# Stable Fluids

Jos Stam
Alias|wavefront
Seattle, WA USA

# Fluids in Computer Graphics

- Interactive modeling of fluids
- Fast
- Capture visuals of fluids

#### Fluid Mechanics

- Natural framework for fluid modeling Full Navier-Stokes Equations
- Has a long history
   reuse code/algorithms
- Equations are hard to solve non-linear

### Previous Work (computer graphics)

#### Two dimensions:

- Yaeger & Upson 86 + Gamito et al. 95 (vortex blobs)
- Chen et al. 97 (explicit in time, finite differences)

#### **Three-dimensions:**

Foster & Metaxas 97 (explicit in time, finite differences)

#### unstable

Inaccurate schemes can be useful

#### **Main Contribution**

Stable Navier-Stokes solver

Any time step can be used

Bigger time steps = faster simulations

NOT accurate

# **Application**

Use velocity to move densities:

```
While (simulating)
Get force from UI
Get density from UI
Update velocity
Update density
Display density
```

$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} = -(\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla)\rho + \kappa \nabla^2 \rho + S$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial t} = -(\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla)\mathbf{u} + \nu \nabla^2 \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{f}$$

+ velocity should conserve mass

Equations very similar

Evolution of density (assume velocity known)

$$\left| \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} \right| = -(\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla)\rho + \kappa \nabla^2 \rho + S$$

Over a time step...

Evolution of density (assume velocity known)

$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} = \left[ -(\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla)\rho \right] + \kappa \nabla^2 \rho + S$$

Density changes in the direction of the flow

Evolution of density (assume velocity known)

$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} = -(\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla)\rho + \kappa \nabla^2 \rho + S$$

Density diffuses over time

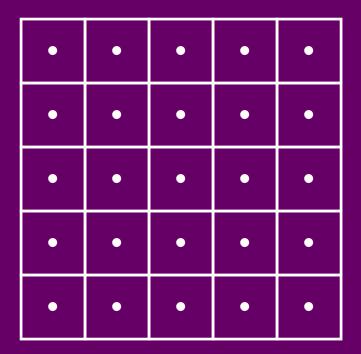
Evolution of density (assume velocity known)

$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} = -(\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla)\rho + \kappa \nabla^2 \rho + S$$

Increases due to sources from the UI

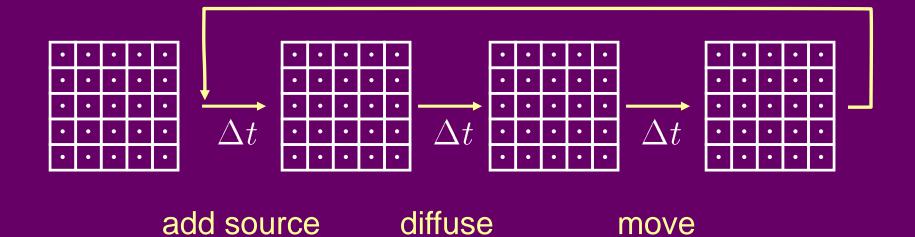
# **Algorithm**

Subdivide space into voxels

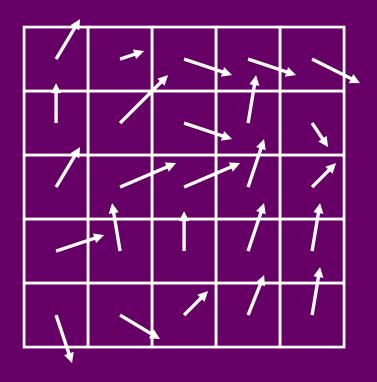


Velocity + density defined in the center of each voxel

## **Algorithm**

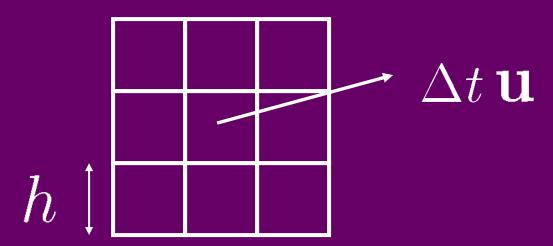


$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} = -(\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla)\rho + \kappa \nabla^2 \rho + S$$



