

<sub>1</sub> Supplementary Information for “A global increase  
<sub>2</sub> in nearshore tropical cyclone intensification” by  
<sub>3</sub> Balaguru, K., et al.

<sub>4</sub>

## 5 Supplementary text 1

6 While we broadly attributed changes in VWS to various processes based on SWM  
7 experiments in the main text, here we conduct a more detailed examination of those  
8 results and mechanisms. Figs. 4c-4e depict the decomposition of the SWM response  
9 (Fig. 4b) into three components: the change caused by anomalous diabatic heating  
10 (Fig. 4c), the evolving basic states (Fig. 4d), and the anomalous transient forcing  
11 (Fig. 4e). The similarity between Fig. 4b and Fig. 4c across the Western Hemi-  
12 sphere suggests that much of the shear response along the US coast and Mexican  
13 west coast is linked to changes in diabatic heating forced by anthropogenic warming  
14 (Supplementary Fig. 9a). Previously[1], it was proposed that the meridional dipole  
15 structure of shear response over the Central and North America is mainly excited  
16 by enhanced heating over the tropical eastern Pacific, with the secondary contribu-  
17 tion arising from the anomalous diabatic cooling over the tropical North Atlantic  
18 (Supplementary fig. 9a). Circulation responses at different levels are largely consis-  
19 tent with Gill model's solution [2]. Furthermore, the projected changes in tropical  
20 heating are primarily shaped by the spatial pattern of future SST warming [3, 4, 5].  
21 An altered zonal mean basic state is acting to decrease the VWS over Northeast Asia  
22 and the North Indian Ocean, while simultaneously causing a slight increase in shear  
23 near 40°N over North America (Fig. 4d). In accordance with the anomalous cyclone  
24 centered near the Tibetan Plateau, the westerly jet near Korea and Japan, as well as  
25 the the upper-level easterlies on the southern side of the Asian monsoon anticyclone  
26 both weaken (Supplementary fig. 10). Meanwhile, anomalous anticyclones above  
27 Hawaii and the tropical-subtropical North Atlantic result in a slight enhancement  
28 of extratropical westerlies over the northern US (Supplementary fig. 10). These  
29 upper-level circulation changes are consistent with the observed reductions in VWS  
30 over Northeast Asia and the North Indian Ocean, as well as the slight enhancement  
31 of shear near 40°N over North America (Fig. 4d). Upon closer examination, it  
32 is observed that the changes in basic states cause an overall decline in stationary  
33 wave circulations, especially south of 40°N (Supplementary fig. 10). This outcome  
34 aligns with the slowdown of tropical convective circulations that occur in a warmer  
35 climate [6, 7]. The coupling between vertical motion and rotational winds occurs  
36 through Sverdrup balance [8, 9]. Alternatively, the upper tropospheric vorticity can  
37 be altered by the divergent winds through vortex stretching and vorticity advection,  
38 and one may interpret convectively forced upper-level divergence as a source for  
39 Rossby waves [10]. Decreased convective mass fluxes in the tropics, along with the  
40 slower overturning circulation, can be primarily attributed to the heightened static

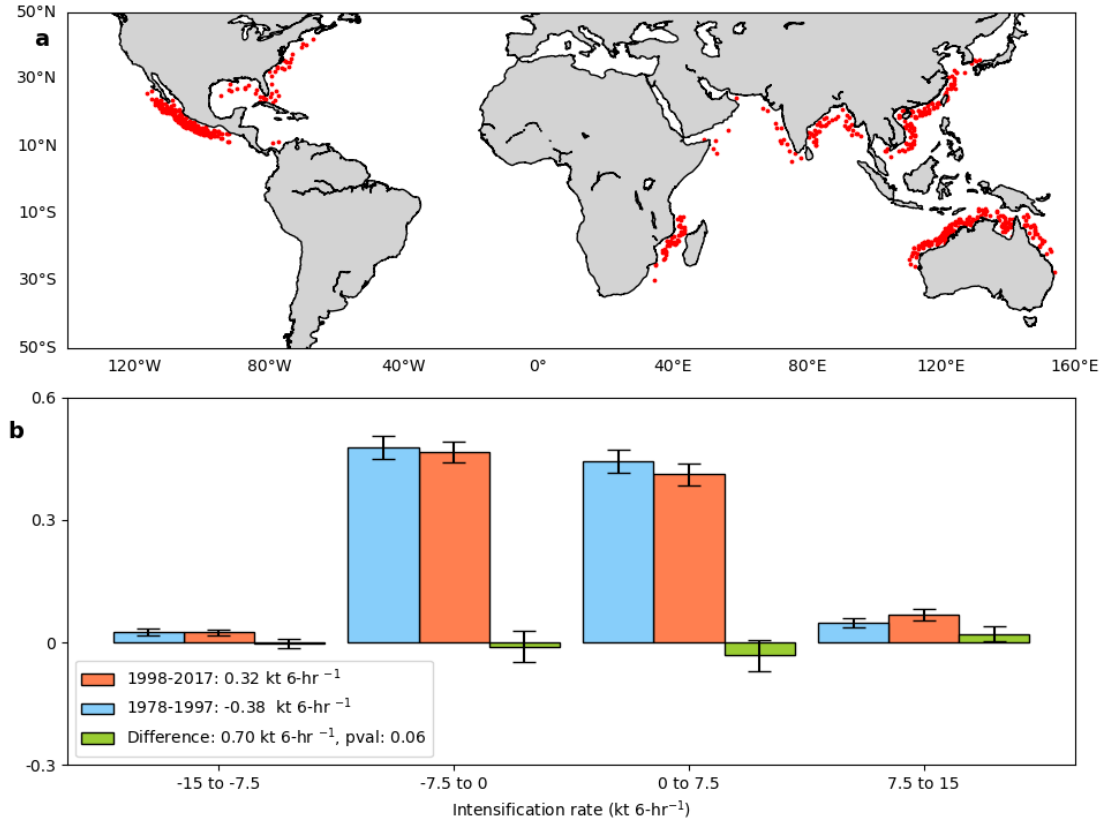
41 stability of the tropical-subtropical troposphere (Supplementary Fig. 9b), which is  
 42 a robust consequence of the quasi-moist adiabatic adjustment to surface warming  
 43 [11, 12, 13]. From the perspective of energy balance, the strength of the atmospheric  
 44 overturning circulation must decrease as the climate warms because precipitation  
 45 changes are constrained by small variations in radiative fluxes and cannot increase  
 46 as fast as lower tropospheric moisture content [14, 6, 7]. An additional sensitivity  
 47 experiment was conducted to further investigate the impact of increased warming in  
 48 the upper troposphere on shear changes. The experiment only retains the enhanced  
 49 upper-level warming (not shown). Interestingly, as compared to Figure 4d, the  
 50 spatial pattern of VWS response over the Northern Hemisphere remains largely  
 51 unchanged (not shown). Thus, we conclude that the enhanced static stability plays  
 52 a crucial role in reducing the VWS across Northeast Asia and the North Indian  
 53 Ocean.

