

# Sea Surface temperature reprocessing of Himawari-8 archive

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24<sup>th</sup> GHRST Science Team Meeting, Ahmedabad, India  
and online, 16<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> October 2023



# Himawari-8/9 Geostationary satellite

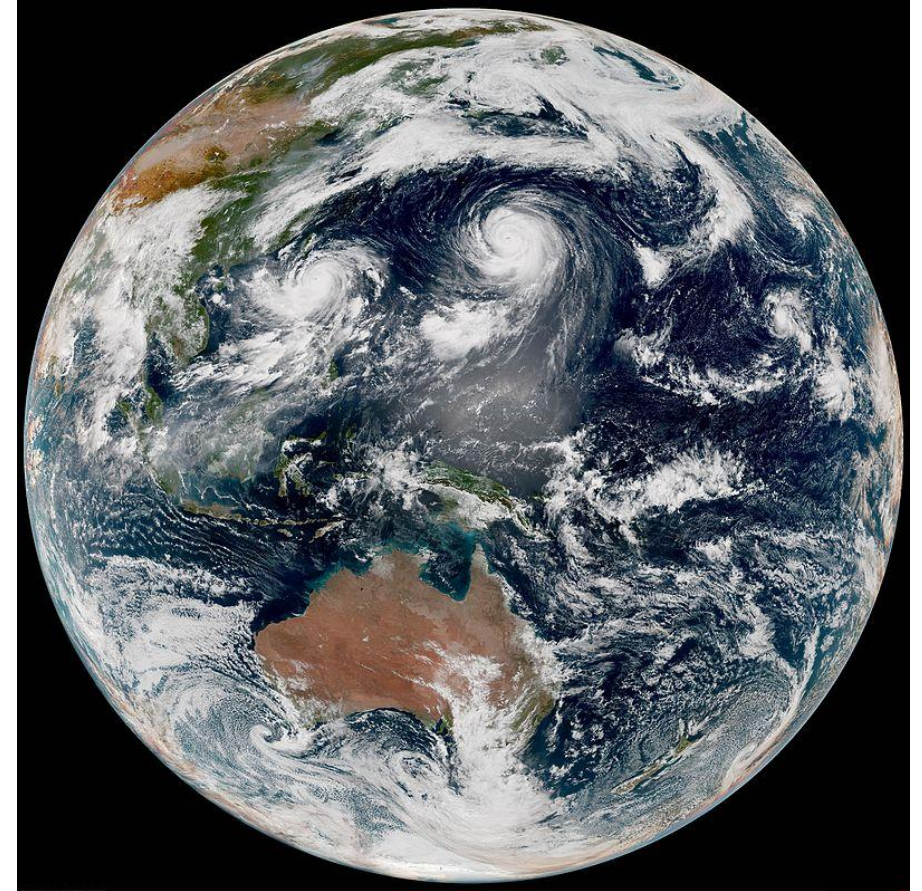
- Operated by JMA
- located at 140.7°E and observes the Earth from 80°E to 160°W and from 60°N to 60°S
- Himawari-8: operational for 7<sup>th</sup> July 2015 -11<sup>th</sup> December 2022, Himawari-9: operational from 12<sup>th</sup> December 2022-present

The optical radiometer, advanced Himawari imager (AHI), on board Himawari-8 and Himawari-9 provides full disk images:

- Every 10 minutes, 2 km spatial resolution for infra-red (IR) frequency data at nadir.
- 16 spectral bands for visible-infrared wavelengths

Our SST retrieval method is based on the ESA CCI SST code ([Merchant et al., 2019](#)) :

- Radiative Transfer Model
- Bayesian cloud clearing method
- Empirical Bias model based on in-situ SSTs

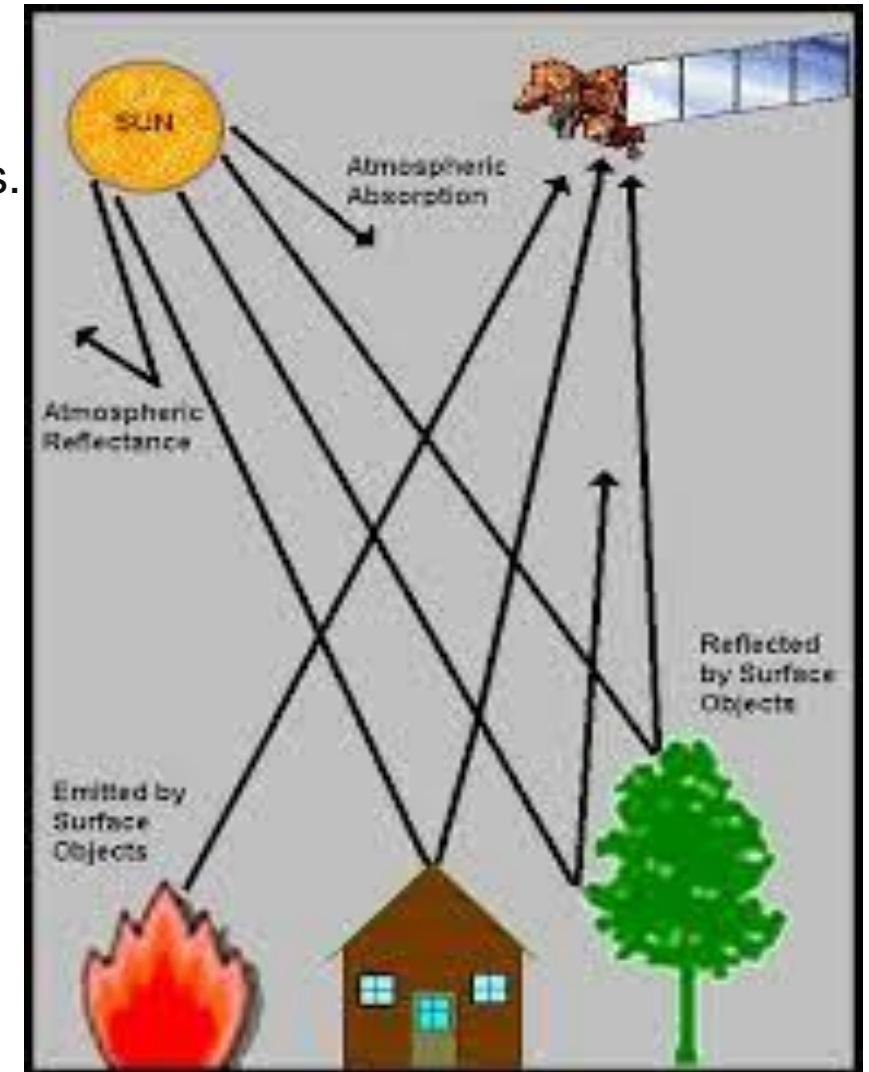


# Radiative Transfer Model (RTTOV12.3)

- Simulates top-of-atmosphere radiances from brightness temperatures (BTs) for thermal channels and reflectances for solar affected channels.
- Uses an atmospheric profile of temperature, water and surface properties as state vectors

## Data used:

- Himawari-8 Channels:
  - Day-time: 3, 4, 13, 15 [0.64, 0.86, 10.4, 12.4  $\mu\text{m}$ ]
  - Twilight: 13, 15 [10.4, 12.4  $\mu\text{m}$ ]
  - Night-time: 7, 13, 15 [3.9, 10.4, 12.4  $\mu\text{m}$ ]
- ACCESS-G Analysis and forecast data
- OSTIA L4 Ice data
- GAMSSA SST Analysis



Picture taken from web

# Cloud detection

- Physically-based, probabilistic Bayesian approach has been used for cloud detection to determine clear sky conditions
- Satellite observations and prior knowledge of the surface conditions are used to estimate clear-sky probabilities

12 Nov 2021, 17:30

Probability of pixel being clear

$$P(c|\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{x}) = \frac{P(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{x}, c)P(\mathbf{x}|c)P(c)}{P(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{x})P(\mathbf{x})}$$

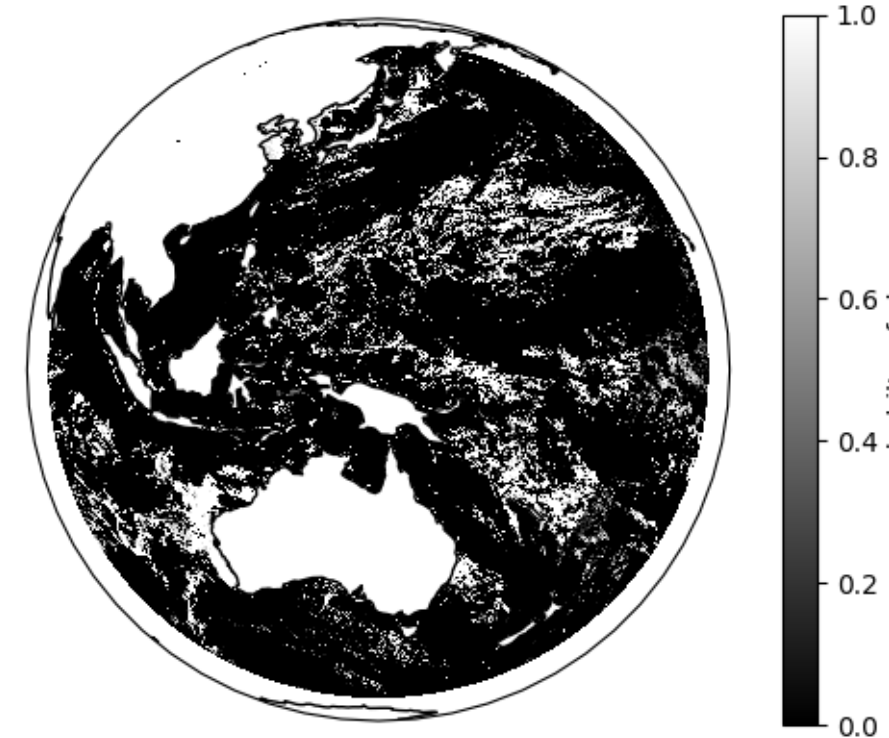
Where,

c- clear sky

y - observation vector

x - state vector (the meteorological condition)

- The pixels with probability greater than 0.9 are considered clear



The incidence of both missed cloud and false detection of cloud are significantly less in Bayesian approach than traditional approach to cloud screening ([Embury et al., 2012](#)).

