



wege entstehen, indem wir sie gehen  
paths emerge in that we walk them

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Atmospheric Remote Sensing and Climate System Research Group  
**A R S C I S y s**

# Sensitivity and impact of the ionospheric kappa-correction on RO climatologies

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Hertha-Firnberg Project: NEWCLIM

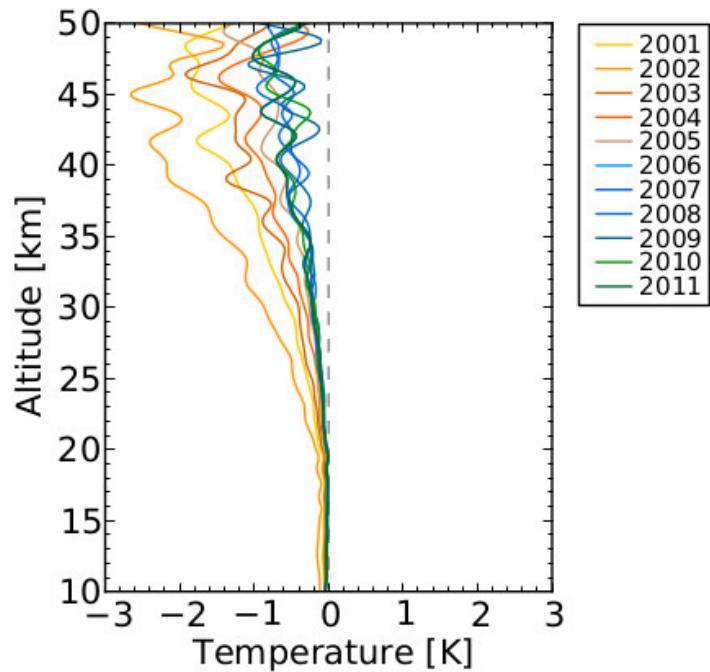


Problem:

- Residual Ionospheric Errors (RIE) in RO data due to 1<sup>st</sup> order ionospheric correction  
[e.g., Vorobev and Krasilnikova (1994)]
- RIE varies with solar cycle  
[e.g., Danzer et al. AMT (2013)]

Goal:

- Increase RO data quality in stratospheric altitudes



Danzer et al. AMT (2015)

# Residual Ionospheric Error Model ( $\kappa$ -correction)

- Healy and Culverwell AMT (2015) calculate **residual error** for Chapman layer ionosphere

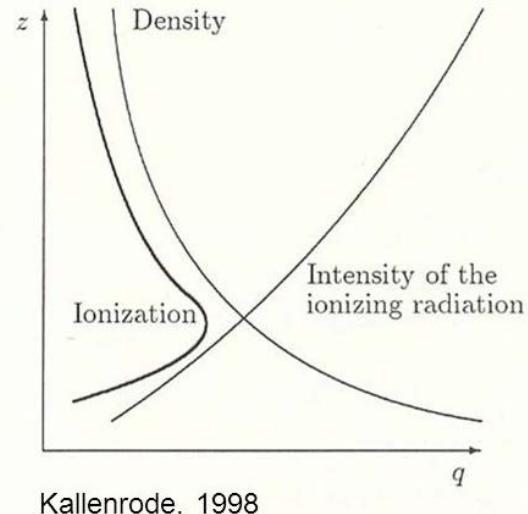
$$\Delta\alpha \equiv \alpha_c(a) - \alpha_N(a) = \kappa(a)(\alpha_1(a) - \alpha_2(a))^2$$

$\alpha_c(a) - \alpha_N(a)$  ... residual error  $\propto TEC^2$

$(\alpha_1(a) - \alpha_2(a))^2$  ... rapidly varying factor  $\propto TEC^2$

$\kappa(a)$  ... slowly varying factor, independent of  $TEC$

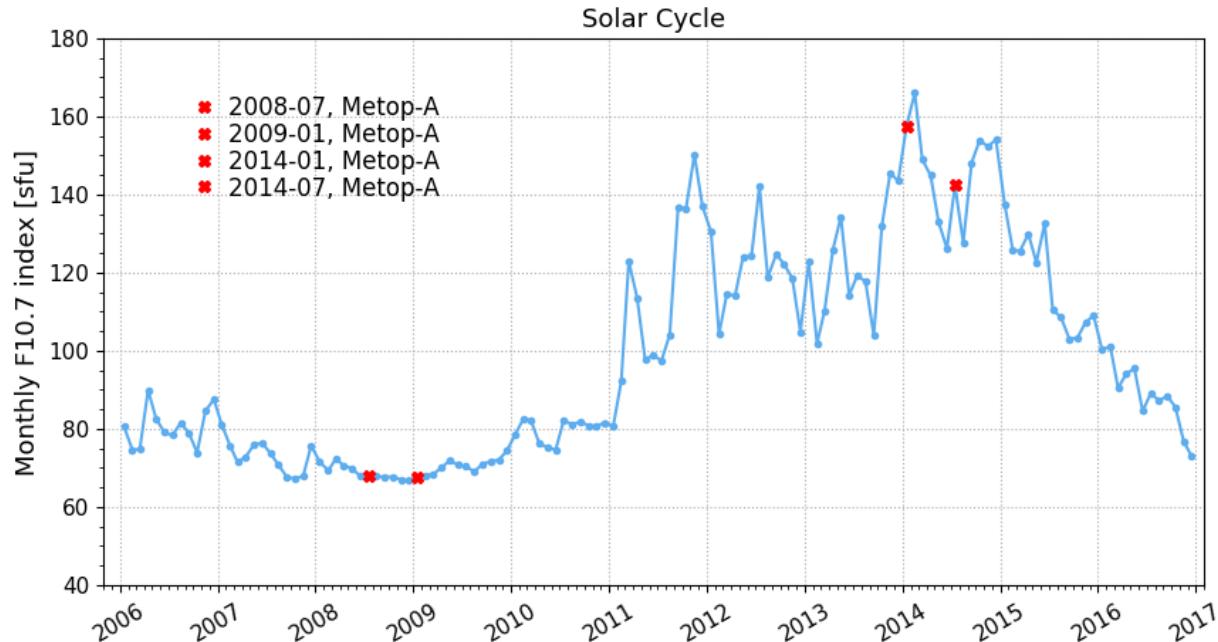
Formation of a Chapman layer



Kallenrode, 1998

- Simulation study (NeUoG) Danzer et al. AMT (2015)
- $\kappa$  improved!  $\kappa = a + b f_{10.7} + c X + d h$  Angling et al. AMT (2018)

- Monthly Metop-A RO climatologies from 2008 - 2015
- 3 modes:
  - zero- $\kappa$ :  $\kappa=0 \text{ rad}^{-1}$ ; standard 1st order ionospheric correction
  - scal- $\kappa$ :  $\kappa=14 \text{ rad}^{-1}$ ; reasonable approximation
  - func- $\kappa$ : functional modeling
- Reference data: Mipas, ERA-Int, ERA5



## Combination

- $\kappa$ -correction with **average profile inversion (API)**

Ao et al. GRL (2012), Gleisner and Healy AMT (2013)

1. Individual Profile Processing  $\implies$  **Background information!**

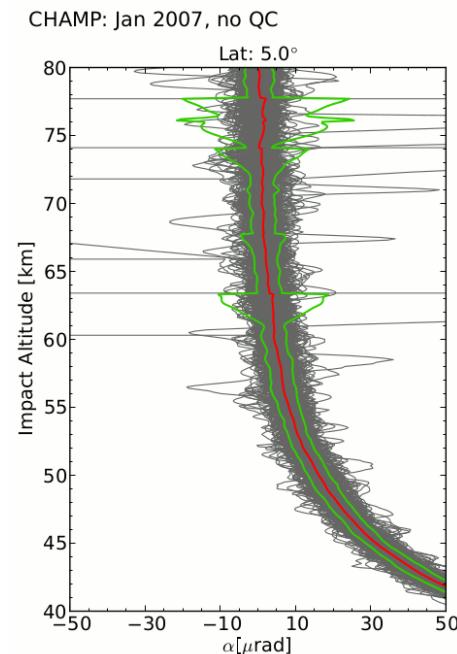
$$\Delta\varphi \rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow N \rightarrow \rho \rightarrow p \rightarrow T \rightarrow q$$

2. Climatology

Idea – NEWCLIM:

