
Fluids A

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***(with thanks to SDS)**

Outline

- > **Intro to microfluidics**
- > **Basic concepts: viscosity and surface tension**
- > **Governing equations**
- > **Incompressible laminar flow**

Microfluidics

- > **The manipulation and use of fluids at the microscale**
- > **Most fluid domains are in use at the microscale**
 - **Explosive thermofluidic flows**
 - » **Inkjet printheads**
 - » **We will not cover this regime**
 - **High-speed gas flows**
 - » **Micro-turbomachinery**
 - » **We will not cover this regime**
 - **Low-speed gas flows**
 - » **Squeeze-film damping**
 - » **We'll do a bit of this to get b for SMD**
 - **Liquid-based slow flow**
 - » **This will be the focus**

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3-D cutaway of a micromachined microengine.
Photograph by Jonathan Protz.

Microfluidics

- > **This has been one of the most important domains of MEMS**
 - Even though most microfluidics is not “MEMS”
 - And there are few commercial products
- > **The overall driver has been the life sciences**
 - Though the *only* major commercial success is inkjets
- > **The initial driver was analytical chemistry**
 - Separation of organic molecules
- > **More recently, this has shifted to biology**
 - Manipulation of DNA, proteins, cells, tissues, etc.

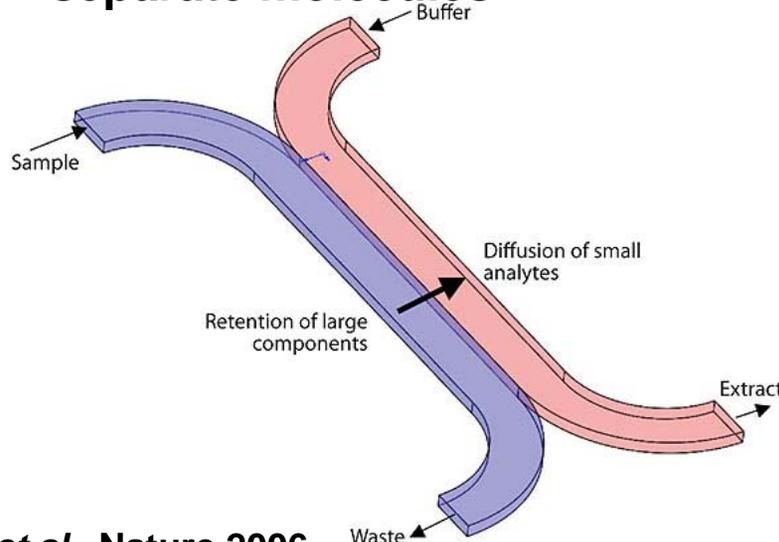
Microfluidics examples

> H-filter

- Developed by Yager and colleagues at UWash in mid-90's
- Being commercialized by Micronics

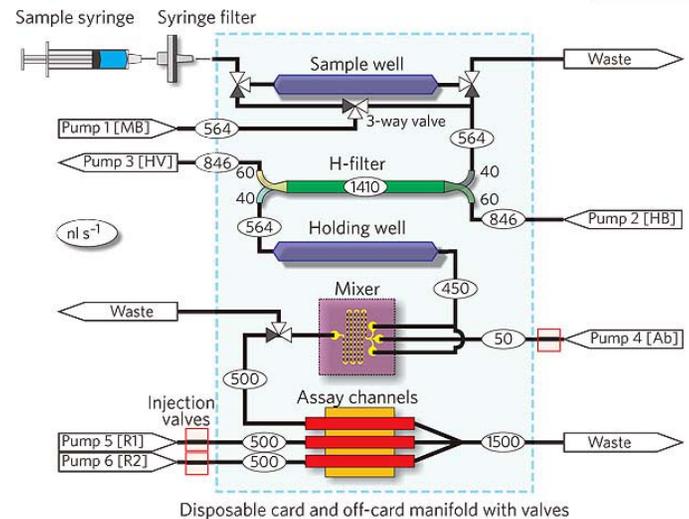
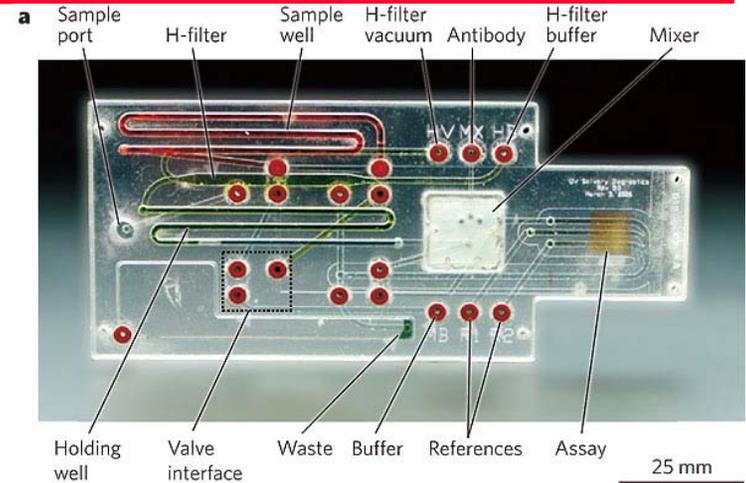
> An intrinsically microscale device

