

Title: 12/13 PSI - Student Presentations 1B

Date: Aug 17, 2012 10:30 AM

URL: <http://pirsa.org/12080041>

Abstract:

How Aristotle Would Have Besieged Perimeter: From Greek Ballistics to Reynolds numbers

Nicole Yunger Halpern, Masters student,
Perimeter Institute for Theoretical Physics



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10:44 AM

17-Aug-12

Thought experiment. Aristotle wakes from the dead.

(Sorry, Second Law of Thermodynamics!)



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17-Aug-12

Thought experiment. Aristotle wakes from the dead.

(Sorry, Second Law of Thermodynamics!)



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10:45 AM
17-Aug-12

Thought experiment. Aristotle wakes from the dead.

(Sorry, Second Law of Thermodynamics!)



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The Aristotelian projectile



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The Aristotelian projectile



<http://anadder.com/inertia-as-brute-fact>
The Dancing Universe, M. Gleiser *Plume* (1995).

- “Impetus”



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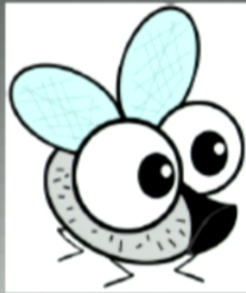
The Aristotelian projectile



<http://anadder.com/inertia-as-brute-fact>
The Dancing Universe, M. Gleiser *Plume* (1995).

- “Impetus”
- Does any real projectile near the Earth's surface move like Aristotle's cannonball?

Maybe...Consider a fly in honey.

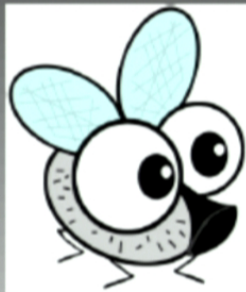


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Maybe...Consider a fly in honey.



We need to meet the
Reynolds number.



Agenda

- Ancient Greek ballistics
- Under what conditions could the cannonball move (somewhat) as Aristotle thought it would?
 - What is the Reynolds number?
 - What does it signify?
 - Examples
- Application to Aristotle's cannon



Definition of the Reynolds number

- Notation: \mathcal{R}
- Definition: $\mathcal{R} := \frac{\rho v L}{\eta}$
- What do the parameters in the definition signify?
 - ρ = density of the medium
 - v = characteristic speed
 - L = characteristic length scale
 - η = fluid viscosity



What does the Reynolds number signify?

- Multiple derivations and interpretations exist.
- $R = \frac{\text{Inertial force}}{\text{Viscous force}}$



Life at Low Reynolds number. E. M. Purcell. *Am. J. Phys.* 45, 3 (1977)



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2 length scales, 2 worlds, no
quantum mechanics



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2 length scales, 2 worlds, no quantum mechanics

- $R \sim 1,000$
 - Turbulent flow
 - Nonlinear, not time reversible
 - Physics of our world
- $R \ll 1$
 - Laminar flow
 - Equation of motion (Navier-Stokes) approximately doesn't depend on time
 - Time reversible – Ask for an example during Q&A!



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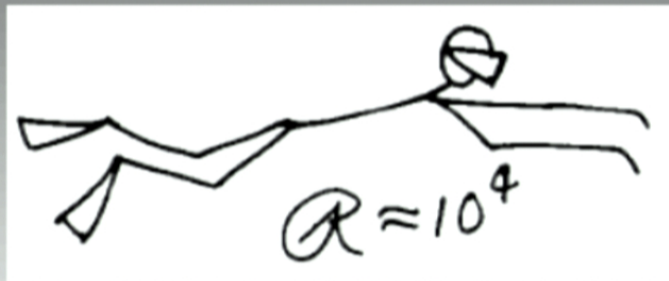
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Informal, but deep, introduction.

Life at Low Reynolds number, E. M. Purcell,

Am. J. Phys. **45**, 3 (1977)



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More facts about the Reynolds number

- Dimensionless
- Applied in biophysics, fluid mechanics, and geophysics
- Uses involve rough estimates



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Example #2: Reynolds number of a cannonball in air

- $\rho \sim 1 \text{ kg} \cdot \text{m}^{-3}$ (1)

- $v \sim 10^2 \text{ m/s}$ (2)

- $L \sim 10^{-1} \text{ m}$ (3)

- $\eta \sim 10^{-5} \text{ Pa} \cdot \text{s}$ (4)

$$\mathcal{R} = \frac{\rho v L}{\eta} \sim 10^6 \gg 1$$

(1) <http://www.mhtl.uwaterloo.ca/old/online-tools/airprop/airprop.html>
(2) Seems reasonable, no?
(3) <http://hyperphysics.com/facts/2000/jenniferChung.shtml>



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Under what conditions could a
cannonball have $R < 1$?

- If the viscosity $\sim 10^2 \text{ Pa} \cdot \text{s}$, $R \sim 10^{-1}$.
- This viscosity is of the order of magnitude of **peanut butter's**.





Under what conditions could a cannonball have $R < 1$?

- If the viscosity $\sim 10^2 \text{ Pa} \cdot \text{s}$, $R \sim 10^{-1}$.
- This viscosity is of the order of magnitude of **peanut butter's**.
- Frictional drag would affect the cannonball more than gravity.

- Stokes Law for frictional force,

$$F_d = 6\Pi\eta Rv \sim 6\Pi(10^2 \text{ Pa} \cdot \text{s})(10^{-1} \text{ m})(10^2 \text{ m/s}) \sim 20,000 \text{ N}$$

- Gravitational force, $F_g = mg \sim (5 \text{ kg})(10 \text{ m} \cdot \text{s}^{-2}) = 50 \text{ N}$



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Under what conditions could a cannonball have $R < 1$?

- But the cannonball wouldn't progress far.

$$t = \frac{v_f - v_i}{a} \sim 10^{-3} \text{ s}$$



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Conclusions

- The Reynolds number differentiates two classical worlds.

- $\mathcal{R} := \frac{\rho v L}{\eta}$

- Characteristics associated with R : dominant force, flow type, time reversibility, how long momentum carries you



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...but he might as well attack Perimeter with a water gun.



www.hobbytron.com/

I think we're safe from the undead Aristotle.



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Surface Gravity Wave

Tian Lan

Perimeter Scholars International
Perimeter Institute for Theoretic Physics

August 16, 2012



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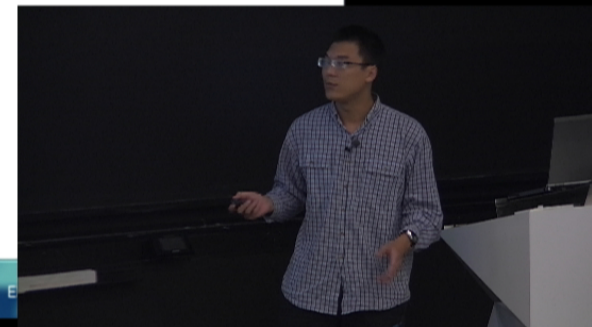


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Outline

- 1 Motivation
- 2 Basic Assumptions
- 3 Solution in a Special Case
- 4 Application: Why Are Waves Parallel to the Shore
- 5 Conclusion



Motivation

The water wave is the most familiar and intuitive wave motion



- Not so simple
- Neither longitudinal nor transverse
- Non-trivial dispersion relation
- Airy wave theory or Linear theory



Motivation

The water wave is the most familiar and intuitive wave motion



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Motivation

The water wave is the most familiar and intuitive wave motion



- Not so simple
- Neither longitudinal nor transverse
- Non-trivial dispersion relation
- Airy wave theory or Linear wave theory



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Basic Assumptions

- **Inviscid**

The stress tensor is $p\delta_{ij}$

- **Irrotational**

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{u} = 0 \Rightarrow \mathbf{u} = \nabla \phi$$

ϕ is called the velocity potential

- **Incompressible**

$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} = 0 \Rightarrow \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0 \Rightarrow \nabla^2 \phi = 0$$



