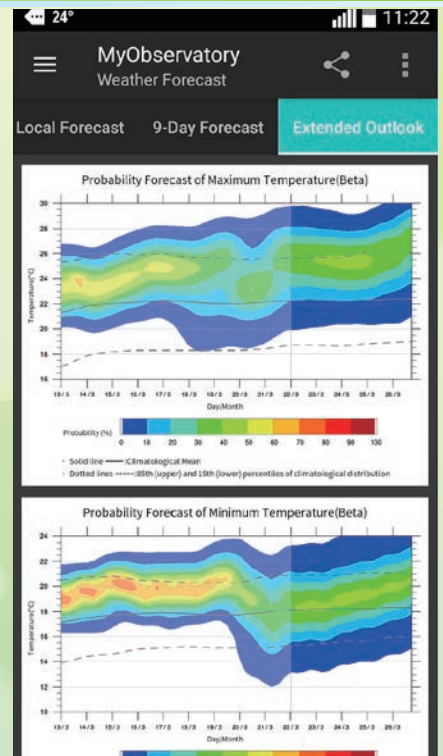




"MyObservatory" Features Longer Range Weather Forecast

Wong Wai-kin, Or Ming-keung

The Observatory launched new versions of the "MyObservatory" app, featuring the trial product "Extended Outlook", which provides probabilistic forecasts of daily minimum and maximum temperatures in the form of time series for the next 14 days to facilitate public appreciation of the upcoming temperature trend. The probability of daily minimum and maximum temperatures is indicated by different colours; e.g. reddish colour indicates a higher probability and bluish colour indicates a lower probability.



Cool Met Stuff



Annual weather review 2017

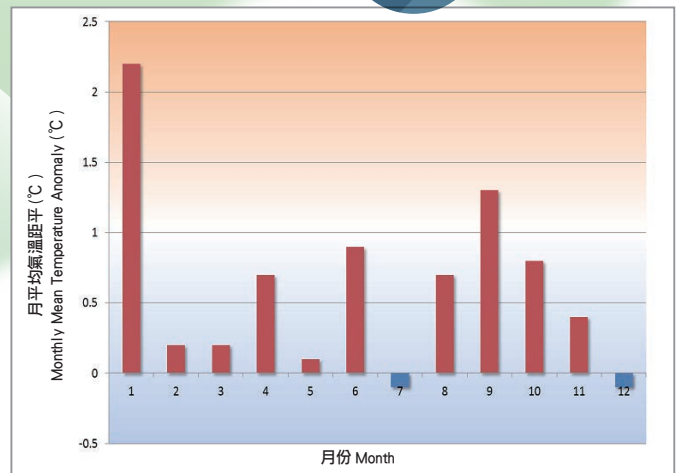


Cheung Sze-yuen

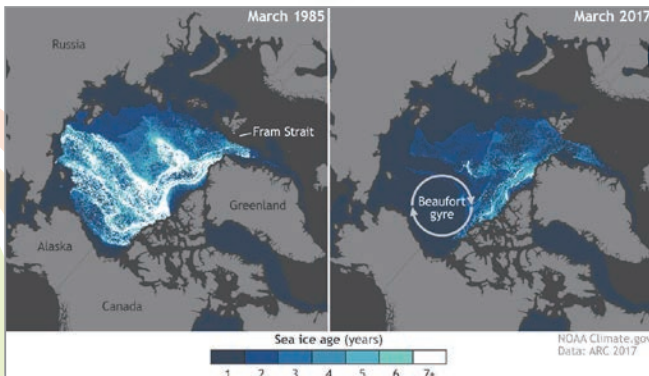
The weather of Hong Kong in 2017 was rather warm with frequent tropical cyclone activity. The annual mean temperature was 23.9 degrees, the third highest on record. The daily maximum temperature of 36.6 degrees recorded at the Hong Kong Observatory on 22 August was an all-time high. There were 41 hot nights, ranking the highest on record. Five tropical cyclones necessitated the issuance of the No.8 or above signals in 2017, a joint record with the years 1964 and 1999, and for the passage of Hato on 23 August, the No.10 Hurricane Signal was also issued.



Cool Met Stuff



Monthly mean temperature anomalies in Hong Kong in 2017



Very old sea ice in the Arctic has nearly vanished.



An update on global climate change

Sham Fu-cheung

The World Meteorological Organization announced that the atmospheric concentration of carbon dioxide soared to 403.3 ppm in 2016, setting a new record of 3.3 ppm for annual increase. Present-day concentration of carbon dioxide is the highest in the last 800,000 years. With the unabated increase in greenhouse gases and the persistent trend of global warming, 2017 ranked among the three hottest years on record. The rate of warming in the Arctic is twice as fast as the global average. The Arctic average surface temperature from October 2016 to September 2017 was the second highest on record. The Arctic sea ice extent for December 2017 was the second lowest for the month on satellite record. The melting rate of Arctic summer sea ice was unprecedented in the last 1,500 years.