Critical behavior of fluid and electrical transport in sea ice

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Workshop on the Multi-Phase Physics of Sea Ice Santa Fe 8 September 2010

Tony Worby

sea ice – composite material



pure ice with brine, air, and salt inclusions

sea ice displays *multiscale* structure over 10 orders of magnitude

0.1 millimeter brine inclusions polycrystals dm cm m vertical horizontal brine channels 1 meter

pancake ice

1 meter

100 kilometers



What is this talk about?

1. fluid transport through porous sea ice

mediates processes important to polar climate and biology.

2. How do we mathematically model the thermal evolution of the fluid permability of sea ice and its critical behavior ? *bounds, percolation theory, network models*

3. electrical transport in sea ice

related to the fluid transport properties, remote sensing -- thickness (EMI)

4. SIPEX in Antarctica 2007 - measured fluid and electrical properties

**** direct measurements of vertical conductivity**

**** find percolation threshold and universal critical behavior (in Arctic also)**

**** fluid permeability measurements (higher threshold for granular ice)**

linkage of scales -- critical behavior









sea ice albedo determined by melt ponds





flow through sea ice

depth, Chukchi Sea (photo by Perovich)



depends on microstructure



sea ice microphysics

fluid transport

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Collaborators

Critical behavior of fluid transport in sea ice



RULE OF FIVES

Golden, Ackley, Lytle Science 1998Golden, Eicken, Heaton, Miner, Pringle, Zhu, Geophys. Res. Lett. 2007Pringle, Miner, Eicken, Golden J. Geophys. Res. 2009

on - off switch helps control:

- 1. melt pond evolution and ice albedo
- 2. surface flooding and snow-ice formation
- 3. salinity profile evolution and brine drainage
- 4. transport of heat and gases (CO₂)
- 5. microbial activity; nutrient replenishment
- 6. electromagnetic signatures; remote sensing

Antarctic snow-ice formation



Temperature contours in sea ice and air temperature during Maud Rise drift camp on ANZFLUX cruise.

Black, impermeable top layer disappears during storms, allowing percolation of brine to surface.

Golden, Ackley, Lytle, Science 1998

critical behavior of microbial activity

Convection-fueled algae bloom Ice Station Weddell

(Fritsen, Lytle, Ackley, Sullivan, Science 1994)





Golden, Ackley, Lytle Science 1998

Darcy's Law for slow viscous flow in a porous medium





k = fluid permeability tensor

example of *homogenization*

mathematics for analyzing effective behavior of heterogeneous systems

Unified approach to understanding fluid permeability in sea ice:

Thermal evolution of permeability and microstructure in sea ice, K. M. Golden, H. Eicken, A. L. Heaton, J. Miner, D. Pringle, and J. Zhu, *Geophysical Research Letters*, vol. 34, 2007 (+ cover).

- 1. Homogenization and Darcy's law
- 2. Rigorous bounds
- 3. Percolation theory
- 4. Hierarchical models
- 5. Network model

X-ray CT imaging and pore analysis provide unprecedented look at temperature evolution of brine phase and its connectivity

Validated with lab and Arctic field data.

micro-scale controls

macro-scale processes in global climate

Geophysical Research Letters

28 AUGUST 2007 Volume 34 Number 16 American Geophysical Union

> Arctic Ocean near Point Barrow, June 2007

brine inclusion tomography

Arctic Ocean near Point Barrow, June 2004

A unified approach to understanding permeability in sea ice • Solving the mystery of booming sand dunes • Entering into the "greenhouse century": A case study from Switzerland

Bounds on the fluid permeability of sea ice

arithmetic and harmonic mean bounds for electrical conductivity σ (dielectric constant ϵ)

Effective electrical conductivity σ^* for two phase composite of σ_1 and σ_2

optimal bounds on σ^* for known volume fractions p_1 and p_2 :



Wiener, 1912

electrical transport



fluid transport



electrical conductance

$$g_e = \pi r^2 \sigma$$

electrical conductivity

$$\sigma_e = \sigma$$

fluid conductance

$$g_f = \pi r^4 / 8\eta$$

fluid conductivity

$$\sigma_f = r^2/8\eta$$

PIPE BOUNDS on vertical fluid permeability k :

vertical pipes with appropriate radii maximize k

fluid analog of arithmetic mean upper bound on effective conductivity (Wiener 1912)

special case of optimal VOID BOUNDS Torquato and Pham, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* 2004

analyze via **trapping constant** for diffusion process in pore space



optimal coated cylinder geometry



lognormal pipe bound: inclusion cross sectional areas A lognormally distributed

ln(A) is normally distributed with mean μ and variance σ^2



Golden, Eicken, Heaton, Miner, Pringle, Zhu, *GRL* 2007 Golden, Heaton, Eicken, Lytle, *Mech. Materials* 2006 Theoretical predictions of ice permeability using percolation and hierarchical models



mathematical theory of connectedness

impermeablepermeable---

a bond is open with probability p closed with probability 1-p

percolation threshold $p_c = 1/2$ for d = 2

first appearance of infinite cluster *Continuum* percolation model for stealthy materials applied to sea ice microstructure explains **Rule of Fives** and Antarctic data on ice production and algal growth

