

GHRSSST
GROUP FOR HIGH RESOLUTION
SEA SURFACE TEMPERATURE

Annual Report 2023

GHRSSST
Group for High Resolution Sea Surface Temperature

HOME QUICK START GUIDE LATEST SST MAP PROJECT OFFICE GHRSSST DATA & SERVICES RESOURCES OUTREACH

GHRSSST CATALOGUE

Search: [input field]

Results 1 to 8 of 8 - 30 pp page

- NOVISEA Multi-Tropical Atlantic High-Resolution Sea Surface Temperature Database Level 3 Data**
- NOVISEA Global Sea Surface Temperature Level 3 Data Analysis**
- NOVISEA Mediterranean Sea High-Resolution Sea Surface Temperature Database Level 3 Data Analysis**
- NOVISEA South Atlantic Ocean High-Resolution Sea Surface Temperature Data**

Platform: [input field]
Sensor: [input field]
Latency: [input field]
Spatial-Resolution: [input field]
Producer: [input field]
Distributor: [input field]
Geographic-area: [input field]



GHRSSST24
INTERNATIONAL SST
USERS SYMPOSIUM &
GHRSSST SCIENCE TEAM MEETING

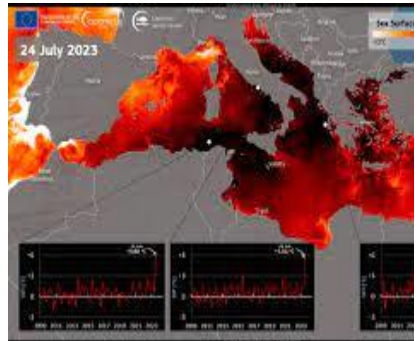
Abstract submission
Deadline extended until July 7th 2023
WWW.GHRSSST.ORG

In-person in Ahmedabad (India) and online
OCT | 16-20th | 2023

International SST Users' Symposium and
GHRSSST International Science Team Meeting
(GHRSSST24)

Welcome to the International SST Users' Symposium and
GHRSSST International ...

[View](#)



GHRSSST
GROUP FOR HIGH RESOLUTION
SEA SURFACE TEMPERATURE

Live Webinar: GHRSSST Talks

NOAA 1st MODIS SST Reanalysis (RAN1) from
Terra and Aqua
Olafur Jonasson

[Register Now](#)

18 December 2023
18:00 - 18:45 pm CET

<https://www.ghrsst.org/outreach/ghrsst-talks>



Copyright 2024 © European Union

This report has been edited by the GHRSSST Project Office, in performance of contractual activities: 'Ownership 2024 European Union'.

This copyright notice applies only to the overall collection of papers: authors retain their individual rights and should be contacted directly for permission to use their material separately. Editorial correspondence and requests for permission to publish, reproduce or translate this publication in part or in whole should be addressed to the GHRSSST Project Office. The papers included comprise the proceedings of the meeting and reflect the authors' opinions and are published as presented. Their inclusion in this publication does not necessarily constitute endorsement by GHRSSST or the co-organisers.



The GHRSSST Project Office is funded by the European Union Copernicus Programme and is hosted by the Danish Meteorological Institute, Sankt Kjelds Plads 11, 2100 Copenhagen (DK).

The GHRSSST website is performed in the frame of the Sci4MaST project led by NOVELTIS and funded by the European Union Copernicus Programme.

E-mail:

Chiara Bearzotti gpc@ghrsst.org

Erika Hayashi erh@ghrsst.org

Connect with us on social media

Website: <https://www.ghrsst.org/>



[@ghrsst](https://twitter.com/ghrsst)



<https://www.linkedin.com/company/ghrsst>



<https://zenodo.org/communities/ghrsst>



<https://www.youtube.com/@GHRSSST>

Cover: Sea surface temperature anomaly in July 2023 (Data: E.U. Copernicus Marine Service Information)

Foreword

This annual report for 2023 provides a review of the key activities and results of the Group for High Resolution Sea Surface Temperature (GHRSSST) international science team and of the activities involving sea surface temperature users.

GHRSSST is an open international science team that promotes the application of satellites for monitoring Sea-Surface Temperature (SST) by enabling SST data producers, users and scientists to collaborate within an agreed framework of best practice. GHRSSST provides a framework for SST data sharing, best practices for data processing and a forum for scientific dialogue, bringing SST to the user.

The GHRSSST annual meeting, the 24th International Science Team meeting (GHRSSST XXIV, GHRSSST24), took place from 16 to 20 October 2023 online and in person in Ahmedabad (India), and was hosted by the [Indian Space Research Organisation \(ISRO\)](#) and [Space Application Center \(SAC\)](#). This yearly symposium for SST experts, scientists, data producers and users included 6 science sessions, two workshops with more than 86 presentations and posters and more than 150 participants attending online and in person. Highlights from the sessions included discussions on best practices for satellite-derived sea surface temperature data producers and on the challenges to be faced by GHRSSST in the upcoming years.

During 2023, the GHRSSST Project Office has been working on connecting the players of the GHRSSST community by organising regular GHRSSST Talks to share knowledge and understanding, foster the exchange and growth of the community and also welcome contributions from early career researchers. Moreover, efforts to stay connected with the GHRSSST community via monthly reminders and updates across platforms with external audiences have been undertaken.

What is GHRSSST?

