

Contents

1 Introduction	1
1.1 The Essential Information.....	1
1.2 Thermal Equilibrium	6
1.2.1 The Radiative Time Constant.....	9
1.3 Thermal Structure and Atmospheric Dynamics.....	11
1.3.1 Slowly Rotating Planets	12
1.3.2 Fast Rotating Planets.....	13
1.4 Conclusions	16
2 Thermodynamics of the Atmosphere.....	19
2.1 Simple Laws	19
2.1.1 The Scale Height.....	20
2.1.2 The Potential Temperature.....	21
2.1.3 Static Stability.....	22
2.2 The Thermodynamics of Water Vapor	23
2.2.1 The Equation of Clausius-Clapeyron	23
2.3 Some Effects of Water Vapor.....	24
2.3.1 Tephigram or Thermodynamic Diagram.....	27
2.3.2 The Conditional Convective Instability	30
2.4 The Distribution of Water Vapor on the Planets	32
2.4.1 Was the Atmosphere Drier During the Ice Age?	36
3 Radiation: The First Steps.....	39
3.1 The Definition of Radiometric Variables	39
3.2 Solar Radiation	40
3.3 Scattering and Absorption of Solar Radiation	45
3.3.1 Rayleigh Scattering	45
3.3.2 The Absorption of Solar Radiation	49
3.4 Infrared Radiation.....	52
3.4.1 The Equation of Radiative Transfer.....	54
3.4.2 The Radiative – Convective Atmosphere.....	57
3.4.3 The Runaway Greenhouse	59

4 Origin and Evolution of the Atmospheres	63
4.1 The Relevant Data	63
4.2 An Inventory of the Volatile Elements	65
4.3 A Simple Model for the Nebula.....	67
4.4 The Chemical Composition of the Planets	70
4.5 The Escape Mechanisms	73
4.5.1 The Jeans Escape	74
4.5.2 The Diffusive Transport in the Atmosphere	77
4.5.3 The Hydrodynamic Escape	82
4.6 The Steam Atmosphere	84
5 The First Laws of Motion	91
5.1 Scales and Orders of Magnitude	91
5.2 The Equations We Absolutely Need.....	93
5.2.1 The Total Derivative	93
5.2.2 The Continuity Equation.....	95
5.2.3 Pressure Forces	97
5.2.4 Friction Forces	97
5.2.5 The Coriolis Acceleration	99
5.2.6 The Equations of Motion in an Inertial System	101
5.3 Vorticity and Circulation	103
5.3.1 Some Properties of Vorticity and Circulation	105
5.3.2 The Sea Breeze	108
5.3.3 Some Other Local Winds.....	109
6 A Few Simple Applications	113
6.1 The Isobaric Coordinate System.....	113
6.1.1 The Continuity Equation in Isobaric Coordinates	115
6.2 The Geostrophic Motion.....	115
6.2.1 The Geostrophic Streamfunction	119
6.2.2 The Quasi-Geostrophy: The Isallobaric Wind	120
6.3 The Thermal Wind.....	122
6.3.1 Thermal Wind and Vorticity	124
6.3.2 A Few More Things About Geostrophic Wind	128
6.4 The Natural Coordinate System.....	130
7 The Atmospheric Motions	135
7.1 The Rossby Waves	135
7.2 The Vorticity Equation	140

7.3 The Thermodynamic Equation	145
7.4 The Isentropic Coordinate System.....	147
7.4.1 The Vorticity Equation in Isentropic Coordinates	150
7.5 The Ertel Potential Vorticity.....	151
7.5.1 The Application of the Potential Vorticity	153
7.5.2 Ozone and Vorticity	155
7.5.3 More on Rossby Waves	156
7.6 The Non-stationary Solutions	158
7.6.1 Numerical Solutions of a Flow Above an Obstacle: The Stationary Case.....	159
7.6.2 Numerical Solutions of a Flow Above an Obstacle: the Non-stationary Case.....	162
8 The Planetary Boundary layer	165
8.1 Turbulence and Diffusion	165
8.2 Turbulent Friction.....	168
8.2.1 The Mixing Length	170
8.3 The Surface Layer	172
8.4 The Ekman Layer	175
8.5 The Secondary Circulation	179
8.5.1 Spin-Down in a Teacup.....	181
8.6 The Transfer of Sensible and Latent Heat	183
8.6.1 The Fluxes in Presence of Vegetation.....	185
8.7 Turbulent Diffusion from Discrete Sources.....	187
8.7.1 The Characteristics of Smoke Plumes.....	187
8.7.2 The Gaussian Plume.....	190
9 Aerosols and Clouds	193
9.1 Sources of Atmospheric Aerosols.....	193
9.2 The Size Distribution of Atmospheric Aerosols.....	195
9.3 Nucleation and Growth.....	197
9.3.1 Nucleation from Water Vapor Condensation.....	198
9.3.2 The Growth by Condensation	200
9.3.3 Droplet Growth by Collision and Coalescence	202
9.3.4 The Statistical Growth	204
9.4 Formation and Growth of Ice Crystals	205
9.5 A Few Things About Radar.....	210
9.6 Stratospheric Aerosols	214
9.6.1 The Sulfate Aerosol layer	214
9.6.2 Polar Stratospheric Clouds (PSC)	216

