

Cloud rings

Can you form a ring out of the fog?



Press the round disk gently and smoothly downward.

Fog is forced out of the hole in the disk. At first, the cloud is mushroom-shaped. Then it turns into a ring.

If you look at the ring closely, you can see that it keeps turning itself inside out. As the fog comes out, its outer edge is slowed down by the rim of the hole, while the air on the inside edge of the ring continues to rise. This is what makes the ring rotate.

In a similar way, smoke rings can be formed above volcanoes (Fig. 1). The smoke rings in the picture has a diameter of about 30 metres.



Fig. 1: The smoke ring above this volcano has a diameter of about 30 metres.