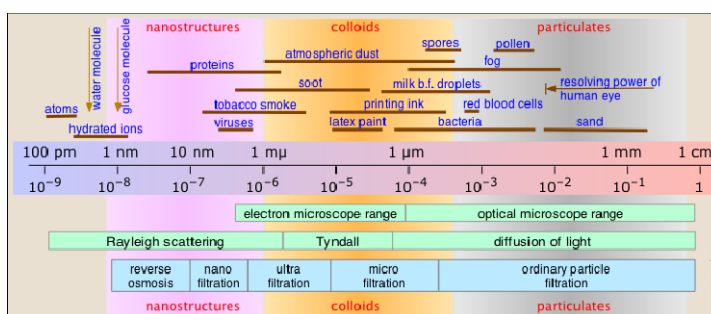


# INTERFACIAL PROPERTIES

1

## Colloid systems

Dispersed systems with where the size at least in one dimension is between **1 nm and 500 nm**  
Systems where **surface** plays a dominant role



[https://chem.libretexts.org/Textbook\\_Maps/General\\_Chemistry/Book%3A\\_Chem1\\_\(Lower\)/07%3A\\_Solids\\_and\\_Liquids/7.10%3A\\_Colloids\\_and\\_their\\_Uses](https://chem.libretexts.org/Textbook_Maps/General_Chemistry/Book%3A_Chem1_(Lower)/07%3A_Solids_and_Liquids/7.10%3A_Colloids_and_their_Uses)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sAtAqsrAla0>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kNGL8gBQ7U>

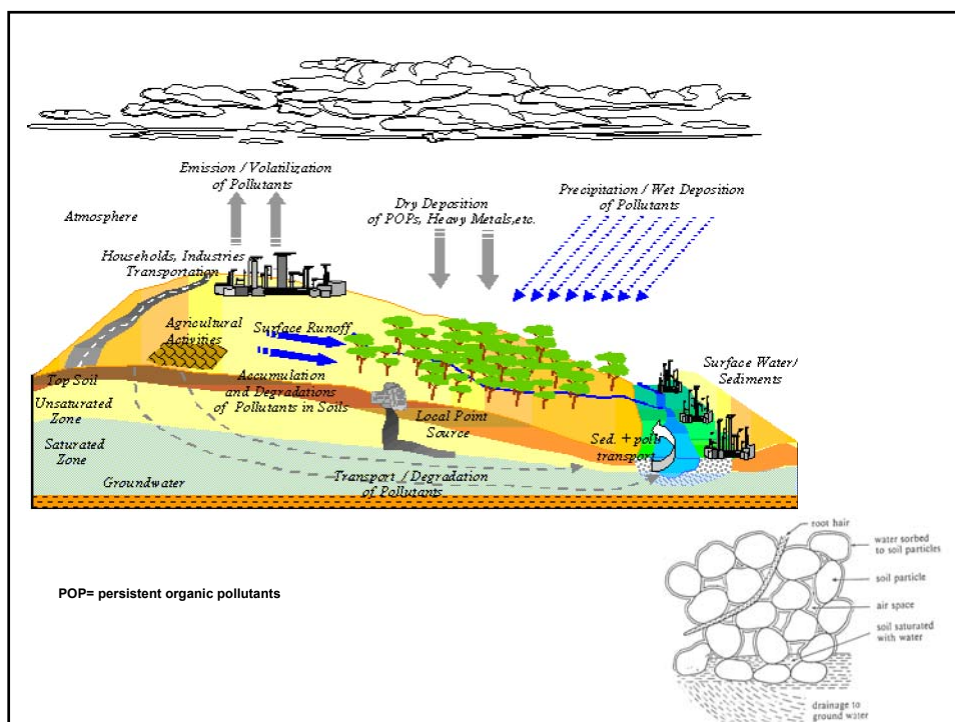
2

## Classification by physical state of the dispersion and dispersed medium

Dispersed phase	Dispersion medium	Type of colloid	Example
Solid	Solid	Solid sol	Some coloured glasses, and gem stones
Solid	Liquid	Sol	Paints, cell fluids
Solid	Gas	Aerosol	Smoke, dust
Liquid	Solid	Gel	Cheese butter, jellies
Liquid	Liquid	Emulsion	Milk, hair cream
Liquid	Gas	Aerosol	Fog, mist, cloud, insecticide sprays
Gas	Solid	Solid sol	Pumice stone, foam rubber
Gas	Liquid	Foam	Froth, whipped cream, soap-lather



