

Long term zonal drift velocities of the ionospheric bubbles in the South American sector

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The zonal velocities of the ionospheric plasma bubbles over the Brazilian region are investigated here. This study is based on a long term OI630 nm AIRGLOW data set obtained at Cachoeira Paulista (22.5S, 45W, dip 30S) during one solar cycle period. The solar cycle effects on the magnitude of the bubbles zonal drift velocities are investigated. It became evident from these data that these velocities tend to increase with the rise of solar activity. The local time variations of the bubble zonal velocities are also analyzed.

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