

Sea Ice in Hudson Bay

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ArcticNet - Manitoba Hydro
Cold--Region Estuaries Workshop
May 28 - 29, 2012

Objectives

- 1) Examine the spatial distribution SAT trends surrounding HB region during the fall and spring period (1980-2005) and SAT trends dating back to 1950 to provide context to the observed changes in SIC and SIEs
- 2) Examine weekly trends in SICs and SIEs within HB
- 3) Examine the nature of weekly SIC anomalies in HB due to thermodynamic and dynamic forcing, specifically relative vorticity of ice within HB over 1980-2005 (spring)
- 4) Examine the relative contributions of SATs and relative vorticity to predicting SIEs in HB (spring)



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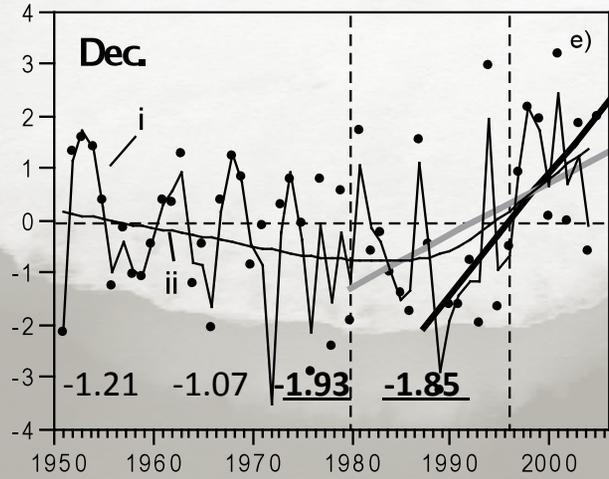
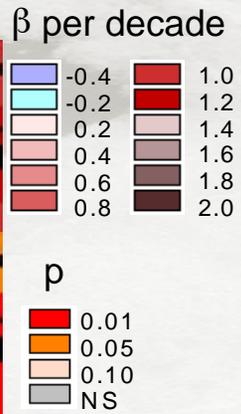
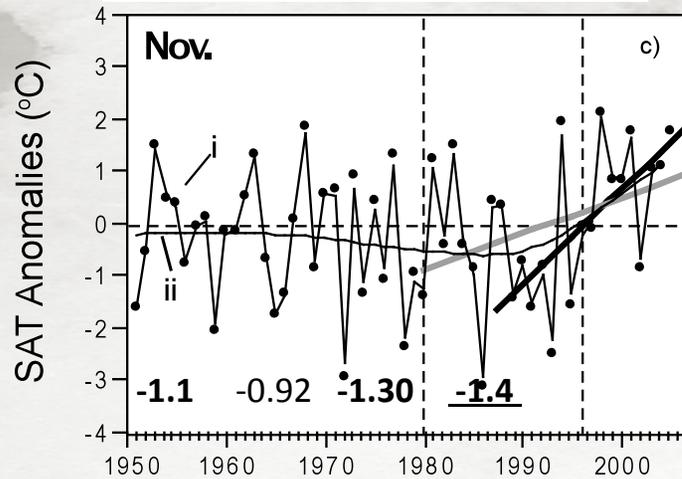


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Fall

SATs anomalies



Years	β/d	Prob.
1950-1989	-0.12°C/d;	p=0.500
1950-2005	0.12°C/d;	p=0.285
1980-2005	0.71°C/d;	p=0.056
1989-2005	1.80°C/d;	p=0.005
1950-1989	-0.28°C/d;	p=0.177
1950-2005	0.13°C/d;	p=0.326
1980-2005	1.00°C/d;	p=0.025
1989-2005	2.30°C/d;	p=0.009

Gagnon and Gough [2006] -early 1960-1990 temperature trends in HB were predominantly negative and ice thickness trends positive during the fall and winter periods.

$B=S_t$; $B=TK$

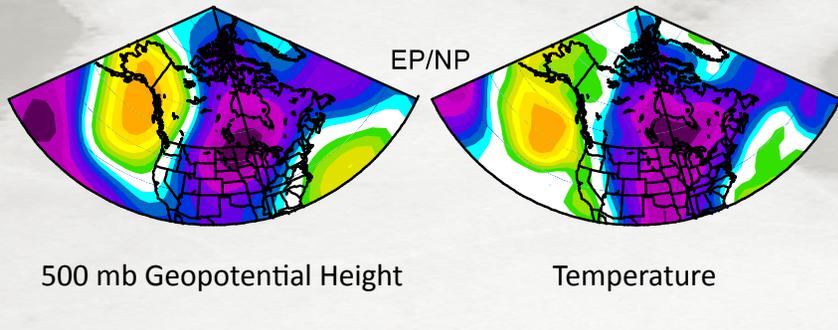
Atmospheric Forcing of Sea Ice in Hudson Bay during the Fall Period, 1980-2005
 K.P. Hochheim and D.G. Barber, *Journal of Geophysical Research*, 2010.



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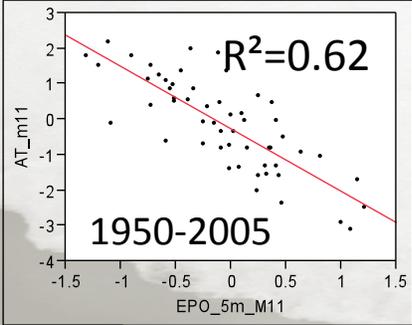


