

# PDEs - Astrophysical Fluid Dynamics

Lecture 11, Computational Astrophysics (ASTR660)

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# Announcements

- ▶ **HW4** is due TODAY. Late submission within one week will receive **75%** of the credit
- ▶ Please help to provide comments/feedback to improve this course! The questionnaire can be found via this [link](#) or by scanning this QR code:



## Previous lecture...

- ▶ ***Partial differential equations (PDEs)*** involve partial derivatives w.r.t more than one independent variable
- ▶ Three types of 2<sup>nd</sup>-order PDEs:
  - ▶ ***Hyperbolic***: time-dependent systems, conservative physical processes (e.g., advection, hydro), not evolving toward steady state, IVP+BVP
  - ▶ ***Parabolic***: time-dependent systems, dissipative physical processes (e.g., diffusion), are evolving toward steady state, IVP+BVP
  - ▶ ***Elliptic***: time-independent systems (e.g., gravitational potential for a point mass), already reached steady state, BVP

## Previous lecture...

- ▶ Two ways to discretize PDEs:
  - ▶ **Finite-difference** methods - replacing derivatives using finite-difference approximations at fixed ***mesh points***
  - ▶ **Finite-volume** methods - solving ***cell-averaged*** quantities on ***grid cells***, key is to approximate ***fluxes*** at cell edges
- ▶ For time-dependent PDEs, stability criterion can be obtained using the von Neumann stability analysis
- ▶ **CFL criterion:** Courant number  $C \equiv \frac{c\Delta t}{\Delta x} \leq C_{max} \approx 1$
- ▶ Commonly used BCs: periodic, outflow, and reflect
- ▶ **Operator splitting** is often used for multi-D simulations

# This lecture...

- ▶ In-class exercise -- finite-volume method
- ▶ Crash course on astrophysical fluid dynamics
  - ▶ Introduction to astrophysical fluids
  - ▶ Hydrodynamical equations
  - ▶ Fluid properties & phenomena

# Finite-volume methods for PDEs



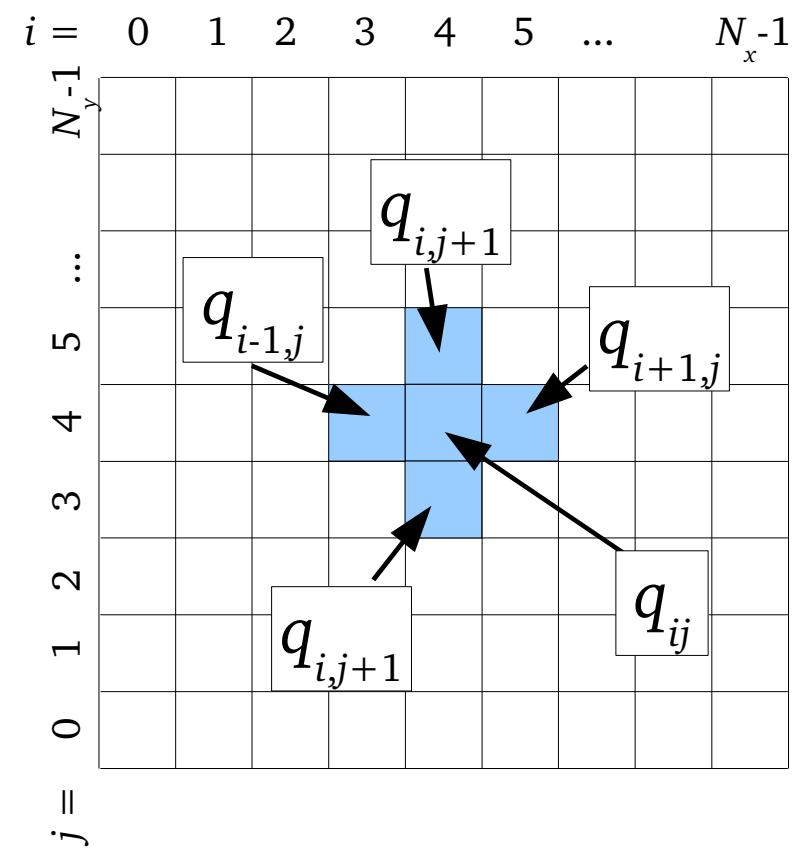
# Finite-volume methods

- ▶ This method is widely used *grid-based* hydro codes
- ▶ Mesh points -> *grid cells*
- ▶  $q_i^n = q(t = t_n, x = x_i)$  now represents *cell-averaged* values instead of cell-centered values:

$$q_{ij} \equiv \frac{1}{\Delta x \Delta y} \int_{x_{i-1/2}}^{x_{i+1/2}} \int_{y_{j-1/2}}^{y_{j+1/2}} q(x, y) dx dy$$

- ▶ We can write down a general *conservation* law:

$$\frac{\partial q}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot \mathbf{F}(q, t) = 0$$

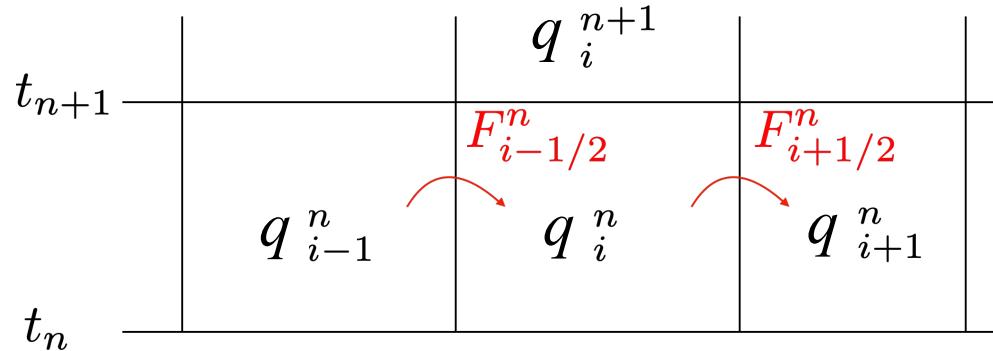


# Finite-volume methods

- Cell values can be updated by evaluating **fluxes** at cell edges (in 1D):

**Step 2**

$$q_i^{n+1} = q_i^n - \frac{\Delta t}{\Delta x} (F_{i+1/2}^n - F_{i-1/2}^n)$$



**Recall**

$$\frac{\partial q}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot \mathbf{F}(q, t) = 0$$

- The above equation is exact. So the problem becomes how to  
**approximate the fluxes at cell edges!!**

**Step 1**

## Example: advection equation

$$u_t = -cu_x$$

- Rewrite the advection equation in the conservative form

$$\frac{\partial q}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot \mathbf{F}(q, t) = 0$$

then  $\mathbf{q} = \mathbf{u}$ ,  $\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{q}, t) = c\mathbf{u}$

- Now use the **finite-volume** method:  $q_i^{n+1} = q_i^n - \frac{\Delta t}{\Delta x} (F_{i+1/2}^n - F_{i-1/2}^n)$
- The simplest approach to approximate fluxes at cell edges as simple **arithmetic averages**:

$$F_{i-1/2}^n = \frac{1}{2} [F(q_{i-1}^n) + F(q_i^n)]$$

-> **This method is unstable!**

# Algorithms for evaluating the fluxes

Lax-Friedrichs method:

$$F_{i-1/2}^n = \frac{1}{2} [F(q_{i-1}^n) + F(q_i^n)] - \frac{\Delta x}{2\Delta t} (q_i^n - q_{i-1}^n)$$

Upwind method

$$F_{i-1/2}^n = F(q_{i-1}^n)$$

Lax-Wendroff method:

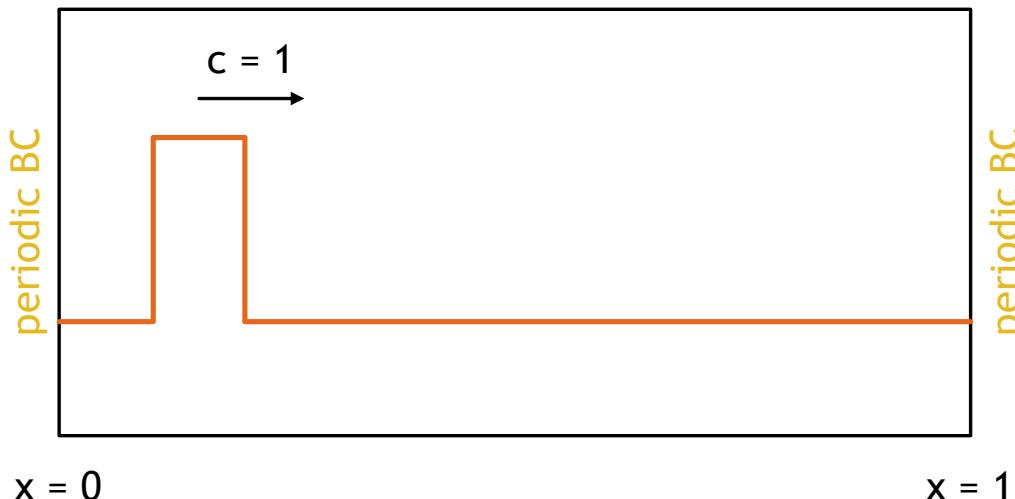
$$q_{i-1/2}^{n+1/2} = \frac{1}{2} (q_i^n + q_{i-1}^n) - \frac{\Delta t}{2\Delta x} [F(q_i^n) - F(q_{i-1}^n)]$$

$$q_i^{n+1} = q_i^n - \frac{\Delta t}{\Delta x} [F(q_{i+1/2}^{n+1/2}) - F(q_{i-1/2}^{n+1/2})]$$

# Exercise #1 - solving advection equation using finite-volume methods

$$u_t = -cu_x$$

- Let's propagate the top-hat function using the *finite-volume* methods



$$\frac{\partial q}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot \mathbf{F}(q, t) = 0$$

Rewrite the advection equation  
in the conservative form then

$$\mathbf{q} = \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{q}, t) = c\mathbf{u}$$

# Exercise #1 - solving advection equation using finite-volume methods

- ▶ Create a directory **fvm** under L10exercise:

```
mkdir L10exercise/fvm
```

- ▶ Copy the \*.f90 files and Makefile you wrote from the fdm directory to fvm
- ▶ Modify the **update** subroutine in **evolution.f90** in order to implement the ***finite-volume*** method

## evolution.f90 - where the update subroutine & fluxes are evaluated

*Update solutions using fluxes at cell edges*

```
subroutine update(time, dt)
use Simulation_data
implicit none
real, intent(in) :: time ,dt
integer :: i
real :: FL, FR

uold = u
do i = istart, iend
    call flux(i,dt,FL,FR)
    u(i) = uold(i) - dt/dx*(FR-FL)
enddo

end subroutine update

!
! Routine to evaluate flux cell edges
!
subroutine flux(i,dt,FL, FR)
use Simulation_data
implicit none
integer, intent(in) :: i
real, intent(in) :: dt
real, intent(out) :: FL, FR

! Arithmetic average method
FL = ! TODO
FR = ! TODO

! The Lax-Friedrichs Method
!FL = ! TODO
!FR = ! TODO

! The upwind method
!FL = ! TODO
!FR = ! TODO

! The Lax-Wendroff Method
!FL = ! TODO
!FR = ! TODO

end subroutine flux
```

*This is where the fluxes can be evaluated using different methods*

# Exercise #1 - solving advection equation using finite-volume methods

- ▶ Implement the *arithmetic average* method by modifying the `update` and `flux` subroutines in `evolution.f90`
- ▶ Compile and run the codes by
  - `make`
  - `./advection`
- ▶ Use your favorite plotting routine to plot the results and see whether the solution is stable or not

*Arithmetic average method*

$$F_{i-1/2}^n = \frac{1}{2} [F(q_{i-1}^n) + F(q_i^n)]$$

# Exercise #1b - solving advection equation using finite-volume methods

- ▶ Implement the **Lax-Friedrichs** method by modifying the **update** and **flux** subroutines in **evolution.f90**

- ▶ Compile and run the codes by

**make**

**./advection**

## *Lax-Friedrichs method*

$$F_{i-1/2}^n = \frac{1}{2} [F(q_{i-1}^n) + F(q_i^n)] - \frac{\Delta x}{2\Delta t} (q_i^n - q_{i-1}^n)$$

- ▶ Use your favorite plotting routine to plot the results and see whether the solution is stable or not
- ▶ To get the bonus credits, please submit the code and both plots to the TAs by end of today (11/24/2022)

