

How potentially predictable are midlatitude ocean currents?

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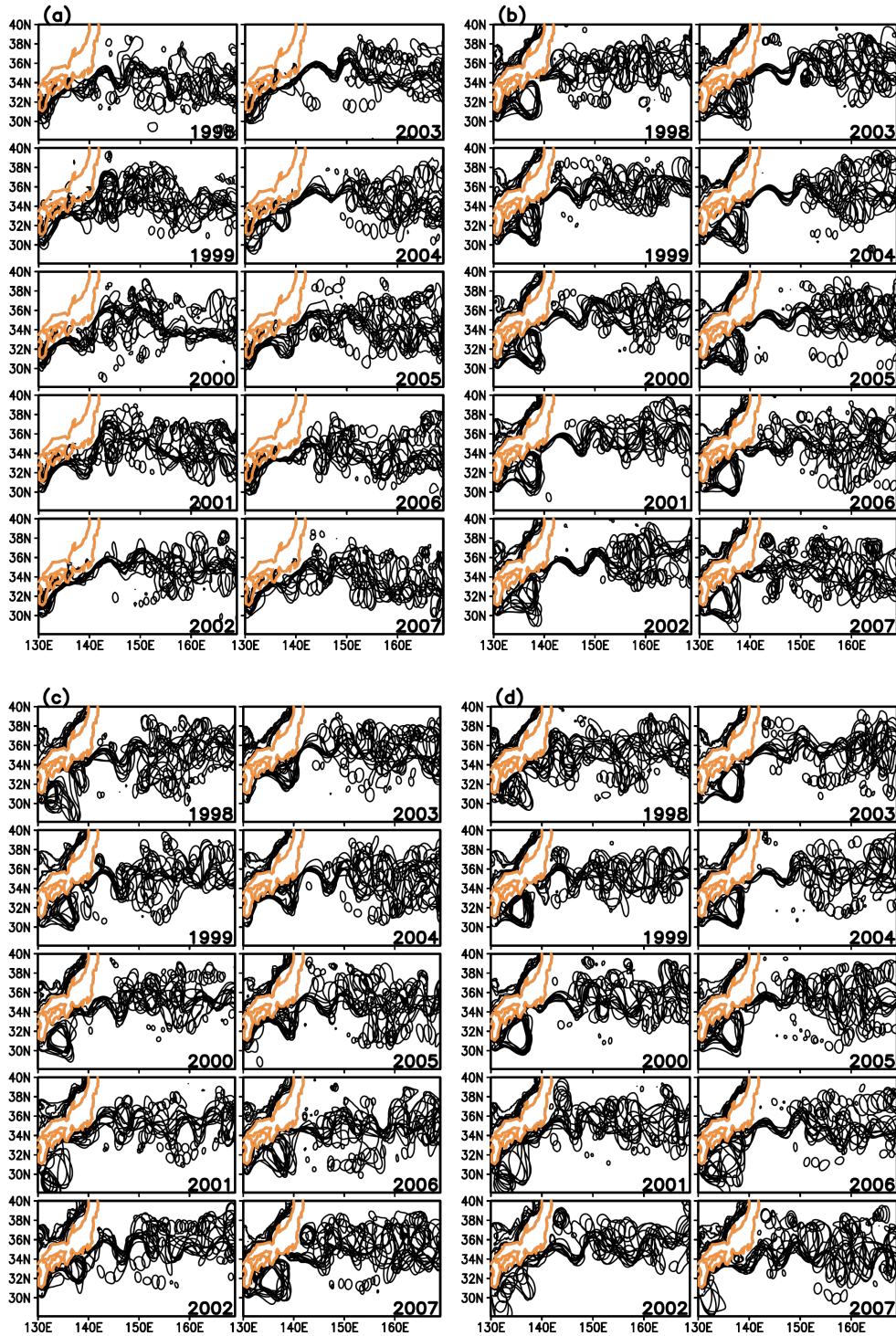


Figure S1. Stability of the Kuroshio and Kuroshio Extension path. Following Qiu and Chen (2005, 2010, 2014), yearly paths of the jet marked by a given monthly SSH contour based on satellite observations (a; SSH = 100 cm) and for the hindcast ensemble members B01 (b), B02 (c), and A (d) (SSH = -10 cm). All plots are generated with GrADS version 2.0.a8 (<http://grads.iges.org/grads/head.html>).

