

Gas dynamics

• Assumptions

- particle mean free paths \ll size of the region
 \rightarrow volume elements with average velocity u , density ρ , pressure P , temperature $T \rightarrow$ hydrodynamics equations: conservation of mass, momentum and energy
- local equilibrium \rightarrow Maxwell distribution for particle velocities within a volume element
- plane parallel flow geometry (1D) \rightarrow volume element dV is a cuboid with length dx along the flow and unit area perpendicular to flow
- first order

• Conservation equations

- **Mass conservation** (continuity equation)
 - * mass of $dV = \rho dx$
 - * no sources or sinks of material within dV

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial}{\partial t}(\rho dx) &= \overbrace{\rho u}^{\text{incoming}} - \overbrace{(\rho + d\rho)(u + du)}^{\text{outgoing}} \\ &= -(\rho du + u d\rho + \cancel{d\rho du}) \end{aligned}$$

$$\boxed{\frac{\partial}{\partial t}(\rho) + \frac{\partial}{\partial x}(\rho \cdot u) = 0}$$

- * mass loss and gain terms could be added
- * time-independent: $\rho u = \text{constant}$

– **Momentum conservation** (Euler's equation)

- * momentum of $dV = \rho dx \cdot u$
- * change of momentum due to fluid flow
and gas pressure acting on the surface of dV

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t}(\rho u dx) = \rho u^2 - \underbrace{(\rho + d\rho)(u + du)^2}_{\rho u^2 + 2\rho u du + \cancel{\rho du^2} + u^2 d\rho + \cancel{2u d\rho du} + \cancel{d\rho du^2}} - dP$$

$$\rho \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + u \overbrace{\left(-u \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial x} - \rho \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \right)}^{\partial \rho / \partial t} + 2\rho u \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + u^2 \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial x} = -\frac{\partial P}{\partial x}$$

$$\boxed{\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = -\frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial P}{\partial x}}$$

- * further terms could be added,
accounting for forces due to
gravity,
magnetic fields,
radiation field,
viscosity
- * viscous force: due to “internal friction” in the fluid
(resistivity of the fluid to the flow)

$$\propto \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}$$

usually much smaller than force due to gas pressure,
important in high-speed flows with large velocity gradients

- * time-independent: $\rho u^2 + P = \text{constant}$

– Energy conservation

* thermodynamics – 1st law:

heat change in a system

= change in internal energy + work done on surroundings

$$dQ = dU + PdV$$

* internal energy for ideal gas:

monoatomic: kinetic energy of translations

$$U = \frac{3}{2}kT \text{ per particle}$$

diatomic: + kinetic energy of rotations

$$U = \frac{5}{2}kT$$

polyatomic: $U = \frac{6}{2}kT$

* heat change given by specific heat capacities

constant volume ($dV = 0$): $(\frac{dQ}{dT})_V = (\frac{dU}{dT})_V \equiv Mc_V$

$$\rightarrow dQ = Mc_V dT + Nk dT \text{ (with ideal gas eos)}$$

constant pressure: $(\frac{dQ}{dT})_P \equiv Mc_P = Mc_V + Nk$

M ... total mass, N ... total number of particles

* ratio of specific heat capacities

$$\gamma \equiv \frac{c_P}{c_V} = \frac{c_V + Nk/M}{c_V}$$

$$\text{monoatomic gas : } c_V = \frac{1}{M} \frac{dU}{dT} = \frac{d}{dT} \frac{3}{2} kT \frac{N}{M} \rightarrow \gamma = \frac{5}{3}$$

$$\text{diatomic: } \gamma = \frac{7}{5}$$

$$\text{polyatomic: } \gamma = \frac{4}{3}$$

– **Energy conservation - limiting cases**

- * **adiabatic** flow – negligible heat transport:

$$dQ = 0$$

$$\rightarrow PdV = -Mc_V dT$$

use ideal gas law and thermodynamic relations

$$\rightarrow \boxed{P = \text{const.} \cdot \rho^\gamma}$$

example: Supernova explosion

- * **isothermal** flow – extremely efficient heat transport:

heat transport timescale \ll dynamic timescale

\rightarrow balance between heating and cooling

$$\rightarrow \boxed{\text{constant temperature}}$$

ideal gas eos: $P = \rho \frac{kT}{\mu m_u}$

$$\rightarrow \boxed{P = \text{const.} \cdot \rho}$$

example: HII region

- * both: $P \propto \rho^n$ with $n = \gamma$ or $n = 1$

• Perturbations in a gas

- Initial conditions: $P = P_0, \rho = \rho_0, u = u_0 = 0$
- Small perturbations $P = P_0 + P_1, \rho = \rho_0 + \rho_1, u = u_1$
- Conservation equations:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial \rho_1}{\partial t} + \rho_0 \frac{\partial u_1}{\partial x} &= 0 \left[-u_1 \frac{\partial \rho_1}{\partial x} - \rho_1 \frac{\partial u_1}{\partial x} \right] \\ \rho_0 \frac{\partial u_1}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial P_1}{\partial x} &= \rho_0 \frac{\partial u_1}{\partial t} + a_0^2 \frac{\partial \rho_1}{\partial x} = 0 \left[-\rho_1 \frac{\partial u_1}{\partial t} - u_1 \frac{\partial u_1}{\partial x} \right] \end{aligned}$$

$$P_1 = P - P_0 \propto (\rho_0 + \rho_1)^n - \rho_0^n \propto n \rho_0^{n-1} \rho_1 = n \frac{P_0}{\rho_0} \rho_1 \equiv \mathbf{a}_0^2 \rho_1 \left[+O(\rho_1^2) \right]$$

$$\rightarrow \frac{\partial^2 \rho_1}{\partial t^2} - a_0^2 \frac{\partial^2 \rho_1}{\partial x^2} = 0$$

\rightarrow **sound wave** (acoustic wave) with constant **sound speed** \mathbf{a}_0

- Large perturbations

sound speed depends on local ρ and P : $a^2 = n \frac{P}{\rho}$

isothermal flow: $a^2 \propto \frac{\rho}{\rho} = \text{const.}$

adiabatic flow: $a \propto \frac{\rho^{\gamma/2}}{\rho^{1/2}} \propto \rho^{1/3}$ for $\gamma = \frac{5}{3}$

- Values of sound speed are of the same order as mean thermal velocities:

$$a = \sqrt{\frac{5}{3} \frac{kT}{\mu m_u}}, \langle v \rangle = \sqrt{\frac{8}{\pi} \frac{kT}{\mu m_u}}$$

- Sound crossing time $t_{\text{cross}} = L/a$
 - * time it takes for signal to cross a region of size L
 - * compare t_{cross} to evolutionary timescale
 - * pressure gradient will be smoothed out within sound crossing time
 - * changes occurring on timescales $< t_{\text{cross}}$ will survive
 - * changes occurring on timescales $> t_{\text{cross}}$ will be damped

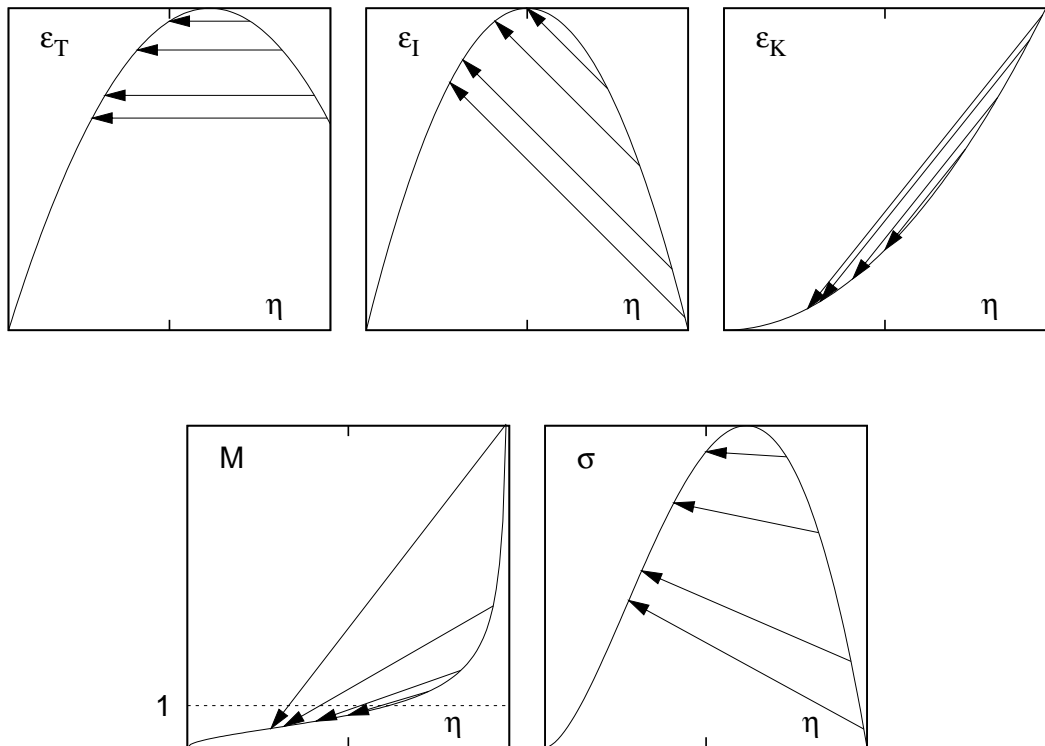
- Mach number \equiv gas velocity/sound speed

