

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

Prepared by
Climate Prediction Center, NCEP/NOAA
September 8, 2014

<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 Climate Observation Division (COD)**

Outline

- **Overview**
- **Recent highlights**
 - **Global Oceans**
 - **Pacific/Arctic Ocean**
 - **Indian Ocean**
 - **Atlantic Ocean**
- **Global SST Predictions**

(Possibility of occurrence of an El Nino in 2014/15)

Overview

➤ **Pacific Ocean**

- **ENSO neutral condition continued with OIv2 NINO3.4=0.2°C in August 2014.**
- **Subsurface warming emerged in the central-eastern equatorial Pacific.**
- **NOAA “ENSO Diagnostic Discussion” on September 4, 2014 continually issued “El Nino Watch” .**
- **PDO remained positive phase in August.**
- **Strong positive SSTA continued in the high latitudes of the North Pacific and Arctic Oceans.**

➤ **Indian Ocean**

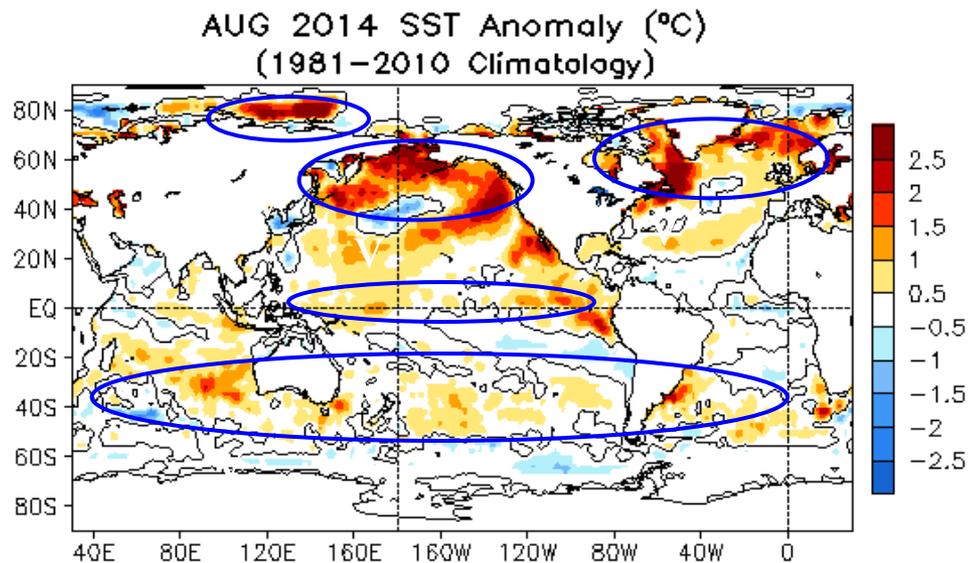
- **Indian dipole index remained below -0.4 in August.**

➤ **Atlantic Ocean**

- **Below-average SST continued in the hurricane Main Development Region.**
- **NAO was well below-normal , with NAO index = -2.3 in August 2014.**

Global Oceans

Global SST Anomaly ($^{\circ}\text{C}$) and Anomaly Tendency

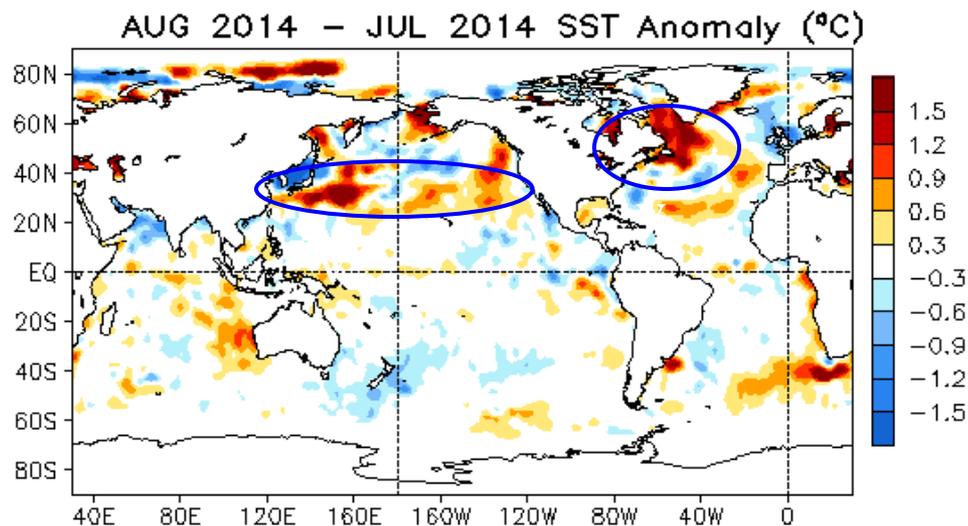


- Strong warming continued in the high-latitude of North Pacific and the Arctic Ocean

- Large positive SST anomalies presented near the subpolar North Atlantic.

- SST were above-average in the equatorial eastern and western Pacific Ocean.

- Positive SSTA dominated in the South Ocean.



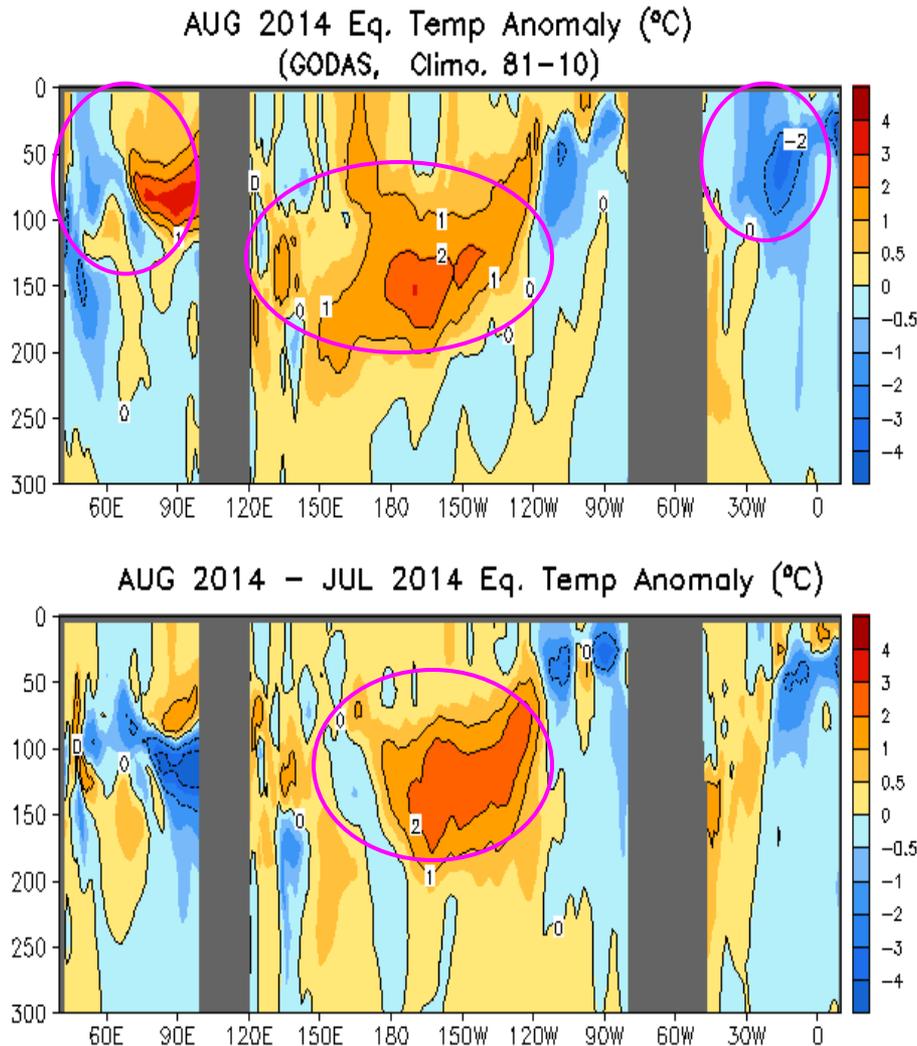
- Both negative and positive SSTA tendencies were observed across the equatorial Pacific and Atlantic Oceans.

- A strong warming presented in the Labrador basin.

- Positive SSTA tendency occupied the mid-latitude of N. Pacific.

Fig. G1. 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.

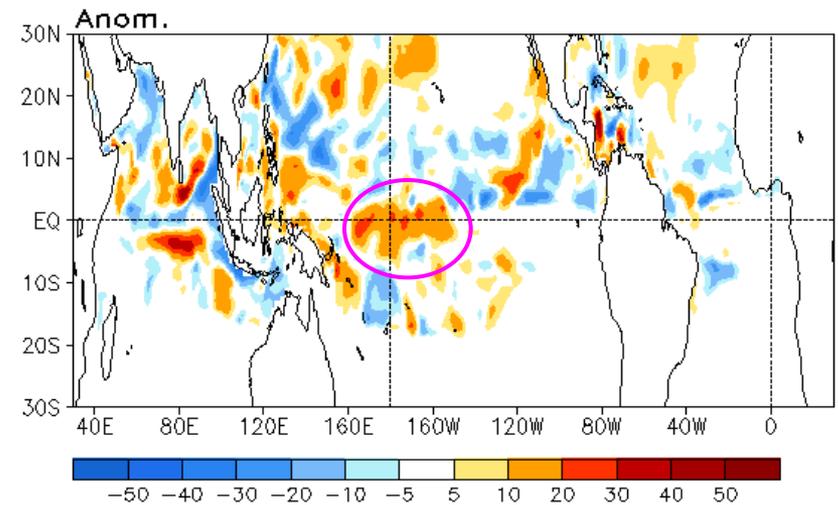
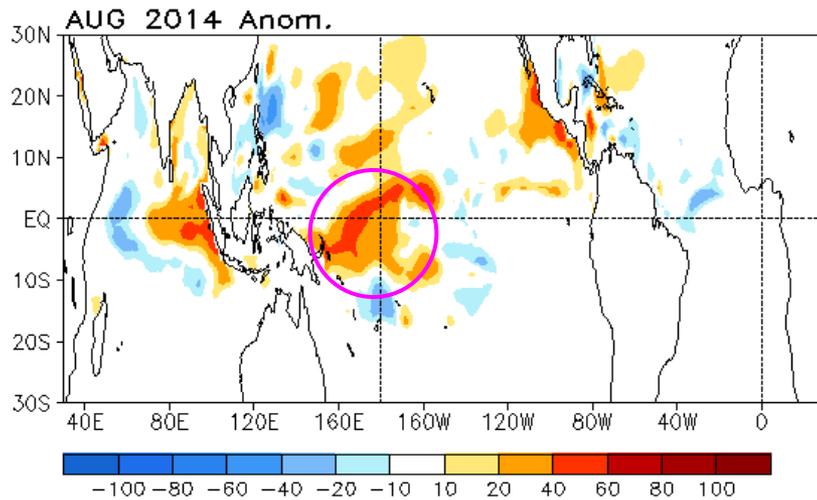
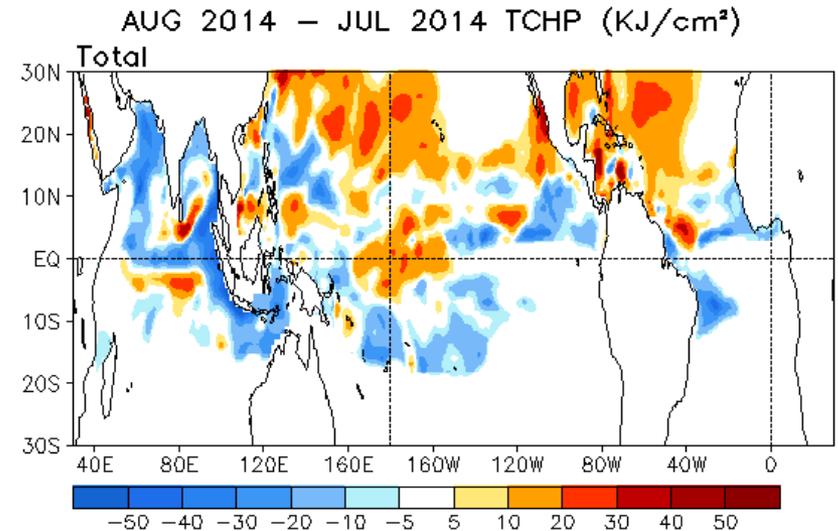
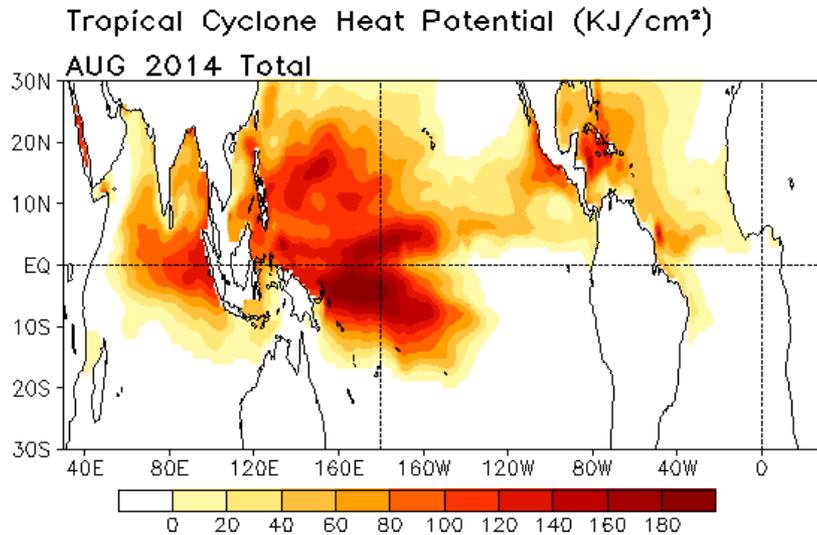
Longitude-Depth Temperature Anomaly and Anomaly Tendency in 2°S-2°N



- Positive subsurface temperature anomalies developed across the western and central-east equatorial Pacific.
- Positive temperature tendency was evident near the thermocline in the western-central Pacific.
- Negative subsurface anomalies occupied the upper Atlantic Ocean.
- Positive (negative) subsurface temperature anomalies presented in the eastern (western) Indian Ocean.

Fig. G3. Equatorial depth-longitude section of ocean temperature anomalies (top) and anomaly tendency (bottom). Data are derived from the NCEP's global ocean data assimilation system which assimilates oceanic observations into an oceanic GCM. Anomalies are departures from the 1981-2010 base period means.

Tropical Cyclone Heat Potential and Tendency

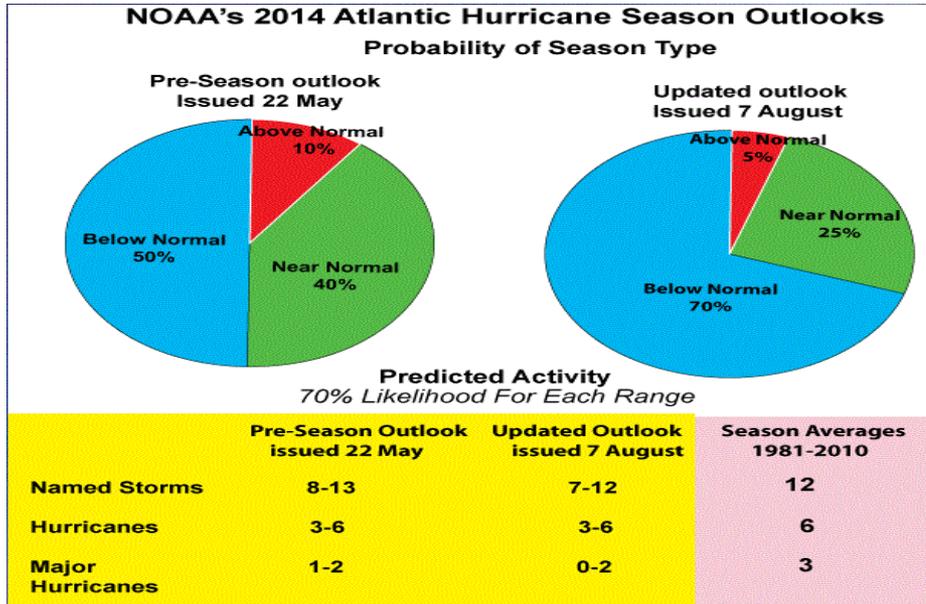


- TCHP was above-normal west of the date line.
- Positive TCHP anomaly tendency presented near the date line.
- Near-normal TCHP occupied in the tropical Atlantic Ocean.

TCHP field is the anomalous heat storage associated with temperatures larger than 26 °C.

NOAA's 2014 Hurricane Outlooks

(<http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/outlooks>)

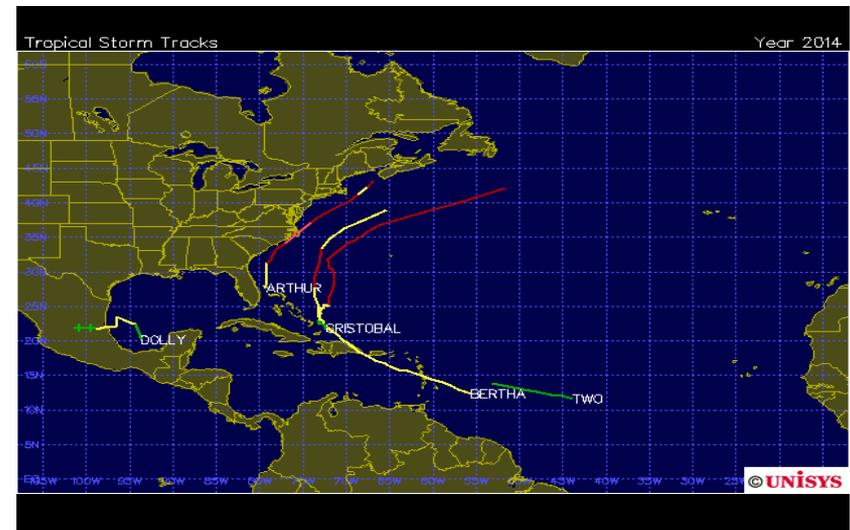
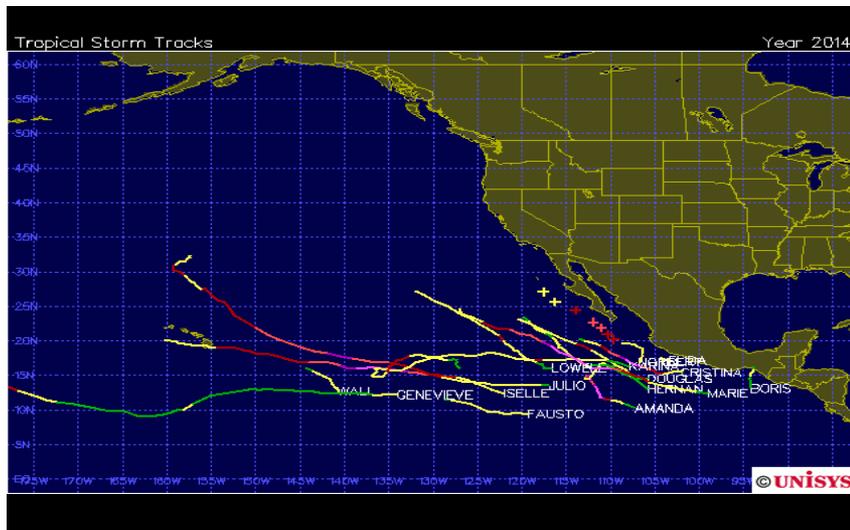


- NOAA's 2014 Atlantic Hurricane Season outlooks issued in Aug. call for a 70% chance of a below-normal season in Atlantic.

- Outlook issued in May suggested a 50% chance of a above-normal season in E. Pacific.

- Four tropical storms including three hurricanes were formed in Atlantic by Sep. 3.

- Fifteen tropical storms including nine hurricanes were formed in E. Pacific by Sep.3.

