

**Supporting Information for**

**Mid-Tropospheric Layer Temperature Record Derived from Satellite Microwave Sounder  
Observations with Backward Merging Approach**

Cheng-Zhi Zou<sup>1\*</sup>, Hui Xu<sup>2</sup>, Xianjun Hao<sup>3</sup>, and Qian Liu<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Center for Satellite Applications and Research, NOAA/NESDIS, College Park, MD 20740, USA

<sup>2</sup>ESSIC/CISESS, University of Maryland, College Park, MD 20740, USA

<sup>3</sup>Environmental Science and Technology Center, College of Science, George Mason University,  
Fairfax, VA 22030, USA

\*Corresponding author email: [Cheng-Zhi.Zou@noaa.gov](mailto:Cheng-Zhi.Zou@noaa.gov)

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**Figure S3.** Same as Figure S2 except for the Southern midlatitudes (20°S-60°S).

**Figure S4.** Same as Figure S2 except for the Northern midlatitudes (20°N-60°N).

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**Figure S6.** Same as Figure S2 except for the Northern polar region (60°N-82.5°N).

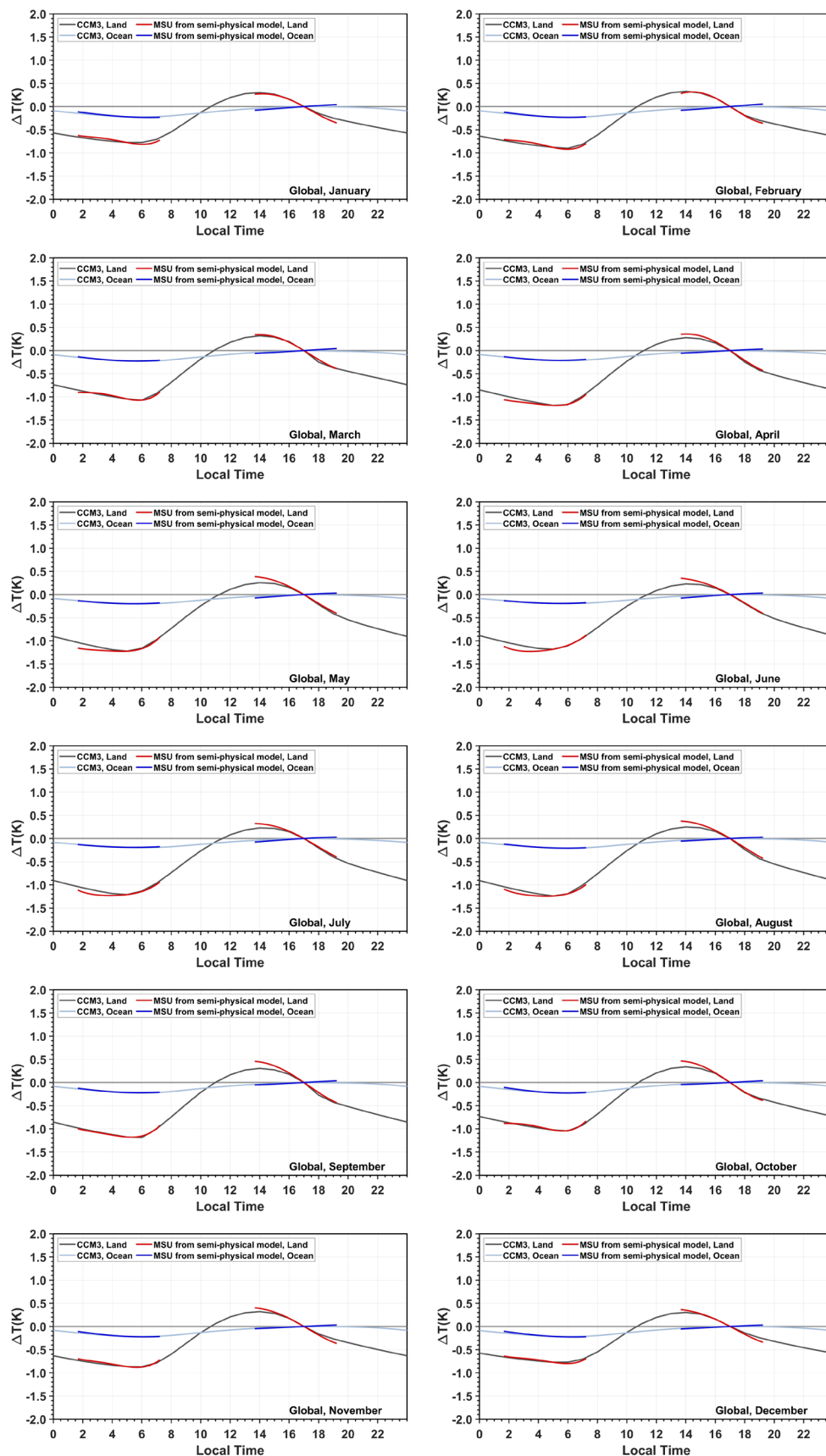


Figure S1A

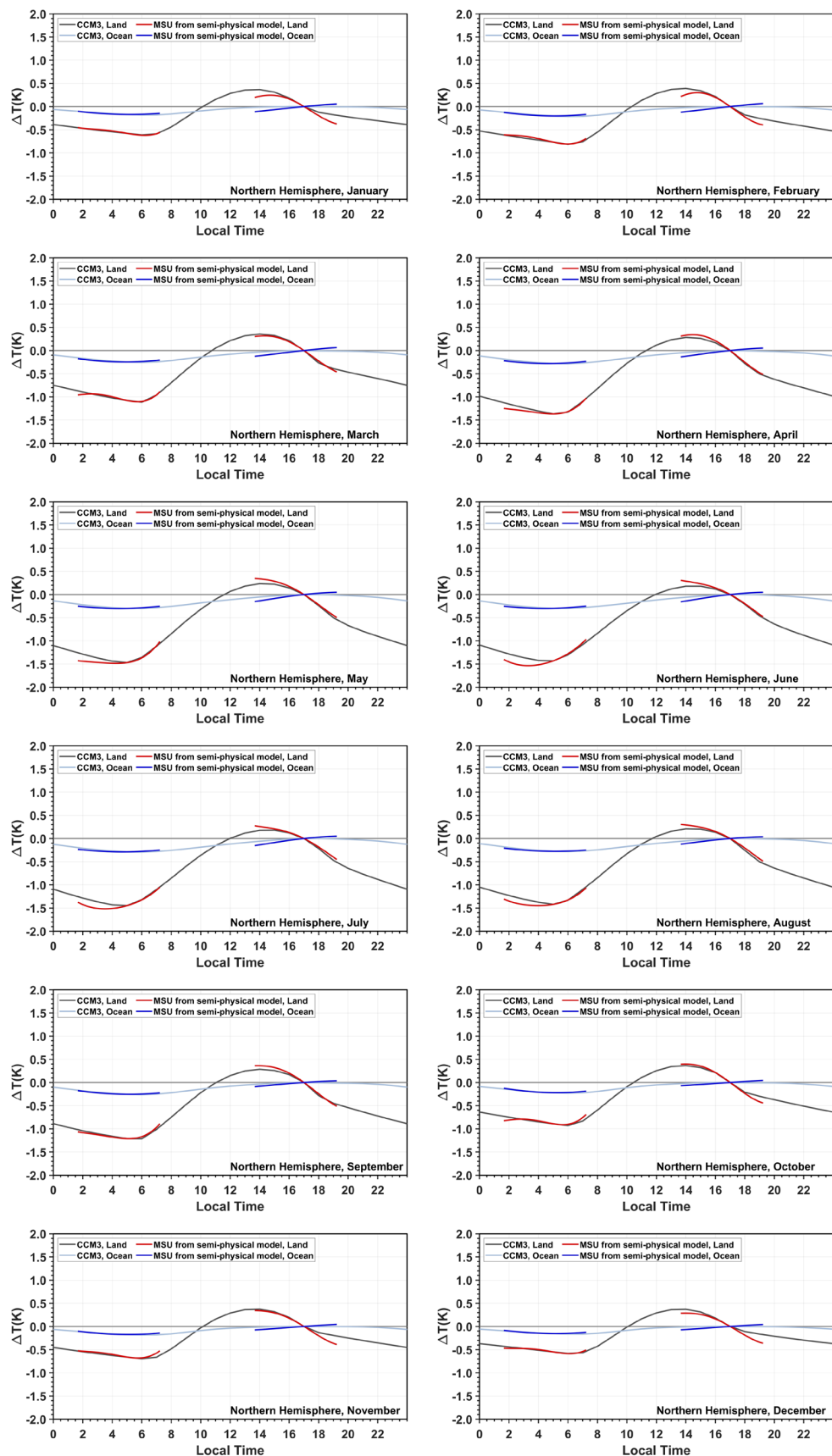


Figure S1B



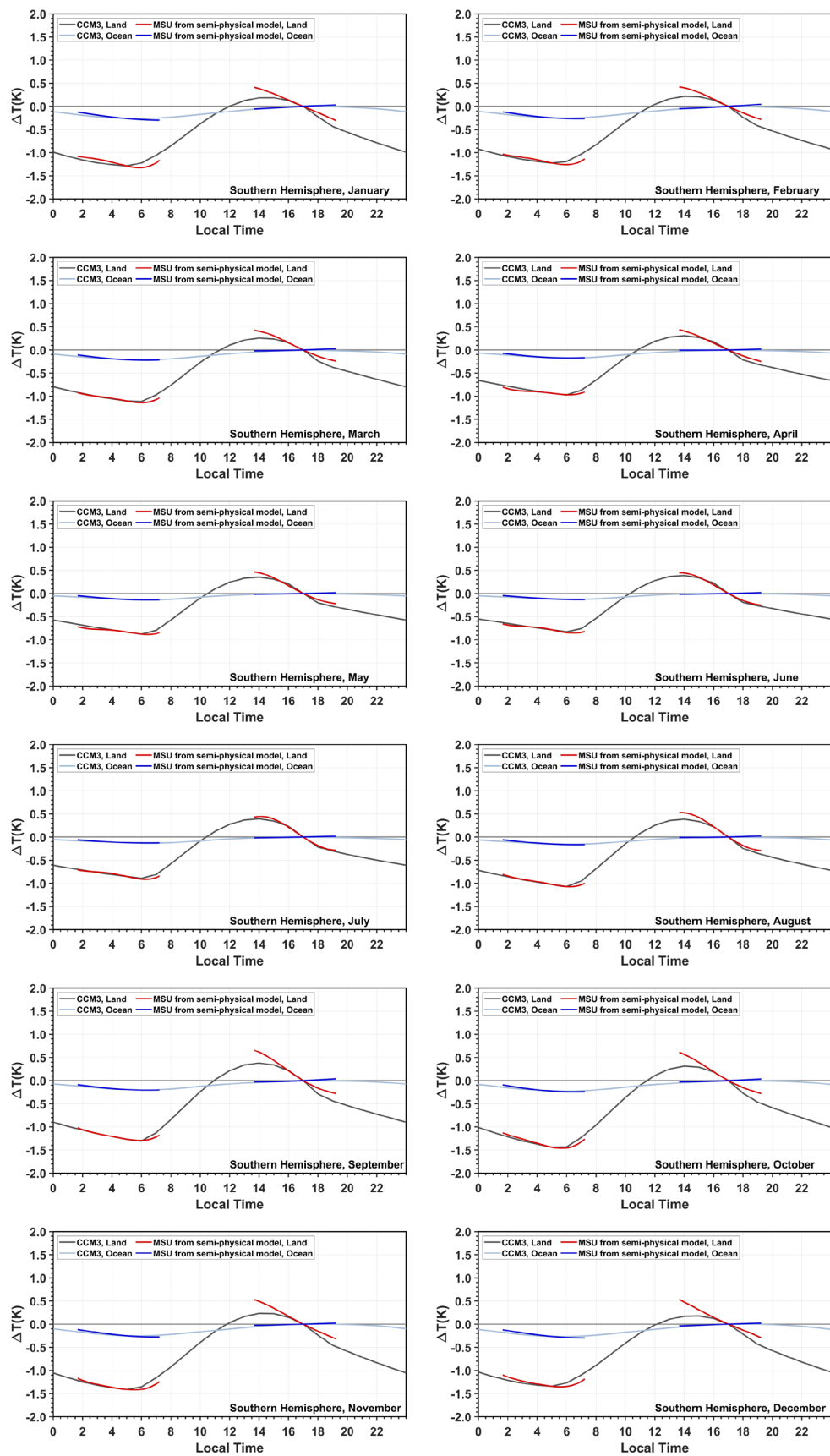


Figure S1C

