

AOSC 431-Atmospheric Physics and Thermodynamics, Fall 2016, Dr. Kleist
Homework #6 – DUE: THURSDAY 8 DECEMBER 2016 (5 PM)
All work needs to be shown for full credit.

1. [20 points] Answer or explain each of the following using a few sentences:
 - a. Small droplets of pure water evaporate in air, even when the relative humidity is 100%.
 - b. A cupboard may be kept dry by placing a tray of salt in it.
 - c. The air must be supersaturated for a cloud to form.
 - d. Growth by condensation in warm clouds is too slow to account for the production of raindrops.
 - e. Raindrops are more likely to form in marine clouds than in continental clouds of comparable size.
 - f. Raindrops reaching the ground do not exceed a certain critical size.
 - g. Lightning occurs more frequently over the continents than over the oceans.

2. [5 points] Calculate the relative humidity of the air adjacent to a pure water droplet of $0.5 \mu\text{m}$ in radius if the temperature is 0°C . The surface energy of water at 0°C is 0.076 J m^{-2} and the number density of molecules in water at 0°C is $3.3 \times 10^{28} \text{ m}^{-3}$.

3. [5 points] Use the Kohler curves shown in the Wallace and Hobbs textbook (Fig 6.3) to estimate:
 - a. The radius of the droplet that will form on a sodium chloride particle of mass 10^{-18} kg in air that is 0.1 percent supersaturated.
 - b. The relative humidity of the air adjacent to a droplet of radius $0.05 \mu\text{m}$ that contains 10^{-19} kg of dissolved ammonium sulfate.
 - c. The critical supersaturation required for an ammonium sulfate particle of mass 10^{-19} kg to grow beyond the haze state.

4. [10 points] A drop with an initial radius of $100 \mu\text{m}$ falls through a cloud containing 100 droplets per cubic centimeter that it collects in a continuous manner with a collection efficiency of 0.8. If all of the cloud droplets have a radius of $10 \mu\text{m}$, how long will it take for the drop to reach a radius of 1 mm. You may assume that for the drops of the size considered in this problem that the terminal fall speed v (in ms^{-1}) of a drop of radius r (in m) is given by $v = 6 \times 10^3 r$. Assume that the cloud droplets are stationary and that the updraft velocity in the cloud is negligible.