

## Drop-Based Modeling of Batch Settlers: The Final Model

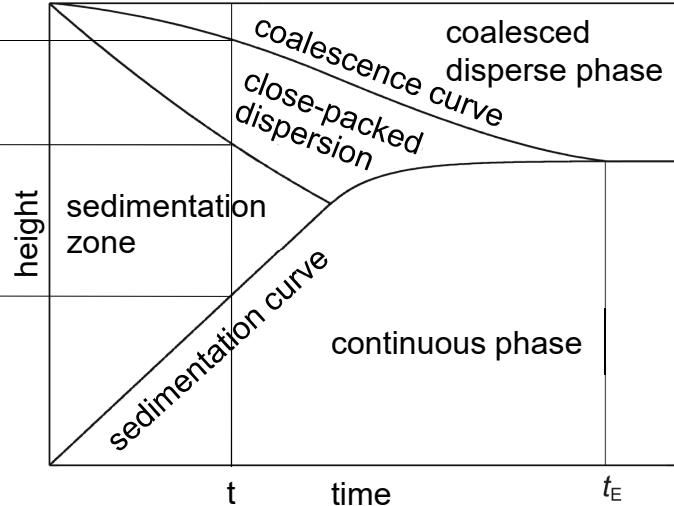
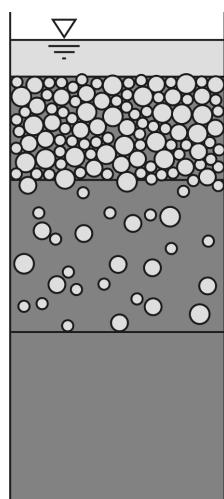
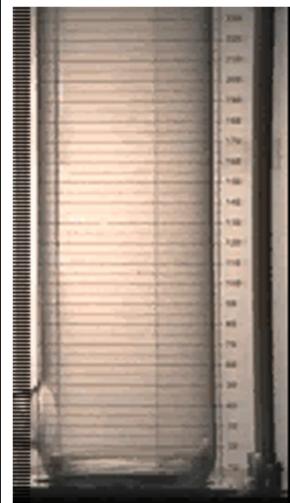
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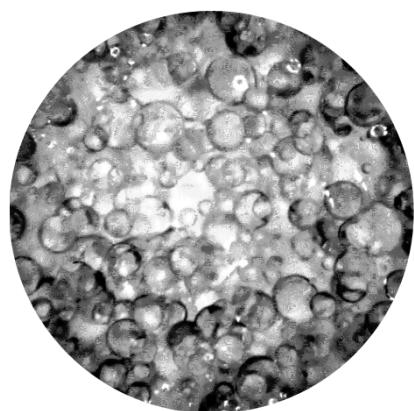
### agenda

- general settler concepts
- experimental approach
- sedimentation
- coalescence
- conclusions

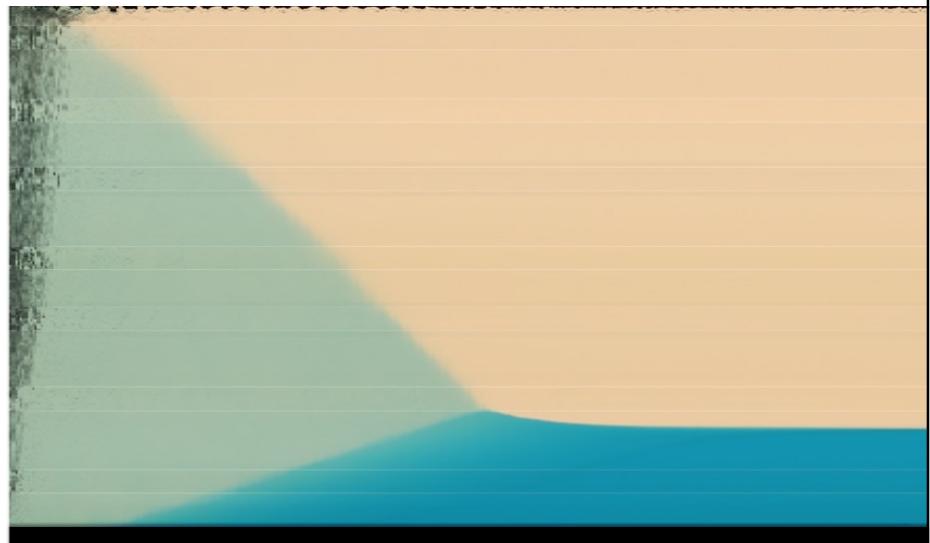
## general settler concept



## settling cell with SOPAT probe



## iso-optical system



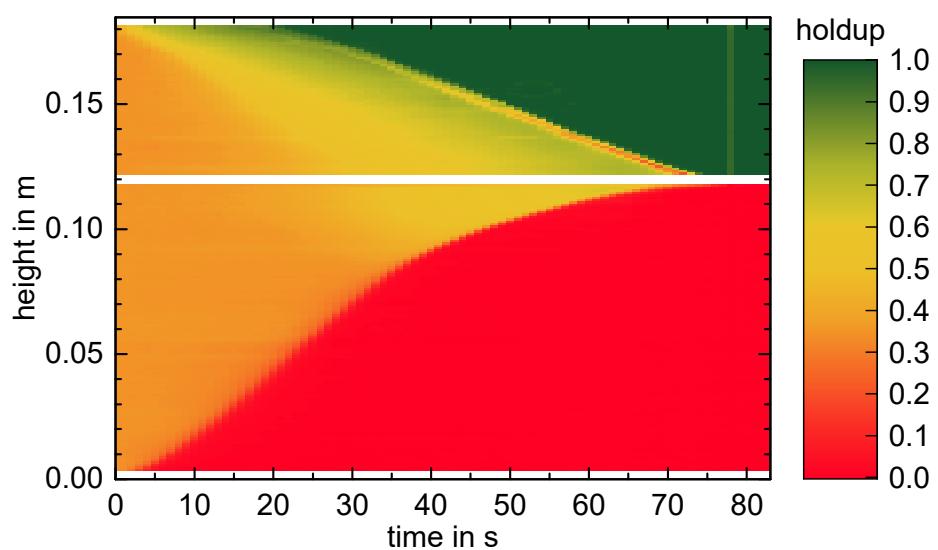
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water + ethylene glycol + hexane

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## experimental holdup, initial holdup: 35 % organic



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## ReDrop: drop-based modeling

### definition of system:

- material properties
- process variables
- simulation parameters
- set up arrays and system

for each timestep:

time loop

for each drop:

drop loop

- new velocity
- new position
- coalescence with interface
- coalescence between drops

collect information for each height element:

- holdup
- Sauter mean diameter
- etc.



