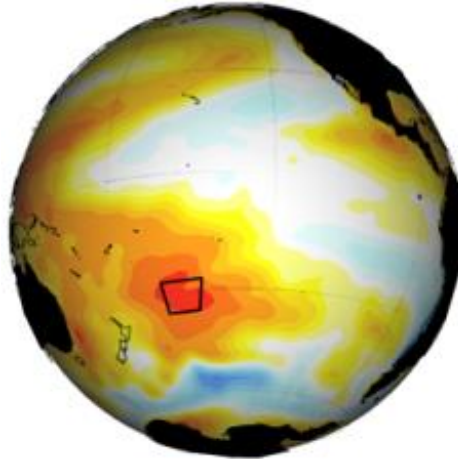


THE SOUTH PACIFIC BLOB AND THE PRESSURE TREND DIPOLE



EXPECT THE UNEXPECTED

WITH RENÉ GARREAUD¹, KYLE CLEM² AND JOSÉ VICENCIO³

**THANKS ALSO TO ROBERTO "ROSSBY" RONDANELLI,
JUAN PABLO "TRENDY" BOISIER AND MARK "BELIEVER" FALVEY**

**NOW PLAYING AT UNIVERSIDAD DE CHILE (21-01-2020)
PG32**

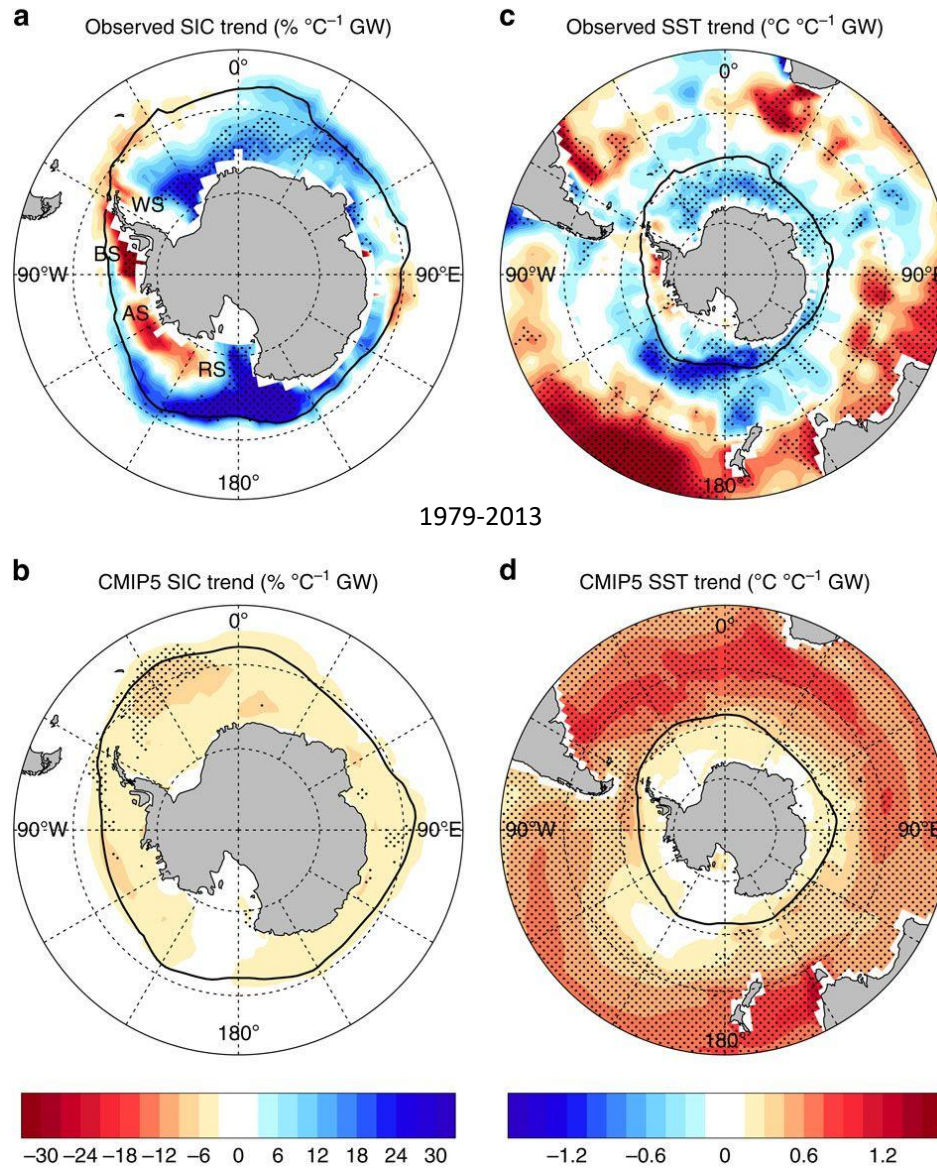
(1) DGF-UCH + CR2 (2) VUW NZ, (3) DMC

The South Pacific Blob and the Pressure Trend Dipole

- Background: Their motivation, our motivation
- Pressure Trend: Revisit and update
- The Southern Blob
- Attribution
- Conclusions

Huston...we have a problem!

CMIP5 trends oppose their observational counterparts around Antarctic



Evidence for link between modelled trends in Antarctic sea ice and underestimated westerly wind changes

Arian Parich^{1,2,3}, Wenju Cai¹, Matthew H. England^{2,3} & Tim Cowan^{1,4}

THE AMUNDSEN SEA LOW

Variability, Change, and Impact on Antarctic Climate

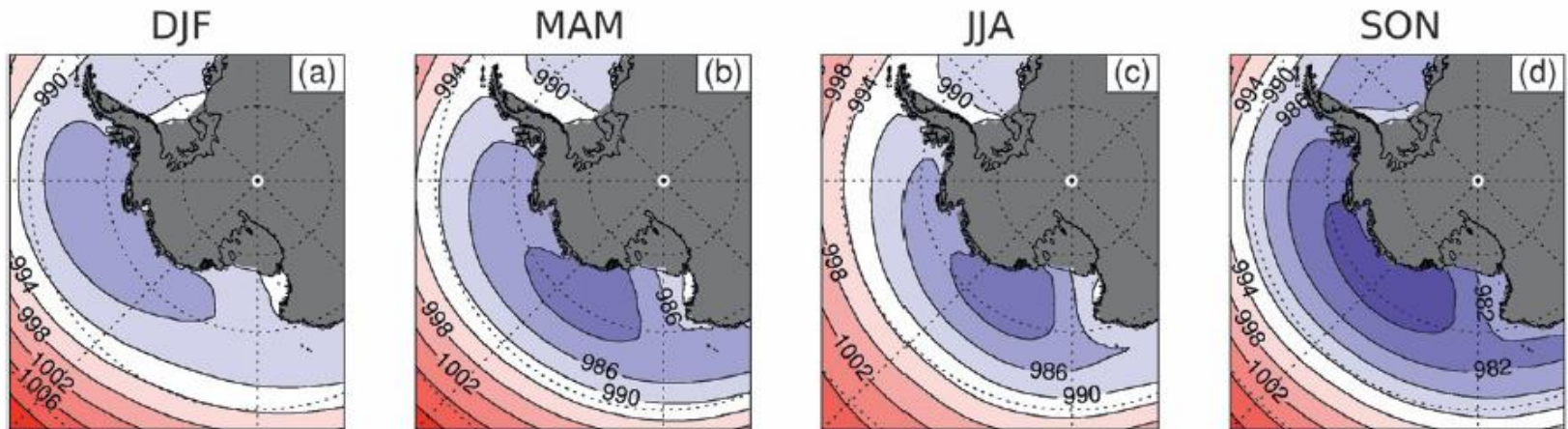
BY M. N. RAPHAEL, G. J. MARSHALL, J. TURNER, R. L. FOGT, D. SCHNEIDER, D. A. DIXON, J. S. HOSKING,
J. M. JONES, AND W. R. HOBBS

The Amundsen Sea low (ASL) has deepened in recent decades, influencing the West Antarctic climate.

1 SEPTEMBER 2013

HOSKING ET AL.

6637



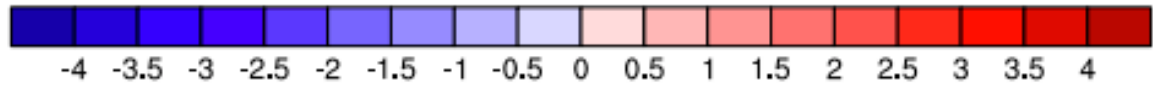
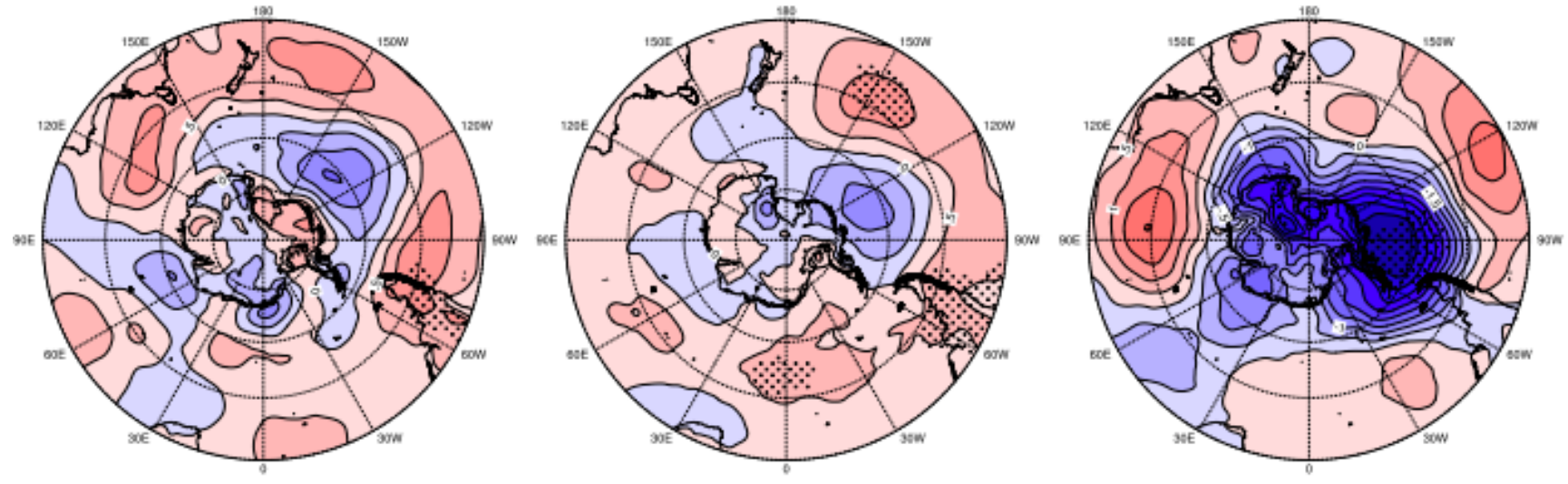
Long term mean SLP (ERA5)

May - September

a) 1980-2000

b) 1980-2010

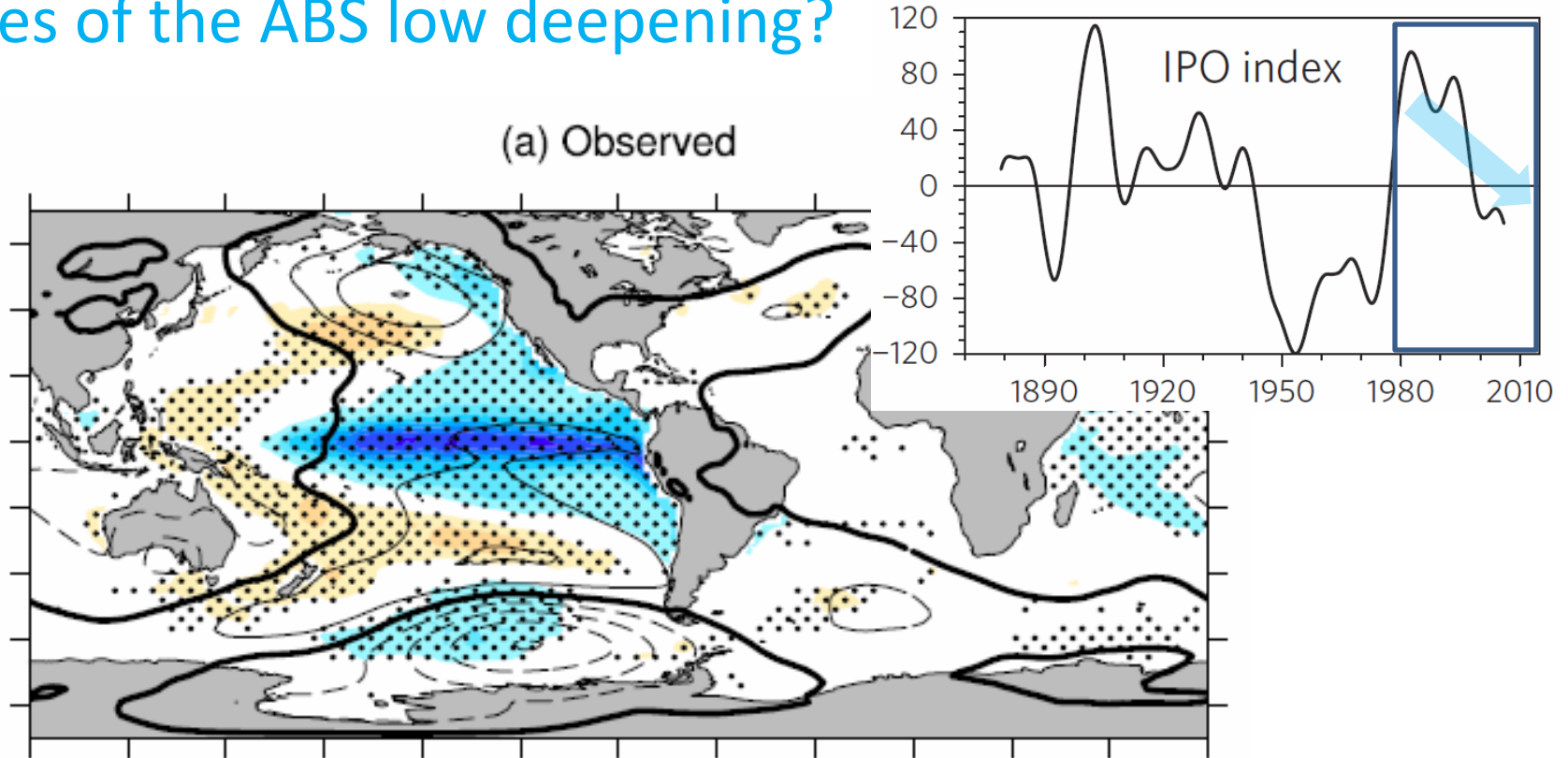
c) 2000-2017



Pressure Trend (hPa / decade)

R. Fogt, 2018. Based on ERA-SLP

Causes of the ABS low deepening?



