

Surface Tension

Dr. Litty Mathew Irimpan
Assistant Professor in Physics
St. Mary's College, Thrissur

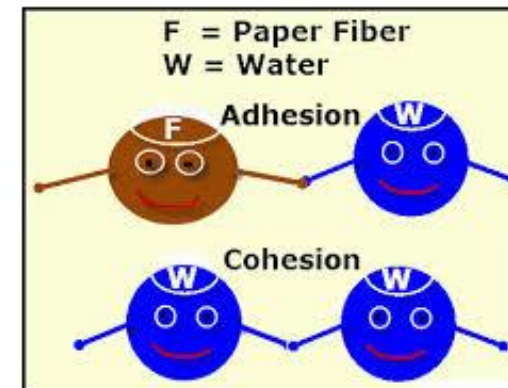
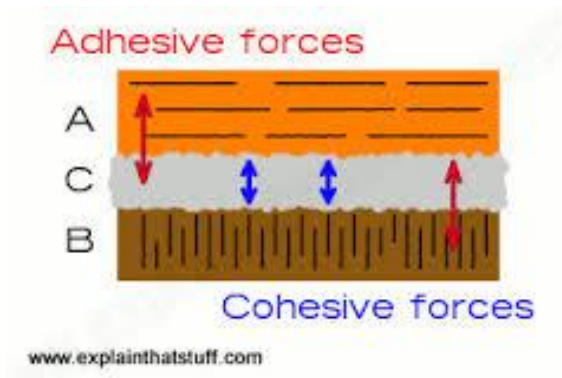




Molecular Forces

- ▶ 2 types

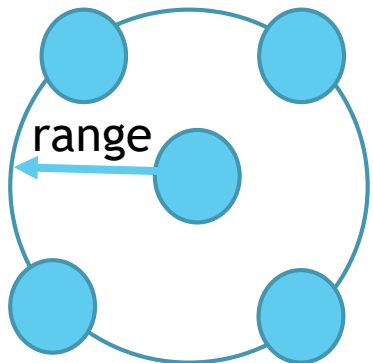
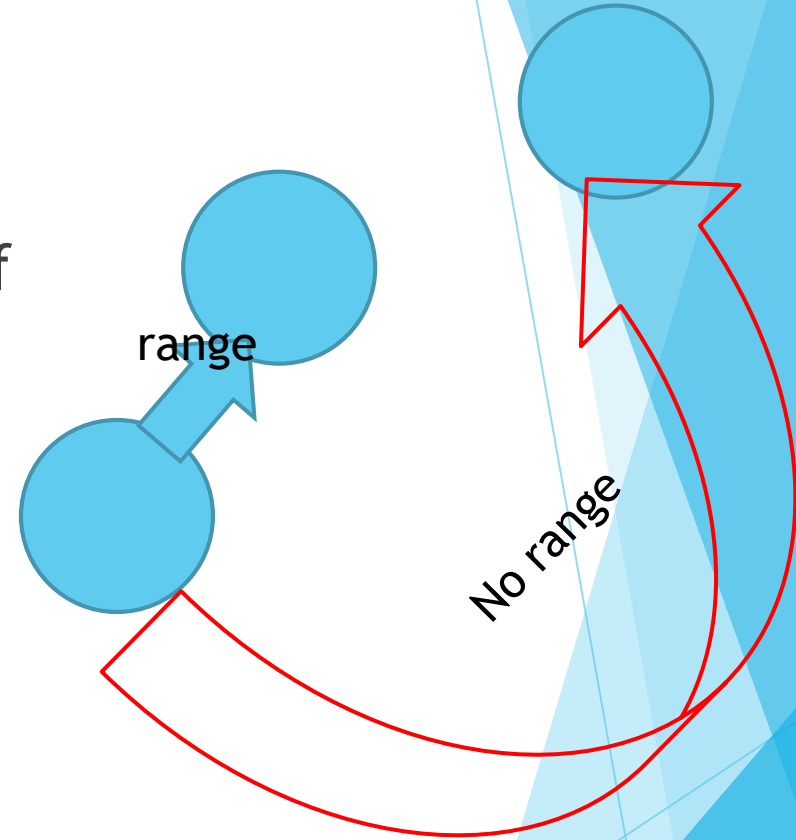
Adhesive Force	Cohesive Force
Force of attraction between	
Molecules of different substance	Molecules of same substance





Molecular Range

- ▶ Maximum distance upto which the force of cohesion between the molecules exist
- ▶ Order of 10^{-9}m
- ▶ Different for different substances