# SST retrieval

The SST was retrieved using an optimal estimation (OE) scheme:

*a priori* knowledge

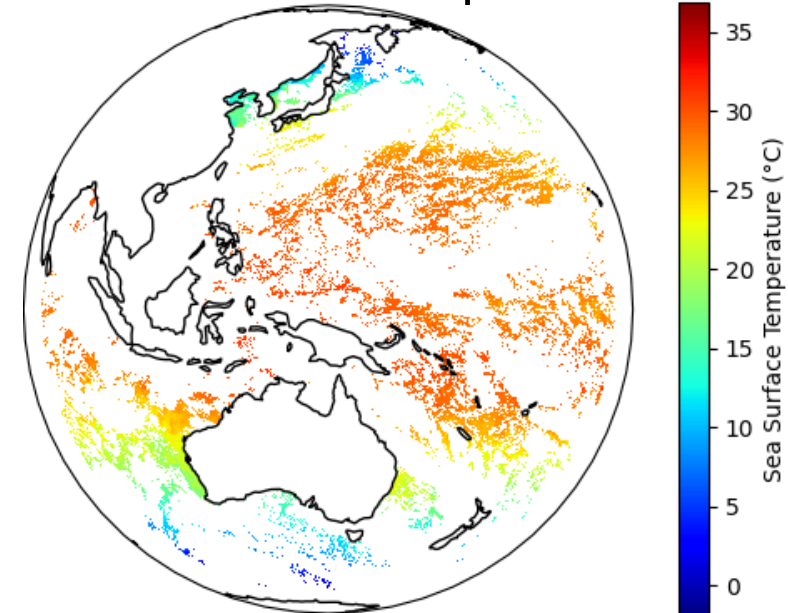
$$\mathbf{z} = \mathbf{z}_a + \mathbf{S}_a \mathbf{K}^T (\mathbf{K} \mathbf{S}_a \mathbf{K}^T + \mathbf{S}_\varepsilon)^{-1} (\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x}_a))$$

observation-simulation  
difference

RTTOV

error covariance of observations and  
simulations

12 Nov 2021, 17:30  
Sea surface Temperature



Where,  $\mathbf{z}$  is a matrix with the retrieval results of SST<sub>skin</sub> and TCWV,

$\mathbf{z}_a$  is a matrix with the background SST<sub>skin</sub> and TCWV,

$\mathbf{y}$  is satellite observed BT,

$\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x}_a)$  is simulated BT calculated by RTTOV12.3

$\mathbf{K}$  is a tangential vector, consisting of the partial derivative of the simulated BT to background SST<sub>skin</sub> and TCWV,

$\mathbf{S}_\varepsilon$  is the covariance matrix of the satellite observed BT and the simulated BT,

$\mathbf{S}_a$  is the error of the background SST<sub>skin</sub> and TCWV.

# Quality Levels

QL = 1 : Pclr < 0.5, sst sensitivity < 0.5, OE chi<sup>2</sup> > 3.

QL = 2 : Pclr < 0.8, sst sensitivity < 0.9. OE chi<sup>2</sup> > 2

QL = 3 : Twilight, Pclr < 0.9, sst sensitivity < 0.95, OE chi<sup>2</sup> > 1

QL = 4 : Dust detected

QL = 5 : Pclr > 0.9, sst sensitivity > 0.95, OE chi<sup>2</sup> < 1

where,

Pclr - clear sky probability,

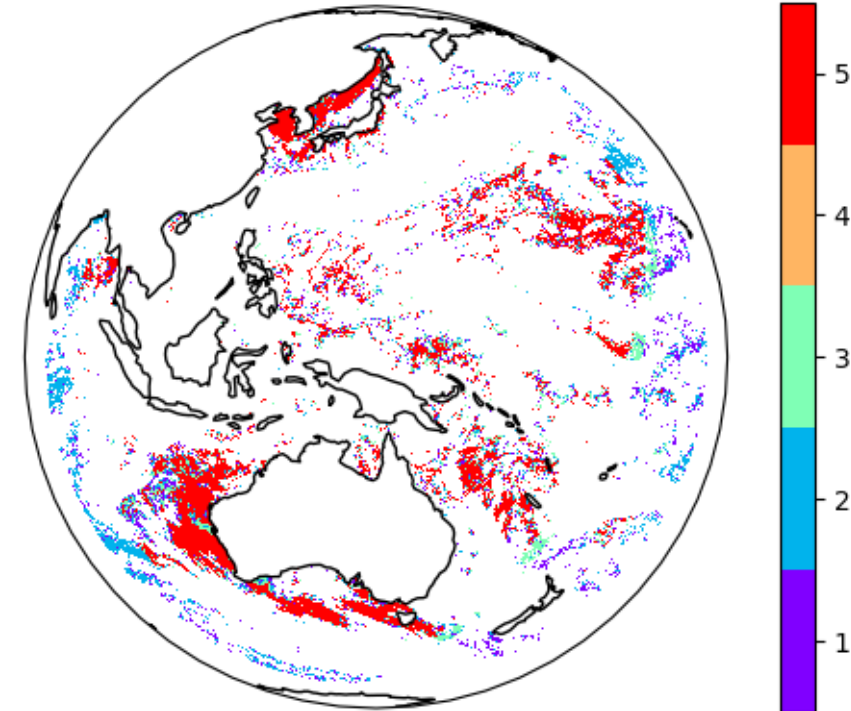
sst sensitivity - sensitivity of the retrieval to the real sst,

OE chi<sup>2</sup> - chi squared of the deviations of the observed BTs

relative to the modelled BTs

12 Nov 2021, 17:30

Assigned Quality levels



# SSES bias model

- Empirical model based on in-situ SST data
- Rolling 1 month window adjusted every 5 days
- 6-d model based on time of day, satellite zenith angle, quality level, longitude, latitude and age
- Least squares regression to highly correlated components
- per pixel
- similar for GEO and LEO

$$\begin{aligned}n &= n_{\text{swath}} g_n \\ \mu &= \mu_{\text{swath}} + g_\mu \\ \sigma &= \sigma_{\text{swath}} g_\sigma\end{aligned}$$

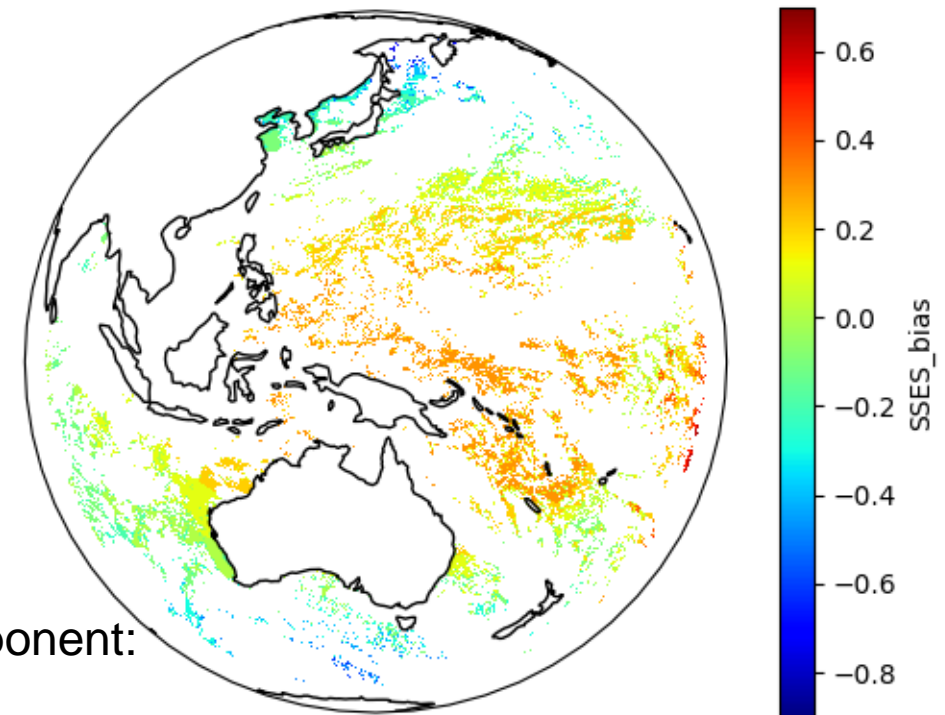
Swath, or "Field of view" Component:

- Satellite Zenith Angle
- Solar zenith angle
- Quality level

Geographic Component:

- Latitude
- Longitude
- Time
- Quality Level

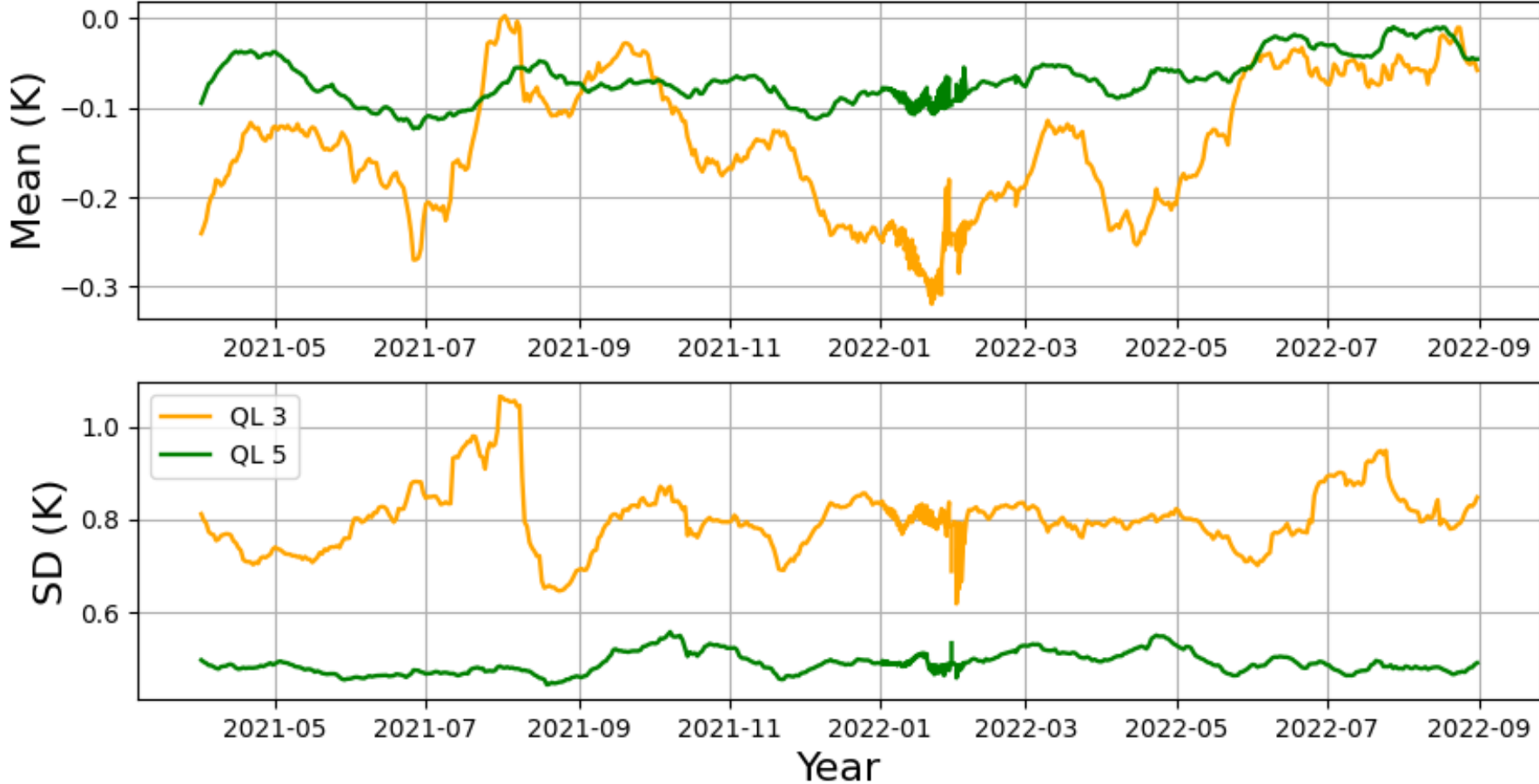
12 Nov 2021, 17:30  
SSES\_bias calculated with our model



