

Cahn-Hilliard-Navier-Stokes model

Governing equations

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{\rho}(\mathbf{u}_t + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{u}) - \hat{\nu} \Delta \mathbf{u} + \nabla p &= \hat{\rho} \mathbf{g} - \varphi \nabla \mu_{\text{ch}}, \\ \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} &= 0, \\ \varphi_t + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \varphi &= \nabla \cdot (M \nabla \mu_{\text{ch}}), \\ \mu_{\text{ch}} &= -\varepsilon \sigma \Delta \varphi + \frac{\sigma}{\varepsilon} \Psi'(\varphi).\end{aligned}$$

with zero boundary conditions for velocity $\mathbf{u}|_{\partial\Omega} = 0$, zero boundary flux of phase $\nabla \varphi \cdot \mathbf{n}|_{\partial\Omega} = 0$ and also zero boundary flux of the chemical potential $M(\varphi) \nabla \mu_{\text{ch}} \cdot \mathbf{n}|_{\partial\Omega} = 0$. Initial conditions were predscribes as no velocity $\mathbf{u}(t=0) = \mathbf{0}$ and circular bubble in the bottom half of the rectangle containing a different phase $\varphi(t=0) = \varphi_0$.

The degenerate mobility is considered to take the simple form $M(\varphi) = M_0 (1 - \varphi)^2 \varphi^2$, and the potential is of the same form, ie. $\Psi(\varphi) = (1 - \varphi)^2 \varphi^2$.

We considered the density, viscosity and other quantities depending on the phase to take the form

$$\hat{\rho}(\varphi) = \begin{cases} \hat{\rho}_1 & , \varphi < 0 \\ \hat{\rho}_1 + (\hat{\rho}_2 - \hat{\rho}_1)\varphi & , 0 \leq \varphi \leq 1, \\ \hat{\rho}_2 & , \varphi > 1. \end{cases}$$

Boundary conditions were chosen such that most of the terms in the weak formulation zero-out and we are left with this simplistic version

$$\begin{aligned}& \int_{\Omega} \hat{\rho} \mathbf{u}_t \cdot \mathbf{v} + \int_{\Omega} \hat{\rho} (\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{u}) \cdot \mathbf{v} + \hat{\nu} \nabla \mathbf{u} : \nabla \mathbf{v} - \int_{\Omega} \hat{\rho} \mathbf{g} \cdot \mathbf{v} + \varphi \mu_{\text{ch}} \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v} + \int_{\Omega} q \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} - p \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v} \\ & + \int_{\Omega} \varphi_t \psi + \int_{\Omega} (\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \varphi) \psi + \int_{\Omega} M \nabla \mu_{\text{ch}} \cdot \nabla \psi + \int_{\Omega} \mu_{\text{ch}} \nu_{\text{ch}} - \varepsilon \sigma \nabla \varphi \cdot \nabla \nu_{\text{ch}} - \frac{\sigma}{\varepsilon} \Psi'(\varphi) \nu_{\text{ch}} = 0\end{aligned}$$

For stability reasons, this systems needs to be computed on a mesh with high detail and some backward method, like the backward Euler. The resulting functional renders

$$\begin{aligned}& \int_{\Omega} \frac{\varphi_{i+1} - \varphi_i}{dt} \psi + \int_{\Omega} (\theta \hat{\rho}(\varphi_{i+1}) + (1 - \theta) \hat{\rho}(\varphi_i)) \frac{\mathbf{u}_{i+1} - \mathbf{u}_i}{dt} \cdot \mathbf{v} \\ & + \theta (F_{\text{phase}} + F_{\text{Navier-Stokes}}) (\mathbf{u}_{i+1}, p_{i+1}, \varphi_{i+1}, \mu_{\text{ch}_{i+1}}) \\ & + (1 - \theta) (F_{\text{phase}} + F_{\text{Navier-Stokes}}) (\mathbf{u}_i, p_i, \varphi_i, \mu_{\text{ch}_i}) \\ & + \int_{\Omega} q \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} + \int_{\Omega} \mu_{\text{ch}} \nu_{\text{ch}} - \varepsilon \sigma \nabla \varphi \cdot \nabla \nu_{\text{ch}} - \frac{\sigma}{\varepsilon} \Psi'(\varphi) \nu_{\text{ch}} = 0\end{aligned}$$