

**E- ICES 2**  
**“International Center for**  
**Earth Sciences”**  
**2º Encuentro**

**2006**

**STUDY OF THE 1973-2002  
VARIABILITY OF THE ANNUAL  
CICLE OF ERA-40  
GEOPOTENTIAL HEIGHT: AN  
INTERHEMISPHERE  
COMPARISON**

Patricia Repossi and Pablo Canziani

**30 years tropospheric and lower  
stratospheric ECMWF ERA-40 geopotential  
height data are studied.**

**The zonal mean annual cycle from pole to pole**



**evaluate the interannual variability and  
determine interhemispheric differences in the  
annual cycle evolution during the 30-year period  
(1973-2002).**



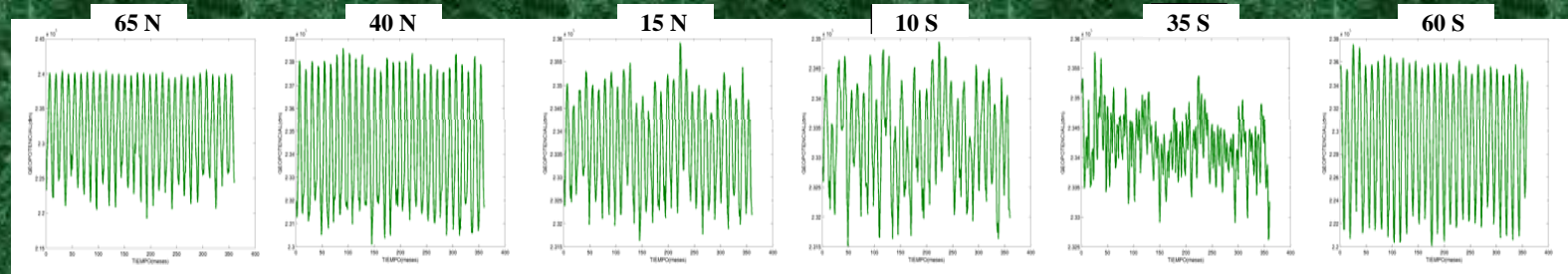
## Analysis

- ⇒ Zonal average (latitudinal)
- ⇒ Monthly average
- ⇒ Fourier Analysis

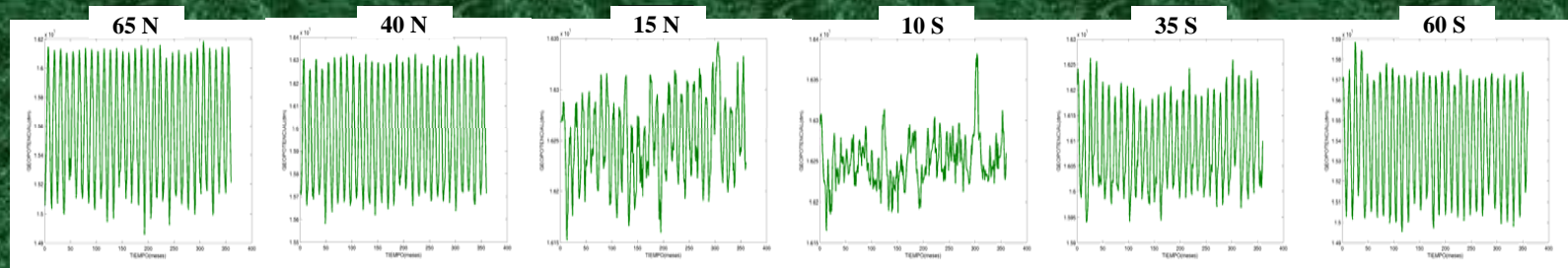
## Results

*I\_ Annual cycle reconstruction and variability along 30 years by an inverse transform of the spectral band*

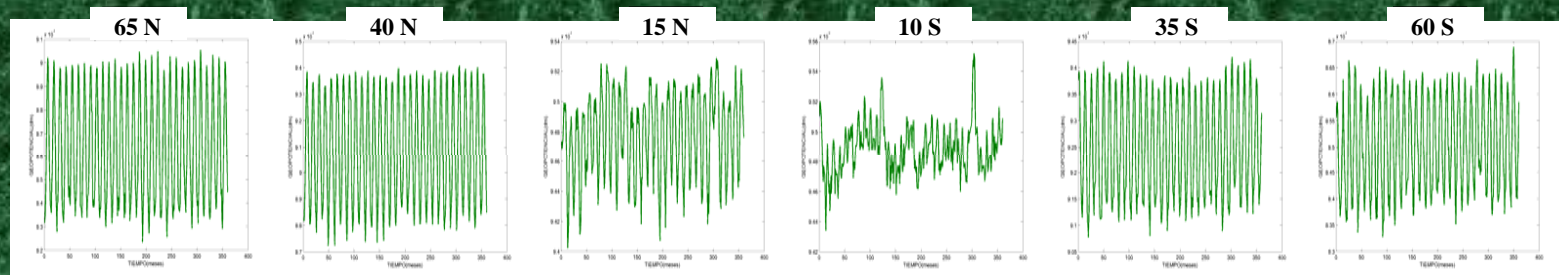
30mb



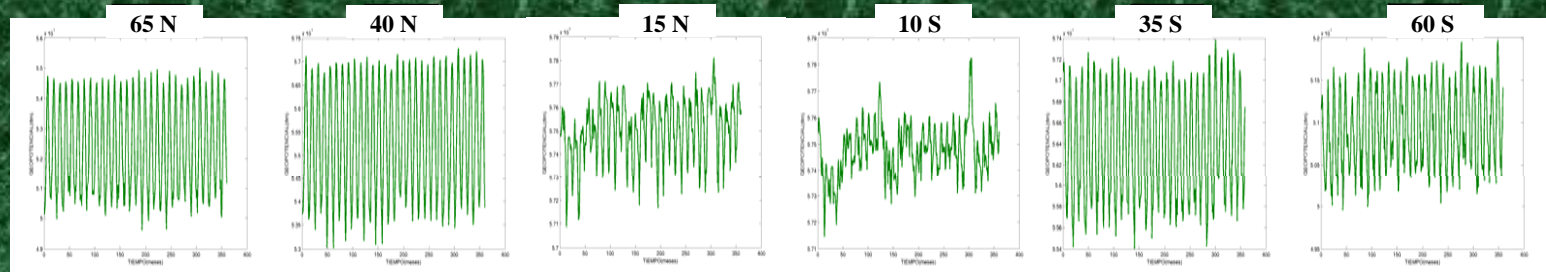
100mb



300mb



500mb





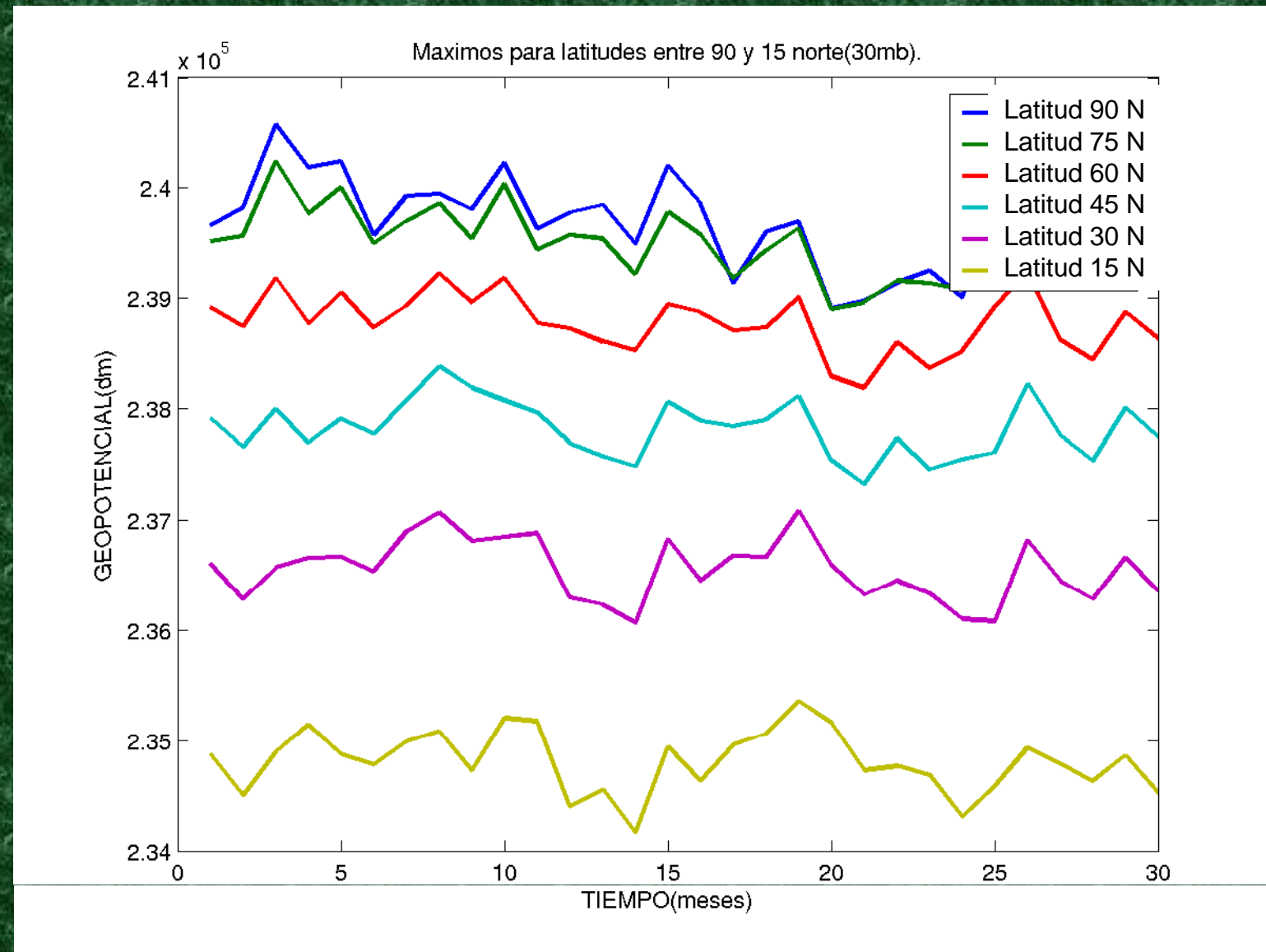
*For all heights*

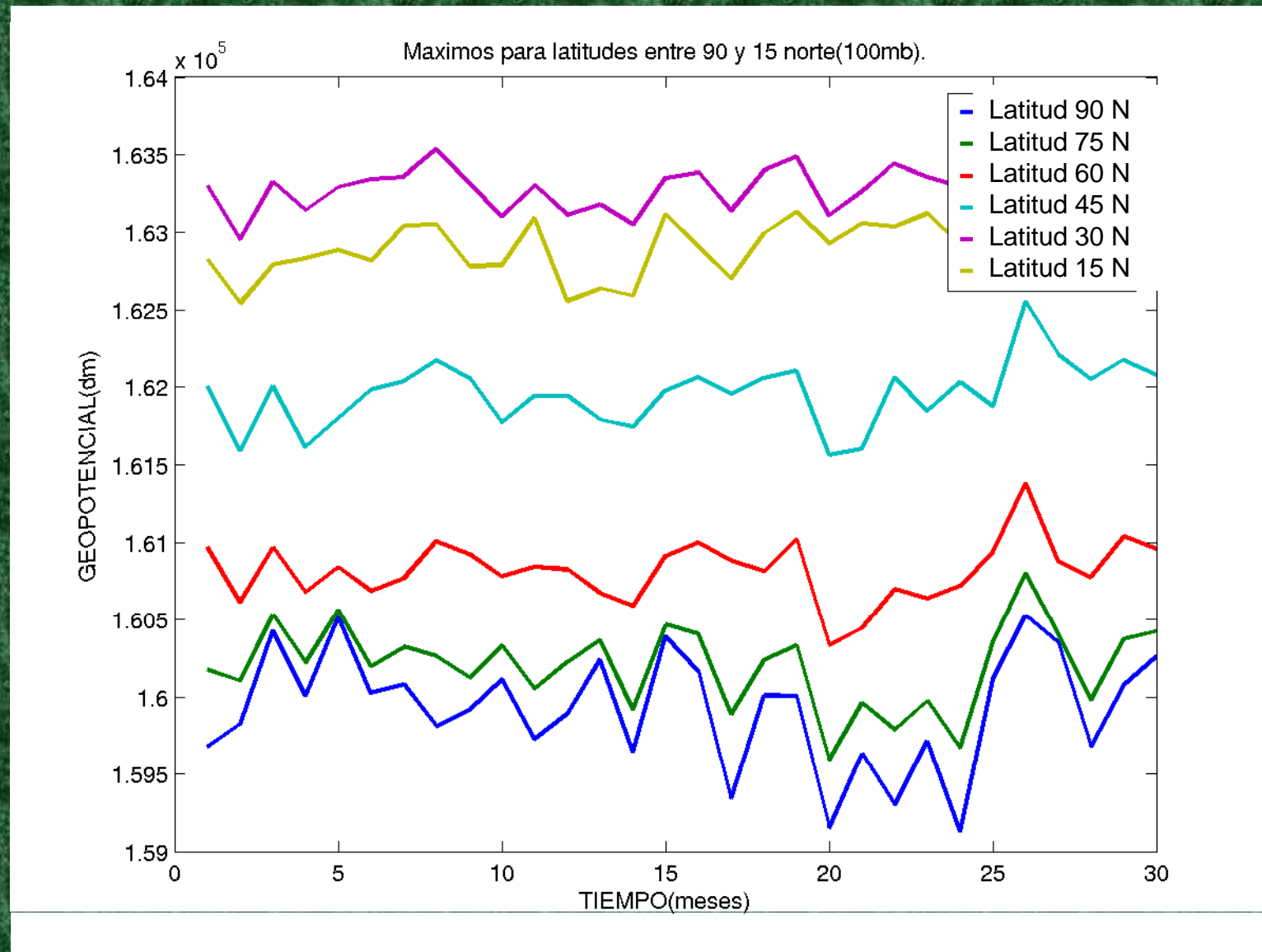
- \* tropical latitudes: QBO modify the annual cycle
- \* Higher latitudes: annual cycle is dominant
- ➔ interannual modulation is stronger for annual minima than for maxima
- ➔ Both significant variability in the annual mean and annual mean amplitude can be observed at all latitudes and heights.

Amplitude modulation suggests the existence of non-linear interactions and vacillations in the annual cycle.