The Group for High Resolution Sea Surface Temperature (GHRSSST) is an **open international science group** that coordinates research and operational developments in satellite-derived sea surface temperature (SST) and promotes the application of satellites for monitoring SST by enabling SST data producers, users and scientists to collaborate within an agreed framework of best practices.

Governance

GHRSSST comprises an elected International [Science Team](#) of researchers and operational practitioners. The Science Team comprises data production activities, scientific research and users. The Science Team is organised into Technical Advisory Groups (TAGs) focused on particular challenges and activities (<https://www.ghrsst.org/about-ghrsst/organisation>).

There are four [TAGs](#) within GHRSSST:

- User Data and Services Technical Advisory Group (UDS-TAG)
- Climate Data Records Technical Advisory Group (CDR-TAG)
- Analysis and Intercomparison Technical Advisory Group (IC-TAG)
- Estimation and Validation Technical Advisory Group (EV-TAG)

Several Task Teams are initiated to address and work on identified issues and tasks within a set timeframe and to report to the GHRSSST community on an annual basis on their level of progress.

Major stakeholders are represented in the GHRSSST Advisory Council, which advises the GHRSSST Science Team on its strategy. The GHRSSST Project Office, located at the Danish Meteorological Institute and funded by the European Union Copernicus Programme, supports the day-to-day coordination and working of the GHRSSST science team and community.

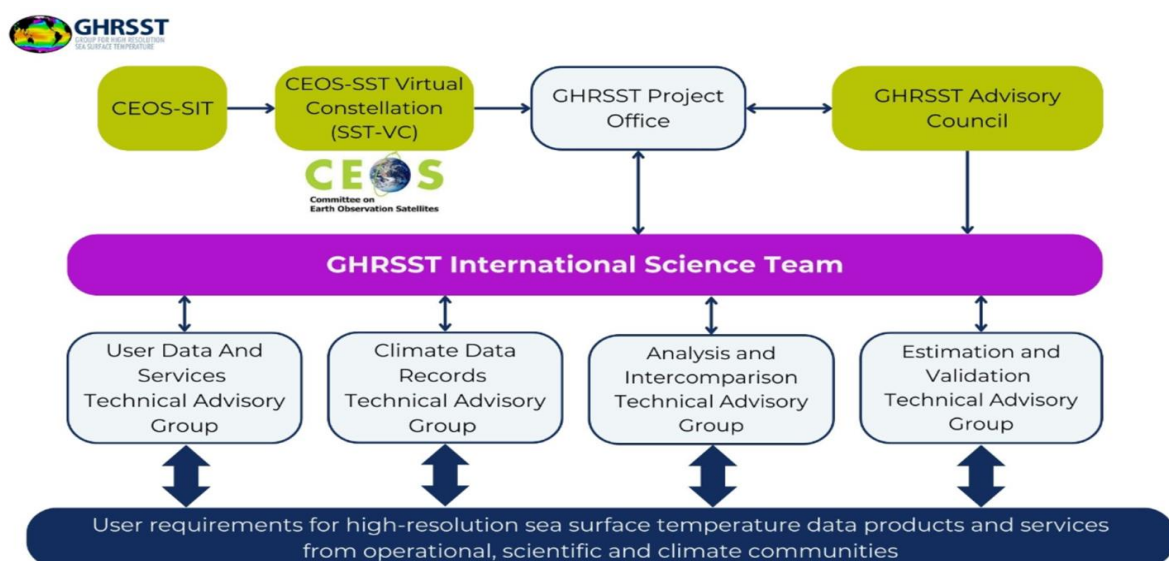


Figure 1: GHRSSST governance structure

International collaboration

GHRSSST comprises researchers and operational practitioners of SST from several worldwide institutes and agencies. These bodies are represented by the set of logos shown below. Participation in GHRSSST is increasing as new groups join the GHRSSST community.



Figure 2: GHRSSST patrons and sponsors are worldwide institutes and agencies.

CEOS SST Virtual Constellation

GHRSSST also acts as the Science Team for **the Committee on Earth Observation Satellites (CEOS) Virtual Constellation for Sea Surface Temperature (CEOS SST-VC)**.

The Sea Surface Temperature Virtual Constellation (SST-VC) is a committee serving as the formal link between GHRSSST and the broader CEOS community (<https://ceos.org/>).



This committee coordinates space-based, ground-based, and data delivery systems to meet common requirements within a specific domain. CEOS SST-VC leverages inter-agency collaboration and partnerships to address observation gaps, sustain the routine collection of critical observations, and minimize duplication/overlaps while maintaining the independence of individual CEOS Agency contributions.

GHRSSST services

GHRSSST provides:

- A framework for sea surface temperature knowledge and data sharing.
- Best practices for data processing and assessing uncertainties in the satellite SSTs.
- A forum for scientific dialogue including how to provide SSTs for operational weather and ocean forecasting, climate studies and bringing SST to the operational users and scientific researchers.

GHRSSST contributors offer:

- Data processing through Data Assembly Centres, combining satellite and Numerical Weather Prediction fields in common data formats for ease of access and analysis.
- A variety of tailored methods for downloading and accessing full products or subsets.
- Online visualisation of data quality through diagnostic comparisons.

