



**Weierstrass Institute for  
Applied Analysis and Stochastics**



# **Non-isothermal two phase flows of incompressible fluids**

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- The motivation
- The PDEs (equations and inequalities)
- The modelling
- The analytical results in 3D - [Eleuteri, R., Schimperna, WIAS preprint no. 1920 (2014)]
- The expected improvements in 2D
- Some open related problems

- A **non-isothermal** model for the flow of a **mixture of two**
  - viscous
  - incompressible
  - Newtonian fluids
  - of equal density
  
- Avoid problems related to interface singularities
  - ⇒ use a **diffuse interface model**
  - ⇒ the classical sharp interface replaced by a **thin interfacial region**
  
- A partial mixing of the macroscopically immiscible fluids is allowed
  - ⇒  $\varphi$  **is the order parameter**, e.g. the concentration difference
  
- The original idea of diffuse interface model for fluids: HOHENBERG and HALPERIN, '77
  - ⇒ **H-model**
  - Later, GURTIN ET AL., '96: continuum mechanical derivation based on microforces
  
- Models of two-phase or two-component fluids are receiving growing attention (e.g., ABELS, BOYER, GARCKE, GRÜN, GRASSELLI, LOWENGRUB, TRUSKINOVSKI, ...)

- **Including temperature dependence is a widely open issue**

Difficulties: getting models which are at the same time *thermodynamically consistent* and *mathematically tractable*

- Our idea: a weak formulation of the system as a combination of *total energy balance* plus *entropy production inequality*  $\implies$  “**Entropic formulation**”

- This method has been recently proposed by [BULÍČEK-MÁLEK-FEIREISL, '09] for the Navier-Stokes-Fourier system and has been proved to be effective to study e.g.

- nonisothermal models for **phase transitions** ([FEIREISL-PETZELTOVÁ-R., '09]) and
- the evolution of **nematic liquid crystals** ([FRÉMOND, FEIREISL, R., SCHIMPERNA, ZARNESCU, '12,'13])

- We want to describe the behavior of a mixture of two incompressible fluids of the same density in terms of the following state variables
  - $\mathbf{u}$ : macroscopic **velocity** (Navier-Stokes),
  - $p$ : **pressure** (Navier-Stokes),
  - $\varphi$ : **order parameter** (Cahn-Hilliard),
  - $\mu$ : **chemical potential** (Cahn-Hilliard),
  - $\theta$ : **absolute temperature** (Entropic formulation).
- We do not neglect convection and capillarity effects. We assume constant mobility and smooth configuration potential in Cahn-Hilliard. We take temperature dependent coefficients wherever possible. We assume the system being insulated from the exterior.

■ a **weak form of the momentum balance**

$$\mathbf{u}_t + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla_x \mathbf{u} + \nabla_x p = \operatorname{div}(\nu(\theta) D\mathbf{u}) - \operatorname{div}(\nabla_x \varphi \otimes \nabla_x \varphi), \quad \operatorname{div} \mathbf{u} = 0;$$

■ the **Cahn-Hilliard system** in  $H^1(\Omega)'$

$$\varphi_t + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla_x \varphi = \Delta \mu, \quad \mu = -\varepsilon \Delta \varphi + \frac{1}{\varepsilon} F'(\varphi) - \theta;$$

■ a **weak form of the total energy balance**

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_t \left( \frac{1}{2} |\mathbf{u}|^2 + e \right) + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla_x \left( \frac{1}{2} |\mathbf{u}|^2 + e \right) + \operatorname{div} (p\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{q} - S\mathbf{u}) \\ - \operatorname{div} (\varepsilon \varphi_t \nabla_x \varphi + \mu \nabla_x \mu) = 0 \quad \text{where} \quad e = \frac{1}{\varepsilon} F(\varphi) + \frac{\varepsilon}{2} |\nabla_x \varphi|^2 + \int_1^\theta c_v(s) \, ds; \end{aligned}$$

