

Take $P = P_0$ at $r = 0$ (e.g. Sun)

$$P(r) = P_0 e^{-r/H_p}$$

or we can write $r = R + h$ (e.g. Earth)

radius of surface \nearrow \nearrow height above surface

$$P(h) = P_s e^{-h/H_p}$$

Pressure at surface

H_p = length scale over which pressure drops by a factor of e

From previous slides, $H_p = \frac{P}{\rho g} = \frac{\rho kT}{\bar{m} \rho g}$

$$\Rightarrow P = P_s \exp\left[-\frac{\bar{m}gh}{kT}\right]$$

As $T \uparrow$, $H_p \uparrow \Rightarrow$ atmosphere extends further

As $\bar{m}, g \uparrow$, $H_p \downarrow \Rightarrow$ atmosphere extends less far