

# Influence of mantle complex rheology on lower mantle dynamics

*Anne Davaille* (1), Nicolo Sgreva (1), Thibaut Chasse (1), Anna Massmeyer (1), Erika Di Giuseppe (1) Neil Ribe (1), Philippe Carrez (2), and Patrick Cordier (2)

(1) Laboratoire FAST (CNRS / Univ. Paris-Saclay), Orsay, France
(2) UMET-Unite Materiaux et Transformations, Univ. Lille / INRA / ENSCL / CNRS, Lille, France





#### **1-Observations: large-scale structures**



S-wave velocity models at 2700 km depth

SAW24B16









- 2 LLSVP delimited by subduction
- surface hotspots
- Chemical heterogeneities
  - anticorrelation of shear and bulk sound V .sharp edges

#### **1-Observations: large-scale structures**







- 2 LLSVP + 1 + ...
- chemical heterogeneity
- old material (e.g. Jackson et al, 2010)
- surface hotspots

=> Hot, stagnant, and denser piles ?

NB: Normal modes, tides, CMB topo => denser or lighter than ambient mantle ?

College de France - 8 oct 2021

#### **1-Convection characteristics**

In a mantle with strongly temperature-dependent viscosity, the cold slabs circulation delimits the LLSVPs





Ra ~ 4.  $10^7$ ; intermediate viscosity ratio

(Androvandi & al, 2009, 2011)

#### **1-Convection characteristics**

Even in the presence of a dense material at the bottom of the mantle, the cold slabs circulation creates LLSVPs



College de France - 8 oct 2021

(A) Compositionally distinct, dense piles



Patterns after 120 Myr of cold slabs history

(McNamara & Zhong, 2005)

MB



(C) Dense piles and temperatures







#### Hot, less viscous => conduit diameter ~100-200 km

(e.g. Whitehead & Luther, 1975; Olson & Singer, 1985; Griffiths, 1986; Sleep, 1990 ...)

#### => Challenge for tomography

## 2-Slow (hot) seimic anomalies in the mantle:

Zhao (2001) large anomalies below ~ hotspots



.Travel times .Finite frequency

Resolution tests: D<600 km not visible

Below ~10 hot spots: tubes with D~600-800 km

# **FAT plumes**

Figure 22. Three-dimensional view of the plumes beneath Cook Island and Tahiti in both the (left) *P*-model and (right) *S*-model. Plotting format as in Figure 12a.

(Montelli et al, 2004; 2006)

#### 2-Slow (hot) seimic anomalies in the mantle:

**Resolution:** loss of amplitude (1/4) for cylinders 400 km in diameter



## 2-Slow (hot) seimic anomalies in the mantle:

SEMUCB-WM1 (French & Romanowicz, 2014, 2015)





# ⇒ At least 2 bundles of thermochemical plumes

(Davaille & Romanowicz, 2020)

-2

## How to create fat plumes in a newtonian mantle ?





**Finger morphology** when a more viscous intrudes a less viscous material (Whitehead & Luther, 1975; Olson & Singer, 1985)

. Hot is more viscous:

-> grain size (Solomatov, 1996 ; Korenaga, 2005)

$$\dot{\gamma} = A \sigma^{n_E} d^{-p} f_{H_2O} \exp\left(\beta \Phi\right) \exp\left(-\frac{E^* + P V^*}{RT}\right)$$

#### How to create fat plumes in a newtonian mantle ?

- . lower mantle is heterogeneous
  - =>Thermo-chemical plume



# Initial buoyancy ratio $B_1 = \Delta \rho_x / \rho_0 \alpha \Delta T$



#### How to create fat plumes in a newtonian mantle ?

- . lower mantle is heterogeneous
  - =>Thermo-chemical plume

when recirculation within conduit => conduit thicker (x 2-5)

Initial buoyancy ratio  $B_1 = \Delta \rho_x / \rho_0 \alpha \Delta T$ 





#### 3- Observations: « Horizon » around 800-1000 km depth



- Viscosity jump (Rudolph et al, 2015)?
- Chemical stratification (Ballmer et al,
- BEAMS (Ballmer et al, 2017)?

