



**Workshop on PDEs and Control 2025 (PKM-6o)-Celebrating the 60th birthday of Kisko and Manolo**

## **Non-residual-based stabilization formulation for liquid-solid phase-change flows including macrosegregation scenarios**

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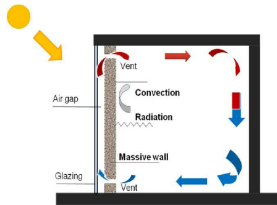
Non-residual-based stabilization formulation for liquid-solid, phase-change flows including macrosegregation scenarios - Roberto Cabrales



- Motivation.
- Mathematical model.
- Variational and Galerkin formulation.
- VMS approximation.
- Numerical results.
- Conclusions.
- Future work.



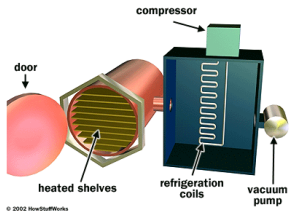
Route 5, far, far north of Chile



House climatization



Water freezing.



Food freezing/drying.



Alloy solidification.



**Macrosegregation** refers to the **nonuniform distribution** of alloying elements on a macroscopic scale, usually occurring during a solidification process

## Causes

- Solute rejection during solidification.
- Convection effects.
- Solidification shrinkage or sedimentation.

## Consequences

- Poor mechanical properties (e.g., weakness, brittleness).
- Inhomogeneous microstructure.
- Defects in critical applications.

## Numerical difficulties:

1. Multi-physical problem.
2. Highly Coupled.
3. Dynamic and non-linear.
4. Conductive and convective heat transfer.
5. Two-phase problem.

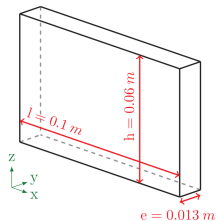




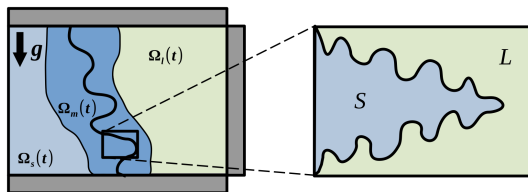
Liquid alloy of Pb-48 %Sn initially homogeneous, motionless and uniform temperature in a mould.

On  $x = 0$  we decrease the temperature with null heat flux on the others sides.

The velocity and mass flux are zero on all sides.



Domain of the experiment.



Schematic of solidification for a time  $t > 0$ .

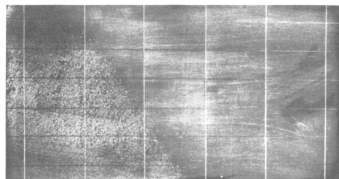


Photo in the Hebditch and Hunt paper.

<sup>1</sup>D.J. Hebditch & J.D. Hunt, *Observations of ingot macrosegregation on model systems*. Metallurgical Transactions 5. 1974.



Let  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ ,  $d = 2, 3$  a domain with boundary  $\partial\Omega$ . The **regularized** coupled system of PDEs in  $\Omega \times (0, t_f)$  for the velocity  $\mathbf{u}$ , pressure  $p$ , temperature  $T$ , and concentration  $c$  considering the **Carman-Kozeny model** and the **Boussinesq approximation**, is

$$\begin{aligned} \rho \frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial t} + \rho(\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{u} - \nabla \cdot (2\mu \nabla^s \mathbf{u}) + \nabla p + \mathcal{K}_\varepsilon(f_s) \mathbf{u} &= \rho \mathbf{g} (1 - \beta_T(T - T_r) - \beta_c(c_l - c_r)), \\ \mathcal{K}_\varepsilon(f_s, \mathbf{u}) &= \frac{C_0 \mu}{\lambda^2} \cdot \frac{f_s^2}{[(1 - f_s)^3 + \varepsilon]}, \\ \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} &= 0, \\ \frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial t} + \rho C_p \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla T - \kappa \Delta T &= 0, \\ \frac{\partial c}{\partial t} + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla c_l &= 0, \end{aligned}$$

with properly initial and boundary conditions. The enthalpy  $\mathcal{H}$ , solid fraction  $f_s$ , and concentration of liquid species  $c_l$  are determined as

