



**Universidad Autónoma  
del Estado de Morelos**

**Facultad  
de Ciencias**

# Surface Structure Formation and Rotational Motion in the Mercury Beating Heart System

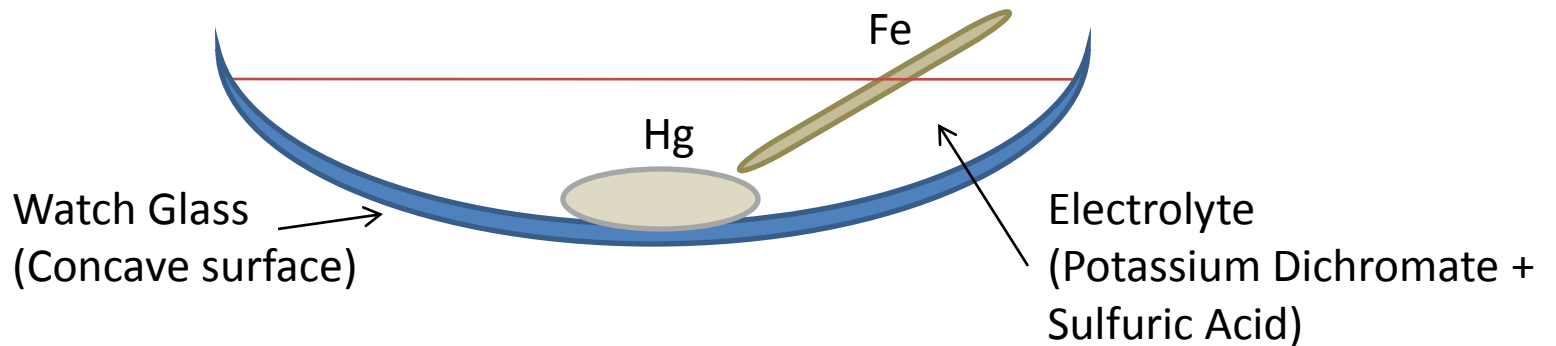
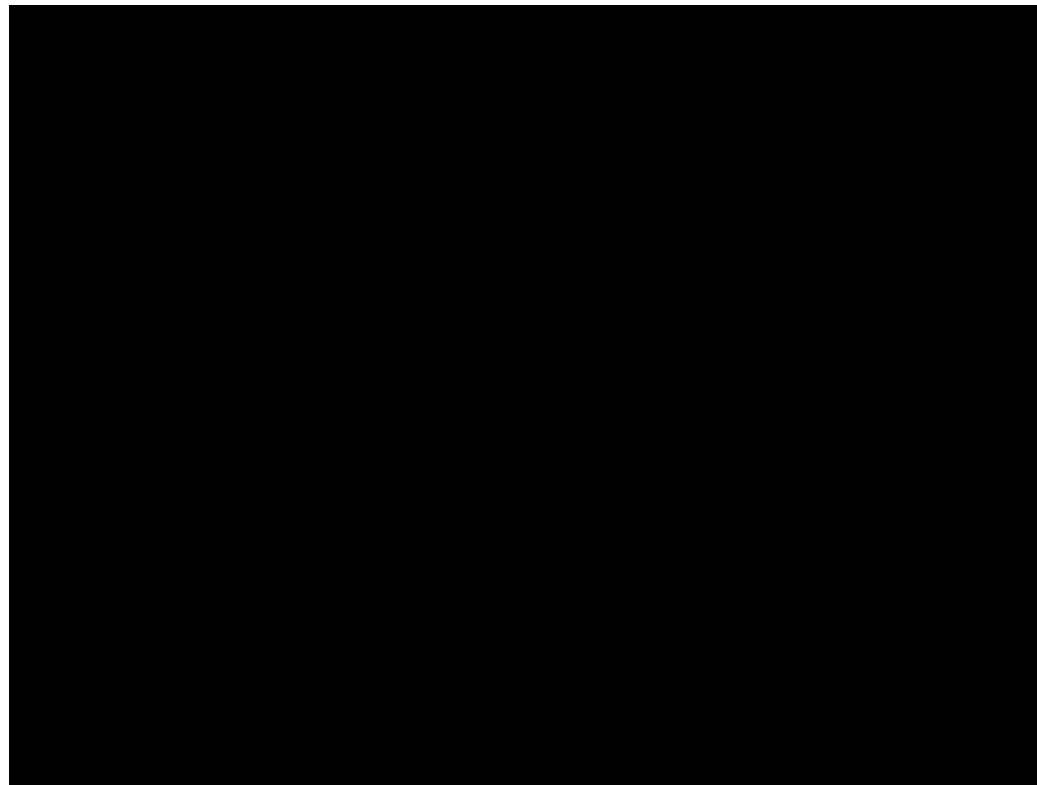
**Hands-on School on Nonlinear Dynamics  
Institute for Plasma Research**

Feb. 16-22, 2015

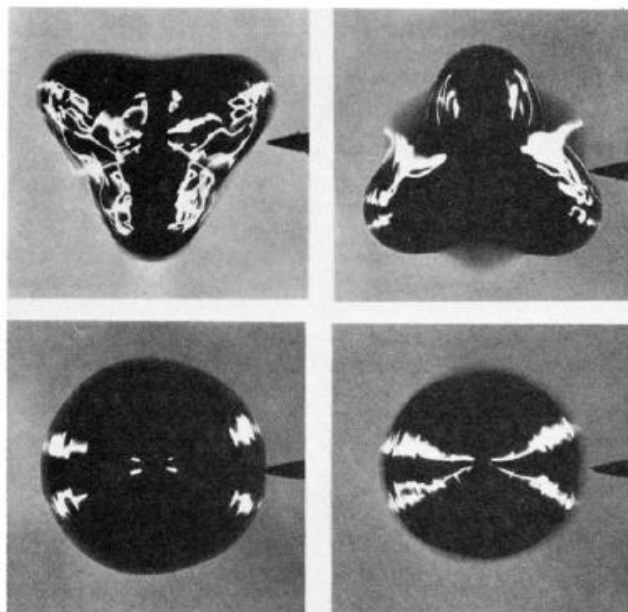
# OUTLINE

- THE CLASSIC MERCURY BEATING HEARTH (MBH)
- POTENTIAL – DEPENDENT TOPOLOGICAL MODES
- SHAPE AND SURFACE STRUCTURE FORMATION
- ROTATIONAL MOTION
- CONCLUSIONS

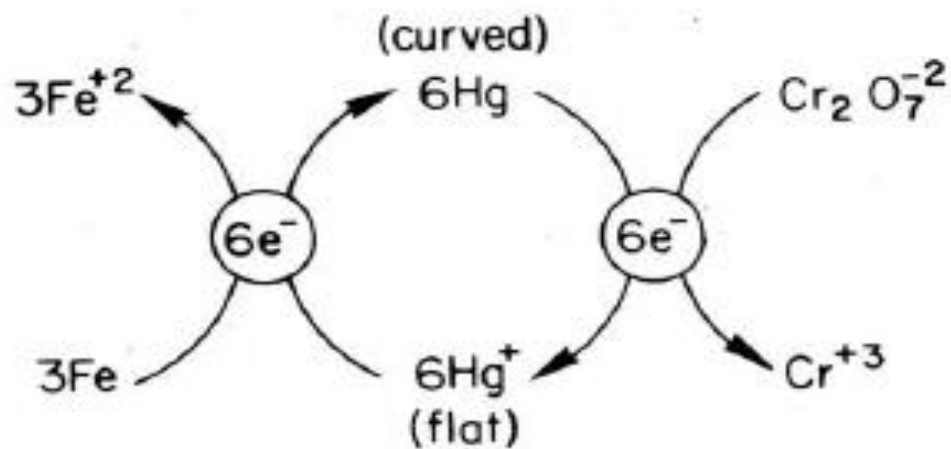
# STANDARD MERCURY BEATING HEART OSCILLATOR



# STANDARD MERCURY BEATING HEART OSCILLATOR

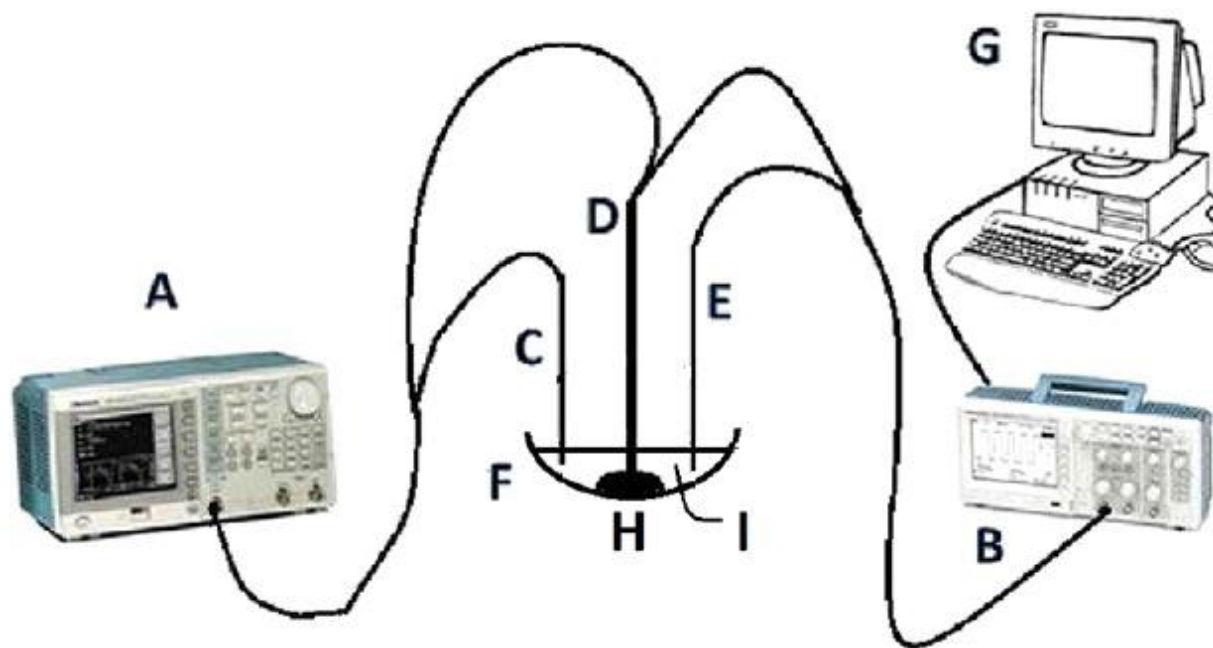


This chemo-mechanical oscillator was reported first by G. Lippmann in 1873.



