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# 3. Physics of Microfluidic Systems

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1. Navier-Stokes Equations
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## 3.2. Laminar and Turbulent Flow

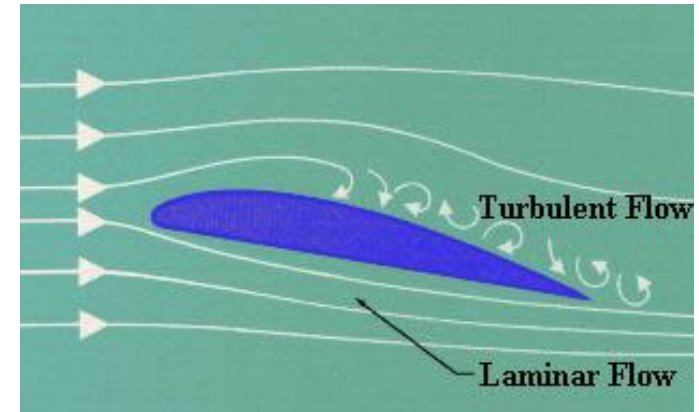
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1. **Critical Reynolds Number**
2. Shear-Driven Laminar Flow
3. Taylor-Couette Flow
4. Laminar PDF through a Tube
5. Laminar PDF through a Gap
6. Irrotational Flow
7. Centrifugal-Force Driven Flow
8. Effects in Laminar Flows
9. Turbulent Flows

## 3.2.1. Critical Reynolds Number

### Three types of flow regimes:

- Laminar
  - Low flow velocities
  - Smooth sliding of adjacent layers
  - Field of velocity vectors constant in time
- Turbulent
  - Curling of field lines
  - Mixing between adjacent layers
  - „Unpredictable“ development of field of velocity vectors
  - Flow patterns increasingly turbulent towards high velocities
  - Sometimes laminar flow preserved up to higher velocities
- Periodic flow
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> flow regime
  - Surface waves
  - Acoustic waves
- All three flow types solutions of NS-equation



## 3.2.1. Perturbation Analysis

optional

- Transition from laminar to turbulent flow regime
  - Mathematical perturbation analysis
  - Prediction whether velocity distribution belongs to distinct flow regime
- Ansatz
  - Known solution of NS-equation (guessed or measured)
  - Superimposing small perturbation

$$\mathbf{v}(\mathbf{r}, t) = \mathbf{v}_0(\mathbf{r}, t) + \delta\mathbf{v}$$

- Product of

- Amplitude
- Oscillatory factor
- Exponential term

$$\delta\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r})e^{(i\omega+\gamma)t} \text{ with } |\delta\mathbf{v}| \ll |\mathbf{v}|$$

## 3.2.1. Perturbation Analysis

optional

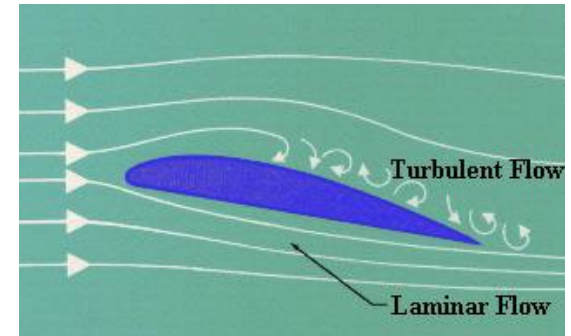
$$\delta \mathbf{v} = \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r}) e^{(i\omega + \gamma)t} \quad \text{with} \quad |\delta \mathbf{v}| \ll |\mathbf{v}|$$

- Properties
  - Locally varying amplitude  $A$
  - $\omega$  and  $\gamma$  constant for given problem
- Insertion of perturbed solution in NS as initial velocity field
  - Result: First order equations of  $\omega$  and  $\gamma$
  - Sign of  $\gamma$  indicates decay of perturbation into  $\mathbf{v}_0$

## 3.2.1. Critical Reynolds Number

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- Condition  $\gamma = 0$  defines critical Reynolds number  $Re^*$
- $Re < Re^*$ 
  - Perturbations damped in time
- $Re > Re^*$ 
  - Exponential growth of perturbations in time
  - Perturbation theory not valid
  - „Unpredictable“ behavior of velocity field
- Transition point  $Re = Re^*$ 
  - Flow oscillates between two flow regimes
- As  $Re$  increases further, turbulent character of flow increases



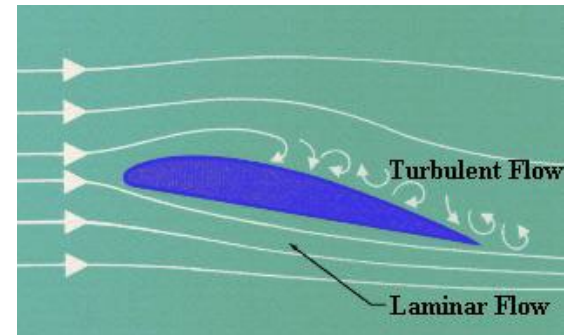
## 3.2.1. Critical Reynolds Number

- $Re^*$  ranges between 1 and 100,000
- $Re^*$  depends on
  - Material properties (density  $\rho$ , viscosity  $\eta$ )
  - Boundary conditions  $\partial\Omega$
  - Critical velocity

$$Re = \frac{\rho_{\infty} \tilde{v} l}{\eta} = \frac{\tilde{v} l}{\nu}$$

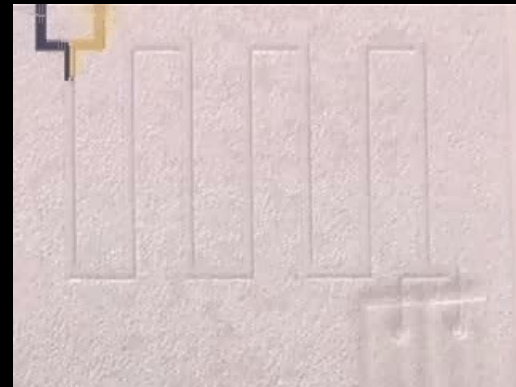
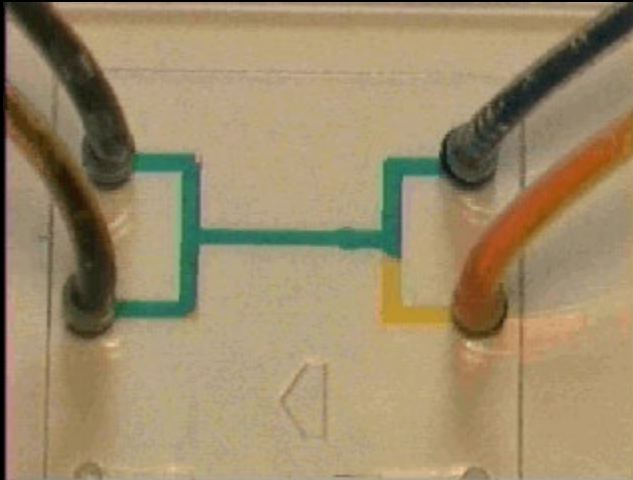
$$v^* = Re^* v / l$$

- Specific  $Re^*$  geometries
  - Sphere: 2320
  - Flow parallel to plate:  $Re^* = 500,000$
- Microdevice
  - $Re \approx 1 \ll Re^*$



## 3.2. Laminar Flow

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## 3.2.1. Critical Reynolds Number

optional

- Transition point also depends on
  - Initial velocity field
  - Experimental environment

$$Re = \frac{\rho_{\infty} \tilde{v} \tilde{l}}{\eta} = \frac{\tilde{v} \tilde{l}}{\nu}$$

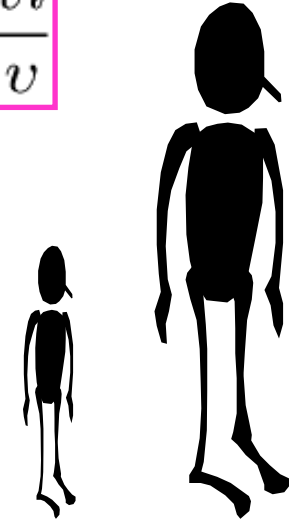
- Domain  $Re < Re^*$ 
  - No survival of initial turbulences
- Domain  $Re > Re^*$ 
  - Laminar flow still possible under certain conditions
  - Turbulences hampered by
    - Smooth walls
    - Smooth endings at orifices
  - Laminar conditions up to  $Re = 100,000$
  - $Re > 100,000$ 
    - Thermal motion of molecules sufficient to trigger transition to turbulence

## 3.2.1. Shift of $Re^*$ in MF Systems

- In MF-systems

- Channel diameter  $100 \mu\text{m}$
- Flow velocity  $v = 10 \text{ mm s}^{-1}$
- Flow rate  $Q = A v = 6 \mu\text{l min}^{-1}$
- $Re \sim 1 \ll Re^* \sim 2300$

$$Re = \frac{\rho_{\infty} \tilde{v} \tilde{l}}{\eta} = \frac{\tilde{v} \tilde{l}}{\nu}$$



- Always laminar flow in MF-systems?

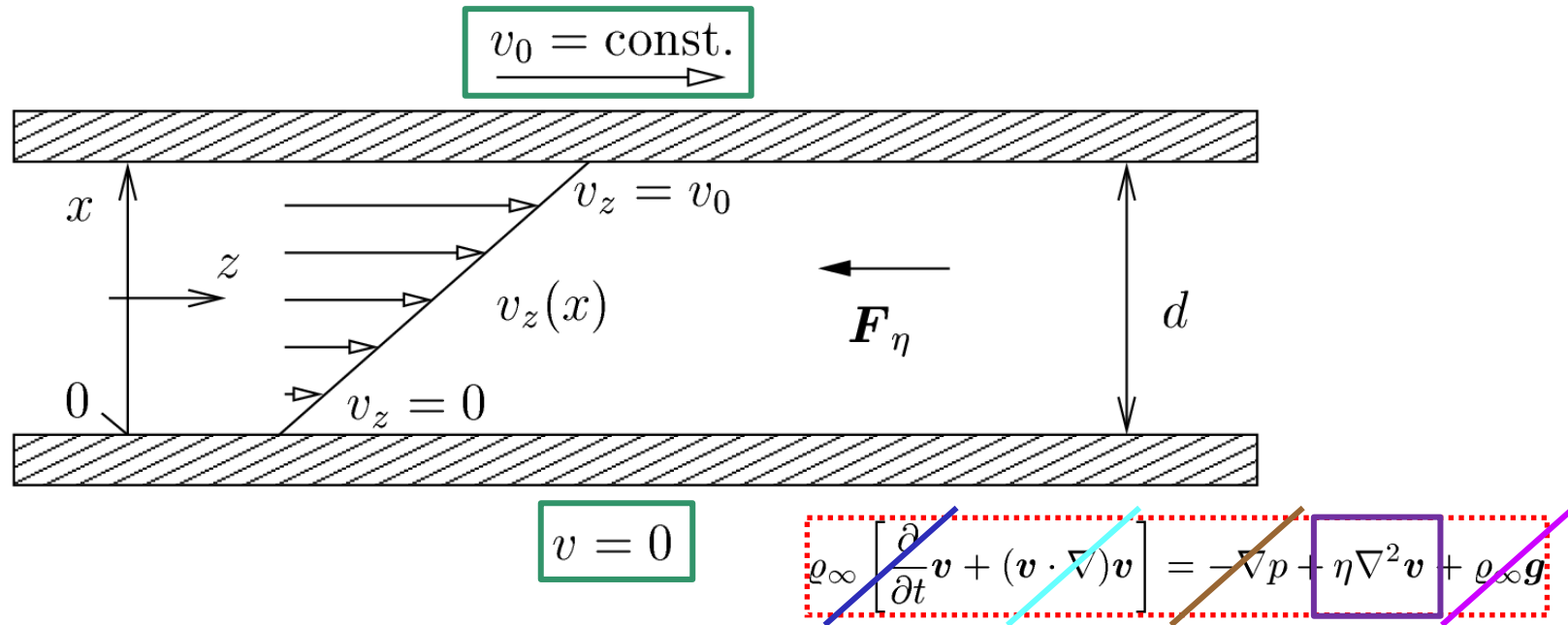
- Departure of Reynolds theory in microworld
- Much higher surface-to-volume ratios
- Higher sensitivity to surface roughness
- Reliable results only with smooth surfaces and stabilized pumping
- Some results indicate early departure from laminar flow regime
  - $300 < Re^* < 900$  or  $200 < Re^* < 700$
- Avoiding artificially induced nucleation of turbulence
  - Smooth walls
  - Steady pumping

