

Exam format:

word	symbolic math	nutshell meaning	longer explanation of meaning (concept) in question	Relevant sketch with arrows or little f(x) curve or whatever is appropriate
divergence				
	ρ			xxxxx

...

Essential grammar we have learned: first just math

Latitude, longitude, altitude

Zonal, meridional, vertical

Northward vs. northerly; eastward vs. westerly; poleward vs. equatorward; cyclonic upward, altitude, pressure level (know Earth's atmosphere layers, z & p depth values) troposphere, stratosphere, planetary boundary layer (PBL)

Cartesian: x,y,z coords $\mathbf{i}, \mathbf{j}, \mathbf{k}$ unit vectors u,v,w components of vector wind \mathbf{V}
tangent plane to the spherical Earth, locally accurate, *orthogonal*

a scalar vs. a vector

a vector has 2 *properties* (in 2D or 3D): *magnitude* and *direction*

Two kinds of multiplication: dot product, cross product

defined for an individual vector; repeated at every location for a *vector field*
scalar *field* vs. vector *field* -- know your **MKS Units on all these quantities**

functions apply over a *domain* (coordinates or arguments or inputs)

their *value* (output) spans some *range* of outcomes

in other words, a function is a *mapping from domain to range*

graphically: a function is a *curve* (1D domain), *surface* (2D), or *field* (3D, 4D)

ex: $T(x,y,z,t)$ is *temperature everywhere forever*, $\mathbf{V}_{500}(x,y)$ is *hor. wind @500*

Derivatives of a function:

first: *slope* (on 1D domain) is a scalar; *gradient* (on 2D, 3D domain) is **vector field**

second: *curvature* (on any dimension of domain)

second derivative is a *scalar operator*: it flips sign, for *sinuoids* (waves)
equal to *divergence of gradient* on 2D or 3D domain

Del operator: a **vector operator** (*nabla* symbol), behaves just like a vector except that things to the left of it are multiplied, while things on the right of it are *operated on*.

that is, Del does not *commute* like a regular vector field. $\mathbf{V} \cdot \nabla \neq \nabla \cdot \mathbf{V}$

* know the *gradient of a scalar function of space*, result is a **vector field**
like *temperature gradient* ∇T where $T(x,y,z, \text{ maybe } t)$ is a scalar function

* know "del dot" a vector field
vergence (*divergence, convergence*) $\text{div}(\mathbf{V}) = \text{"del dot } \mathbf{V}" = \nabla \cdot \mathbf{V}$
convergence of a flux is the *tendency due to transport*
advection is another way to express this tendency

* know "del squared": divergence of gradient, *second derivative in space*
a measure of *curvature* of a curve, surface, or (abstractly) 3D field
differentiation *emphasizes small scales*: *edge finder* in image proc.
random exchange (molecules) creates a *diffusive flux, down the gradient*
diffusivity is the constant of proportionality
convergence of that flux is a *transport tendency* called *diffusive tendency*
called *viscous force* for diffusive momentum flux

advection "minus $\mathbf{V} \cdot \nabla$ " or "minus $\mathbf{V} \cdot \text{grad } T$ ": *transport from upwind*
note negative sign $-\mathbf{V} \cdot \nabla T$

Curl of vector field \mathbf{V} , $\nabla \times \mathbf{V}$

Only in 3D! Right hand rule.

(vector *vorticity*, if \mathbf{V} is a 3D *velocity field*)

we use only its *vertical component*, $\zeta = v_y - u_x$

(where subscripts indicate partial derivatives)

Curl of gradient vanishes precisely - why?

round-and-round vs. uphill-downhill are the 2 kinds of motion

Scale of variation (m vs. km vs. 1000s of km; hours vs. days vs. months):

notice these are logarithmic distinctions, not just "size" (like 10m vs. 5m)

Running average (smoothing) isolates *large scales* (larger than *filter scale*)

Deviations from that are *small scales*: (*subfilter* scales)

anomaly (deviation from time *average*)

eddy (deviation from space average)

perturbation: someone/something *perturbed* something

away from some *control* case

(to do an *experiment*, capable of isolating *cause and effect*)

Partial derivatives of a field $f(x,y,z,t)$

Local or *Eulerian* $\partial f / \partial t$

Total or *Lagrangian* Df/Dt , following a moving parcel at position $\langle x_p(t), y_p(t), z_p(t) \rangle$

Know the difference from to the local derivative $\partial f / \partial t$ (chain rule):

advection $-\mathbf{V} \cdot \nabla f$ by wind $\mathbf{V} = \langle u, v, w \rangle = d/dt \langle x_p(t), y_p(t), z_p(t) \rangle$

because the *rate of change* of *coordinate position* IS *velocity*

Nondivergent vs. irrotational decomposition of a vector field

equivalently, rotational and divergent, "**components**" of *field decomposition*
different meaning than *vector components* (along the unit vectors)

* *streamline, streamfunction, streamwise: instantaneous velocity, threaded tip to tail*

* *trajectory* (different from streamline): motion of a parcel through time

Integral relationships (opposite of derivative) for gradient, div, curl

Stokes' theorem (circulation), Gauss' theorem (for divergence)

vanishing of $\text{div}(\text{curl}(\mathbf{V}(x,y,z))) \leftrightarrow$ vanishing of loop integral of gradient

ODEs and solutions

time tendency is usually put on *left hand side (LHS)*

exponential solutions to $df/dt = -bf$

sinusoidal solutions to $d^2f/dt^2 = -c^2f$

$\exp()$ with complex numbers combines both

need boundary or initial conditions (constant of integration) to fully solve DEs

stationary or steady-state solution: equilibrium or "balance"

