

climate change initiative

→ SALINITY

Climate Change Initiative Sea Surface Salinity: a Decadal Climate Data Record from Space

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and the CCI+SSS members team



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ESA Living Planet Symposium

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- CCI+SSS general presentation
- Validation

Outline

- Examples of ocean surface salinity monitoring
- Conclusion and perspectives

From CCI+SSS phase 1 to phase 2 (2022 – 2025)

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Climate Change Initiative + Sea Surface Salinity





Temporal optimal interpolation of SMOS, SMAP and Aquarius Sea Surface Salinity (SSS) to create a 10+ year long Climate Data Record of SSS, at 50km and 1 week/1 month resolution, with associated uncertainties.

V3.2: 2010-2020; available at https://catalogue.ceda.ac.uk/

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20-yr satellite SSS, 4 tropical river plume regions



C/X-Band

Radiometry

In warm water, C-band and X-band brightness temperature differences can be used to derive large SSS gradients (Reul et al., 2009)

This method is used to retrieve SSS from AMSR-E back to 2002 in 4 large river-plume areas: Amazon/Orinoco, Mississippi, Bay of Bengal & Gulf of Guinea

16-month overlapping period between AMSR-E & CCI+SSS L-band data is used to train and validate the C/X band algorithm.

During CCI+SSS phase 2, the processing will be extended to other river plumes.

Dataset product currently under construction.



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Weekly CCI v3.2 SSS vs Argo Salinity



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Weekly CCI v3.2 SSS vs Argo Salinity



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SSS variability on various time scales





D. Stammer et al., Progress in Oceanography 190 (2021)

- More comprehensive small-scale high-frequency variability for CCI.
- Coherent annual amplitude signal.
- Larger amplitude in the interannual variability at Equator for CCI.

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Monitoring large scales: SSS signatures of ENSO





Mean El Niño/La Niña CCI+SSS composite





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ChI-A, SSS and SST interannual co-variability in tropical Pacific



Consistency of Satellite Climate Data Records for Earth System Monitoring Popp et al., 2020

Consistent large scale signal between the essential climate variables (ECVs) respective CDRs in the equatorial Pacific ocean (5S-5N) related to ENSO.



We here investigate the co-variability of
> Chlorophyll-A (CCI+OC)
> Sea Surface Salinity (CCI+SSS)
> Sea Surface Temperature (CCI+SST)
interannual anomalies in the tropical
Pacific (Bonjean et al., in preparation).

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ChI-A, SSS and SST interannual co-variability in tropical Pacific



Chl-A, SSS and SST interannual co-variability in tropical Pacific





0.2

0.1

0.0

-0.1

-0.2

2010

No Units

Chl-A, SSS and SST interannual co-variability in the Tropical Pacific





All CCI datasets: OC, SSS, SST Anomalies [2010-2020] monthly means

EOF #1 Chl-A Concentration 20°N 0.2 10°N mg/m 0.0 SSS field very good indicator of rainfall regions (notably atmospheric convection) where SSS is lower 10°S -0.2 Lower-SSS surface layer is more stratified and stable 20°5 hampering mixing and nutrients input => lower Chl-A 120°E 140°E 160°E 180° 160°W 140°W 120°W 100°W 80°W SSS: ITCZ convection and rainfall, North/South EOF #1 Sea Surface Salinity shifting, Chl-A => less nutrients 20° 10°N pss 0 10°S 20°S 🛌 120°E PC #1, %Variance = 26.1% -7 120°W 100°W 80°W 160°E 180° 160°W 140°W 140° PC #1 EOF #1 Sea Surface Temperature Nino 3.4 20°N SSS: Warm pool & 10°N -5 atmospheric convection West/East shifting \cup 0 Chl-A => less nutrients 10°S -5 2012 2014 2016 2018 2020 20°5 Time 120°E 160°E 180° 160°W 140°W 120°W 100°W 80°W 140°E ESA UNCLASSIFIED - For Official Use 2022 ESA Living Planet Symposium ESA | 23/05/2022 | Slide 12



0.2

0.1

0.0

-0.1

-0.2

2010

2012

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No Units

Chl-A, SSS and SST interannual co-variability in the Tropical Pacific





All CCI datasets: OC, SSS, SST Anomalies [2010-2020] monthly means

- SSS field very good indicator of rainfall (notably atmospheric convective) regions where SSS is lower
- Lower-SSS surface layer is more stratified and stable hampering mixing and nutrients input => lower Chl-A
- Low SST, High Chl-A concentration in regions with upwelling (nutrients input).

2014

2016

Time

2018







CCI v3.2 SSS & uncertainties (2010-2020) validated & available @ CEDA.

Next steps: Extend time series forward 2022 (L-band) (global & polar products) backward 2002 (river, C/X-band)

Improve physics of the satellite measurement,

datasets merging, RFI filtering ...

CCI SSS : evidence of weekly to interannual variability of SSS (50km resolution) not detectable by in situ observations/reanalysis.

Next steps: Deepens SSS variability & fresh water inputs (river, rainfall, ice melt), ocean circulation & air-sea interactions.

Process studies combining CCI data and modelling in

- river plumes (Amazon, Bay of Bengal)
- high Latitudes (N. Atl. & Arctic)
- at global scale (including assimilation studies)

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Additional material: RFI mitigation



