

# Impact of unmitigated HFC emissions on stratospheric ozone at the end of the 21<sup>st</sup> century as simulated by chemistry-climate models

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## Key Points:

- Unregulated HFCs have a small, global impact on total ozone by the end of the century.
- HFCs cause altitude-dependent positive and negative ozone changes at low and mid-latitudes.
- Wave activity in the wintertime polar stratosphere induces large differences in ozone response to an HFC increase between the models.

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## Abstract

Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) have been increasingly replacing chlorofluorocarbons and hydrochlorofluorocarbons. Although their ozone-depleting potential is negligible, as potent greenhouse gases they indirectly influence stratospheric ozone recovery. Measurements and model projections must continue to evaluate HFC limitation measures and assess the long-term impact of HFCs on the atmospheric radiation budget and stratospheric ozone. In this study, we present multi-member ensemble simulations designed to estimate the impact of HFCs on stratospheric temperature, ozone and circulation changes at the end of the century. We compared simulations with and without HFCs for two three-dimensional chemistry-climate models that use the same chemistry module but different physical schemes. At low and mid-latitudes, temperature and ozone responses were comparable for both models and in general agreement with previous studies. HFCs induced a marked temperature increase up to 5 hPa and vertically alternating positive and negative ozone anomalies. We explained this pattern by competing effects of vertical motion (low and middle stratosphere) and temperature (upper stratosphere) anomalies. At northern high latitudes, there were strong discrepancies with previous studies and between the models themselves, attributed to differences in ozone anomalies caused by wave activity during winter. Quantitatively, we found a net positive, but small, HFC impact on total ozone amounts. Largest anomalies were less than 1% in the winter polar stratosphere. Our results indicate that increasing HFC amounts will likely have a limited impact on stratospheric ozone recovery within this century, with large uncertainty in the polar regions.

## 1 Introduction

Chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) and their transitional replacements, the hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs), are major contributors to stratospheric ozone ( $O_3$ ) depletion through chlorine- and bromine-induced catalytic cycles. Following successful implementation of the 1987 Montreal Protocol and its successive amendments and adjustments, atmospheric amounts of ozone-depleting substances (ODSs, including CFCs and HCFCs) have measurably decreased (WMO, 2018). As a consequence, stratospheric ozone levels have begun recovering. They are expected to return to 1980 values between 2030 and 2060, depending on the latitude (Amos et al., 2020; Dhomse et al., 2018; Bednarz et al., 2016).

Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) are purely anthropogenic compounds that were developed as substitutes of both CFCs and HCFCs. They have become progressively dominant in diverse applications, such as air conditioning, refrigeration or thermal insulation (UNEP, 2011). Subsequently, their atmospheric concentrations have increased rapidly since the early 1990s (WMO, 2014). Because they do not contain chlorine or bromine atoms, HFCs do not contribute to the chlorine- or bromine-induced catalytic cycles that lead to stratospheric O<sub>3</sub> destruction. Therefore, their ozone-depleting potentials (ODPs) are negligible (WMO, 2018). Most HFCs currently used have long stratospheric lifetimes, because they do not absorb stratospheric ultraviolet (UV) radiation (SPARC, 2013). Their main removal process is reaction with the hydroxyl radical (OH) in the troposphere (WMO, 2018). Due to these long lifetimes and to strong infrared (IR) absorption in the atmospheric window (8–14  $\mu\text{m}$ ), many HFCs are potent greenhouse gases (GHGs) (WMO, 2014). Therefore, they substantially affect stratospheric temperature and circulation patterns. This, in turn, influences the concentration and variations of stratospheric O<sub>3</sub>.

Due to their role in climate change, steps were taken to curb the production and use of HFCs. The Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol was ratified in 2016 and came into force in 2019. Although uncertainties remain on future HFC release from long-term banks (e.g., refrigerators or insulation, Velders et al., 2009), full compliance with the Kigali amendment should ensure that HFC emissions will peak around 2040 (WMO, 2018; Velders et al., 2014). Until then, however, their atmospheric abundance will keep increasing. Therefore, to evaluate the future impact of HFCs on the atmospheric radiation budget and verify that all parties comply with their pledges under the Kigali Amendment, measurements and model projections must continue.

The only HFC measurements with near-global coverage currently available have been performed since 2004 by the Atmospheric Chemistry Experiment–Fourier Transform Interferometer (ACE-FTS, Bernath et al., 2005). Global distribution estimates of fluorine compounds, including HFC-23 and HFC-134a, have been retrieved from the upper troposphere to the mid-stratosphere (7–25 km) from the ACE-FTS data (Fernando et al., 2019; Nassar et al., 2006). Other measurements of HFCs are available from ground-based observation networks, such as the Advanced Global Atmospheric Gases Experiment (AGAGE) (e.g., Simmonds et al., 2017) or the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) (e.g., Montzka et al., 2015) networks. Although these include only a limited number of stations, they each have been operating for decades and their

importance for climate change monitoring is established. For instance, measurements from these networks were used to confirm the transition from CFCs / HCFCs to HFCs and to observe the increase of HFC abundances, including deviations from the expected trends (e.g, Stanley et al., 2020; Montzka et al., 2018; Simmonds et al., 2017; Lunt et al., 2015).

In order to assess the potential impact of HFCs on stratospheric ozone recovery, their future contribution to atmospheric radiative changes must be evaluated using climate model simulations. Forster and Joshi (2005) performed Fixed Dynamical Heating simulations and showed that, similarly to ODSs, a halocarbon concentration increase induces a net temperature increase in the stratosphere and in the troposphere. This is different from the radiative effect of carbon dioxide ( $\text{CO}_2$ ), for which increasing concentrations induce global tropospheric warming and stratospheric cooling (Forster & Joshi, 2005). The impact of HFCs on temperature and  $\text{O}_3$  was simulated by Hurwitz et al. (2015) using a two-dimensional model. Like Forster and Joshi (2005) for halocarbons, they found that HFCs caused an altitude-dependent heating of the troposphere and the stratosphere, with a temperature response increasing from the troposphere to the mid-stratosphere (with a maximum around 70 hPa near the Equator), then decreasing to near-zero in the uppermost stratosphere. They found largest ozone response changes in the tropics, with increasingly positive  $\text{O}_3$  concentration changes from the troposphere up to 70–80 hPa, then negative values from a strong minimum in the middle stratosphere to slightly negative, near-zero differences in the uppermost stratosphere. In the polar regions,  $\text{O}_3$  variations were smaller but similar: positive up to the lower stratosphere and negative above, with largest values in the middle stratosphere. Their simulations also showed a strengthening of the stratospheric mean meridional (Brewer-Dobson) circulation above 18 km, with increased upward motion at low latitudes and increased downward motion at mid- and polar latitudes (Hurwitz et al., 2015). Below 18 km in the tropics and sub-tropics, the mean (Hadley) circulation became weaker. Integrating over the atmospheric column, Hurwitz et al. (2015) found that HFCs caused a net, but weak, global decrease of total ozone. Finally, they established that HFC effects are linear and scalable to their atmospheric abundance (Hurwitz et al., 2015).

