

Conservation equations: we really really love 'em!

- For momentum: lots of massaging to beat RHS terms down
- For ‘warmth’: have to account for compression & expansion (adiabatic Temperature warming/cooling in the absence of actual diabatic or latent *heating*)



"You know, Sid, I really like bananas... I mean, I know that's not profound or nothin'... Heck! We ALL do... But for me, I think it goes much more beyond that."

We really like $\frac{d}{dt}(\text{?}) = 0$ (or $\frac{\partial}{\partial t}(\text{?}) = 0$) ^{x complications}

Diagnostic eqs (like hydrostatic)

- balance
- equilibrium
- steady state

$$\frac{dw}{dt} = g - \frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial p}{\partial z} = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial p}{\partial z} = -\rho g$$

(almost 99.9%)

Prognostic eqs

horizontal wind \vec{V}

$$\frac{d\vec{V}}{dt} = P + C + F^{\text{resonance (PBF)}} + F^{\text{Coriolis}} + F^{\text{friction}}$$

$$\frac{d\vec{V}}{dt} = -\vec{\nabla}\Phi - f\vec{k} \times \vec{V} + F^{\text{ignore}}$$

1 tactic: take curl $\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{\nabla} \Phi = 0$

$$\frac{d\zeta}{dt} = 0!!! + (\zeta + f) \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} \right) + V \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}$$

Relative vort cons.

$$\frac{\partial \zeta}{\partial t} < -(\vec{V} \cdot \vec{\nabla})\zeta$$

Advection only!

Absolute vort. cons.

$$\frac{d(\zeta + f)}{dt} = 0!!! - (\zeta + f)(\vec{V} \cdot \vec{\nabla})$$

Advection plus Rossby waves

Prognostic equation for "heat" or "warmth"

$$\frac{d}{dt} (\text{warmth}) = \text{Olli} + L(c-e) + QR + Q_{\text{conduction, mixing}}$$

↑ adiabatic latent heating

2 tactics here

1. potential temperatures (log-related to entropy)

$$\theta = T \left(\frac{P_0}{P} \right)^{R/c_p}$$

as warmth
conserved but not for
condensation, rad, mixing...

2. static energies

$$S = \underbrace{C_p T}_{\text{heat energy}} + \underbrace{g z}_{\text{height energy}} \quad \text{"dry" static energy}$$

$$h = S + Lq = \underbrace{C_p T}_{\text{heat}} + \underbrace{g z}_{\text{weight}} + \underbrace{L q}_{\text{latent}}$$

Example: dry adiabatic lapse rate.

$$\frac{ds}{dt} = 0 \Rightarrow \frac{dT}{dt} = \frac{g}{c_p} \frac{dz}{dt}$$

UNSATURATED parcel
converts $\frac{g z}{c_p T}$
to $C_p T$

mixed layer

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial S}{\partial z} = 0 \\ \frac{\partial T}{\partial z} + g = 0 \end{cases}$$

Momentum: not conserved enough

$$\frac{D}{Dt} \vec{V}_h = -f \hat{k} \times \vec{V}_h - \vec{\nabla}_p \Phi$$

- To predict vector momentum \mathbf{V}_h , need Φ
- But that drags thermo into our equation set
 - must *predict* T for thickness for heights Z
- Let's avoid that with *vorticity*

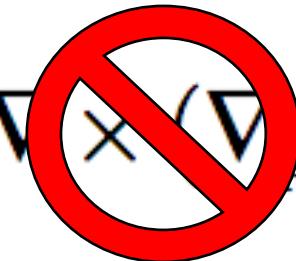
Holy grail of dynamics: get div & ω

$$\frac{D}{Dt} \vec{V}_h = -f \hat{k} \times \vec{V}_h - \vec{\nabla}_p \Phi$$

Gotta avoid dragging thermo into this via Φ .

Get rid of Φ at any cost. **Curl to the rescue!**

$$\nabla \times \left(\frac{D}{Dt} \vec{V}_h \right) = \nabla \times (-f \hat{k} \times \vec{V}_h) - \nabla \times (\nabla_p \Phi)$$



Ker-CHING!

**We are Masters of the Universe
with our sexy vector identities!**

The grail is in the bag!