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Basic Assumptions

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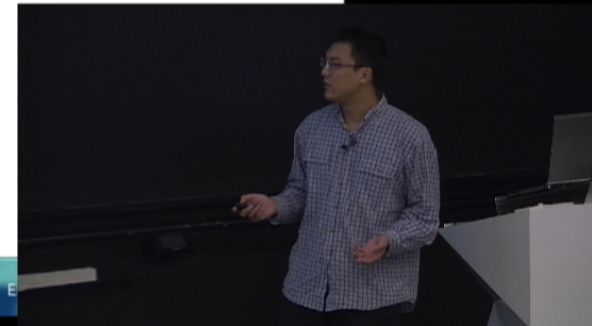


Solution in a Special Case

- The velocity potential ϕ satisfied the Laplacian equation

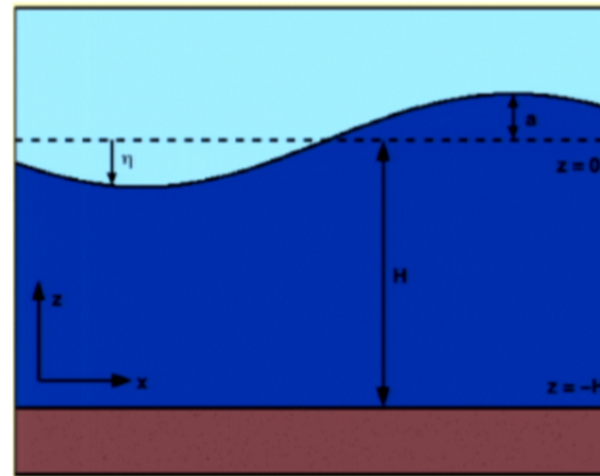
$$\nabla^2 \phi = 0$$

- We can solve ϕ for certain boundary conditions



Solution in a Special Case

- The depth of the water is a constant H
- the surface of the water is the shape of $\eta = a \sin(kx - \omega t)$
- The amplitude a is small so we can linearise the boundary condition.
- The wave is uniform in the y direction

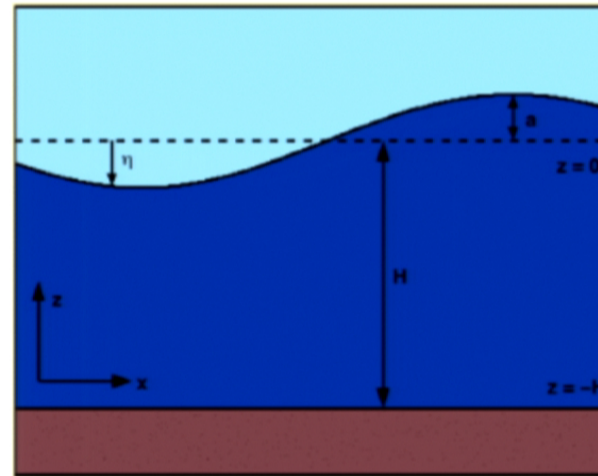


Solution in a Special Case

The linearised boundary conditions are

$$\partial_z \phi = \partial_t \eta, \quad z = 0$$

$$\partial_z \phi = 0, \quad z = -H$$

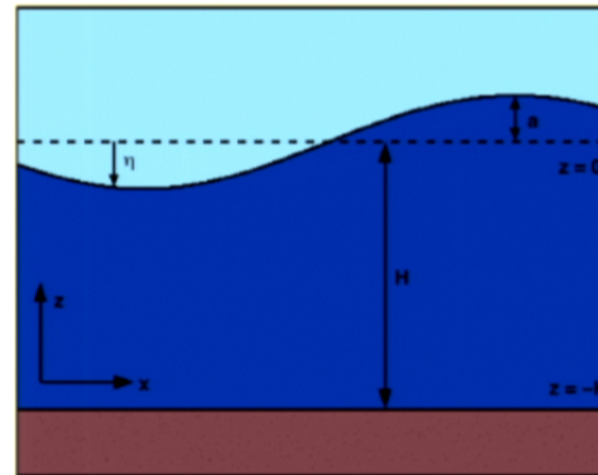


Solution in a Special Case

The linearised boundary conditions are

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Neither longitudinal nor transverse

The corresponding solution is

$$\phi = -\frac{a\omega}{k} \frac{\cosh(k(z+H))}{\sinh(kH)} \cos(kx - \omega t)$$

Take the derivative of ϕ we get the velocity field

$$u_x = \partial_x \phi = a\omega \frac{\cosh(k(z+H))}{\sinh(kH)} \sin(kx - \omega t)$$

$$u_z = \partial_z \phi = -a\omega \frac{\sinh(k(z+H))}{\sinh(kH)} \cos(kx - \omega t)$$

and we see neither of u_x and u_z is zero, i.e. the Surface G neither longitudinal nor transverse.



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and we see neither of u_x and u_z is zero, i.e. the Surface Gravity Wave is neither longitudinal nor transverse.



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Non-trivial dispersion relation

The relation between ω and k comes from the unsteady Bernoulli's equation (linearised version)

$$\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial t} + g\eta = \frac{\sigma}{\rho} \frac{\partial^2 \eta}{\partial x^2}, \quad z = 0$$

where σ is the surface tension coefficient.

Plug the previous solution in we get

$$\omega^2 = \left(gk + \frac{\sigma}{\rho} k^3\right) \tanh(kH)$$



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Application: Why Are Waves Parallel to the Shore

The waves on the beach always come **parallel** to the shore.

$$\omega^2 = \left(gk + \frac{\sigma}{\rho}k^3\right) \tanh(kH)$$

- Near the shore **Large wavelength** and **Shallow water** \Rightarrow small k, H
- $g \gg \sigma k^2/\rho$ and $kH \ll 1$, the dispersion relation is simplified

$$\omega^2 = gHk^2$$

- The wave velocity is $c = \sqrt{gH}$, decreasing as the wave approaching the shore.
- The wave is refracted such that in the end it propagates nearly perpendicular to the shore.



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Conclusion

- Inviscid irrotational incompressible water
- Solve Laplacian equation for certain boundary condition
- Got the velocity field and the dispersion relation