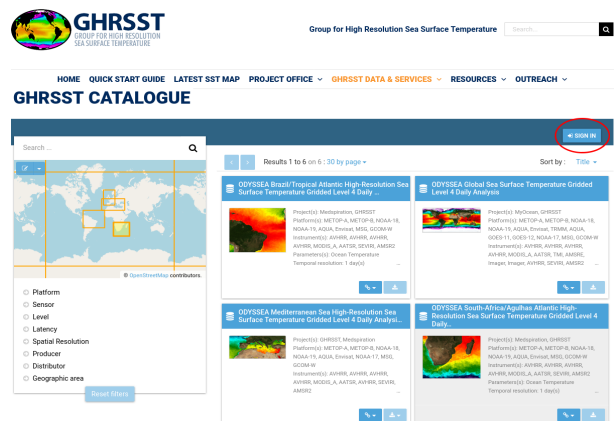
On the GHRSSST website, the information on the [GHRSSST services](#) has been expanded and integrated by providing two entry points:

- one for the **GHRSSST Data Producers and Data Assembly Centres**: this section assists those organisations acting as data producers and data assembly centres on how to feed the Central Catalogue, with manuals and tutorials.
- one for the **GHRSSST data users**: in this section the potential users of GHRSSST-formatted data are guided through with information on the tools for validating SST products in near real-time and tools for the quick-looks/visualisation of SST products.

Major GHRSSST components and services

The GHRSSST Central Catalogue

The [central catalogue](#) is hosted on the GHRSSST website and is maintained by the GHRSSST Project Office (GPO): it functions as a central catalogue for all GHRSSST datasets with a collection of level metadata, and federated search and discovery services. The portal allows SST users to discover and search all GHRSSST products and granules with no need to know the data producer or distributor. In this new system, two entities are involved: the data producers (GDPs) and the distributing centres (DACs). Further details are reported on page 10 of this report.



Felyx

The aim of the felyx activities was to provide an open-source, flexible and reusable software system that can be used to evaluate and monitor the quality and performance of Earth Observation (EO) data streams. Felyx was originally developed by IFREMER, PML and Pelamis and funded by the European Space Agency. Further activities developing felyx producing a multi-matchup dataset (MMDB) have been funded by the European Union’s Copernicus programme and managed by EUMETSAT. Activities continued with the GHRSSST Task Team on MMDBs, with further information here:

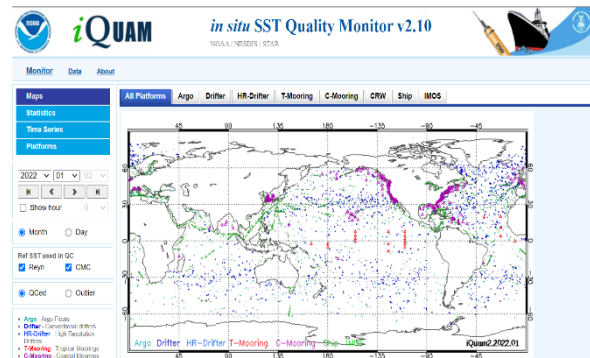
<https://www.ghrsst.org/about-ghrsst/task-teams/task-team-on-matchup-database-standards-mdb-tt>



iQUAM and SQUAM

The in-situ data quality monitor, iQUAM, and SST summary quality monitor, SQUAM, systems are provided and hosted by NOAA.

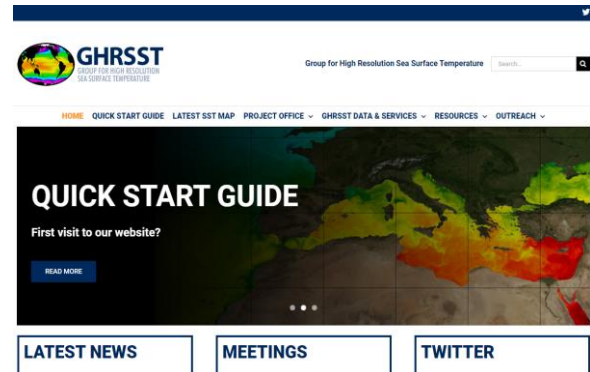
For further details, please see <http://www.star.nesdis.noaa.gov/sod/sst/iquam/> and <http://www.star.nesdis.noaa.gov/sod/sst/squam/> respectively.



GHRSSST products, services and tools

On the GHRSSST website, we have published information on how to access GHRSSST products, services and tools to exploit GHRSSST data.

For further details, please see <https://www.ghrsst.org/ghrsst-data-services/>



GHRSSST Primary Documentation

The following documents are the primary documentation provided by GHRSSST. All the documents are available in open access in Zenodo.

GHRSSST Strategy and Implementation Plan (GDIP) <https://zenodo.org/record/4700521>

Six main strategic themes of GHRSSST result from the GHRSSST Terms of References, i.e., from the necessity to maintain the data flow which GHRSSST users rely on (Strategic Aim I), together with quality estimates (Strategic Aim II) as well as from the necessity to nurture the science (Strategic Aim III) which allows the users to make full use of the information. The interaction between operational, scientific and user communities is a crucial driver for progress, reflected in complimenting Strategic Aim IV (develop and maintain user interaction). Further, GHRSSST strives to strengthen links with the international community (Strategic Aim V) and gives recommendations for the future (Strategic Aim VI).

