



Advances in colloid and biocolloid transport in porous media: particle size-dependent dispersivity and gravity effects

Constantinos V. Chrysikopoulos¹, Ioannis D. Manariotis² and Vasiliki I. Syngouna²

¹School of Environmental Engineering, Technical University of Crete, Greece. ²Department of Civil Engineering, University of Patras, Greece





Part A: Particle size-dependent dispersivity



Previous studies

Early breakthrough of colloids as compared to conservative tracers

"Larger colloids are restricted by the size exclusion effect from sampling all paths"

Toran and Palumbo,1992 Powelson et al., 1993 Grindrod et al., 1996 Dong et al., 2002 Keller et al., 2004. Vasiliadou and Chrysikopoulos, 2011 Sinton et al., 2012

Effective dispersion in a uniform fracture



James and Chrysikopoulos, J. Colloid and Interface Science, 2003.

d_p/b

Early work on particle size-dependent dispersivity



Mass recovered: $M_r = 28.8$ to 41.0 % (size exclusion effect)

Keller, A.A., S. Sirivithayapakorn, and C.V. Chrysikopoulos, Water Resources Research, 2004.

Materials and methods

Columns:	diameter = 2.5 cm length = 15 & 30 cm				
	packed with glass beads (d _c =1 or 2 mm) placed horizontally to minimize gravity effects				
Colloids:	fluorescent polystyrene microspheres d_p = 28, 100, 300, 600, 1000, 1750, 2100, 3000 and 5000 nm $C_o = 10^7 - 10^{13}$ particles/mL fluorescence spectrophotometry				
Tracer:	bromide in the form of NaBr (10 ⁻⁵ M) ion chromatography				
d _p /d _c :	<0.0025 below the straining and wedging threshold of				

>0.004 (Johnson et al., 2010) or

>0.003 (Bradford and Bettahar, 2006)

Transport experiments were performed under unfavorable colloid attachment conditions. Experimental data fitted with ColloidFit.



Figure A1. Early breakthrough



Figure A2. Breakthrough curves for two different colloids



Figure A2. Longitudinal dispersivity as a function of colloid diameter.



Figure A3. Longitudinal dispersivity (averaged) as a function of colloid diameter.



Figure A4. Longitudinal dispersivity as a function of interstitial velocity

Moment Analysis

Absolute temporal moments

$$m_n(L) = \int_0^\infty t^n C(L,t) dt$$

 m_0 [tM/L³]: total mass in the concentration distribution curve m_1 [t²M/L³]: mean residence time

Normalized temporal moments

$$M_{n}(L) = \frac{m_{n}(L)}{m_{0}(L)} = \frac{\int_{0}^{\infty} t^{n}C(L,t)dt}{\int_{0}^{\infty} C(L,t)dt}$$

Ν

M₁[t]: center of mass of the concentration distribution curve (defines the average velocity)

Mass recovery

$$\mathsf{M}_{\mathsf{r}}(\mathsf{L}) = \frac{\mathsf{m}_{\mathsf{o}}(\mathsf{L})}{\mathsf{C}_{\mathsf{o}}\mathsf{t}_{\mathsf{p}}}$$



Figure A5. Mass recovery as a function of particle size



Figure A6. Compilation of 467 longitudinal dispersivities as a function of length scale. Molecular sized solutes are represented by gray symbols, and colloids/biocolloids by various colored symbols. The solid line is a standard linear regression line.

References

S-M [Schulze-Makuch, 2005] CLH [Chrysikopoulos et al., 2000] DHC [Dela Barre et al., 2002] BMN [Baumann et al., 2002] CPK [Chrysikopoulos et al., 2011] AC [Anders and Chrysikopoulos, 2005] KSC [Keller et al., 2004] VC [Vasiliadou & Chrysikopoulos, 2011] SC [Syngouna & Chrysikopoulos, 2011] CSVK [Chrysikopoulos et al., 2012] BW [Bauman and Werth, 2004] BTN [Baumann et al., 2010]

L (m)

Results: Size-dependent dispersivity

- Colloid dispersivity increases with increasing colloid diameter.
- Early breakthrough is caused mainly by the increasing dispersivity.
- Fitted dispersion coefficients based on tracer data should not be used to analyze colloid experimental data.

Part B: Gravity effects





Figure B1. Schematic illustration of a packed column with up-flow velocity having orientation (-i) with respect to gravity. The gravity vector components are: $g_{(i)} = g_{(-z)} \sin\beta i$, and $g_{(-j)} = -g_{(-z)} \cos\beta j$.

