

# Preconditioning for Two-Phase Flows

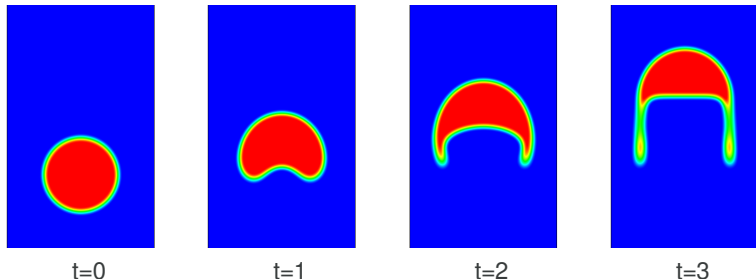
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University of British Columbia

Jointly with Martin Stoll (moving to  
TU Chemnitz) and Christian Kahle  
(TU Munich).

# Motivation

[ABELS/GARCKE/GRÜN '12] proposed a diffuse interface model for incompressible two-phase flows with different densities.

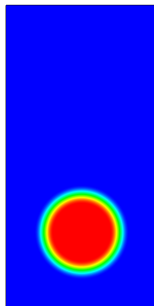


[GARCKE/HINZE/KAHLE '16] developed a thermodynamically consistent discretization scheme for that model.

# Our Contributions

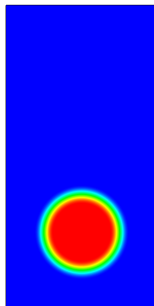
- Fully iterative solution of the large and sparse linear systems.
- Development of robust preconditioners.

- two-phase flow



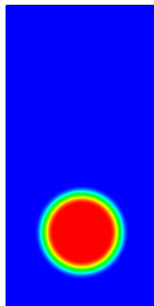
# Setting

- two-phase flow
- two immiscible, incompressible viscous fluids



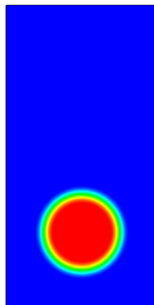
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- different physical properties



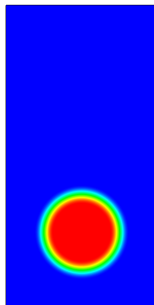
# Setting

- two-phase flow
- two immiscible, incompressible viscous fluids
- different physical properties
  - densities  $\tilde{\rho}_1, \tilde{\rho}_2$
  - viscosities  $\tilde{\eta}_1, \tilde{\eta}_2$



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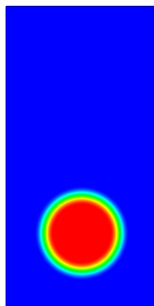
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- diffuse interface model





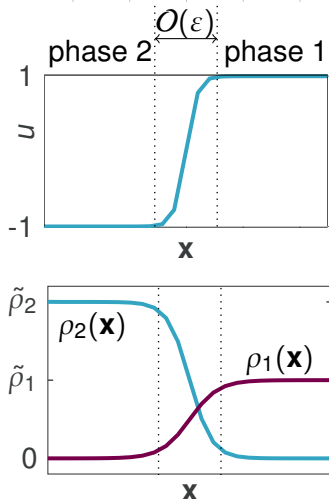
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  - viscosities  $\tilde{\eta}_1, \tilde{\eta}_2$
- diffuse interface model
  - to cope with topological changes



# Diffuse Interface Approach

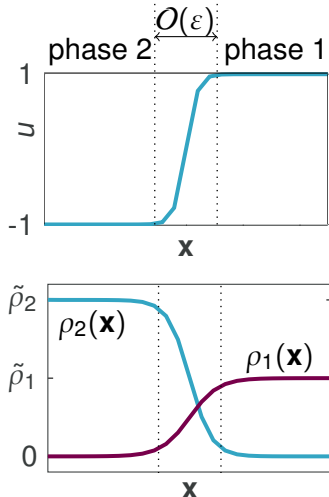
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$$u(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{\rho_1(\mathbf{x})}{\tilde{\rho}_1} - \frac{\rho_2(\mathbf{x})}{\tilde{\rho}_2}$$

