

MESACLIP: Understanding the Role of MESoscale Atmosphere – Ocean Interactions in Seasonal-to-Decadal CLimate Prediction

CESM CVCWG WINTER MEETING

Gokhan Danabasoglu (NSF NCAR) & Ping Chang (TAMU)

Fred Castruccio (NSF NCAR) & Dan Fu (TAMU)

NSF NCAR: Teagan King, Nan Rosenbloom, Justin Small, Steve Yeager

TAMU: Xue Liu, Greta Olson, Xiaoqi Wang, Gaopeng Xu, Qiuying Zhang



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CESM High-Resolution Simulations (CESM1.3; 0.1° ocn; 0.25° atm)

500-year PI control;

80-year 1%CO₂; 150-year 4xCO₂;

10-member (1850) 1920-2005 historical;

10-member 2006-2100 transient w/ RCP 8.5;

10-member 2006-2100 transient w/ RCP6.0;

1-member 2006-2100 transient w/ RCP4.5;

1-member 2006-2100 transient w/ RCP2.6;

3-member 1970-2020 Ozone withholding;

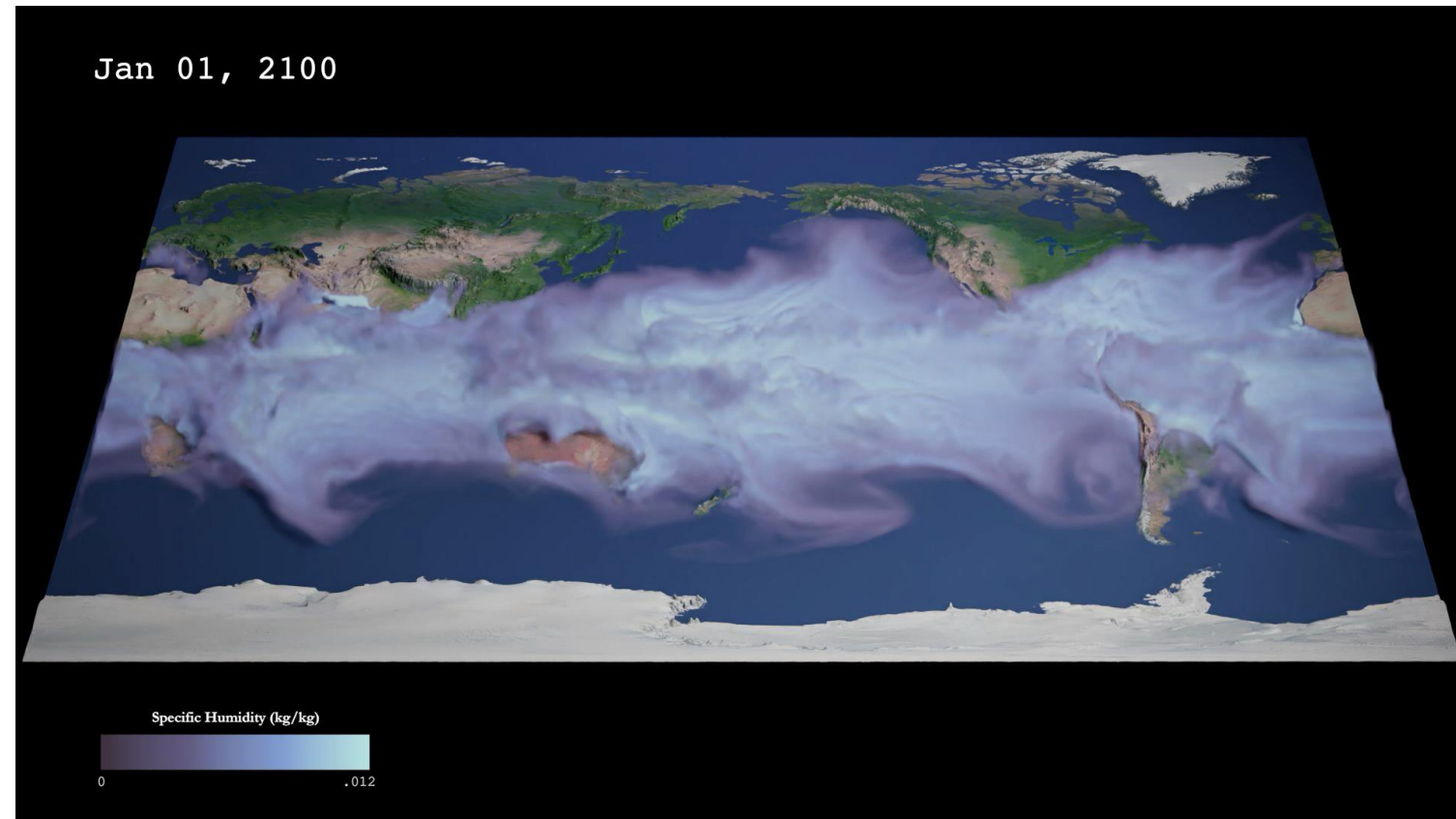
3-member 1950-2014 AMIP;