10 Waves in the Atmosphere	219
10.1 Some Properties of the Waves	219
10.2 Gravity Waves in Shallow Water	221
10.3 Orographic Waves	223
10.4 Internal Gravity Waves.....	226
10.5 Three Dimensional Rossby Waves.....	229
10.6 The Physics of Gravity Waves	232
10.6.1 The Equation of Quasi Geostrophic Potential Vorticity	232
10.6.2 The Eliassen-Palm Flux	234
10.6.3 Energetics of Gravity Waves	236
10.7 Breaking, Saturation and Turbulence in the Upper Atmosphere	238
11 The Data on the Atmospheric Circulation	245
11.1 The General Features	245
11.2 The Energy Budget of the Atmosphere	248
11.2.1 Forms of Energy	251
11.2.2 Decomposition of Transport	254
11.2.3 The Details of the Energy Budget.....	255
11.3 The Mean Zonal Circulation.....	257
12 Theories on the General Circulation of the Atmosphere	263
12.1 The Equatorial Circulation	263
12.1.1 Gill's Symmetric Circulation.....	263
12.1.2 The Non-linear Symmetric Circulation.....	267
12.1.3 The Inviscid Symmetric Circulation	270
12.2 The General Circulation: A Reductionist Approach.....	274
12.2.1 The Inertial Instability.....	276
12.2.2 A Comparison Among the Planets	277
12.3 The Middle Latitude Circulation	278
12.3.1 The Baroclinic Instability: Qualitative Treatment.....	279
12.3.2 The Baroclinic Instability: The Eady Problem.....	281
12.3.3 The Baroclinic Instability: The Charney Problem	286
12.3.4 The Baroclinic Instability: Two Levels Model	287
12.4 Energetics of the Baroclinic Waves.....	292
12.4.1 Energy in the Two Levels Model.....	295
12.4.2 The Parameterization of Transport.....	297

13 Radiation for Different Uses	301
13.1 Parameterization of Gaseous Absorption	301
13.1.1 The Ozone Absorption	302
13.1.2 The Water Vapor Absorption	304
13.2 The Interaction of Solar Radiation with Particulates in the Atmosphere	307
13.2.1 Optical Properties of the Particles	309
13.2.2 Phase Functions and Mie Scattering	315
13.3 Radiative Transfer in the Presence of Scattering	316
13.3.1 A Few Simple Applications of the δ -Eddington Approximation	320
13.4 The Transfer of Infrared Radiation	323
13.4.1 The Formal Solution	323
13.5 Molecular Spectra	324
13.5.1 Spectral Line Shape	326
13.6 Models for the Line Absorption	328
13.6.1 A Formulation of the Infrared Flux	330
13.6.2 The Band Absorptivities According to Cess and Ramanathan	331
13.7 δ -Eddington in the Infrared	333
14 Simple Climate Models	335
14.1 Energy Budget	335
14.2 Zero Dimensional Models and Feedback	336
14.3 One Dimensional Energy Balance Climate Models	341
14.3.1 The North Model	342
14.3.2 The Stability of the One Dimensional Model	346
14.3.3 The Sellers Model	348
14.4 The radiative - convective models	350
14.4.1 The Radiative-Convective Models and the Greenhouse Effect	355
14.4.2 Can We Put Together the Radiative-Convective and Energy Balance Climate Models?	357
15 The Application of the Simple Climate Models	359
15.1 The Climate System	359
15.2 The Solar Radiation and the Orbital Parameters	363
15.3 Some Experimental Data on the Ice Ages	366
15.4 The 100 kyear Cycle and the Lithosphere – Atmosphere Coupling	369
15.5 Stochastic Resonance	374
15.6 The Global Warming: A Simple Exercise	378
15.6.1 The Near Future Climate of the Earth as a Problem of Electrical Engineering	378

