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2 **Contributions of the large-scale environment to the**

3 **typhoon genesis of Faxai (2019)**

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## Abstract

This study investigated the atmospheric and oceanic contributions to the genesis of Typhoon Faxai in 2019. Our statistical analysis using the tropical cyclone genesis score (TGS) attributed the tropical disturbance that developed into Faxai (Pre-Faxai) to easterly waves (EWs). The EW score evaluated by a grid version of the TGS (Grid-EW) averaged around the occurrence of Pre-Faxai was approximately twice as large as the climatological mean; it was the second largest value in the past 38 years. The Pre-Faxai area with high Grid-EW scores could be traced back to the eastern North Pacific (ENP) around August 25, 2019. The lower-troposphere environment characterized by high Grid-EW scores was favorable for vortex formation because it provided a containment area for moisture entrained by the developing circulation or lofted by the deep convection therein. The Pre-Faxai area with high Grid-EW scores moved westward because of the background easterly flow over the ENP, then entered the western North Pacific (WNP). The Typhoon Intensity Forecast Scheme (TIFS) showed that the important environments for its genesis were ocean conditions and the vertical wind shear. The oceanic conditions contributed to the development of Pre-Faxai as it traveled over the WNP. The enhancement of vertical wind shear and subsequent suppression of the development of Pre-Faxai were caused by the lower-troposphere easterly winds associated with high EW scores; they were also caused by upper-troposphere westerly winds associated with an upper cold low northwest of Pre-Faxai. When

43 the vertical shear decreased with weakening of the upper cold low, Pre-Faxai reached  
44 tropical storm intensity on September 4. Therefore, TGS and TIFS detected Pre-Faxai 10  
45 days before the typhoon arose, an indication that monitoring environmental factors such as  
46 EW and vertical wind shear are important for disaster prevention.

47 **Keywords** typhoon genesis ; easterly waves ; vertical wind shear ; upper cold low

48

## 49    **1. Introduction**

50        Typhoon Faxai made landfall in Chiba, Japan, at 21 UTC September 8, 2019, causing  
51    enormous damage to the Kanto region. The winds were the strongest ever recorded in  
52    Japan, with instantaneous wind speeds of  $57.5 \text{ m s}^{-1}$  in Chiba City. According to the best  
53    track (BT) data of the Regional Specialized Meteorological Center Tokyo–Typhoon Center,  
54    Faxai first reached tropical storm intensity (maximum sustained wind speeds greater than  
55     $17 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ ) at 18 UTC September 4, 2019. In this study, we refer to this as the typhoon genesis.

56    There were only 4 days for notification prior to landfall after typhoon genesis (Fig. 1).  
57    However, tropical cyclones (TCs) are generally first observed as tropical disturbances or  
58    lows several days before the typhoon genesis stage, which is defined as the period from the  
59    appearance of a tropical disturbance to the typhoon genesis itself.

60        The Japan Meteorological Agency (JMA) estimates the intensity and position of typhoons  
61    over the ocean mainly using the Dvorak method (Dvorak 1984), based on an analysis of  
62    Japanese Geostationary Meteorological Satellite cloud images. Because the organization  
63    period of clouds associated with a tropical disturbance during the genesis stage is short, the  
64    data are insufficient for analysis purposes. The Dvorak method is applied only a few days  
65    before the typhoon genesis. Therefore, the JMA has developed what has been referred to  
66    as “Early Dvorak Analysis” (EDA) to determine the position of tropical disturbance objectively  
67    based on Geostationary Meteorological Satellite cloud images (Tsuchiya et al. 2001).

Fig. 1

68 Improvements to the EDA (Kishimoto et al. 2007; Kishimoto 2009) have allowed its use in  
69 forecasting operations since 2007.

70 According to the EDA, the tropical disturbance that developed into Typhoon Faxai  
71 (hereafter, Pre-Faxai) was first detected over the eastern North Pacific (ENP), immediately  
72 east of the International Date Line, at 12 UTC August 29, 2019 (Fig. 1). The genesis stage  
73 of Faxai, from the first detection of Pre-Faxai to typhoon genesis, lasted 6 days. The average  
74 duration of the TC genesis stage is 1.4 days and only 3% of all cases exceed 6 days,  
75 according to Fudeyasu et al. (2020) that analyzed the genesis stages of 476 TCs (including  
76 cases that dissipated before reaching tropical storm intensity) using EDA data for the period  
77 2009–2017. In comparison, Pre-Faxai had an unusually long genesis stage, which was  
78 affected by the surrounding environment.

79 Ritchie and Holland (1999) examined large-scale flow patterns as the environmental factor  
80 contributing to typhoon genesis over the western North Pacific (WNP): the shear line,  
81 confluence region, monsoon gyre, easterly waves (EWs), and Rossby wave energy  
82 dispersion from a preexisting TC. The shear line and confluence region are enhanced by  
83 the easterly trade winds and westerly winds over the WNP. Typhoon genesis in the monsoon  
84 shear line occurs when the disturbance is located in a region of low mean sea level pressure  
85 (Chen and Weng 1998). The confluence region between easterly and westerly flows  
86 contains a range of scale interactions that can contribute to enhanced typhoon genesis

87 conditions (Zhang and Webster 1989; Chang and Webster 1990). The monsoon gyre is a  
88 synoptic-scale gyre embedded within a developed Asian monsoon trough (Lander 1994;  
89 Chen et al. 1996). EWs occur in synoptic-scale easterly trade winds, with the trough of EWs  
90 providing an environment favorable for the genesis of a tropical disturbance (Heta 1990,  
91 1991). A mature typhoon disperses its energy as a Rossby wave in a southeastward  
92 direction, and low-pressure areas of the wave train sometimes develop into another typhoon  
93 (McDonald 1998; Li and Fu 2006; Li et al. 2006). Yoshida and Ishikawa (2013) developed a  
94 TC genesis score (TGS) as an objective index to determine the contribution of five  
95 environmental factors to the occurrence of a tropical disturbance. This study used the TGS  
96 to identify the main environmental factors contributing to the occurrence of Pre-Faxai.

97 Furthermore, the developments in the main environmental factor of Pre-Faxai were  
98 investigated using a gridded TGS (Grid-TGS). The Grid-TGS, which was developed by  
99 Yoshida and Fudeyasu (2020), obtains the grid point values of five selected environmental  
100 factors; it is possible to investigate the temporal and spatial changes in each environmental  
101 factor, namely the preconditioning of the environment leading to typhoon genesis. A detailed  
102 understanding of the preconditioning for typhoon genesis is important for disaster prevention  
103 and predictions of typhoon genesis.

104 This study also used the Typhoon Intensity Forecast Scheme (TIFS) based on the  
105 statistical hurricane intensity prediction scheme (Yamaguchi et al. 2018; Shimada et al.

106 2018) to assess the environmental contributions to the development of Pre-Faxai's intensity  
107 during the genesis stage. The statistical hurricane intensity prediction scheme is a statistical  
108 model that predicts the changes in intensity of hurricanes following the initial prediction using  
109 a multiple linear regression equation (DeMaria and Kaplan 1994; DeMaria and Kaplan 1999;  
110 DeMaria et al. 2005). The advantage of the statistical hurricane intensity prediction scheme  
111 for typhoon intensity prediction is that the contribution of each predictor variable to the total  
112 intensity change can be quantified.

113 The purpose of this study was to investigate the environmental factors responsible for the  
114 occurrence of Pre-Faxai, using the TGS and reanalysis data. Furthermore, the contribution  
115 of the surrounding environment to the genesis of Typhoon Faxai was quantitatively  
116 determined using the TIFS. The rest of this paper is organized as follows. Section 2  
117 introduces the methodology and data. The main environmental factors and contribution of  
118 the surrounding environment to Faxai's genesis are described in section 3. The contribution  
119 of the surrounding environment to Faxai's genesis compared with other cases is discussed  
120 in section 4, while section 5 summarizes the study.