Heh heh ... did I say "any cost"... ? gulp

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} [\text{y-component momentum equation}] - \frac{\partial}{\partial y} [\text{x-component momentum equation}] =$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left[\frac{\partial v}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} + v \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} + w \frac{\partial v}{\partial z} + fu = -\frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial p}{\partial y} \right] - \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left[\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + v \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} + w \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} - fv = -\frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial p}{\partial x} \right]$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \frac{\partial v}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + v \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial x \partial y} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} + w \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial x \partial z} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial z} \frac{\partial w}{\partial x} + f \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + u \cancel{\frac{\partial}{\partial x}} = -\frac{1}{\rho} \cancel{\frac{\partial^2 p}{\partial x \partial y}} + \frac{1}{\rho^2} \left(\frac{\partial p}{\partial y} \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial x} \right) \\ & - \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial y} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} + v \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} + w \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y \partial z} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} \frac{\partial w}{\partial y} - f \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} - v \cancel{\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}} = -\frac{1}{\rho} \cancel{\frac{\partial^2 p}{\partial x \partial y}} + \frac{1}{\rho^2} \left(\frac{\partial p}{\partial x} \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial y} \right) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left(\frac{\partial v}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \right) + u \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{\partial v}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \right) + v \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(\frac{\partial v}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \right) + w \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left(\frac{\partial v}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \right) + \left(\frac{\partial v}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \right) \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} \right) + f \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} \right) \\ & + \left(\frac{\partial w}{\partial x} \frac{\partial v}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial w}{\partial y} \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} \right) + v \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = \frac{1}{\rho^2} \left(\frac{\partial p}{\partial y} \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial p}{\partial x} \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial y} \right) \\ & \frac{df}{dt} = \cancel{\frac{\partial f}{\partial t}} + u \cancel{\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}} + v \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} + w \cancel{\frac{\partial f}{\partial z}} \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{\partial \zeta}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial \zeta}{\partial x} + v \frac{\partial \zeta}{\partial y} + w \frac{\partial \zeta}{\partial z} + \zeta \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} \right) + f \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} \right) + \left(\frac{\partial w}{\partial x} \frac{\partial v}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial w}{\partial y} \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} \right) + v \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = \frac{1}{\rho^2} \left(\frac{\partial p}{\partial y} \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial p}{\partial x} \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial y} \right)$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} (\zeta + f) = -(\zeta + f) \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} \right) - \left(\frac{\partial w}{\partial x} \frac{\partial v}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial w}{\partial y} \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} \right) + \frac{1}{\rho^2} \left(\frac{\partial p}{\partial y} \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial p}{\partial x} \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial y} \right)$$

vorticity equation

Wait a sec, what's this??

Can we scrape back some of these cobwebs?

Simplified Vorticity Equation

Thus the vorticity equation can be simplified to

$$\frac{d}{dt}(\zeta + f) \approx -(\zeta + f) \nabla_p \cdot V$$

The rate of change of absolute vorticity of particular portions of fluid is equal to minus the absolute vorticity multiplied by the divergence.

$$\frac{\partial \zeta}{\partial t} = -\vec{V} \cdot \nabla(\zeta + f) - (\zeta + f)\left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial y}\right)$$