## 3.2. Laminar and Turbulent Flow

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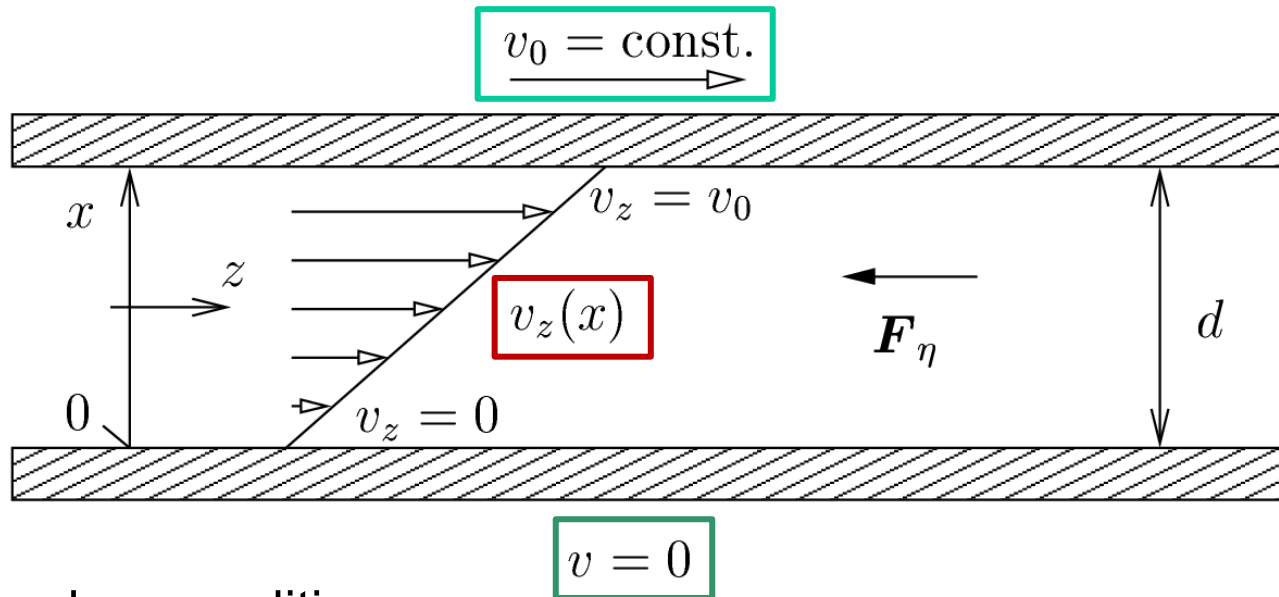
## 3.2.2. Shear-Driven Laminar (Couette) Flow



- Flow imposed on fluid by mere shear forces
  - Vanishing gravity  $g = 0$
  - No external pressure gradient  $\nabla p = 0$
- Viscous fluid sandwiched between two plates
  - Wall at  $x = 0$  at rest
  - Wall at  $x = d$  moving at speed  $v_0 = \text{const.}$  in  $z$ -direction
  - Stationary flow
  - Constant velocity on axial direction
  - Viscous force density

$$\eta \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial x^2} = 0$$

## 3.2.2. Shear-Driven Laminar (Couette) Flow



- Boundary conditions

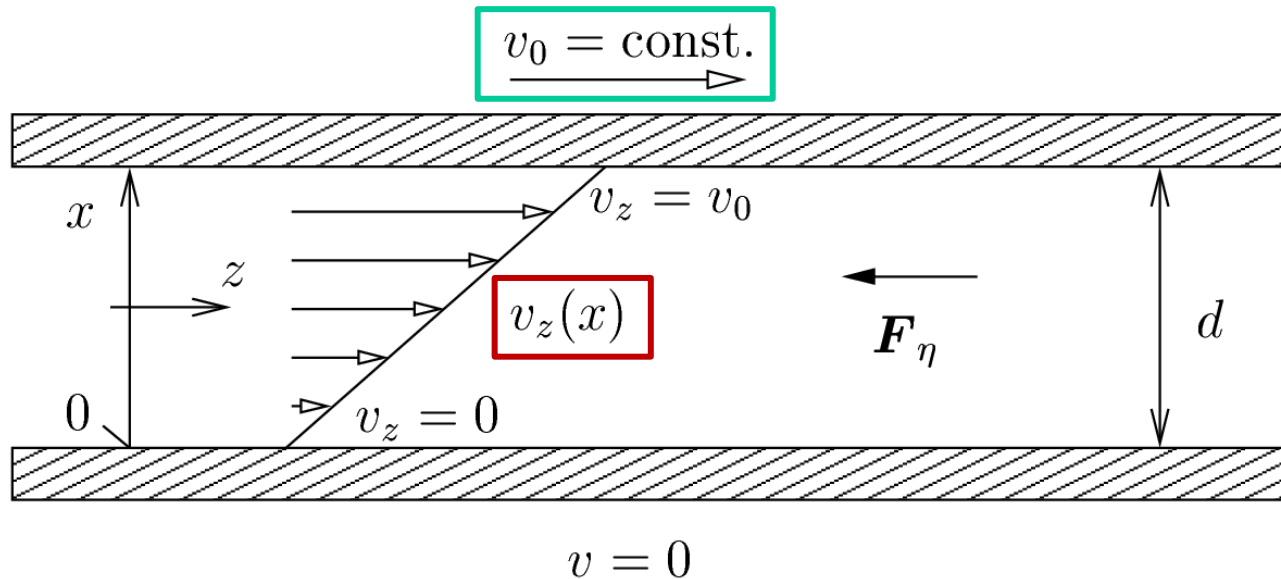
$$v_z(x = 0) = 0$$

$$v_z(x = d) = v_0$$

- Linear flow profile

$$v_z(x) = \frac{x}{d} v_0$$

## 3.2.2. Shear-Driven Laminar (Couette) Flow



- Viscous force
  - Flow density  $j_{p,x}$  of axial momentum  
 $p_z = m v_z$  in lateral  $x$ -direction
  - Total force

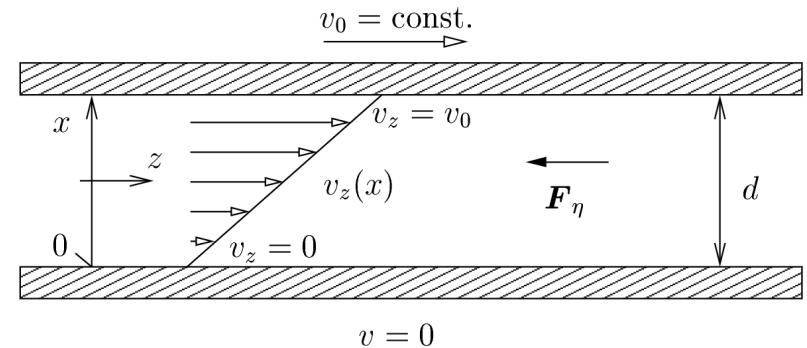
$$j_{p,x} = \eta \cdot \frac{dv}{dx} = \eta \cdot \frac{v_0}{d}$$

$$F_\eta = j_{p,x} \cdot A = \eta \cdot \frac{v_0}{d} \cdot A$$

## 3.2.2. Prandtl Boundary Layer

optional

- $d$  increases until  $Re > Re^*$ 
  - Turbulent regime
- Laminar regime restricted to  
Tiny layer  $\delta < d$  near moving body
- "Prandtl layer"
  - Diffusion-limited mass and heat transfer
  - Decisive impact on mass and heat exchange in macrosystems
- Estimate for thickness  $\delta$  by energy analysis
  - Viscous work



$$W_\eta = F_\eta l = \frac{\eta A v_0 l}{\delta}$$

$$|f_\eta| \simeq \eta \frac{2v_{\max}}{d^2}$$

- Spent when body traveling at  $v_0$  covers distance of its own length  $l$

## 3.2.2. Prandtl Boundary Layer

optional

- Setting adjacent fluid into motion requires kinetic energy

$$E_{\text{kin}} = \frac{1}{2} \rho A \int_0^{\delta} \left( \frac{v_0 z}{\delta} \right)^2 dz = \frac{1}{6} A \rho v_0^2 \delta$$

- Assuming linear flow profile within Prandtl layer
- Setting equal kinetic energy and viscous work yields

$$\delta = \sqrt{\frac{6\eta l}{\rho v_0}} = \sqrt{\frac{6ld}{Re}}$$

- Typical MF-values:  $l = 1 \text{ cm}$ ,  $d = 100 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$  and  $Re = 1$
- $\delta \approx 1 \text{ cm} \gg d$
- **Fully developed Prandtl layer therefore not found in MF systems**
- Attention
  - $Re$  increases with speed of flow

## 3.2. Laminar and Turbulent Flow

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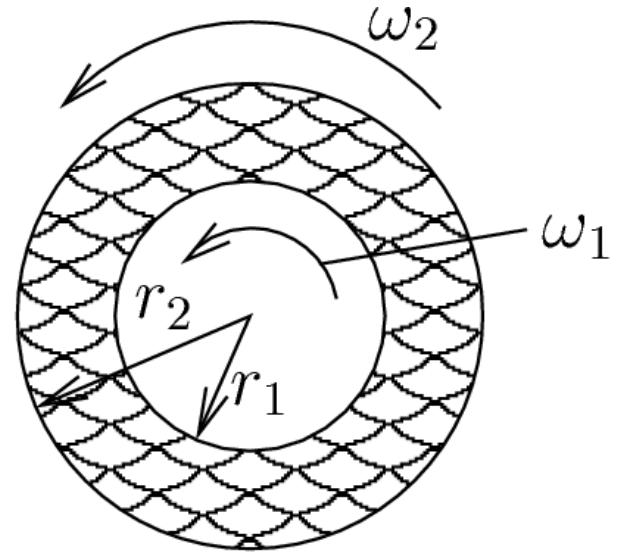
optional

