

On the solid/liquid contact

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Abstract:

We celebrate in 2005/2006 the anniversaries of the pioneering contributions of Young, Laplace and Leidenfrost on capillarity. After a brief recall of a few historical facts, we'll show recent advances in the field. We'll stress in particular how it is possible to induce self-propulsion in drops, and will also discuss "dry wetting": how we can build situations where a liquid hardly contacts its substrate.