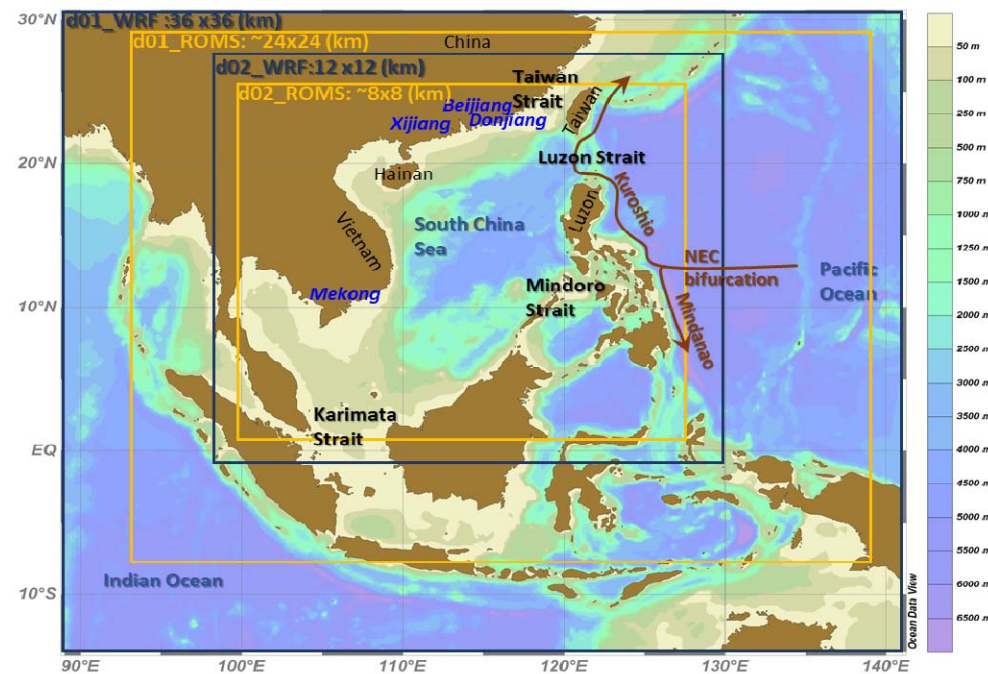




Mesoscale ocean response and air-sea interaction in the South China Sea during ENSO decaying winter-spring modelled by a regional coupled model



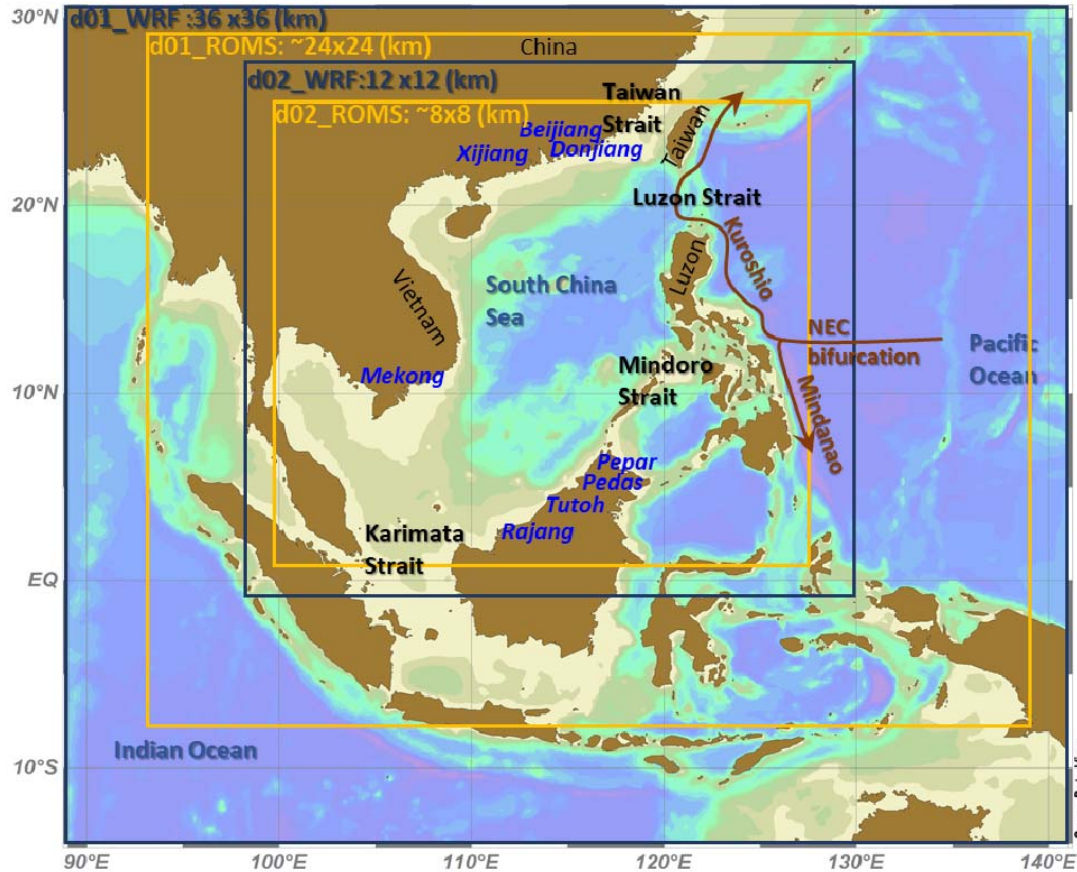
Yi-Chun Kuo and Yu-heng Tseng

Institute of Oceanography, National Taiwan University, Taiwan



Motivations and outlines

- Provide physical background to support SCSTIMX and others
 - Ocean mesoscale structure, air-sea interaction
- Validation (Ocean/Atmosphere)
- ENSO impacts on the South China Sea
 - Ocean mesoscale feedback
 - Change of circulation
 - Change of the throughflow
 - Air-sea interaction



Weather Research and Forecasting Model (WRF)

Domain 1 : 36x36(km)

Domain 2 : 12x12(km)

Vertical : 36 levels

Initial/lateral BC: NCEP FNL

Operational Model Global

Tropospheric Analyses

Regional Ocean Modeling System (ROMS)

Domain 1 : 24x24 (km)

Domain 2 : 8x8 (km)

Vertical : 25 levels

Initial/lateral BC: HYCOM +

NCODA Global 1/12°

Reanalysis

EXP1 2015/11-2016/6 El Niño

EXP2 2011/11-2012/6 La Niña

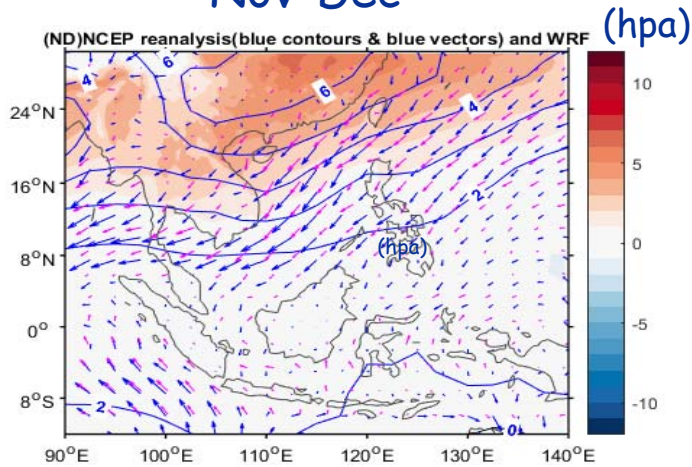


Model validation-the low level circulation

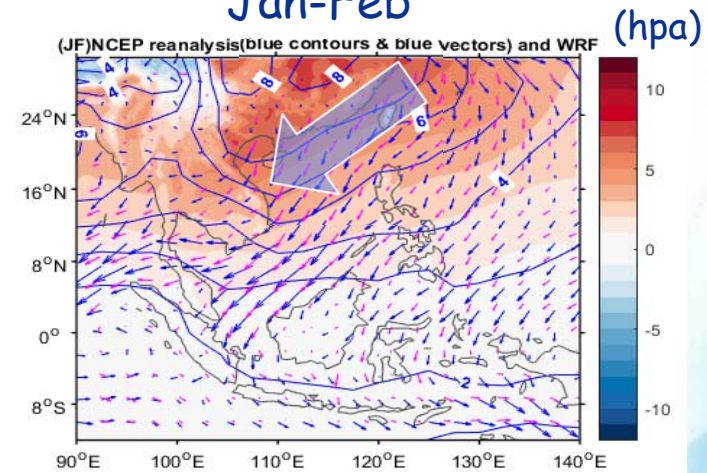
Blue contours and vectors: NCEP reanalysis.
Shaded color and pink vectors: RCM

The El Niño case (2015/11-2016/6)

