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Sensitivity of the Freie Universität Berlin Climate Middle Atmosphere Model (FUB-CMAM) to different gravity-wave drag parameterisations

P. Mieth^{1,2}, J. L. Grenfell², U. Langematz², and M. Kunze²

¹Deutsches Zentrum für Luft- und Raumfahrt, Institut für Verkehrsforschung, Rutherfordstr. 2, 12489 Berlin, Germany

²Institut für Meteorologie, Freie Universität Berlin, Carl-Heinrich-Becker-Weg 6–10, 12165 Berlin, Germany

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Abstract. We report the sensitivity of the Berlin Climate Middle Atmosphere Model (CMAM) to different gravity-wave (GW) parameterisations. We perform five perpetual January experiments: 1) Rayleigh friction (RF) (control), 2) non-orographic GWs, 3) orographic GWs, 4) orographic and non-orographic GWs with no background stress, and 5) as for 4) but with background stress. We also repeat experiment 4) but for July conditions. Our main aim is to improve the model climatology by introducing orographic and non-orographic parameterisations and to investigate the individual effect of these schemes in the Berlin CMAM. We compare with an RF control to determine the improvement upon a previously-published model version employing RF. Results are broadly similar to previously-published works. The runs having both orographic and non-orographic GWs produce a statistically-significant warming of 4–8 K in the wintertime polar lower stratosphere. These runs also feature a cooling of the warm summer pole in the mesosphere by 10–15 K, more in line with observations. This is associated with the non-orographic GW scheme. This scheme is also associated with a heating feature in the winter polar upper stratosphere directly below the peak GW-breaking region. The runs with both orographic and non-orographic GWs feature a statistically-significant deceleration in the polar night jet (PNJ) of 10–20 ms⁻¹ in the lower stratosphere. Both orographic and non-orographic GWs individually produce some latitudinal tilting of the polar jet with height, although the main effect comes from the non-orographic waves. The resulting degree of tilt, although improved, is nevertheless still weaker than that observed. Accordingly, wintertime variability in the zonal mean wind, which peaks at the edge of the vortex, tends to maximise too far polewards in the model compared with observations. Gravity-planetary wave interaction leads to a decrease in the amplitudes of stationary planetary waves 1 and 2 by up to 50% in the up-

per stratosphere and mesosphere, more in line with observations. Comparing modelled and observed Eliassen-Palm fluxes suggests that planetary wave (PW) breaking occurs too far polewards in the model. The wind and temperature changes are consistent with changes in the Brewer-Dobson (BD) circulation. Results suggest that the effect of enforcing a minimum background wave stress in the McFarlane scheme could be potentially important. In the Southern Hemisphere (SH) in July, the GW schemes had only a small impact on the high-latitude lower stratosphere but there featured strong warming near 0.1 hPa.

Key words. Meteorology and atmospheric dynamics; General circulation; Middle atmosphere dynamics; Waves and tides

1 Introduction

Correctly parameterising the sub-grid-scale effects of gravity waves (GWs) remains a major challenge for the present-day hierarchy of general circulation models (GCMs). GWs are transverse oscillations with typical length scales of 10–1000 km in the horizontal, 1–100 km in the vertical and typical lifetimes of the order of hours. They arise when air parcels in a stably-stratified atmosphere undergo a vertical displacement and subsequently experience a restoring buoyancy force. Fritts (1984) and McLandress (1998) provide a good overview. Orographic excitation has long been recognised (e.g. Long, 1953). Non-orographic sources, for example, wind shear (Lindzen and Rosenthal, 1976), convection and weather fronts (Clarke et al., 1986) and geostrophic adjustment (Fritts and Luo, 1992) have been investigated.

GWs are believed to represent an important mechanism for mixing and carry momentum upwards from the troposphere. When GWs saturate and break this results in an energy cascade to smaller scales, turbulent diffusion, and deposition of momentum. Wave dissipation leads to the zonal

mean force necessary to balance the Coriolis torque which ultimately drives the meridional circulation when air parcels cross surfaces of constant angular momentum. This force stimulates the reversed temperature gradient of the summer to winter circulation in the mesosphere, which effects displacement away from radiative equilibrium (McIntyre, 2001) and also produces drag which decelerates and tends to close off the top of the middle atmosphere (MA) jet. In the lower stratosphere, downward control implies enhanced downward motion in the wintertime vortex, on incorporating GW schemes (Hines, 1991) which produces a warming effect. GWs are also believed to play a role in forcing the quasi-biennial oscillation (QBO) (Dunkerton, 1997; Scaife et al., 2000; Giorgetta et al., 2002).

The development of GW parameterisations in atmospheric models has received wide attention in recent years. Most conclude that there has been an improvement in the cold pole problem due to GW stimulation of the Brewer-Dobson (BD) circulation, hence enhanced subsidence in the polar night jet (PNJ) (Rind et al., 1988; Garcia and Boville, 1994; Beagley et al., 2000). Some studies note the difficulty of choosing appropriate tuning parameters and find that the cold pole, though weaker, still persists (Rozanov et al., 2001). Norton and Thuburn (1997) report that a scheme originally based on Lindzen (1981) better reproduces the observed equatorward tilt of the polar night jet.

Various works compare different GW schemes and perform sensitivity studies with the tuning parameters. Jackson (1993) notes that a positive phase-speed, $c=20\text{ms}^{-1}$ (rather than $c=0$) for non-orographic waves, greatly enables more waves to propagate through the summer mesosphere and leads to an improved easterly wind simulation, whereas the $c=0$ waves are absorbed mainly near the extra-tropical tropopause. Lawrence (1997) compares the Hines scheme with the Fritts/Luo non-orographic scheme and finds that the former scheme reproduces a more realistic PNJ with better variability. Manzini and McFarlane (1998) report that temperature in the lower and upper stratosphere of their GCM is sensitive to the launch height of their GW spectrum. Charon et al. (2002) compared the Hines scheme with a scheme of Warner and McIntyre (WM), which differed mainly in that the latter employed an empirically-derived expression for wave-dissipation. That work found similar mesospheric wave forcings only when the lower stratosphere momentum fluxes were an order of magnitude lower for WM than Hines. New orographic schemes have recently emerged (Lott and Miller, 1997; Gregory et al., 1998; Scinocca and McFarlane, 2000), which suggest that flow blocking and internal wave reflection may be important.

It is generally accepted that GW parameterisations may profoundly influence the meridional circulation, hence temperature and zonal mean zonal wind in the GCMs. However, a particular scheme does not always produce similar results when implemented in different models. This is because GCMs differ in how they resolve dynamical processes such as planetary wave excitation in the troposphere. Hence GW schemes employ model-dependent tuning parameters to

reduce remaining biases. Such parameters, however, cannot address biases not related to the GWs. They are used to estimate initial launch characteristics, wave-flow interaction and momentum deposition fluxes. GW schemes suffer from a lack of seasonality and regionality in their source spectra due to a paucity of observational data.

Some studies utilise observations to constrain their GW parameterisations. Broad (1996) employed vertical velocity aircraft data and finds good agreement at night but underestimation during the morning which that author attributes to the process of boundary layer ascent initiating GWs not represented in the model. Alternatively, hydroxyl (OH) band emission intensity measured by radar can be used to estimate GW amplitude, period and phase-speed (Takahashi et al., 1998). Ongoing international projects, such as the Stratospheric Processes and their Role in Climate (SPARC) GW climatology project (Allen and Vincent, 1995), play a vital role in this regard by compiling reliable global data coverage of GW activity and seasonality. Finally, it is interesting to note that although the grids of most GCMs are too coarse explicitly to resolve GWs, some short time scale, high-resolution studies claim to have achieved this for the larger GWs (Sato et al., 1999; Hamilton et al., 1999).

In the present study, we perform five sensitivity experiments with differing gravity-wave parameterisations implemented in the Freie Universität Berlin Climate Middle Atmosphere Model (FUB CMAM). We estimate the GW momentum flux, examine the response of the meridional circulation, discuss the impact upon the “cold pole” problem, the zonal mean zonal wind, the wintertime rates of mean descent in the PNJ and the influence upon stationary and transient planetary waves (PWs). Section 2 provides a model description and overview of the experiments; Sect. 3 presents results; Sect. 4 provides the discussion, conclusions and future work.

2 Model and experimental setup

2.1 Model description

The model is described in Langematz and Pawson (1997) and Pawson et al. (1998). Its dynamical core solves the primitive equations based on the so-called spectral representation (Baede et al., 1979). We employ a triangular truncation (T21) where “21” is the maximum number of waves resolved in the meridional or zonal direction and corresponds to a grid-scale of $\sim 5.6 \times 5.6^\circ$. There are 34 levels in the vertical which extend from the ground up to ~ 84 km. Near the surface a terrain-following sigma coordinate is employed, which relaxes toward isobaric surfaces on the upper layers, the so-called “hybrid” system (Simmons and Strüfing, 1983). A detailed treatment of the hydrological cycle is incorporated, including prognostic clouds, deep and shallow convection and surface exchange (Roeckner et al., 1992). Shortwave heating is based on Fouquart and Bonnel (1980) with the addition of solar absorption by O_3 and O_2 above 70 hPa using the schemes of Shine and Rickaby (1989) and Strobel (1978).

Longwave heating calculations are included for O₃, CO₂ and H₂O (Morcrette, 1991). Our version of the Morcrette scheme did not include heating from CH₄, N₂O and chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs). An improved treatment of radiative transfer (Langematz, 2000) eliminated the warm polar bias of the previous model version. Climatological ozone fields are employed, updated from Fortuin and Langematz (1994). Averaged (1979–1991) sea-surface temperatures based on the Atmospheric Modelling Intercomparison Project (AMIP) are employed to avoid the bias of sampling a particular phase of El Niño. Long-lived greenhouse gases (GHGs) other than CO₂ (uniformly set to 330 ppmv) are not included. The various GW schemes are described separately below.

2.2 Overview of runs

The original motivation for including GWs was to address the model's underestimation of subsidence in the PNJ, the strong jet and the cold pole, as was apparent in a previous annual cycle run with full online chemistry (not shown). A series of test runs (presented here) were accordingly conceived, without online chemistry, to test the effect of orographic and non-orographic GW parameterisations in the model. The response of GCMs to such schemes has already been documented in other models. Nevertheless, this procedure was a necessary part of our model development. This work broadly confirms the generally-accepted response to the GW schemes in the Berlin CMAM. Due to limited computer resources, the test runs are performed in perpetual January/July mode, although naturally, it would have been preferable to perform multi-year runs with a full annual cycle. All runs are of fifteen months in duration, with the first four months discarded for spinup purposes.