# What if :

- fat plumes
- 1000 km-depth horizon
- fat slabs

# were due to the complex nature of lower mantle rheology ?

Several phases and compositions, texture

## 4-Texture and jamming:







Carbopol



## 4-Texture and jamming:









Hydrogels (Sgreva et al, 2020)

#### 4-Texture and jamming:



Carbopol





Non linear damper (Norton): K, n

 $\sigma = \sigma_0 + K_v \dot{\gamma}^{n_{\rm HB}}$ 

. Carbopol ETD 2050 + glycerin + water, pH=5-7

**for**  $\sigma < \sigma_0$ , elastic

for 
$$\sigma > \sigma_0$$
, Herschel-Bulkley::  $\sigma = \sigma_0 + K_v \dot{\gamma}^n HB$ 

 $\sigma_0$  = yield stress, comes from structure jamming

$$n_{HB} = 0.3-0.75;$$
  
 $\sigma_0 = 0.02-0.4 \text{ Pa}$   
 $K_v = 0.3 - 2.5$  (Tp-dependent

$$\dot{\gamma}^{=>} \eta = \sigma/\dot{\gamma} = \sigma_0 \dot{\gamma}^{-1} + K_v \dot{\gamma}^{n_{\mathrm{HB}}-1}$$

NB: Earth =>  $n_F = 1/n_{HB} \sim 3$ 





<sup>(</sup>Davaille et al, JNNFM, 2013; Massmeyer et al, 2013; Di Giuseppe et al, 2015)

#### 5- Convection in a visco-plastic fluid

Tcold = Thot -  $\Delta T$ 

Thot

-Homogeneous Temperature on the Cu plates

- -Good insulation of the side walls
- ⇒Very nice linear unstable temperature gradient
- For 3 weeks.... NEVER became unstable.
- => NEED of a finite amplitude perturbation (e.g. Zhang & Frigaard, 2007)

ex: shake the tank !! Localized heating Compositional heterogeneities Impacts, ...

CARBOPOL:  $P = 4.15 \text{ W}, Y_0 = 554 \text{ (time x 250)}$ 





Less viscous mushroom More viscous finger

Fat finger

The isotherms are: 23°C, 27°C, 31°C, 35°C, 39°C.





- Strong shear localization
- Pseudo-Plug flow





0.045

0.04

0.035

0.03

0.025

0.02

0.015

0.01

0.005

2.2

1.8

1.6

1.4

1.2

50





#### **Unyielded regions**



The plume can stop before reaching the surface

(1) 
$$Y_0 = \frac{gD\Delta\rho}{\sigma_0} > Y_c = 15 \pm 3.6$$
 => Plume  
Fat Finger => 10  $Y_c > Y_0 > Y_c$ 

(2) 
$$Bi = \frac{\sigma_Y}{K_v \dot{\gamma}^{n_{HB}}} < 1.0$$
 => rising

=> Characteristic (minimum) strain rate  $\dot{\gamma}_c = (\sigma_Y/K_v)^{1/n_{HB}}$ 





Each dislocation creates a stress field
 Dislocations interact => jamming

#### => Need to overcome a critical stress to start motion





G=shear modulus b=Burgers vector β=1-5 (Friedel, 1964)

dislocation climb



Each dislocation creates a stress field
 Dislocations interact => jamming

#### => Need to overcome a critical stress to start motion





G=shear modulus b=Burgers vector β=1-5 (Friedel, 1964)

dislocation climb



- . Each dislocation creates a stress field
- . Dislocations interact => jamming



. Once motion starts => shear-thinning (Nabarro, 1967; Reali et al, 2019)

$$\dot{\gamma} = \frac{D^{sd}Gb}{\pi k_BT} (\frac{\sigma}{G})^3 / ln(\frac{4G}{\pi\sigma})$$

 $D_{sd} = X_v D_v$ 

Self-diffusion coefficient

$$D_v = \frac{Zl^2\nu}{6}exp(\frac{\Delta H_M}{RT})$$

Vacancy diffusion coefficient

$$X_v$$
 vacancy concentration ( ~ 10<sup>-6</sup> - 10<sup>-2</sup> )



- . Each dislocation creates a stress field
- . Dislocations interact => jamming



. Once motion starts => shear-thinning (Nabarro, 1967; Reali et al, 2019)