- Uses diffusion in laminar flow to separate molecules



Yager *et al.*, Nature 2006

Courtesy of Paul Yager, Thayne Edwards, Elain Fu, Kristen Helton, KjellNelson, Milton R. Tam, and Bernhard H. Weigl.
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Disposable card and off-card manifold with valves

Courtesy of Paul Yager, Thayne Edwards, Elain Fu, Kristen Helton, KjellNelson, Milton R. Tam, and Bernhard H. Weigl.
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Yager, P., T. Edwards, E. Fu, K. Helton, K. Nelson, M. R. Tam, and B. H. Weigl. "Microfluidic Diagnostic Technologies for Global Public Health." *Nature* 442 (July 27, 2006): 412-418.

Microfluidics

> Multi-layer elastomeric microfluidics (Quake, etc.)

- Use low modulus of silicone elastomers to create hydraulic valves
- Move liquids around
- Use diffusivity of gas in elastomer to enable dead-end filling

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Please see: Figure 3 on p. 582 in: Thorsen, T., S. J. Maerkl, and S. R. Quake. "Microfluidic Large-Scale Integration." *Science, New Series* 298, no. 5593 (October 18, 2002): 580-584.

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Fluidigm

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Goals

- > To design microfluidics we need to understand**
 - **What pressures are needed for given flows**
 - » **How do I size my channels?**
 - **What can fluids do at these scales**
 - » **What are the relevant physics?**
 - **What things get better as we scale down**
 - » **Mixing times, reagent volumes**
 - **What things get worse, and how can we manage them**
 - » **Surface tension**

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Viscosity

- > When a solid experiences shear stress, it deforms (e.g., strains)
 - Shear Modulus relates the two
- > When a fluid experiences shear stress, it deforms *continuously*
 - Viscosity relates the two
- > Constitutive property describing relationship between shear stress [Pa] and shear rate [s^{-1}]
- > Units: Pa-s
 - Water: 0.001 Pa-s
 - Air: 10^{-5} Pa-s

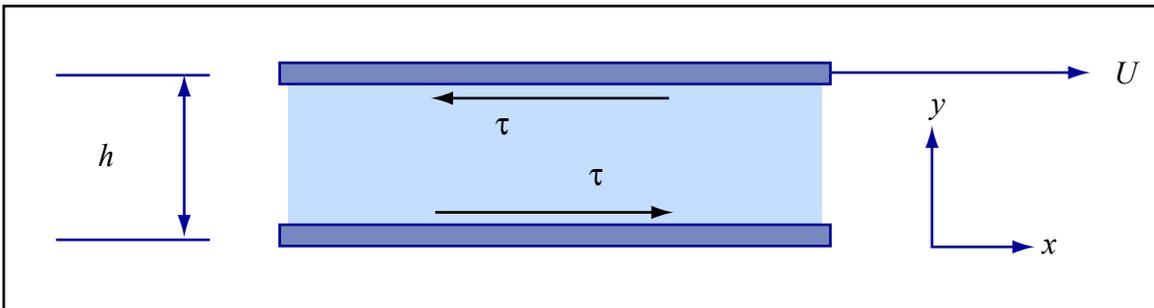


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Adapted from Figure 13.1 in Senturia, Stephen D. *Microsystem Design*. Boston, MA: Kluwer Academic Publishers, 2001, p. 318. ISBN: 9780792372462.

