

what do **global climate models** say  
about **increasing variance** in  
the california current **upwelling ecosystem**

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isaac **schroeder** & steven **bograd**



# california current upwelling ecosystem

45°N

Relatively smooth coastline  
Primary productivity strongly seasonal  
Zooplankton biomass strongly seasonal  
Copepods commonly overwinter at depth

Species boundary

Cape Blanco

Winds mostly upwelling favourable

Cape Mendocino

Strongest coastal upwelling

Strong coastal jets, filaments

Minor freshwater input

Major coastal promontories

Primary productivity strongly seasonal

Zooplankton biomass seasonal

Point  
Conception

Latitudinal minimum in spawning by epipelagic fish

30°N

Species boundary

Fewer storms

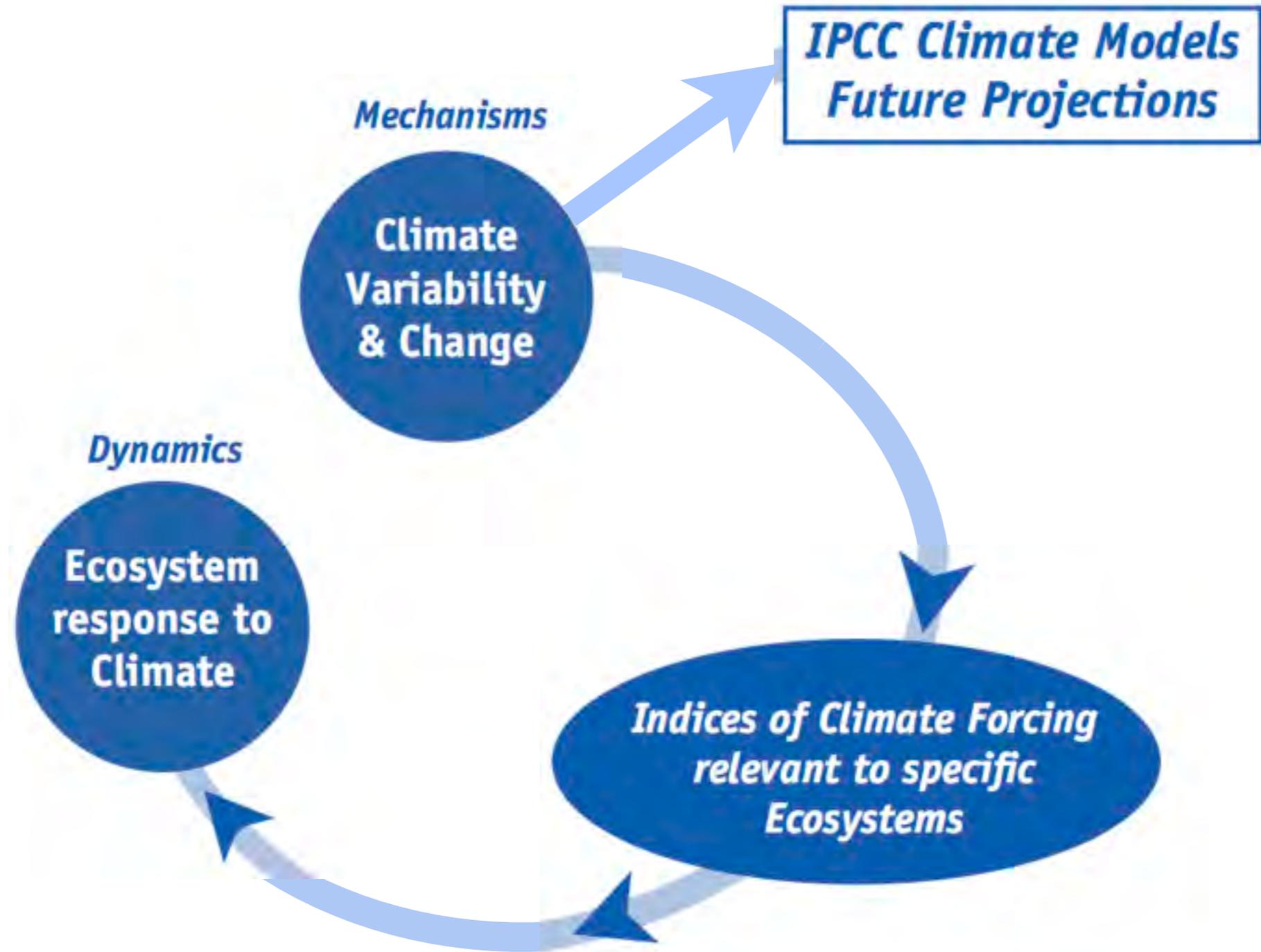
Weaker winds

Weak local upwelling

Damped seasonality in primary productivity

Stable stratification

Damped seasonality in zooplankton biomass



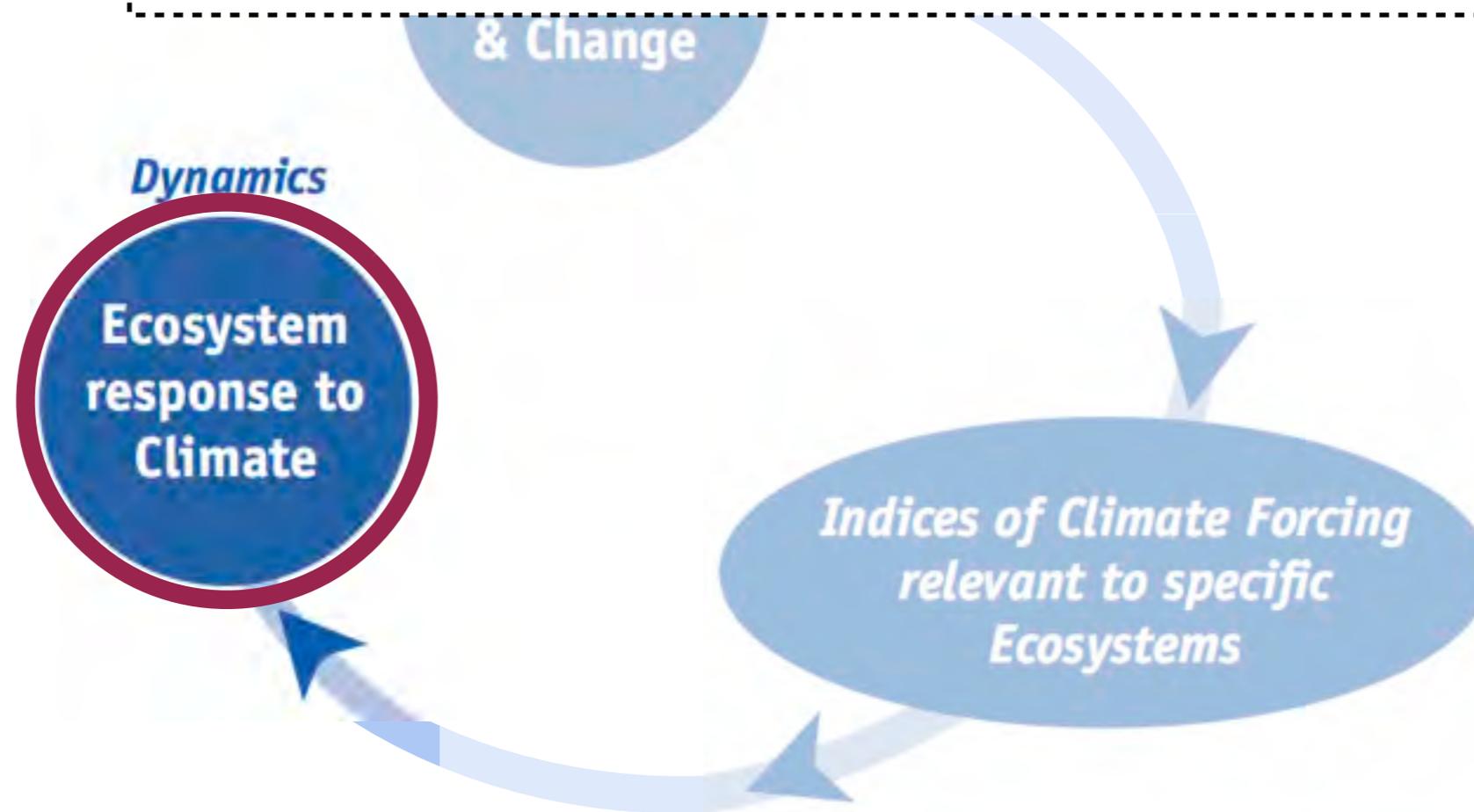


## Global Change Biology

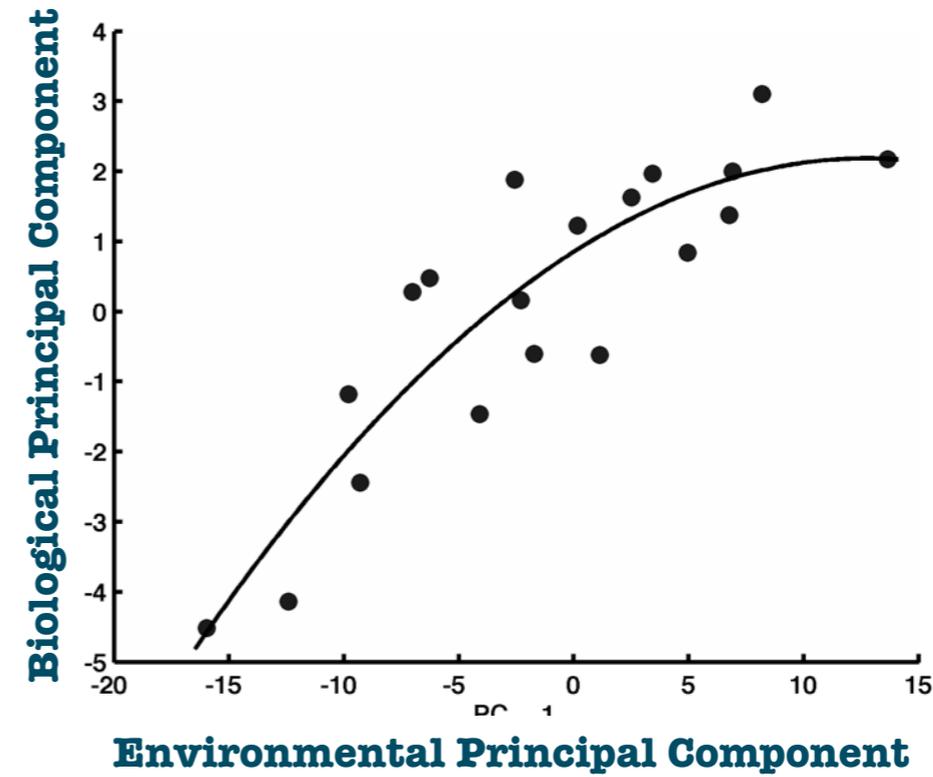
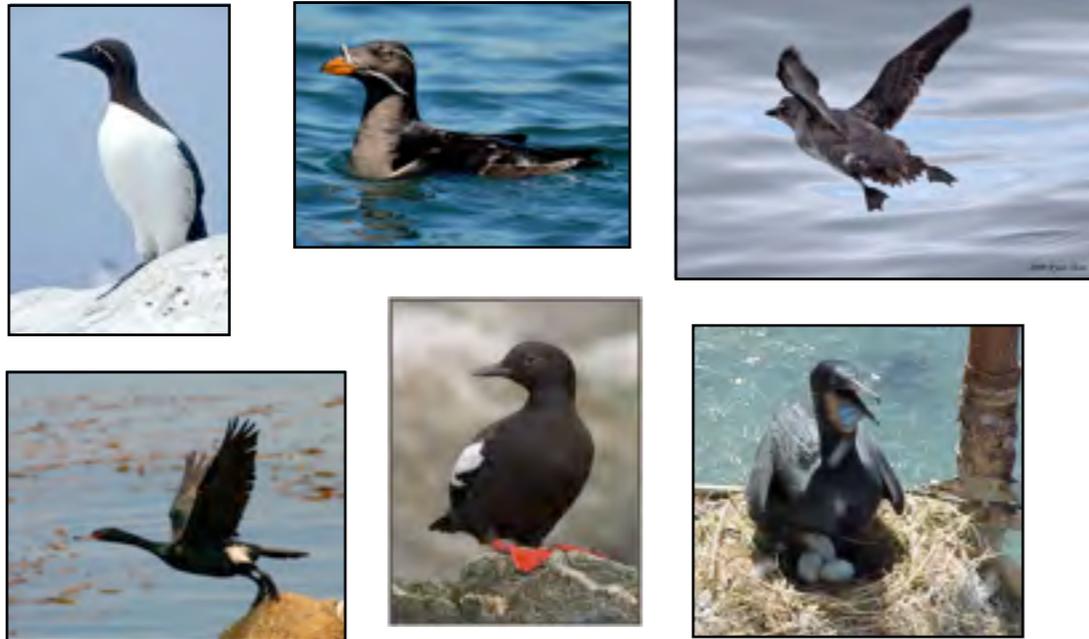
Global Change Biology (2013) 19, 1662–1675, doi: 10.1111/gcb.12165