Sphere of Influence

A sphere with molecule as centre & molecular range as radius



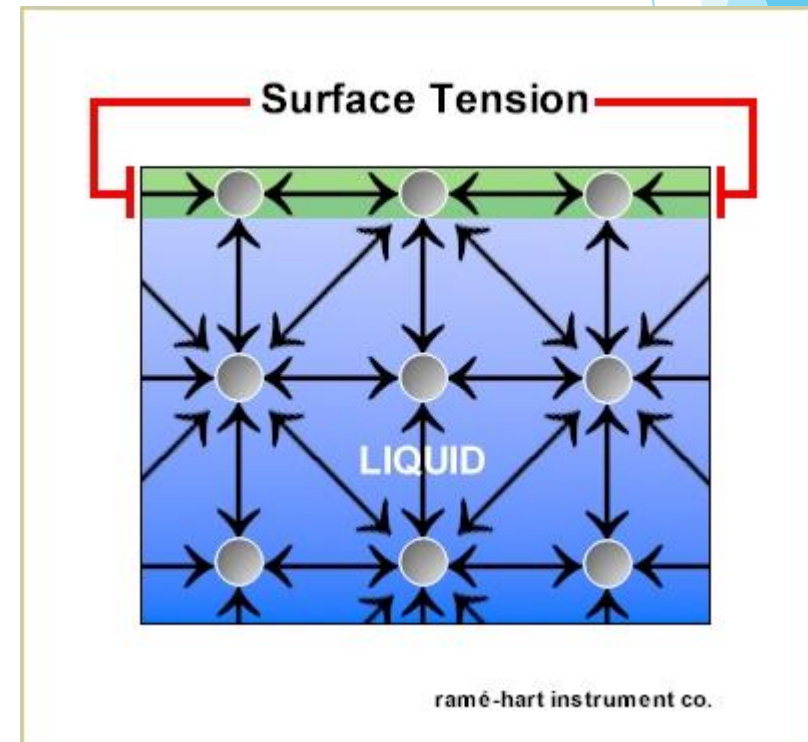
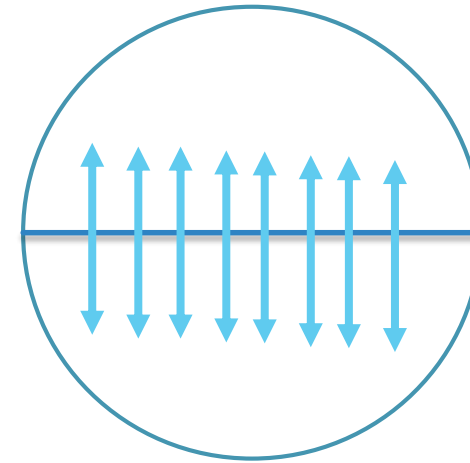
Surface Tension

- ▶ Pull or tension of the liquid surface
- ▶ Tangential force per unit length, acting at right angles on either side of a line imagined to be drawn in the free liquid surface
- ▶ Surface Tension = $\frac{F}{L}$

Unit - Nm^{-1}

Dimension-

$$\text{Surface Tension} = \frac{F}{L} = \frac{\text{MLT}^{-2}}{L} = \text{MT}^{-2}$$





Surface Energy

- ▶ Inside molecule-balanced pull by other surrounding molecules
- ▶ Surface Molecule-Unbalanced pull by other molecules
- ▶ $PE_{\text{surface molecule}} > PE_{\text{inside molecule}}$

$$\text{▶ Surface Energy} = \frac{PE}{\text{Area of liquid surface}} = \frac{\text{Work done}}{\text{Area of liquid surface}}$$

- ▶ Surface Energy=work done in increasing surface area of liquid film to unity
- ▶ Surface Energy = |Surface tension|



Fig 1. Forces between water molecules

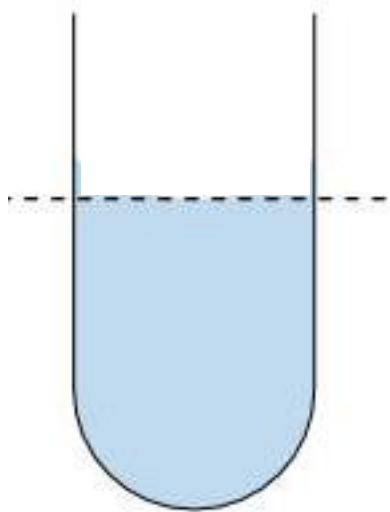


Surface Tension & Surface Energy

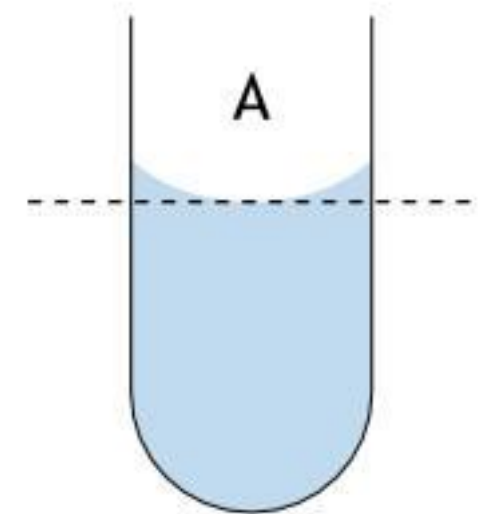
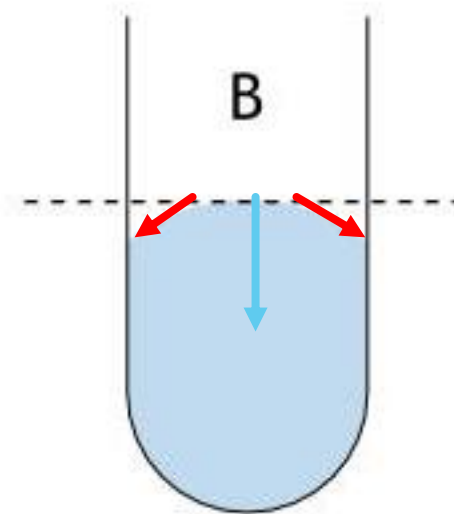
		Unit	Dimension
Surface Tension	$\frac{F}{L}$	Nm^{-1}	$\frac{\text{MLT}^{-2}}{L} = \text{MT}^{-2}$
Surface Energy	$\frac{PE}{\text{Area of liquid surface}}$	$\frac{\text{Nm}}{\text{m}^2} = \text{Nm}^{-1}$	$\frac{\text{MLT}^{-2}\text{L}}{L^2} = \text{MT}^{-2}$