Experiment 1: Control (Rayleigh friction)

Rayleigh friction (RF) entails a linear relaxation of the zonal and meridional components, e.g. $u = u_{old} + (du/dt)$, and $(du/dt) = -Ku$, where the constant K corresponds approximately to time scales of 2.5 day^{-1} at 83 km, 5 day^{-1} at 76 km, 10 day^{-1} at 73 km and 25 day^{-1} at 69 km (so-called RF “sponge layers”) (Holton and Wehrbein, 1980). Long integrations of the model, which also employed Rayleigh friction have been documented (e.g. Langematz and Pawson, 1997); hence, we adopt this parameterisation as our control for this study. Although RF is effective at exponentially damping over-strong winds, its drawbacks are that it violates momentum conservation and tends to produce thermally-driven cells, inconsistent with the concept of the mechanically-driven meridional circulation (Shepherd, 2000). RF always drags the winds back to zero, artificially lowering variability, whereas observed winds may go to zero and then often change direction (Kim et al., 2003). On the other hand, RF is easy to implement and effectively closes off the polar jet in the model upper layers. With these caveats in mind, the RF run employed coefficients such that only a weak drag was exerted in the mesosphere without impacting the stratosphere and without influencing PW

activity in the model. Pawson et al. (1998) provide further details and discuss the effect of different RF settings.

Experiment 2: non-orographic GWs (Hines scheme)

Non-orographic gravity-waves redistribute momentum within the atmosphere (whereas orographic waves exchange momentum between the solid Earth and the atmosphere). These differing conceptual frameworks should be kept in mind when comparing different experiments. Non-orographic GW drag (Hines, 1991; 1997) is implemented in a coding after Manzini and McFarlane (1998). The scheme assumes an initial, vertical spectral density proportional to m^x , where “ m ” is the vertical wave number and “ x ” is an integer. For this study we adopt “ x ” equal to 1 with a launch height close to the surface. The launch spectrum is isotropic and time-invariant and is characterised by a launch slope of 1 (vertically upward), $\sigma_{\text{horizontalwind}} = 1.5 \text{ ms}^{-1}$, and horizontal wave number $= 7 \times 10^{-6} \text{ m}^{-1}$. Manzini and McFarlane (1998) provide further details. As the waves propagate upward, their amplitudes increase exponentially in response to the decrease in gas density. The scheme imposes height-dependent Doppler spreading in the frequency distribution, which parameterises wave-wave interaction, and Doppler shifting of the mode frequency, which parameterises wave-mean-flow interaction. Wave breaking is imposed using a cut-off criterion, with value:

$$m = N(V - V_0 + \phi_1\sigma + \phi_2\sigma_{\text{tot}})^{-1},$$

where m = vertical cut-off wave number

N = Brunt Väisällä frequency

V = horizontal windspeed

V_0 = windspeed at launch height

σ = variability of horizontal wind arising from GW

σ_{tot} = variability of total horizontal wind

ϕ_1, ϕ_2 are tunable parameters which represent the wave-wave interaction and the wave-mean-flow interaction, respectively. For our runs we adopt $\phi_1 = 1.5$ and $\phi_2 = 0.3$ which corresponds to the middle range of recommended values (Hines, 1991; Hines, 1997). Waves having wavelengths greater than the above “cut-off” value are assumed to be saturated. The cut-off value is derived from empirical evidence and is a function of N and σ_{tot} (Hines, 1997). Once saturated, momentum deposition (MD) is calculated according to $MD = hP(m(z))^{-1}$, where h = horizontal wave number, P = horizontal wind power spectrum, $m(z)$ = vertical wave number, constrained such that MD is positive and increasing with height.

Medvedev and Klaassen (2000) note a caveat of the Hines scheme, namely it does not produce the characteristic (m^{-3}) dependency in the power spectrum, (m = vertical wave number) found in observations (Smith et al., 1987). This difference is attributed to the instantaneous “chopping” of waves above the “cut-off” saturation value, whereas in the real atmosphere, saturation continually adjusts to changes in, for example, temperature and density as the waves propagate upwards and wave-breaking is a more gradual process in time and space.

Experiment 3: orographic GWs (McFarlane scheme), background = on

The scheme is described in McFarlane (1987). The coding for our study is adapted from the Community Climate Model (CCM) version 3.6 (Boville, 1995). “background=on” implies that a small, latitude-dependent background stress is utilised in all regions whenever the orographic stress is smaller than a minimum background value (NCAR technical note NCAR/TN-417+STR, 1996). This reflects the model’s underestimation of weak wave stresses and is a rather crude way of parameterising subscale processes. Momentum is not conserved but is added to the system at low wave stresses. Numerically, the background stresses $\tau_{(\text{back})}$ parameterise orographic variation in a simple way such that: (NH): $\tau_{(\text{back})} = \tau_{(NH)} * \sin(2 * \text{latitude})$ $\tau_{(NH)} = 0.75 \text{ ms}^{-2}$, (SH): $\tau_{(\text{back})} = \tau_{(SH)} * \sin(2 * \text{latitude})$ $\tau_{(SH)} = 1.2 \text{ ms}^{-2}$. Turning on the background switch forces the surface wave stresses always to be greater than a minimum background value. So, like RF, the background switch is effect-driven, not process-driven and does not conserve momentum.

The initial wave momentum flux, M , at a particular orographic height is taken to be:

$$M = - (E \mu m^2 / 2) \rho N V,$$

where E = efficiency factor (< 1 ; a function of orographic height)

μ = horizontal wave number

m = horizontal amplitude

ρ = gas density

N = Brunt Väisälä frequency

V = wind component in direction of flow,

where the wave amplitude fulfilled the condition:

$$m = \min(2\sigma_{\text{orog}}, F_c U / N),$$

where σ_{orog} = standard deviation of sub-grid-scale orography (assumed isotropic)

F_c = critical Froude number ($F_c^2 = 0.5$)

U = zonal wind.

All waves having local $F > F_c$ are assumed to be saturated. So, the waves could break when the convective instability criterion is satisfied, i.e. the vertical gradient of total potential temperature becomes negative. The equations above show that the orographic wave momentum flux is directly related to the standard deviation of the orography. This study used orography data obtained from the United States Navy high resolution data set with resolution 10×10 arc min (Cuming and Hawkins, 1981), corresponding to about 20×20 km. A new, higher-resolution data set with a resolution of approximately 1×1 km has been recently reported (Webster et al., 2003). The orographic scheme always assumes $F_c^2 = 0.5$ and horizontal wavelength = 100 km. Radiative damping is applied in the vertical with a Newtonian cooling coefficient, $\alpha = 1 \times 10^{-6} \text{ s}^{-1}$. Only stationary waves are considered.

Experiment 4: Hines and McFarlane combined, background = off

Experiment 5: Hines and McFarlane combined, background = on

3 Results

3.1 January runs

Figure 1a shows observed January zonal mean zonal wind (u) data taken from the Stratospheric Processes and their Role in Climate (SPARC) Intercomparison of Middle Atmosphere Climatologies Report (2002). The data covers the period 1992–1997 and is a composite of the United Kingdom Meteorological Office (UKMO) analyses (Swinbank and O’Neill, 1994) and the High Resolution Doppler Imager (HRDI) data sets (Hays et al., 1993). Figures 1b–f show u_{model} for experiments 1–5. Figures 2a–d show $(u_{\text{model}} - u_{\text{RF}})$ for experiments 2–5 respectively. Figures 3a–f are the same as Figs. 1a–f but for temperature (T). Likewise, Figs. 4a–d are the same as Figs. 2a–d but for T . The observed temperatures are also taken from SPARC (2002) and cover the period 1992–1997. They are a composite of the UKMO analyses, the Halogen Occultation Experiment (HALOE) (Russell et al., 1993) and the Microwave Limb Sounder (MLS) (Fishbein et al., 1996) data sets.

The RF run displays an over-strong, over-cold PNJ in the lower stratosphere, having too little equatorward tilt with increasing altitude and too high summer temperatures in the polar mesosphere (Figs. 1b, 3b). Although the orographic GWs (experiment 3) produce some equatorward tilt in the jet in the upper stratosphere (Fig. 1d), the main effect comes from the non-orographic waves (experiment 2, Fig. 1c). Manzini et al. (1997) note broadly similar improvements on comparing the same non-orographic scheme with an RF scheme in the MA. Including both orographic and non-orographic waves is necessary to produce a statistically-significant deceleration of 10 – 20 ms^{-1} in the PNJ in the lower stratosphere from 50 to 10 hPa (Figs. 2c, 2d). The imposed GW drag also weakens the over-strong summertime easterlies, more in line with observations. Compare, for example u in the control run (Fig. 1b) with u in the runs having both types of GWs (Figs. 1e, 1f), in which the easterlies are weakened by around 10% at 50 – 60° S , 0.1 hPa. The top of the easterly jet is also closed more realistically on the upper layers in the GW runs. The sub-tropical jets are mostly unaffected. The model does not simulate the QBO in the tropical mid stratosphere (a well-known bias in MA GCMs using RF parameterisations) (Pawson, 1992) but instead features weak easterlies throughout the year. Müller et al. (1997) and Nissen et al. (2000) studied the semiannual oscillation (SAO) in a previous model version of the FUB CMAM without GWs. Results implied the modelled easterlies were sometimes too strong by 10 – 15 m/s compared with observations.

Separately, the non-orographic and orographic schemes lead to a 2–4 K warming of the cold pole in the wintertime lower stratosphere (Figures 4a, 4b, respectively). This quantity is approximately doubled when both schemes operate together (Figs. 4c, 4d). The orographic waves alone (Fig. 4b) are associated with a statistically-significant warming in the lower stratosphere (+4 K at 100 hPa, 70° N) at high latitudes, whereas the non-orographic waves alone (Fig. 4a)