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{H} &= \rho C_p T + (1 - f_s) \rho L, \\ f_s(c, T) &= \frac{a}{a + b}, \\ c_l &= \frac{c}{1 - (1 - r)f_s}. \end{aligned}$$

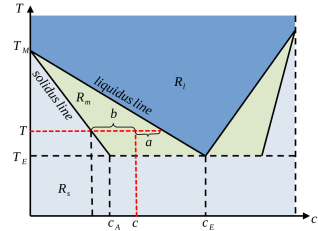


Figura 1: Phase diagram for a binary alloy.



Let  $\mathcal{V} = H_0^1(\Omega)^d$ ,  $\mathcal{Q} = L_0^2(\Omega)$ ,  $\Theta = H_0^1(\Omega)$  and  $\Psi = H^1(\Omega)$  the spaces for  $\mathbf{u}$ ,  $p$ ,  $T$ , and  $c$ .

The weak formulation consists of finding  $\mathbf{U} = [\mathbf{u}, p, T, c] : (0, t_f) \rightarrow \mathcal{X} := \mathcal{V} \times \mathcal{Q} \times \Theta \times \Psi$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} \left( \rho \frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial t}, \mathbf{v} \right) + \mathcal{B}([\mathbf{u}, p], [\mathbf{v}, q]) &= \langle \mathbf{f}, \mathbf{v} \rangle, \\ \rho C_p \left( \frac{\partial T}{\partial t}, \theta \right) + b(\mathbf{u}, T, \theta) &= \left\langle L \frac{\partial f_s}{\partial t}, \theta \right\rangle, \\ \left( \frac{\partial c}{\partial t}, \psi \right) + \langle \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla c_l, \psi \rangle + \alpha (\nabla c_l, \nabla \psi) &= 0, \end{aligned}$$

for all  $\mathbf{V} = [\mathbf{v}, q, \theta, \psi] \in \mathcal{X}$ , considering that  $\mathbf{f} \in (H^{-1}(\Omega))^d$ , and with

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{B}([\mathbf{u}, p], [\mathbf{v}, q]) &= \rho \langle \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \rangle + (2\mu \nabla^s \mathbf{u}, \nabla^s \mathbf{v}) - (p, \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}) + \langle \mathcal{K}_\varepsilon(f_s, \mathbf{u}), \mathbf{v} \rangle + (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u}, q), \\ b(\mathbf{u}, T, \theta) &= \rho C_p \langle \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla T, \theta \rangle + \kappa (\nabla T, \nabla \theta). \end{aligned}$$

The Galerkin problem is obtained by approximating each variable by conforming finite elements  $\mathcal{V}_h \subset \mathcal{V}$ ,  $\mathcal{Q}_h \subset \mathcal{Q}$ ,  $\Theta_h \subset \Theta$ , and  $\Psi_h \subset \Psi$ .

The time discretization is performed using a  $q$ -order BDF scheme:

$$\left. \frac{\partial \phi^n}{\partial t} \right|_{t^n} \approx \frac{1}{\delta t} \left( \gamma_q \phi^n - \sum_{s=1}^q \gamma_s \phi^{n-s} \right)$$



VMS methods<sup>2</sup> decompose the space  $\mathcal{X}$  into the direct sum of the finite element space  $\mathcal{X}_h$  and the *sub-scale space*  $\tilde{\mathcal{X}}$ :

$$\mathcal{X} = \mathcal{X}_h \oplus \tilde{\mathcal{X}}$$

Then, for each  $t \in (0, t_f)$  we can uniquely write

$$\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{u}_h + \tilde{\mathbf{u}} = \mathbf{u}_h + \tilde{\mathbf{u}}_1 + \tilde{\mathbf{u}}_2, \quad p = p_h + \tilde{p}, \quad T = T_h + \tilde{T} \text{ and } c = c_h + \tilde{c}.$$

The VMS method used is **non-residual, orthogonal, dynamic-term-by-term**, allowing:

1. the simulation of **laminar and turbulent** flows
2. the use of **anisotropic space-time discretizations**.
3. **stability** for highly convective flows,
4. the avoid the compatibility condition imposed by the inf-sup condition, and
5. the reduction of the **non-linear iterations** needed to converge to the solution.

