

Introduction to Aerospace Engineering

Lecture slides



Intro to Aerospace Engineering

AE1101ab-3-4 The Standard Atmosphere

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<http://natrium42.com/halo/flight2/>



(h = 30 489 m, 100 020 ft)


30 km hoogte =
hoeveel %
vd atmosfeer onder je

[Link to video at 30 km](#)

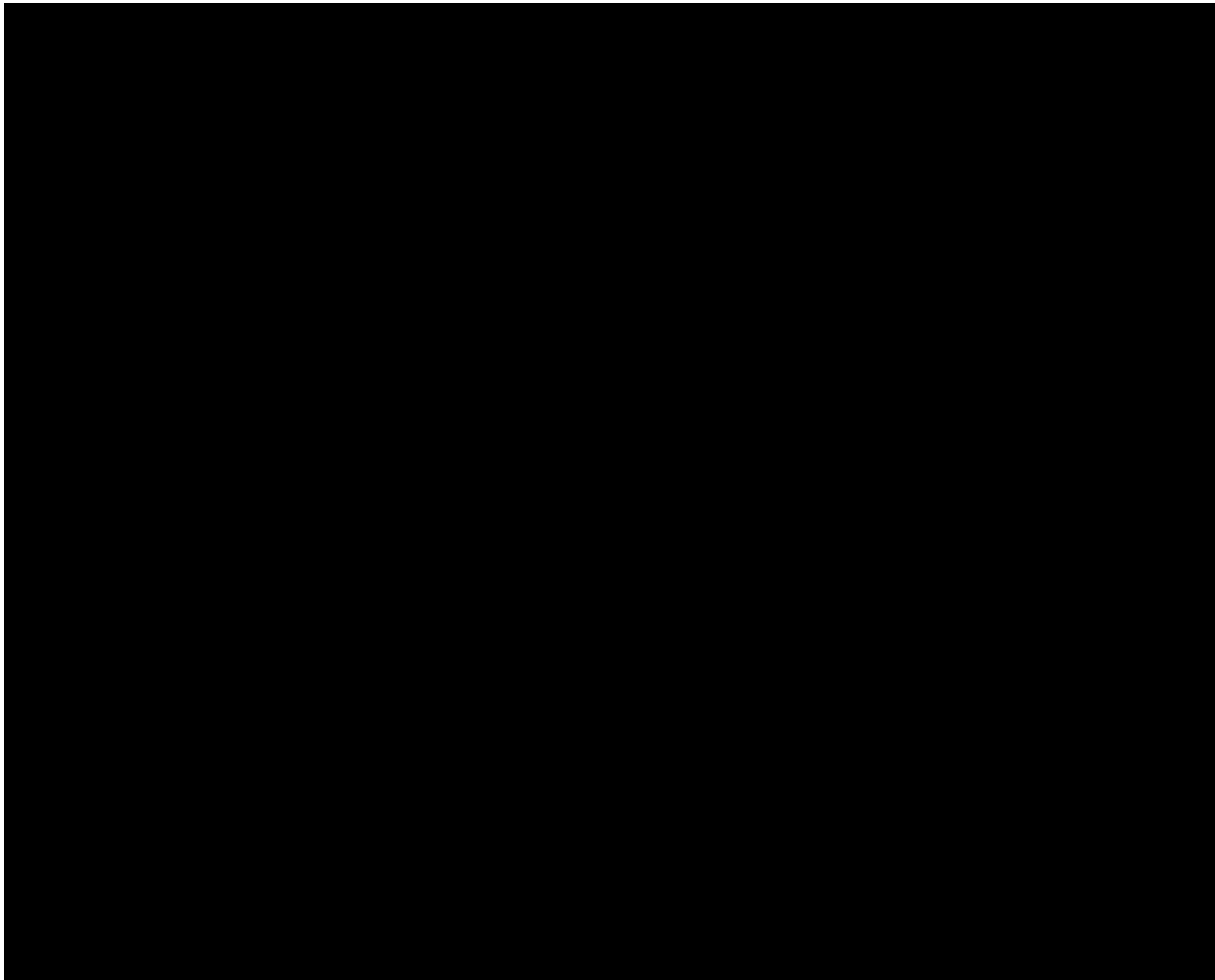
[Tim Zaman's
\(student\) project](#)



