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Why Is Decadal Climate Variability Predominantly Observed in the Niño4 Region?

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Key Points:

- Subsurface temperature anomalies initiate the phase reversal of TPDV while PMM plays a key role in equatorial SSTAs post-transition
- Vertical heat advection is crucial in reinforcing/weakening decadal variance in the Niño4/Niño3 region
- PMM-associated wind fields induce anomalous vertical advection after the TPDV phase transition

Supporting Information:

Supporting Information may be found in the online version of this article.

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Abstract This study investigates why observed decadal-scale climate variability is predominantly pronounced in the Niño4 region compared to other equatorial Pacific areas using both observation and model sensitivity experiments. The initial shift to the negative phase of Tropical Pacific Decadal Variability (TPDV) is primarily driven by the upward and eastward migration of isopycnal negative temperature anomalies along the equator. Subsequently, the wind fields associated with the negative phase of the Pacific Meridional Mode (PMM) induce anomalous vertical currents in the equatorial Pacific. This leads to anomalous upwelling and downwelling of mean temperature in the Niño4 and Niño3 regions, respectively, thereby strengthening and weakening the corresponding subsurface-produced sea surface temperature anomalies. Our findings clarify the roles of subsurface temperature anomalies in the phase reversal of TPDV and PMM in amplifying decadal variance, specifically in the equatorial central Pacific.

Plain Language Summary Observations have consistently highlighted prominent decadal climate variability in the Niño4 region, yet the underlying cause of this distinct pattern remains largely elusive. In this study, we use composite analysis during the phase transition of Tropical Pacific Decadal Variability (TPDV) and modeling experiments to elucidate the mechanisms governing the observed decadal climate variability in the Niño4 region compared to other equatorial areas. Our findings reveal that the eastward and upward propagation of negative subsurface temperature anomalies primarily drives the phase reversal of TPDV. Following this transition from positive to negative phase, the Pacific Meridional Mode (PMM) plays a crucial role. Specifically, PMM-associated wind forcing induces anomalous upwelling and downwelling in the Niño4 and Niño3 regions, respectively. This results in anomalous vertical advection of mean temperature, contributing to the strengthening and weakening of decadal variances in these regions.

1. Introduction

Tropical Pacific Decadal Variability (TPDV) is a natural climate phenomenon occurring on timescales greater than 7 years in the Pacific (Capotondi et al., 2023; Z. Liu & Di Lorenzo, 2018; Y. Zhao & Di Lorenzo, 2020). TPDV gains significant attention in climate research (Capotondi et al., 2023; Z. Liu, 2012; Power et al., 2021) due to its substantial impact on global climate patterns and extreme weather events (Liu et al., 2019; Okumura, DiNezio, & Deser, 2017; Wang et al., 2010, 2011, 2014; Zhang et al., 2016). Additionally, it may interact with one of the most influential interannual phenomena on Earth, the El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO) (Fedorov & Philander, 2000; McPhaden et al., 2011; Okumura, Sun, & Wu, 2017; Sun & Okumura, 2020; Zhao et al., 2016; Zhong et al., 2017). Unlike ENSO, which exhibits large interannual variance from the central to the eastern equatorial Pacific (Timmermann et al., 2018), the strongest variance of TPDV extends from the northeastern subtropic to the equatorial central Pacific, particularly in the Niño4 region (Figure S1a in Supporting Information S1) (Capotondi et al., 2022; Chunhan et al., 2021; Di Lorenzo et al., 2023; Liu et al., 2022). This spatial structure bears resemblance to the Central Pacific ENSO (Ashok et al., 2007; Capotondi et al., 2022; Sullivan et al., 2016) and the Pacific Meridional Mode (PMM) (Amaya, 2019; Chiang & Vimont, 2004; Stuecker, 2018), suggesting a significant contribution of PMM to TPDV dynamics (Di Lorenzo et al., 2015; Joh & Di Lorenzo, 2019; Zhao et al., 2023). However, why the decadal variance of TPDV is most prominent in the equatorial central Pacific remains unclear (Figures S1 and S2 in Supporting Information S1). Further investigation is needed to clarify the physical processes responsible for this observed decadal variability.