-0.5 -0.4 -0.3 -0.2 -0.1 0 0.1 0.2 0.3 0.4 0.5

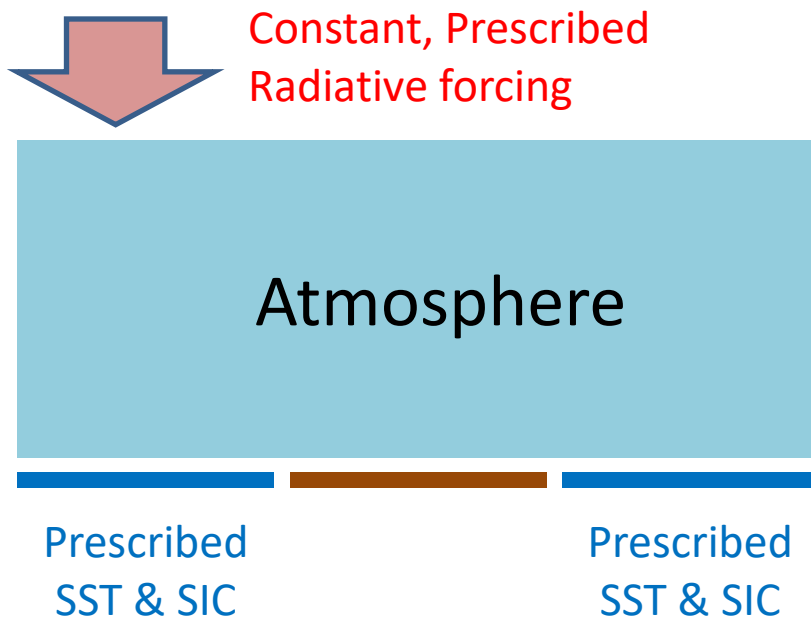
IPO-congruent SST trend ($^{\circ}\text{C}$)

MSLP contours from -2 (dashed) to 2 (solid) by 0.2 hPa

Tropical Pacific SST Drivers of Recent Antarctic Sea Ice Trends

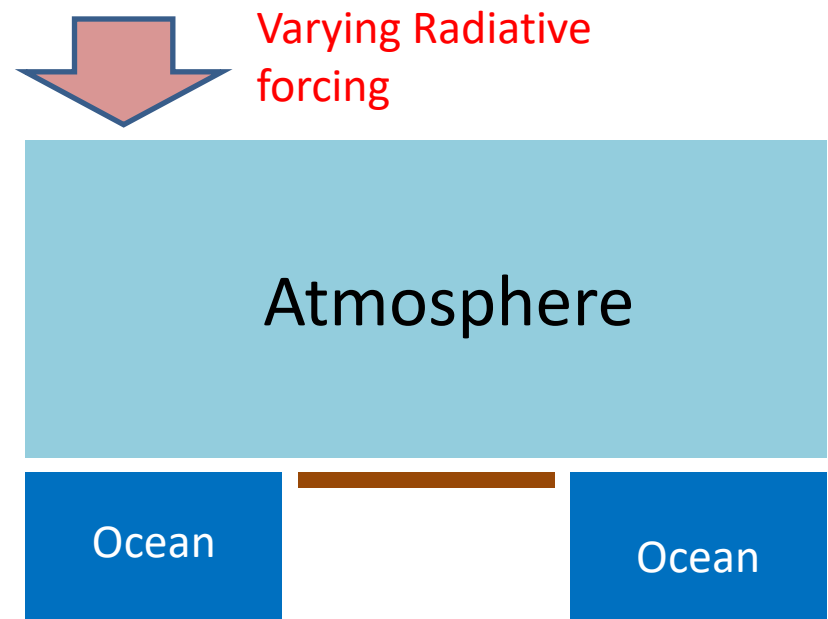
ARIAAN PURICH,^{a,b,c} MATTHEW H. ENGLAND,^{b,c} WENJU CAI,^a YOSHIMITSU CHIKAMOTO,^d
AXEL TIMMERMANN,^{d,e} JOHN C. FYFE,^f LEELA FRANKCOMBE,^{b,c} GERALD A. MEEHL,^g
AND JULIE M. ARBLASTER^{g,h}

Nature is complicated and observation-only analysis can be confused when multiple forcing are playing at the same time. **A little help from models!**



AMIP models

Ensemble mean reveals the atmospheric response forced by prescribed SST anomalies

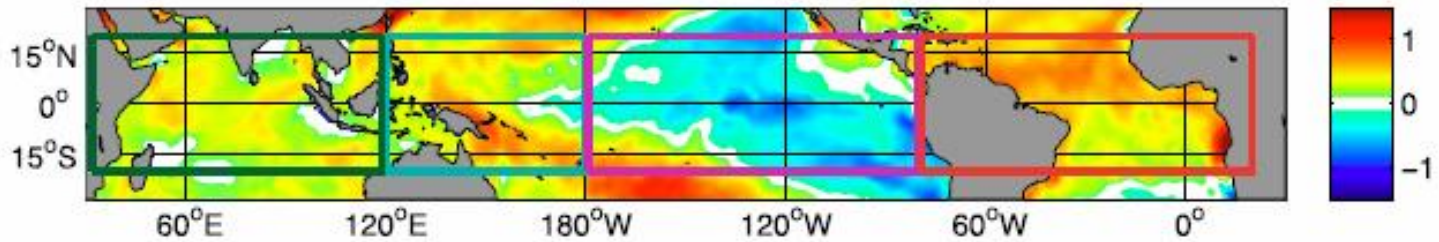


Fully coupled models

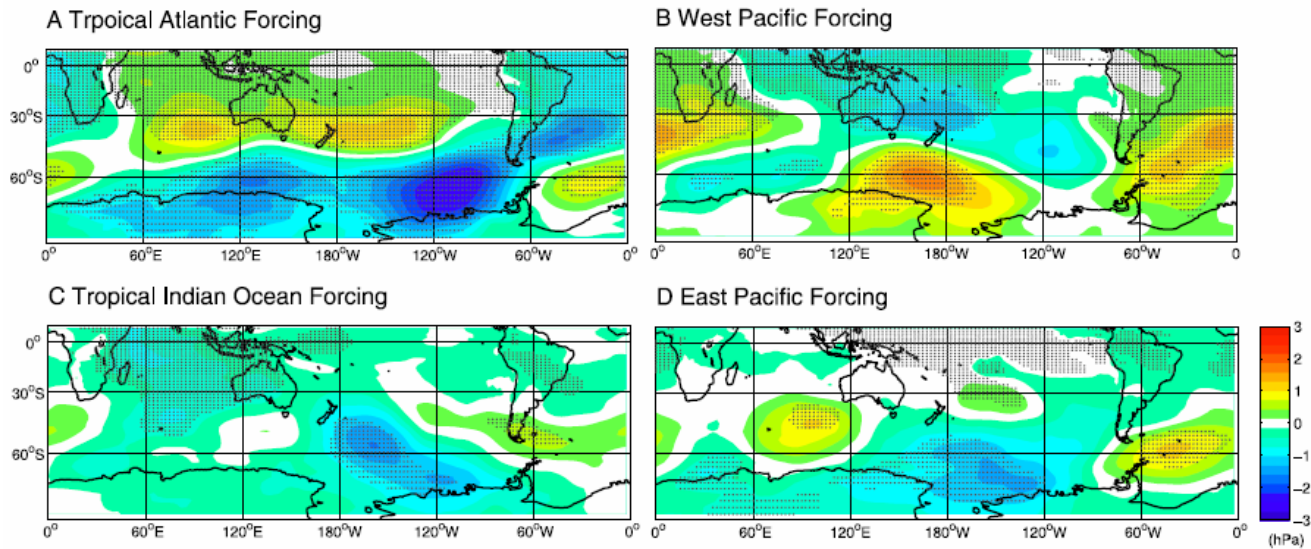
Ensemble mean reveals the ocean/atmos response forced by a prescribed change in RF

Tropical forcing of high latitude circulation

SST trend 1979-2012



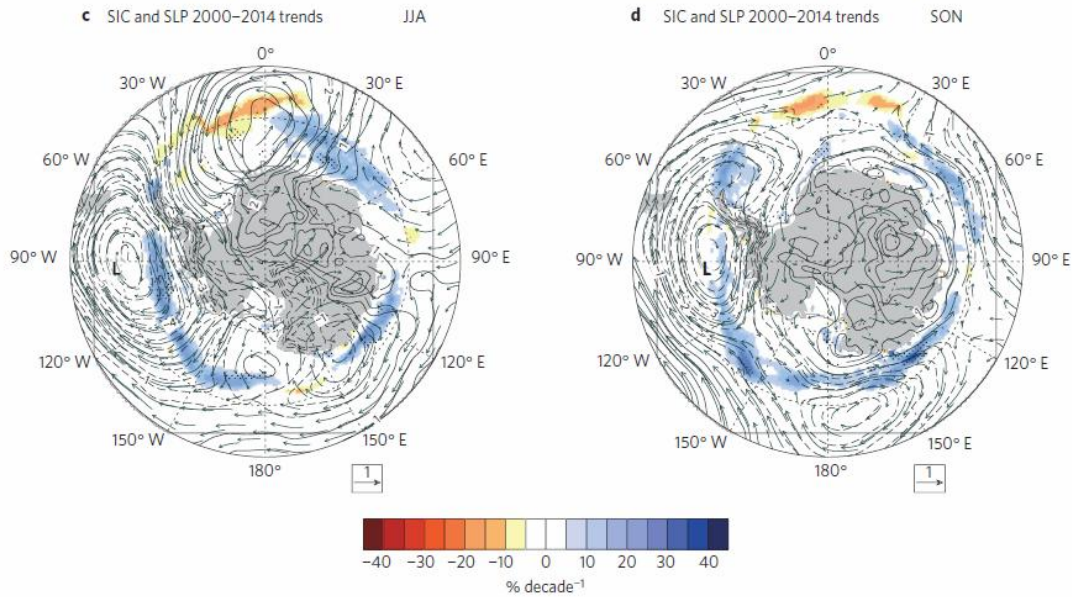
CAM4 SLP Response



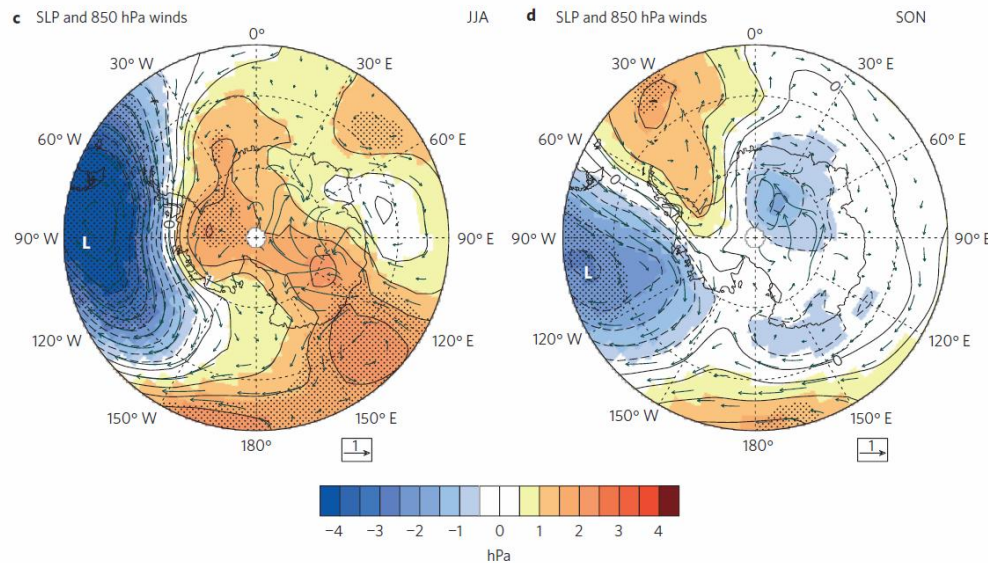
**Rossby Waves Mediate Impacts of Tropical Oceans on West Antarctic
Atmospheric Circulation in Austral Winter**

IPO transition from warm to cold → CPac drying → ABS low deepening → Changes in Antarctic SIC

Observed trends



CAM3 Central Pacific drying forced response



Antarctic sea-ice expansion between 2000 and 2014 driven by tropical Pacific decadal climate variability

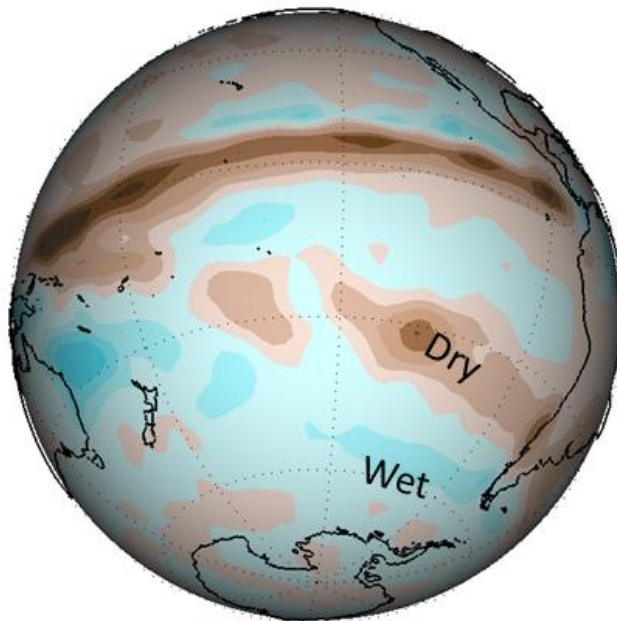
Gerald A. Meehl^{1*}, Julie M. Arblaster^{1,2}, Cecilia M. Bitz³, Christine T. Y. Chung⁴ and Haiyan Teng¹