EP/NP (East Pacific/North Pacific): Fall Period

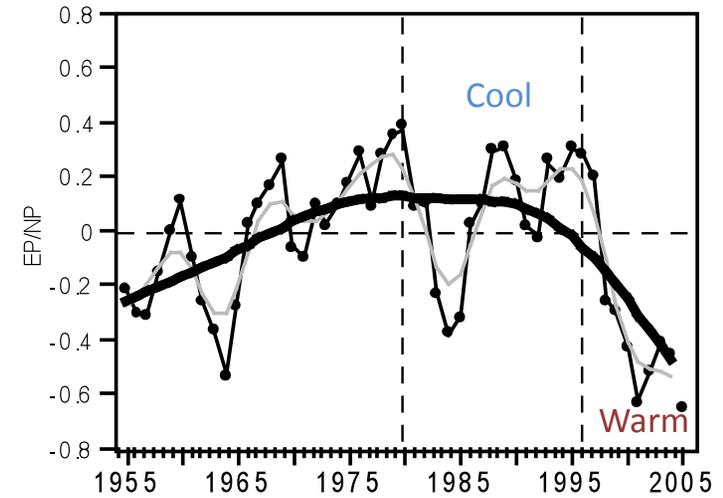
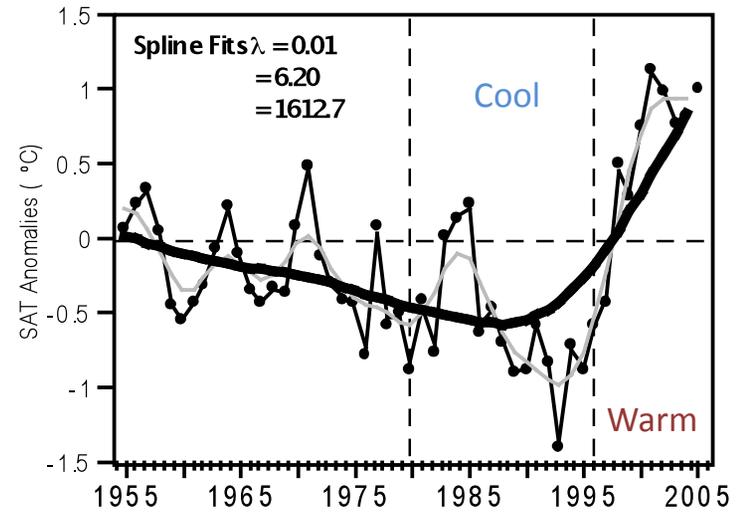
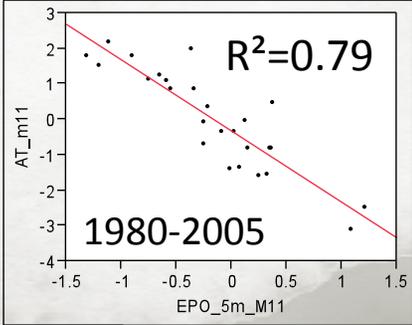


<http://www.cdc.noaa.gov/Correlation/>

Bivariate Fit of AT_m11 By EPO_5m_M11



Bivariate Fit of AT_m11 By EPO_5m_M11



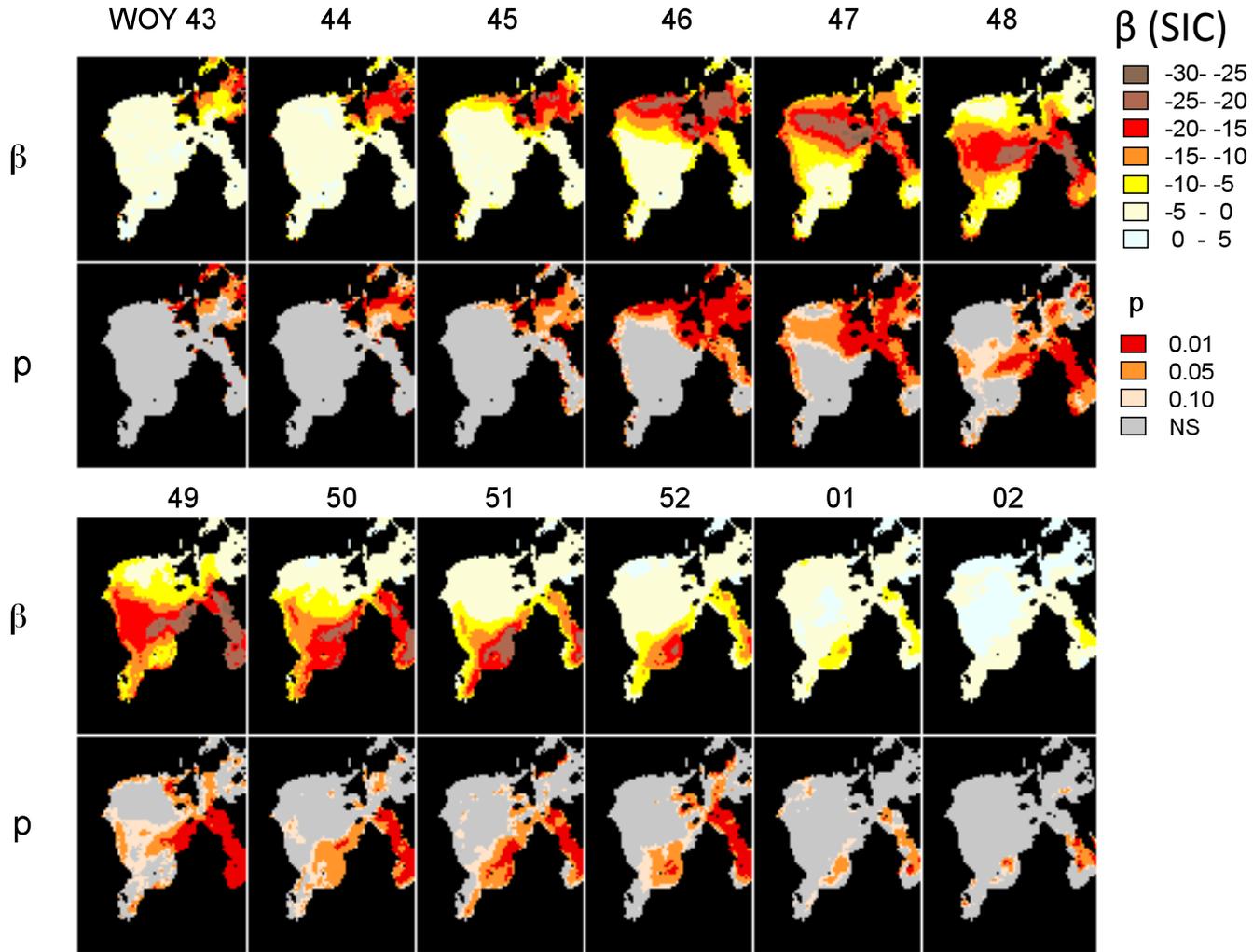
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PMW data: fall SIC trends



