

Atmos 5300
Exercise on Turbulent Fluxes

1. The surface sensible heat flux $F_s = \rho c_p \overline{w'T'} = 1000 \text{ W m}^{-2}$ and the atmospheric boundary layer (ABL) depth $h = 500 \text{ m}$. How much does the average ABL temperature change during 3 h? Use $\rho = 1.2 \text{ kg m}^{-3}$.

2. Same as problem 1 but in this case $F_s = -50 \text{ W m}^{-2}$ and $h = 50 \text{ m}$.

3. 1 cm of water evaporates from the ocean into an ABL that is 500 m deep.
 - (a) What is the change in the average ABL water vapor mixing ratio (mass of water vapor per unit mass of dry air), Δq ? Use $\rho = 1.2 \text{ kg m}^{-3}$.
 - (b) If this process occurs over 4 h, what is the average surface flux of water vapor, $F_q = \rho \overline{w'q'}$?
 - (c) What is the latent heat flux, LF_q ? $L = 2.5 \times 10^6 \text{ J kg}^{-1}$ is the latent heat of vaporization.

4. The turbulent momentum flux components are $\overline{u'w'} = -0.1 \text{ m}^2\text{s}^{-2}$ and $\overline{v'w'} = 0$.
 - (a) What is the friction velocity, u_* ? [WH Eq. 9.14]

$$u_*^2 = \left[\overline{u'w'^2} + \overline{v'w'^2} \right]^{1/2}.$$

- (b) What is the magnitude of the surface stress, τ_s ? Use $\rho = 1.2 \text{ kg m}^{-3}$. [WH Eq. 9.14]

$$u_*^2 = \left| \frac{\tau_s}{\rho} \right|.$$

- (c) If $h = 500 \text{ m}$, how much would the *vertical averages* of the horizontal velocity components, $\bar{u}$ and $\bar{v}$, change over 6 h *due to the surface stress alone*? Assume that the wind velocity and surface stress vectors are parallel. [The governing equations for $\bar{u}$ and $\bar{v}$ are given on slide 28 (of 37) of <https://www.inscc.utah.edu/~krueger/5220/WH-ABL-2.pdf>.]

- (d) What additional forces act to maintain the ABL wind?