Global Ocean Monitoring: Recent Evolution, Current Status, and Predictions

Prepared by

Climate Prediction Center, NCEP/NOAA

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http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/GODAS/

This project, to deliver real-time ocean monitoring products, is implemented by CPC in cooperation with NOAA's Global Ocean Monitoring and Observing Program (GOMO)

Outline

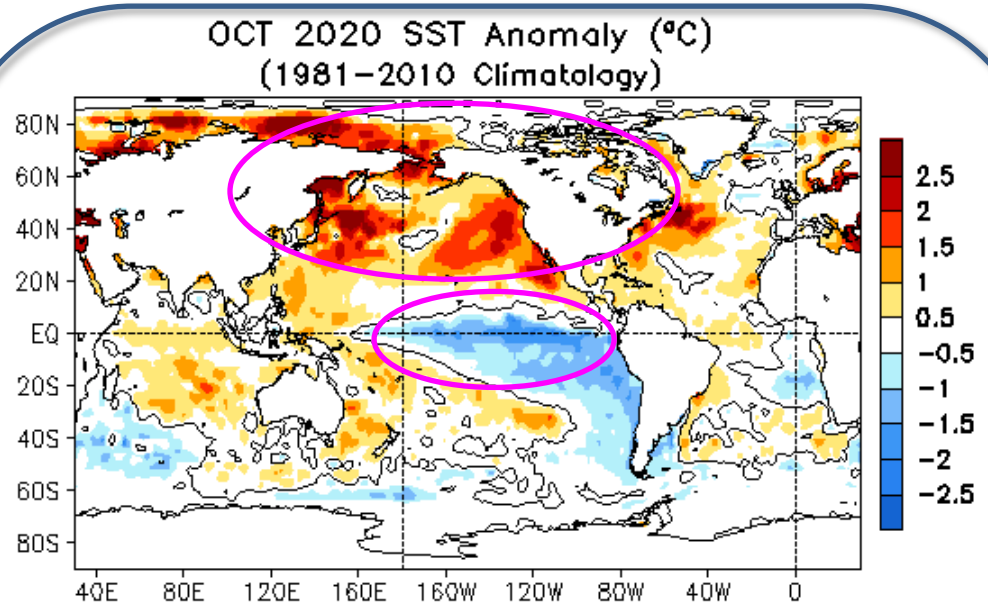
- Overview
- Recent highlights
  - Pacific/Arctic Ocean
  - Indian Ocean
  - Atlantic Ocean
- Global SSTA Predictions
- Special Topics
  - Will 2020-21 La Niña be a strong event?
  - Impact of Marine heat waves on historical low sea ice extent in 2020
  - North Atlantic Hurricane season and oceanic conditions

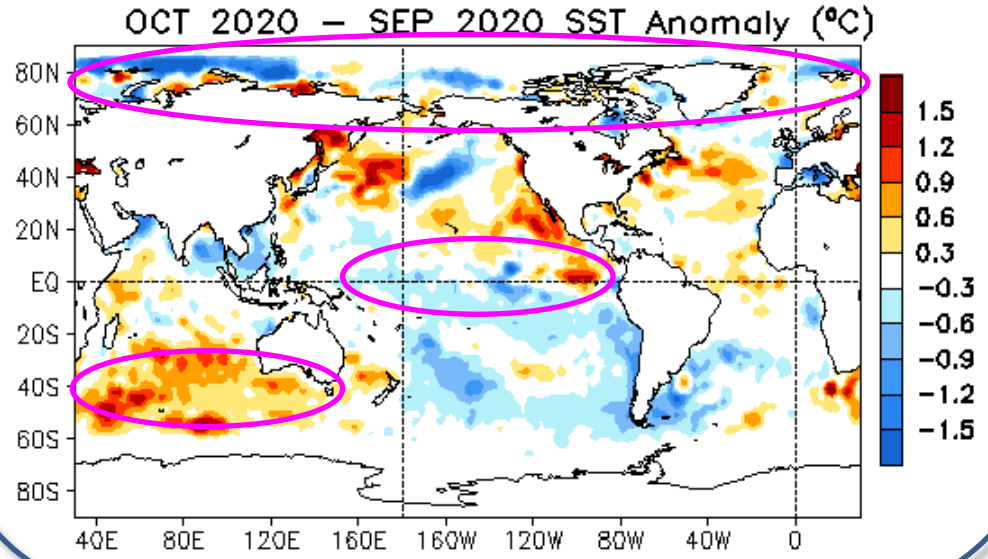
Overview

- Pacific Ocean
  - La Niña conditions continued in Oct 2020.
  - NOAA “ENSO Diagnostic Discussion” on 12 November 2020 states that “La Niña is likely to continue through the Northern Hemisphere winter(~95% chance) and into spring 2021 (~65% chance”
  - Marine Heat Waves (MHWs) persisted near the west coast of United States.
  - Negative PDO phase continued, with PDOI = -0.55.
- Indian Ocean
  - Indian Ocean Dipole index was neutral in Oct 2020.
- Atlantic Ocean
  - 2020 Atlantic hurricane season continues to be an extremely active tropical cyclone season.
- Arctic Ocean
  - The sea ice extent in Oct 2020 broke the historical minimum record.

Global Oceans

Global SST Anomaly (^{0}C) and Anomaly Tendency



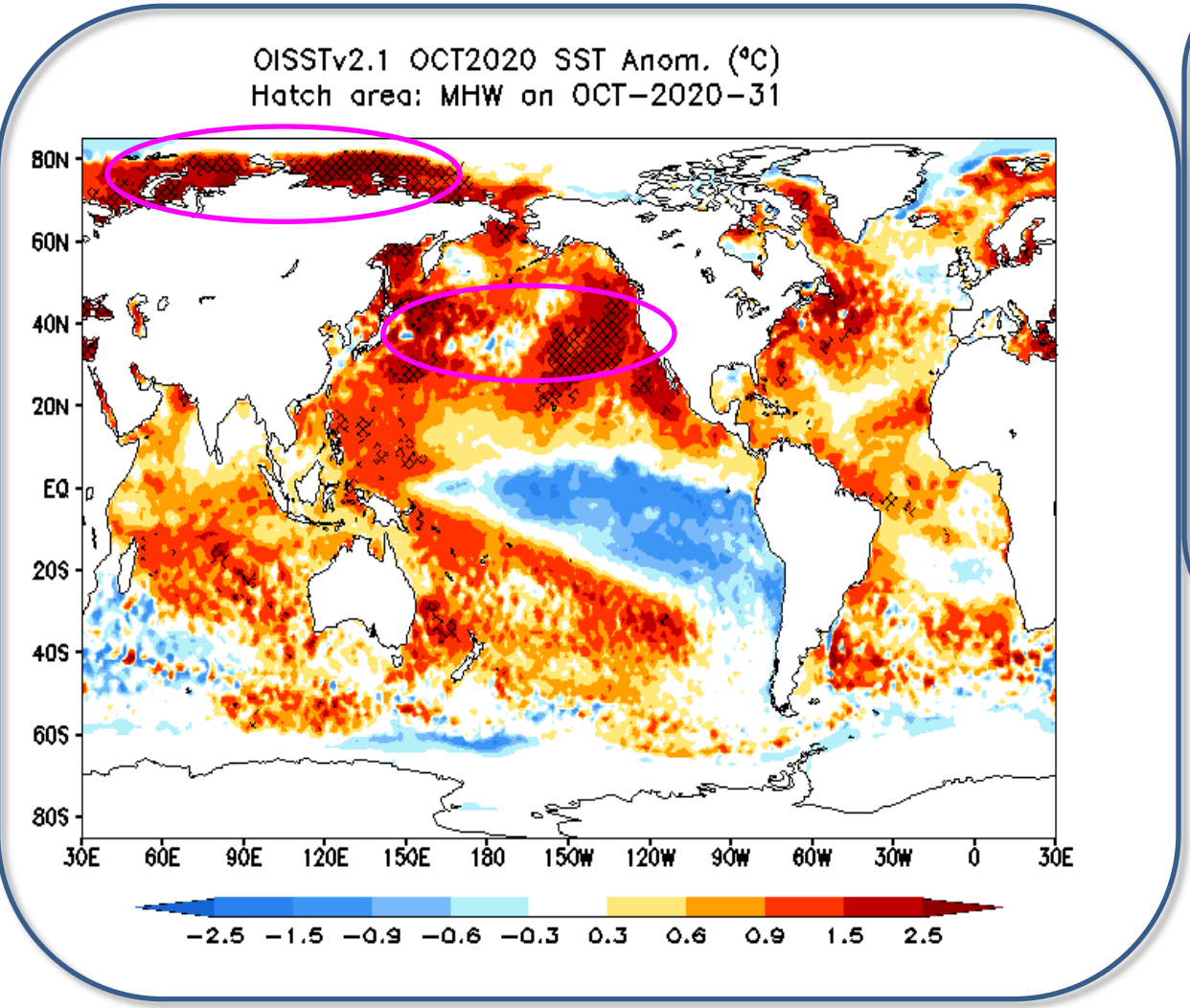


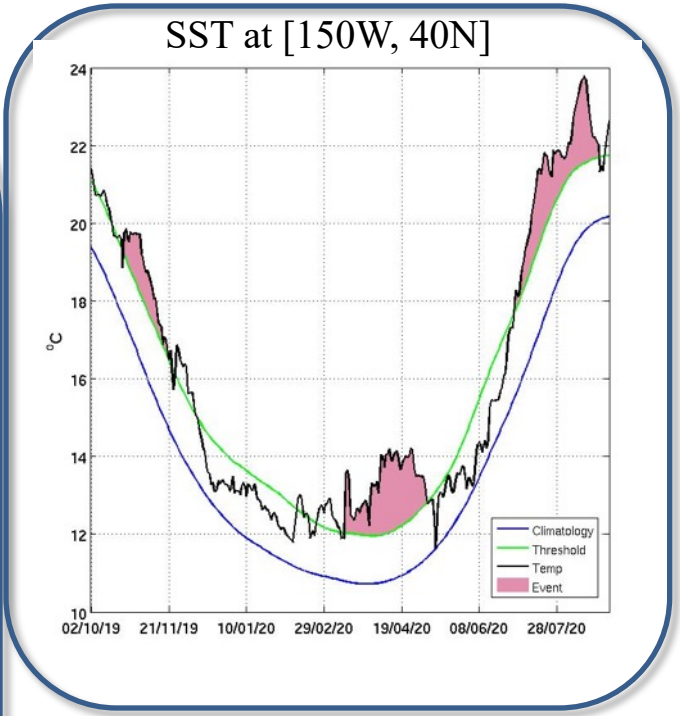
- Negative SSTA strengthened in the central-eastern equatorial Pacific.
- Strong positive SSTAs continued in the mid-high latitudes of Northern hemisphere.
- Positive SSTAs persisted in the tropical Indian Ocean and the western tropical Pacific.

- Negative SSTA tendencies dominated in the equatorial and the South Pacific.
- Negative SSTA tendencies presented in the subarctic regions.
- Positive SSTA tendencies presented in the mid-latitude of South Indian Ocean.

Sea surface temperature anomalies (top) and anomaly tendency (bottom). Data are derived from the NCEP OI SST analysis, and anomalies are departures from the 1981-2010 base period means.

Global Monthly SST anomaly and Marine Heat wave (MHW) activity

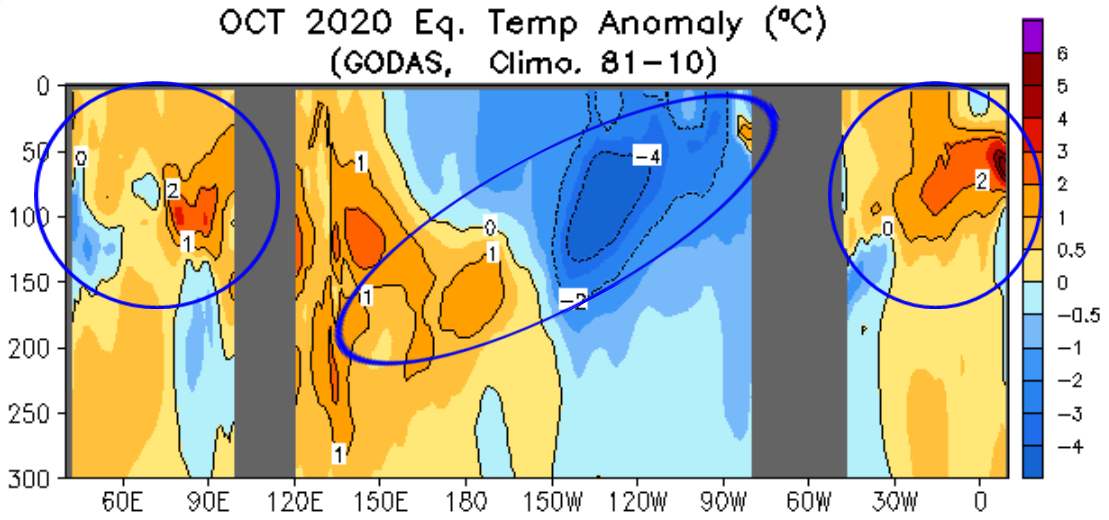


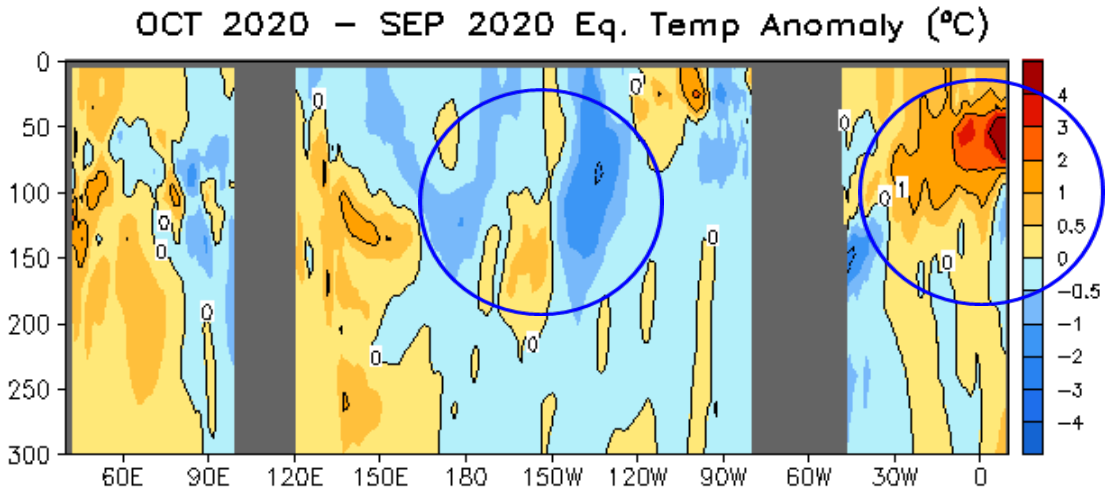


- MHWs were active in subarctic regions north of Eurasia and mid-latitude of North Pacific.

(Left panel) Monthly SST anomaly (shaded) and locations experience Marine heat waves (hatched) by the date labelled in the plot. (right panel) SST evolution at a specific location. Green line and blue line denote the seasonal 90th percentile and daily climatology, respectively. Shaded area denotes the periods experiencing MHW. MHW is defined as a discrete prolonged warmer than 90th percentile of daily SST for at least 14 days. Data is derived from NCEI OISSTv2.1 and the climatology reference period is 1982-2010.

Longitude-Depth Temperature Anomaly and Anomaly Tendency in 2°S-2°N





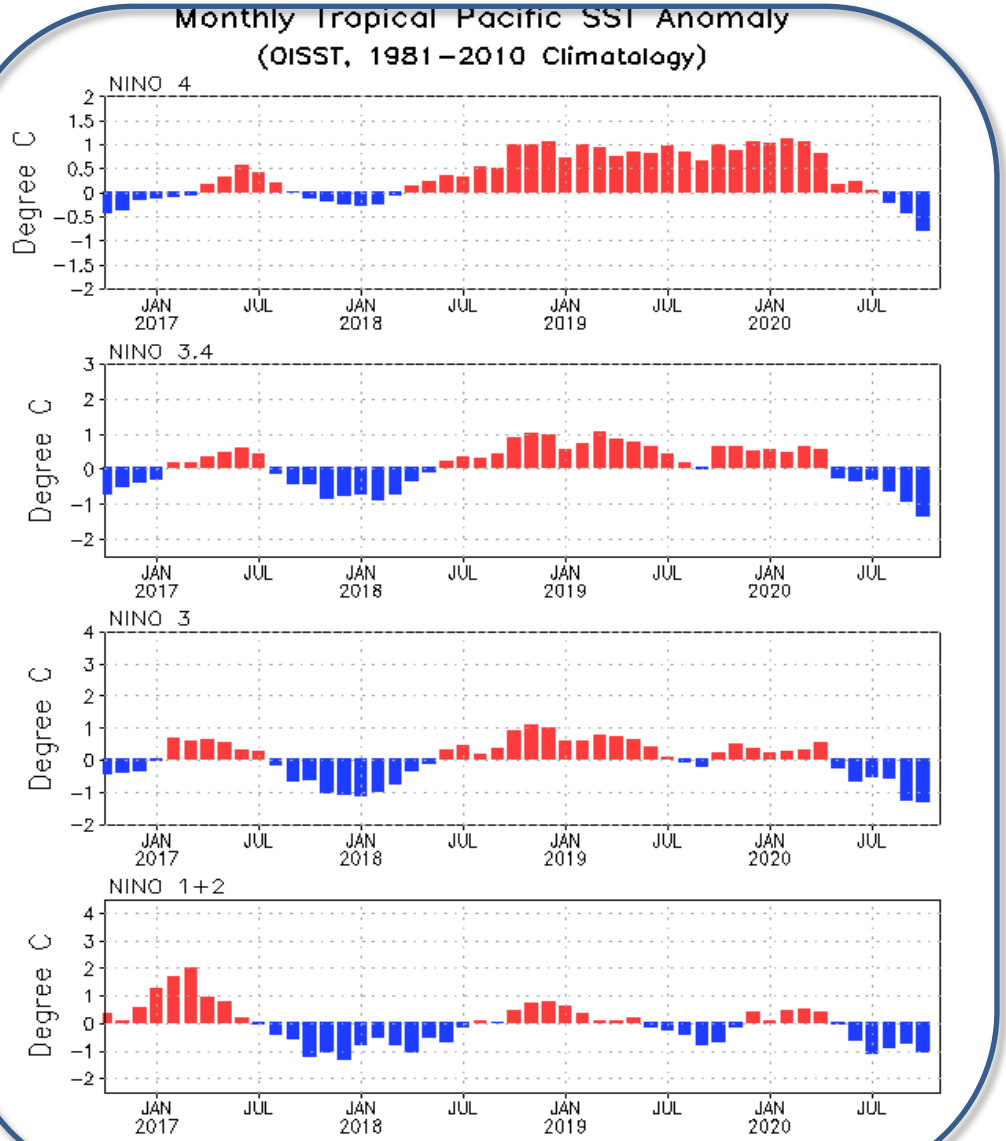
- Ocean temperature reached more than 4°C cooler than average near the thermocline in the eastern Pacific Ocean.
- Positive temperature anomalies were observed in the upper equatorial Indian and the Atlantic Oceans.