Large-scale context for central Chile droughts

Drought Composite

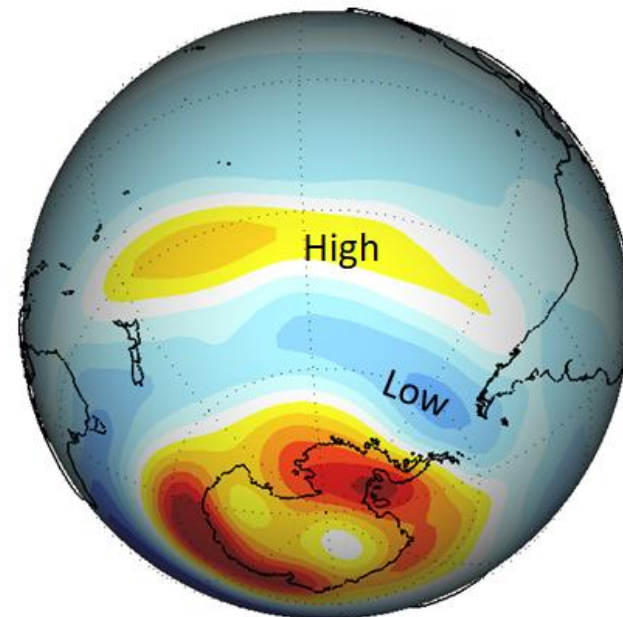
1967,68,64,73,76,85,96,99,03,07

Rainfall anomalies



-60 0 +60 mm/month

Z500 anomalies

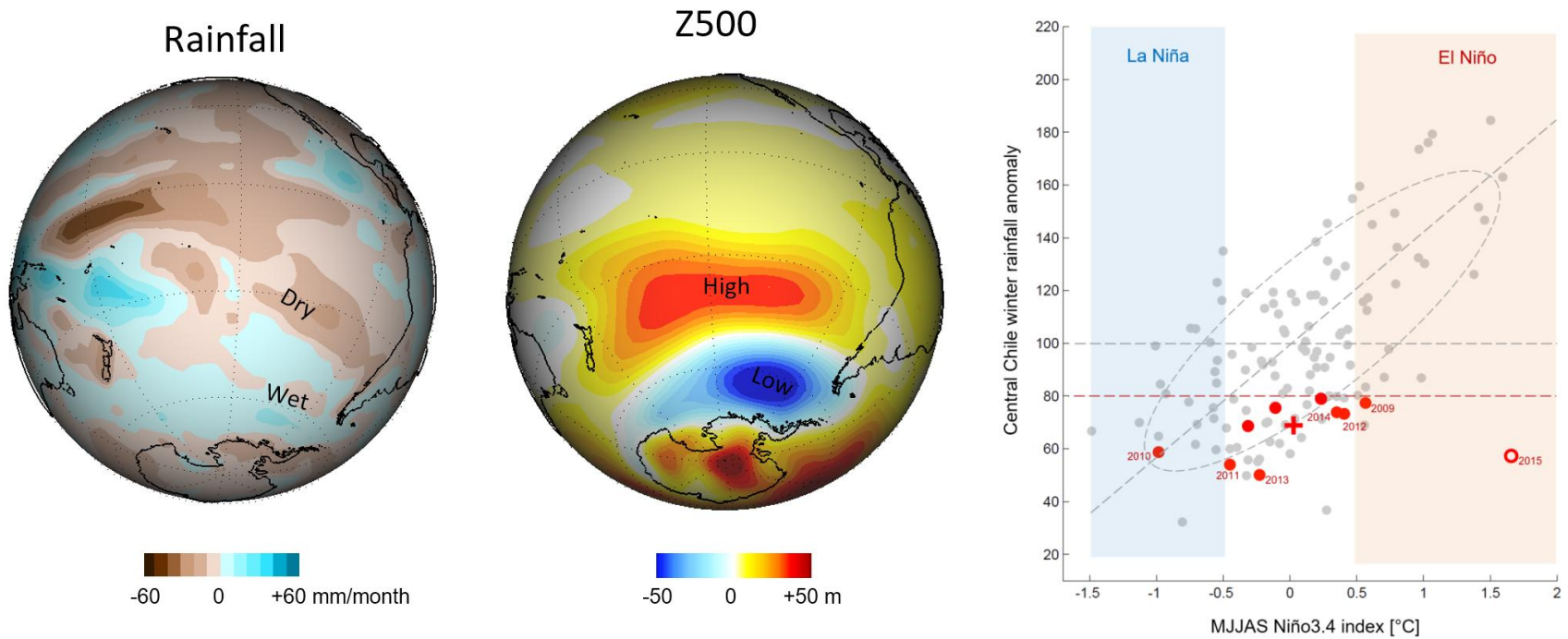


-50 0 +50 m

ABS low and SEP anticyclone play a key role
Both modulated by ENSO

The 2010-2018 mega drought in Central Chile

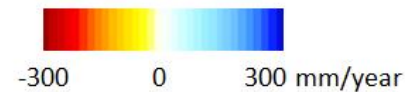
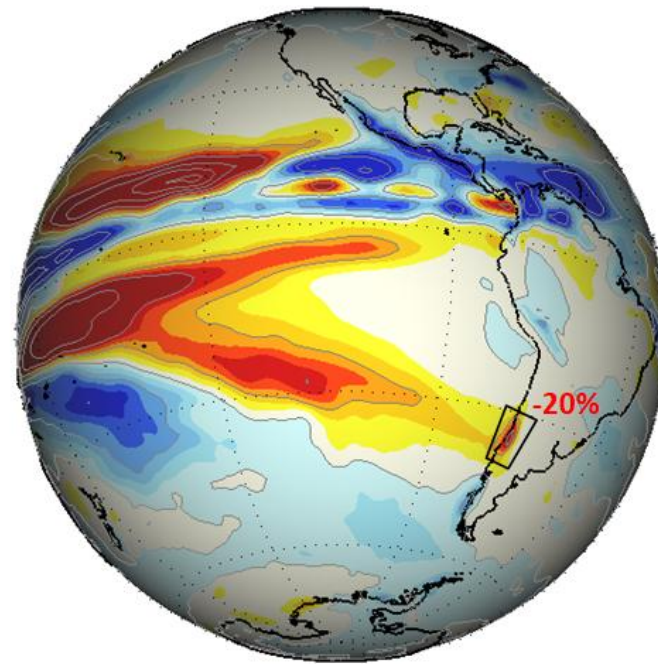
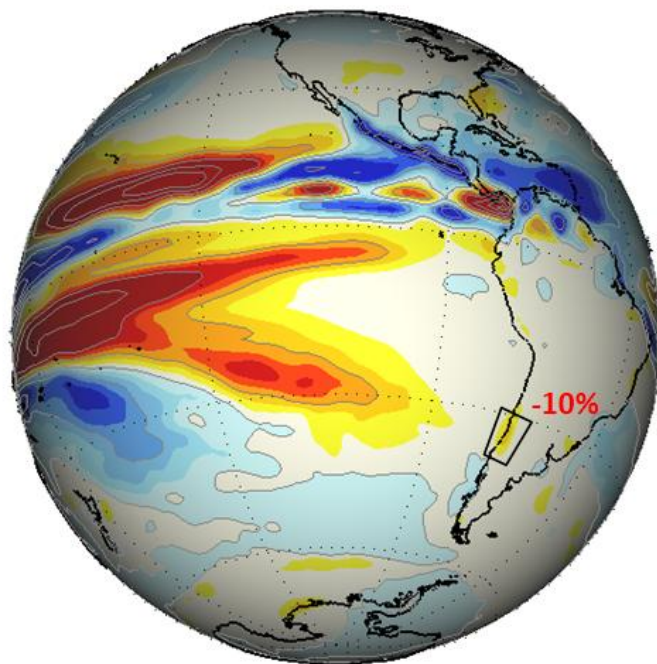
Mostly ENSO neutral!



Winter (MJJAS) rainfall anomaly 2010-2017 LBNL CAM 5.1 AMIP simulations (50 runs)

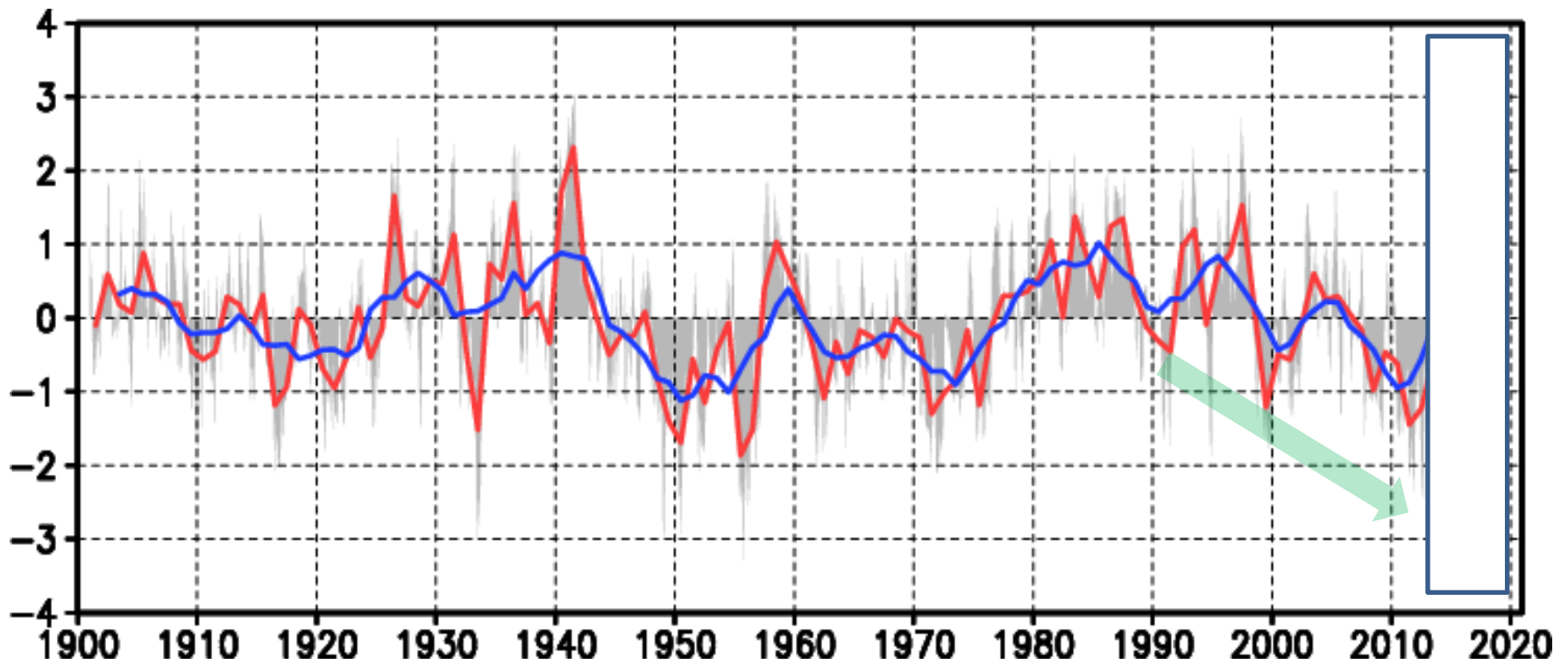
(a) Nat-Hist forcing / Obs SST

(b) Obs. Rad. Forcing / Obs. SST



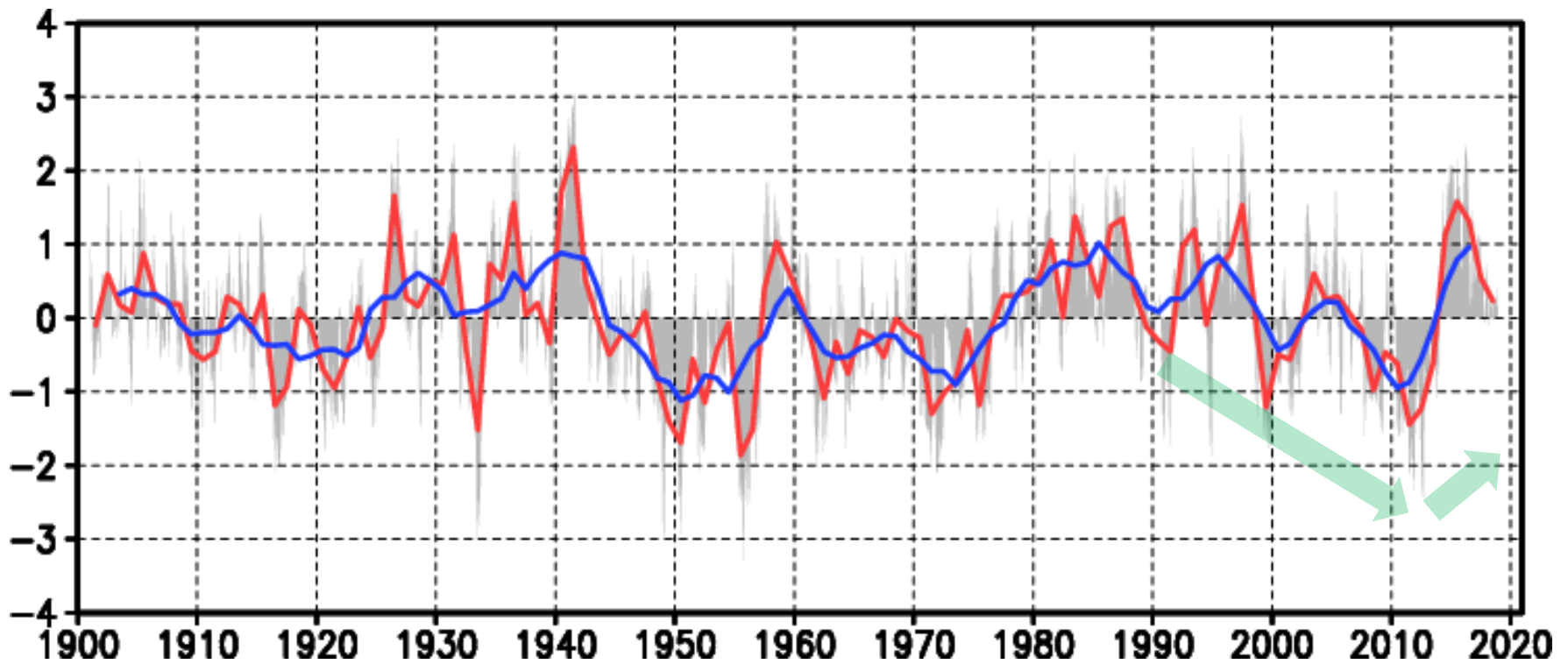
So...natural variability (ocean sourced)
also plays a role

PDO (IPO) index until 2014 (Tokyo climate center)