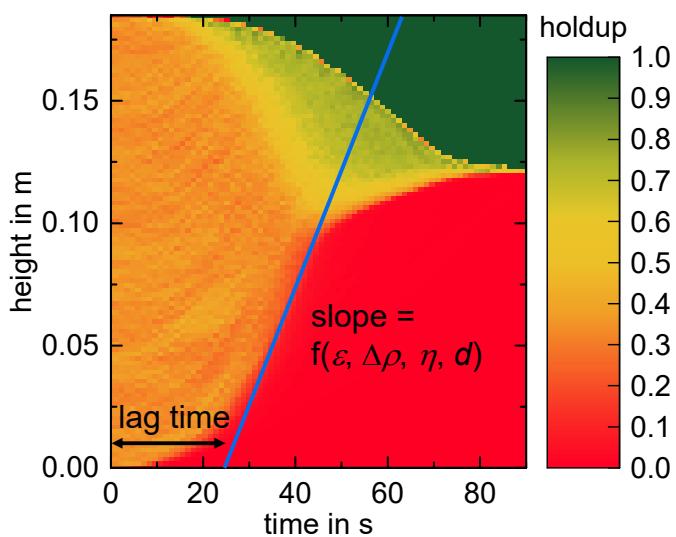
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## lag time & characteristic drop diameter



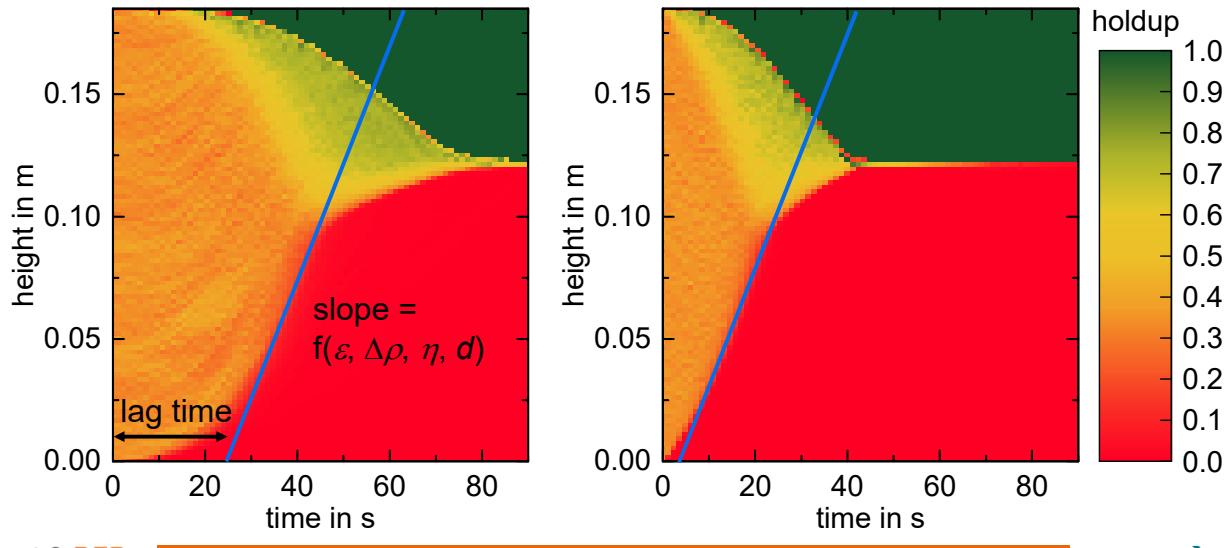
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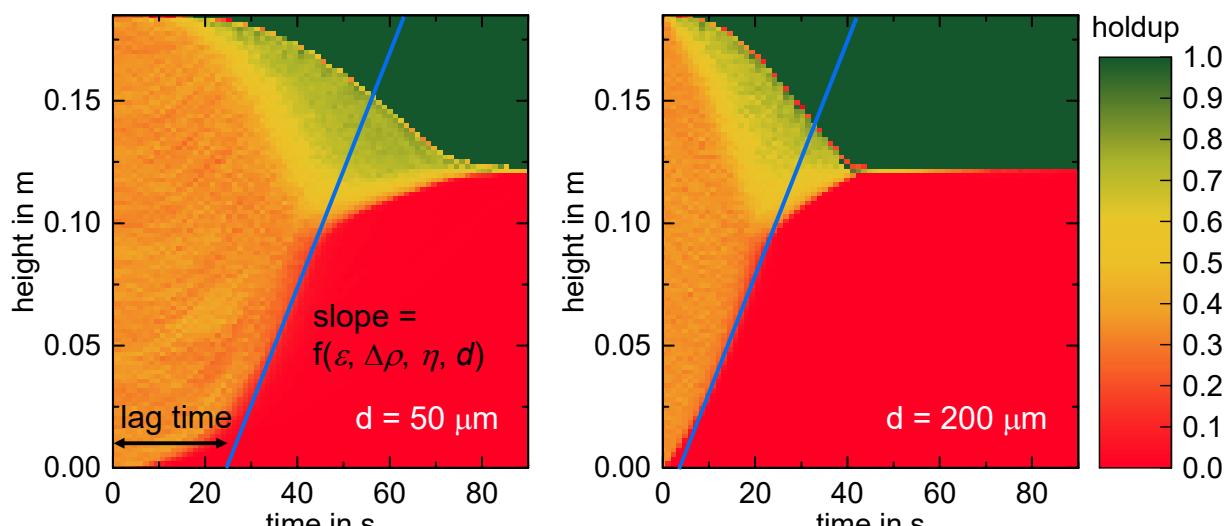
## lag time & characteristic drop diameter