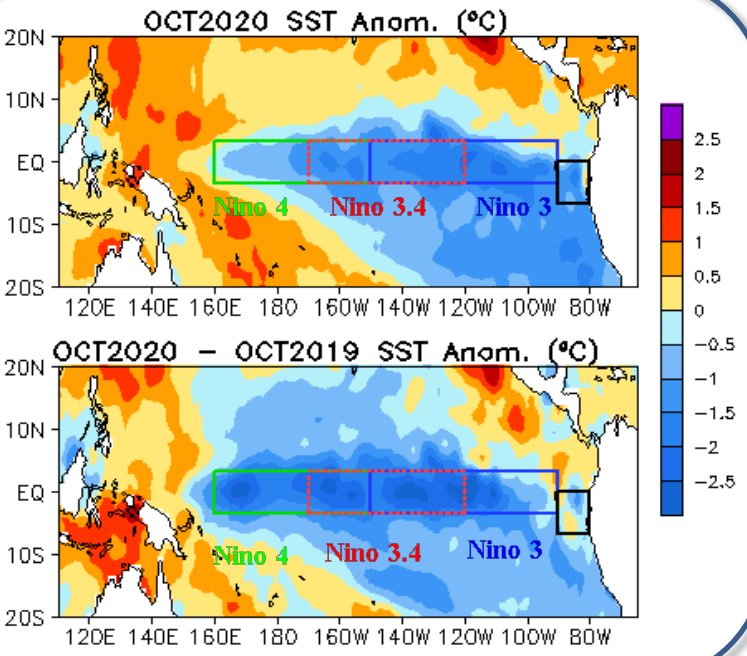
- Negative temperature anomaly tendency dominated in the central-eastern Pacific.
- Positive temperature anomaly tendency presented in the Atlantic Ocean.

Equatorial depth-longitude section of ocean temperature anomalies (top) and anomaly tendency (bottom). Data is from the NCEP's global ocean data assimilation system. Anomalies are departures from the 1981-2010 base period means.

Tropical Pacific Ocean and ENSO Conditions

Evolution of Pacific NINO SST Indices





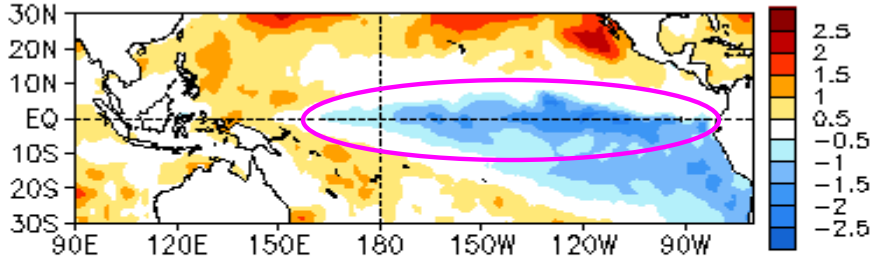
- All Nino indices cooled further in Oct 2020, with Nino3.4 = -1.4.C .

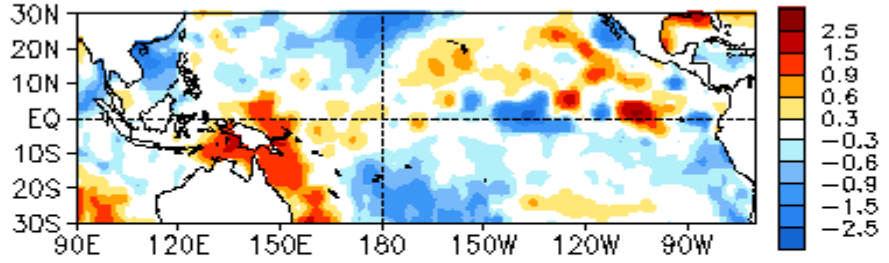
- Compared with Oct 2019, the central and eastern (far western) equatorial Pacific was cooler (warmer) in Oct 2020.

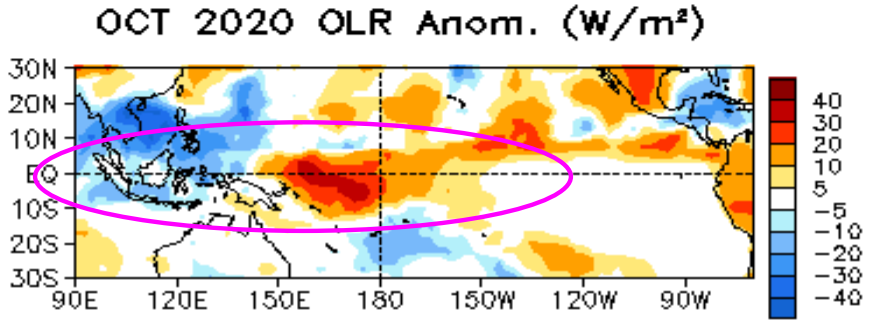
- The indices may have slight differences if based on different SST products.

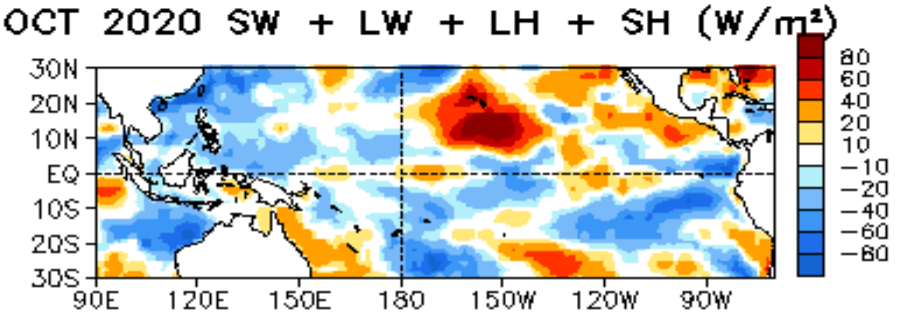
Nino region indices, calculated as the area-averaged monthly mean sea surface temperature anomalies (°C) for the specified region. Data are derived from the NCEP OI SST analysis, and anomalies are departures from the 1981-2010 base period means.

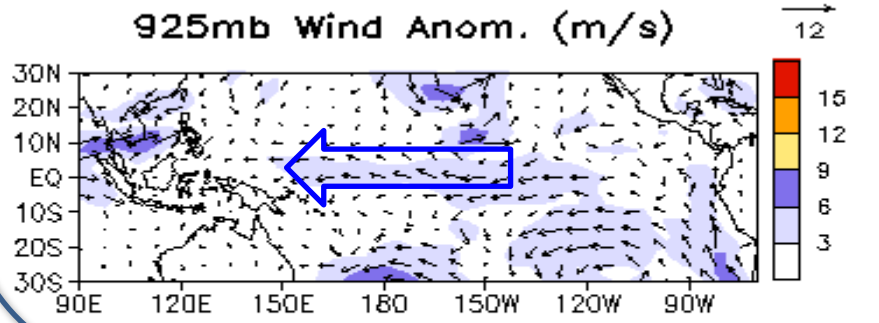
Tropical Pacific: SST Anom., SST Anom. Tend., OLR, Sfc Rad, Sfc Flx, 925-mb & 200-mb Winds

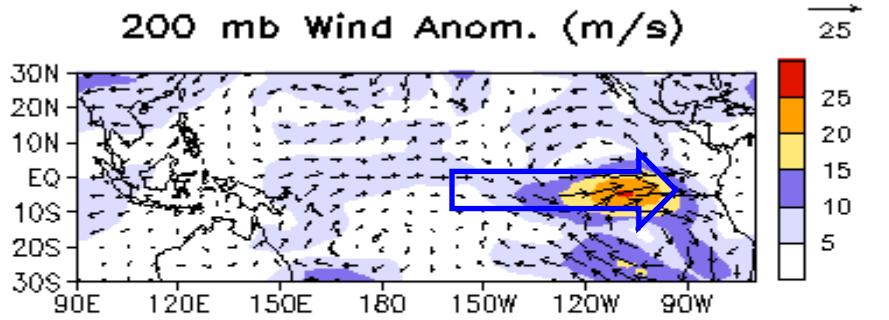






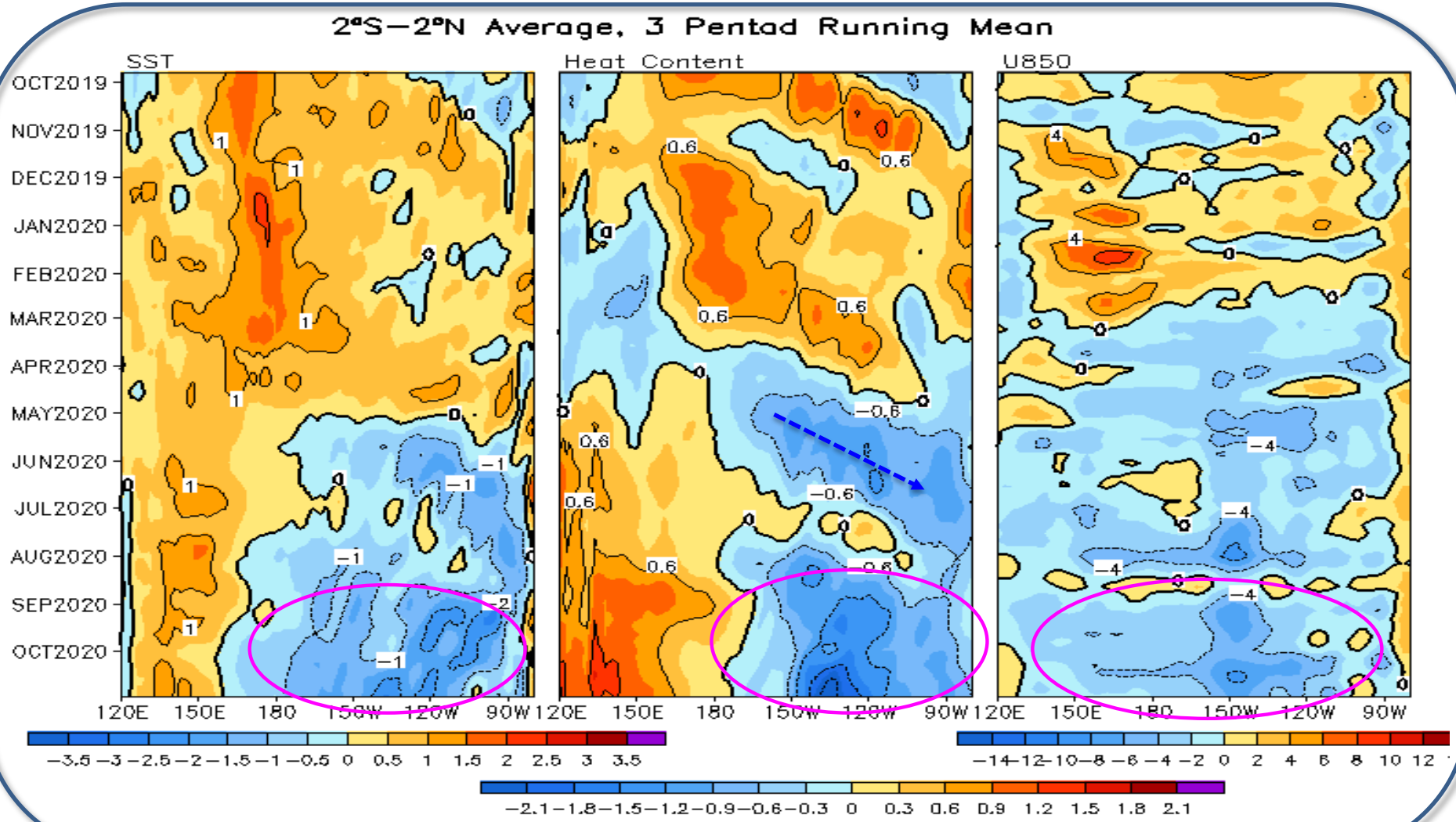






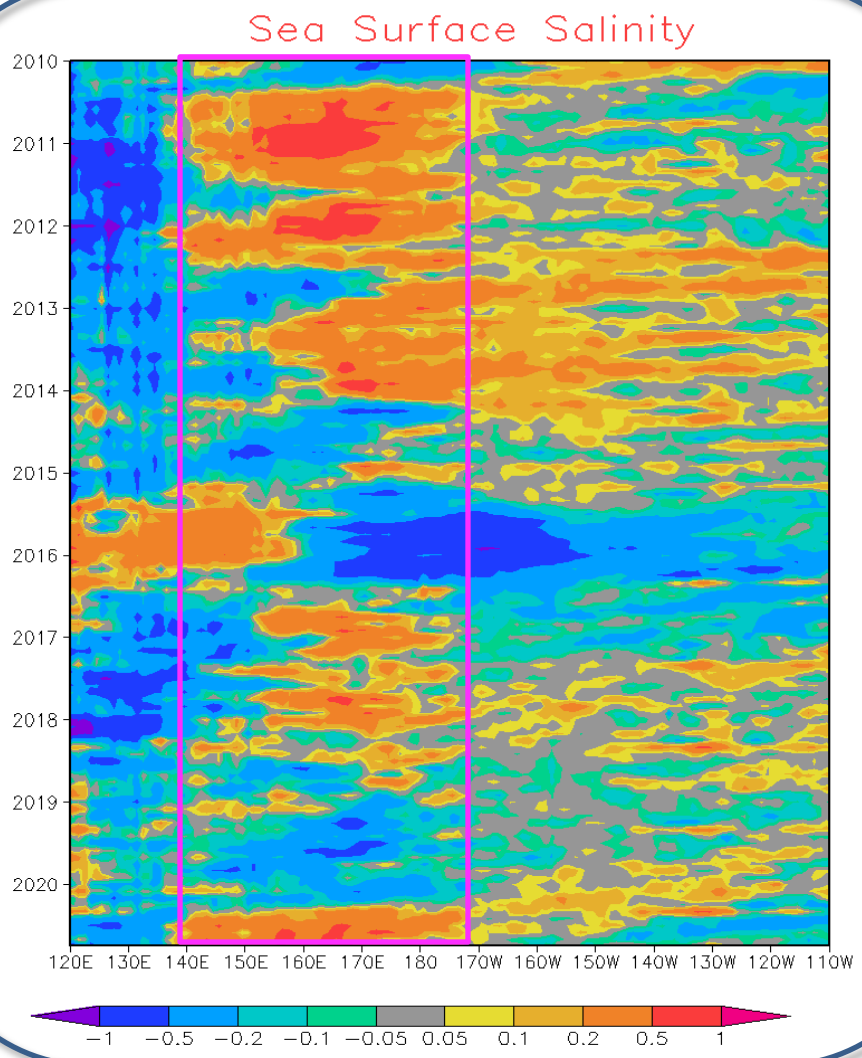
Sea surface temperature (SST) anomalies (top-left), anomaly tendency (top-right), Outgoing Long-wave Radiation (OLR) anomalies (middle-left), sum of net surface short- and long-wave radiation, latent and sensible heat flux anomalies (middle-right; positive means heat into the ocean), 925-mb wind anomaly vector and its amplitude (bottom-left), 200-mb wind anomaly vector and its amplitude (bottom-right). SST are derived from the NCEP OI SST analysis, OLR from the NOAA 18 AVHRR IR window channel measurements by NESDIS, winds and surface radiation and heat fluxes from the NCEP CDAS. Anomalies are departures from the 1981-2010 base period means.

Equatorial Pacific SST (°C), HC300 (°C), u850 (m/s) Anomalies



- Negative SSTA strengthened in the central-eastern Pacific in Oct 2020, consistent with the enhanced negative subsurface temperature anomalies in the central-eastern Pacific.
- Easterly low-level zonal wind anomalies prevailed in the Pacific during Oct 2020.

Equatorial Pacific Sea Surface Salinity(SSS) Anomaly

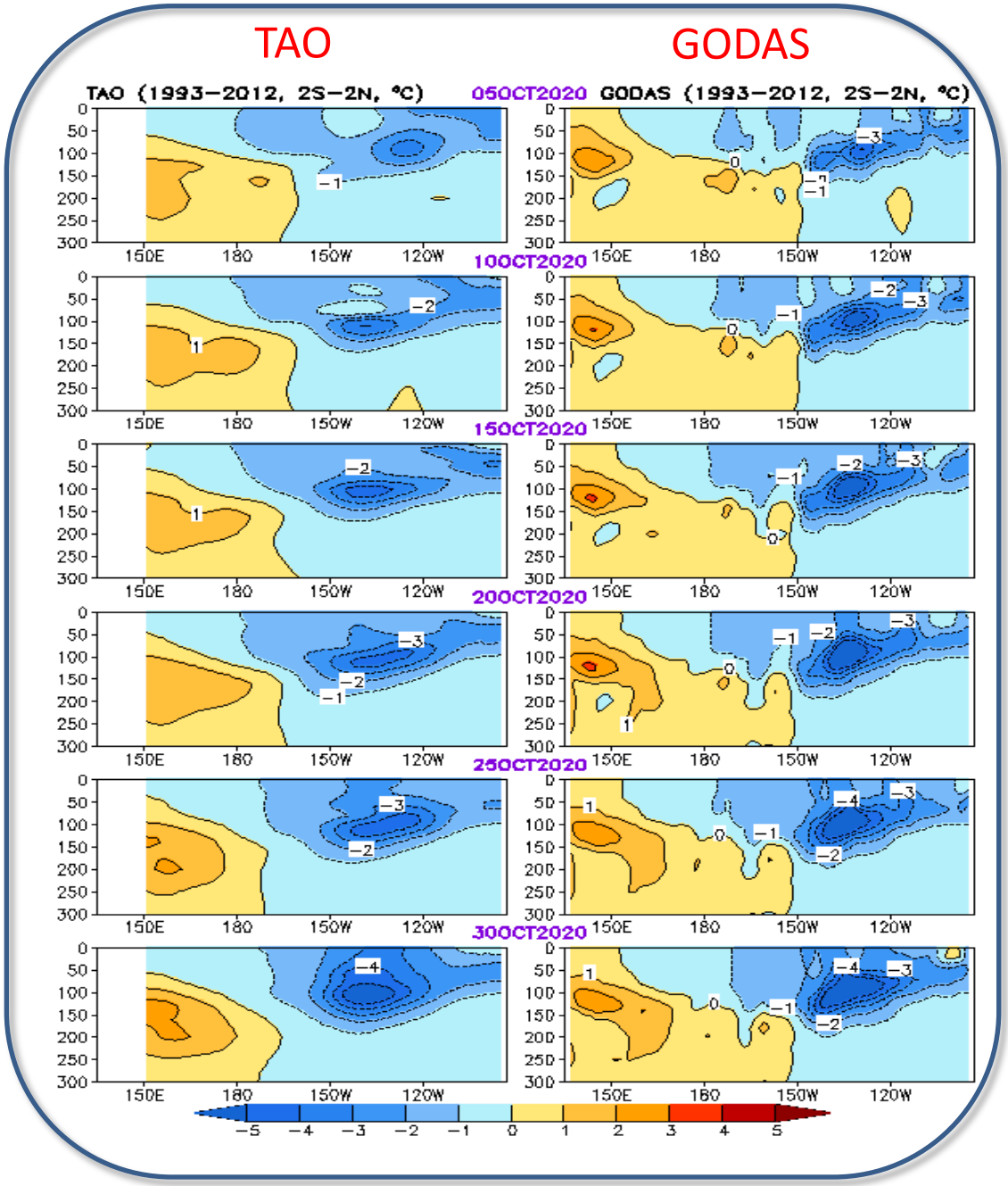


- Positive (negative) SSS anomaly presented east (west) of 140E during 2010, 2011, 2016,2017 La Nina events.

