

Autumn 2004 windstorm season Munich Re media conference 29 September 2004

Dr. Gerhard Berz
Ernst Rauch



The exceptional hurricane season of 2004 in the Atlantic 3

The 2004 typhoon season in the Northwest Pacific 11

The 2004 hurricane season in the Atlantic
in the historical context 15

Charley – (Florida)



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Frances – (Florida)



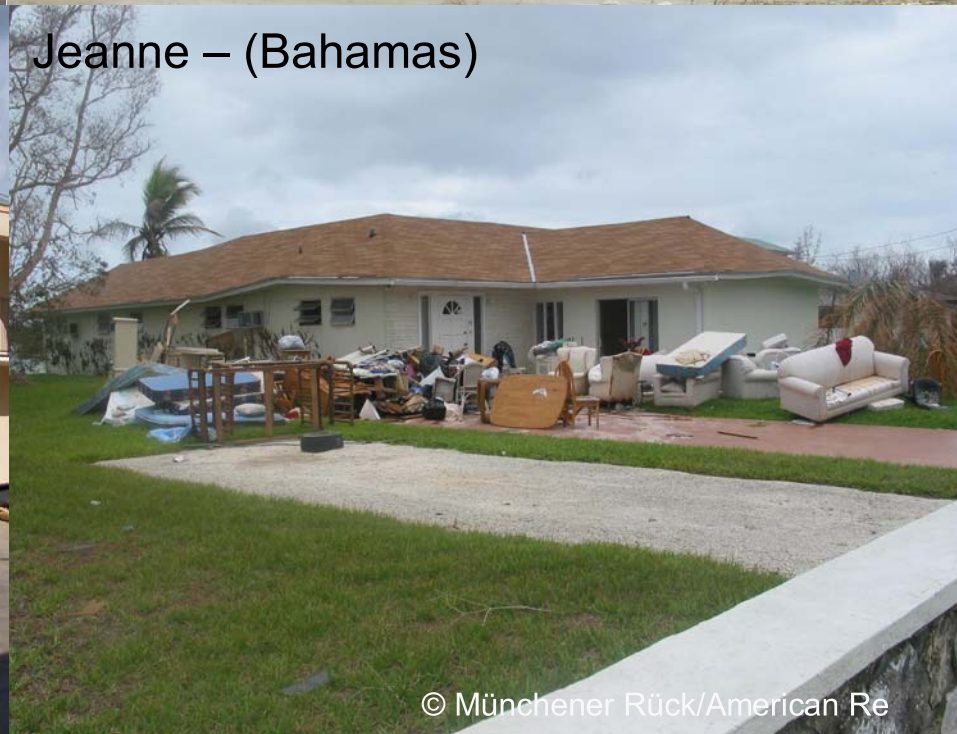
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Ivan – (Alabama)