GHRSSST Data Specification (GDS) <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.6984989>

The GHRSSST Data Processing Specification (GDS) is the key document for the GHRSSST community: it provides a detailed technical specification for producing GHRSSST L2, L3 and L4 products. The latest version of this document is the GDS 2.1 version 0, lastly revised in summer 2022. A new revision (v2.2) of this document is foreseen in 2024 to improve inconsistencies in global and variable attributes. A larger revision (v3.0) is foreseen in 2024/2025 to improve consistency of products at high latitudes and introduce sea-ice surface temperature, to include improvements to uncertainties, and integrations on ultra-high resolution and cloud format specifications.

Cite as: The Group for High Resolution Sea Surface Temperature Science Team, Piollé, Jean-François, Armstrong, Ed, Casey, Kenneth, & Donlon, Craig. (2022). The Recommended GHRSSST Data Specification (GDS) (GDS 2.1 revision 0). Zenodo. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.6984989>

Climate Data Assessment Framework (CDAF) <https://zenodo.org/record/4700356>

The GHRSSST Climate Data Assessment Framework (CDAF) provides authoritative, comparable information about GHRSSST datasets that allows users to make their judgement on the suitability of SST datasets for use as Climate Data Records (CDRs) in their applications.

Version: 1.0.5. Cite as: Merchant, Christopher, Mittaz, Jonathan, & Corlett, Gary. (2014). Climate Data Assessment Framework (GHRSSST Document Reference CDR-TAG_CDAF v 1.0.5, 4 June 2014). Zenodo.

Coral Heat Stress User SST Requirements <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.4700411>

The document contains recommendations on satellite SST requirements for use by coral scientists, users and coral reef managers. Version: 1.0 of 7 August 2020. Cite as: Skirving, William, Co-Chairs, & Task Team Members. (2020). Coral Heat Stress User SST Requirements (TT_CHS-D01-URReqV1). Science Team Meeting (2020) (STM2020). Zenodo.

User Requirements Document (URD) <https://zenodo.org/records/10539233>

This document describes the SST products, services and additional information the large variety of users requires for their applications. As GHRSSST service providers are not funded through GHRSSST but through a wide range of national and international bodies, this URD can only be considered as

advisory, not mandatory for GHRSSST members.

Validation Protocol Document (VPD) <https://zenodo.org/records/10539276>

Validation of GHRSSST SST products is essential to provide users with confidence in their content. This document summarises the procedures agreed upon by the GHRSSST International Science Team to ensure commonality of methods across the GHRSSST community.



**Sea surface temperature:
An introduction to users on the set
of GHRSSST formatted products**

This booklet is an easy guide for SST users on how to use the set of GHRSSST formatted products. This simple document has been exceptionally well received by the SST user community.

Download the latest version:
<https://zenodo.org/records/10539712>

Figure 3: Cover of the introductory document

Major GHRSSST achievements in 2023

GHRSSST has been extremely successful in revolutionising the way satellite SST datasets are developed, shared, and applied in modern oceanography, meteorology, and climate centres. Success is achieved by solving scientific, operational, and technical problems and also by cooperation at an international level to agree on data product definitions and standards that are acceptable to users, producers, and data managers. GHRSSST coordinates and conducts research, establishes procedures and protocols, provides near real-time data access portals and user services, and implements near real-time quality control monitoring services. Large volumes of data and data services are harnessed together to deliver the new generation of global coverage high-resolution SST data thereby meeting GHRSSST User Requirements.

The Framework for GHRSSST Data Provision and the GHRSSST Central Catalogue

GHRSSST pioneered a Regional/Global Task Sharing Framework (R/GTS)¹ which uses a scientifically and technically feasible strategy to acquire existing SST data products, add additional information and create a new generation of products in a common format.

In 2022, a new system based on the decentralisation of data ingestion and distribution, was designed to prepare GHRSSST for future growth and facilitate the integration of new data producers. The framework is illustrated below and is extensively described in the [GHRSSST R/G TS System Architecture \(GSA\)](#) report. In this new system, two entities are involved: the data producers (GDPs) and the distributing centres (DACs).

