

# Dimensional Analysis - Concepts

- **Physical quantities:**  $R_j = v(R_j)[R_j] = \text{value} \cdot \text{unit}$ ,  $j = 1, \dots, m$ .
- **Units:**  $[R_j] = F_1^{a_{1j}} \cdots F_n^{a_{nj}}$ ,  $F_1, \dots, F_n$  fundamental units.

- **Dimension matrix** of  $R_1, \dots, R_m$ :  $A = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & \cdots & a_{1m} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & \cdots & a_{nm} \end{bmatrix}$

- **Change of units**  $\Rightarrow$  change of values:

**Lemma 1:**  $F_i = x_i \hat{F}_i$ ,  $x_i > 0 \Rightarrow \hat{v}(R_j) = x_1^{a_{1j}} \cdots x_n^{a_{nj}} v(R_j)$

- **Dimensionless combination:**  $\pi = R_1^{\lambda_1} \cdots R_m^{\lambda_m}$  if  $\vec{\lambda} \neq 0$ ,  $[\pi] = 1$
- **Dimensionally independent**  $R_1, \dots, R_s$  if no dimensionless comb'ns exist
- **Physical relations**  $\Phi(R_1, \dots, R_m) = 0$  are **dimensionally consistent**, i.e.

$$\Phi(v(R_1), \dots, v(R_m)) = 0 \Leftrightarrow \Phi(\hat{v}(R_1), \dots, \hat{v}(R_m)) = 0$$

for all changes of units  $\hat{F}_i$ . (**consistent under change of units**)

# Dimensional Analysis - Buckingham's pi-theorem

- (A1)  $F_1, \dots, F_n$  are fundamental units
- (A2)  $R_1, \dots, R_m$  are physical quantities
- (A3)  $\Phi(R_1, \dots, R_m) = 0$  is dimensionally consistent.

**Lemma 2:** Let  $r = \text{rank } A$ , then  $R_1, \dots, R_m$  have  $m - r$  independent dimensionless combinations.

**OBS:** The rank = number of linearly independent columns in the matrix.

## Buckingham's pi-theorem:

If (A1) – (A3) hold, then there are  $m - r$  independent dimensionless combinations, and for any set of  $m - r$  independent dimensionless combinations  $\pi_1, \dots, \pi_{m-r}$ , there is a relation  $\Psi$  such that

$$\Phi(R_1, \dots, R_m) = 0 \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \Psi(\pi_1, \dots, \pi_{m-r}) = 0,$$

where  $r = \text{rank } A$  and  $A$  is the  $n \times m$  dimension matrix of  $R_1, \dots, R_m$ .

It remains to prove **Lemma 2** and the **Pi-theorem**.

# Scaling and non-dimensionalizing

Produce dimensionless  $O(1)$  variables and dim.less eq'ns with terms  $\lesssim 1$

Scaling a variable  $u^*$ :  $u^* = Uu$  where

scaled variable:  $u \sim 1$ ,  $[u] = 1$

scaling constant:  $U \sim \max |u^*|$ ,  $[U] = [u^*]$

Scaling/nondimensionalizing an equation:

- 1 scaling all variables in the equation
- 2 dividing the resulting equation by  $\sim$  biggest coefficient.

Finding scales:

- look for combinations of the parameters
- balance 2 dominating ("biggest") terms in the equation (using that all scaled variables should be  $O(1)$ )
- solve a reduced problem to find estimates
- typical time scale for  $u^*(t^*)$ :

$$T = \frac{\max |u^*|}{\max \left| \frac{du^*}{dt^*} \right|}$$

# Remarks on scaling

**Remark 1:** 2 dominating terms balanced

⇒ their coefficients are equal and  $\sim$  biggest in equation.

⇒ dividing scaled equation by this coefficient:

All variables and coefficients become  
dimensionless,

$\lesssim 1$ , and

2 coefficients = 1.

**Remark 2:** Different situations ⇒ different scales

$\max |x^*|$ ,  $\max |t^*|$ ,  $\max |u^*|$ , etc., and the dominating terms in the equation depend on the situation.

