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2 **Different Future Changes between Early and Late**

3 **Summer Monsoon Precipitation in East Asia**

4

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Abstract

Future changes in East Asian summer monsoon (EASM) precipitation and the associated atmospheric circulation changes are investigated based on ensemble projections with the 60-km mesh Meteorological Research Institute atmospheric general circulation model (MRI-AGCM60). The projections at the end of the twenty-first century under the Representative Concentration Pathway 8.5 (RCP8.5) scenario indicate an overall increase in EASM precipitation, but with large sub-seasonal and regional variations. In June, the Meiyu–Baiu rainband is projected to strengthen, with its eastern part (i.e., the Baiu rainband) shifted southward relative to its present-day position. This result is robust within the ensemble simulations. In July and August, the simulations consistently project a significant increase in precipitation over the northern East Asian continent and neighboring seas; however, there is a lack of consensus on the projection of the Meiyu–Baiu rainband in July. A small change in precipitation over the Pacific is another feature in August.

Sensitivity experiments with the MRI-AGCM60 reveal that the precipitation changes in early summer are dominated by the effects of sea surface temperature (SST) warming (i.e., uniform warming and the tropical pattern change), which induce an increase in atmospheric moisture and a strengthening and southward shift of the upper-level East Asian westerly jet (EAJ), especially over the Pacific. On the other hand, the influence of

50 land warming and successive large SST warming in the extratropics is evident in the
51 precipitation changes in late summer. These late summer effects oppose and exceed the
52 early summer effects through changes in the EAJ and low-level monsoon winds. These
53 results suggest that the competition between the opposing factors makes the signal of
54 the Meiyu–Baiu rainband response smaller in July than in June, and thus there tends to
55 be a larger spread among simulations regarding the future tendency of the rainband in
56 July.

57

58 **Keywords** summer monsoon; East Asia; global warming; Baiu; MRI-AGCM

59

60 **1. Introduction**

61 The East Asian summer monsoon (EASM) that affects eastern China, Korea, and Japan
62 is a subsystem of the Asian summer monsoon. One of the prominent features of the EASM
63 is the concentration of rainfall in a zonal rain belt, referred to as the Meiyu–Baiu rainband,
64 which extends from eastern China to southern Japan (Wang et al. 2008). The Meiyu–Baiu
65 rainband migrates northward in early summer, causing heavy precipitation and resultant
66 natural disasters such as floods (Wang and LinHo 2002; Ninomiya 2004). The rainband is
67 anchored by the East Asian westerly jet (EAJ) in the mid-to-upper troposphere and is
68 supplied with abundant moisture by low-level southerly monsoonal winds blowing between
69 the Asian continent and the Pacific Ocean (Kodama 1993; Sampe and Xie 2010). Around
70 mid to late July, the Meiyu–Baiu rainband becomes weak, accompanied by a northward shift
71 and weakening of the EAJ, while monsoon precipitation advances to northern China (Ding
72 2004; Suzuki and Hoskins 2009; Sampe and Xie 2010).

73 Global warming projections with coupled atmosphere–ocean general circulation models
74 (AOGCMs) in the Coupled Model Intercomparison Project (CMIP) have shown that EASM
75 precipitation is likely to increase (Kimoto 2005; Kitoh et al. 2013; Ha et al. 2020; Wang et al.
76 2020), following the “wet-gets-wetter” response via an increase in atmospheric moisture
77 content and its transport in a warmer climate (Held and Soden 2006; Endo and Kitoh 2014).
78 However, the spatial pattern of EASM precipitation changes have large uncertainties due to
79 inter-model differences in regional atmospheric circulation changes (Zhou et al. 2018; Ito et

80 al. 2020; Ose et al. 2020).

81 High-resolution atmospheric general circulation models (AGCMs) developed at the
82 Meteorological Research Institute (MRI) have been applied to study regional climate change
83 using a time-slice method, which prescribes the SST anomalies simulated by AOGCMs.
84 Advantages of this approach include not only the realistic representation of local
85 climatological features and small-scale processes, such as convective precipitation, but also
86 the reduction of large systematic biases that originate from the sea surface temperature
87 (SST) bias in the AOGCM climatology, enabling us to obtain reliable regional climate
88 information (Kitoh et al. 2016). On the other hand, a weakness of this approach is that
89 AGCMs do not represent the atmosphere–ocean interaction process, which may be
90 important for realistically simulating Asian monsoon-related phenomena (e.g., Wang et al.
91 2005). Nevertheless, it has been documented that the high-resolution MRI-AGCM performs
92 quite well in reproducing the climatology and extremes of EASM precipitation, as well as the
93 seasonal northward migration of the Meiyu–Baiu rainband (Kitoh and Kusunoki 2008; Endo
94 et al. 2017; Kusunoki 2018a; Chen et al. 2019).

95 A series of global warming experiments with the 20-km and 60-km mesh MRI-AGCMs
96 have consistently projected an overall increase in the amount and intensity of EASM
97 precipitation (Kitoh 2017). However, there exists large uncertainty in the spatial distribution
98 of precipitation changes and in the seasonal march of the rainy season, both of which
99 depend on the model version, the adopted cumulus convection schemes, and future SST

100 pattern changes (Endo et al. 2012; Kusunoki 2018b; Ose 2019a). For example, earlier
101 studies with the MRI-AGCM detected a delaying trend in the retreat of the rainy season in
102 the vicinity of Japan (Kusunoki et al. 2006, 2011), whereas more recent simulations show
103 unclear signals in the timing of the retreat (Kusunoki 2018b). Ose (2019a) indicated an
104 important role of atmospheric circulation changes for characterizing the EASM precipitation
105 distribution.

106 The total effects of increased CO₂ can be separated into the effect of direct CO₂ radiative
107 forcing and the indirect SST-mediated effect. These correspond to different time scales of
108 the response to an abrupt CO₂ increase in an AOGCM, and thus the former (latter) is often
109 called the “fast response” (“slow response”; e.g., Bony et al. 2013). The direct CO₂ effect
110 involves both direct atmospheric heating and subsequent land warming, whereas the
111 indirect effect is associated with SST warming in response to increased CO₂. AGCM
112 experiments based on this type of separation have been widely performed, providing useful
113 insights into the mechanisms behind the global warming response (e.g., Tokioka and Saito
114 1992; Bony et al. 2013; Kamae et al. 2014; Shaw and Voigt 2015; Chen and Bordoni 2016;
115 Chadwick et al. 2017; Li and Ting 2017; Endo et al. 2018; Qu and Huang 2020; Allan et al.
116 2020). For instance, Kamae et al. (2014) showed that future intensification of the land–sea
117 surface-air-temperature (SAT) contrast in East Asia is explained primarily by land warming
118 induced by the direct CO₂ forcing. Li and Ting (2017) revealed that the Asian summer
119 monsoon precipitation change is dominated by the direct CO₂ effect through enhanced

120 monsoon circulation. Endo et al. (2018) found that land warming induced by the direct CO₂
121 effect increases the land–sea thermal contrast in the lower troposphere, whereas upper-
122 tropospheric warming in the tropics induced by SST warming decreases the land–sea
123 contrast in the upper troposphere. These two effects therefore act in opposing ways on
124 monsoon circulation and precipitation.

125 In this paper, we investigate future changes in EASM precipitation and the associated
126 atmospheric circulation changes based on ensemble experiments with the 60-km mesh
127 MRI-AGCM (MRI-AGCM60). We consider a large sub-seasonal variation of East Asian
128 summer climate and conduct our analysis on a monthly basis. CMIP5 AOGCM projections
129 are also analyzed to support our results. Furthermore, we perform sensitivity experiments
130 with the MRI-AGCM60 to understand the relative roles of the direct greenhouse-gas (GHG)-
131 induced land warming and the SST warming, as well as the SST pattern changes in the
132 future.

133

134 **2. Models and experiments**

135 *2.1 MRI-AGCM60*

136 The model used in this study is the MRI-AGCM version 3.2 (Mizuta et al. 2012), which is
137 run at a horizontal resolution of TL319 (corresponding approximately to a 60-km-mesh grid).
138 The model has 60 vertical levels, with the model top at 0.01 hPa. The cumulus convection
139 parameterization scheme used in the model is chosen from one of three types: the

140 Yoshimura (YS) convection scheme (Yoshimura et al. 2015) as the default, the Arakawa-
141 Schubert convection scheme (AS; Randall and Pan 1993) modified by the Japan
142 Meteorological Agency, and the Kain-Fritsch convection scheme (KF; Kain and Fritsch 1990).
143 Previous studies indicated that precipitation changes in East Asia are sensitive to the
144 cumulus convection scheme implemented in the model (Endo et al. 2012; Kusunoki 2018b).

145

146 *2.2 Ensemble projections*

147 Atmospheric Model Intercomparison Project (AMIP)-type time-slice simulations were
148 conducted with the MRI-AGCM60. Two sets of ensemble projections were performed in
149 order to cover a wide range of model uncertainties.

150 a. Multi-SST ensemble

151 The first ensemble contains multi-SST projections (Table 1). For the present-day
152 simulation (1979–2003), observed interannually-varying monthly SST and sea ice
153 concentration (SIC) data from HadISST1.1 (Rayner et al. 2003) were used as the boundary
154 conditions. Ensemble runs consisting of two members were conducted with different
155 atmospheric initial conditions.

156 For the future simulation (2075–2099), 28 different SST warming patterns obtained from
157 each CMIP5 model projection under the Representative Concentration Pathway 8.5
158 (RCP8.5) scenario were used (Fig. S1). The future SSTs were created using the method of
159 Mizuta et al. (2008), where they are calculated as the sum of the observed SST and CMIP5

160 model-projected SST anomalies, and the interannual SST variability in the future is assumed
161 to be the same as in the present day. Here, note that the future SST anomalies are different
162 from month to month, and that they are scaled so that their annual tropical (30°S–30°N)
163 mean has the same value as the CMIP5 multi-model mean (i.e., 2.74 K) (Mizuta et al. 2014).
164 The future SICs were created by the method of Mizuta et al. (2008), where the CMIP5 model-
165 mean anomaly is used.

166 b. Multi-physics and multi-SST ensemble

167 The second ensemble contains the multi-physics and multi-SST projections (Table 2). For
168 the present-day simulation (1984–2003), ensemble simulations combining three different
169 types of cumulus convection parameterization schemes (i.e., YS, AS, and KF) with two
170 different atmospheric initial conditions were performed.

171 For the future simulation (2080–2099), ensemble simulations combining three different
172 types of cumulus convection parameterization schemes (i.e., YS, AS, and KF) with four
173 different SST warming patterns from the CMIP5 projections under the RCP8.5 scenario were
174 performed. The future SSTs and SICs were created using the method of Mizuta et al. (2008),
175 where the CMIP5 model-mean anomaly (the models selected here are the same as those
176 in the multi-SST ensemble projections) and three different SST/SIC anomalies derived from
177 a cluster analysis of the CMIP5 projections are used (Fig. S2; Mizuta et al. 2014).