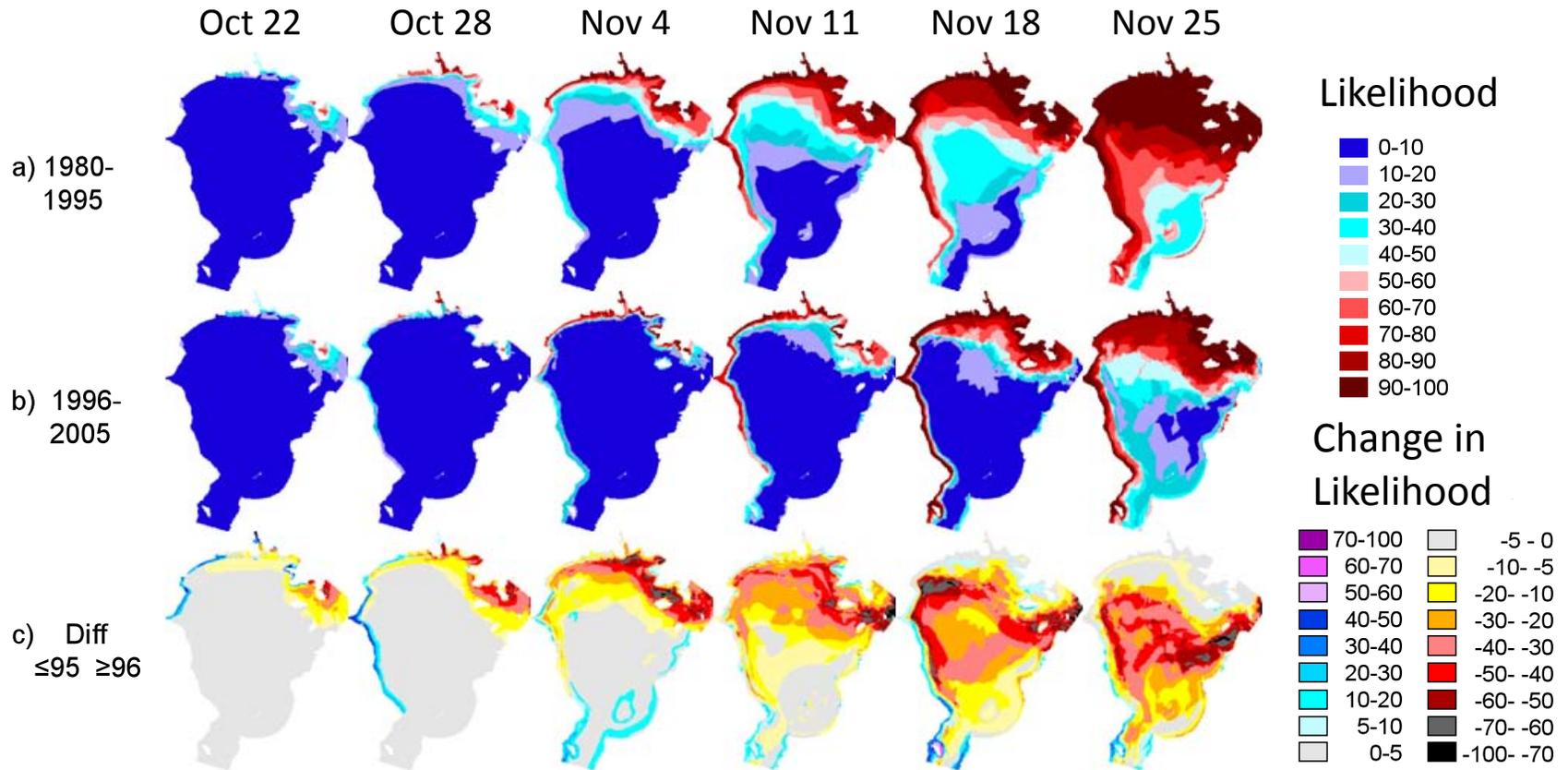
	WOY 45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	01	02
(β/10yrs) (90-99% prob.)	-12.7	-16.1	-16.8	-14.9	-14.3	-15.5	-12.1	-09.0	-05.7	-00.8
SD	4.3	4.8	4.7	4.6	5.7	4.3	6.7	5.3	2.4	2.2
% Area HB	9.4	34.0	52.0	50.3	57.4	36.8	41.5	33.4	14.8	10.0



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Likelihood of sea ice $\geq 80\%$ concentration, 1980-1995 vs. 1996-2005



