



FLUID STRETCHING AND FOLDING IN 3D POROUS BEAD-PACKS

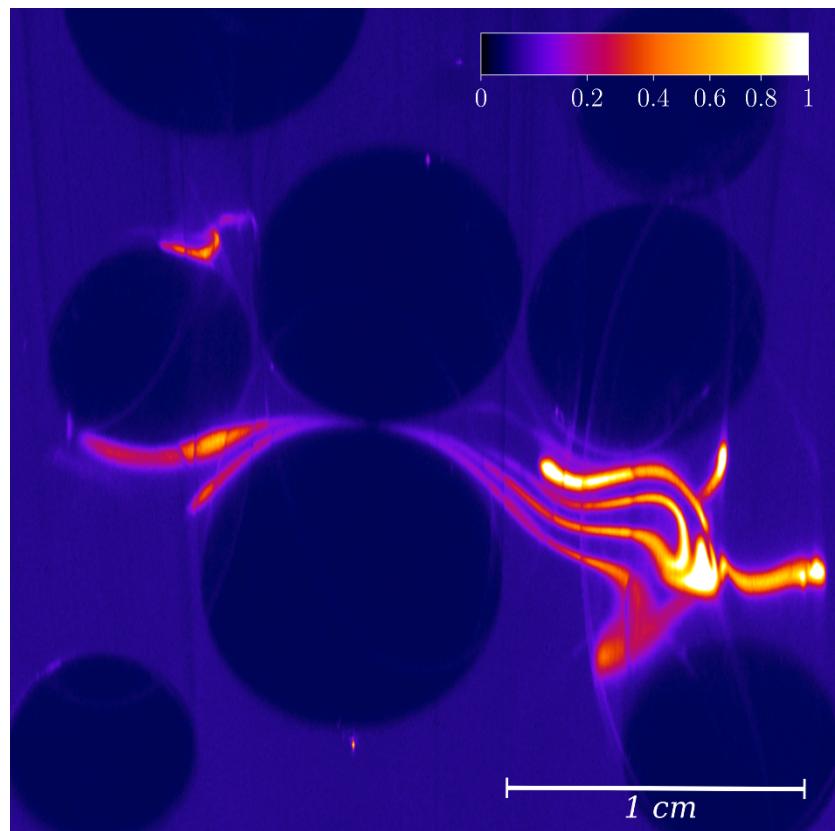
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The image shows the deformation of a fluorescent dye (color scale indicates concentration of fluorescein) while advected by a viscous fluid (glycerine and water) through a 3D random bead-pack (blue disks). The mean flow direction is perpendicular to the image plane. It is obtained by the technique of refractive index matching and laser induced fluorescence. Stretching and folding of the dye in the plane transverse to the mean flow direction create striated lamellar structures, whose lengths increase exponentially with advection distance; the hallmark of chaotic advection. Due to exponential fluid compression, lamella thickness is fixed at a characteristic scale, the so-called Batchelor scale which is smaller than the pore scale for all Péclet number larger than 5. This first experimental quantification of pore-scale chaotic dynamics provides new insights for modelling solute transport, mixing and reactivity in porous media[1].

1. Heyman J. *et al.* (2020). *PNAS*, 117(24):13359.

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