178

179 2.3 Sensitivity experiments

180 To understand the mechanisms behind the projected changes, additional experiments
181 were performed using the MRI-AGCM60 (Table 3). In these experiments, we use the YS
182 convection scheme, because the model with the YS scheme has the highest performance
183 in simulating the precipitation distribution over the globe among the YS, KF, and AS schemes
184 (Kusunoki 2017). As a result, it has been extensively utilized as the standard scheme of the
185 MRI-AGCM for global warming projections, such as in simulations with a 20-km-mesh (e.g.,
186 Kusunoki 2018b), as well as with a large number of ensemble members (Mizuta et al. 2017).
187 The runs denoted ‘HP’ in Table 3 are the present-day simulations and include the HP01 and
188 HP02 runs in Table 1. The runs denoted ‘HF’ in Table 3 are the future scenario simulations
189 using the CMIP5 multi-model mean SST anomaly and are the same as the HFYSC0 run in
190 Table 2, except for the simulation period. Hereafter, the HF minus HP is denoted as ‘ALL’,
191 which means the response to all forcing.

192 In addition to these conventional experiments, AMIP-type sensitivity experiments (Exp1–
193 Exp4 in Table 3) were conducted, where either GHG concentrations or SSTs were modified
194 as follows: (1) Exp1: GHG concentrations are increased without changing SST; (2) Exp2:
195 SST is uniformly increased by 2.74 K without changing any other forcing; (3) Exp3: The
196 future SST anomaly is used, except in the tropics (30°S–30°N) where SST is uniformly
197 increased by 2.74 K; (4) Exp4: The future SST anomaly is used, except in the Northern
198 Hemisphere (NH) extra-tropics (30°N–90°N) where SST is uniformly increased by 2.74 K.
199 We note that the uniform SST warming of 2.74 K corresponds to the tropical-averaged SST

200 change between the HF and HP runs (Mizuta et al. 2014), and that the boundaries between
201 the tropics and the extratropics for the SST anomaly data have linear tapering zones over
202 27.5°N–32.5°N and 27.5°S–32.5°S.

203 Using these experiments, the following four factors are isolated: (1) direct GHG radiative
204 forcing (Exp1 minus HP; GHGrad); (2) globally uniform SST warming (Exp2 minus HP;
205 SSTunif); (3) SST pattern change in the tropics (30°S–30°N; HF minus Exp3; SSTtp); and
206 (4) SST pattern change in the NH extratropics (HF minus Exp4; SSTnh). These types of
207 AGCM experiment (i.e., separating the total response into the fast response associated with
208 GHG radiative forcing and the slow response associated with SST warming) have been
209 conducted extensively, as described in the Introduction. In our experiments, the slow
210 response of the SST warming is further divided into three parts (factors 2–4 mentioned
211 above) to isolate the effect of globally uniform SST warming, as well as SST pattern changes
212 in the tropics and extratropics.

213

214 *2.4 CMIP5 AOGCMs*

215 The projections with the MRI-AGCM60 were compared with the CMIP5 AOGCM
216 projections. The 28 CMIP5 models analyzed are the same as those used to create the future
217 SST anomalies in the multi-SST ensemble projections (Section 2.2.a), as well as in the multi-
218 physics and multi-SST ensemble projections (Section 2.2.b). Results from the historical
219 (1979–2003) and RCP8.5 scenario (2075–2099) experiments were investigated. All model

220 outputs were re-gridded onto a 2.5° longitude by 2.5° latitude mesh, and their future changes
221 were scaled by the CMIP5 model-mean SST anomaly over the tropics (i.e., 2.74 K) before
222 being averaged across models to make the multi-model mean.

223

224 **3. Present-day climate simulation**

225 Figure 1 shows the mean precipitation, sea-level pressure (SLP), and zonal wind at 300
226 hPa (U300) from June to August (JJA) based on observations and the present-day climate
227 simulations. In observations (Figs. 1a–d), the pronounced Meiyu–Baiu rainband extends
228 from southeastern China to southern Japan in June. The western North Pacific subtropical
229 high (WNPSH) expands westward to the south of the rainband, while the EAJ in the upper
230 troposphere lies north of the rainband. The WNPSH and EAJ migrate northward with as the
231 seasonal progresses. In July, the intensity of the rainband and EAJ becomes weaker and
232 the wet area advances into northern China. In August, the EAJ reaches its highest latitude
233 with a slightly stronger intensity than that in July, and the WNPSH expands northwestward
234 and dominates over Japan.

235 The seasonal northward migration of the Meiyu–Baiu rainband is a unique feature of the
236 East Asian summer climate. It is well documented that the upper-level EAJ is an essential
237 environmental factor for the existence of the pronounced rainband and its seasonal
238 migration (e.g., Kodama 1993). Sampe and Xie (2010) revealed that the EAJ anchors the
239 Meiyu–Baiu rainband by advecting warm air from the continent in the mid-troposphere to

240 induce adiabatic upward motion, and also by guiding transient disturbances. Horinouchi and
241 Hayashi (2017) suggested that the interaction between the upper-level EAJ and low-level
242 jet plays a significant role in enhancing the rainband.

243 The large-scale features of the spatial distribution and seasonal march are well simulated
244 by the MRI-AGCM60 (Figs. 1e–l), but there are biases, such as a weaker Meiyu–Baiu
245 rainband in June, as well as a slightly stronger and southward-biased westerly jet during
246 July and August. The CMIP5 multi-model mean also reproduces the observed features in
247 general; however, some biases are noted, including poor representation of the rainband, an
248 insufficient meridional contrast of precipitation distribution over China, especially in June,
249 and a weaker westerly jet throughout the summer (Figs. 1m–p).

250

251 **4. Ensemble projections with the MRI-AGCM60**

252 Future precipitation changes in the multi-SST ensemble (hereafter SST ensemble) and
253 the multi-physics and multi-SST (hereafter physics-SST ensemble) with the MRI-AGCM60
254 are shown in Figs. 2a–d and 2e–h, respectively. For the JJA mean, both the ensembles
255 project an increase in precipitation over most of East Asia. The area-averaged precipitation
256 over the East Asian land region (EAS; 20°N–50°N, 100°E–145°E), defined in IPCC (2013),
257 is projected to increase for all members. However, some areas show a negative change,
258 such as in the vicinity of Japan.

259 On a monthly basis, there are distinct spatial and temporal variations in the precipitation

260 change. In June, the Meiyu–Baiu rainband is projected to strengthen, with its eastern part
261 (i.e., the Baiu rainband) remaining south of the present-day position and a relatively drier
262 zone to the north of the rainband. These features are common to both ensemble projections,
263 with high agreement among members, indicating that the result is robust. In July and August,
264 the simulations consistently project a significant increase in precipitation over the northern
265 East Asian continent and the neighboring seas, including the Yellow Sea and the Sea of
266 Japan, with the highest increase over the continent in July (though a precipitation increase
267 in the northern East Asian continent is seen in June as well). These robust features can also
268 be observed when the robustness is measured in a different way, where the future changes
269 are normalized by the inter-member (or inter-model) standard deviation of the changes (Fig.
270 S2). On the other hand, there is a lack of consensus in the projection of the Meiyu–Baiu
271 rainband in July, since the SST ensemble projects a northward shift and weakening of the
272 rainband, while the physics-SST ensemble projects an intensification of the rainband at the
273 present-day position. A small change in precipitation over the Pacific is another feature in
274 August. Ose (2019a) compared future projections with the YS, KF, and AS schemes, and
275 noted that the qualitative difference in July is attributed to the YS model.

276 The main features of the MRI-AGCM60 projections described above are similar to the
277 CMIP5 AOGCM projections, especially when focusing on the hatched areas (Fig. 2i–l). The
278 similarity between the ensembles becomes more visible when 10 good CMIP5 models are
279 chosen based on a metric to evaluate their present-day simulations (fig. 3 of Ose (2019b)).

280 However, there are some disagreements between the ensembles: in June, the MRI-
281 AGCM60 consistently projects an intensification of the Meiyu rainband, despite there being
282 no robust signal in the CMIP5 projection; in July, although there is no consensus in the MRI-
283 AGCM60 ensemble projections, the major CMIP5 models project that the Baiu rainband will
284 stay around southern Japan.

285 Figure 3 shows future changes in SLP, 850-hPa wind, and U300. In June, negative SLP
286 anomalies prevail over East Asia, indicating an overall weakening of the WNPSH. Over the
287 Pacific, there are northerly wind anomalies at 850 hPa and a slight southward shift of the
288 EAJ at 300 hPa. In July and August, the EAJ is projected to be weaker, especially over the
289 Pacific. In the lower troposphere, the southerly monsoon wind strengthens over the East
290 Asian continent, while northerly wind anomalies prevail over the Pacific, in a broadly
291 consistent manner to the CMIP5 model-mean response. The WNPSH intensifies near the
292 continent in the subtropics and contracts southward over the Pacific. These features indicate
293 an east–west difference in the low-level circulation change. The MRI-AGCM60 tends to
294 project a stronger WNPSH compared with the CMIP5 multi-model average. Based on a
295 CMIP5 multi-model analysis, Ose et al. (2020) demonstrated that the strength of the future
296 WNPSH is a primary uncertainty in the projection of East Asian SLP in JJA and is strongly
297 correlated with future changes to the upper-level EAJ.

298 Figure 4 illustrates the time–latitude cross-section of future changes in precipitation and
299 U300 in the vicinity of Japan (averaged over 125°E–145°E). The overall features of their

300 changes are broadly similar among the three ensembles. For example, precipitation is
301 generally projected to increase during warm seasons in the 25°N–40°N zone, and to
302 increase throughout the year at latitudes higher than 40°N. In early summer, the rainband
303 over Japan, corresponding to the Baiu rainband, is projected to strengthen and shift
304 southward, as noted from Fig. 2. The upper-level EAJ shows a strong seasonal dependence:
305 the EAJ shifts northward during cold seasons, but southward in early summer, followed by
306 its overall weakening in late summer to early autumn. Thus, there exists a difference in the
307 EAJ response between early summer and the following seasons, but with a slight difference
308 between the ensembles in the timing of the termination of the early summer response.

309 Previous studies have shown that the seasonal northward migration of the Baiu rainband
310 will be delayed in future, although some uncertainty exists in the results (Kusunoki 2018b).
311 Based on a CMIP multi-model analysis, Hirahara et al. (2012) and Horinouchi et al. (2019)
312 pointed out that this is associated with a southward shift of the EAJ in early summer. The
313 MRI-AGCM60 ensemble projections are generally consistent with these previous studies.
314 However, our detailed analysis throughout the summer season reveals that the EAJ
315 response has different features between early and late summer; namely, a southward shift
316 in early summer with an overall weakening in late summer.

317

318 **5. Sensitivity experiments with the MRI-AGCM60**

319 In this section, we investigate the mechanisms behind the projected future changes in

320 precipitation and the associated atmospheric circulation based on sensitivity experiments
321 (Table 3), focusing on their differences between early and late summer. We first discuss the
322 responses on a global scale (Section 5.1) before concentrating on East Asia (Section 5.2).

323 *5.1 Global aspects*

324 Figure 5 shows the responses in June for SAT, precipitation, and zonal wind at 200 hPa,
325 and those for SLP and vertical velocity at 500 hPa are given in Fig. S4. The response to ALL
326 (i.e., HF minus HP) shows a greater increase in SAT over land than over ocean, with larger
327 SAT increases at high latitudes (Fig. 5a). The precipitation change is generally explained by
328 a combination of the “wet-gets-wetter and dry-gets-drier” pattern (Held and Soden 2006)
329 and the “warmer-gets-wetter and colder-gets-drier” pattern (Xie et al. 2010), as described
330 later (Fig. 5f). The upper-level subtropical westerly jet is projected to shift southward over
331 southern Asia to the North Pacific, but northward over the North Atlantic (Fig. 5k).

