Note on Posted Slides

- These are the slides that I intended to show in class on Mon. Feb. 11, 2013.
- They contain important ideas and questions from your reading.
- Due to time constraints, I was probably not able to show all the slides during class.
- They are all posted here for completeness.

PHY205H1S Physics of Everyday Life Class 10: Gases

- The Atmosphere
- Atmospheric Pressure
- The Barometer
- · Boyle's Law
- · Buoyancy of Air
- Bernoulli's Principle
- Plasma



Chapter 14 Pre-class reading question

- When a party balloon is compressed to one-third its volume with no change in temperature, what happens to the gas pressure in the balloon?
- A. It drops by a factor of 3
- B. It drops by a factor of 2
- C. It remains the same
- D. It doubles
- E. It triples

Chapter 14 Pre-class reading question

- Chapter 14 ends with a discussion of *plasma*. In this context, what is plasma?
- A. A flowing fluid which is incompressible, nonviscous and has steady streamlines.
- B. A fourth phase of matter, existing mainly at high temperatures, consisting of positively charged ions and free electrons.
- C. A molecular gas such as $N_{\rm 2}\, or\, O_{\rm 2}.$
- D. Anything that flows; in particular, any liquid or gas.
- E. The colorless fluid part of blood, lymph, or milk, in which corpuscles or fat globules are suspended.

Atmospheric Pressure



Atmospheric Pressure in this room

What is the force of air pressure on the top of your outstretched hand?





20 square inches = 300 pounds!

Why don't you feel that force pushing your hand down?

What if all the air below your hand was removed (a vacuum)?

Discussion Question

- · A suction cup sticks to a wall. It is
- A. pulled to the wall by the vacuum.
- B. pushed to the wall by the atmosphere.
- C. both of these
- D. neither of these



Pressure and "Suction"



A fluid can only **push** walls or objects; a fluid cannot pull on a wall.

What we call "suction" is when the fluid on one side has a higher pressure than the fluid on the other side.

It is the pressure difference which creates a pushing force into the lower pressure area (into the vacuum). This is how we breath:

- 1. We expand our lung cavity, lowering the pressure inside.
- 2. The higher air pressure outside pushes air into our lungs.

The Atmosphere

- Atmosphere
- · Ocean of air
- · Exerts pressure



The Magdeburg-hemispheres demonstration shows the large magnitude of atmosphere's pressure.



Suction Cups

When we lower the pressure inside a suction cup, it is the pushing forces of the pressurized air all around which creates the net forces.

Suction cups would not work on the moon!

Atmospheric Pressure CHECK YOUR NEIGHBOR

In drinking soda or water through a straw, we make use of

- A. capillary action.
- B. surface tension.
- C. atmospheric pressure.
- D. Bernoulli's principle.
- E. none of these



Atmospheric Pressure

- · Pressure at the bottom of a column of air reaching to the top of the atmosphere is the same as the pressure at the bottom of a column of water 10.3 m high.
- · Consequence: The highest the atmosphere can push water up into a vacuum pump is 10.3 m.



Mechanical pumps that don't depend on atmospheric pressure don't have the 10.3-m limit.

The Barometer

- The barometer is a device to measure atmospheric pressure.
- It consists of a mercury tube upside down in a dish filled with mercury.
- The height of the mercury column tells us the atmospheric pressure.
- Atmospheric pressure decreases with increasing altitude, so it also measures elevation—an altimeter.



The Barometer

The principle of the barometer:

- Mercury column exerts pressure on the mercury in the dish.
- Atmosphere exerts pressure on the mercury in the dish.
- These two pressures must be equal so that the atmospheric pressure supports the mercury column.



Barometer CHECK YOUR NEIGHBOR

Why don't barometers use water instead of mercury?

- A. Water cannot be used because it does not exert pressure.
- B. Water cannot be used because it sticks to the glass.
- C. Water can be used but the barometer will be too tall.
- D. None of the above.

Boyle's Law

- The pressure and volume of a gas enclosed in a space are inversely proportional.
- If you decrease the volume, the pressure will increase by the same factor.
 - Example: If volume drops by a factor of 2, the pressure will increase by a factor of 2.



Boyle's Law

• The product of pressure and volume of a given mass of gas will always remain the same.



Boyle's Law Example

- A rubber ball has a volume of 0.01 m³, and an internal pressure of 100,000 Pa.
- You then squeeze the ball so that its volume reduces to 0.008 m³ (80% of its original volume).
- What is the new pressure inside the ball?



