

PHY 530 F

Graduate fluid mechanics  
(FM)

What is it?

FORMALLY (mathematically)

$\Rightarrow$  FM is a classical field theory

field theory

$\forall \vec{x}, \forall t \rightarrow$  field(s)  $\phi(\vec{x}, t)$

ex: E&M:

$\vec{E}(\vec{x}, t), \vec{B}(\vec{x}, t)$  (vector fields)  
(or  $\varphi(\vec{x}, t), \vec{A}(\vec{x}, t)$ )

GR:  
(general relativity)

$g_{\mu\nu}(\vec{x}, t)$  (spacetime metric, tensor field)

FM:

$\rho(\vec{x}, t)$  density

$\vec{u}(\vec{x}, t)$  velocity

$p(\vec{x}, t)$  pressure

$\sigma_{ij}(\vec{x}, t)$  stress

scalars ( $\rho, p$ ),  
vector ( $u_i$ ),  
tensor ( $\sigma_{ij}$ )  
fields

$i, j = 1, 2, 3$   
(= x, y, z)

"M" is as in mechanics: know  $\rho, \vec{u}, p, \dots$  @  $t=0 \Rightarrow$

$\Rightarrow$  what will happen @  $t > 0$ ?

- need equations of motion (like Newton, Maxwell, Einstein)

+ Maxwell - linear (mostly)

+ Einstein - nonlinear } means hard to solve (computes!)

+ FM - nonlinear } but still must study

PHYSICALLY: (less formal)

- \* a 'FLUID' is a system of many particles and of course a rigid (or not so rigid) body is, too
- \* to distinguish a FLUID from a body (rigid), define a FLUID by: saying that it is a system (conglomerate) of many particles which does not resist a change of its shape (i.e. it doesn't have a definite shape)

\*\* NOT A SHARP FLUID-SOLID DISTINCTION!

\*\*\* the force resisting deformation of a fluid vanishes with the rate of deformation, i.e. a deformation is not prevented

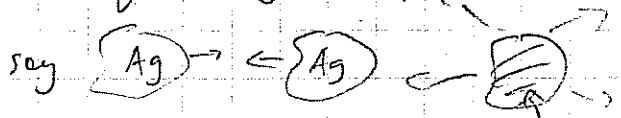
BEST TO LOOK AT EXAMPLES

(≡ WHO NEEDS FM?)

- + air - atmosphere
- + water - ocean, river, ---, cells ---
- + inner mantle of the Earth - geology, geophysics
- + interstellar medium - astrophysics
- + the Sun, stars
- + plasmas, MHD, ⇒ incl. quark-gluon plasma



electron, proton, neutron, photon  
 plasma when  $T_{universe} \gtrsim eV$   
 ( $\gtrsim 10^5 K$  - now  $2.7 K$ )  
 (- cosmic microwave bend -)