All HighResMIP coupled and AMIP;

5 cycles of 1958-2018 OMIP (w/ BGC);

Decadal Predictions (1980-2023; HRDP); and

Corresponding low-res (~1°) simulations



Visualization Credit: Matt Rehme, Visualization Services and Research Group, NSF NCAR CISL

Chang et al. (2020, JAMES)

Datasets are available to the community.





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MESACLIP Project

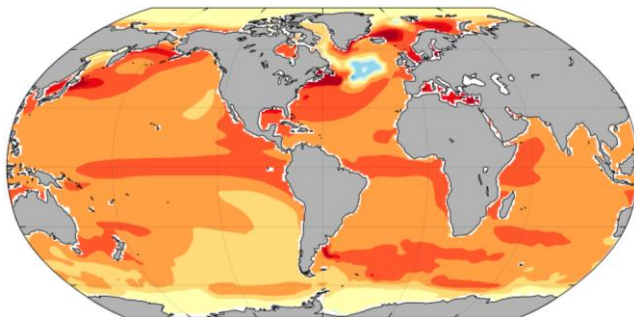
Understanding the Role of MESoscale Atmosphere–Ocean Interactions in Seasonal–to–Decadal CLimate Prediction

A collaboration between TAMU and NSF NCAR supported by the Climate & Large–Scale Dynamics program of the NSF

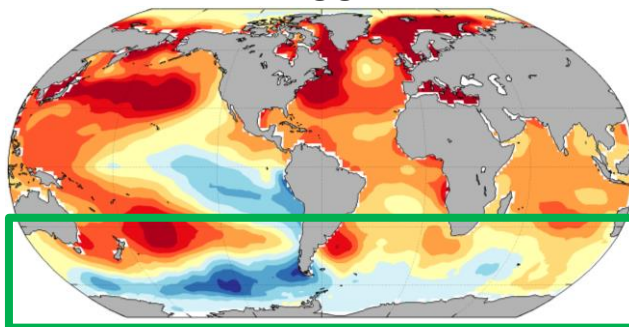
Data acquisition: The datasets are served to the community through the NSF NCAR Research Data Archive ([RDA](#)). Datasets archived on the RDA can be accessed within the CISL computing environment or downloaded over HTTP or Globus transfer for fast, secure, and reliable way to use elsewhere. A copy of the archive is stored in Campaign Storage and so is readily accessible by NCAR HPC system users and by individuals who have access to this system.

