

On the control of some systems modelling solidification processes and related phenomena

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- 1 Phase field models
 - Existence and uniqueness
 - Optimal control results
 - Controllability analysis
- 2 Binary alloy Carman-Kozeny models
 - Existence
 - Optimal control results
 - Other problems and questions
- 3 An additional controllability problem

The models

- Can be OK for phase change analysis
- Incorporate complex phenomena
- Appropriate for numerics
- For solidification and melting: [Fix\[1983\]](#), followed by [Cagnalp](#), [Hoffman-Jiong](#), etc.
- The variables:
 - $\tau = \tau(x, t)$ (temperature)
 - $u = u(x, t)$, $v = v(x, t)$ (solid fractions)
 - $w = w(x, t)$ (liquid fraction)We expect: $u + v + w \equiv 1$, $u, v, w \geq 0$
- **Motion is neglected!**

The considered model

$$\tau_t - b\Delta\tau = \ell_1 u_t + \ell_2 v_t + \ell_3 w_t + f$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} u \\ v \\ w \end{pmatrix} - k\Delta \begin{pmatrix} u \\ v \\ w \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} g_1 \\ g_2 \\ g_3 \end{pmatrix}$$

$g_i =$ cubic in u, v, w , linear in τ

$$g_1 + g_2 + g_3 \equiv 0$$

+ Neumann conditions + initial conditions

Hypotheses:

- $0 < T < +\infty$, $\Omega \subset \mathbf{R}^3$ open, connected, bounded, C^2
- τ_0, u_0, \dots in $H^2(\Omega)$, nonnegative, compatible, with $u_0 + v_0 + w_0 = 1$
- $f \in L^q(\Omega \times (0, T))$, $q > 5/2$

Theorem (Existence and uniqueness)

$\exists!$ (strong) solution $(\tau, u, v, w) \in W_2^{2,1}(\Omega \times (0, T))^4$

with $u, v, w \geq 0$, $u + v + w \equiv 1$

$(\tau \in L^2(0, T; H^2(\Omega)), \tau_t \in L^2(\Omega \times (0, T)), \text{etc.})$

Comments:

- Estimates
- Well-posedness, regularity, etc.
- OK with other boundary conditions, nonlinear terms, etc.
- Essential: **the same diffusion coefficient k for u, v, w**

$$\tau_t - b\Delta\tau = l_1 u_t + l_2 v_t + l_3 w_t + f$$
$$\begin{pmatrix} u \\ v \\ w \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} k_1 \Delta u \\ k_2 \Delta v \\ k_3 \Delta w \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} g_1 \\ g_2 \\ g_3 \end{pmatrix}$$

Global existence?

Formulation:

- $f \in \mathcal{U}_{ad} \subset L^q(\Omega \times (0, T))$ is the control
- (τ, u, v) is the state, $\tau \in \Theta_{ad} \subset L^q(\Omega \times (0, T))$
- The cost function:

$$J((\tau, u, v, f) = \frac{\alpha_0}{2} \iint |\tau - \tau_d|^2 + \frac{\alpha_1}{2} \iint |u - u_d|^2 + \frac{\alpha_2}{2} \iint |v - v_d|^2 + \frac{N}{q} \iint |f|^q$$

- The problem:

$$\begin{cases} \text{Minimize } J(\tau, u, v, f) \\ \text{Subject to } f \in \mathcal{U}_{ad}, \tau \in \Theta_{ad}, M(\tau, u, v, f) = 0 \end{cases}$$

$M(\tau, u, v, f) = 0$: (τ, u, v) is the state associated to f

Hypotheses:

- $\alpha_j \geq 0, N > 0$
- $\mathcal{U}_{ad}, \Theta_{ad}$ are nonempty, closed and convex
- The admissible set E_{ad} is nonempty

$$E_{ad} = \{(\tau, u, v, f) : f \in \mathcal{U}_{ad}, \tau \in \Theta_{ad}, M(\tau, u, v, f) = 0\}$$

Theorem (Existence of optimal controls)

$\exists(\hat{\tau}, \hat{u}, \hat{v}, \hat{f}) \in E_{ad}$ with

$$J(\hat{\tau}, \hat{u}, \hat{v}, \hat{f}) \leq J(\tau, u, v, f) \quad \forall(\tau, u, v, f) \in E_{ad}$$

