



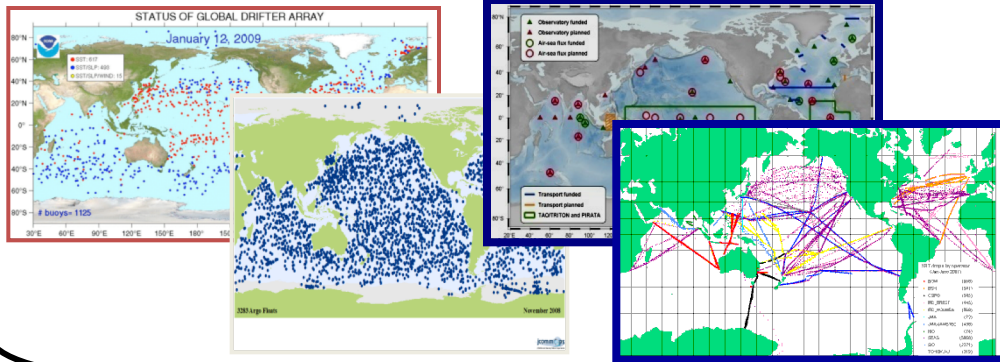
# **Enhanced Ocean Monitoring Products Using Ensemble Ocean Reanalyses: ENSO Precursors & NMME False Alarms**

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***Climate Prediction Center, NCEP/NOAA, College Park, MD***

# Ocean Monitoring Products at CPC

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



## Synthesis of Ocean Observations

Search the CPC  
All CPC

**NCEP Global Ocean Data Assimilation System (GODAS)**

- [Introduction](#)
- [Climatology \(1982-2004\):](#) [Plots](#) [Animations](#)
- [Monthly products \(1979-present\):](#) [Plots](#) [Animations](#)
- [Pentad products \(past 3 months\):](#) [Plots](#) [Animations](#)
- [Coastal upwelling:](#) [Plot](#)
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- [Ocean reanalysis for downloading:](#) [Monthly](#) [Pentad](#)
- [Validations against observations](#)
- [Links to other ocean analysis data](#)

**Monthly Ocean Briefing**

Around the 7-8th day of each month, the CPC makes a monthly assessment of how the state of the global ocean evolved recently; what was the interaction with the atmosphere; and how model predictions verified. This assessment is disseminated using a PPT presentation and conference call. Contact [Yan Xue](#) for details on conference call.

Current: [PPT](#) [PDF](#)  
Archive: [PPT](#) [PDF](#)  
[Briefing sequence web page](#)  
Briefing schedule and note: [2008](#) [2009](#)

**Annual Ocean Review**

The CPC's "Monthly Ocean Briefing" around the 6-8th day of February is designated to provide an "Annual Ocean Review" for the past year. The ocean briefing PPT contains 1) seasonal and yearly mean anomalies, 2) atmospheric responses to SST anomalies shown in AMIP simulations, 3) yearly indices to put the recent conditions in a historical perspective, and 4) discussions of special features in the past two years. The ocean briefing is similar to the regular "Monthly Ocean Briefing" except their differences in contents.

PPT [2007](#) [2008](#)  
PDF [2007](#) [2008](#)

USA.gov

- The Global Ocean Data Assimilation System (GODAS) was implemented in 2003
- The GODAS web site was constructed in 2005 to deliver the ocean synthesis data and ocean monitoring products to the user community and to demonstrate the benefits of NOAA's investment in global ocean observing systems for societal benefits
- CPC's "Monthly Ocean Briefing" was initiated in 2007 to provide the user community a monthly summary of the ocean state of climate variability associated with ENSO, PDO, IOD, TAV, AMOC, Sea Ice

# Real-Time Ocean Reanalysis Intercomparison Project

(Motivated by TPOS Workshop in Jan. 2014, Coordinated by CLIVAR/GSOP and GOV)

## TPOS 2020 Workshop

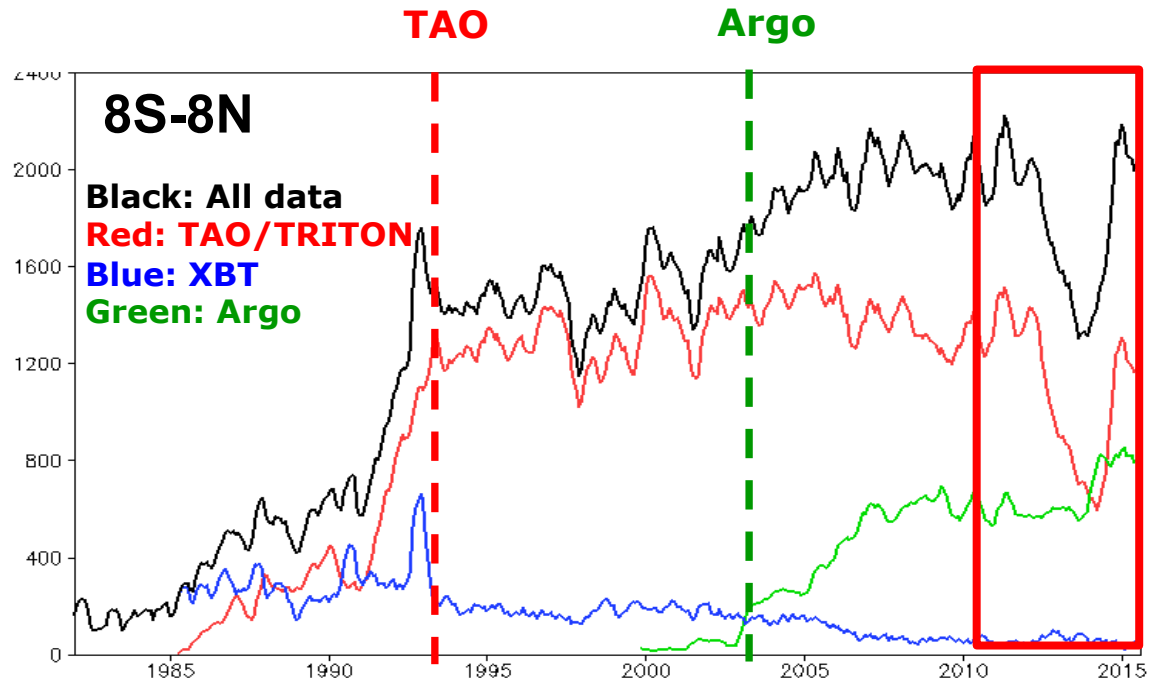
27-30 January, 2014, Scripps Institution of Oceanography



- Review of observing system requirements and implementation
- Presentations on status of all aspects of system
- Presentations on potential new science and contributions
- Sponsors:



- Chaired by: David Anderson and Toshio Suga
- Report: Published April 2014 ([www.ioc-goos.org/tpos2020](http://www.ioc-goos.org/tpos2020))



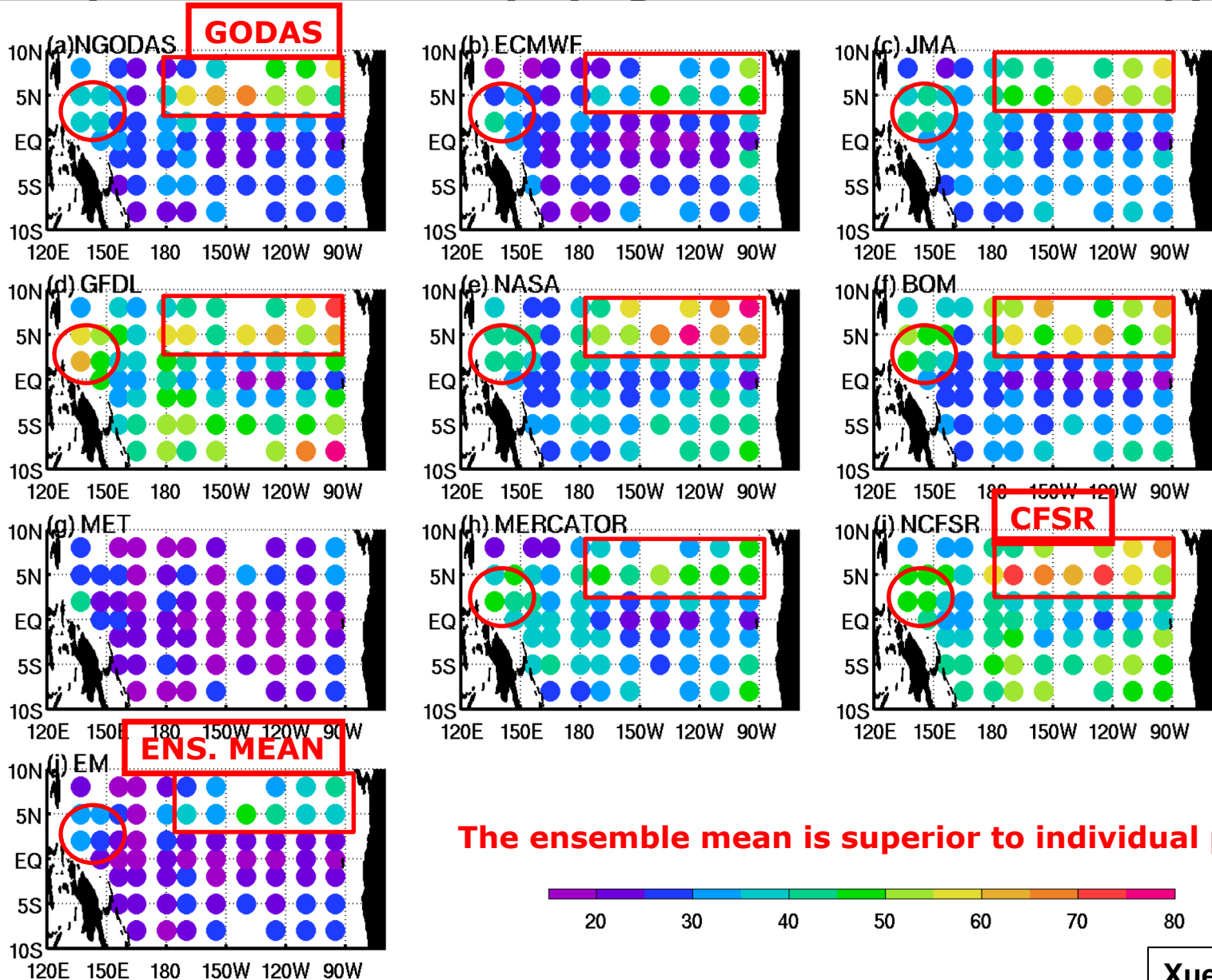
- Extend CLIVAR-GSOP/GODAE OceanView Ocean Reanalyses Intercomparison Project (ORA-IP) into **real-time**
- Deliver ensemble ocean monitoring products with **signal, noise and signal-to-noise ratio** in real time
- Quantify uncertainties in the ocean state estimation in support of **ENSO monitoring and prediction**
- Monitor the influences of **ocean observations** on constraining uncertainties in ocean reanalyses

6 products (1979-present) ([http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/GODAS/multiora\\_body.html](http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/GODAS/multiora_body.html))

9 products (1993-present) ([http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/GODAS/multiora93\\_body.html](http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/GODAS/multiora93_body.html))

# Uncertainties in Ocean Reanalyses

(Normalized RMSD (%) against TAO/TRITON Temp)