In this work, we present the first results of three-dimensional, multi-member ensemble simulations designed to evaluate the impact of increasing HFC concentrations on stratospheric ozone and temperature. We perform the same simulations for two chemistry-climate models (CCMs). These models share the same chemistry module, but parts of

their physical schemes are different, thus the models differ in the way they simulate climate phenomena. We analyze the HFC-induced effects in terms of temperature, ozone and circulation changes, and estimate the statistical relevance of our results.

## 2 Methodology

### 2.1 Chemistry-Climate Models Used in this Study

For our analyses, we use two CCMs based on different versions of a coupled atmosphere-ocean general circulation model, the Model for Interdisciplinary Research on Climate (MIROC). The earlier version, MIROC3.2, was developed jointly at the Center for Climate System Research (CCSR), the National Institute of Environmental Studies (NIES) and the Frontier Research Center for Global Change (FRCGC) (K1 model developers, 2004; Numaguti et al., 1997). The newer version, MIROC5, is a joint effort of CCSR, NIES and the Japan Agency for Marine-Earth Science and Technology (JAMSTEC) (Watanabe et al., 2010). The atmospheric components of both models have the same dynamical core. However, there were several updates or replacements of physical processes in MIROC5 to account for known MIROC3.2 limitations. For example, some studies found deficiencies in the reproduction of natural variability by MIROC3.2. Cloud representation was also significantly refined from MIROC3.2 to MIROC5 to improve climate sensitivity (Watanabe et al., 2010, and references therein). Other differences between the two versions have been extensively documented by Watanabe et al. (2010) and will not be repeated here.

The models used for our study are based on MIROC3.2 and MIROC5 and designated hereafter as MIROC3.2-CCM and MIROC5-CCM, respectively. Both are spectral models and use a flux-form semi-Lagrangian advection scheme for transport of chemical constituents. The horizontal resolution is T42 ( $2.8^\circ \times 2.8^\circ$ ). The vertical coordinate is a hybrid sigma-pressure coordinate, with 34 vertical layers from the surface to about 0.003 hPa ( $\sim 80$  km). Both versions include a radiative transfer scheme with 32 spectral bins, in the “solar” spectral range at UV/visible and near-IR wavelengths (200–690 nm for species relevant to ozone chemistry, and 690 nm to 4  $\mu\text{m}$ , respectively), and at longer wavelengths relevant to terrestrial IR radiation (4–1000  $\mu\text{m}$ ). The CCMs are not coupled to the ocean module of MIROC. Instead, sea surface temperature (SST) and sea ice are fixed to the settings used for the fifth assessment report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC-AR5) (Morgenstern et al., 2017; IPCC, 2014).

Both models use the same dedicated stratospheric chemistry module, developed by NIES and CCSR. It includes 61 chemical constituents, and 165 gas-phase and 42 photolytic reactions (Akiyoshi et al., 2016). Heterogeneous chemistry is simulated by 13 reactions, with multiple types of aerosol – water ( $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ), sulfate ( $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$ ), nitric acid ( $\text{HNO}_3$ ) – explicitly considered. Polar stratospheric clouds of type 1 (nitric acid trihydrate or NAT), 2 (ice) and supercooled ternary solutions (STS) are included (Morgenstern et al., 2017; Akiyoshi et al., 2016).

## 2.2 Multi-Member Ensemble Simulations for HFCs

In order to obtain some statistical assessment of the impact of HFCs on stratospheric ozone, we perform a set of multi-member ensemble simulations, in identical conditions, for both MIROC3.2-CCM and MIROC5-CCM. The HFC-dedicated simulations (hereafter “experiments”) differ only by the initial amount of HFCs. For all experiments, the background atmosphere is initialized to projected conditions in 2095. GHG abundances are set to their 2095 value in the Representative Concentration Pathway (RCP) 2.6 scenario (stringent mitigation) established for IPCC-AR5 (IPCC, 2014). In this scenario,  $\text{CO}_2$  concentrations are expected to peak around 2040, then to stabilize and start decreasing before the end of the century. ODS abundances are set to their 2095 values in scenario A1 of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO-A1) (WMO, 2014). All experiments assume full compliance with the Montreal Protocol and its amendments.

We devise three experimental settings (Table 1) that are used for both models. For each setting, we assign constant global abundances to four main HFC compounds: HFC-125, HFC-143a, HFC-32 and HFC-134a. Another compound, HFC-23, has a very long atmospheric lifetime, thus one of the largest Global Warming Potentials among HFCs (WMO, 2018). However, because it is not an ODS-substitute but an unintentional byproduct of industrial HCFC-22 production, no future increase of HFC-23 is expected (Velders et al., 2009). Therefore, it is not included in our analyses. The first setting is the reference (“control run”), for which all HFC abundances are set to 0. For the other experiments, we assume different levels of continuous HFC production, thus different HFC concentrations in 2095. We initialize HFC amounts based on the radiative forcing simulations of Velders et al. (2014), which use the upper and lower ranges of the HFC baseline scenarios of Velders et al. (2009). Figure 4 of Velders et al. (2014) shows that, around the end of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, radiative forcing due to unregulated HFCs (i.e., their im-

176 pact on the radiation budget in the troposphere) could become comparable to the in-  
 177 crease in CO<sub>2</sub> radiative forcing between 2000–2100 in the RCP2.6 scenario (Velders et  
 178 al., 2014).

179 Our purpose is to investigate the consequences for stratospheric O<sub>3</sub> in this case.  
 180 The lower and upper limits of the radiative forcing due to unregulated HFCs correspond,  
 181 respectively, to about twice and three times the radiative forcing in 2050 (Fig. 4 of Velders  
 182 et al., 2014). We call the former the “low-HFC” case and the latter the “high-HFC” case.  
 183 Assuming radiative forcing is proportional to the HFC amount, we set HFC surface mix-  
 184 ing ratios for the low- and high-HFC cases to, respectively, twice and three times the pro-  
 185 jected 2050 values of Hurwitz et al. (2015) (Table 1). Vertical HFC profiles are then cal-  
 186 culated in the CCMs by considering transport of HFCs and chemical loss from the re-  
 187 actions with O(<sup>1</sup>D), OH, and Cl.

188 Experiments are initialized using the output for 2095 from a sensitivity run of the  
 189 CCM1 REF-C2 experiment (SEN-C2-RCP26, Morgenstern et al. (2018)). Calculations  
 190 continue for 110 years with ODS and GHG abundances fixed to their 2095 levels. For  
 191 SST and sea ice data, we use the monthly values of 10-year averages between 2090–2099.  
 192 Throughout a 110-year simulation, averages between 1960–2000 are used for the solar  
 193 irradiance seasonal cycle and SST/sea ice seasonal conditions for 2095 are repeated ev-  
 194 ery year. The first ten years are discarded from the analysis because they show transi-  
 195 tional changes from the initial state. We consider the last 100 years as a 100-member  
 196 ensemble. We focus on ensemble mean, yearly mean, zonally averaged results. We fur-  
 197 ther derive monthly averages for wave flux analysis.

