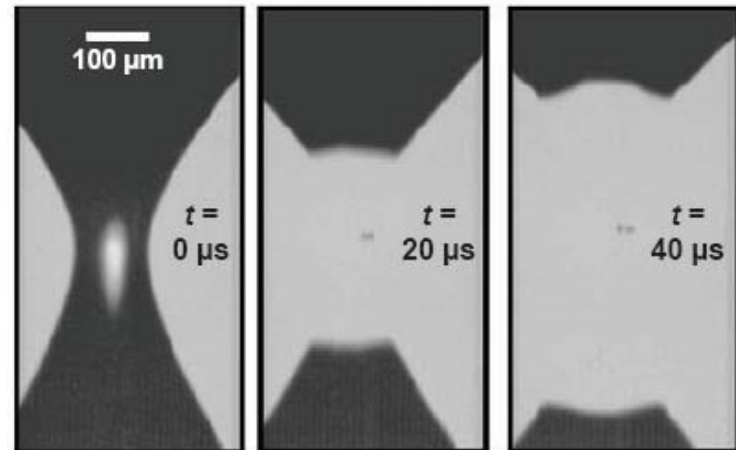
Very viscous liquid



Intermediate viscosity
air thread!

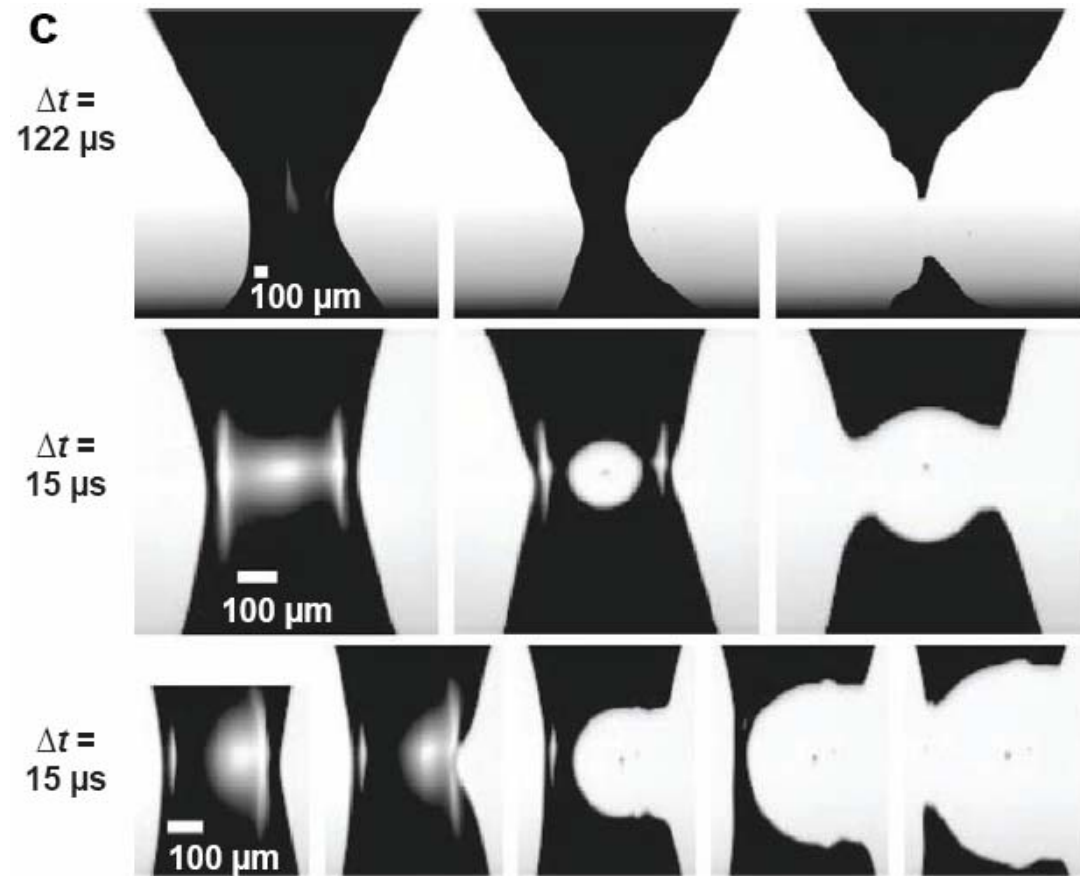


Water



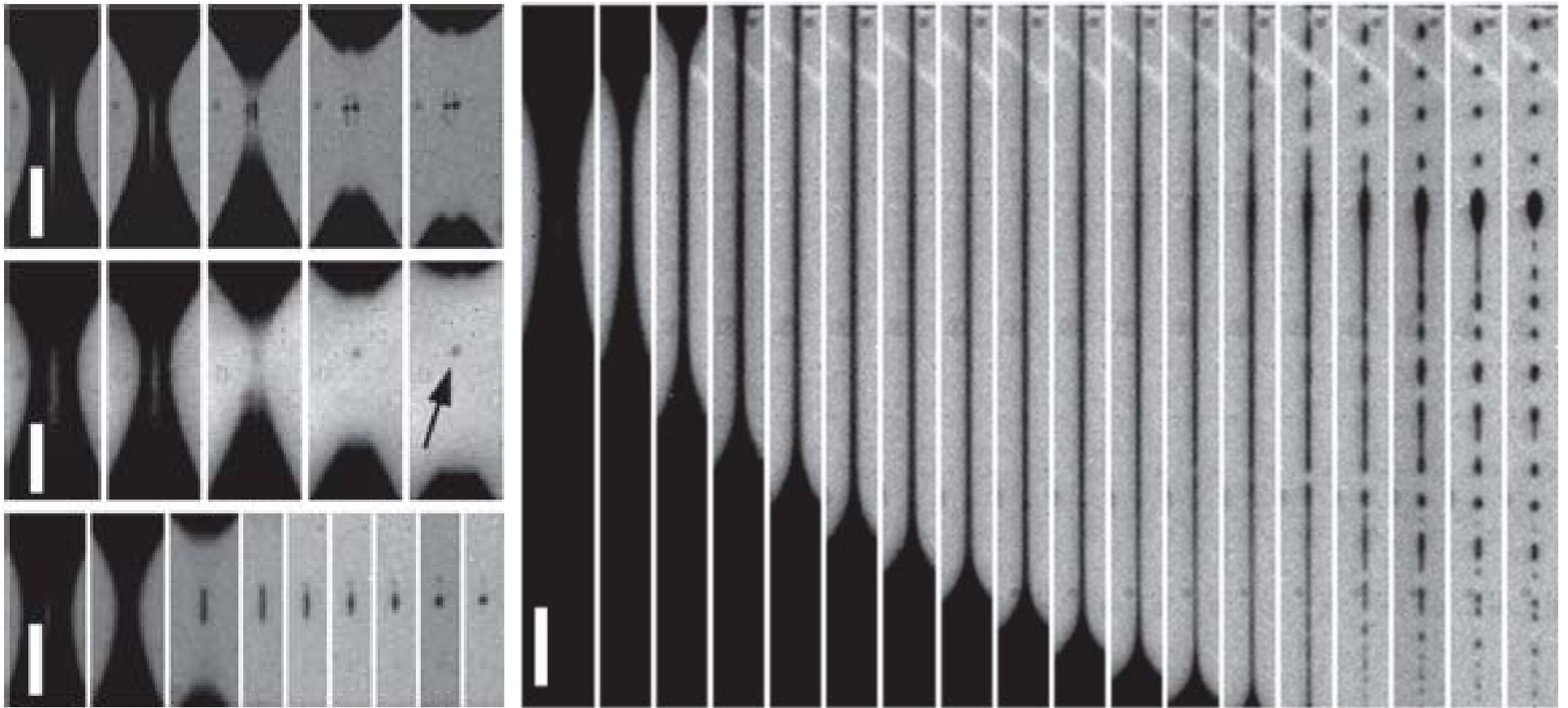
Keim, Møller, Zhang & Nagel (2006)

