

Error estimates for a energy stable scheme to a  
Cahn-Hilliard phase-field model for two-phase  
incompressible flows

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# Phase field for two immiscible fluids

- Phase field (diffusive interface)
- order parameter  $\phi$

$$\phi = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{fluid1,} \\ -1, & \text{fluid2.} \end{cases} \quad (2.1)$$

- interface  $\{x : \phi(x, t) = 0\}$  described by a mixed energy

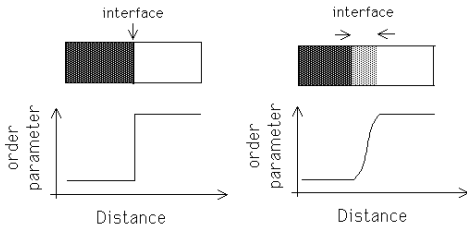


Fig. 1: (a) Sharp interface. (b) Diffuse interface.

- Assume densities of the fluids are the same  $\rho_0$
- Ginzburg- Landau double-well:  $F(\phi) = \frac{(\phi^2-1)^2}{4\varepsilon^2}$ ,  $f(\phi) = F'(\phi)$
- Energy:

$$W(\phi, \nabla\phi) = \lambda \int_{\Omega} \left( \frac{1}{2} |\nabla\phi|^2 + F(\phi) \right) dx \quad (2.2)$$

- $\lambda$ : mixing energy density
- $\varepsilon$ : capillary width of interface thickness
- ratio  $\lambda/\varepsilon$  is related to surface tension coefficients in the sharp interface limit ( $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ )

# Phase field equation

- Phase field equation governed by gradient flow

$$\phi_t + (\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla)\phi = -\gamma \frac{\delta W}{\delta \phi} \quad (2.3)$$

where  $\frac{\delta W}{\delta \phi}$  in  $H^{-1}$  is Cahn-Hilliard:

$$\phi_t + (\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla)\phi = -\gamma \Delta(\Delta\phi - f(\phi)) \quad (2.4)$$

in  $L^2$  is Allen-Cahn

$$\phi_t + (\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla)\phi = \gamma(\Delta\phi - f(\phi)) \quad (2.5)$$

For immiscible fluids, a Lagrangian multiplier introduced in Allen-Cahn for volume conservation  $\int_{\Omega} \phi \equiv \text{const}$

# Phase field equation

- Cahn-Hilliard Phase field equation for interfacial dynamics of two immiscible fluid

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \phi_t + u \cdot \nabla \phi - \gamma \Delta w = 0, \quad \text{in } \Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d, \\ w = -\Delta \phi + f(\phi), \quad \text{in } \Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d, \\ \rho_0(u_t + (u \cdot \nabla)u) - \mu_0 \Delta u + \nabla p - \lambda w \nabla \phi = 0, \quad \text{in } \Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d, \\ \nabla \cdot u = 0, \quad \text{in } \Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d, \\ u|_{\partial\Omega} = 0, \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial \vec{n}}|_{\partial\Omega} = 0, \frac{\partial w}{\partial \vec{n}}|_{\partial\Omega} = 0, \end{array} \right.$$

with given initial data  $u(0) = u_0$ ,  $\phi(0) = \phi_0$ ,  $w(0) = w_0$ .

- Ginzburg- Landau double-well:  $F(\phi) = \frac{(\phi^2-1)^2}{4\varepsilon^2}$ ,  $f(\phi) = F'(\phi)$
- Splitting of Cahn-Hilliard equation: Elliott, D.A French, and F.A. Milner, 89'
- Allen-Cahn:  $\phi_t + u \cdot \nabla \phi + \gamma w = 0$

# Numerical methods

- Cahn-Hilliard (Allen-Cahn) Solver + Navier-Stokes solver
- stiffness in the phase field equation, small  $\varepsilon$
- Navier-Stokes equation
- mimic the energy law

$$\frac{d}{dt} \int_{\Omega} \left( \frac{\rho_0}{2} |u|^2 + \frac{\lambda}{2} |\nabla \phi|^2 + \lambda F(\phi) \right) dx = - \int_{\Omega} (\mu_0 |\nabla u|^2 + \lambda \gamma |\nabla w|^2) dx$$

# Cahn-Hilliard Solver

- Cahn-Hilliard equation

$$\begin{cases} \phi_t - \Delta w = 0, & \partial_{\bar{n}} w|_{\partial\Omega} = 0, \\ w = -\Delta\phi + f(\phi), & \partial_{\bar{n}}\phi|_{\partial\Omega} = 0, \\ f(\phi) = F'(\phi) = \frac{(\phi^2 - 1)\phi}{2} \end{cases}$$

- Gradient flow of  $E(\phi) = \int_{\Omega} (\frac{1}{2}|\nabla\phi|^2 + F(\phi)) dx$  in  $H^{-1}$
- Energy law

$$\partial_t E(\phi(t)) = - \int_{\Omega} |\nabla(-\Delta\phi + f(\phi))|^2 dx$$

- Numerical method: Elliott, D.A French, and F.A. Milner, 89'; Q. Du and R. Nicolaides, 91';  
Chen and Shen, 98'; . . .



