

A satellite image of a large hurricane system over the Atlantic Ocean. The hurricane has a well-defined eye and a dense, swirling cloud structure. The surrounding ocean is dark blue, and the coastline of North America is visible on the left side of the frame.

**Atlantic Basin Seasonal Hurricane Prediction**

**Phil Klotzbach  
Department of Atmospheric Science  
Colorado State University**

**National Hurricane Conference**

**March 26, 2018**

# Outline

- ❏ **Introduction**
- ❏ **Atlantic Basin Multi-Decadal Variability**
- ❏ **Tropical Cyclones and Climate Change**
- ❏ **2017 Atlantic Basin Seasonal Forecast Verification**
- ❏ **2018 Atlantic Basin Seasonal Outlook**
- ❏ **New Products**

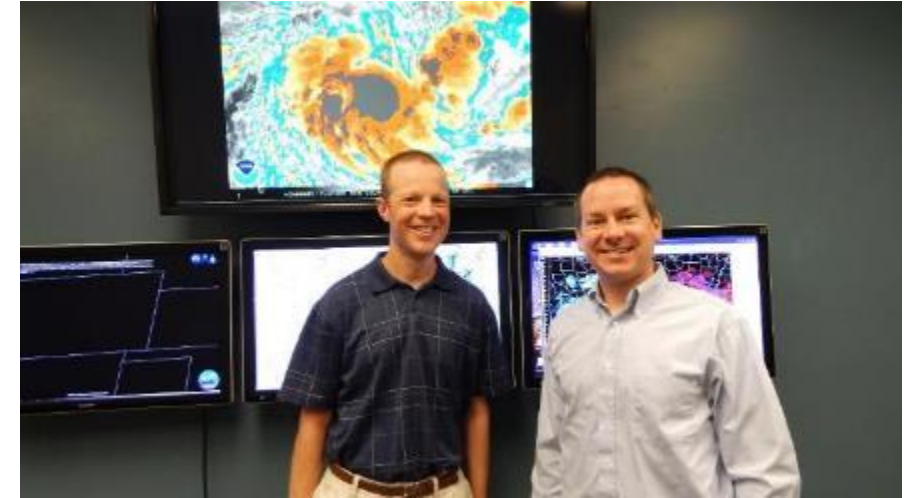
## In Memory of Bill Gray (1929-2016)



Klotzbach, P. J., J. C. L. Chan, P. J. Fitzpatrick, W. M. Frank, C. W. Landsea, and J. L. McBride, 2017: The science of William M. Gray: His contributions to the knowledge of tropical meteorology and tropical cyclones. *Bull. Amer. Meteor. Soc*, **98**, 2311-2336.

## Introducing New Co-Author Michael Bell

- Received M.S. in Atmospheric Science from Colorado State University (2006)
- Received Ph.D. in Meteorology from Naval Postgraduate School (2010)
- Joined faculty at Colorado State University in 2016
- Specializes in study of mesoscale structure of tropical cyclones from genesis to extratropical transition
- Recipient of Presidential Early Career Award





**“It's tough to make predictions,  
especially about the future”**

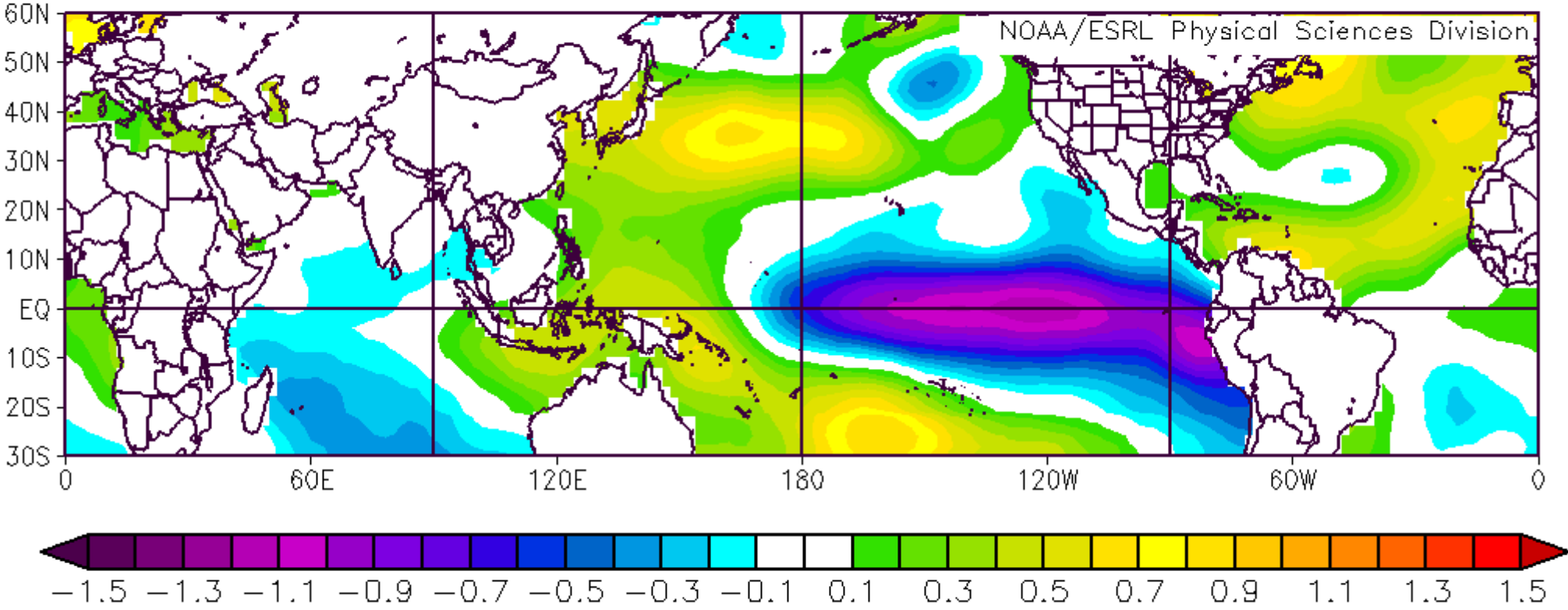
**HOWEVER...**

**“You can see a lot by looking”**

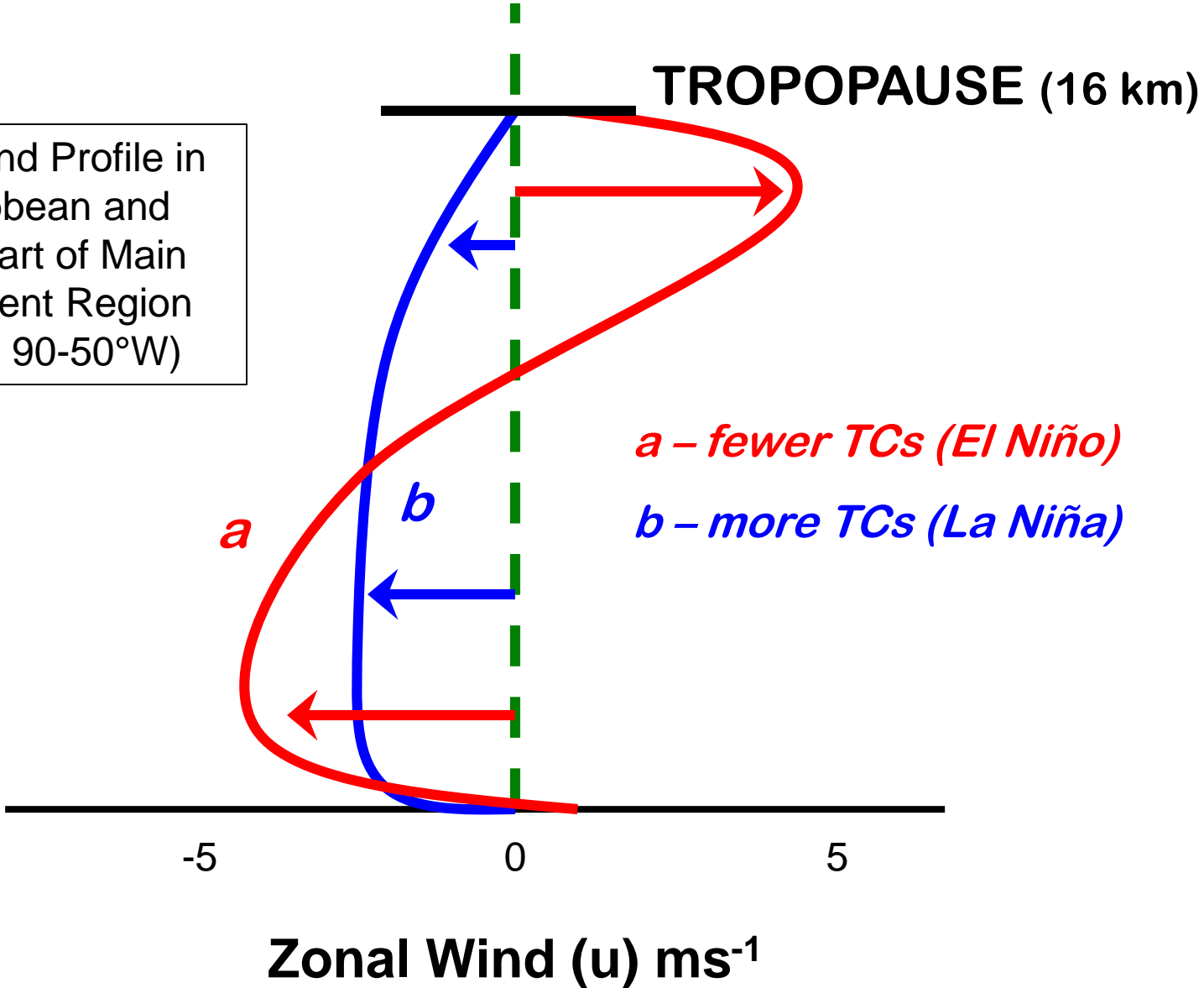
**Yogi Berra**

# August – October SSTs: Ten Most Active minus Ten Least Active Atlantic Hurricane Seasons since 1950


NOAA Extended SST V4 (ERSST)  
Surface SST (C) Composite Anomaly 1981–2010 climo



Vertical Wind Profile in the Caribbean and western part of Main Development Region (10-20°N; 90-50°W)

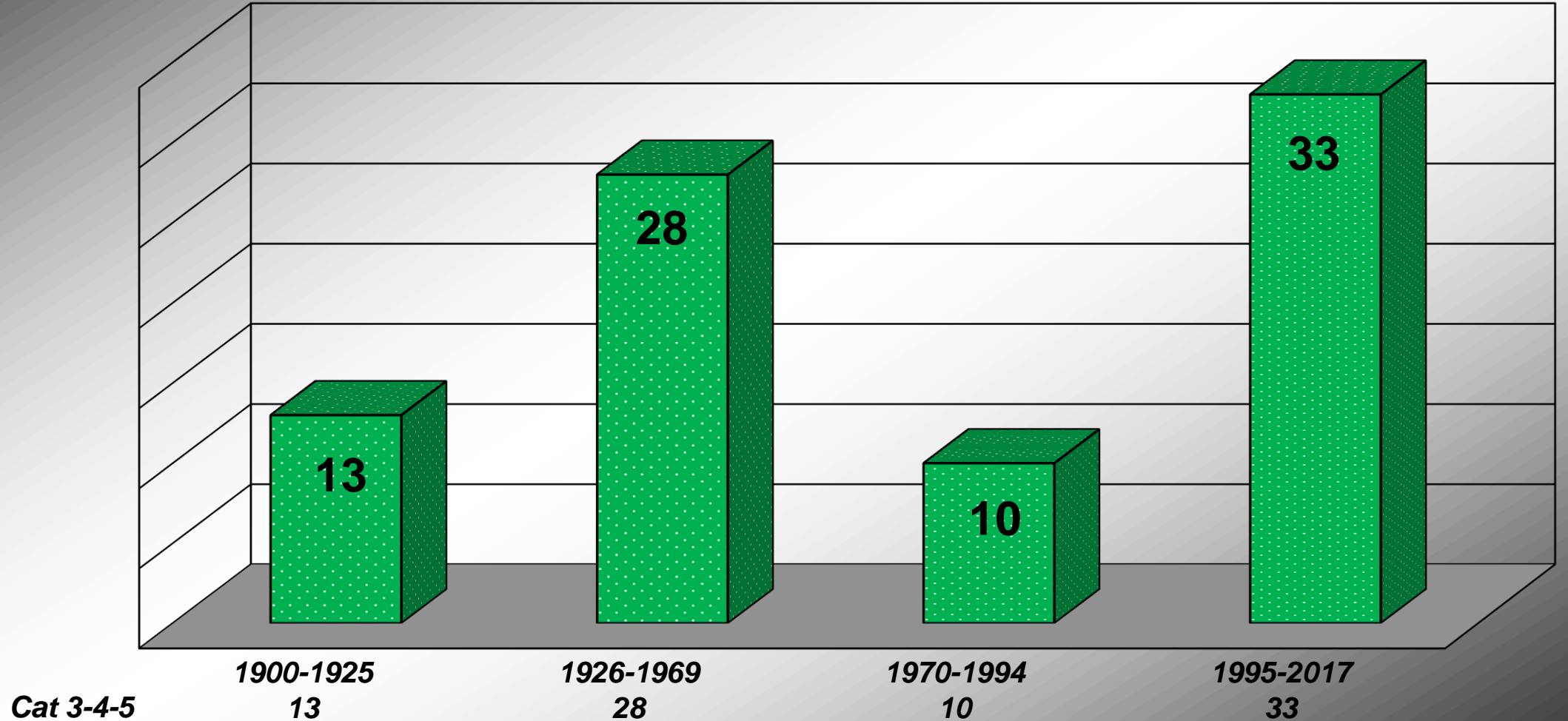






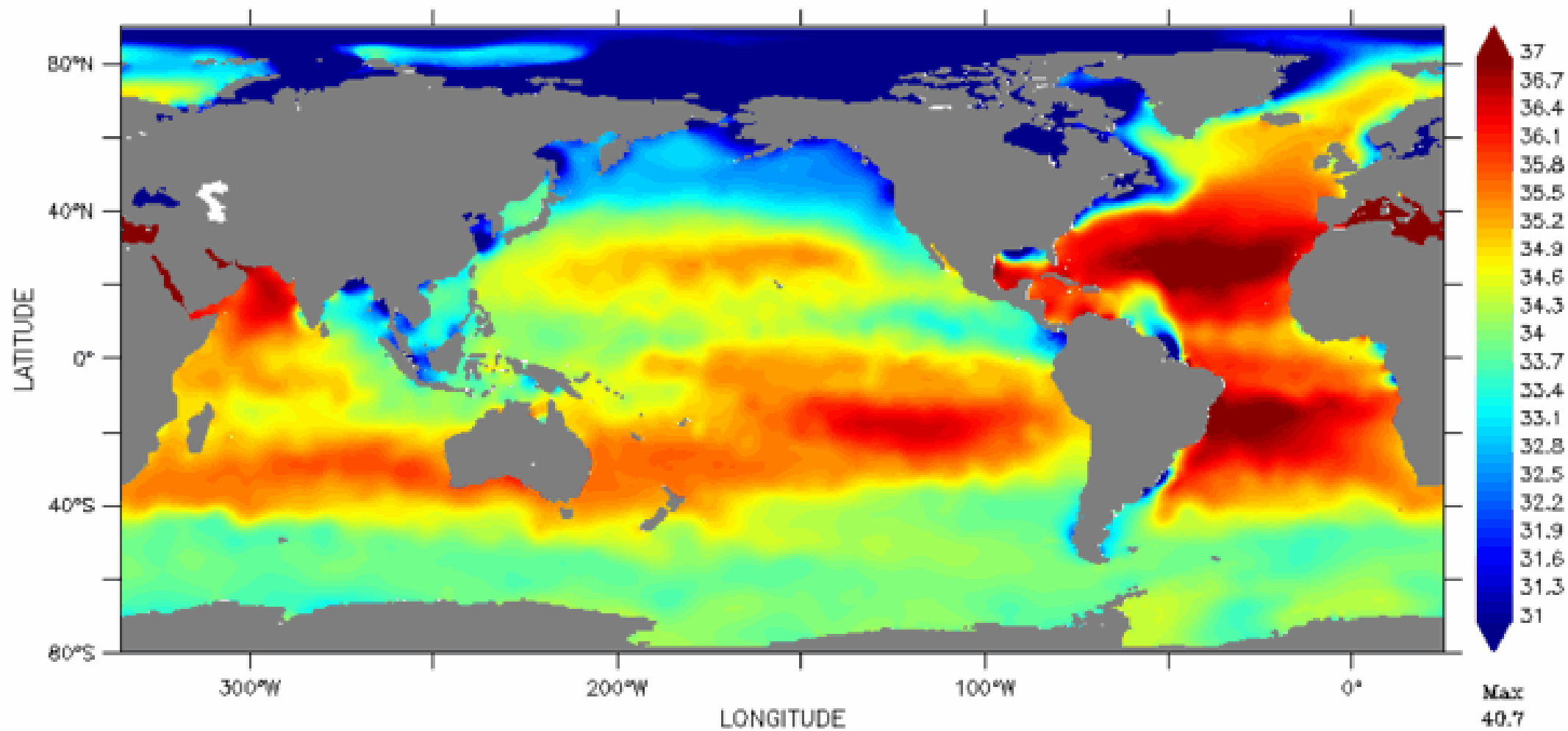
**Atlantic  
Basin  
Multi-decadal  
Hurricane  
Variability**

# Annual Number of 6 Hour Periods for Cat 3-4-5 Hurricanes



# GLOBAL SURFACE SALINITY

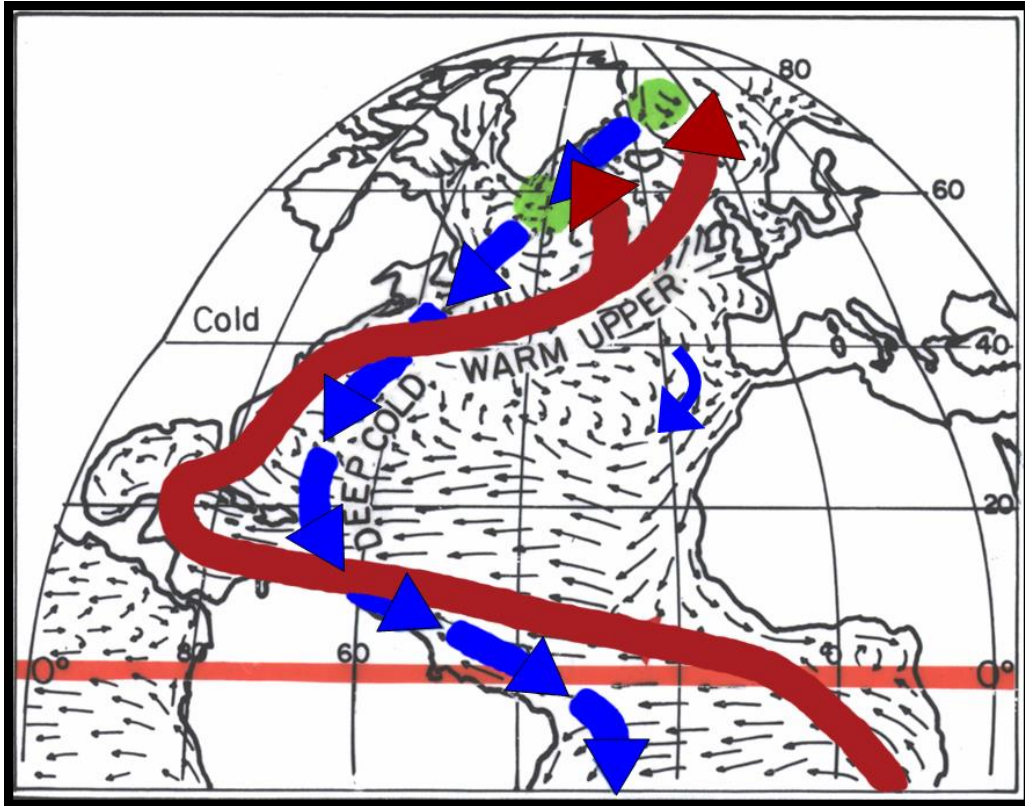
Global



Depth (m) : 0  
time : 01-jul-2005 (climatology)