332 The GHGrad effect involves both direct atmospheric heating and associated land warming,
333 with the former causing a small increase in static stability in the lower troposphere and the
334 latter enhancing the land–sea SAT contrast, especially over the NH extratropics (Fig. 5b; He
335 and Soden 2015; Chadwick et al. 2019). The future intensification of the land–sea SAT
336 contrast in East Asia is primarily attributed to the GHGrad effect (Kamae et al. 2014). The
337 resultant increase in the land–sea pressure gradient strengthens moisture convergence and
338 precipitation over land (Figs. 5g, S4b, and S4g). These responses are accompanied by a
339 weakening and poleward shift of the subtropical jet over southern Asia to the North Pacific

340 (Fig. 5l), as noted by Shaw and Voigt (2015) and Endo et al. (2018).

341 The SSTunif leads to atmospheric moisture build-up, resulting in a general increase
342 (decrease) in precipitation over wet (dry) regions in the present-day through an
343 intensification of moisture transport (Fig. 5h). This is typically referred to as the “wet-gets-
344 wetter and dry-gets-drier” response (Held and Soden 2006). This thermodynamic change is
345 partly offset by a weakening of the atmospheric vertical motion, due to increased static
346 stability of the troposphere (Fig. S4h; Held and Soden 2006; Chadwick et al. 2013). In
347 contrast to the case of GHGrad, the SSTunif decreases the land–sea thermal contrast,
348 especially in the upper troposphere, but not near the surface in low-latitude dry regions (Fig.
349 5c; Endo et al. 2018). This makes the monsoon circulation weaker through a decrease in
350 the pressure gradient (Fig. S4c), resulting in a general spatial shift of the precipitation
351 distribution from land to ocean (Fig. 5h; Chadwick 2016). These responses are accompanied
352 by a strengthening and southward shift of the subtropical westerly jet over southern Asia to
353 the North Pacific, exhibiting a close resemblance to the response to ALL (Figs. 5k and 5m).

354 The SSTtp influence on precipitation is known as the “warmer-gets-wetter and colder-
355 gets-drier” response; that is, tropical precipitation tends to increase (decrease) over areas
356 where the SST change is higher (lower) than the tropical mean, due to changes in local
357 convective instability (Xie et al. 2010). For example, atmospheric convection increases over
358 the equatorial Pacific and the western-to-central Indian Ocean and decreases over the
359 northwestern Pacific, the surroundings of the Maritime Continent, and the Caribbean Sea

360 following the relative SST change (Figs. 5i and S4i). As a result of the convection changes,
361 the WNPSH becomes weaker and the upper-level subtropical jet shifts southward over
362 southern Asia to the North Pacific (Figs. 5n and S4d).

363 The response to SSTnh is characterized by large SAT warming in the NH extratropics,
364 especially in the mid-latitudes of the North Pacific (Fig. 5e). The prominent warming over the
365 North Pacific occurs mainly in late summer to early autumn, as shown later. There is no
366 significant change in either the precipitation or atmospheric circulation fields in response to
367 the SSTnh in June (Figs. 5j and 5o).

368 Figures 6 and S5 show the responses in August. Compared with those in June, the
369 general features of the response are similar, but some differences are noted. More
370 prominent SAT warming is seen in the NH extratropics in August than in June (Fig. 6a). This
371 comes from a larger land warming in response to the GHGrad, and a greater SST warming
372 in the NH extratropics, especially over the North Pacific (Figs. 6b and 6e). The SSTnh exerts
373 significant influence on the precipitation and atmospheric circulation in August, including a
374 strong response of the upper-level EAJ (Figs. 6e, 6j, 6o, S5e, and S5j).

375 In order to measure the similarity between the future changes with ALL and with each
376 individual factor isolated from the sensitivity experiments (i.e., GHGrad, SSTunif, SSTtp, and
377 SSTnh), the spatial correlation coefficients between them are calculated over the area 0°E–
378 360°E, 20°S–80°N for several atmospheric variables (Fig. 7). In June, the SSTunif and
379 SSTtp tend to have higher correlation coefficients with ALL in precipitation and atmospheric

380 circulation variables than the other factors. In July and August, however, the correlation of
381 the GHGrad and SSTnh with ALL become high and are comparable with those of the
382 SSTunif and SSTtp in most variables, suggesting that the importance of the four factors to
383 ALL vary between early and late summer. The same features are also seen in East Asia, but
384 the monthly dependence is even stronger (Fig. 8): the response to ALL is similar to the
385 SSTunif and SSTtp (GHGrad and SSTnh) in many variables in June (July and August). Shaw
386 and Voigt (2015) identified a weak response of the Asian monsoon circulation and of the
387 westerly jet over the North Pacific in the JJA mean field in future climate due to the GHG
388 radiative forcing and SST warming responses compensating one another. However, our
389 results indicate that the signal of atmospheric circulation change is not small when
390 considered on a monthly basis, and that the balance of the factors contributing to the total
391 response varies between early and late summer, especially in East Asia.

392

393 *5.2 East Asia*

394 The summertime precipitation responses in East Asia are shown in Fig. 9, and their time-
395 latitude cross-sections averaged over 125°E–145°E are presented in Fig. 10. There is a
396 close similarity between the MRI-AGCM60 projections forced by the CMIP5 model-mean
397 future SST anomaly (Figs. 9a–d and 10a) and the average of the SST-ensemble projections
398 (Figs. 2a–d and 4a) forced by different SST anomalies from each CMIP5 model, suggesting
399 an almost linear response of precipitation to the prescribed SST anomalies. The sum of the

400 four factors derived from the sensitivity experiments (Figs. 9e–h and 10b) reproduces the
401 response to ALL well (Figs. 9a–d and 10a), giving justification to our approach to isolate
402 each mechanism. As mentioned in Section 4, the EASM precipitation is projected to increase
403 overall, but with large temporal and spatial variations. Monthly precipitation changes are
404 characterized by an intensification of the Meiyu–Baiu rainband with its eastern part shifted
405 southward in June, as well as a significant increase in precipitation over the northern East
406 Asian continent and the neighboring seas in July and August. A small change in precipitation
407 over the Pacific is another feature in August (Figs 9a–d and 10a).

408 The sensitivity experiments reveal that, although the projected overall increase in EASM
409 precipitation is mainly attributable to the combined effects of GHGrad and SSTunif, all of the
410 four factors studied contribute to the spatial pattern of the changes (Fig. 9). The SSTunif
411 greatly enhances precipitation over oceanic regions, including Japan, during warm seasons,
412 with a southward displacement of the Meiyu–Baiu rainband in June (Figs. 9m–p and 10d).
413 The SSTtp shifts the rainband southward and activates it during warm seasons, especially
414 in June (Figs. 9q–t and 10f). On the contrary, the GHGrad effect partly cancels the effects
415 of the SSTunif and SSTtp through a shift of precipitation from ocean to land, accompanied
416 by a northward shift of the rainband in June and its weakening in July (Figs. 9i–l and 10c).
417 This corresponds to an earlier-than-normal seasonal march of the rainy season, driven by
418 the enhanced land–sea thermal contrast, as discussed later. Moreover, the SSTnh leads to
419 reduced precipitation in the vicinity of Japan in July and August, in contrast to increased

420 precipitation over the continent and the Yellow Sea (Figs. 9u–x and 10e). Taking these four
421 factors together, the early summer precipitation response is dominated by the effects of the
422 SSTunif and SSTtp, whereas the effects of the GHGrad and SSTnh are influential in the late
423 summer, resulting in a different precipitation response between early and late summer (Figs.
424 8–10).

425 We note that there is some convection-scheme dependence of the precipitation changes
426 especially for the Meiyu–Baiu rainband in July. Specifically, the model with the YS scheme
427 tends to project a weakening and northward seasonal migration of the rainband earlier than
428 the model with other schemes (Figs. 2 and 4a–c). Thus, there may be some uncertainty in
429 the balance between the four factors.

430 Figure 11 indicates summertime responses in SLP, 850-hPa wind, and U300 in East Asia.
431 As in the precipitation response, the sum of the four factors is in accordance with the
432 response to ALL in general (Figs. 11a–h). The sensitivity experiments reveal that the
433 GHGrad strengthens the low-level EASM circulation, with the largest response in July, and
434 induces a weakening and northward shift of the upper-level EAJ (Figs. 11i–l). In contrast,
435 the SSTunif weakens the low-level EASM circulation, and it strengthens and shifts the EAJ
436 southward, especially over the Pacific (Figs. 11m–p). These contrasting changes in
437 circulation are explained by the opposite responses of the land–sea thermal contrast to the
438 GHGrad and SSTunif (Shaw and Voigt 2015; Endo et al. 2018). The SSTtp induces a
439 southwestward movement of the WNPSH, as well as low-level northerly wind anomalies

440 over the Pacific, and brings an intensification and southward-shift of the EAJ (Figs. 11q–t).
441 The SSTnh drives a low-level anticyclonic circulation anomaly over Japan in August,
442 enhancing winds from ocean to land, with a weakened and northward-shifted EAJ (Fig. 11x).
443 Although these four factors partially offset each other, the future responses in June are
444 explained primarily by the effects of the SSTunif and SSTtp (Figs. 8 and 11a–d). However,
445 the effects of the GHGrad and SSTnh become large in July and August, resulting in a
446 weakened upper-level EAJ, with stronger low-level southwesterly monsoonal winds over the
447 continent (Figs. 8 and 11).

448 The time–latitude cross-section of the U300 anomaly averaged over 125°E–145°E is
449 displayed in Fig. 12. Future changes in the EAJ show a distinct seasonal variation, which is
450 explained mostly by a combination of the four factors studied (Fig. 12a). Both the SSTunif
451 and SSTtp strengthen and displace the EAJ southward during warm seasons and displace
452 the EAJ northward during cold seasons (Figs 12d and 12f). In contrast, the GHGrad leads
453 to a weakening and northward shift of the EAJ during warm seasons, especially in July and
454 August (Fig. 12c), largely offsetting the SST warming effects. Moreover, the SSTnh
455 reinforces the weakened and northward-shifted EAJ in late summer to early autumn (Figs
456 12e). In terms of the seasonal cycle, the SSTunif and SSTtp induce a weakening of the
457 seasonality of the EAJ, while the GHGrad advances the seasonal progress from spring to
458 summer, and the SSTnh extends the late (high) summer condition into early autumn. It is
459 worth noting the difference between warm and cold seasons in response to the SSTunif.

460 The cold-season response may be associated with a northward shift of the storm track
461 resulting from an increase in the upper-tropospheric meridional temperature gradient (MTG)
462 and in subtropical atmospheric stability (Harvey et al. 2014), whereas the warm-season
463 response, corresponding to a southward shift of the subtropical westerly jet, is probably
464 influenced by a weakening of vertical motion over the tropics due to a stabilized atmosphere
465 (Hirahara et al. 2012; Ose 2019b).