Air pinch-off from an asymmetric nozzle



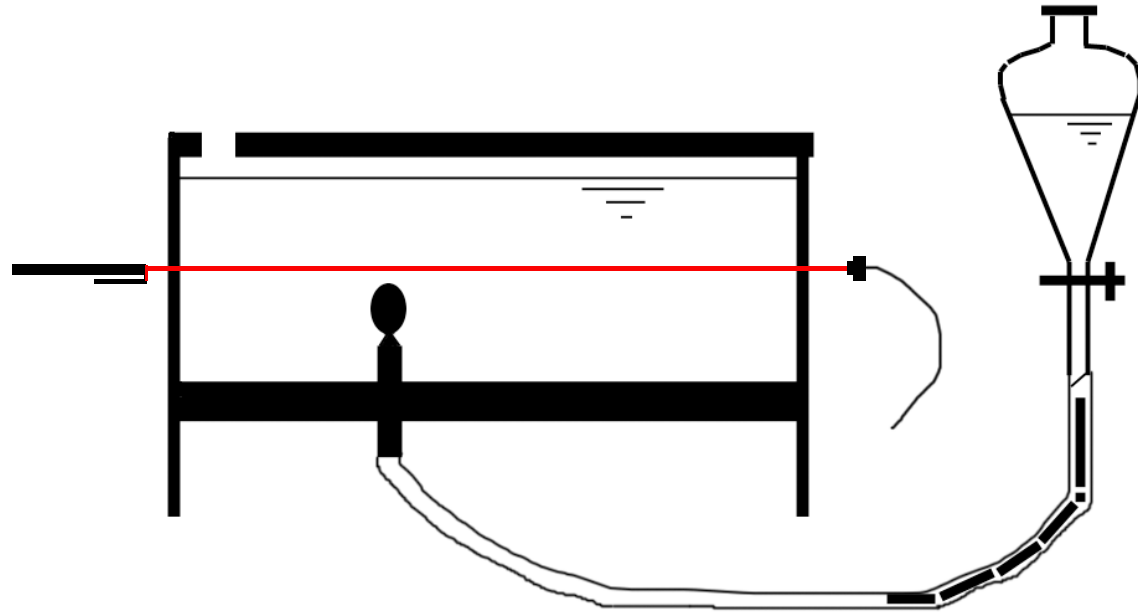
Intermediate viscosity

Time-resolved break-up of air thread



1 M fps

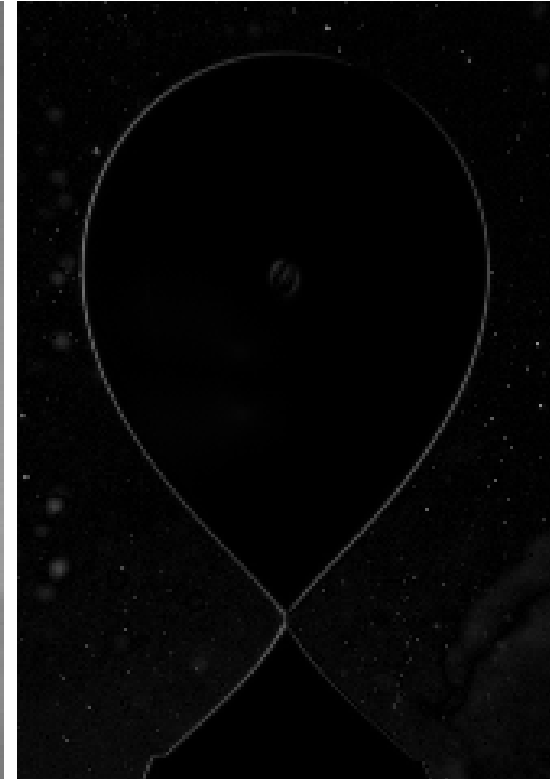
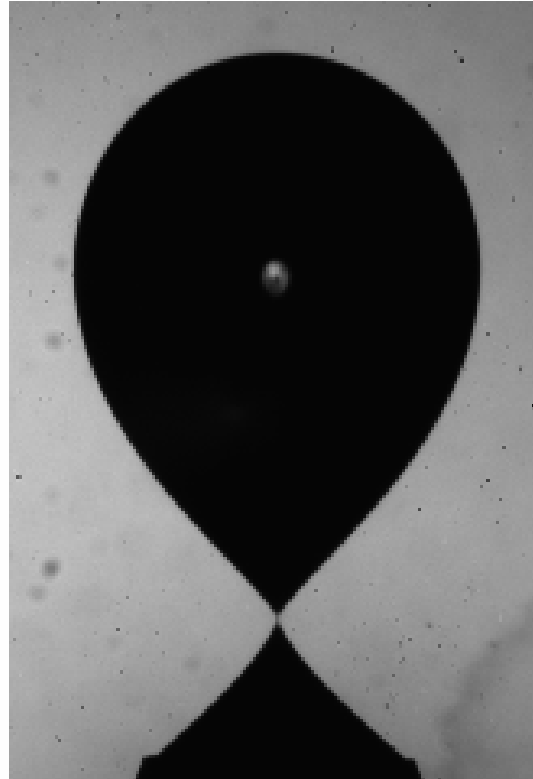
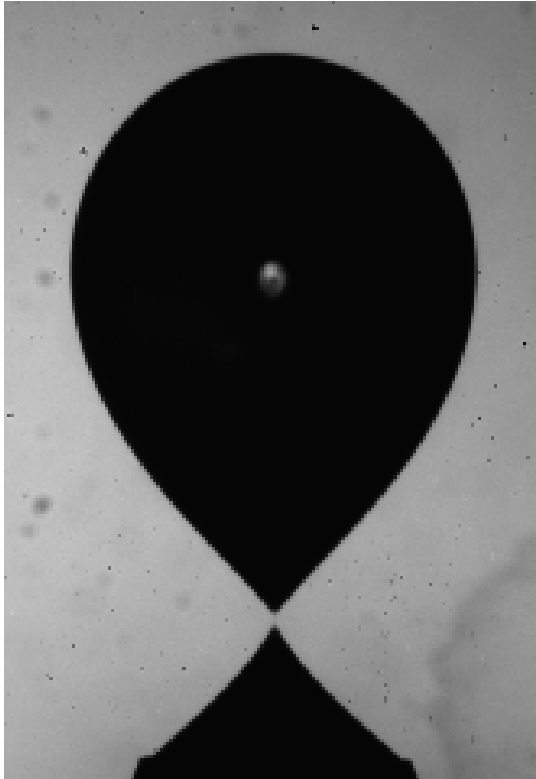
Experimental Setup



