

## 6. SURFACE TENSION

1. Calculate the force required to take away a flat circular plate of radius 0.01 m from the surface of water. The surface tension of water is 0.075 N/m.

Given :

$$\begin{aligned} r &= 0.01\text{m} \\ T &= 0.075\text{ N/m} \end{aligned}$$

To Find :

$$F = ?$$

Formula :

$$F = T \times l$$

Solution :

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore \text{The plate is flat} \\ \therefore \text{Force due to surface tension acts on only one face} \\ \therefore l &= 2\pi r \\ F &= T \times l \\ F &= 0.075 (2 \times 3.142 \times 0.01) \\ F &= 0.150 \times 3.142 \\ \therefore F &= 0.004717\text{ N} \end{aligned}$$

2. There is a soap film on a rectangular frame of wire of area 4 cm × 4 cm. If the area of the frame is increased to 4 cm × 5 cm, find the work done in the process. [Surface tension of soap film = 3 × 10<sup>-2</sup> N/m]

Given :

$$\begin{aligned} A_1 &= 4 \times 4\text{ cm}^2 = 16\text{ cm}^2 \\ A_1 &= 16 \times 10^{-4}\text{ m}^2 \\ A_2 &= 4 \times 5\text{ cm}^2 = 20\text{ cm}^2 \\ A_2 &= 20 \times 10^{-4}\text{ m}^2 \\ T &= 3 \times 10^{-2}\text{ N/m} \end{aligned}$$

To Find :

$$W = ?$$

Formula :

$$W = T\Delta A$$

Solution :

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore \text{A soap film has two surfaces} \\ \therefore W &= 2T\Delta A \\ &= 2T(A_2 - A_1) \\ &= 2T(20 \times 10^{-4} - 16 \times 10^{-4}) \\ &= 2 \times 3 \times 10^{-2} \times 4 \times 10^{-4} \end{aligned}$$

$$= 6 \times 4 \times 10^{-6}$$

$$= 24 \times 10^{-6}\text{ J}$$

$$\therefore \text{Work done} = 2.4 \times 10^{-5}\text{ J}$$

3. A capillary tube of radius 0.5 mm is dipped vertically in a liquid of surface tension 0.04 N/m and relative density 0.8 gm/cc. Calculate the height of capillary rise, if the angle of contact is 10°. [g = 9.8 m/s<sup>2</sup>]

Given :

$$\begin{aligned} r &= 0.5\text{mm} \\ &= 0.5 \times 10^{-3}\text{ m} = 5 \times 10^{-4}\text{ m} \\ T &= 0.04\text{ N/m} \\ \rho &= 0.8\text{ gm/cc} \\ &= \frac{0.8 \times 10^{-3}}{10^{-6}} = 800\text{ kg/m}^3 \\ \theta &= 10^\circ \\ g &= 9.8\text{ m/s}^2 \end{aligned}$$

To Find :

$$h = ?$$

Formula :

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

Solution :

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

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

$$\therefore h = \frac{2 \times 0.04 \times \cos 10^\circ}{5 \times 10^{-4} \times 800 \times 9.8}$$

$$h = \frac{2 \times 0.04 \times 0.9848}{5 \times 800 \times 9.8 \times 10^{-4}}$$

$$h = 2.01 \times 10^{-2}\text{ m}$$

$$\therefore h \approx 2\text{ cm}$$

4. A mercury drop of radius 0.5 cm falls from a height on a glass plate and breaks up into a million droplets, all of the same size. Find the height from which the drop must have fallen. [Density of mercury = 13600 kg/m<sup>3</sup>, Surface tension of water = 0.465 N/m]

Given :

$$\begin{aligned} R &= 0.5\text{cm} = 0.5 \times 10^{-2}\text{m} \\ n &= \text{No. of drops formed} \\ &= 10^6 \\ \rho &= 13600 \text{ kg/m}^3, \\ T &= 0.465 \text{ N/m} \end{aligned}$$