Advection of absolute vorticity

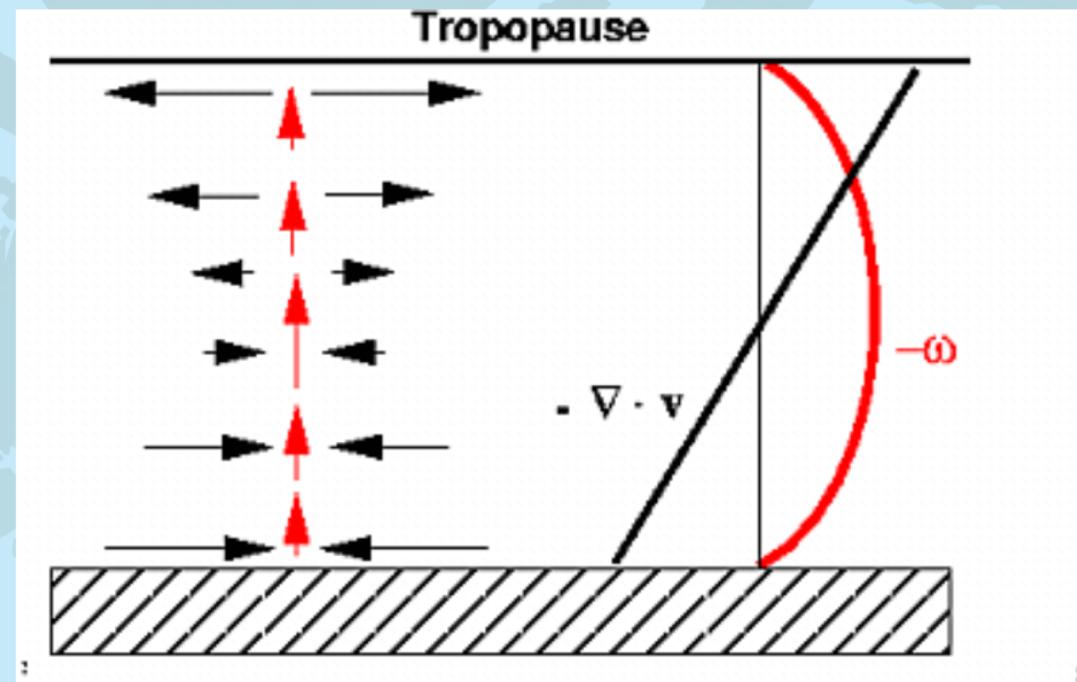
Divergence term

← Same equation in Eulerian (*local* rate of change with time) form.

Lackmann Eq. 1.51

Absolute Vorticity is Conserved

almost,
at midlevels
especially



If we look back to our simplified model of upper-level and lower-level divergence, at mid levels the divergence must approach zero. **At that level, absolute vorticity is conserved.**

$$\frac{d}{dt}(\zeta + f) \cong 0 \Rightarrow \zeta + f \cong \text{Constant}$$

Ignoring the divergence term... for now...

- We will return to it when we define "potential vorticity" ...

$$\frac{D\zeta_{abs}}{Dt} \simeq 0$$

Same eqn.
 \leftarrow (BVE) \rightarrow

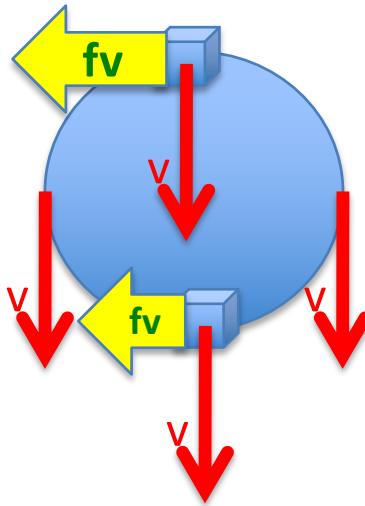
$$\frac{\partial \zeta_{abs}}{\partial t} \simeq -\vec{V} \cdot \vec{\nabla}_p \zeta_{abs}$$

Conservation of absolute vorticity: how?

When air moves north or south, it tends to *conserve* its absolute vorticity -- or in other words it *converts planetary to relative vorticity*. How?

- Consider equatorward motion of a disc of fluid.
- The initially high $f = \zeta_{\text{plan}}$ is converted to ζ_{rel} . How?
- Physically, the **Coriolis force** fv is a little bit stronger on its poleward edge (where f is bigger) than on its equatorward edge. This imparts a cyclonic *torque* on the disk of fluid as it moves southward.

All v winds the same, as the disk moves southward as a unit →



(an eastward PGF must balance the *mean* Coriolis force, to keep the air flowing southward)

Relative, planetary, and absolute vorticity

- absolute = (relative + planetary): $\zeta_{\text{abs}} = \zeta_{\text{rel}} + \zeta_{\text{plan}}$
- planetary vorticity $\zeta_{\text{plan}} = f$ (aka the “Coriolis parameter”)
- $f = 2\Omega \cos(\lambda \alpha \tau_1 \tau_2 \delta \varepsilon)$
- $\Omega = (2\pi \text{ radians})/(1 \text{ day})$ since the Earth turns once a day
- At 40N, $f = 10^{-4} \text{ s}^{-1}$

