



第四章:

中纬度的经向环流系统

- *Ferrel cell, baroclinic eddies
and the westerly jet*

授课教师: 张洋

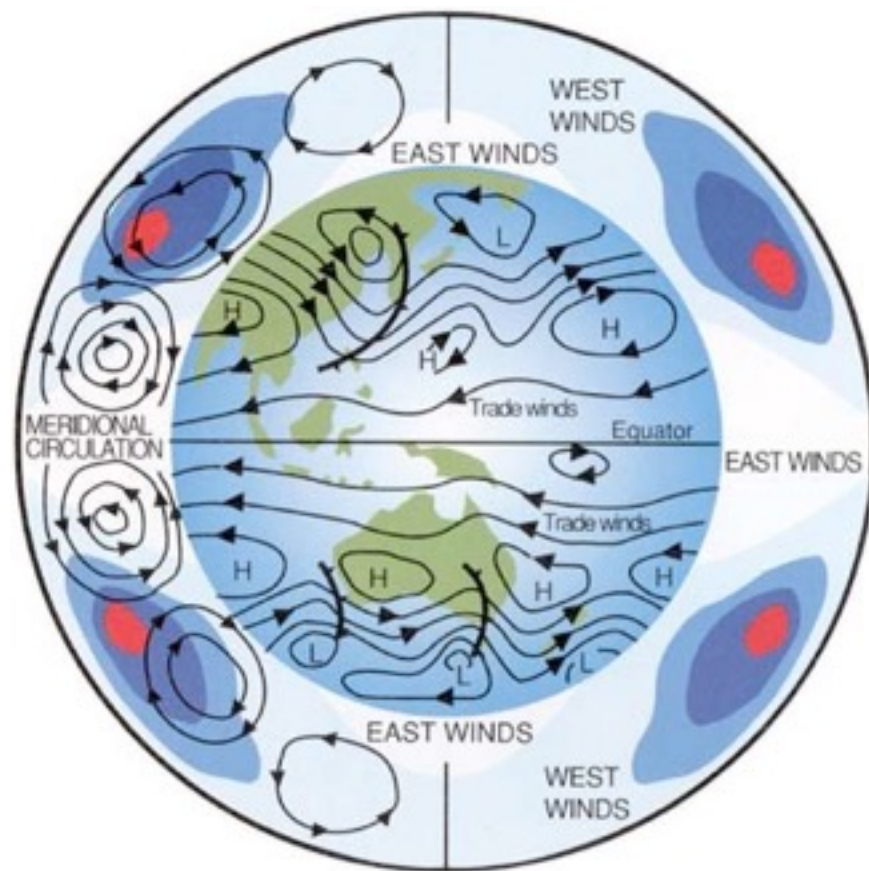
2021. 10. 21



大气环流概述—内容简介



- 外部强迫：
 - 辐射强迫
 - 下界面过程
- 经向环流系统（纬向平均环流, zonally averaged circulations）：
 - Hadley 环流
 - Ferrel 环流、急流、波流相互作用
- 纬向环流系统（non-zonal circulations）：
 - Storm tracks
 - Monsoon
 - ENSO and Walker circulation





Outline



- Observations
- The Ferrel Cell
- Baroclinic eddies
 - Review: baroclinic instability and baroclinic eddy life cycle
 - Eddy-mean flow interaction
 - Transformed Eulerian Mean equation
- Eddy-driven jet
- The energy cycle

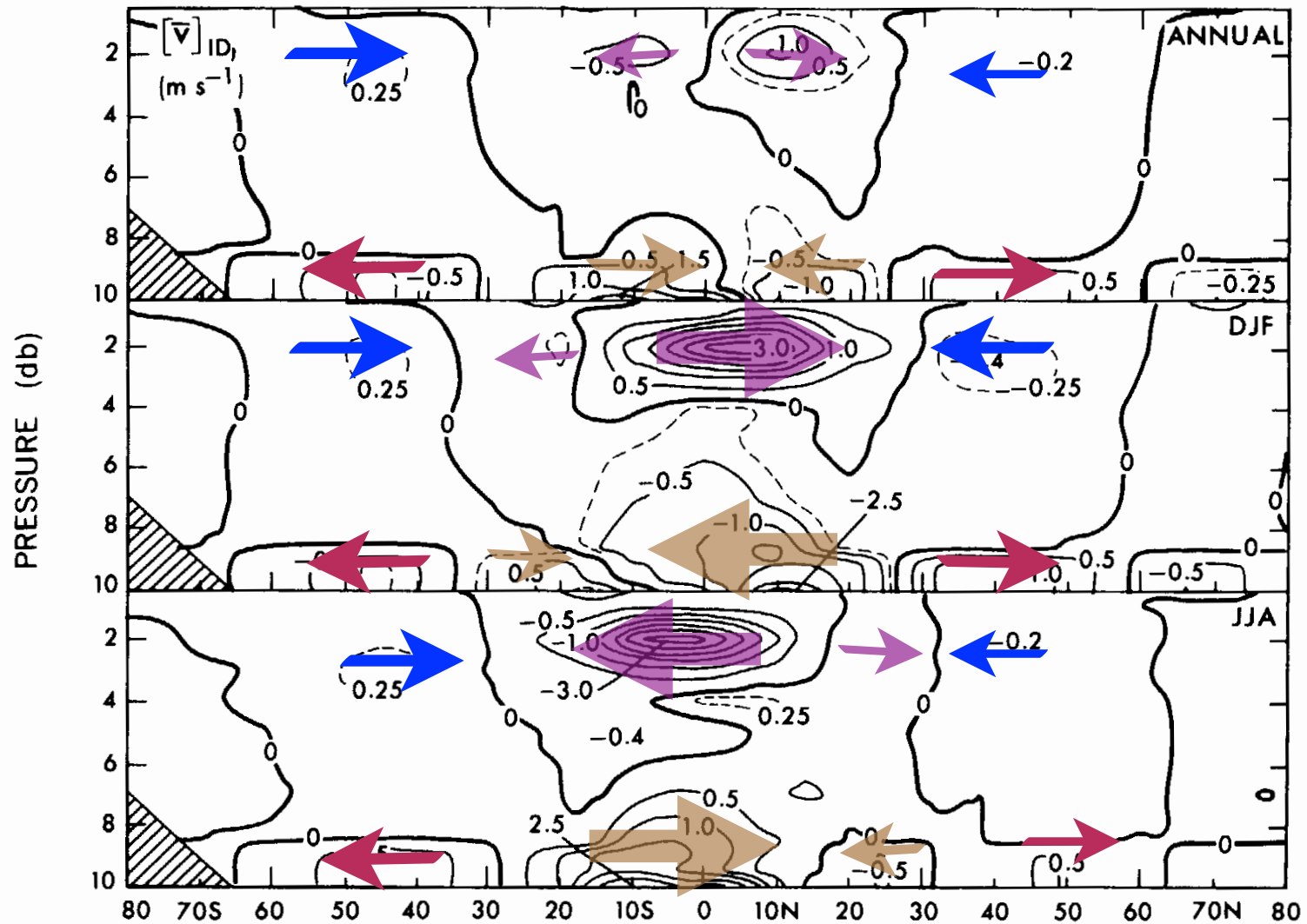


Observations

-Zonal mean fields



- Meridional wind (v , 经向风)