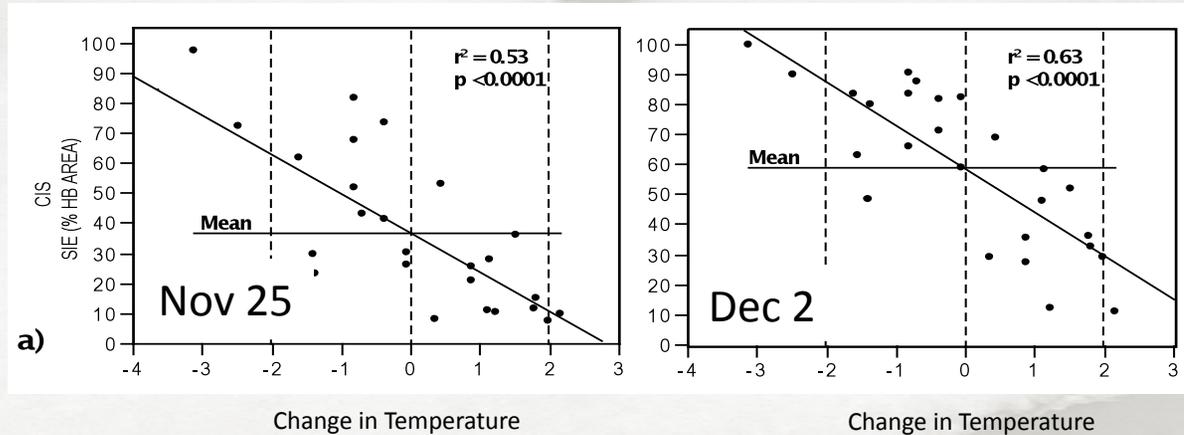
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Changes in sea ice cover (km²) in Hudson Bay per 1°C change in temperature (3 month average)



November 25
(1980-2005)

+1°C = -105,000 km² (less ice)

December 2
(1980-2005)

= -117,000 km²



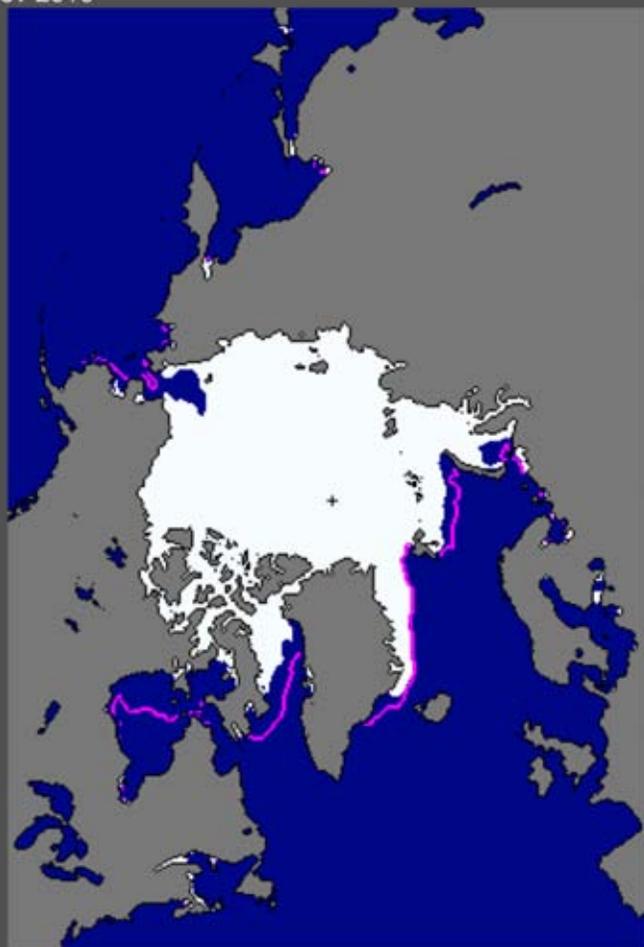
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Sea Ice Extent
Nov 2010



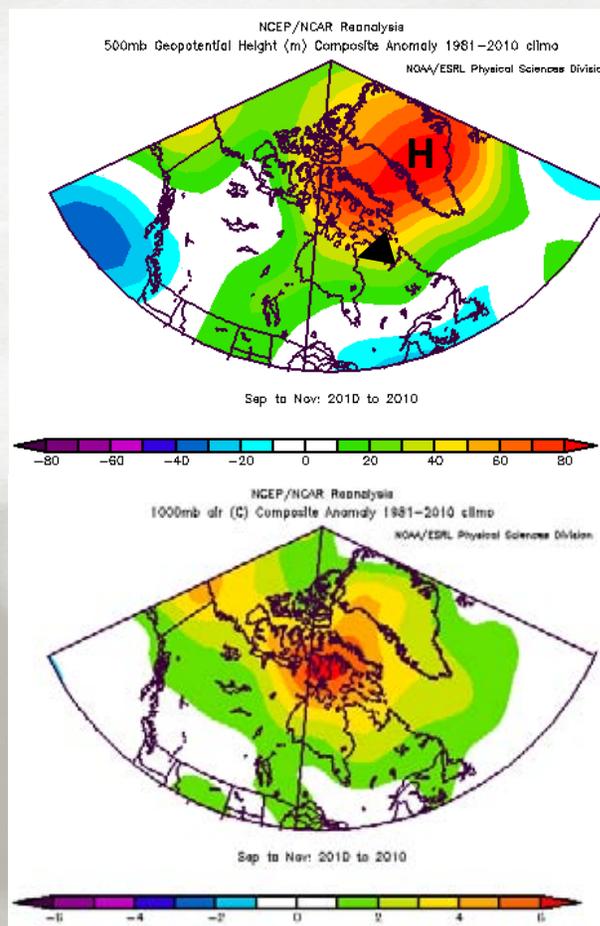
National Snow and Ice Data Center, Boulder, CO

median ice edge

Total extent = 9.9 million sq km

Nov. 2010

Arctic Ice Extent 12% below normal
Hudson Bay normally 50% covered only 17% covered by end of Nov. 2010.



