

# Boundary Layer Meteorology

## ATMOS 5220/6220

09.15.2011



## Neutral conditions

$$\overline{(u'w')} = u_*^2$$

$$u_*^2 = \overline{(u'w')} = K_m \frac{\partial \bar{U}}{\partial z}$$

$u_*$  - Friction velocity  
 $k$  - von Karman const.  
 $z$  - height  
 $z_0$  - roughness length

$$K_m = l^2 \left| \frac{\partial \bar{U}}{\partial z} \right| \quad l = k \cdot z$$

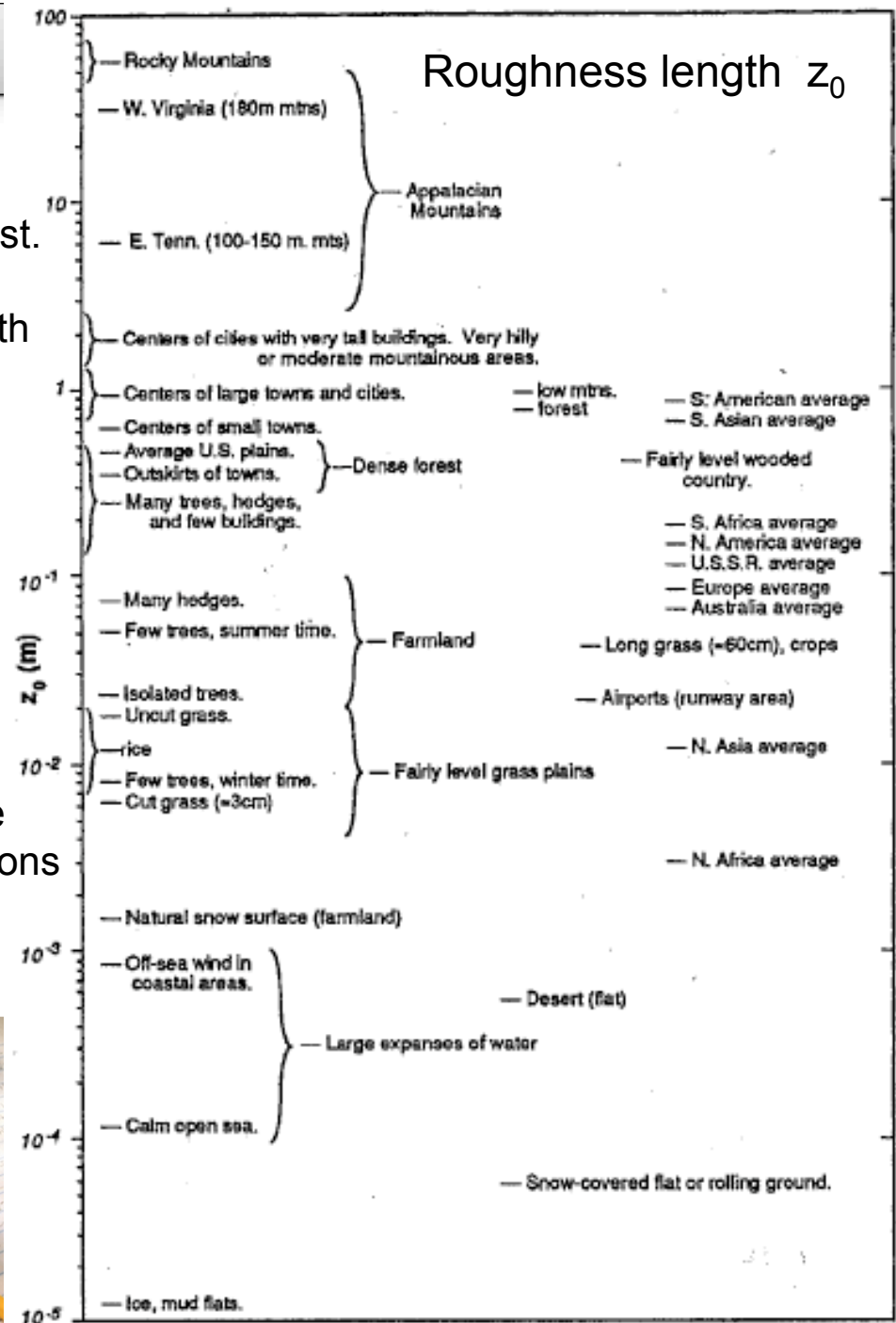
$$u_*^2 = k^2 z^2 \left| \frac{\partial \bar{U}}{\partial z} \right|^2 \rightarrow \left| \frac{\partial \bar{U}}{\partial z} \right| = \frac{u_*}{k \cdot z}$$

$$U(z) = \frac{u_*}{k} \log \left( \frac{z}{z_0} \right)$$

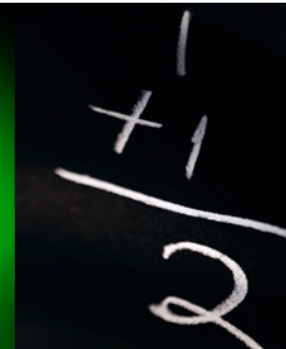
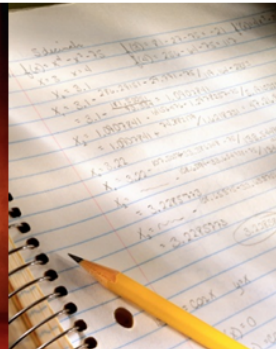
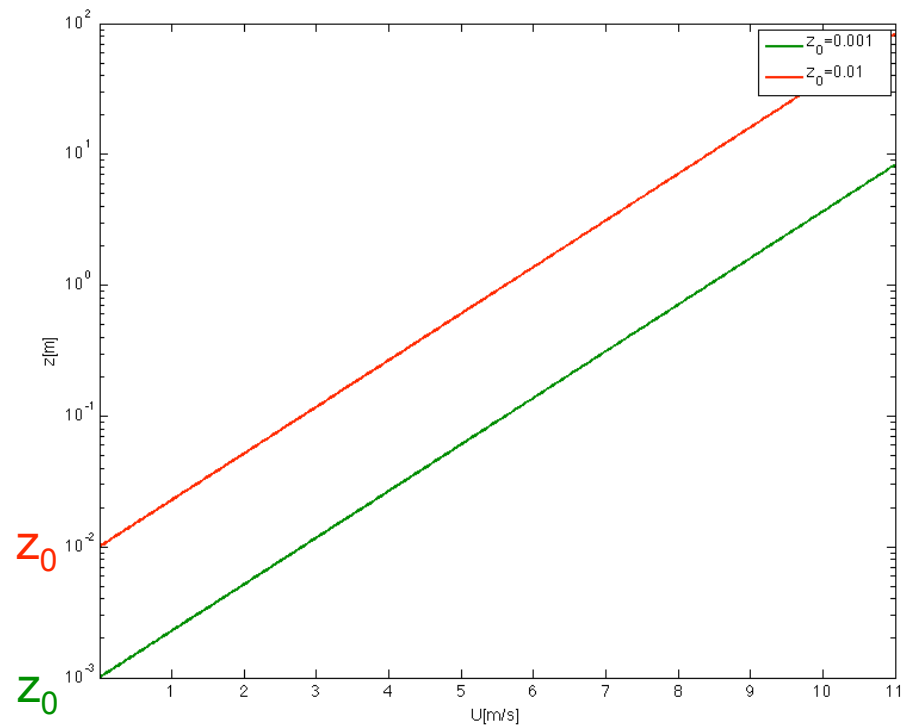
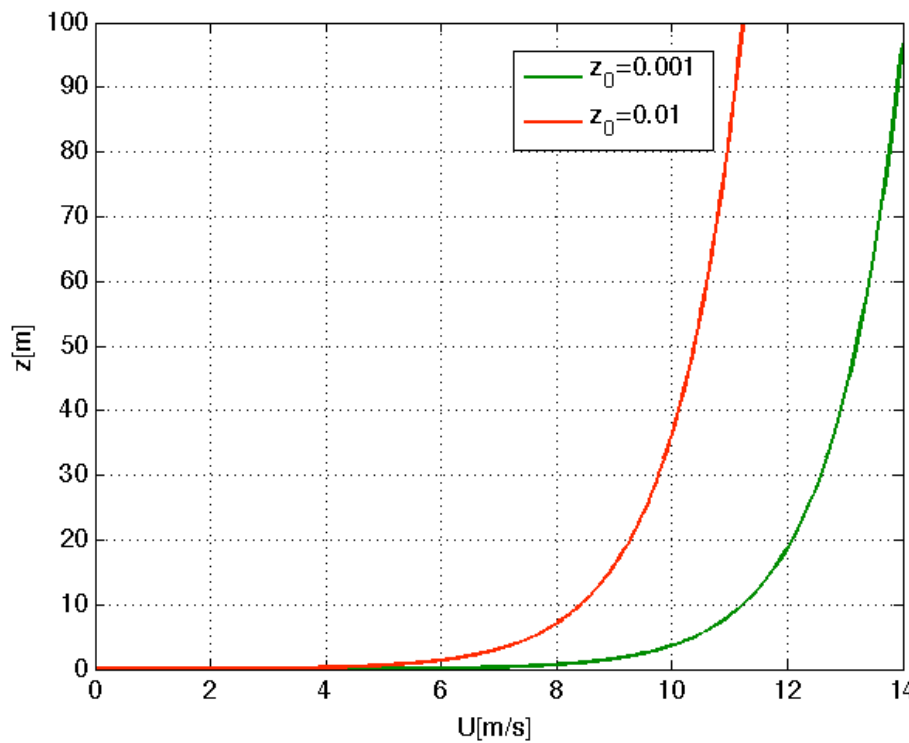
Logarithmic wind profile  
valid for **neutral** conditions

$$\rho \cdot \overline{(u'w')} = \tau$$

surface stress



# Logarithmic wind profiles, $u_* = 0.5$ m/s:



# Aerodynamic bulk formula ( $\tau = \rho$ ) $C_D \cdot U^2$

$$\rho \cdot \overline{(u'w')} = \tau \quad \text{surface stress}$$

$$\overline{(u'w')} = u_*^2$$

$$\overline{(u'w')} = \frac{k^2 \cdot [U(z)]^2}{\left[ \log\left(\frac{z}{z_0}\right) \right]^2}$$

$$\tau = \rho \cdot \overline{(u'w')} = \rho \cdot \frac{k^2}{\left[ \log\left(\frac{z}{z_0}\right) \right]^2} \cdot [U(z)]^2$$

