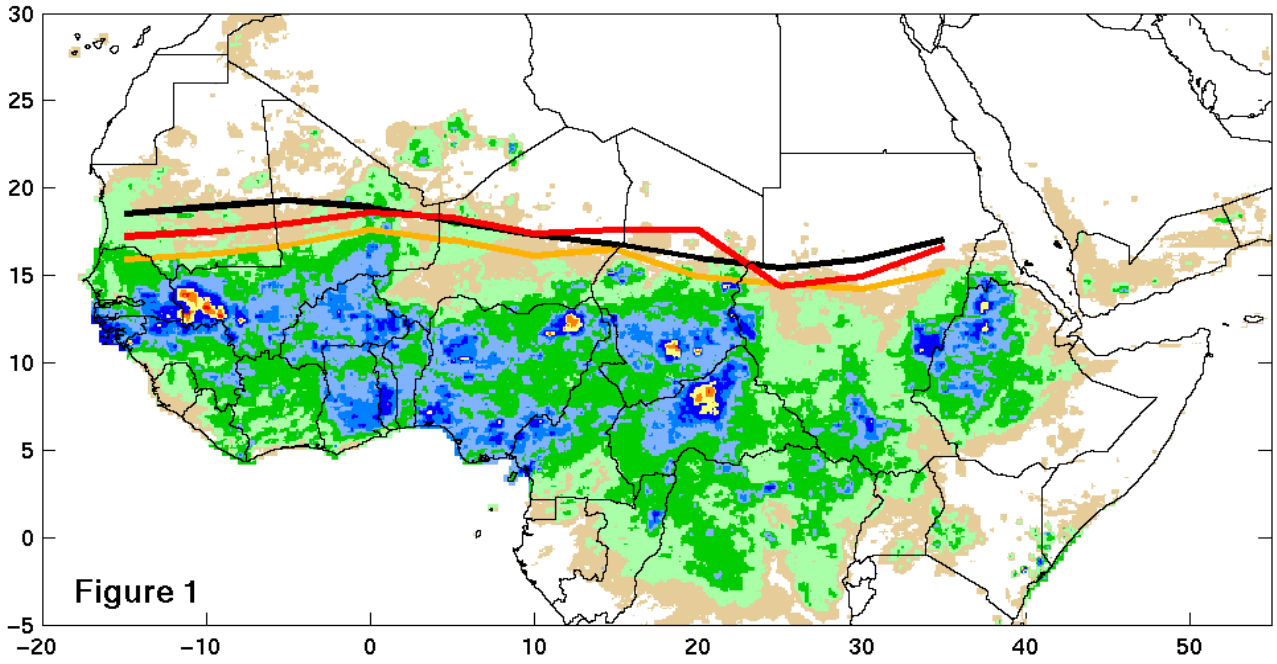
Current vs. Mean Position of the Africa ITF

Jul 2011 : Dekad 2



CPC RFE Accumulated Dekadal Precipitation (mm):

1 10 25 50 75 100 150 200 250

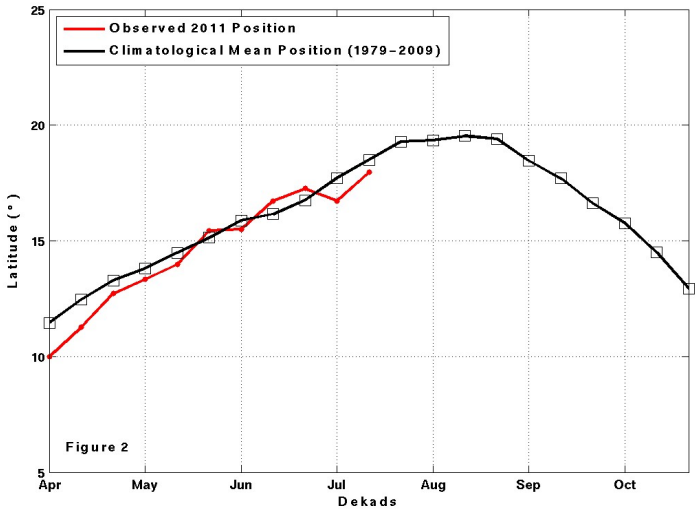
Previous 10-Day Mean Position

Normal 10-Day Mean Position

Current 10-Day Mean position

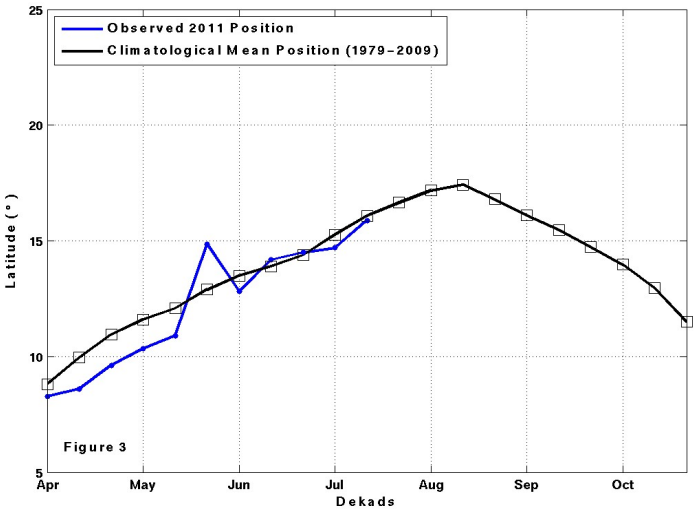
Mean West Portion of ITF: Averaged 10°W to 10°E

As of Jul 2011 : Dekad 2



Mean East Portion of ITF: Averaged 20°E to 35°E

As of Jul 2011 : Dekad 2



During July 11-20, 2011, the ITF experienced a signficant northward advancement from its position during the previous dekad and is now closer to the climatological mean position during the second dekad of July. The farthest movement was observed across eastern Niger and central Chad, where the ITF brought moderate to heavy rains in local areas of the Darfur region of Sudan. The mean western portion of the ITF approximated 18 degrees North and lagged behind the climatological mean position by half a degree. The ITF's mean eastern portion was located at 15.9 degrees North and was behind the climatological mean by only 0.2 degrees. The regain of momentum of the ITF could be associated with stronger southerlies during the second dekad of July. Figure 1 shows the current ITF position relative to the climatology position for the second dekad of July and its previous position during the first dekad of July. Figures 2 and 3 are time series, illustrating the latitudinal means of the western and eastern portions of the ITF, respectively, and their evolutions since the start of April.