To Find :

$$h = ?$$

Formula :

$$\begin{aligned} \text{i) } W &= T\Delta A \\ \text{ii) } \text{P.E} &= mgh \end{aligned}$$

Solution :

$$\text{Volume of single big drop } V = \frac{4}{3}\pi R^3$$

$$\text{Volume of single small droplet} = \frac{4}{3}\pi r^3$$

$$\text{Volume of } n \text{ droplets} = n \times \frac{4}{3}\pi r^3$$

$$\therefore \frac{4}{3}\pi R^3 = n \frac{4}{3}\pi r^3$$

$$\therefore R^3 = nr^3$$

$$\therefore r = \frac{R}{\sqrt[3]{n}}$$

$$= \frac{0.5 \times 10^{-2}}{\sqrt[3]{10^6}}$$

$$= \frac{0.5 \times 10^{-2}}{10^2}$$

$$\therefore r = 0.5 \times 10^{-4} \text{ m}$$

The single drop is fallen from height  $h$ , hence its P.E. =  $mgh$

But, P.E = Work done due to change in area ... (i)

$$\text{Change in surface area } \Delta A = (n4\pi r^2 - 4\pi R^2)$$

Also,

$$\begin{aligned} W &= T\Delta A \\ &= T(n4\pi r^2 - 4\pi R^2) \\ W &= 4\pi T(nr^2 - R^2) \end{aligned}$$

$\therefore$  eq., (i) becomes,

$$\therefore mgh = 4\pi T(nr^2 - R^2)$$

$$\text{But, } m = \frac{4}{3}\pi R^3\rho$$

$$\therefore \frac{4}{3}\pi R^3\rho gh = 4\pi T(nr^2 - R^2)$$

$$\therefore \frac{R^3\rho gh}{3} = T(nr^2 - R^2)$$

$$\therefore h = \frac{3T(nr^2 - R^2)}{R^3\rho g}$$

$$= \frac{3 \times 0.465 \left[ 10^6 (0.5 \times 10^{-4})^2 - (0.5 \times 10^{-2})^2 \right]}{(0.5 \times 10^{-2})^3 \times 13600 \times 9.8}$$

$$\therefore h = \frac{3 \times 0.465 \left[ (0.25 \times 10^{-2}) - (0.25 \times 10^{-4}) \right]}{0.125 \times 10^{-6} \times 1.36 \times 10^4 \times 9.8}$$

$$= \frac{3 \times 0.465 \times 0.25 [10^{-2} - 10^{-4}]}{0.125 \times 0.0136 \times 9.8}$$

$$= \frac{3 \times 0.465 \times 0.25 \times 10^{-2} [1 - 10^{-2}]}{0.125 \times 0.0136 \times 9.8}$$

$$= \frac{3 \times 0.465 \times 0.25 (1 - 0.01)}{0.125 \times 1.36 \times 9.8}$$

$$= \frac{3 \times 0.465 \times 25 \times 0.99}{12.5 \times 1.36 \times 9.8}$$

$$\therefore h = 0.2072 \text{ m}$$

5. The surface tension of water at 0°C is 70 dyne/cm. Find surface tension of water at 25°C. [ $\alpha$  for water = 0.0027/°C]

Given :

$$\begin{aligned} T_0 &= 70 \text{ dyne/cm} \\ t_1 &= 0^\circ\text{C}, \\ t_2 &= 25^\circ\text{C} \\ \alpha &= 0.0027/^\circ\text{C} \end{aligned}$$

To Find :

$$T = ?$$

Formula :

$$\begin{aligned} T &= T_0 (1 - \alpha \Delta t) \\ &= T_0 [1 - \alpha (t_2 - t_1)] \end{aligned}$$

Solution :

$$\begin{aligned} T &= T_0 [1 - \alpha (t_2 - t_1)] \\ T &= 70 [1 - 0.0027 (25 - 0)] \\ &= 70 [1 - 0.0027 \times 25] \\ &= 70 \times 0.9325 \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore T = 65.275 \text{ dyne/cm}$$