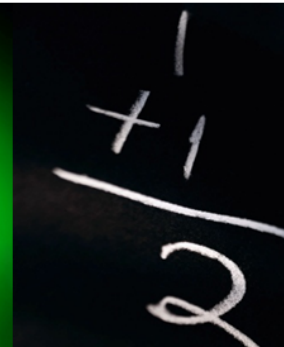
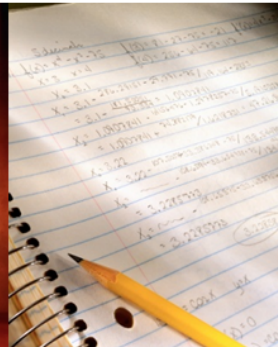
drag coefficient  $C_D$

$$U(z) = \frac{u_*}{k} \log\left(\frac{z}{z_0}\right)$$



$$u_* = \frac{k \cdot U(z)}{\log\left(\frac{z}{z_0}\right)}$$

$$\tau = \rho \cdot C_D \cdot U^2$$





# Drag Coefficient ( $C_D$ )

$$\tau = \rho \cdot C_D \cdot U^2 \quad \text{surface stress}$$

$$\overline{(u'w')} = \frac{\tau}{\rho}$$

In practice the drag coefficient is given usually with respect to the wind speed at  $z=10\text{m}$  and for neutral conditions ( $C_{DN10}$ )

Typical values of the drag coefficient over the land are significantly larger than over the water

$$C_{D \text{ land}} \approx 7 \times 10^{-3}$$

$$C_{D \text{ water}} \approx 1 \times 10^{-3}$$



## Transfer Coefficients

$$\tau = \rho \cdot \overline{(u' w')} _s = \rho \cdot C_D \cdot U^2 \quad \text{bulk formula for momentum}$$

$$\rho \cdot \overline{(w' a')} _s = \rho \cdot C_a \cdot U(z_r) \cdot [a_0 - a(z_r)] \quad \text{bulk formula for scalar 'a'}$$

transfer coefficient for moisture

$$\rho \cdot \overline{(w' q')} _s = \rho \cdot C_E \cdot U(z_r) \cdot [q_0 - q(z_r)] \quad \text{bulk formula for moisture}$$

transfer coefficient for heat

$$\rho \cdot \overline{(w' \theta')} _s = \rho \cdot C_H \cdot U(z_r) \cdot [\theta_0 - \theta(z_r)] \quad \text{bulk formula for heat}$$



# Transfer coefficient over water surfaces

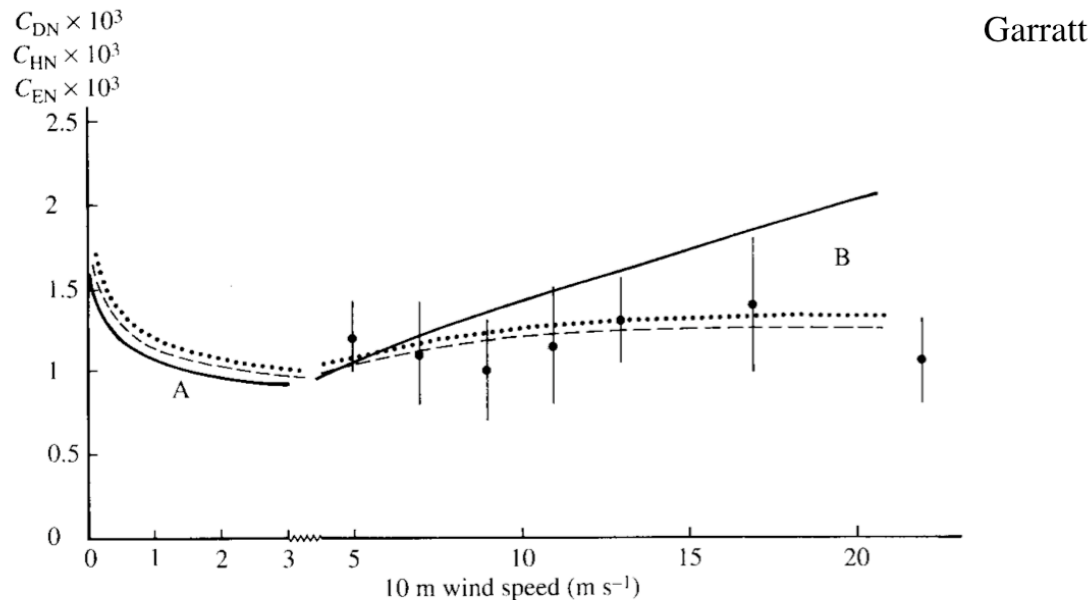


Fig. 4.9 Drag coefficient  $C_{DN}$ , heat transfer coefficient  $C_{HN}$  and water vapour transfer coefficient  $C_{EN}$  as functions of the 10 m wind speed. Curves A are for smooth flow: solid curve  $C_{DN}$  (Eq. 4.22); pecked curve,  $C_{HN}$  (Eqs. 4.10 and 4.26a); dotted curve,  $C_{EN}$  (Eqs. 4.11 and 4.26b). Curves B are for rough flow: solid curve,  $C_{DN}$  (Eq. 4.23); pecked curve,  $C_{HN}$  (Eqs. 4.10 and 4.27); dotted curve,  $C_{EN}$  (Eqs. 4.11 and 4.28). Observational data are from Large and Pond (1982).



# Transfer coefficient over water surfaces

Charnock formula

$$z_0 = 0.016 u_* / g$$

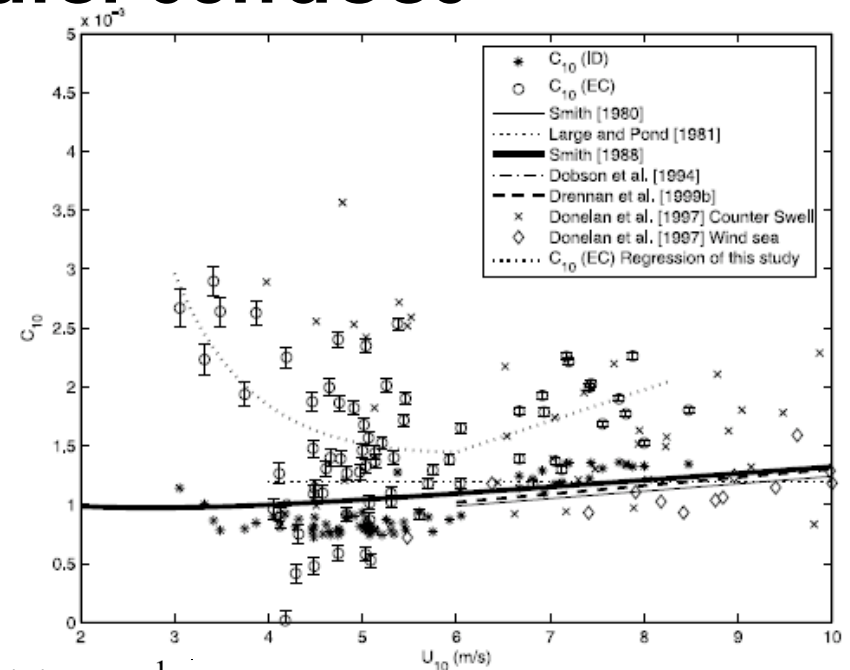
TOGA-COARE formula

$$z_0 = 0.11 v / u_* + 0.016 u_* / g$$

Large and Pond (1982) formula

$$\overline{C}_{D,LP} = 1.2 \cdot 10^{-3}, \quad \text{for } 4 \leq \overline{V} < 11 \text{ m s}^{-1}$$

$$\overline{C}_{D,LP} = (0.49 + 0.065 \overline{V}) \cdot 10^{-3}, \quad \text{for } 11 \leq \overline{V} \leq 25 \text{ m s}^{-1}$$