 $\phi_c \approx 5 \%$ Golden, Ackley, Lytle, *Science*, 1998



percolation threshold calculated from compressed powder model *Kusy and Turner, Nature 1971*



brine connectivity (over cm scale)

8 x 8 x 2 mm



-15 °C, $\phi = 0.033$ -6 °C, $\phi = 0.075$ -3 °C, $\phi = 0.143$

first direct evidence of conjectured transition in connectivity

3-D images pores and throats

3-D graph nodes and edges

analyze graph connectivity as function of temperature and sample size

use finite size scaling techniques to confirm rule of fives

order parameters in percolation theory

correlation length

characteristic scale of connectedness infinite cluster density probability the origin belongs to infinte cluster





The key connectivity functions of percolation theory have been computed extensively for many lattice models, but NOT for natural materials.

We have calculated them for sea ice single crystals -- a first for percolation investigations -- and estimated anisotropic percolation thresholds.



Pringle, Miner, Eicken, Golden, JGR (Oceans) 2009

divergence of correlation length for single crystal data

use finite size scaling $P_{\infty}(p_{c}, L) \sim L^{-\beta/\nu} (=L^{-0.48})$

anisotropic percolation threshold estimates



X-ray computed tomography (CT) and medial axis analysis (Prodanovic, et al., 2006) of lab-grown sea-ice single crystals doped with CsCl to improve ice/brine resolution.



$\phi = 5.7 \%$ T = -8



Critical behavior of transport near percolation threshold

conductivity

$$\sigma(p) \sim \sigma_0 (p - p_c)^t, \quad p \to p_c^+$$

permeability

$$\kappa(p) \sim \kappa_0 (p - p_c)^e, \quad p \to p_c^+$$

conductivity exponent t

UNIVERSAL for lattices depends only on dimension, e = t

$$d = 3$$
 numerical $t \approx 2$

rigorous bound
$$1 \le t \le 2$$

Golden PRL 1990, CMP 1992

continuum exponents can be non-universal

SWISS CHEESE

Halperin, Feng, Sen PRL 1985

lattice and continuum percolation theories yield:

$$k(\phi) = k_0 (\phi - \phi_c)^2 \checkmark \text{critical}$$

$$k_0 = 3 \times 10^{-8} \text{ m}^2 \qquad t$$

- exponent is UNIVERSAL lattice value $t \approx 2.0$ from general structure of brine inclusion distribution function (-- other saline ice?)
- sedimentary rocks like sandstones also exhibit universality
- critical path analysis -- developed for electronic hopping conduction -- yields scaling factor k_0
- no free parameters microstructural input only

in situ data on vertical fluid permeability of Arctic sea ice





statistical best fit of data:

y = 2.07 x - 7.45



statistical best fit of data: y = 3.05 x - 7.50

A network model for fluid transport through sea ice

J. Zhu, A. Jabini, K. M. Golden, H. Eicken, M. Morris Annals of Glaciology, 2006

- random pipe network with radii chosen from measured inclusion distributions, solved with fast multigrid method
- local velocity field computed, as well as effective permeability





based on connectivity analysis of brine inclusions, introduce *disconnections* into network (Golden et al., GRL 2007)

Remote sensing of sea ice









Recover sea ice properties from electromagnetic (EM) data



INVERSE PROBLEM





NASA's Ice, Cloud and Land Elevation Satellite (ICESat)

The Worbot - a low frequency EM induction instrument for measuring sea ice thickness

The key parameter in modeling the response of sea ice to an EM field is its

complex *permittivity* or *dielectric constant* ϵ^*

which depends strongly on the brine microstructure

e.g., interpretation of EM thickness data depends on knowledge of ϵ^*

Effective complex permittivity of a two phase composite in the quasistatic (long wavelength) limit



the components

$$\epsilon^* = \epsilon^* \left(\frac{\epsilon_1}{\epsilon_2} \right)$$
, composite geometry

Analytic continuation method for bounding complex ϵ^*

Bergman (1978), Milton (1979), Golden and Papanicolaou (1983)

$$m(h) = \frac{\epsilon^*}{\epsilon_2} \left(\frac{\epsilon_1}{\epsilon_2}\right) \qquad h = \frac{\epsilon_1}{\epsilon_2}$$