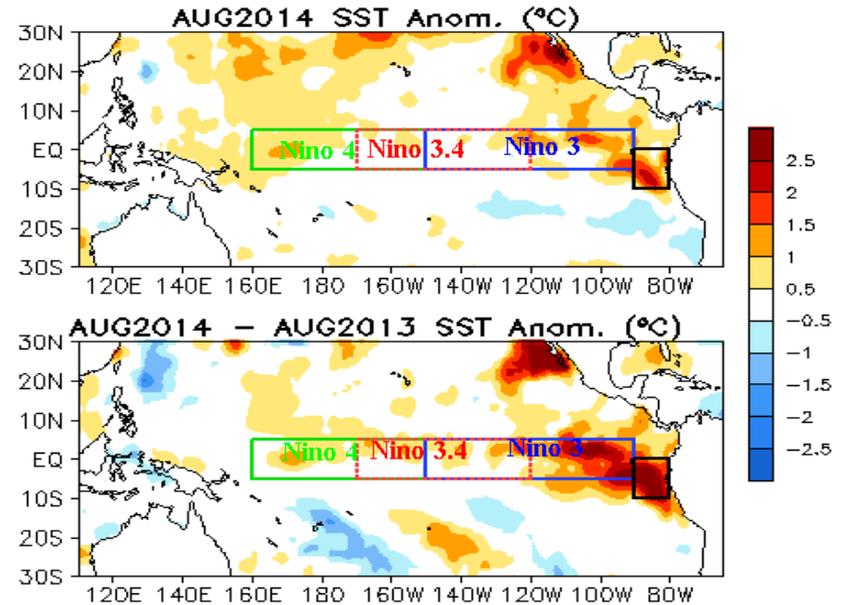
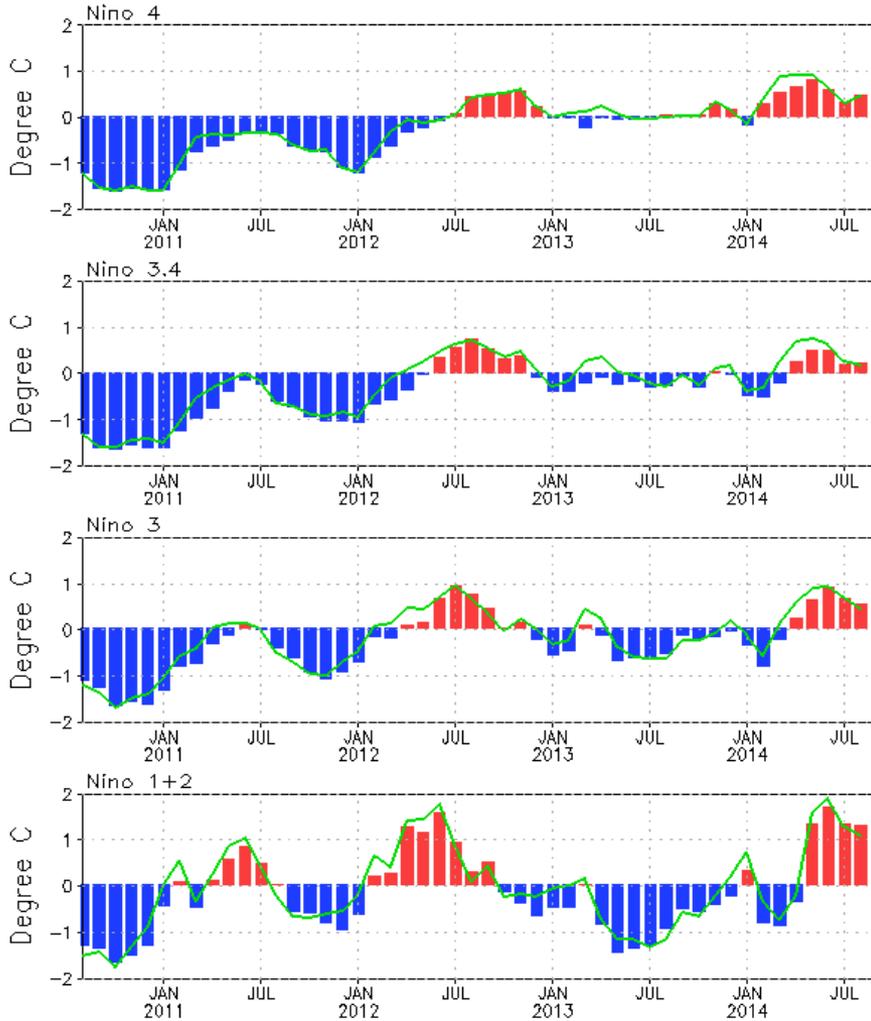


Tropical Pacific Ocean and ENSO Conditions

Evolution of Pacific NINO SST Indices

Monthly Tropical Pacific SST Anomaly

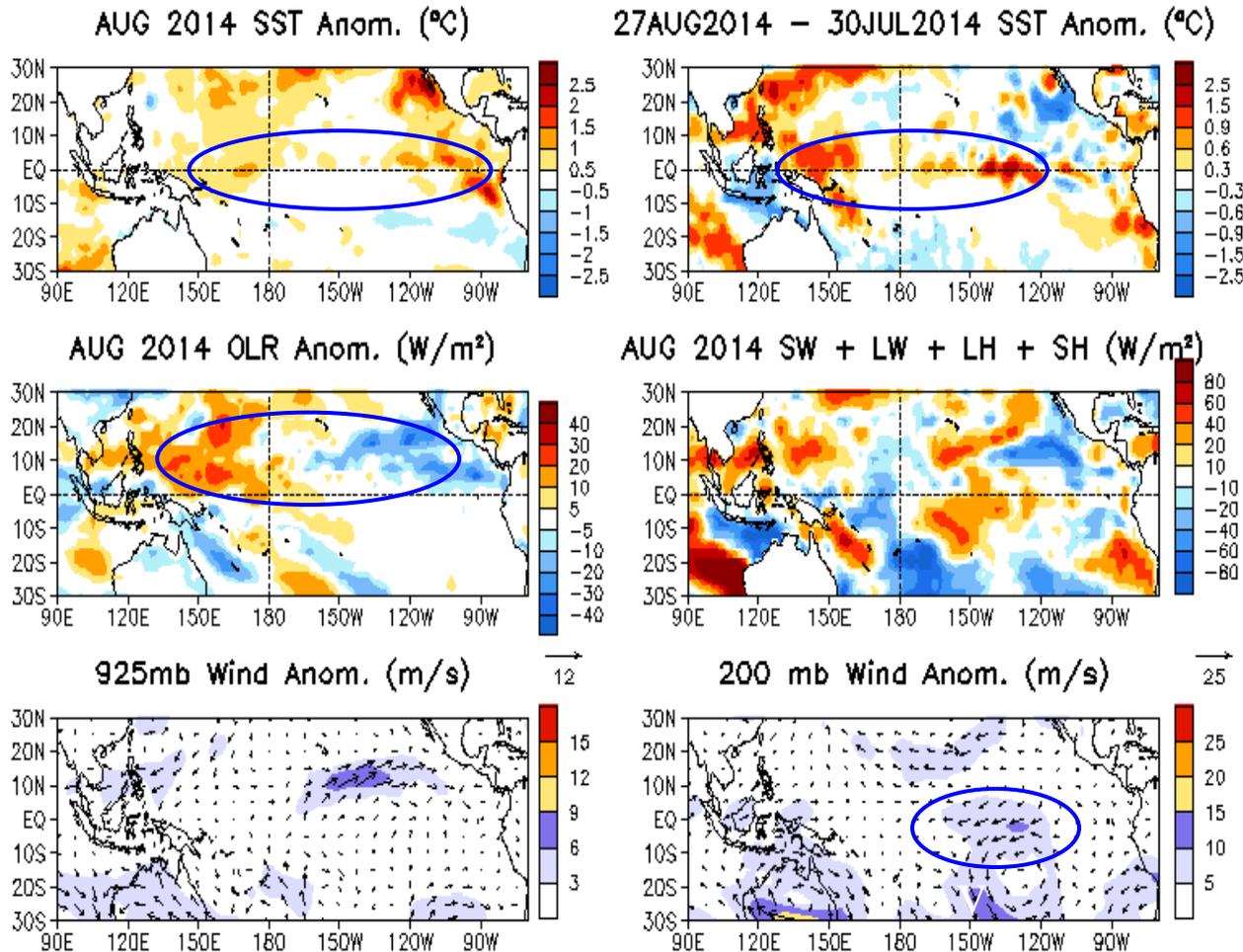
(Bar: 1981–2010 Climatology; Curve: Last 10 YR Climatology)



- **NINO 3 decreased slightly in August 2014.**
- **Nino3.4 = +0.2°C in August.**
- **SST in August 2014 was much warmer than that in August 2013 in the eastern Pacific Ocean.**
- **The indices were calculated based on OISST. They may have some differences compared with those based on ERSST.v3b.**

Fig. P1a. 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



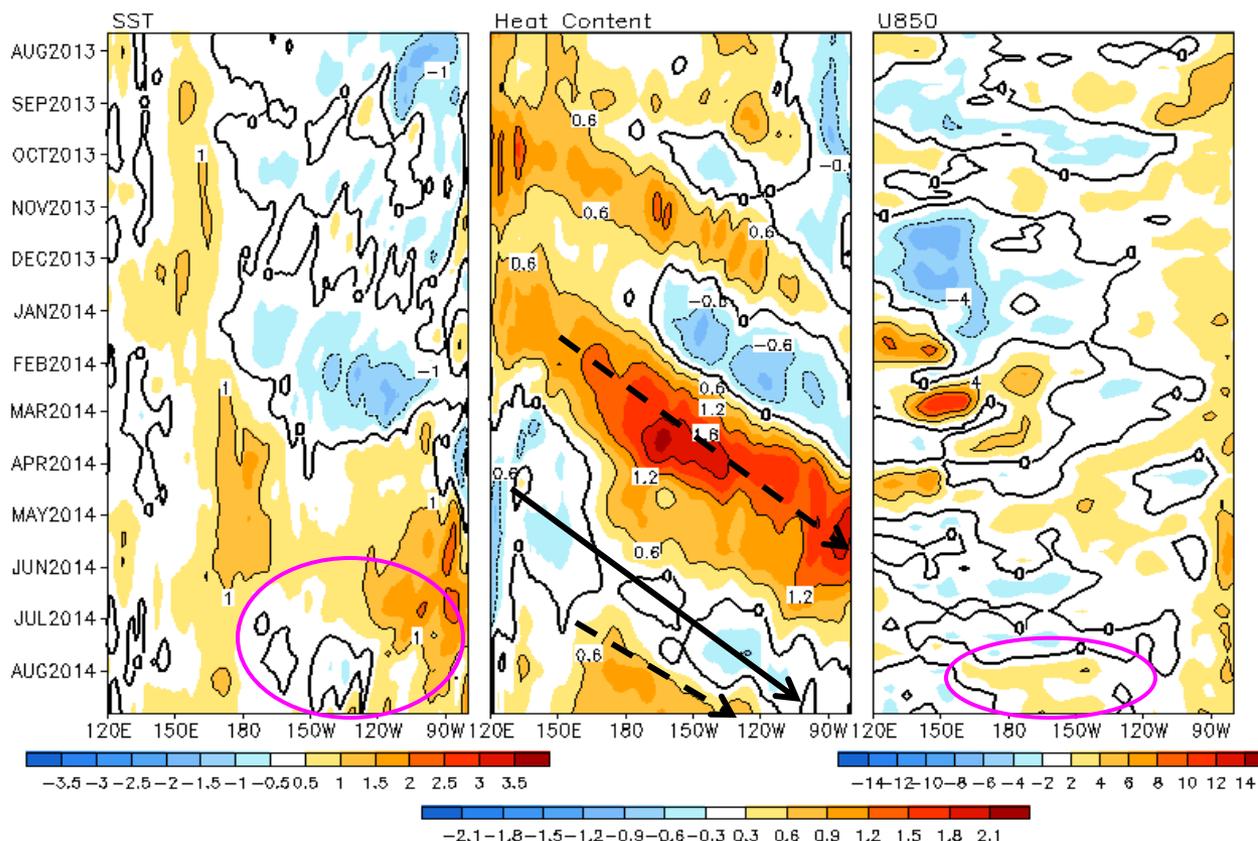
- SST were above-normal in the eastern Pacific and west of date line.
- SST tendency was positive in the western Pacific and central-eastern equatorial Pacific.
- Positive (negative) OLR anomalies were observed in the western-central (eastern) Pacific, mostly north of equator.
- Easterly upper-level wind anomalies prevailed in August.

Fig. P2. 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), 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.

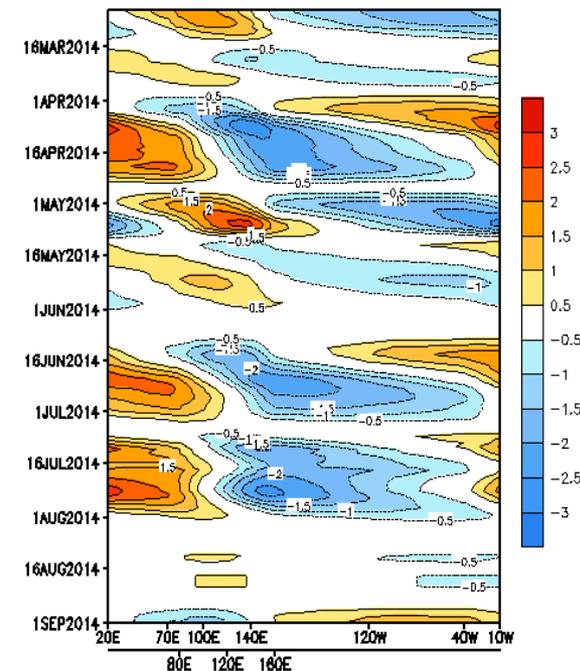
Equatorial Pacific SST ($^{\circ}\text{C}$), HC300 ($^{\circ}\text{C}$), and u850 (m/s) Anomalies

CPC MJO Indices

2 $^{\circ}\text{S}$ –2 $^{\circ}\text{N}$ Average, 3 Pentad Running Mean



5 -day Running Mean



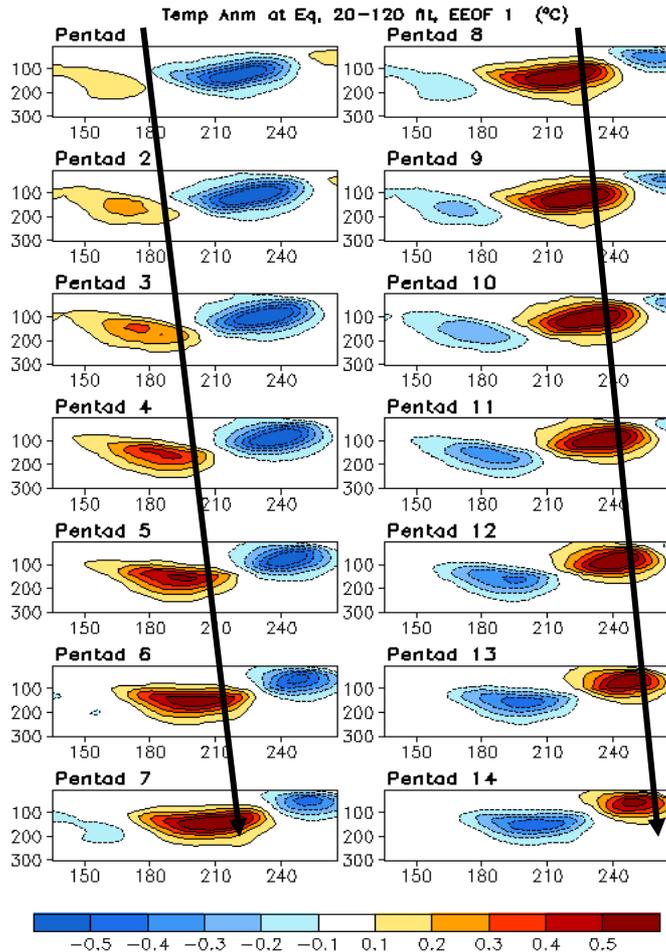
Data updated through 03 Sep 2014

http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/precip/CWlink/daily_mjo_index/mjo_index.shtml

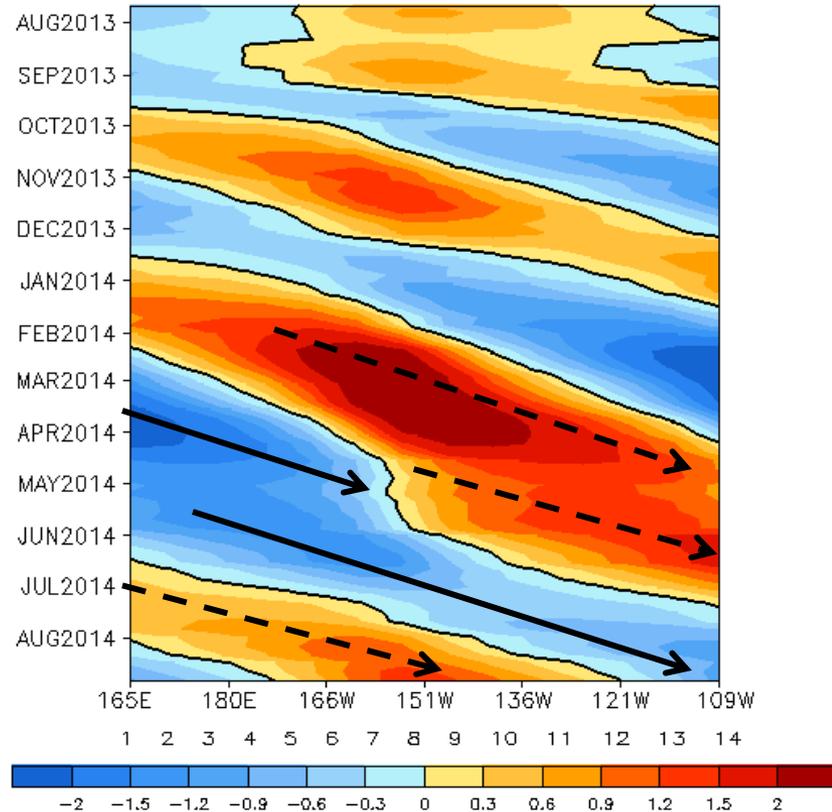
- Low-level westerly anomaly was observed in the central-eastern Pacific in August.
- Positive H300 anomaly west of dateline extended to central-eastern Pacific, owing to a downwelling Kelvin wave triggered by westerly wind anomalies in July(next slide).
- Positive SSTA re-emerged in the central-eastern Pacific in late August.

Fig. P4. Time-longitude section of anomalous pentad sea surface temperature (left), upper 300m temperature average (heat content, middle-left), 850-mb zonal wind (U850, middle-right) averaged in 2 $^{\circ}\text{S}$ -2 $^{\circ}\text{N}$ and Outgoing Long-wave Radiation (OLR, right) averaged in 5 $^{\circ}\text{S}$ -5 $^{\circ}\text{N}$. SST is derived from the NCEP OI SST, heat content from the NCEP's global ocean data assimilation system, U850 from the NCEP CDAS. Anomalies for SST, heat content and U850/OLR are departures from the 1981-2010 base period pentad means respectively.

Oceanic Kelvin Wave (OKW) Index



Standardized Projection on EEOF 1



- A upwelling OKW (solid line) initiated in the W.Pacific around May, and reached the eastern Pacific in July.

- A downwelling OKW (dashed line) emerged since July in the W. Pacific and propagated into the central-eastern Pacific in August.

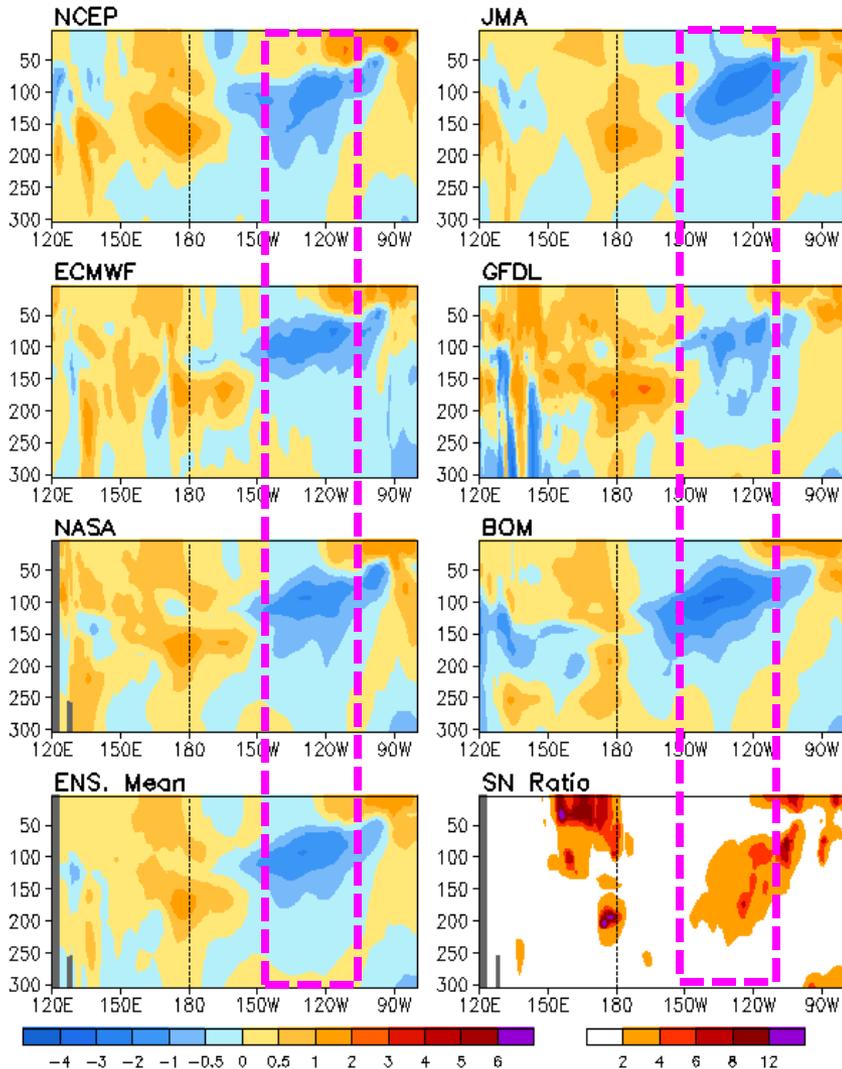
-OKW index is defined as standardized projections of total anomalies onto the 14 patterns of Extended EOF1 of equatorial temperature anomalies (Seo and Xue , GRL, 2005).