■ the weak form of the **entropy production inequality**

$$\begin{aligned} (\Lambda(\theta) + \varphi)_t + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla_x (\Lambda(\theta)) + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla_x \varphi - \operatorname{div} \left( \frac{\kappa(\theta) \nabla_x \theta}{\theta} \right) \\ \geq \frac{\nu(\theta)}{\theta} |D\mathbf{u}|^2 + \frac{1}{\theta} |\nabla_x \mu|^2 + \frac{\kappa(\theta)}{\theta^2} |\nabla_x \theta|^2, \quad \text{where} \quad \Lambda(\theta) = \int_1^\theta \frac{c_v(s)}{s} \, ds. \end{aligned}$$

- We start by specifying two functionals:
  - the **free energy**  $\Psi$ , related to the equilibrium state of the material, and
  - the **dissipation pseudo-potential**  $\Phi$ , describing the processes leading to dissipation of energy (i.e., transformation into heat)
  
- Then we impose the balances of **momentum**, **configuration energy**, and both of **internal energy** and of **entropy**, in terms of these functionals
  
- The **thermodynamical consistency** of the model is then a direct consequence of the solution notion

The **total free energy** is given as a function of the state variables  $E = (\theta, \varphi, \nabla_x \varphi)$

$$\Psi(E) = \int_{\Omega} \psi(E) \, dx, \quad \psi(E) = f(\theta) - \theta\varphi + \frac{\varepsilon}{2} |\nabla_x \varphi|^2 + \frac{1}{\varepsilon} F(\varphi)$$

- $f(\theta)$  is related to the specific heat  $c_v(\theta) = Q'(\theta)$  by  $Q(\theta) = f(\theta) - \theta f'(\theta)$ . In our case we need  $c_v(\theta) \sim c_\delta \theta^\delta$  for some  $\delta \in (1/2, 1)$
- $\varepsilon > 0$  is related to the interfacial thickness
- we need  $F(\varphi)$  to be the classical smooth double well potential  $F(\varphi) \sim \frac{1}{4}(\varphi^2 - 1)^2$



The **dissipation potential** is taken as function of  $\delta E = (D\mathbf{u}, \frac{D\varphi}{Dt}, \nabla_x \theta)$  and  $E$

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi(\delta E, E) &= \int_{\Omega} \phi(D\mathbf{u}, \nabla_x \theta) \, dx + \left\langle \frac{D\varphi}{Dt}, J^{-1} \frac{D\varphi}{Dt} \right\rangle \\ &= \int_{\Omega} \left( \frac{\nu(\theta)}{2} |D\mathbf{u}|^2 + I_{\{0\}}(\operatorname{div} \mathbf{u}) + \frac{\kappa(\theta)}{2\theta} |\nabla_x \theta|^2 \right) \, dx + \left\| \frac{D\varphi}{Dt} \right\|_{H_{\#}^1(\Omega)}^2 \end{aligned}$$

- $D\mathbf{u} = (\nabla_x \mathbf{u} + \nabla_x^t \mathbf{u})/2$  the symmetric gradient
- $\frac{D(\cdot)}{Dt} = (\cdot)_t + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla_x (\cdot)$  the material derivative
- $J : H_{\#}^1(\Omega) \rightarrow H_{\#}^1(\Omega)'$  the **Riesz isomorphism**  
 $\langle Ju, v \rangle := ((u, v))_{H_{\#}^1(\Omega)} := \int_{\Omega} \nabla_x u \cdot \nabla_x v \, dx,$   
 $H_{\#}^1(\Omega) = \{ \xi \in H^1(\Omega) : \bar{\xi} := |\Omega|^{-1} \int_{\Omega} \xi \, dx = 0 \}$
- $\nu = \nu(\theta) > 0$  the viscosity coefficient,  $\kappa = \kappa(\theta) > 0$  the heat conductivity
- **Incompressibility:**  $I_0$  the indicator function of  $\{0\}$ :  $I_0 = 0$  if  $\operatorname{div} \mathbf{u} = 0$ ,  $+\infty$  otherwise)

- The **dissipation potential** was taken as

$$\Phi = \Phi \left( D\mathbf{u}, \frac{D\varphi}{Dt}, \nabla_x \theta \right) = \int_{\Omega} \phi(D\mathbf{u}, \nabla_x \theta) dx + \left\langle \frac{D\varphi}{Dt}, J^{-1} \frac{D\varphi}{Dt} \right\rangle$$