9



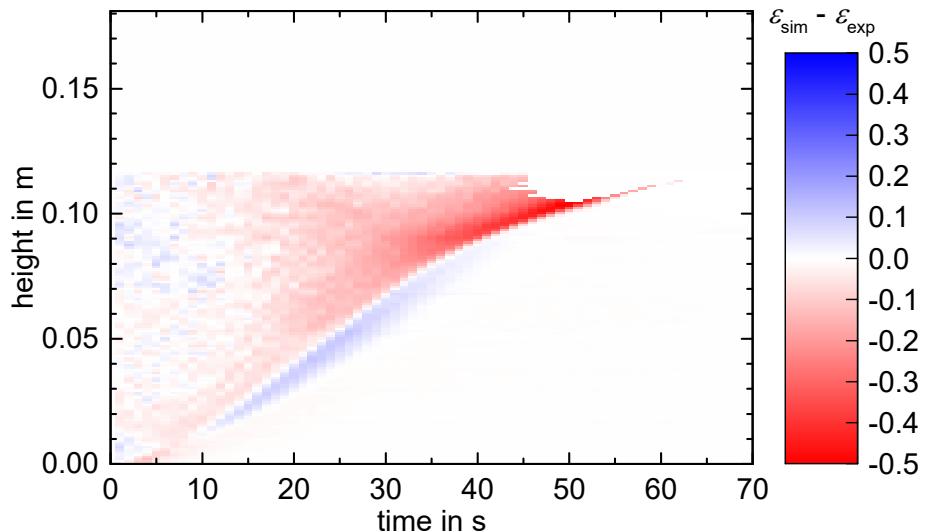
## lag time & characteristic drop diameter



10



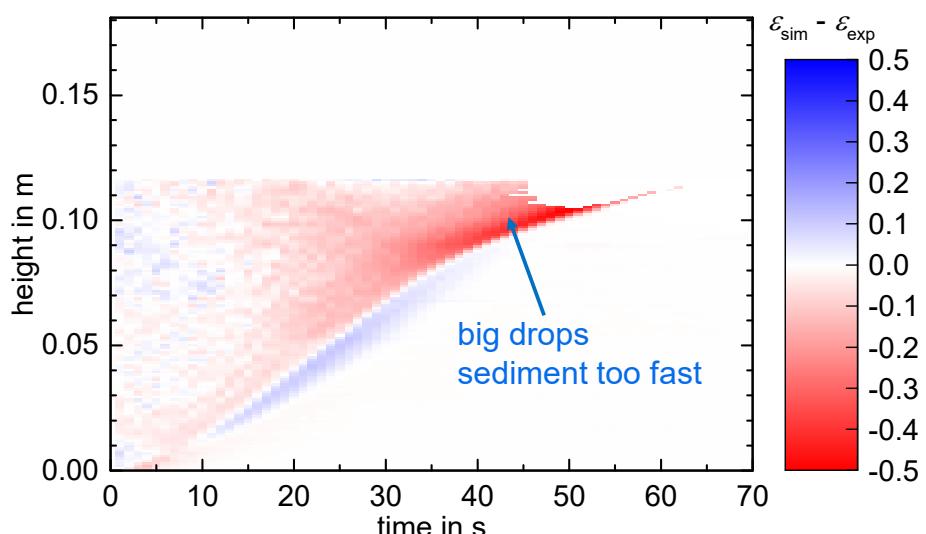
## infinite-dilution drop velocity & swarm model



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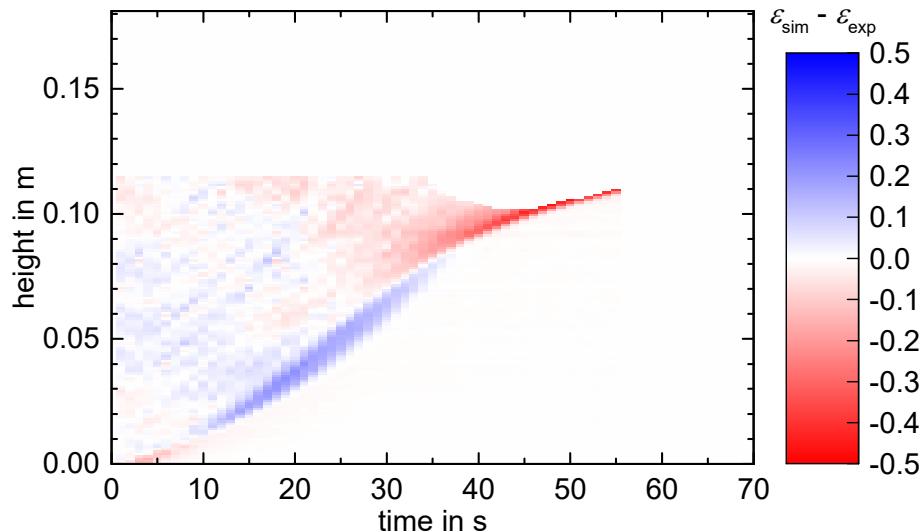
## infinite-dilution drop velocity & swarm model



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**only around 25% drop-size dependent velocity**