466 In relation to the precipitation response, the meridional displacement of the EAJ and the
467 Baiu rainband appear to be closely related: a southward (northward) shift of the EAJ,
468 induced by the effects of the SSTunif and SSTtp (GHGrad and SSTnh), is related to the
469 southward-shifted (northward-shifted) rainband (Figs 9–12). Horinouchi et al. (2019) noted
470 that future meridional shifts of the EAJ axis and Baiu precipitation peak latitudes are
471 positively correlated across the CMIP5 models. In addition, the northward-shifted and
472 weakened EAJ, associated with the GHGrad and SSTnh effects, seems to weaken the Baiu
473 rainband intensity in late summer. This is similar to the situation occurring at the end of the
474 Baiu season around mid-to-late July in climatology (e.g., Suzuki and Hoskins 2009). Sampe
475 and Xie (2010) explained that the northward-shifted EAJ weakens warm advection from the
476 continent because it flows north of the temperature maximum located south of the Tibetan
477 Plateau, resulting in less upward motion that is needed to maintain the rainband.

478 Figure 13 presents the responses in tropospheric temperature averaged over 100°E–
479 160°E. Both the GHGrad and SSTnh act to warm higher latitudes in summer, with the peak

480 warming occurring around July–August and August–September, respectively. This reduces
481 the MTG around Japan, causing a weakening of the EAJ through the thermal wind balance.
482 This difference in the seasonality probably comes from the different characteristics of land
483 and ocean. Specifically, the timing of the land (sea) surface warming-peaks for the GHGrad
484 (SSTnh) roughly follows the seasonal maximum of its present-day climatology, with a lag of
485 about one month for the SSTnh (Figs. 14b and 14c). Therefore, the emergence of the effects
486 of GHGrad and SSTnh seems to be constrained by the seasonal cycles of land and sea
487 surface temperature climatology, respectively, and thus they act to amplify the background
488 seasonal cycle. There is a possibility that the land warming and successive SST warming in
489 mid-latitudes are closely related to each other via land–atmosphere–ocean interactions, so
490 that the pronounced mid-latitude warming is sustained until early autumn (Fig. 14a). Based
491 on observational and CMIP5 model analysis, Santer et al. (2018) found that prominent mid-
492 latitude warming occurs globally in boreal summer and is a robust signal of the human
493 influence, noting that summertime continental drying may be a possible mechanism. Chen
494 and Wang (2015) suggested that a decrease of mixed layer depth in summer in response to
495 global warming is the main reason for the intensification of the SST annual cycle over the
496 North Pacific.

497 Recent studies have shown that mid-latitude SST anomalies over the North Pacific have
498 a significant impact on East Asian summer climate, such as the Baiu rainband, through
499 modulation of the EAJ (Nakamura and Miyama 2014; Matsumura et al. 2016; Nishii et al.

500 2020). Based on a CMIP5 multi-model analysis, Matsumura et al. (2019) indicated that the
501 SST gradient in the Kuroshio and Oyashio Extension (KOE) region will be weaker in future,
502 especially in summer and autumn, and that there is a significant relationship across the
503 models between a weakening of the KOE SST gradient and a weakening of the westerly jet
504 over the western North Pacific. Our AGCM experiments indicate that the prominent SST
505 warming in the NH extratropics induces a weakening and northward shift of the EAJ, with
506 reduced precipitation around Japan in late summer, which is generally consistent with
507 previous studies.

508

509 **6. Summary and discussion**

510 We investigated future changes in EASM precipitation and the associated atmospheric
511 circulation changes at the end of the twenty-first century based on ensemble projections
512 with the MRI-AGCM60, using different SST warming patterns and different types of cumulus
513 convection schemes. The results indicate that EASM precipitation will increase overall, but
514 there are large sub-seasonal and regional variations. In June, the Meiyu–Baiu rainband is
515 projected to strengthen with its eastern part (i.e., the Baiu rainband) staying to the south of
516 its present-day position. This feature is common not only to the MRI-AGCM60 ensemble
517 projections, but also to the CMIP5 multi-model projections, suggesting that this change is
518 robust. In July and August, a significant increase in precipitation is consistently projected
519 over the northern East Asian continent and the neighboring seas, including the Yellow Sea

520 and the Sea of Japan, with the highest increase over the continent in July. However, there
521 is a large uncertainty in the projection of the Meiyu–Baiu rainband in July. A small change in
522 precipitation over the Pacific is another feature in August.

523 Until now, future changes in summer precipitation in the vicinity of Japan have been
524 explained primarily by thermodynamic and dynamic changes resulting from SST warming,
525 including the tropical SST pattern change that was described as “El Niño-like” (Kitoh and
526 Uchiyama 2006; Kusunoki et al. 2006; Hirahara et al. 2012; Inoue and Ueda 2012; Ogata et
527 al. 2014). However, our sensitivity experiments with the MRI-AGCM60 reveal that land
528 warming induced by direct greenhouse gas radiative forcing (GHGrad) and successive large
529 SST warming in the extratropics (SSTnh) exerts a significant influence in late summer.
530 These late summer effects oppose and exceed the effects of uniform SST warming
531 (SSTunif) and the tropical SST pattern change (SSTtp) that work throughout the summer
532 season, although there may be some uncertainty in the balance between the four factors.

533 The upper-level EAJ is influenced by the four factors studied and is related to the Baiu
534 rainband activity. The SSTunif and SSTtp act to strengthen and displace the EAJ southward;
535 in contrast, the GHGrad and SSTnh act to weaken and displace the EAJ northward, since
536 they warm the mid-latitudes and reduce the MTG around Japan. Our sensitivity experiments
537 show a positive relationship between the meridional displacement of the EAJ and the Baiu
538 rainband. In addition, the northward-shifted and weakened EAJ, induced by the GHGrad
539 and SSTnh, is associated with a weakening of the rainband in late summer. It is interesting

540 to note that the SST_{tp} and SST_{nh} act in opposite ways on the responses of the EAJ around
541 Japan. We also note that the weakening of the EAJ in late summer to early autumn have
542 other implications for the future East Asian climate, including a slowdown of the translation
543 speed of tropical cyclones in the mid-latitudes of the Pacific (Yamaguchi et al. 2020) and a
544 possible effect on the autumnal rain over Japan.

545 In addition to the upper-level EAJ, low-level monsoon circulation is another important
546 factor controlling EASM precipitation since it transports moisture from the tropics. The MRI-
547 AGCM60 projects an intensification of southerly winds over the East Asian continent in July
548 and August, in agreement with other global warming studies (e.g., He et al. 2019; Jin et al.
549 2020). This is mainly explained by the GHGrad and partly by the SST_{nh} effect. Note that the
550 intensification of low-level monsoon winds probably results not only from an enhancement
551 of the zonal land–sea temperature contrast, but also from a reduction of the MTG. The
552 GHGrad and SST_{nh} weaken and displace the upper-level EAJ northward through a
553 reduction of the MTG, resulting in a weakening of the Meiyu–Baiu rainband in late summer
554 (e.g., Sampe and Xie 2010). This enables low-level monsoon winds to penetrate inland into
555 northern China instead of weakened flow converging into the rainband over the ocean. This
556 view is supported by previous studies suggesting that the EASM circulation is regulated by
557 a combination of the zonal and meridional gradients in tropospheric temperature (Wang et
558 al. 2008; Zhou and Zou 2010), and that variability of the low-level EASM circulation is closely
559 coupled with the upper-level EAJ on annual and decadal time scales (Li et al. 2010; Zhou

560 and Zou 2010; Song et al. 2014). Another feature of the future changes is northerly wind
561 anomalies over the Pacific east of Japan during summer, which could be associated with a
562 weakening of the subtropical anticyclone over the North Pacific (He et al. 2017). The
563 sensitivity experiments indicate that the northerly wind anomalies come from the combined
564 effect of the SST_{unif}, SST_{tp}, and SST_{nh}. Thus, the east–west contrast in the low-level
565 circulation change is an important aspect of the late summer response in East Asia, which
566 contributes to shaping the spatial pattern of the EASM precipitation changes (Ose, 2019a).

567 This study highlights a distinct difference between early and late summer in future
568 changes of EASM precipitation. From early summer to late summer, the area with increased
569 precipitation broadly moves from the ocean to the continent and neighboring seas. The first
570 important factor of this is the “wet-get-wetter” response, which works to amplify the
571 climatological spatial pattern of precipitation through an increase in moisture. The seasonal
572 difference in the climatology (i.e., the active rainband over the ocean in early summer in
573 contrast to active precipitation over and around the continent in late summer) contributes to
574 the seasonality of the precipitation changes (Ose 2019a). Another important factor is the
575 large differences in atmospheric circulation changes between early and late summer.
576 According to the sensitivity experiments, the effects of land warming and prominent SST
577 warming in the extratropics are enhanced in late summer, opposing and exceeding the
578 effects of SST warming (i.e., uniform warming and the tropical pattern change) which work
579 throughout the summer season. The former effects strengthen monsoon flows toward the

580 continent, while the latter intensify the rainband over the ocean. Therefore, the seasonal
581 variation of their relative importance is also responsible for the seasonality of the
582 precipitation changes. These results suggest that competition between the opposing forces,
583 which strengthen the land monsoon and oceanic monsoon, respectively, makes the signal
584 of the Meiyu–Baiu rainband response smaller in July than in June; consequently there tends
585 to be a larger spread among simulations regarding the future tendency of the rainband in
586 July. Finally, we note that our approach of using a high-resolution AGCM has a lot of merit
587 for studying regional climate change, as described in the Introduction, but a lack of air–sea
588 interaction may affect the regional details of future changes, and thus more research is
589 needed for more precise and quantitative discussions.

590

591 **Supplement**

592 Supplement 1 contains five figures (Figs. S1–S5).

593

594

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827

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836 Hatching represents areas where changes have the same sign in more than 80% of the
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838

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846

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851 ensemble projections (28 models). Black contours denote the present-day simulation.
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864

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866

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872

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875

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882

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890

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893 where changes are statistically significant at the 95% confidence level are shown by
894 hatching. For 300-hPa zonal wind, 15 m s⁻¹ isolines are drawn in magenta for the HP-run
895 climatology, and in white for the response of the sensitivity experiment. All are drawn
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897 represent an elevation of 1500 m.

898

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900 show the HP-run climatology, and white contours show the response of the sensitivity
901 experiment.