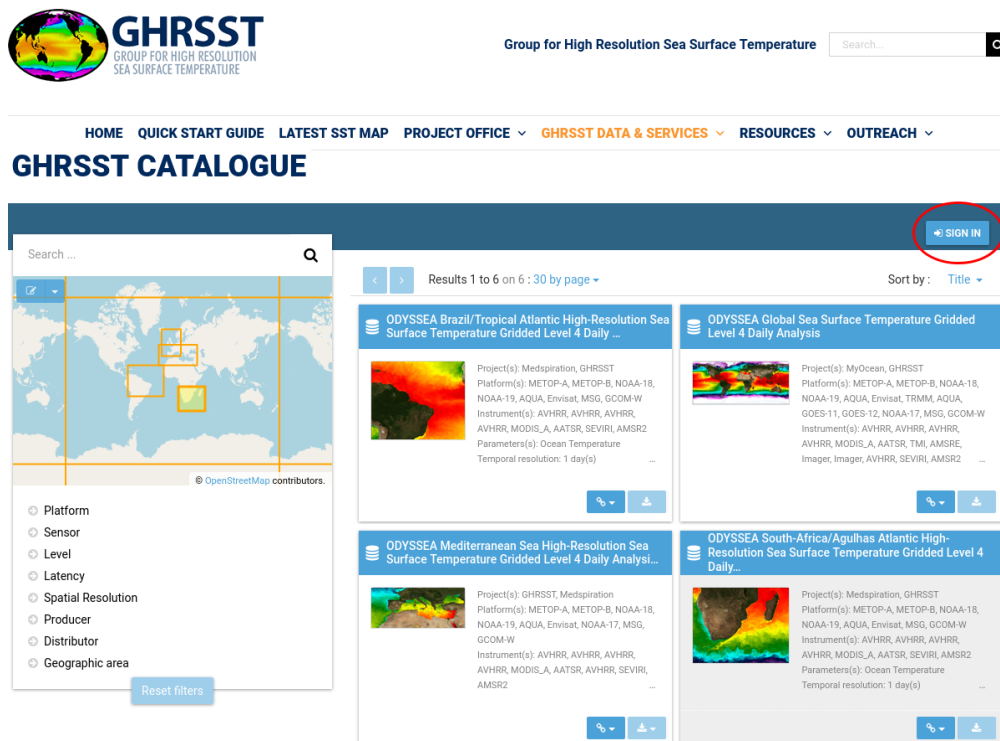


Figure 4: Interface of the GHRSSST central catalogue

¹ <https://www.ghrsst.org/about-ghrsst/task-teams/task-team-on-evolution-of-the-regional-global-task-sharing-r-g-ts-tt/>

The GHRSSST [central catalogue](#) is hosted on the GHRSSST website and is maintained by the GHRSSST Project Office (GPO): it functions as a central catalogue for all GHRSSST datasets with a collection of level metadata, and federated search and discovery services. The portal allows SST users to discover and search all GHRSSST products and granules with no need to know the data producer or distributor. The implementation of the central catalogue was initiated in 2022, supported by EUMETSAT and Copernicus. All DACs have agreed to provide metadata to the central catalogue. The DACs' level of readiness to provide data access (e.g., HTTP(S), FTP, THREDDS, and OpenDAP) and granule search (OpenSearch) services have been verified. Most of the DACs can provide HTTP(S) and OpenSearch services. Each DAC implements a minimum set of services for granule data access, search and discovery, production/distribution metrics and long-term archiving.

Resources

- A list of the DAC and GDPs is available on the GHRSSST website: <https://www.ghrsst.org/ghrsst-data-services/>
- Piollé, Jean-François. (2020). GHRSSST R/G TS System Architecture GSA. Zenodo. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.4926440>
- Piollé, Jean-François, & Armstrong, Ed. (2022, June 27). The evolution of the Regional GHRSSST Task sharing: The Central Catalogue. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.7189430>
<https://zenodo.org/record/7189430#.Y8U6d3aZOhs>
- Central catalogue on the GHRSSST website: <https://www.ghrsst.org/ghrsst-data-services/ghrsst-catalogue/>
- A video explaining how the Central Catalogue works: <https://www.ghrsst.org/ghrsst-data-services/products/>
- OpenSearch federated search service: <https://opensearch-ghrsst.ifremer.fr>
- OpenSearch example notebook: <https://github.com/GHRSSST/ghrsst-opensearch>

Progress of the Task Teams

GHRSSST Task Teams are set up to address particular issues identified by the GHRSSST Science Team. Task Teams (TTs) are proposed and agreed upon at the annual Science Team Meetings (STM). Each task team has a chair and co-chair and a team of volunteers, the task team members. Each chair is required to appoint an early-career scientist as co-chair to encourage participation in GHRSSST and ensure the continuation of knowledge.

Some of the key highlights related to the progress of the task teams are reported here below.

Shipborne Radiometry: The partners in this task team are involved in a UK-funded project, the ASTeRN, the Advanced Surface Temperature Radiometer Network, funded by the UK government Earth Observation Investment plan. The project is to design and manufacture radiometers with the capability to measure sea, land and ice surface temperatures with high accuracy and precision. The design is based on a recent study funded by ESA and performed by RAL and the University of Southampton. The radiometers will be calibrated to standards traceable to SI realised by NPL standards. The current UK in situ radiometer designs (ISAR, SISTeR) are now 20+ years old. A new generation of radiometers is required to enhance and maintain the capability for the next decade, provide additional spectral channels for atmospheric characterisation, extend the capability for measuring Land Surface Temperatures, address obsolescence issues and improve manufacturability and maintainability. The new radiometer design will be an evolution of existing designs: the same basic measurement approach as existing instruments but drawing on lessons learned and incorporating modern components. Ships4SST study has already defined requirements for the next generation. More updates can be found in [Zenodo](#).

Coral Heat Stress: Updates have been included in the SST User Requirements document, such as the update to the section about the need for SST resolution, as the extreme marine heatwave in the Caribbean has highlighted the need for higher resolution satellite SST. An update to the section about diurnal resolution needs has also been implemented, including the need for mortality products that require information about day and night SST. A new section has been included to discuss the unique requirements of the marine biology science community who work in polar waters. More updates can be found in [Zenodo](#).

Cloud masking: In the past year, advancement has been achieved by Met Norway with the Sci4MaST project (funded by Copernicus), using cloud lidar and SynObs to test masks. In the Sci4MaST project the focus has been on the testing the NWC SAF PPSv2021 cloud products software and checking if the software can improve cloud marking over sea ice. The teams have also used Caliop cloud lidar data and synoptical cloud observations to validate the cloud mask products (data from 2019). The test performed were aimed at checking how classical cloud mask and cloud mask probability can be combined to improve cloud masking and quality level scheme. The results were also presented at the S3VT conference in December 2023 ([link to the talk](#)).