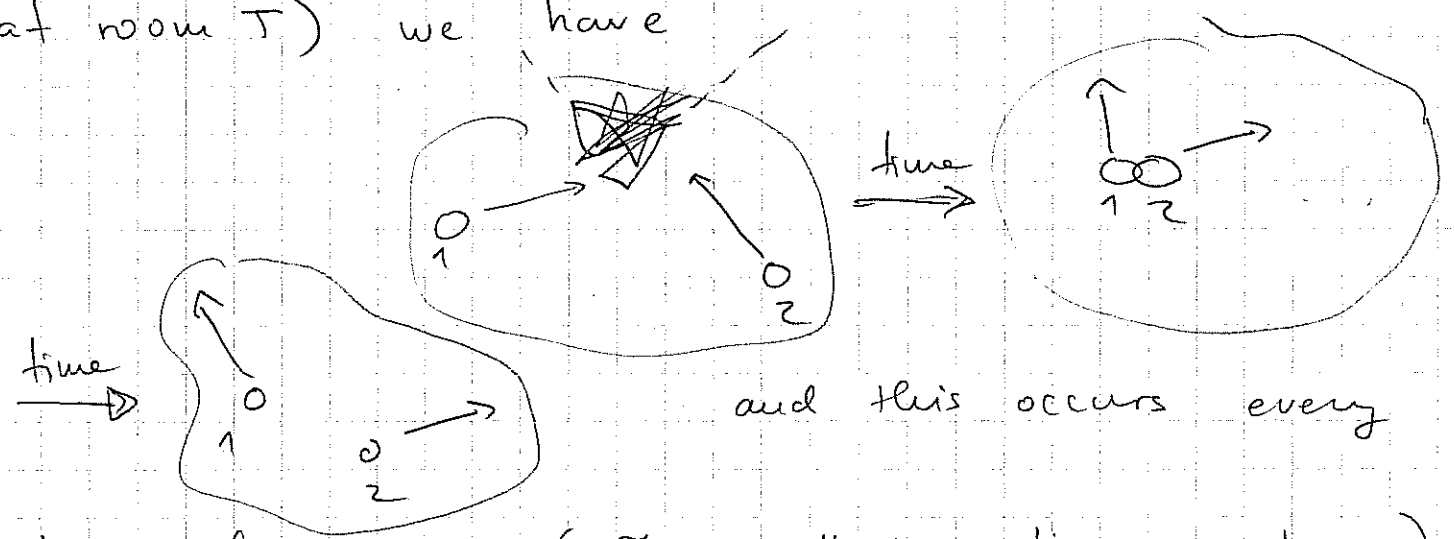
relativistic heavy ion collider  
 RHIC ( $\frac{100s GeV}{nucleon}$ ) fireball

- ✗ liquid crystals
- ✗ liquid He, -superfluid or not
- ✗ Bose-Einstein condensates

Note: #s of particles varies  $\Rightarrow$  from  $\sim 10^3$  (MHC)  
 to  $\sim 10^5$  (BEC)  
 to  $\sim 10^{23}$  (most of the rest)

However, in each case we approximate fluid as continuum,

i.e. by considering the density or velocity of the fluid at given  $\vec{x}, t$ ; however, microscopically, things are rather complicated - e.g. in a gas (air at room T) we have



and this occurs every

picosecond or so ( $\tau =$  collision time  $\sim 1$  ps)

a typical particle flies a distance  $\lambda \sim \bar{v} \tau$

( $\lambda =$  mean free path,  $\sim$  nm in air)

( $\bar{v} \sim \frac{10^{-9} \text{ m}}{10^{-12} \text{ s}} \sim 10^3 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}}$  as we know from  $\bar{v} \sim \sqrt{\frac{k_B T}{m}}$ )

(4)

So when we say that the

$$\begin{pmatrix} \text{density,} \\ \text{or} \\ \text{velocity} \end{pmatrix} \text{ of the fluid @ } (\vec{x}, t) \equiv \begin{pmatrix} \rho(\vec{x}, t) \\ \vec{u}(\vec{x}, t) \end{pmatrix}$$

we really mean by " $\vec{x}$ " a "physical point"

( $\Rightarrow \vec{x}$  denotes the location of a "physical volume element" containing many particles

whose average density is what we call  $\rho(\vec{x}, t)$

& average velocity is  $\vec{u}(\vec{x}, t)$

thus, the length scales we're allowed to

consider are such that  $\Delta L \gg \lambda$

and the time scales we can follow

the state of the fluid are such that

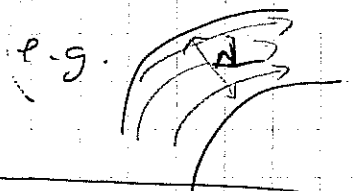
$$\Delta t \gg \tau$$

(If we have a measuring apparatus able to "see" distances  $\lesssim \lambda$ , there'll be no meaningful  $\rho$  or  $\vec{u}$  observed.)