- If a time-dependent set of variables is given such that
  - a.e. in  $(0, T)$ ,  $\Psi$  and  $\Phi$  are finite
  - $\mathbf{u}$  is such that  $\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{n} = 0$  on  $\Gamma$
  - $\varphi$  satisfies the **mass conservation constraint**  $\varphi(t, x) = \varphi(0, x) = \varphi_0(x)$  a.e.

then  $\mathbf{u}$  is divergence-free and we get

$$\int_{\Omega} \frac{D\varphi}{Dt} = \int_{\Omega} (\varphi_t + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla_x \varphi) dx = 0$$

- Then we can set  $\mu_{\#} := -J^{-1} \frac{D\varphi}{Dt}$ , so that  $\frac{D\varphi}{Dt} = -J\mu_{\#} = \Delta\mu_{\#}$  and we get

$$\Phi(\delta E, E) = \int_{\Omega} \tilde{\phi}(\delta E, E) dx, \quad \text{where } \tilde{\phi}(\delta E, E) = \phi(\delta E, E) + \frac{1}{2} |\nabla_x \mu_{\#}|^2$$

- It is obtained (at least for no-flux b.c.'s) as the following **gradient-flow problem**

$$\partial_{L^2_{\#}(\Omega), \frac{D\varphi}{Dt}} \Phi + \partial_{L^2_{\#}(\Omega), \varphi_{\#}} \Psi = 0$$

where  $L^2_{\#}(\Omega) = \{\xi \in L^2(\Omega) : \bar{\xi} := |\Omega|^{-1} \int_{\Omega} \xi \, dx = 0\}$ ,  $\varphi_{\#} = \varphi - \bar{\varphi}_0$

- Combining the previous relations we then get

$$J^{-1} \left( \frac{D\varphi}{Dt} \right) = \varepsilon \Delta \varphi - \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \left( F'(\varphi) - \overline{F'(\varphi)} \right) + \theta - \bar{\theta}, \quad \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial \mathbf{n}} = 0 \text{ on } \Gamma, \quad \bar{\varphi}(t) = \bar{\varphi}_0$$

- Applying the distributional Laplace operator to both hand sides and noting that  $-\Delta J^{-1}v = v$  for any  $v \in L^2_{\#}(\Omega)$ , we then arrive at **the Cahn-Hilliard system with Neumann hom. b.c. for  $\mu$  and  $\varphi$**

$$\frac{D\varphi}{Dt} = \Delta \mu, \quad \mu = -\varepsilon \Delta \varphi + \frac{1}{\varepsilon} F'(\varphi) - \theta, \quad \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial \mathbf{n}} = \frac{\partial \mu}{\partial \mathbf{n}} = 0 \text{ on } \Gamma \quad (\text{CahnHill})$$

where the auxiliary variable  $\mu$  takes the name of *chemical potential*

The **Navier-Stokes system** is obtained as a momentum balance by setting

$$\frac{D\mathbf{u}}{Dt} = \mathbf{u}_t + \operatorname{div}(\mathbf{u} \otimes \mathbf{u}) = \operatorname{div} \boldsymbol{\sigma}, \quad (\text{momentum})$$

The **Navier-Stokes system** is obtained as a momentum balance by setting

$$\frac{D\mathbf{u}}{Dt} = \mathbf{u}_t + \operatorname{div}(\mathbf{u} \otimes \mathbf{u}) = \operatorname{div}(\boldsymbol{\sigma}^d + \boldsymbol{\sigma}^{nd}), \quad (\text{momentum})$$

where the stress  $\boldsymbol{\sigma}$  is split into its

- **dissipative part**

$$\boldsymbol{\sigma}^d := \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial D\mathbf{u}} = \nu(\theta) D\mathbf{u} - p\mathbb{I}, \quad \operatorname{div} \mathbf{u} = 0,$$

representing kinetic energy which **dissipates** (i.e. is transformed into heat) due to viscosity, and its

- **non-dissipative part**  $\boldsymbol{\sigma}^{nd}$  to be determined later in agreement with Thermodynamics

