A Langevin model for the Dynamic Contact Angle Parameterised Using Molecular Dynamics

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By

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Determining the Contact angle

• Molecular simulation provides insight into contact line dynamics



Snoeijer, Andreotti (2013) Annual Rev Fluid Mech 45:269–92

Computational Fluid Dynamics (CFD)

1) G. Karapetsas, R. Craster & O. Matar, JFM, 2011

z, w, H

x, u, L

• Incompressible Navier Stokes with the thin-film approximation.

$$\frac{\partial P}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial z^2} \qquad \qquad \frac{\partial P}{\partial z} = 0 \qquad \qquad \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial w}{\partial z} = 0$$

• With boundary conditions

$$P = -\left(\frac{H}{L}\right)^2 \frac{\partial^2 h}{\partial x^2} \sigma_l \qquad \qquad \frac{\partial h}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial h}{\partial x} = w \qquad \qquad \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} = 0 \qquad \qquad z = h$$
$$u = \beta \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} \qquad \qquad w = 0 \qquad \qquad z = 0$$

• Contact line evolution is modelled by an empirical law

$$\frac{dx_c}{dt} = k(\langle \theta \rangle - \theta_a)^n$$

1) Thompson and Robbins (1989)

Coupled Droplet Spreading and MD



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Coupled Droplet Spreading and MD



Molecular Dynamics

Discrete molecules in continuous space

- Molecular position evolves continuously in time
- Position and velocity from acceleration

$$egin{aligned} \dot{m{r}}_i &
ightarrow \dot{m{r}}_i \ \dot{m{r}}_i &
ightarrow m{r}_i(t) \end{aligned}$$



Acceleration obtained from forces

- Governed by Newton's law for an N-body system
- Point particles with pairwise interactions only

$$m_i \ddot{\boldsymbol{r}}_i = \mathbf{F}_i = \sum_{i \neq j}^N \boldsymbol{f}_{ij} \qquad \Phi(r_{ij}) = 4\epsilon \left[\left(\frac{\ell}{r_{ij}} \right)^{12} - \left(\frac{\ell}{r_{ij}} \right)^6 \right]$$

Molecular Dynamics



Two phase version closer to experimental reality

- Two fluid phases and sliding molecular walls
- Simple test case to explore wall velocity vs contact line angle
- Non-Equilibrium Steady State



 $\mathcal{L}agrangian$

Cluster analysis and surface fitting





Linear, Advancing, Receding

Streamlines



Droplet Breakdown

L. Wang, T. J. McCarthy (2013) Shear Distortion and Failure of Capillary Bridges. Wetting Information Beyond Contact Angle Analysis Langmuir 29, 7776–7781



Contact angles vs sliding velocity



Time Evolution of Contact Angle

• Plot evolution of various contact angles as a function of time



• Linear, Advancing and Receding angles



Building this into the Continuum Model

• Model the movement of the contact line as a torsional



• Torque $T = F \times L$ approximately equal to wall sliding

Building this into the Continuum Model

- In the limit overdamped limit we get the Langevin Equation $\dot{\theta} + \frac{k}{\Gamma} \left[\theta - \langle \theta \rangle\right] - \frac{1}{\Gamma} \xi(t) = 0 \text{ where } \langle \xi(t)\xi(t') \rangle = C\delta(t - t'),$
- Coefficients parameterised using
 - Standard deviation function of temperature but velocity independent
 - Autocorrelation roughly velocity and temperature independent.



Results of the model



- i) Advancing angle for stationary case
 - *ii)* Linear angle sliding at U=0.02
- *iii*) Linear
 angle sliding
 at U=0.0025
- Black lines Langevin model

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• Contact line evolution is modelled by an empirical law

$$\frac{dx_c}{dt} = k(\langle \theta \rangle - \theta_a)^n$$

• Evolution of contact line includes molecular fluctuations

$$\theta^{t+1} = \theta^t - \frac{k\Delta t}{\Gamma} \left[\theta^t - \langle \theta \rangle \right] + \xi \frac{\sqrt{C\Delta t}}{\Gamma}$$

Molecular contact angle in continuum model



Application of this Work





Summary

- Molecular Dynamics (MD) is used to study the relationship between contact angle and wall sliding speed
- The mean contact angle and fluctuations are explored
- A Langevin model is be used to reproduce key MD detail
- Molecular detail can be incorporated into a CFD model using the Langevin equation, tuned using MD.