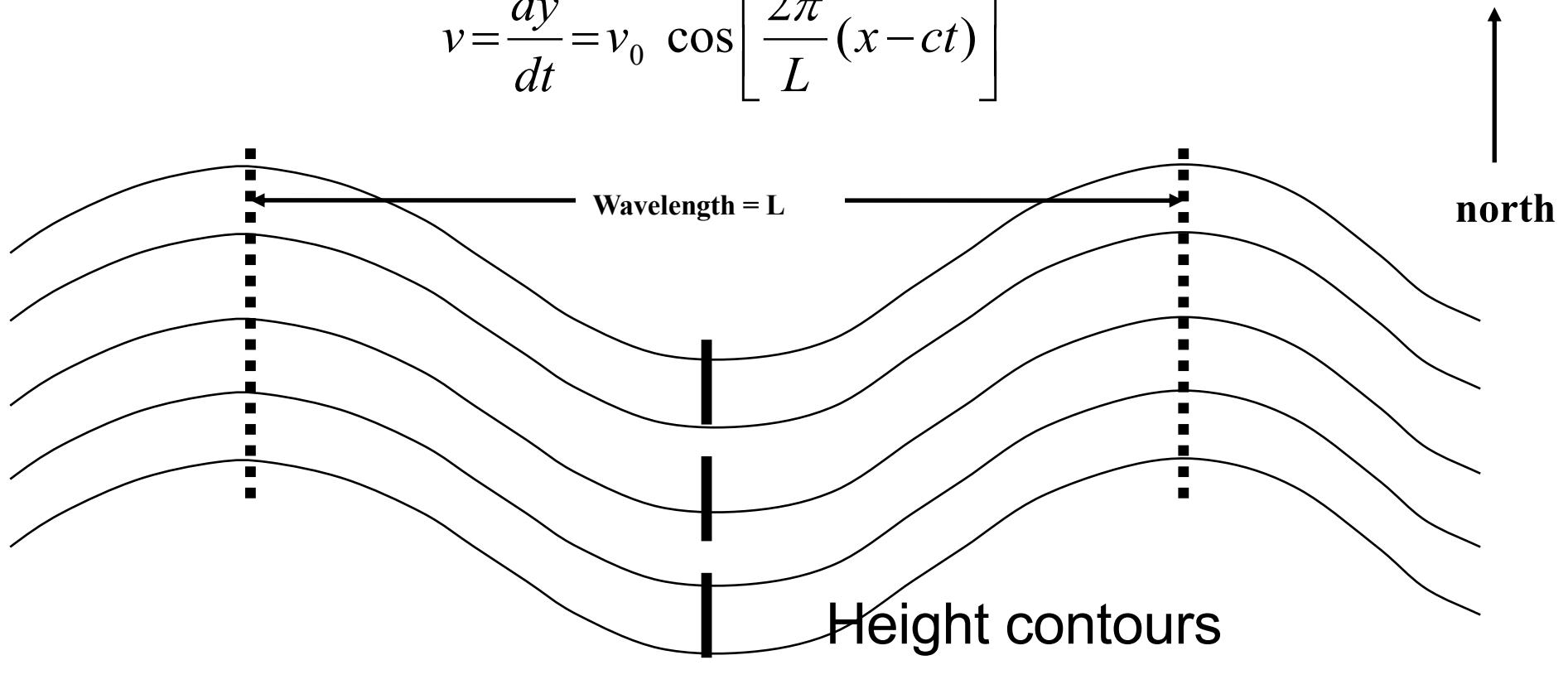
Rossby waves: derive their speed c

Consider a simple westerly flow (constant value of U)

Sinusoidal wave pattern in v is superimposed

Wave assumed to propagate eastward at phase speed c

$$v = \frac{dy}{dt} = v_0 \cos\left[\frac{2\pi}{L}(x - ct)\right]$$



Compute the vorticity for this flow... only v varies, and only in x

$$v = \frac{dy}{dt} = v_0 \cos\left[\frac{2\pi}{L}(x - ct)\right]$$

$$\zeta = \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial u}{\partial y}; \quad -\frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} = -\frac{2\pi}{L} v_0 \sin\left[\frac{2\pi}{L}(x - ct)\right]$$

Now, take time derivative of the vorticity....

$$\frac{d(\zeta + f)}{dt} = \frac{df}{dt} - \left(\frac{2\pi}{L}\right)^2 \left\{ v_0 \cos\left[\frac{2\pi}{L}(x - ct)\right] \right\} \left(\frac{dx}{dt} - c \frac{dt}{dt} \right) = 0$$

Note that $\frac{df}{dt} = v \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = v\beta$

$$\frac{d(\zeta + f)}{dt} = \beta v_0 \cos\left[\frac{2\pi}{L}(x - ct)\right] - \left(\frac{2\pi}{L}\right)^2 \left[v_0 \cos\left[\frac{2\pi}{L}(x - ct)\right] \right] (U - c) = 0$$