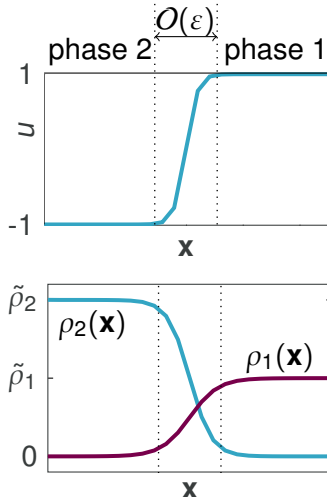


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$$u \in \begin{cases} \{-1\} & \text{if } \mathbf{x} \text{ in phase 2} \\ (-1, 1) & \text{if } \mathbf{x} \text{ in interface} \\ \{1\} & \text{if } \mathbf{x} \text{ in phase 1} \end{cases}$$



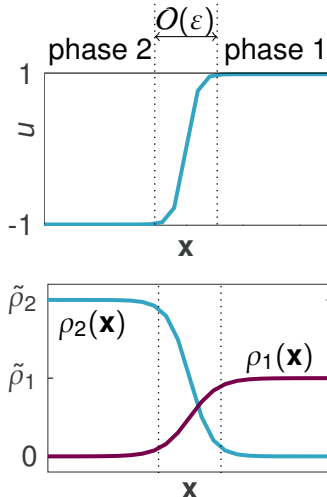
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- interface of small thickness  $O(\varepsilon)$



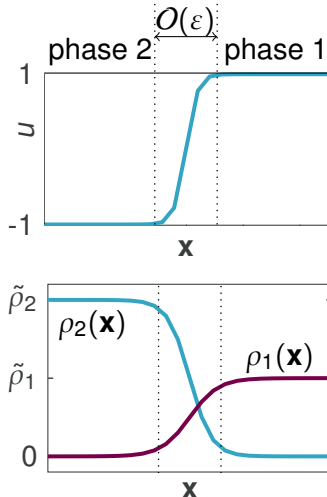
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- interface of small thickness  $O(\varepsilon)$
- mixing inside the interface



## Cahn–Hilliard equations

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t u = \operatorname{div}(m \nabla w) \\ w = -\sigma \varepsilon \Delta u + \sigma \varepsilon^{-1} \psi'_s(u) \end{cases}$$

- $w$  chemical potential
  - $m(u)$  mobility
  - $\sigma$  surface tension
  - $\varepsilon$  interfacial width
  - $\psi_s(u) = \frac{1}{2}(1 - u^2) + \frac{s}{2}(\max^2(0, u - 1) + \min^2(0, u + 1))$
  - $s$  regularization parameter
- **Boundary conditions**
    - $\nabla w \cdot \mathbf{n} = 0$
    - $\nabla u \cdot \mathbf{n} = 0$

## Convective Cahn–Hilliard equations

$$\begin{cases} \mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla u + \partial_t u = \operatorname{div}(m \nabla w) \\ w = -\sigma \varepsilon \Delta u + \sigma \varepsilon^{-1} \psi'_s(u) \end{cases}$$

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  - $s$  regularization parameter
  - $\mathbf{v}$  velocity
- **Boundary conditions**
    - $\nabla w \cdot \mathbf{n} = 0$
    - $\nabla u \cdot \mathbf{n} = 0$



## Navier–Stokes equation

$$\begin{cases} \rho \partial_t \mathbf{v} + ((\rho \mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{v} - \operatorname{div}(2\eta D\mathbf{v})) + \nabla p = \rho \mathbf{g} \\ \operatorname{div} \mathbf{v} = 0 \end{cases}$$

- $\rho(u)$  density
- $\eta(u)$  viscosity
- $\mathbf{g}$  gravitation
- $2D\mathbf{v} = \nabla\mathbf{v} + (\nabla\mathbf{v})^T$  strain tensor
- **Boundary conditions**
  - $\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{f}$  with  $\mathbf{f} \cdot \mathbf{n} = 0$

## Navier–Stokes equation + surface tension force

$$\begin{cases} \rho \partial_t \mathbf{v} + ((\rho \mathbf{v} + \mathbf{J}) \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{v} - \operatorname{div}(2\eta D\mathbf{v}) + \nabla p = \rho \mathbf{g} + w \nabla u \\ \operatorname{div} \mathbf{v} = 0 \end{cases}$$

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- $\mathbf{J} = -\frac{\tilde{\rho}_2 - \tilde{\rho}_1}{2} m(u) \nabla w$
- **Boundary conditions**
  - $\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{f}$  with  $\mathbf{f} \cdot \mathbf{n} = 0$