$$\tau = \eta \frac{U}{h}$$

and, in the differential limit

$$\tau = \eta \frac{\partial U_x}{\partial y}$$

A related quantity :
Kinematic Viscosity

$$\eta^* = \frac{\eta}{\rho_m}$$

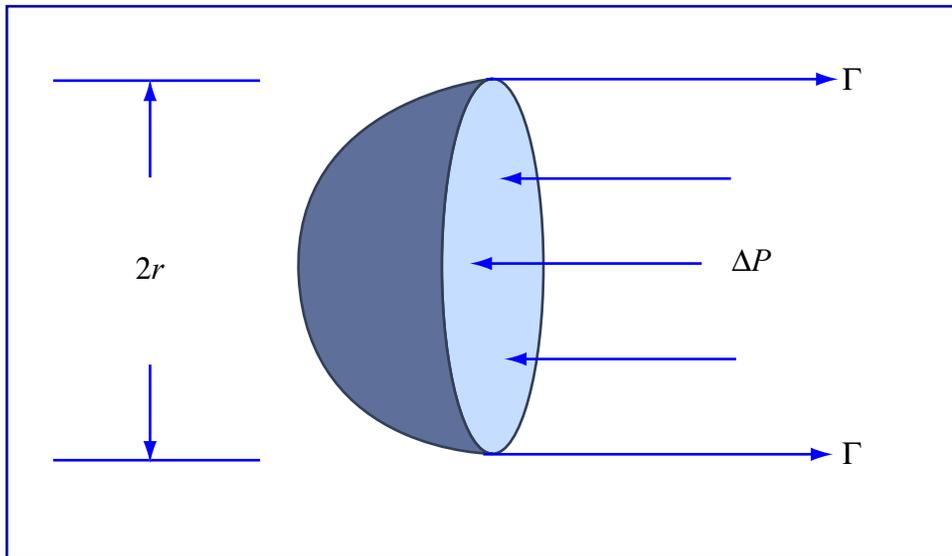
$$\tau = \eta^* \frac{\partial(\rho_m U_x)}{\partial y}$$

[m^2/s]

**This is a diffusivity
for momentum**

Surface Tension

- > A liquid drop minimizes its free energy by minimizing its surface area. The effective force responsible for this is called **surface tension (Γ)** [$\text{J/m}^2 = \text{N/m}$]
- > The surface tension creates a differential pressure on the two sides of a curved liquid surface



$$(2\pi r)\Gamma = \Delta P(\pi r^2)$$

solving for ΔP

$$\Delta P = \frac{2\Gamma}{r}$$

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Adapted from Figure 13.2 in Senturia, Stephen D. *Microsystem Design*. Boston, MA: Kluwer Academic Publishers, 2001, p. 320. ISBN: 9780792372462.

Capillary Effects

- > Surface forces can actually transport liquids
- > Contact angles determine what happens, and these depend on the wetting properties of the liquid and the solid surface.

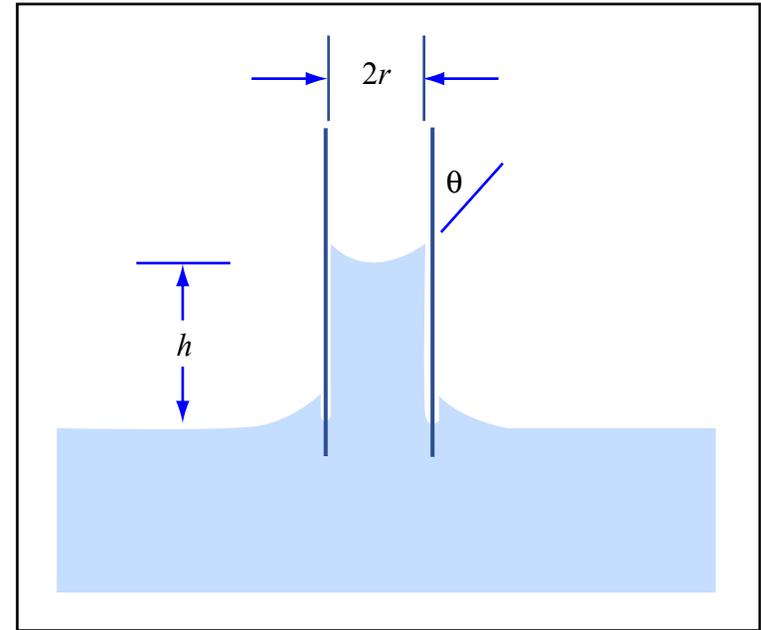


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$$\rho_m g h (\pi r^2) = 2 \pi r \Gamma \cos \theta$$