### 198 **3 Results**

199 To evaluate the impact of HFCs on O<sub>3</sub> distribution in the stratosphere, we calcu-  
 200 late temperature, O<sub>3</sub>, and residual circulation anomalies by comparing output from the  
 201 low- and high-HFC experiments with the control run for MIROC3.2-CCM and MIROC5-  
 202 CCM.

203 Unlike CO<sub>2</sub>, which warms the troposphere and cools the stratosphere at all lati-  
 204 tudes, HFCs, like other halocarbons, consistently induce a latitude-dependent atmospheric  
 205 temperature increase, with a maximum around 100 hPa (~18 km) in the tropics (see Forster  
 206 & Joshi, 2005, for fixed dynamical heating simulations of temperature response to halo-

carbons and to CO<sub>2</sub> up to ~5 hPa). This behaviour is well reproduced in the lower and middle stratosphere by MIROC3.2-CCM (Figure 1, left) and MIROC5-CCM (Figure 1, right) for the low-HFC (top row) and high-HFC (bottom row) cases. Horizontal and vertical extension of the heating maximum matches the results of Forster and Joshi (2005) in the low- and mid-latitude lower stratosphere (100–50 hPa for both models). Furthermore, temperature anomalies below ~20 hPa are consistent with the 2D-model results of Hurwitz et al. (2015). They also appear proportional to the HFC amount, as shown by comparing the low-HFC and high-HFC cases.

In terms of ozone response, both models exhibit strong differences between low/mid-latitudes and higher latitudes, especially in the Northern Hemisphere (NH) stratosphere (Figure 2). At NH high latitudes, MIROC3.2-CCM indicates large positive O<sub>3</sub> anomalies in the lower and middle stratosphere (400–10 hPa, Figure 2, left), that correspond to increased temperature (Figure 1, left) and wintertime downwelling in the polar stratosphere (Figure 3). MIROC5-CCM also shows increased O<sub>3</sub> in the NH polar stratosphere in response to HFCs. However, anomaly values are smaller than for MIROC3.2-CCM and the maximum is narrower vertically, extending between 200–70 hPa only (Figure 2). At low and mid-latitudes for MIROC3.2-CCM, O<sub>3</sub> anomalies between 200–5 hPa are alternately positive, negative and positive (Figure 2, left). This pattern is found in both low- and high-HFC cases (Figure 2, top left and bottom left, respectively) and, like for temperature, response appears proportional to the HFC increase. Largest negative anomalies are found between 50 and 20 hPa just below the peak of O<sub>3</sub> volume mixing ratio (VMR, Figure 4). A similar alternating pattern is visible in MIROC5-CCM results (Figure 2, right). Largest negative O<sub>3</sub> anomalies for MIROC5-CCM are found at mid-latitudes, further from the Equator than for MIROC3.2-CCM.

The low-latitude alternating pattern found for MIROC3.2-CCM in the O<sub>3</sub> anomalies (200–20 hPa) corresponds well to HFC-induced changes of the zonal mean residual vertical motion ( $\bar{w}^*$ , Andrews et al., 1987), while the positive anomaly between 20–5 hPa is due to the negative temperature response (Figure 1). These results are generally consistent with the results of Hurwitz et al. (2015). At low and mid-latitudes, residual vertical motion anomalies for MIROC5-CCM resemble those of MIROC3.2-CCM above 100 hPa (Figure 3, right). However, they are less structured below 100 hPa, with marked differences between the low-HFC and high-HFC cases (color levels, Figure 3, top right and bottom right, respectively). At NH high latitudes, MIROC3.2-CCM results show large,



consistent downward motion anomalies in both low-HFC and high-HFC cases. The enhanced downward motion is likely responsible for the large  $O_3$  anomalies seen in Figure 2. Large negative vertical motion anomalies are also found for MIROC5-CCM in the polar upper stratosphere, except between 50–10 hPa (Figure 3, right) where a small, upward motion anomaly is visible. This positive anomaly explains the smaller and narrower  $O_3$  response maximum in MIROC5-CCM.

Since total ozone amount is an important factor for UV radiation, we also examine the HFC-induced total column  $O_3$  anomalies (Figure 5). For MIROC3.2-CCM, there is no apparent change in the total ozone amounts at low latitudes ( $30^\circ\text{S}$ – $30^\circ\text{N}$ ), because the negative and positive  $O_3$  anomalies (Figure 2) cancel out. However, the strong  $O_3$  increase at NH mid- and high-latitudes is also visible in the total ozone anomalies. Quantitatively, this represents up to 4.2 DU (about 1% of the total  $O_3$  amount). Because of the complex vertical structure of MIROC5-CCM  $O_3$  anomalies, the distribution of total  $O_3$  anomalies shows multiple structures depending on the latitude. Anomalies are globally small and positive (net increase of total  $O_3$ ) at all latitudes, with maxima in the Arctic, tropical and Antarctic regions. The largest net total  $O_3$  increase for MIROC5-CCM is found at NH high latitudes ( $70$ – $80^\circ\text{N}$ ), but it does not exceed 1.2 DU ( $\sim 0.3\%$  of the total  $O_3$  amount).

## 4 Discussion

The complex patterns observed in the low-latitude  $O_3$  anomaly distributions for both models (Figure 2) result from a combination of chemically-induced effects, caused by temperature changes in the upper stratosphere (Figure 1), and circulation changes in the middle and lower stratosphere, where  $O_3$  variations are mostly transport-driven (Figure 3). The induced circulation changes below 50 hPa: increased subtropical upwelling and equatorial downwelling, are indicated by positive and negative  $\bar{w}^*$  anomalies, respectively. These changes weaken the tropospheric Hadley circulation and limit the amount of  $O_3$ -poor air transported upwards, thus explaining the positive  $O_3$  anomaly below 50 hPa. Above 50 hPa, a consistently increased vertical motion (positive  $\bar{w}^*$  anomalies) induces advection of  $O_3$ -poor air from below, which explains the large negative anomalies at the 50–20 hPa level. Above 20 hPa,  $O_3$  anomalies are quite small and mostly driven by temperature changes. In the NH polar stratosphere, the strong  $O_3$  enhancement observed in the MIROC3.2-CCM output corresponds to downward motion anomalies caused

by increased planetary wave activity in the wintertime (Figure 3, left). In MIROC5-CCM, weaker heating of the NH polar stratosphere (Figure 1, right) and limited downward motion enhancement by HFCs (Figure 3, right) explain the smaller and narrower high-latitude  $O_3$  anomaly maximum.

To assess the significance of the simulated structures, we performed a t-test analysis between the control run and the HFC experiments among the 100 ensemble members. In MIROC3.2-CCM, the low-latitude pattern was statistically significant at the 95% level in both HFC simulations (Figure 6, left). The NH polar enhancement was also significant at the 95% level for the high-HFC case, but significance was smaller for the low-HFC case (central shaded patch, Figure 6, top left). We conclude that the observed features are globally robust for MIROC3.2-CCM. They indicate clear connections between temperature anomalies, residual vertical motion anomalies, and the  $O_3$  distribution.