6. Eight droplets of water, each of radius 0.2 mm, coalesce into a single drop. Find the change in total surface energy. [Surface tension = 0.072 N/m]

Given :

$$\begin{aligned} n &= 8 \\ T &= 0.072 \text{ N/m} \\ r &= 0.2 \text{ mm} \\ &= 0.2 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m} \\ &= 2 \times 10^{-4} \text{ m} \\ R &= \text{radius of coalesce drop} \end{aligned}$$

To Find :

$$E = ?$$

Formula :

$$E = T \Delta A$$

Solution :

Volume of 8 drops of radius 'r' is equal to volume of single drop of radius 'R'

$$\therefore \frac{4}{3} \pi r^3 n = \frac{4}{3} \pi R^3$$

$$\therefore nr^3 = R^3$$

$$\therefore R = r \sqrt[3]{n}$$

$$= r \sqrt[3]{8} = 2r$$

$$R = 2 \times 2 \times 10^{-4} \text{ m}$$

$$\therefore R = 4 \times 10^{-4} \text{ m}$$

Total work done in coalescing of drops = change in surface energy.

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore E &= T \times 4\pi (nr^2 - R^2) \\ &= T \times 4\pi [8 \times (2 \times 10^{-4})^2 - (4 \times 10^{-4})^2] \\ &= 0.072 \times 4 \times 3.14 [8 \times 4 \times 10^{-8} - 16 \times 10^{-8}] \\ &= 0.072 \times 4 \times 3.14 \times 16 \times 10^{-8} \\ \therefore E &= 1.446 \times 10^{-7} \text{ J} \end{aligned}$$

7. A horizontal circular loop of wire of radius 0.02 m is lowered into a crude oil and forms a film. The force due to surface tension of the liquid is 0.0113 N. Calculate the surface tension of the crude oil.

Given :

$$\begin{aligned} r &= 0.02 \text{ m} \\ F &= 0.0113 \text{ N} \end{aligned}$$

To Find :

$$T = ?$$

Formula :

$$F = Tl$$

Solution :

$$l = 2 \times 2\pi r$$

Now,

$$F = Tl$$

$$\therefore F = 4\pi r T$$

$$\therefore T = \frac{F}{4\pi r}$$

$$\therefore T = \frac{0.0113}{4 \times 3.142 \times 0.02}$$

$$\therefore T = 0.04495 \text{ N/m}$$

8. The tube of a mercury barometer is 1 cm diameter. What correction due to capillarity with effect of meniscus is to be applied to barometer reading if surface tension of mercury is 435.5 dyne/cm and angle of contact of mercury with glass is 140°. [density of mercury = 13600 kg/m³]

Given :

$$\begin{aligned} T &= 435.5 \text{ dyne/cm} \\ &= 0.4355 \text{ N/m}, \\ \theta &= 140^\circ \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\rho &= 13600 \text{ kg/m}^3 \\ d &= 1 \text{ cm} \\ \therefore r &= 0.5 \text{ cm} = 5 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m}\end{aligned}$$

To Find :

$$h = ?$$

Formula :

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

Solution :

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

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

$$\therefore h = \frac{2 \times 0.4355 \times \cos 140^\circ}{5 \times 10^{-3} \times 13600 \times 9.8}$$

$$= \frac{0.8710 \times \cos(90^\circ + 50^\circ)}{5 \times 13.6 \times 9.8}$$

$$= \frac{0.8710(-\sin 50^\circ)}{5 \times 13.6 \times 9.8}$$

$$= \frac{-0.8710 \times 0.7660}{68.0 \times 9.8}$$

$$= -1.001 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m}$$

$$\therefore h = -1.001 \text{ mm}$$

Negative sign indicates that mercury level will be lowered by 1.001 mm. Hence to get correct reading  $h = 1.001 \text{ mm}$  has to be added.

$$\therefore h = 1.001 \text{ mm}$$

9. A glass tube has inner diameter 1 mm and outer diameter 1.1 mm. When it is kept vertical and partially dipped in water, calculate the downward pull due to surface tension. [Surface tension of water = 75 dyne/cm]