**Remark 3:** Advantages of scaling:

- minimize the number of parameters/coefficients (experiments!!),
- normalize all variables and coefficients,
- reduce round-off errors in subsequent numerical calculations,
- make small terms visible ⇒ easy to do approximations/perturbation.

# Regular Perturbation

Given scaled(!) equation:  $\ddot{x} = -\frac{1}{(1 + \varepsilon x)^2}$ ,  $0 < \varepsilon \ll 1$ .

1. **Perturbation Assumption:**  $x = x_0 + \varepsilon x_1 + \varepsilon^2 x_2 + \dots$
2. Insert into equation, expand as **power series in  $\varepsilon$** :

$$\begin{aligned}\ddot{x}_0 + \varepsilon \ddot{x}_1 + \varepsilon^2 \ddot{x}_2 + \dots &= -\frac{1}{\left(1 + \varepsilon(x_0 + \varepsilon x_1 + \dots)\right)^2} \\ &= -1 + 2\varepsilon(x_0 + \varepsilon x_1 + \dots) - 3\varepsilon^2(x_0 + \varepsilon x_1 + \dots)^2 + \dots \\ &= -1 + \varepsilon 2x_0 + \varepsilon^2(2x_1 - 3x_0^2) + \dots\end{aligned}$$

3. Equate terms of **same order in  $\varepsilon$**   $\rightarrow$  equations for  $x_0, x_1, \dots$ :

$$O(1): \quad \ddot{x}_0 = -1$$

$$O(\varepsilon): \quad \ddot{x}_1 = 2x_0$$

$$O(\varepsilon^2): \quad \ddot{x}_2 = 2x_1 - 3x_0^2$$

5. Solve these equations **recursively** for  $x_0, x_1, x_2, \dots$ .

# Singular Perturbation

## Signs:

- Multiple time/space scales
- Initial/boundary layers
- Small parameter multiplying principal term
- Naive approximation changes problem completely

## Facts:

- No single scale is good for complete resolution of problem
- Different regions, different scales, different (re)scaled equations
- Scales found by balancing terms in equation
- In each region regular perturbation works
- Matching conditions between perturbation sol'n's of different regions

# Singular Perturbation – first approximation

$$\varepsilon y'' + 2y' + y = 0, \quad 0 < x < 1; \quad y(0) = 0, \quad y(1) = 1; \quad 0 < \varepsilon \ll 1.$$

1. **Guess** where boundary layer is:  $x = a$ . Here  $a = 0$ .
2. **Outer solution**  $y_O$ . Set  $\varepsilon = 0$  and solve **equation** and boundary condition **outside** boundary layer:

$$2y'_O + y_O = 0; \quad y_O(1) = 1 \implies y_O(x) = e^{\frac{1}{2} - \frac{x}{2}}.$$

3. Find **length of boundary layer**  $\delta$  (the other *consistent* space scale) by **balancing terms**  $\rightarrow \dots \delta = \varepsilon$ .
4. **Rescale** equation:  $(x, y) = (\delta\xi, Y) \rightarrow Y''(\xi) + 2Y'(\xi) + \varepsilon Y(\xi) = 0$
5. **Inner solution**  $y_I$ . Set  $\varepsilon = 0$  and solve **rescaled equation** and boundary condition **inside** boundary layer.

$$y''_I + 2y_I = 0, \quad y_I(0) = 0 \implies y_I(\xi) = C(1 - e^{-2\xi}).$$

6. **Matching**.  $y_O \approx y_I$  in **intermediate region**  $\xrightarrow{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \dots C = e^{\frac{1}{2}}$  (approx'n!)
7. **Uniform solution**:  $y_U(x) = y_O(x) + y_I\left(\frac{x}{\delta}\right) - \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} y_O(\Theta\eta)$

# Equilibrium points

1. **Equilibrium point** = constant solution  $u_e$  (e.g. of ODEs or PDEs)
2. An equilibrium point  $u_e$  is **stable** if all solutions starting near  $u_e$ , remain near  $u_e$  for all  $t \geq 0$ .
3. **Linear stability analysis**
  - 1 Write solution  $u = u_e + \tilde{u}$ ,  $\tilde{u}$  small perturbation
  - 2 Linearize equation(s) about  $u_e$ :  
insert  $u = u_e + \tilde{u}$  into equation(s)  
drop small(=non-linear in  $\tilde{u}$ ) terms  
Result: linear equation(s) for  $\tilde{u}$ ,  
with equilibrium point  $\tilde{u}_e = 0$ .
  - 3 Check stability of  $\tilde{u}_e = 0$  (linearized equation(s)!!)
  - 4 Conclusion:  $\tilde{u}_e = 0$  stable/unstable indicate that  $u_e$  stable/unstable.
4. Over time all physical systems tend to be at their stable equilibrium solutions! (... always small disturbances ...)