### Increasing variance in North Pacific climate relates to unprecedented ecosystem variability off California

WILLIAM J. SYDEMAN\*, JARROD A. SANTORA\*, SARAH ANN THOMPSON\*,  
BALDO MARINOVIC† and EMANUELE DI LORENZO‡



# ecosystem sensitivity to winter upwelling variability

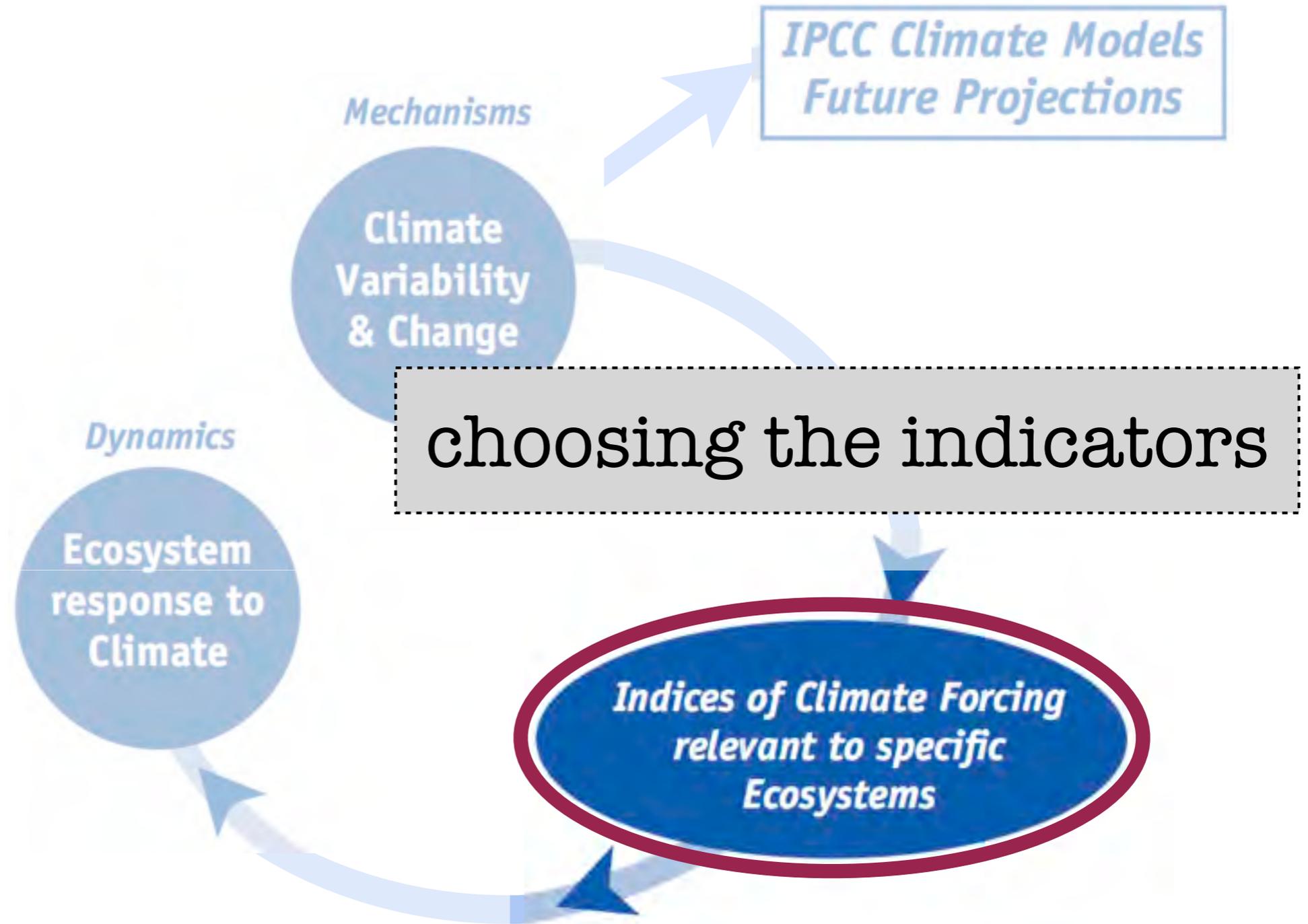


sst & winds



egg lay-date,  
reproductive  
success, growth

cordell bank website

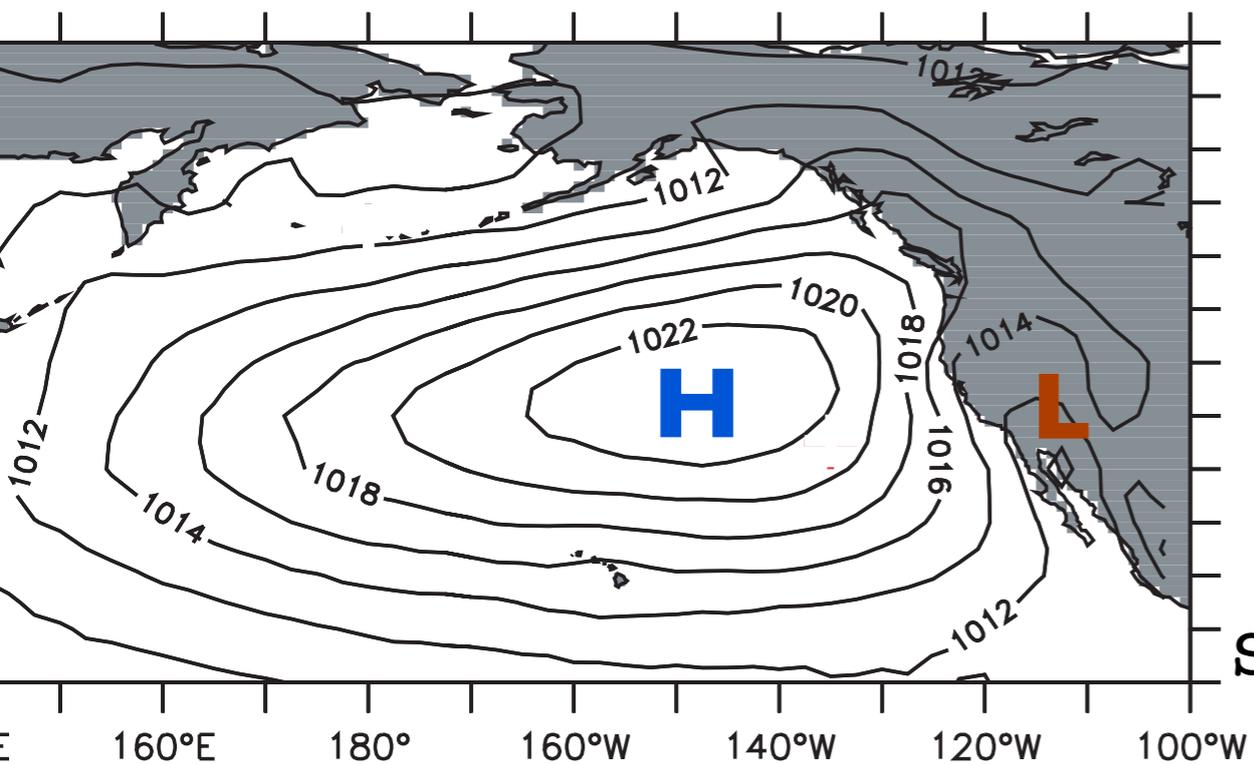
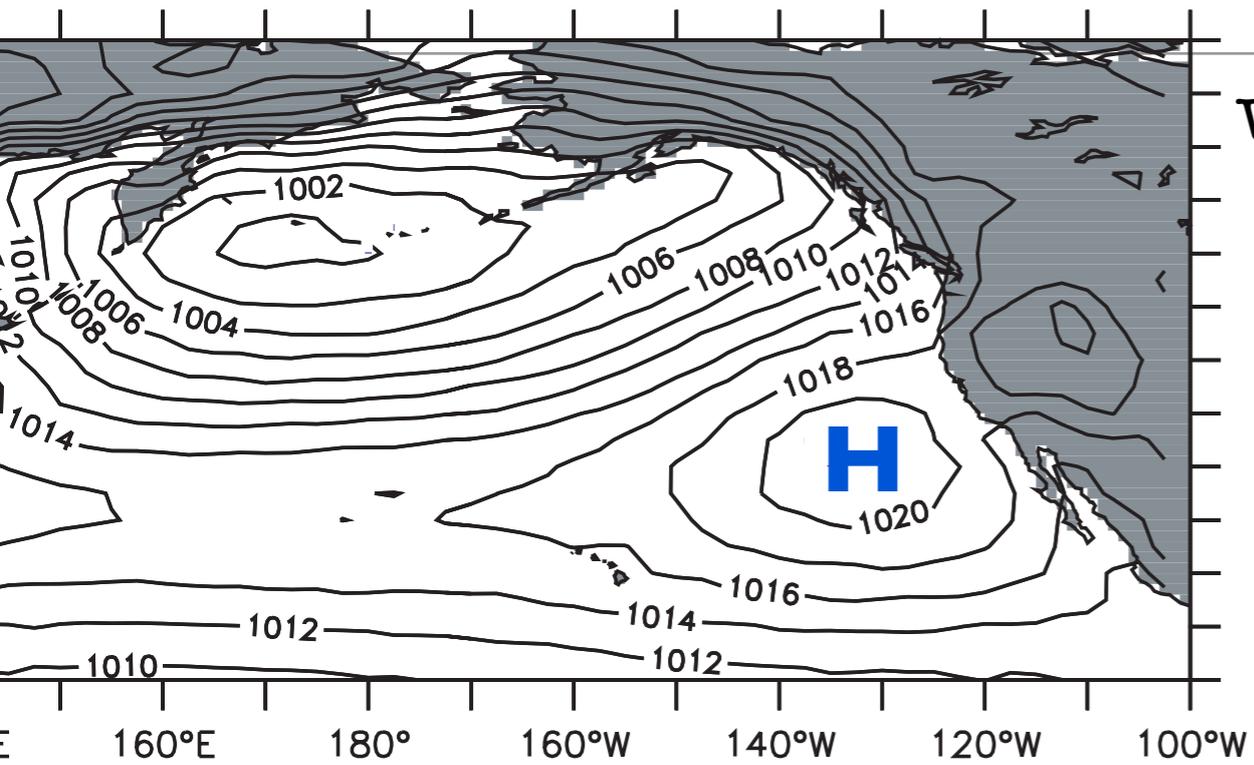


# climate indicators driving ecosystem variability

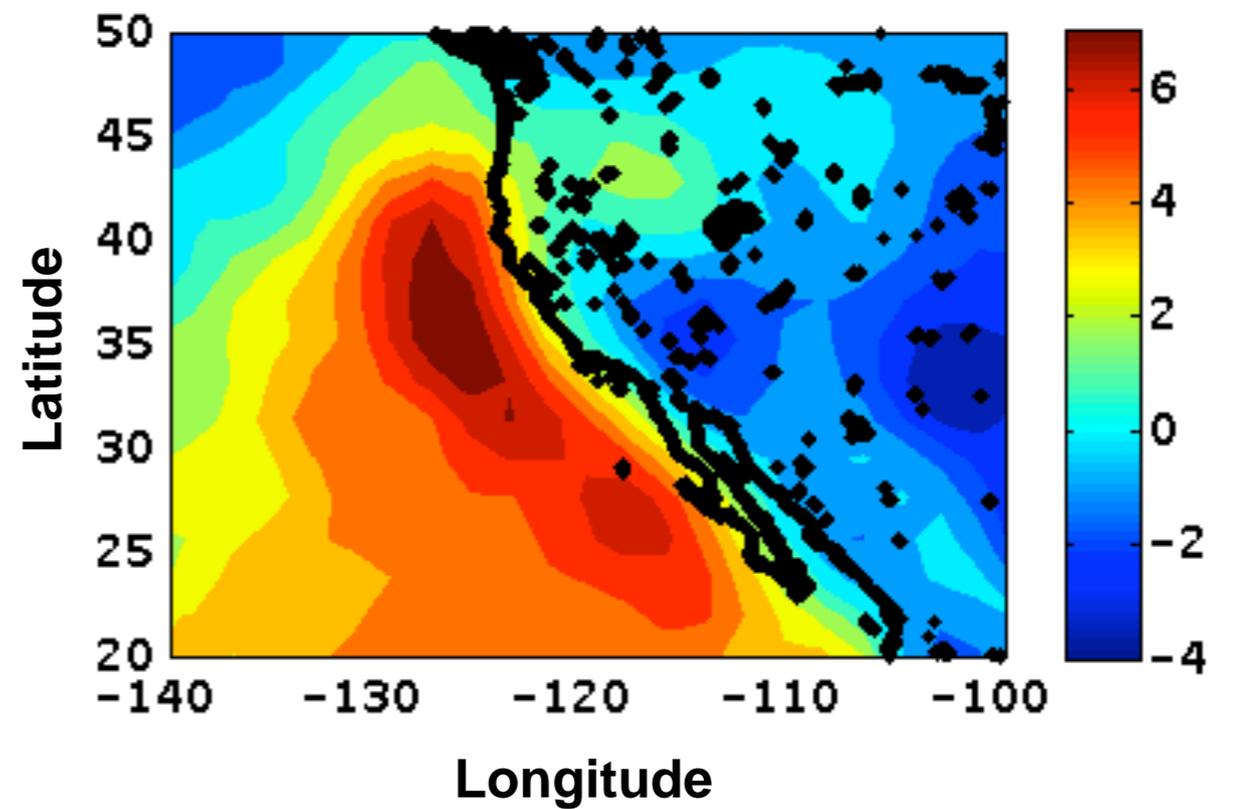
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- upwelling: winds and temperature
  
- winter time

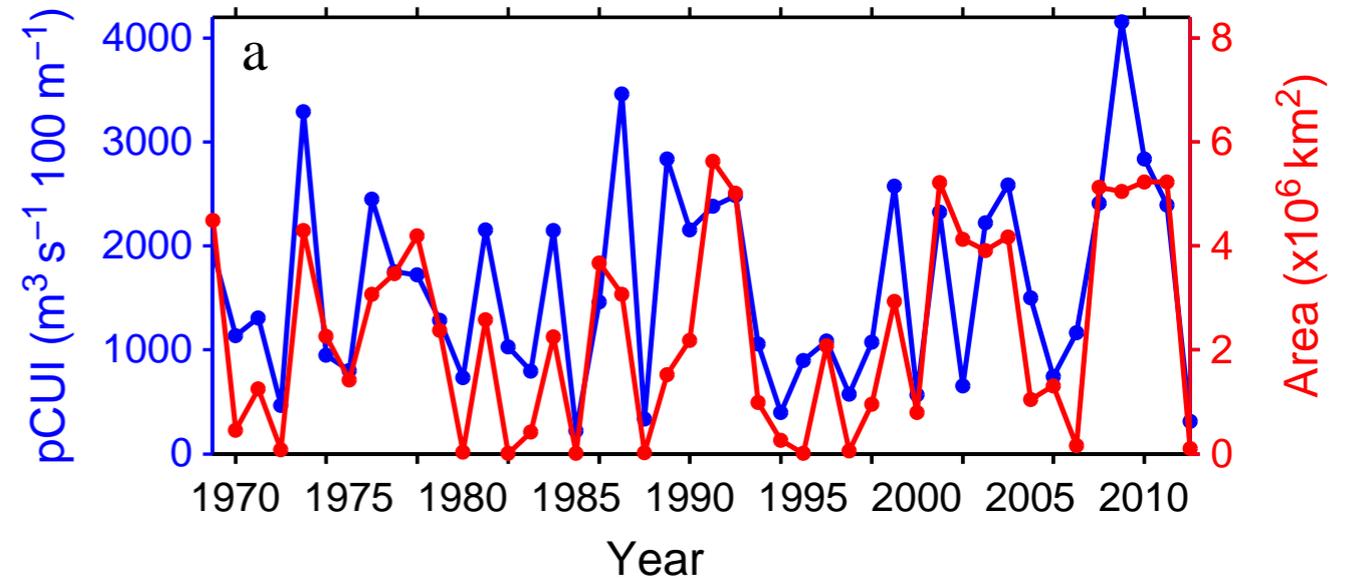
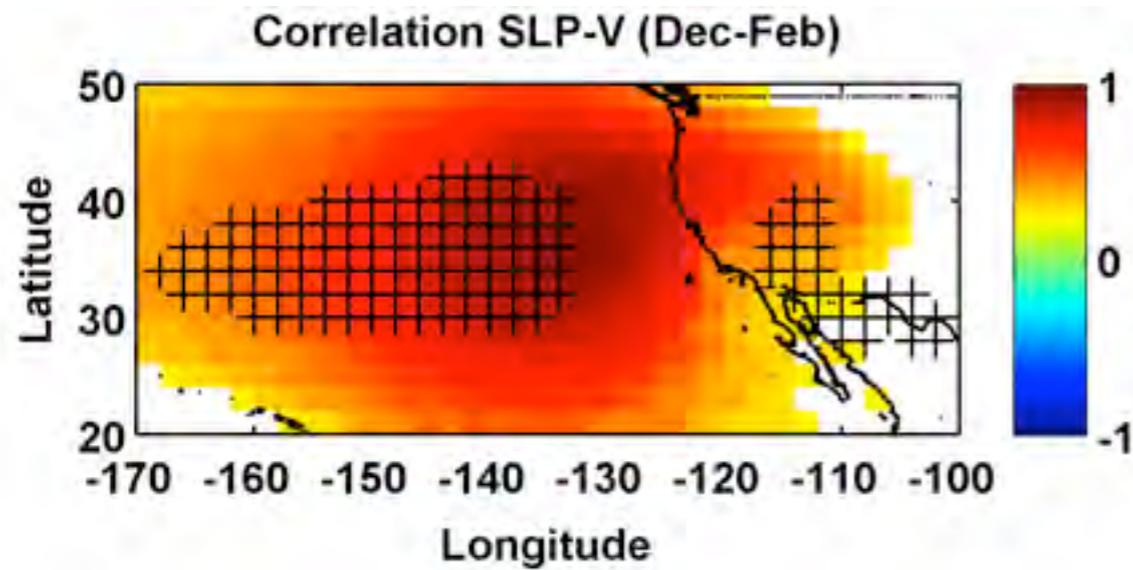
# upwelling winds driver



Meridional wind speed (m/s)



