

Delay effect of ionic diffusivity in nanopores of geomaterials

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In the non-deformed homogeneous rock, the mass transfer property depends primary on porosity as the following De-porosity power law as,

$$De = 0.83 \times p^{2.8} \times D_0$$

where De is the effective diffusion coefficient, D0 denotes the molecular diffusion coefficient and p is the porosity. For the samples with abundant nanopore (<100nm), however, the diffusion coefficient seems to be lower than is expected from the above relation. This results from the delay effect by nanopores which have the highly constrained structures of hydrogen-bonded H2O molecules in restricted pore spaces. The diffusion coefficient within nanopores can be estimated as the following,

$$1.38 \times 10^{-10} \sim 2.78 \times 10^{-10} \text{ m}^2/\text{s}.$$