SST Linear Trend (1980-2022) in Each Ensemble Member

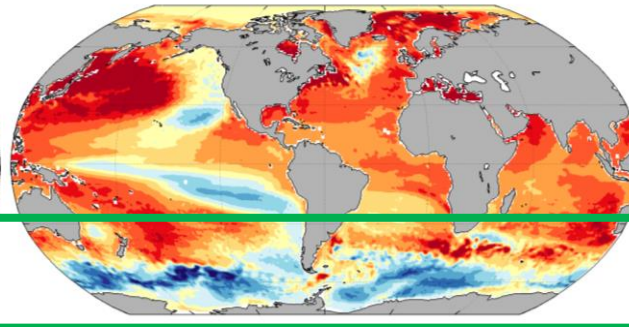
LR EnsM



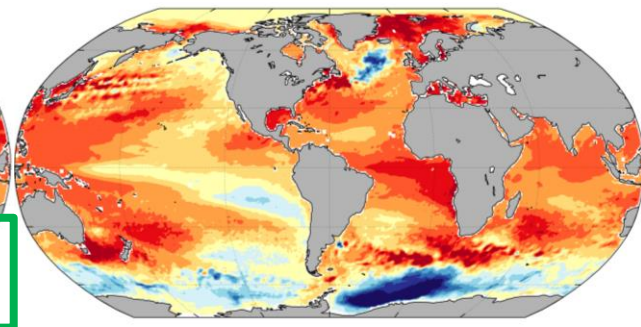
ERSST



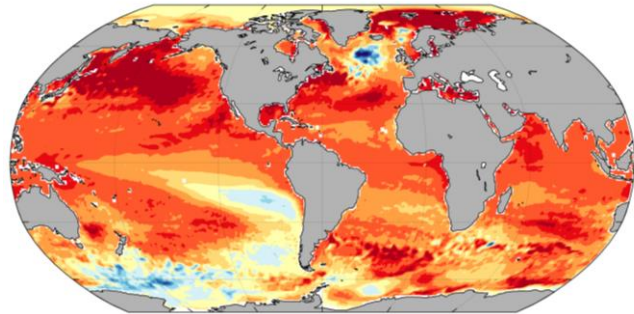
HR #010



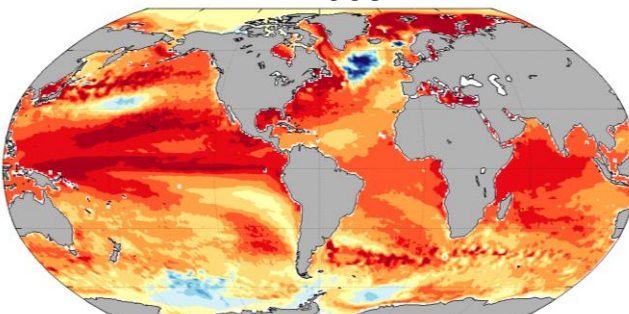
HR #003



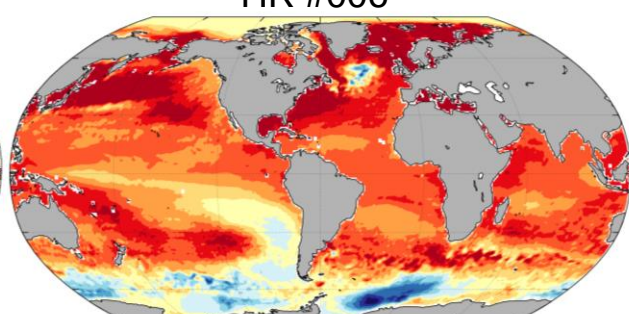
HR #004



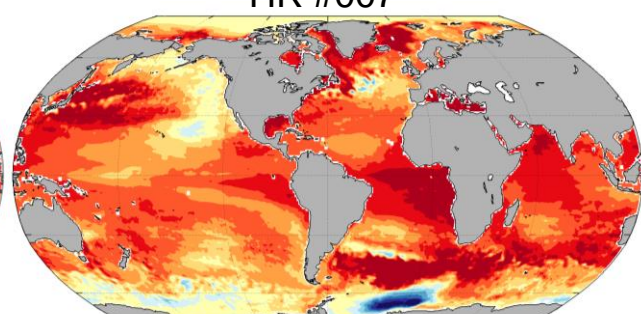
HR #005



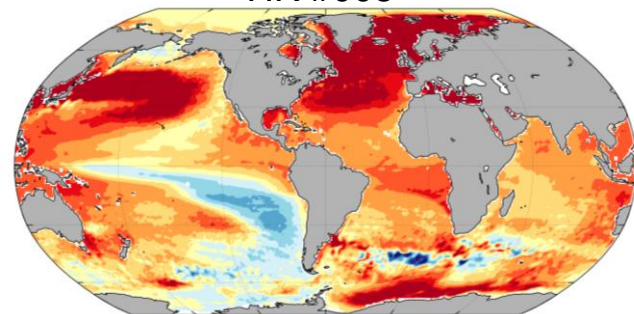
HR #006



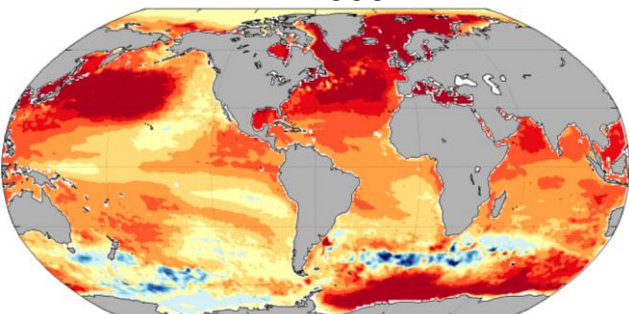
HR #007