902

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907

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911 Exp4 (SSTnh), shown by shading. The HP-run climatology is indicated by contours. The
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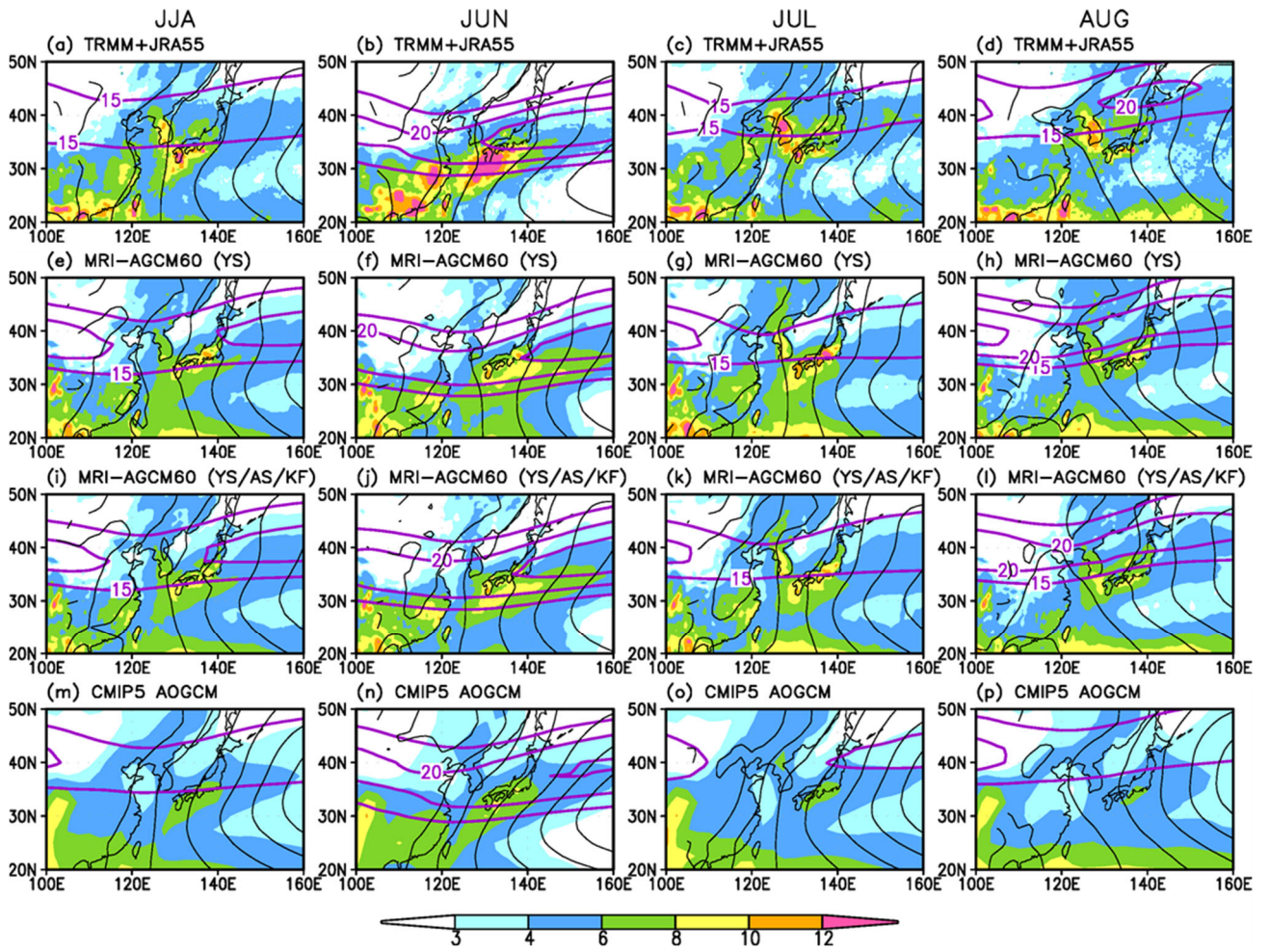
915 Table 1. Experimental design for the multi-SST ensemble projections.