# Energy stable scheme

- For gradient flow system
  - convex splitting  $F(\phi) = F_c(\phi) - F_e(\phi)$  (Eyre 98' ...)
  - semi-implicit, linearly stabilized method (Shen, 98')
  - ETD (Qiao, Ju, Zhang, Li, 17')
  - Invariant energy quadratization (Yang, Shen, Wang, 16',17')
  - Scalar Auxiliary Variable (Yang, Shen, Xu, 17') ...

# Convex splitting

- Split  $F(\phi)$  into two convex functions, such that

$$F(\phi) = F_c(\phi) - F_e(\phi), \quad F_c''(\phi), F_e''(\phi) \geq 0$$

where  $f_c = F'_c$ ,  $f_e = F'_e$

- First order scheme

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\phi^{n+1} - \phi^n}{\delta t} + \Delta w^{n+1} = 0, \\ w^{n+1} = -\Delta \phi^{n+1} + \frac{1}{\varepsilon^2} f_c(\phi^{n+1}) - \frac{1}{\varepsilon^2} f_e(\phi^n) \\ \partial_{\vec{n}} w^{n+1} = \partial_{\vec{n}} \phi^{n+1} = 0 \end{cases}$$

# Convex Splitting continued

## Theorem

*For first order convex splitting scheme,*

$$E(\phi^{n+1}) + \delta t \|\nabla w^{n+1}\|^2 + \frac{1}{2} \|\nabla(\phi^{n+1} - \phi^n)\|^2 \leq E(\phi^n)$$

# Stabilized scheme

- Convex splitting unconditional energy stable, but implicit nonlinear term
- Stabilized scheme, explicit nonlinear term (Shen, Yang 07', 10')
- need assumptions on the nonlinear term  $f(\phi)$  ( $|f'| \leq L$ ) (truncate the double-well potential as)

$$F(\phi) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2\varepsilon^2}(\phi - 1)^2 & \phi > 1 \\ \frac{1}{4\varepsilon^2}(\phi^2 - 1)^2 & \phi \in [-1, 1] \\ \frac{1}{2\varepsilon^2}(\phi + 1)^2 & \phi < -1 \end{cases}$$

# Stabilized scheme continued

- Explicit nonlinear term

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\phi^{n+1} - \phi^n}{\delta t} - \Delta w^{n+1} = 0, \\ w^{n+1} - \frac{S}{\varepsilon^2}(\phi^{n+1} - \phi^n) = -\Delta \phi^{n+1} + \frac{1}{\varepsilon^2} f(\phi^n) \end{cases}$$

- For  $S \geq L/2$ , energy stable:

$$E(\phi^{n+1}) + \delta t \|\nabla w^{n+1}\|^2 \leq E(\phi^n)$$

- stabilized term introduces an error of order  $\frac{S\delta t}{\varepsilon^2} \partial_t \phi$

# Navier-Stokes solver

- Incompressible N-S

$$\begin{cases} u_t + (u \cdot \nabla)u = \nu \Delta u - \nabla p + g, \\ \operatorname{div} u = 0, \quad u|_{\partial\Omega} = 0 \end{cases}$$

- Projection method for incompressible constraint <sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>Chorin, Temam

# Navier-Stokes solver

- First order projection method
- intermediate velocity

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\tilde{u}^{n+1} - u^n}{\delta t} + (u^n \cdot \nabla) \tilde{u}^{n+1} = \nu \Delta \tilde{u}^{n+1} - \nabla p^n + g(t_{n+1}), \\ \tilde{u}|_{\partial\Omega} = 0 \end{cases}$$

- projection step

$$\begin{cases} \frac{u^{n+1} - \tilde{u}^{n+1}}{\delta t} + \nabla(p^{n+1} - p^n) = 0, \\ \operatorname{div}(u^{n+1}) = 0, \quad \vec{n} \cdot u^{n+1}|_{\partial\Omega} = 0 \end{cases}$$

