



# **Solar Cycle and QBO effects on planetary wave amplitude from chemistry-climate model simulations and ERA-40 reanalysis data**

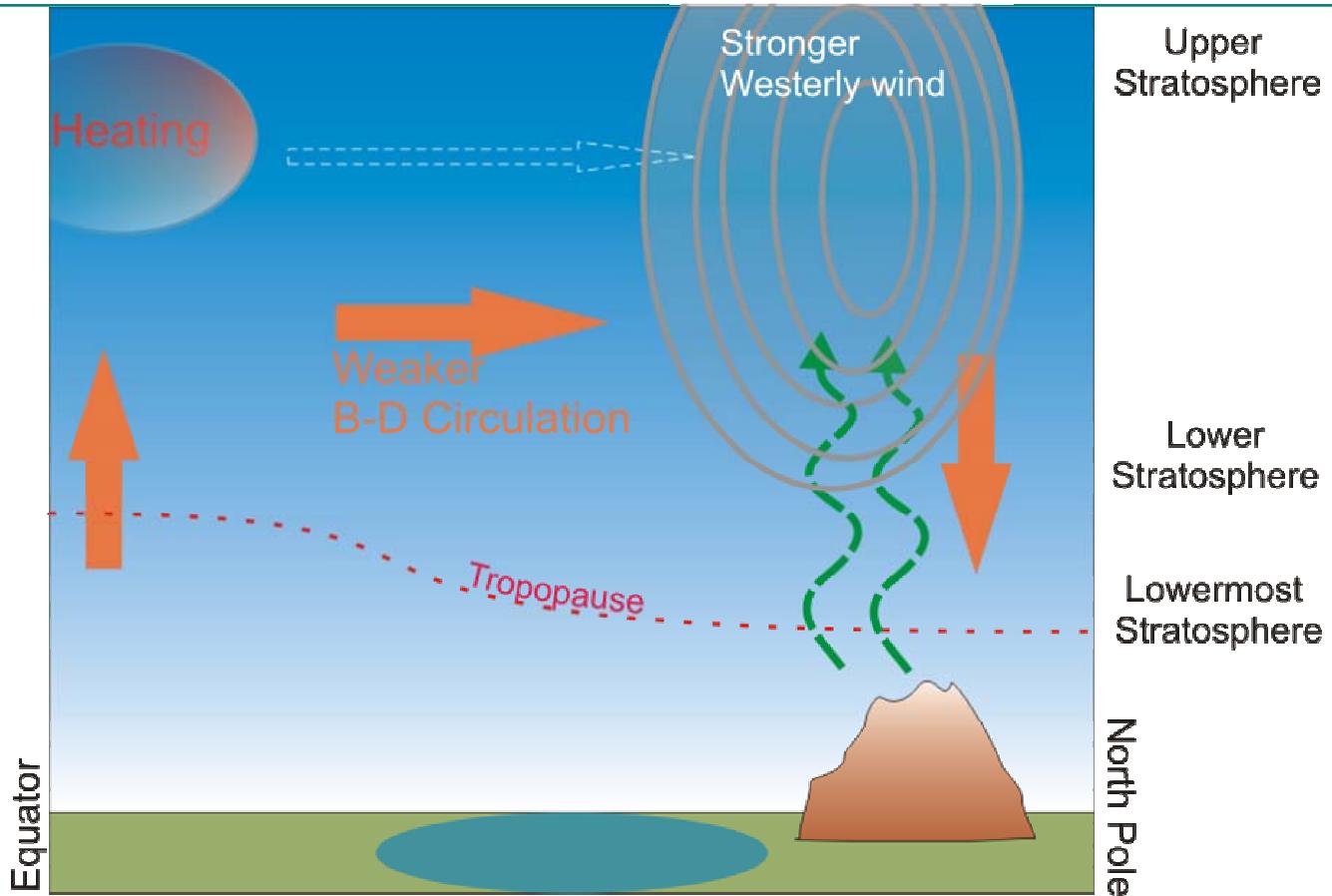
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(2) Laboratory of Atmospheric Physics, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece





# The nature of the problem



The proposed mechanism of the 11-year solar cycle influence on the stratosphere includes the interaction of the upward propagating planetary waves with the zonal mean zonal wind. Therefore, we pose the following two questions,

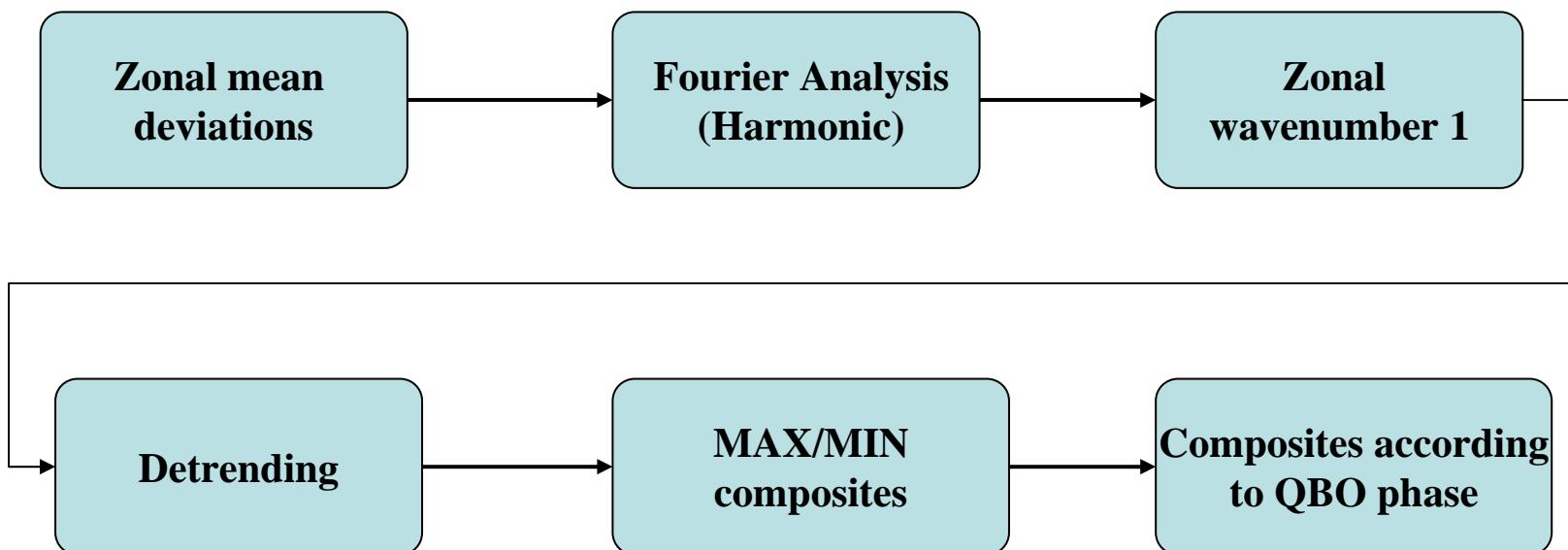
**Question 1:** What is the effect of the 11-year solar cycle on the planetary wavenumber 1 and 2 amplitudes during NH winter?

