

Part II Astrophysics/Physics

Astrophysical Fluid Dynamics

Lecture 11 : Supernovae (cont.)

Bernoulli's Equation

Recap – last couple of lectures

- Supersonic flows and shocks
 - Conservation laws \rightarrow Rankine-Hugoniot jump conditions
- Theory of supernovae explosions
 - Simple analysis of explosion in a cold ($T=0$) ISM
 - Similarity solutions (Taylor-Sedov theory)

This Lecture

- Supernova explosions (Chapter F.6; cont.)
 - Breakdown of similarity solution
 - End stages of supernova/ISM interactions
- Steady Flows and Bernoulli's Equation (Chapter G)
 - Vorticity (G.1)
 - Bernoulli Principle (G.1)
 - Rotational and irrotational flows (G.2)
 - Kelvin Circulation Theorem

Breakdown of similarity solution

When will the similarity solution fail and the supernova explosion “stall”?

This happens when the pressure in the ambient ISM becomes comparable to that in the shocked shell, $p_1 \sim p_0$.

Previously, we found

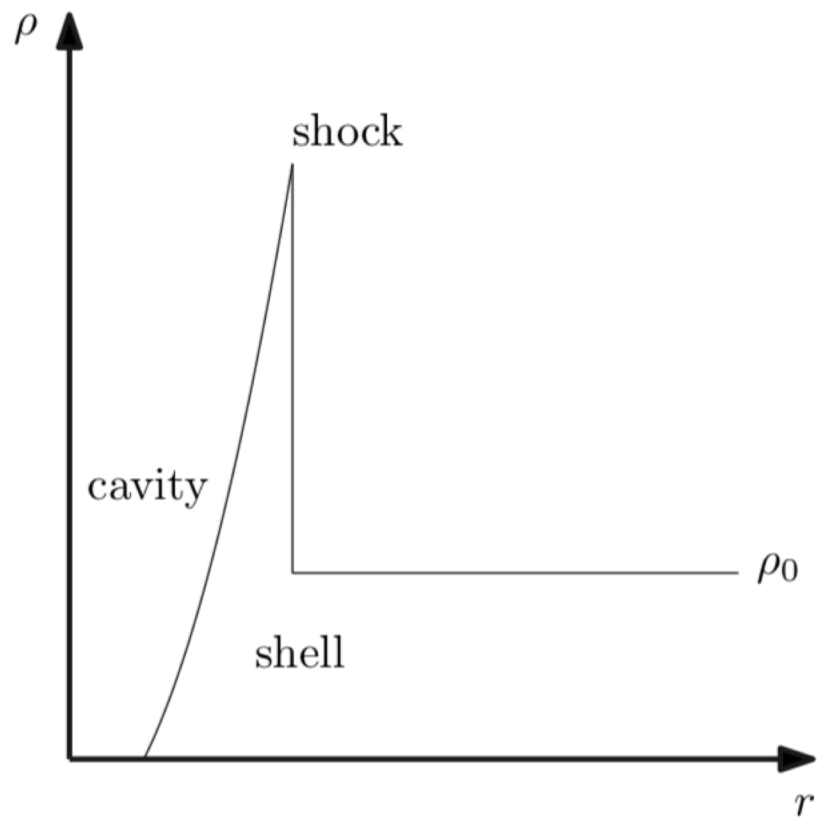
$$p_1 = \frac{2}{\gamma + 1} \rho_0 u_0^2,$$