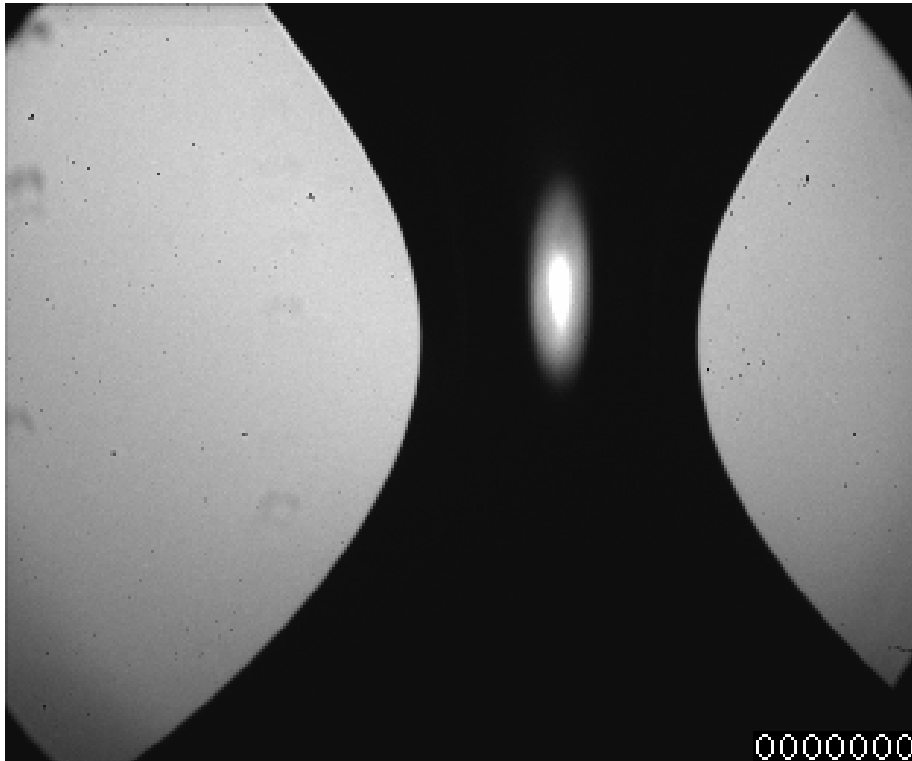
- Slowly growing bubbles, $T \sim 10$ s
- 'Vertical' tube
- Gravity feed through gate valve
- Highly repeatable