# winter upwelling and the NPH

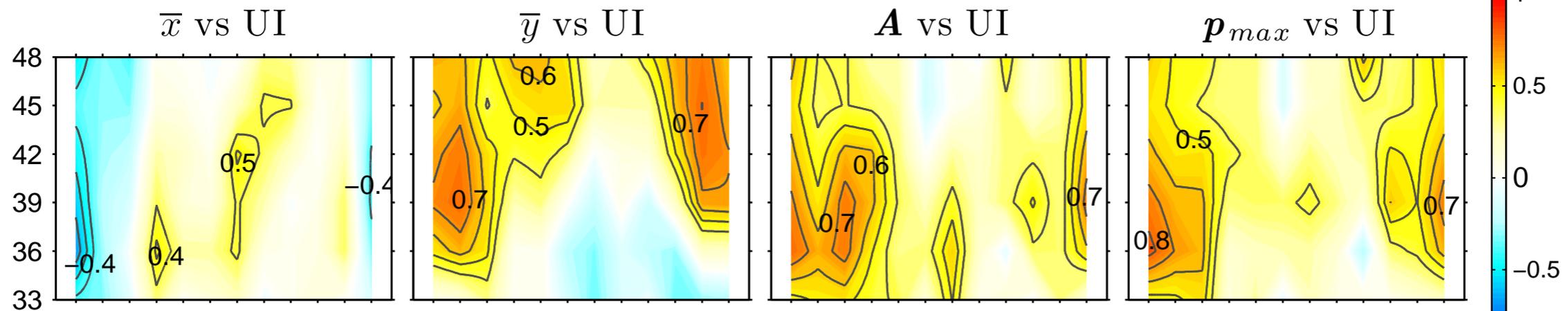


Longitude

Latitude

Area

Maximum pressure



Schroeder et al., 2013

# climate indicators driving ecosystem variability

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- upwelling: winds and temperature
- winter time

# climate indicators driving ecosystem variability

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- upwelling: winds ~~and temperature~~
- winter time

# climate indicators driving ecosystem variability

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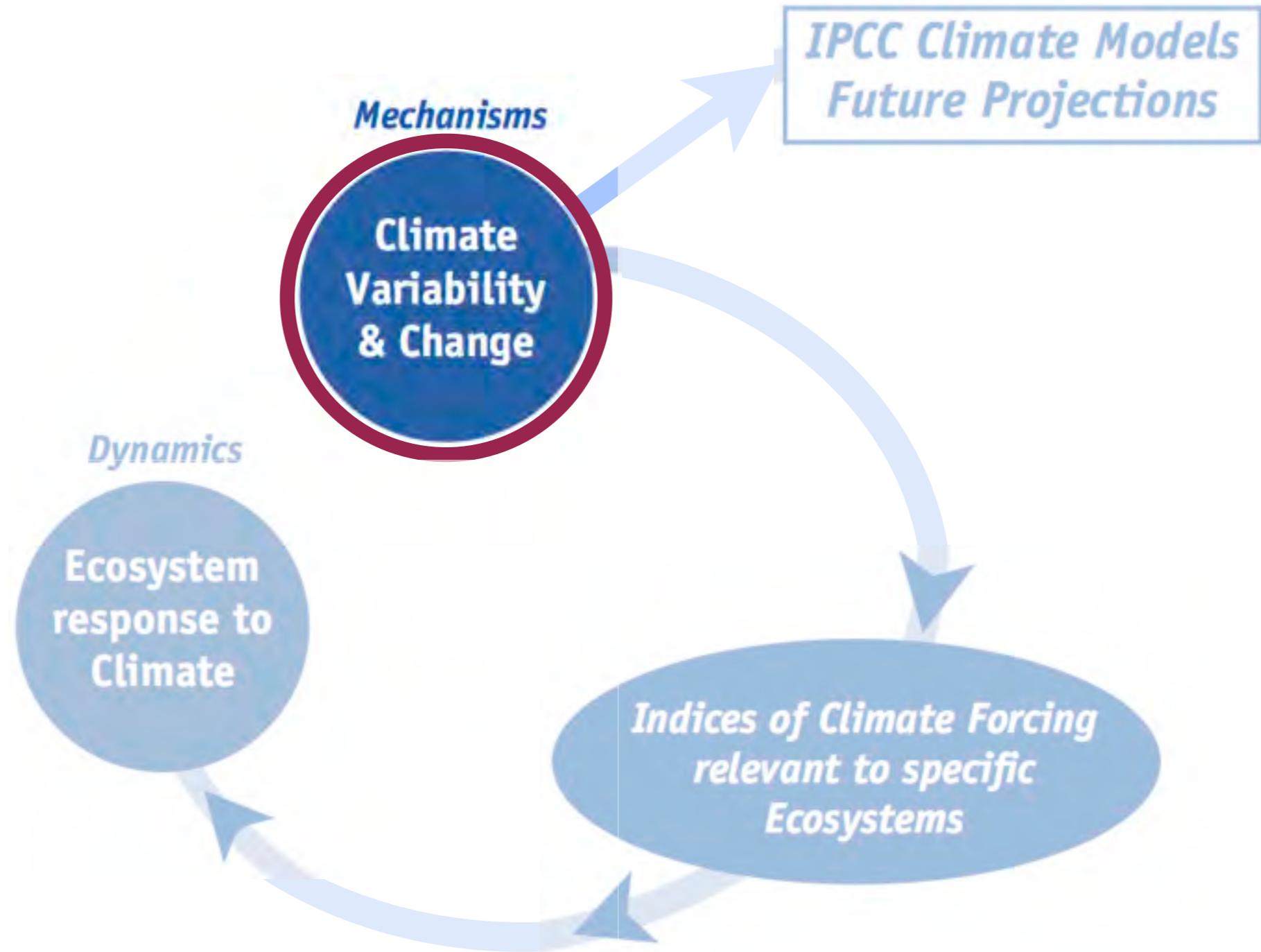
- upwelling: winds ~~and temperature~~



- sea level pressure

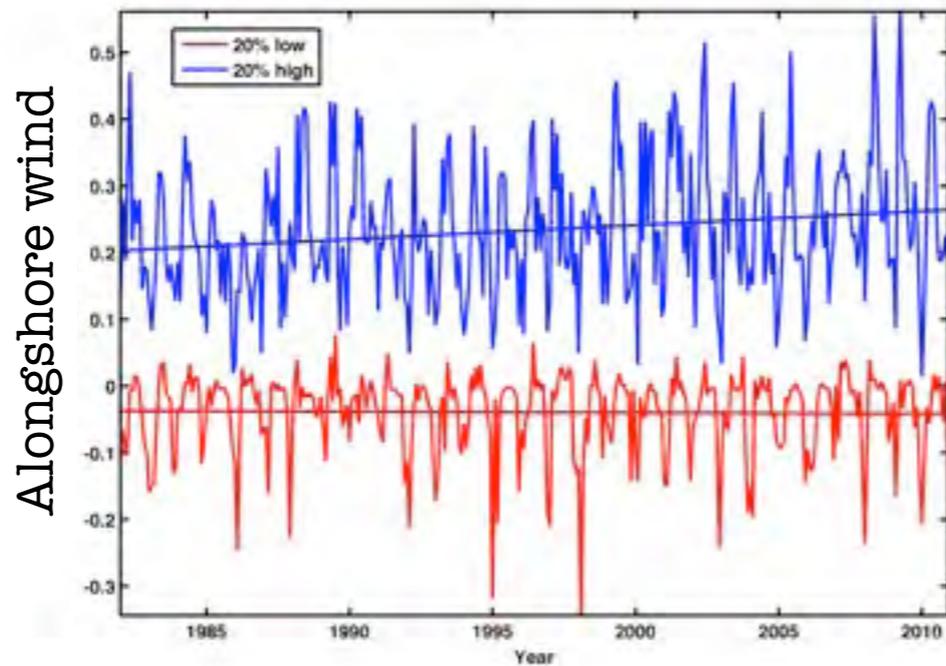
- winter time

- spatial and temporal scales adequate for the use of global climate models



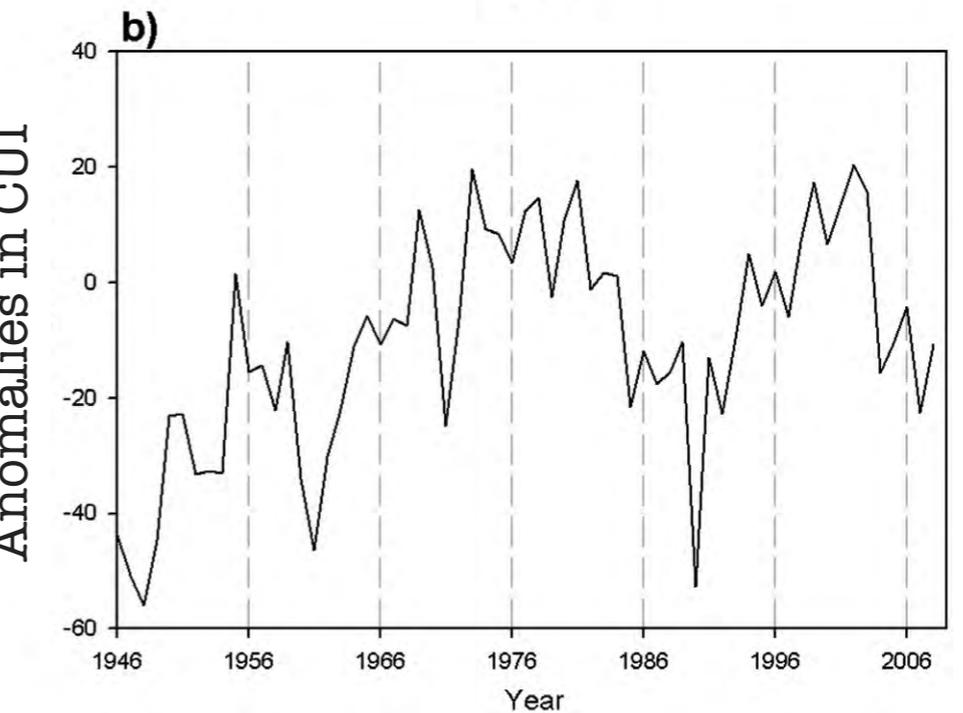
# change in variance

past

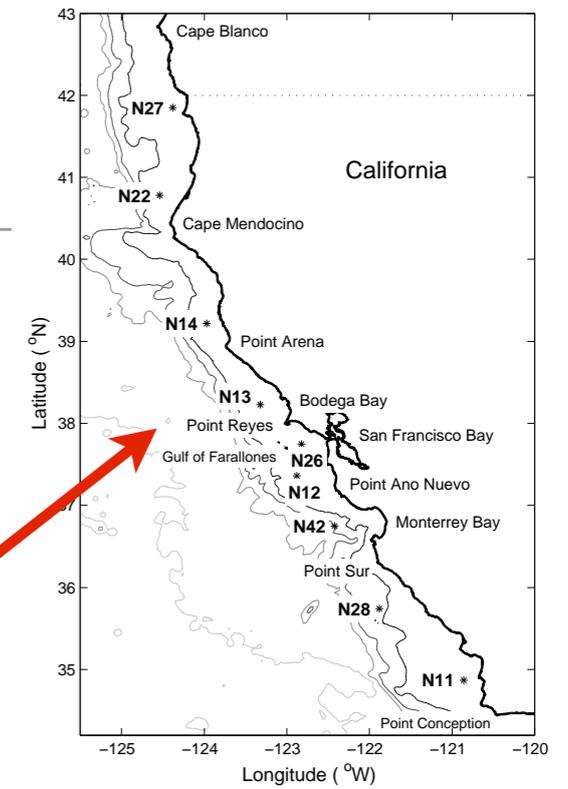


García-Reyes & Sydeman. 2012, PICES

future



Macias et al. 2012



# mechanism for increased variance unknown

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- natural pacific climate oscillations
- anthropogenic climate change
- regional changes

# how to test a change in variance

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- long time series, with enough temporal resolution

past

future regional models

local processes  
large scale ones are prescribed

global models

global change & large scale  
processes  
no local processes

# mechanism for increased variance unknown

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- natural pacific climate oscillations
- **anthropogenic climate change**
- regional changes

GCM models  
IPCC AR5  
(CMIP5)

