# Assignment 9 of Computational Astrophysics in NTHU

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# 1 Written Assignments

## Q1: Estimate the mean free path $\lambda_{mfp}$ and collision time scale $\tau_{col}$

Consider the neutral, atomic interstellar medium at  $T = 10^3$  K.

On the Wikipedia[1] it provide the information of cold neutral medium & high neutral medium

cold neutral medium (50-100K) have **higher** density:  $20-50 \ particle/cm^3$ 

high neutral medium  $(6000 - 10^6 K)$  have lower density:  $0.2 - 0.5 \ particle/cm^3$ 

The interstellar medium we consider is in the interval between these two kinds of medium, so I suppose the density  $(particle/cm^3)$  of neutral, atomic interstellar medium at  $T = 10^3$ K is  $n = 1/cm^3$ .

And the component of this interstellar medium is mainly hydrogen, so  $\mu \sim 1 m_{amu}$ . The RMS speed  $v \sim \sqrt{\frac{8kT}{\pi\mu}} = 2.5 \times 10^5 (cm/s)$  and the cross section  $\sigma$  I use the value  $\sigma \sim 3 \times 10^{-15} cm^2$  provided in lecture.

$$\lambda_{mfp} \sim (n\sigma)^{-1} \sim 3.33 \times 10^{14} cm \tag{1}$$

$$\tau_{col} \sim (n\sigma v)^{-1} \sim 1.33 \times 10^9 sec \tag{2}$$

## Q2: fluid approximation

Consider a molecular cloud with:

$$L = 100pc = 100 \times (3.08 \times 10^{18}) = 3.08e20 \text{ cm}$$

$$\tau = 10^8 yr = 10^8 \times (365 \times 86400) = 3.1536e15 \text{ sec}$$

On the Wikipedia[1] it provide the information of molecular cloud:

molecular cloud (10-20K) have density:  $10^2-10^6 \ particle/cm^3$ 

if let 
$$n = 10^2$$
,  $\lambda_{mfp} \sim 3.33 \times 10^{12} cm$ ;  $\tau_{col} \sim 7.2 \times 10^7 sec$ .  
 $n = 10^6$ ,  $\lambda_{mfp} \sim 3.33 \times 10^8 cm$ ;  $\tau_{col} \sim 7.2 \times 10^4 sec$ .

Both length L and time  $\tau$  scale is >> than the mean free path  $\lambda_{mfp}$  and collision time scale  $\tau_{col}$ , so we can viewed this molecular cloud as fluid.

## Q3: Conservation of momentum in hydrodynamic

Derive[2]:

Given Euler equation:

$$\frac{Dv}{Dt} = -\frac{\nabla P}{\rho} \tag{3}$$

By the convective derivate in the lecture and combine with Eq.3 we have:

$$\frac{Dv}{Dt} \equiv \frac{\partial v}{\partial t} + (v \cdot \nabla)v = -\frac{\nabla P}{\rho} \tag{4}$$

By the continuity equation in the lecture we have:

$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} = -(v \cdot \nabla)\rho - \rho(\nabla \cdot v) \tag{5}$$

And we can make Eq.4 times  $\rho$  and Eq.5 times v, and add up to one equation.

$$\rho \frac{\partial v}{\partial t} + v \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} = -\nabla P - \rho(v \cdot \nabla)v - v(v \cdot \nabla)\rho - \rho(\nabla \cdot v)v \tag{6}$$

I recall the formula of gradient:

$$\bigtriangledown \cdot fA = f(\bigtriangledown \cdot A) + \bigtriangledown f \cdot A$$

$$\nabla \cdot (\rho vv) = \rho \nabla \cdot (vv) + \nabla \rho \cdot (vv) = \rho(v \cdot \nabla)v + \rho(v \cdot \nabla)v + \nabla \rho \cdot (vv)$$

Using this  $\nabla \cdot (\rho vv)$  term to substitute Eq.6, we can finally get the form of Eq.7

$$\frac{\partial \rho v}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\rho v v + P \cdot I) = 0 \tag{7}$$

## 2 Programming Assignments

# Q2: Antares code for Kelvin-Helmholtz instability Q2.a

initial condition: 
$$\begin{cases} \rho = 2, v_x = 1, v_y = 0, P = 2.5, & \text{if } y > 0.5\\ \rho = 1, v_x = -1, v_y = 0, P = 2.5, & \text{if } y < 0.5 \end{cases}$$
(8)

I use momentum transform make  $p = \rho \times v$  to get the momentum of each direction.

The energy can be gotten by two components: one is provided by inner energy u, can get by the equation of states(Eos) of pressure  $P = (\gamma - 1)u$ ; the other is by kinetic energy  $E_k$ ,  $E_k = \frac{p^2}{2m}$ . (Show in Fig.3(a).)

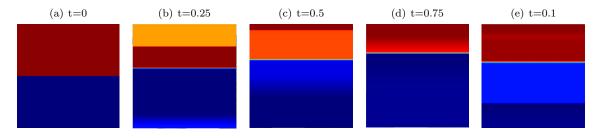


Figure 1: result of 2.a.

### Q2.b

In this part, although I don't get the phenomenon of Kelvin-Helmholtz instability cloud like the question show, but change the boundary condition of this problem will get cool result. In Fig.2, I make x direction has reflect boundary and y direction has periodic boundary, the contrary condition compare to origin(Fig.1)

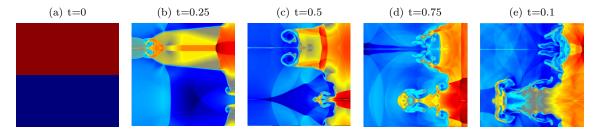


Figure 2: result of change the boundary condition

# References

- [1] Interstellar medium on Wikipedia https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Interstellar\_medium
- [2] Conservation of momentum in hydrodynamic https://slidetodoc.com/lecture-planet-formation-topic-introduction-to-hydrodynamics-and\_/

#### (a) initial condition

### (b) boundary condition

### (c) parameter

```
Choose Dimensional
parameter (D1D = .false.)! True for 1D
parameter (D2D = .true.)! True for 2D
parameter (D3D = .false.]! True for 3D
parameter (MHD = .false.]! True for MHD
parameter (ISOTHERMAL= .false.)! True for Isothermal
note: we don't have isothermal MHD solver, currently
Geometry
parameter (cartesian = .true.)
parameter (spherical = .false.)
parameter (cylindrical = .false.)
 parameter ( ibeg
parameter ( iend
parameter ( jend
parameter ( jend
parameter ( jend
parameter ( kend
parameter ( kend
parameter ( kuf
Physical Dormain
parameter ( xmin
parameter ( xmax
parameter ( ymin
parameter ( ymin
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parameter
                                               gam =
tf =
smalld
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    parameter
parameter
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smallt
                                                                                                                             ! Isothermal sound speed
! Courant number
   parameter ( iso_snd =
parameter ( cfl =
                                                                                            1.d0 )
0.4d0 )
```

Figure 3: problem set of folder khi