Real-Time Multiple Ocean Reanalysis Intercomparison

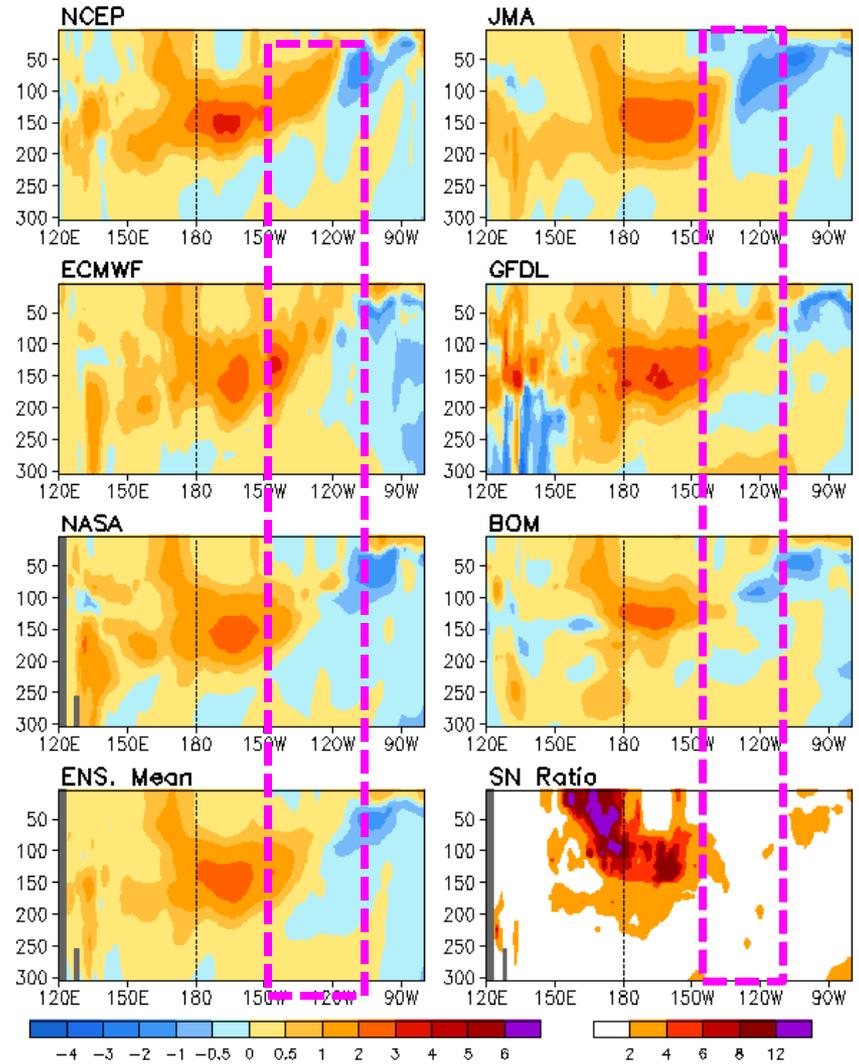
(http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/GODAS/multiora_body.html)

Longitude-Depth Temperature Anomaly in 1S-1N

Anomalous Temperature (C) Averaged in 1S-1N: JUL 2014

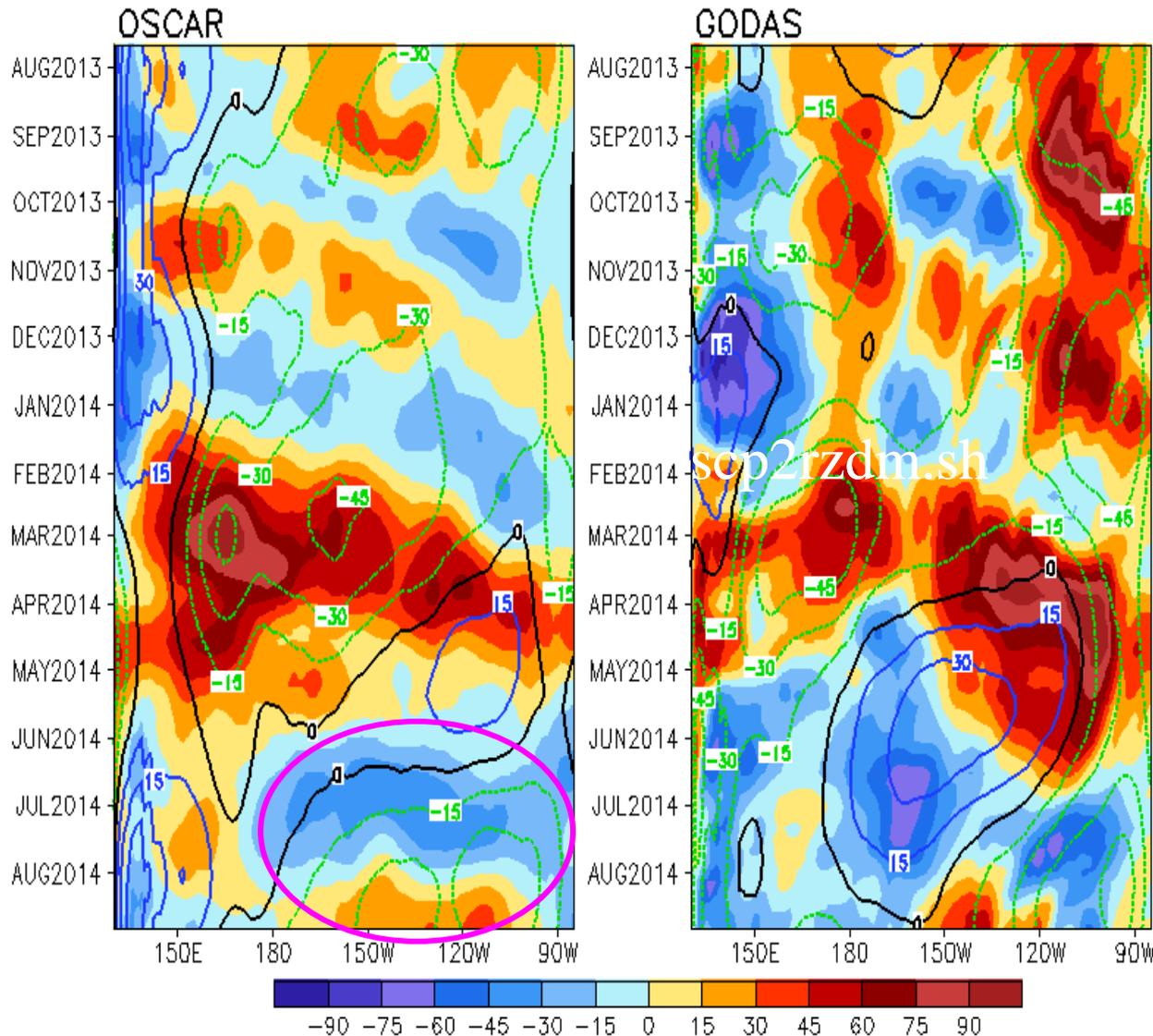


Anomalous Temperature (C) Averaged in 1S-1N: AUG 2014



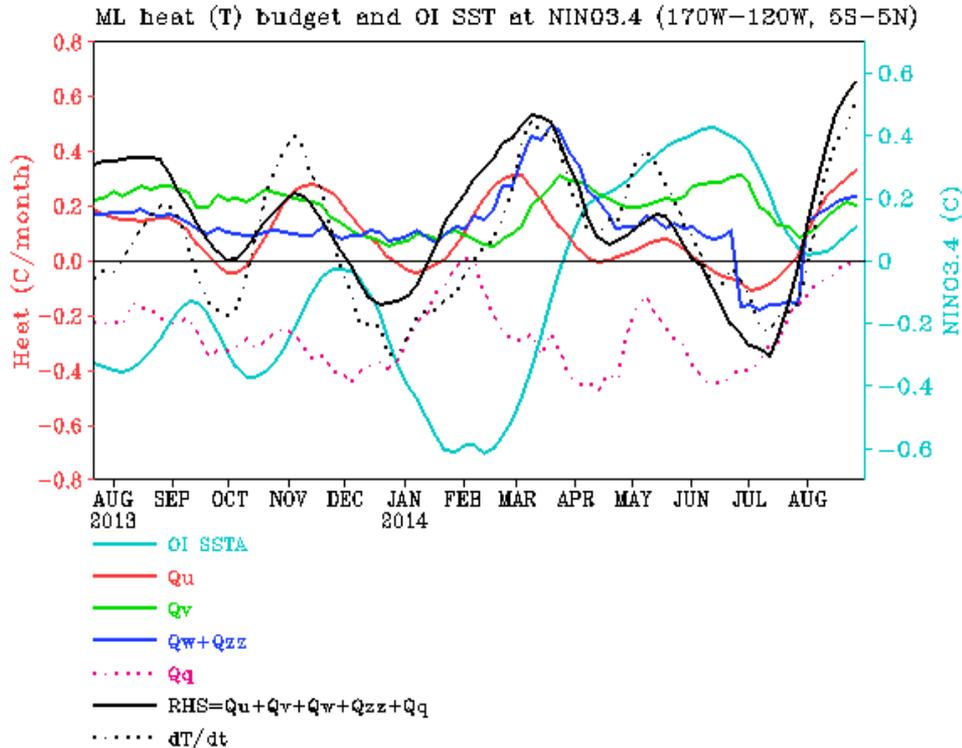
Evolution of Equatorial Pacific Surface Zonal Current Anomaly (cm/s)

U (15m), cm/s, 2°S–2°N (Shading=Anomaly; Contour=Climatology)



- **Negative zonal current anomaly east of dateline switched to positive anomaly in August .**
- **Changes in zonal current might be associated with emergence of westerly wind in August.**
- **Some detailed differences were noted for both anomaly and climatology between OSCAR and GODAS.**

NINO3.4 Heat Budget



- SSTA tendency (dT/dt) in NINO3.4 (dotted line) was positive in Aug. 2014
- Q_u , $Q_w + Q_{zz}$ and Q_v were positive in August.

Huang, B., Y. Xue, X. Zhang, A. Kumar, and M. J. McPhaden, 2010 : The NCEP GODAS ocean analysis of the tropical Pacific mixed layer heat budget on seasonal to interannual time scales, *J. Climate.*, 23, 4901-4925.

Q_u : Zonal advection; Q_v : Meridional advection;

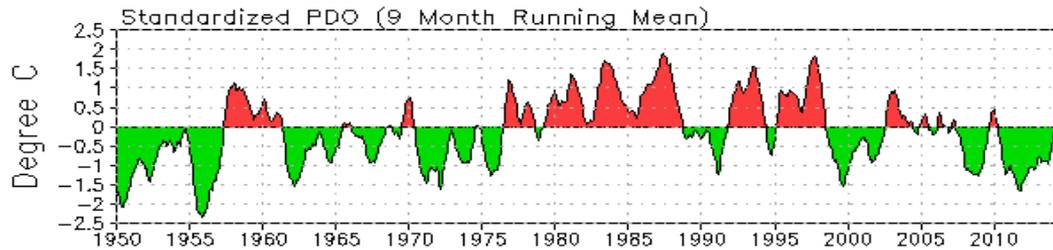
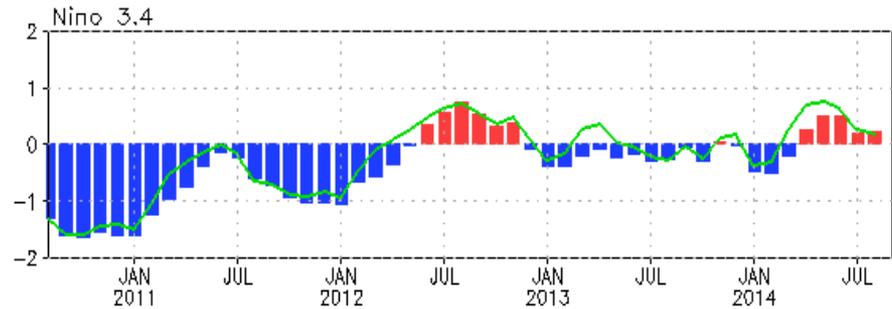
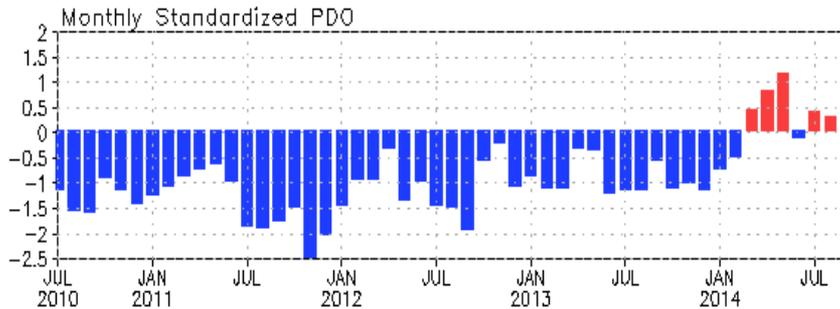
Q_w : Vertical entrainment; Q_{zz} : Vertical diffusion

Q_q : $(Q_{net} - Q_{open} + Q_{corr})/pcph$; $Q_{net} = SW + LW + LH + SH$;

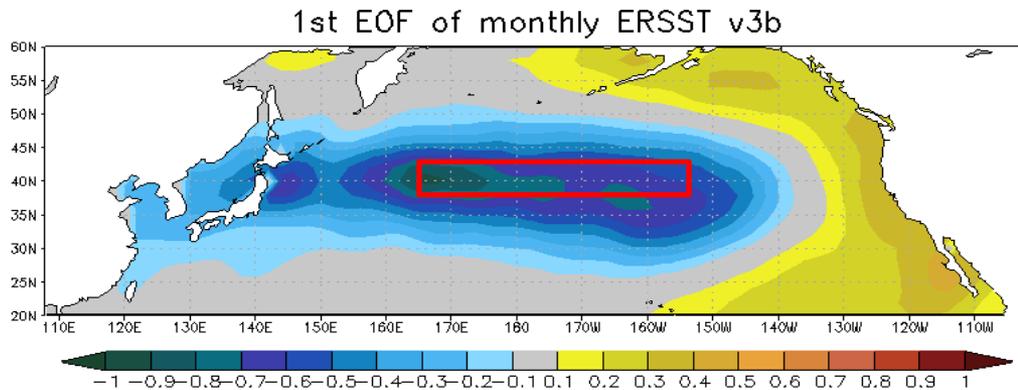
Q_{open} : SW penetration; Q_{corr} : Flux correction due to relaxation to OI SSTA

North Pacific & Arctic **Oceans**

PDO index



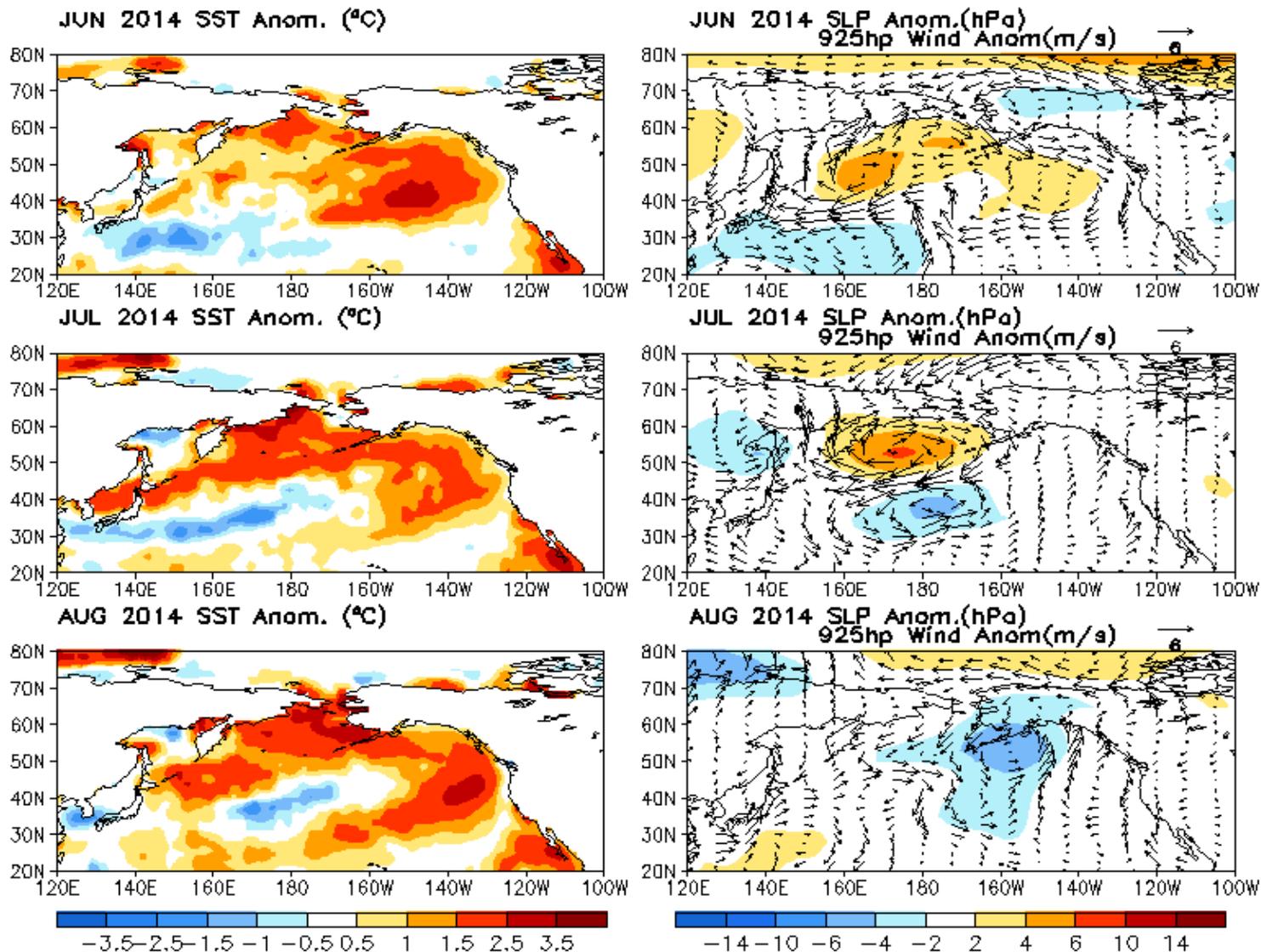
- PDO remained positive phase in August with PDO index = 0.3.



- Pacific Decadal Oscillation 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 SST anomalies onto the 1st EOF pattern.

- The PDO index differs slightly from that of JISAO, which uses a blend of UKMET and OIv1 and OIv2 SST.

Last Three Month SST, OLR and 925hp Wind Anom.