# Astrophysical fluids

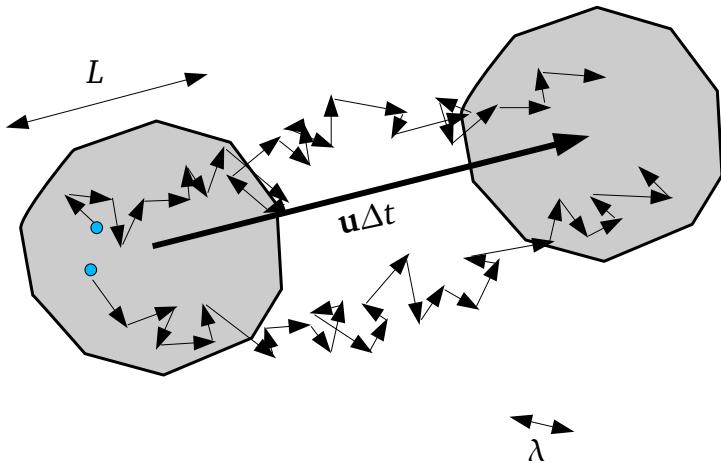


# What is a “fluid”?

- ▶ A **fluid** is a liquid, gas, or other material that *continuously* deforms/flows under an external force
- ▶ The particles contained within a fluid are *collisional*, so that they can be described by some collective properties (e.g., density, pressure, temperature, etc)
- ▶ The system is collisional if the *Knudsen number* is small:

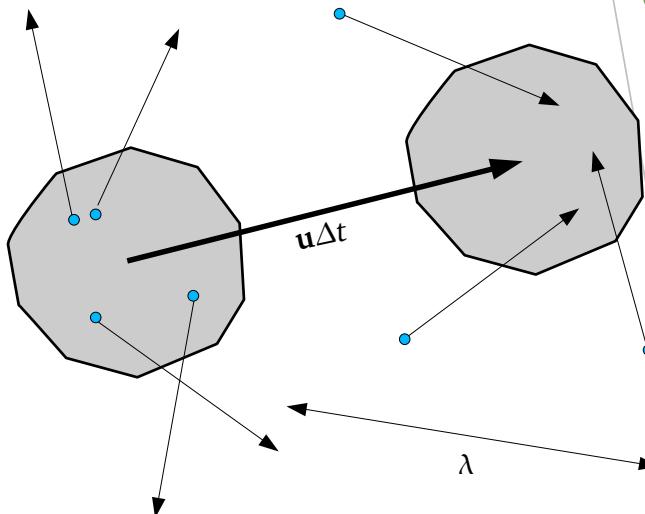
$$K_n \equiv \frac{\lambda}{L} = \frac{\text{mean free path}}{\text{typical scale}} \ll 1 \quad \text{or} \quad \lambda \ll L$$

# Collisionality of a gas



**Collisional** gas (fluid):  $\text{Kn} \ll 1$

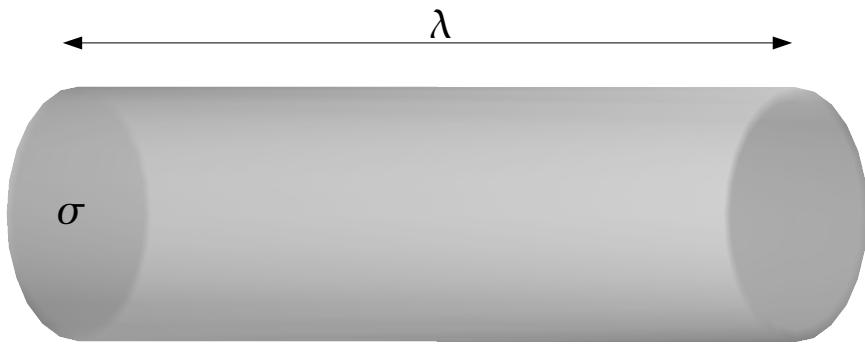
- ▶ Mean free path  $\lambda \ll$  typical scale  $L$
- ▶ Random motions do not carry particles far from mean trajectory
- ▶ Solve **fluid** equations for motion of fluid elements



**Collisionless** gas:  $\text{Kn} \gg 1$

- ▶ Mean free path  $\lambda \gg$  typical scale  $L$
- ▶ Random motions carry particles far from mean trajectory
- ▶ Solve **kinetic** equations for motion of particles (or distribution)

## Mean free path for neutral particles



$$\lambda = \frac{1}{n\sigma}$$

Example: air in the room

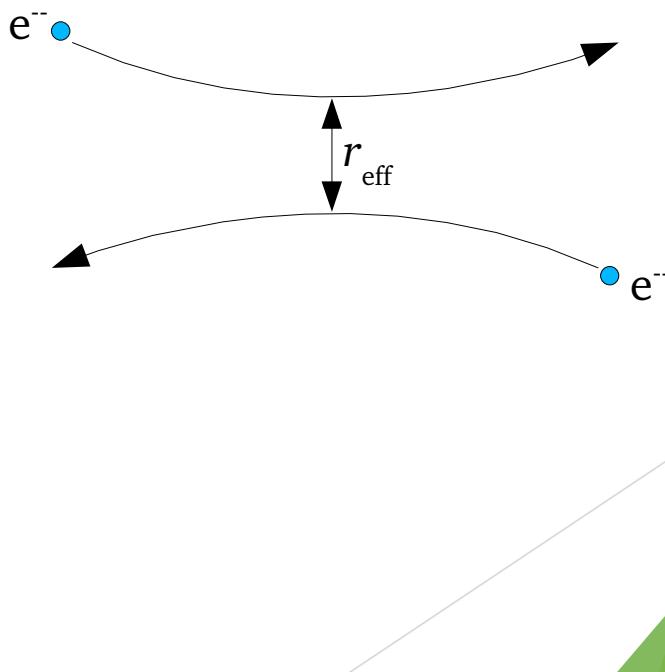
- ▶  $\rho \sim 10^{-3} \text{ g/cm}^3, \mu \sim 28m_p, \sigma \sim 3 \times 10^{-15} \text{ cm}^2$
- ▶  $\lambda = (n\sigma)^{-1} \sim 3 \times 10^{-5} \text{ cm}$

# Mean free path for charged particles

- ▶ Coulomb interaction is long-range => total cross section is infinite
- ▶ Finite cross section can be defined using an *effective radius for particle scattering*
- ▶ Large-angle scattering requires

$$\frac{e^2}{r_{eff}} \sim m_e v_{th}^2 \sim kT$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda = \frac{1}{n\sigma} \sim \frac{1}{n_e \pi r_{eff}^2} \sim \frac{m_e^2 v_{th}^4}{n_e e^4}$$



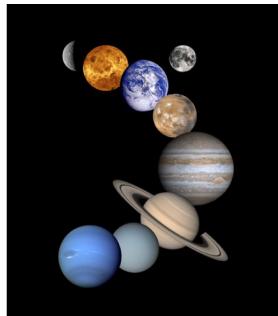
# Mean free path for photons

- ▶ Under many conditions, the most important interaction for photons is *scattering by free electrons*
- ▶ The cross section involved is the *Thomson cross-section*:

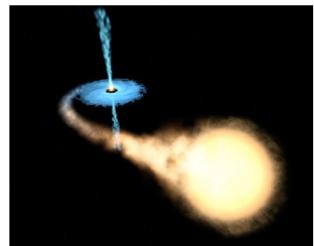
$$\sigma_T \equiv \frac{8\pi}{3} r_e^2 = \frac{8\pi e^4}{3m_e^2 c^4} = 6.65 \times 10^{-25} \text{ cm}^2$$

- ▶ This is generally << matter cross-section except in degenerate matter (e.g., white dwarfs)
- ▶ Radiation is generally less efficient than matter in transporting momentum

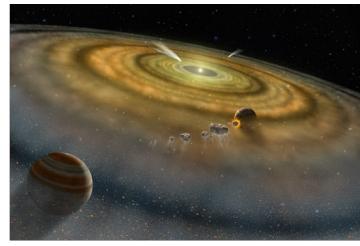
# Astrophysical fluids



Planets  
(~ Earth radius)



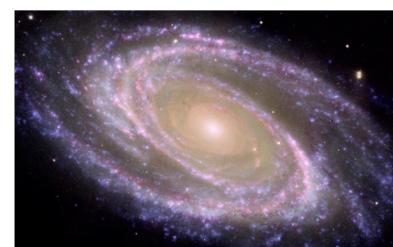
Stars/Binaries  
(~0.1-1000 AU)



Planetary disk  
(~100-1000 AU)



Interstellar medium  
(~10-100 pc)



Galaxy  
(~50 kpc)



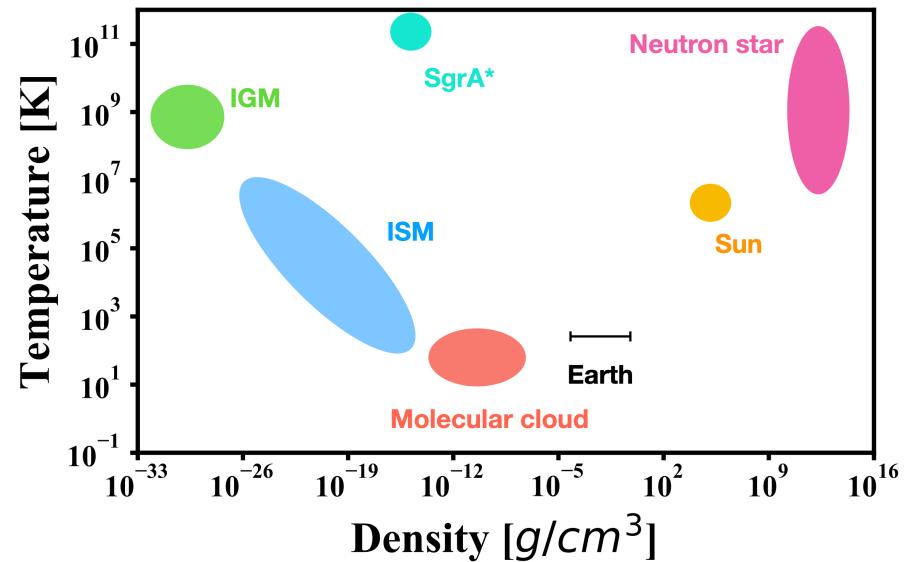
Galaxy clusters  
(~1 Mpc)



Large scale structure  
(~1 Gpc)

# Properties of astrophysical fluids

- ▶ Different from Earth-bound fluids
- ▶ Have a wide range of physical conditions
- ▶ Magnetic fields are often important -- *MHD*
- ▶ Compressibility is often important --  $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{v} \neq 0$
- ▶ Self-gravity is sometimes important --  $\nabla^2 \Phi = 4\pi\rho$
- ▶ Relativity is sometimes important - *SRHD/GRHD*
- ▶ Non-ideal processes (e.g., conduction, viscosity) are often unimportant - *ideal HD/MHD*
- ▶ Sometimes involve interactions with non-thermal particles (i.e., cosmic rays) and strong radiation fields - *CR-HD or radiation-HD*



# Hydrodynamic equations



# Hydrodynamic equations

- ▶ *Assumptions: collisional fluids ( $Kn \ll 1$ ), ideal fluids (no viscosity/conduction/diffusion)*
- ▶ Can be derived from integrating the Boltzmann equation (which describes the particle distribution function  $f(x, p, t)$ ) multiplied by different moments ( $m, m\mathbf{v}_i, 0.5m\mathbf{v}^2$ )
- ▶ The (ideal) hydrodynamic/Euler's equations:

$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\rho \mathbf{v}) = 0$$

Continuity equation

$$\frac{\partial \rho \mathbf{v}}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\rho \mathbf{v} \mathbf{v} + P \cdot \mathbf{I}) = 0$$

Unit tensor

Momentum equation

$$\frac{\partial \rho E}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot [(\rho E + P) \mathbf{v}] = 0$$

Total energy equation



# Hydrodynamic equations

$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\rho \mathbf{v}) = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial \rho \mathbf{v}}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\rho \mathbf{v} \mathbf{v} + P \cdot \mathbf{I}) = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial \rho E}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot [(\rho E + P) \mathbf{v}] = 0$$

6 independent variables, 5 equations  
=> need a *closure*

$\rho$	Gas density
$\mathbf{v}$	Gas velocity
$p$	Gas pressure
$\epsilon$	Gas specific internal energy
$E$	Gas specific total energy
$u$	Gas internal energy

$$u = \rho \epsilon$$

$$E = \frac{1}{2} v^2 + \epsilon$$

# Equation of state (EOS)

- ▶ One can use the EOS of an ideal gas as the closure of hydrodynamic equations
- ▶ For ideal gas, particle distributions can be approximated by the Maxwellian distribution, and one can derive the EOS:

$$u = \rho\epsilon = \frac{P}{\gamma - 1} = \frac{nk_B T}{\gamma - 1}$$

$n \equiv \frac{\rho}{m}$  = number density

$\gamma \equiv c_v/c_p$  = ratio of specific heats = adiabatic index

- ▶ Special cases when  $P$  is only a function of  $\rho$ :
  - ▶ *Isothermal gas ( $\gamma = 1$ ):  $P \propto \rho$*
  - ▶ Adiabatic gas (“*polytropic EOS*”; entropy = constant):  $P \propto \rho^\gamma$

# Adiabatic index $\gamma$

- ▶ For particles with  $d$  degrees of freedom (d.o.f.):  $\gamma = 1 + 2/d$
- ▶ For large  $\gamma$ : “*stiff*” EOS, adiabatic compression causes large pressure increase
- ▶ For small  $\gamma$ : “*soft*” EOS, adiabatic compression causes small pressure increase
- ▶ Typical values:

$\gamma = 1.6667$  monatomic gas (no internal d.o.f.)