Buoyancy in Air

Archimedes' principle applies to air as well as liquids.

• An object surrounded by air is buoyed up by a force equal to the weight of the air displaced



Buoyancy in Air

Rules for "lighter-than-air" objects:

- When the weight of air displaced by an object is greater than the weight of the object, it rises.
- When the weight of air displaced by an object equals the weight of the object, it hovers in air.
- When the weight of air displaced by an object is less than the weight of the object, it is not supported by air.

Buoyancy in Air

Gas-filled balloons

- Gas prevents atmosphere from collapsing them
- Best buoyancy with hydrogen, the lightest gas (flammable, so seldom used)
- Next-best buoyancy with helium
- · Heated air used in sports balloons

As balloons rise, atmosphere becomes less dense with altitude.

Buoyancy Example

 If you wish to support a mass of 80 kg (one person) with a helium-filled balloon, how big should the balloon be?



In-class Discussion Question

• You put your thumb over the end of the a hose, thereby reducing the area through which water can exit the hose.



- What must change about the water so that the amount coming in the hose equals the amount leaving the hose?
- A. The velocity must increase.
- B. The velocity must decrease.
- C. The pressure must increase.
- D. The pressure must decrease.

In-class Discussion Question

- We study the steady flow of water from a water tap, e.g., in your kitchen sink. The jet of water
- A. broadens as it falls.
- B. narrows as it falls.
- C. does not change its cross-sectional shape.
- D. slows before hitting the bottom of the sink.



Bernoulli's Law

Consider an ideal fluid, flowing through a tube which narrows.



- It increases its velocity. This means the kinetic energy per volume of the fluid will increase.
- How can this be? There must be a force which does work on the fluid to speed it up.
- The force must come from a pressure difference.
- Pressure must be **lower** in the region of increased fluid velocity.

Bernoulli's Principle



- Discovered by Daniel Bernoulli, a 15th century Swiss scientist
- States that where the speed of a fluid increases, internal pressure in the fluid decreases (and vice versa)
- · Applies to a smooth, steady flow

Bernoulli's Principle

Streamlines

- · Thin lines representing fluid motion
- Closer together, flow speed is greater and pressure within the fluid is less
- Wider, flow speed is less and pressure within the fluid is greater



Bernoulli's demo, lift.

- If the air were flowing equally above and below the beach-ball, there would be no force on the ball due to the Bernoulli effect.
- The ball would then fall due to its own weight until the point where most of the flow is over the top of the ball, reducing the pressure there.
- The ball sits at a point of stable equilibrium, where these forces balance.



Applications of Bernoulli's principle

• Blow on the top surface of a paper and the paper rises.

Reason: Pressure of the moving air is less than the atmospheric pressure beneath it.

• Wind blowing across a peaked roof can lift the roof off the house.

Reason: Pressure is reduced as wind gains speed as it flows over the roof. The greater pressure inside the house lifts the roof up.



In-class Discussion Question

- When wind speeds up as it blows over the top of a hill, what happens to the atmospheric pressure over the hill?
- A. It decreases
- B. It increases
- C. It stays the same

Plasma

• Plasma is the fourth state of matter (after solids, liquids and gases).



• A plasma is an electrified gas. The atoms that make it up are ionized, stripped of one or more electrons, with a corresponding number of free electrons.

Plasma

Fluorescent lamps, neon signs

- When you turn the lamp on, a high voltage between electrodes of the tube causes electrons to flow.
- These electrons ionize some atoms, forming plasma.
- Plasma provides a conducting path that keeps the current flowing.
- The current activates some mercury atoms, causing them to emit ultraviolet radiation.
- This radiation causes the phosphor coating on the tube's inner surface to glow with visible light.



Plasma

Plasma screen TVs

- Flat plasma TV screens are composed of many thousands of pixels.
- Each has three separate cells—red, green and blue—each containing a different gas.
- Pixels are sandwiched between a network of electrodes.
- Electrodes are charged to produce electric currents flowing through cells.
- Gases convert to glowing plasmas, releasing ultraviolet light to stimulate the phosphors.
- The image on the screen is the blend of pixel colors activated by the TV control signal.

In-class Discussion Question

- Which of the following is in a plasma state?
- A. Dry ice
- B. A torch flame
- C. Molten lava
- D. Liquid hydrogen
- E. Helium gas

Before Class 11 on Wednesday

- Please read Chapter 15, or at least watch the 10-minute pre-class video for class 11
- Something to think about:
- Is there an upper limit to how hot something can get?
- Is there a lower limit to how cold something can get?