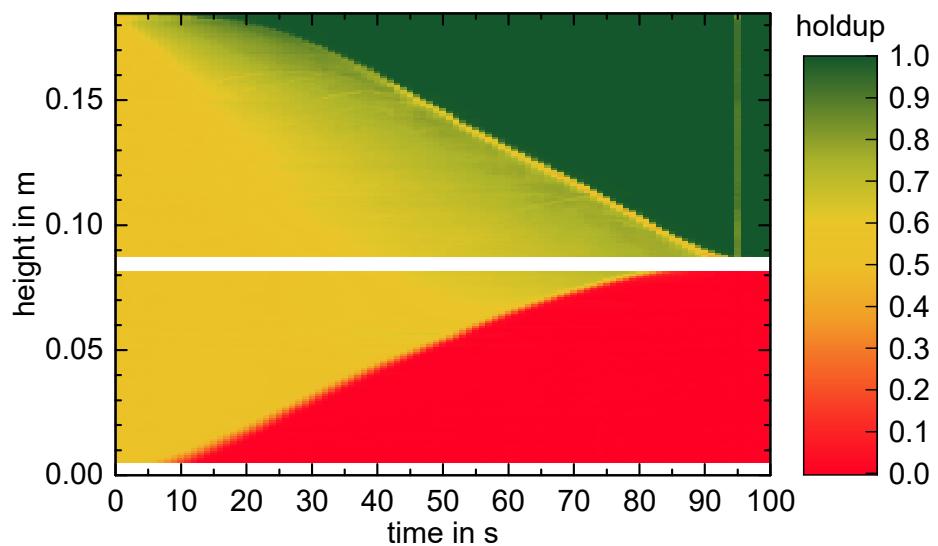


only sedimentation zone shown

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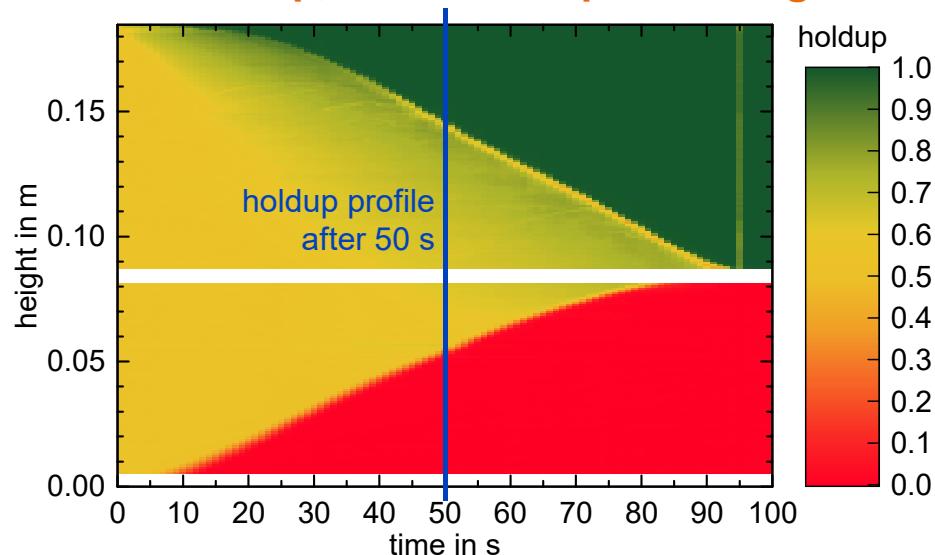
**experimental holdup, initial holdup: 53 % organic**



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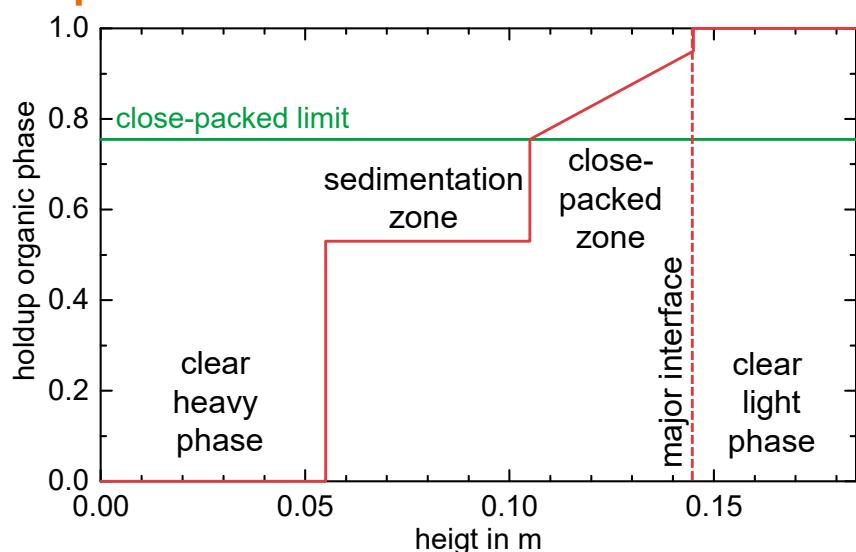
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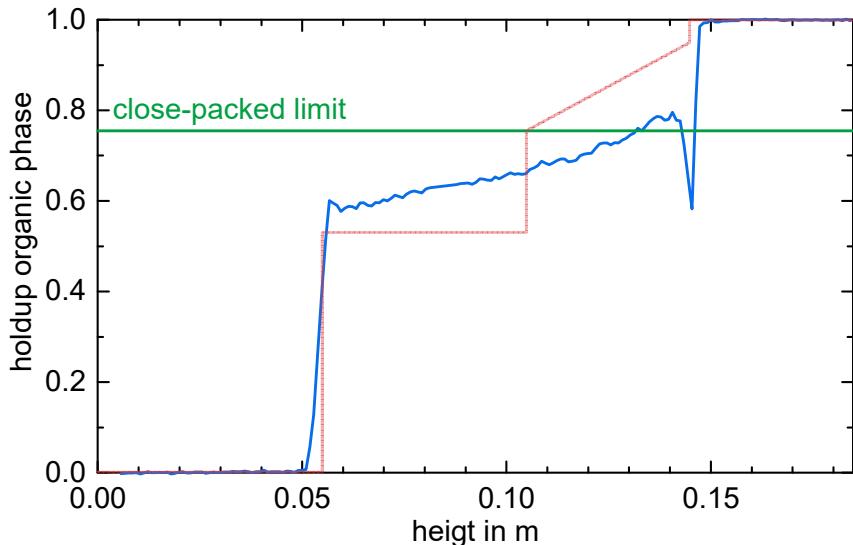
## what we expect



