













- Ac	 C_M7 Altocumulus opacus Thick enough to conceal the position of the sun or the moon. The rounded masses or roll shapes result in grey and white shaded areas
Cu	C _L 2 Cumulus mediocris C _L 1 Cumulus humilus
- Ac	 C_M7 Altocumulus opacus Thick enough to conceal the position of the sun or the moon The rounded masses or roll shapes result in grey and white shaded areas
Cu	CL1 Cumulus humilus CL2 Cumulus mediocris
– As	 C_M2 Altostratus opacus Thick enough to conceal the position of the sun or the moon Smooth, uniform appearance. The rounded masses or roll shapes result in grey and white shaded areas.
– Sc	CL5 Stratocumulus stratiformis





RTC-NTS-042.1







Comparing photo Ea to Eb

- E These clouds are both in the low levels although Ea appears to be below Eb.
- Ea is a low-level cumulus cloud of small vertical height.
- **Eb** is a low-level cumulonimbus cloud of extensive vertical height.
- What you are seeing at Eb is actually the upper part of the cumulonimbus cloud which can be around 13-15 km
- The base of this cumulonimbus cloud will be very close to the base of the cumulus cloud at Ea.
- The cloud shapes are also large and well defined at **Ea**
- The cloud at Eb though appears smooth –see the difference?

Photo F

- Notice the protrusions at the bottom of the cloud - these are called mamma
- They do not occur all the time, but when they do it is usually an extension downwards of Eb



Photo G

- G These are low levels clouds **How to tell** –
- Look at the size of the cloud elements.
- ✓ Can you see that they are large.
- They also have shapes in the form of rolls as you can see light and dark areas (light at the top and dark at the bottom).





<u>Photo H</u>

• H These are low levels clouds

<u>How to tell –</u>

- ✓ Look at the size of the cloud elements.
- ✓ Can you see that they are large.
- They also have shapes in the form of rolls as you can see light grey and dark grey areas (light at the top and dark at the bottom).
- They are appearing darker than the other low-level clouds with rounded shapes as the source of light is at a different angle to the other photos.
- ✓ It is also not clear if there was another layer of cloud above these dark clouds.



<u>Photo I</u>

 I These are low levels clouds Cumulus (la) and Cumulonimbus (lb)

How to tell -

- ✓ Ia is smaller than Ib
- ✓ The green area Ic is where some form of precipitation is falling.
- You can see that the precipitation is falling from a part of the cloud **NOT** from the entire base.
- When this happens it is easy to identify the cloud as a Convective cloud (Cumulus (Ia) and Cumulonimbus (Ib)







Photos J and K

- These clouds are low level clouds you can see the size of the cloud elements are large.
- The angle of photos J and K is looking up at the base of the clouds –
- Look at the centre of the photos (see) see the top of the cloud peaking through the gap in the clouds.
- If you look closely, you will see that the top of the cloud is white and has a defined shape cauliflower type shape.



Photo L

- In this photo we are looking at high and middle level clouds.
- La these are the high level clouds

 you can see the size of the cloud elements are very small ... they are also white with no evidence of any shading.
- Lb These clouds are middle level clouds – the size of the elements small big bigger than at La ... they are also showing <u>dark</u> and <u>light</u> parts (evidence of shading) which implies a shape – in this case the clouds are in a roll shape.





Photo M

- In this photo we are looking at low level clouds.
- The dark grey cloud (^{*}) is actually the base of a Cumulonimbus cloud.
- It is a dark colour because the position of the sun is preventing any reflection off the bottom of the cloud.
- On the horizon at the bottom of the photo (🚫) one can clearly see other clouds.
- These are white and orange (indicating shading because of the cloud shape) and showing orange because the sun is setting and also on the horizon.
- This cloud is also a Cumulonimbus cloud.
- Both Cumulonimbus clouds are approximately at the same height above the ground the one on the horizon only appears "lower" because of the impact of the curvature of the earth's surface.









RTC-NTS-042.1



20 November 2015 3:09 pm

<u>Cumulus mediocris</u> – convective cloud showing moderate vertical growth – note the chunky shape with resultant shading

> Note the flatter looking cloud bases

Late Spring early summer, so one would expect surface temperatures to be warming up with surface heating thus being available – the lack of sufficient moisture however resulted in limited cloud development











