



ECMWF re-analyses of UTLS temperatures in the tropics evaluated against two decades of balloon observations

T. Christensen (1), B. M. Knudsen (1), J.-P. Pommereau (2), G. Letrenne (3), F. Vial (4) and A. Hertzog (4)

(1) Danish Meteorological Institute, Denmark, (2) Service d'Aéronomie du Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, France, (3) Centre National d'Etudes Spatiales, France, (4) Laboratoire de Météorologie Dynamique, France. (tic@dmi.dk)

The HIBISCUS project studies the impact of tropical convection on the upper troposphere and lower stratosphere at global scale, and part of the project is an assessment of the quality of meteorological models in this region. In the frame of HIBISCUS the historical record of long-duration IR Mongolfier and superpressure constant level balloon observations back to 1981 were digitized. These data are used to evaluate the accuracy of ECMWF re-analyses of temperatures in the tropical UTLS region.