$\gamma = 1.3333$  relativistic monatomic gas

$\gamma = 1.4$  diatomic gas (rotational d.o.f. only)

$\gamma = 1.3333$  diatomic gas (rotational + vibrational d.o.f.)

$\gamma = 1$  isothermal gas (compression cannot heat, infinite d.o.f.)

$\gamma \approx 1.4$  air (mostly N<sub>2</sub> and O<sub>2</sub>)

# Hydrodynamic equations

$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\rho \mathbf{v}) = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial \rho \mathbf{v}}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\rho \mathbf{v} \mathbf{v} + P \cdot \mathbf{I}) = 0$$

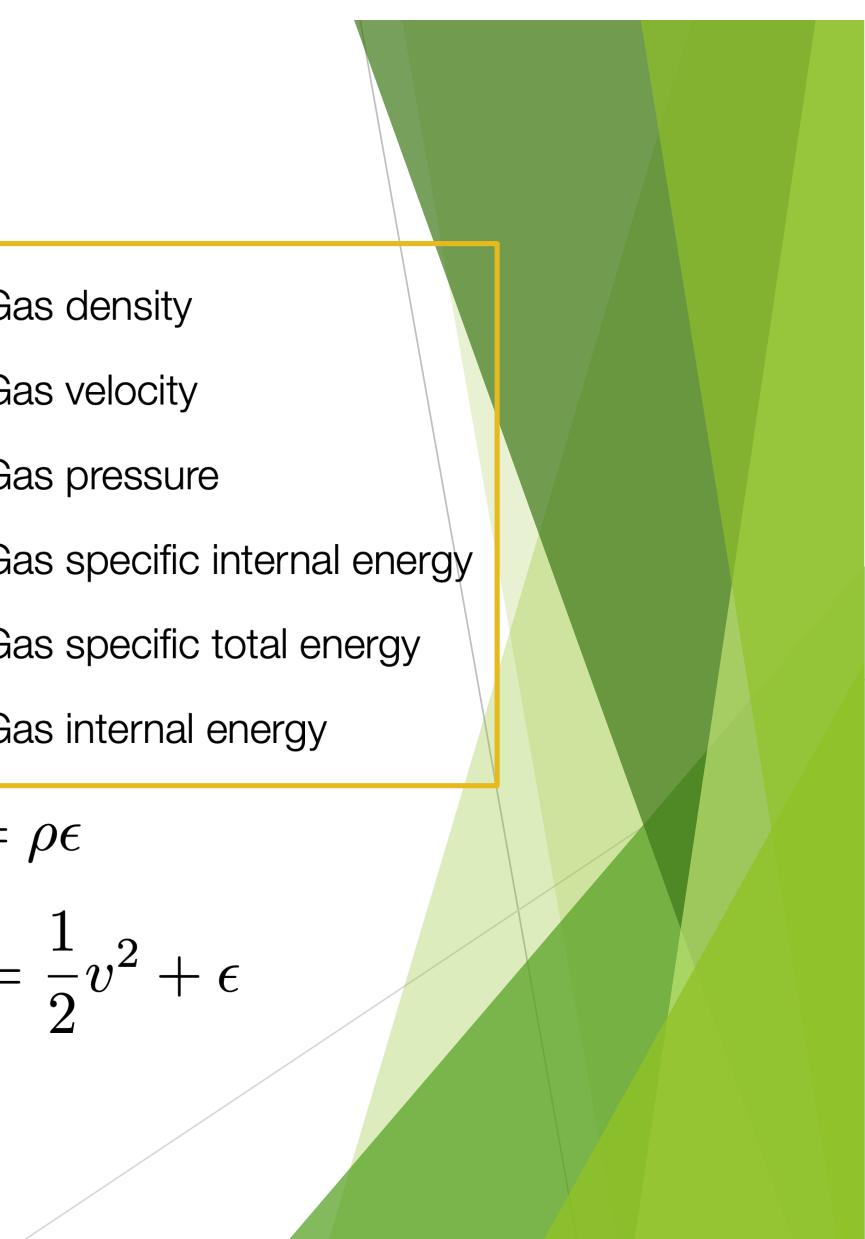
$$\frac{\partial \rho E}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot [(\rho E + P) \mathbf{v}] = 0$$

$$u = \rho \epsilon = \frac{P}{\gamma - 1} = \frac{n k_B T}{\gamma - 1}$$
 EOS

$\rho$	Gas density
$\mathbf{v}$	Gas velocity
$p$	Gas pressure
$\epsilon$	Gas specific internal energy
$E$	Gas specific total energy
$u$	Gas internal energy

$$u = \rho \epsilon$$

$$E = \frac{1}{2} v^2 + \epsilon$$



# Hydrodynamic equations + gravity

$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\rho \mathbf{v}) = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial \rho \mathbf{v}}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\rho \mathbf{v} \mathbf{v} + P \mathbf{I}) = -\rho \nabla \Phi$$

$$\frac{\partial \rho E}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot [(\rho E + P) \mathbf{v}] = -\rho \mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla \Phi$$

$$u = \rho \epsilon = \frac{P}{\gamma - 1} = \frac{n k_B T}{\gamma - 1}$$

$$\nabla^2 \Phi = 4\pi G \rho \quad \text{Poisson equation}$$

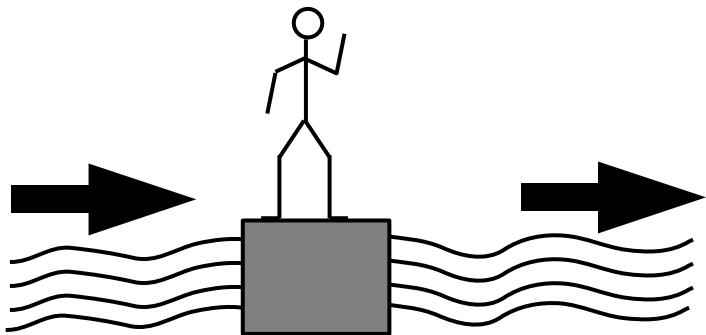
$\rho$	Gas density
$\mathbf{v}$	Gas velocity
$p$	Gas pressure
$\epsilon$	Gas specific internal energy
$E$	Gas specific total energy
$u$	Gas internal energy
$\Phi$	Gravitational Potential

$$u = \rho \epsilon$$

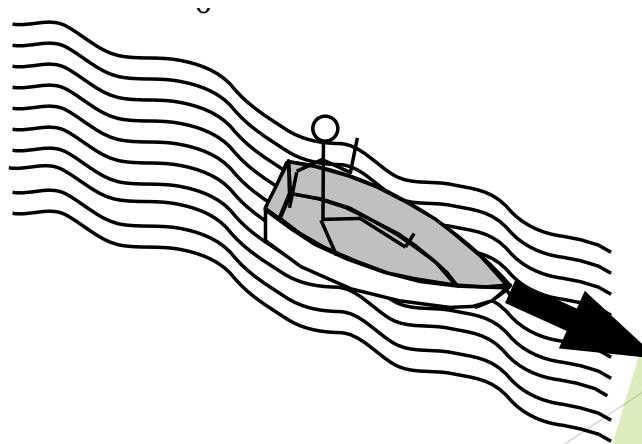
$$E = \frac{1}{2} v^2 + \epsilon$$

# Eulerian vs. Lagrangian viewpoints

- ▶ **Eulerian**: stand still as fluid moves by
- ▶ Fluid quantities are functions of position  $x$  and time  $t$



- ▶ **Lagrangian**: move with the fluid
- ▶ Fluid quantities are functions of initial position  $x(t_0)$  and time  $t$



# Eulerian vs. Lagrangian viewpoints

► From the chain rule:  $\frac{df(r,t)}{dt} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial r} \cdot \frac{\partial r}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial t} + (\boldsymbol{v} \cdot \nabla) f \equiv \frac{Df}{Dt}$

change of f at  
fixed location

change of f  
due to fluid  
motions  
(advection)

change of f  
with the fluid

► By defining the *convective derivative*:  $\boxed{\frac{D}{Dt} \equiv \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + \boldsymbol{v} \cdot \nabla}$

one could rewrite the continuity equation in Lagrangian form:

$$\begin{aligned}\partial_t \rho &= -\nabla \cdot (\rho \boldsymbol{v}) \\ &= -(\boldsymbol{v} \cdot \nabla) \rho - \rho (\nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{v}) \\ \rightarrow \partial_t \rho + (\boldsymbol{v} \cdot \nabla) \rho &= -\rho (\nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{v}) \\ \rightarrow \frac{D\rho}{Dt} &= -\rho (\nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{v})\end{aligned}$$

# Hydrodynamic equations in Lagrangian form

$$\frac{D\rho}{Dt} = -\rho \nabla \cdot v$$

$$\frac{Dv}{Dt} = -\frac{\nabla p}{\rho} - \nabla \Phi$$

$$\frac{Du}{Dt} = -(u + p) \nabla \cdot v$$

$$u = \rho\epsilon = \frac{P}{\gamma - 1} = \frac{nk_B T}{\gamma - 1}$$

$$\nabla^2 \Phi = 4\pi G \rho$$

$\rho$	Gas density
$v$	Gas velocity
$p$	Gas pressure
$\epsilon$	Gas specific internal energy
$E$	Gas specific total energy
$u$	Gas internal energy
$\Phi$	Gravitational Potential

$$u = \rho\epsilon$$

$$E = \frac{1}{2}v^2 + \epsilon$$

# Navier-Stokes equations in Lagrangian form

Non-ideal hydrodynamic equations including diffusive terms (viscosity/conduction)

$$\frac{D \rho}{Dt} = -\rho \nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{v}$$

$$\pi_{ij} = \mu D_{ij} = \mu \left( \frac{\partial u_i}{\partial x_j} + \frac{\partial u_j}{\partial x_i} - \frac{2}{3} \delta_{ij} \nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{u} \right)$$

Viscous stress tensor

$$\rho \frac{D \boldsymbol{v}}{Dt} = -\rho \nabla \phi - \nabla P + \nabla \cdot \underline{\pi}$$

$$\rho \frac{D \epsilon}{Dt} = -P \nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{v} - \nabla \cdot \underline{\underline{F}} + \underline{\Psi}$$

Conductive heat flux

Rate of viscous dissipation

$$F_k = -K_H \frac{\partial T}{\partial x_k}$$

$$\Psi \equiv \pi_{ik} \frac{\partial u_i}{\partial x_k}$$

# Dimensionless quantities governing the relative importance of physical processes

- ▶ **Mach number:** ratio of bulk velocity  $v$  to sound speed  $a$ :  $M \equiv \frac{v}{a}$
- ▶ **Reynolds number:** ratio of internal and viscous terms in the momentum equation:

$$R_e \equiv \frac{\frac{\partial(\rho v_i v_k)}{\partial x_k}}{\frac{\partial \pi_{ik}}{\partial x_k}} \sim \frac{\frac{\rho U^2}{L}}{\frac{\mu U}{L^2}} = \frac{UL}{\nu} \quad \begin{aligned} &\text{kinematic viscosity} \\ &\nu \equiv \mu/\rho \end{aligned}$$