1. Climatology at bending angle level
2. Processing of averaged profiles

- Data can be used up to 80 km
- Avoids complicated statistical optimization



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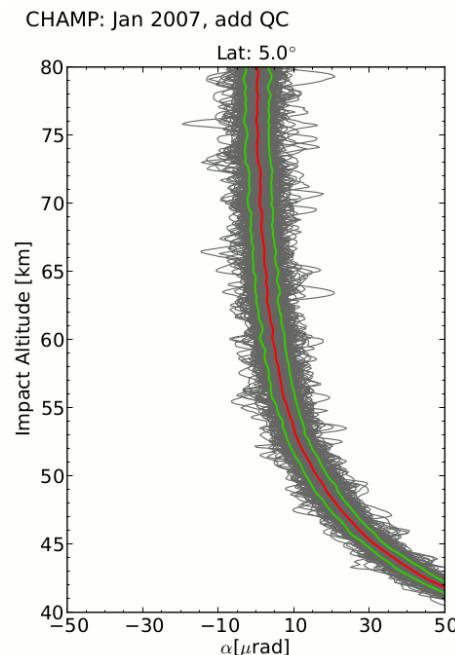
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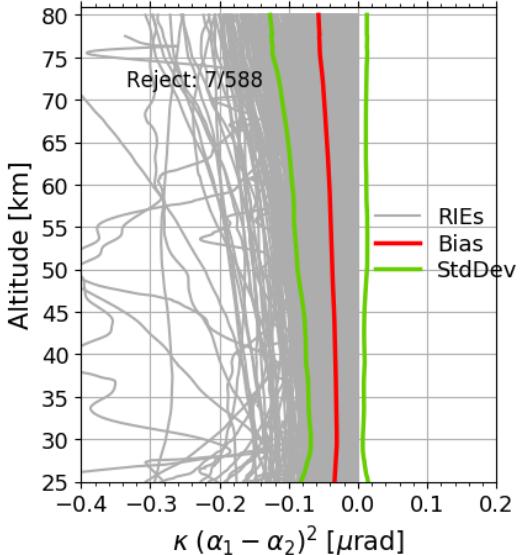
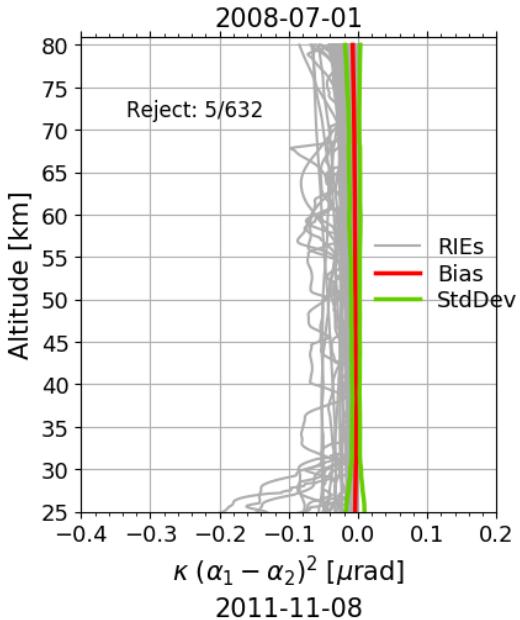
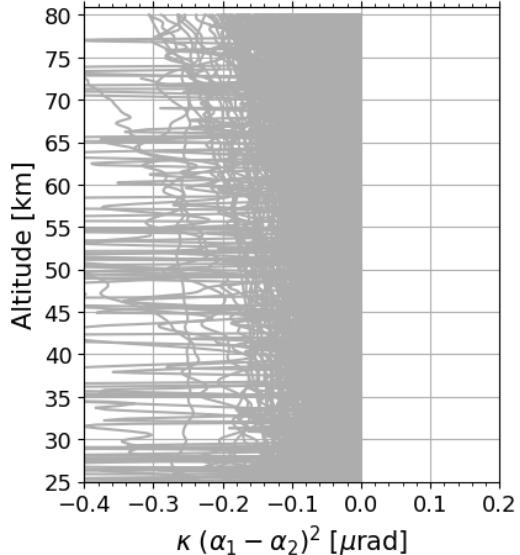
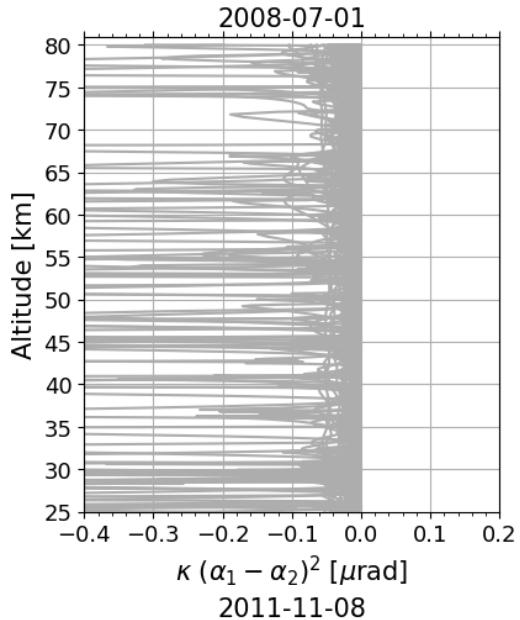
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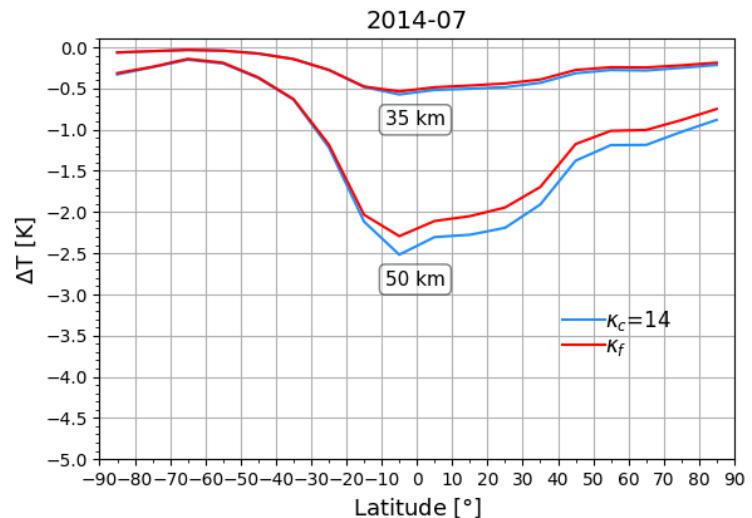
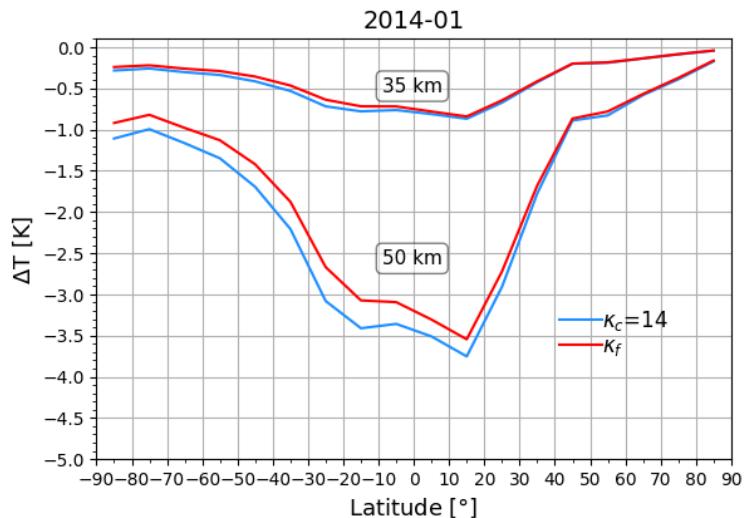
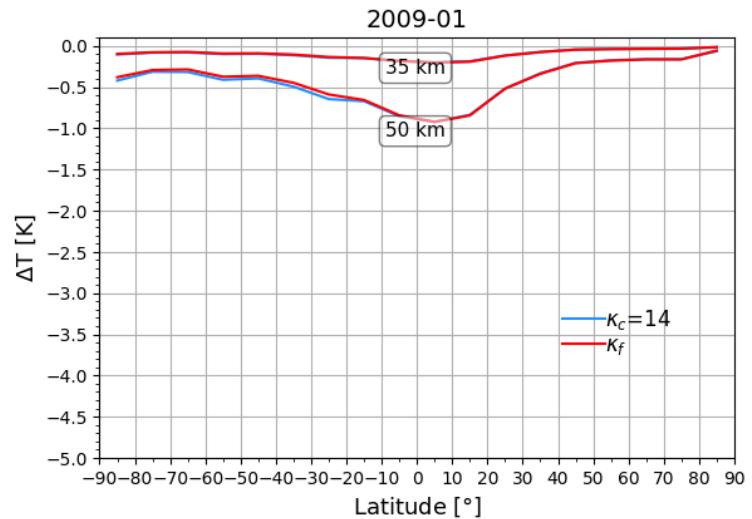
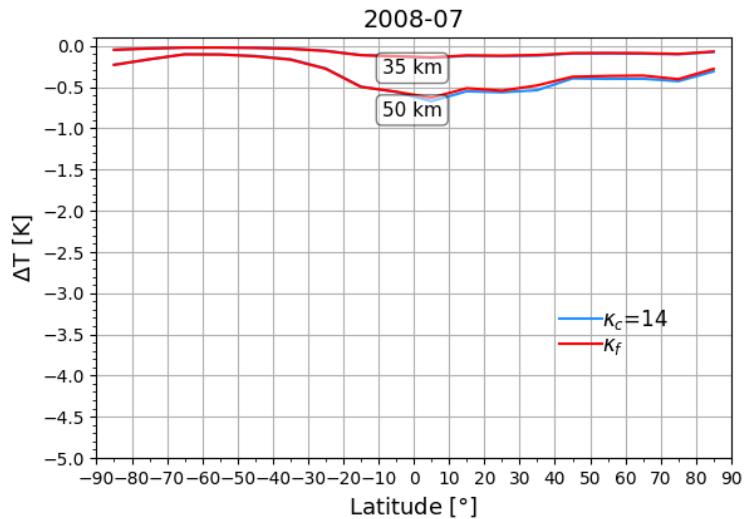
# Smoothing & Filtering