- $u^{n+1}$  and  $\tilde{u}^{n+1}$  can be in different spaces

# Navier-Stokes solver

- The projection scheme is unconditional stable in the sense that

$$\|u^{n+1}\|^2 + \nu \delta t \sum_{k=0}^n \|\nabla \tilde{u}^{k+1}\|^2 \leq \|u^0\|^2 + C \|f\|_{C(0,T;H^{-1})}$$

- First order accurate for velocity in  $L^\infty(0, T; L^2) \cap L^2(0, T; H^1)$ , pressure in  $L^2(0, T; L^2)$



# Cahn-Hilliard phase field solver

- First order stabilized scheme

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\phi^{n+1} - \phi^n}{\delta t} + (\tilde{u}^{n+1} \cdot \nabla) \phi^n - \gamma \Delta w^{n+1} = 0, \\ w^{n+1} - \frac{S}{\epsilon^2} (\phi^{n+1} - \phi^n) = -\Delta \phi^{n+1} + f(\phi^n), \\ \rho_0 \left( \frac{\tilde{u}^{n+1} - u^n}{\delta t} + (u^n \cdot \nabla) \tilde{u}^{n+1} \right) - \mu_0 \Delta \tilde{u}^{n+1} + \nabla p^n - \lambda w^{n+1} \nabla \phi^n = 0, \\ \frac{\partial \phi^{n+1}}{\partial \vec{n}} \Big|_{\partial \Omega} = 0, \tilde{u}^{n+1} \Big|_{\partial \Omega} = 0, \end{cases}$$

- Pressure correction

$$\begin{cases} \rho_0 \left( \frac{u^{n+1} - \tilde{u}^{n+1}}{\delta t} \right) + \nabla (p^{n+1} - p^n) = 0 \\ \nabla \cdot u^{n+1} = 0, \vec{n} \cdot u^{n+1} \Big|_{\partial \Omega} = 0 \end{cases}$$

# Unconditional stability

- Energy stable in the sense that

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \left[ \frac{\rho_0}{2} \|u^{n+1}\|^2 + \frac{\lambda}{2} \|\nabla \phi^{n+1}\|^2 + \lambda(F(\phi^{n+1}), 1) \right] + \frac{\delta t^2}{2\rho_0} \|\nabla p^{n+1}\|^2 \\
 & \quad + \mu_0 \delta t \|\nabla \tilde{u}^{n+1}\|^2 + \lambda \gamma \delta t \|\nabla w^{n+1}\|^2 \\
 & \leq \left[ \frac{\rho_0}{2} \|u^n\|^2 + \frac{\lambda}{2} \|\nabla \phi^n\|^2 + \lambda(F(\phi^n), 1) \right] + \frac{\delta t^2}{2\rho_0} \|\nabla p^n\|^2
 \end{aligned}$$

- For Cahn-Hilliard/ Allen Cahn
  - Convex splitting/ semi-implicit/...
  - FEM/Spectral/Finite difference...
  - First order/ second order/... in time
- For Navier stokes equation
  - Projection method (Shen, Guermond, Minev 07')
  - FEM/Spectral method...
  - First order/ second order in time

- For pure Cahn-Hilliard (Allen-Cahn) equation with small  $\varepsilon$ , the dependence can be reduced to polynomial<sup>2</sup>
- Key point: spectral gap
  - Let  $\phi$  solve Cahn-Hilliard equation  $\phi_t = -\Delta(\varepsilon\Delta\phi - \frac{1}{\varepsilon}f(\phi))$   
linearized Cahn-Hilliard operator:  $L_{CH} = \Delta(\varepsilon\Delta - \frac{1}{\varepsilon}f'(\phi)I)$

$$\lambda_{CH} = \inf_{0 \neq \psi \in H^1(\Omega), \Delta\psi = w} \frac{\varepsilon \|\nabla\psi\|_{L^2}^2 + \frac{1}{\varepsilon} (f'(\phi)\psi, \psi)}{\|\nabla w\|_{L^2}^2} \geq -C_0$$

- holds for  $\phi$  with special profile (X. Chen, 1994), solutions to Cahn-Hilliard equation

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<sup>2</sup>X. Feng, et. al.