- Strong positive SSS anomaly continued around 140E-170W in Oct 2020.

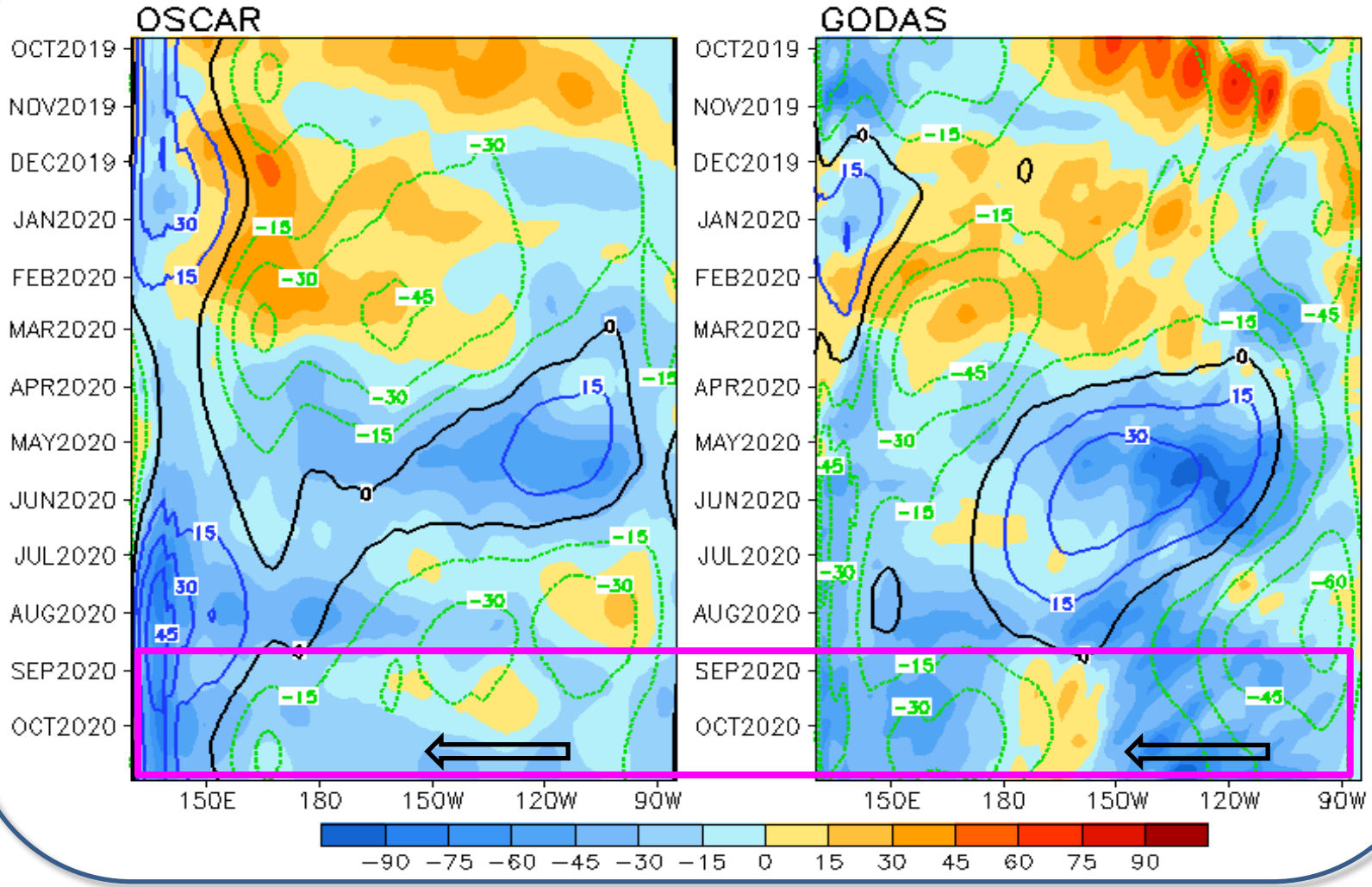
Sea surface salinity (SSS) anomalies are derived from Blended Analysis of Surface Salinity (BASS) V0.Z (Xie et al. 2014). Since June 2015, the BASS SSS is from in situ, SMOS and SMAP; before June 2015,The BASS SSS is from in situ, SMOS and Aquarius. Data is available at ftp.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/precip/BAS.

Equatorial Pacific Ocean Temperature Pentad Mean Anomaly



- Negative ocean temperature anomalies strengthened near the thermocline in the eastern Pacific.

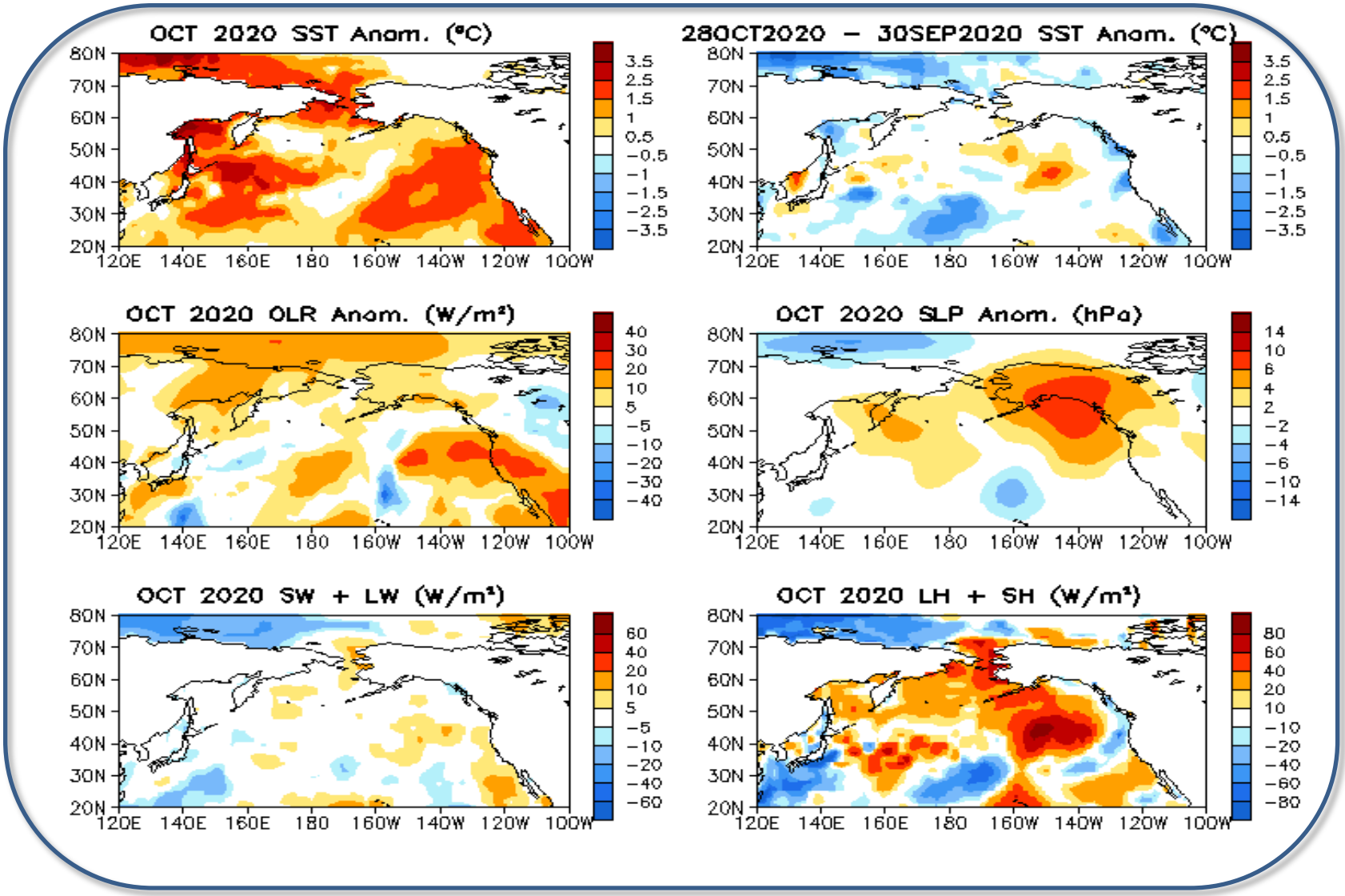
Evolution of Equatorial Pacific Surface Zonal Current Anomaly (cm/s)



- Anomalous westward currents dominated in the equatorial Pacific Ocean, favoring further SST cooling.

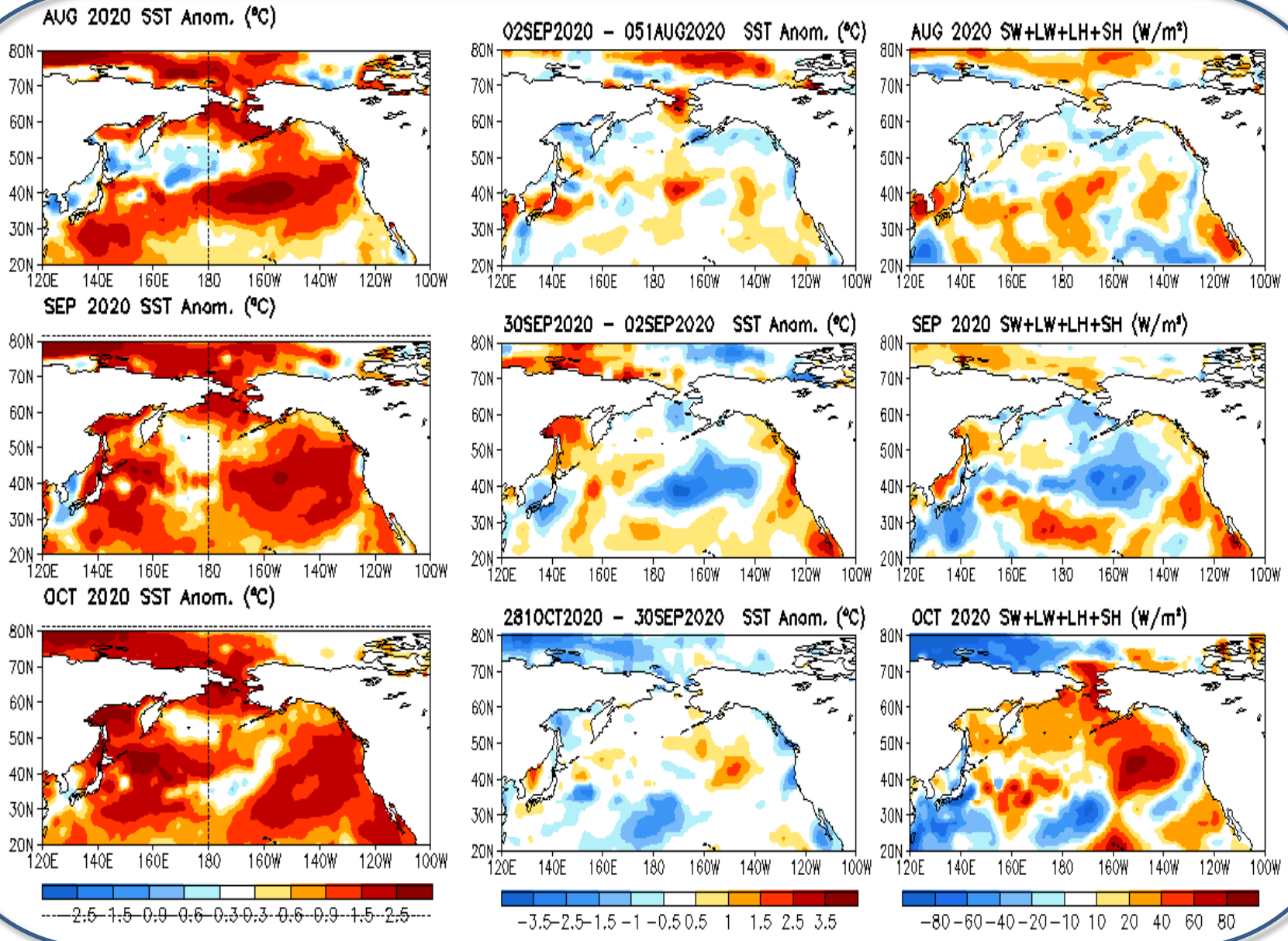
North Pacific & Arctic Oceans

North Pacific & Arctic Ocean: SST Anom., SST Anom. Tend., OLR, SLP, Sfc Rad, Sfc Flx



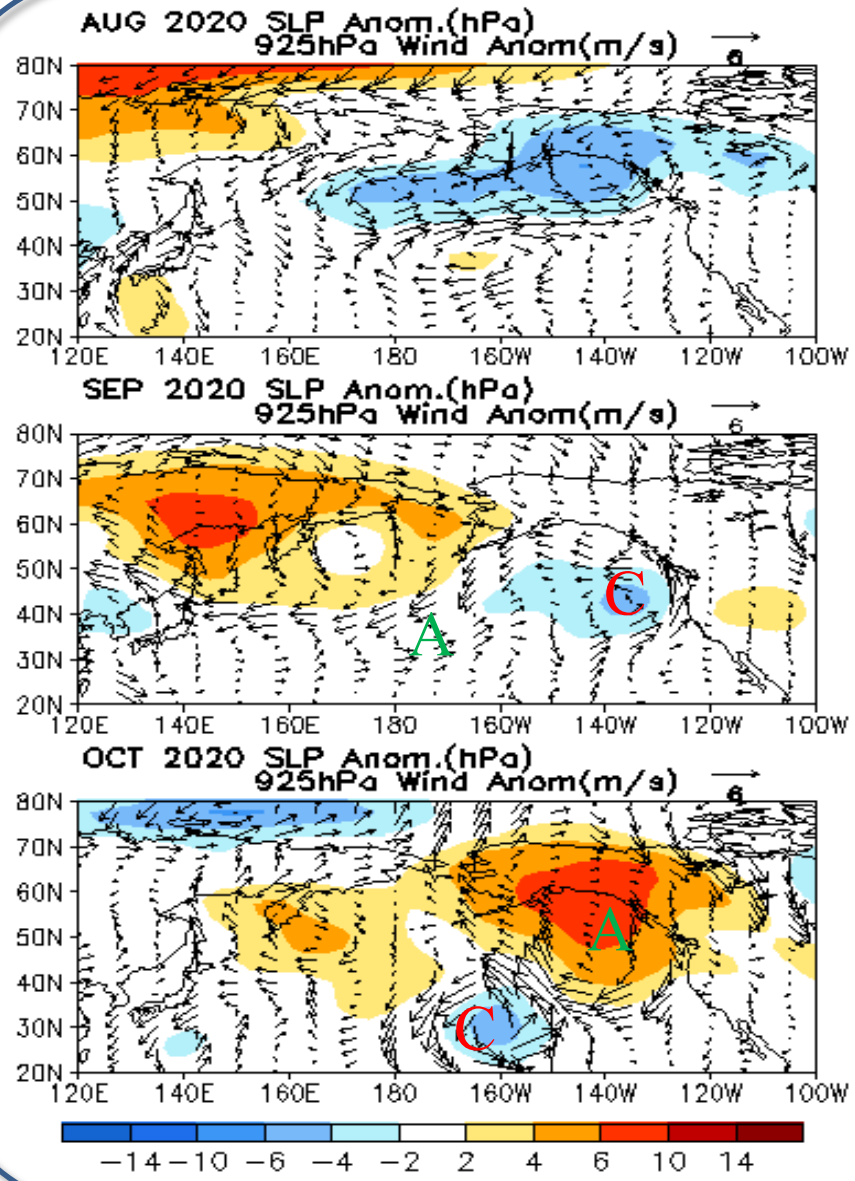
Sea surface temperature (top-left; NCEP OI SST Analysis), anomaly tendency (top-right), Outgoing Long-wave Radiation (OLR) (middle-left; NOAA 18 AVHRR IR), sea surface pressure (middle-right; NCEP CDAS), sum of net surface short- and long-wave radiation (bottom-left; positive means heat into the ocean; NCEP CDAS), sum of latent and sensible heat flux (bottom-right; positive means heat into the ocean; NCEP CDAS). Anomalies are departures from the 1981-2010 base period means.