Several mechanisms have been proposed to explain the temporal and spatial characteristics of TPDV (Capotondi et al., 2023; Power et al., 2021). The substantial variance observed in the equatorial central Pacific could potentially stem from residual effects of interannual ENSO events (Vimont, 2005) or nonlinearities inherent in ENSO dynamics (Cibot et al., 2005; Kim & Kug, 2020; Rodgers et al., 2004). The preferred timescale of TPDV appears to be established through the adjustment of the subtropical-tropical cells (STCs) (Z. Liu, 1994; McCreary & Lu, 1994) associated with the propagation of oceanic Rossby waves (Capotondi & Alexander, 2001; Capotondi et al., 2003; Knutson & Manabe, 1998; Meehl & Hu, 2006), the mean advection of density-compensated temperature and salinity anomalies originating from the eastern subtropical Pacific (Gu & Philander, 1997; San & Tseng, 2024; Schneider, 2000; Tatebe et al., 2013; Zeller et al., 2021), and extratropical-tropical ocean-atmosphere coupling (Joh & Di Lorenzo, 2019). Regarding the phase transition of TPDV, proposed mechanisms include ENSO nonlinear dynamical heating (Liu et al., 2022), the combined influence of large decadal timescale heat content anomalies in the off-equatorial western tropical Pacific and the onset of ENSO events (Meehl et al., 2021), and potential influences from the Atlantic and Indian Oceans (Cai et al., 2019; Li et al., 2016; Luo et al., 2012; McGregor et al., 2014). Although these mechanisms offer valuable insights, the actual contributions of each remain unclear. Furthermore, a comprehensive framework explaining TPDV's origin, preferred timescale, and phase transition remains largely inconclusive.

A recent study has demonstrated that off-equatorial northwestern Pacific subsurface temperature anomalies and extratropical-tropical ocean-atmosphere coupling can well explain both the phase transition and preferred timescale of TPDV (San et al., 2024). Specifically, the TPDV positive phase induces anomalous circulation in the off-equatorial western and extratropical Pacific (Alexander et al., 2002; Z. Liu & Alexander, 2007; Meehl et al., 2021; Trenberth et al., 1998). The former generates an off-equatorial northwest center of negative subsurface temperature anomalies due to surface divergence (Meehl et al., 2021) while the latter potentially induces Kuroshio Extension (KE) state change due to westward propagating oceanic Rossby waves (Andres et al., 2009; Ceballos et al., 2009; Taguchi et al., 2007). The northwestern subsurface temperature anomalies then follow the North Equatorial Countercurrent (NECC) pathway toward the central basin (Zhang et al., 1999; R. Zhang & Rothstein, 2000), shoaling upward and eastward along the equator to reverse the sign of the sea surface temperature (SST) anomalies (SSTAs) at the Niño4 region around 3 years later (San et al., 2024). Furthermore, the KE state change subsequently projects on the forcing of the PMM (Gan et al., 2023; Qiu et al., 2007, 2014; Wills & Thompson, 2018), further strengthening the subsurface-produced equatorial SSTAs within 1 year before the peak phase (Di Lorenzo et al., 2015; Joh & Di Lorenzo, 2019). Approximately 5 years later, the tropical Pacific ocean-atmosphere system completes its phase reversal into the mature cold phase. While this framework provides valuable insights into preferred oscillation timescale and phase transition (San et al., 2024), critical questions remain. How does the PMM contribute to strengthening equatorial SSTAs within 0–12 months before the peak phase? Is this process linked directly to thermodynamical (Vimont et al., 2001, 2003; Xie & Philander, 1994) and/or dynamical (Anderson et al., 2013; Anderson & Perez, 2015; Clarke et al., 2007) mechanisms, similar to those on interannual timescales (Yu & Fang, 2018)? Moreover, given that subsurface temperature anomalies originating in the off-equatorial northwestern Pacific shoal upward and eastward along the equator (Figure S3a in Supporting Information S1), one would expect these anomalies to potentially induce large decadal variability in the Niño3 region as well. However, the question arises: why is the observed decadal variance most pronounced in the Niño4 region rather than the Niño3 region?

In this study, we employ both observational data and model experiments to distinguish the distinct roles of subsurface temperature anomalies and PMM in driving TPDV dynamics. While subsurface temperature anomalies are crucial for the phase reversal of TPDV, PMM amplifies the subsurface-induced SSTAs in the Niño4 region while suppressing decadal variance in the Niño3 region by altering anomalous vertical advection following the TPDV phase transition. This resolves the important puzzles related to decadal-scale climate variability. The subsequent sections of this paper are structured as follows: Section 2 and Section 3 provide details on the data and methodology, respectively. Section 4 presents our main findings and Section 5 offers a summary and discussion of the results.

2. Data

Monthly SST data on a global $1^\circ \times 1^\circ$ longitude-latitude grid are from the Hadley Center Global Sea Ice and Sea Surface Temperature dataset version 1.1 (Rayner et al., 2003). Monthly subsurface 1° ocean temperature data from the latest EN.4.2.2 dataset of the Met Office Hadley Center is provided over 42 irregularly spaced depth

levels spanning from 1900 to the present (Good et al., 2013). For atmospheric variables, we used monthly sea level pressure (SLP) and 10 m winds from the National Centers for Environmental Prediction-National Center for Atmospheric Research Reanalysis 1, which covers the period from 1948 to the present and is distributed on a $2.5^\circ \times 2.5^\circ$ longitude-latitude grid (Kalnay et al., 1996). Additionally, the Estimating the Circulation and Climate of the Ocean project, version 3 (GECCO3) is used for heat budget analysis (Köhl, 2020). This dataset has 1° horizontal resolutions and 40 vertical levels, spanning from 1948 to 2018. Before conducting analyses, all data are linearly detrended, and anomalies are defined as deviations from the climatology of the entire period covered by the respective dataset. To isolate decadal-scale variability, we apply an 8–20 year Lanczos bandpass filter (Duchon, 1979). Our analysis focuses on the period from 1948 to 2023.

