

Fluid & Solid Mass Balances

General balance eqn.: $\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot \vec{j}(u) = \hat{f}_s(u)$

I. Fluid mass balance

1) Unknown to be balanced: $u = \phi \rho_f$

"fluid mass per unit volume of porous medium"

2) Define mass flux of pore fluid

$$\vec{j}(u) = \vec{j}(\phi \rho_f) = \rho_f \phi \vec{v}_f = \rho_f \vec{q}_f$$

3) Source term: $\hat{f}_s = \rho_f \Gamma$ $\Gamma = \text{vol. rate of melting/freezing}$

Fluid mass balance: $\frac{\partial}{\partial t}(\phi \rho_f) + \nabla \cdot (\rho_f \vec{q}_f) = \rho_f \Gamma$

II. Solid mass balance

1) unknown to be balanced: $u = (1-\phi) \rho_s$

2) mass flux of solid: $\vec{j}((1-\phi) \rho_s) = \rho_s (1-\phi) \vec{v}_s$

3) source term: $\hat{f}_s = -\rho_s \Gamma$

Solid mass balance: $\frac{\partial}{\partial t}((1-\phi) \rho_s) + \nabla \cdot ((1-\phi) \rho_s \vec{v}_s) = -\rho_s \Gamma$

For now we assume no phase change: $\Gamma = 0$

I.) $\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\phi \vec{v}_f) = 0$

II.) $-\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot ((1-\phi) \vec{v}_s) = 0$

Two-phase continuity equation: (2)

$$\nabla \cdot (\phi \bar{v}_f + (1-\phi) \bar{v}_s) = \nabla \cdot (\bar{q}_r + \bar{v}_s) = 0$$

\bar{q}_r can be eliminated using Darcy's law

Need an additional constitutive law for $\nabla \cdot \bar{v}_s$

the volumetric strain rate $\dot{\epsilon} = \nabla \cdot \bar{v}_s$

1) Elastic matrix (standard case):

$$\nabla \cdot \bar{v}_s \equiv c_r \frac{\partial p_f}{\partial t} \quad c_r = \text{bulk rock compressibility} \left[\frac{L}{M} \right]$$

$$c_r = - \frac{1}{V_T} \left. \frac{dV_T}{d\sigma'} \right|_T$$

$V_T = V_f + V_s$ total rock volume

σ' = effective stress, i.e. stress on the solid

$\sigma_T = \sigma' + p_f$ σ_T = total stress

Substituting into continuity

$$\nabla \cdot (\bar{q}_r + \bar{v}_s) = \nabla \cdot \bar{v}_s + \nabla \cdot \bar{q}_r = c_r \frac{\partial p_f}{\partial t} - \nabla \cdot \left(\frac{k}{\mu} (\nabla p_f + p_f g \hat{z}) \right) = 0$$

Standard groundwater flow equation:

$$\left[c_r \frac{\partial p_f}{\partial t} - \nabla \cdot \left(\frac{k}{\mu} (\nabla p_f + p_f g \hat{z}) \right) \right] = 0 \quad \text{equation for } p_f$$

implied porosity change: $\phi \sim \phi_0 e^{c_r(p-p_0)}$

typically $c_r \approx 10^{-8} \frac{1}{\text{Pa}}$

Δp due to 100 m water column $\Delta p = p_f g h = 10^3 \frac{\text{kg}}{\text{m}^3} 10^1 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}^2} 10^2 \text{m} = 10^6 \text{Pa}$

$$\Delta \phi \sim \phi_0 e^{10^{-2}} \approx \phi_0$$

\Rightarrow porosity change is negligible

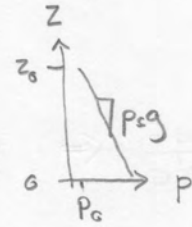
2) Ductile/viscous matrix

$$p_f - p_s = \mathcal{S} \nabla \cdot \bar{v}_s$$

\mathcal{S} = bulk viscosity of two-phase medium

$P = p_f - p_s$ overpressure in the fluid

Assume that $p_s = p_0 + \rho_s g (z_0 - z)$ at depth



Reformulate Darcy's law in terms of over pressure

$$q_r = -\frac{k}{\mu} (\nabla p_f + \rho_f g \hat{z}) = -\frac{k}{\mu} (\underbrace{\nabla p_f - \nabla p_s}_{\nabla P} + \underbrace{\nabla p_s + \rho_f g \hat{z}}_{-\rho_s g \hat{z}})$$

$$\boxed{q_r = -\frac{k}{\mu} (\nabla P + \Delta \rho g \hat{z})}$$

$$\Delta P = \rho_f - \rho_s$$

Substitute into two phase continuity equation:

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla \cdot (\bar{q}_r + \bar{v}_s) &= -\nabla \cdot \bar{q}_r + \nabla \cdot \bar{v}_s = 0 \\ &= -\nabla \cdot \left(\frac{k}{\mu} (\nabla P + \Delta \rho g \hat{z}) \right) + \frac{P}{\mathcal{S}} = 0 \end{aligned}$$

Compaction equation: $\boxed{-\nabla \cdot \left(\frac{k}{\mu} (\nabla P + \Delta \rho g \hat{z}) \right) + \frac{P}{\mathcal{S}} = 0}$

Needs to be coupled to a porosity evolution equation

From solid mass balance:

$$\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\phi \bar{v}_s) = \nabla \cdot v_s \Rightarrow \boxed{\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\phi \bar{v}_s) = \frac{P}{\mathcal{S}}}$$

In the ductile case we have to consider the variation of k and ξ with ϕ .

Typically:

$$k = k_0 \phi^n \quad n \in [2, 3]$$
$$\xi = \frac{\xi_0}{\phi^m} \quad m \in [0, 1]$$

Brins