121

## 122 **2. Methodology and data**

123 This study uses a modified version of the TGS by the JMA, which we hereafter refer to as  
124 JMA-TGS. Similar to the conventional TGS, the JMA-TGS calculates scores for five



125 previously proposed environmental factors. As an example, the EW score is calculated as  
126 follows:

$$127 \quad SCR_{EW} = A \cdot \left( \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} \right) \cdot \exp (B \cdot dist_{min\_EW}), \quad (1)$$

128 where  $v$  is the meridional wind at 850 hPa, and  $dist_{min\_EW}$  is the distance between the nearest  
129 trough grid and the genesis location (hereafter, TGS location). We searched for a trough grid  
130 of the easterly wave, which was determined as the location where the meridional wind was  
131 northward to the east and southward to the west.  $A$  and  $B$  are arbitrary constants, where  $A$   
132  $= 2.0 \times 10^{-1}$  and  $B = -1.0 \times 10^{-2}$ . To find the main contributor to Pre-Faxai, the five scores  
133 were normalized by their maximum and minimum values such that they were all between  
134 zero and one. The details are provided in Yoshida and Ishikawa (2013).

135 As an improvement on the conventional TGS, the JMA-TGS uses the location and time  
136 first detected by the EDA as the TGS location and time. Briegel and Frank (1997) showed  
137 that the occurrence of tropical disturbances was affected by large-scale flows for a period of  
138 about 3 days. For a conventional TGS time, the scores for the shear line, confluence region,  
139 monsoon gyre, and EW were obtained by analyzing data collected 66 and 72 hours before  
140 the first detection according to the BT data, while the score of Rossby wave energy  
141 dispersion from a preexisting TC was obtained from the first detection time. For the TGS  
142 time of JMA-TGS, scores for the four environmental factors were obtained using data  
143 collected 24, 48, and 72 hours before the first detection according to the EDA (hereafter

referred to as 24-h JMA-TGS, and similar terms); the score of Rossby wave energy dispersion from a preexisting TC was obtained by the first detection time to the EDA (00-h JMA-TGS). The factor with the highest score was considered the main contributor to the occurrence of Pre-Faxai.

To investigate the temporal and spatial changes in the environmental factors around Pre-Faxai, this study used the Grid-TGS developed by Yoshida and Fudeyasu (2020). While the JMA-TGS was calculated for the genesis location of Faxai with reference to the best-track data, the Grid-TGS was calculated on each grid point at each time for the input data in a similar manner to the JMA-TGS. For example, the grid score for EW is calculated as follows:

$$Grid-SCR_{EW} = \left( \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} \right) \cdot \exp \left( -1 \cdot dist_{min\_EW} \right). \quad (2)$$

The details are provided in Yoshida and Fudeyasu (2020). Note that the Grid-TGS becomes high when the distance is short. Because each grid point of the input data is considered a candidate for the genesis location at each time in the calculation of the Grid-score, information reading a real genesis location is not required. The Grid-score gives a spatial distribution of the environmental conditions. For simplicity, the grid score is not normalized; we do not apply the grid score to determine the main contributor. The grid score used the Japanese 55-year Reanalysis Project (JRA55) (Kobayashi et al. 2015) as the input data. The JRA55 dataset has a horizontal resolution of 1.25° for both longitude and latitude, with a 6-hour time interval. To compare the grid score values, this study calculated the

163 climatological mean of scores averaged over a 38-year period from 1979 to 2016.

164 The contributions of the surrounding environment to changes in the intensity of Pre-Faxai  
165 during Faxai's genesis stage were quantified using the TIFS, which is essentially a modified  
166 version of the statistical hurricane intensity prediction scheme (DeMaria and Kaplan 1994;  
167 DeMaria and Kaplan 1999; DeMaria et al. 2005). It predicts the change in maximum wind  
168 speed of a typhoon, as well as the central pressure. Because the BT data include the TC  
169 central pressure before genesis, but not the maximum wind speed of a typhoon, the central  
170 pressures predicted by the TIFS at a forecast time of 6 hours were compared to pressure  
171 derived from the BT data. The atmospheric data and central pressures at the initial time of  
172 each TIFS forecast in this study were derived from JRA55 and BT data. There are 26  
173 predictors in the TIFS: predictors already used in the statistical hurricane intensity prediction  
174 scheme plus meteorological satellite image data (Shimada et al. 2018).

175 This study used merged infrared satellite images obtained by the Global Precipitation  
176 Measurement mission (Hou et al. 2014; Skofronick-Jackson et al. 2017). Merged data for  
177 the Global Precipitation Measurement multisatellite including the Geostationary  
178 Meteorological Satellite, provide a blackbody temperature ( $T_{BB}$ ) over the WNP and the  
179 ENP, with a temporal resolution of 30 minutes and spatial resolution as small as  $0.1^\circ \times 0.1^\circ$ .

180

### 181 **3. Results**

182 *3.1 Environmental factors during the genesis stage of Faxai*

183 Figure 2 shows the scores for the five environmental factors of the JMA-TGS,  
184 corresponding to the first detection of Pre-Faxai according to the EDA. With the exception  
185 of the score of the monsoon gyre for 48-h JMA-TGS, only the EW score exceeded zero. The  
186 score of the Rossby wave energy dispersion from a preexisting TC for 00-h JMA-TGS was  
187 zero because of the absence of a preexisting TC near Pre-Faxai. Therefore, the EW pattern  
188 was the environmental factor associated with the genesis of Pre-Faxai.

Fig. 2

189 The distribution of the Grid-TGS score for EW (hereafter, Grid-EW) and the climatological  
190 mean for Grid-EW (Clim-Grid-EW) is shown in Fig. 3. Grid-EW scores were averaged over  
191 the 3-day period from 12 UTC August 26 to 12 UTC August 29, 2019, before the first  
192 detection of Pre-Faxai by the EDA. The Grid-EW extends east to west in a belt shape within  
193 5°–15°N in the North Pacific. Compared with Clim-Grid-EW averaged for the same period,  
194 the distribution of the Grid-EW scores was similar to that of the climatological mean, but the  
195 value of the Grid-EW score associated with Pre-Faxai was higher than that of Clim-Grid-EW.

Fig. 3

196 Figure 4 shows the time series of daily values for each Grid-EW score and the Clim-Grid-  
197 EW score, which were averaged over the region around Pre-Faxai bounded by 5°–20°N and  
198 160°E–160°W. Daily Clim-Grid-EW scores changed seasonally and reached a maximum in  
199 mid-August. The Grid-EW value around Pre-Faxai was approximately twice as large as  
200 Clim-Grid-EW with the second largest value in the past 38 years.

Fig. 4

201 Figure 5 shows the horizontal winds and the relative vorticity at 850-hPa, as well as Grid-Fig. 5  
202 EW scores. The area with high Grid-EW scores (greater than 0.12) associated with Pre-  
203 Faxai could be traced to August 25, when it was around 158°W, 10°N. This suggested that  
204 the environmental preconditioning leading to the genesis stage of Faxai started over the  
205 ENP and moved westward to the WNP. The environmental conditions built up diabatically  
206 due to the convergence associated with the inter-tropical convergence zone in the ENP,  
207 which began to be restored on August 23.

208 Within the lower-troposphere environment characterized by high Grid-EW scores, three  
209 cyclonic vortices with a relative vorticity greater than  $4.0 \times 10^{-5} \text{ s}^{-1}$  developed around 165°W  
210 (Pre-Faxai), 157°W, and 145°W on August 26. In infrared images derived from the Global  
211 Precipitation Measurement (Fig. 6), the clouds that developed into Pre-Faxai could be traced Fig. 6  
212 as band-like clouds on August 25. Although the origin of Pre-Faxai in the band-like clouds  
213 developed due to the horizontal shear in the lower troposphere (Fig. 5), an interval of 10  
214 days was necessary for one of the vortices to develop into a typhoon, unlike previously  
215 studied conspicuous inter-tropical convergence zone breakdowns (Hack et al. 1989).  
216 Easterly waves represent a broad category of disturbances in the easterly wind environment  
217 in the tropics. They include large-scale travelling waves with respect to background flows  
218 (e.g., Serra et al. 2008), as well as wavy disturbances arising from baroclinic and barotropic  
219 instabilities, such as the well-known African EWs (e.g., Burpee 1972; Thorncroft et al. 2008).

