

1                   **Changes to Tropical Eastern North Pacific**  
2                   **Intraseasonal Variability under Global Warming –**  
3                   **Implications for Tropical Cyclogenesis**

4                   Hien X. Bui\* and Eric D. Maloney

5                   Department of Atmospheric Science, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO, USA

6                   \*Corresponding author address: Hien X. Bui, Department of Atmospheric Science, Colorado  
7                   State University, 1371 Campus Delivery, Fort Collins, CO 80523-1371. Email:  
8                   [hien.bui@colostate.edu](mailto:hien.bui@colostate.edu)

9 **Highlights:**

- 10 • CMIP6 models show decreases in boreal summer intraseasonal oscillation (ISO) precipitation  
11 and low-level westerly wind anomaly amplitude in regions near the Mexican Coast with climate  
12 warming.
- 13 • The amplitude maximum for eastern north Pacific precipitation and wind anomalies during  
14 positive ISO precipitation events shifts southwestward in a warmer climate.
- 15 • ISO precipitation events are associated with weaker intraseasonal tropical cyclone genesis  
16 potential anomalies near the Mexican coast with climate warming and an enhancement to the  
17 southwest

18 **Abstract**

19 Changes to the eastern North Pacific tropical intraseasonal oscillation (ISO) at the end of the 21<sup>st</sup>  
20 Century and implications for tropical cyclone (TC) genesis are examined in the Shared  
21 Socioeconomic Pathways (SSP585) scenario of the Coupled Model Intercomparison Project phase  
22 6 (CMIP6) data set. Multimodel mean composite low-level wind and precipitation anomalies  
23 associated with the leading intraseasonal mode indicate that precipitation amplitude increases  
24 while wind amplitude weakens under global warming, consistent with previous studies for the  
25 Indo-Pacific warm pool. The eastern North Pacific intraseasonal precipitation/wind pattern also  
26 tends to shift southwestward in a warmer climate, associated with weaker positive precipitation  
27 anomalies near the coast of Mexico and Central America during the enhanced convection/westerly  
28 wind phase. Implications for the modulation of TC genesis by the leading intraseasonal mode are  
29 then explored using an empirical genesis potential index (GPI). In the historical simulation, GPI  
30 shows positive anomalies in the eastern North Pacific in the convectively enhanced phase of the  
31 ISO. The ISO's modulation of GPI weakens near the coast of Mexico and Central America with  
32 warming, associated with a southward shift of GPI anomalies. Further examination of the  
33 contribution from individual environmental variables that enter the GPI shows that relative  
34 humidity and vorticity changes during ISO events weaken positive GPI anomalies near the  
35 Mexican coast with warming and make genesis more favorable to the southwest. The impact of  
36 vertical shear anomaly changes is also to favor genesis away from the coast. These results suggest  
37 a weaker modulation of TCs near the Mexican Coast by the ISO in a warmer climate.

## 38 **1. Introduction**

39 The eastern north Pacific (ENP) warm pool is a part of western hemisphere warm pool (Wang  
40 and Enfield, 2001), approximately encompassed by the area east of 120°W and west of Mexico  
41 and Central America where the surface temperature is generally above 27°C. Although not as large  
42 as its Indo-Pacific counterpart, the ENP features similar large-scale atmospheric circulation,  
43 tropical convection, and tropical cyclone features and variability to that of the west Pacific warm  
44 pool (Misra et al., 2016). Tropical cyclones (TCs) that form in the ENP and their remnants are an  
45 important source of precipitation in Mexico and the southwestern United States (Dominguez and  
46 Magaña, 2018; Englehart and Douglas, 2001; Ritchie et al., 2011). On the intraseasonal time scale,  
47 the Madden Julian oscillation (MJO; Madden and Julian, 1971; Madden and Julian, 1972; see also  
48 Maloney and Esbensen, 2003; Neena et al., 2014) modulates convection in this region during  
49 boreal summer, with notable northward propagation of convection anomalies (Jiang and Waliser,  
50 2008; Jiang and Waliser, 2009; Maloney et al., 2008). Modeling evidence suggests that the ENP  
51 can support its own intraseasonal mode of variability (hereafter ENP ISO) in isolation from the  
52 Eastern hemisphere, although variability in this region tends to phase-lock with the MJO (Jiang et  
53 al., 2012; Rydbeck et al., 2013). The ENP ISO has been implicated in the modulation of TC genesis  
54 and overall TC activity in this region (e.g., Camargo et al., 2008; Higgins and Shi, 2005; Jiang et  
55 al., 2012; Klotzbach, 2010; Klotzbach, 2014; Maloney and Hartmann, 2000; Maloney and  
56 Hartmann, 2001; Molinari et al., 1997; Romero-Vadillo et al., 2007; Slade and Maloney, 2013).

57 The MJO affects TC genesis by altering large-scale environmental variables including relative  
58 vorticity, humidity, and vertical wind shear, with the relative importance of different variables  
59 depending on basin (Camargo et al., 2009; Zhao and Li, 2019). By analyzing a genesis potential  
60 index (GPI) using reanalysis data over the global oceans, Camargo et al. (2009) showed that  
61 midlevel relative humidity fluctuations make the largest contribution to MJO composite GPI  
62 anomalies, followed by contributions from low-level absolute vorticity, with only minor  
63 contributions from vertical wind shear and potential intensity. In the ENP region, while midlevel  
64 humidity and low-level vorticity are the two most important contributors to ISO composite GPI  
65 anomalies (Camargo et al., 2009), the relative importance of each variable depends strongly on  
66 location and ISO phase (Jiang et al., 2012). Previous studies have reported that TC development  
67 is increased (by up to 4 times) when lower-tropospheric wind anomalies in the east Pacific

68 associated with the ISO are westerly (when convection is enhanced) versus easterly (e.g., Aiyyer  
69 and Molinari, 2008; Maloney and Hartmann, 2000). Barotropic energy conversions from the mean  
70 state to eddies during the convective phase of the MJO have been hypothesized to contribute to  
71 the increase of cyclogenesis by strengthening the easterly wave seed disturbances for TCs  
72 (Maloney and Hartmann, 2001). Barrett and Leslie (2009) attributed increased TC formation  
73 during the ISO's convectively active phase to enhanced upper-tropospheric divergence. Given  
74 these impacts of the ISO on TC activity in the current climate, understanding changes of ENP  
75 intraseasonal variability under global warming and its influence on TC activity is of interest to  
76 people living in this region.

77 Much recent work has been conducted on MJO changes under global warming (see a review  
78 in Maloney et al., 2019). Global climate models generally predict that MJO precipitation amplitude  
79 will increase while MJO circulation strength increases at a slower rate or even weakens in the  
80 presence of global mean temperature warming (e.g., Adames et al., 2017a; Adames et al., 2017b;  
81 Arnold et al., 2013; Arnold et al., 2015; Bui and Maloney, 2018; Bui and Maloney, 2019a; Bui  
82 and Maloney, 2020; Chang et al., 2015; Rushley et al., 2019; Takahashi et al., 2011; among many  
83 others). Differences in the rate of change between MJO precipitation and wind are explained by  
84 increased static stability in the tropics under global warming in the presence of weak horizontal  
85 temperature gradients (Bui and Maloney, 2019b). In addition, MJO variance is projected to shift  
86 further eastward into the central equatorial Pacific in a warmer climate (Bui and Maloney, 2018).  
87 Most of studies above have focused on MJO change in the eastern hemisphere, with ISO change  
88 in the ENP receiving less emphasis. The fact that the ENP ISO tends to be poorly represented in  
89 most global climate models is likely one reason for this lack of emphasis (e.g., Jiang et al., 2013;  
90 Lin et al., 2008).