$$M = u/a$$

• Shock waves

- What are shock waves?
see F.H. Shu, *The Physics of Astrophysics, Vol.II: Gas Dynamics*, University Science Books, 1992, Figures 15.2, 15.3, 15.4
- Shocks in astrophysical situations
 - * cloud-cloud collisions
 - * HII regions expanding into neutral medium
 - * stellar wind encountering medium
 - * supernova blast waves
 - * accretion onto stars
- Shock jump conditions:
mass, momentum, energy conservation across shock;
also called “Rankine-Hugoniot” conditions
- Analysis of jump conditions
for dimensionless parameters
 - * **conditions:**
 - 1:** specific total energy ε_T constant across shock
 - 2:** entropy increases across shock
 - * **results:**
 - 1:** specific internal energy ε_I increases across shock
→ temperature increases
 - 2:** specific kinetic energy ε_K decreases across shock
→ velocity decreases
→ density and pressure increase
 - 3:** Mach number > 1 pre-shock and < 1 post-shock
→ only supersonic gas can produce a shock,
gas is slowed down to subsonic by shock

Jump conditions for dimensionless parameters



– Quantitative results for **strong shocks**:

* jump conditions:

$$\begin{aligned}\rho_0 u_0 &= \rho_1 u_1 \\ P_0 + \rho_0 u_0^2 &= P_1 + \rho_1 u_1^2 \\ \frac{u_0^2}{2} + \frac{\gamma}{\gamma - 1} \frac{P_0}{\rho_0} &= \frac{u_1^2}{2} + \frac{\gamma}{\gamma - 1} \frac{P_1}{\rho_1}\end{aligned}$$

* in terms of upstream Mach number M_0

$$M_0^2 = \frac{u_0^2}{a_0^2} = \frac{\rho_0 u_0^2}{\gamma P_0} = \frac{\mu m_u u_0^2}{\gamma k T_0}$$

1: eliminate p_1 and u_1 from jump conditions

$$\frac{\rho_1}{\rho_0} = \frac{u_0}{u_1} = \frac{(\gamma + 1)M_0^2}{(\gamma - 1)M_0^2 + 2}$$

2: eliminate ρ_1 and u_1 from jump conditions

$$\frac{P_1}{P_0} = \frac{2\gamma M_0^2 - (\gamma - 1)}{\gamma + 1}$$

3: combine **1** and **2** with ideal gas law

$$\frac{T_1}{T_0} = \frac{[(\gamma - 1)M_0^2 + 2][2\gamma M_0^2 - (\gamma - 1)]}{(\gamma + 1)^2 M_0^2}$$

* set $M_0 \gg 1$ and $\gamma = \frac{5}{3}$

$$\frac{\rho_1}{\rho_0} = \frac{u_0}{u_1} \approx \frac{\gamma + 1}{\gamma - 1} = 4$$

$$P_1 \approx \frac{2\gamma}{\gamma + 1} M_0^2 P_0 = \frac{2}{\gamma + 1} \rho_0 u_0^2 = \frac{3}{4} \rho_0 u_0^2$$

$$T_1 \approx \frac{2\gamma(\gamma - 1)}{(\gamma + 1)^2} T_0 M_0^2 = \frac{2(\gamma - 1)}{(\gamma + 1)^2} \frac{\mu m_u}{k} u_0^2 = \frac{3}{16} \frac{\mu m_u}{k} u_0^2$$

