

Best to first  
have the actual  
vertical velocity distribution  
as well. Start with my data  
problem.

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GFD

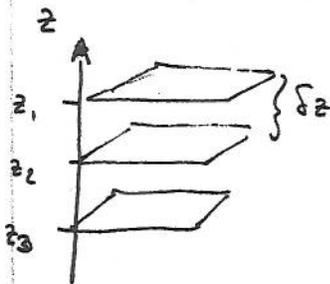
59  
CO3

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4/3/00

G9.2

Horizontal stress  $(\tau^{(x)}, \tau^{(y)})$  at earth's surface  
force / unit area



stress applied at one level sets fluid in motion  
thus exerting a stress on the layer below  
 $\delta z$

the stress on the layer below is

$$\left( \tau^{(x)} - \delta z \frac{\partial \tau^{(x)}}{\partial z}, \tau^{(y)} - \delta z \frac{\partial \tau^{(y)}}{\partial z} \right)$$

but the lower layer exerts a stress  $(-\tau^{(x)}, -\tau^{(y)})$  on the  
upper layer, thus, the net force/unit area will be  
the difference, that is,

$$\left( \frac{\partial \tau^{(x)}}{\partial z}, \frac{\partial \tau^{(y)}}{\partial z} \right) \cdot \delta z \quad \Bigg| \quad \frac{\delta x \cdot \delta y}{\text{mass}}$$

$\rho$  density  $\rightarrow \frac{1}{\rho} \left( \frac{\partial \tau^{(x)}}{\partial z}, \frac{\partial \tau^{(y)}}{\partial z} \right)$

This is the additional force/mass that tends to  
accelerate the fluid

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$$E_V = \frac{A_V / \Omega}{H^2} = \left( \frac{\delta E}{H} \right)^2 \quad 4/2/00$$

Linearised momentum equations  $Ro \ll 1$ ,  $Ro_T \sim E_V \sim 1$

$$\begin{aligned}
 u &= u(x, y, z, t) \\
 v &= v(x, y, z, t) \\
 \rho &= \text{const.}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} - f v = \frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial p}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \tau^{(x)}}{\partial z}$$

$$\frac{\partial v}{\partial t} + f u = \frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial p}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial \tau^{(y)}}{\partial z}$$

|  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| $\underbrace{\hspace{150px}}$<br>Accelerations | $\underbrace{\hspace{100px}}$<br>horizontal<br><del>pressure</del><br>pressure<br>gradient | $\underbrace{\hspace{100px}}$<br>vertical<br>stress<br>gradients |
|  | $\underbrace{\hspace{200px}}$<br>Forcing   |  |

Separate into components ~~and consider separately~~

[ linear equations; solutions can always be added up in the end even though they are considered separately ]

$$u = u_p + u_E, \quad v = v_p + v_E$$

$$\frac{\partial u_p}{\partial t} + f v_p = -\frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial p}{\partial x}, \quad \frac{\partial v_p}{\partial t} - f u_p = -\frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial p}{\partial y}$$

$$\text{Ekman velocities} \left\{ \begin{aligned}
 \frac{\partial u_E}{\partial t} + f v_E &= +\frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial \tau^{(x)}}{\partial z}, & \frac{\partial v_E}{\partial t} - f u_E &= +\frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial \tau^{(y)}}{\partial z}
 \end{aligned} \right.$$

The stress  $(\tau^{(x)}, \tau^{(y)})$  is zero outside the boundary layer, so vertical integration gives

$$\rho \left( \frac{\partial u_E}{\partial t} - f v_E \right) = -\tau_0^{(x)} ; \quad \rho \left( \frac{\partial v_E}{\partial t} + f u_E \right) = -\tau_0^{(y)}$$

↑  
 sign determines if bottom or surface boundary  
 "+" boundary is above 

"-" boundary is below 

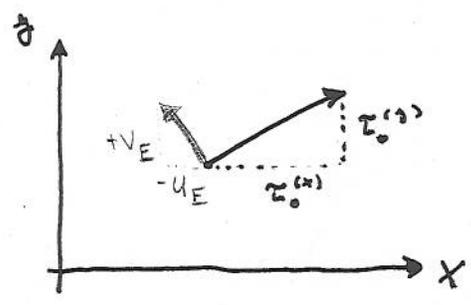
and

$$(u_E, v_E) = \int (u_E, v_E) dz = \int (u - u_p, v - v_p) dz$$

is the volume transport, relative to the pressure gradient flow  $\vec{e}_z$  (Ekman volume transport).