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### 3.2.3. Couette Flow

optional

- Azimuthal symmetry
  - Purely azimuthal fluid motion
  - Cylindrical coordinates  $(r, \phi, z)$
  - Velocity field  $v(r)$
  - Pressure distribution  $p$
  - Symmetry reduces NS-equations and continuity equation to



$$\rho \frac{v_\phi^2}{r} = \frac{\partial p}{\partial r}$$

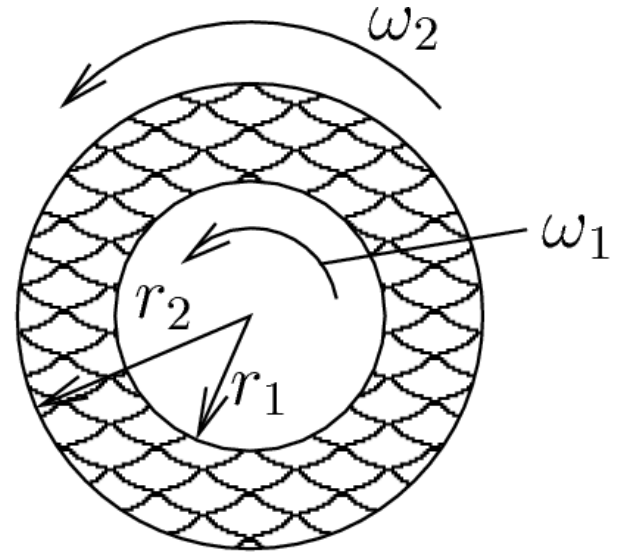
$$0 = \eta \left( \frac{\partial^2 v_\phi}{\partial r^2} + \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial v_\phi}{\partial r} - \frac{v_\phi}{r^2} \right)$$

$$\begin{aligned} v_\phi|_{r_1} &= \omega_1 r_1 \\ v_\phi|_{r_2} &= \omega_2 r_2 \end{aligned}$$

### 3.2.3. Couette Flow

optional

- Azimuthal symmetry
  - Purely azimuthal fluid motion
  - Cylindrical coordinates  $(r, \phi, z)$
  - Velocity field  $v(r)$



- Ansatz

$$v_\phi = A_i r^n$$

- Solution

$$v_\phi(r) = A_1 r + A_2 r^{-1} \sim r$$

small

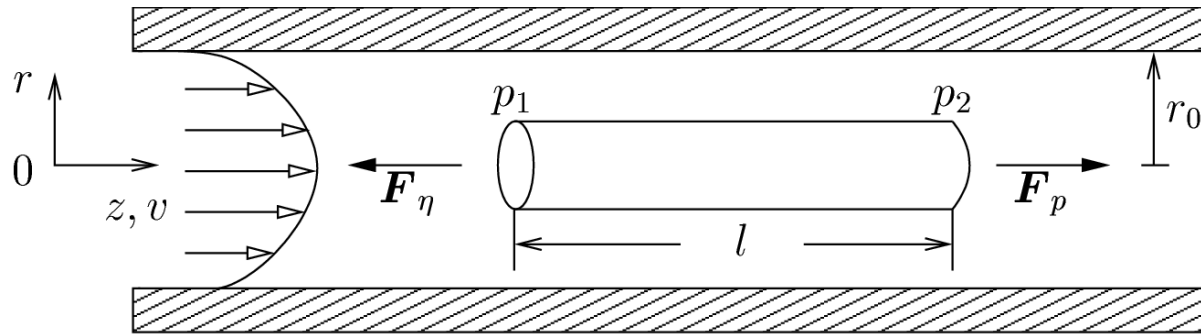
$$p(r) = \varrho \left( \frac{1}{2} A_1^2 r^2 + 2 A_1 A_2 \ln r - \frac{1}{2} A_2^2 r^{-2} \right)$$

## 3.2. Laminar and Turbulent Flow

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## 3.2.4. Laminar PDF through Tube

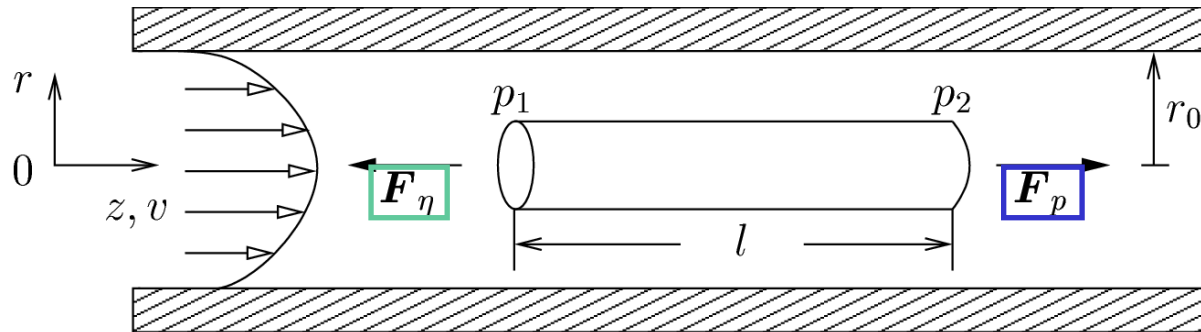


$$\rho_\infty \left[ \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \mathbf{v} + (\mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{v} \right] = -\nabla p + \eta \nabla^2 \mathbf{v} + \rho_\infty \mathbf{g}$$

- Pressure-driven flow
  - Important phenomenon in nature
  - E.g., transport of nutrients in plants and animals by heart
- Law of Hagen-Poiseuille (~1840)
  - Pressure drop
  - Throughput
- Symmetry
  - Parabolic flow profile
  - Cylindrical symmetry



## 3.2.4. Laminar PDF through Tube



- Pressure forces

$$F_p = (p_1 - p_2) \pi r^2 = \pi r^2 \Delta p$$

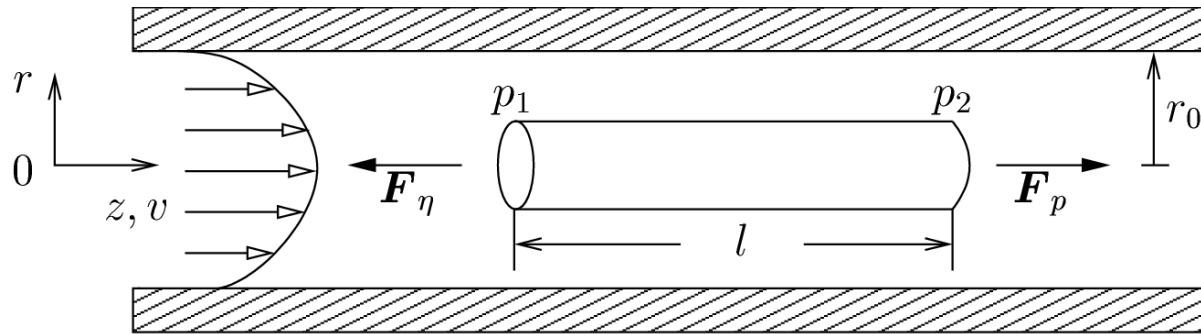
- Viscous forces

$$F_\eta = \eta A_r \frac{dv_z}{dr}$$

- Relationship for stationary flow  $\frac{dv_z}{dt} = 0$

$$F_p = F_\eta \longrightarrow \pi r^2 \Delta p = -2\pi r l \eta \frac{dv_z}{dr}$$

## 3.2.4. Laminar PDF through Tube



- Integration

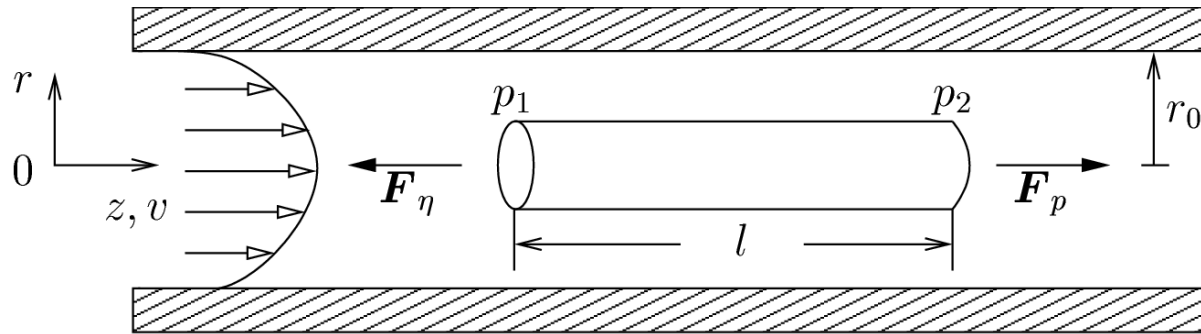
- Extension of auxiliary cylinder of radius  $r$  to tube radius  $r_0$

$$v_z(r) - v_z(r_0) = \frac{\Delta p}{2\eta l} \int_r^{r_0} r' dr' = \frac{\Delta p}{4\eta l} (r_0^2 - r^2)$$

- Flow velocity profile

$$v_z(r) = \frac{\Delta p}{4\eta l} (r_0^2 - r^2)$$

## 3.2.4. Laminar PDF through Tube



- Maximum velocity (in center at  $r = 0$ )

$$v_{\max} = \frac{\Delta p}{4\eta l} r_0^2$$

$$v_z(r) = \frac{\Delta p}{4\eta l} (r_0^2 - r^2)$$

- Minimum velocity (at wall at  $r = r_0$ )

$$v(r = r_0) = 0$$

## 3.2.4. Flow Rate

- Volumetric flow  $I_V$  determined by integration of  $v_z(r) dA$  over  $r_0$

$$I_V = \frac{dV}{dt} = \int_0^{r_0} v_z(r) 2\pi r dr = \frac{\pi \Delta p}{2\eta l} \left( \int_0^{r_0} r_0^2 r dr - \int_0^{r_0} r^3 dr \right)$$

$$I_V = \frac{\pi}{8\eta} \frac{\Delta p}{l} r_0^4$$

- **Law of Hagen-Poiseuille**

- $I_V$  scales with  $r^4$
- Pressure gradient  $\Delta p/l$
- Viscosity  $\eta$

- Average velocity

$$\bar{v}_z = \frac{\Delta p}{8\eta l} r_0^2$$

- Alternative expression for Reynolds number

$$Re = \frac{2I_V}{\pi r_0 v}$$

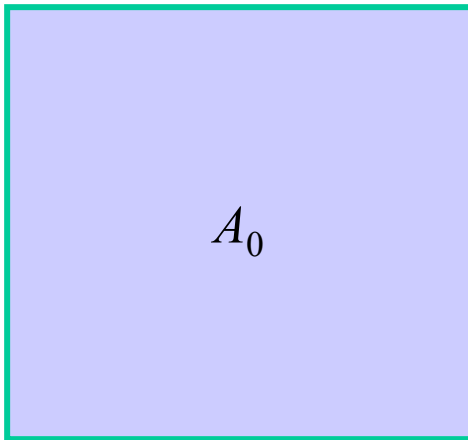
$v = \frac{\eta_{\text{id.gas}}}{\rho} D$

## 3.2.4. Throughput

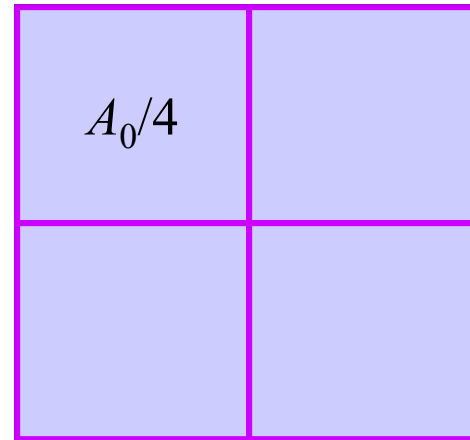
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$$I_V \sim r^4 = A^2$$

