

# Lecture 16: Solute transport

Logistics: - HW5 is due (10/17)

- HW3 special deal if you complete  
our spring break just -15% late penalty!

- HW6 will be posted due Mar 21

⇒ Streamfunction

Last time: Correlated random fields

Properties: 1) correlation length

2) amplitude

3) mean

• Cov ( $X, Y$ )

• C( $h$ ) = Cov (Z( $\underline{x}$ ), Z( $\underline{x} + \underline{h}$ ))

⇒ controls correlation length

• covariance models

Today: - Solute transport

- Advection-diffusion equation

- 2 new aspects: time derivative, advection

# Solute Balance Equation

General balance equation:  $\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot \underline{j}(u) = \hat{f}(u)$

## 1) Define the unknown

- mass/mols of aqueous solute per unit volume of porous medium

$$u \equiv \phi \rho X = \phi c$$

$$X = \text{mass/mole fraction} \quad \frac{\text{M}}{\text{M}} \quad \frac{\text{N}}{\text{N}}$$

$$\rho = \text{density of fluid} \quad \frac{\text{M}}{\text{L}^3}$$

$$c = \rho X = \text{mass/moles conc.} \quad \frac{\text{M}}{\text{L}^3} \quad \frac{\text{N}}{\text{L}^3}$$

## 2) Define fluxes

- Advective flux due to fluid flow

$$\underline{j}_A = \underbrace{\phi \underline{v}}_q c = qc \quad \left[ 1 \frac{\text{L}}{\text{T}} \frac{\text{M}}{\text{L}^3} = \frac{\text{M}}{\text{L}^2 \text{T}} \right]$$

- Diffusive solute flux due to concentration gradients

$$\text{Fick's law: } \underline{j}_D = - \tau \phi D_m \nabla c \quad \left[ 1 \frac{\text{L}}{\text{T}} \frac{1}{\text{L}} \frac{\text{M}}{\text{L}^3} = \frac{\text{M}}{\text{L}^2 \text{T}} \right]$$

$$D_m = \text{mol. diffusion coefficient} \quad \frac{\text{L}^2}{\text{T}}$$

$$\tau = \text{tortuosity} < 1$$

$$D_m \approx 10^{-9} \frac{\text{m}^2}{\text{s}}$$

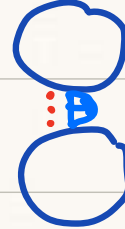


## • Mechanical Dispersion:

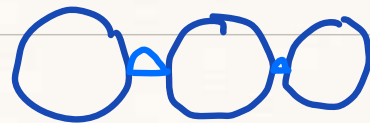
Def: Spreading of solutes due to variations in fluid velocity around the ave. velocity.

$$\bar{v} = \frac{q}{\phi} \quad \text{"mean interstitial velocity"}$$

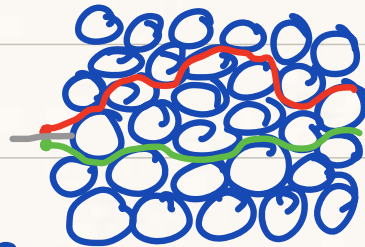
Causes: a) Velocity variations in single pore



b) Velocity variations between pores



c) Variations of length of path



Properties of mechanical dispersion:

1) Stronger in direction of flow weaker in the transverse direction  $\Rightarrow$  anisotropic

2) Magnitude increases linearly with velocity/flux

Dispersion in 1D:

$$D_d = \alpha_L q$$

$$L \frac{L}{T}$$

$\alpha_L$  = longitudinal dispersivity [L]

in sphere pack:  $\alpha_L \approx d$  dispersivity  
 $\uparrow$  grain diameter

# Mechanical dispersion tensor

$$\underline{\underline{D}}_H = (\alpha_L - \alpha_T) \frac{\mathbf{q} \otimes \mathbf{q}}{|\mathbf{q}|} + \alpha_T |\mathbf{q}| \underline{\underline{I}}$$

$\alpha_L$  = long. dispersivity [L]

$\alpha_T$  = transverse dispersivity [L]     $\alpha_T < \alpha_L$

Dyadic product:  $\mathbf{q} \otimes \mathbf{q} = \begin{pmatrix} q_x \\ q_y \\ q_z \end{pmatrix} (q_x \ q_y \ q_z) = \begin{pmatrix} q_x^2 & q_x q_y & q_x q_z \\ q_y q_x & q_y^2 & q_y q_z \\ q_z q_x & q_z q_y & q_z^2 \end{pmatrix}$