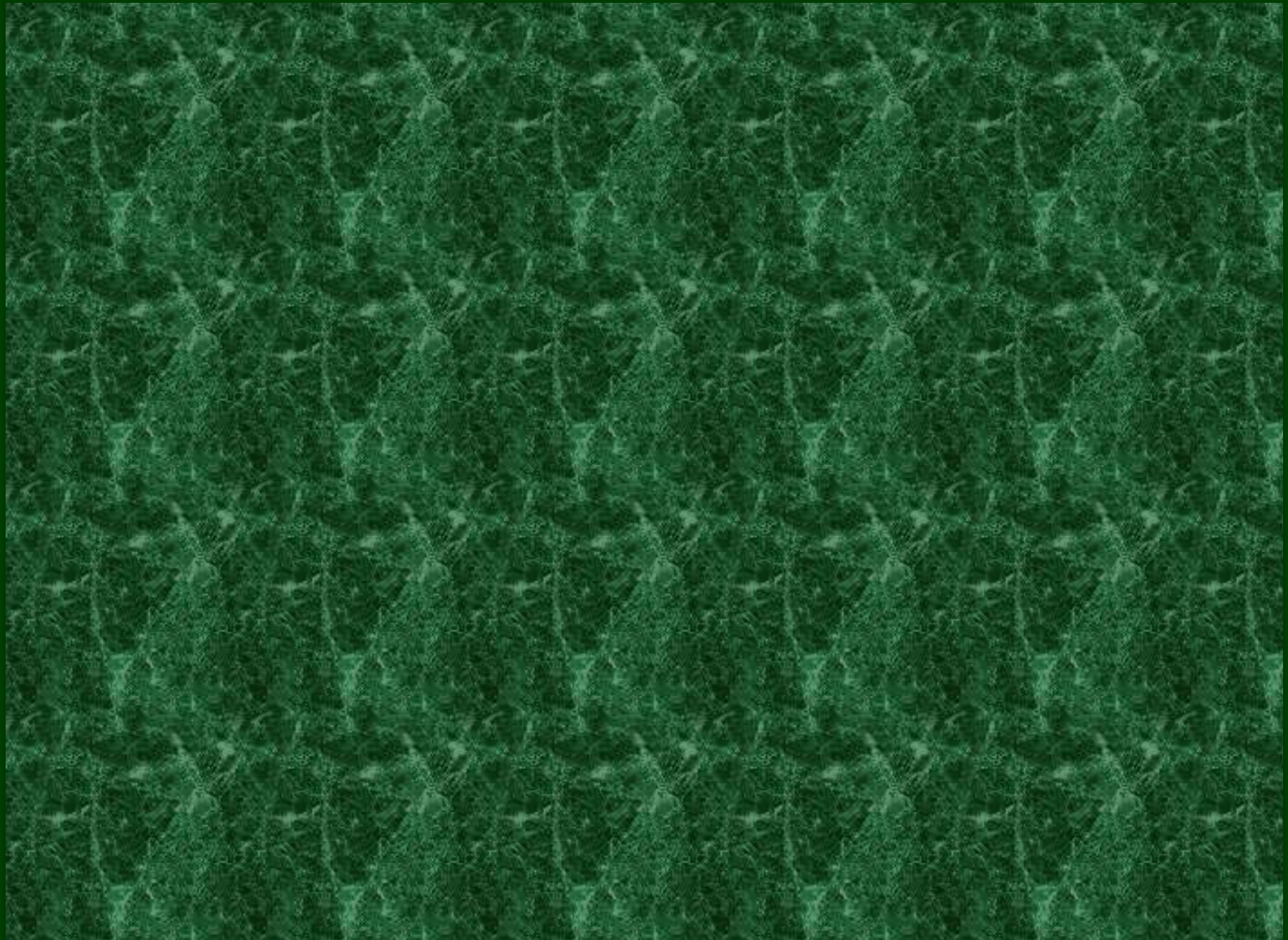
Extratropics ➔ the modulation is more significant in the annual minima than in the annual maxima