Given :

$$d_1 = 1 \text{ mm}$$

$$\therefore r_1 = \frac{d_1}{2} = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$= 0.5 \text{ mm} = 0.05 \text{ cm}$$

$$d_2 = 1.1 \text{ mm}$$

$$\therefore r_2 = \frac{d_2}{2}$$

$$= \frac{1.1}{2}$$

$$= 0.55 \text{ mm} = 0.55 \text{ cm}$$

$$T = 75 \text{ dyne/cm}$$

To Find :

$$F = ?$$

Formula :

$$F = Tl$$

Solution :

$$l = 2\pi(r_1 + r_2)$$

$$F = Tl = T \times 2\pi(r_1 + r_2)$$

$$\therefore F = 2\pi T(r_1 + r_2) = 2 \times 3.142 \times 75(0.05 + 0.055)$$

$$= 2 \times 3.142 \times 75 \times 0.105$$

$$\therefore F = 150 \times 3.142 \times 0.105$$

$$\therefore F = 49.49 \text{ dynes}$$

10. The total energy of the free surface of a liquid drop is  $2\pi$  times the surface tension of the liquid. What is the diameter of the drop? [Assume all terms in SI units]

Given :

$$E = 2\pi T$$

To Find :

$$\text{diameter of drop, } d = ?$$

Formula :

$$E = T\Delta A$$

Solution :

$$\Delta A = 4\pi r^2$$

$$E = T\Delta A$$

$$\therefore E = 4\pi r^2 T$$

$$\therefore 2\pi T = 4\pi r^2 T \quad [ \because E = 2\pi T ]$$

$$\therefore 2r^2 = 1$$

$$\therefore r^2 = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\therefore r = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$$

$$d = 2r$$

Surface Tension

$$= 2 \times \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} = \sqrt{2}$$

$$\therefore d = 1.414 \text{ m}$$

11. Calculate the density of paraffin oil, if a glass capillary of diameter 0.25 mm dipped in paraffin oil of the surface tension 0.0245 N/m rises to a height of 4 cm. [Angle of contact of paraffin oil with glass is  $28^\circ$  and  $g = 9.8 \text{ m/s}^2$ ]

Given :

$$d = 0.25 \text{ mm}$$

$$\therefore r = \frac{d}{2}$$

$$= \frac{0.25}{2} = 0.125 \text{ mm}$$

$$= 0.125 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m}$$

$$T = 0.0245 \text{ N/m}$$

$$h = 4 \text{ cm} = 0.04 \text{ m}$$

$$\theta = 28^\circ$$

$$g = 9.8 \text{ m/s}^2$$

To Find :

$$\rho = ?$$

Formula :

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

Solution :

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

$$\therefore \rho = \frac{2T \cos \theta}{rhg}$$

$$\therefore \rho = \frac{2 \times 0.0245 \times \cos 28^\circ}{0.125 \times 10^{-3} \times 0.04 \times 9.8}$$

$$= \frac{2 \times 0.0245 \times 0.8829}{0.125 \times 10^{-3} \times 0.04 \times 9.8}$$

$$\therefore \rho = 882.9 \text{ kg/m}^3$$

12. What should be the diameter of a soap bubble, in order that the excess pressure inside it is  $51.2 \text{ N/m}^2$  ?  
(S.T. of soap solution =  $3.2 \times 10^{-2} \text{ N/m}$ )

Given :

$$P = 51.2 \text{ N/m}^2$$

$$T = 3.2 \times 10^{-2} \text{ N/m}$$

To Find :

$$d = ?$$

Formula :

$$P = \frac{4T}{r}$$

Solution :

$$P = \frac{4T}{r}$$

$$\therefore r = \frac{4T}{P}$$

$$r = \frac{4 \times 3.2 \times 10^{-2}}{51.2}$$

$$= 2.5 \times 10^{-3}$$

$$\therefore d = 2r$$

$$\therefore d = 5 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m}$$