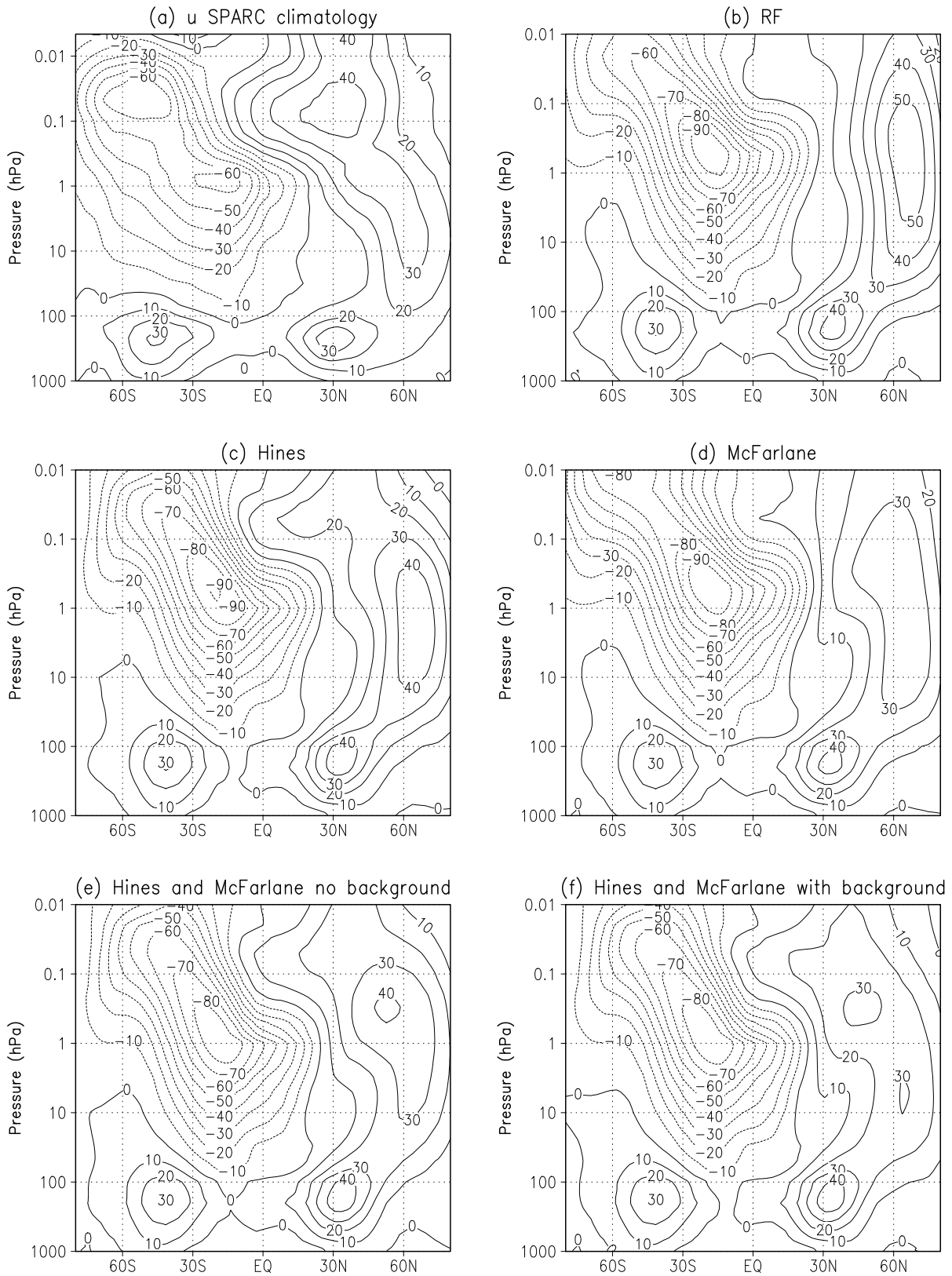


Fig. 1. January mean zonal mean zonal wind in ms^{-1} for (a) observations (SPARC climatology), (b) Rayleigh friction, (c) Hines non-orographic scheme, (d) McFarlane orographic scheme, (e) both (c) and (d), background drag off (f) as for (e) but with background term on.

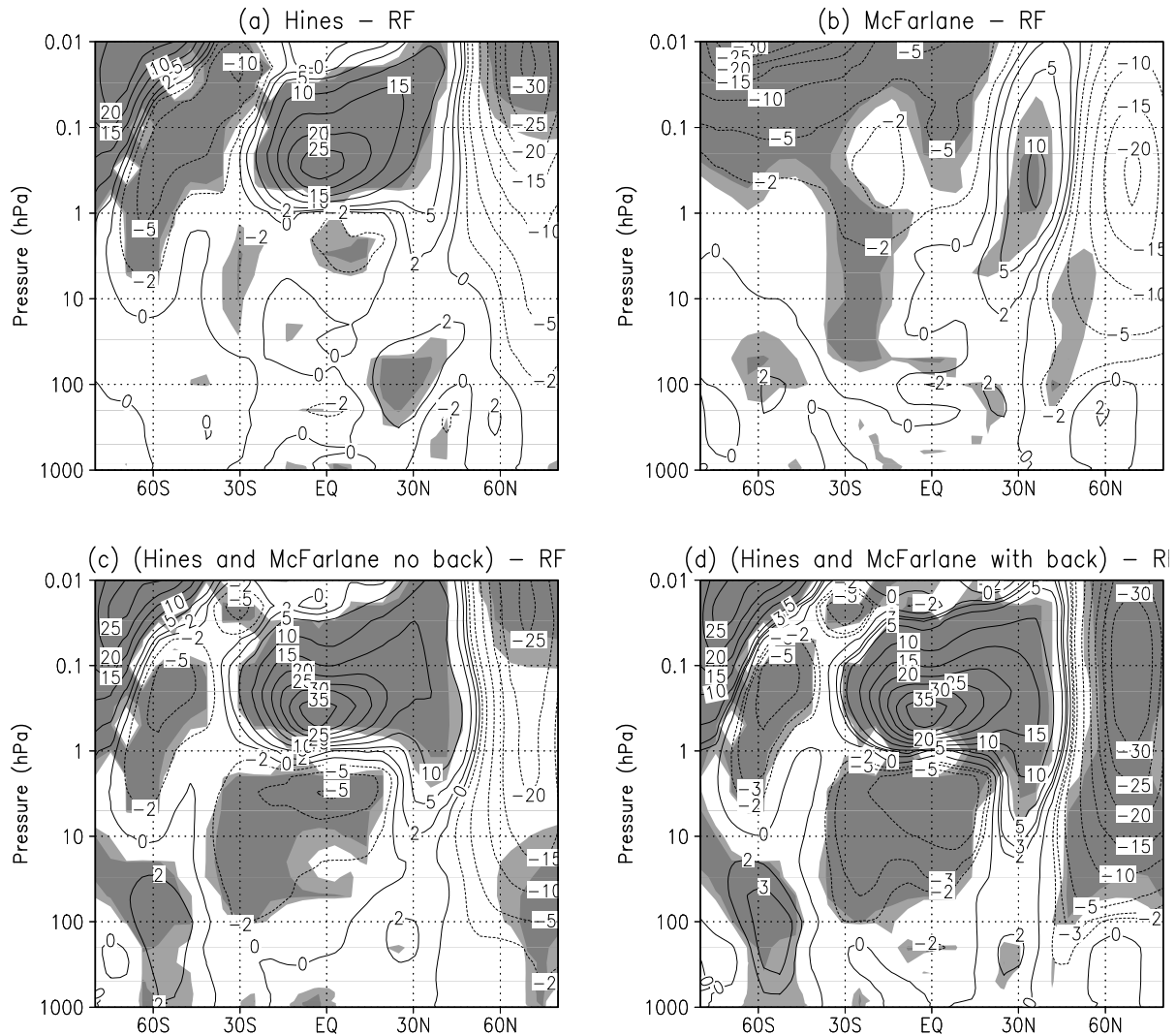


Fig. 2. January mean zonal mean wind difference in ms^{-1} for (a) Hines minus RF, (b) McFarlane minus RF, (c) Hines and McFarlane (background off) minus RF, (d) Hines and McFarlane (background on) minus RF. Light grey shading denotes the 95% confidence interval and dark grey shading denotes the 99% confidence interval calculated from the t-distribution. Contour values for (a) to (c): $-30, -25, -20, -15, -10, -5, -2, 0, 2, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35$. Contour values for (d): $-30, -25, -20, -15, -10, -5, -3, -2, 0, 2, 3, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35$.

have a stronger impact on higher levels, ($+10\text{ K}$, $0.7\text{--}0.3\text{ hPa}$, 70° N). Furthermore, the desired cooling of $10\text{--}15\text{ K}$ in the summertime polar mesosphere is associated purely with the non-orographic scheme (Figs. 4b–d) and not the orographic scheme (Fig. 4a), which actually produces some heating in this region, implying that the orographic scheme has a weaker effect on the upper levels compared with RF. The non-orographic runs also feature statistically-significant heating in the tropical upper stratosphere, the NH mid-latitude mesosphere and the SH high-latitude lower stratosphere. We show later that these temperature changes are consistent with the response of the Brewer Dobson circulation to the imposed drag from the breaking GWs.

Figure 5 compares model results (output at the equator) for January for the various experiments with rocketsonde obser-

vations (Müller et al., 1997) (shown as a plain line). Above 1 hPa easterly tropical winds in the RF run (crosses) are too strong by $10\text{--}15\text{ ms}^{-1}$ compared with the observations. Including the GWs improves the situation considerably; in the upper stratosphere the effect is mainly associated with the Hines scheme alone (open circles).

We have compared model variability with that calculated by the UKMO (United Kingdom Meteorological Office) database, which encompasses 1992–2000 data with a lid at 0.3 hPa . Figures 6a–f are as for Figs. 1a–f but show one standard-deviation of u . We have also calculated similar plots but using NCEP CPC (National Centers for Environmental Prediction Climate Prediction Center) data (not shown), which encompass the years 1979–1998 and which feature a lid at 1.0 hPa . Results from both data sets are reasonably

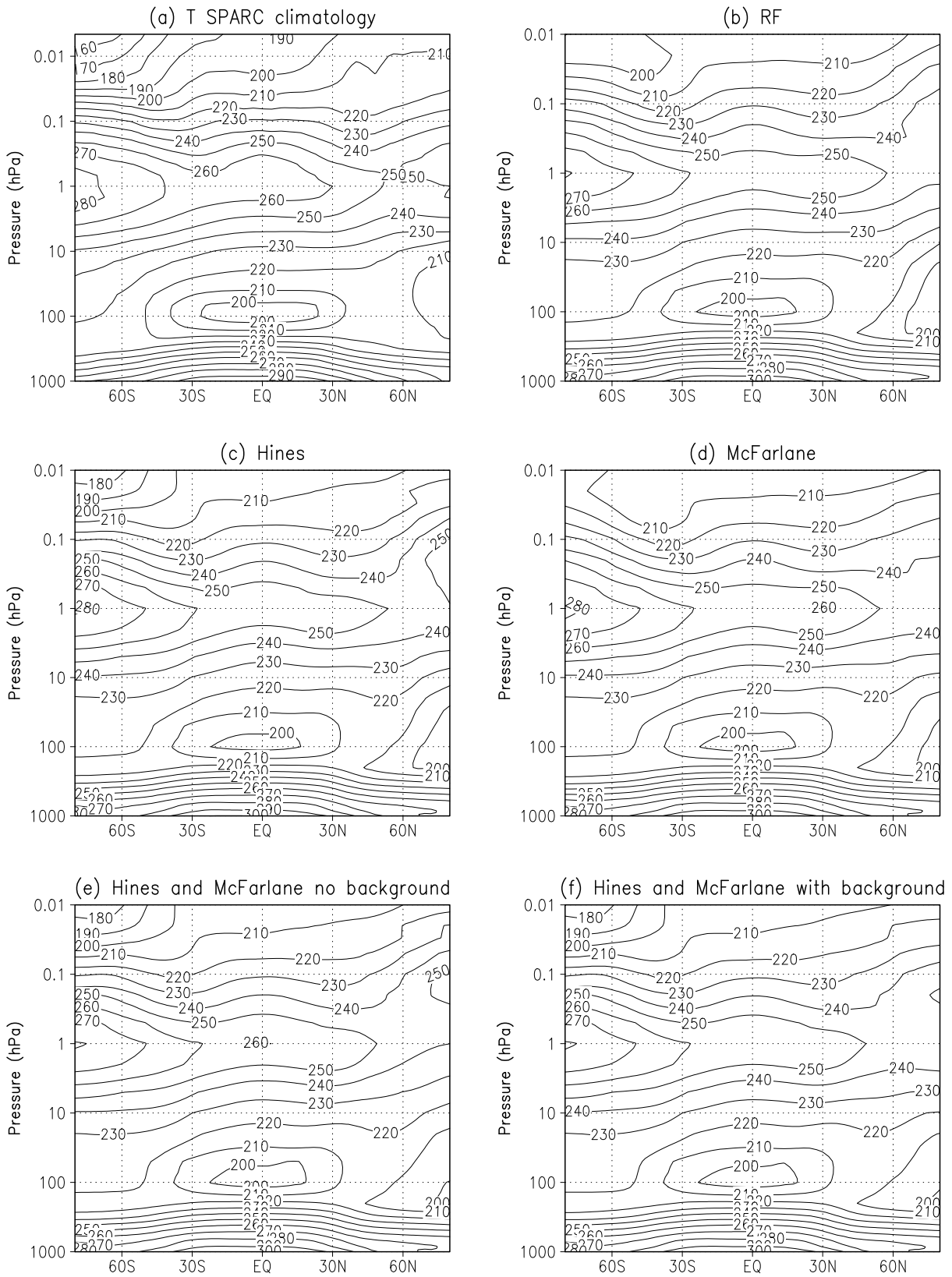


Fig. 3. As for Fig. 1, but for temperature in K. Contour interval: 10 K.