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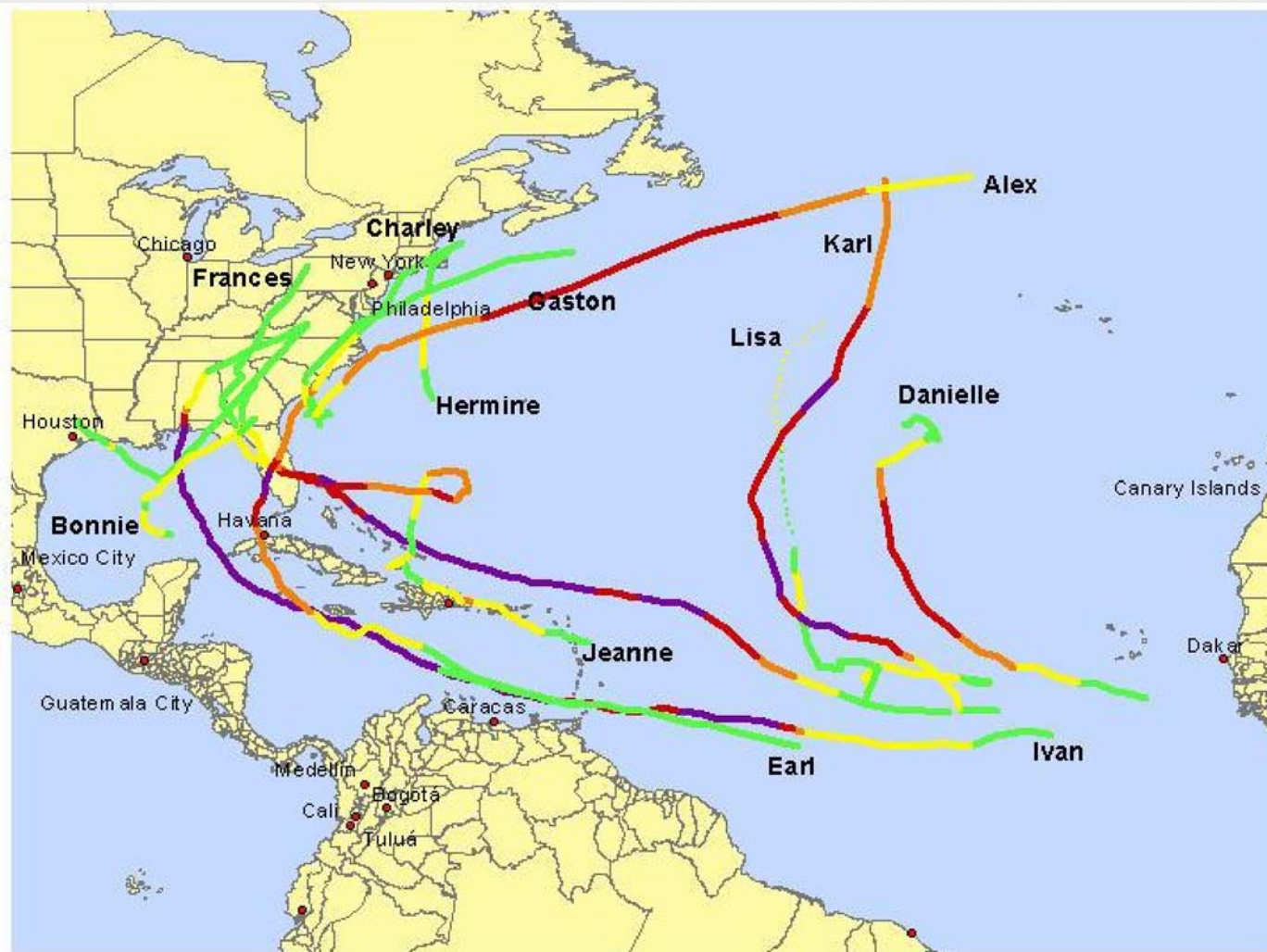
Jeanne – (Bahamas)



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The exceptional hurricane season of 2004 in the Atlantic

As at: 28.09.2004



Wind speed in gusts (km/h)



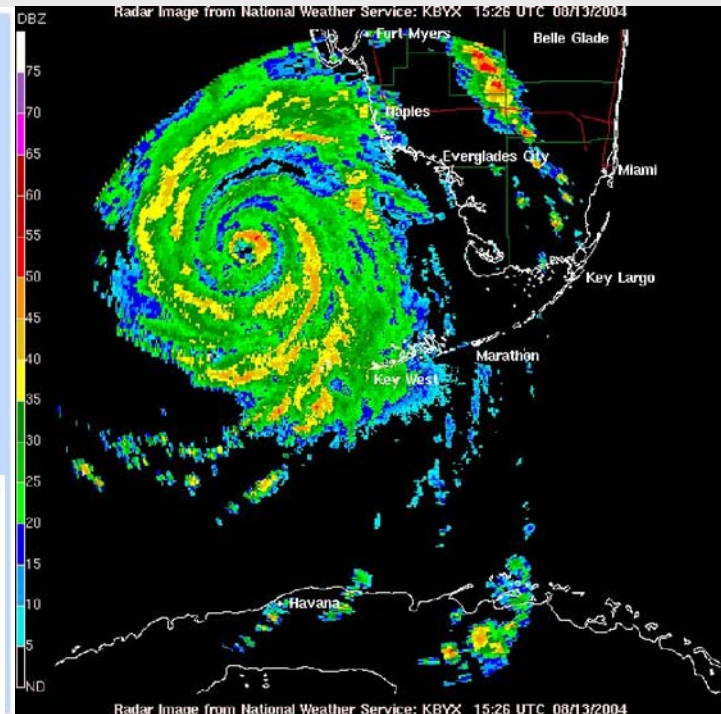
Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Scale: Wind speeds

SS	Descriptive term	Mean wind speed			
		m/s	km/h	mph	knots
1	Weak	32.7 - 42.6	118 - 153	73 - 95	64 - 82
2	Moderate	42.7 - 49.5	154 - 177	96 - 110	83 - 96
3	Strong	49.6 - 58.5	178 - 209	111 - 130	97 - 113
4	Very strong	58.6 - 69.4	210 - 249	131 - 155	114 - 134
5	Devastating	69.5 -	250 -	156 -	135 -

The exceptional hurricane season of 2004 in the Atlantic

1) Hurricane Charley (09.08–15.08.2004)

