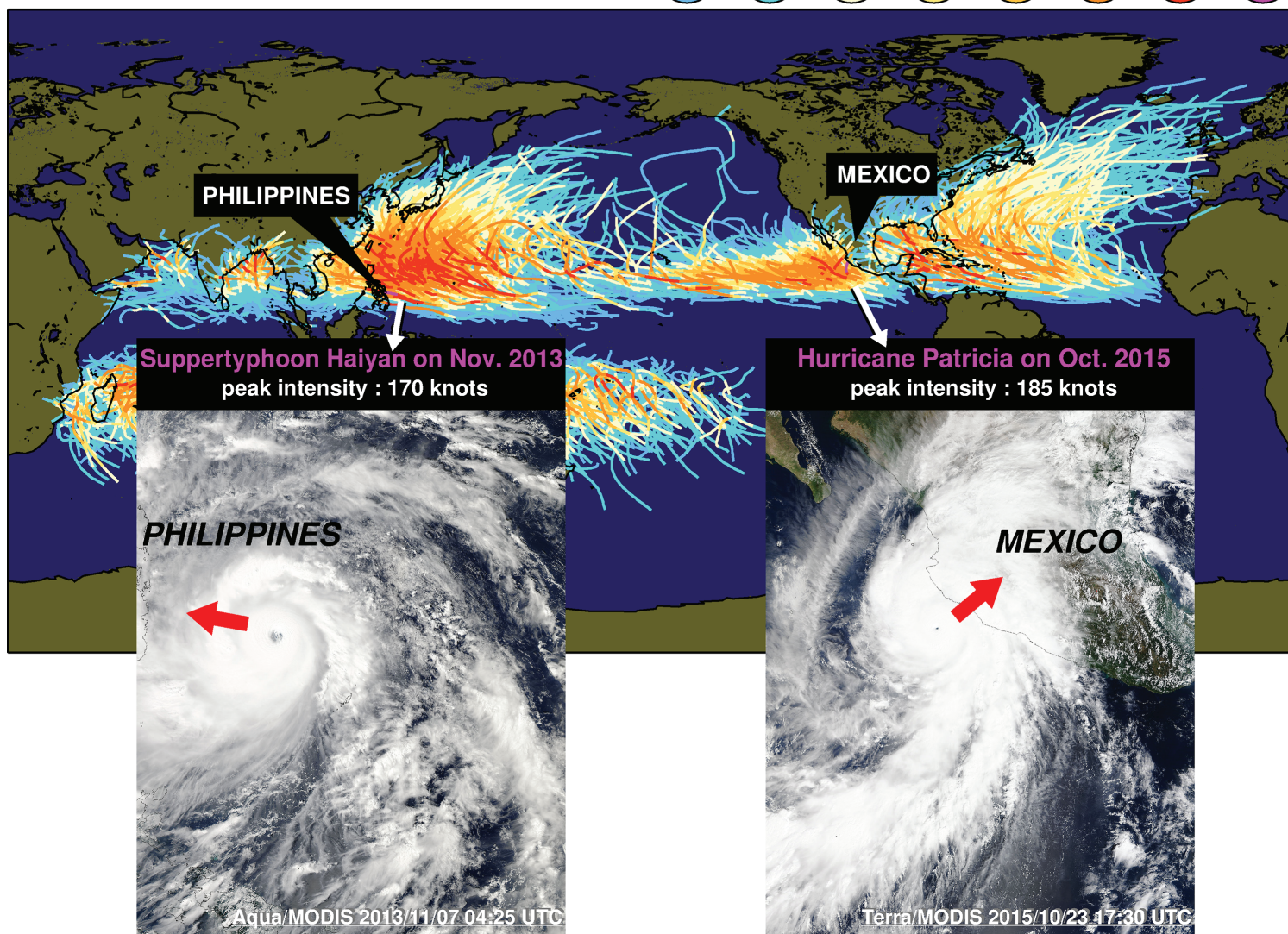


# A tale of 2 champion cyclones: Haiyan and Patricia

Best track data from NHC and JTWC, 1980~2015



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**Cover:** *Huang et al.* [DOI: 10.1002/2017JC012741], Hurricane Patricia (Oct., 2015) and Supertyphoon Haiyan (Nov. 2013) are the 2 'Champion' Tropical Cyclones in the recorded human history. These 2 cyclones can be called category '6' super cyclones, because both reached an astonishing peak intensity, far exceeding the existing highest category of 5 in the tropical cyclone scale. This illustration shows the approach of these 2 super 'cyclones' to the Philippines and Mexico, i.e. the 2 sides of the Pacific Ocean. These 2 champion cyclones are compared and reasons are explored on their extra-ordinary intensifications. The tropical cyclone trajectories and intensity are obtained from the best track archives of National Hurricane Center's (NHC; <http://ftp.nhc.noaa.gov/atcf/archive/>) and the US Joint Typhoon Warning Centre (JTWC; [https://metoc.ndbc.noaa.gov/web/guest/jtwc/best\\_tracks/](https://metoc.ndbc.noaa.gov/web/guest/jtwc/best_tracks/)). The visible images are provided from the Rapid Response imagery from the Land, Atmosphere Near real-time Capability for EOS (LANCE) system operated by the NASA/GSFC/Earth Observing System Data and Information System (EOSDIS) (<https://lance.modaps.eosdis.nasa.gov/cgi-bin/imagery/gallery.cgi>). The image of Hurricane Patricia over Mexico was taken from the MODIS instrument aboard NASA's Terra satellite on Oct. 23, 2015 at 17:30 UTC/1:30 p.m. EDT. The image of supertyphoon Haiyan approaching the Philippines was taken from the MODIS instrument aboard NASA's Aqua satellite on Nov. 7, 2013 at 04:25 UTC/Nov. 6 at 11:25 p.m. EDT. Thanks to NASA/EOSDIS (<https://lance.modaps.eosdis.nasa.gov/cgi-bin/imagery/gallery.cgi>) for providing the visible images from Terra and Aqua/MODIS, and to NHC (<http://ftp.nhc.noaa.gov/atcf/archive/>), JTWC ([https://metoc.ndbc.noaa.gov/web/guest/jtwc/best\\_tracks/](https://metoc.ndbc.noaa.gov/web/guest/jtwc/best_tracks/)) for TCs' best track and intensity data. See pp. 6076–6089.

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