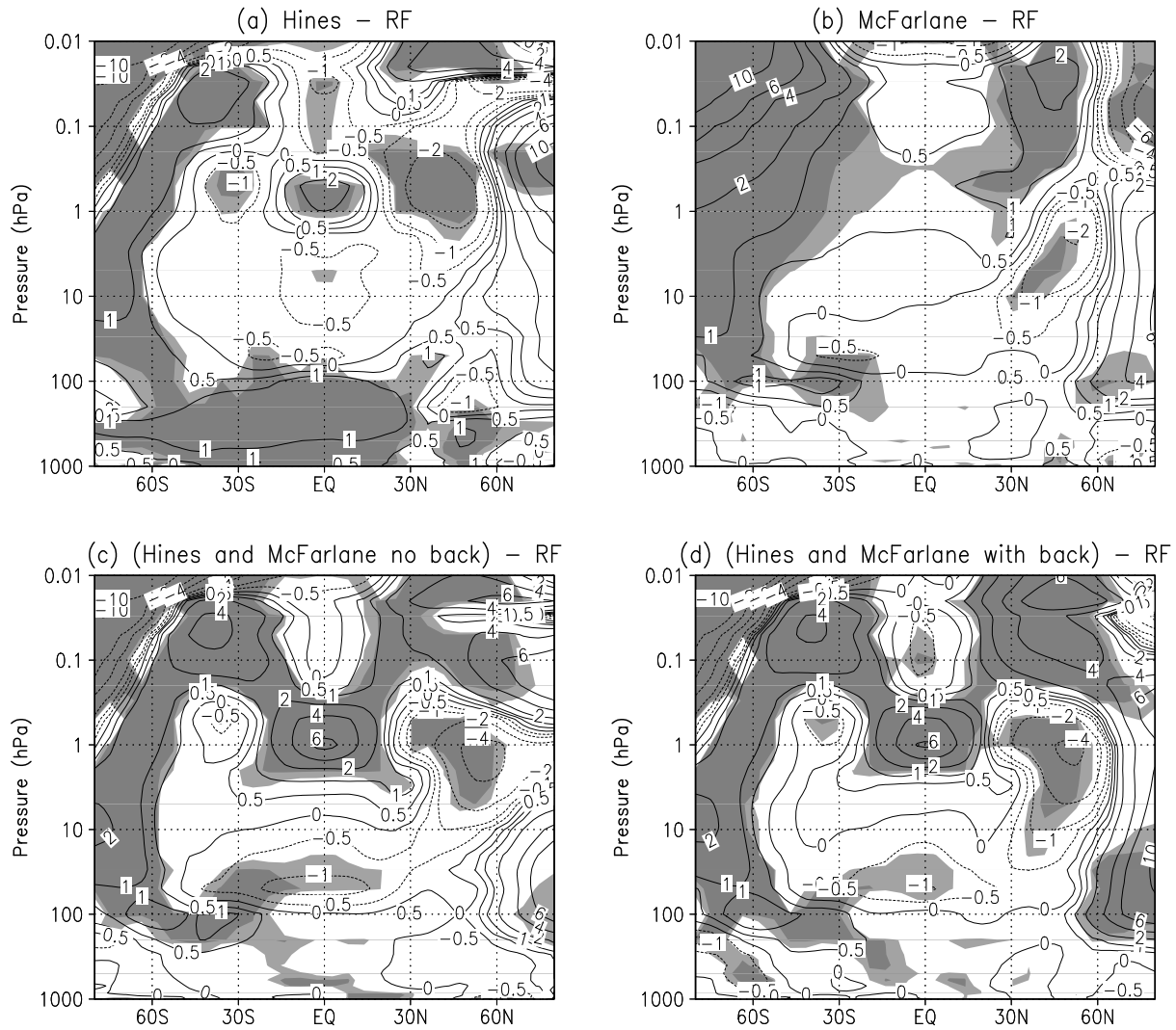


Fig. 4. As for Fig. 2, but for temperature in K. Contour values $-10, -8, -6, -4, -2, -1, -0.5, 0, 0.5, 1, 2, 4, 6, 10$.

similar, although the UKMO features higher values around 10mb in the tropics compared with the NCEP CPC. This may be linked, on the one hand, with the shorter measuring period of the UKMO data set. On the other hand, the NCEP CPC dataset, like other reanalysis data sets, suffers from a paucity of sampling in the tropics (Waliser et al., 1999) and tends to underestimate the QBO.

Figure 6 suggests that the RF scheme (experiment 1) captures u variability reasonably well, except in the tropics where it underestimates. This arises because the model lacks a QBO (but there are also caveats with the data here, as already discussed). For all runs, peak variabilities in zonal mean wind tend to occur too far polewards. Related to this, the vortex edge (i.e. the region of peak wind variability) lacks latitudinal tilt with height. This is a typical GCM problem, as already discussed. All GW experiments tend to increase peak u variability in Fig. 6, except run 5 (Hines and McFarlane, background drag on), where it decreases slightly. Increased variability results from the direct influence of the

breaking GWs upon the zonal mean zonal wind. Decreased variability, as it occurred in run 5, has also been documented in some other works. This arises at least partly via the rather subtle interaction of GWs with planetary waves (PWs), in which the latter may either strengthen (Manzini and McFarlane, 1998; Smith, 1997) or weaken (Miyahara et al., 1986), depending on whether phase-speeds and orientations favour constructive or destructive interference with the GWs. McLandress and McFarlane (1993) provide an overview of GW and PW interaction. The nature of the interaction depends upon adjustable factors, such as GW launch height and directionality. Manzini and McFarlane (1998), for example, noted that moving from the surface to the tropopause favours enhanced PW weakening. Also, including horizontal variability in the GW spectrum (such as in the orographic scheme) tends to favour PW generation; removing it leads to the opposite effect (McLandress and McFarlane, 1993). A further contribution to the decrease in variability in run 5 (Hines and McFarlane, back on) could be the switching on of

Table 1. Mean January temperature (K) and two-sigma (K) for the various experiments at 10 hPa for the North Pole (NP) and 60° N. % changes are shown relative to the RF run.

Experiment	NP	% change	NP 2σ	% change	60° N	% change	60° N 2σ	% change
RF	207.98	–	19.14	–	223.98	–	3.90	–
Hines	212.00	+1.93	34.84	+82.03	225.13	+0.51	4.74	+21.54
McFarlane	216.16	+3.93	29.98	+56.64	224.20	+0.10	3.44	–11.79
both+back	213.59	+2.70	36.62	+91.33	223.75	–0.10	4.24	+8.72
both-back	219.12	+5.36	22.34	+16.72	224.03	+0.02	2.46	–36.92

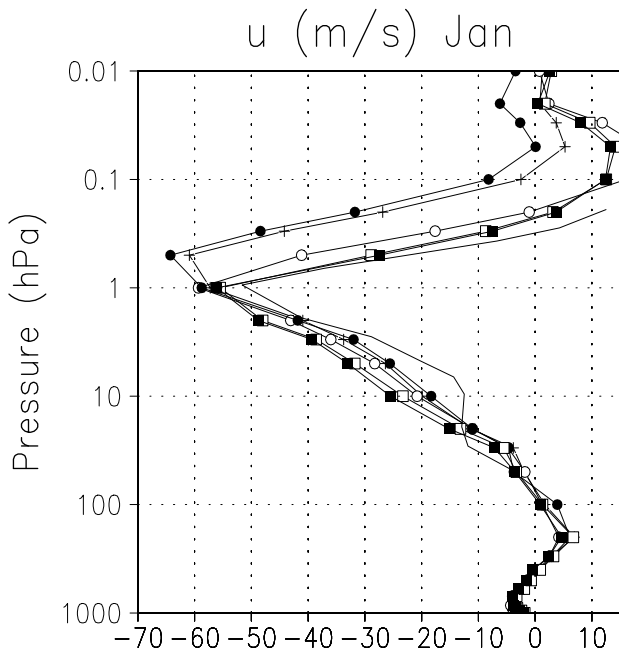


Fig. 5. Modelled zonal mean zonal wind (m/s^{-1}) output at the equator for the January experiments. The rocketsonde observations are also shown here as a plain line. RF run (cross); Hines run (open circle); McFarlane run (closed circle); Hines and McFarlane background off (open square); Hines and McFarlane background on (closed square).

background drag in this run. This tends to lower variability by constraining GW stresses to always be higher than a small background value, which is independent of latitude and longitude and is applied immediately after the calculation of the GW stresses.

Table 1 shows January mean temperature (K) on 10 hPa and its 2-sigma variability for the various experiments at the North Pole (NP) and at 60° N. Percent changes are relative to the RF run. Internal model variability in this region of the atmosphere is an indicator of the model’s ability to simulate sudden stratospheric warmings. Table 1 shows that GWs have a larger impact at the NP, producing up to 11.3 K heating and are associated with a large increase in variability. As

already discussed for u-variability, the effect of switching on background drag is associated with a suppression in the variability. At 60° N the GWs have a much smaller impact compared with the NP, as already illustrated in Fig. 4. The absolute changes at 60° N are much smaller (up to 0.5%) than at the NP and the variability changes range from –36.9 to +21.5%. Again, switching on the background drag reduces the variability, at 60° N to such an extent that it becomes lower than in the control run. Zonal mean temperature plots of observed (UKMO) and modelled temperature variability (not shown) supported the results in Table 1, namely that variability increased rapidly from 60° N to the pole, peaking around 3 hPa in both model and observations. Interestingly, the model predicted a secondary peak over the pole at 0.1 hPa, in a region above the lid of the UKMO database, near where GW breaking occurred (as we show later). Why does the stratospheric T-variability peak over the pole? An important factor affecting stratospheric temperature variability is planetary wave forcing originating in the troposphere (Pawson and Kubitz, 1996). Associated with this, inside the PNJ, air parcels may experience rapid excursions in the vertical associated with large changes in adiabatic heating, hence temperature.

