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Ascent modes of jets and plumes in a stationary fluid of contrasting viscosity Urmi Dutta, Shamik Sarkar, Amiya Baruah, Nibir Mandal* High Pressure and Temperature Laboratory Faculty of Science, Jadavpur University Kolkata 700032, India

Using multi-phase numerical experiments based on the Volume of fluid (VOF) methods 8 we show the ascent behaviour of a fluid injected into another immiscible fluid with higher 9 viscosity. Our VOF models reveal that the injected fluid forms jets characterized by a large head 10 11 trailing to a slender tail, which do not break up, but ascend in two principal modes, *Mode 1*: continuous and Mode 2: pulsating. In Mode 1, their heads grow continuously either by volume 12 expansion, forming balloon-shaped geometry (*Mode 1a*) or by curling, forming mushroom-13 shaped geometry (Mode 1b). In contrast, Mode 2 jets ascend in pulses, forming multiple heads, 14 leading to pinched-off geometry. In this study we show the viscosity ratio (R) between the 15 injecting and the ambient fluids as a crucial parameter in controlling the ascent modes, and 16 provide an estimate of critical *R* for the Mode 1 to 2 transition under varying fluid injection rates 17 (non-dimensionalized as Reynolds number, *Re*). From the entrainment velocity field we explain 18 that the transition of continuous to pulsating process results from the flow convergence at several 19 locations along the upwelling direction. We have also discussed the effects of buoyancy on the 20 ascent modes in case of plumes. 21

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