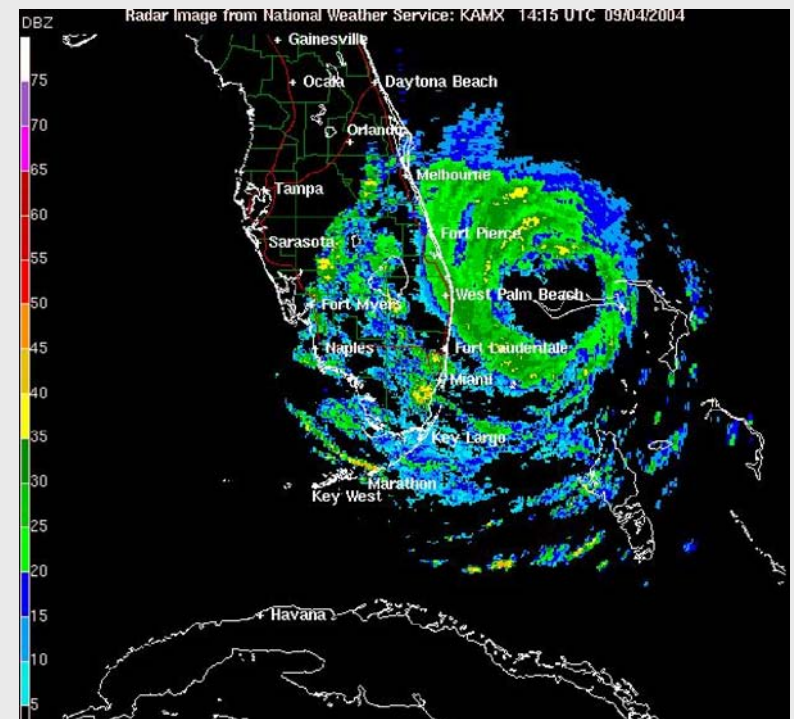
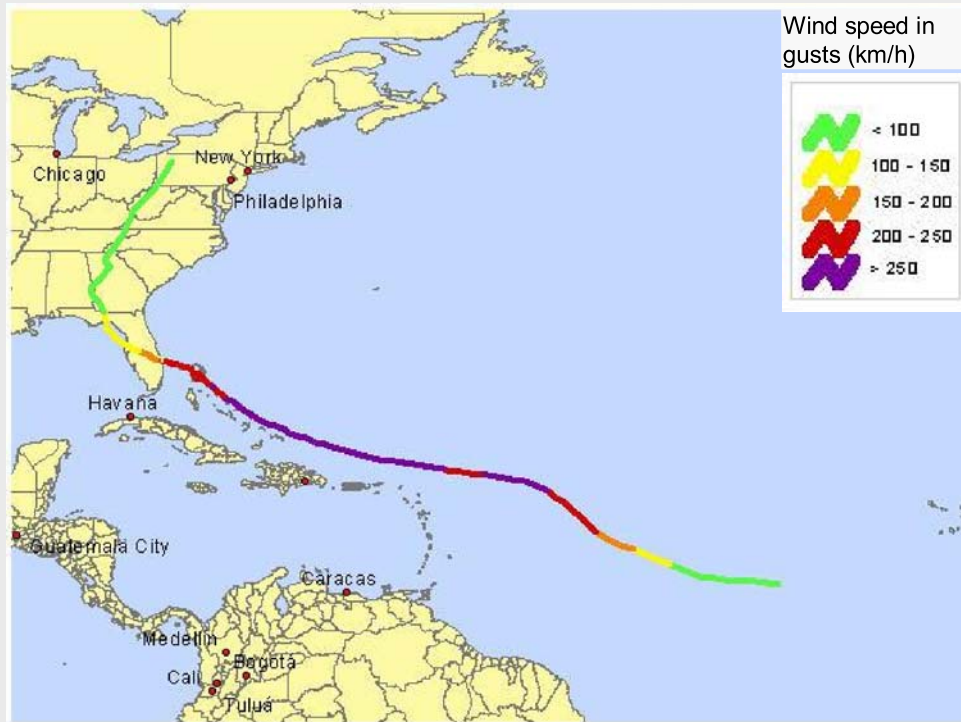
- Intensification from SS3 to SS4 shortly before landfall
- Very small eye and very small diameter of the area with hurricane force winds (< 50 km)



The exceptional hurricane season of 2004 in the Atlantic

2) Hurricane Frances (25.08–09.09.2004)