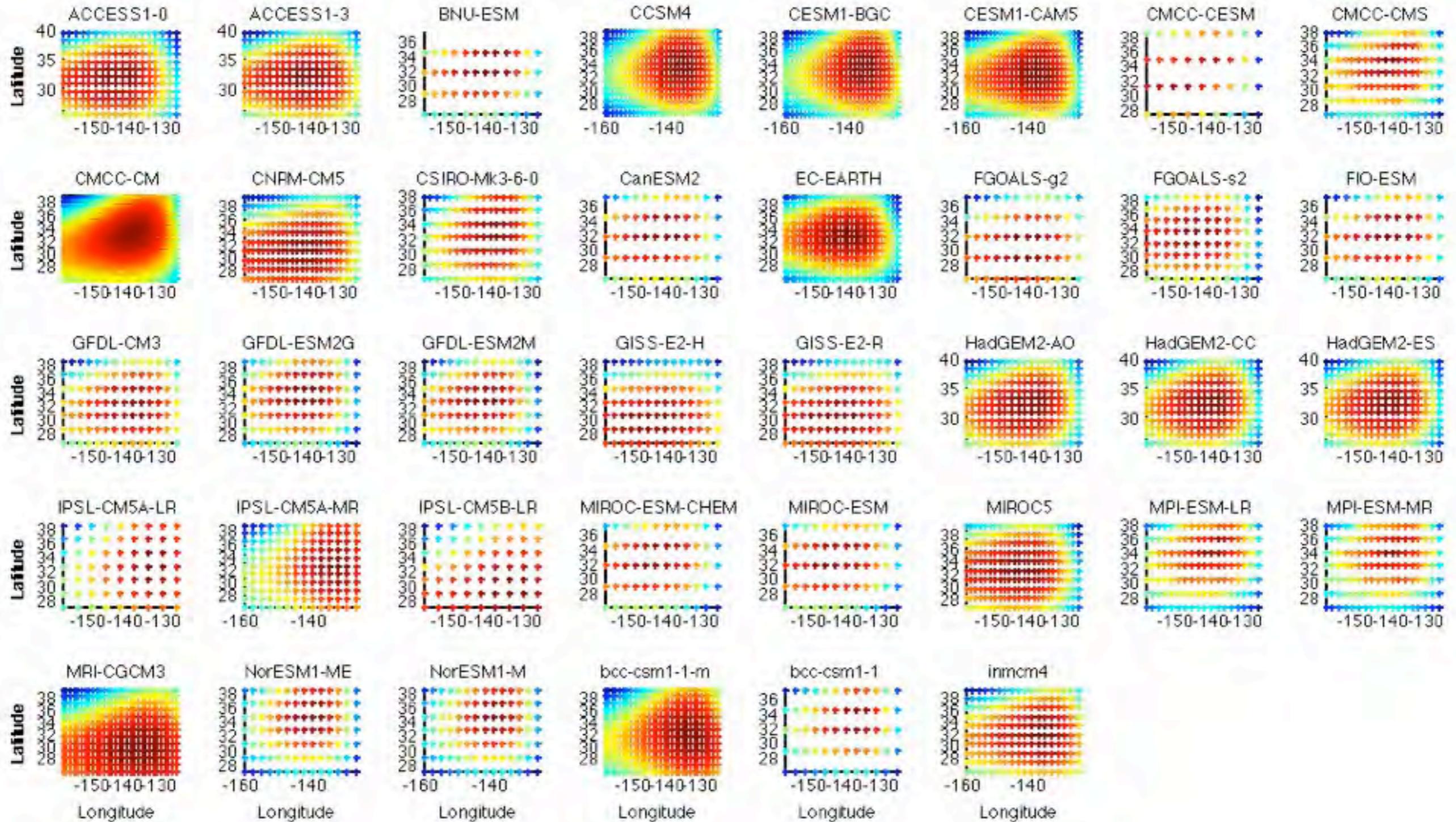
# IPCC AR5 - CMIP5

- 38 models output, 21 “different” models
- RCP8.5
- period: 2006-2095

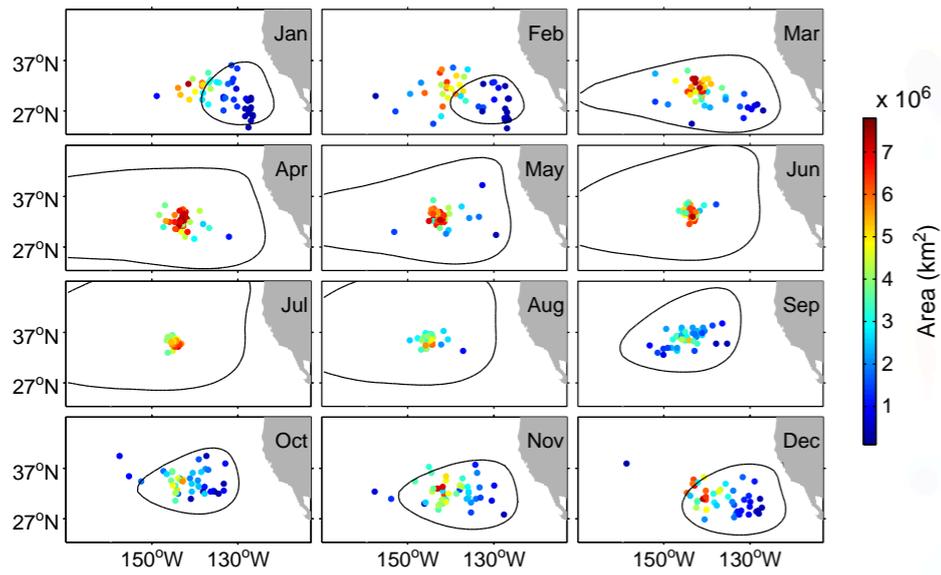
Modeling Center (or Group)	Institute ID	Model Name
Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization (CSIRO) and Bureau of Meteorology (BOM), Australia	CSIRO-BOM	ACCESS1.0 ACCESS1.3
Beijing Climate Center, China Meteorological Administration	BCC	BCC-CSM1.1 BCC-CSM1.1(m)
Instituto Nacional de Pesquisas Espaciais (National Institute for Space Research)	INPE	BESM OA 2.3*
College of Global Change and Earth System Science, Beijing Normal University	GCESS	BNU-ESM
Canadian Centre for Climate Modelling and Analysis	CCCMA	CanESM2 CanCM4 CanAM4
University of Miami - RSMAS	RSMAS	CCSM4(RSMAS)*
National Center for Atmospheric Research	NCAR	CCSM4
Community Earth System Model Contributors	NSF-DOE-NCAR	CESM1(BGC) CESM1(CAM5) CESM1(CAM5.1,FV2) CESM1(FASTCHEM) CESM1(WACCM)
Center for Ocean-Land-Atmosphere Studies and National Centers for Environmental Prediction	COLA and NCEP	CFSv2-2011
Centro Euro-Mediterraneo per I Cambiamenti Climatici	CMCC	CMCC-CESM CMCC-CM CMCC-CMS
Centre National de Recherches Météorologiques / Centre Européen de Recherche et Formation Avancée en Calcul Scientifique	CNRM-CERFACS	CNRM-CM5
		CNRM-CM5-2
Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization in collaboration with Queensland Climate Change Centre of Excellence	CSIRO-QCCCE	CSIRO-Mk3.6.0
EC-EARTH consortium	EC-EARTH	EC-EARTH
LASG, Institute of Atmospheric Physics, Chinese Academy of Sciences and CESS, Tsinghua University	LASG-CESS	FGOALS-g2

LASG, Institute of Atmospheric Physics, Chinese Academy of Sciences	LASG-IAP	FGOALS-gl FGOALS-s2
The First Institute of Oceanography, SOA, China	FIO	FIO-ESM
NASA Global Modeling and Assimilation Office	NASA GMAO	GEOS-5
NOAA Geophysical Fluid Dynamics Laboratory	NOAA GFDL	GFDL-CM2.1 GFDL-CM3 GFDL-ESM2G GFDL-ESM2M GFDL-HIRAM-C180 GFDL-HIRAM-C360
NASA Goddard Institute for Space Studies	NASA GISS	GISS-E2-H GISS-E2-H-CC GISS-E2-R GISS-E2-R-CC
National Institute of Meteorological Research/Korea Meteorological Administration	NIMR/KMA	HadGEM2-AO
Met Office Hadley Centre (additional HadGEM2-ES realizations contributed by Instituto Nacional de Pesquisas Espaciais)	MOHC (additional realizations by INPE)	HadCM3 HadGEM2-CC HadGEM2-ES HadGEM2-A
Institute for Numerical Mathematics	INM	INM-CM4
Institut Pierre-Simon Laplace	IPSL	IPSL-CM5A-LR IPSL-CM5A-MR IPSL-CM5B-LR
Japan Agency for Marine-Earth Science and Technology, Atmosphere and Ocean Research Institute (The University of Tokyo), and National Institute for Environmental Studies	MIROC	MIROC-ESM MIROC-ESM-CHEM
Atmosphere and Ocean Research Institute (The University of Tokyo), National Institute for Environmental Studies, and Japan Agency for Marine-Earth Science and Technology	MIROC	MIROC4h MIROC5
Max-Planck-Institut für Meteorologie (Max Planck Institute for Meteorology)	MPI-M	MPI-ESM-MR MPI-ESM-LR MPI-ESM-P
Meteorological Research Institute	MRI	MRI-AGCM3.2H MRI-AGCM3.2S MRI-CGCM3 MRI-ESM1
Nonhydrostatic Icosahedral Atmospheric Model Group	NICAM	NICAM.09
Norwegian Climate Centre	NCC	NorESM1-M NorESM1-ME

# CMIP5 models resolution

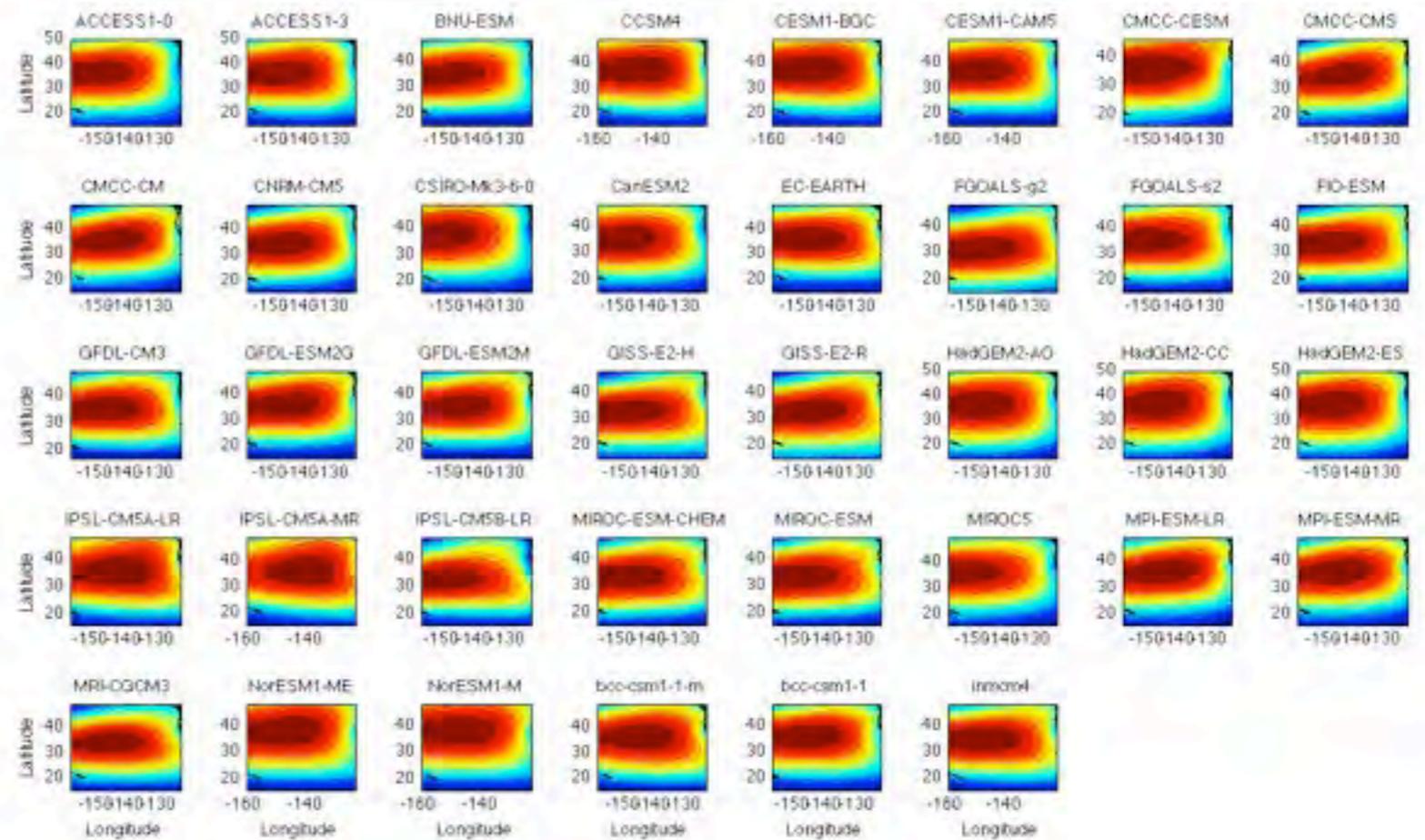
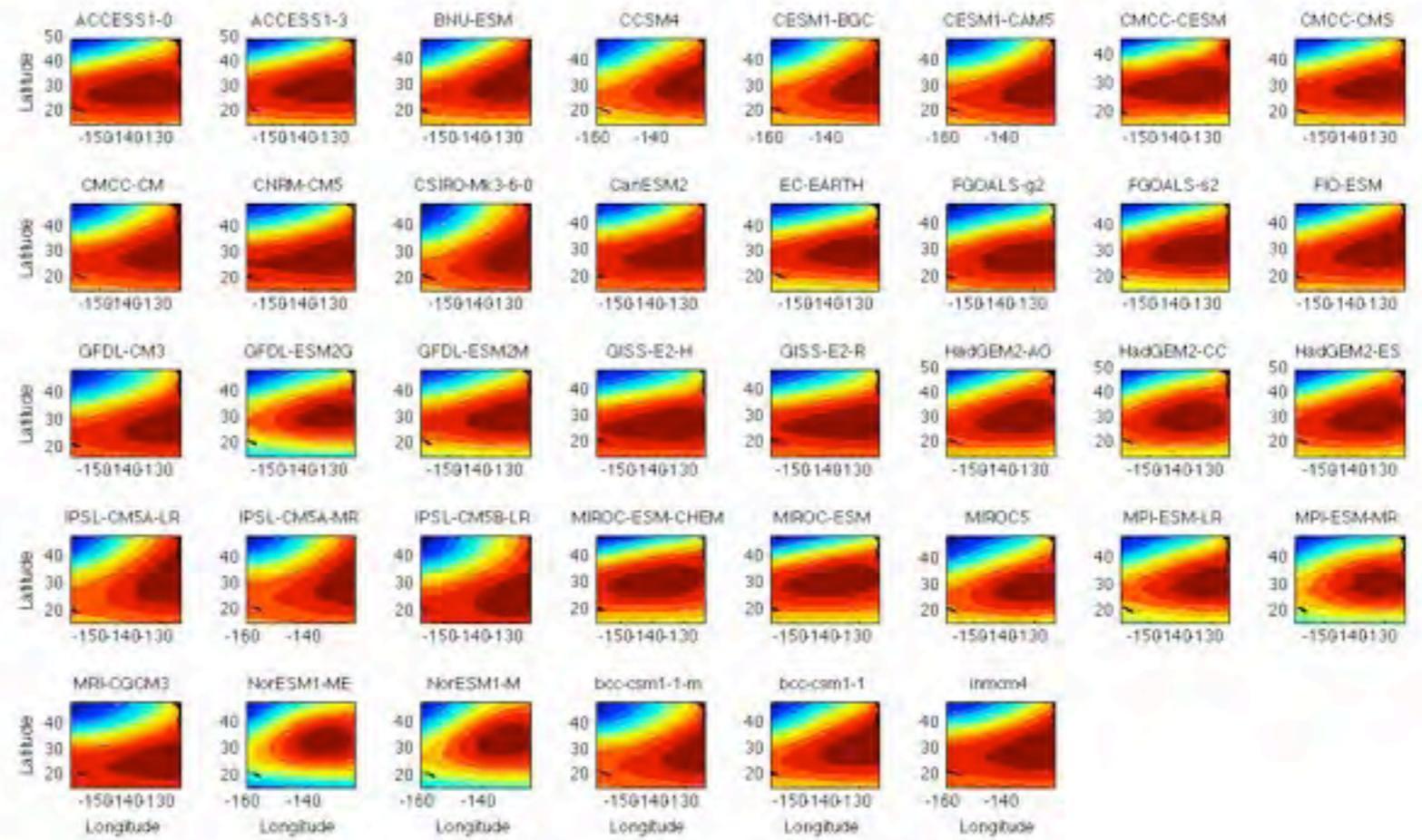