54 Climate change-induced anomalous heating has contrasting effects on the VWS over  
 55 different regions. It contributes to a decrease in VWS near Taiwan and the south-  
 56 eastern coast of China, but tends to strengthen VWS over northeast Asia and the  
 57 northern Indian Ocean (Fig. 4c). Further investigation reveals that the meridional  
 58 tripole-like pattern of VWS change over the Asian continent and the western North  
 59 Pacific (Fig. 4c) is mainly driven by the formation of a heat-induced stationary  
 60 baroclinic Rossby wave (Supplementary fig. 11). The circulation response exhibits  
 61 a phase reversal in its vertical structure (Supplementary fig. 11) and is likely re-  
 62 inforced by intensified heat sources over the western North Pacific and the Indian  
 63 sub-continent (Supplementary fig. 9a)[15], consistent with the projected increases  
 64 of monsoon precipitation over these regions [16, 17, 18, 19, 20]. At 200 hPa, the  
 65 anomalous high contributes to an acceleration of the jet on its northern and south-  
 66 ern flanks (Supplementary fig. 11a), which causes the VWS to increase between  
 67 40°N and 50°N and above the northern Indian Ocean (Figs. 4b and 4c). On the  
 68 other hand, the strengthened easterly wind between 20°N and 30°N (Supplementary  
 69 fig. 11a) counteracts the weak westerlies above Taiwan and the coastal region of  
 70 southeastern China, reducing the shear over these regions (Fig. 4c).

