

"Deciphering the Complex Relationship Between Temperature and
Cyclonic Storm Intensity and Occurrence: A Subtle but Noteworthy
Correlation"

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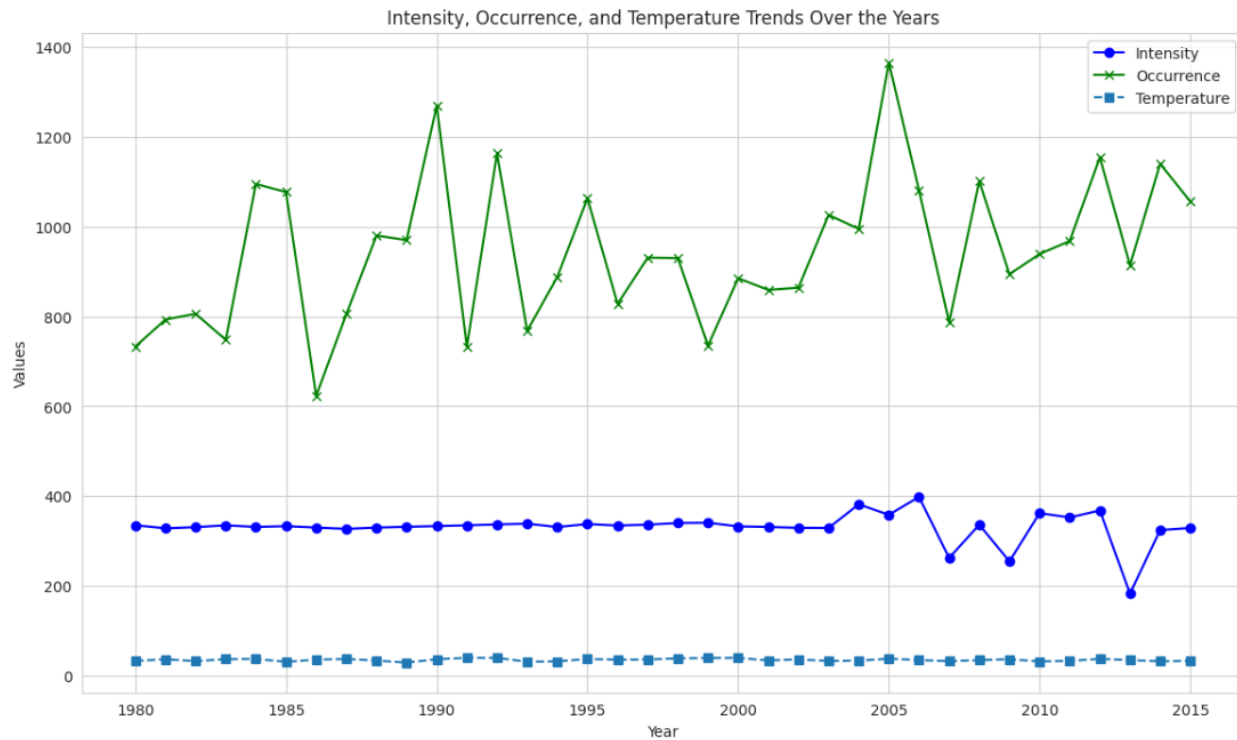


Figure 1: Here's the graph displaying the trends of Intensity, Occurrence, and Temperature over the years. Each trend line offers a clear visual representation of how these metrics have evolved from 1980 to 2015:

Lessons from Figure 1:

- i. The cyclonic storm Intensity trend (marked with circles) shows fluctuation across the years without a clear long-term directional trend.
- ii. The cyclonic storm occurrence trend (marked with crosses) hints at a slight increase over time, suggesting that the events being measured have become somewhat more frequent.
- iii. The earth's temperature trend (marked with squares and a dashed line) exhibits a more noticeable upward trajectory, especially towards the later years, aligning with global observations regarding rising temperatures.