So

$$\sigma = \sigma_0 + K_v \dot{\gamma}^{n_{\rm HB}}$$

with

$$\sigma_y \propto \frac{Gb}{\beta I} = \frac{1}{\beta} Gb \rho_d^{1/2}$$

$$K_v = \frac{G}{f} \left(\frac{D^{sd}Gb}{\pi k_B T}\right)^{-1/3}$$

=> depends on vacancy concentration

$$n_{HB} = 1/3$$



so 
$$\sigma = \sigma_0 + K_v \dot{\gamma}^{n_{\text{HE}}}$$

h 
$$\sigma_y \propto \frac{Gb}{\beta I} = \frac{1}{\beta} Gb \rho_d^{1/2}$$

$$K_v = \frac{G}{f} \left(\frac{D^{sd}Gb}{\pi k_B T}\right)^{-1/3}$$

 $n_{HB} = 1/3$ 

#### Lab measurements cannot see the yield stress !



#### 7- FAT plumes in a Bridgmanite mantle

(1) 
$$Y_0 = \frac{gD\Delta\rho}{\sigma_0} > Y_c = 15 \pm 3.6$$
;  $\Delta\rho = \alpha\rho\Delta T_{av}$ 





#### 7-800 km-depth horizon in a Bridgmanite mantle

(2) 
$$Bi = \frac{\sigma_Y}{K_v \dot{\gamma}^{n_{HB}}} < 1.0$$

#### For Xv ~ 10-4, a plume could rise from CMB But stop around 30 Gpa



#### 7- Filtering thin slabs in a Bridgmanite mantle

(1) 
$$Y_0 = \frac{gD\Delta\rho}{\sigma_0} > Y_c = 15 \pm 3.6$$
  
 $\Delta\rho_{slab} = \alpha\rho_m\Delta T_{slab} + \Delta\rho_x\phi_{crust}$ 



for different slab averaged temperature and crust density anomalies ( $\Delta T_{slab}$ ,  $\Delta \rho_x$ ). Red: (-200°, 0.5%); magenta: (-200°, 3.0%); cyan: (-400°, 0.5%); blue: (-400°, 3.0%). The lines thicknesses represent the uncertainty in  $Y_c$ .  $\Delta T$  (slab) ~ 200-400°C

(Billen, 2008; Fukao et al, 2009)

 $\Delta \rho_x$  (slab) ~ 0.5-3%

(Hirose, 2005; Fukao et al, 2009; Ricolleau et al, 2010)

#### 7- Filtering thin slabs in a Bridgmanite mantle

$$Y_0 = \frac{gD\Delta\rho}{\sigma_0} > Y_c = 15 \pm 3.6$$

# key=slab folding

-thin slab => cannot enter LM

-folded pile => can enter LM



(Ribe et al, 2007)







(T. Chasse, 2021)

#### 7- Filtering thin slabs in a Bridgmanite mantle





$$Y_0 = \frac{gD\Delta\rho}{\sigma_0} > Y_c = 15 \pm 3.6$$

# key=slab folding

-thin slab => cannot enter LM

-folded pile => can enter LM

## **CONCLUSIONS:**

**THANK YOU** 

- 1- Plume morphology strongly depends on mantle rheology and composition
  - => we need better seismic tomography images, amplitudes, attenuation,... => OBS, MERMAIDS,...
- 2- The lower mantle might be visco-plastic because dislocation climb and also if mixture of two phases

3- Bad news= lab measurements will not see the yield stress because squeeze too quickly and too hard

4- Good news: + Subducted pile can penetrate LM; + 800-1000 km horizon could be produced

5- Shear should be localized, and large areas may remain isolated => need more modeling to quantify mixing, length- and time- scales

6- Questions: + mixture of Mg-FeO + Bridgmanite ? (Thielmann et al, 2020) + Is Mg-FeO really softer than Bridgmanite ?

