

Convergence of thresholding energies for anisotropic MCF on inhomogeneous obstacle

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Taming Complexity in
Partial Differential Systems



京都大学
KYOTO UNIVERSITY



Outline

- Setting and model derivation
- The MBO scheme and the approximate energies
- The Γ -convergence result



Evolution by mean curvature flow

MCF of $(d-1)$ -dimensional manifolds $(M_t)_t \subset \mathbb{R}^d$

$$\underbrace{V}_{\text{normal velocity}} = - \underbrace{H}_{\text{mean curvature}}$$

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L^2 -gradient flow of the area functional

$$\langle dE, V \rangle = -\frac{d}{dt} \left(\int_{M_t} d\mathcal{H}^{d-1} \right) = - \int_{M_t} HV d\mathcal{H}^{d-1}$$

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isotropic
homogeneous

$$\psi = |\nu|$$

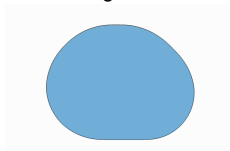
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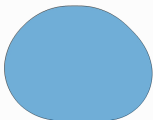
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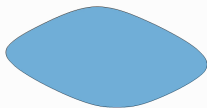
$$\langle dE, V \rangle = - \frac{d}{dt} \left(\int_{M_t} \psi(x, \nu) d\mathcal{H}^{d-1} \right) = - \int_{M_t} H_\psi V d\mathcal{H}^{d-1}$$

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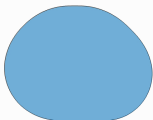
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$$\underbrace{V}_{\text{normal velocity}} = - \underbrace{H}_{\text{mean curvature}} + \underbrace{\Lambda}_{\text{volume preservation}}$$

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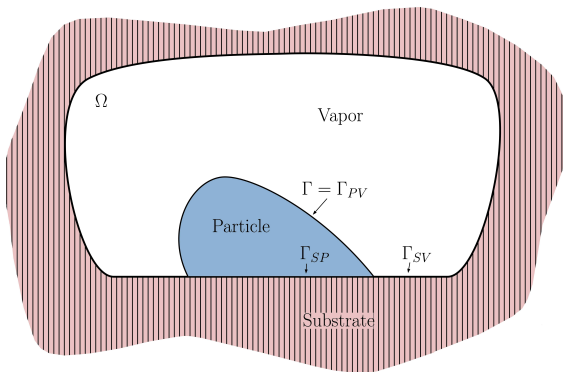
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Setting and model derivation

What's our problem?



2 phases with obstacle:

- Particle P
- Vapor V
- Fixed substrate S
- $\Omega := \mathbb{R}^d \setminus S$ bounded

$$E(P) = \int_{\Gamma} \psi \, d\mathcal{H}^{d-1} + \int_{\partial P \cap \partial S} \gamma_{SP} \, d\mathcal{H}^{d-1} + \int_{\partial V \cap \partial S} \gamma_{SV} \, d\mathcal{H}^{d-1}$$

$$E(P) = \int_{\Gamma} \psi \, d\mathcal{H}^{d-1} + \int_{\partial P \cap \partial S} \sigma \, d\mathcal{H}^{d-1} \quad \sigma := \gamma_{SP} - \gamma_{SV}$$



First variation of the energy

- $\psi = \psi(x, \nu) \in C^2(\overline{\Omega} \times \mathbb{R}^d \setminus \{0\})$, $\psi^2(x, \cdot)$ is convex, 1-homogeneous, and such that $c_\psi |\nu| \leq \psi(x, \nu) \leq C_\psi |\nu|$ [Bellettini-Paolini, '96]
- $\sigma = \sigma(x) \in C^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$

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$$\frac{d}{dt} E(P_t) \Big|_{t=0} = \int_{\Gamma} H_\psi \xi \cdot \nu \, d\mathcal{H}^{d-1} + \int_{\partial \Gamma} \psi \xi_\tau \cdot b_P \, d\mathcal{H}^{d-2} + \int_{\partial \Gamma} \sigma \xi_\tau \cdot b_S \, d\mathcal{H}^{d-2}$$