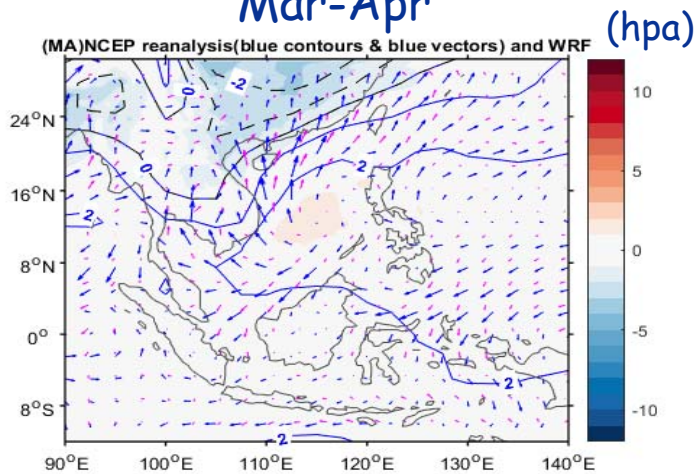
Nov-Dec



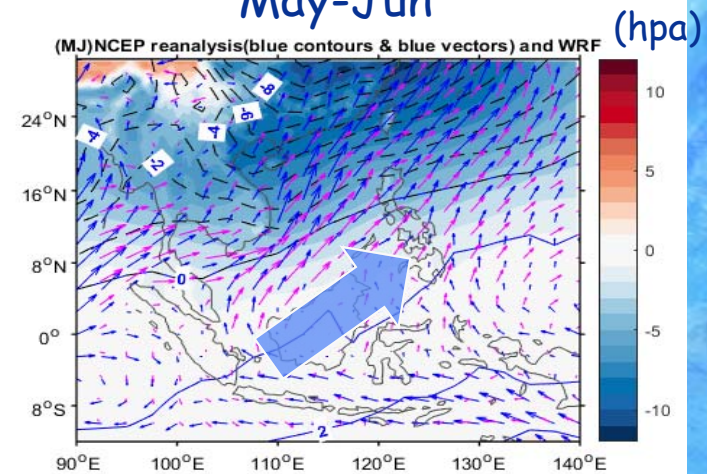
Jan-Feb



Mar-Apr



May-Jun

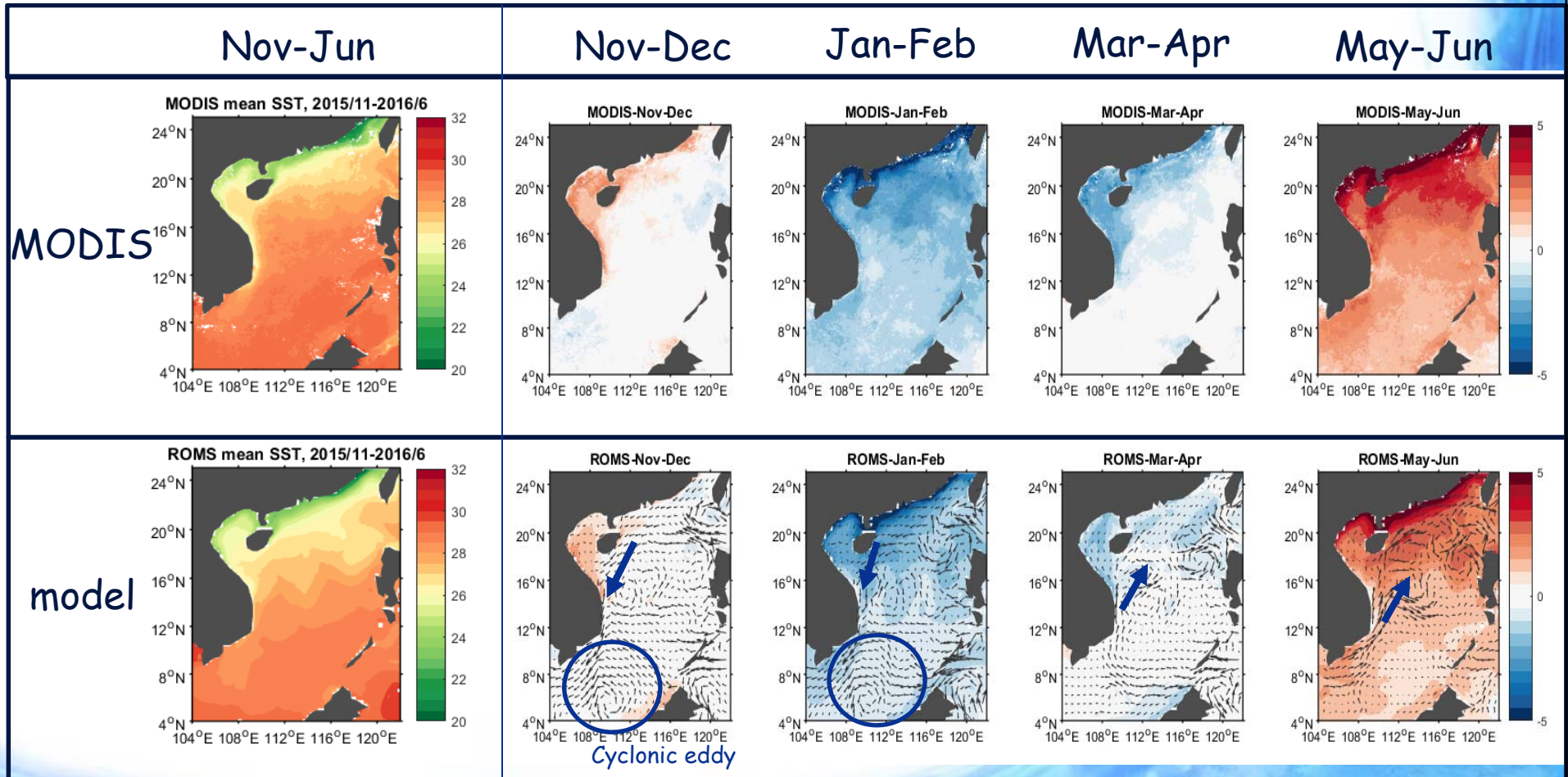




Model validation-SST (2015/16)