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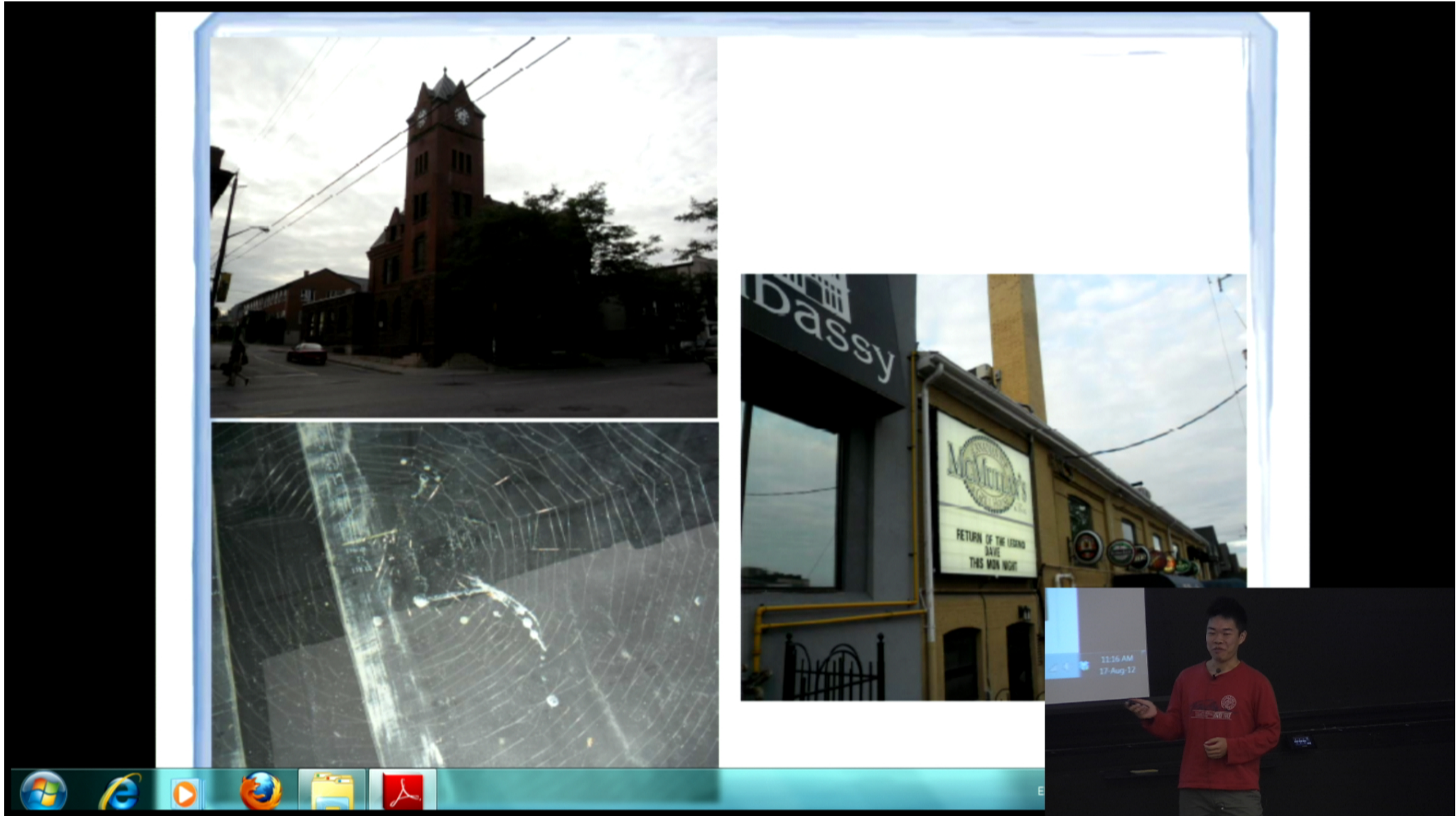
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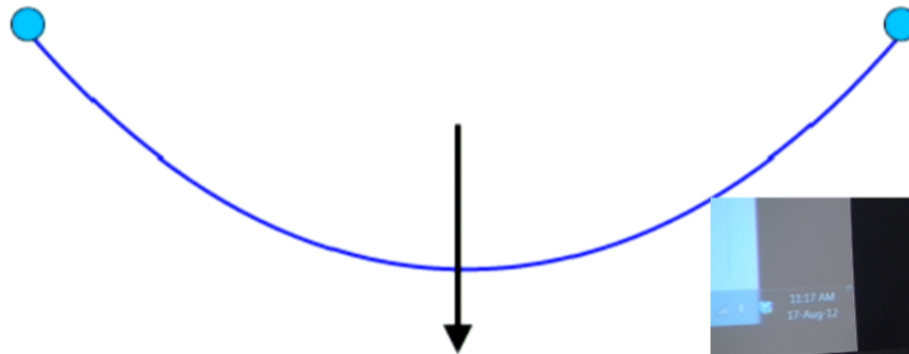


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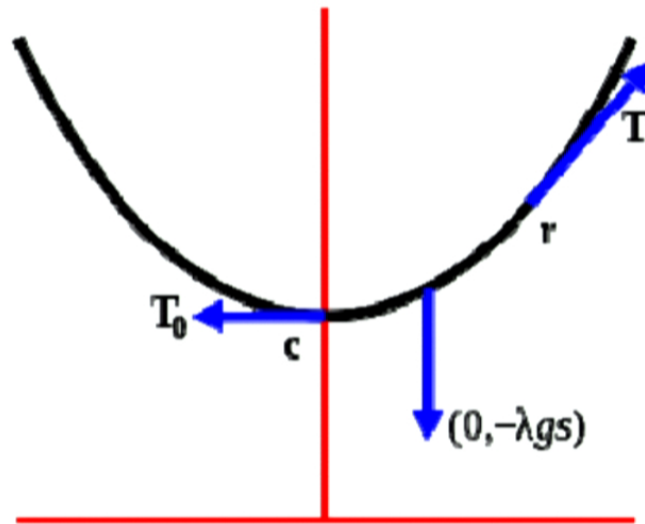


The Physics Model of Hanging Ropes

- Hanging chain
- Support: at the two ends
- Gravity



The Exact Shape of Hanging Ropes

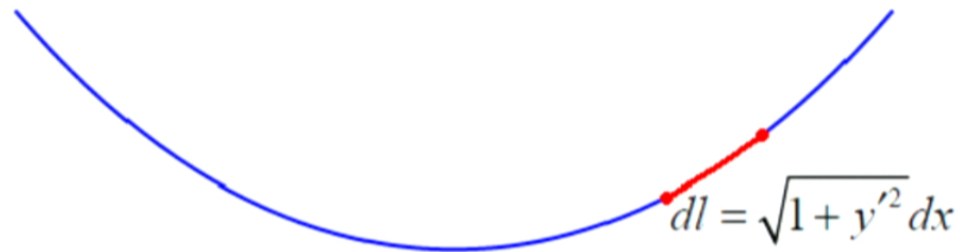


The Exact Shape of Hanging Ropes

- The potential energy functional

$$U = \int \rho g y \sqrt{1 + (y')^2} dx$$

should reach its minimum



The Exact Shape of Hanging Ropes

- Euler-Lagrange Equation

$$U = \int u(x, y(x), y'(x)) dx = \int \rho g y \sqrt{1 + (y')^2} dx$$



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The Exact Shape of Hanging Ropes

- Euler-Lagrange Equation

$$U = \int u(x, y(x), y'(x)) dx = \int \rho g y \sqrt{1 + (y')^2} dx$$

$$y(x) \rightarrow y(x) + \varepsilon(x), \delta U = 0$$



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The Exact Shape of Hanging Ropes

- Euler-Lagrange Equation

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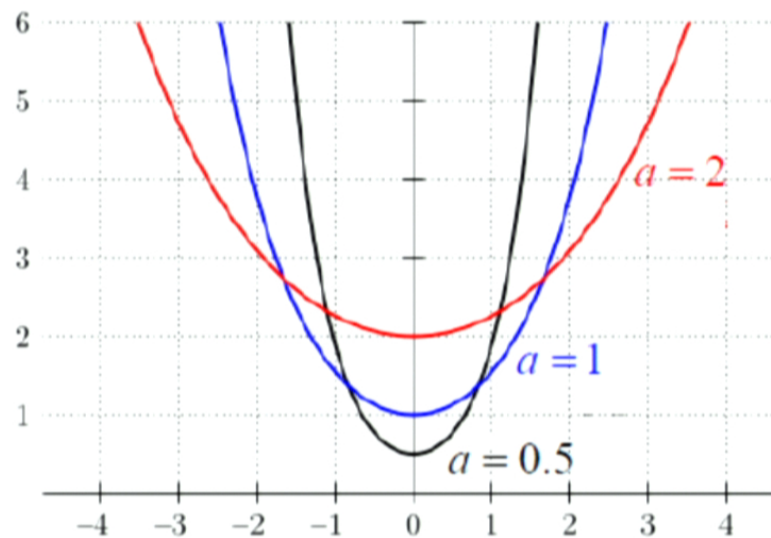
$$\frac{d}{dx} \frac{\partial u}{\partial y'} - \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = 0$$



The Exact Shape of Hanging Ropes

- Result: hyperbolic cosine function

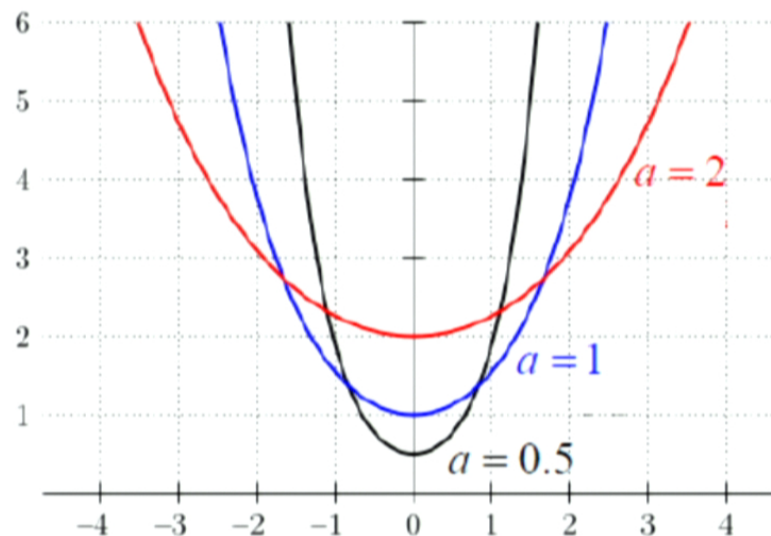
$$y(x) = a \cosh(x / a), \quad a = T_0 / (\rho g)$$



The Exact Shape of Hanging Ropes

- Result: hyperbolic cosine function

$$y(x) = a \cosh(x / a), \quad a = T_0 / (\rho g)$$



The Application of Hanging Ropes



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The Application of Hanging Ropes



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Reference

- <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Catenary>
- *Classical Mechanics*, Herbert Goldstein, Charles P. Poole, John L. Safko

Thank you!



