LINKS BETWEEN THE PACIFIC DECADAL PRECESSION AND NORTH AMERICAN WINTER CLIMATE EXTREMES



Jason C. Furtado¹, Bruce T. Anderson², and Matthew H. Rogers¹ ¹School of Meteorology, University of Oklahoma, USA ²Dept of Earth and Environmental Sciences, Boston University, USA

> 45th Annual NOAA Climate Diagnostics and Prediction Workshop 22 October 2020



The UNIVERSITY of OKLAHOMA

INTRODUCING: THE PACIFIC DECADAL PRECESSION



The UNIVERSITY of OKLAHOMA

THE PACIFIC DECADAL PRECESSION + MOTIVATION



The Pacific Decadal Oscillation: Leading extended EOF (EEOF) mode of band-pass (7-20 yr⁻¹) filtered *residual* 850 hPa wintertime GPH anomalies (remove **Aleutian Low** variability from 850 hPa GPH anomalies).

We have shown the connections to drought/pluvial
cycles in the Pacific Northwest of the US, but could
the PDP be tied to **other** North American winter
weather extremes?

EXAMPLE: THE PDP + RECENT CLIMATE EXTREMES

Year 0

OBSERVED: 7-20 yr⁻¹ NDJFM 850 hPa GPH anomalies (contours) + near-surface temperature anomalies (shading)



Regressions onto the PDP Index:

7-20 yr⁻¹ NDJFM 850 hPa GPH anomalies (contours) + nearsurface temperature anomalies (shading)



Year 1

Anderson et al. 2016

Year 2

The UNIVERSITY of OKLAHOMA

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

- 1. Does the PDP (i.e., its two phases) impact *concurrent* climate extremes across North America, as compared to those connected with Aleutian Low (AL) / PDO variability?
- 2. How does the PDP compare with the AL / PDO in explaining *decadal* patterns of North American climate extremes?

Data

- NCEP/NCAR Reanalysis for geopotential height fields for defining the PDP and the Aleutian Low. November – March, 1950 – 2019.
- Global Historical Climatology Network (GHCN) for climate extremes. Monthly values averaged.
 - Maximum 1-day (Rx1day) and 5-day (Rx5day) precipitation
 - Maximum (**TXx**) and minimum (**TNn**) temperatures
 - Frequency of maximum T > 90th percentile (TX90p)
 - Frequency of minimum T < 10th percentile (**TN10p**)

DEFINE: THE AL/PDO MODE + TWO PHASES OF THE PDP



(b) Z850hPa: E-W (c) Z850hPa: N-S (d) Z850hPa: AL



The UNIVERSITY of OKLAHOMA

CONCURRENT CLIMATE EXTREMES



NDJFM-AVERAGED 1-DAY & 5-DAY PRECIPITATION TOTALS



<u>Grey contours:</u> Regressions of 850 hPa GPH onto the index <u>Stippling:</u> p < 0.05



NDJFM-AVERAGED TX90P + MAX T

<u>Grey contours:</u> Regressions of 850 hPa GPH onto the index <u>Stippling:</u> p < 0.05

<u>PDP E-W Phase:</u> Largest correlations across central / NW Canada + TX/northern Mexico

<u>PDP N-S Phase:</u> Widespread negative correlations across eastern North America

<u>AL Mode:</u> Significant correlations with frequency of warmth, but not on absolute maxes



Furtado et al., in prep.

NDJFM-AVERAGED TN10P + MIN T

<u>Grey contours:</u> Regressions of 850 hPa GPH onto the index <u>Stippling:</u> p < 0.05

PDP E-W Phase: Impact mostly in western North America.

PDP N-S Phase: Coast-to-coast changes in frequency of and absolute cold min Ts.

<u>AL Mode:</u> Zonal dipole across CONUS; Widespread signal for Alaska / N Canada.



Furtado et al., in prep.

Q: WHICH MODE HAS MORE WIDESPREAD IMPACTS?



The UNIVERSITY of OKLAHOMA

INTERANNUAL TO DECADAL VARIABILITY



NDJFM-AVERAGED Rx5DAY – DECADAL – PDP E/W PHASE





NDJFM-AVERAGED Rx5day Totals – Decadal – AL Mode



NDJFM MONTHLY MIN T- DECADAL - PDP E/W PHASE

<u>Grey contours:</u> Regressions of 850 hPa GPH onto the index <u>Stippling:</u> p < 0.05

The UNIVERSITY of OKLAHOMA

NDJFM MONTHLY MIN T – DECADAL – AL MODE

<u>Grey contours:</u> Regressions of 850 hPa GPH onto the index <u>Stippling:</u> p < 0.05

Furtado et al., in prep.

Q: WHICH MODE HAS MORE WIDESPREAD IMPACTS IN EXTREMES (DECADAL)?

Decadal Significance of PDP (E-W Phase) and AL Impacts

The UNIVERSITY of OKLAHOMA

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

The PDP has:

- Demonstrable effects on concurrent and decadal winter climate extremes, including temperature and precipitation.
- Extreme weather impacts that are more widespread across North America than those associated with the AL/PDO.

Take Home Message:

Monitoring the PDP and its two phases could prove important for improving skill of S2S-to-S2D wintertime North American forecasts.

The UNIVERSITY of OKLAHOMA

THANK YOU! <u>E-mail:</u> jfurtado@ou.edu <u>Web:</u> http://ifurtado.org <u>Twitter:</u> @wxjay

• Furtado, J. C., B. T. Anderson, and M. H. Rogers, 2020: Influence of the Pacific Decadal Precession on North American climate extremes. *J. Geophys. Res. Atmos.*, in prep.

• Rogers, M. H., J. C. Furtado, and B. T. Anderson, 2020: Representation of the Pacific Decadal Precession in the CMIP6 models. *J. Geophys. Res. Atmos.*, to be submitted.

EXTRA SLIDES

ONGOING / FUTURE WORK

 Dynamics of the PDP → What controls the E-W/N-S phases?

2) The PDP teleconnections in climate models [*Rogers et al.*, 2020, in prep.] and S2S models [???].

The UNIVERSITY of OKLAHOMA