The balance of internal energy takes the form

$$\frac{De}{Dt} + \operatorname{div} \mathbf{q} = \nu(\theta) |\mathbf{Du}|^2 + \sigma^{nd} : \mathbf{Du} + B \frac{D\varphi}{Dt} + \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial \nabla_x \varphi} \cdot \nabla_x \frac{D\varphi}{Dt} + \boxed{N}$$

where  $e = \psi - \theta \psi_\theta$ ,  $B = B^{nd} + B^d$  and

$$B^{nd} = \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial \varphi} = \frac{1}{\varepsilon} F'(\varphi) - \theta, \quad B^d = \partial_{L^2_{\#}(\Omega), \frac{D\varphi}{Dt}} \Phi = J^{-1} \left( \frac{D\varphi}{Dt} \right)$$

On the right hand side there appears a new (with respect to the standard theory of [FRÉMOND, '02]) term  $\boxed{N}$  balancing the **nonlocal dependence of the last term in the pseudopotential of dissipation**  $\Phi$

$$\Phi = \Phi \left( \mathbf{Du}, \frac{D\varphi}{Dt} \right) = \int_{\Omega} \phi \, dx + \left\langle \frac{D\varphi}{Dt}, J^{-1} \frac{D\varphi}{Dt} \right\rangle$$

It will result from the Second Principle of Thermodynamics that  $\int_{\Omega} N(x) \, dx = 0$ , in agreement with natural expectations

To deduce the expressions for  $\sigma^{nd}$  and  $N$ , we impose validity of the **Clausius-Duhem inequality** in the form

$$\theta \left( \frac{Ds}{Dt} + \operatorname{div} \left( \frac{\mathbf{q}}{\theta} \right) \right) \geq 0$$

where  $e = \psi + \theta s$ , being  $s = -\psi_\theta$  the entropy density and we get

$$\sigma^{nd} = -\varepsilon \nabla_x \varphi \otimes \nabla_x \varphi, \quad N = \frac{1}{2} \Delta (\mu - \bar{\mu})^2$$

and the internal energy balance can be rewritten as

$$(Q(\theta))_t + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla_x Q(\theta) + \theta \frac{D\varphi}{Dt} - \operatorname{div}(\kappa(\theta) \nabla_x \theta) = \nu(\theta) |D\mathbf{u}|^2 + |\nabla_x \mu|^2$$

where  $Q(\theta) = f(\theta) - \theta f'(\theta)$  and  $Q'(\theta) =: c_v(\theta)$

The **dissipation** terms on the right hand side are in perfect agreement with  $\Phi$

$$\Phi = \int_{\Omega} \tilde{\phi} \, dx, \quad \text{where } \tilde{\phi} = \phi + \frac{1}{2} |\nabla_x \mu|^2$$

Following [BULÍČEK, FEIREISL, & MÁLEK], we replace the pointwise internal energy balance by the **total energy balance**

$$\begin{aligned} (\partial_t + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla_x) \left( \frac{|\mathbf{u}|^2}{2} + e \right) + \operatorname{div} (p\mathbf{u} - \kappa(\theta)\nabla_x\theta - (\nu(\theta)D\mathbf{u})\mathbf{u}) \\ = \operatorname{div} (\varphi_t\nabla_x\varphi + \mu\nabla_x\mu) \end{aligned} \quad (\text{energy})$$

with the internal energy

$$e = F(\varphi) + \frac{1}{2}|\nabla_x\varphi|^2 + Q(\theta) \quad Q'(\theta) = c_v(\theta)$$

and the **entropy inequality**

$$\begin{aligned} (\Lambda(\theta) + \varphi)_t + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla_x(\Lambda(\theta) + \varphi) - \operatorname{div} \left( \frac{\kappa(\theta)\nabla_x\theta}{\theta} \right) \\ \geq \frac{\nu(\theta)}{\theta}|D\mathbf{u}|^2 + \frac{1}{\theta}|\nabla_x\mu|^2 + \frac{\kappa(\theta)}{\theta^2}|\nabla_x\theta|^2, \quad \text{where } \Lambda(\theta) = \int_1^\theta \frac{c_v(s)}{s} ds \sim \theta^\delta \end{aligned} \quad (\text{entropy})$$



- a **weak form of the momentum balance** (in distributional sense)

$$\mathbf{u}_t + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla_x \mathbf{u} + \nabla_x p = \operatorname{div}(\nu(\theta) D\mathbf{u}) - \operatorname{div}(\nabla_x \varphi \otimes \nabla_x \varphi), \quad \operatorname{div} \mathbf{u} = 0;$$