91 ISO variance and northward propagation in the ENP were underestimated in the previous  
92 climate models in the phase 3 of Coupled Model Intercomparison Project (CMIP3; Lin et al.,  
93 2008). The fifth phase of CMIP (CMIP5) shows some improvements in the ENP ISO, although  
94 only a few models can capture the spatial pattern of the leading mode of intraseasonal variability  
95 (Jiang et al., 2013). CMIP6 (Eyring et al., 2016) provides another state-of-the-art multimodel  
96 dataset to advance our knowledge of climate variability and climate change. After documenting  
97 the ability of CMIP6 models to simulate ENP ISO precipitation and wind variability in current

98 climate, we will examine how the ENP ISO changes at the end of the 21<sup>st</sup> century in the Shared  
99 Socioeconomic Pathways (SSP) with fossil-fueled development combined with 8.5 W m<sup>-2</sup> forcing  
100 scenario (SSP585; O'Neill et al., 2016) in fourteen CMIP6 models. We will then use a GPI to infer  
101 how the modulation of TC genesis by the ENP ISO may change in a future warmer climate. The  
102 effect of anthropogenic forcing on the mean TC activity including its frequency, intensity, and  
103 spatial distribution has been extensively studied in recent years (see the review of Knutson et al.,  
104 2010; Knutson et al., 2020; Murakami et al., 2020), although relatively little work has examined  
105 how the intraseasonal modulation of TC activity may change. In particular, we will quantify the  
106 contributions from changes in ENP ISO dynamics including wind shear and vorticity anomalies  
107 (e.g., Hall et al., 2001; Liebmann et al., 1994; Maloney and Hartmann, 2000) and relative humidity  
108 anomalies (e.g., Camargo et al., 2009) to changes in the ENP ISO's modulation of TC genesis in  
109 a future warmer climate.

110 We describe the CMIP6 models, observational datasets, and methodology in section 2. Section  
111 3 examines projected ISO changes in the ENP at the end of the 21<sup>st</sup> century in the SSP585 scenario,  
112 followed by an examination of the impacts on TC genesis in section 4. The main conclusions are  
113 summarized in section 5.

## 114 **2. Data and Methodology**

### 115 *a. CMIP6 models and observational datasets*

116 The historical and the Shared Socioeconomic Pathways (SSP) with fossil-fueled development  
117 combined with 8.5 W m<sup>-2</sup> forcing scenario (SSP585; O'Neill et al., 2016) experiments from  
118 fourteen CMIP6 models (Eyring et al., 2016) were used to investigate changes of the ENP ISO  
119 and its impacts on TC genesis under anthropogenic warming. The present and future climate were  
120 defined using 1986-2005 in the historical run and 2081-2100 in SSP585, respectively. The fourteen  
121 CMIP6 models examined provide daily mean data that are necessary for ISO-related diagnosis. A  
122 brief description and the spatial resolution of the models used are given in Table I.

123 Among these fourteen models, twelve of them will be shown to produce a reasonable  
124 simulation of ENP intraseasonal variability in current climate, and only these models are used to  
125 examine changes of ENP ISO behavior with warming. These twelve models are indicated in bold

126 in Table I. Due to the availability of variables that are needed to calculate TC potential intensity  
127 that goes into the calculation of genesis potential index (GPI), only eight of the twelve chosen  
128 models were included in the GPI calculation in Section 4. These models are noted with an asterisk  
129 in Table I.

130 ENP ISO convective characteristics in the observed record are assessed using the Integrated  
131 Multi-satellitE Retrievals for Global Precipitation Measurement (GPM IMERG) version 6  
132 precipitation product (Huffman et al., 2018) and interpolated daily outgoing longwave radiation  
133 (OLR) from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) polar-orbiting  
134 satellite product (Liebmann and Smith, 1996). Observed ENP ISO wind variability is characterized  
135 using 850-hPa zonal wind from the fifth global reanalysis produced by the European Center for  
136 Medium-Range Weather Forecasts (ERA5; Hersbach et al., 2020). All of the observational  
137 analysis covers the period of 2001-2019.

138 Both model output and observational data are converted to a daily mean and have been  
139 interpolated to a common grid of  $2.5^\circ$  (longitude)  $\times$   $2^\circ$  (latitude) before analysis. Only boreal  
140 summer (May to October) is examined in this study.

#### 141 *b. ENP ISO composite and genesis potential index*

142 To highlight boreal summer intraseasonal variability in the ENP, a local ENP ISO index was  
143 generated from the first principal component (PC1) of the leading combined empirical orthogonal  
144 function (CEOF; e.g., Lee et al., 2013; Wheeler and Hendon, 2004) of 20-100 day filtered 850 hPa  
145 zonal wind and OLR over the ENP domain ( $0-30^\circ\text{N}$ ,  $75^\circ\text{W}-125^\circ\text{W}$ ). Each field was normalized by  
146 its domain standard deviation before the CEOF analysis was conducted. The structure of this  
147 leading mode is shown in Figure 3 that explains 29.6% and 33.1% of the total variance in  
148 observations and historical simulation, respectively. This ENP ISO index created here is similar to  
149 that employed in Maloney and Hartmann (2001), except that a CEOF analysis is done rather than  
150 EOF analysis using only the 850-hPa zonal wind field. Maloney et al. (2008) and Jiang et al. (2013)  
151 similarly produced a local ENP intraseasonal index based on the leading complex EOF of 30-90  
152 day filtered precipitation. In our analysis, days when the PC timeseries of the leading CEOF is  
153 greater than  $1\sigma$  are used for composite analysis, corresponding to positive precipitation anomalies

154 and anomalous low-level westerly winds. Composites based on negative deviations of the index  
155 have a similar pattern, but with opposite sign (not shown).

156 We use the TC genesis potential index (GPI) developed by Emanuel and Nolan (2004) and  
157 discussed in detail by Camargo et al. (2007) to assess how ENP ISO changes affect TC genesis  
158 potential in a warmer climate. Following Camargo et al. (2009), the GPI is calculated as

$$159 \quad \text{GPI} = |10^5 \eta|^{3/2} \left(\frac{\mathcal{H}}{50}\right)^3 \left(\frac{\text{PI}}{70}\right)^3 (1 + 0.1 V_{\text{shear}})^{-2} \quad (1)$$

160 where  $\eta$  is the absolute vorticity at 850 hPa ( $\text{s}^{-1}$ ),  $\mathcal{H}$  is the relative humidity at 600 hPa (%), PI is  
161 the potential intensity ( $\text{m s}^{-1}$ ), and  $V_{\text{shear}}$  is the magnitude of the vertical wind shear between 850  
162 and 250 hPa ( $\text{m s}^{-1}$ ). The potential intensity (PI) is calculated based on Emanuel (1995) as modified  
163 by Bister and Emanuel (1998). Since daily values at sufficient vertical resolution are not available  
164 for most models to adequately calculate PI, we use monthly mean surface temperature and pressure  
165 and vertical profiles of atmospheric temperature and humidity to calculate PI. While this prevents  
166 a realistic depiction of intraseasonal PI variations, PI has been shown to only produce minor  
167 contribution to intraseasonal TC genesis potential variations in the east Pacific (Camargo et al.,  
168 2009).

169 To assess the individual importance of the variables that comprise the GPI for determining the  
170 ENP ISO GPI anomalies, the following method is used. First, the GPI is calculated where all three  
171 variables other than PI (i.e.,  $\eta$ ,  $\mathcal{H}$ ,  $V_{\text{shear}}$ ) are allowed to fully vary. Then, we recompute the GPI  
172 such that two out of the three variables are allowed to vary, but with the climatological annual  
173 cycle of the remaining variable input. This quantity can then be subtracted from the GPI calculated  
174 using all variables to assess the importance of the variable of interest. This allows more  
175 nonlinearity in the calculation than setting all variables to the climatological mean as done in  
176 Camargo et al. (2009). The method therefore provides a better quantitative estimate of the relative  
177 importance of the different factors to intraseasonal variability of GPI anomalies.