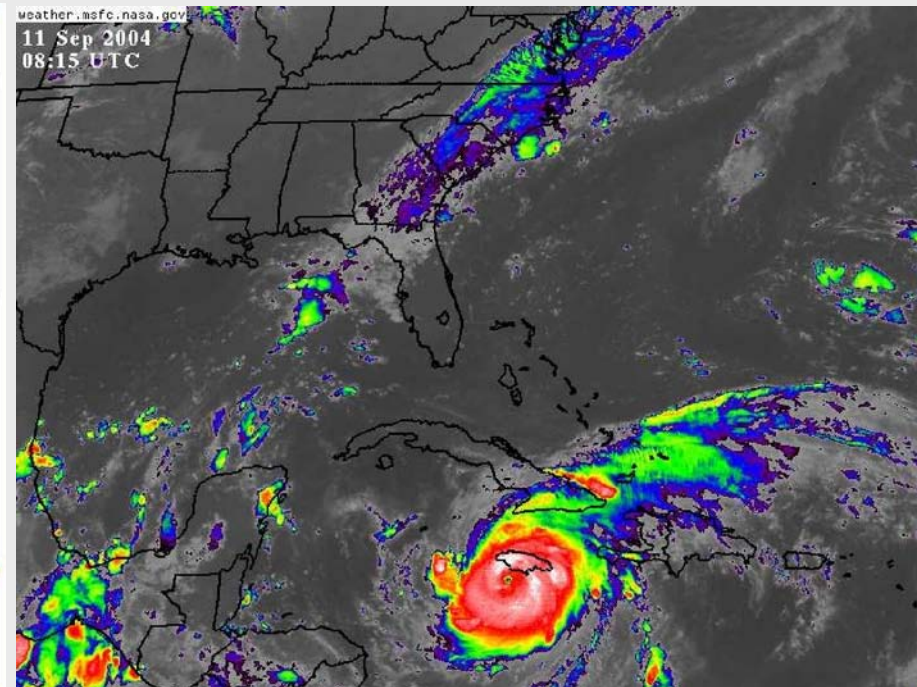
- Decrease in intensity from SS4 to SS2 shortly before landfall in Florida
- Very large eye diameter (> 100 km) and loss-affected area
- Wet hurricane with low forward speed (< 20 km/h)



The exceptional hurricane season of 2004 in the Atlantic

3) Hurricane Ivan (02.09–24.09.2004)

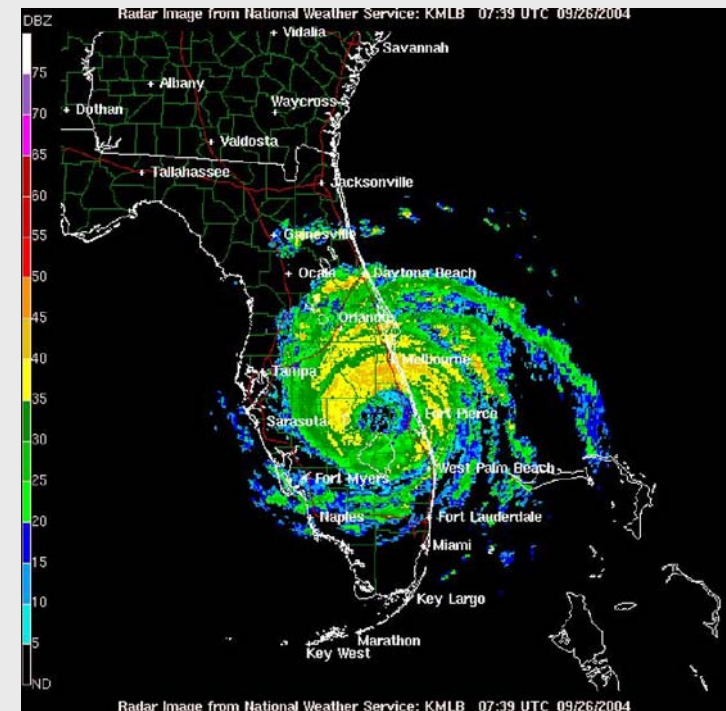
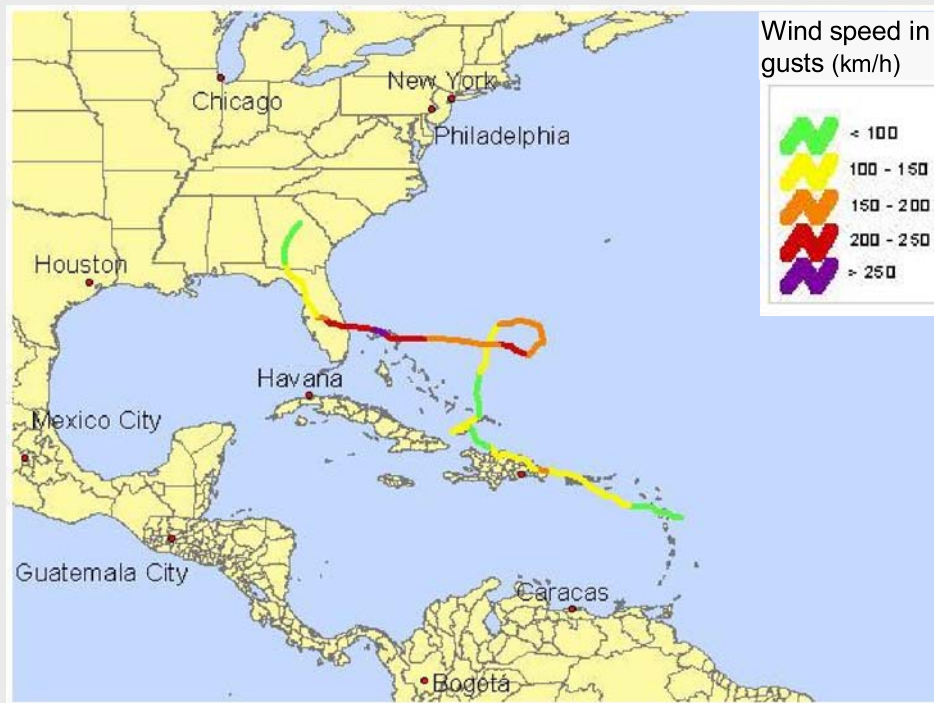
- Intensity of SS4/SS5 for more than a week
- Large losses in the Caribbean
- Second landfall in the Gulf of Mexico as a tropical storm