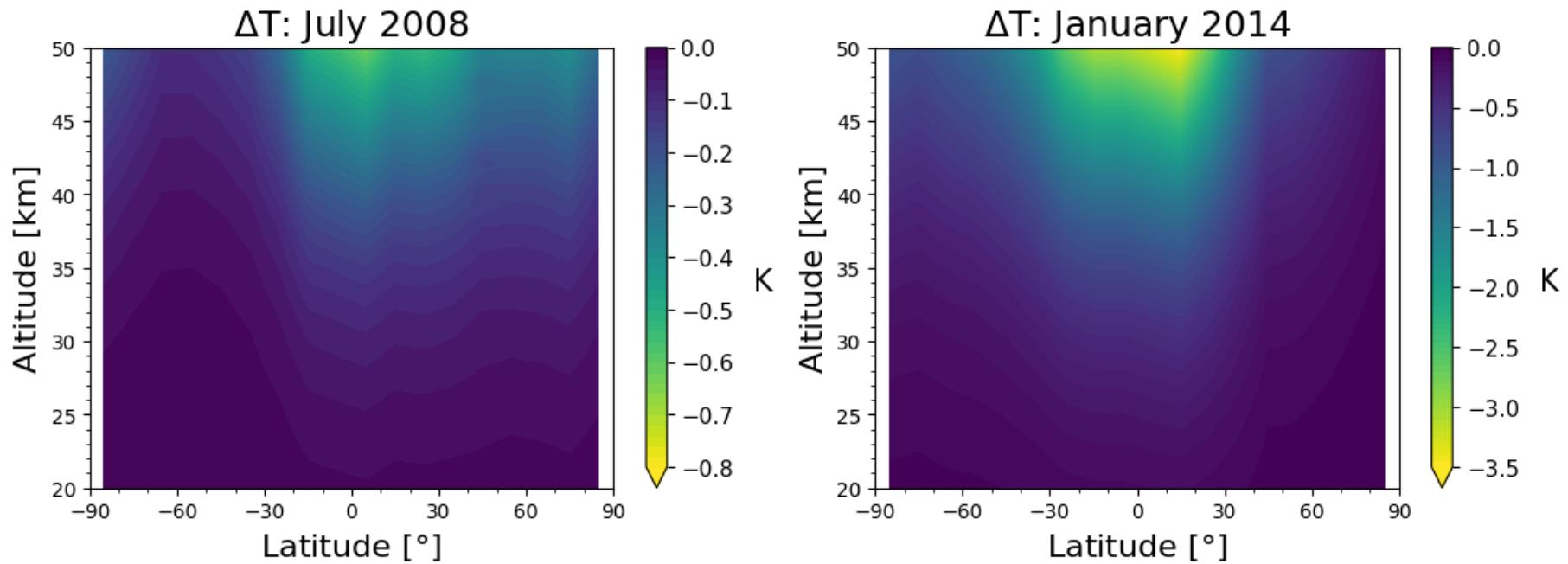
- Outlier rejection
- Moving average

# scal- $\kappa$ vs func- $\kappa$

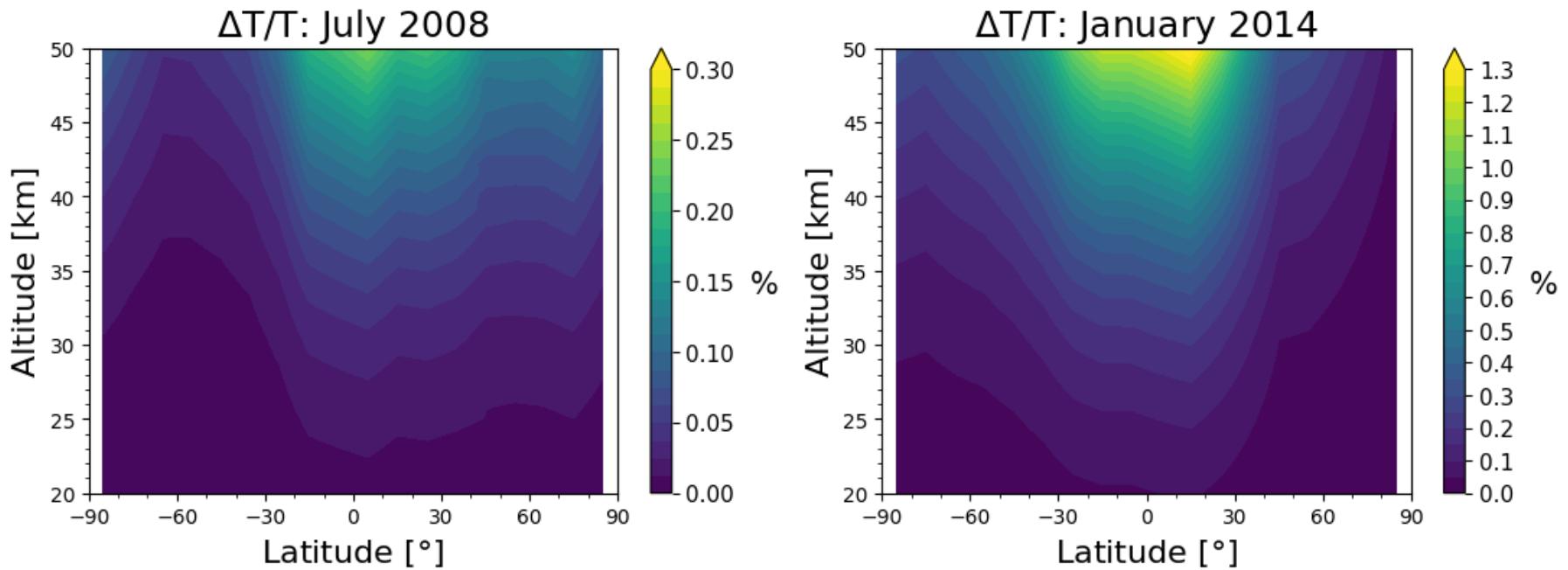
- $\kappa$ -correction on temperature level:  $T - T_{\kappa}$



