

Mousumi Roy

**Overall:**

*"In this manuscript the thermal effect of melt infiltration into the base of the continental lithosphere is studied focusing on the thermal disequilibrium between melt and ambient rock. While thermal disequilibrium in porous flow is well studied in more technical literature, only a few papers quantitatively addressed this effect in the recent geoscience literature. Therefore this paper is timely and new. It is shown that indeed thermal disequilibrium may be important under certain circumstances near the lithosphere asthenosphere boundary explaining some observational data. Useful timescales and length scales are provided and are applied to observations. I recommend publication after some revision."*

**Thank you very much for your thoughtful and detailed comments. I am very grateful for the time and effort you have devoted to this review—your comments are invaluable and will greatly improve this paper.**

Here is a brief summary of major changes made to the paper:

1. Calculations repeated with a system of equations including axial conduction terms – also a comparison of solutions with and without diffusion in the step-function perturbation case
2. Material in previously in Appendices is now within the flow of the main text.
3. Introduction and discussion of possible definitions of an effective Pe number – revision of parameter range for channel spacing  $d$  to ensure  $Pe > 10$  here
4. Modifications to results:
  - a. Reduction in the estimated contribution of disequilibrium heating as defined here to the LAB heat budget
  - b. Scaling exponent for TRZ width  $\delta$  as a function of characteristic perturbation timescale is between  $n=1$  to 2, whereas it was closer to 2 without diffusion term
5. A short section describing numerical methods
6. Clarification of notations for heat transfer coefficient ( $K$  not  $k$ ;  $K_s$  and  $K_j$ ); dimensionless velocity is now  $\zeta$  not  $z$  (which seemed like a coordinate)

Below I address each of your comments and point to revisions (line numbers) in the revised manuscript (changes marked in red on revised PDF).

**Major comments**

<p>1. A major problem seems to be the neglect of conductive heat flux, i.e. the diffusion terms which are missing in eqs. 1 and 2.</p>	<p>Yes, this is an important critique and you are correct that the model assumptions are invalid when the heat transfer coefficient is too large. I had tested inequalities (1) and (2) you derived using Fourier modes, but for an earlier set of models with smaller heat transfer coefficient, <math>K</math></p>
<p>...</p>	
<p>.. From eq. (4) it follows that the neglect of the diffusion term is justified for Peclet numbers of order 1 to 10 and larger, while the Peclet numbers used in the paper are between <math>3 \cdot 10^{-6}</math> to 0.3.</p>	<p>Yes, you are correct. I do restrict the interpretations in the revised paper to models with <math>Pe &gt; 10</math> now. In Figure 2, which explores factors that control the heat transfer coefficient, <math>K</math>, I keep a broader range of channel spacing (<math>d</math>) values, but clearly state that we shall restrict our models to large enough channel spacings where advection dominates over diffusion.</p>
<p>... Therefore I strongly recommend to include the diffusive term into the calculations of thermal non-equilibrium and rerun the models.</p>	<p>Yes, even though the key conclusions and the figures are all now based on calculations for <math>Pe &gt; 10</math>, I have redone all the calculations now with the axial conduction terms included. Primarily, I wanted to test the robustness of my interpretations of the TRZ and the overall heat LAB budget for large Peclet numbers</p>

