

## Fluid Statics (chapter 1, 2 of your textbook)



Large dams or  
small bottles -  
Design starts  
from fluid-statics  
calculations



**Important applications:** manometer,  
submerged surface, buoyancy, rigid-body  
rotation, fluid transportation

### Learning objectives:

- Governing Equation of fluid statics
- Manometry (use of fluid statics principle in pressure measurement)
- Forces on submerged surfaces



Fluid, like everything else,  
is made of discrete  
molecules

**Fluid, in this course, is treated as a  
continuous media, referred as *continuum***



### **Continuum approximation**

**Small fluid volume** (sometimes we will call  
**fluid particle**) **contains many many ( $\sim 10^{23}$ )  
atoms/molecules**

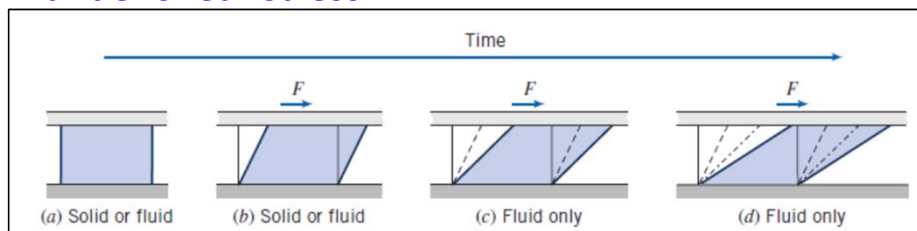
Another way of putting it: our **length-scale** is way  
bigger than molecular **length-scale**

**The *continuum-scale*: preferred choice for  
engineering applications**

## Governing Equation of Fluid Statics

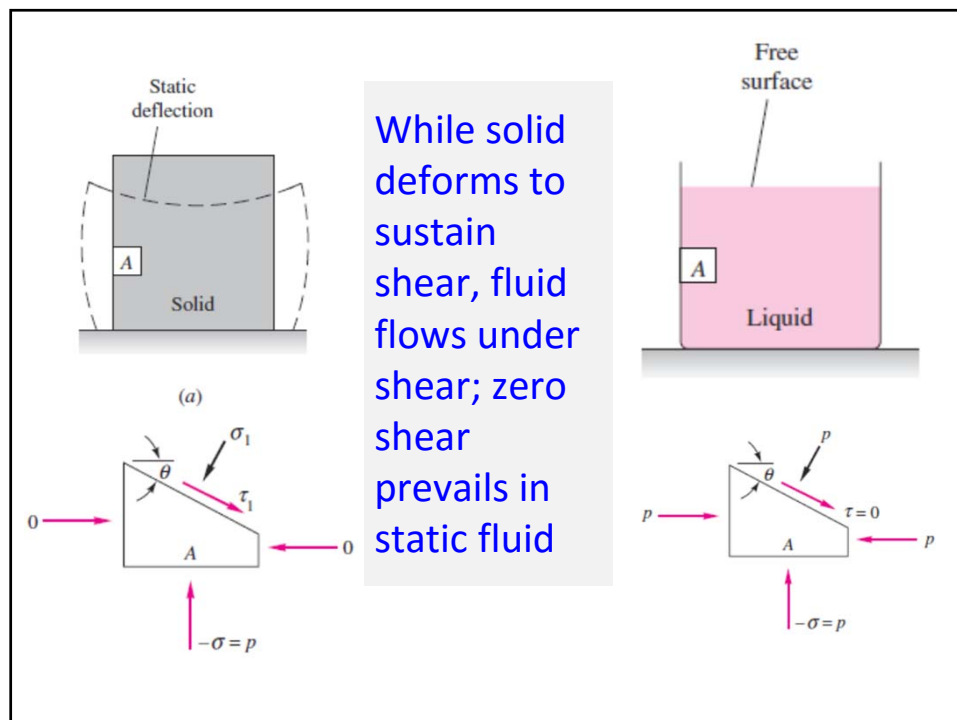
**What is fluid, roughly?**

Material that flows (deforms continuously)  
under shear stress

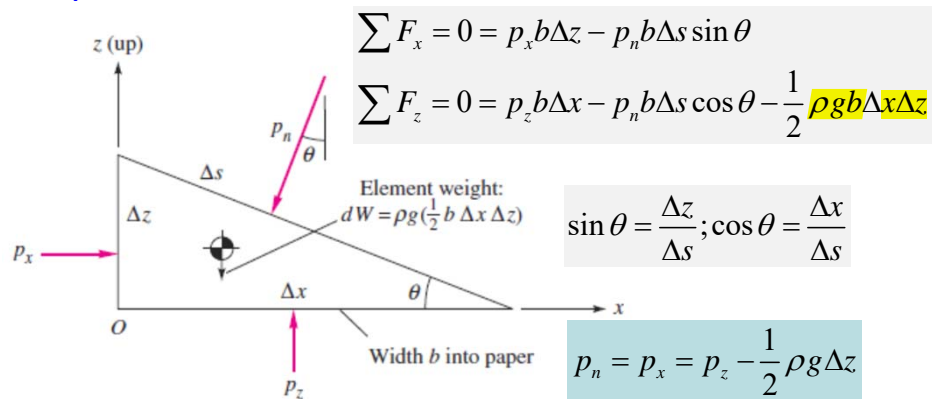


**A corollary of the above concept:**

Under static condition, fluid sustains only normal stress



### Equilibrium of a fluid element



For an infinitesimal fluid element  $\Delta z \rightarrow 0 \Rightarrow p_n = p_x = p_z$

**Pressure at a point is a scalar  
(direction-independent)**