Additionally, the teams improved the use of thermal and reflectance imagery for SLSTR, reducing overflagging from thermal texture, with a publication of an article on “Improving the combined use of reflectance and thermal channels for ocean and coastal cloud detection for the Sea and Land

Surface Temperature Radiometer (SLSTR)” (Bulgin et al. 2023, doi <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.rse.2023.113531>). Reflectance imagery is used to aid daytime cloud detection in thermal remote sensing. The paper presents new approaches to utilization of reflectance for sea surface temperature (SST) remote sensing for the Sea and Land Surface Temperature Radiometer (SLSTR). The new chair of this task team, Mingkun Liu, has also applied physically based deep learning for cloud detection. Her study proposed an innovative Spectral-and-Textural-Information-Guided deep neural Network (STIGNet) on the cloud detection for the Chinese Ocean Color and Temperature Scanner (COCTS) onboard the Haiyang-1C (HY-1C) satellite. The STIGNet utilize a combined spectral and textural information as the model input, containing a large amount of potential physical-informed features. Additionally, the STIGNet incorporates an edge learning module, designed to emphasize the identification of cloud edges, which can automatically encode the textural information into the modeling process, leading to performance improvement.

SST Climatology and L4 Intercomparison: The task focusing on the validation of the L2, L3, and L4 SST gradients in highly variable regions using SailDrone has been finalised. Eight SailDrones deployments of the USA West Coast took place to validate Modis L2 and MUR L4 SST at 1KM resolution; the deployments have ensured better accuracies for the MUR products and have proven the ability of the SailDrone to accurately validate near-shore satellite SST products. A paper on this topic has been published in open access by the team (Koutantou, Brunner and Vazquez-Cuervo, 2023 <https://doi.org/10.3390/rs15092277>). A major result of the paper was that Level 2 data when applying the right quality flags would lead to better correlations with SailDrone. The task team also progressed on the task focusing on the development of science to calculate SST fronts and inter-comparison: The approach and results have been published in a paper in January 2023 (Ciani et al. 2023, <https://doi.org/10.3390/rs15041163>). Additionally, the lead author presented the results in the [GHRSSST Talk in August 2023](#). The research activity is devoted to the retrieval of SST gradients from the future ESA Earth Explorer 10 mission “Harmony”, which (among other objectives covering land and sea-ice monitoring) will provide simultaneous observations of surface roughness and SST to support air-sea interaction studies.

The work focusing on inter-comparison of feature resolution and spatial consistency of L4 products is ongoing, and is based on the use of L4 SST products for the computation of ocean surface currents.

The task on the “Salinity as independent data to validate SST gradient” has been also finalized with the following results: The coastal upwelling and the California Current, leading to frontal activity, have been captured by gradients in both Sea Surface Temperature (SST) and Sea Surface Salinity (SSS). It was found that the differences between the SST and SSS gradients are mainly associated with the limitations of the microwave-derived SSS coverage near land and its reduced spatial resolution. A paper has been published on this topic (Vazquez-Cuervo et al. <https://doi.org/10.3390/rs15020484>). Several other tasks are still ongoing in this task team and there is potential interest to implement an additional activity on SST fronts and Ocean Color Fronts. The work focusing on the validation of gradients in the Arctic region is also ongoing.

Interested in joining GHRSSST and contributing to the GHRSSST Task Teams?

Please get in touch with the chairs/co-chairs of the Task Teams or the GHRSSST Project Office:

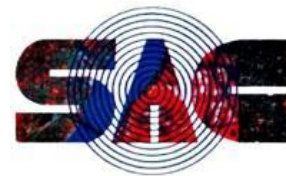
<https://www.ghrsst.org/about-ghrsst/task-teams/>

Outcomes of the GHRSSST24 Science Team Meeting

The 24th International GHRSSST Science Team Meeting was held on 16-20 October 2023 as a virtual and in-person meeting. The in-person part of the meeting was hosted by the [Indian Space Research Organisation \(ISRO\)](#) and the Indian [Space Application Center \(SAC\)](#). The focus of the meeting was on the science applications for operations users of SST in India, with a dedicated session on the topic. Additional sessions provided continuity with the topics covered by the last two annual meetings: in the next years, several new satellites will be launched, continuing the provision of accurate SST observations. New evolutions, including the introduction of very high spatial resolution missions, will provide new opportunities for applications but will also require developments within retrievals, validation and calibration, product assessment, and also on processing and product generation. It is therefore important that the new developments within high-resolution SST products are coordinated with the ongoing international SST activities.



Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)



Space Applications Centre (SAC)