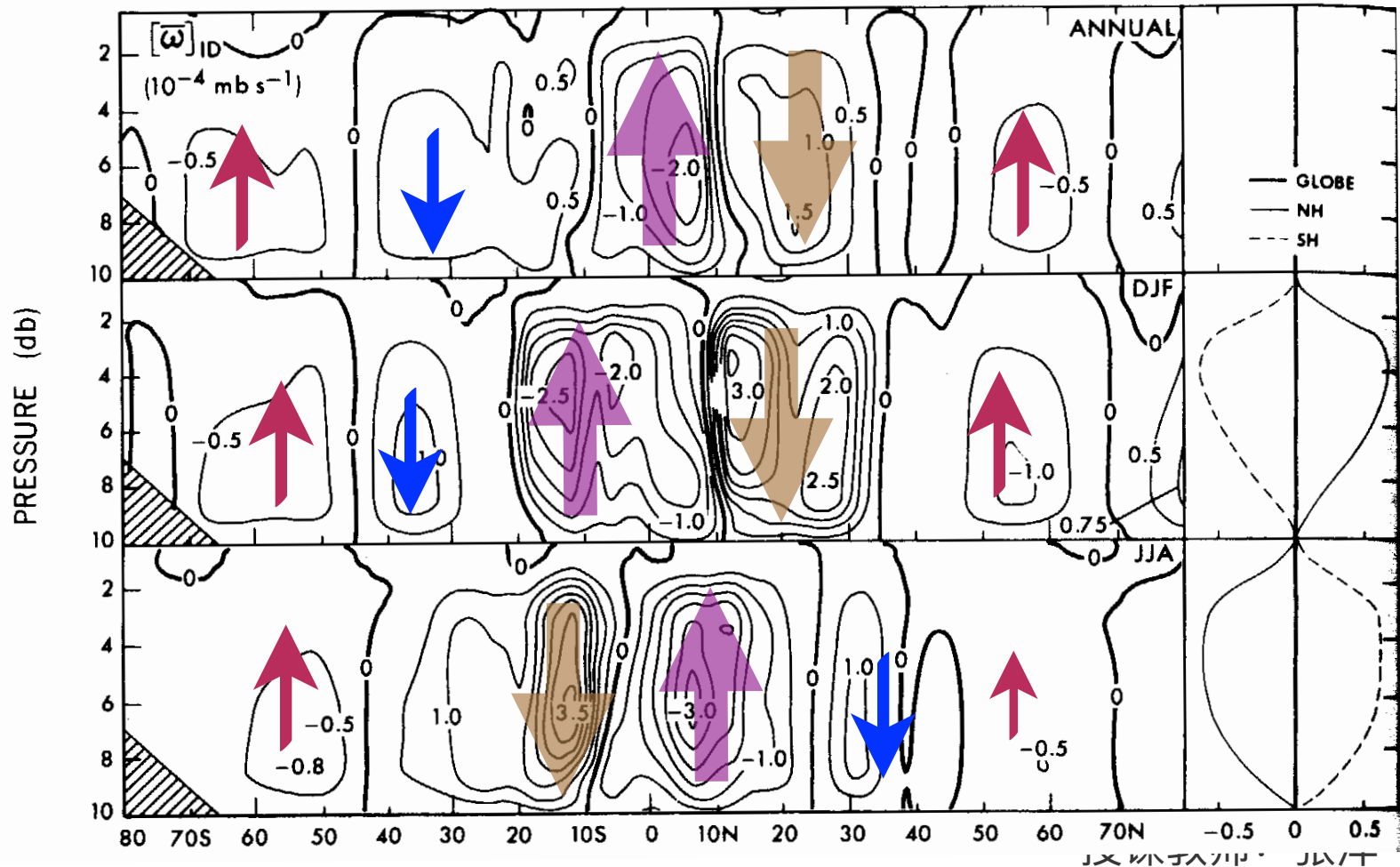


Observations

-Zonal mean fields



■ Vertical velocity (垂直速度)



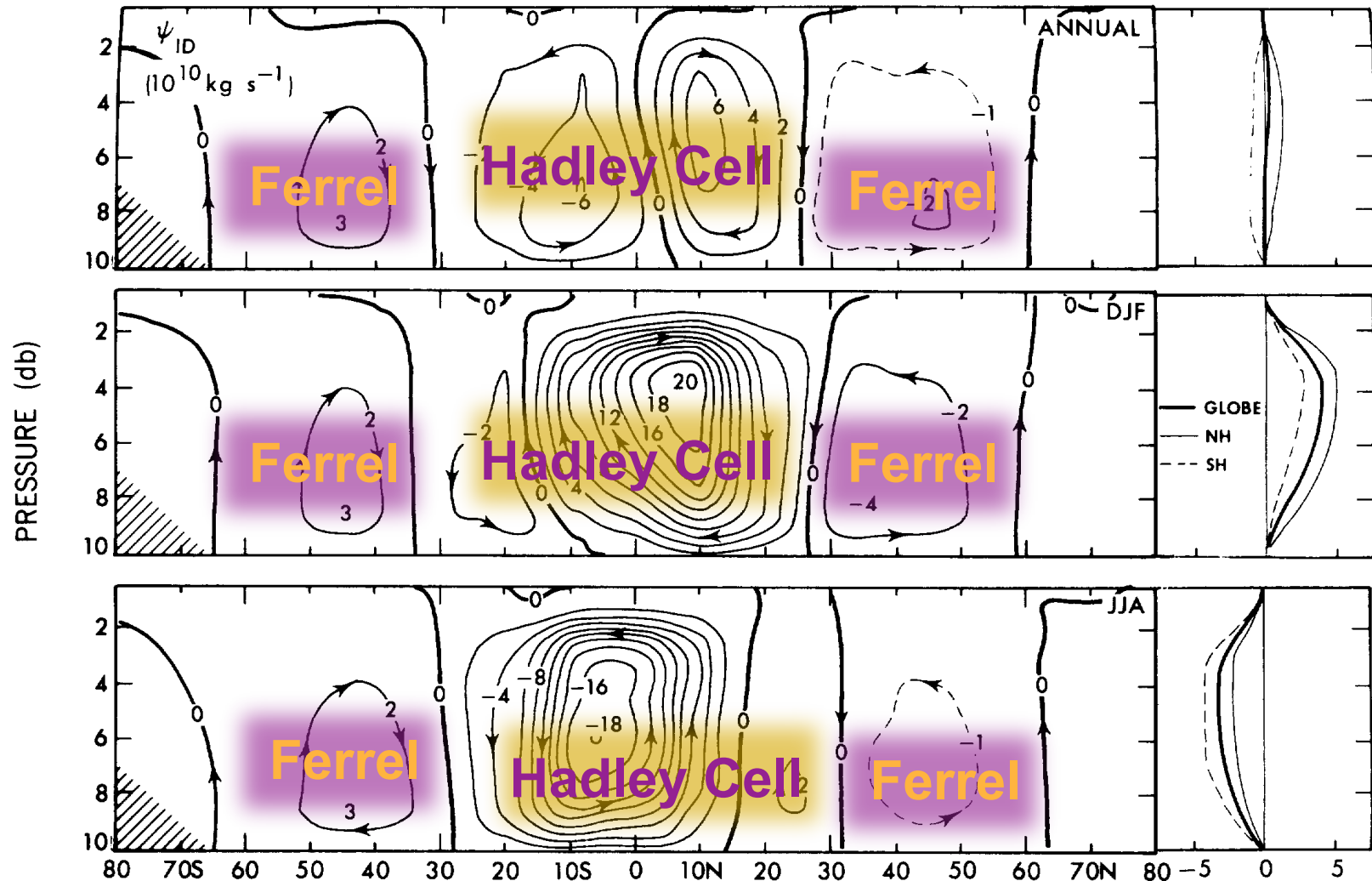


Observations

-Zonal mean fields



■ Stream function (流函数)