Cancel common terms, and we have

$$\frac{\beta L^2}{4\pi^2} - (U - c) = 0,$$

Rearrange to solve for c ...

$$c = U - \frac{\beta L^2}{4\pi^2}$$

Rossby Waves: phase vs. group velocity

$$c = U - \frac{\beta L^2}{4\pi^2}$$

this c is *phase velocity*

- Rossby *wave packet energy* moves at the **GROUP velocity: eastward instead of westward**, for Rossby waves.

$$c_g = U + \frac{\beta L^2}{4\pi^2}$$

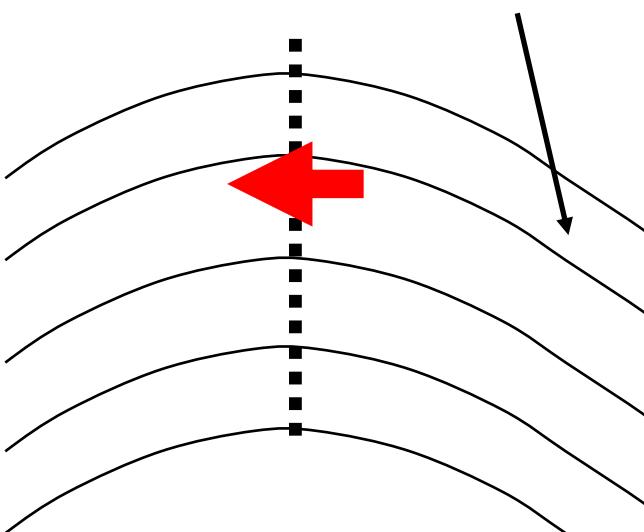
Note!! 

Rossby Wave Recap

Physically, how can we understand tendency for Rossby waves to propagate **westward relative to the flow**?

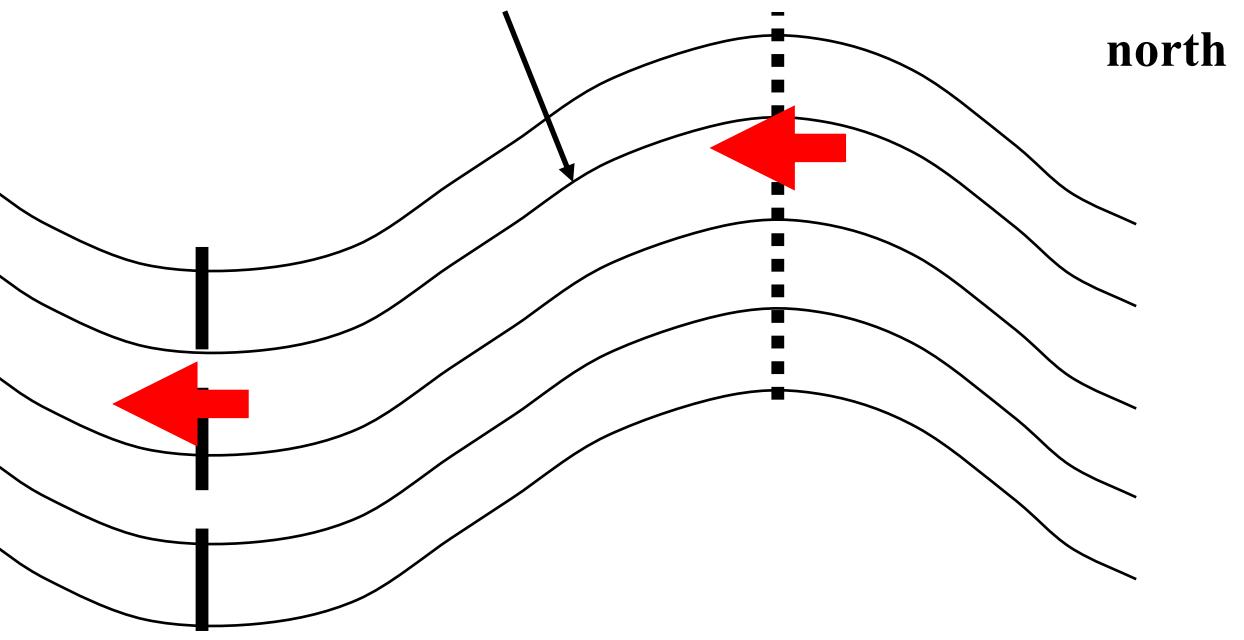
This is related to the “beta-effect”, motion related to the *advection of planetary vorticity* (the fact that f changes with latitude)