*Lippmann, G. The Relation Between Capillary and Electrical Phenomena. G. Ann. Phys. 1873, 149, 546–561.*

# POTENTIAL –DEPENDENT TOPOLOGICAL MODES IN THE MERCURY BEATING HEART SYSTEM



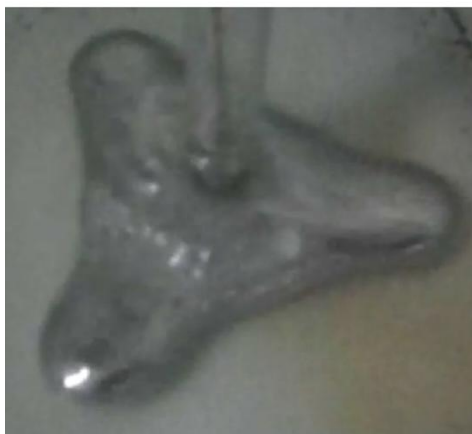
A. Square Pulse Generator.  
B. Oscilloscope.  
C. Iron Electrode.  
D. Platinum Electrode

E. Reference Electrode.  
F. Watch Glass.  
G. Acquisition System.  
H. Mercury Drop.  
I. Acidic Solution (Sulfuric Acid).

# POTENTIAL –DEPENDENT TOPOLOGICAL MODES IN THE MERCURY BEATING HEART SYSTEM



Ellipse (3.0-3.7 Hz)



Triangle (3.8-4.5 Hz)



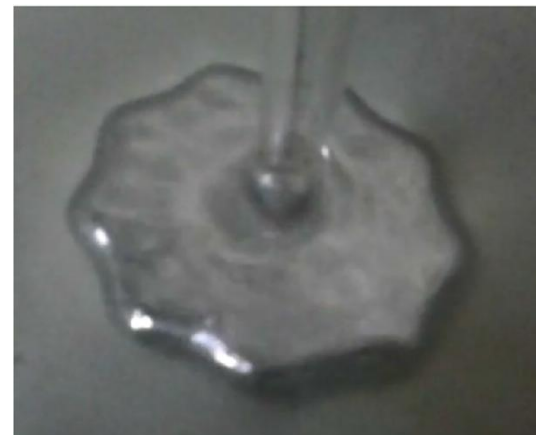
6 pointed star (7.5-8.6 Hz)



7 pointed star (9.4-10.1 Hz)

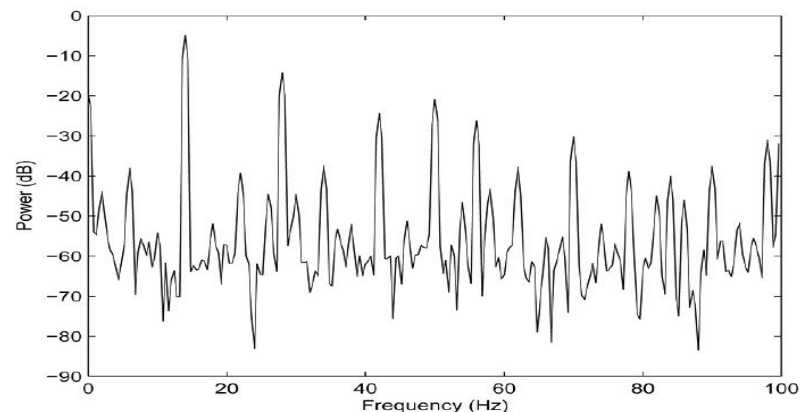
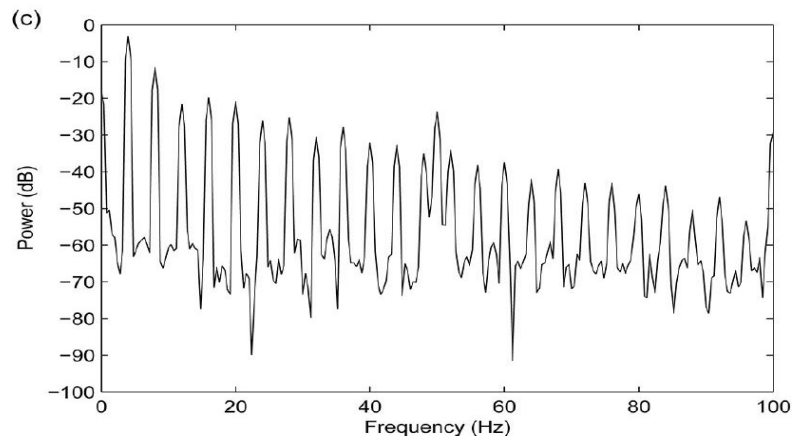
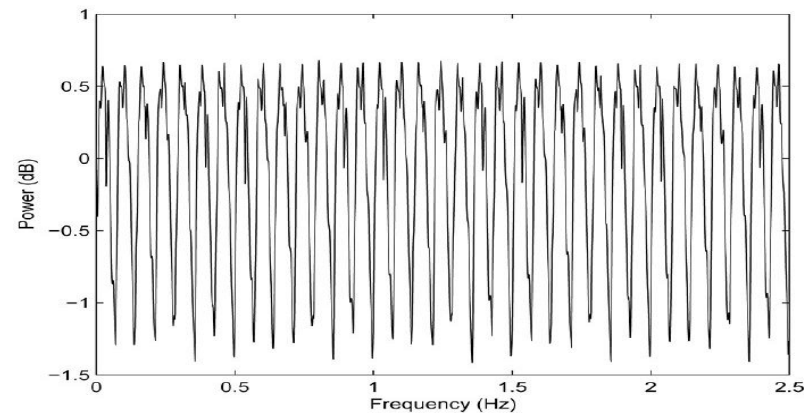
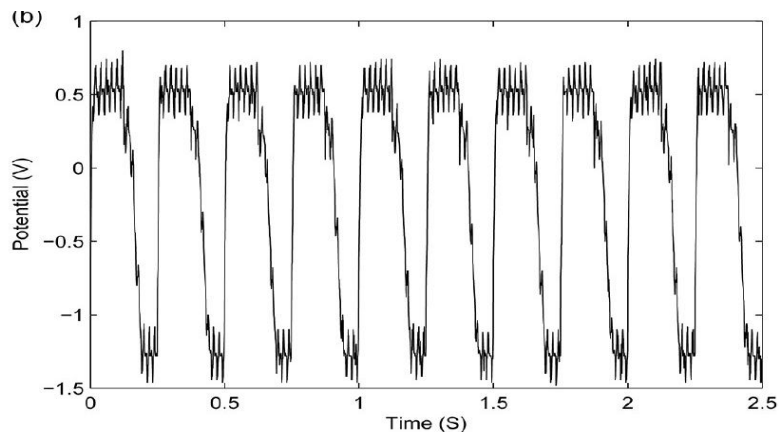


8 pointed star (10.2-11 Hz)



9 pointed star (13.1-13.4 Hz)

# POTENTIAL-DEPENDENT TOPOLOGICAL MODES IN THE MERCURY BEATING HEART SYSTEM



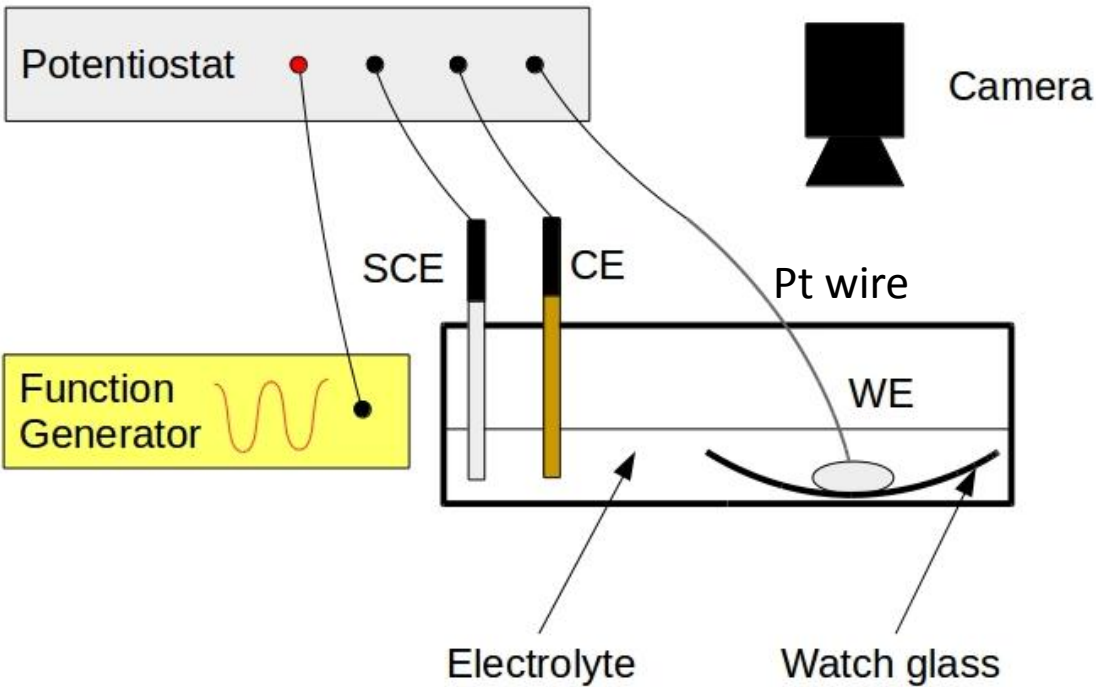
Triangular (4.3 Hz)

