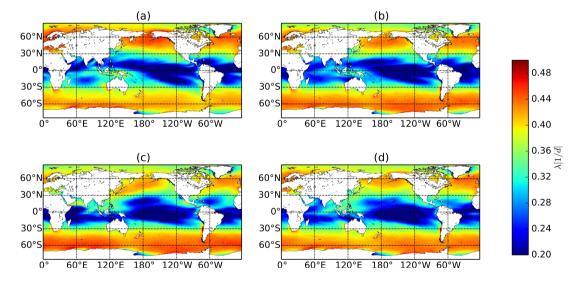
## Supplementary Materials for "Climatology of Lyapunov exponents: The influence of atmospheric rivers on large-scale mixing variability"

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## Seasonal effects on the FTLE climatology

Figures 1,2 account for the seasonal effect observed in the FTLE climatology for the period 1979 - 2014. Note the largest values of the FTLE alternate between southern and northern hemispheres along the whole period. As observed in Figure 1 in the main text, three latitudinal bands are also clearly visible in the Hovmöller diagram. Note that the maximum values are observed for mid-latitudes.



**Figure 1.** Seasonal mean for the backward FTLE based on the 35 years timeseries for the seasonal periods; (a) DJF, (b) MAM, (c) JJA, and (d) SON. Note the largest values of the FTLE for the northern/southern hemisphere during the winter season.

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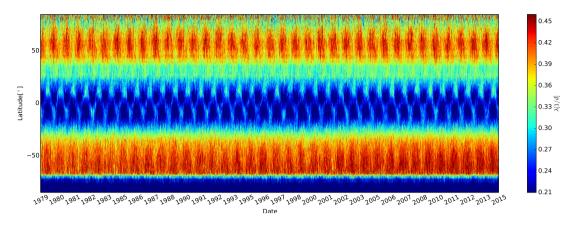
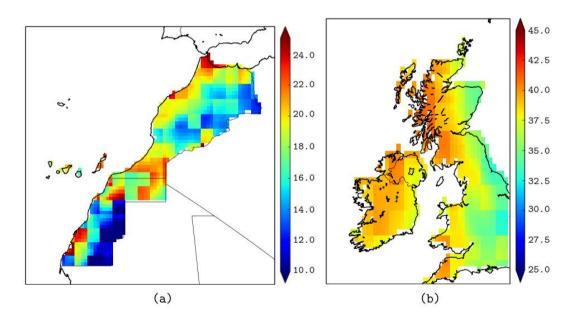


Figure 2. Hovmöller diagram based on week averages for the 35 years FTLE backward timeseries.

## Precipitation rates in Sahara and British Isles due to Atmospheric Rivers

Figure 3 shows the rainfall rates measured in the Sahara-Morocco (a) and British Isles (b) regions coinciding with a landfall atmospheric river. Precipitation rates are shown as a percentage out of the total retrieved from *Sheffield et al.* (2005).



**Figure 3.** Ratio of daily precipitation coinciding with an atmospheric river detection out of the total, for the Sahara-Morocco (a) and UK-Ireland (b) regions. The database of precipitation used in this analysis is the global rain data retrieved from *Sheffield et al.* (2005). This global high-resolution dataset has been constructed by the combination of observational and reanalysis data from the NCEP-NCAR.

## References

Sheffield, J., G. Goteti, and E.F. Wood (2006). Development of a 50-year high-resolution global dataset of meteorological forcings for land surface modeling. *Journal of Climate*, 19(13), 3088–3111, doi:10.1175/JCLI3790.1.