West of trough axis, in northerly flow, larger f advected : trough “built” there



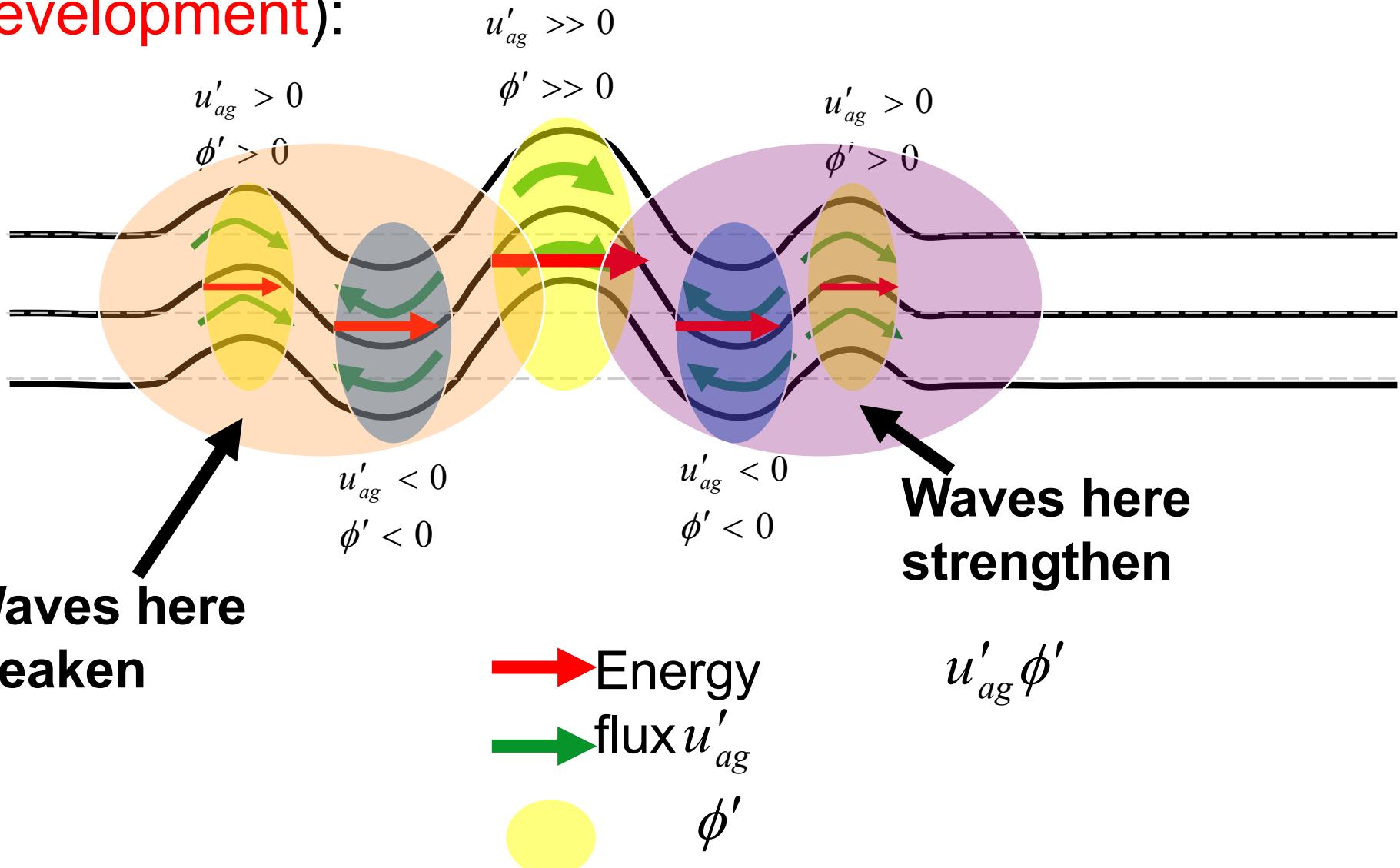
Result: whole pattern propagates westward against vorticity advection, which acts to push pattern eastward