# Transfer coefficient over water surfaces

Charnock formula

$$z_0 = 0.016 u_* / g$$

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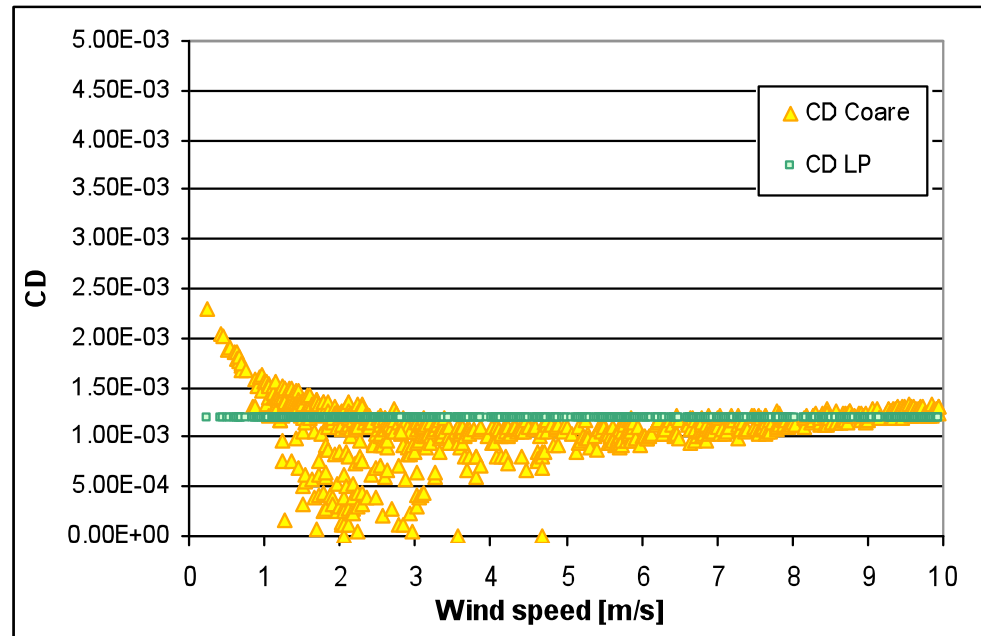
$$z_0 = 0.11 v / u_* + 0.016 u_* / g$$

Large and Pond (1982) formula

$$\bar{C}_{D,LP} = 1.2 \cdot 10^{-3},$$

$$f \text{ or } 4 \leq V < 11 \text{ m s}^{-1}$$

$$\bar{C}_{D,LP} = (0.49 + 0.065 \bar{V}) \cdot 10^{-3}, \text{ f or } 11 \leq \bar{V} \leq 25 \text{ m s}^{-1}$$



### Task 1

Knowing that the wind speed at 10m above the ocean surface is 12m/s  
compute using Large and Pond formula:

- the aerodynamic roughness length ( $z_0$ )
- friction velocity  $u_*$
- shear stress at the ground  $\tau$
- wind speed at 6m

$$\overline{(u'w')}_{\text{s}} = u_*^2$$

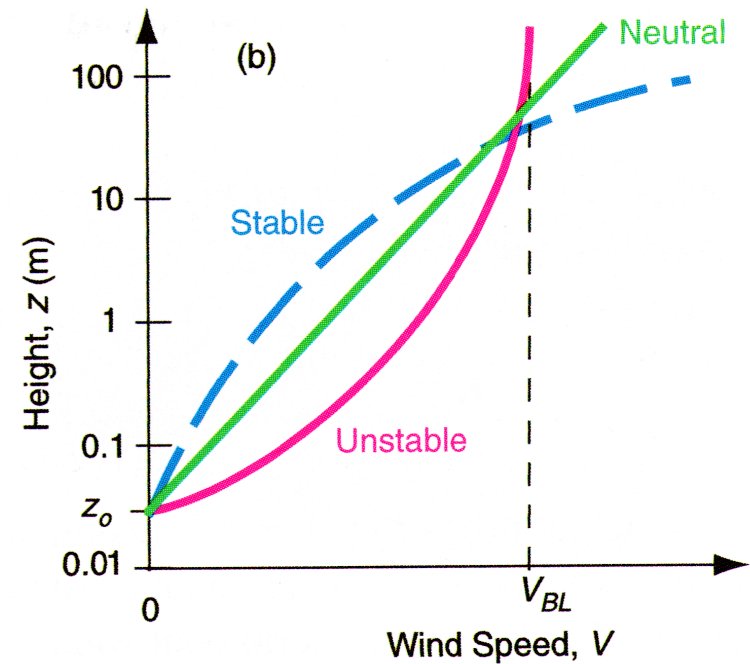
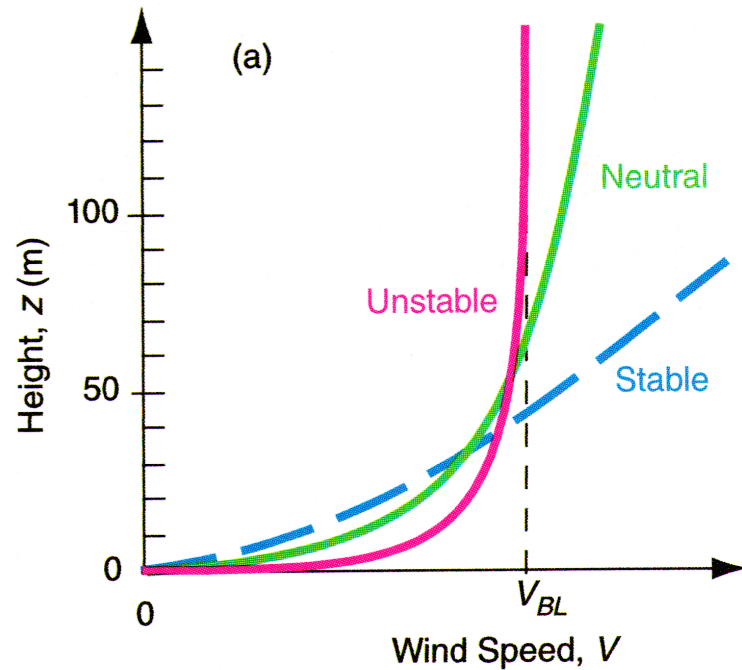
$$\tau = \rho \cdot \overline{(u'w')}_{\text{s}} = \rho \cdot C_D \cdot U^2$$

$$C_{D,LP} = 1.2 \cdot 10^{-3}, \quad \text{for } 4 \leq V < 11 \text{ m s}^{-1}$$

$$C_{D,LP} = (0.49 + 0.065 \bar{V}) \cdot 10^{-3}, \quad \text{for } 11 \leq \bar{V} \leq 25 \text{ m s}^{-1}$$



# Is logarithmic profile universal?



## Velocity scales:

□ Friction velocity:

$$u_* = \left[ \overline{u'w'^2} + \overline{v'w'^2} \right]^{\frac{1}{4}} \quad u_*^2 = \left( \overline{u'w'} \right) \quad \text{For one-dimensional case}$$

□ Convective velocity scale (Deardorff velocity):

$$w_* = \left[ \frac{g \cdot z_i}{T_v} \overline{w'\theta_s'} \right]^{\frac{1}{3}}$$

$z_i$  – height of capping inversion (PBL height)

$T_v$  – virtual temperature

$\theta$  – potential temperature





## Length scales:

- ☐ Monin-Obukhov length
- ☐ Stability parameter:
- ☐ Height of capping inversion (PBL height):
- ☐ Aerodynamic roughness length
- ☐ Height above the surface

$$L = \frac{-u_*^3}{k \cdot B_0} = \frac{-u_*^3}{w_*^3} \frac{z_i}{k}$$

$$B_0 = \overline{w' b'_0} = \frac{-u_*^3}{k \cdot L}$$

$$L = \frac{-u_*^3}{k \frac{g}{T_v} (\overline{w' \theta'})_s}$$

$z_i$  – height of capping inversion (PBL height)

$T_v$  – virtual temperature

$\theta$  – potential temperature

$k$  – von Karman constant (0.41)

$B_0$  – surface buoyancy flux

Monin-Obukhov Length:

Height proportional to the height above the surface at which

buoyant production of turbulence first equals mechanical (shear)

production of turbulence.

$L$

$\zeta = z/L$

$z_i$

$z_0$

$z$

For unstable atmosphere  $L < 0$ , so  $\zeta < 0$

For neutral atmosphere  $L \rightarrow \infty$ , so  $\zeta = 0$

For stable atmosphere  $L > 0$ , so  $\zeta > 0$



## Length scales:

- ☐ Height of capping inversion (PBL height):  $z_i$
- ☐ Aerodynamic roughness length  $z_0$
- ☐ Height above the surface  $z$
- ☐ Monin Obukhov length  $L$

$$L = \frac{-u_*^3}{k \frac{g}{T_v} (\overline{w' \theta'})_s} = \frac{-u_*^3}{w_*^3} \frac{z_i}{k}$$

$$\frac{L \cdot k}{z_i} = \frac{-u_*^3}{w_*^3}$$

when  $L \cdot k = z_i$

$$u_* = |w_*|$$

So below  $z=L \cdot k$  mechanical production ( $u^*$ ) dominates

$z_i$  – height of capping inversion (PBL height)  
 $T_v$  – virtual temperature  
 $\theta$  – potential temperature  
 $k$  – von Karman constant (0.41)



# Universal similarity functions and eddy viscosities

Universal similarity functions relate the fluxes of momentum and sensible heat to their mean gradients

universal similarity function for momentum  $\phi_m(\zeta) = \frac{k \cdot z}{u_*} \left( \frac{\partial \bar{u}}{\partial z} \right)$  eddy viscosity for momentum  $K_m = \frac{\overline{-u'w'}}{\frac{\partial \bar{u}}{\partial z}} = \frac{u_*^2}{\frac{u_* \phi_m(\zeta)}{k \cdot z}} = \frac{u_* \cdot k \cdot z}{\phi_m(\zeta)}$

universal similarity function for heat  $\phi_h(\zeta) = \frac{k \cdot z}{\theta_*} \left( \frac{\partial \bar{\theta}}{\partial z} \right)$  eddy viscosity for heat  $K_h = \frac{\overline{-u'\theta'}}{\frac{\partial \bar{\theta}}{\partial z}} = \frac{u_* \theta_*}{\frac{\theta_* \phi_h(\zeta)}{k \cdot z}} = \frac{u_* \cdot k \cdot z}{\phi_h(\zeta)}$