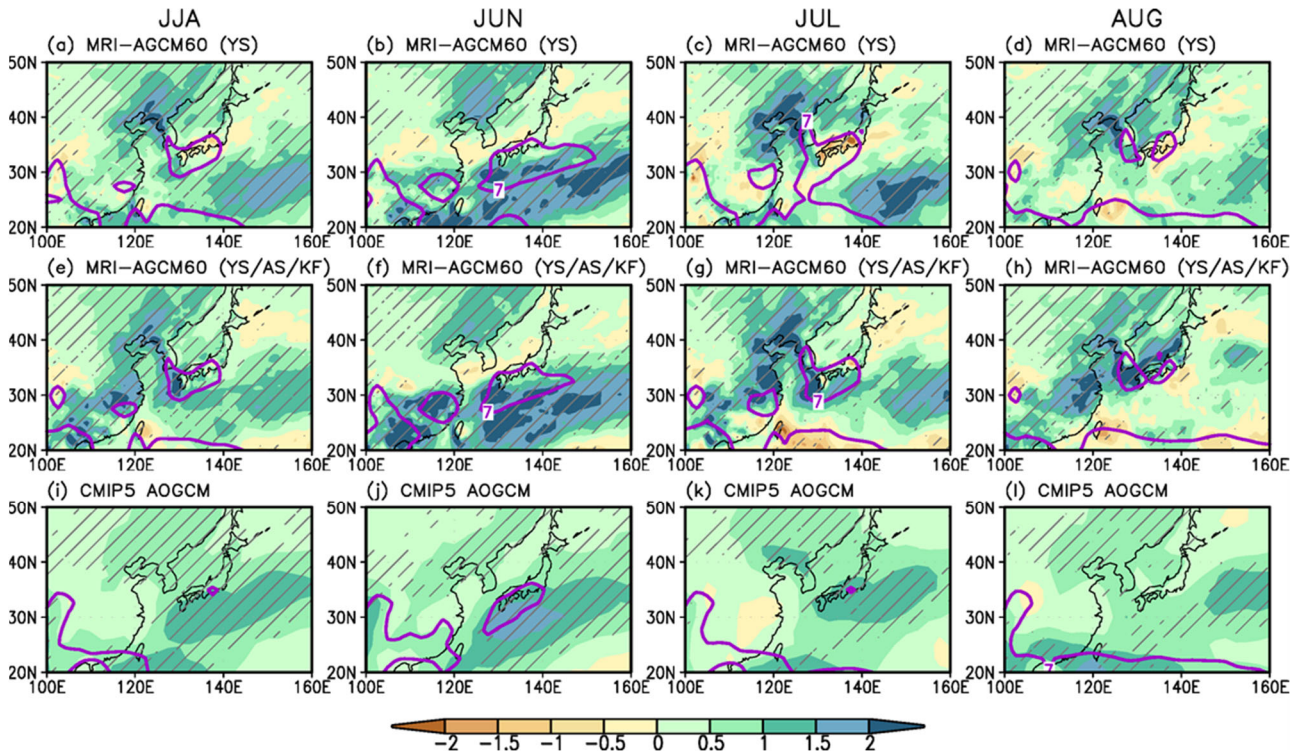
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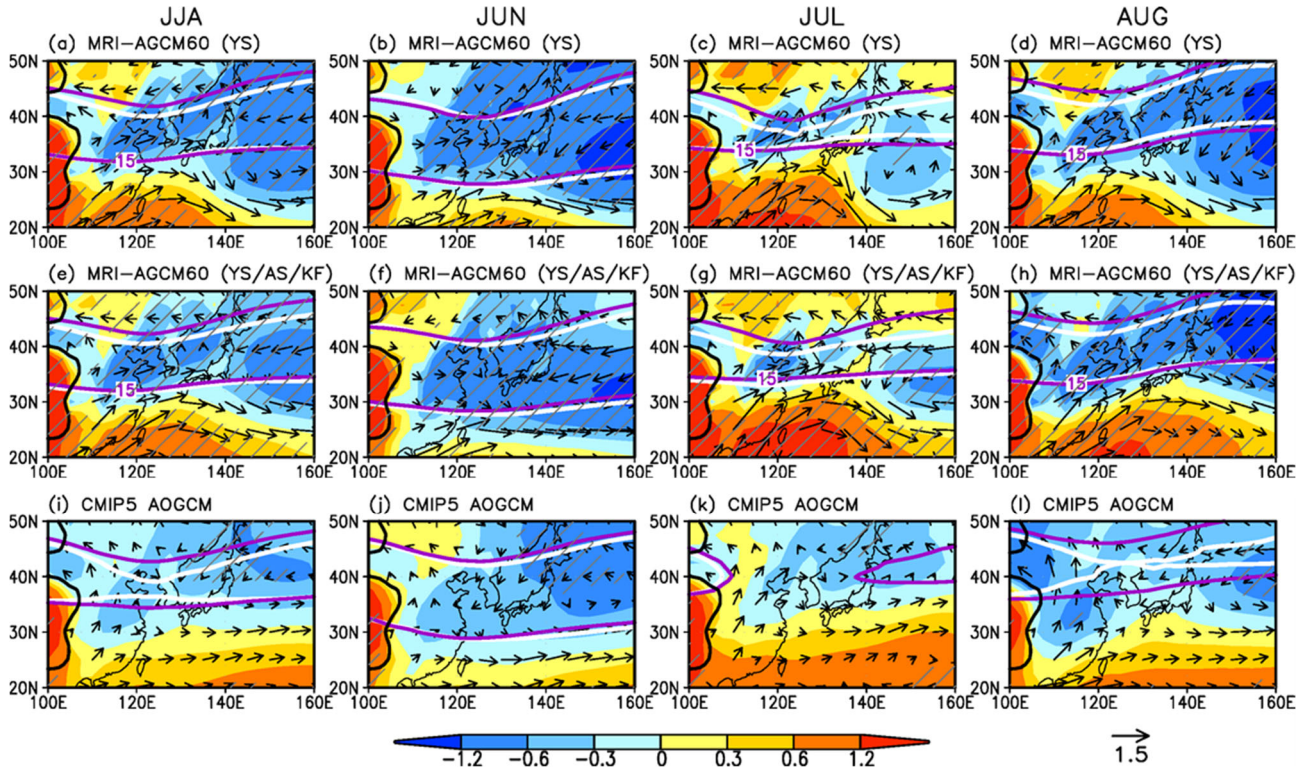
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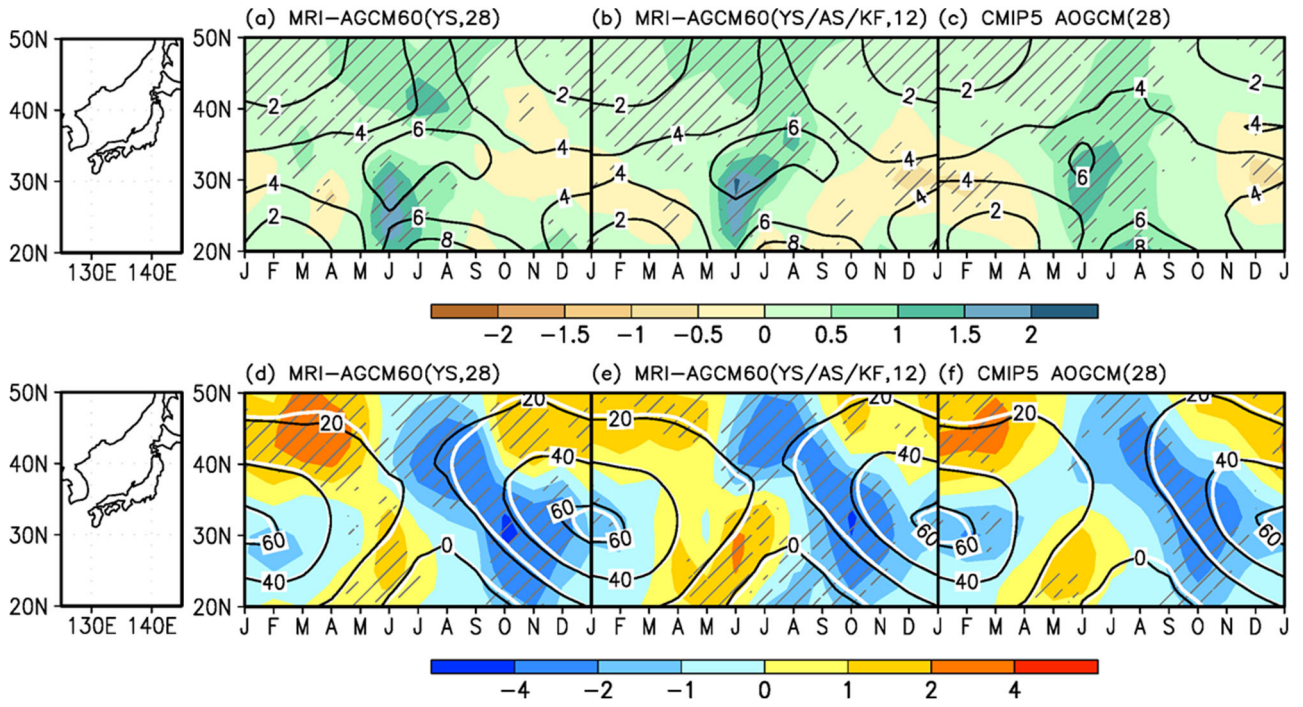
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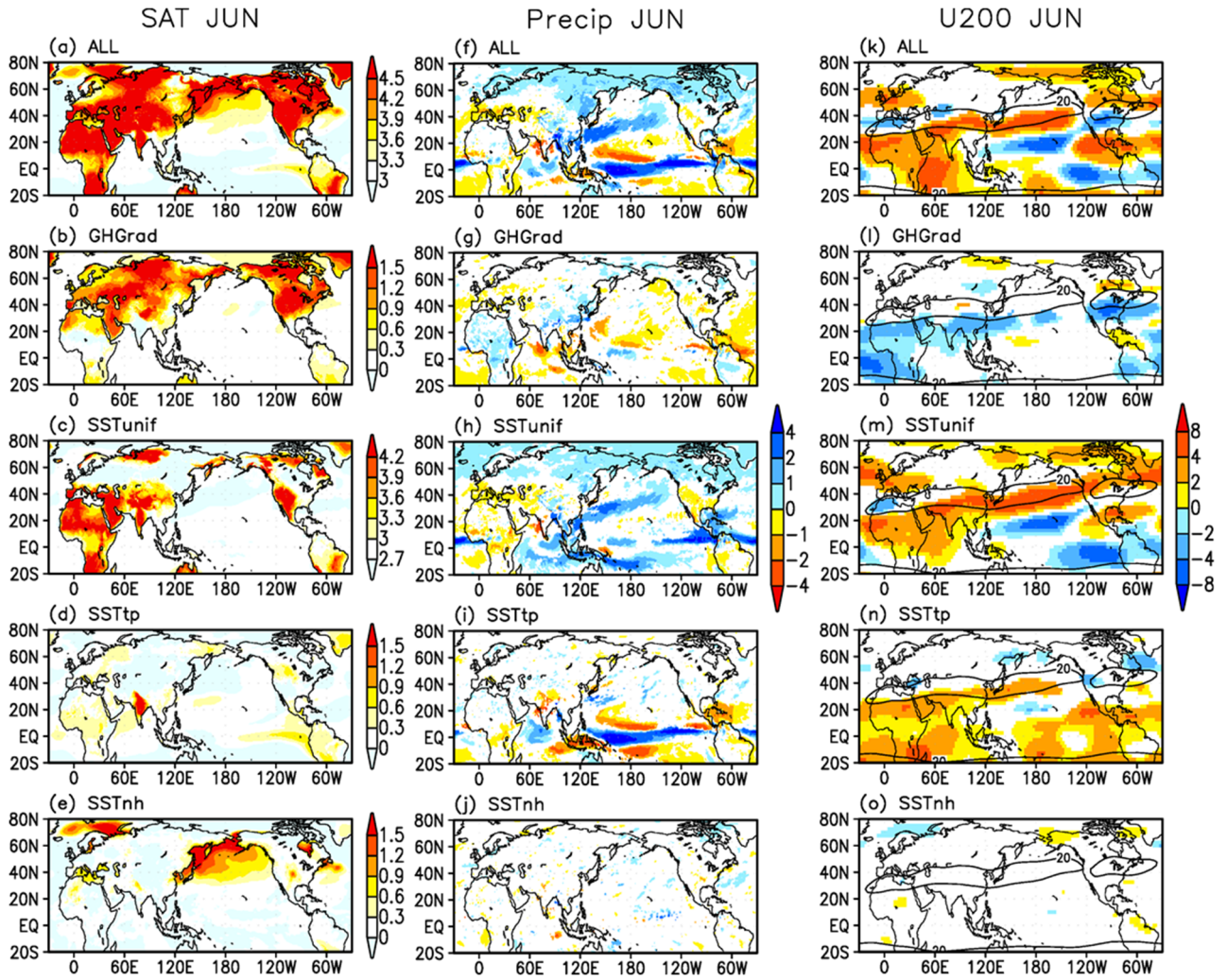
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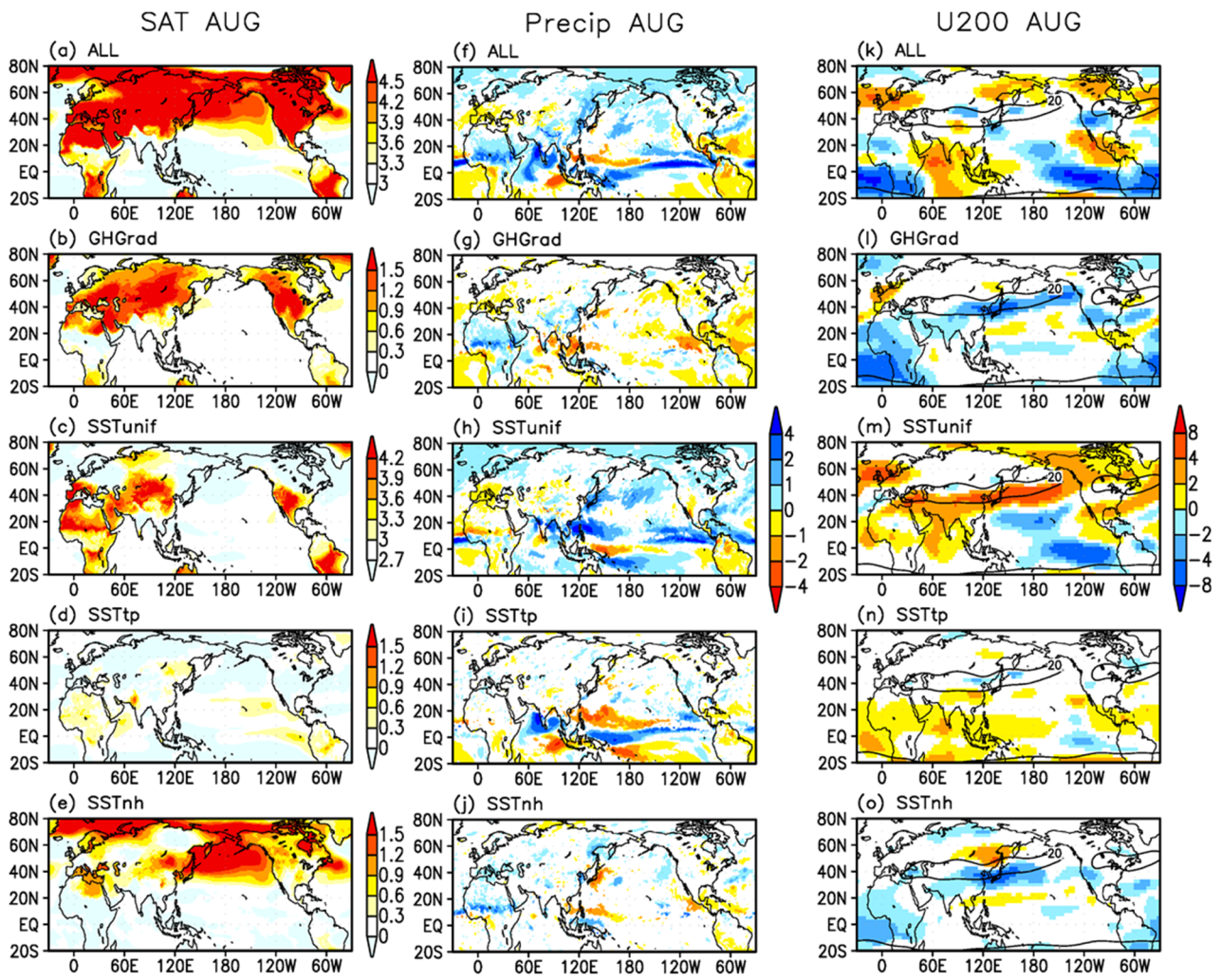


