Solvability of a MEMS model driven by capillarity and pressure effects

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Abstract

We consider the following Dirichlet problem for the singularly perturbed prescribed mean curvature equation:

$$\begin{cases} -(1-bu)\operatorname{div}\left(\frac{\nabla u}{\sqrt{1+|\nabla u|^2}}\right) = \frac{a}{(u-R)^2} + \frac{b}{\sqrt{1+|\nabla u|^2}} & \text{in }\Omega, \\ u = 0 & \text{on }\partial\Omega. \end{cases}$$
(1)

Here a, b, R > 0 are given constants and Ω is a bounded regular domain in \mathbb{R}^N . This model appears in the theory of micro-electro-mechanical systems (MEMS) with capillarity and pressure effects. We investigate the existence and the multiplicity of solutions of problem (1), focusing the attention on the one-dimensional case.

This is a joint work with Colette De Coster, Franco Obersnel and Pierpaolo Omari.