$\phi_m(\zeta) < 1$  for unstable conditions

$\phi_m(\zeta) = 1$  for neutral conditions

$\phi_m(\zeta) > 1$  for stable conditions



# Other similarity functions

Turbulent Prandtl number:

$$\text{Pr}_t = \frac{K_m}{K_h} = \frac{\phi_h(\zeta)}{\phi_m(\zeta)}$$

$$-(\overline{u'w'}) = u_*^2 = K_m \frac{\partial \bar{U}}{\partial z}$$

$$\frac{\partial \bar{u}}{\partial z} = \frac{-\overline{u'w'}}{K_m}$$

$$B_0 = \overline{w'b'} = \frac{-u_*^3}{L \cdot k}$$

Gradient Richardson number:

$$Ri = \frac{\left( \frac{d\bar{b}}{dz} \right)}{\left( \frac{d\bar{u}}{dz} \right)^2} = \frac{-\frac{\overline{w'b'}}{K_h}}{\frac{(\overline{u'w'})^2}{K_m^2}} = \frac{\frac{u_*^3}{L \cdot k \cdot K_h}}{\frac{u_*^4}{K_m^2}} = \frac{\frac{u_*^3 \phi_h}{L \cdot k^2 u_* z}}{\frac{u_*^4 \phi_m^2}{k^2 u_*^2 z^2}} = \frac{z}{L} \frac{\phi_h}{\phi_m^2}$$

$|Ri| \leq 1$  shear production of sub-scale KE dominates

$|Ri| > 1$  buoyant production dominates





# Similarity functions:

□ For momentum  $\phi_m$ :

$$\phi_m = \left\{ \begin{array}{ll} [1 - 15\zeta]^{-\frac{1}{4}} & \text{for } -2 < \zeta < 0 \text{ (unstable)} \\ 1 & \text{for } \zeta = 0 \text{ (neutral)} \\ 1 + 4.7\zeta & \text{for } 0 \leq \zeta < 1 \text{ (stable)} \end{array} \right\}$$

$$\phi_m = \left\{ \begin{array}{ll} [1 - 16\zeta]^{-\frac{1}{4}} & \text{for } -2 < \zeta < 0 \text{ (unstable)} \\ 1 & \text{for } \zeta = 0 \text{ (neutral)} \\ 1 + 5\zeta & \text{for } 0 \leq \zeta < 1 \text{ (stable)} \end{array} \right\}$$

Note that for neutral conditions:

$$\phi_m = \left( \frac{k \cdot z}{u_*} \right) \frac{d\bar{U}}{dz} = 1$$

$$\frac{d\bar{U}}{dz} = \left( \frac{u_*}{k \cdot z} \right)$$

So we come back to the logarithmic profile:

$$\bar{U} = \frac{u_*}{k} \log \left( \frac{z}{z_0} \right)$$



## Similarity functions:

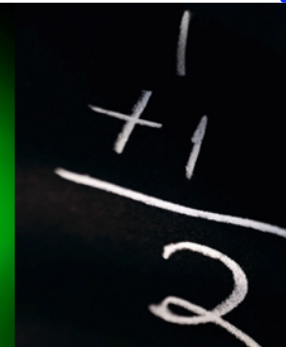
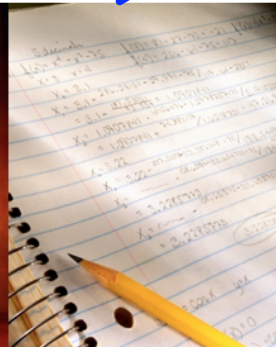
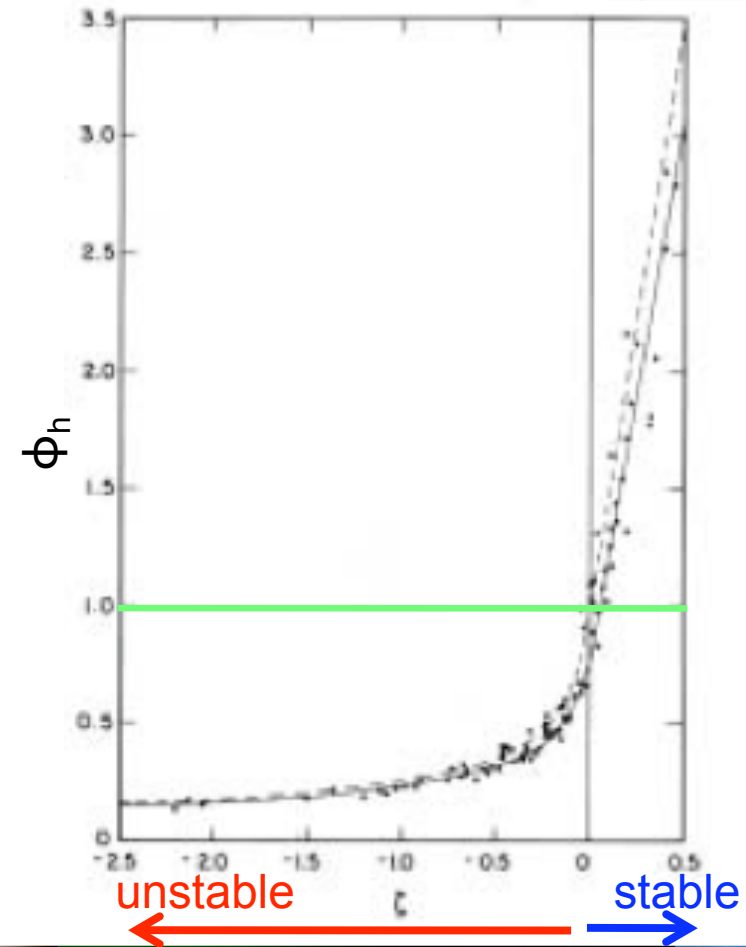
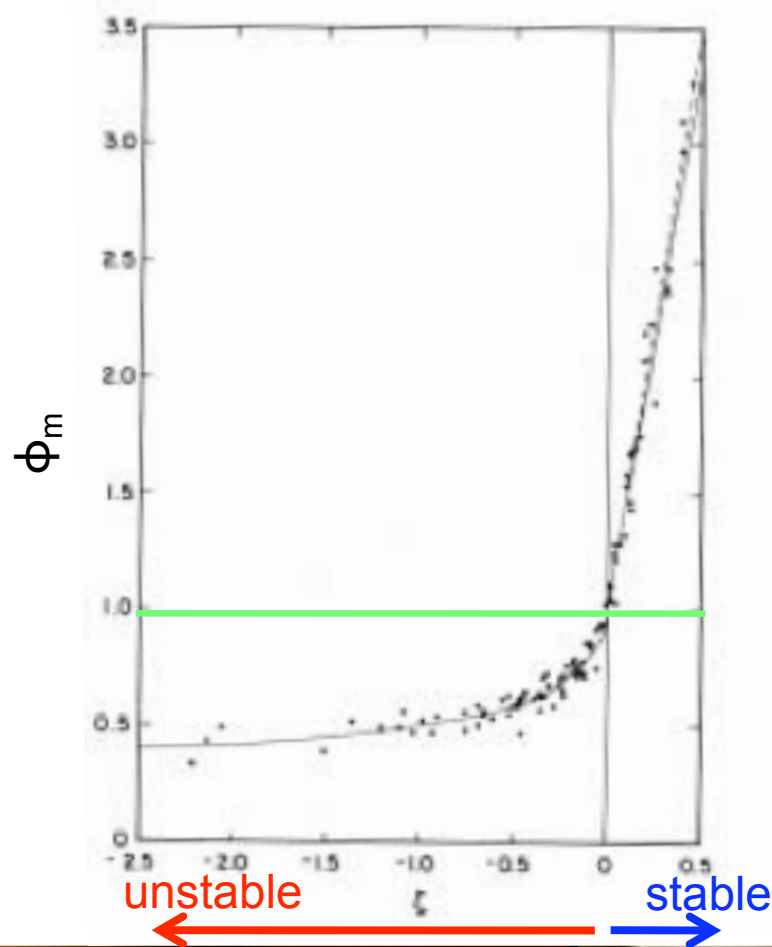
□ For heat  $\phi_h$ :

$$\phi_h = \left\{ \begin{array}{ll} \text{Pr}_{tN} (1 - 9\zeta)^{-\frac{1}{2}} & \text{for } -2 < \zeta < 0 \text{ (unstable)} \\ 1 & \text{for } \zeta = 0 \text{ (neutral)} \\ \text{Pr}_{tN} + 4.7\zeta & \text{for } 0 \leq \zeta < 1 \text{ (stable)} \end{array} \right\} \quad \text{Pr}_{tN} = 0.74$$

$$\phi_h = \left\{ \begin{array}{ll} (1 - 16\zeta)^{-\frac{1}{2}} & \text{for } -2 < \zeta < 0 \text{ (unstable)} \\ 1 & \text{for } \zeta = 0 \text{ (neutral)} \\ 1 + 5\zeta & \text{for } 0 \leq \zeta < 1 \text{ (stable)} \end{array} \right\} \quad \text{Pr}_{tN} = 1$$