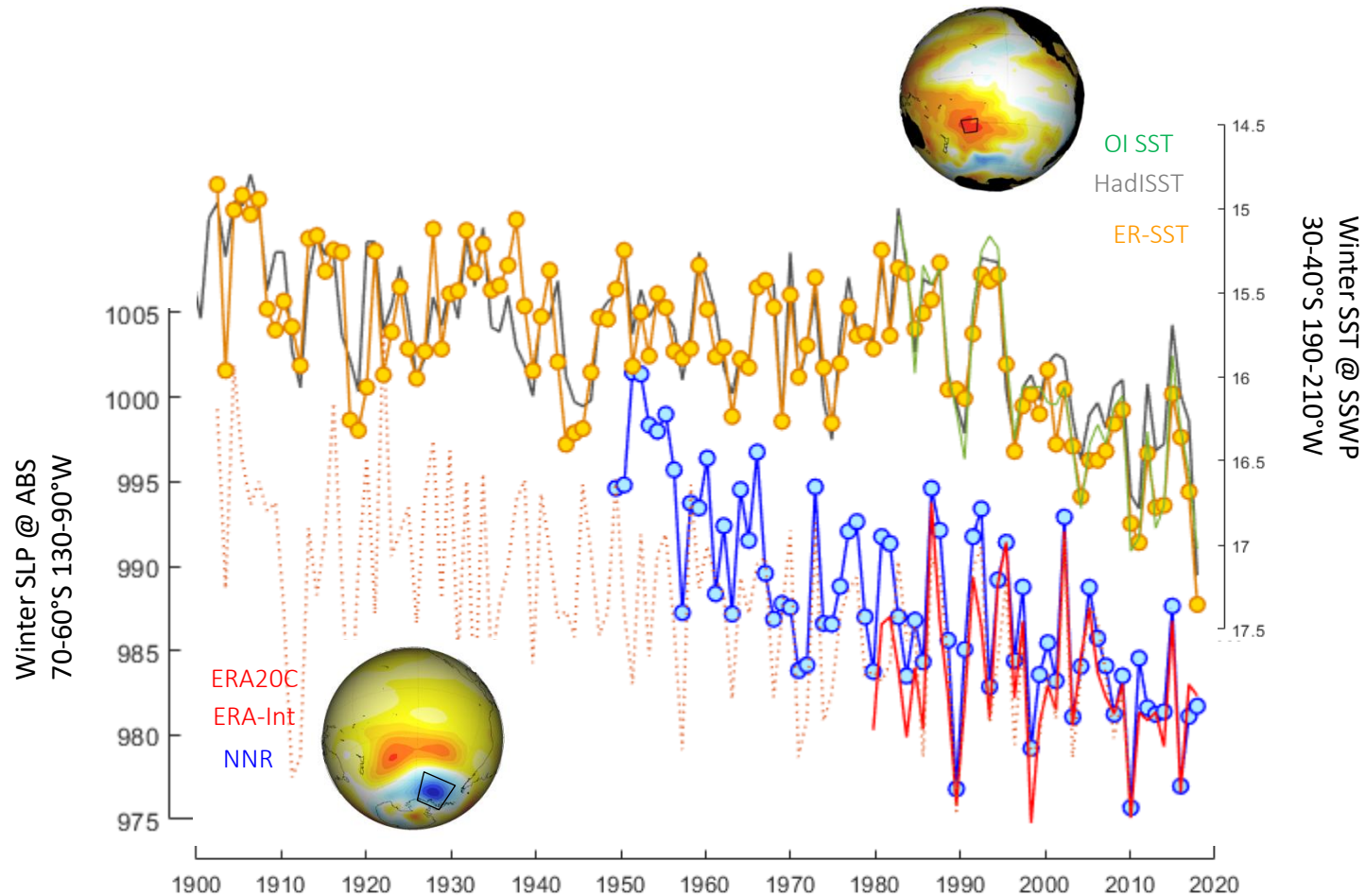
Ok for long-term drying and first half of mega drought, but....

PDO (IPO) index until now (Tokyo climate center)



....Not enough for 2015 onwards

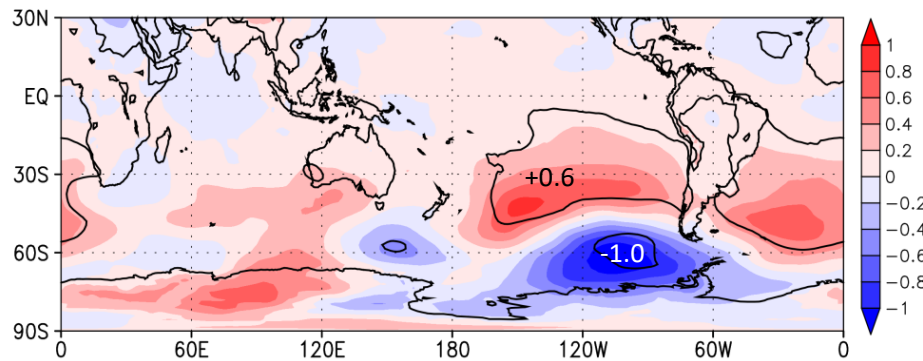
What (else) is sustaining the ABS low deepening / mega drought until now?



Wintertime (MJJAS) 40 year trends (1979-2018) from selected fields (ERA5)

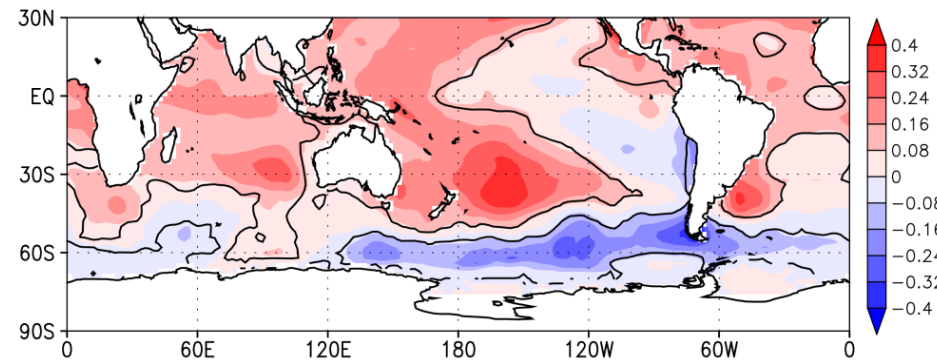
(a) SLP

hPa/dec



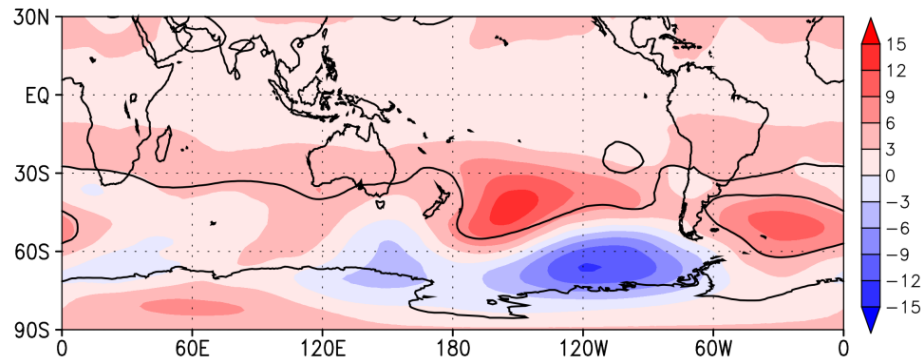
(c) SST

°C/dec



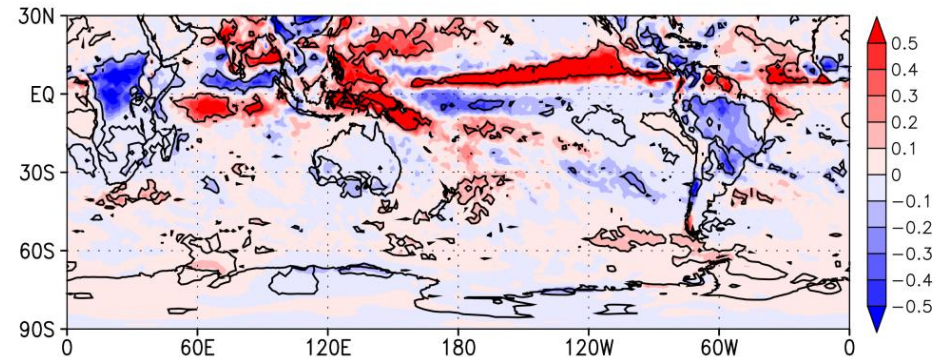
(b) Z500

gpm/dec

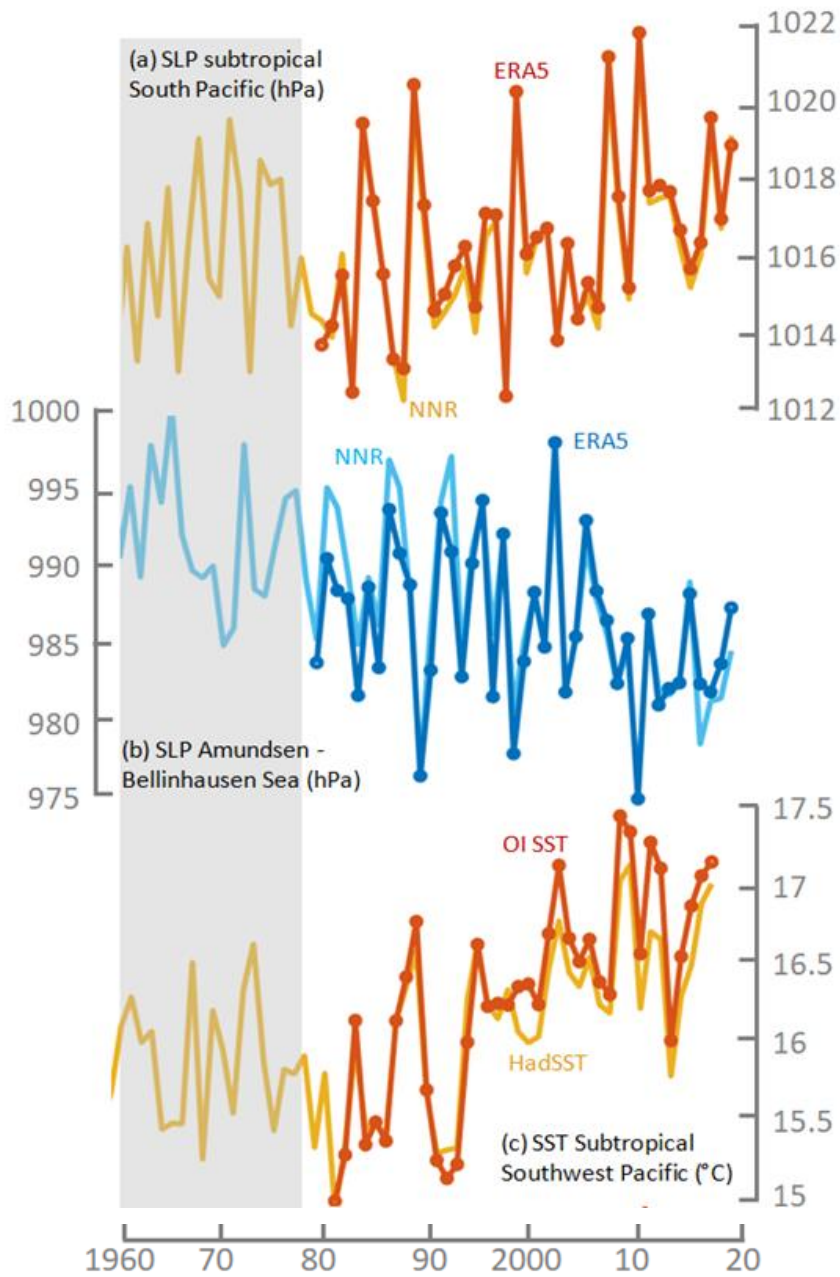


(d) Precip

mm/day/dec



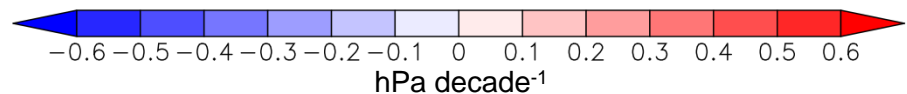
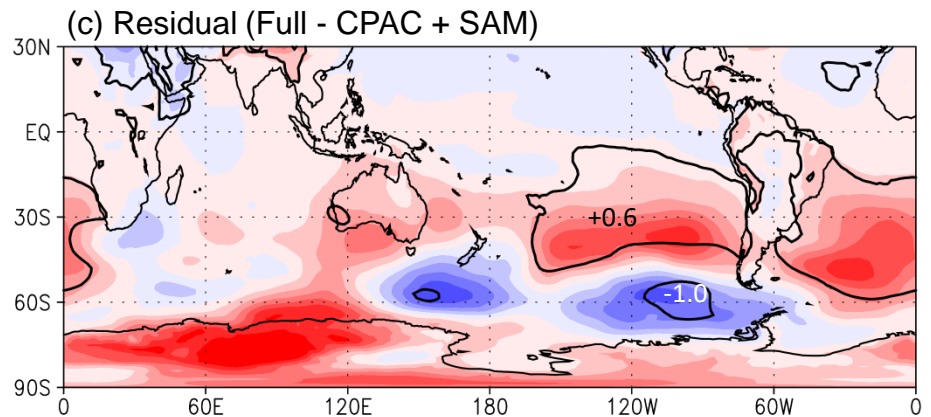
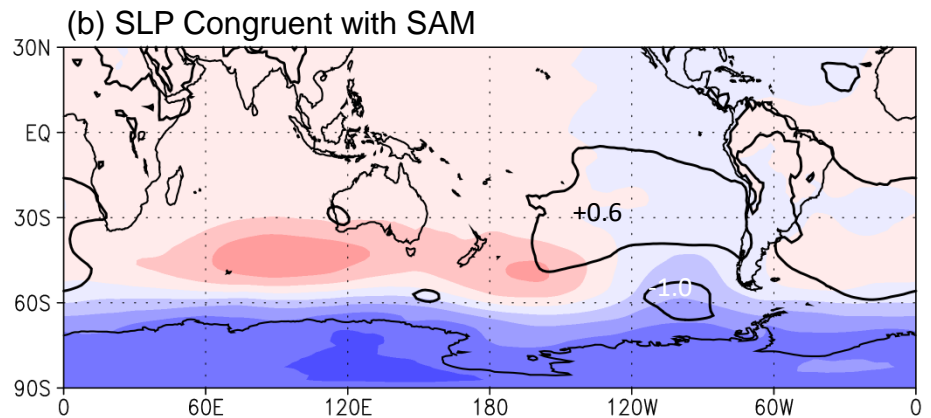
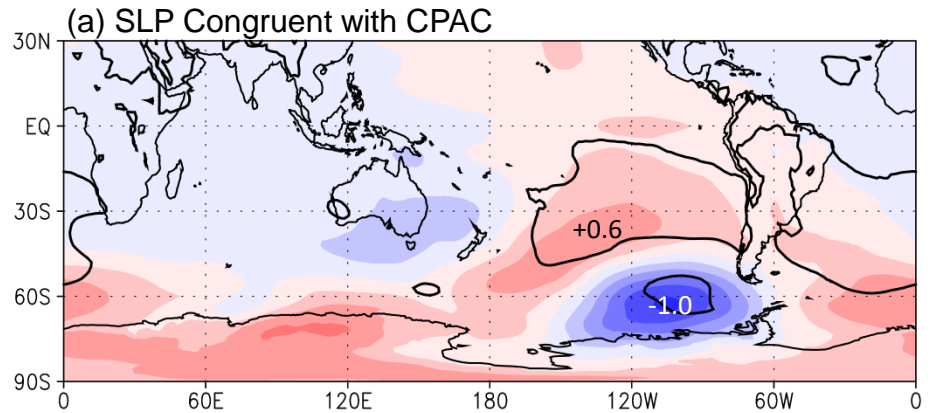
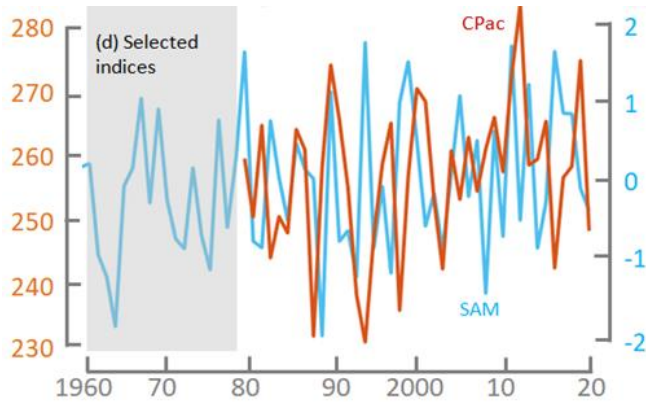
Wintertime (MJJAS) 40 year trends (1979-2018) from selected fields (ERA5)