$$h = \frac{2 \Gamma \cos \theta}{\rho_m g r}$$

Capillary Effects

> A hydrophobic valve

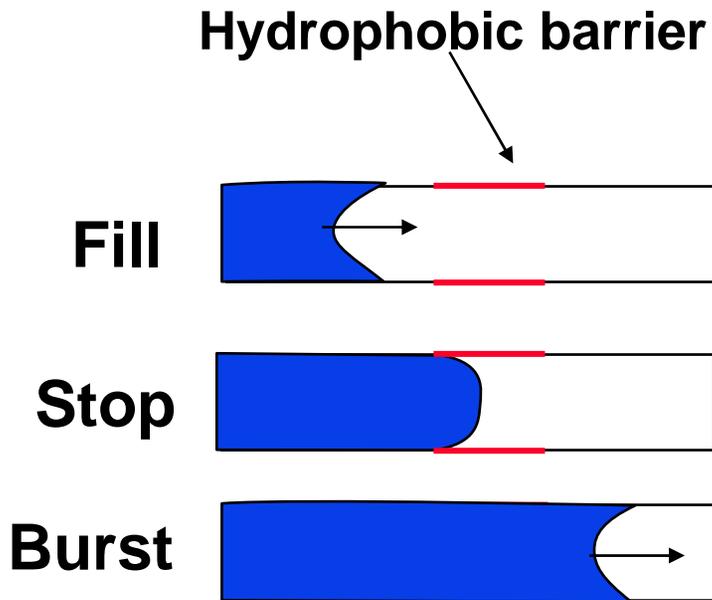


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Surface tension

> The scaling as $1/r$ is what makes dealing with surface tension **HARD** at the microscale

> **Solutions**

- Prime with low-surface tension liquids
 - » Methanol ($\Gamma=22.6$ mN/m) vs. water ($\Gamma=72.8$ mN/m)
 - » Or use surfactants
- Use CO₂ instead of air
 - » Dissolves more readily in water
 - » Zengerle *et al.*, IEEE MEMS 1995, p340
- Use diffusivity of gas in PDMS

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Fluid Mechanics Governing Equations

- > **Mass is conserved → Continuity equation**
- > **Momentum is conserved → Navier-Stokes equation**
- > **Energy is conserved → Euler equation**
- > **We consider only the first two in this lecture**

Continuity equation

- > Conservation of mass
- > In this case, for a control or “fixed” fluid volume
 - both S and V are constant in time
- > Point conservation relation is valid for fixed or moving point

$$m = \int_{\text{volume}} \rho_m dV$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \int_{\text{volume}} \rho_m dV = - \int_{\text{surface}} \rho_m \mathbf{U} \cdot \mathbf{n} dS$$

$$\int_{\text{volume}} \frac{\partial \rho_m}{\partial t} dV + \int_{\text{surface}} \rho_m \mathbf{U} \cdot \mathbf{n} dS = 0$$

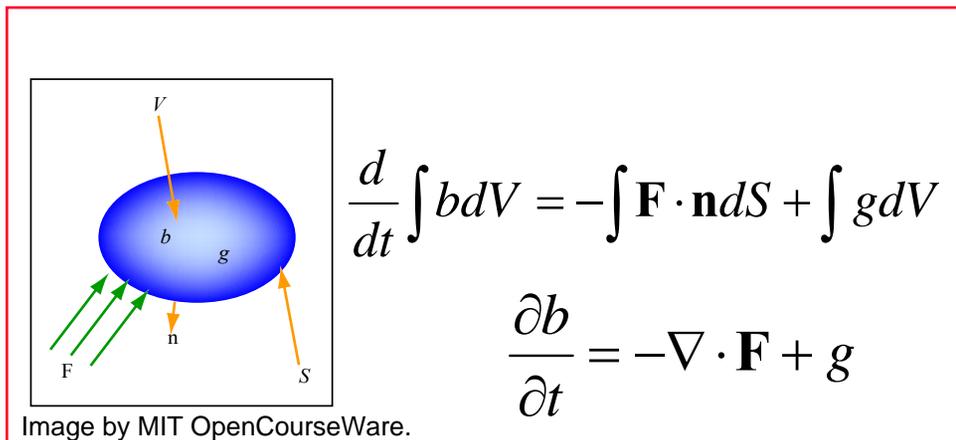
Apply the divergence theorem:

$$\int_{\text{volume}} \left[\frac{\partial \rho_m}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\rho_m \mathbf{U}) \right] dV = 0$$

which implies

$$\frac{\partial \rho_m}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\rho_m \mathbf{U}) = 0$$