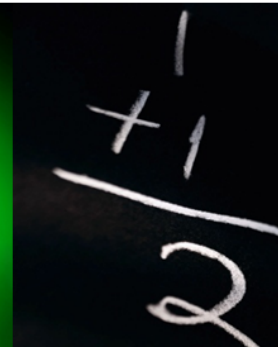
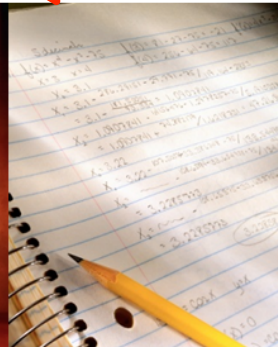
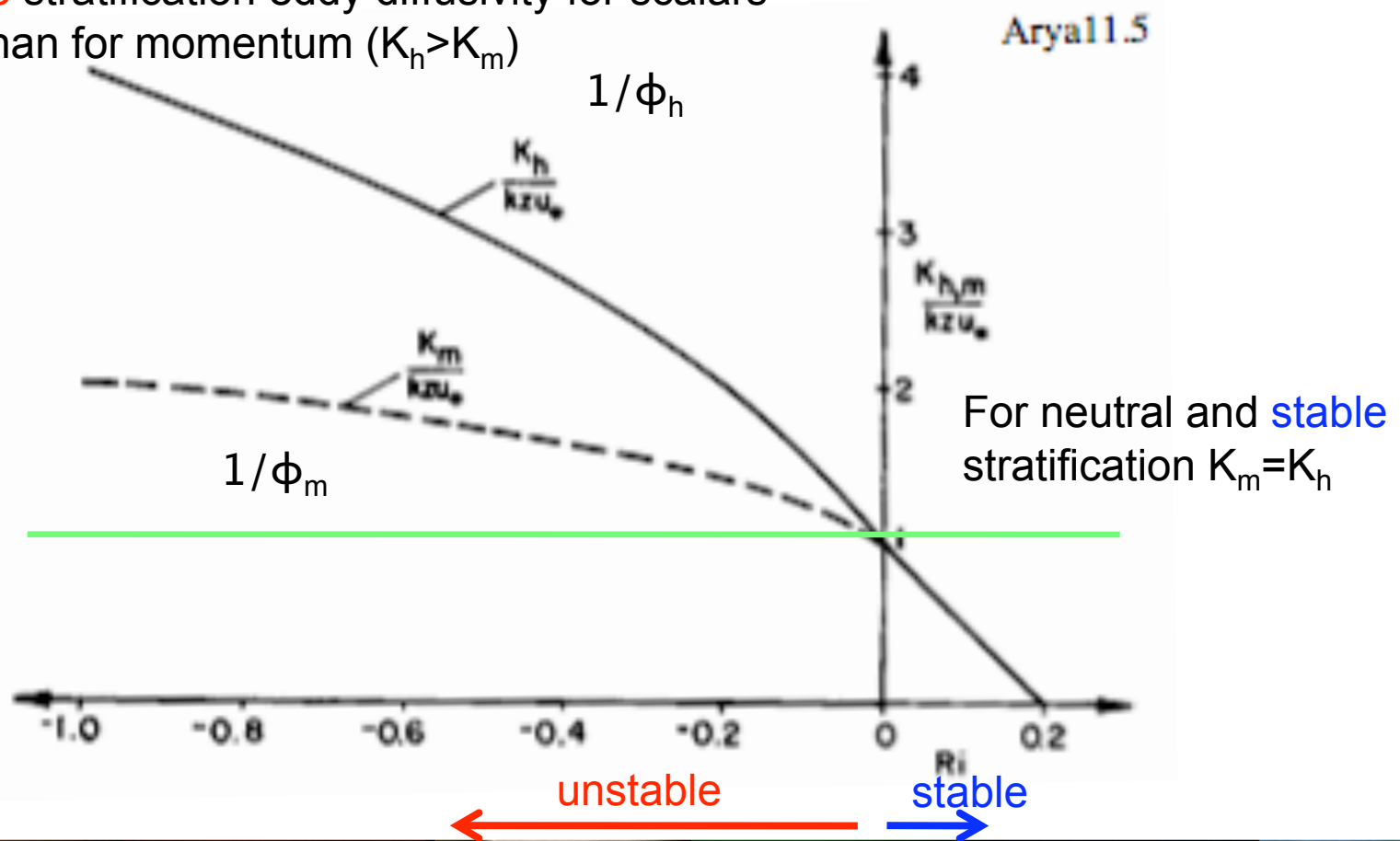


## Empirically determined similarity functions vs. stability parameter $\zeta$



## Eddy diffusivities as a function of Richardson number

For **unstable** stratification eddy diffusivity for scalars is greater than for momentum ( $K_h > K_m$ )





## In neutral or stable stratification $\phi_m = \phi_h$ ( $1/K_m = 1/K_h$ )

Pressure perturbations do not affect the eddy transport of momentum relative to heat and other scalars  $Pr_t = 1$ .

$$\phi_h = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for } \zeta = 0 \text{ (neutral)} \\ 1 + 5\zeta & \text{for } 0 \leq \zeta < 1 \text{ (stable)} \end{cases}$$

$$\phi_m = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for } \zeta = 0 \text{ (neutral)} \\ 1 + 5\zeta & \text{for } 0 \leq \zeta < 1 \text{ (stable)} \end{cases}$$



### In unstable stratification $\phi_h < \phi_m$ ( $K_h > K_m$ )

Eddy diffusivity for scalars is more than for momentum (universal similarity function for momentum ( $\phi_m$ ) is greater than for scalars ( $\phi_h$ )).

$$\phi_m = \left\{ [1 - 16\zeta]^{-\frac{1}{4}} \quad \text{for } 0 \leq \zeta < 1 \quad (stable) \right\}$$

$$\phi_h = \left\{ [1 - 16\zeta]^{-\frac{1}{2}} \quad \text{for } 0 \leq \zeta < 1 \quad (stable) \right\}$$



## Conversion between stability function ( $\zeta$ ) and Richardson number (Ri)

$$\zeta = \begin{cases} Ri & \text{for } -2 \leq Ri < 0 \quad (\text{unstable}) \\ \frac{Ri}{1-5Ri} & \text{for } 0 \leq Ri < 0.2 \quad (\text{stable}) \end{cases}$$

### Limiting cases:

1. Neutral limit:  $\Phi_m, \Phi_h \rightarrow 1$  as  $\zeta \rightarrow 0$  logarithmic profile

2. **Stable** limit: z-less scaling stable buoyancy forces tend to suppress eddies with a scale  $> L$ :

$$K_m = \frac{ku_* z}{\phi_m} \propto (\text{velocity}) \times (\text{length}) \propto u_* L \Rightarrow \phi_m \propto \frac{z}{L} = \zeta \quad \phi_h \propto \frac{z}{L} = \zeta$$

3. **Unstable** limit: eddy viscosity scales with the buoyancy flux

$$K_m = \frac{ku_* z}{\phi_m} \propto u_f z = (B_0 z)^{\frac{1}{3}} z \Rightarrow \phi_m \propto \frac{u_*}{u_f} \propto \left(-\frac{z}{L}\right)^{-\frac{1}{3}} = (-\zeta)^{-\frac{1}{3}}$$



# Wind and thermodynamic profiles

□ For all cases we can use one formula with stability correction function defined below:

$$\overline{U}(z) = \left( \frac{u_*}{k} \right) \cdot \left[ \log \left( \frac{z}{z_0} \right) + \psi_M \left( \frac{z}{L} \right) \right]$$

$\Psi_M$  – stability correction function  
 $L$  – Monin-Obukhov length  $\psi_M = \int_0^{\xi} [1 - \phi_m(\xi')] d\xi' / \xi'$

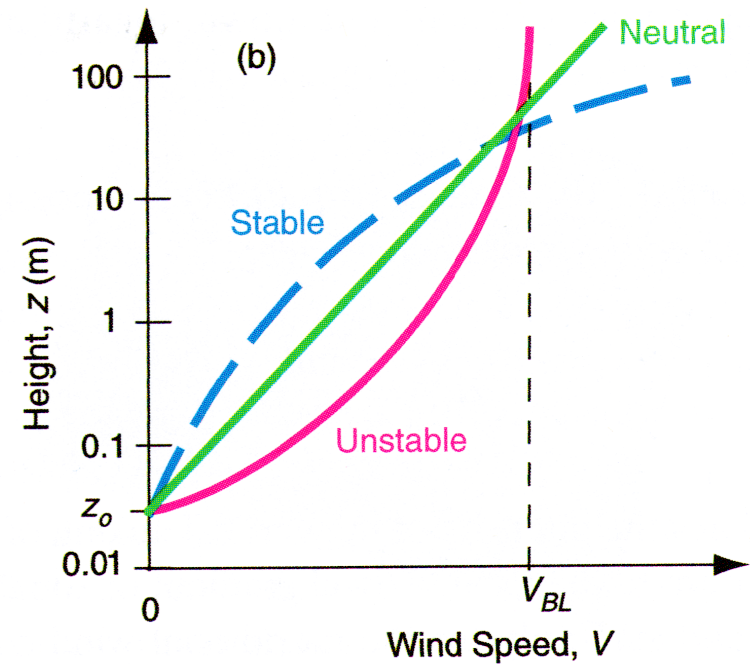
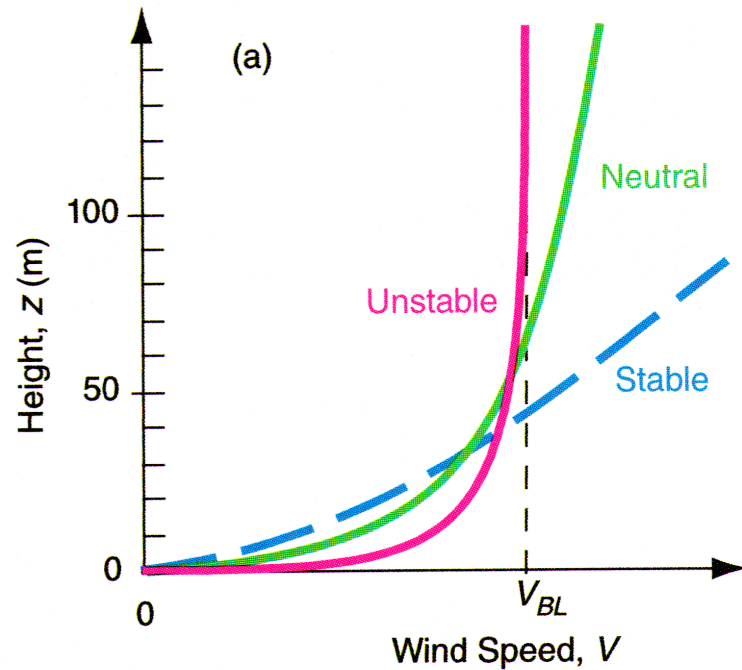
$$\psi_M = \begin{cases} \left( \frac{4.7 \cdot z}{L} \right) & \text{for } \frac{z}{L} > 0 \quad (\text{stable}) \\ 0 & \text{for } \frac{z}{L} = 0 \quad (\text{neutral}) \\ -2 \ln \left[ \frac{1+x}{2} \right] - \ln \left[ \frac{1+x}{2} \right] - \ln \left[ \frac{1+x^2}{2} \right] + 2 \tan^{-1}(x) - \frac{\pi}{2} & \text{for } \frac{z}{L} < 0 \quad (\text{unstable}), \end{cases}$$