The exceptional hurricane season of 2004 in the Atlantic

4) Hurricane Jeanne (13.09 – still continuing)

- Large number of victims in the Caribbean (> 1,000 deaths in Haiti)
- Landfall as SS3 hurricane in Florida
- Hurricane strength maintained over Florida



Overview of the four hurricanes causing the greatest losses (As at: 28.09.2004)



Loss balance: (As at: 28.9.2004)

Hurricane Charley

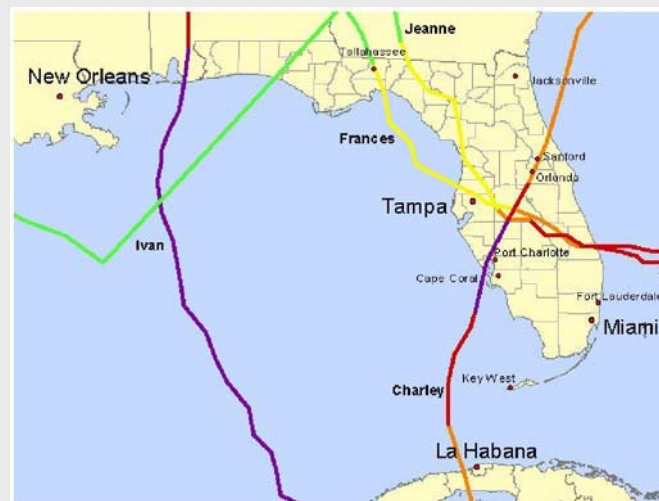
- Insured market loss: US\$ 7bn (Source: PCS)
- MR Group share: €75m

Hurricane Frances

- Insured market loss: US\$ 4.4bn
(Source: PCS)
- MR Group share: €65m

Hurricane Ivan

- Insured market loss:
US\$ 5-12bn
(Source: MR estimate)
- MR Group share: €214m



Wind speed in
gusts (km/h)



