



# Convection in a porous medium

Tim Jupp

[t.e.jupp@exeter.ac.uk](mailto:t.e.jupp@exeter.ac.uk)

Harrison Room 273

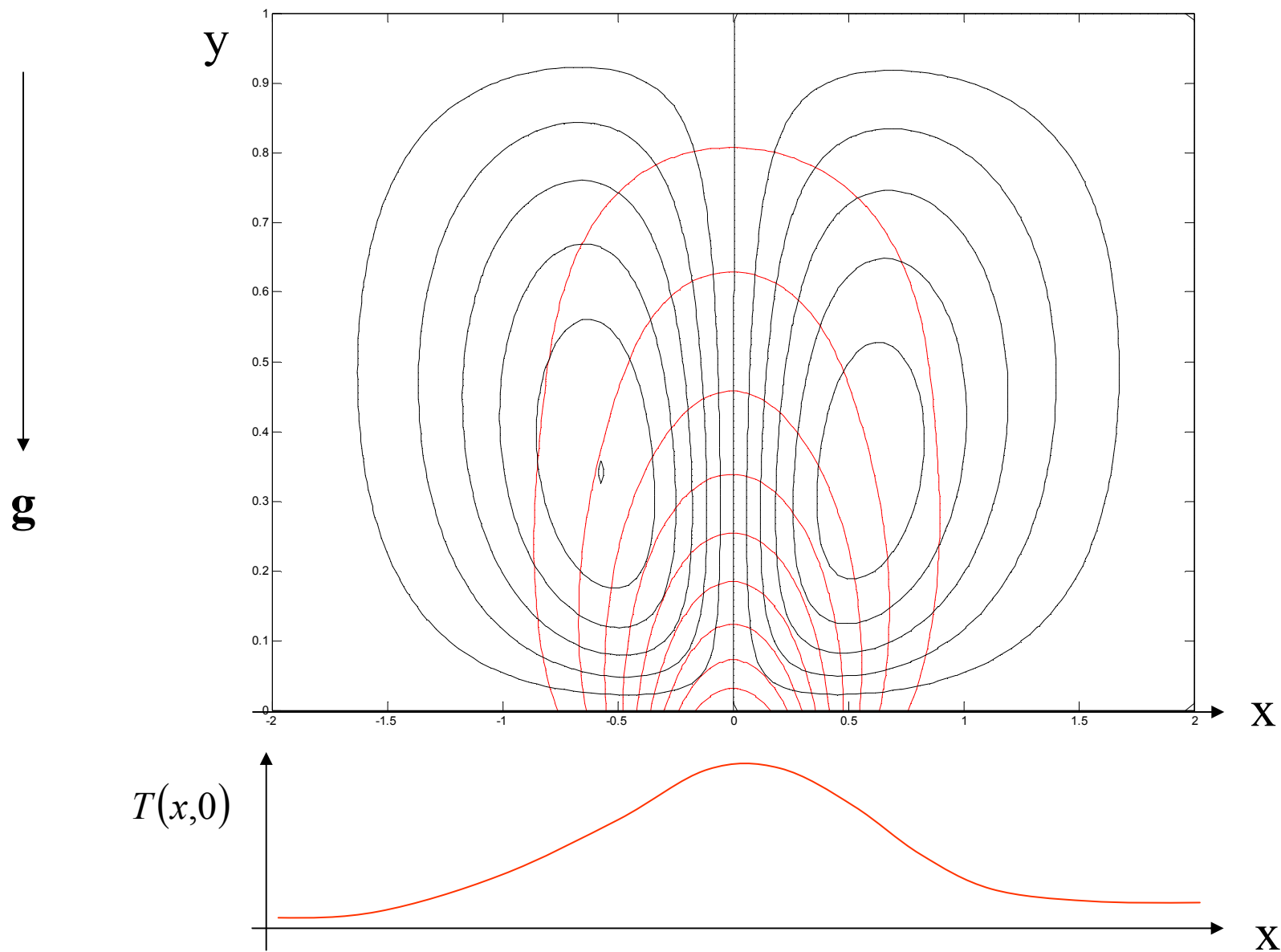


# Overview

- Derive governing equations
  - Nondimensionalise them
  - Solve them numerically
  - Investigate linear stability of conductive solution
- 
- Porous medium convection on the web?