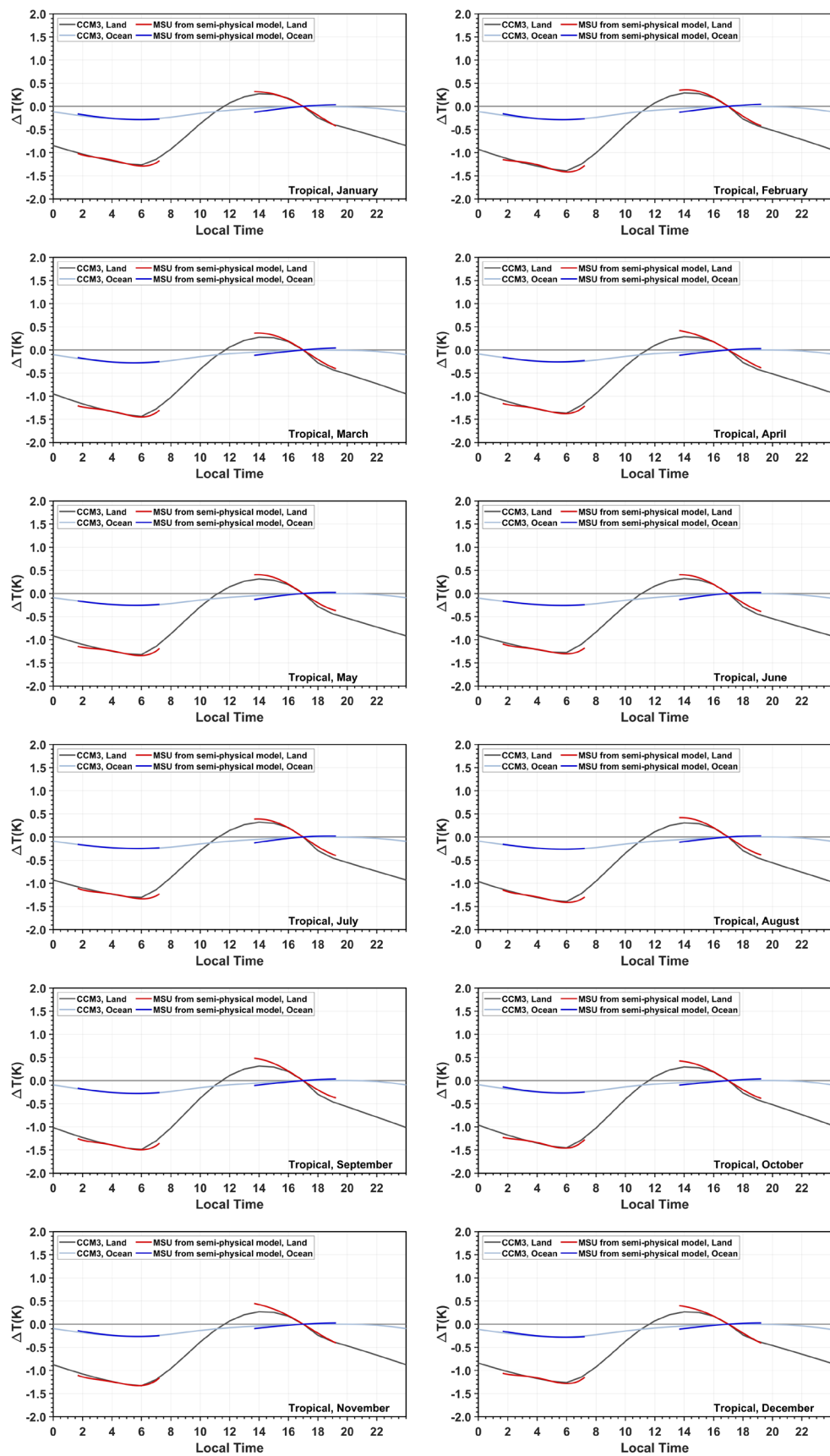


Figure S1D

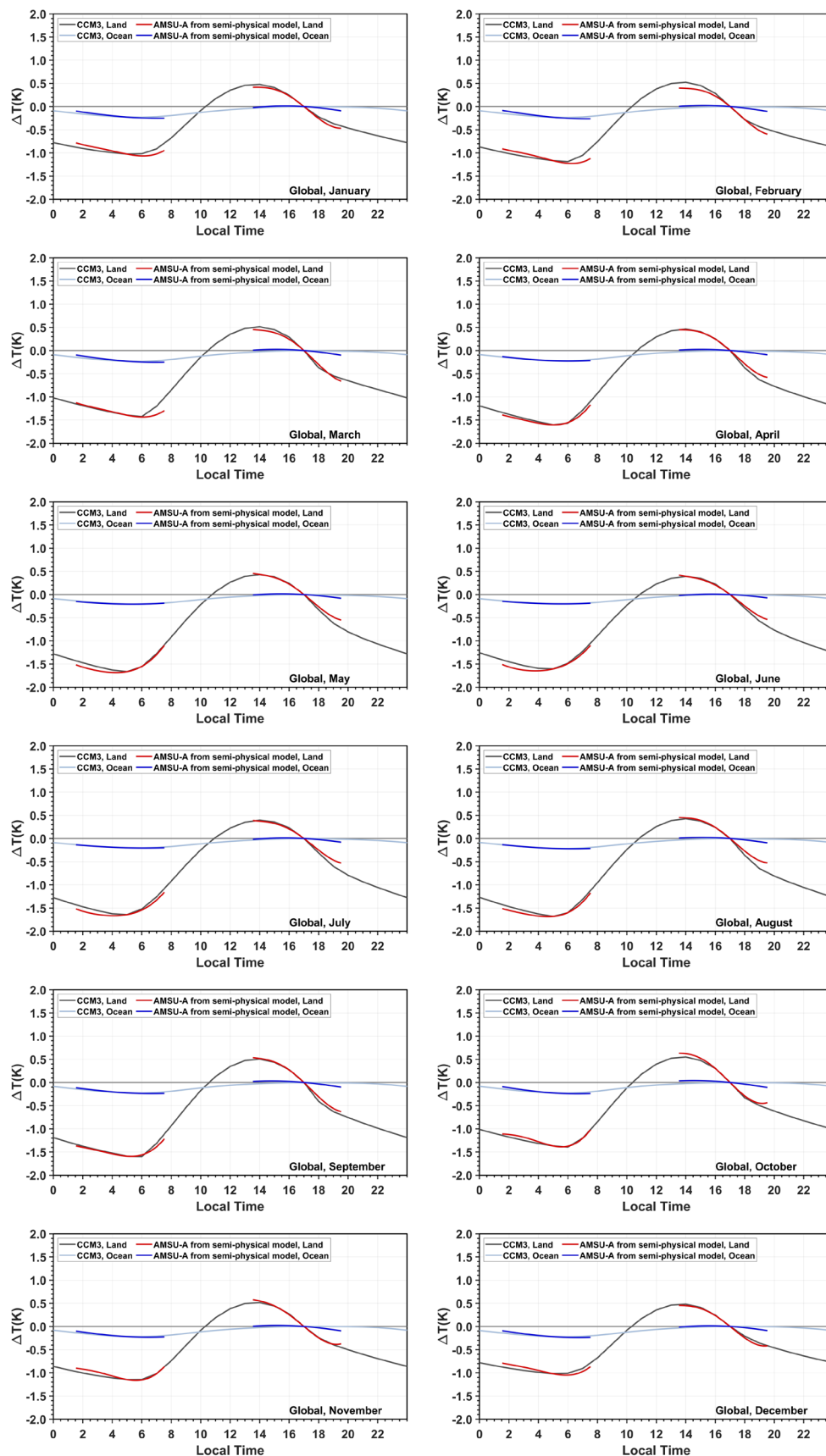


Figure S1E

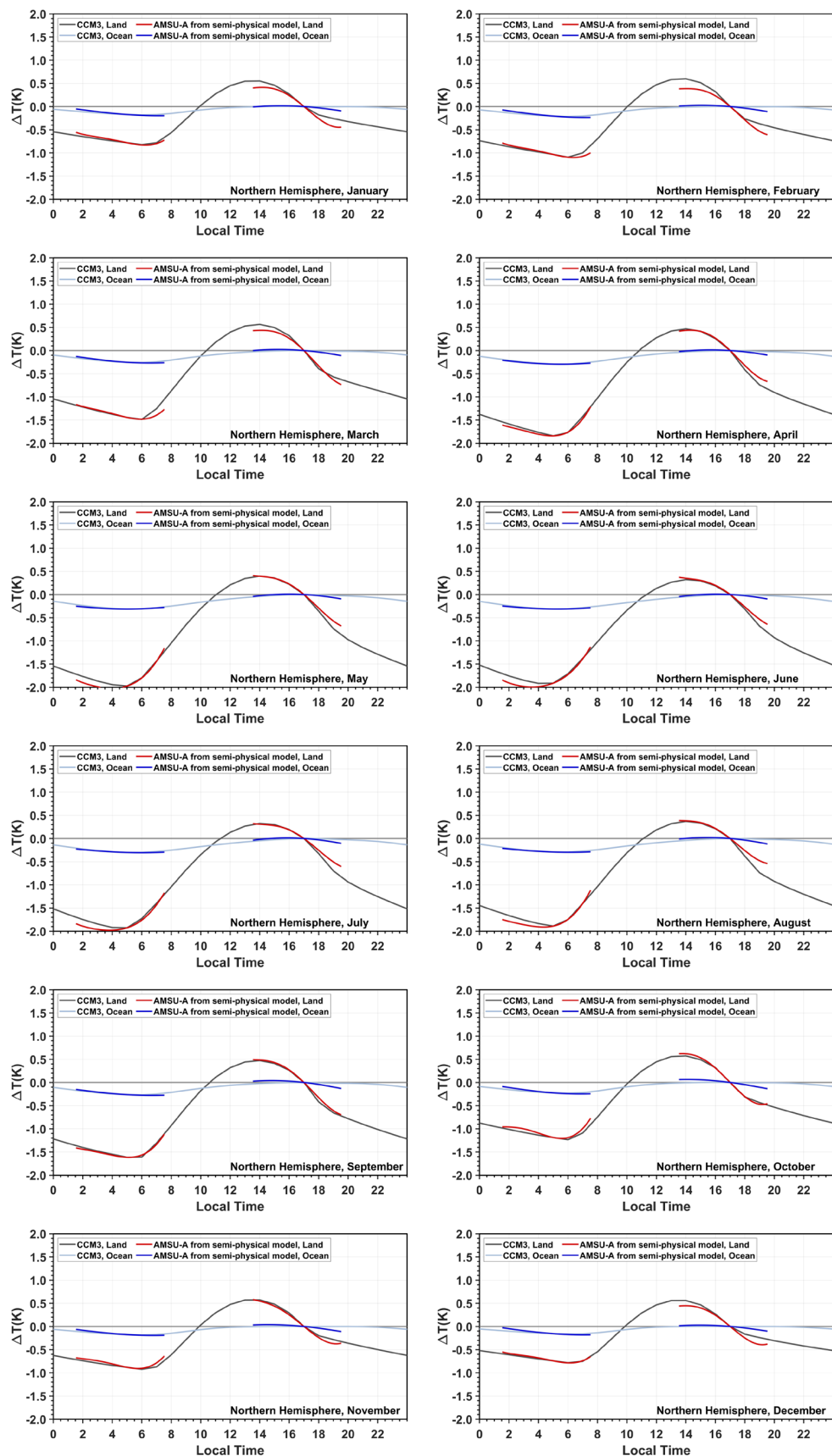


Figure S1F

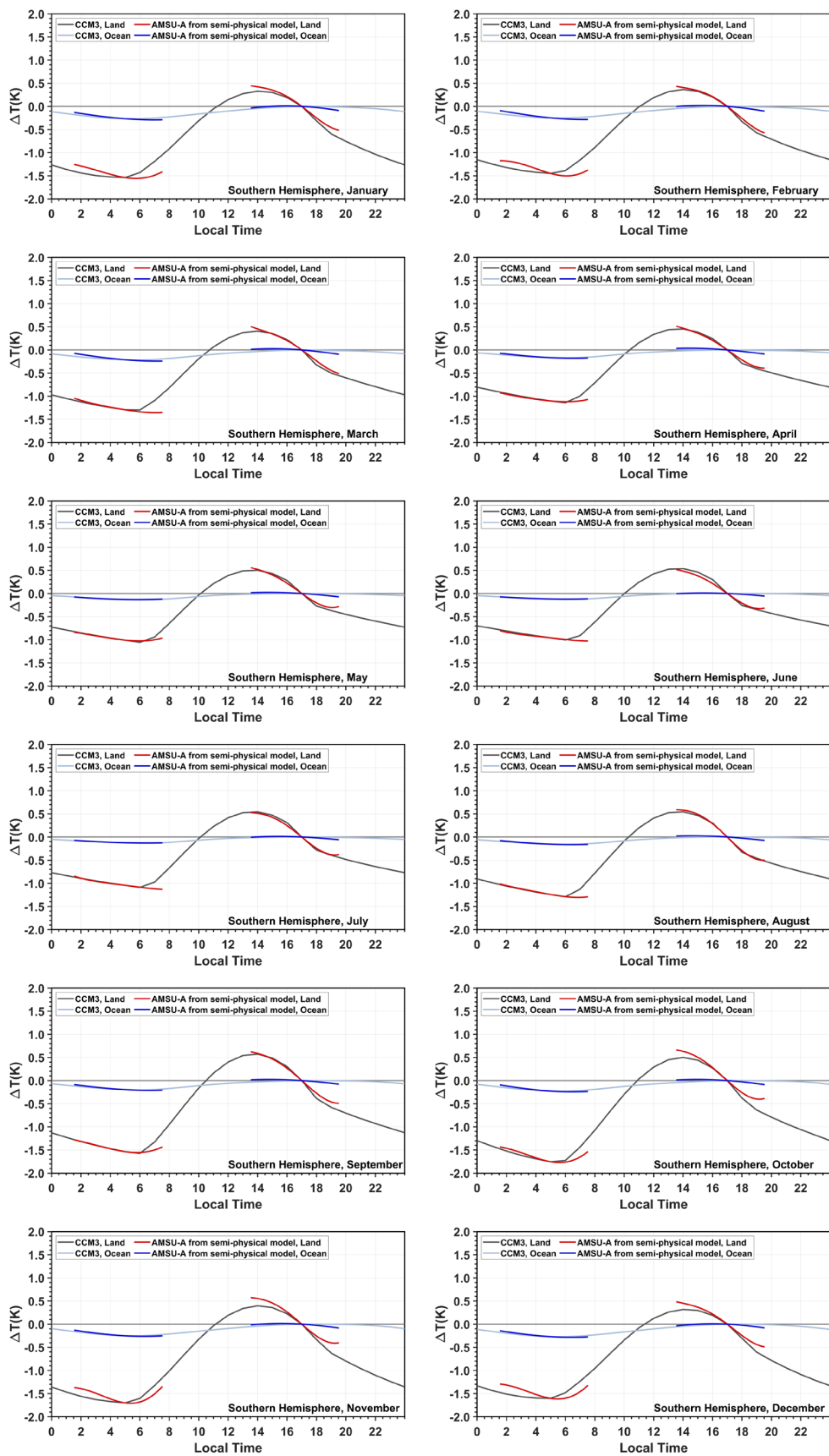


Figure S1G

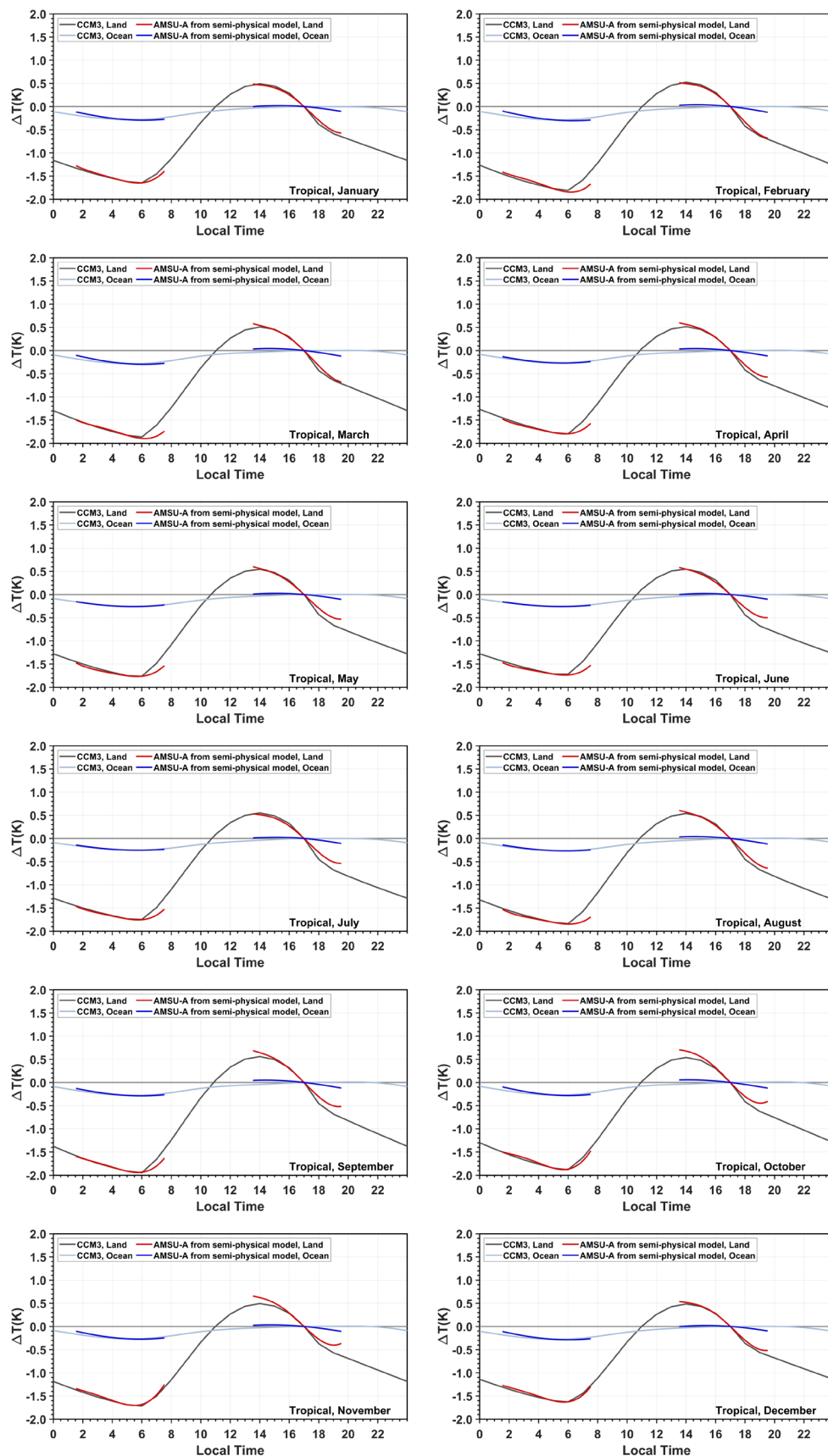
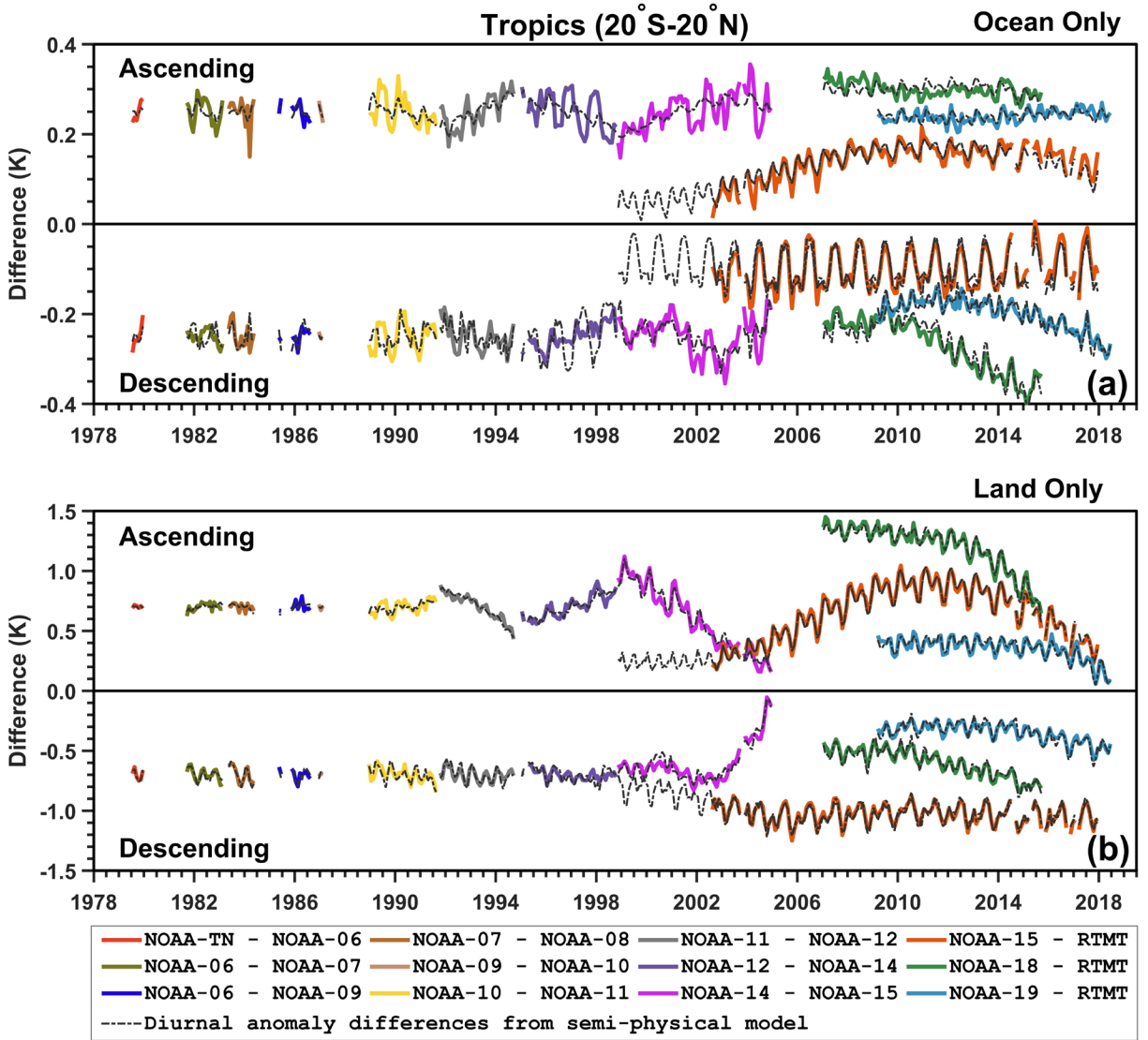


