

Exercise – the steady state surface layer TKE budget according to MOST

$$\frac{\partial k}{\partial t} = 0 = - \overline{u'w'} \frac{\partial U}{\partial z} - \overline{v'w'} \frac{\partial V}{\partial z} + \frac{g}{\theta_0} \overline{w'\theta'} + \overbrace{\overline{u'u'} + \overline{v'v'} + \overline{w'w'}}^{\text{Shear production, } P_s} - \overbrace{\epsilon}^{\text{Dissipation (conversion of TKE to heat)}} - \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \overline{w'} \left(\frac{p'}{\rho} + \frac{\overline{u'u'} + \overline{v'v'} + \overline{w'w'}}{2} \right)$$

Buoyant production, P_B Turbulent & pressure transport, T_T

Assume the coordinate system is chosen to make $V=0$ throughout the surface layer, and neglect the term T_T (known as the assumption that the TKE budget is in "local equilibrium").

Adopting the assumptions and/or definitions inherent to MOST (including the definition of the Obukhov length L), prove that the TKE dissipation rate can be written

$$\frac{k_v z \epsilon}{u_*^3} = \phi_\epsilon \left(\frac{z}{L} \right) \quad \text{where}^{**} \quad \phi_\epsilon \left(\frac{z}{L} \right) = \phi_m \left(\frac{z}{L} \right) - \left(\frac{z}{L} \right)$$

$$^{**} \phi_m \left(\frac{z}{L} \right) = \frac{k_v z}{u_*} \frac{\partial U}{\partial z} \quad \text{is the MO function for the dimensionless wind shear}$$