Air Pressure

Air temperature
4-8°C warmer

<http://nsidc.org/arcticseaicenews/2010/120610.html>



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Spring SATs anomalies

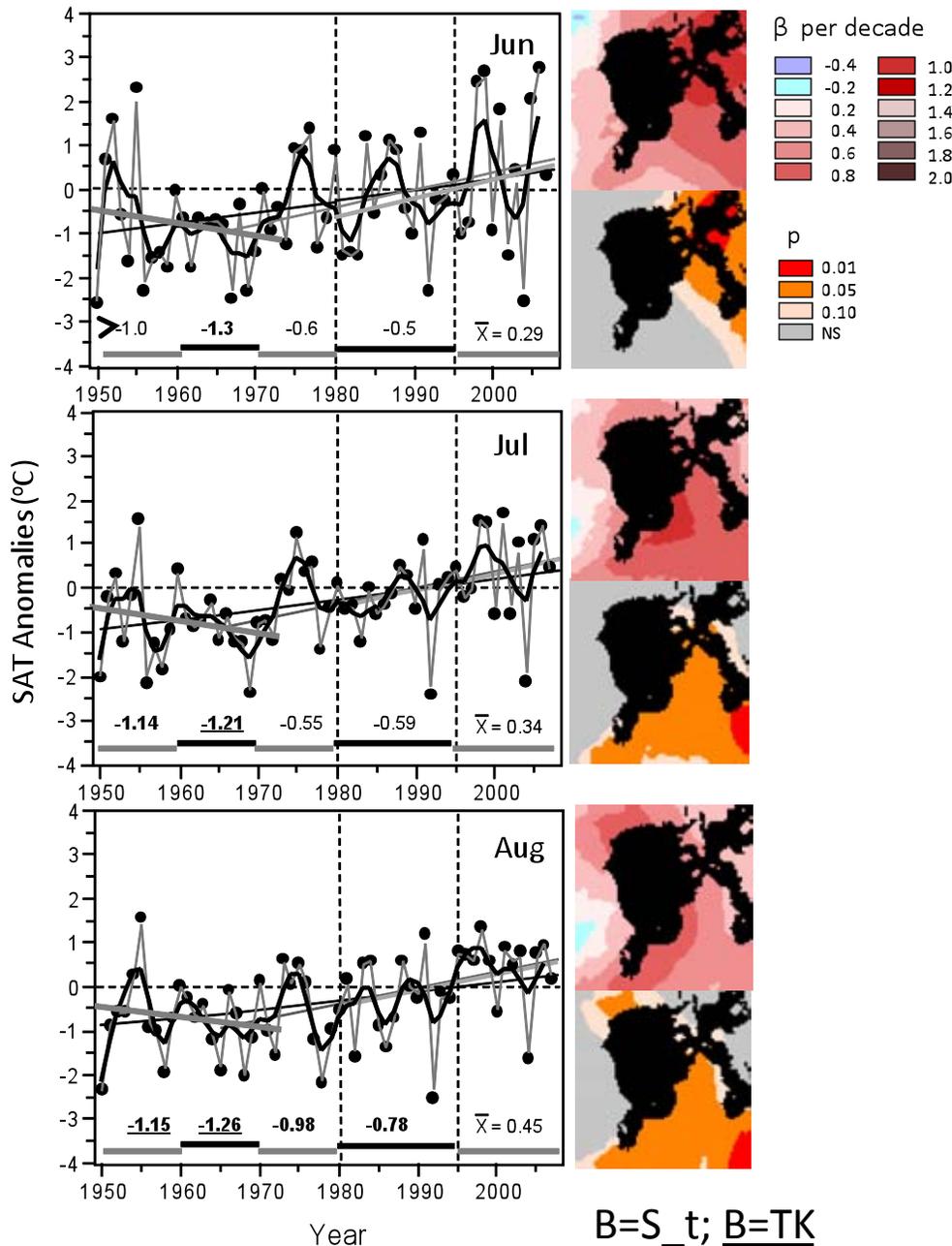
CANGRID data

(Climate Research Division of Environment Canada)

- Most significant SAT tends to the east and northwest (gridded SATa)
- Regional SAT anomalies surrounding HB are cyclical (5yr mean)
- SAT anomalies are trending upward (warming) (1960-2005) (0.26-0.30 °C/d (95-99% prob)).
- JJA mean semi decadal SAT anomalies (from 1950-1995) statistically diff from those in the 1996-2005 period.

(AMJ)

Δ in SAT relative to 1995-2005



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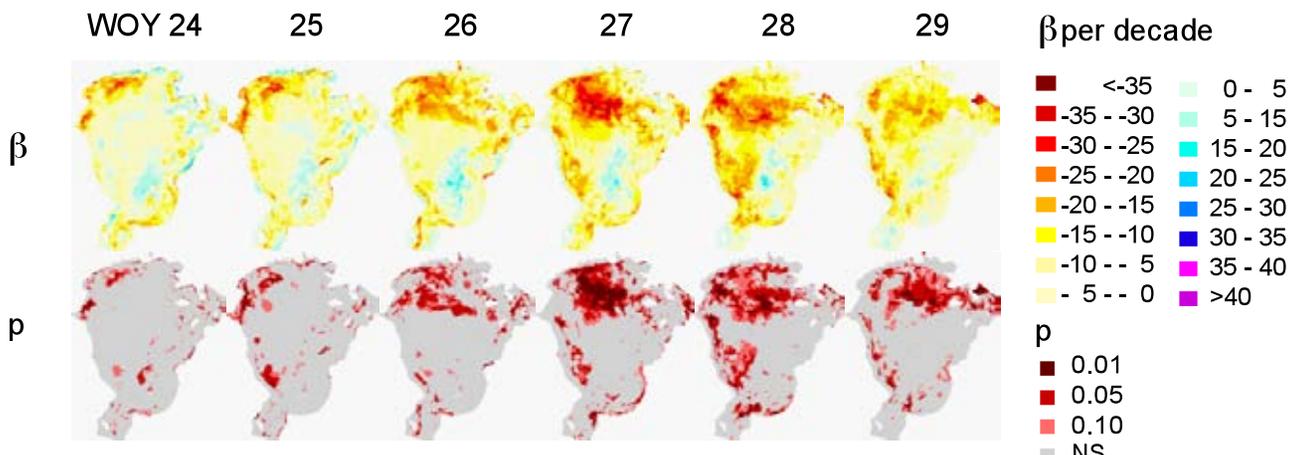