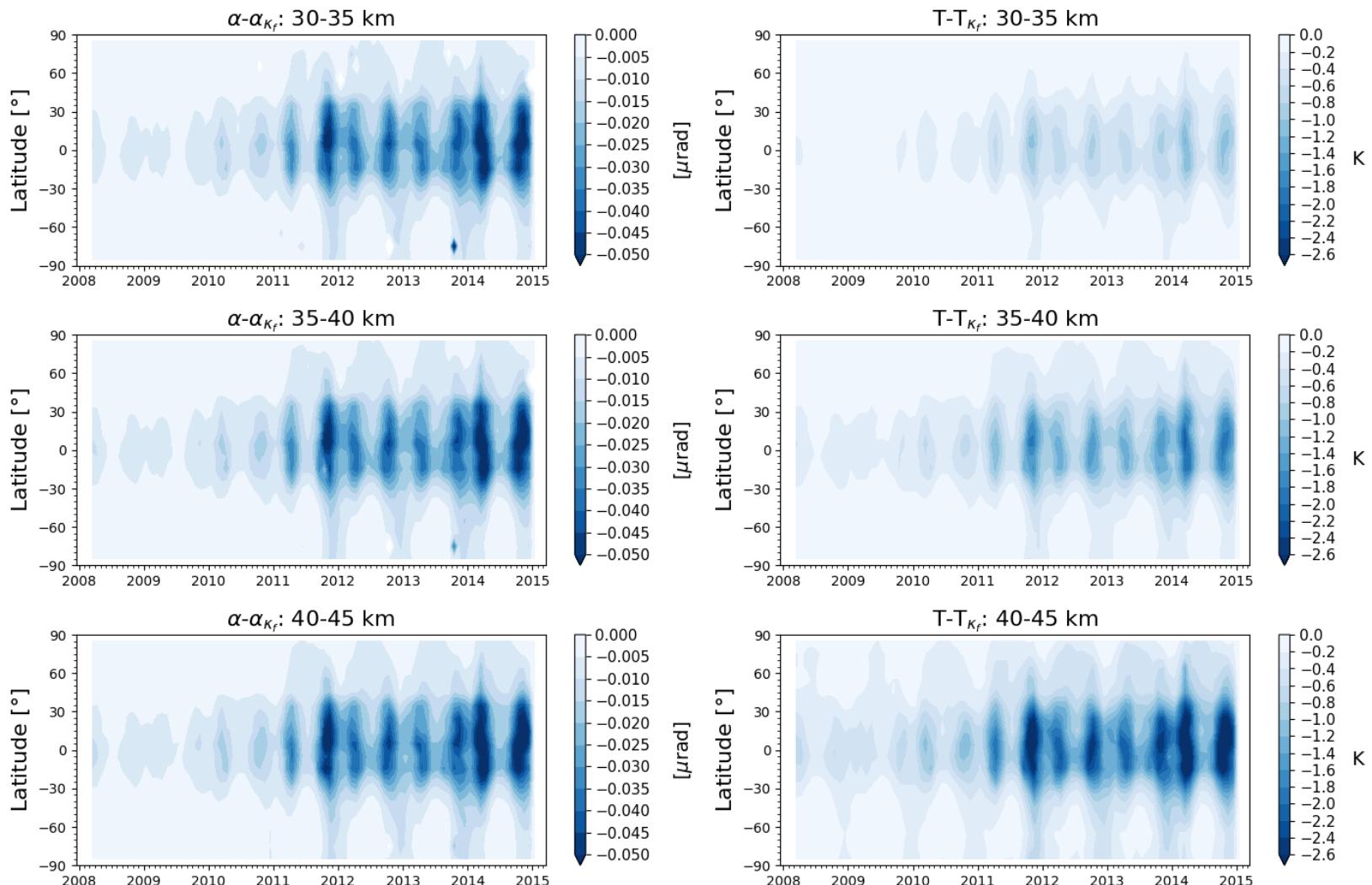
# Impact on T-level



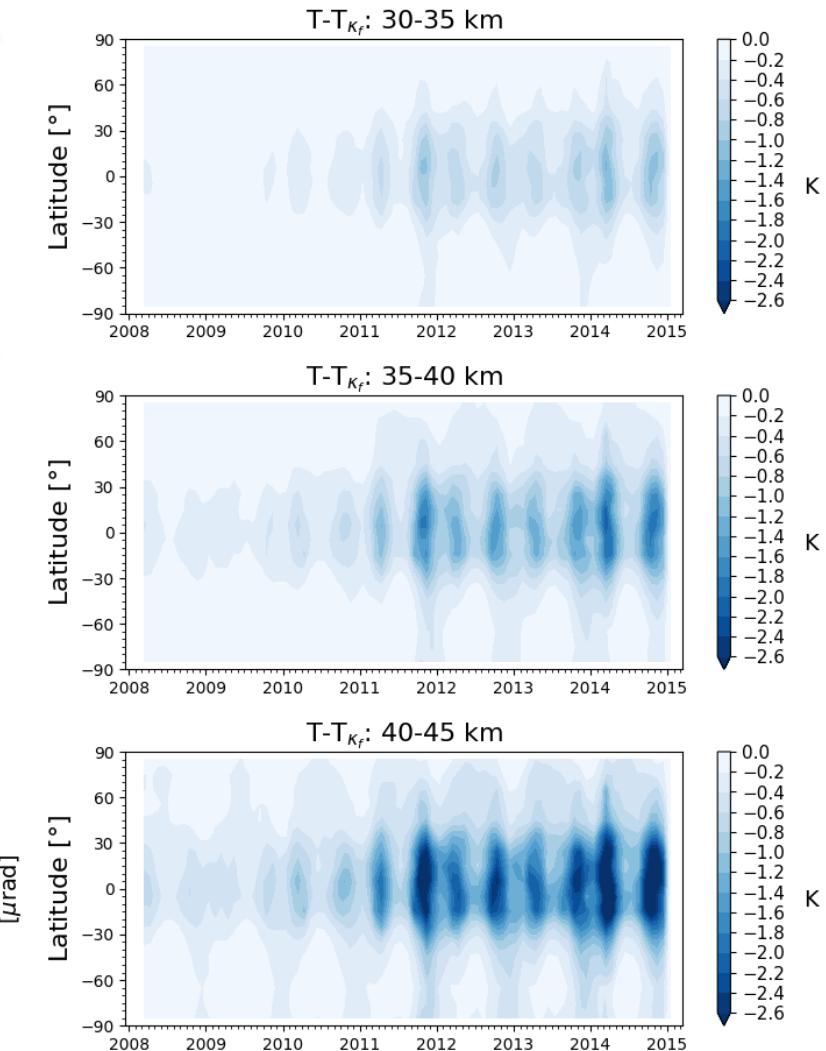
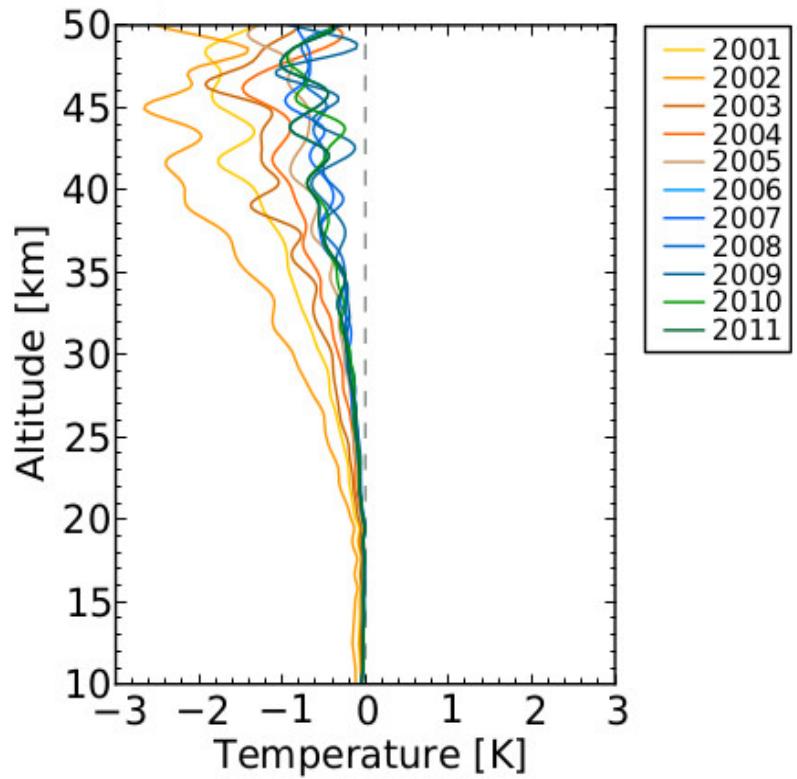
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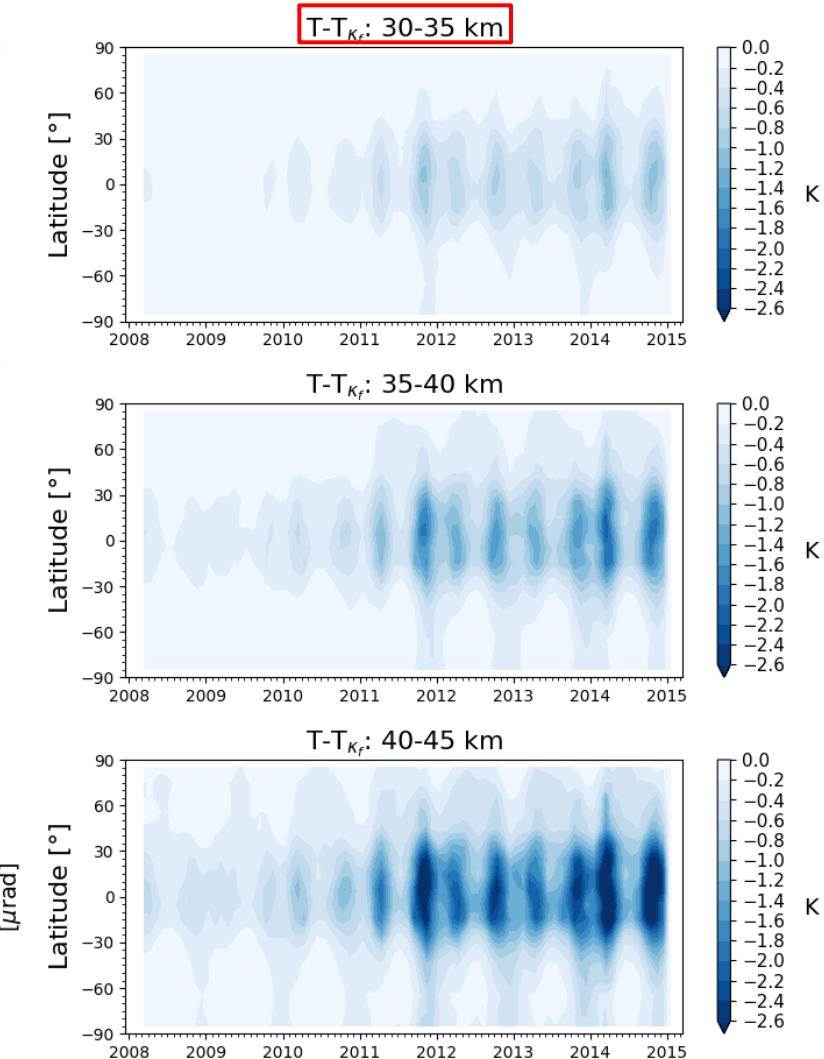
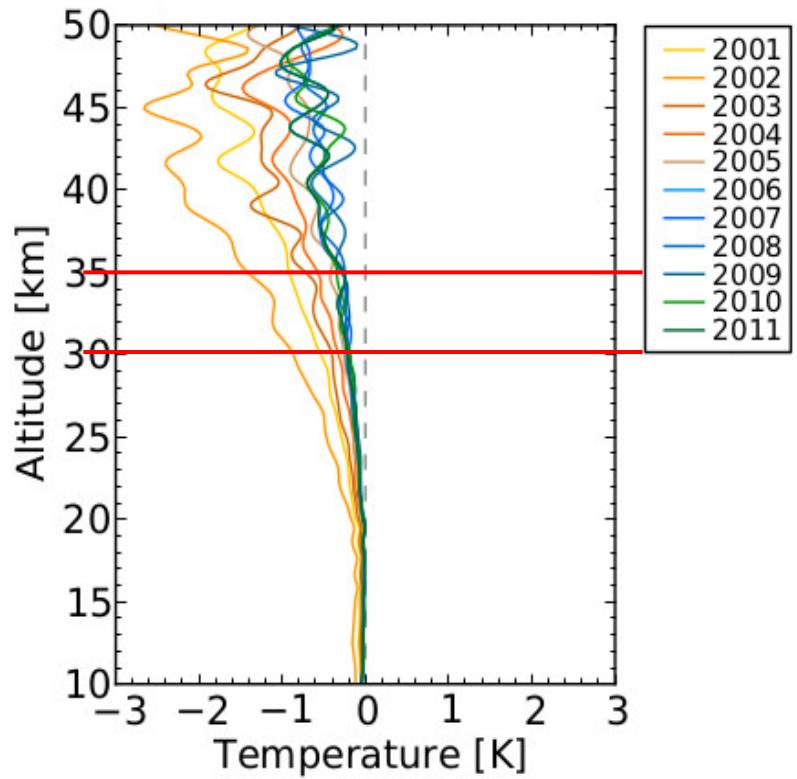
# Sensitivity