Pressure difference across a curved surface



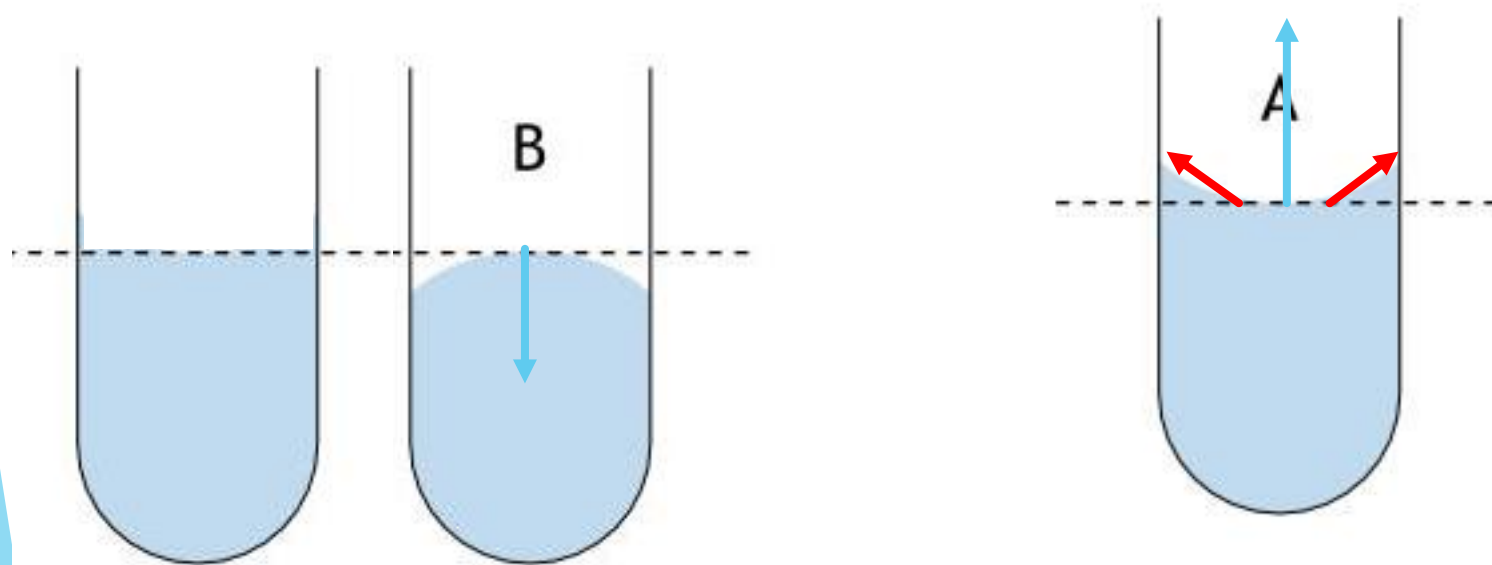
Liquid surface is plane
Inward force=Outward force
No pressure difference



Liquid surface is CONVEX
Net force due to surface tension is inward
For equilibrium, Pressure_{inside} > Pressure_{outside}
Pressure_{inside} - Pressure_{outside} = Excess of pressure
Force due to excess pressure balances surface tension