**Question 2:** Does the QBO modulate the solar signal in WN1 and WN2 amplitudes?





# Calculating the Zonal Wavenumber 1 Amplitude...



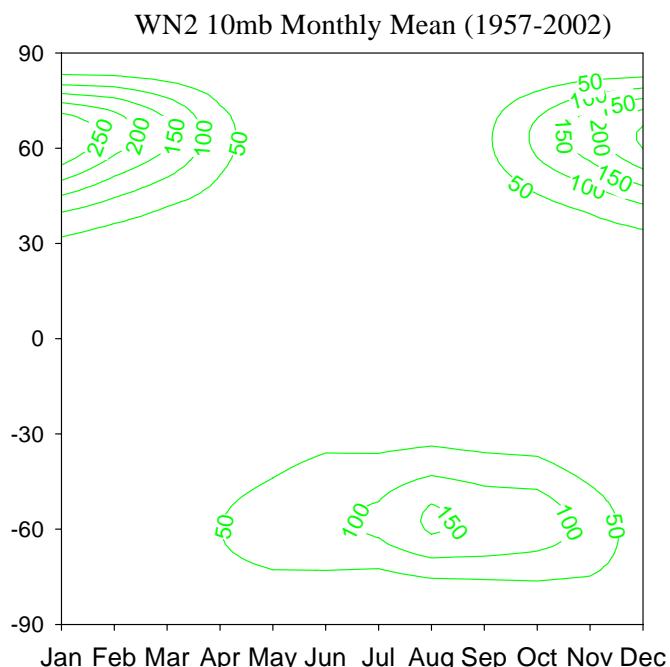
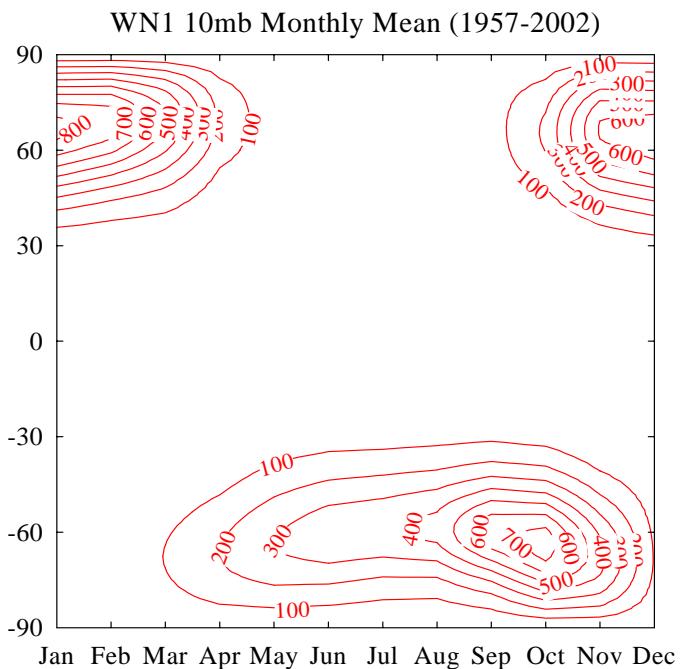


# ERA-40 Reanalysis data



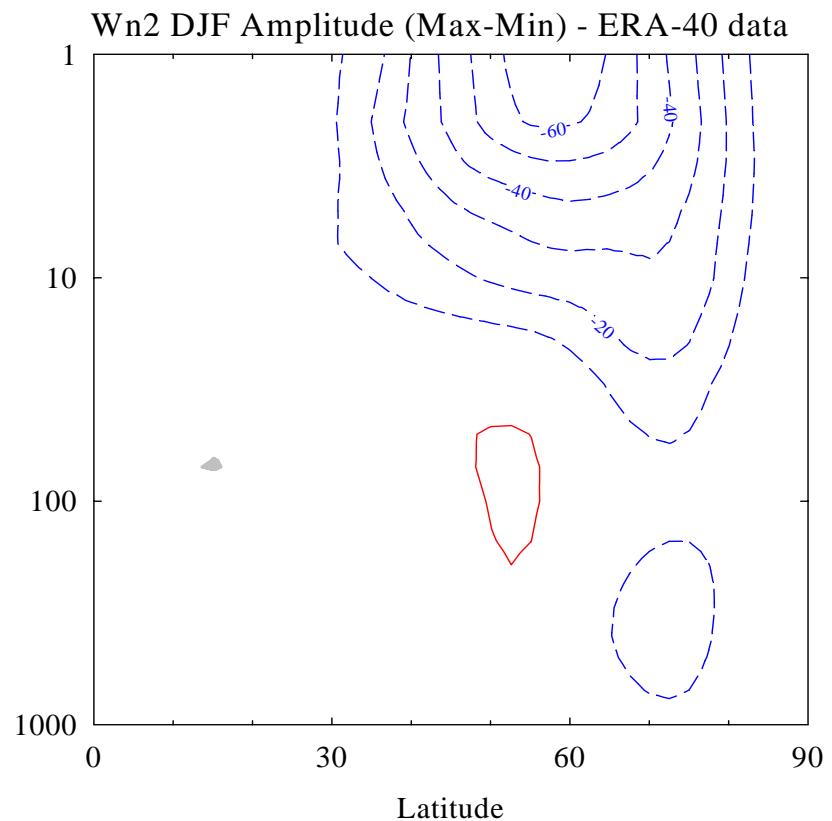
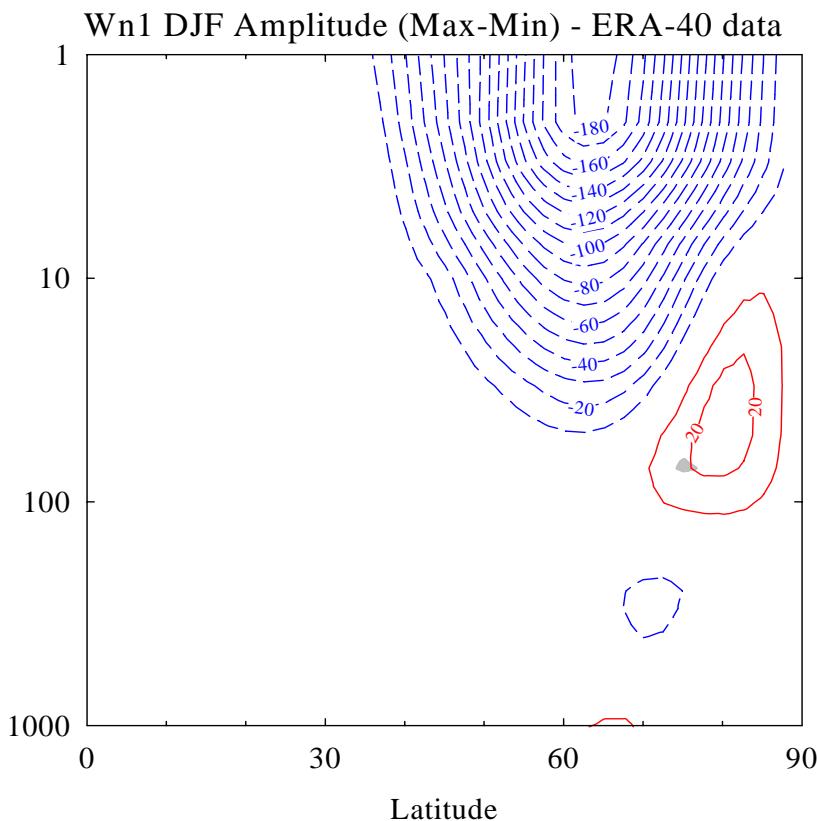
Monthly mean geopotential heights from ERA-40 reanalysis data (up to 1 hPa)