where H_ψ is the **anisotropic** mean curvature

$$H_\psi = \operatorname{div}(\nabla_\nu \psi)$$

and ξ_τ is the tangential component of ξ , i.e., $\xi_\tau \cdot \nu = 0$

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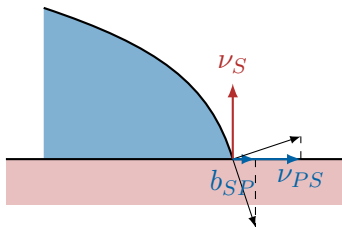
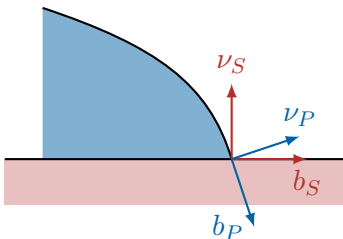
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Corresponding (volume preserving) gradient flow equation

$$V = \begin{cases} -(H_\psi - \Lambda) & \text{on } \Gamma \\ 0 & \text{on } \partial P \cap \partial S \end{cases}$$

Herring angle condition

$$\psi b_{PS} - (\nabla_\nu \psi \cdot b_P) \nu_{PS} + \sigma b_S = 0 \quad \text{on } \partial \Gamma$$





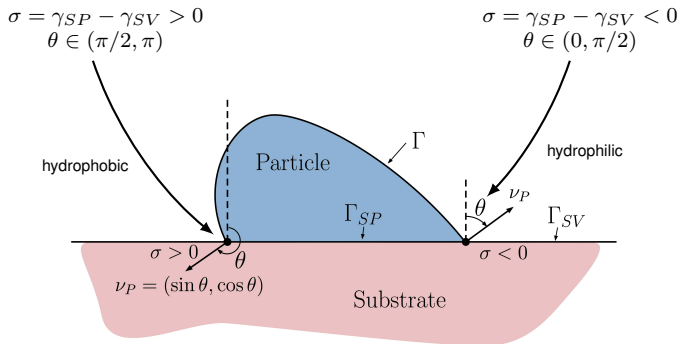
The Herring angle condition

$$\psi b_{PS} - (\nabla_\nu \psi \cdot b_P) \nu_{PS} + \sigma b_S = 0 \quad \xRightarrow{\psi(x, \nu) = \psi(x, \theta)} \quad \psi \cos \theta - \psi_\theta \sin \theta + \sigma = 0$$

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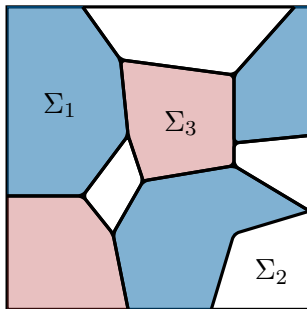
Isotropic cases (classical Young's equation)

$$\psi \cos \theta + \sigma = 0$$



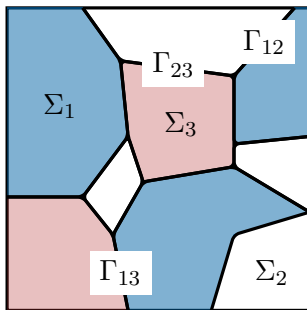
The MBO scheme and the approximate energies

The classical MBO scheme



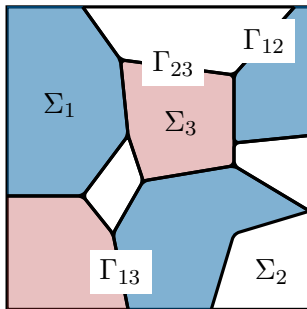
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The classical MBO scheme



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- Interfaces $\Gamma_{ij} := \partial \Sigma_i \cap \partial \Sigma_j$
- Surface densities $(\gamma_{ij})_{i,j=1}^3 \in \mathbb{R}^{3 \times 3}$ with $\gamma_{ii} = 0$ and $\gamma_{ij} = \gamma_{ji}$

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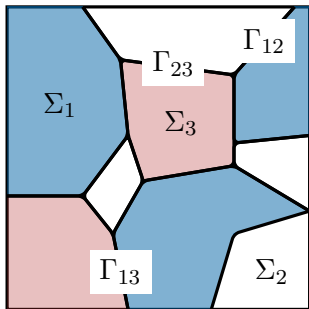


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$$V_{ij} = -H_{ij} \quad \text{on } \Gamma_{ij}$$

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Minimizing movements scheme

Time-discretization $0 = t_0 < \dots < t_k = kh < \dots < N_h h = T$

$$u^k = (u_1^k, u_2^k, u_3^k) \in \arg \min_{u \in BV(\mathbb{T}^d; [0,1]^3)} \left\{ E_h(u) + \frac{1}{2h} d_h^2(u, u^{k-1}) \mid \sum_{i=1}^3 u_i^k = 1 \right\}$$