Pressure difference across a curved surface



Liquid surface is **CONCAVE**

Net force due to surface tension is outward

For equilibrium, Pressure_{inside} < Pressure_{outside}

Pressure_{outside} - Pressure_{inside} = Excess of pressure

Force due to excess pressure balances surface tension

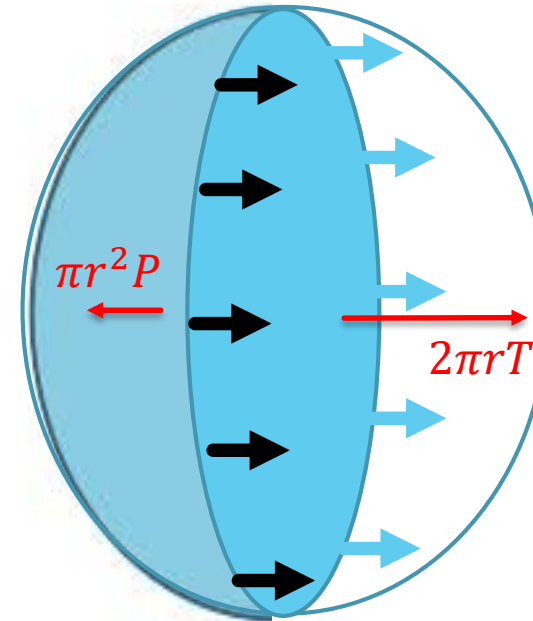


Excess of Pressure inside a liquid drop

- ▶ For a spherical drop
 - ▶ Liquid surface-convex
 - ▶ surface tension-inward
 - ▶ Pressure_{inside} > Pressure_{outside}
- ▶ Liquid Drop-2 hemispheres
- ▶ 2 forces acting- Force due to
 - ▶ Excess of pressure= $\pi r^2 P$
 - ▶ Surface tension = $2\pi r T$
- ▶ In equilibrium,

$$\pi r^2 P = 2\pi r T$$

$$\text{Excess of pressure, } P = \frac{2T}{r}$$





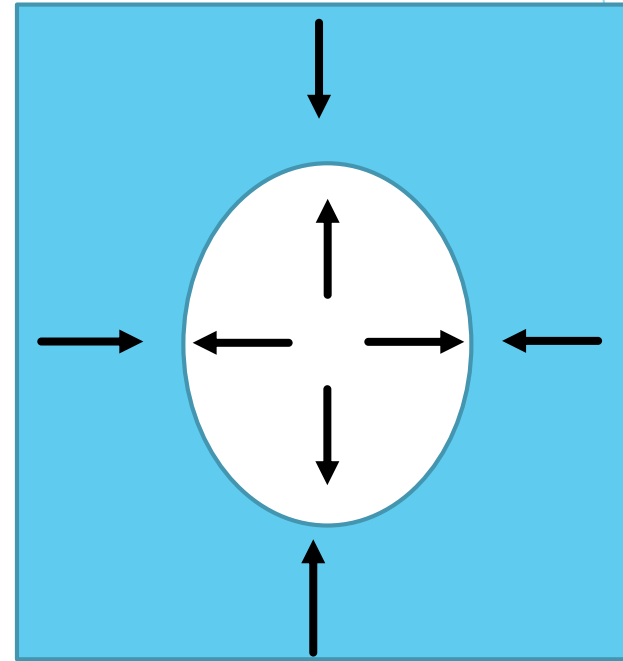
Excess of Pressure inside a Bubble

a. Air bubble formed inside a liquid

- ▶ For a small air bubble in liquid
 - ▶ Liquid pressure is same throughout
- ▶ Only one liquid surface
- ▶ 2 forces acting
 - ▶ Surface tension = $2\pi rT$
 - ▶ Excess of pressure = $\pi r^2 P$
- ▶ In equilibrium,

$$\pi r^2 P = 2\pi rT$$

$$\text{Excess of pressure, } P = \frac{2T}{r}$$



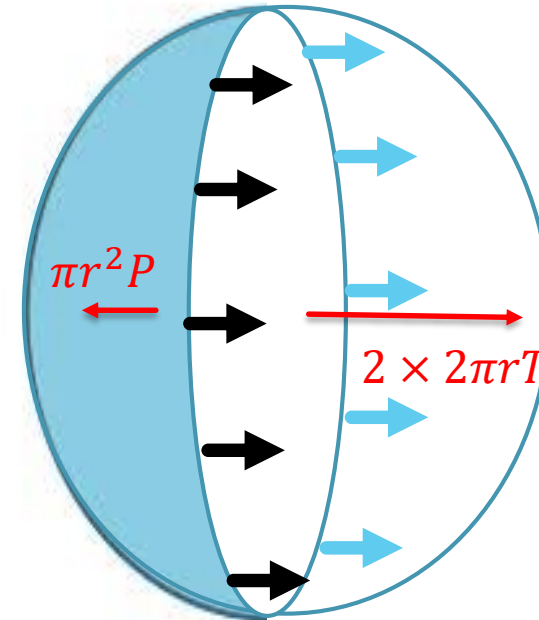


Excess of Pressure inside a Bubble

b. Bubble formed by Liquid in air

- ▶ 2 liquid surfaces
- ▶ 2 forces acting
 - ▶ Excess of pressure = $\pi r^2 P$
 - ▶ Surface tension = $2 \times 2\pi r T$
- ▶ In equilibrium,

$$\pi r^2 P = 4\pi r T$$



$$\text{Excess of pressure, } P = \frac{4T}{r}$$



Effect of Electrostatic Pressure on a bubble

- ▶ Consider
 - ▶ A charged conducting surface - plane/ hollow/ solid sphere
 - ▶ Charges on any surface is repelled by all the other charges
 - ▶ This produce outward force on the surface