# Dec-Feb

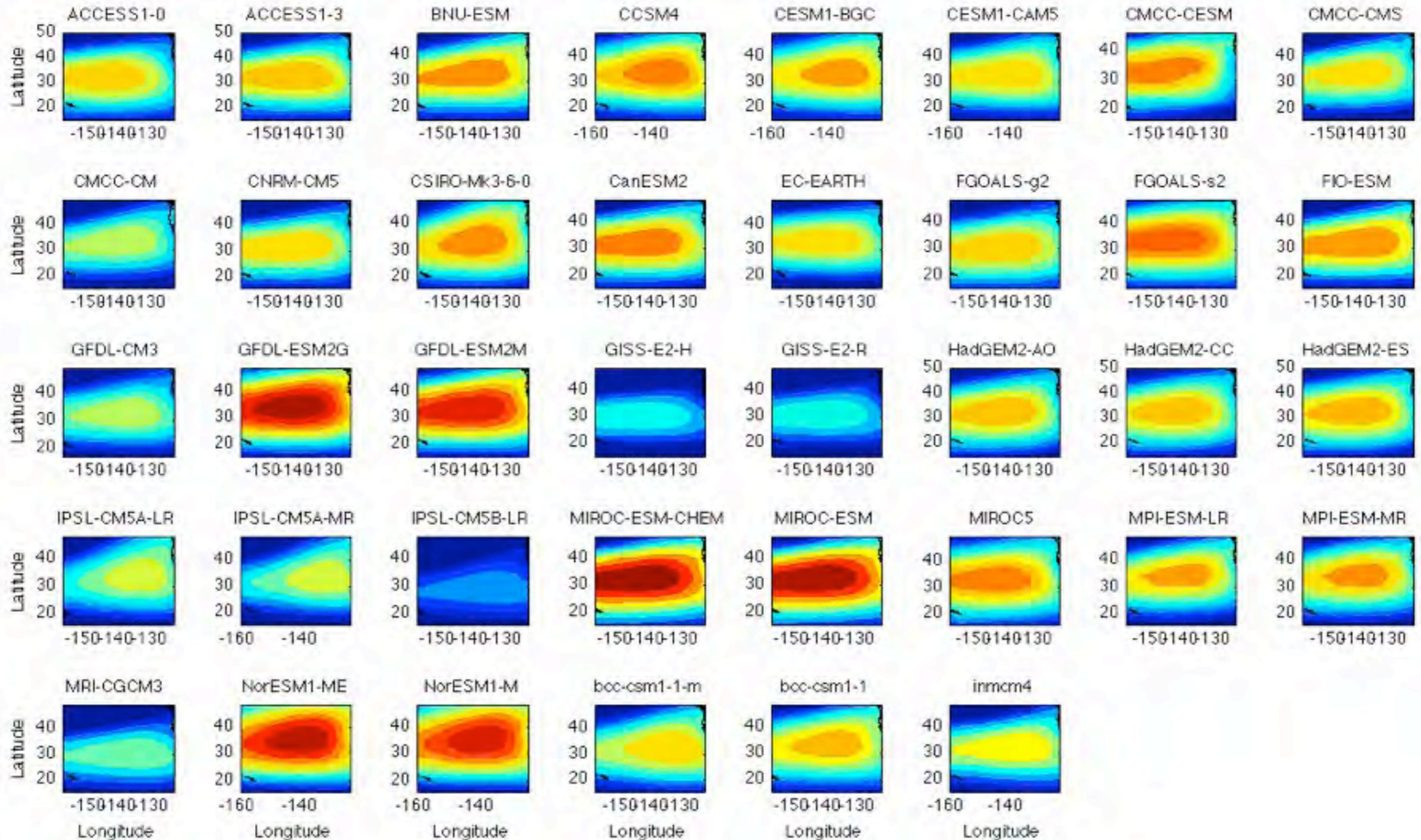


Schroeder et al. 2013

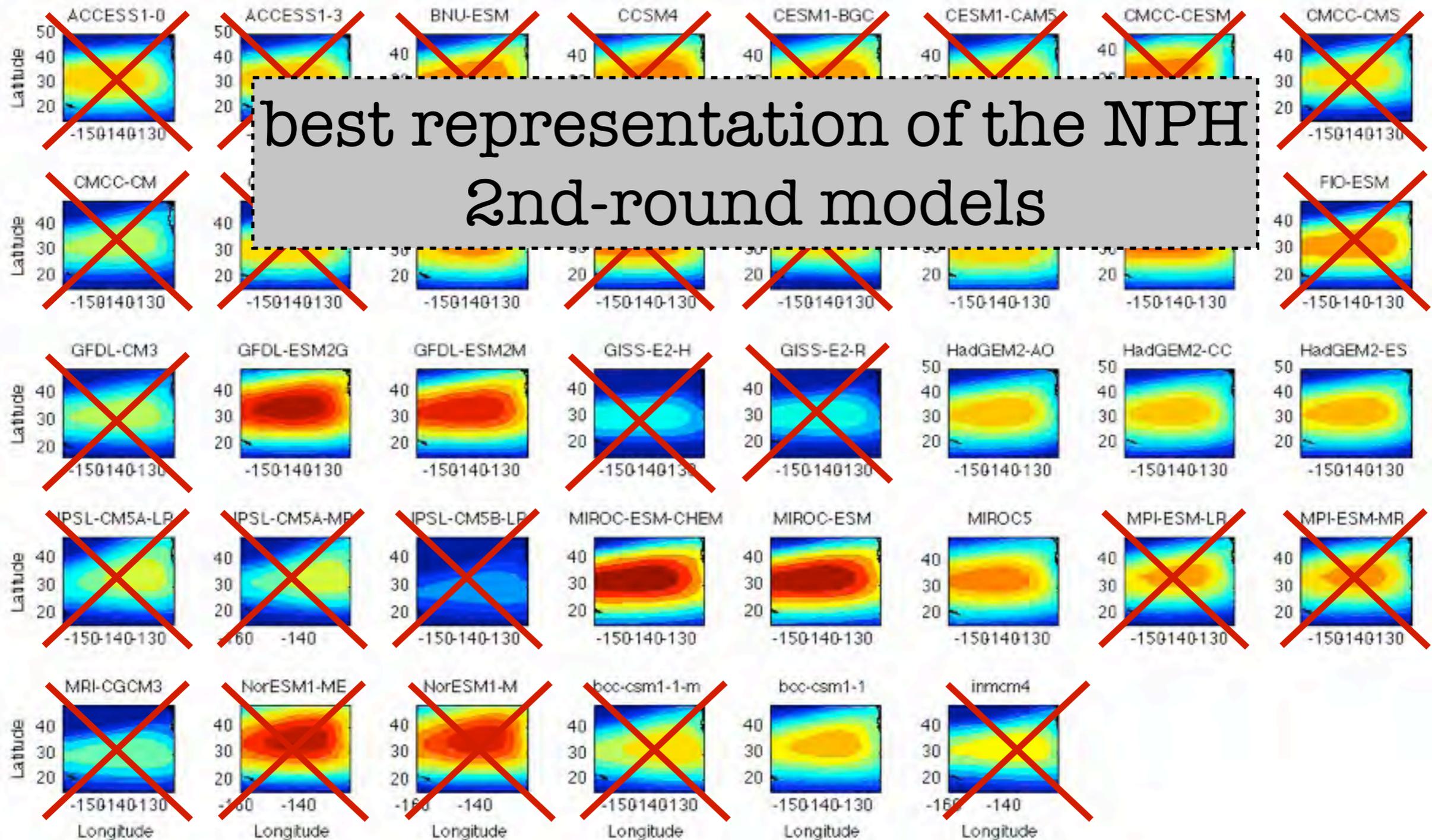
# Apr-Aug



# not all models are made equal

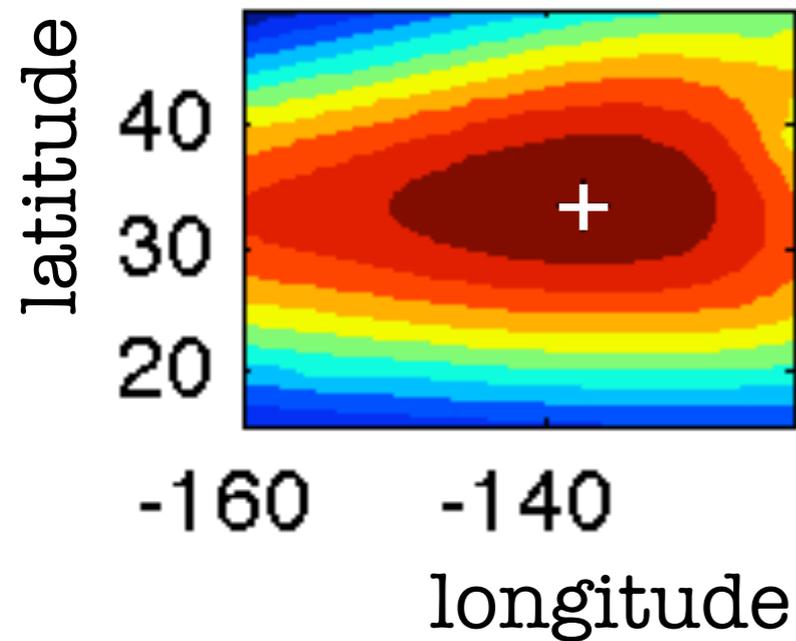


not all models are made equal



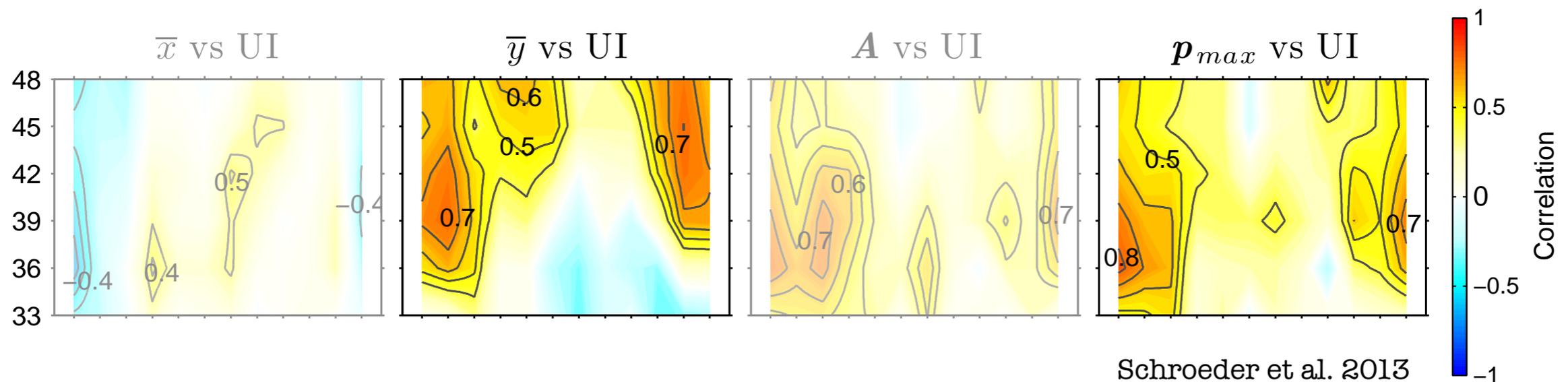
# parameters

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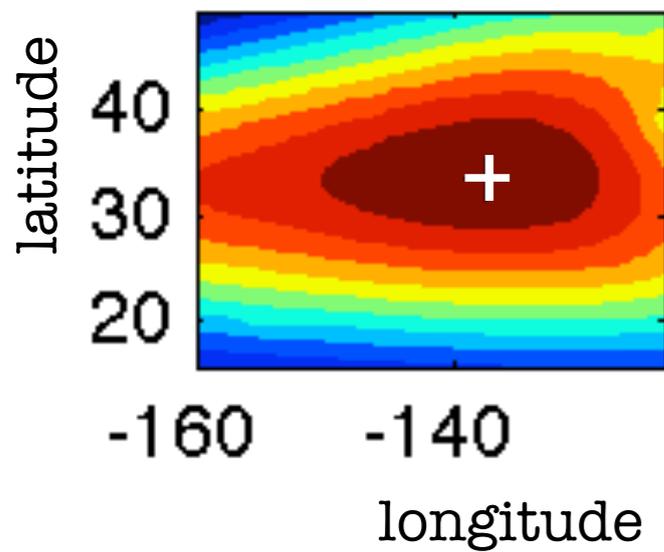
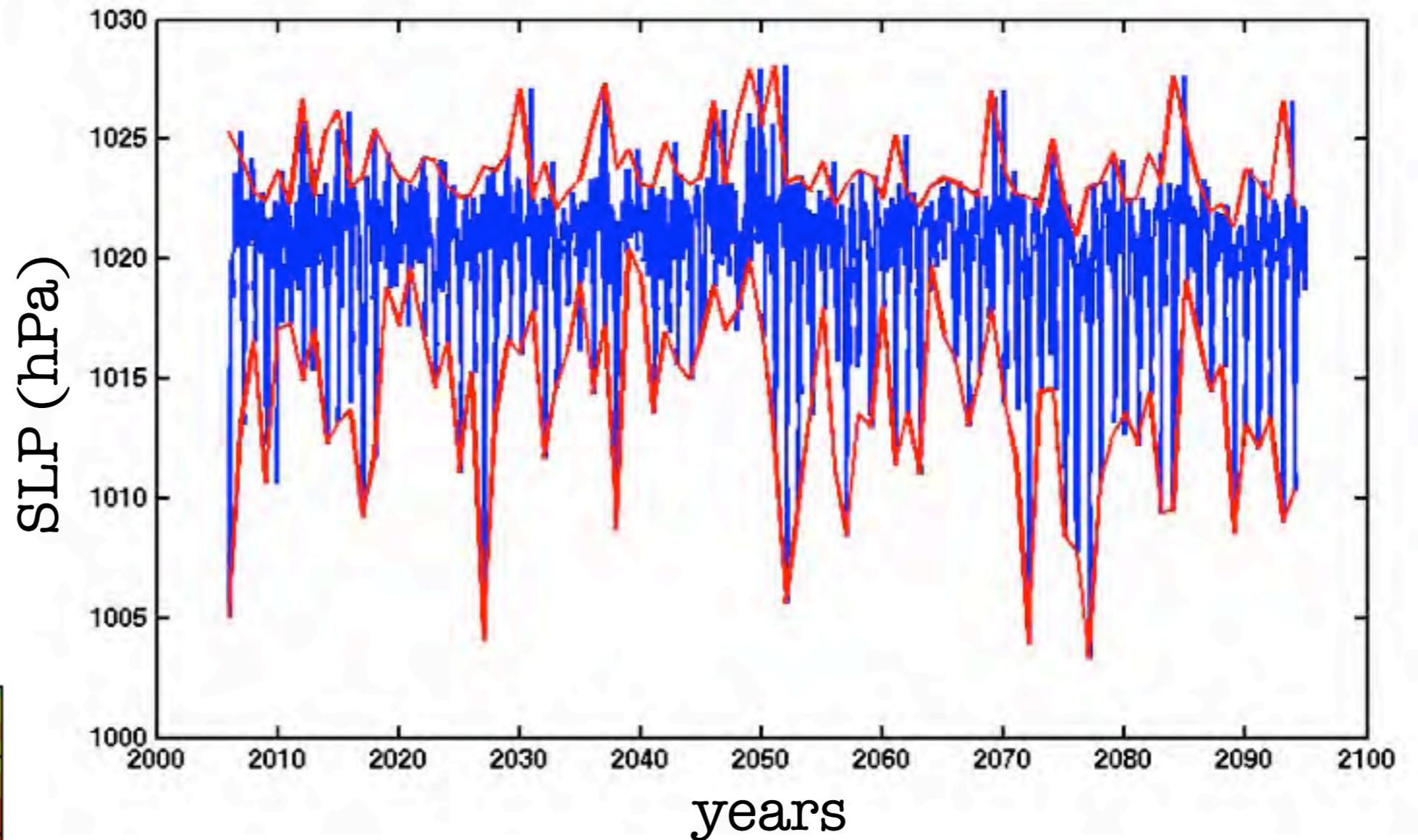


