Stability of Detached Solidification

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Abstract

Bridgman crystal growth can be conducted in the so-called “detached” solidification regime, where the growing crystal is detached from the crucible wall. A small gap between the growing crystal and the crucible wall, of the order of 100 micrometers or less, can be maintained during the process. A meniscus is formed at the bottom of the melt between the crystal and crucible wall. Under proper conditions, growth can proceed without collapsing the meniscus. The meniscus shape plays a key role in stabilizing the process. Thermal and other process parameters can also affect the geometrical steady-state stability conditions of solidification. The dynamic stability theory of the shaped crystal growth process has been developed by Tatarchenko \cite{1}. It consists of finding a simplified autonomous set of differential equations for the radius, height, and possibly other process parameters. The problem then reduces to analyzing a system of first order linear differential equations for stability. Here we apply a modified version of this theory for a particular case of detached solidification. Approximate analytical formulas as well as accurate numerical values for the capillary stability coefficients are presented. They display an unexpected singularity as a function of pressure differential. A novel approach to study the thermal field effects on the crystal shape stability has been proposed. In essence, it rectifies the unphysical assumption of the model \cite{1} that utilizes a perturbation of the crystal radius along the axis as being instantaneous. It consists of introducing time delay effects into the mathematical description and leads, in general, to stability over a broader parameter range. We believe that this novel treatment can be advantageously implemented in stability analyses of other crystal growth techniques such as Czochralski and float zone methods.

\cite{1} V. A. Tatarchenko, \textit{Shaped Crystal Growth}, Springer, 1993, pp. 19.
STABILITY OF DETACHED SOLIDIFICATION

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DETACHED BRIDGMAN GROWTH

Dynamic Growth Stability – V.A.Tatarchenko – Shaped Crystal Growth
Linear response of perturbed crystal radius and height

\[ \delta \dot{R} = A_{RR} \delta R + A_{Rh} \delta h \]
\[ \delta \dot{h} = A_{hR} \delta R + A_{hh} \delta h \]

Stable growth if

\[ A_{RR} + A_{hh} < 0 \]
\[ A_{RR} A_{hh} - A_{Rh} A_{hR} > 0 \]
CAPILLARITY PROBLEM

Young-Laplace equation

\[
\frac{z''}{(1 + z'^2)^{3/2}} + \frac{z'}{r(1 + z'^2)^{1/2}} = a - b z(r)
\]

\[
a = \frac{\Delta P_m r_C}{\gamma} \quad b = \frac{\rho g_0 r_C^2}{\gamma} \quad \Delta P_m = \left( P_{top} + \rho g \frac{H}{r} \right) - P_{bot}
\]
A_{RR} = -V \frac{\partial \beta}{\partial R}

A_{Rh} = -V \frac{\partial \beta}{\partial h}

V - pulling rate

\frac{\partial \beta}{\partial R} = \frac{(\alpha R - \cos \alpha_{gr}) \sin(\alpha_{gr})^2}{Rs (i\alpha_{gr})^3 - b(5R)^2(2 + 4/R + 8)}

\frac{\partial \beta}{\partial h} = -\frac{r_c^2 \rho g}{2\gamma Rs i\alpha_{gr}^3 - h(5R)^2(2 + 4 + R + 8)} \frac{(1 - R^2) \sin \alpha_{gr}^2}{\beta}
\[ \theta = 156^\circ, \alpha = 11^\circ, \]
\[ b = 3.311927 \]
Boundary condition at the interface

\[ V_C L = k_S \frac{\partial T_S}{\partial z} - k_L \frac{\partial T_L}{\partial z} \]

Growth rate

\[ V_C = V + \frac{\partial h}{\partial t} \]

Height perturbation – Tatarchenko’s model

\[ \frac{\partial \delta h}{\partial t} = L^{-1} \left( k_S \frac{\partial G_S}{\partial h} - k_L \frac{\partial G_L}{\partial h} \right) \delta h + L^{-1} \left( k_S \frac{\partial G_S}{\partial R} - k_L \frac{\partial G_L}{\partial R} \right) \delta R \]

\[ \delta G_S \neq \frac{\partial G_S}{\partial R} \delta R \]

questionable
For melt
\[ \frac{\partial^2 T_L}{\partial z^2} + \frac{V}{\kappa_L} \frac{\partial T_L}{\partial z} - \frac{\mu_L}{k_L r_C} \left( T_L - T_e \right) = 0 \]

For crystal
\[ \frac{\partial^2 T_S}{\partial z^2} + \frac{V}{\kappa_S} \frac{\partial T_S}{\partial z} - \frac{\mu_S}{k_S R + \delta(z)} \left( T_S - T_e \right) = 0 \]

\[ A_{hh} = -L^{-1}k_L \frac{T_{hot} - T_0}{H^2} - L^{-1}k_S \frac{T_0 - T_{cold}}{l^2} \]

Perturbation of thermal gradient at the interface due to crystal radius variation (convolution):
\[ \delta G_S = -\frac{2\mu_S}{R^2k_S} \frac{(T_0 - T_{cold})V}{V} \int_0^t \delta R(t') e^{-V(t-t')} \sqrt{\frac{V}{\kappa_S}} + \frac{8\mu_S}{k_S R} \, dt' \]
GENERALIZED RESPONSE

\[
\delta \dot{h} = \int_{0}^{t} \delta R(t') G(t - t') \, dt' + A_{hh} \delta h
\]

\[
\delta \dot{R} = A_{RR} \delta R + A_{Rh} \delta h
\]

Laplace transform solution

\[
h(s) = \frac{G(s) \delta R(0) + s \left( \delta h(0) - A_{RR} \right)}{s^2 - s \left( A_{RR} + A_{hh} \right) + A_{RR} A_{hh} - A_{Rh} G(s)}
\]

\[
R(s) = \frac{\delta R(0) (s - A_{hh}) + A_{Rh} \delta h(0)}{s^2 - s \left( A_{RR} + A_{hh} \right) + A_{RR} A_{h} - h \left( s \right) A_{h}}
\]
Tatarchenko model gives

\[ A_{hR} = -\frac{2V \mu_s (T_0 - T_e)}{LR^2 s_0} \]

Our model

\[ G(s) = \frac{A_{hR} s_0}{s + s_0} \]

\[ s_0 = V \sqrt{\left( \frac{V}{\kappa_s} \right)^2 + \frac{8 \mu_s}{k_s R}} \]

Response for the induced perturbation can be studied by analyzing the roots of the following polynomial

\[ s^2 \left( s + s_0 \right) - s \left( s + s_0 \right) \left( A_{RR} + A_{hh} \right) + A_{RR} A_{hh} \left( s + s_0 \right) - A_{Rh} A_{hR} s_0 = 0 \]
MODIFIED STABILITY CRITERION

Conditions for stable growth

**Our model**

\[ A_{RR} A_{hh} - A_{Rh} A_{hR} > 0 \]

\[ A_{RR} + A_{hh} < s_0 \]

\[ A_{RR} A_{hh} - s_0 (A_{RR} + A_{hh}) > 0 \]

**Tatarchenko model**

\[ A_{RR} A_{hh} - A_{Rh} A_{hR} > 0 \]

\[ A_{RR} + A_{hh} < 0 \]
MODEL APPROXIMATIONS

- Environmental temperature is constant
- One-dimensional lump type approximation
- Capillarity – zero order model – no meniscus motion effects, no triple point effects
Capillarity coefficients display singularity.

Thermal response for the radius perturbation is of the convolution type – this modified model is applicable for other types of shaped crystal growth: Czochralski, Float Zone, etc.