- ▶ Applying Gauss Law
 - ▶ Electrostatic Pressure = Mechanical Force per unit area

$$= \frac{\sigma^2}{2\varepsilon_0\varepsilon_r}$$

ε_0 - Permittivity of free space = 8.854×10^{-12} Farad/m

ε_r - Relative Permittivity of the medium

For bubble in air, $\varepsilon_r=1$

σ - Surface charge density

$$= \frac{\text{Charge}}{\text{Area}} = \frac{q}{4\pi r^2}$$



Effect of Electrostatic Pressure on a bubble

▶ Electrostatic pressure = $\frac{\sigma^2}{2\epsilon_0\epsilon_r}$

▶ Excess of Pressure = $\frac{4T}{r}$

▶ In equilibrium,

$$\frac{4T}{r} = \frac{\sigma^2}{2\epsilon_0\epsilon_r} = \left(\frac{q}{4\pi r^2}\right)^2 \times \frac{1}{2\epsilon_0\epsilon_r} = \frac{q^2}{32\pi^2\epsilon_0\epsilon_r r^4}$$

$$4T = \frac{q^2}{32\pi^2\epsilon_0\epsilon_r r^3}$$

$$r^3 = \frac{q^2}{128\pi^2\epsilon_0\epsilon_r T}$$

$$r \propto q^{2/3}$$

- ▶ As q increases, r increases
- ▶ Because of outward electrostatic pressure, size of bubble (r) increases
- ▶ Then Excess of pressure ($\frac{4T}{r}$) reduces



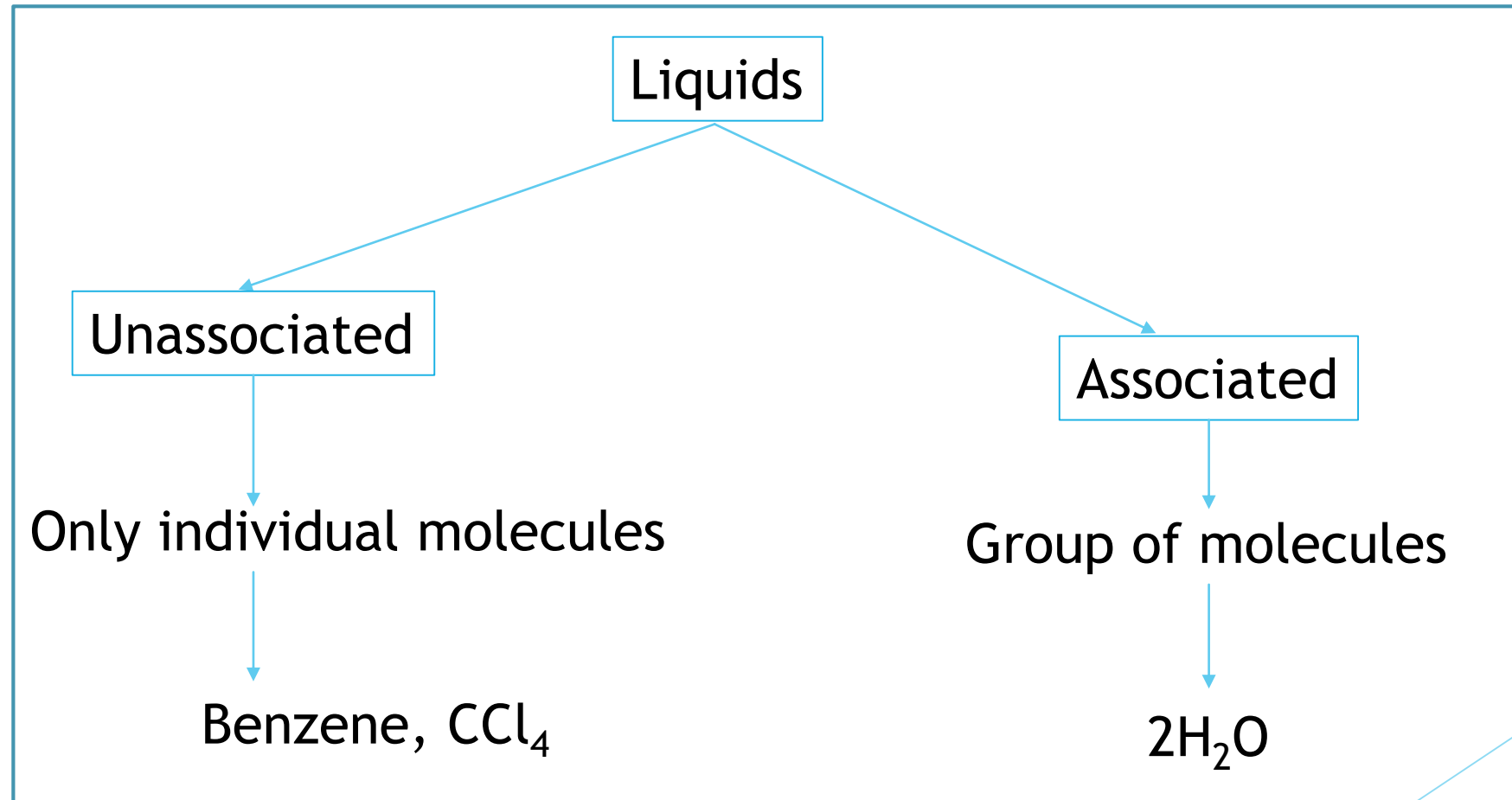
Work done in blowing a bubble

- ▶ Bubble has 2 surfaces
- ▶ Change in surface area = $8\pi r^2$
- ▶ Work done in blowing the bubble = Surface Energy \times change in surface area
= Surface Tension \times change in surface area
= $T \times 8\pi r^2 = 8\pi r^2 T$