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### Particle size vs. surface

**1 cube    1000 cubes    10<sup>21</sup> cubes**

**Surface/volume**

„God created space, and the devil created surface” Wolfgang Pauli

Specific surface area:  $A_s = \text{area/mass}; \text{m}^2/\text{g}$



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### High surface area material

1. dispersion:

incoherent

coherent systems

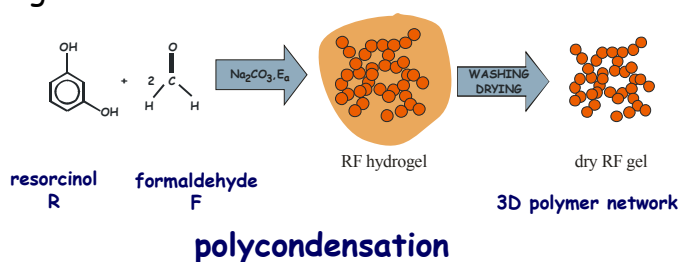
6

2. synthesis (bottom up)

~ chemical vapour deposition

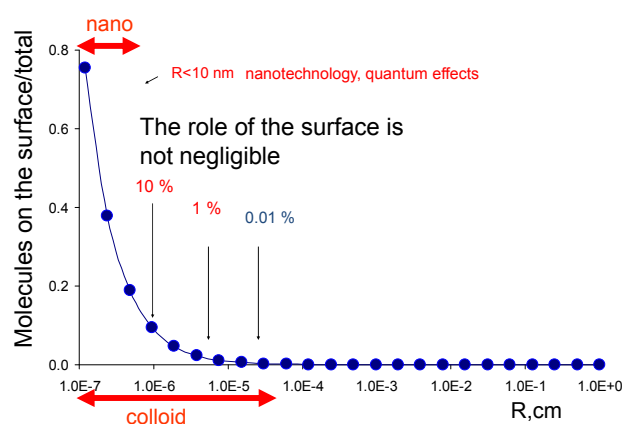


~ sol/gel



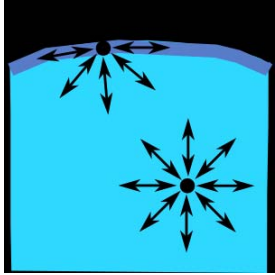
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Surface molecules vs particle size



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**MOLECULES ON THE INTERFACE HAVE EXCESS ENERGY**





$$\gamma = \left( \frac{\partial G}{\partial A_s} \right)_{\rho, T}$$

Surface tension

$$dW_{surf} = \gamma dA_s$$

work/surface area; force/route

**Depends on temperature**

$$\gamma V_m^{2/3} = k_E (T_c - T - 6)$$

$$k_E = 2 \cdot 10^{-7} \text{ J / (K} \cdot \text{mol}^{2/3})$$


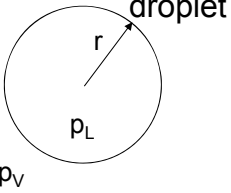

**Eötvös L.**

	$\gamma^{293 \text{ K}}$ mJ/m <sup>2</sup> or mN/m	interaction
He(l)	0,308	dispersion
n-hexane	18	dispersion
water	72	H-bridge
Hg(l)	472	metallic bond
BaSO <sub>4</sub>	10 <sup>3</sup>	ionic bond

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**Phenomena related to surface excess energy**

1. Vapour pressure over curved surfaces

Due to the surface tension: excess pressure within the droplet

$$p_L = p_V + \frac{2\gamma LV}{r}$$

$$\Delta p = p_L - p_V$$

**Young-Laplace**

Bubble diameter (2r) (μm)	Δ P (Pa)	Δ P (atm)
1000	288	0.00284
3.0	96000	0.947
0.3	960000	9.474