$$\text{where: } x = \left[ 1 - 15 \frac{z}{L} \right]^{\frac{1}{4}}$$

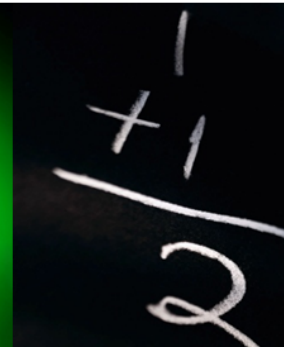
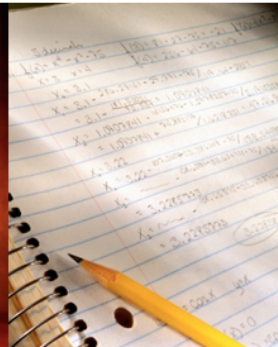
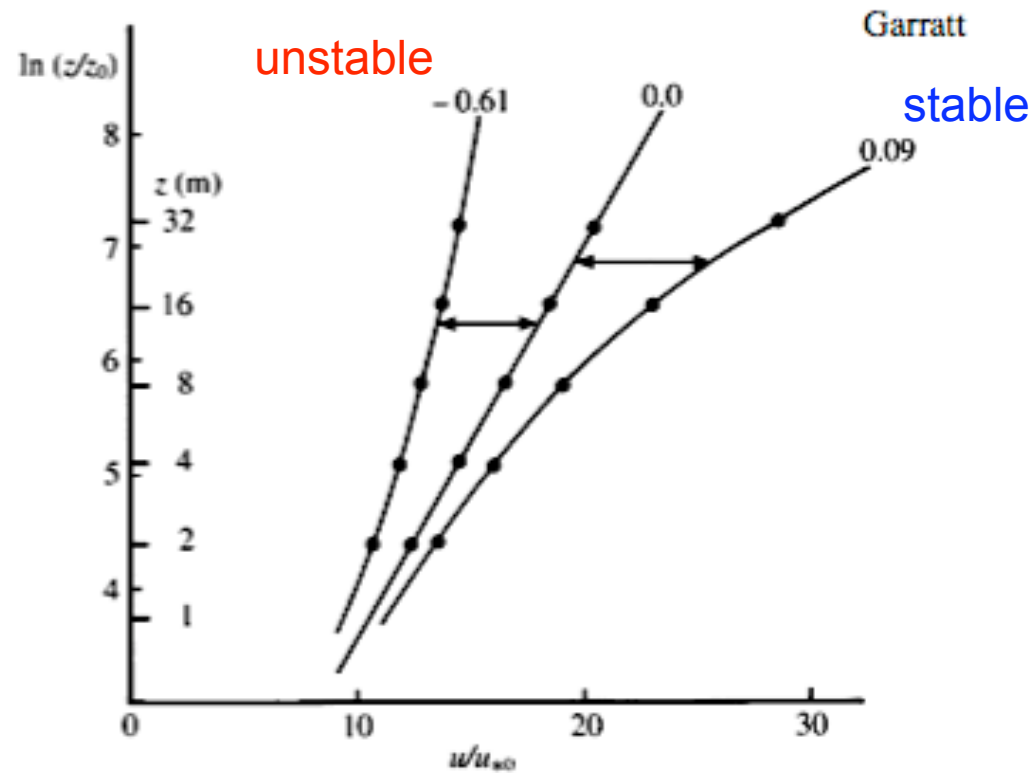