The sound speed in the ambient medium is $c_s^2 = \frac{\gamma p_0}{\rho_0}$

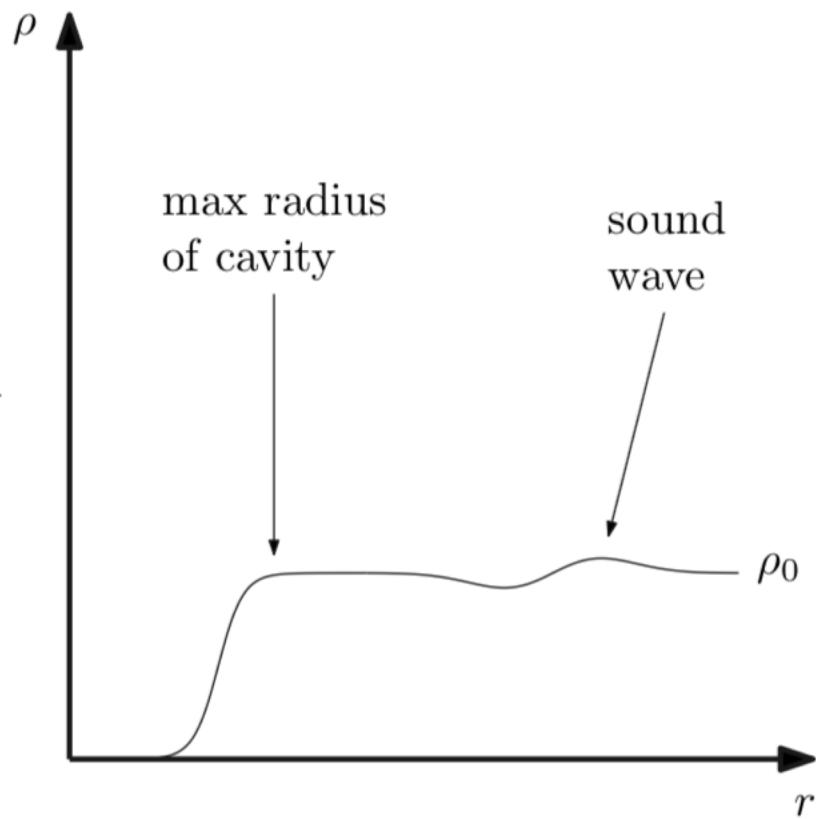
So, similarity breaks down when

$$\frac{2}{\gamma + 1} \rho_0 u_0^2 \sim \frac{\rho_0 c_s^2}{\gamma}$$

$$\Rightarrow u_0 \sim c_s \quad \text{i.e., expansion ceases to be supersonic}$$



\Rightarrow



Let's use our theory to examine this end point...

We showed that energy conservation

$$\begin{aligned} E &= \frac{4\pi}{3} R^3 \left[\frac{1}{2} \rho_0 \left(\frac{2u_0}{\gamma+1} \right)^2 + \frac{\alpha}{\gamma-1} \frac{2\rho_0 u_0^2}{\gamma+1} \right] \quad \text{with } \alpha = \frac{1}{2} \\ &= \frac{4\pi}{3} R^3 \rho_0 u_0^2 \left[\frac{2}{(\gamma+1)^2} + \frac{1}{(\gamma-1)(\gamma+1)} \right] \\ &= \frac{4\pi}{3} R^3 \rho_0 u_0^2 \left[\frac{2(\gamma-1) + \gamma+1}{(\gamma+1)^2(\gamma-1)} \right] \\ &= \frac{4\pi}{3} R^3 \rho_0 u_0^2 \frac{3\gamma-1}{(\gamma+1)^2(\gamma-1)} \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow u_0^2 = \frac{(\gamma+1)(\gamma^2-1)}{3\gamma-1} \cdot \frac{3E}{4\pi\rho_0 R^3} \sim \underbrace{\frac{\gamma+1}{2\gamma} c_s^2}_{\substack{\text{when blast} \\ \text{wave becomes} \\ \text{sonic and } p_1 \sim p_0}}$$

$$\Rightarrow E \sim \frac{4\pi}{3} \rho_0 R_{\max}^3 \frac{c_s^2}{2\gamma} \cdot \frac{3\gamma-1}{\gamma^2-1}$$

Compare this with the internal energy initially contained in the ISM...

$$E_{\text{init}} = \frac{4\pi}{3} R_{\text{max}}^3 \frac{p_0}{\gamma - 1} = \frac{4\pi}{3} R_{\text{max}}^3 \rho_0 \frac{c_s^2}{\gamma(\gamma - 1)}$$

So we see that $E \sim E_{\text{init}}$, i.e. the blast wave propagates until the explosion energy is comparable to the internal energy in the sphere.