Salinity (psu)

Max  
40.7  
Min  
3.3  
Average  
34.5

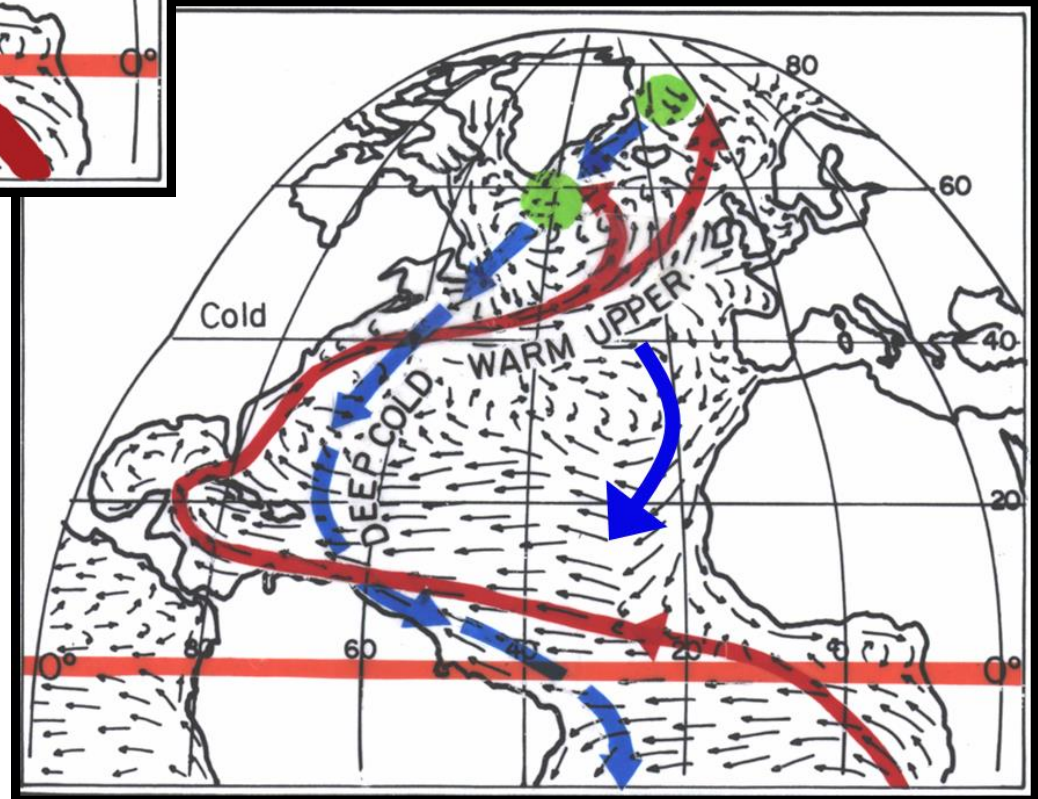


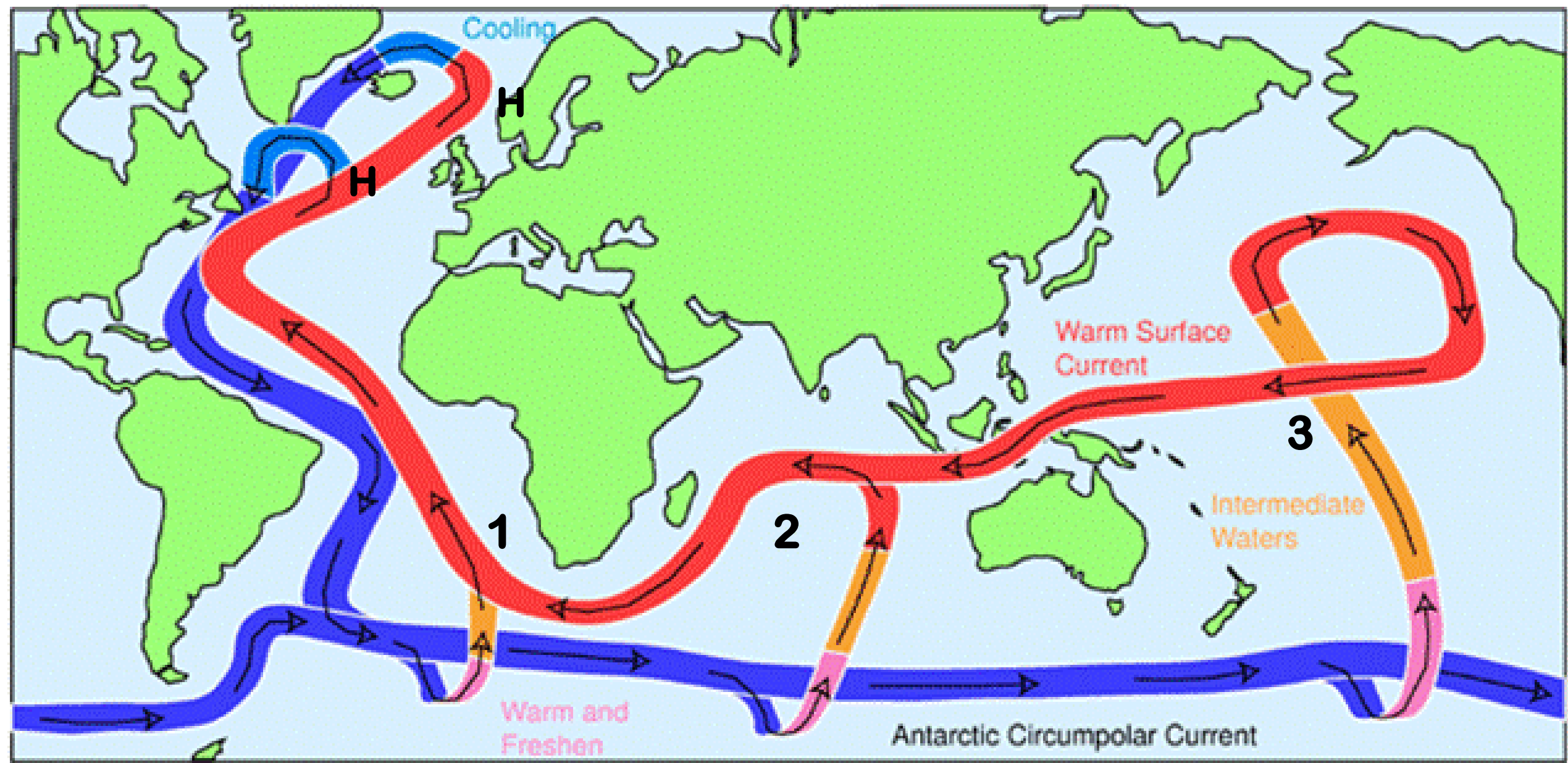
**THC (or AMO)**

**STRONG**

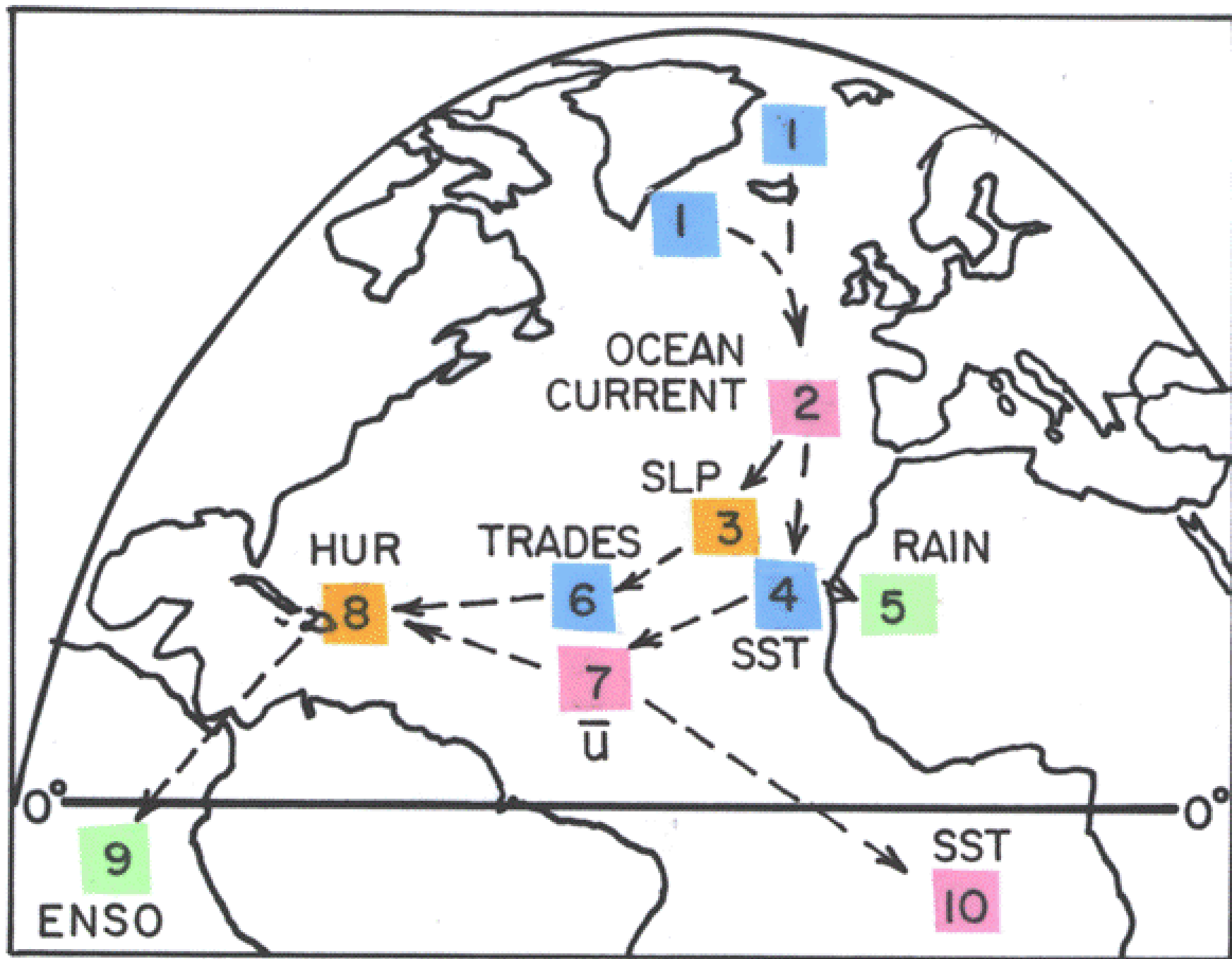
**THC (or AMO)**

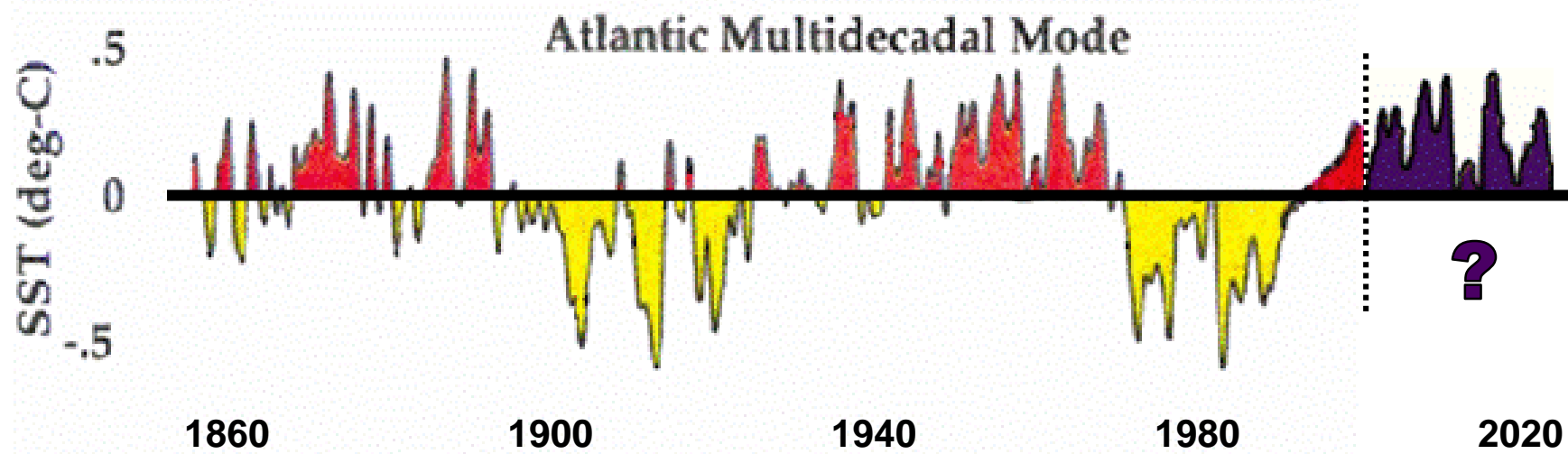
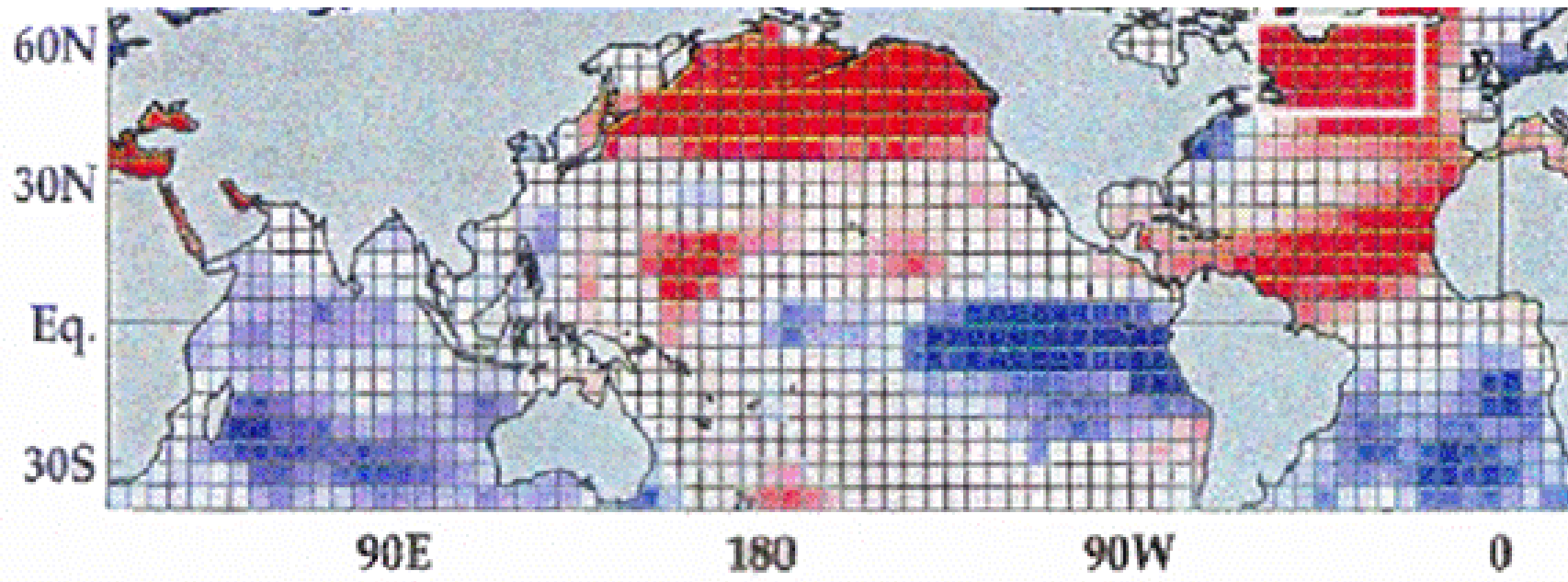
**WEAK**





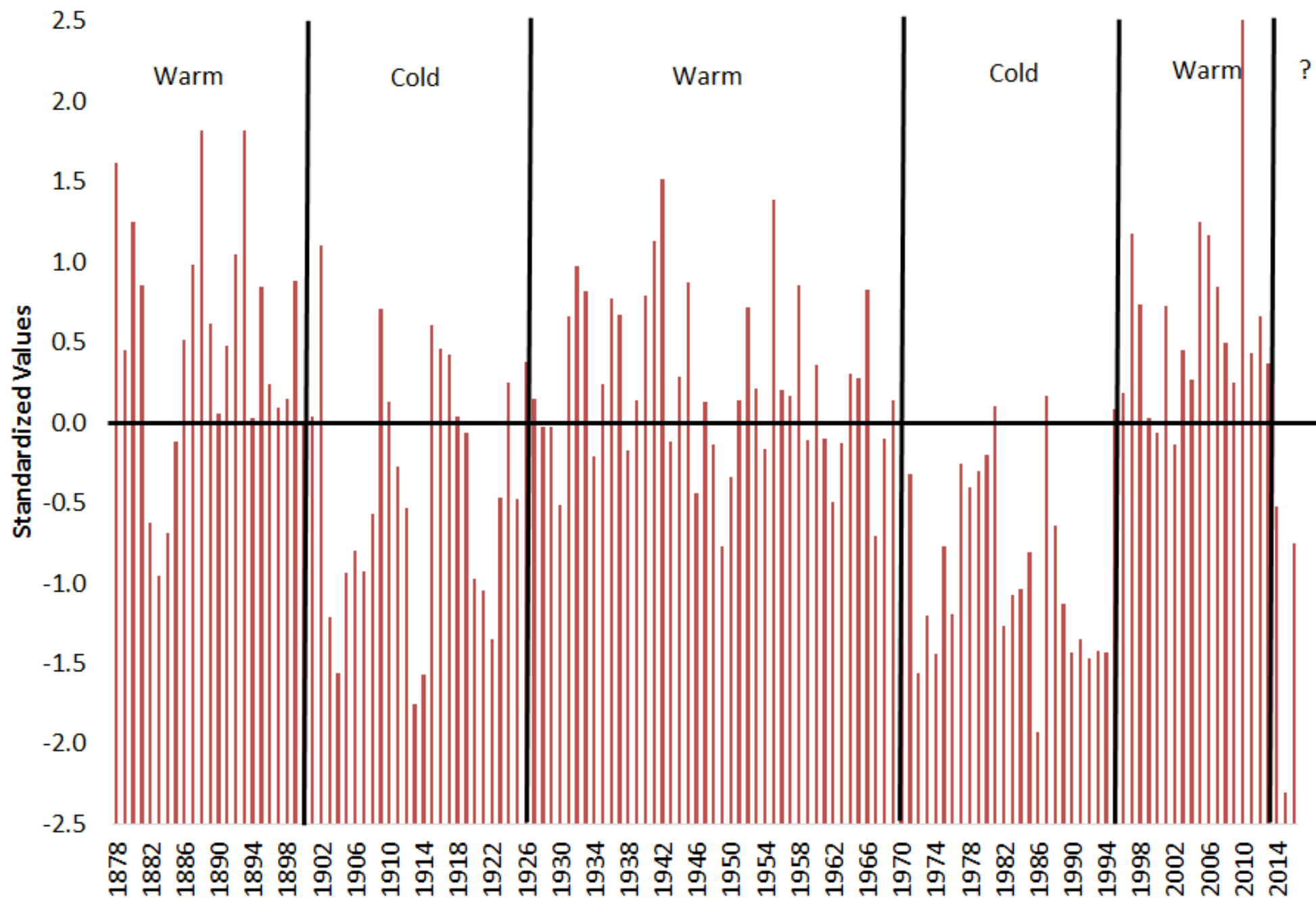
Courtesy of John Marshall (MIT)