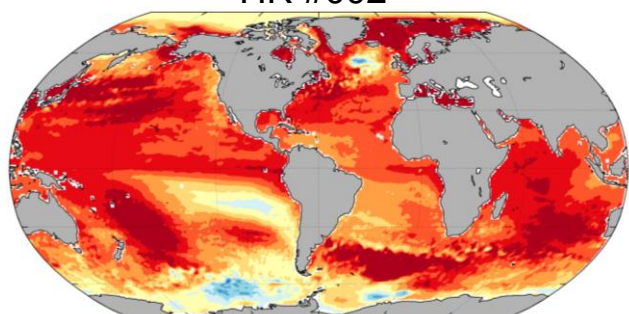
HR #008



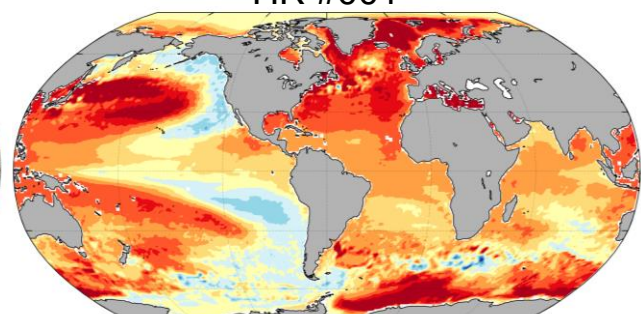
HR #009



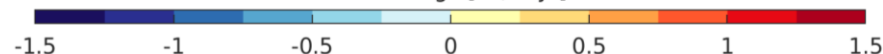
HR #002



HR #001



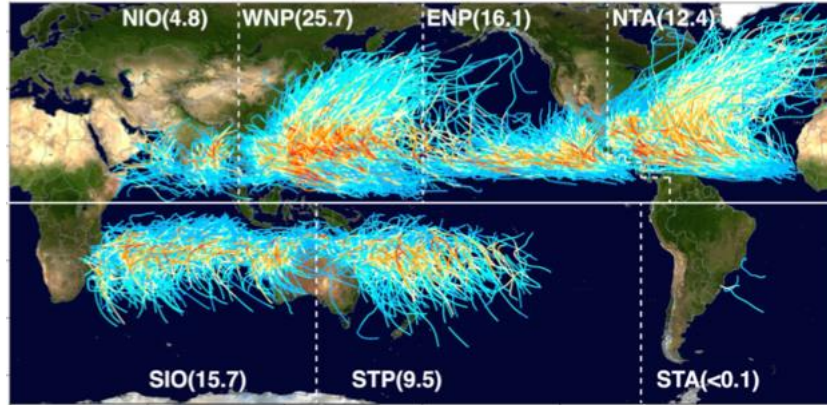
SST change [$^{\circ}\text{C}/43\text{yr}$]



Tropical Cyclones (TCs)

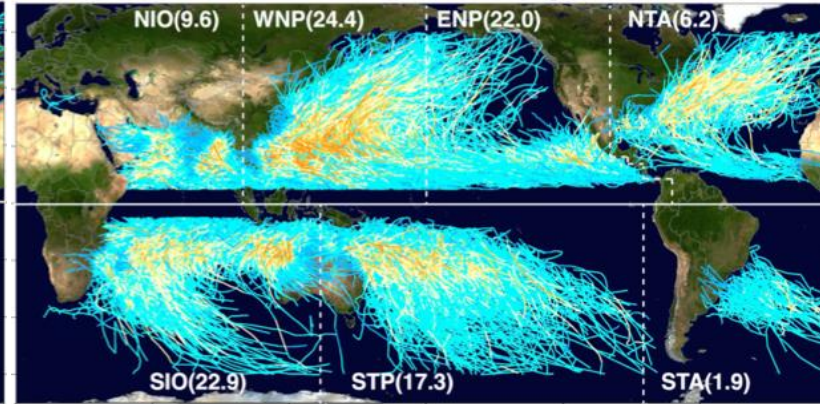
IBTrACS Observations

Observation 1950-2015 (global mean: 82.4)



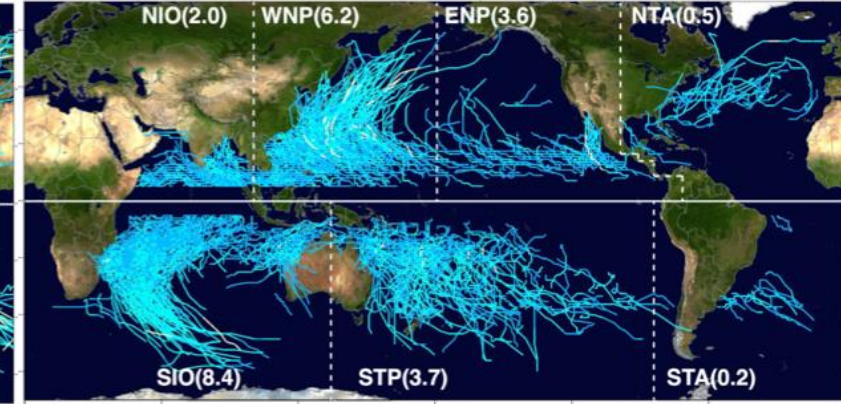
CESM HR

CESM-HR Transient Simulation 1950-2018 (global mean: 104.3)



