

## CLIM 796

Scale Interactions in Extratropical Cyclones  
(2-credit reading course)  
Instructor: James Kinter  
Fall 2022

### *Objective:*

Review a series of papers on the topic of extratropical cyclones, particularly relating to scale interactions (frontogenesis, extratropical transition of tropical cyclones, atmospheric rivers). The papers listed provide sufficient background to gain a rudimentary understanding of the general properties and behavior of extratropical cyclones and how the large-scale environment interacts with small-scale dynamical features.

### *Requirements:*

1. Read the papers selected from the peer-reviewed literature listed below.
2. Produce a short summary of each paper (~1 page) that describes
  - a. The hypothesis or problem addressed
  - b. The data and methods
  - c. The major results and conclusions
3. Meet periodically with the instructor to review recent readings and discuss implications.
4. Produce a summary review (~5 pages) that describes the main take-away messages of the group of papers and synthesizes the impact of these papers on the thesis research plan.

### *Classes:*

The class will meet twice per week for one hour (2 credits).

### *Student learning outcomes:*

- Gain an understanding of the life cycle of extratropical cyclones and how interactions between the large-scale environment (pole-equator gradients), the cyclone-scale instabilities, and the mesoscale structures affect their initiation, development and demise.
- Gain an understanding of the predictability of, and current state of the art in predicting, extratropical cyclones, especially limits to predictability created by mesoscale processes.
- Develop an appreciation for how to analyze numerical model output to assess the role of scale interactions in extratropical cyclones.

### *Potential papers for review:*

1. Background reading
  - a. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Extratropical\\_cyclone](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Extratropical_cyclone)
  - b. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Frontogenesis>
  - c. Dacre, H. (2020), A review of extratropical cyclones: observations and conceptual models over the past 100 years. *Weather*, 75: 4-7.  
<https://doi.org/10.1002/wea.3653>
  - d. Schultz, D. M., Bosart, L. F., Colle, B. A., Davies, H. C., Dearden, C., Keyser, D., Martius, O., Roebber, P. J., Steenburgh, W. J., Volkert, H., & Winters, A. C. (2019). Extratropical Cyclones: A Century of Research on Meteorology's Centerpiece, *Meteorological Monographs*, 59, 16.1-16.56.

<https://journals.ametsoc.org/view/journals/amsm/59/1/amsmonographs-d-18-0015.1.xml>

2. Theory

- a. Held, I.M. and Hoskins, B.J., 1985. Large-scale eddies and the general circulation of the troposphere. In *Advances in geophysics* (Vol. 28, pp. 3-31). Elsevier.

3. ETC – Atmospheric Rivers

- a. Gimeno, L., Nieto, R., Vázquez, M. and Lavers, D.A., 2014. Atmospheric rivers: A mini-review. *Frontiers in Earth Science*, 2, p.2.  
<https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/feart.2014.00002/full>
- b. Guo, Y., Shinoda, T., Guan, B., Waliser, D. E., & Chang, E. K. M. (2020). Statistical Relationship between Atmospheric Rivers and Extratropical Cyclones and Anticyclones, *Journal of Climate*, 33(18), 7817-7834. Retrieved Jul 20, 2022, from <https://journals.ametsoc.org/view/journals/clim/33/18/jcliD190126.xml>
- c. Zhang, Z., & Ralph, F. M. (2021). The Influence of Antecedent Atmospheric River Conditions on Extratropical Cyclogenesis, *Monthly Weather Review*, 149(5), 1337-1357  
<https://journals.ametsoc.org/view/journals/mwre/149/5/MWR-D-20-0212.1.xml>

4. Frontogenesis

- a. Hoskins, B.J., 1982. The mathematical theory of frontogenesis. *Annual review of fluid mechanics*, 14(1), pp.131-151.