Two realizations

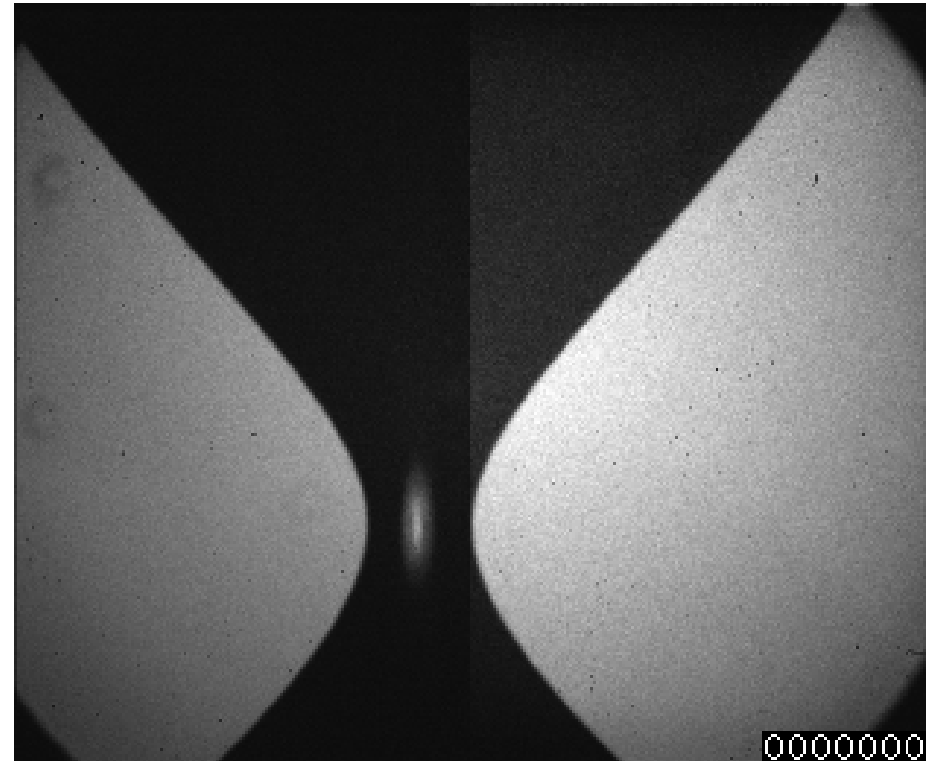
Intensity difference



Typical clips, air in water

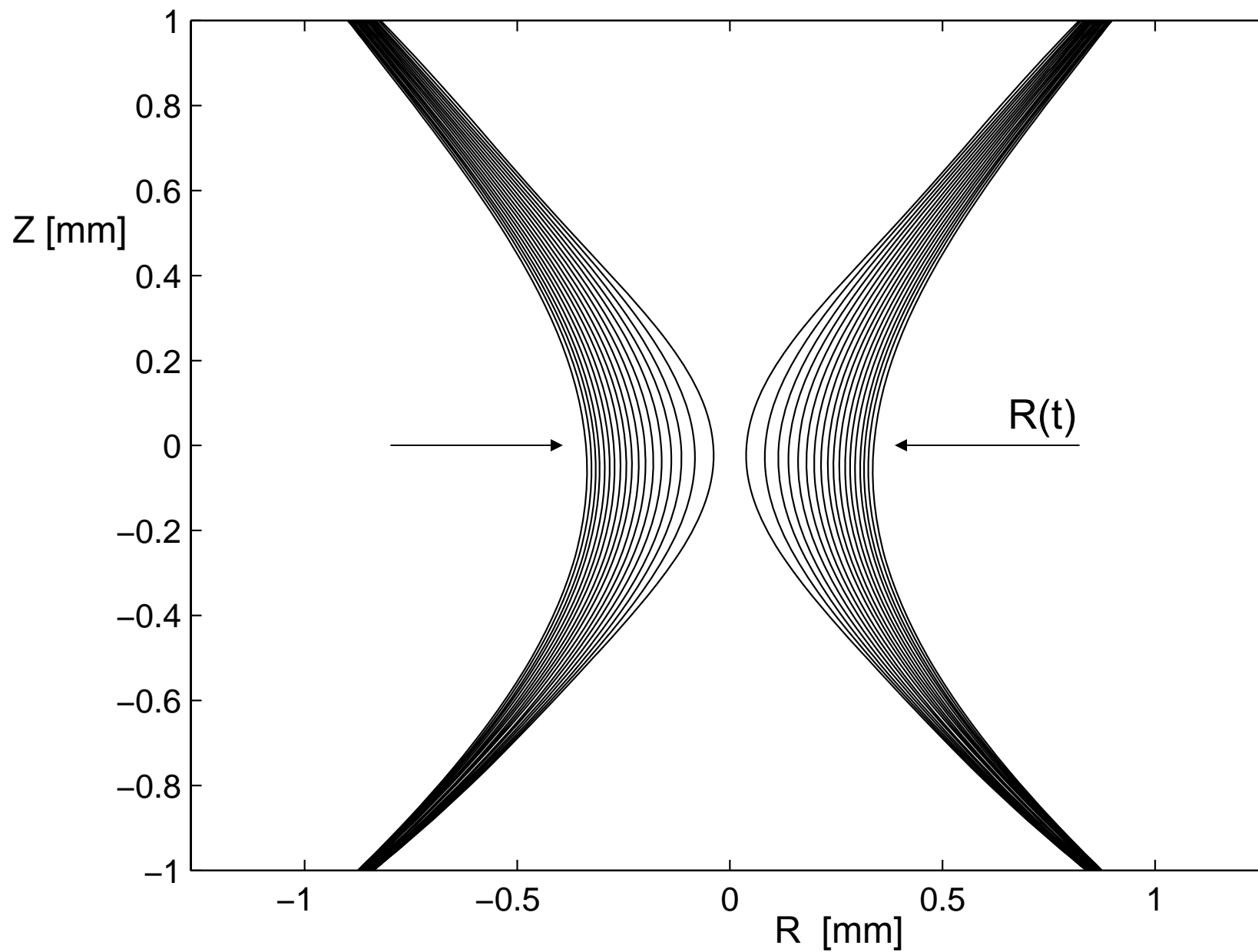