- Allen-Cahn-Navier-Stokes (Feng 06') (First order in time)
- Cahn-Hilliard-Navier-Stokes (Feng, He, Liu 07') first order in time
- Cahn-Hilliard-Navier-Stokes (Diegel, Wang, Wang, Wise 17') second order in time
- Variable density, (Grun 13')
- Pressure is coupled with other variables in the scheme
- **Goal:** error analysis with projection type decoupled scheme

# FEM discretization of phase-field equation

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$$X = H_0^1(\Omega)^d, \quad \tilde{X} = \{ \psi \in H^1(\Omega), \partial_{\vec{n}} \psi|_{\partial\Omega} = 0 \},$$

$$M = L_0^2(\Omega) = \left\{ q \in L^2(\Omega) : \int_{\Omega} q = 0 \right\}.$$

- Incompressible vector field

$$H = \left\{ v \in L^2(\Omega)^d; \nabla \cdot v = 0; v \cdot \vec{n}|_{\partial\Omega} = 0 \right\},$$

$$V = \left\{ v \in H^1(\Omega)^d; \nabla \cdot v = 0; v|_{\partial\Omega} = 0 \right\},$$

and it holds

$$L^2(\Omega)^d = H \oplus \nabla(H^1(\Omega)).$$

- $\mathcal{T}_h$  be a regular, quasi-uniform triangulation of  $\Omega$  of mesh size  $0 < h < 1$  and  $\bar{\Omega} = \cup_{K \in \mathcal{T}_h} \bar{K}$
- denote  $P_r(K)$  as the space of polynomials of degree less than or equal to  $r$  on  $K$ .

- Introduce mixed finite element space  $X_h, M_h$  as conformal approximations of  $X$  and  $M$  respectively, based on the triangulation  $\mathcal{T}_h$ . Define  $Y_h$  a finite dimensional subspace of  $L^2(\Omega)^d$ , and we assume that either  $Y_h$  is conformal in

$$H_0^{\text{div}}(\Omega) = \left\{ v \in L^2(\Omega)^d, \quad \nabla \cdot v \in L^2(\Omega), \quad v \cdot \bar{n}|_{\partial\Omega} = 0 \right\}$$

or  $M_h$  is conformal in  $H^1(\Omega)$ .

- In particular, we assume  $X_h \subseteq Y_h$  for simplicity. Define  $\Phi_h$  a fine dimensional subspace of  $H^1(\Omega)$  and we assume that  $1 \in \Phi_h$ .
- A possible choice (X. Feng et al., 2007)

$$X_h = Y_h = \{v_h \in [C^0(\bar{\Omega})]^d \cap [H_0^1(\Omega)]^d; v_h|_K \in [P_2(K)]^d\},$$

$$V_h = \{v_h \in X_h; (\text{div} v_h, q_h) = 0. \quad \forall q_h \in M_h\},$$

$$M_h = \{q_h \in L^2_0(\Omega); q_h|_K \in P_0(K)\}, \quad \Phi_h = \{\psi_h \in C^0(\bar{\Omega}); \psi_h|_K \in P_2(K)\}.$$

Find  $\{(u_h^n, \tilde{u}_h^n, \phi_h^n, w_h^n, p_h^n)\}_{n=1}^N \in Y_h \times X_h \times \Phi_h \times \Phi_h \times M_h$  such that

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \frac{\phi_h^{n+1} - \phi_h^n}{\delta t} + P_{\Phi_h} ((\tilde{u}_h^{n+1} \cdot \nabla) \phi_h^n) + \gamma \tilde{A}_h w_h^{n+1} = 0, \\ w_h^{n+1} - \frac{S}{\epsilon^2} (\phi_h^{n+1} - \phi_h^n) = \tilde{A}_h \phi_h^{n+1} + P_{\Phi_h} f(\phi_h^n), \\ \frac{\rho_0}{\delta t} (\tilde{u}_h^{n+1} - i_h^T u_h^n) + \rho_0 P_{X_h} ((u_h^n \cdot \nabla) \tilde{u}_h^{n+1}) + \mu_0 A_h \tilde{u}_h^{n+1} - B_h^T p_h^n \\ \quad - \lambda P_{X_h} (w_h^{n+1} \nabla \phi_h^n) = 0, \\ \frac{\rho_0}{\delta t} (u_h^{n+1} - i_h \tilde{u}_h^{n+1}) + C_h^T (p_h^{n+1} - p_h^n) = 0, \\ C_h u_h^{n+1} = 0, \end{array} \right.$$