This theory suggests that the time needed to reach this end-state is

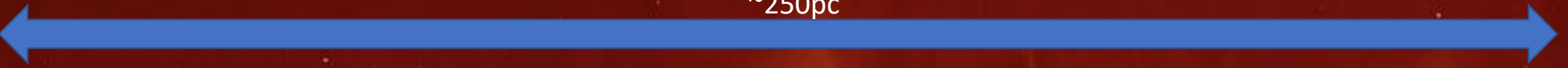
$$t_s \sim \frac{R_{\text{max}}}{c_s}$$

Putting in numbers... the ambient ISM has $T \sim 10^4$ K, $\rho \sim 10^{-21}$ kg m⁻³

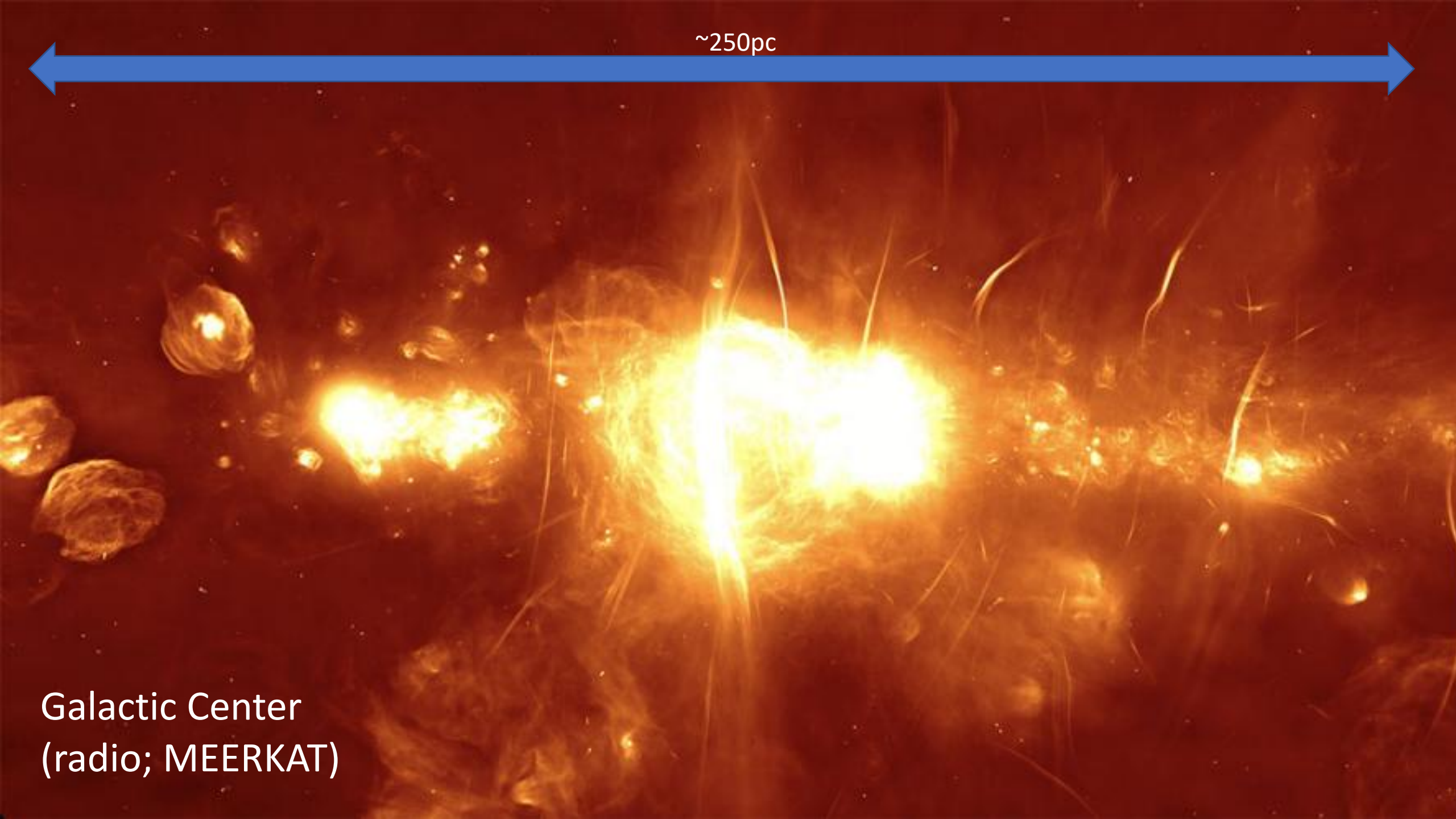
$$\Rightarrow R_{\text{max}} \sim \text{few} \times 100 \text{ pc}$$

