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『メニスカス・ポンプ』機構を利用した動的濡れ制御 Control of Dynamic Wetting by "Meniscus Pump"

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It has been found that a local acceleration of three-phase boundary line, or so-called contact line, of a droplet is induced by interaction with small obstacle settled on the substrate ¹⁻⁴⁾ as shown in **Fig. 1**. Heterogeneous meniscus formation around the obstacle results in pressure gradient to drive the liquid forward due to the curvature of the liquid profile. It has been also indicated that successive interactions between the contact line and the multiple obstacles realize more effective liquid transport ^{3,4)}. Such acceleration is found to be achieved without any mechanical energy input or mechanical pump, so that such "meniscus pump" is a potential phenomenon to be applied to micro-TAS devices and environmental control systems in microgravity facilities and so on. We will briefly introduce the mechanism of this pumping effect by the meniscus investigated with experimental and numerical approaches.

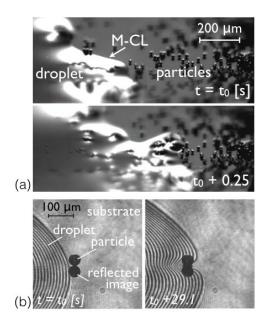


Fig. 1 Examples of local acceleration of contact line of a droplet spreading on a smooth substrate due to interaction with tiny obstacles; (a) successive interactions with multiple particles and (b) deformation of contact line due to interaction with a spherical particle of 50×10^{-6} m in diameter obtained via interferometer.

References

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