100 000 fps
3-4 μm / px

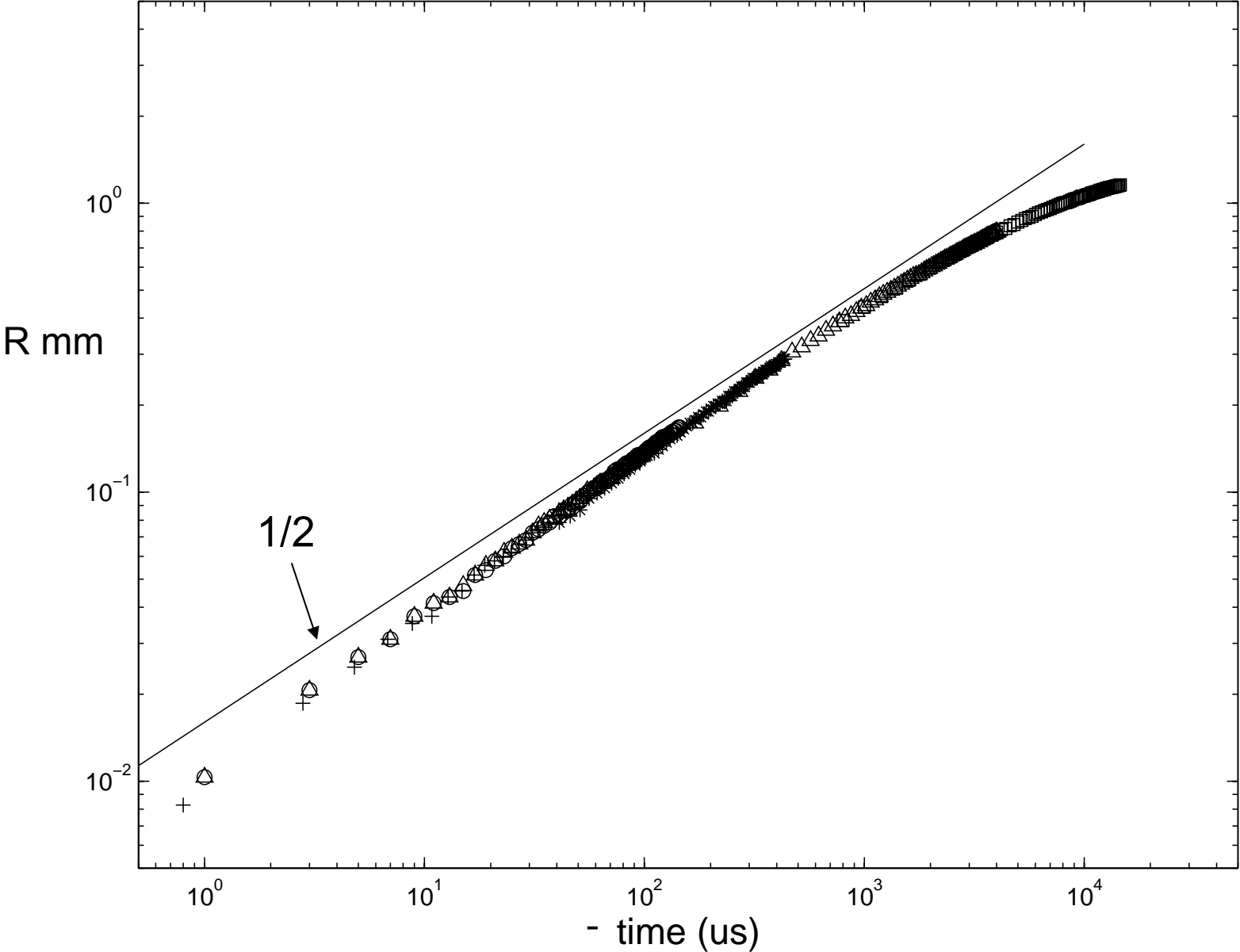


500 000 fps
8-10 μm / px

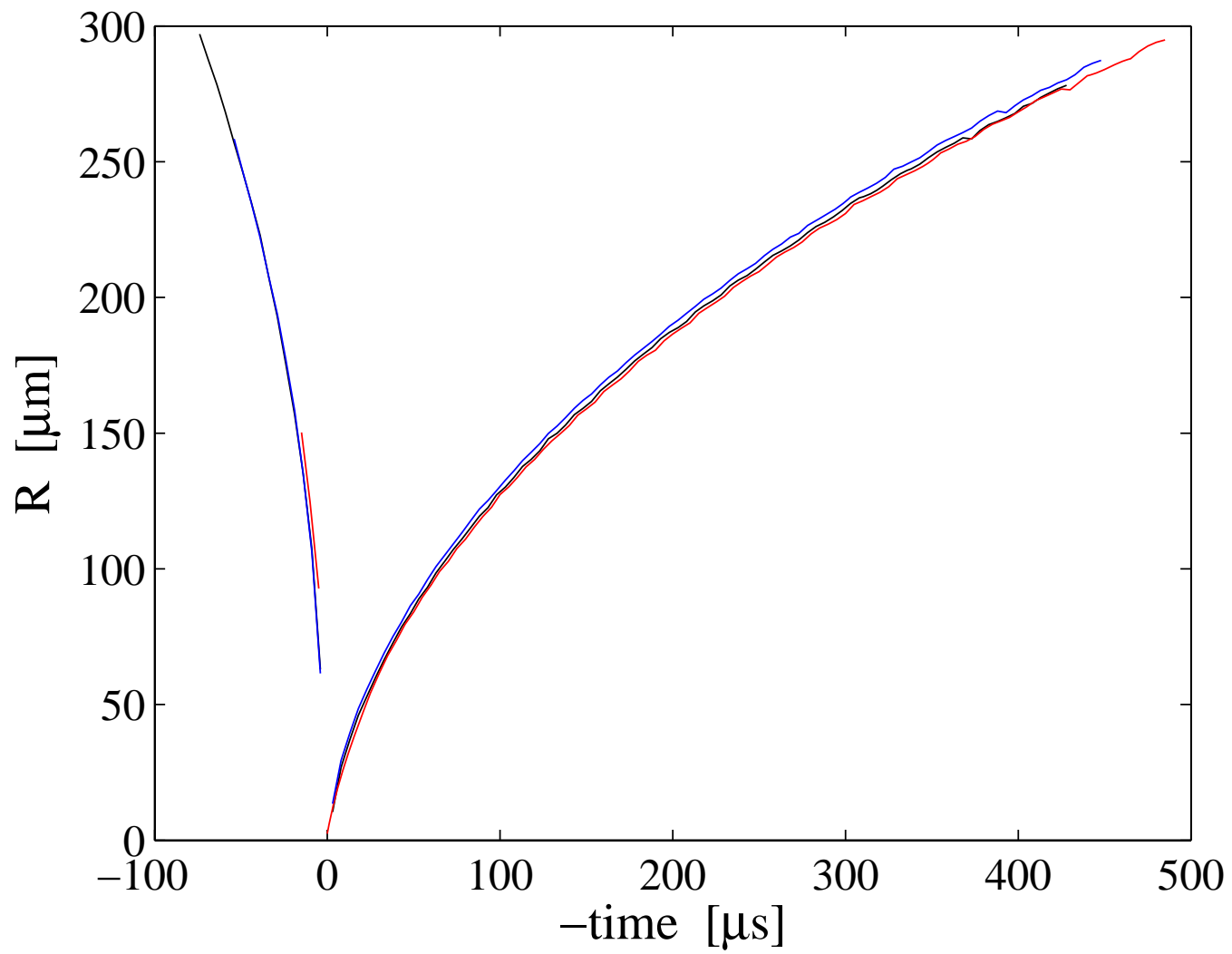
Pinch-off motions