### 178 **3. Changes in the ENP ISO**

#### 179 *a. Changes in summer mean state*



180 We first briefly discuss the multimodel mean oceanic climatological May-October  
181 precipitation, 850hPa zonal wind and OLR distributions over the eastern North Pacific (Fig. 1).  
182 Given our emphasis on warm pool intraseasonal variability and TC genesis potential, we only  
183 concentrate on oceanic fields in this analysis. Similar plots from satellite and reanalysis fields can  
184 be found in Maloney and Esbensen (2007) and Xie et al. (2005), and from CMIP5 models in Jiang  
185 et al. (2013). The multimodel mean precipitation in the historical CMIP6 simulation has the main  
186 axis of the ITCZ centered at around 9°N (Fig. 1a), coincident with the minimum OLR in the ITCZ  
187 region (Fig. 1c), which expands northward toward the coast east of 120°W. We note that the  
188 precipitation minimum over the cold waters west of Costa Rica Dome (9°N and 90°W; also see  
189 Fig. 4 in Xie et al., 2005) is still not well-produced in the CMIP6 models analyzed here. The 850  
190 hPa zonal wind is dominated by an easterly component (Fig. 1e), although the flow at the surface  
191 is mean westerly near 10°N in the ENP warm pool (not shown here). This basic state flow has  
192 implication for air-sea interaction, since a westerly anomaly at the surface would produce  
193 enhanced wind speed and surface latent heat flux (Maloney and Esbensen, 2003) that has been  
194 argued to be important for the dynamics of ISO in the ENP (e.g., Maloney and Esbensen, 2007;  
195 Maloney et al., 2008).

196 Under global warming, mean precipitation increases over the southern part of the ENP between  
197 5°N to 10°N and west of 150°W (Fig. 1b), suggesting a strengthening and southwestward shift of  
198 mean precipitation within the ENP intertropical convergence zone (ITCZ). The westward shift  
199 may be related to a more frequent occurrence of central Pacific El Nino in a future warmer climate  
200 (see Fig. S1 in the supplementary materials for the entire tropical pattern; Yeh et al., 2009). This  
201 feature is also clearly apparent in the OLR pattern (Fig. 1d). These projected changes in the mean  
202 state convection are also in agreement with previous results from the CMIP3 (Neelin et al., 2006)  
203 and CMIP5 (Jiang et al., 2013) datasets, and other models (Maloney et al., 2014). In general, the  
204 pattern resembles the “rich-get-richer” pattern of precipitation change found in previous warming  
205 studies (e.g., Chou et al., 2009). It also worth noting that precipitation near the Mexico coast, where  
206 most tropical cyclones occur in current climate, tends to slightly decrease, consistent with previous  
207 findings of Jiang et al. (2013). Implications for future changes of tropical cyclogenesis in this  
208 region will be further discussed below.

209 *b. Changes in the ISO amplitude over the ENP*

210 We now analyze precipitation and wind anomalies over the ENP warm pool on intraseasonal  
211 timescales. Figure 2 shows the multimodel mean amplitude of intraseasonal variability (calculated  
212 as 20-100-day filtered variance fields) from the historical simulation and differences between  
213 SSP585 and the historical simulation. In the historical simulation, intraseasonal precipitation  
214 generally maximizes in regions of high mean precipitation, although the maximum is slightly  
215 shifted toward the coast relative to the mean precipitation pattern (Fig. 2a). The 850 hPa zonal  
216 wind variance peak occurs just south of the precipitation variance peak. The ENP ISO OLR  
217 variance peak (Fig. 2c) occurs to the west of the ISO precipitation and 850 hPa zonal wind variance  
218 maxima (Fig. 2e). The multimodel mean intraseasonal variability fields are generally consistent  
219 with those in observations (Maloney and Esbensen, 2003) and CMIP5 models (Jiang et al., 2013).  
220 Examination of individual models, including the model spread and the magnitude of variability  
221 compared to observations will be presented in Figure 4.

222 Figures. 2b, 2d and 2f show the differences in multimodel mean intraseasonal variance between  
223 2081-2100 and 1986-2005. Largely mimicking the mean precipitation changes shown in Figure 1,  
224 an increase in precipitation variance occurs between 5°N and 10°N, and with a modest decrease in  
225 variance near a portion of the ENP Mexican coast. The southwestward shift of ENP ISO  
226 precipitation variance is also clearly seen in the OLR (Fig. 2d), where an opposite signed change  
227 of OLR variance occurs near the Mexican coast relative to that south of 10°N. A similar shift is  
228 also seen in the 850 hPa zonal wind variance field (Fig. 2f). While coastal precipitation variance  
229 changes are modest, reductions in the amplitude of wind variability are of greater amplitude. The  
230 relative weakening of intraseasonal wind variability relative to precipitation variability is  
231 consistent with that shown in previous studies for the MJO, which can be explained by increasing  
232 static stability of the tropical troposphere under climate warming (Maloney et al., 2019; see also  
233 Fig. S4). Interestingly, similar increases of MJO precipitation variance and weakening of MJO  
234 wind variance under global warming also occur over the Indian monsoon/Bay of Bengal region  
235 (see Fig. S2).

236 In order to identify the leading intraseasonal modes over the ENP in both observations and  
237 CMIP6 simulations, a CEOF analysis is conducted using the 850 hPa zonal wind and OLR. Spatial  
238 patterns of the leading CEOF from observations and the multimodel mean of the leading CEOF  
239 from individual models are shown in Figure 3 (see Fig. S3 for the pattern of the second CEOF),

240 with the variance explained listed in the caption and on top of each figure. OLR amplitude in  
241 CEOF1 peaks between 10°N-20°N in observations, with an 850 hPa zonal wind peak on its south  
242 flank, consistent with Maloney and Esbensen (2003, 2005, 2007). The variability in this region  
243 also coincides with the ENP hurricane genesis region (see Fig. 1 in Maloney and Hartmann, 2000).  
244 While CMIP6 shows a similar pattern as observed, we note that the historical simulations tend to  
245 have higher variance that extends further to the west than observations. The leading EOF in  
246 SSP585 becomes slightly more diffuse and the peak amplitudes shift westward (c.f., Figs. 3b and  
247 3c), behavior that is possibly seen better in the difference plot (Figs. 3d and 3h). The amplitude of  
248 zonal wind and OLR in the leading EOF both decrease near the coast in SSP585 relative to the  
249 historical simulations. The explained variance of CEOF1 is also decreased in SSP585 relative to  
250 the historical period (e.g., 25.6% vs. 33.1%).

251 Motivated by Jiang et al. (2013), the fidelity in simulating the leading ENP ISO mode by each  
252 CMIP6 model is then objectively assessed by calculating the pattern correlation of the simulated  
253 CEOF1 against its observed counterpart. Pattern correlations between observed and simulated  
254 CEOF1 patterns over the ENP domain are calculated individually for 850 hPa zonal wind and  
255 OLR, and then a final pattern correlation score for a particular model is derived by averaging these  
256 two correlation coefficients. We also calculate the relative amplitude of models' precipitation and  
257 wind to observations by computing the root mean square of the composite precipitation and 850  
258 hPa zonal wind (shown in Fig. 5) over the domain of 10°N-20°N, 95°W-115°W. As shown in  
259 Figure 4, while most of the CMIP6 models produce a reasonable pattern correlation ( $>0.8$ ) relative  
260 to observations (x-axis), biases in the relative amplitude of ISO precipitation and wind (y-axis) are  
261 apparent, associated with overestimation of the amplitude of the ENP ISO 850 hPa zonal wind and  
262 underestimation of the amplitude of precipitation variability. The two models that have relatively  
263 low pattern correlations of 0.7 or less, i.e., MPI-ESM-2-HR and MPI-ESM-2-LR, are excluded  
264 from further analyses.