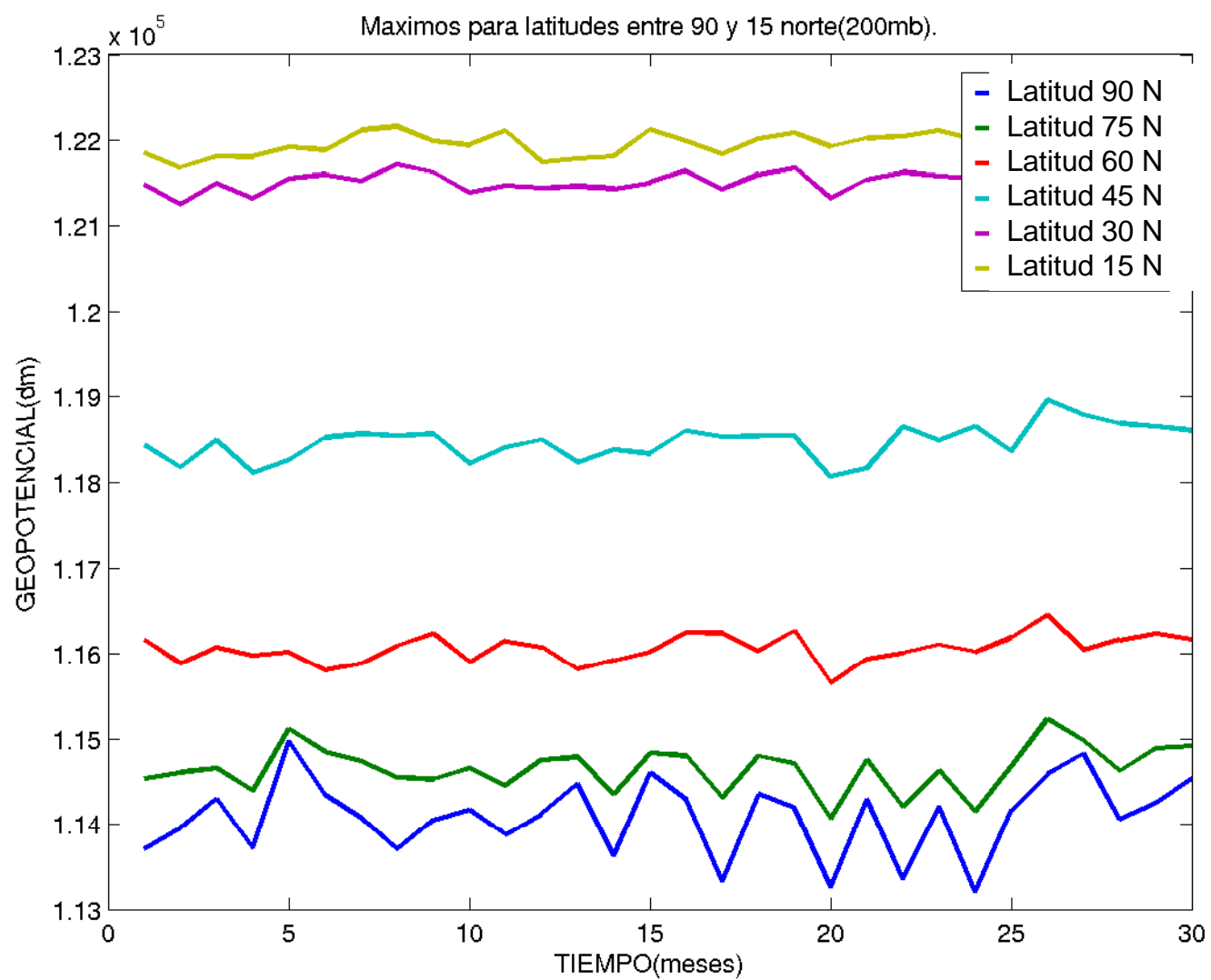
# Evolution of the Maxima

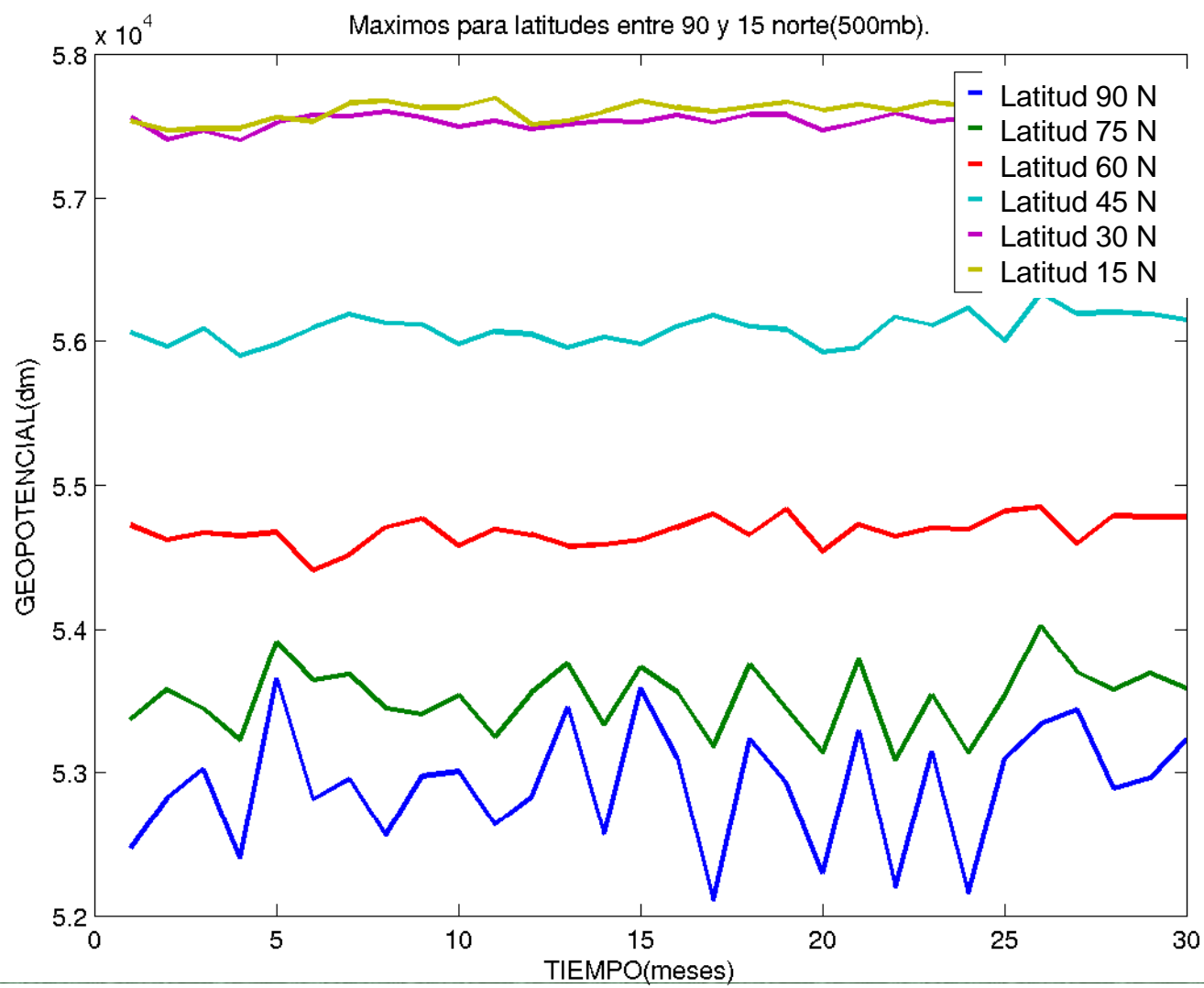




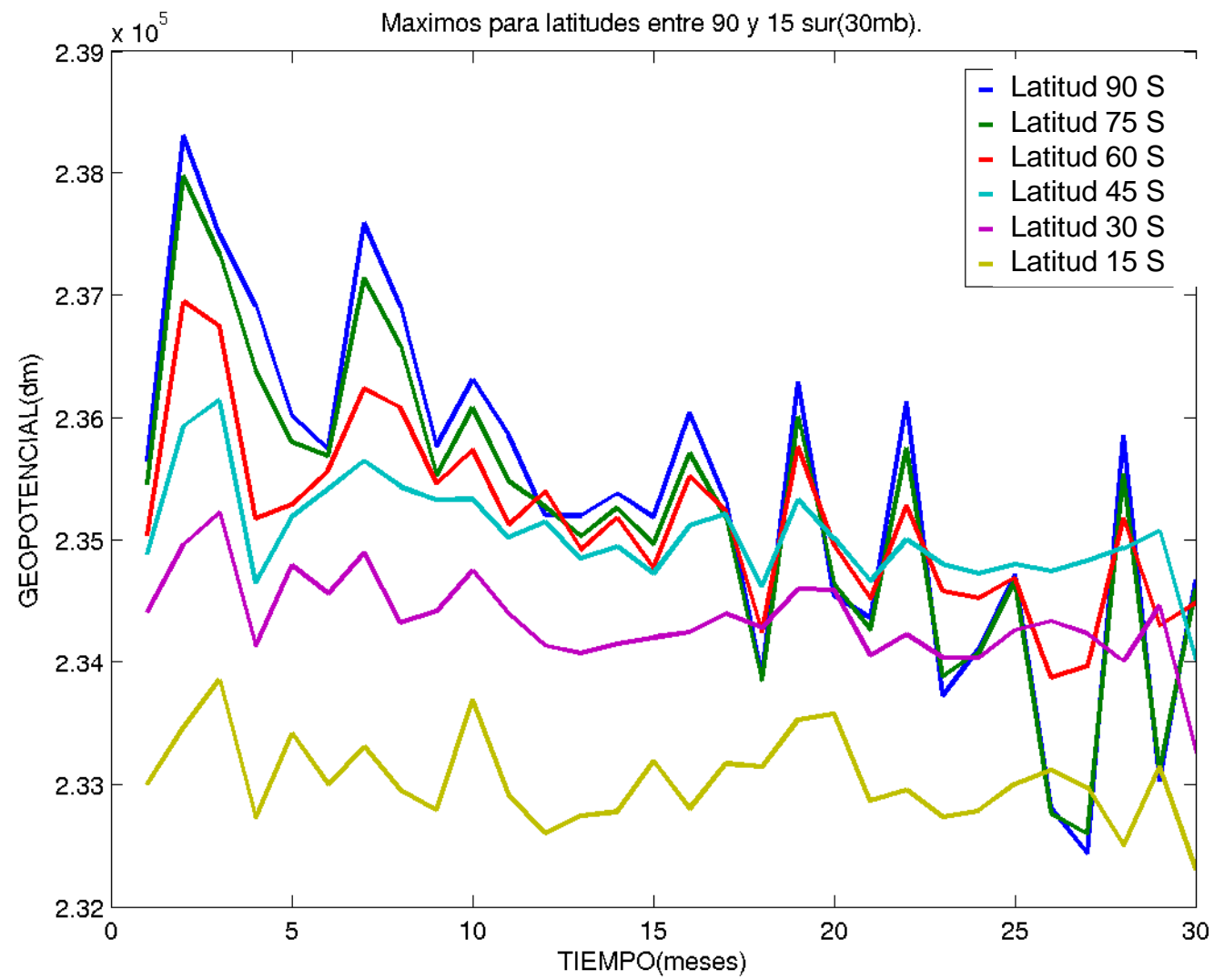


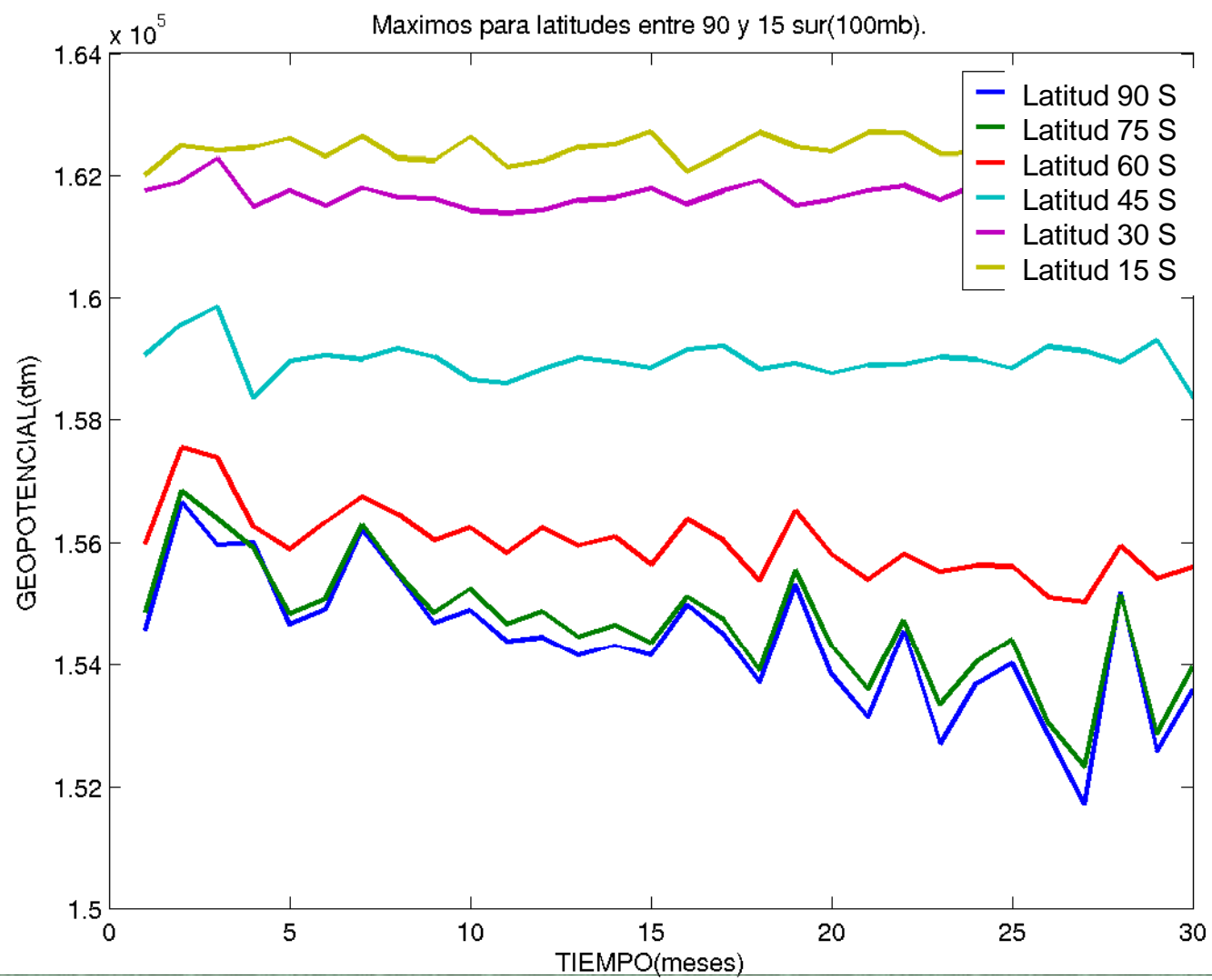


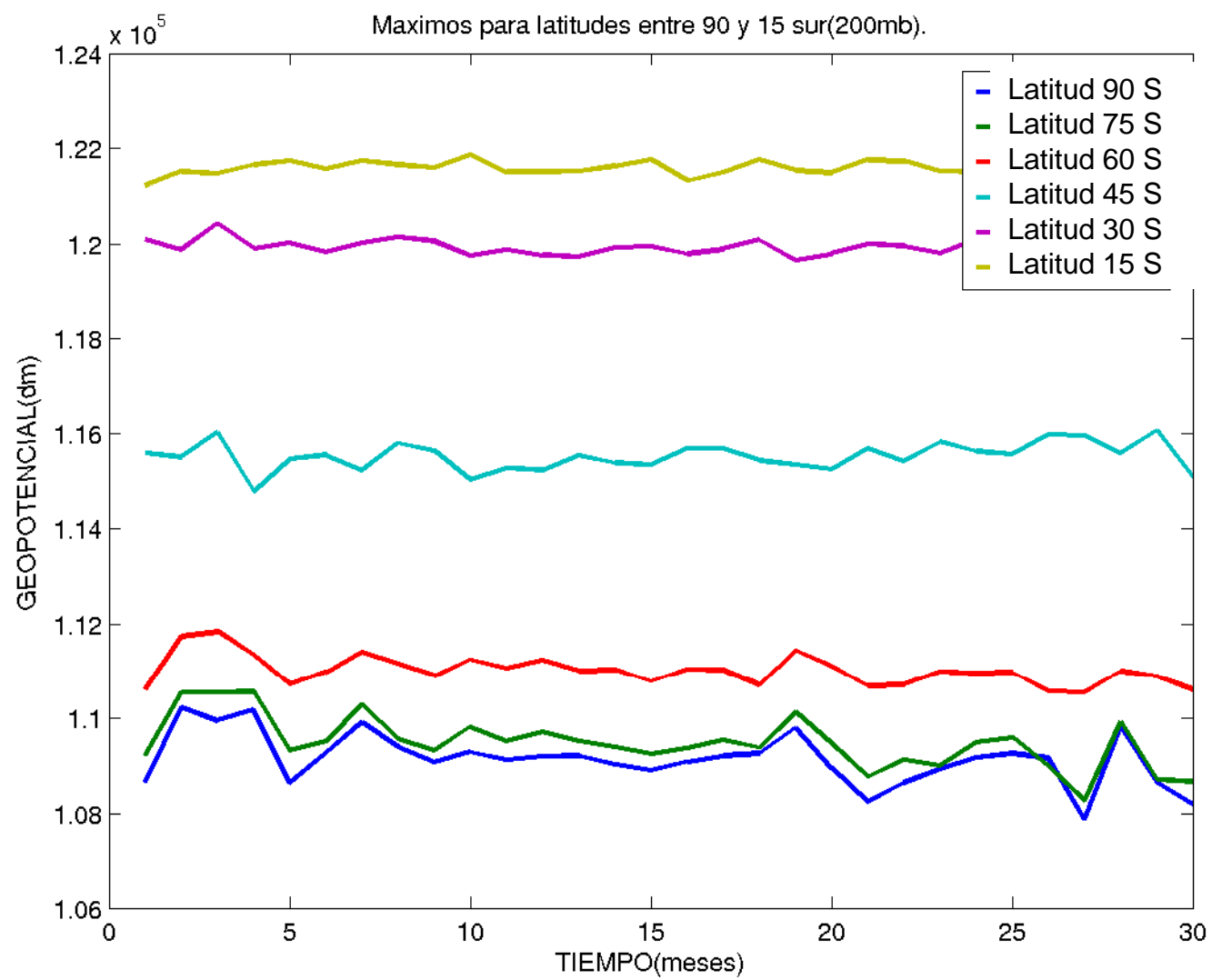




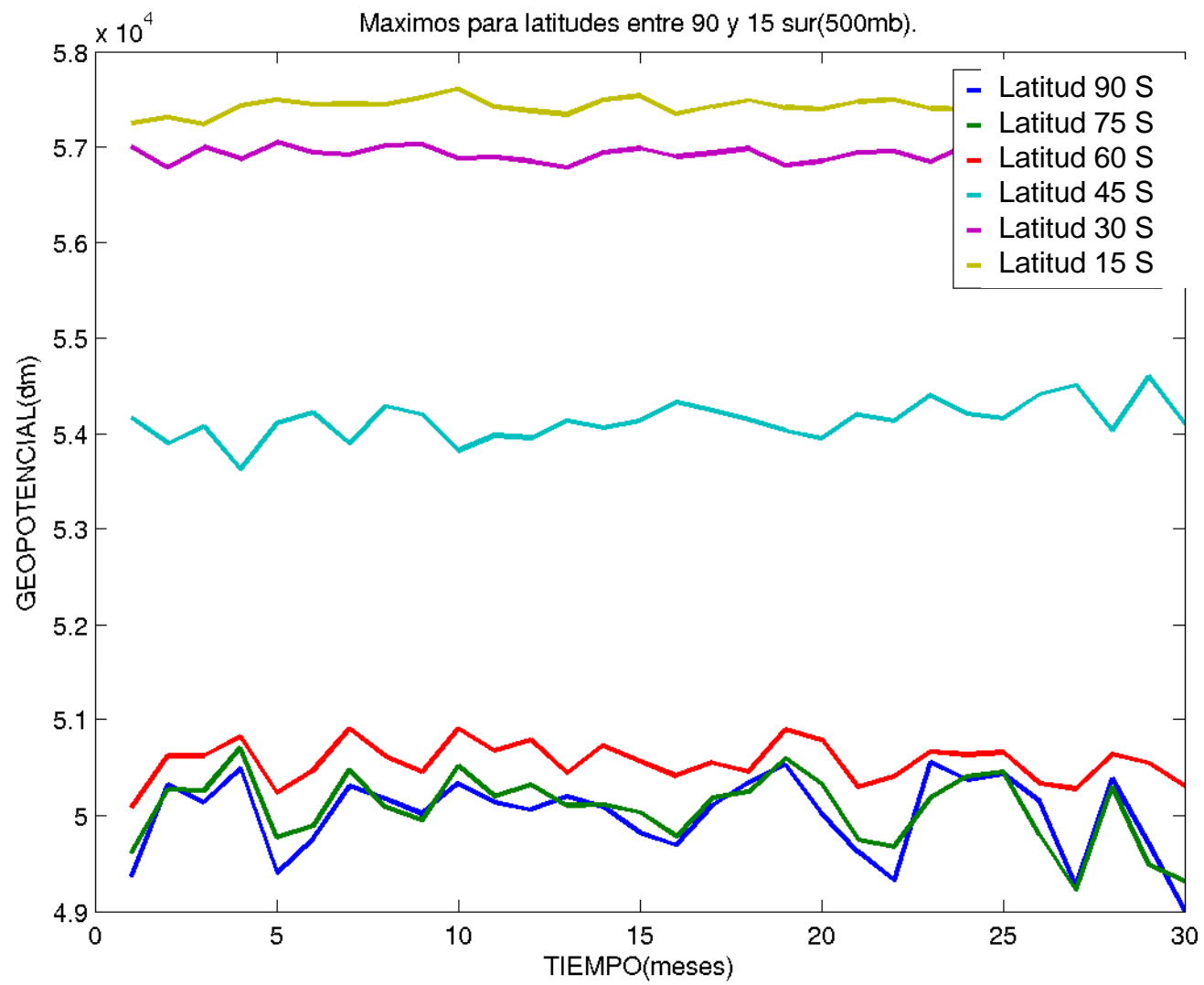




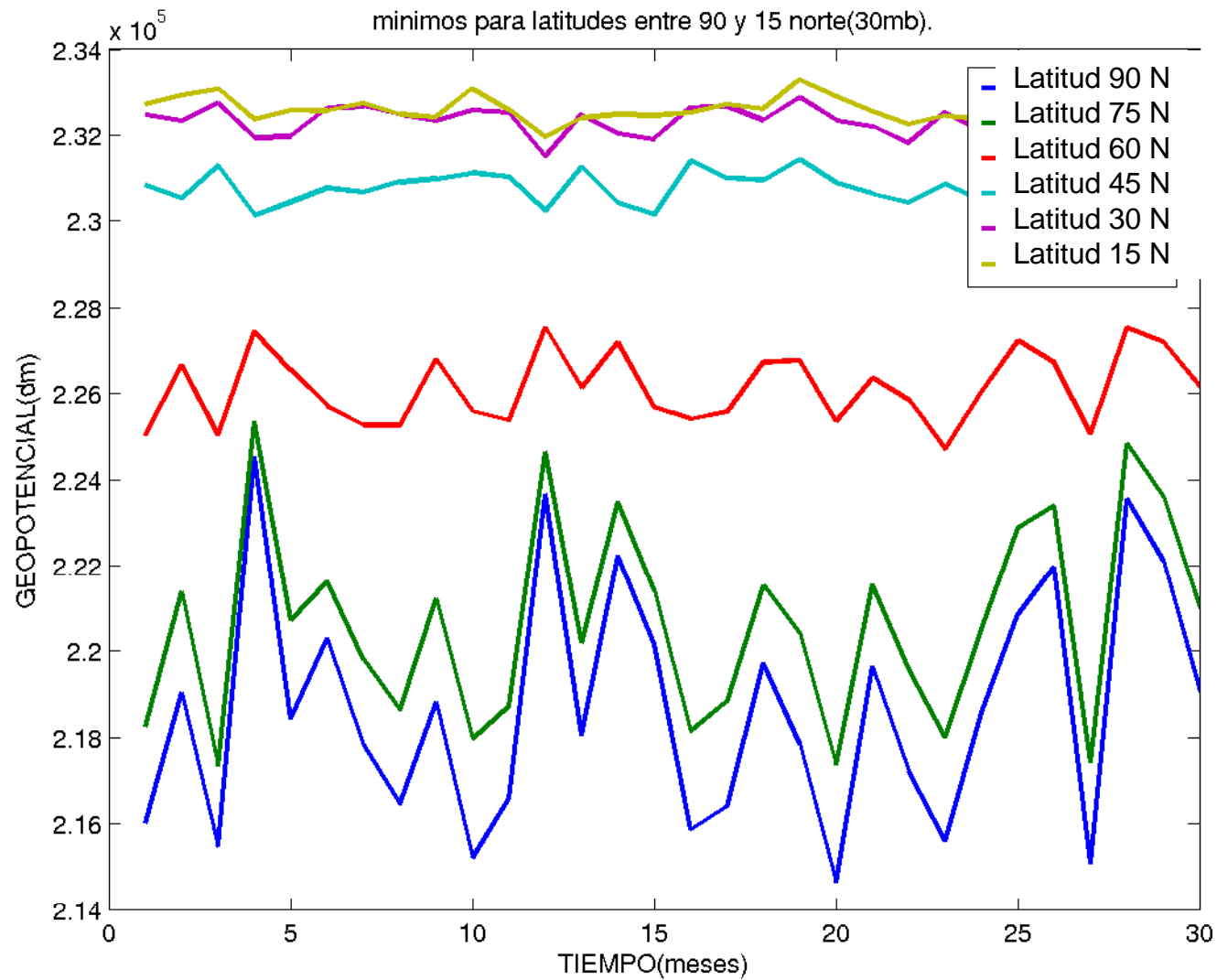


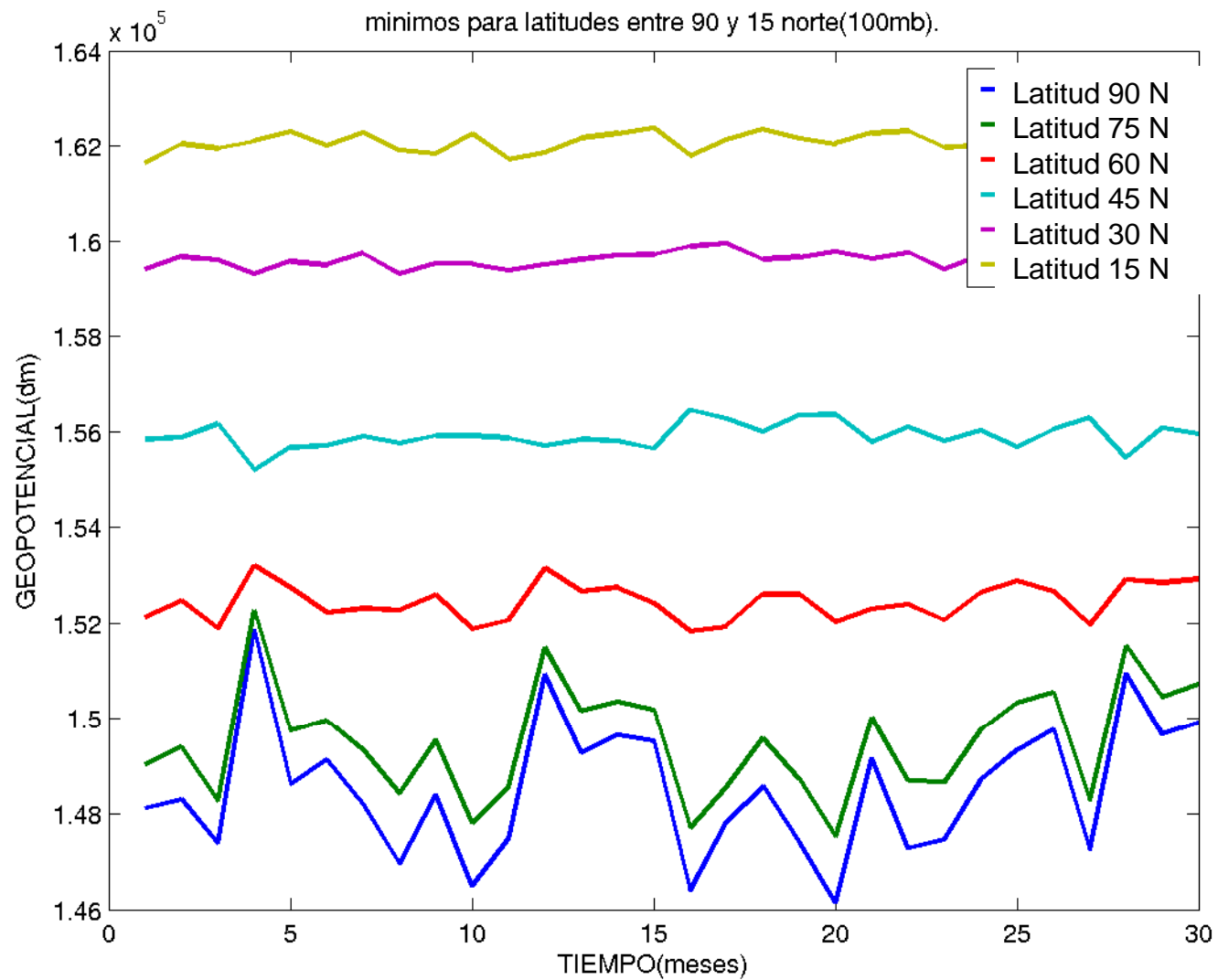




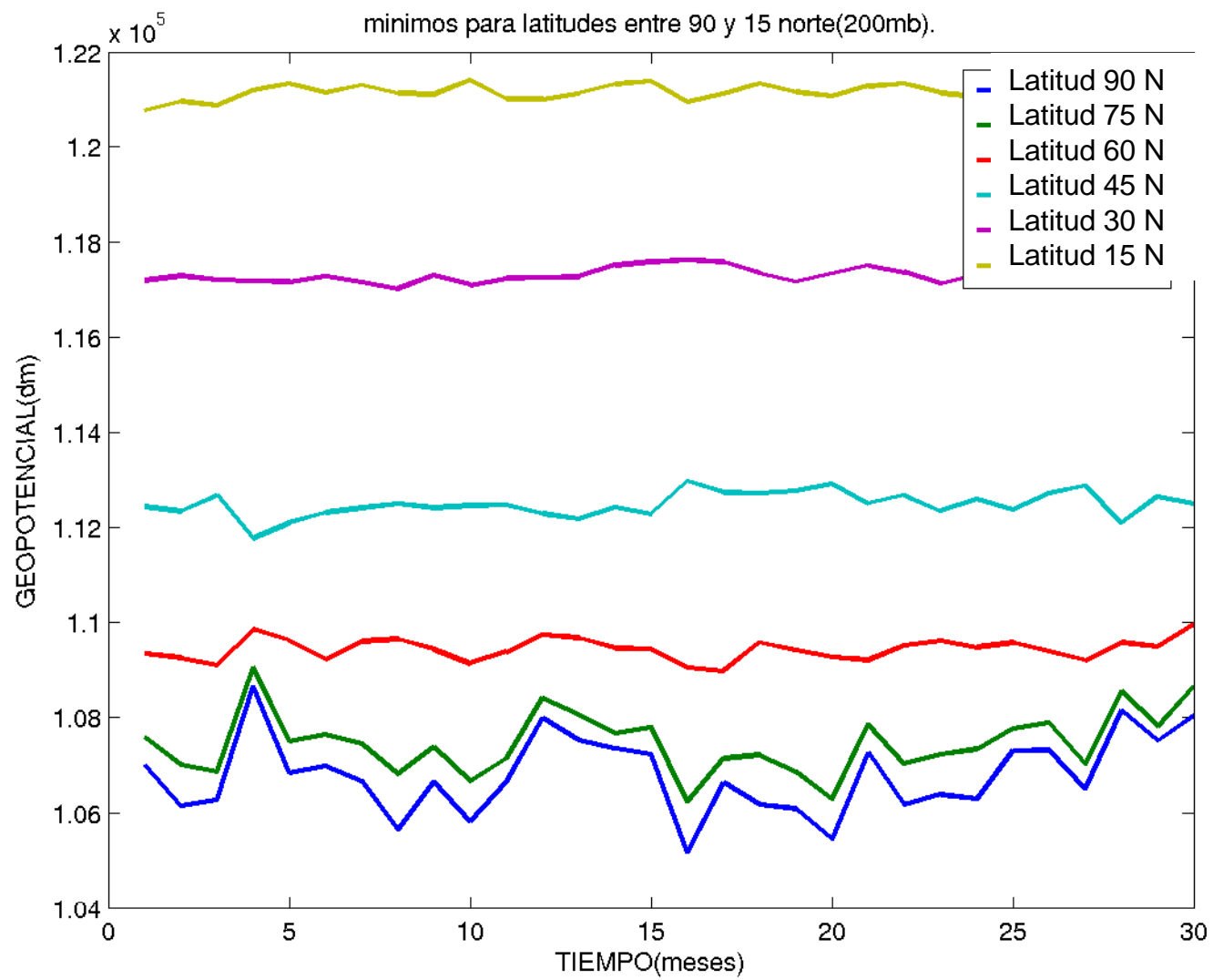


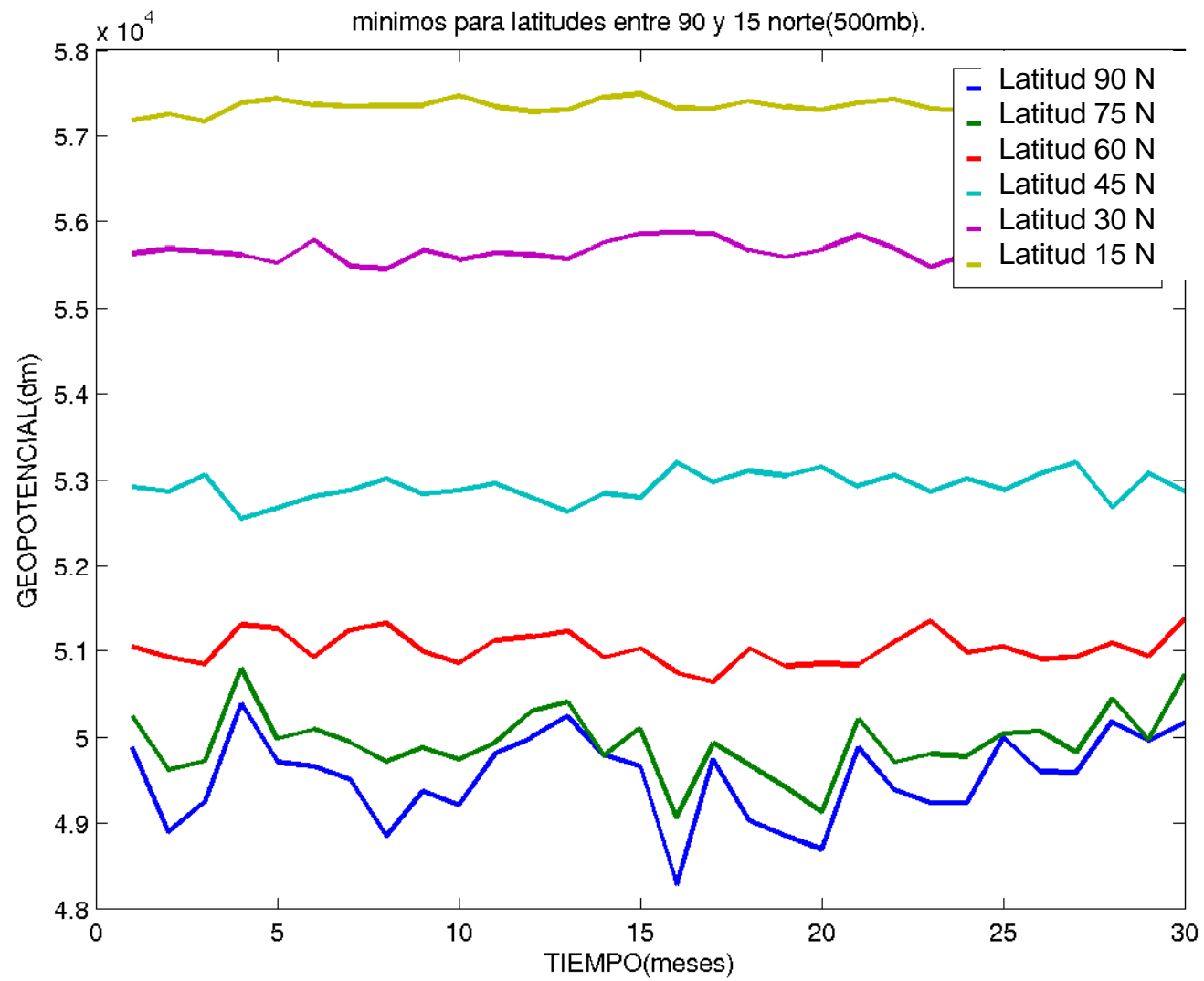
# Evolution of the Minima

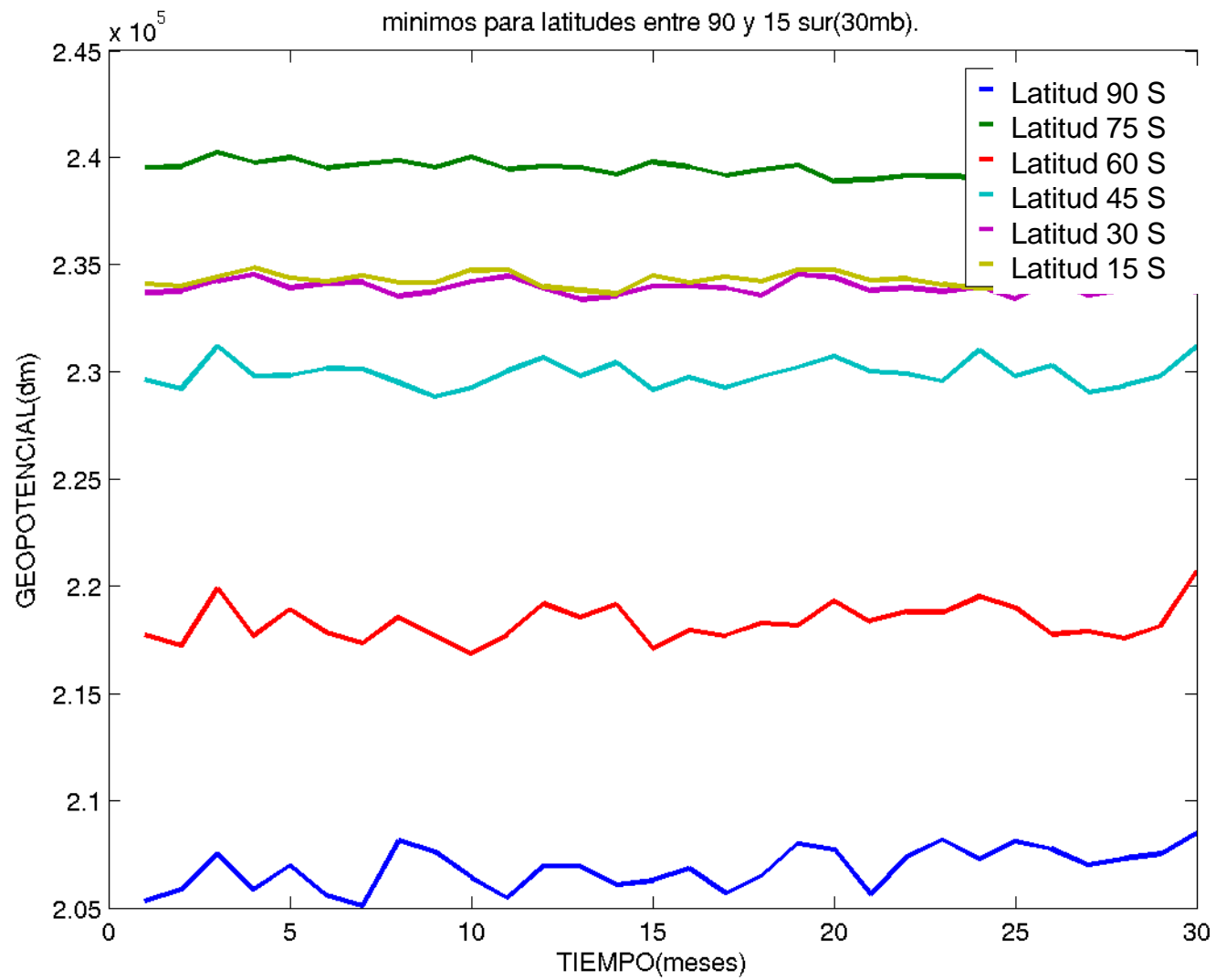