# Coupled System

Cahn–Hilliard Navier–Stokes system by [ABELS/GARCKE/GRÜN '12]:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \rho \partial_t \mathbf{v} + ((\rho \mathbf{v} + \mathbf{J}) \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{v} - \operatorname{div}(2\eta D\mathbf{v}) + \nabla p = \rho \mathbf{g} + w \nabla u \\ \operatorname{div} \mathbf{v} = 0 \\ \mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla u + \partial_t u = \operatorname{div}(m \nabla w) \\ w = -\sigma \varepsilon \Delta u + \sigma \varepsilon^{-1} \psi'_s(u) \end{array} \right.$$

- $w \nabla u$  capillary force
- $\mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla u$  convection term
- $\mathbf{J} = -\frac{\tilde{\rho}_2 - \tilde{\rho}_1}{2} m(u) \nabla w$  crucial for thermodynamical consistency

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- thermodynamical consistent
- adaptive spatial discretization
- Taylor-Hood LBB-stable  $P2 - P1$  finite elements for the velocity-pressure field
- $P1$  finite elements for the phase field and chemical potential

## Fully coupled linear system

$$\mathcal{A}\mathbf{z} = \left( \begin{array}{ccc|cc} F_{11} & F_{12} & B_1^T & l_1 & 0 \\ F_{21} & F_{22} & B_2^T & l_2 & 0 \\ B_1 & B_2 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \hline 0 & 0 & 0 & C_{11} & C_{12} \\ T_1 & T_2 & 0 & C_{21} & C_{22} \end{array} \right) \begin{pmatrix} \delta v_1 \\ \delta v_2 \\ \delta p \\ \delta w \\ \delta u \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} r_{v_1} \\ r_{v_2} \\ r_p \\ r_w \\ r_u \end{pmatrix}$$

- **F** discrete convection-diffusion operator
- **B** negative discrete divergence operator
- **l** interfacial force coupling
- **T** interfacial transport coupling
- $C_{11}, C_{22}$  mass matrices
- $C_{12}$  diffusion operator + regularization
- $C_{21}$  mobility dependent diffusion operator



# Outer Preconditioner

For our original problem with

$$\mathcal{A} = \left( \begin{array}{ccc|cc} F_{11} & F_{12} & B_1^T & I_1 & 0 \\ F_{21} & F_{22} & B_2^T & I_2 & 0 \\ B_1 & B_2 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \hline 0 & 0 & 0 & C_{11} & C_{12} \\ T_1 & T_2 & 0 & C_{21} & C_{22} \end{array} \right) = \left( \begin{array}{c|c} \mathcal{A}_{NS} & C_I \\ \hline C_T & \mathcal{A}_{CH} \end{array} \right),$$

we consider the right preconditioned matrix  $\mathcal{A}\mathcal{P}_{out}^{-1}$  with

$$\mathcal{P}_{out} = \left( \begin{array}{c|c} \hat{\mathcal{A}}_{NS} & C_I \\ \hline 0 & \hat{\mathcal{S}} \end{array} \right)$$

where  $\hat{\mathcal{A}}_{NS} \approx \mathcal{A}_{NS}$  and  $\hat{\mathcal{S}} \approx \mathcal{S} = \mathcal{A}_{CH} - C_T \mathcal{A}_{NS}^{-1} C_I$ .

## Why is $\mathcal{P}_{out}$ a good starting point?

For any nonsingular matrix of the form

$$\mathcal{K} = \begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{pmatrix},$$

as our coupled problem, [MURPHY/GOLUB/WATHEN '00], [IPSEN '01] showed exactly **one eigenvalue at 1** for the preconditioned system  $\mathcal{K}\mathcal{P}_{\mathcal{K}}^{-1}$  with

$$\mathcal{P}_{\mathcal{K}} = \begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ 0 & D - CA^{-1}B^T \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ 0 & S \end{pmatrix}.$$

## Back to our CH NS Preconditioner

For our original problem with

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# Practical Preconditioner for $\mathcal{A}_{NS}$

For the Navier–Stokes problem

$$\mathcal{A}_{NS} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{F} & \mathbf{B}^T \\ \mathbf{B} & \mathbf{0} \end{pmatrix},$$