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$$E_h(u) := \frac{1}{2\sqrt{h}} \sum_{i,j=1}^3 \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} \gamma_{ij} u_i G_h * u_j \, dx \quad \frac{1}{2h} d_h^2(u, u^{k-1}) := -E_h(u - u^{k-1})$$

$$G_h(x) = \sqrt{\pi} (4\pi h)^{-d/2} e^{-|x|^2/4h}$$



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MBO scheme [Laux-Otto, '16]

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The classical approximate energy

$$E(u) := \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j=1}^3 \int_{\Gamma_{ij}} \gamma_{ij} \, d\mathcal{H}^{d-1} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j=1}^3 \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} \gamma_{ij} (|\nabla u_i| + |\nabla u_j| - |\nabla(u_i + u_j)|)$$

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$$\Gamma(s-L^1(\mathbb{T}^d)) \uparrow \text{ [Esedoglu-Otto, '15]}$$

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Triangular inequalities

$$\gamma_{ij} \leq \gamma_{ik} + \gamma_{kj} \text{ for every } i, j, k \in \{1, 2, 3\}$$

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$$\Gamma(s - L^1(\mathbb{T}^d)) \uparrow \text{ [C.-Švadlenka, '25]}$$

$$E_h(u) := \frac{1}{2\sqrt{h}} \sum_{i,j=1}^3 \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} \tilde{\gamma}_{ij}(x) u_i K_h * u_j \, dx$$

Triangular inequalities

$$\tilde{\gamma}_{ij}(x) \leq \tilde{\gamma}_{ik}(x) + \tilde{\gamma}_{kj}(x) \text{ for every } i, j, k \in \{1, 2, 3\}, x \in \mathbb{T}^d$$

Surface tensions: Idea

$$E(u) := \int_{\Gamma} \gamma_{PV}(x) \gamma(\nu) \, d\mathcal{H}^{d-1} + \int_{\Gamma_{SP}} \frac{\gamma_{SP}(x)}{\gamma(\nu)} \gamma(\nu) \, d\mathcal{H}^{d-1} + \int_{\Gamma_{SV}} \frac{\gamma_{SV}(x)}{\gamma(\nu)} \gamma(\nu) \, d\mathcal{H}^{d-1}$$

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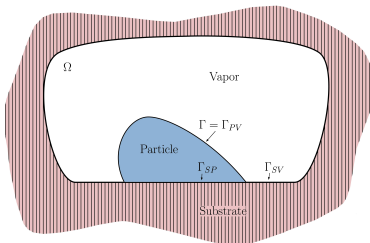
Idea

$$\tilde{\gamma}_{SP}(x) := \frac{\gamma_{SP}(x)}{\gamma(\nu_S(x))}, \quad \tilde{\gamma}_{SV}(x) := \frac{\gamma_{SV}(x)}{\gamma(\nu_S(x))}, \quad x \in \partial S = \Gamma_{SP} \cup \Gamma_{SV}$$

Idea

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$$E(u) = \int_{\Gamma} \gamma(\nu) \gamma_{PV}(x) d\mathcal{H}^{d-1} + \int_{\Gamma_{SP}} \gamma_{SP}(x) d\mathcal{H}^{d-1} + \int_{\Gamma_{SV}} \gamma_{SV}(x) d\mathcal{H}^{d-1}$$

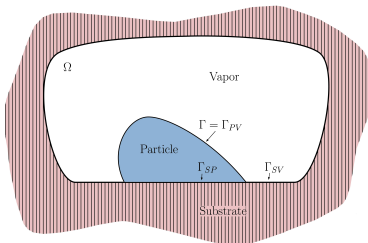


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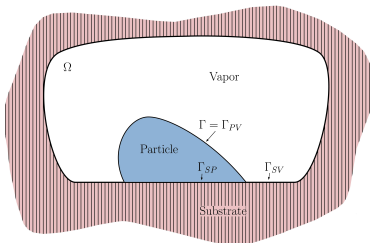