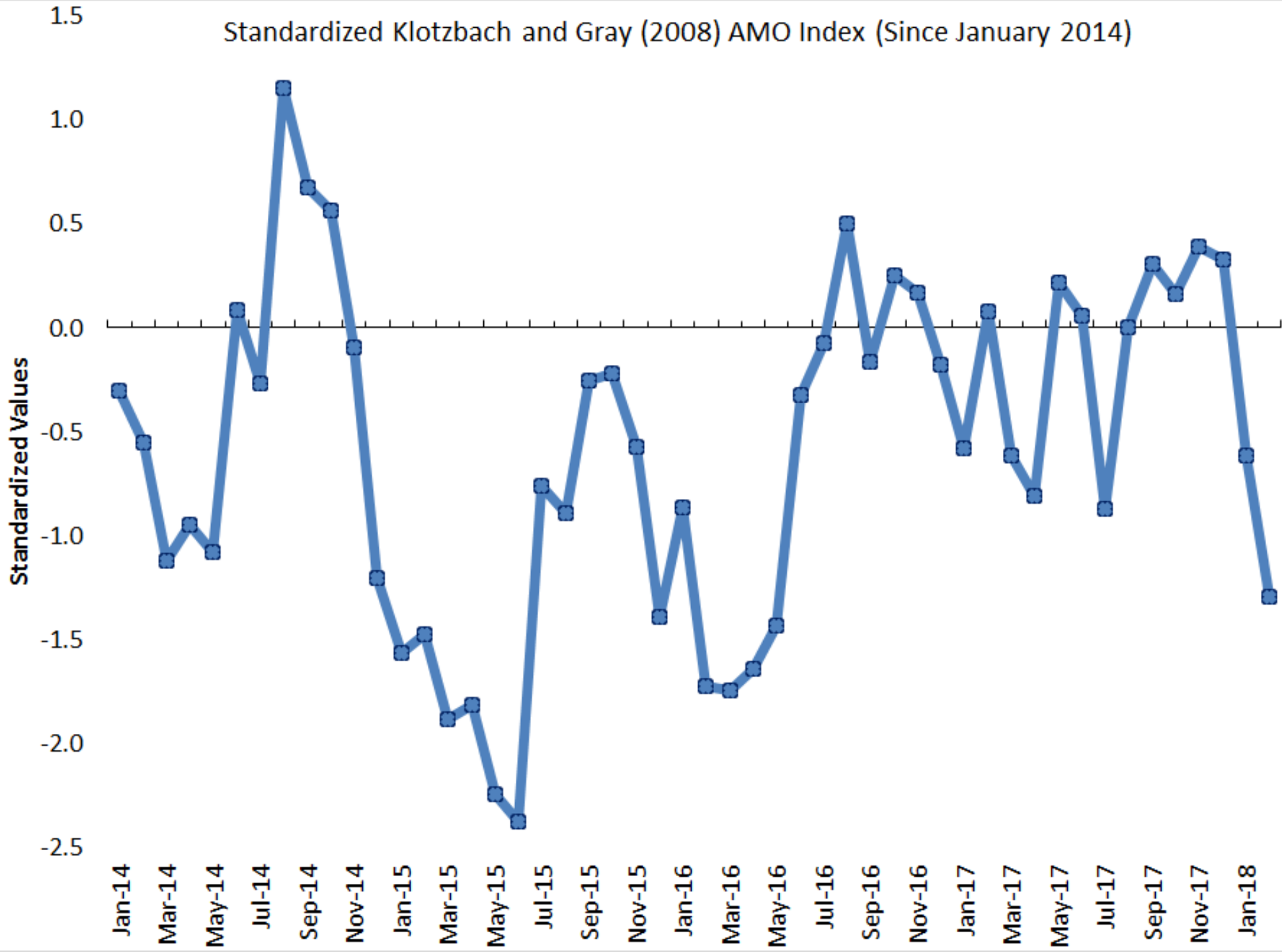
*Goldenberg et al. (2001)*

Annual AMO Index (1878-2016) - as Defined in Klotzbach and Gray (2008)

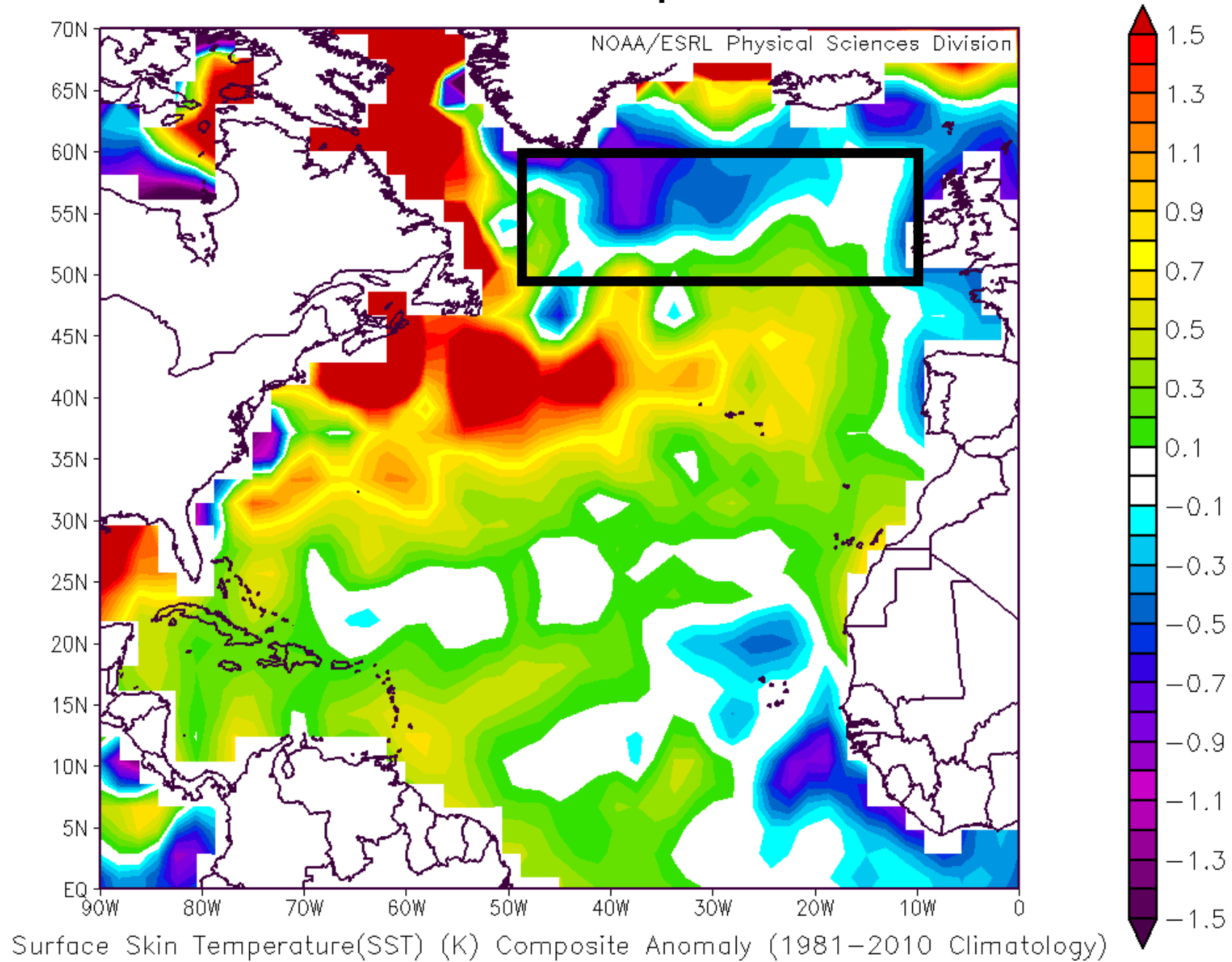





Standardized Klotzbach and Gray (2008) AMO Index (Since January 2014)



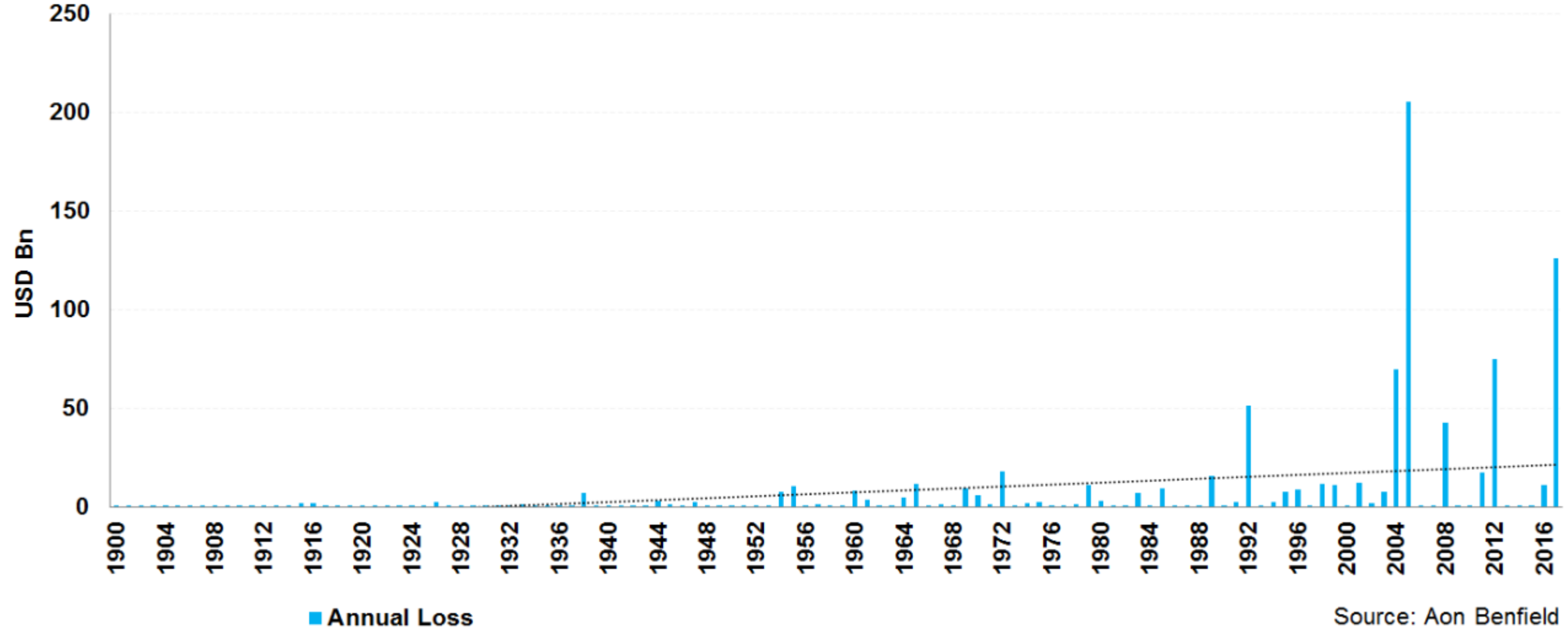
# Current Sea Surface Temperature Anomalies





**Tropical  
Cyclones and  
Climate  
Change**

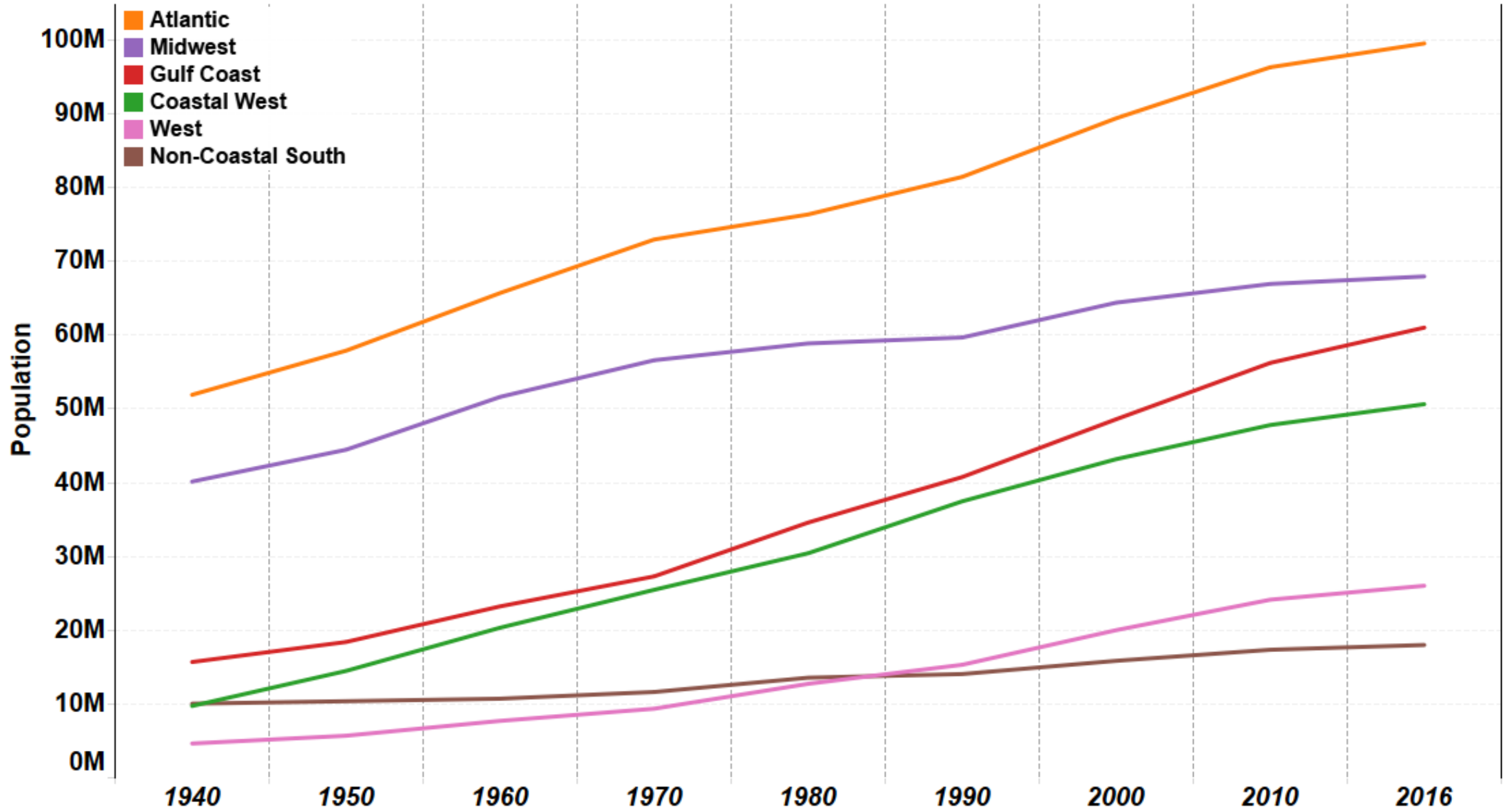
## Continental US Economic Loss: Tropical Cyclone (2017 USD)



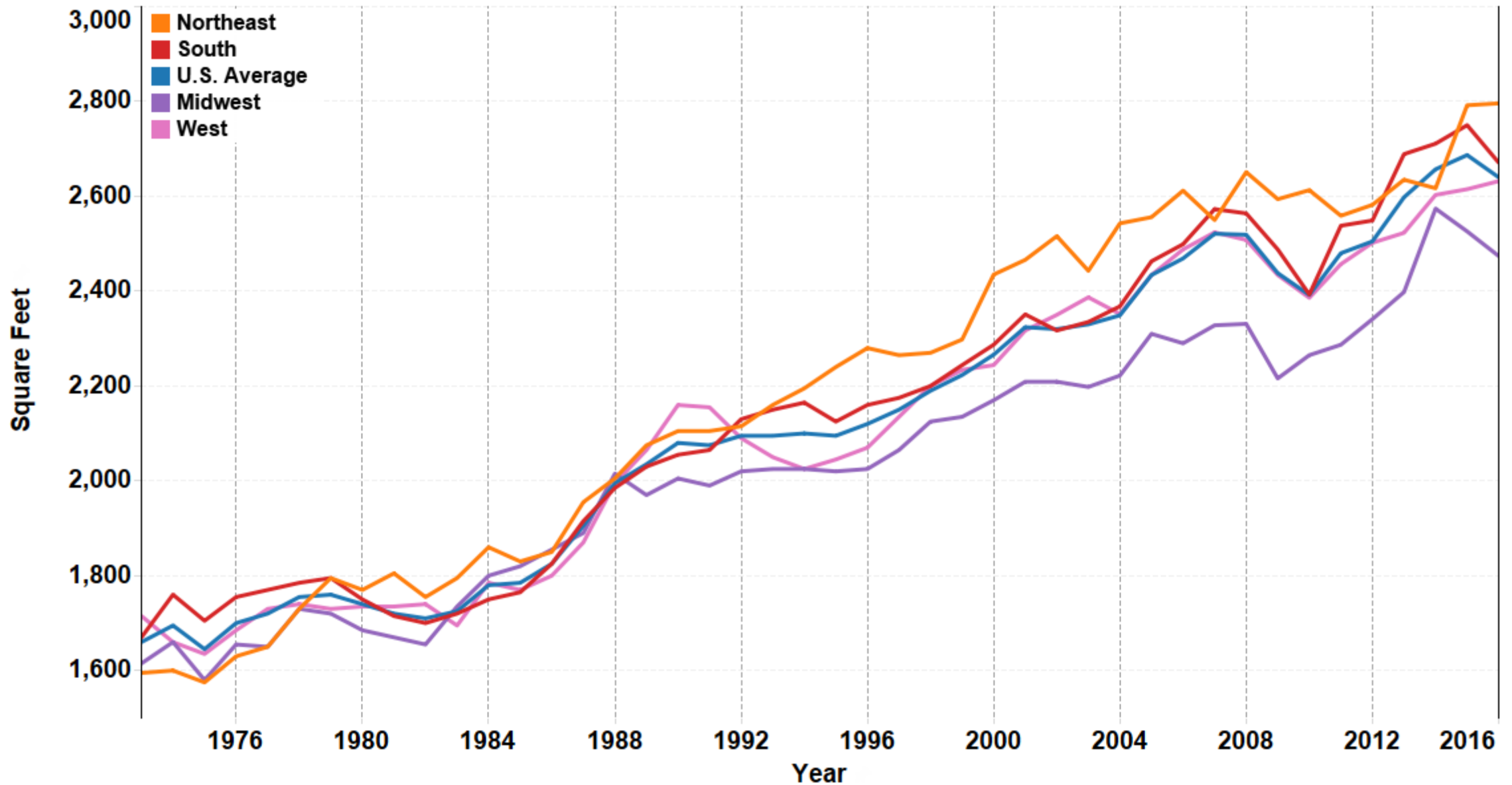
Source: Aon Benfield

Klotzbach, P. J., S. G. Bowen, R. Pielke Jr., and M. M. Bell, 2018: Continental United States landfall frequency and associated damage: Observations and future risks. *Bull. Amer. Meteor. Soc.*, in press.