Integral representation formula

$$F(s) = 1 - m(h), \quad s = \frac{1}{1 - h}$$
complex *s*-plane

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$$F(s) = \int_0^1 \frac{d\mu(z)}{s-z}$$

representation *separates* **GEOMETRY** μ from medium parameters in *S* • spectral measure of self adjoint operator $\Gamma \chi$

• mass =
$$p_1$$

- higher moments depend on *n*-point correlations
- $E = (s + \Gamma \chi)^{-1} e_k$
- $\Gamma = \nabla (-\Delta)^{-1} \nabla \cdot$
- $\chi =$ indicator function of medium 1

ice brine 50 Mhz $\epsilon_1 = 3.06$ $\epsilon_2 = 63.3 + i$ 1930



Comparison of forward bounds with data



Complex bounds and microstructural recovery from measurements of sea ice permittivity, A. Gully, L. G. E. Backstrom, H. Eicken, and K. M. Golden, *Physica B*, 2007.

spectral measures for the random resistor network



Golden, Murphy, Cherkaev, J. Biomech. 2010

Inverse bounds and microstructural recovery



Inverse Homogenization for Evaluation of Bone Structure

Carlos Bonifasi-Lista, Elena Cherkaev, 2006

bone porosity can be estimated from the effective torsional modulus using reconstruction of spectral measure



Application: Monitoring osteoporosis

normal

osteoporotic

the math doesn't care if it's sea ice or bone

spectral characterization of porous microstructures in bone



Golden, Murphy, Cherkaev J. Biomechanics 2010

reconstructing the spectral measure from complex permittivity data



Golden, Murphy, Cherkaev J. Biomechanics 2010

Sea Ice Physics and Ecosystem eXperiment (SIPEX) 4 September - 17 October 2007





Australian Government

Department of the Environment and Water Resources Australian Antarctic Division

International Polar Year (IPY) 2007-2008



Measuring electrical and fluid transport during SIPEX with Adam Gully

electrical properties --- help monitor *fluid* transport processses --- important in *thickness* measurements, e.g. EMI

- 1. Vertical DC conductivity direct from cores
- 2. Horizontal DC conductivity Wenner array *surface impedance tomography*: invert resistance data to recover profile of electrical properties
- 3. Fluid permeability -- first measurements in Antarctic pack ice
- 4. Tracer studies

electrical measurements



Wenner array



vertical conductivity

Zhu, Golden, Gully, Sampson *Physica B* 2010 Sampson, Golden, Gully, Worby *Deep Sea Research* 2011

comparison of electric current streamlines for parallel plates vs. four probe array









rigorous bounds on the vertical conductivity



coupling fluid permeability and electrical conductivity



$$k^* = \frac{r_{c,e}^2}{8} \frac{\sigma^*}{\sigma_b}$$

Friedman and Seaton 1998

$$r_{c,e} = critical electrical radius$$

 $0.1 \text{ mm} \leq r_{c,e} \leq 0.2 \text{ mm}$

vertical formation factor for conductivity $F = \sigma_v^* / \sigma_b$

$$F(\phi) = F_0(\phi - 0.05)^2 \quad 6 \leq F_0 \leq 24$$

critical behavior of electrical transport in sea ice

electric signature of the on-off switch for fluid flow



Golden, Eicken, Gully, Ingham, Jones, Lin, Reid, Sampson, Worby 2010



Antarctic electrical conductivity

Arctic fluid permability



network model vs. vertical conductivity data



Zhu, Golden, Gully, Sampson, Physica B, 2010

reconstructed resistivity (formation factor) profiles from Arctic sea ice near Barrow



cross borehole tomography

Keleigh Jones, Malcolm Ingham

Measurements of fluid permeability





(Photo by Jan Lieser)

corrected permeability data -- excludes horizontal flow



higher threshold for fluid flow in Antarctic granular sea ice



different microstructure -- different threshold

granular ice common in Arctic surface layer

10%

5%

permeability data for granular sea ice



Golden, Gully, Tison, 2010



crystal data for compressed powder model





J. L. Tison

tracers flowing through inverted sea ice blocks







Conclusions

- 1. Polar climate processes exhibit *critical behavior*.
- 2. Brine flow through sea ice is a key to geophysics and biology of polar regions, and displays critical behavior.
- 3. Comprehensive theory of fluid permeability, using mathematical techniques from solid state physics.
- 4. Measured sea ice transport properties in Antarctica.
- 5. Sea ice processes such as melt pond evolution, snow-ice formation, nutrient flux can be modeled more realistically.
- 6. Results can help to predict how climate change may affect sea ice packs and polar ecosystems.

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Real analysis in polar coordinates (see page 613)