

Xian Wu

Princeton University & NOAA Geophysical Fluid Dynamics Laboratory (GFDL)

201 Forrestal Road, Princeton, NJ 08540

Email: xw2794@princeton.edu; xian.wu@noaa.gov Website: <https://www.xianwuclimate.com/>

Education

- Ph.D. Geological Sciences (Research area: Climate Dynamics) 2015–2020
The University of Texas at Austin
Dissertation: “Duration of El Niño and La Niña Events: Mechanisms and Multiyear Predictability”.
Advisor: Yuko Okumura
- B.S. Atmospheric Sciences (Climatology) 2011–2015
Nanjing University of Information Science and Technology (NUIST)

Academic Appointments

- Postdoctoral Research Associate, Princeton University & NOAA GFDL Mar 2023–present
Project: “Understanding Equatorial Pacific Climate Processes via Hierarchical Coupled Modeling”
Mentor: Andrew Wittenberg
- Advanced Study Program Postdoctoral Fellow, National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR) Sept 2020–Mar 2023
Project: “Decadal Predictability and Prediction Skill in the Pacific Ocean”
Mentors: Stephen Yeager and Clara Deser
- Graduate Research Assistant, UT Austin Aug 2016–Aug 2020

Research Interests

Large-scale ocean-atmosphere interaction, climate variability and change, climate predictability

Fellowships and Awards

- NCAR Advanced Study Program Postdoctoral Fellowship 2020
- UT Austin, Institute for Geophysics Graduate Fellowship Spring 2020
- Outstanding Student Presentation Award, American Geophysical Union Fall Meeting 2019
- UT Austin, Institute for Geophysics Entry Fellowship 2015 – 2016
- Excellent Honor Graduate Award, NUIST 2015
- First-Class Scholarship, NUIST 2011 – 2015

Publications

[Google Scholar Profile](#), [ORCID](#)

under review and in prep (manuscripts are available upon request)

13. Bilbao, R., P. Ortega, P. Athanasiadis, D. Nicoli, L. Hermanson, J. Mignot, R. Sospedra-Alfonso, D. Swingedouw, **X. Wu**, and S. G. Yeager, 2023: Impact of volcanic eruptions on decadal predictions: a multi-model analysis, *under internal review by co-authors*.
12. **Wu, X.**, S. G. Yeager, C. Deser, et al., 2023: Oceanic mechanisms governing decadal predictability in the tropical Pacific, *in prep*
11. Lawman, A. et al. including **X. Wu**, 2023: Tropical rainfall changes in response to a weaker AMOC: Mechanisms and an integrative model-data comparison for Heinrich Stadial 1, *under internal review by co-authors*.
10. DiNezio, P. N., T. Shanahan, T. Sun, C. Sun, **X. Wu**, A. Lawman, D. Lea, and M. Kageyama, U. Merkel, M. Prange, B. Otto-Bliesner, and X. Zhang, 2023: The tropical response to ocean circulation collapse. *under review*.

Published:

9. **Wu, X.**, 2023: Long La Niña events could rise in frequency as the planet warms. *Nature*, 619, 702–703, <https://doi.org/10.1038/d41586-023-02331-z>, (Invited commentary, not peer-reviewed)
8. **Wu, X.**, S. G. Yeager, C. Deser, N. Rosenbloom, and G. A. Meehl, 2023: Volcanic forcing degrades multiyear-to-decadal prediction skill in the tropical Pacific. *Science Advances*, 9, eadd9364, <https://doi.org/10.1126/sciadv.add9364>.
7. Maher, N., R. C. J. Wills, P. N. DiNezio, J. Klavans, S. Milinsk, S. C. Sanchez, S. Stevenson, M. F. Stuecker, and **X. Wu**, 2023: The future of the El Niño-Southern Oscillation: Using large ensembles to illuminate time-varying responses and inter-model differences, *Earth Syst. Dynam.*, <https://doi.org/10.5194/esd-2022-26>.
6. Yeager, S. G., N. Rosenbloom, A. A. Glanville, **X. Wu**, I. Simpson, H. Li, M. J. Molina, K. Krumhardt, S. Mogen, K. Lindsay, D. Lombardozzi, W. Weider, W. M. Kim, J. H. Richter, M. Long, G. Danabasoglu, D. Bailey, M. Holland, N. Lovenduski, W. G. Strand, and, T. King, 2022: The Seasonal-to-Multiyear Large Ensemble (SMYLE) Prediction System using the Community Earth System Model Version 2, *Geosci. Model Dev.*, 15, 6451–6493, <https://doi.org/10.5194/gmd-15-6451-2022>.
5. **Wu, X.**, Y. M. Okumura, P. N. DiNezio, S. G. Yeager, and C. Deser, 2022: The Equatorial Pacific Cold Tongue Bias in CESM1 and its Influence on ENSO Forecasts. *J. Climate*, 35, 3261–3277, <https://doi.org/10.1175/JCLI-D-21-0470.1>.
4. **Wu, X.**, Y. M. Okumura, C. Deser and P. N. DiNezio, 2021: Two-year Dynamical Predictions of ENSO Event Duration during 1954–2015. *J. Climate*. 34, 4069–4087, <https://doi.org/10.1175/JCLI-D-20-0619.1>.
3. **Wu, X.**, Y. M. Okumura, and P. N. DiNezio, 2021: Predictability of El Niño Duration Based on the Onset Timing. *J. Climate*. 34, 1351–1366, <https://doi.org/10.1175/JCLI-D-19-0963.1>.