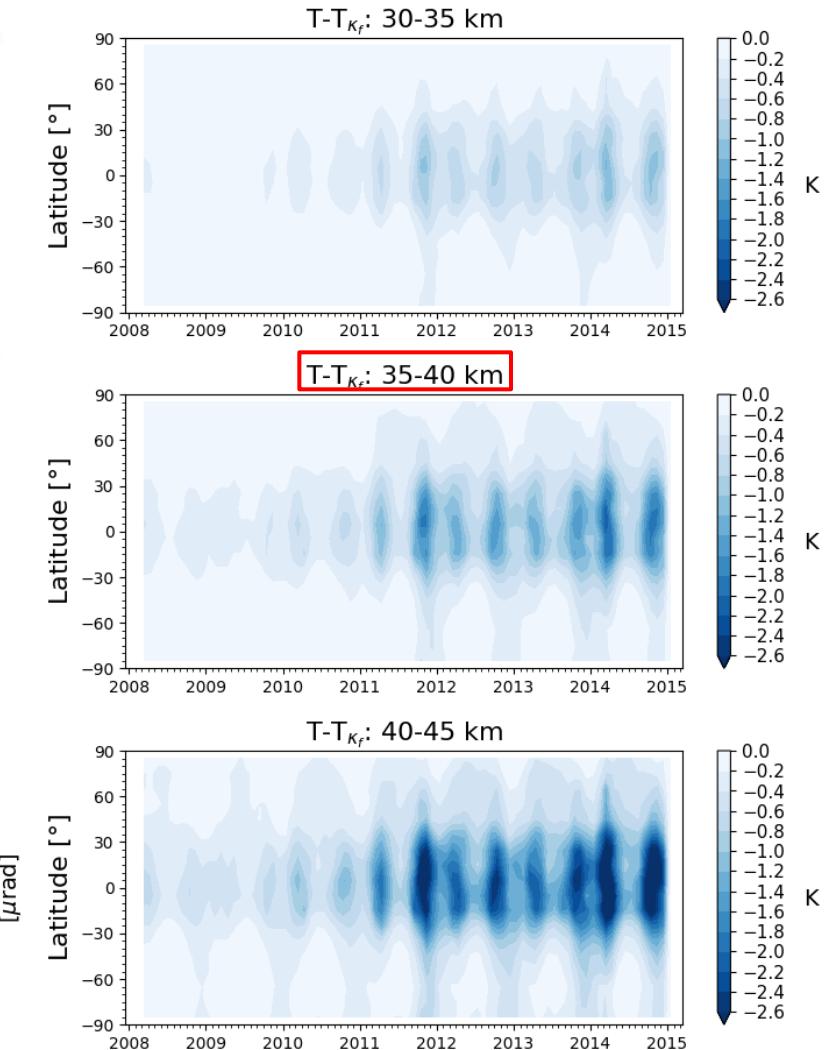
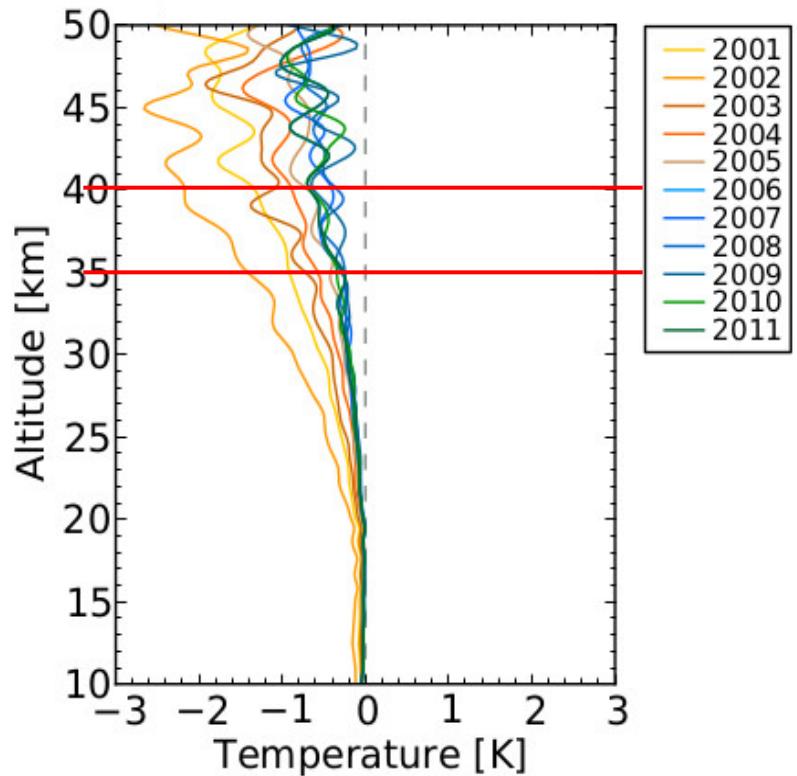
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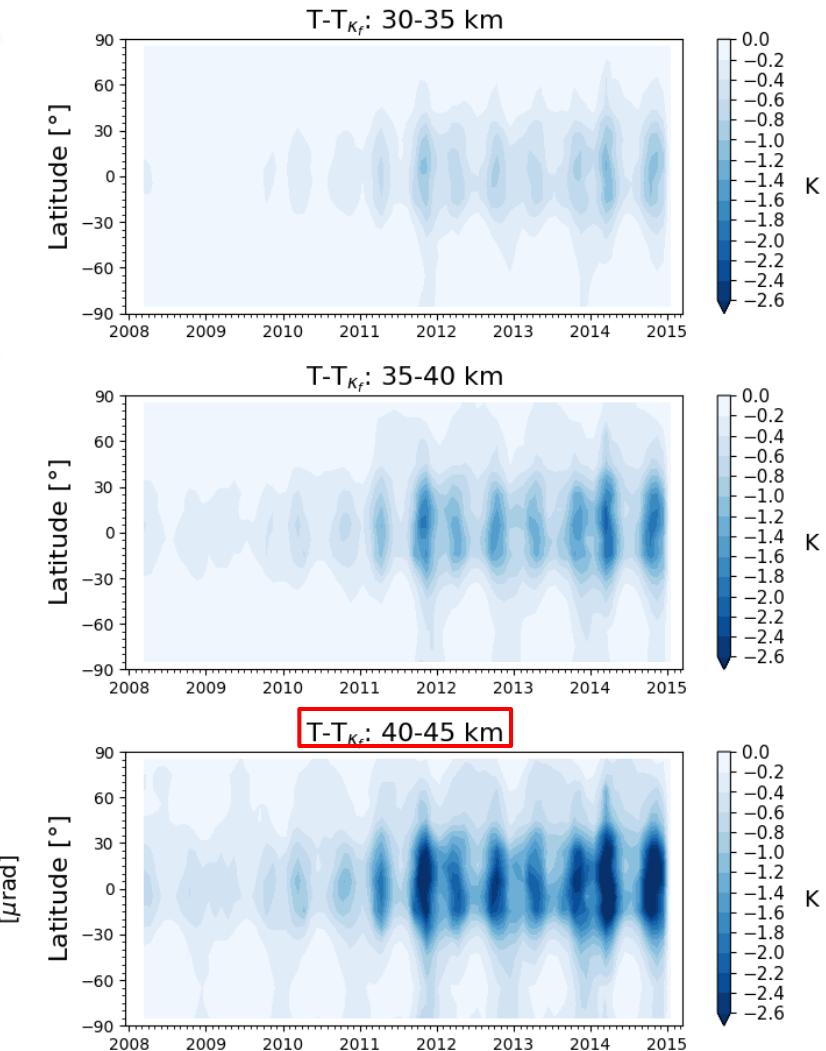
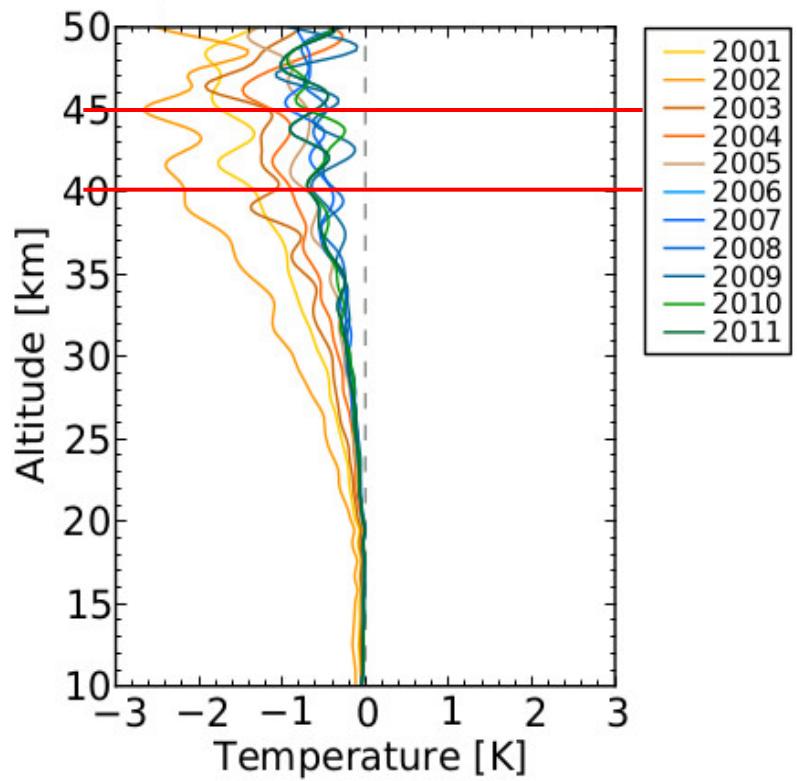
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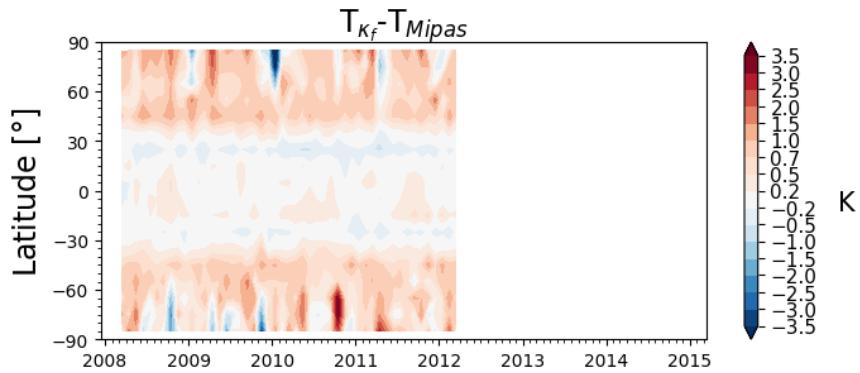