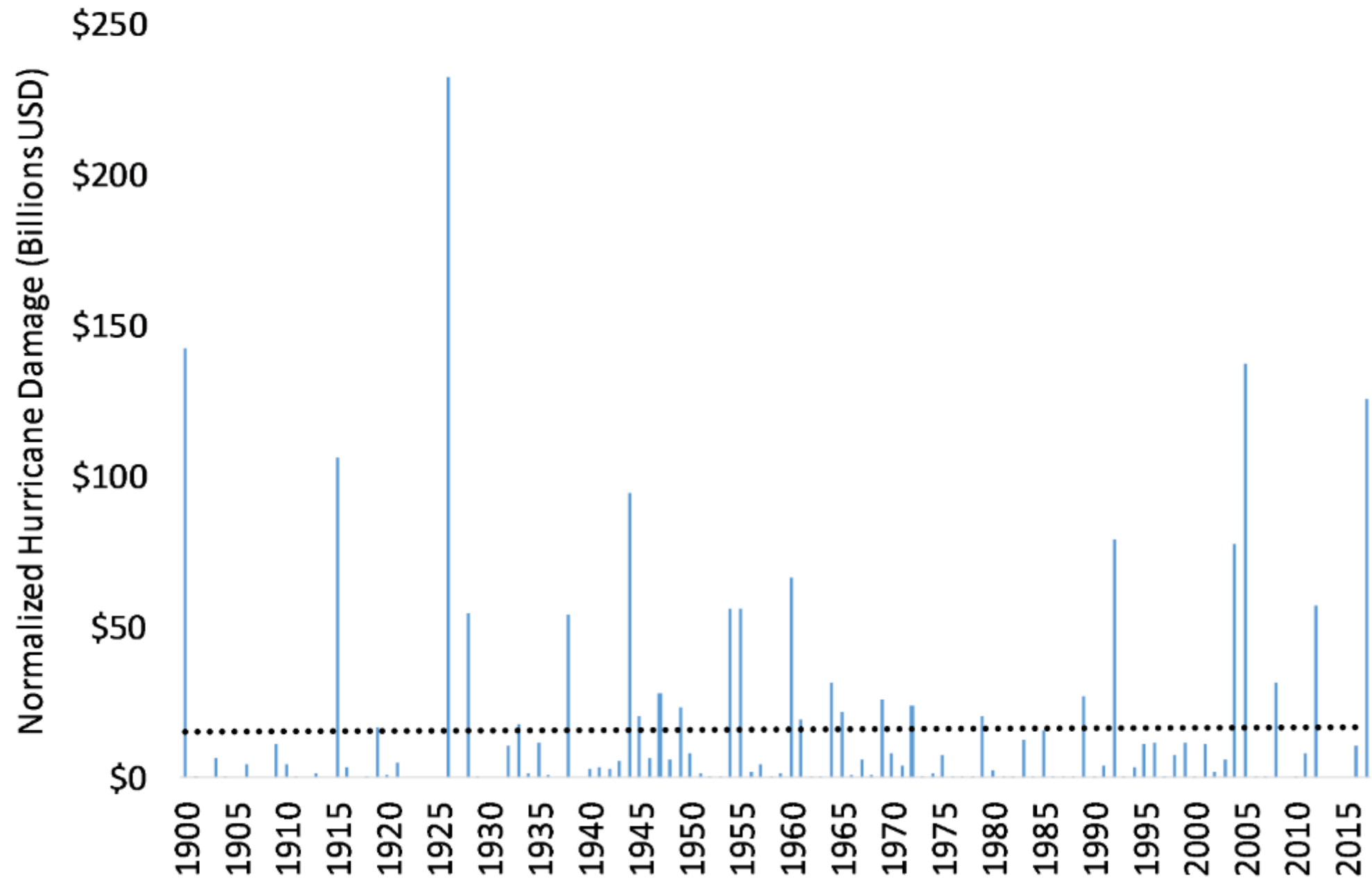
# US Population by Region



# Square Footage of Average Single-Family Home by Region



**Continental US Landfalling Hurricane Normalized Total Economic Damage (1900-2017)**



**1926 Great Miami Hurricane - >\$200 Billion Economic Damage  
(if it were to occur today)**



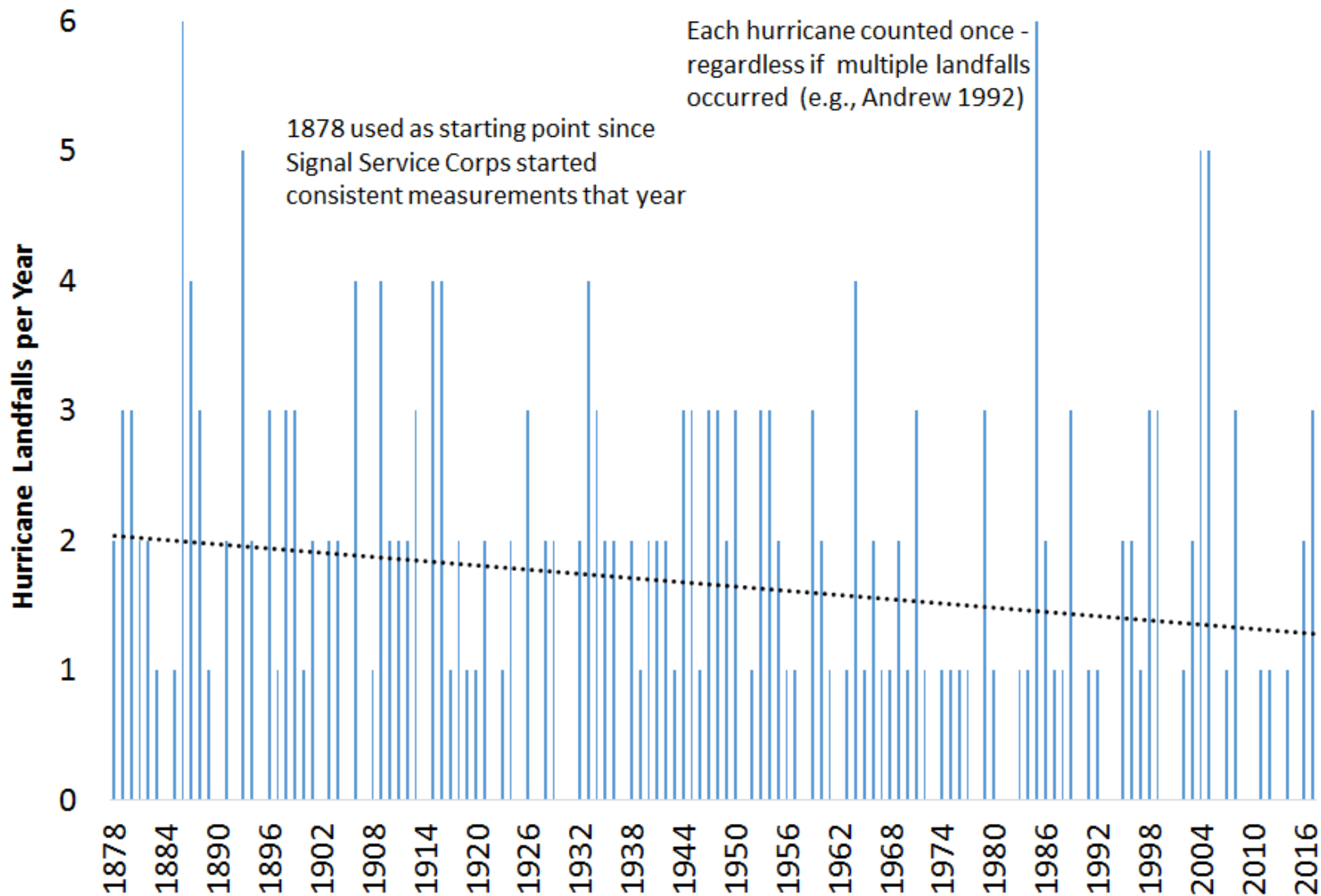
**1926**



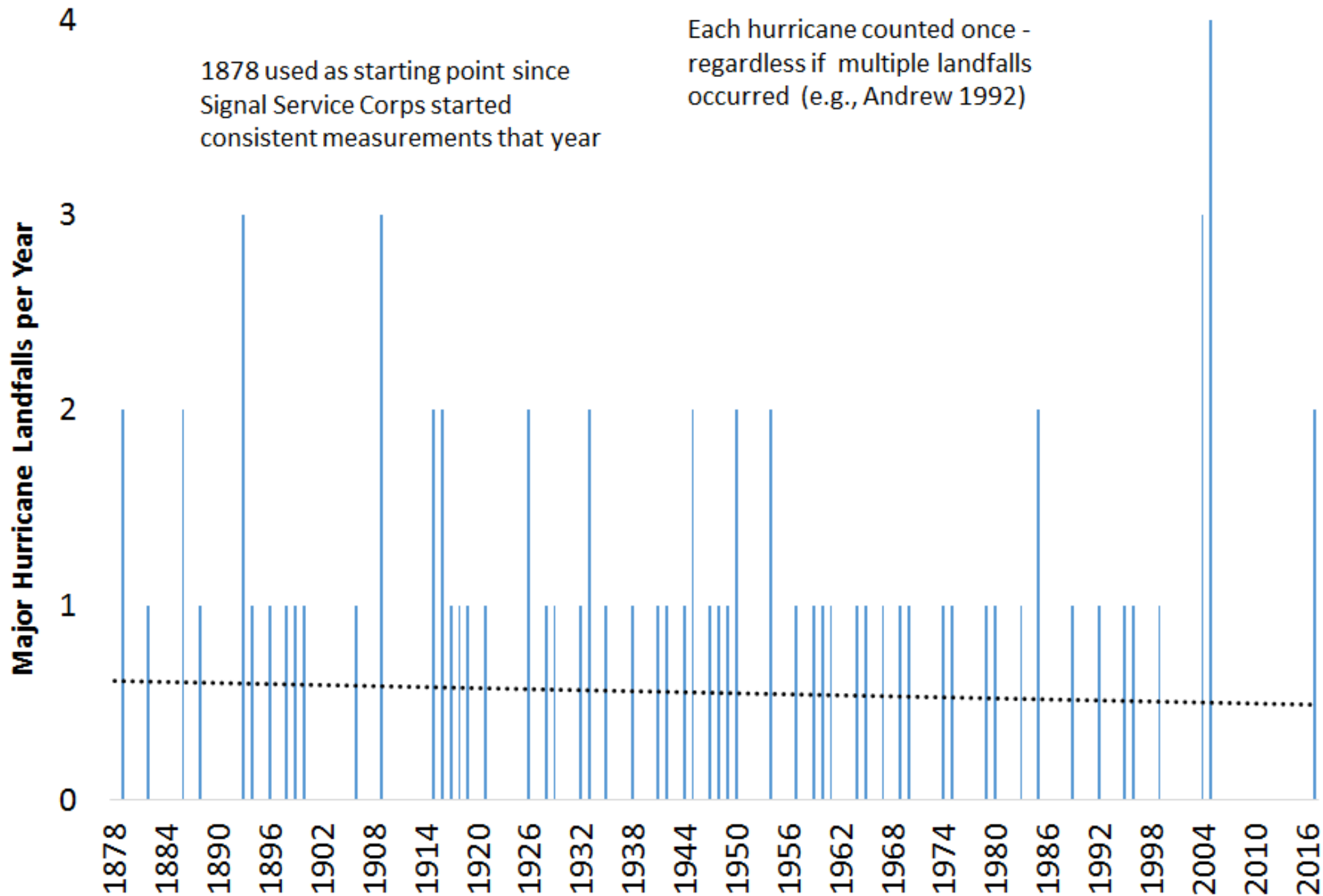
**2016**



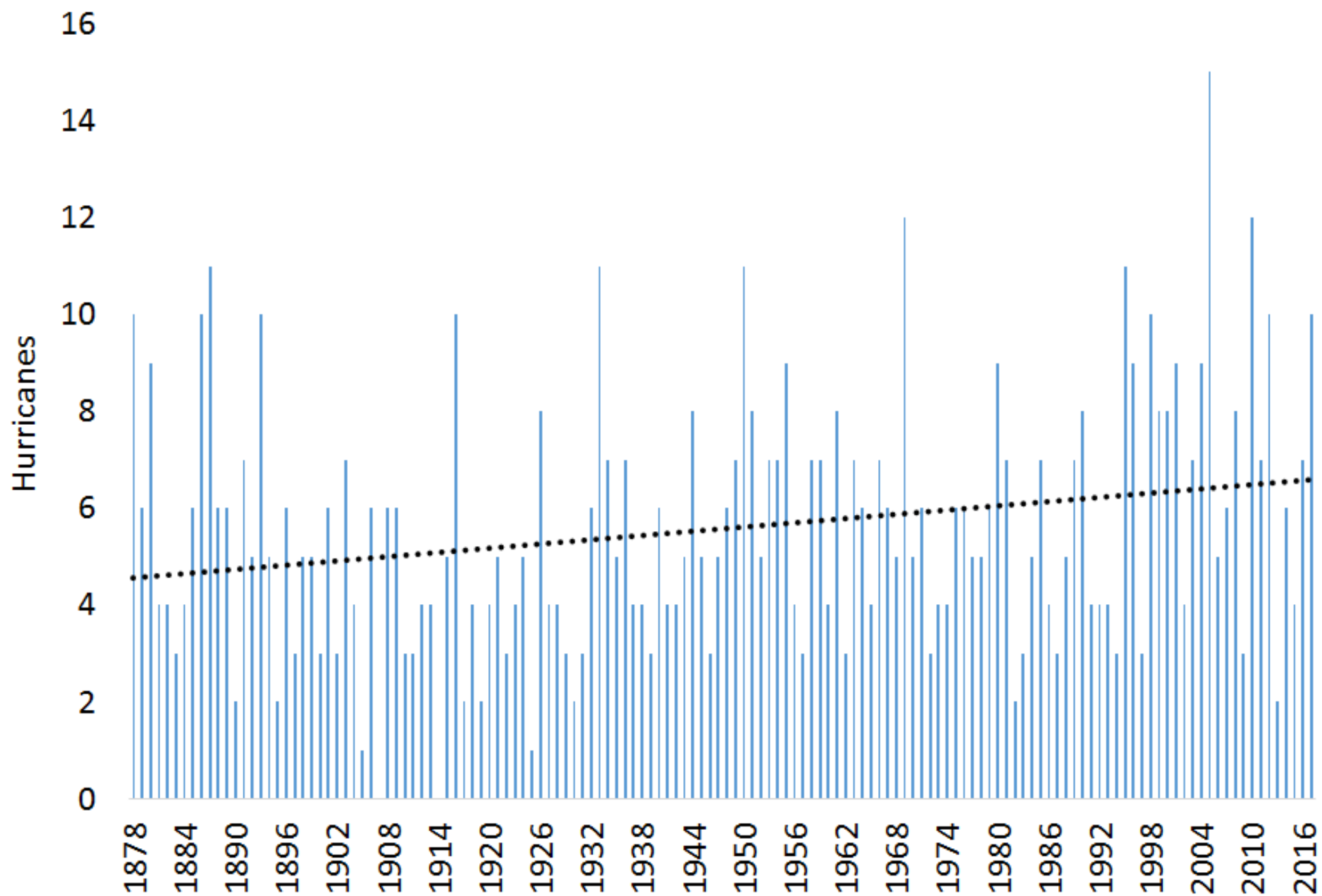
# Continental United States Landfalling Hurricanes per Year (1878-2017)



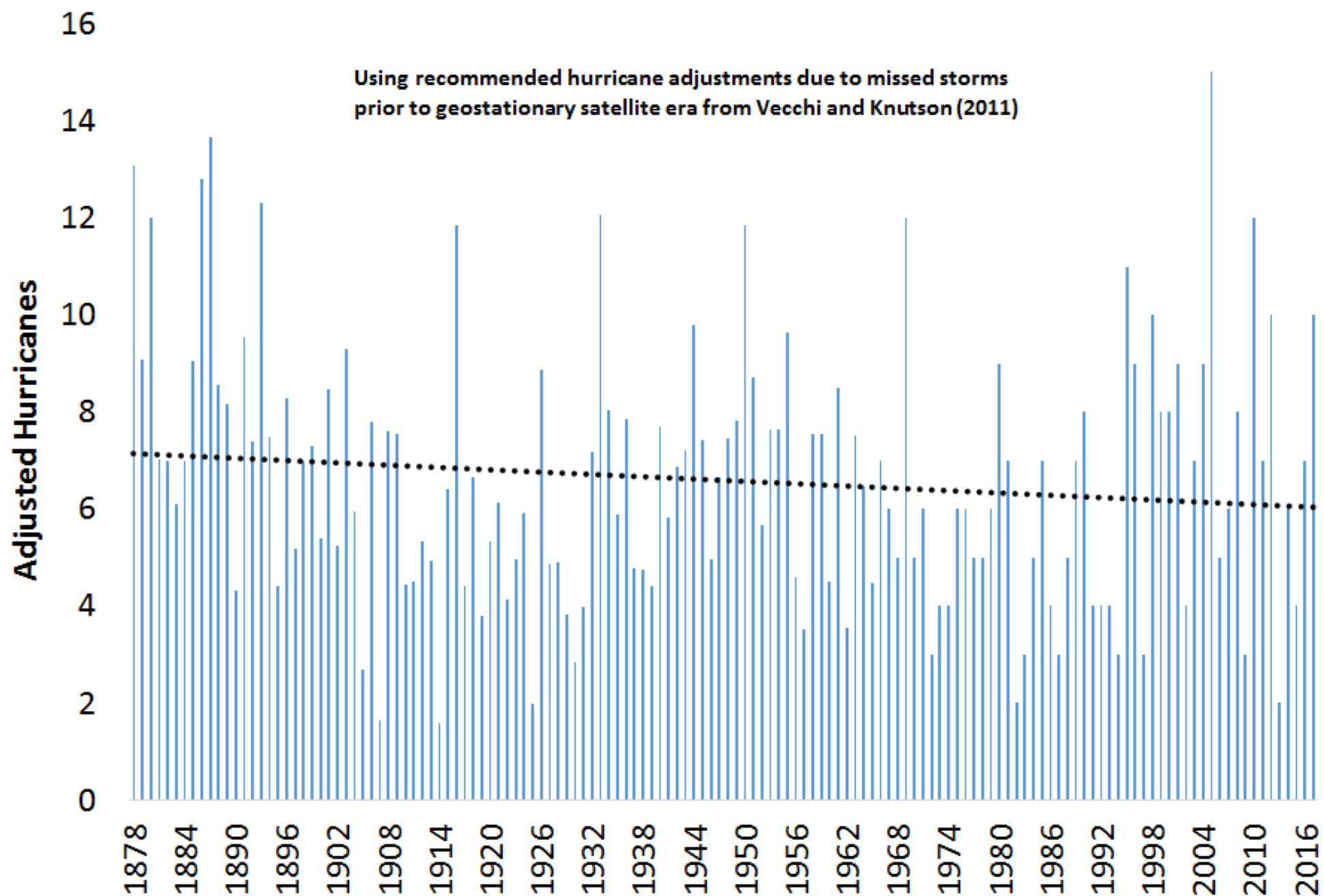
# Continental US Landfalling Major Hurricanes per Year (1878-2017)