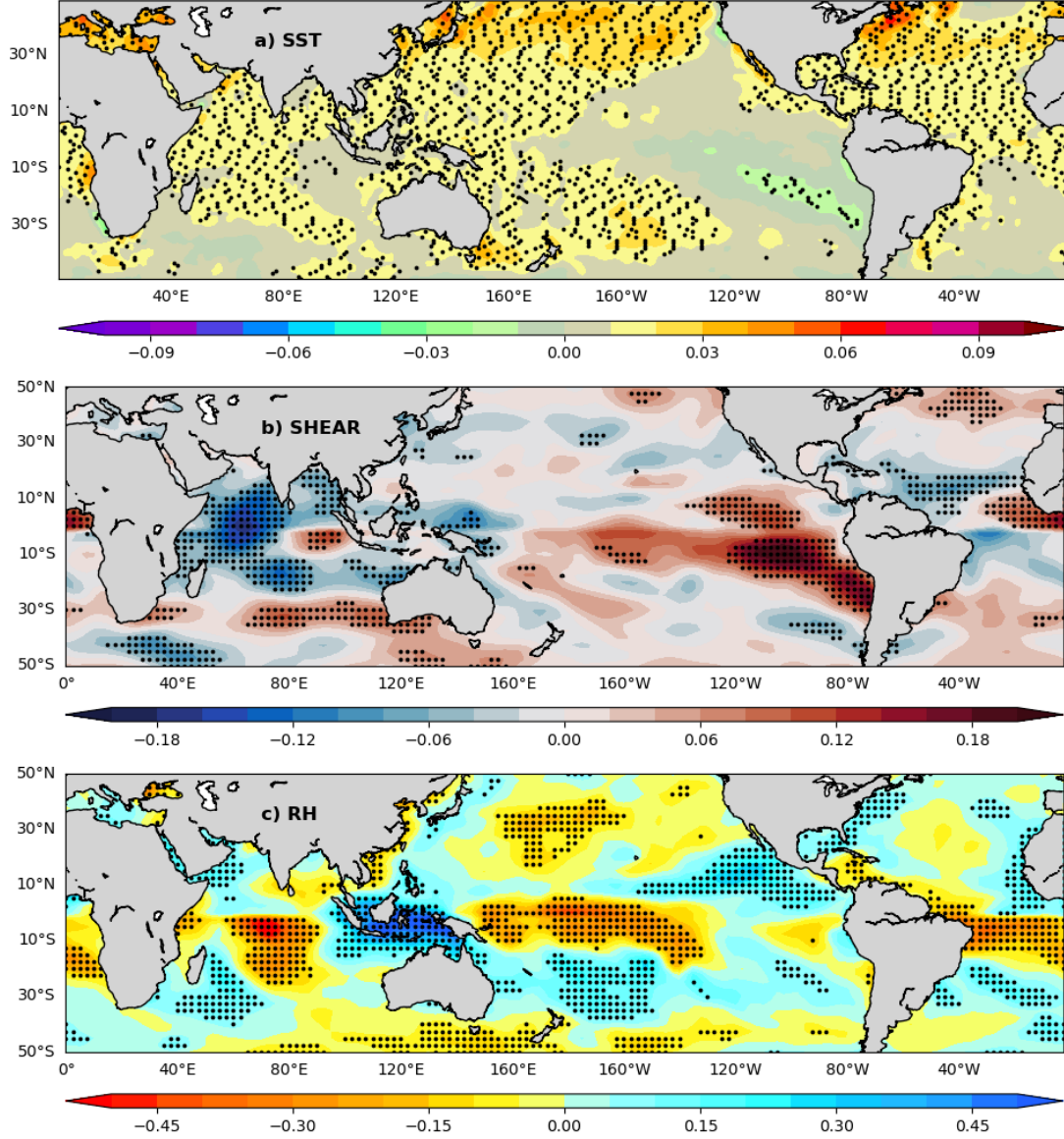
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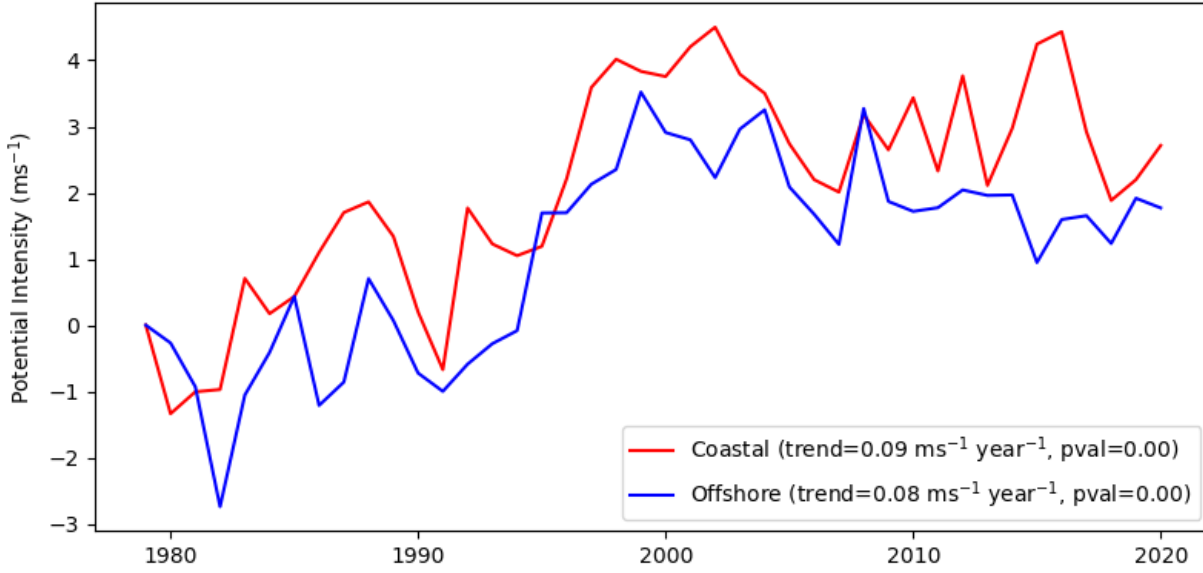
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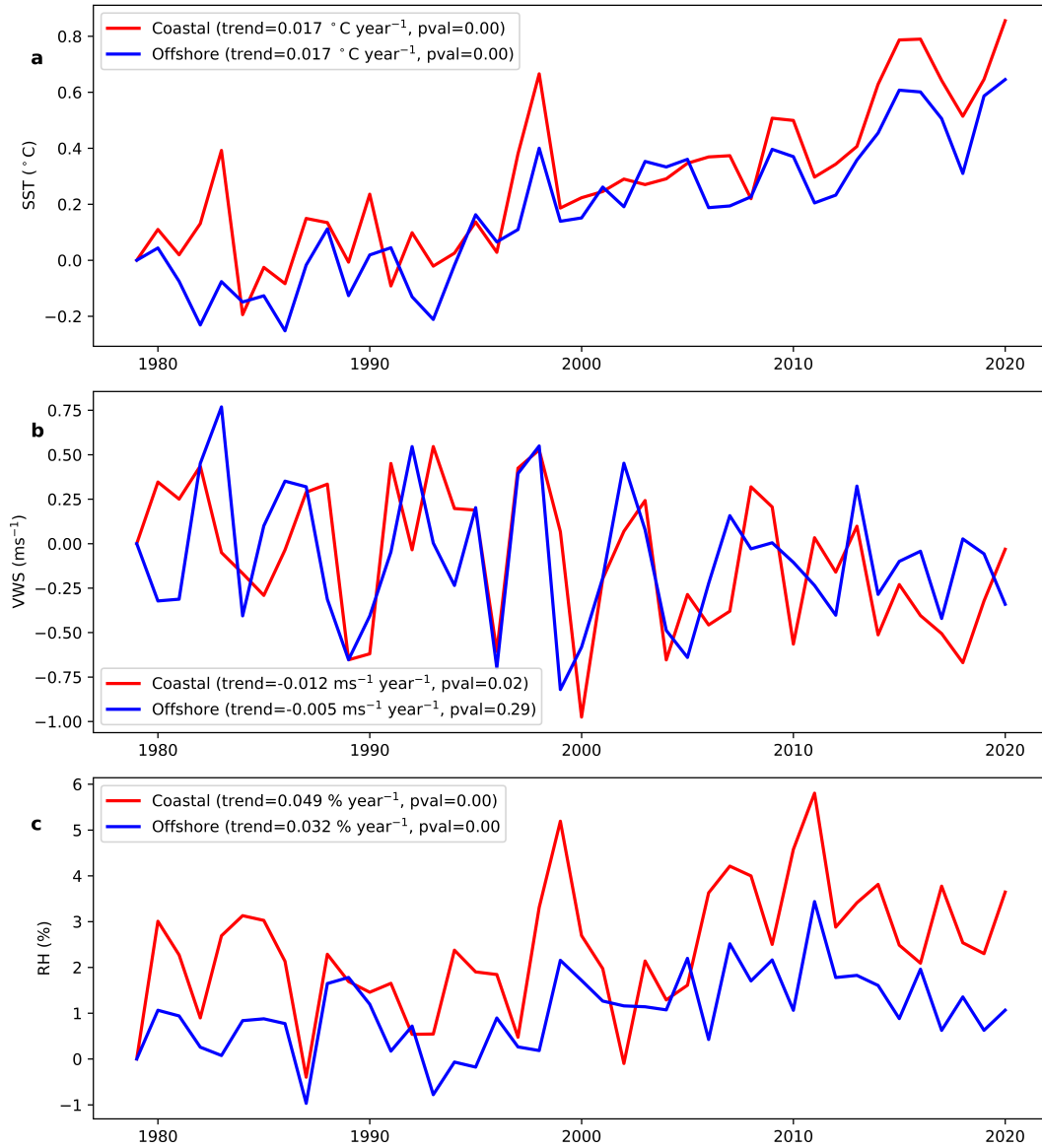
**Supplementary figure 1: Observed changes in TC intensification based on ADT-HURSAT (1978-2017)** a) Nearshore TC track locations used in this analysis. b) Probability distributions of 24-hr intensification rates for the initial period (1978-1997) in blue, later period (1998-2017) in orange and the difference in green. The mean TC intensification rates for the two periods and the mean difference, including the p-value, are shown in the figure legend. A Student's t-test for difference of means is used to ascertain statistical significance. The error bars have been estimated using the Monte Carlo method of repeated random sampling. Note that the data have been sub-sampled to ensure that distributions of storm state are statistically similar for the two periods (see 'Methods'). TC track data are based on ADT-HURSAT [21].



