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**Marco Latini\*** (mlatini@hmc.edu), Department of Mathematics, 1250 N. Dartmouth ave., Claremont, CA 91711, and **Andrew J Bernoff** (ajb@hmc.edu), Department of Mathematics, Harvey Mudd College, 1250 N. Dartmouth ave., Claremont, CA 91711. *Transient Anomalous Diffusion in Poiseuille Flow.*

We revisit the classical problem of dispersion of a point-discharge of tracer in laminar pipe Poiseuille flow. We show that in the limit of small non-dimensional diffusion,  $D$ , that tracer dispersion can be divided into three regimes. For small times ( $t \ll D^{-1/3}$ ), diffusion dominates advection yielding a spherically symmetric Gaussian dispersion cloud. At large times ( $t \gg D^{-1}$ ), the flow is in the classical Taylor regime, for which the tracer is homogenized transversely across the pipe and diffuses with a Gaussian distribution longitudinally. However, in an intermediate regime ( $D^{-1/3} \ll t \ll D^{-1}$ ), first identified by Lighthill, the longitudinal diffusion is anomalous with a width proportional to  $t^2$  and a distinctly asymmetric longitudinal distribution. We present a new solution valid in this regime and verify our results numerically. These results suggest that anomalous diffusion is a hallmark of shear dispersion at times earlier than the Taylor regime. (Received September 29, 2000)