10 pointed star (14 Hz)

SHAPE AND SURFACE STRUCTURE  
FORMATION IN THE MERCURY BEATING  
HEART SYSTEM



# MODIFIED EXPERIMENTAL SETUP



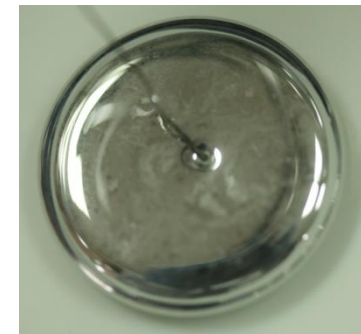
$$V(t) = V_o + A \sin(2\pi ft)$$

Potentiostat

Function  
Generator

**Anode:** Mercury drop (23 g)  
**Cathode:** Copper rod (6 mm)  
**Reference Electrode:** SCE (V .vs. SCE)

**Electrolyte:** 1 M H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>



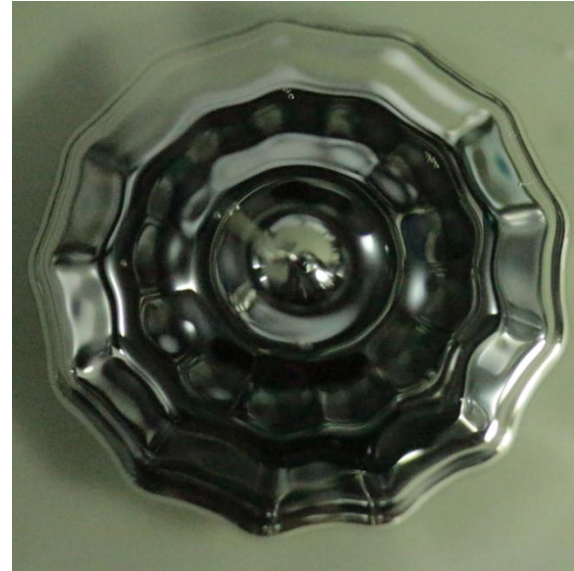
$$V(t) = V_o = 0 \text{ V}$$

# SHAPE AND SURFACE STRUCTURE FORMATION

(a)



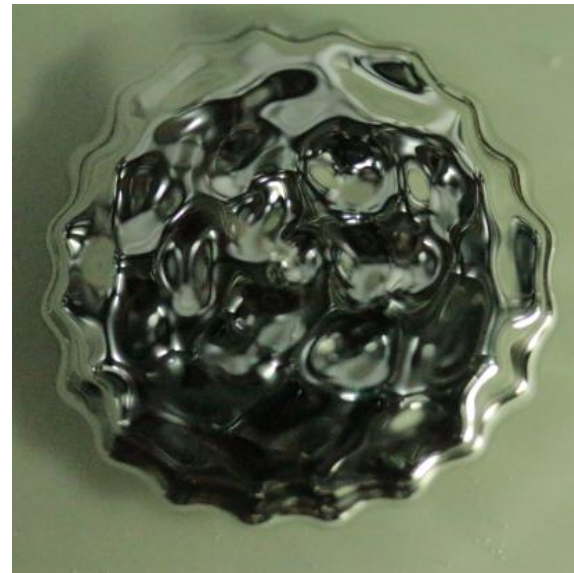
(b)



(c)



(d)



Patterns obtained using a harmonic perturbation signal and a set point of  $V_0 = 0$  V:  
(a)  $f = 48$  Hz,  $A = 2$  V; (b)  $f = 53$  Hz,  $A = 1$  V; (c)  $f = 70$  Hz,  $A = 1$  V and (d)  $f = 100$  Hz,  $A = 1$  V.

# SHAPE AND SURFACE STRUCTURE FORMATION

## EVOLUTION OF THE PERIODIC SYSTEM

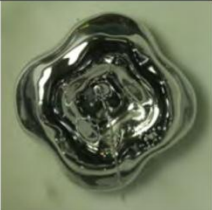







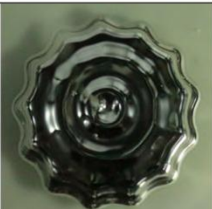
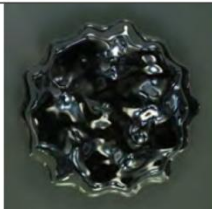
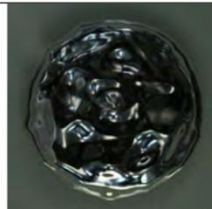




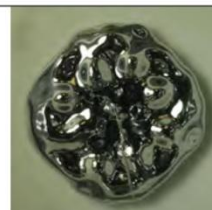






TIME

Structures sequence for a harmonic perturbation signal with frequency of 14Hz and amplitude of 2V , showing a 5 peaks star and the transitory pentagons.  $V_0 = 0.0$  V

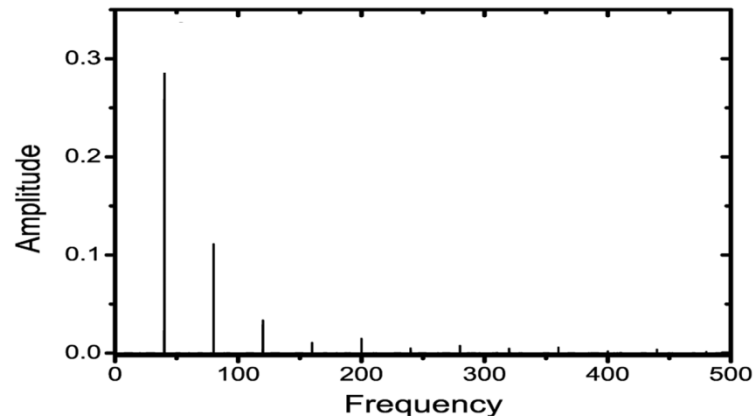
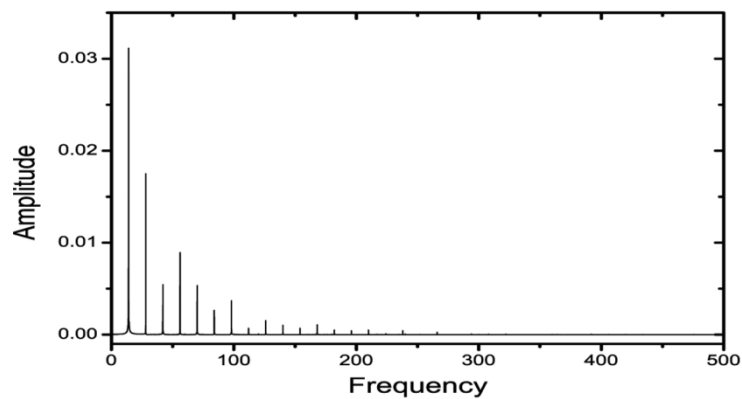
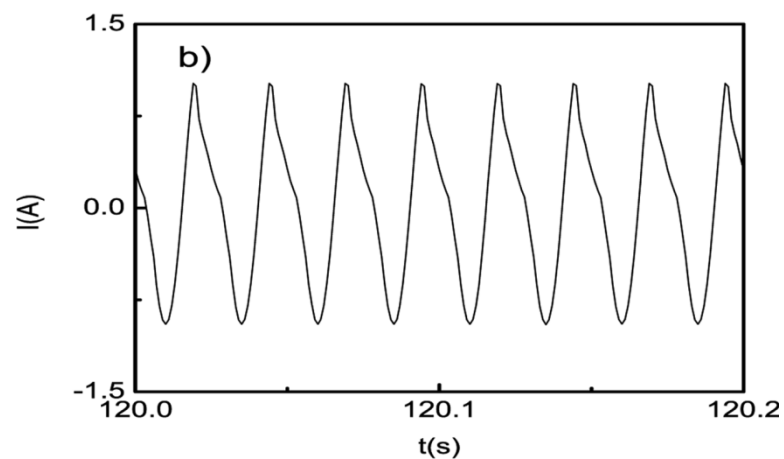
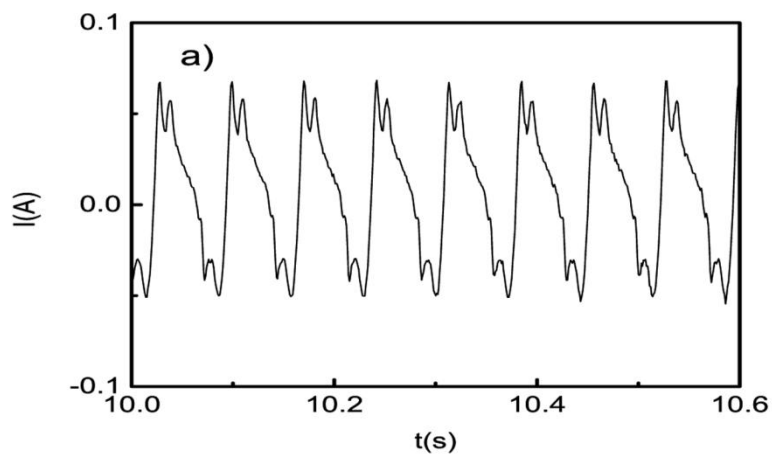
*E. Ramírez-Álvarez, J. L. Ocampo-Espindola, Fernando Montoya, F. Yousif, F. Vázquez, and M. Rivera, Journal of Physical Chemistry A Vol. 118, 10673-10678 (2014).*