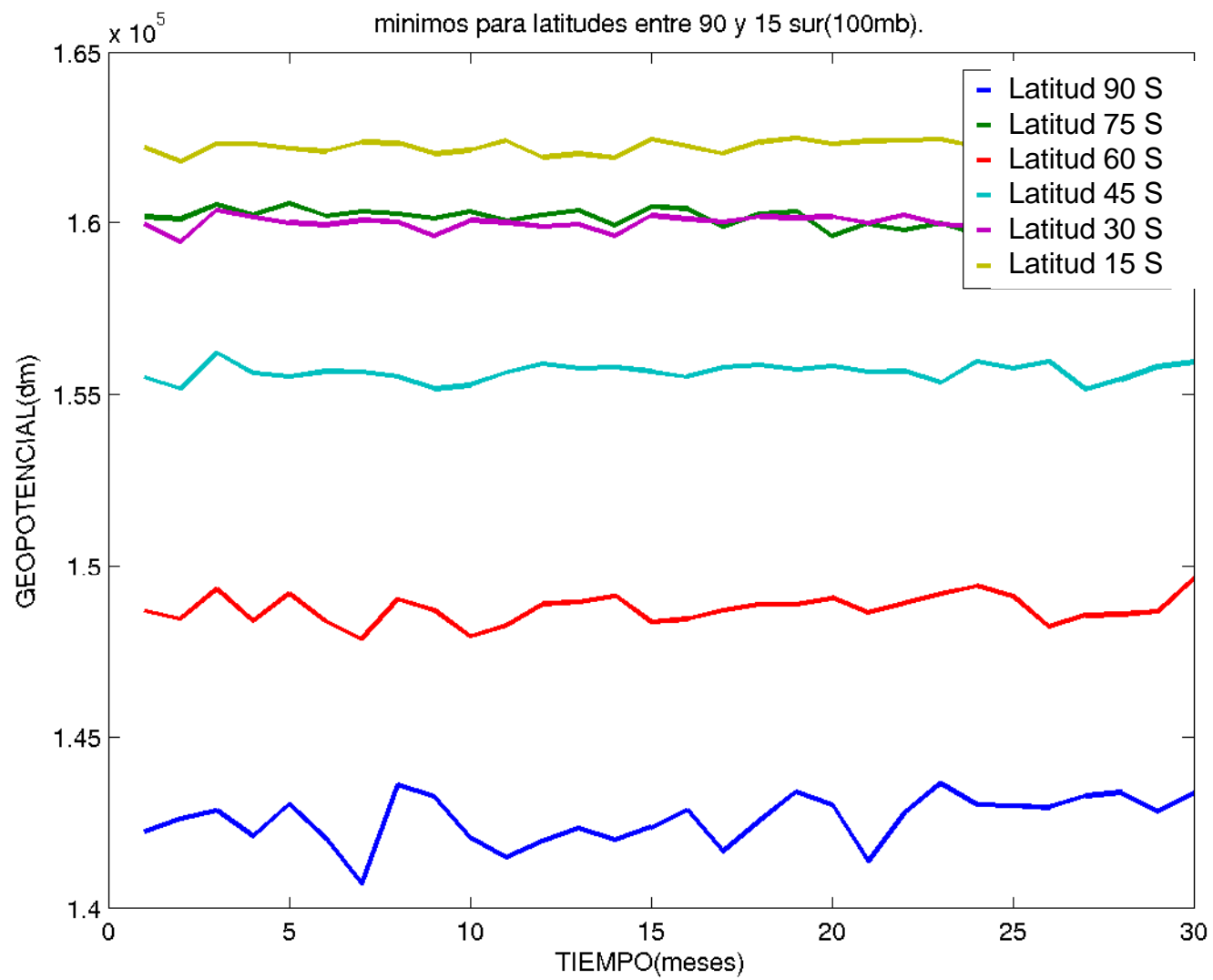


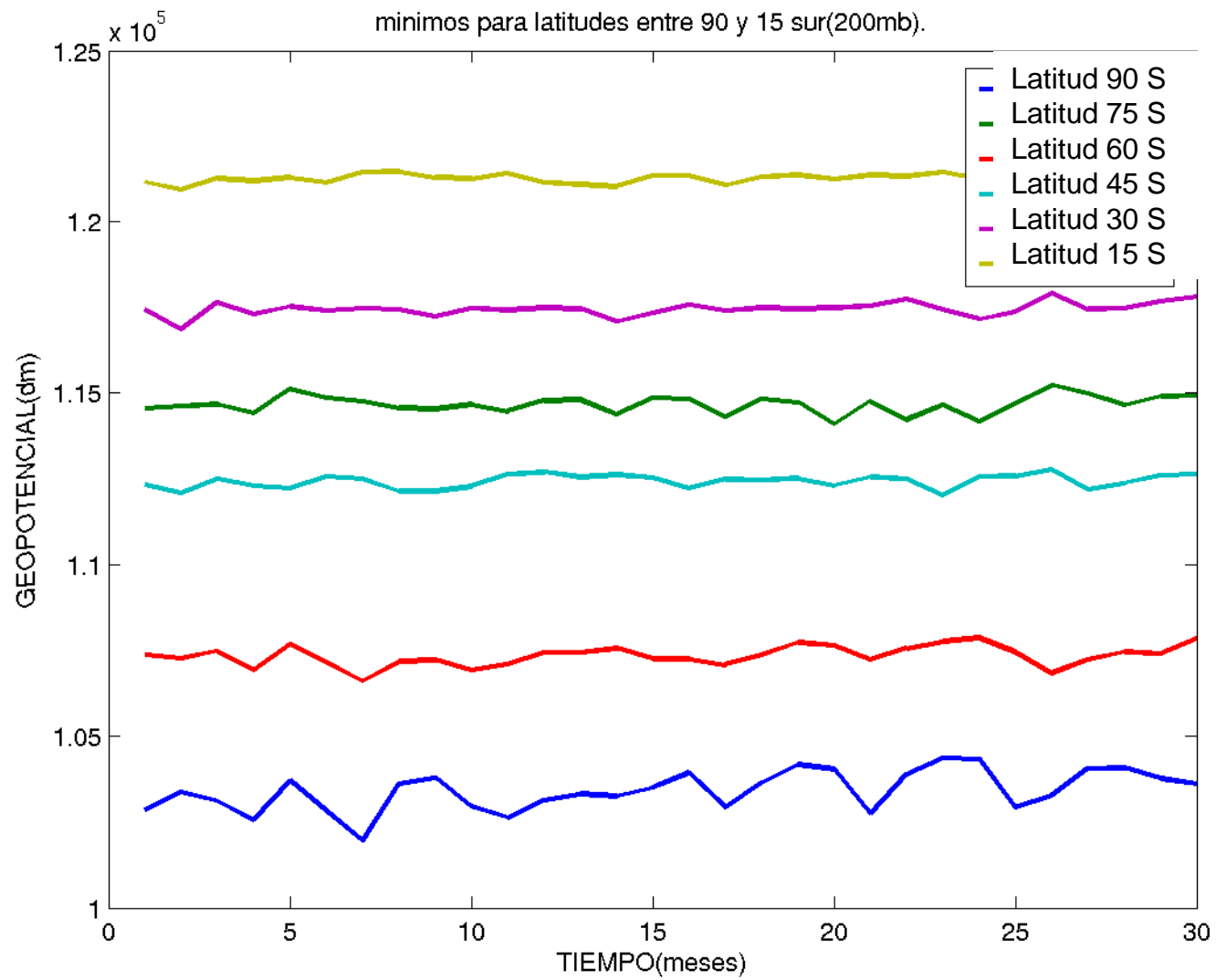


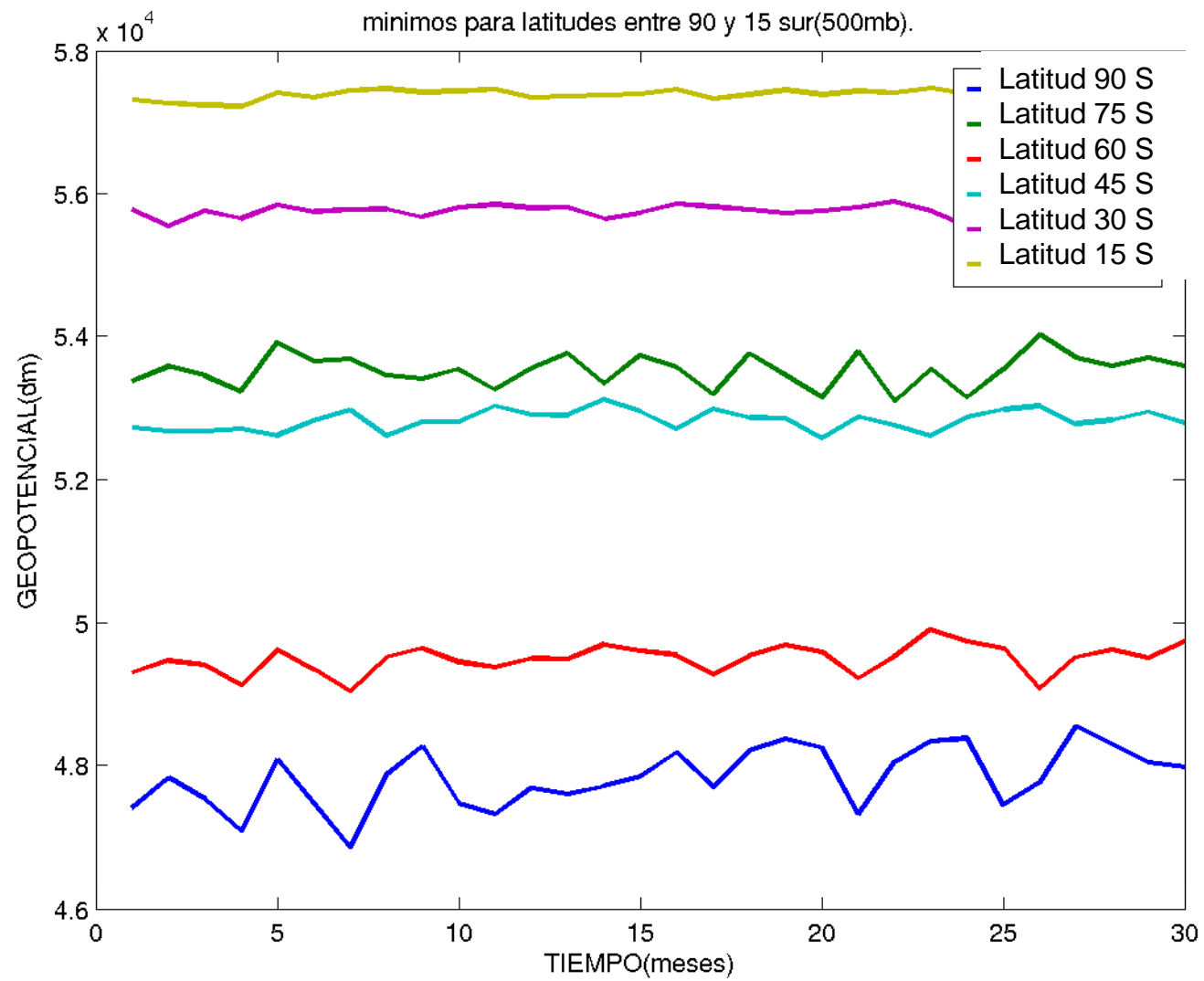












- ➔ The amplitude is inversely proportional to the distance to the pole.
- ➔ the maxima interannual variation is smaller for heights nearer the ground.
- ➔ The series of the maxima at stratospheric levels show a negative trend at latitudes near the poles (both hemispheres)
- ➔ The series of maxima y minima in tropical zone, don't show differences between both sides of equator nor trends .



