

# Spontaneous droplet trampolining on rigid superhydrophobic surfaces

Schutzius, T. M. et al. *Nature* 527, 82–85 (2015).

Team 6:

Ching Him Leung

(Zeqian) Chris Li

Kuan-Sen Lin

Gengming Liu

# Outline

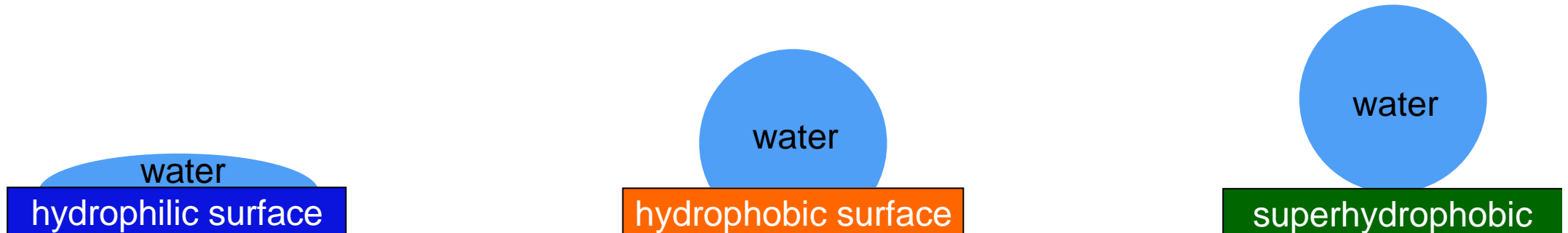
- Engineering the surface: lesson from nature
- Experimental set up and results
- Driving force for the bouncing: vaporization
- Modeling
- Droplet freezing
- Further studies
- Summary and critiques

# Engineering the surface

- Surface morphology and chemistry → different surface property



- Liquid droplet behavior on the surface



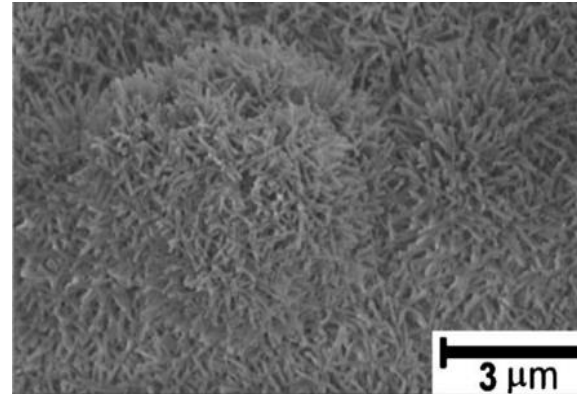
- Application: ex. Self-cleaning

# Can learn from Nature

- Lotus leaf

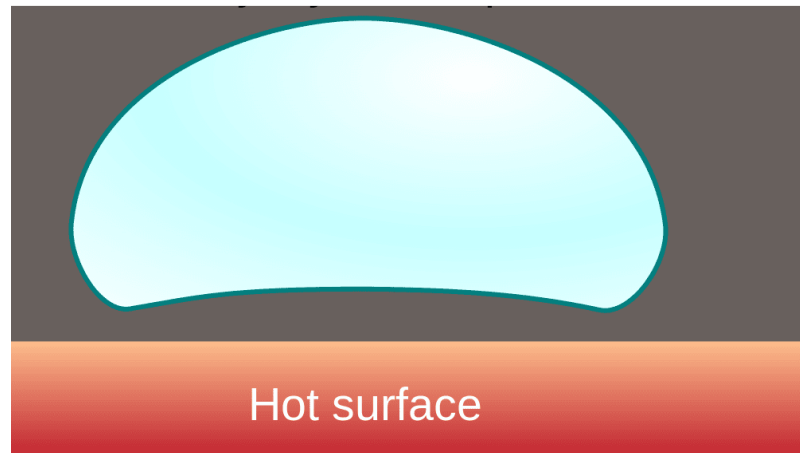


Zoom in  
→



- When the leaf tilts a little bit the droplet will roll off.

# Droplets levitate due to vaporization



[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Leidenfrost\\_droplet.svg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Leidenfrost_droplet.svg)



<http://www.irishmanabroad.com/2015/02/science-saturday-leidenfrost-effect-explained/>

In the work we are presenting...

- Combine super-hydrophobic surface + vaporization effect.
- Don't rely on hot plate to create vapor.
- In special environment condition, single droplet can jump spontaneously.

LETTER

doi:10.1038/nature15738

---

---

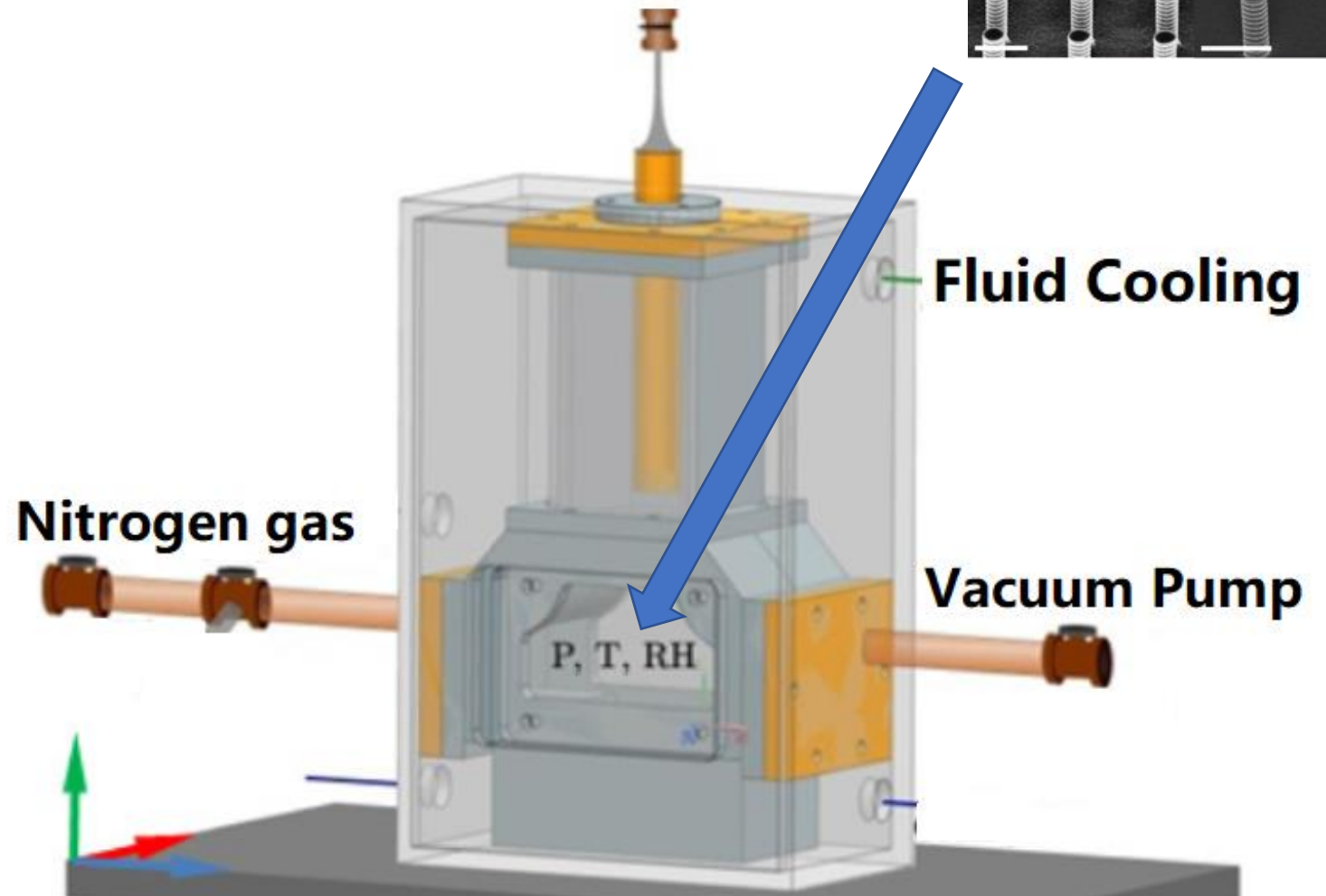
## Spontaneous droplet trampolining on rigid superhydrophobic surfaces

