

List of symbols

\ddot{x}	Second derivative wrt time of x —i.e. acceleration along x
\ddot{y}	Second derivative wrt time of y —i.e. acceleration along y
ΔP	Pressure difference (N m^{-2} or Pa)
ΔP	change in pressure
Δx	change in distance
ν	Number of ions that solute dissociates into
Ω	Rotation frequency of earth in radians per second. i.e. $\frac{2\pi}{24 \text{ hours}}$
ω	Angular frequency of oscillation (rad s^{-1})
ϕ	Latitude: watch radians and degrees mode
ρ_a	Density of air (units of kg m^{-3})
ρ_s	Density of the solute (units of kg m^{-3})
ρ_v	Mass of water per unit volume
ρ_w	Density of pure water, 1000 kg m^{-3}
ρ_{sol}	Density of the water / solute mixture (units of kg m^{-3})
ρ	Density of air $\sim 1 \text{ kg m}^{-3}$
σ	Surface tension of water, 0.075 N m^{-1}
a	acceleration (a vector quantity measured in m s^{-2})
F	Force (a vector quantity measured in newtons)
F_A	Force exerted by object <i>A</i> on something else
F_B	Force exerted by object <i>B</i> on something else

\mathbf{v}	Velocity (a vector quantity measured in m s^{-1})
A	Area of a window (m^2)
c	phase speed of gravity wave
D	Diameter of aerosol particle (e.g. units of metres)
e	Partial pressure of water vapour (units of pascals)
e_s	Saturation vapour pressure (units of pascals)
f	Coriolis parameter (rad s^{-1})
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F_x	Force per unit volume in the x direction
F_y	Force per unit volume in the y direction
g	Acceleration due to gravity (9.8 m s^{-2})
h	Depth of fluid (m)
L_v	Latent heat of vapourisation, $2.5 \times 10^6 \text{ J kg}^{-1}$
m	Mass (measured in kg)
M_a	Molecular weight of air, 29 g mole^{-1}
M_s	Molecular weight of solute
M_w	Molecular weight of water, 18 g mole^{-1}
n	number of moles of gas
N_p	Number concentration of particles (units of m^{-3})
n_s	Number of moles of solute
n_w	Number of moles of water
P	Pressure (units of pascals)
PGF	pressure gradient force per unit volume
R_v	Specific gas constant for water vapour, $461 \text{ J kg}^{-1} \text{ K}^{-1}$
R	Radius of a circle (m)
R	radius that air travels around (m)

R_a	Specific gas constant for air, $287 \text{ J kg}^{-1} \text{ K}^{-1}$
r_w	Mass mixing ratio of water vapour (e.g. units of kg kg^{-1} or g kg^{-1})
R_{gas}	Universal gas constant, $8.314 \text{ J mole}^{-1} \text{ K}^{-1}$
RH	Relative humidity, unit-less, can be expressed as a percentage.
T	Temperature (units of kelvin)
t	time (s)
u	East-west velocity (m s^{-1})
u_g	Component of geostrophic wind in the x direction
V	Volume of gas (units cubic metres)
v	North-south velocity (m s^{-1})
v_g	Component of geostrophic wind in the y direction
v_t	Velocity around circle (m s^{-1})
v_{gr}	Gradient wind (m s^{-1})
W	an objects weight. Equal to its mass, m , multiplied by the field strength due to gravity, $g = 9.8 \text{ m s}^{-2}$.
x	East-west position (m)
y	North-south position (m)