- ▶ **Prandtl number:** ratio of kinematic viscosity  $\nu$  to thermal diffusivity  $\chi$ :

$$Pr \equiv \frac{\nu}{\chi} \quad \chi \equiv \frac{K_H}{\rho c_p}$$

**In astrophysics, usually  $M \sim 1, Re \gg 1, Pr \sim 1 \Rightarrow advection \sim pressure \gg diffusive\ effects$**

# Fluid properties and phenomena



# Sound waves

- ▶ Consider a uniform fluid with density  $\rho_0$  and pressure  $P_0$ , subject to a small density **perturbation**  $\delta\rho \ll \rho_0$ . The resulting velocity perturbation  $\delta v$  is also small. The corresponding adiabatic pressure perturbation is

$$\delta P = \left( \frac{\partial P}{\partial \rho} \right)_s \delta \rho$$

- ▶ The continuity and momentum equations to **linear** order of perturbations are:

$$\frac{\partial \delta \rho}{\partial t} + \rho_0 \nabla \cdot \delta \mathbf{v} = 0$$

$$\rho_0 \frac{\partial \delta \mathbf{v}}{\partial t} + \left( \frac{\partial P}{\partial \rho} \right)_s \nabla \delta \rho = 0$$

- ▶ Take  $\partial/\partial t$  of continuity equation and substitute from momentum equation:

$$\frac{\partial^2 \delta \rho}{\partial t^2} - \left( \frac{\partial P}{\partial \rho} \right)_s \nabla^2 \delta \rho = 0$$

*This is the wave equation with propagation speed  $a \equiv [\left( \frac{\partial P}{\partial \rho} \right)_s]^{1/2}$*

# Characteristics

- ▶ Note that the wave equation (in 1D) can be written as

$$\left( \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + a \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right) \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial t} - a \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right) \delta \rho = 0$$

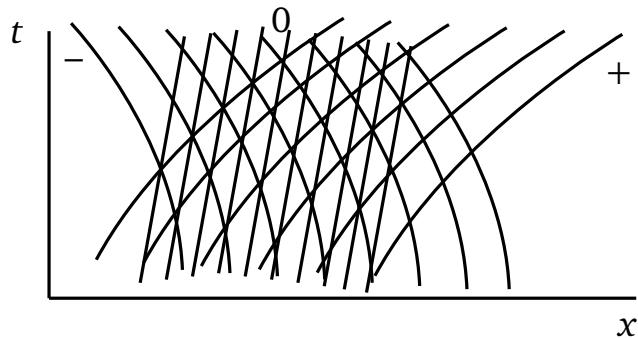
- ▶ Thus arbitrary smooth function of the arguments  $x + at$  and  $x - at$  are solutions:

$\delta \rho \equiv \delta \rho(x+at)$       wave moving to left

$\delta \rho \equiv \delta \rho(x-at)$       wave moving to right

- ▶ These solutions are called **characteristics**

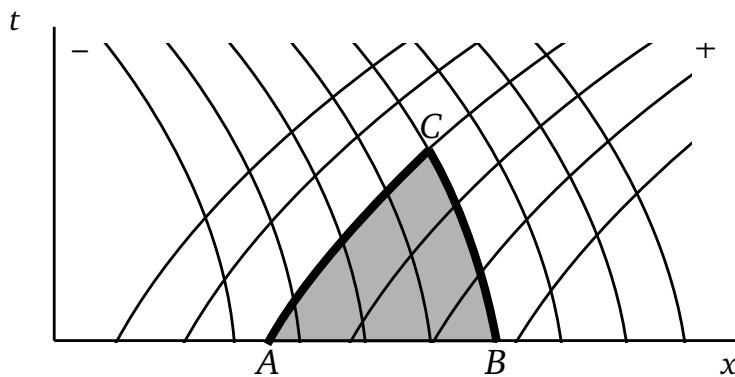
- ▶ More generally, for an adiabatic fluid moving with speed  $v$ , there are three families of characteristics:



+: sound wave moving to right  
-: sound wave moving to left  
0: adiabatic motion of fluid

## Characteristics & information propagation

- ▶ The characteristic speeds ( $v, v \pm a$ ) are the speeds at which information propagates in the solution



- ▶ Solution at C can be written as a function of solution A and solution B
- ▶ Behavior of characteristics AC and BC depends on solution along AB
- ▶ Thus the region ABC is called the **domain of dependence** of C.  
Solution at C is independent of the solutions outside ABC

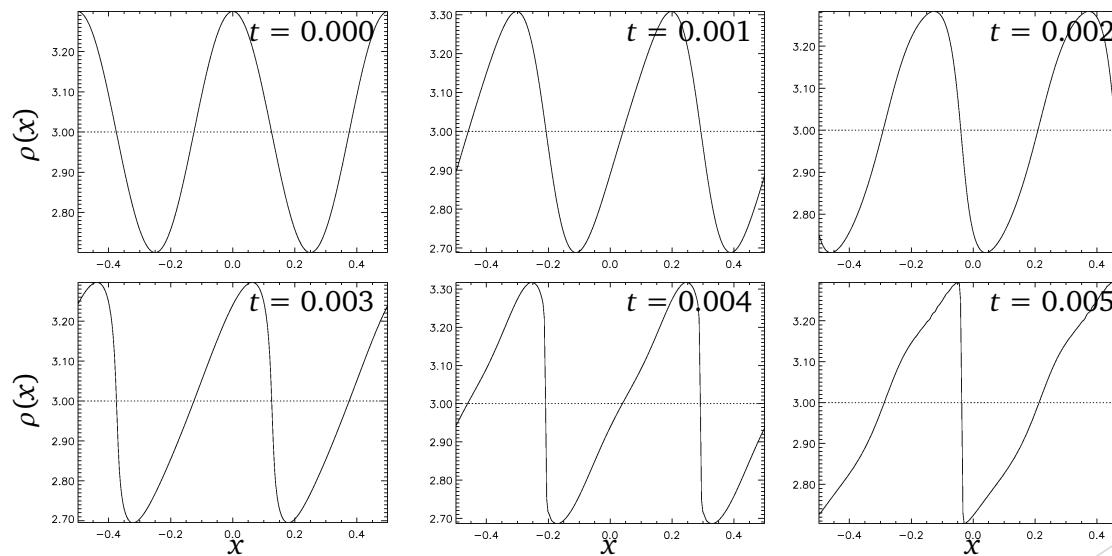
\*Recall how this is related to the CFL criterion (last lecture)

# Steepening of sound waves

- ▶ For sound waves, the propagation speed  $a$  is not constant but faster in *compressions (where  $\delta\rho > 0$ )* and slower in *rarefactions (where  $\delta\rho < 0$ )*:

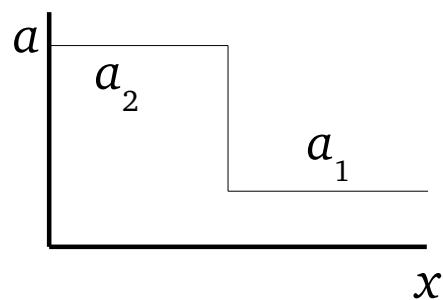
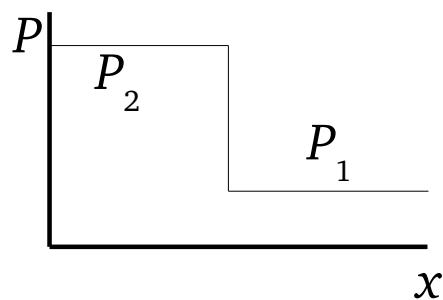
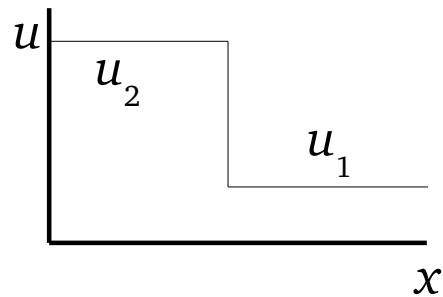
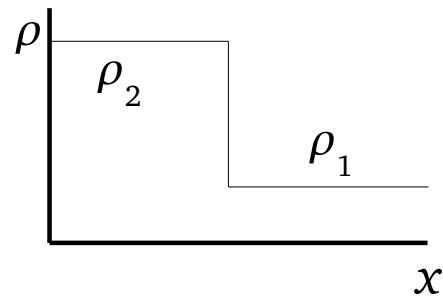
$$a \equiv \left[ \left( \frac{\partial P}{\partial \rho} \right)_s \right]^{1/2} = \sqrt{\frac{\gamma P}{\rho}} \propto \rho^{(\gamma-1)/2}$$

- ▶ As a result, a sound wave with finite amplitudes would *steepen* over time:



# Shock waves

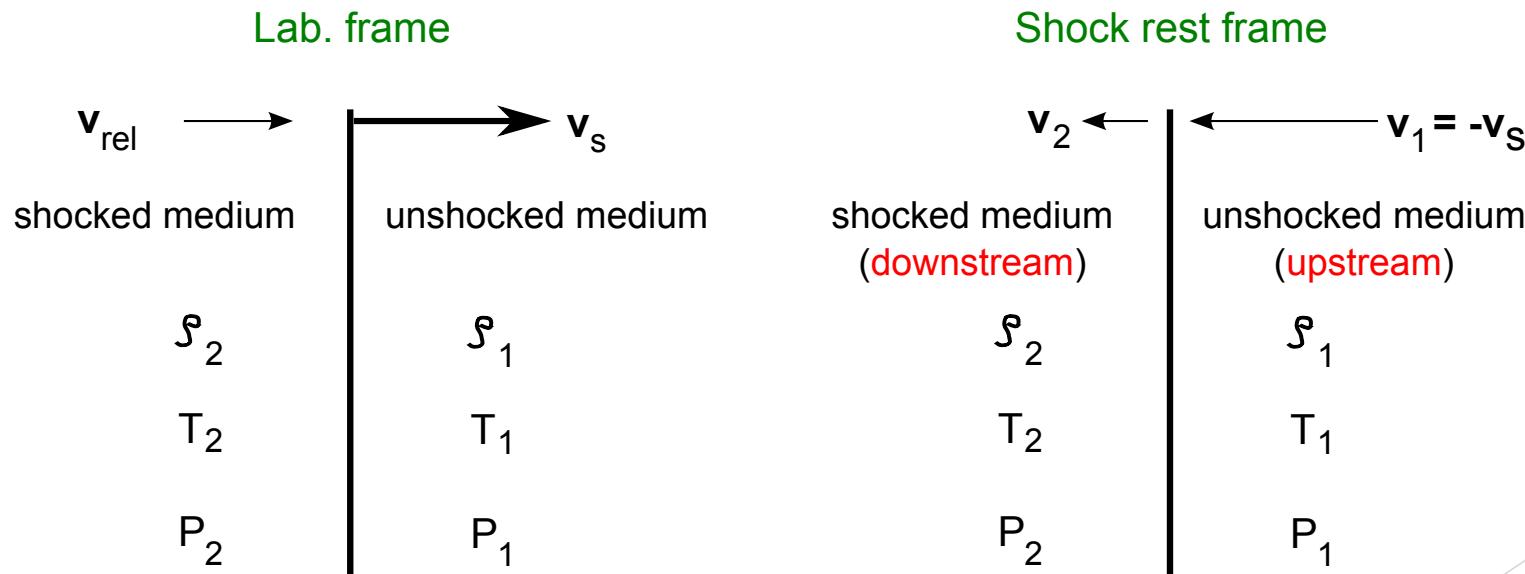
- ▶ The steepening of sound waves of finite amplitudes (i.e., **nonlinear** fluctuations) would eventually form a **shock**
- ▶ At the shock front, there are **discontinuities** in density, pressure, and velocity



# Shock waves

- ▶ Define **Mach number** = (shock velocity)/(sound speed of unshocked medium)
- ▶ Shock occurs when Mach > 1

$$M \equiv \frac{v_s}{c_s}$$



# Use fluid dynamics to study gas properties across the shock

- ▶ Hydrodynamic equations are conservation laws for fluids
- ▶ Across the shock, the fluid quantities should still be conserved, independent of what happens on microscopic scales
- ▶ Recall the hydrodynamic equations:

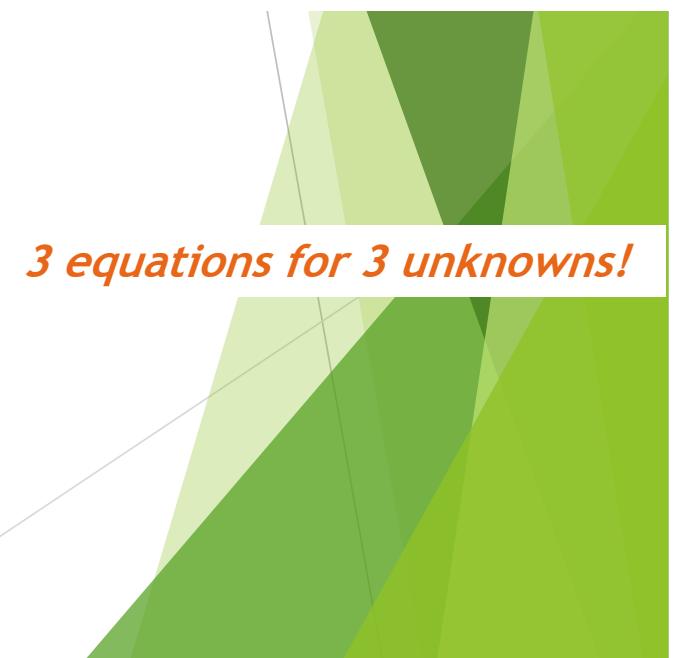
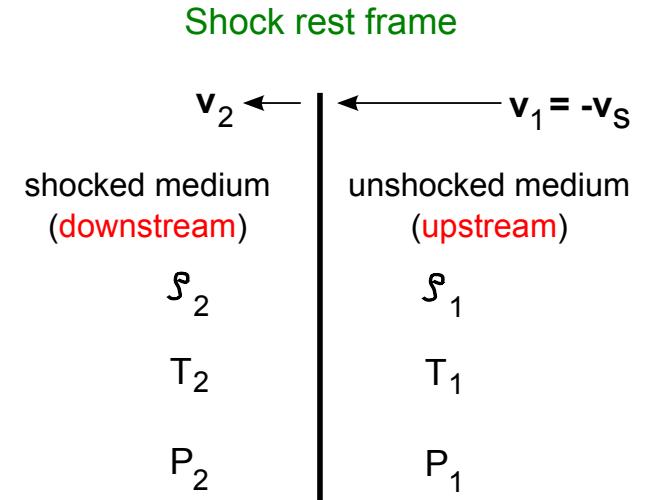
$$\boxed{\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\rho \vec{v}) = 0}$$

$$\boxed{\rho \frac{\partial \vec{v}}{\partial t} + \rho(\vec{v} \cdot \nabla) \vec{v} = -\nabla P}$$

$$\boxed{\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left( \frac{1}{2} \rho v^2 + \rho U \right) + \nabla \cdot \left[ \vec{v} \left( \frac{1}{2} \rho v^2 + \rho U + P \right) \right] = 0}$$

# Conservation of fluid quantities across the shock

- ▶ Consider 1D **steady** shock (time derivatives = 0), no B field, no gravitational field
- ▶ Apply conservation laws in the rest frame of the shock
- ▶ Mass:  $\frac{d}{dx}(\rho v) = 0 \Rightarrow \rho_1 v_1 = \rho_2 v_2$
- ▶ Momentum:  $\frac{d}{dx} (P + \rho v^2) = 0 \Rightarrow P_1 + \rho_1 v_1^2 = P_2 + \rho_2 v_2^2$
- ▶ Energy:  $\frac{d}{dx} \left( \rho v \left[ \frac{v^2}{2} + U + \frac{P}{\rho} \right] \right) = 0$   
 $\Rightarrow \rho_1 v_1 \left( \frac{v_1^2}{2} + U_1 + \frac{P_1}{\rho_1} \right) = \rho_2 v_2 \left( \frac{v_2^2}{2} + U_2 + \frac{P_2}{\rho_2} \right)$



# Rankine-Hugoniot jump conditions

- Solutions to the last 3 equations give the ***jump conditions*** that are widely used to connect upstream and downstream fluid properties across the shocks

- Density and velocity discontinuity:

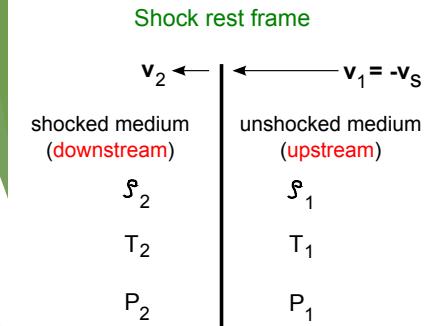
$$\text{compression ratio } r := \frac{v_1}{v_2} = \frac{\rho_2}{\rho_1} = \frac{(\gamma + 1)M_1^2}{(\gamma - 1)M_1^2 + 2}$$

- Pressure discontinuity:

$$\frac{P_2}{P_1} = \frac{2\gamma M_1^2 - (\gamma - 1)}{\gamma + 1}$$

- Temperature discontinuity:

$$\frac{T_2}{T_1} = \frac{P_2/\rho_2}{P_1/\rho_1} = \frac{P_2 \rho_1}{P_1 \rho_2} = \frac{[2\gamma M_1^2 - (\gamma - 1)] [(\gamma - 1)M_1^2 + 2]}{(\gamma + 1)^2 M_1^2}$$



# Rankine-Hugoniot jump conditions

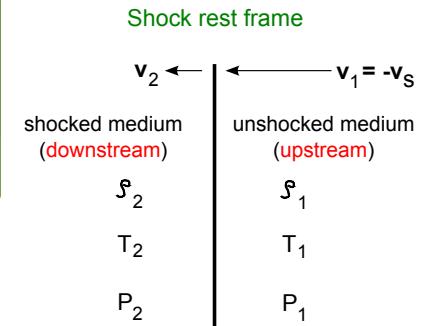
- ▶ **For strong shocks ( $M \rightarrow \infty$ )**, the density jump is limited, but pressure & temperature increase without limit:

$$\frac{\rho_2}{\rho_1} \rightarrow \frac{\gamma+1}{\gamma-1}$$

$$\frac{P_2}{P_1} \rightarrow \frac{2\gamma}{\gamma+1} M^2 \rightarrow \infty$$

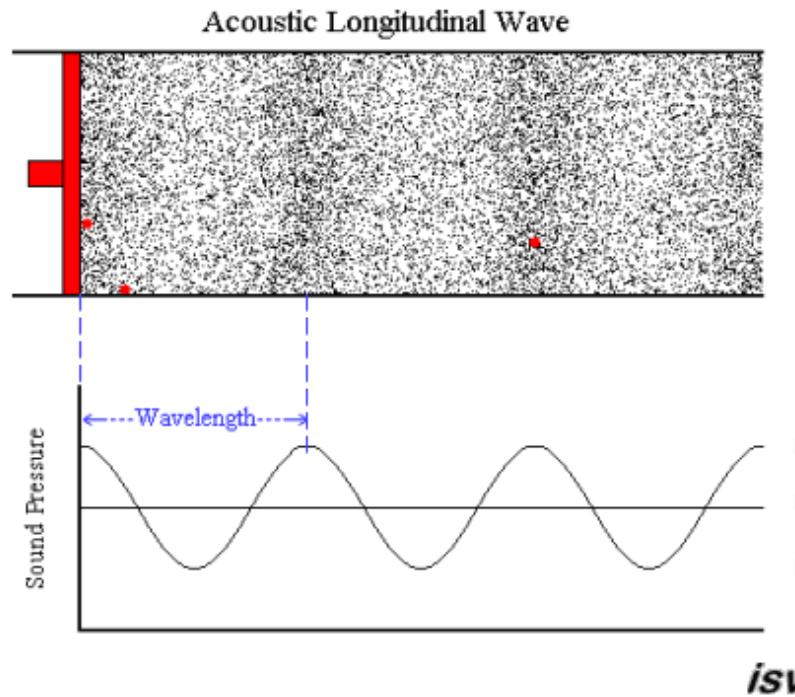
$$\frac{T_2}{T_1} \rightarrow 2\gamma \frac{\gamma-1}{(\gamma+1)^2} M^3 \rightarrow \infty$$

- ▶ **For  $\gamma = 5/3$ , compression ratio  $r = \rho_2/\rho_1 \rightarrow 4$**



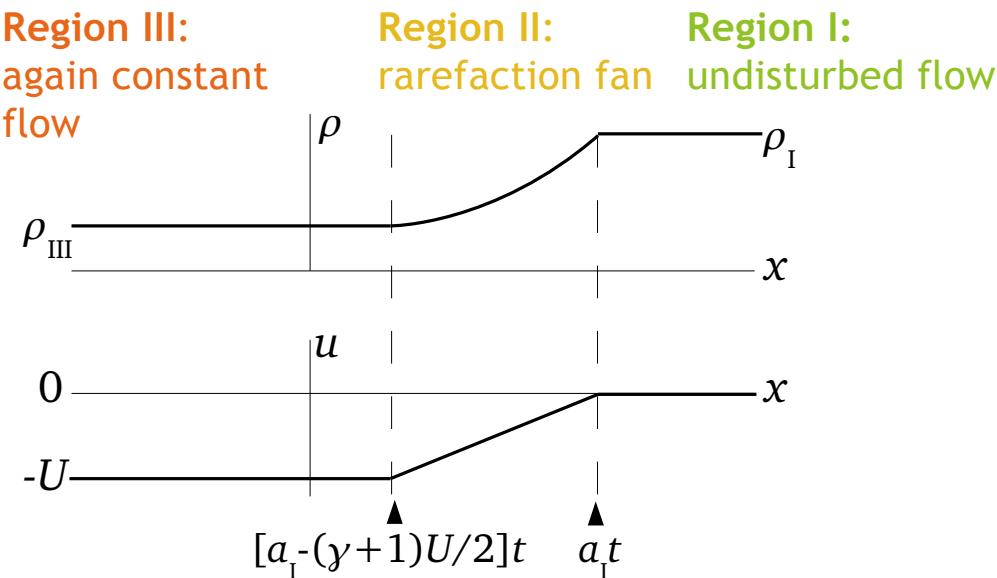
# Rarefactions (疏波)

- ▶ This is another solution of *nonlinear* waves that can exist without steepening into a shock
- ▶ Imagine a 1D piston that accelerates quickly to a constant velocity  $-U$  away from the fluid to its right



# Rarefactions (疏波)

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Analytical solution  
for region II

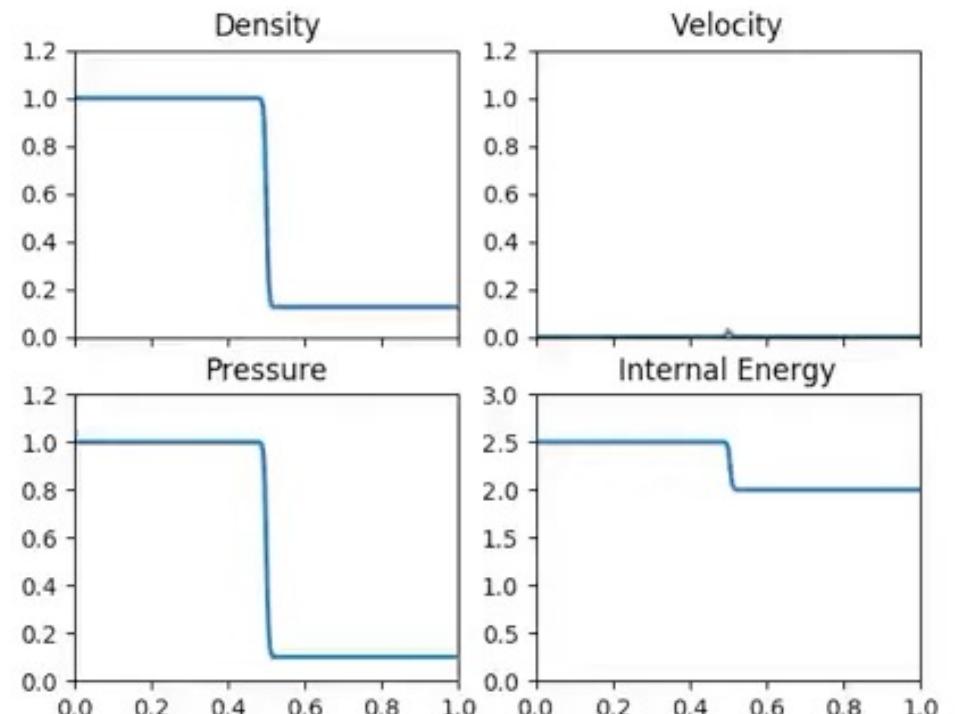
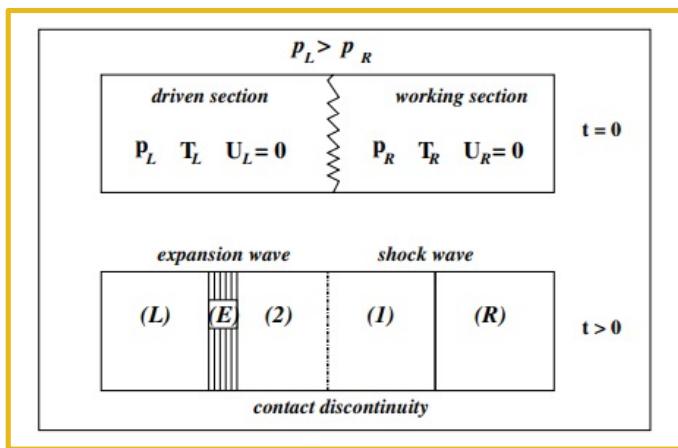
$$\rho = \rho_I \left[ 1 - \frac{\gamma-1}{2} \frac{|u|}{a_I} \right]^{2/(\gamma-1)}$$
$$P = P_I \left[ 1 - \frac{\gamma-1}{2} \frac{|u|}{a_I} \right]^{2\gamma/(\gamma-1)}$$
$$|u| = \frac{2}{\gamma+1} \left( a_I - \frac{x}{t} \right)$$