Linear congruency analysis:

$$Y = a \times F + b$$

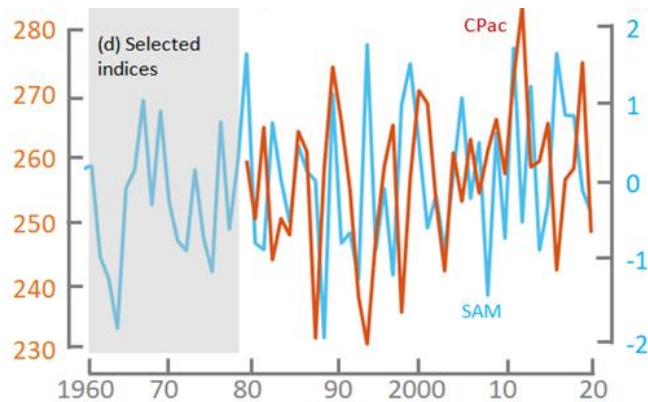
$$dY = a \times F$$



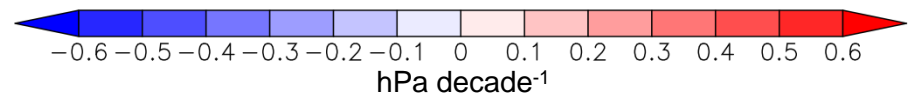
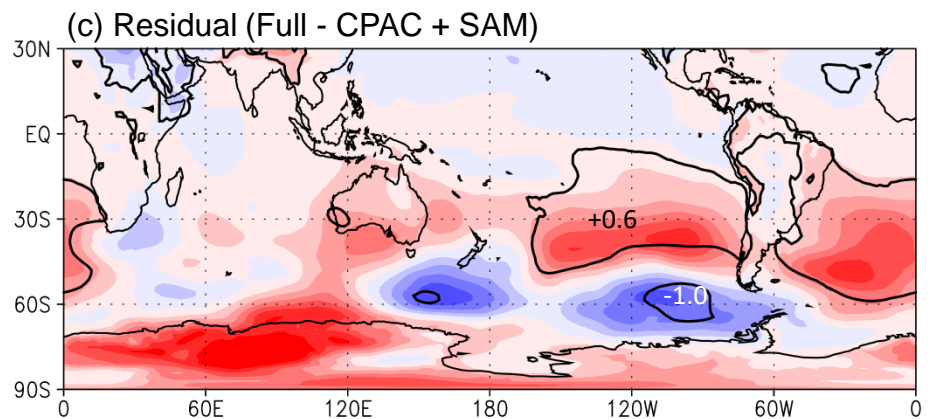
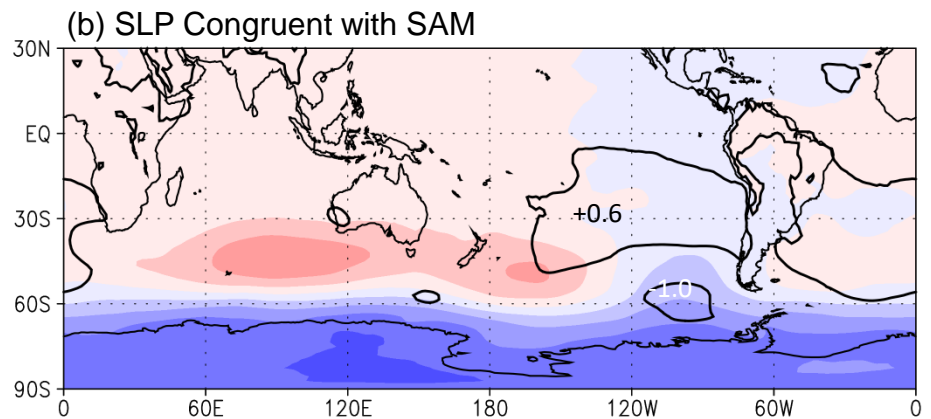
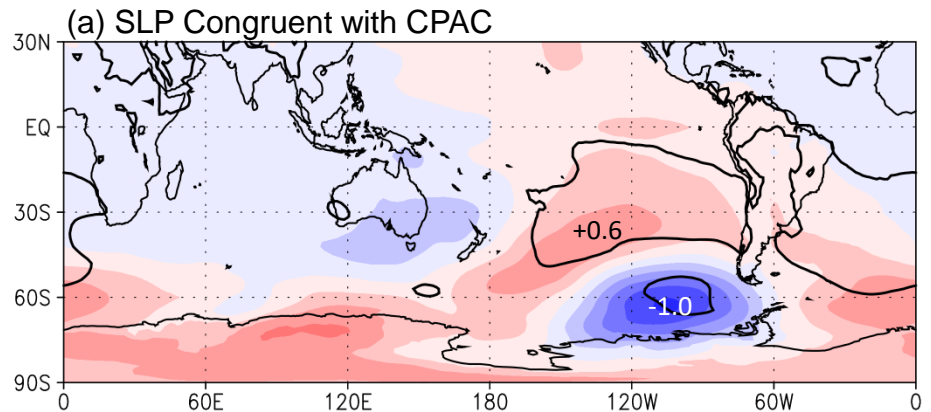
Linear congruency analysis:

$$Y = a \times F + b$$

$$dY = a \times F$$

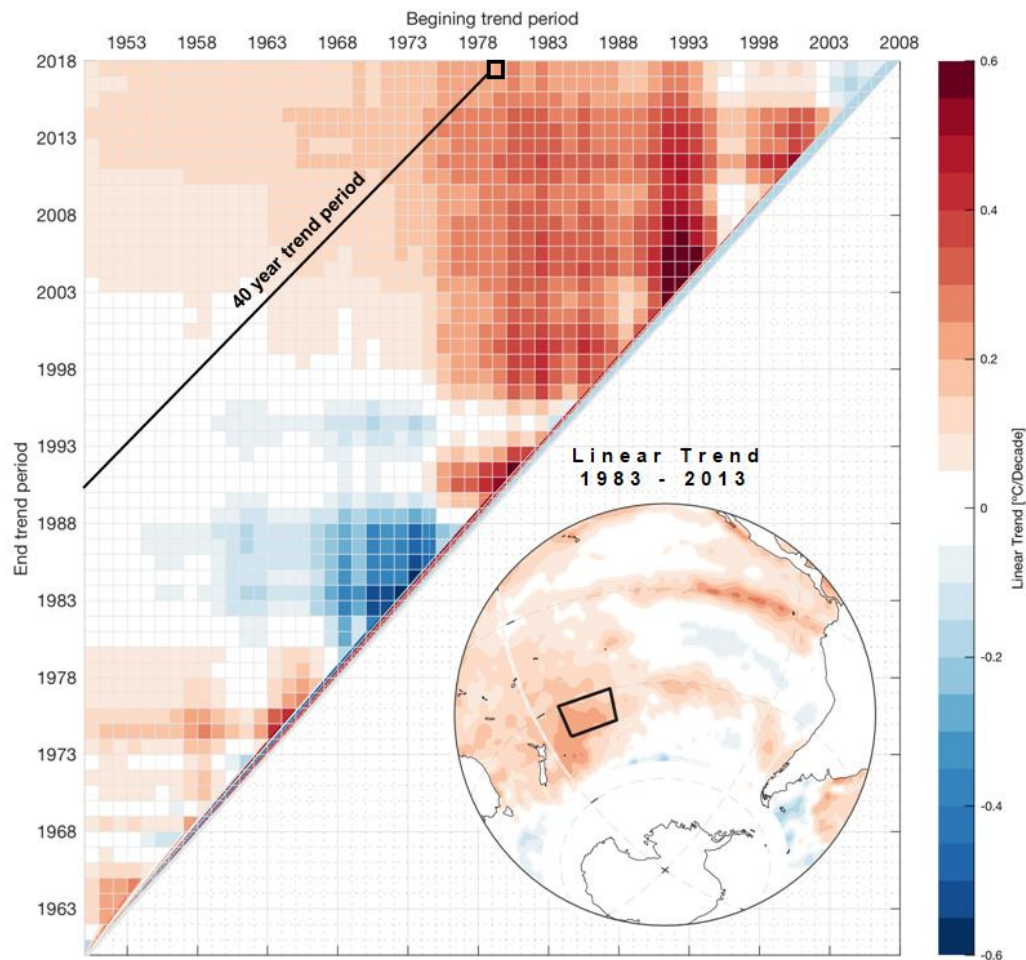
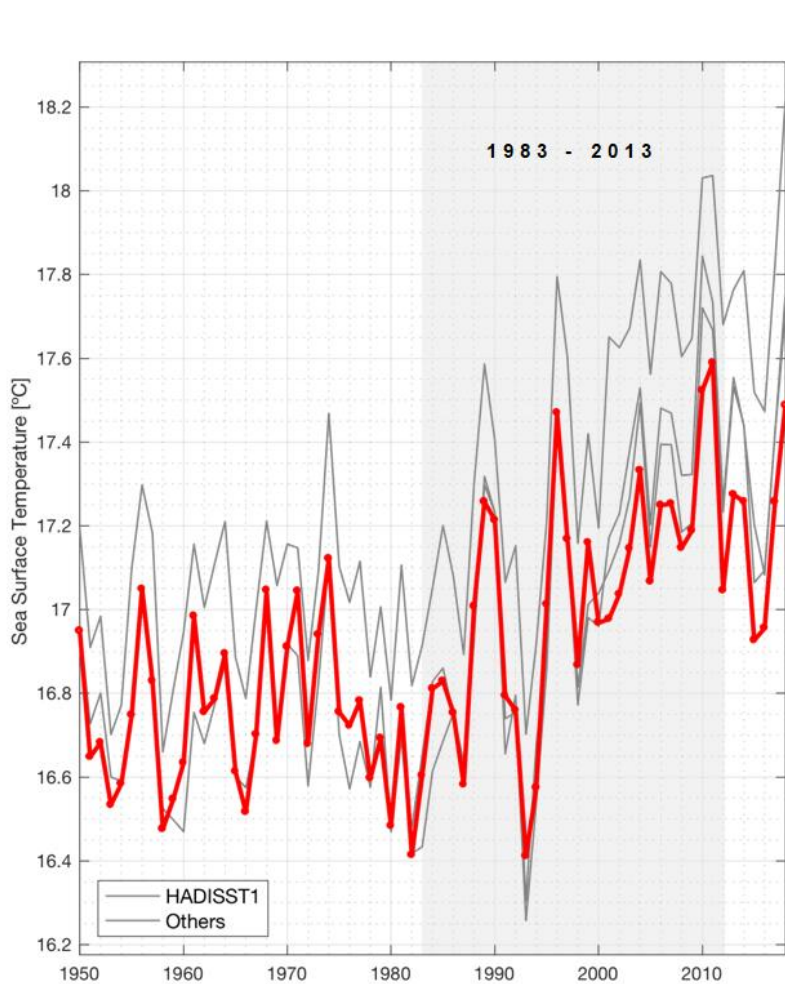


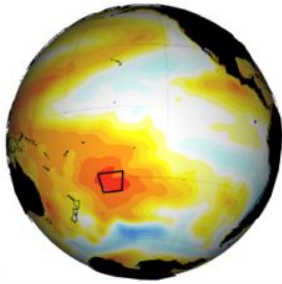
Both CPac (IPO) and SAM (CC) are part of the story but only accounts for about half of the observed trends



SUBTROPICAL SOUTH WEST PACIFIC

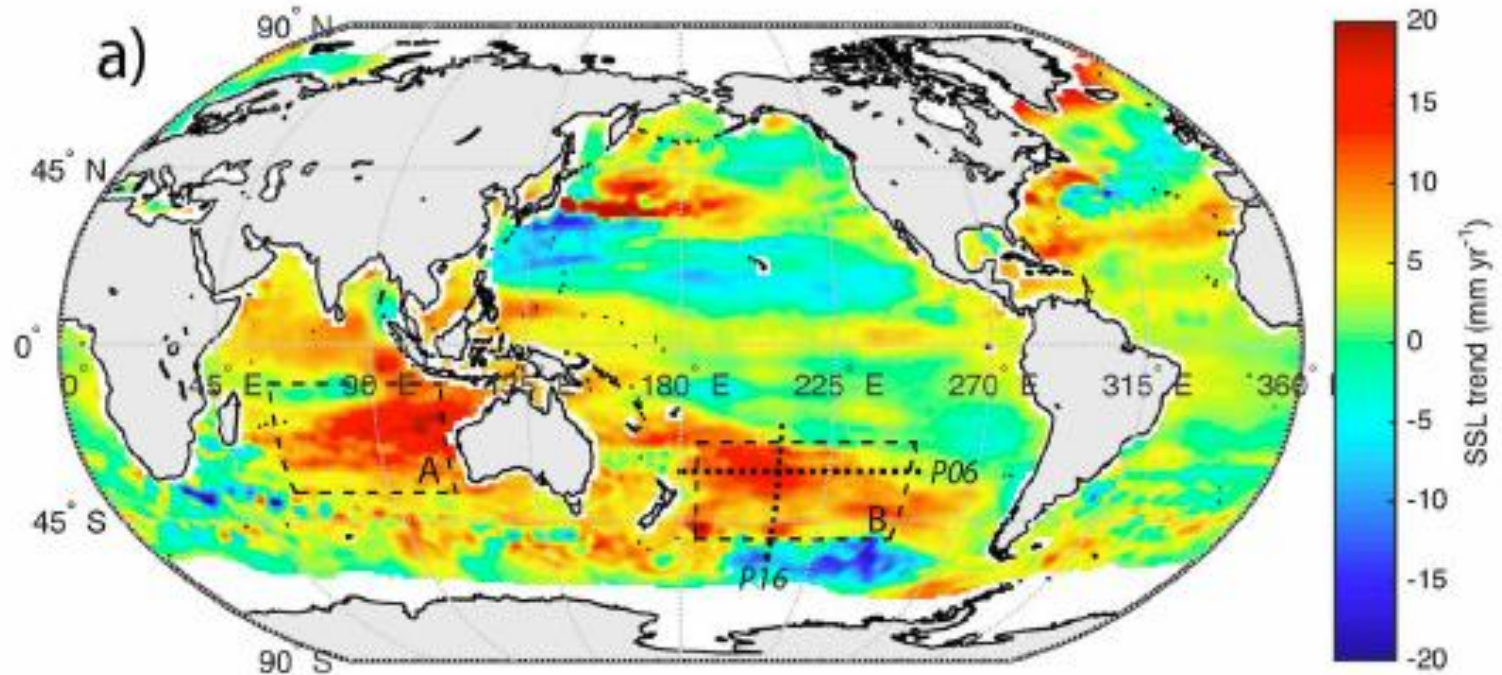
Sea Surface Temperature (SST) – AMJJAS – Data Source: HADISST1





The Southern Blob

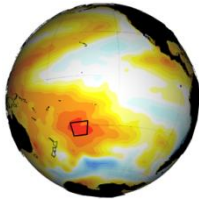
(30-40°S, 190-210°E)



Satellite-based (altimetry minus GRACE-CSR) steric sea level trend over 2005–2014.