West of ridge axis, in southerly flow, smaller f advected: ridge “built” there



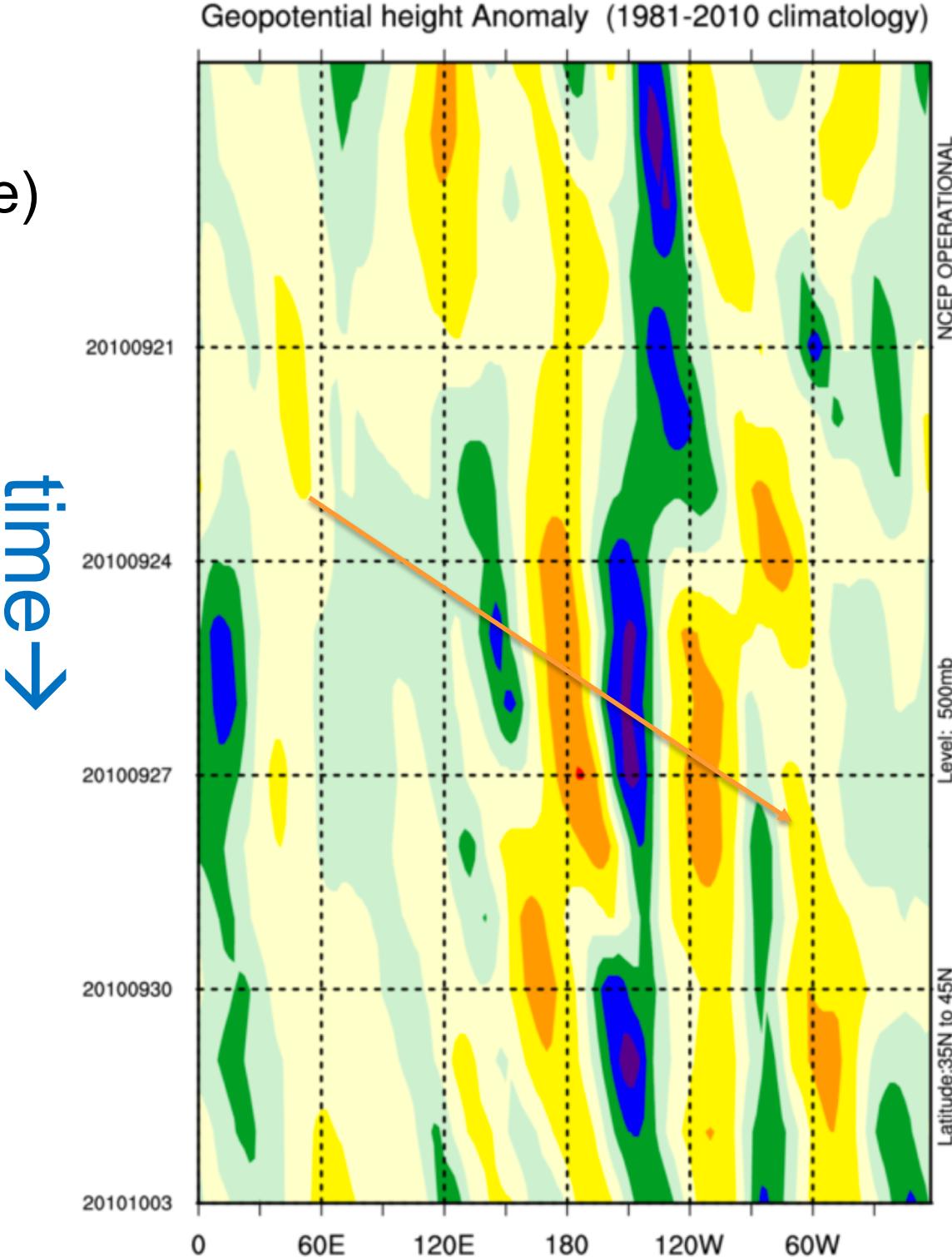
↑
north

Rossby wave group velocity energetics (downstream development):



$$\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t} + U_g \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right) \frac{v_g'^2}{2} = - \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (u'_{ag} \phi') - \frac{\partial}{\partial z} (w' \phi') - w' b'$$

Example:
 Z' (lon, time)
diagram



phase velocity near zero (almost stationary waves,) like in the river

group or energy speed: fast eastward



midlatitude Rossby waves review

- Wirth, V., M. Riemer, E.K. Chang, and O. Martius, 2018: [Rossby Wave Packets on the Midlatitude Waveguide—A Review.](#)
- *Mon. Wea. Rev.*, **146**, 1965–2001
- <https://doi.org/10.1175/MWR-D-16-0483.1>