Figure 7a shows the mean amplitude of stationary planetary waves of wave number 1 for the RF run. Figures 7b–e show the difference for experiments 2 to 5, respectively. Figures 8a–e is as for Figs. 7a–e but for wave number 2. Quantities shown in Figs. 7 and 8 are a measure of standing eddy energy calculated by standard Fourier transform based on an original output interval of 4 h averaged to one month. Randel (1992) has published a stationary PW climatology (not shown) in which the amplitude of wave number 1 peaks at 900 m close to 3 mb, 65° N, whereas wave number 2 peaks at 200 m close to 50 mb, 65° N. By comparison in the RF run (Figs. 7a, 8a) the modelled waves peak at higher altitudes and feature higher values. The latter partly reflects a resolution problem. The cold pole problem is also related, which implies an over-stable vortex hence a bias towards stationary waves 1 and 2. Note that the GW tunable parameters are not designed to address such resolution issues. Moving to a higher resolution will be the focus of a newly-planned model version.

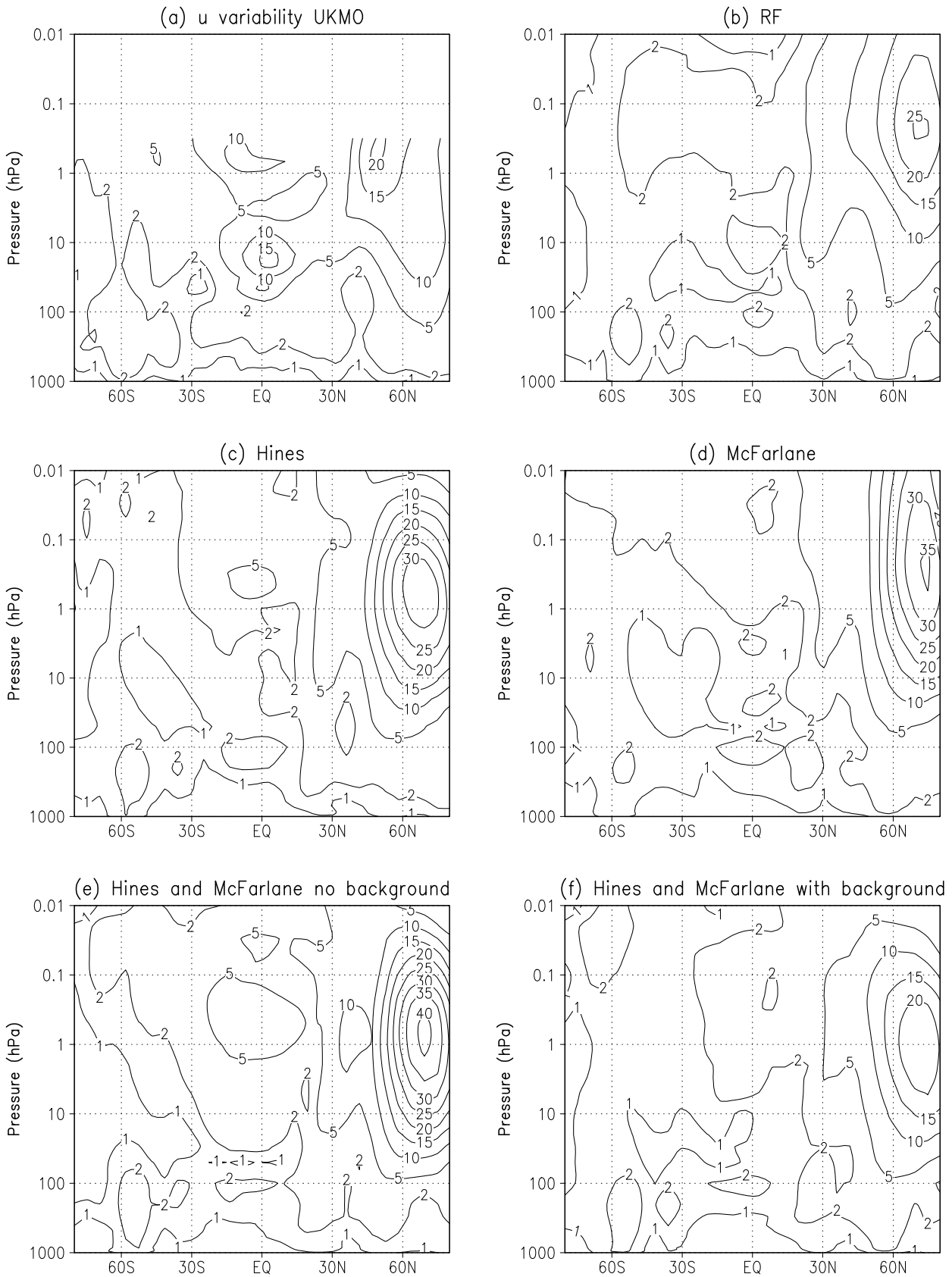


Fig. 6. January mean standard deviation of the zonal mean zonal wind in ms^{-1} for observations [UKMO] and for experiments 1–5. Contour values are: 1, 2, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40.

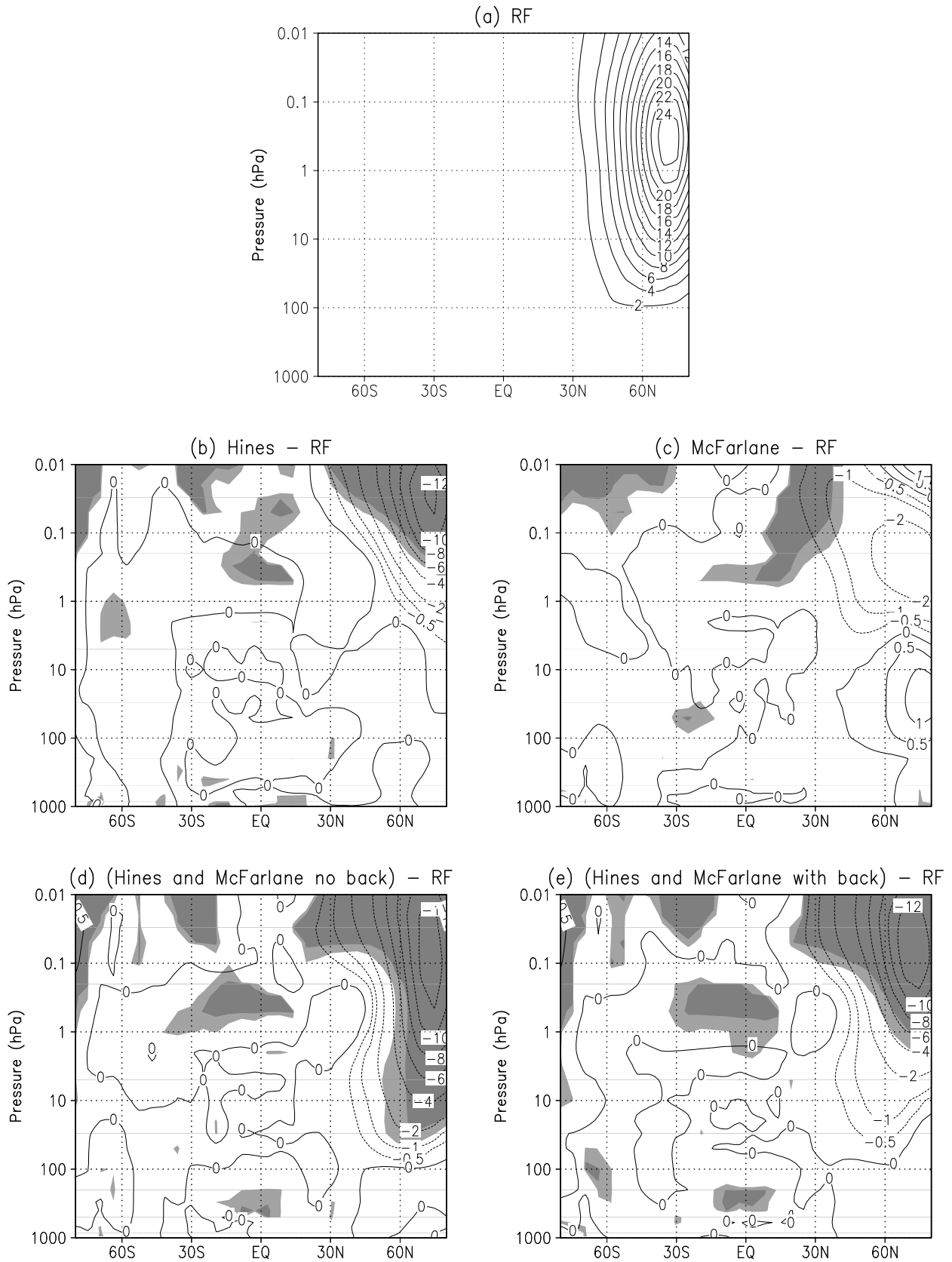


Fig. 7. January mean geopotential amplitude in 100m units of stationary wave number one for (a) RF run, (b) Hines minus RF, (c) McFarlane minus RF, (d) Hines and McFarlane background off minus RF, (e) Hines and McFarlane background on minus RF. Contour interval for (a): 2; contour values for (b)–(e): -12, -10, -8, -6, -4, -2, -1, -0.5, 0, 0.5, 1, 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12.