Figure S1H

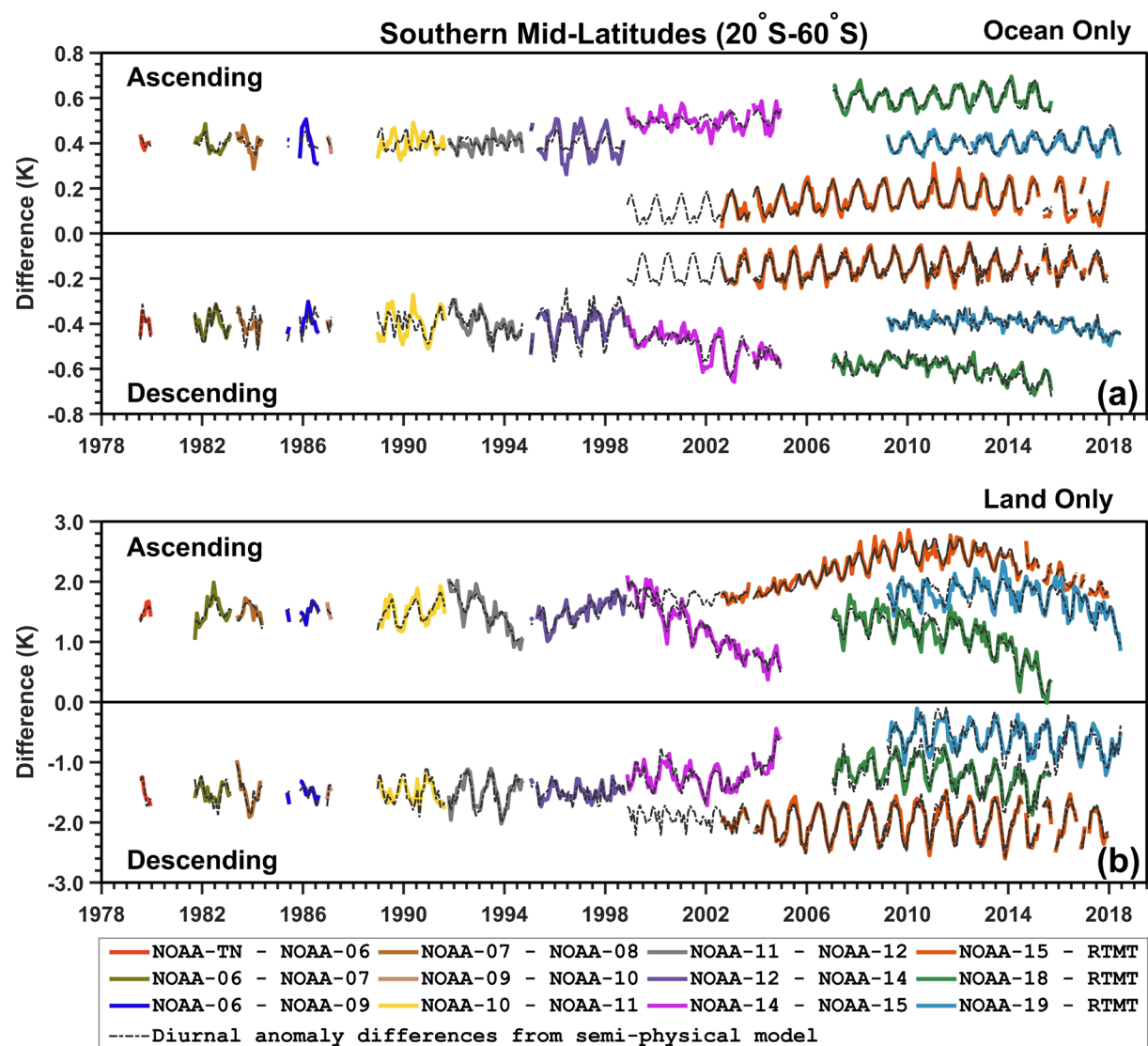
**Figure S1.** Monthly mean diurnal anomalies for MSU channel 2 and AMSU-A channel 5 obtained from the semi-physical model and their comparisons to the CCM3 climate model simulations at selected regions. (a) MSU over the global land and ocean; (b) MSU over the Northern Hemispheric land and ocean; (c) MSU over the Southern Hemispheric land and ocean; (d) MSU over the topical (20°S-20°N) land and ocean; (e) AMSU-A over the global land and ocean; (f) AMSU-A over the Northern Hemispheric land and ocean; (g) AMSU-A over the Southern Hemispheric land and ocean; (h) AMSU-A over the topical (20°S-20°N) land and ocean. The left and right branches in the semi-physical model solutions are for descending and ascending orbits, respectively. The semi-physical model included both the diurnal and semi-diurnal components over land but only the diurnal component over ocean for the MSU and AMSU-A satellites. The reference points in the semi-physical model solutions are the means of the LECTs, which are 17:00 pm (5:00 am) for the ascending (descending) orbit for both the MSU and AMSU-A satellites. The reference points in the semi-physical model solutions are forced to match the CCM3 simulations at the same times to aid in comparisons between the two types of the diurnal anomalies.