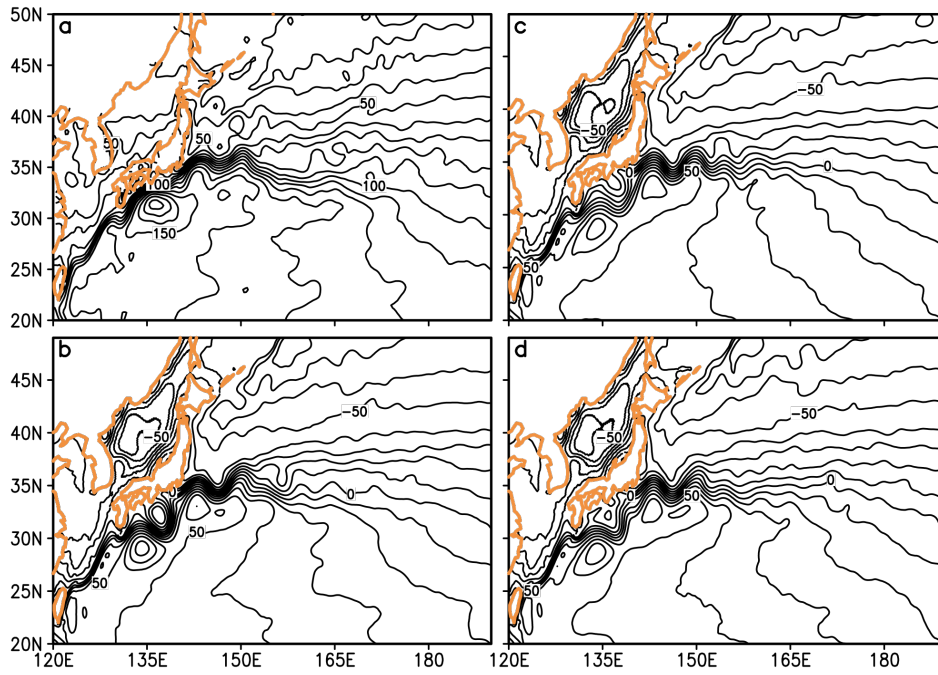


Figure S2. Long-term mean fields of sea surface height (SSH). 1995-2012 annual mean SSH field based on observations (**a**) and for the ensemble members B01 (**b**), B02 (**c**), and A (**d**). Contour intervals are 10 cm. All plots are generated with GrADS version 2.0.a8 (<http://grads.iges.org/grads/head.html>).

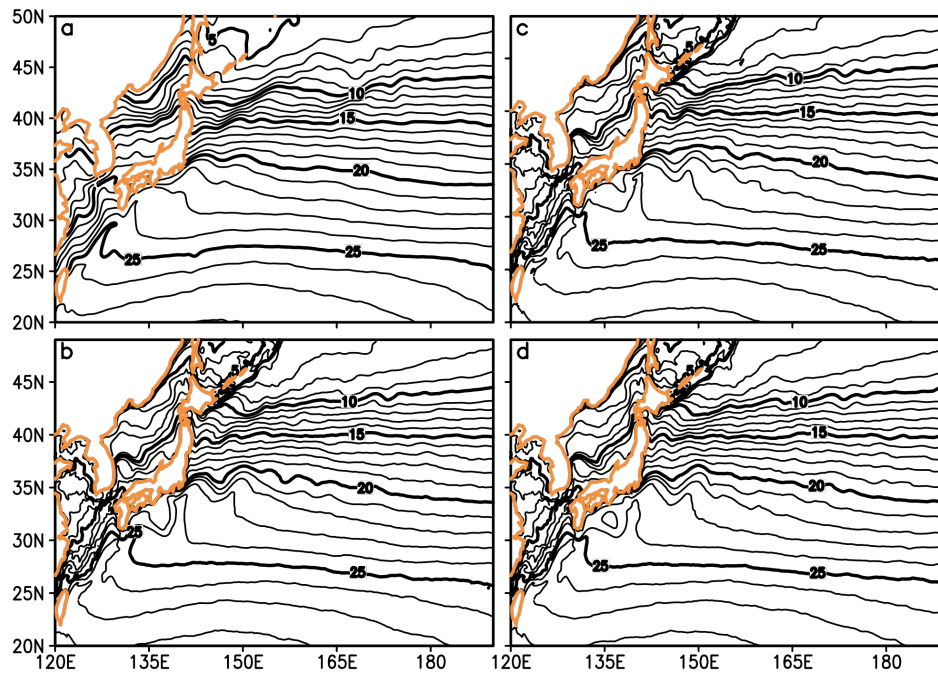


Figure S3. Long-term mean fields of sea surface temperature (SST). Same as Figure S2 but for SST field. Contour intervals are 1.0 °C. Observed SST data product of Reynolds et al. (2007) is used for panel a. All plots are generated with GrADS version 2.0.a8 (<http://grads.iges.org/grads/head.html>).