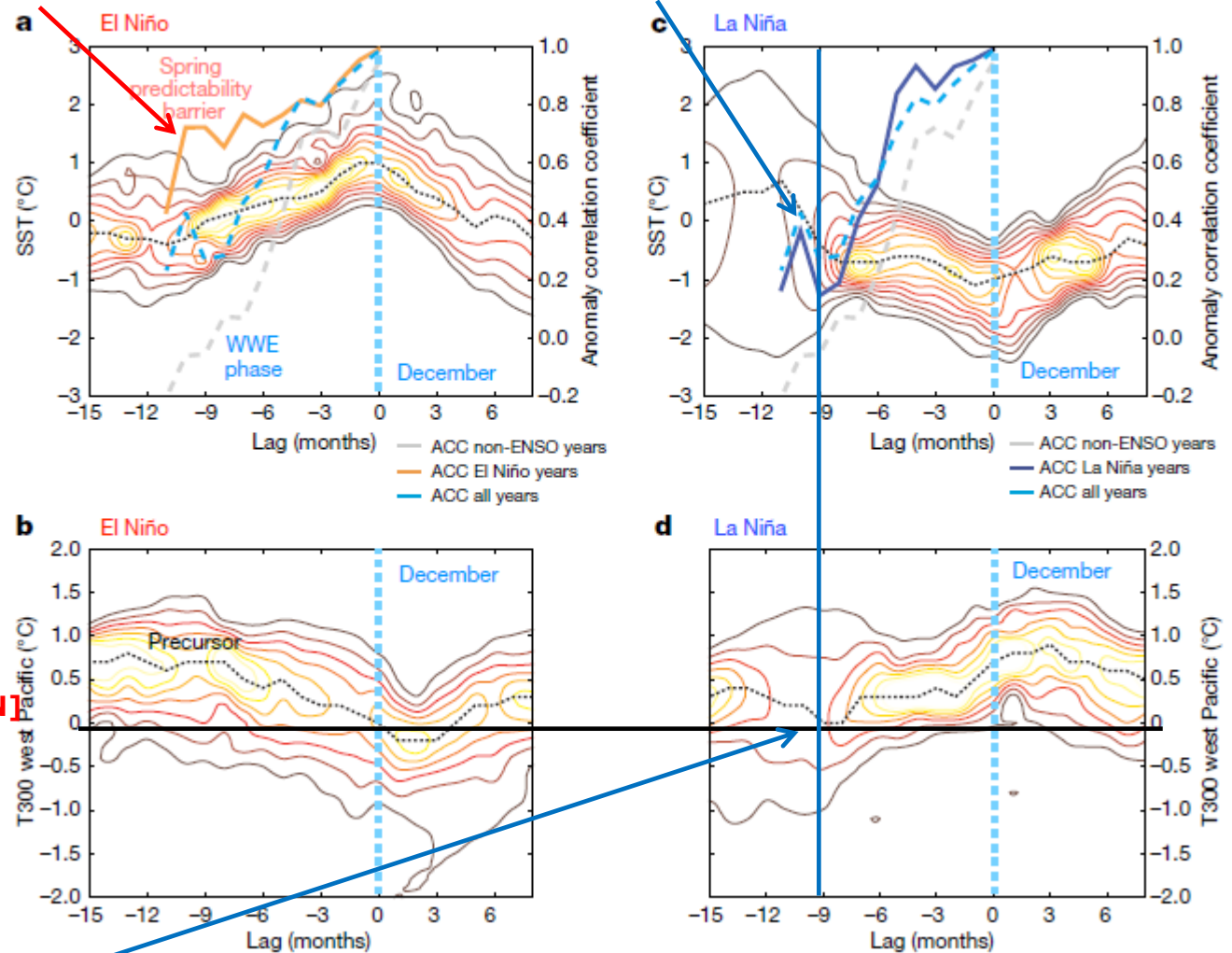


# ENSO Forecast Skill & ENSO Precursors

## Forecast Skill for El Niño

## Forecast Skill for La Niña

North America Multi-Model Ensembles (NMME): 7 models and about 100 ensemble members



ENSO Precursors  
HC300a [120°E-155°W, 5°S-5°N]

Poor forecast skill for La Niña is related to weak precursor

Timmermann et al. 2018, Nature

# La Niña, its Precursor and Predictability

- About 50% La Niña events last 2 years or longer (Okumura and Deser 2010 ; DiNezia and Deser 2014; Hu et al. 2014)
- There is a predictability of forecasting the 2 year La Niña when initialized from “strong peak El Niño” or “strong discharged state” following the peak El Niño, which indicates a **strong persistence from ocean memory due to the weak instability during La Niña** (Luo et al. 2010; DiNezia et al. 2017)
- The **ocean precursors** for 2 year La Niña are not well understood

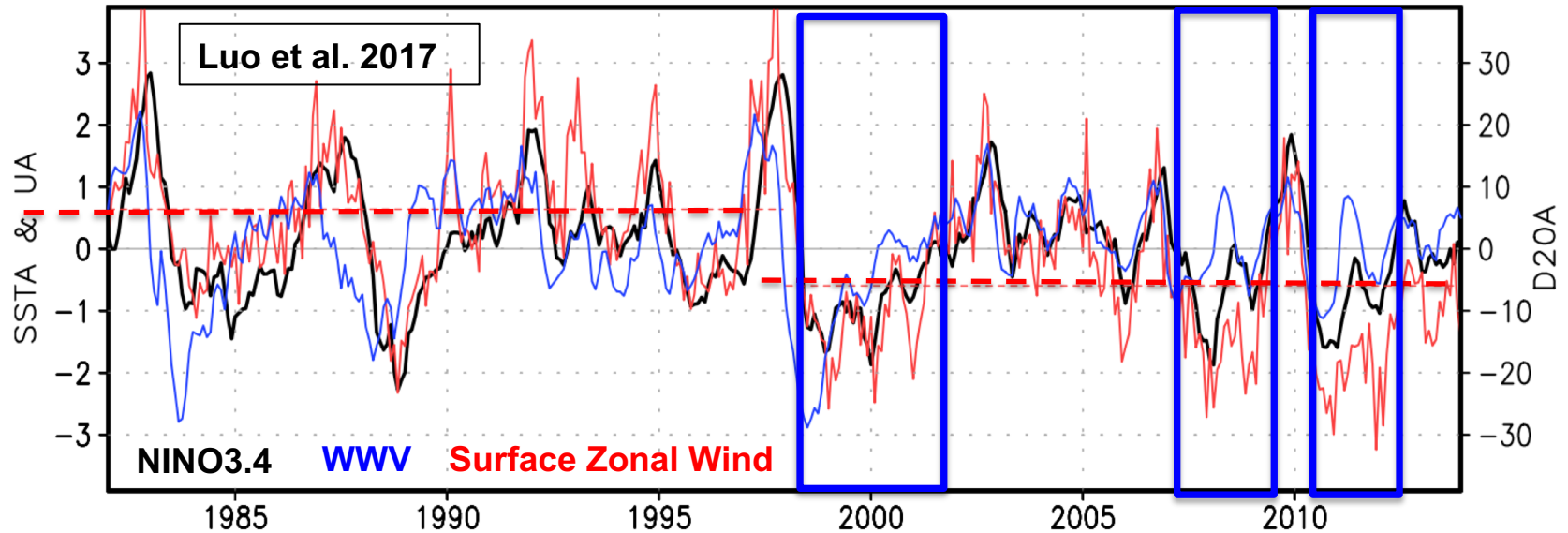
**Is a strong 1<sup>st</sup> year La Niña necessary for developing a 2<sup>nd</sup> year La Niña (Hu et al. 2014)?**

- The strong 1988/89 La Niña lasted only one year, while the weak 2016/17 La Niña is followed by a 2nd year La Niña

**Is a strong peak El Niño needed for developing a 2 year La Niña (DiNezia et al. 2017)?**

- The weak 2006/07 El Niño is followed by a 2 year La Niña
- **What are the ocean precursors for El Niño and La Niña?**
- **Can we use the ocean precursors to assist real-time ENSO prediction?**
- **Are the NMME ENSO forecast false alarms related to the ocean precursors?**

# Decadal Shift around 1999 and La Niña-like Conditions

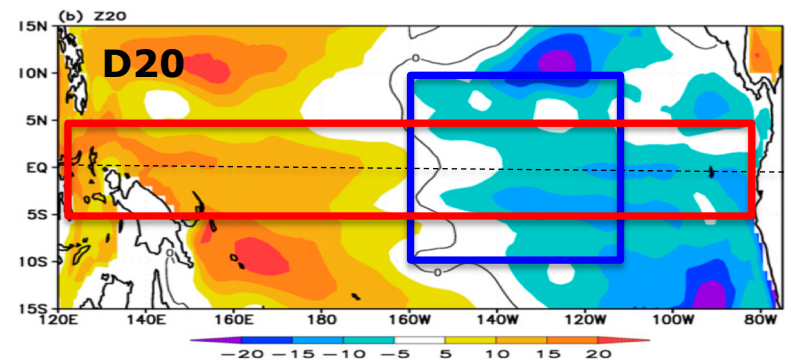
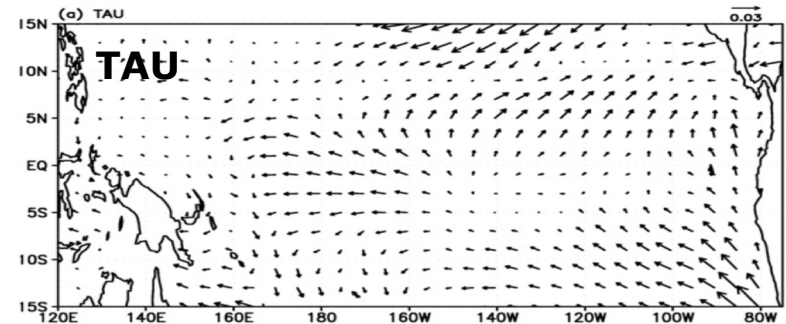


## Decadal Differences between 1999-2012 and 1980-1998

Two ENSO precursors were discussed (Wen et al. 2014)

Warm Water Volume Index  
(D20a in 120°E-80°W, 5°S-5°N)

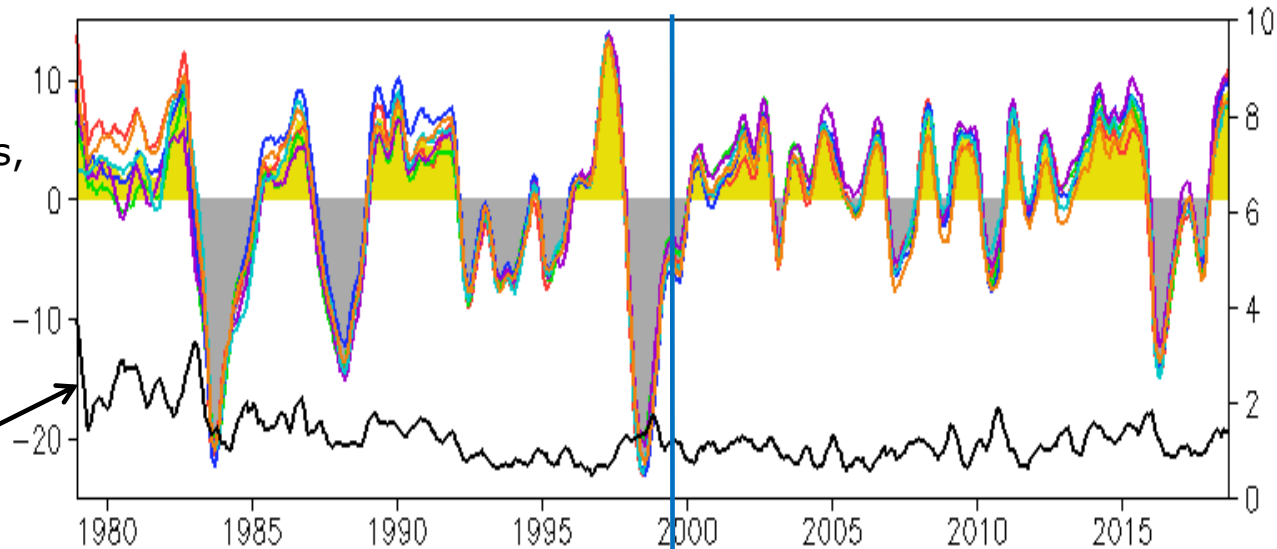
Central Tropical Pacific Index  
(D20a in 160°W-110°W, 10°S-10°N)



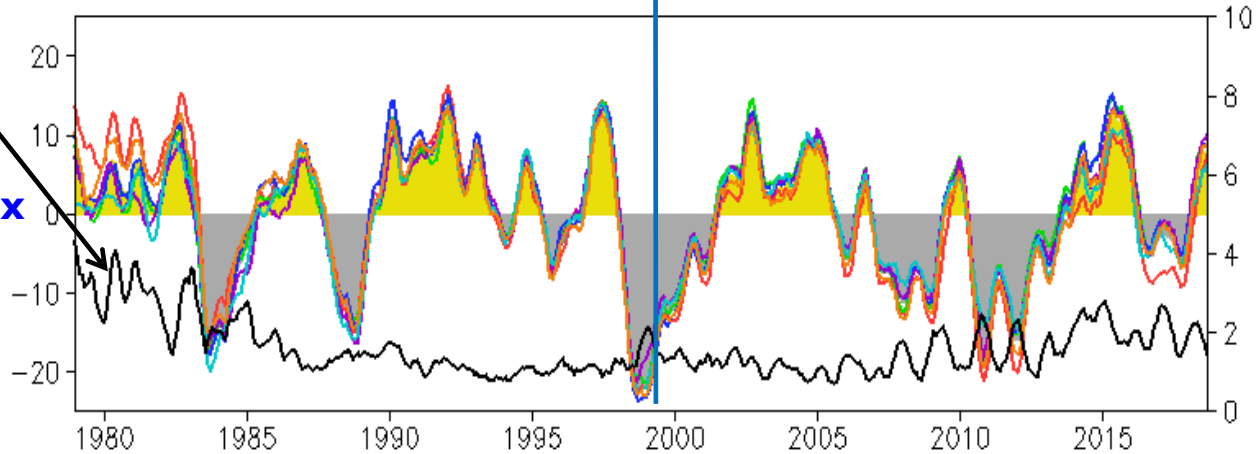
# Two ENSO Precursors Based on Ensemble Ocean Reanalyses