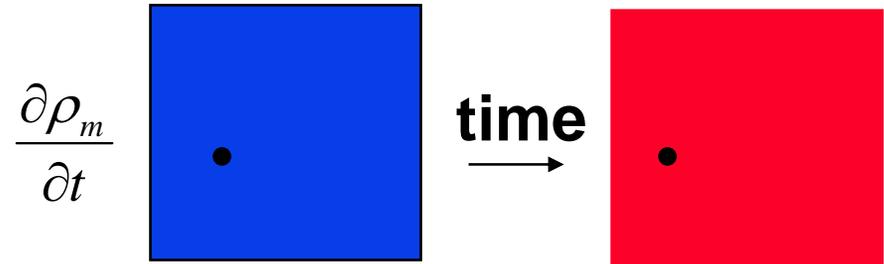
$$\frac{\partial \rho_m}{\partial t} + \mathbf{U} \cdot \nabla \rho_m + \rho_m \nabla \cdot \mathbf{U} = 0$$



Material Derivative

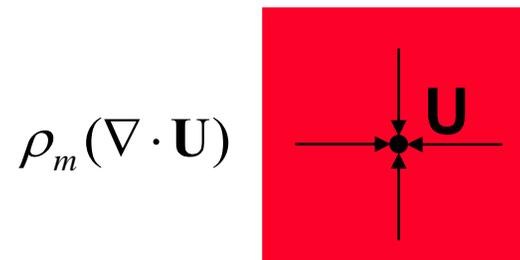
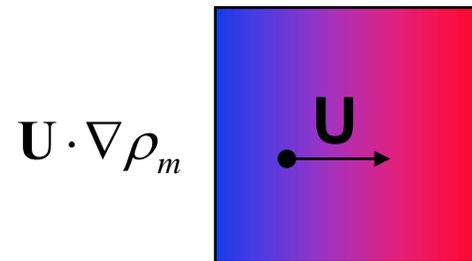
> The density can change due to three effects:

- An explicit time dependence (e.g. local heating)
- Flow carrying fluid through changing density regions
- Divergence of the fluid velocity



> The first two of these are grouped into the “material derivative”

- Rate of change for an observer moving with the fluid



Material Derivative

> The first two of these are grouped into the “material derivative”

$$\frac{\partial \rho_m}{\partial t} + \mathbf{U} \cdot \nabla \rho_m + \rho_m \nabla \cdot \mathbf{U} = 0$$

If we define

$$\frac{D\rho_m}{Dt} = \frac{\partial \rho_m}{\partial t} + \mathbf{U} \cdot \nabla \rho_m$$

or, more generally, define the operator

$$\frac{D}{Dt} = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + \mathbf{U} \cdot \nabla$$

we can write the continuity equation as

$$\frac{D\rho_m}{Dt} + \rho_m \nabla \cdot \mathbf{U} = 0$$

Incompressible



If the density is uniform, then in steady state

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{U} = 0$$

Momentum Conservation

> We want to write
Newton's 2nd Law for
fluids

$$\mathbf{F} = \frac{d\mathbf{p}}{dt} = \frac{d(m\mathbf{U})}{dt}$$



> We start with a volume
that travels with the fluid
→ contains a constant
amount of mass

$$\mathbf{F} = \frac{d}{dt} \int_{V_m(t)} \rho_m \mathbf{U} dV_m$$



> Then go to an arbitrary
control volume

$$\mathbf{F} = \frac{d}{dt} \int_{V(t)} \rho_m \mathbf{U} dV + \int_{S(t)} \rho_m \mathbf{U} [(\mathbf{U} - \mathbf{U}_s) \cdot \mathbf{n}] dS$$

velocity of
surface

- Material volume

- Must account for flux of
momentum through
surface

flux of $\rho_m \mathbf{U}$ thru surface

Momentum Conservation

- > Pull time derivative into integral
- > Cancel terms
- > Apply divergence theorem

$$\mathbf{F} = \frac{d}{dt} \int_{V(t)} \rho_m \mathbf{U} dV + \int_{S(t)} \rho_m \mathbf{U} [(\mathbf{U} - \mathbf{U}_s) \cdot \mathbf{n}] dS$$

$$= \int_{V(t)} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \rho_m \mathbf{U} dV + \int_{S(t)} \rho_m \mathbf{U} [\mathbf{U}_s \cdot \mathbf{n}] dS + \int_{S(t)} \rho_m \mathbf{U} [(\mathbf{U} - \mathbf{U}_s) \cdot \mathbf{n}] dS$$