Thomas M. Schutzius<sup>1\*</sup>, Stefan Jung<sup>1\*</sup>, Tanmoy Maitra<sup>1</sup>, Gustav Graeber<sup>1</sup>, Moritz Köhme<sup>1</sup> & Dimos Poulikakos<sup>1</sup>

Experimental set up and results

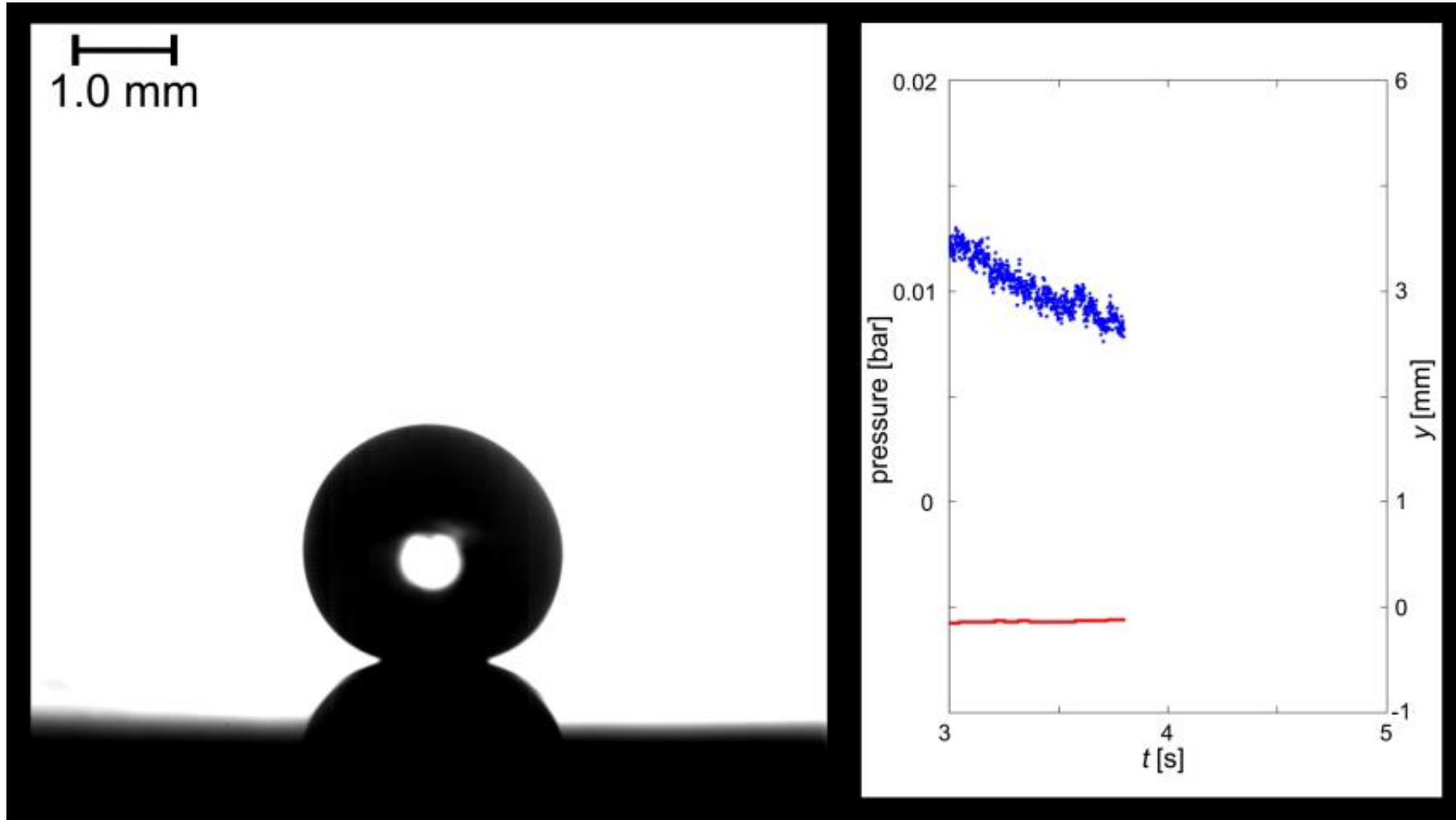
# Setups and conditions

- Low ambient pressure (0.01 bar)
- Low environmental humidity
- Controllable water droplet sizes
- Silicon micropillar specifications

