Climate and Extreme Events: Subseasonal Predictability and Prediction

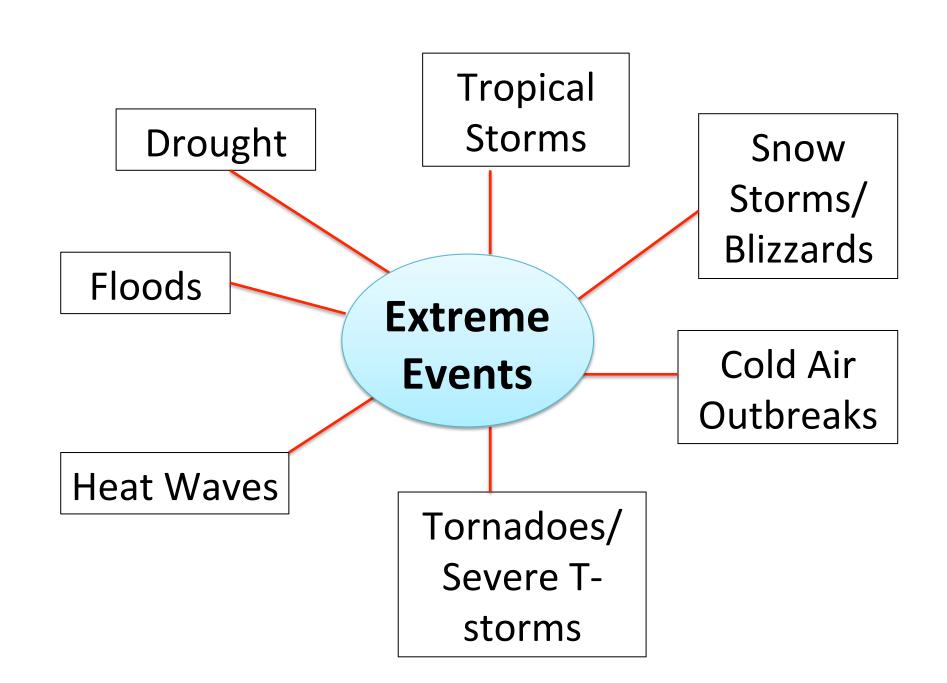
Kathy Pegion

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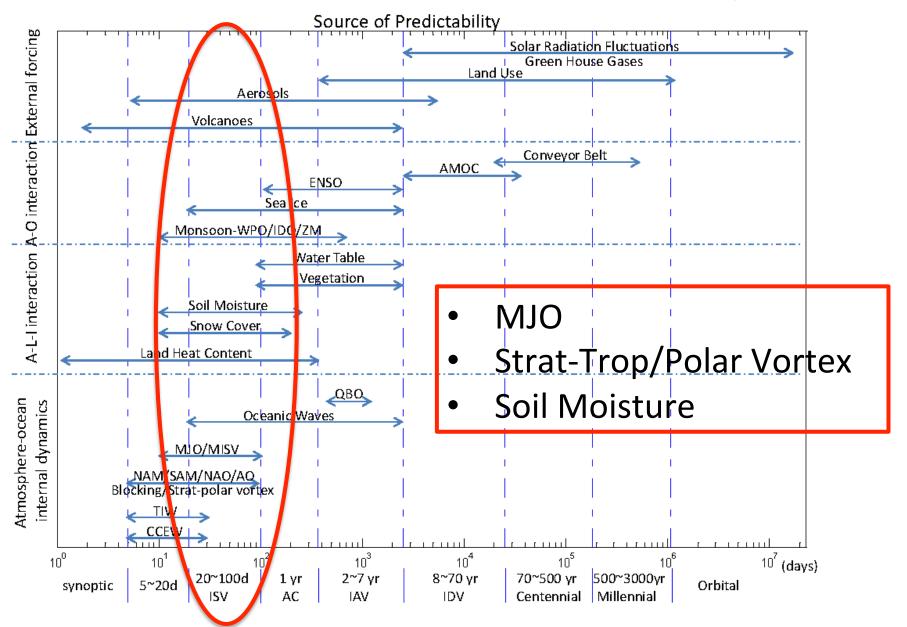