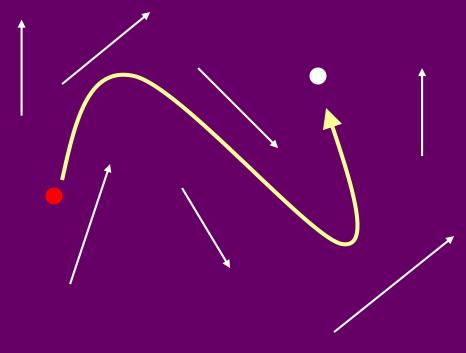
Velocity known

Finite Differences: transfer only between neighbors



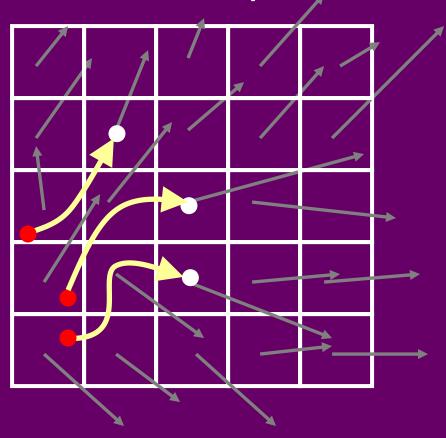
Unstable when  $|\Delta t| |\mathbf{u}| > h|$ 