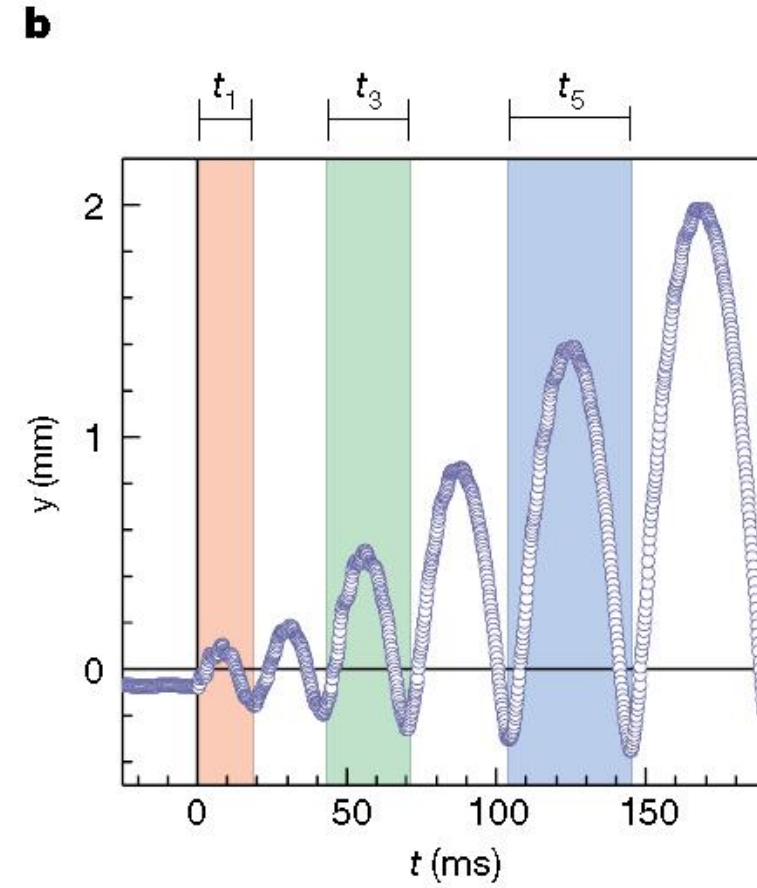
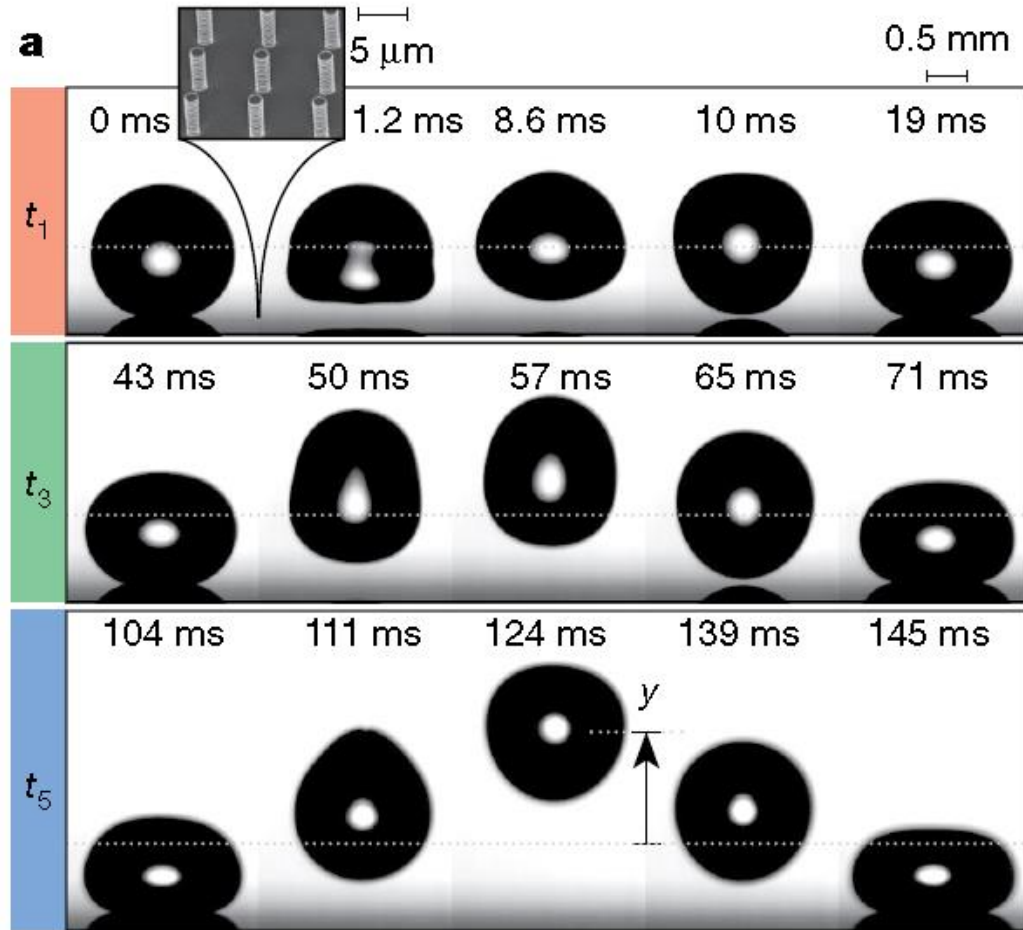