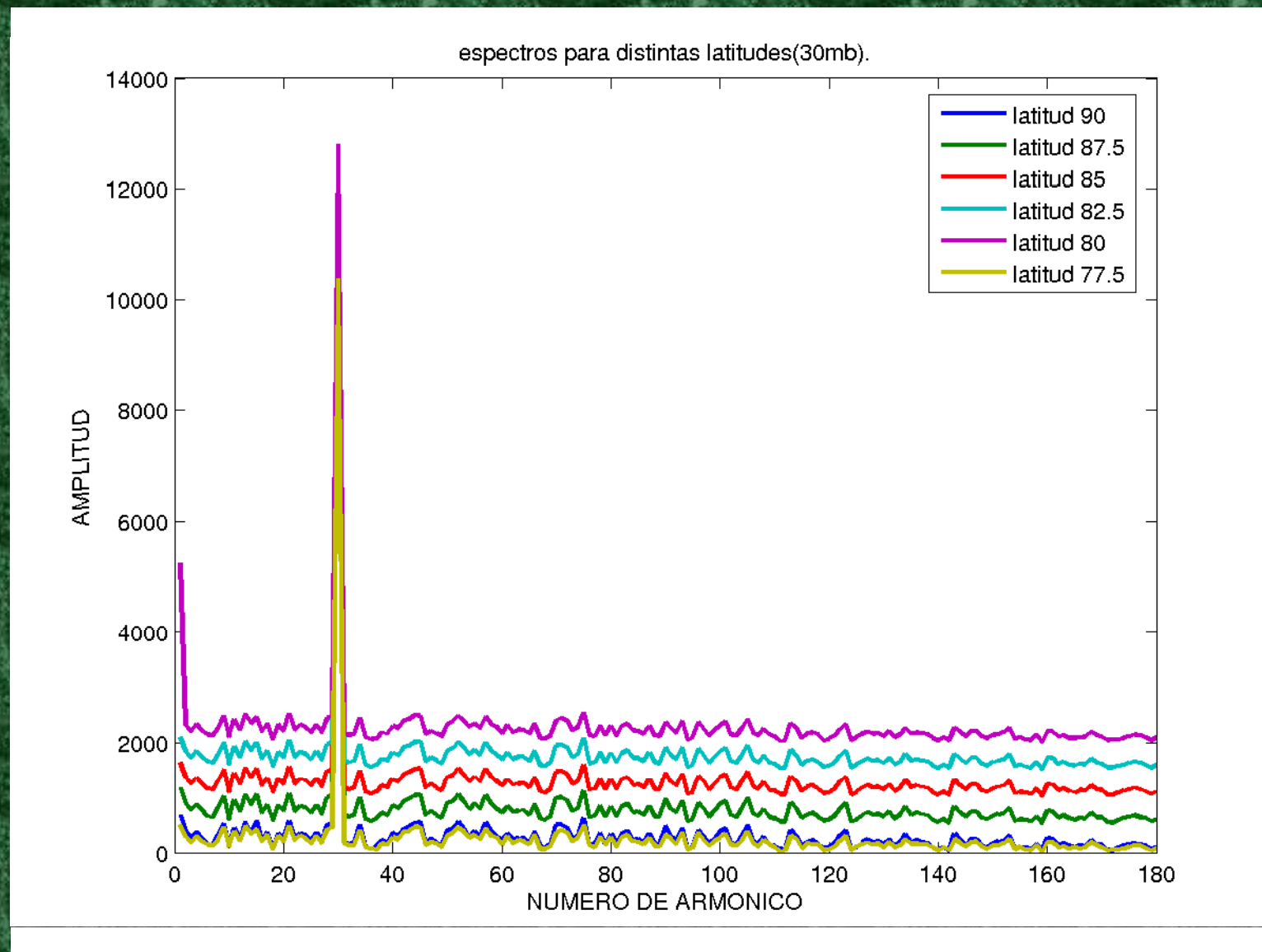
## II Spectra

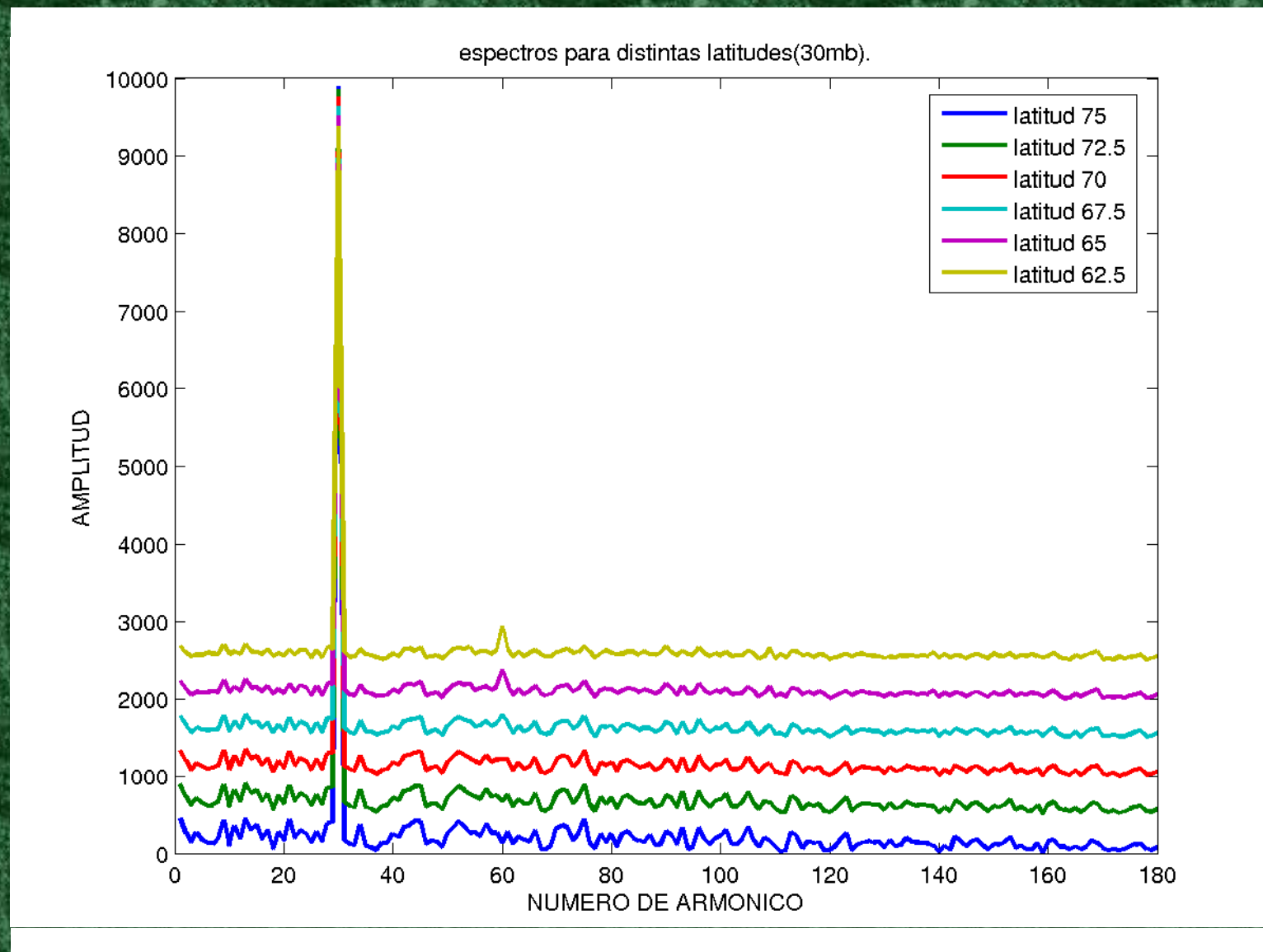
**The mean annual evolution shows a modulation in the amplitudes of the annual cycles.**

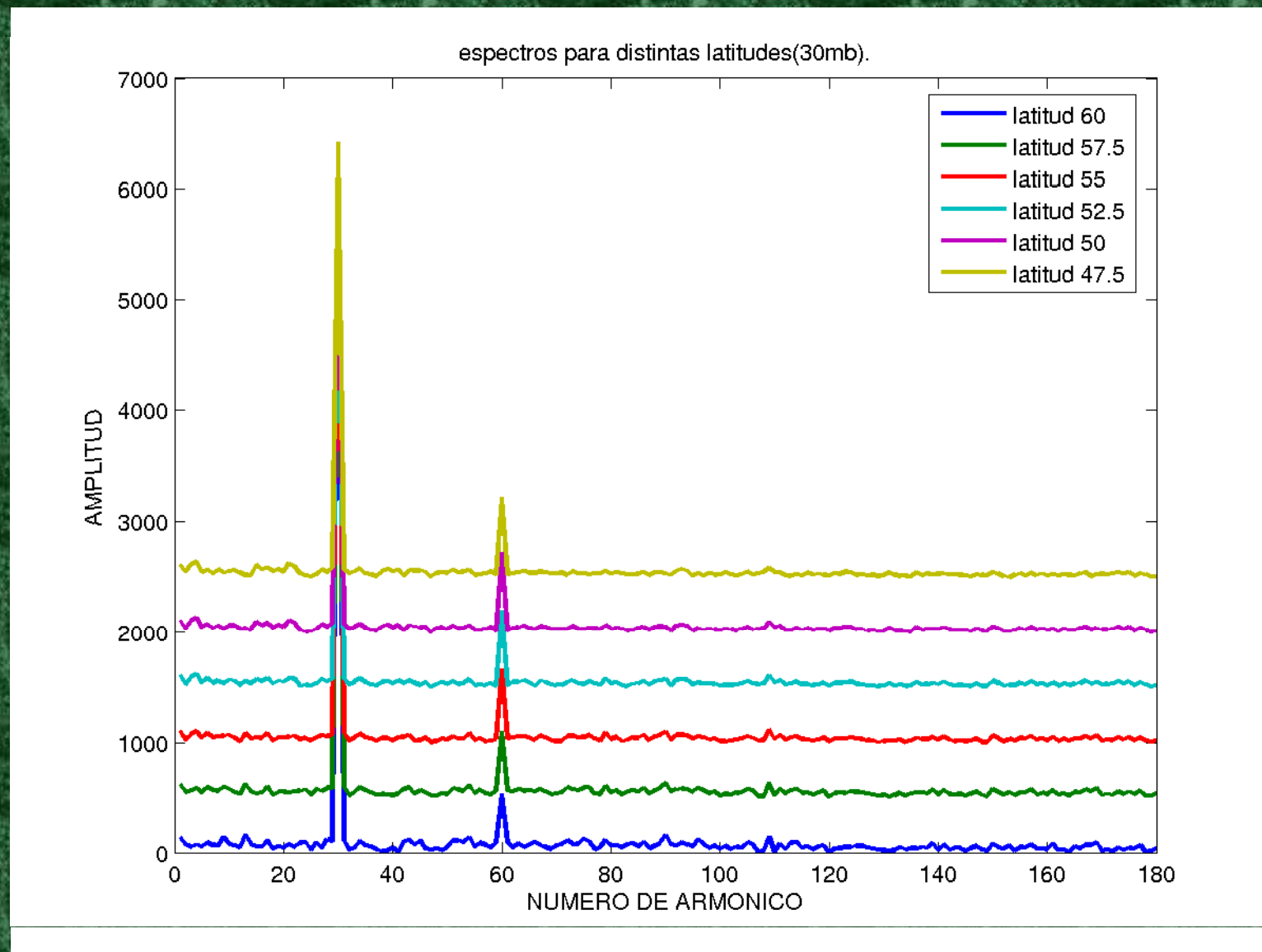


**a number of factors such as a significant contribution to the mean by low frequency oscillations, internal vacillation of the harmonics of the annual cycle and modulation by non-linear interactions between annual cycle components and low frequency oscillations.**