220 The disturbance associated with the present vortices could be regarded as an EW. Whereas  
221 its wavelength of  $\sim 1000$  km was smaller, it is consistent with the results of a previous  
222 statistical study (Fudeyasu and Yoshida 2018).

223 The vortices moved westward at  $5\text{--}6\text{ m s}^{-1}$  because of the background easterly flow (Fig.  
224 5), which was  $4\text{--}8\text{ m s}^{-1}$  between 950 and 500 hPa (not shown). Figure 7 shows the 850-  
225 hPa streamlines under the co-moving frame for Pre-Faxai. The streamlines around the  
226 vortices that developed into Pre-Faxai were closed circulations under the co-moving frame.  
227 The closed circulation in the co-moving frame served to contain moisture and cyclonic  
228 vorticity, providing favorable conditions for tropical cyclogenesis (Dunkerton et al., 2009).  
229 This will be discussed in the next section.

Fig. 7

230 The mid- and upper-troposphere cyclonic vortex, which was placed over the lower-  
231 troposphere vortex, could not be traced backward in time before August 29 (not shown),  
232 implying that the disturbance did not previously have a rigid vertical structure. Figure 8  
233 shows the winds and geopotential heights at 200 hPa and the vertical wind shear between  
234 850 and 200 hPa. On August 26, there was a deep trough to the north extending to the  
235 southwest (Fig. 8a). On the south side of the trough, the vertical wind shear was enhanced  
236 by the westerly winds in the upper troposphere and the easterly winds in the lower  
237 troposphere. The strong vertical shear of more than  $15\text{ m s}^{-1}$  would suppress the vortex  
238 developing into Pre-Faxai. Although the lower-troposphere environment associated with

Fig. 8

239 high Grid-EW scores was favorable for vortex formation, the strong vertical shear due to the  
240 deep trough slowed the development of the vortex over the ENP.

241

### 242 *3.2 Contributions of the large-scale environment to the genesis of Faxai*

243 According to the EDA and BT data, Pre-Faxai moved westward in the WNP during Faxai's  
244 genesis stage (Fig. 1). It was apparent from the temporal changes in Grid-EW scores (Fig.  
245 5) that the area with high Grid-EW scores associated with Pre-Faxai continued to move  
246 westward and entered the WNP. This suggests that the lower-troposphere environment  
247 continued to be favorable for vortex formation over the WNP.

248 Figure 9 shows the time series of sea-level central pressure for Faxai from the BT data  
249 and the TIFS model at a forecast time of 6 hour. Because the TIFS forecasts are determined  
250 by multiple linear regression, the accuracy of TIFS forecasts decreases with increasing  
251 forecast time. The accuracies of the changes in intensity up to a forecast time of 6 hour, as  
252 predicted by TIFS, are generally high; that is an important consideration for statistical  
253 evaluation of the contributions of large-scale environmental conditions to the development  
254 of Pre-Faxai. According to the BT data, Pre-Faxai was first detected at 00 UTC September  
255 2, 3.5 days after the first detection of Pre-Faxai by the EDA. There were no significant  
256 changes in Faxai's intensity up to 18 UTC September 3. The central pressure decreased  
257 gradually thereafter: typhoon genesis was observed at 18 UTC September 4. These trends

Fig. 9

258 in the central pressure change were captured by the TIFS forecasts: the mean decrease in  
259 central pressure from 12 UTC September 2 to 6 UTC September 4 (from 12 UTC September  
260 4 to 0 UTC September 5) was 1.9 hPa per 6 hour in the early genesis stage (3.0 hPa per 6  
261 hour in the late genesis stage). These data allowed evaluation of the contributions of large-  
262 scale environmental conditions to changes in the intensity of Pre-Faxai, although TIFS  
263 forecasts tend to over-forecast slightly in the early genesis stage.

264 Figure 10 shows that the magnitude of the central pressure decreased in Pre-Faxai with  
265 fractions for each TIFS predictor at a forecast time of 6 hour, over interval of 6 hour. The  
266 main predictors with a contribution of a linear effects more than 1.0 hPa per 6 hour were as  
267 follows: the difference between the maximum potential intensity (Emanuel 1986) and the  
268 maximum wind speed of a typhoon (POT), ocean heat content (OHC), and the magnitude  
269 of vertical wind shear (SHDC). Here, a positive value indicates a pressure decrease. With  
270 an average value of +2.8 hPa per 6 hour, the predictor of POT related to the maximum  
271 potential intensity contributed to Pre-Faxai's intensity throughout the genesis stage. The  
272 averaged OHC was +2.6 hPa per 6 hour throughout the genesis stage, significantly  
273 contributing to the development of Pre-Faxai's intensity. The sea surface temperature and  
274 OHC in the central North Pacific during the genesis stage were both very high (sea surface  
275 temperature more than 30°C), and Pre-Faxai passed over this warm ocean (not shown).  
276 The SHDC had an average value of approximately -1.1 hPa per 6 hour in the early genesis

Fig. 10



277 stage from 12 UTC September 2 to 18 UTC September 3, and +1.8 hPa per 6 hour in the  
278 late genesis stage from 00 UTC to 18 UTC September 4. The change in the contribution of  
279 SHDC in the late genesis stage presumably promoted the development of Pre-Faxai.

280 At 12 UTC August 29, the time Pre-Faxai was first detected by the EDA, a deep trough  
281 developed in the upper troposphere (Fig.8b). On September 1, two upper cold lows were  
282 generated and separated from the upper-troposphere trough. In this study, an upper cold  
283 low is defined as a depression with a cold air center in the upper troposphere; it is related to  
284 a cutoff low in either mid-latitude westerlies (Molinari and Vollaro 1989; Postel and Hitchman  
285 1999, Sakamoto and Takahashi 2005) or a tropical upper tropospheric trough cell (Sadler  
286 1976; McTaggart-Cowan et al. 2013). Pre-Faxai moved westward, approaching one of the  
287 upper cold lows around September 3 (Fig. 8c). The TIFS showed that SHDC made a  
288 negative contribution to the development of Pre-Faxai (Fig. 10); the strong vertical shear  
289 south of this upper cold low continued to provide an unfavorable environment for the  
290 development of Pre-Faxai.

291 Figure 11 shows averaged infrared images derived from the Global Precipitation  
292 Measurement and the vertical wind shear between 200 and 850 hPa during the genesis  
293 stage. The infrared images are averaged radially from the Pre-Faxai center to the 100-km  
294 radius. On September 1, clouds were distributed over a wide range under a weak vertical  
295 shear environment. Then, the clouds developed more deeply within a 100-km radius of the

Fig. 11

296 Pre-Faxai center on September 2 under a strong westerly shear environment. They mainly  
297 distributed east of the center of Pre-Faxai ( $0^{\circ}$ - $180^{\circ}$ ). The cloud area was swept to the eastern  
298 side. Although the environment characterized by the warm ocean provided favorable  
299 conditions for the development of Pre-Faxai, the strong vertical shear enhanced by the  
300 upper cold low presumably suppressed the deep clouds. At 18 UTC September 4, westerlies  
301 in the upper troposphere decreased because of the weakening upper cold low (Fig. 8d),  
302 resulting in weak vertical shear around Pre-Faxai (Figs. 10 and 11a). Clouds developed  
303 more deeply within a 100-km radius of the center of Pre-Faxai (Fig. 11b). Pre-Faxai  
304 developed and eventually reached tropical storm intensity, resulting in typhoon genesis.