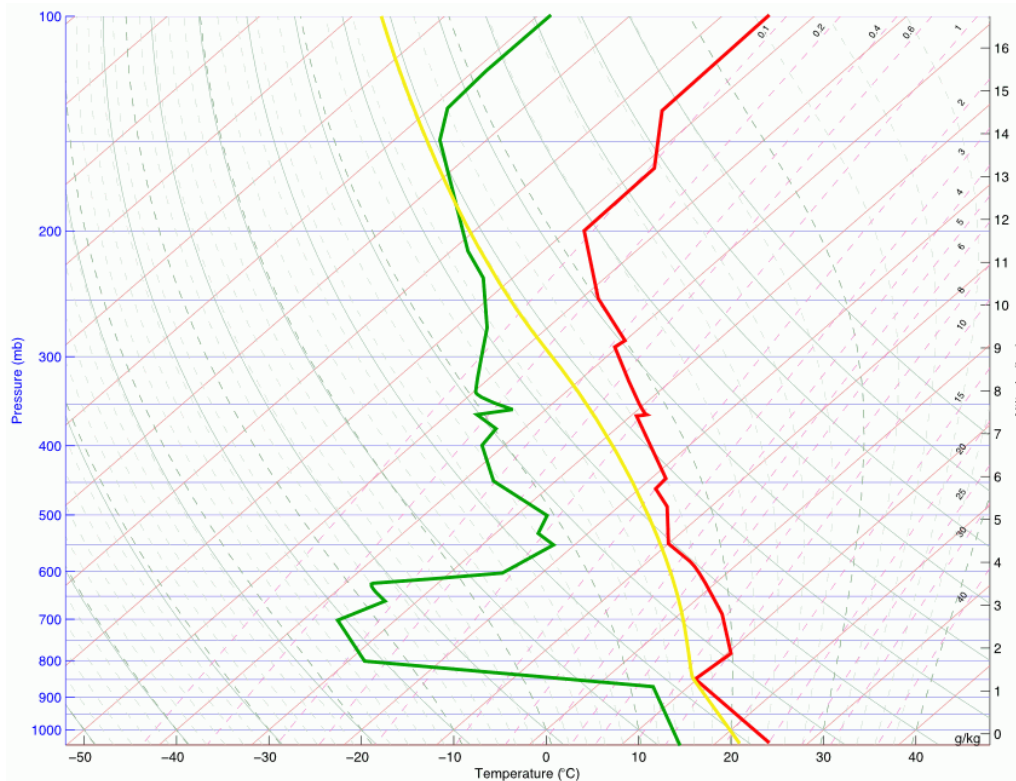
www.hollandshoogte.nl



Joe Kittinger: jump from 100,000 ft
“Jump from space” ?



Why a standard atmosphere?



*Real
atmosphere*

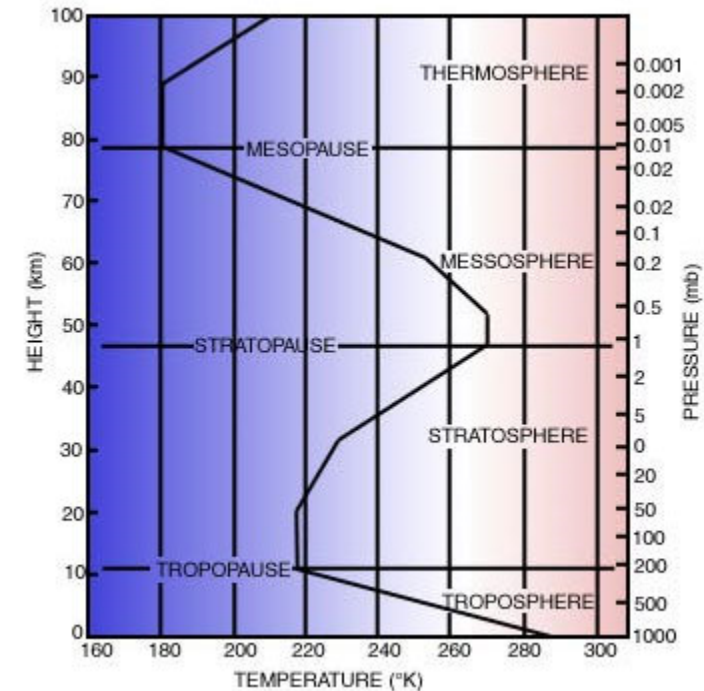
ISA is reference atmosphere for:

- Meaningful aircraft performance specification
- Pressure altitude definition & EAS/IAS/TAS definition
- Model atmosphere for simulation & analysis

International Standard Atmosphere (ISA)

Layers in the ISA

Layer	Level Name	Base Geopotential Height h (in km)	Base Geometric Height z (in km)	Lapse Rate (in °C/km)	Base Temperature T (in °C)	Base Atmospheric Pressure p (in Pa)
0	Troposphere	0.0	0.0	-6.5	+15.0	101,325
1	Tropopause	11.000	11.019	+0.0	-56.5	22,632
2	Stratosphere	20.000	20.063	+1.0	-56.5	5,474.9
3	Stratosphere	32.000	32.162	+2.8	-44.5	868.02
4	Stratopause	47.000	47.350	+0.0	-2.5	110.91
5	Mesosphere	51.000	51.413	-2.8	-2.5	66.939
6	Mesosphere	71.000	71.802	-2.0	-58.5	3.9564
7	Mesopause	84.852	86.000	—	-86.2	0.3734



$$T = T_0 + a(h - h_0)$$

$a = \text{lapse rate}$

$$p = \rho RT$$

$$dp = -\rho g dh$$

International Standard Atmosphere (= ICAO Std Atm)