$df/dt = A - B$. Make steady-state assumption. Is it still a diff-eq? NO! $A=B$

PDEs and solutions: terms and concepts (for our applications)

prognostic vs. diagnostic

boundary conditions, initial conditions

inverse of Laplacian (smoothing, the opposite of "edge finding"; reversed sign)

Streamfunction is inverse-Laplacian of *vorticity*

PROGNOSTIC EQUATIONS:

Contains a time derivative or *rate of change*, customarily on left-hand side (LHS)

terms on RHS are then called *partial tendencies*, time *tendencies*

Governing equation(s), *budgets*, with *partial tendencies* (tendency terms) on RHS

Eulerian (local) vs. *Lagrangian (total, following-the-flow)* derivatives

$d/dt(\text{something}) = 0 + \text{sources} - \text{sinks}$

$\partial/\partial t(\text{something}) = \text{flux convergence} + \text{sources} - \text{sinks}$

$\partial/\partial t(\text{something}) = \text{advection} + \text{sources} - \text{sinks}$

Conserved tracer an important special case: *sources-sinks negligible*

Balance special case: *neglect time derivative relative to other tendencies*

hydrostatic in the vertical (pressure = weight = $g \cdot \text{mass of column}$)

geostrophic wind balance, gradient wind balance in the horizontal

geostrophic wind \mathbf{V}_g , *thermal wind* (upper-level \mathbf{V}_g minus lower-level \mathbf{V}_g)
fictional wind fields obeying balance exactly: no divergence, unchanging

jet stream (a momentum feature; sketch forces, p surface slope, thickness)
cool core cyclone: positive PV feature in upper troposphere
warm core cyclone: positive PV feature strongest at low levels
Adjustment (a fast or efficient process of restoration/maintenance of balance)

Dynamics: the physical study of flow (forces, etc.) and its changes (prognostic)

Kinematics: the basis set of 4 2D spatial gradients of 2D velocity field

vorticity, divergence, *deformation*.

diffluence/confluence may or may not be associated with true divergence

recipes:

shear = vorticity + deformation

line of convergence = convergence + deformation

Waves: terms and concepts

harmonic or sinusoidal functions

frequency, period, wavelength, wavenumber, amplitude, phase

phase velocity, group velocity

growing, decaying *amplitude* (in space or time)

growing, shrinking *scale* (expressed as wavenumber or wavelength)

Physical concepts/words to know

Mass, density, mass fractions (*specific* __, *mixing ratio* of __, *concentration* of __)

Conservation of mass (*continuity* of mass flux)

Flux of mass, multiply by specific __ to get flux of __ (__ = momentum, moisture, etc.)

Conservation of stuff

TRANSPORT:

Flux of (stuff): what are the units? (Stuff) per second per square meter, in 3D

Flux convergence is the impact of the flux (*transport's* "drop-off" or "delivery")

Advection: the *sense* of it (upstream conditions coming at ya) and the math ($-\mathbf{V} \cdot \nabla$)

how are *advection* vs. *flux convergence* related?

(Answer: equal, because of mass continuity, as in homework).

Diffusion (convergence of a flux that is *negatively proportional to the gradient*).

PHYSICAL LAWS

Equation of Motion / Newton's 2nd Law ($F=ma$)

Gravity force: vertical; it defines vertical

Pressure-gradient force (PGF): Enforcer of continuity, in general

Gradient of *pressure-surface height* or *geopotential height* in p-coords.

Coriolis force (if still air on rotating Earth is 'motionless', this is very real)

f is *Coriolis parameter*, also equal to *planetary vorticity*

"*Inertial forces*" (*advection of momentum* by wind itself)

"*Friction*" (convergence of momentum flux by small-scale motions; *viscosity*)

Vorticity equations: $d/dt(\text{vorticity}) = 0 + \text{complications}$

Relative vorticity ζ : eliminates PGF from momentum equations

Absolute vorticity $\zeta_a = (f + \zeta)$ moves $v df/dy = v\beta$ term to LHS

mechanism: Coriolis force *torque* on air patch that moves south or north

Potential vorticity PV, eliminates $\zeta_a \text{div}(\mathbf{V})$ "*vortex stretching*" term from RHS

Vortex interactions (e.g. for TC steering): 2D reasoning (not this year)

$1/r$ decay of "induced" rotational wind from vorticity element (point vortex)

$$V_{\text{tan}} \propto (1/r)$$

ζ_{rel} itself is advected by the "induced" flow from all other vortex points

a *point vortex model* of flow and its predictability

Sketch how this plays out for 2 vortices of same/opposite sign

Rossby waves: includes advection of planetary vor (or conservation of absolute vor)

explain from $d/dt(\zeta_a) = 0$ with $\beta = df/dy$

Phase velocity $c = U - \beta/k^2$: westward relative to U, long waves faster

Group velocity $c_g = U + \beta/k^2$: eastward relative to U, " " "

"downstream development" process

For *stationary waves* ($c=0$), $c_g = 2U$

First Law of Thermodynamics (conservation of microscopic energy)

heat energy added to gas = change in *internal energy* + *work* done by gas ($p dV/dt$)

Per unit mass: $Q = C_v dT/dt + p d\alpha/dt$

Ideal gas law, an equation of state for air: $p\alpha = RT$

Plug in: $Q = C_p dT/dt - \alpha dp/dt$

where $C_p = C_v + R$

Mass continuity

Hydrostatic pressure (or mass) coordinate makes it especially clean

$$\partial u / \partial x + \partial v / \partial y + \partial \omega / \partial p = 0$$

omega = dp/dt is vertical velocity within this coordinate system

notice: *negative for upward motion*

but also "pressure drop with time" on Earth's surface