15.7 The General Circulation Models	384
15.7.1 The Model Equations.....	385
15.7.2 The Performances of the GCMs.....	387
16 Chemistry of the Troposphere.....	393
16.1 Introduction	393
16.2 A Chemistry Refresher	394
16.3 The Minor Gas Inventory	397
16.3.1 Methane	399
16.3.2 Nitrous Oxide.....	399
16.3.3 Atmospheric Chlorine	400
16.4 The Biogeochemical Cycle for Carbon	403
16.4.1 Carbonate/CO ₂ System: A Bit of Marine Chemistry.....	405
16.4.2 How Long Will the Biosphere Survive?	410
16.5 Chemistry of the Troposphere	414
16.5.1 Methane Oxidation.....	416
16.5.2 The Chemistry of Urban Air	418
16.5.3 The Atmospheric Sulfur Cycle.....	422
16.6. Modes of a Chemical System	424
16.7 Transport of Chemical Species in the Troposphere	427
17 Dynamics of the Middle Atmosphere.....	431
17.1 Thermal Structure of the Stratosphere	431
17.2 The Eulerian Mean Circulation	433
17.2.1 The Transformed Eulerian Mean	435
17.2.2 An Attempt to Understand the Origin of the Residual Circulation ..	437
17.2.3 The Sudden Stratospheric Warming	438
17.3 Tracers Transport in the Stratosphere	440
17.3.1 The Two-Dimensional Diffusion Coefficients.....	442
17.3.2 Self Consistent Transport in Two Dimensions.....	445
17.3.3 Troposphere–Stratosphere Exchange	447
17.3.4 Eddies and the Troposphere–Stratosphere Flux.....	449
17.4 Transport in Isentropic Coordinates	452
17.4.1 Stratospheric Dynamics and Ertel potential vorticity.....	453
17.4.2 The Slope of the Tracers	455
17.4.3 The Tracer Correlation: Age of Air and Transport	458
17.4.4 The Conservative Coordinates	463
18 Stratospheric Chemistry	469
18.1 The Ozone Distribution	470

18.2 The Homogeneous Ozone Chemistry	472
18.2.1 The Catalytic Cycles in the Gaseous Phase	474
18.2.2 The Odd Hydrogen Catalytic Cycle	475
18.2.3 The Odd Nitrogen Catalytic Cycle	477
18.2.4 The Bromine and Chlorine Catalytic Cycles	478
18.2.5 The Effects of the Catalytic Cycles	480
18.3 Heterogeneous Chemistry	483
18.4 The Perturbations to the Ozone Layer	486
18.4.1 The Global Ozone Trend	488
18.4.2 Natural and Anthropogenic Perturbations: Volcanic Eruptions	491
18.4.3 Natural and Anthropogenic Perturbations: The Effect of Aviation	497
18.5 Polar Ozone	500
18.5.1 The Theory of the Polar Ozone	502
19 Chaos in the Atmosphere	507
19.1 Simple Examples from the Theory of Dynamical Systems	507
19.1.1 The Poincarè Section	508
19.1.2 Fractal Dimension	510
19.2 The Climate	512
19.3 Is El Niño Chaotic?	517
19.4 Dimensions of Weather and Climate Attractors	521
Appendix A	525
A.1 Constructing a Tephigram	525
Appendix B	529
B.1 Flow Over an Obstacle: The Numerical Solution	529
Appendix C	541
C.1 The Quasi Geostrophic Potential Vorticity in log-p Coordinates	541
C.2 The Eliassen and Palm Flux Terms	541
C.3 Energy and EP Flux	542
C.4 The WKB Approximation	543
C.5 The Numerical Solution to the Wave Equation	544
Appendix D	553
D.1 Band Parameterization for CO ₂ , O ₃ and H ₂ O	553

Appendix E	555
E.1 A Listing for the North's Spectral Model	555
E.2 Program for the Sellers Model	559
Appendix F	565
F.1 The Model for Stochastic Resonance	565
F.2. The FORTRAN Program	566
Symbols	569
References	573
Subject Index	586