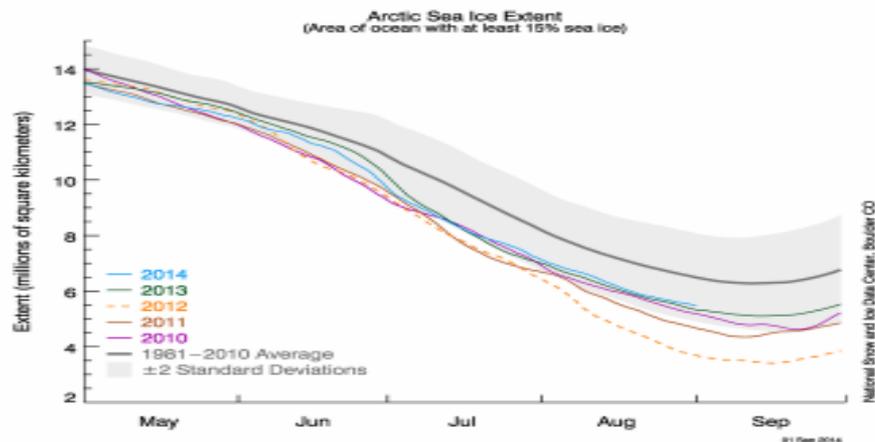
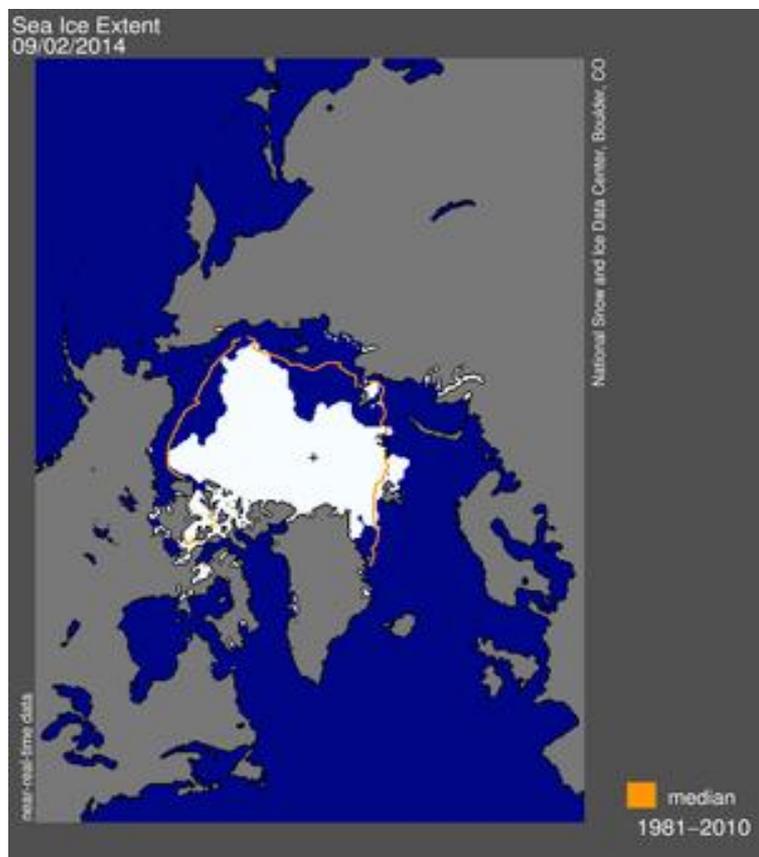


- Strong SST warming persisted in the high-latitude of N. Pacific.
- Atmosphere circulation patterns varied over the past three months

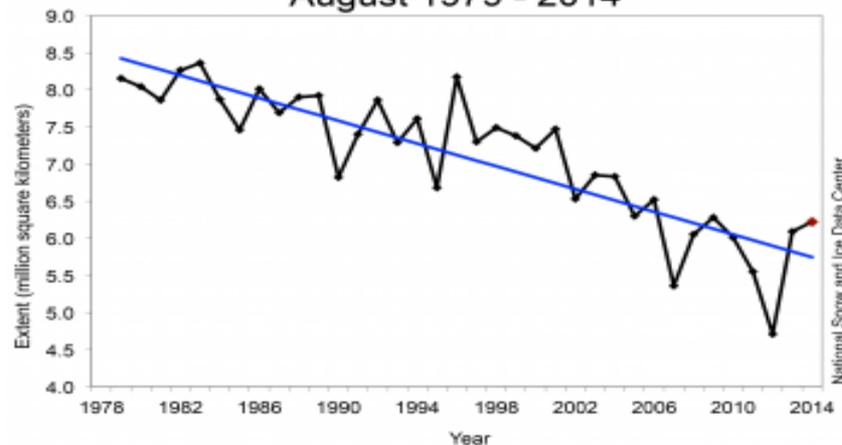
Arctic Sea Ice

National Snow and Ice Data Center

<http://nsidc.org/arctic>



Average Monthly Arctic Sea Ice Extent
August 1979 - 2014



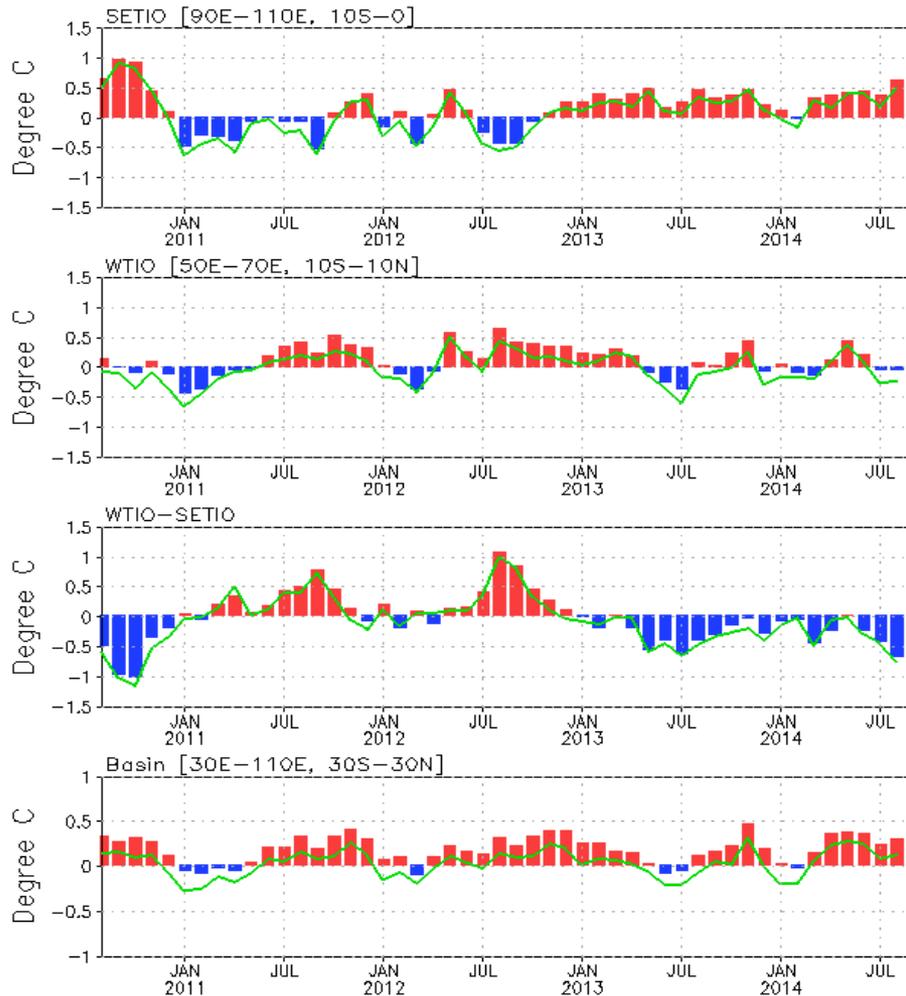
- Arctic Sea ice extent declined at a near-average rate in August.
- August 2014 is the 7th lowest extent in the satellite record.

Indian Ocean

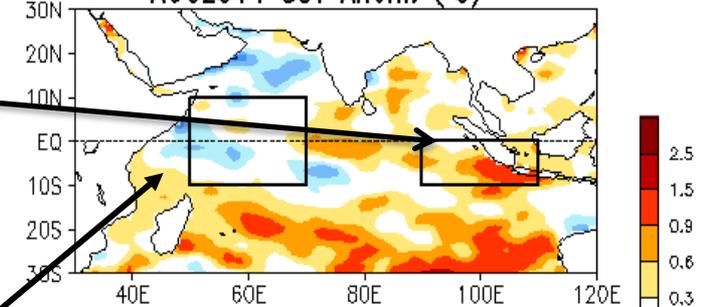
Evolution of Indian Ocean SST Indices

Monthly Tropical Indian SST Anomaly

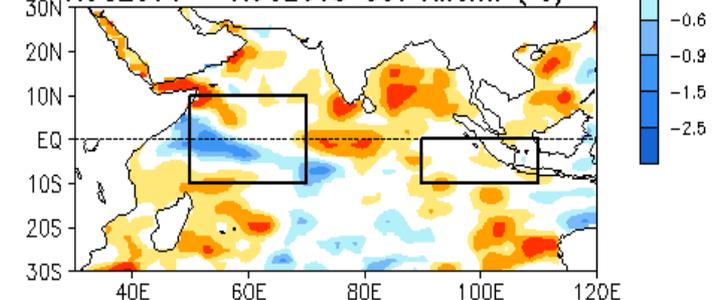
(Bar: 1981–2010 Climatology; Curve: Last 10 YR Climatology)



AUG2014 SST Anom. (°C)



AUG2014 - AUG2013 SST Anom. (°C)



- Positive SSTA was observed in southern Indian Ocean and south of Indonesia.

- Negative DMI enhanced in August.

Fig. I1a. Indian Ocean Dipole region indices, calculated as the area-averaged monthly mean sea surface temperature anomalies (°C) for the SETIO [90°E-110°E, 10°S-0] and WTIO [50°E-70°E, 10°S-10°N] 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 across the whole Indian Ocean.
- During the last four weeks, changes in SSTA were mostly positive in India Ocean.
- SSTA tendency was largely consistent with surface heat flux anomalies.
- Convection was enhanced over the northern Indian Ocean.

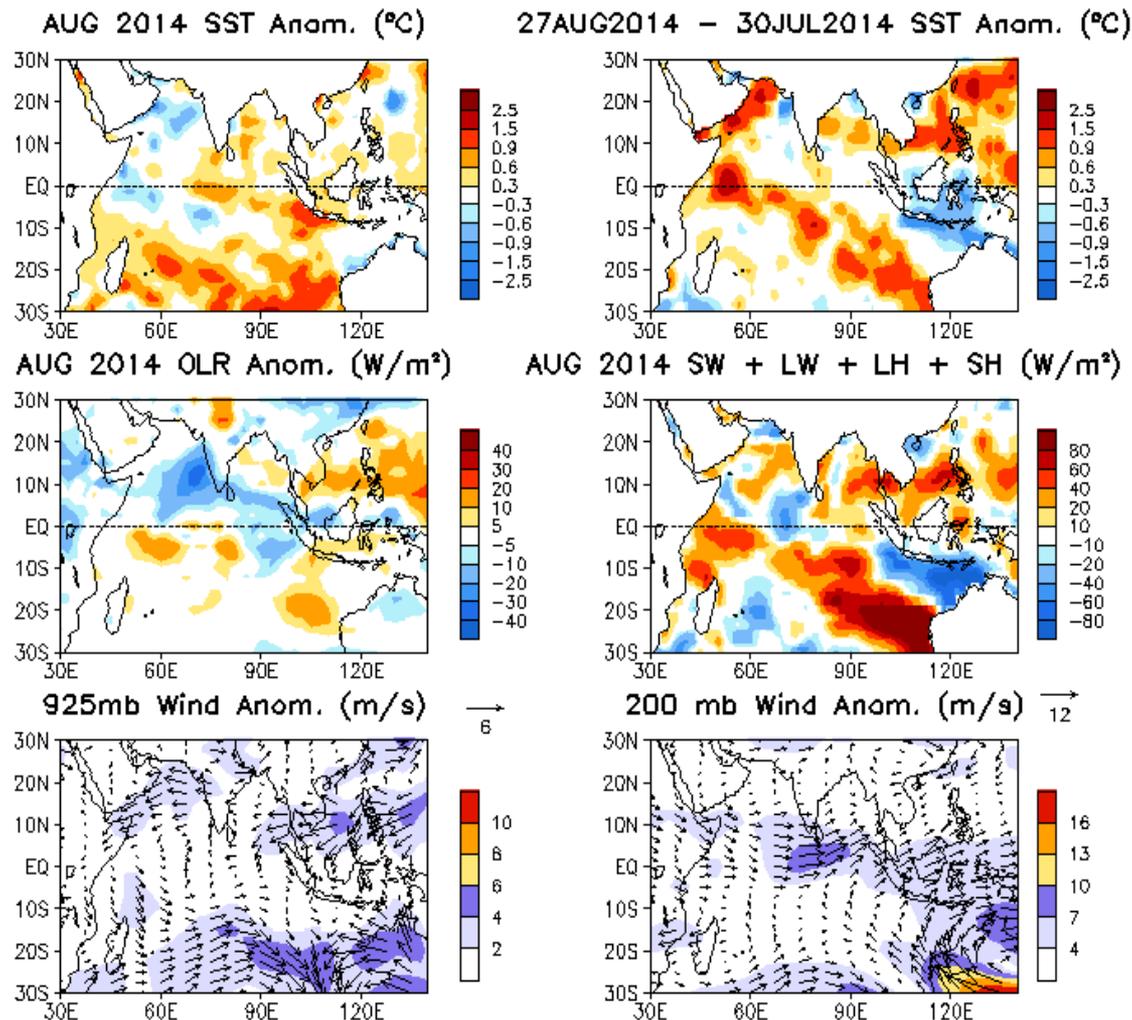
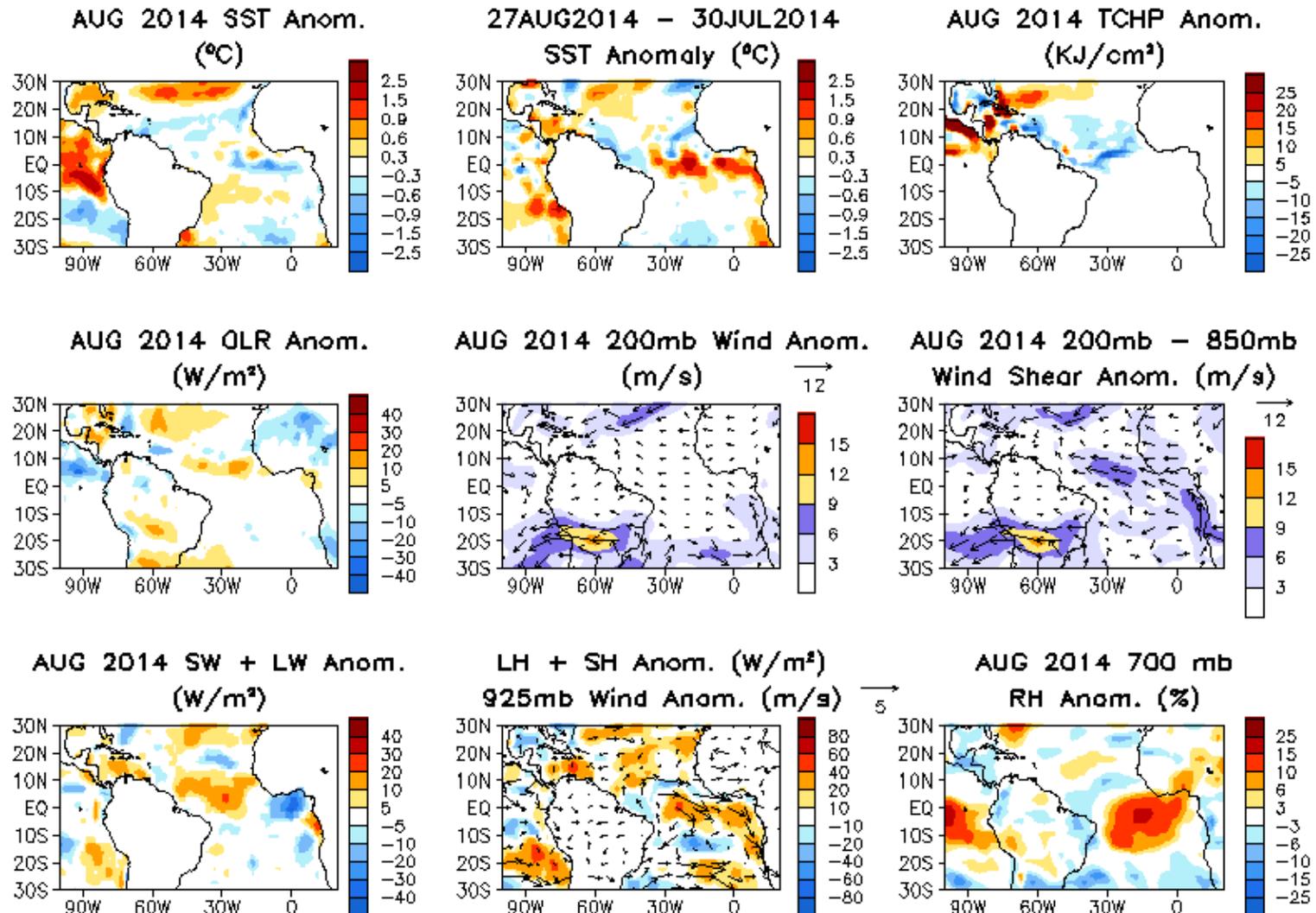


Fig. 12. Sea surface temperature (SST) anomalies (top-left), anomaly tendency (top-right), Outgoing Long-wave Radiation (OLR) anomalies (middle-left), sum of net surface short- and long-wave radiation, latent and sensible heat flux anomalies (middle-right), 925-mb wind anomaly vector and its amplitude (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**

Tropical Atlantic:



- Below-normal SSTA continued in the tropical North Atlantic.
- Convection was suppressed in the hurricane main development region.

Evolution of Tropical Atlantic SST Indices

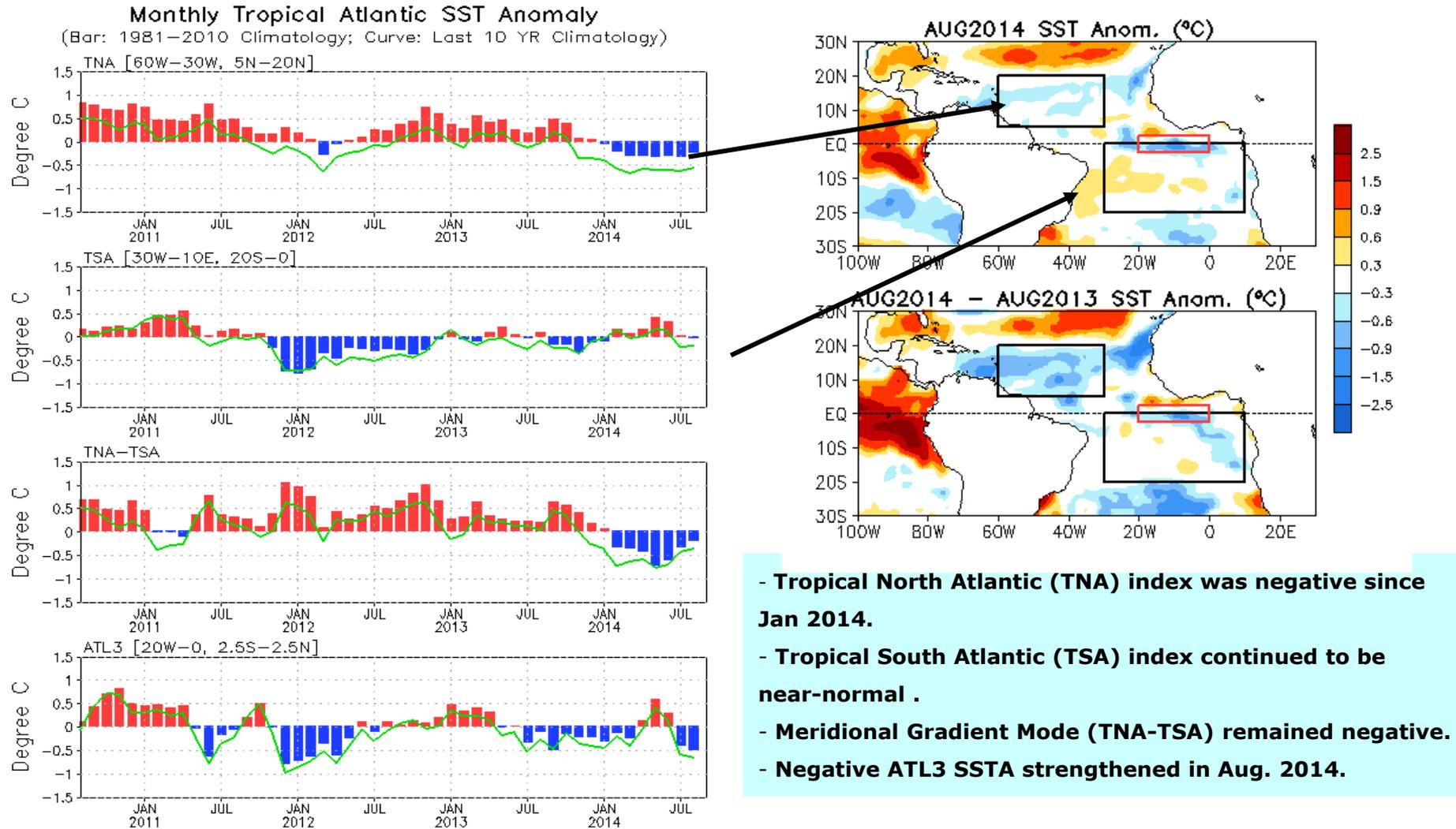
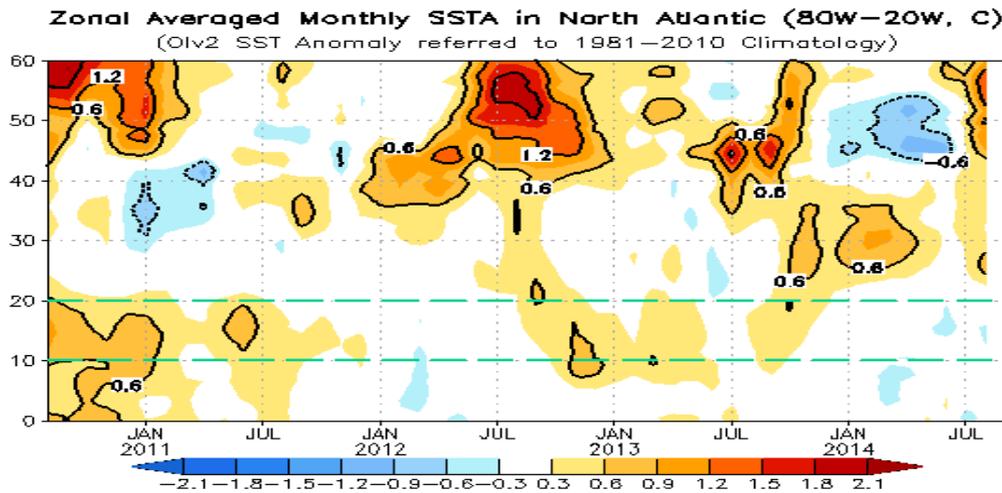
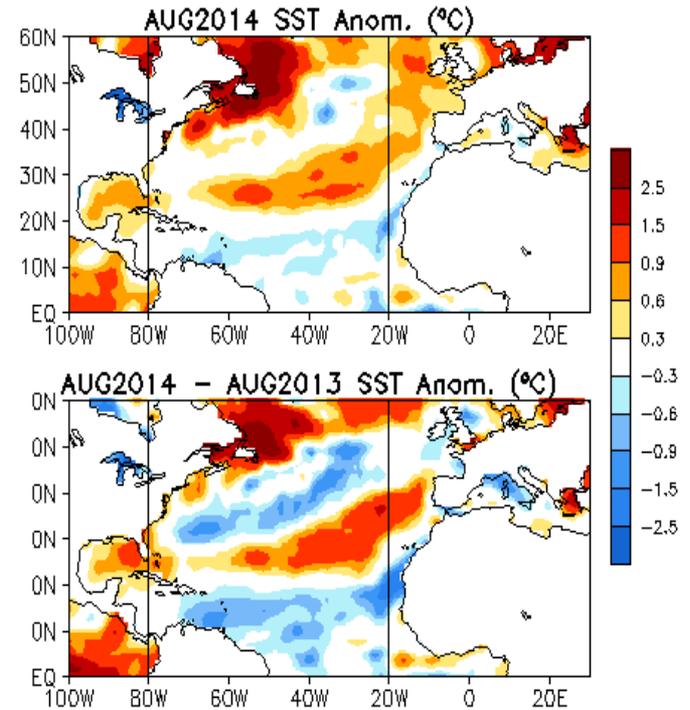
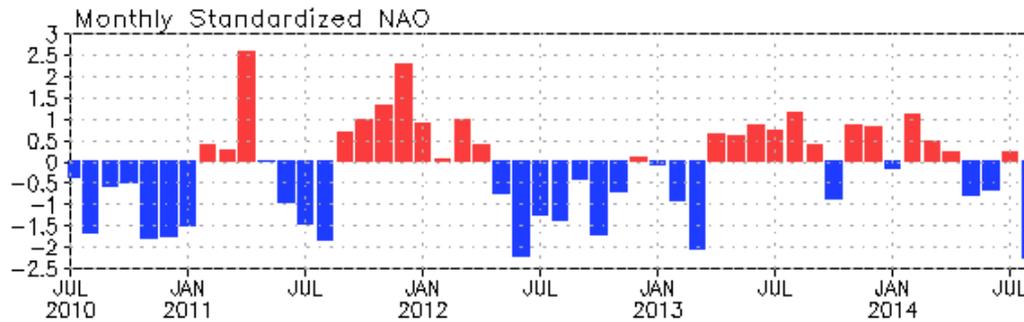