Last Three Month SST, SST tendency and Net heat flux anomalies



Data source: OISST, NCEP/NCAR Reanalysis 1

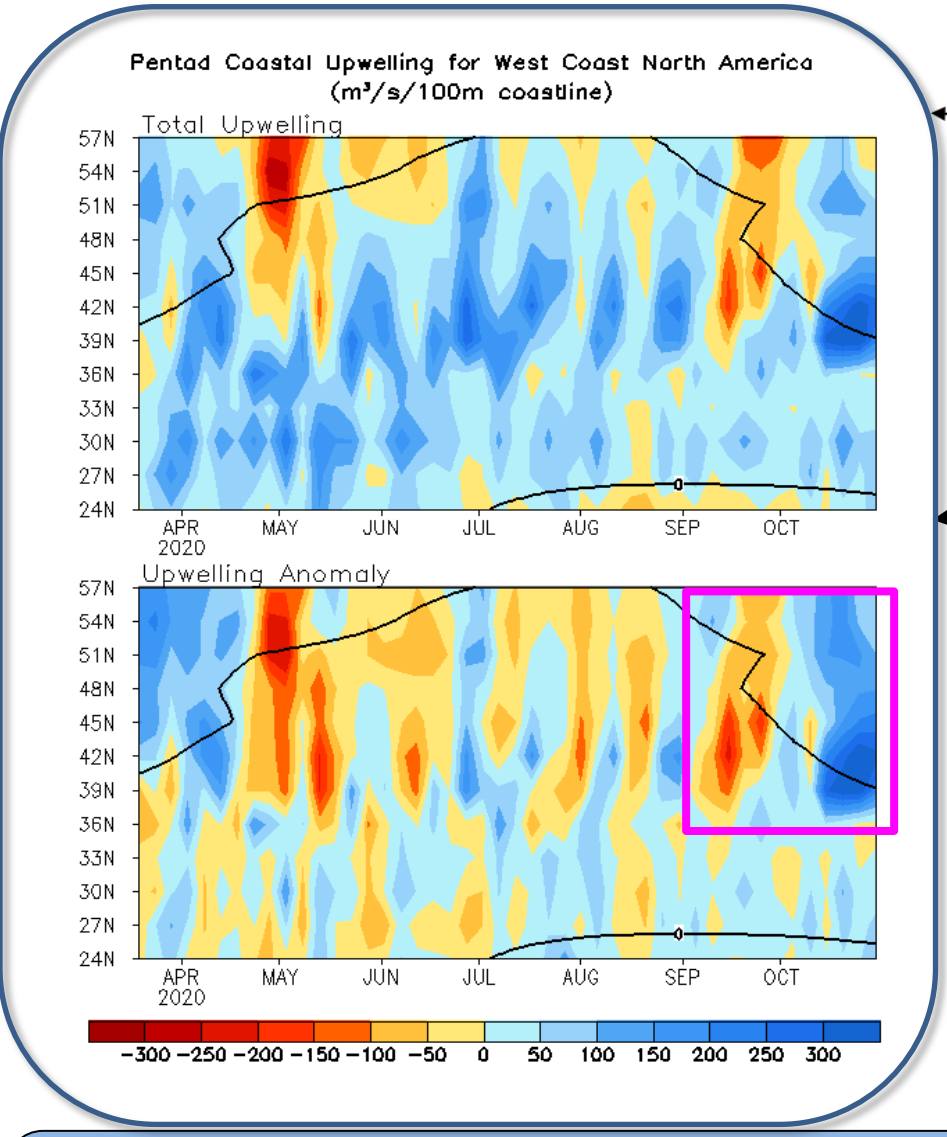
Last Three Month SLP and 925hPa wind Anomalies

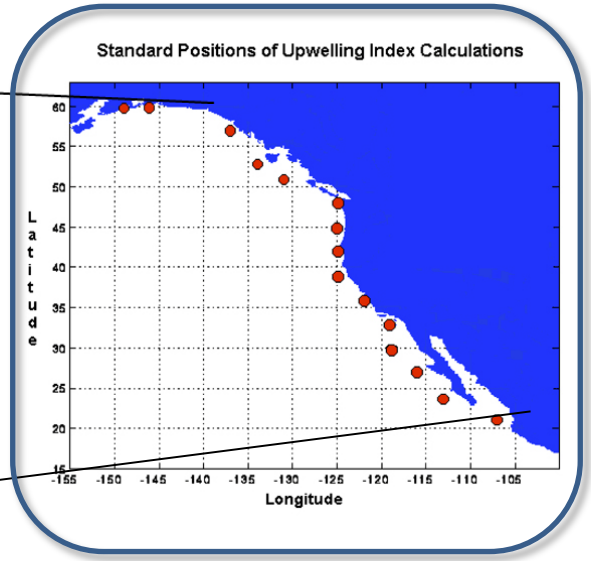


- Weather circulation played an important role in modulating net heat flux anomaly, and hence, SST anomaly tendency.
- Northwesterly wind anomaly along the west coast of N. America favors upwelling.

Data source: NCEP/NCAR Reanalysis 1

North America Western Coastal Upwelling



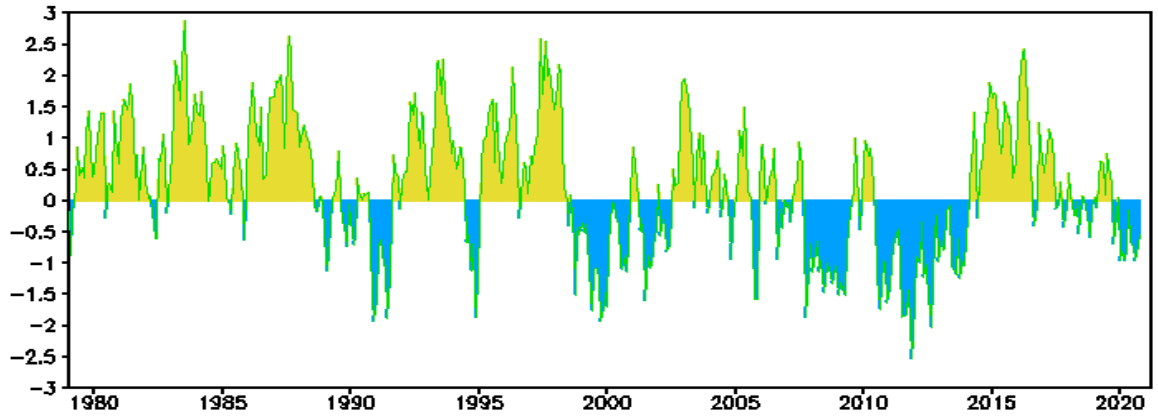


- Downwelling weakened north of 36ºN in Oct 2020.

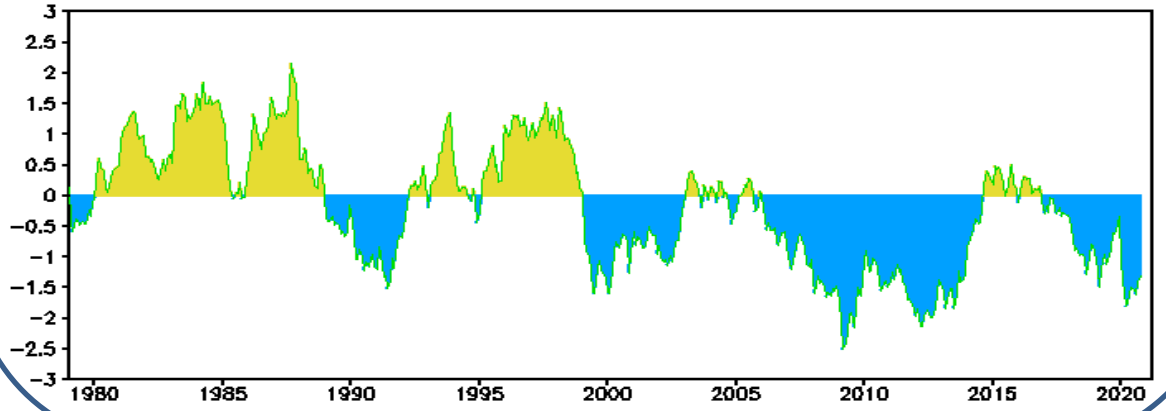
(top) Total and (bottom) anomalous upwelling indices at the 15 standard locations for the western coast of North America. derived from the vertical velocity of the NCEP's GODAS and are calculated as integrated vertical volume transport at 50-meter depth from each location to its nearest coast point (m³/s/100m coastline). Anomalies are departures from the 1981-2010 base period pentad means.
- Area below (above) black line indicates climatological upwelling (downwelling) season.
- Climatologically upwelling season progresses from March to July along the west coast of North America from 36ºN to 57ºN.

Two Oceanic PDO indices

SST-based PDO (Wen et al. 2014: GRL)



H300-based PDO (Arun and Wen 2016:Mon.Wea.Rev.)



- Negative SST-based PDO index continued in Oct 2020, with PDO index= -0.55.

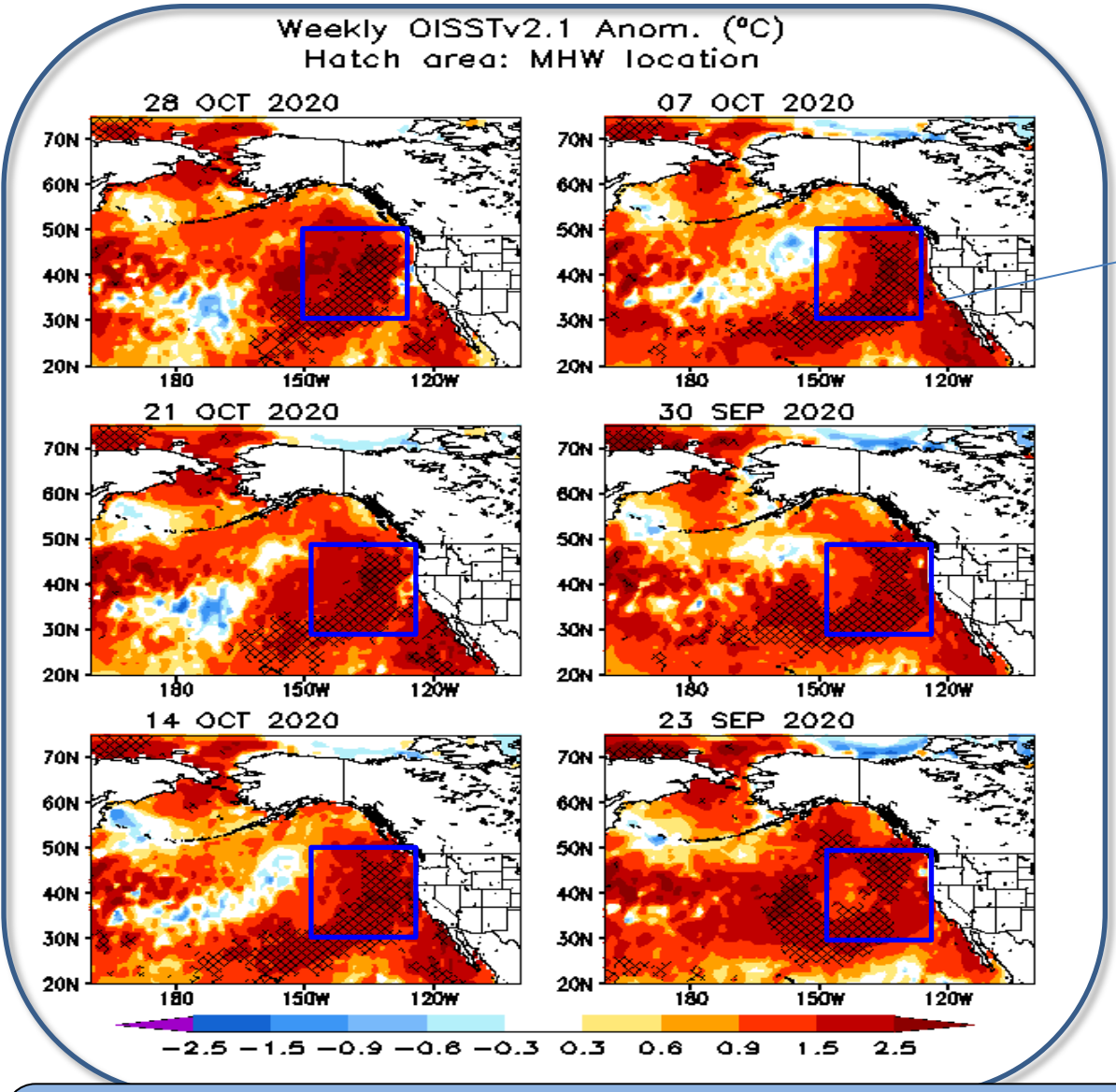
- Negative H300-based PDO index has persisted 49 months since Nov 2016, with HPDO = - 1.3 in Oct 2020.

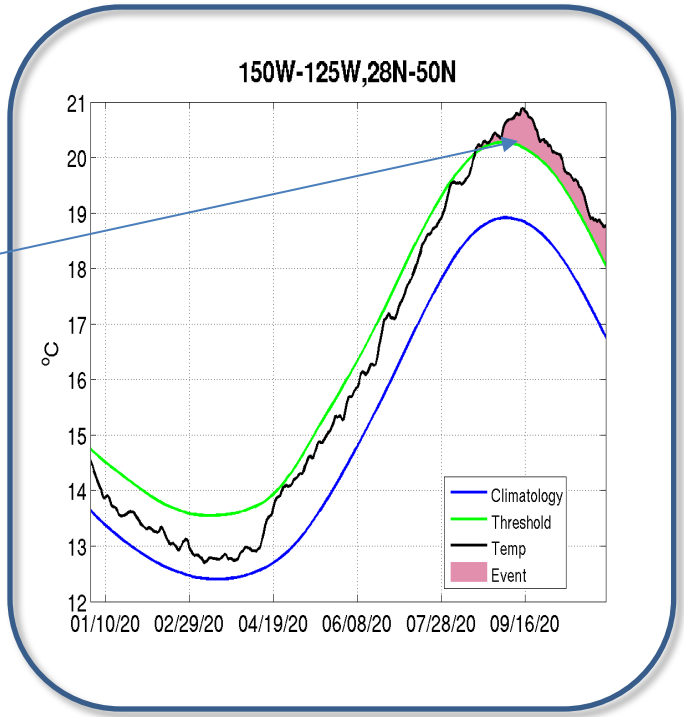
- SST-based PDO index has considerable variability both on seasonal and decadal time scales.

- H300-based PDO index highlights the slower variability and encapsulates an integrated view of temperature variability in the upper ocean.

SST-based PDO is defined as the 1st EOF of monthly ERSST v3b in the North Pacific for the period 1900-1993. PDO index is the standardized projection of the monthly ERSSTv5 SST anomalies onto the 1st EOF pattern. H300-based Pacific Decadal Oscillation is defined as the projection of monthly mean H300 anomalies from NCEP GODAS onto their first EOF vector in the North Pacific. PDO indices are downloadable from https://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/GODAS/ocean_briefing.shtml.

Weekly SST anomaly and MHWs in the North Pacific

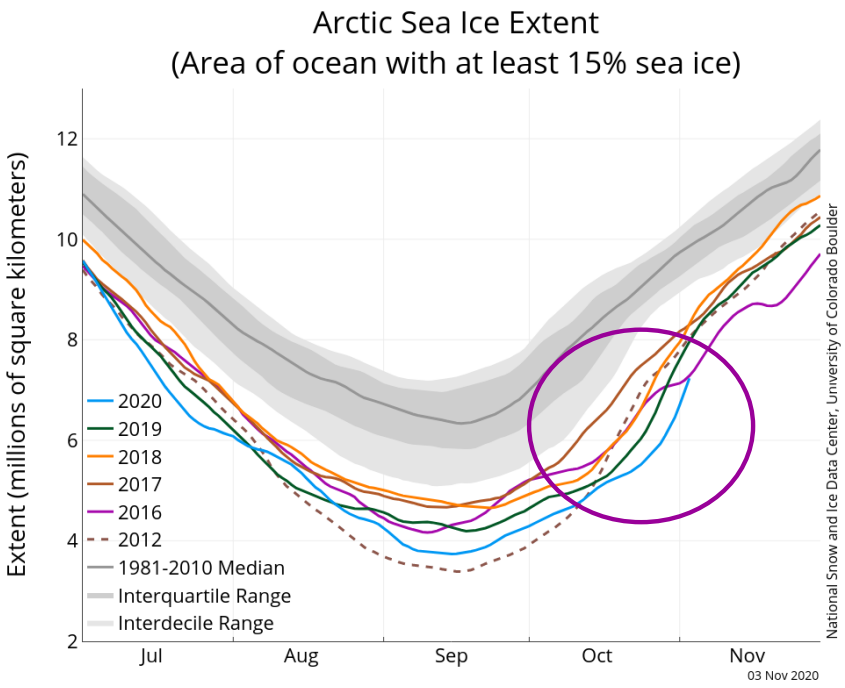


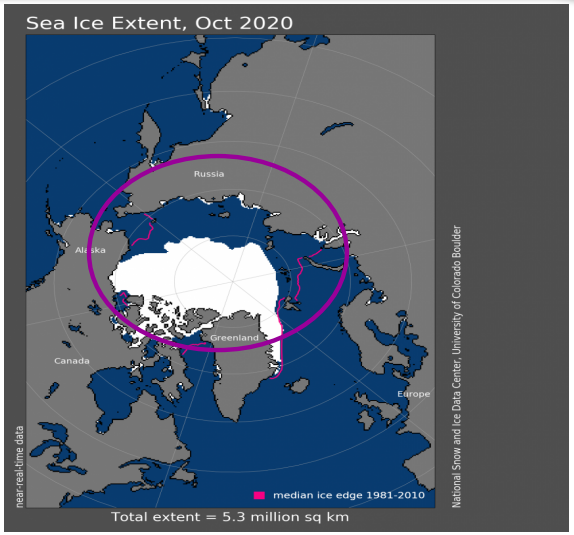


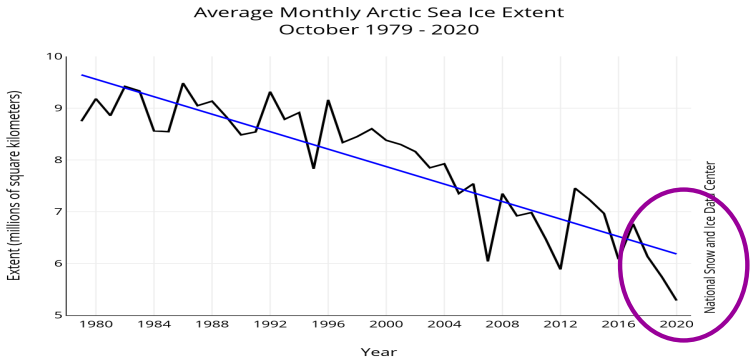
- MHWs has persisted near the west coast of United States since early September .

(Left panel) Weekly SST anomaly (shaded) and locations experience Marine heat waves (Hatched) by the date labelled in the plot. (right panel) SST evolution at a specific location. Green line and blue line denote the seasonal 90th percentile and daily climatology, respectively. Shaded area denotes the periods experiencing MHW. MHW is defined as a discrete prolonged warmer than 90th percentile of daily SST for at least 14 days. Data is derived from NCEI OISSTv2.1 and the climatology reference period is 1982-2010.