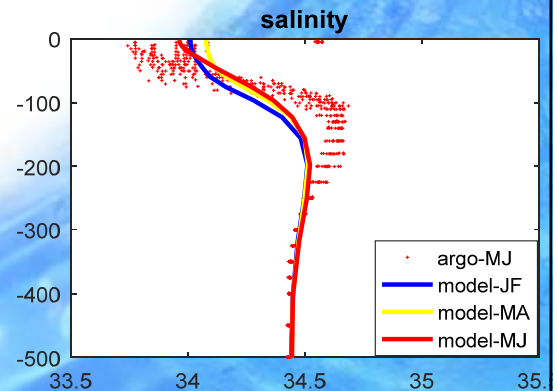
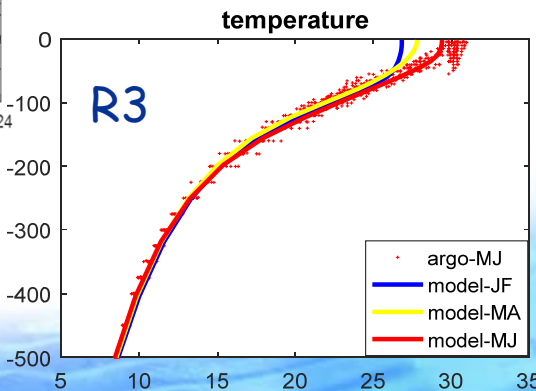
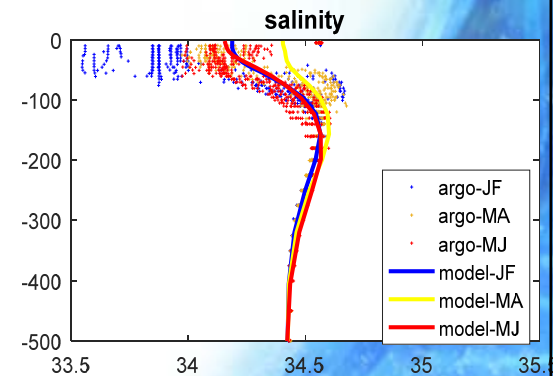
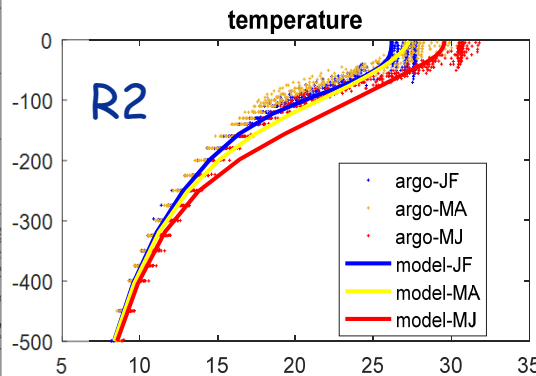
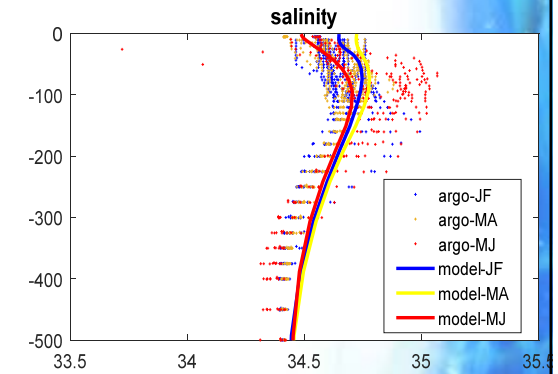
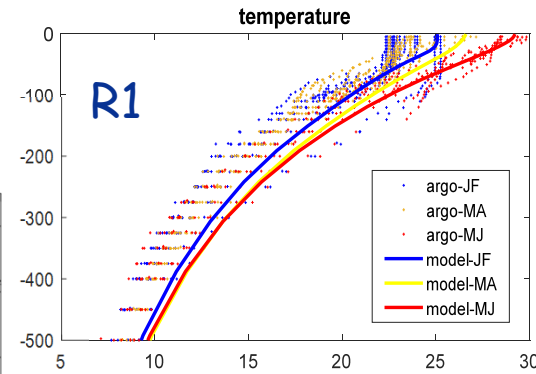
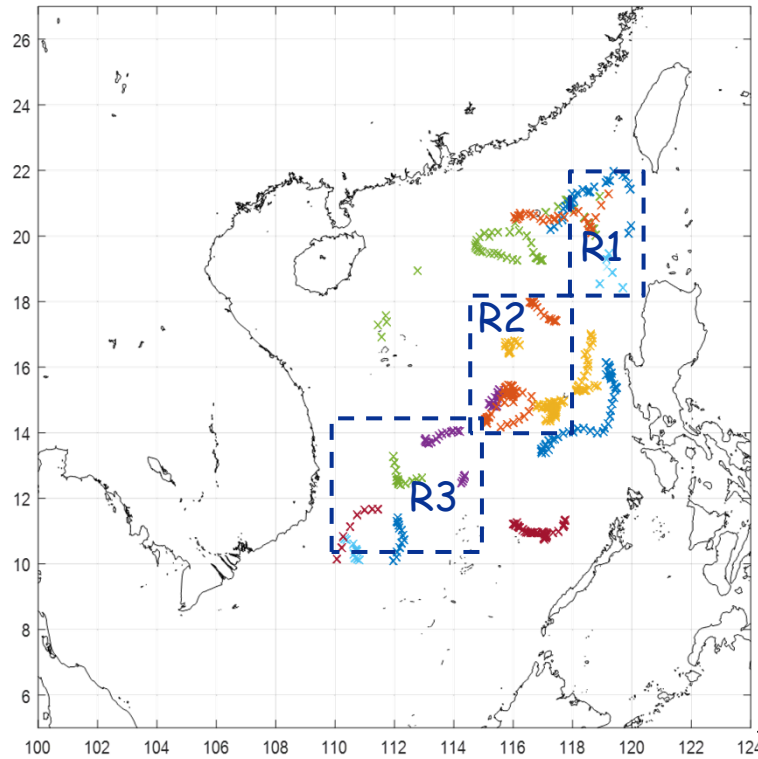
8-month mean SST pattern

consecutive 2-month averaged SST deviation





Model validation-TS profiles vs Argo Floats





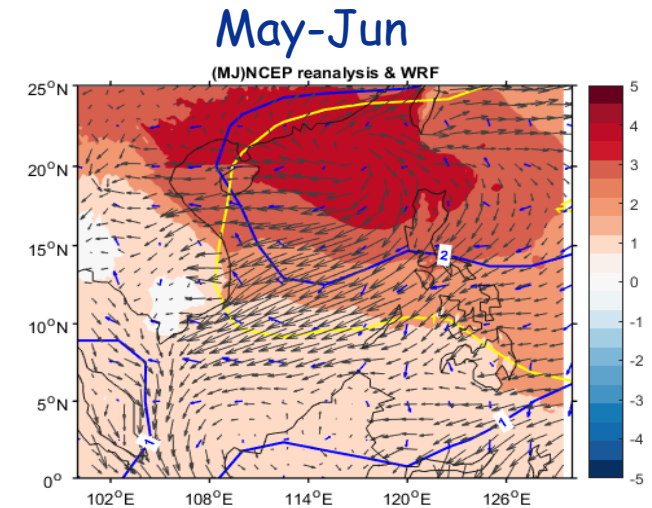
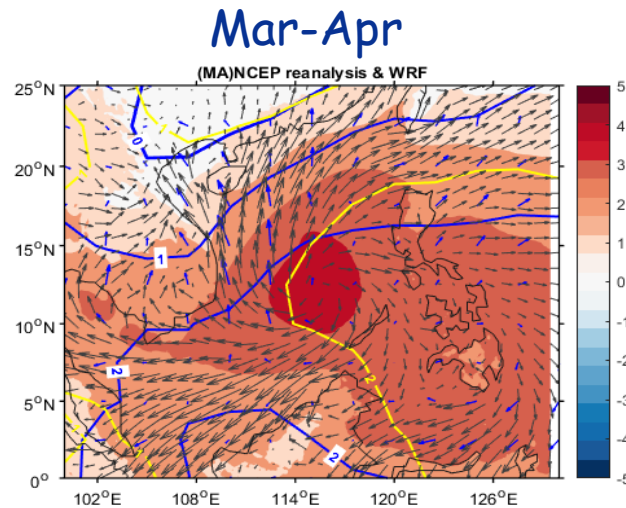
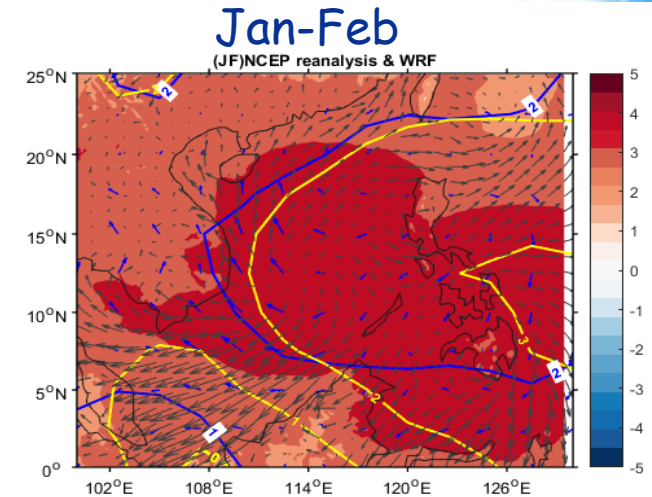
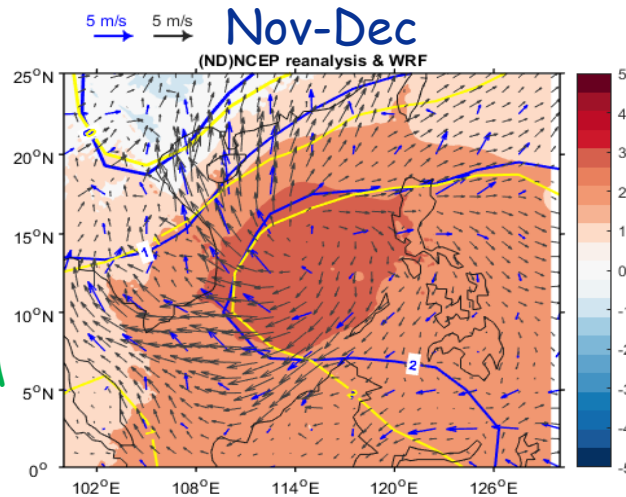
Low-level atm. circulation between El Niño & La Niña

Blue contours and vectors: NCEP reanalysis

Yellow: mean SLP diff. from recent 6 strongest ENSO (3 El Niño and 3 La Niña)