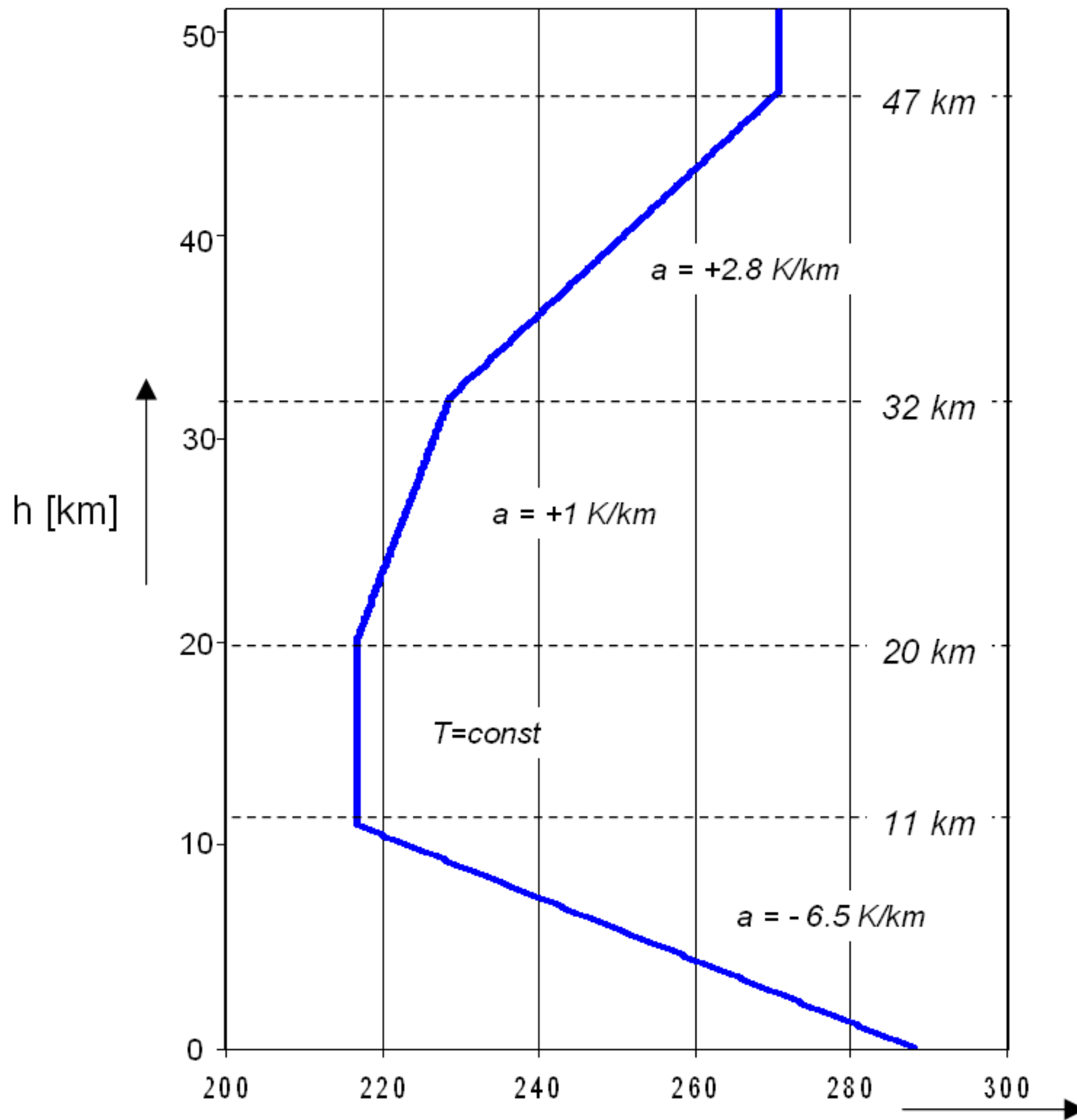
Use this instead of
Anderson page 112!

Watch out when using
lapse rate a ,
it is often given per km,
but you should use SI-
units, so per m!

$T = 288.15 \text{ K}$ ($15 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$)
 $p_0 = 101325 \text{ Pa}$
 $\rho = 1.225 \text{ kg/m}^3$

$R = 287.05 \text{ J/kg K}$
 $g_0 = 9.81 \text{ m/s}^2$

(and no water vapour)
 $M = 28.97 \text{ g/mol}$



T [K]

ing

7 |

What do we need to define a standard atmosphere?