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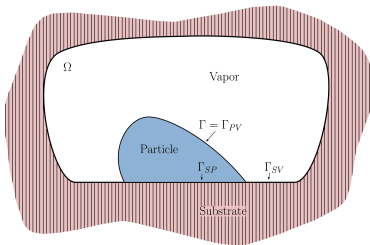
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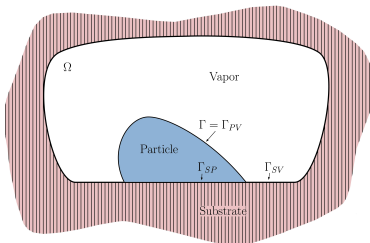
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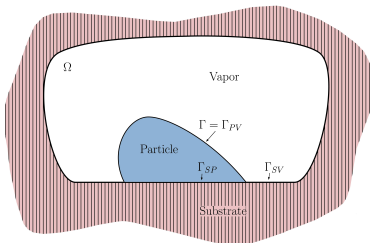
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$$\begin{cases} \Delta \tilde{\gamma}_{PV} = 0 & \text{in } \mathbb{T}^d \setminus \Omega \\ \tilde{\gamma}_{PV} = \gamma_{PV} & \text{on } \partial\Omega = \partial S \end{cases}$$

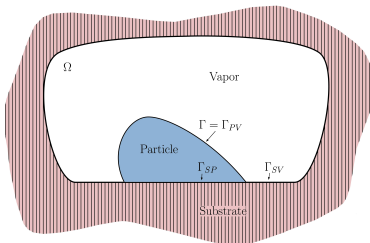
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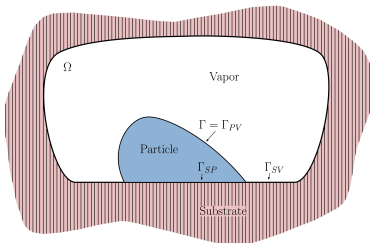
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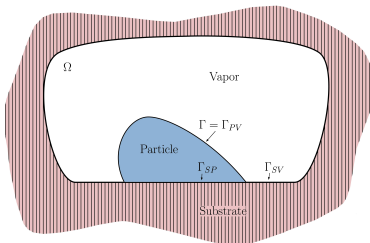
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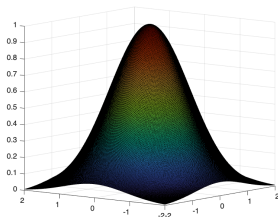
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The Γ -convergence result

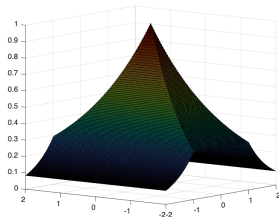
$$K(-x) = K(x), \quad K \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^d), \quad K(x) \geq 0, \quad \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} K(x) \, dx = 1$$

$$\gamma(\nu) = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{+\infty} r^d \int_{\mathbb{S}^{d-1}} |\xi \cdot \nu| K(r\xi) \, d\xi \, dr$$

$$|x|K(x) \leq c_K K(x/2), \quad K \geq a \text{ in } B_b(0)$$



$$\gamma(\nu) = |\nu|$$



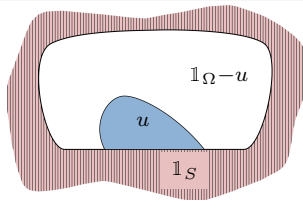
$$\gamma(\nu) = \max\{2|\nu_x|, |\nu_y|\}$$

Theorem (C.-Švadlenka, '25)

$$E_h(u) := \frac{1}{2\sqrt{h}} \sum_{i,j \in \{P,V,S\}} \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} \tilde{\gamma}_{ij} u_i K_h * u_j \, dx$$

$$\Gamma(s-L^1(\mathbb{T}^d)) \downarrow h \rightarrow 0$$

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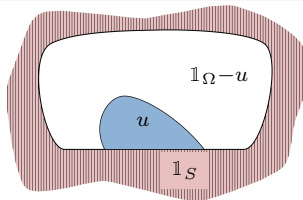


Theorem (C.-Švadlenka, '25)

$$E_h(u) := \frac{1}{\sqrt{h}} \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} \tilde{\gamma}_{PV} u K_h * (\mathbb{1}_\Omega - u) + \tilde{\gamma}_{SP} u K_h * \mathbb{1}_S + \tilde{\gamma}_{SV} (\mathbb{1}_\Omega - u) K_h * \mathbb{1}_S \, dx$$

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Proof: Limsup-inequality

$\forall u \in BV(\Omega; \{0, 1\}) \exists (u_h)_h \subset BV(\Omega; [0, 1])$ with $u_h \rightarrow u$ in $L^1(\Omega)$
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For every $u \in BV(\Omega; [0, 1])$, every $h > 0$, and $N \in \mathbb{N}_+$, we have

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Thank you for your attention!



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