# Aggregation of Amoeba

**Background:** *Lack of food*  $\rightarrow$  amoeba produce attractant and aggregate.

**Question:**

Can onset of aggregation be caused by simple, unintelligent mechanism?

**Model near onset of aggregation:**

- **Physical quantities:**

$a(x, t)$ ,  $c(x, t)$  = amoeba, attractant densities; parameters

- **Modelling (conservation+diffusion+attraction+production+decay):**

$$(1) \quad a_t = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (ka_x - lac_x), \quad c_t = Dc_{xx} + q_1a - q_2c.$$

- **Equilibrium points** (=constant solutions):

Constants  $(a_0, c_0)$  such that  $q_1a_0 = q_2c_0$ .

- **Linearize equation around  $(a_0, c_0)$ :**

$a = a_0 + \tilde{a}$ ,  $c = c_0 + \tilde{c}$ ;  $\tilde{a}, \tilde{c}$  small; drop small terms

$$(2) \quad \tilde{a}_t = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (k\tilde{a}_x - la_0\tilde{c}_x), \quad \tilde{c}_t = D\tilde{c}_{xx} + q_1\tilde{a} - q_2\tilde{c}.$$

# Aggregation of Amoeba

$$(2) \quad \tilde{a}_t = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (k\tilde{a}_x - la_0\tilde{c}_x), \quad \tilde{c}_t = D\tilde{c}_{xx} + q_1\tilde{a} - q_2\tilde{c}.$$

- **Particular solutions of (2):** Fourier modes/eigenfunctions

$$(\tilde{a}, \tilde{c}) = e^{\alpha t} \cos(\beta x) (C_1, C_2)$$

solve (2) iff

- $\alpha^2 + b\alpha + c = 0$  for

$$b = k\beta^2 + D\beta^2 + q_2 \quad \text{and} \quad c = kq_2\beta^2 + kD\beta^4 - q_1la_0\beta^2,$$

- $(C_1, C_2)$  satisfy two linear equations (last time).

Every  $\beta \in \mathbb{R} \rightarrow$  two real  $\alpha$  + linear subspace of solutions  $(C_1, C_2)$

- **Boundedness of solutions of (2):**

$$(\tilde{a}, \tilde{c}) \text{ bounded} \Leftrightarrow \alpha \leq 0 \Leftrightarrow c \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow \boxed{kD\beta^2 + kq_2 \geq q_1la_0}$$

- **Unboundedness:**  $kq_2 < q_1la_0 \Rightarrow (\tilde{a}, \tilde{c})$  blow up at  $\infty$  for  $\beta \ll 1$ 
  - Take  $C_1, C_2$  arbitrarily small  $\Rightarrow (0, 0)$  unstable equilibrium pt. of (2)
  - Indicate that  $(a_0, c_0) (\Leftrightarrow (\tilde{a}, \tilde{c}) = (0, 0))$  **unstable equi. pt.** of (1)

# Conservation in Continuum Mechanics

**The transport theorem:**  $R(t) = \{x(t) : \dot{x} = \vec{v}(x, t), x(t_0) = x_0 \in R(t_0)\}$   
$$\frac{d}{dt} \int_{R(t)} f(x, t) dx \Big|_{t=t_0} = \frac{d}{dt} \int_{R(t_0)} f(x, t) dx \Big|_{t=t_0} + \int_{\partial R(t_0)} f(x, t_0) (\vec{v} \cdot \vec{n}) d\sigma$$

