

## Lecture Ch. 6a

100%. For simplicity, we assume here that clouds form in the atmosphere when the water vapor reaches its saturation value and  $\mathcal{H} = 100\%$ .

- Saturation of moist air
- Relationship between humidity and dewpoint
  - Clausius-Clapeyron equation
- Dewpoint
  - Temperature
  - Depression
- Isobaric cooling

Curry and Webster, Ch. 6

For Wednesday: Homework, Ch. 6, Prob. 4, 6; Read Ch. 7

## How does saturation occur?

- By increasing water vapor
  - Evaporation of water at surface
  - Evaporation of falling rain
- By cooling
  - Isobaric
  - Radiative cooling of rising air
- By mixing of two unsaturated air parcels

Curry and Webster, Ch. 6

## Saturation of Moist Air

- Dew point temperature

The temperature at which saturation is reached in an isobaric cooling process is the *dew-point temperature*, which is illustrated in Figure 6.1a. The dew-point temperature, denoted by  $T_D$ , can be defined by

$$e = e_s(T_D) \quad (6.14)$$

or equivalently by

$$w_p = w_s(T_D) \quad (6.15)$$

Curry and Webster, Ch. 6

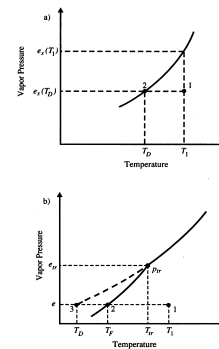


Figure 6.1 a) Relationship between temperature and vapor pressure in an isobaric cooling process. Air initially at temperature  $T_1$  (point 1) is cooled isobarically until it reaches saturation (point 3). The temperature at point 3 defines the dew-point temperature,  $T_D$ . b) Air at  $T_1$  (point 1) cools isobarically until it reaches saturation. If the saturation is reached with respect to ice (point 2), the temperature is called the frost point,  $T_f$ .

## Saturation of Moist Air

- Clausius-Clapeyron equation at dew point

$$\frac{dp}{dT} \approx \frac{L_v}{T v_v} \quad (4.18)$$

$$\frac{dp}{dT} = \frac{L_v p}{R_v T^2} \quad (4.19)$$

$$v_v = \frac{R_v T}{p}$$

$$\frac{dp}{p} = \frac{L_v}{R_v T^2} dT$$

$$\frac{d(\ln p)}{dT} = \frac{L_v}{R_v T^2} \quad (6.18)$$

## Clausius Clapeyron

- Recall by integration between two temperatures we had

$$\int_{e_1}^{e_2} d(\ln e) = \int_{T_1}^{T_2} \frac{L_v}{R_v T^2} dT \quad (4.21)$$

to yield

$$\ln \frac{e_2}{e_1} = -\frac{L_v}{R_v} \left( \frac{1}{T_2} - \frac{1}{T_1} \right) \quad (4.22)$$

or

$$e_2 = e_1 \exp \left[ -\frac{L_v}{R_v} \left( \frac{1}{T_2} - \frac{1}{T_1} \right) \right] \quad (4.23)$$

## Dewpoint and Humidity

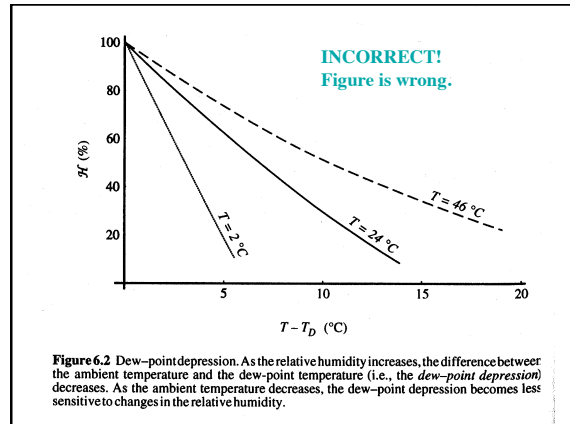
- Integrating from ambient to saturation

$$\ln \frac{e_s}{e} = -\ln \mathcal{H} = \frac{L_v}{R_v} \left( \frac{1}{T_D} - \frac{1}{T} \right)$$

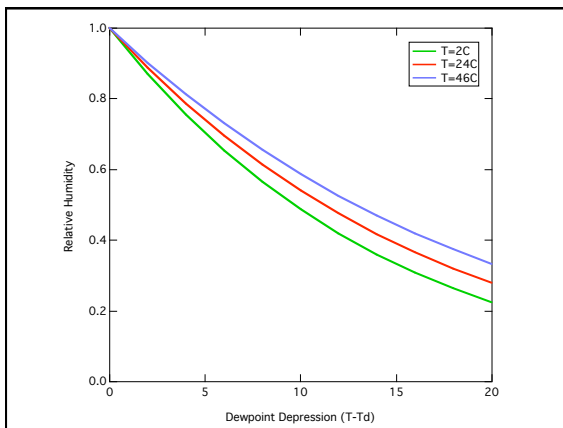
or equivalently

$$\mathcal{H} = \exp \left[ -\frac{L_v}{R_v} \left( \frac{T - T_D}{T T_D} \right) \right] \quad (6.19)$$

- Dew point depression ( $T - T_D$ )



**Figure 6.2** Dew-point depression. As the relative humidity increases, the difference between the ambient temperature and the dew-point temperature (i.e., the *dew-point depression*) decreases. As the ambient temperature decreases, the dew-point depression becomes less sensitive to changes in the relative humidity.