$$t_{\text{max}} \sim 10 \text{ Myr}$$

~250pc



Galactic Center
(radio; MEERKAT)

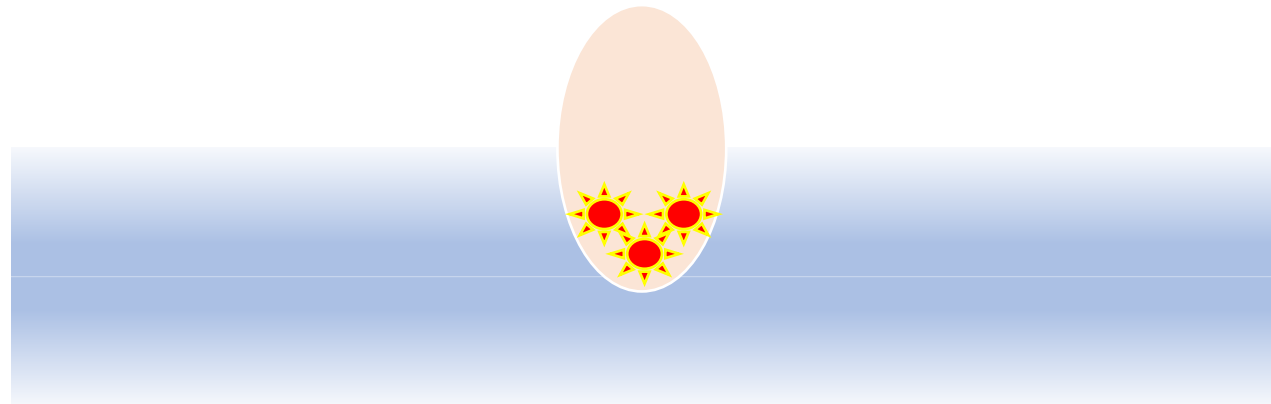


The supernova rate in our galaxy is approximately 10^{-7} SN/Myr/pc³. So, over a duration of 10Myr we expect to find one SN in every 10^6 pc³.

So this would suggest that the entire ISM is heated by SN to 10^6 K.

This is contrary to observations. The above argument fails for two reasons:

- Cooling of the shell becomes important after $\sim 10^5$ yr ($R \sim 20$ pc) after which the shell grows more slowly ($R \sim t^{0.3}$). Ultimately, we end up with $R_{\max} \sim 50$ pc.
- Finite height of galactic disk... Multiple SN bubbles from young star clusters merge and “blow out” of the galactic disk





M82

Chapter G : Bernoulli's Equation and Transonic Flows

G.1 : Bernoulli's Equation

We now consider the properties of steady, barotropic flows.

This will lead us to interesting findings about transonic flows, relevant for some astrophysical accretion solutions as well as stellar winds.