Fig. A1a. Tropical Atlantic Variability region indices, calculated as the area-averaged monthly mean sea surface temperature anomalies (°C) for the TNA [60°W-30°W, 5°N-20°N], TSA [30°W-10°E, 20°S-0] and ATL3 [20°W-0, 2.5°S-2.5°N] regions, and Meridional Gradient Index, defined as differences between TNA and TSA. Data are derived from the NCEP OI SST analysis, and anomalies are departures from the 1981-2010 base period means.

NAO and SST Anomaly in North Atlantic



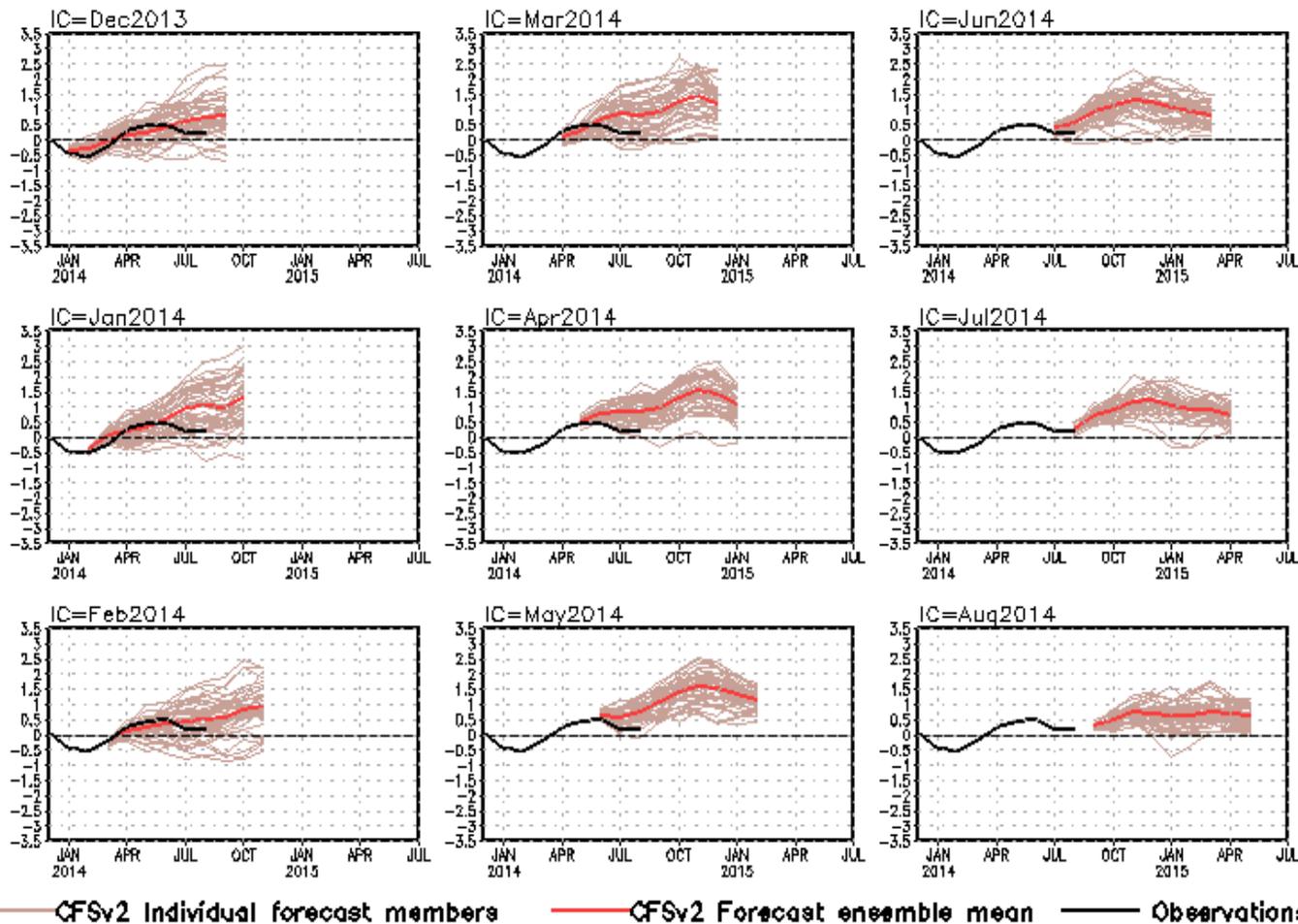
- NAO was well below-normal , with NAO index= -2.3 in August 2014.
- Large positive SST anomaly presented near the east coast of Canada and Norwegian Sea.
- High-latitude North Atlantic SSTA are reversely related to NAO index (negative NAO coincides with SST warming).

Fig. NA2. 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 80°W and 20°W (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 Niño3.4 SST Predictions from Different Initial Months

NINO3.4 SST anomalies (K)

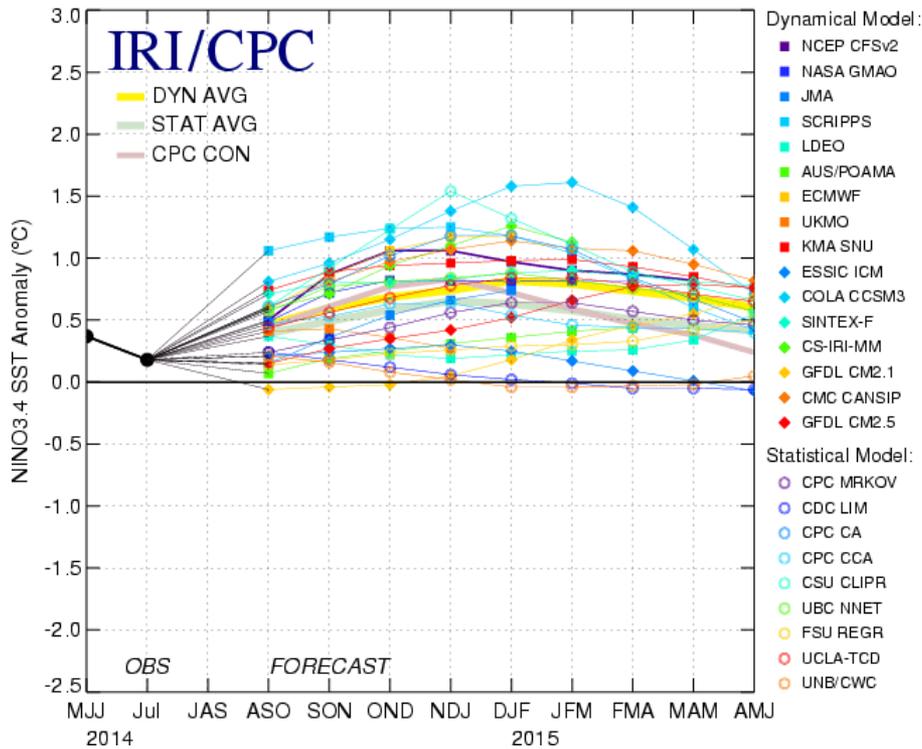


- Latest CFSv2 prediction continued to predict an El Niño to develop in Sep. and peak at weak strength during winter 2014-15.

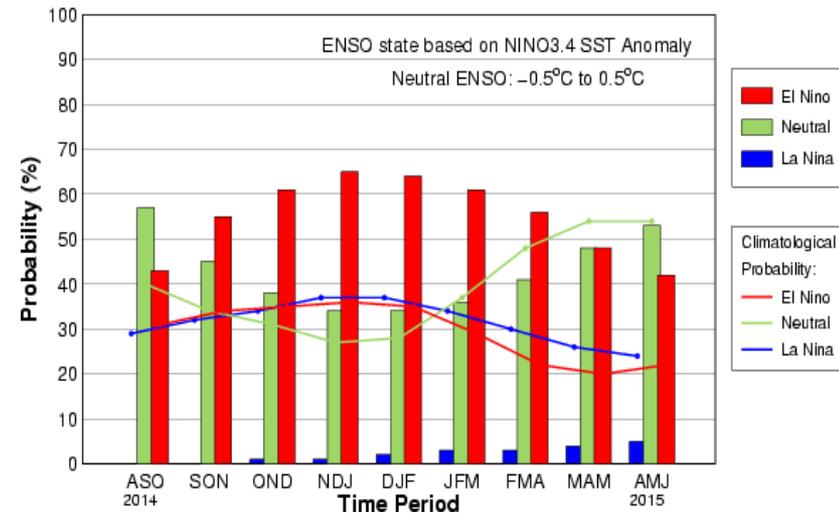
Fig. M1. CFS Niño3.4 SST prediction from the latest 9 initial months. Displayed are 40 forecast members (brown) made four times per day initialized from the last 10 days of the initial month (labelled as IC=MonthYear) as well as ensemble mean (blue) and observations (black). Anomalies were computed with respect to the 1981-2010 base period means.

IRI/CPC NINO3.4 Forecast Plum

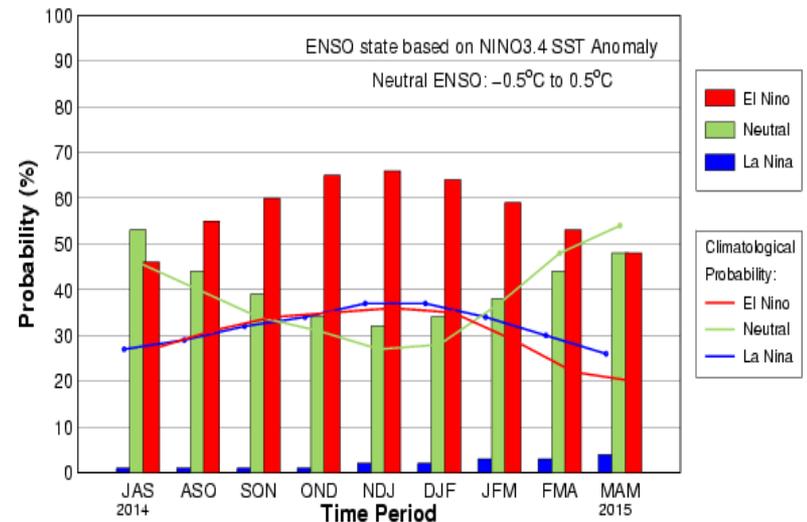
Mid-Aug 2014 Plume of Model ENSO Predictions



Early-Sep CPC/IRI Consensus Probabilistic ENSO Forecast



Early-Aug CPC/IRI Consensus Probabilistic ENSO Forecast



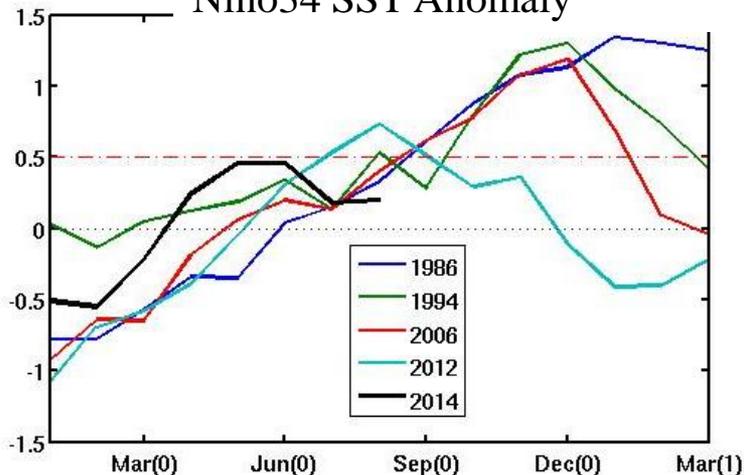
- Most of models continued to predict El Niño to develop around early northern fall and persist through 2015 spring.
- NOAA “ENSO Diagnostic Discussion” on September 4, 2014 continually issued “El Niño Watch” and suggests that “Chances of El Niño are 60-65% during the Northern Hemisphere fall and winter.”

SST, D20 and 925hp Wind Anomalies in August

Late El Nino : 1986, 1994, 2006

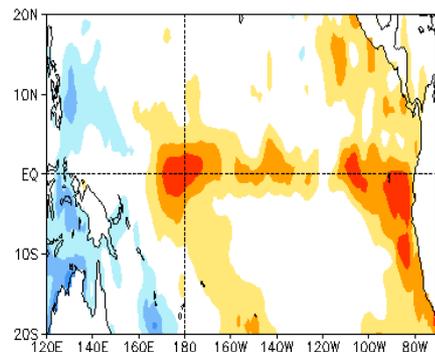
Drop off El Nino: 2012

Nino34 SST Anomaly



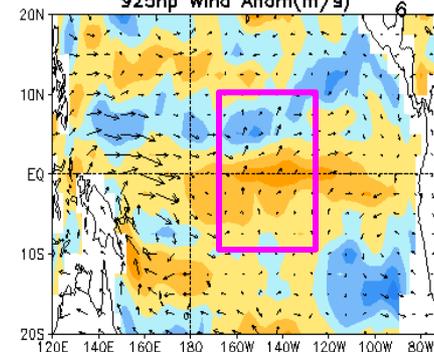
AUG 2006 SST Anom. (°C)

2006



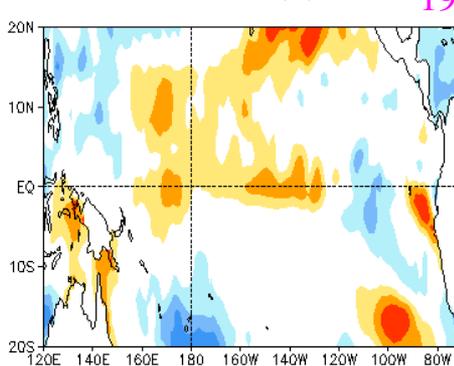
AUG 2006 D20 Anom. (m)

925hp Wind Anom(m/s)



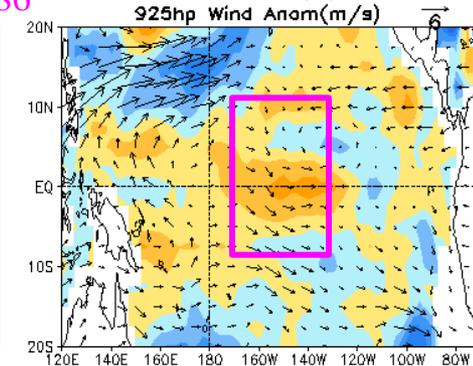
AUG 1986 SST Anom. (°C)

1986



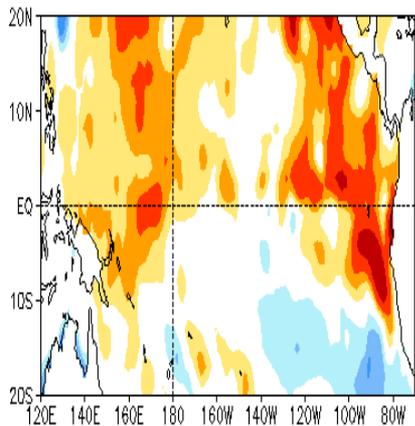
AUG 1986 D20 Anom. (m)

925hp Wind Anom(m/s)



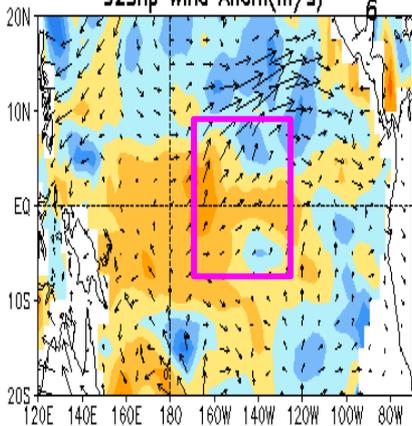
AUG 2014 SST Anom. (°C)

2014



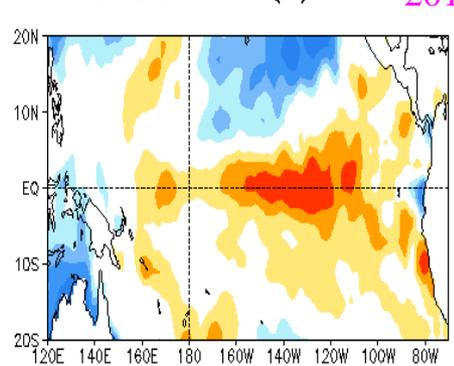
AUG 2014 D20 Anom. (m)

925hp Wind Anom(m/s)



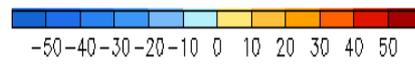
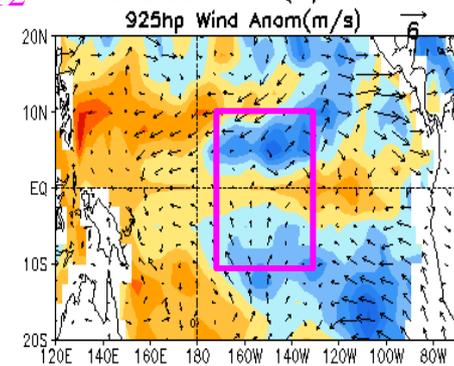
AUG 2012 SST Anom. (°C)

2012



AUG 2012 D20 Anom. (m)

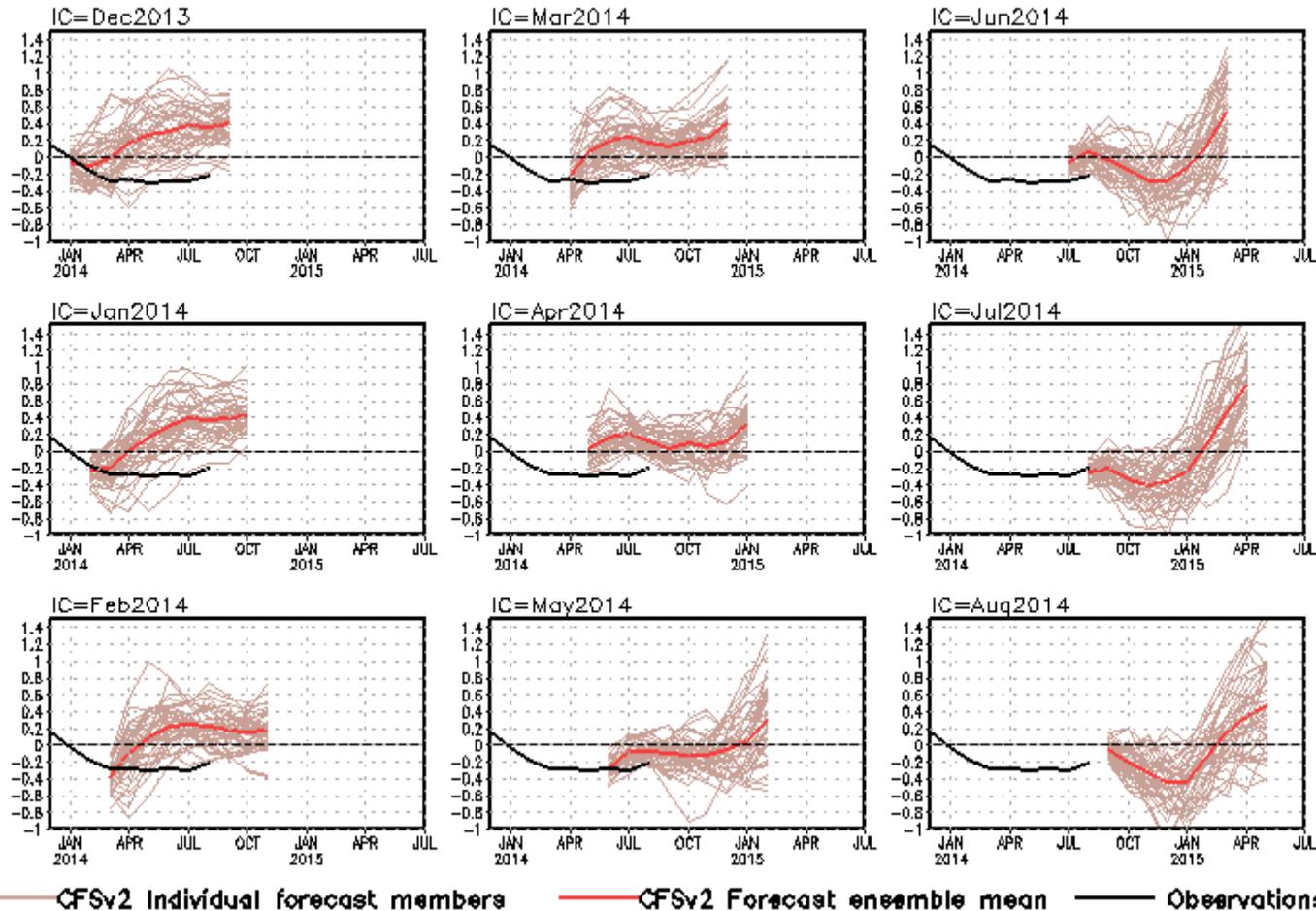
925hp Wind Anom(m/s)



CFSv2 Tropical North Atlantic (TNA) SST Predictions

from Different Initial Months

Tropical N. Atlantic SST anomalies (K)



- Forecast from August 2014 IC suggests below-normal SST in the tropical North Atlantic will persist through the Northern Hemisphere winter 2014-15.