maximum SLP

latitude of maximum SLP

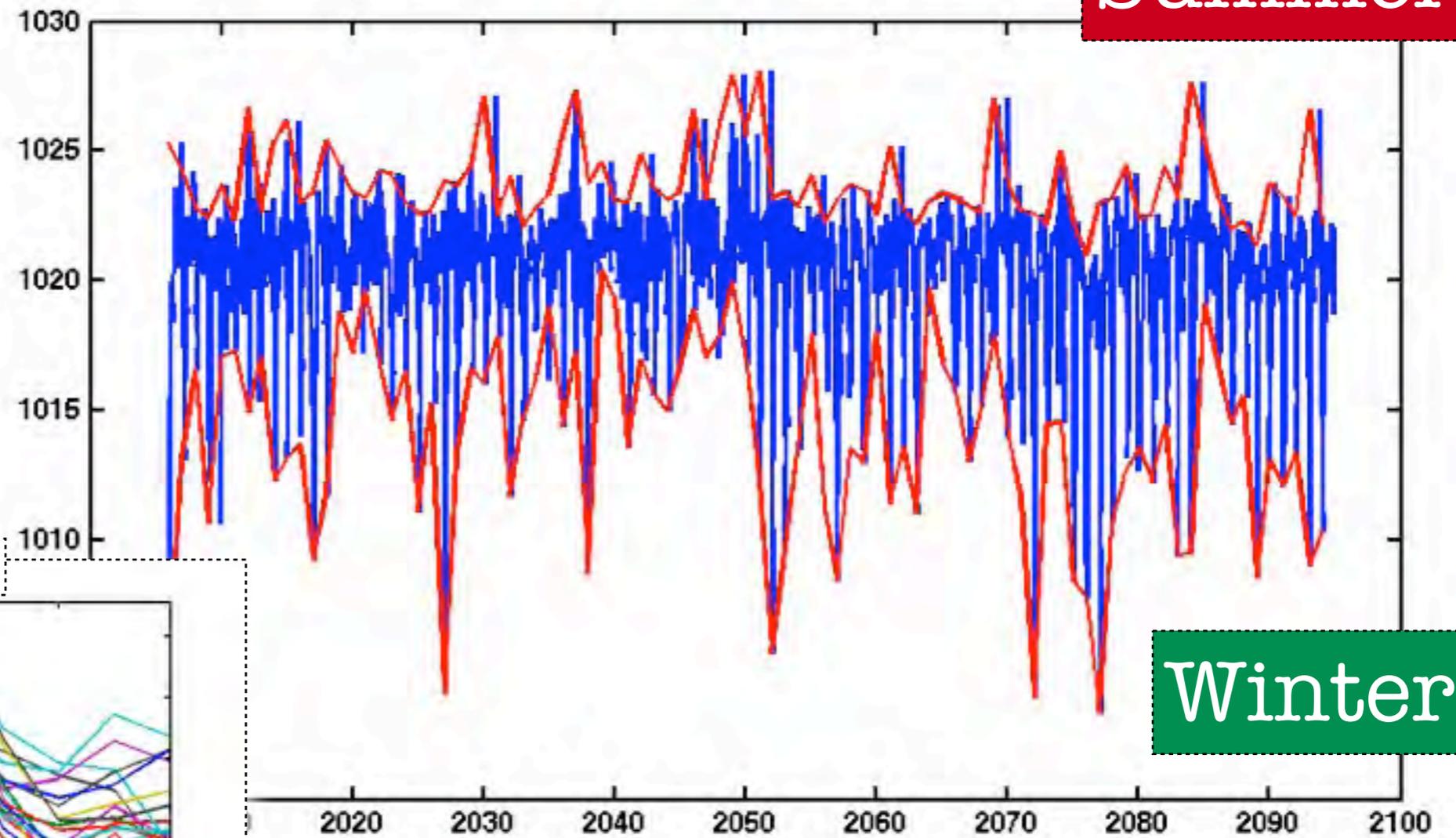


# Maximum SLP over NPH region



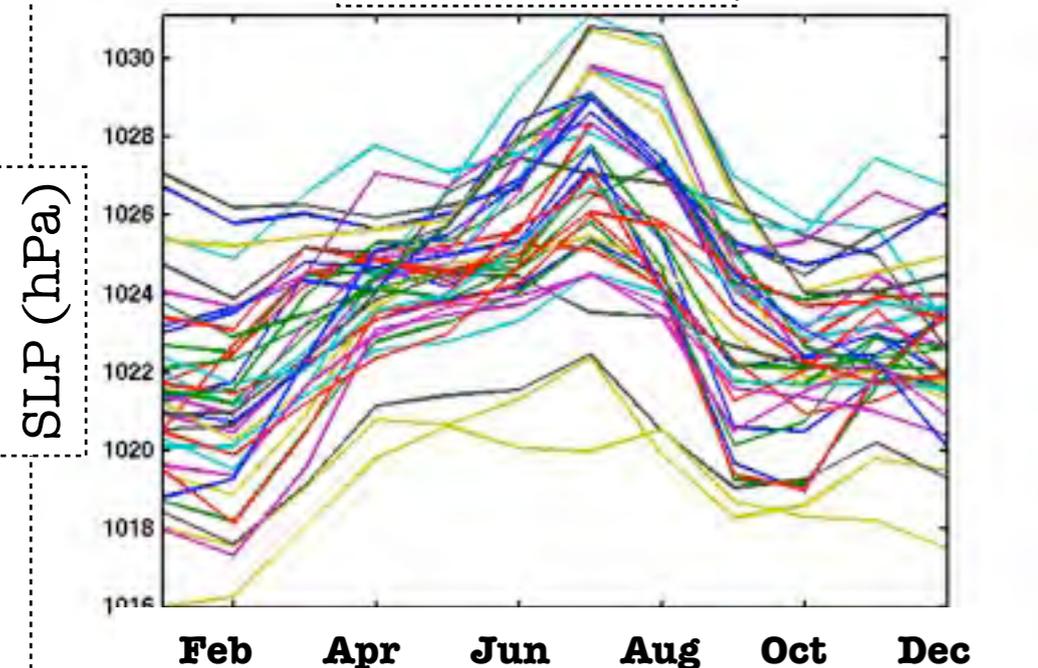
# Maximum SLP over NPH region

Summer



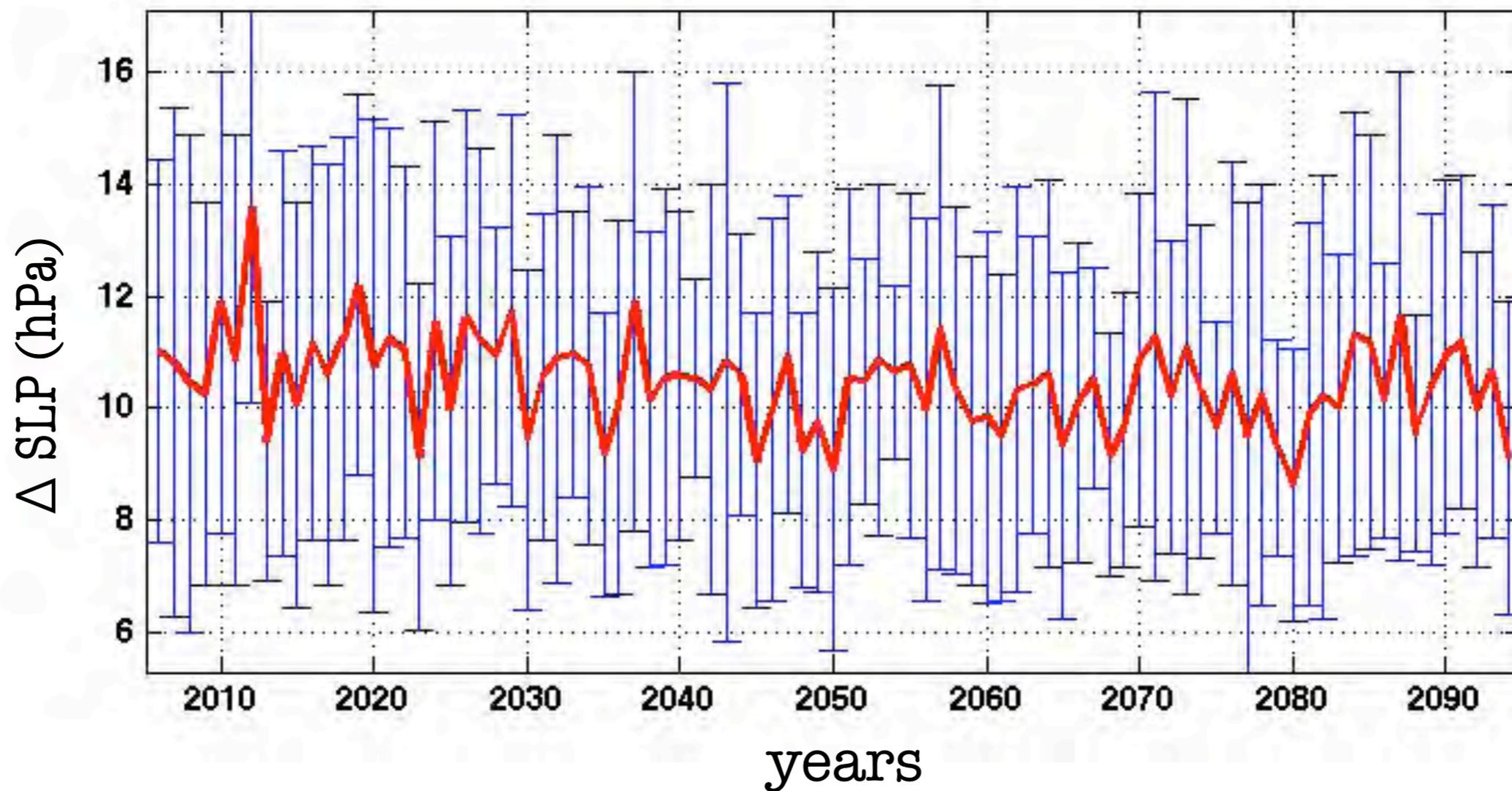
Winter

SLP Climatology



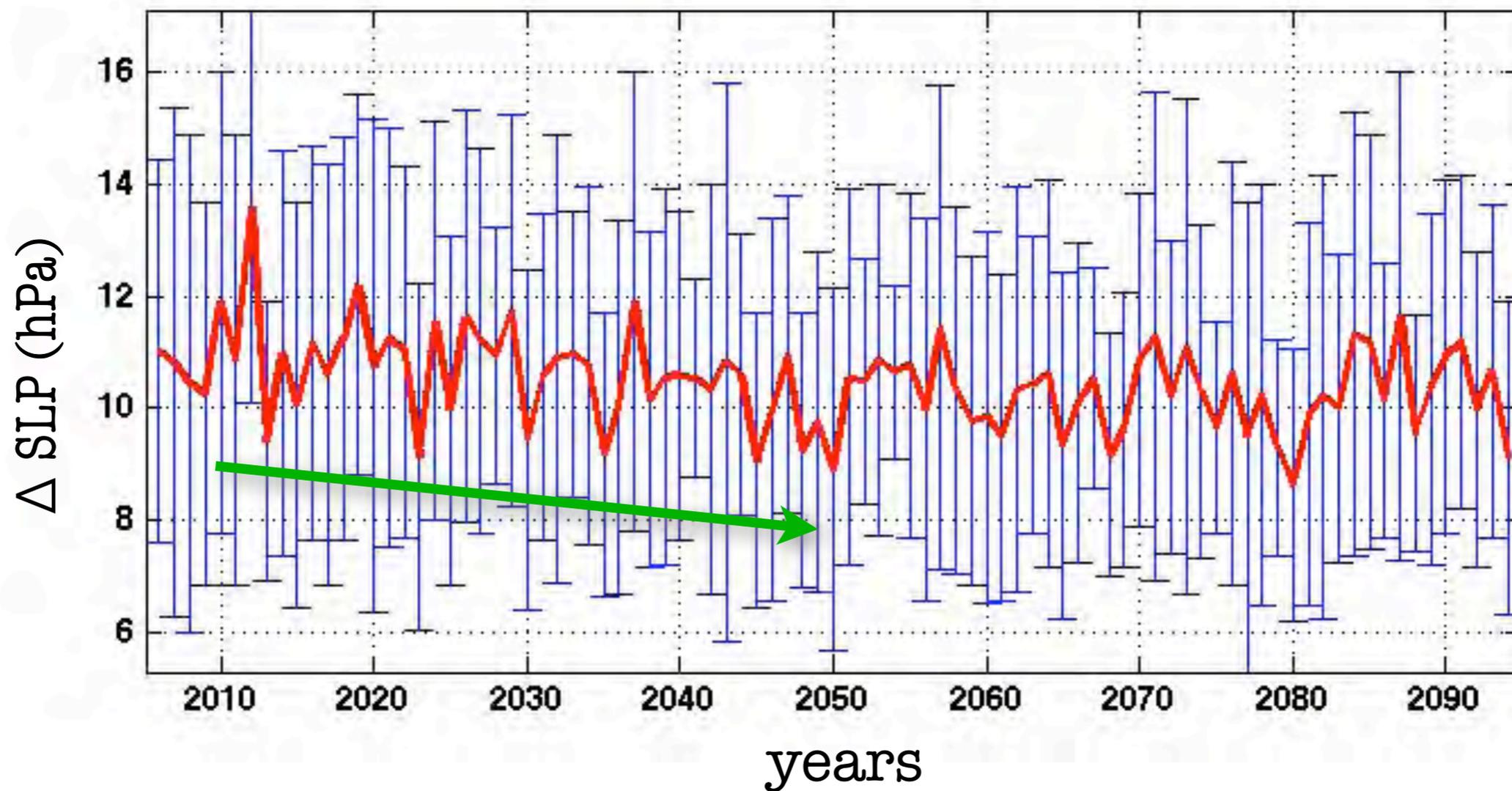
# Difference Maximum and Minimum SLP Models ensemble

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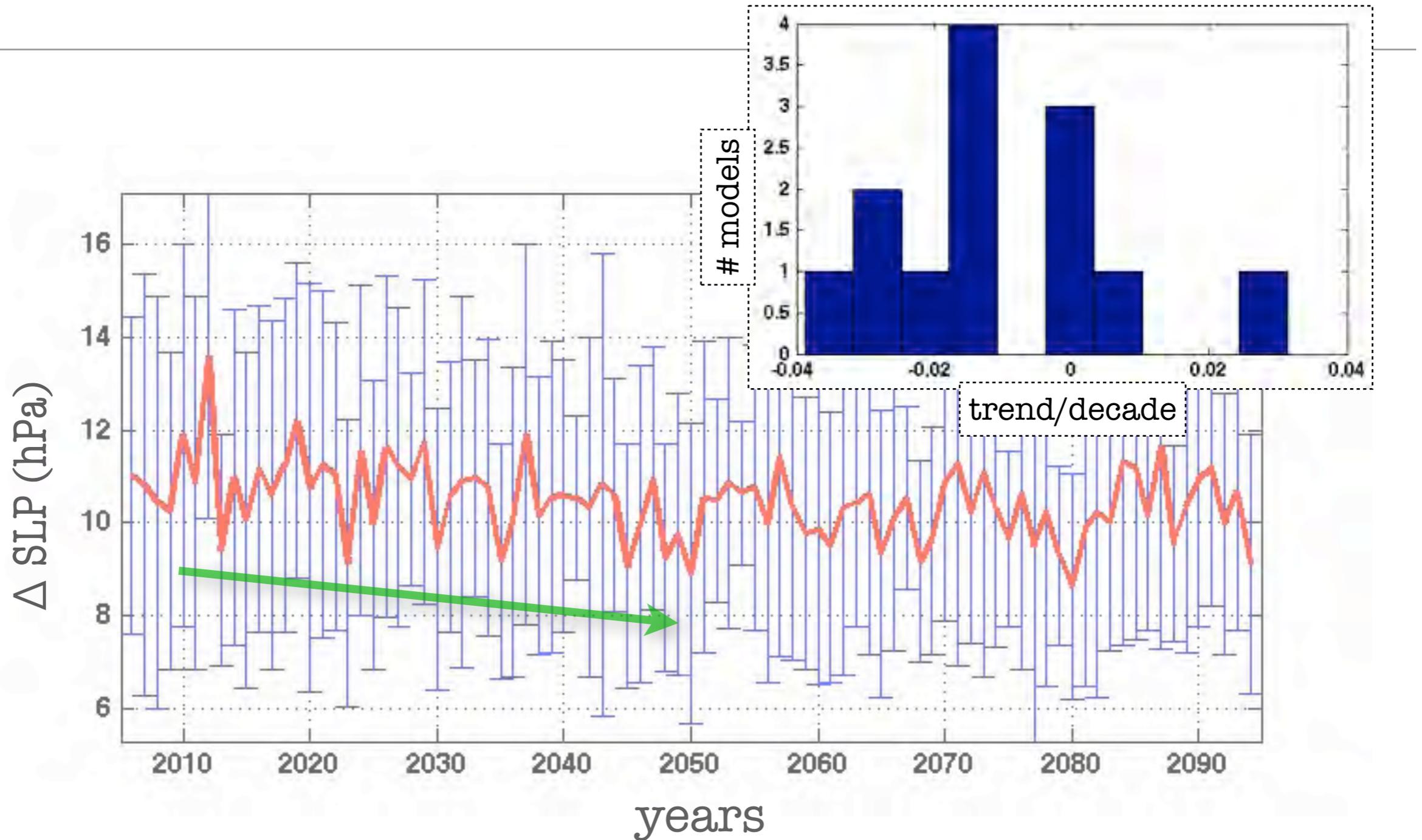
# Difference Maximum and Minimum SLP Models ensemble

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-0.1hPa/decade

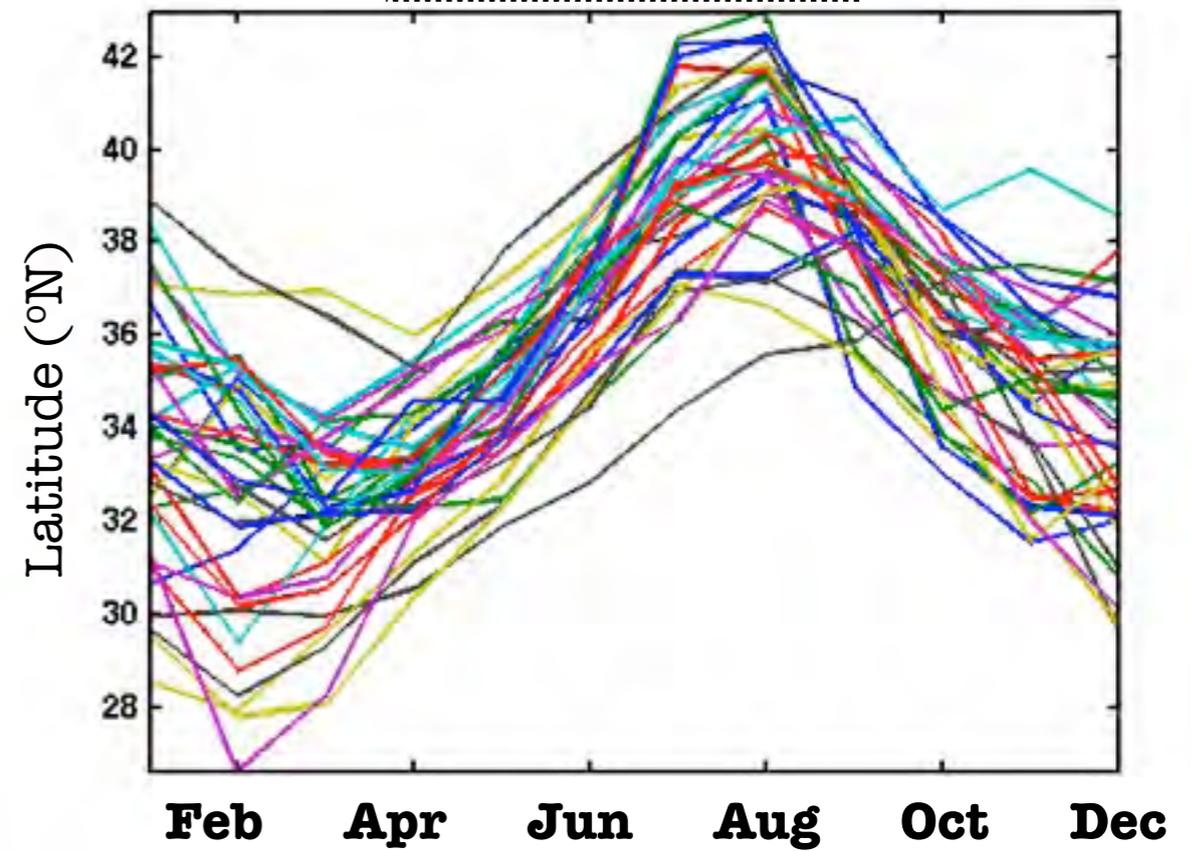
# Difference Maximum and Minimum SLP Models ensemble