Characterization (Dubovitskii-Milyutin formalism):

$$\begin{cases} \text{Minimize } J(\tau, u, v, f) \\ \text{Subject to } f \in \mathcal{U}_{ad}, \tau \in \Theta_{ad}, M(\tau, u, v, f) = 0 \end{cases}$$

The main idea: if (τ, u, v, f) is optimal,

$$DC(J) \cap TC(M) \cap FC(\mathcal{U}_{ad}) \cap FC(\Theta_{ad}) = \emptyset$$

Consequence: $\exists G_i$, not all zero, with

$$G_0 \in DC(J)^*, \quad G_1 \in TC(M)^*, \quad G_2 \in FC(\mathcal{U}_{ad})^*, \quad G_3 \in FC(\Theta_{ad})^*$$

and

$$G_0 + G_1 + G_2 + G_3 = 0$$

Phase field models

Optimality conditions

The adjoint state (θ, p, q)

(associated to the linearized system at (τ, u, v, f))

$$-\theta_t - b\Delta\theta = H_1 p + H_2 q + \alpha_0(\tau - \tau_d)$$

$$-\begin{pmatrix} p \\ q \end{pmatrix}_t - b\Delta \begin{pmatrix} p \\ q \end{pmatrix} = -\begin{pmatrix} \ell'_1 \\ \ell'_2 \end{pmatrix} \theta_t + K \begin{pmatrix} p \\ q \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_1(u - u_d) \\ \alpha_2(v - v_d) \end{pmatrix}$$

“starting” from zero at $t = T$, etc.

Then, after some computations:

$\exists g_2, g_3$ such that

$$\begin{aligned} \iint (N|f|^{q-2}f + \theta) h &= \iint g_2 h + \iint g_3 \psi \\ \forall h \in L^q(\Omega \times (0, T)), \quad M'(\tau, u, v, f)(\psi, \lambda, \eta, h) &= 0 \\ \iint g_2(h - f) &\geq 0 \quad \forall h \in \mathcal{U}_{ad} \\ \iint g_3(\psi - \tau) &\geq 0 \quad \forall \psi \in \Theta_{ad} \end{aligned}$$

Phase field models

A particular case

Pointwise constraints on f and τ :

- $\mathcal{U}_{ad} = \{f \in L^q(\Omega \times (0, T)) : |f| \leq C_0\}$
- $\Theta_{ad} = \{\tau \in L^2(\Omega \times (0, T)) : 0 < C_1 \leq \tau \leq C_2\}$

For appropriate (large) C_0 :

- $E_{ad} \neq \emptyset$ and existence holds
- Dubovitskii-Milyutin's formalism can be applied

The optimality system:

$$\begin{aligned} \iint (N|f|^{q-2}f + \theta) h &= \iint g_2 h + \iint g_3 \psi \\ \forall h \in L^q(\Omega \times (0, T)), \quad M'(\tau, u, v, f)(\psi, \lambda, \eta, h) &= 0 \\ g_2 &= \begin{cases} \leq 0 & f = C_0 \\ = 0 & |f| < C_0 \\ \geq 0 & f = -C_0 \end{cases} & g_3 &= \begin{cases} \leq 0 & \tau = C_2 \\ = 0 & C_1 < \tau < C_2 \\ \geq 0 & \tau = C_1 \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

Exact controllability to the trajectories:

- Locally supported distributed controls:
 $f1_\omega$, with $\omega \subset\subset \Omega$, $f \in L^q(\omega \times (0, T))$
- The controllability problem: Fix τ_0, u_0, v_0 and find $f \in L^q(\omega \times (0, T))$ with

$$\begin{aligned} \tau_t - b\Delta\tau &= \ell'_1 u_t + \ell'_2 v_t + f1_\omega \\ \begin{pmatrix} u \\ v \end{pmatrix}_t - k\Delta \begin{pmatrix} u \\ v \end{pmatrix} &= \begin{pmatrix} g_1 \\ g_2 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{etc.} \end{aligned}$$

$$\tau(T) = \hat{\tau}(T) \quad (\text{and} \quad \begin{pmatrix} u \\ v \end{pmatrix}(T) = \begin{pmatrix} \hat{u} \\ \hat{v} \end{pmatrix}(T))$$

$(\hat{\tau}, \hat{u}, \hat{v})$ is an uncontrolled trajectory

- The aim: solve this problem at least for small
dist. $((\tau_0, u_0, v_0), (\hat{\tau}(0), \hat{u}(0), \hat{v}(0)))$

