## Abstract Submitted for the MAR15 Meeting of The American Physical Society

Maximum bubble pressure tensiometry and foamability THEODORE WALKER, WILLIAM ABBOTT-KLOSTERMANN, PRASANTH NARAYANAN, VIVEK SHARMA, Chemical Engineering, University of Illinois Chicago — The stability of a freshly created foam is intimately linked with the rate of mass transfer of a surfactant from liquid subphase to the interface, and this diffusion- or adsorption-limited kinetics is said to impact the so-called foamability. The time dependent variation in surface tension can also become a factor in controlling response to dilatational deformations, as kinetic effects due to mass transfer also enter into the description of Gibbs-Marangoni elasticity of surfaces. Dynamic surface tension measurements carried out with conventional methods like pendant drop analysis, Wilhelmy plate, etc are limited in their temporal resolution (>50 ms). In this study, we describe design and application of maximum bubble pressure tensiometry for the measurement of dynamic surface tension effects at extremely short (1-50 ms) timescales. We discuss the ramifications of this nearly unprecedented capability for unraveling physics underlying high speed printing and foaming with small molecule surfactant solutions.

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Date submitted: 14 Nov 2014

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