Start with momentum equation:

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial t} + (\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{u} = -\frac{1}{\rho} \nabla p - \nabla \Psi.$$

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

(vector identity)

For barotropic e-o-s:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \int \frac{dp}{\rho} = \frac{\partial p}{\partial x} \frac{d}{dp} \int \frac{dp}{\rho} = \frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial p}{\partial x}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{\rho} \nabla p = \nabla \left(\int \frac{dp}{\rho} \right).$$

$$\mathbf{w} = \nabla \times \mathbf{u}$$

DEFINITION OF VORTICITY

So,

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial t} + \nabla \left(\frac{1}{2} u^2 \right) - \mathbf{u} \times \mathbf{w} = -\nabla \left[\int \frac{dp}{\rho} + \Psi \right] \quad (**)$$

For a steady-flow, we take dot product of this with \mathbf{u} to get

$$\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \left[\frac{1}{2} u^2 + \int \frac{dp}{\rho} + \Psi \right] = 0$$

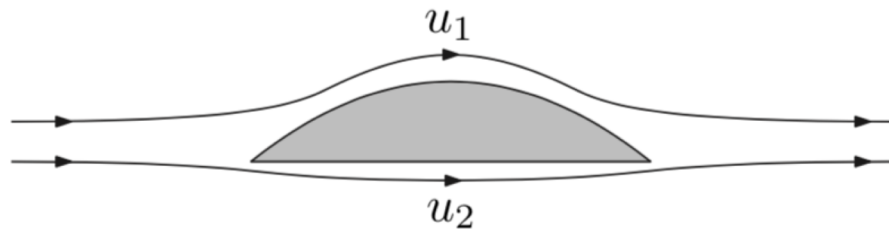
So, the quantity

$$H = \frac{1}{2} u^2 + \int \frac{dp}{\rho} + \Psi$$

is constant along a streamline. This is **Bernoulli's Principle**.

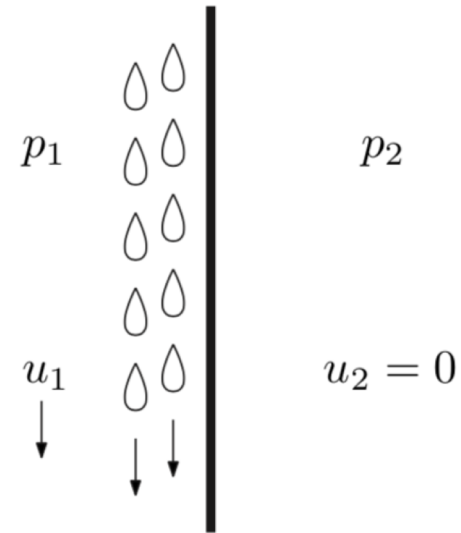
Examples:

Aircraft wing (apocryphal)



$u_1 > u_2 \Rightarrow p_1 < p_2$ from H
 \Rightarrow pressure difference
 \Rightarrow lift force.

Shower curtain



$\Rightarrow p_1 < p_2$
 \Rightarrow curtain blows inwards.

G.2 : Rotational & Irrotational Flows

Definitions:

$\mathbf{w} = 0$ everywhere \Rightarrow irrotational

$\mathbf{w} \neq 0$ \Rightarrow rotational

From eqn (**), we see that a steady-state, barotropic flow that is also irrotational has

$$\nabla H = 0$$

So $H = \text{constant}$ through the flow (not just along a streamline).

For a general barotropic flow (rotational and not necessarily steady-state), then equation (**) becomes

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial t} = -\nabla H + \mathbf{u} \times \mathbf{w}$$

Take curl of this equation:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \underbrace{(\nabla \times \mathbf{u})}_{\mathbf{w}} = \underbrace{-\nabla \times (\nabla H)}_{\equiv 0} + \nabla \times (\mathbf{u} \times \mathbf{w})$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\frac{\partial \mathbf{w}}{\partial t} = \nabla \times (\mathbf{u} \times \mathbf{w})} \quad \text{HELMHOLTZ'S EQN.}$$

Notes:

- If $\mathbf{w} = 0$ initially, it will remain so thereafter (not true when viscosity included). In that case, we can infer that there exists a potential function Φ_u such that

$$\mathbf{u} = -\nabla \Phi_u$$

If flow is also incompressible, then we have $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0$ and so $\nabla^2 \Phi_u = 0$