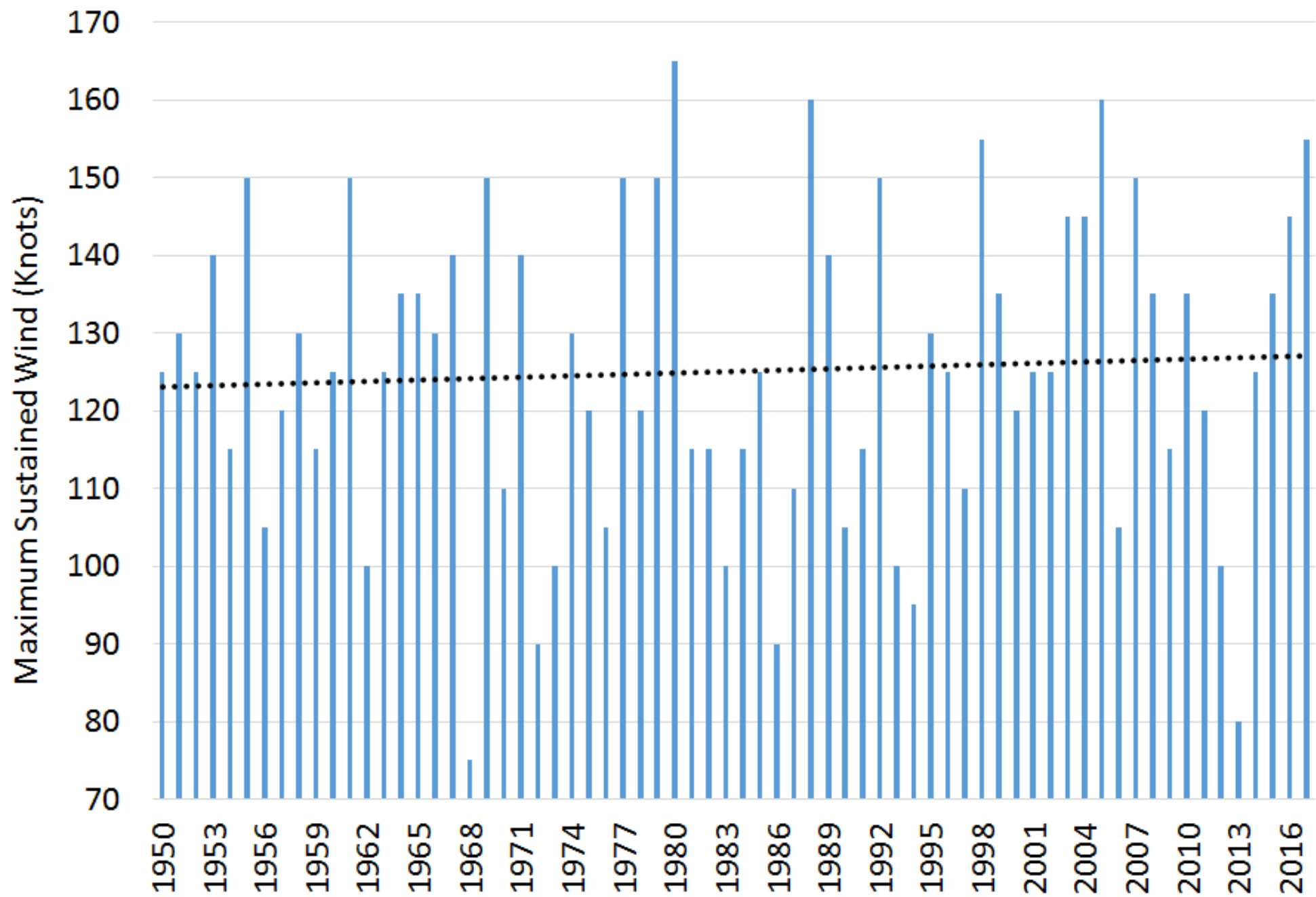
# Atlantic Hurricanes (1878-2017)



# Adjusted Atlantic Hurricanes (1878-2017)



Atlantic Hurricane Season Maximum Tropical Cyclone Intensity (1950-2017)



A satellite image of a hurricane, showing a distinct eye and spiral cloud bands. The image is centered in the middle of the frame. The background is a gradient of colors, with a blue top and bottom section and a red and orange middle section. The text "2017 Atlantic Hurricane Season" is overlaid on the red and orange section.

# 2017 Atlantic Hurricane Season

# 2017 Atlantic Tropical Cyclone Activity

Forecast Parameter	Observed 2017 Atlantic TC Activity	Atlantic Full Season 1981-2010 Median	2017 as Percentage of Full Season Median	2017 All-Time (Since 1851) Full Season Rank	All-Time Record (Year)
Named Storms (NS)	17	12.0	142%	T-9	28 (2005)
Named Storm Days (NSD)	91.25	60.1	152%	11	126.25 (2005)
Hurricanes (H)	10	6.5	154%	T-8	15 (2005)
Hurricane Days (HD)	51.25	21.3	241%	6	61.50 (1893 & 1995)
Major Hurricanes (MH)	6	2.0	300%	T-3	7 (1961 & 2005)
Major Hurricane Days (MHD)	19.25	3.9	494%	6	24.50 (1961)
Accumulated Cyclone Energy (ACE)	226	92	246%	7	259 (1933)

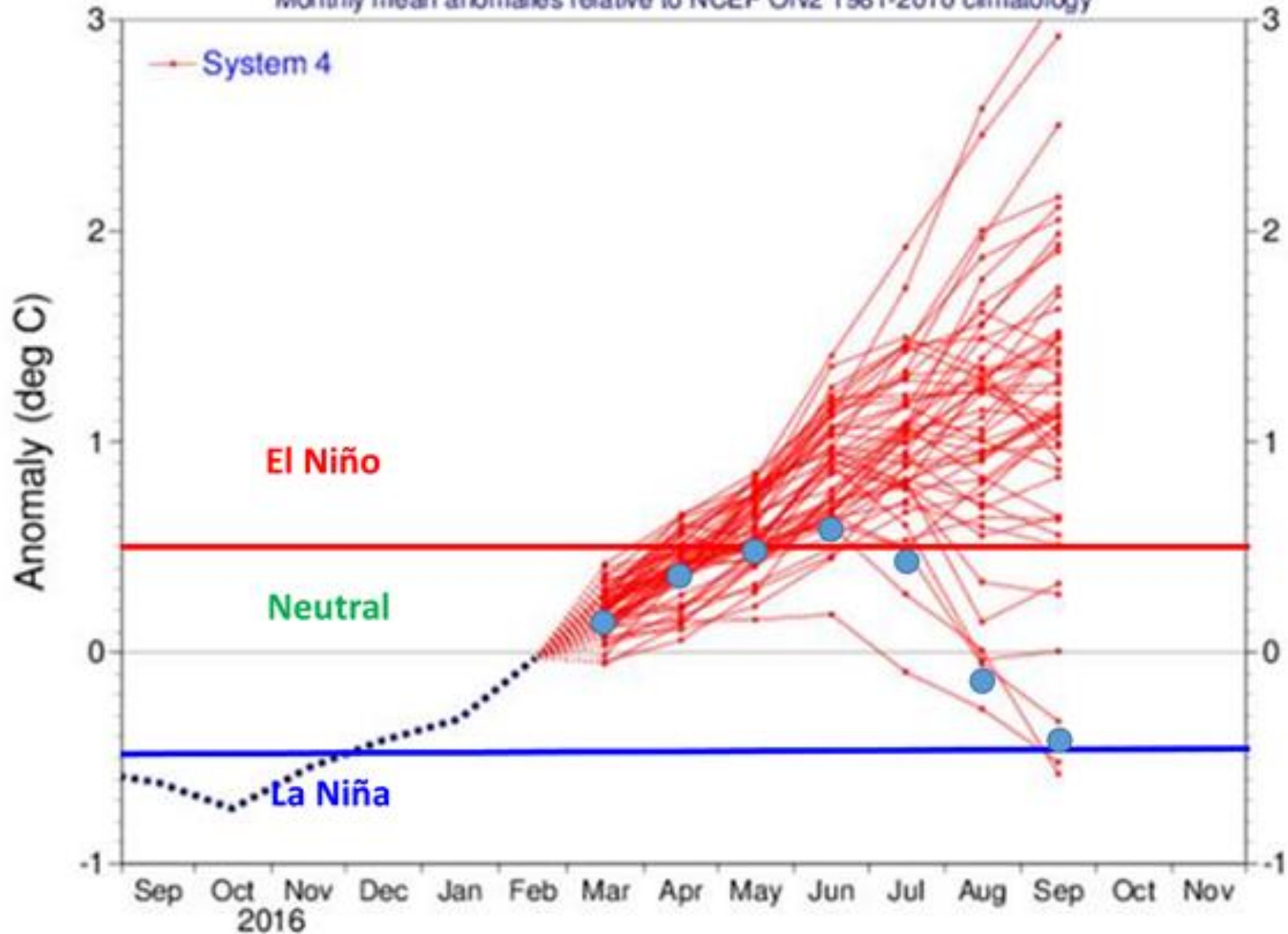
# ATLANTIC BASIN SEASONAL HURRICANE FORECASTS FOR 2017

Forecast Parameter and 1981-2010 Median (in parentheses)	6 April 2017	Update 1 June 2017	Update 5 July 2017	Update 4 August 2017	Observed 2017 Total	% of 1981-2010 Median
Named Storms (NS) (12.0)	11	14	15	16	17	142%
Named Storm Days (NSD) (60.1)	50	60	70	70	91.25	152%
Hurricanes (H) (6.5)	4	6	8	8	10	154%
Hurricane Days (HD) (21.3)	16	25	35	35	51.25	241%
Major Hurricanes (MH) (2.0)	2	2	3	3	6	300%
Major Hurricane Days (MHD) (3.9)	4	5	7	7	19.25	494%
Accumulated Cyclone Energy (ACE) (92)	75	100	135	135	226	246%
Net Tropical Cyclone Activity (NTC) (103%)	85	110	140	140	231	224%

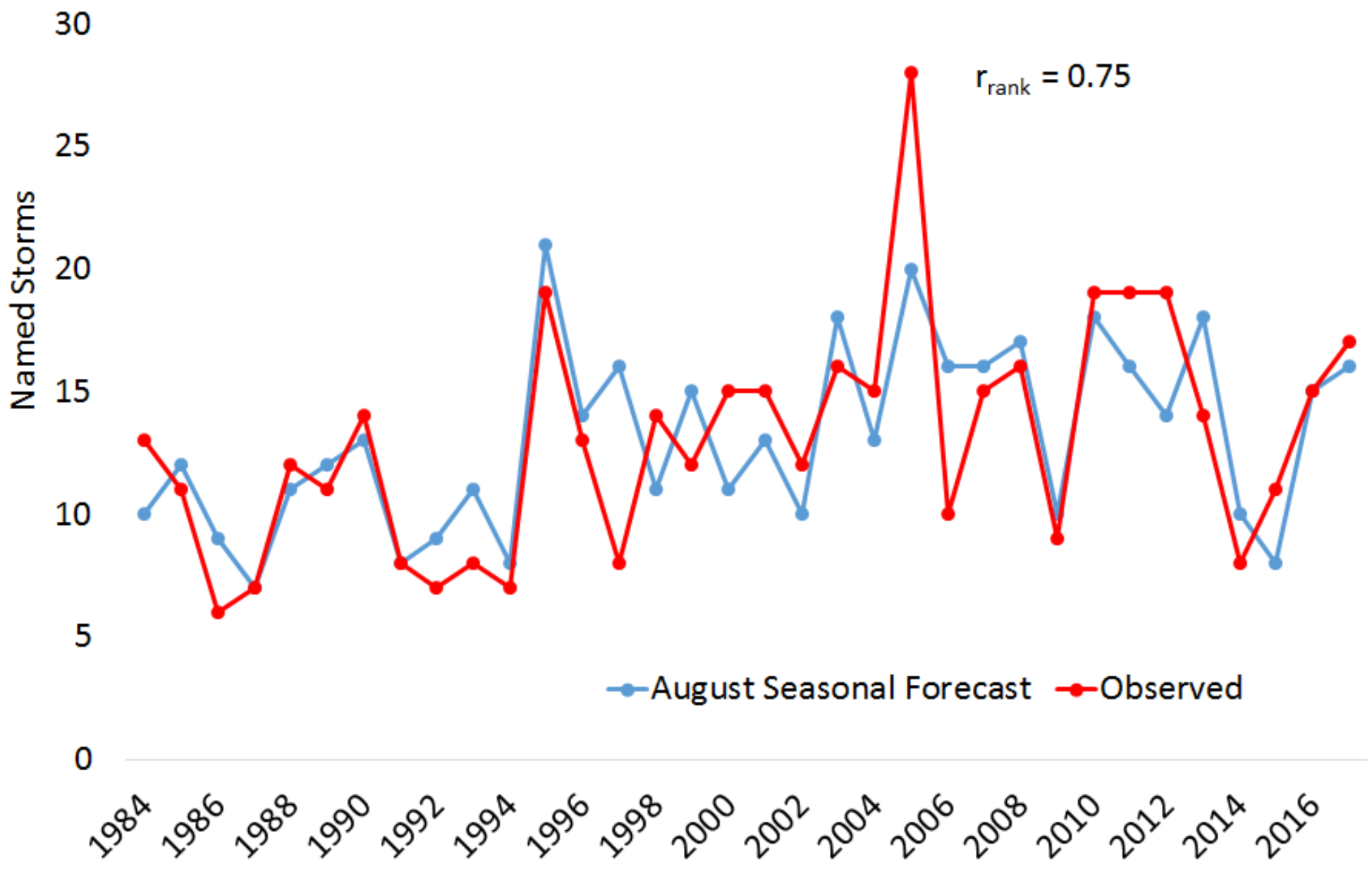


# NINO3.4 SST anomaly plume ECMWF forecast from 1 Mar 2017

Monthly mean anomalies relative to NCEP OIv2 1981-2010 climatology



CSU Predicted vs. Observed Atlantic Named Storms (1984-2017) - Early August Forecast

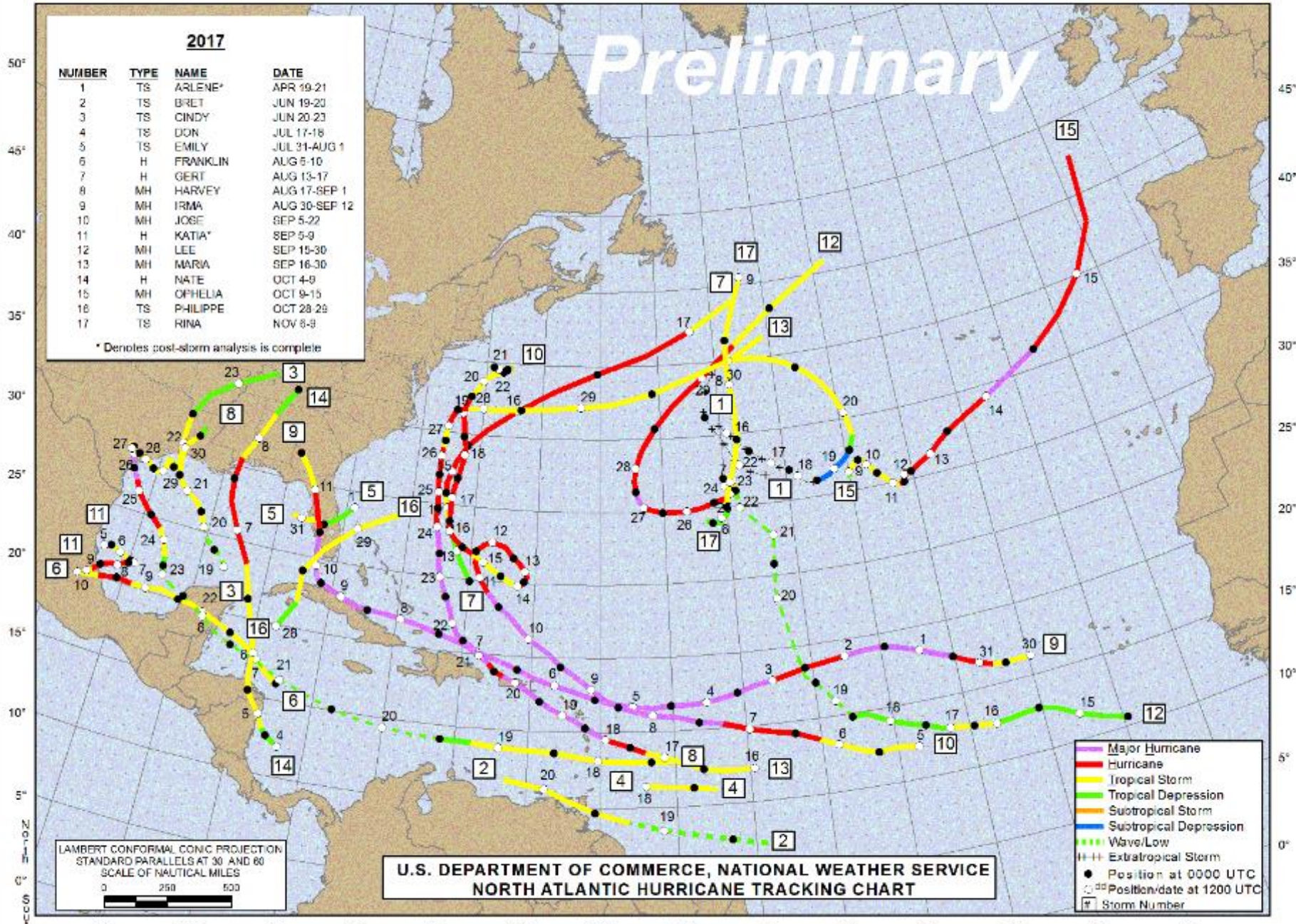


120° 115° 110° 105° 100° 95° 90° 85° 80° 75° 70° 65° 60° 55° 50° 45° 40° 35° 30° 25° 20° 15° 10° 5° 0° 5° 10°

# Preliminary

2017			
NUMBER	TYPE	NAME	DATE
1	TS	ARLENE*	APR 19-21
2	TS	BRET	JUN 19-20
3	TS	CINDY	JUN 20-23
4	TS	DON	JUL 17-18
5	TS	EMILY	JUL 31-AUG 1
6	H	FRANKLIN	AUG 5-10
7	H	GERT	AUG 13-17
8	MH	HARVEY	AUG 17-SEP 1
9	MH	IRMA	AUG 30-SEP 12
10	MH	JOSE	SEP 5-22
11	H	KATIA*	SEP 5-9
12	MH	LEE	SEP 15-30
13	MH	MARIA	SEP 16-30
14	H	NATE	OCT 4-9
15	MH	OPHELIA	OCT 9-15
16	TS	PHILIPPE	OCT 28-29
17	TS	RINA	NOV 8-9

