Nonlinear Sciences > Pattern Formation and Solitons

# Emergence of foams from the breakdown of the phase field crystal model

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(Submitted on 11 Mar 2010)

The phase field crystal (PFC) model captures the elastic and topological properties of crystals with a single scalar field at small undercooling. At large undercooling, new foam-like behavior emerges. We characterize this foam phase of the PFC equation and propose a modified PFC equation that may be used for the simulation of foam dynamics. This minimal model reproduces von Neumann's rule for twodimensional dry foams, and Lifshitz-Slyozov coarsening for wet foams. We also measure the coordination number distribution and find that its second moment is larger than previously-reported experimental and theoretical studies of soap froths, a finding that we attribute to the wetness of the foam increasing with time.

Comments:4 pages, 4 figuresSubjects:Pattern Formation and Solitons (nlin.PS); Materials Science<br/>(cond-mat.mtrl-sci)MSC classes:35B36, 35Q74Cite as:arXiv:1003.2371v1 [nlin.PS]

#### **Submission history**

From: Nicholas Guttenberg [view email] [v1] Thu, 11 Mar 2010 17:47:49 GMT (375kb,D)

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