<p>Note that due to numerics you probably have some numerical diffusion in your model which may be of similar order as the neglected diffusion term. Thus, you should do some resolution tests.</p>	<p>and to compare the results with and without conduction. The conclusions of the paper have not undergone significant modification and the overall findings of the previous version of this study hold. In summary, key results that remain unchanged are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A limit is set on the importance of disequilibrium heat exchange within the lowermost continental lithosphere, but the heat budget is now revised to be lower than previously, comparable to that estimated from the deposition of latent heat (lines 354-360; 374-377).</li> <li>2. Documenting the rate at which the zone of disequilibrium heat exchange progresses inward into the domain from the inlet.</li> <li>3. Showing the likelihood that a TRZ forms at the base of the CLM for geologically-reasonable parameters and that the width of the TRZ is proportional to the characteristic thermal perturbation timescale.</li> </ol> <p>Note that both terms on the right hand side of the governing equations 1&amp;2, the <math>(T_f - T_s)</math> linear driving and the axial conduction terms, will be responsible for the broadening of any initially-sharp thermal pulse or the shallowing of an initially-steep thermal gradients. Even in the absence of diffusion, initially steep gradients will shallow as the channel material cools while the surroundings heat in the models. This is now shown in Figure 3 in c &amp; d and discussed in lines 255-260.</p> <p>I assume that by numerical diffusion you are referring to the dispersion that gives rise to instability in explicit methods, determined by the Courant-Friedrichs-Lewy or CFL condition. I have seen the term numerical diffusion in the context of broadening of initially-sharp boundaries that arises in a 2D or 3D discretization of the advection-diffusion equation (where flow is not purely along x, y, or z).</p> <p>I now describe my numerical methods in more detail in a short section in the revised paper. Lines 220-227</p>
<p>2. The critical parameter is the heat transfer coefficient <math>k</math>. Already in Fig. 1 <math>k</math> is given as proportional to <math>(1-\phi)/d^2</math> where <math>\phi</math> is the porosity and <math>d</math> is the channel distance. From the physics point of view it is proportional to <math>(1-\phi)/(d \delta)</math> where <math>\delta</math> is</p>	<p>This is a good point. For the timescales of the driving term here, we consider durations that are longer than <math>1/K_s</math>, a nominal thermal response timescale for the solid. I touch on this, and the relationship to the</p>