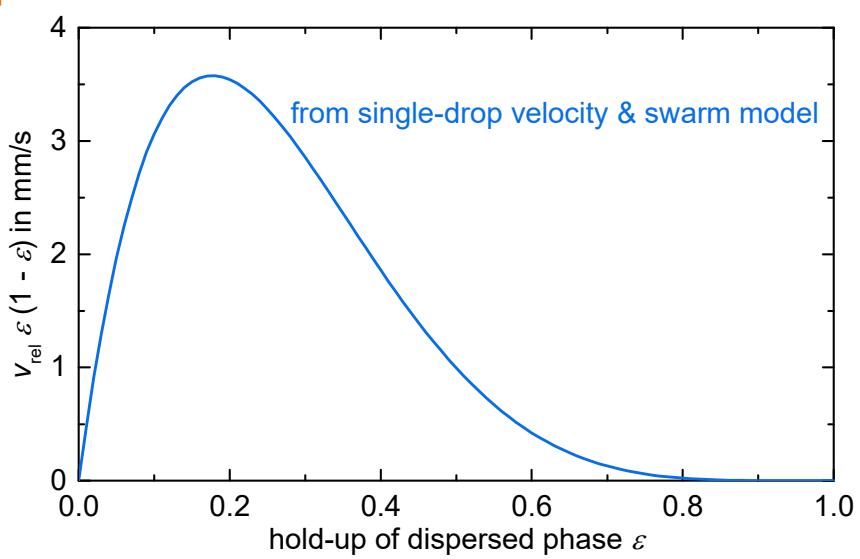
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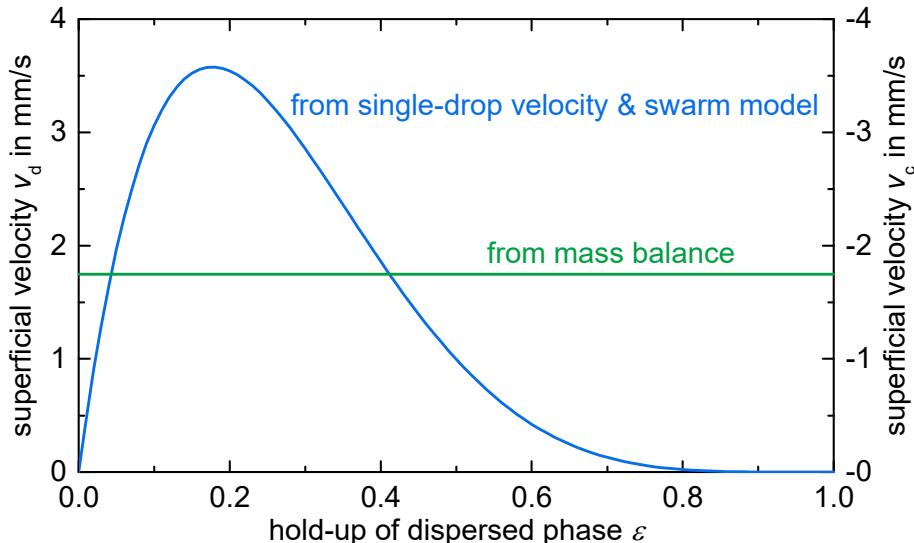
## what we find



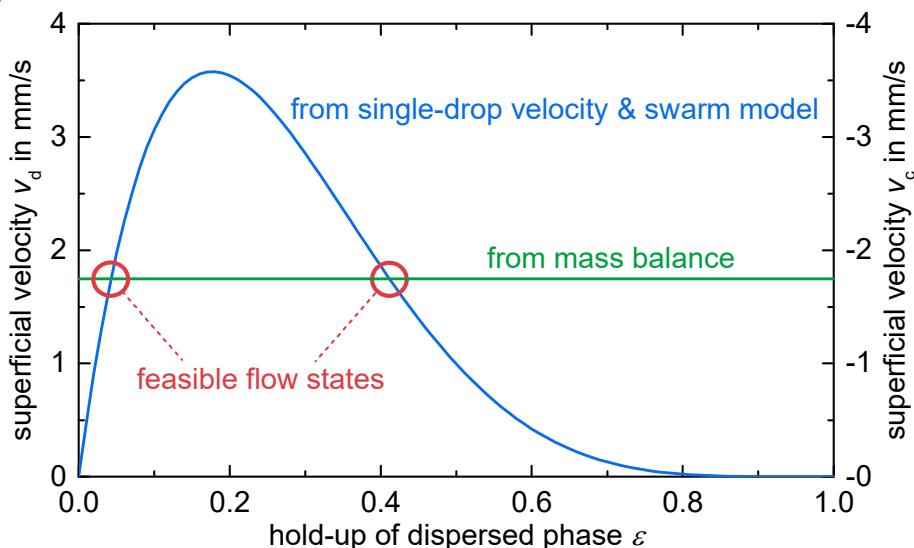
## Wallis plot



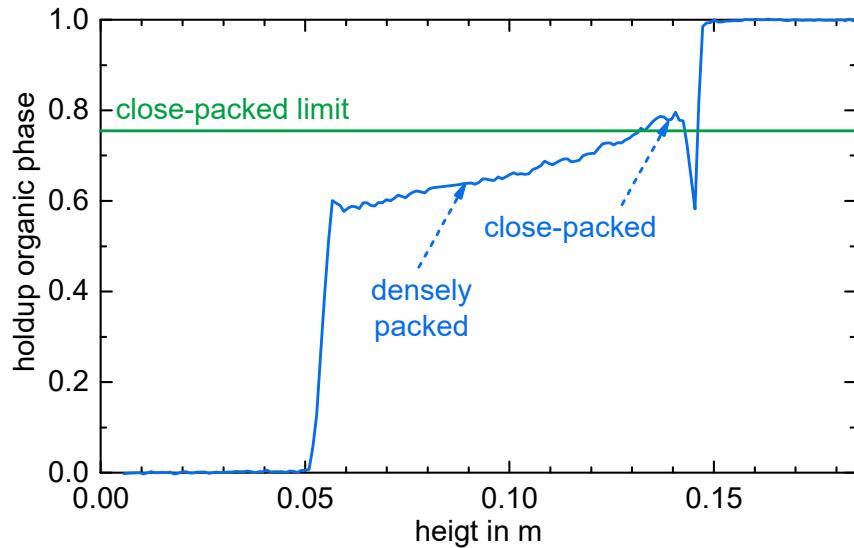
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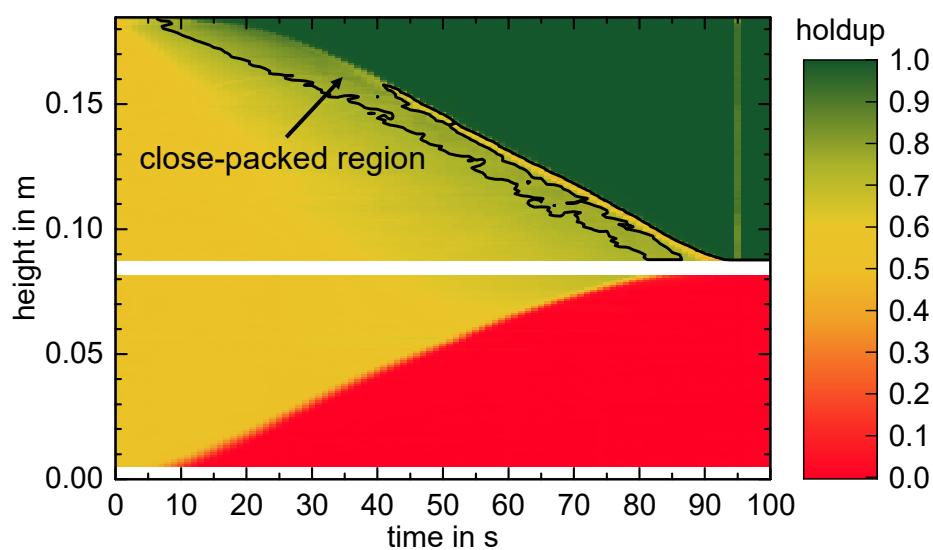
## Wallis plot