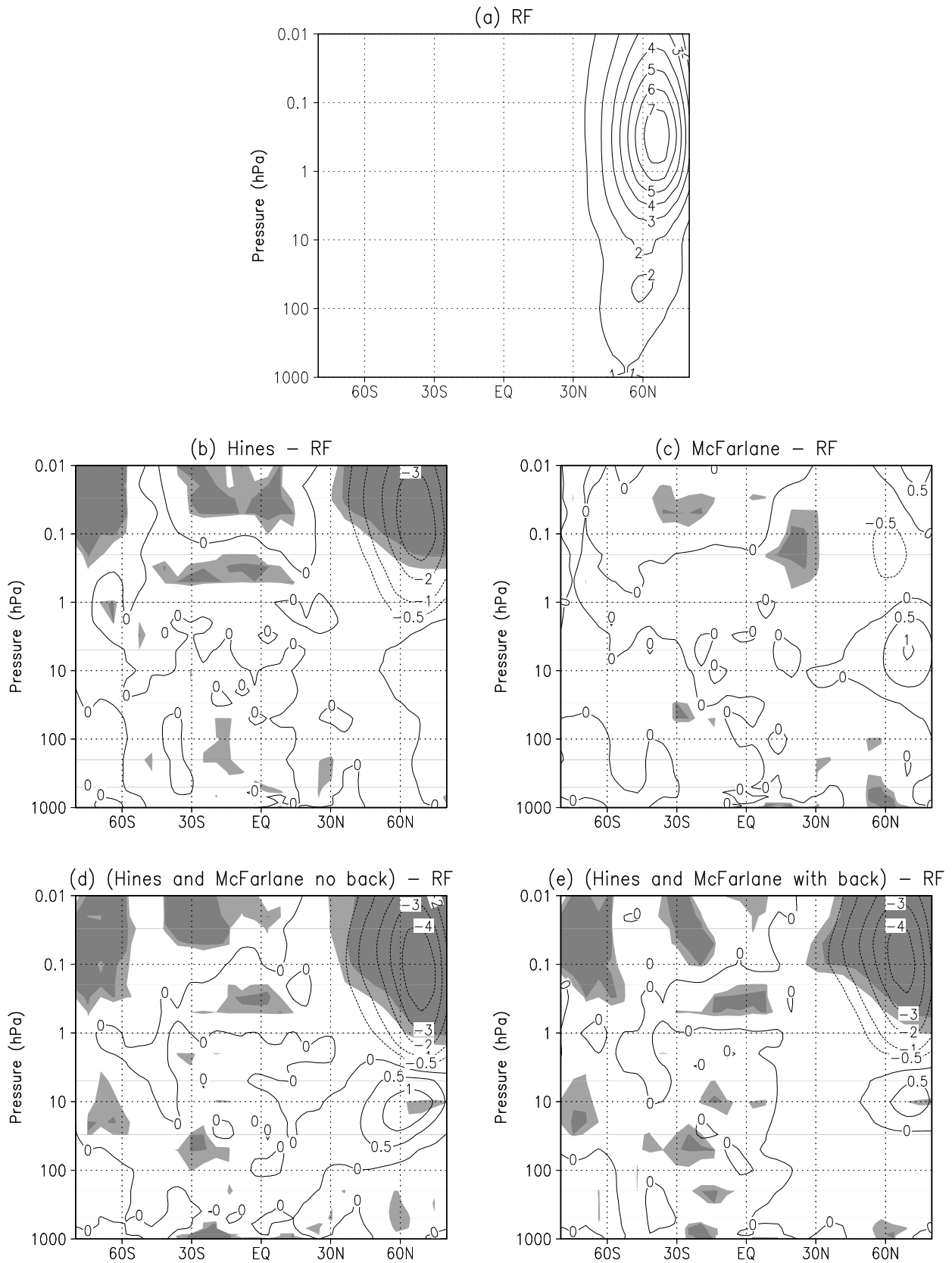


Fig. 8. As for Fig. 7 but for wave number two. Contour interval for (a): 1; contour values for (b) – (e): -3, -2, -1, -0.5, 0, 0.5, 1, 2, 3.

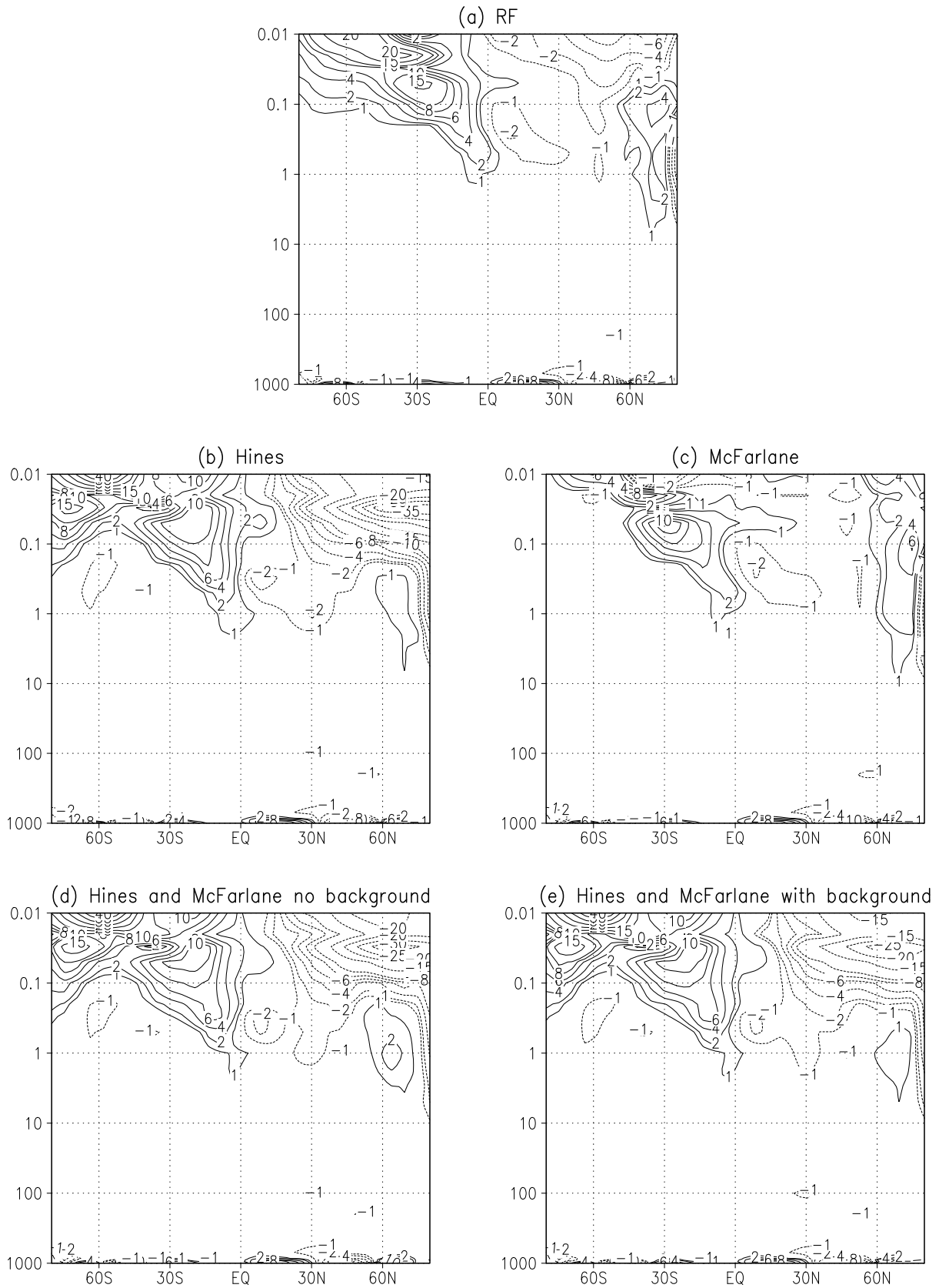


Fig. 9. As for Fig. 7 but for gravity wave momentum flux (GWMF) (m/s/day) for experiments 1–5. Contour values: –35, –30, –25, –20, –15, –10, –8, –6, –4, –2, –1, 1, 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40.

The non-orographic GWs (Figs. 7b, 8b) decrease quite strongly the amplitudes of wave 1 and wave 2, closer in line with observations. The orographic GWs have a much smaller effect, which is not statistically-significant. It is informative to compare the PW amplitude plots (Figs. 7 and 8) and the u variability plots (Fig. 6). The reduction in wave 1 (e.g. from the control to the non-orographic GW runs, Figs. 7a–b) corresponds to a reduction in u variability in the wintertime upper mesosphere (Figs. 6b–c). We do not consider changes in higher order stationary waves. Also, transient waves (considered in the following section discussing EP-fluxes) are also playing a role. Volodin and Schmitz (2001) report that their MA GCM (with the Hines scheme included) underestimates monthly variability and the amplitudes of waves one and two, in contrast to this work. Rind et al. (1988) parameterise orographic and non-orographic GWs and underestimate stationary PW wave amplitudes by 20–30%, concluding that Eddy dissipative processes are too strong in their model. A more exhaustive treatment of the nature of such interactions would be better suited to a simpler mechanistic model rather than a GCM, which is beyond the scope of this work.

Similar to the approach of Pawson et al. (1998), GW momentum fluxes may be approximated by assuming that only GWs and PWs exert drag upon the zonal mean wind and then adopting the transformed Eulerian mean (TEM) approach (Andrews et al., 1987):

$$GWMF = (\partial u / \partial t) - (\rho_0 a \cos \phi)^{-1} \nabla \cdot F - \bar{v}^* f \\ + \bar{v}^* (a \cos \phi)^{-1} (\bar{u} \cos \phi)_\phi + \bar{w}^* \bar{u}_z,$$

where GWMF= GW momentum flux ($\text{ms}^{-1}\text{day}^{-1}$);

ρ_0 = surface density;

u, v, w = zonal, meridional and vertical wind vectors in directions x, y, z,

a = radius of the Earth;

ϕ = latitude;

F = Eliassen-Palm-flux vector,

f = Coriolis parameter;

\bar{u}_z = vertical derivative of the zonal mean wind,

$(\bar{u} \cos \phi)_\phi$ = horizontal derivative of the zonal mean wind,

$$\bar{v}^* = \bar{v} - \rho_0^{-1} (\rho_0 (\bar{v}' \bar{\theta}') / \bar{\theta}_z)_z,$$

$$\bar{w}^* = \bar{w} + (a \cos \phi)^{-1} (\cos \phi (\bar{v}' \bar{\theta}') / \bar{\theta}_z)_z$$

θ = potential temperature.

GWMF is shown in Figs. 9a–e for experiments 1–5, respectively. The main effect comes from the non-orographic waves (Fig. 9b). Values in Fig. 9b compare reasonably well with other model studies, (e.g. Manzini et al., 1997), who studied the Hines scheme, and Manzini and McFarlane (1998), who studied the Hines and McFarlane schemes together. The main differences arise in the SH where our values are up to 50% smaller for runs having both types of GWs. Also, our non-orographic GWMF peak values occur about 10° further poleward compared with those two studies.

McLandress (1998) noted that GWMF values in the Hines non-orographic scheme almost double when the minimum launch height (currently uncertain) is changed from one-third to two-thirds of a kilometre. GWMF for the RF run compares quite well with that of the Hines scheme in the SH, but the RF run has smaller values in the winter mesosphere compared with Hines.

GWMF from the orographic scheme (Fig. 9c) has only a small effect in the Northern Hemisphere (NH). McFarlane and Manzini (1997), calculated GWMF values for the McFarlane scheme from -5 to -15 ms^{-1} peaking near 70° N , 70 km. Pawson et al. (1998) calculated rather higher values in GWMF for the Palmer orographic scheme (Palmer et al., 1986). Clearly, a climatology based on observations of the quantity GWMF is highly-desirable but this is not currently available.