<p>the microscopical thermal boundary layer thickness at the solid-fluid interface (Schmeling et al., 2018). Only for long period thermal variations <math>\delta</math> is of the order of <math>d</math>.</p> <p>2.1) In Appendix C the heat transfer coefficient is discussed in more detail. There seems to be a confusion about the constant <math>A</math> in the equation for the specific surface area <math>a_{sf} \approx A(1-\phi)/d</math></p> <p>(note that you should use the symbol “<math>\approx</math>” or “<math>\cong</math>” as “approximately equal” and not “<math>\sim</math>” as “proportionally” as you do correctly in the notation of <math>k</math> in Fig. 1.).</p> <p>A back-of-envelope calculation results in <math>A=2</math> for planar channels, while for cylindrical tubes it is more complicated if written in terms of <math>d</math> (the formula contains square roots of <math>\phi</math>). Instead, for cylindrical tubes it can be written as <math>a_{sf} \approx 4\phi/d_f</math> where <math>d_f</math> is the tube diameter. But correctly, it is 6 for spherical or other grains embedded in the fluid phase. In Chevalier and Schmeling (2022) we discuss some of these relations.</p> <p>2.2) In eq. C1 and C2 the minus sign should be replaced by a plus (Dixon and Cresswell, 1979, eq. 29; Stuke (1948), eq 57). For <math>\beta</math> values of 10, 8, 6 are assumed for spherical matrix grains, cylinders or slabs, respectively.</p> <p>Adopting Dixon and Cresswell’s arguments means that short period effects (higher temporal modes as considered in Stuke, 1949) are neglected. This results from their assumption of taking Stuke’s (1949) heat transfer coefficient (eq. 57 in Stuke 1949) with <math>\Phi=1/\beta+</math> higher temporal orders but then neglecting these higher orders. With this assumption you get the effective conductance (your eq. C2). In my understanding, accounting for these higher orders is physically equivalent to taking the effective thermal conductivity <math>C_{eff}</math> and then defining the effective conductance by <math>C_{eff}/\delta</math> where <math>\delta</math> is the microscopical thermal boundary layer thickness. By neglecting the short term higher orders one implicitly assumes that the thermal boundary layer thickness has reached the order of <math>d</math>. Only then the appropriate <math>k</math> is given by <math>C_{eff}a_{sf}/d</math>. <b>In other words, in your choice of <math>k</math> you underestimate short term interfacial heat exchange.</b> The problem with choosing <math>\delta</math> rather than <math>d</math> in estimating the effective conductance is that <math>\delta</math> is time-dependent, and theoretically includes the full thermal</p>	<p>microscopic treatment in your 2018 paper, in the revised paper. Lines 174-183.</p> <p>OK, yes will fix this.</p> <p>I now cite this paper in connection to the discussion of reasonable numbers for <math>A</math>; Lines 152-153; 175-177</p> <p>Yes, thank you! – this is a typo in both C1 and C2</p> <p>Yes, I need to address this as a limitation of this way or estimating the effective conductance. I discuss the caveat that this underestimates the heat transfer coefficient for short term variations, limiting its applicability to thermal driving terms that vary over</p>
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<p>history of the two-phase flow. In Schmeling et al (2018) we studied this effect in detail and showed that choosing <math>\delta=d</math> describes the thermal non-equilibrium only for intermediate term evolutions, not short period thermal variations (e.g. Fig. 8 in that paper). For <math>\delta &lt; d</math> the heat transfer coefficient <math>k</math> will be larger than yours, so you probably overestimate thermal non-equilibrium for short term thermal variations. My recommendation: As it is quite common in literature to use the <math>\delta=d</math> assumption for simplicity you should keep this assumption and address and discuss this point.</p>	<p>timescales that are “long” per your 2018 paper. Lines 176-184</p>
<p>3.) You don't say how you solve the equations. Please add a short section on the numerical method, grid resolution etc.</p>	<p>I added a section on my numerical solution methods. Section 2.3, line 220-227</p>
<p>4.) The Appendices D and E contain very interesting model results. In my opinion they should be moved to the main text.</p>	<p>Yes, both reviewers point out the problematic flow between the main text and the Appendices. I moved these sections into the main text to improve the flow.</p>
<p>5) Discussion. In section i) you introduce the term “disequilibrium heating”. This term should more rigorously be defined. In this section (e.g. Line 208) you estimate the heat budget due to disequilibrium heating by multiplying the excess infiltration temperature <math>\Delta T</math> by <math>k</math> to get a volumetric heat generation rate. According to eq. (2) you should use the disequilibrium temperature difference <math>T_f - T_s</math> rather than <math>\Delta T</math>,...</p>	<p>Agreed. I use <math>(T_f - T_s)_{\max} = 2-5\%</math> of <math>\Delta T</math> instead of <math>\Delta T</math> and explain this in the context of the implied disequilibrium heat exchange. Lines 354-359</p> <p>I also define this term as I am using it in multiple places, lines 38, 211-214, 238-240, 352-355.</p>
<p>6) Line 258, 260. Here you speculate about rheological weakening due to disequilibrium heating. Again, assuming 100 K as a possible temperature increase is a probably an overestimate given that the disequilibrium temperature difference <math>T_f - T_s</math> is one to two orders of magnitude smaller than <math>\Delta T</math>. And: I have checked the activation energies and volumes of Hirth and Kohlstedt (2003) and I don't get your factors of order <math>1/62</math>. I get something like <math>1/20</math> at most for constant stress, and <math>1/3</math> for constant strain rate. Given the smaller temperature difference of order 10 K reduces this effect even more to a factor <math>1/1.3</math> or something like this, which is still worthwhile to mention.</p>	<p>Yes, fixed – I had used the E value for wet dislocation creep and the full DT. I have now revised this per your suggestion using <math>(T_f - T_s)_{\max}</math>, roughly 20% of <math>\Delta T</math>; lines 355-359</p> <p>Yes.</p>