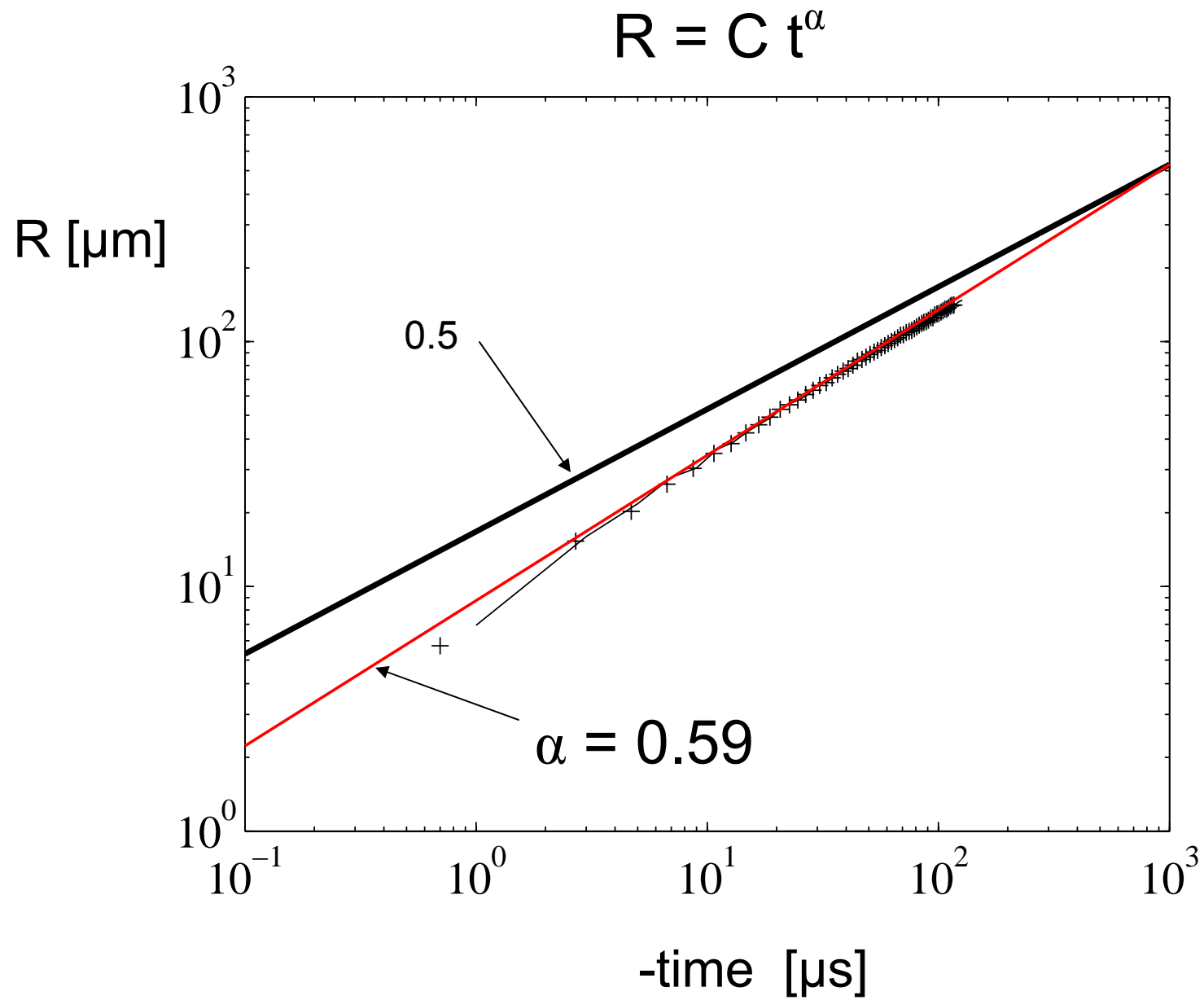


air bubble in water



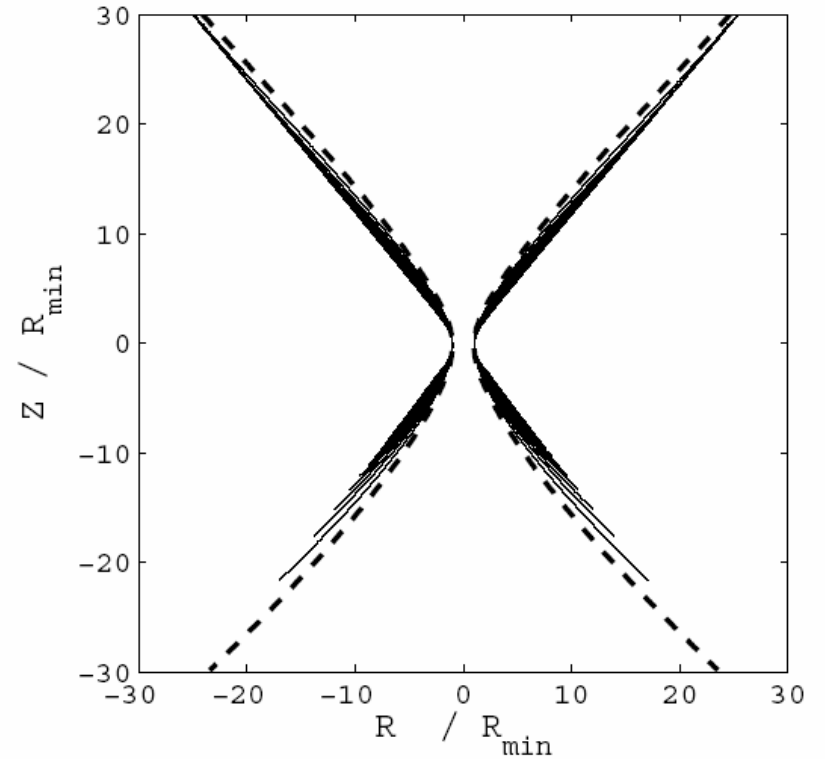
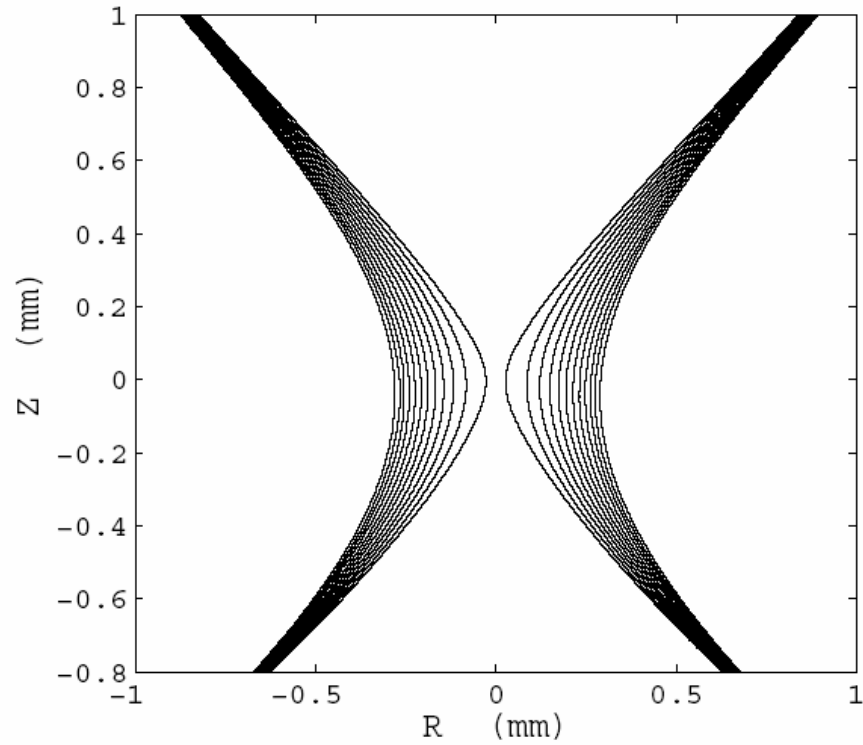
50,000 fps