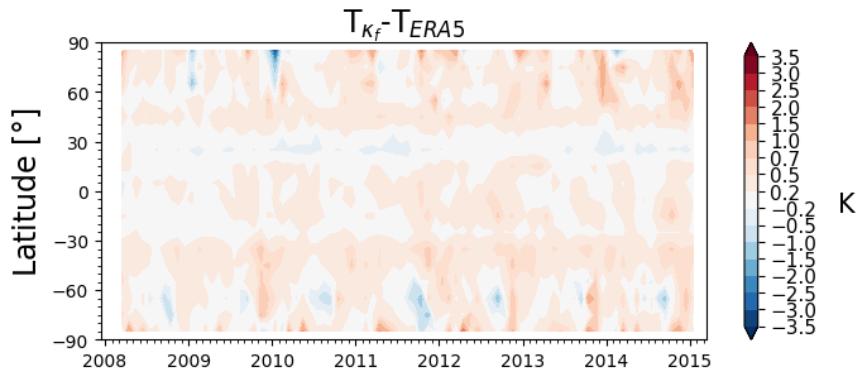
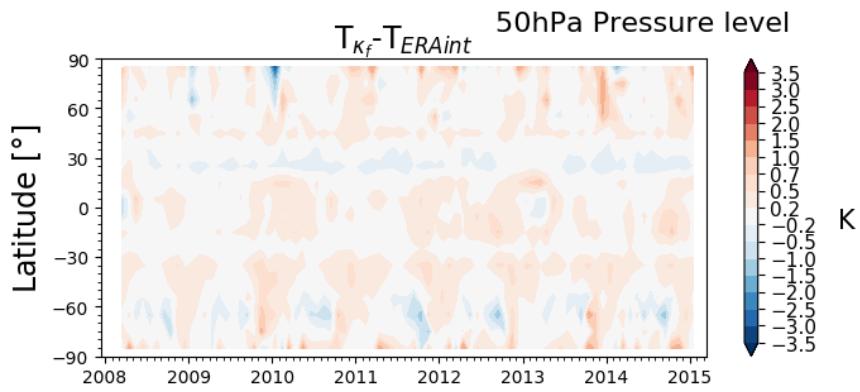
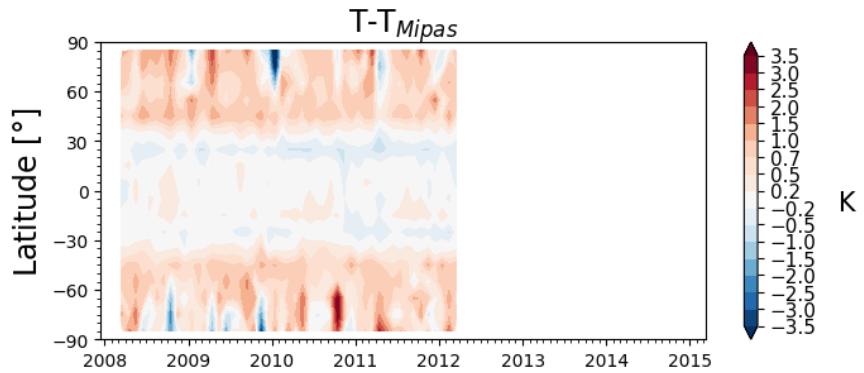
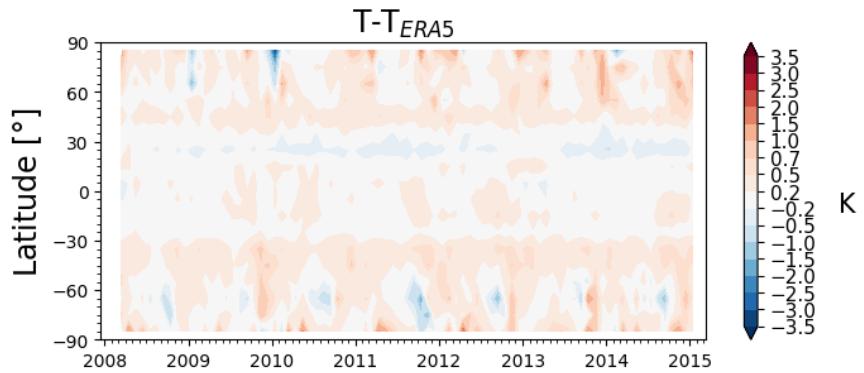
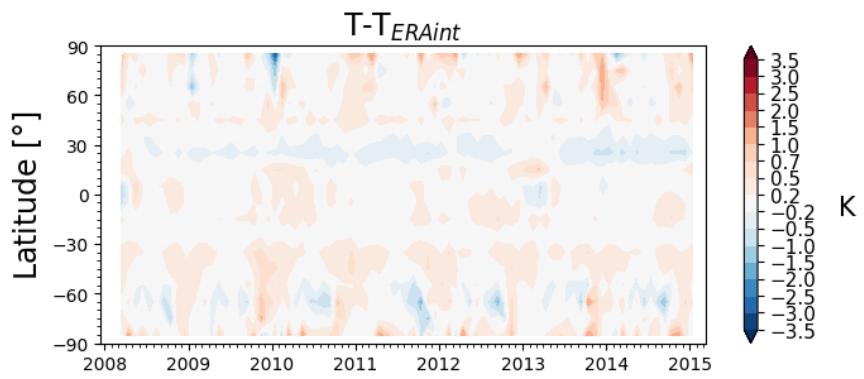
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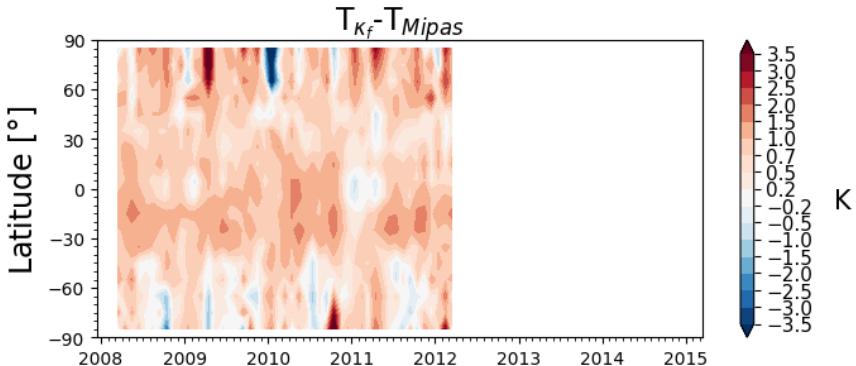