- Four solar cycles (1963-2002)
- 3 consecutive years for each Max/Min period
- Solar Activity index: F10.7 cm radio flux





# The solar signal on PW1 and PW2-ERA-40 data

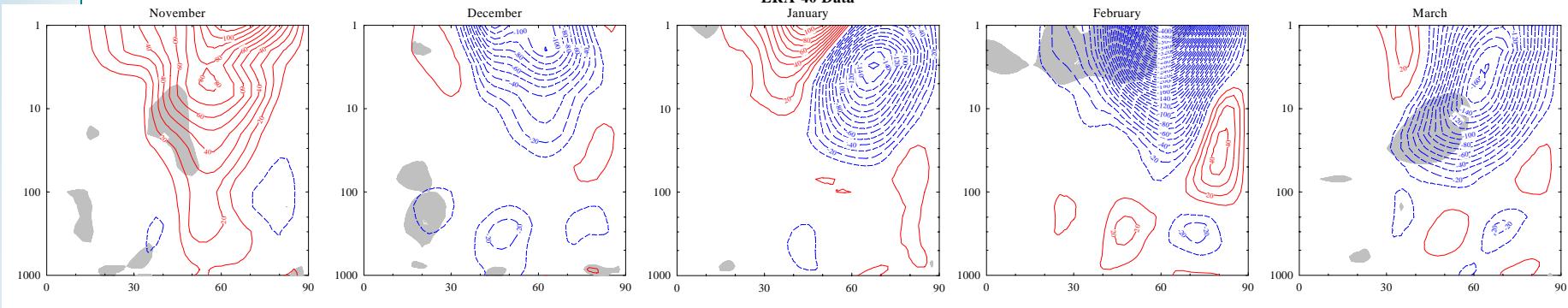


- ✓ Both WN1 and WN2 MAX amplitudes are smaller
- ✓ The results are statistically insignificant

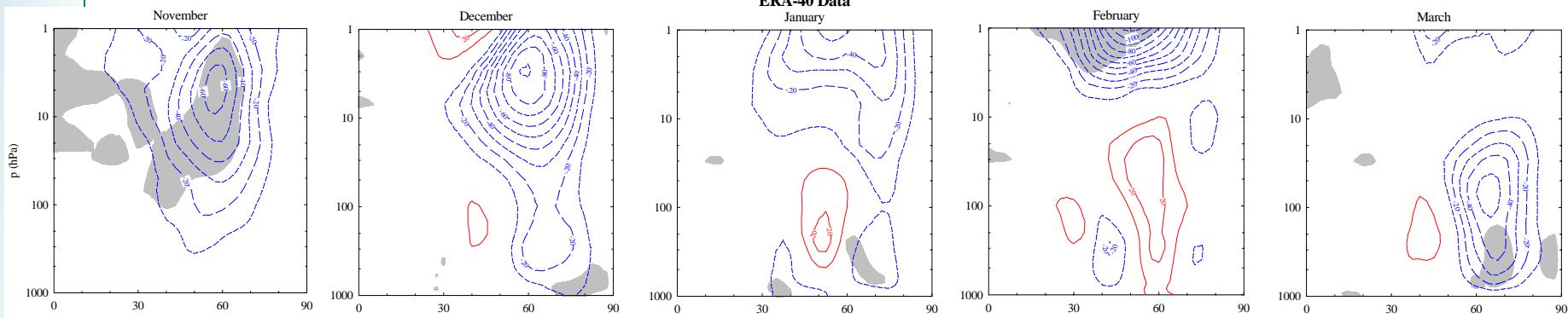


# NH winter months-ERA-40 results

WN1



WN2

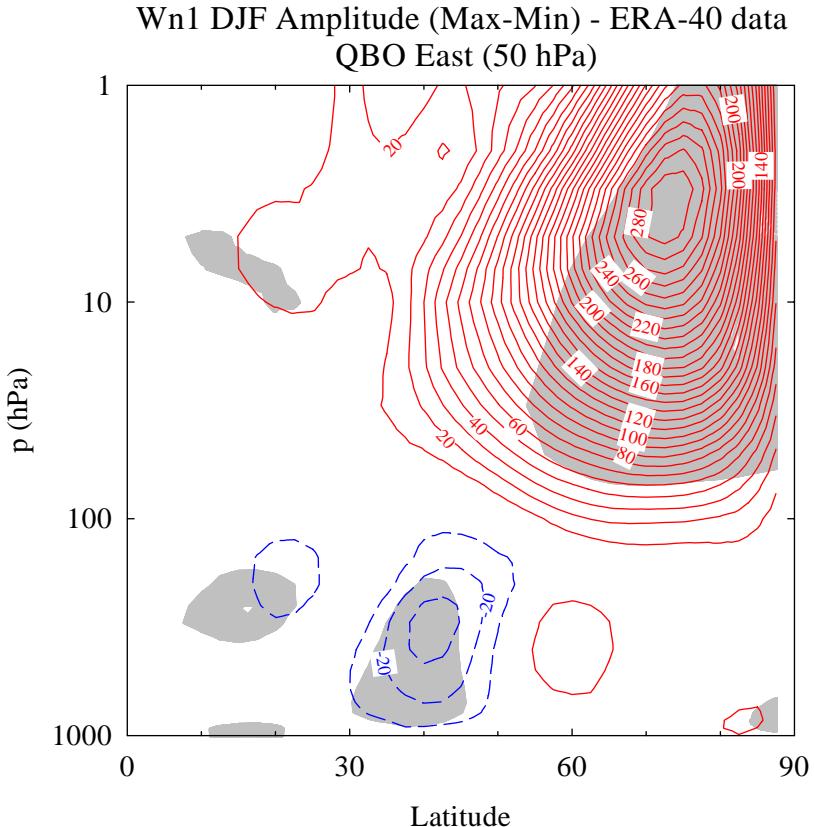
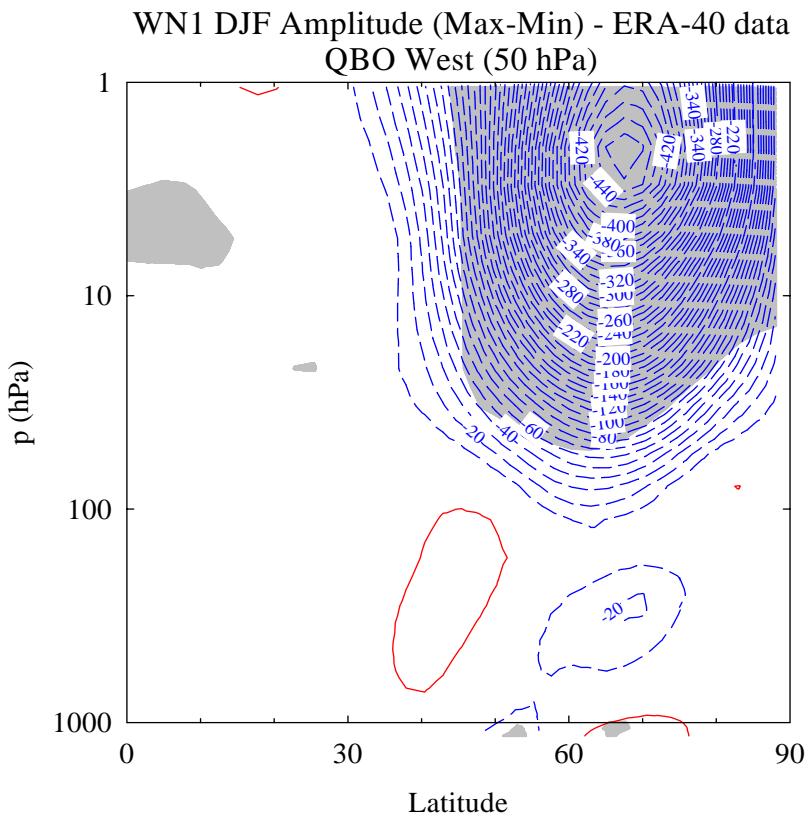