College de France - 8 oct 2021

#### F- Implications for Head+Tail?

# = Upper mantle filter





-fat plumes in LM => yield stress

-plume existence => lateral chemical heterogeneities



#### **ZOOM under Carolina**

SEMUCB-WM1 + off-plane reflections Schumacher et al, 2018

> => evidence for chemical heterogeneities





**D-FAT plumes in a visco-plastic mantle** 

$$Y_0 = \frac{gD\Delta\rho}{\sigma_0} > Y_c = 15 \pm 3.6 \quad ; \Delta\rho = \alpha \ .\Delta T$$





## E- A visco-plastic rheology for the lower mantle ?



В

#### Diffusion creep :

vacancy flux from one grain boundary to the next

=> .depends on grain size .no yield stress .n<sub>F</sub>=1

$$\dot{\gamma} = A \sigma^{n_E} d^{-p} f_{H_2O} \exp\left(\beta \Phi\right) \exp\left(-\frac{E^* + P V^*}{RT}\right)$$

#### **Dislocation: glide and climb**

independent of grain size (p=0)
 .n<sub>E</sub>=3
 .rotation of the grain



# College de France - 8 oct 2021

#### **Dislocation: glide**

- .independent of grain size (p=0) .n<sub>E</sub>=3
- . NO rotation of the grain



Local Buoyancy ratio

 $B_1 = \Delta \rho_x / \rho_0 \alpha \Delta T(r,z)$ 

#### Table 1

B	Regim	$\gamma = \eta_d / \eta_m$	Rad	$a = h_d/H$	Upwellings morphology	Fig.	References
< 0.03	1-layer				Thermal plumes with no big head	5a	
0.03 <b<b<sub>c~0.4</b<b<sub>	Whole-layer				Active domes and passive ridges		[86, 61-62]
			< Ra <sub>c</sub> ~1000		Passive <b>ridges</b> = return flow to downwellings	5c	
		<1	>Ra <sub>c</sub>	$a < a_c$ $a_c = 1/(1 + \gamma^{-1/3})$	Active hot upwellings -Cavity plumes (or « mega-plumes ») through collection of small thermal instabilities -detach from hot bottom boundary (HBB)	5e 5g	
			>Ra <sub>c</sub>	a > a <sub>c</sub>	Passive ridges =return flow to cold more viscous downwellings	5c	
		>1	> Ra <sub>e</sub>		-Active hot <b>diapirs</b> detach from HBB if a<0.3 and B<0.2 continuous fingers from HBB otherwise -Secondary plumes on top of domes	5f 5g 5h	
		1/5<γ<5			Overturning = immediate stirring after first instabilities		[86]
		γ < 1/5 or γ>5			Pulsations = two layers retain their identity for several doming cycles	5f+5h	[59, 61-62]
> B <sub>c</sub>	2-layers			-4	-Stratified convection above and below interface -Anchored hot thermochemical plumes arise from TBL at the interface. No big head.	5b-d 5d	[85, 58, 67] [66, 57, 67, 59, 69]
B>1	Nearly flat interface				Thermochemical plumes in upper layer		[58,67]
B <sub>c</sub> <b<1< td=""><td>Dynamic</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>Dynamic topography does not reach the upper boundary</td><td>5b-c</td><td>[66,61,92]</td></b<1<>	Dynamic				Dynamic topography does not reach the upper boundary	5b-c	[66,61,92]
	topography	<1			Passive ridges (2D) or piles (3D) formed in response to cold viscous downwellings	5c	
		>1	<ra<sub>c</ra<sub>		Passive ridges (2D) or piles (3D)	5c	
			Ra <sub>c</sub> <ra<sub>d&lt;10<sup>4</sup></ra<sub>	1	Upwelling ridges	5b	
			>104		Upwelling domes, or superplumes	5b	

Convective regime and upwellings morphology as a function of B, viscosity ratio y, layer depth ratio a and internal Rayleigh number of the denser bottom layer Rad

For depth- or temperature-dependent properties, the viscosities are taken at the averaged temperature of each layer, and  $\alpha$  is taken at the interface [59,62]. We focuss on high global Ra (>10<sup>6</sup>). Note that if Ra<sub>d</sub><Ra<sub>c</sub>, the denser layer cannot convect on his own.

## C- How to create fat plumes in a newtonian mantle ?







#### b) Eact=500 kJ/mol



- Compressibility

#### +

#### **Depth-dependence**

(Thompson & Tackley, 1998)

## **FLUID MECHANICS : convection in an heterogeneous mantle**







2- Thermochemical instabilities
 => zoology of shapes
 + time-dependence

 $B_1 = \Delta \rho_x / \rho_0 \alpha \Delta T$ 

(Kumagai et al, 2007, 2008)