305

#### 306 **4. Discussion**

307 Our results using JMA-TGS showed that the initial vortex that developed into Pre-Faxai  
308 within the large-scale flow pattern was mainly associated with EWs over the North Pacific.  
309 Dunkerton et al. (2009) estimated the center of a closed cyclone, which was termed a  
310 recirculating Kelvin cat's eye, based on the occurrence of tropical disturbances associated  
311 with EWs over the ENP and North Atlantic. The Kelvin cat's eye within the critical layer  
312 represents the optimal location for the occurrence of tropical disturbances because it  
313 provides a containment area. The area provides a containment effect inside the vortex for  
314 moisture, entrained by the developing circulation and/or lofted by the deep convection

315     therein.

316         As shown in Fig. 7, the large-scale flows of high Grid-EW scores associated with Pre-  
317 Faxai consisted of vortices that moved because of the mean flow. The initial vortex  
318 developed a closed circulation around them. A Kelvin cat's eye presumably developed,  
319 which satisfied the conditions suggested by Dunkerton et al (2009). This is likely to be one  
320 of the reasons that the vortices persisted for long periods prior to dissipation.

321         Regarding the typhoon genesis of Faxai, the key environmental condition that resulted in  
322 the achievement of tropical storm intensity was a decrease in the vertical wind shear. In the  
323 early genesis period, an upper cold low was present to the northwest of Pre-Faxai, which  
324 inhibited the development of Pre-Faxai because of strong vertical wind shear (Figs. 10 and  
325 11); however, the favorable environment around Pre-Faxai throughout the genesis stage  
326 was characterized by a warm ocean and the strong vertical wind shear.

327         A statistical analysis (Fudeyasu and Yoshida 2019) of the genesis of TCs during the 38  
328 years from 1979 to 2016 was performed to determine whether an upper cold low existed  
329 within the northwestern quadrant 1,500 km from the TC center, at the time of the first  
330 detection according to the BT data. In approximately 9% of all TC cases, typhoon genesis  
331 was associated with an upper cold low, which provided favorable conditions for typhoon  
332 genesis because of upper-level divergence and convective available potential energy. When  
333 Pre-Faxai approached the upper cold low, the value of the TIFS predictor related to the

upper-level divergence was -0.1 hPa per 6 hour. This had a minimal effect on typhoon genesis. Pre-Faxai was generated in association with the large-scale flows of EWs, which dominated in the lower troposphere. Along with EWs in the lower troposphere, the vertical wind shear was enhanced by westerly winds in the upper troposphere caused by the upper cold low. Therefore, the upper cold low negatively contributed to the development of the TC. The contribution of upper cold lows to the development of Pre-Faxai may have differed according to environmental factors proposed by Ritchie and Holland (1999). Such contributions should be a research target for future studies.

342

## 343 **5. Conclusion**

This study investigated the contribution of the large-scale environment for the typhoon genesis of Faxai. Using the JMA-TGS, environmental factors proposed by Ritchie and Holland (1999) contributing to the occurrence of Pre-Faxai were revealed. The large-scale flows of EWs were important in this regard. The Grid-EW score averaged for the time and the location where Pre-Faxai was first detected by the EDA was approximately twice as large as the climatological mean for Grid-EW; it was the second largest value in the past 38 years. The area with high Grid-EW scores that developed into Pre-Faxai can be traced back to 158°W on August 25, 2019.

The results of the TIFS forecast showed that the ocean conditions significantly contributed

353 to the development of Pre-Faxai throughout the genesis stage, whereas strong vertical wind  
354 shear would suppress the development of Pre-Faxai. The vertical wind shear was enhanced  
355 by a combination of upper-troposphere westerly winds associated with an upper cold low  
356 and lower-troposphere easterly winds associated with EWs. In the late genesis period, the  
357 contribution of the vertical wind shear increased when the vertical wind shear decreased  
358 because of the weakening upper cold low. Pre-Faxai eventually reached tropical storm  
359 intensity. The key factors for typhoon genesis were the ocean conditions and the temporal  
360 changes in the vertical wind shear caused by the weakening upper cold low.

361 The organized clouds of Pre-Faxai in the area with high Grid-EW scores could be traced  
362 backwards for an extended period from the ENP to the central North Pacific. There remains  
363 no specific explanation for the long genesis stage of Faxai. In addition, the mechanism of  
364 cloud organization leading to Pre-Faxai in the EW remains an open question. However, this  
365 study showed that the environmental factors associated with the genesis of Faxai formed  
366 over the ENP 10 days before typhoon genesis. These results imply that a tropical  
367 disturbance associated with EWs can be predicted over a long period before typhoon  
368 genesis. Monitoring the contributions of large-scale environmental conditions associated  
369 with initial tropical disturbances over the ENP through the Grid-TGS and TIFS is important  
370 for TC disaster prevention over the WNP.

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Abbreviation	Definition
<b>BT</b>	the best track data of the Regional Specialized Meteorological Center Tokyo–Typhoon Center
<b>Clim-Grid-EW</b>	the climatological mean for Grid-EW
<b>EDA</b>	Early Dvorak Analysis
<b>ENP</b>	the eastern North Pacific
<b>EWs</b>	easterly waves
<b>Grid-EW</b>	Grid-TGS score for EW
<b>JMA</b>	Japan Meteorological Agency
<b>JMA-TGS</b>	a modified version of the TGS by the JMA
<b>JRA55</b>	the Japanese 55-year Reanalysis Project
<b>OHC</b>	ocean heat content
<b>Pre-Faxai</b>	the tropical disturbance that developed to Typhoon Faxai
<b>POD</b>	the predictor related to the maximum potential intensity
<b>SDHC</b>	the magnitude of vertical wind shear
<b>T<sub>BB</sub></b>	a blackbody temperature
<b>TGS</b>	TC genesis score

<b>TIFS</b>	Typhoon Intensity Forecast Scheme
<b>WNP</b>	the western North Pacific

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## List of Figures

490

- 491 Fig. 1 Track (solid line) and daily locations at 00 UTC (circles) of Faxai in 2019 derived  
492 from the BT and EDA data. The blue line is the track detected only by the EDA, the  
493 green line denotes the track from the first detection of the BT data to typhoon  
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495 tropical storm intensity.
- 496 Fig. 2 Scores for the environmental factors of Faxai at the 00-h, 24-h, 48-h, and 72-h JMA-  
497 TGS time points, based on the time and position of Faxai at 12 UTC August 29,  
498 2019, according to the EDA. SL, shear line; CR, confluence region; GY, monsoon  
499 gyre; PTC, Rossby wave energy dispersion from a preexisting TC.
- 500 Fig. 3 The distribution of (a) Grid-EW averaged over the 3-day period from 12 UTC August  
501 26 to 12 UTC August 29, 2019, and (b) Clim-Grid-EW averaged over the 3-day  
502 period from 12 UTC August 26 to 12 UTC August 29 from 1979 to 2016. Areas with  
503 values greater than 0.03 are shaded. The cross indicates the position of Pre-Faxai  
504 at 12 UTC August 29, 2019.
- 505 Fig. 4 Daily values of Grid-EW (black) in 2019, average of Clim-Grid-EW (red), 75%  
506 confidence interval (green), and 25% confidence interval (blue) of all cases of Grid-  
507 EW averaged over the region bounded by 5°–20°N and 160°E–160°W.

508    **ig. 5**    Horizontal winds ( $\text{m s}^{-1}$ ; vectors) and relative vorticity ( $\text{s}^{-1}$ ; contour) at 850 hPa and  
509            Grid-EW values (shaded). The contour area indicates a relative vorticity greater  
510            than  $4.0 \times 10^{-5} \text{ s}^{-1}$ , and the contour interval is  $2.0 \times 10^{-5} \text{ s}^{-1}$ . Areas of Grid-EW values  
511            greater than 0.03 are shaded. The cross represents the position of Pre-Faxai  
512            (black) and Typhoon Podul (green).

513    **Fig. 6**    The  $T_{\text{BB}}$  distribution from the infrared images obtained by the GPM mission. The  
514            circles represent the position of Pre-Faxai (red) and Typhoon Podul (green).

