

Abstract Submitted
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Heat transport by rotating Rayleigh-Bnard convection in cylindrical cells with various aspect ratios¹ JIN-QIANG ZHONG, HAO-YUAN LU, JUN-QIANG SHI, Tongji University — Rotating convection has been of interest for decades, yet there exists no generally accepted scaling law for heat transfer behavior in the geostrophic turbulence regime. We present high-precision measurements of the Nusselt number Nu as functions of the Rayleigh number Ra and the Ekman number Ek using cylindrical cells with various aspect ratio Γ . For a given Γ data for $Nu(Ra, Ek)$ in the geostrophic regime can be represented through one single power function $Nu=(Ra/Ra_c)^\gamma$, where $Ra_c=8.7Ek^{-4/3}$ is the critical Ra for the onset of convection. However, our experimental and numerical results reveal that the exponent γ increases steeply with increasing Γ , leading to various parameter scaling for the transition towards the geostrophic regime. The present study may provide hints to reconcile previous results of the heat-transport scaling relationship in geostrophic turbulence.

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