Phase field models

Reformulation - null controllability

Set $(\tau, u, v) = (\hat{\tau}, \hat{u}, \hat{v}) + (\varphi, y, z)$ and find f with

$$\begin{aligned}\varphi_t - b\Delta\varphi &= l'_1 y_t + l'_2 z_t + f1_\omega \\ \begin{pmatrix} y \\ z \end{pmatrix}_t - k\Delta \begin{pmatrix} y \\ z \end{pmatrix} &= \begin{pmatrix} g'_1 \\ g'_2 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{etc.} \\ \varphi(T) = 0 \quad (\text{and } \begin{pmatrix} y \\ z \end{pmatrix}(T) = 0)\end{aligned}$$

After linearization at $(\tilde{\varphi}, \tilde{y}, \tilde{z})$:

$$\begin{aligned}\varphi_t - b\Delta\varphi &= l'_1 y_t + l'_2 z_t + f1_\omega \\ \begin{pmatrix} y \\ z \end{pmatrix}_t - k\Delta \begin{pmatrix} y \\ z \end{pmatrix} &= M \begin{pmatrix} y \\ z \end{pmatrix} + \varphi \begin{pmatrix} h_1 \\ h_2 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{etc.} \\ \varphi(T) = 0 \quad (\text{and } \begin{pmatrix} y \\ z \end{pmatrix}(T) = 0)\end{aligned}$$

The strategy:

- Prove \exists for this LNC problem
- Find a fixed point of $(\tilde{\varphi}, \tilde{y}, \tilde{z}) \mapsto (M, h_1, h_2) \mapsto (\varphi, y, z)$

Phase field models

In order to solve the LNC problem ...

- We introduce the adjoint state

$$\begin{aligned}\theta_t - b\Delta\theta &= h_1 p + h_2 q \\ - \begin{pmatrix} p \\ q \end{pmatrix}_t - k\Delta \begin{pmatrix} p \\ q \end{pmatrix} &= M^* \begin{pmatrix} p \\ q \end{pmatrix} - \theta_t \begin{pmatrix} \ell'_1 \\ \ell'_2 \end{pmatrix}\end{aligned}$$

- We try to prove a Carleman estimate

$$\begin{cases} \iint \rho^{-2}\theta^2 \leq \iint_{\omega \times (0,T)} \rho^{-2}\theta^2 \\ \forall \text{ solution } (\theta, p, q) \end{cases}$$

- Even better

$$\begin{cases} \iint \rho^{-2}(\theta^2 + p^2 + q^2) \leq \iint_{\omega \times (0,T)} \rho^{-2}\theta^2 \\ \forall \text{ solution } (\theta, p, q) \end{cases}$$

This would imply **observability** for (θ, p, q) and thus **null controllability** for (φ, y, z)

Unfortunately it is **unknown** whether Carleman holds

$$\begin{aligned} -\theta_t - b\Delta\theta &= h_1 p + h_2 q \\ -\begin{pmatrix} p \\ q \end{pmatrix}_t - k\Delta \begin{pmatrix} p \\ q \end{pmatrix} &= M^* \begin{pmatrix} p \\ q \end{pmatrix} - \theta_t \begin{pmatrix} \ell'_1 \\ \ell'_2 \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

What is known:

$$\begin{cases} \iint \rho^{-2}(\theta^2 + p^2 + q^2) \leq \iint_{\omega \times (0,T)} \rho^{-2}(\theta^2 + q^2) \\ \forall \text{ solution } (\theta, p, q) \end{cases}$$

A consequence of the results of [Fursikov-Imanuvilov\[1996\]](#)

This provides **partial null controllability** for (φ, y, z)
(with an additional control in the z-equation; realistic?)

A weaker question - unique continuation:

Assume that

$$\begin{cases} -\theta_t - b\Delta\theta = h_1 p + h_2 q \\ -\begin{pmatrix} p \\ q \end{pmatrix}_t - k\Delta \begin{pmatrix} p \\ q \end{pmatrix} = M^* \begin{pmatrix} p \\ q \end{pmatrix} - \theta_t \begin{pmatrix} \ell'_1 \\ \ell'_2 \end{pmatrix} \\ \theta = 0 \quad \text{in } \omega \times (0, T) \end{cases}$$

Do we have $\theta \equiv 0$?

Unfortunately, this is also **unknown**

This would lead to (local) approximate controllability results ...