#### Minor points:

<p>7.) Line 308: you may note here that <math>1/z</math> is the dimensionless channel velocity (but see also comment 13).</p>	<p>Yes, <math>1/z</math> (now <math>1/\zeta</math>) is indeed the dimensionless channel velocity – see also response to #13</p>
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<p>8.) Line 334. Are <math>\phi_{in}</math> and <math>\phi_{out}</math> identical to <math>\phi_f</math> and <math>\phi_s</math>, respectively? Then you should use same symbols.</p> <p>9.) Line 337. You choose <math>A</math> and <math>\beta</math> independently, but they are geometric parameters for spheres, tubes and spheres. Particularly <math>\beta</math> is defined for solid spheres, cylinders and plates, while <math>A</math> is defined for fluid tubes, etc.</p> <p>10) Line 340 to 345 or section 2: Please specify the boundary conditions more rigorously, for both <math>T_s</math> and <math>T_f</math> at <math>x = 0</math> and at the other side of the domain. You should clearly state that <math>T_s'</math> is also raised to 1 while you increase the influx temperature of <math>T_f'</math>.</p> <p>11.) Line 363. Delete “migration”</p> <p>12.) Line 366 – 367 and line 143 – 149. The difference between the disequilibrium front velocity of Kuznetsov (1984) and your eq. 3 is puzzling and should be discussed. Is it due to different scaling? Although both, Kuznetsov’s and your eq. 3 are given as dimensional equations? Or is it an effect of using perturbation theory versus full solution of the PDE’s? Or is it a misprint in Kuznetsov? Anyway, how did you derive and justify eq. (3)?</p> <p>13.) Fig. A2c causes confusion. From the x-label or figure caption we have <math>x'_{front} = (1/z)t'</math>. (5) This implies that the disequilibrium front has the non-dimensional velocity <math>1/z</math>. But the fluid velocity may be written as <math>v_{channel} = x_f t</math> (6) where <math>x_f</math> is the position of a fluid particle. If we substitute <math>x_f</math> and <math>t</math> using the non-dimensionalization rules one gets <math>v_{channel} = x'_f v'_{channel} / kst'_{kf} = x'_f t' v'_{channel} / Z = v'_{channel} / v'_{channel} Z</math> (7) with <math>v'_{channel}</math> as non-dimensional fluid velocity. After elimination of <math>v_{channel}</math> from both sides we have <math>v'_{channel} = 1 / Z</math> (8) which is in contradiction to eq. (5). Can you help me (and potential readers)?</p> <p>14.) Line 383. Sentence strange, probably delete one of the “is” or insert “which”</p>	<p>These are only identical if we take the ‘end member’ case where the channels are pure fluid and walls are solid. I was trying to say here that this does not need to be the case, but is now clarified (167-169)</p> <p>Yes, you are correct. I do this to investigate how the estimates of K are affected by a range in A and <math>\beta</math> – clarified in lines 173-175.</p> <p>Yes, your point here and #13 below clearly show that the boundary and initial conditions need to be clarified.</p> <p>OK</p> <p>I <b>think</b> that this arises because he is using an analytic (perturbative) approach whereas I am solving the full system. I will explain this better, but using the velocity estimate in Kuznetsov as a starting point (a first guess), I find (empirically) that Eqn 3 best describes the velocity in my models. I state this in revision (line 267-268), but I am afraid that I don’t have a derivation.</p> <p>The confusion lies here: the initial conditions needed to be better described (currently in Appendix D): For <math>t &lt; 0</math>, there is material flowing in the channels, at <math>v_{channel}</math>, but the channels are at the same initial temperature as the walls, <math>T_0 = T_s = T_f</math>. At <math>t = 0</math>, the temperature of the material entering the channels at <math>x = 0</math> is perturbed. So, what I mean by <b><math>x_{front}</math> in the old manuscript is not the location of the disequilibrium front</b>. Instead it is the location of the in-channel material that entered the domain at <math>x = 0</math> at <math>t = 0</math>. This material moves at the speed <math>v_{channel}</math> relative to the walls and at a later time <math>t</math>, it is located at <math>x = x_{front} = v_{channel} t</math>. Therefore, there is no contradiction, and <math>1/z</math> is indeed the dimensionless velocity of material in the channels. I think the word “front” here is causing the confusion. In the revised paper, I changed this to <math>x_{pert}</math> to more clearly indicate that this is the location of the material that entered with a perturbed temperature. Line 238-240.</p> <p>OK</p>
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15.) Line 390 – 391. Which “blue lines”? Do you mean the dashed lines or the double arrows?	Thanks for catching a typo: these should refer to the double arrows (they used to be blue in a previous version)
16.) Line 391: “wavelength” probably to be replaced by “period”	No, it is wavelength: I mean the peak-to-peak distance (at a fixed time)
17.) Line 149. I don’t see the strong function of $k$ in Fig. A4.	Ok, it should refer to the functional dependence on $d$ , which in turn strongly controls $K$ ; Figure 3 caption
18.) Line 150 – 159. You clearly describe the exponential decay of disequilibrium. Could you elaborate a bit on the decay rate for the step function case?	<p>The sentence is confusing... the exponential decay I am referring to is a spatial decay as a function of distance along the transport direction. So, the successive peaks in the blue curve on figure A2b in the previous manuscript should go down by roughly the same factor as they are their distance apart is roughly the same.</p> <p>In the revised manuscript, I show what I mean by a best-fit exponential decay – it is a spatial decay – used to estimate <math>\delta</math>, the width of the TRZ (Figure 5 and its inset).</p>
19.) Line 163: delete one of the parantheses “)” in the first <i>tanh</i> term	Yes
20.) Conclusion: Here I suggest to repeat the meaning of the abbreviations CLM, TRZ again	OK