Sample matlab output

streamfunction  $\psi(x, y)$   
temperature  $T(x, y)$



## Notation (Roman letters)

<u>Symbol</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>S.I. units</u>
$c_p$	specific heat capacity	$J \cdot kg^{-1} \cdot K^{-1}$
$D = \frac{\lambda}{\rho c_p}$	thermal diffusivity	$m^2 \cdot s^{-1}$
$g$	gravitational acceleration	$m \cdot s^{-2}$
$k$	permeability	$m^2$
$L$	height of convection cell	$m$
$p$	fluid pressure	$Pa = N \cdot m^{-2} = kg \cdot m^{-1} \cdot s^{-2}$
$T_0$	reference (cold) temperature	$K$
$T$	temperature	$K$
$t$	time	$s$
$u$	Darcy (“transport”) velocity	$m \cdot s^{-1}$
$x, y$	horiz. / vert. coords	$m$

# Notation

<u>Symbol</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>S.I. units</u>
$\alpha$	thermal expansivity	$K^{-1}$
$\lambda$	thermal conductivity	$W \cdot m^{-1} \cdot K^{-1}$
$\mu$	dynamic viscosity	$Pa \cdot s$
$\rho$	fluid density	$kg \cdot m^{-3}$
$\rho_0$	reference (cold) fluid density	$kg \cdot m^{-3}$
$\psi$	streamfunction	$m^2 \cdot s^{-1}$

## Dimensional governing equations

$$\mathbf{u} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial y} \\ -\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \psi_y \\ -\psi_x \end{pmatrix}$$

conservation  
of mass

$$\mathbf{u} = -\frac{k}{\mu} (\nabla p - \rho \mathbf{g})$$

conservation  
of momentum

$$\frac{\partial T}{\partial t} = -\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla T + D \nabla^2 T$$

conservation  
of energy

$$\rho = \rho_0 [1 - \alpha(T - T_0)]$$

constitutive  
relation

## Nondimensionalisation

Dimensional  
variable

Scaling  
factor

Dimensionless  
variable

$x, y$

$L$

$$\hat{x} = x / L, \hat{y} = y / L$$

$\psi$

$$\frac{kg\alpha\rho_0 L(\Delta T)}{\mu}$$

$$\hat{\psi} = \left( \frac{\mu}{kg\alpha\rho_0 L(\Delta T)} \right) \psi$$

$T$

$$(\Delta T) = T_{\max} - T_0$$

$$\hat{T} = T / (\Delta T)$$

$t$

$$\frac{L^2}{D}$$

$$\hat{t} = \left( \frac{D}{L^2} \right) t$$

Dimensionless governing equations

$$\hat{\nabla}^2 \hat{\psi} = -\hat{T}_{\hat{x}}$$

mass, momentum

$$\hat{T}_{\hat{t}} = Ra \cdot \left( -\hat{\psi}_{\hat{y}} \hat{T}_{\hat{x}} + \hat{\psi}_{\hat{x}} \hat{T}_{\hat{y}} \right) + \hat{\nabla}^2 \hat{T}$$

