

## REVIEW (MID-TERM)

### MAIN TOPICS:

1. SCALE CONSIDERATIONS:  
TOPOCLIMATE: OBSERVATIONS IN MOUNTAINS
2. EFFECTS OF LATITUDE, CONTINENTALITY:  
- ON RADIATION, TEMPERATURE
3. ALTITUDE EFFECTS:  
PRESSURE  
WATER VAPOR } EXPONENTIAL DECREASE

RADIATION - SOLAR - OPTICAL DEPTH - CLOUDS  
(U.V.) SCATTERING

- INFARED
- NET

TEMPERATURE : ELR. DALR/SALR : POTENTIAL TEMP.

SUMMIT vs. FREE - AIR ; PLATEAUS

MASS ELEVATION

AIR, SOIL TEMP. VARIATION

WIND - BERNOULLI, FRICTION

SPEED - UP OVER LOW HILLS

$$S \text{ (STATIC STABILITY)} = g(\Gamma - \gamma)/T$$

2. R. LONG (1955) Lab experiments; FROUDE No. criterion

$$F \text{ (Froude No.)} = \frac{\text{Inertial Forces}}{\text{Buoyancy}} \quad \frac{\text{(Viscous)}}{\text{(Gravitational)}}$$

$$F_t = \frac{U}{N \cdot h} ; \quad \text{ALSO} = \frac{U}{h(S)^{1/2}}$$

$F_t < 1$  : BLOCKED

$F_t > 1$  : SHOOTING FLOW

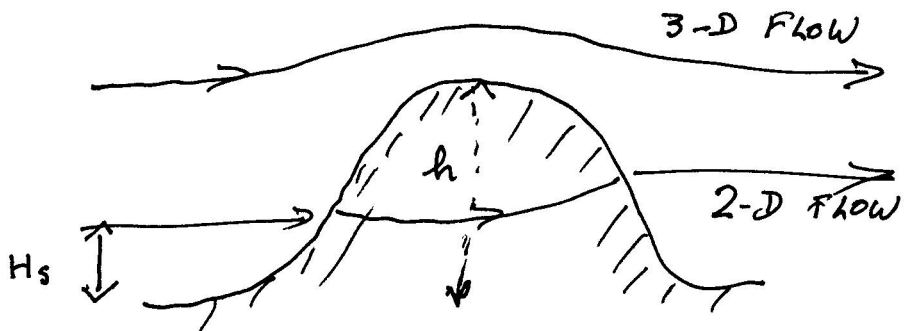
$[1/\ell = U/S^{1/2}]$  Scorer Param.  
For Lee Waves

Note Brunt Väisälä Frequency for natural vertical oscillations  $N = \sqrt{S/2\pi}$

3. J. HUNT & SNYDER (1980) Lab experiments; 'Dividing Streamline' Concept

Critical Streamline height for flow over obstacle is:

$$H_s = h(1 - F)$$



## OTOGRAPHIC EFFECTS

### PRINCIPLES OF FLOW OVER MOUNTAINS –

- K.E. REQUIREMENT
- FROUDE No. CRITERION - BLOCKING  
- DIVIDING STREAMLINE

### SCALES:

PLANETARY - CONSERVATION OF POTENTIAL VORTICITY

SYNOPTIC - FRONTS  
BARRIER WINDS  
LEE CYCLOGENESIS

MESO SCALE { FREE, FORCED WAVES  
                  { LEE WAVES - SCORER PARAM.  
                  { KARMAN VORTEX STREET

### DYNAMICALLY – FORCED WINDS

- (BARRIER WINDS)
- FALL WINDS - CHINOOK (FÖHN)  
- BORA

### THERMALLY – FORCED (DENSITY GRADIENT, g)

- SLOPE WINDS – ANA/KATABATIC
- MOUNTAIN/VALLEY WINDS

# **MOUNTAIN CLIMATOL: REVIEW, PART 2**

## **TOPOCLIMATE/MICROCLIMATE:**

- **SCALES**
- **FACTORS**
  - SLOPE (orientation, angle, curvature)
  - SKY VIEW, SHELTER
  - LOCAL AIRFLOW
  - SURFACE RADIATIVE PROPERTIES (albedo)
  - SOIL THERMAL PROPERTIES
  