Figure 10a shows the meridional stream function, an indicator of the BD circulation, for the control run. Figures 10b–e show differences for runs 2 to 5, respectively. Positive values indicate clockwise motion in the plane of the paper and vice-versa. Figures 11a–e are as for Figs. 10a–e but show the transformed mean vertical velocity (Andrews and McIntyre, 1978) for which positive values indicate upward motion. For the experiments with non-orographic GWs, the three temperature features noted earlier (i.e. cooling in summer mesosphere, warming in upper stratosphere tropics and warming in lower stratosphere high latitudes) are all consistent with a strengthening in the BD circulation. Firstly, cooling in the summer mesosphere results from stimulated ascent in the upward branch of the SH BD circulation (positive values in Figs. 11b, d, e). Secondly, as air parcels move from the summer to winter hemisphere in the tropics, the streamlines imply descent, hence a stronger BD circulation leads to heating here. Thirdly, heating in the NH polar lower stratosphere occurred because this is a region of overall descent (e.g. Fig. 11b), so again a stronger BD circulation leads to heating. The orographic GW run (Figs. 10c, 11c) features, on the other hand, some heating in the summer mesosphere and virtually no tropical heating feature. This result is also consistent with the BD circulation changes in Figs. 10c, 11c, which imply a weakening in the circulation in the summertime mesosphere. Subsidence in the PNJ of the control run (Fig. 11a) is rather weak in the lower stratosphere. This was one of the original reasons for implementing the GW schemes. Introducing GWs clearly improves this problem as shown by the negative values in Fig. 11e, implying stimulated descent between 100–10 hPa. Although our region of peak GW breaking is broadly consistent in terms of magnitude and location with other studies already mentioned, our results imply there is room for further improvement in the lower stratosphere. This could reflect a need to increase further the magnitude of the momentum and heat flux from the breaking GWs via the tuning parameters in the model.

Figure 12a shows the monthly-mean EP-flux divergence observations taken from the NCEP CPC (20 years data, lid=1 hPa). Figures 12b shows the same values but for the

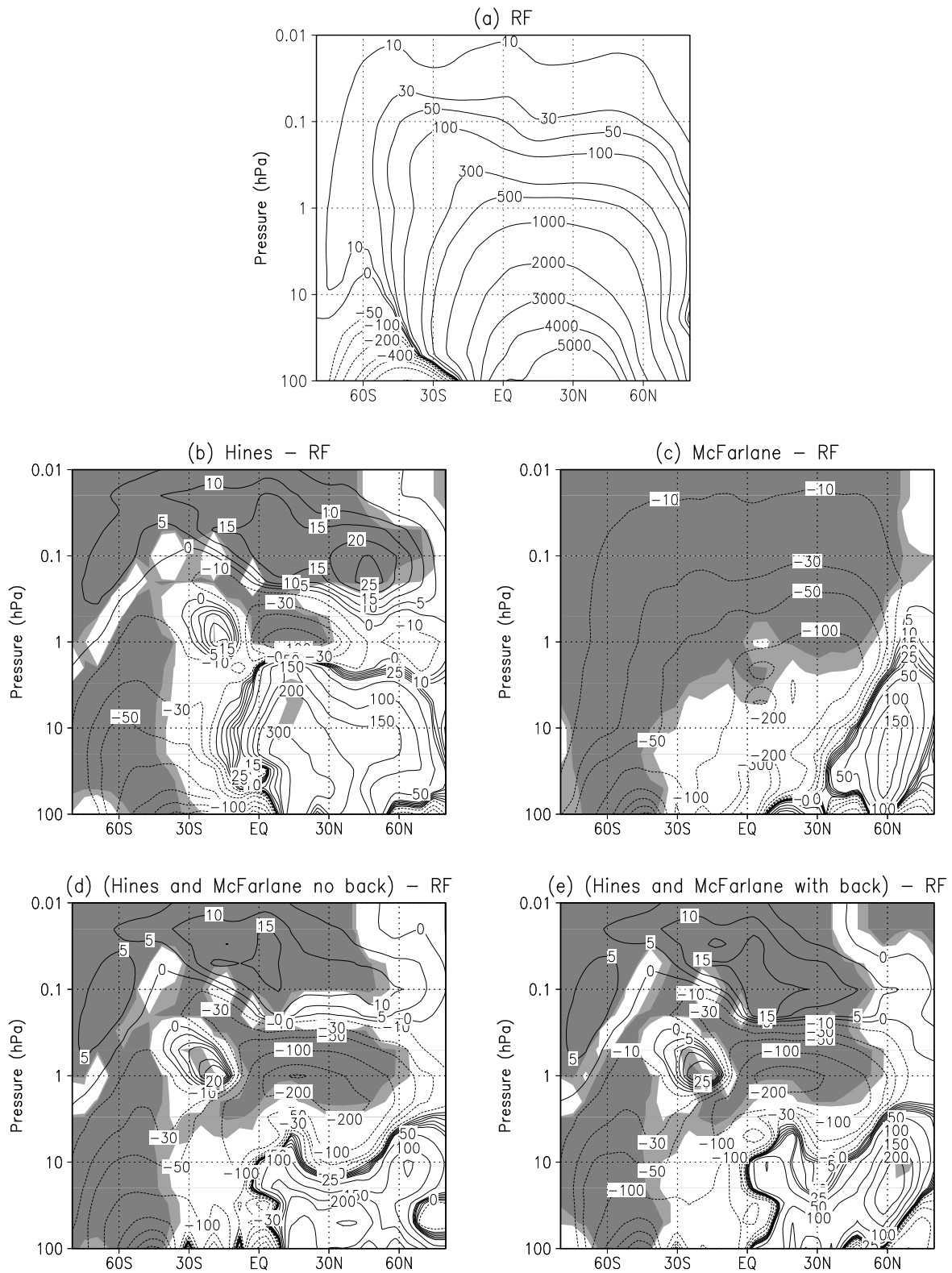


Fig. 10. As for Fig. 7 but for the meridional mass stream function in 10^6 kg/s . Positive values indicate clockwise motion in the plane of the paper and vice-versa. Values represent mass flow through a 1 m^3 volume. Contour values for (a): -600, -400, -200, -100, -50, 0, 10, 30, 50, 100, 300, 500, 1000, 2000, 3000, 4000, 5000; contour values for (b)–(e): -500, -400, -300, -200, -100, -50, -30, -10, 0, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 50, 100, 150, 200, 300.

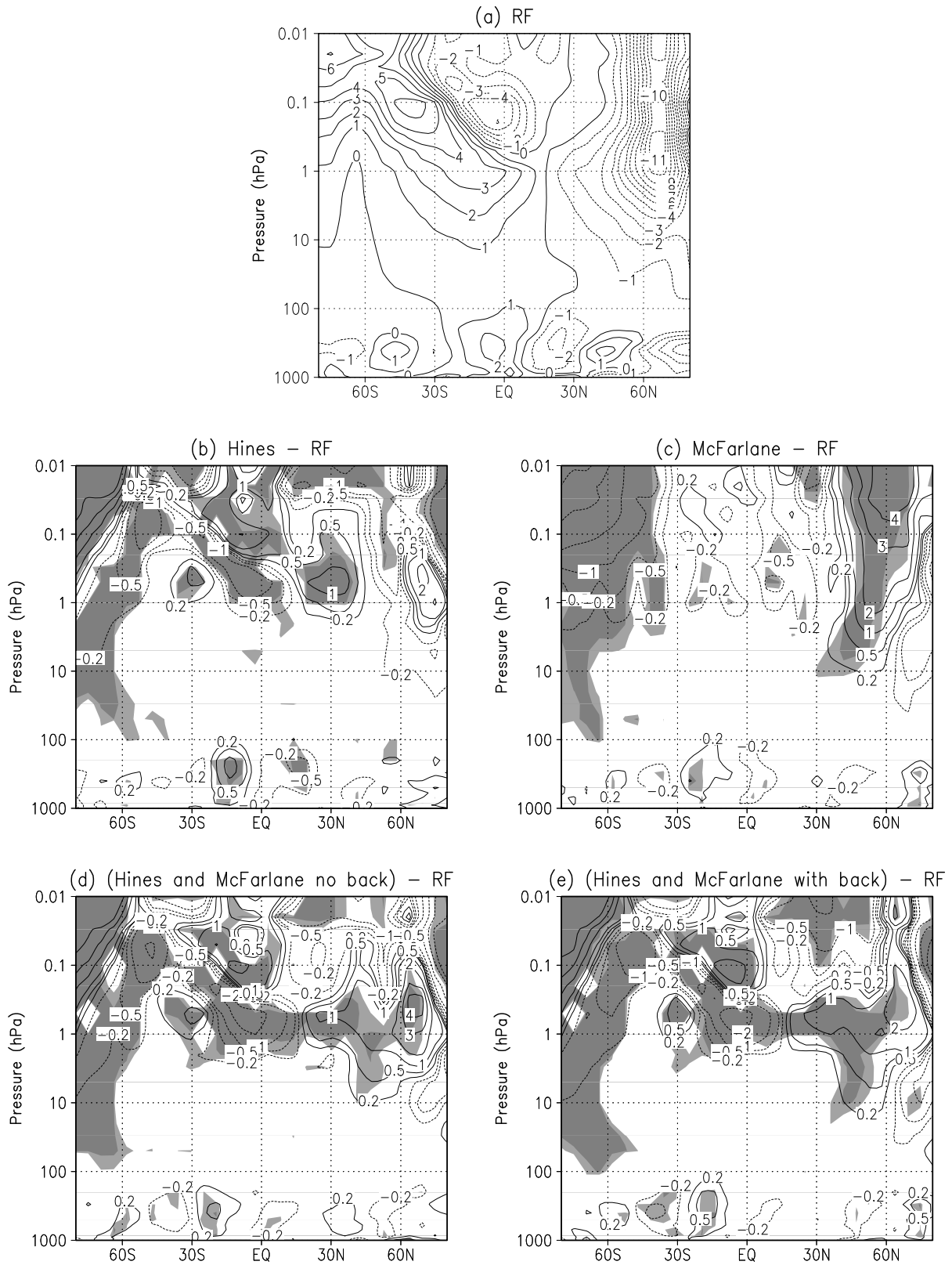


Fig. 11. As for Fig. 7 but for the transformed mean vertical velocity in mms^{-1} . Contour interval for (a): 1.0. Contour values for (b) – (f): $-8, -6, -4, -2, -1, -0.5, -0.2, 0.2, 0.5, 1, 2, 3, 4$.