Conversely, t-test results for MIROC5-CCM showed few regions with significance larger than 90–95%. Therefore, we set a lower threshold for MIROC5-CCM (66.7%, Figure 6, right). This indicates that variability among the ensemble members is larger in MIROC5-CCM than in MIROC2.3-CCM and implies that the low-latitude alternating pattern, though also visible in MIROC5-CCM output, cannot be as easily explained by temperature and residual vertical motion anomalies as for MIROC3.2-CCM. Overall, MIROC3.2-CCM shows a clear connection between HFC-induced anomalies (temperature, residual vertical motion) and variations of the stratospheric  $O_3$  distribution. MIROC5-CCM experiments also show consistent temperature and  $O_3$  response at mid- and high latitudes, but with larger variability among ensemble members. Therefore, interpretation of MIROC5-CCM results is less straightforward than for MIROC3.2-CCM, especially in terms of connections between  $O_3$ , temperature and circulation anomalies.

Our analysis further indicates that discrepancy between the models at NH high latitudes is caused by marked differences in the anomalies (left panels in Figures 7–10) of the wave flux and wave flux divergence (Andrews et al., 1987). In MIROC3.2-CCM, large anomalies are visible in the NH polar upper stratosphere (above 10–20 hPa) throughout winter, with particularly large positive values near the pole in February. In MIROC5-CCM, anomalies are more extensive in latitude and pressure, with higher values than in MIROC3.2-CCM. On the contrary, seasonal evolution of the wave flux and wave flux divergence (right panels) is similar for MIROC3-CCM and MIROC5-CCM. For both mod-

els, wave flux structures are complex and difficult to analyze because anomalies induced by HFC increases are much smaller than the climatological wave flux and its divergence, and because anomalies are highly sensitive to changes in stratospheric temperature and wind distributions.

## 5 Conclusion

We investigated the impact of increasing atmospheric HFC concentrations on the distribution of ozone in the stratosphere. For this purpose, we devised a set of experiments with varying amounts of HFCs and performed multi-member ensemble simulations based on two CCMs, MIROC3.2-CCM and MIROC5-CCM, which use the same module for stratospheric chemistry but have differences in the modeling of physical processes.

Our 3D-model simulations showed responses of  $O_3$  and temperature to increasing HFC levels, at low and mid-latitudes, qualitatively similar to previous 2D-model results (Hurwitz et al., 2015). The observed alternating anomaly pattern could reasonably be explained by competing effects of residual vertical motion anomalies in the lower and middle stratosphere and temperature anomalies in the upper stratosphere. On the contrary, there were large differences at high latitudes, notably in the NH polar region, not only between the 2D and 3D simulations but even between the 3D models themselves. We showed that these discrepancies are due to differences of wave activity during winter. Results for  $O_3$  at high latitudes should, however, be analyzed with caution. Indeed, small differences in the wintertime evolution of wave activity can cause considerable differences of ozone response between the models, resulting in large model uncertainty.

Quantitatively, the estimated impact of HFCs on total ozone is small, at most 1% (4.2 DU) for MIROC3.2-CCM and 0.3% (1.2 DU) for MIROC5-CCM. In both cases, the net effect is positive. This differs from the 2D results of Hurwitz et al. (2015) who, adding total column anomalies at all latitudes, calculated a net global decrease of total  $O_3$  of about 0.11 DU. Even with very favorable settings (continuous, unregulated emissions and RCP2.6 scenario for  $CO_2$ ), our study shows that the impact of increasing HFC amounts on stratospheric  $O_3$  at the end of the century will likely be very limited.

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Raw model output was processed with custom software developed at CCSR/NIES/JAMSTEC (“GTOOL3” package of the GFD Dennou Club, <https://www.gfd-dennou.org/library/gtool/gtool3/index.htm.en>). Residual mean circulation, wave flux and wave flux divergence were derived from the model output using original code. Libraries SciPy, NumPy and Matplotlib of the Python programming language (<https://www.python.org/>) were used for data processing, statistical calculations and visualization. Zonal averages of the relevant model output are available as binary files at <http://158.210.93.204:8000>; a Python script to read the binary files is also provided.

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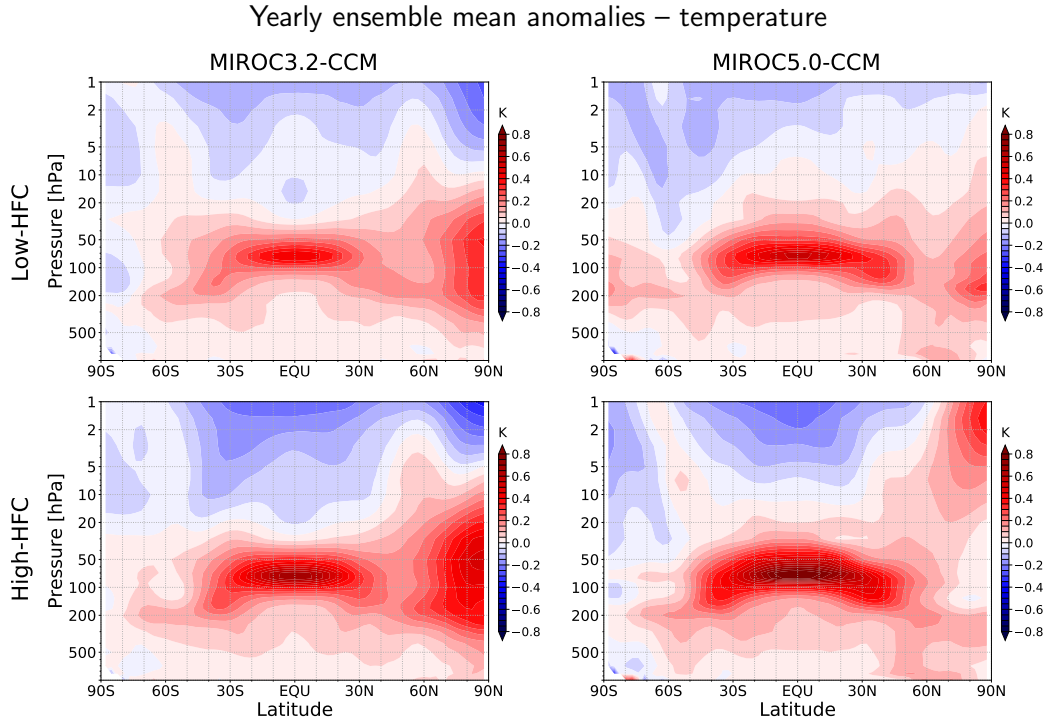
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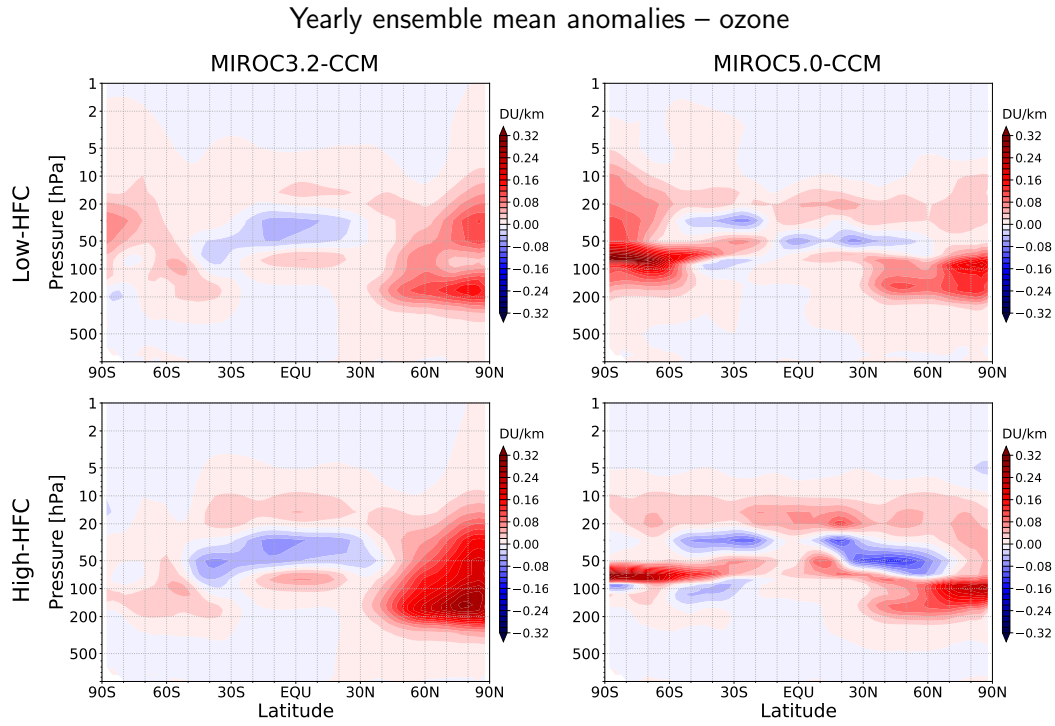
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**Table 1.** Initial abundance settings for the four HFC species considered in the simulations<sup>a</sup>.