**Conservation of mass and momentum:**

$$(1) \quad \frac{d}{dt} \int_R \rho dx + \int_{\partial R} \rho (\vec{v} \cdot \vec{n}) d\sigma = \int_R q dx.$$

$$(2) \quad \frac{d}{dt} \int_R \rho \vec{v} dx + \int_{\partial R} \rho \vec{v} (\vec{v} \cdot \vec{n}) d\sigma$$

$\stackrel{\text{Transp. thm.}}{=} \frac{d}{dt} \int_{R(t)} \rho \vec{v} dx \quad \stackrel{\text{Newton's 2nd law}}{=} \int_{R(t)} \vec{f}_B dx + \int_{\partial R(t)} \vec{f}_S d\sigma$   
body forces                      surface forces

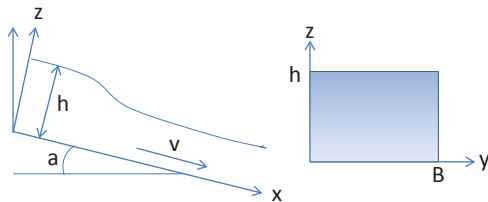
**Newtonian fluid:**  $\vec{f}_S = T \cdot \vec{n}$ ,  $T_{ij} = -\left(p + \frac{2}{3}\mu \nabla \cdot \vec{v}\right) \delta_{ij} + \mu \left(\frac{\partial v_i}{\partial x_j} - \frac{\partial v_j}{\partial x_i}\right)$

**Differential form - the Navier-Stokes equations:**

$$(1') \quad \rho_t + \nabla \cdot (\rho \vec{v}) = q$$

$$(2') \quad (\rho v_i)_t + \nabla \cdot (\rho v_i \vec{v}) = f_{B,i} - \frac{\partial p}{\partial x_i} + \mu \left(\nabla^2 v_i + \frac{1}{3} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} (\nabla \cdot \vec{v})\right), \quad i = 1, 2, 3$$

# Flow in rivers – the shallow water equations



## Assumptions:

- 1  $v, h$  depend only on  $x, t$ ;  $a$  small;  $\rho = \text{const.}$
- 2 Dominant forces in  $x$ -direction:
  - 1 Gravity  $\vec{f}_g \cdot \vec{e}_x = \rho g \sin a$
  - 2 Hydrostatic pressure  $\vec{f}_p \cdot \vec{e}_x \approx -\rho g(h - z)(\vec{n} \cdot \vec{e}_x)$
  - 3 Bottom friction  $\vec{f}_f \cdot \vec{e}_x = -\rho C_f v^2$

**Control volume:**  $R = \{(x, y, z) : x \in [x_0, x_0 + \Delta x], y \in [0, B], z \in [0, h(x, t_0)]\}$

**Conservation of mass and momentum in  $x$ -direction:**

$$\frac{d}{dt} \int_R \rho \, dx + \int_{\partial R} \rho (\vec{v} \cdot \vec{n}) \, d\sigma = 0,$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \int_R \rho v \, dx + \int_{\partial R} \rho v (\vec{v} \cdot \vec{n}) \, d\sigma = \int_R \vec{f}_g \cdot \vec{e}_x \, dx + \int_{\partial R} (\vec{f}_p + \vec{f}_f) \cdot \vec{e}_x \, d\sigma.$$

# Flow in rivers – the shallow water equations

Compute all integrals, divide by common factor  $\rho B$ :

$$\frac{d}{dt} \int_{x_0}^{x_0+\Delta x} h \, dx + [(vh)(x_0 + \Delta x) - (vh)(x_0)] = 0,$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} \int_{x_0}^{x_0+\Delta x} vh \, dx + [(v^2h)(x_0 + \Delta x) - (v^2h)(x_0)] \\ = \int_{x_0}^{x_0+\Delta x} gh \sin a \, dx - \frac{g}{2} [h^2(x_0 + \Delta x) - h^2(x_0)] - \int_{x_0}^{x_0+\Delta x} C_f v^2 \, dx. \end{aligned}$$

Divide by  $\Delta x$ , let  $\Delta x \rightarrow 0$ :

$$\frac{\partial h}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x}(vh) = 0,$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t}(vh) + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left( v^2h + \frac{g}{2} h^2 \right) = gh \sin a - C_f v^2.$$

This is the shallow water equations or St. Venant system.