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11:26 AM

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Slipstreaming: Nature's Fast Lane

Marie Rider

17th August 2012



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Overview

- Why do we need to talk about slipstreaming?
- What is the physics behind slipstreaming?



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Motivation



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Motivation



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Theory

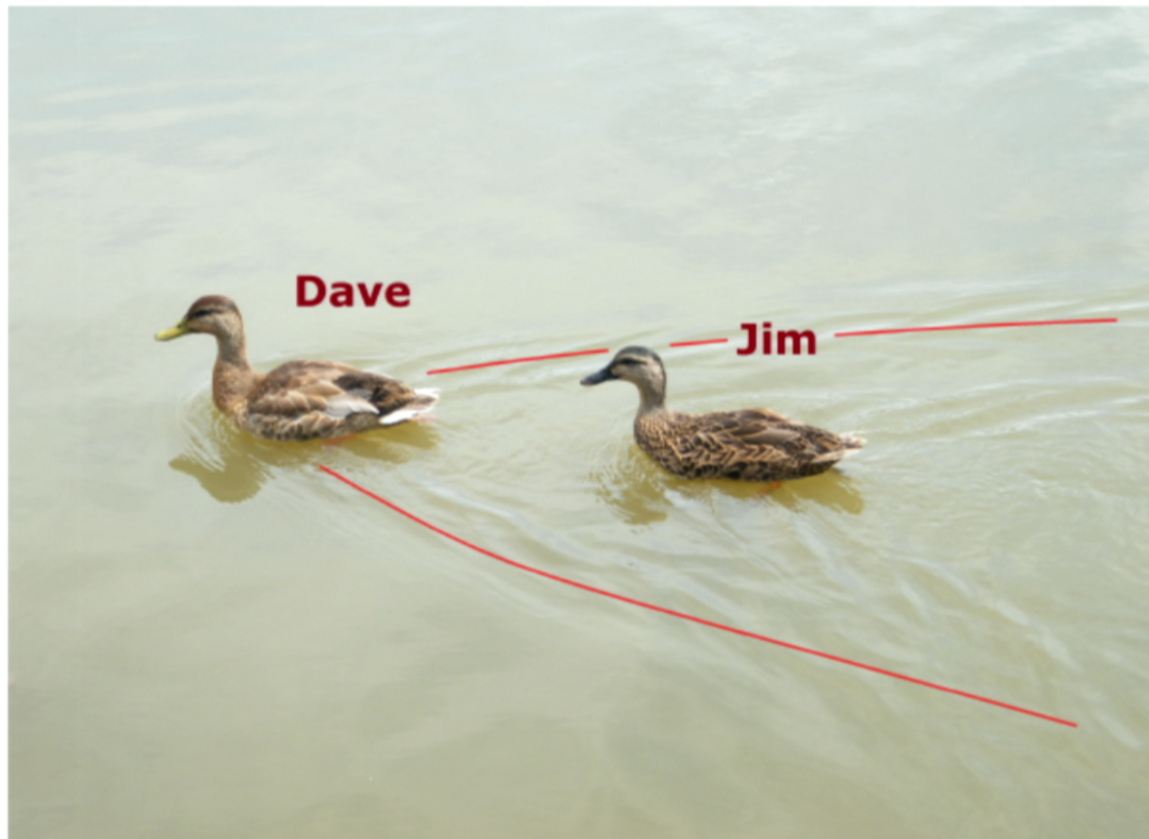


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Theory



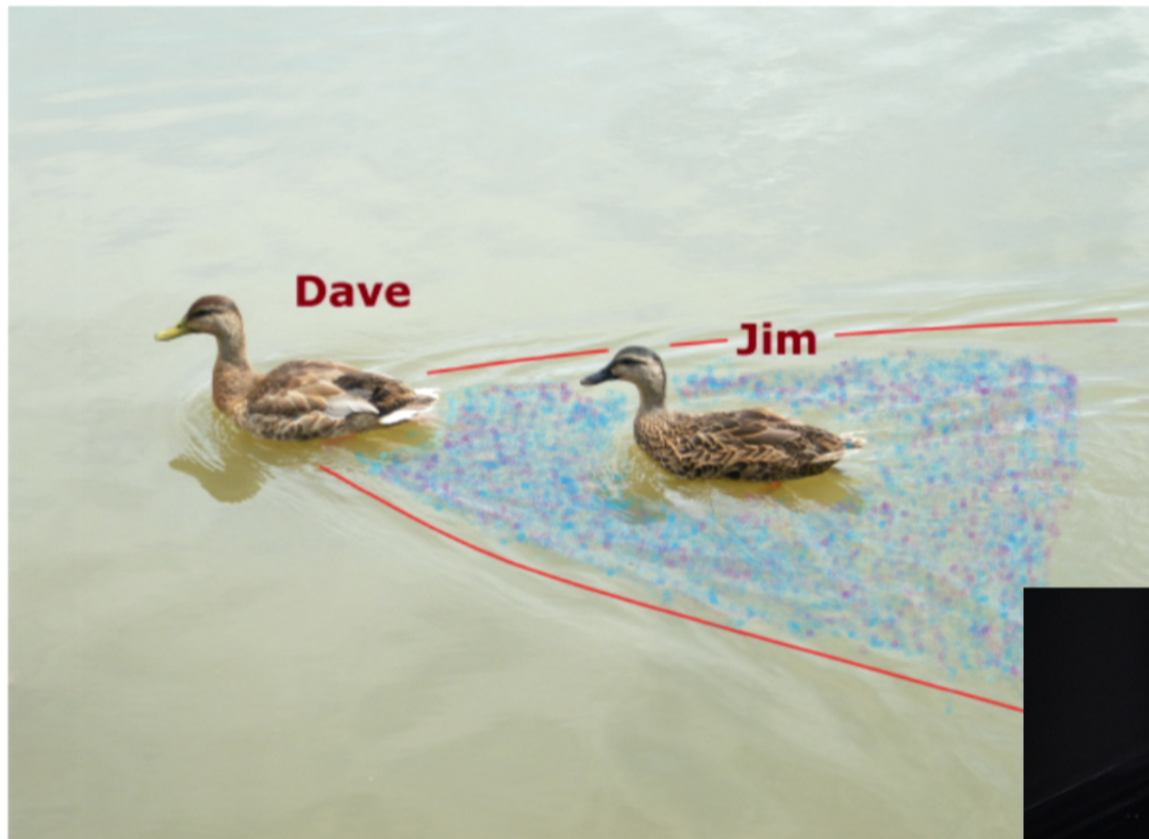
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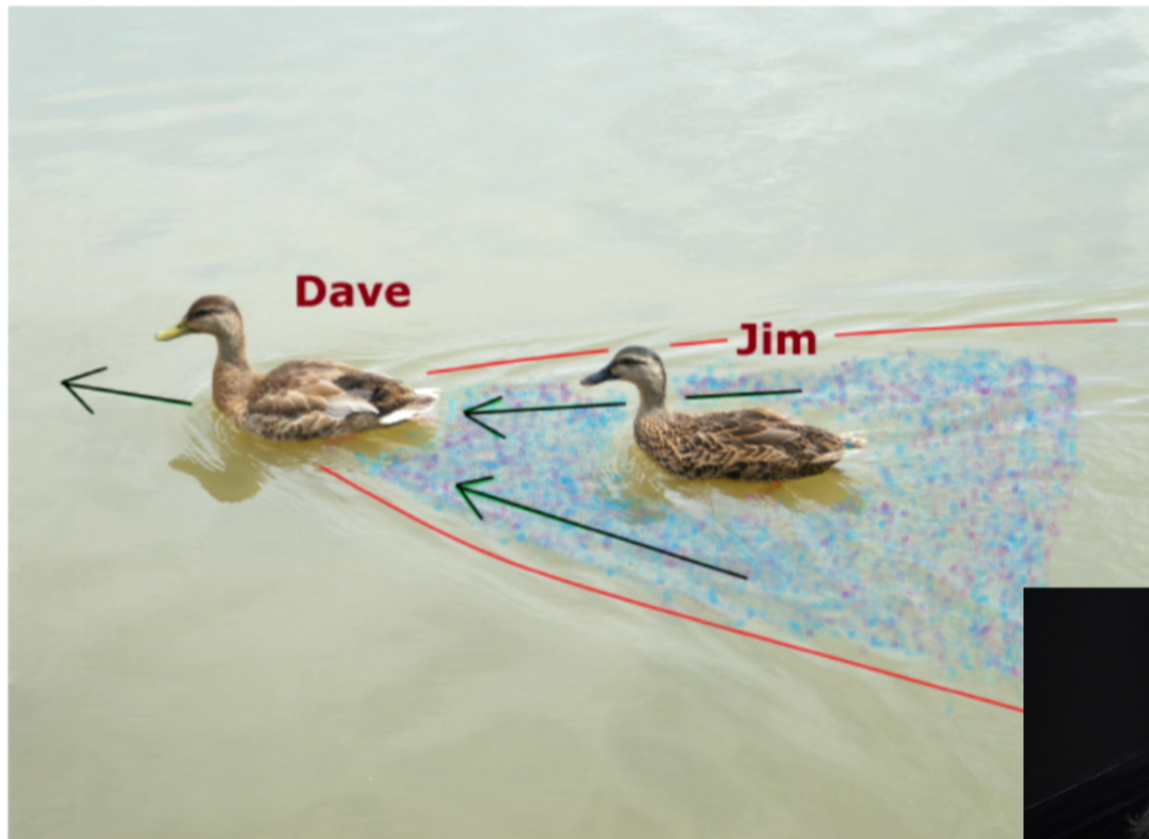
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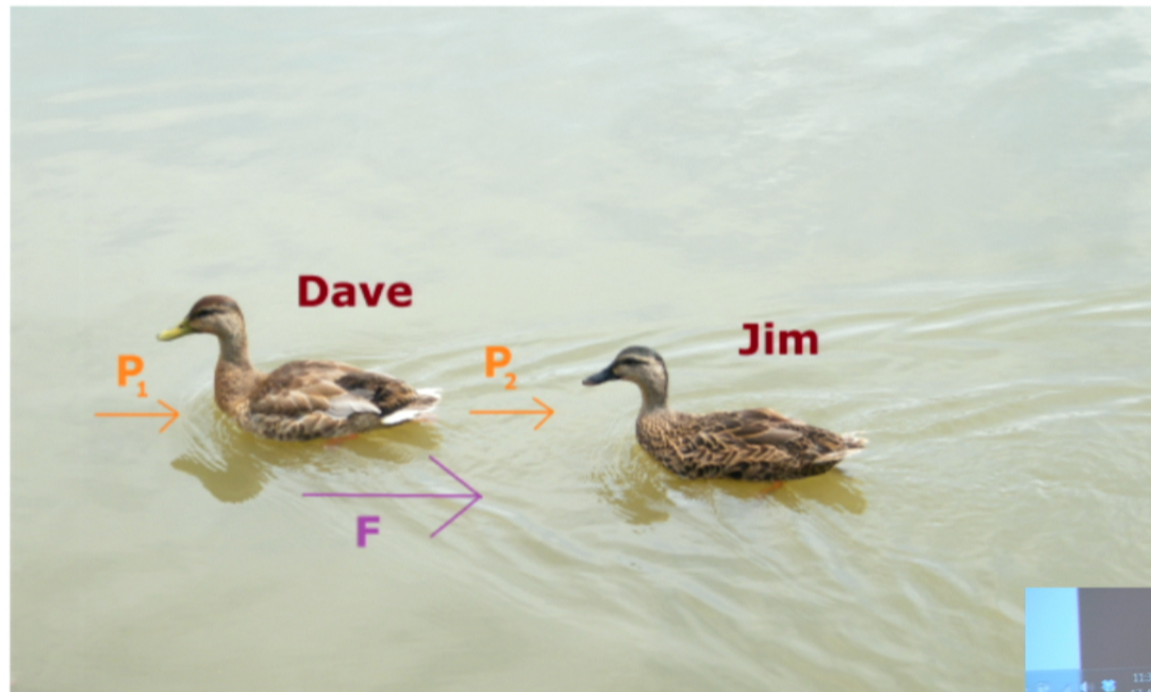
Theory