- ✓ The WN1 signal in November is positive and progressively becomes positive and stronger
- ✓ WN1 differences are higher in February( ~400 m)
- ✓ Wn2 does not exhibit such alteration and remains positive





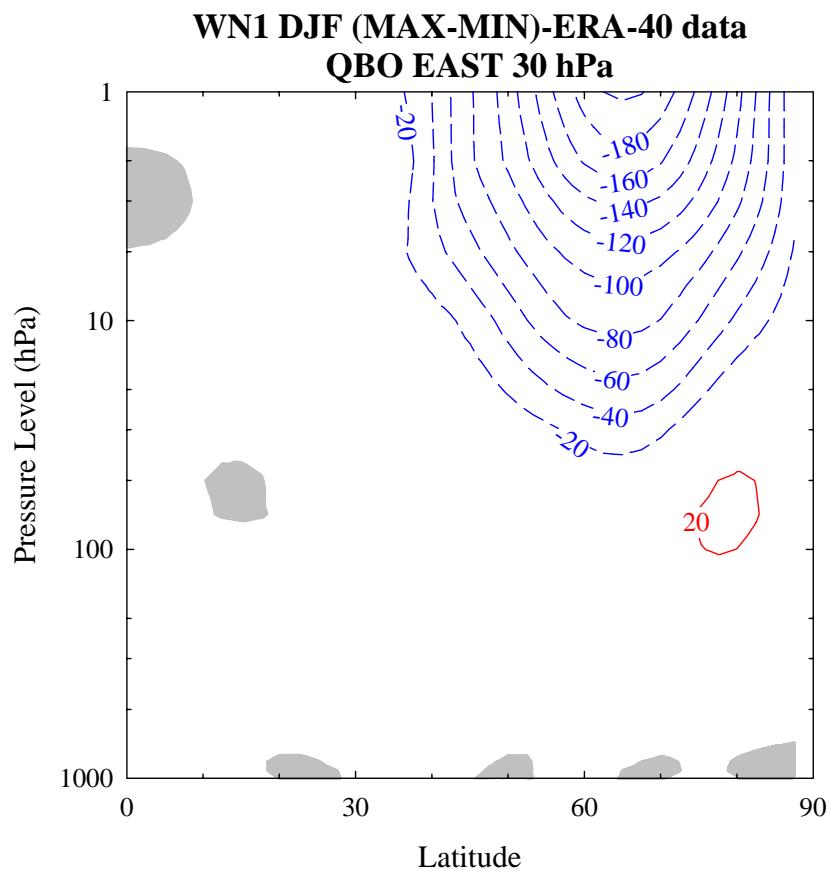
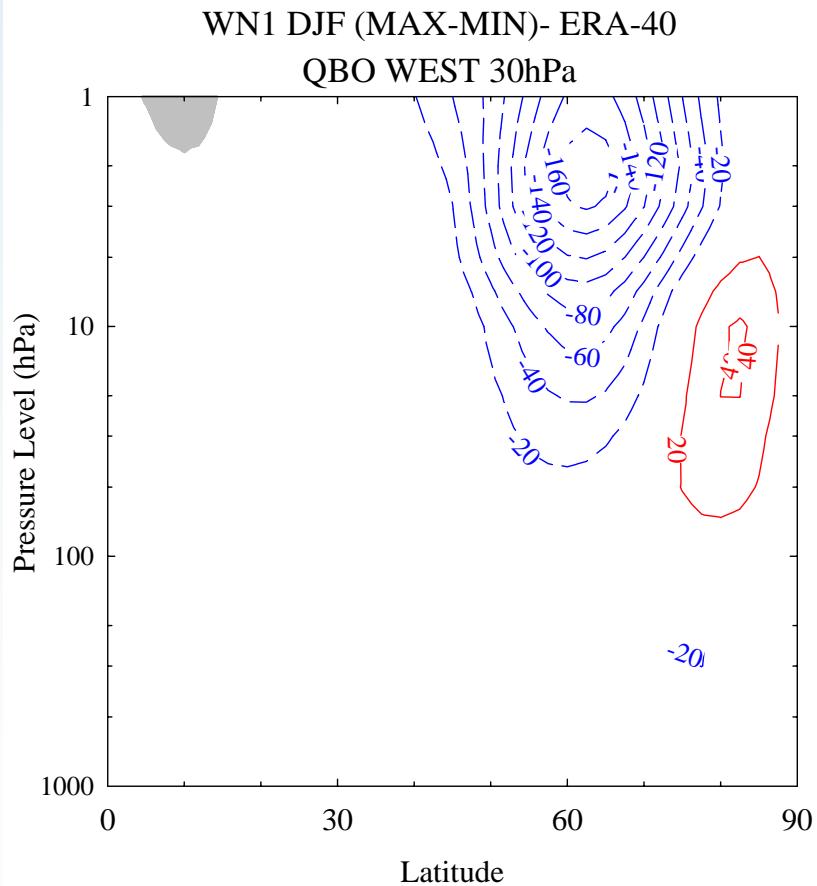
# The QBO effect on Solar signal – 50 hPa



- ✓ The solar signal has opposite sign for west and east phase
- ✓ Differences are statistically significant
- ✓ The differences are higher when months with equatorial winds less than 5 m/s are excluded