**Warm Water Volume**  
(leads NINO3.4 by 6-9 months,  
Meinen and McPhaden 2000)

**Ensemble Spread**

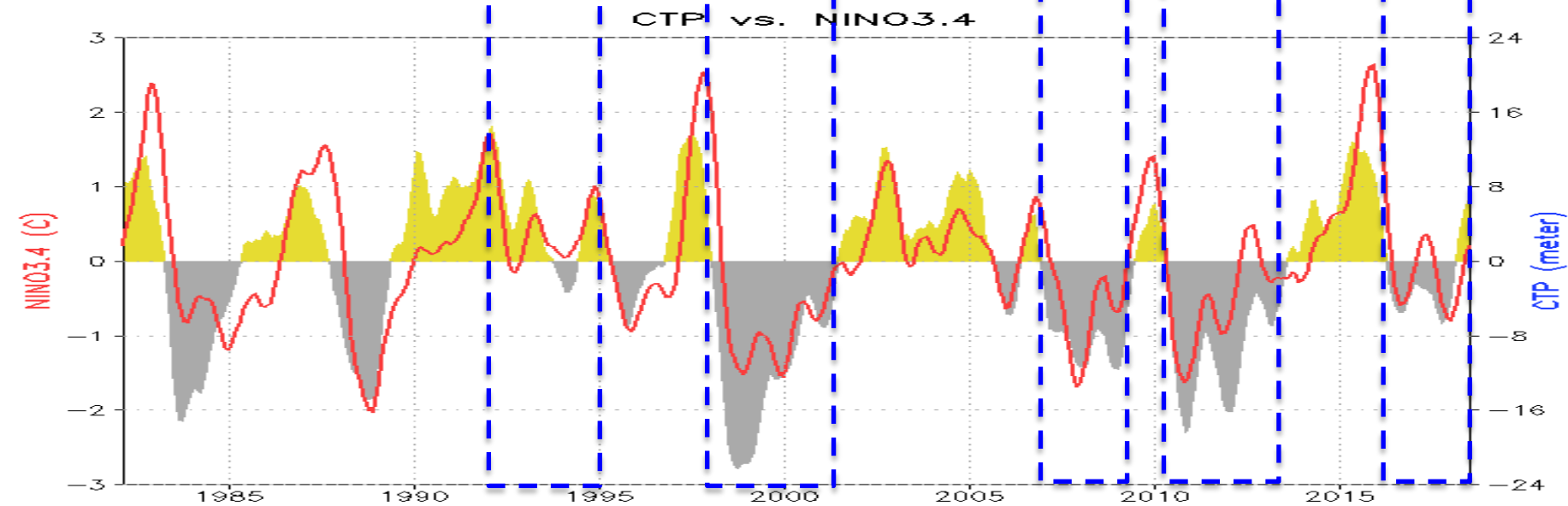
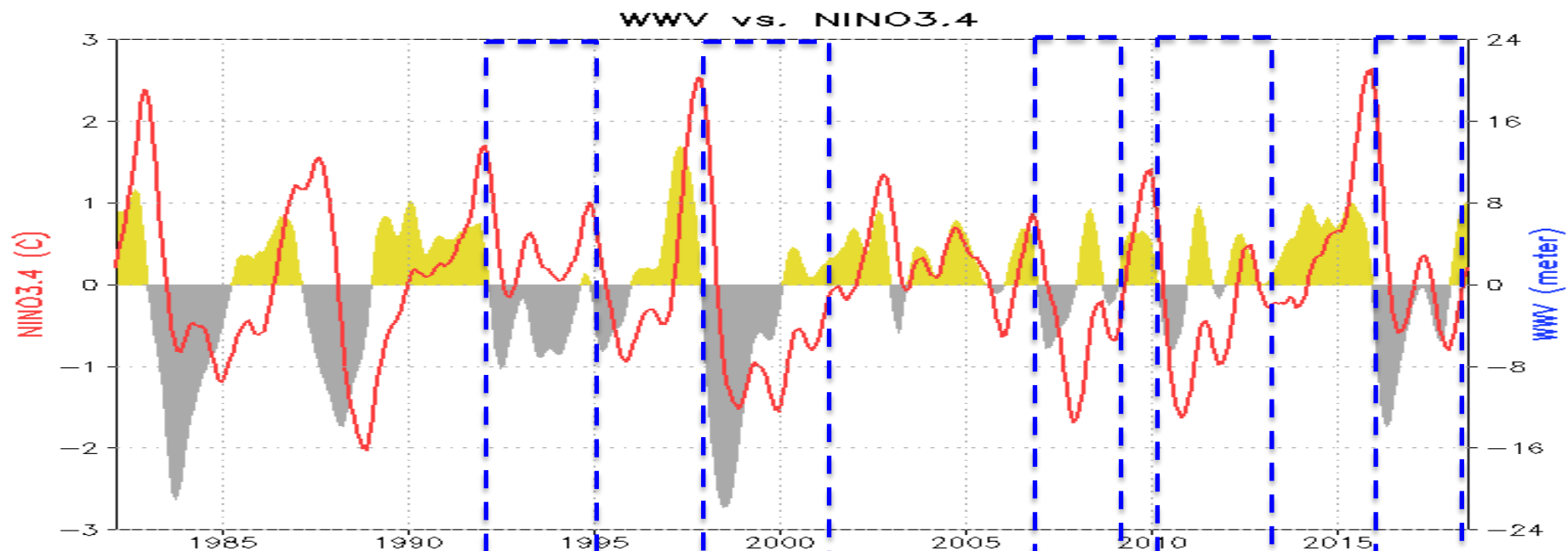


**Central Tropical Pacific Index**



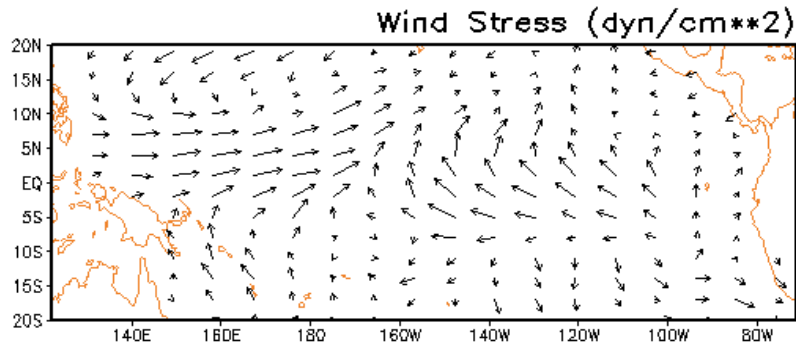
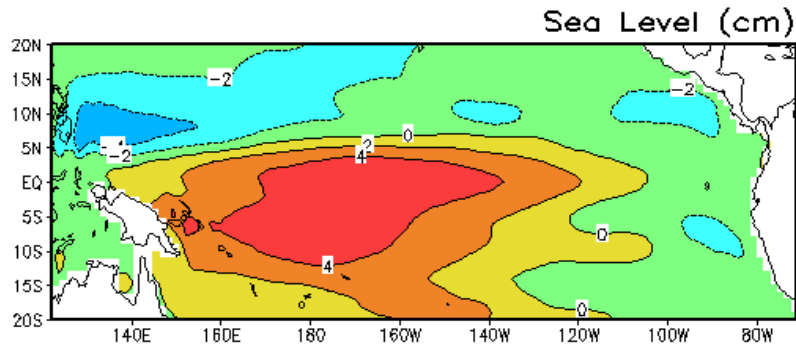
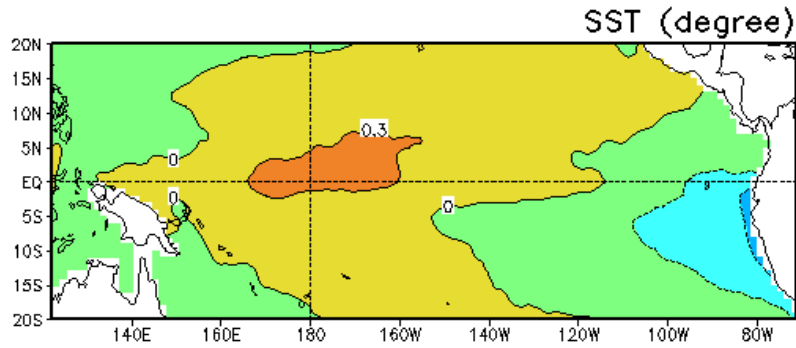


# ENSO Precursors vs. NINO3.4

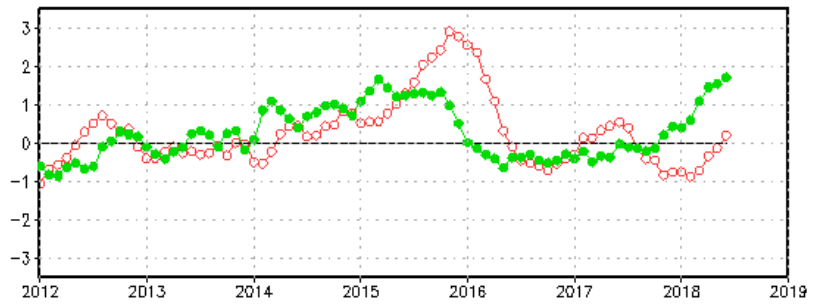
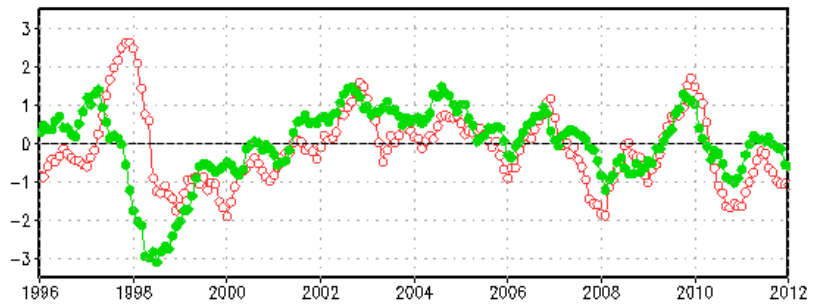
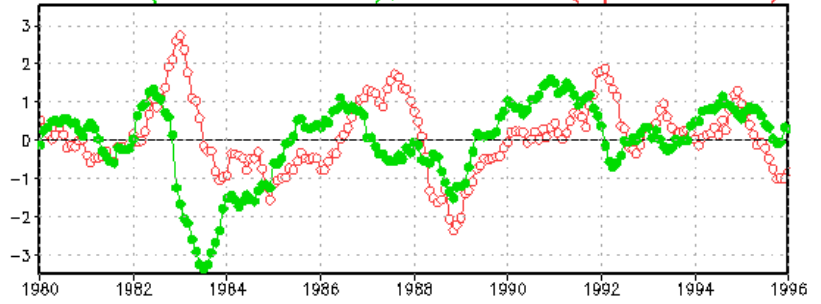