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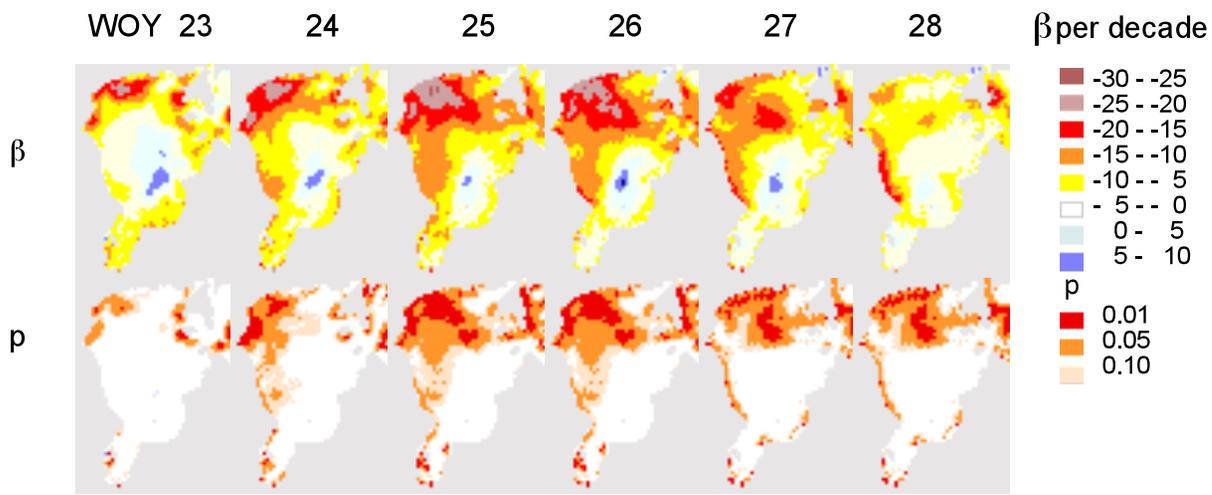


Trends in Sea Ice Concentration: Spring Period

CIS Data



PMW Data



Both positive and negative SIC anomalies present suggests presence of dynamic component



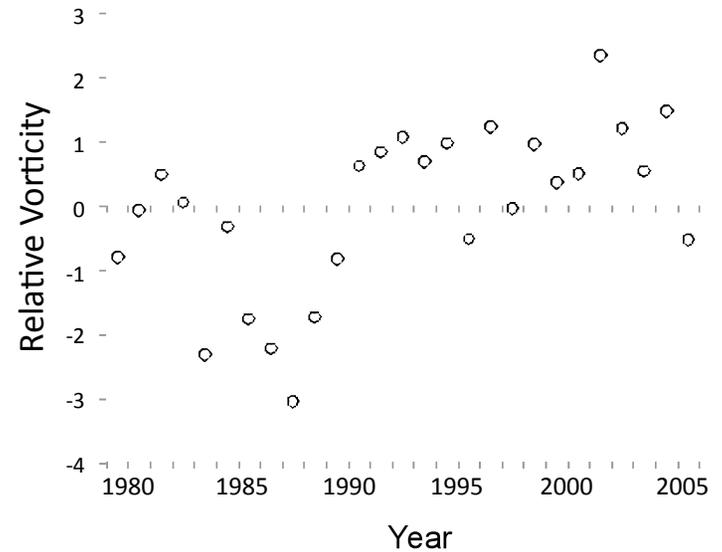
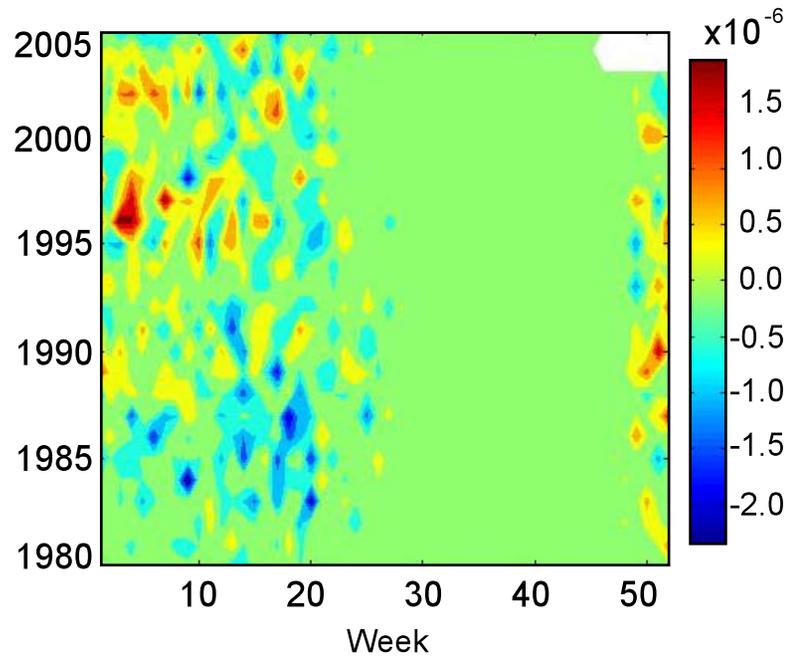
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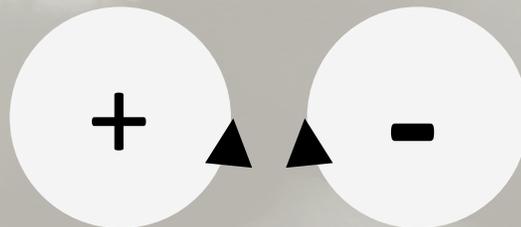
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Dynamic Forcing: Relative Vorticity of Sea Ice