Hurricane Jeanne

- Insured market loss:
US\$ 4.5-9bn
(Source: MR estimate)
- MR Group share: €86m

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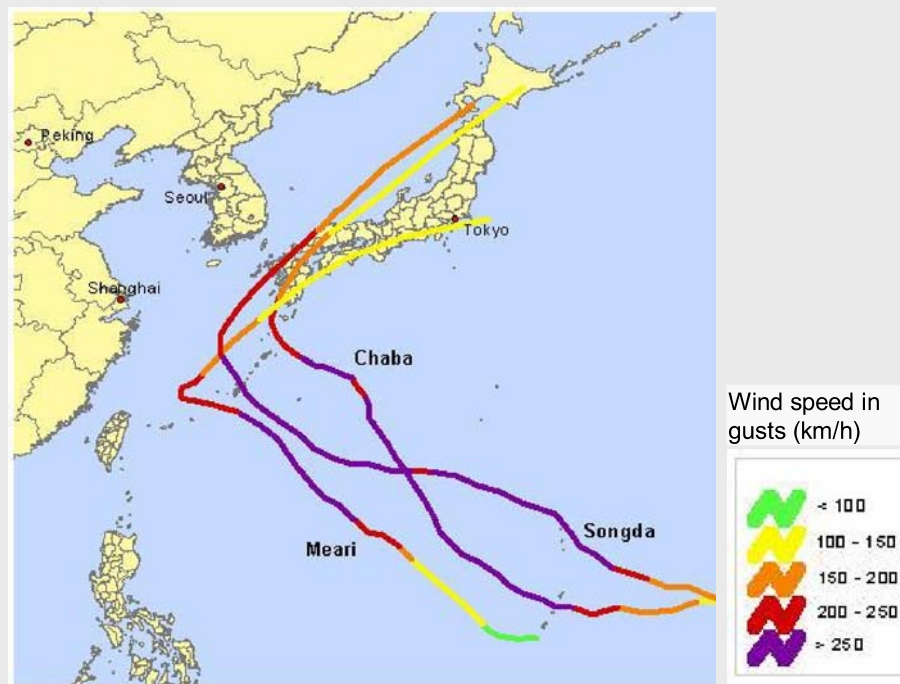
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Typhoon loss events in the Northwest Pacific 2004

Loss balance: (As at: 28.9.2004)

Typhoon Songda

- Insured market loss:
US\$ 1.5-3bn
(Source: MR estimate)
- MR Group share: €40m



Typhoon activity in the Northwest Pacific

in the historical comparison



Average number

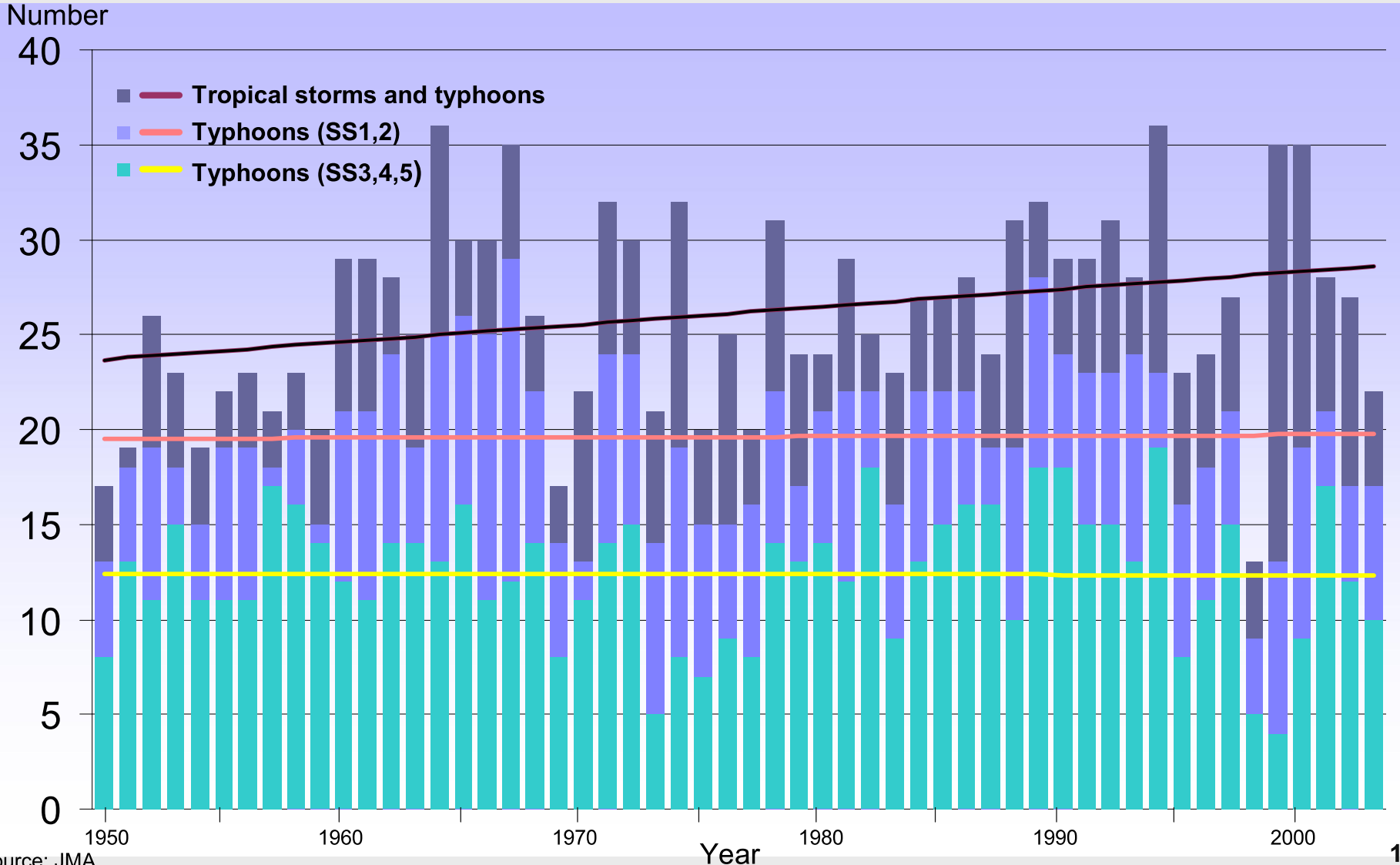
Per year (1950-2003):