# Validation of Himawari-8 L2P against in-situ (drifting buoys and tropical moorings) from GTS

Monthly statistics, Apr 2021 - Aug 2022, Mean = SST<sub>skin</sub> - in situ SST<sub>depth</sub> + 0.17 (in Kelvin),  
Match-up thresholds: < 10 km distance and ± 6 hours. Criteria: Wind speed > 6 m/s (day), > 2 m/s (night)

**QL=5, Mean=-0.06K, SD=0.45K**





# Himawari-8 L3C SST Products

## Method:

### Hourly uses 10-minute L2P SST

Choose the observation closest to the linear interpolation of the T-60min ... T+0min 10 minute SST to the time in question. Goal is to choose an observation, not compute an SST.

### 4 Hourly uses hourly SST

Choose the observation closest to the linear interpolation of the T-240min ... T+0min hourly SST to the time in question. Goal is to choose an observation, not compute an SST.

### Night uses hourly SST

Night L3C is determined by choosing the latest hourly SST after local sunset that has the best quality.

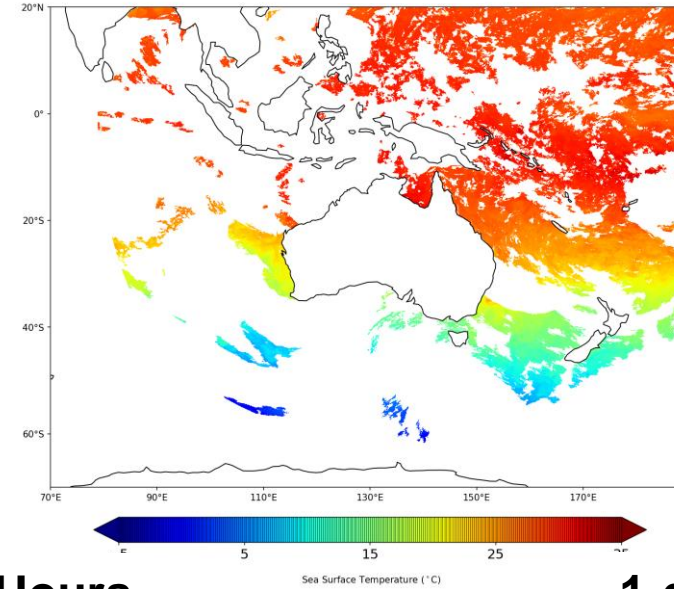
**Resolution:** Hourly, 4-hourly and Daily night-time,  $0.02^\circ \times 0.02^\circ$

**Available:** Sep 2015 - Dec 2022

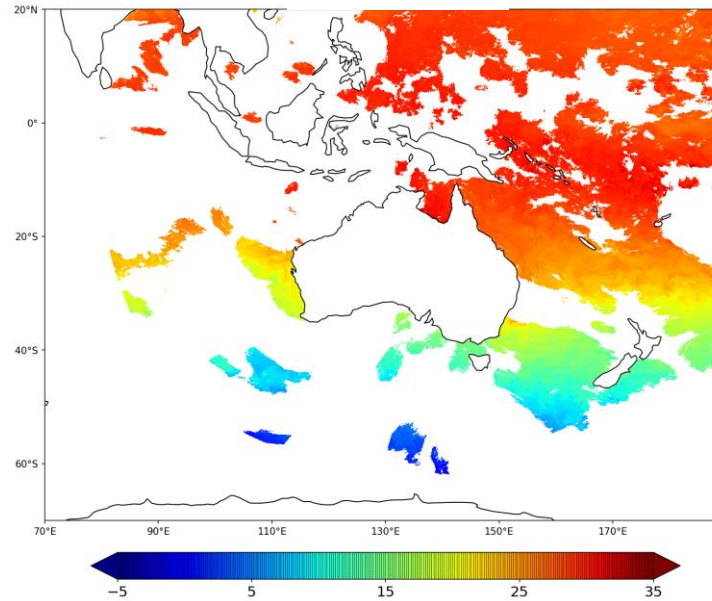
**Access:** <http://portal.aodn.org.au> and  
<https://geonetwork.nci.org.au/>

15 Mar 2020 H-8 L3C SSTskin for QL  $\geq 3$

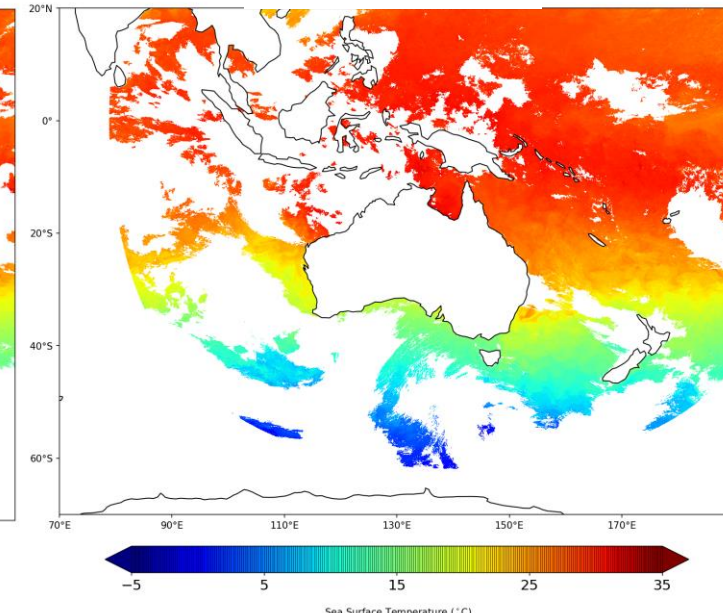
## 1-Hour



## 4-Hours



## 1-day night

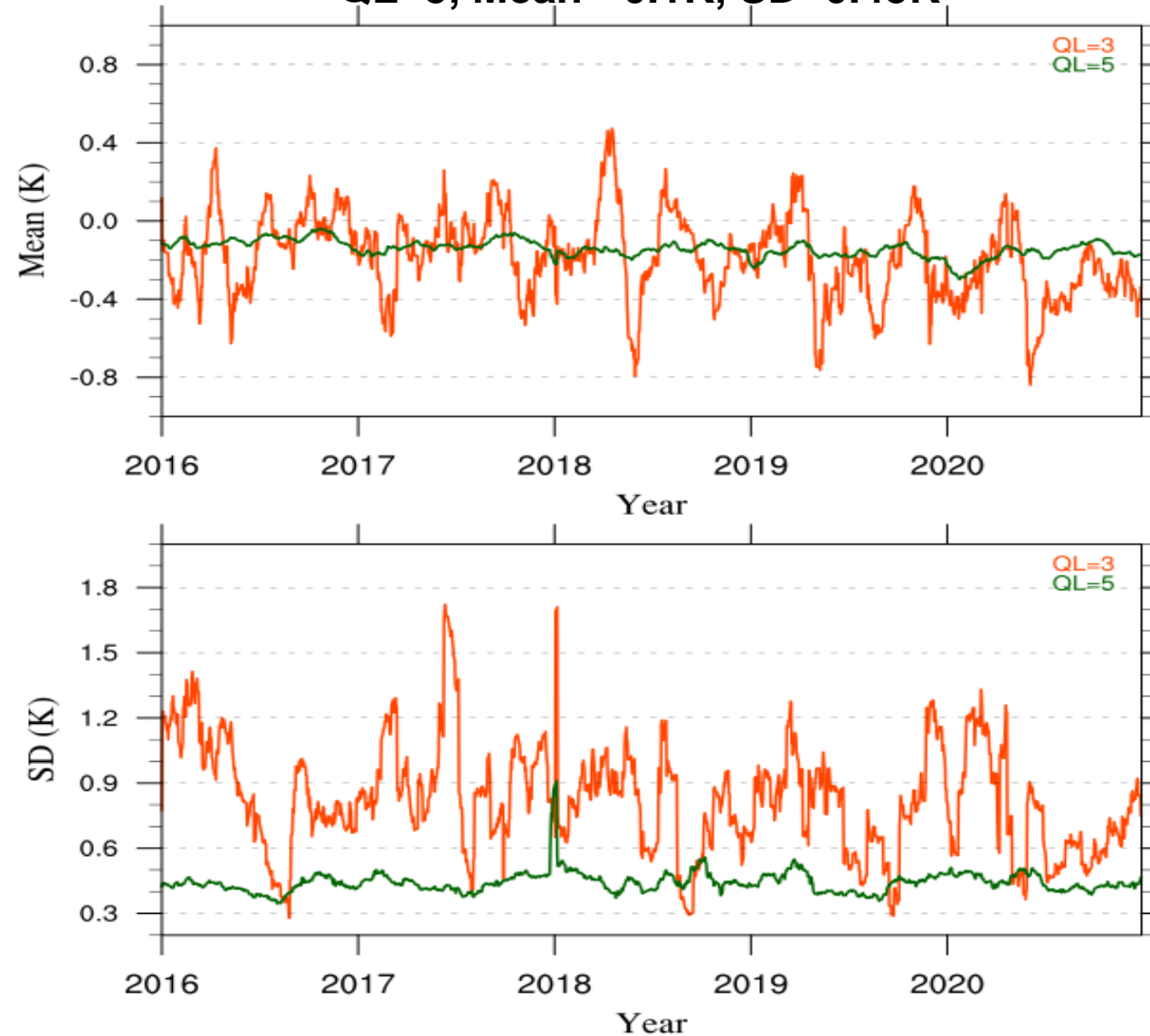


# Himawari-8 night L3C SST Validation against buoy SST

L3C-01day, night only, monthly statistics, Jan 2016 - Dec 2020

Note: Mean bias = SST<sub>skin</sub> - in situ SST<sub>depth</sub> + 0.17 (in Kelvin), Match-up thresholds: < 10 km distance and  $\pm 6$  hours

**QL=5, Mean=-0.1K, SD=0.45K**



# GeoPolar Multi-Sensor L3S products

**Method:** L3C data are composited to L3S using an equal area weighted averaging method based on quality level, SSES bias and SSES standard deviation. See [Govekar et al. \(2022\)](#) for more details.