# Contact discontinuities

- ▶ Discontinuity in  $\rho$  only;  $P, v_{\perp}$  are continuous
- ▶ Example: the **Sod shock-tube test**, where all three types of nonlinear waves are present



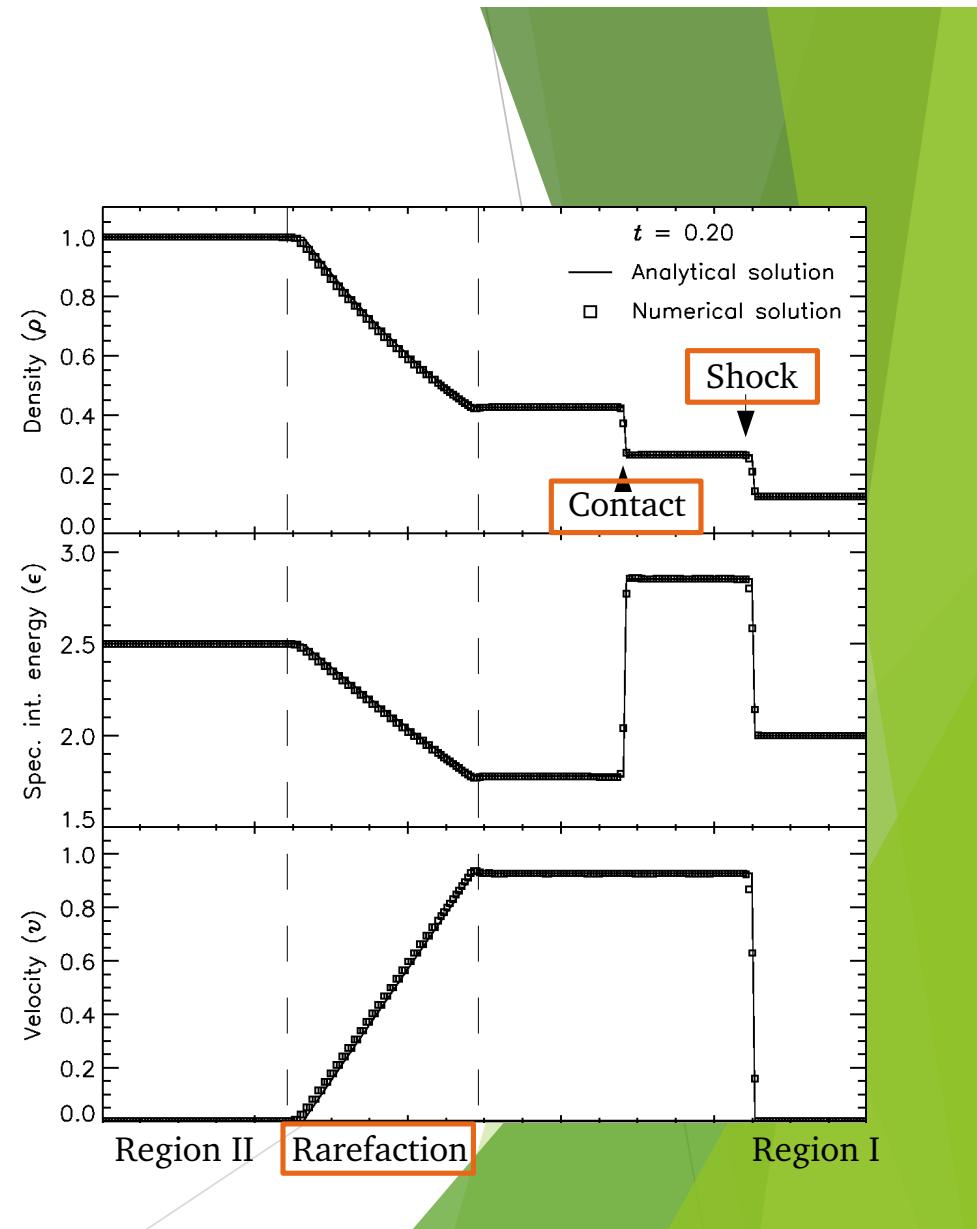
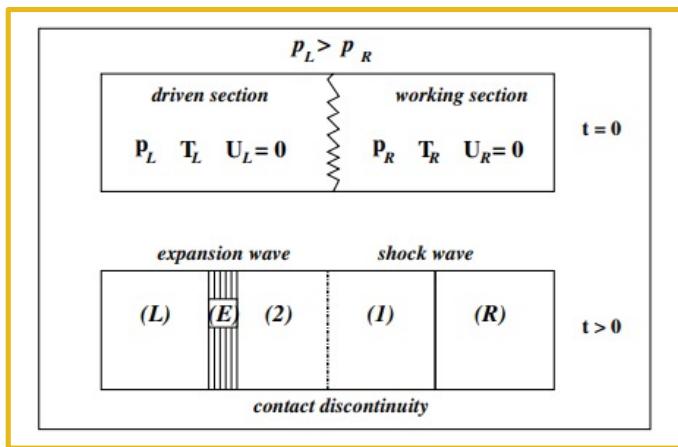
*Schematic of the shock-tube test*



# Contact discontinuities

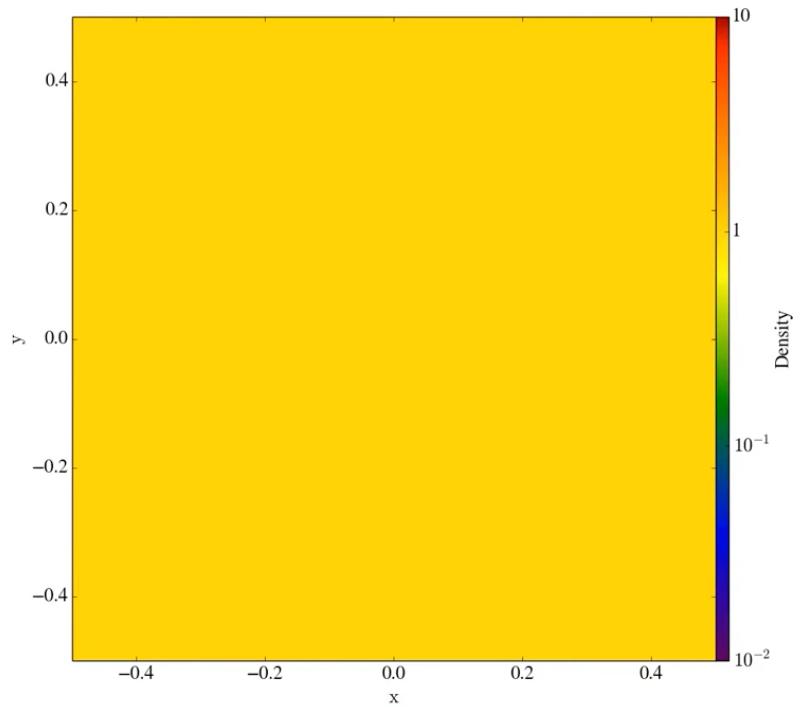
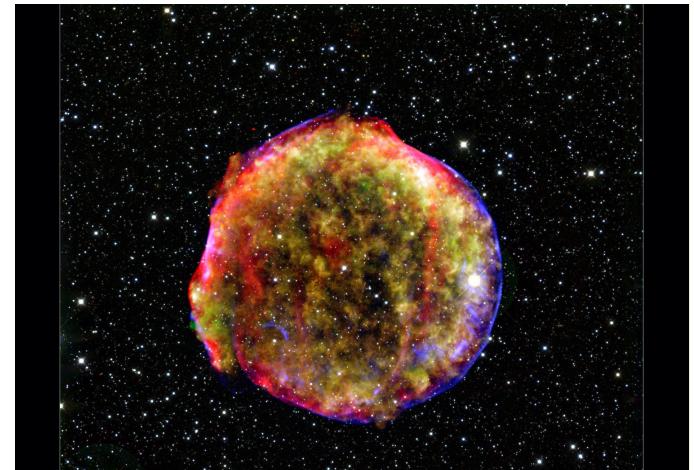
- ▶ Discontinuity in  $\rho$  only;  $P, v_{\perp}$  are continuous
- ▶ Example: the **Sod shock-tube test**, where all three types of nonlinear waves are present
- ▶ Analytical solution can be obtained and used to verify hydrodynamic simulations

*Schematic of the shock-tube test*



## Sedov-Taylor blast wave test

- ▶ Point explosion with energy  $E$  expands into uniform medium with density  $\rho_1$  and negligible pressure  $P_1$
- ▶ This describes the energy-conserving stage of the supernova remnant evolution



# Sedov-Taylor blast wave test

- Solution is *self-similar*:

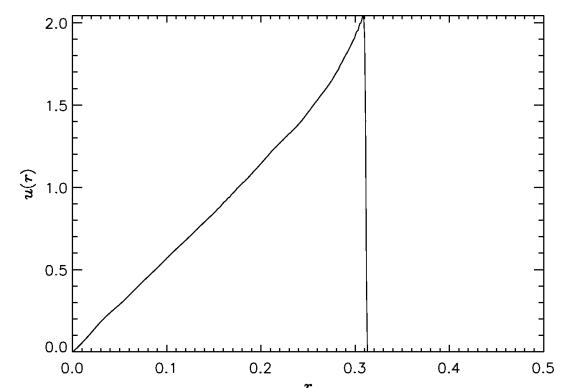
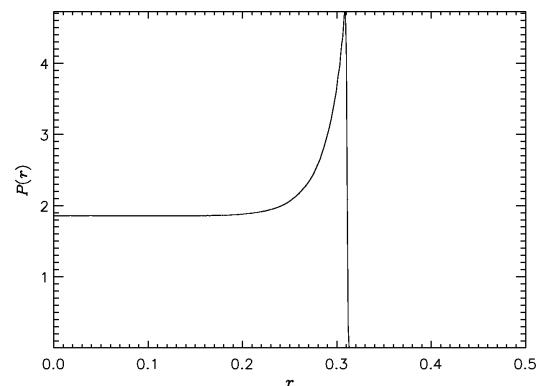
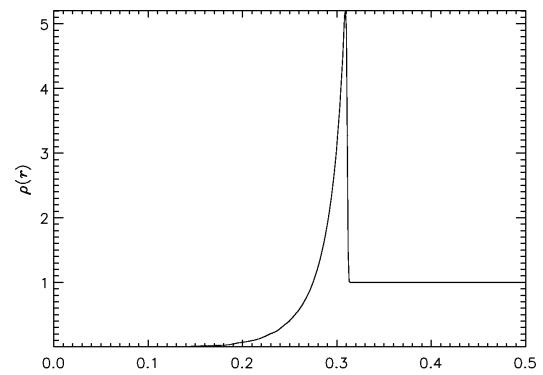
shock  
radius

$$R(t) = \beta \left[ \frac{Et^2}{\rho_1} \right]^{1/5}$$

shock  
velocity

$$u_1 = \frac{dR}{dt} = \frac{2}{5} \beta \left( \frac{E}{\rho_1 t^3} \right)^{1/5}$$