Arctic Sea Ice; NSIDC (http://nsidc.org/arcticseaicenews/index.html)

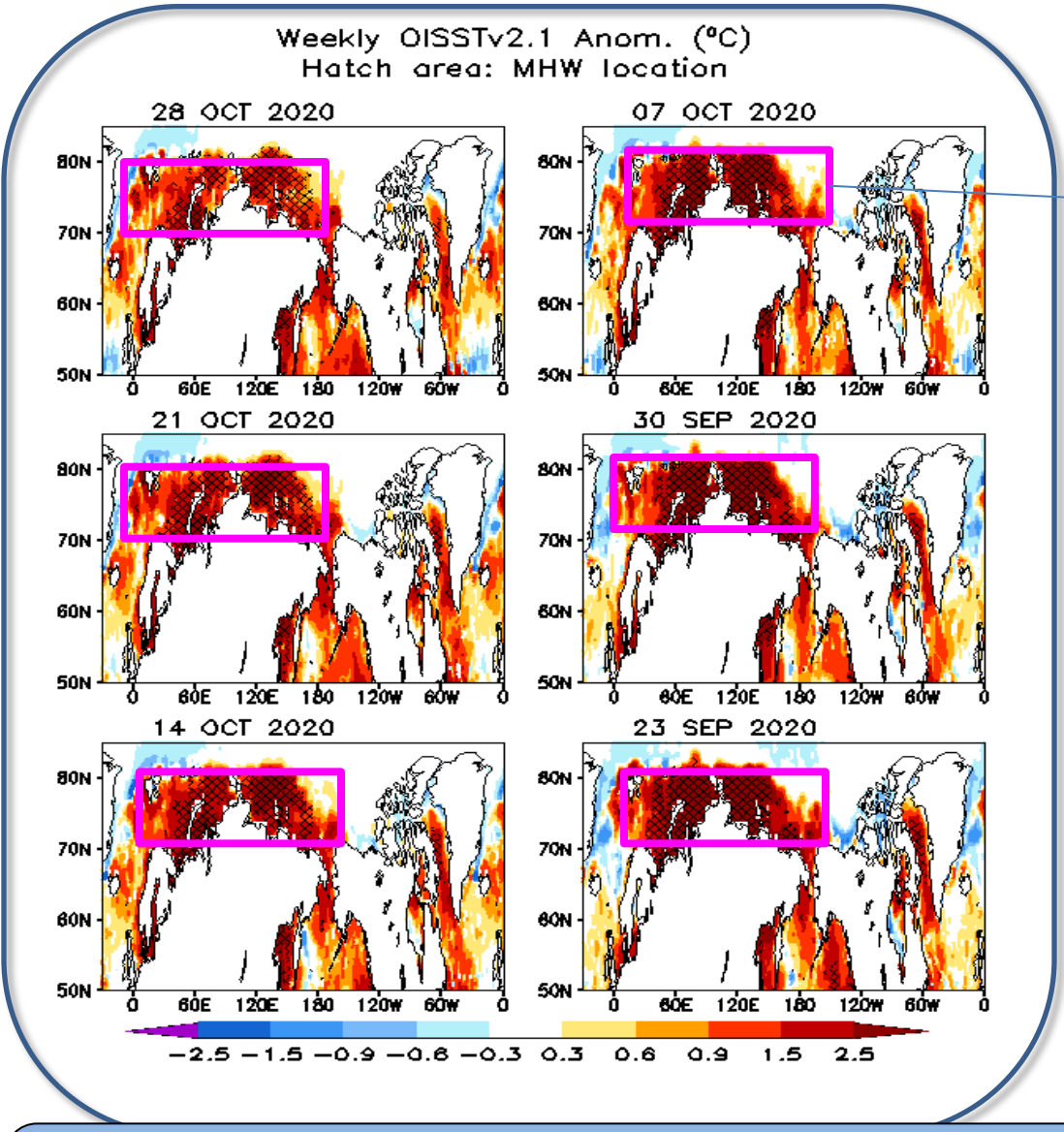


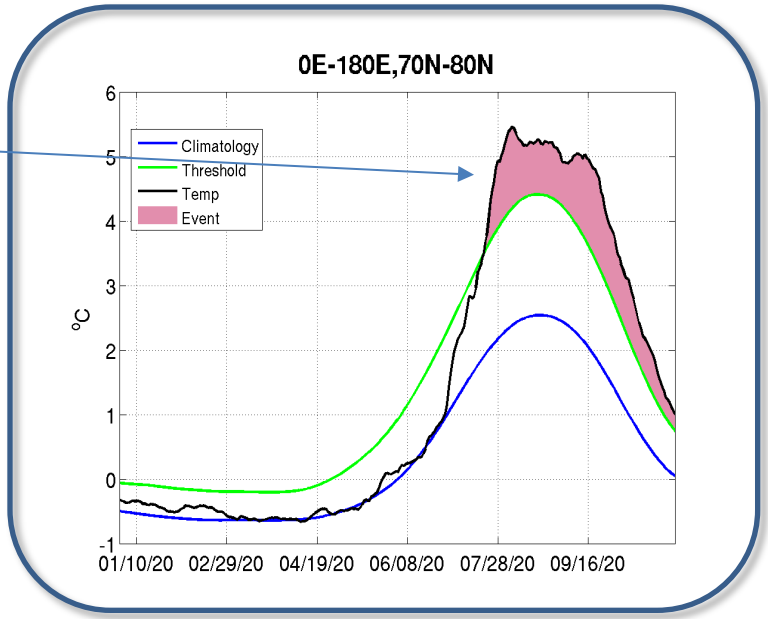




- Arctic ice extent was far below average in the Eurasian side of the Arctic Ocean and in Baffin bay in October 2020.
- The monthly average extent for Oct 2020 is 5.28 million square kilometers, reaching historical minimum since satellite observations in 1979.

Weekly SST anomaly and MHWs in the Arctic



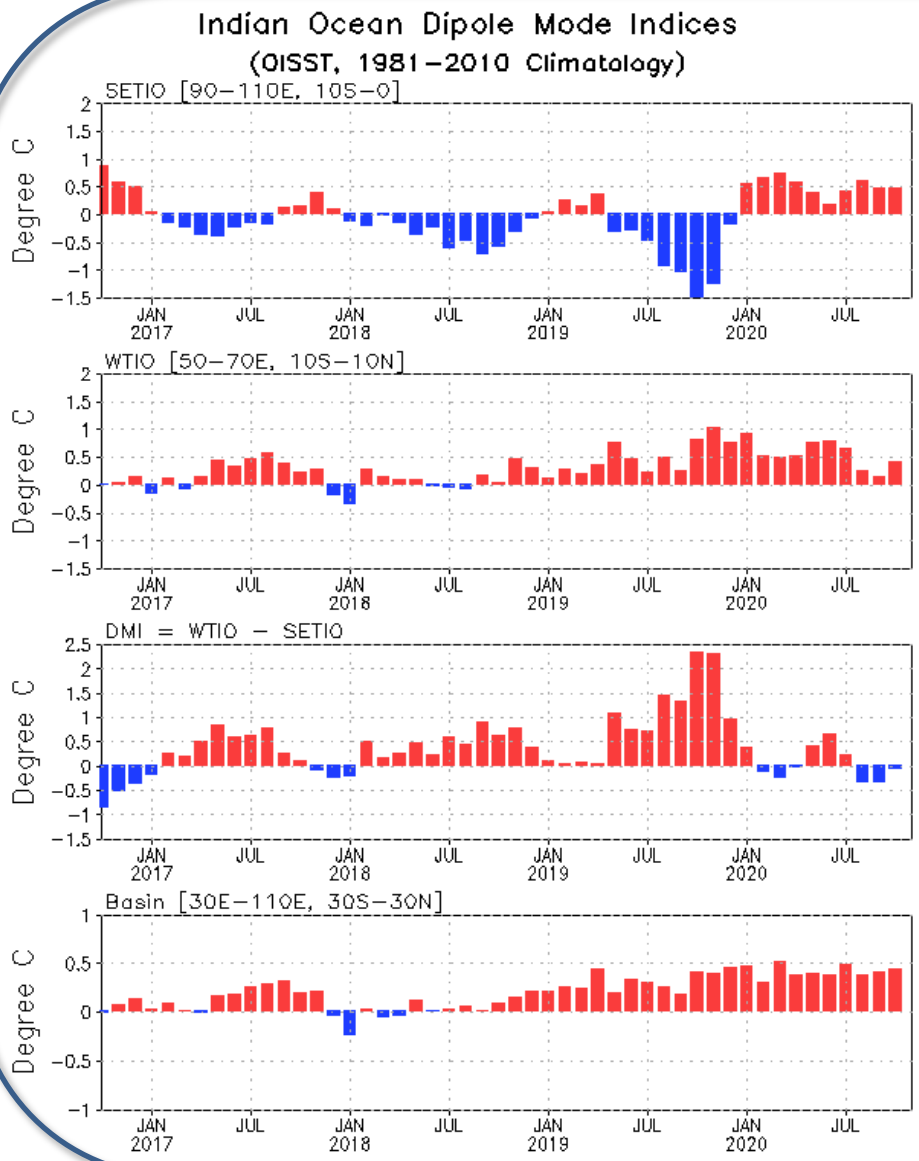


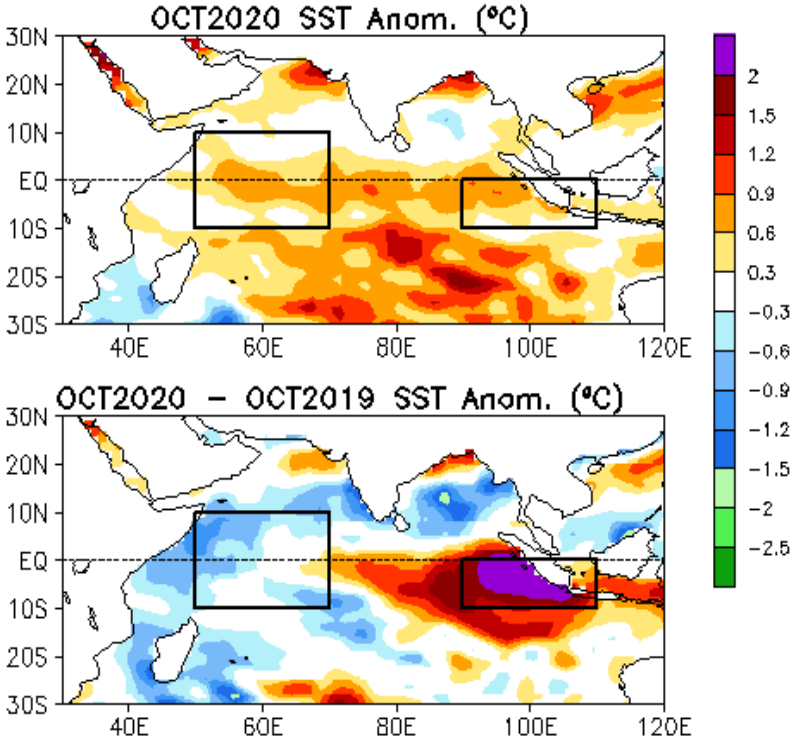
- MHWs persisted near the Bering Sea and East Siberian Sea since late Jul 2020.
- Persistent MHWs played an important role in the slow sea ice recovery in 2020.

(Left panel) Weekly SST anomaly (shaded) and locations experience Marine heat waves (Hatched) by the date labelled in the plot. (right panel) SST evolution at a specific location. Green line and blue line denote the seasonal 90th percentile and daily climatology, respectively. Shaded area denotes the periods experiencing MHW. MHW is defined as a discrete prolonged warmer than 90th percentile of daily SST for at least 14 days. Data is derived from NCEI OISSTv2.1 and the climatology reference period is 1982-2010.

Indian Ocean

Evolution of Indian Ocean SST Indices

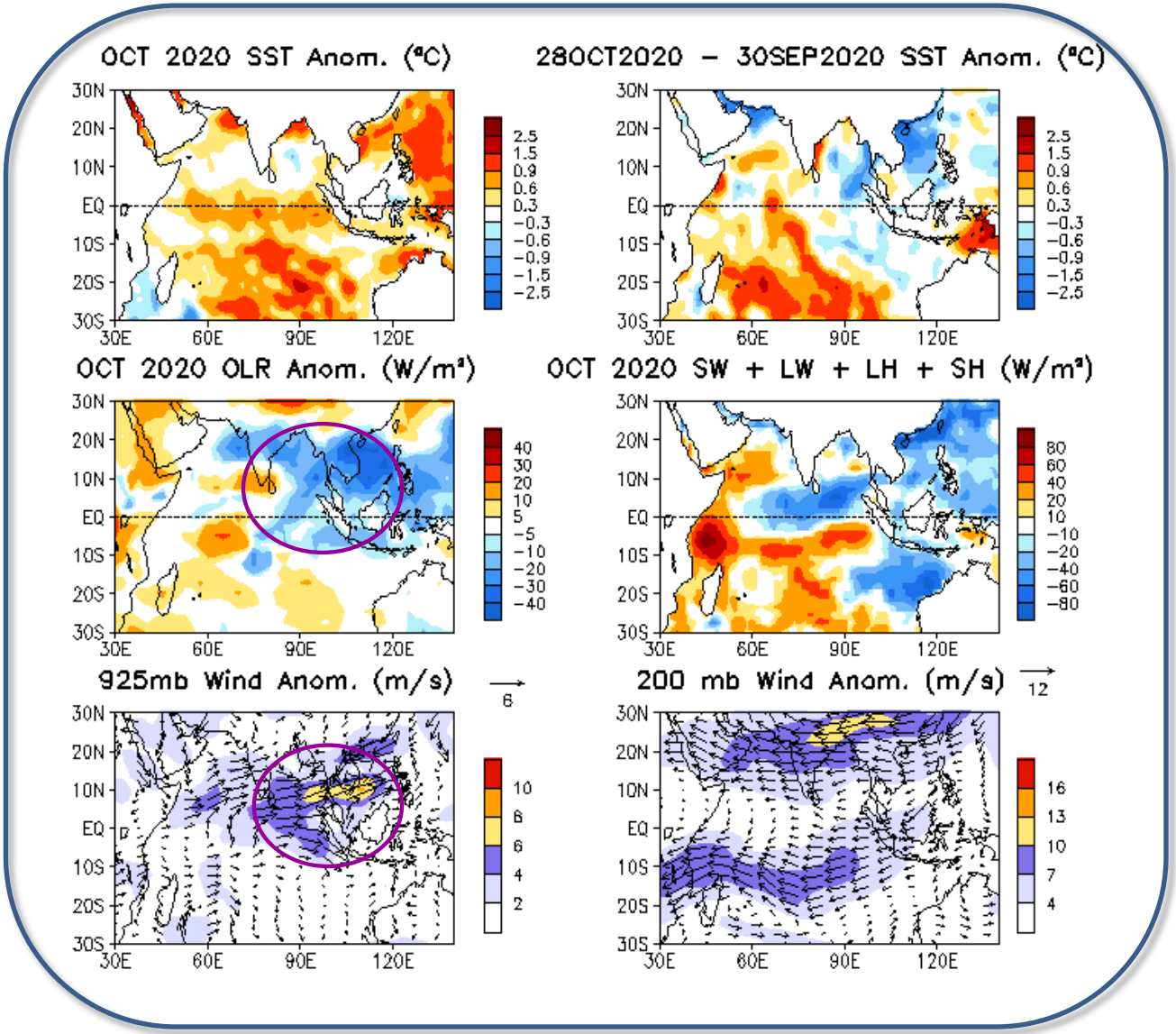




- Dipole index was near average in Oct 2020.

Indian Ocean Dipole region indices, calculated as the area-averaged monthly mean sea surface temperature anomalies (OC) for the SETIO [90ºE-110ºE, 10ºS-0] and WTIO [50ºE-70ºE, 10ºS-10ºN] regions, and Dipole Mode Index, defined as differences between WTIO and SETIO. Data are derived from the NCEP OI SST analysis, and anomalies are departures from the 1981-2010 base period means.

Tropical Indian: SST Anom., SST Anom. Tend., OLR, Sfc Rad, Sfc Flx, 925-mb & 200-mb Wind Anom.



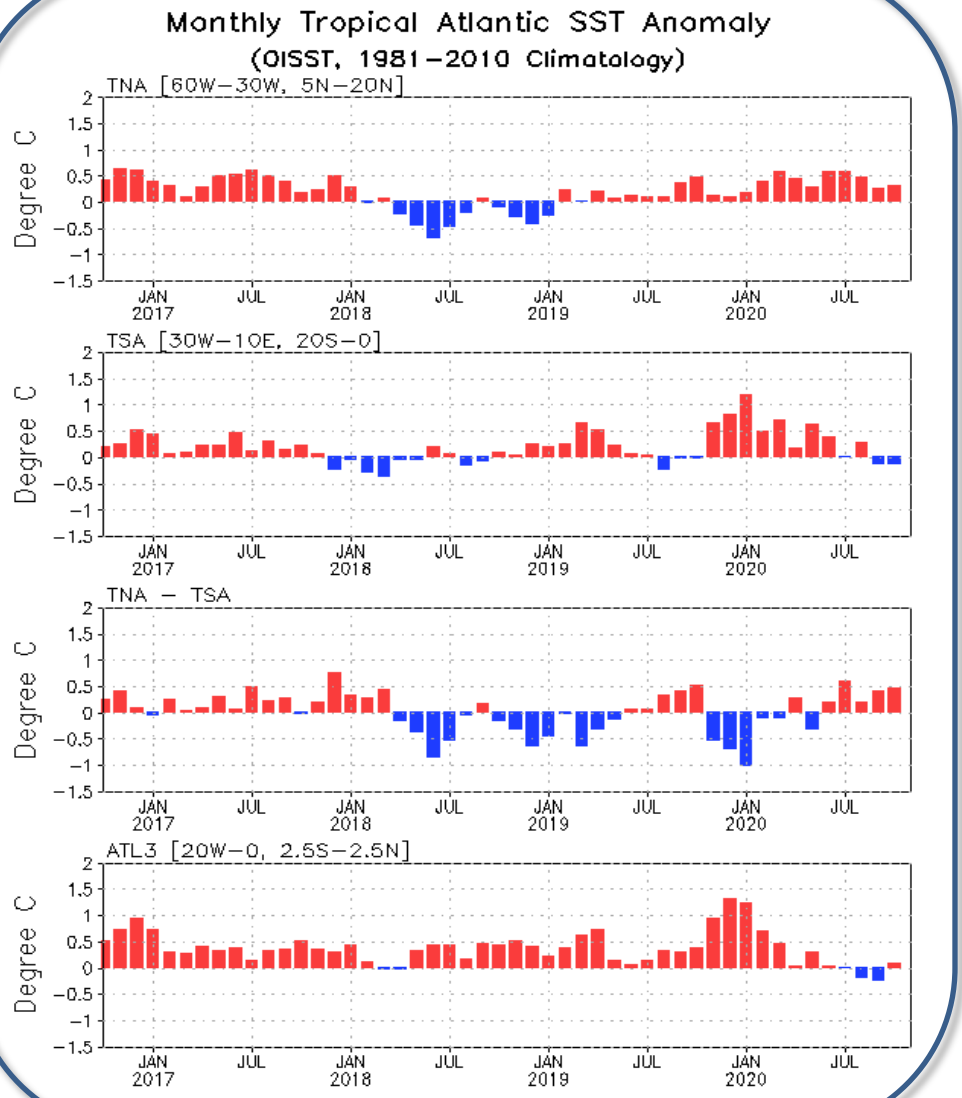
- Positive SSTA dominated the tropical Indian Ocean.