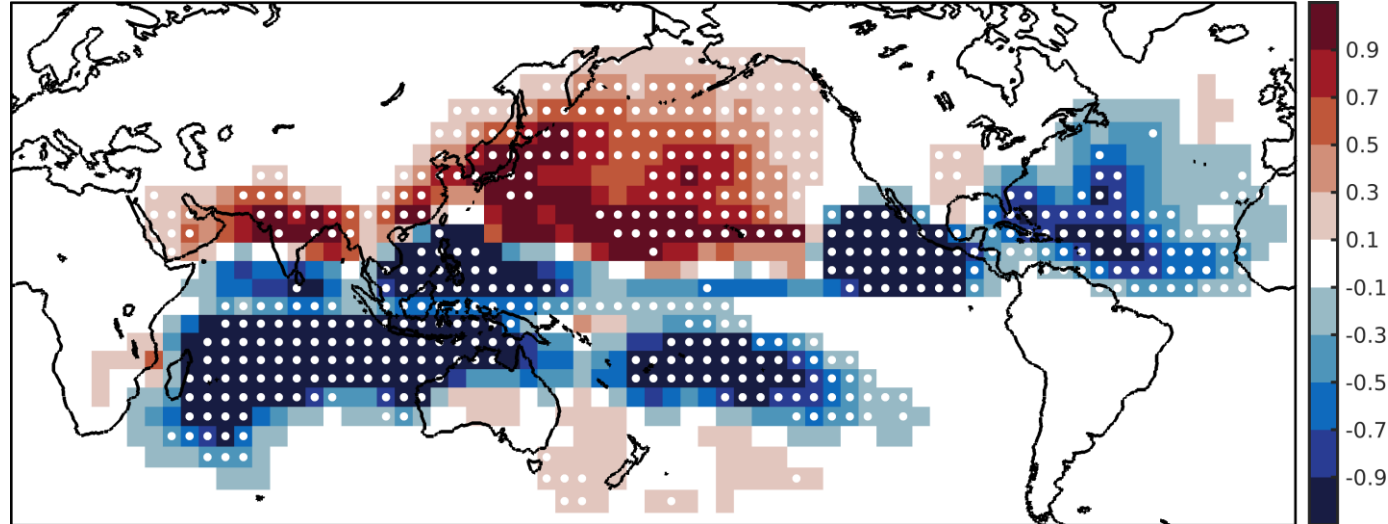
CESM LR

CESM-LR Transient Simulation 1950-2018 (global mean: 22.7)



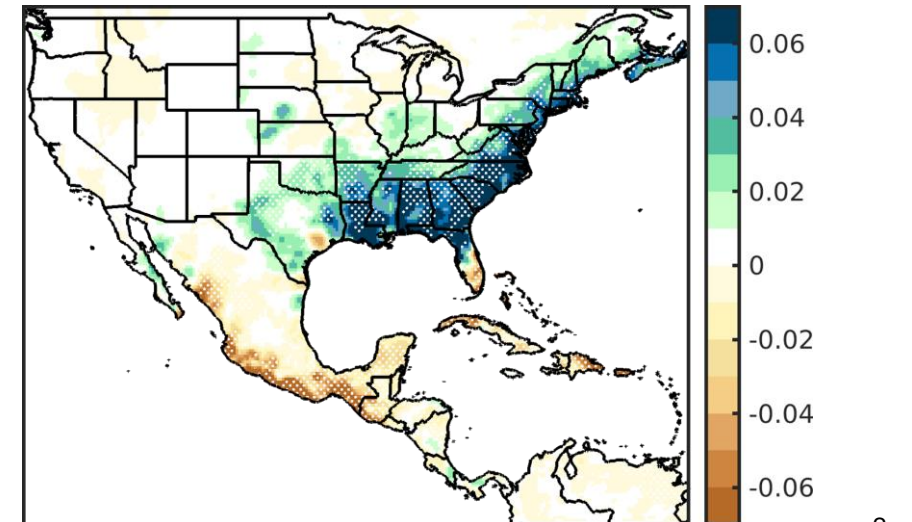
Chang et al. (2020, JAMES)

