



Figure 2. LDEO forecasts of NINO3 SSTA initialized one month apart for the past 24 months. Each thin solid line is a 9 month forecast, and the thick grey line shows observed values. Wind stress (QuikSCAT, NCEP and FSU analyses), SST (CAC) and SSH (TOPEX/POSEIDON) data were used for model initialization. The differences among these three panels are due to the different wind stress data being assimilated.