

Abstract Submitted
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Polygonal instability of Marangoni flows MATTHIEU ROCHÉ,
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ROUX, ISABELLE CANTAT, ARNAUD SAINT-JALMES, Institut de Physique
de Rennes, CNRS - Université Rennes 1 — The transport of pepper grains floating
at the surface of a bowl of water after the release of a drop of dishwashing liq-
uid is a classical experiment to demonstrate the Marangoni effect, i.e. the flow of
a liquid layer induced by interfacial tension gradients at its surface. In this case,
the interfacial tension gradient results from a surfactant interfacial concentration
gradient. Recently, we showed that continuous injection of an aqueous solution
of hydrosoluble surfactants at the surface of a cm-thick pure water layer induced
finite-size Marangoni flows surrounded by a region characterized by the presence
of several pairs of interfacial vortices arranged along the the vertices of polygons.¹
During this talk, I will show that we can understand the flow structure induced
by these Marangoni flows, in particular their tendency to have polygonal shapes.
I will describe how flow features such as the number of interfacial vortices or bulk
recirculation flows depend on flow geometry. Finally, I will compare these results
to a model that explains similar polygonal instabilities in other flows such as the
hydraulic jump.²

¹M. Roché et al., **Phys. Rev. Lett.** 112, 208302 (2014)

²M. Labousse and J. W. M. Bush, submitted

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