Hagen-Poiseuille



$$I_{0,V} \sim A_0^2$$



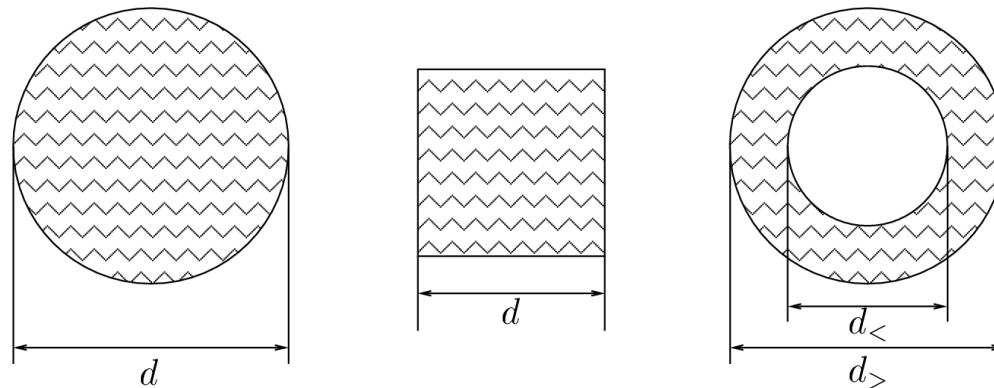
$$I_V \sim 4 (A_0 / 4)^2 = \frac{1}{4} I_{0,V}$$

$$I_V \sim N (A_0 / N)^2 = \frac{1}{N} I_{0,V}$$

## 3.2.4. Hydraulic Diameter

- Based on law of Hagen-Poiseuille for cylindrical geometry
- PDF through duct with non-circular cross-section
- Equivalent hydraulic diameter

$$d_{\text{hd}} = \frac{4 \cdot (\text{cross - sectional area})}{\text{wetted perimeter}}$$



**Fig. 3.9.** Schematic for values entering hydraulic diameter  $d_{\text{hd}}$  of circular tube, a square tube and two concentric tubes

## 3.2.4. Hydraulic Diameter

- Round tube

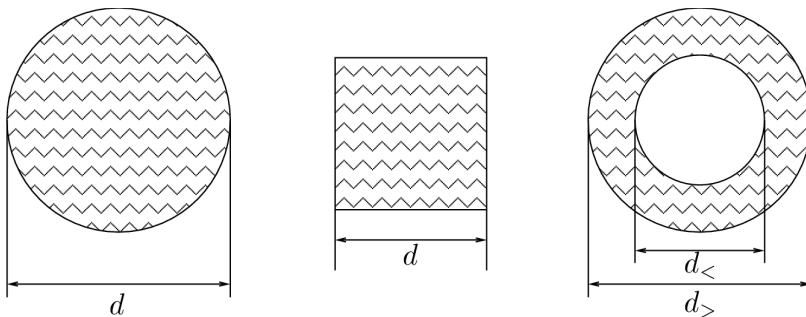
$$d_{\text{hd}} = \frac{4 \cdot \frac{\pi d^2}{4}}{\pi \cdot d} = d$$

- Square tube
  - Edge length

$$d_{\text{hd}} = \frac{4d^2}{4d} = d$$

- Annular geometry

$$d_{\text{hd}} = \frac{4 \cdot \left\{ \frac{\pi d_{>}^2}{4} - \frac{\pi d_{<}^2}{4} \right\}}{\pi d_{>} + \pi d_{<}} = d_{>} - d_{<}$$



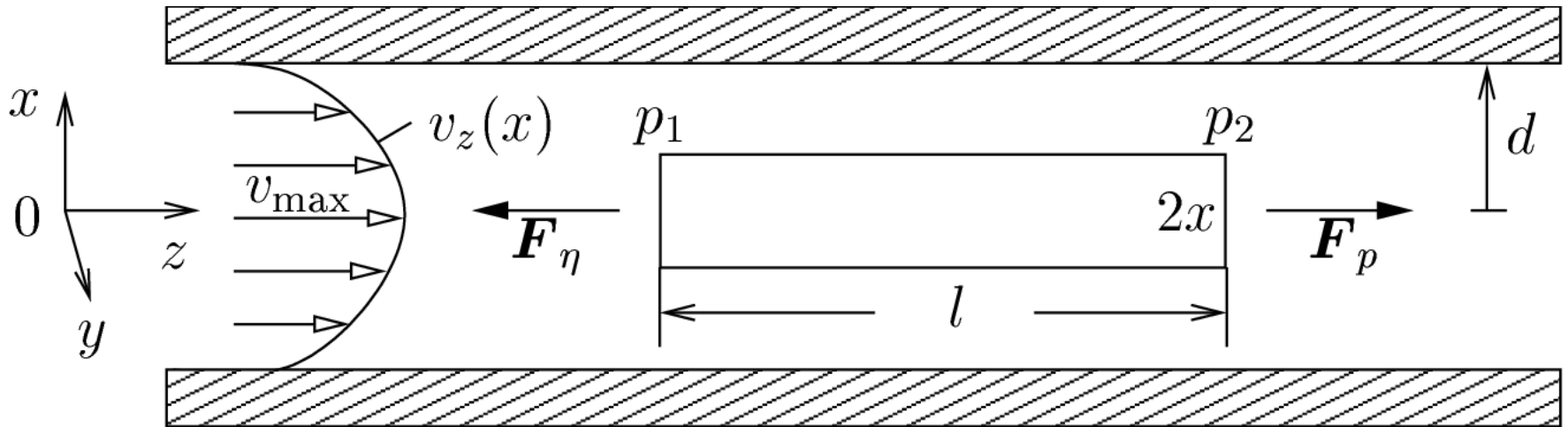
**Fig. 3.9.** Schematic for values entering hydraulic diameter  $d_{\text{hd}}$  of circular tube, a square tube and two concentric tubes


## 3.2. Laminar and Turbulent Flow

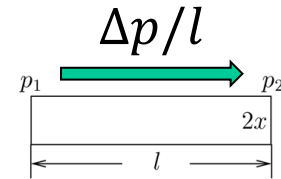
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## 3.2.5. Laminar PDF through Gap

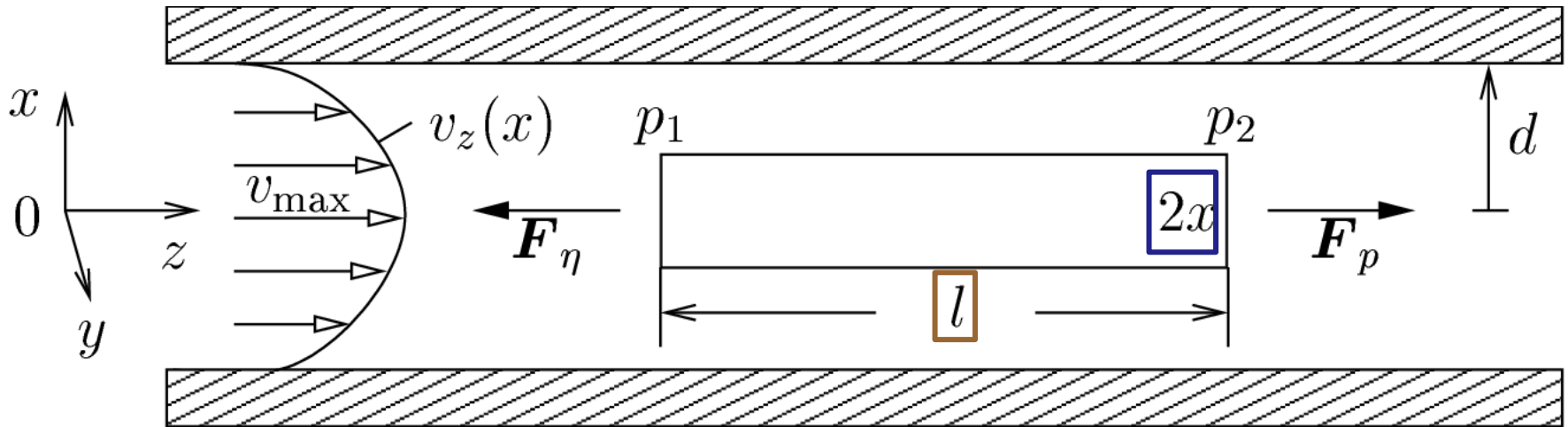


- Pressure-driven flow
  - No (external) shear or volume forces
  - Parallel plates 
  - Laminar regime
  - Pressure gradient antiparallel to direction of flow
- No-slip conditions



$$v_z(x = d) = v_z(x = -d) = 0$$

## 3.2.5. Laminar PDF through Gap



- Rectangular element
  - Width  $2x$
  - Length  $l$
  - Depth  $b$  (into plane of drawing)
  - Cross section  $A_x = b l$
  - Fore-part  $A_z = 2 x b$
- Total velocity gradient across element  $2 \frac{dv}{dx} \Big|_{+/-x}$

## 3.2.5. Laminar PDF through Gap

- Differential relationship

$$\left. \frac{dv}{dx} \right|_{\pm x} = \frac{1}{\eta} \frac{dp}{dz} x$$

- Parabolic flow profile

$$v(x) = v_{\max} - \frac{1}{2\eta} \frac{dp}{dz} x^2 = v_{\max} - \frac{\Delta p}{2\eta l} x^2$$

- Peak velocity

$$v_{\max} = \frac{\Delta p}{2\eta l} d^2$$

- Overall volume flow rate  $I_V$  per channel width  $y$

$$\frac{I_V}{y} = 2 \int_0^d v(x) dx = \frac{h^3}{12\eta} \frac{dp}{dz}$$

## 3.2. Laminar and Turbulent Flow

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optional

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## 3.2.6. Irrotational Flows

optional

- Vorticity

$$\boldsymbol{\omega} = \nabla \times \boldsymbol{v}$$

- Vanishes for irrotational flows

- Vector identity

$$\nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{\omega} = \nabla \cdot (\nabla \times \boldsymbol{v}) = 0$$

- Vanishing divergence of vorticity
- For vanishing vorticity, i.e. irrotational flow,  $\boldsymbol{v}$  can be written

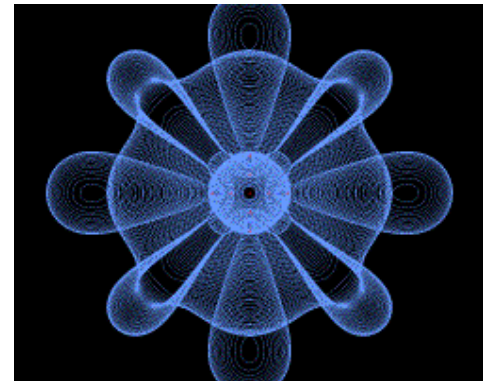
$$\boldsymbol{v} = \nabla \Phi$$

“gradient of a scalar potential  $\Phi$ ”

## 3.2.6. Potential Flow Theory

optional

- Basic building blocks
  - Set of special flow schemes
  - Analogous to multipole concept in electrodynamics
- Mathematical point of view
  - Special instances of Green's function



## 3.2.6. Velocity Potentials (2-dim.)

optional

- Simplification
  - 2-dim. velocity field  $\mathbf{v} = (v_x, v_y)$
- Velocity potential  $\phi$ 
  - Scalar
- Stream function  $\psi$ 
  - Scalar

$$v_x = \frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial y}$$

$$v_y = \frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial y} = -\frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial x}$$