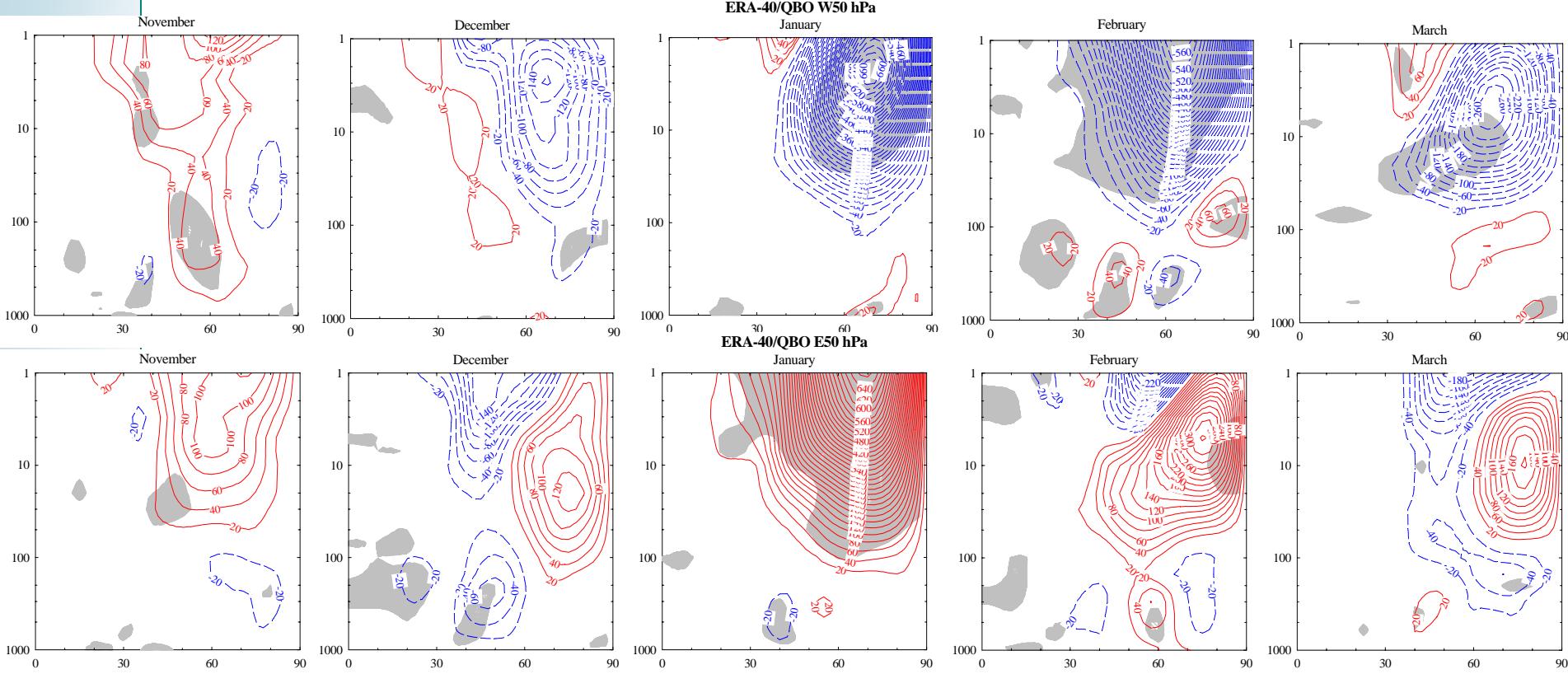
# The QBO effect on Solar signal – 30 hPa



- ✓ No signal reversal detected
- ✓ The results are statistically insignificant



# Winter monthly means-QBO effect



- ✓ November shows positive values for both QBO phases
- ✓ Maximum values in January (almost 600 gpm)





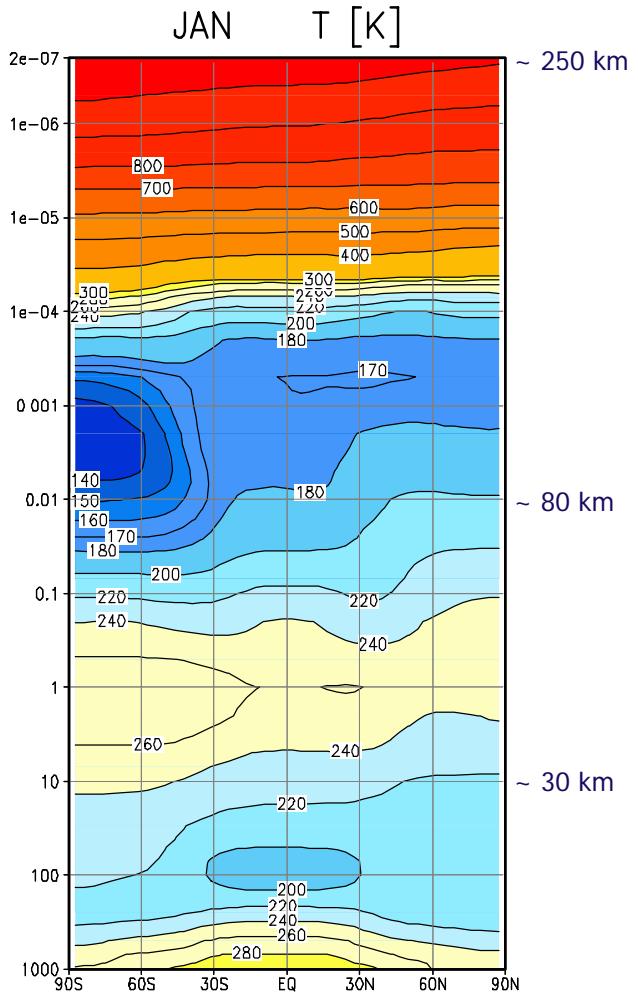
# HAMMONIA – Hamburg Model of the Neutral and Ionized Atmosphere



HAMMONIA

MAECHAM5

ECHAM5



Solar Heating (near UV, vis. & near IR)

IR Cooling (non-LTE)

Chemical heating

Surface Fluxes

Clouds & Convection

Turbulent Diffusion

Gravity Wave Drag

Molecular Processes

Ion Drag

Neutral (and Ion) Chemistry (MOZART3)

Schmidt et al., (2006) J. Climate  
Giorgetta et al., (2006) J. Climate



# Simulation description



Monthly mean geopotential heights from the T31 L119 layer version (up to 250 km)

35-year time slice experiments for solar max, solar min,

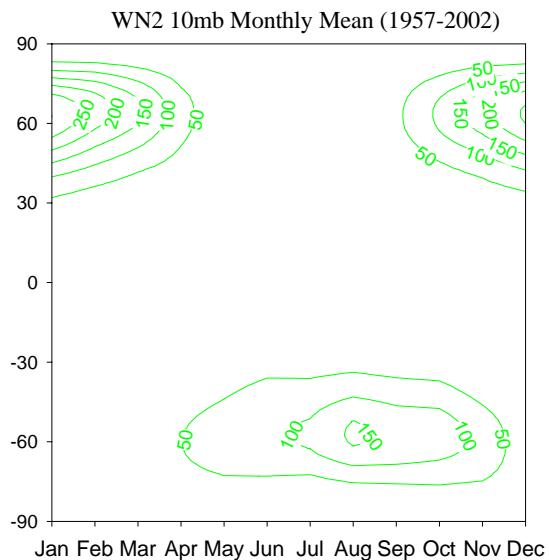
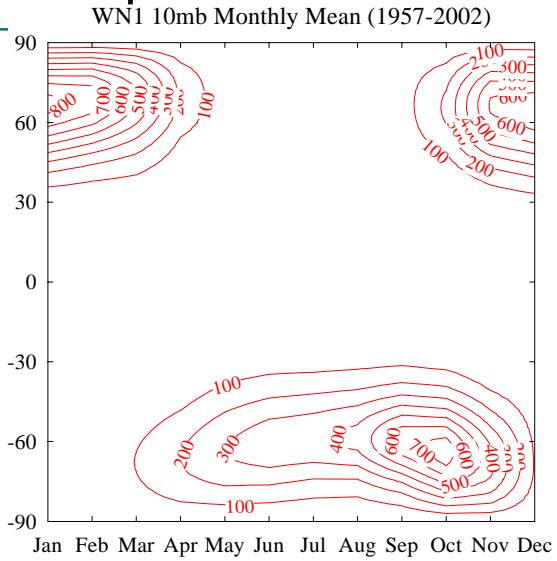
- GHG conditions according to the 1990s
- SSTs fixed to climatological values
- irradiance depending on wavelength (1nm resolution)  
from Lean et al. (JGR, 1997)
- solar minimum (September 1986)
- solar maximum (November 1989)