NSIDC : Computed from PMW data (<http://nsidc.org/data/nsidc-0179.html>)



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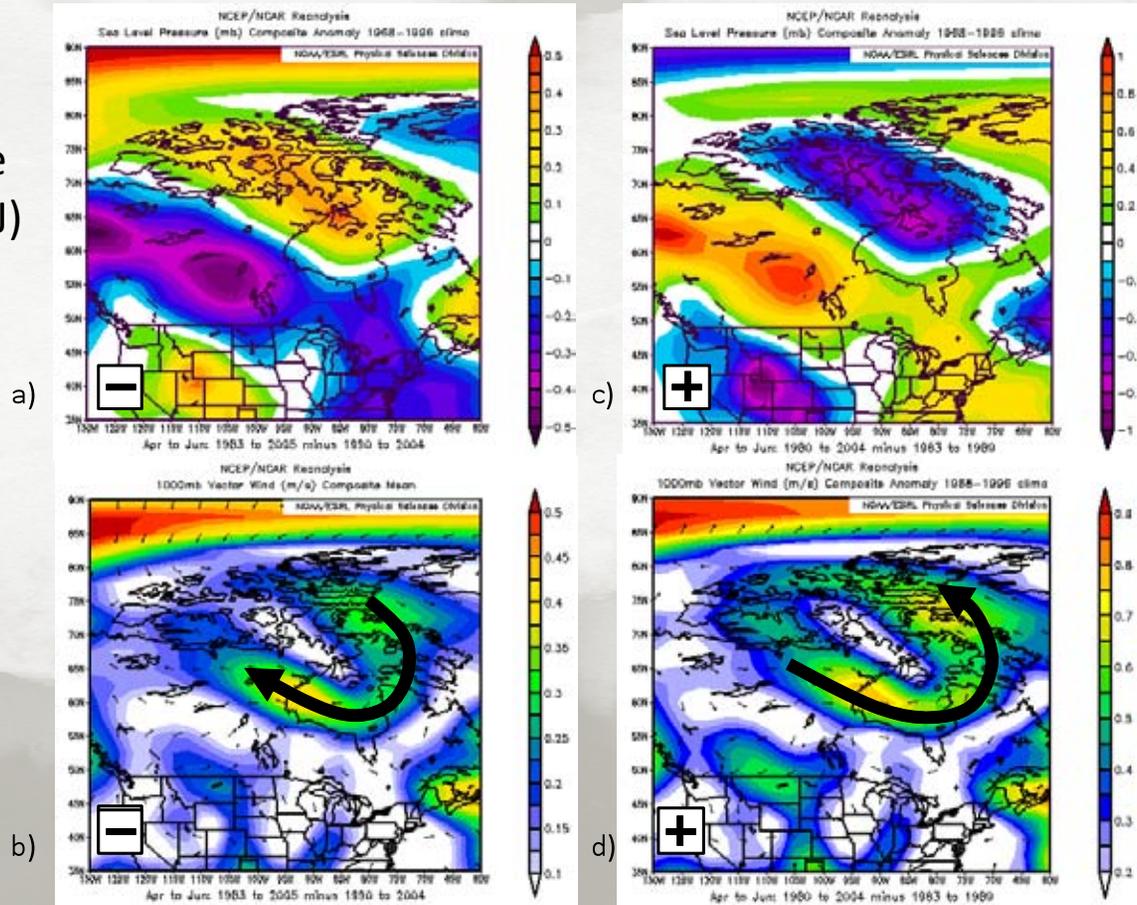
Vorticity

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Dynamic Forcing of Sea Ice in HB: Relative Vorticity

Surface Pressure
Anomalies (AMJ)



Mean Wind
Vectors (AMJ)



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<http://www.esrl.noaa.gov/psd/cgi-bin/data/composites/printpage.pl>

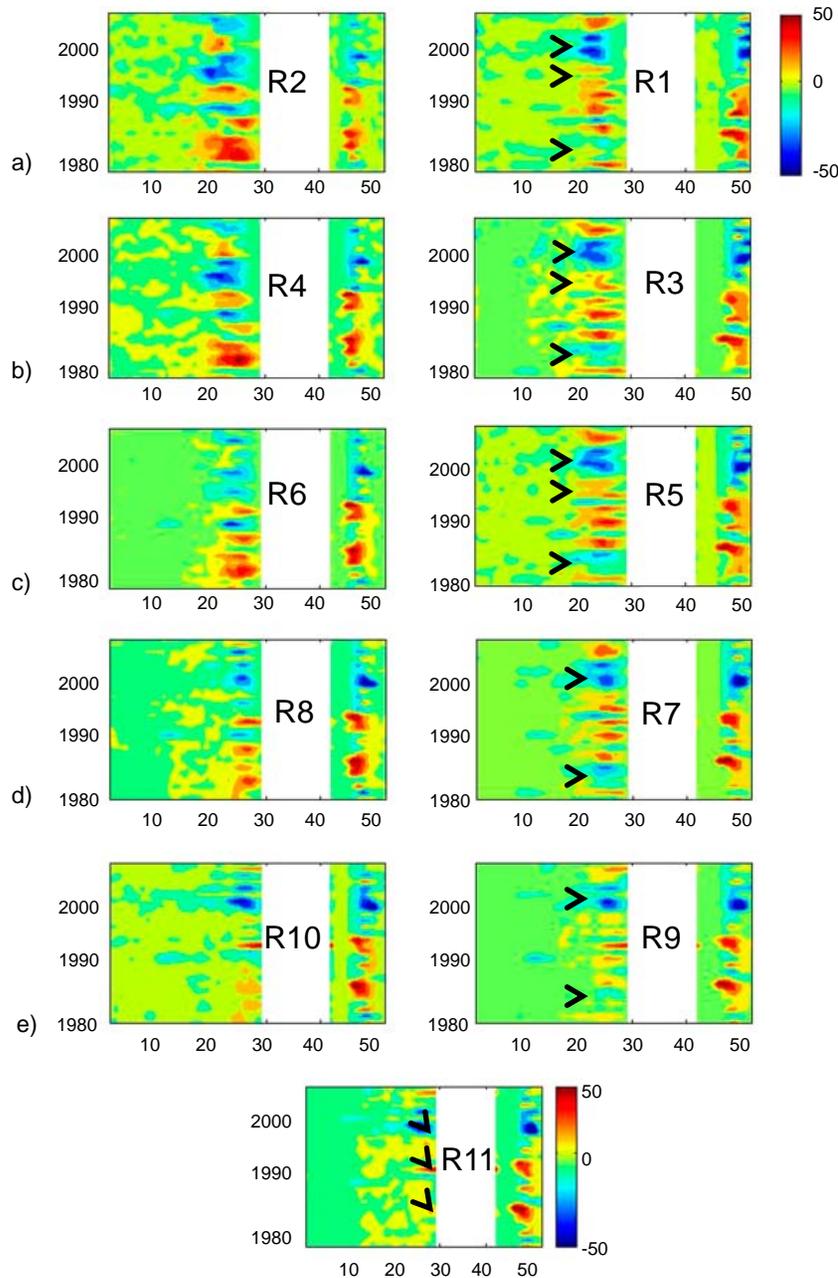
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PMW
SIC anomalies