3. Methods

3.1. Composite Analysis

Following Meehl et al. (2021), we use composite analysis to investigate the atmospheric and oceanic variability during the phase transition of TPDV. The TPDV phase transition is defined as the time when the TPDV index, calculated as the 8–20 years bandpass filtered SSTAs in the Niño4 region (Liu et al., 2022; San et al., 2024), crosses the zero line. We identify six cases of TPDV transitioning from positive to negative, and an equal number of cases transitioning from negative to positive (Figure S2a in Supporting Information S1).

3.2. Heat Budget Analysis

Following Lee et al. (2004) and X. Zhang and McPhaden (2010), we analyze the heat budget in the Niño4 and Niño3 regions with a fixed bottom depth of 90 m to quantify the role of oceanic processes (Hayashi & Jin, 2017) during the phase transition of TPDV (Note that the results do not change if the fixed bottom depth is greater or smaller than 90 m). The heat budget equation is expressed as:

$$\frac{\partial T}{\partial t} = Q_{adv} + \frac{Q_{net}}{\rho C_p H} + R = Q_{advB} + Q_{advW} + Q_{advE} + Q_{advN} + Q_{advS} + \frac{Q_{net}}{\rho C_p H} + R \quad (1)$$

where T denotes the box-averaged temperature, Q_{adv} represents the net oceanic advection of temperature into the defined equatorial box from the bottom (Q_{advB}), western (Q_{advW}), eastern (Q_{advE}), northern (Q_{advN}), and southern (Q_{advS}) boundaries. Q_{net} indicates the net downward heat flux at the ocean surface and R denotes the residual term. Here, H is taken as a constant of 90 m, ρ , and C_p are constants of $1,025 \text{ kg m}^{-3}$ and $3,940 \text{ J kg}^{-1} \text{ K}^{-1}$, respectively.

4. Results

4.1. Features Observed During the Decadal Transition of Tropical Pacific Climate

We present the composite temporal evolution of various oceanic and atmospheric fields relevant to TPDV transitioning from positive to negative phases (similar results are obtained for the negative to positive transition albeit with reversed signs). Before the transition (–6 months, Figure 1a), we observe comparable magnitudes of positive SSTAs in the equatorial and subtropical northeastern and southeastern Pacific. In addition, significant negative SSTAs become prominent only in these regions about 1 year before the peak cold phase of TPDV (Figure 1d–1f). This suggests that while the PMM is not the primary driver of the TPDV phase reversal, it does play a significant role in strengthening equatorial SSTAs (Figure S4b in Supporting Information S1), consistent with previous studies (Di Lorenzo et al., 2015; Ding et al., 2022; Joh & Di Lorenzo, 2019). Furthermore, an anti-cyclonic large-scale circulation anomaly in the North Pacific, featuring a weakened Aleutian Low-like structure, emerges only after the TPDV transition which may play a dominant role in forcing the PMM to drive TPDV toward the mature cold phase (Figures S5d–S5f in Supporting Information S1) (San et al., 2024).

The composite temporal evolution of temperature anomalies averaged between 22 and 24.5 σ_θ reveals significant negative subsurface temperature anomalies before the transition (Figure S6a in Supporting Information S1), which continue to intensify until the peak cold phase of TPDV (Figures S6c–S6f in Supporting Information S1). These subsurface anomalies can propagate toward the equatorial central basin via the NECC pathway (Figure 1h and Figure S6b in Supporting Information S1) (San et al., 2024), ultimately leading to a reversal in the sign of SSTAs in the Niño4 region (light violet box in Figure 1b). Additionally, as the isopycnals outcrop along the