- the **Cahn-Hilliard system** in  $H^1(\Omega)'$

$$\varphi_t + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla_x \varphi = \Delta \mu, \quad \mu = -\Delta \varphi + F'(\varphi) - \theta;$$

- a **weak form of the total energy balance** (in distributional sense)

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_t \left( \frac{1}{2} |\mathbf{u}|^2 + e \right) + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla_x \left( \frac{1}{2} |\mathbf{u}|^2 + e \right) + \operatorname{div} (p\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{q} - S\mathbf{u}) \\ - \operatorname{div} (\varphi_t \nabla_x \varphi + \mu \nabla_x \mu) = 0 \quad \text{where} \quad e = F(\varphi) + \frac{1}{2} |\nabla_x \varphi|^2 + \int_1^\theta c_v(s) ds; \end{aligned}$$

- the weak form of the **entropy production inequality**

$$\begin{aligned} (\Lambda(\theta) + \varphi)_t + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla_x (\Lambda(\theta)) + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla_x \varphi - \operatorname{div} \left( \frac{\kappa(\theta) \nabla_x \theta}{\theta} \right) \\ \geq \frac{\nu(\theta)}{\theta} |D\mathbf{u}|^2 + \frac{1}{\theta} |\nabla_x \mu|^2 + \frac{\kappa(\theta)}{\theta^2} |\nabla_x \theta|^2, \quad \text{where} \quad \Lambda(\theta) = \int_1^\theta \frac{c_v(s)}{s} ds. \end{aligned}$$

- In order to get a tractable system in 3D, we need to specify assumptions on coefficients in a careful way:
  - The **viscosity**  $\nu(\theta)$  is assumed **smooth and bounded**
  - The **specific heat**  $c_v(\theta) \sim \theta^\delta$ ,  $1/2 < \delta < 1$
  - The **heat conductivity**  $\kappa(\theta) \sim 1 + \theta^\beta$ ,  $\beta \geq 2$
  - The potential  $F(\varphi) = \frac{1}{4}(\varphi^2 - 1)^2$
- Concerning B.C.'s, our results are proved for **no-flux** conditions for  $\theta$ ,  $\varphi$ , and  $\mu$  and **complete slip** conditions for  $\mathbf{u}$

$$\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{n}|_\Gamma = 0 \quad (\text{the fluid cannot exit } \Omega, \text{ it can move tangentially to } \Gamma)$$

$$[\mathbb{S}\mathbf{n}] \times \mathbf{n}|_\Gamma = 0, \quad \text{where } \mathbb{S} = \nu(\theta)D\mathbf{u} \quad (\text{exclude friction effects with the boundary})$$

They can be easily extended to the case of periodic B.C.'s for all unknowns

## Theorem

We can prove existence of **at least one global in time weak solution**  $(\mathbf{u}, \varphi, \mu, \theta)$

$$\mathbf{u} \in L^\infty(0, T; L^2(\Omega; \mathbb{R}^3)) \cap L^2(0, T; \mathbf{V}_n)$$

$$\varphi \in L^\infty(0, T; H^1(\Omega)) \cap L^2(0, T; H^3(\Omega)) \cap H^1(0, T; H^1(\Omega)')$$

$$\mu \in L^2(0, T; H^1(\Omega)) \cap L^{\frac{14}{5}}((0, T) \times \Omega)$$

$$\theta \in L^\infty(0, T; L^{\delta+1}(\Omega)) \cap L^\beta(0, T; L^{3\beta}(\Omega)) \cap L^2(0, T; H^1(\Omega))$$

$$\theta > 0 \text{ a.e. in } (0, T) \times \Omega, \quad \log \theta \in L^2(0, T; H^1(\Omega))$$

to system given by (momentum), (CahnHill), (entropy) and (energy), in distributional sense and for finite-energy initial data

$$\mathbf{u}_0 \in L^2(\Omega), \quad \operatorname{div} \mathbf{u}_0 = 0, \quad \varphi_0 \in H^1(\Omega), \quad \theta_0 \in L^{\delta+1}(\Omega), \quad \theta_0 > 0 \text{ a.e.}$$

- Existence proof based on a classical **a-priori estimates** – **compactness** scheme
- The basic information is contained in the **energy** and **entropy** relations
- Note that the **power-like** growth of the heat conductivity and of the specific heat is required in order to provide sufficient **summability** of the temperature

