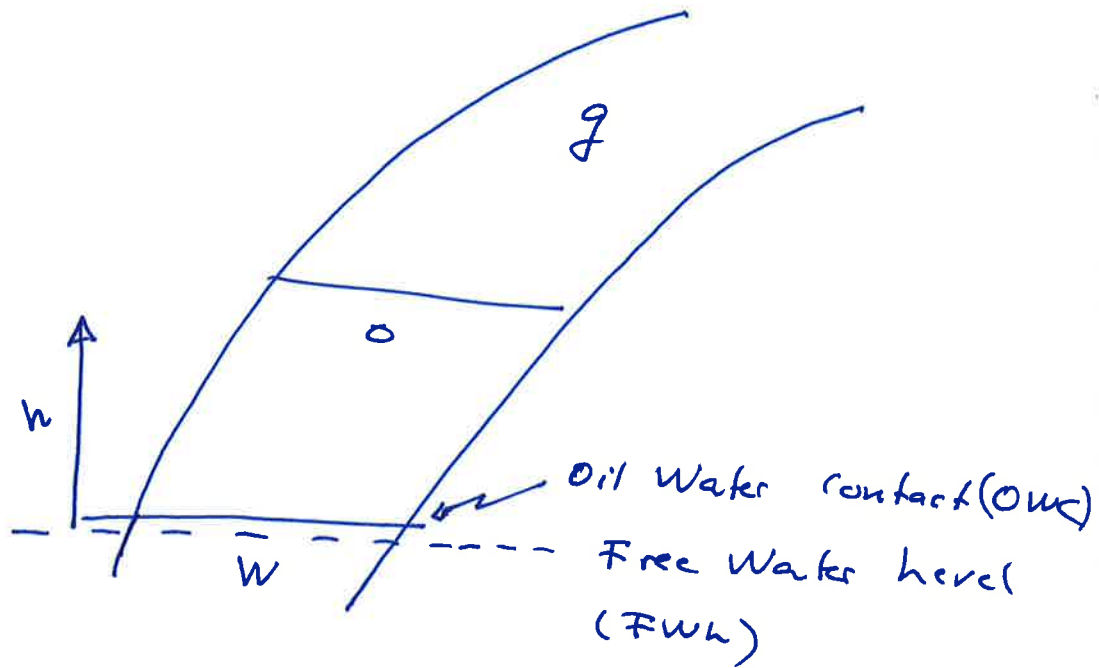


chap 6

wettability & capillary pressure

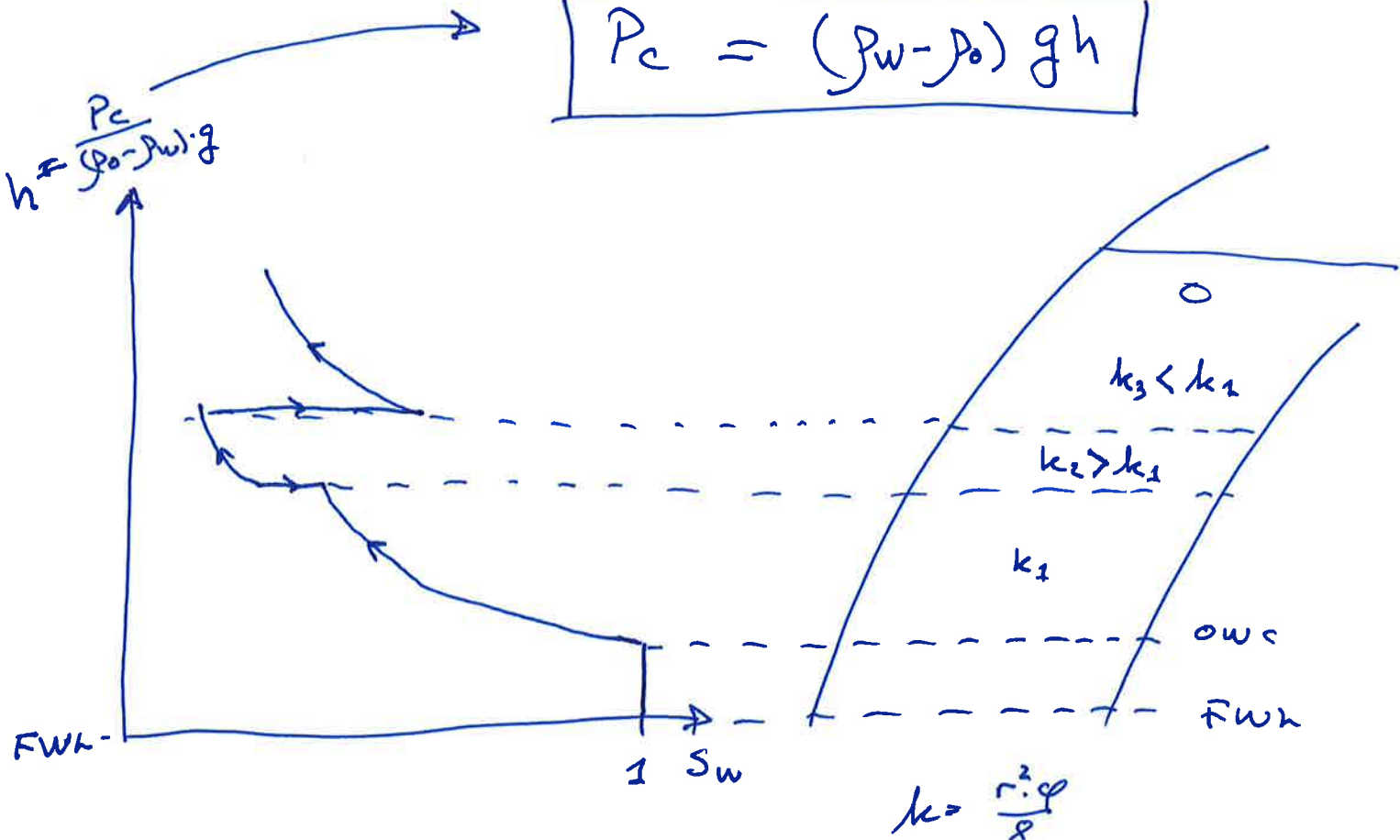


FWL  $P_o = P_w = P_{ref}$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} P_w &= P_{ref} - \rho_w g h \\ P_o &= P_{ref} - \rho_o g h \end{aligned} \right\} P_c \equiv P_o - P_w$$

$$= (P_{ref} - \rho_o g h) - (P_{ref} - \rho_w g h)$$

$$P_c = (\rho_w - \rho_o) g h$$



explanation :

- surface forces

A surface usually has a preference for one phase



$\theta$  = contact angle (measured through the denser phase)

$\theta < 90^\circ$  wetting

$\theta = 90^\circ$  neutral wetting

$\theta > 90^\circ$  non-wetting

Surface tension:  $\sigma = \left( \frac{\partial W}{\partial A} \right)_{P, T, \mu}$

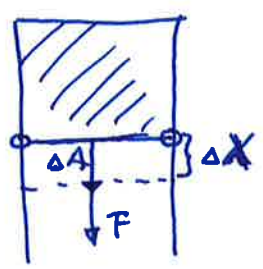