# SHAPE AND SURFACE STRUCTURE FORMATION

$f(\text{Hz})/A(\text{V})$	1	2	3	4
12				
48				
53				
70				
100				

*E. Ramírez-Álvarez, J. L. Ocampo-Espindola, Fernando Montoya, F. Yousif, F. Vázquez, and M. Rivera, Journal of Physical Chemistry A Vol. 118, 10673-10678 (2014).*

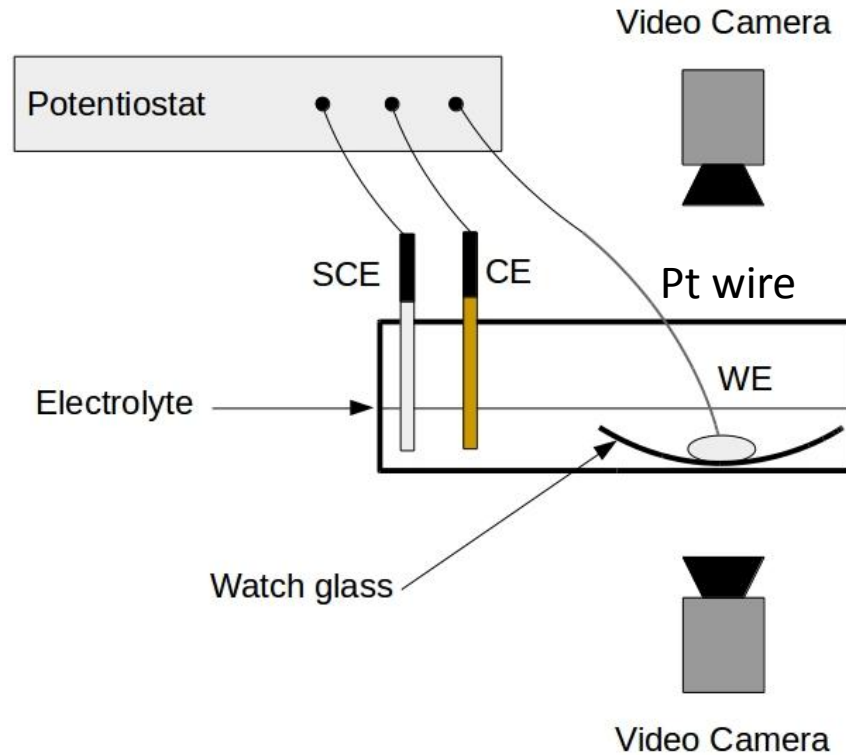
# TIMESERIES FOR THE ANODIC CURRENT



$$A = 1 \text{ V}_{\text{pp}}, f = 14 \text{ Hz.}$$

$$A = 4 \text{ V}_{\text{pp}}, f = 40 \text{ Hz.}$$

# EXPERIMENTAL SETUP (VARYING NOW THE POTENTIAL $V_0$ )



**Anode:** Mercury drop (23 g)

**Cathode:** Copper rod (6 mm)

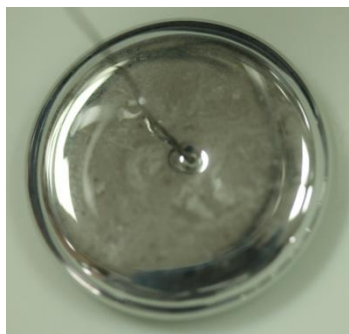
**Reference Electrode:** SCE

**Electrolyte:** 1 M  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$

$$V(t) = V_0 + A \sin(2\pi ft)$$

# Rotational Motion in the Mercury Beating Heart System

# TESTING DIFFERENT ANODIC POTENTIALS ( $V_o$ )



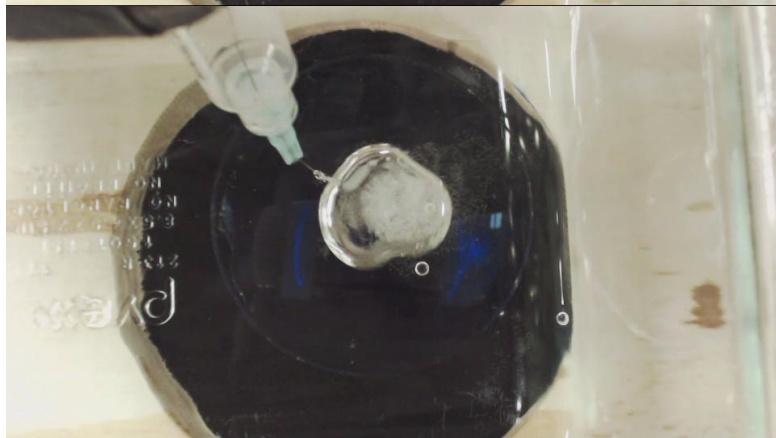
$V_o > 0$  mV .vs. SCE

Formation of  $\text{Hg}_2\text{SO}_4$  Film



$-1600 < V_o < 0$  mV .vs. SCE

No significant motion detected.