### Is this sufficient to pass to the limit?

- The **total energy balance** contains some nasty extra terms  $\varphi_t \nabla_x \varphi + \mu \nabla_x \mu$ . In particular,  $\varphi_t$  lies only in some **negative order** space (cf. (CahnHill))
- Using (CahnHill) and integrating by parts carefully the bad terms transform into

$$\begin{aligned} & -\Delta \mu^2 + \operatorname{div}((\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla_x \varphi) \nabla_x \varphi) \\ & + \operatorname{div}(\nabla_x \mu \cdot \nabla_x \nabla_x \varphi) - \operatorname{div} \operatorname{div}(\nabla_x \mu \otimes \nabla_x \varphi) \end{aligned}$$

- The above terms can be controlled by getting some **extra-integrability** of  $\varphi$  and  $\mu$  from (CahnHill). To this aim having a “**smooth**” **potential**  $F$  is crucial!

- Is it possible to say something more in the **2D-case**?
- In particular, it would be interesting to see if one might deal with “**strong**” solutions. Moreover, we would like to drop some restriction on coefficients
- Let us make one test: in 2D the “extra stress”  $\operatorname{div}(\nabla_x \varphi \otimes \nabla_x \varphi)$  **in (momentum)**

$$\mathbf{u}_t + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla_x \mathbf{u} + \nabla_x p = \operatorname{div}(D\mathbf{u}) - \operatorname{div}(\nabla_x \varphi \otimes \nabla_x \varphi)$$

**lies in  $L^2$**  as a consequence of the estimates

- Hence, there is hope to get extra-regularity **for constant viscosity  $\nu$**  (i.e., independent of temperature)
- Indeed we get  $\mathbf{u}_t \in L^2(0, T; L^2(\Omega))$  and  $\mathbf{u} \in L^\infty(0, T; H^1(\Omega)) \cap L^2(0, T; H^2(\Omega))$

- Constant viscosity  $\nu = 1$
- Constant specific heat  $c_v = 1$  (in other words,  $f(\theta) = -\theta \log \theta$ )
- Power-like conductivity (for simplicity  $\kappa(\theta) = \theta^2$ )
- Periodic boundary conditions

## Theorem

We can prove existence of at least one “strong” solution to system given by

$$\mathbf{u}_t + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla_x \mathbf{u} + \nabla_x p = \operatorname{div}(D\mathbf{u}) - \operatorname{div}(\nabla_x \varphi \otimes \nabla_x \varphi) \quad (\text{mom})$$

$$\varphi_t + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla_x \varphi = \Delta \mu \quad (\text{CH1})$$

$$\mu = -\Delta \varphi + F'(\varphi) - \theta \quad (\text{CH2})$$

$$\theta_t + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla_x \theta + \theta(\varphi_t + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla_x \varphi) - \Delta \theta^3 = |D\mathbf{u}|^2 + |\nabla_x \mu|^2 \quad (\text{heat})$$

for finite-energy initial data, namely

$$\mathbf{u}_0 \in H_{\text{per}}^1(\Omega), \quad \operatorname{div} \mathbf{u}_0 = 0,$$

$$\varphi_0 \in H_{\text{per}}^3(\Omega),$$

$$\theta_0 \in H_{\text{per}}^1(\Omega), \quad \theta_0 > 0 \text{ a.e.}, \quad \log \theta_0 \in L^1(\Omega)$$

- Is the proof just a standard regularity argument? **NO!**
- The main issue is the estimation of  $|\nabla_x \mu|^2$  in (heat). From the previous a-priori estimate, this is **only in  $L^1$**
- If one differentiates the Cahn-Hilliard system:

- $(\text{CH1})_t \times (-\Delta)^{-1} \varphi_t$

$$\varphi_{tt} + \mathbf{u}_t \cdot \nabla_x \varphi + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla_x \varphi_t = \Delta \mu_t \quad \boxed{\times (-\Delta)^{-1} \varphi_t}$$

- plus  $(\text{CH2})_t \times \varphi_t$

$$\mu_t = -\Delta \varphi_t + F''(\varphi) \varphi_t - \theta_t \quad \boxed{\times \varphi_t}$$

then one faces the term  $\theta_t \varphi_t$  and no estimate is available for  $\theta_t$

