

THE UPPER LEVEL WIND DIVERGENCE THE ITS RELATIONSHIP WITH THE
CLOUD COVER AND PRECIPITATION, DURING WETAMC/LBA

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This work's objective is to analyze the upper level wind divergence obtained by three different methods to evaluate the diurnal cycle and which of them has the more effective response to the cloud fraction and the precipitation. It was used cloud fraction data (calculated from images of the GOES-8), rain fraction (calculated from the reflectividade supplied by the radar TOGA), and upper level wind divergence (starting from the water vapor channel, radiosondas and NCEP), obtained during the WETAMC/LBA campaign, on January and February of 1999. The diurnal cycle of the divergence was marked by a maximum 11:00 LST, and it showed good correlation with the precipitation. Related to cloud cover it was possible to verify that the divergence didn't show any relationship with clouds with low and hot tops (threshold of 284 K), but on the other hand, it behaved as a predictor of the convective cover.