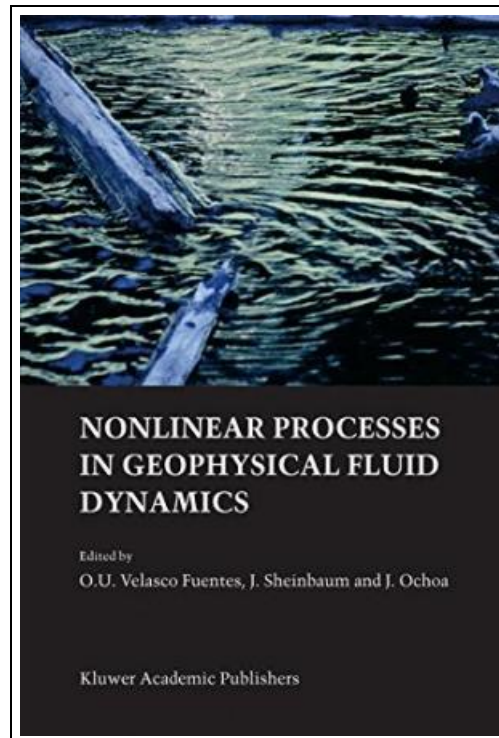


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NONLINEAR PROCESSES IN GEOPHYSICAL FLUID DYNAMICS: A TRIBUTE TO THE SCIENTIFIC WORK OF PEDRO RIPA (HARDBACK)



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Springer-Verlag New York Inc., United States, 2003. Hardback. Condition: New. 2003 ed.. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****. This volume contains a collection of papers by international experts in geophysical fluid dynamics, based upon presentations at a colloquium held in memory of Pedro Ripa on the 1st anniversary of his untimely death. They review or present recent developments in hydrodynamic stability theory, Hamiltonian fluid mechanics, balanced dynamics, waves, vortices, general oceanography and the physical oceanography of the Gulf of California; all of them subjects in which Professor Ripa made important contributions. His work, but also his friendly spirit and kindness were highly regarded and appreciated by colleagues and students alike around the world. This book is a tribute to his scientific legacy and constitutes a valuable reference for researchers and graduate students interested in geophysical and general fluid mechanics. Early in his career as a physical oceanographer, Pedro Ripa made two landmark contributions to geophysical fluid dynamics. In 1981, he showed that the conservation of the potential vorticity is related to the invariance of the equations of motion under the symmetry transformations of the labels that identify the fluid particles. That is, potential vorticity conservation is a consequence, via Noether's theorem, of the particle relabelling symmetry. Two years later he published a paper entitled General stability conditions for zonal flows in a one-layer model on the beta-plane or the sphere, where he established necessary conditions for stability in the shallow water equations, nowadays known as Ripa's Theorem. This is one of the very few Arnold-like stability conditions that goes beyond two-dimensional or quasi-geostrophic flow, and stands alongside other famous stability criteria in making the foundations of the field.



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