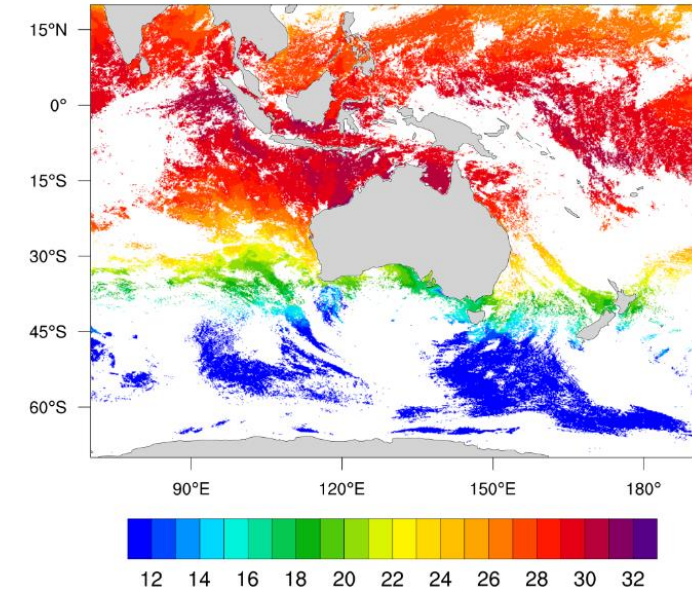
**Inputs:** L3C SSTs from NOAA-18, MetOp-B, Suomi-NPP, NOAA-20 and Himawari-8

**Available:** Sep 2015 - Dec 2022

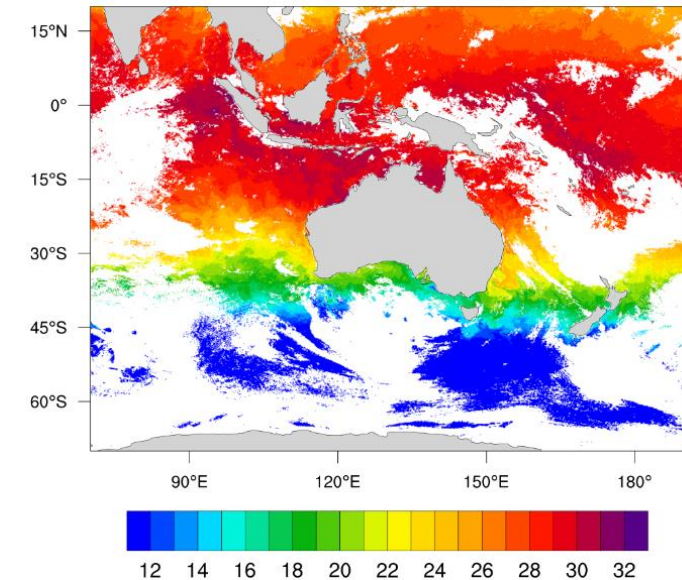
**Access:** <http://portal.aodn.org.au> and <https://geonetwork.nci.org.au/>

15 Mar 2020

1-day night Multi-Sensor L3S SST



1-day night GeoPolar Multi-Sensor L3S SST

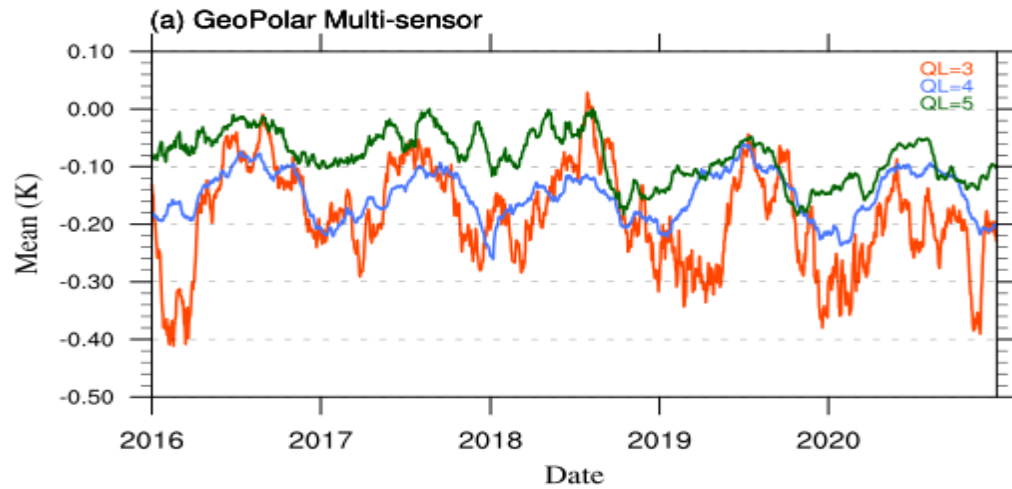


# Multi-sensor L3S SST Validation against buoy SST

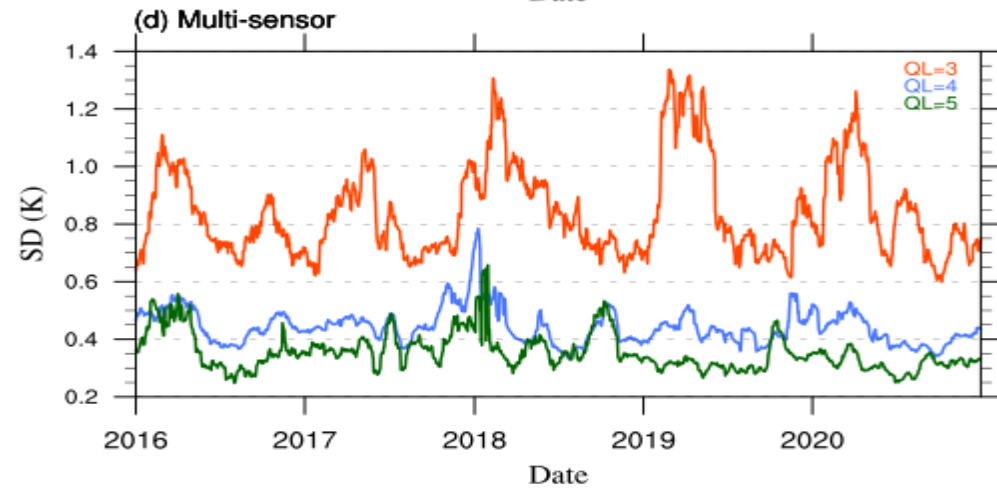
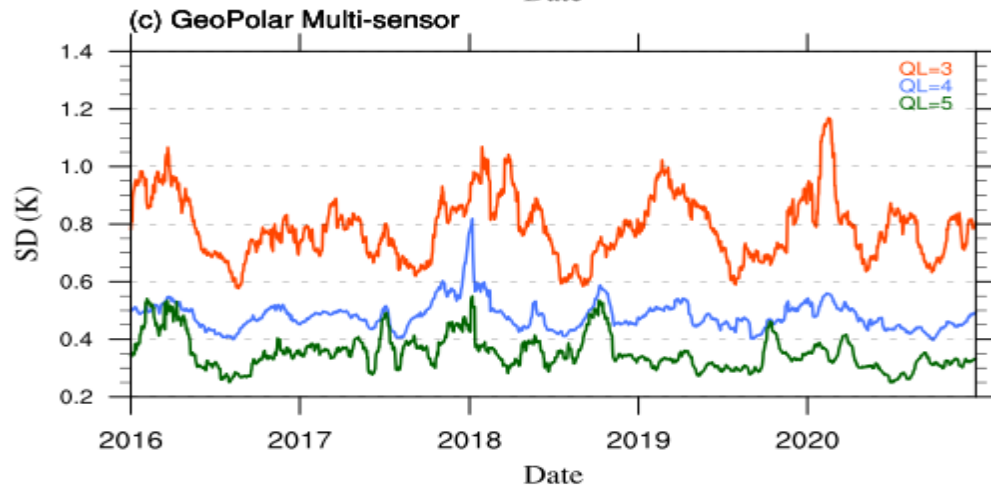
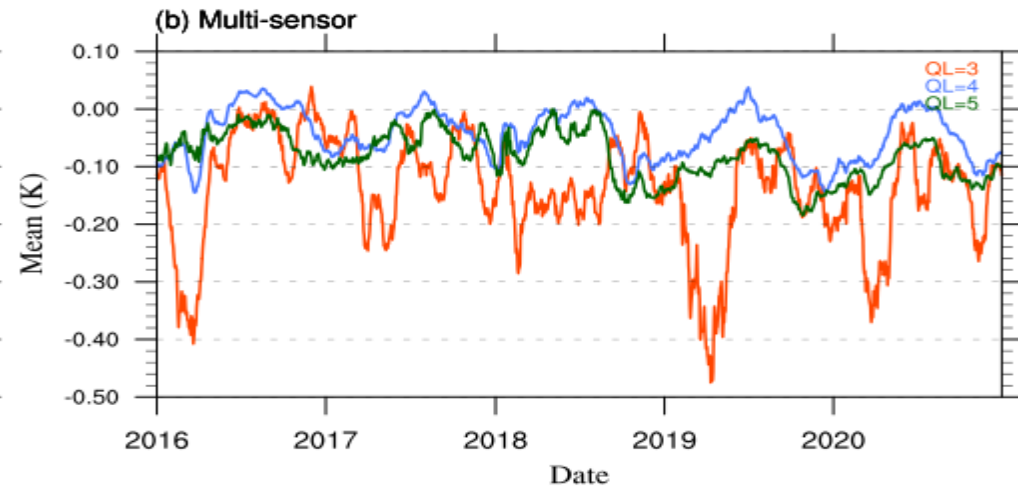
L3S-01day, night only, monthly statistics, Jan 2016 - Dec 2020

Note: Mean bias = SST<sub>skin</sub> - in situ SST<sub>depth</sub> + 0.17 (in Kelvin), Match-up thresholds: < 10 km distance and  $\pm 6$  hours

