Deformations of soap bubbles in a uniform electric field

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The study of the deformations undergone by a soap bubble submitted to an electrical force began with Taylor and Wilson (C.T.R. Wilson and G.I Taylor, The bursting of soap-bubbles in a uniform electric field, *Math. Proc. Cambridge*, in vol. 22, pp. 728-730,1925) and the observation of the so-called Taylor's cones. Beyond these particular structures, few studies analyzed the bubble deformations. For example, what is the link between the deformations and the electrical force? Or, how do charges move in the thin soap film formed by the bubble? To answer those questions, we characterize the shape variations of the surface of the bubble immersed in the uniform electric field of a plan capacitor. In particular, our study focuses on hemispherical bubbles lying on a bottom electrode of a capacitor. For this experiment, we are able to find a law between the deformation of the bubble and the potential applied between the two electrodes. This law is based on the equilibrium of pressure at the top of the bubble.