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**Liquid droplet**

$$p = p_{\infty} e^{\frac{2\gamma V_m}{rRT}}$$

Isothermal distillation

**Pore**

$$p = p_{\infty} e^{\frac{-2\gamma V_m}{rRT}}$$

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**2. Capillary elevation**

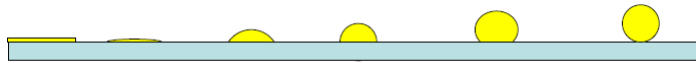
$$h = \frac{2\gamma \cos \theta}{\rho g r}$$

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

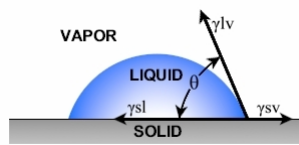
$$\frac{2\gamma \cos \theta}{r} = h \rho g = \Delta p_{\text{hydrost}}$$

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### 3. Contact wetting



$\theta$  Contact angle



$\theta$  is the contact angle

$\gamma^{sl}$  is the solid/liquid interfacial free energy

$\gamma^{sv}$  is the solid surface free energy

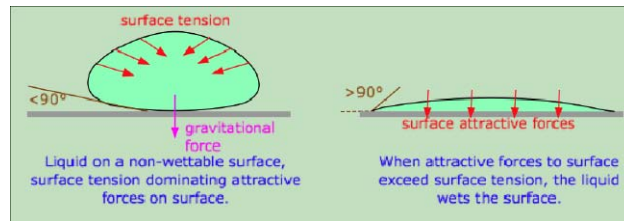
$\gamma^{lv}$  is the liquid surface free energy

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

Young equation

spreading  $\theta = 0$

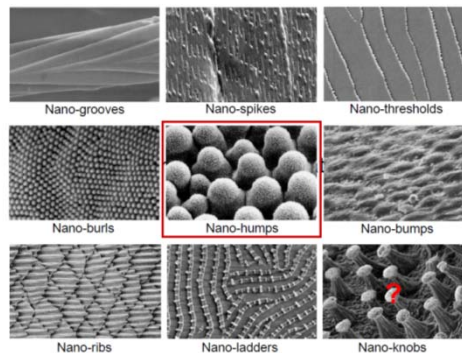
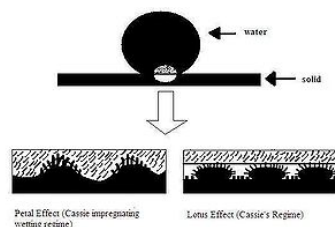
$$\gamma_{sv} - \gamma_{sl} = \gamma_{lv} \cos\theta$$



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### How can we influence contact angle (wetting phenomenon)?

- 1) Surface treatment
- 2) Liquid properties
- 3) Surface roughness



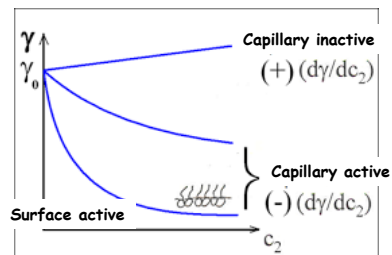
### 1) Surface treatment

e.g., waxing  
de-greasing  
smoothing/roughing

### 2) Liquid properties

change the solvent

change the composition of the solvent



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### Surface active materials: surfactants

#### Amphiphilic character

LIOPHILIC (hydrophilic)

LIOPHOBIC (hydrophobic)

Classification: according to the charge of the organic (nonpolar) chain

Anionic  $R-COO^- Me^+$  Pl. soaps (salts of carboxylic acids)

Cationic  $R-N^+(CH_3)_3 X^-$  Quaternary ammonium salts

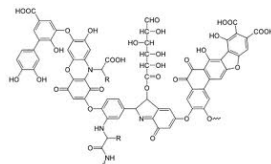
Non-ionic  $R-Z-(CH_2-CH_2-O)_n H$   $Z = O, S, NH$

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Natural surfactants

e.g. - humic acid



- proteins



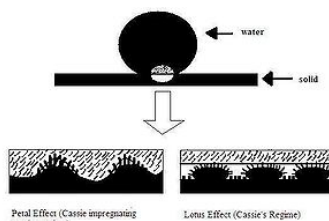
Natural foam



Environmental catastrophe

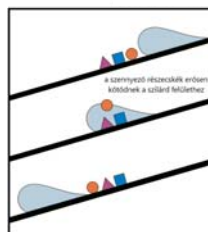
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3) Surface roughness