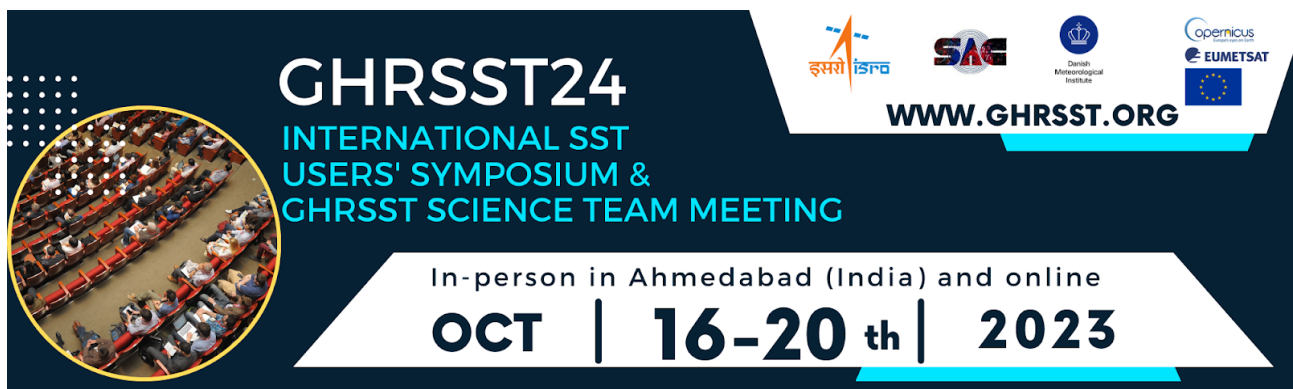


Figure 7: ISRO and SAC, sponsors of the GHRSSST24 meeting (top) and banner of the meeting (bottom)

The meeting was very well received: participants enjoyed the in-person and online formats as well as the hybrid sessions. The conference part of the meeting was structured in six science sessions:

- Science Session 1 – Science applications for operational users of SST in India
- Science Session 2 – Processing and product generation
- Science Session 3 – Calibration, Validation and Product Assessment
- Science Session 4 – Retrieval Algorithms
- Science Session 5 – Computing and products
- Science Session 6 – High-resolution future satellite missions.

Two workshops were also held:

- Workshop W1: What are the next GHRSSST priorities? This session consulted the GHRSSST community on the definition of GHRSSST progress and the assessment of the priorities in the upcoming years regarding data access and usage, high-latitudes, feature resolution/coasts, L3/L4 applications and microwave SST.
- Workshop W2: What are the best practices for SST data producers? This session showcased the experience in SST data production using the GHRSSST data specifications, and shared knowledge/experience with other SST producers, who might be interested in adopting the GHRSSST data specifications in the future.

The presentations, posters and all recordings are accessible on Moodle:

<https://training.eumetsat.int/enrol/index.php?id=490>

Key take-home messages

SST products, following the GHRSSST Data Specification, rely on a combination of low-Earth orbit infrared and microwave satellite imagery, geostationary orbit infrared satellite imagery, and in-situ data from moored and drifting buoys, Argo floats, and Fiducial Reference Measurements (FRM) for product validation. The products comprise a suite of global high-resolution SST products to support operational forecast systems, climate science, and diverse applications, and to facilitate a wide range of research in the broader scientific community.

Over the next few years, several new satellites are planned to be launched, including infrared and microwave instruments in polar and geostationary orbits. The high spatial resolution of SST will continue to be maintained and improved including those with very high-resolution SST observations less than 100 metres.

This new evolution will provide new opportunities for applications but will also require new developments within different areas of operations. At the recent GHRSSST science team meeting, a list of GHRSSST Priorities and key considerations from 2023 was discussed.

- GHRSSST is to continue preparations for new SST missions and datasets including the further new generation geostationary and low-earth orbit SST, Copernicus reference SST, microwave SST and ultra-high resolution coastal SST.
- There is a very clear priority in 2023 on coastal SST and ultra-high resolution SST, including potentially developing new dedicated products, connections with space agencies on user requirements (e.g. algorithms, cloud-masking, uncertainties) and advising users on the most appropriate SST products for coastal applications. There is a recommendation

for a new coastal SST Task Team including relevant experts, to prepare users for these new ultra-high-resolution SST observations.

- There is a need for revising information on Single Sensor Error Statistics (SSES) bias and standard deviation, for strengthening and developing observational (total standard) uncertainties, but mostly for creating a framework and best practices for defining SSES and uncertainties, rather than leaving it only to individual data producers.
- The GHRSSST Data Specification (GDS) should be updated to focus on evolving new data models and formats (cloud too), preparations for ultra-high resolution SST, consistency of high latitude products, in addition to sea-ice surface temperature and observational uncertainties.
- There is also a strong need for communication on marine heat waves (MHW) and the development of climate indicators from GHRSSST. This could include a dashboard for MHW visualisation.

Capacity building and Disseminating knowledge

GHRSSST talks: A new format for bringing the community together, growing it and exchanging knowledge

This is a format introduced by the GHRSSST Project Office with the support of the international Science Team for improving **capacity building** across the GHRSSST community, **fostering knowledge exchange**, and **attracting early-career researchers** to the GHRSSST community.

In 2023, the first speakers were lined up for this concept in early 2023. On average, we have had two talks per month. All the talks, presentations and recordings are available at: <https://www.ghrsst.org/outreach/ghrsst-talks/>

GHRSSST
GROUP FOR HIGH RESOLUTION
SEA SURFACE TEMPERATURE

**Live Webinar:
GHRSSST Talks**

NOAA 1st MODIS SST Reanalysis (RANI) from
Terra and Aqua
Olafur Jonasson

Register Now
<https://www.ghrsst.org/outreach/ghrsst-talks>

18 December 2023
18:00 - 18:45 pm CET

Figure 8: Teaser of the GHRSSST talk with Olafur Jonasson on NOAA 1st MODIS SST reanalysis

Training on GHRSSST specified/formatted products: Which SST products in GHRSSST specification are the most suitable for me?