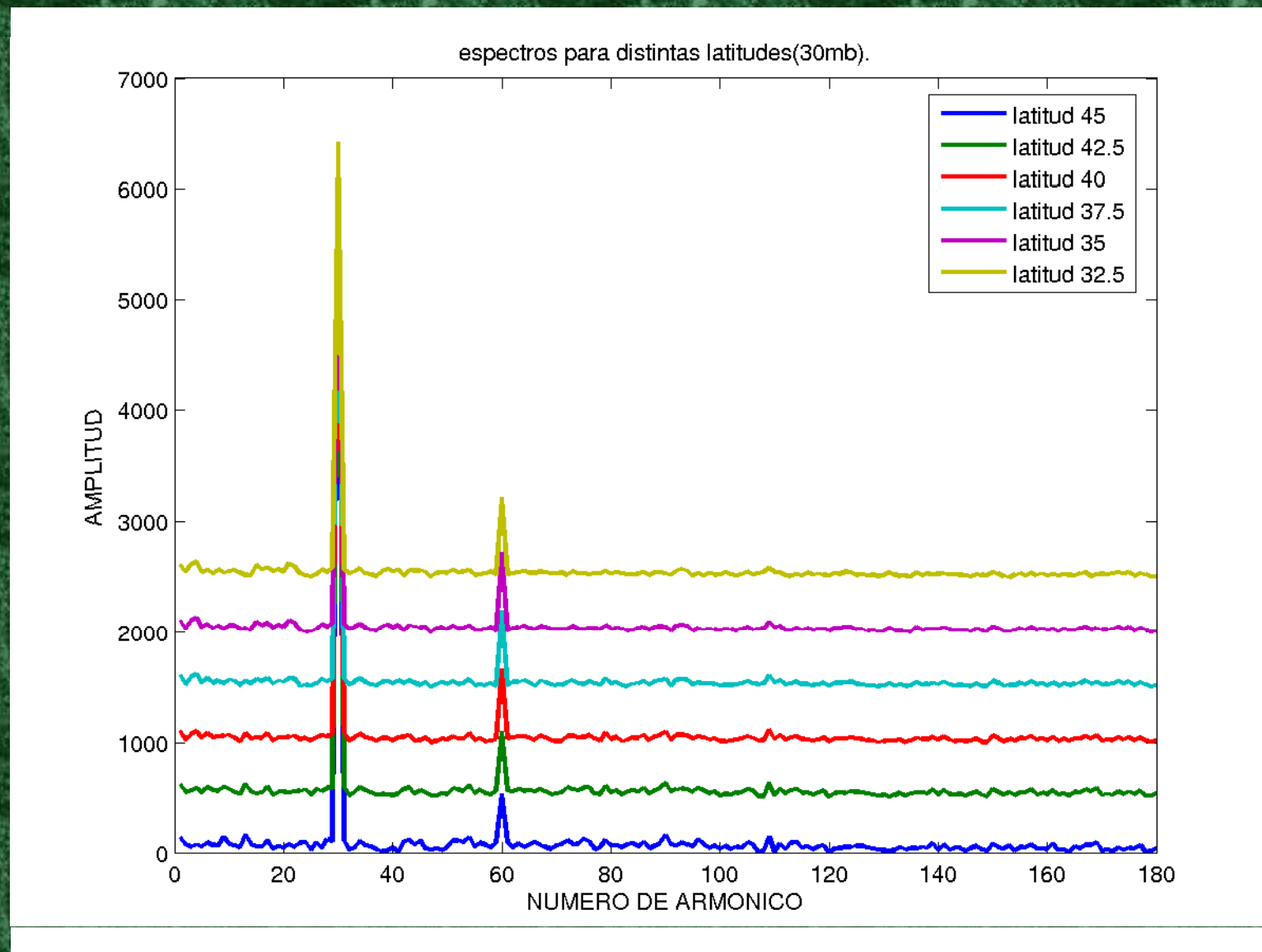
- ⇒ Obtained from Fouriers analysis**
- ⇒ Show the amplitude of each harmonic**