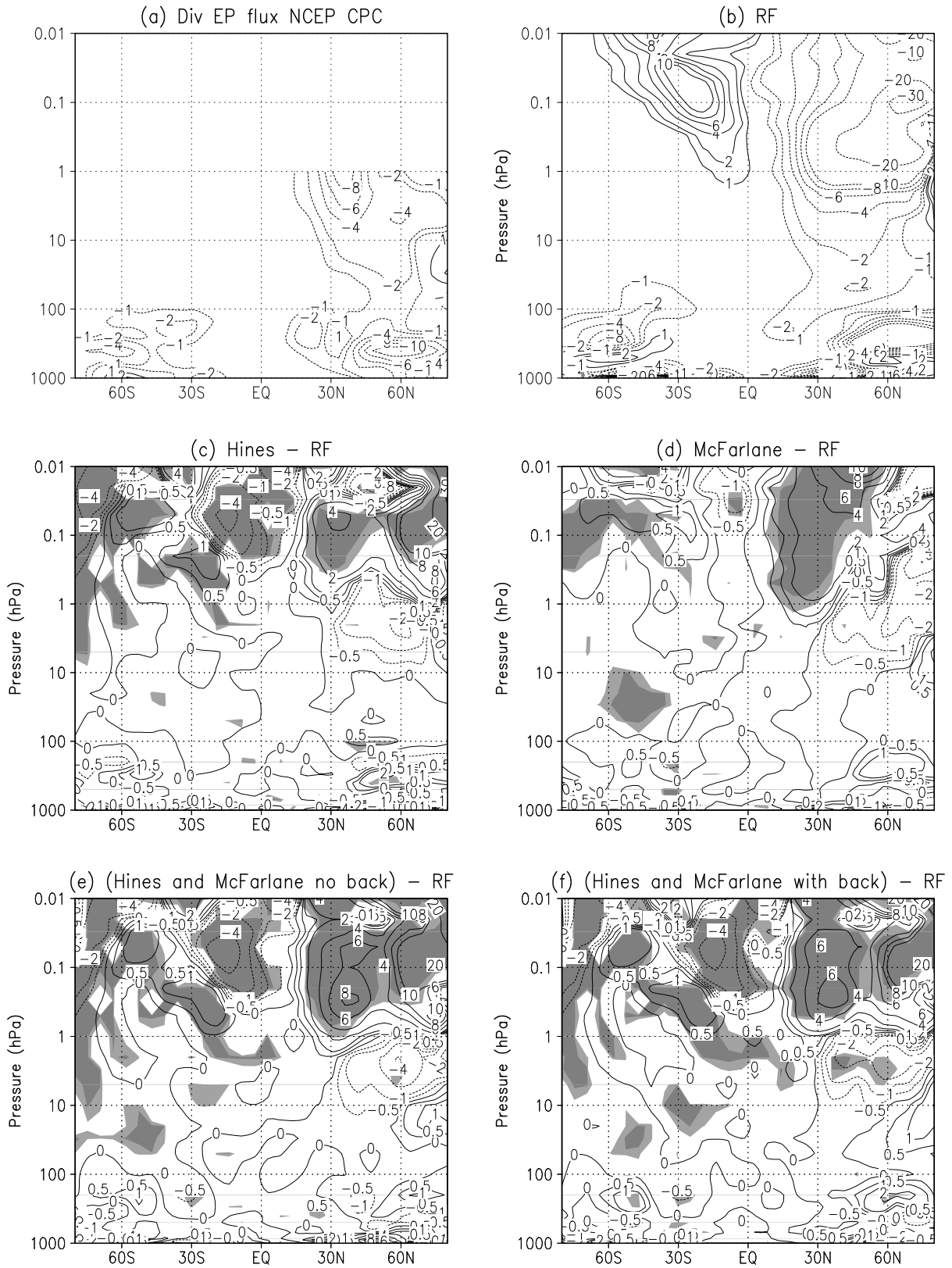


Fig. 12. (a) Observed EP flux divergence ($\text{ms}^{-1}\text{day}^{-1}$) for NCEP CPC (1979–1998). (b) As for (a) but for the RF run, (c) Hines minus RF (d) McFarlane minus RF, (e) Hines and McFarlane background on, (f) Hines and McFarlane background off. Contour values for (a) and (b): -30, -20, -10, -8, -6, -4, -2, -1, 1, 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 20, 30; contour values for (c)–(f): -30, -20, -10, -8, -6, -4, -2, -1, -0.5, 0, 0.5, 1, 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 20, 30.

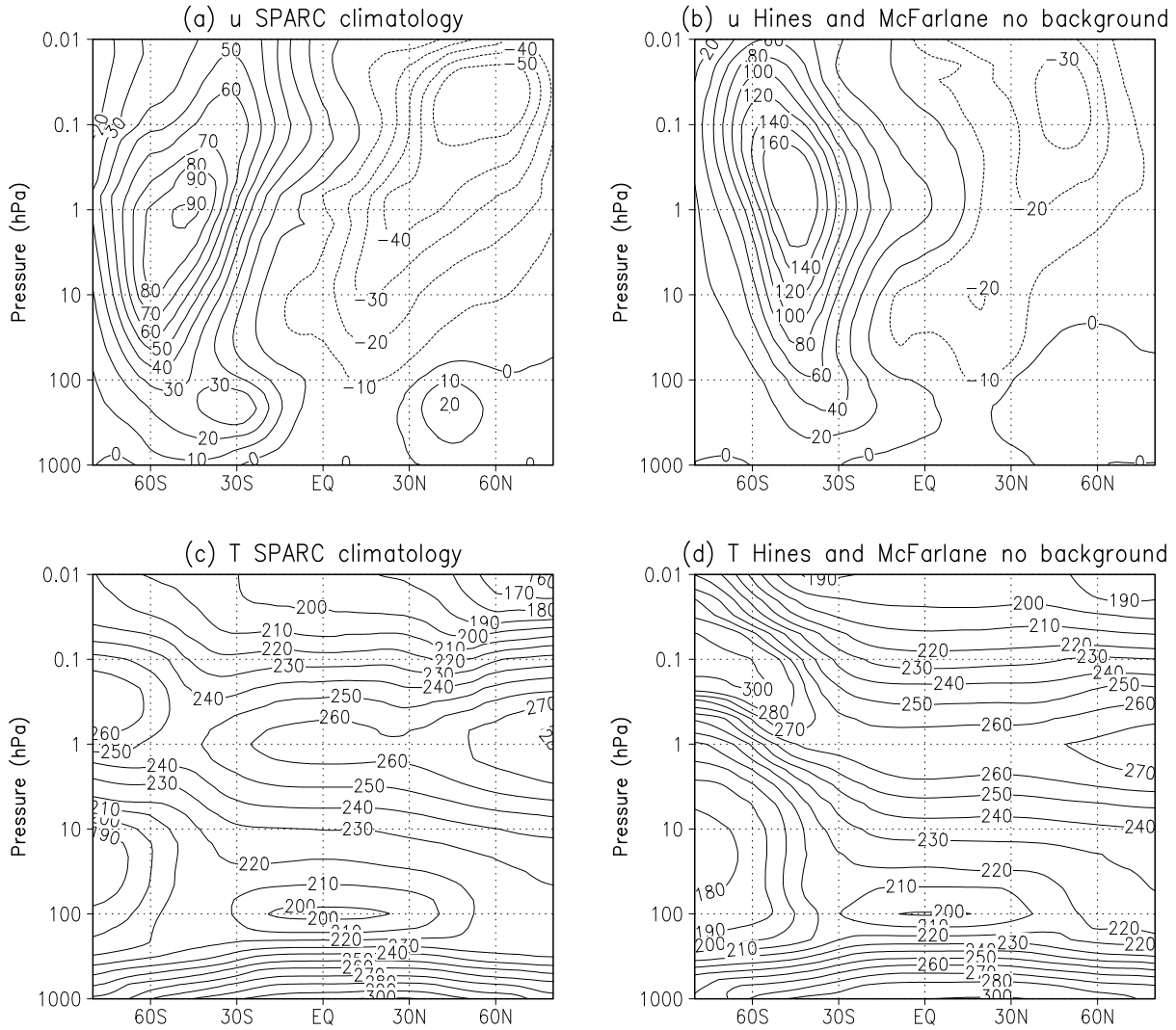


Fig. 13. July mean zonal mean zonal wind in ms^{-1} for (a) observations ([SPARC climatology]), (b) Hines and McFarlane schemes with background drag off, (c) as for (a) but for temperature (K), and (d) as for (b) but for temperature (K).

RF run. Figures 12c–f show the difference from the RF run for experiments 2 to 5, respectively. EP-flux divergence is a measure of how PWs directly influence the zonal mean flow. A caveat of the comparison is, the calculation of divergence for the observations is based on a time interval of 24 h, whereas the model calculation used 4 hours. However, since the inherent time scale of transient planetary waves is of the order of several days; the associated error of this caveat is likely to be small. The comparison shows in the NH the westerly forcing (negative) values tilt polewards with height in the GCM, whereas observations suggest an equatorwards tilt with height. Observed and modelled values are generally comparable in the troposphere. In the stratosphere, the region of maximum activity in the observations is confined to 30–40° N whereas the model spreads the high values 30–80° N. This may reflect an inability of T21 to adequately capture the smaller PWs. In the upper stratosphere and mesosphere the model experiments were all fairly robust.

3.2 July run

This run was as for experiment 4, i.e. Hines and McFarlane, background off, but for July conditions. Figures 13a–b show zonal mean wind (ms^{-1}) for observations (again the SPARC climatology) and model, respectively. Figures 13c show the same but for temperature (K). Only one model month is shown here. Nevertheless, since model variability is quite low in the modelled SH stratosphere ($T_{2\sigma}=1\text{--}3\text{ K}$), and since the signals we discuss are rather strong, they are likely also to feature in a July climatology. The GWs have a relatively small impact on the high-latitude lower stratosphere. Here, the PNJ remains strong (Fig. 13b) and cold (Fig. 13d), compared with the observations, and the tilt of the jet in the model is hardly affected, unlike in the NH. A strong warming in the SH at high-latitudes near 0.1 hPa is also apparent. The results illustrate that care is required when implementing GWs and choosing the tuneable parameters.

4 Discussions and conclusions

We have performed a variety of sensitivity experiments implementing differing GW parameterisations into a GCM. We have documented the resulting changes in u , T and related these to changes induced by the GWMF in the BD circulation. We have also investigated u , T variability and have discussed GW-PW interaction in the model.

Closest correspondence with observations is generally found for those experiments having both orographic and non-orographic waves. Here, the over strong PNJ weakens by 10–20 ms^{-1} in the MA and the underestimated tilting with height of the jet is somewhat improved. In the upper stratosphere, the Hines scheme leads to a weakening of the tropical easterlies by 10–15 m/s , more in-line with observations. Including both types of GWs, the cold pole in the lower stratosphere warms by 4–8 K and the warm polar mesosphere in summer cools by 10–15 K. All these changes are related to a strengthening of the Brewer Dobson circulation. Variability in u , T is best captured in the run with both Hines and McFarlane schemes with background stress on but is otherwise generally overestimated, except in the tropics, where the model lacked a QBO. Stationary wave amplitudes decrease by up to 50% in experiments having both types of GWs, better in line with observations. Despite these clear improvements, in the NH winter lower stratosphere – an important region for ozone chemistry – the results suggest that there is still room for improvement, for example, the cold pole is still not completely eradicated. This may reflect a need to revise the GW tuneable parameters in future.

Clearly, the Hines and McFarlane GW schemes and also the background wave stress switch have the potential to impact strongly the stratospheric dynamics in our GCM. Whether the background parameterisation is sufficiently realistic should be the focus of future work. There currently exist major uncertainties in the seasonal, latitudinal and altitudinal dependence of GW sources and sinks on a global scale. Introduction of the so-called GW tuning parameters represents a first attempt to circumvent this ignorance. Obtaining climatological, global, observationally-based data to make redundant the tuning parameters is an obvious priority, already underway.

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