As we'll see (and we already know from other branches of physics), dimensionless #s play great role in FM. So here we go, we just saw our first one:

$$\text{Knudsen \#} = \frac{\lambda}{\Delta L} \ll 1$$

typical scale of the fluid motion



if FM is to be useful

if  $\geq 1$  - need to study kinetic theory

(dynamics of collisions, how thermodynamic equilibrium is approached -)

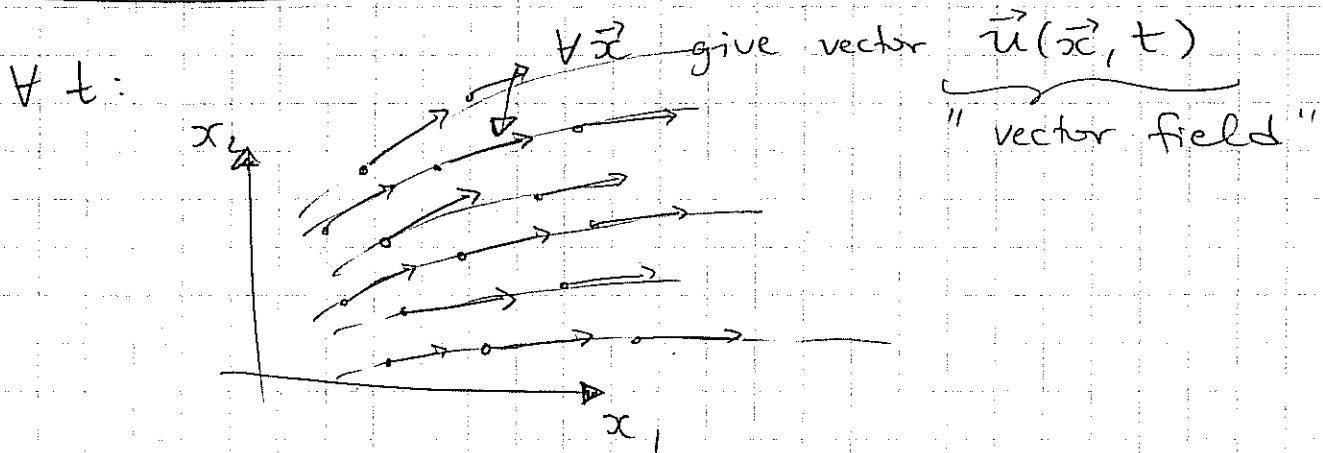
good for gases, hard to impossible for liquids

very N.B.: different time scales are described by TD, KT & FM:  
TD  $\Leftrightarrow \Delta t = \infty$  (equilibrium, nothing ever changes)  
KT  $\Leftrightarrow \Delta t \sim \tau$  (rate of approach to equil.)  
FM  $\Leftrightarrow \Delta t \gg \tau$  (macroscopic flows)

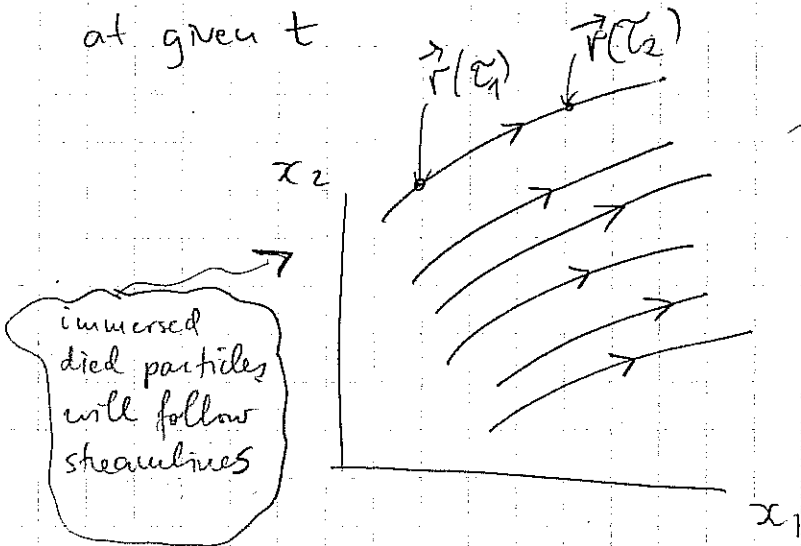
The above discussion shows that there's a close relation between thermodynamics, kinetic theory, and fluid mechanics. In fact, input from TD & kinetic theory will be needed ( $\rightarrow$  later). For now, let's do some simple dynamics.

fluid dynamics  $\equiv$  " $\vec{f} = m\vec{a}$ " - need a few concepts (6)

velocity field in space (time)  $\equiv$  velocity of fluid @  $\vec{x}, t$ .