Shapes not self-similar

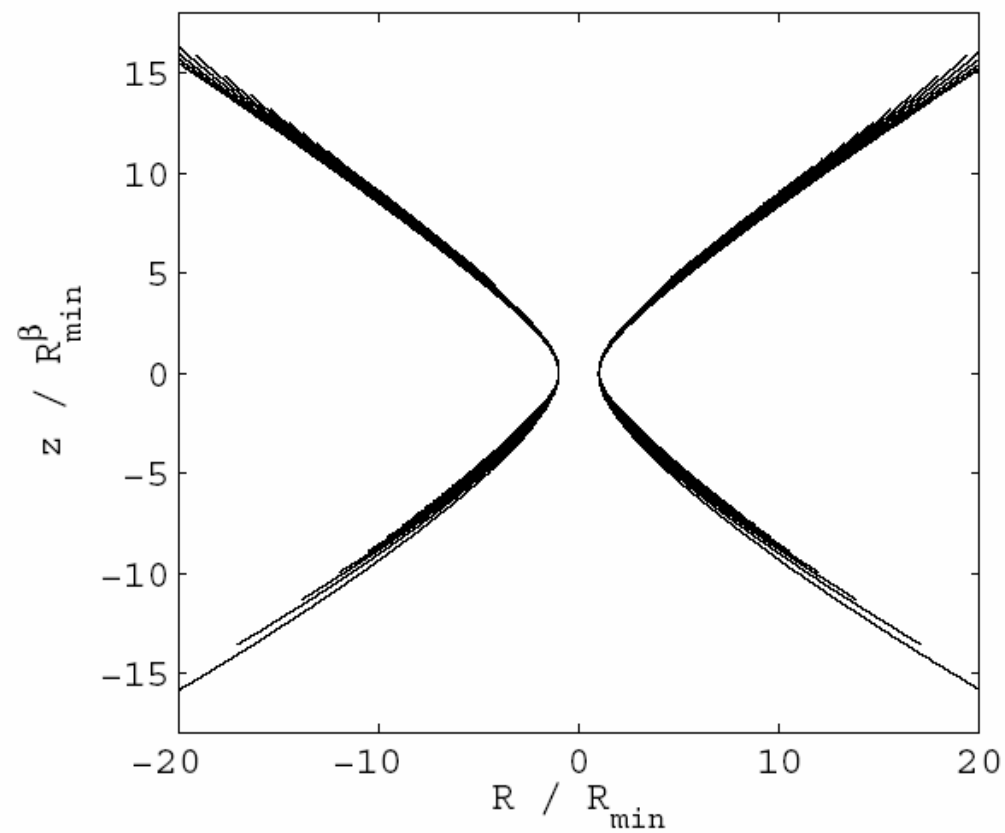
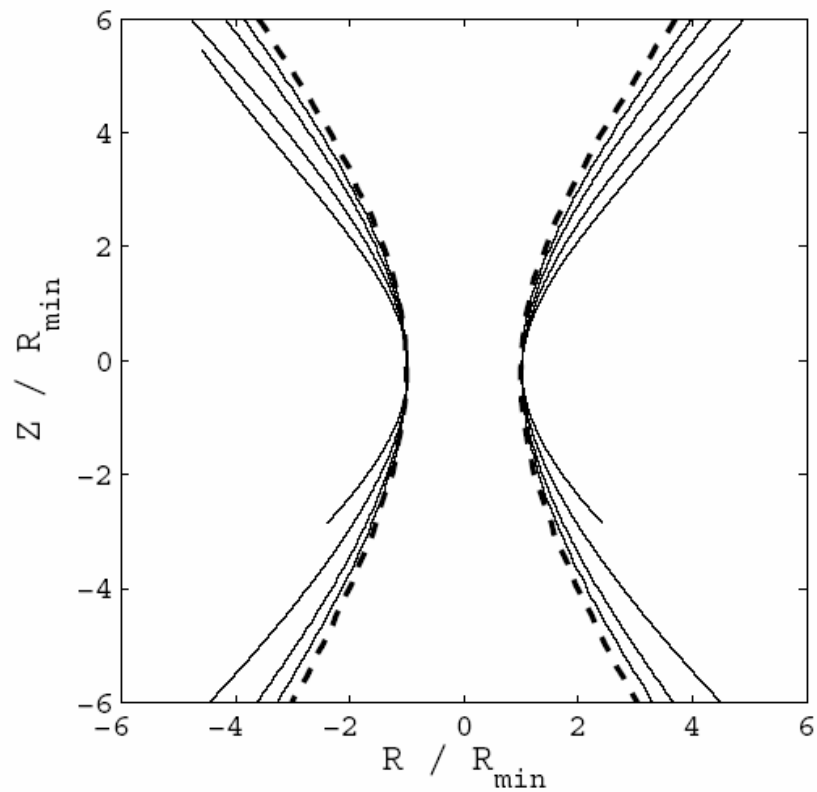
Air bubble in water



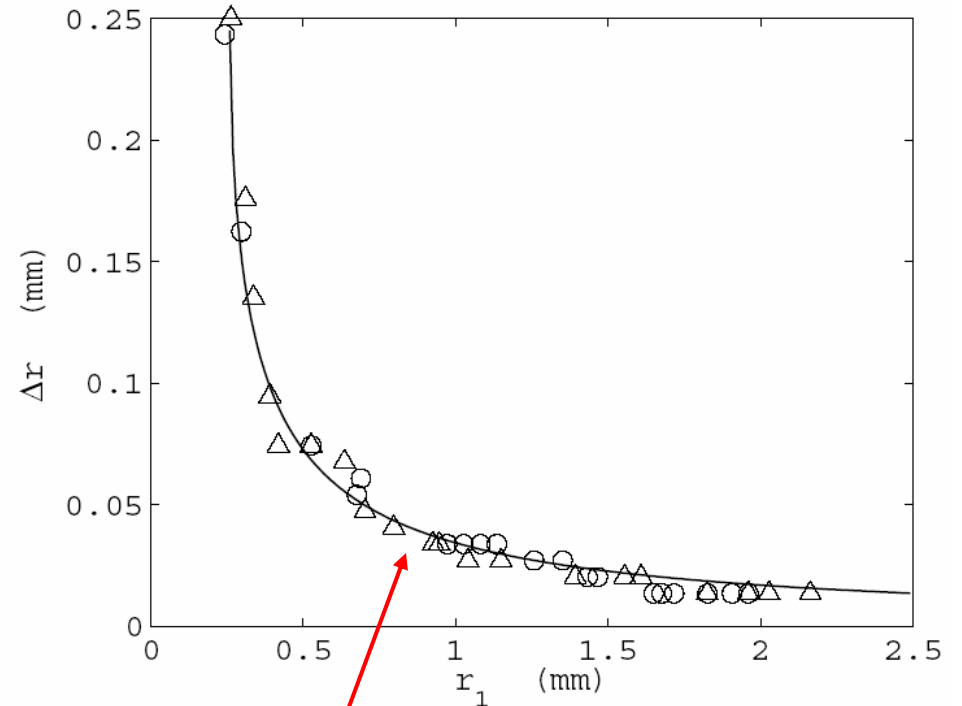
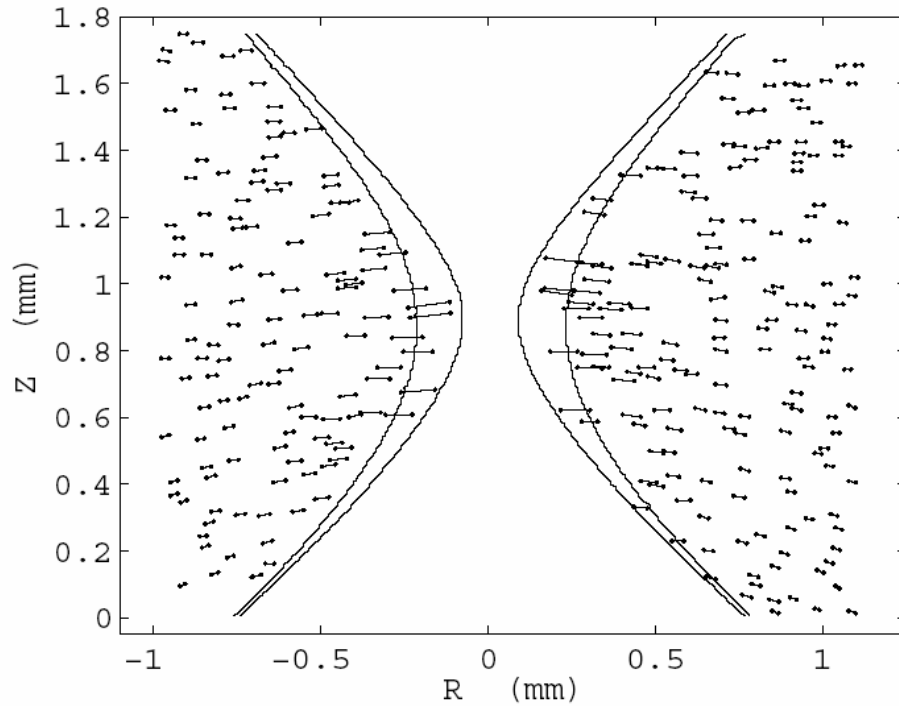
Need two length-scales,