## GeoPolar Multi-Sensor L3S



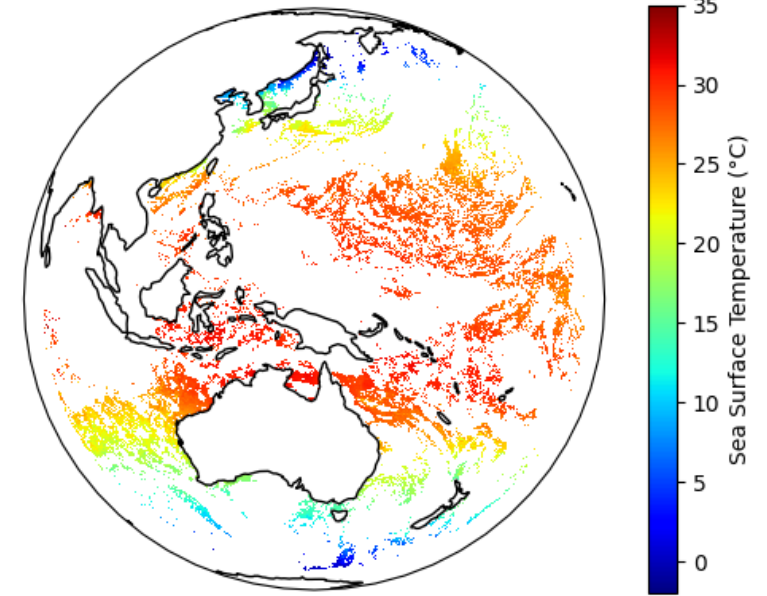
## Multi-sensor L3S



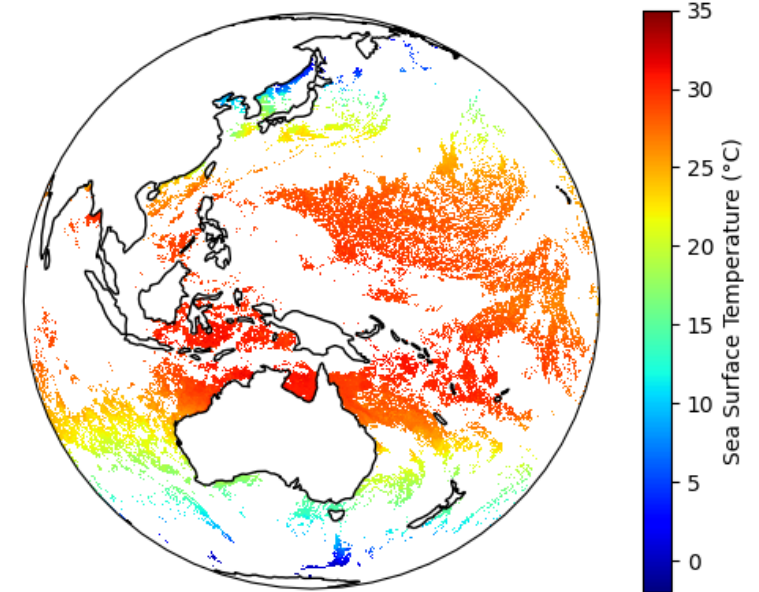
## Future work

- Update the Himawari-8 SST processing method for Himawari-9, in collaboration with University of Reading
- Real time production of Himawari-9 SST products with use of new updated method by June 2024.
- Inclusion of NOAA-21 and MetOp-C in operational systems

20221108, 11:50  
Himawari-8,



**Himawari-9 with improved method**

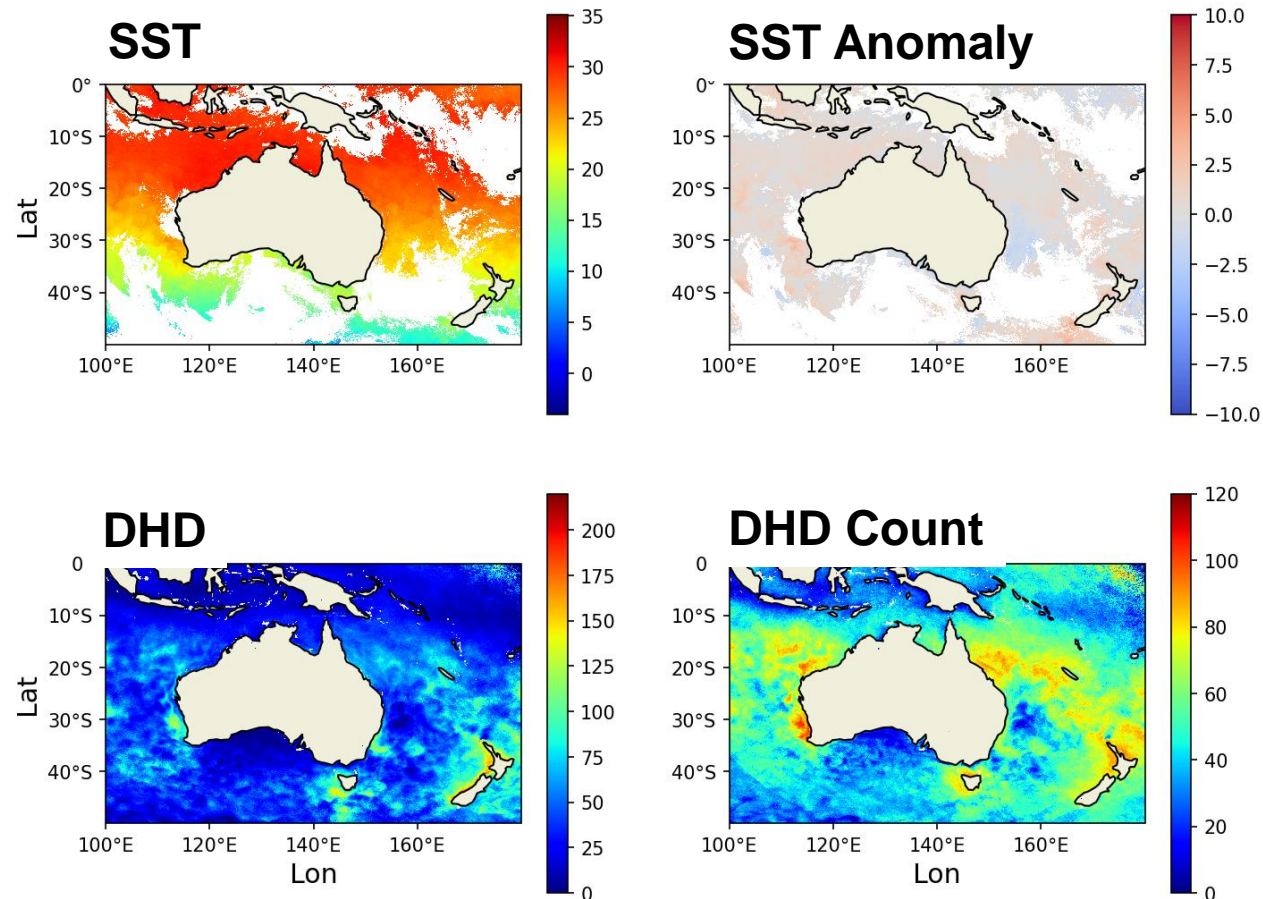


# Future work

## Develop downstream applications:

Use L3S SST products to generate marine heatwave and thermal stress monitoring metrics such as anomaly, percentiles, Degree Heating Days, Marine Heatwave Category, etc.

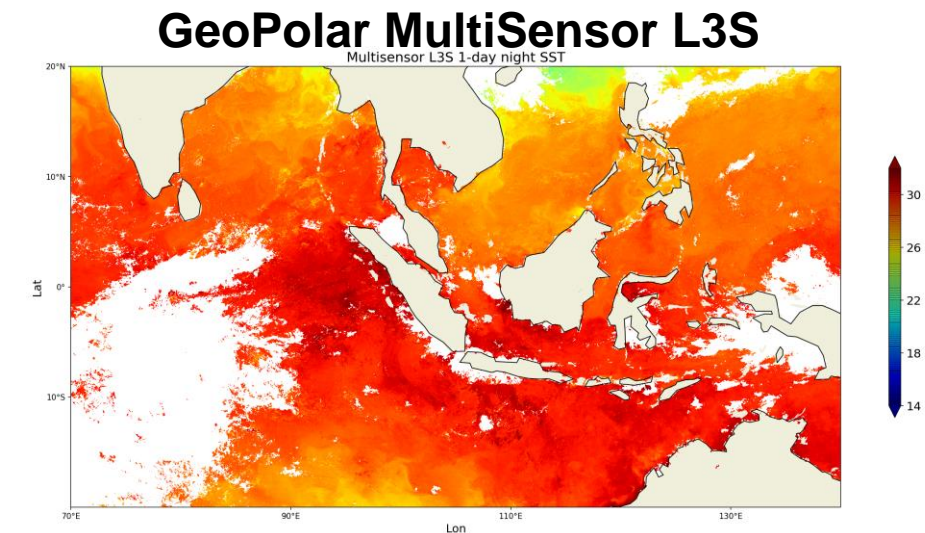
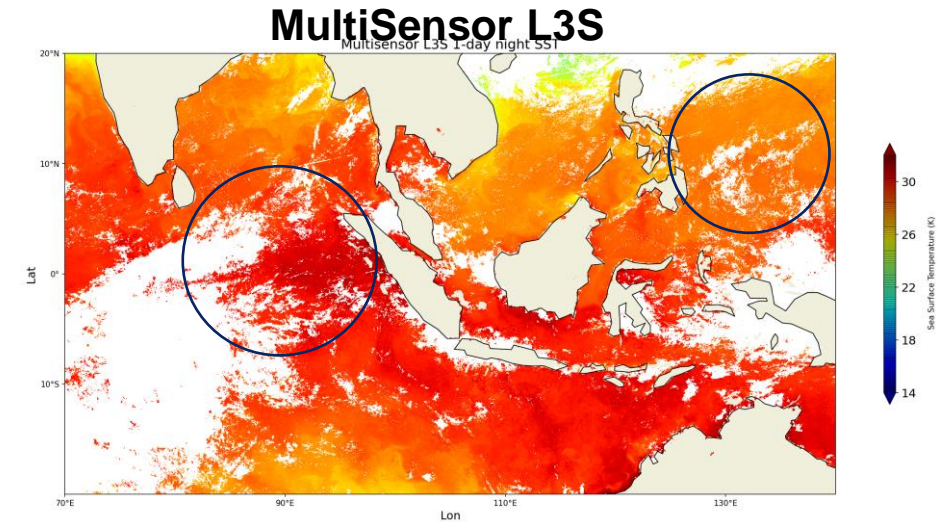
End of Summer 2021-22 season, 31 March 2022



# Summary

- In collaboration with University of Reading, we are developing more accurate Himawari-8/9 level 2 SST products which enable us to produce new level 3 SST products with enhanced temporal resolution (hourly, 4-hourly) and improved spatial coverage (Multi-sensor L3S including Himawari-8)
- Reprocessed Himawari-8 L2P, L3C data are available for 2015-2022
- Experimental Himawari-9 L2P files are available on NCI for testing, contact [ghrsst@bom.gov.au](mailto:ghrsst@bom.gov.au)
- All other IMOS SST products are available from <https://geonetwork.nci.org.au> (search for "Bureau of Meteorology Satellite SST Collection") and some from AODN (<https://portal.aodn.org.au/>).

