



During July 21-31, 2011, the ITF remained relatively stationary relative to its position during the second dekad of July. However, a major proportion of the ITF now coincides with the climatological mean position during this time of the year, with the exception of its western segment, which lagged behind the average position. The anomalous position of the ITF across the western segment was partially attributed to an anomalous cyclonic circulation located in North Africa, which northeasterly components blocked the advancement of the ITF during the third dekad of July. The mean western portion of the ITF was approximately located at 18.5 degrees North and trailed the climatological mean by 0.8 degrees. The ITF's mean eastern portion was, however, approximated at 16.7 degrees North and led the average position by 0.1 degrees. Figure 1 shows the current ITF position relative to the climatology position for the third dekad of July and its previous position during the second dekad of July. Figures 2 and 3 are time series, showing the latitudinal means of the western and eastern portions of the ITF, respectively, and their evolutions since the start of April.