"restricted particle" settling velocity

$$U_{s} = -f_{s} \frac{\left(\rho_{p} - \rho_{w}\right)d_{p}^{2}}{18\mu_{w}}g_{(i)}$$

$$g_{(i)} = g_{(-z)} \sin\beta i$$

 f_s [-] = correction factor accounting for particle settling in granular porous media (Wan et al., 1995)



Figure B2. Restricted particle settling velocity as a function of column orientation and flow direction for colloids (clay: $d_p=2 \ \mu m$, $\rho_p=2.65 \ g/cm^3$), bacteria (*P. putida*: $d_p=2.2 \ \mu m$, $\rho_p=1.45 \ g/cm^3$), and viruses (MS2: $d_p=25 \ nm$, $\rho_p=1.42 \ g/cm^3$).

Mathematical Model Governing transport equation

$$\frac{\partial C(t,x)}{\partial t} + \frac{\rho_{b}}{\theta} \frac{\partial C^{*}(t,x)}{\partial t} = D \frac{\partial^{2} C(t,x)}{\partial x^{2}} - U_{tot} \frac{\partial C(t,x)}{\partial x} - \lambda C(t,x) - \lambda^{*} \frac{\rho_{b}}{\theta} C^{*}(t,x)$$

 $U_{tot} = U + U_s$

Colloid attachment onto the solid matrix (Sim and Chrysikopoulos, 1998)

$$\frac{\rho_{\rm b}}{\theta} \frac{\partial C^*\left(t,x\right)}{\partial t} = k_{\rm c} C\left(t,x\right) - k_{\rm r} \frac{\rho_{\rm b}}{\theta} C^*\left(t,x\right) - \lambda^* \frac{\rho_{\rm b}}{\theta} C^*\left(t,x\right)$$

Initial and boundary conditions

C(0,x)=0

$$-D\frac{\partial C(t,0)}{\partial x} + U_{tot}C(t,0) = \begin{cases} U_{tot}C_0 & 0 < t \le t_p \\ 0 & t > t_p \end{cases}$$

$$\frac{\partial C(t,\infty)}{\partial x} = 0$$

Analytical solution

(Sim and Chrysikopoulos, 1998)

$$C(t,x) = \begin{cases} \Omega(t,x) & 0 < t \le t_{p} \\ \Omega(t,x) - \Omega(t - t_{p},x) & t > t_{p} \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{split} \Omega(t,x) &= \frac{C_0 U_{tot}}{D^{1/2}} exp \bigg[\frac{U_{tot} x}{2D} \bigg] \bigg\{ \int_0^t \int_0^\tau H e^{-H\tau} J_0 \bigg[2 \big(B\xi \big(\tau - \xi \big) \big)^{1/2} \bigg] \\ &\quad \cdot \bigg\{ \frac{1}{(\pi\xi)^{1/2}} exp \bigg[\frac{-x^2}{4D\xi} + \Big(H - A - \frac{U_{tot}^2}{4D} \Big) \xi \bigg] \\ &\quad - \frac{U_{tot}}{2D^{1/2}} exp \bigg[\frac{U_{tot} x}{2D} + (H - A) \xi \bigg] \\ &\quad \cdot erfc \bigg[\frac{x}{2(D\xi)^{1/2}} + \frac{U_{tot}}{2} \bigg(\frac{\xi}{D} \bigg)^{1/2} \bigg] \bigg\} d\xi \ d\tau \\ &\quad + e^{-Ht} \int_0^t J_0 \bigg[2 \big(B\xi \big(t - \xi \big) \big)^{1/2} \bigg] \\ &\quad \cdot \bigg\{ \frac{1}{(\pi\xi)^{1/2}} exp \bigg[\frac{-x^2}{4D\xi} + \bigg(H - A - \frac{U_{tot}^2}{4D} \bigg) \xi \bigg] \\ &\quad - \frac{U_{tot}}{2D^{1/2}} exp \bigg[\frac{U_{tot} x}{2D} + (H - A) \xi \bigg] \\ &\quad - \frac{U_{tot}}{2D^{1/2}} exp \bigg[\frac{U_{tot} x}{2D} + (H - A) \bigg\} \bigg] \\ &\quad \cdot erfc \bigg[\frac{x}{2(D\xi)^{1/2}} + \frac{U_{tot}}{2} \bigg(\frac{\xi}{D} \bigg)^{1/2} \bigg] \bigg\} d\xi \bigg\}. \end{split}$$

A= k_c + λ ,

 $B=k_ck_r\theta/\rho$,

 $\mathsf{H}{=}(\mathsf{k}_{\mathsf{c}}\theta/\rho){+}\lambda^{*},$

 J_0 = Bessel function (first-kind of zeroth-order)



Figure B3. Simulations of normalized colloid break through curves for packed columns with various orientations and flow directions under: (a) continuous, and (b) broad pulse inlet boundary conditions.