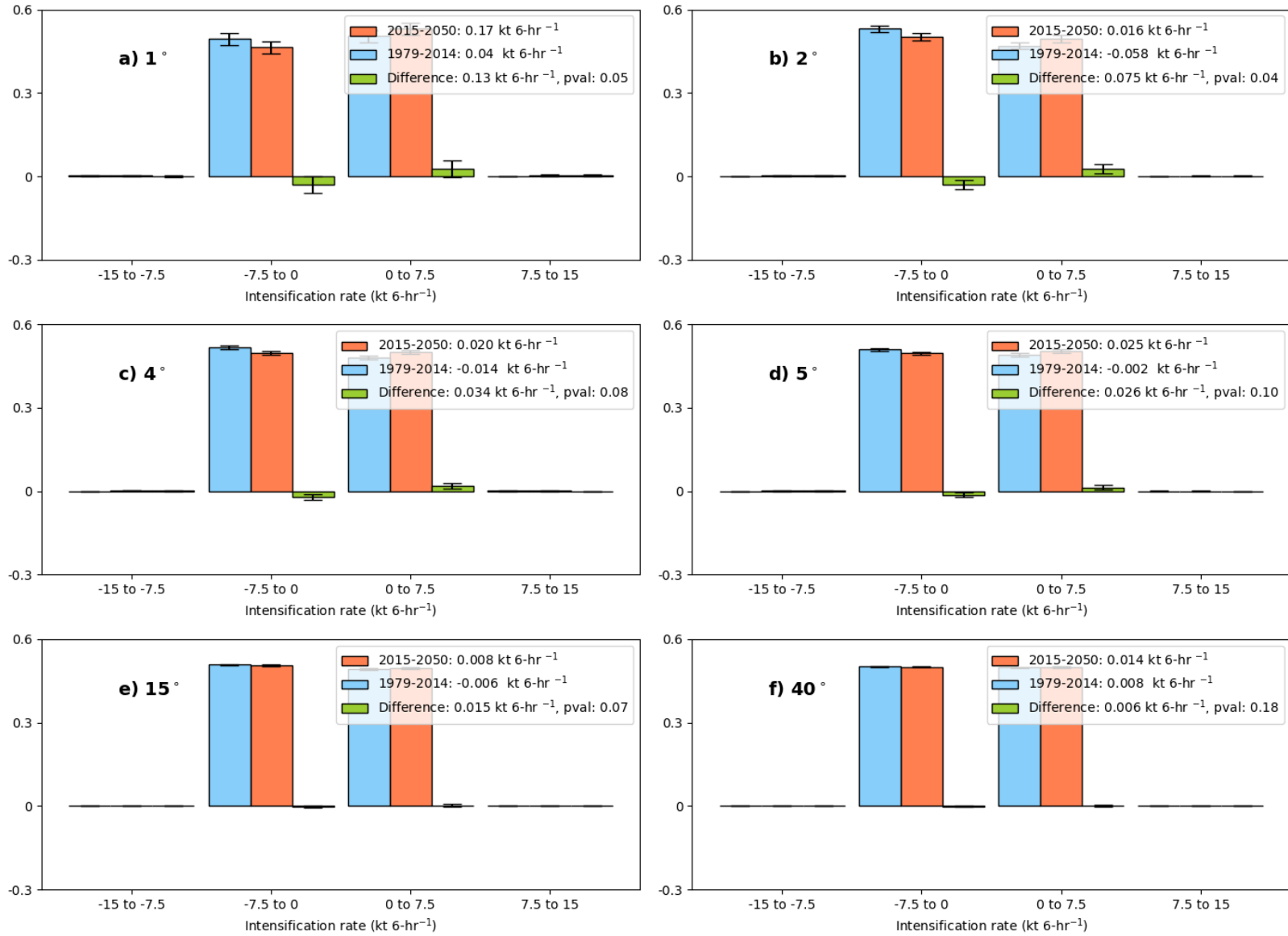
**Supplementary figure 2: Observed trends in TC environment (1979-2020)**  
Trends in a) SST ( $^{\circ}\text{C year}^{-1}$ ), b) VWS ( $\text{m s}^{-1} \text{ year}^{-1}$ ) and c) RH ( $\% \text{ year}^{-1}$ ) for the 42-year period 1979-2020. The parameters have been averaged over the months of June-October in the Northern Hemisphere and December-April in the Southern Hemisphere. While the SST data are from the UK Met Office's Hadley Center [22], atmospheric winds and humidity are from NCEP-DOE II reanalysis [23]. Stippling indicates that trends are statistically significant at the 5% level.



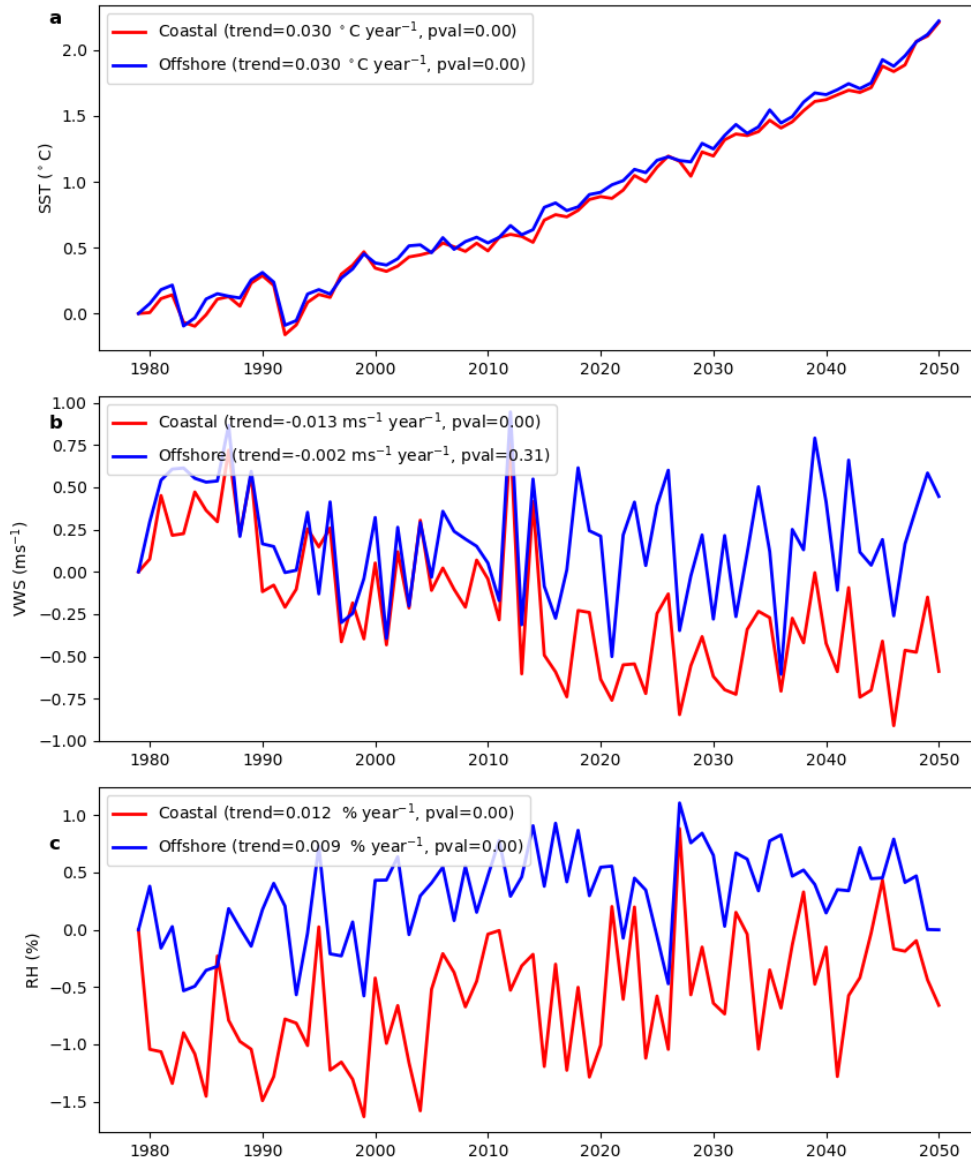
**Supplementary figure 3: Observed trends in Potential Intensity(1979-2020)** Nearshore and Offshore trends in thermodynamic Potential Intensity (ms<sup>-1</sup> year<sup>-1</sup>) for the 42-year period 1979-2020. Potential Intensity has been averaged over the months of June-October in the Northern Hemisphere and December-April in the Southern Hemisphere. Here, Potential Intensity is computed using SST data from the UK Met Office's Hadley Center [22], atmospheric winds, humidity and sea-level pressure from NCEP-DOE II reanalysis [23]. The trend values and p-values for statistical significance are provided in the legend. Consistent with SST, trends in Potential Intensity for nearshore and offshore locations are similar.