# Stability-corrected profiles

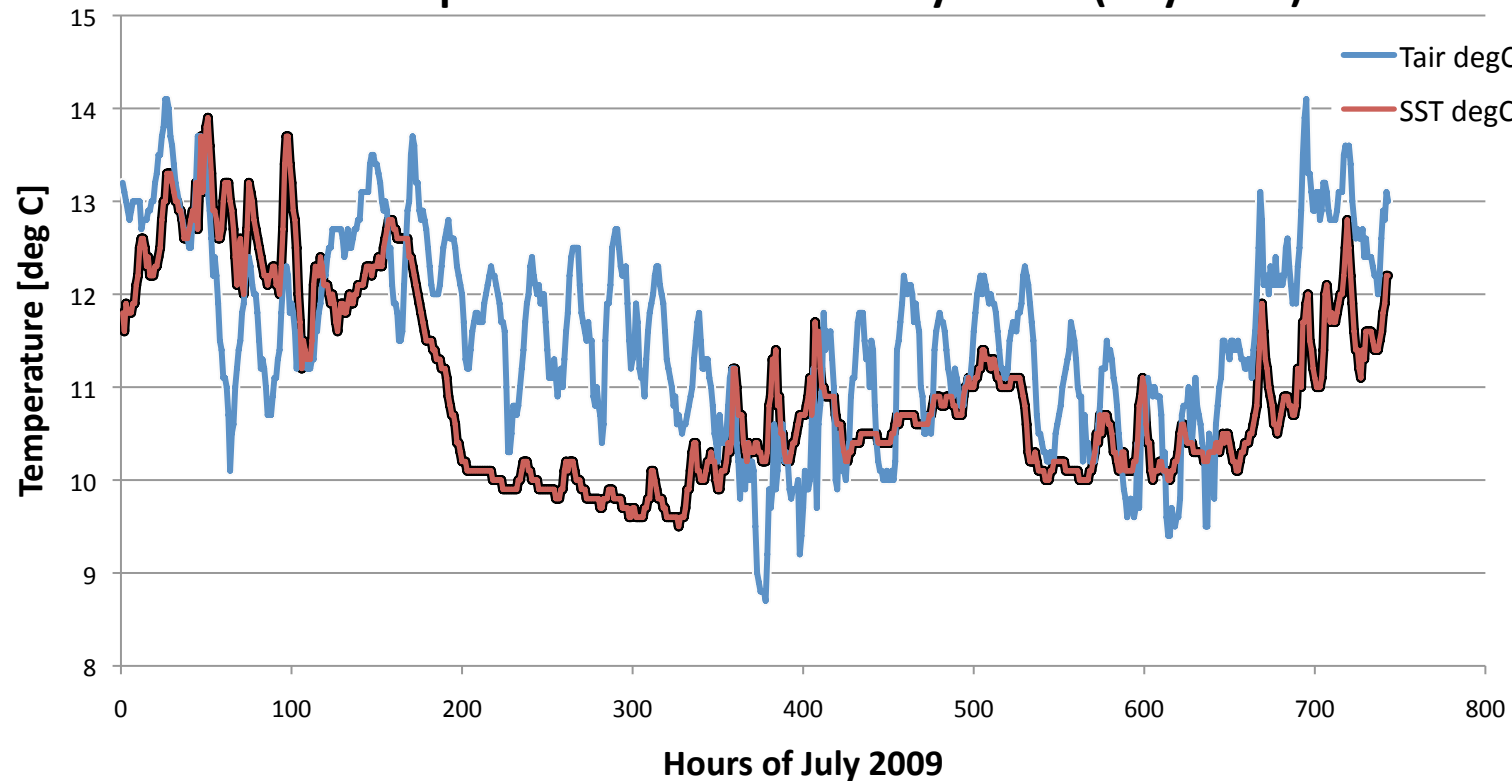


# Stability-corrected profiles



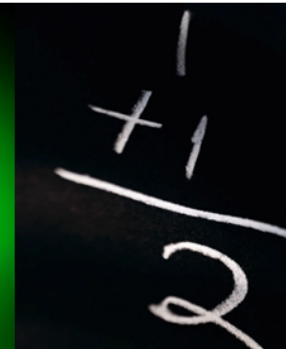
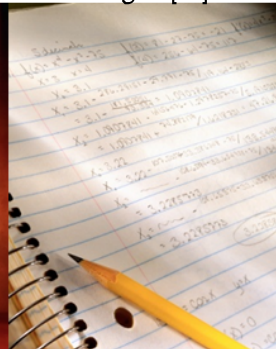
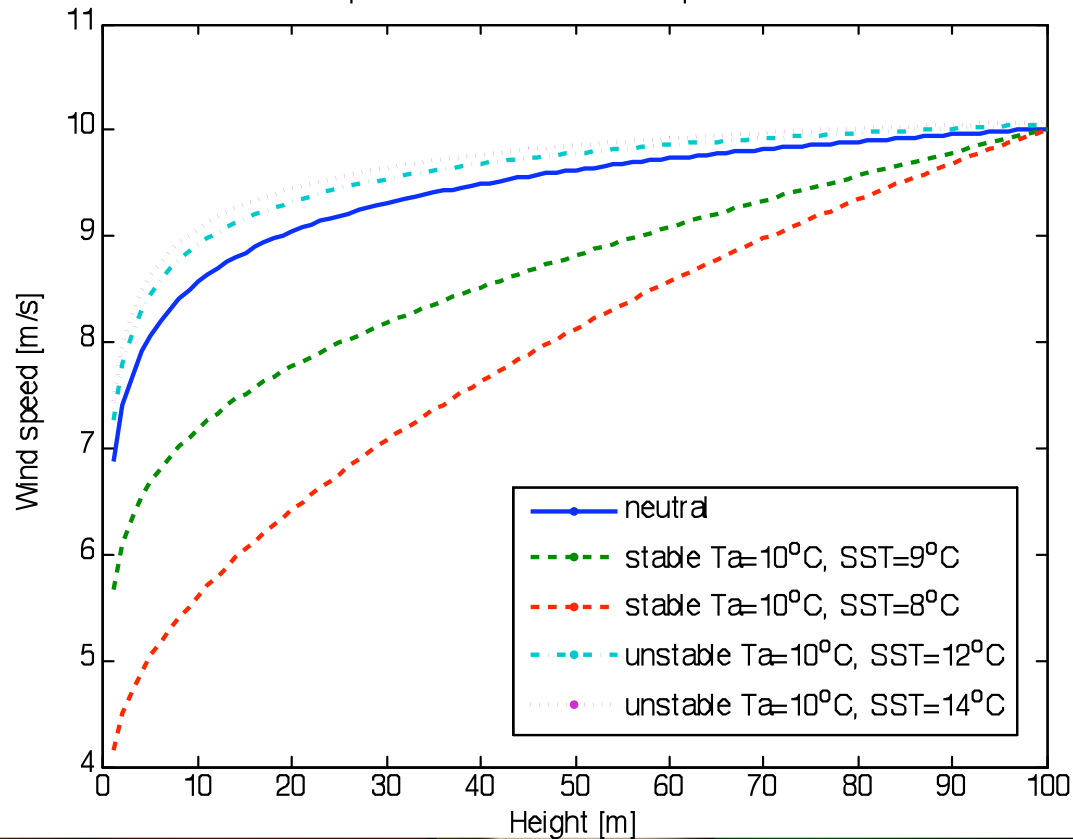
# Do we really have to take care about stability?

Air temperature and SST for buoy 46013 (July 2009)



# Stability-corrected profiles

Wind profiles for different atmospheric stabilities





## Effect of atmospheric stability on drag coefficients

### Stability-corrected/Neutral drag coefficient as a function of stability

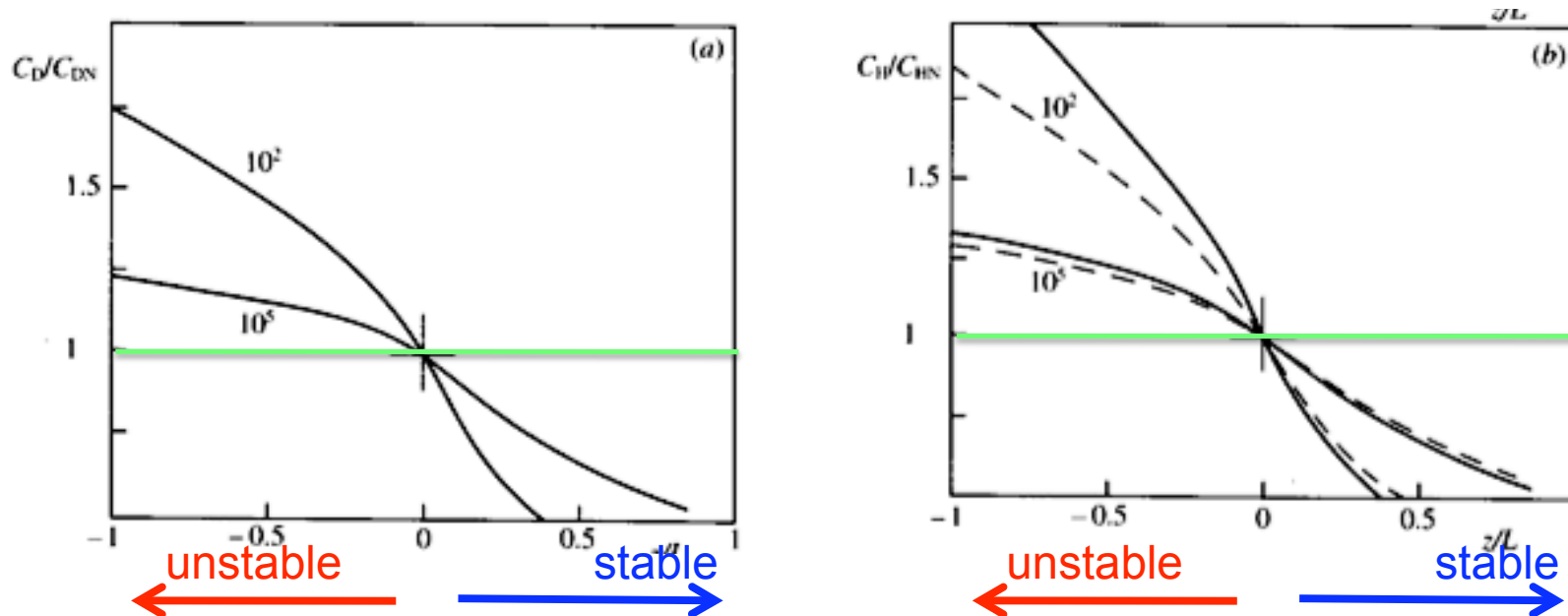
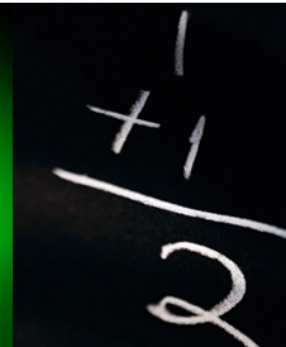
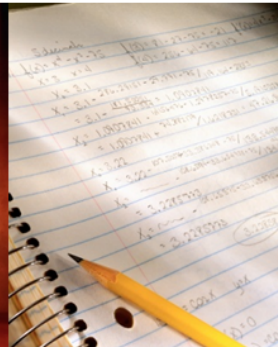
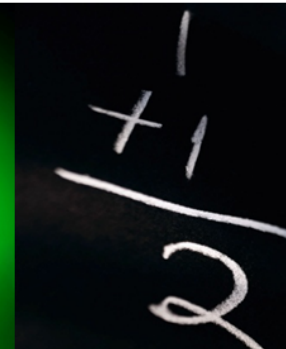
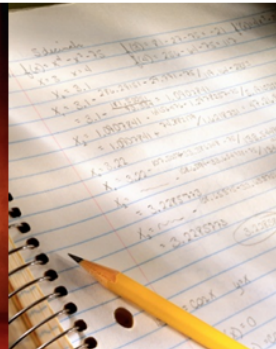
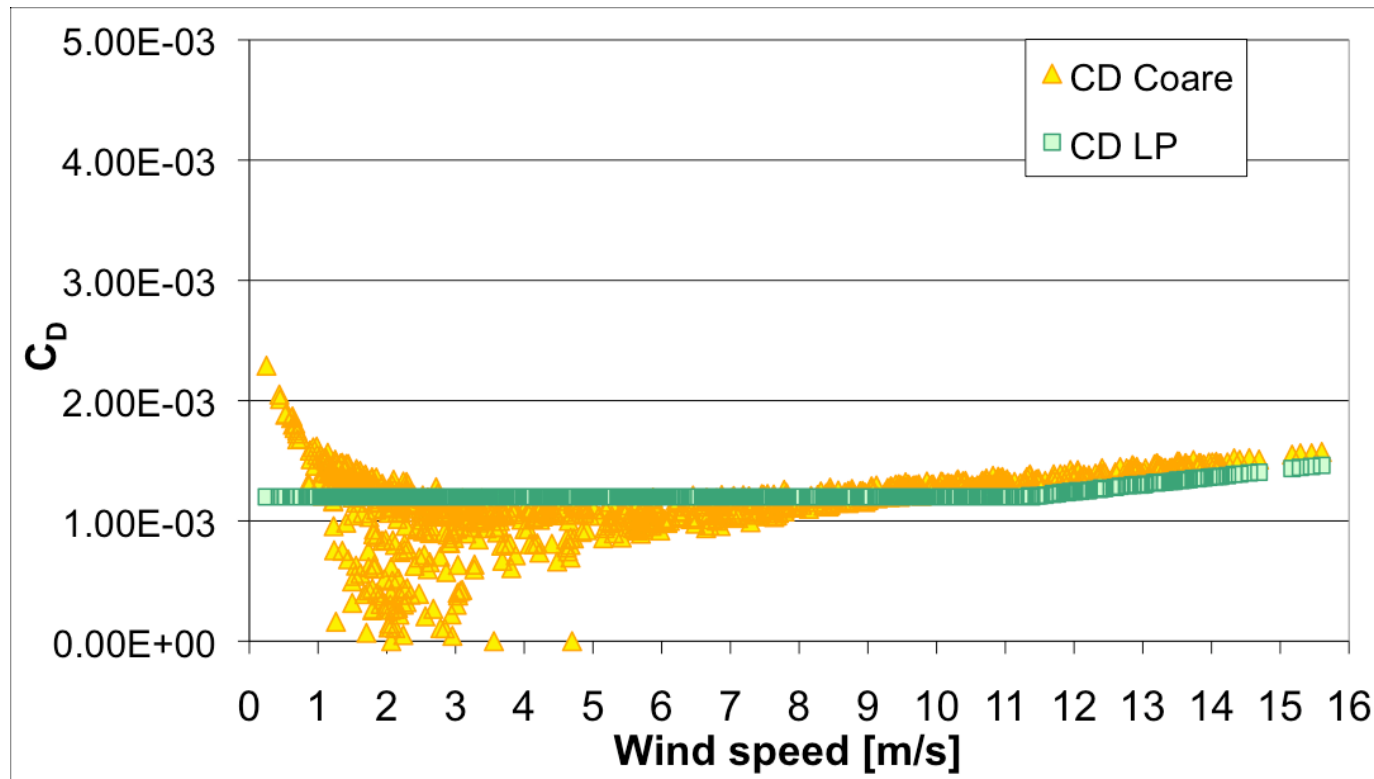