Flow	velocity potential $\Phi$	stream function $\Psi$
uniform stream	$xv_x + yv_y$	$yv_x - xv_y$
source or sink	$\frac{\hat{I}_m}{2\pi} \ln \sqrt{(x-x_0)^2 + (y-y_0)^2}$	$\frac{\hat{I}_m}{2\pi} \tan^{-1} \frac{y-y_0}{x-x_0}$
doublet	$\frac{B_x(x-x_0) + B_y(y-y_0)}{ \mathbf{r}-\mathbf{r}_0 ^2}$	$\frac{B_y(x-x_0) + B_x(y-y_0)}{ \mathbf{r}-\mathbf{r}_0 ^2}$
line vortex	$\frac{\Gamma}{2\pi} \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{y-y_0}{x-x_0} \right)$	$-\frac{\Gamma}{2\pi} \ln  \mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}_0 $

monopole

dipole

**Table 3.1.** Velocity potentials  $\Phi$  and stream functions  $\Psi$  for 2-dimensional irrotational flows

## 3.2.6. Hele-Shaw Table

optional

- Visualization of basic 2-dim. flows
- Uniform stream over floor to drain
- Bottles
  - Raised or lowered to adjust gravitational pressure
  - Connected to through holes
- 2-dim. flow (top view)
- Sources and drains (monopoles)
  - Holes
- Doublets (dipoles)
  - Source and sink very close to each other
  - Bottles spaced by same distance above and below floor
- Sometimes transparent cover to ensure uniform depth

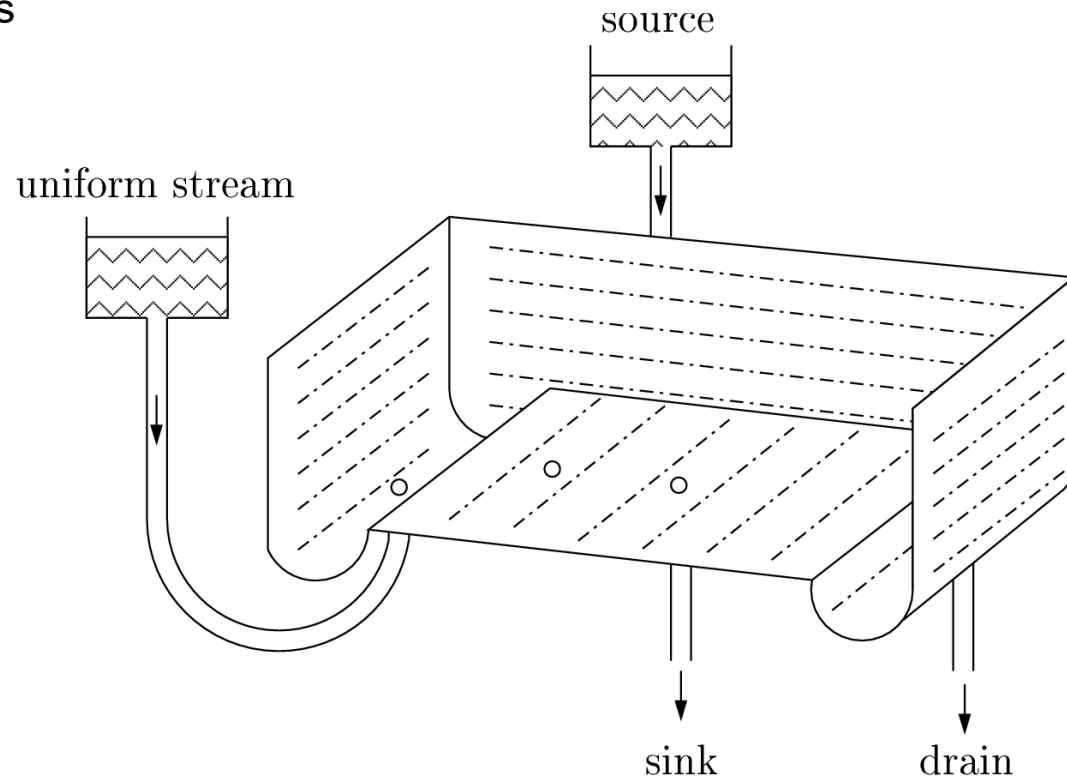


Fig. 3.12. Hele-Shaw table visualizing basic 2-dimensional flow schemes

## 3.2.6. Bernoulli Equation

- Continuity equation

$$0 = \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v} = \nabla^2 \Phi$$

- Frictionless, irrotational flow

- Navier-Stokes

- Rewritten

$$\rho \left( \frac{\partial \mathbf{v}}{\partial t} + \frac{1}{2} \nabla |\mathbf{v}|^2 \right) = -\nabla p + \rho \mathbf{g}$$

- Using vector analysis

$$(\mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{v}) = \left( \frac{1}{2} \nabla |\mathbf{v}|^2 \right) - \mathbf{v} \times (\nabla \times \mathbf{v})$$

vanishing  
vorticity

- General form of Bernoulli

$$\frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial t} + \frac{1}{2} |\mathbf{v}|^2 + |\mathbf{g}|h + \frac{p}{\rho} = f(t)$$

- Bernoulli

- Stationary conditions
- Neglect gravity  $g$
- Integration in space

$$p + \frac{\rho}{2} v^2 = \text{const.}$$

## 3.2. Laminar and Turbulent Flow

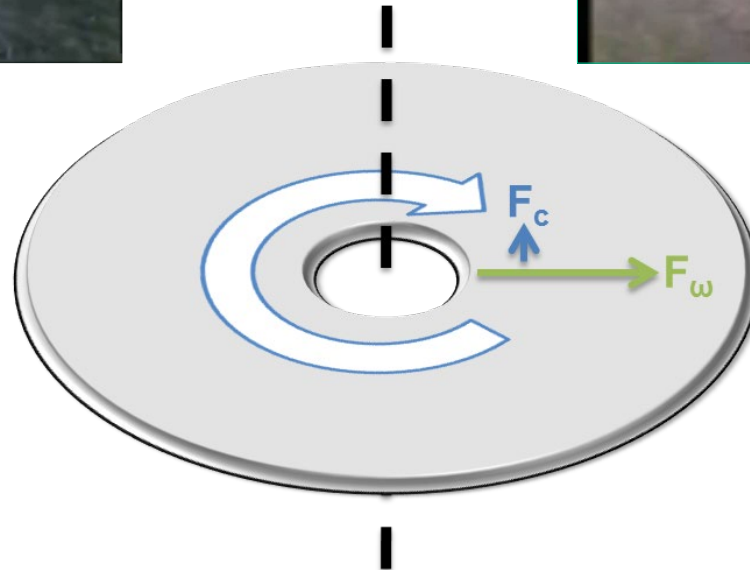
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1. Critical Reynolds Number
2. Shear-Driven Laminar Flow
3. Taylor-Couette Flow
4. Laminar PDF through Tube
5. Laminar PDF through Gap
6. Irrotational Flow
- 7. Centrifugal-Force Driven Flow**
8. Effects in Laminar Flows
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# Centrifugal Microfluidics



Centrifugal  
Force



Coriolis  
Force

# Centrifugal Microfluidics: Force Densities

Centrifugal (artificial gravity)

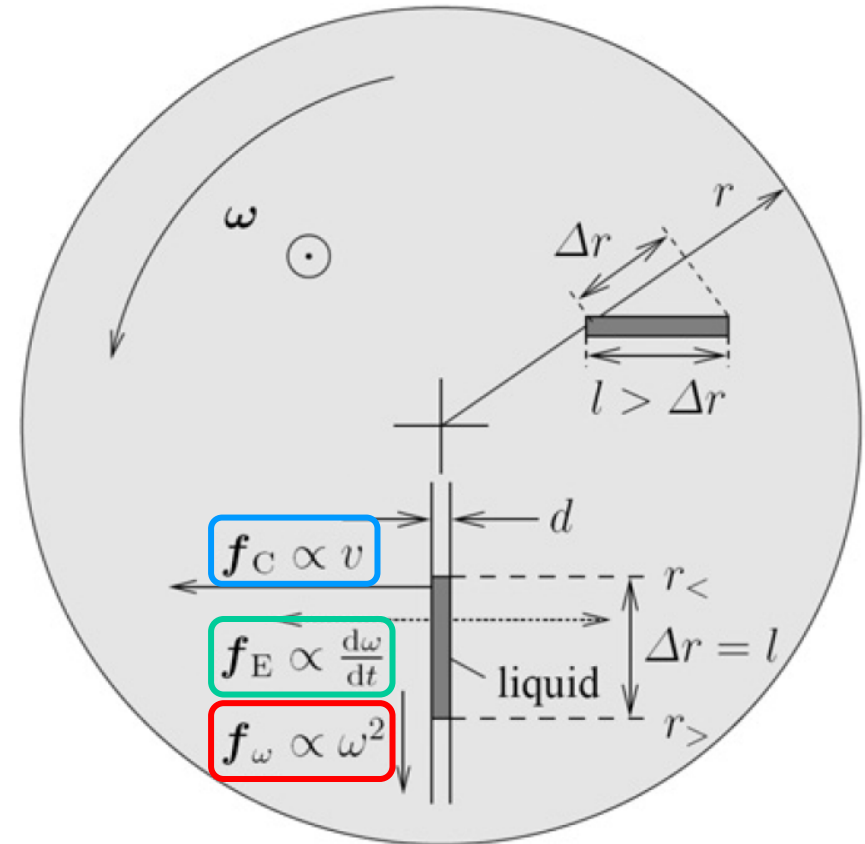
$$f_{\omega} = \rho r \omega^2$$

Euler (annular acceleration)

$$f_E = \rho r \frac{d\omega}{dt}$$

Coriolis (deflection of flows)

$$f_C = 2\rho\omega v$$



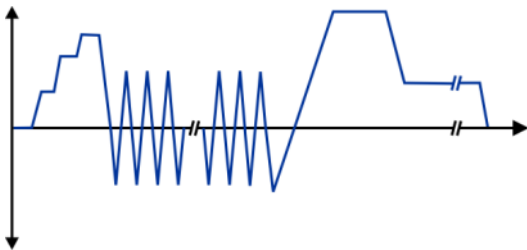
# Centrifugal Microfluidics

- Inertia

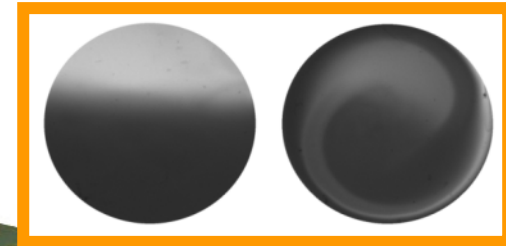
- Centrifugal force  $\propto r\omega^2$

- Euler force  $\propto d\omega/dt$

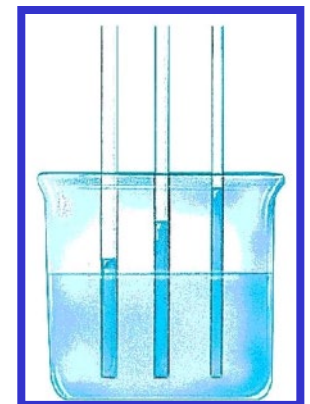
- Coriolis force  $\propto rv\omega$



- Microstructured substrate



- Capillary action



# Centrifugal Microfluidics: Pressure Head

Channel segment of constant cross section  $A$

Liquid segment:

- Density:  $\rho$
- Radial extension:  $\Delta r = r_{>} - r_{<}$
- Mean radial position:  $\bar{r}$

