Introduction:- In fishes

- The skin of fishes is rich in mucous glands which form a protective mucous coat the skin.

- The skin which offers little resistance in passing through the water is smooth.

- Some elasmobranchs and a number of teleosts have poison glands usually associated with the spines of the fins.

- Light producing organs or photophores may also be present, particularly in deep sea-dwelling fishes. The outer

- The outermost dead layer of the epidermis, the stratum corneum is absent in fishes.

I. In Elasmobranchs:- In elasmobranchs (fig. 1.3) the epidermis is composed of many layers of epithelial cells amongest which are interspersed numerous unicellular mucous glands. ∫

- The dermis has following three layers:

(i) Stratum Laxum: outer layer below the epidermis which is almost free from fibres.

(ii) Stratum Compactum: Middle layer of the dermis which Consists of lamination fibres.

- The bases of the placoid Scales are tied to this layer by Sharpey's fibres.

(iii) Subcutaneous layer: Innermost layer of variable thickness.

- It Contains a network of fine fibres.

Integument in Fish

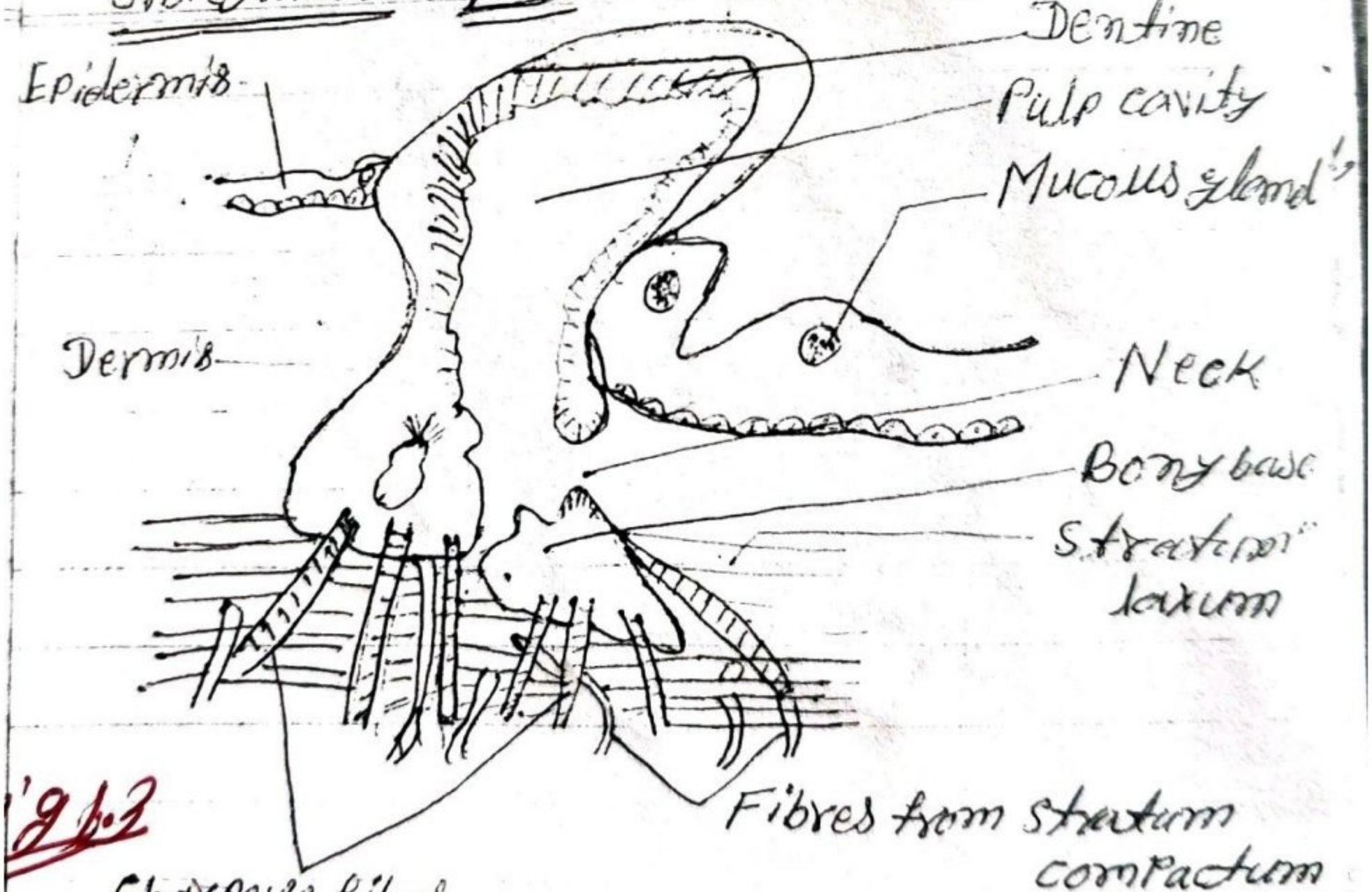

Fig. V.S. of Skin of shark