**Addition of Himawari-8 data to AVHRR+VIIRS L3S SST improves data coverage for 15<sup>th</sup> March 2020 - areas near "fast moving clouds" are filled in!**





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**Thank you**

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**Supplementary slides....**

# Himawari-8 L2P SST Product

- **Legacy method:**

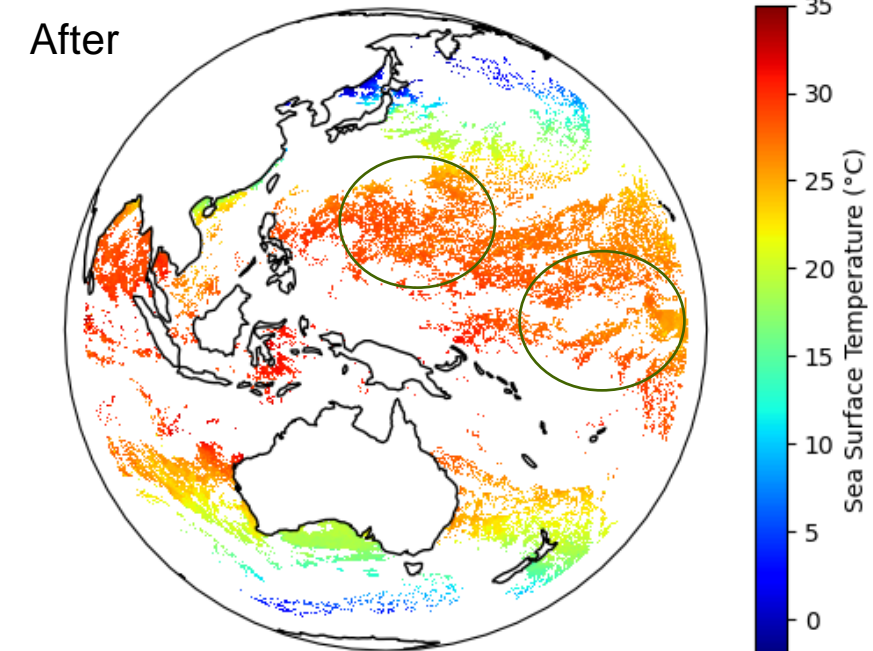
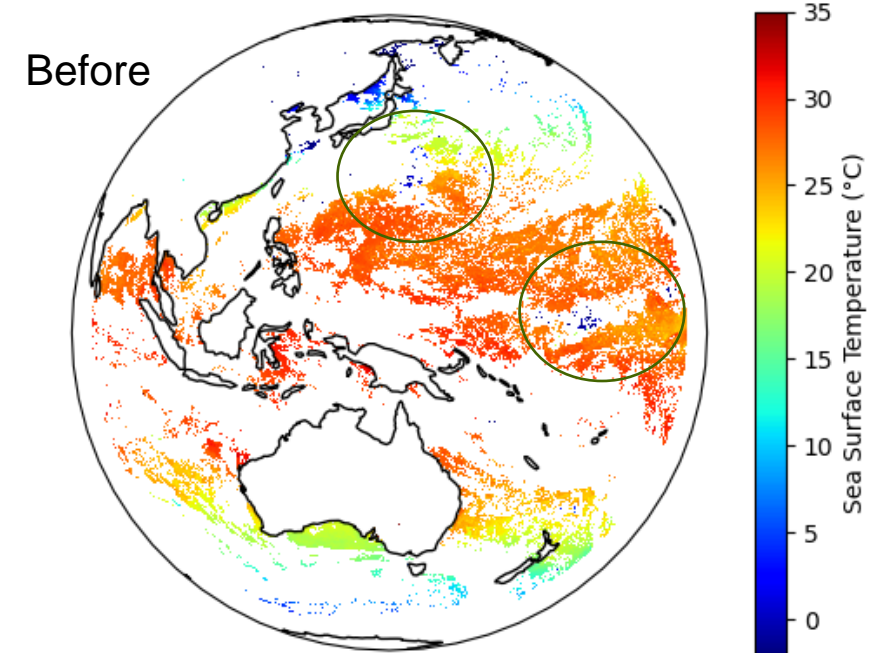
Bureau has produced Himawari-8 SST products in near real time from 2016 but they have not been sufficiently accurate.

- Retrieved by regressing against one day of VIIRS data in 2015
- GEOCAT clouds
- No bias model

- **New Method:**

Based on the ESA CCI SST code ([Merchant et al., 2019](#)) in collaboration with the University of Reading:

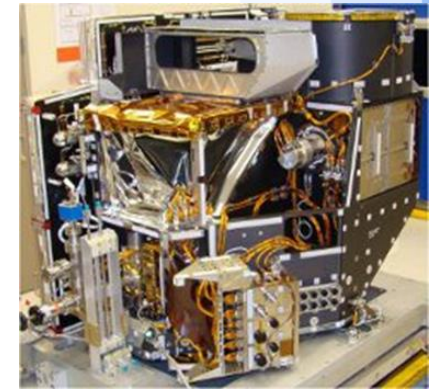
- Radiative Transfer Model
- Bayesian cloud clearing method
- Empirical Bias model based on in-situ SSTs



# Advanced Himawari Imager (AHI)

The optical radiometer, advanced Himawari imager (AHI), on board Himawari-8 and Himawari-9 provides full disk images:

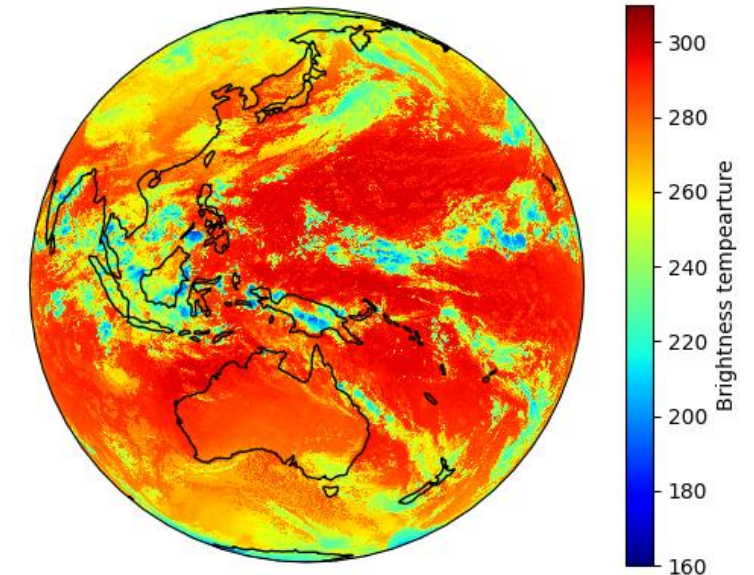
- Every 10 minutes
- 2 km spatial resolution for infra-red (IR) frequency data at nadir.
- 16 spectral bands for visible-infrared wavelengths
- IR bands centered at 3.9, 8.6, 10.4, 11.2, and 12.4  $\mu\text{m}$  are able to sense SSTs.



AHI sensor on Himawari-08

[https://www.data.jma.go.jp/mscweb/en/himawari89/space\\_segment/spsg\\_ahi.htm](https://www.data.jma.go.jp/mscweb/en/himawari89/space_segment/spsg_ahi.htm)

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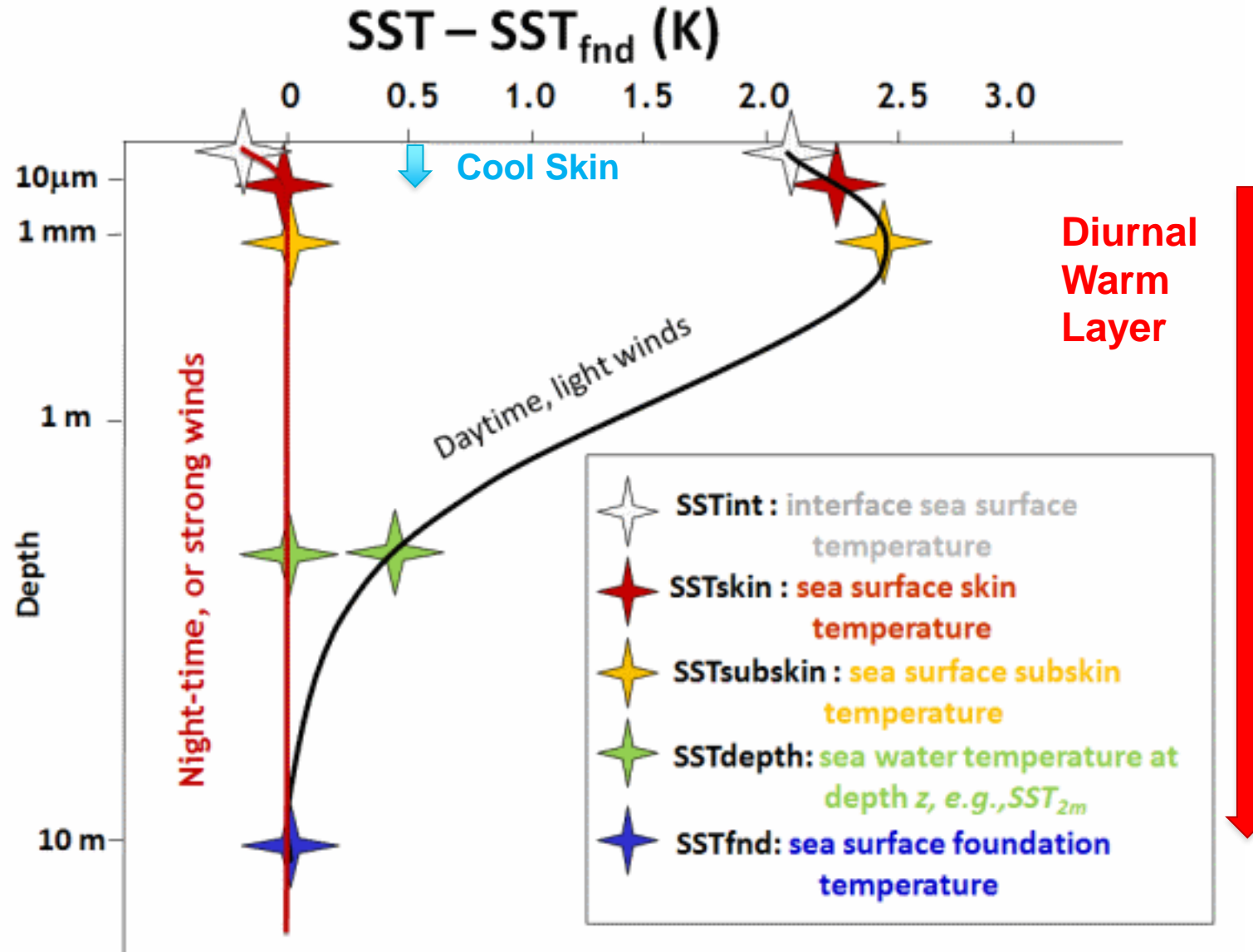


Channel 13 Brightness Temperature (K) values for the Full Disk (FLDK) observations of Himawari-8 AHI.