Tropical storms	26
of which typhoons	20

2004 season (as at 28.9.2004):

Tropical storms	22
of which typhoons	16

Annual number of tropical cyclones and typhoons in the Northwest Pacific (1950-2003)



Source: JMA

Agenda

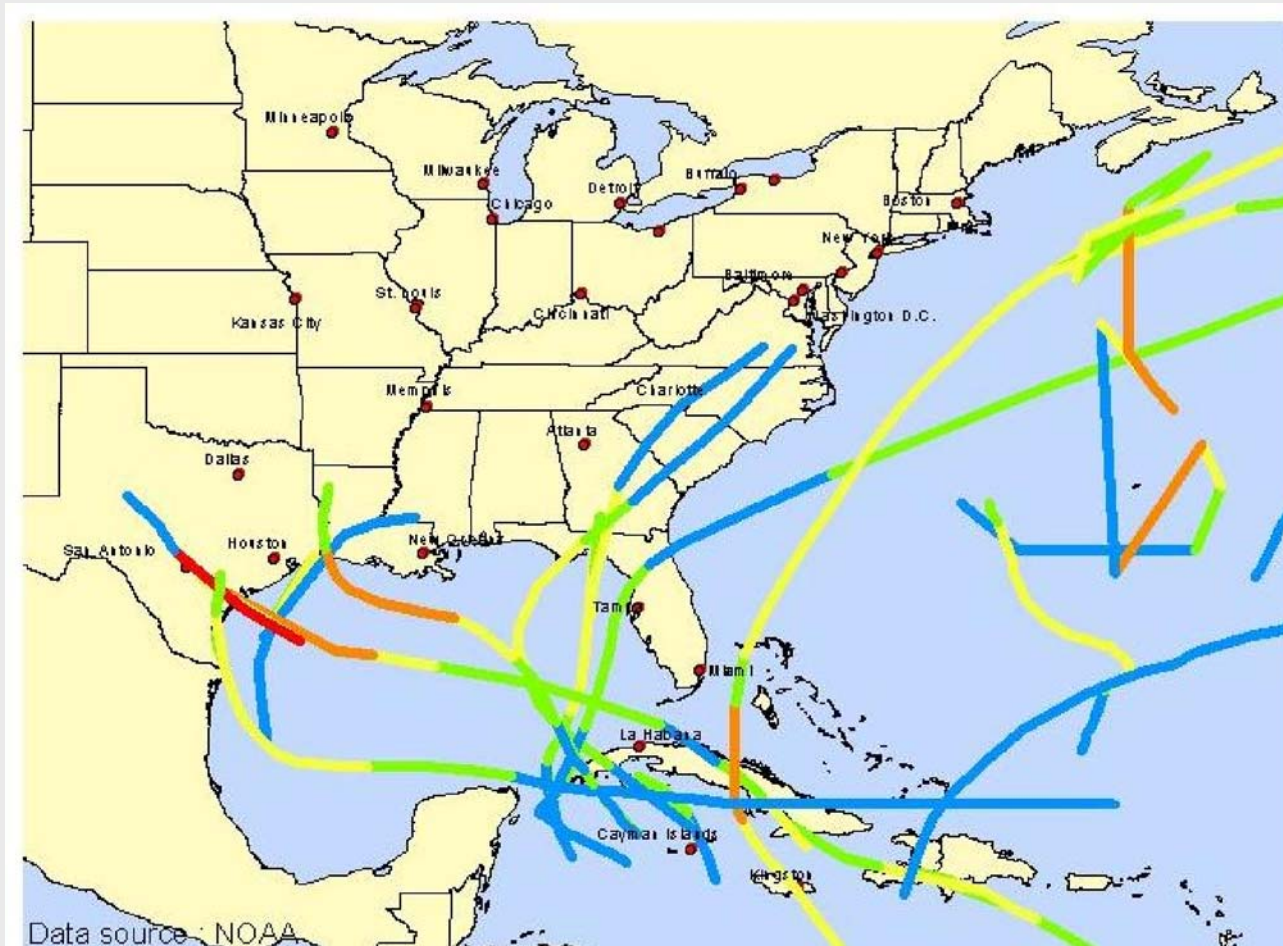
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The 2004 hurricane season in the historical context