Theory



Theory

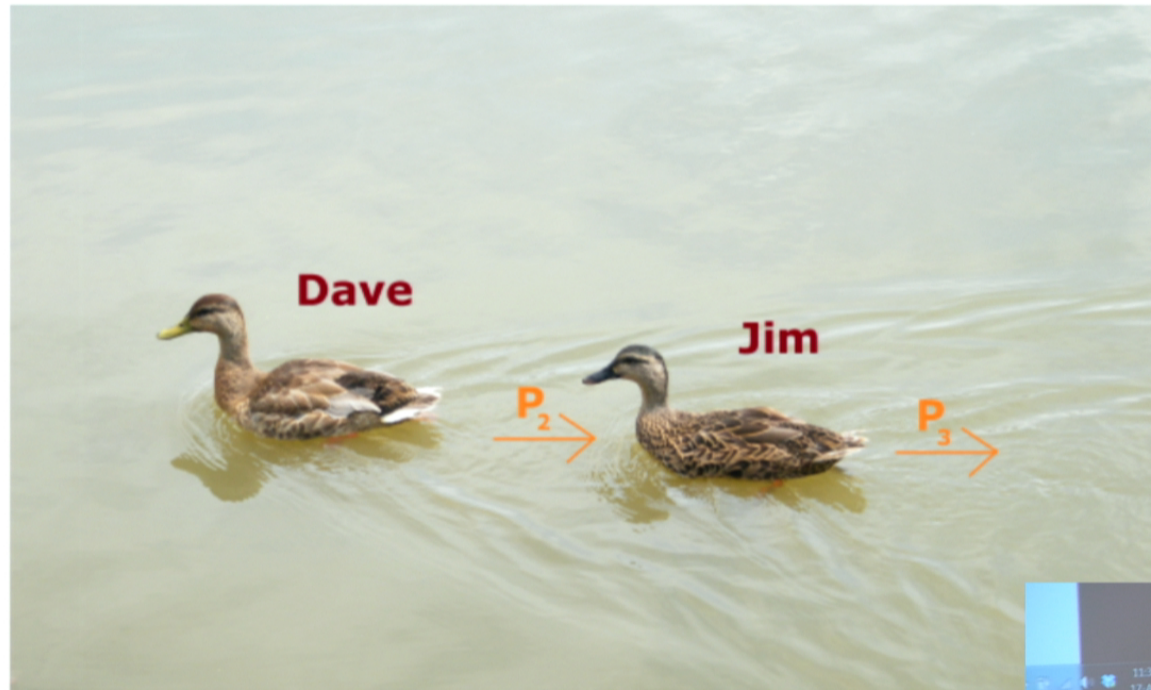


$$\Delta P = P_1 - P_2$$
$$P_1 > P_2 \therefore \Delta P > 0$$

$\propto \Delta P$ acting backwards on Dave



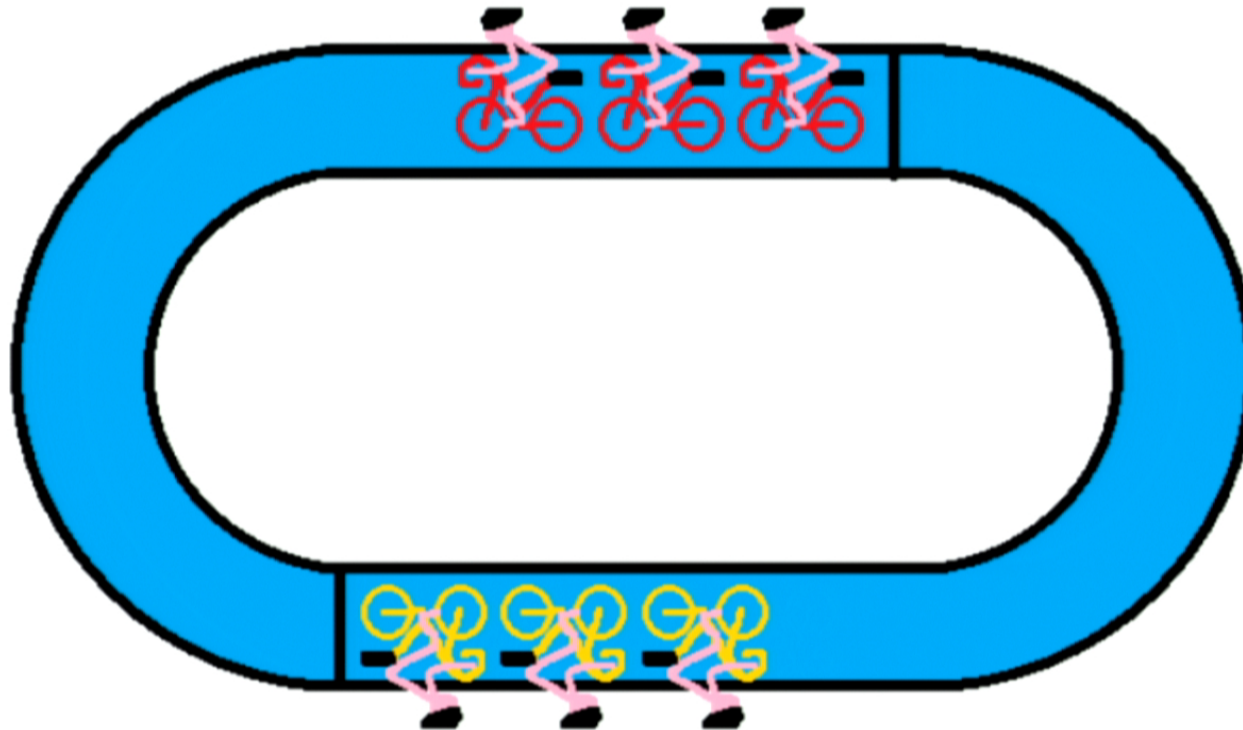
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$$\Delta P = P_2 - P_3$$



Applications in Sport



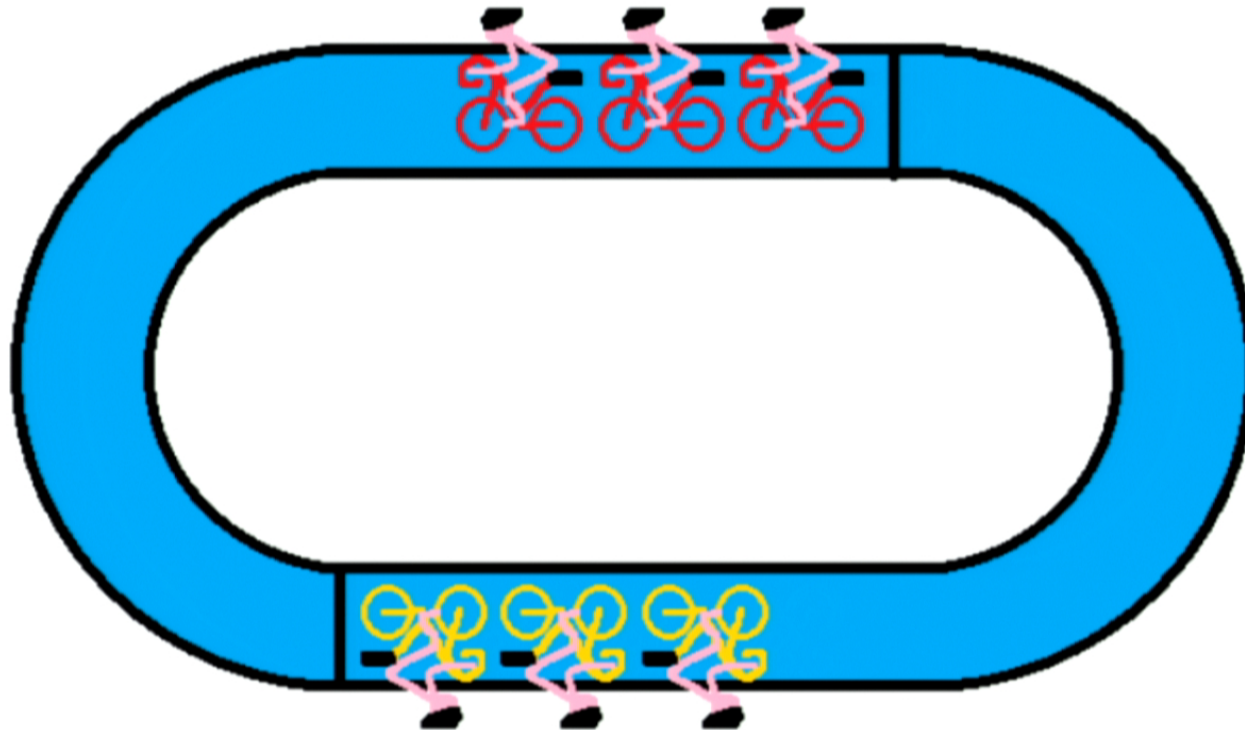
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Applications in Sport



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Summary

- The Physics of Slipstreaming:



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Summary

- The Physics of Slipstreaming:
 - Travelling objects give the medium behind them a net velocity



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Summary

- The Physics of Slipstreaming:
 - Travelling objects give the medium behind them a net velocity
 - Pressure differences in front and behind of a travelling object cause a net force on the object



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Summary

- The Physics of Slipstreaming:
 - Travelling objects give the medium behind them a net velocity
 - Pressure differences in front and behind of a travelling object cause a net force on the object
- Slipstreaming in Nature:
 - Allows animals to extend less energy by travelling in groups
 - This means longer distances can be traversed
- Applications in Sport:
 - Knowledge of aerodynamics: Better equipment and techniques in sports such as cycling



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Summary

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 - Travelling objects give the medium behind them a net velocity
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 - This means longer distances can be traversed
- Applications in Sport:
 - Knowledge of aerodynamics: Better equipment and techniques in sports such as cycling
 - Knowledge of slipstreaming: Better cycling techniques and strategies