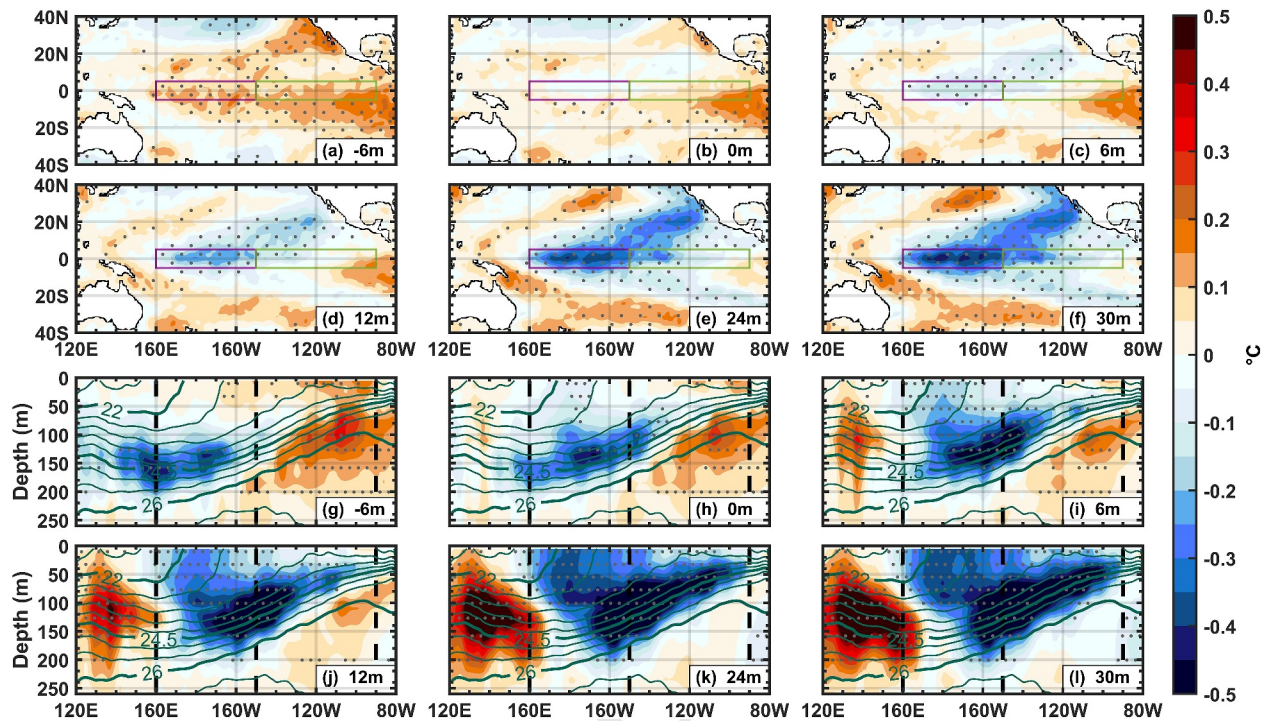


Figure 1. Composite evolution of 8–20 years bandpass filtered (a–f) SSTAs and (g–l) temperature anomalies averaged between 5°S and 5°N from the positive to negative phase transition. The months preceding the transition are indicated by negative values (e.g., –6 m represents 6 months prior to a transition) while months following the transition are indicated by positive values (e.g., 6 m indicates 6 months after a transition). Green contours in (g–l) indicate the long-term mean potential density averaged between 5°S and 5°N. The light violet and green rectangular boxes in (a–f) represent the Niño4 and Niño3 regions, respectively. Vertical dashed thick black lines in (g–l) mark the longitudes of 160°E, 150°W and 90°W. Stippling indicates regions where the anomalies are statistically significant at the 95% confidence level based on a Student's *t*-test.

equator (violet contours in Figure S3a in Supporting Information S1), subsurface temperature anomalies could also induce significant decadal variability in the Niño3 region (Figure S3c in Supporting Information S1). However, observations indicate that these anomalies intensify locally in the upper 200 m of the Niño4 region (Figures 1i–1l and S3b in Supporting Information S1) while large temperature anomalies are confined beneath the surface layer in the Niño3 region between 50 and 150 m depth (Figure S3c in Supporting Information S1). This vertical structure of temperature anomalies (Figure S3 in Supporting Information S1) is consistent with the spatial distribution of temperature variances shown in Figure S1 in Supporting Information S1, suggesting that understanding the physical mechanism during the phase transition is key to explaining the distribution of decadal variance in the equatorial Pacific. Figure 2 shows the distinct subsurface oceanic circulation features averaged within the longitudinal bands of the Niño4 (160°E–150°W) and Niño3 (150°W–90°W) regions. Following the transition, a notable upward motion of anomalous currents is observed in the Niño4 region (Figures 2d–2f and Figures S7d–S7f in Supporting Information S1), whereas the anomalous current pattern in the Niño3 region predominantly circulates downward in a clockwise manner centered at 60 m depth (Figures 2j–2l and Figures S7d–S7f in Supporting Information S1). These subsurface characteristics may relate to the contrasting wind fields in the Niño4 and Niño3 regions after the transition (Figures S5d–S5f in Supporting Information S1). Similar results are obtained using different reanalysis datasets, such as Ocean Reanalysis System 5 (ORAS5 (Zuo et al., 2019), Figure S8 in Supporting Information S1). Consequently, the anomalous currents can further amplify the subsurface-produced decadal signal in the Niño4 through anomalous upwelling of mean temperature (shading in Figures 2d–2f), while they tend to dampen the decadal signal by isolating it away from the surface in the Niño3 region (shading in Figures 2j–2l). These characteristics suggest that subsurface oceanic dynamics play a pivotal role in explaining why the decadal signals are more prominent in the Niño4 compared to the Niño3 region (cf., Figures S2a–S2f in Supporting Information S1). More details will be provided in the subsequent section.