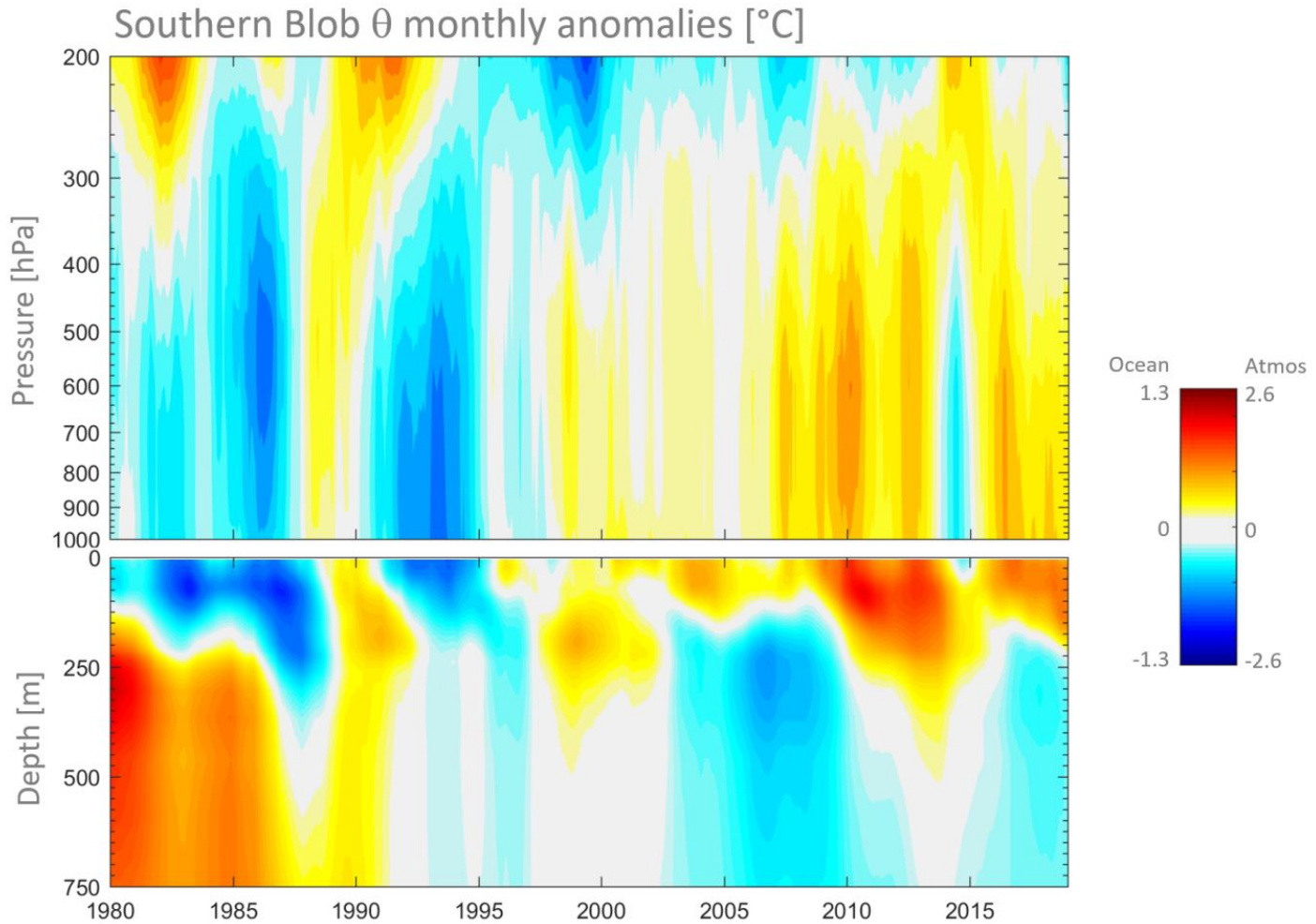
Decade-long deep-ocean warming detected in the subtropical South Pacific

Denis L. Volkov^{1,2} , Sang-Ki Lee² , Felix W. Landerer³ , and Rick Lumpkin² 

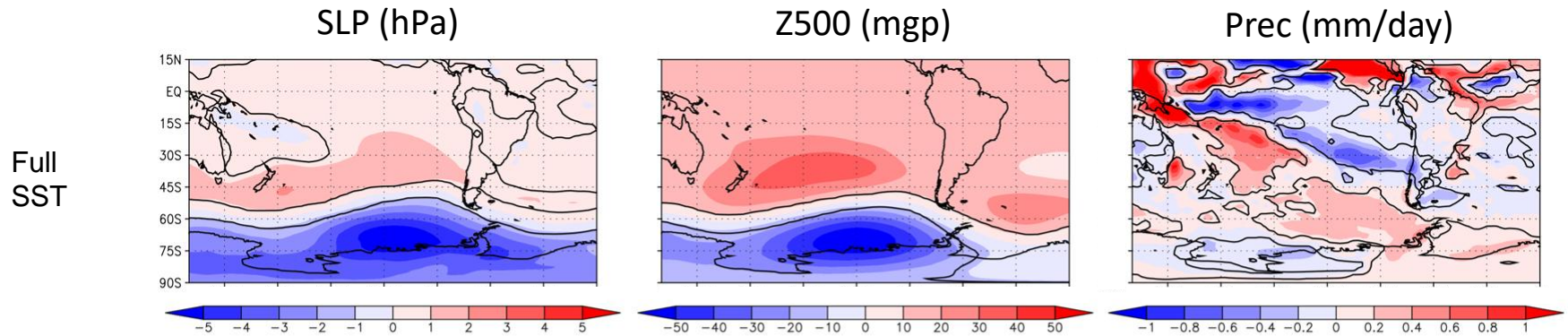


The Southern Blob

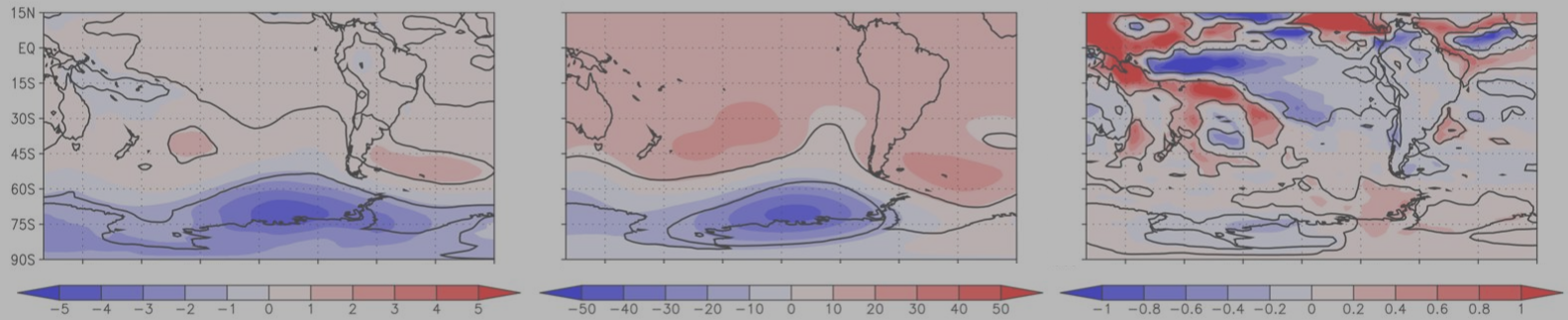
(30-40°S, 190-210°E)