- For a time-dependent rotational flow, the Helmholtz equation

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{w}}{\partial t} = \nabla \times (\mathbf{u} \times \mathbf{w})$$

implies that

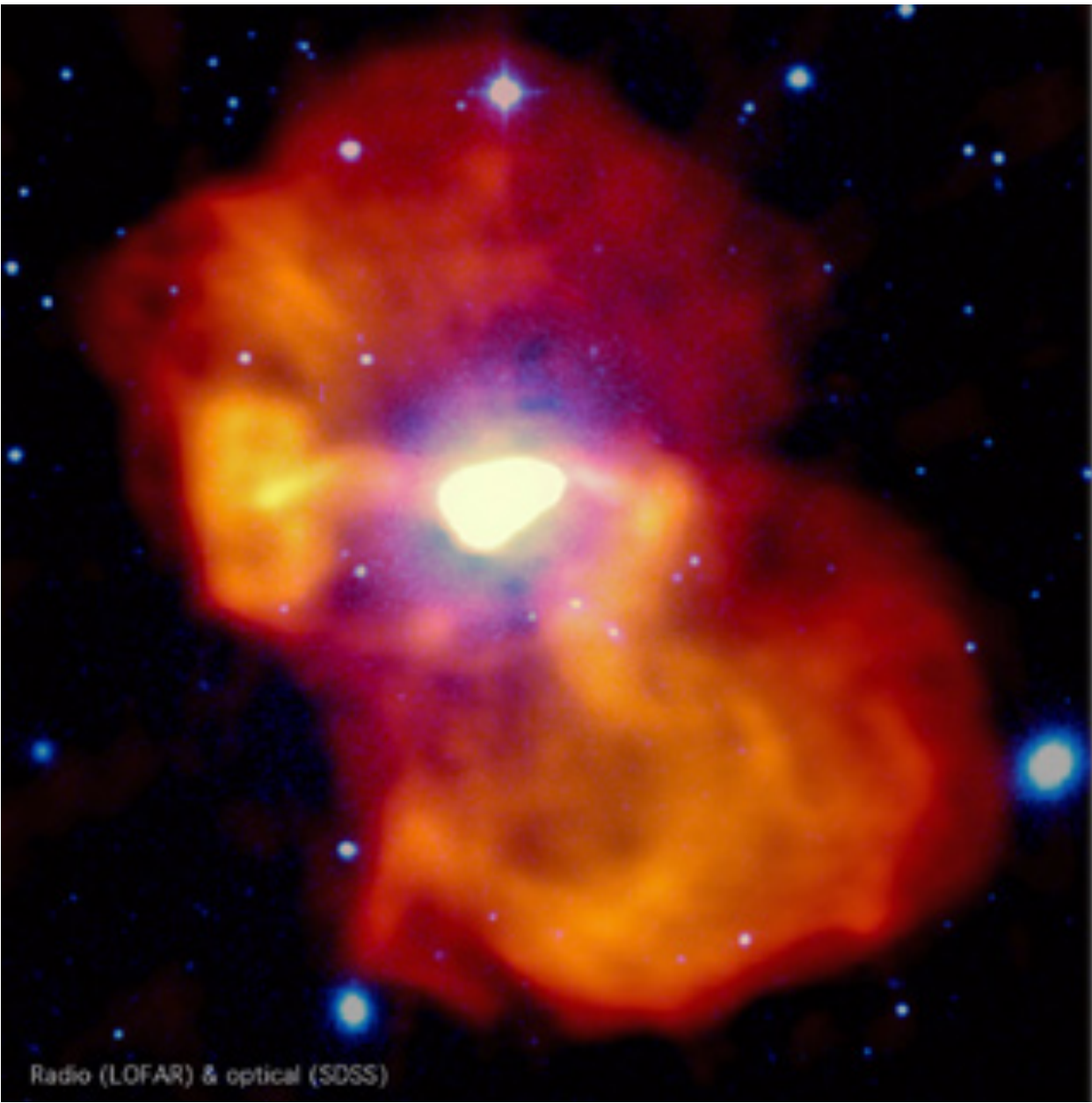
$$\frac{D}{Dt} \int_S \mathbf{w} \cdot d\mathbf{S} = 0 \quad (\text{S is a surface that is carried along in the flow})$$

(proof of this in the PDF notes).