[ELMAN/SILVESTER/WATHEN '05] showed

$$\hat{\mathcal{A}}_{NS} = \begin{pmatrix} \hat{\mathbf{F}} & \mathbf{B}^T \\ \mathbf{0} & \hat{\mathbf{S}}_{NS} \end{pmatrix} \quad \hat{\mathbf{S}}_{NS} = A_p F_p^{-1} Q_p$$

as a good practical approximation, where

- $A_p$  pressure space Laplacian
- $F_p$  pressure space convection-diffusion operator
- $Q_p$  pressure space mass matrix

## Back to our CH NS Preconditioner

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# Preconditioner for the Schur complement $\mathcal{S}$

For

$$\mathcal{A} = \left( \begin{array}{c|c} \mathcal{A}_{NS} & C_I \\ \hline C_T & \mathcal{A}_{CH} \end{array} \right) \quad \mathcal{P}_{out} = \left( \begin{array}{c|c} \hat{\mathcal{A}}_{NS} & C_I \\ \hline 0 & \hat{\mathcal{S}} \end{array} \right)$$

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we have that

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{S} &= \mathcal{A}_{CH} - C_T \mathcal{A}_{NS}^{-1} C_I \\ &\approx \mathcal{A}_{CH} - C_T \hat{\mathcal{A}}_{NS}^{-1} C_I \\ &= \mathcal{A}_{CH} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} C_{11} & C_{12} \\ C_{21} & C_{22} \end{pmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

## Practical Preconditioner for $\mathcal{S}$

To solve with the Schur complement approximation

$$\mathcal{A}_{CH} = \begin{pmatrix} C_{11} & C_{12} \\ C_{21} & C_{22} \end{pmatrix} \approx \mathcal{S},$$

we apply preconditioned GMRES as inner iteration, with the inner preconditioner

$$\mathcal{P}_{in} = \begin{pmatrix} C_{11} & C_{12} \\ 0 & -\hat{\mathcal{S}}_{CH} \end{pmatrix}.$$



## Practical Preconditioner for $\mathcal{S}$

In order to approximate the Schur complement

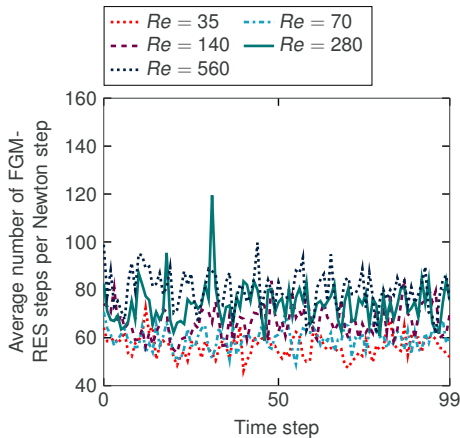
$$S_{CH} = C_{22} - C_{21} C_{11}^{-1} C_{12},$$

we follow the matching strategy, proposed by [PEARSON/WATHEN '12]. We construct an approximation

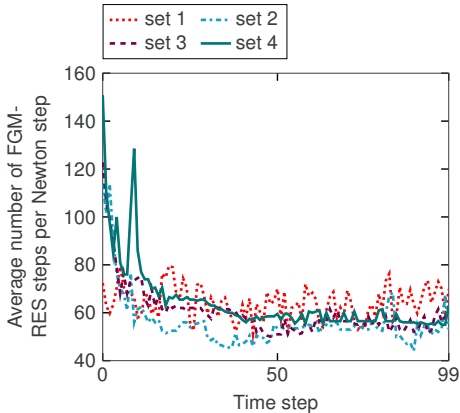
$$\begin{aligned}\hat{S}_{CH} &= (C_{11} + \alpha C_{21}) C_{11}^{-1} (C_{11} - \beta C_{12}) \\ &= C_{22} - \alpha \beta C_{21} C_{11}^{-1} C_{12} + \alpha C_{21} - \beta C_{12}\end{aligned}$$

with  $\alpha, \beta > 0$  being chosen such that the exact Schur complement is captured as close as possible; see [B./KAHLE/STOLL '17].

# Iteration Numbers



(e) Varying the Reynolds number.



(f) Varying a set of parameters.

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- Preconditioning is essential.
- Many well-studied ingredients can be used.
- Numerically robustness w.r.t. the mesh size and Reynolds number (here). In our paper also w.r.t. other parameters.

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