TNA is the SST anomaly averaged in the region of [60°W-30°W, 5°N-20°N].

Fig. M3. 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.

Overview

➤ **Pacific Ocean**

- **ENSO neutral condition continued with OIv2 NINO3.4=0.2°C in August 2014.**
- **Subsurface warming emerged in the central-eastern equatorial Pacific.**
- **NOAA “ENSO Diagnostic Discussion” on September 4, 2014 continually issued “El Nino Watch” .**
- **PDO remained positive phase in August.**
- **Strong positive SSTA continued in the high latitudes of the North Pacific and Arctic Oceans.**

➤ **Indian Ocean**

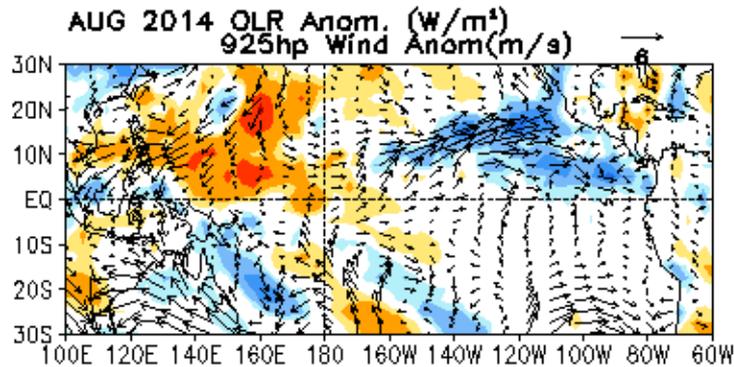
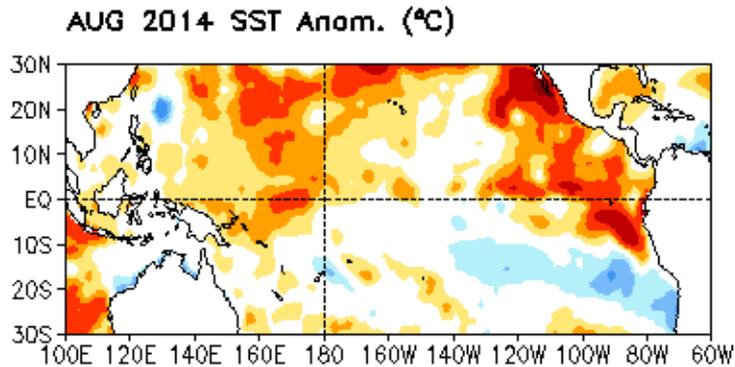
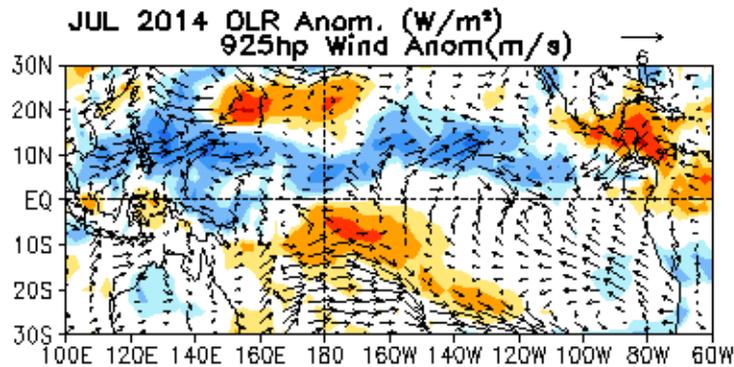
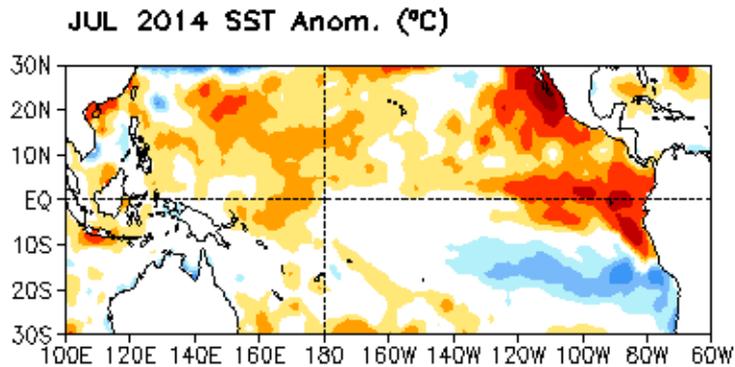
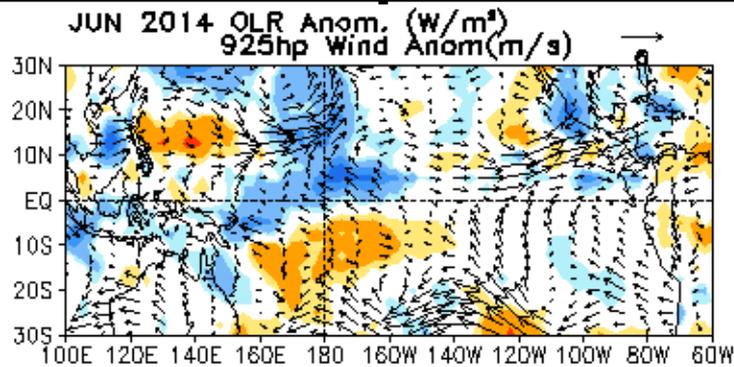
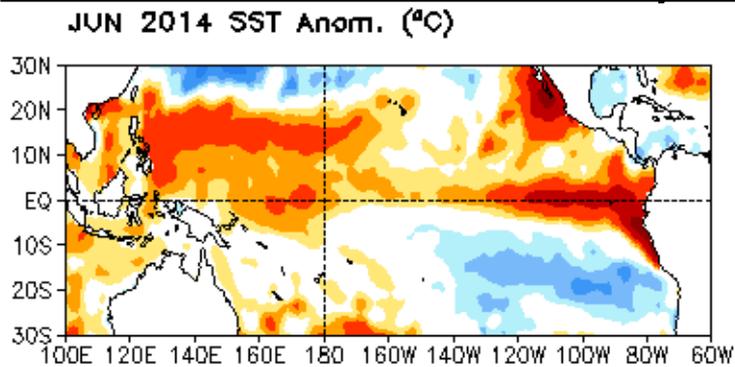
- **Indian dipole index remained below -0.4 in August.**

➤ **Atlantic Ocean**

- **Below-average SST continued in the hurricane Main Development Region.**
- **NAO was well below-normal , with NAO index = -2.3 in August 2014.**

Backup Slides

Last Three Month SST, OLR and 925hp Wind Anom.



Last Five Month W at 50m and Surface Windstress Anom.

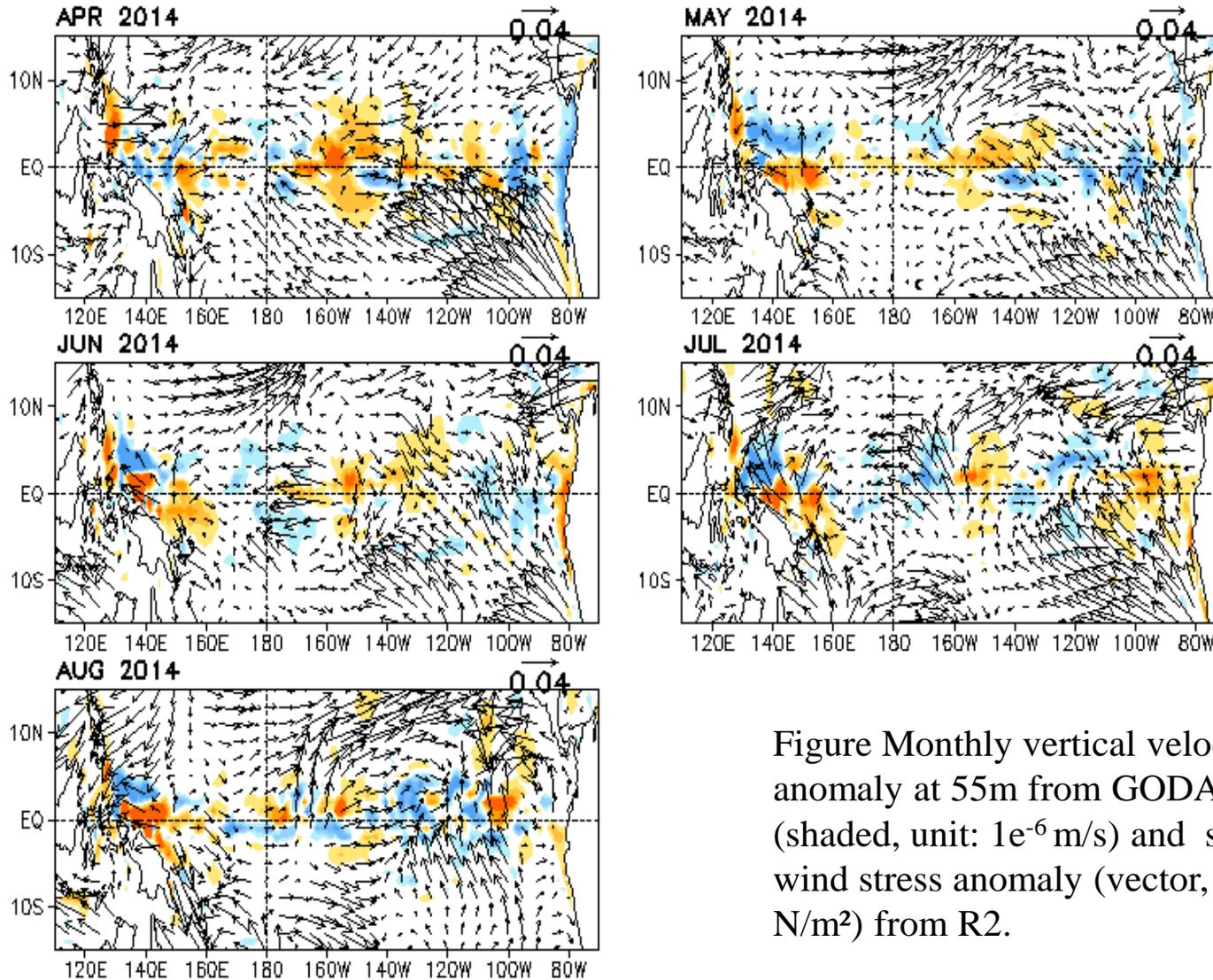
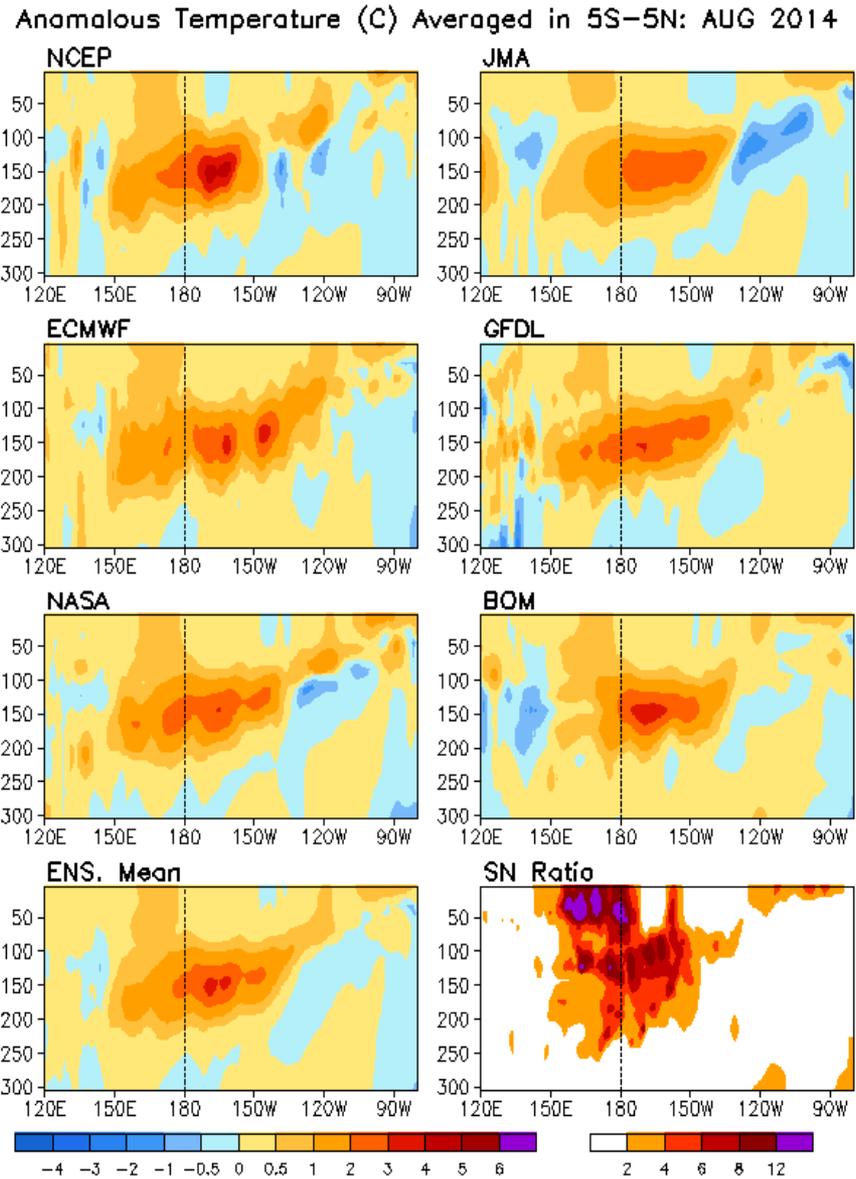
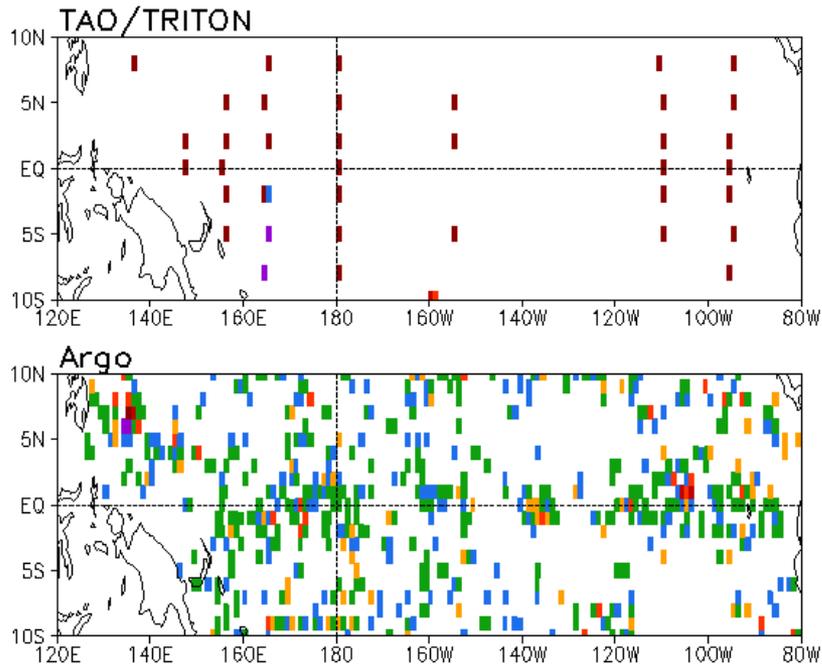


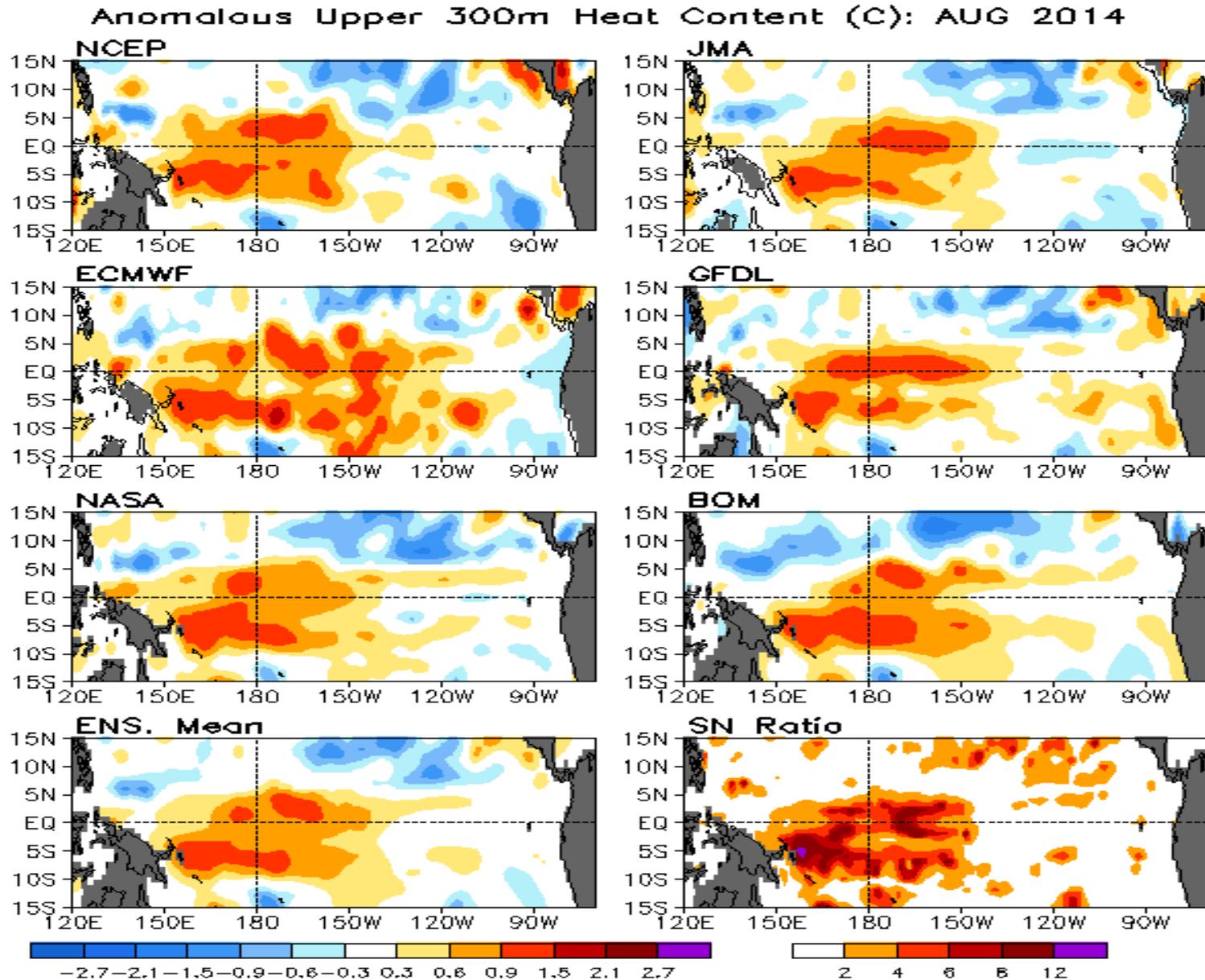
Figure Monthly vertical velocity anomaly at 55m from GODAS (shaded, unit: 10^{-6} m/s) and surface wind stress anomaly (vector, unit: N/m^2) from R2.