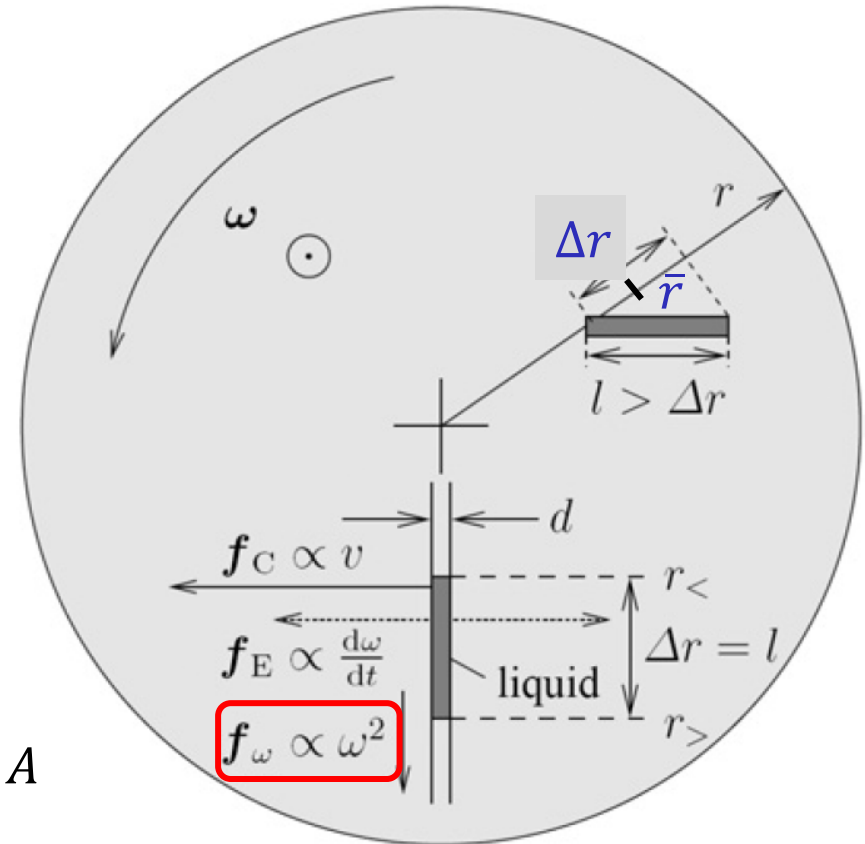
Centrifugal force density

$$f_{\omega} = \rho r \omega^2$$

Centrifugal force on segment:

$$F_{\omega} = \rho \omega^2 A \int_{r_{<}}^{r_{>}} r dr = \frac{1}{2} A \rho \omega^2 (r_{>}^2 - r_{<}^2)$$

$$F_{\omega} = \rho A \cdot \underbrace{\frac{1}{2} (r_{<} + r_{>})}_{\bar{r}} \cdot \underbrace{(r_{>} - r_{<})}_{\Delta r} \cdot \omega^2 = p \cdot A$$



Equivalent pressure head:

$$p_{\omega} = \rho \cdot \bar{r} \cdot \Delta r \cdot \omega^2$$

# Centrifugal Microfluidics: Flow Profile

---

Pressure-driven flow through tube:  
(Hagen-Poiseuille)

- Lateral coordinate of tube:  $x$
- Lateral radius of tube:  $x_0$

$$v_z(r) = \frac{\Delta p}{4\eta l} (x_0^2 - x^2)$$

Equivalent pressure head of segment

- Mean radial position  $\bar{r}$
- Radial extension  $\Delta r = l$

$$p_\omega = \rho \cdot \bar{r} \cdot \Delta r \cdot \omega^2$$

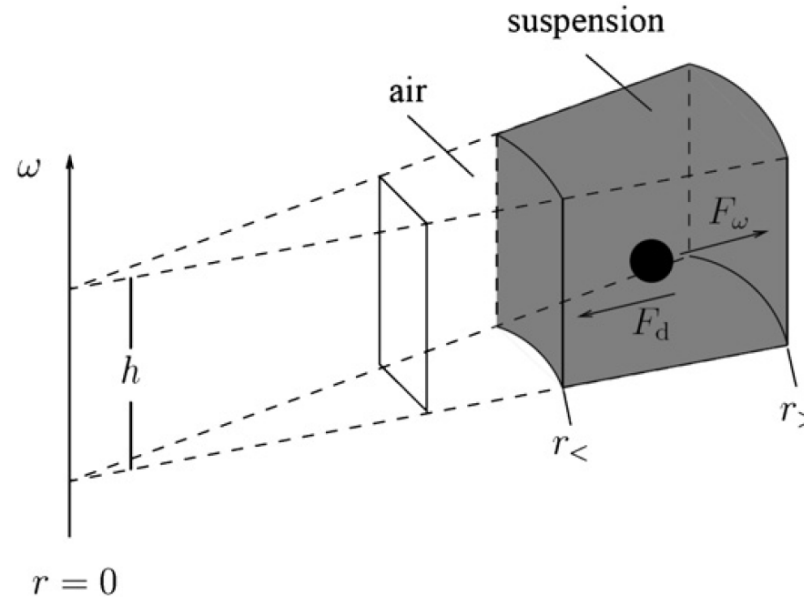
Maximum velocity at centre ( $x = 0$ )

$$v_{\max} = \frac{\rho \cdot \bar{r} \cdot \omega^2}{4\eta} x_0^2$$

Parabolic velocity profile

$$v_z(r) = v_{\max} - \frac{\rho \cdot \bar{r} \cdot \omega^2}{4\eta} x^2$$

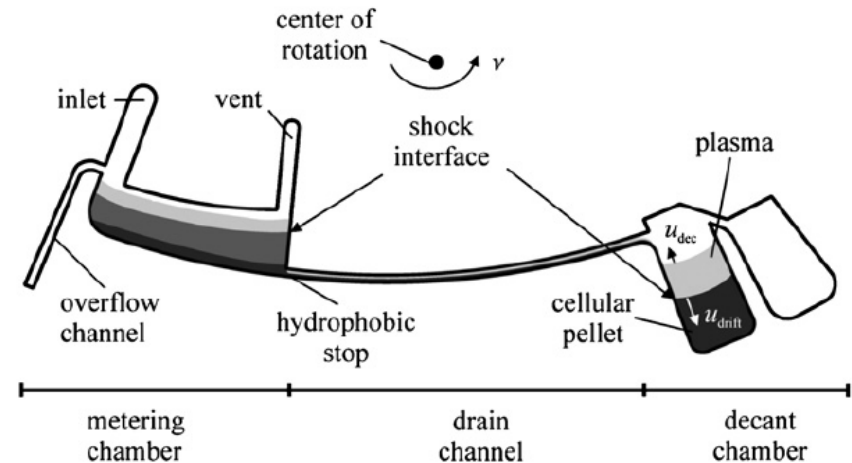
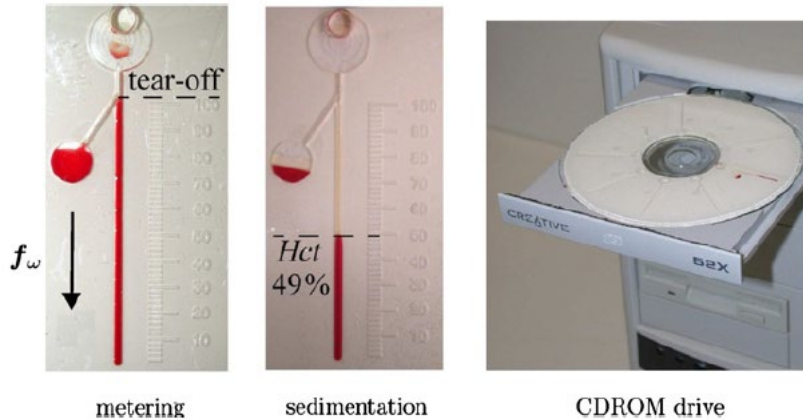
# Centrifugal Microfluidics: Sedimentation



- Object suspended in stationary liquid phase
  - Sphere of radius  $x_0$
  - Radial location  $r$
  - Mass difference  $\Delta m$  with respect to suspending medium
- Constant drift velocity  $v_{\text{drift}}$ 
  - Buoyancy force:  $F_\omega = \Delta m r \omega^2$
  - Stokes drag:  $F_{\text{Stokes}} = 6\pi\eta x_0 v$

$$v_{\text{drift}} = \frac{\Delta m r \omega^2}{6\pi\eta x_0}$$

# Centrifugal Microfluidics: Shock Interface



- Whole blood
- Suspended cells
  - Primarily RBCs
- Emergence of plasma interface  $r_*(t)$
- Sedimentation coefficient

$$r_*(t) = r_0 e^{S_0 \omega^2 t}$$

$$S = \frac{v_r}{\omega^2 r} = \frac{m}{f} \left( 1 - \frac{\rho_{\text{liquid}}}{\rho_{\text{part}}} \right)$$

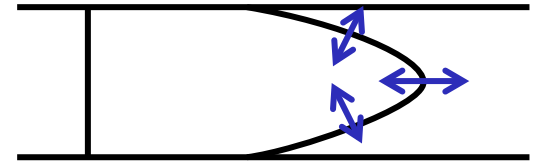
## 3.2. Laminar and Turbulent Flow

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## 3.2.8. Taylor Dispersion

- Axial dispersion of solute in laminar flow
  - Dispersion of drugs in blood flow



- Situation

- Steady state flow
- Round tube

$$\frac{\partial \bar{c}}{\partial t} + \bar{v} \frac{\partial \bar{c}}{\partial z} = D \frac{\partial^2 \bar{c}}{\partial z^2}$$

- Hypothetical absence of diffusion

- Solute follows flow profile

- Molecular diffusion

- Counteracts dispersion
- Axial spreading at  $\sqrt{D_{\text{eff}} t}$
- Radial diffusion exchanges solute molecules between layers