\* Denotes post-storm analysis is complete



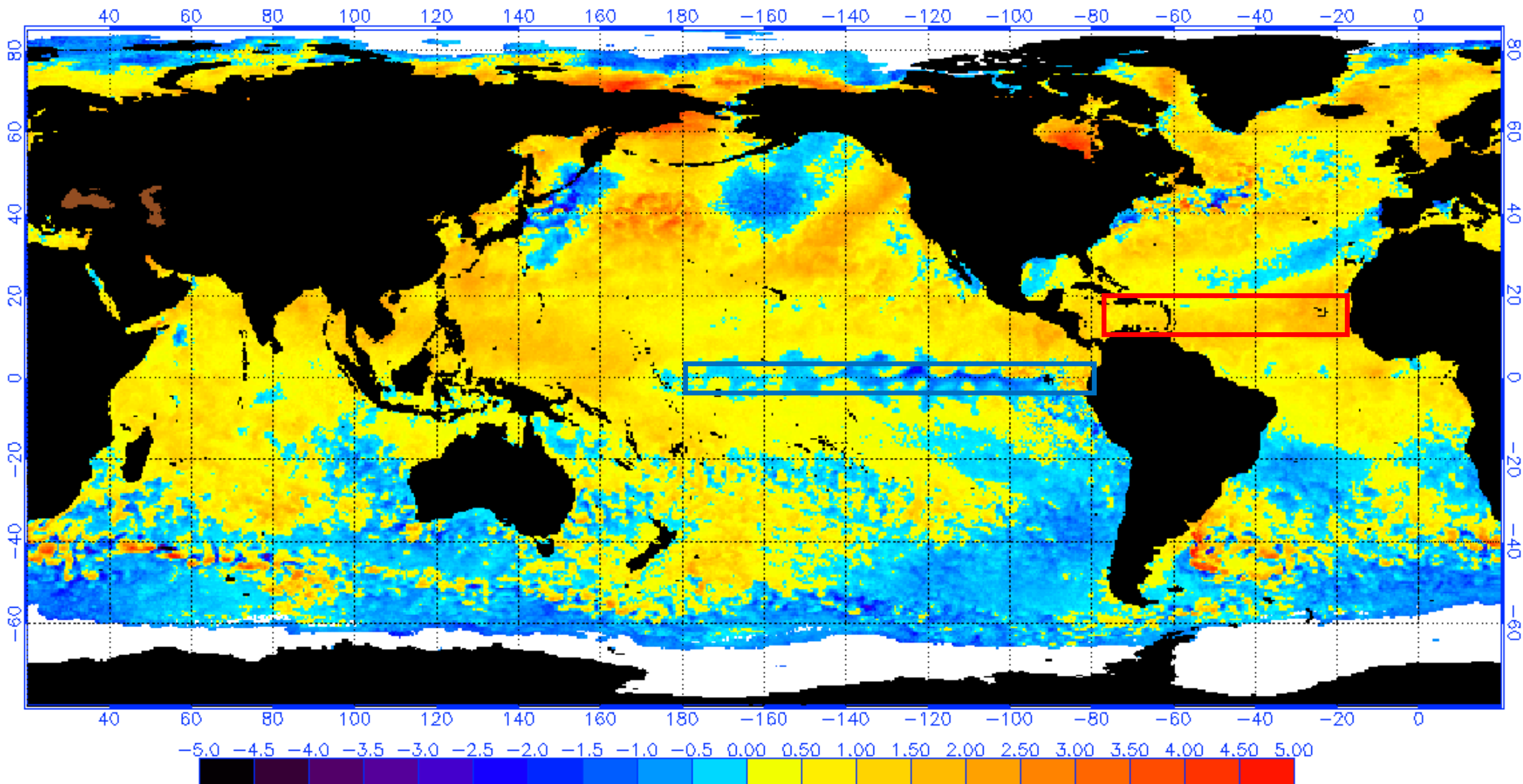
LAMBERT CONFORMAL CONIC PROJECT ON STANDARD PARALLELS AT 30 AND 60  
SCALE OF NAUTICAL MILES  
0 250 500

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE  
NORTH ATLANTIC HURRICANE TRACKING CHART

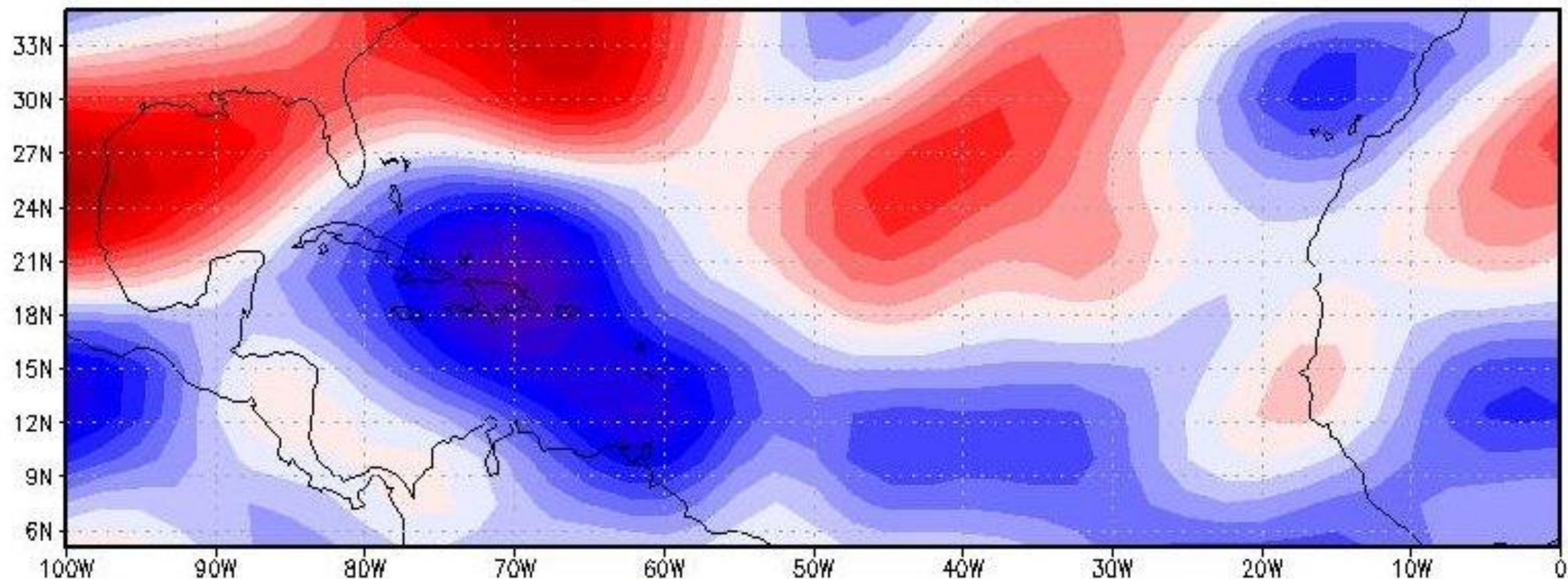
Major Hurricane  
Hurricane  
Tropical Storm  
Tropical Depression  
Subtropical Storm  
Subtropical Depression  
Wave/Low  
Extratropical Storm  
● Position at 0000 UTC  
○ Position/date at 1200 UTC  
☐ Storm Number

# NOAA/NESDIS 50 KM GLOBAL ANALYSIS: SST Anomaly (degrees C), 9/11/2017

(white regions indicate sea-ice)



August 27 Through September 25, 2017 Average  
Zonal (200–850 mb) Vertical Wind Shear Anomaly (kts)  
(1981–2010 Climatology)

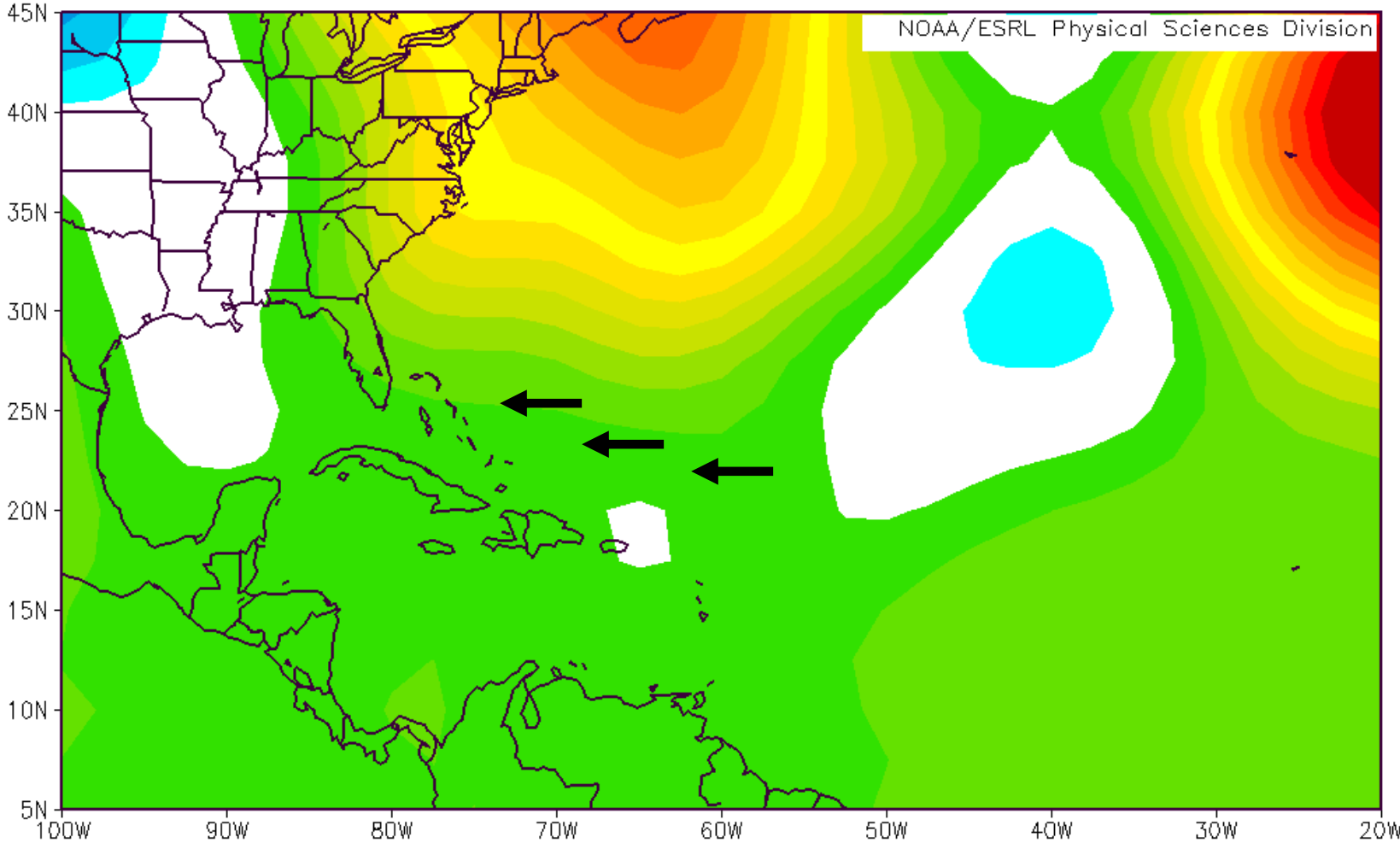


-24 -22 -20 -18 -16 -14 -12 -10 -8 -6 -4 -2 0 2 4 6 8 10 12 14 16 18 20 22 24

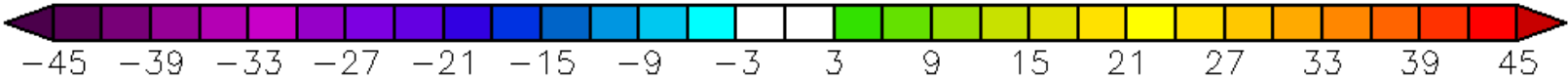
# August-October 2017 minus August-October (2006 to 2016)

NCEP/NCAR Reanalysis

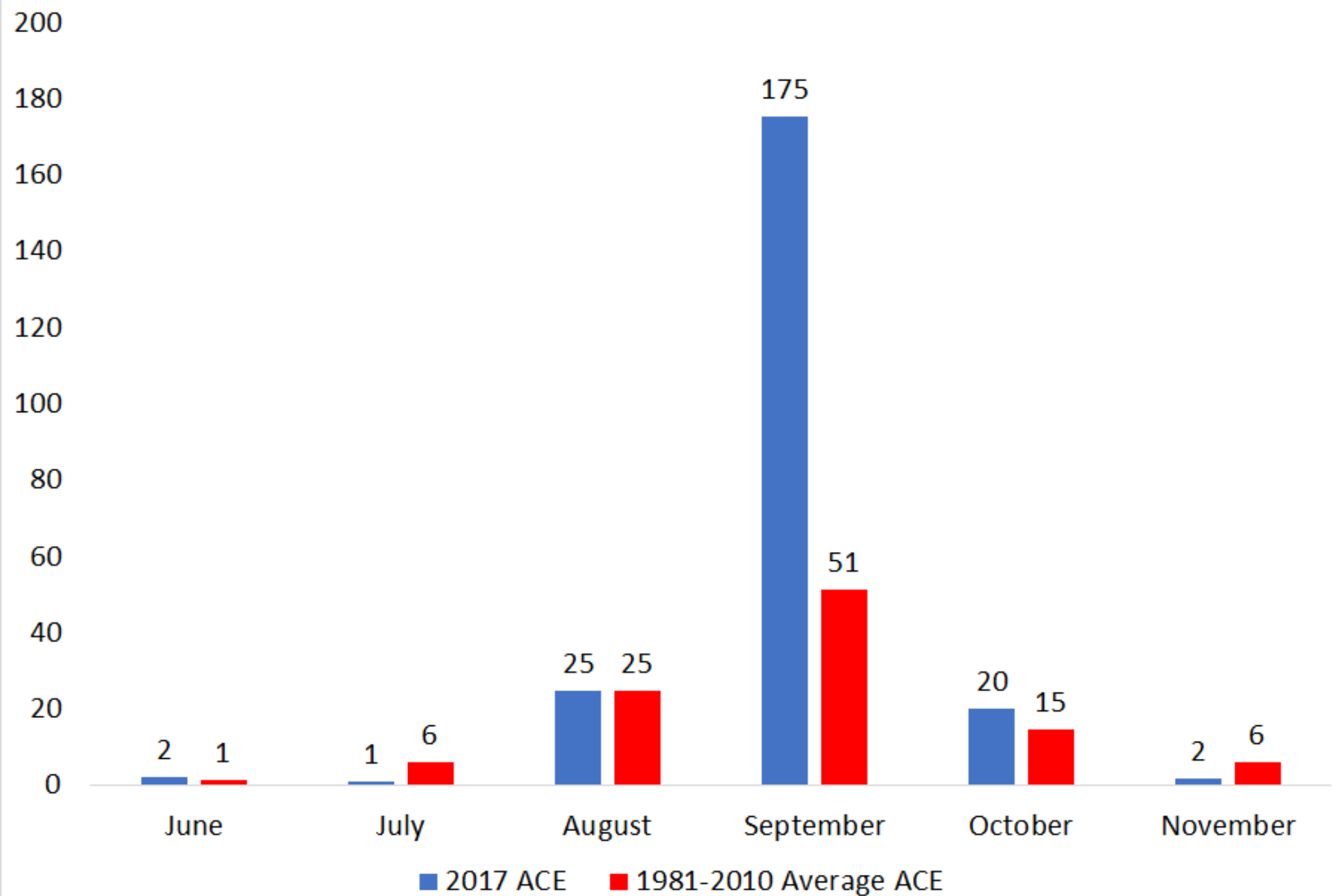
500mb Geopotential Height (m) Composite Anomaly 1981-2010 climo



Aug to Oct: 2017 to 2017 minus 2006 to 2016



2017 Atlantic Accumulated Cyclone Energy vs. 1981-2010 Average



# Hurricane Harvey

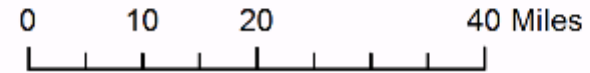
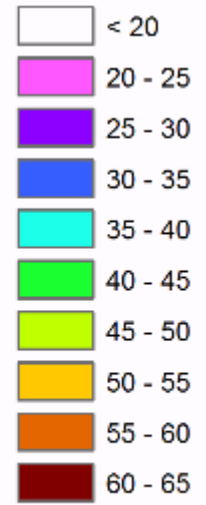
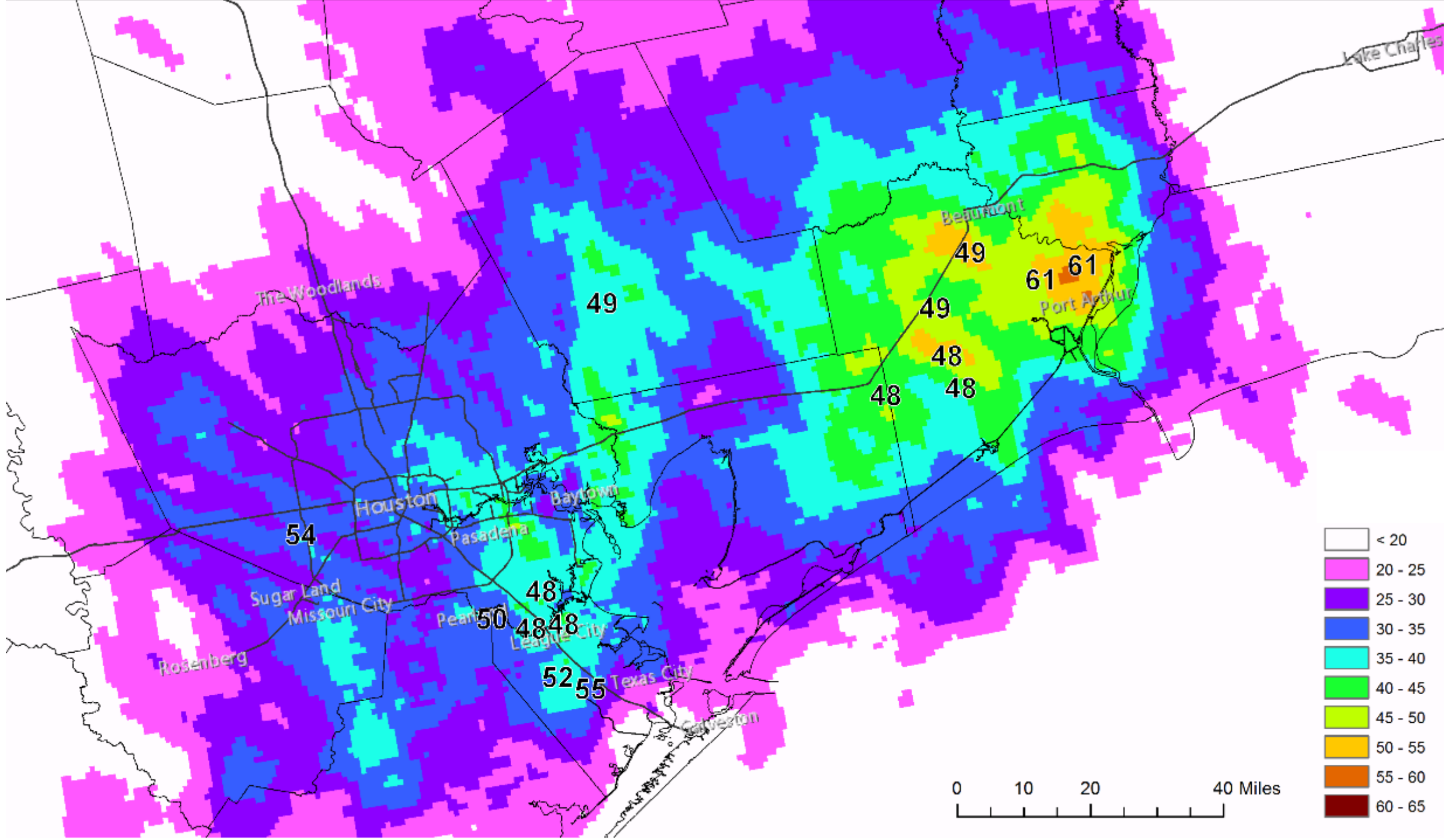