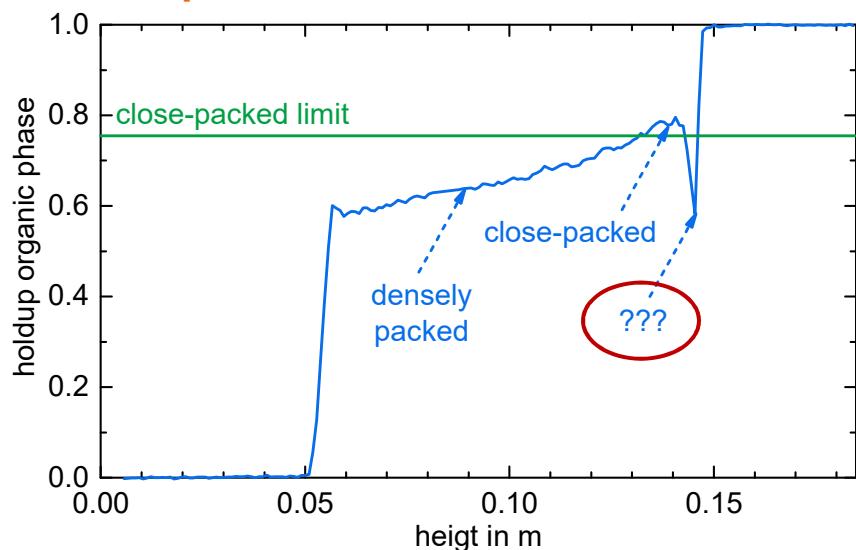
we find a wide densely packed zone



experimental holdup, initial holdup: 53 % organic



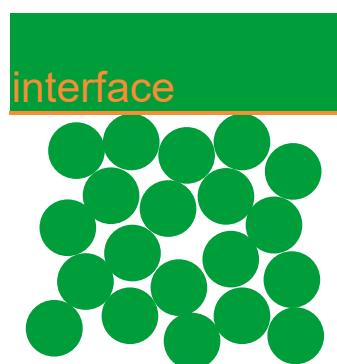
## what is this bump?



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## at the interface



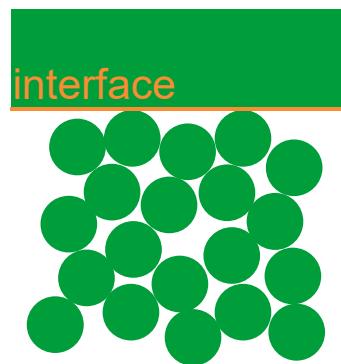
before coalescence



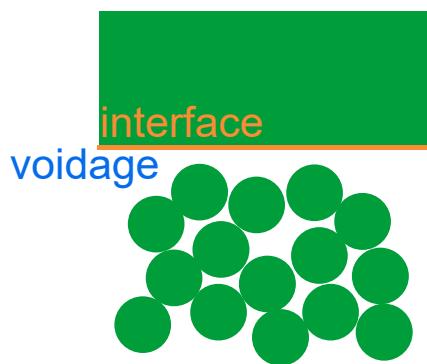
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## at the interface