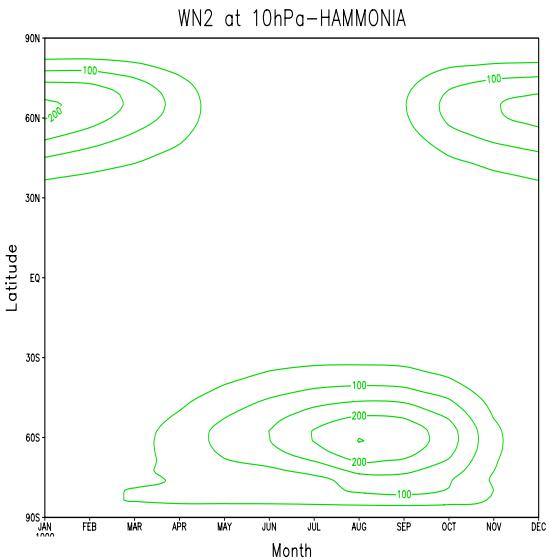
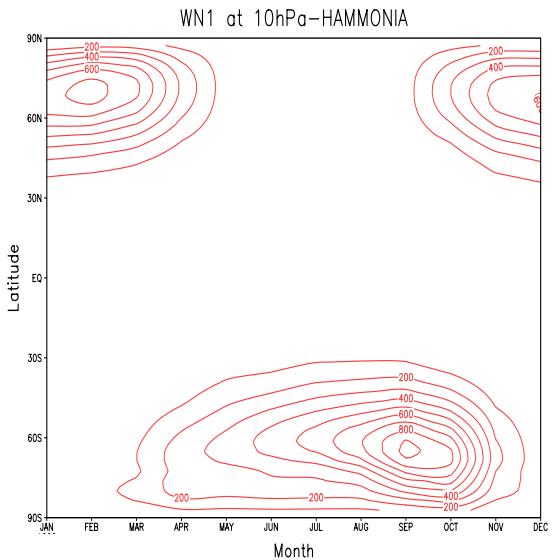
# Climatology Comparison



WN1



WN2

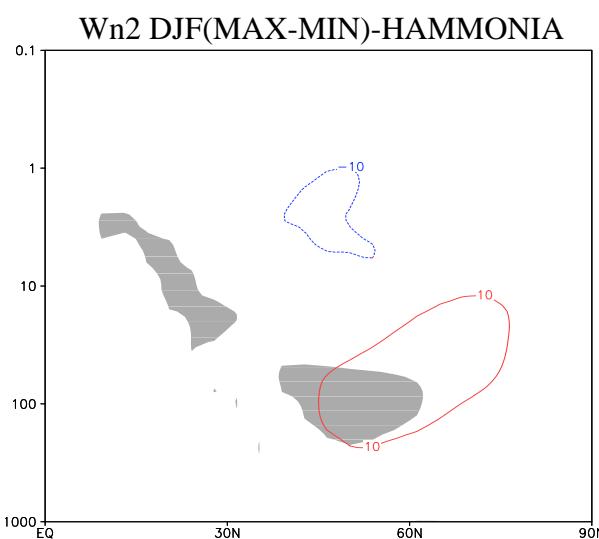
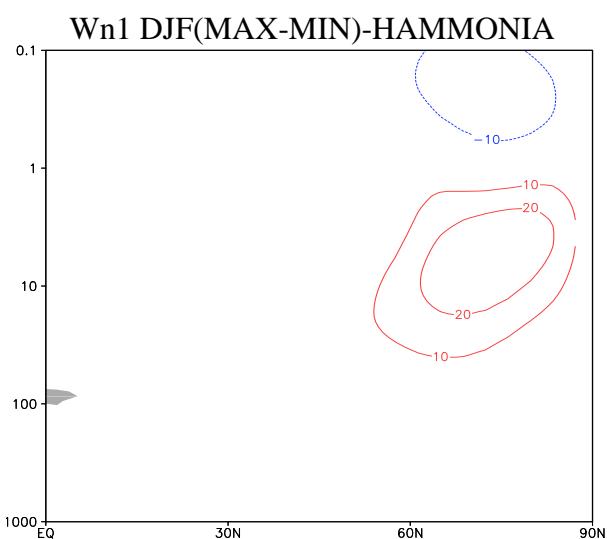
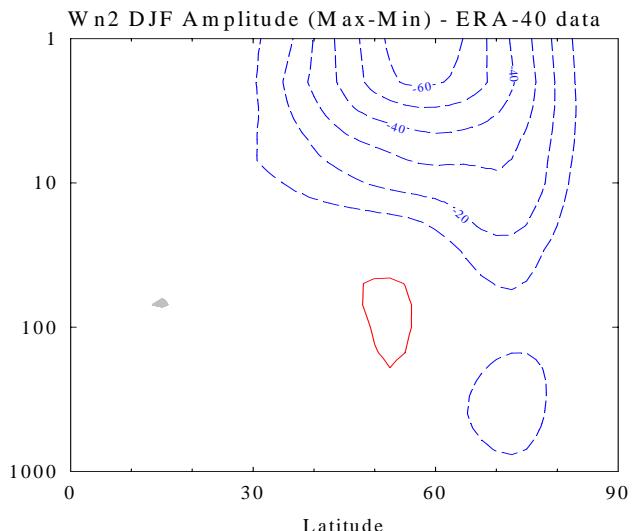
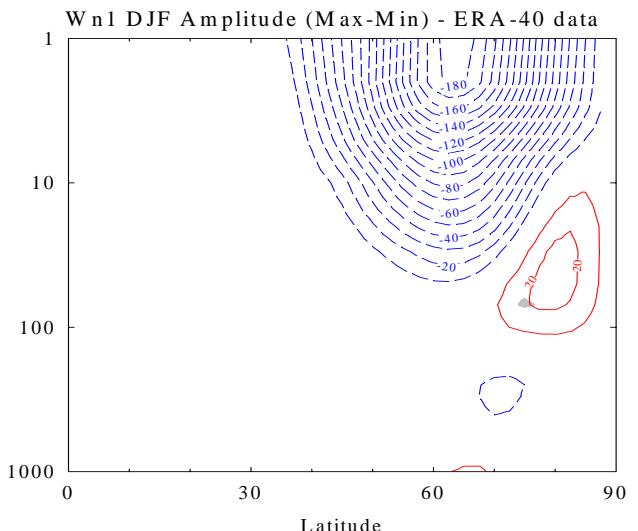


- ✓ The maximum values are delayed almost 1 month in NH and precede 1 month in SH.
- ✓ Our model generates higher amplitudes in SH.