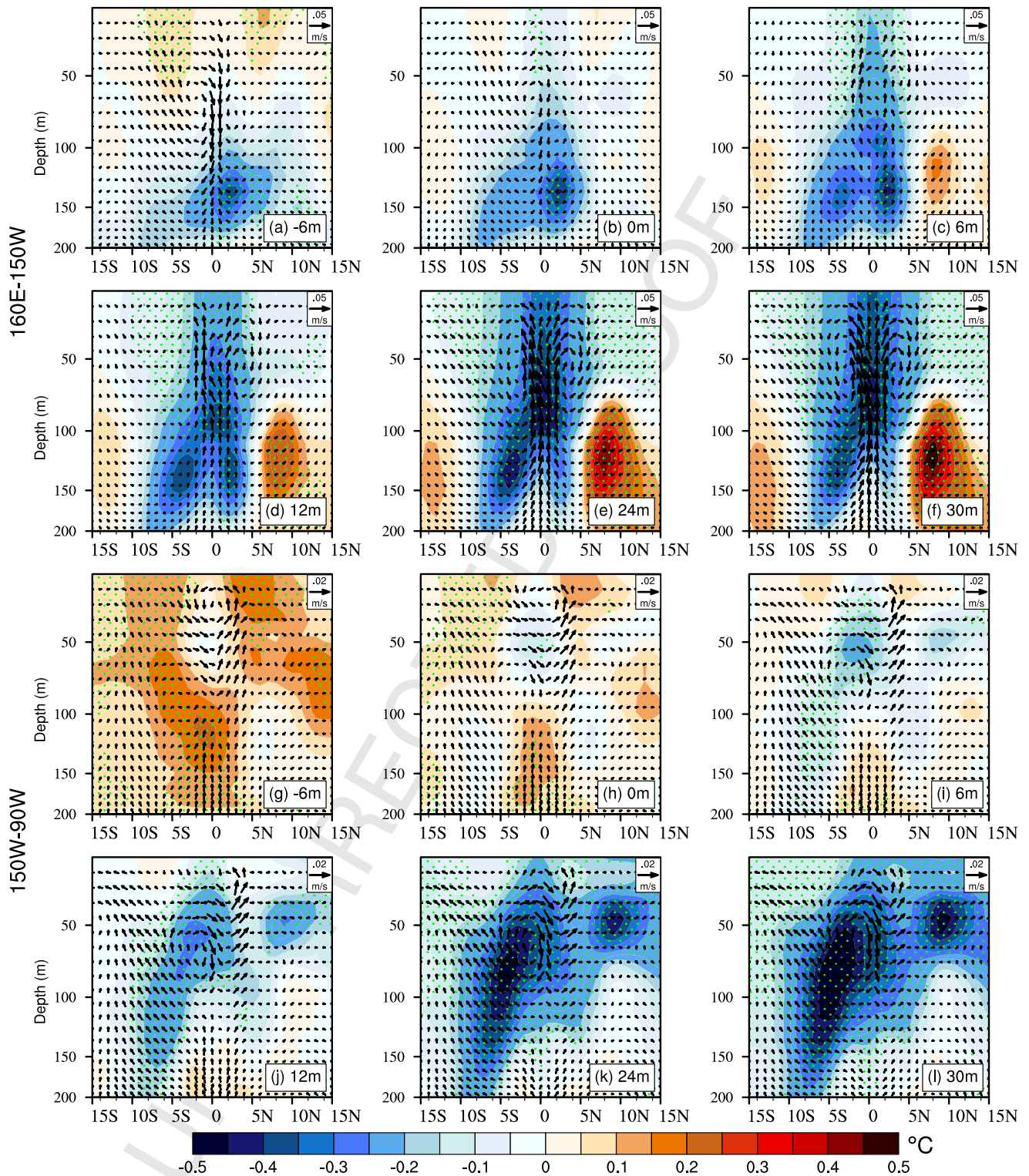


Figure 2. Same as Figure 1 but for temperature anomalies (shading), meridional and vertical (5×10^4) currents averaged between (a–f) 160°E–150°W and (g–l) 150°W–90°W. Stippling indicates regions where the temperature anomalies are statistically significant at the 95% confidence level based on a Student's *t*-test.