515    **Fig. 7**    The 850-hPa co-moving streamlines around Pre-Faxai at (a) 00 UTC August 26,  
516            (b) 00 UTC August 28, (c) 00 UTC September 1, and (d) 00 UTC September 4,  
517            2019. Shading indicates a vertical relative vorticity ( $10^{-5} \text{ s}^{-1}$ ). Purple curves indicate  
518            zero relative zonal flow. The co-moving frame removes  $5 \text{ m s}^{-1}$  west-northwestward  
519            propagation speed. The relative vorticity is not impacted by the co-moving  
520            translation.

521    **Fig. 8**    Winds ( $\text{m s}^{-1}$ ; vectors), geopotential height (contours) at 200 hPa, and the  
522            magnitude of vertical wind shear between 850 and 200 hPa (shaded) at (a) 00 UTC  
523            August 26, (b) 12 UTC August 29, (c) 00 UTC September 3, and (d) 18 UTC  
524            September 4, 2019. The regions with a magnitude of vertical wind shear greater  
525            than  $10 \text{ m s}^{-1}$  are shaded. The contour interval is 50 m. The black circle represents  
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528 at a forecast time of 6 hour (red).

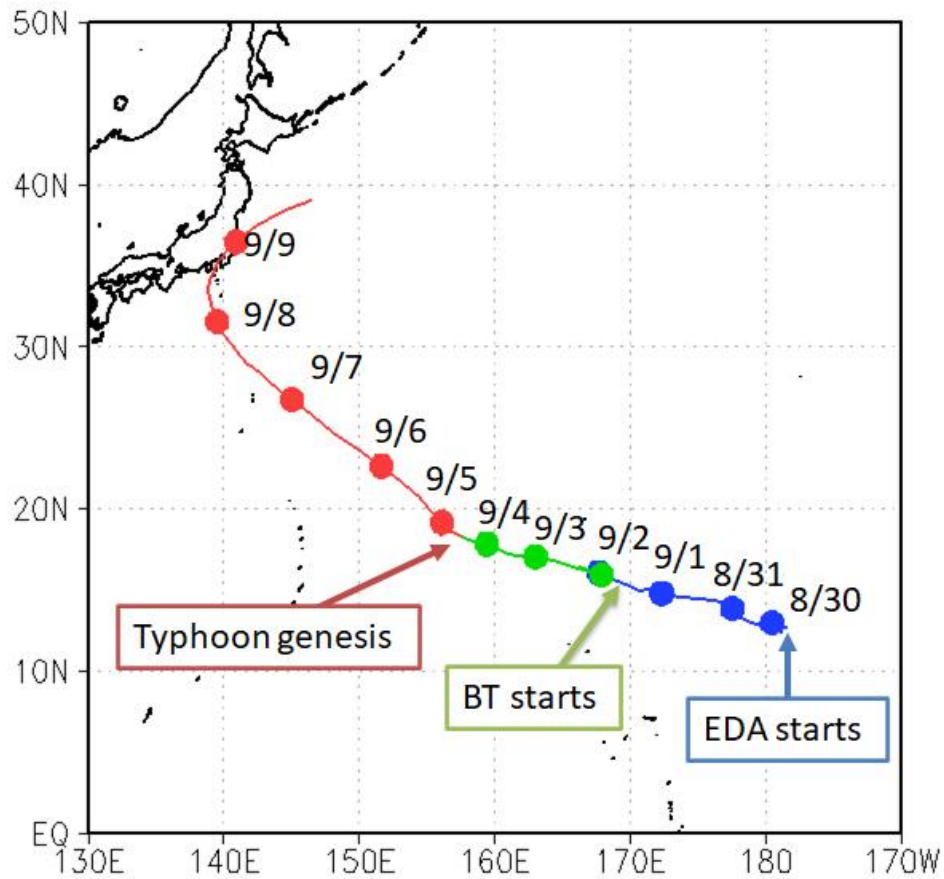
529 Fig. 10 Time series (6-hour intervals) of the contribution of central pressure changes of  
530 Pre-Faxai, divided by three main predictors, derived from the TIFS at a forecast  
531 time of 6 hour. Note that positive (negative) values indicate development (decline)  
532 of Pre-Faxai's intensity.