US CLIVAR Research Challenge: Climate and Extreme Events

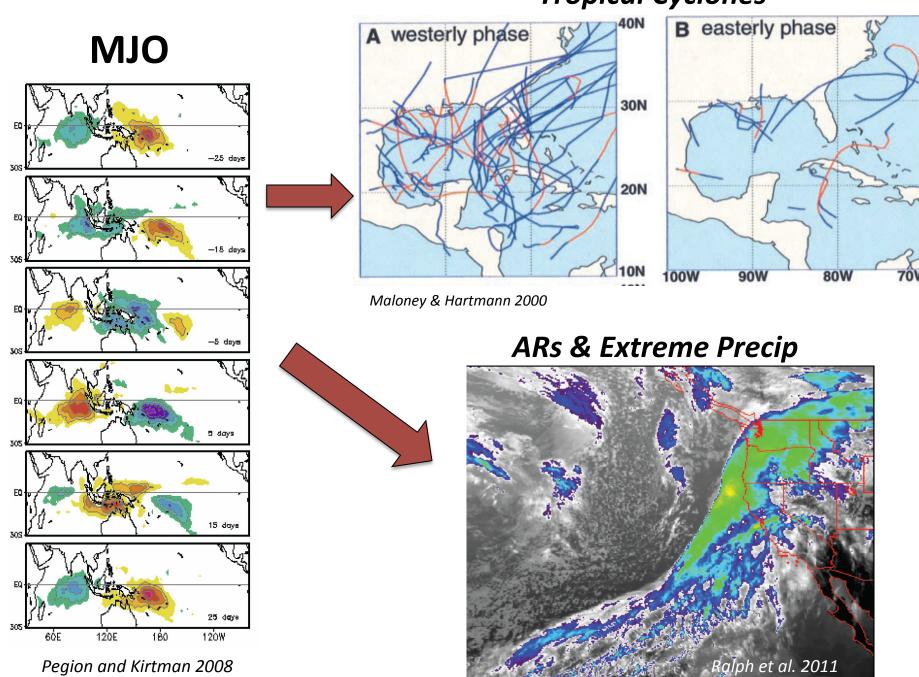
Future research

- ➤ Identify dynamical processes that underlie precipitation and temperature extremes
- Investigate how short-term processes interact with the larger-scale, slower, and potentially-predictable climate fluctuations linked to the ocean
- ➤ Determine metrics and analysis tools most relevant for extremes
- > Investigate what properties of extremes, if any, are changing under global warming