North SCS:
Weaker EAWM

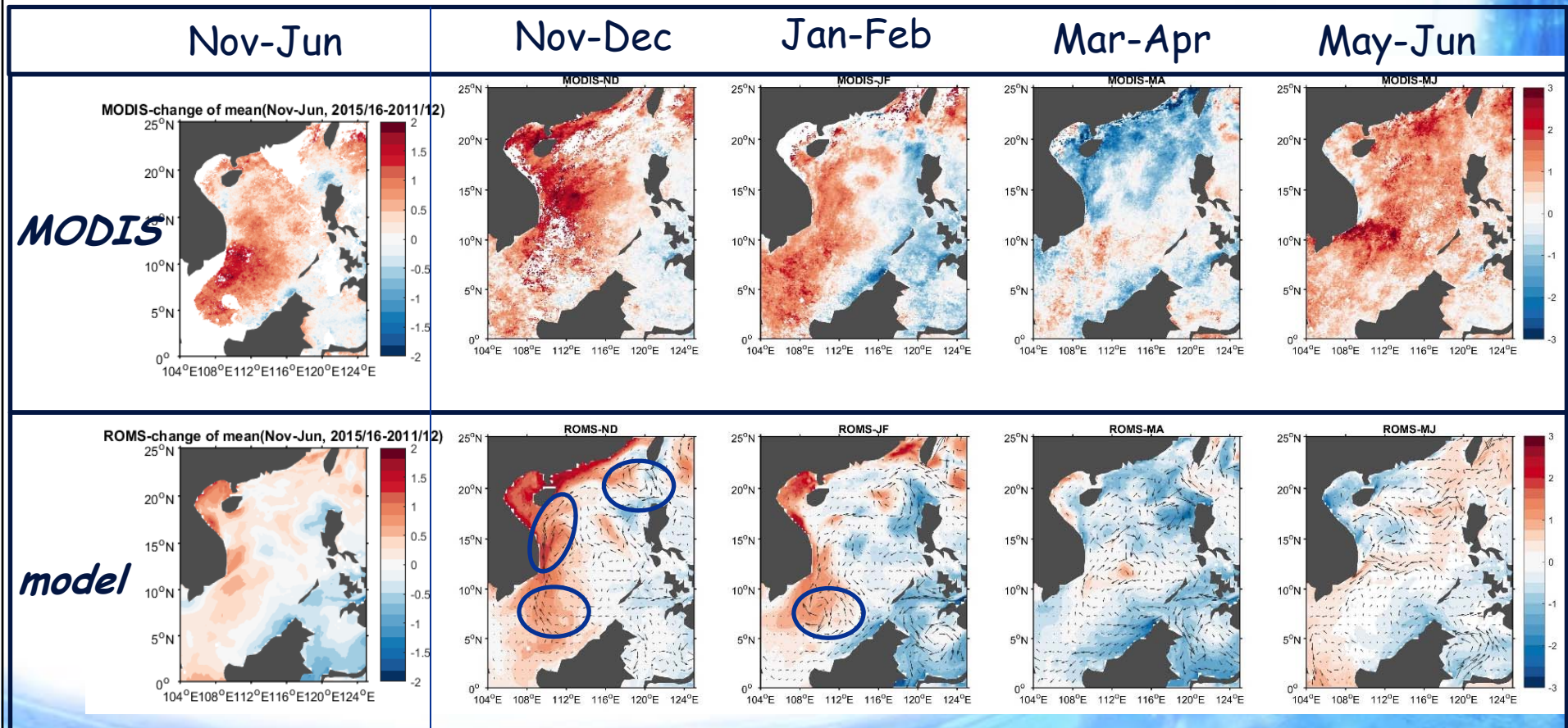
South SCS:
Stronger EAWM





Surface SCS response to ENSO (El Niño-La Niña)

averaged SST diff.

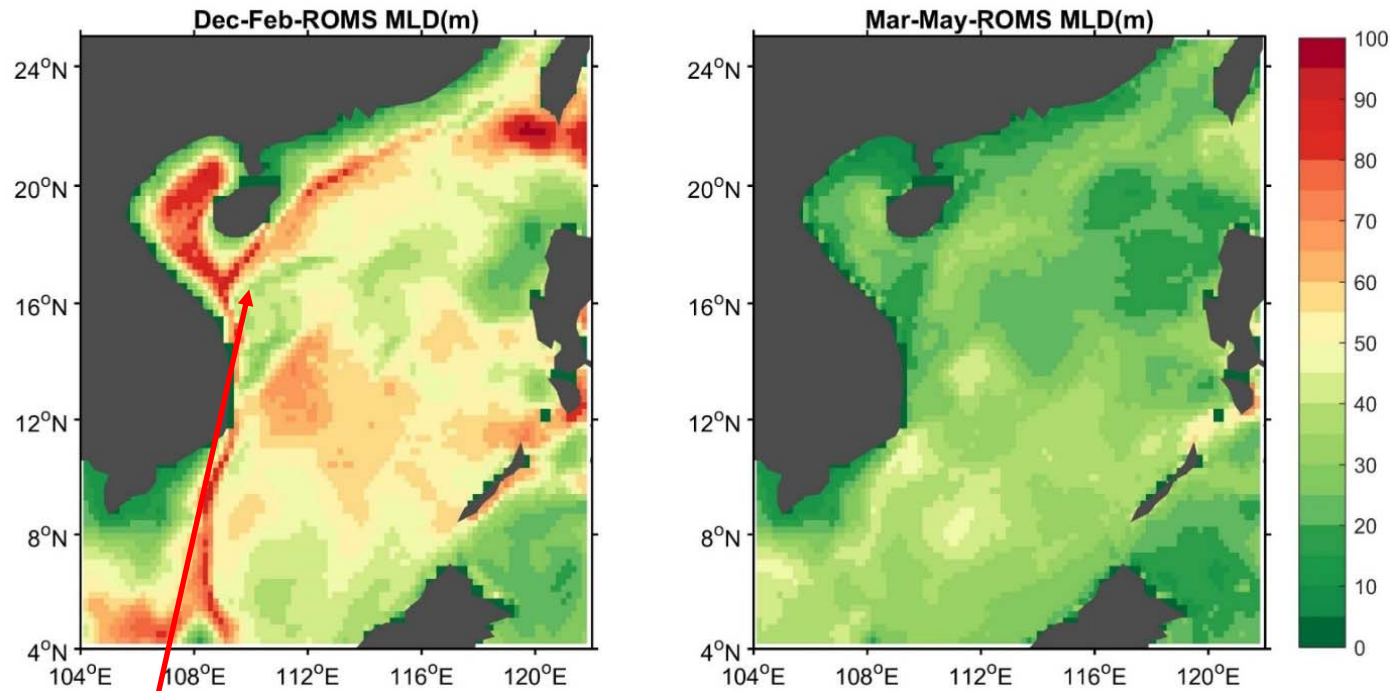




Subsurface SCS response to ENSO (MLD)

Winter

Spring



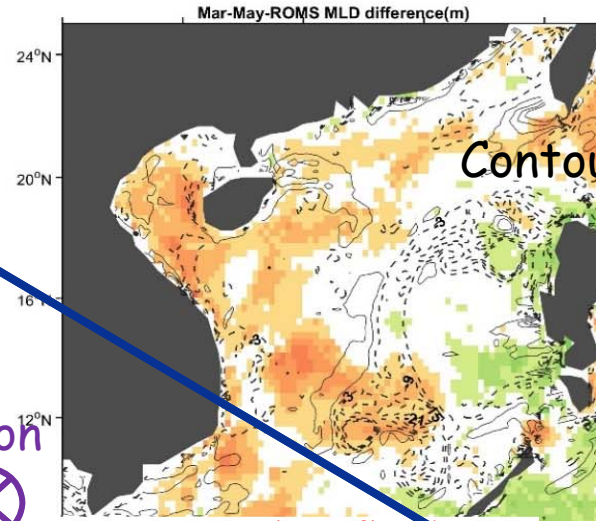
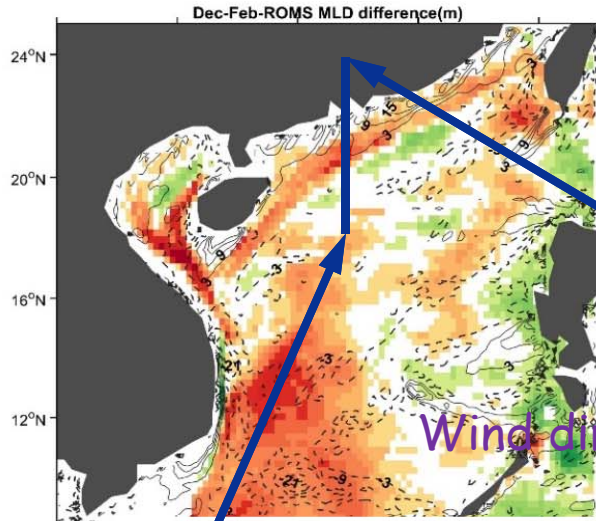
Thicker MLDs in WBCs (stronger downward momentum flux enhances the vertical mixing)