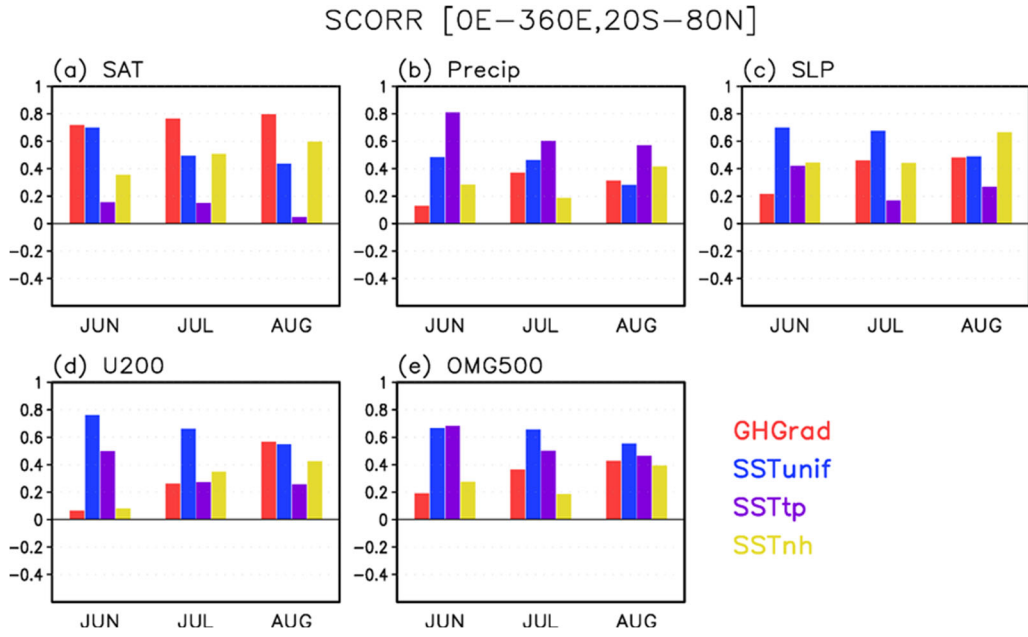












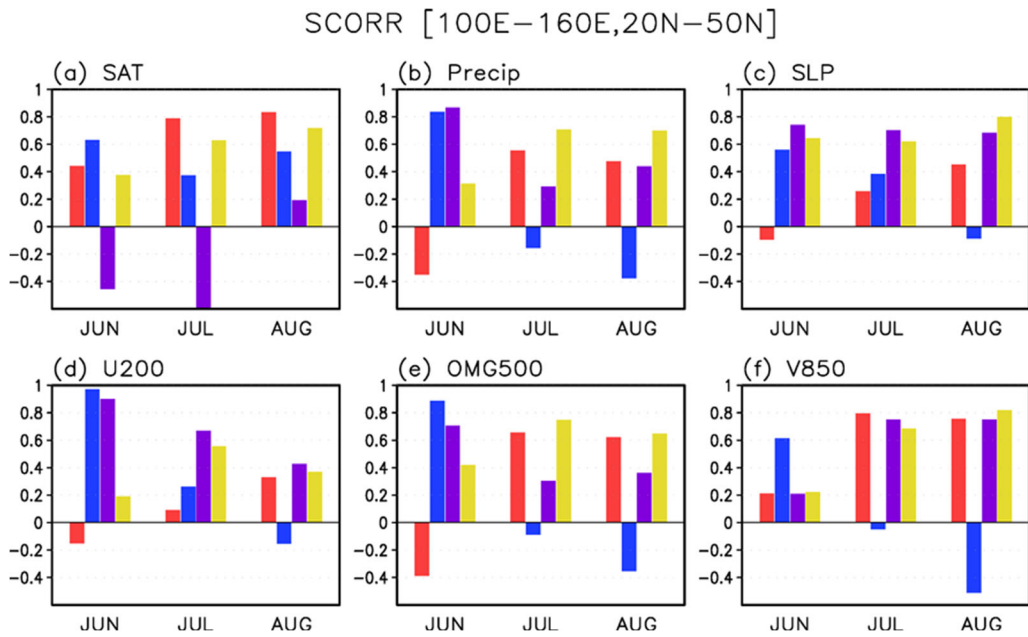
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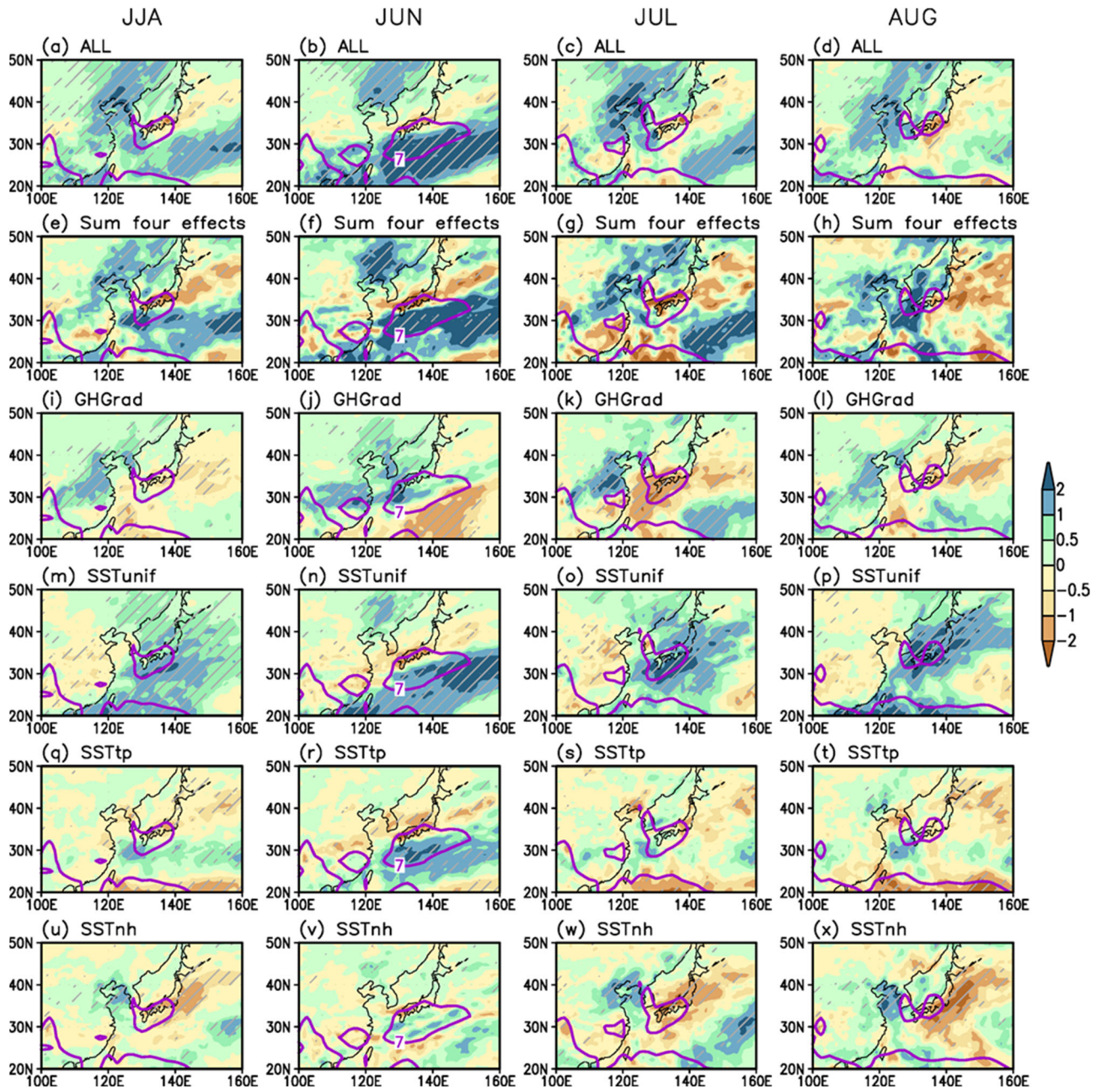
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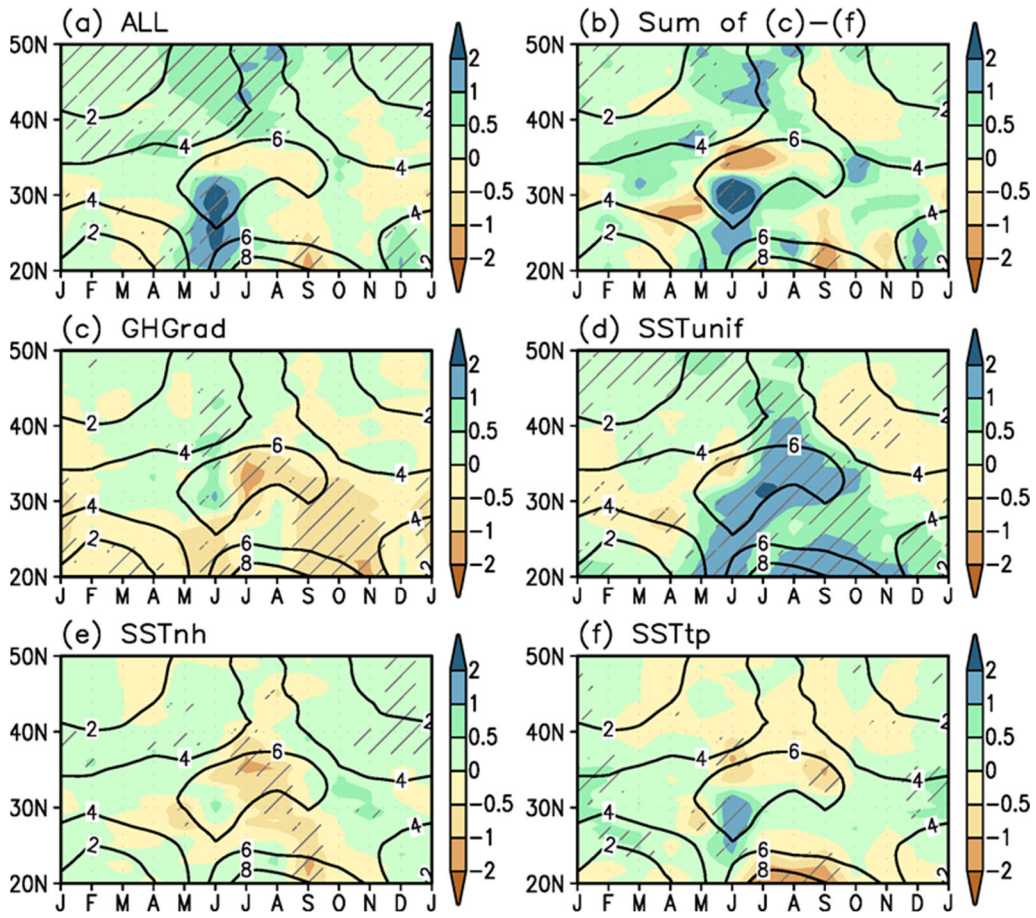


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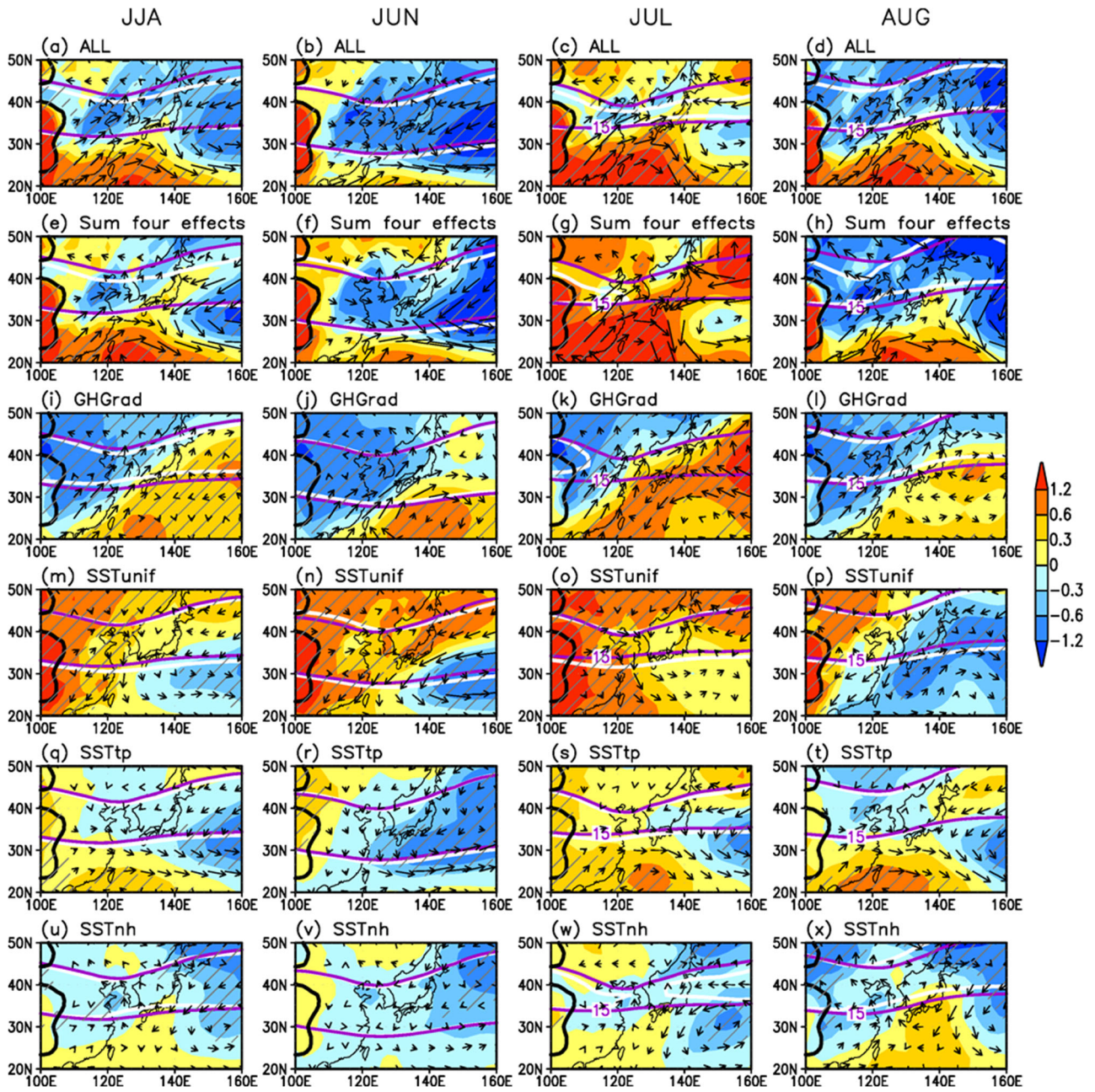