R and L_z

$$L_z \sim R_{\min}^\beta \sim (t^\alpha)^\beta \sim t^{\alpha\beta} \sim t^\gamma.$$



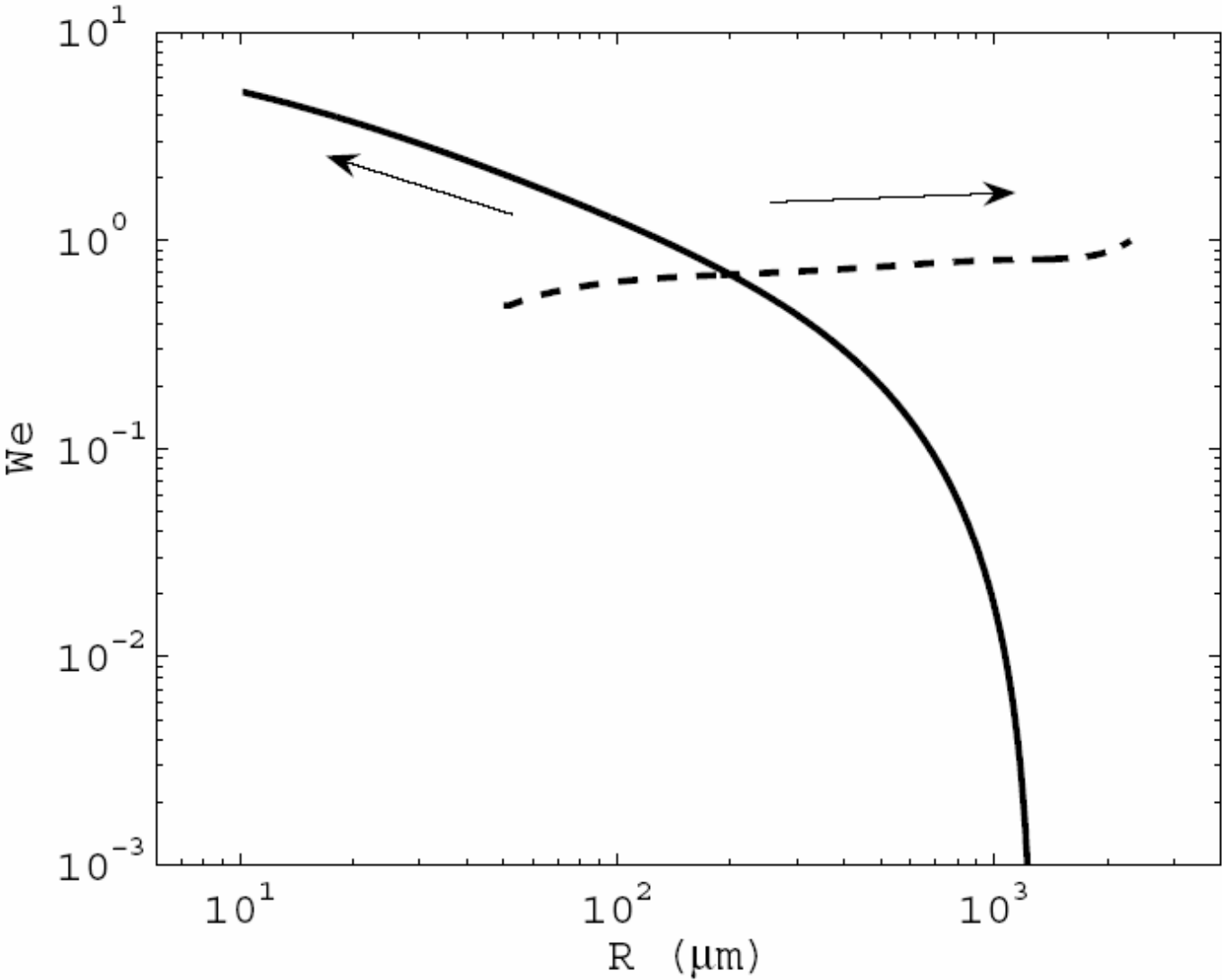
Particle paths inside liquid, follow potential theory



$$\frac{dr}{dt} = u(r) = -\frac{R R'}{r} \longrightarrow \frac{dr}{dt} = \frac{\alpha C^2 t^{2\alpha-1}}{r} \longrightarrow r = \sqrt{C^2 t^{2\alpha} + D}$$

$$R(t) = C(t_o - t)^\alpha, \quad \Delta r(t, t_1, R_1, r_1) = r_1 - \sqrt{r_1^2 - R_1^2 [1 - (t/t_1)^{2\alpha}]}$$

Can surface tension be ignored?



Finite neck length at pinch-off ?