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534 radius of the TC center (arrows; scale at bottom left). (b)  $T_{BB}$  distribution (shaded;  
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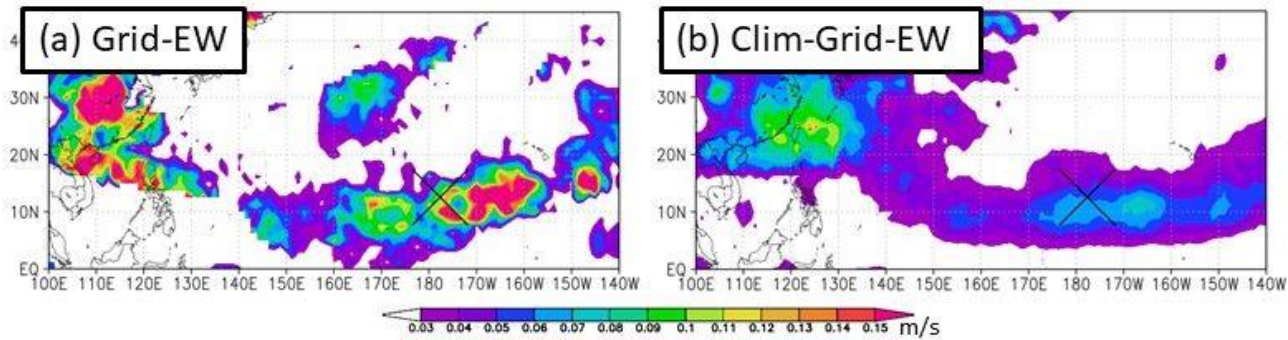
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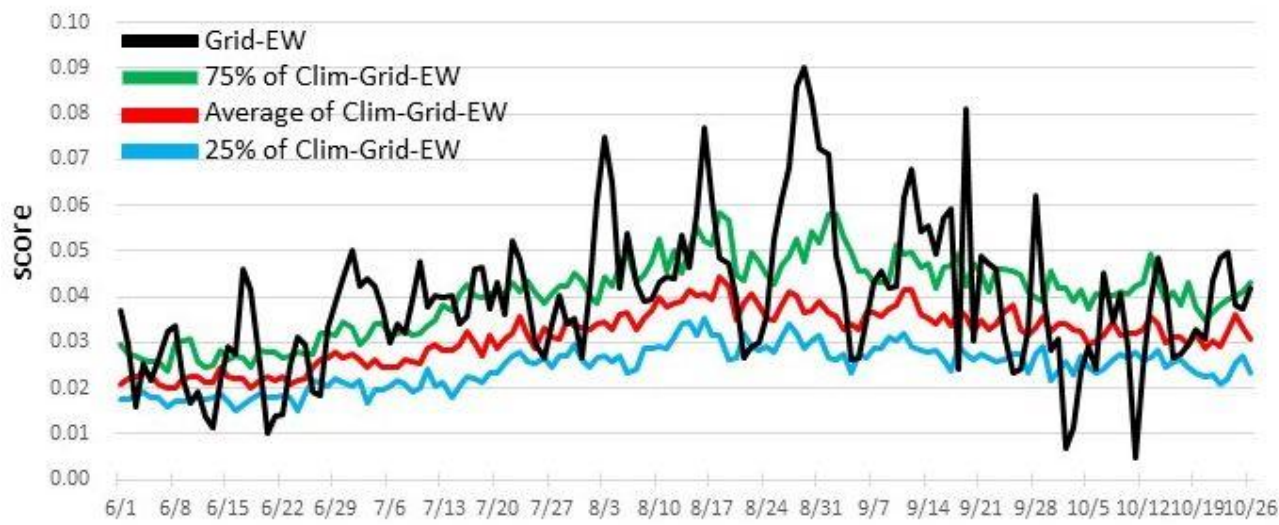
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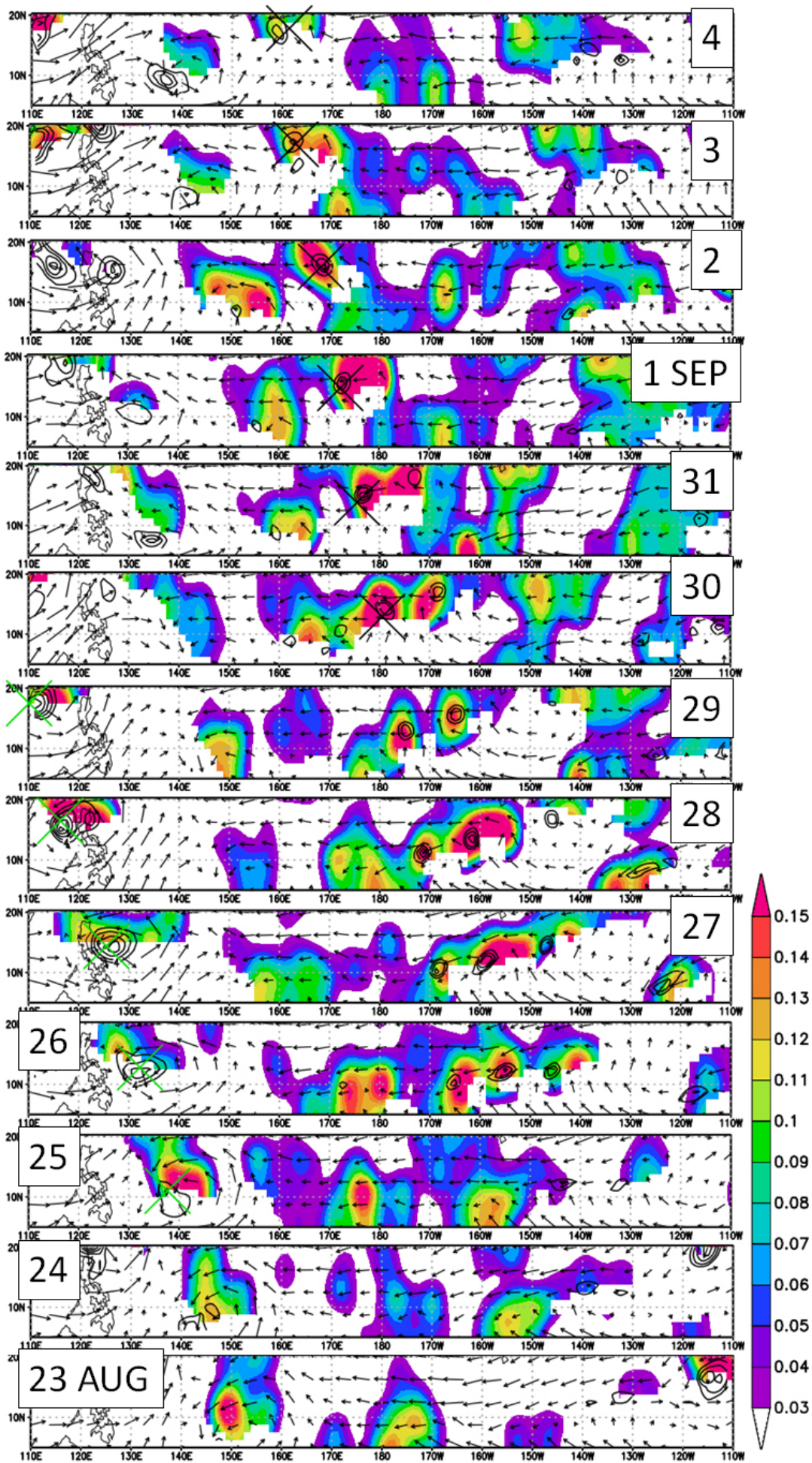
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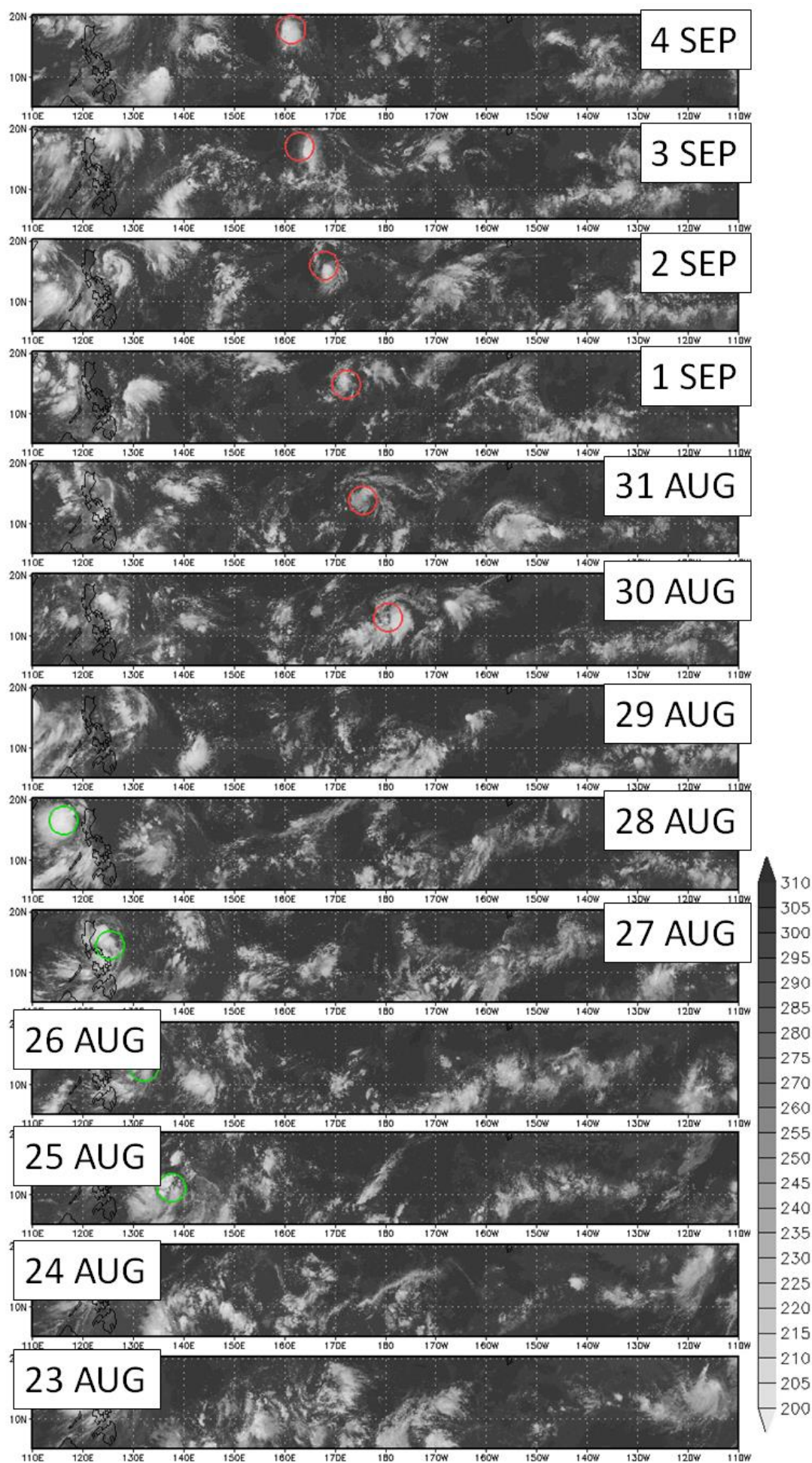
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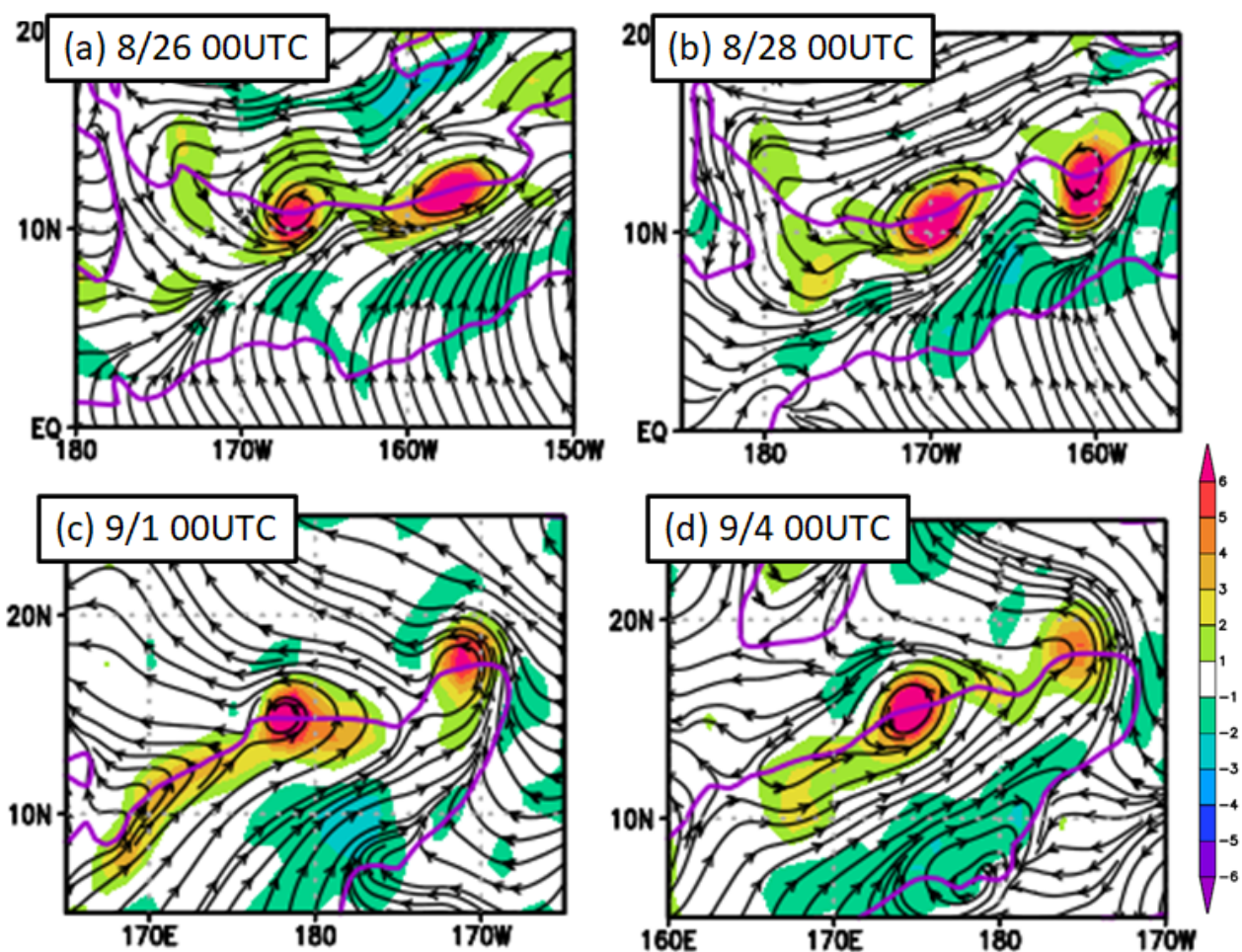