Outer

Inner product:  $\mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{q} = (q_x \ q_y \ q_z) \begin{pmatrix} q_x \\ q_y \\ q_z \end{pmatrix} = q_x^2 + q_y^2 + q_z^2$

Dispersive flux:  $\underline{\underline{j}}_H = -\underline{\underline{D}}_H(\mathbf{q}) \nabla c$

## 3) Source term

Main interest in reactive transport

here simple example

$$\hat{f} = -\phi k c$$

$$k = \text{reaction constant } \frac{1}{T}$$

Solute balance:

substitute into general balance law

$$\phi \frac{\partial c}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot [qc - (\tau\phi D_m + D_H(q)) \nabla c] = -\phi kc$$

introduce  $D_H(q) = \tau\phi D_m + D_H(q)$

$$\phi \frac{\partial c}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot [qc - D_H \nabla c] = -\phi kc$$

Advection - Diffusion - Reaction Equ

## Scaling of ADR equation

non-dimensionalize the variables

independent variables:  $x, t$

dependent variable:  $c(x, t), q(x, t), D_H(x, t)$

pick 3 characteristic scales:  $x_c, t_c, c_c, q_c, D_c$

dim. less variables:  $x' = \frac{x}{x_c}, t' = \frac{t}{t_c}, c' = \frac{c}{c_c}, q' = \frac{q}{q_c}$

substitute:  $\frac{\partial c}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial c_c c'}{\partial t_c t'} = \frac{c_c}{t_c} \frac{\partial c'}{\partial t'}$   $D_H' = \frac{D_H}{D_c}$

$$\frac{\phi c}{t_c} \frac{\partial c'}{\partial t'} + \frac{1}{x_c} \nabla' \cdot [q_c c' - \frac{D_c c}{x_c} \nabla' c'] = \phi k c'$$

$$\frac{\phi}{t_c} \frac{\partial c'}{\partial t'} + \nabla' \cdot \left[ \frac{q_c}{x_c} q' c' - \frac{D_c}{x_c^2} D' \nabla' c' \right] = \phi k c'$$

Scale to accumulation term (time deriv)

$$\frac{\partial c'}{\partial t'} + \nabla' \cdot \left[ \underbrace{\frac{q_c t_c}{\phi x_c}}_{\Pi_1} q' c' - \underbrace{\frac{D_c t_c}{\phi x_c^2}}_{\Pi_2} D' \nabla' c' \right] = \underbrace{k t_c}_{\Pi_3} c'$$

$\Pi_1, \Pi_2, \Pi_3$  are dimensionless groups

They suggest intrinsic time scales:  $q = \phi v$

$$\Pi_1 = \frac{q_c t_c}{\phi x_c} = 1 \Rightarrow t_c = \frac{x_c}{q_c / \phi} = \frac{x_c}{v_c} = t_A \text{ advective time}$$

time to flow across distance  $x_c$

$$\Pi_2 = \frac{D_c t_c}{\phi x_c^2} = 1 \Rightarrow t_c = \frac{\phi x_c^2}{D_c} = t_D \text{ diffusion time}$$

time to diffuse across distance  $x_c$

$$\Pi_3 = k t_c = 1 \Rightarrow t_c = \frac{1}{k} \text{ reactive time}$$

time for  $c$  to decay

"folding time"

Have to pick one time scale

try to pick dominant process

Groundwater: advection  $t_c = t_A$

$$\frac{\partial c'}{\partial t'} + \nabla \cdot \left[ \frac{t_c}{t_A} q' c' - \frac{t_c}{t_D} \underline{D}'_H \nabla c' \right] = \frac{t_c}{t_R} c'$$

choose:  $t_c = t_A$

$$\frac{\partial c'}{\partial t'} + \nabla \cdot \left[ q' c' - \frac{t_A}{t_D} \underline{D}'_H \nabla c' \right] = \frac{t_A}{t_R} c'$$

Peclet number:  $Pe = \frac{t_D}{t_A} = \frac{\phi x_c^2}{D_c} \frac{q_c}{x_c \phi} = \frac{q_c x_c}{D_c}$

compares diffusive & advective transport

$Pe \gg 1$  advection dominates

$Pe \ll 1$  diffusion dominates

$$\frac{\partial c'}{\partial t'} + \nabla \cdot \left[ q' c' - \frac{1}{Pe} \underline{D}'_H \nabla c' \right] = Da c'$$

$Da = \text{Damkohler number} = \frac{t_A}{t_R}$

$$t_c = t_D$$

$$\frac{\partial c}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot \left[ \underset{\uparrow}{P_e} q_c - D_H \nabla c \right] = \dots e$$

$P_e D_e$