Leibniz's rule

$$= \int_{V(t)} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \rho_m \mathbf{U} dV + \int_{S(t)} \rho_m \mathbf{U} \mathbf{U} \cdot \mathbf{n} dS$$

$$\Downarrow \int_{S(t)} \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{n} dS = \int_{V(t)} \nabla \cdot \mathbf{a} dV$$

Momentum Conservation

- > Final result does not depend on control volume

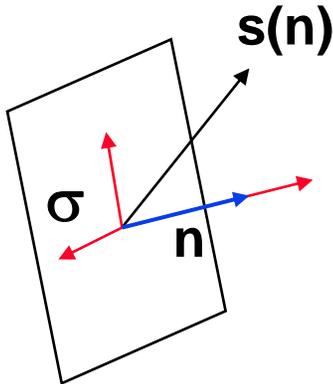
$$\begin{aligned} &= \int_{V(t)} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \rho_m \mathbf{U} dV + \int_{V(t)} \nabla \cdot \rho_m \mathbf{U} \mathbf{U} dV \\ &= \int_{V(t)} \left[\mathbf{U} \left(\frac{\partial \rho_m}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot \rho_m \mathbf{U} \right) + \rho_m \left(\frac{\partial \mathbf{U}}{\partial t} + \mathbf{U} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{U} \right) \right] dV \end{aligned}$$

⇓

$$\mathbf{F} = \int_V \rho_m \frac{D\mathbf{U}}{Dt} dV$$

Momentum Conservation

- > Add in force terms
- > Include body forces (e.g., gravity)
- > And surface forces (i.e., stresses)



$$\mathbf{F}_b = \int_V \rho_m \mathbf{g} dV$$

$$\mathbf{F}_s = \int_{S(t)} \mathbf{s}(\mathbf{n}) dS$$

$$\mathbf{s}(\mathbf{n}) = \mathbf{n} \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}$$

$$\mathbf{F}_s = \int_{S(t)} \mathbf{n} \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma} dS$$

$$\mathbf{F}_s = \int_{V(t)} \nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma} dV$$



$$\rho_m \frac{DU}{Dt} = \rho_m \mathbf{g} + \nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}$$

Navier-Stokes Equations

- > Substitute in for stress tensor

$$\boldsymbol{\sigma} = -P\mathbf{n} + \boldsymbol{\tau}$$

$$\nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma} = -\nabla P + \nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau}$$

- > Compressible Newtonian fluid constitutive relation

$$\nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau} \quad \Downarrow \quad \tau = \eta \frac{\partial U_x}{\partial y}$$

- > Compressible Navier-Stokes equations

$$\eta \nabla^2 \mathbf{U} + \frac{\eta}{3} \nabla(\nabla \cdot \mathbf{U})$$

\Downarrow

$$P^* = P - \rho_m \mathbf{g} \cdot \mathbf{r} \quad \Downarrow \quad \rho_m \frac{D\mathbf{U}}{Dt} = -\nabla P + \eta \nabla^2 \mathbf{U} + \frac{\eta}{3} \nabla(\nabla \cdot \mathbf{U}) + \rho_m \mathbf{g}$$

$$\rho_m \frac{D\mathbf{U}}{Dt} = -\nabla P^* + \eta \nabla^2 \mathbf{U} + \frac{\eta}{3} \nabla(\nabla \cdot \mathbf{U})$$

Navier-Stokes Equations

> Terms in compressible N-S equations

time-dependence

pressure

compressibility

$$\rho_m \left(\frac{\partial \mathbf{U}}{\partial t} + \mathbf{U} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{U} \right) = -\nabla P + \eta \nabla^2 \mathbf{U} + \frac{\eta}{3} \nabla (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{U}) + \rho_m \mathbf{g}$$

inertial

viscous stresses

gravity

Dimensionless Numbers

- > Fluid mechanics is **full** of non-dimensional numbers that help classify the types of flow
- > Reynolds number is most important
- > Reynolds number:
 - The ratio of inertial to viscous effects
 - Ratio of convective to diffusive momentum transport
 - Small Reynolds number means neglect of inertia
 - Flow at low Reynolds number is **laminar**

$$\text{Re}(\tilde{\mathbf{U}} \cdot \tilde{\nabla} \tilde{\mathbf{U}}) = -(A) \tilde{\nabla} \tilde{P} + \tilde{\nabla}^2 \tilde{\mathbf{U}}$$