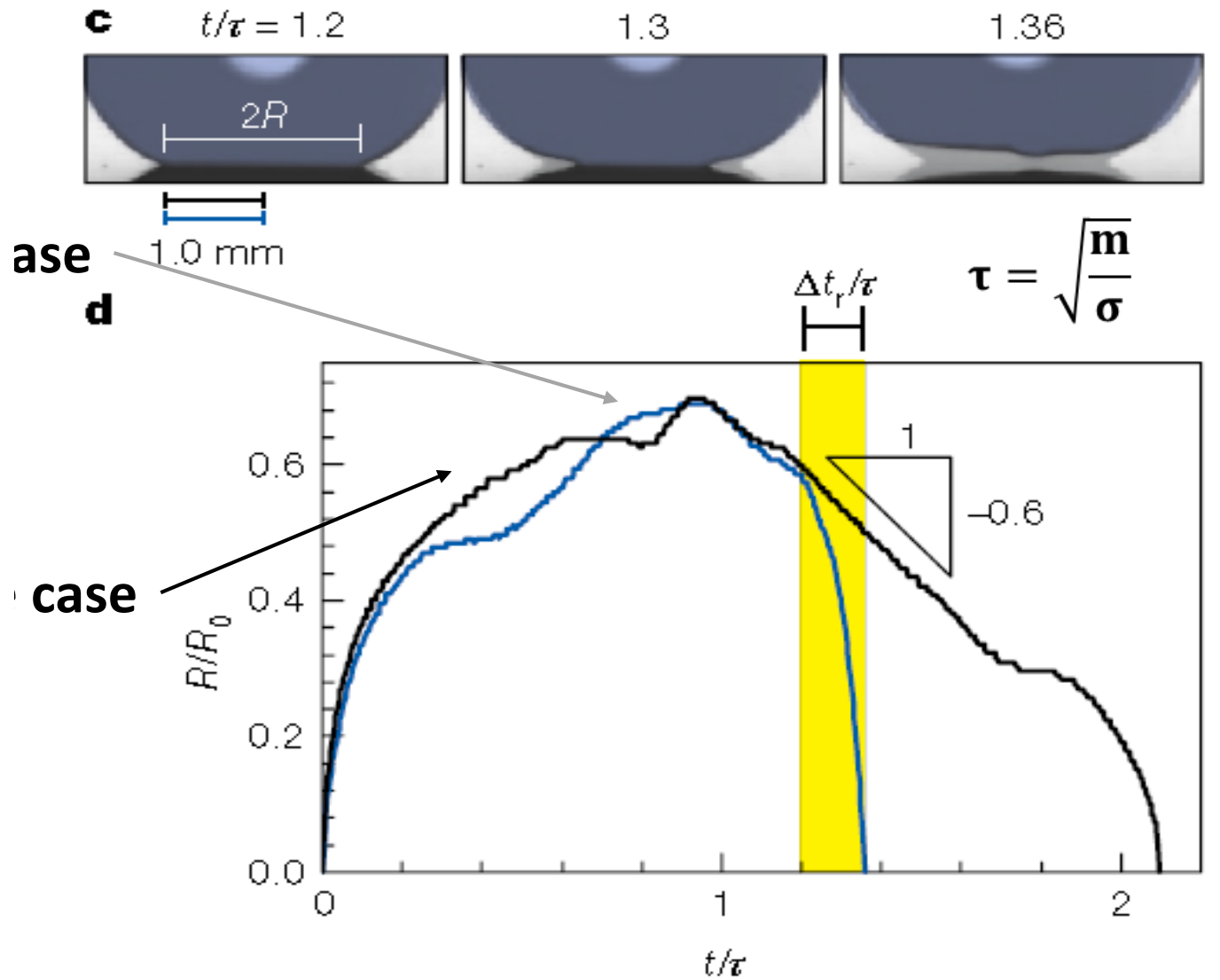
# Spontaneous Trampolining



# Characterizing Motion



# Hunting key Forces



## Continued

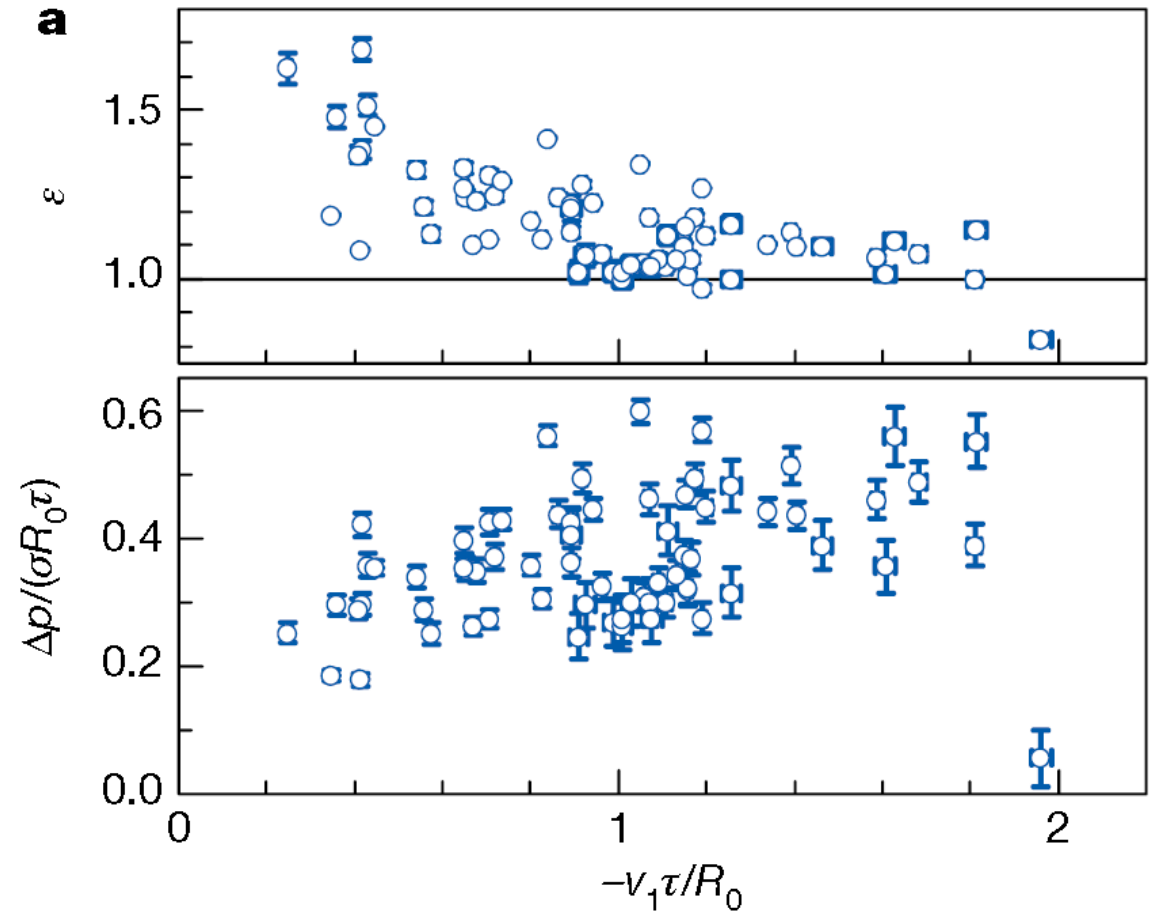
- Measure restitution coefficient

$$\varepsilon = \frac{v_2}{v_1}$$

- Assume invariant mass to estimate the momentum change

$$\Delta P = \int_0^{\Delta t_r} f dt \approx \tilde{f} \Delta t_r$$

- Then estimate average force

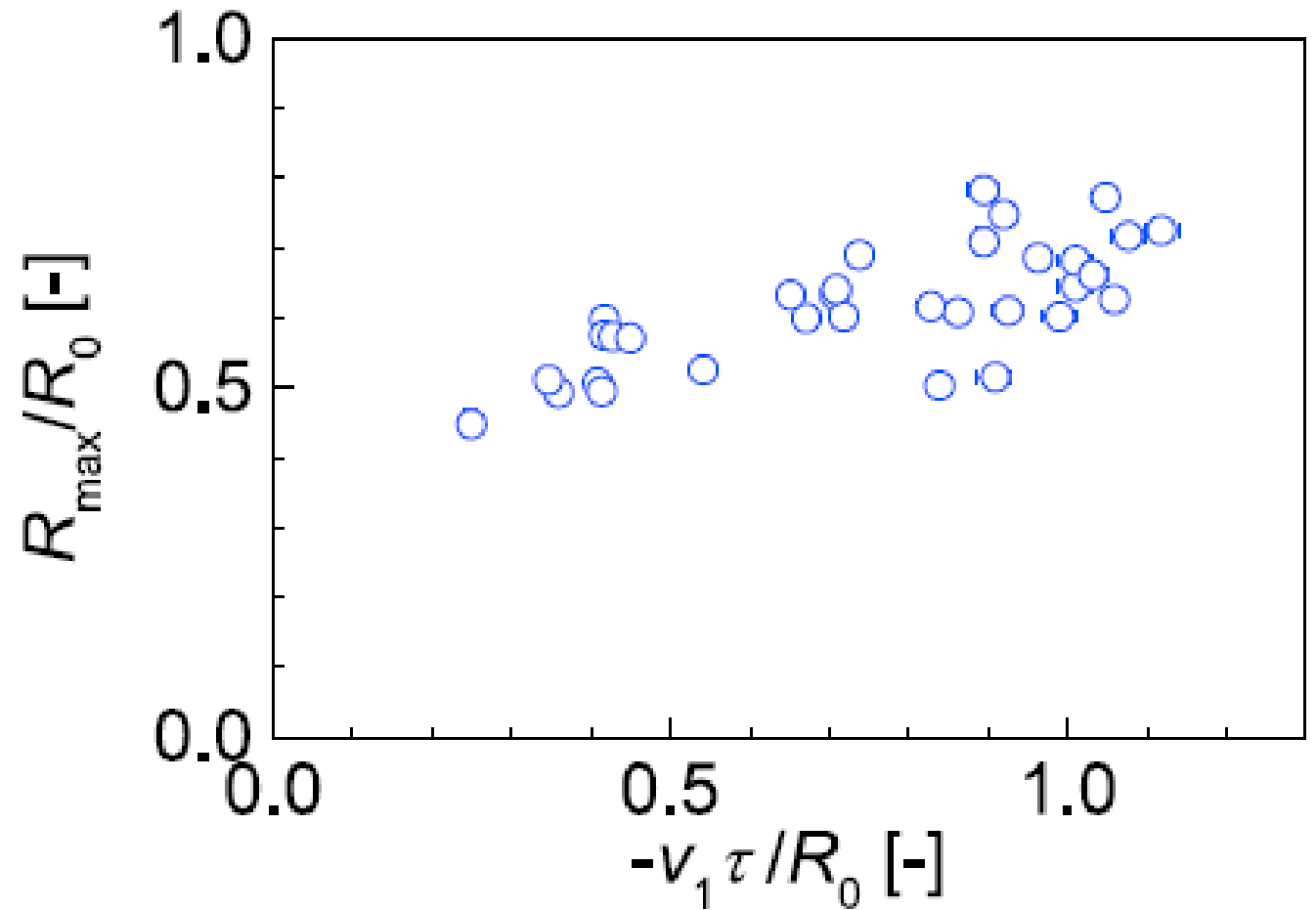


## Continued

- Then estimate average force

$$\tilde{f} = \frac{\Delta P}{\Delta t_r} \approx 2.2 \sigma R_0$$

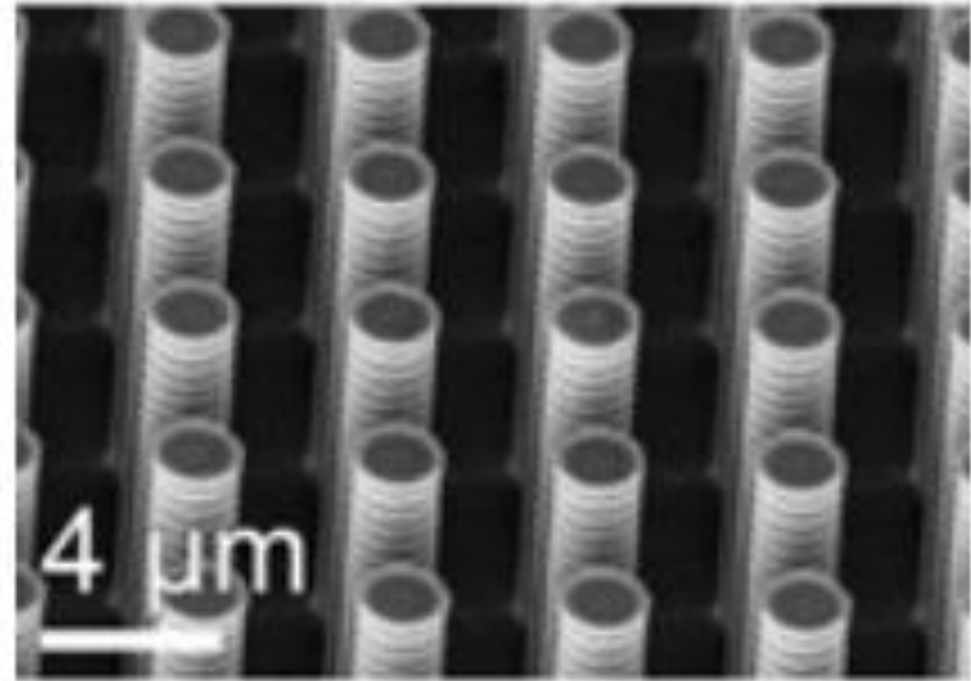