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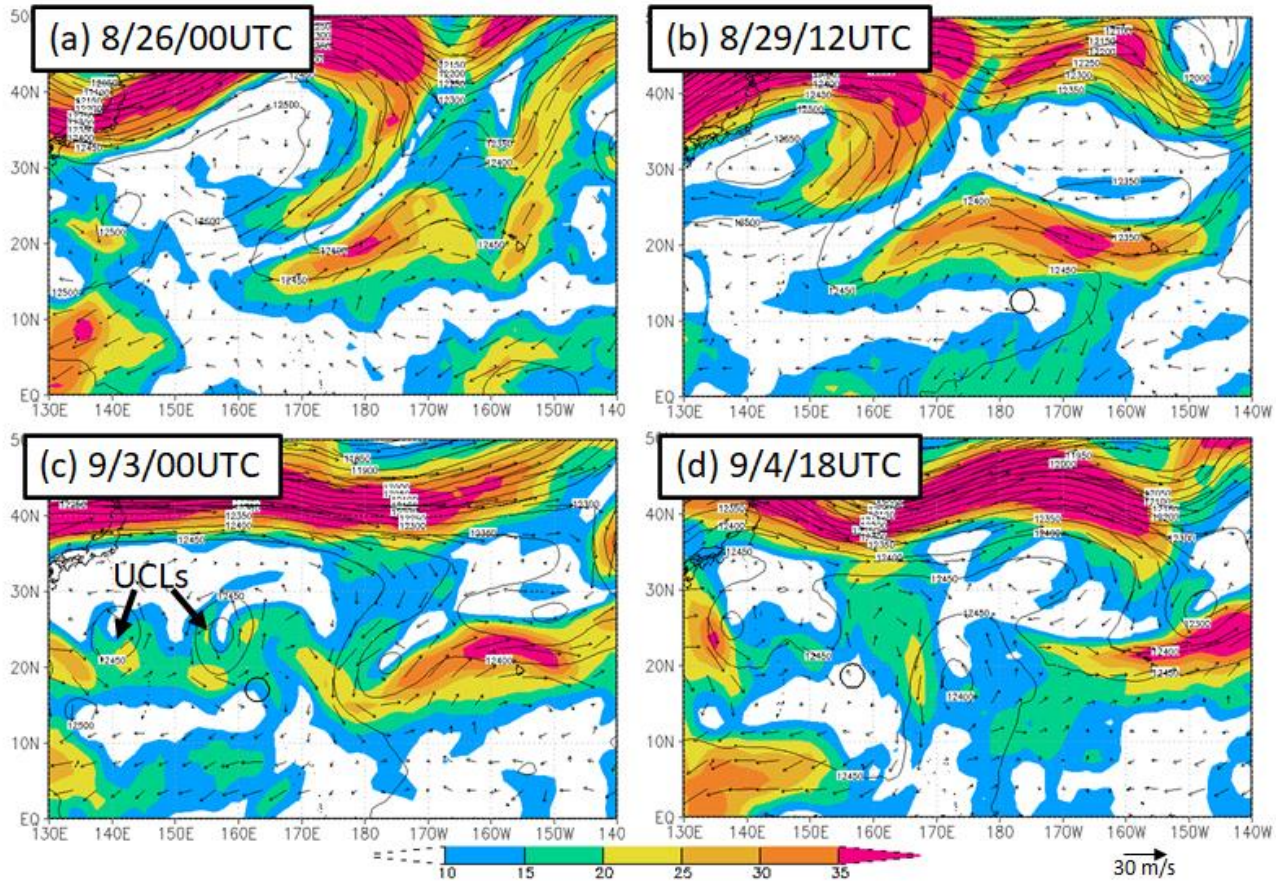