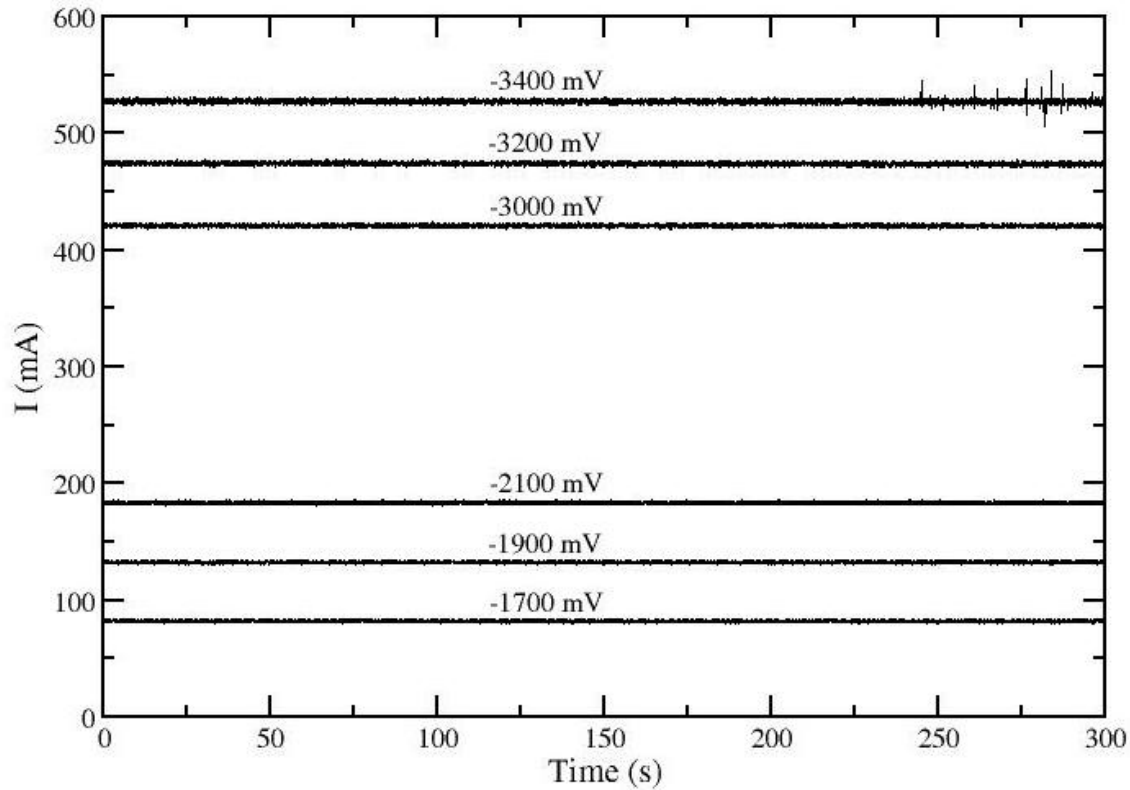


$-3400 < V_o < -1600$  mV .vs. SCE

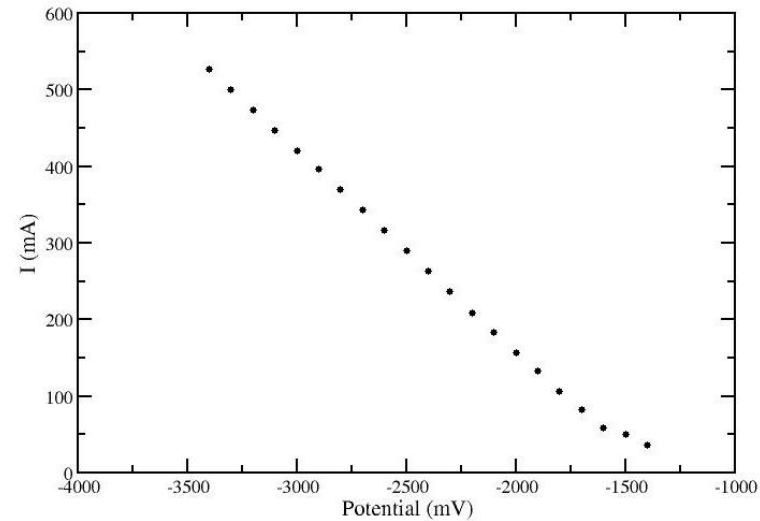
Rotational Motion



# BEHAVIOR OF THE ANODIC CURRENT AT DIFFERENT POTENTIALS

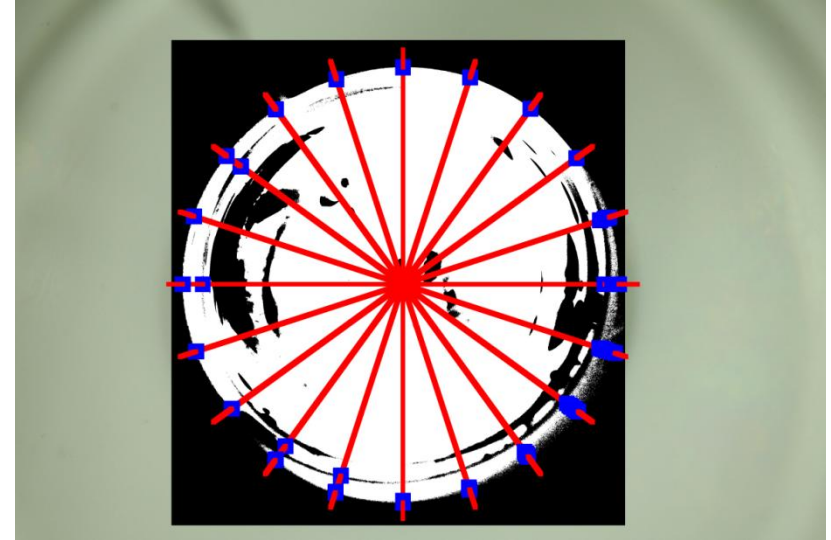
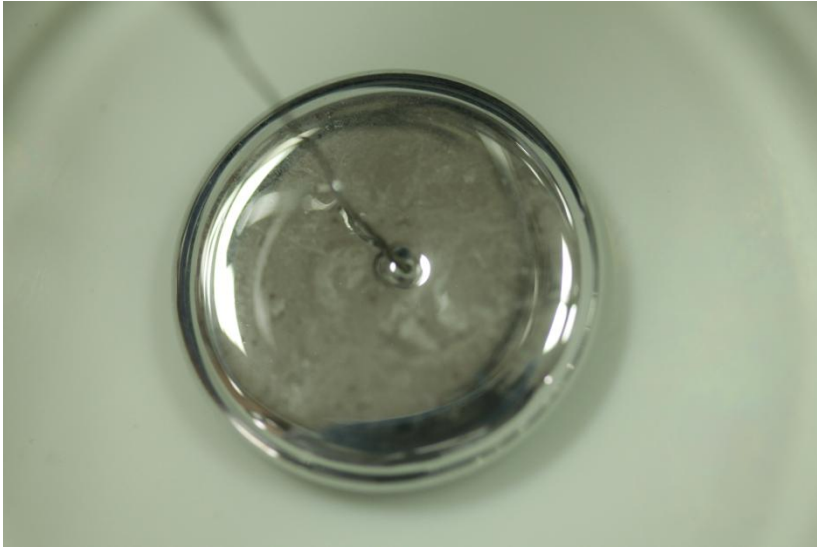


TIMESERIES FOR THE ANODIC CURRENT



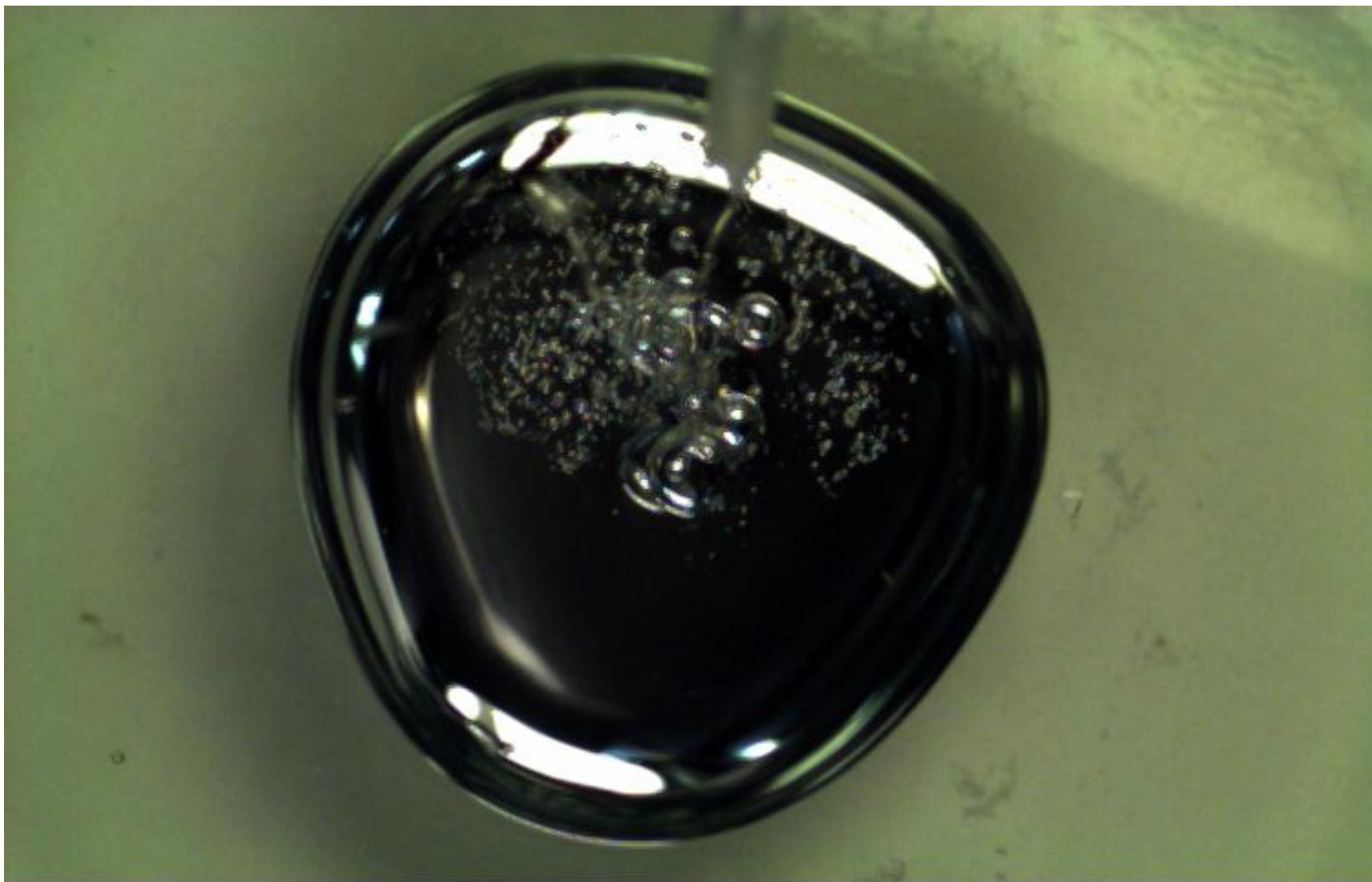
ANODIC CURRENT .vs. POTENTIAL

# STUDYING THE ROTATIONAL MOTION USING IMAGE ANALYSIS

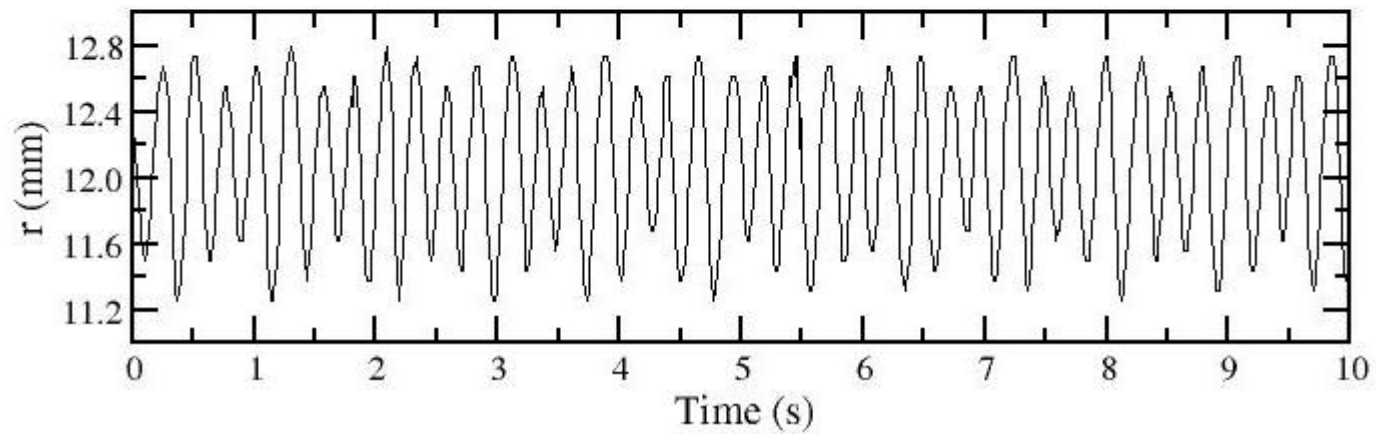
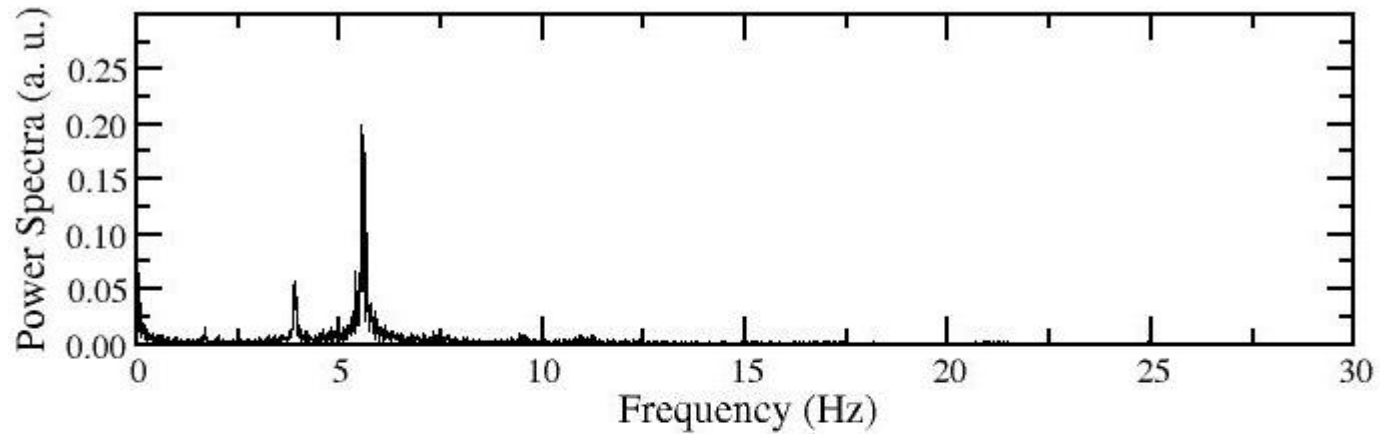