**Non-dimensionalized
steady incompressible flow**

$$Re = \frac{\rho_m L_0 U_0}{\eta} = \frac{L_0 U_0}{\eta^*} = \frac{U_0}{\eta^* / L_0}$$

See Deen, *Analysis of Transport Phenomena*

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Incompressible Laminar Flow

> **The Navier-Stokes equation becomes very “heat-flow-equation-like,” although the presence of DU/Dt instead of $\partial U/\partial t$ makes the equation nonlinear, hence HARD**

Navier-Stokes becomes

$$\rho_m \frac{DU}{Dt} = -\nabla P^* + \eta \nabla^2 \mathbf{U}$$

to obtain a "diffusion-like" equation:

$$\rho_m \frac{DU}{Dt} = \eta \nabla^2 \mathbf{U} - \nabla P^*$$

As aside on heat convection

> Our heat-flow equation looked like

> Compare to incompressible N-S eqn

> If we allow fluid to move—to convect—we can include convection in our heat conservation

> At steady state, we get a relation that allows us to compare convective heat transport to conduction

> This is the Peclet number

> For microscale water flows, $L \sim 100 \mu\text{m}$, $U \sim 0.1 \text{ mm/s}$, $D \sim 150 \times 10^{-6} \text{ m}^2/\text{s}$

$$\frac{\partial T}{\partial t} = D \nabla^2 T + \frac{1}{C_p} P_{\text{sources}}$$

$$\rho_m \frac{DU}{Dt} = \eta \nabla^2 \mathbf{U} - \nabla P^*$$

$$\frac{DT}{Dt} = D \nabla^2 T + \frac{1}{C_p} P_{\text{sources}}$$

$$\mathbf{U} \cdot \nabla T = D \nabla^2 T + \frac{1}{C_p} P_{\text{sources}}$$

$$Pe = \frac{LU}{D} = \frac{(10^{-4} \text{ m})(10^{-4} \text{ m/s})}{0.15 \cdot 10^{-6} \text{ m}^2/\text{s}} \sim 0.1$$

Couette or Shear Flow

- > Pure shear flow with a linear velocity profile
- > No pressure gradient
- > Relative velocity goes to zero at the walls (the so-called **no-slip boundary condition**)

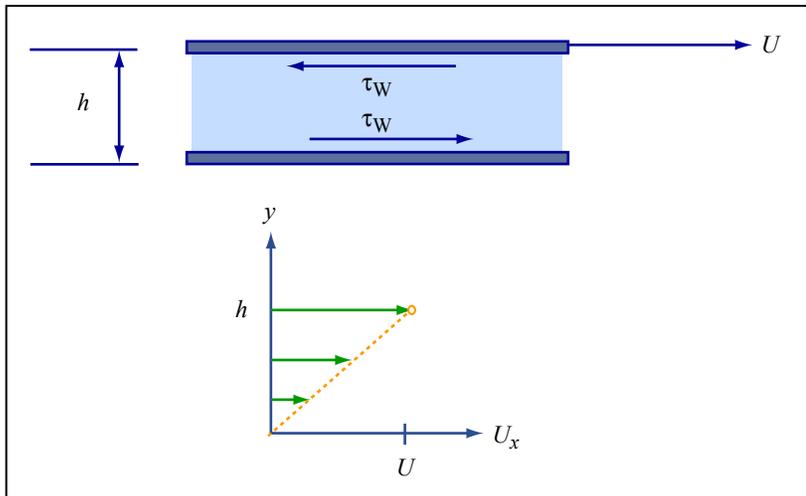


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Boston, MA: Kluwer Academic Publishers, 2001, p. 327. ISBN: 9780792372462.

The flow is one-dimensional

$$\mathbf{U} = U_x(y)\hat{\mathbf{n}}_x$$

$$\rho_m \left(\frac{d\mathbf{U}}{dt} + \mathbf{U} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{U} \right) = \eta \nabla^2 \mathbf{U} - \nabla P^*$$

N-S Eqns collapse to the Laplace eqn

$$\frac{\partial^2 U_x}{\partial y^2} = 0$$

$$U_x = c_1 y + c_2$$

$$\text{B.C.'s: } U_x(0) = 0, U_x(h) = U$$

\Downarrow

$$U_x = \frac{y}{h} U$$

Poiseuille Flow

- > Pressure-driven flow through a pipe
 - In our case, two parallel plates
- > Velocity profile is parabolic
- > This is the most common flow in microfluidics
 - Assumes that $h \ll W$