"streamlines": lines s.t.  $\forall \vec{x}$  they are tangent to  $\vec{u}(\vec{x}, t)$  at given  $t$ .



$\vec{u}(\vec{x}, t)$  are the tangent vectors to these lines (generally  $\vec{u}$  changes w/  $t$ , unless steady flow!)

a line in space ( $\mathbb{R}^3$ ) is

$$= \vec{x}(\tau) = (x_1(\tau), x_2(\tau), x_3(\tau))$$

any streamline is given by

specifying:  $\{x_i(\tau), i=1,2,3\}$

$\uparrow$   $\tau$  is parameter along the line

tangential vector to streamline  $\equiv \frac{dx_i}{d\tau}$

math: given  $\vec{u}(\vec{x}, t)$  the streamlines  
solve the equations;  $\forall t$ :

$$\frac{dx_i(\tau)}{d\tau} = u_i(\vec{x}(\tau), t), \quad i=1, 2, 3$$

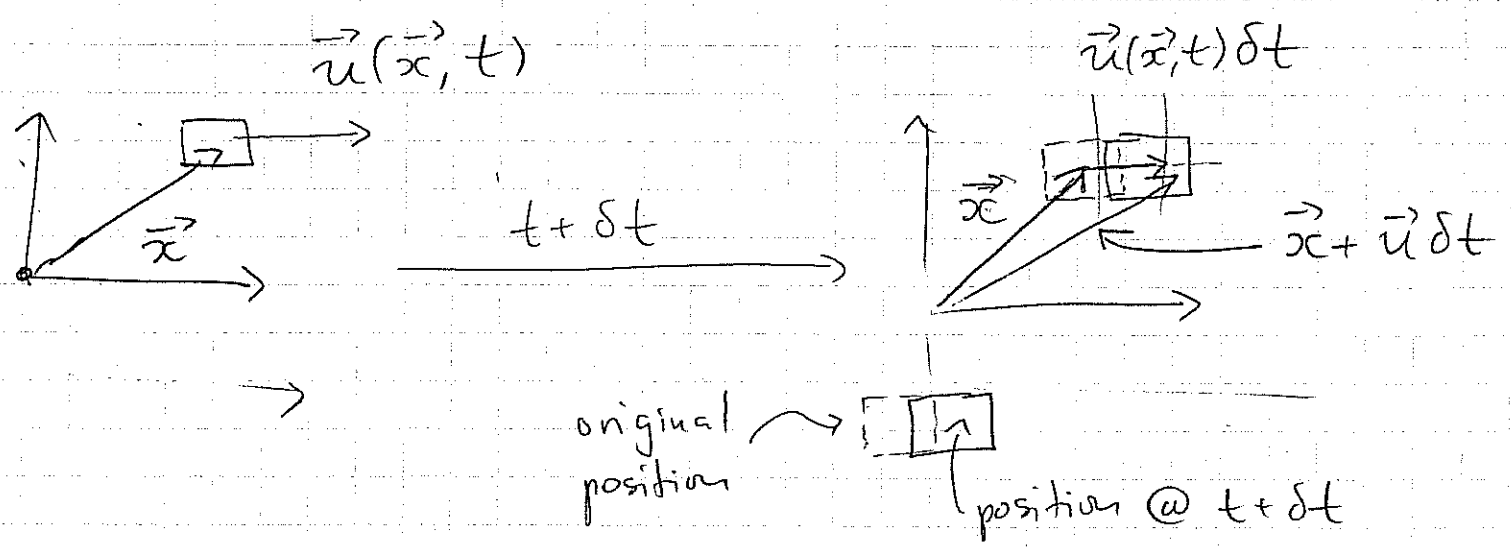
(or, which is the same, since all  $d\tau$  are equal:  
 $\frac{dx_1}{u_1(\vec{x}, t)} = \frac{dx_2}{u_2(\vec{x}, t)} = \frac{dx_3}{u_3(\vec{x}, t)}$  ((will use LATER)))