- Post-shock profiles can also be derived analytically

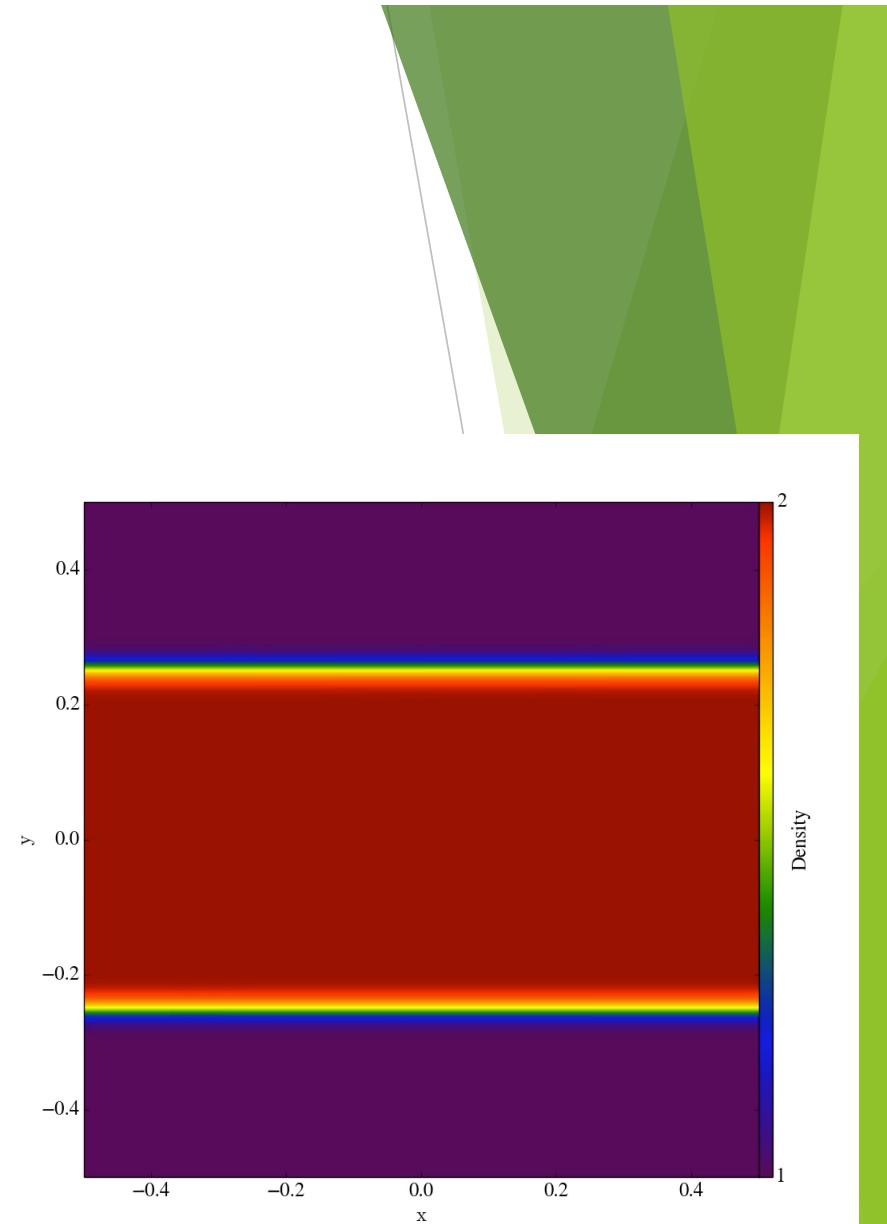
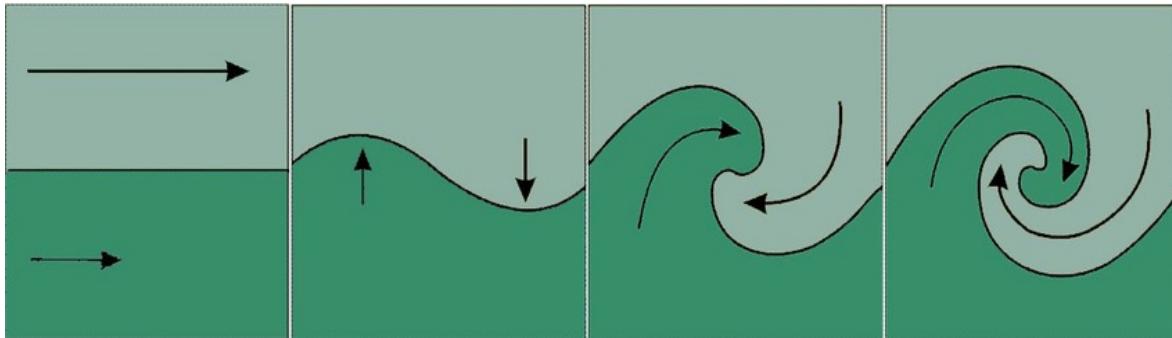


# Fluid instabilities

- ▶ A fluid is ***unstable*** if small perturbations grow with time rather than damping out
- ▶ Many different types of instabilities associated with different forcing mechanisms, flow regimes, geometries, etc
- ▶ Key questions regarding fluid instabilities:
  - ▶ What is the criterion for instability?
  - ▶ How fast do linear perturbations grow? Is the growth rate a function of wavenumber?
  - ▶ What is the nonlinear development of perturbations like?
  - ▶ What additional effects can stabilize the fluid?

# Kelvin-Helmholtz instability

- ▶ Arises in *shear flow along a contact discontinuity*
- ▶ Often produces *wave/ripple-like* structures



# Kelvin-Helmholtz instability

- ▶ Let  $y = \zeta(x, t)$  be the displacement of the surface
- ▶ Linearized Euler equations for an incompressible ( $\nabla \cdot v = 0$ ) fluid are:

$$\nabla \cdot \delta u = 0$$

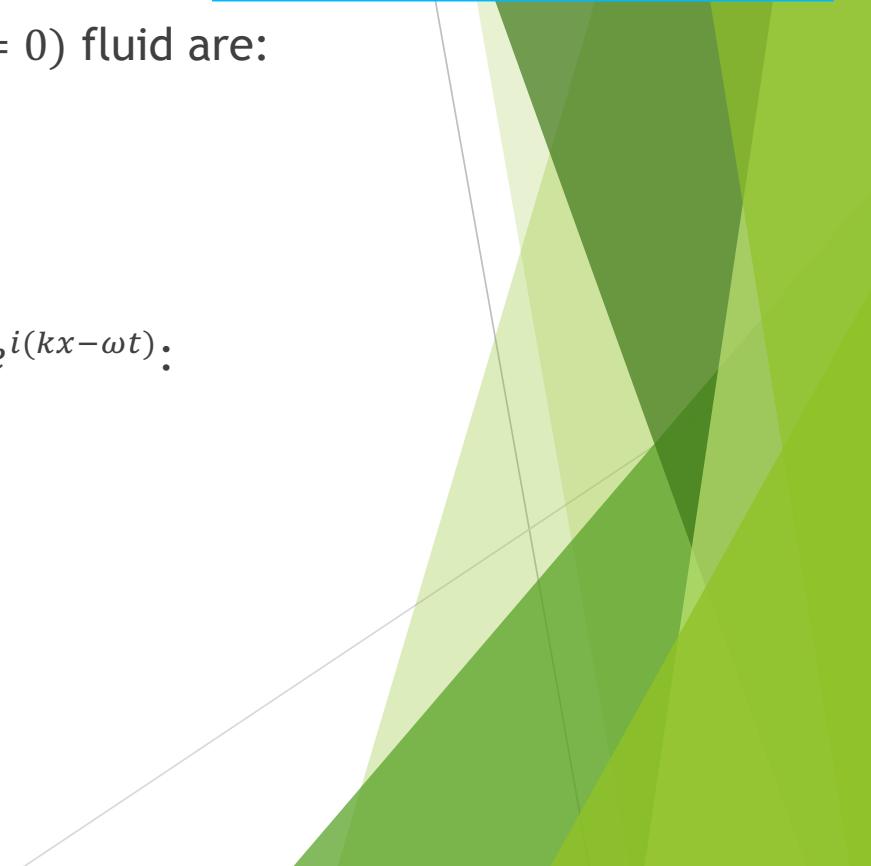
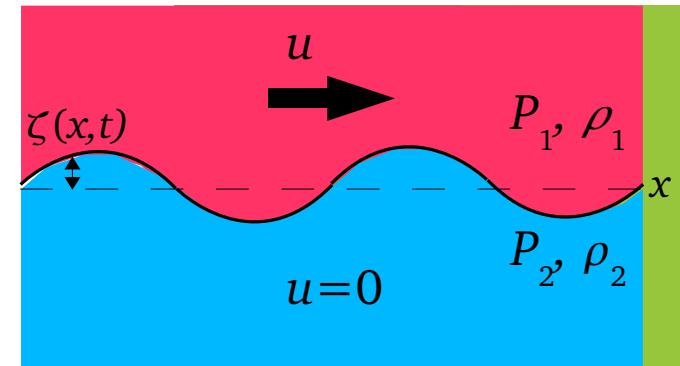
$$\frac{\partial \delta u}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial \delta u}{\partial x} = -\frac{1}{\rho} \nabla \delta P$$

- ▶ Thus  $\delta P$  satisfies  $\nabla^2 \delta P = 0$ . Look for solution  $\delta P = f(y)e^{i(kx-\omega t)}$ :

$$\frac{d^2 f}{dy^2} - k^2 f = 0 \quad \rightarrow \quad f(y) \propto e^{\pm ky}$$

- ▶ Let  $y > 0$  on side 1:  $\delta P_1 \propto e^{i(kx-\omega t)} e^{-ky}$

$$\delta u_y = \frac{k \delta P_1}{i \rho_1 (ku - \omega)}$$

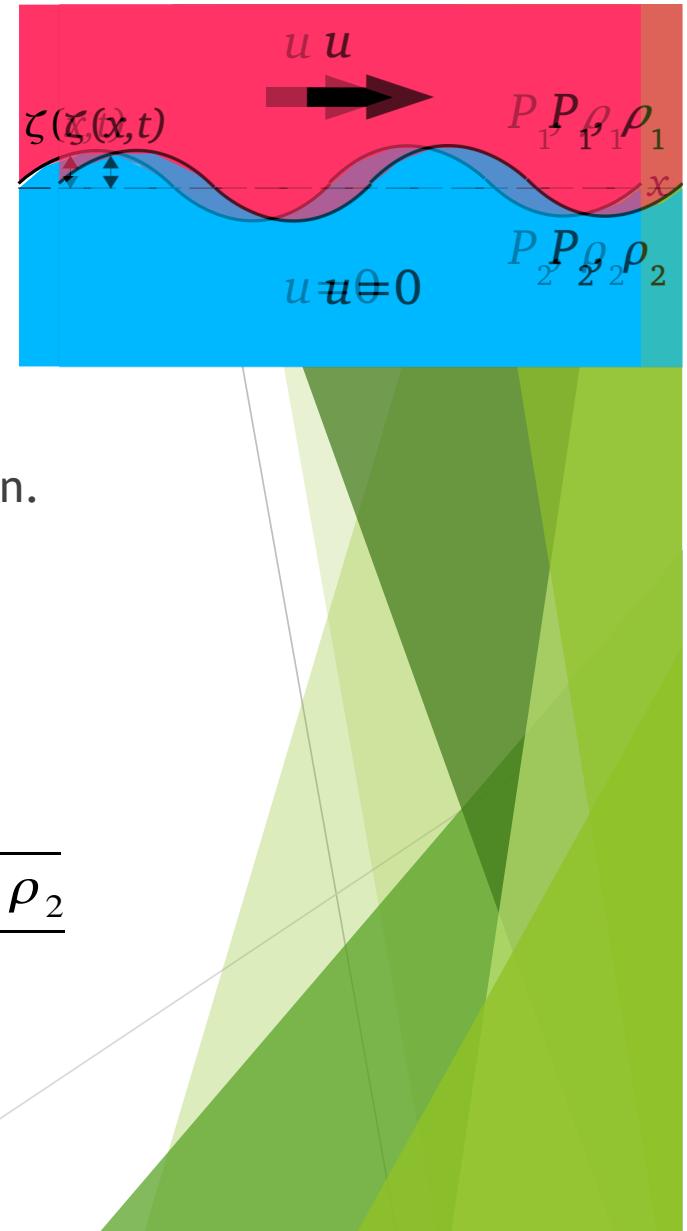


# Kelvin-Helmholtz instability

- ▶ Note that (from the movement of  $\zeta(x, t)$ ):  $\frac{\partial \zeta}{\partial t} = \delta u_y - u \frac{\partial \zeta}{\partial x}$
- ▶ If  $\delta u_y = i\zeta(ku - \omega)$ ,  $\zeta \propto e^{i(kx - \omega t)}$  is solution to the above equation.  
Thus

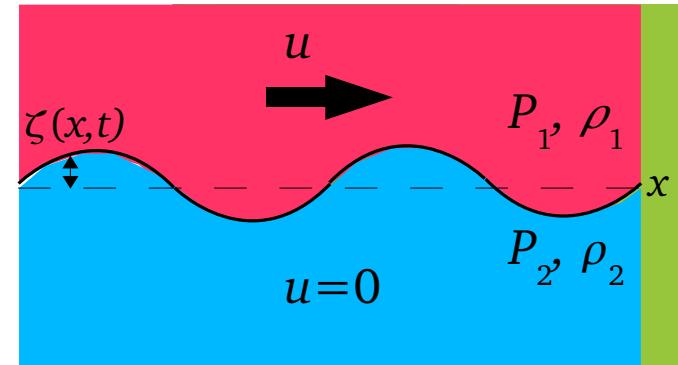
$$\delta P_1 = -\zeta \rho_1 \frac{(ku - \omega)^2}{k}$$