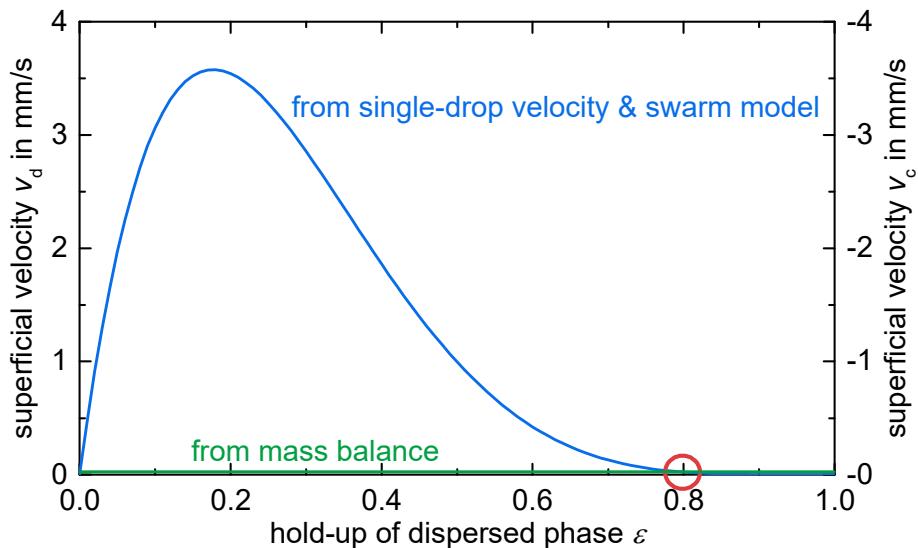


before coalescence

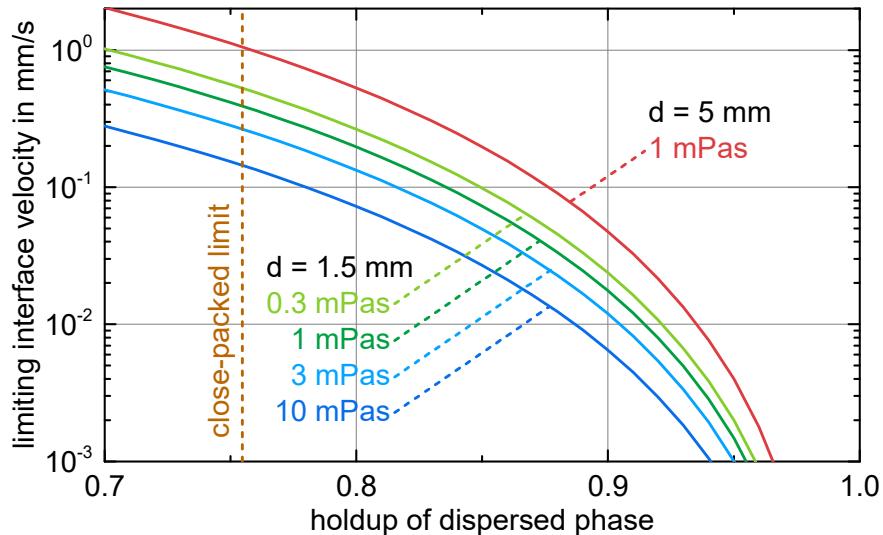


after coalescence

## flowrate close to interface



## is this a general effect?



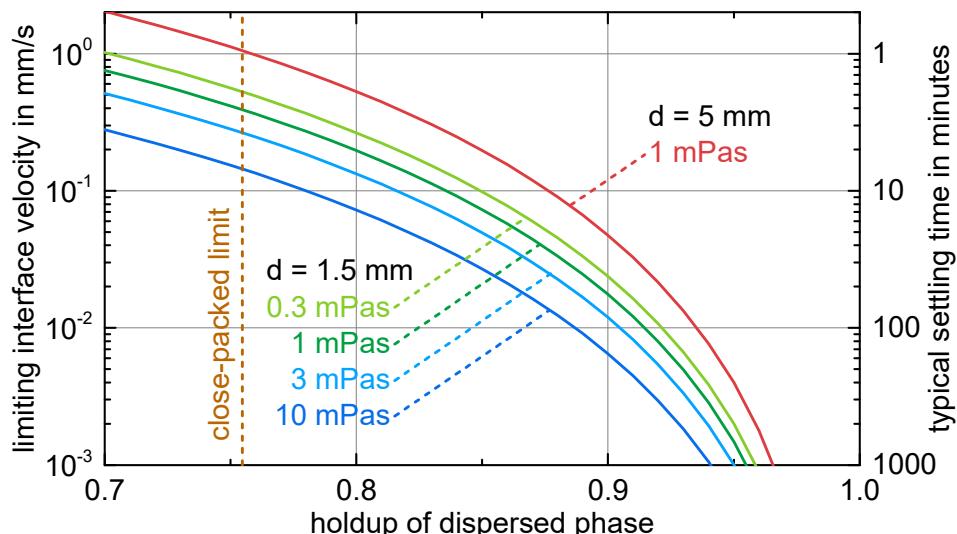
$\Delta\rho = 400 \text{ kg/m}^3$

model: Henschke, Waheed, Pfennig, 2000 & Richardson, Zaki, 1954

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## is this a general effect?



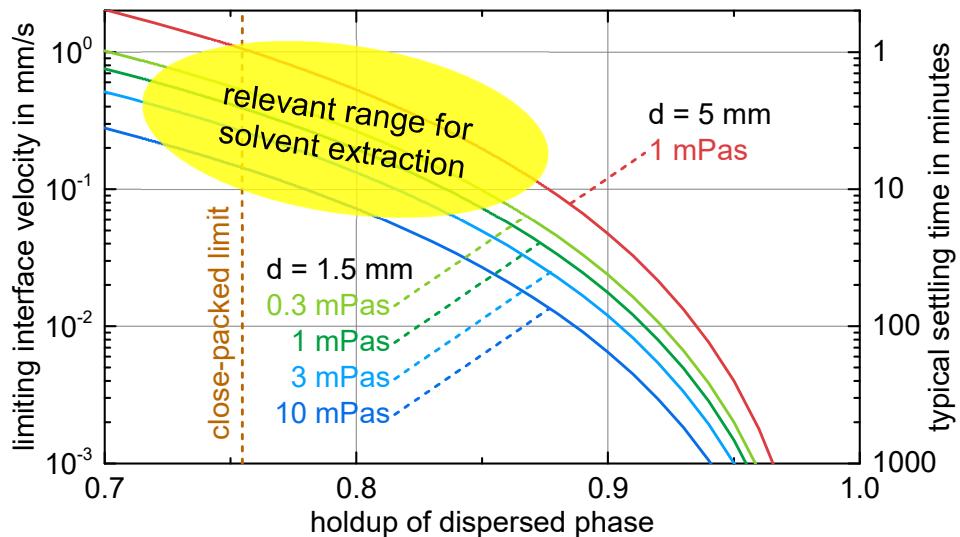
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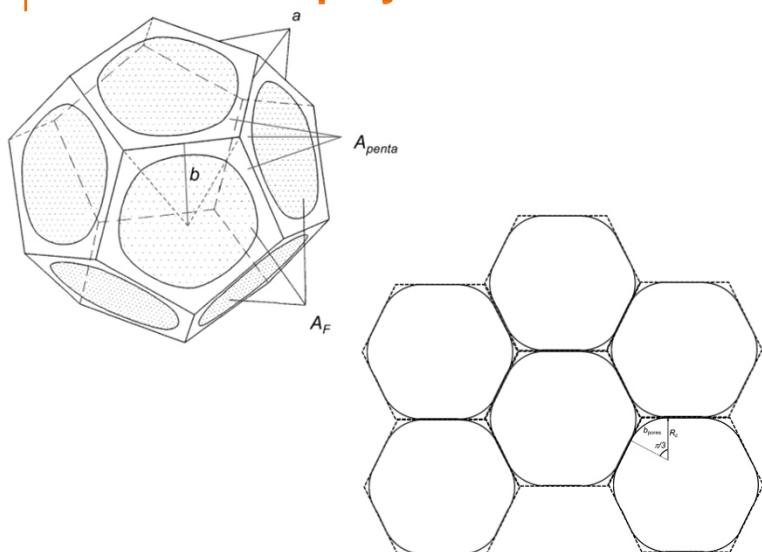
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## coalescence: polyhedron model of Henschke



$$p_{\text{coalescence}} = 1 - \exp\left(-\frac{t_{\text{contact}}}{t_{\text{coalescence}}}\right)$$