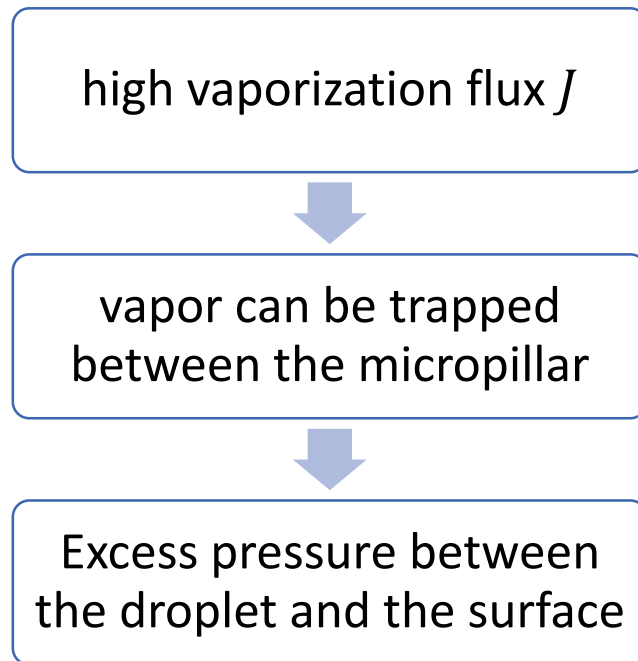
- Pressure =  $\frac{\tilde{f}}{Area} = 2.2 \times \frac{\sigma R_0}{\pi R_{Max}^2}$
- Pressure  $\approx 0.9 \times \left(\frac{2\sigma}{R_0}\right)$



Vaporization

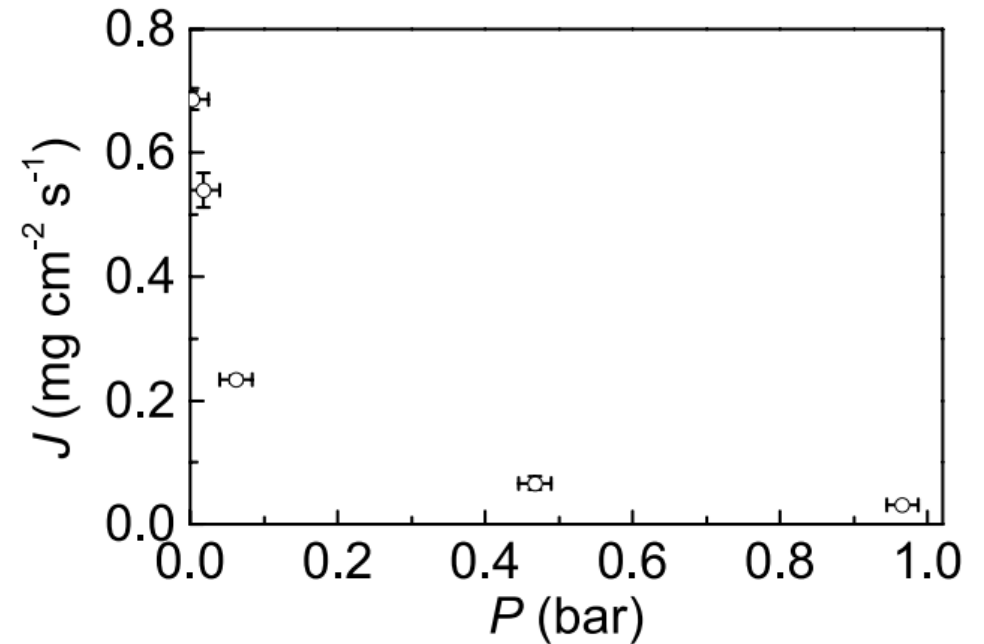
# Can vaporization account for the driving force

- Vapor flow generate the force needed to accelerate the droplet
- At low pressure



# Measuring vaporization flux

- At pressure lower than 0.1bar, vaporization flux increases significantly



Extended Data Figure 6 | The role of environmental pressure on the vaporization flux of a water droplet in a low-humidity environment.