Materials & methods

Columns: diameter = 2.5 cm length = 30 cm packed with glass beads ($d_c = 2 \text{ mm}$) columns were placed horizontally (0°), vertically (90°), inclined (45°).

- Clays:kaolinite (KGa-1b), specific surface area of 10.1 m²/g,
 $d_p=843\pm126$ nm
montmorillonite (STx-1b), specific surface area of 82.9 m²/g ,
 $d_p=1187\pm381$ nm
 $C_o = 10^7$ to 10^{13} particles/mL
detection by UV-vis spectrophotometer
- **Tracer:** bromide in the form of NaBr (10⁻⁵ M) ion chromatography

Unfavorable to deposition transport conditions (pH=7, I_s=0.1mM). Experimental data fitted with ColloidFit.



Figure B4. Experimental setup showing the various column arrangements: (a) horizontal, (b) diagonal, and (c) vertical.



kaolinite: KGa-1b montmorillonite: STx-1b

H: horizontal VU: vertical up-flow VD: vertical down-flow DU: diagonal up-flow DD: diagonal down-flow

Figure B5. Experimental data (symbols) and fitted model simulations (curves)

Table 1. Fitted U_{tot} and estimated mass recoveries

Exp.	Flow	U _{tot} (cm/min)	U _s (cm/min)	M _r (%)	M _{1(c)} /M _{1(t)}		
No	Direction*						
KGa-1b							
1	Н	0.73741±0.0018	-	53.5	1.19		
2	VU	0.73841±0.0008	-0.00159	32.6	1.05		
3	VD	0.74193±0.0009	0.00193	79.5	1.12		
4	DU	0.73474±0.0015	-0.00526	37.6	1.07		
5	DD	0.74330±0.0016	0.00330	47.9	1.05		
STx-1b							
6	Н	0.73895±0.0004	-	58.6	1.16		
7	VU	0.73827±0.0016	-0.00174	65	0.89		
8	VD	0.74219±0.0013	0.00219	93.8	1.01		
9	DU	0.73264±0.0023	-0.00736	61.5	1.31		
10	DD	0.74439±0.0026	0.00438	83.1	1.06		
Tracer							
	Н	0.74016±0.0001	_	100			
	VU, VD	0.73985±0.0002	_	100			
	DU, DD	0.73995±0.0001	_	100			

* H-horizontal,

VU-vertical up-flow

VD-vertical down-flow

DU-diagonal up-flow

DD-diagonal down-flow



Figure B6. Comparison between theoretically estimated (circles) and fitted (squares) U_s values for: (a) KGa-1b, and (b) STx-1b. U_s<0 for up-flow and U_s>0 for down-flow experiments. Here: H-horizontal, VU-vertical up-flow, VD-vertical down-flow, DU-diagonal up-flow, DD-diagonal down-flow.

Results: Gravity effects

- Flow direction influences colloid transport in porous media.
- Gravity is a significant driving force for colloid deposition.
- Mass recoveries are higher for vertical-down than diagonaldown flow direction.
- Particle deposition is greater for up-flow than for down-flow direction.

Summary

- Dispersivity, typically considered only a property of the medium, is also a function of colloid size.
- Contrary to earlier results, colloid dispersivity increases with increasing colloid diameter.
- Gravity effects can be important and should not be neglected in colloid transport models.

Thank you for your attention

Suspended Particles Transport and Deposition in Saturated Granular Porous Medium: Particle Size Effects

Lyacine Bennacer · Nasre-Dine Ahfir · Abderrazak Bouanani · Abdellah Alem · Huaqing Wang



Longitudinal dispersivity (α_L) as a function of the d_{50} of calibrated populations (3.5, 9.5, and 18.3 μ m)



A mathematical and computational study of the dispersivity tensor in anisotropic porous media

Yuan Liu*, Peter K. Kitanidis



Fig. 3. Longitudinal (α_{11}) and transverse dispersivities (α_{22}) of the 2-D isotropic medium.



Attachment of bacteriophages MS2 and Φ X174 onto kaolinite and montmorillonite: Extended-DLVO interactions

Constantinos V. Chrysikopoulos*, Vasiliki I. Syngouna



Fig. 5. Zeta potential as a function of solution pH for KGa-1b (triangles), STx-1b (diamonds), MS2 (squares), and ΦX174 (circles) in ddH₂O at 25 °C.

Previous studies

Early breakthrough of colloids as compared to conservative tracers



"Larger colloids are restricted by the size exclusion effect from sampling all paths, and therefore they tend to disperse less and move in the faster streamlines, if they are not filtered out."

^{*} Keller, A. A., S. S. Sirivithayapakorn, C.V. Chrysikopoulos, *Water Resour. Res.*, 40, W08304, 2004.