Indian Summer Monsoon: Delayed Global Teleconnection Could Provide Better Seasonal Outlook

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Understanding the 'scatter' between Nino 3.4 SST Anomaly and ISMR



- SST over Nino 3.4 in JJAS and ISMR shows interannual correlation of -0.53. However, there seems a bearing of previous winter's Nino 3.4 SST on summer monsoon.
- Winter La Nina seems decrease summer monsoon. [Chakraborty A, 2018, Env Res Lett]









Knowing last winter's ENSO condition improves ENSO-Monsoon relationship



How Does It Impact?



Off-equatorial high with +ve Nino 3.4 SST in winter moves to northwest Pacific Ocean in next summer.

Mass(m) = Ps/g

Mass is a function of vertical temperature structure





Regression of DJF SST with Ps and Qflx

That in turn decreases eastward moisture flux over Bay of Bengal (more convergence).



Onset of monsoon and west Asian surface pressure in May



Chakraborty and Agrawal, 2017, Env Res Lett, Role of West Asian Surface Pressure on Summer Monsoon Onset over Central India.

We Observe Signature of Transition of ENSO phase in surface pressure. Composite of Ps averaged between 20-30N.



- Increase in Ps west of India for La Nina to Neutral Years.
- This decreases north-south pressure gradient.
- In turn, low-level westerlies over Arabian Sea decreases.
- That decreases moisture flux toward India.

Seasonal evolution of surface pressure anomaly along 20-30N shows dominant interannual modes



^{1.6 - 1.4 - 1.2 - 1.0 - 0.8 - 0.6 - 0.4 - 0.2 0.0 0.2 0.4 0.6 0.8 1.0 1.2 1.4 1.6}



What happed in 2018?

Surface Pressure Anomaly Evolution in 2018 shows a typical sign of La Nina to Neutral Transition



June-September Sea Surface Temperature

We know that mean state is important to understand teleconnection. We find here that the direction of change in state could be as important.



La Nina Winter to Neutral Summer

El Nino Winter to Neutral Summer





Proposed model of teleconnection:

Impact (t)~
$$\xrightarrow{Forcing}$$

Summary and Open Questions The impact of summer ENSO on ISMR is modulated by the state of ENSO in preceding winter.

ENSO-ISMR relationship is stronger conditioned upon La Nina or El Nino in preceding winter.

□Winter La Nina decreases summer monsoon and is responsible for severe droughts when summer is El Nino.

This provides opportunity for improved seasonal outlook of monsoon rainfall.

Questions:

- Do coupled climate models capture this observed evolution of climate from winter to summer?
- ■When exactly should we initiate a seasonal prediction using coupled model? Too early increases forecast error due to lead-time. Too late does not capture the evolution of the climate.

Can a mathematical model be designed to capture the asymmetry between El Nino and La Nina?