# Overpressure due to vaporization

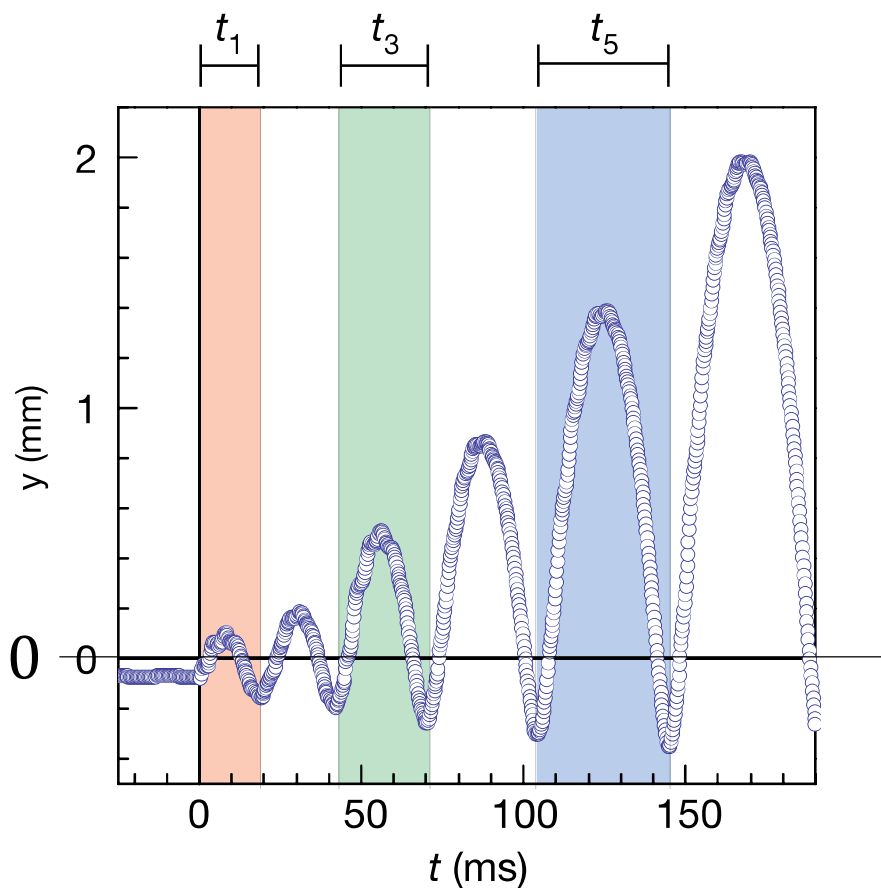
- Overpressure  $\Delta P \propto J$
- Using the measured vaporization flux, the maximum overpressure  $\Delta P \approx 4.7(2\sigma/R)$
- Since the pressure varies between 0 and  $4.7(2\sigma/R)$ , the average pressure is  $\Delta \bar{P} \approx 2.3(2\sigma/R)$
- From previous slides,  $\Delta \bar{P} \approx 0.9(2\sigma/R_0)$

$R$  is the contact radius  
 $R_0$  is the radius of the droplet

Modeling

# Modeling

- Toy model: **forced**, mass-**spring-damper** system.



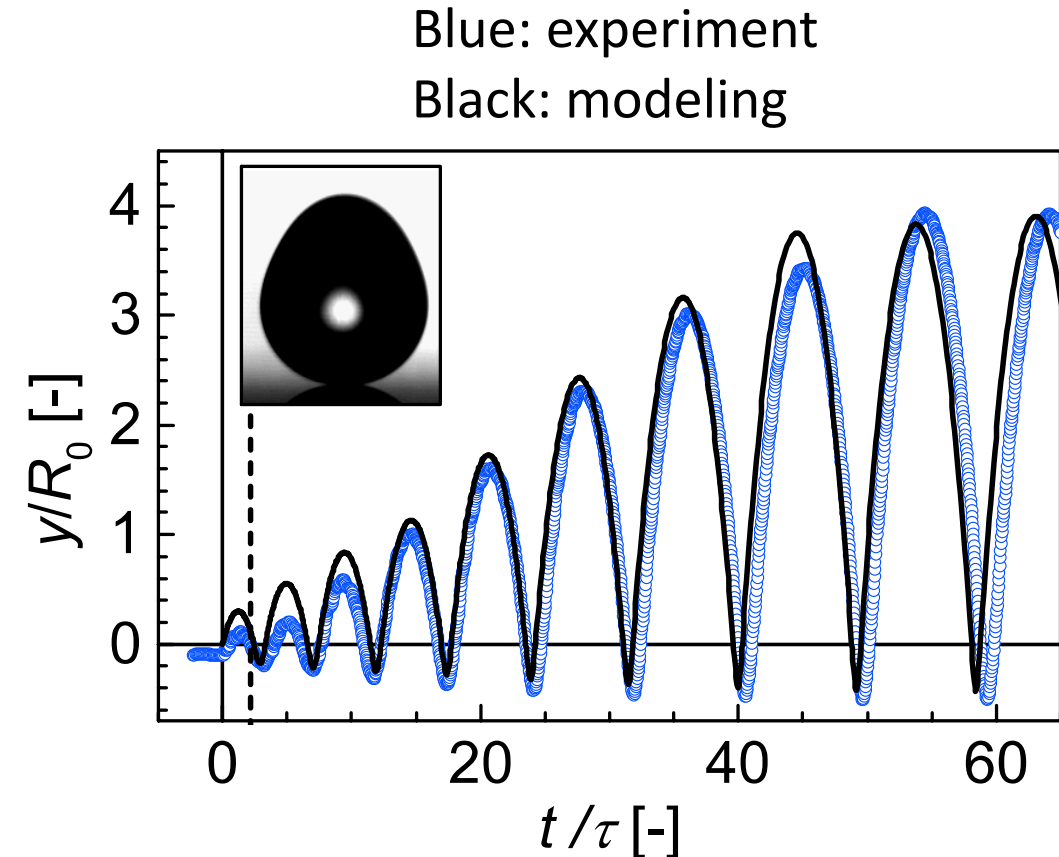
$$y = y_0 + v_0 t - \frac{1}{2} g t^2 \quad (\text{free fall}) \quad \text{if } y \geq 0$$

$$m \frac{d^2 y}{dt^2} + c \frac{dy}{dt} + f_k(y) = f(t) - mg \quad \text{if } y < 0$$

**Spring:** The droplet deforms like a spring when it impacts the surface.

# Modeling

- Toy model: **forced**, mass-**spring-damper** system.



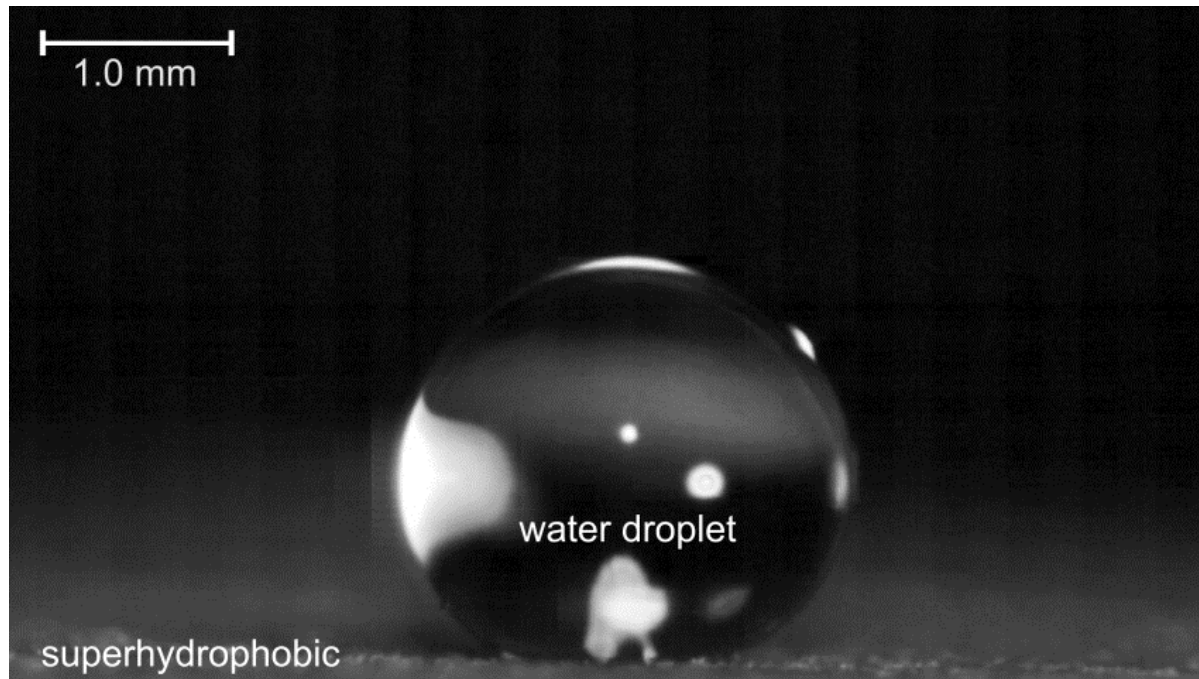
$$y = y_0 + v_0 t - \frac{1}{2} g t^2 \quad (\text{free fall}) \quad \text{if } y \geq 0$$

$$m \frac{d^2 y}{dt^2} + c \frac{dy}{dt} + f_k(y) = f(t) - mg \quad \text{if } y < 0$$