# Markov PC2 vs. Nino3.4 (DJF)

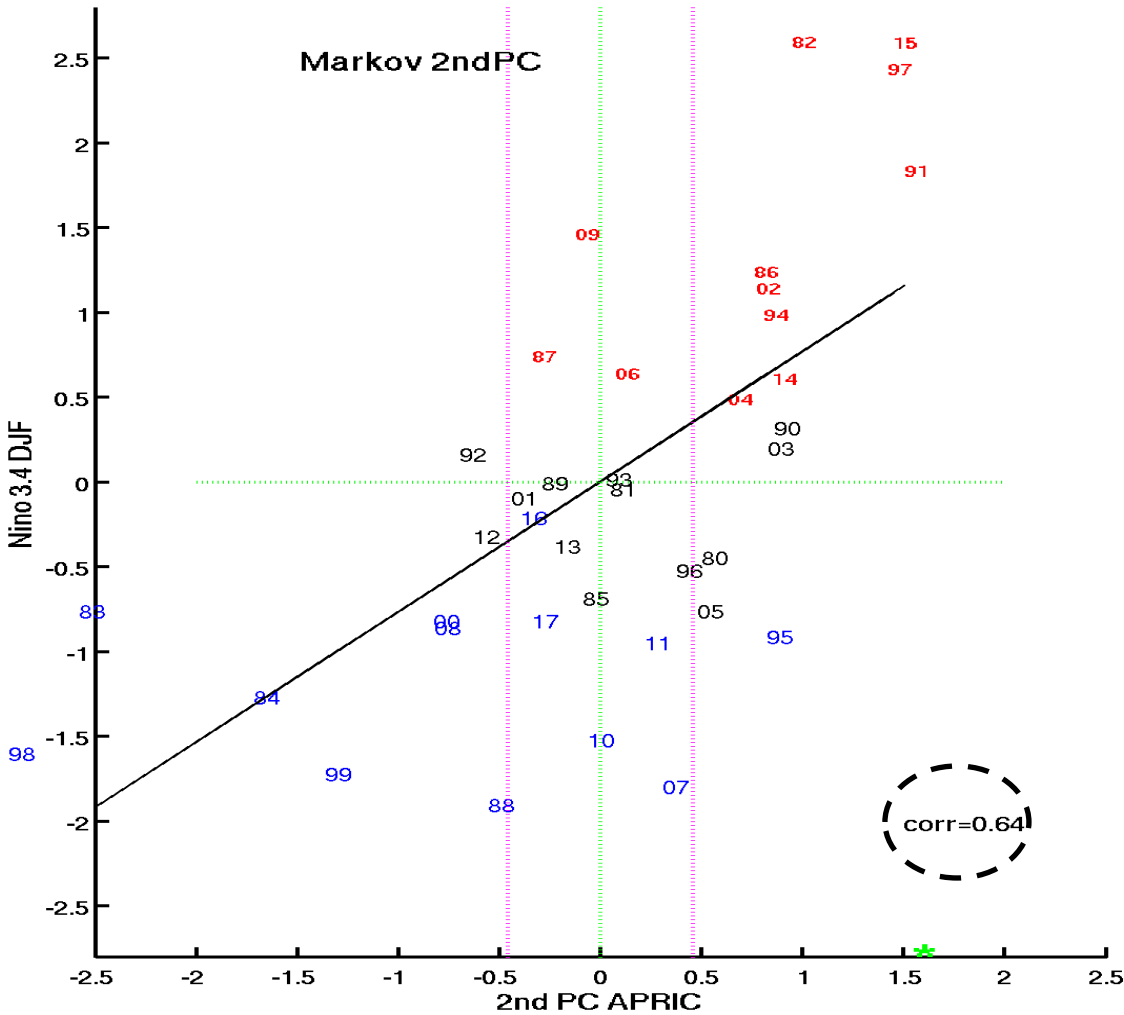
MEOF 2



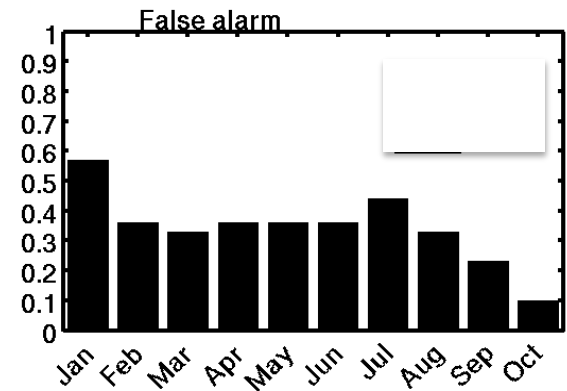
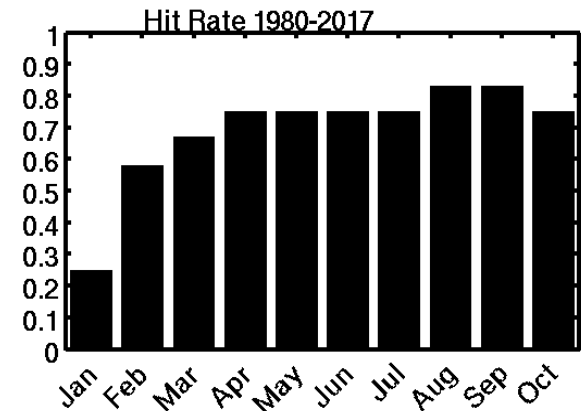
PC 2 (closed circle), NINO3.4 (open circle)



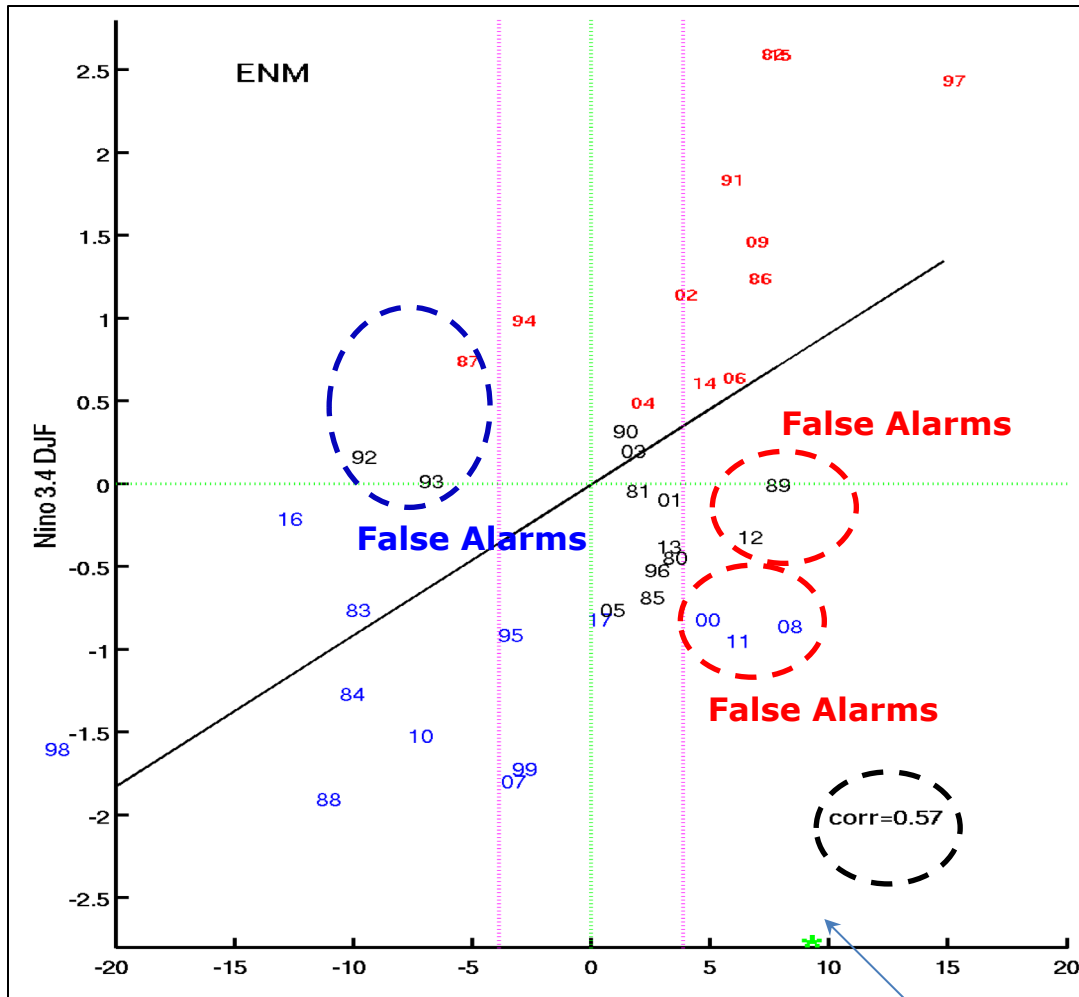
# Markov PC2 in Apr vs. Nino3.4 in DJF



|  |   |
|--|---|
| 2x2 contingency table<br><b>El Niño</b><br>(1980-2017) | <b>Apr</b><br><b>Criterion:</b><br><b>0.5 = 0.5 STD</b> |
| Percent correct rate                                   | <b>0.8 (30/38)</b>                                      |
| <b>Hit rate</b>  | <b>0.75 (9/12)</b>                                      |
| False alarm rate                                       | <b>0.36 (5/14)</b>                                      |



# Warm Water Volume in June vs. NINO3.4 in DJF

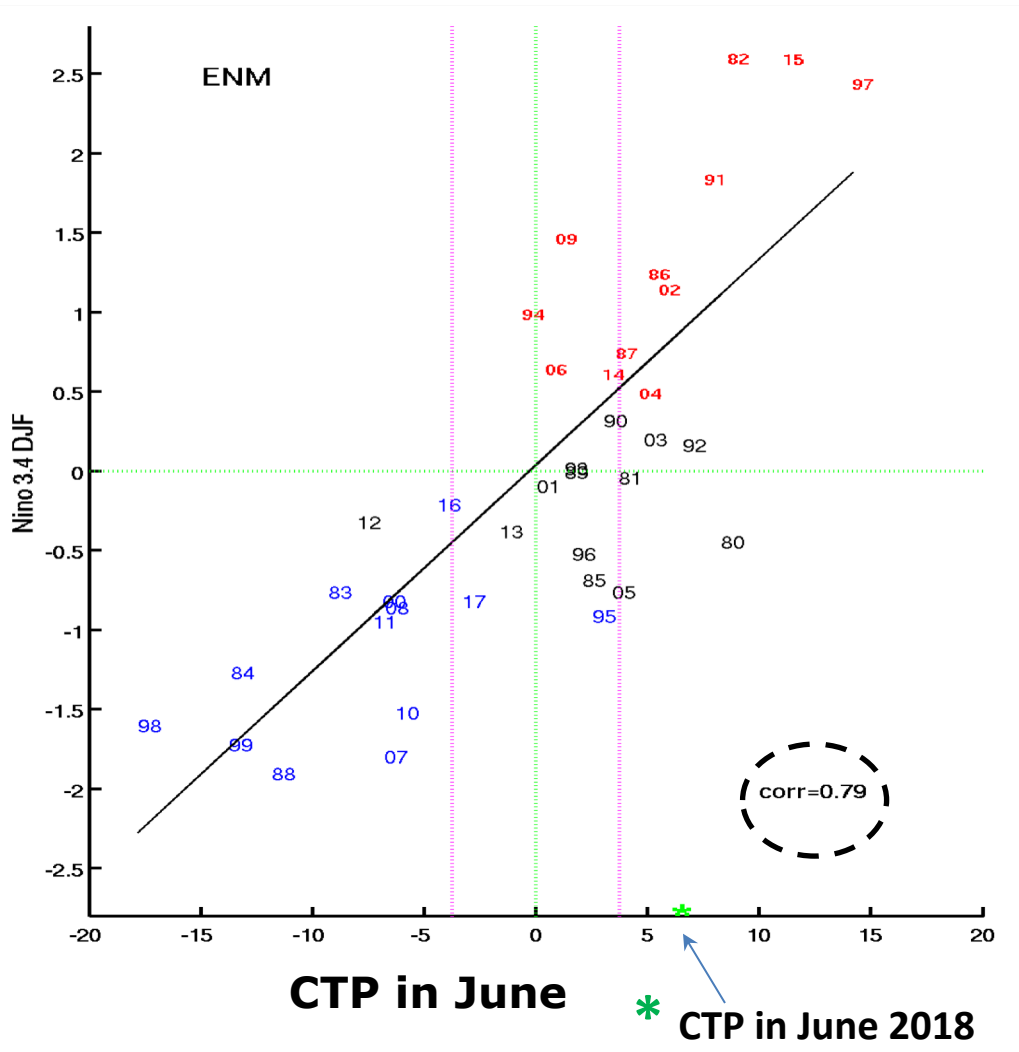


|  |  |
|--|--|
| 2x2 contingency table<br><b>El Niño</b><br>(1980-2017) | <b>June Criterion:</b><br><b>3.9 = 0.5 STD</b> |
| Percent correct rate                                   | <b>0.76 (29/38)</b>                            |
| <b>Hit rate</b>  | <b>0.67 (8/12)</b>                             |
| <b>False alarm rate</b>                                | <b>0.4 (5/13)</b>                              |

|  |  |
|--|--|
| 2x2 contingency table<br><b>La Niña</b><br>(1980-2017) | <b>June Criterion:</b><br><b>-3.9 = -0.5 STD</b> |
| Percent correct rate                                   | <b>0.76 (29/38)</b>                              |
| <b>Hit rate</b>  | <b>0.54 (7/13)</b>                               |
| <b>False alarm rate</b>                                | <b>0.3 (5/10)</b>                                |

Data downloadable from [http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/GODAS/multiora\\_body.html](http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/GODAS/multiora_body.html)

# Central Tropical Pacific in June vs. NINO3.4 in DJF



|  |  |
|--|--|
| 2x2 contingency table<br><b>El Niño</b><br>(1980-2017) | <b>June</b><br><b>Criterion:</b><br><b>3.8 = 0.5 STD</b> |
| Percent correct rate                                   | <b>0.8 (30/38)</b>                                       |
| <b>Hit rate</b>  | <b>0.6 (7/12)</b>  |
| <b>False alarm rate</b>                                | <b>0.3 (3/10)</b>  |

|  |  |
|--|--|
| 2x2 contingency table<br><b>La Niña</b><br>(1980-2017) | <b>June</b><br><b>Criterion:</b><br><b>-3.8 = -0.5 STD</b> |
| Percent correct rate                                   | <b>0.92 (35/38)</b>  |
| <b>Hit rate</b>  | <b>0.85 (11/13)</b>  |
| <b>False alarm rate</b>                                | <b>0.08 (1/12)</b>   |