Change in TC Occurrence (2070-2100 minus 1950-1980)



yr⁻¹

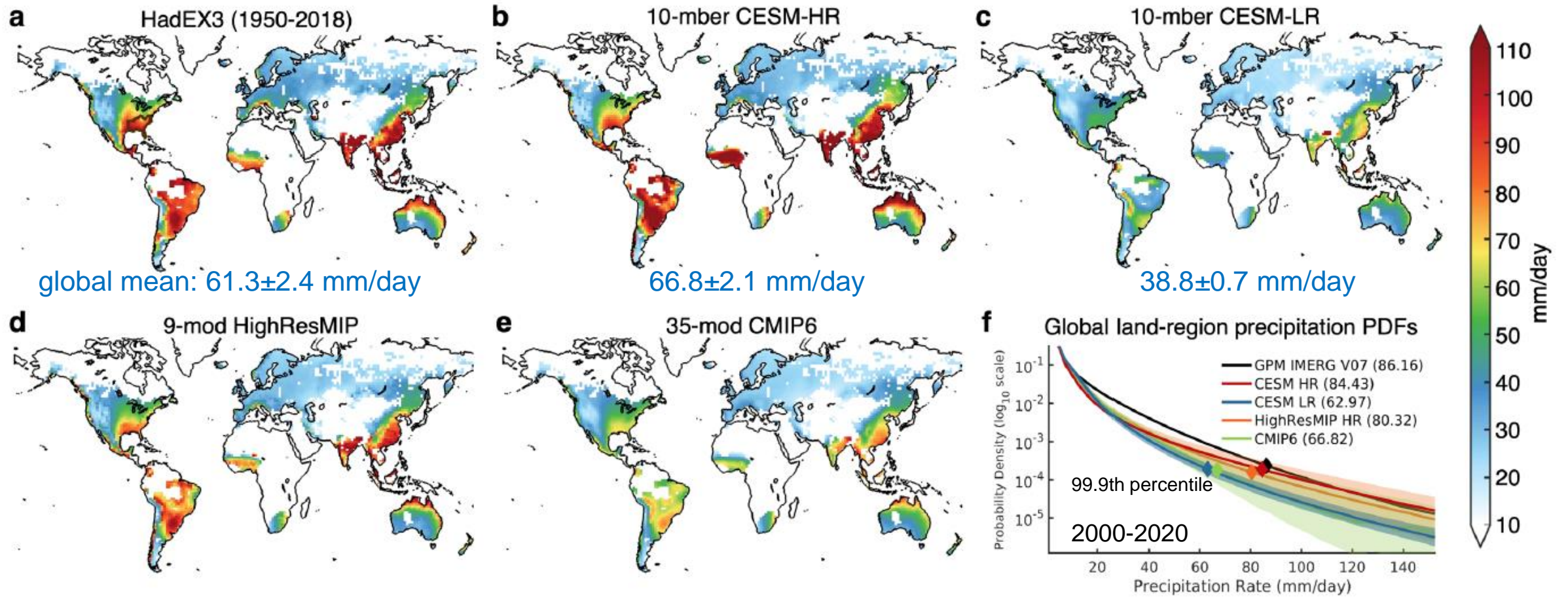
Trend of Annual-Mean TC-Induced Rainfall (1980-2100)



mm yr⁻²

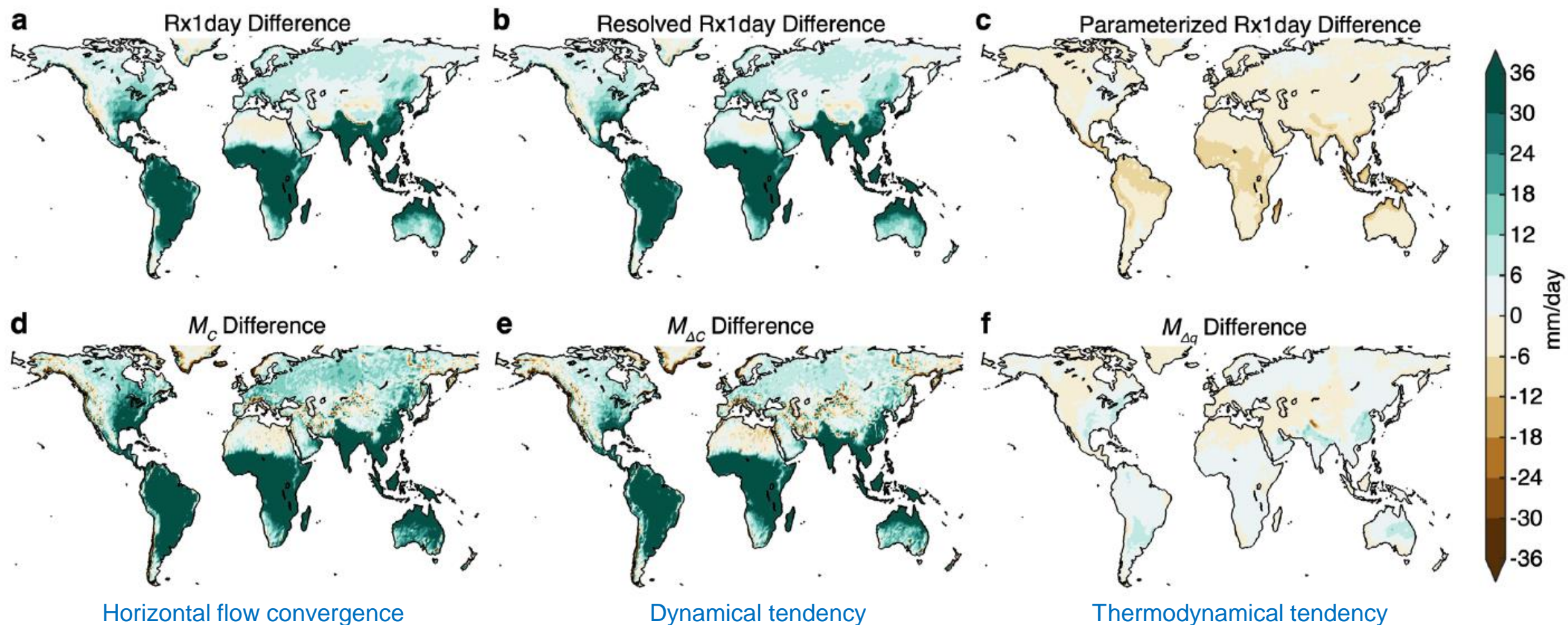
Fu et al. (2025, in preparation)