- ▶ Similarly for side 2:  $\delta P_2 = \zeta \rho_2 \frac{\omega^2}{k}$
- ▶ Requiring  $\delta P_1 = \delta P_2$  on the boundary gives:  $\omega = ku \frac{\rho_1 \pm i\sqrt{\rho_1 \rho_2}}{\rho_1 + \rho_2}$



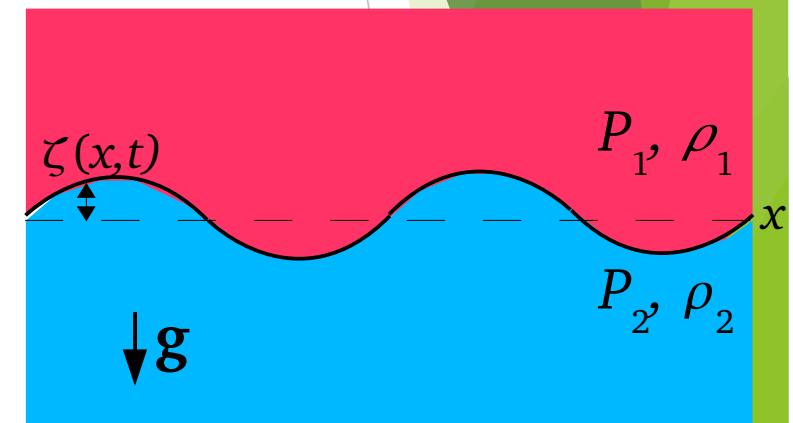
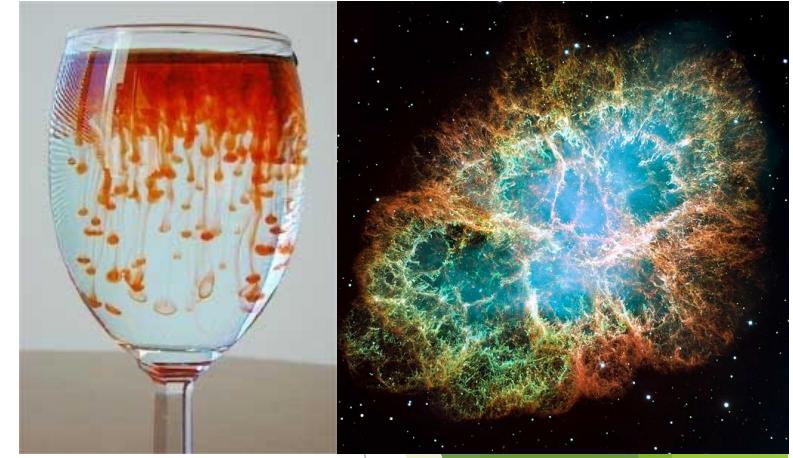
# Kelvin-Helmholtz instability

- ▶ So we have  $\zeta \propto e^{i(kx - \omega t)}$ ,  $\omega = ku \frac{\rho_1 \pm i\sqrt{\rho_1 \rho_2}}{\rho_1 + \rho_2}$
- ▶ There are always frequencies with a positive imaginary part  
=> ***all modes are unstable***
- ▶ Modes with larger  $k$  or ***shorter wavelengths grow fastest***
- ▶ If there is some ***surface tension*** on the interface (e.g., magnetic field, viscosity) as a restoring force, small-wavelength perturbations can be stabilized



# Rayleigh-Taylor instability

- ▶ Arises when a *denser fluid overlies a less dense fluid*
- ▶ Often produces *plume/finger-like* structures
- ▶ Again, one can consider two incompressible fluids with sinusoidal perturbation at the interface. Both are at rest, and  $\rho_1 > \rho_2$ . A constant gravitational field  $\mathbf{g}$  is present.
- ▶ This configuration is always unstable if there is no surface tension

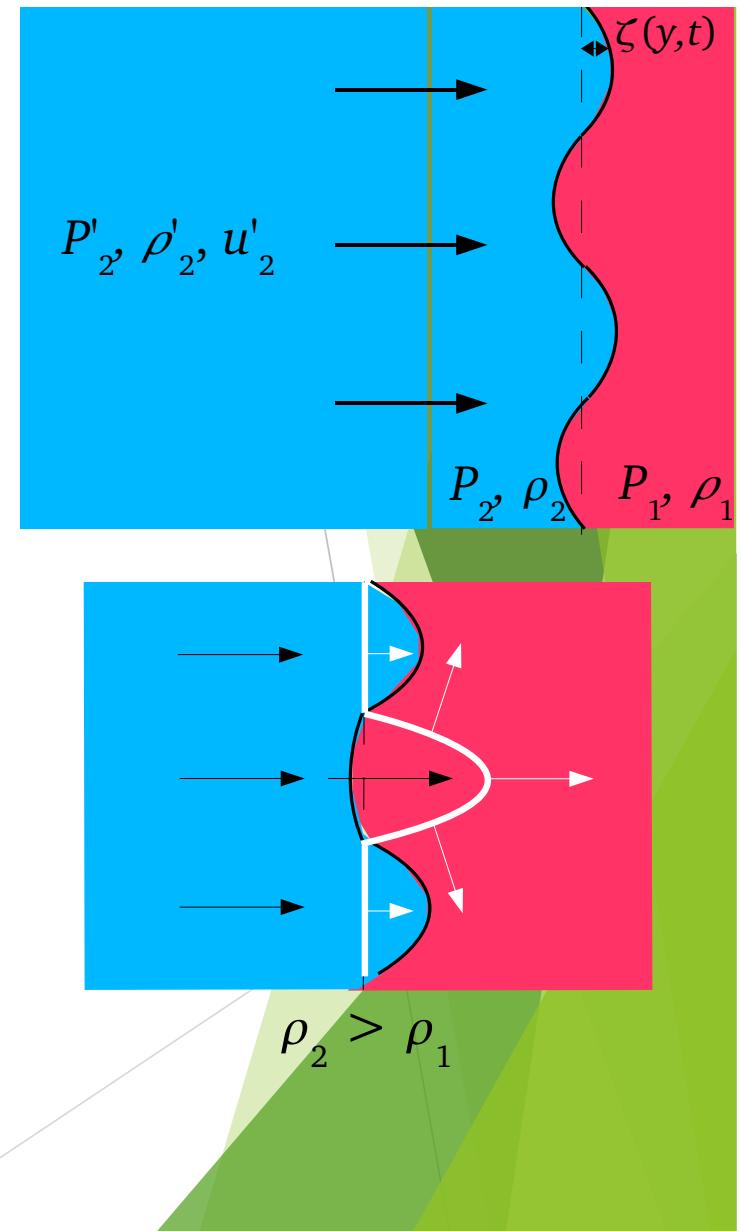


# Rayleigh-Taylor instability & non-linear development



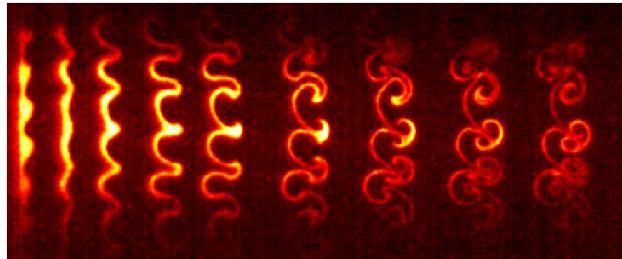
# Richtmyer-Meshkov instability

- ▶ Arises when a *shock passes through a perturbed interface between fluids of different densities*
- ▶ What happens?
  - ▶ Different parts of the shock hit the interface at different times
  - ▶ The parts that have reached the interface will travel at a different speed than other parts
  - ▶ Multiple intersecting shocks will form on the other side of the interface
  - ▶ The interface will also stretch in a way similar to Rayleigh-Taylor instability

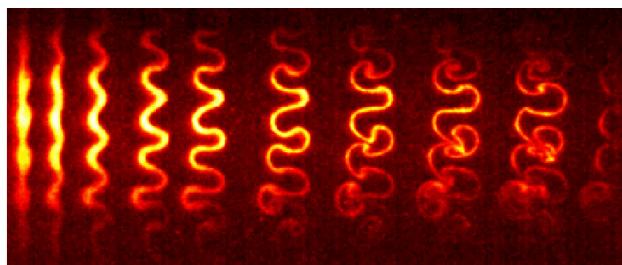


# Richtmyer-Meshkov instability

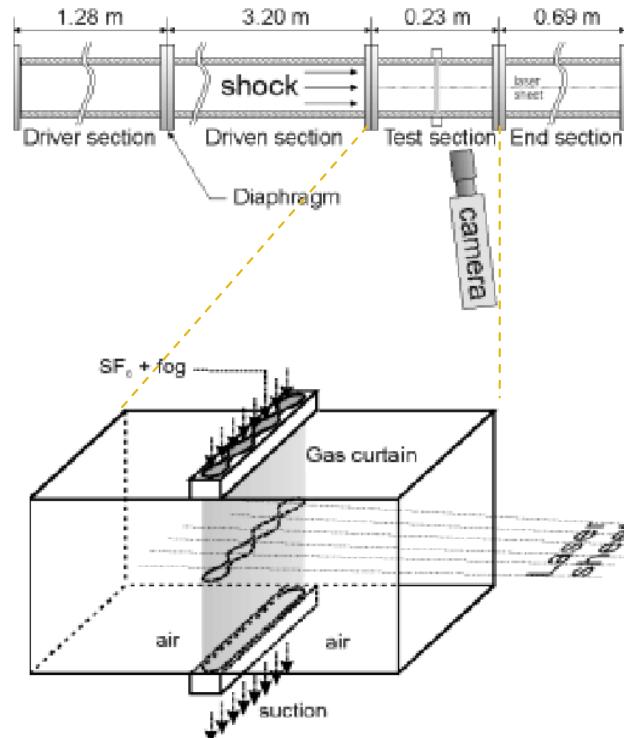
- ▶ Often produces *mushroom-like* structures
- ▶ Demonstration of Richtmyer-Meshkov instability using the gas-curtain experiment:



Downstream Mushrooms



Sinuous Mode



Rightley, Benjamin, & Vorobieff (1997)

# Astrophysical fluid dynamics -- summary

- ▶ A system can be described as a fluid if it continuously flows and is *collisional*, i.e., if the *Knudsen number* is small:

$$K_n \equiv \frac{\lambda}{L} = \frac{\text{mean free path}}{\text{typical scale}} \ll 1 \quad \text{or} \quad \lambda \ll L$$

- ▶ Hydrodynamic equations are conservation laws for mass, momentum, and energy:

$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\rho \mathbf{v}) = 0$$

Continuity equation

$$\frac{\partial \rho \mathbf{v}}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\rho \mathbf{v} \mathbf{v} + P \cdot \mathbf{I}) = 0$$

Momentum equation

$$\frac{\partial \rho E}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot [(\rho E + P) \mathbf{v}] = 0$$

Total energy equation

# Astrophysical fluid dynamics -- summary

- ▶ The **equation of state (EOS)** of ideal gas is often used as a **closure** for the hydrodynamic equations
- ▶ Hydrodynamic equations can be described in different views
  - ▶ **Eulerian**: stand still as fluid moves by
  - ▶ **Lagrangian**: move with the fluid
- ▶ Fluid phenomena discussed in this lecture:
  - ▶ Solution for linear perturbations: **sound waves**
  - ▶ Solutions for nonlinear waves: **shocks, rarefactions, and contact discontinuities**
  - ▶ Fluid instabilities: **Kelvin-Helmholtz instability, Rayleigh-Taylor instability, Richtmyer-Meshkov instability**

$$u = \rho\epsilon = \frac{P}{\gamma - 1} = \frac{nk_B T}{\gamma - 1}$$

**Convective derivative**

$$\frac{D}{Dt} \equiv \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + \boldsymbol{v} \cdot \nabla$$

## References & acknowledgements

- ▶ Course materials of Computational Astrophysics from Prof. Kuo-Chuan Pan (NTHU)
- ▶ Course materials of Computational Astrophysics from Prof. Hsi-Yu Schive (NTU)
- ▶ Course materials of Computational Astrophysics and Cosmology from Prof. Paul Ricker (UIUC)
- ▶ “Computational Physics” by Rubin H. Landau, Manuel Jose Paez and Cristian C. Bordeianu
- ▶ “Scientific Computing - An Introductory Survey” by Michael T. Heath