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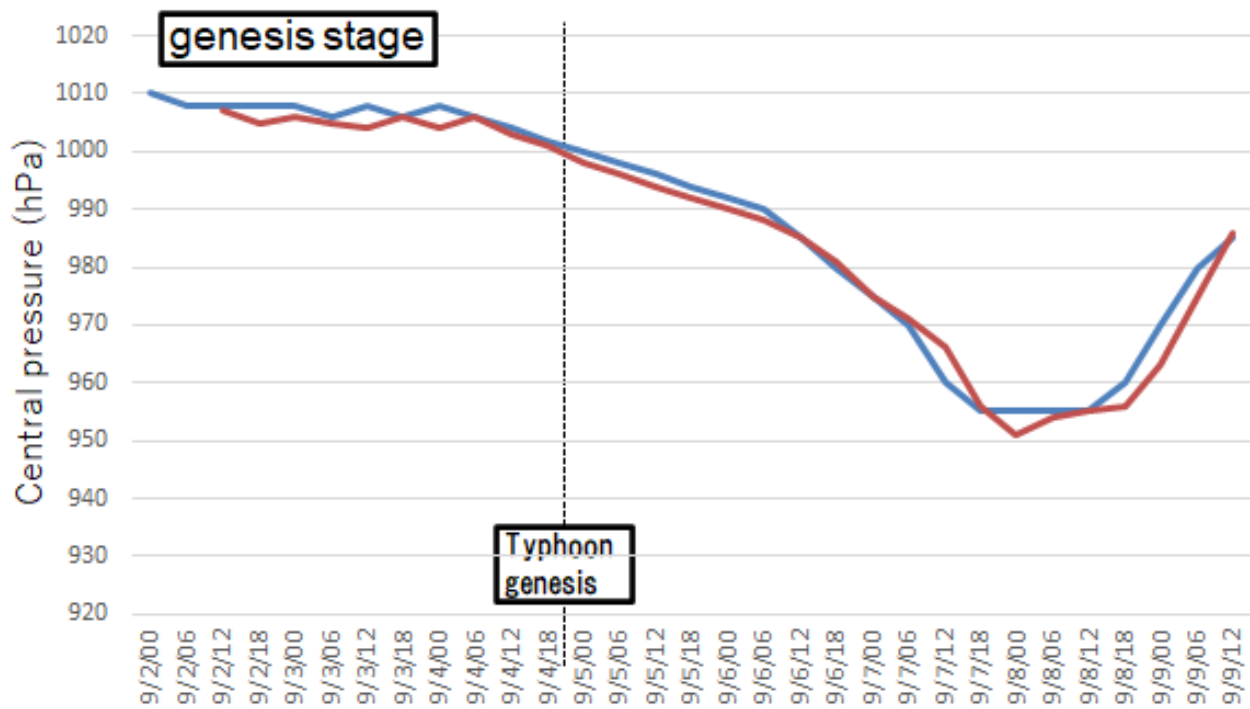


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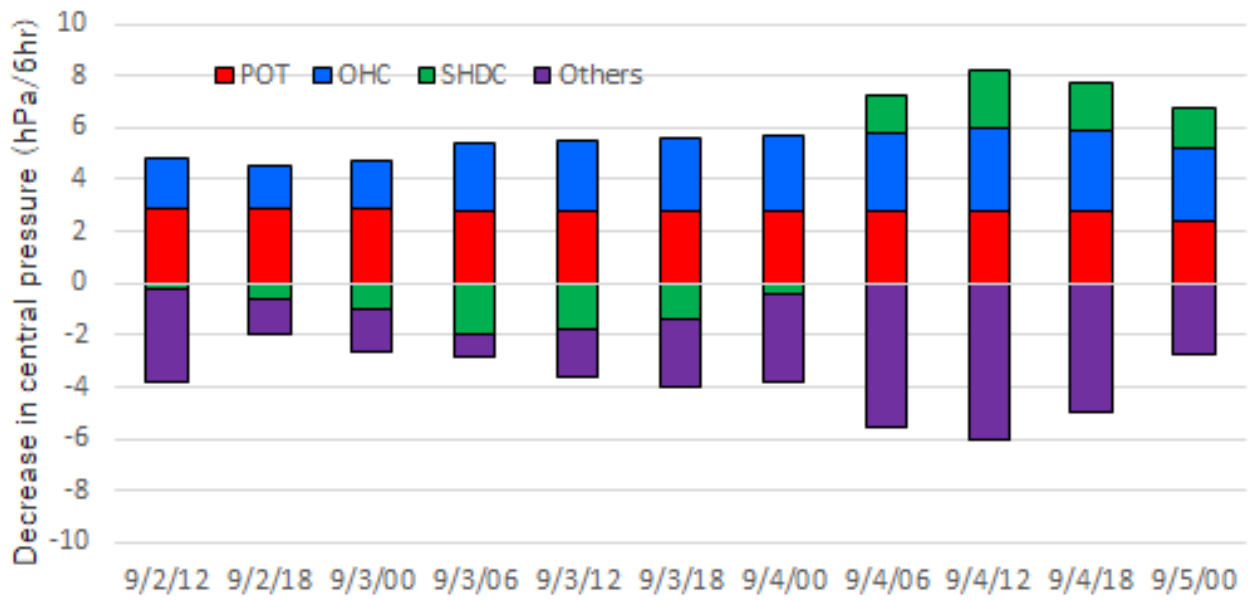


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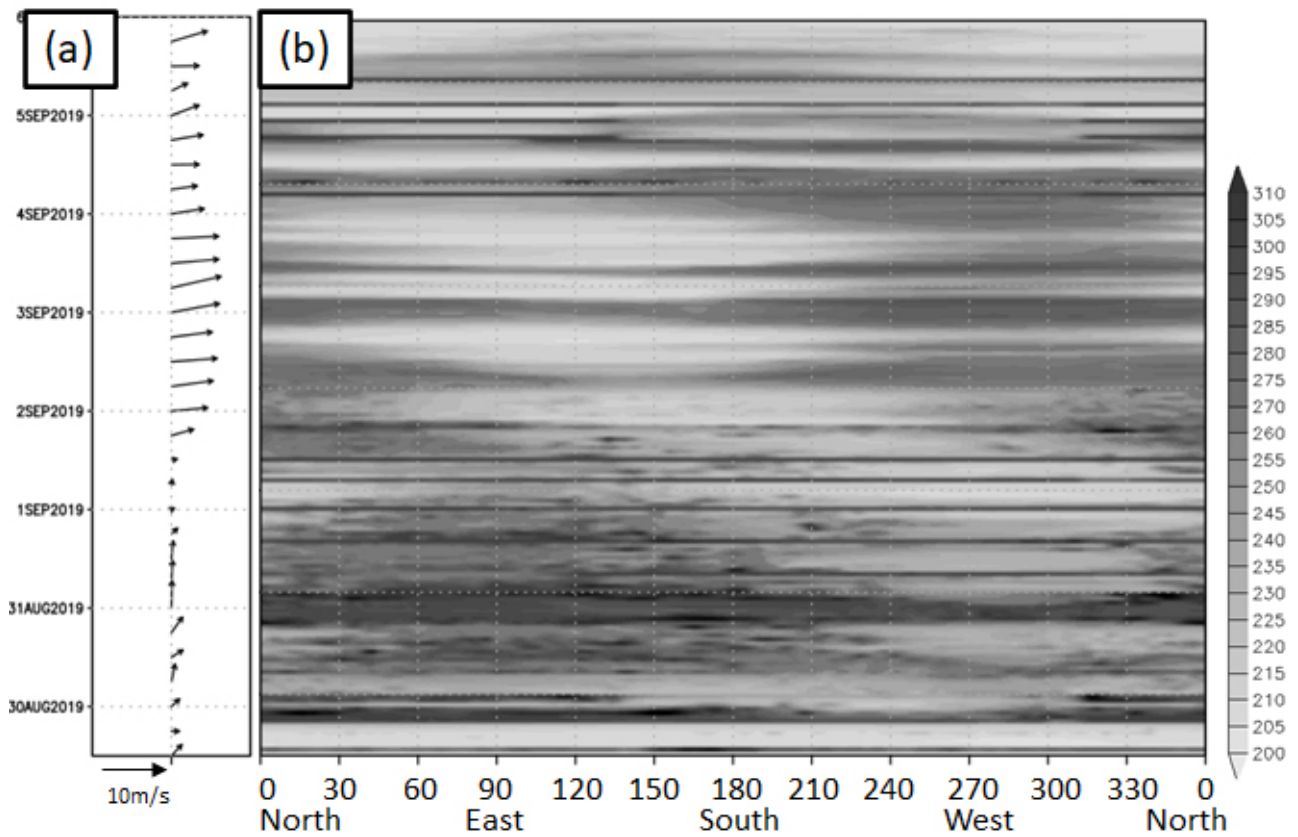


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