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**Overall:**

“This paper investigates the potential for channelized melt transport into the base of the thermal lithosphere to supply an elevated localized heat flux. A simple modelling approach is used with a series of idealized forcing scenarios. The results include calculations of the scale of the thermal reworking zone and estimates of the overall heat supply. The modelling approach is heavily idealized and so is subject to significant limitations. The writing of the paper was hard to follow in parts. This could be improved by restructuring as a coherent whole without the back-and-forth use of appendices to develop both theory and results. However, the topic is interesting and the modelling is a useful starting point that makes a good contribution to analyzing the problem. Overall, I think the paper should be *accepted subject to minor revisions*.”

**Thank you very much for your review. I appreciate the thoughtful and constructive comments you have provided; I gratefully acknowledge they will improve the paper and increase its impact and readability.**

Here is a brief summary of major changes made to the paper:

1. Calculations repeated with a system of equations including axial conduction terms – also a comparison of solutions with and without diffusion in the step-function perturbation case
2. Material in previously in Appendices is now within the flow of the main text.
3. Introduction and discussion of possible definitions of an effective Pe number – revision of parameter range for channel spacing  $d$  to ensure  $Pe > 10$  here
4. Modifications to results:
  - a. Reduction in the estimated contribution of disequilibrium heating as defined here to the LAB heat budget
  - b. Scaling exponent for TRZ width  $\delta$  as a function of characteristic perturbation timescale is between  $n=1$  to 2, whereas it was closer to 2 without diffusion term
5. A short section describing numerical methods
6. Clarification of notations for heat transfer coefficient ( $K$  not  $k$ ;  $K_s$  and  $K_f$ ); dimensionless velocity is now  $\zeta$  not  $z$  (which seemed like a coordinate)

Below I address each of your comments and point to revisions (line numbers) in the revised manuscript (changes marked in red on revised PDF).