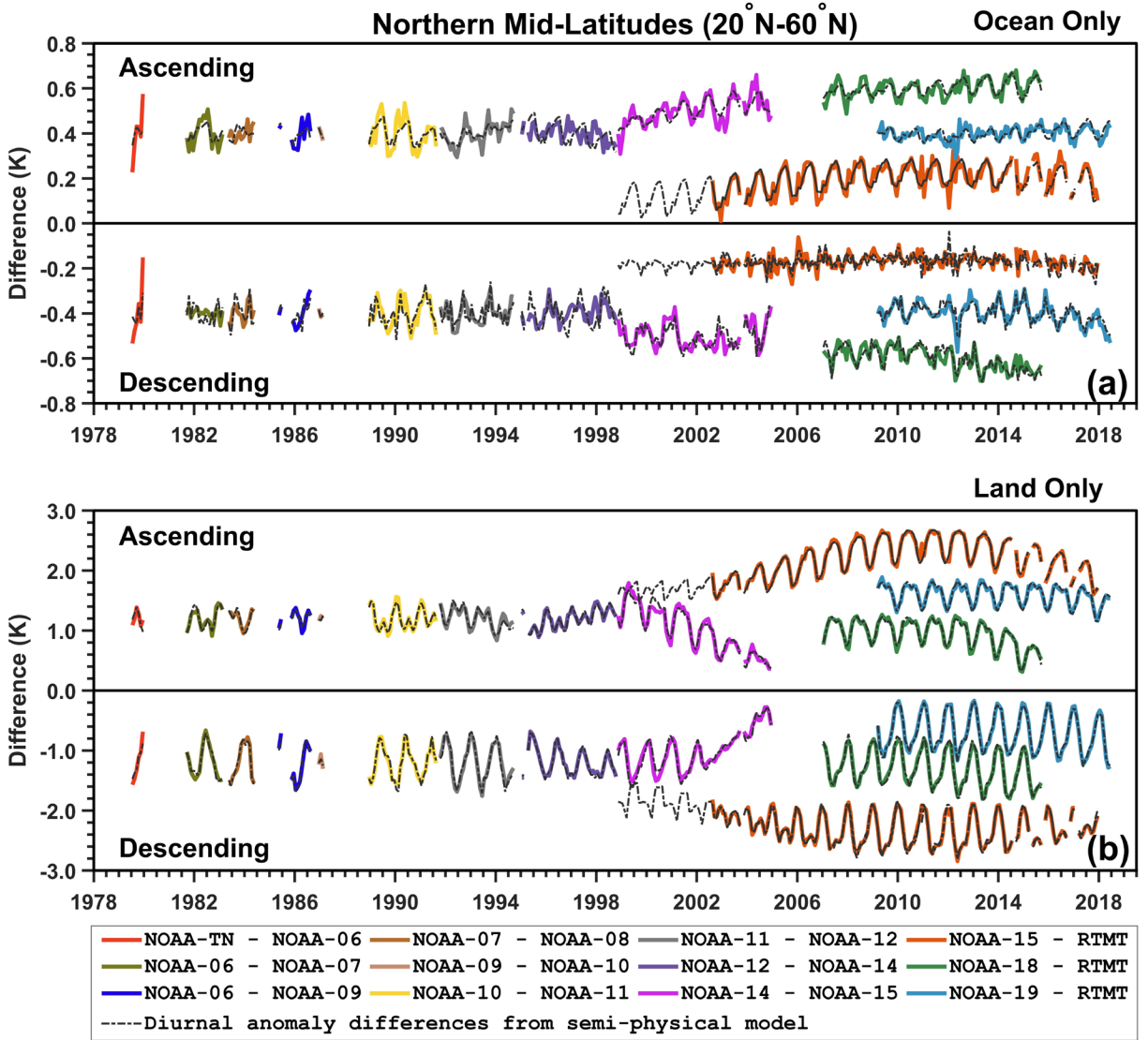


**Figure S2.** Inter-satellite differences ( $\Delta TB_{jk} = TB_j - TB_k$ , colored solid lines) and diurnal anomaly differences ( $\Delta D_{jk} = D_j - D_k$ , dashed lines) derived from the semi-physical model for (a) over the tropical ocean (20°S-20°N), and (b) over the tropical land. Differences were grouped into ascending and descending data separately by adding constant offsets to different satellite pairs for an adjustment. As such, the vertical temperature coordinate does not necessarily represent the actual values or signs of the mean diurnal anomaly differences, but they represent the magnitudes of the seasonal cycle and drifting range of the diurnal anomaly differences. The NOAA-15 diurnal anomalies during the 3.5-year period from 11/1998 to 07/2002 were predicted from the physical model based on regression coefficients obtained from its overlaps with RTMT during 08/2002-12/2017.

