MARINE METEOROLOGY

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Nothing is more practical than a good Theory Immanuel Kant



WHY DO WE HAVE THE GLOBAL CIRCULATION ?

> The Sun is shining ...



> The Earth...



> This results in ...

... Meridional (N/S) Temperature-Gradient, which directly (physically) drives the Global Circulation.











GLOBAL CIRCULATION WITHOUT CORIOLIS FORCE



The heating of the atmosphere by solar radiation near the Equator is a direct heat engine, i.e. warm air is cooled down by lifting

If cold air comes under subsidence (to higher pressure) and is thus heated, it would be an indirect heat engine

GLOBAL CIRCULATION WITHOUT CORIOLIS FORCE



CORIOLIS FORCE







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CORIOLIS FORCE ...



> ... $\Omega = 2 * \pi$ / 86.164 Earth's Angular velocity 86.164 Siderial Day / 86.400 Solar Day

- > ... $2 * \Omega * sin (\varphi = latitude)$ Coriolis frequency
- Coriolis Force = wind velocity * Coriolis frequency
- Acts perpendicular
 Is a Pseudo (fictitious) Force
 Deflects air particles

to the direction of motion does not perform physical work Northern Hemisphere to the right Southern Hemisphere to the left

Veering of the wind with increasing height (boundary layer only) Decrease of friction \Leftrightarrow Increase of windspeed

Determines the direction of rotation of Lows and Highs
 Northern Hemisphere: Low: counterclockwise
 High: clockwise
 Gouthern Hemisphere: Low: clockwise



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DER CORIOLIS EFFECT IS IMPORTANT, BECAUSE IT ...

- ... Governs the Global Circulation of the Atmosphere
 - Climate Zones
 - Global Precipitation Patterns
 - Variation of Surface Wind Direction
- > ... Governs the Global Oceanic Circulation
 - Coastal Currents
 - Westward Intensification (Intensification of Ocean currents on the western
 - edge of oceanic basins (Atlantic: Gulfstream, Pacific: Kiushio)
 - Heat Transfer from Equator to the Poles
- Governs the Oceanic Mixture (Ekman-Spiral)
 Upwelling Areas La Niña (Absence: El Niño)
 Mixing of Oceanic boundary layer

GLOBAL CIRCULATION WITH CORIOLIS FORCE



GLOBAL CIRCULATION WITH CORIOLIS FORCE



CROSS-SECTION HADLEY - / FERREL - AND POLAR - CELL



SIMULATION IN A ROTATING TANK



Temperature Measurement

Abb. 10. Simulierung der Strömungsverhältnisse auf der rotierenden Erde durch ein Experiment im Lamont Geological Observatory. Eine mit Mineralöl gefüllte zylindrische Schale wird in Rotation versetzt. Die Heizung am Schalenrand und die Kühlung an der Drehachse erfolgt mit Wasser. Durch Aluminiumpulver werden die (hier schematisch angedeuteten) Zirkulationen in der Flüssigkeit sichtbar gemacht. Man erkennt die Ausbildung eines "Starkwindbandes" und "Wellen" (Hochkeile und Tieftröge), die große Ähnlichkeit zu den in der Atmosphäre auftretenden Stromfeldern zeigen

NORTHERN HEMISPHERE CIRCULATION 500 HPA



Abb. 28. Schematische Darstellung von planetarischen Wellen mit der Wellenzahl 4 in der freien Atmosphäre



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Air flow over mountains



Air flow over mountains



Air flow over mountains



NORTHERN HEMISPHERE CIRCULATION MSL PRESSURE



SAT Zirkumpolar (G) SAT Global Mercator

(g)

(g)

(1)





Fig. 13.15 Schematic chart showing four cyclone families at sea level and four long waves aloft. (After Palmén.)

SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE CIRCULATION MSL PRESSURE







EDWARD N. LORENZ 1917 - 2008

- > 1961 Chaos Theory
- Experiments using different Computers
 Same NWP model same initial state after 4 days



- Same NWP model, same initial state after 4 days diverging results
- Experiments using the same computer
 Same NWP model, disturbed initial state after 4 days diverging results

Predictability: Does the flap of a butterfly's wings in Brazil set off a tornado in Texas ?

This is the basis for the later development of Ensemble Forecast Technology





EDWARD N. LORENZ 1917 - 2008



Figure 2. Estimates of the annual-mean, depth-integrated, area-averaged energy cycle among the zonal-mean and eddy available potential and kinetic energy components in the Northern Hemisphere. *A* denotes available potential energy, *K* denotes kinetic energy, and the subscripts *Z* and *E* denote the zonally averaged and eddy components. Units are 10^5 J/m² for energies and W/m² for generation and dissipation (exterior arrows) and conversion (connecting arrows) rates. From Lorenz (1967), adapted from Oort (1964).

CHECKLIST GLOBAL CIRCULATION

Global Circulation

- Global Circulation is driven by solar radiation and geometrical (Earth as sphere) and astronomical parameters (slant Earth axis)
- ✓ Coriolis Force
 - $\sqrt{\Omega} = 2 * \pi / 86.164$
 - \checkmark 2 * Ω * sin (φ =latitude) Coriolis frequency
 - Coriolis Force = wind velocity * Coriolis frequency
 - ✓ Increases with latitude, Zero at Equator
 - ✓ Proportional to windspeed
 - ✓ Acts perpendicular to direction of motion
 - ✓ Acts to the right (Northern Hemisphere) and left (Southern Hemisphere), respectively
- ✓ Circulation Cells: Hadley~ (suptropical), Ferrel~ (mid-latitude), Polar~ (Polar regions)

CHECKLIST GLOBAL CIRCULATION

Global Windsystems

- ✓ Global Windsystems (MSLP, Upper Air), Wavenumber, Upper Air Trough/Ridge (Tank experiment)
- ✓ Innertropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ), Trade winds, Subtropical High, Westerly Winds
- Impact of Rocky Mountains on Global Circulation, Leeward trough, Downstream advection of warm-moist air NE-ward to Newfoundland by SW wind near East Coast of USA
- ✓ Advection of polar cold air from Labrador Sea by NW winds
- ✓ Intensification of meridional (N-S) temperature gradient by four center pressure pattern
- ✓ Formation of frontal zone, Cyclogenetic orographic effects by Greenland mountains

QUESTIONS YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO ANSWER

Global Circulation

- ✓ What drives the General Circulation ?
 - ✓ Solar radiation
 - ✓ Earth as a sphere
 - ✓ Slant Earth axis
 - ✓ Resulting meridional Temperature Gradient
- ✓ Which are the main characteristics of the Coriolis Force?
 - ✓ Increases with latitude, Zero at Equator
 - ✓ Proportional to windspeed,
 - ✓ Perpendicular to windspeed: NH to right, SH to left

✓ How many Circulation Cells form the Global Circulation?
 ✓ 3: Hadley Cell Ferrell Cell Polar Cell

QUESTIONS YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO ANSWER

Global Circulation

✓ What is the wavenumber of the Global Circulation? Which are its characteristics?

- ✓ The wavenumber is the number of waves of the windflow over the Earth's surface (360°)
- ✓ The higher the wavenumber, the faster it propagates to the East
- ✓ Wavenumber n = 4 (Rossby wavelenght) is stationary
- ✓ Wavenumbers n < 4 become retrograde (propagate to the West)</p>

✓ What is the wavenumber of the Global Circulation? Which are its characteristics?

Thank you for your attention !