265 Multimodel mean composite patterns of the remaining CMIP6 models' precipitation, OLR and  
266 850 hPa vector winds anomalies derived using days  $>1\sigma$  in the time series of CEOF1, with a similar  
267 analysis for observations, are shown in Figure 5. Positive deviations of the index correspond to the  
268 enhanced intraseasonal convective phase in this region. In general, the CMIP6 multimodel mean  
269 shows a similar composite pattern to observations, with maximum precipitation occurring near the

270 coast from 10°N-20°N, except with smaller amplitude. As in observations, stronger ISO  
271 precipitation tends to be associated with westerly wind and negative OLR anomalies. Under global  
272 warming, the maximum precipitation anomaly tends to shift to the west, weakening the positive  
273 anomaly near the coastal region (Fig. 5c). Westerly wind anomalies also weaken with warming.  
274 The westward shift in the pattern of convection is also clearly seen in the OLR composites (Fig.  
275 5f).

276 We also examine changes in composite ISO precipitation and wind anomalies for each model  
277 averaged over the same domain (10°N-20°N, 95°W-115°W) as shown in Figure 5. In Figure 6, ten  
278 out of twelve models show a weakening in the 850 hPa zonal wind anomalies in a warmer climate  
279 relative to present, with a multimodel mean decrease of about -4.7 %/K. ISO precipitation increase  
280 in most of the models (~ 1.9 %/K in the multimodel mean), associated with the westward shift in  
281 the precipitation anomaly pattern. Note that we define the ENP ISO amplitude by computing the  
282 root mean square of the composited fields in Figure 5, and all the values have been normalized by  
283 the historical simulation and are expressed per unit global mean surface temperature warming.  
284 Results are also similar when using the standard deviation calculated from filtered fields to define  
285 the amplitude, rather than a composite analysis (not shown). Consistent with our previous studies  
286 for the global MJO (Bui and Maloney, 2018; Bui and Maloney, 2019a), while ISO precipitation  
287 amplitude increases in most models with warming, wind amplitude increases at a slower rate or  
288 decreases with warming. This relationship is expected from an increase in tropical static stability  
289 with warming (Fig. S4 in the Supplementary Material; also see Bui and Maloney, 2019b).

#### 290 **4. Implications for TC genesis**

291 To draw connections between ISO amplitude and structure changes and implications for the  
292 modulation of TC genesis in the ENP in a warmer climate, Figure 7 shows a composite for three  
293 most important environmental variables to the intraseasonal modulation of TC genesis according  
294 to Camargo et al. (2009): mid-level relative humidity, low-level relative vorticity, and magnitude  
295 of vertical wind shear. Figures 7a-c show the composite pattern of the 600 hPa relative humidity  
296 from observational analyses, the historical simulation multimodel mean, and the difference in  
297 SSP585 relative to the historical. ERA5 relative humidity anomalies peak within ISO convective  
298 areas (c.f., Fig. 5). The CMIP6 anomalies tend to slightly underestimate the magnitude of relative

299 humidity anomalies that are also more confined to coastal regions, with a prominent negative  
300 anomaly to the west of 120°W that is weaker in observations (Fig. 7b). Under global warming, the  
301 relative humidity anomalies become weaker near the coast and shift westward (Fig. 7c), consistent  
302 with the pattern of precipitation anomalies.

303 The 850 hPa relative vorticity field is characterized by cyclonic anomalies north of the axis of  
304 strongest wind anomalies, approximately coincident with the area of enhanced precipitation (c.f.,  
305 Fig. 5a and Figs. 7d-e). A band of anticyclonic vorticity anomalies occurs to the south of the axis  
306 of maximum winds, coincident with the narrow band of suppressed convection (between 8°N and  
307 10°N). Under global warming, vorticity anomalies weaken relative to the current climate (Fig. 7f),  
308 consistent with the weakening of the ISO circulation with warming. We also examine the change  
309 in composite eastern North Pacific vertical wind shear magnitude between 250 hPa and 850 hPa  
310 levels (Figs. 7g-i). The anomalous vertical shear patterns are similar between observations and the  
311 CMIP6 multimodel mean with low shear anomalies occurring at the same location as cyclonic  
312 anomalies (c.f., Figs. 7d-e and Figs. 7g-h) with the maximum wind shear to the south (equator to  
313 10°N). *It is worth noting that the smaller magnitude of wind shear in the CMIP6 relative to ERA5  
314 is because the field is averaged across multiple models that have peak variability in slightly  
315 different places, thus resulting in smaller multimodel mean composite amplitude.* In a warmer  
316 climate, the vertical shear near the Mexico coast shows only modest changes in the region of  
317 positive vorticity anomalies (c.f., Figs. 7f and 7i), with greater reductions in anomalies to the south.  
318 *In other words, both thermodynamic and dynamic changes suggest less favorable conditions  
319 during the convectively enhanced ISO phase for TC genesis in the traditional ENP TC genesis  
320 region (10°N -20°N, 90°W-120°W; also see Fig. 1 in Maloney and Hartmann, 2000) in a future  
321 warmer climate. Individual models (not shown), as might be expected, produce noisier patterns  
322 than the multimodel means, as well as different amplitude responses, although the overall  
323 conclusions on the sense of the change are consistent with the multimodel mean.*

324 Based on the above results and previous result from Camargo et al. (2009) and Jiang et al.  
325 (2012), we might expect that the GPI anomalies that favor TC genesis in favored eastern North  
326 Pacific regions during the convectively active ISO phase will decrease with global warming. This  
327 is demonstrated in Figure 8, which shows the ENP ISO composite of GPI from the multimodel  
328 mean of eight CMIP6 models during the boreal summer. The multimodel mean does an excellent

329 job of capturing observed GPI variability in the TC genesis region near the Mexico coast, where  
330 positive genesis potential anomalies occur (Fig. 8a; also see Fig. 1 in Maloney and Hartmann,  
331 2000) in the region of positive precipitation anomalies (c.f., Fig. 5). In SSP585, the peak of GPI  
332 tends to shift southwest, resulting in a reduction in anomalous GPI near the coast (Fig. 8c),  
333 consistent with the change in ENP ISO precipitation and wind anomaly patterns shown in Figure  
334 5, and also the variables that go into GPI including relative humidity, vorticity, and shear shown  
335 in Figure 7.

336 To understand the pattern shift of the GPI anomalies, we further decompose the GPI anomalies  
337 and their changes in a warmer climate into the contributions from each environmental variable:  
338 relative humidity, absolute vorticity and magnitude of vertical shear (Fig. 9). Recall that we allow  
339 two variables to vary while the third one is fixed to the corresponding annual cycle to conduct this  
340 calculation. The result of adding the three contributions calculated this way produces a similar  
341 anomaly pattern to the total field shown in Figure 8 (c.f., Figs.9a-c and Fig. 8), with a reduction of  
342 GPI anomalies near the coast with warming, and strengthening to the southwest. Both relative  
343 humidity and vorticity changes with warming are associated with the weakening GPI anomalies  
344 near the coast with warming and increase of GPI anomalies to the southwest (Fig. 9), consistent  
345 with the respective fields shown in Figure 7. The vorticity changes are also consistent with the  
346 reduction of ISO wind amplitude previously discussed. [The effect of shear anomalies on GPI has  
347 a larger contribution than humidity and vorticity in increasing GPI anomalies away from the coast.](#)  
348 The result generally highlights the importance of both dynamical and thermodynamic factors to  
349 the reduction of positive GPI anomalies during the enhanced ISO phase near the coastal region  
350 under global warming, and suggests that the ISO will favor TC genesis over the region away from  
351 the coast in a future warmer climate.