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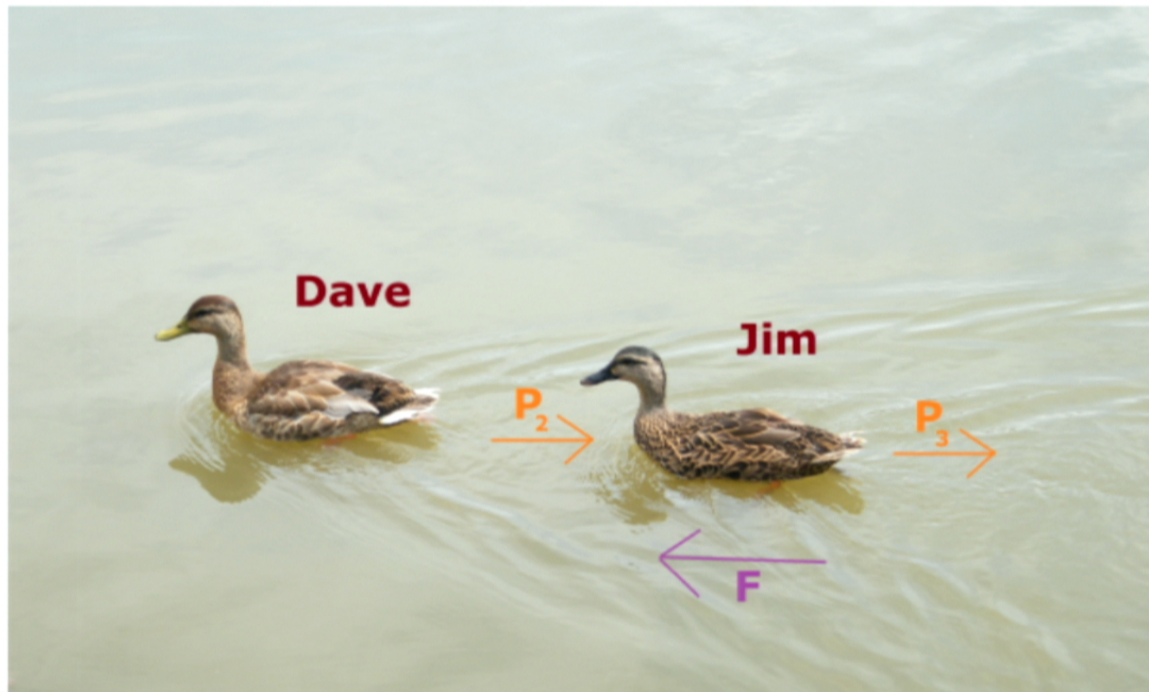
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Theory



$$\Delta P = P_2 - P_3$$

$$P_2 < P_3 \therefore \Delta P < 0$$

$\propto \Delta P$ acting forwards on Jim



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The nature of movement and the movement of nature (Newton's Laws)

Natacha Altamirano

Perimeter Institute

17th of July 2012



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Structure of talk

1 INTRODUCTION

2 THE MOVEMENT OF NATURE

3 THE NATURE OF MOVEMENT

4 CONCLUSIONS



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Structure of talk

1 INTRODUCTION

2 THE MOVEMENT OF NATURE

3 THE NATURE OF MOVEMENT

4 CONCLUSIONS



Structure of talk

1 INTRODUCTION

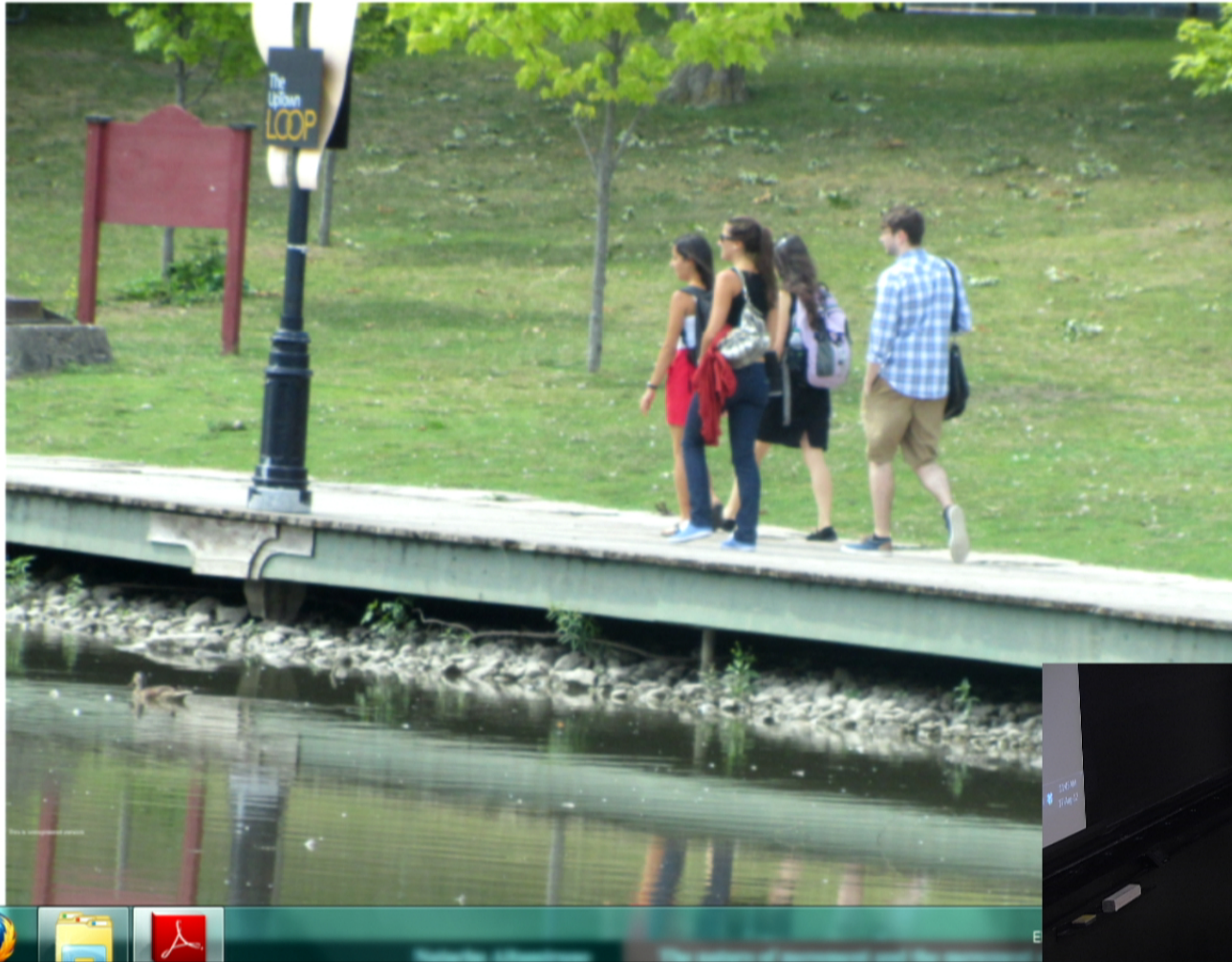
2 THE MOVEMENT OF NATURE

3 THE NATURE OF MOVEMENT

4 CONCLUSIONS















The objective of this talk is to
introduce the three Newton Laws
analysing the nature that surrounds
us.



The movement of Nature

There are two important fields of physics that studies movement

- **KINEMATICS** is the study of the movement of bodies and once the equation is established it is possible to determine the body's position and velocity at any time.
- **DYNAMICS** is the study of the causes for a body to change position and velocity.



The movement of nature

A BODY CHANGES ITS VELOCITY IF A
FORCE ACTS ON IT.



The movement of nature

FORCE HAS A DIRECTION AND A
MAGNITUDE.





The movement of nature

IF THE FORCE IS PERPENDICULAR TO
THE DIRECTION OF MOTION, THIS
FORCE WONT CHANGE THE
VELOCITY.

(Circular motion.)





The movement of nature

THE SAME FORCE HAS DIFFERENT
EFFECTS ON BODIES WHICH HAVE
DIFFERENT MASSES.





The movement of nature

THE STATIC FRICTION FORCE
APPEARS WHEN A FORCE ACTS ON A
BODY WHICH IS NOT SLIDING.
THE DYNAMIC FRICTION FORCE
APPEARS IN A BODY WHICH IS
SLIDING ON A SURFACE.





1 INTRODUCTION

2 THE MOVEMENT OF NATURE

3 THE NATURE OF MOVEMENT

4 CONCLUSIONS



The nature of movement

In 1687 Newton published his three laws of motion:

- **LAW OF INERTIA**
- **FUNDAMENTAL LAW OF DYNAMICS**
- **LAW OF ACTION AND REACTION**



The nature of movement-1st Law

If there are no forces acting on a body (or all the forces cancels), then the velocity of this body will not change.





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The nature of movement-2nd Law

If a force acts on a body its velocity will change (the body will be accelerated)

$$F = ma$$



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The nature of movement-3rd Law

If a body applies a force to another body, this one would 'react' to this action applying a force with the same magnitude and opposite direction on the first one.



