



## **Mechanisms of tropical Pacific decadal variability**

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Recent observational studies have identified distinct decadal climate variability in the Pacific. There is currently considerable scientific interest and debate about the manner in which decadal climate variability in the equatorial/tropical Pacific interacts with similar timescale changes in the extratropical Pacific. The substantial impacts of Pacific decadal variability on climate, ecosystem, and society clearly indicate the importance of understanding its mechanisms. A 1000-yr integration of the coupled ECHAM5-MPIOM atmosphere-ocean-ice model without flux adjustments has been analysed to describe Pacific decadal variability. A 16-year mode is identified which might involve the Tropics. It is hypothesized that it is driven by stochastic atmospheric forcing.