

Supplementary Information

Coflowing aqueous and oil-based ferrofluid streams exposed to a magnetic field

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S1. Properties of the liquids used in the experiments

The properties of the aqueous glycerol (glycerol+DI water):

Fluid	DI water: Glycerol %(v/v)	Density (kg m ⁻³)	Viscosity (mPa s)
Aqueous glycerol	1:1	1139	6.43
	2:1	1099	2.96
	9:1	1025	1.52

The properties of oil-based ferrofluid:

Fluid	Concentration %(v/v)	Density (kg m ⁻³)	Viscosity (mPa s)
Ferrofluid	2%	892	28.8
	5%	1098	36.1

The interfacial tension between the different fluid combinations:

DI water: Glycerol	Oil-based Ferrofluid	IFT (mN m ⁻¹)
1:1	2%	27.3
2:1	2%	24.1
9:1	2%	19.7
1:1	5%	13.4
2:1	5%	15.5
9:1	5%	23.8

S2. Calculation of the timescales

The transition between the different flow regimes can also be explained in terms of the relevant timescales: magnetic pinching timescale, which we define as $t_{mp} \sim (\gamma W / \nu \mu_0 H^2)$ and advection timescale, $t_{ad} \sim (W / U_2)$. The advection timescale t_{ad} is calculated from the channel width W and the average flow velocity of the aqueous phase, U_2 . The magnetophoretic timescale is estimated using the values of the interfacial tension (γ), channel width W , kinematic viscosity of the aqueous phase (ν), magnetic permeability of free space (μ_0), and magnetic field intensity (H).

Case I:

For smaller $Bo_m = 20$ and $Ca_r = 2.6$, we find that the magnetic pinching timescale is much longer than the advection timescale, $t_{mp} > t_{ad}$. The liquid properties and operating conditions for calculating the t_{mp} and t_{ad} in this regime are given as follows: interfacial tension, $\gamma = 24.1$ mN/m, channel width, $W = 300$ μm , the average flow velocity of the aqueous phase, $U_2 = 0.02$ m/s, kinematic viscosity of the aqueous phase, $\nu = 3 \times 10^{-6}$ m²/s, magnetic permeability of free space, $\mu_0 = 4\pi \times 10^{-7}$ N/A², and magnetic field intensity, $H = 2950$ A/m.

We calculate the $t_{mp} \sim 0.223$ s and $t_{ad} \sim 0.015$ s.

Case II:

For smaller $Bo_m = 30$ but a higher $Ca_r = 7$, we get a magnetic pinching timescale which is of the same order as that of the advection timescale, $t_{mp} \sim t_{ad}$. The liquid properties and operating conditions for calculating the t_{mp} and t_{ad} in this regime are given as follows: interfacial tension, $\gamma = 24.1$ mN/m, channel width, $W = 300$ μm , the average flow velocity of the aqueous phase, $U_2 = 0.01$ m/s, kinematic viscosity of the aqueous phase, $\nu = 3 \times 10^{-6}$ m²/s, magnetic permeability of free space, $\mu_0 = 4\pi \times 10^{-7}$ N/A², and magnetic field intensity, $H = 7521$ A/m.

We calculate the $t_{mp} \sim 0.034$ s and $t_{ad} \sim 0.030$ s.

Case III:

At a higher Bo_m and Ca_r , we find that the magnetic pinching timescale is smaller than the advection timescale, $t_{mp} < t_{ad}$. The liquid properties and operating conditions for calculating the t_{mp} and t_{ad} in this regime are given as follows: interfacial tension, $\gamma = 24.1$ mN/m, channel width, $W = 300$ μm , the average flow velocity of the aqueous phase, $U_2 = 0.005$ m/s, kinematic viscosity of the aqueous phase, $\nu = 3 \times 10^{-6}$ m²/s, magnetic permeability of free space, $\mu_0 = 4\pi \times 10^{-7}$ N/A², and magnetic field intensity, $H = 15545$ A/m.

We calculate the $t_{mp} \sim 0.008$ s and $t_{ad} \sim 0.060$ s.