- Physically correct:
 - Pressure increases due to gravity
 - Gas law
- Two laws, while three variables define state:
 - Pressure
 - Temperature
 - Density
- So by defining one state variable, we define the entire atmosphere by applying the two laws of nature

Hydrostatic equation /geopotential altitude

The diagram shows a 3D cube representing a fluid element. The top surface is at pressure $p+dp$ and the bottom surface is at pressure p . The weight of the fluid element is $\rho g dh_g$. The height of the cube is dh_g , and the side length is 1 . An arrow indicates 'Increasing altitude h_g '.

Equilibrium of forces :

$$p = p + dp + \rho g dh_g \Rightarrow$$

real g *geometric altitude*

$$dp = -\rho g dh_g \quad (1)$$

$$dp = -\rho g_0 dh \quad (2)$$

g at sea level *geopotential altitude*

This is the one we normally use. Difference is small

e.g. 63500 ft vs 63307 ft = 0,3%
TUDelft

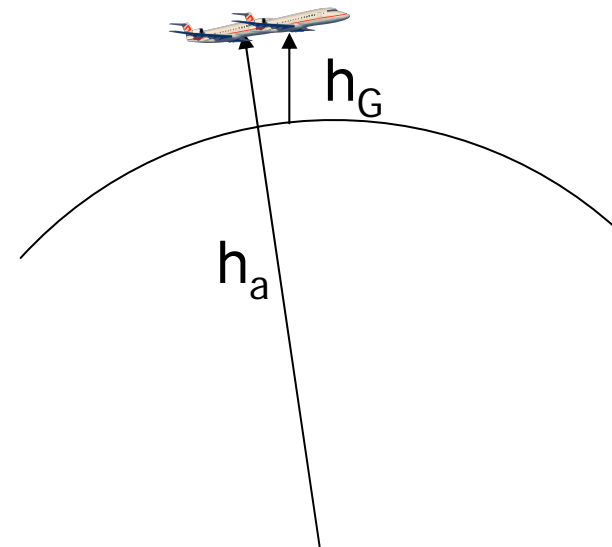
Absolute altitude & geometric altitude

Geometric altitude: real altitude with sea level = 0

Absolute altitude: distance to centre of earth

$$h_G = h_a + R_{earth}$$

$$R_{earth} = 6357 \text{ km}$$



Relation geopotential & geometric altitude

$$g = g_0 \left(\frac{r}{h_a} \right)^2 = g_0 \left(\frac{r}{r + h_G} \right)^2 \quad (3.1)$$

$$dp = -\rho g dh_G = -\rho g_0 dh \longrightarrow 1 = \frac{g_0}{g} \frac{dh}{dh_G}$$
$$dh = \frac{g}{g_0} dh_G \quad (3.4)$$

Eq. (3.1) into (3.4):

$$dh = \frac{r^2}{(r + h_G)^2} dh_G \quad (3.5)$$

$$\int_0^h dh = \int_0^{h_G} \frac{r^2}{(r + h_G)^2} dh_G = r^2 \int_0^{h_G} \frac{dh_G}{(r + h_G)^2}$$

$$h = r^2 \left(\frac{-1}{r + h_G} \right)_0^{h_G} = r^2 \left(\frac{-1}{r + h_G} + \frac{1}{r} \right) = r^2 \left(\frac{-r + r + h_G}{(r + h_G)r} \right)$$

Thus,

$$\boxed{h = \frac{r}{r + h_G} h_G} \quad (3.6)$$

International Standard Atmosphere (ISA) Layer with T gr

As an exercise:
try to making an Excel sheet
with a table for steps of 100 m

At sea level :

$$\begin{aligned}p_s &= 1.01325 * 10^5 \text{ N/m}^2 \\ \rho_s &= 1.225 \text{ kg/m}^3 \\ T_s &= 288.15 \text{ K}\end{aligned}$$

Temperature in the troposphere (lower part) :

$$\frac{dT}{dh} = -0.0065 \text{ K/m}$$

When $T=T(h)$ is known as a function of the altitude the pressure and the density can be derived as a function of altitude

$$\frac{p}{p_1} = \left(\frac{T}{T_1} \right)^{-g_0 / aR}$$

$$\frac{\rho}{\rho_1} = \left(\frac{T}{T_1} \right)^{-((g_0 / aR) + 1)}$$

R=gas constant

Layer with constant temperature T (11 km -20 km)

Use values at 11 km as base 1 for this formulae

$$\frac{p}{p_1} = \frac{\rho}{\rho_1} = e^{-\frac{g_0}{RT}(h-h_1)}$$

On exam you should be able to derive all ISA formulae!