The models

- Appropriate to describe segregation phenomena in binary alloys
- Again suitable for numerical analysis (shown below)
- First introduced by [Carman\[1939\]](#), modified by [Kozeny\[1970\]](#), [Scheidegger\[1974\]](#)
- The variables:
 - $\tau = \tau(x, t)$ (temperature)
 - $c = c(x, t)$ (solute concentration)
 - $\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{u}(x, t), p = p(x, t)$ (velocity field and pressure)We expect: $c \geq c_\ell \geq 0$, c_ℓ : liquid conc. of the solute
- **Motion effects are crucial!**

Binary alloy Carman-Kozeny models

Description

The equations:

$$\tau_t + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \tau - b \Delta \tau = f$$

$$c_t + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla c_\ell(c, \tau) - k \Delta c = 0$$

$$\mathbf{u}_t + (\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{u} - \nu \Delta \tau + a_\varepsilon(c, \tau) \mathbf{u} + \nabla p = B(c, \tau)$$

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0$$

Additional relations:

$$c_\ell = \psi(f_s) c, \quad f_s = f_s(c, \tau): \text{solid fraction, } 0 \leq f_s \leq 1$$

$$a_\varepsilon = \alpha f_s^2 (1 + \varepsilon - f_s)^{-3} \quad (\text{Carman-Kozeny})$$

$$B = b_0 + b_1 \tau + b_2 c_\ell(c, \tau) \quad (\text{Boussinesq approximation})$$

+ Neumann conditions + initial conditions

Formally, the case $\varepsilon = 0$ corresponds to a **free-boundary model**:
 $f_s = 1$ in the solid, $0 \leq f_s < 1$ in the rest

Hypotheses:

- $0 < T < +\infty$, $\Omega \subset \mathbf{R}^3$ open, connected, bounded, C^2
- $\tau_0, c_0, \mathbf{u}_0$ in $H^1(\Omega)$, compatible
- $f \in L^2(\Omega \times (0, T))$

Theorem (Existence)

\exists *weak solution* (τ, c, \mathbf{u})

$(\tau \in L^2(0, T; H^1(\Omega)), \tau_t \in L^2(0, T; H^{-1}(\Omega)), \text{etc.})$

Comments:

- The interesting question: **what happens as $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$?**
- There are results for $\Omega \subset \mathbf{R}^2$ [Boldrini-Planas\[2005\]](#)

Formulation:

- The cost function:

$$J(\tau, \mathbf{c}, \mathbf{u}, f) = \frac{\alpha_0}{2} \iint |\tau - \tau_d|^2 + \frac{\alpha_1}{2} \iint |\mathbf{c} - \mathbf{c}_d|^2 \\ \frac{\alpha_2}{2} \iint |\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{u}_d|^2 + \frac{N}{2} \iint |f|^2$$

- The problem:

$$\begin{cases} \text{Minimize} & J(\tau, \mathbf{c}, \mathbf{u}, f) \\ \text{Subject to} & f \in \mathcal{U}_{ad}, \tau \in \Theta_{ad}, M(\tau, \mathbf{c}, \mathbf{u}, f) = 0 \end{cases}$$

Binary alloy Carman-Kozeny models

Optimal control existence

Hypotheses:

- $\alpha_j \geq 0, N > 0$
- $\mathcal{U}_{ad}, \Theta_{ad}$ are nonempty, closed and convex
- The admissible set E_{ad} is nonempty

$$E_{ad} = \{(\tau, \mathbf{c}, \mathbf{u}, f) : f \in \mathcal{U}_{ad}, \tau \in \Theta_{ad}, M(\tau, \mathbf{c}, \mathbf{u}, f) = 0\}$$

Theorem (Existence of optimal controls)

$\exists(\hat{\tau}, \hat{\mathbf{c}}, \hat{\mathbf{u}}, \hat{f}) \in E_{ad}$ with

$$J(\hat{\tau}, \hat{\mathbf{c}}, \hat{\mathbf{u}}, \hat{f}) \leq J(\tau, \mathbf{c}, \mathbf{u}, f) \quad \forall(\tau, \mathbf{c}, \mathbf{u}, f) \in E_{ad}$$

Again: **what happens as $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$?**

Characterization

- The adjoint state $(\theta, \psi, \mathbf{w})$

$$-\theta_t - \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \theta - b \Delta \theta - \frac{\partial c_\ell}{\partial \tau} \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \psi = \alpha_0 (\tau - \tau_d) + \dots$$

$$-\psi_t - \frac{\partial c_\ell}{\partial c} \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \psi - k \Delta \psi = \alpha_1 (c - c_d) + \dots$$

$$-\mathbf{w}_t - (\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{w} - \nu \Delta \mathbf{w} + \mathbf{a}_\varepsilon \mathbf{w} + \nabla q = \alpha_2 (\mathbf{w} - \mathbf{w}_d) + \dots$$

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{w} = 0$$

“starting” from zero at $t = T$, etc.