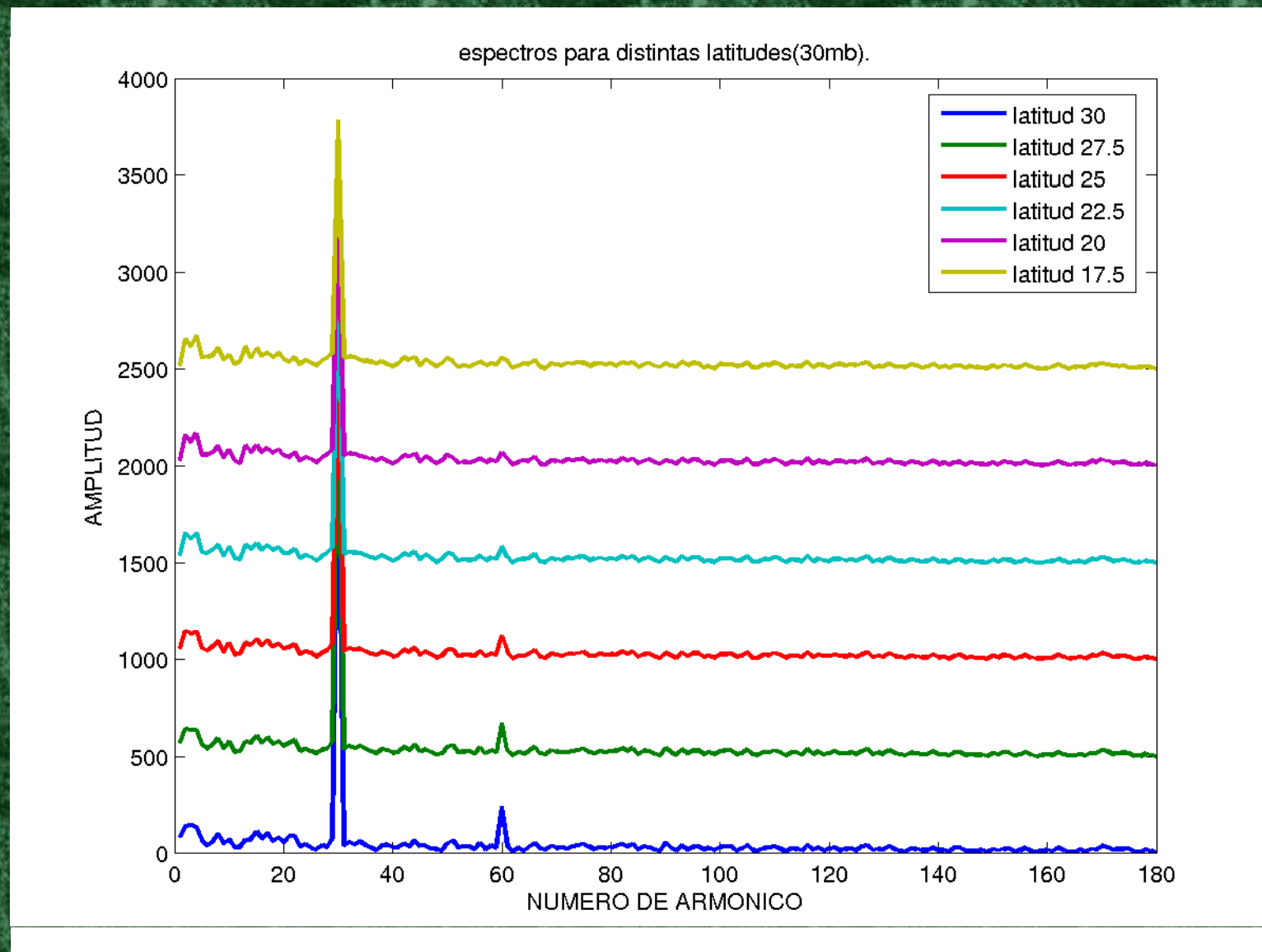


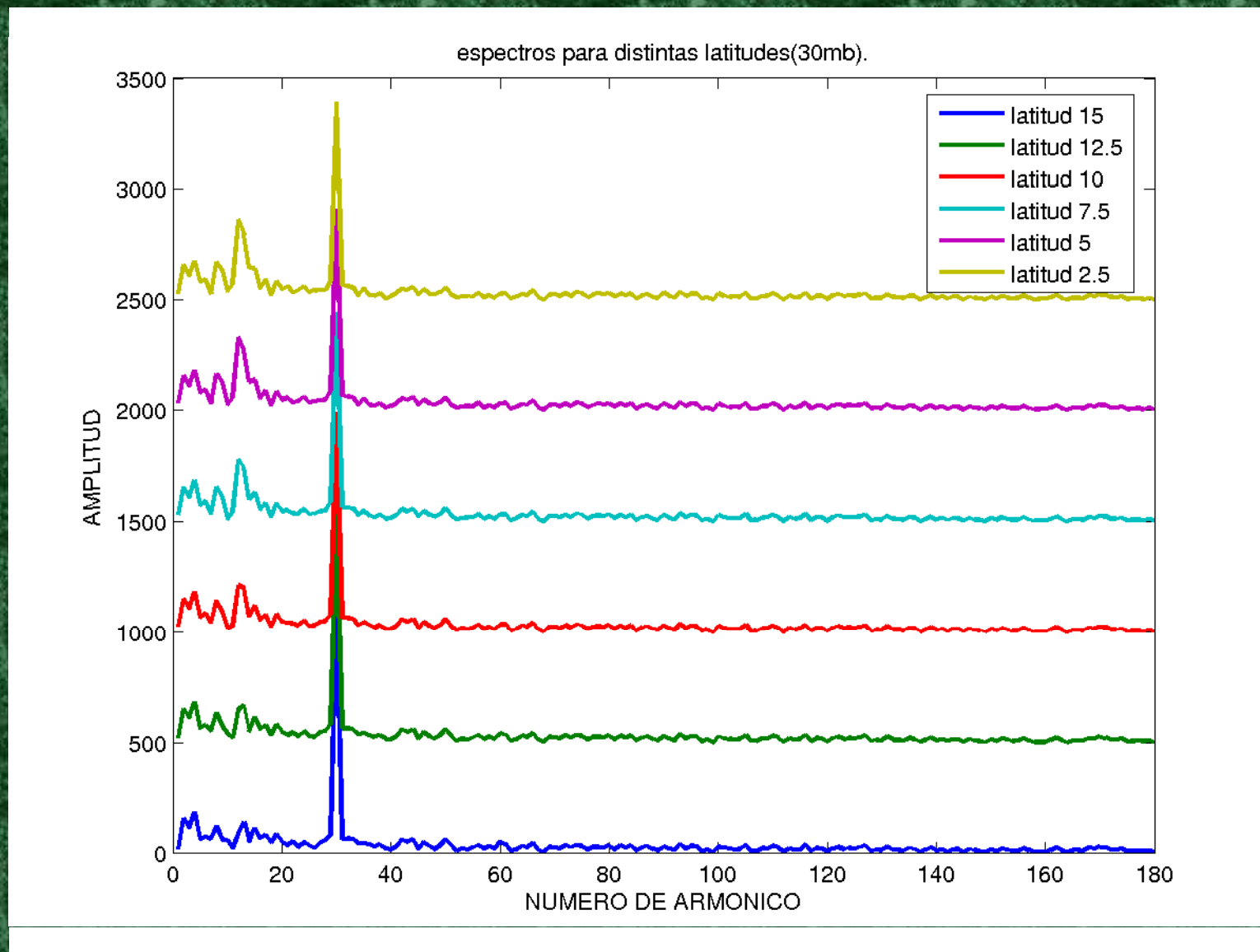


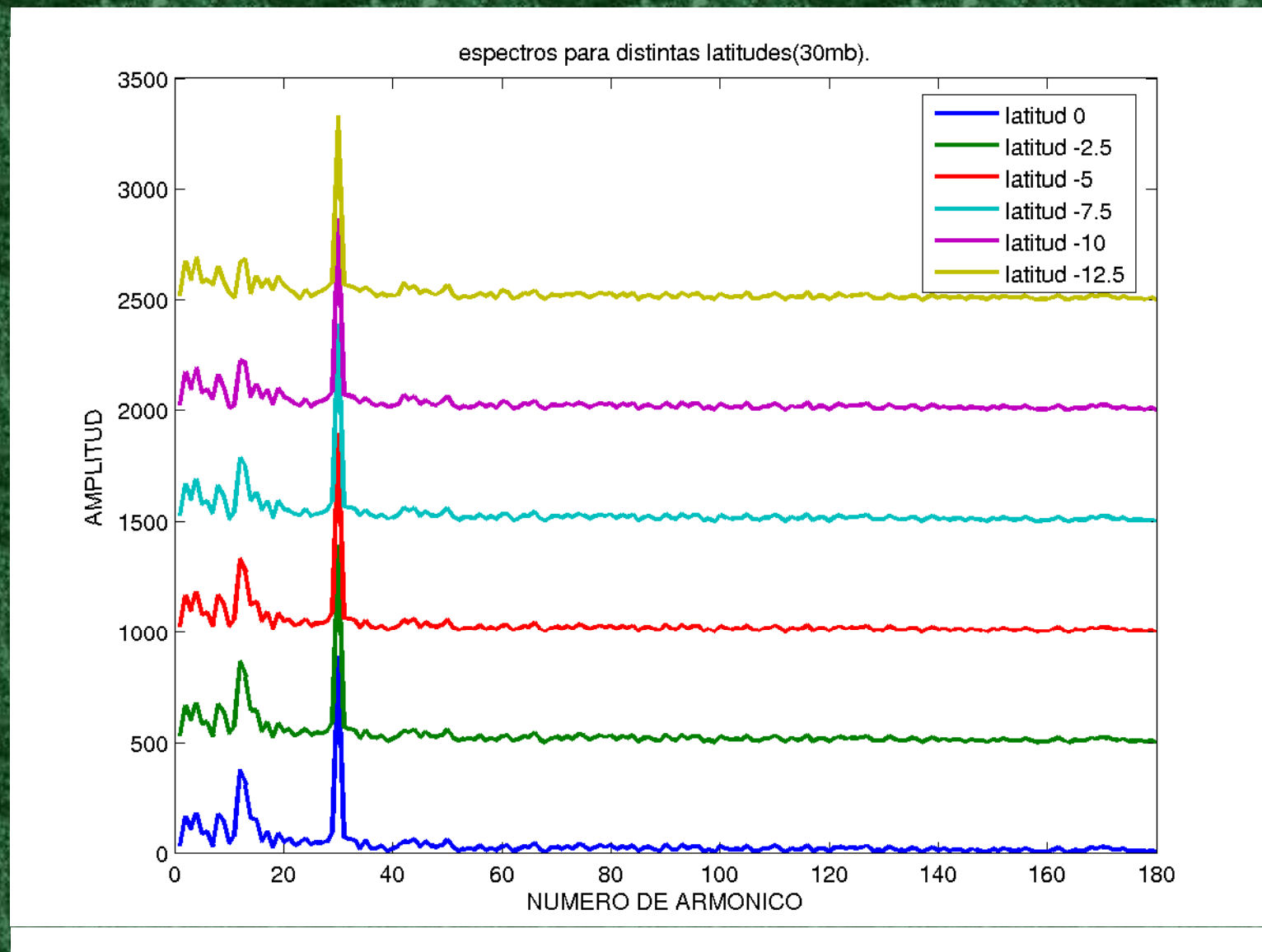




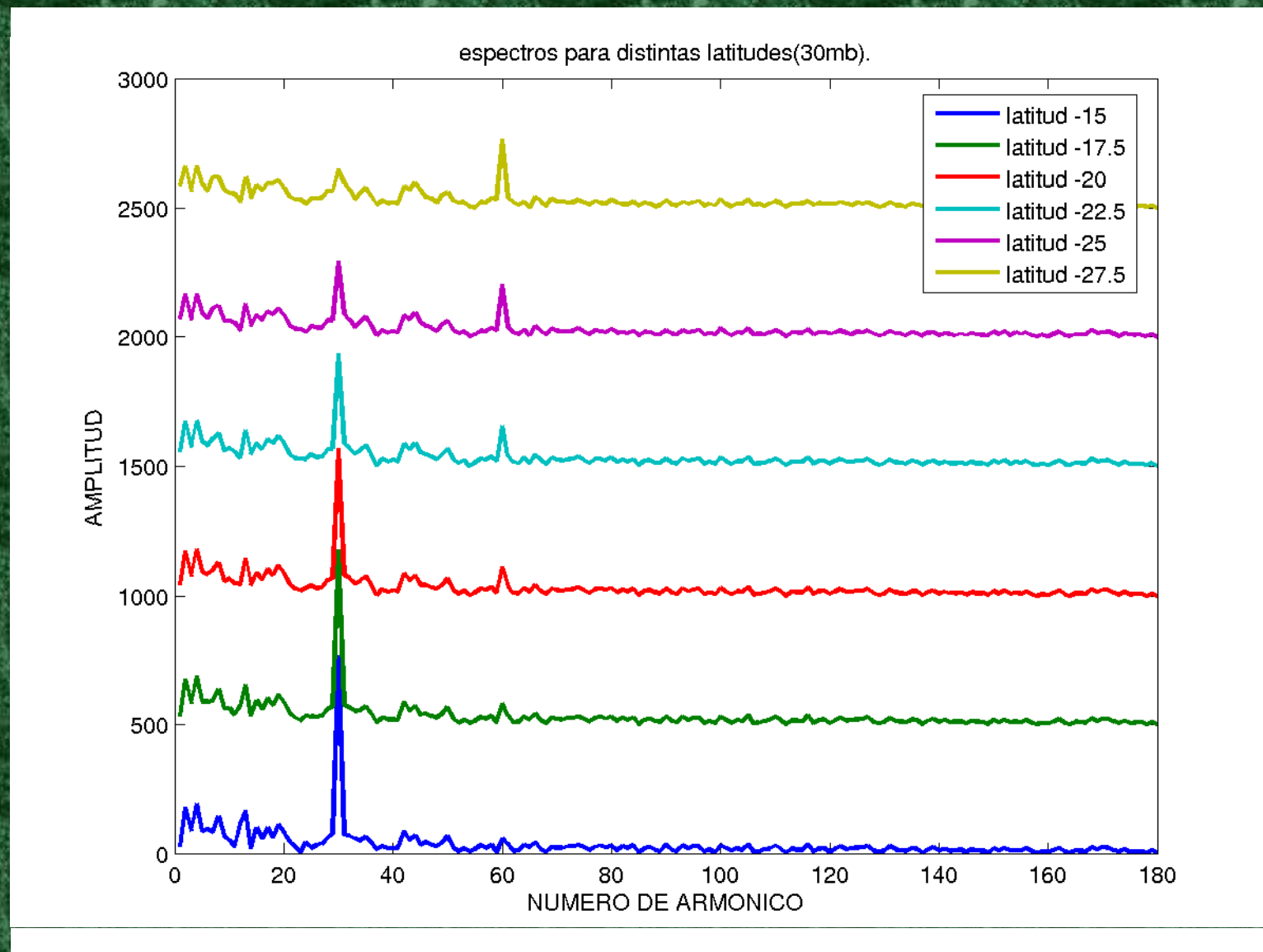


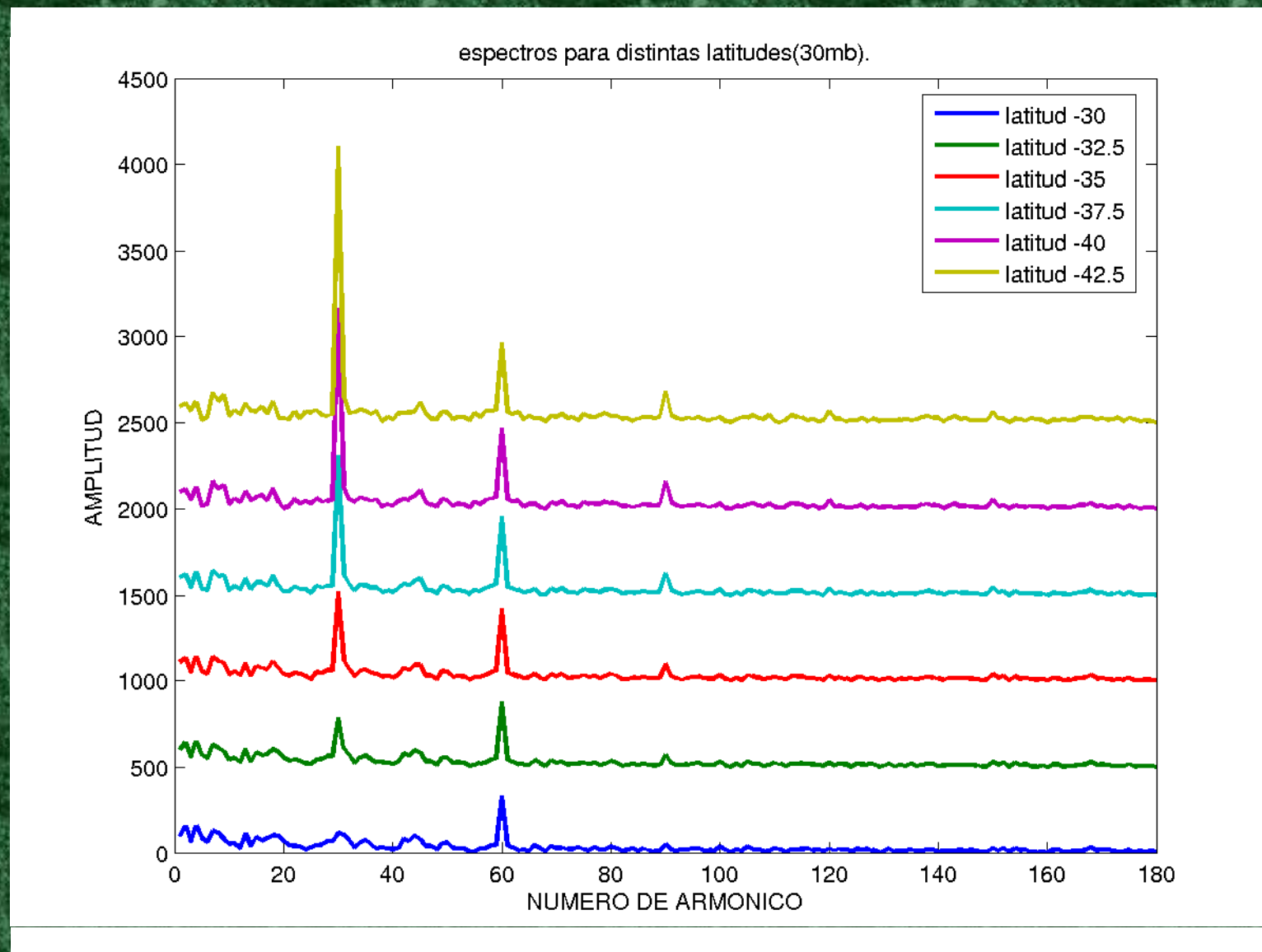


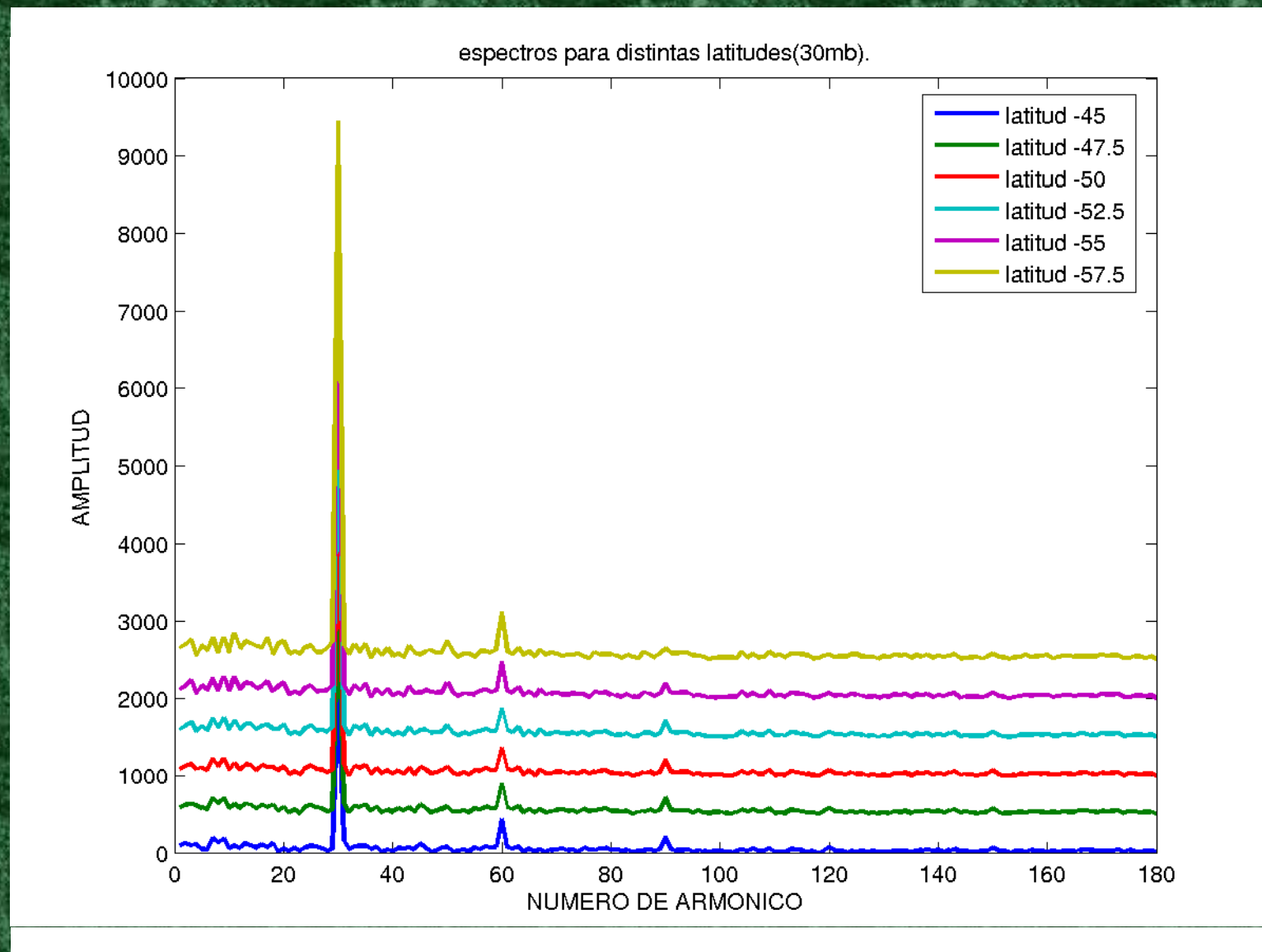


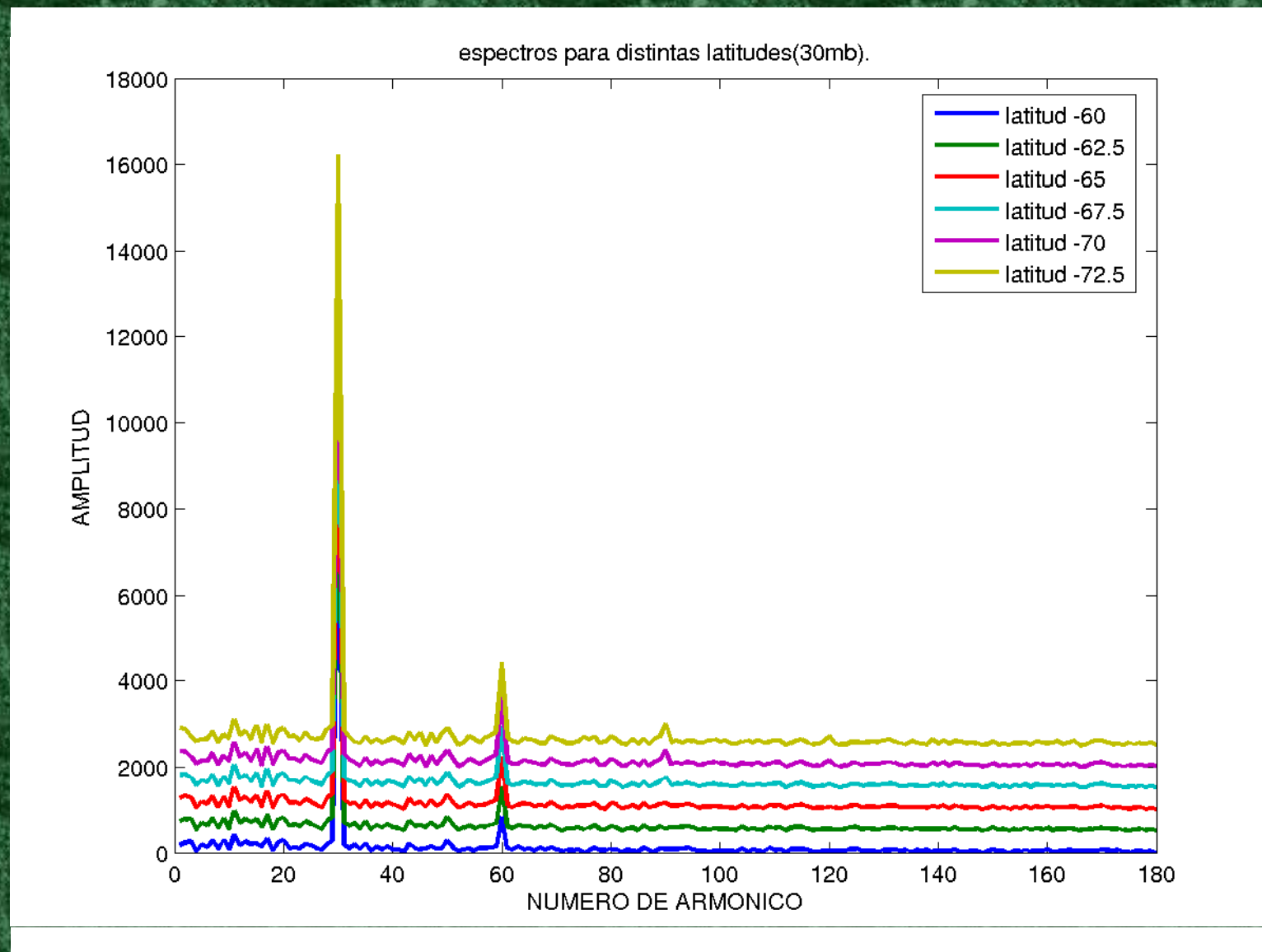




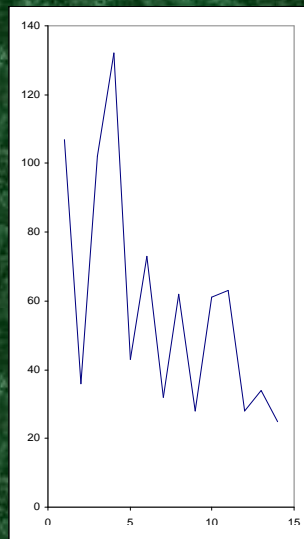
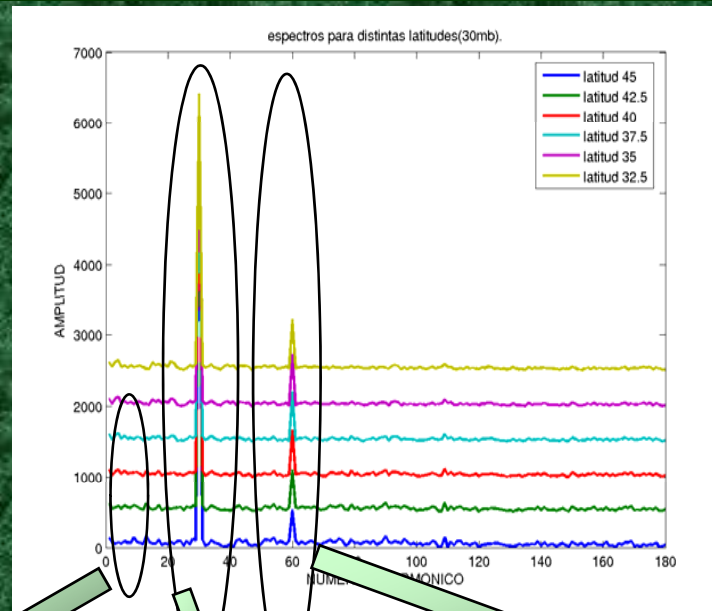