GHRSSST coordinates an extensive catalogue of Sea Surface Temperatures (SST) produced by many data producers, each with its advantages and caveats. For a potential user, with a given application in mind, this landscape can be confusing and intimidating, often resulting in reaching for the most convenient product, irrespective of its suitability. For this reason, GHRSSST organised an in-person training for SST Users in Ahmedabad, on 20 October 2023 on the topic: **GHRSSST specified/formatted products: Which SST products in GHRSSST specification are the most suitable for me?**

This course aimed at increasing knowledge on GHRSSST coordinated products for SST users and connect users to the catalogue more appropriately, outlining the ramifications for selecting level-4 gridded products of a given type (e.g. IR, microwave, blended) and therefore allowing them to make better-informed choices for their applications. The training was addressed to newcomers (e.g., undergraduates, stakeholders such as small-scale fishers, environmental managers, and early career scientists) interested in learning how to use satellite-derived SST data.

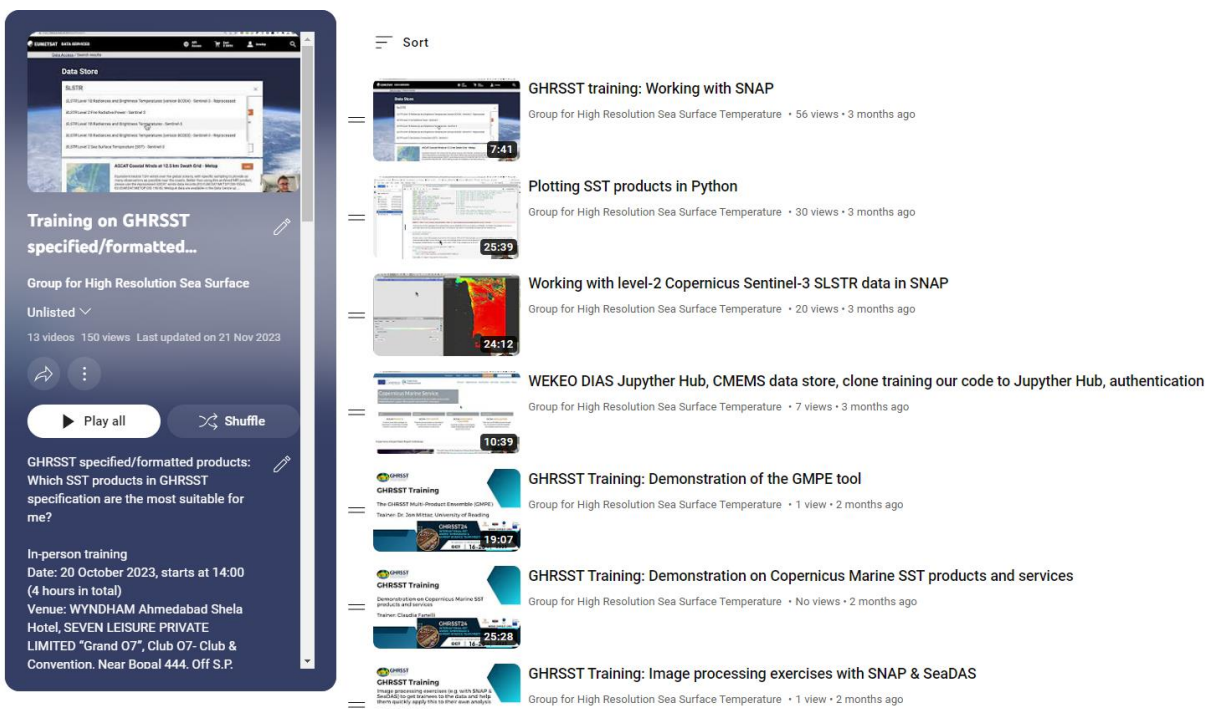


Figure 9: Training playlist on YouTube

The course considered practical examples of a broad range of applications from meso- to global scale, from event-based to climate variability. The course provided a basic introduction to L2, L3 and L4 fields as many potential users have very little knowledge about these, need guidance to decide what they need for their studies and are unaware of the consequences of their choices. The training material is now available for those who are interested in learning at their own pace. All the modules have been recorded and the materials are accessible from Moodle. A self-enrolment procedure for this training can be started anytime at this link: <https://training.eumetsat.int/course/view.php?id=490§ion=11>

GHRSSST Project Office

The GHRSSST Project Office (GPO) provides the secretariat for the GHRSSST Project. It provides secretarial support to the GHRSSST Science Team Chair, Anne O'Carroll (EUMETSAT). Together with the GHRSSST Science Team Chair, the GPO coordinates, enables and facilitates, on behalf of the GHRSSST Science Team, the open exchange of relevant satellite and in-situ data streams for use within GHRSSST. It provides direct logistical coordination and technical support to coordinate, enable and facilitate the GHRSSST international Science Team and all subsidiary Technical Advisory Groups, the Task Teams, and the GHRSSST Advisory Council. The GPO also maintains the primary GHRSSST documentation.



The GPO is hosted by the Danish Meteorological Institute.

GHRSSST Project Office

GHRSSST Project Coordinator: Chiara Bearzotti

GHRSSST Project Administrator: Erika Hayashi

Danish Meteorological Institute, Sankt Kjelds Plads 11, 2100

Copenhagen (DK)

Email: chb@ghrsst.org

Email: erh@dmi.dk

<https://www.ghrsst.org/about-ghrsst/contact-us/>



The GPO is funded by the European Union as part of the Copernicus Programme.