- After some computations: $\exists g_2, g_3$ such that

$$\iint (Nf + \theta) h = \iint g_2 h + \iint g_3 \psi$$

$$\forall h \in L^2(\Omega \times (0, T)), \quad M'(\tau, u, v, f)(\psi, \lambda, \eta, h) = 0$$

$$\iint g_2 (h - f) \geq 0 \quad \forall h \in \mathcal{U}_{ad}$$

$$\iint g_3 (\psi - \tau) \geq 0 \quad \forall \psi \in \Theta_{ad}$$

Formulation (motivations in industrial problems):

- A second cost function:

$$J(\tau, \mathbf{c}, \mathbf{u}, f) = T^*(f, \mathbf{c}_e; \delta) + \frac{N}{q} \iint |f|^q$$

with $T^*(f, \mathbf{c}_e; \delta) = \inf\{T > 0 : \|\mathbf{c}(T) - \mathbf{c}_e\|_{L^2} \leq \delta\}$

- The problem:

$$\begin{cases} \text{Minimize} & J(\tau, \mathbf{c}, \mathbf{u}, f) \\ \text{Subject to} & f \in \mathcal{U}_{ad}, \tau \in \Theta_{ad}, M(\tau, u, v, f) = 0 \end{cases}$$

Some questions:

- Existence?
- Optimality conditions for \hat{f}, \hat{T} ?

More comments and questions:

- Characterization leads to algorithms (as usual; work in progress . . .)
- Controllability results can also be considered
For instance: for $N = 2$, local null controllability of τ and \mathbf{u}
Also: large time null controllability of τ and \mathbf{u}
[EFC-Guerrero-Imanuvilov-Puel\[2005\]](#)

The (linearized) FitzHugh-Nagumo equation

The problem under consideration

The approximate controllability problem:

- Fix $u_0, u_T, \varepsilon > 0$. Find $f \in L^2(\omega \times (0, T))$ with

$$\begin{aligned}u_t - k\Delta u + v + \alpha(x, t)u &= f1_\omega, & u(0) &= u_0 \\v_t - \sigma u + \gamma v &= 0, & v(0) &= 0\end{aligned} \quad \text{etc.}$$

$$\|u(T) - u_T\|_{L^2} \leq \varepsilon$$

- Describes excitability and bistability phenomena, Hodgkin-Huxley[1952], Hastings[1975]. Also related to solidification.
- Memory effects:

$$\begin{aligned}u_t - k\Delta u + \sigma \int_0^t e^{-\gamma(t-s)} u(s) ds + \alpha(x, t)u &= f1_\omega \\u(0) &= u_0\end{aligned} \quad \text{etc.}$$

The (linearized) FitzHugh-Nagumo equation

Approximate controllability

Fix $u_0, u_T, \varepsilon > 0$. Find $f \in L^2(\omega \times (0, T))$ with

$$\begin{aligned}u_t - k\Delta u + v + \alpha(x, t)u &= f1_\omega, & u(0) &= u_0 \\v_t - \sigma u + \gamma v &= 0, & v(0) &= 0\end{aligned} \quad \text{etc.}$$

$$\|u(T) - u_T\|_{L^2} \leq \varepsilon$$

This is unknown

What is known:

- OK if $\sigma = 0$
- OK if v satisfies $v_t - \kappa\Delta v + \sigma u + \gamma v = 0, \quad v(0) = 0$

Uniformly bounded controls $f_{\varepsilon, \kappa}$ as $\kappa \rightarrow 0$?

The (linearized) FitzHugh-Nagumo equation

The case $\alpha = \alpha(x)$

Approximate controllability also holds if $\alpha = \alpha(x)$

The proof:

- Consider the adjoint $h = h(x, t)$ with

$$\begin{aligned} -h_t - k\Delta h + \sigma \int_t^T e^{-\gamma(s-t)} h(s) ds + \alpha(x, t)h &= 0 \\ h(0) &= h_T \end{aligned}$$

- We prove unique continuation:

$$h = 0 \text{ in } \omega \times (0, T) \Rightarrow h \equiv 0$$

- This relies on the properties of $h \dots$

THANK YOU VERY MUCH ...