## Theorem

*The fully discrete scheme is unconditionally stable and satisfies the following discrete energy law:*

$$\left[ \frac{\rho_0}{2} \|u_h^{n+1}\|^2 + \frac{\lambda}{2} \|\nabla \phi_h^{n+1}\|^2 + \lambda(F(\phi_h^{n+1}), 1) \right] + \frac{\delta t^2}{2\rho_0} \|C_h^T p_h^{n+1}\|^2 + \mu_0 \delta t \|\nabla \tilde{u}_h^{n+1}\|^2 \\ + \lambda \gamma \delta t \|\nabla w_h^{n+1}\|^2 \leq \left[ \frac{\rho_0}{2} \|u_h^n\|^2 + \frac{\lambda}{2} \|\nabla \phi_h^n\|^2 + \lambda(F(\phi_h^n), 1) \right] + \frac{\delta t^2}{2\rho_0} \|C_h^T p_h^n\|^2$$

## Theorem

Assume initial data  $(\phi_0, u_0) \in H^1(\Omega) \times V$  and  $(\phi_h^0, w_h^0, u_h^0, p_h^0)^T$  is initialized such that

$$\frac{\rho_0}{2} \|u_h^0\|^2 + \frac{\lambda}{2} \|\phi_h^0\|^2 + \lambda(F(\phi_h^0), 1) + \frac{\delta t^2}{\rho_0} \|C_h^T p_h^0\|^2 \leq c_0.$$

Furthermore, we require  $h^2 \lesssim \delta t$  if  $Y_h \neq X_h$ . Let  $(u, \phi, w, p)$  denote the unique solution of NSCH system. Then there hold

$$\lim_{h, \delta t \rightarrow 0} \left( \|\bar{U}_{h, \delta t} - u\|_{L^2(L^2)} + \|\bar{\Phi}_{h, \delta t} - \phi\|_{L^2(L^2)} \right) = 0,$$

$$\bar{W}_{h, \delta t} \rightarrow w, \quad \text{weakly in } L^2([0, T]; H^1(\Omega)),$$

$$\bar{P}_{h, \delta t} \rightarrow p, \quad \text{weakly in } L^{\frac{12}{6+d}}([0, T]; L^2(\Omega)).$$

- Estimates

$$\max_{0 \leq n \leq N} \left\{ \|u_h^n\|^2 + \|\nabla \phi_h^n\|^2 + (F(\phi_h^n), 1) + \delta t^2 \|C_h^T p_h^n\|^2 \right\} \leq c,$$

$$\sum_{n=0}^{N-1} \left( \|\delta_t \phi_h^n\|_1^2 + \|\tilde{u}_h^{n+1} - i_h^T u_h^n\|^2 + \|u_h^{n+1} - i_h i_h^T u_h^{n+1}\|^2 + \|\delta_t u_h^n\|^2 + \|\delta_t \tilde{u}_h^n\|^2 \right) \leq c,$$

$$\delta t \sum_{n=0}^N \left( \|\nabla w_h^n\|^2 + \|\nabla \tilde{u}_h^n\|^2 \right) \leq c,$$

$$\max_{0 \leq n \leq N} \left\{ \|\phi_h^n\|^2 + \|\tilde{u}_h^n\|^2 \right\} + \delta t \sum_{n=0}^N \|w_h^n\|^2 \leq c,$$

$$\delta t \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} \left\| \frac{1}{\delta t} \delta_t i_h^T u_h^n \right\|_{-1}^{\frac{12}{6+d}} \leq c \left( 1 + \left( \frac{h^2}{\delta t} \right)^{\frac{6}{d}} \right),$$

$$\delta t \sum_{n=0}^N \|p_h^n\|_{\frac{12}{6+d}} \leq c \left( 1 + \left( \frac{h^2}{\delta t} \right)^{\frac{6}{d}} \right),$$

$$\delta t \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} \left\| \frac{1}{\delta t} \delta_t \tilde{u}_h^n \right\|_{-1}^{\frac{12}{6+d}} \leq c \left( 1 + \left( \frac{h^2}{\delta t} \right)^{\frac{6}{d}} \right),$$

$$\delta t \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} \left\| \frac{1}{\delta t} \delta_t \phi_h^n \right\|_{-1}^2 \leq c,$$

- If  $Y_h$  is chosen as  $Y_h = X_h$ , then

$$\frac{1}{\delta t} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} \left\| \delta_t i_h^T u_h^n \right\|_{-1}^{\frac{12}{6+d}} + \frac{1}{\delta t} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} \left\| \delta_t \tilde{u}_h^n \right\|_{-1}^{\frac{12}{6+d}} + \delta t \sum_{n=0}^N \|p_h^n\|_{\frac{12}{6+d}} \leq c.$$

