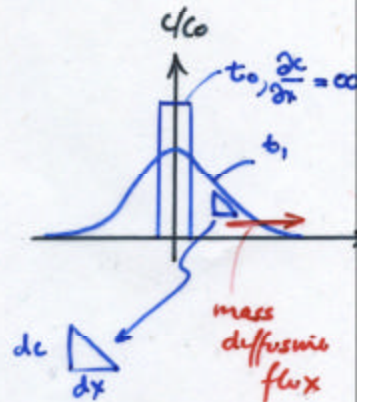


## 5.1 DIFFUSION

- Driven by concentration gradient
- Process of molecular diffusion (Brownian motion)
- Characteristic for entropy (disorder) to increase
- Stagnant fluid



Fick's first law:  $F = -D_d \frac{dc}{dx}$

$F$  = mass of solute per unit area per unit time ( $M/L^2T$ )

$D_d$  = diffusion coefficient ( $L^2/T$ )

(  $D_d \approx 10^{-9} m^2/s$  (range) )

$\frac{dc}{dx}$  = concentration gradient  
( $(M/L^3)/L$ )

Time dependent concentration

$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{F} = - \left( \frac{\partial F_x}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial F_y}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial F_z}{\partial z} \right)$   
*= 1 since not porous medium*

Substituting Fick's first law:

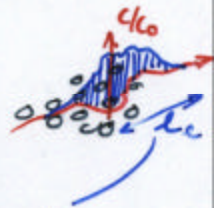
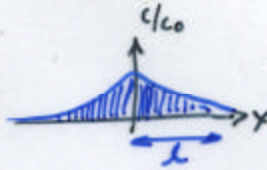
$$\frac{\partial c}{\partial t} = D_d \left( \frac{\partial^2 c}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 c}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 c}{\partial z^2} \right)$$

One dimensional equation

$$\frac{\partial c}{\partial t} = D_d \frac{\partial^2 c}{\partial x^2}$$

$D_d$  is the "free" diffusion coefficient (i.e. in a beaker)

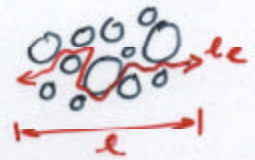
In porous medium the "effective" diffusion coefficient is used  $D_d \rightarrow D^*$  due to the tortuous flow path



Effective length due to tortuous flow path

$$D^* = \omega D_d$$

$\omega$  is related to tortuosity,  $T = l_e/l$   
 $T \geq 1$



Laboratory studies

$$0.01 < \omega \leq 0.5$$

but lab studies not very useful.

## SOLUTION OF DIFFUSION EQUATION

Solve

$$\frac{\partial c}{\partial t} = D^* \frac{\partial^2 c}{\partial x^2}$$

$$c = 0 \quad 0 > t$$

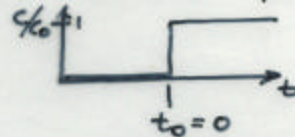
$$0 > t$$

initial condition (no solute)

$$c = c_0 \quad x = 0 \quad t \geq 0$$

$$x = 0 \quad t \geq 0$$

step input



Solution:

$$\frac{c(x,t)}{c_0} = \operatorname{erfc}\left(\frac{x}{2\sqrt{D^*t}}\right) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_x^{\infty} e^{-u^2} du$$

$$\operatorname{erfc}(x) = 1 - \operatorname{erf}(x)$$