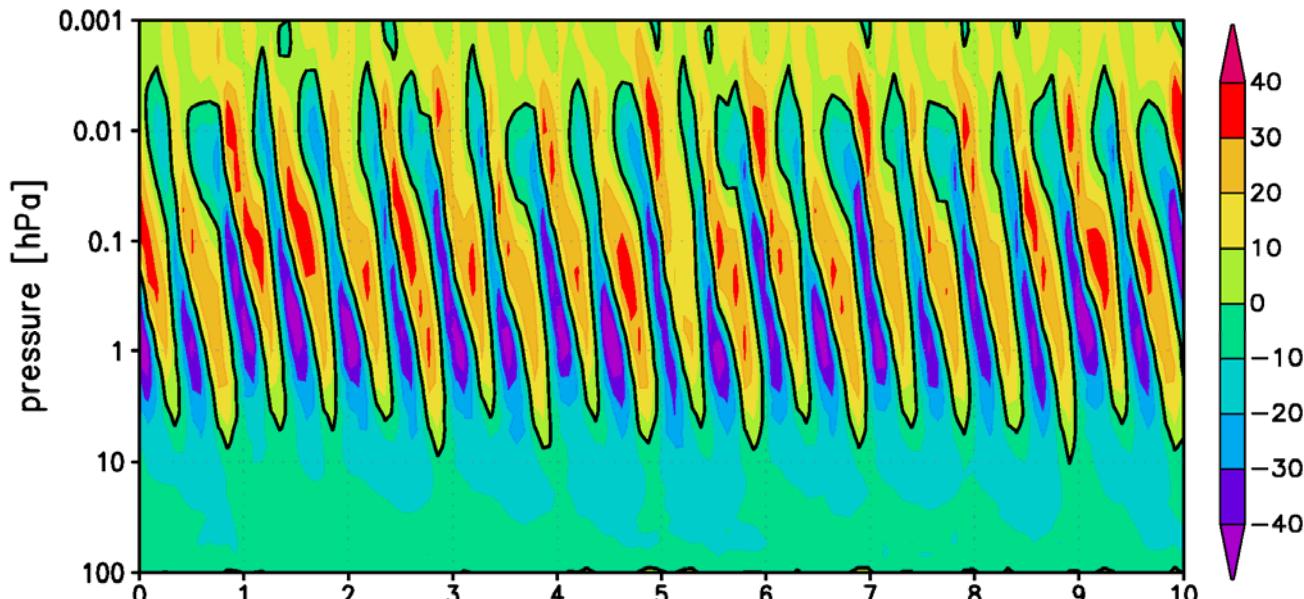


# The solar signal on PW1 and PW2-HAMMONIA

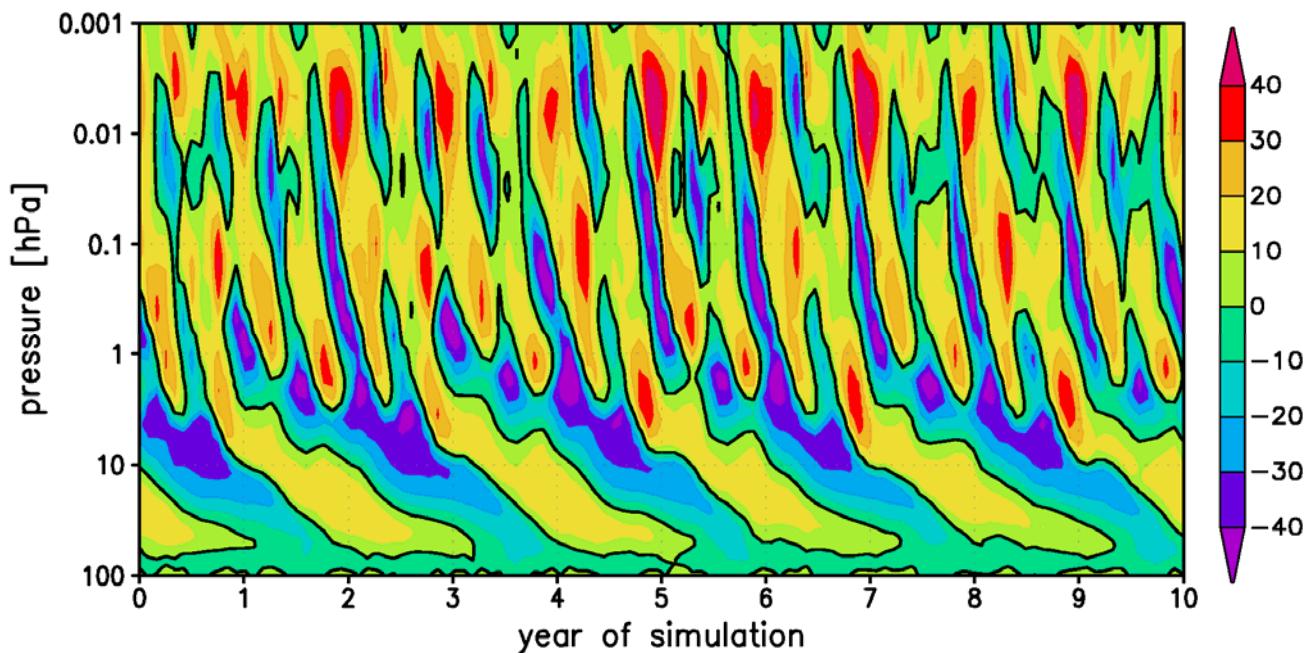




# Equatorial zonal wind (m/s) in model versions of different vertical resolution



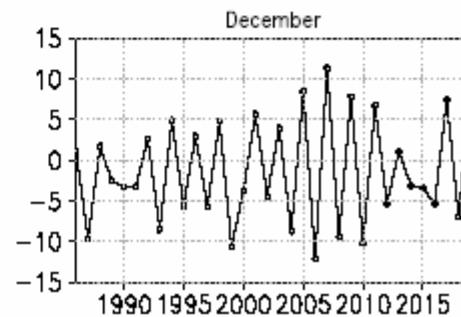
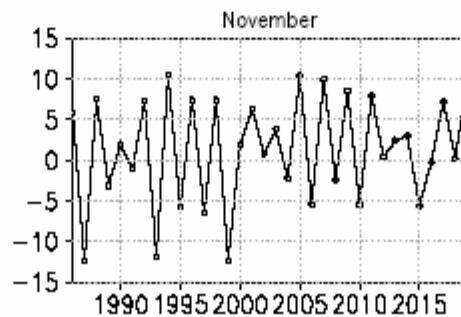
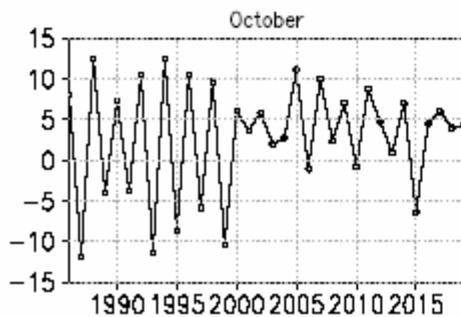
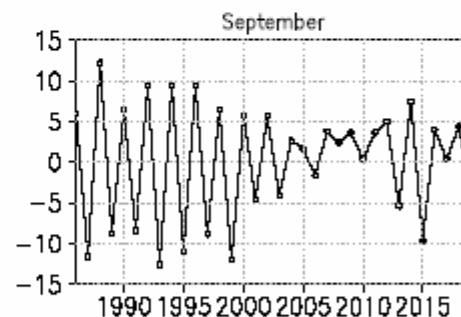
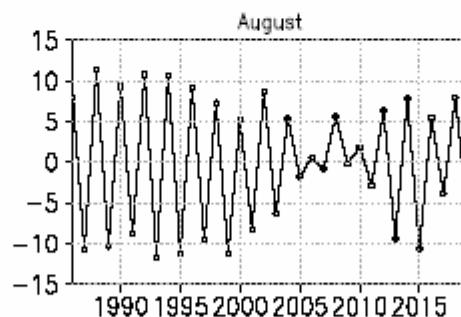
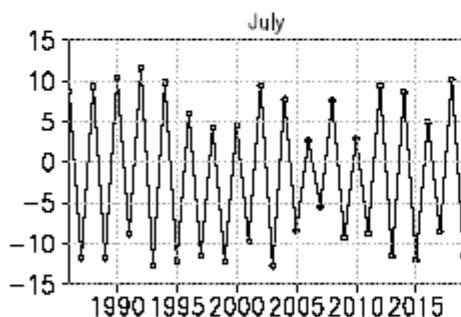
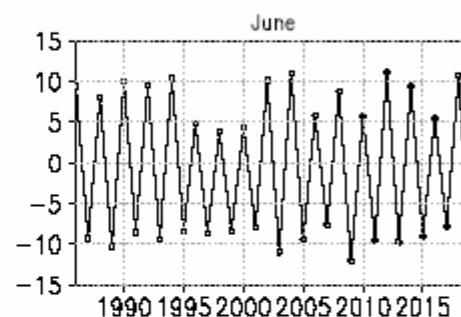
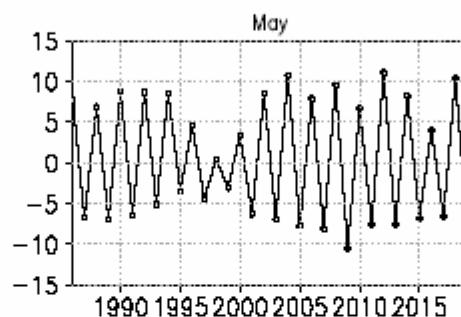
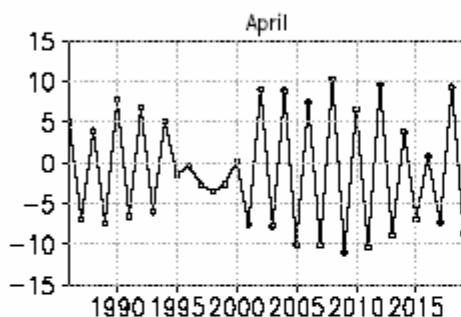
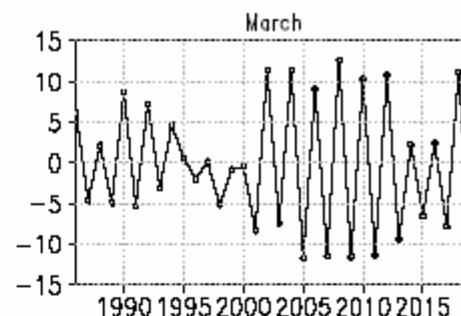
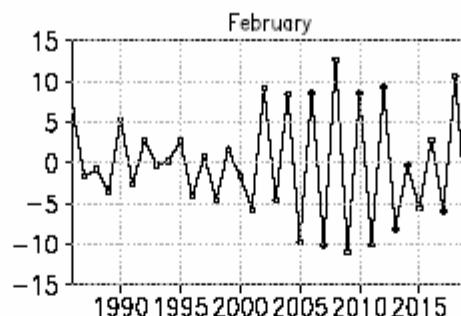
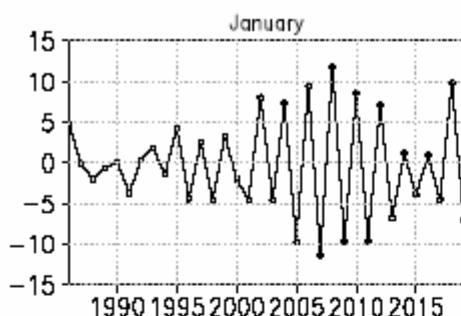
**67 layers**  
strat. resolution:  
~ 2000 m