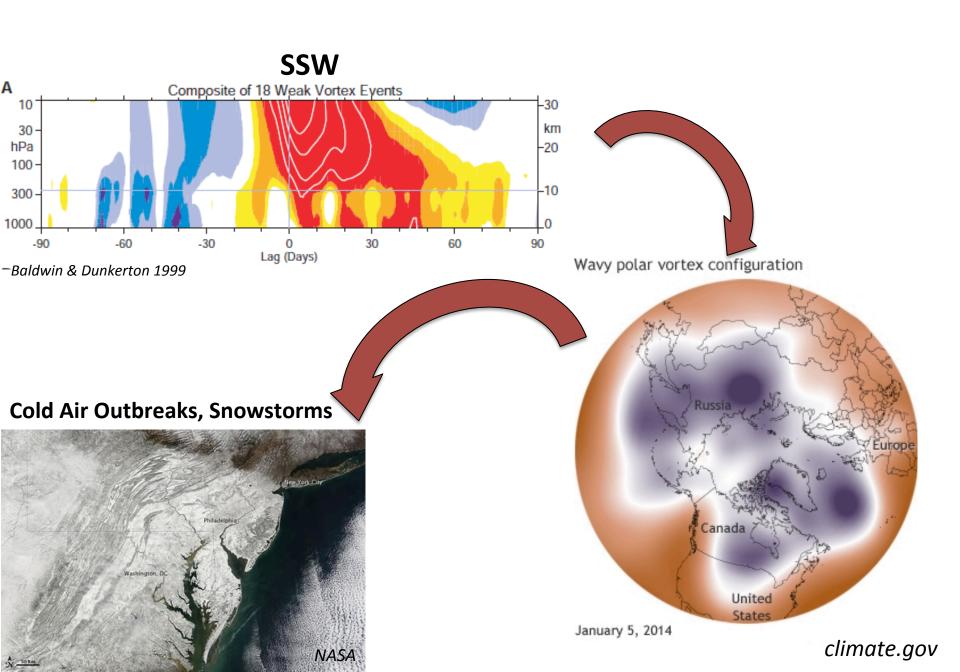
Sources of Subseasonal Predictability



Tropical Cyclones

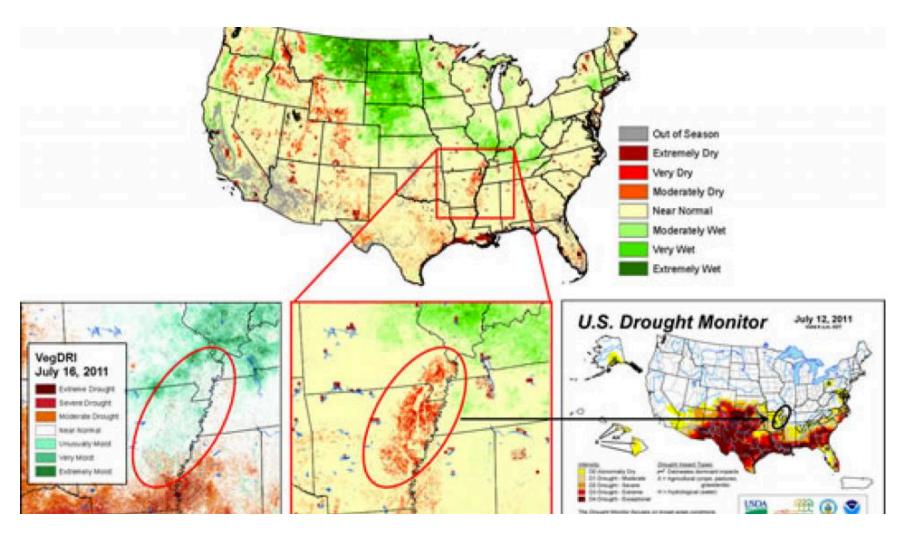


Stratosphere-Troposphere Interactions

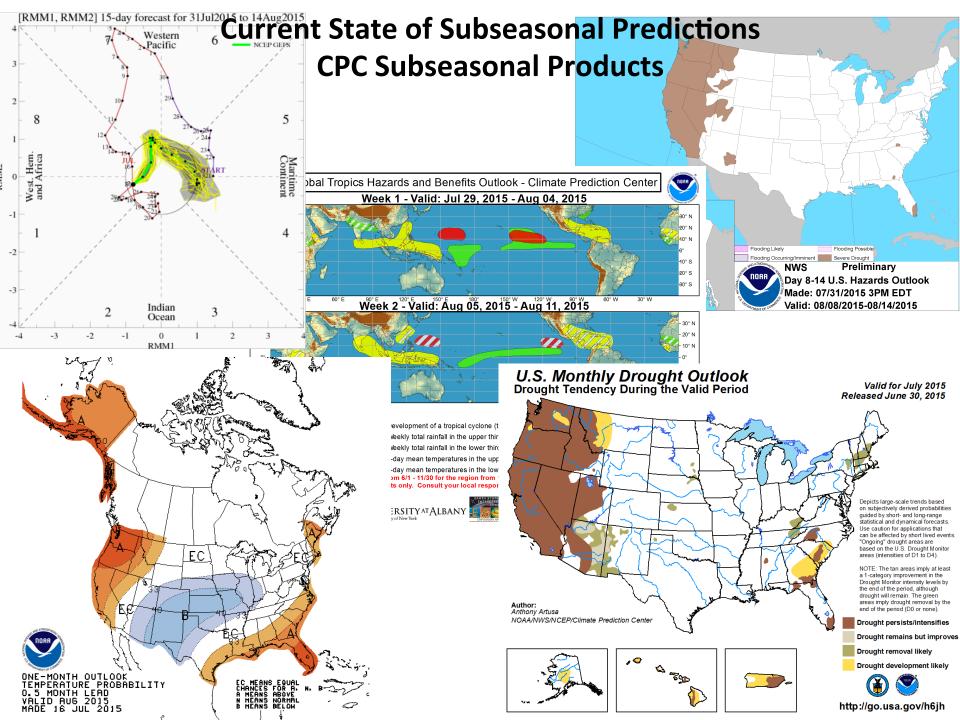


Soil Moisture

Low soil moisture => reduced ET => "Flash" drought or exacerbates heat wave & drought



Source: Kelly Helm Smith, National Drought Mitigation Center



Challenges

- Predictability is limited
- Don't know how to quantify skill for extremes and "forecasts of opportunity"
- Often difficult to predict source of predictability; teleconnections even harder.
- Extremes research requires infrastructure to support "big data" (from US Clivar Extremes WG report)

Relevant Programs, Projects, & Datasets

WCRP/WWRP S2S Project

- -> Implementation Plan Document
- -> Series of Workshops
- -> Re-forecast Database

NMME

- -> Monthly re-forecast database w/daily data
- -> Monthly real-time predictions
- -> Subseasonal effort underway

Intraseasonal Variability Hindcast Experiment

-> series of hindcasts from collection of CGCM and AGCMs

NRC Reports

- -> Assessment of Intraseasonal to Interannual Climate Prediction and Predictabilty (2010)
- -> Developing a U.S. Research Agenda to Advance Subseasonal to Seasonal Forecasting (expected 2016)

NOAA/CPO/MAPP FY15 Funded Projects NMME Evaluation & focus on Extremes

NOAA/MAPP FY16 S2S, subseasonal NMME & S2S Task Force

Discussion

What can PPAI do to advance the prediction of extremes on subseasonal timescales?

Some Ideas:

- Webinars to review the NRC ISI Report and the new NRC report when it comes out to identify critical research areas that PPAI can endorse
- MAPP FY15 NMME extremes evaluation projects: sponsor special issue or CLIVAR Variations
- Given community focus both nationally and internationally on S2S, should train the next generation: ASP workshop?
- Utilize US CLIVAR Project Office to highlight extremes work by PPAI panel members on website, twitter, etc.: who is doing work on extremes already?