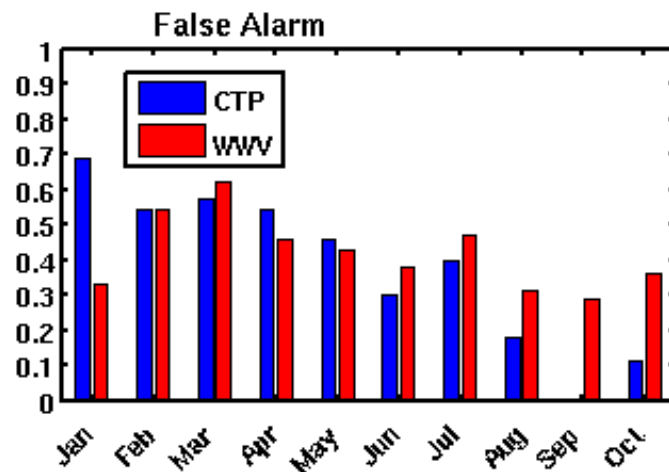
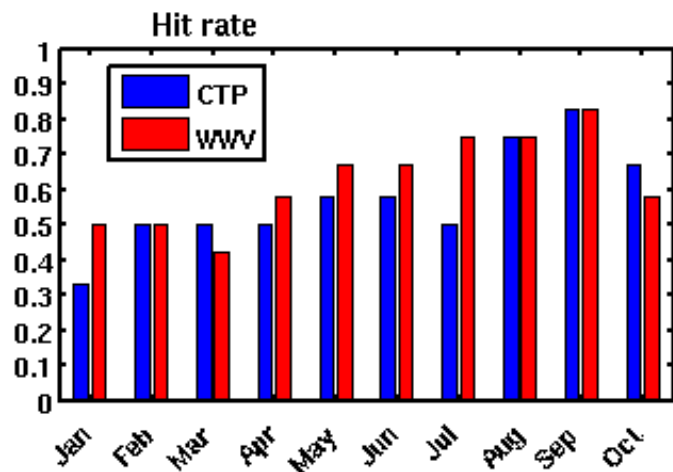
**CTP is the best precursor for forecasting La Niña**

Data downloadable from [http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/GODAS/multiora\\_body.html](http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/GODAS/multiora_body.html)

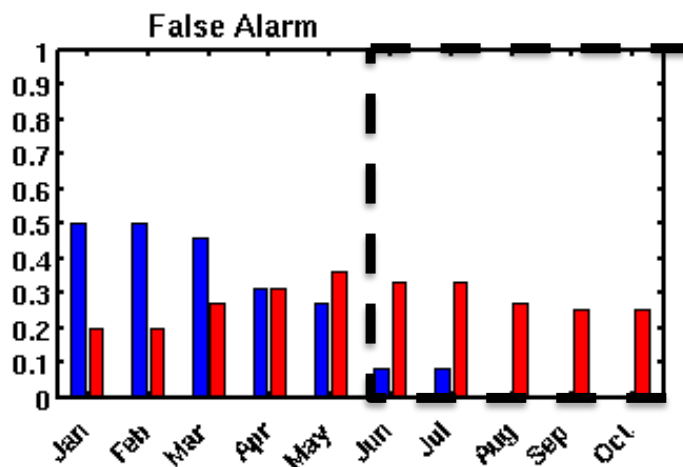
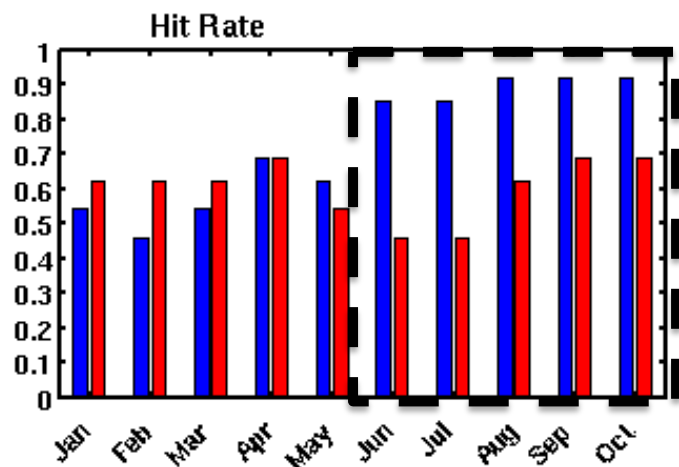
# Contingency Tables for ENSO Prediction in 1980-2016

NINO3.4 Target Season: DJF

## EL NINO



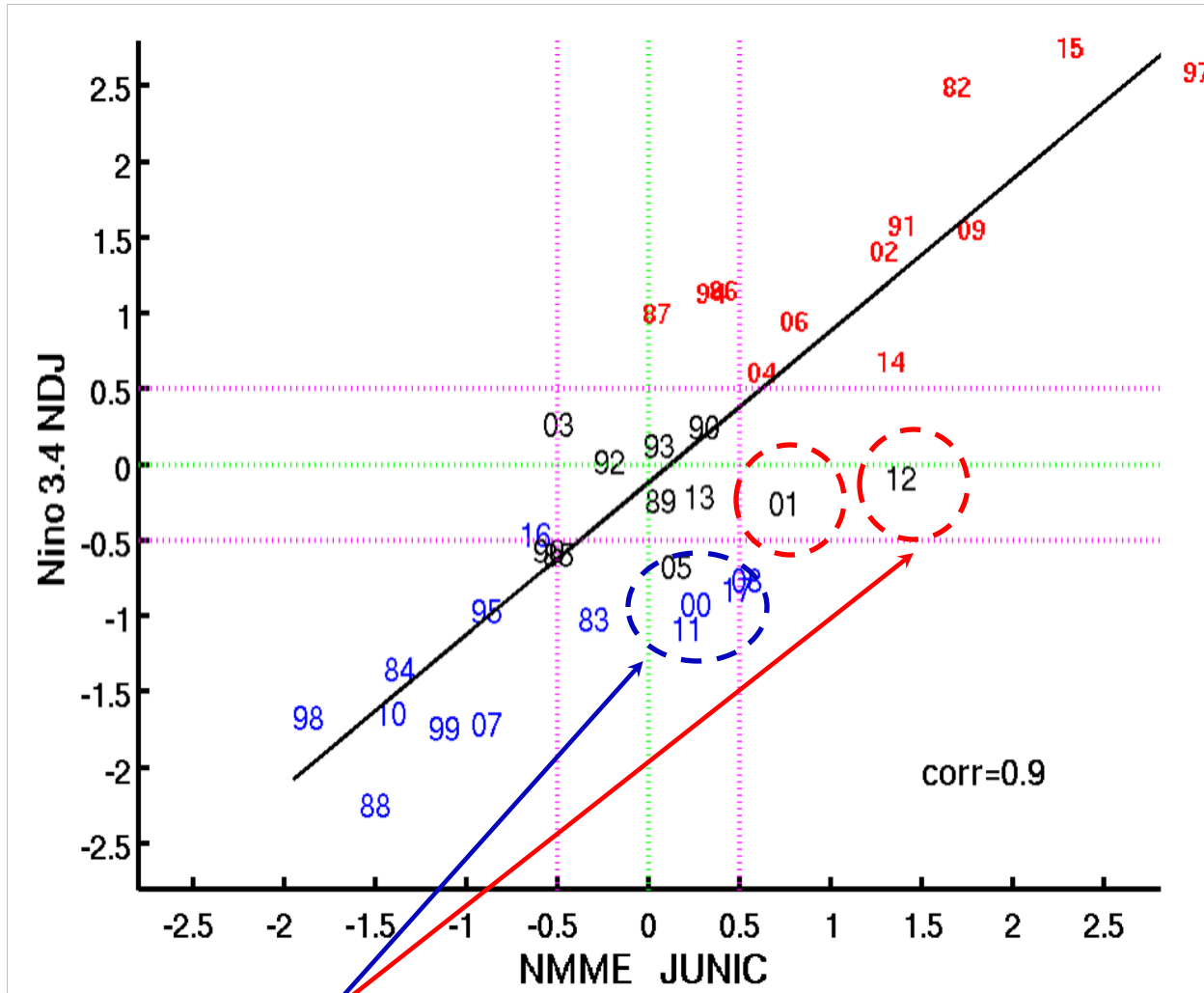
## LA NINA



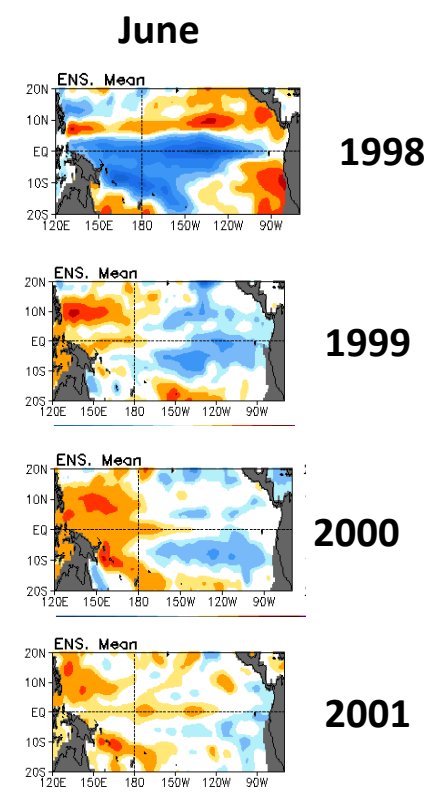
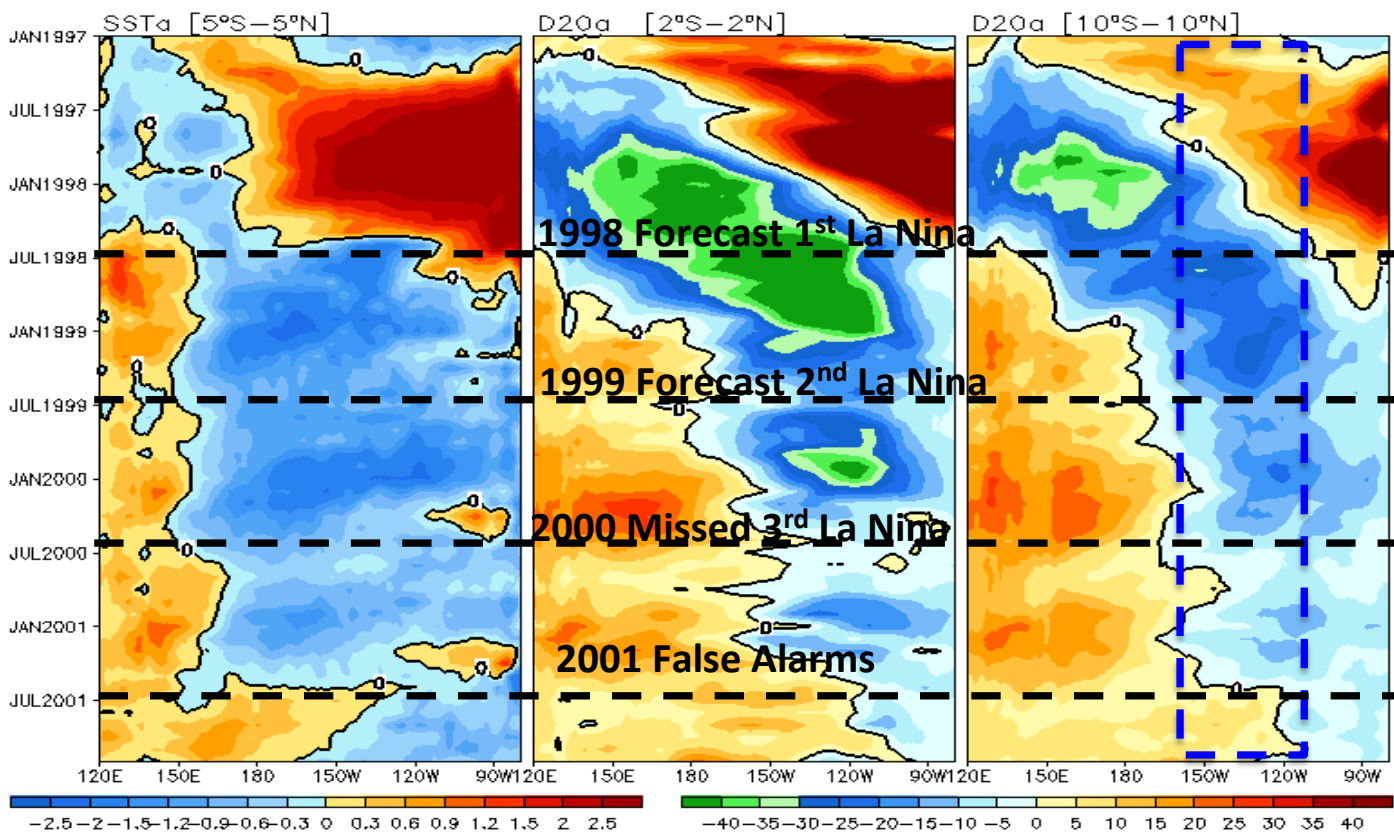
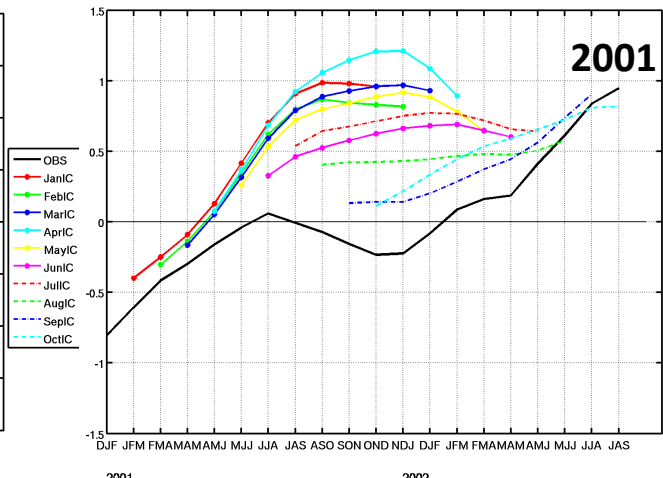
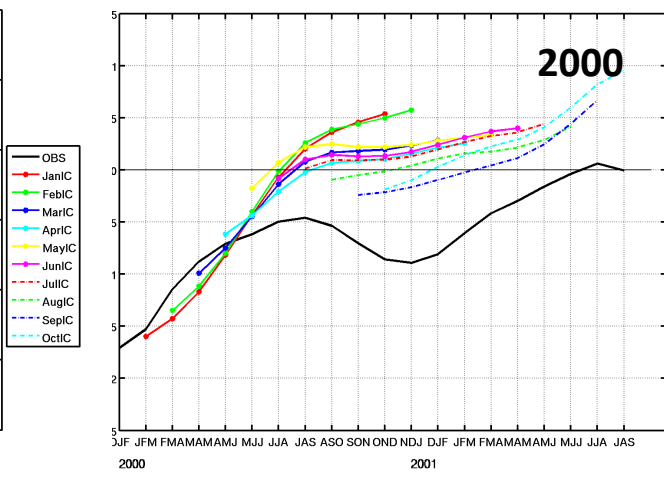
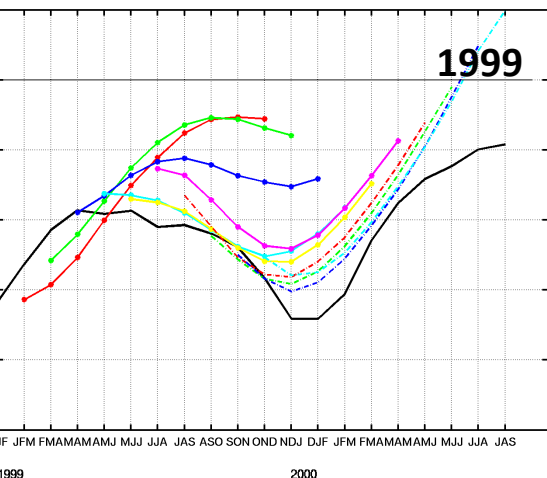
IC month