Observed and Simulated Annual Maximum Daily Precipitation (Rx1day)



Chang et al. (2025, PNAS, submitted)

Moisture Budget for Rx1day HR – LR Differences



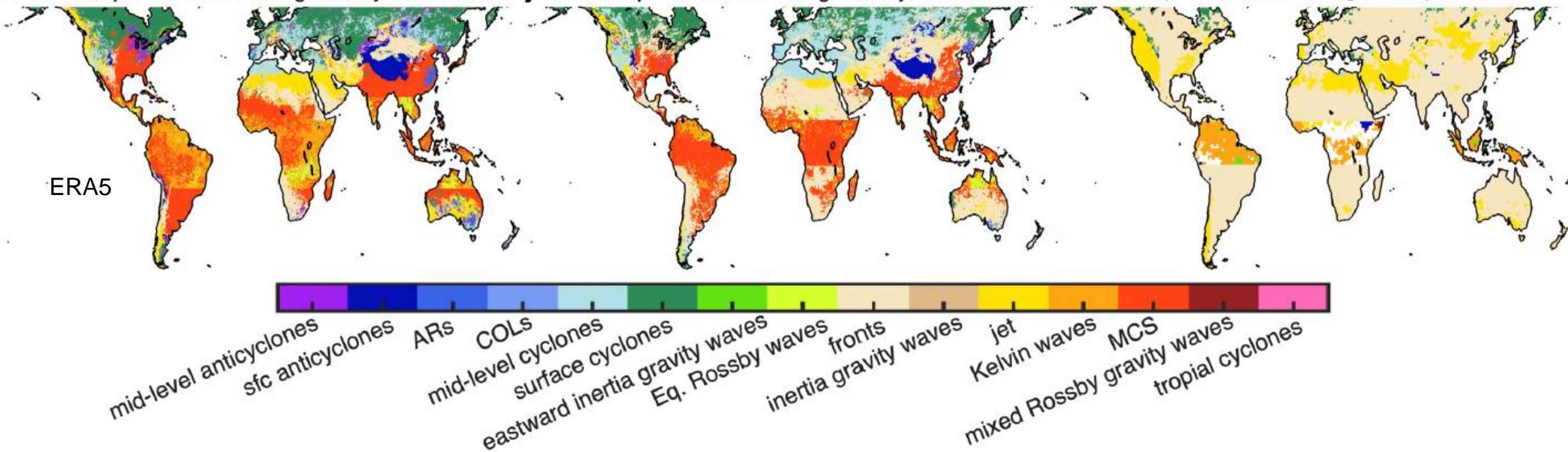
Chang et al. (2025, PNAS, submitted)

Most frequently Occurring Atmospheric Phenomenon Driving Extreme Precipitation

Mesoscale Convective Systems (MCSs)