The five subscales  $\tilde{\mathbf{u}}_1$ ,  $\tilde{\mathbf{u}}_2$ ,  $\tilde{p}$ ,  $\tilde{T}$  and  $\tilde{c}$  are approximated in terms of the FEM variables  $\mathbf{u}_h, p_h, T_h, c_h$  by dynamic equations.

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<sup>2</sup>Codina, Badia, Baiges & Principe. Encyclopedia of Computational Mechanics, 2017





Let us define the stabilizing form

$$B_{\text{VMS}}(\mathbf{u}; [\mathbf{v}, q], [\tilde{\mathbf{u}}, \tilde{p}]) = \sum_K (\rho(\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{v}, \tilde{\mathbf{u}}_1)_K + \sum_K (\nabla q, \tilde{\mathbf{u}}_2)_K + \sum_K (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}, \tilde{p})_K,$$

The (non-linear) VMS stabilized formulation is

$$(\rho \partial_t \mathbf{u}_h, \mathbf{v}_h) + B(\mathbf{u}_h; [\mathbf{u}_h, p_h], [\mathbf{v}_h, q_h]) - B_{\text{VMS}}(\mathbf{u}_h; [\mathbf{v}_h, q_h], [\tilde{\mathbf{u}}, \tilde{p}]) = (\mathbf{f}_h, \mathbf{v}_h), \quad (1)$$

$$(\rho C_p \partial_t T_h, \theta_h) + b(\mathbf{u}_h; T_h, \theta_h) - \sum_K (\rho C_p \mathbf{u}_h \cdot \nabla \theta_h, \tilde{T})_K = \langle \rho L \partial_t f_{s,h}, \theta \rangle, \quad (2)$$

$$(\partial_t c_h, \psi_h) + \langle \mathbf{u}_h \cdot \nabla c_l, \psi_h \rangle - \sum_K (\mathbf{u}_h \cdot \psi_h, \tilde{c}) = 0, \quad (3)$$

and the equations for the subscales  $\tilde{\mathbf{u}}_1, \tilde{\mathbf{u}}_2, \tilde{p}, \tilde{T}$  and  $\tilde{c}$  are

$$\begin{aligned} \rho \partial_t \tilde{\mathbf{u}}_1 + \tau_u^{-1} \tilde{\mathbf{u}}_1 &= -\mathcal{P}_h^\perp [(\rho \mathbf{u}_h \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{u}_h], \quad \rho \partial_t \tilde{\mathbf{u}}_2 + \tau_u^{-1} \tilde{\mathbf{u}}_2 = -\mathcal{P}_h^\perp (\nabla p_h), \quad \tau_p^{-1} \tilde{p} = -\mathcal{P}_h^\perp (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u}_h), \\ \rho C_p \partial_t \tilde{T} + \tau_T^{-1} \tilde{T} &= -\mathcal{P}_h^\perp (\rho C_p \mathbf{u}_h \cdot \nabla T_h), \quad \partial_t \tilde{c} + \tau_c^{-1} \tilde{c} = -\mathcal{P}_h^\perp (\mathbf{u}_h \cdot \nabla c_h), \end{aligned}$$

with  $\mathcal{P}_h^\perp$  the  $L^2$ -ortogonal projection on the corresponding FE space and the stabilization parameters (ensuring dimensional consistency and optimal convergence rates) are

$$\tau_u^{-1} = \frac{4k^4 \mu}{|K|} + \frac{2k\rho|\mathbf{u}_h|}{h_2}, \quad \tau_p^{-1} = \frac{4k^4 \tau_1}{|K|}, \quad \tau_T^{-1} = \frac{4k^4 \kappa}{|K|} + \frac{2k\rho C_p |\mathbf{u}_h|}{h}, \quad \tau_c^{-1} = \frac{4k^4 \alpha}{|K|} + \frac{2k|\mathbf{u}_h|}{h}.$$