## 352 **5. Conclusions**

353 We have analyzed the historical and SSP585 simulations from fourteen CMIP6 models to  
354 understand the change of boreal summer intraseasonal variability over the eastern north Pacific  
355 (ENP) with climate warming and its influence on tropical cyclone (TC) genesis. We specifically  
356 analyzed a genesis potential index (GPI) and its components to understand how individual genesis

357 potential variables influence changes in GPI anomalies during ISO events with climate warming.  
358 Our primary conclusions are as follows:

- 359 i. In the ENP under global warming in SSP585, the CMIP6 multimodel mean shows  
360 decreases in intraseasonal precipitation and low-level westerly wind anomaly amplitude in  
361 regions near the Mexican Coast (Figs. 2 and 5), although wind amplitude decreases are  
362 stronger (Fig. 6). The stronger decreases in ISO wind amplitude are consistent with those  
363 found in previous studies of the MJO in the Indo-Pacific region (Maloney et al., 2019).
- 364 ii. The amplitude maximum for ENP intraseasonal precipitation and wind anomalies during  
365 enhanced ISO precipitation events also tends to shift southwestward in a warmer climate  
366 (Fig. 5c).
- 367 iii. Positive ISO precipitation events are associated with weaker intraseasonal GPI anomalies  
368 near the Mexican coast with warming, and an enhancement of positive GPI anomalies to  
369 the southwest. A decomposition of the GPI anomalies into thermodynamic (i.e., relative  
370 humidity) and dynamic (vorticity and vertical shear) components was conducted to assess  
371 the importance of these factors for regulating GPI anomaly changes with warming. Relative  
372 humidity and vorticity changes during ISO events weaken positive GPI anomalies near the  
373 Mexican coast with warming and make genesis more favorable to the southwest. The  
374 impact of vertical shear anomaly changes is to favor genesis away from the coast.

375 The results here suggest that weakening of ENP ISO wind anomalies and a general  
376 southwestward shift of the ISO maxima in a future warmer climate would importantly impact TC  
377 activity in this region. In particular, TC genesis is projected to be less favored near the coast during  
378 ISO events and be more favored to the southwest. The current study only focuses on the ISO  
379 timescale over the ENP, and extending this analysis to examine other types of climate variability  
380 (such as with the ENSO) would be warranted. Although we found generally consistent results  
381 among models in ISO amplitude and pattern changes with warming, projected future changes still  
382 vary considerably in their details among the models (e.g., Fig. 6). Therefore, a larger ensemble of  
383 climate model simulations would help assess the robustness of our analysis. Recent studies (e.g.,  
384 Sobel et al., 2019) show that aerosol cooling reduces TC potential intensity more strongly than  
385 greenhouse gas warming increases it. A more in-depth study with climate model simulations that

386 can separate external forcing into its various components (e.g., greenhouse gases, aerosols) and  
387 natural variability (e.g., decadal variability) would be useful to clarify the impact of each forcing  
388 agent on the ISO and the regional TC activity.

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394 longwave radiation data are obtained from the NCAR Research Data Archive  
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396 ([https://psl.noaa.gov/data/gridded/data.interp\\_OLR.html](https://psl.noaa.gov/data/gridded/data.interp_OLR.html)), respectively. We also thank the NASA  
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398 precipitation (<https://gpm.nasa.gov/data-access/downloads/gpm>). A Python code to calculate the  
399 potential intensity is available online (<https://emanuel.mit.edu/products>).

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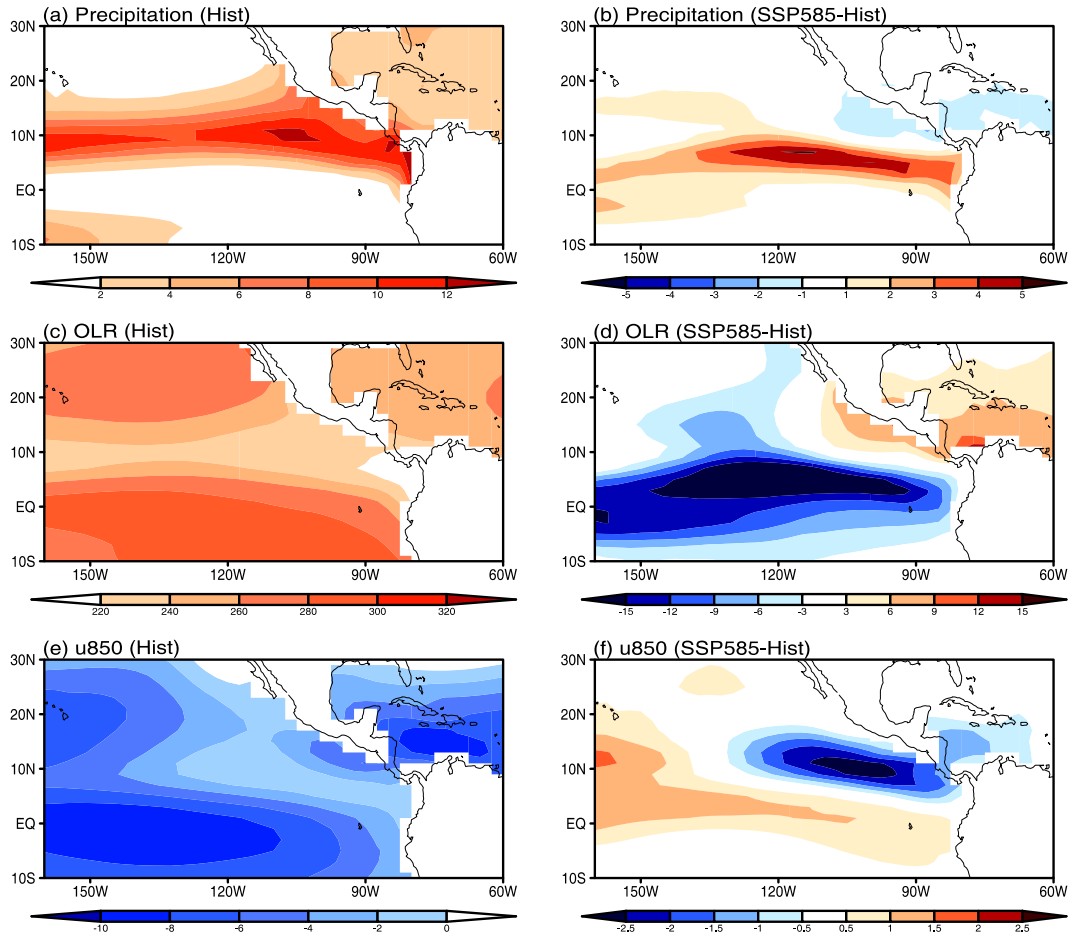
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587 **Table I.** A list of the fourteen CMIP6 models used in this study. Models determined to have a  
588 good east Pacific ISO in the current climate are noted in bold. Eight models included in the GPI  
589 calculation are noted with \*.