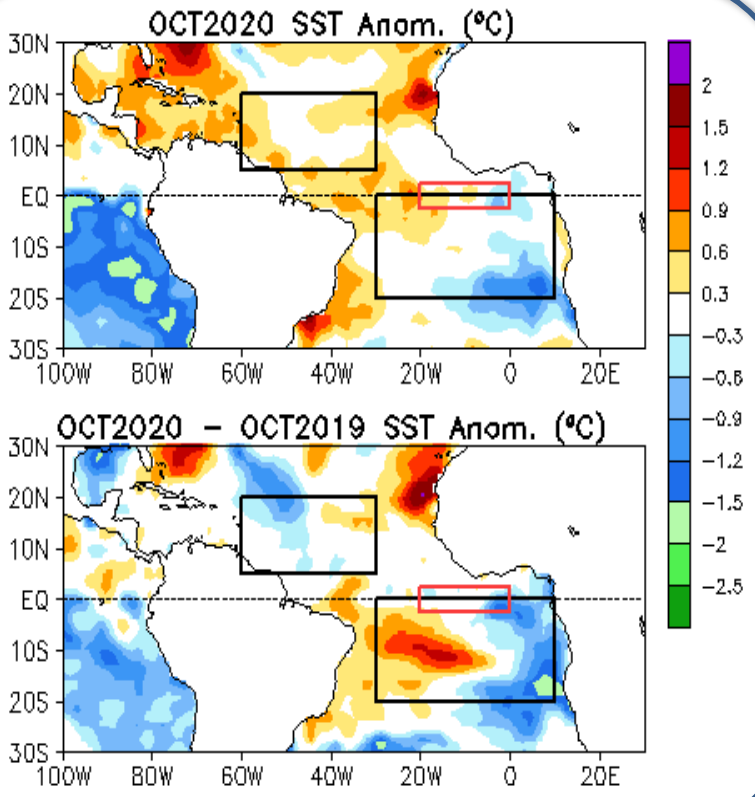
- Convection was enhanced over the eastern tropical Indian Ocean.

SST anomalies (top-left), anomaly tendency (top-right), OLR anomalies (middle-left), sum of net surface short- and long-wave radiation, latent and sensible heat flux anomalies (middle-right), 925-mb wind anomaly vector and its amplitude (bottom-left), 200-mb wind anomaly vector and its amplitude (bottom-right). SST are derived from the NCEP OI SST analysis, OLR from the NOAA 18 AVHRR IR window channel measurements by NESDIS, winds and surface radiation and heat fluxes from the NCEP CDAS. Anomalies are departures from the 1981-2010 base period means.

Tropical and North Atlantic Ocean

Evolution of Tropical Atlantic SST Indices

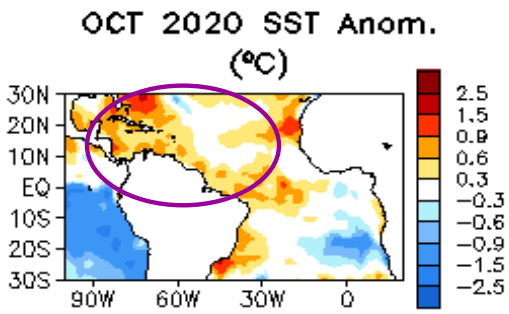


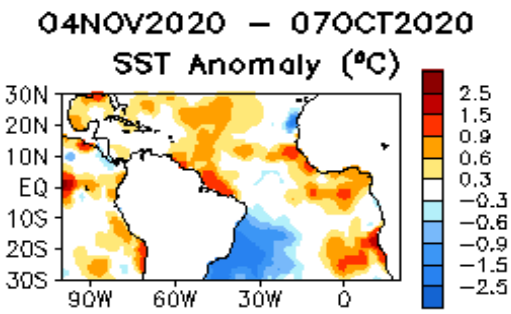


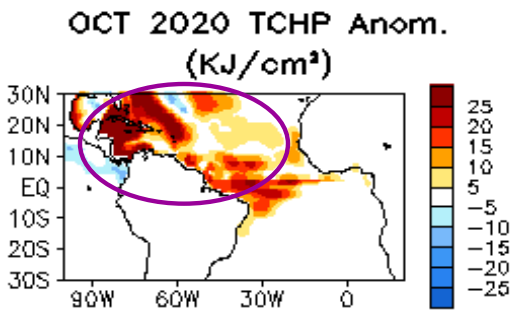
- TNA index warmed up slightly in Oct 2020.
- The index representing the Atlantic Meridional mode enhanced slightly in Oct 2020.

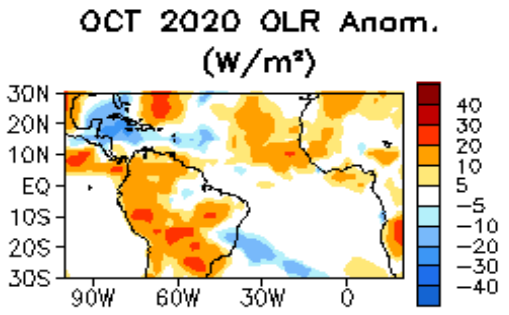
Tropical Atlantic Variability region indices, calculated as the area-averaged monthly mean sea surface temperature anomalies (^{O}C) for the TNA [60^{O}W-30^{O}W, 5ºN-20^{O}N], TSA [30^{O}W-10^{O}E, 20^{O}S-0] and ATL3 [20^{O}W-0, 2.5^{O}S-2.5^{O}N] regions, and Meridional Gradient Index, defined as differences between TNA and TSA. Data are derived from the NCEP OI SST analysis, and anomalies are departures from the 1981-2010 base period means.

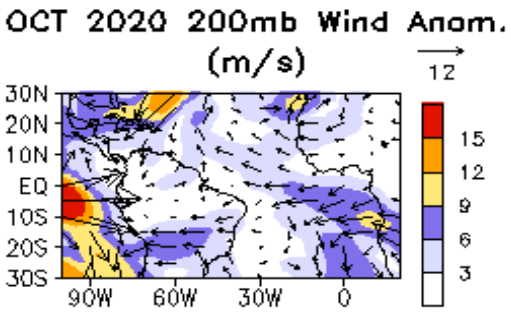
Tropical Atlantic: SST Anom., SST Anom. Tend., TCHP,OLR, Sfc Rad, Sfc Flx, 925-mb & 200-mb Wind Anom.

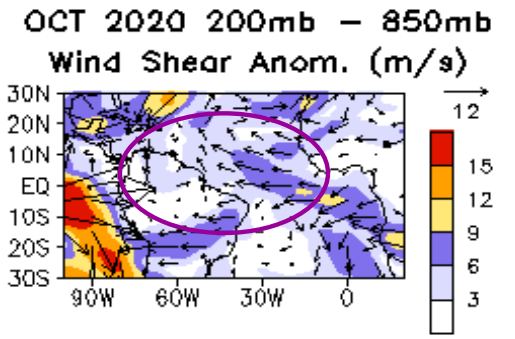


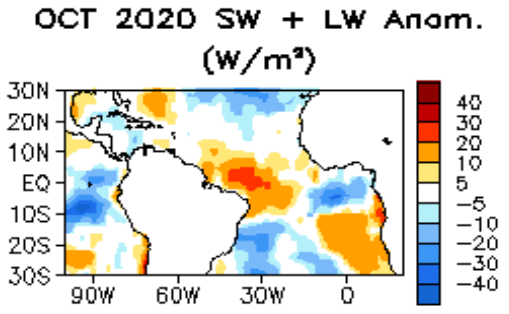


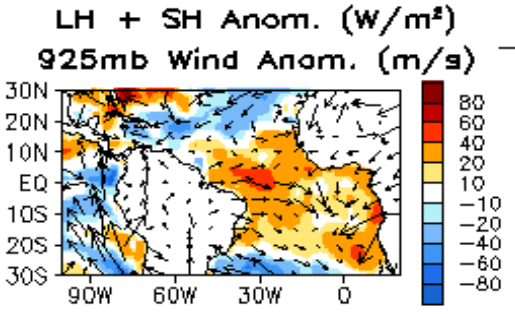


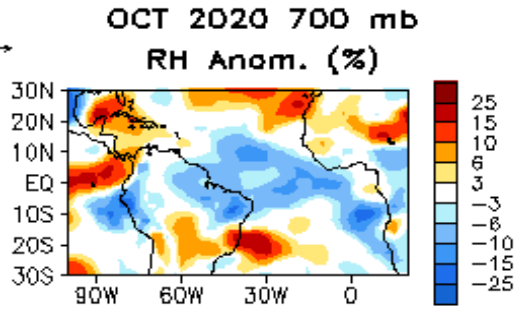




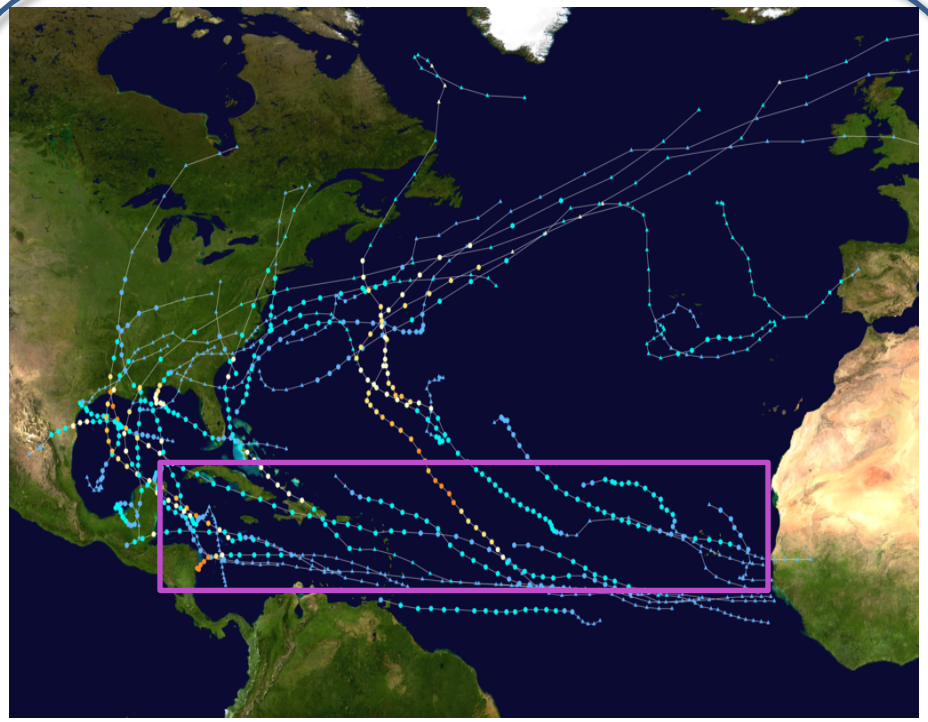








2020 Atlantic Hurricane Season Activities

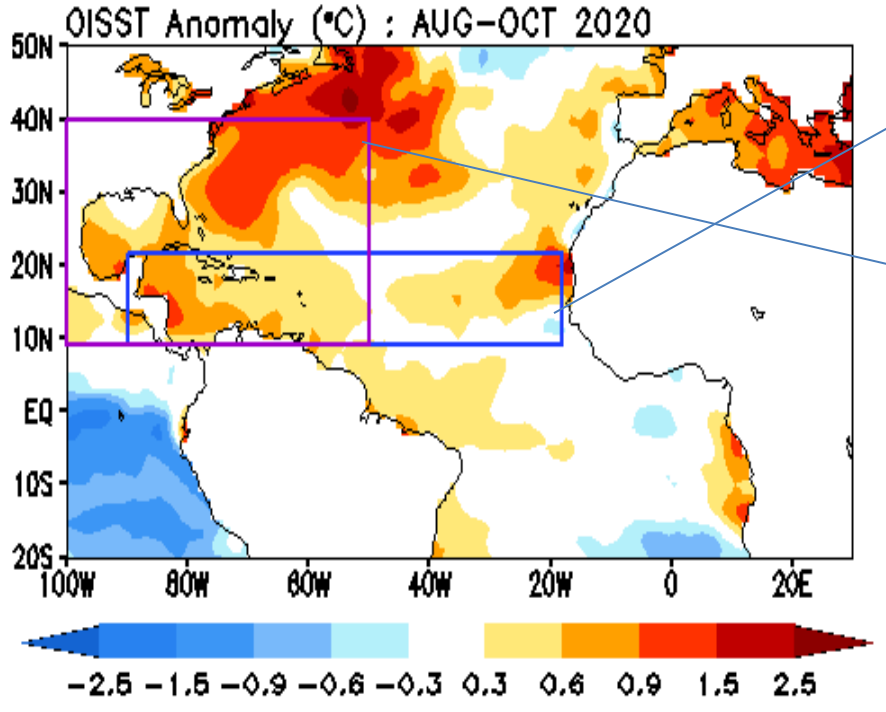


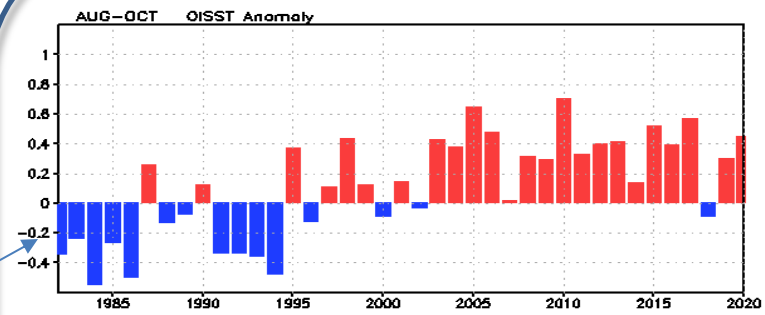
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2020_Atlantic_hurricane_season

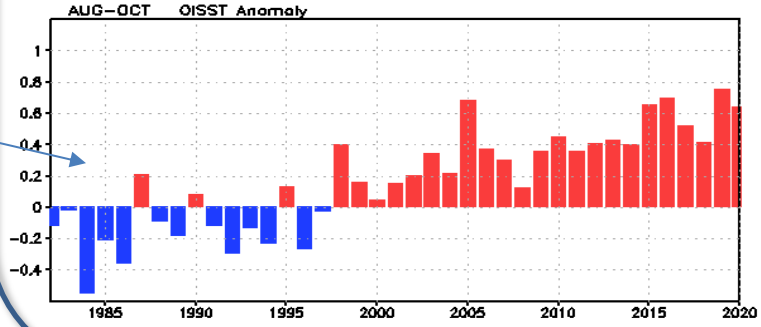
- Twenty-nine tropical storms with twelve developing into hurricane and five becoming major hurricane by Nov 7.
- 12 out of 29 tropical storms were formed either the Gulf of Mexico or extratropics.
- 12 tropical storms made landfall in the contiguous United state, breaking the record of 1916.

Atlantic	Observations (By Nov 11)	Outlook (Aug. 6) 85% above-normal	Outlook (May 21) 60% above-normal	(1981-2010)
Total storms	29	19-25	13-19	12
Hurricanes	12	7-11	6-10	6
Major hurricanes	5	3-6	3-6	3

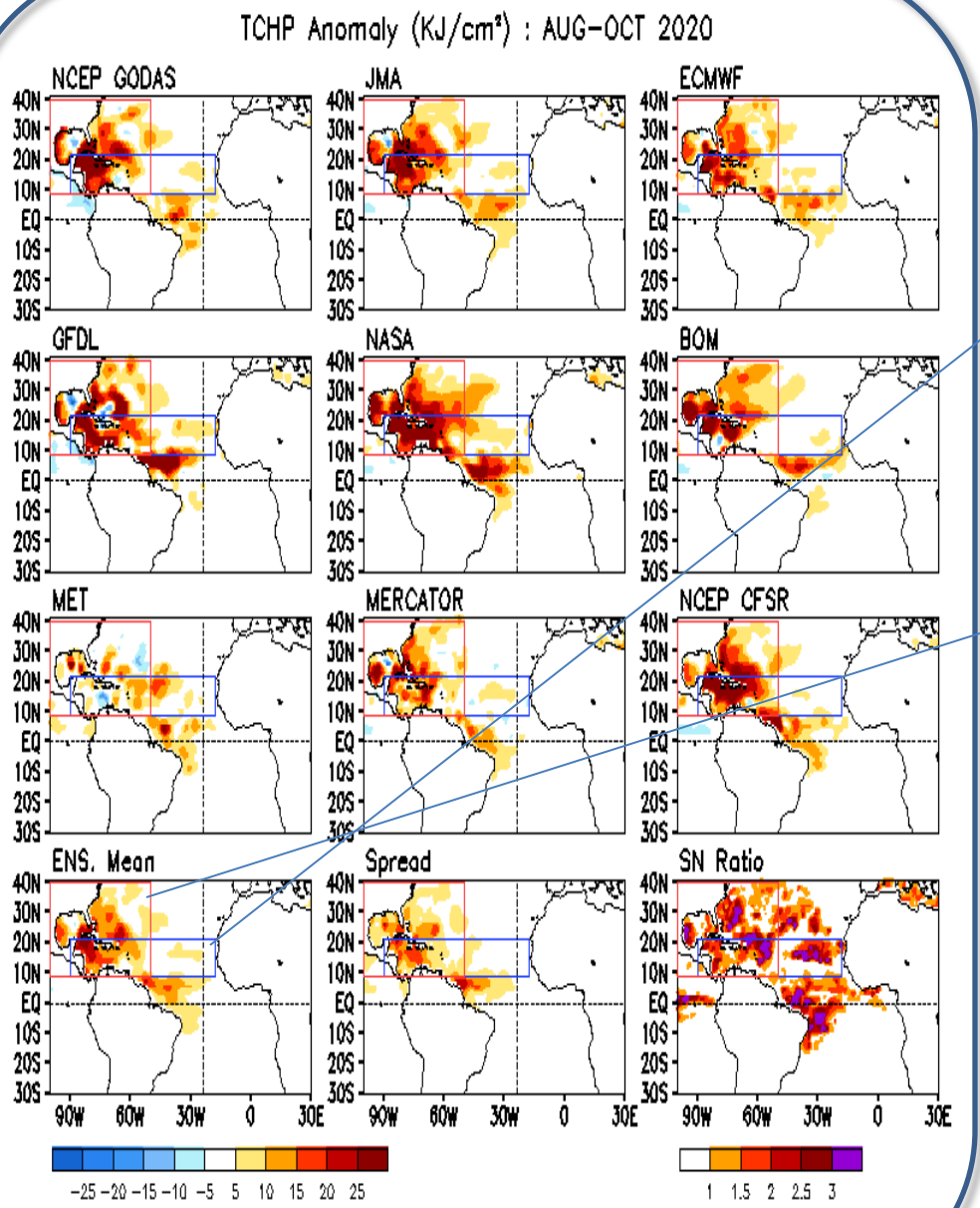
Evolution of SST anomaly in the North Atlantic