## Cumulus Cloud Base Altitude Calculator

$$\text{Cloud Base Altitude} = (((\text{temperature} - \text{dew point}) / 4.5) * 1000) + \text{measure station altitude}$$

Assumes:

- The rate at which air cools as it rises is averaged at 5.5°F per 1000 feet
- The dew point also decreases at about 1.0°F over the same distance.

<http://www.csgnetwork.com/estcloudbasecalc.html>

## Lecture Ch. 6b

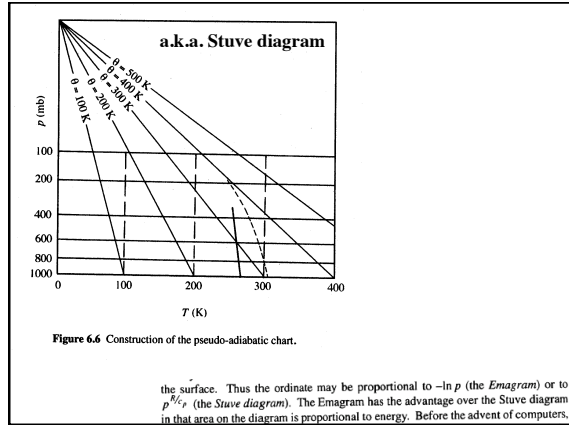
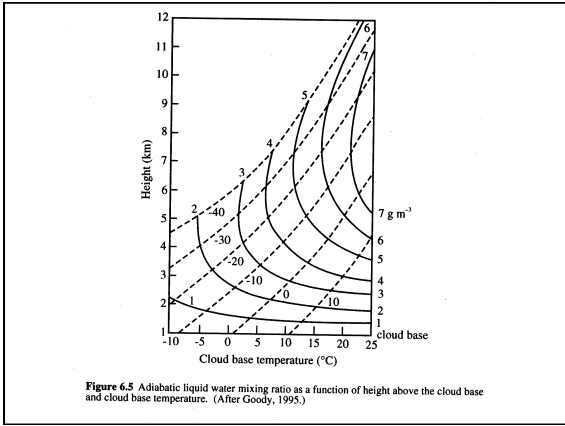
- Moist adiabatic ascent of air
- Equivalent temperature
- Aerological diagrams

Curry and Webster, Ch. 6  
For Tuesday: Read Ch. 7 (look at but don't solve Prob. 3)

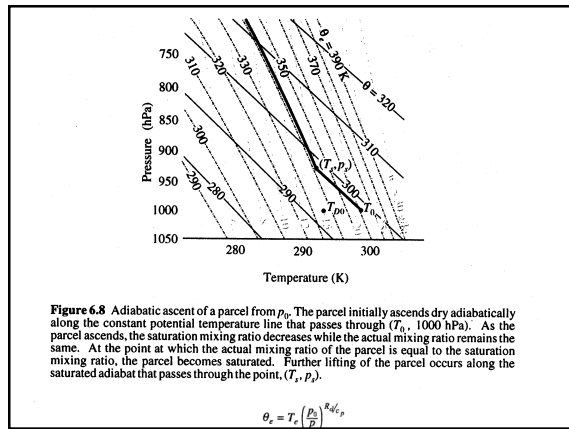
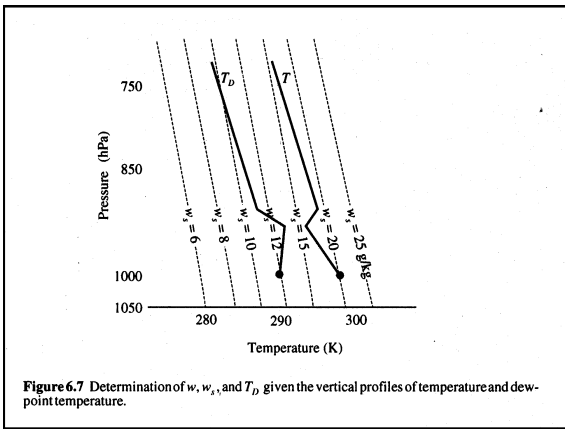
## Equivalent Potential Temperature

- Accounts for liquid water heating

$$\theta_e = \theta \exp \left( \frac{L_v w_s}{c_{pd} T} \right) \quad (6.48)$$



the surface. Thus the ordinate may be proportional to  $-\ln p$  (the *Emagram*) or to  $p^{1/\gamma}$  (the *Stüve diagram*). The *Emagram* has the advantage over the *Stüve diagram* in that area on the diagram is proportional to energy. Before the advent of computers,



## Cloud in a Jar Demonstration

**Adiabatic Processes**  
**EXPANSION CLOUD CHAMBER**

- A rubber bulb fits into the top of a gallon jug, which contains a small amount of water.
- Slosh the water around in the jug to saturate the air with water vapor.
- Drop a lighted match into the jug and put the bulb on the top.
- Squeeze and release the bulb rapidly to create the "cloud".
- A 5-gallon jug is also available. Use your lungs to create the necessary under-pressure. (The bulb is too small.)

[http://groups.physics.umn.edu/demo/old\\_page/demo\\_gifs/4B70\\_20.GIF](http://groups.physics.umn.edu/demo/old_page/demo_gifs/4B70_20.GIF)