**Spring:** The droplet deforms like a spring when it impacts the surface.

Droplet freezing

# Droplet freezing and levitation



Aluminum surface, 24°C, ~0.01bar, humidity<10%

Strong vaporization



Supercools to -20°C



Recalescent freezing

- Sudden temperature increase: -20°C → 0°C
- Sudden latent heat release



Explosive flux



Levitate

# Droplet freezing and levitation



Silicon micropillar surface; 25°C, humidity < 10%

Strong vaporization



Supercools to -20°C



Recalescent freezing

- Sudden temperature increase: -20°C → 0°C
- Sudden latent heat release

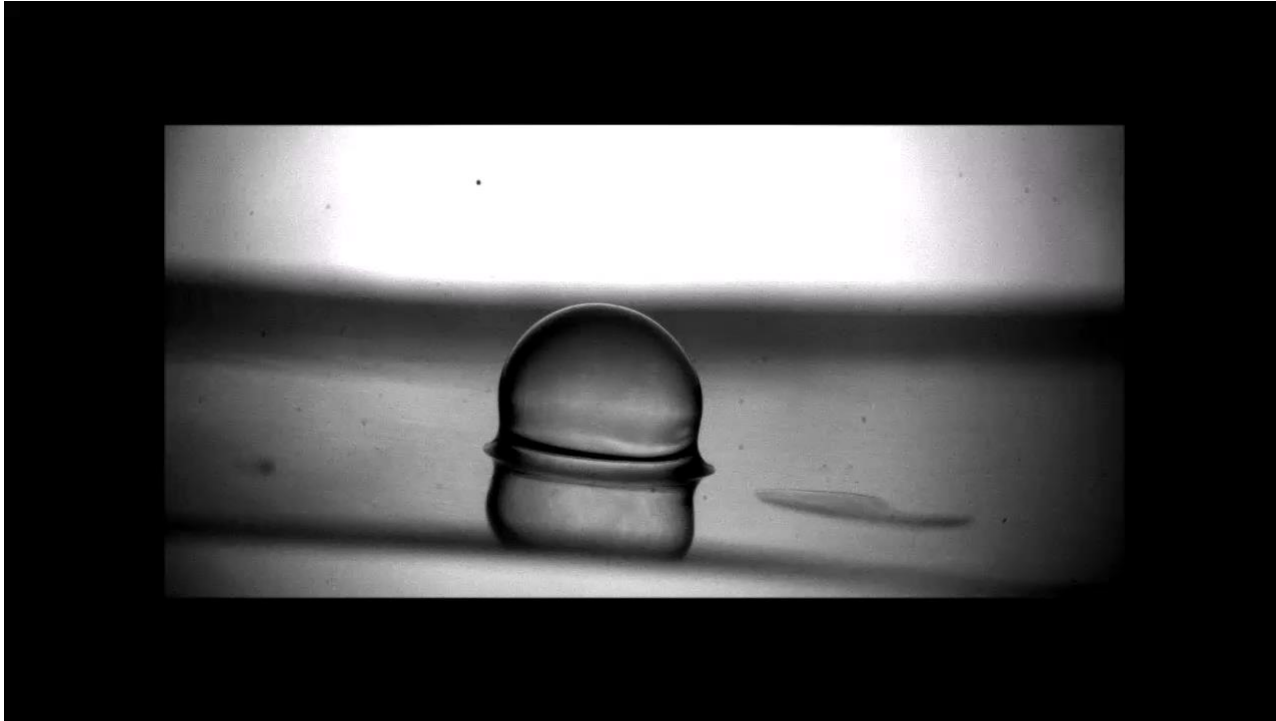


Explosive flux



Levitate

# Further studies



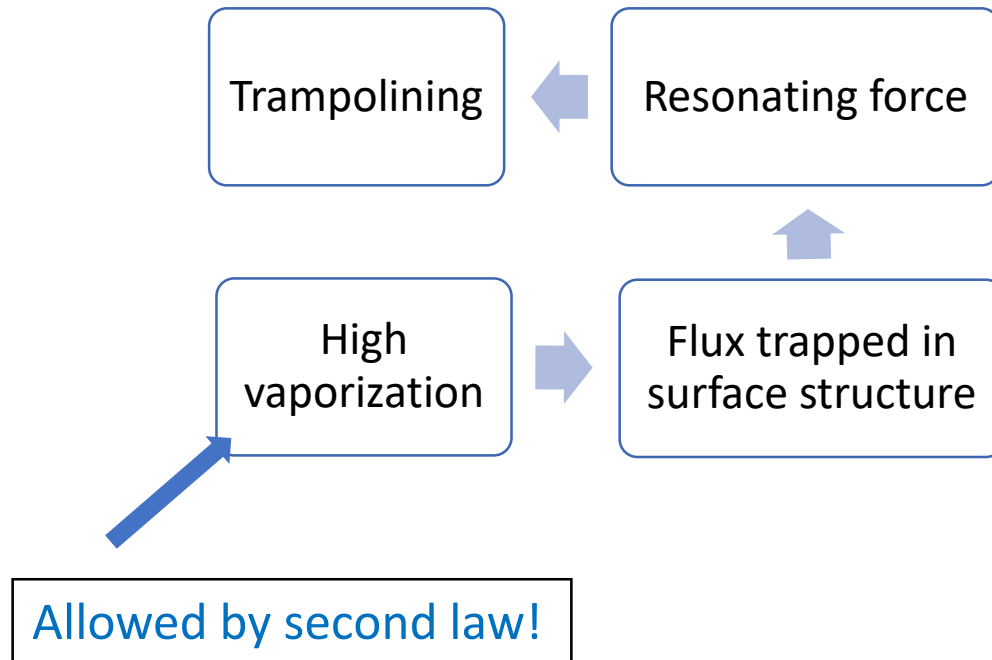
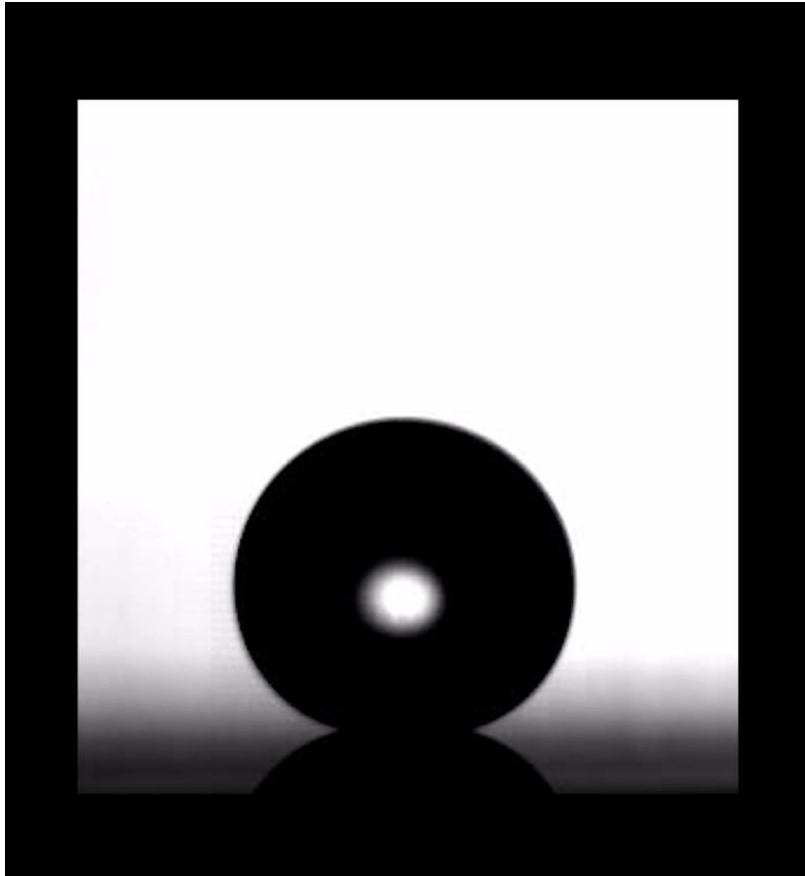
- Hydrogel
- Heated surface
- Initial jump: massive water loss
- Trampolining after: same mechanism