Surface Tension and Temperature

- ▶ 2 types of liquids





Surface Tension and Temperature

- ▶ For unassociated molecules,
 - ▶ Surface tension decreases linearly with temperature

$$T = T_0(1 - \alpha t)$$

t - Temperature in Celsius scale

T - Surface tension at t⁰c

T₀ - Surface tension at 0⁰c

α - Temperature coefficient of surface tension of liquid

- ▶ The rate of variation of surface tension with temperature is

$$\frac{dT}{dt} = -\alpha T_0 = -k$$



Surface Tension and Temperature

For all liquids,

- ▶ Vander waals relation is,

$$T = A \left[1 - \frac{\theta}{\theta_c} \right]^{3/2}$$

θ - Temperature in Absolute scale
 θ_c - Critical Temperature
A - Constant

- ▶ Ferguson modified this as

$$T = A \left[1 - \frac{\theta}{\theta_c} \right]^n$$

n - Constant for a liquid
For most liquids,
n=1.21



Surface Tension and Temperature

- ▶ Eotvos law

$$T \left[\frac{M}{\rho} \right]^{2/3} = K(\theta_c - \theta)$$

T - Surface tension
 M - Molecular weight
 ρ - density
 θ - Temperature in Absolute scale
 θ_c - Critical Temperature
 K - Universal Constant ≈ 2.2

- ▶ Ramsay & Shields modified it as

$$T \left[\frac{M}{\rho} \right]^{2/3} = K(\theta_c - \theta - \delta)$$

$$T[Mvx]^{2/3} = K(\theta_c - \theta - \delta)$$

δ - constant for a liquid
 varies from 6-8 for most liquids

v - specific volume

x - $\frac{\text{effective molecular weight of associated liquid}}{\text{effective molecular weight of the same unassociated liquid}}$



Surface Tension and Temperature

- ▶ According to Eotvos law,

$$T \left[\frac{M}{\rho} \right]^{2/3} = K(\theta_c - \theta)$$

T=0, When, $\theta = \theta_c$

- ▶ According to Ramsay & Shields equation,

$$T \left[\frac{M}{\rho} \right]^{2/3} = K(\theta_c - \theta - \delta)$$

T=0, When, $\theta = \theta_c - \delta$

- ▶ Callender proved Ramsay & Shields equation

- ▶ $T_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}=0$ when $\theta = 647 \text{ K}$, But $\theta_c = 653 \text{ K}$

- ▶ T=0, When, $\theta = \theta_c - \delta$



Surface Tension & Impurities

- ▶ Dissolved impurities affect surface tension

- ▶ **Case I :- Highly Soluble**

- ▶ Force of attraction_{solute} > Force of attraction_{liquid}
- ▶ Presence of impurities increase surface energy & surface tension
- ▶ Eg: $T_{\text{water}} = 0.072 \text{ N/m}$ $T_{\text{salt water}} = 0.082 \text{ N/m}$

Highly Soluble

Feebly Soluble

-
- ▶ Any system has the tendency to reduce PE
 - ▶ Solute molecules will pull to the interior of the liquid
 - ▶ Impurity concentration_{surface} < Impurity concentration_{interior}
 - ▶ $T_{\text{Freshly prepared solution}} > T_{\text{solution at equilibrium}}$



Surface Tension & Impurities

▶ Case II :- Feebly Soluble

- ▶ Force of attraction_{solute} < Force of attraction_{liquid}
- ▶ Presence of impurities reduce surface energy & surface tension
- ▶ Eg: Soap solution & solution of phenol in water
- ▶ $T_{\text{water}} = 0.072 \text{ N/m} > T_{\text{soap solution}} = 0.06 \text{ N/m}$