Jets & Fronts

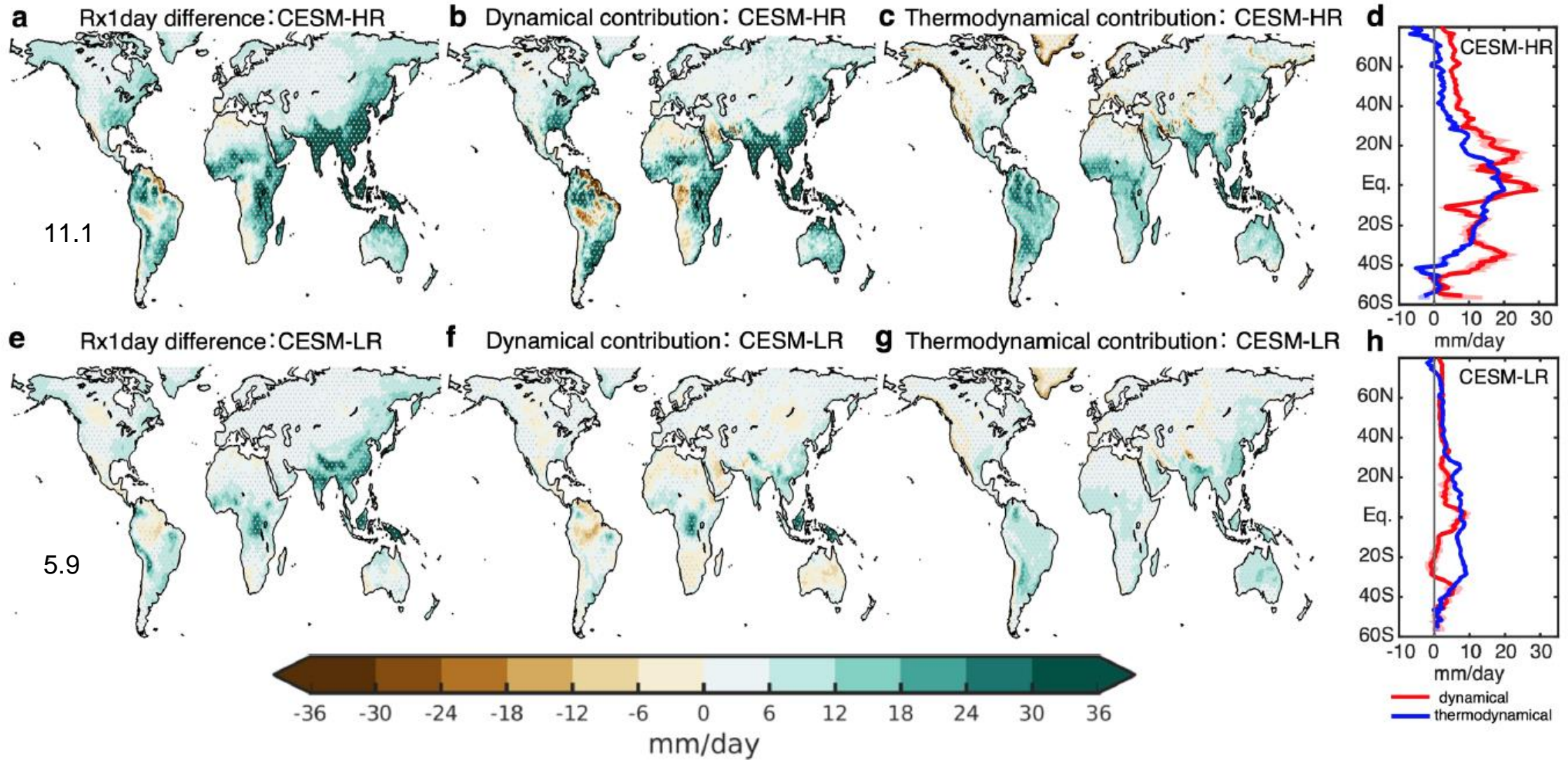
i Most frequent features during Rx1day: Observation **j** Most frequent features during Rx1day: CESM-HR **k** Most frequent features during Rx1day: CESM-LR



Detected by the Multi Object Analysis of Atmospheric Phenomenon (MOAAP; Prein et al. 2023) algorithm during Rx1day events over global land

Chang et al. (2025, PNAS, submitted)

Projected Rx1day Changes and Their Drivers



Chang et al. (2025, PNAS, submitted)

(2071-2100) – (1981-2010)

Summary

A large volume of datasets have been made available

HRDP expansion simulations are ongoing

Analysis of simulations are continuing, e.g., Southern Ocean trends, AMOC-related aspects, TCs,

While unable to explicitly resolve clouds and deep convection, HR simulations markedly outperform standard LR simulations, more accurately replicate observed extreme precipitation statistics by improving representation of mesoscale phenomena, such as MCSs, and the multi-scale interactions essential for capturing extreme events

Thank you!