Pham, J. T., Paven, M., Wooh, S., Kajiya, T., Butt, H. J., & Vollmer, D. (2017). Spontaneous jumping, bouncing and trampolining of hydrogel drops on a heated plate. *Nature communications*, 8(1), 905.



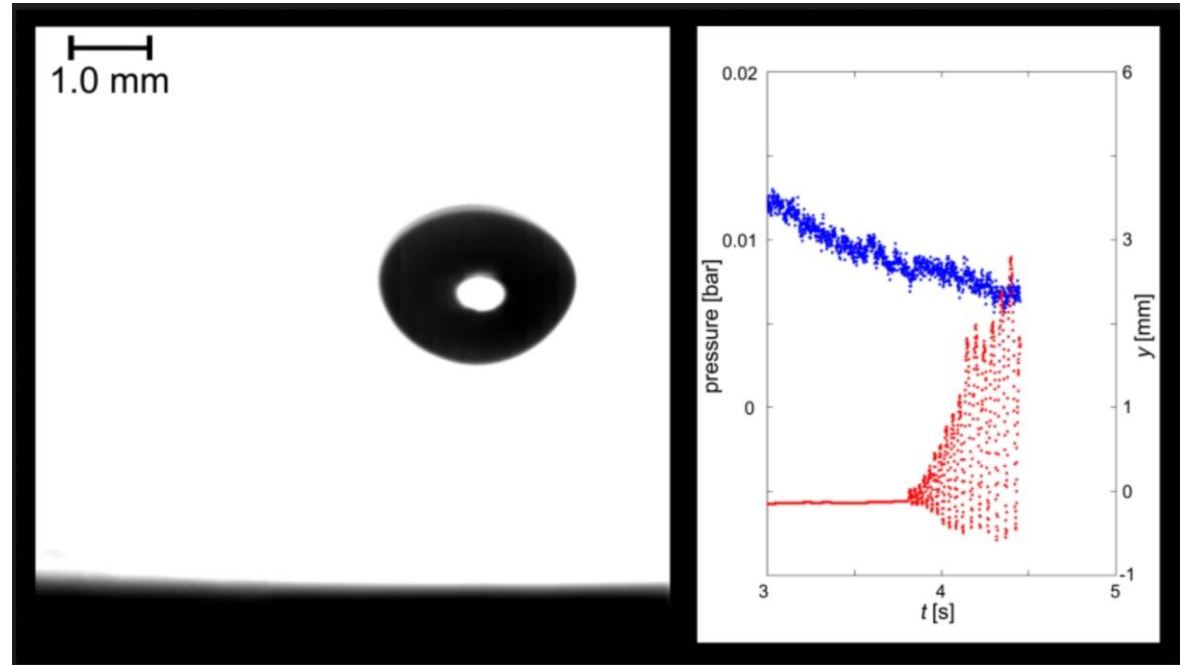
# Summary

How is this not violating the second law?



# Our critiques

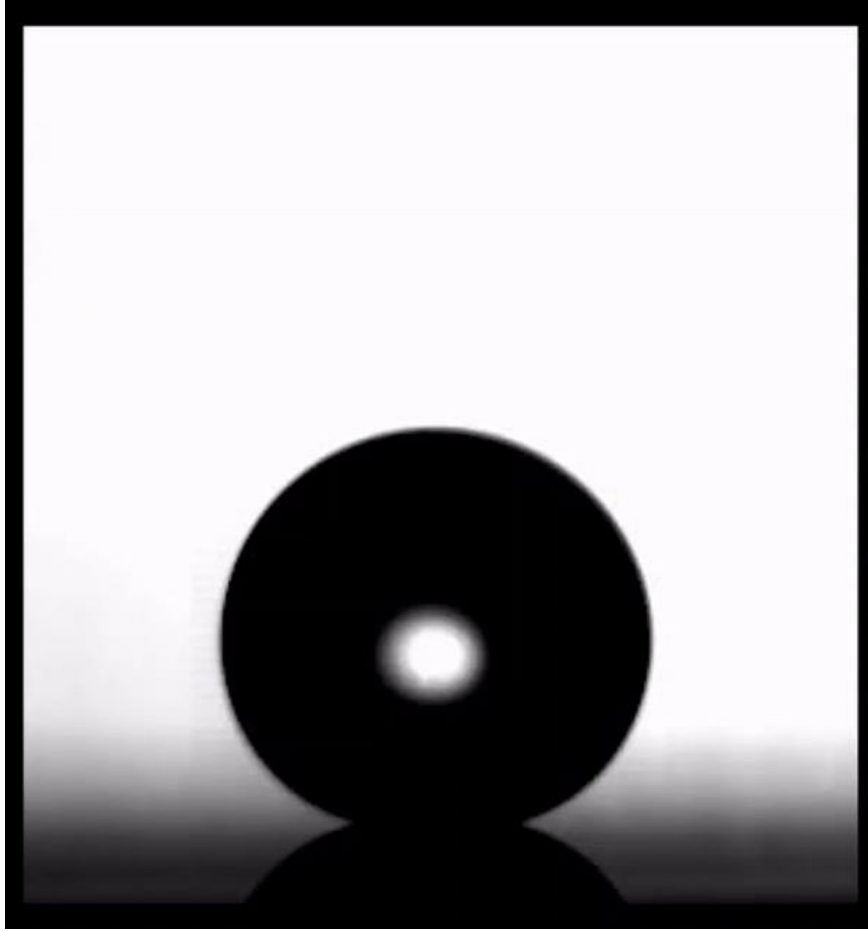
- Pressure control?



# Our critiques

- Pressure control?
- The estimation of  $\Delta\bar{P} \approx 2.3(2\sigma/R)$  is too rough
- $0.9(2\sigma/R_0)$  and  $2.3(2\sigma/R)$  are not consistent as the authors claimed.
- It does not contain enough experimental trials to convince readers that the shown contact radius dynamics is a good representation of the general trend.

$R_{0,\min}$ [mm]	$R_{0,\max}$ [mm]	Number of trials [num]	Probability of ice levitation [-]
0.65	0.74	5	0.2
0.88	1.18	5	1.0
1.30	1.33	5	0.8
1.47	1.51	5	1.0
1.59	1.69	5	0.8



Thanks!