– Strong shock moving in the rest frame

- * change of reference frame
- * shock velocity V_s
- * upstream gas velocity v_0 , downstream v_1
- * transformation

$$u_0 = v_0 - V_s \approx -V_s \quad (V_s \gg v_0)$$

$$u_1 = v_1 - V_s$$

- * post-shock velocity

$$\frac{u_1}{u_0} = \frac{V_s - v_1}{V_s} = \frac{1}{4}$$

$$v_1 = \frac{3}{4}V_s$$

→ post-shock gas moves in the same direction as the shock

→ post-shock velocity is 3/4 of the shock velocity

- * post-shock pressure

$$P_1 = \frac{3}{4}\rho_0 V_s^2$$

- * post-shock temperature

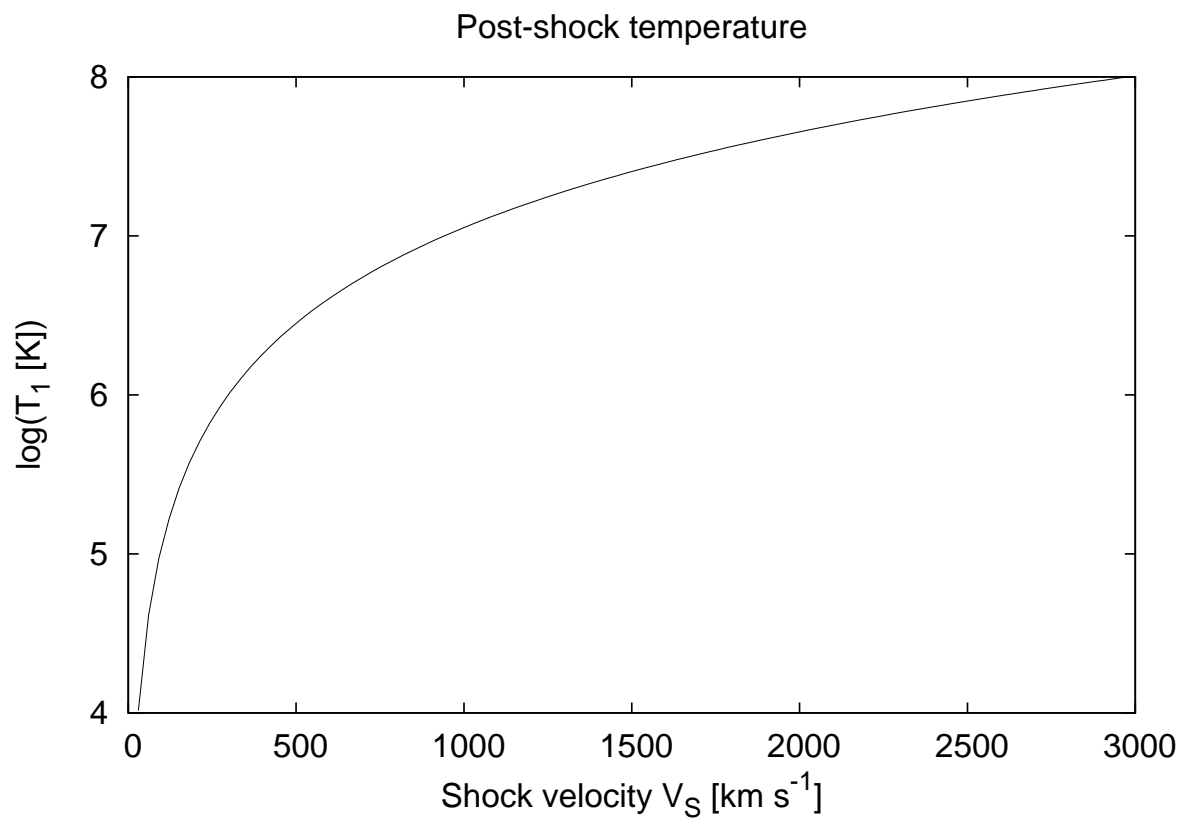
$$T_1 = \frac{3\mu m_u}{16k} V_s^2$$

- * post-shock specific internal energy

$$e_{I,1} = \frac{3}{2} \frac{P_1}{\rho_1} = \frac{3}{2} \frac{3/4 \rho_0 V_s^2}{4\rho_0} = \frac{9}{32} V_s^2$$