Note:  $\vec{u}(\vec{x}, t)$  is an "Eulerian description"

$\vec{x}$  refers to a fixed point in space

NOT a fixed element of a fluid

at time  $t + \delta t$  a SMALL element of the fluid which is at  $\vec{x}$  at  $t$  is now at  $\vec{x} + \vec{u}(\vec{x}, t)\delta t$



So if at  $(\vec{x}, t)$  velocity of a material fluid element is  $\vec{u}(\vec{x}, t)$ , its velocity @  $t + \delta t$  is (since it's now at  $\vec{x} + \vec{u} \delta t$ )

$$\vec{u}(\vec{x} + \vec{u} \delta t, t + \delta t)$$

↑ since time is now  $t + \delta t$

So, " $\vec{a}$ " — the acceleration of this material element is

$$\vec{a} = \frac{(\text{velocity at } t + \delta t) - (\text{velocity at } t)}{\delta t} \Big|_{\delta t \rightarrow 0}$$

$$= \frac{\vec{u}(\vec{x} + \vec{u} \delta t, t + \delta t) - \vec{u}(\vec{x}, t)}{\delta t} \Big|_{\delta t \rightarrow 0}$$

since  $\delta t$  is small, we have

$$\vec{u}(\vec{x} + \vec{u} \delta t, t + \delta t) = \vec{u}(\vec{x}, t) + \frac{\partial \vec{u}}{\partial t}(\vec{x}, t) \delta t$$

RHS: a Taylor expansion of  $f$  of  $(B+1)$  variables +  $\sum_{i=1}^3 \frac{\partial \vec{u}}{\partial x^i} u^i \delta t$

$$F(y^A + \delta y^A) = F(y^A) + \sum_B \frac{\partial F(y^A)}{\partial y^B} \delta y^B$$



here:  $A = (x^1, x^2, x^3, t)$

$\delta y^A = (u^1 \delta t, u^2 \delta t, u^3 \delta t, \delta t)$

so we have

$$\vec{a} = \frac{\left( \sum_{i=1}^3 \frac{\partial \vec{u}(\vec{x}, t)}{\partial x^i} u^i \delta t + \frac{\partial \vec{u}(\vec{x}, t)}{\partial t} \delta t \right)}{\delta t}$$

$$\vec{a} = \frac{\partial \vec{u}(\vec{x}, t)}{\partial t} + \sum_i \frac{\partial \vec{u}(\vec{x}, t)}{\partial x^i} u^i(\vec{x}, t)$$

↑ acceleration of a material element of fluid  $\forall \vec{x}$   
 $\forall t$

in index notation:

$$a_i = \frac{\partial u_i}{\partial t} + \sum_j \frac{\partial u_i}{\partial x_j} u_j$$

In this course will NOT matter whether  $u_i$  or  $u^i$  (same)

Einstein notation: omit  $\sum_j$

but always imply whenever repeated indices!

$$a_i(\vec{x}, t) = \frac{\partial u_i(\vec{x}, t)}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial u_i(\vec{x}, t)}{\partial x_j} u_j(\vec{x}, t) \equiv \frac{D u_i(\vec{x}, t)}{D t}$$

$\frac{D}{Dt} \leftrightarrow$  "material derivative"

PLEASE "INTERNALIZE"!

YOU WON'T UNDERSTAND ANYTHING ABOUT FLUID MECHANICS W/OUT FIRST DEEPLY APPRECIATING  $\frac{D}{Dt}$  !

