



General characteristic of the chemical state over West Africa

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Observations of the chemical composition over a wide area of the West African troposphere were made using the UK FAAM BAe146 during the summer of 2006 as part of the AMMA program. The observations are discussed in terms of a principal components and cluster analysis. This allows the large number of observations to be classified thus simplifying the analysis. The atmospheric composition is split into its dominant types and these types are then explored in terms of the chemical, physical and meteorological characteristics of the region