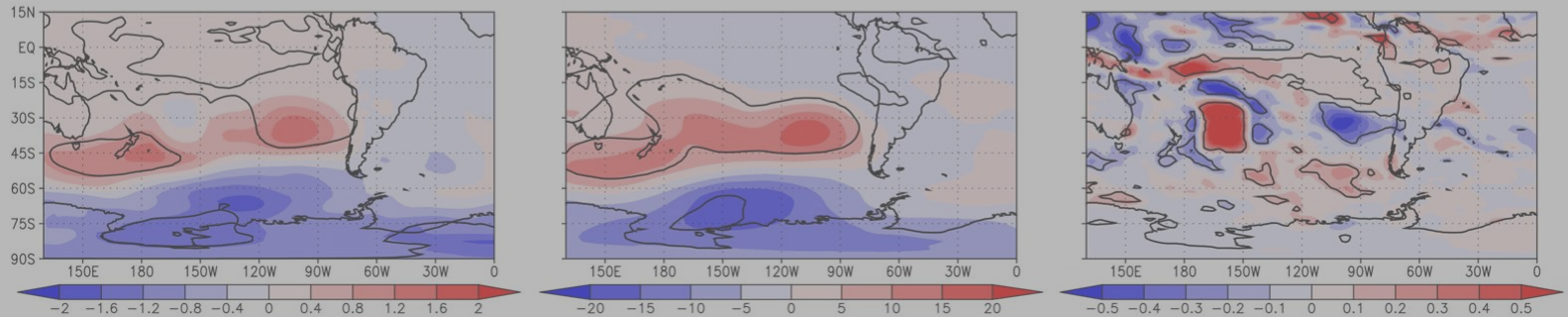
CESM results: CLIMO+dSST minus CLIMO



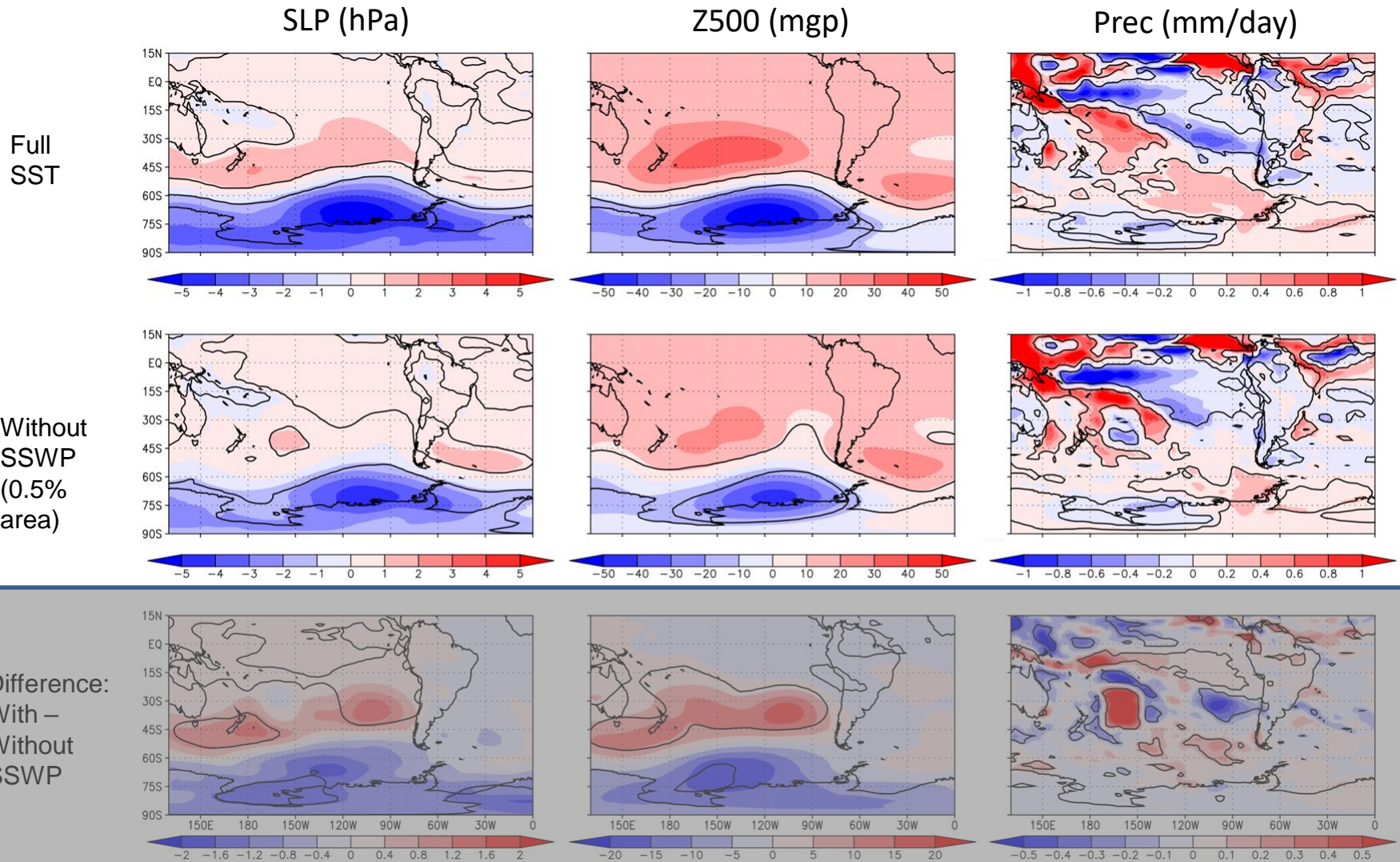
Without
SSWP



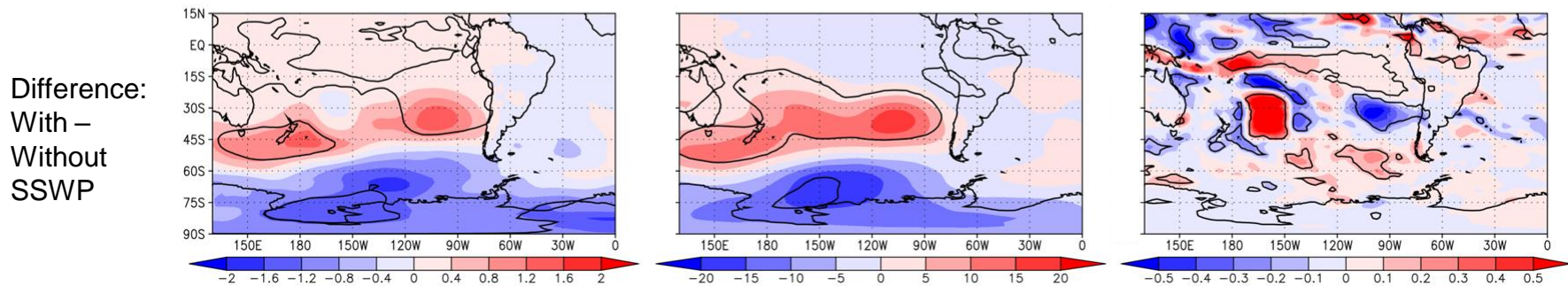
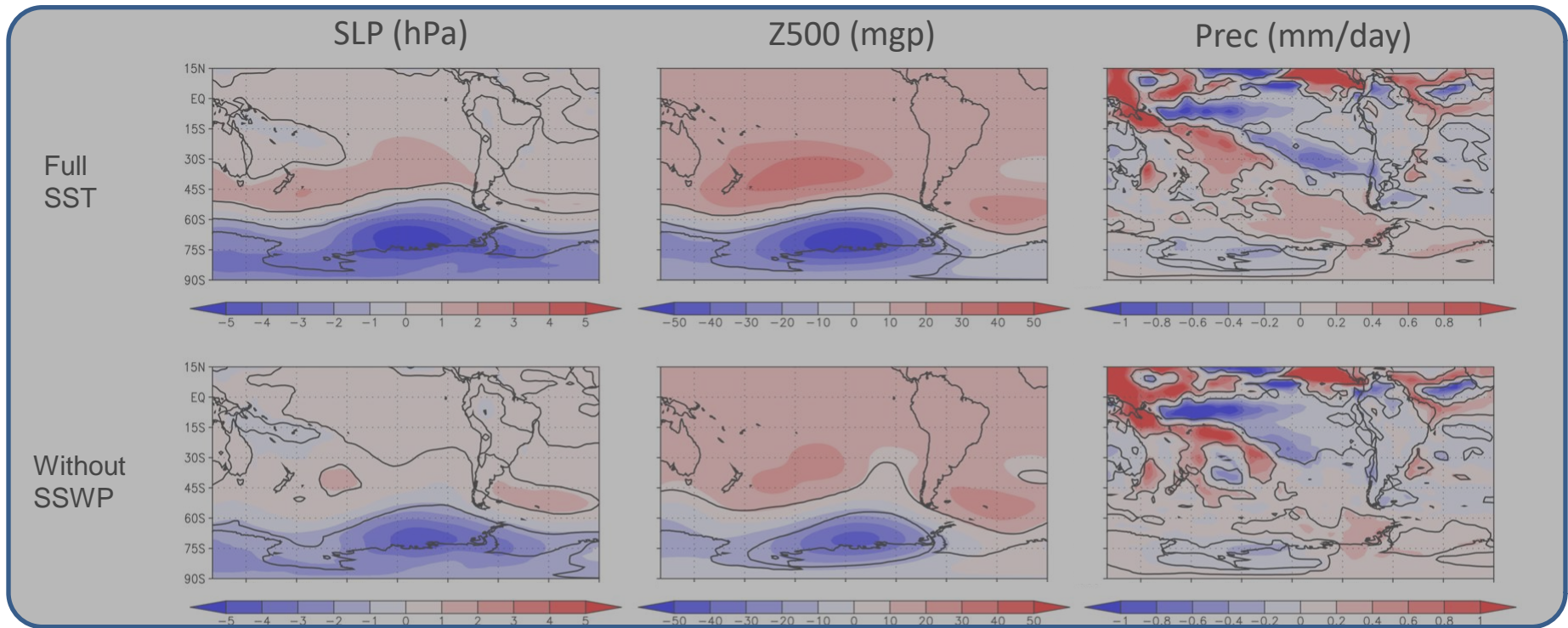
Difference:
With –
Without
SSWP



CESM results: CLIMO+dSST minus CLIMO



CESM results: CLIMO+dSST minus CLIMO

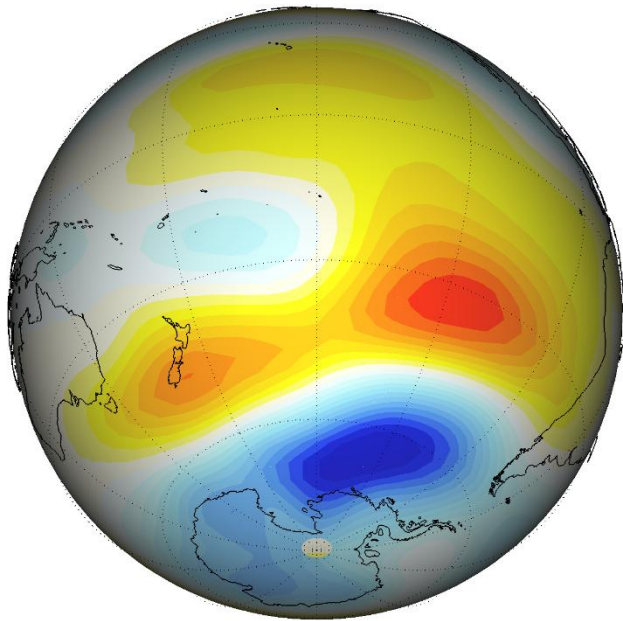


Southern Blob direct effect

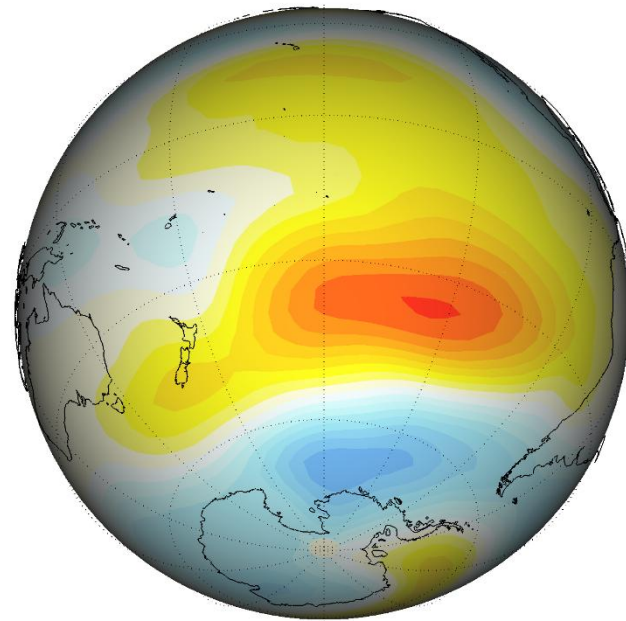
Is the southwest subtropical Pacific causing the pressure drop over the ABS?

SLP Trend 1980 – 2015 calculated with SPEEDY

Control (Full SST)



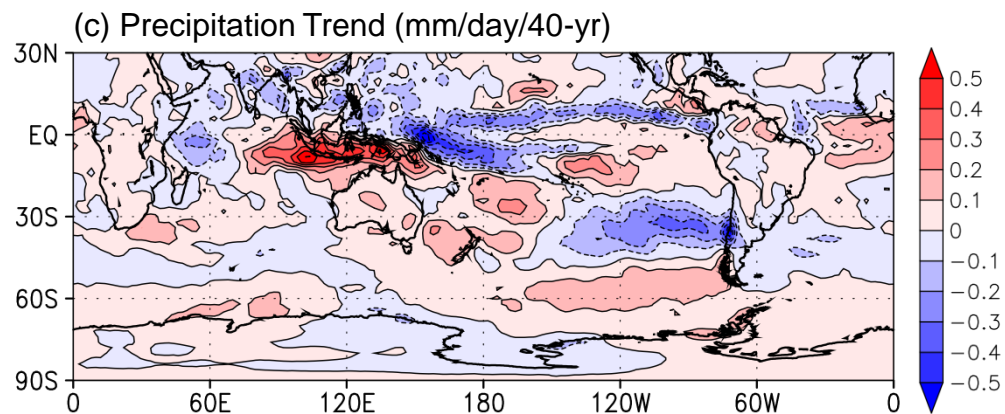
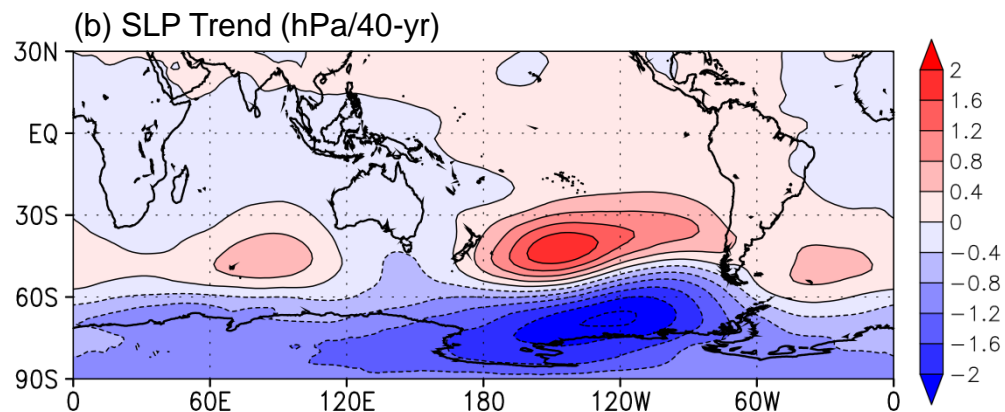
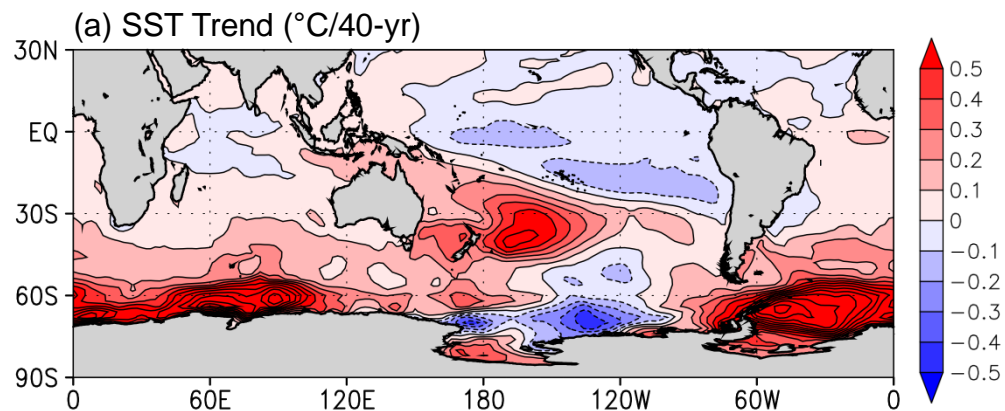
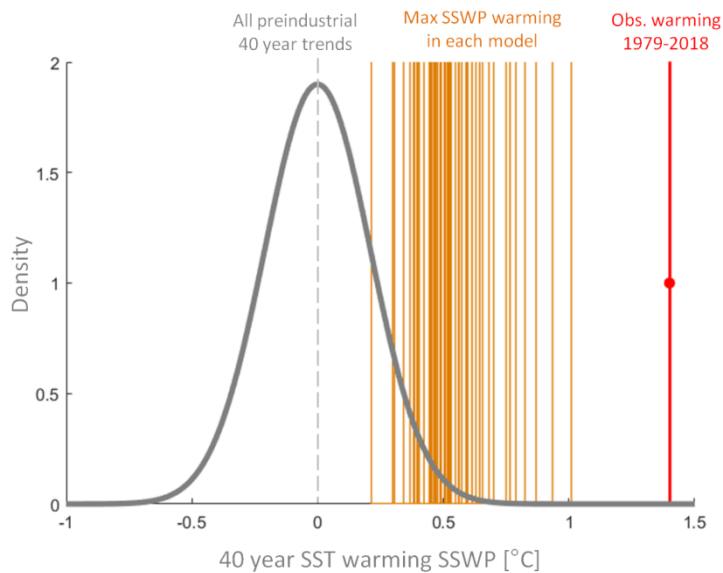
No SSWP SST

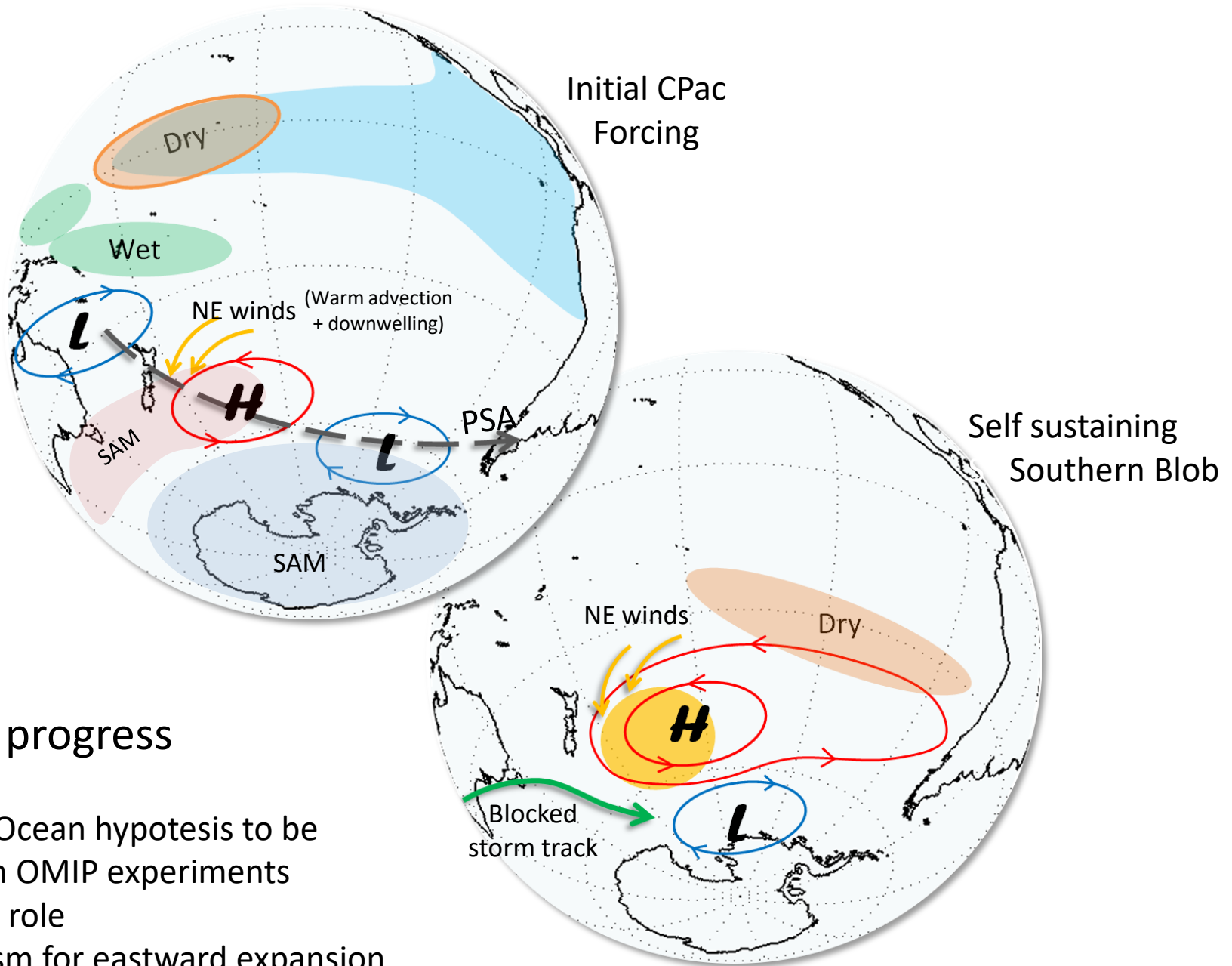


The Southern Blob in the past?