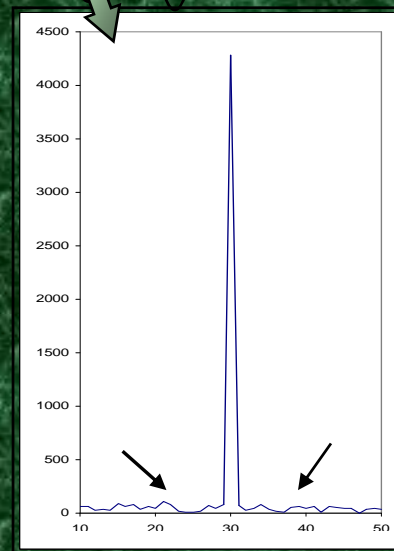




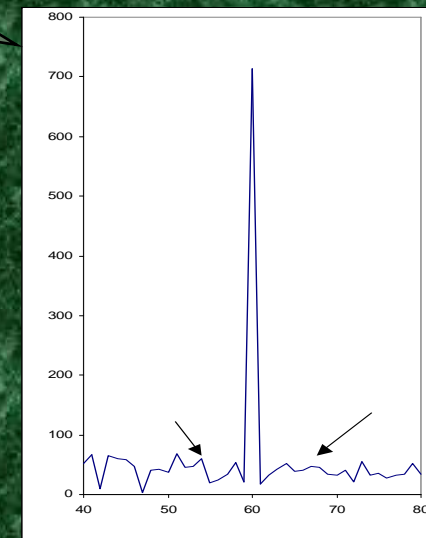




Low frequency



12-month +side bands



6-month +side bands

We explore the non-linear interactions which can be described as follows:

$w_0$  is one of the annual cycles frequencies (12, 6 or 4 months)

$w_1$  is the frequency of a low frequency perturbation with periods at least 2 years long.

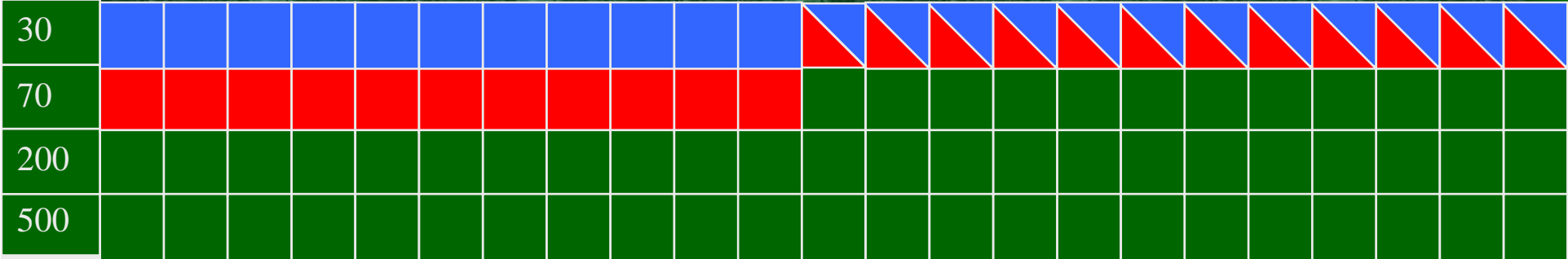
If a non-linear interaction occurs it should be possible to observe  $w_0$ ,  $w_1$ , and side bands corresponding to  $w_0 \pm w_1$ , which appear as small peaks on each side of the main frequency  $w_0$ . If one of the side peaks is not detectable and or the low frequency then the possible modulation by non-linear interactions was disregarded.

Ciclo anual

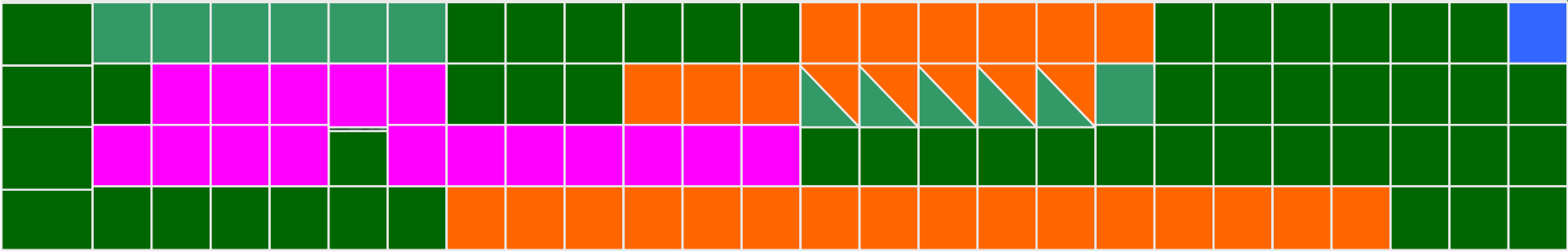
90 N- 32,5 N

Ciclo anual

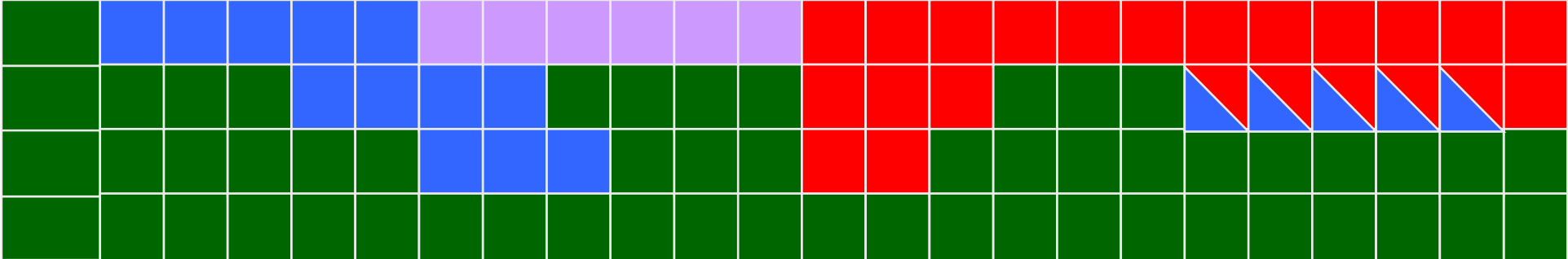
90 N- 32,5 N



30 N- 30 S



32,5 S-90 S

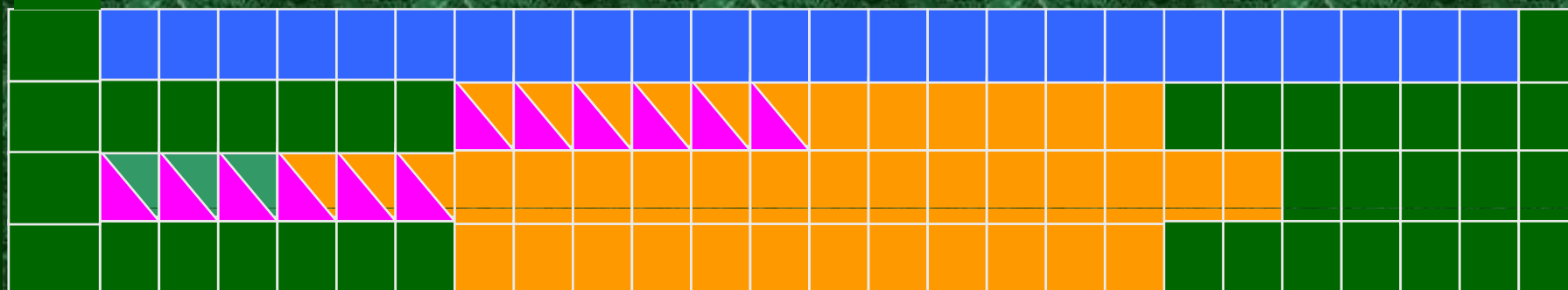


# Ciclo semianual

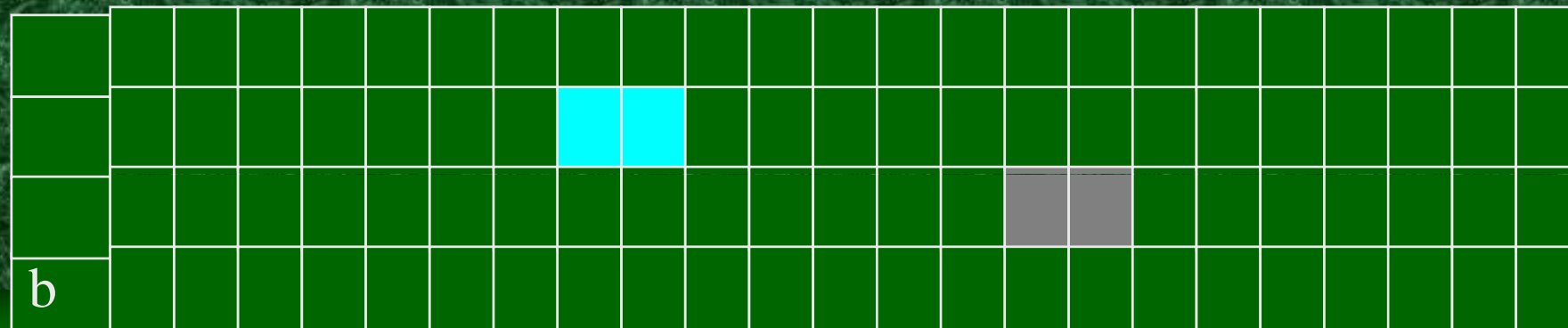
90N-32,5 N



30N-30S



30S-90S

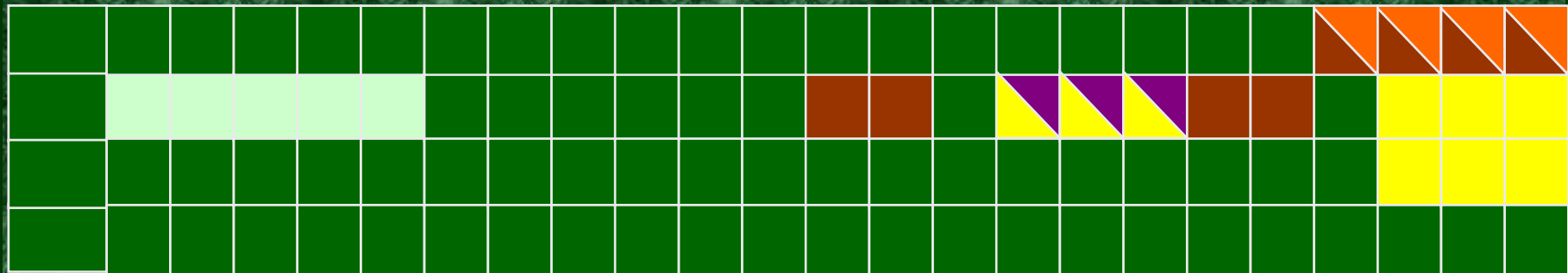


b

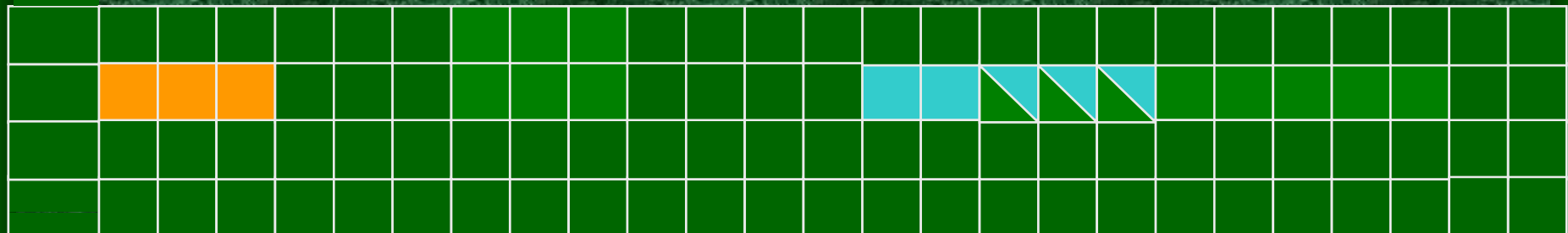


Ciclo teranual

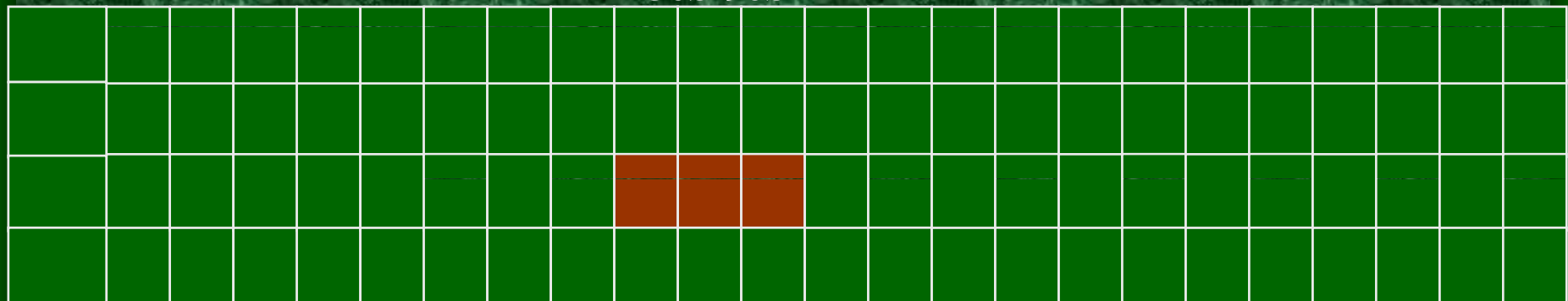
90N-32,5 N



30N-30S



30S-90S



## Chart Modulation Period Color Code

**Grey: 180 months (15 years)**

**Red: 90 months (7.5 years)**

**Lilac: 72 months (6 years)**

**Orange: 60 months (5 years)**

**Turquoise: 51.4 months (4.3 years)**

**Green: 45 months (3.75 years)**

**Brown: 40 months (3.3 years)**

**Dark blue: 36 months (3 years)**

**Yellow: 32.7 months (quasi QBO)**

**Pink: 30 months (quasi QBO)**

**Blue: 27.7 months (QBO)**

**Violet: 25.7 months (quasi QBO)**

**Light Green: 24 months (2 years)**

## *Conclusion*

1. Analysis of the spectra shows the possible existence of such a non-linear modulation process, particularly in the stratosphere.
2. The 12-month cycle appears to have the most significant and consistent modulation, with different regimes between polar regions, mid latitudes of both hemispheres and the Tropics, where the modulation appear to extend consistently throughout the sampled height range.
3. The most frequent non-linear interactions between the 12 month cycle and to a lesser extent the 6 month one occur with 7.5 and 5 year oscillations (also detected in the behaviour of polar vortices using PCA, Huth and Canziani, 2002) and the QBO and quasi-QBO frequencies (3 to 2.5 years).





To be continue.....