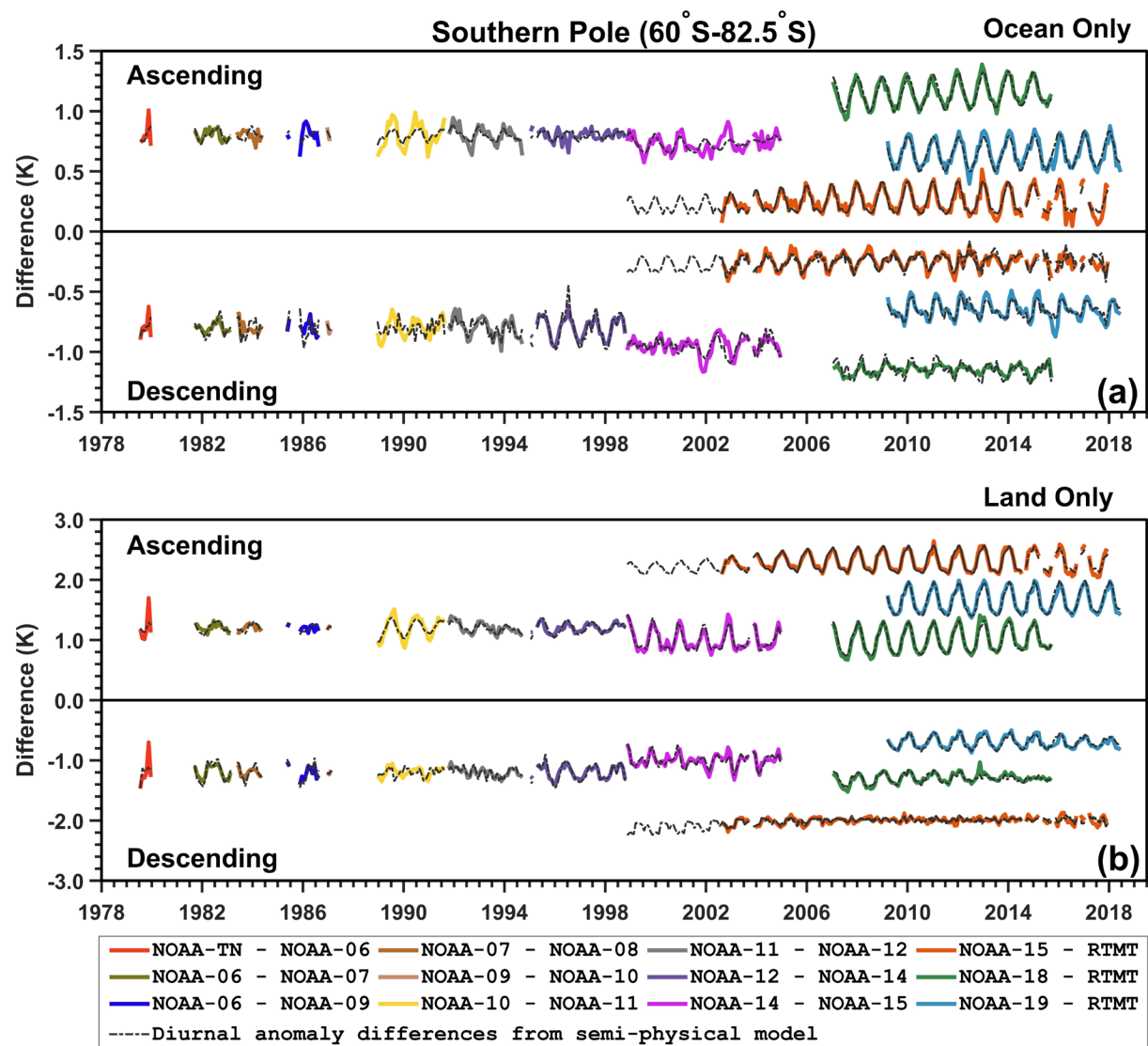




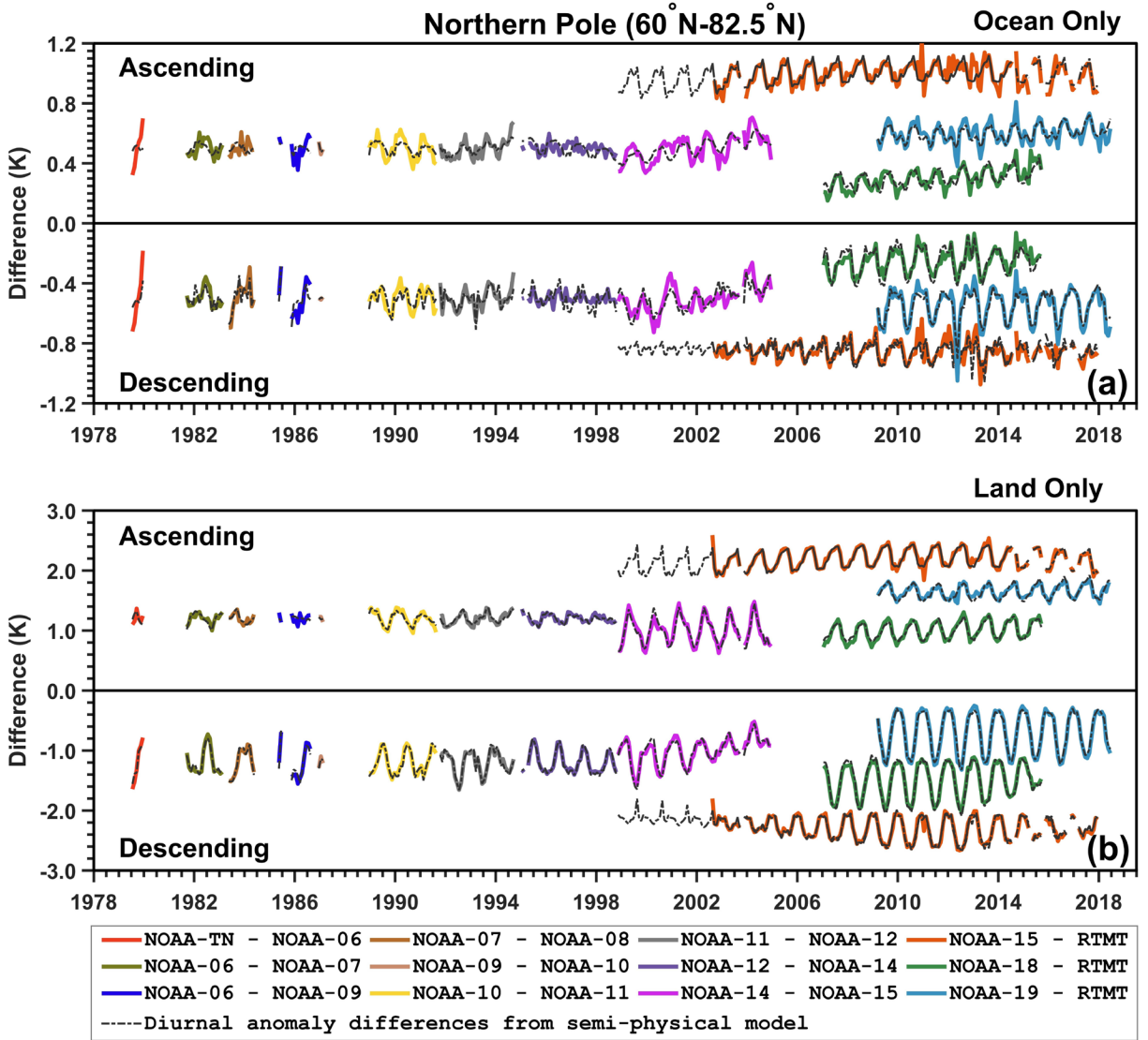
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**Figure S4.** Same as Figure S2 except for the Northern midlatitudes (20°N-60°N).



**Figure S5.** Same as Figure S2 except for the Southern polar region (60°S-82.5°S).



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