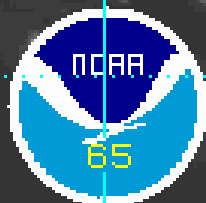
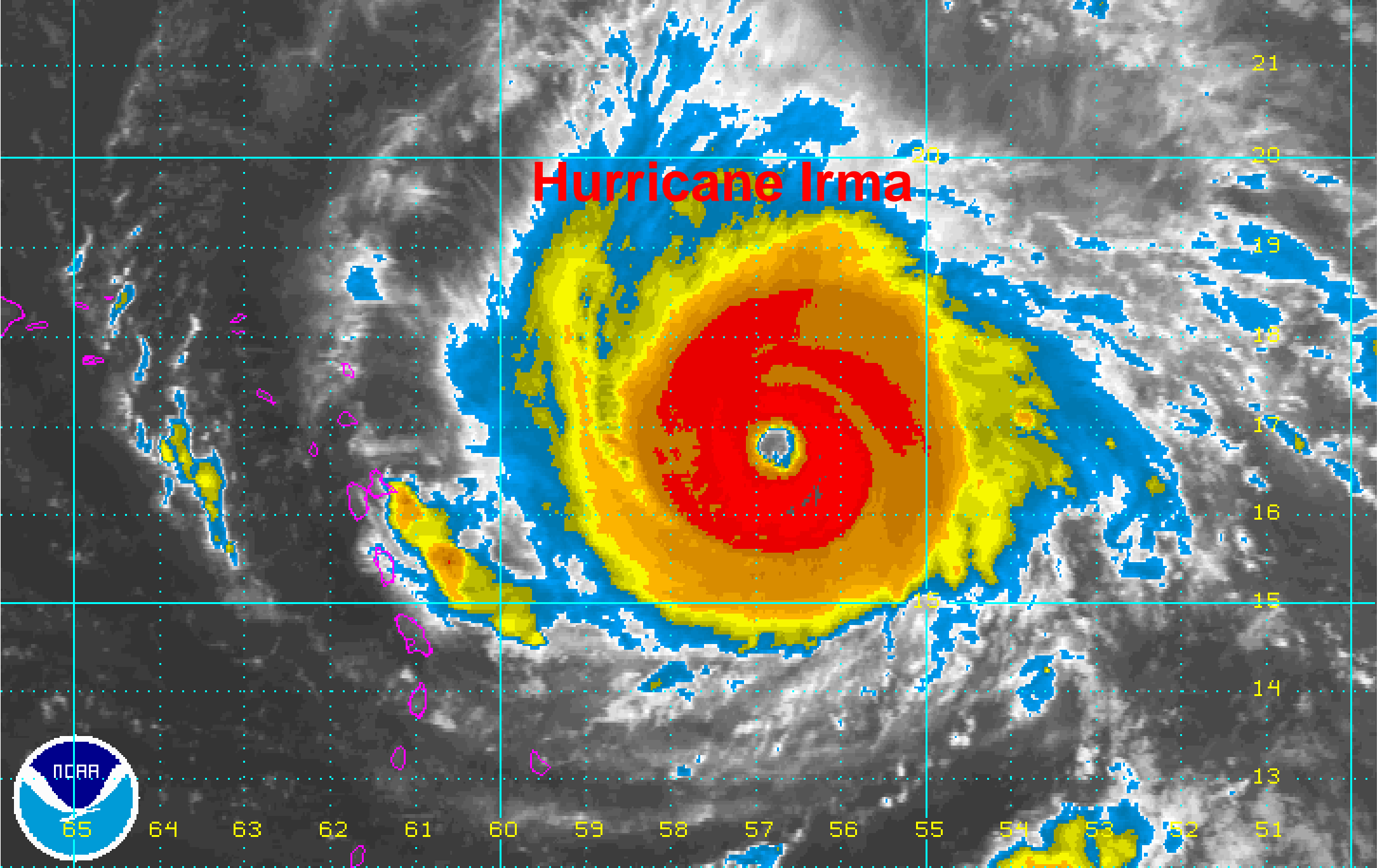
# Hurricane Harvey Notable Records

## Texas Landfall Intensity: 115 Knots, 938 mb

- \$90-\$150 Billion USD in economic damage
- First Category 4 hurricane to make landfall in Texas since Carla (1961) and in the United States since Charley (2004)
- Ended the longest-running mainland U.S. landfalling major hurricane drought at 4323 days (Wilma-2005)
- 60.58" rainfall in Nederland, TX – shattering the prior continental and U.S. records for hurricane-related precipitation. Prior record was 48" for continental U.S. (set in Texas with TS Amelia) and 52" for entire U.S. (Hiki-1950)



# Hurricane Irma



# Hurricane Irma Notable Records

## Storm Records

- 180 mph max winds – strongest Atlantic storm on record outside of the Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean
- 3.25 days as Cat. 5 hurricane – tied with the Cuba Hurricane of 1932 for longest-lived Atlantic Cat. 5 hurricane on record
- 65.0 Accumulated Cyclone Energy units generated – the second most in the satellite era – trailing Ivan with 70.4 ACE in 2004

# Hurricane Irma Notable Records

## Landfall Facts

- >\$50 Billion USD in economic damage
- Strongest storm (180 mph max winds) on record to impact Leeward Islands – previous strongest were David (1979) & Lake Okeechobee (1928) – 160 mph
- First Category 5 hurricane to make landfall in Cuba since 1924
- Mainland US Landfall: 115 knots, 931 mb – Tied with Carla (1961) for 10<sup>th</sup> lowest landfall pressure for continental US hurricane on record
- First time two Category 4 hurricanes (along with Harvey) to make mainland US landfall in same year

# Hurricane Maria



# Hurricane Maria Notable Records

- >60 Billion USD in economic damage
- 908 mb lifetime lowest central pressure – lowest in eastern Caribbean on record
- First Category 5 hurricane to make landfall in Dominica on record
- First Category 4 hurricane to make landfall in Puerto Rico since 1932 (San Ciprian Hurricane)
- Strongest hurricane to make landfall in Puerto Rico since 1928 (San Felipe Segundo Hurricane)

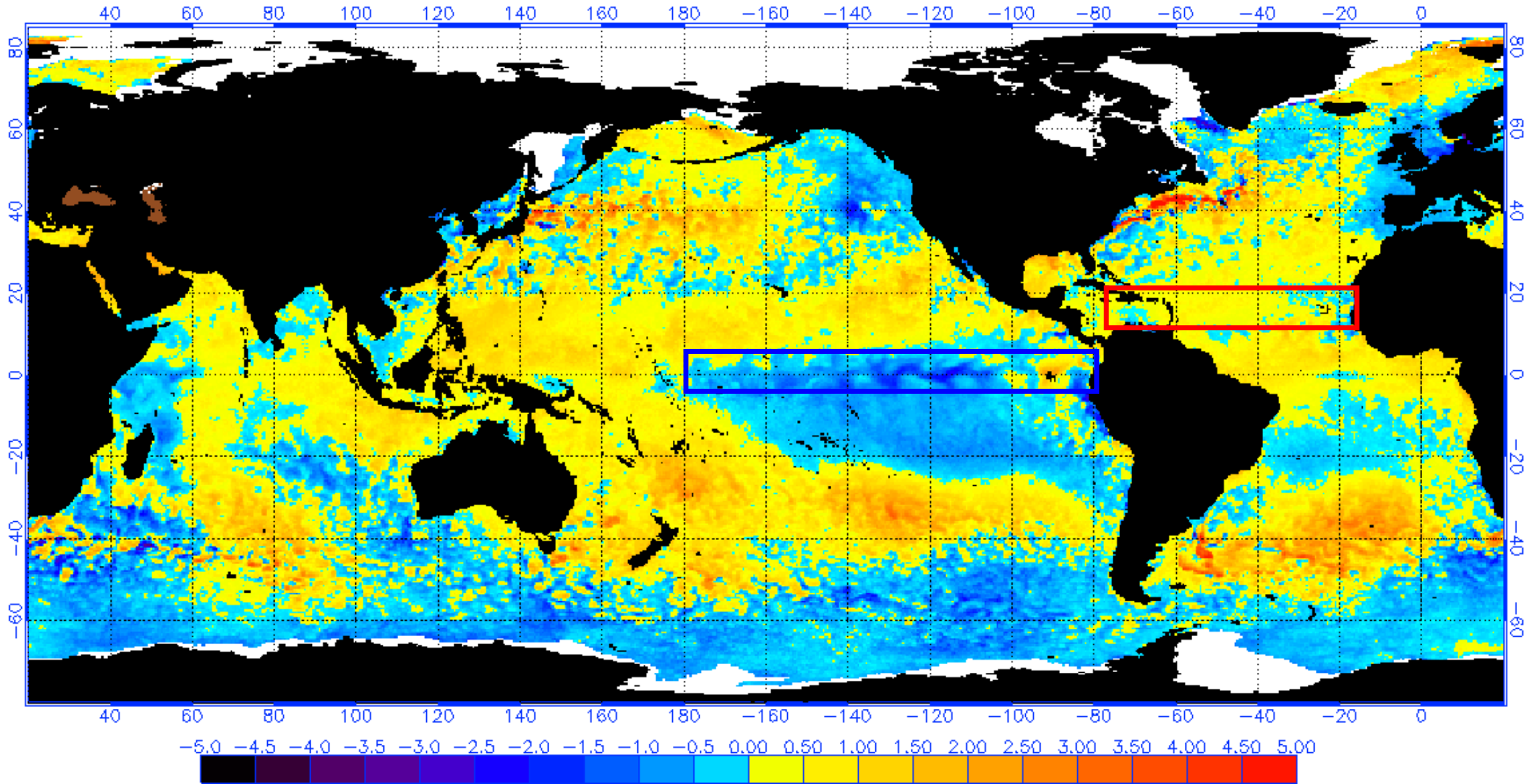


**2018 Atlantic Hurricane Season Initial  
Outlook**



# NOAA/NESDIS 50 KM GLOBAL ANALYSIS: SST Anomaly (degrees C), 3/22/2018

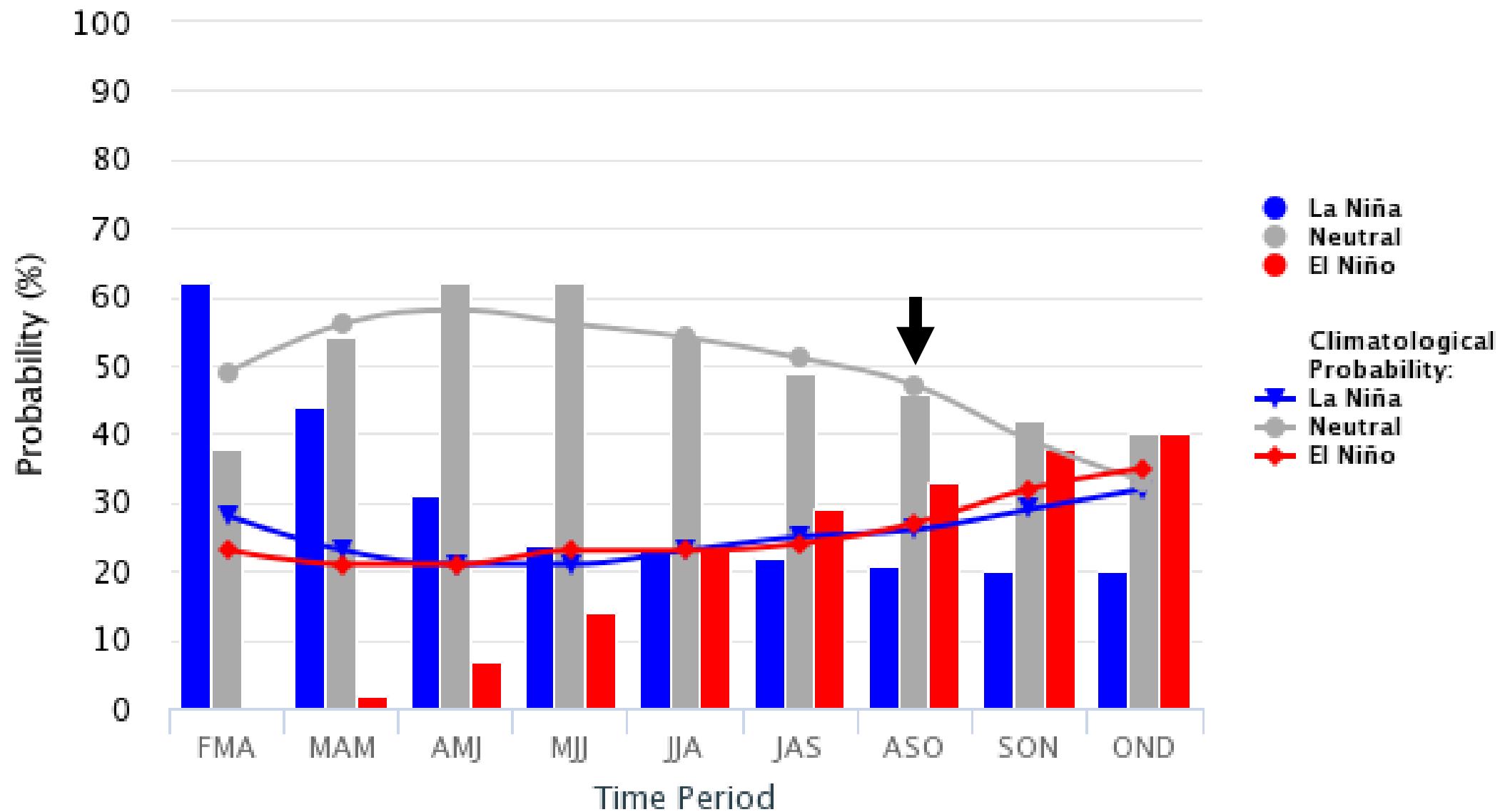
(white regions indicate sea-ice)



# Early-Mar CPC/IRI Official Probabilistic ENSO Forecasts

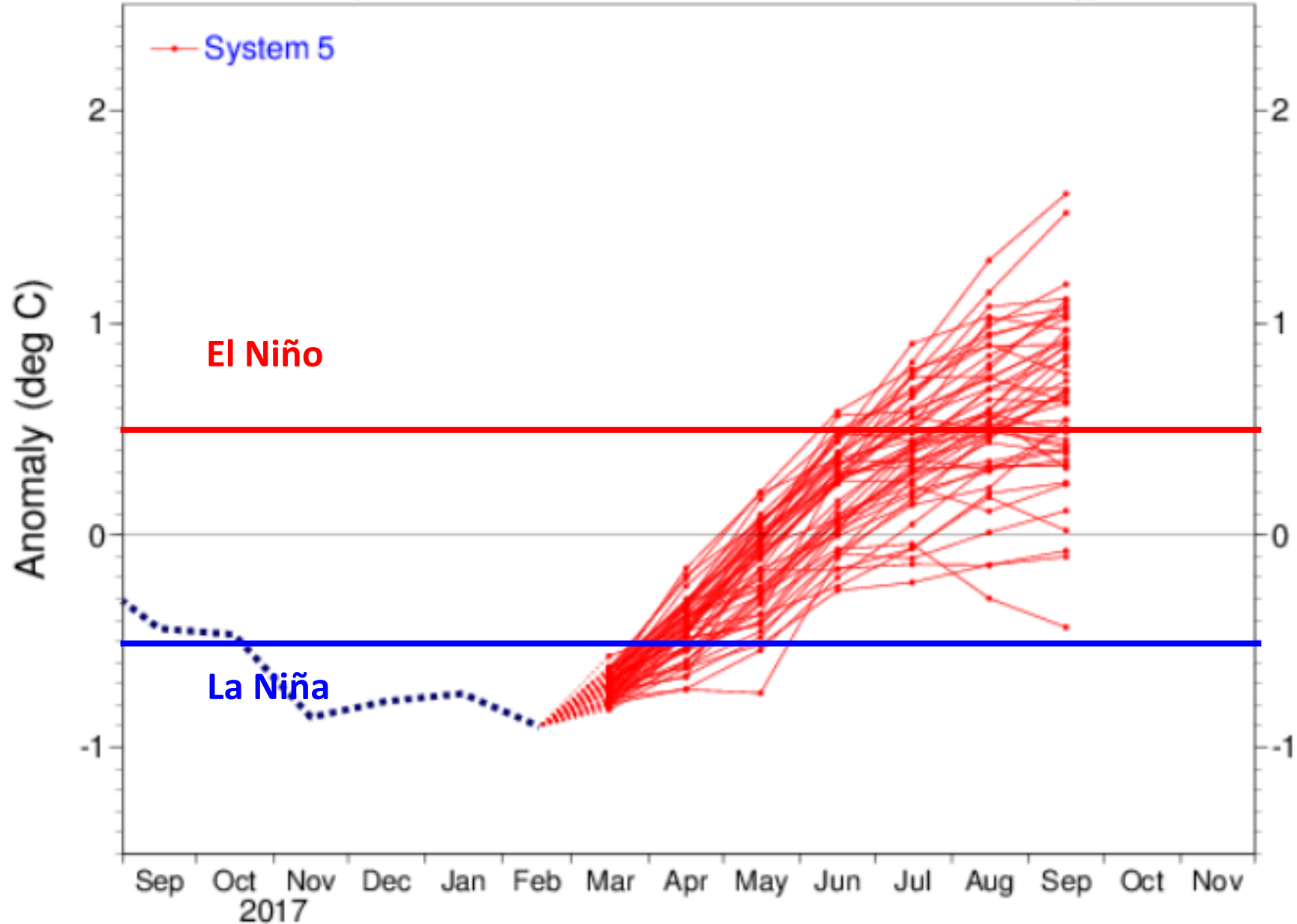
ENSO state based on NINO3.4 SST Anomaly

Neutral ENSO:  $-0.5\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$  to  $0.5\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$