2. **Wu, X.**, Y. M. Okumura, and P. N. DiNezio, 2019: What Controls the Duration of El Niño and La Niña Events? *J. Climate*, 32, 5941–5965, <https://doi.org/10.1175/JCLI-D-18-0681.1>.
1. Okumura, Y. M., T. Sun, and **X. Wu**, 2017: Asymmetric Modulation of El Niño and La Niña and the Linkage to Tropical Pacific Decadal Variability. *J. Climate*, 30, 4705–4733, <https://doi.org/10.1175/JCLI-D-16-0680.1>.

Presentations

Invited:

“Volcanic forcing degrades multiyear-to-decadal prediction skill in the tropical Pacific”, EPESC/DCPP workshop on integrated attribution and prediction, March 2023 (Talk).

“Predicting the duration of La Niña events using the CESM multiyear forecast systems”, WCRP the second chapter of the Explaining and Predicting Earth System Change webinar series on ‘Triple La Niña’, virtual, Nov 2022.

“Tropical Pacific decadal predictability: the role of volcanic forcing and ocean initialization”, GFLD seminar series, virtual, Oct 2022.

“Duration of El Niño and La Niña Events: Dynamics and Multiyear Predictability”, American Geophysical Union Fall Meeting, virtual, Dec 2020 (Poster).

Others:

“Volcanic forcing degrades multiyear-to-decadal prediction skill in the tropical Pacific”, Decadal Climate Variability and Predictability Webinar Series, May 2023 (Talk).

“Predictability of tropical Pacific decadal variability and associated oceanic mechanisms”, CESM Working Group Meeting 2023, Boulder, CO, Feb 2023 (Talk).

“Volcanic forcing degrades multiyear-to-decadal prediction skill in the tropical Pacific”, American Meteorological Society 103rd Annual Meeting, Denver, CO, Jan 2023 (Talk).

“Duration of El Niño and La Niña events: dynamics and multiyear predictability”, ICTP ENSO Summer School, Trieste, Italy, Aug 2022 (Talk).

“Two-year dynamical predictions of ENSO event duration during 1954-2015”, CLIVAR Societally-Relevant Multi-Year Climate Predictions Workshop, Boulder CO, Mar 2022 (Talk).

“The effect of volcanic eruptions on multiyear-to-decadal predictions in the tropical Pacific”, CESM Working Group Meeting 2022, virtual, Feb 2022 (Talk).

“High prediction skill of tropical Pacific decadal climate in a decadal prediction system without volcanic forcing”, Ocean Sciences Meeting 2022, virtual, Mar 2022 (Talk).

“High prediction skill of tropical Pacific decadal climate in a decadal prediction system without volcanic forcing”, American Geophysical Union Fall Meeting, virtual, Dec 2021 (Talk).

“The Equatorial Pacific Cold Tongue Bias in CESM1 and its Influence on ENSO Forecasts”, American Geophysical Union Fall Meeting, virtual, Dec 2021 (Poster).