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Conclusions

During the talk we've

- seen pictures that could have been taken in a normal day walk
- related them with the notion that we have of motion
- introduced Newton's laws of motion and explained them with normal photos



Conclusions

*We are not just surrounded by nature but also by
Physics!*



THANK YOU!



The Scale of Nature

or: How Dangerous are Giant Mutated Ants?

Ruben Verresen

August 16, 2012



perimeter SCHOLARS
international



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17-Aug-12

The Picture



Poll of Intuition: Scale Invariance of Nature

Is the physics of the ant unchanged?
Is nature scale invariant in this example?



Poll of Intuition: Scale Invariance of Nature

Is the physics of the ant unchanged?
Is nature scale invariant in this example?

INTUITION SAYS YES



Poll of Intuition: Scale Invariance of Nature

Is the physics of the ant unchanged?
Is nature scale invariant in this example?

INTUITION SAYS YES

INTUITION SAYS NO



Poll of Intuition: Scale Invariance of Nature

Is the physics of the ant unchanged?
Is nature scale invariant in this example?

INTUITION SAYS YES

INTUITION SAYS NO

NO INTUITION



Overview

- Problem with intuition?
- A first solution
- Intermezzo: dimensionless constants
- Definite solution



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Intuition



Intuition



First Solution

$$\frac{\text{length of an atom}}{\text{length of the ant}}$$



First Solution

$$\frac{\text{length of an atom}}{\text{length of the ant}}$$



Dimensionful vs. dimensionless changes

Only a change in a dimensionless quantity is measurable.

Gamov, "Mr Tompkins in Wonderland"
= ill-defined

"Change c and keep other fundamental constants fixed"



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Dimensionful vs. dimensionless changes

Only a change in a dimensionless quantity is measurable.

Gamov, "Mr Tompkins in Wonderland"
= ill-defined

"Change c and keep other fundamental constants fixed"
= impossible

Changing α , always measurable!



Final Solution

Dimensionless quantity that

- changes for the larger ant
- characterizes instability



MACROSCOPIC



MICROSCOPIC



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Final Solution

Dimensionless quantity that

- changes for the larger ant
- characterizes instability

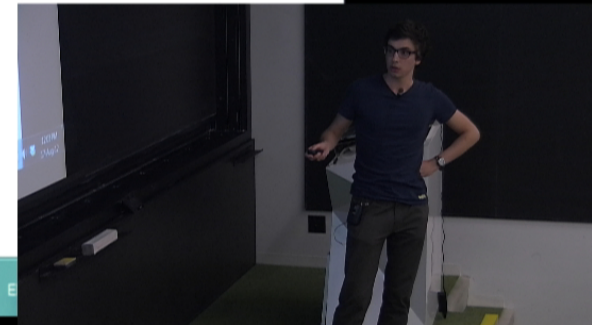


MACROSCOPIC



MICROSCOPIC

$$\text{dimensionless instability} = \frac{\epsilon}{a_0}$$



Final Solution



MACROSCOPIC



MICROSCOPIC

$$\frac{\epsilon}{a_0} = \frac{M_a g a_0 \cos \vartheta}{k_e e^2} L$$



Summarizing

Change is detectable **if and only if** dimensionless



Summarizing

Change is detectable **if and only if** dimensionless

Zooming in has dimension**ful** changes
but **not** dimension**less** changes



Summarizing

Change is detectable **if and only if** dimensionless

Zooming in has dimension**ful** changes
but **not** dimension**less** changes



The Waterloo Park's waterfowl plumage and surviving winter in Canada

Physics In Nature presentation

PHAM QUOC TRUNG

Perimeter Scholars International 2012/13

August 17, 2012



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Out-line

- 1 Motivation
- 2 Waterfowl plumage and thermal conductivity
- 3 Conclusions & outlook



Motivation

- I have never experienced a winter in Canada before \Rightarrow have to get myself prepared to "survive" in Canada's severe winter weather.
- Hopefully, I can do this by asking ducks and geese at the Waterloo Park?



The cold weather and the ducks and geese's feather



- How come the duck and geese at the Waterloo Park can survive in such extreme cold weather of Canada?



The cold weather and the ducks and geese's feather



- How come the duck and geese at the Waterloo Park can survive in such extreme cold weather of Canada?
- Special plumage of waterfowl should play a very important role in protecting them from the elements.



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Heat transfer through plumage

- Heat loss of ducks and geese mostly through their plumage.
- Heat transfer through plumage by several envanues¹:
 - ① conduction and free convection through air,
 - ② conduction along solid elements of the feathers, and
 - ③ radiation.



1. W. L. C. F. 1999. Heat loss through waterfowl plumage. The loss of heat through conduction, convection, and radiation. J. Therm. Biol.

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Heat transfer through plumage

- Feathers are composed of keratin, which has a considerably low conductivity².
- Only a small amount of heat lost is due to radiation (5% of total heat flow³)

⇒ Waterfowl must prevent heat loss mostly from conduction and convection through air.

²S Baxter 1946 Proc. Phys. Soc. 58 105 doi:10.1088/0959-5309/58/1/310

³W L L G F 1999 Heat flow through waterfowl plumage. The role of

conduction, convection and radiation. J. Therm. Biol.



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³W L L G F 1999 Heat flow through waterfowl plumage: The

conduction, convection, and radiation. J. Therm. Biol. 24



Feathers of the ducks

- Ducks, geese (and other waterfowl) usually have three main types of feathers: **contour**, **down** and **flight feathers**(supporting bird during flight.).
 - **Contour feathers**: outermost feathers, which overlap each other to form a protective outer shell and impenetrable barrier to wind and moisture.



Figure: Contour feather

Figure: contour feather

Feathers of the ducks



Figure: Down feather

⇒ Plumages of waterfowl are arranged into many layers of feathers

- **Afterfeathers:** attached to the lower shaft of some contour feathers.
- **Down feathers:** no interlocking barbules, light and fluffy appearance.
- **Semiplumes:** has downy feather look, and found between contour feathers and down feathers.



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Feathers of the ducks



Figure: Down feather

⇒ Plumages of waterfowl are arranged into many layers of feathers

- **Afterfeathers:** attached to the lower shaft of some contour feathers.
- **Down feathers:** no interlocking barbules, light and fluffy appearance.
- **Semiplumes:** has downy feather look, and found between contour feathers and down feathers.



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Waterfowl feather and thermal conductivity

- What does the feather pattern of waterfowl have anything to do with thermal conductivity?
 - The contour feathers trap some air and keep water and snow from penetrating into waterfowl's skin.
 - The fluffy barbules of down feathers also trap numerous tiny pockets of air in proximity to the skin.
- ⇒ These features provide a critical thermal buffer between the animal and its environment.

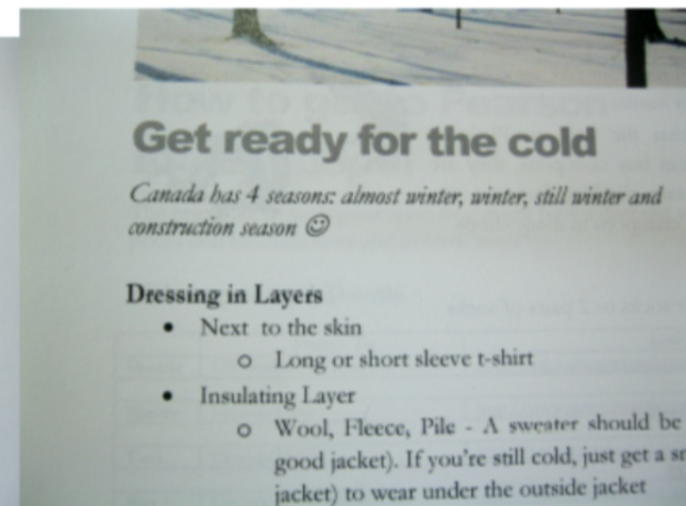


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Conclusions & outlook

- answers my own question why Diana mentioned in the PSI's Wellcome Guide that PSI students should dress in many layers.



Conclusions & outlook

- How many layers should I wear in order to survive in winter here?



Figure: "two-layers" in summer



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Conclusions & outlook

- How many layers should I wear in order to survive in winter here?



Figure: "two-layers" in summer