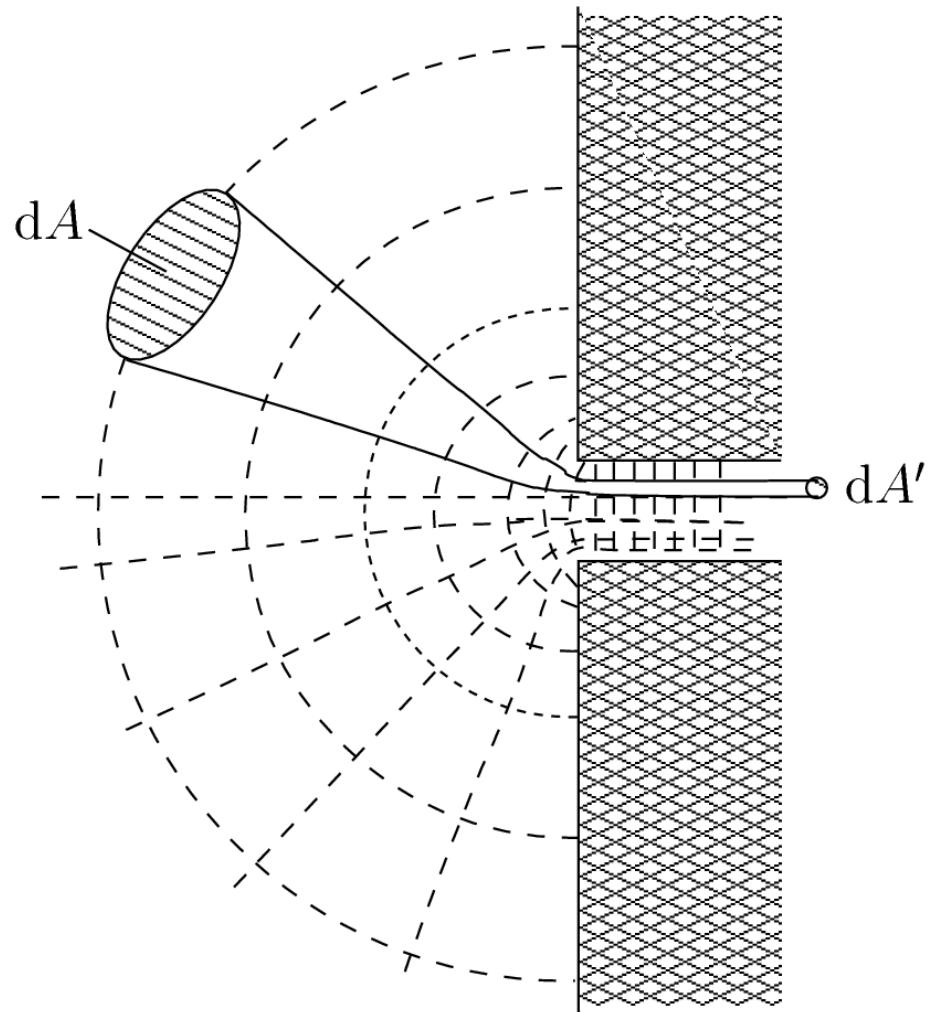
$$D = D \left( 1 + \frac{1}{48} \frac{\bar{v}^2 r_0^2}{D^2} \right)$$

- MF example

- $v = 1 \text{ mm s}^{-1}$ ,  $r_0 = 100 \text{ } \mu\text{m}$ ,  $D = 3 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m}^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$
- Second term prevails over unity
- Effective constant for axial diffusion  $\sim D(1 + c D^{-2})$

## 3.2.8. Hydrodynamic Focusing

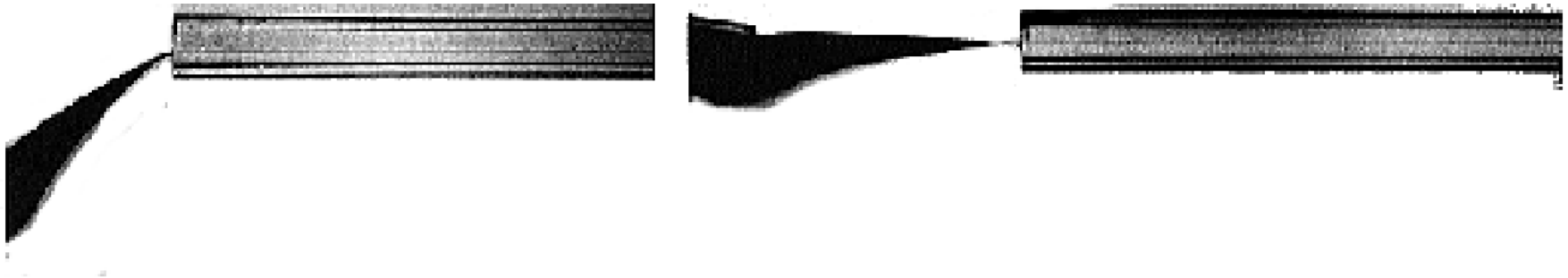
- Situation
  - Microscopic tip at end of capillary
  - Sucking in liquid from larger vessel
  - Laminar regime
- Full solid angle projected onto tiny orifice cross section



## 3.2.8. Hydrodynamic Focusing

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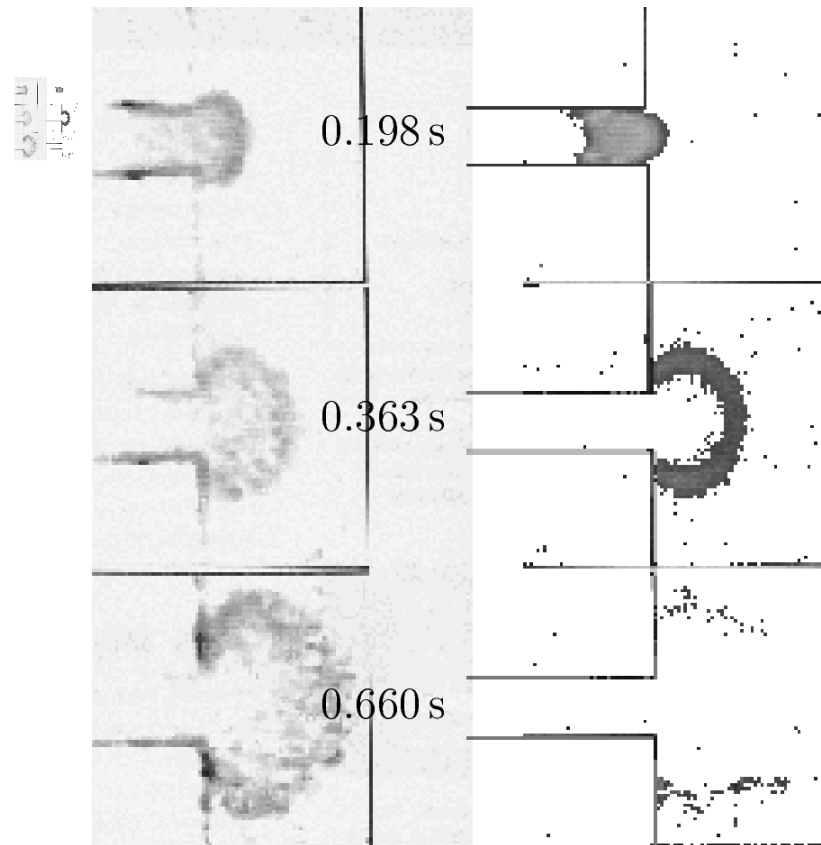
- Example:
  - Ink dispenser near orifice of capillary
  - Vertical position within capillary adjusts to transversal shift of dispenser



**Fig. 3.12.** By hydrodynamic focusing, a thread of ink is drawn into the capillary. Depending on the position of the ink dispenser, the vertical position of the thread within the capillary shifts

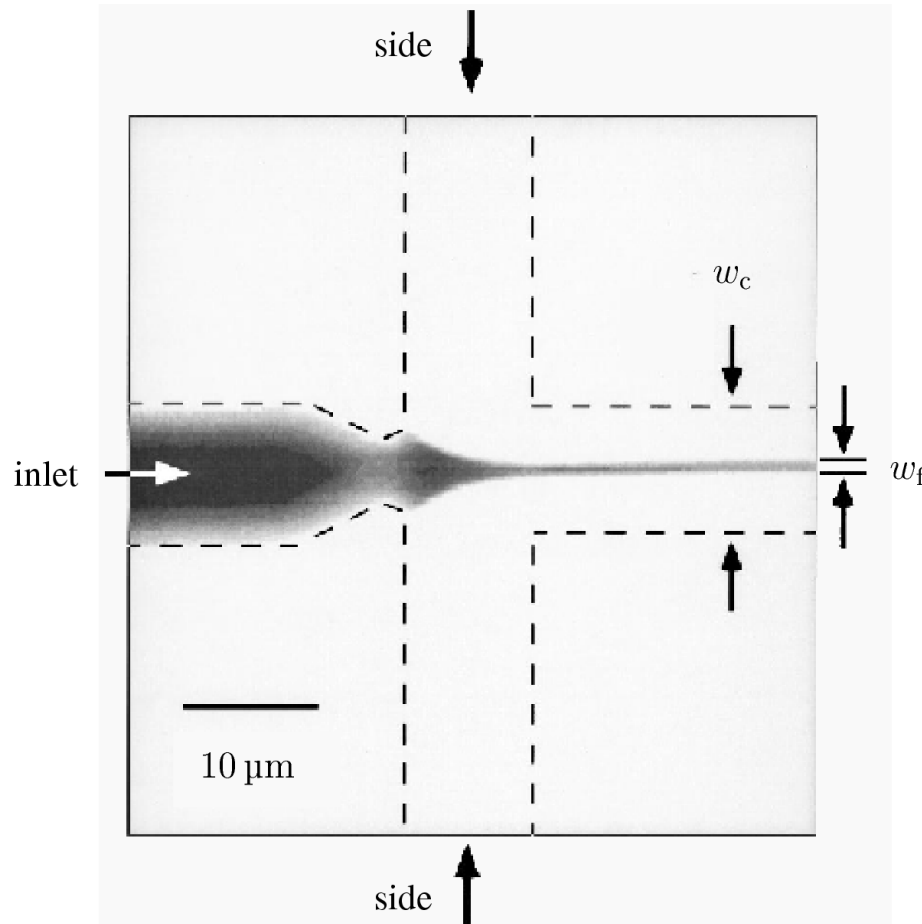
## 3.2.8. Reversed Experiment

- Fluid plug expelled from orifice of capillary into larger tank
- Small velocity
  - Laminar
- High velocity
  - Turbulent



**Fig. 3.13.** Fluid plug exiting a capillary in the turbulent (left) and laminar regime (right). As long as laminar flow conditions are preserved, a reversal of hydrodynamic focusing of Fig. 3.12 is observed which later resolves into turbulence

## 3.2.8. Application to Cytometry and Mixing



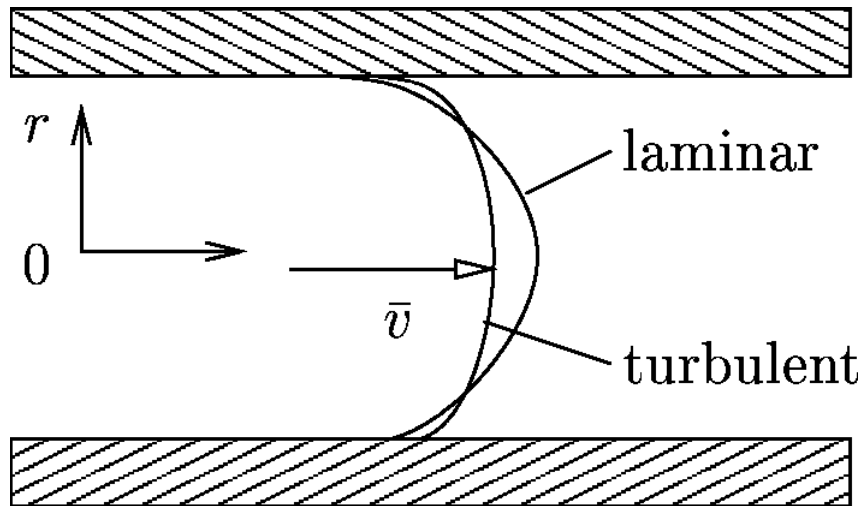
**Fig. 3.14.** Hydrodynamic focusing used for mixing inlet and side channel streams on the millisecond scale. A side channel pressure of 344.6 hPa and a ratio of 1.1 between side and inlet channel pressure are applied. The edges of the channels are outlined with a dashed line for reference. The variables  $w_c$  and  $w_f$  describe the width of the channel ( $10\ \mu\text{m}$ ) and the width of the focused inlet stream

## 3.2. Laminar and Turbulent Flow

---

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## 3.2.9. Turbulent Flows



- Turbulent flow in tube for  $Re > Re_{crit}$
- Turbulent profile
  - Velocity vectors unpredictably oscillating in time
  - Time-averaged profile
  - Much flatter profile than laminar flow
  - Tendency for flattening grows with  $Re$