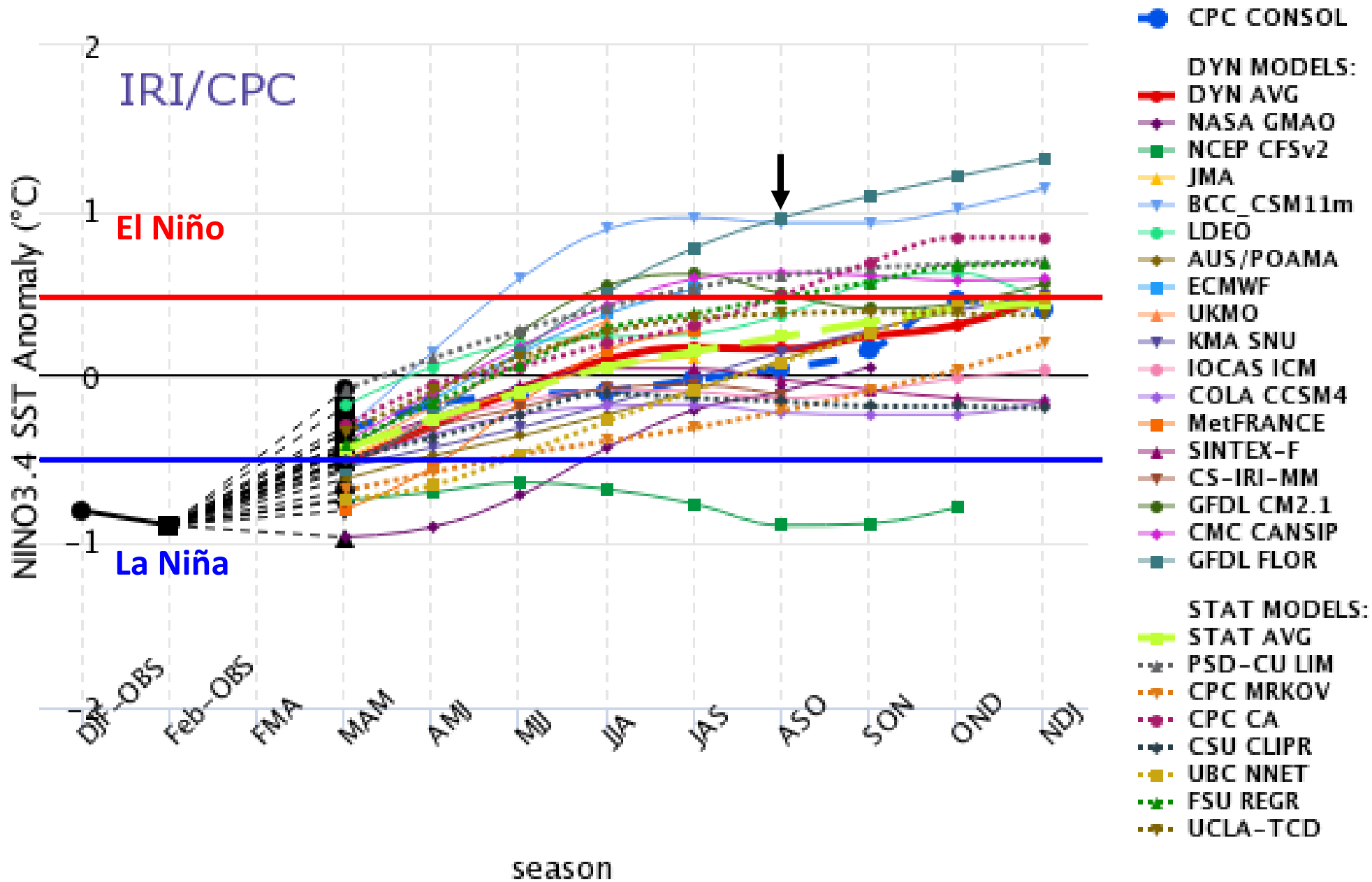


# NINO3.4 SST anomaly plume ECMWF forecast from 1 Mar 2018

Monthly mean anomalies relative to NCEP Olv2 1981-2010 climatology



# Mid-Mar 2018 Plume of Model ENSO Predictions



# NOAA Climate Model Seasonal Forecast

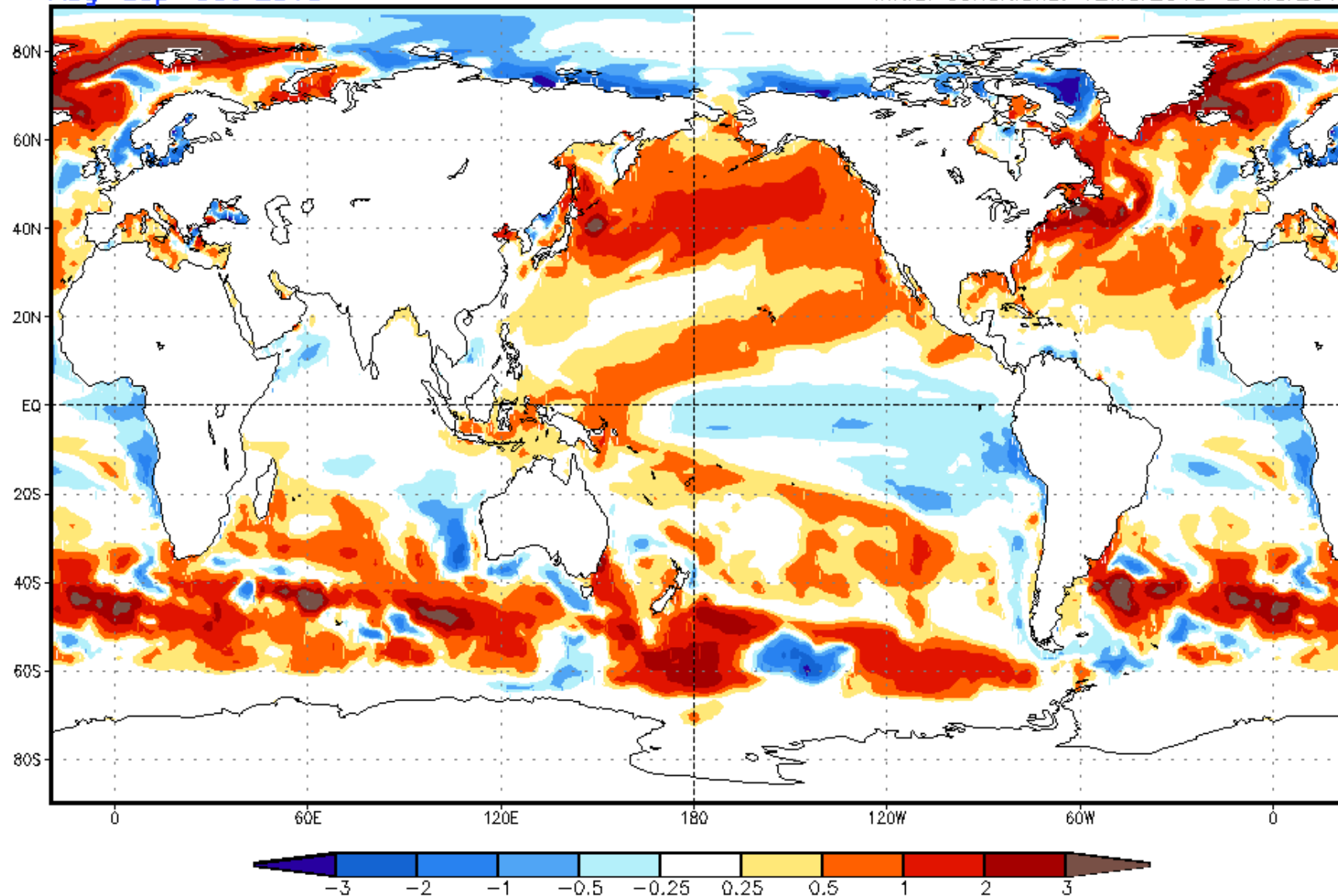


NWS/NCEP/CPC

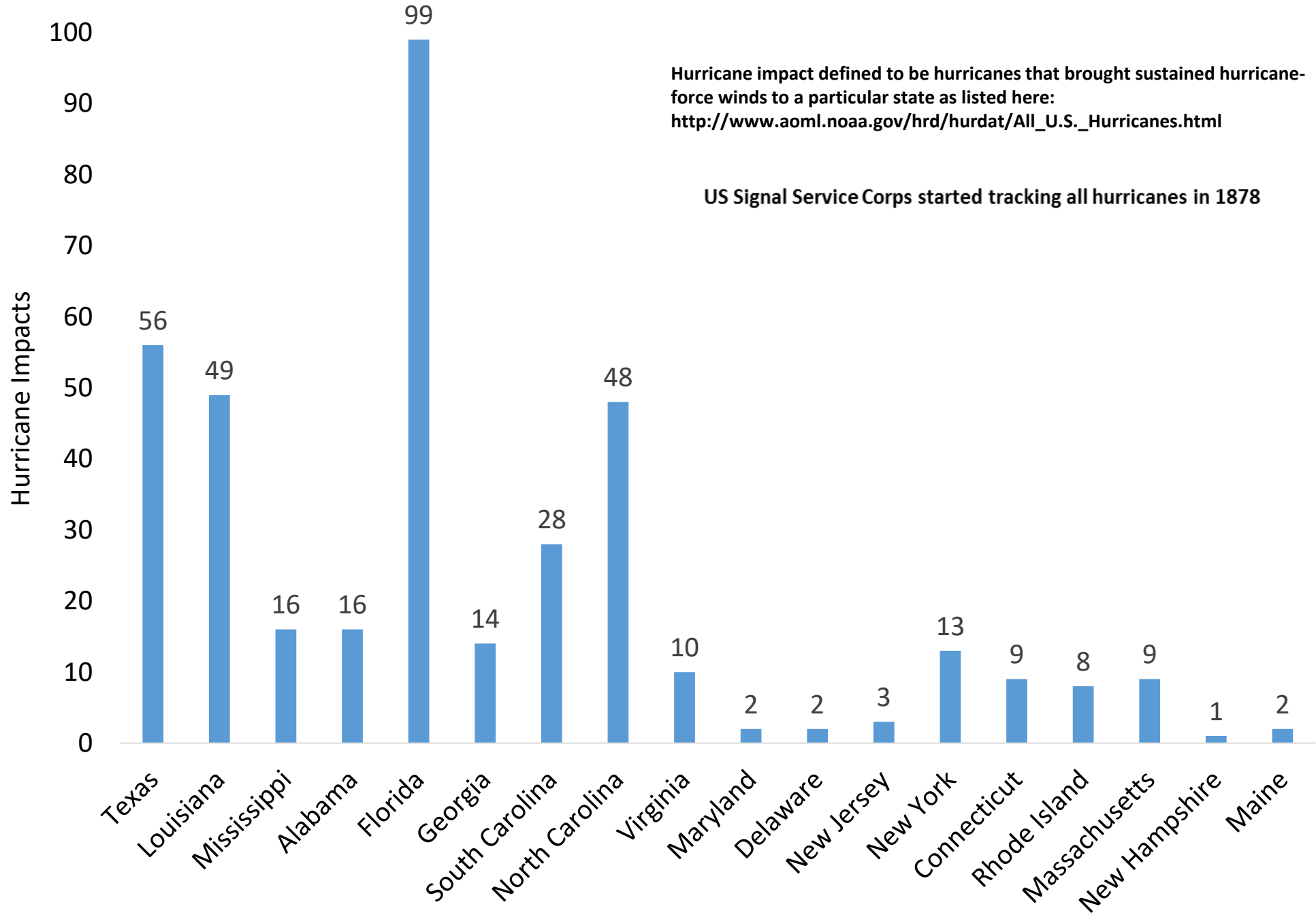
CFSv2 seasonal SST anomalies (K)

Aug-Sep-Oct 2018

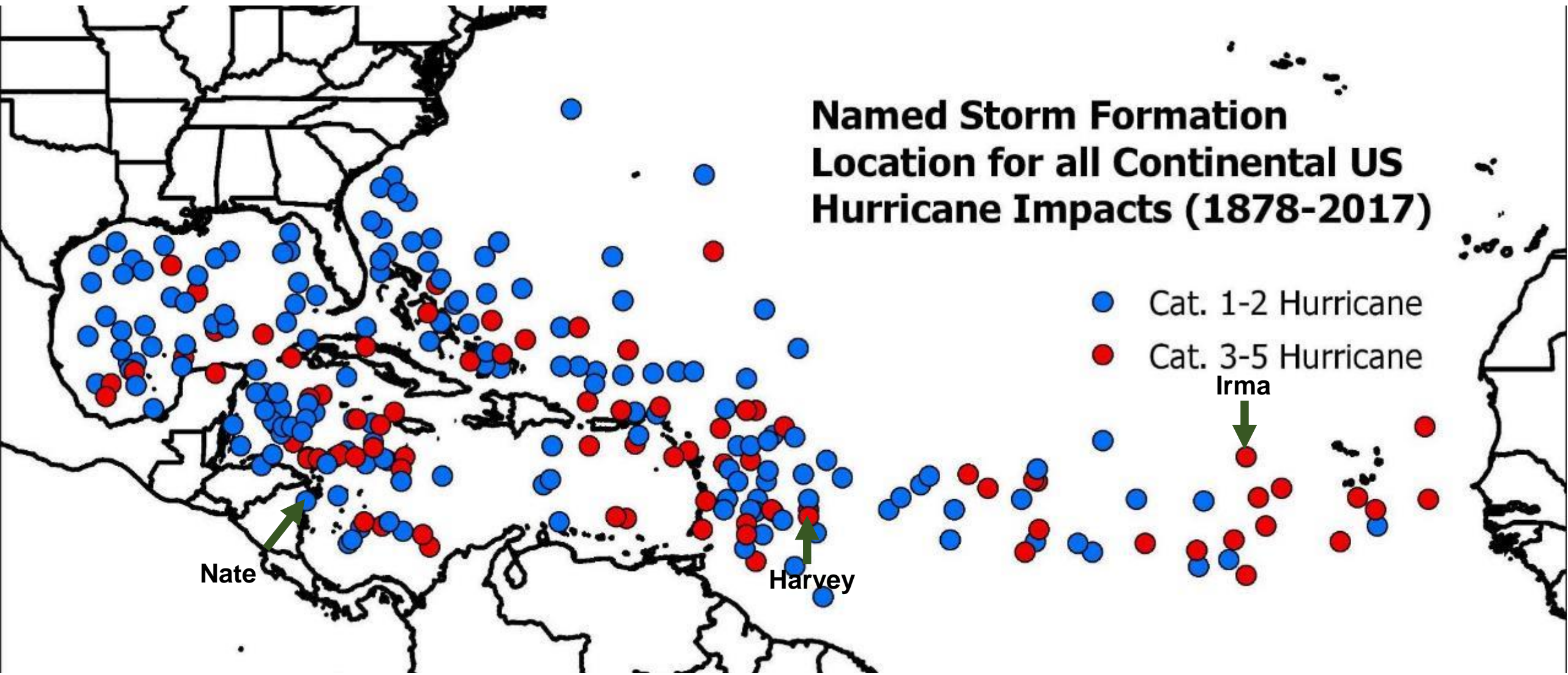
Initial conditions: 12Mar2018-21Mar2018



# Continental United States Hurricane Impacts by Coastal State (1878-2017)



# Named Storm Formation Location for all Continental US Hurricane Impacts (1878-2017)



- Cat. 1-2 Hurricane
- Cat. 3-5 Hurricane

Nate

Harvey

Irma

# 2018

## Forecast Schedule

<b>Date</b>	<b>5 April</b>	<b>31 May</b>	<b>2 July</b>	<b>2 Aug</b>
<b>Seasonal Forecast</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>



# New Products

Real-Time Global Tropical Cyclone Statistics Website:

<http://tropical.atmos.colostate.edu/Realtime/>

Northern Hemisphere Tropical Cyclone Activity for 2017 (2017/2018 for the Southern Hemisphere)

1981-2010 Climatological Activity Through December 14 in Parentheses

Basin	Named Storms	Named Storm Days	Hurricanes	Hurricane Days	Major Hurricanes	Major Hurricane Days	Accumulated Cyclone Energy
<u>North Atlantic</u>	17 (12.0)	91.25 (59.0)	10 (6.4)	51.25 (24.1)	6 (2.7)	19.25 (6.2)	226.0 (105.1)
<u>Northeast Pacific (East of 180°)</u>	18 (16.6)	66.00 (73.2)	9 (8.9)	19.75 (30.0)	4 (4.3)	4.75 (8.9)	98.2 (131.8)
<u>Northwest Pacific (West of 180°)</u>	25 (25.8)	88.50 (134.8)	11 (16.2)	35.75 (66.4)	4 (8.6)	6.00 (23.1)	145.4 (295.7)
<u>North Indian</u>	4 (4.7)	10.75 (13.8)	2 (1.5)	4.00 (3.0)	1 (0.7)	0.25 (1.0)	16.1 (18.5)
<u>Northern Hemisphere</u>	64 (59.1)	256.50 (280.8)	32 (33.0)	110.75 (123.5)	15 (16.3)	30.25 (39.2)	485.7 (551.1)
<u>South Indian (West of 135°E)</u>	1 (3.3)	4.00 (13.3)	0 (1.2)	0.00 (3.8)	0 (0.6)	0.00 (1.3)	2.9 (19.6)
<u>South Pacific (East of 135°E)</u>	0 (1.0)	0.00 (3.5)	0 (0.5)	0.00 (1.3)	0 (0.2)	0.00 (0.4)	0 (6.0)
<u>Southern Hemisphere</u>	1 (4.3)	4.00 (16.8)	0 (1.7)	0.00 (5.1)	0 (0.8)	0.00 (1.7)	2.9 (25.6)



<http://www.seasonalhurricanepredictions.org>

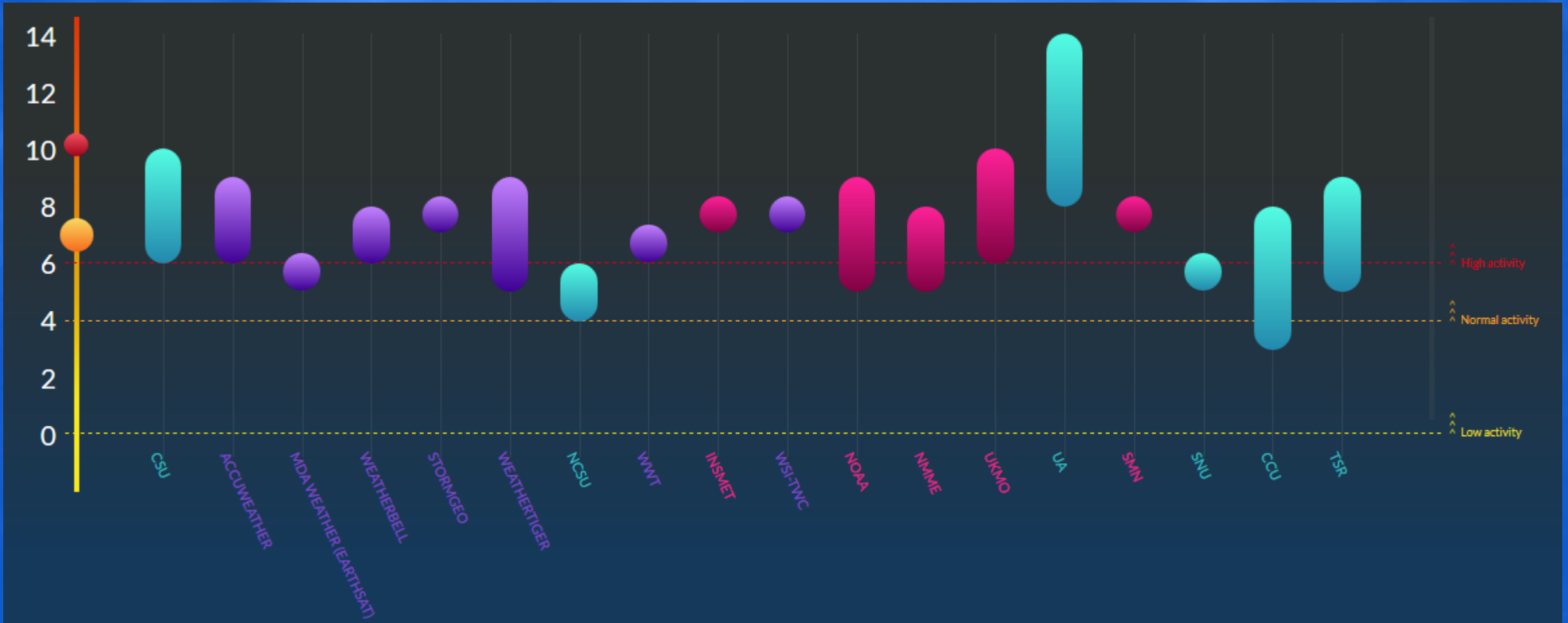
## Contributing Forecast Groups



# New Products



Seasonal Hurricane Forecast Compilation Website  
<http://seasonalhurricanepredictions.org>



## **Arago's Admonition:**

“Never, no matter what may be the progress of science, will honest scientific men who have regard for their reputations venture to predict the weather.”

## Contact Info:

Phil Klotzbach

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Web: <http://tropical.colostate.edu>

Twitter: [@philklotzbach](https://twitter.com/philklotzbach)

Facebook: CSU Tropical Meteorology Project

# CONDICIONES ATMOSFÉRICAS 2015

Stronger Upper- Level Winds  
and Vertical Wind Shear  
(Green arrow)

Below-average Ocean Temperatures,  
Higher Surface Air Pressure and Stronger  
Sinking Motion in the MDR



Main Development Region (MDR)

Near-average or stronger  
Trade Winds  
(Dark Blue Arrow)

Weaker West  
African Monsoon

# PRONÓSTICO TEMPORADA DE CICLONES TROPICALES, ATLANTICO, 2015