Easy if density defined on particles

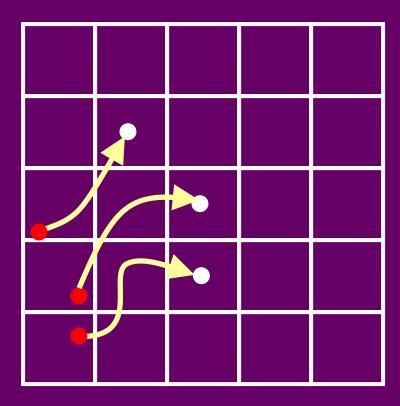


Any time step ok

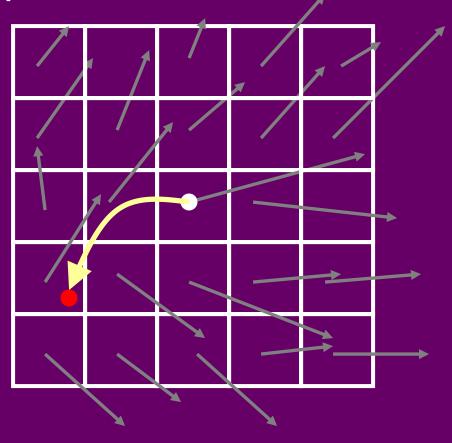
Key Idea: combine particles and grids



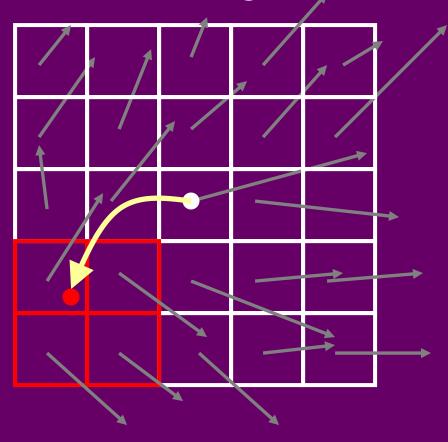
Key Idea: combine particles and grids



Trace particle backwards in time

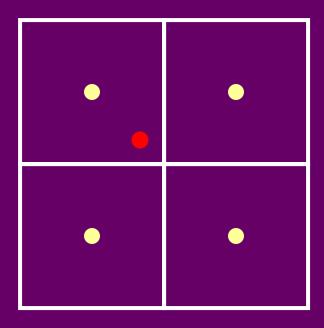


Determine four neighbors

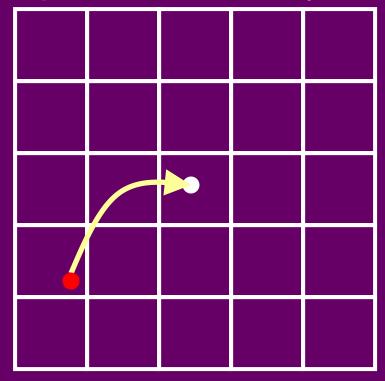


### Fluid Mechanics

Interpolate the density at new location



Set interpolated density at grid location



Requires two grids

This scheme is unconditionally stable:

$$\rho_{int} = (1-s)\rho_0 + s \rho_1$$

$$\rho_0, \ \rho_1 \leq \rho_{max}$$

$$\rho_{int} \le (1 - s + s)\rho_{max} \le \rho_{max}$$

density is always bounded

# **Computing Velocities**

Use same algorithms as for density

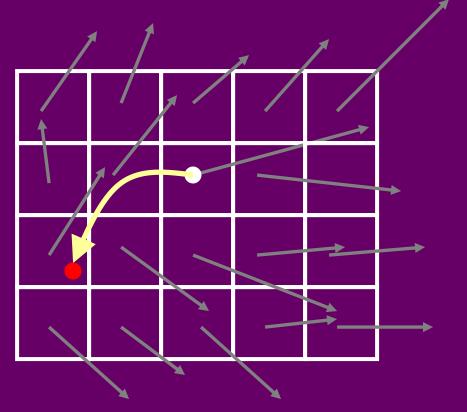
$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} = \mathbf{-(\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla)\rho} + \kappa \nabla^2 \rho + S$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial t} = \mathbf{-(\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla)\mathbf{u}} + \nu \nabla^2 \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{f}$$

Velocity is moved by itself

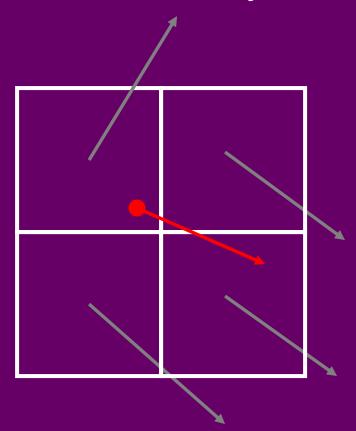
# **Moving Velocity**

Trace particle backwards in time



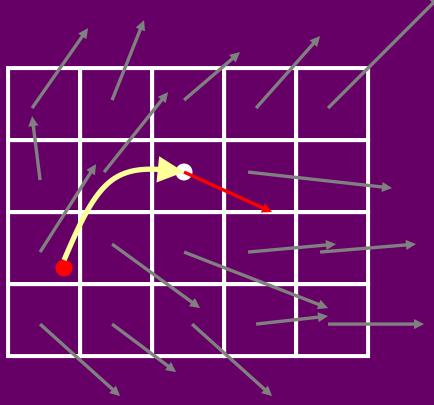
# **Moving Velocity**

Interpolate the velocity at new location



# **Moving Velocity**

Set interpolated velocity at grid location



Requires two grids

## Summary

```
UpdateVelocity(U1,U0,F,visc,dt)
   AddForce(U1,U0,F,dt)
   Diffuse(U0,U1,visc,dt)
   Move(U1,U0,U0,dt)
   ConserveMass(U1,dt)
```

Very easy to code. Only need:
Particle tracer + grid interpolator
PDE solver (FISHPAK)

#### Results

Demo time....

Hardware:

sgi Octane Workstation R12K 300Mhz CPU 3D texture hardware

#### **Future Work**

- Handle free boundaries (water)
- Parallel implementation
- Other texture maps
- Handle complex boundaries
- Can use same algorithm for boundary fitted finite element meshes