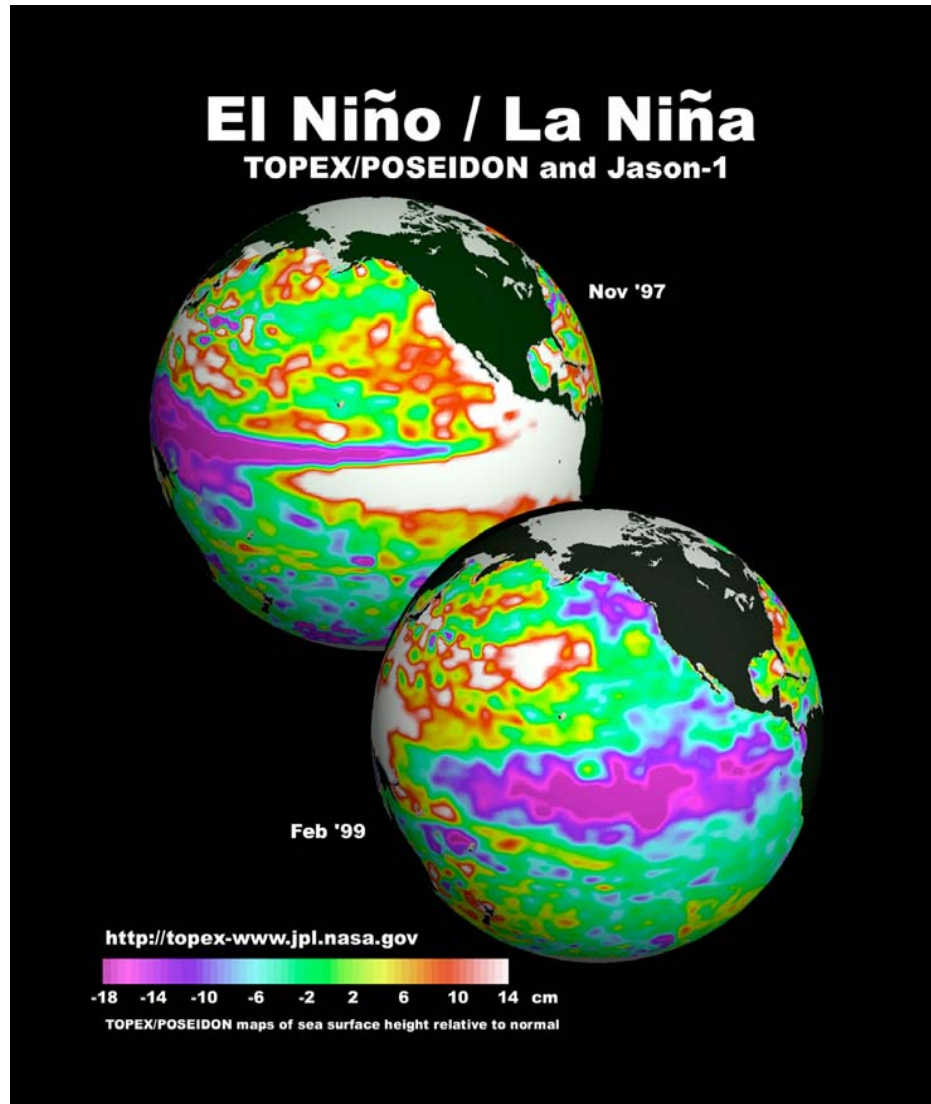




El Niño and La Niña forecasting & monitoring



- TOPEX/Poseidon and Jason provide important extended time series monitoring of El Niño and La Niña events
- NOAA's long term climate forecasts, based in part on ocean altimeter data, include flood control, agricultural strategy, water and energy use planning
- Worldwide damage from the 1997-1998 El Niño probably exceeded \$20 billion*. Reliable predictions could help minimize economic impacts.
- Media outlets use the data to explain weather and climate to the public
- TOPEX/Poseidon and Jason data are recognizable to more than a billion people worldwide

Images produced by Dr. Victor Zlotnicki, Dr. Lee -Lueng Fu and Akiko Hayashi, of the Oceans Research Element at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory.

*D. Anderson, [European Center for Medium-Range Weather Forecast](#)