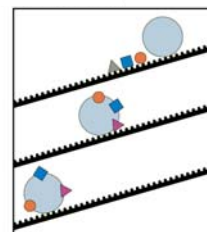


Lotus-effect: self-cleaning ability of microstructured, hydrophobic (water repellent) surfaces

Mechanism



Smooth surface



Rough hydrophobic surface

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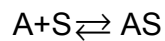
#### 4. Adsorption

Consequence of the excess energy of the surface

**Adsorption:** enrichment on the surface

**Desorption:** removal of the adsorbed molecules

Spontaneous process leading to equilibrium



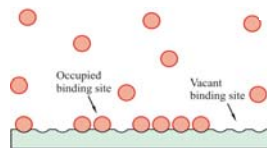
A: free molecule  
S: surface site  
AS: molecule bounded to S

It is an **EXOTHERMIC** process:  $\Delta G = \Delta H - T\Delta S$

Application: e.g., water treatment,  
gas purification, gas separation,  
chromatography

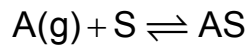
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#### a) Gas/solid interfaces



To set up a model we need simplifying conditions: i) flat surface,  
ii) sites of equal energy, iii) limited to a single layer.

This is the Langmuir model



A: free molecule  
S: surface site  
AS: molecule bounded to S

$N_t$ : # of total available sites  
 $N$ : # of occupied sites

$$\Theta = \frac{N}{N_t}$$

coverage = occupied/total

$$v_a = k_a(N_t - N)p = k_a N_t(1 - \Theta)p \quad \text{Rate of adsorption}$$

$$v_d = k_d \Theta N_t \quad \text{Rate of desorption}$$

equilibrium:  $v_a = v_d$

$$k_a N_t(1 - \Theta)p = k_d N_t \Theta$$

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$$k_a N_t (1 - \Theta) p = k_d N_t \Theta$$

$$K = \frac{k_a}{k_d}$$

$$\Theta = \frac{K \cdot p}{1 + K \cdot p}$$

For macroscopic quantities:

$$\Theta = \frac{m^s}{m_m} \quad \begin{array}{l} m^s \text{ material adsorbed on e.g., 1 g of solid material} \\ m_m \text{ the maximum uptake in the single layer} \\ \text{(monolayer capacity)} \end{array}$$

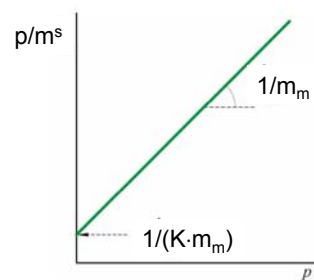
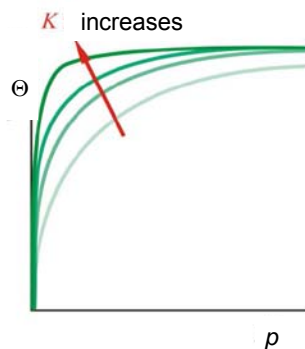
How we collect these data?

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$$\Theta = \frac{m^s}{m_m} = \frac{K \cdot p}{1 + K \cdot p}$$

$$m^s = \frac{m_m \cdot K \cdot p}{1 + K \cdot p} \quad \text{Langmuir model}$$

How to determine the parameters?  
( $K, m_m$ )



if  $p \rightarrow 0$   $m^s = K_H \cdot p$  **Henry**

**Linear form**

$$\frac{p}{m^s} = \frac{1}{K m_m} + \frac{p}{m_m}$$

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Way to determine specific surface area of irregular/porous materials:

$$\text{Specific surface area} = \frac{m_m}{M} N_A a_s$$

$a_s$  the area occupied by a single molecule on the surface

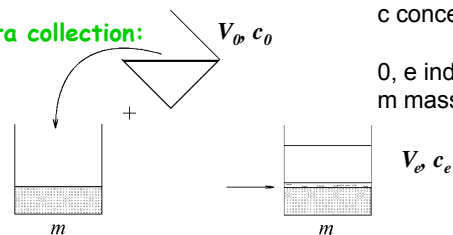
Standard procedure: determination of specific surface area from gas adsorption data; probe gas:  $N_2$ , 77 K  
 $a_s = 0.162 \text{ nm}^2$