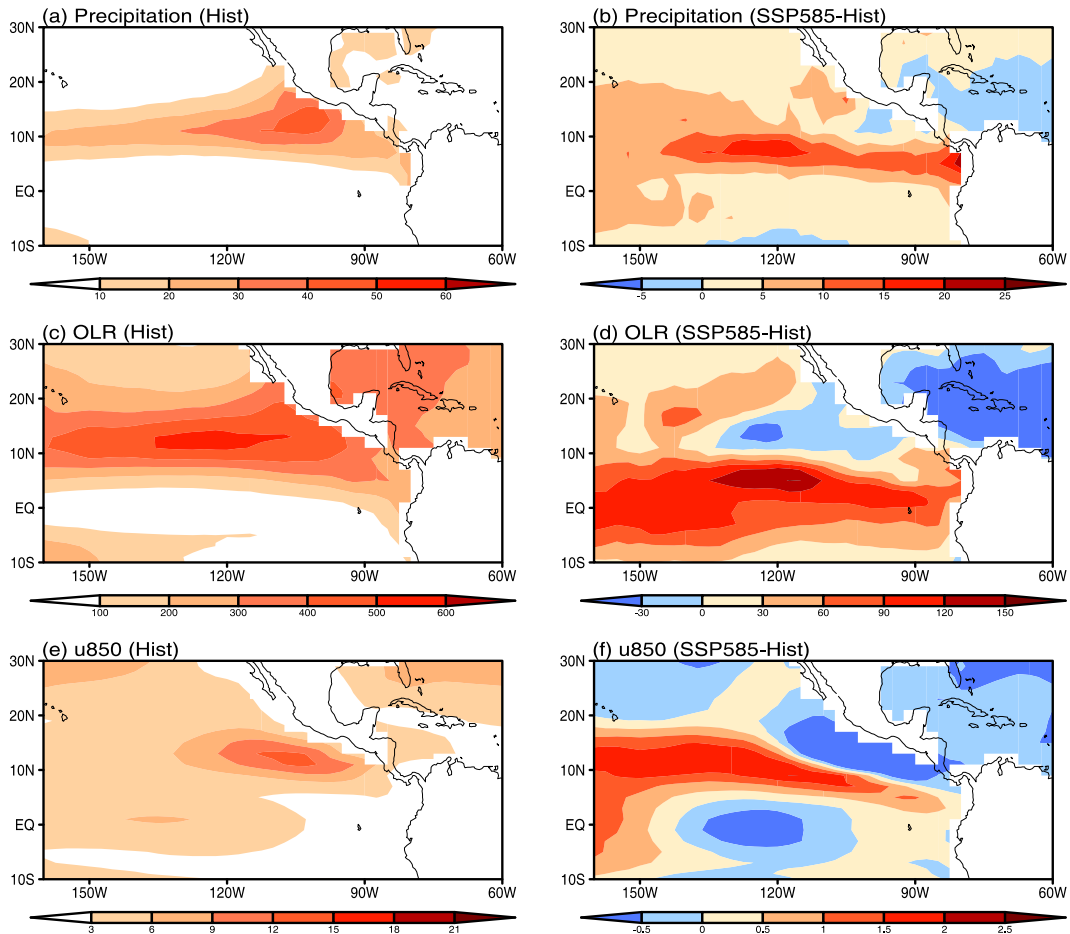
#	Model	Description	Resolution
1*	<b>BCC-CSM2-MR</b>	Beijing Climate Center, China	1.125x1.125
2*	<b>CESM2</b>	National Center for Atmospheric Research, USA	1.25x0.94
3*	<b>CESM2-WACCM</b>		
4	<b>CNRM-CM6-1</b>	Centre National de Recherches Météorologiques, France	1.4x1.4
5	<b>CNRM-CM6-1-HR</b>		0.5x0.5
6*	<b>EC-Earth3</b>	A European Community Earth System Model	0.7x0.7
7	<b>EC-Earth3-Veg</b>		
8	<b>GFDL-CM4</b>	Geophysical Fluid Dynamics Laboratory, USA	2.5x2
9*	<b>MIROC6</b>	Model for Interdisciplinary Research on Climate, Japan	1.4x1.4
10	MPI-ESM1-2-HR	Max Planck Institute Earth System Model, Germany	0.94x0.94
11	MPI-ESM1-2-LR		1.875x1.875
12*	<b>MRI-ESM2</b>	Meteorological Research Institute, Japan	1.125x1.125
13*	<b>NorESM2-LM</b>	Norwegian Climate Centre, Norway	2.5x1.875
14*	<b>NorESM2-MM</b>		1.25x0.94

590

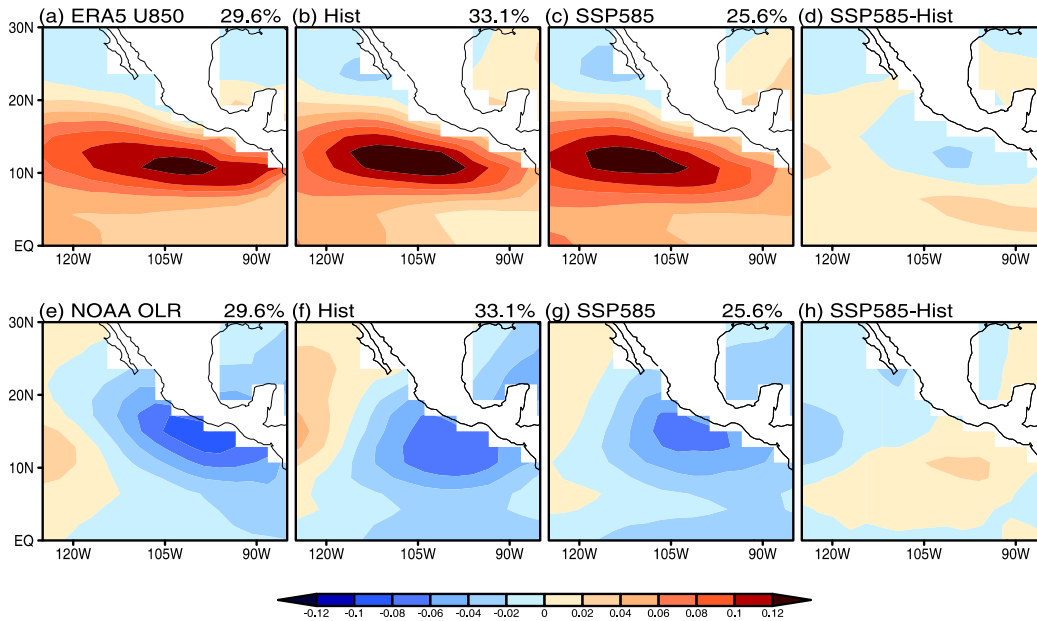




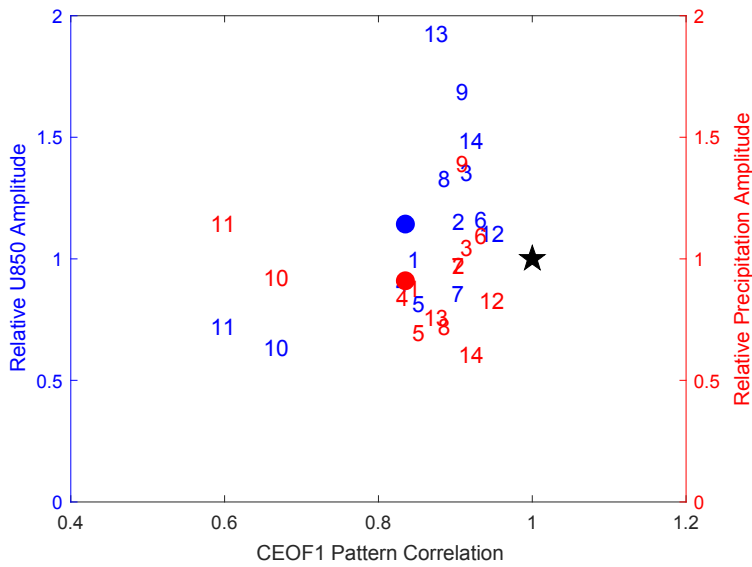
591 **Fig. 1:** Multimodel mean (from 14 CMIP6 models) spatial distribution of the boreal summer  
 592 climatological mean (a, b) precipitation (mm day<sup>-1</sup>), (c, d) outgoing longwave radiation (OLR; W  
 593 m<sup>-2</sup>) and (e, f) 850 hPa zonal wind (m s<sup>-1</sup>) for the historical simulation and differences between  
 594 SSP585 and historical simulations, respectively. See Figure S1 in the supplementary material for  
 595 the entire tropical pattern.



