

Spreading of a spot in a resting fluid

Spot of tracer $\Rightarrow C_1 = C_0 \delta(z) = \frac{M}{A} \delta(z) \dots$ Initial condition

M = total amount of solute in the system

A = cross-sectional area over which diffusion occurs

$\delta(z)$ = Dirac function

Governing Eqn. $\frac{\partial C_1}{\partial t} = D \frac{\partial^2 C_1}{\partial z^2}$

Boundary Conditions: Far from the pulse, the solute concⁿ is zero

$\Rightarrow t > 0, z = \infty, C_1 = 0$

Also $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} C_1 A dz = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{M}{A} \delta(z) A dz = M$
(Property of Dirac Function)

Symmetry in concⁿ profile across $z = 0$.

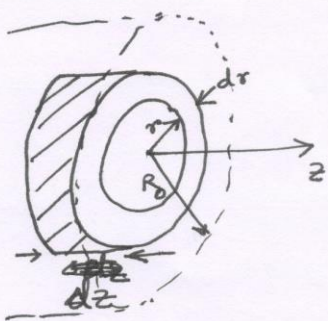
Solution

$$C_1 = \frac{M/A}{\sqrt{4\pi Dt}} e^{-\frac{z^2}{4Dt}}$$

when the pulse moves through a capillary at uniform velocity \bar{u} ,

$$C_1 = \frac{M/A}{\sqrt{4\pi Dt}} e^{-\frac{(z - \bar{u}t)^2}{4Dt}}$$

When the velocity profile becomes non-uniform, the governing equation changes, along with BCs



$$\frac{\partial C_1}{\partial t} = \frac{D}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(r \frac{\partial C_1}{\partial r} \right) - 2v_0 \left[1 - \left(\frac{r}{R_0} \right)^2 \right] \frac{\partial C_1}{\partial z}$$

$t = 0, \text{ all } z, C_1 = \left(\frac{M}{\pi R_0^2} \right) \delta(z)$

$t > 0, r = R_0, \frac{\partial C_1}{\partial r} = 0$ (no flow)

$t > 0, r = 0, \frac{\partial C_1}{\partial r} = 0$ (symmetry)

Solution

$$\bar{C}_1(z) = \frac{1}{\pi R_0^2} \int_0^{R_0} 2\pi r C_1(r, z) dr$$

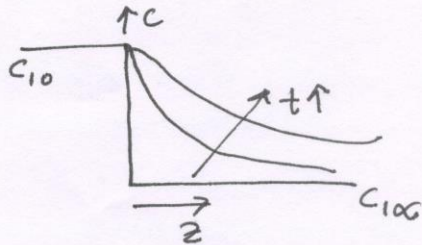
$$\bar{C}_1 = \frac{M/(\pi R_0^2)}{\sqrt{4\pi E_2 t}} e^{-\frac{(z - v_0 t)^2}{4 E_2 t}}$$

(Taylor Dispersion)

Here,
 E_2 = Dispersion coefficient
 $= \frac{(R_0 v_0)^2}{48 D}$

Diffusion of a concentration front

Spreading of a front, separating two regions: One occupied by a tracer with diffusion coefficient D initially. Other region is with no tracers initially



Governing Equation remains same as before

$$\frac{\partial C_1}{\partial t} = D \frac{\partial^2 C_1}{\partial z^2}$$

$$t = 0, \text{ all } z, \quad C_1 = C_{10}$$

$$t > 0, \quad z = 0, \quad C_1 = C_{10}$$

$$t > 0, \quad z = \infty, \quad C_1 = C_{1\infty}$$

Solution

$$\frac{C_1 - C_{10}}{C_{1\infty} - C_{10}} = \text{erf} \left(\frac{z}{\sqrt{4Dt}} \right)$$

When $C_{1\infty} = 0$, $C_1(z, t) = C_0 \left[1 - \text{erf} \left(\frac{z}{\sqrt{4Dt}} \right) \right]$

the diffusion in negative z will be mirror image, which will reduce $C_1(z, t)$ by half.

Instead of static system, when the front moves at average velocity \bar{u} , z will be replaced by $(z - \bar{u}t)$.

Further, when the velocity profile is laminar (parabolic), D is to be replaced by $E_z \equiv D_{ct} = \frac{R^2 \bar{u}^2}{48D}$

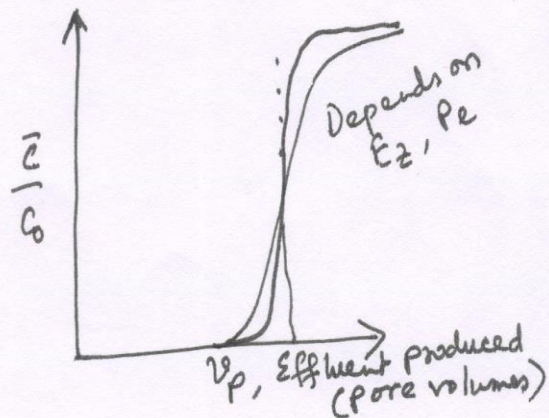
where R is the radius of the capillary.