Observations

■ Zonal winds (U, 纬向风)

Midlatitude Jet

or

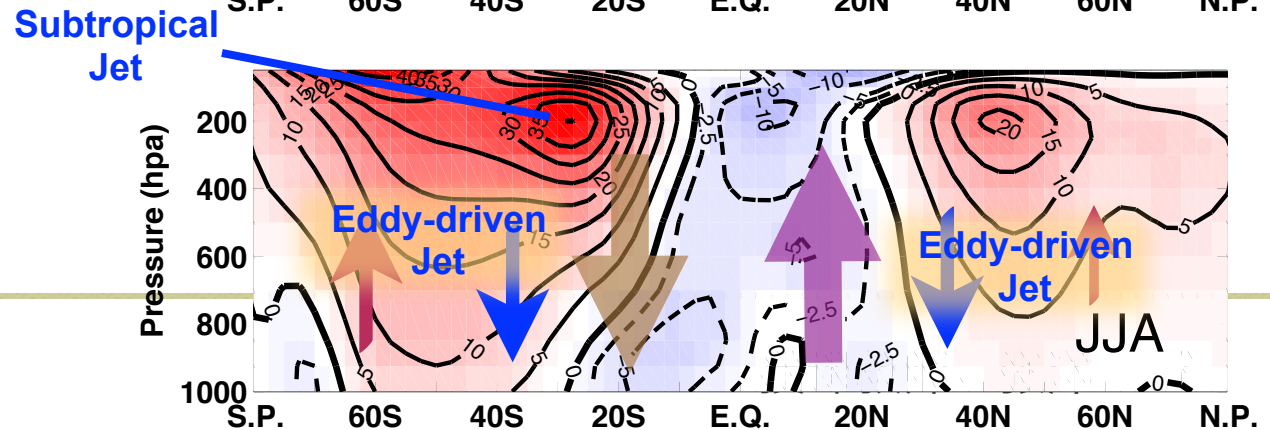
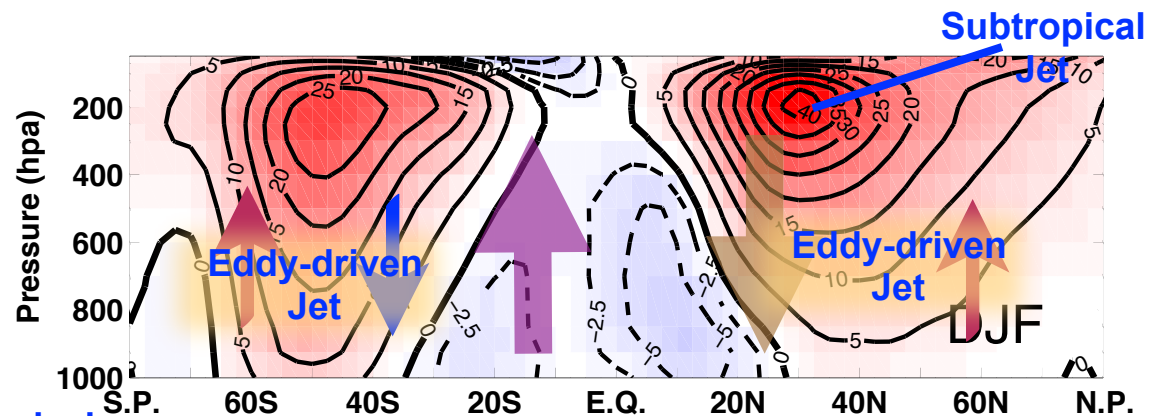
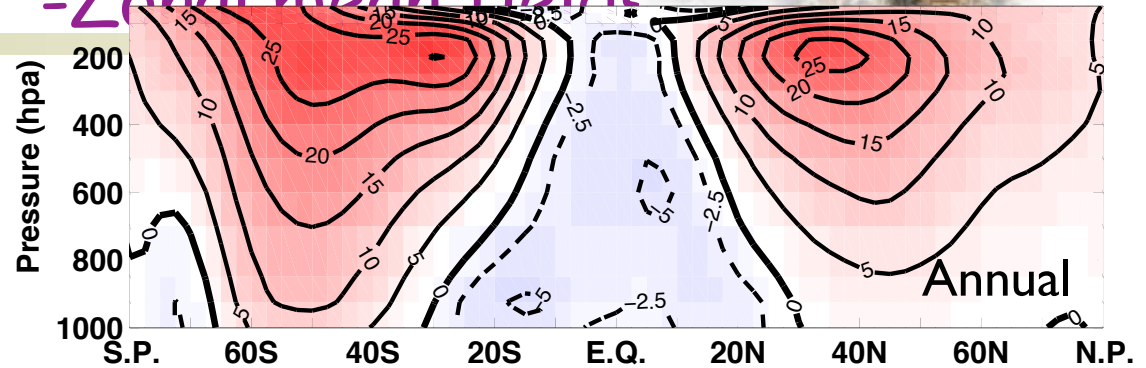
Polar-front Jet

or

Eddy-driven Jet

Surface westerly is always centered and strongest at **50 degree south and north**, which is always considered as the **center of the eddy-driven jet**. It is also the **centric** latitude of Ferrel cell.

