

Radius of earth 6380 km Depth of atmosphere 30 km Ratio = 0.5%

TABLE 3-2

Major Constituents of Earth's Atmosphere Today	
Name and Chemical Symbol	Concentration (% by volume)
Nitrogen, N ₂	78
Oxygen, O2	21
Argon, Ar	0.9
Water vapor, H ₂ O	0.00001 (South Pole)-4 (tropics)
Carbon dioxide, CO2	0.037*

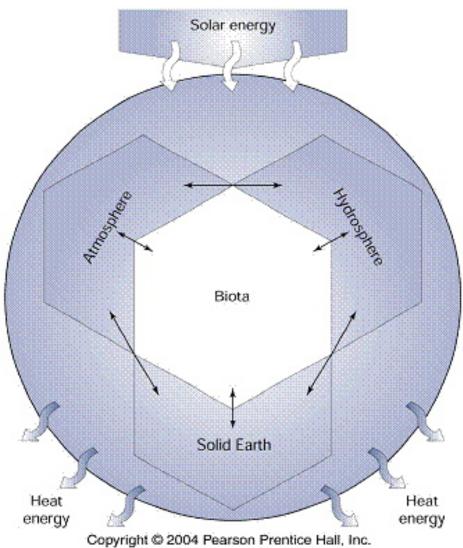
^{*}In 2002

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Conservation of Energy

Total energy in=

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energy transmitted +
energy absorbed +
energy reflected
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Planetary Albedo