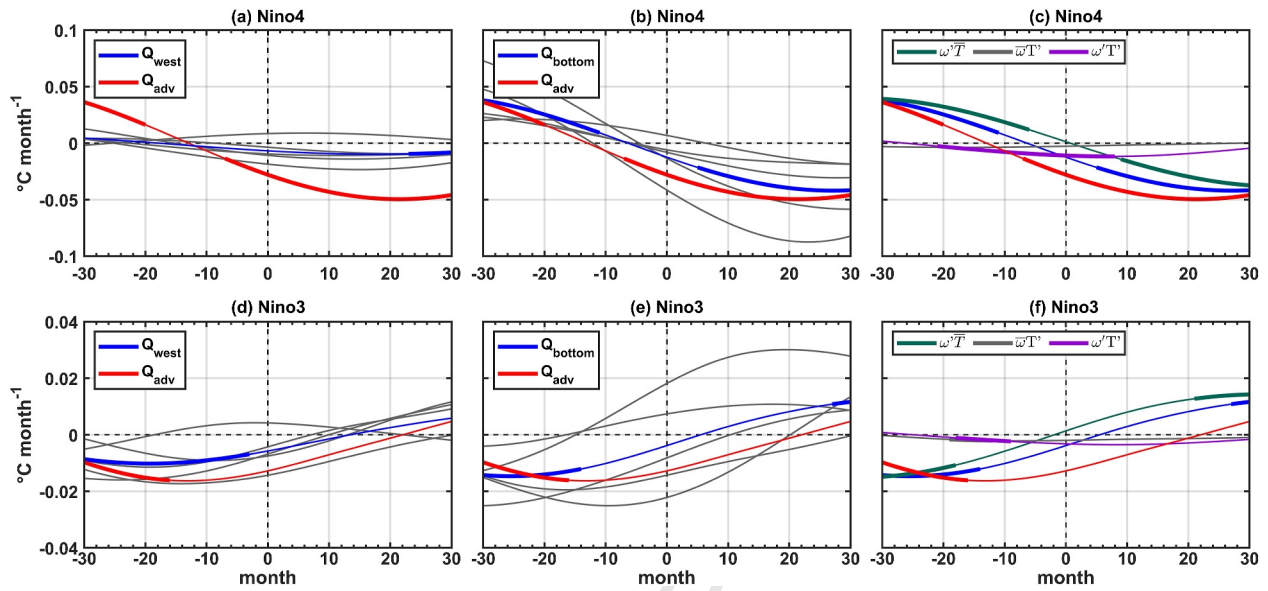


Figure 3. Composite evolution of heat advection into the (a)–(c) Niño4 and (d)–(f) Niño3 regions. In (a), the red and blue lines indicate the total heat advection and contribution through the western boundary, respectively. The gray lines depict the individual evolution (five cases) of heat advection through the western boundary. (b) Same as (a) but for the contribution through the bottom. (c) Decomposition of vertical heat transport (blue) into the anomalous upwelling of mean temperature (green), mean upwelling of anomalous temperature (gray), and anomalous upwelling of temperature anomalies (violet). The red line corresponds to (a). (d)–(f) Same as (a)–(c) but for the Niño3 region. In all panels, thick lines denote significance at the 95% level based on a Student's *t*-test.

4.2. The Physical Causes of Prominent Decadal Climate Variability in the Niño4 Region

The physical mechanisms driving notable decadal climate variability in the tropical Pacific are further explored through a heat budget analysis for the Niño4 and Niño3 regions, respectively. The heat budget closure shows a very small residual, with the sum of the first six terms on the right-hand side of Equation 1 closely matching the temperature tendency for both regions (corr. >0.99, Figure S9 in Supporting Information S1). Subsequently, we decompose the total heat advection term into contributions from individual boundary interfaces of the defined equatorial region (the first five terms in Equation 1). Heat advection into the Niño4 region is primarily driven by advection through the bottom at both interannual and decadal timescale (Figure S10 in Supporting Information S1). In contrast, heat advection into the Niño3 region comes from both the bottom and the western boundary (Figure S11 in Supporting Information S1), consistent with previous studies (Boucharel et al., 2015; Huang et al., 2012; Vialard et al., 2001). We further identify the dominant components of vertical and zonal temperature advection. In the Niño4 region, vertical heat advection is mainly driven by anomalous upwelling of mean temperature (Ekman feedback) while the contribution to the western boundary comes primarily from anomalous zonal advection of mean temperature and nonlinear zonal advection (Figures S12a and S13a in Supporting Information S1). In the Niño3 region, vertical heat advection is dominated by anomalous upwelling of mean temperature at the decadal timescale, while the contribution to the western boundary is primarily dominated by anomalous zonal advection of mean temperature (Figures S12b and S13b in Supporting Information S1).

The above analysis can further help us to quantify the contribution of key oceanic dynamics to tropical Pacific climate transitions. Figure 3 shows the composite temporal evolution of heat advection during the transition of TPDV from positive to negative phases. Following the transition, we observe that the transport through the bottom varies in phase and contributes significantly to the total heat advection in the Niño4 region (Figure 3b), consistent with the study of Zhang et al. (2022). Here, the predominant component of vertical heat transport is the anomalous upwelling of mean temperature (green line in Figure 3c), which reinforces the decadal signal (the light violet box in Figures 1e and 1f; the region between the first two vertical dashed lines in Figures 1k and 1l). In contrast, advection from the western boundary and vertical transport in the Niño3 region weaken the total heat advection and can even cause it to become positive around 2 years after the transition (Figures 3d and 3e), wherein the anomalous downwelling of mean temperature (green line in Figure 3f) and the anomalous zonal advection of mean temperature are the two most important components (not shown). Consequently, this dampens the decadal signal in the Niño3

