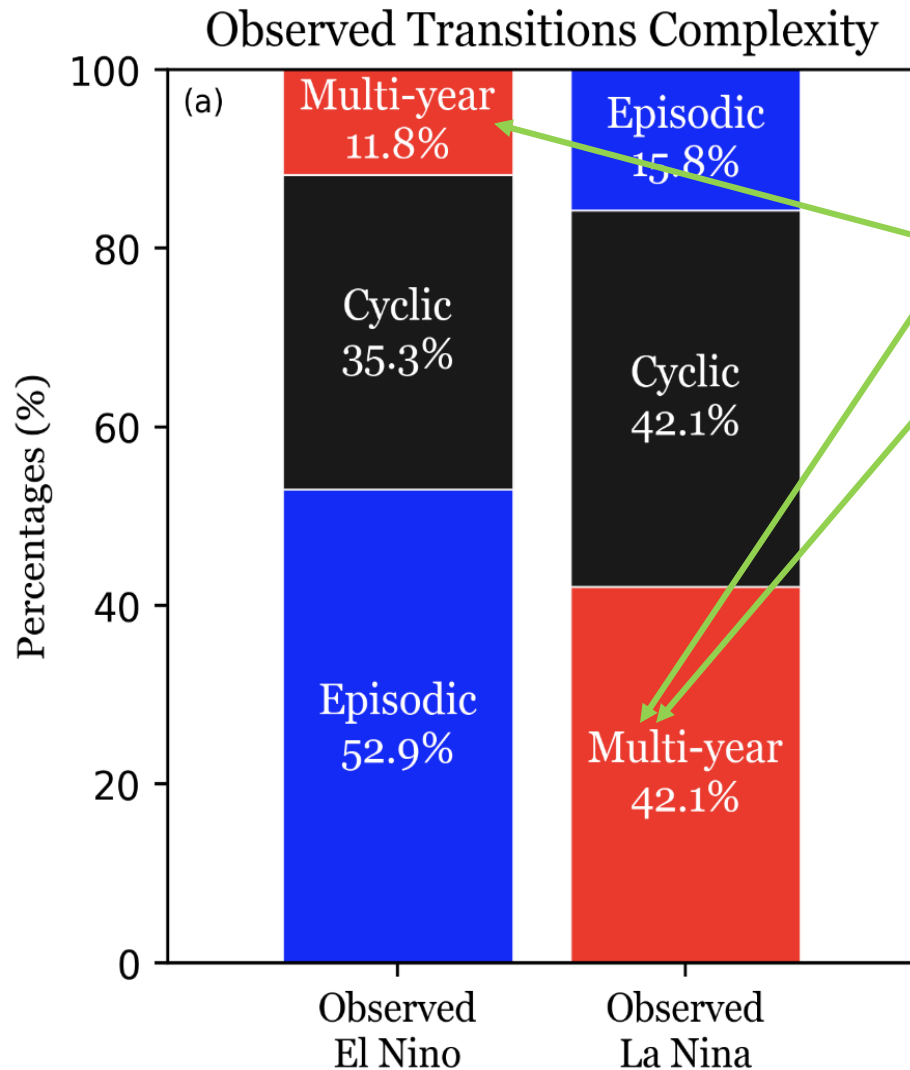


Opposite Transition Complexities btw El Niño and La Niña

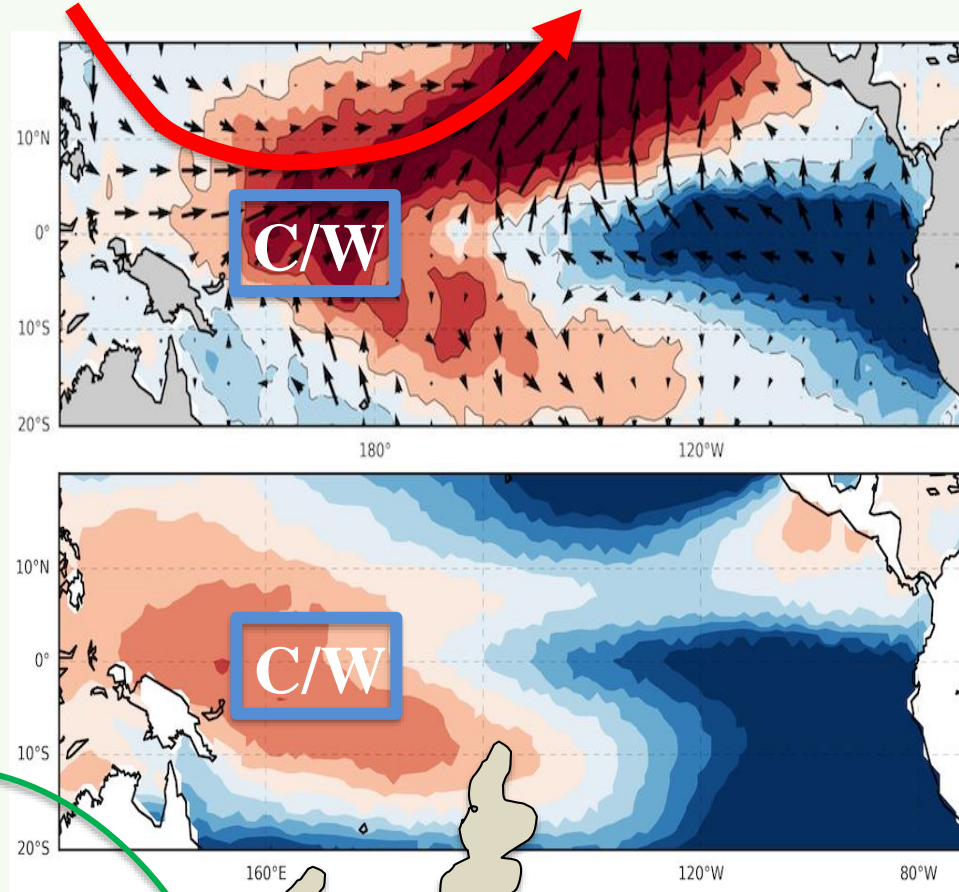
Year 1948–2016



- La Niña is dominated by the multi-year transition pattern.
- There are more multi-year La Niña events than multi-year El Niño events.

➔ **What is the reason for this El Niño-La Niña asymmetry?**

A Tropical Mean State Control of the SP Mechanism



Mean SSTs in the eastern edge of the Indo-Pacific warm pool control how easily the multi-year El Niño and La Niña can occur via this process.

Easier to produce Multi-year La Niña

Large $\Delta Q(-)$

Small $\Delta Q(+)$

28°C

La Niña

mean

El Niño

CMIP5 Projections of ENSO Transition Complexity

In the future warming world, cyclic ENSO transition events may increase while multi-year ENSO events may decrease.