Total energy in =

Energy reflected + Energy absorbed

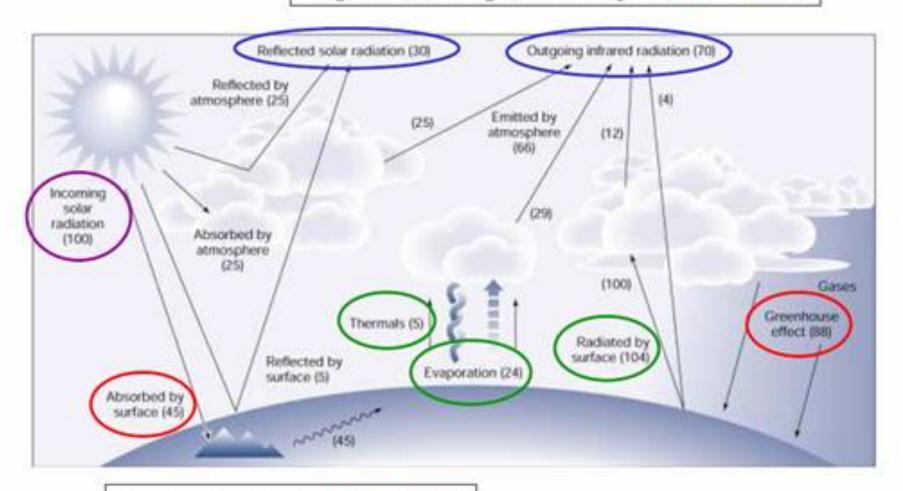
Albedo =

Energy reflected Energy in

Albedo of water or Asphalt = 0.2 Albedo of snow or white paint = 0.8

Energy Budget: TOA and surface

Top-of-Atmosphere budget: IN = OUT



Surface budget: IN = OUT

Heat transfer

Conduction

Convection

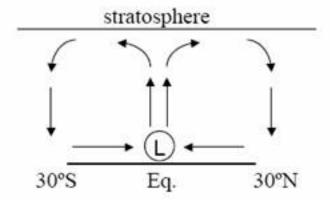
Radiation

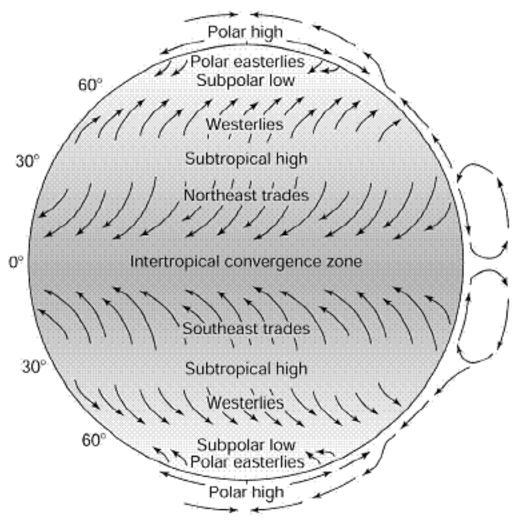
Phase Change

Hadley Circulation - 4

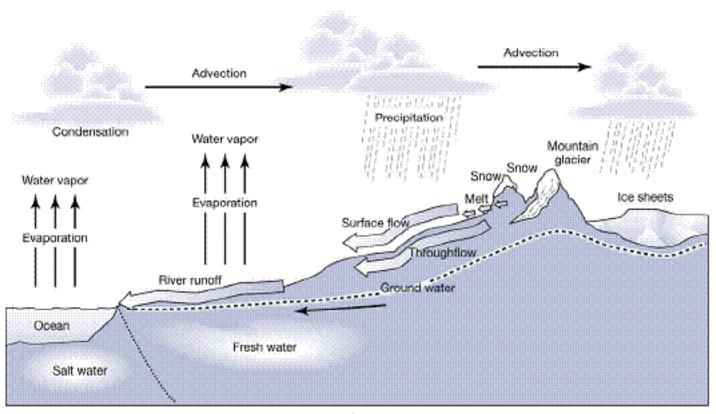
conservation of matter ... >>>> CIRCULATION

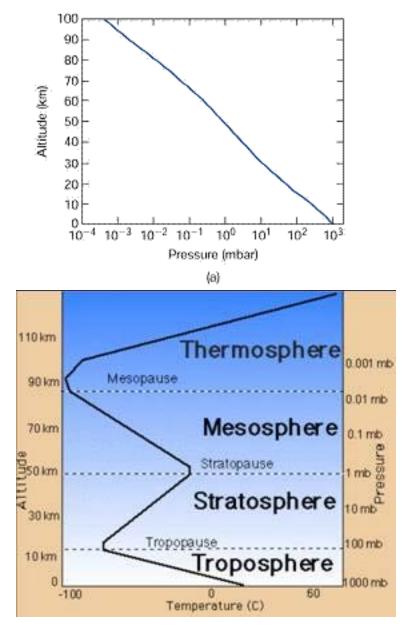
The Hadley Circulation





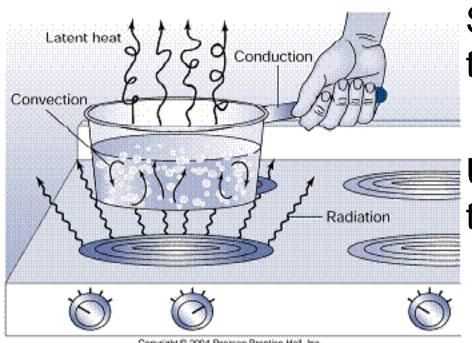
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Lapse rate- Rate at which temperature changes with height

Lapse Rate



Stable-warm fluid on top of cold fluid

Unstable-cold fluid on top of hot fluid

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Latent Heat of Vaporization

1 BTU to raises 1 Lb. water 1° F.
180 BTU raises 1 lb. H₂0 from 32° to 212°F
970 BTU to convert 1lb H₂0 from liquid to vapor
Condensation of water releases 970 BTU/lb.

Drying takes energy Condensation releases energy

How do clouds form?

Start with air parcel containing water vapor

Lift parcel up

Parcel cools by rising

Parcels cool because they do "work" by expanding as

They rise due to pressure differences

Parcel temperature reaches saturation vapor

pressure

Condensation occurs => cloud forms

Slow rise makes low energy clouds

Rapid rise makes high energy clouds