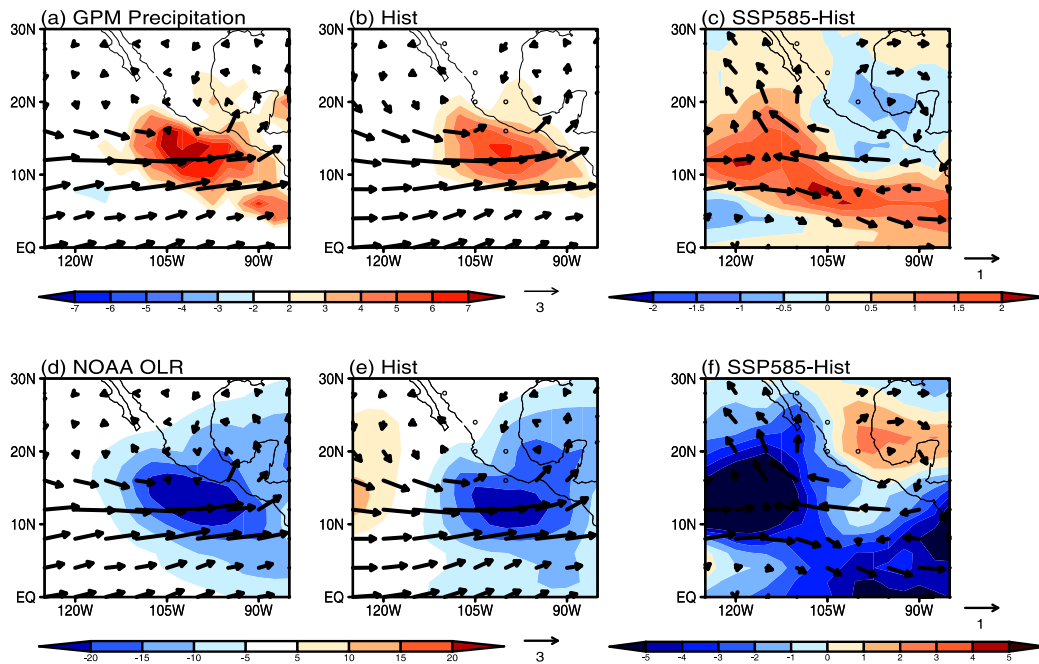
596 **Fig. 2:** Multimodel mean (from 14 CMIP6 models) spatial distribution of the boreal summer 20-  
 597 100 day filtered (a, b) precipitation ( $\text{mm}^2 \text{day}^{-2}$ ), (c, d) outgoing longwave radiation (OLR;  $\text{W}^2 \text{m}^{-2}$ ), and (e, f) 850 hPa zonal wind ( $\text{m}^2 \text{s}^{-2}$ ) variance for the historical simulation and differences  
 598 between SSP585 and historical simulations, respectively. See Figure S2 in the supplementary  
 599 material for the entire tropical pattern.  
 600



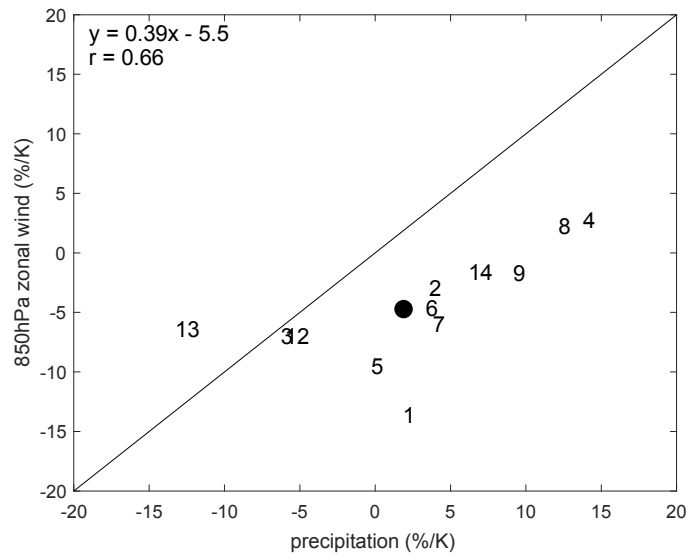
601 **Fig. 3:** Spatial distribution of the leading CEOF mode of 850 hPa zonal wind and outgoing  
 602 longwave radiation (OLR) during boreal summer over the eastern north Pacific for (a, e)  
 603 observations (explain 29.6% of the total variance), (b, f) multimodel mean of the CMIP6 historical  
 604 simulations (33.1% of total variance), (c, g) multimodel mean of the SSP585 simulations (25.6%  
 605 of total variance), and (d, h) differences between SSP585 and historical simulations. See Figure  
 606 S3 in the supplementary material for the spatial pattern of the second leading CEOF.



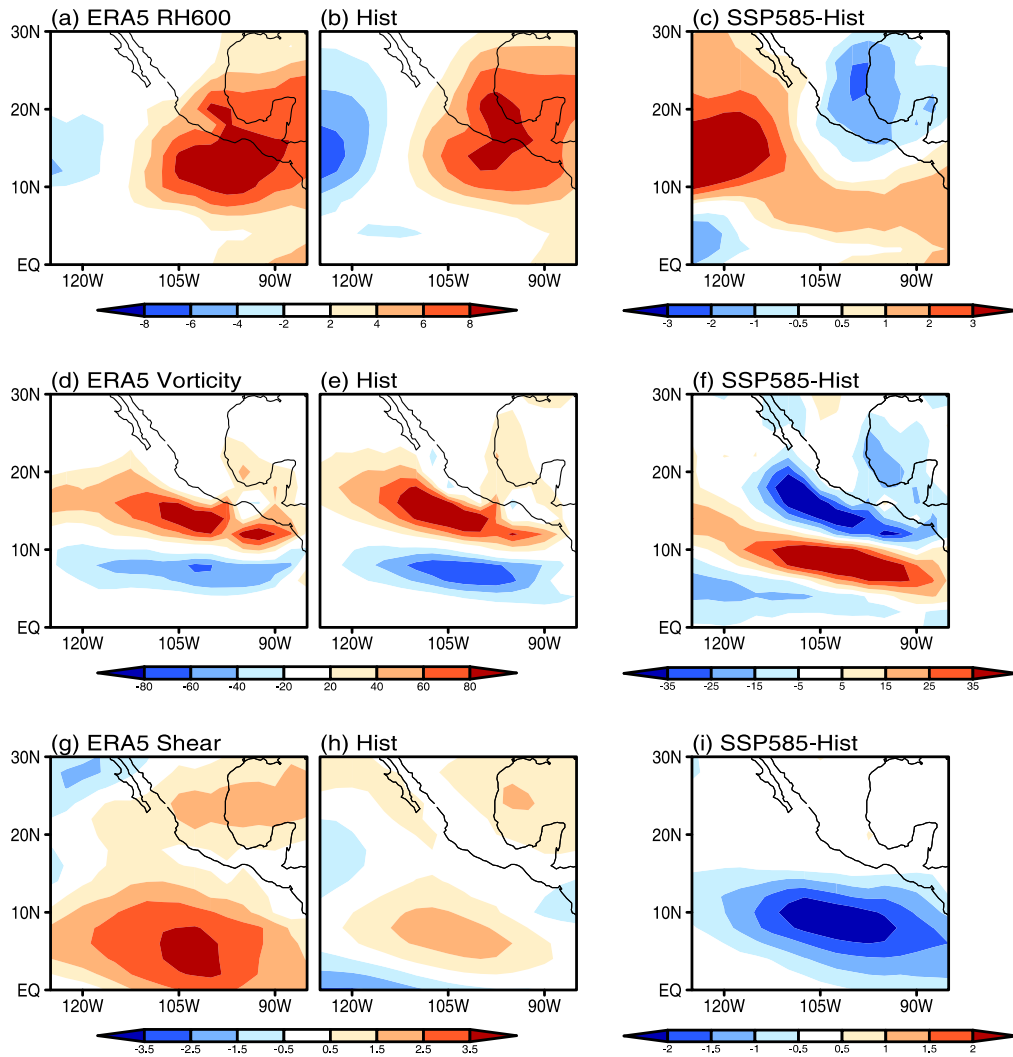
607 **Fig. 4:** The x-axis shows pattern correlation coefficients of CEOF1 between observations and  
 608 CMIP6 historical simulations. The y-axes show relative composite amplitude of 850 hPa zonal  
 609 wind (blue, left axis) and precipitation (red, right axis) of the models to observations averaged over  
 610 the domain of 10°N-20°N, 95°W-115°W. The black star represents the observations and the circles  
 611 represent the CMIP6 multimodel mean. The fourteen CMIP6 models are indexed according to  
 612 Table I.