$\mathbf{r}(\mathbf{t})$ : Distance (mm) from the perimeter to the center of the drop for  $\Theta = 0^\circ$

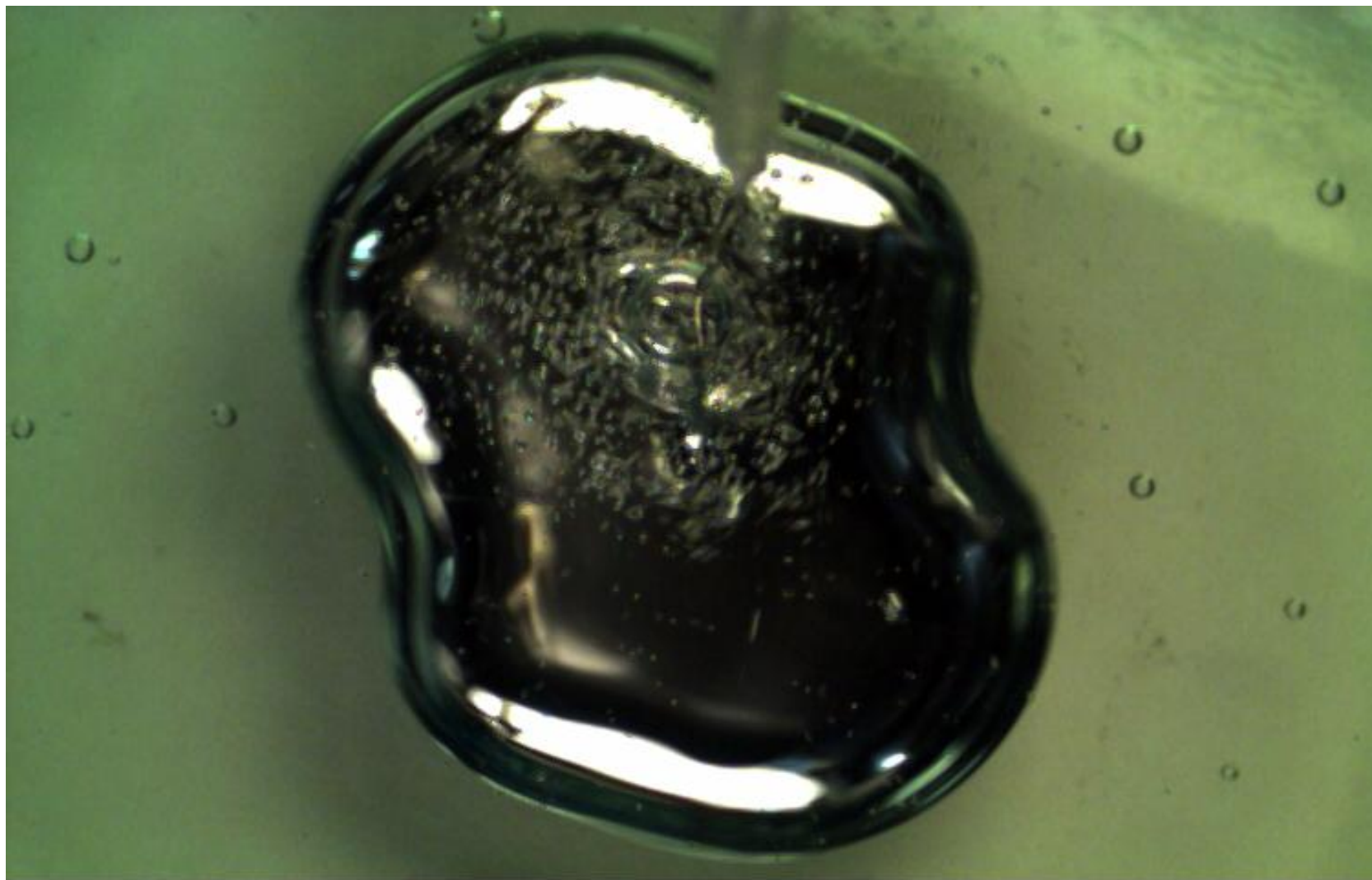
# BEHAVIOR OF THE MERCURY DROP AT $V_0 = -1600$ mV



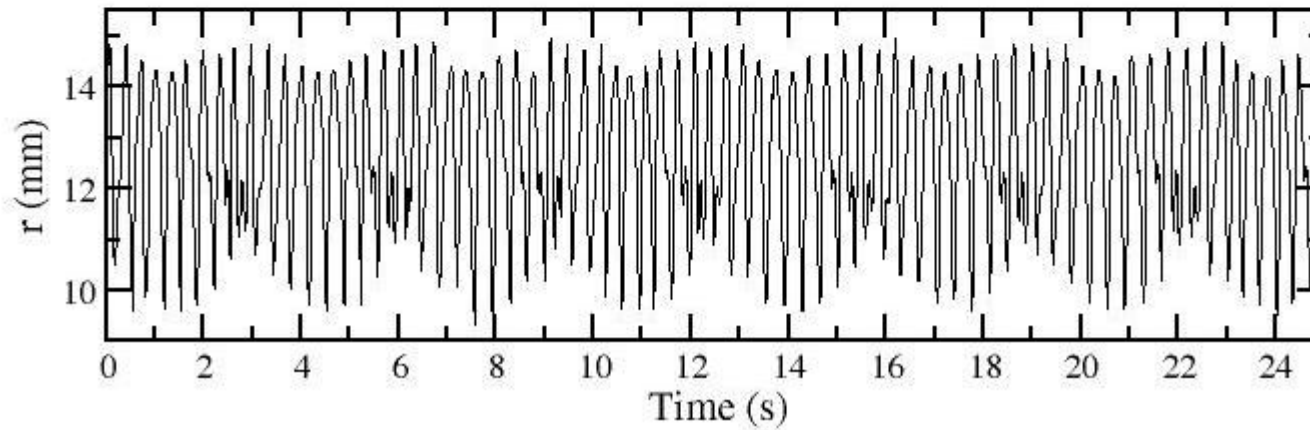
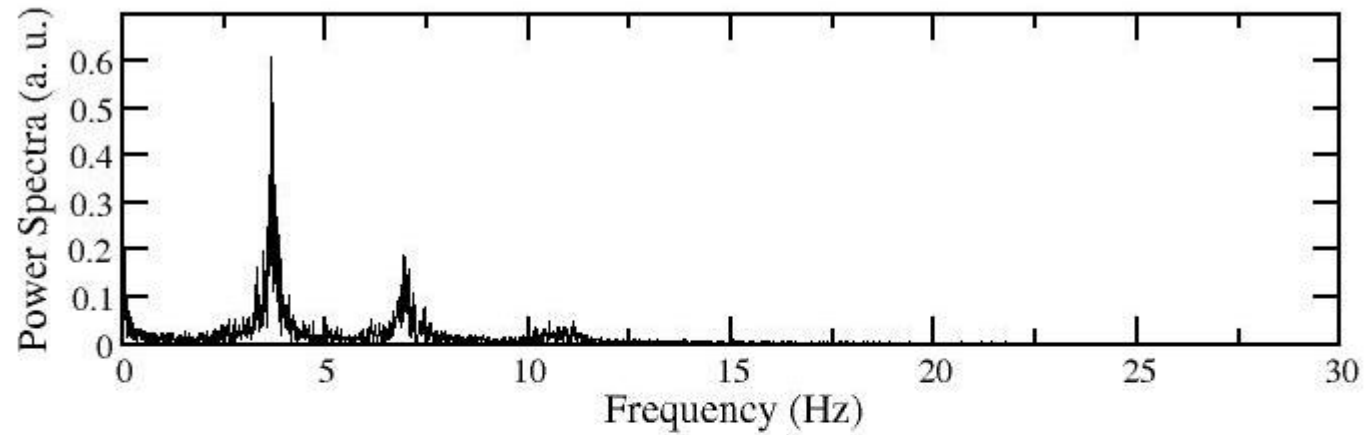
# TIMESERIES AND POWER SPECTRA (-1600 mV)