- Only possibility, to **test (heat) by  $\varphi_t$**

$$\theta_t + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla_x \theta + \theta(\varphi_t + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla_x \varphi) - \Delta \theta^3 = |D\mathbf{u}|^2 + |\nabla_x \mu|^2 \quad \boxed{\times \varphi_t}$$

to let it disappear



- Try  $(CH1)_t \times (-\Delta)^{-1} \varphi_t$

$$\varphi_{tt} + \mathbf{u}_t \cdot \nabla_x \varphi + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla_x \varphi_t = \Delta \mu_t \quad \times (-\Delta)^{-1} \varphi_t$$

- plus  $(CH2)_t \times \varphi_t$

$$\mu_t = -\Delta \varphi_t + F''(\varphi) \varphi_t - \theta_t \quad \times \varphi_t$$

- plus (heat)  $\times (\theta^3 + \varphi_t)$

$$\theta_t + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla_x \theta + \theta(\varphi_t + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla_x \varphi) - \Delta \theta^3 = |D\mathbf{u}|^2 + |\nabla_x \mu|^2 \quad \times (\theta^3 + \varphi_t)$$

- getting

$$\frac{d}{dt} (\|\nabla_x \mu\|_{L^2}^2 + \|\theta\|_{L^4}^4) + \|\varphi_t\|_{H^1}^2 + \|\theta^3\|_{H^1}^2 \leq c \int_{\Omega} |\nabla_x \mu|^2 |\varphi_t + \theta^3| dx + \text{l.o.t.}$$

where l.o.t. can be easily handled

Having the inequality

$$\frac{d}{dt} (\|\nabla_x \mu\|_{L^2}^2 + \|\theta\|_{L^4}^4) + \|\varphi_t\|_{H^1}^2 + \|\theta^3\|_{H^1}^2 \leq c \int_{\Omega} |\nabla_x \mu|^2 |\varphi_t + \theta^3| dx + \text{l.o.t.}$$

- one has now to deal with  $|\nabla_x \mu|^2 |\varphi_t + \theta^3|$
- The only way to control it seems the following one:

$$\int_{\Omega} |\varphi_t + \theta^3| |\nabla_x \mu|^2 \leq \|\varphi_t + \theta^3\|_{H^1} \|\|\nabla_x \mu\|^2\|_{(H^1)'}$$

- In 2D we have that  $L^p \subset (H^1)'$  for all  $p > 1$ . But, then, one goes on with

$$\leq \epsilon \|\varphi_t + \theta^3\|_{H^1}^2 + c_{\epsilon} \|\nabla_x \mu\|_{L^{2p}}^4$$

**which is bad!**

- We know, however, that

$$\|v\|_{L^q} \leq cq^{1/2} \|v\|_{H^1} \quad \text{for all } v \in H^1(\Omega), q < \infty$$

- Passing to the dual inequality, we infer

$$\|\xi\|_{(H^1)^*} \leq cq^{1/2} \|\xi\|_{L^p} \quad \text{for all } \xi \in L^p(\Omega), p > 1, q = p^*$$

- Interpolating and optimizing w.r.t.  $q$ , we arrive at

$$\|\xi\|_{(H^1)^*} \leq c \|\xi\|_{L^1} (1 + \log^{1/2} \|\xi\|_{L^2}) \quad \text{for all } \xi \in L^2(\Omega)$$

Applying the above to  $\xi = |\nabla_x \mu|^2$ , we get a differential inequality of the form

$$\frac{d}{dt} (\|\nabla_x \mu\|_{L^2}^2 + \|\theta\|_{L^4}^4) + \|\varphi_t\|_{H^1}^2 + \|\theta^3\|_{H^1}^2 \leq c \|\nabla_x \mu\|_{L^2}^2 (\|\nabla_x \mu\|_{L^2}^2 \log \|\nabla_x \mu\|_{L^2}^2) + \dots$$

Hence, we get a **global estimate** thanks to a (generalized) Gronwall lemma

- Uniqueness in 2D



- Convergence to equilibria in 2D. Existence of attractors



- Allen-Cahn-type models



- Singular potentials in Cahn-Hilliard (or Allen-Cahn)



- Non-isothermal nonlocal models