5. Extratropical Transition of Tropical Cyclones

- a. Evans, C., Wood, K. M., Aberson, S. D., Archambault, H. M., Milrad, S. M., Bosart, L. F., Corbosiero, K. L., Davis, C. A., Dias Pinto, J. R., Doyle, J., Fogarty, C., Galarneau, T. J., Jr., Grams, C. M., Griffin, K. S., Gyakum, J., Hart, R. E., Kitabatake, N., Lentink, H. S., McTaggart-Cowan, R., Perrie, W., Quinting, J. F. D., Reynolds, C. A., Riemer, M., Ritchie, E. A., Sun, Y., & Zhang, F. (2017). The Extratropical Transition of Tropical Cyclones. Part I: Cyclone Evolution and Direct Impacts, *Monthly Weather Review*, 145(11), 4317-4344. <https://journals.ametsoc.org/view/journals/mwre/145/11/mwr-d-17-0027.1.xml>
- b. Jones, S. C., Harr, P. A., Abraham, J., Bosart, L. F., Bowyer, P. J., Evans, J. L., Hanley, D. E., Hanstrum, B. N., Hart, R. E., Lalaurette, F., Sinclair, M. R., Smith, R. K., & Thorncroft, C. (2003). The Extratropical Transition of Tropical Cyclones: Forecast Challenges, Current Understanding, and Future Directions, *Weather and Forecasting*, 18(6), 1052-1092.  
[https://journals.ametsoc.org/view/journals/wefo/18/6/1520-0434\\_2003\\_018\\_1052\\_tetotc\\_2\\_0\\_co\\_2.xml](https://journals.ametsoc.org/view/journals/wefo/18/6/1520-0434_2003_018_1052_tetotc_2_0_co_2.xml)
- c. Keller, J. H., Grams, C. M., Riemer, M., Archambault, H. M., Bosart, L., Doyle, J. D., Evans, J. L., Galarneau, T. J., Jr., Griffin, K., Harr, P. A., Kitabatake, N., McTaggart-Cowan, R., Pantillon, F., Quinting, J. F., Reynolds, C. A., Ritchie, E. A., Torn, R. D., & Zhang, F. (2019). The Extratropical Transition of Tropical Cyclones. Part II: Interaction with the Midlatitude Flow, Downstream Impacts, and Implications for Predictability, *Monthly Weather Review*, 147(4), 1077-1106.  
<https://journals.ametsoc.org/view/journals/mwre/147/4/mwr-d-17-0329.1.xml>
- d. Abraham, J., Strapp, J. W., Fogarty, C., & Wolde, M. (2004). Extratropical Transition of Hurricane Michael: An Aircraft Investigation, *Bulletin of the*

- American Meteorological Society, 85(9), 1323-1340. Retrieved Jul 22, 2022, from <https://journals.ametsoc.org/view/journals/bams/85/9/bams-85-9-1323.xml>
- e. Archambault, H. M., Bosart, L. F., Keyser, D., & Cordeira, J. M. (2013). A Climatological Analysis of the Extratropical Flow Response to Recurring Western North Pacific Tropical Cyclones, *Monthly Weather Review*, 141(7), 2325-2346. Retrieved Jul 22, 2022, from <https://journals.ametsoc.org/view/journals/mwre/141/7/mwr-d-12-00257.1.xml>
- f. Arnott, J. M., Evans, J. L., & Chiaromonte, F. (2004). Characterization of Extratropical Transition Using Cluster Analysis, *Monthly Weather Review*, 132(12), 2916-2937. Retrieved Jul 22, 2022, from <https://journals.ametsoc.org/view/journals/mwre/132/12/mwr2836.1.xml>
- g. Barnes, Elizabeth A, Polvani, Lorenzo M., Sobel, Adam H. "Model projections of atmospheric steering of Sandy-like superstorm"  
<https://www.pnas.org/doi/epdf/10.1073/pnas.1308732110>
- h. Bruneau, N., Grieser, J., Loridan, T. et al. The impact of extra-tropical transitioning on storm surge and waves in catastrophe risk modelling: application to the Japanese coastline. *Nat Hazards* 85, 649–667 (2017).  
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s11069-016-2596-2>
- i. Davis, C. A., Jones, S. C., & Riemer, M. (2008). Hurricane Vortex Dynamics during Atlantic Extratropical Transition, *Journal of the Atmospheric Sciences*, 65(3), 714-736. Retrieved Jul 22, 2022, from <https://journals.ametsoc.org/view/journals/atsc/65/3/2007jas2488.1.xml>
- j. Galarneau, T. J., Jr., Bosart, L. F., & Schumacher, R. S. (2010). Predecessor Rain Events ahead of Tropical Cyclones, *Monthly Weather Review*, 138(8), 3272-3297. Retrieved Jul 22, 2022, from <https://journals.ametsoc.org/view/journals/mwre/138/8/2010mwr3243.1.xml>
- k. Galarneau, T. J., Jr., Davis, C. A., & Shapiro, M. A. (2013). Intensification of Hurricane Sandy (2012) through Extratropical Warm Core Seclusion, *Monthly Weather Review*, 141(12), 4296-4321. Retrieved Jul 22, 2022, from <https://journals.ametsoc.org/view/journals/mwre/141/12/mwr-d-13-00181.1.xml>
- l. Hart, R. E., & Evans, J. L. (2001). A Climatology of the Extratropical Transition of Atlantic Tropical Cyclones, *Journal of Climate*, 14(4), 546-564. Retrieved Jul 22, 2022, from [https://journals.ametsoc.org/view/journals/clim/14/4/1520-0442\\_2001\\_014\\_0546\\_acotet\\_2.0.co\\_2.xml](https://journals.ametsoc.org/view/journals/clim/14/4/1520-0442_2001_014_0546_acotet_2.0.co_2.xml)
- m. Hart, R. E., Evans, J. L., & Evans, C. (2006). Synoptic Composites of the Extratropical Transition Life Cycle of North Atlantic Tropical Cyclones: Factors Determining Posttransition Evolution, *Monthly Weather Review*, 134(2), 553-578. Retrieved Jul 22, 2022, from <https://journals.ametsoc.org/view/journals/mwre/134/2/mwr3082.1.xml>
- n. Liu, M., Vecchi, G. A., Smith, J. A., & Murakami, H. (2017). The Present-Day Simulation and Twenty-First-Century Projection of the Climatology of Extratropical Transition in the North Atlantic, *Journal of Climate*, 30(8), 2739-2756. Retrieved Jul 22, 2022, from <https://journals.ametsoc.org/view/journals/clim/30/8/jcli-d-16-0352.1.xml>
- o. Ritchie, E. A., & Elsberry, R. L. (2001). Simulations of the Transformation Stage of the Extratropical Transition of Tropical Cyclones, *Monthly Weather Review*,