**General comments**

<p>1. Explanation of model, especially relating to the heat transfer and channel spacing: In the specific comments section, I give several suggestions for how I thought the model and results could be explained more clearly. This includes some suggested revisions to the notation.</p>	<p>Thank you for this comment. As R1 has pointed out also, the grounds for neglecting axial conduction are not valid for some of the models I consider.</p> <p>I have redone these calculations including the diffusion terms to test the robustness of my interpretations of the TRZ and the overall heat LAB budget for large Peclet numbers. The conclusions of the paper have not undergone significant modification and the overall findings of the previous version of this study hold. In summary, key results that remain unchanged are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A limit is set on the importance of disequilibrium heat exchange within the lowermost continental lithosphere, but the heat budget is now revised to be</li> </ol>
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<p>My main concern in this area relates to the modelling of the heat transfer process. Physically, I would think that macroscale heat transfer results from microscale diffusion (i.e. thermal conduction), but the paper states that axial conduction is neglected. But looking at the appendix (C2), <math>k</math> is proportional to an effective thermal conductivity divided by the square of some length scale (<math>d</math> in the equation). The correct choice/s of length scale is the crucial issue (the square is clear from dimensional grounds). The authors say that <math>d</math> is the channel spacing, but elsewhere (L316) say that <math>d</math> is the particle diameter. These are obviously very different. So the relevant length scale needs much better justification and the role of conduction (equivalently diffusion) in the model should be clearer.</p>	<p>lower than previously, comparable to that estimated from the deposition of latent heat (lines 354-360; 374-377).</p> <p>2. Documenting the rate at which the zone of disequilibrium heat exchange progresses inward into the domain from the inlet.</p> <p>3. Showing the likelihood that a TRZ forms at the base of the CLM for geologically-reasonable parameters and that the width of the TRZ is proportional to the characteristic thermal perturbation timescale.</p> <p>I have clarified the confusion of using <math>d</math> for both channel spacing and particle diameter (now <math>p</math>; lines 149-50) and axial conduction is now included.</p> <p>The relative importance of diffusion and disequilibrium heat exchange is now addressed in the broadening observed for a step function lines 252-260.</p>
<p>2. Simplifications in modelling approach: There are numerous simplifications inherent in the modelling approach. These are generally mentioned in the text but I felt the paper would benefit from more analysis of the relative importance of the various simplifications made. Two related simplifications that seem especially important to me relate to the parameters <math>\phi</math> (fraction occupied by channel), the make up of the channels, and thermal (and perhaps chemical feedbacks).</p> <p>It is not entirely clear whether the channels are envisaged as purely liquid, narrow dikes surrounded by entirely solid rock or much wider bodies of partially molten rock, where a channel is distinguished as having a higher melt fraction. In either case, it is clear that the properties of these channels are in practice determined that the operative dynamics and it is a large simplification to just impose them. There must also</p>	<p>Yes, related to 1 above, I discuss the relative importance of axial conduction terms in the equations and address how including these affects the overall story of the paper. This is done in (new) Figure 3c&amp;d and Lines 252-260.</p> <p>Chemical exchange is ignored here entirely and this is indeed a limitation, but it will be more clearly stated in the revised paper. Lines 85-86.</p> <p>As I mentioned in lines 330-339 of the previous manuscript, the channels may be a high-porosity region within a lower-porosity surrounding region. To explore the ‘end-member’ upper limit to the disequilibrium heat exchange, I consider the case where the channels are purely liquid and walls are solid. This is now further clarified in the main text and not in an appendix (see response to #3 below) – Lines 167-169</p>