	HFC-125	HFC-143a	HFC-32	HFC-134a
Control run	—	—	—	—
Low-HFC case <sup>b</sup>	1.60 ppbv	1.10 ppbv	0.84 ppbv	0.64 ppbv
High-HFC case <sup>c</sup>	2.40 ppbv	1.65 ppbv	1.26 ppbv	0.96 ppbv

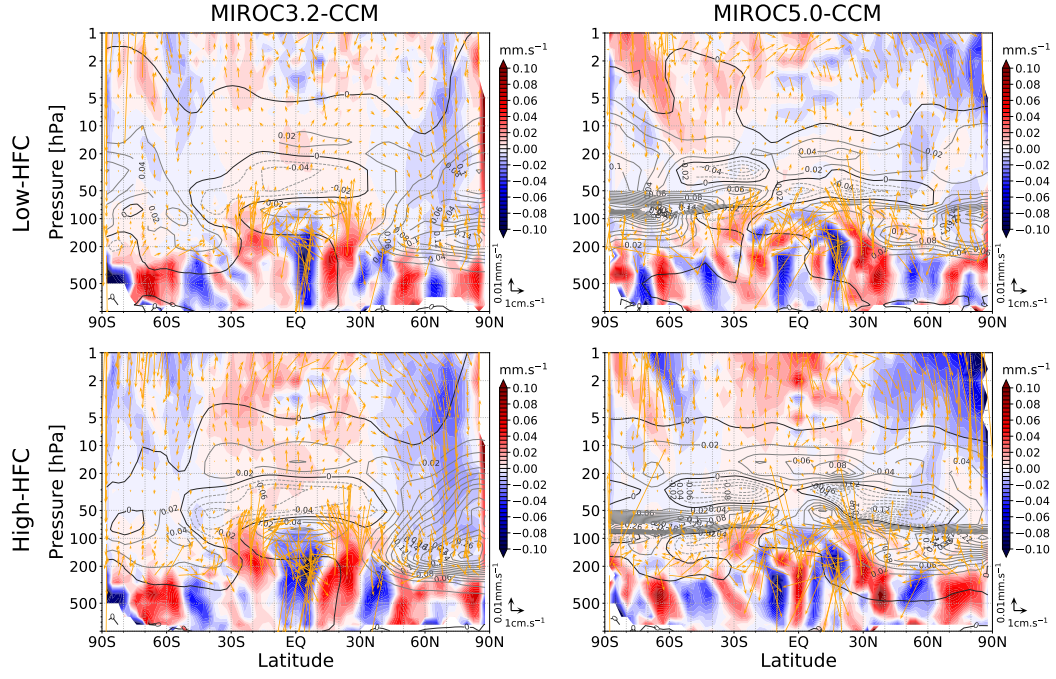
<sup>a</sup>assuming unmitigated production until the end of the century.<sup>b</sup>twice the 2050 surface abundance of Hurwitz et al. (2015).<sup>c</sup>three times the 2050 surface abundance of Hurwitz et al. (2015).**Figure 1.** Zonal averages of ensemble mean, yearly mean temperature anomalies for MIROC3.2-CCM (left) and MIROC5-CCM (right). Anomalies (differences from the control run) are shown for the low-HFC (top) and high-HFC (bottom) cases. Red and blue color levels indicate heating (positive HFC-induced anomalies) and cooling (temperatures lower than the control run), respectively.



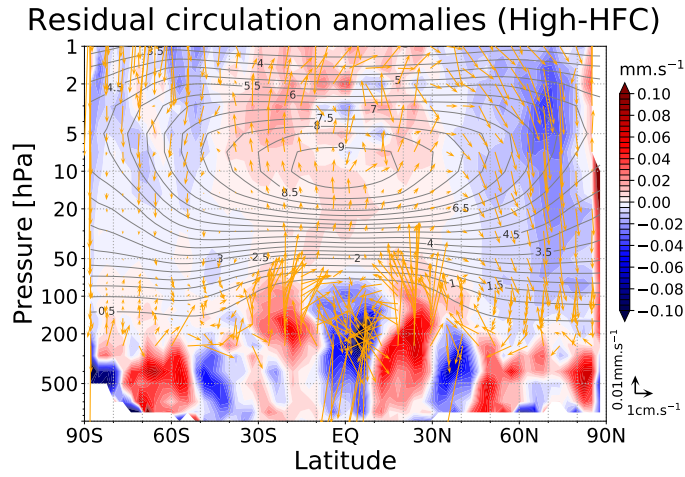


**Figure 2.** Same as Figure 1, but for  $O_3$  partial column anomalies.

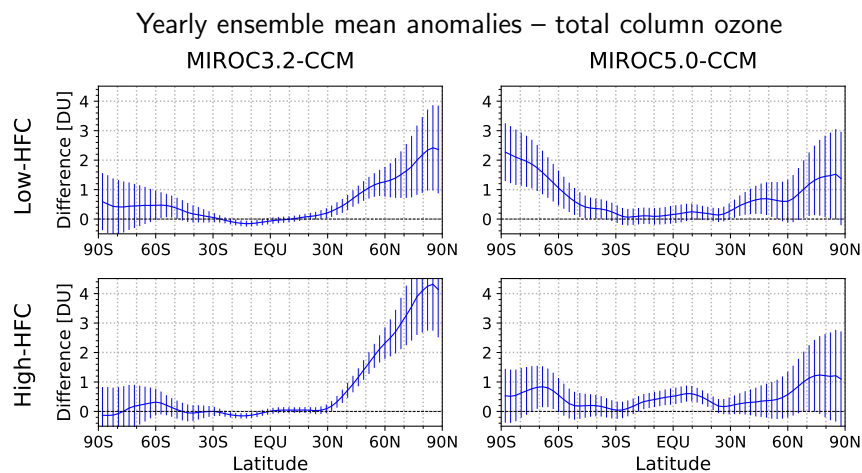
Yearly ensemble mean anomalies – residual mean circulation and O<sub>3</sub>