For steady state conditions  $\frac{\partial}{\partial t} = 0$  we have

$$-\rho f v_E = -\tau_0^{(x)} \quad \text{and} \quad \rho f u_E = -\tau_0^{(y)}$$



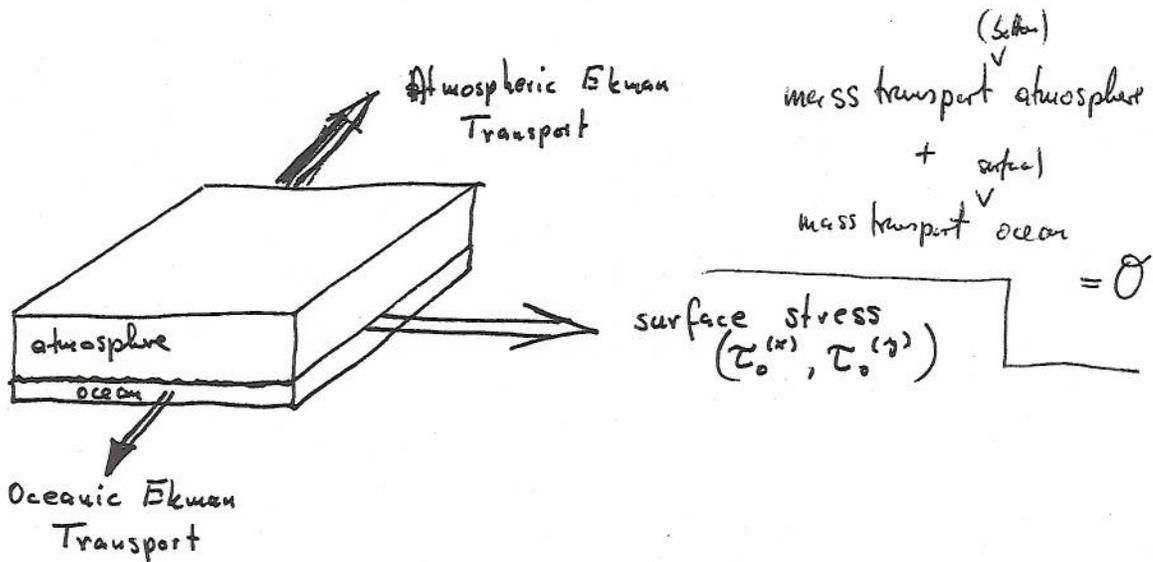
$$\sigma \quad u_E \propto -\tau^{(y)}$$

$$v_E \propto +\tau^{(x)}$$

$$\sigma \quad \tau^{(x)} \propto v_E$$

$$\tau^{(y)} \propto -u_E$$

Bottom Boundary Layers to the left of stress (northern hemisphere,  $f > 0$ )



Recall that the right/left angle rule applies only to steady conditions!

G.93

Example: Ocean at rest, sudden wind stress  $\tau_0^{(x)} = \tau_0^{(y)} = 0$   
How does the Ekman transport vary?

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} (U_E + i V_E) + i f (U_E + i V_E) = \frac{1}{\rho} \tau_0^{(x)}$$

(x-mom) + i (y-momentum)  $W = U_E + i V_E$

$$\dot{W} + i f W = \frac{1}{\rho} \tau_0^{(x)}$$

has solution

$$W(t) = -i \left( \frac{\tau_0}{\rho f} \right) \left( 1 - e^{-i f t} \right)$$

~~at t=0~~

$$\dot{W}(t) = -i \left( \frac{\tau_0}{\rho f} \right) \left( 1 - \left( \cos f t - i \sin f t \right) \right)$$

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$$u_E = \frac{\tau_0}{\rho f} \sin ft$$

$$v_E = \frac{\tau_0}{\rho f} (\cos ft - 1)$$

for small  $(ft)$   
to  $O(ft)$

$$\sin ft \approx ft$$

$$u_E \propto ft$$

and  $\cos ft \approx 1$

$$v_E \approx 0$$

thus for  $t \ll f^{-1}$  flow is in the direction of stress

small time  $ft$  later:

to  $O((ft)^2)$

$$\sin ft \approx ft - \frac{(ft)^3}{6}$$

$$\text{and } \cos ft \approx 1 - \frac{(ft)^2}{2}$$

$$u_E \propto ft$$

$$v_E \propto -(ft)^2$$

The flow begins to veer to the right as  $v_E < 0$

Note also that  $v_E$  contains both

a time-invariant part and

a time-varying part

The steady state part is the EKMAN TRANSPORT

The time-varying part is an INERTIAL OSCILLATION

Stress Gill (1982) Fig. 8.3 and Fig. 9.2

Bowden (1983) Fig. 4.3

Nemua + Pearson (1967) Fig. 8.17

The solution

$$W(t) = -i \frac{\tau_0}{\rho f} (1 - e^{-ift})$$

satisfies the initial condition  $W(t=0) = 0$

and consists of a steady state part =  $-i \tau_0 / \rho f$  (imaginary!) thus  $\perp$  to winds

and an oscillatory component =  $+i \frac{\tau_0}{\rho f} e^{-ift}$

that can be interpreted as a very long Poincaré wave (inertial oscillation)

If  $W(t=t_0) = W_0$  and the wind stress  $\tau_0$  changes at that time, we get the solution

$$W(t) = \underbrace{-i \frac{\tau_0}{\rho f} (1 - e^{-if(t-t_0)})}_{\text{same as before}} + \underbrace{W_0 e^{-if(t-t_0)}}_{\text{correction to accommodate the new initial condition}}$$

or

$$W(t) = \underbrace{-i \frac{\tau_0}{\rho f}}_{\text{steady state "Ekman layer" response}} + \underbrace{\left( i \frac{\tau_0}{\rho f} + W_0 \right)}_{\text{amplitude of inertial oscillations}} e^{-if(t-t_0)}$$

steady state  
"Ekman layer"  
response

amplitude  
of inertial  
oscillations

if  $W_0 = -i \frac{\tau_0}{\rho f}$  then there are no i.o.