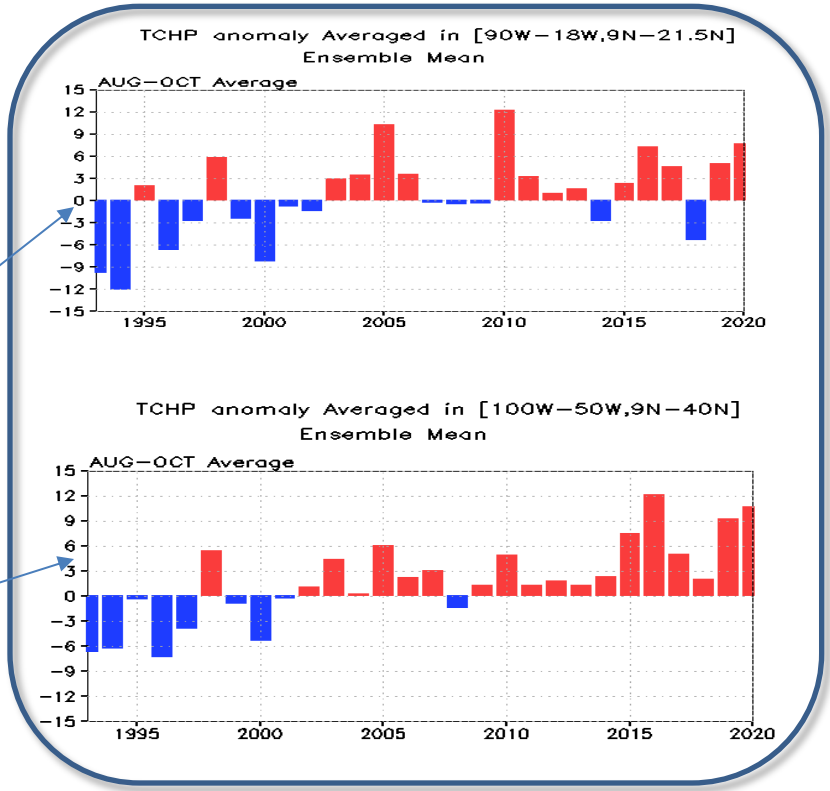






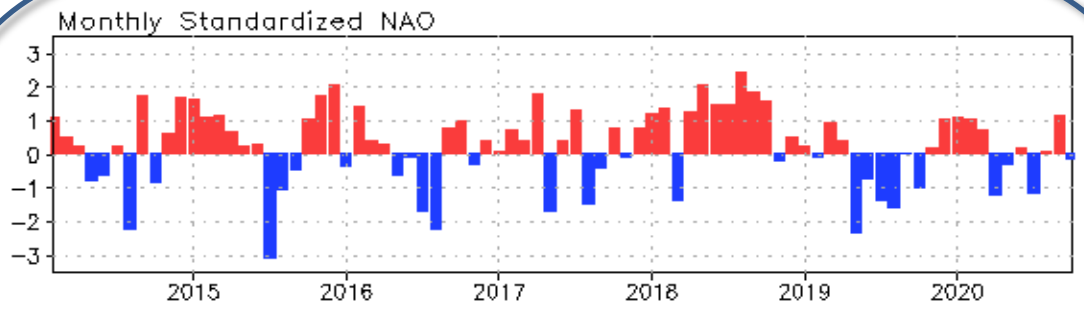
Real-Time Ocean Reanalysis Intercomparison :Tropical Cyclone Heat Potential Anomaly

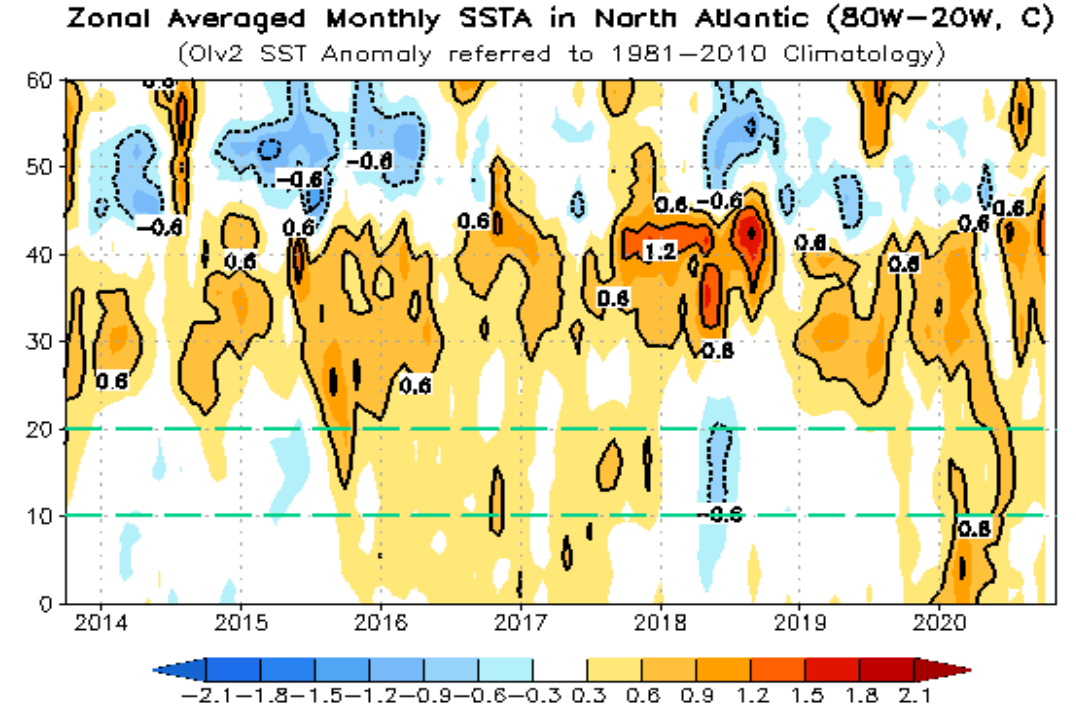


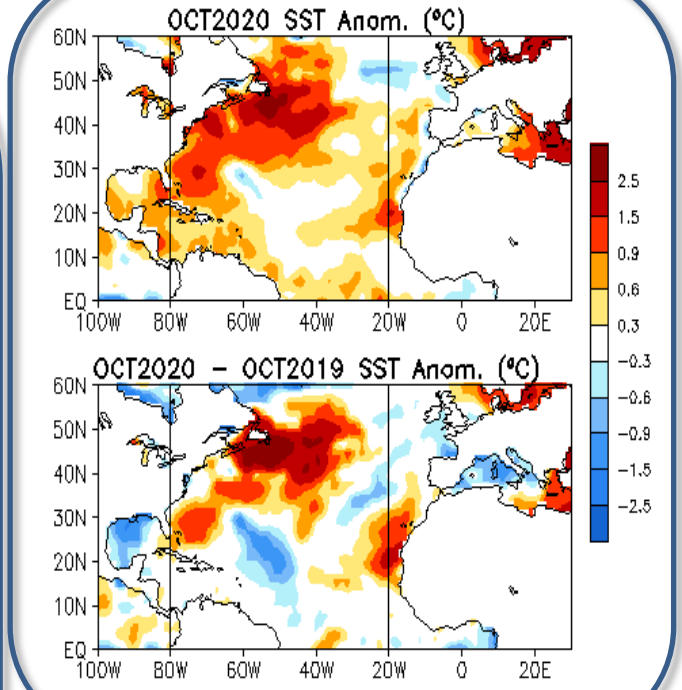


-2020 TCHP anomaly (ASO) averaged in Gulf of Mexico and western North Atlantic region ranked the second largest since 1993.

NAO and SST Anomaly in North Atlantic





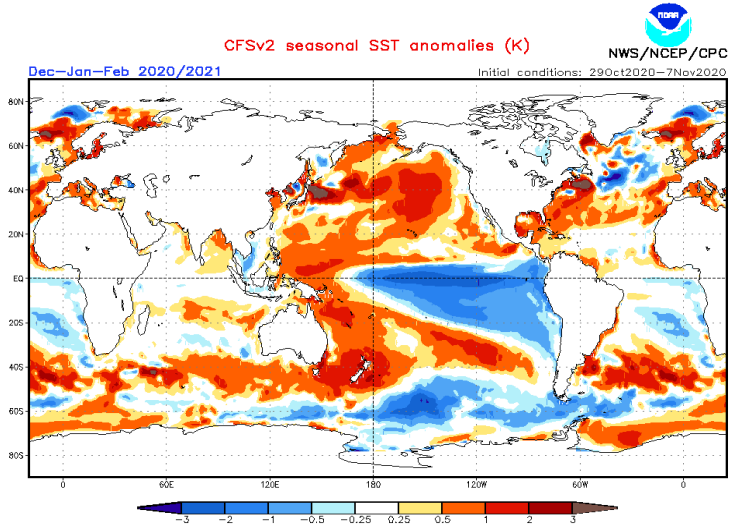


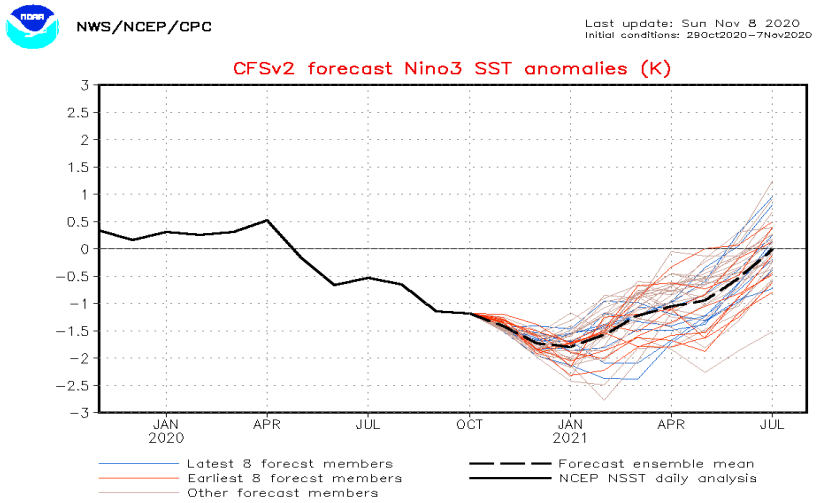
- NAO switched to negative phase in Oct 2020 with NAOI= -0.2.

Monthly standardized NAO index (top) derived from monthly standardized 500-mb height anomalies obtained from the NCEP CDAS in 20°N-90°N (http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov). Time-Latitude section of SST anomalies averaged between 80ºW and 20ºW (bottom). SST are derived from the NCEP OI SST analysis, and anomalies are departures from the 1981-2010 base period means.

ENSO and Global SST Predictions

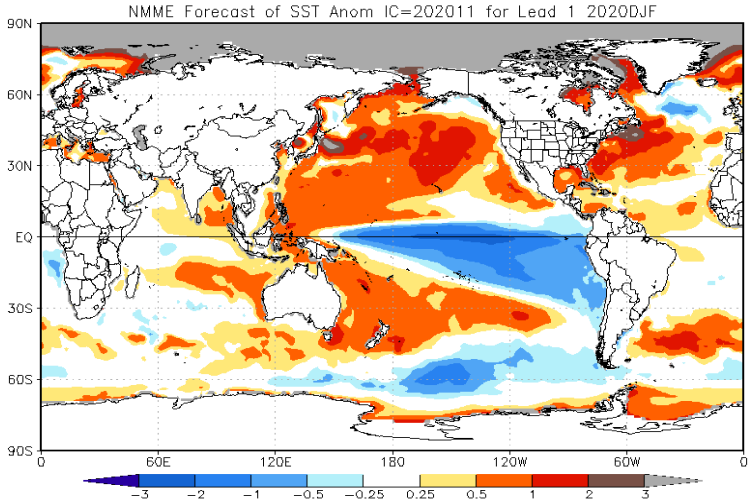
CFSv2 IC:Nov for 2020 Nov

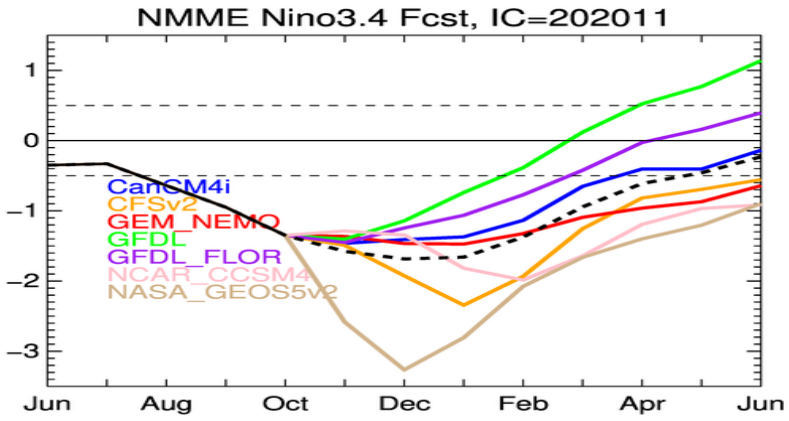




https://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/CFSv2/CFSv2seasonal.shtml

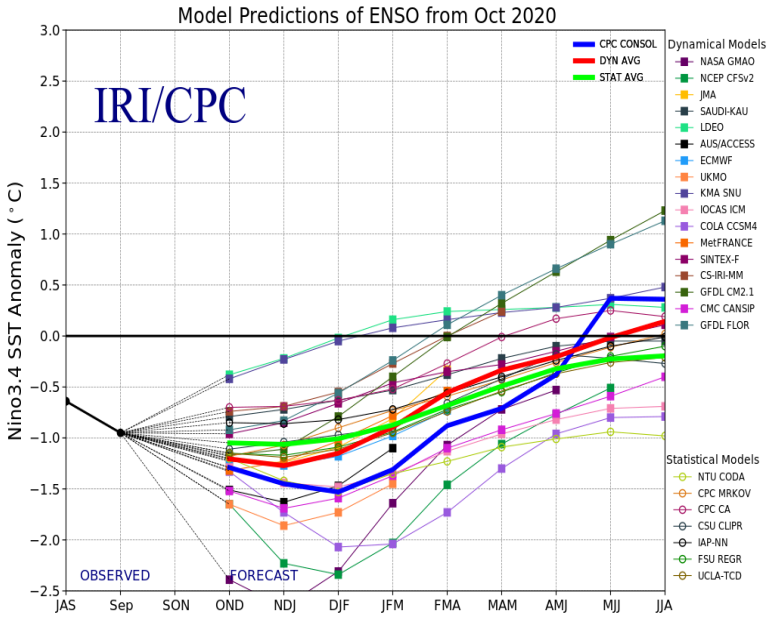
NMME IC:Nov for 2020 Nov

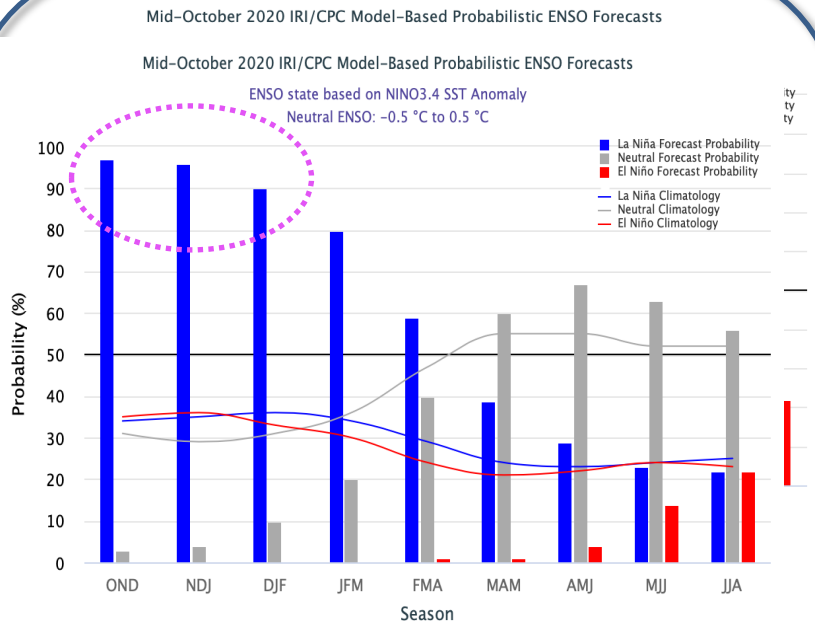


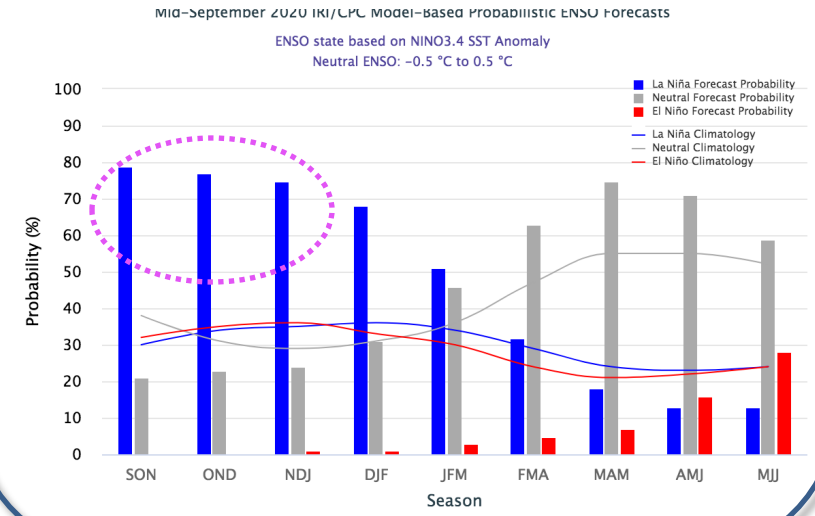


(https://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/NMME/)

NOAA “ENSO Diagnostics Discussion ”:

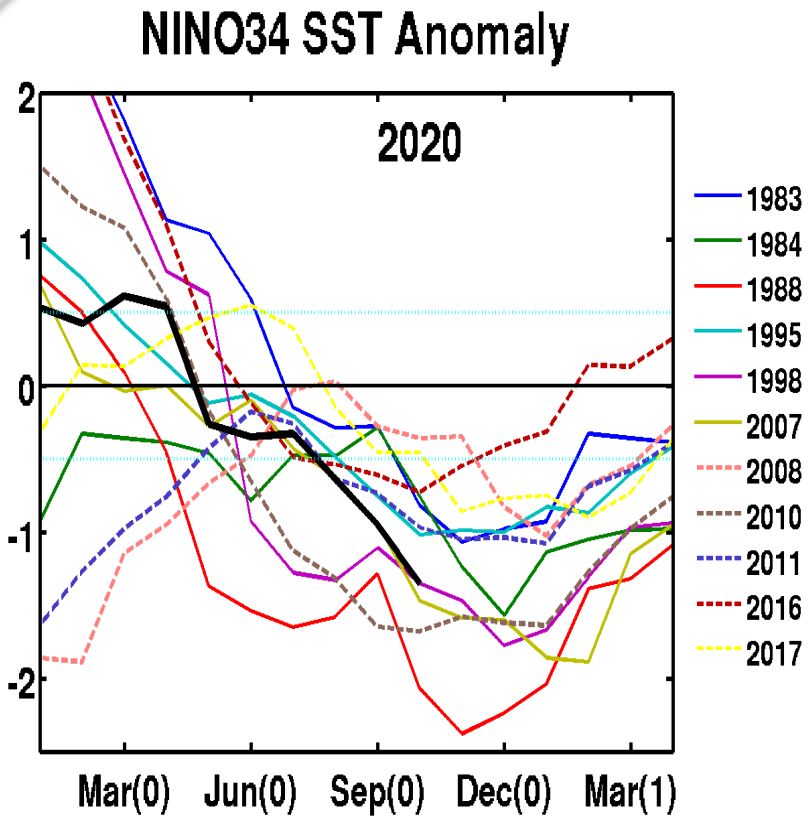


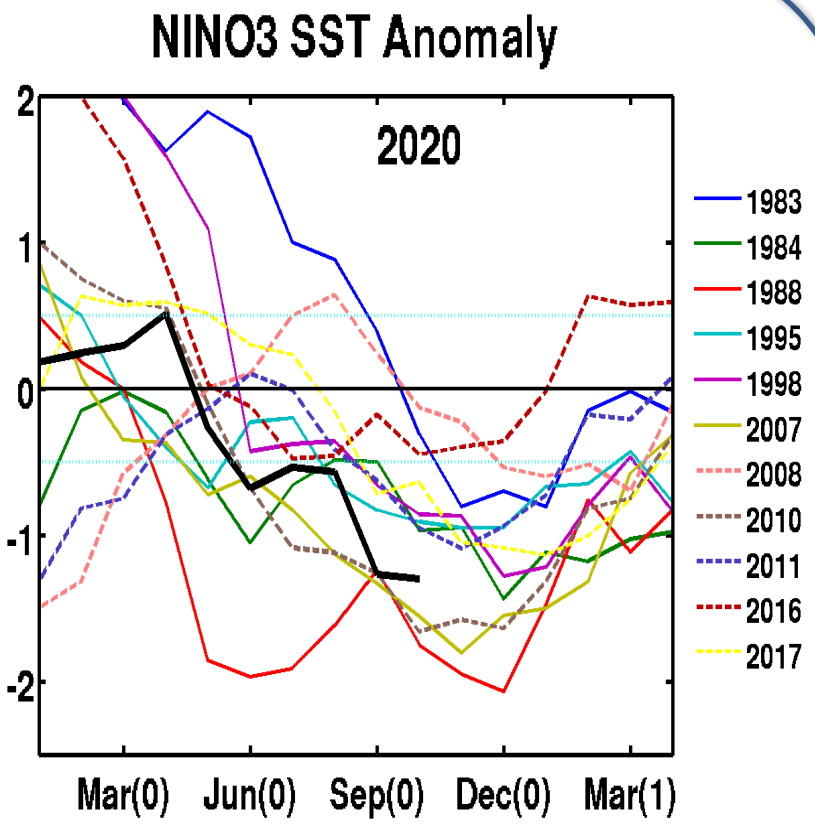




- A Majority of the models predict the continuation of La Niña through the Northern Hemisphere winter 2020-21.
- NOAA “ENSO Diagnostics Discussion” on 8 Oct stated that “La Niña is likely to continue through the Northern Hemisphere winter 2020-21(~95% chance during January-March) and into spring 2021(~65% chance during March-May)”.

NINO Indices Evolution in La Niña Years



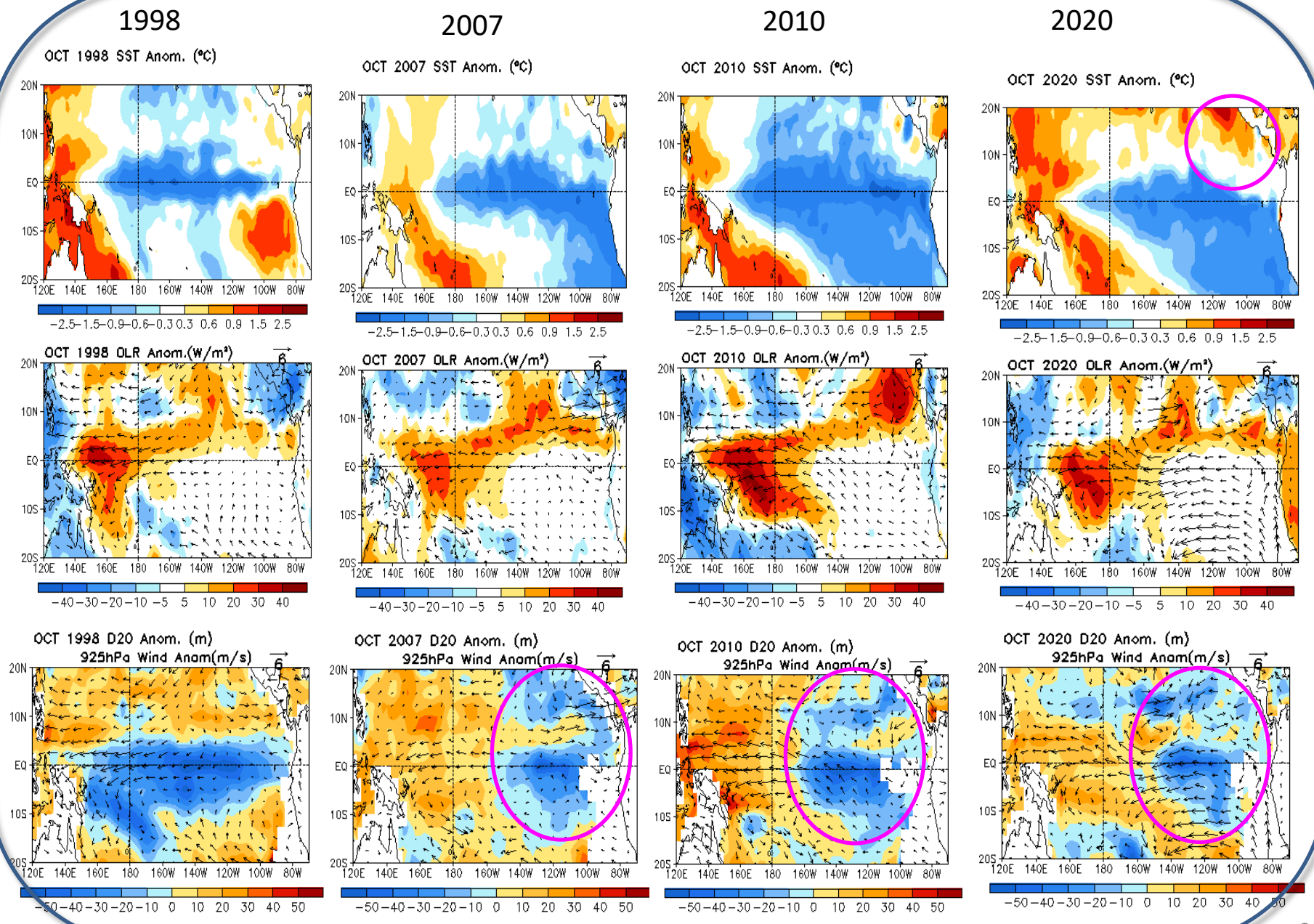


Weak La Niña (-0.5°C~-0.9°C): 1983,1995,2008,2016,2017

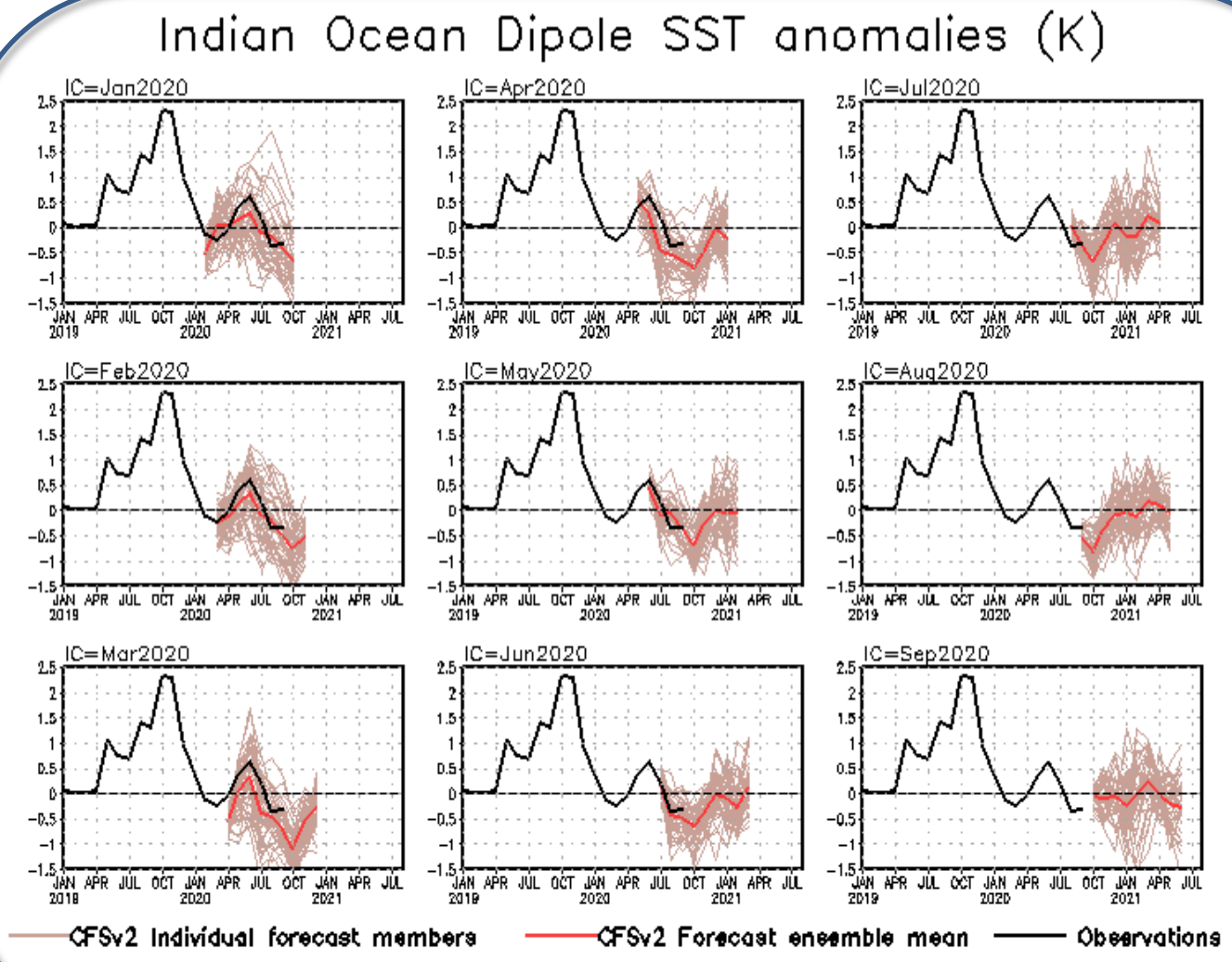
Moderate (-1°C~1.4°C): 1984,2011,

Strong (-1.5°C~1.9°C): 1988,1998,2007,2010

Current La Niña Condition Compared with Historical Strong Events



CFS DMI SST Predictions from Different Initial Months



- Latest CFSv2 predictions suggests DMI will remain neutral in the coming months.

CFS Tropical North Atlantic (TNA) SST predictions from the latest 9 initial months. Displayed are 40 forecast members (brown) made four times per day initialized from the last 10 days of the initial month (labelled as IC=MonthYear) as well as ensemble mean (blue) and observations (black). Anomalies were computed with respect to the 1981-2010 base period means. TNA is the SST anomaly averaged in the region of [60oW-30oW, 5oN-20oN].

Acknowledgements

- Drs. Zeng-Zhen Hu, Caihong Wen, and Arun Kumar: reviewed PPT, and provide insightful suggestions and comments
- Drs. Li Ren and Pingping Xie provided the BASS/CMORPH/CFSR EVAP package
- Dr. Wanqiu Wang provided the sea ice forecasts and maintained the CFSv2 forecast archive

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Jieshun.Zhu@noaa.gov

Data Sources (climatology is for 1981-2010)

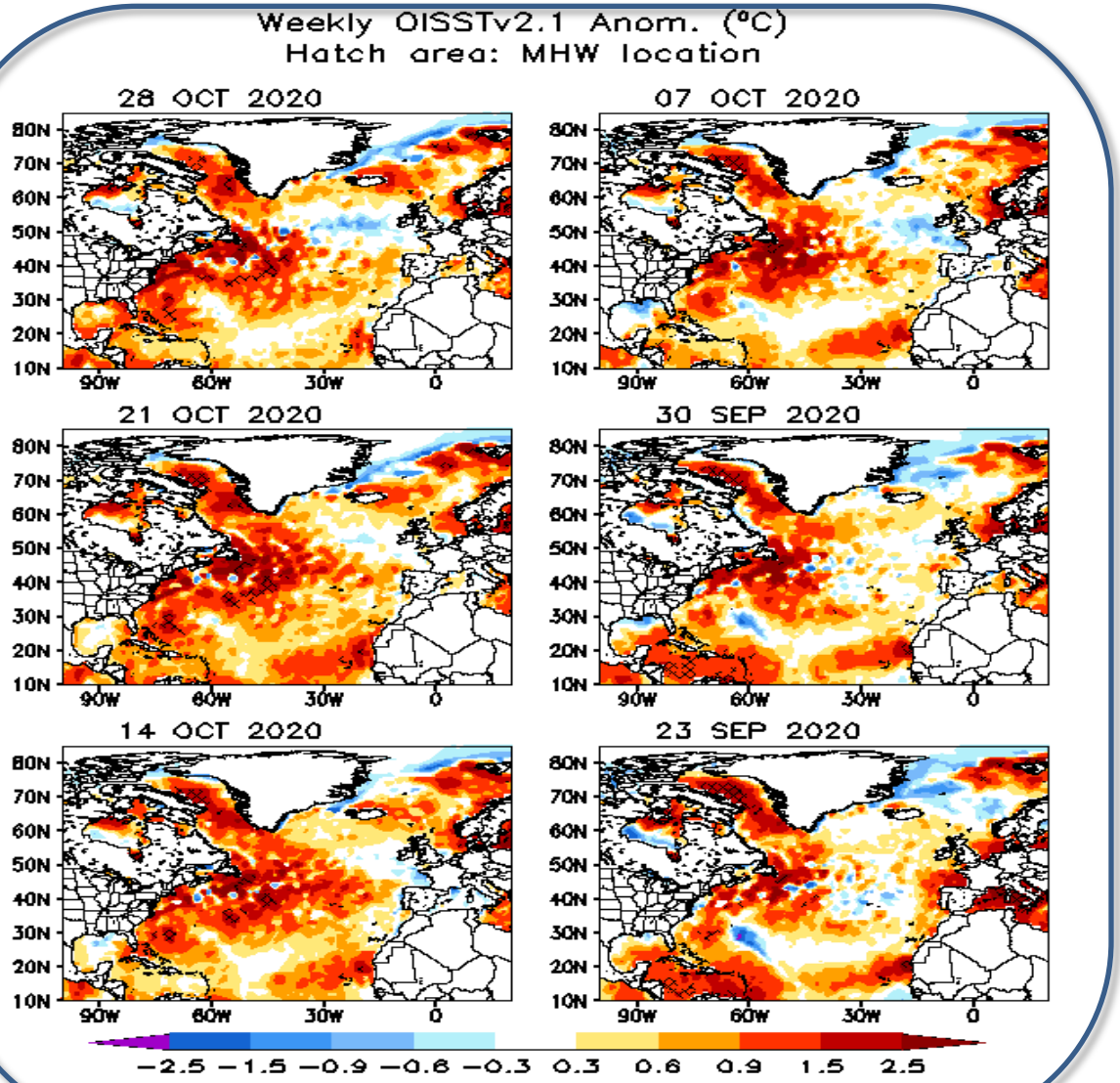
- Weekly Optimal Interpolation SST (OI SST) version 2 (Reynolds et al. 2002)
- Extended Reconstructed SST (ERSST) v5 (Huang et al. 2017)
- Blended Analysis of Surface Salinity (BASS) (Xie et al. 2014)
- CMORPH precipitation (Xie et al. 2017)
- CFSR evaporation adjusted to OAFlux (Xie and Ren 2018)
- NCEP CDAS winds, surface radiation and heat fluxes (Kalnay et al. 1996)
- NESDIS Outgoing Long-wave Radiation (Liebmann and Smith 1996)
- NCEP's GODAS temperature, heat content, currents (Behringer and Xue 2004)
- Aviso altimetry sea surface height from CMEMS
- Ocean Surface Current Analyses – Realtime (OSCAR)
- In situ data objective analyses (IPRC, Scripps, EN4.2.1, PMEL TAO)
- Operational Ocean Reanalysis Intercomparison Project

  http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/GODAS/multiora_body.html

  http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/GODAS/multiora93_body.html

Backup Slides

Weekly SST anomaly and MHWs in the North Atlantic



- MHWs near the Gulf of stream and the Baffin Bay retreated since the late September.
-

Weekly SST anomaly (shaded) and locations experience Marine heat waves (Hatched) by the date labelled in the plot. MHW is defined as a discrete prolonged warmer than 90th percentile of daily SST for at least 14 days. Data is derived from NCEI OISSTv2.1 and the climatology reference period is 1982-2010.