

# Rigidity results for the capillary overdetermined problem

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**Abstract.** In this paper we obtain rigidity results for bounded positive solutions of the general capillary overdetermined problem

$$\begin{cases} \operatorname{div} \left( \frac{\nabla u}{\sqrt{1+|\nabla u|^2}} \right) + f(u) = 0 & \text{in } \Omega, \\ u = 0 & \text{on } \partial\Omega, \\ \partial_\nu u = \kappa & \text{on } \partial\Omega, \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

where  $f$  is a given  $C^1$  function in  $\mathbb{R}$ ,  $\nu$  is the exterior unit normal,  $\kappa$  is a constant and  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  is a  $C^1$  domain. Our main theorem states that if  $n = 2$ ,  $\kappa \neq 0$ ,  $\partial\Omega$  is unbounded and connected,  $|\nabla u|$  is bounded and there exists a nonpositive primitive  $F$  of  $f$  such that  $F(0) \geq (1 + \kappa^2)^{-\frac{1}{2}} - 1$ , then  $\Omega$  must be a half-plane and  $u$  is a parallel solution. In other words, under our assumptions, if a capillary graph has the property that its mean curvature depends only on the height, then it is the graph of a one dimensional function. We also prove the boundedness of the gradient of solutions of (1) when  $f'(u) < 0$ . Moreover we study a Modica type estimate for the overdetermined problem (1) that allows us to prove that, unless  $\Omega$  is a half-space, the mean curvature of  $\partial\Omega$  is strictly negative under the assumption that  $\kappa \neq 0$  and there exists a nonpositive primitive  $F$  of  $f$  such that  $F(0) \geq (1 + \kappa^2)^{-\frac{1}{2}} - 1$ . Our results have an interesting physical application to the classical capillary overdetermined problem, i.e., the case where  $f$  is linear.

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