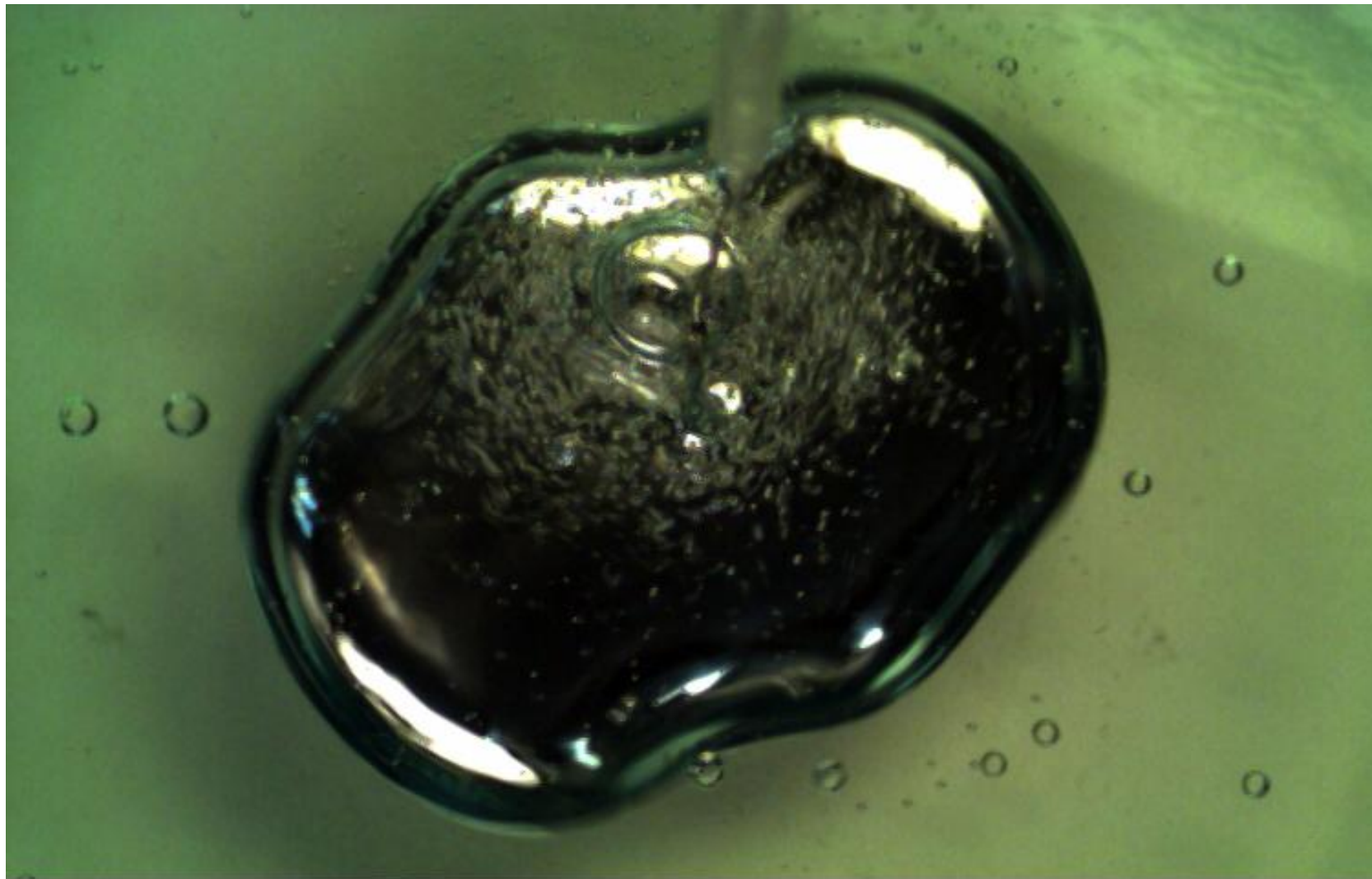
# BEHAVIOR OF THE MERCURY DROP AT $V_0 = -2800$ mV



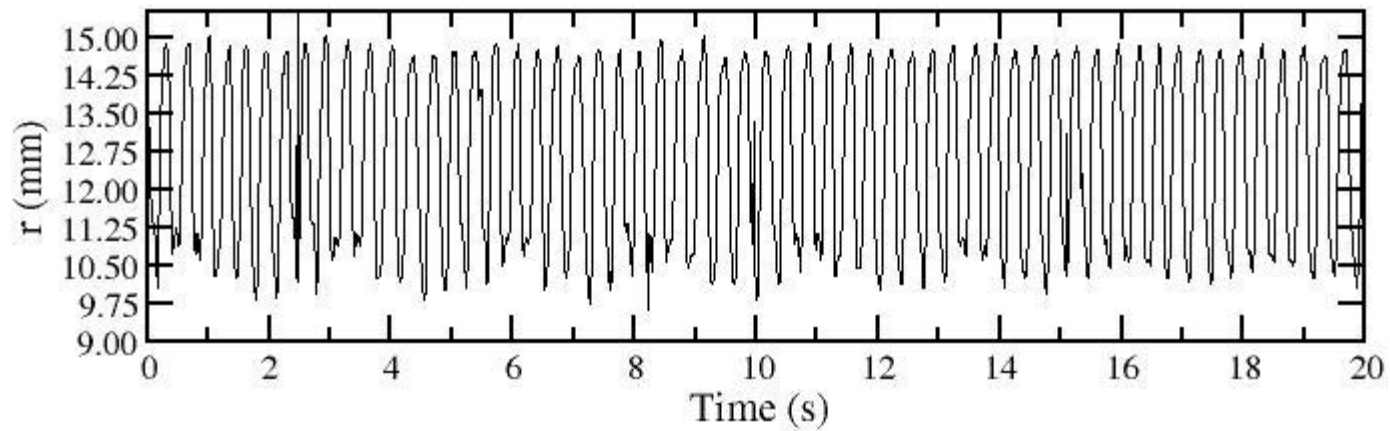
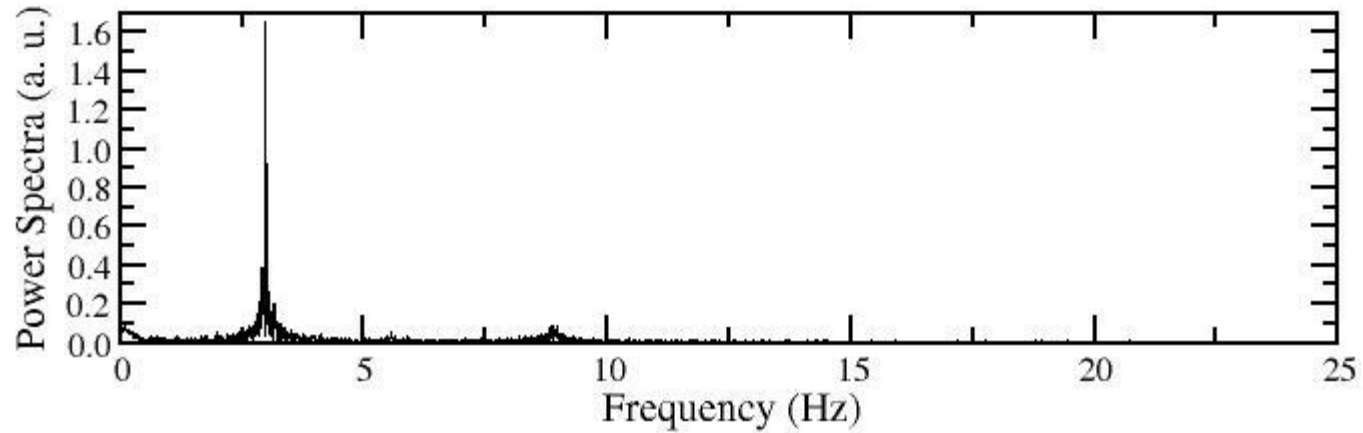
# TIMESERIES AND POWER SPECTRA (-2800 mV)