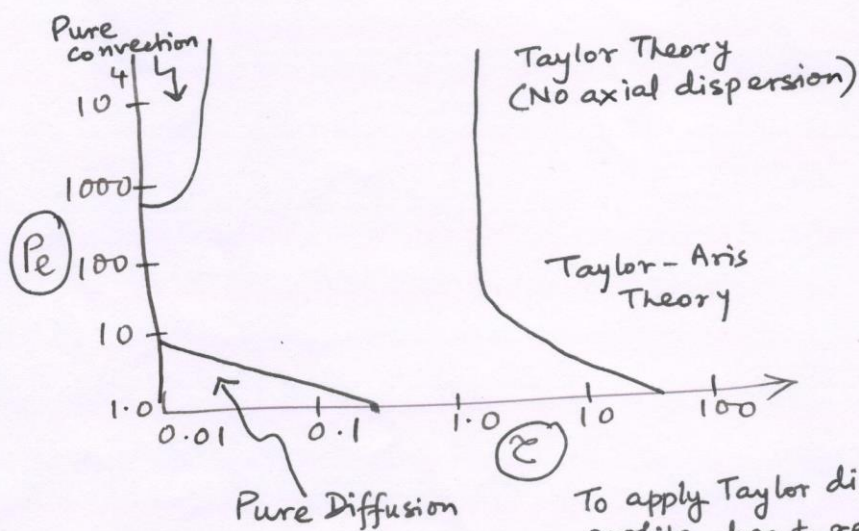
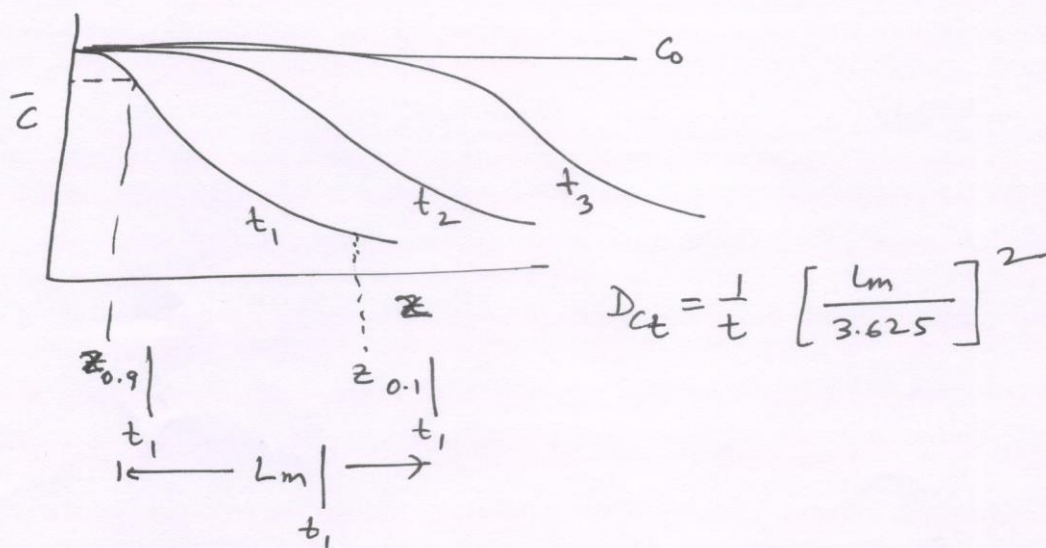
Aris has shown $D_{ct} = D + \frac{R^2 \bar{u}^2}{48D}$, when axial diffusion over and above radial diffusion is considered.

$$\text{Finally } \frac{\bar{C}}{C_0} = \frac{1}{2} \left[1 - \text{erf} \frac{z - \bar{u}t}{\sqrt{4D_{ct}t}} \right]$$

$$\text{Peclet No.} = \frac{\text{Convective transport}}{\text{diffusive transport}} = \frac{2R\bar{u}}{D}$$

$$\text{Dimensionless time } \gamma = \frac{tD}{R^2}$$





To apply Taylor dispersion, velocity profile has to reach the walls (fully developed flow). This is possible only when $z > 0.8$

Dispersion coefficient for channels with non-circular cross-section

→ Flow between two parallel plates $D_{ct} = D + \frac{8}{945} \frac{u_{max}^2 h^2}{D}$
 where h is half-width of the channel

→ Flow in concentric annulus $D_{ct} = D + \frac{8}{945} \left[\frac{R_o^2 u_{max}^2 (1-k^2)}{4D} \right]$
 where $\frac{R_o}{R_i} = \frac{1}{k} \leq 1.5$ (narrow gap)
 so that the equation for parallel plate can be extended

When $\frac{1}{k} > 100$, R_i is negligible, compared to R_o
 $\Rightarrow D_{ct}$ approaches value of a tube.

→ Equation for stagnant region in capillary wall