So we have:

$$\vec{a}(\vec{x}, t) = \frac{D \vec{u}(\vec{x}, t)}{Dt} = \frac{\partial \vec{u}(\vec{x}, t)}{\partial t} + (\vec{u}(\vec{x}, t) \cdot \nabla) \vec{u}(\vec{x}, t)$$

in normal vector notation

or using indices { imagine you have to code equations - must use indices = 1, 2, 3!

$$a_{i}(\vec{x}, t) = \frac{\partial u_i(\vec{x}, t)}{\partial t} + u_j(\vec{x}, t) \frac{\partial u_i(\vec{x}, t)}{\partial x_j}$$

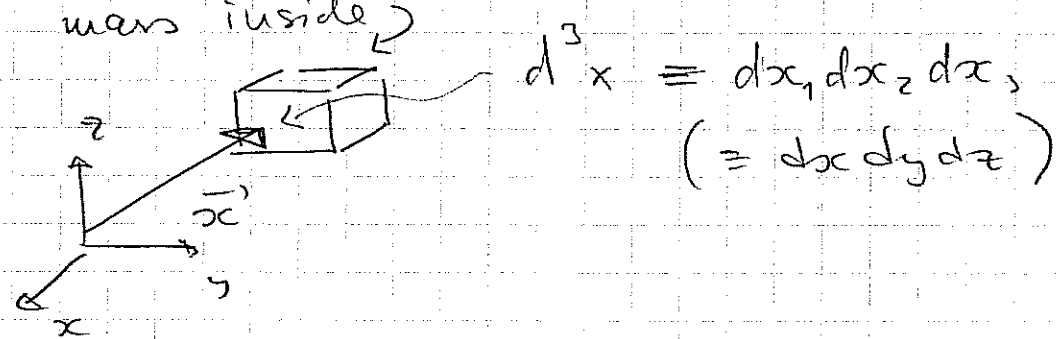
Why so important?

and we've got the  $\vec{a}$  !! well  $m \vec{a} = \vec{f}$

Now  $\rightarrow \vec{a}(\vec{x}, t)$  is the acceleration of a fluid element @  $\vec{x}, t$

let  $\rho(\vec{x}, t)$  be the mass density of the fluid element @  $\vec{x}, t$ ,

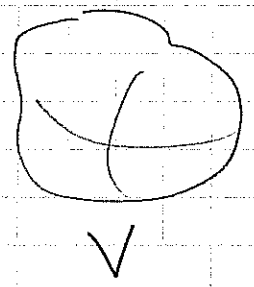
i.e. let  $\rho(\vec{x}, t) d^3x$  be the mass inside



So, "m $\vec{a}$ " of fluid inside  $d^3x$  is, then

$$\vec{a}(\vec{x}, t) \rho(\vec{x}, t) d^3x$$

For any volume  $V$

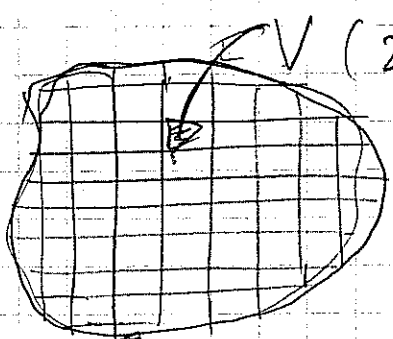


we have that "m $\vec{a}$ " is the  $\sum$  "m $\vec{a}$ " over its small parts.

$$\int_V d^3x \vec{a}(\vec{x}, t) \rho(\vec{x}, t) = \int_V d^3x \frac{D \vec{u}(\vec{x}, t)}{Dt} \rho(\vec{x}, t)$$

By Newton's " $\vec{f} = m\vec{a}$ " this should equal the total force acting on the fluid in  $V$ .

What is it?



what's the total force?