**Step 0.** Define initial conditions.

**Step 1.** Compute the velocity  $\mathbf{u}_h^{n_j}$  and pressure  $p_h^{n_j}$ .

**Step 2.** Compute the temperature  $T_h^{n_j}$ .

**Step 3.** Compute the concentration  $c_h^{n_j}$ .

**Step 4.** Calculate the solid fraction  $f_{s,h}^{n_j}$ .

**Step 5.** Compute the liquid concentration  $c_{l,h}^{n_j}$ .

**Step 6.** Check convergence.

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# al-go-rithm

(noun)

word used by programmers  
when they do not want  
to explain what they did

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Steps 1 to 5 are solved iteratively to take into account non-linearities and coupling.



We present the following results:

## Convergence tests

- Error in time.
- Error in space.

## Pb-48 %Sn solidification

- Lateral freezing.
- Bottom freezing.



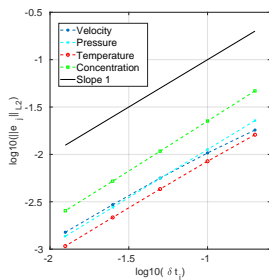
Domains, time interval, and expressions defining the functions for the time and space error convergence study.

	Parameters for time-error		Parameters for space-error	
Domains	$\Omega = (-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}) \times (-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2})$		$\Omega = (0, 1) \times (0, 1)$	
Time interval	$(0, t_f) = (0, 0.01)$		$(0, t_f) = (0, 0.2)$	
	$h(\mathbf{x})$	$g(t)$	$h(\mathbf{x})$	$g(t)$
$\mathbf{u} = \begin{bmatrix} u_1 \\ u_2 \end{bmatrix}$	$\begin{bmatrix} -y \\ x \end{bmatrix}$	$\cos(\pi t)e^{-t}$	$\begin{bmatrix} 200x^2(x-1)^2y(y-1)(2y-1) \\ -200(x-1)(2x-1)y^2(y-1)^2x \end{bmatrix}$	$1 - t$
$p$	$x + y$	1	$100(2x-1)(2y-1)$	1
$T$	$1 + x - y$	$\cos(\pi t)e^{-t}$	$1 - x + \sin(\pi x) \cos(\pi y)$	$1 - t$
$c$	$1 - x - y$	$\cos(2\pi t)e^{-t}$	$1 - x - \sin(\pi x) \cos(\pi y)$	$1 - 2t$

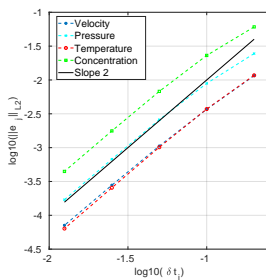


## Error in time

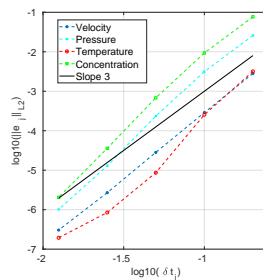
Errors for  $t_f = 0,2$  in  $L^2$ -norm of the velocity, pressure, temperature and concentration for each BDF $q$ ,  $q = 1, 2, 3$  as a function of the time step. The mesh size is  $h = \sqrt{2}/16$  and the time steps considered are  $\delta t_j = 0,2 \times 2^{1-j}$ ,  $j = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5$ .



2.1 Errors for BDF1.



2.2 Errors for BDF2.

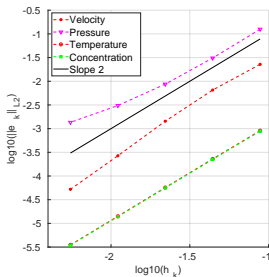


2.3 Errors for BDF3.

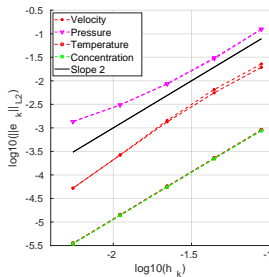


## Error in space

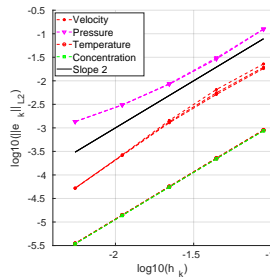
Errors for  $t_f = 0,01$  in  $L^2$ -norm for velocity, pressure, temperature and concentration using the time step  $\delta t = 10^{-3}$  and the mesh sizes considered are  $h_k = \sqrt{2} \times 2^{1-j}$ ,  $j = 4, 5, 6, 7, 8$ .