“The Equatorial Pacific Cold Tongue Bias in CESM1 and its Influence on ENSO Forecasts”,

CESM Working Group Meeting 2021, virtual, Feb 2021 (Talk).

“Duration of El Niño and La Niña Events during 1954-2015”, American Geophysical Union Fall Meeting, virtual, Dec 2020 (Talk).

“Two-year Predictions of ENSO event duration during 1954-2015”, CESM Workshop 2020, virtual, Jun 2020 (Talk).

“Duration of El Niño and La Niña event: mechanisms and multiyear predictability”, Water, Climate, and Environmental Seminar Series, Austin, TX, Mar 2020 (Talk).

“Two-year Predictions of ENSO event duration during 1954-2015”, American Geophysical Union Fall Meeting, San Francisco, CA, Dec 2019 (Poster).

“Predictability of El Niño duration based on the onset timing”, American Geophysical Union Fall Meeting, San Francisco, CA, Dec 2019 (Talk)

“Predictability of El Niño duration based on the onset timing”, UT Austin Institute for Geophysics Seminar Series, Austin, TX, Dec 2019 (Talk).

“Predictability of El Niño duration in a coupled general circulation model”, American Meteorological Society 99th Annual Meeting, Phoenix, AZ. Jan 2019 (Talk).

“What controls the duration of El Niño and La Niña events?”, American Meteorological Society 98th Annual Meeting, Austin, TX. Jan 2018 (Talk).

“Impact of Interbasin Teleconnections on the Duration of El Niño and La Niña”, American Geophysical Union Fall Meeting, San Francisco, CA, Dec 2016 (Poster)

Media

NCAR UCAR News, “[Predictive Power of Climate Models May Be Masked by Volcanoes](#)”, Apr 12, 2023

NOAA CPO News, “[Evaluating the Impact of Volcanic Eruptions in Tropical Pacific Climate Models](#)”, Apr 28, 2023

US CLIVAR Research Highlights, “[Predicting the duration of El Niño and La Niña events with multiyear lead time](#)”, Apr 23, 2021

NOAA MAPP News, “[Scientists Explore Cutting-Edge Multi-Year ENSO Forecasts Using Climate Model](#)”, Feb 28, 2021

The Washington Post, Capital Weather Gang, “[Lingering La Niña may help forecasters spot costly weather patterns two years away](#)”, Dec 10, 2020

Service

Associate Editor for *Journal of Climate*, Jul 2023–present

Reviewer for *Advances in Climate Change Research*, *Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society*, *Climate Dynamics*, *Geophysical Research Letters*, *International Journal of Climatology*, *Journal of Climate*, *Journal of Geophysical Research: Atmospheres*, *Journal of Physical Oceanography*, *Nature*, *Nature Geoscience*, *PNAS*, *Science Bulletin*, *Science Advances*

NCAR ASP committee member, 2020-2023: writing club, seminar series
NOAA GFDL Internal reviewers, 2023-

Teaching Experience

Graduate Teaching Assistant, *GEO 302 Earth, Wind, and Fire*, UT Austin Spring 2018

Summer Schools

AOS Summer 2023 Workshop on Paleo, present, and future: Leveraging the past to understand and predict our changing climate, Princeton, NJ, USA Aug 2023
ICTP Summer School on Theory, Mechanisms and Hierarchical Modeling of Climate Dynamics: Tropical Oceans, ENSO and their teleconnections, Trieste, Italy Aug 2022
Artificial Intelligence for Earth System Science Summer School, Boulder, CO, USA Jun 2020
Advanced Climate Dynamics Courses (Dynamics of the Seasonal Cycle), Norway Sept 2017
Community Earth System Model Tutorial, NCAR, Boulder, CO, USA Aug 2016

Outreach

Event Supervisor, UT Austin Science Olympiad Tournaments (Meteorology) 2018–2019
K-12 STEM Outreach, Ford Elementary, Georgetown, Texas Jan 2019
Co-organize outreach activities on the 2014 World Meteorological Day, inform the public on air pollution facts and actions to reduce air pollution, Nanjing, China Mar 2014

Computer Skills and Numerical Modeling

Programming Languages FORTRAN, NCAR Command Language, Python, Shell Script
Numerical Modeling Community Earth System Modeling
System Windows, Mac OS, Unix/Linux

Professional Memberships

American Meteorological Society
American Geophysical Union