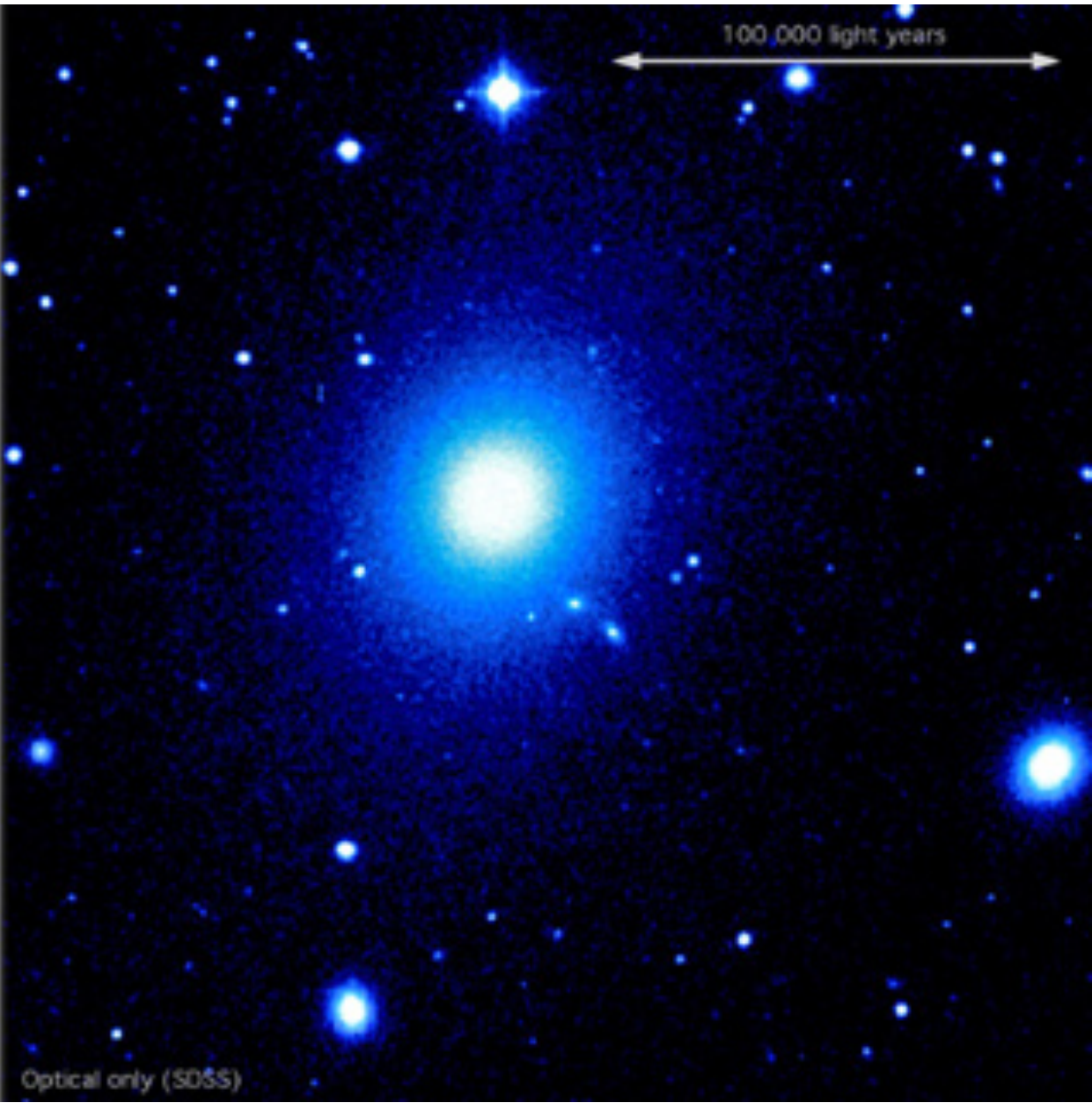
Mental picture... think of “lines of vorticity” that get carried around in the flow. Close analogy with lines of magnetic field.







Radio (LOFAR) & optical (SDSS)



Optical only (SDSS)