- **MODELLING SLOPE RADIATION** (sun path diagram, geometry)
  - APPLICATIONS
  
- **TOPOCLIMATES**
  - THERMAL BELT
  - ‘SHELTER’ – local, large scale

## **MICROCLIMATE**

- RADIATION
- WIND EXPOSURE, SHELTER
- SNOW DEPTH
- VEGETATION
- SOIL PROPERTIES

## CLIMATIC CHARACTERISTICS

1. ENERGY BUDGETS –  $R_n = S(1-\alpha) + L_{\uparrow} - L_{\downarrow}$

$R_n = H + LE + \epsilon$  – Niwot examples

EVAPORATION – OBS. (Pan, Lysimeter, Eddy  
Correlation

- **CALCULATION**

- Aerodynamic (profile)

- Energy Budget

(note:  $H/LE = \beta$ )

- **TYPICAL BUDGETS – wet/dry surfaces**

2. CLOUD REGIMES

- Lapse rates

- Bergeron (feeder/seeder)

- Convective, stratiform clouds

3. PRECIPITATION

- OBS. ERRORS, NETWORKS

- Precip. Types, - OROG. COMPONENT

- Processes

- Models – condensation rate, vertical motion

- Snowfall, - Snow transport (modes)

- Condensation – RIME; fog precip.

- Snow Sublimation

## **BIOCLIMATE:**

### **I. WEATHER HAZARDS**

- 4. HYPOXIA – physiological/medical aspects-inspired oxygen,  
working capacity, hemoglobin saturation,  
cardiac output**
- 5. HYPOTHERMIA, WINDCHILL**  
Vaso-constriction/dilation  
Basal metabolic rate
- 6. OTHER – Blowing snow/white-out; avalanche, lightning**  
Foehn – pressure waves

### **II. INDIGENOUS POPULATIONS**

- Adaptations – to hypoxia (Tibet, Peru, Colorado)**
- Acclimatization – athletes, climbers**
- Loss of ventilatory adjustment (Soroche CMS)**
- Effects of altitude – health, births**

### **III. POLLUTION**

- Emission – Transport – Deposition**
- Types/sources**
- Plumes – wind/stability effects**
- Large-scale – Synoptic Weather - Inversions**  
Mixing Depth: convection
- Orog. Effects: Channeling**  
Flow blocking/Separation  
Slope/Valley Airflows
- Scavenging/Seeder-feeder role**  
Orog. Clouds
- Acid rain/Snow**

## **REGIONAL CASE STUDIES**

### **BASIC ROLES OF:**

**LATITUDE – annual/diurnal T-range**

**Global Wind Belts (surface, upper air)**

**Continental/Maritime**

### **1. EQUATORIAL/TROPICAL**

**NEW GUINEA – seasonal wind changes (SE/NW)**

**Precip. – decrease with height**

**Snowfalls at 4km**

**VENEZUELA – Dominant E'lies**

**Complex precip. Profiles**

**Max. at 1km on E-slope of Andes**

**Thermal-Blome zones**

**Cloud forest**

**Glaciers 5 km**

**HIMALAYA – Summer monsoon**

**Precip. Max. in foothills (decr. to N and W)**

**Circulation Change – ocean/Tibet roles**

**Winter cyclones in NW Himalaya**

**Mountain snowfall, large glaciers**

## REGIONAL CLIMATES (continued)

Tibet – ‘Plateau Monsoon’ (Compare to S.W. USA high plateau) – summer heat low (shallow)

Precipitation decreases from SE to NW

Mostly summer convective precipitation (nocturnal)

Mean altitude 4500 m – extensive permafrost

## MID-LATITUDES

Basic controls: westerlies, storm tracks; latitude maritime/continental effects.

“snow climates” in Pacific NW, Colorado . . .

- 1.) Colorado Rocky Mountains – west/east contrasts in precipitation gradients.
  - a. Strong westerly winds
  - b. Topoclimates-esp. low elevation
- 2.) Alps – dry interior regions.
  - a. Contrasting annual precipitation regimes (mainly N/S)
  - b. Foehn effects
- 3.) Scottish Highlands – ultra – maritime. Steep precipitation gradient to west.
  - a. Short and variable snow season

## CLIMATIC CHANGE

European Observatories – temp. records – similarities to hem. trend (winter warming)

Spatial gradients complicate mt/lowland comparison

Glacier recession – integrated record. (post – L.I.A) accelerating retreat

Snow cover responses to change in T

Impacts of changes in mountains