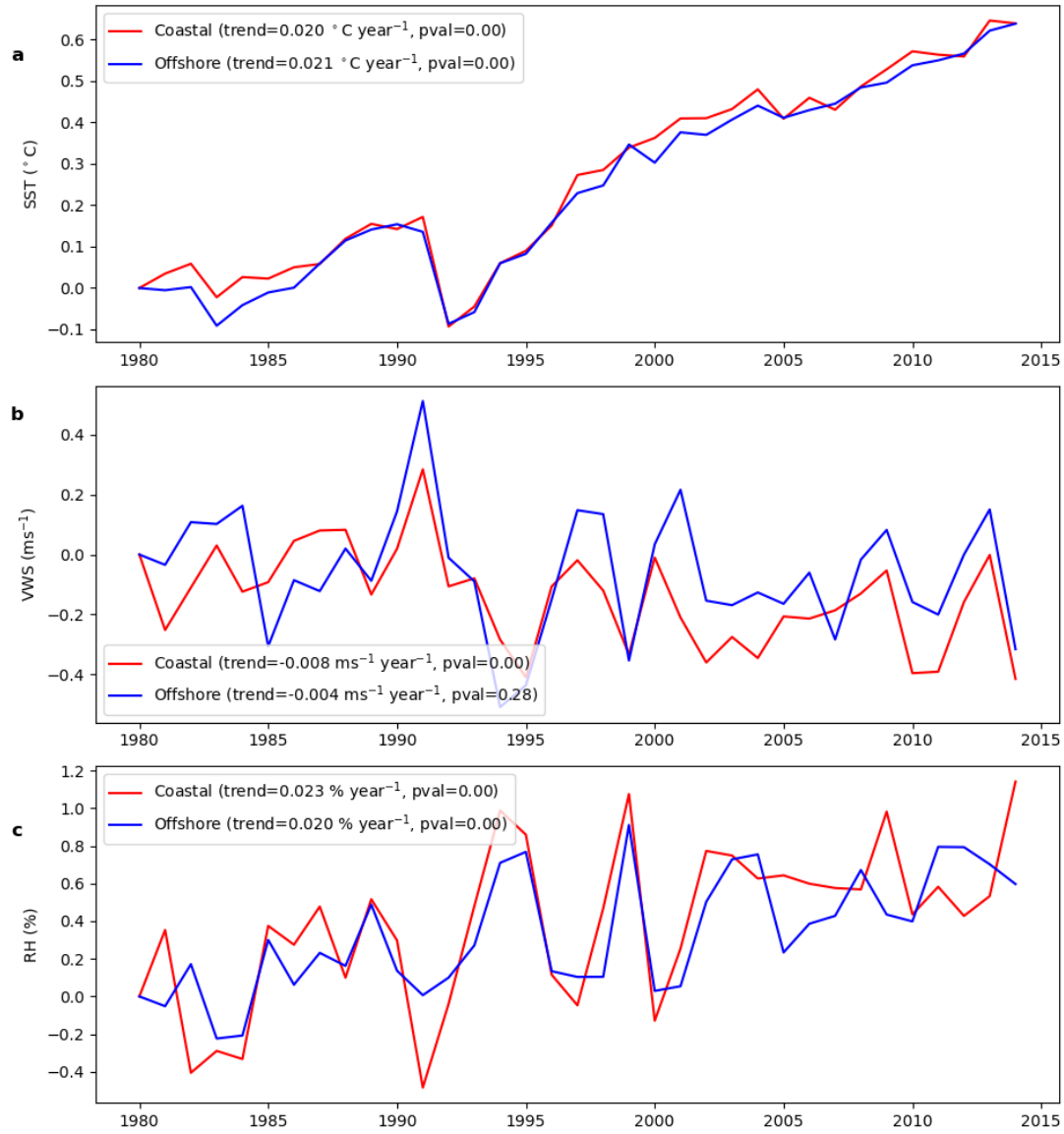
**Supplementary figure 4: Observed trends in TC environment based on ERA5 (1979-2020)** 42-year trends in a) SST (°C year<sup>-1</sup>), b) Vertical Wind Shear (ms<sup>-1</sup> year<sup>-1</sup>), and c) Relative Humidity at 600 hPa (% year<sup>-1</sup>). The parameters have been averaged over the months of June-October in the Northern Hemisphere and December-April in the Southern Hemisphere. The trend values and the p-values for statistical significance, based on the Student's t-test, are shown in the figure legends. For further details regarding the domains used for averaging, please see 'Methods'. Trends are based on ERA5 atmospheric reanalysis [24].