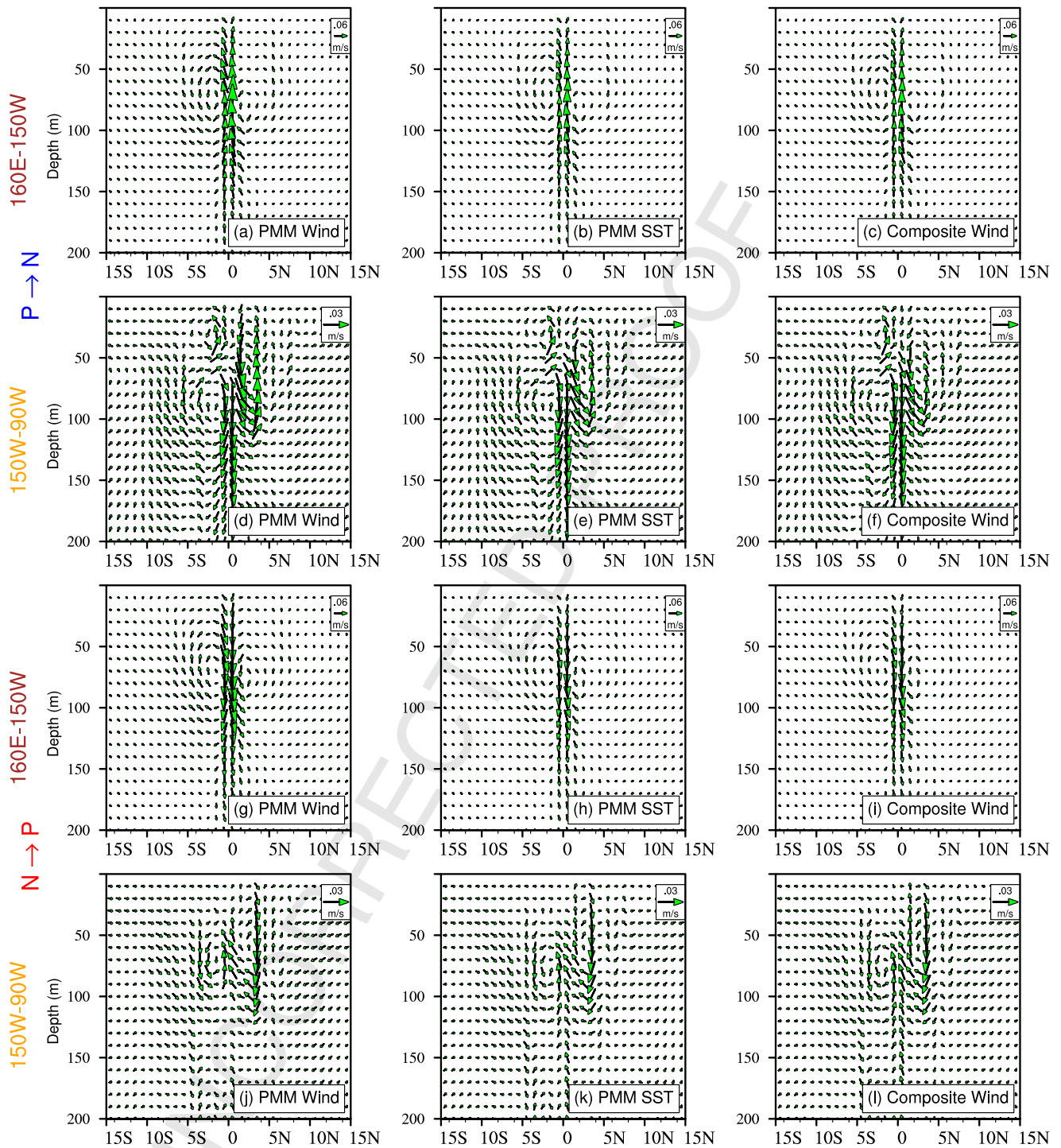


Figure 4. Response of meridional and vertical (5×10^4) currents averaged between (a–c and g–i) 160°E–150°W and (d–f and j–l) 150°W–90°W to the imposed wind forcing associated with the (a)–(f) negative and (g–l) positive phases of PMM. PMM-associated wind fields are determined by (a, d, g, and j) regressing the 8–20 years bandpass filtered PMM wind index onto the 8–20 years bandpass filtered 10 m wind anomalies (b, e, h, and k) regressing the 8–20 years bandpass filtered PMM SST index onto the 8–20 years bandpass filtered 10 m wind anomalies, and (c, f, i, and l) extracting the composite wind anomalies 30 month after the phase transition.

region (the light green box in Figures 1e and 1f; the region between the last two vertical dashed lines in Figures 1k and 1l).