Impurities

Highly Soluble

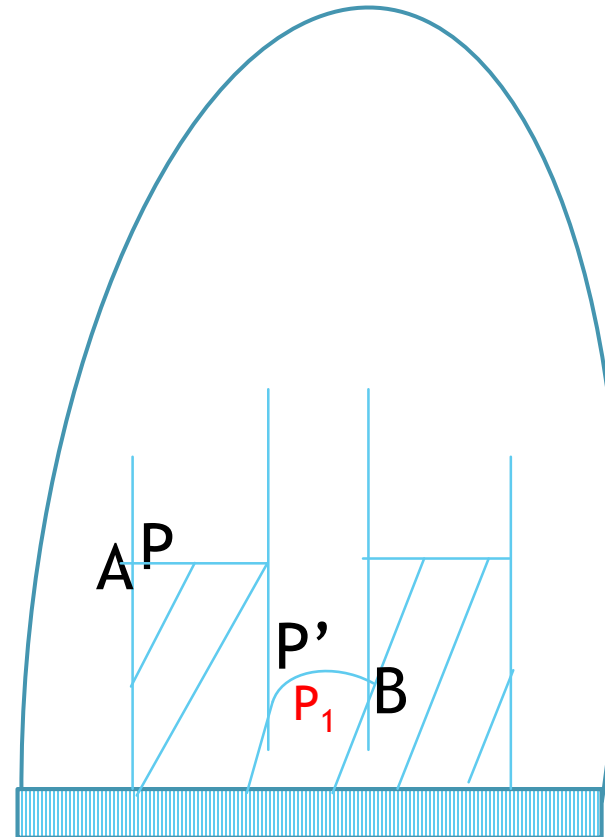
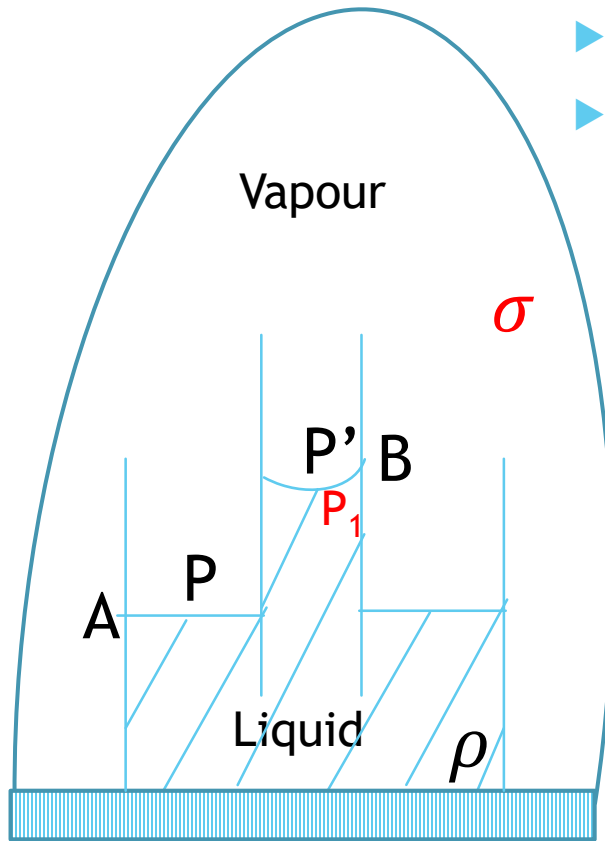
Feebly Soluble

- ▶ Any system has the tendency to reduce PE
- ▶ Liquid molecules will pull to the interior
- ▶ Impurity concentration_{surface} > Impurity concentration_{interior}
- ▶ $T_{\text{Freshly prepared solution}} (0.068) > T_{\text{solution at equilibrium}} (0.043)$



Surface Tension & Evaporation

- ▶ P - Pressure of Vapour at A
- ▶ P'- Pressure of vapour at B
- ▶ P_1 -Liquid pressure at B
- ▶ σ - Density of vapour
- ▶ ρ -Density of liquid



$$P' = P - h\sigma g$$

$$P_1 = P - h\rho g$$

Pressure decreases with increasing altitude

Excess of Pressure at B = $P' - P_1$

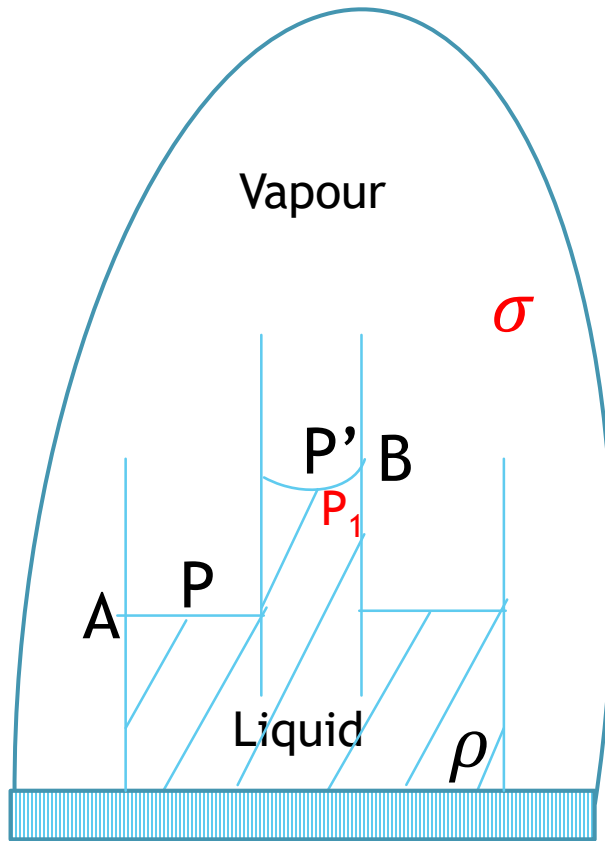
$$\frac{2T}{r} = P' - P_1 = P - h\sigma g - (P - h\rho g)$$