$\partial W$  is the energy needed to increase the surface area with the amount  $\partial A$  at constant pressure ( $P$ ), temperature ( $T$ ), chemical potential  $\mu$ .

$$\left[ \frac{\partial W}{\partial A} \right] = \left[ \frac{\text{Energy}}{\text{area}} \right] = \left[ \frac{F \cdot \text{length}}{(\text{length})^2} \right] = \left[ \frac{F}{\text{length}} \right]$$

An interface could be:

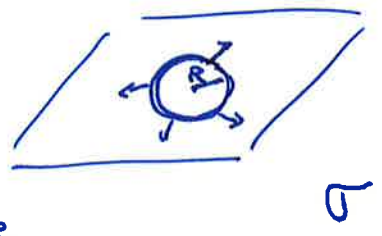
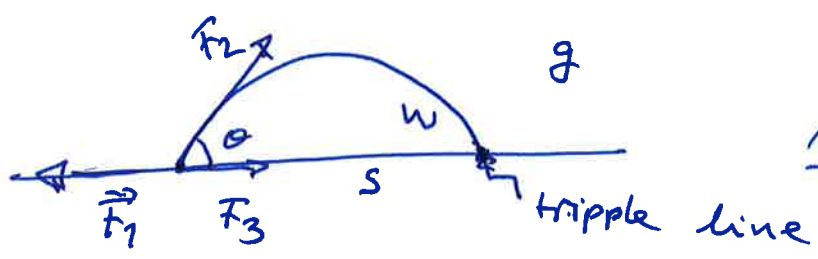
- solid / fluid interface
- fluid / fluid interface

How can we measure surface forces?



$$\sigma = \frac{\Delta W}{\Delta A} = \frac{F \cdot \Delta x}{\Delta A}$$

- water air  $\sim 70 \text{ mN/m}$
- oil air  $\sim 50 \text{ mN/m}$
- water oil  $\sim 25 \text{ mN/m}$