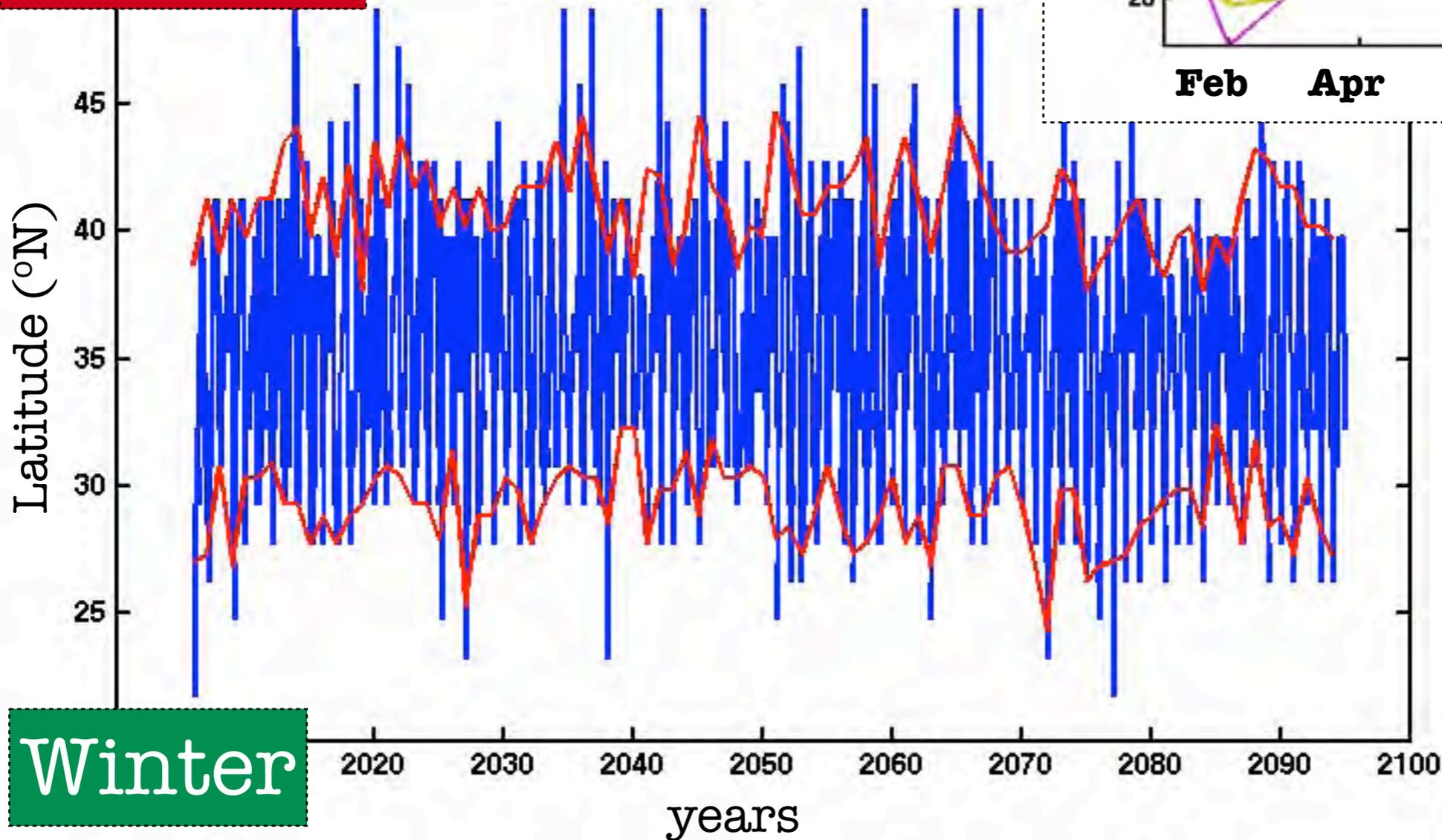
$-0.1$  hPa/decade

# Latitude of Maximum SLP

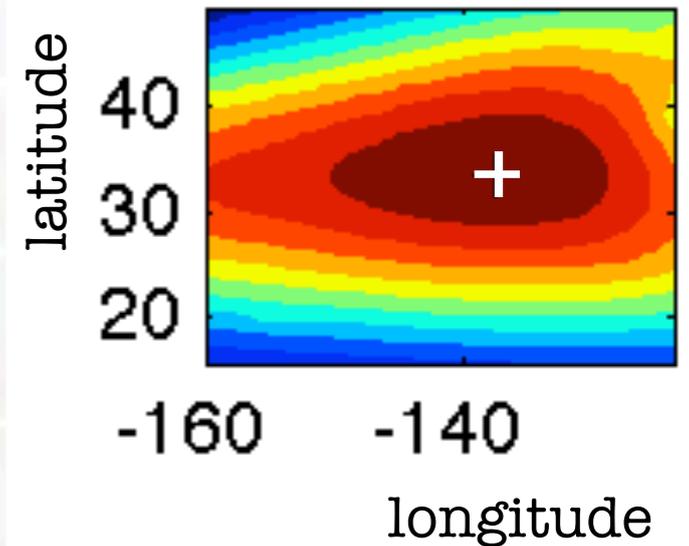
SLP Climatology

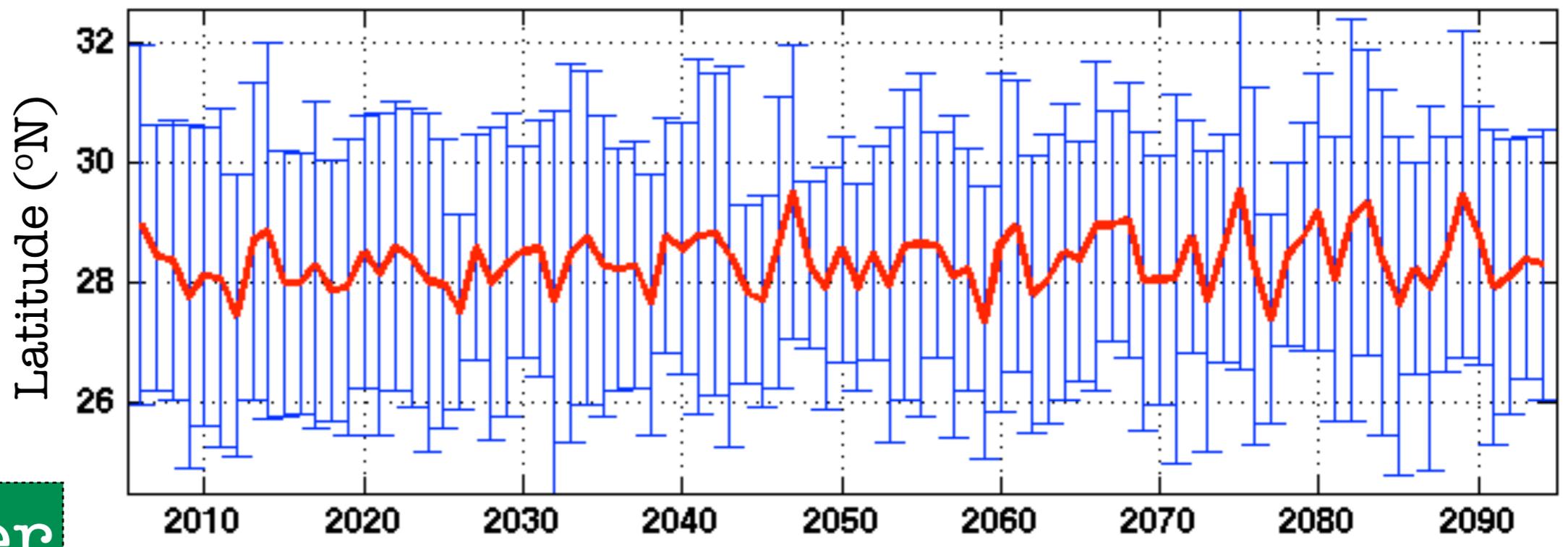
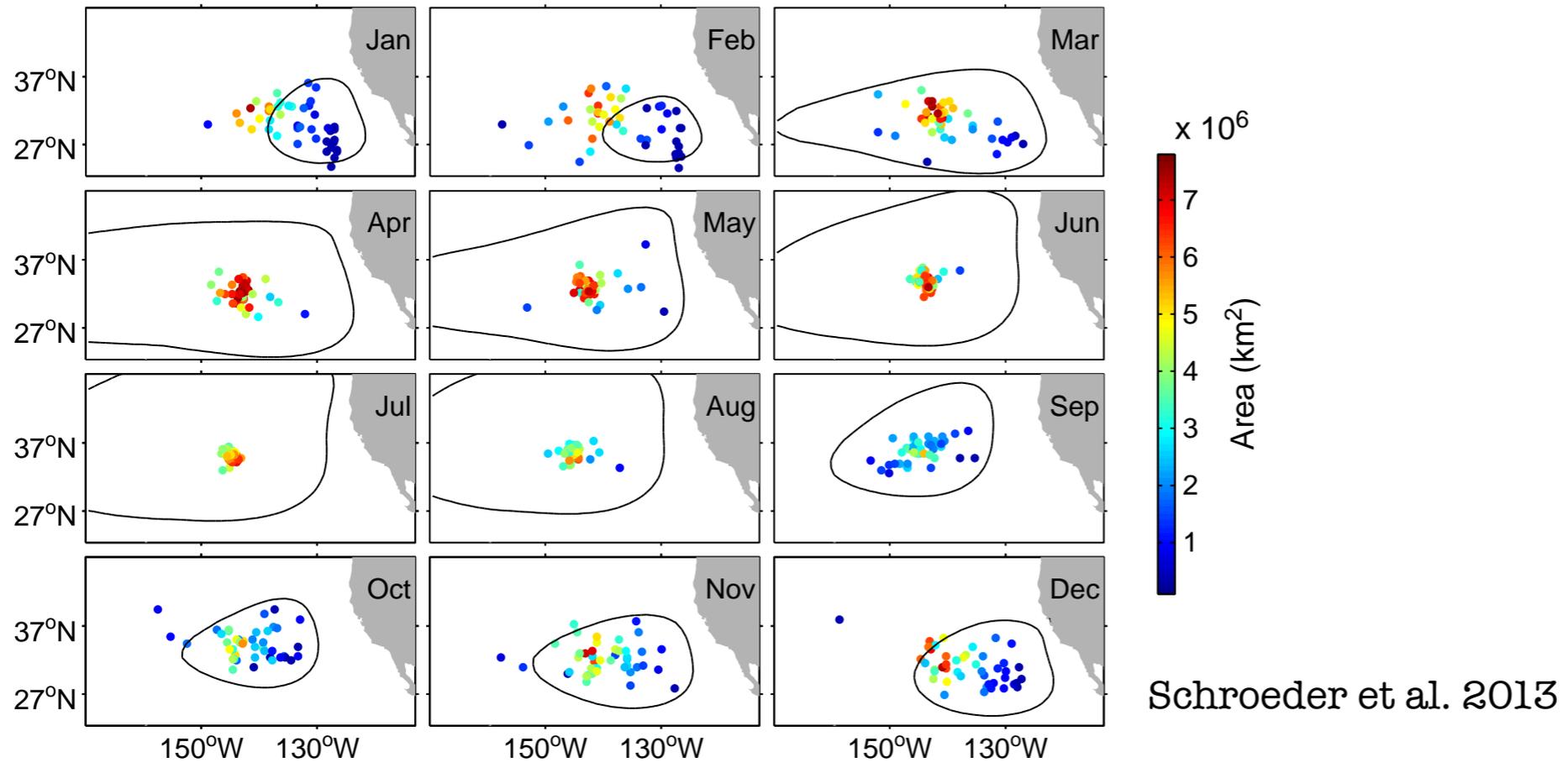