$$= h\rho g - h\sigma g = h(\rho - \sigma)g$$



Surface Tension & Evaporation

- ▶ For a concave surface, $P' < P$



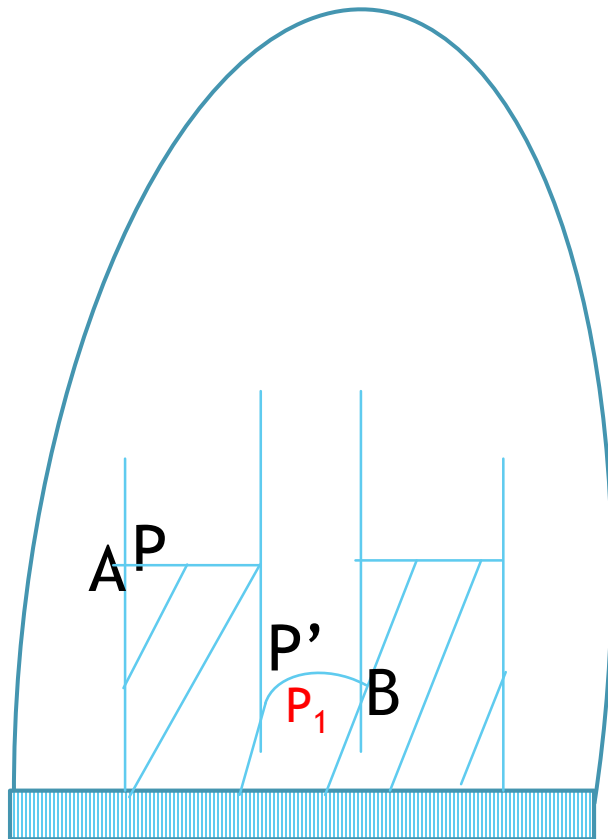
Pressure decreases with increasing altitude

P - Pressure of Vapour at A-Plane surface

P' - Pressure of vapour at B- Concave surface



Surface Tension & Evaporation



- ▶ For a convex surface, $P' > P$

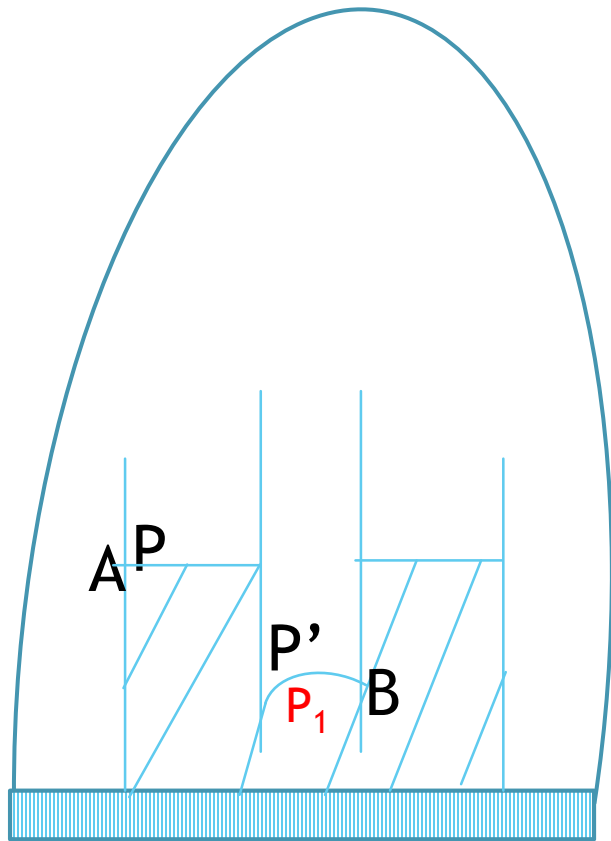
Pressure decreases with increasing altitude

P - Pressure of Vapour at A-Plane surface
 P' - Pressure of vapour at B- Convex surface

- ▶ A spherical drop placed in a plane surface will begin to evaporate in order to increase the vapour pressure needed for convex surface
- ▶ Due to evaporation, the size decreases and it becomes more convex
- ▶ So more evaporation & whole drop will evaporate



Surface Tension & Evaporation



- ▶ Latent heat is provided by surface energy

L - Latent heat of vaporization per unit volume

T- Surface Tension

r- Critical radius of the drop

- ▶ $\frac{4}{3}\pi r^3 L = 4\pi r^2 T$

$$r = \frac{3T}{L}$$

- ▶ If the radius of the drop is less than critical radius- the whole drop will automatically evaporate
- ▶ For water, $r_c = 1.2 \times 10^{-10} \text{m}$



Surface Tension & Condensation

- ▶ A saturated vapour cannot automatically condense into drops
- ▶ As soon as the drop is formed, actual vapour pressure is less than what needed for a drop since For a convex surface, $P < P'$
 - ▶ P - Pressure of Vapour at A-Plane surface
 - ▶ P' - Pressure of vapour at B- Convex surface
- ▶ So drop will evaporate & condensation will not occur
- ▶ Condensation can be induced only in the presence of dust particles, charged ions etc.
- ▶ The dust particle acts as the nucleus for condensation
- ▶ The drop formed on this dust particle has radius greater than critical radius which helps further condensation
- ▶ Vapour pressure of concave surface $<$ Vapour pressure of plane surface. Vapour will condense more readily on a concave surface than on plane surface