Real-Time Multiple Ocean Reanalysis Intercomparison

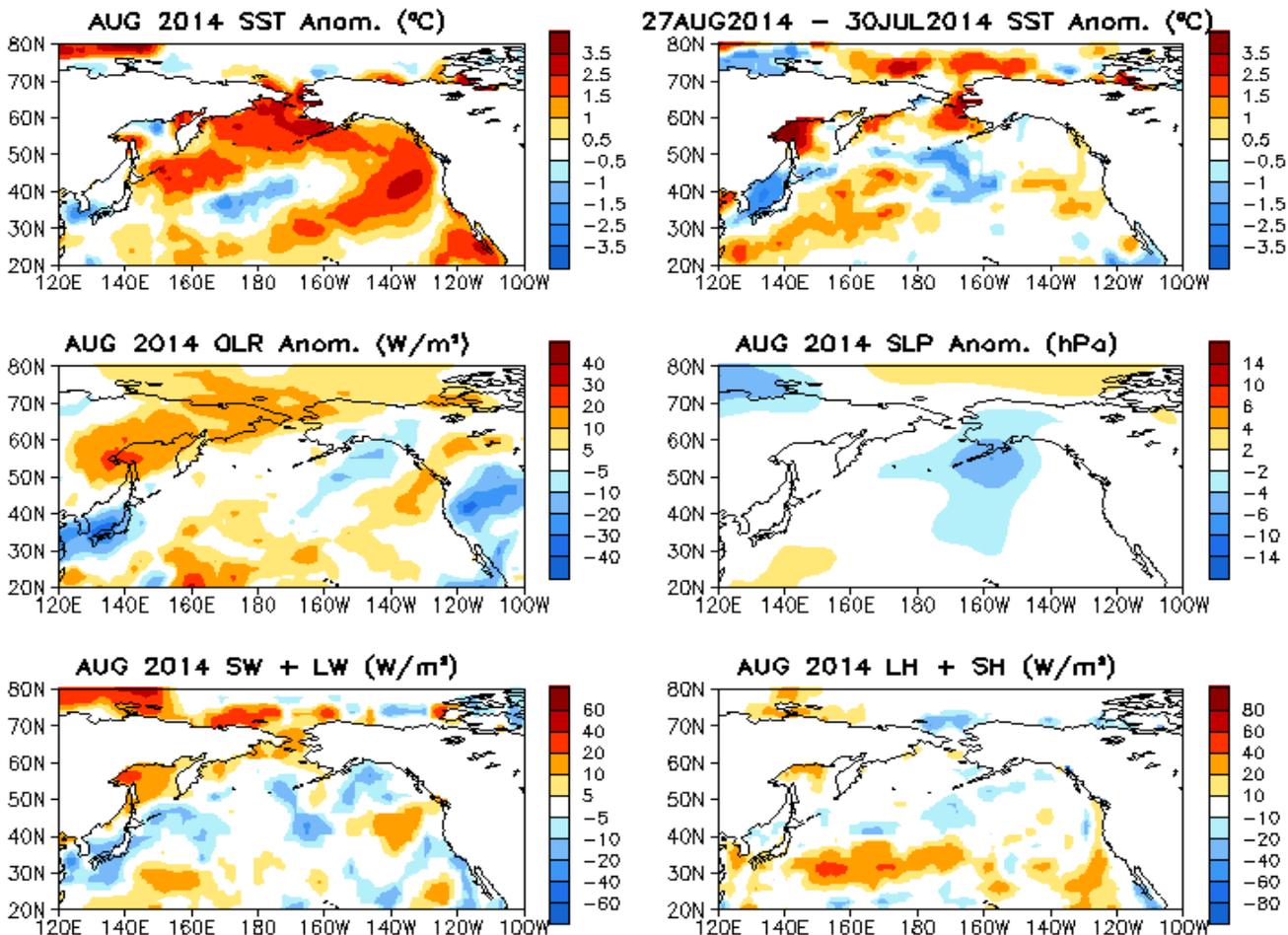
of Daily Temp. Profiles in AUG 2014



Upper 300m Heat Content Anomaly (1981-2010 Clim.)



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

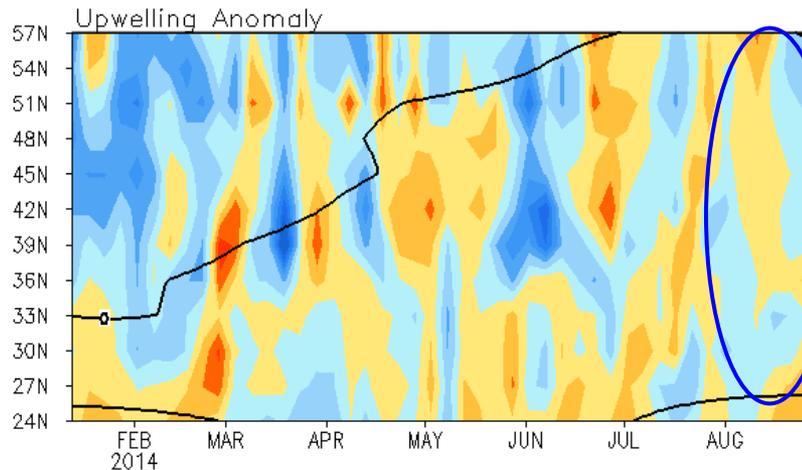
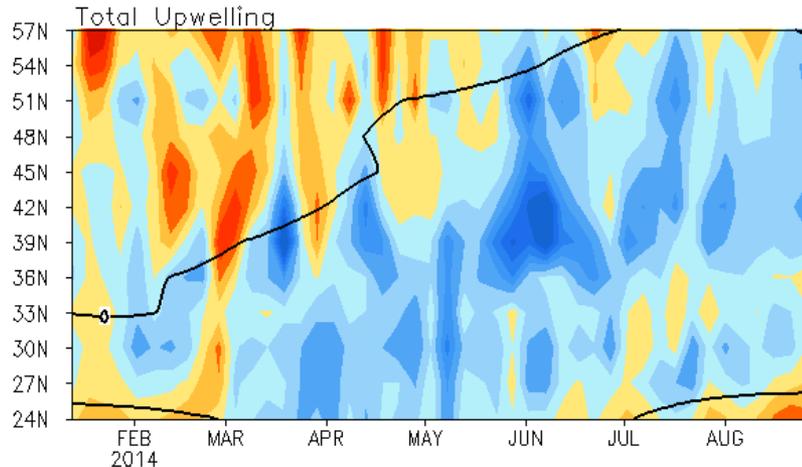


- Large positive SST anomalies continued to dominate the high-latitude of North Pacific.
- Large positive SST tendency was observed near the East Siberian Sea, Bering Sea and west coast of Russia.

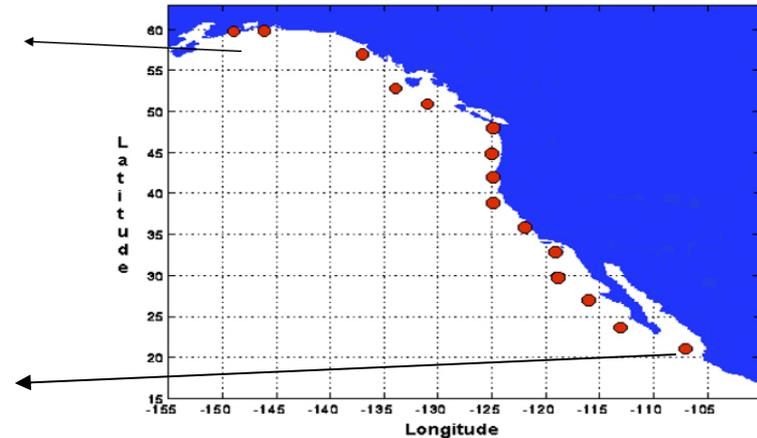
Fig. NP1. Sea surface temperature (SST) anomalies (top-left), anomaly tendency (top-right), Outgoing Long-wave Radiation (OLR) anomalies (middle-left), sea surface pressure anomalies (middle-right), sum of net surface short- and long-wave radiation anomalies (bottom-left), sum of latent and sensible heat flux anomalies (bottom-right). SST are derived from the NCEP OI SST analysis, OLR from the NOAA 18 AVHRR IR window channel measurements by NESDIS, sea surface pressure and surface radiation and heat fluxes from the NCEP CDAS. Anomalies are departures from the 1981-2010 base period means.

North America Western Coastal Upwelling

Pentad Coastal Upwelling for West Coast North America
($\text{m}^3/\text{s}/100\text{m}$ coastline)



Standard Positions of Upwelling Index Calculations



- Upwelling was near normal along the west coast of N. American in August.

Fig. NP2. Total (top) and anomalous (bottom) upwelling indices at the 15 standard locations for the western coast of North America. Upwelling indices are derived from the vertical velocity of the NCEP's global ocean data assimilation system, and are calculated as integrated vertical volume transport at 50 meter depth from each location to its nearest coast point ($\text{m}^3/\text{s}/100\text{m}$ 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 36°N to 57°N .

Warm Water Volume (WWV) and NINO3.4 Anomalies

- WWV is defined as average of depth of 20°C in [120°E-80°W, 5°S-5°N].

Statistically, peak correlation of Nino3 with WWV occurs at 7 month lag

(Meinen and McPhaden, 2000).

- Since WWV is intimately linked to ENSO variability (Wyrтки 1985; Jin 1997), it is useful to monitor ENSO in a phase space of WWV and NINO3.4 (Kessler 2002).

- Increase (decrease) of WWV indicates recharge (discharge) of the equatorial oceanic heat content.

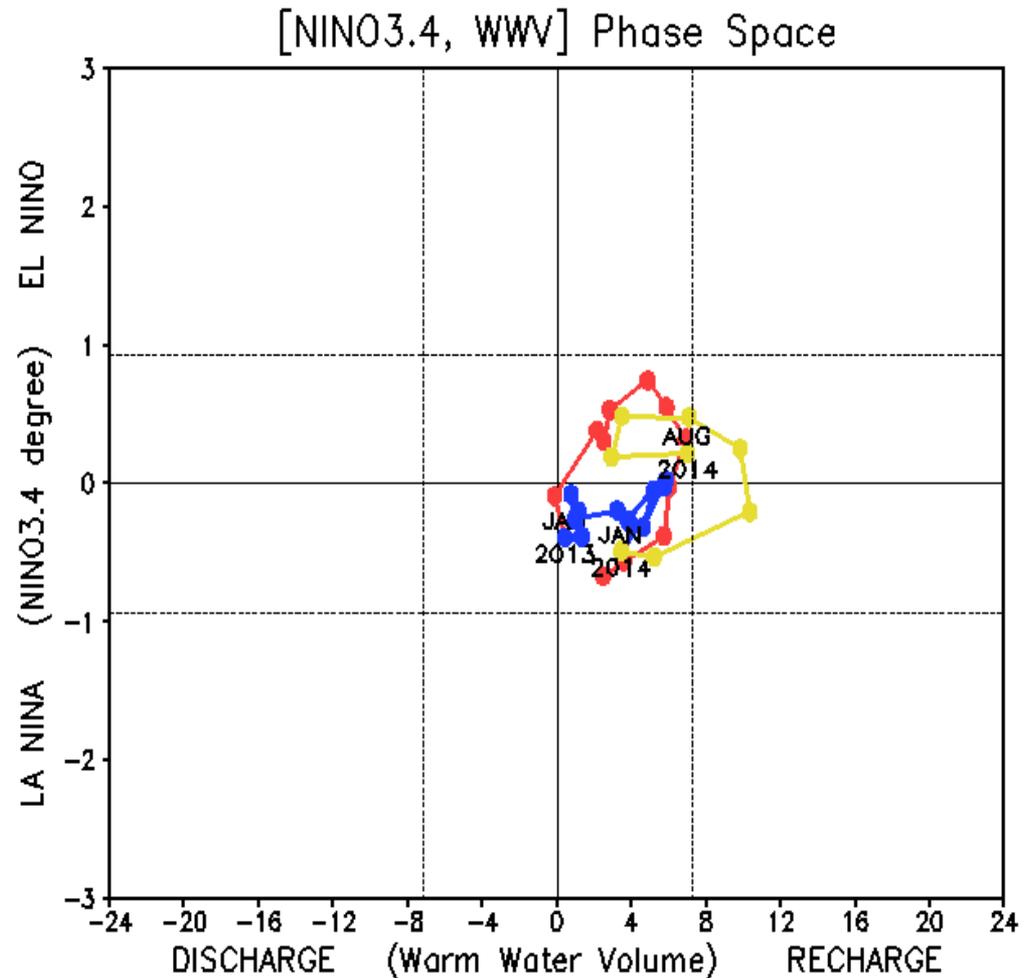


Fig. P3. Phase diagram of Warm Water Volume (WWV) and NINO 3.4 SST anomalies. WWV is the average of depth of 20°C in [120°E-80°W, 5°S-5°N] calculated with the NCEP's global ocean data assimilation system. Anomalies are departures from the 1981-2010 base period means.

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

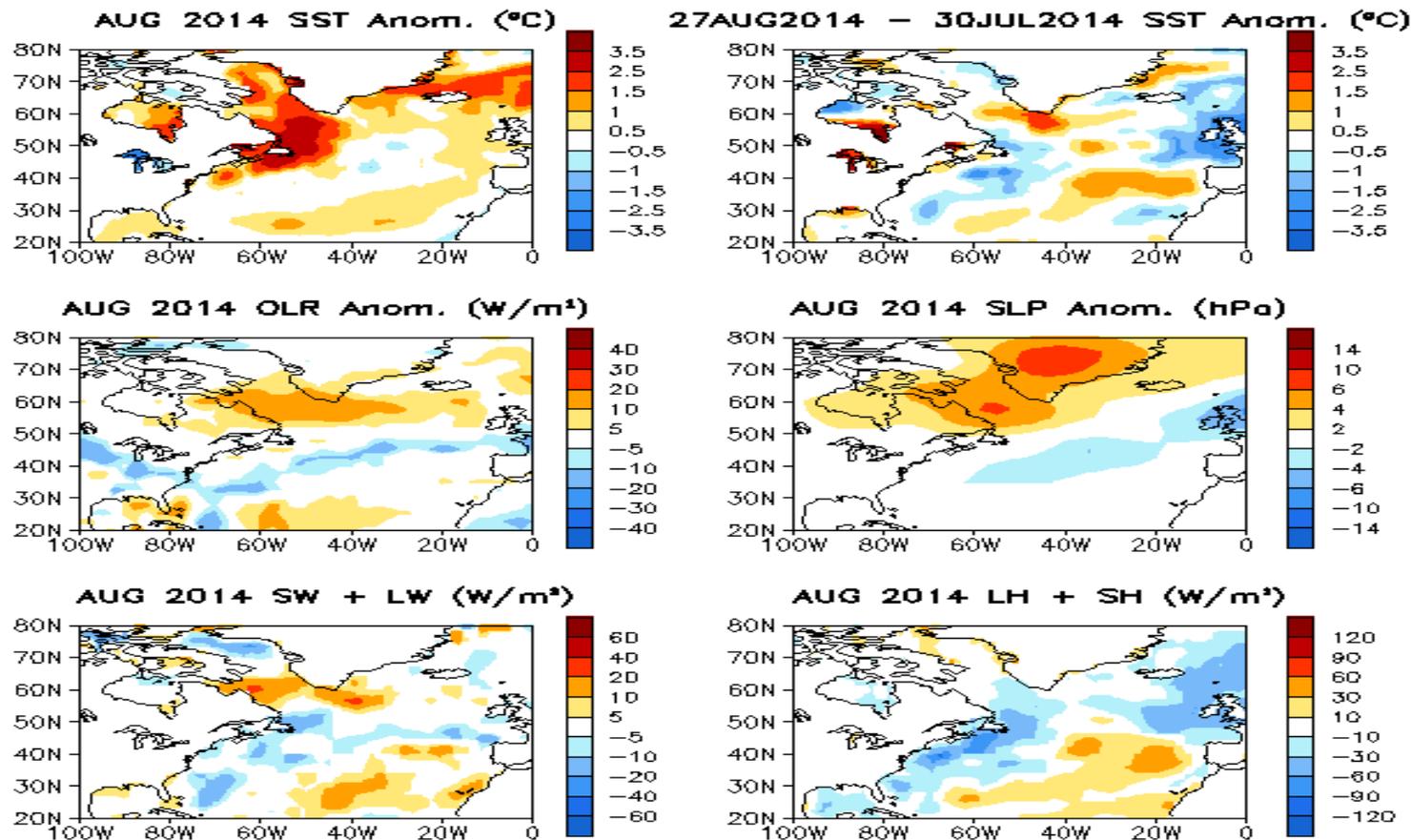


Fig. NP1. Sea surface temperature (SST) anomalies (top-left), anomaly tendency (top-right), Outgoing Long-wave Radiation (OLR) anomalies (middle-left), sea surface pressure anomalies (middle-right), sum of net surface short- and long-wave radiation anomalies (bottom-left), sum of latent and sensible heat flux anomalies (bottom-right). SST are derived from the NCEP OI SST analysis, OLR from the NOAA 18 AVHRR IR window channel measurements by NESDIS, sea surface pressure and surface radiation and heat fluxes from the NCEP CDAS. Anomalies are departures from the 1981-2010 base period means.

North Atlantic: SST Anom., SST Anom. Tend., OLR, SLP, Sfc Rad, Sfc Flx

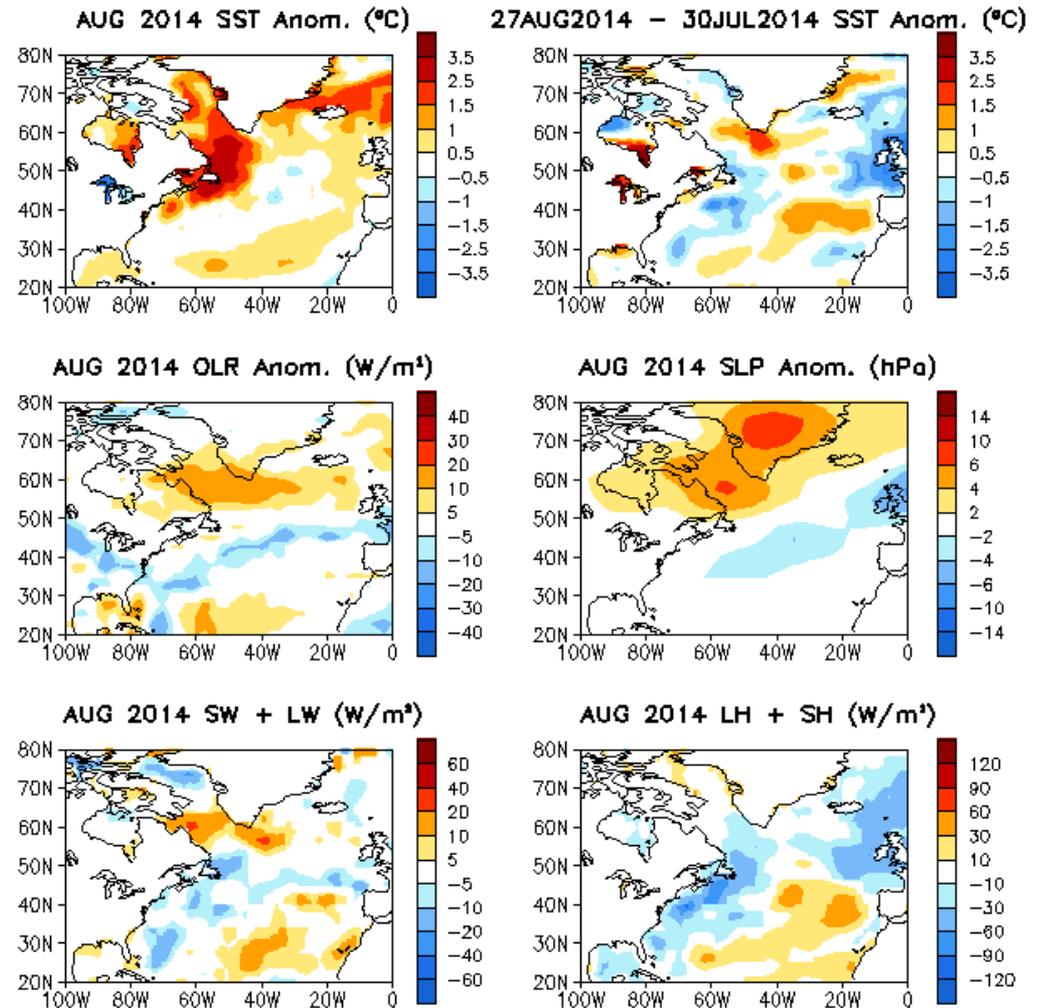
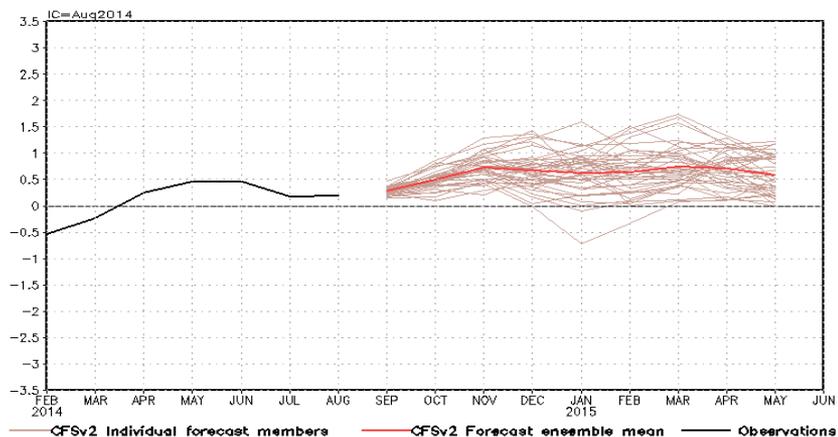


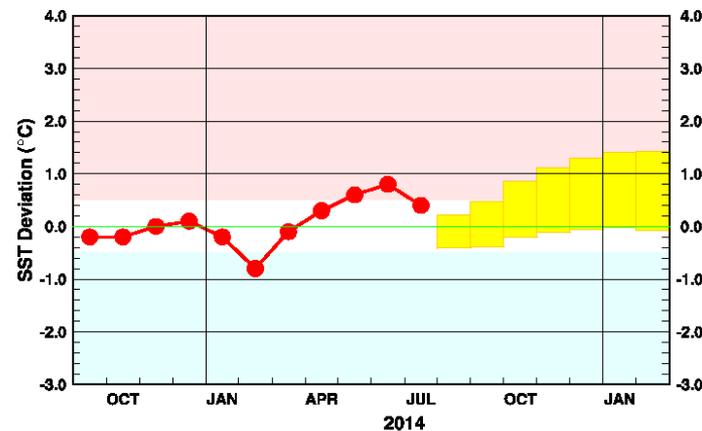
Fig. NA1. Sea surface temperature (SST) anomalies (top-left), anomaly tendency (top-right), Outgoing Long-wave Radiation (OLR) anomalies (middle-left), sea surface pressure anomalies (middle-right), sum of net surface short- and long-wave radiation anomalies (bottom-left), sum of latent and sensible heat flux anomalies (bottom-right). SST are derived from the NCEP OI SST analysis, OLR from the NOAA 18 AVHRR IR window channel measurements by NESDIS, sea surface pressure and surface radiation and heat fluxes from the NCEP CDAS. Anomalies are departures from the 1981-2010 base period means.