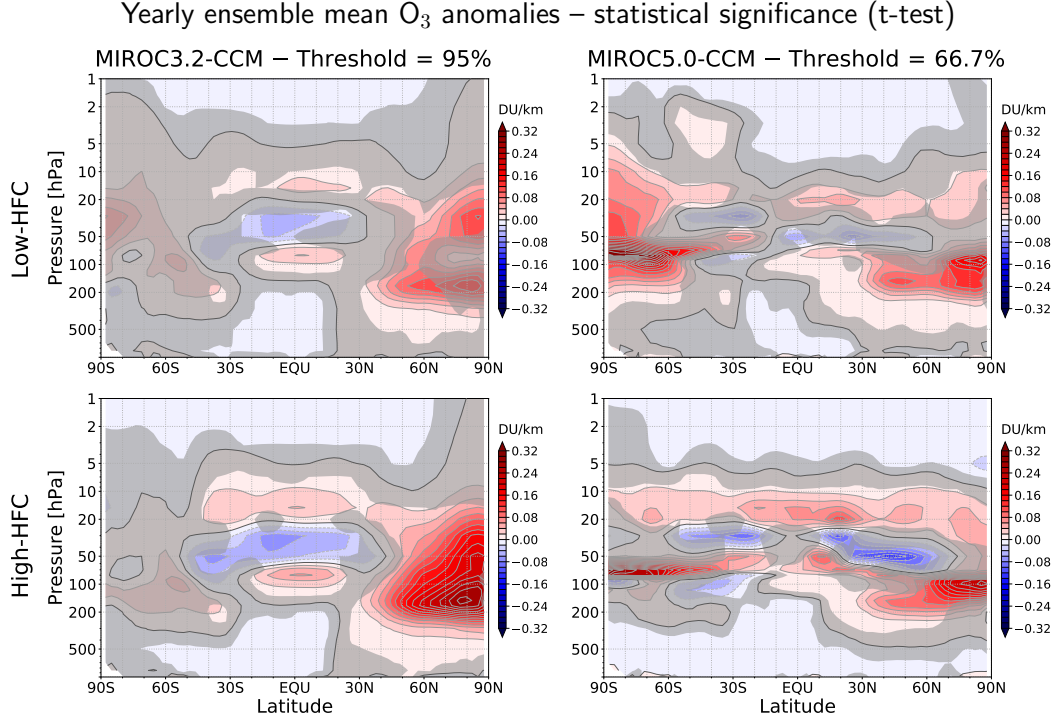
**Figure 3.** Vertical anomalies of the residual mean circulation ( $w^*$  anomalies in  $\text{mm.s}^{-1}$ , color levels) and residual mean circulation changes (yellow arrows). Meridional ( $v^*$ ) and vertical ( $w^*$ ) circulation arrow components are scaled for visibility (see key). O<sub>3</sub> anomalies from Figure 2 are shown by the line contours. Layout is the same as in Figure 1.



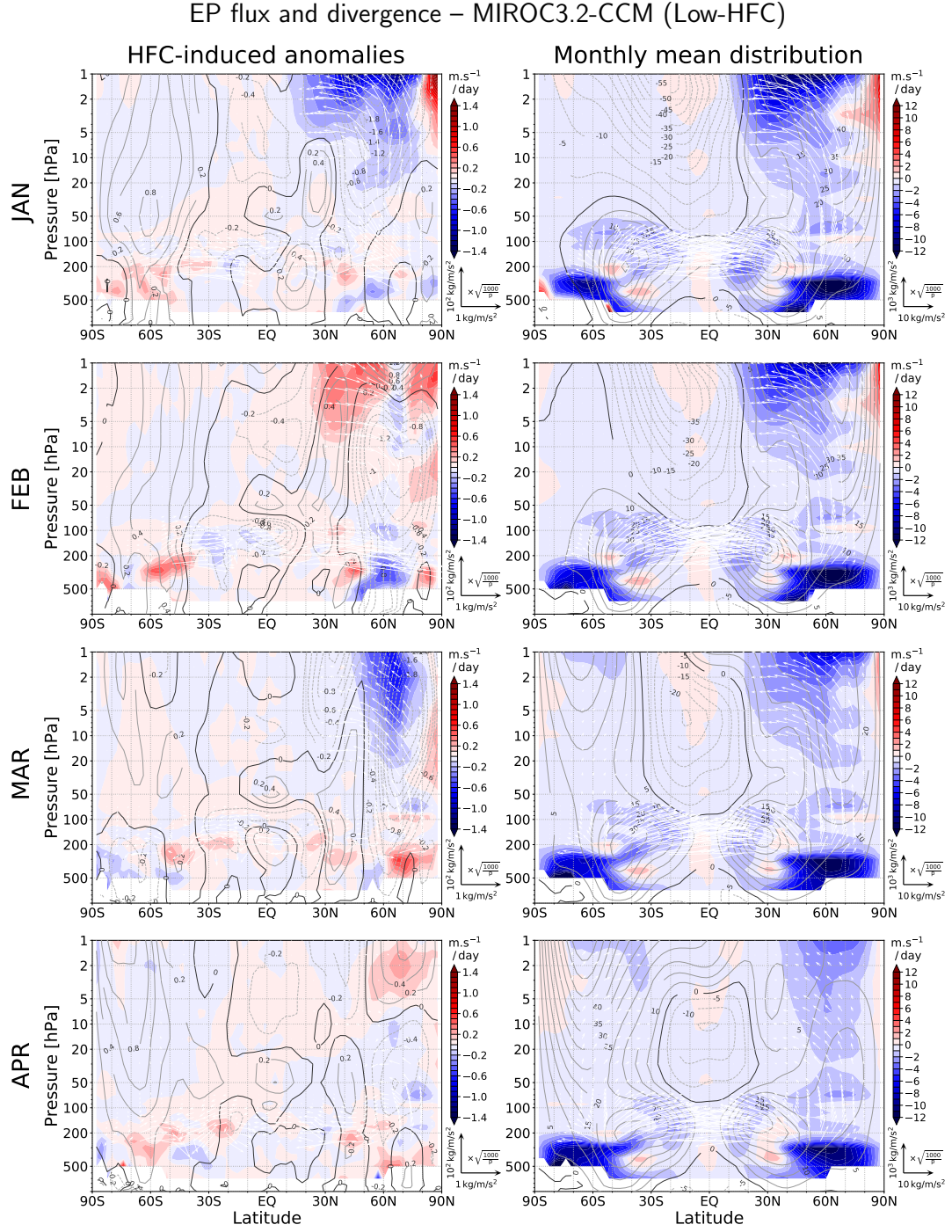
**Figure 4.** Same as Figure 3 in the high-HFC case for MIROC3.2-CCM, but with line contours showing the O<sub>3</sub> volume mixing ratio from the control run in parts-per-million-in-volume (0.5 ppmv spacing).