IC month

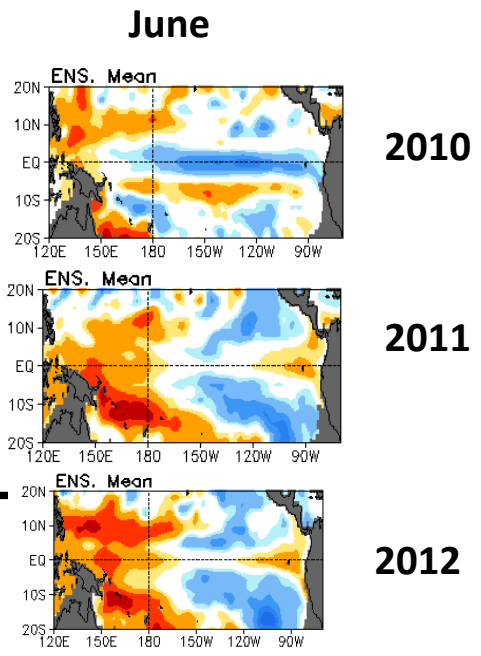
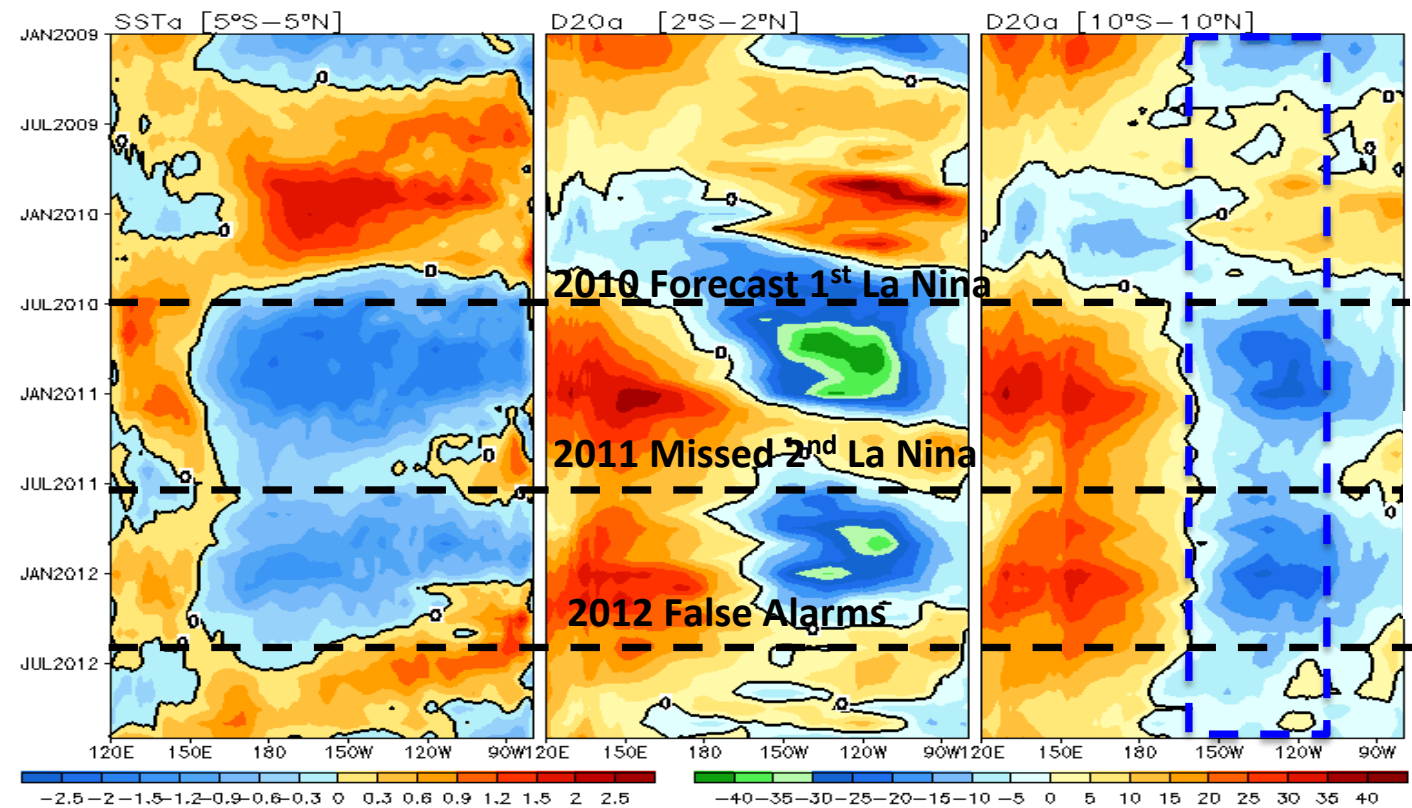
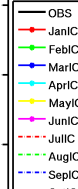
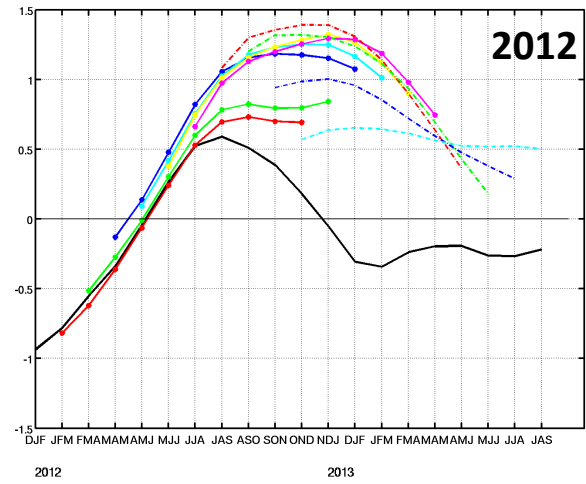
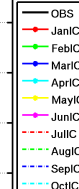
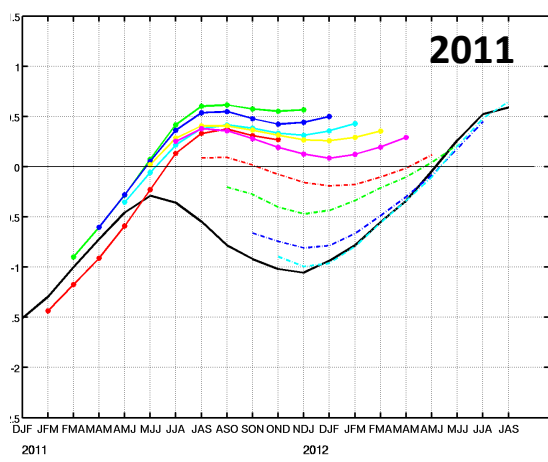
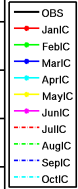
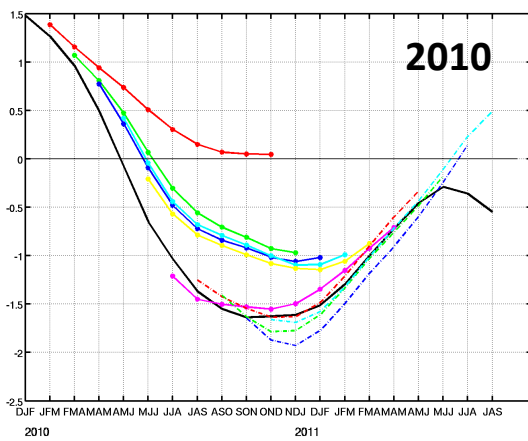
# NMME NINO3.4 vs. Observed NINO3.4



False alarms in **00, 08, 11, 17** (2<sup>nd</sup> La Niña years) → **CTP is negative**  
 False alarms in **01, 12** (neutral years following 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> La Niña years) → **CTP is negative**