1886: The only season in the period from 1850 to 2003 with more than three landfalls in one US federal state

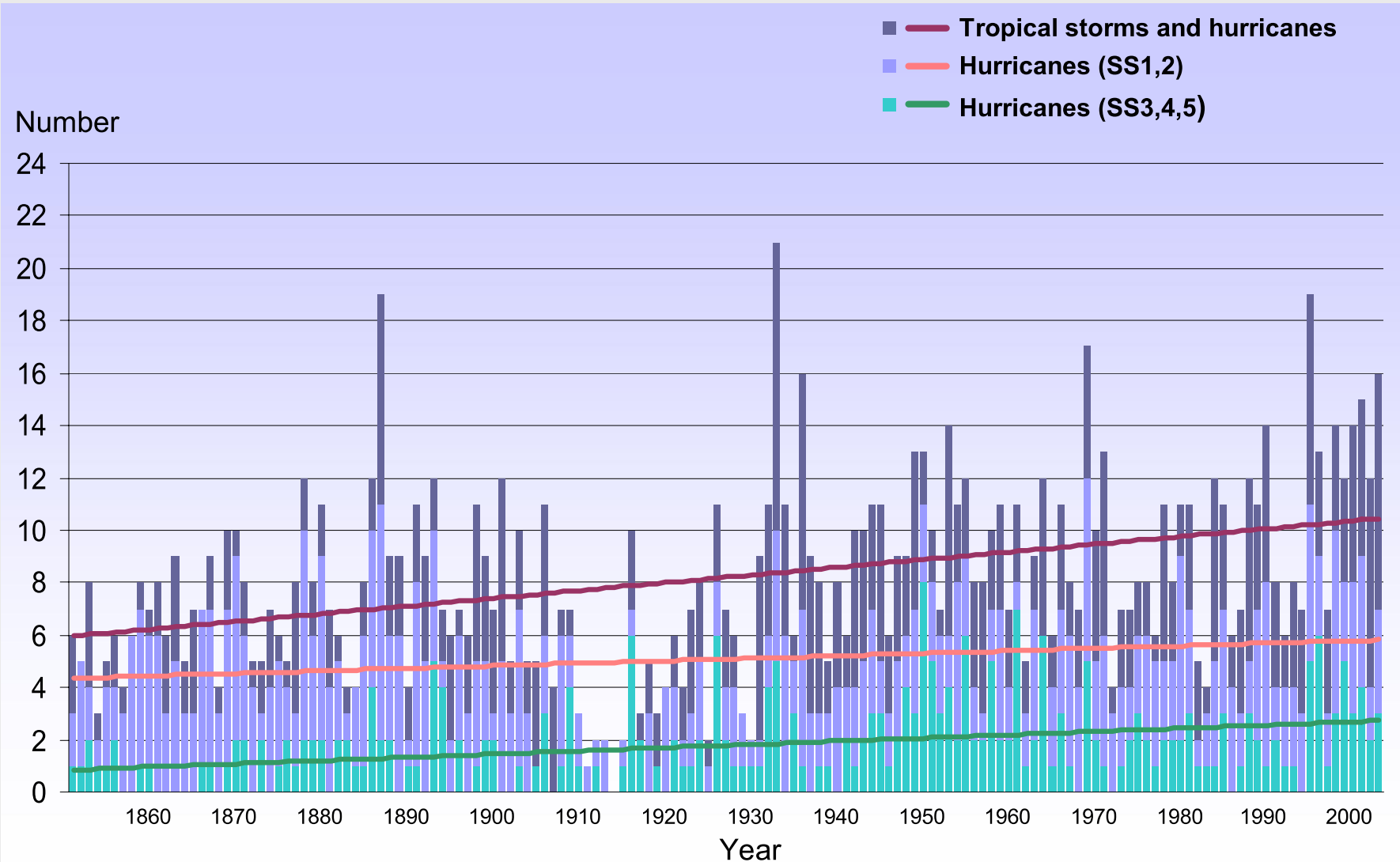


The 2004 hurricane season in the historical context

Years with more than two hurricane landfalls in Florida



Significant increase in tropical storms in the Atlantic



Threefold increase in strong hurricanes