-Zonal mean fields





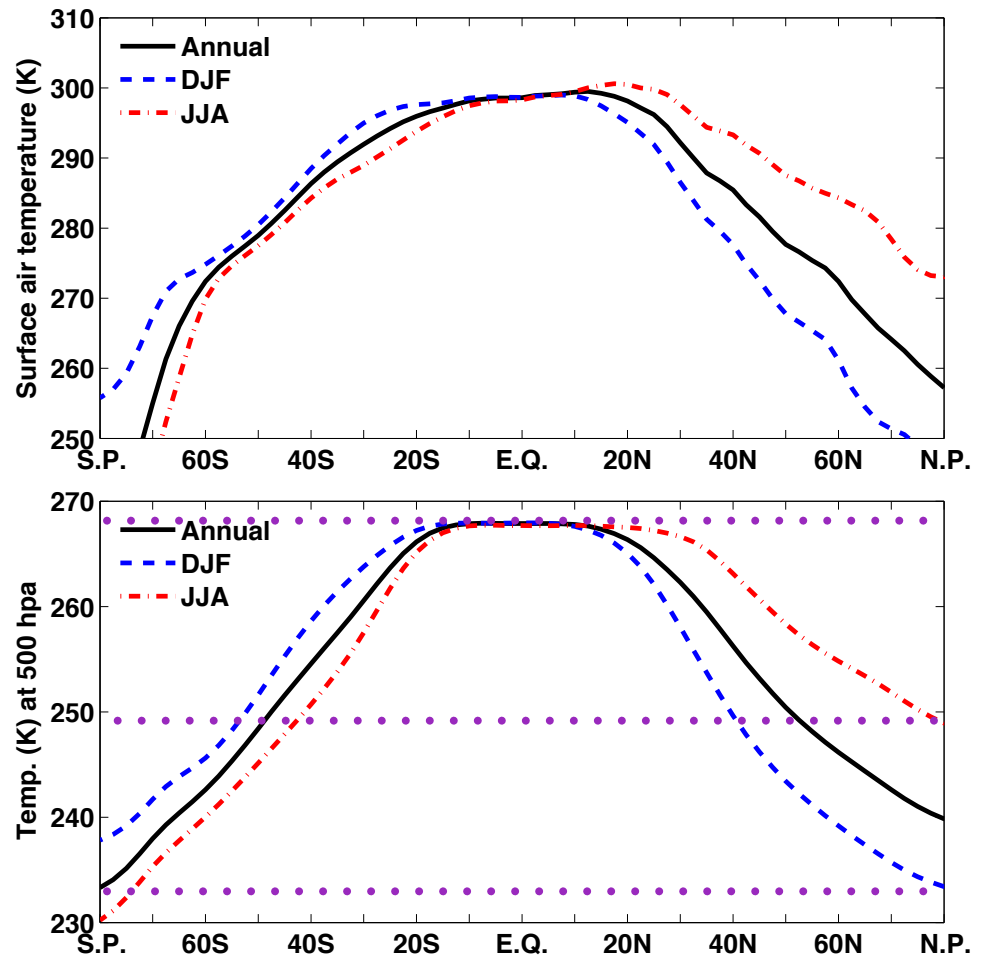
Observations

-Zonal mean fields



■ Temperature (温度场)

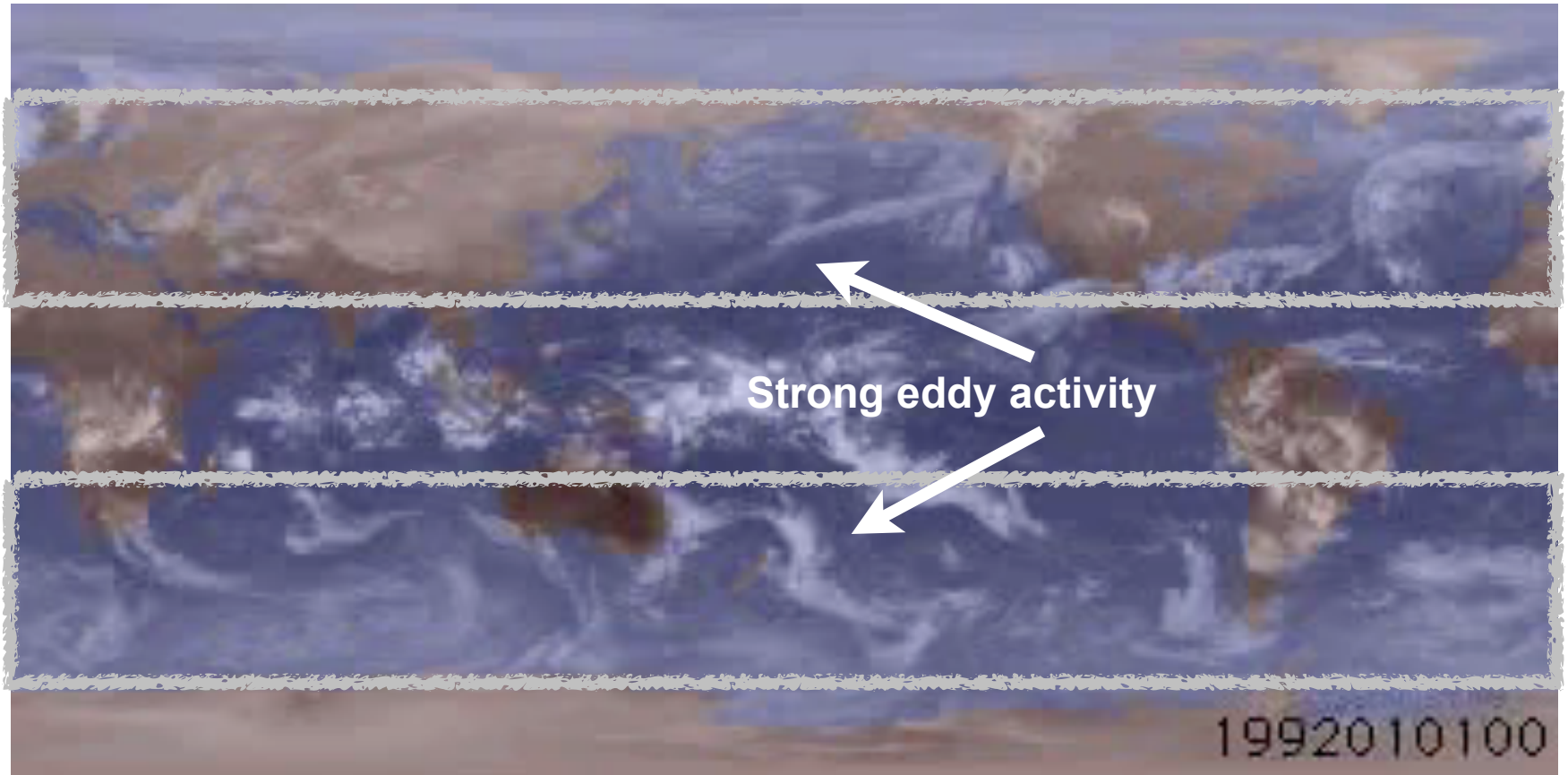
Strong temperature gradient at midlatitudes, with **obvious seasonal variation** in the **Northern Hemisphere** compared to that in the Southern Hemisphere.





Observations

- Eddy fields



The British Atmospheric Data Centre (BADC)
www.badc.nerc.ac.uk/data/clus (infra-red)



Observations

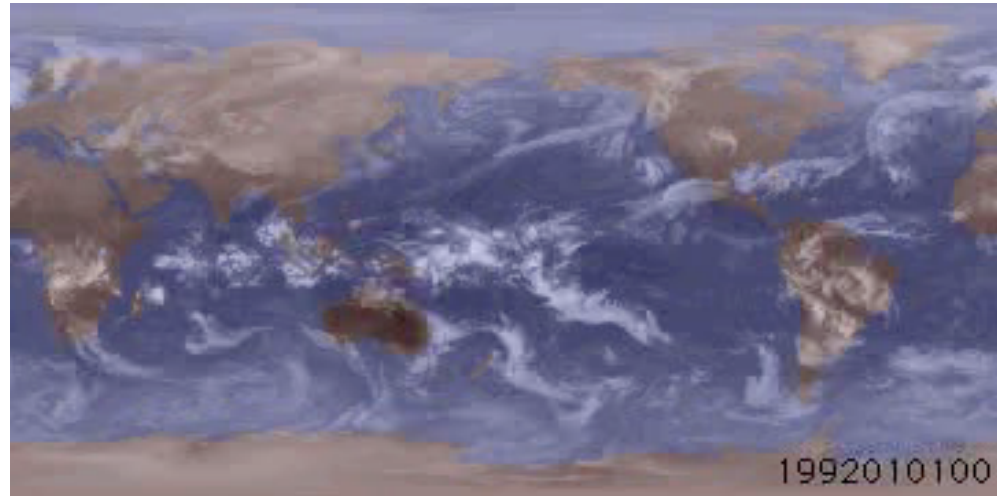
- Eddy fields



Strong **baroclinic eddy** activity

$$L_R \sim O(1000km)$$

Synoptic time scale (2-8 days)



$$\begin{aligned} [\overline{AB}] &= \overline{(\bar{A} + A')(\bar{B} + B')} = [\bar{A}\bar{B}] + [\overline{A'B'}] \\ &= \overline{([\bar{A}] + \bar{A}^*)([\bar{B}] + \bar{B}^*)} + [\overline{A'B'}] \\ &= [\bar{A}][\bar{B}] + [\bar{A}^*\bar{B}^*] + [\overline{A'B'}] \end{aligned}$$

$$A = [\bar{A}] + \bar{A}^* + A'$$



Observations

- Eddy fields

■ Kinetic energy:

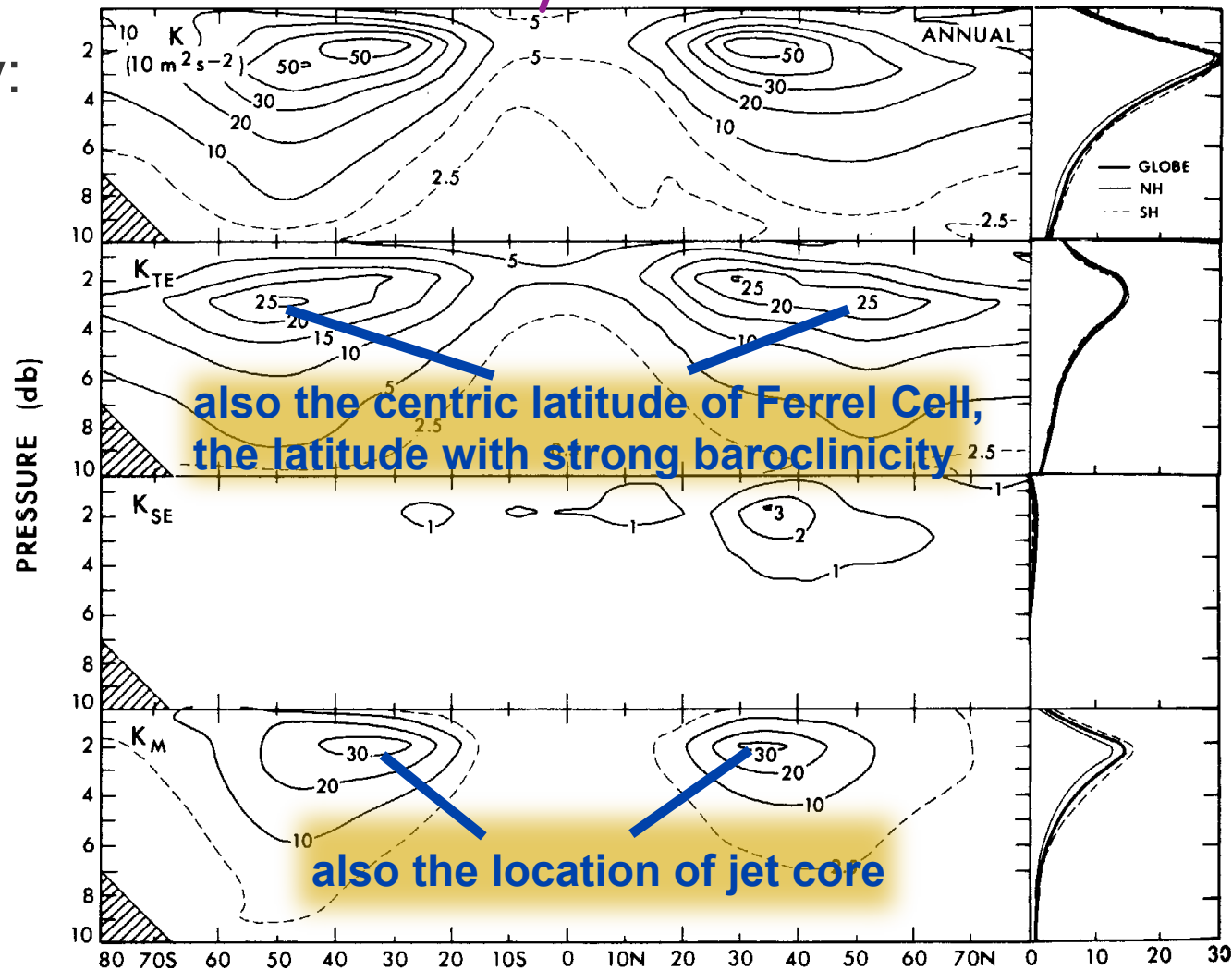
$$A = [\bar{A}] + \bar{A}^* + A'$$

$$K = K_M + K_{SE} + K_{TE}$$

$$K_M = \frac{1}{2}([\bar{u}]^2 + [\bar{v}]^2)$$

$$K_{SE} = \frac{1}{2}[\bar{u}^{*2} + \bar{v}^{*2}]$$

$$K_{TE} = \frac{1}{2}[\overline{u'^2} + \overline{v'^2}]$$





Observat

■ Kinetic energy:

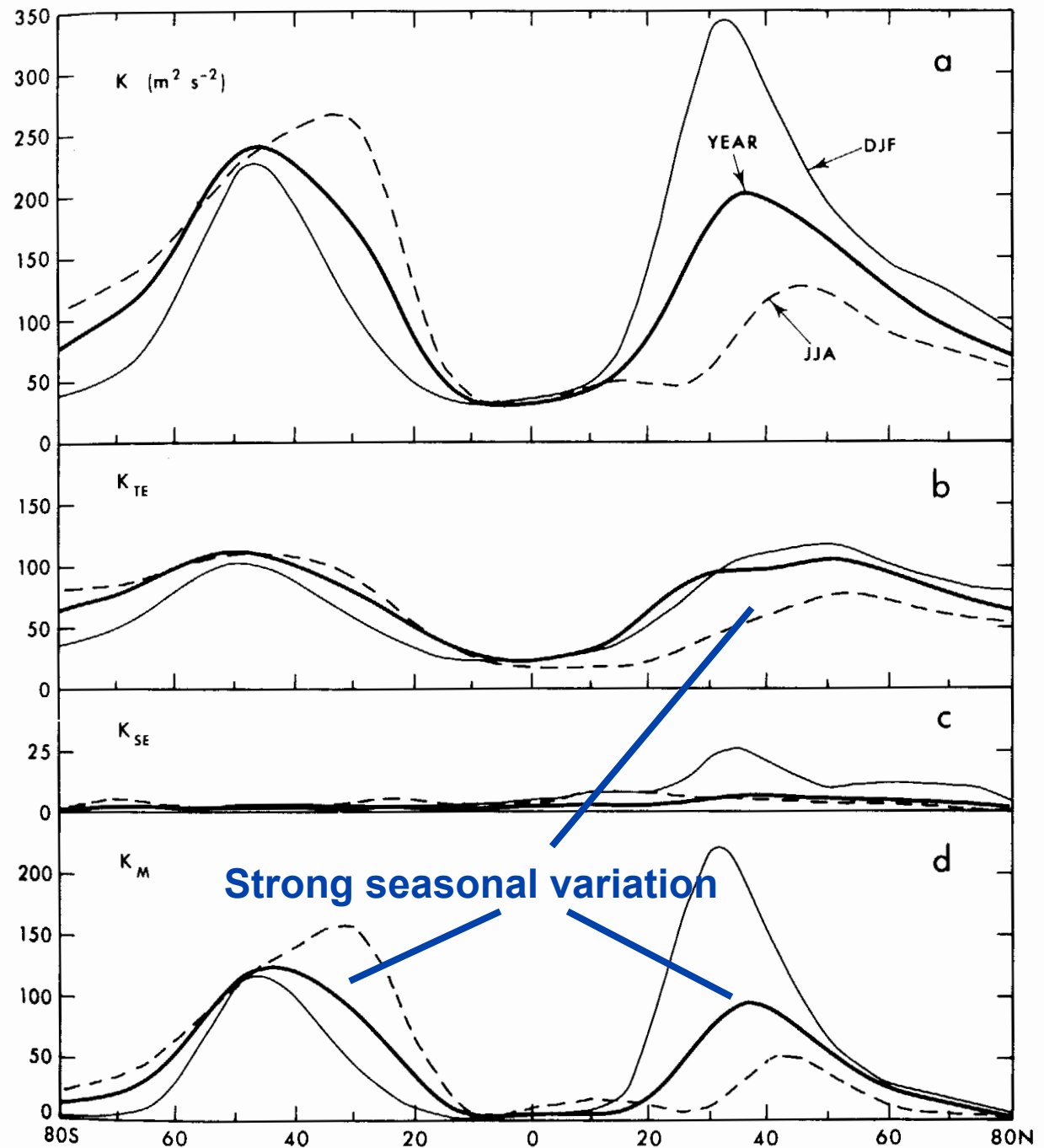
$$A = [\bar{A}] + \bar{A}^* + A'$$

$$K = K_M + K_{SE} + K_{TE}$$

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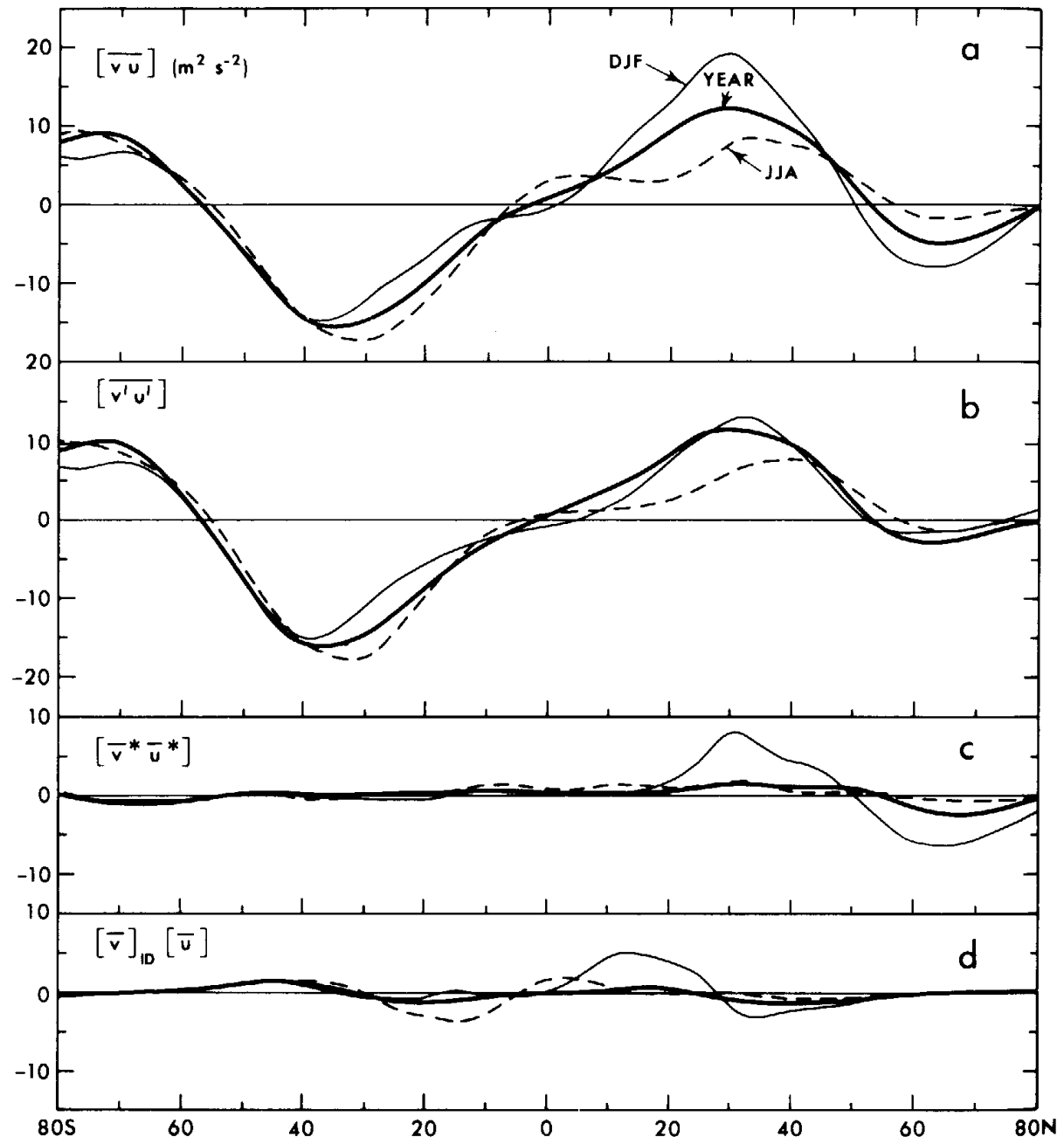


Observation

■ Momentum flux:

The total momentum flux is **strongest around 30-40 degree north and south**, which is mainly due to the contribution of **transient eddies**.

In N.H., the contributions from the **zonal mean flow** and the **stationary eddies** are comparable, but centered in the tropic and subtropic, respectively.