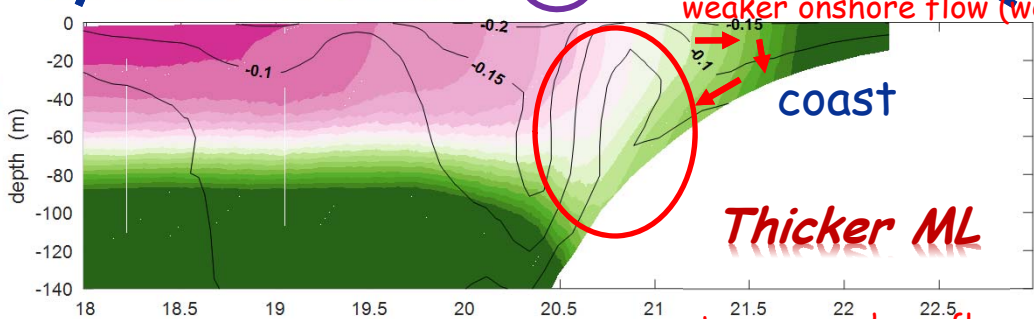
Subsurface SCS response to ENSO (MLD, El Niño-La Niña)

Winter

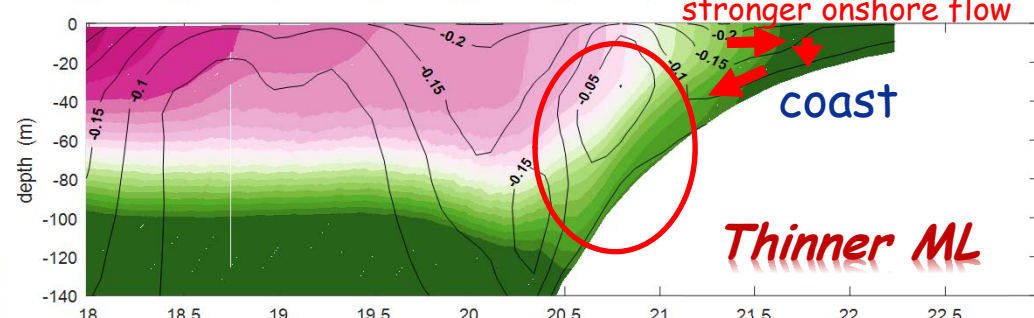
Spring



2015/16
El Niño



2011/12
La Niña

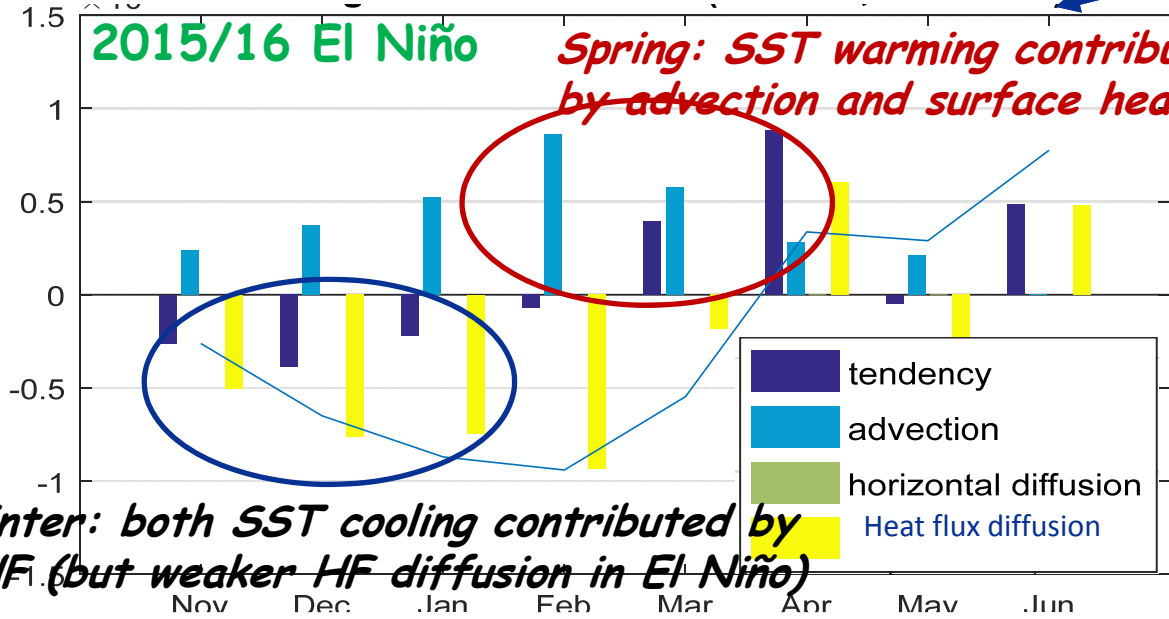
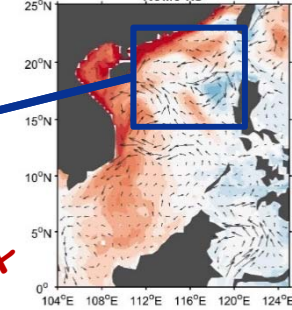


drive more bottom cooler water offshore

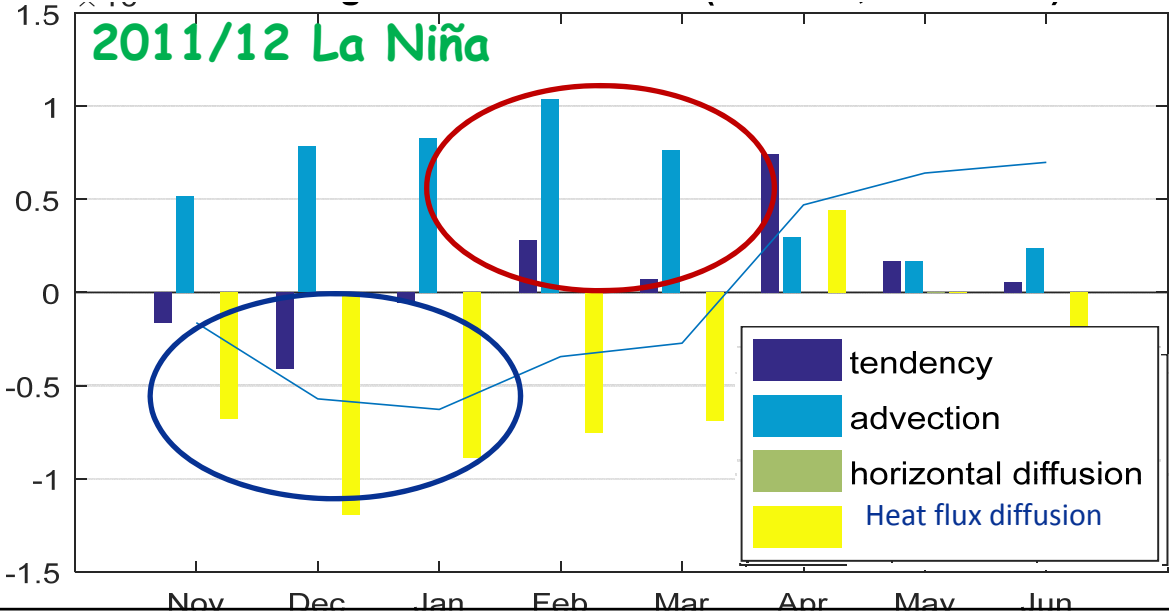
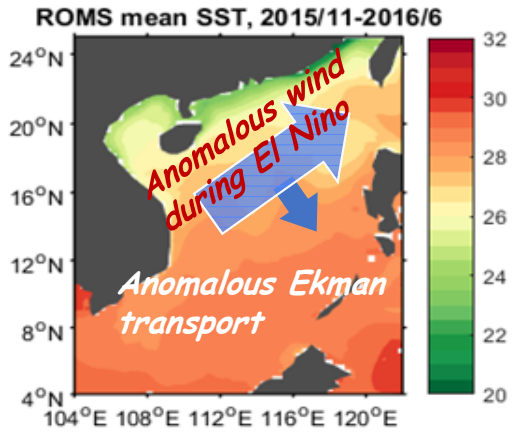