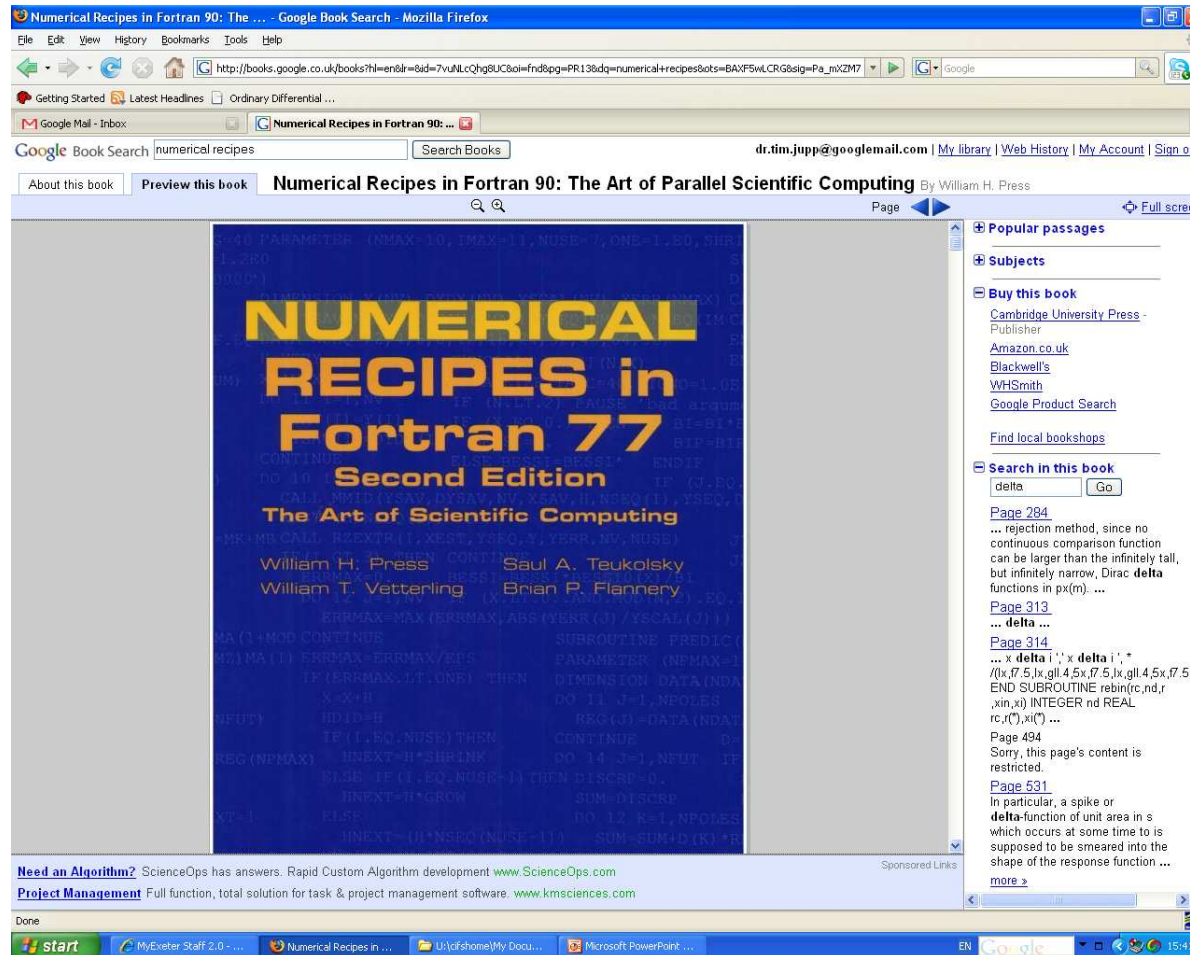
Where we have defined the “porous medium Rayleigh number”

$$Ra = \frac{kg\alpha\rho_0 L(\Delta T)}{D\mu}$$

**For simplicity, we may from now on omit the “hats” if it is clear that we are referring to dimensionless variables!**



# Numerical Analysis reference



**Numerical Recipes (Press et al.)**  
University Library or online at  
<http://www.nrbook.com/a/bookfpdf.php>  
(in particular chapter 19 on PDEs)

## Tasks for next week

- read Lapwood, Horton + Rogers (you are not expected to understand every last detail)
- try to translate between their notation(s) and ours
- (hint 1 darcy =  $10^{-12}$  m<sup>2</sup>)
- describe (in words – and not in detail) what they do beyond what we have done