Observations

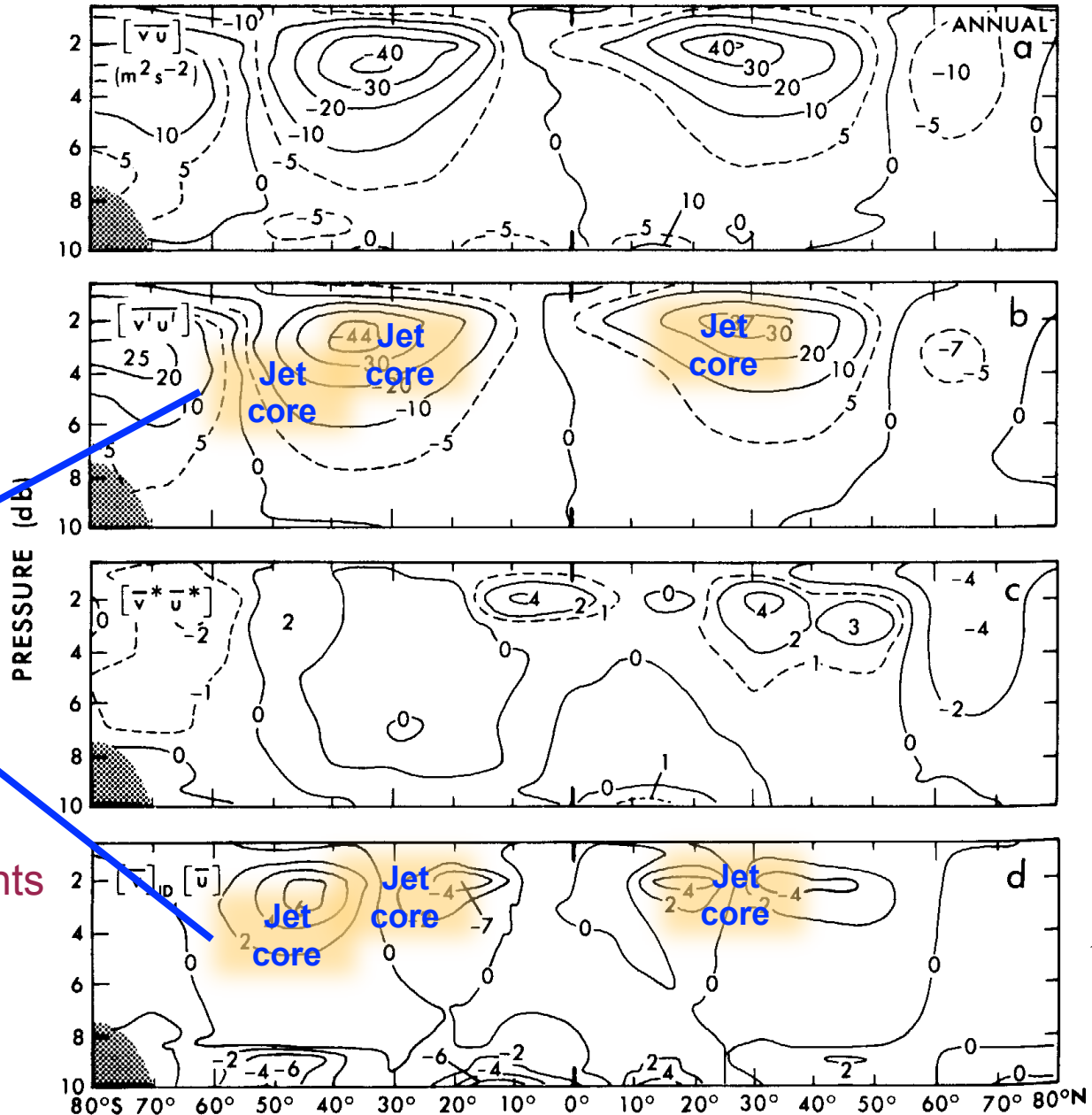


■ Momentum flux:

The **eddy components** are centered at upper level, near tropopause.

The relation with jets

The **zonal-mean components** are centered near tropopause and surface.





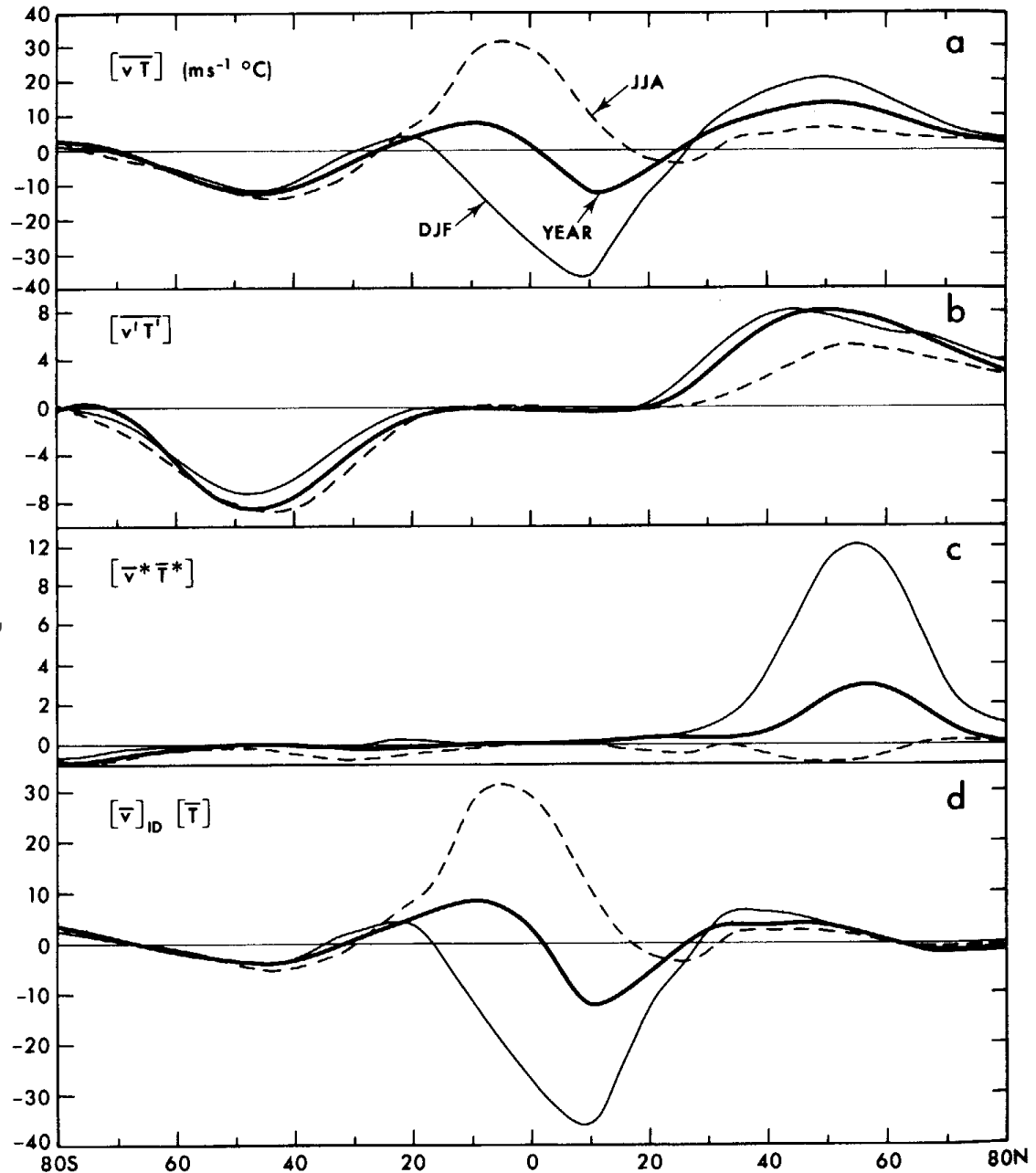
Observatio

■ Heat flux:

Transient components:
strongest at 40-50 degree,
with obvious seasonal
variation in N.H..

Stationary components:
strongest at mid-latitude in N.H.,
whose directions are reversed
from winter to summer.

Zonal mean flow: centered in
the tropics, whose directions
are reversed from winter to
summer.