Heat budget

Nov-Dec

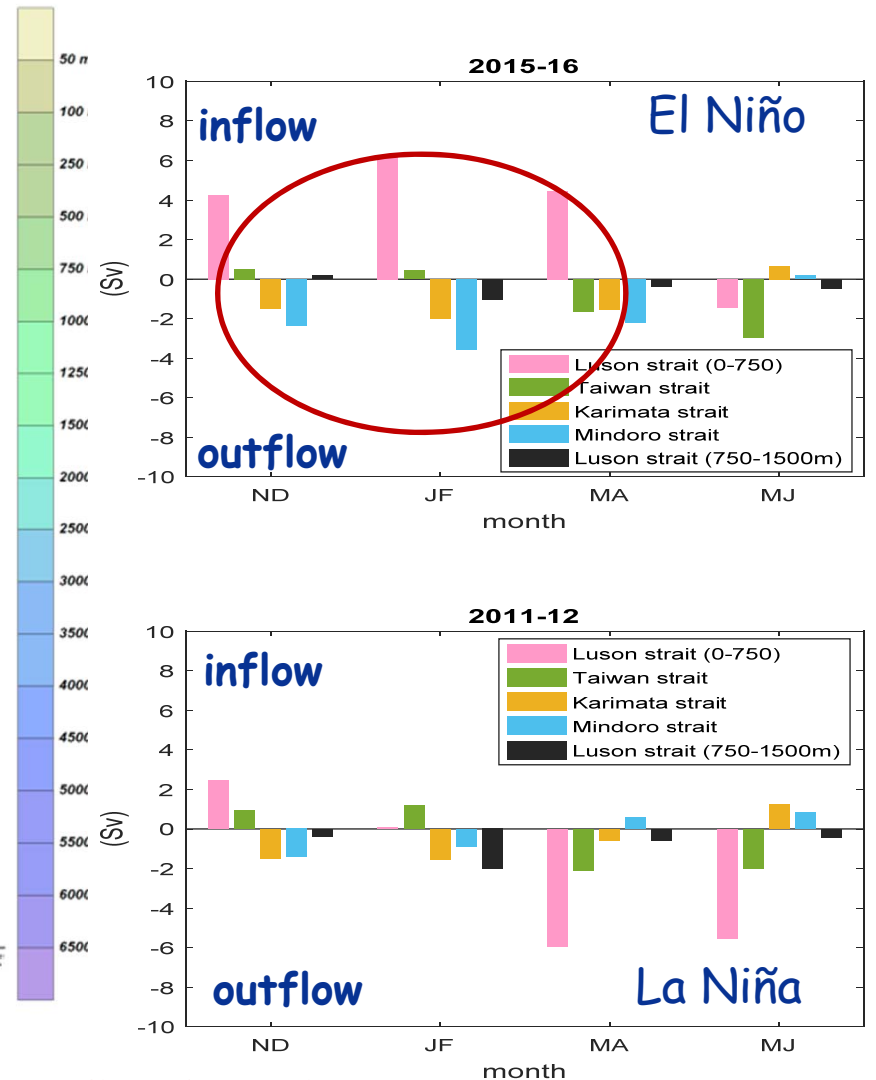
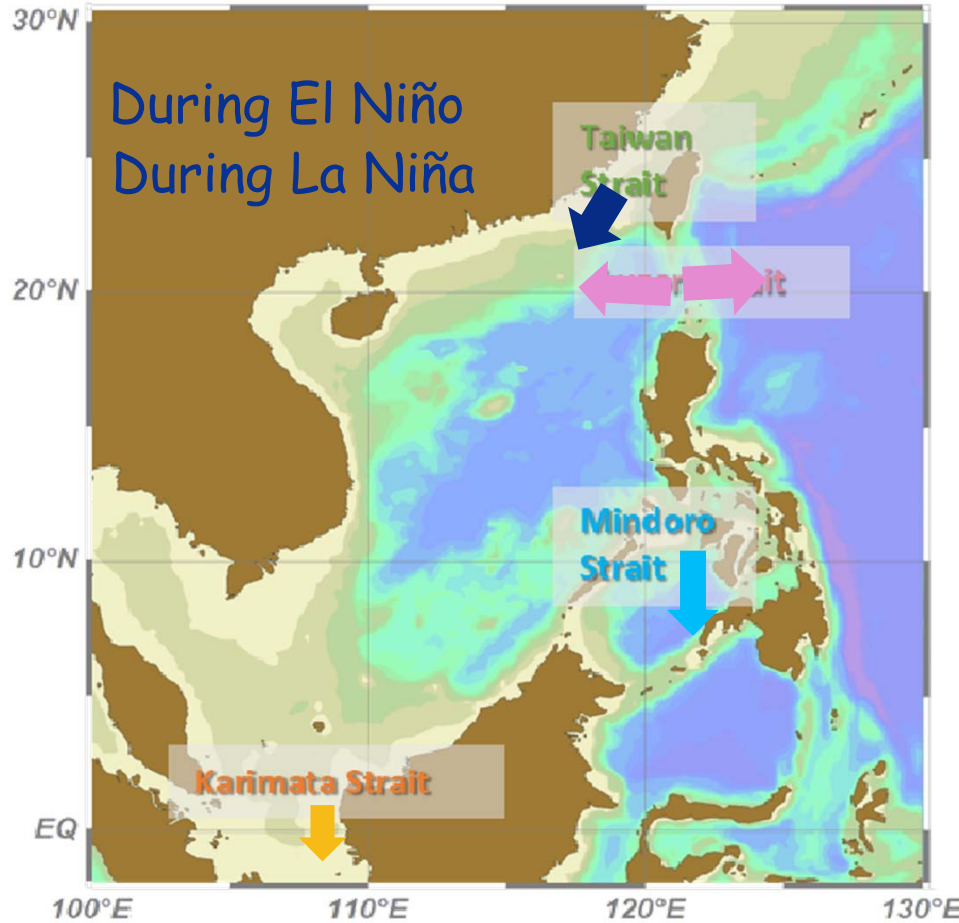


Anomalous Ekman transport causes the cooler water to move toward the southeast



Winter: upward SHF causes cooler SST during La Niña and El Niño

Spring: the advection causes cooler SST during the El Niño than La Niña



Dominant vorticity source through LS

Gan et al. (2016)

$$\Omega^{cor} = \int_{S_i} f \bar{u} dS_i + \int_{S_j} f \bar{v} dS_j$$

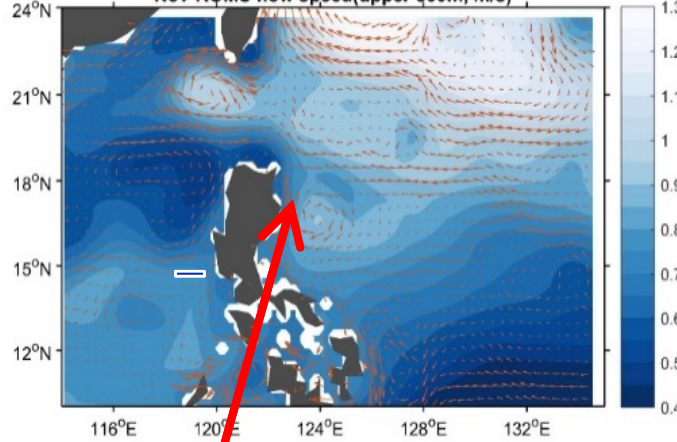
anomalous inflow from the LS brings positive planetary vorticity flux due to a higher latitude of the LS (larger f)

S_i and S_j are the positive inward of the enclosed SCS.



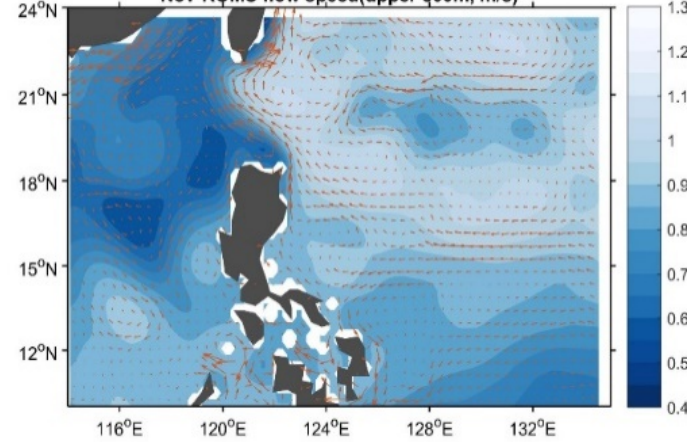
2015-16 (El Niño)

Nov-ROMS flow speed(upper 800m, m/s)