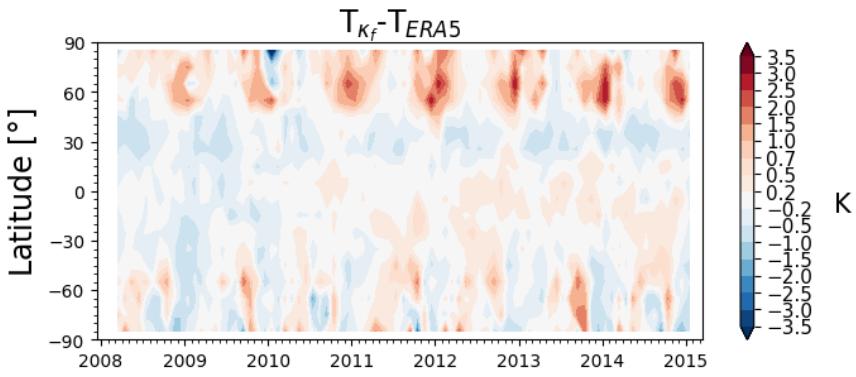
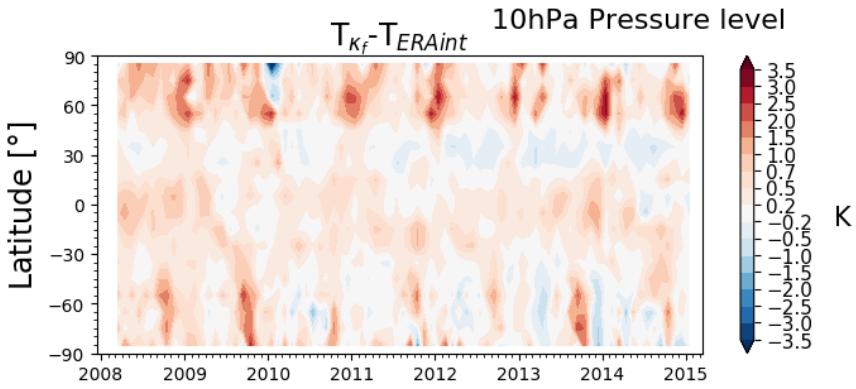
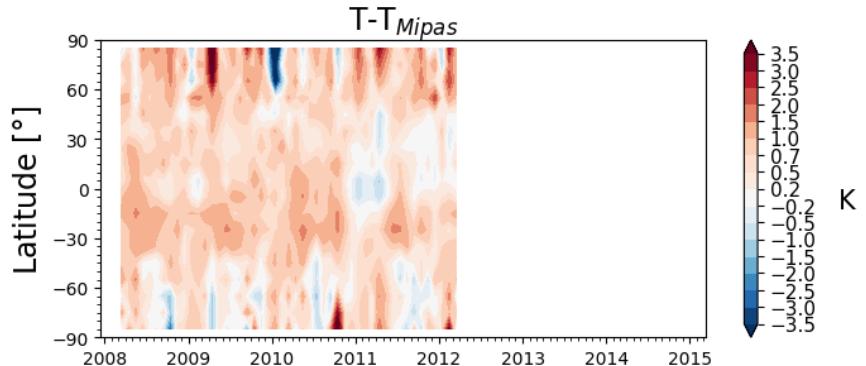
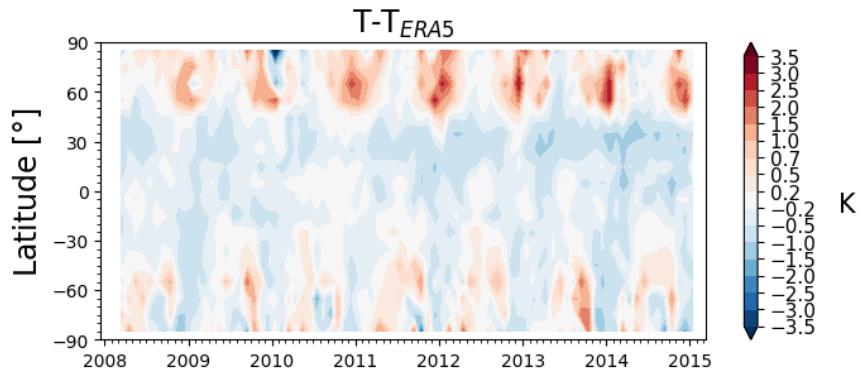
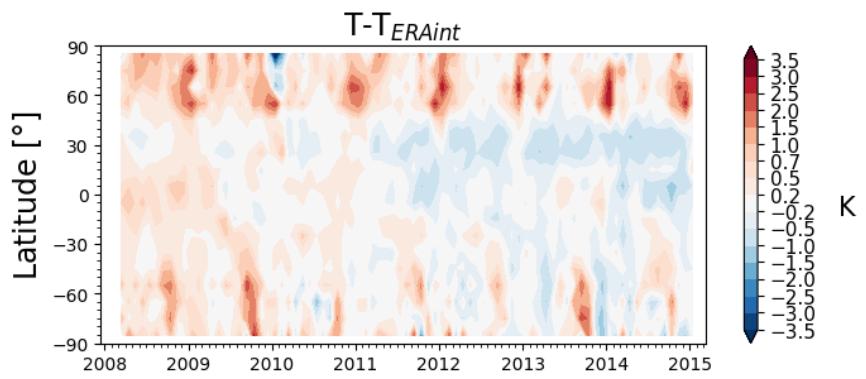
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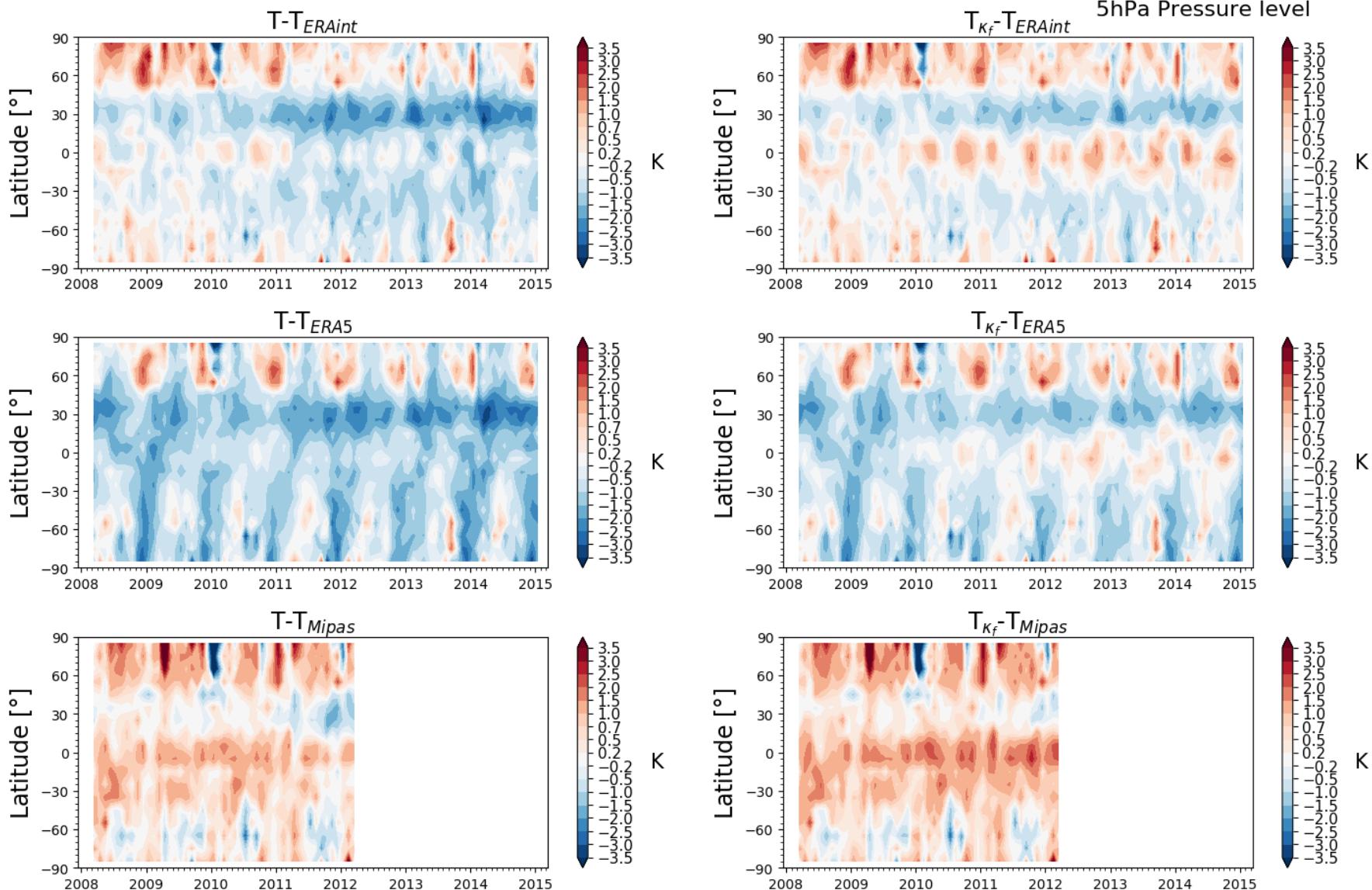
# Comparison to Reference Data