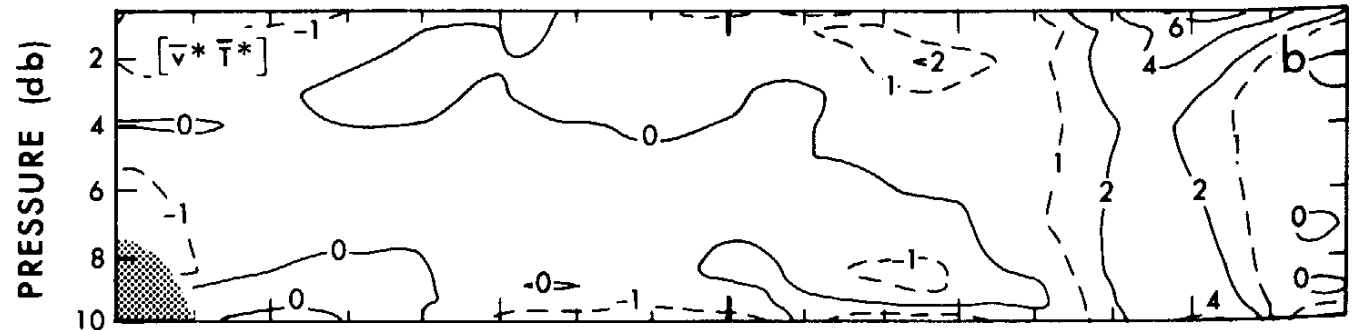
Observations

- Eddy fields

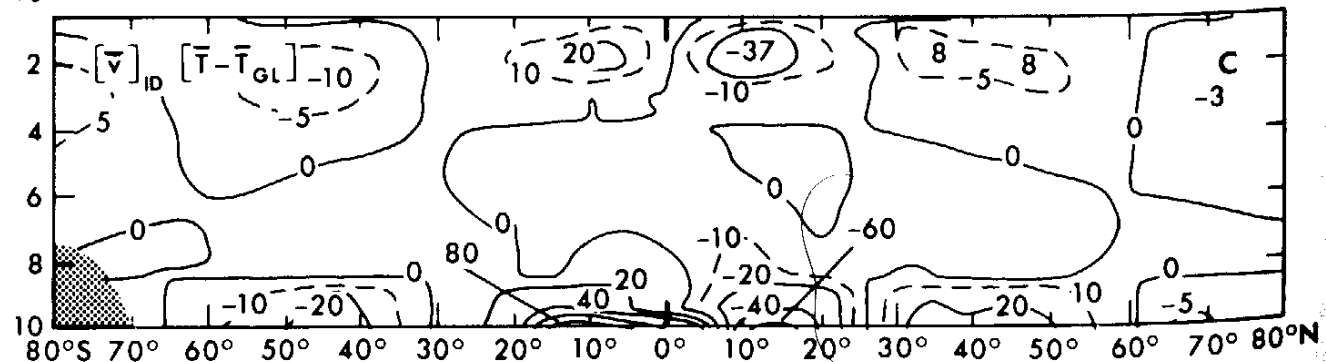


■ Heat flux:

Transient components:
two peaks in vertical
direction (around 800
and 200 hPa).



Zonal-mean flow: two
peaks in vertical
direction (around 200
hPa and near surface).





Observations



- Summary:
 - Zonal-mean flow:
 - **Ferrel Cell**: an indirect cell centered at 40-60 degree, with strong seasonal variation in N.H.
 - **Westerly jet**: surface westerlies centered at 40-60 degree
 - Eddies: transient eddies are dominant with stationary eddies only obvious in N.H.
 - **Kinetic energy**
 - **Momentum flux**
 - **Heat flux**



The Ferrel Cell

eddy-zonal flow interaction (I)



- Start from the equations:

- Momentum equation:
$$\left(\frac{du}{dt} \right)_p - f v = - \left(\frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial x} \right)_p + F_x$$

- Continuity equation:
$$\nabla_p \cdot \mathbf{v} + \frac{\partial \omega}{\partial p} = 0$$

- Thermodynamic equation:
$$\left(\frac{d \ln \theta}{dt} \right)_p = \frac{Q}{c_p T}$$

$$\left(\frac{d}{dt} \right)_p = \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \right)_p + u \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right)_p + v \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial y} \right)_p + \omega \frac{\partial}{\partial p}$$

Decompose into zonal mean and eddy components:

$$A = [A] + A^*$$



The Ferrel Cell

eddy-zonal flow interaction (I)



- Start from the equations:

- Momentum equation:

$$\frac{\partial[u]}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial([u][v])}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial([u][\omega])}{\partial p} = -\frac{\partial([u^*v^*])}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial([u^*\omega^*])}{\partial p} + f[v] + [F_x]$$

- Continuity equation:

$$\frac{\partial[v]}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial[\omega]}{\partial p} = 0$$

- Thermodynamic equation:

$$\frac{\partial[\theta]}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial([v][\theta])}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial([\omega][\theta])}{\partial p} = -\frac{\partial([\theta^*v^*])}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial([\theta^*\omega^*])}{\partial p} + \left(\frac{p_o}{p}\right)^{R/c_p} \frac{[Q]}{c_p}$$

$$\left(\frac{d}{dt}\right)_p = \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t}\right)_p + u \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x}\right)_p + v \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial y}\right)_p + \omega \frac{\partial}{\partial p}$$

Under the quasi-geostrophic approximation ($R_o \ll 1$),
above equations can be simplified.



The Ferrel Cell

eddy-zonal flow interaction (I)



- Start from the equations:

$$\frac{\partial[u]}{\partial t} + \cancel{\frac{\partial([u][v])}{\partial y}} + \cancel{\frac{\partial([u][\omega])}{\partial p}} = -\frac{\partial([u^*v^*])}{\partial y} - \cancel{\frac{\partial([u^*\omega^*])}{\partial p}} + f[v] + [F_x]$$

$$\frac{\partial[\theta]}{\partial t} + \cancel{\frac{\partial([v][\theta])}{\partial y}} + \boxed{\frac{\partial([\omega][\theta])}{\partial p}} = -\frac{\partial([\theta^*v^*])}{\partial y} - \cancel{\frac{\partial([\theta^*\omega^*])}{\partial p}} + \left(\frac{p_o}{p}\right)^{R/c_p} \frac{[Q]}{c_p}$$

$$\frac{\partial[v]}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial[\omega]}{\partial p} = 0$$

- Simplification:

- For midlatitude large scale flow, the **eddy components** of the meridional heat and momentum transports are **dominant**. (recall the observations)

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial y}[u^*v^*] \gg \frac{\partial}{\partial y}([u][v]) \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial y}[\theta^*v^*] \gg \frac{\partial}{\partial y}([\theta][v])$$

- From the QG approximation,

$$\frac{\partial\omega^*}{\partial p} \sim R_o \frac{\partial v^*}{\partial y} \rightarrow \frac{\partial}{\partial y}[u^*v^*] \gg \frac{\partial}{\partial p}[u^*\omega^*]$$

- Horizontal variation of the stratification is small:

$$\boxed{\frac{\partial}{\partial p}([\theta][\omega]) \approx [\omega] \frac{\partial\theta_s}{\partial p}}$$



The Ferrel Cell

eddy-zonal flow interaction (I)



- The simplified equations:

- Momentum equation:

$$\frac{\partial[u]}{\partial t} = -\frac{\partial([u^*v^*])}{\partial y} + f[v] + [F_x]$$

- Continuity equation:

$$\frac{\partial[v]}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial[\omega]}{\partial p} = 0$$

- Thermodynamic equation:

$$\frac{\partial[\theta]}{\partial t} + [\omega] \frac{\partial \theta_s}{\partial p} = -\frac{\partial([\theta^*v^*])}{\partial y} + \left(\frac{p_o}{p}\right)^{R/c_p} \frac{[Q]}{c_p}$$

$$\left(\frac{d}{dt}\right)_p = \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t}\right)_p + u \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x}\right)_p + v \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial y}\right)_p + \omega \frac{\partial}{\partial p}$$

Under the quasi-geostrophic approximation ($R_o \ll 1$)