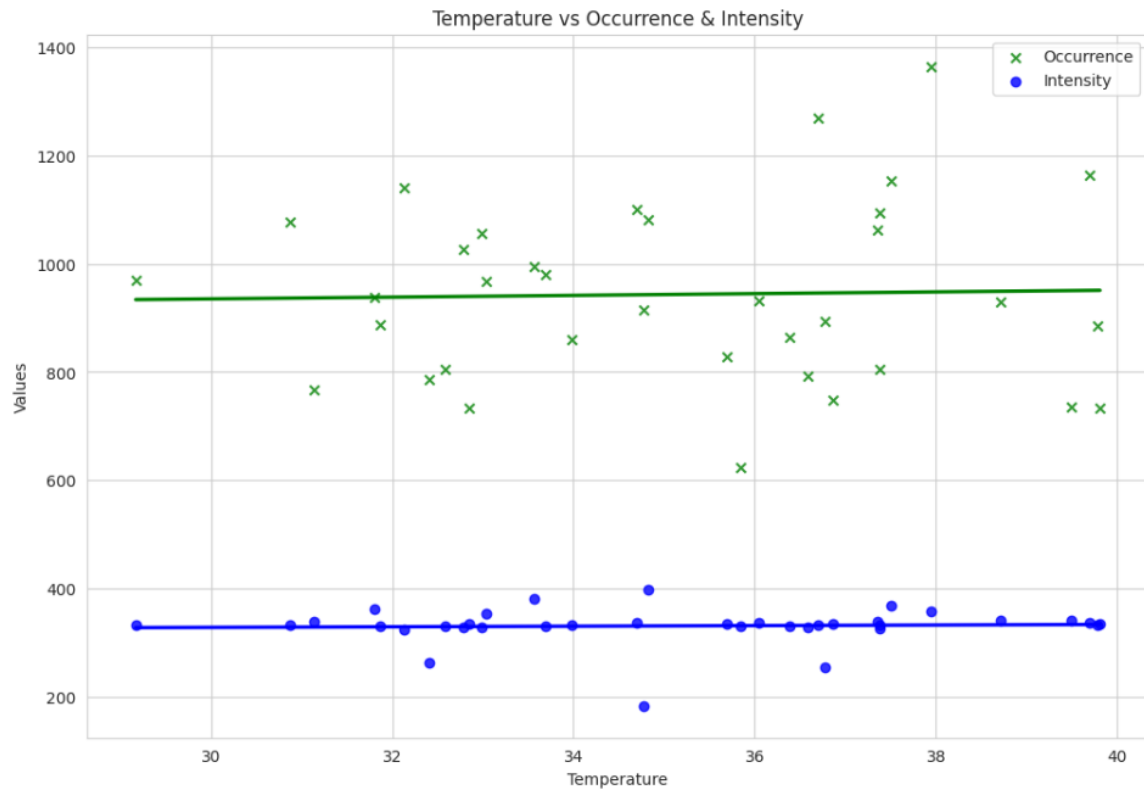


Figure 2: The combined graph illustrates the relationship between Temperature and both Occurrence and Intensity, each with its trend line. This visualization allows for a direct comparison of how the earth's temperature influences cyclonic storm intensity and the number of occurrences in the Atlantic basin (i.e., North Atlantic Ocean, Gulf of Mexico, and Caribbean Sea) and the Northeast and North Central Pacific basin.

- i. The green trend line, representing Occurrence, shows a distinct positive correlation with temperature. This implies that with rising global temperatures, the occurrence of storms appears to increase in frequency. Nonetheless, it's important to note that the correlation coefficient between the occurrence of these storms and temperature is relatively low, at 0.027. This indicates a weak linear relationship, suggesting that while there is a trend of increasing storm occurrences with higher temperatures, other factors not captured by this linear correlation may also play significant roles.
- ii. In Figure 2, the blue graph discusses the relationship between the intensity of cyclonic storms and temperature, as represented by a blue trend line in the graph. This trend line indicates a certain level of positive correlation between these two variables, suggesting that as temperatures rise, so does the intensity of cyclonic storms, albeit to a lesser extent or with less clarity than the relationship between storm occurrence and temperature.

- iii. The analysis above highlights the complexity of the relationship between temperature and storm intensity. Unlike the occurrence of storms, which might more directly correlate with rising temperatures, the intensity of such events could be influenced by a multitude of other environmental and atmospheric conditions. These could include ocean heat content, atmospheric moisture, wind shear, and other variables that interact in complex ways to influence the final intensity of cyclonic storms. Thus, while there is a discernible positive relationship, indicating that temperature has some influence on storm intensity, the exact nature of this relationship is nuanced and potentially modulated by a range of other factors.

Reference:

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- iii. Landsea, C.W., G.A. Vecchi, L. Bengtsson, and T. R. Knutson, 2010: Impact of duration thresholds on Atlantic tropical cyclone counts. *J. Climate*, 23, 2508-2519.
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- v. Earth's temperature data: <https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/access/monitoring/climate-at-a-glance/global/time-series>