Individual Model Forecasts: Predict an El Nino/neutral in 2014

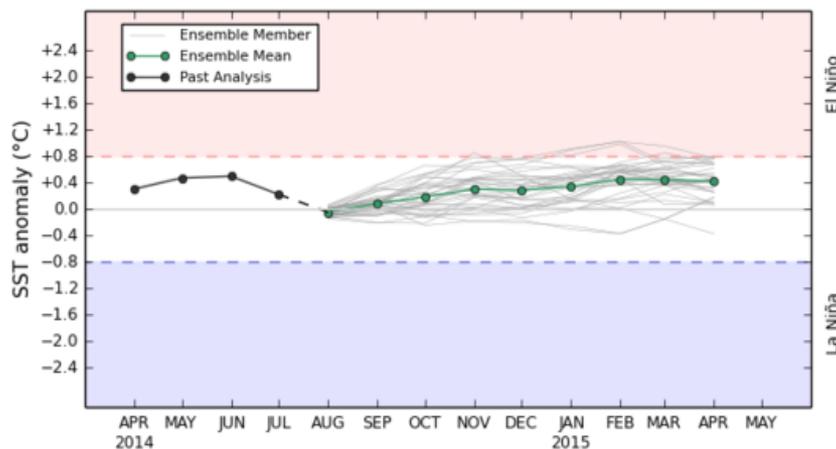
NCEP: NINO34 IC=Sep 3 2014



JMA: Nino3, IC=July2014



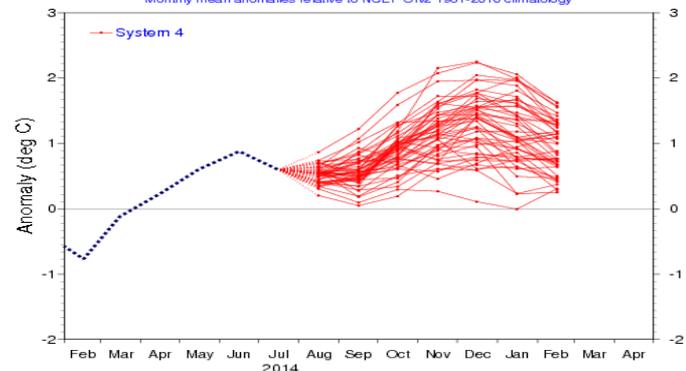
Australia: Nino3.4, IC= 4Sep 2014



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Base period 1981-2010

NINO3 SST anomaly plume
ECMWF forecast from 1 Aug 2014
Monthly mean anomalies relative to NCEP OIv2 1981-2010 climatology



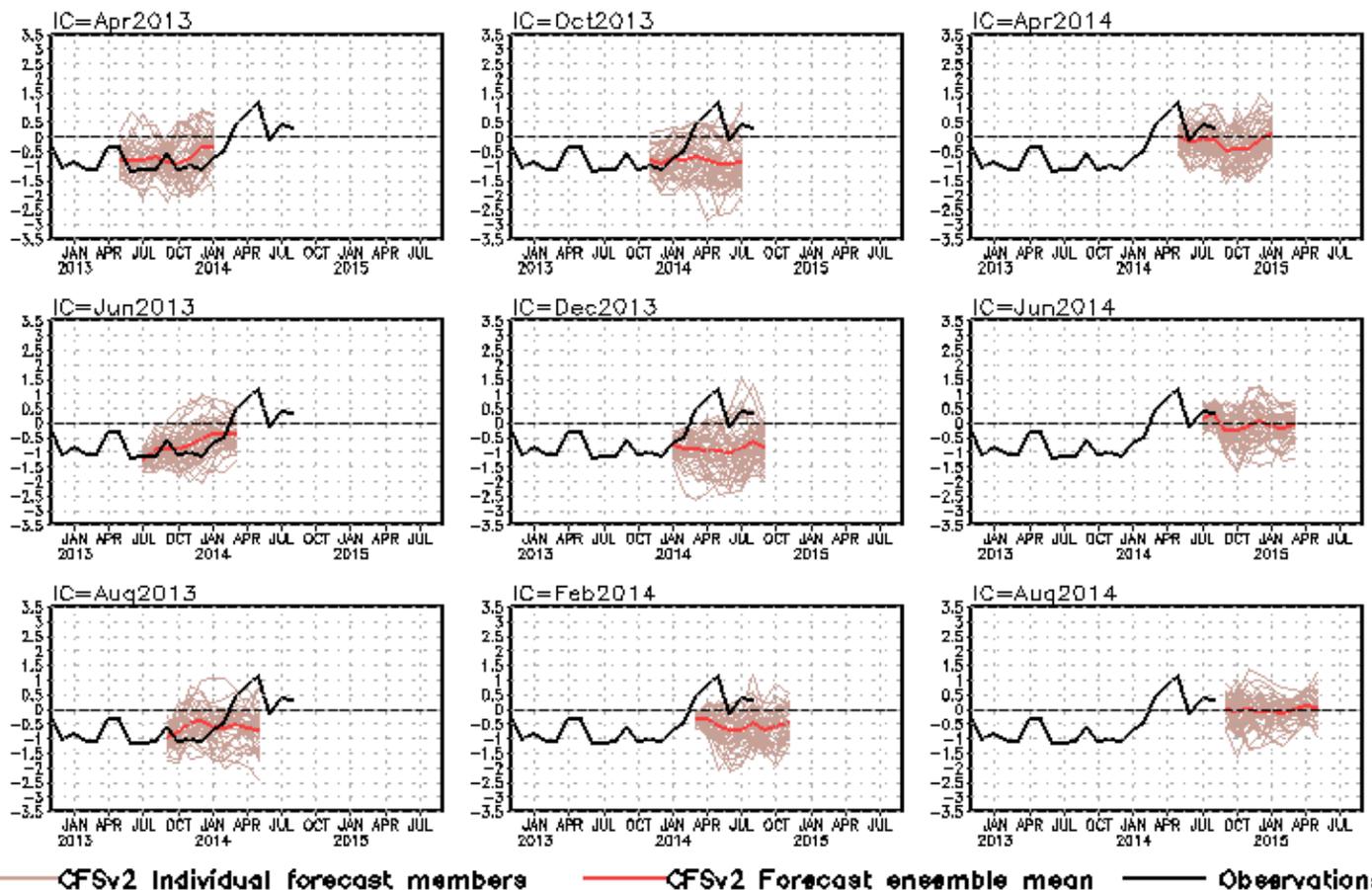
ECMWF

- Differences in model forecasts might be partially related with differences in ocean initializations provided by ocean reanalyses.

CFS Pacific Decadal Oscillation (PDO) Index Predictions

from Different Initial Months

standardized PDO index



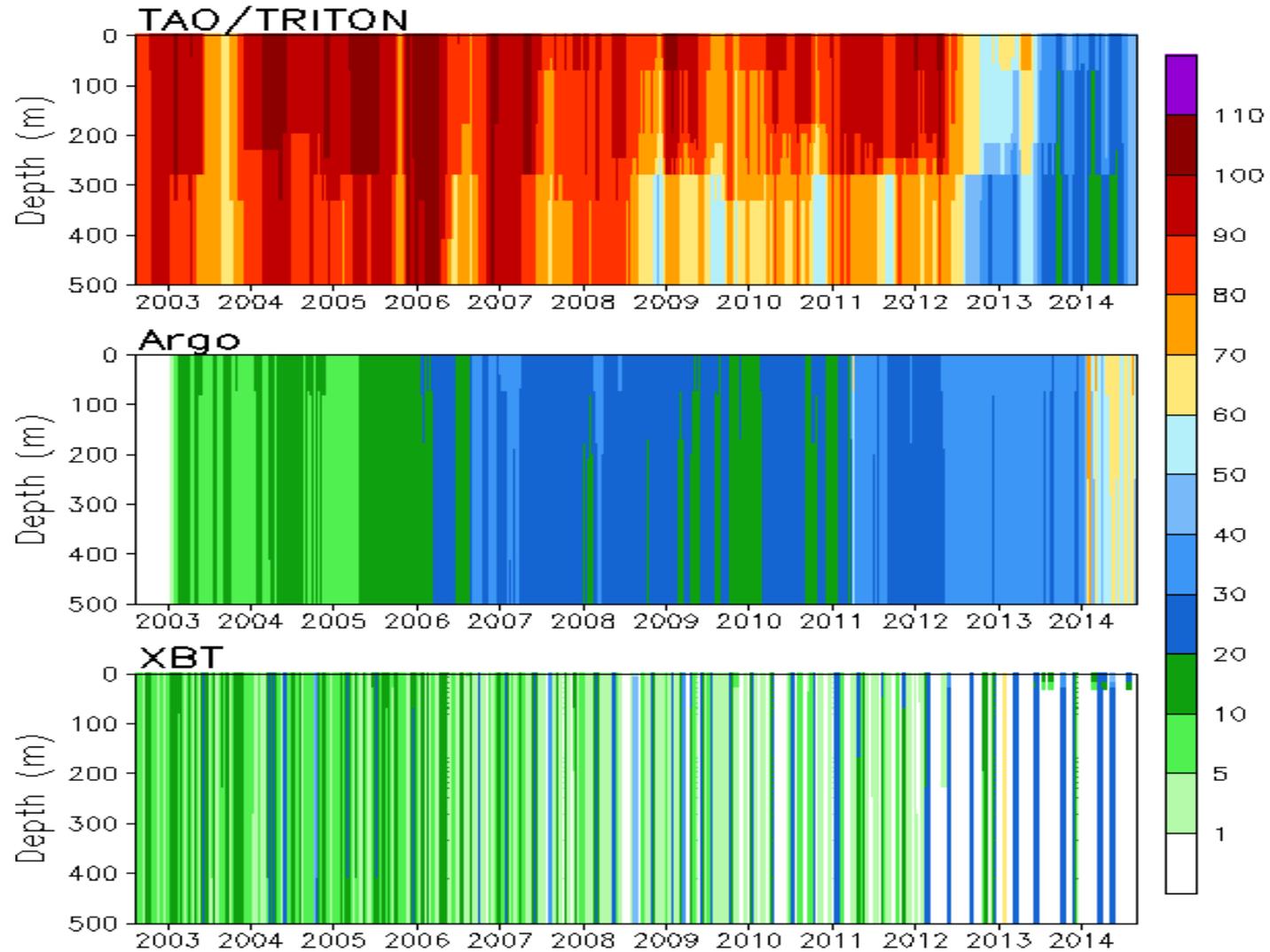
- Forecast in August 2014 IC calls for near-normal PDO in next 9 months.

PDO is the first EOF of monthly ERSSTv3b anomaly in the region of [110°E-100°W, 20°N-60°N].

CFS PDO index is the standardized projection of CFS SST forecast anomalies onto the PDO EOF pattern.

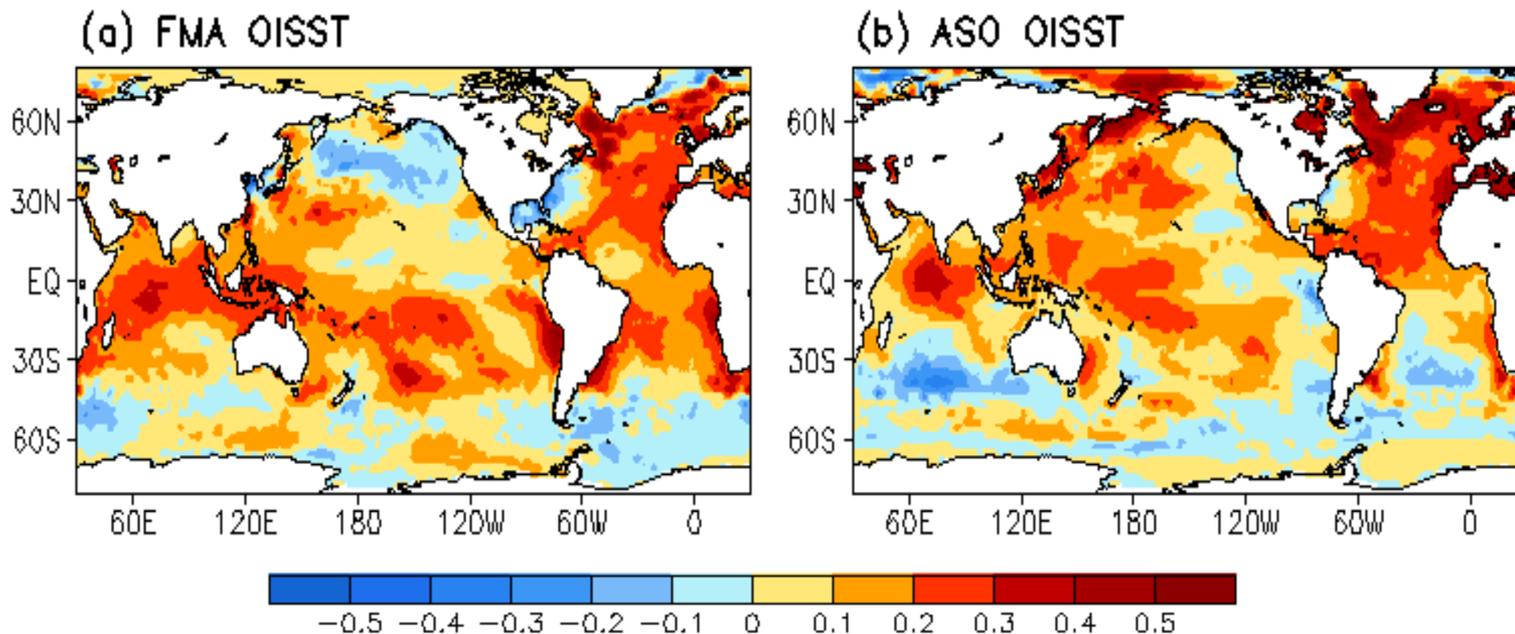
Fig. M4. CFS Pacific Decadal Oscillation (PDO) index predictions from the latest 9 initial months. Displayed are 40 forecast members (brown) made four times per day initialized from the last 10 days of the initial month (labelled as IC=MonthYear) as well as ensemble mean (blue) and observations (black). Anomalies were computed with respect to the 1981-2010 base period means.

of Daily Temp. Profiles every 5 Days
Accumulated in 170E-80W, 3S-3N



Be aware that new climatology (1981-2010) was applied since Jan 2011

SST Climatology Diff. ($^{\circ}\text{C}$): (1981–2010) – (1971–2000)



1971-2000 SST Climatology (Xue et al. 2003):

http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/30day/SSTs/sst_clim.htm

1981-2010 SST Climatology: <http://origin.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/people/yxue/sstclim/>

- The seasonal mean SST in February-April (FMA) increased by more than 0.2°C over much of the Tropical Oceans and N. Atlantic, but decreased by more than 0.2°C in high-latitude N. Pacific, Gulf of Mexico and along the east coast of U.S.
- Compared to FMA, the seasonal mean SST in August-October (ASO) has a stronger warming in the tropical N. Atlantic, N. Pacific and Arctic Ocean, and a weaker cooling in Gulf of Mexico and along the east coast of U.S.

Switch to 1981-2010 Climatology

- **SST from 1971-2000 to 1981-2010**
 - Weekly **OISST.v2**, monthly ERSST.3b
- **Atmospheric fields from 1979-1995 to 1981-2010**
 - NCEP CDAS **winds**, sea level pressure, 200mb velocity potential, surface shortwave and longwave radiation, surface latent and sensible fluxes, relative humidity
 - Outgoing Long-wave Radiation
- **Oceanic fields from 1982-2004 to 1981-2010**
 - GODAS temperature, **heat content**, depth of 20°C, sea surface height, mixed layer depth, tropical cyclone heat potential, surface currents, upwelling
- **Satellite data climatology 1993-2005 unchanged**
 - Aviso Altimetry Sea Surface Height
 - Ocean Surface Current Analyses – Realtime (OSCAR)

Data Sources and References

- **Optimal Interpolation SST (OI SST) version 2 (Reynolds et al. 2002)**
- **NCEP CDAS winds, surface radiation and heat fluxes**
- **NESDIS Outgoing Long-wave Radiation**
- **NDBC TAO data (<http://tao.noaa.gov>)**
- **PMEL TAO equatorial temperature analysis**
- **NCEP's Global Ocean Data Assimilation System temperature, heat content, currents (Behringer and Xue 2004)**
- **Aviso Altimetry Sea Surface Height**
- **Ocean Surface Current Analyses – Realtime (OSCAR)**

Please send your comments and suggestions to Yan.Xue@noaa.gov. Thanks!

Real Time Multiple Ocean Reanalysis Intercomparison

(with contributions from [NCEP](#), [ECMWF](#), [JMA](#), [GFDL](#), [NASA](#), BOM based on 1981-2010 Climatology)

([Background Information](#))

Tropical Pacific Ocean

- **Climate Indices**

- Depth of 20C isotherm anomaly in NINO3: [last 4 years](#) [last 15 years](#) [1979-present](#)
- Depth of 20C isotherm anomaly in NINO4: [last 4 years](#) [last 15 years](#) [1979-present](#)
- Upper 300m heat content anomaly in NINO3: [last 4 years](#) [last 15 years](#) [1979-present](#)
- Upper 300m heat content anomaly in NINO4: [last 4 years](#) [last 15 years](#) [1979-present](#)
- Warm Water Volume: [last 4 years](#) [last 15 years](#) [1979-present](#)
- Warm Water Volume average in last two months ending in:
[Jan](#) [Feb](#) [Mar](#) [Apr](#) [May](#) [Jun](#) [Jul](#) [Aug](#) [Sep](#) [Oct](#) [Nov](#) [Dec](#)

- **Spatial Maps**

- Equatorial temperature anomaly: [last month](#) [month before last month](#) [1979-present](#)
- Depth of 20C isotherm anomaly: [last month](#) [month before last month](#) [1979-present](#)
- Upper 300m heat content anomaly: [last month](#) [month before last month](#) [1979-present](#)

Global Ocean

- **Spatial Maps**

- Equatorial temperature anomaly: [last month](#) [month before last month](#) [1979-present](#)
- Depth of 20C isotherm anomaly: [last month](#) [month before last month](#) [1979-present](#)
- Upper 300m heat content anomaly: [last month](#) [month before last month](#) [1979-present](#)

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