## 3.2.9. Turbulent Flows

- Throughput according to Blasius (1883-1970)
  - Approximations well above  $3Re^*$

Laminar

$$I_V = \frac{\pi}{8\eta} \frac{\Delta p}{l} r_0^4$$

$$I_V^{\text{turb}} = \frac{dV}{dt} = A\bar{v}_{\text{turb}} = 4.71\pi \left[ \left( \frac{\Delta p}{l} \right)^4 \frac{r_0^{19}}{\eta \rho^3} \right]^{1/7} \propto \left( \frac{\Delta p}{l} \right)^{0.57} r_0^{2.71}$$

- Mean velocity

$$\bar{v} = \frac{\Delta p}{8\eta l} r_0^2$$

$$\bar{v}_{\text{turb}} = 4.71 \left[ \left( \frac{\Delta p}{l} \right)^4 \frac{r_0^5}{\eta \rho^3} \right]^{1/7} \propto \left( \frac{\Delta p}{l} \right)^{0.57} r_0^{0.71}$$

## 3.2.9. Scaling of Mean Velocity

optional

Turbulent

Laminar

$$\bar{v}_{\text{turb}} \propto \left( \frac{\Delta p}{l} \right)^{4/7} \quad \text{and} \quad \bar{v}_{\text{lam}} \propto \frac{\Delta p}{l} \quad \text{Pressure gradient}$$

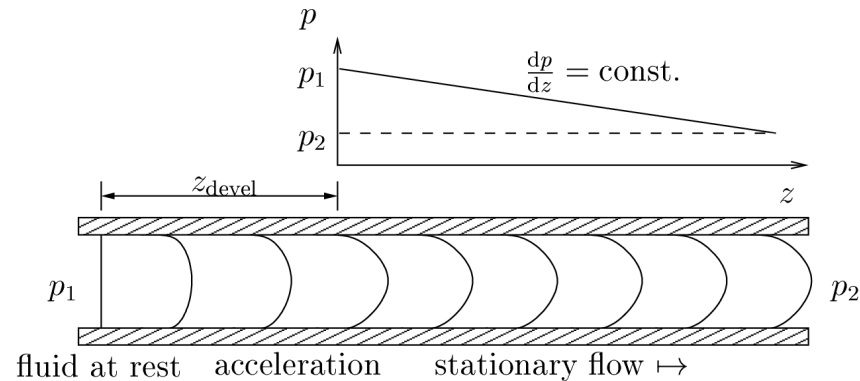
$$\bar{v}_{\text{turb}} \propto r_0^{5/7} \quad \text{and} \quad \bar{v}_{\text{lam}} \propto r_0^2 \quad \text{Radius}$$

$$\bar{v}_{\text{turb}}(\rho) \propto \rho^{-3/7} \quad \text{and} \quad \bar{v}_{\text{lam}}(\rho) = \text{const.} \quad \text{Density}$$

$$\bar{v}_{\text{turb}}(\eta) \propto \eta^{-1/7} \quad \text{and} \quad \bar{v}_{\text{lam}} \propto \eta^{-1} \quad \text{Viscosity}$$

- Same pressure gradient applied to tube
  - Smaller turbulent flow velocity
- Turbulent velocity varies with density  $\rho$ 
  - Flow energy dissipated by turbulent mixing
- Laminar flow
  - Viscous forces between smoothly sliding layers
- Turbulent regime
  - Enhanced flow resistance

## 3.2.9. Entrance Effects



**Fig. 3.17.** Evolution of the velocity profile  $v(r)$  in the entrance region of a tube for a constant pressure gradient after laminar flow regime has been entered

- Laminar

$$z_{\text{devel}} \simeq 0.12r_0Re$$

- Turbulent

$$z_{\text{devel}} \simeq 8.8r_0Re^{1/6}$$

- Microfluidic systems

➤  $Re \sim 1$  and  $r_0 = 100 \mu\text{m}$

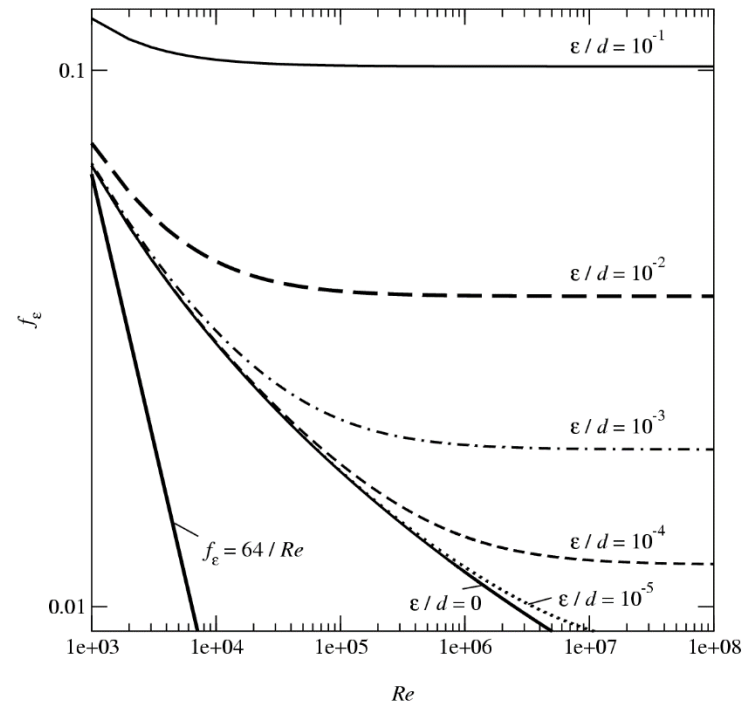
$$z_{\text{devel}} = 10 \mu\text{m} \text{ (laminar)}$$

## 3.2.9. Friction Losses

optional

- Surface roughness
- Local eddy formation
- Darcy-Weissbach relation
  - Pressure loss
  - Flow velocity
  - Friction factor

$$\Delta p_\epsilon = f_\epsilon \frac{\rho l v^2}{2d}$$



**Fig. 3.18.** Moody chart expressing the Darcy friction factor  $f_\epsilon$  as a function of the Reynolds number  $Re$  as obtained from (??). The curves are parametrized by the relative surface roughness  $\epsilon/d$ . The vertical line  $Re = 2300$  separates the laminar from the turbulent regime

$$f_\epsilon = f_\epsilon\left(Re, \frac{\epsilon}{d}, A\right) = \frac{\tau_{\text{wall}}}{\frac{1}{2}\rho v^2}$$

$f_\epsilon = \text{const.}$  for smooth tube and laminar conditions

## 3.2.9. Roughness-Viscosity Model

optional

- Surface roughness induces turbulence in boundary layer
  - Surface roughness height  $\epsilon$
- Roughness viscosity

$$\eta_\epsilon(r) = \eta A_\epsilon Re_\epsilon \frac{r}{\epsilon} \left[ 1 - \exp\left(-\frac{Re_\epsilon r}{Re \epsilon}\right) \right]^2$$

- Surface roughness Reynolds number

$$Re_\epsilon = \frac{\epsilon v_\epsilon}{\nu} \simeq \left( \frac{\partial v}{\partial r} \right)_{r=r_0} \frac{\epsilon^2}{\nu}$$

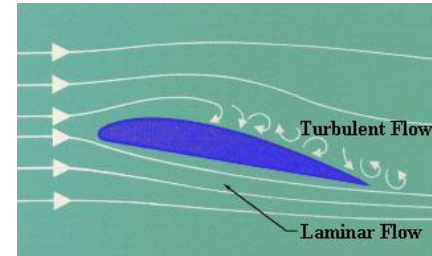
- Empirical factor

$$A_\epsilon = 0.1306 \left( \frac{r_0}{\epsilon} \right)^{0.3693} \exp \left[ Re \left( 6 \times 10^{-5} \frac{r_0}{\epsilon} - 0.0029 \right) \right]$$

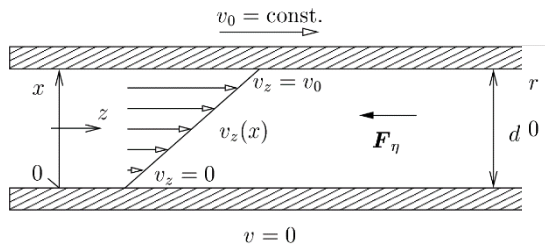
# Summary I

(Critical)  
Reynolds  
number

$$Re = \frac{\rho_{\infty} \tilde{v} \tilde{l}}{\eta} = \frac{\tilde{v} \tilde{l}}{\nu}$$

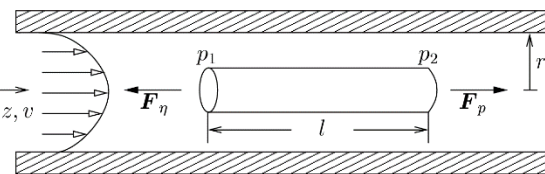
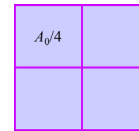


Shear-driven flow



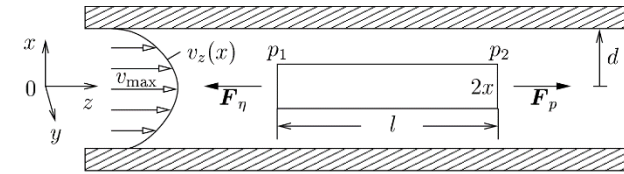
$$v_z(x) = \frac{x}{d} v_0$$

Pressure-driven flow



$$I_V = \frac{\pi}{8\eta} \frac{\Delta p}{l} r_0^4$$

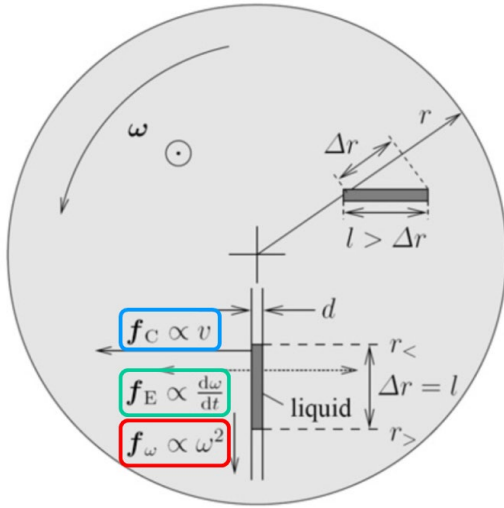
$$v_z(r) = \frac{\Delta p}{4\eta l} (r_0^2 - r^2) \quad v_{\max} = \frac{\Delta p}{4\eta l} r_0^2$$



$$v_{\max} = \frac{\Delta p}{2\eta l} d^2$$

$$\frac{I_V}{y} = 2 \int_0^d v(x) dx = \frac{h^3}{12\eta} \frac{dp}{dz}$$

# Summary II



Rotationally induced force densities

Centrifugal (artificial gravity):  $f_{\omega} = \rho r \omega^2$

Euler (annular acceleration):  $f_E = \rho r \frac{d\omega}{dt}$

Coriolis (deflection of flows):  $f_C = 2\rho\omega v$

Particle sedimentation

$$v_{\text{drift}} = \frac{\Delta m r \omega^2}{6\pi\eta x_0}$$

Pressure head

$$p_{\omega} = \rho \cdot \bar{r} \cdot \Delta r \cdot \omega^2$$

Flow profile

$$v_z(r) = \frac{\Delta p}{4\eta l} (x_0^2 - x^2)$$