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b) Liquid solution/solid interfaces:

Interactions: surface site - dissolved material  
 surface site - solvent  
 solvent - dissolved material

Data collection:



$V$  volume of the solution  
 $c$  concentration of the dissolved material in the solution  
 $0, e$  indices? Initial and equilibrium, resp.  
 $m$  mass of the solid phase

Evaluation:

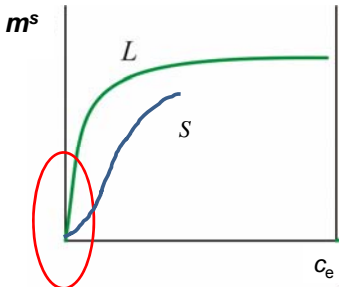
$$m^s = \frac{(c_0 - c_e)V_0}{m} \quad T = \text{const. (isotherms)}$$

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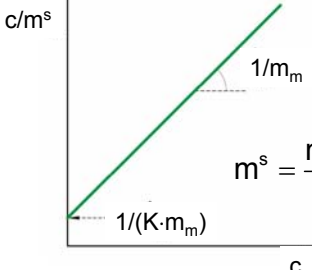
**Interpretation: solid surface + nonionic dissolved material**

van der Waals/dispersion interactions

**Types of the resulted isotherms**



**Modelling of L type**  
e.g. Langmuir



$$m^s = \frac{m_m \cdot K \cdot c}{1 + K \cdot c}$$

**c → 0** Henry  

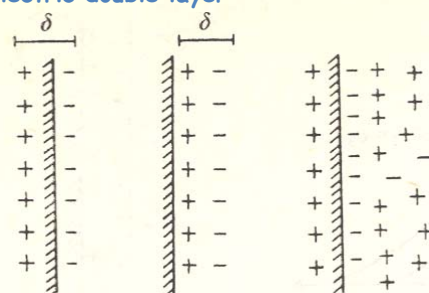
$$m^s = K_H \cdot c$$

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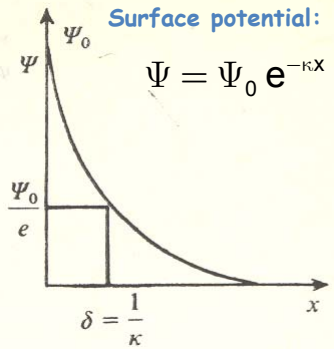
**Ionic surfaces/ionic dissolved materials**

**Typical interactions: Electrostatic forces (Coulomb)**  
between surface, (counter)ions and solvent

**Electric double layer**



**Surface potential:**



$$\Psi = \Psi_0 e^{-\kappa x}$$

$\delta = \frac{1}{\kappa}$

**The (counter)ion determines the potential**

$\delta$  Thickness of the layer  
*Stern-layer*

Thermal motion  
*Diffuse double layer*

in case of symmetrical electrolyte:

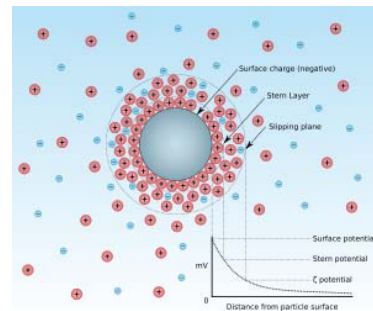
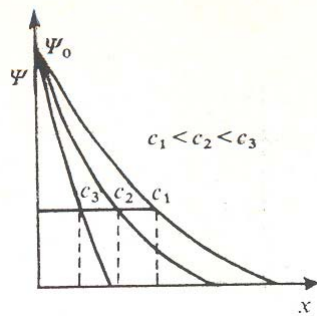
$$\kappa = \text{const} \cdot z \sqrt{c}$$

$z$ : # of charges

$1/\kappa$  fictive layer thickness

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### Influence of concentration on the layer thickness



The surface charge is able to stabilize the colloidal particles:  
 **$\zeta$  - potencial** (electrokinetic potential on the particle surface)

Zeta potencial [mV]	Stability
0 to $\pm 5$	fast sedimentation
$\pm 10$ to $\pm 30$	instable
$\pm 30$ to $\pm 40$	low stability
$\pm 40$ to $\pm 60$	good
above $\pm 60$	excellent