The above analysis suggests the dominant role of anomalous wind forcing in driving tropical ocean circulation anomalies (Zhang et al., 2022), as confirmed by the large wind differences above the Niño3 and Niño4 regions (Figure S5 in Supporting Information S1). To further investigate the primary driver behind subsurface current anomalies, we run the ocean-sea ice component of the Community Earth System Model version 1.2.2 (CESM1) (Hurrell et al., 2013) with the wind forcing associated with the PMM (Figure S14 in Supporting Information S1; see Text S1 in Supporting Information S1 for experiment design). During the transition from positive to negative phases of TPDV, the PMM induces strong anomalous vertical motion in the Niño4 region which strengthens the local decadal signal, as evidenced by the observed features in Figure 1 and the simulated current anomalies (Figures 4a–4c). In contrast, subsurface current anomalies in the Niño3 region are notably weaker and exhibit a different phase compared to those in the Niño4 region, thereby diminishing the decadal signal in the Niño3 region (Figures 4d–4f), consistent with the observed weaker SST variance in the Niño3 region (Figure S1 in Supporting Information S1). These could potentially explain the previous asymmetric finding in Zheng et al. (2021). Reversed patterns are evident during the transition from negative to positive phases of TPDV (Figures 4g–4i), reaffirming the pivotal role of PMM in shaping decadal-scale climate variability in the tropical Pacific, particularly in the Niño4 region (Figure S1a in Supporting Information S1). While the Niño4 subsurface current characteristics are relatively symmetric during transitions between positive and negative phases (both positive to negative and negative to positive) in both observation (Figure S15 in Supporting Information S1) and simulation (cf., Figures 4a–4c and 4g–4i), it is important to note that during negative to positive transitions, the simulated vertical current anomalies in the Niño3 region are weaker than during positive to negative phases (cf., Figures 4d–4f and 4j–4l). This asymmetric response of subsurface currents in the Niño3 region to PMM wind forcing is also evident in observations (Figure S16 in Supporting Information S1) and could relate to the asymmetric intensity of the wind-evaporation-SST feedback (Zheng et al., 2021). The physical causes behind this asymmetry require further investigation.

5. Conclusions and Discussion

We have demonstrated that both subsurface temperature anomalies and PMM play distinct roles in shaping decadal-scale climate variability in the tropical Pacific. Subsurface temperature anomalies primarily initiate phase reversal while the PMM becomes significant only after the phase transition of TPDV. Specifically, during the transition from positive to negative phase, the anomalous wind fields associated with the PMM induce anomalous upwelling and downwelling which contribute to the strengthening and weakening of subsurface-produced SSTAs in the Niño4 and Niño3 regions, respectively. As a result, the observed decadal-scale SSTAs variance is most pronounced in the Niño4 region compared to other equatorial Pacific areas. A schematic of the comprehensive mechanism of the TPDV phase transition and decadal equatorial variance distribution is shown in Figure S17 in Supporting Information S1 (modified from Figure 6 in San et al. (2024)).

The dynamical processes associated with the PMM in driving TPDV are consistent with previous studies emphasizing the pivotal role of PMM-induced ocean dynamics in generating equatorial Pacific interannual variances (Hu et al., 2023; Shi et al., 2024; Zhang et al., 2022). However, extratropical forcing can also contribute to equatorial SST variance through thermodynamical mechanisms (Di Lorenzo et al., 2015; Zhao et al., 2023), though this process appears to be asymmetric at the interannual timescale (Fan et al., 2021; Zheng et al., 2021). This suggests that the effect of PMM on equatorial SST variability via thermodynamical processes may be unstable, whereas the dynamical processes seem stable at both interannual and decadal timescales. While some studies suggest that the relationship between PMM and equatorial SST variability is unstable at the interannual timescale (Zheng et al., 2023), a recent study indicates that this relationship is most prominent at the decadal timescale (Tao et al., 2024), further supporting our finding of the key role of PMM in enhancing decadal SST variability. Additionally, Figures S2 and S3 in Supporting Information S1 reveal a noticeable increase in the prominence of the decadal signal in the Niño3 region since the mid-2010s, suggesting a potential decadal regime shift toward the eastern Pacific. This feature will be explored in future studies.

Data Availability Statement

The PMM index. <https://www.aos.wisc.edu/~dvimont/MModes/RealTime/PMM.RAW.txt>.

The CESM1.2.2 code. <https://www2.cesm.ucar.edu/models/cesm1.2/>

Links to datasets used: HadISST1: <https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/hadobs/hadisst/>

NCEP-NCAR Reanalysis 1: <https://psl.noaa.gov/data/gridded/data.ncep.reanalysis.html>.

EN422: <https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/hadobs/en4/download-en4-2-2.html>.

GECCO3: <https://www.cen.uni-hamburg.de/en/icdc/data/ocean/reanalysis-ocean/gecco3.html>.

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