Rayleigh-Taylor Instability





Plume

Whitehead, J. A.& D. S. Luther, 1975. Dynamics of laboratory diapir and plume models *Journal of Geophysical Research*, **80**, 705–717.

Tilted conduit



Solitary Wave collision

Scott, D. A., David J. Stevenson & J. A. Whitehead, 1986. Observations of solitary waves in a viscously deformable pipe. *Nature*, **319**, 759–761.



Material is conserved



Paraffin on a cold plate with a clear lid-Transient t=2,7,9,12,25,59s Pe=uL/K



The earthquake machine



Earthquake Equations



dimensional equations

$$m\frac{du'}{dt'} + \frac{\mu}{d} \left[\frac{u' + \beta' u'^3}{1 + \alpha' u'^2} \right] = F'$$
$$\frac{dF'}{dt'} = C(U_0 - u')$$

$$\gamma \, \frac{du}{dt} + \left[\frac{u + \beta u^3}{1 + \alpha u^2} \right] = F$$

$$\frac{dF}{dt} = 1 - u$$

F

stationary

$$F = \left[\frac{u + \beta u^3}{1 + \alpha u^2}\right]$$
$$u = 1$$



Oscillations &--- Glacier theory

Laboratory experiment



Why are Volcanos unsteady?



Oscillate or abrupt/hysteresis

Whitehead, J. A. W. Gregory Lawson and John Salzig. 2001 Multistate flow devices for geophysical fluid dynamics and climate. American Journal of Physics, 69 546-553.



Nonlinear oscillations

Whitehead, J.A. and K. R. Helfrich, 1991. Instability of flow with temperature-dependent viscosity: a model of magma dynamics. Journal of Geophysical Research, 96, (B3), 4145-55.



Oscillations

Evolution of channels if we have space

variation rather than time variation, channels form



• <u>A Broad, slow flow makes a lot of resistance whereas a</u> <u>narrow faster flow has less resistance.</u>

Convection in an Open Cell apparatus



a 2-D version of Tait & Jaupert, 1992; Tait et al, 1992

Channels in porous flow





Cold, depleted

• Channels form within the mushy layer of crystals

Salt channelization

Fresh water sinking Though salt crystals And glass beads



Salt and glass beads

Porous dissolution Channels

Aharonov, Einat, J. A. Whitehead, Peter Kelemen Marc Spiegelman, 1995. Channeling instability of upwelling melt in the mantle *Journal of Geophysical Res* **100**, 20,433–20,450.



COLD DISK WITH PLEX LID WED WITH HEXADECENE (17 DEG MELTING POINT)













Sketch of lava tube apparatus



The apparatus



Results



OUTLET TO LAVATUBE CYLINDER



Summary

- Experiments that demonstrate nonlinear features produce examples of hard-to-predict dynamics such as
- Nonlinear spontaneous oscillations
- Fingering
- Each structure is found over a *finite range*

Climate experiment (In prep, JPO)



Temperature, Salinity jumps





Classroom example

- With P. Baines, we find a supercritical current can develop a hydraulic jump that propagates upstream and makes a transition to subcritical flow.
- The possibility is found in his book and is worth seeing in reality.

The end

References available In the front--see me

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Wylie, Jonathan J., Barry Voight, and 1999 Instability of magma flow from volatile-dependent viscosity, Science 285, 1883-1885.

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