# Summary

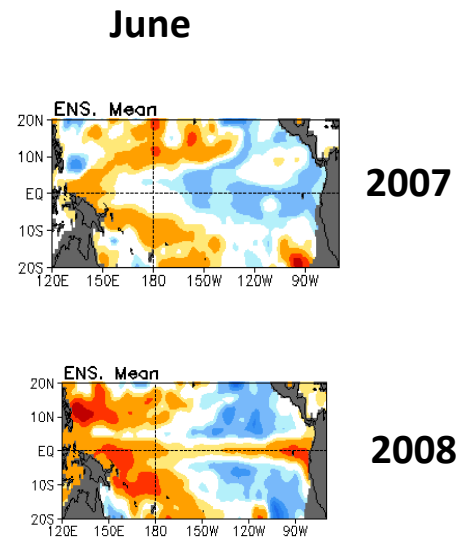
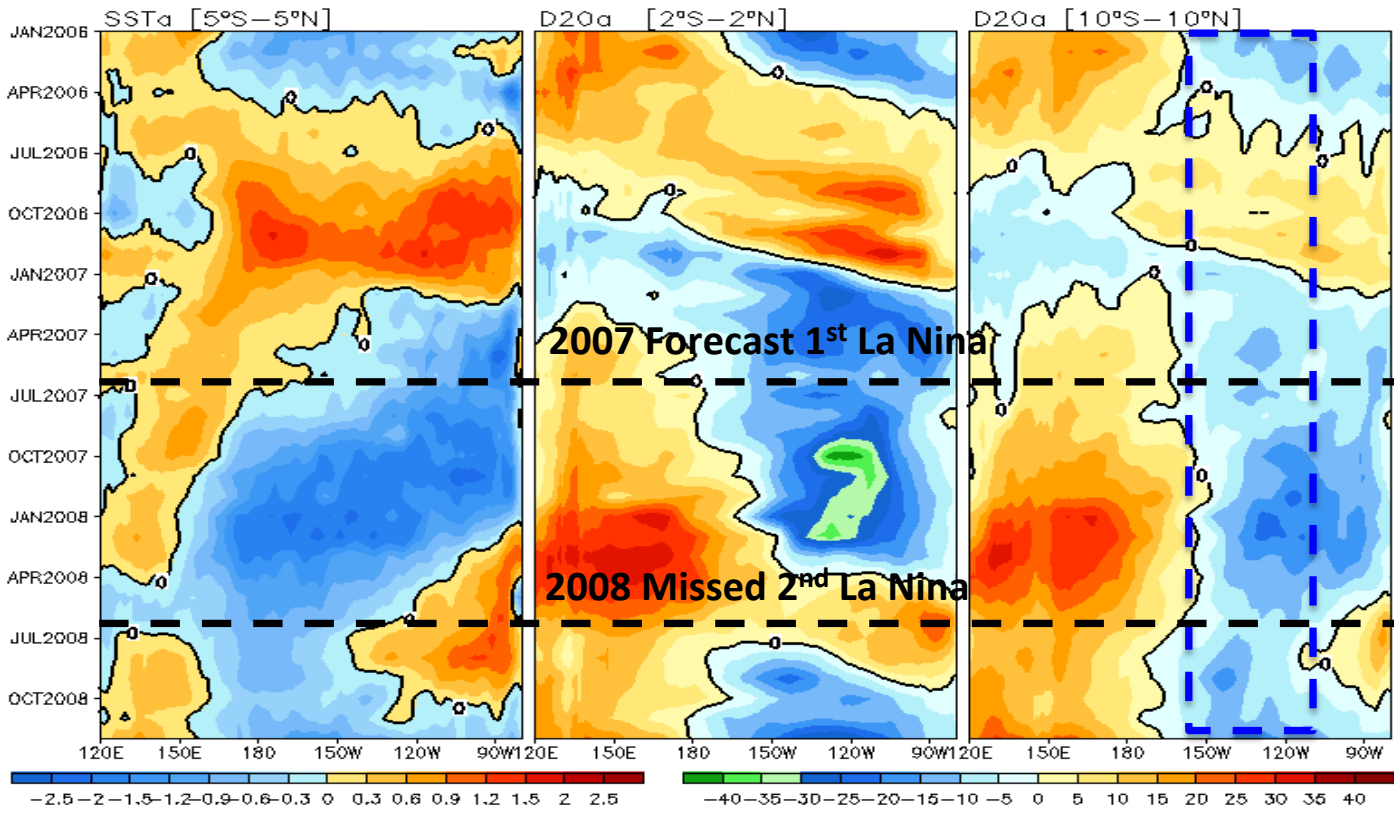
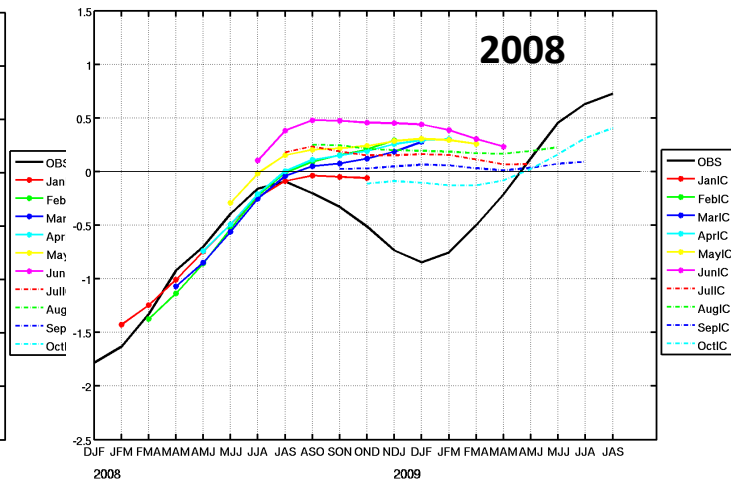
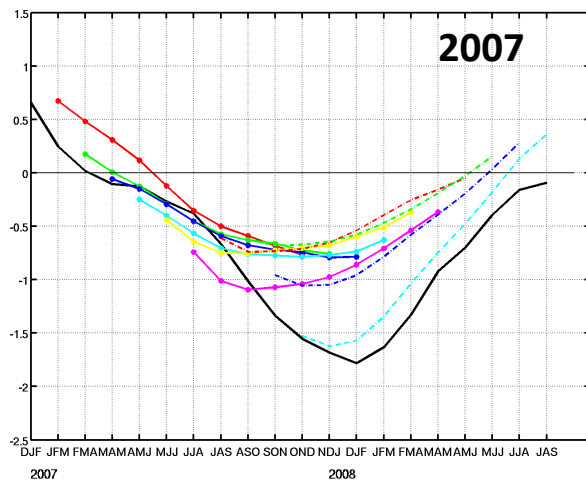
- Three ENSO precursors have been developed based on ensemble ocean reanalyses from Real-time Ocean Reanalysis Intercomparison Project
- The Markov PC2 is the best precursor for El Niño since it contains signals of both equatorial Warm Water Volume (WWV) and North Pacific Meridional Mode
- The Central Tropical Pacific (CTP) is the best precursor for La Niña since it contains both equatorial and off-equatorial thermocline variations
- The CTP has been used in identifying the false alarms in the NMME ensemble forecast, which are **most prominent in forecasting 2<sup>nd</sup> year La Niña and neutral years following 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> year La Niña and are common across models**
- We need to study the mechanism on how the off-equatorial D20 anom. contributes to the emergence of the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> year La Niña, which can be used to understand the causes of the NMME forecast false alarms
- Those false alarm cases can be used in evaluating the next generation of seasonal forecast systems

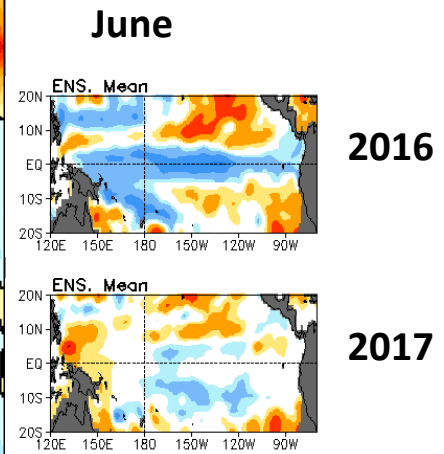
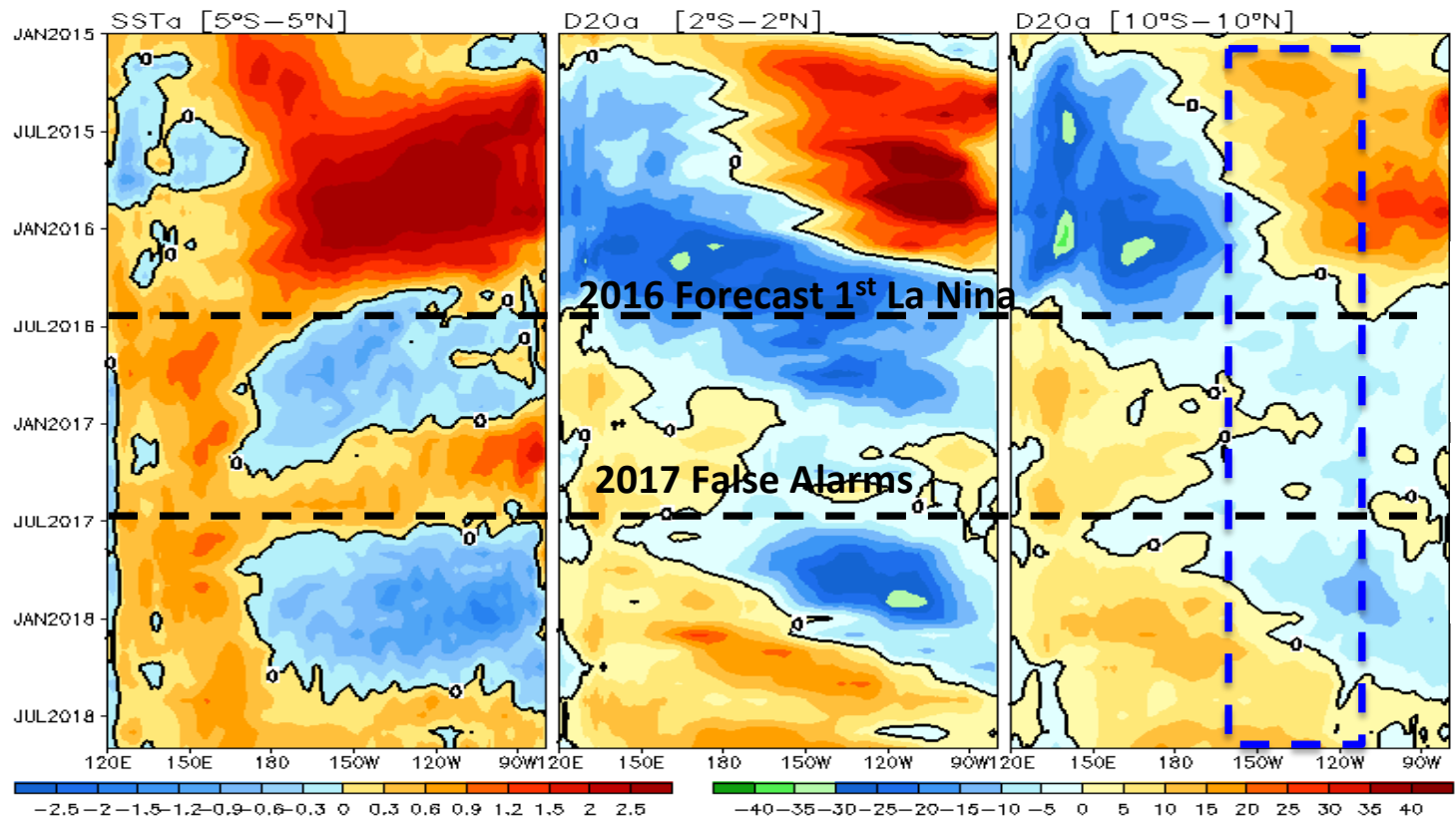
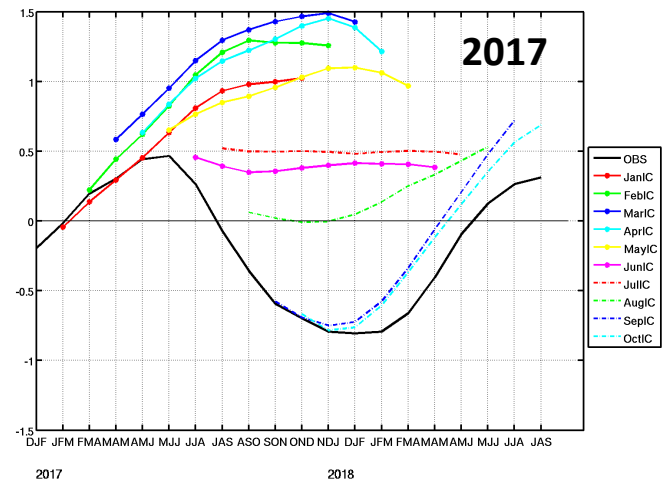
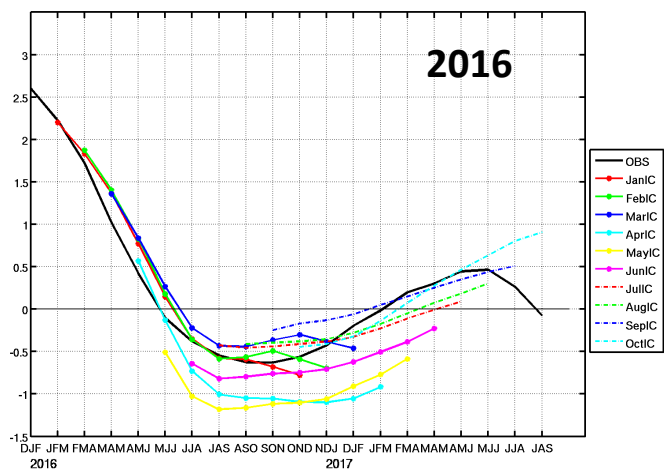
|                 |     | Event Observed |                       |
|-----------------|-----|----------------|-----------------------|
|                 |     | YES            | NO                    |
| Event Forecasts | YES | A (hits)       | B (false alarms)      |
|                 | NO  | C (misses)     | D (correct rejection) |