**Figure 5.** Zonally averaged ensemble mean, yearly mean total column  $\text{O}_3$  anomalies for MIROC3.2-CCM (left) and MIROC5-CCM (right) in the low-HFC (top) and high-HFC (bottom) cases. Latitude range and grid point spacing are the same as in Figure 1. Total column is calculated over the full model vertical range (surface to  $\sim 0.003$  hPa). Error bars represent the ensemble mean standard deviation.



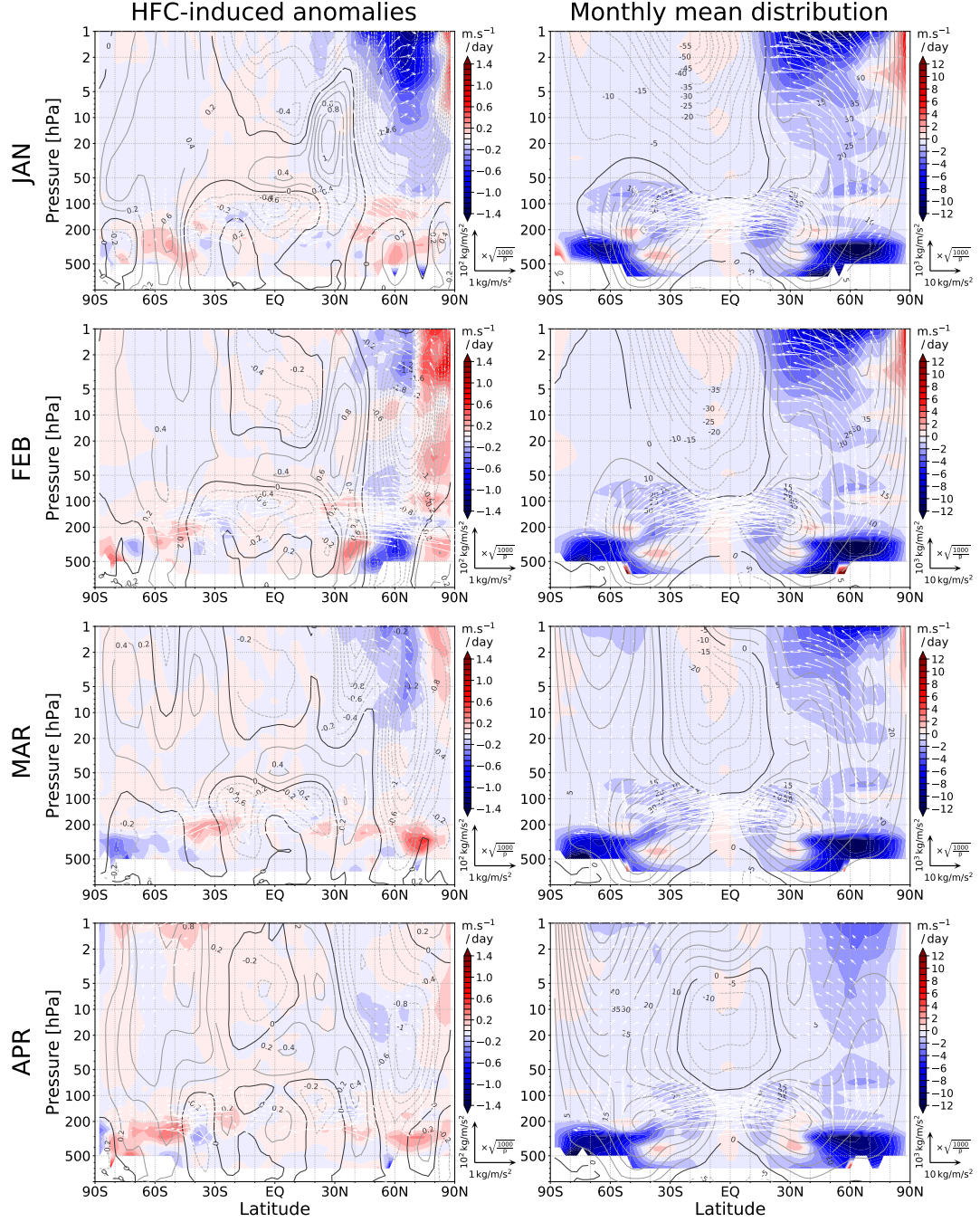
**Figure 6.** Same as Figure 2, but with statistical evaluation of anomaly structures. Shading shows low statistical significance areas, with thresholds of 95% for MIROC3.2-CCM (left) and ~67% for MIROC5-CCM (right). Unmasked regions are above the significance threshold. The thick black line (0 DU/km) shows the transition region between positive and negative anomalies, where calculated significance was lowest.



**Figure 7.** Eliassen-Palm (EP) flux, EP flux divergence and zonal mean zonal wind for MIROC3.2-CCM in the low-HFC case. *Left:* Monthly mean anomalies from January (top) to April (bottom). Color levels show positive (red) and negative (blue) anomalies of the EP flux divergence. Positive and negative zonal mean zonal wind anomalies are shown by the solid and dashed lines, respectively. White arrows represent EP flux anomalies (see key on the right hand side), with a pressure-dependent scaling (also indicated) to enhance visibility of the stratospheric vectors. *Right:* Same as left column, but for monthly mean distributions.