Precip 125–145Eav



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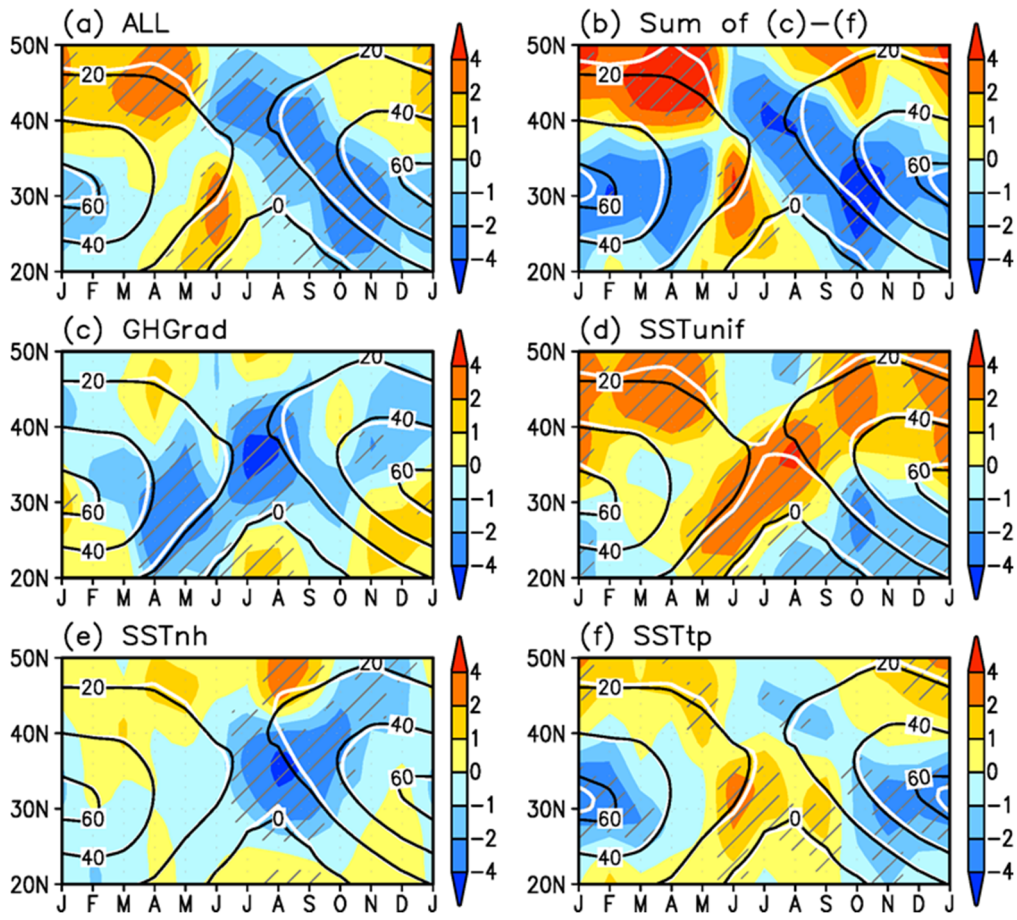
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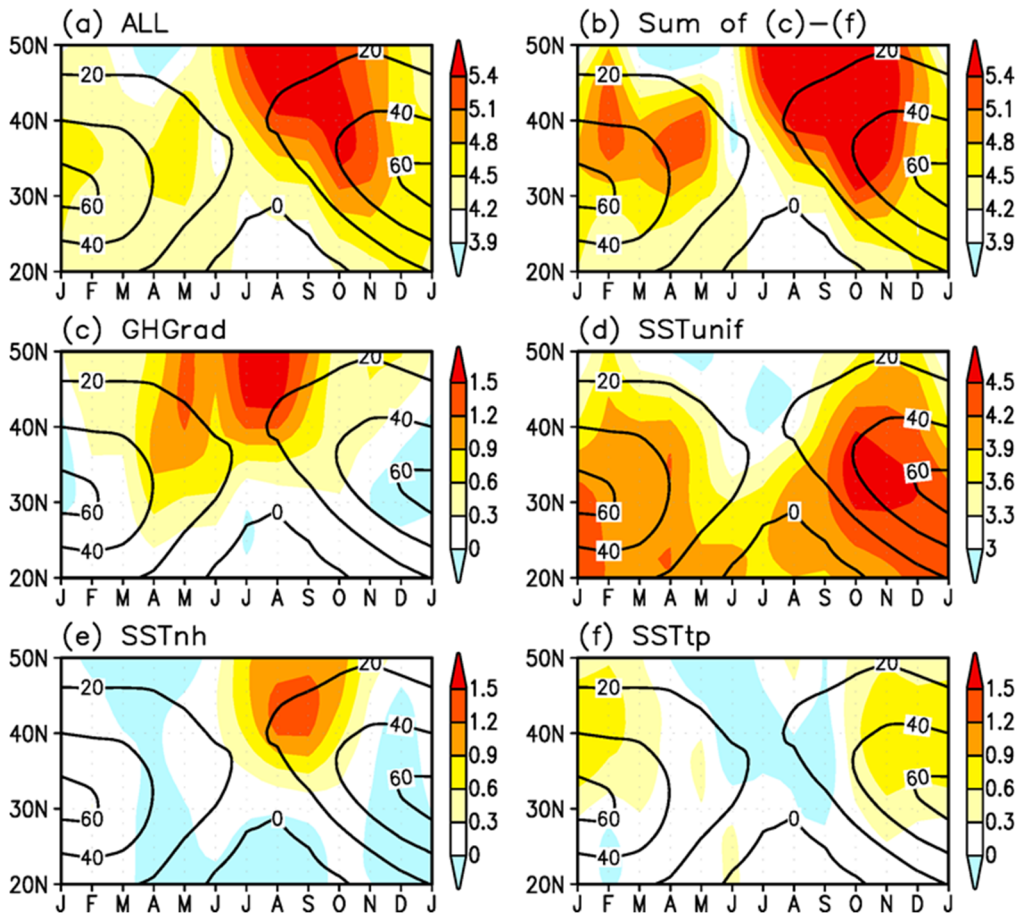
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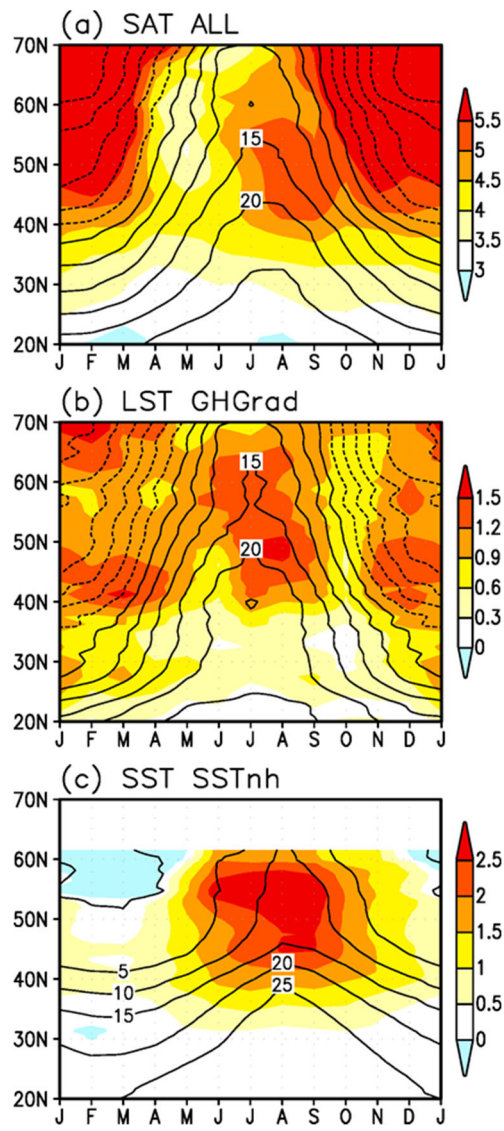
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T & U300 125–145Eav





(a) Present-day climate simulations

Run name	Cumulus convection	SST	Period	Ensemble size
HPnn ^a	YS	HadISST1.1	1979–2003	2

(b) Future climate simulations

Run name	Cumulus convection	SST	Period	Ensemble size
HFnn ^b	YS	Each CMIP5 model	2075–2099	28

^a nn denotes the number of members with different atmospheric initial conditions: nn = 01, 02

^b nn denotes the number of members with different future SSTs: nn = 01–28

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Table 2.

(a) Present-day climate simulations

Run name	Cumulus convection	SST	Period	Ensemble size
HPYSnn ^a	YS	HadISST1.1	1984–2003	2
HPASnn	AS	HadISST1.1	1984–2003	2
HPKFnn	KF	HadISST1.1	1984–2003	2

(b) Future climate simulations

Run name	Cumulus convection	SST	Period	Ensemble size
HFYSC0	YS	CMIP5 MME ^b	2080–2099	1
HFYSC1	YS	CMIP5 cluster 1	2080–2099	1
HFYSC2	YS	CMIP5 cluster 2	2080–2099	1
HFYSC3	YS	CMIP5 cluster 3	2080–2099	1
HFASC0	AS	CMIP5 MME	2080–2099	1
HFASC1	AS	CMIP5 cluster 1	2080–2099	1
HFASC2	AS	CMIP5 cluster 2	2080–2099	1
HFASC3	AS	CMIP5 cluster 3	2080–2099	1
HFKFC0	KF	CMIP5 MME	2080–2099	1
HFKFC1	KF	CMIP5 cluster 1	2080–2099	1
HFKFC2	KF	CMIP5 cluster 2	2080–2099	1
HFKFC3	KF	CMIP5 cluster 3	2080–2099	1

^a nn denotes the number of members with different atmospheric initial conditions: nn = 01, 02

^b Multi-model ensemble mean

969

970

Run name	Cumulus convection		SST	GHG	Other forcing	Years	Ensemble size ^a
HP	YS	P		P	P	25	3
HF	YS	F		F	F	25	3
Exp1	YS	P		F	P	25	3
Exp2	YS	2.74-K uniform warming over the globe		P	P	25	3
Exp3	YS	F (except for tropics with 2.74-K warming)		F	F	25	3
Exp4	YS	F (except for NH extra-tropics with 2.74-K warming)		F	F	25	3

P: Present-day (1979–2003, observation)

F: Future (2075–2099, RCP8.5)

^a Ensemble simulation with different initial atmospheric conditions.