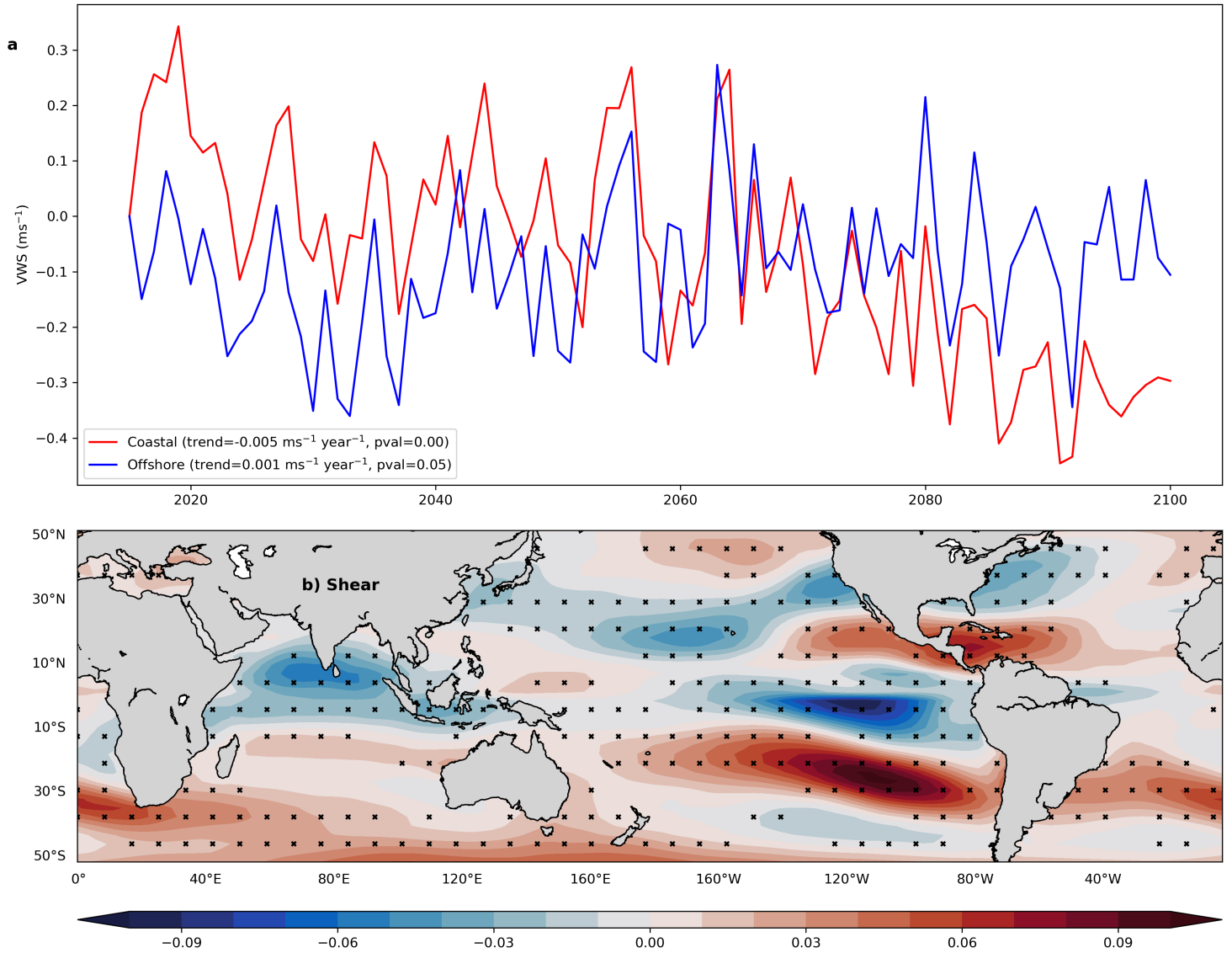
**Supplementary figure 5: Sensitivity to the distance threshold** Probability distributions of 24-hr intensification rates for the historical period (1979-2014) in blue, later period (2015-2050) in orange and the difference in green for various distance thresholds. The mean TC intensification rates for the two periods and the mean difference, including the p-value, are shown in the figure legend. Also shown in each figure is the corresponding distance threshold used. The error bars have been estimated using the Monte Carlo method of repeated random sampling. Note that the data have been sub-sampled to ensure that distributions of storm state are statistically similar for the two periods (see ‘Methods’). TC track data are obtained from 5 fully coupled climate models belonging to HighResMIP [25]. See ‘Methods’ for more details regarding the various models and simulations used.



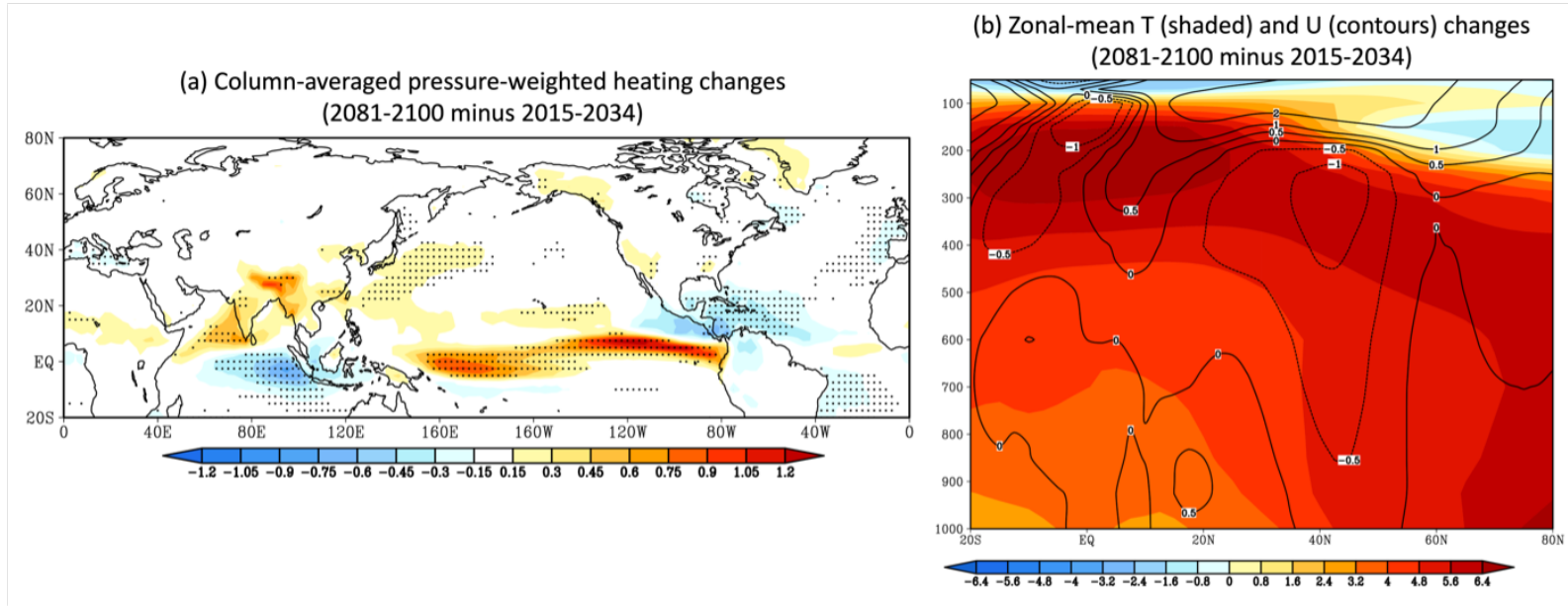
**Supplementary figure 6: Projected trends in TC environment based on HighResMIP (1979-2050)** Multi-model ensemble mean trends in a) SST ( $^{\circ}\text{C year}^{-1}$ ), b) VWS ( $\text{ms}^{-1}\text{ year}^{-1}$ ) and c) RH ( $\text{\% year}^{-1}$ ) for the 72-year period 1979-2050 based on 5 fully-coupled HighResMIP models. The parameters have been averaged over the months of June-October in the Northern Hemisphere and December-April in the Southern Hemisphere. The trend values and the p-values for statistical significance, based on the Student's t-test, are shown in the figure legends. The future climate corresponds to the SSP585 emissions scenario. For more details regarding the various models used, see 'Methods'.