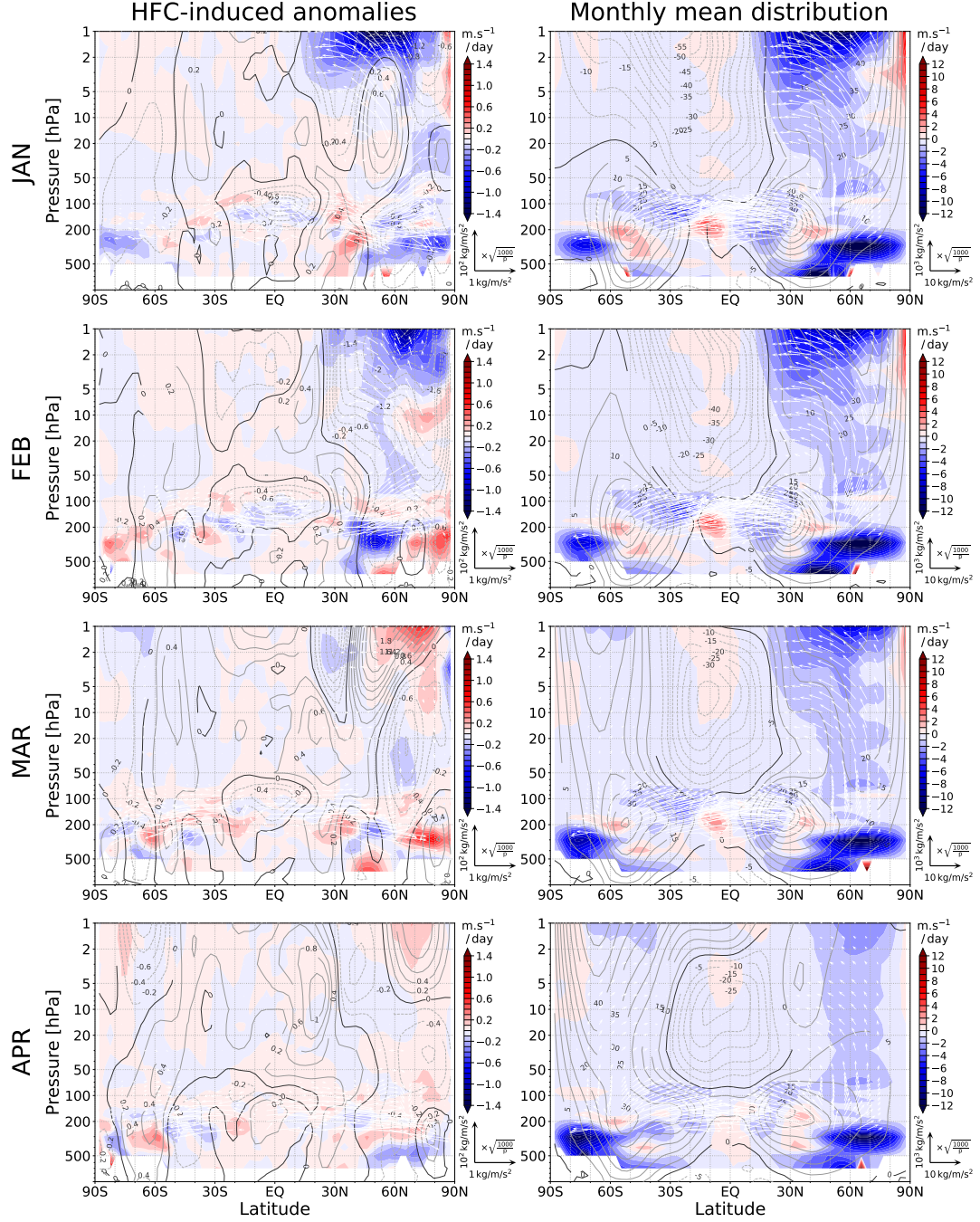


# EP flux and divergence – MIROC3.2-CCM (High-HFC)



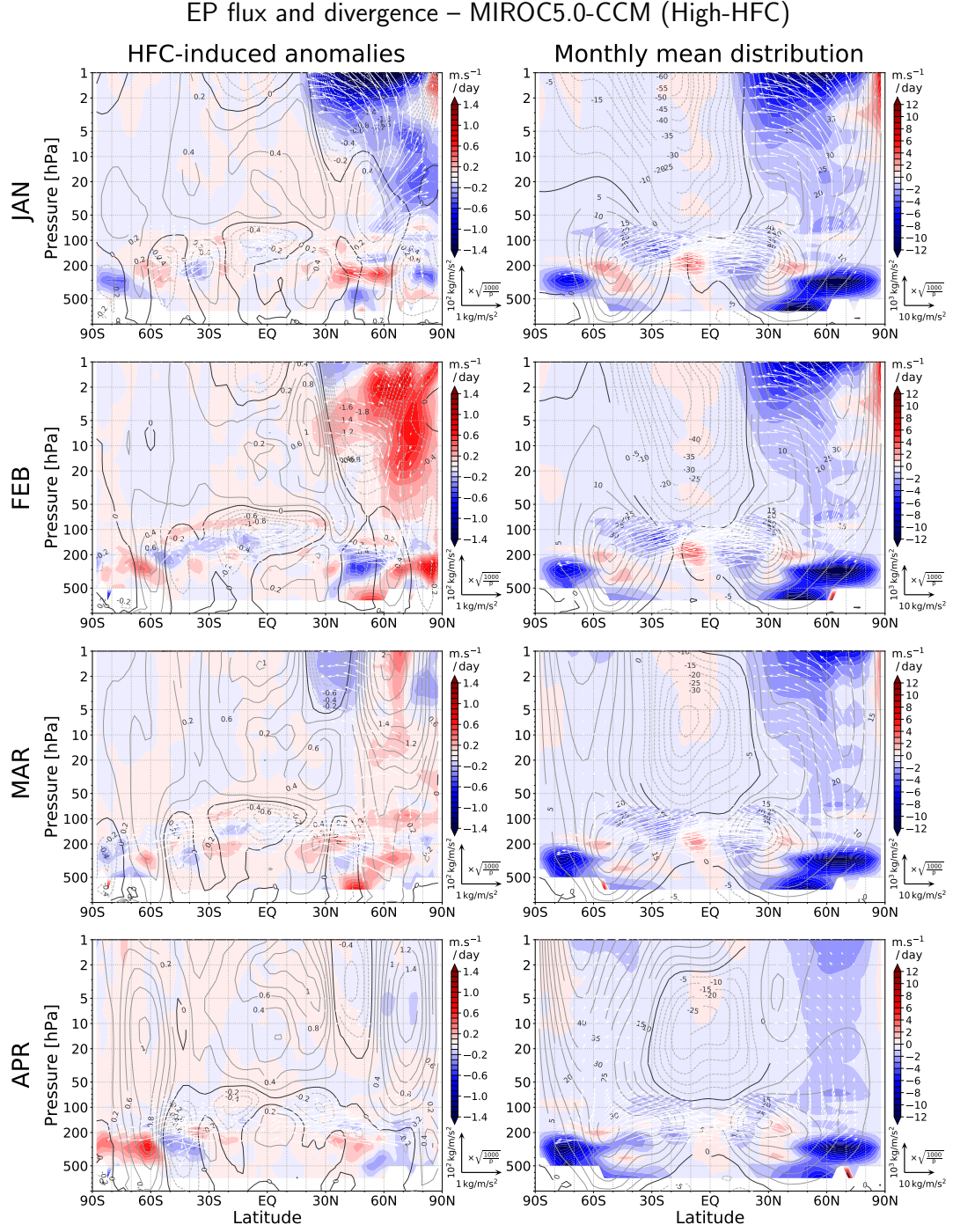
**Figure 8.** Same as Figure 7, but for MIROC3.2-CCM in the high-HFC case.

# EP flux and divergence – MIROC5.0-CCM (Low-HFC)



**Figure 9.** Same as Figure 7, but for MIROC5-CCM in the low-HFC case.





**Figure 10.** Same as Figure 7, but for MIROC5-CCM in the high-HFC case.