Western HB

Eastern HB



East-West Diopole Pattern of SICs Regions



Western Regions (2-6) (AMJ)

SIC anomalies correlated ($R^2 = 0.65-0.74$) to Spring SATs and Wind Dir; Spd.

Central Regions (8-11)

SIC anomalies correlated ($R^2 = 0.44-0.66$) to Spring SAT, Wind Dir.

Eastern Regions (1-7)

SIC anomalies correlated ($R^2 = 0.70-0.73$), Spring SAT, Wind Dir, Fall SATs

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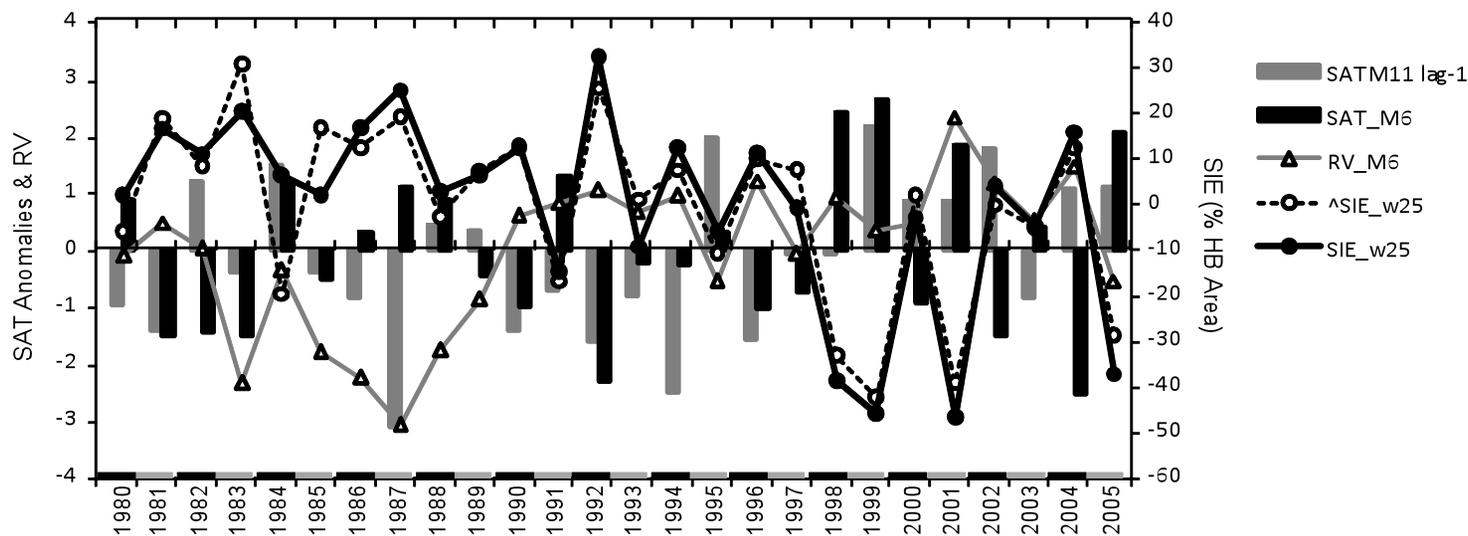
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Sea Ice Extent (SIC \geq 60%): f (Spring/Fall SAT anomalies and RV)

Source	WOY	Variables			
		R2	p (SAT M6)	p (SAT M11)	p (RV) M6
PMW	25	0.57	<0.0001	-	-
SIC \geq 60		0.77	<0.0001	-	0.0004
		0.71	<0.0001	0.0029	-
		0.84	<0.0001	0.0019	0.0003

WOY 25 (3rd Week June)



- 1980 to mid 1990s cooler fall and spring SATs: = (+)SIEs
- 1983-1989 (-) RV: = (+) SIE (more sea ice).
- 1998-2005 warmer fall and spring SATs (with exceptions), combined with (+) RV: (-) SIEs (less ice).



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Conclusions.....

Spring Period

- **Both fall and spring SAT anomalies and RV** can play a significant role in determining local sea ice concentrations and Hudson Bay sea ice extents. Their relative contributions vary interannually on a Bay wide scale (e.g. SATs vs. RV)
- Spring SAT anomalies are trending upward (warming) (1960-2005) (0.26-0.30 °C/d (95-99% prob.
- Since 1990 the RV in HB has for the most part been positive contributing to lower SIE's.



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