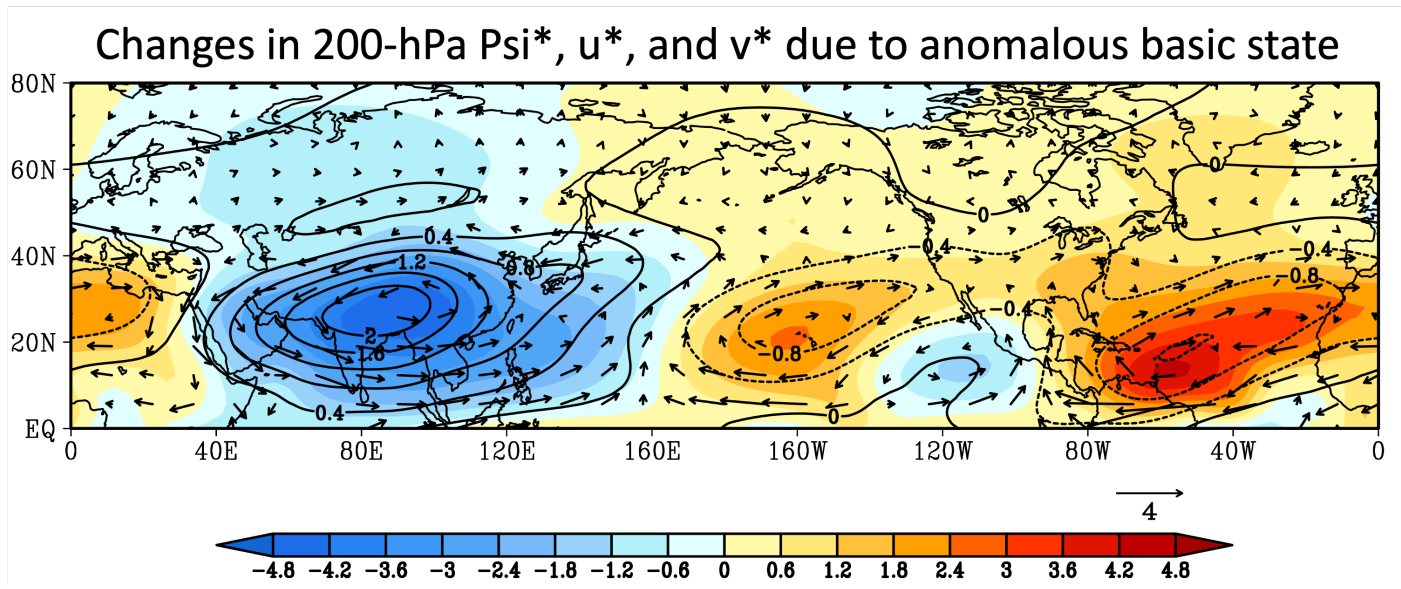
**Supplementary figure 7: Simulated trends in TC environment based on CMIP6 (1980-2014)** Multi-model ensemble mean trends in a) SST (°C year<sup>-1</sup>), b) VWS (ms<sup>-1</sup> year<sup>-1</sup>) and c) RH (% year<sup>-1</sup>) for the 35-year period 1980-2014 based on 15 CMIP6 models. The parameters have been averaged over the months of June-October in the Northern Hemisphere and December-April in the Southern Hemisphere. The trend values and the p-values for statistical significance, based on the Student's t-test, are shown in the figure legends. For more details regarding the various models used, see 'Methods'.



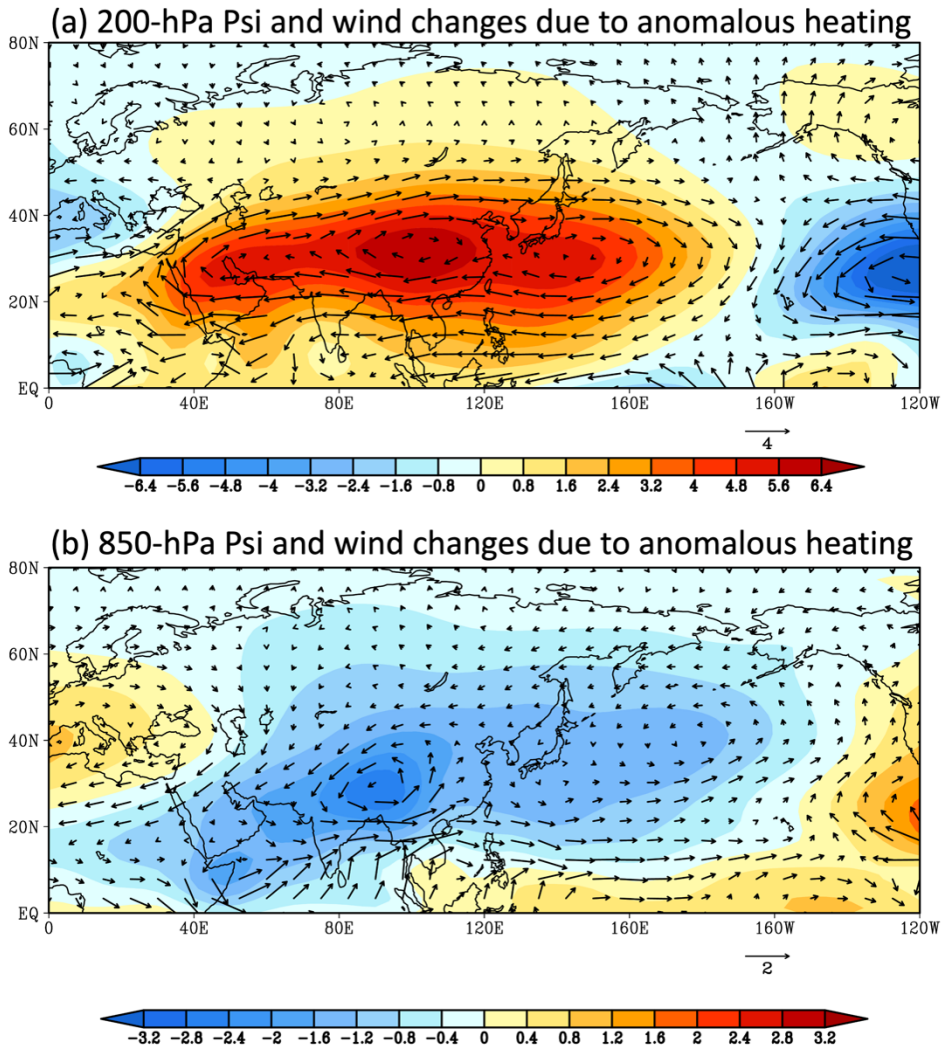
**Supplementary figure 8: Projected long-term trends in VWS based on CMIP6 (2015-2100)** Multi-model ensemble mean trends in VWS ( $\text{ms}^{-1} \text{ year}^{-1}$ ) for the 86-year period 2015-2100 based on 15 fully-coupled CMIP6 models. The parameters have been averaged over the months of June-October in the Northern Hemisphere and December-April in the Southern Hemisphere. In panel a, for trends averaged over the nearshore and offshore regions, the trend values and the p-values for statistical significance based on the Student's t-test are shown in the figure legend. The future climate corresponds to the SSP585 emissions scenario. For more details regarding the various models used, see 'Methods'.