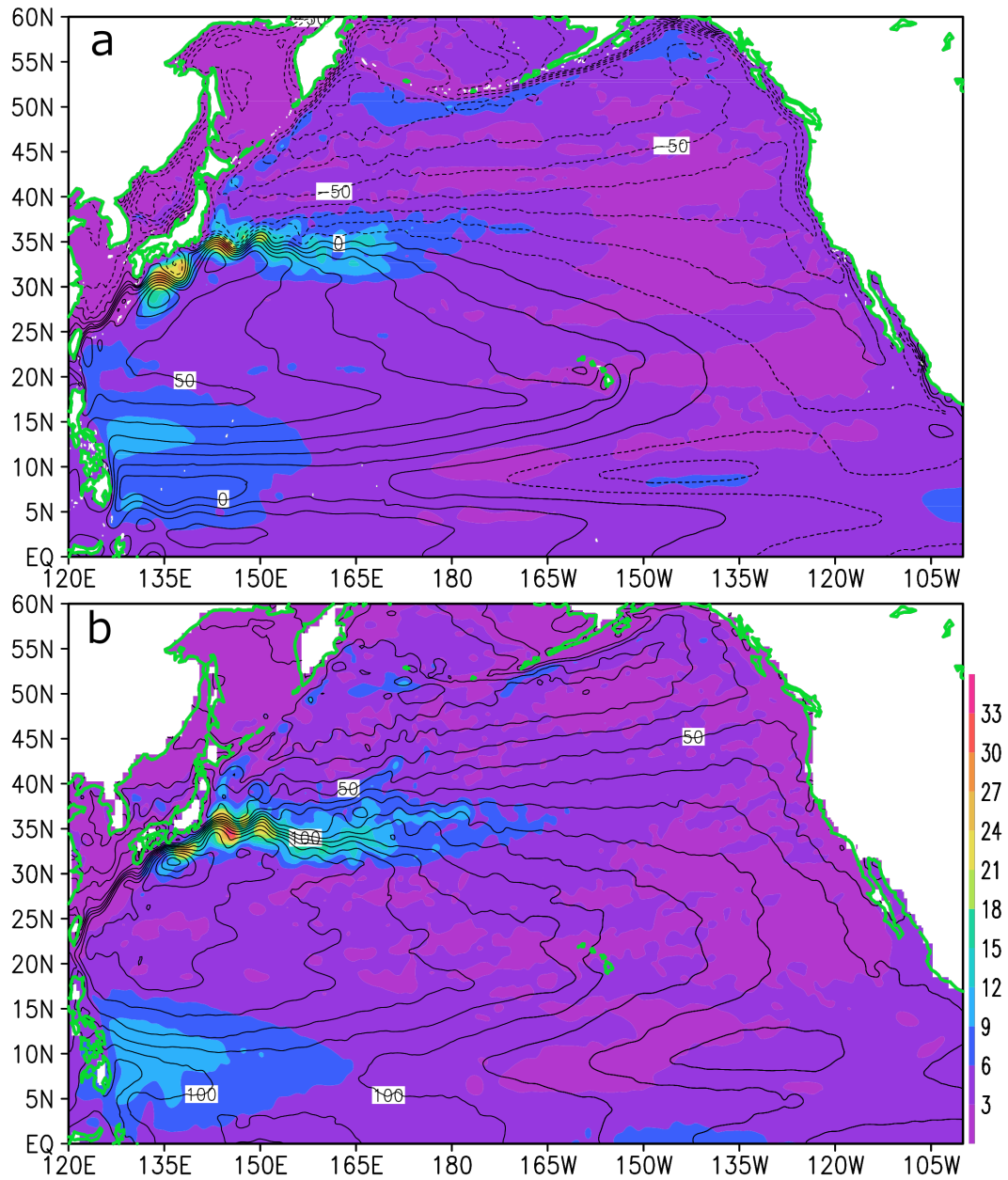


Figure S4. Maps for the ensemble mean and observed fields of sea surface height (SSH) and its standard deviations. SSH standard deviations of its 13-month running-mean time series in 1995-2012 (shades, unit is cm) and the annual mean SSH field (contours with intervals of 10 cm) in the same period for the average over the three ensemble members (a) and for the observations (b). The running mean is applied to highlight interannual variability. All plots are generated with GrADS version 2.0.a8 (<http://grads.iges.org/grads/head.html>).

References in Supplementary Material

1. Qiu, B., & Chen, S. Variability of the Kuroshio Extension jet, recirculation gyre and mesoscale eddies on decadal timescales. *J. Phys. Oceanogr.* **35**, 2090–2103 (2005).
2. Qiu, B., & Chen, S. Eddy-mean flow interaction in the decadal modulating Kuroshio Extension system. *Deep-Sea Res.-II* **57**, 1098-1110 (2010).
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4. Reynolds, R. W., Smith, T. M., Liu, C., Chelton, D. B., Casey, K. S., Schlax, M. G. Daily High-Resolution-Blended Analyses for Sea Surface Temperature. *J. Clim.* **20**, 5473-5496 (2007).