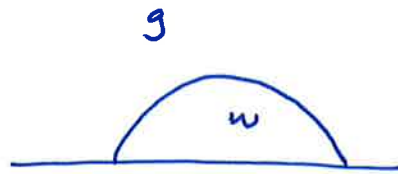


- $F_1$  force between gas / rock :  $\sigma_{gs} \cdot 2\pi R$
- $F_2$  ——— ——— gas / water :  $\sigma_{gw} \cdot 2\pi R$
- $F_3$  ——— ——— water / rock :  $\sigma_{ws} \cdot 2\pi R$

$$\sum \vec{F} = 0 \Rightarrow F_1 - F_3 - F_2 \cos \theta = 0$$

$$\underline{\sigma_{gs} - \sigma_{ws} = \sigma_{gw} \cos \theta} \quad \text{Young-Dupre equation}$$

Energy:



~~Energy~~  $E = \sigma_{gw} A_{gw} + \sigma_{ws} A_{ws} + \sigma_{gs} A_{gs}$

$$dE = 0 = \sigma_{gw} dA_{gw} + \sigma_{ws} dA_{ws} + \sigma_{gs} dA_{gs}$$



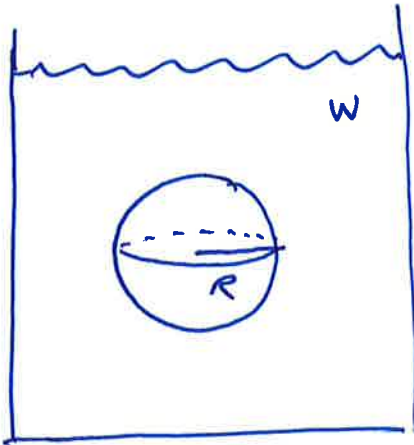
$$dA_{ws} = dA_{gs} - dA_{gw}$$

$$dA_{gw} = \cos \theta dA_{ws}$$

$$\sigma_{gw} \cos \theta = \sigma_{gs} - \sigma_{ws}$$

# Capillary pressure

$$P_c = P_o - P_w$$



$$dE = P_o dV_o - P_w dV_o - \sigma_{ow} dA = 0 \quad (*)$$

$$V_o = \frac{4}{3} \pi R^3$$

$$dV_o = 4\pi R^2 dR$$

$$A = 4\pi R^2$$

$$dA = 8\pi R dR$$

$$(*) \Rightarrow P_o 4\pi R^2 dR - P_w 4\pi R^2 dR - \sigma_{ow} 8\pi R dR = 0$$

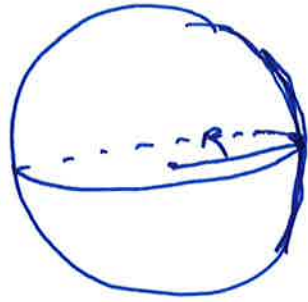
$$P_o - P_w = \frac{2\sigma_{ow}}{R}$$

Young-Laplace equation :  $P_c = \sigma \left[ \frac{1}{R_1} + \frac{1}{R_2} \right]$

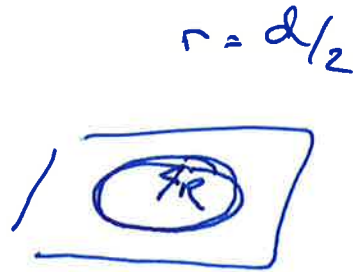
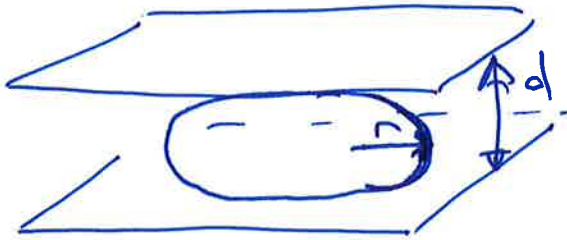
$R_1, R_2$  are the main curvatures in ~~at~~ ~~in~~ a point.  
(Euler 1760)

The main curvature is the radii of the largest and smallest circles in a point. These circles are orthogonal

Eks



$$R_1 = R_2 = R$$
$$\Rightarrow P_c = \sigma \left[ \frac{1}{R} + \frac{1}{R} \right] = \frac{2\sigma}{R}$$



$$R_1 = R, R_2 = d/2$$
$$P_c = \sigma \left[ \frac{1}{R} + \frac{1}{d/2} \right]$$

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- o If the interface is curved, there will be a pressure drop between the interfaces