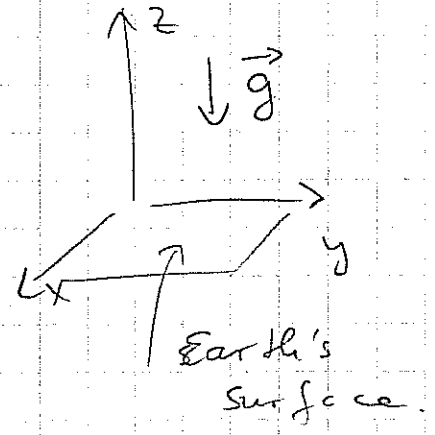
1) suppose there's a gravitational potential - then every element of the fluid will experience a force  $\int \vec{g} \rho(\vec{x}, t) d^3x$

S - surface = boundary of V ( $\equiv \partial V$ )

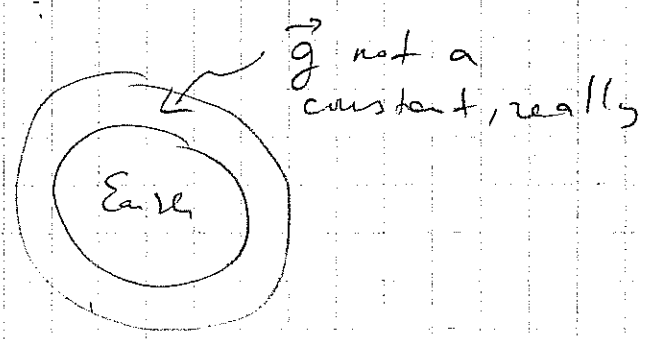
assumed a constant  $\vec{g}$  above Earth, i.e.

then total force is

$$\int_V \vec{g} \rho(\vec{x}, t) d^3x$$



Now more generally, there can be a force that depends on  $\vec{x}$  (and even  $t$ ):



This is an example of long-range forces (gravity; E&M - if NOT screened) that act on every element of the fluid  $\rightarrow$  the force on a

unit mass is  $\vec{F}(\vec{x}, t)$ , most generally. (13)

Force on mass in  $d^3x$  element is

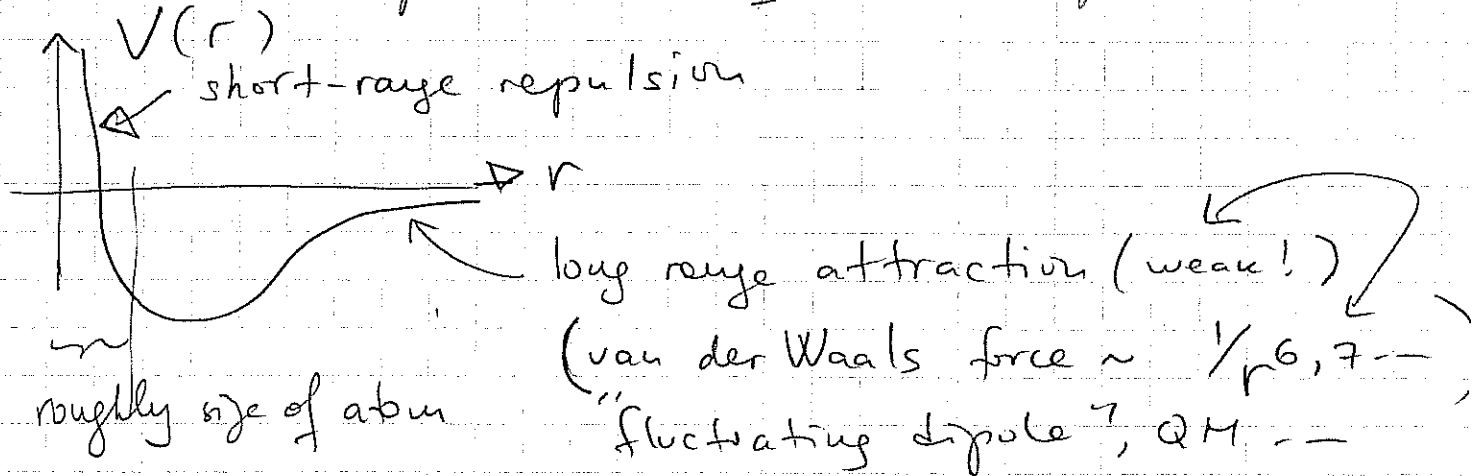
$$d^3x \rho(\vec{x}, t) \vec{F}(\vec{x}, t)$$