129(6), 1462-1480. Retrieved Jul 22, 2022, from  
[https://journals.ametsoc.org/view/journals/mwre/129/6/1520-0493\\_2001\\_129\\_1462\\_sottso\\_2.0.co\\_2.xml](https://journals.ametsoc.org/view/journals/mwre/129/6/1520-0493_2001_129_1462_sottso_2.0.co_2.xml)

- p. Scheck, L., Jones, S. C., & Jukes, M. (2011). The Resonant Interaction of a Tropical Cyclone and a Tropopause Front in a Barotropic Model. Part I: Zonally Oriented Front, *Journal of the Atmospheric Sciences*, 68(3), 405-419. Retrieved Jul 22, 2022, from  
<https://journals.ametsoc.org/view/journals/atsc/68/3/2010jas3482.1.xml>
  - q. Shin, J. H., & Zhang, D. (2017). The Impact of Moist Frontogenesis and Tropopause Undulation on the Intensity, Size, and Structural Changes of Hurricane Sandy (2012), *Journal of the Atmospheric Sciences*, 74(3), 893-913. Retrieved Jul 22, 2022, from  
<https://journals.ametsoc.org/view/journals/atsc/74/3/jas-d-15-0362.1.xml>
  - r. Song, J., Wu, R., Quan, W. et al. Impact of the subtropical high on the extratropical transition of tropical cyclones over the western North Pacific. *Acta Meteorol Sin* 27, 476–485 (2013). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s13351-013-0410-6>
6. Tracking
- a. Hodges, K. I. (1995). Feature Tracking on the Unit Sphere, *Mon. Wea. Rev.*, 123, 3458-3465. [https://journals.ametsoc.org/view/journals/mwre/123/12/1520-0493\\_1995\\_123\\_3458\\_ftotus\\_2\\_0\\_co\\_2.xml](https://journals.ametsoc.org/view/journals/mwre/123/12/1520-0493_1995_123_3458_ftotus_2_0_co_2.xml)
7. Scale Interactions – Predictability
- a. Tribbia, J. J., & Baumhefner, D. P. (2004). Scale Interactions and Atmospheric Predictability: An Updated Perspective, *Monthly Weather Review*, 132(3), 703-713. [https://journals.ametsoc.org/view/journals/mwre/132/3/1520-0493\\_2004\\_132\\_0703\\_siaapa\\_2.0.co\\_2.xml](https://journals.ametsoc.org/view/journals/mwre/132/3/1520-0493_2004_132_0703_siaapa_2.0.co_2.xml)