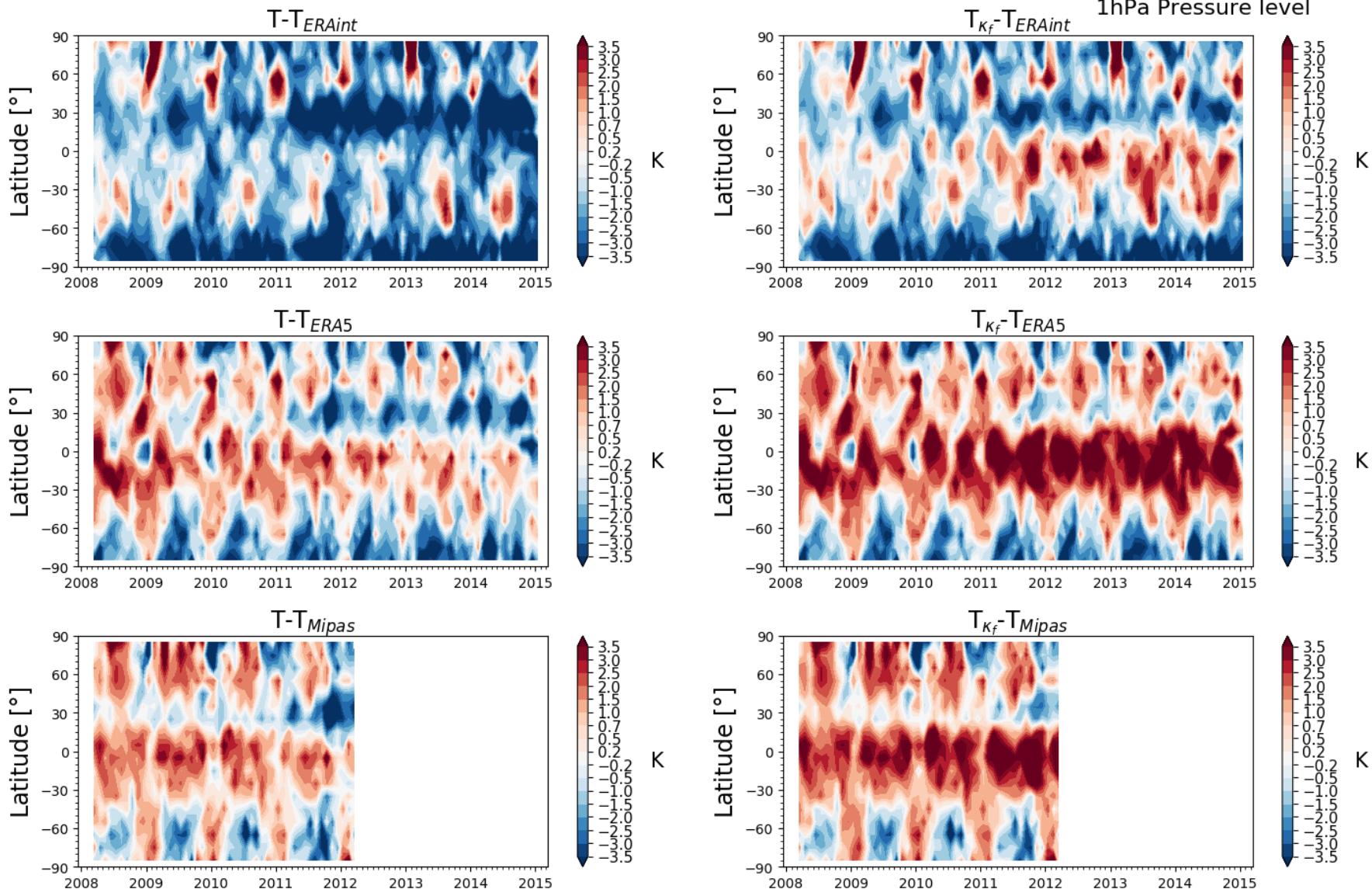
# Comparison to Reference Data



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- kappa-correction – solar cycle dependent correction
- Sensitivity analysis:
  - Altitude range 30 km – 35 km: 0.2 K up to about 1.0 K
  - Altitude range 40 km – 45 km: up to about 2.0 K
  - Largest correction over tropics
- Comparisons to ERA-Int, ERA5, and Mipas
  - Warming of RO temperature climatologies
  - **Negative biases decrease – positive biases increase**
  - $T_{RO} - T_{ERA} < 0$  : agreement tends to improve
  - $T_{RO} - T_{Mipas} > 0$  : agreement tends to decrease
- Mixed results
  - Biases in reference data
  - Small ionospheric correction value

Thank you very much for your attention!