Force on fluid in  $V$  is

$$\int_V d^3x \rho(\vec{x}, t) \vec{F}(\vec{x}, t)$$

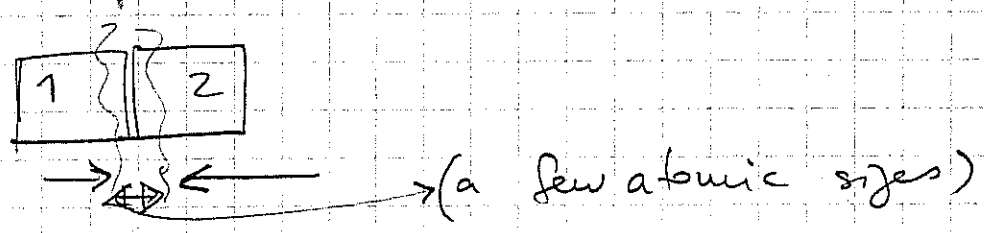
These long-range forces are called "volume forces" (1)

(2) Now — the fluid is made of particles, in a gas (or fluid) any two particles interact via potentials of the form



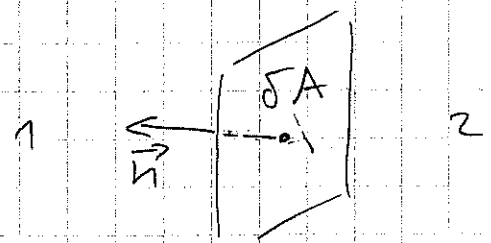
these are very short range and decrease very rapidly w/ distance.

So if we have two elements of fluid



these forces act only on a small layer at the boundary between the fluid elements.

In general, the force of this type from 1 acting on 2 will depend on the orientation of the boundary between 1 & 2 and will be proportional to its area  $\delta A$ :



$\vec{n}$  normal from 2 to 1 ( $\perp \delta A$ )

let  $\vec{\Sigma}(\vec{n}, \vec{x}, t) \delta A$

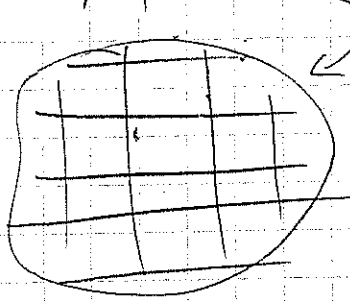
be the force of particles of element 1 acting on element 2:

These short-ranged forces will be called "surface" forces.

$\vec{\Sigma}(\vec{n}, \vec{x}, t) \equiv (\text{force per unit area } \perp \vec{n}) \equiv \text{local "stress"}$

Now, for our  $V$

(15)



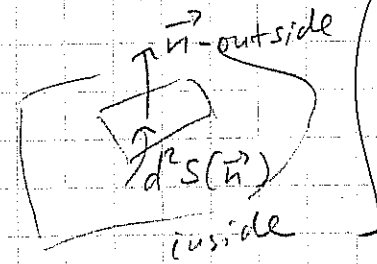
it is clear that these forces between all elements INSIDE  $V$  will cancel pairwise (per Newton's 3rd law), but

the ones acting on the elements close to  $\partial V = S$  from particles outside of  $V$

will not cancel. So our equation

" $m\vec{a} = \vec{f}$ " will be, then

$$\int_V d^3x \rho(\vec{x}, t) \frac{D\vec{u}(\vec{x}, t)}{Dt} = \int_V d^3x \rho(\vec{x}, t) \vec{F}(\vec{x}, t) + \left\{ \int_{S=\partial V} d^2S(\vec{n}) \vec{\Sigma}(\vec{n}, \vec{x}, t) \right\}$$



last term  $\equiv \sum_{\delta A \in S} \delta A \vec{\Sigma}(\vec{n}, \vec{x}, t)$

outward normal to  $\delta A$

**Eq. of motion of fluid**

"in a sense" we're done ---

but there's much more - need to make sense of it - not a closed equation at all - !!

what's  $\vec{\Sigma}$  & how to deal with it?

next:  
+ conservation laws  
+ stress tensor