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Rayleigh-Taylor mixing in a porous medium¹ GUIDO BOF-FETTA, MATTEO BORGNINO, STEFANO MUSACCHIO, University of Torino — Rayleigh-Taylor mixing in a porous medium is studied by high-resolution direct numerical simulations of the Darcy-Boussinesq equations in both two and three dimensions. The width of the mixing layer is found to grow linearly in the limit of small diffusivity, in agreement with the dimensional expectation. A different growth rate is observed in two and three dimensions. The characteristic transverse scale, a measure of the typical plume size, grows slower following a diffusive law: as a consequence plumes became more elongated during the time evolution. The evolution of the density flux, quantified by the Nusselt number, is studied as a function of the Darcy-Rayleigh number.

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