**Supplementary figure 9: Projected changes in global diabatic heating and zonal-mean basic states (2015-2100)** a) Projected changes in column-averaged pressure-weighted diabatic heating ( $\text{K day}^{-1}$ ) by 15 CMIP6 models. Stippling indicates locations where the ensemble-mean changes are statistically significant at the 95% confidence level. (b) Zonal-mean zonal wind ( $\text{m s}^{-1}$ ) and temperature (K) responses to climate change in 15 CMIP6 models. ‘Change’ indicates the difference between the mean over the late 21st period (2081-2100) and the near future (2015-2034) epoch.



**Supplementary figure 10: Atmospheric circulation response to basic state changes** Contribution from the anomalous zonal mean basic state to changes in the 200-hPa eddy streamfunction (shaded,  $10^6 \text{ m}^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$ ) and winds (vector,  $\text{m s}^{-1}$ ). 200-hPa eddy streamfunction in the CTRL experiment is represented by black contours ( $10^7 \text{ m}^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$ ).



**Supplementary figure 11: Atmospheric circulation response to heating changes** a) Contribution from the anomalous heating to changes in the streamfunction (shaded,  $10^6 \text{ m}^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$ ) and winds (vector,  $\text{m s}^{-1}$ ) at 200 hPa. b) Same as (a), but at 850 hPa. These results are based on numerical experiments with the SWM. For further details regarding the configuration of the SWM and the various experiments, see ‘Methods’.

131 **Supplementary table 1: Observed trends in the TC environment for**  
132 **major coastlines (1979-2020)** Observed trends in the nearshore and offshore TC  
133 environment for major coastlines of the world and for the 42-year period 1979-2020.  
134 For various coastlines, a distance of 3° within the coast is considered ‘nearshore’.  
135 Parameters are averaged over June-October for the Northern Hemisphere, and from  
136 December-April for the Southern Hemisphere. Hadley SST and NCEP-DOE II  
137 reanalysis are used to compute the various parameters. The values in bold indicate  
138 trends that are statistically significant at the 95% level based on a Student’s t-test.

139

140

|                                                                  | US East<br>and Gulf<br>coasts | Mexican<br>west<br>coast | East<br>Asian<br>coast | South<br>Asian<br>coast | Southeast<br>African<br>coast | Australian<br>coast |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| Nearshore<br>SST trend<br>(°C year <sup>-1</sup> )               | <b>0.020</b>                  | <b>0.012</b>             | <b>0.018</b>           | <b>0.011</b>            | <b>0.008</b>                  | <b>0.012</b>        |
| Offshore<br>SST trend<br>(°C year <sup>-1</sup> )                | <b>0.018</b>                  | <b>0.009</b>             | <b>0.017</b>           | <b>0.012</b>            | <b>0.011</b>                  | <b>0.009</b>        |
| Nearshore<br>VWS trend<br>(ms <sup>-1</sup> year <sup>-1</sup> ) | -0.017                        | -0.013                   | <b>-0.027</b>          | <b>-0.037</b>           | <b>-0.021</b>                 | -0.013              |
| Offshore<br>VWS trend<br>(ms <sup>-1</sup> year <sup>-1</sup> )  | <b>-0.016</b>                 | 0.004                    | -0.008                 | <b>-0.065</b>           | <b>-0.031</b>                 | -0.001              |
| Nearshore<br>RH trend<br>(% year <sup>-1</sup> )                 | <b>0.100</b>                  | <b>0.069</b>             | <b>-0.062</b>          | 0.049                   | 0.015                         | <b>0.137</b>        |
| Offshore<br>RH trend<br>(% year <sup>-1</sup> )                  | 0.004                         | <b>0.085</b>             | -0.024                 | 0.031                   | <b>-0.030</b>                 | <b>0.037</b>        |

141 **Supplementary table 2: List of various experiments conducted with**  
142 **the Stationary Wave Model (SWM)** Zonal-mean basic states, diabatic heating,  
143 and transient forcings are obtained from either the CMIP6 SSP585 runs during two  
144 time periods: the near future (2015-2034) or the late 21<sup>st</sup> century (2081-2100). Each  
145 experiment is integrated for 100 days, and the average from days 31 to 100 is shown.  
146 Zonal-mean basic states and diabatic heating are calculated based on monthly-mean  
147 outputs from 15 CMIP6 models, but transient momentum forcing is estimated from  
148 daily three-dimensional winds simulated by 13 CMIP6 models. Daily outputs are  
149 unavailable from E3SM-1-1 and CNRM-ESM2-1.

150

|                                            | CTRL           | Future         | CTRL+ $\Delta$ BS | CTRL+ $\Delta$ DH | CTRL+ $\Delta$ TranF |
|--------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| Basic states (BS)                          | From 2015-2034 | From 2081-2100 | From 2081-2100    | From 2015-2034    | From 2015-2034       |
| 151 Diabatic heating (DH)                  | From 2015-2034 | From 2081-2100 | From 2015-2034    | From 2081-2100    | From 2015-2034       |
| Transient divergence and vorticity (TranF) | From 2015-2034 | From 2081-2100 | From 2015-2034    | From 2015-2034    | From 2081-2100       |