<p>be feedbacks between any thermal reworking process and the channels themselves but this can't be investigated within this type of model, as the channel properties are just imposed.</p>	<p>Yes, transport and channelization feedbacks cannot be explored in this limited approach. This is stated in lines 333-335</p>
<p>3. Paper structure: Significant aspects of the paper were hard to follow. I was less concerned about appendix A (but also don't see why a few short paragraphs couldn't be included in the introduction). Appendix C develops substantial aspects of the model (including aspects novel or specific to this study) to such an extent that the description in the main text relies heavily on material in the appendix (e.g. the discussion of <math>k</math>, <math>k_f</math> and <math>k_s</math>, which are crucial to the paper). Appendix B is rather more technical, but the meaning of symbols developed there is relied on elsewhere. So it should either be incorporated into the main text, or care should be taken such that all notation is properly defined in the main text at least.</p> <p>Appendix D and especially appendix E, given that it is perhaps the most 'realistic' scenario considered, also belong in the main results section. The summary given relies on notation developed in the appendices as well as figures only reported in the appendices. For this style of journal, the back-and-forth between main text and appendices is hard to justify.</p>	<p>OK, thank you for this comment. I feel your suggestions will greatly improve the flow of the paper and strengthen its impact. This is also in line with R1's comments on the organization of the Appendices and the material in the text.</p> <p>Material previously in Appendices have been incorporated into the main text and into the flow/story of the paper.</p> <p>Yes.</p>

## Technical comments:

<p>4. L33–45 or final paragraph of introduction: Consider referring to body of work relating to thinning of the thermal lithosphere in arc settings (e.g. England and Katz, 2010, <a href="https://doi.org/10.1038/nature09417">https://doi.org/10.1038/nature09417</a>, Perrin et al., 2016, <a href="https://agupubs.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/2016GC006527">https://agupubs.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/2016GC006527</a> and Rees Jones et al., 2018, <a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.epsl.2017.10.015">https://doi.org/10.1016/j.epsl.2017.10.015</a>.)</p>	<p>Yes, I now include some of these citations (lines 27-30; 59-60). I now refer to this when considering other contributions to the heat budget at the LAB. Lines 374-377</p>
<p>5. L51-54: this is a very significant simplification as it precludes any feedbacks between the channels and the process(es) that create them.</p>	<p>Yes. It is highlighted in the beginning of the Discussion; lines 325-335.</p>
<p>6. L58: ‘v is transport velocity’ needs a bit more explanation (transport velocity of what?). Also I assume from the equations that the solid is not moving but this could be stated more clearly in the text. I don’t really understand why you introduce a new symbol <math>v_{channel}</math> when it seems to be the same as v. The cartoon sketch in figure 1 is also a bit unclear as to whether v is the fluid velocity within the narrow channels in the zoomed in circles or some kind of average?</p>	<p>OK, yes, this is a typo. The velocity is now written exclusively as <math>v_{channel}</math>, the transport velocity of material inside the channels. I retain the subscript ‘channel’ to specify that this is the average rate of relative motion of material within and outside channels. Also, the physical meaning of <math>v_{channel}</math> is now clarified earlier in Figure 1 (“average velocity= <math>v_{channel}</math>”) and in text (lines 112-113 and elsewhere).</p>
<p>7. Eqs. 1–2: This way of defining <math>k_r</math> and <math>k_s</math> could be clearer. The notation is also potentially confusing as k has different units from <math>k_s</math> and <math>k_r</math>. Suggest changing one of the symbols.</p>	<p>OK, your point about the units being different is very good and I have changed the notation so <math>K</math> is only used as the effective heat transfer coefficient. (I avoided the lowercase <math>k</math> to avoid confusion with the common symbol for thermal conductivity.)</p>
<p>8. Figure 1: These time-dependent forcings have very different total energy inputs which could be emphasized a bit more, perhaps.</p>	<p>OK this is a good point, and I touch on this in the discussion of how the TRZ width scales with the characteristic perturbation timescale– Lines 317-325.</p>
<p>9. L87 &amp; L109: ‘across channel walls’ sounded a bit strange because the fluid flow seemed to be vertical so there wouldn’t be much flow across channel walls, since the walls in the sketch are also near vertical.</p>	<p>Clarified; I mean relative motion between material inside and outside channels. Lines 112-113</p>
<p>10. L104-112: consider phrasing this discussion in terms of a Peclet number.</p>	<p>Yes, this was also brought up by R1 and I have included this in the revision. Lines 205-220</p>
<p>11. L136: Think ‘duration’ was intended rather than ‘amplitude.’</p>	<p>Yes, you are correct.</p>
<p>12. L138–: Think that this section would be easier to understand if text from appendix (and especially figures) was included in the main text.</p>	<p>OK, agreed.</p>