## Theorem

*For sufficiently small  $\delta t$ , the finite element approximate solution satisfies*

$$\begin{aligned}\|\phi - \phi_{h,\delta t}\|_{l^\infty(L^2)} + \|\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{u}_{h,\delta t}\|_{l^\infty(L^2)} + \|\mathbf{u} - \tilde{\mathbf{u}}_{h,\delta t}\|_{l^\infty(L^2)} &\lesssim \delta t + h', \\ \|\phi - \phi_{h,\delta t}\|_{l^\infty(H^1)} + \|\mathbf{u} - \tilde{\mathbf{u}}_{h,\delta t}\|_{l^2(H^1)} + \|\mathbf{w} - \mathbf{w}_{h,\delta t}\|_{l^2(H^1)} &\lesssim \delta t + h', \\ \|\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{p}_{h,\delta t}\|_{l^2(L^2(\Omega))} &\lesssim (1 + h/\sqrt{\delta t})(\delta t + h').\end{aligned}$$

*If  $X_h = Y_h$ , the error on pressure becomes*

$$\|\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{p}_{h,\delta t}\|_{l^2(L^2(\Omega))} \lesssim \delta t + h'.$$

## Lemma

*For sufficiently small  $\delta t$ , the finite element approximate solution satisfies*

$$\begin{aligned} \|\phi - \phi_{h,\delta t}\|_{l^\infty(L^2)} + \|u - u_{h,\delta t}\|_{l^\infty(L^2)} + \|u - \tilde{u}_{h,\delta t}\|_{l^\infty(L^2)} &\lesssim \delta t + h', \\ \|\phi - \phi_{h,\delta t}\|_{l^\infty(H^1)} + \|w - w_{h,\delta t}\|_{l^2(H^1(\Omega))} + \|u - \tilde{u}_{h,\delta t}\|_{l^2(H^1)} &\lesssim \delta t + h'. \end{aligned}$$

By energy type computation for the error functions.

$$\|\delta_t e_u^n\| \lesssim \delta t + h', \quad \left( \delta t \sum_{k=0}^{[T/\delta t]-1} \|\delta_t e_u^k\|^2 \right)^{1/2} \lesssim \delta t^{1/2} (\delta t + h').$$

- Inf-sup condition and Inverse Stokes operator (time increment)

- $|v|_{*,h} = \sup_{v_h \in X_h} \frac{\langle v, v_h \rangle}{\|v_h\|_1}$

- $\mathcal{S} : H^{-1}(\Omega)^d \rightarrow V$  as follows. For  $v \in H^{-1}(\Omega)^d$ ,  
 $(\mathcal{S}(v), r) \in V \times L_0^2(\Omega)$

$$\begin{cases} (\nabla \mathcal{S}(v), \nabla w) - (r, \nabla \cdot w) = \langle v, w \rangle, & \forall w \in H_0^1(\Omega)^d, \\ (q, \nabla \cdot \mathcal{S}(v)) = 0, & \forall q \in L_0^2(\Omega), \end{cases} \quad (4.1)$$

- $|v|_{*,h} \leq c(\|\nabla \mathcal{S}_h(v)\| + h\|v\|)$   
if  $X_h = Y_h$ ,  $|v|_{*,h} \leq c\|\nabla \mathcal{S}_h(v)\|$

- Instead of improving  $L^2$  norm of time increment  $\delta_t e_u^n$ , use

$$\|\nabla \mathcal{S}_h(\delta_t e_u^n)\| \lesssim \delta t^{1/2}(\delta t + h'), \quad \left( \delta t \sum_{n=0}^N \|\nabla \mathcal{S}_h(\delta_t e_u^n)\| \right)^{1/2} \lesssim \delta t(\delta t + h')$$

- By inf-sup condition

$$\begin{aligned} \|e_p^{n+1}\| &\leq c \sup_{v_h \in X_h} \frac{\langle B_h^T e_p^{n+1}, v_h \rangle}{\|v_h\|_1} \leq c \left( \frac{1}{\delta t} |i_h^T \delta_t e_u^n|_{*,h} + \dots \right) \\ &\leq c \left( \frac{1}{\delta t} \|\nabla \mathcal{S}_h(\delta_t e_u^n)\| + \frac{h}{\delta t} \|\delta_t e_u^n\| \right) \end{aligned}$$

- Cahn-Hilliard (Allen-Cahn) phase field equation
- energy stable time discrete method
- FEM discretization with pressure decoupled
- Convergence and order of convergence



THANK YOU!