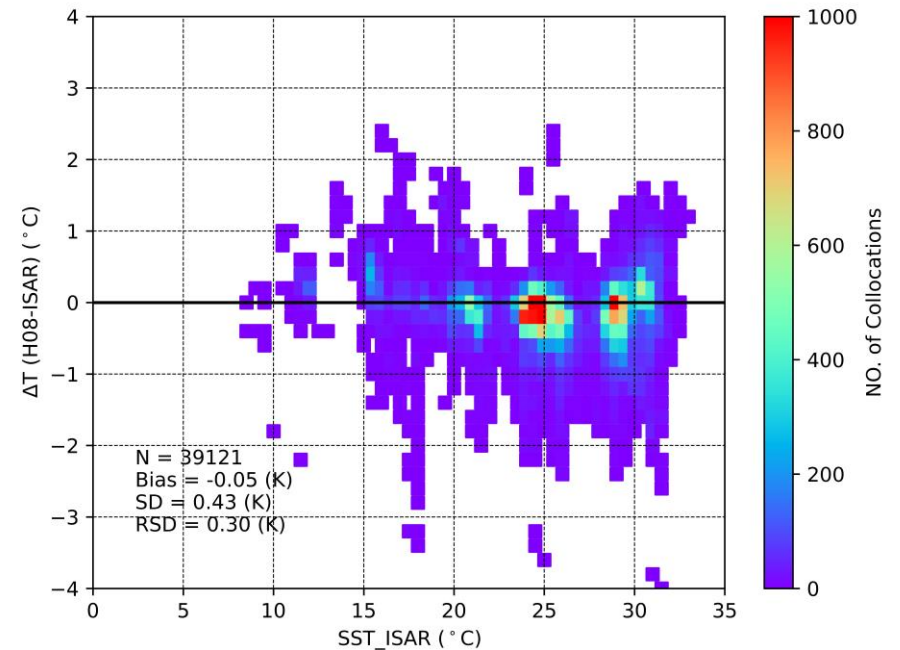
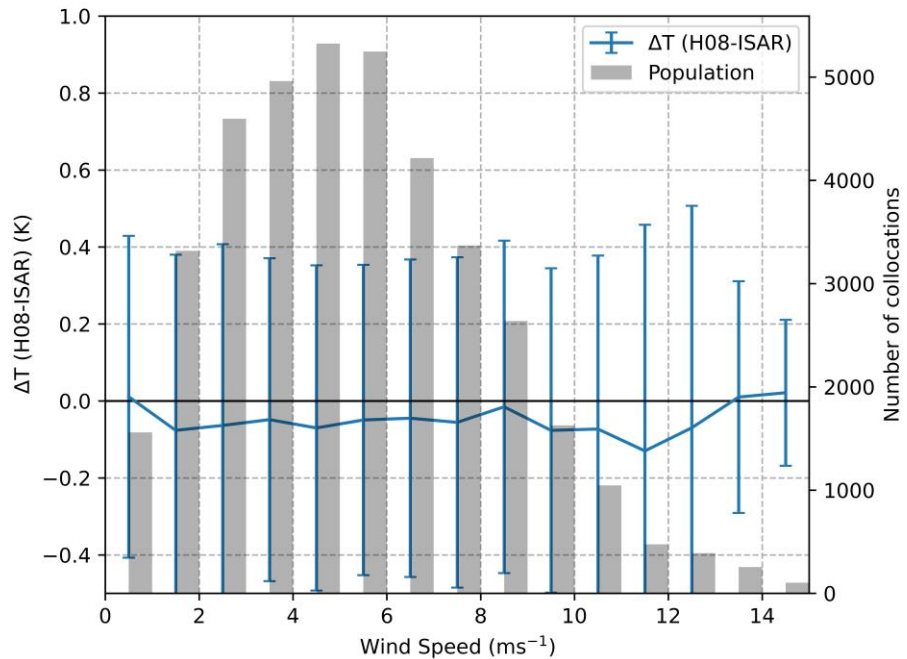
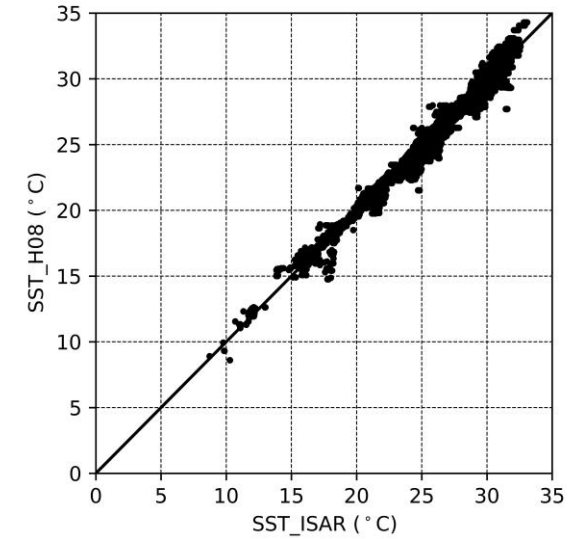
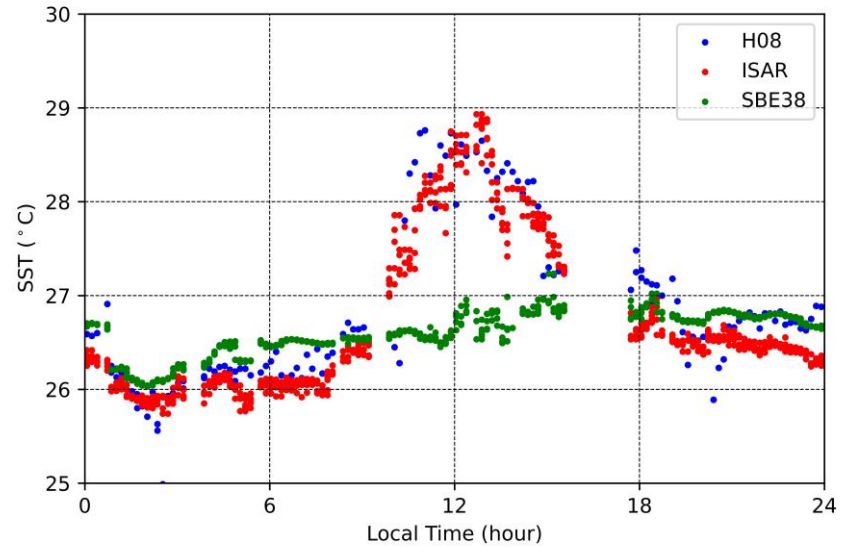
# GHR SST definitions of SST depth

[www.ghrsst.org](http://www.ghrsst.org)



# Validation of Himawari-8 L2P against ISAR

(Zhang et al., 2023, Remote Sensing – see Presentation Session 3)



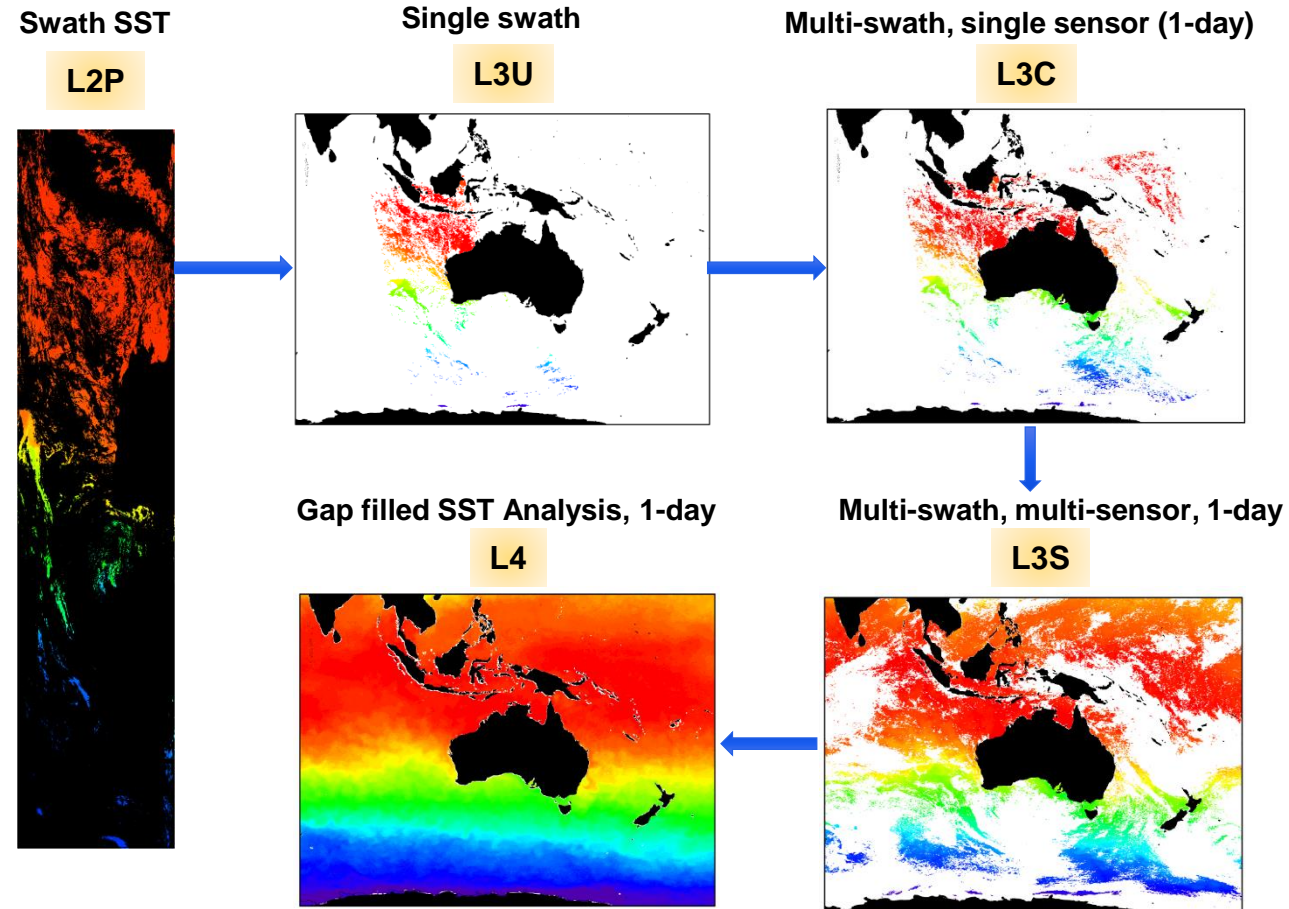
# Different SST products

Through IMOS Project, the following SST products for each of the available satellite sensors are available:

- L2P (geolocated, native resolution of sensor)
- L3U (single swath/scene, gridded)
- L3C (multiple swath/scene, single sensor, gridded)
- L3S (multiple IR sensors, gridded)

We provide these SST products at 2 depths:

- Skin (SSTskin) at ~10  $\mu\text{m}$  depth sensitive to diurnal warming
- Foundation (SSTfnd) equivalent to several meters depth and not affected by diurnal warming



# Operational Multi-Sensor L3S products

**Composites of SST data from AVHRR sensors on NOAA-18 and MetOp-B, and VIIRS sensors on Suomi-NPP and NOAA-20:**

Resolution:  $0.02^\circ \times 0.02^\circ$ ; 1, 3, 6 days and 1 month

Available: 2012 to present from <http://portal.aodn.org.au>  
and <https://opus.nci.org.au/>

Uses:

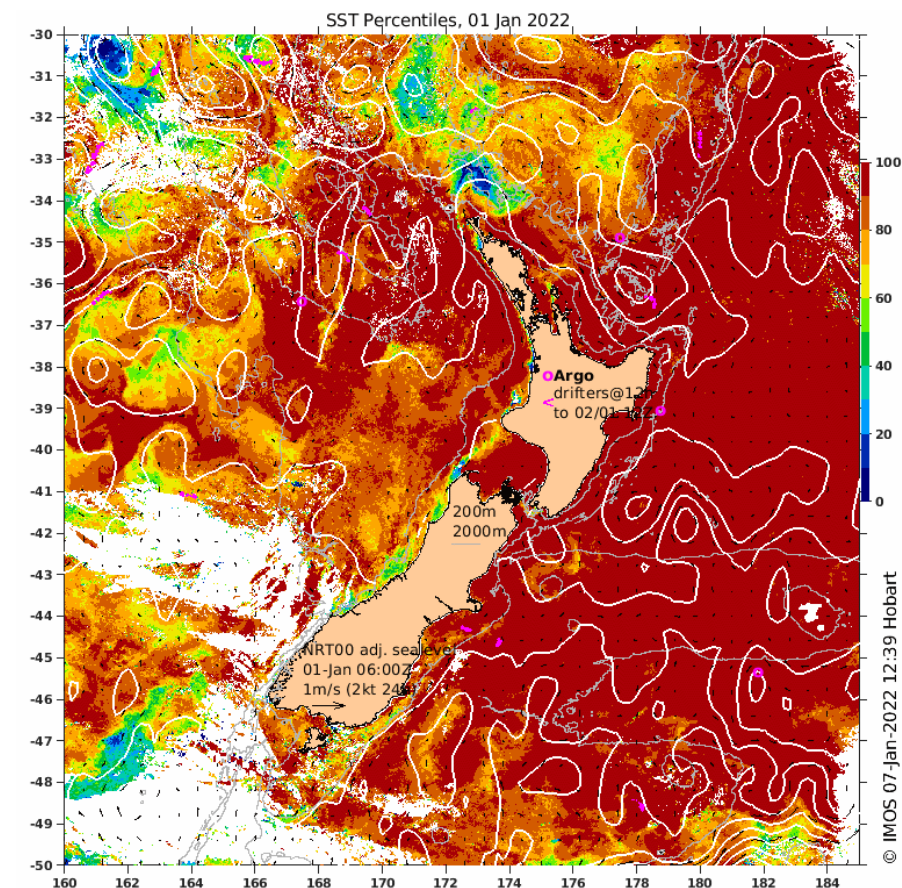
- BoM ReefTemp NextGen Coral Bleaching Risk Monitoring

<http://www.bom.gov.au/environment/activities/reeftemp/reeftemp.shtml>

- IMOS OceanCurrent SST and Percentile Maps

<http://oceancurrent.imos.org.au>

SST Percentiles from 6-day Multi-Sensor L3S – 1 Jan 2022



# Operational Multi-Sensor L3S products

**Composites of SST data from AVHRR sensors on NOAA-18 and MetOp-B, and VIIRS sensors on Suomi-NPP and NOAA-20:**

Resolution: 0.02° x 0.02°; 1, 3, 6 days and 1 month

Available: 2012 to present from <http://portal.aodn.org.au>  
and <https://opus.nci.org.au/>

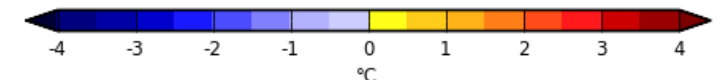
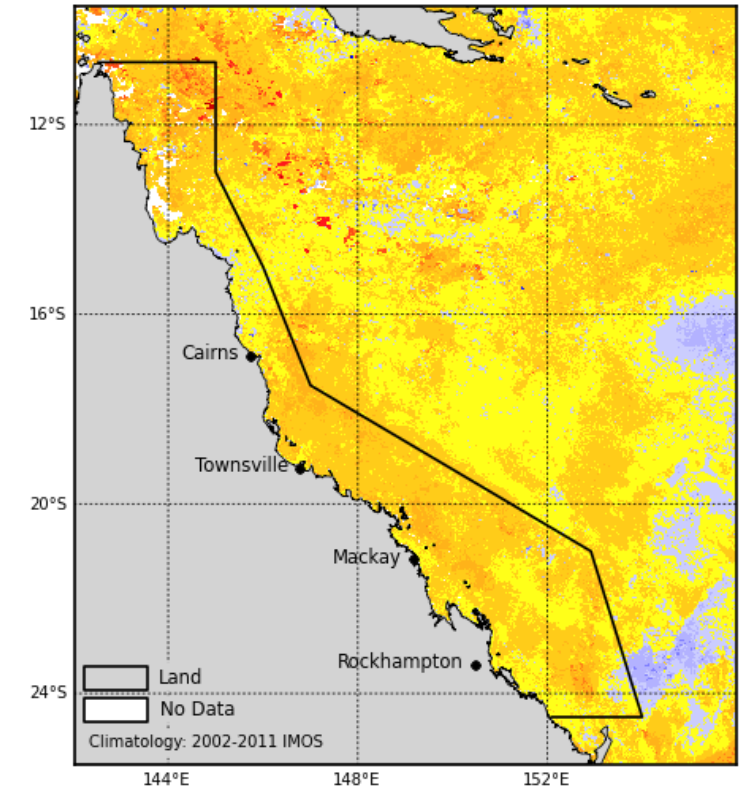
Uses:

- BoM ReefTemp NextGen Coral Bleaching Risk Monitoring

<http://www.bom.gov.au/environment/activities/reeftemp/reeftemp.shtml>

## ReefTemp SST Anomaly Map from 1-day Multi-Sensor L3S

IMOS 14-day Mosaic: SST Anomaly  
1 February 2022 GBR region



IDYOC070  
Created: 04-February-2022 05:08:40

Quality Level  $\geq$  3  
© Bureau of Meteorology 2022







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# Useful sites for information on IMOS SST products

- GHRSSST products: <https://www.ghrsst.org/quick-start-guide/>
- Chapter on how to select an SST product: [Beggs \(2021\)](#)
- Overview of IMOS GHRSSST products: <https://opus.nci.org.au/pages/viewpage.action?pagelId=141492230>
- Access to IMOS GHRSSST products: <https://opus.nci.org.au/pages/viewpage.action?pagelId=141492235> and <http://portal.aodn.org.au>
- AODN Toolbox: <https://help.aodn.org.au/aodn-data-tools/>
- IMOS HRPT AVHRR GHRSSST Products: <http://imos.org.au/facilities/srs/sstproducts/sstdata0/>
- IMOS Multi-sensor GHRSSST Products: Govekar et al. (2022) <https://doi.org/10.3390/rs14153785>
- Maps of BoM L4 SST: <http://www.bom.gov.au/marine/sst.shtml>
- IMOS OceanCurrent maps of IMOS L3U and L3S products: <http://oceancurrent.imos.org.au>
- GHRSSST L4 (inc GAMSSA) Validation/Inter-comparison: <http://www.star.nesdis.noaa.gov/sod/sst/squam>
- Regional SST Maps (inc RAMSSA L4, IMOS L3S and other GHRSSST L2P, L3U, L4 products): <https://www.star.nesdis.noaa.gov/sod/sst/arms/>
- Introduction to users on the set of GHRSSST products: <https://zenodo.org/record/6957658>

# Applications of IMOS GHR SST Products

...requiring high spatial resolution and less gaps than L3C

## L3S (2 km gridded, multiple sensor)

Nowcasting coral bleaching

- [ReefTemp NextGen](#) uses 1-day night L3S

Australian 2 km SST climatologies

- SSTAARS ([Wijffels et al., 2018](#)) uses 1-day night AVHRR L3S
- [Roughan et al. \(2022\)](#) uses 1-day night Multi-sensor L3S

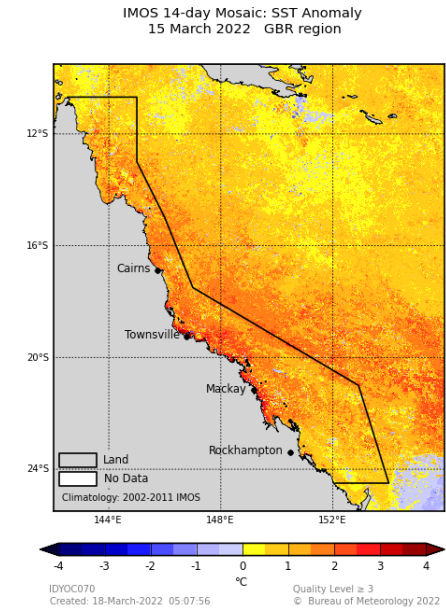
Nowcasting Marine Heat Waves

- [IMOS OceanCurrent](#) uses 1/3/6-day and 1-month night L3S for SST anomaly and percentile maps

Research on marine heatwaves, marine ecology, aquaculture, coastal oceanography and climate change

- e.g., [Meng et al., 2022](#); [Rykova et al., 2022](#); [Layton et al., 2022](#); [Hu et al., 2021](#); [Xie et al., 2021](#); [Heidemann & Ribbe, 2019](#); [Ismail et al., 2018](#)

## ReefTemp 15 Mar 2022 1-day SST Anomaly



## SSTAARS Daily Climatology 15 March

