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Initial Results from the CAWSES Tidal Campaigns

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The CAWSES global tidal campaigns have been organized to advance our understanding of atmospheric tides and to facilitate interactions between experimentalists, modelers, and theoreticians. To date, there have been four campaigns (Sep-Oct 2005, Mar-Apr 2007, Jun-Aug 2007, Dec 2007-Feb 2008) with observations from radars, lidars, optical photometers, spectrometers and interferometers, microwave instruments, and satellites. Initial comparisons between tidal winds from radars (MF, meteor, ISR), lidars, and from the TIDI satellite instrument show very good agreement especially during spring equinox. In this paper, we describe the campaigns and observations, summarize the analysis process and illustrate the extent to which tidal signatures from the various data types and models agree.