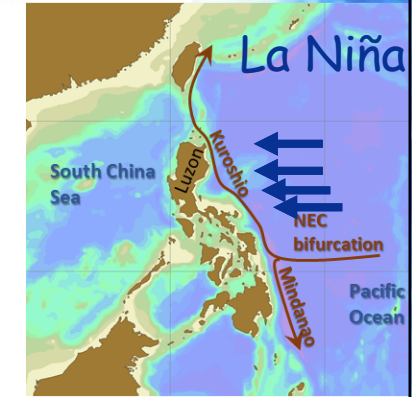
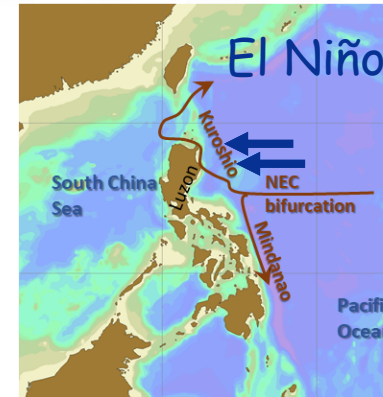
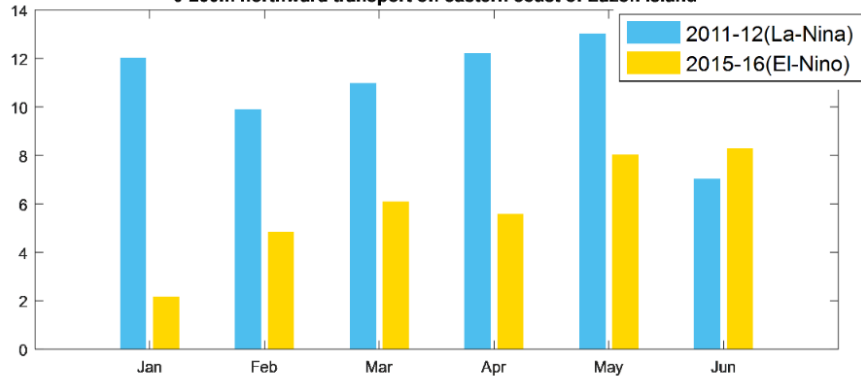


2011-12 (La Niña)

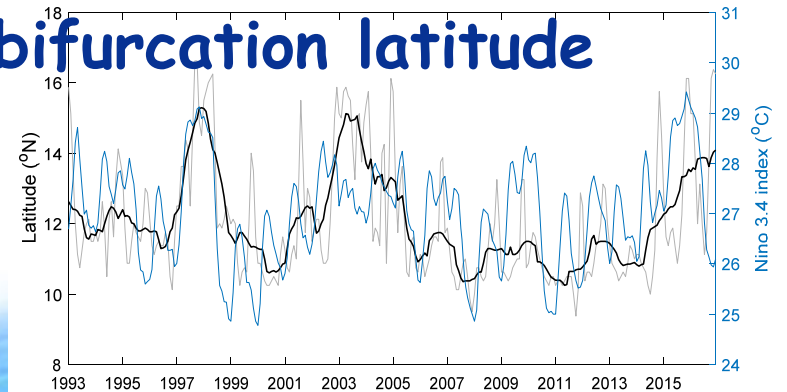
Nov-ROMS flow speed(upper 800m, m/s)



0-200m northward transport off eastern coast of Luzon island



NEC bifurcation latitude



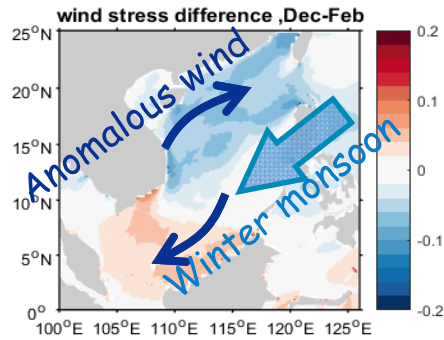
gray line: monthly value;
black line: 12-month moving ave.
Blue: Niño3.4 index



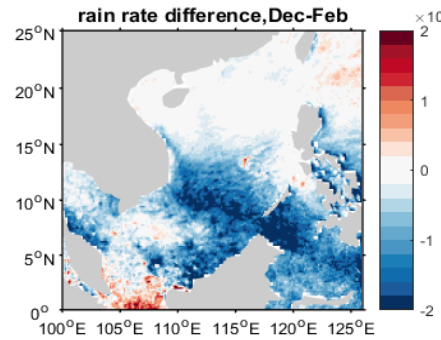
seasonal mean diff. (El Niño-La Niña)

Winter(Dec-Feb)

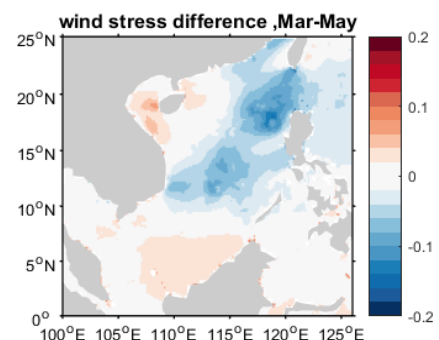
Spring (Mar-May)



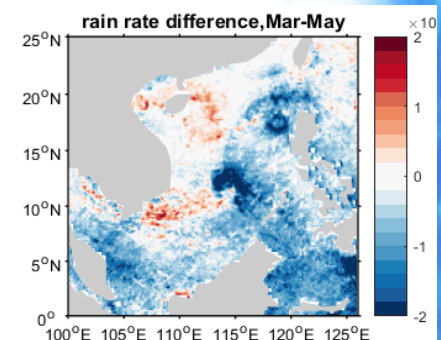
Wind stress



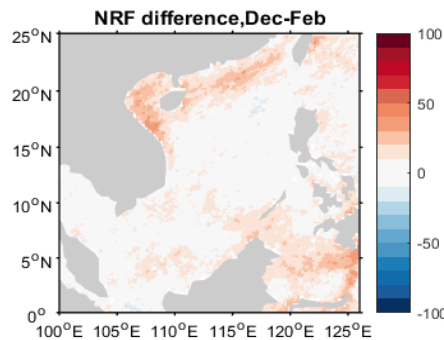
Rain rate



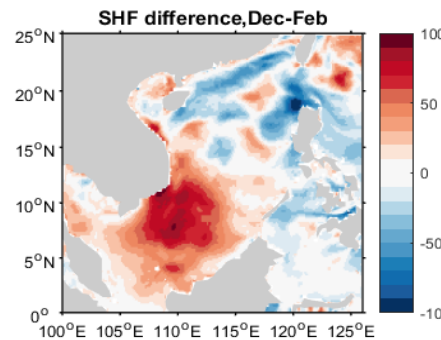
Wind stress



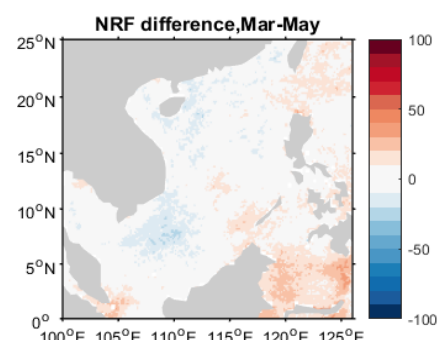
Rain rate



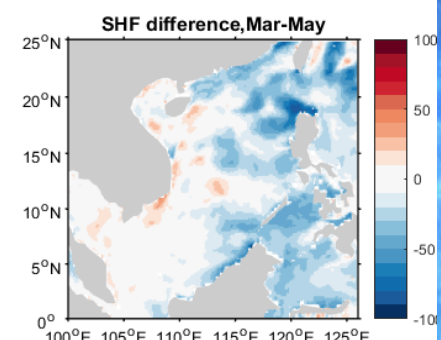
Net radiative HF



SHF



Net radiative HF

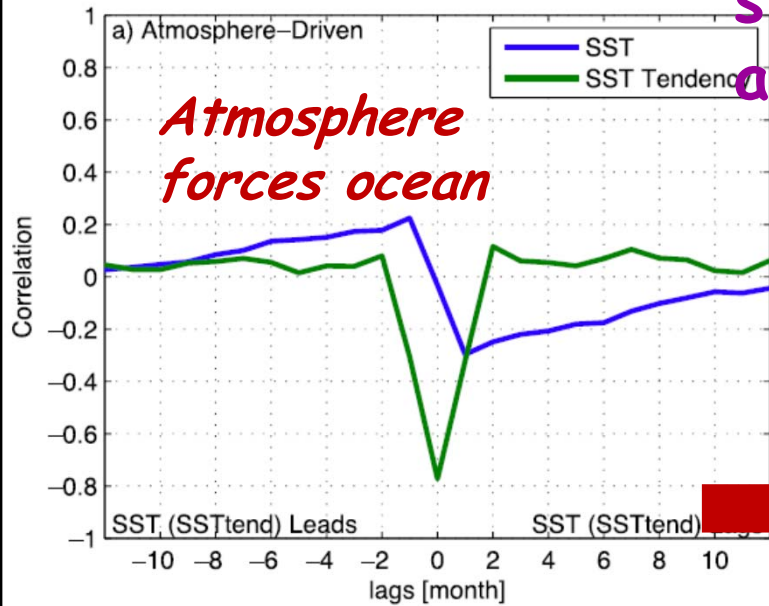


SHF

Positive: upward heat flux



SST and SHF relation in the simple stochastic models (Wu et al. 2006)