# BEHAVIOR OF THE MERCURY DROP AT $V_0 = -3200$ mV

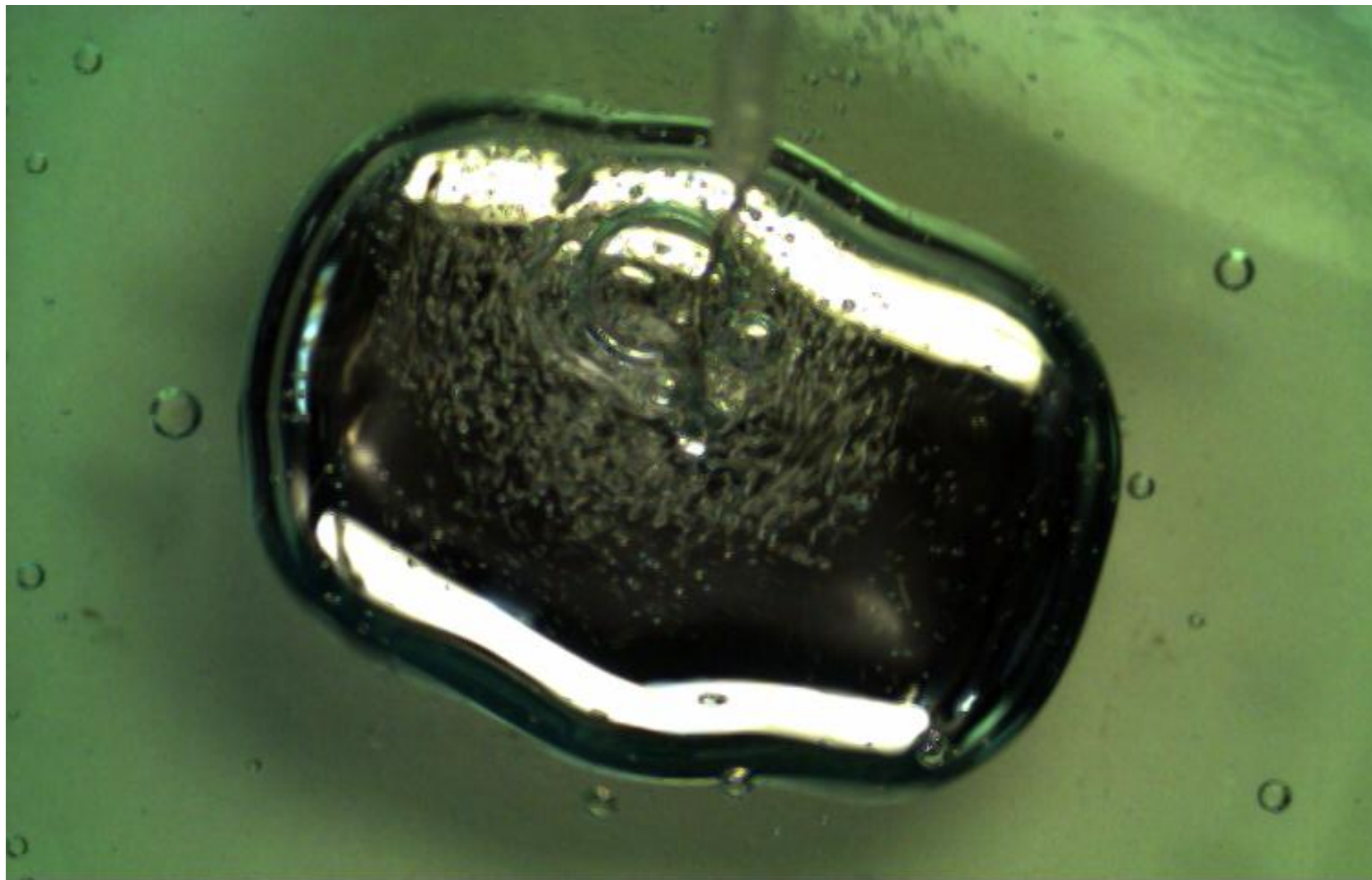


# TIMESERIES AND POWER SPECTRA (-3200 mV)

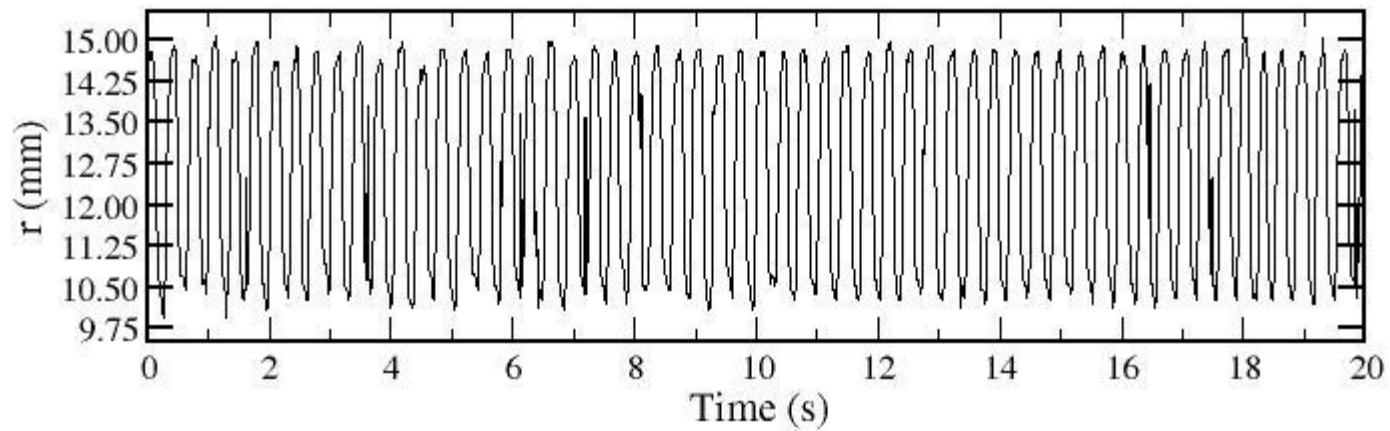
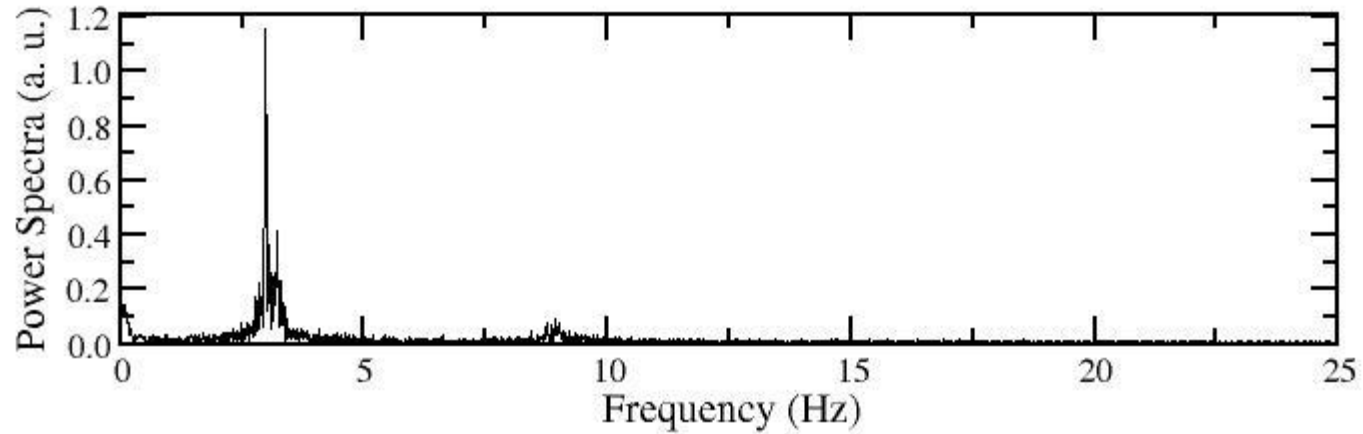




# BEHAVIOR OF THE MERCURY DROP AT $V_0 = -3400$ mV



# TIMESERIES AND POWER SPECTRA (-3400 mV)

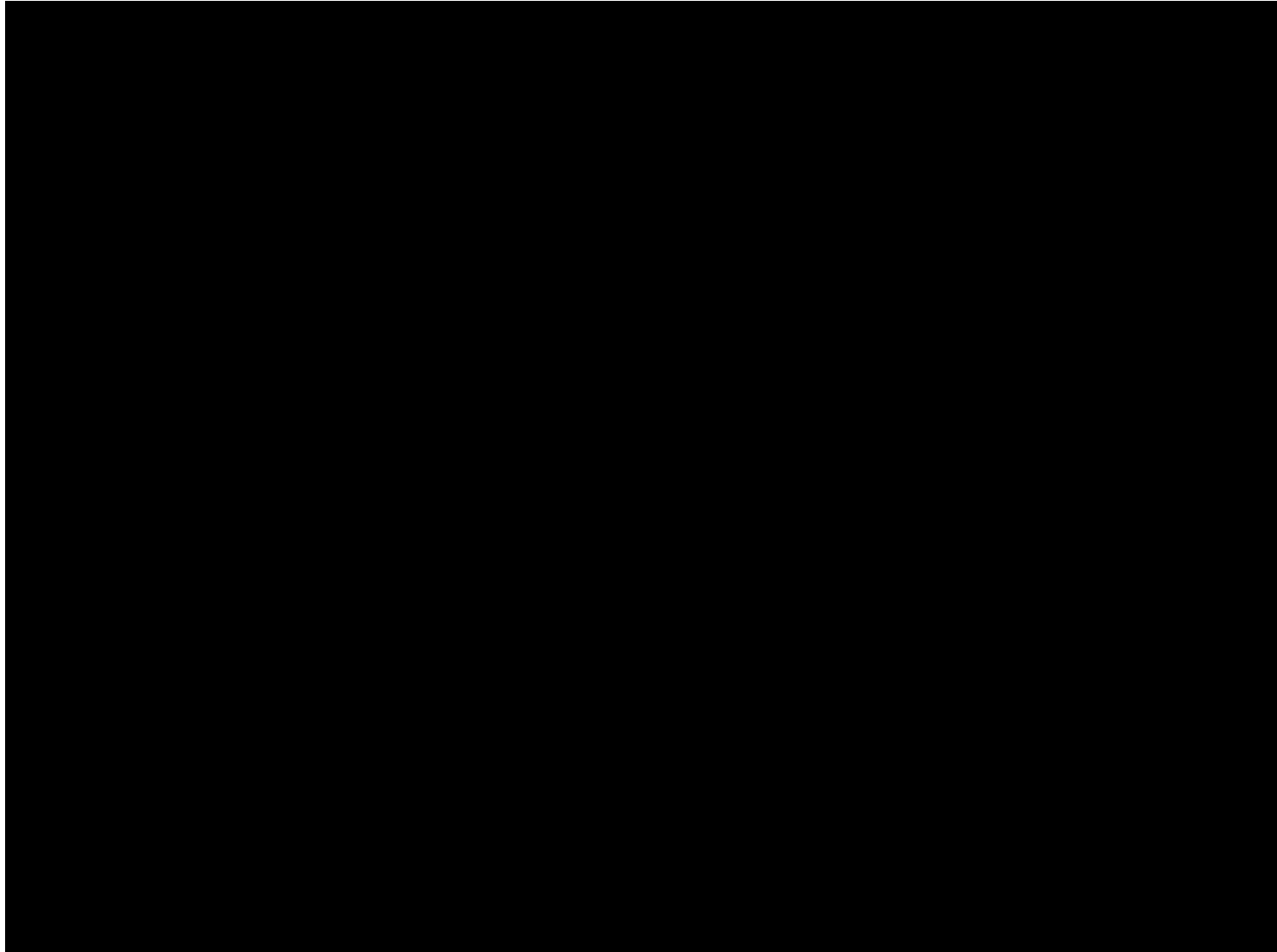


## BEHAVIOR OF THE MERCURY DROP (BOTTOM VIEW)



Potential (mV)	State of Motion/Shape
[0, -1500]	~Static/Circular
(-1500, -1600]	Rotating /~Triangle
(-1600, -3200]	Rotating/Irregular (P)
(-3200, -3400]	Rotating/~Rectangle

# TESTING DIFFERENT ANODIC POTENTIALS ( $V_0$ ) AND HARMONIC FORCING PERTURBATION



# CONCLUSIONS

- This new experimental setup for the MBH system offers a variety of interesting phenomena: Pattern Formation, Rotational Motion and combined effects.
- In all these cases, the local variations on the surface tension of the mercury drop play a crucial role.
- The physical mechanism responsible for this phenomena is still unknown.

## COLLABORATORS

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**Elizeth Ramírez-Álvarez** (TU-München, Germany)

**Jorge Ocampo-Espíndola\*** (M. Sc., México)

**Fernando Montoya\*** (IBT UNAM, México)

**Professor Punit Parmananda** (IIT Bombay, India)

# THANK YOU!