

Abstract Submitted  
for the MAR05 Meeting of  
The American Physical Society

**Analysis of Drop Shapes during Electrowetting on a Dielectric**  
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Institute — Electrowetting refers to the electrostatic control of the interfacial energy  
of a liquid on a solid, primarily used for the transport of micro-liter volumes of drops  
on surfaces with embedded electrode arrays. In the present work, the drop is modeled  
as a two-dimensional lens-like conductor immersed in an infinite dielectric medium  
slightly above a planar conductor. A matched asymptotic expansion is used to  
approximate the electrostatic field surrounding the drop. The outer problem models  
the drop as a conducting circular segment resting on the conducting plane, each  
maintained at a separate constant potential. The inner problem corrects the region  
near the edge of the drop by modeling it as an infinite planar conducting wedge lying  
slightly above the conducting plane. By matching the inner and outer solutions, the  
charge density along the entire surface of the drop can be approximated, enabling the  
calculation of the total capacitance of the system. An energy minimization method  
similar to that of Shapiro *et al.* [*J. Appl. Phys.*, **93**, 5794 (2003)] is applied to the  
total energy consisting of the liquid/gas, liquid/solid and solid/gas surface energies,  
together with the electrostatic contribution, subject to the constraint that the drop  
volume remains constant. A modified form of the Young-Lippmann equation is  
thus derived that includes the contribution from the extra capacitance of the drop  
obtained via matched asymptotics.

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Date submitted: 30 Nov 2004

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