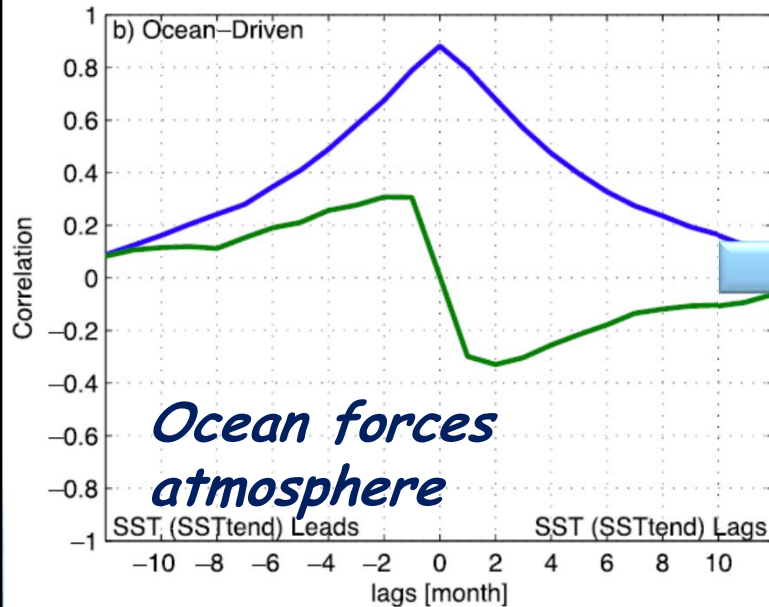


Positive: upward SHF

$$\frac{dT_a}{dt} = \alpha(SST - T_a) - \gamma_a T_a + N_a;$$

$$\frac{dSST}{dt} = \beta(T_a - SST) - \gamma_o SST + N_o$$

$\Rightarrow \frac{dSST}{dt}$ is negatively correlated with SHF

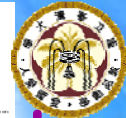


Positive: upward SHF

$$\frac{dT_a}{dt} = \alpha(SST - T_a) - \gamma_a T_a + N_a;$$

\Rightarrow SST is positively correlated with SHF

$$\frac{dSST}{dt} = \beta(T_a - SST) - \gamma_o SST + N_o$$

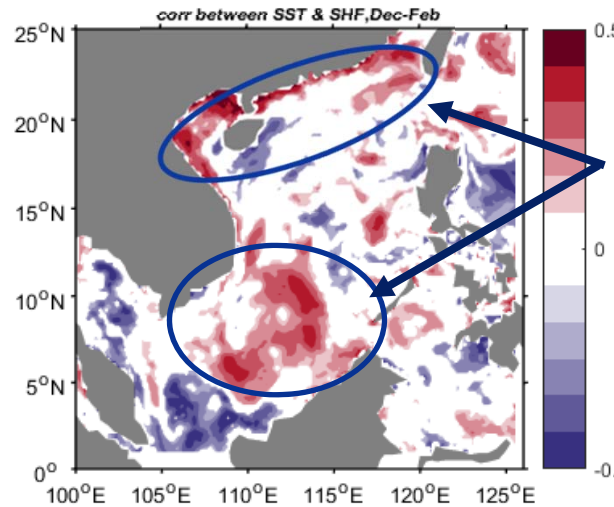
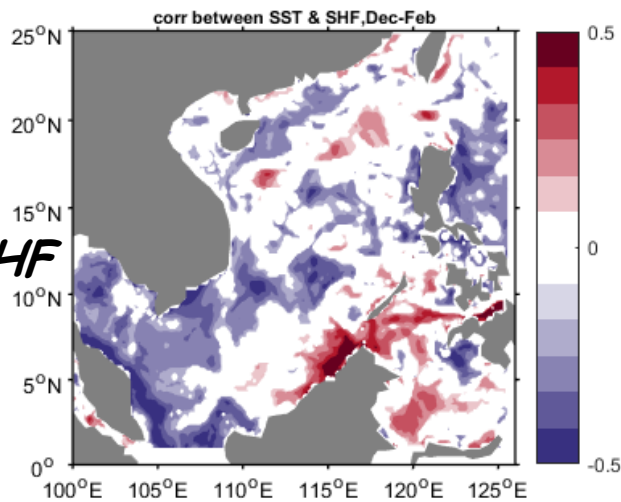


Correlation between SST/SST tendency and SHF anomaly

2015 El Niño winter

2011 La Niña winter

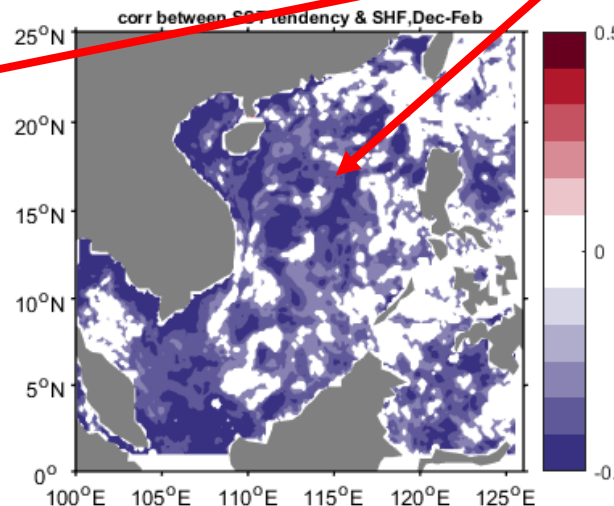
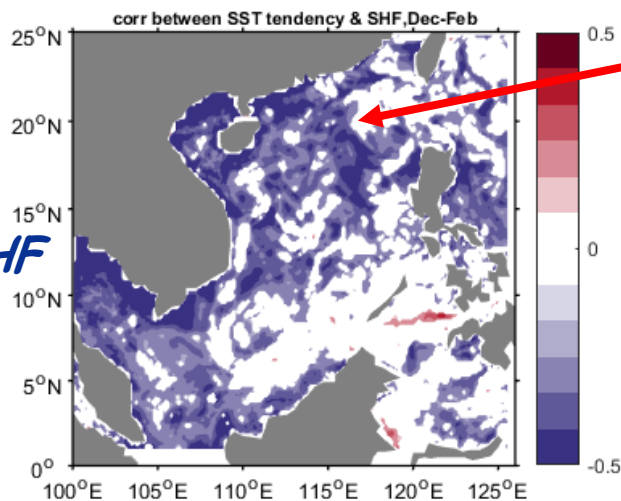
SST & SHF



SST forces the anom. air-sea heat flux

ATM forcing dominates the anom. SHF in the northern SCS

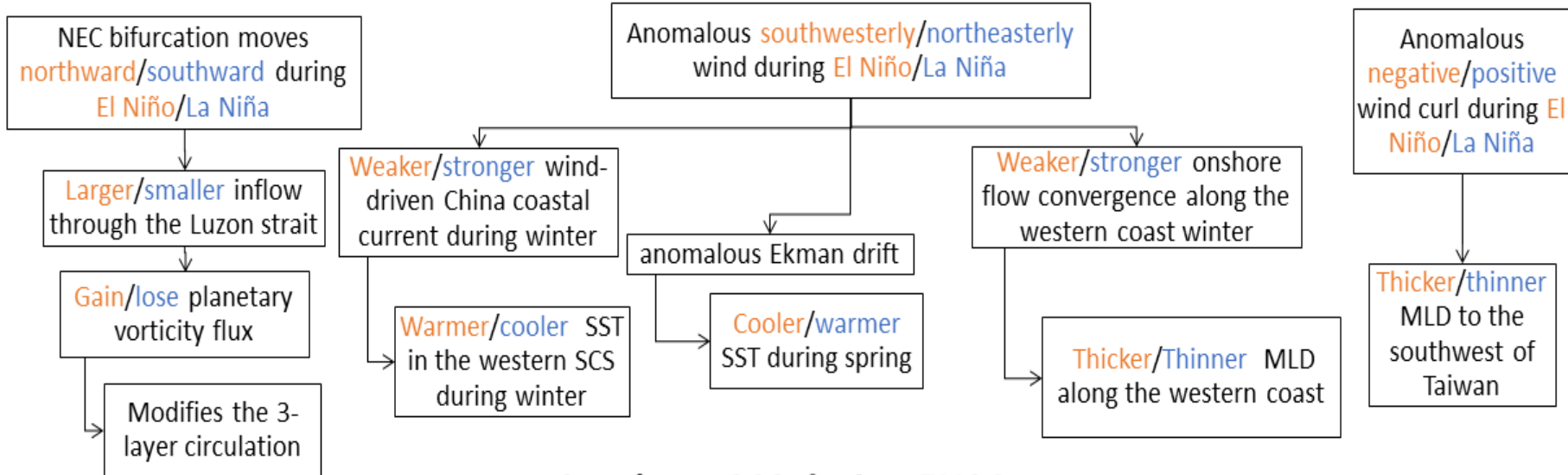
$\frac{dSST}{dt}$ & SHF



the monthly clim. is removed by subtracting NCEP reanalysis mean (1979-2009)

Conclusion

Northern SCS during ENSO



Southern SCS during ENSO