2.4 Errors for BDF1 with  $\mathbb{P}_1$ .



2.5 Errors for BDF2 with  $\mathbb{P}_1$ .

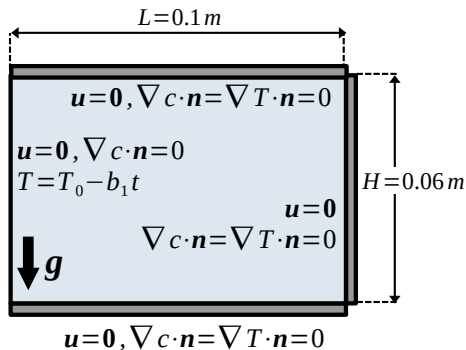


2.6 Errors for BDF3 with  $\mathbb{P}_1$ .

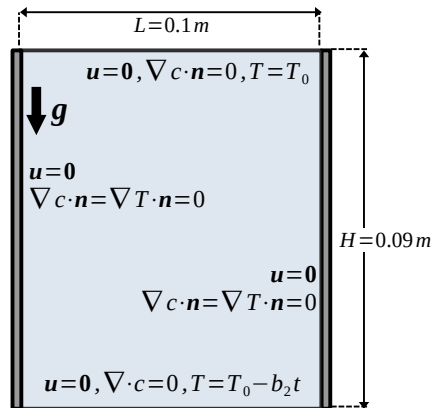


Two situations implemented in FreeFem++ on a rectangular cavity with initial conditions

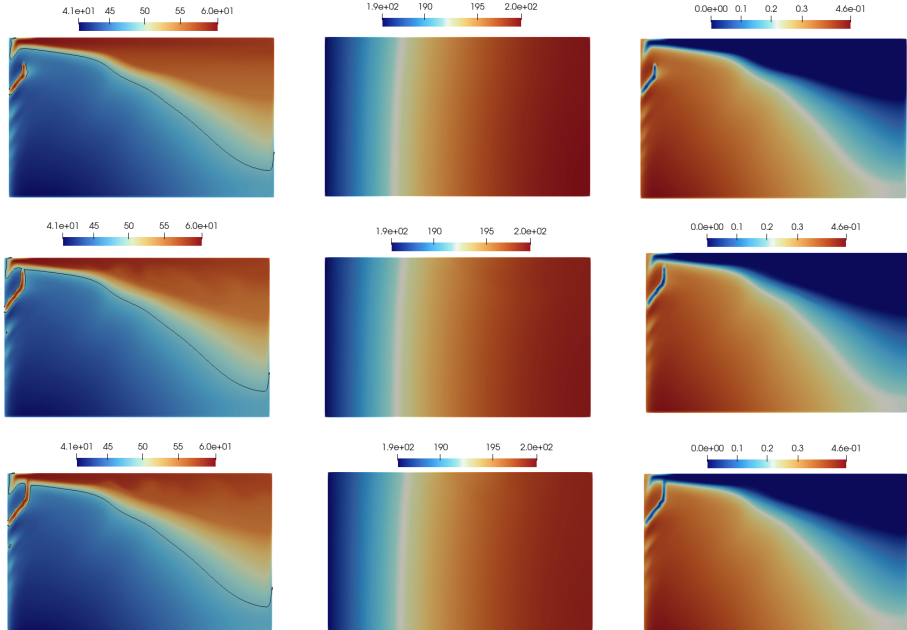
$$u = 0, \quad T = 216^{\circ}\text{C}, \quad c = 48, \quad f_s = 0.$$



Lateral freezing (Hebditch-Hunt).