**119 layers**  
strat. resolution:  
~ 800 m



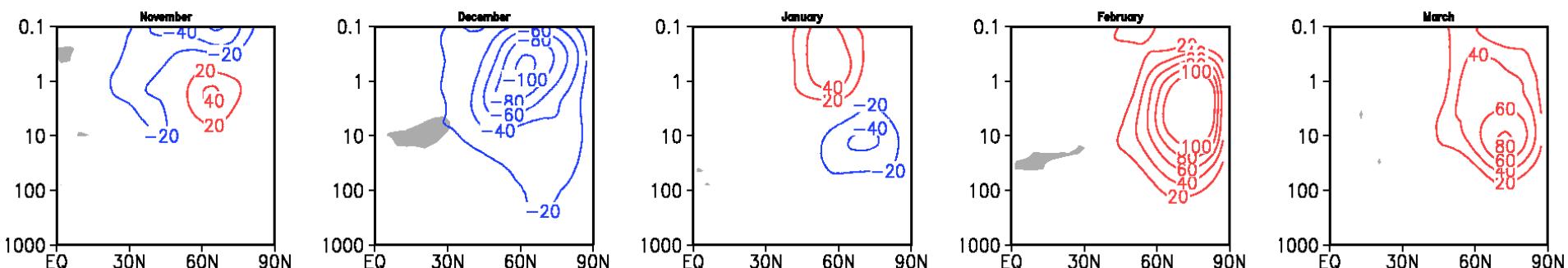
## Monthly Time Series of Equatorial Wind at 50 hPa-MAX



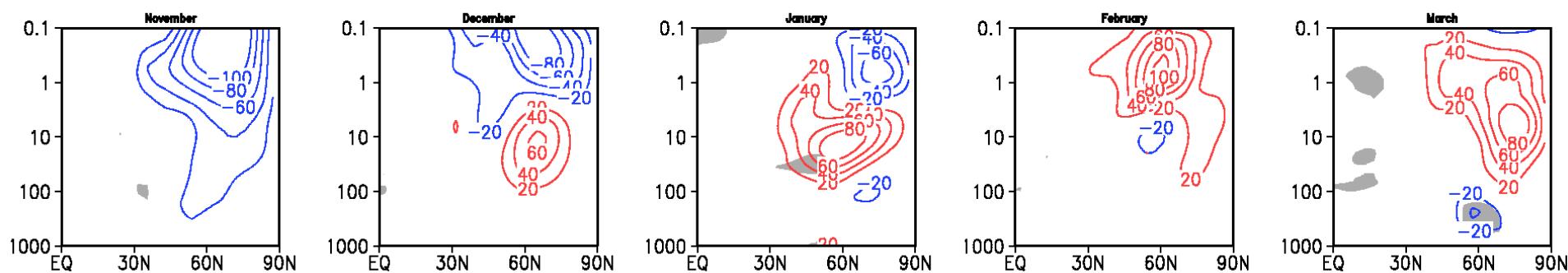


# The QBO influence on Solar Signal- HAMMONIA

WN1(MAX-MIN)-QB0w50



WN1(MAX-MIN)-QB0e50



- ✓ HAMMONIA does not demonstrate a solar signal alteration in NH winter months.
- ✓ The results are insignificant





## Conclusions (1)

- The planetary wave 1 amplitudes are higher during the solar minima, but the statistical significance is small
- The signal is not clear for PW2
- When data are separated according to equatorial winds at 50 hPa the sign of MAX-MIN signal has opposite sign for west and east phase. Results are significant.
- Such a reversal is not apparent for equatorial winds at 30 hPa.
- HAMMONIA can reproduce the seasonal cycle of WN1 and WN2 amplitudes, although it generates slightly higher amplitudes in SH.
- The response of planetary waves to 11-year solar cycle is weaker in HAMMONIA compared to ERA-40 reanalysis and remains insignificant for all winter months.





## Conclusions (2)



- Equatorial winds in HAMMONIA have realistic values but their period is strongly locked to 24 months and possibly for this reason a modulation of the solar signal by the QBO is not apparent during winter months.
- There is a dependence of the solar signal on the QBO, but in other months
- Simulations reproduce lower stratospheric equatorial warming and O<sub>3</sub> maximum (Schmidt et al., 2006)



## Future work:

- Investigate in details the differences of zonal wind, zonal wind shear and buoyancy frequency which determine the vertical propagation of PW
- Perform transient simulations
- Hammonia will be coupled with the MPI-OM ocean model