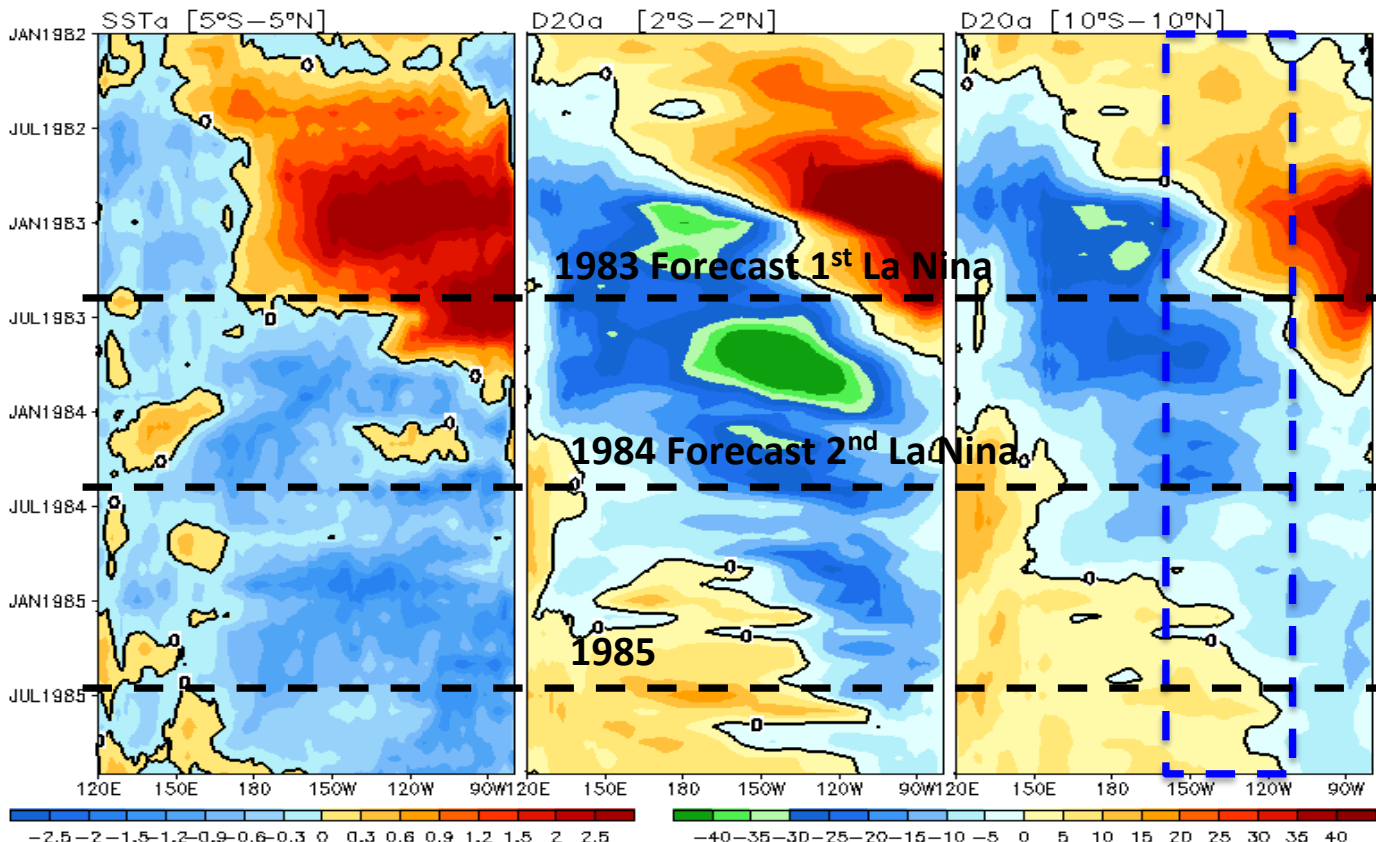
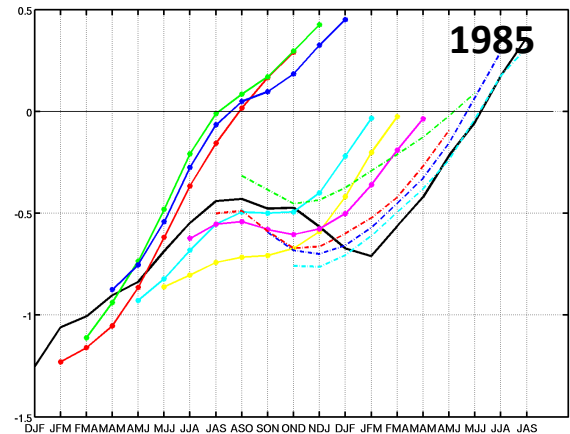
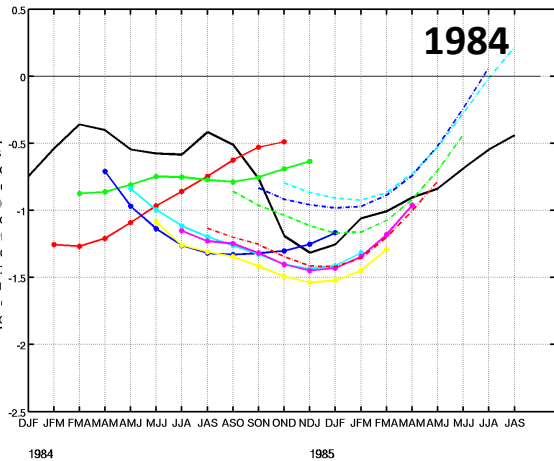
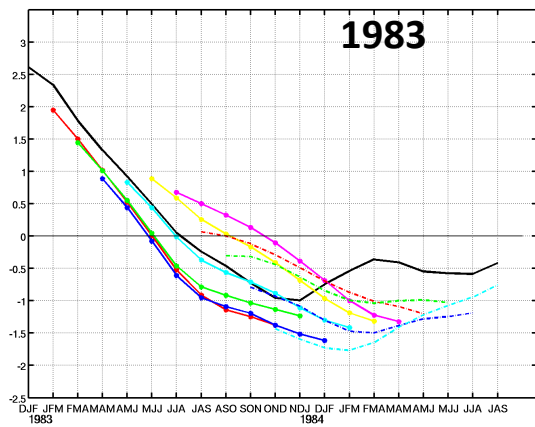
Percent correct rate =  $(A+D)/(A+B+C+D)$

Hit rate =  $A/(A+C)$

False alarm rate =  $B/(A+B)$

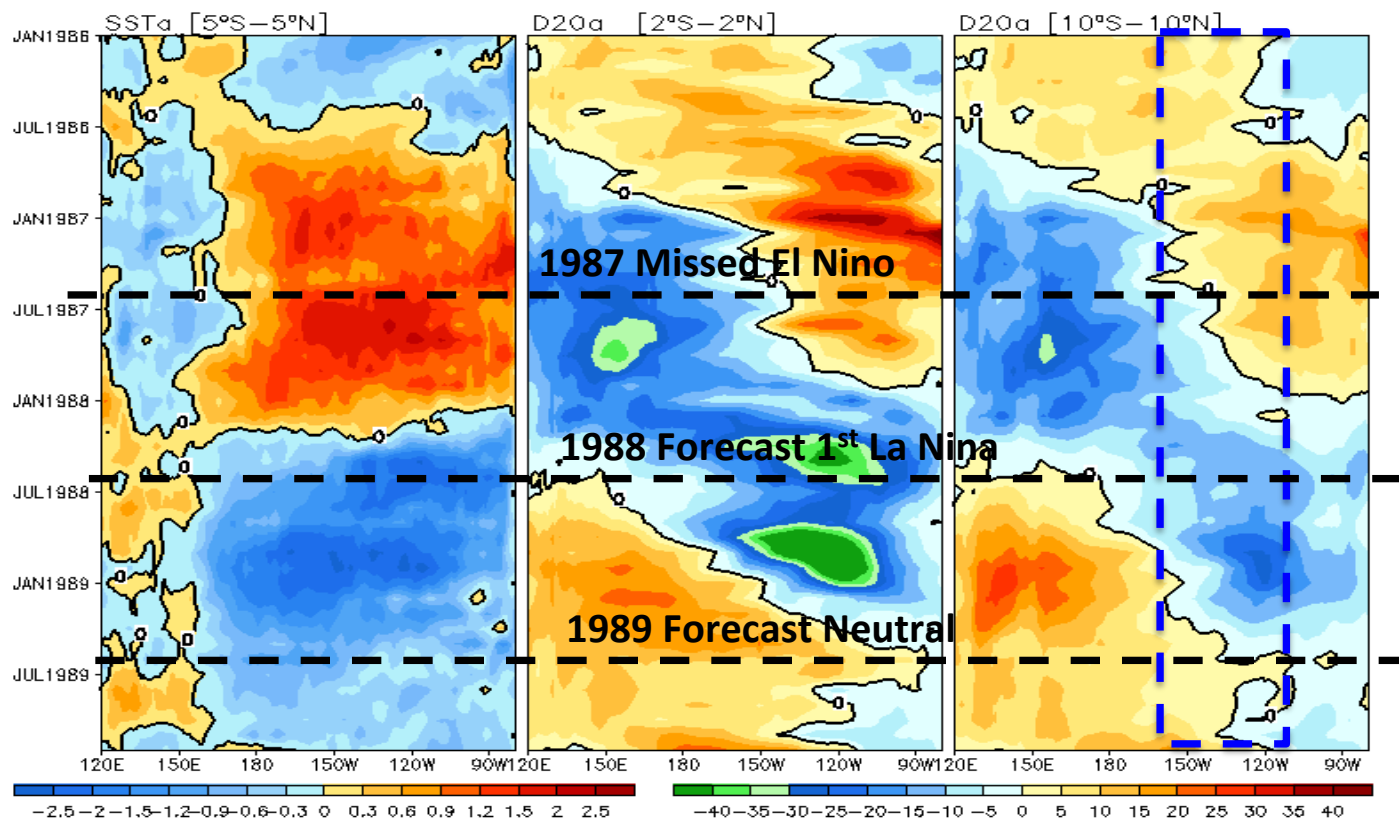
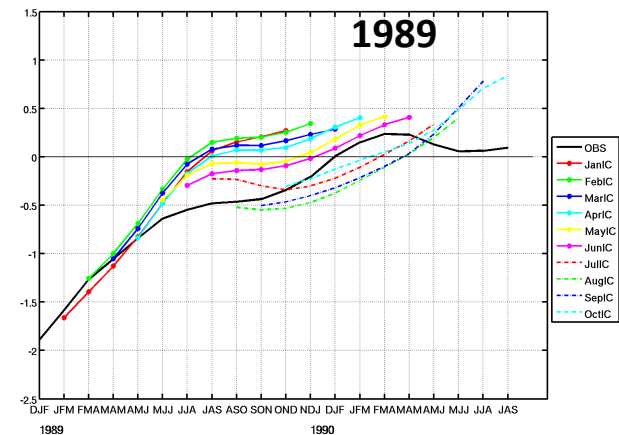
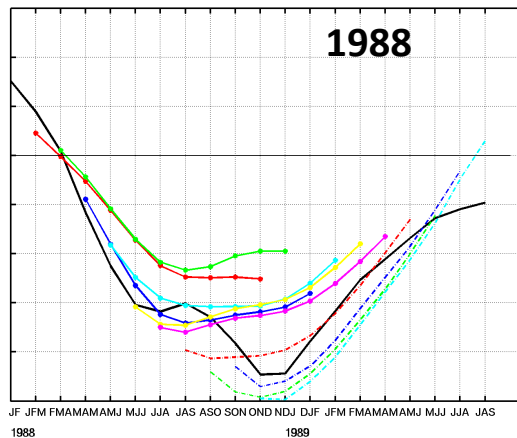
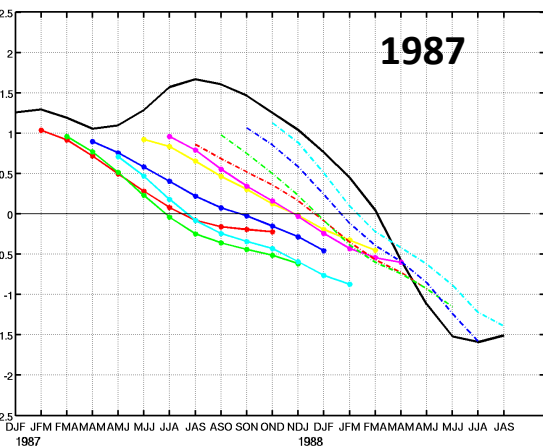






June

1983



June

1987