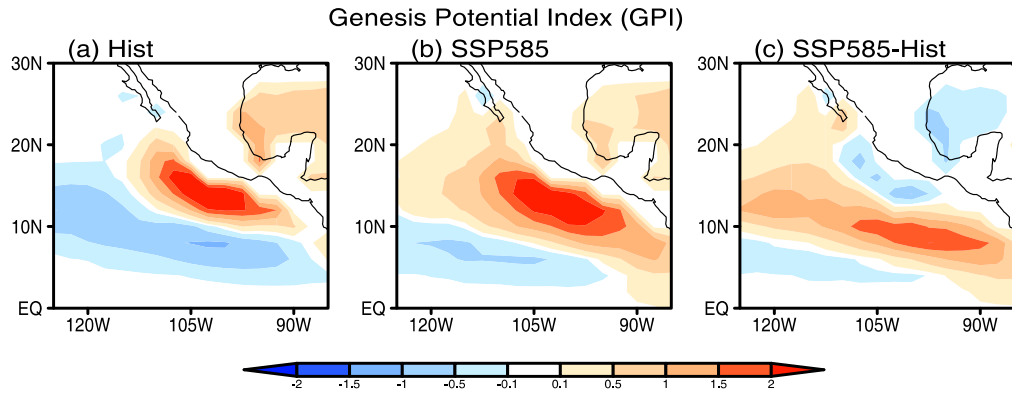
613 **Fig. 5:** Boreal summer 20-100 day filtered (a-c) precipitation (shaded,  $\text{mm day}^{-1}$ ), (d-f) OLR  
 614 (shaded,  $\text{W m}^{-2}$ ) and 850 hPa wind vector ( $\text{m s}^{-1}$ ) composites based on the PC1 timeseries from (a,  
 615 d) observations, (b, e) historical simulation and (c, f) differences between SSP585 and historical  
 616 simulations. See Figure S5 in the supplementary material for the composites based on negative  
 617 deviations of the PC1 timeseries.



618 **Fig. 6:** Scatterplot of ENP ISO 850 hPa zonal wind amplitude (y-axis) and precipitation amplitude  
 619 (x-axis) changes at the end of 21<sup>st</sup> century relative to historical simulation from twelve selected  
 620 CMIP6 models averaged over the domain of 10°N-20°N, 95°W-115°W. All values have been  
 621 normalized by the historical simulation and are expressed per unit global mean surface temperature  
 622 warming (% K<sup>-1</sup>). The 12 selected CMIP6 models are indexed according to Table I. The black  
 623 circle represents the multimodel mean.

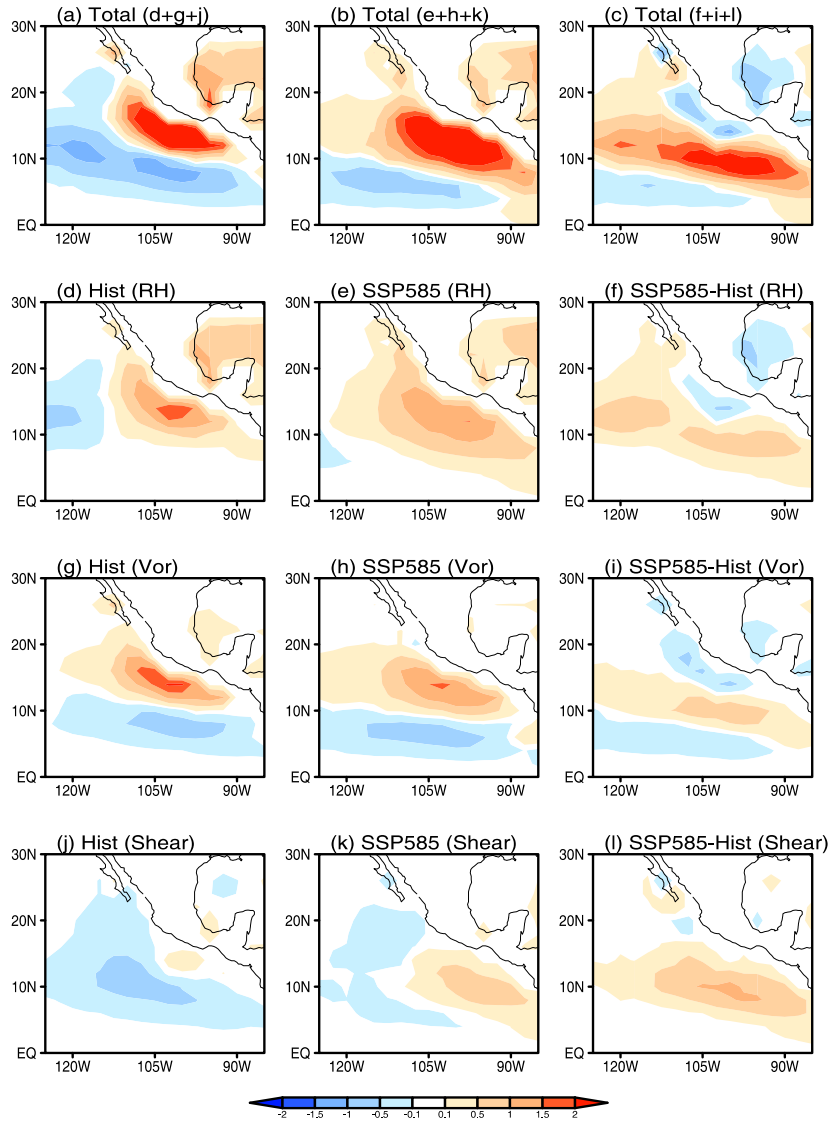


624 **Fig. 7:** Similar to Figure 5, but for composite (a-c) 600 hPa relative humidity (%), (d-f) 850 hPa  
 625 relative vorticity ( $10^7 \text{ s}^{-1}$ ) and (g-i) magnitude of vertical wind shear between 250 hPa wind and  
 626 850 hPa wind ( $\text{m s}^{-1}$ ) from (a, d, g) observations, (b, e, h) the CMIP6 historical simulation  
 627 multimodel mean and (c, f, i) differences between the SSP585 and historical simulations.



628 **Fig. 8:** Boreal summer GPI composite from eight CMIP6 models for the (a) historical multimodel  
629 mean, (b) SSP585 multimodel mean, and (c) differences between SSP585 and historical.





630 **Fig. 9:** Same as Figure 8, except for the contributions of the three main environmental variables  
 631 (d-f) 600 hPa relative humidity, (g-i) 850 hPa absolute vorticity and (j-l) magnitude of vertical  
 632 wind shear between 250 hPa and 850 hPa to the GPI anomalies (shown in Figure 8). The first row  
 633 shows the result of adding the three components.