<p>13. Figure 2: This is a useful figure. But I think plots against <math>x</math> at a series of <math>t</math> values are also useful complementary way to show the same data.</p>	<p>Yes, I have now included both views, T-x and T-t in a composite figure 6 -- see c and d</p>
<p>14. L174: 10 m.</p>	<p>Yes, I need the units</p>
<p>15. Figure 3: Consider plotting against the theoretical scaling to collapse all the data on a single line.</p>	<p>I thought about this, but decided against it because the effect of <math>d</math> on <math>\delta</math> is important to show visually. However this figure is now better annotated and visually clarified.</p>
<p>16. Figure 4 &amp; L231: I wondered if this velocity range was rather low, for example when compared to typical asthenospheric melt velocities which might be an order of magnitude larger.</p>	<p>Although I only consider one representative <math>v_{channel} = 1</math> m/yr, I mention that increasing <math>v_{channel}</math> will increase both <math>V_{diseqm}</math> and <math>\delta</math> since, for fixed channel geometry (<math>\phi</math>, <math>d</math>), both depend linearly on <math>v_{channel}</math>. Line 380-383; 392-393.</p>
<p>17. L203–224: Perhaps it would make more sense to consider the overall LAB heat budget rather than one component.</p>	<p>Agreed, however the stated goals of this work are to place limits on this one process, namely disequilibrium heat exchange. I state this explicitly here again, but place this in the context of other work that examines advective heat transport and latent heat transport. Line 374-377.</p>
<p>18. L305: <math>z</math> is an odd choice of symbol (looks more like a vertical coordinate) and could be defined more clearly.</p>	<p>OK. This is in keeping with some of the previous literature I cite (e.g., Spiga and Spiga and Kuznetsov). I can see how this would be confusing though and have now clarified it. I use <math>\zeta</math> instead of <math>z</math> throughout. Also, because <math>\zeta</math> is not as conceptually simple as the channel volume fraction <math>\phi</math>, where possible I avoid referring to <math>\zeta</math> values but instead refer to <math>\phi</math> values as there is a 1:1 mapping between them; 237-245.</p>
<p>19. L310: Might benefit from a brief discussion of the numerical methods used.</p>	<p>Yes, agreed. I plan to add a short section on this. Lines 220-227</p>
<p>20. L311 &amp; 316: <math>d</math> appears to be used for two different quantities</p>	<p>Yes, this is corrected by using a different symbol for particle diameter, <math>p</math>. Line 149-150</p>
<p>21. eqs. C1 &amp; C2: check whether the minus sign is correct. This looks like it should be related to the harmonic mean of two conductivities (it would be with a plus sign). And the equations would be problematic if the term in square brackets were zero.</p>	<p>Yes, absolutely; As also pointed out by R1, another typo.</p>
<p>22. L325: Not sure where this range came from originally but I don't think it would be appropriate if</p>	<p>OK. I agree that it is tricky in a 'coarse grained' model such as this to connect to microscopic geometry. My intention here is to illustrate what reasonable</p>

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<p>the model is intended to be of a porous flow, it sounds more like a pipe flow argument.</p>	<p>numbers might be for A and <math>\beta</math>... as Reviewer 1 suggested, I can connect to some previous work to motivate this better. Line 173-184</p>
<p>23. Figure A3: Could benefit from better formatting to match the standard of the other figures</p>	<p>OK – I am guessing you mean panels (c) and (d) in particular. I have now combined this into a figure illustrating both the T-x and the T-t view of the model solutions (Figure 6).</p>