51 Pre-industrial fully coupled simulations. Composite of largest 40-year warming periods in the SSWP

- Similar to present climate trends but amplitude is unprecedented.
- Signature of CPac (and SAM) are also present....

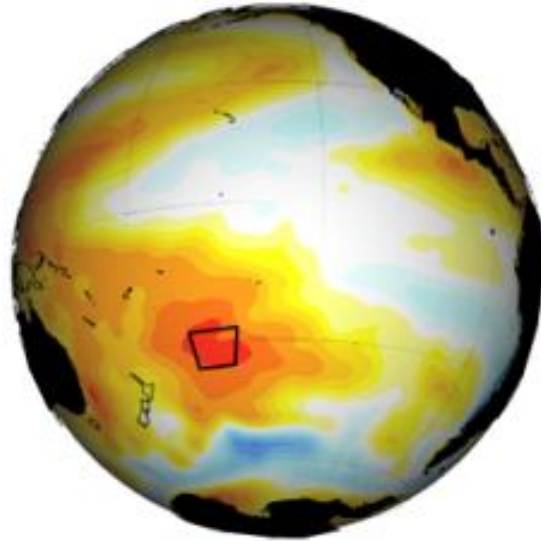




Work in progress

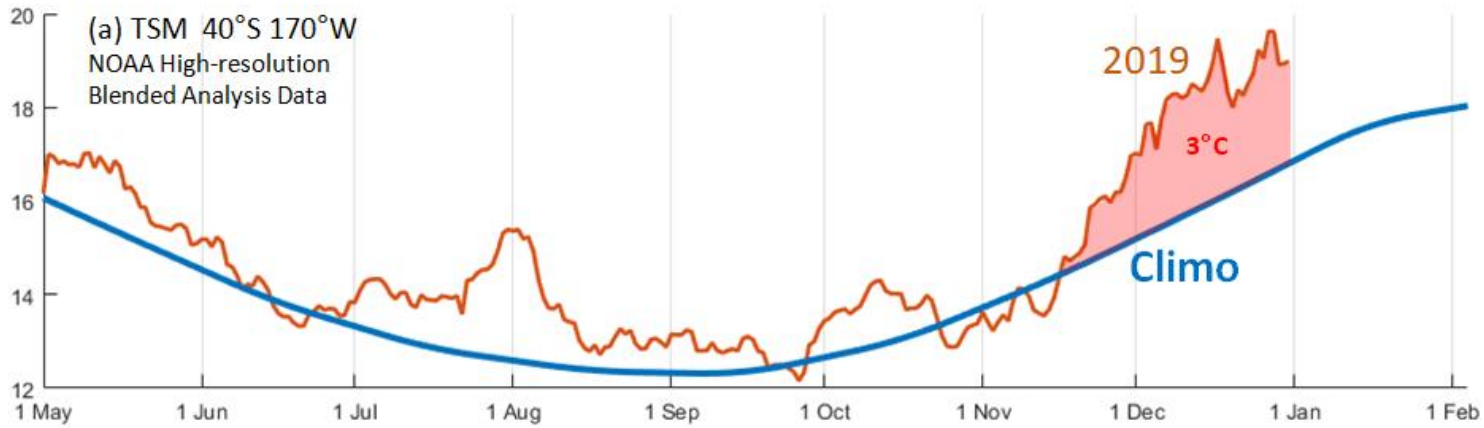
- Atmos→Ocean hypothesis to be tested with OMIP experiments
- SAM (CC) role
- Mechanism for eastward expansion

The South Pacific Blob and the Pressure Trend Dipole

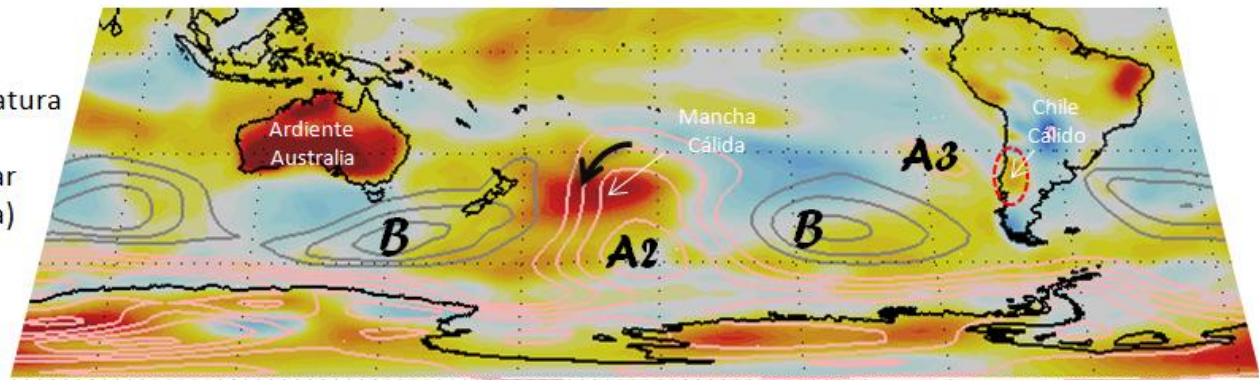


Expect the unexpected

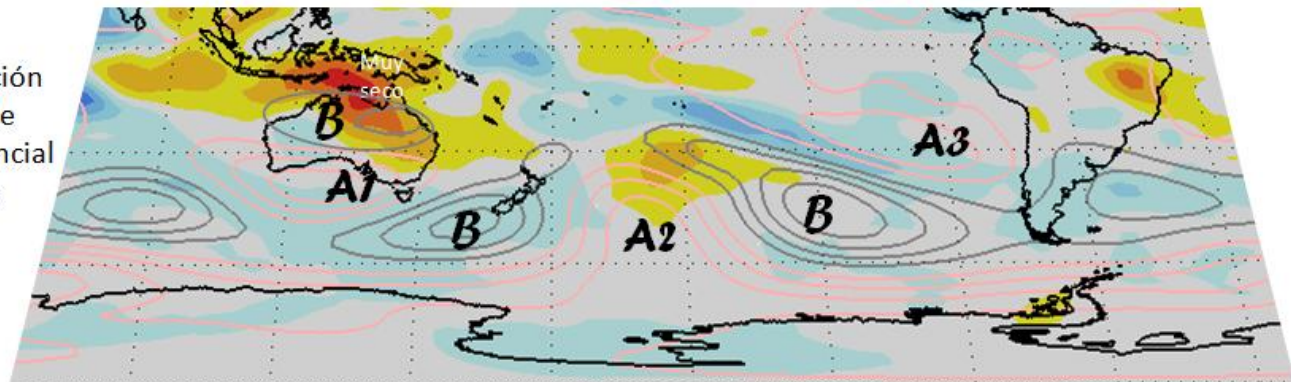
Extra Bonus



(b) Anomalía Temperatura Superficial (colores) y Presión a Nivel del Mar (contornos cada 2 hPa) Diciembre 2019
NCEP-NCAR Reanalysis

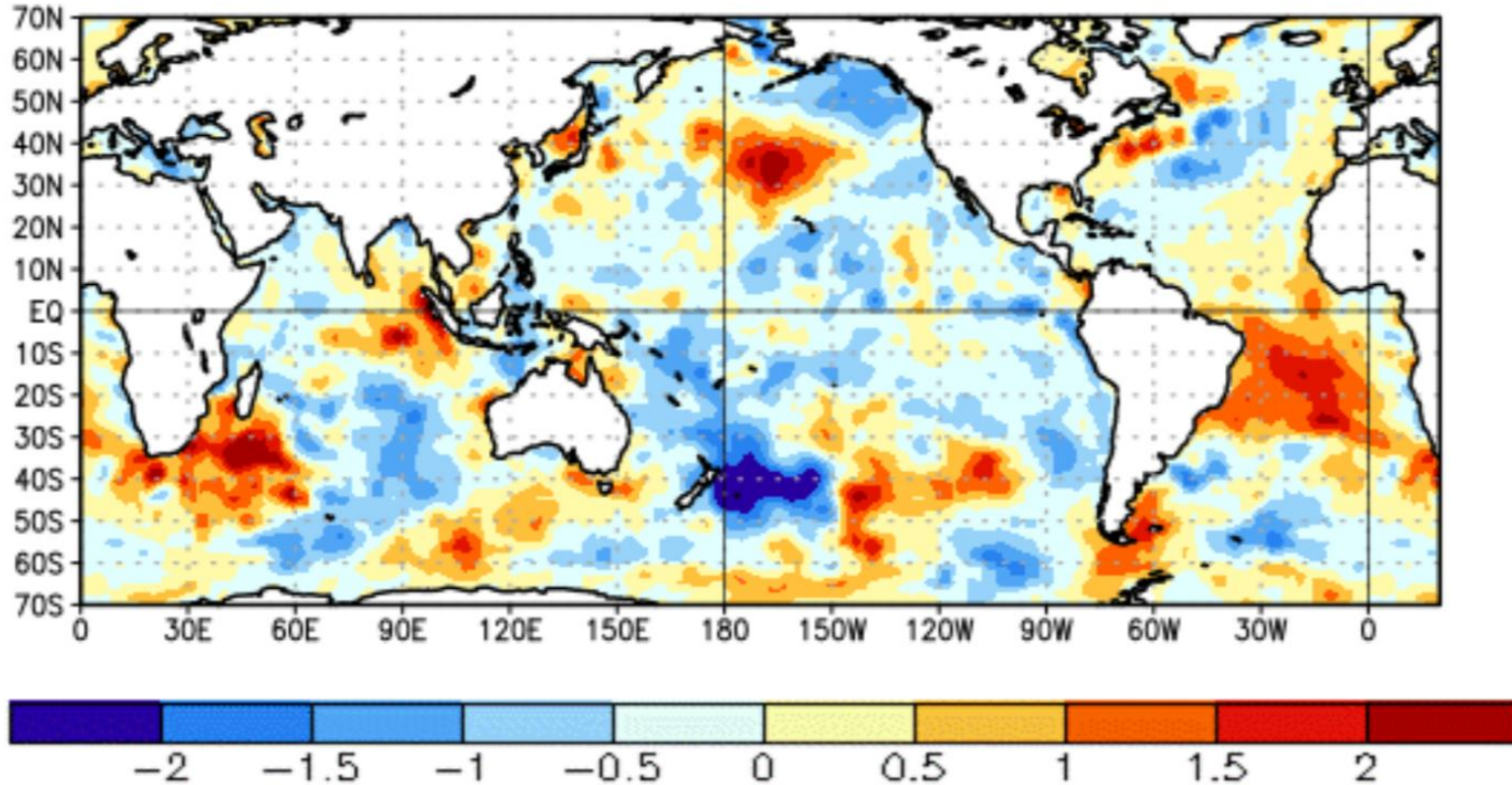


(c) Anomalía Radiación infrarroja emergente (colores) y geopotencial 200 hPa (contornos cada 20 mgp) para Dic. 2019
NCEP-NCAR Reanalysis



The widely publicised early summer 2020 blob grew under the same mechanism proposed here, but it was short lived because mother high was MJO-related and faded by the early January ...

Change in Weekly SST Anoms (°C) 15JAN2020 minus 18DEC2019



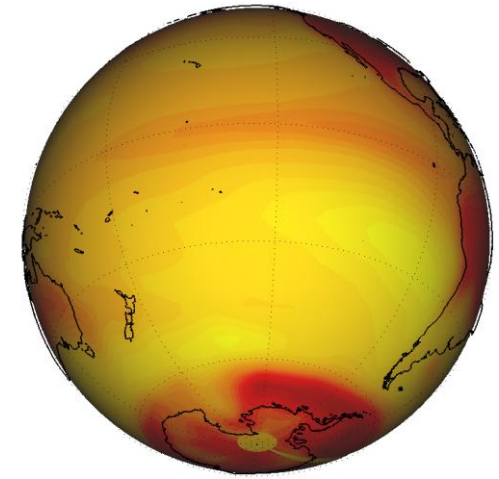
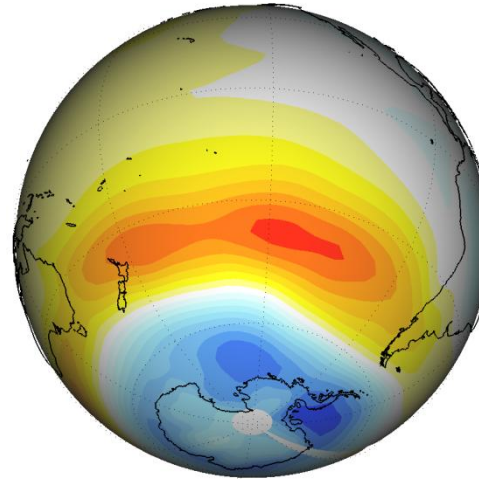
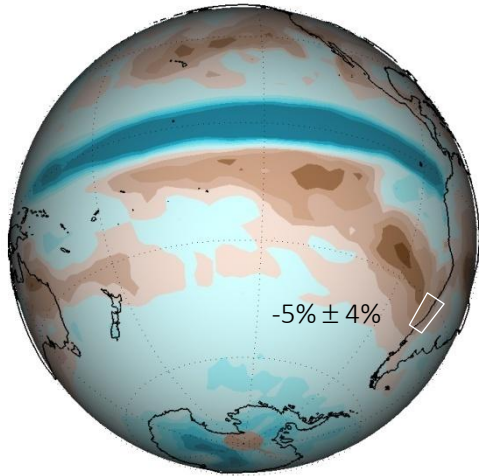
CMIP5 Models: Present (2010-2020, RCP8.5) minus recent past (1970-2000, HIST)

Precipitation Anomalies (%)

SLP Anomalies (hPa)

SAT Anomalies (°C)

Multi model mean
(43 models)



Dry – Wet CCH
(7 models each)