Fig. 3.7 Values of (a)  $C_D/C_{DN}$  and (b)  $C_H/C_{HN}$  as functions of  $z/L$  for two values of  $z/z_0$  as indicated. In (b), the solid curves have  $z_0 = z_T$ , and the pecked curves have  $z_0/z_T = 7.4$  (see Chapter 4).



## Effect of atmospheric stability on the drag coefficient $C_D$

### Drag coefficient vs. wind speed for buoy NDBC 4613 June 2001



# Wind profile in non-neutral conditions:

□ For stable conditions:

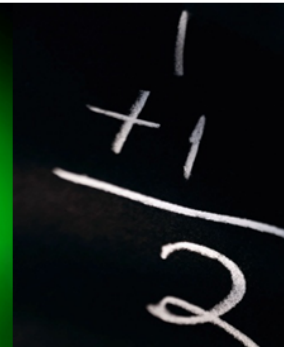
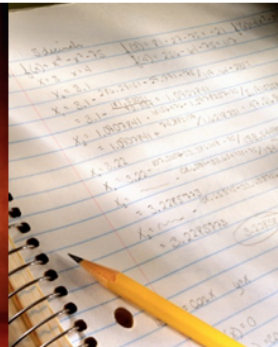
$$\frac{d\bar{U}}{dz} = \left( \frac{u_*}{k \cdot z} \right) \cdot \left[ 1 + \left( \frac{4.7 \cdot z}{L} \right) \right]$$

$$\bar{U}(z) = \int \left( \frac{u_*}{k \cdot z} \right) \cdot \left[ 1 + \left( \frac{4.7 \cdot z}{L} \right) \right] dz$$

$$\bar{U}(z) = \left( \frac{u_*}{k} \right) \cdot \left[ \log \left( \frac{z}{z_0} \right) + 4.7 \cdot \left( \frac{z}{L} \right) \right]$$

$$\phi_M = \left[ 1 + \left( \frac{4.7 \cdot z}{L} \right) \right] = \left( \frac{k \cdot z}{u_*} \right) \frac{d\bar{U}}{dz}$$

$$\phi_M = \left\{ \begin{array}{ll} 1 + \left( \frac{4.7 \cdot z}{L} \right) & \text{for } \frac{z}{L} > 0 \quad (\text{stable}) \\ 1 & \text{for } \frac{z}{L} = 0 \quad (\text{neutral}) \\ \left[ 1 - \left( \frac{15 \cdot z}{L} \right) \right]^{\frac{1}{4}} & \text{for } \frac{z}{L} < 0 \quad (\text{unstable}) \end{array} \right\}$$



# Wind profile in non-neutral conditions:

□ For unstable conditions:

$$\frac{d\bar{U}}{dz} = \left( \frac{u_*}{k \cdot z} \right) \cdot \left[ 1 - \left( \frac{15 \cdot z}{L} \right) \right]^{\frac{1}{4}}$$

$$\bar{U}(z) = \int \left( \frac{u_*}{k \cdot z} \right) \cdot \left[ 1 - \left( \frac{15 \cdot z}{L} \right) \right]^{\frac{1}{4}} dz$$

$$\phi_M = \left[ 1 - \left( \frac{15 \cdot z}{L} \right) \right]^{-\frac{1}{4}} = \left( \frac{k \cdot z}{u_*} \right) \frac{d\bar{U}}{dz}$$

$$\phi_M = \begin{cases} 1 + \left( \frac{4.7 \cdot z}{L} \right) & \text{for } \frac{z}{L} > 0 \quad (\text{stable}) \\ 1 & \text{for } \frac{z}{L} = 0 \quad (\text{neutral}) \\ \left[ 1 - \left( \frac{15 \cdot z}{L} \right) \right]^{\frac{1}{4}} & \text{for } \frac{z}{L} < 0 \quad (\text{unstable}) \end{cases}$$

$$\bar{U}(z) = \left( \frac{u_*}{k} \right) \cdot \left\{ 4 \left( 1 - 15 \frac{z}{L} \right)^{\frac{1}{4}} + \left[ \log \left( 1 - 15 \frac{z}{L} \right)^{\frac{1}{4}} - 1 \right] - \left[ \log \left( 1 - 15 \frac{z}{L} \right)^{\frac{1}{4}} + 1 \right] - 2 \arctan \left[ \left( 1 - 15 \frac{z}{L} \right)^{\frac{1}{4}} \right] \right\}$$

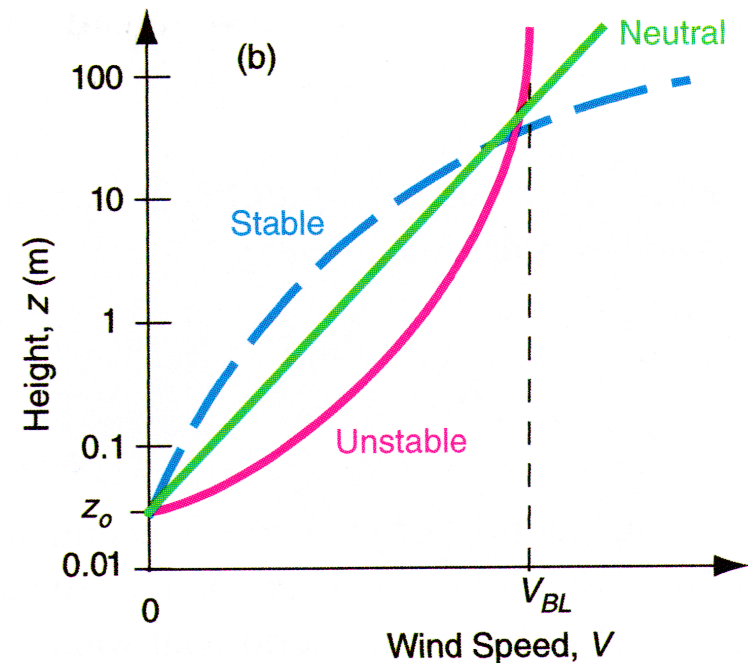
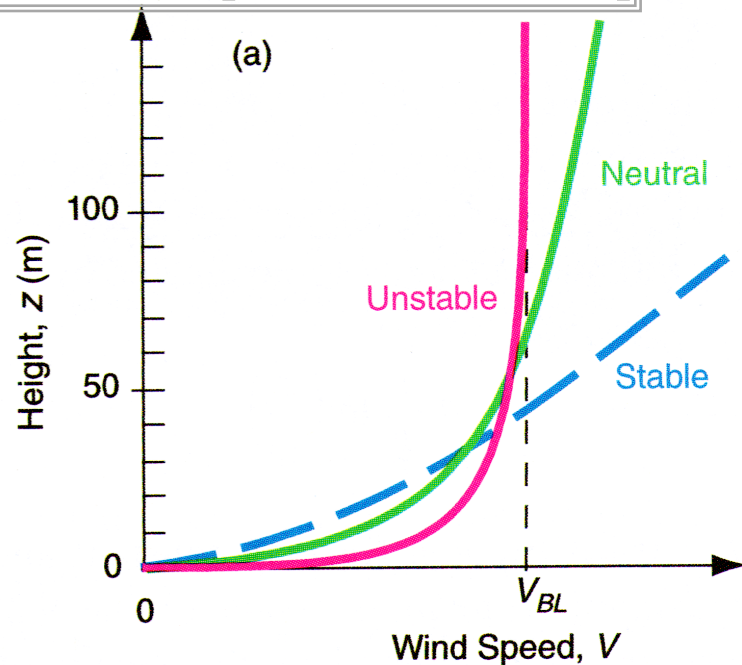




## Final result: stability-corrected profiles:

$$\bar{U}(z) = \left( \frac{u_*}{k} \right) \cdot \left[ \log \left( \frac{z}{z_0} \right) + \psi_M \left( \frac{z}{L} \right) \right] \quad (\text{but we need Monin-Obukhov length } L)$$

$$L = \frac{-u_*^3}{w_*^3} \frac{z_i}{k}$$



## Turbulent scales and similarity theory

The End