Bottom freezing.

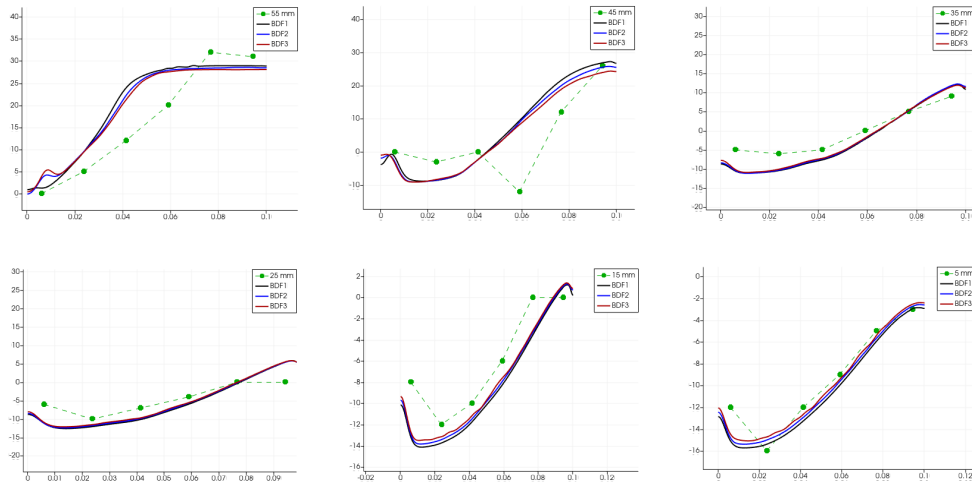


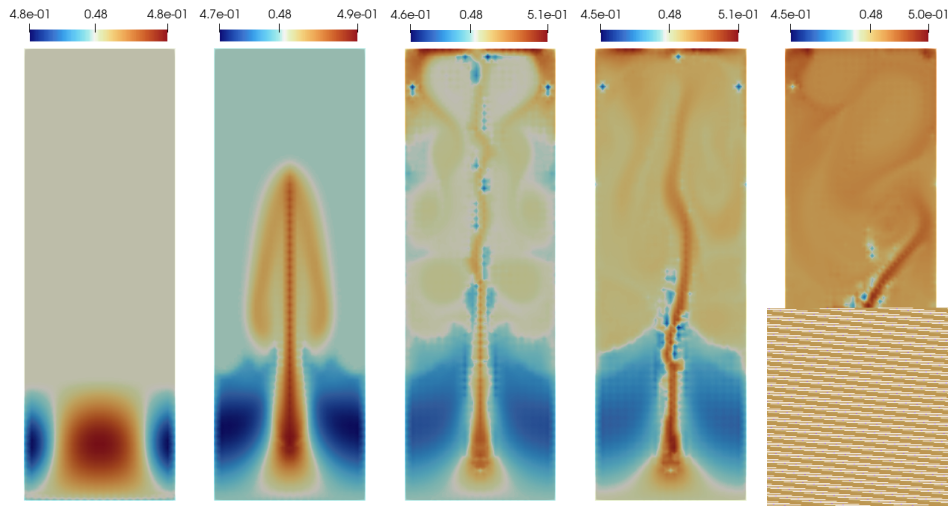
Concentration  $c$ , temperature  $T$  and solid fraction  $f_s$  for  $t = 600s$  obtained with BDF1, 2 and 3.





Comparison of concentration percent deviation after full solidification of Pb-48Sn alloy with experimental values reported by Hebditch and Hunt with numerical values obtained with BDF1, 2 and 3 mesh size  $h = 5,8926 \times 10^{-4}$





Concentration field obtained with BDF3 and  $\mathbb{P}_1$  for  $t = 15s$ ,  $t = 22s$ ,  $t = 29s$ ,  $t = 33s$  and  $t = 36s$ .







Drawings made by Gabriela Cabrales Lefimil.

**Kisko & Manolo:**  
**Feliz cumpleaños!**  
**Muchas gracias por los grandes momentos!**