Summer

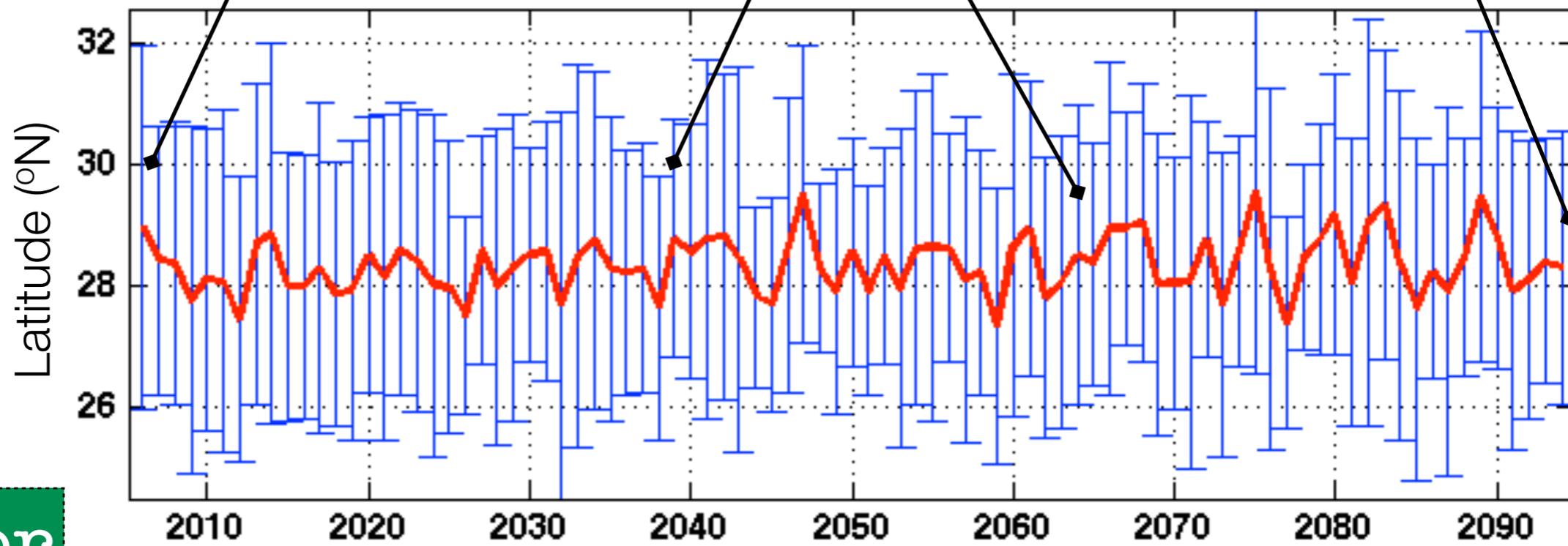
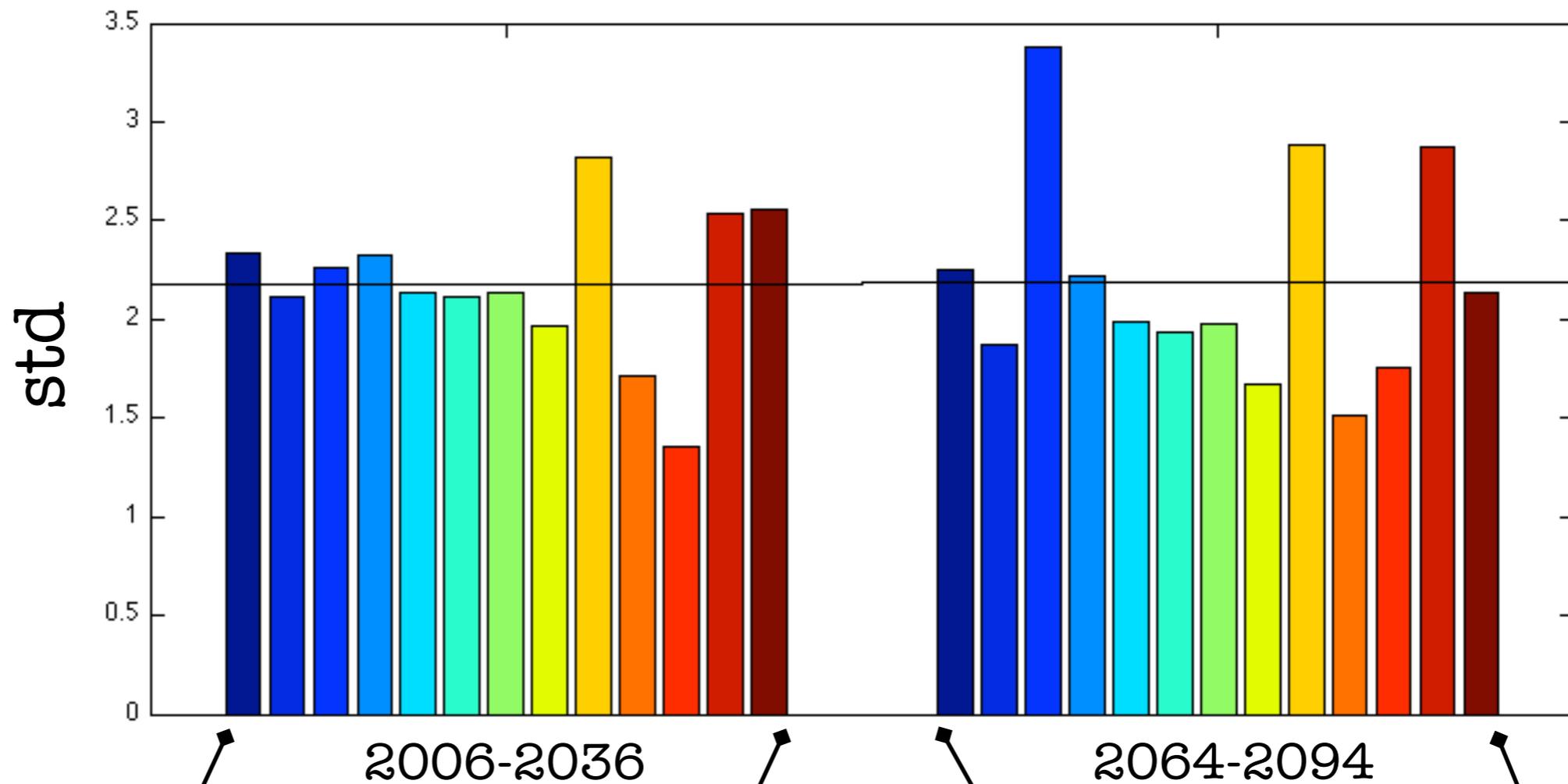


Winter





Winter

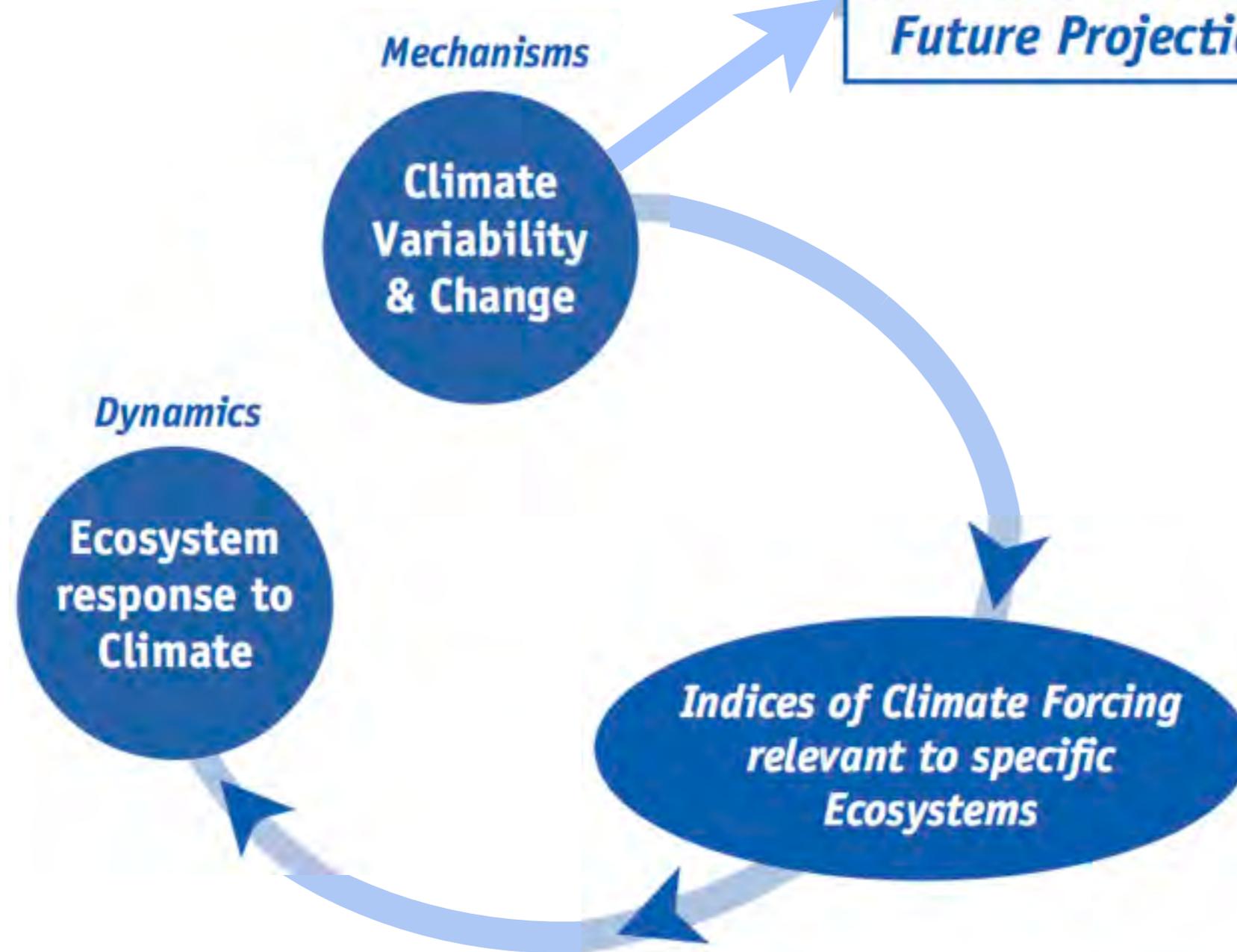


Winter



no change in  
SLP variability

**IPCC Climate Models  
Future Projections**



how well models  
represent variability  
& its change?

no change in  
SLP variability

**IPCC Climate Models  
Future Projections**

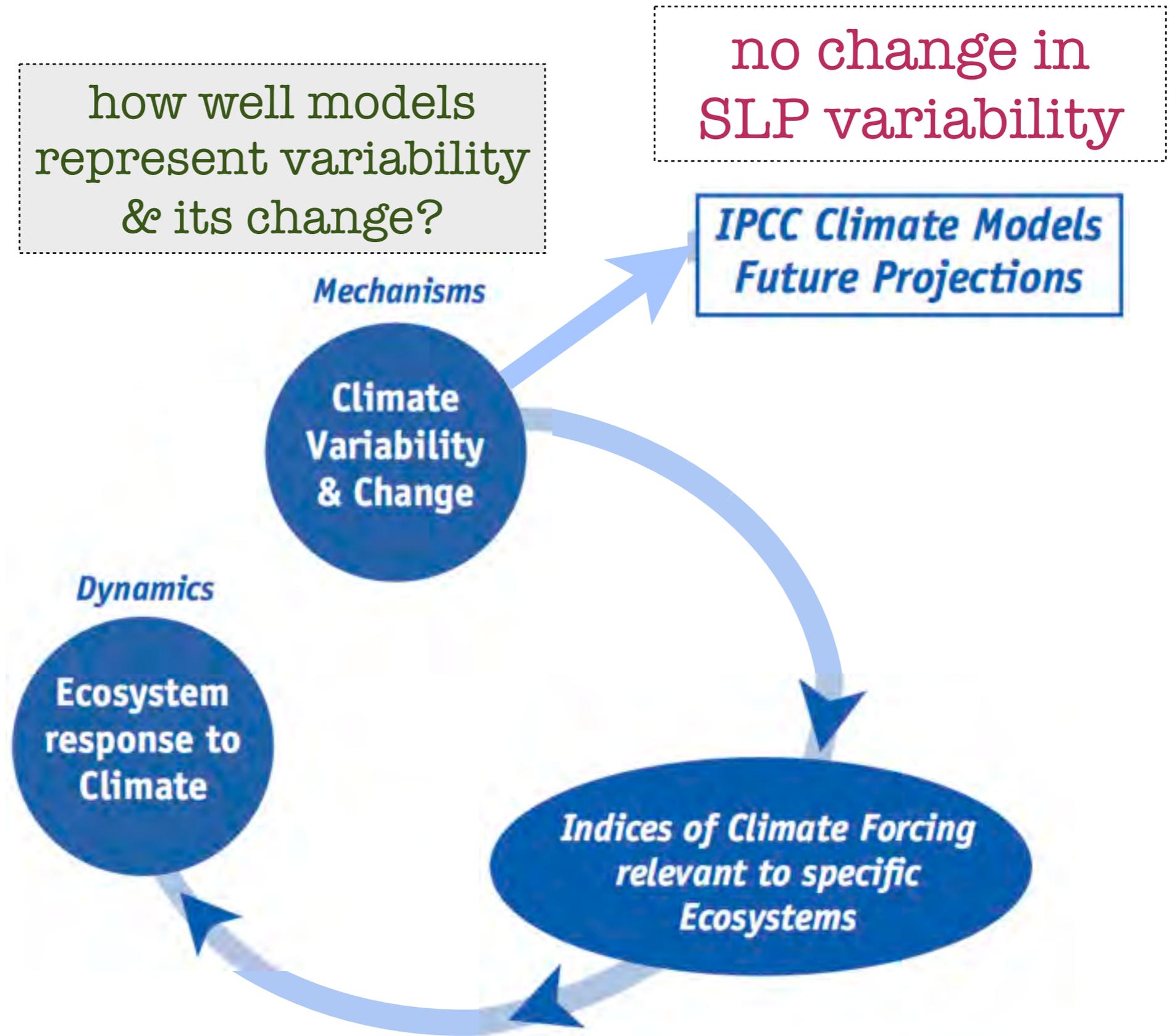
*Mechanisms*

**Climate  
Variability  
& Change**

*Dynamics*

**Ecosystem  
response to  
Climate**

**Indices of Climate Forcing  
relevant to specific  
Ecosystems**



how well models represent variability & its change?

no change in SLP variability

IPCC Climate Models Future Projections

Mechanisms

Climate Variability & Change

temperature?

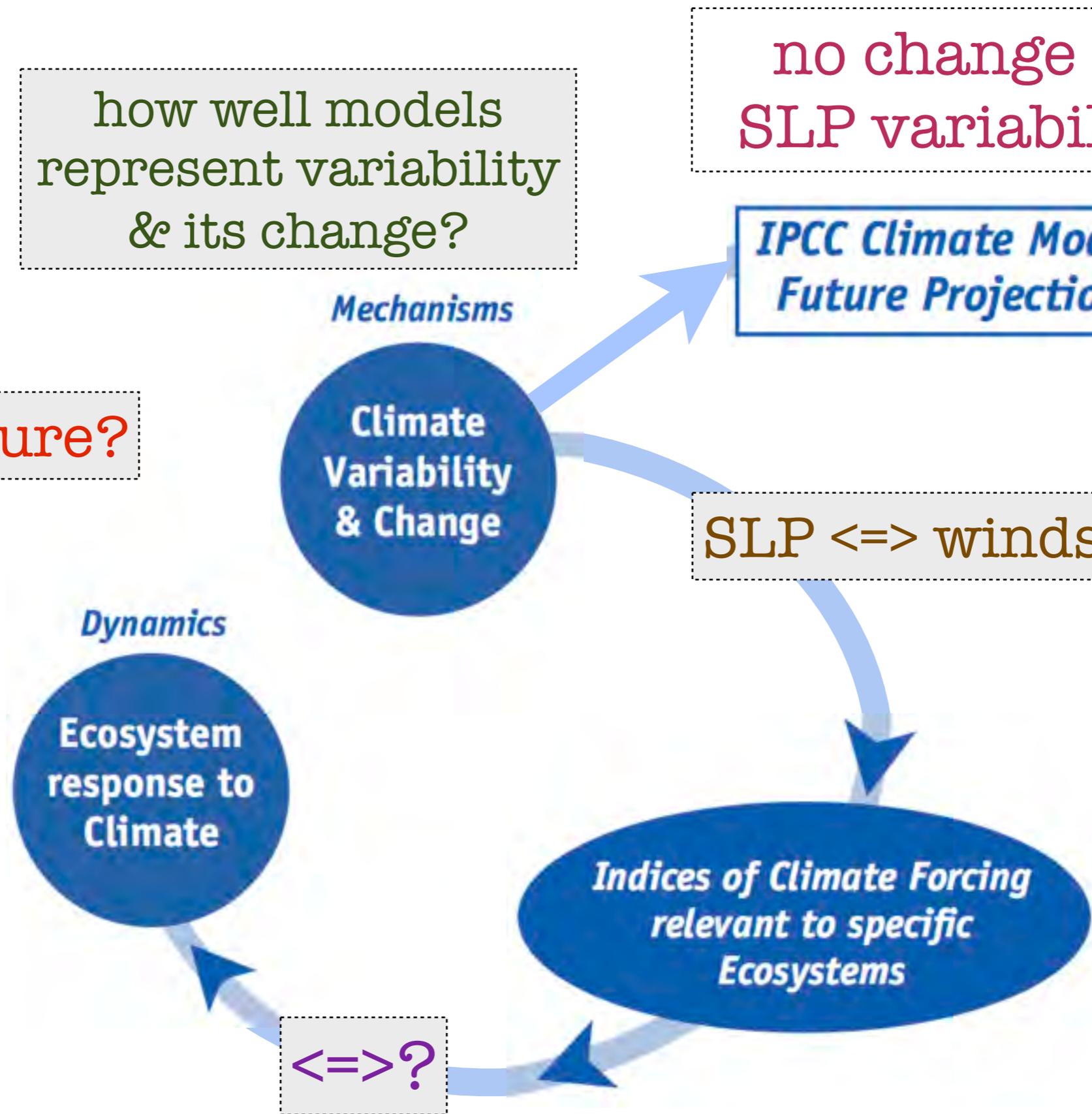
SLP <=> winds ?

Dynamics

Ecosystem response to Climate

Indices of Climate Forcing relevant to specific Ecosystems

<=> ?



how well models  
represent variability  
& its change?

no change in  
SLP variability

**IPCC Climate Models  
Future Projections**

*Mechanisms*



temperature?

SLP  $\Leftrightarrow$  winds ?

*Dynamics*

- is lack of change or models' skill?
- match with observed increasing variability in winds?
- ensemble method appropriate?