- * post-shock specific kinetic energy

$$e_{K,1} = \frac{1}{2} v_1^2 = \frac{9}{32} V_s^2$$



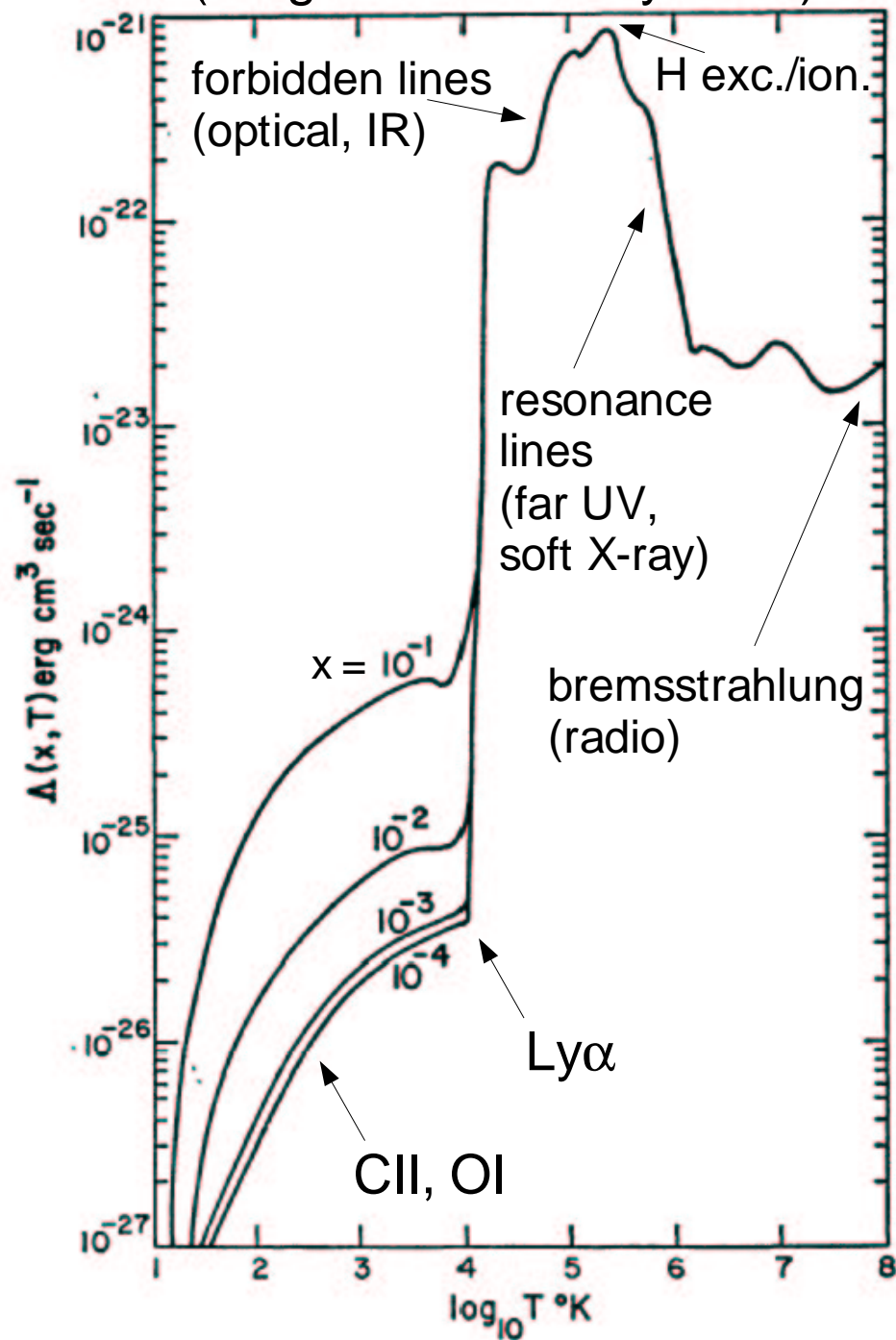
• Cooling in shocked gas

- Large range of shock velocities
 - large range of post-shock temperatures
- Cooling processes
 - * collisional excitation or ionization followed by radiative de-excitation
 - * bremsstrahlung at $\approx 10^8$ K
 - * type of radiation depends on temperature
 - cooling function
 - * between 10^5 and 10^8 K:
 - cooling rate increases with decreasing temperature
 - gas at these temperatures is thermally unstable
- Cooling time t_c :
 - ratio between post-shock specific internal energy and cooling rate per unit mass
- Cooling length l_c :
 - distance travelled by gas during t_c
- If cooling rate $\propto T^{-1/2} \rightarrow t_c \propto V_s^3$ and $l_c \propto V_s^4$
 - depend strongly on shock velocity
- If $l_c \ll$ characteristic size of region
 - post-shock gas “immediately” cooled to pre-shock T
 - $T = \text{const.}$ → “isothermal” shock
 - with isothermal sound speed ($\gamma = 1$), for strong shock:

$$\frac{u_0}{u_1} = \frac{\rho_1}{\rho_0} = M_0^2$$

- no limit for compression
- * in fixed reference frame: $v_1 \approx V_s$
 - post-shock gas moves with the same speed as the shock
- * post-shock pressure: $P_1 = \rho_0 V_s^2$

Interstellar cooling function (Dalgarno & McCray 1972)



x ... fractional ionization