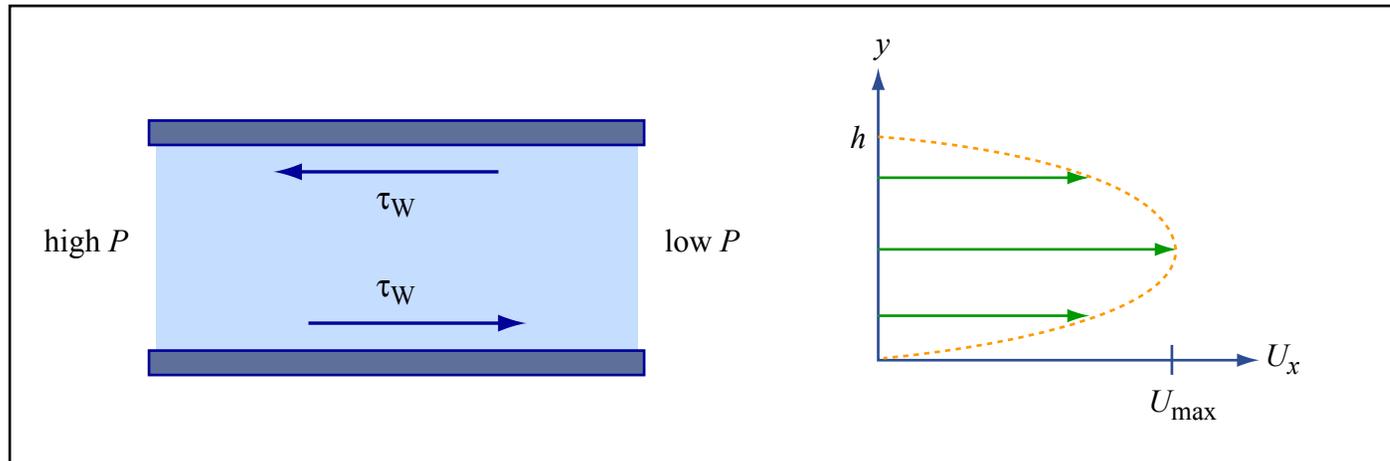


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Solution for Poiseuille Flow

- > Assume a uniform pressure gradient along the pipe

$$\longrightarrow \frac{dP}{dx} = -K$$

- > Assume x-velocity only depends on y

$$\longrightarrow \frac{\partial^2 U_x}{\partial y^2} = -\frac{K}{\eta}$$

- > Enforce zero-flow boundary conditions at walls

- > Maximum velocity is at center

- > Volumetric flowrate is

$$U_x = \frac{1}{2\eta} [y(h-y)] K$$

$$U_{\max} = \frac{h^2}{8\eta} K$$

$$Q = W \int_0^h U_x dy = \frac{Wh^3}{12\eta} K$$

Lumped Model for Poiseuille Flow

- > Can get lumped resistor using the fluidic convention
- > Note **STRONG** dependence on h
- > This relation is more complicated when the aspect ratio is not very high...

$$\Delta P = \text{effort} = KL$$

$$\Delta P = \frac{12\eta L}{Wh^3} Q$$

$$\Rightarrow R_{Pois} = \frac{12\eta L}{Wh^3}$$

Development Length

- > It takes a certain characteristic length, called the **development length**, to establish the Poiseuille velocity profile
- > This development length corresponds to a development time for viscous stresses to diffuse from wall
- > Development length is proportional to the characteristic length scale and to the Reynolds number, both of which tend to be small in microfluidic devices

$$time \approx \frac{L^2}{\eta^*} \approx \text{Re} \frac{L}{U}$$
$$L_D \approx (time)U \approx \text{Re} L$$

A note on vorticity

- > A common statement is to say that laminar flow has no vorticity
- > What is meant is that laminar flow has no turbulence
- > Vorticity and turbulence are different
- > Can the pinwheel spin?
 - Then there is vorticity
- > Demonstrate for Poiseuille flow

$$U_x = \frac{1}{2\eta} [y(h-y)]K$$

$$\boldsymbol{\omega} = \nabla \times \mathbf{U}$$

$$\boldsymbol{\omega} = \mathbf{n}_y \frac{\partial U_x}{\partial z} - \mathbf{n}_z \frac{\partial U_x}{\partial y}$$

$$\boldsymbol{\omega} = -\mathbf{n}_z \frac{K}{2\eta} (h-2y)$$