$$t_{\text{coalescence}} \sim \frac{6\pi^2 \mu R_F R_a^{3/2}}{F_{\text{driving}} r_s^* \sqrt{h_{\text{critical}}}}$$

$$F_{\text{driving}} = F_{\text{Young-Laplace}} = \frac{2\pi R_F^2 \sigma}{R}$$

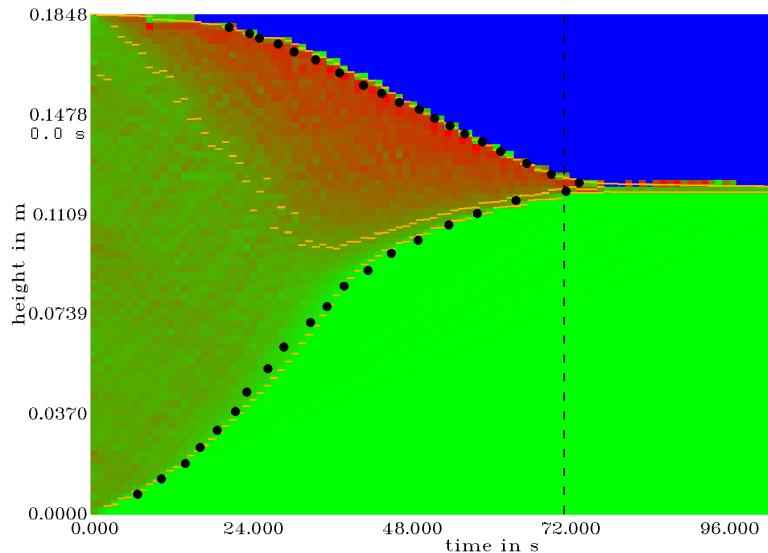


Henschke, 1995: Dimensionierung liegender Flüssig-flüssig-Abscheider  
anhand diskontinuierlicher Absetzversuche

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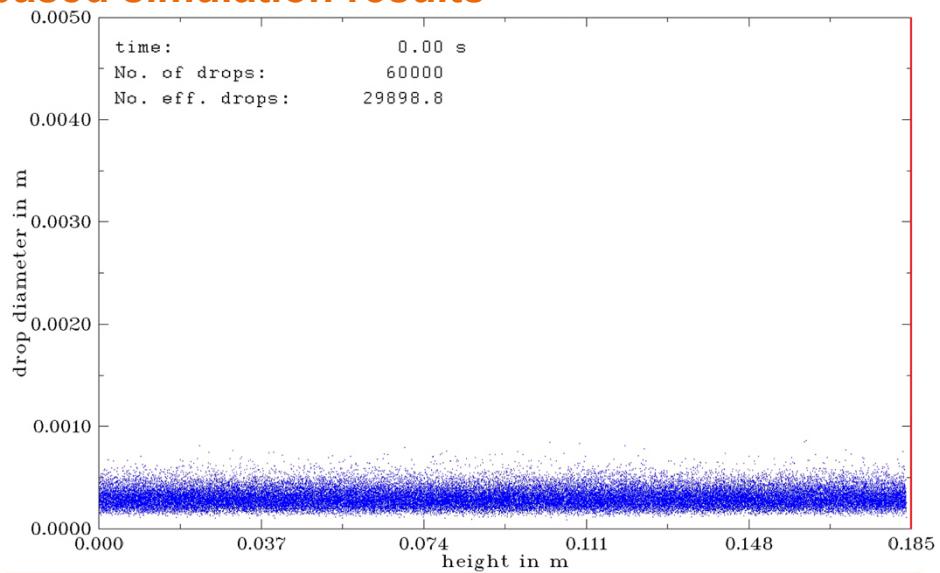
## drop-based simulation results



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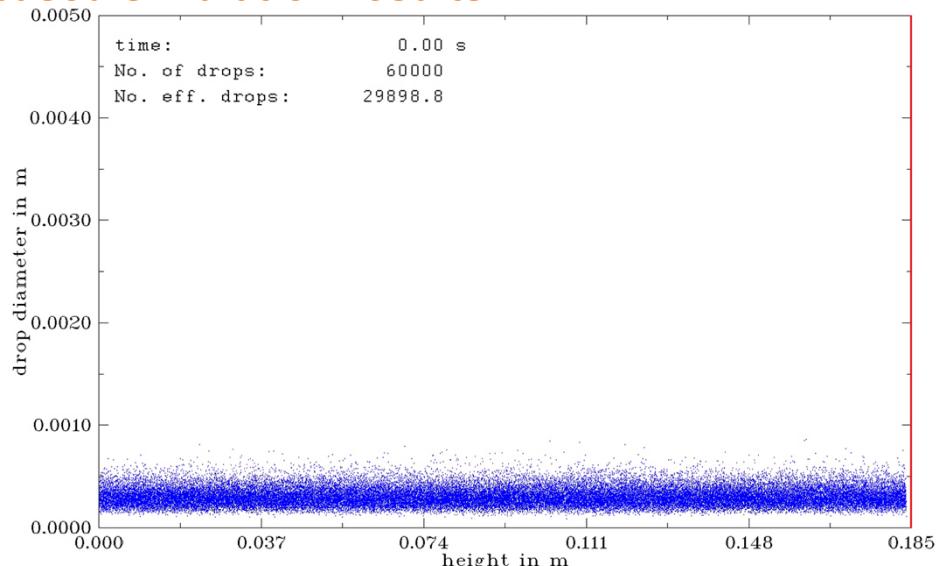
## drop-based simulation results



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## drop-based simulation results



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## conclusions

- lag time: small drops, hardly sediment but coalesce
- densely packed zone
- close-packed zone: drops don't press on interface
- low holdup close to interface
- modeling, simulation: ReDrop (representative drops)
  - drop sedimentation: polydisperse swarm up to high holdup
  - coalescence: Henschke polyhedron model



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## conclusions

- lag time: small drops, hardly sediment but coalesce
- polydisperse swarm: drops sediment only  $\approx 25\%$  individually
- densely packed zone
- close-packed zone: drops don't press on interface
- low holdup close to interface
- modeling, simulation: ReDrop (representative drops)
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Jahrestreffen der ProcessNet Fachgruppen Extraktion, Phytoextrakte und Membrantechnik  
Frankfurt, May 23 to 24, 2022

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