



# Indian Ocean Observing System (IndOOS)

## Decadal Review

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# Executive summary

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## 1 Sustained Indian Ocean observations for climate: IndOOS 2020-2030

IndOOS is the sustainable ocean observing system for the Indian Ocean. The goal of IndOOS is to provide sustained high-quality oceanographic and marine meteorological measurements to support knowledge-based decision-making through improved scientific understanding, weather and climate forecasts, and environmental assessments. The current IndOOS design was established on the basis of the Implementation Plan drafted by the CLIVAR/GOOS Indian Ocean Panel (IORP) in 2006. Since then, societal and science priorities and measurement technologies have evolved and many of the practicalities of implementation have been learned. In this summary we incorporate these needs, tools, and experiences into actionable recommendations for priority observing system components moving forward, including pilot studies with new technologies. Justification for these recommendations is grounded in the chapters of this white paper, where we review the current status of IndOOS and its past successes and failures; articulate scientific and operational drivers and their societal impacts; and identify the essential ocean variables (EOVs) that address these drivers, their geographical coverage and spatio-temporal resolution.

### 1. Societal motivations

The Indian Ocean may be the smallest of the four major oceanic basins, but the 22 countries that border its rim gather one third of mankind. Many of these countries have developing or emergent economies, which are vulnerable to extreme weather events and climate change.

Many Indian Ocean rim countries depend on rain-fed agriculture. In India, for instance, 60% of jobs are in agriculture, which accounts for 20% of GDP, and there is a tight link between grain production and monsoon rainfall (Gadgil and Gadgil, 2006). Indian Ocean sea surface temperatures have been shown to influence these monsoon rains, as well as flooding in east African countries (Webster et al. 1999), droughts and wildfires in Indonesia (Abram et al. 2003, D'Arrigo and Wilson 2008) and Australia (Ashok et al. 2003, Ummenhofer et al. 2009a), and the strength of the Southeast Asian monsoon (Ashok et al. 2001, Hanamalai et al. 2005; [Chapters 1 and 13](#)). Recently, the Indian Ocean has been warming faster than any other basin in response to climate change ([Chapter 11](#), Roxy et al. 2015) and as a result decreasing rainfall over eastern Africa is predicted to increase the number of undernourished people in this region by 50% by 2030 (Funk et al. 2008).

In a region where many populations are dependent on fisheries for their livelihood (Barange et al. 2014), the intense marine productivity of the northern Indian Ocean is under threat ([Chapter 12](#), Allison et al. 2009, Roxy et al. 2015). Here, productivity is highly vulnerable to projected climate change (Allison et al. 2009), because the monsoon winds that drive upwelling and support high productivity are changing and because underneath the surface, one of the largest regions of oxygen-depleted waters in the world ocean is expanding ([chapter 2](#)). These oxygen-depleted waters are predicted to expand towards

40 the ocean surface and cause an increasing number of large mortality events, as has been  
41 seen in the past (e.g. Naqvi et al. 2009).

42 The Indian Ocean coastal population density is projected to become the largest in the  
43 world by 2030, with 340 million people exposed to coastal hazards (Neumann et al. 2015).  
44 This rapid population growth will conflate with climate-change induced sea level rise (e.g.  
45 Han et al. 2010) and increasing tropical cyclone intensity to increase vulnerability (e.g.  
46 Elsner et al. 2008; Rajeevan et al., 2013). Already, the Bay of Bengal region witnesses  
47 more than 80% of the total fatalities due to tropical cyclones (chapter 4), while only  
48 accounting for 5% of these storms globally (Paul, 2009).

49 Beyond its direct impact on rim countries, the Indian Ocean influences climate globally. As  
50 a whole, the basin accounts for about one fifth of the global oceanic uptake of  
51 anthropogenic CO<sub>2</sub> (Chapter 8; Takahashi et al., 2002), helping to buffer the effects of  
52 global warming. It is the breeding ground for the Madden Julian Oscillation (chapter 5), an  
53 atmospheric phenomenon that modulates rainfall and tropical cyclone activity across most  
54 of the tropics (MJO; Zhang, 2005). Year to year temperature variations associated with  
55 the Indian Ocean tropical dipole influence the evolution of the El Niño Southern Oscillation  
56 (ENSO) in the neighbouring Pacific Ocean (e.g. Clarke and Van Gorder 2003; Luo et al.  
57 2010; Izumo et al. 2010), a leading climate mode with global-scale impacts. The Indian  
58 Ocean is also a tropical-subtropical gateway from the Pacific to the Atlantic Ocean, as part  
59 of the global “conveyor belt” (Chapter 7; Broecker, 1991) that drives climate variability at  
60 multidecadal and longer timescales. For instance, a redistribution of heat from the Pacific  
61 to the Indian Ocean is thought to have played a key-role in regulating global mean surface  
62 temperatures over the last decade (Tokinaga and Xie 2012; Liu et al. 2016), with rapid  
63 warming of the Indian Ocean representing about two thirds of global ocean heat gain  
64 (Chapters 10, 11 and 14; Lee et al., 2015; Nieves et al. 2015). The Indian Ocean surface  
65 warming trend has had far reaching impacts, modulating Pacific (e.g., Luo et al. 2012, Han  
66 et al. 2014, Hamlington et al. 2014) and North Atlantic climate (e.g., Hoerling et al. 2004)  
67 and causing droughts in the West Sahel and Mediterranean (e.g., Giannini et al. 2003;  
68 Hoerling et al. 2012).

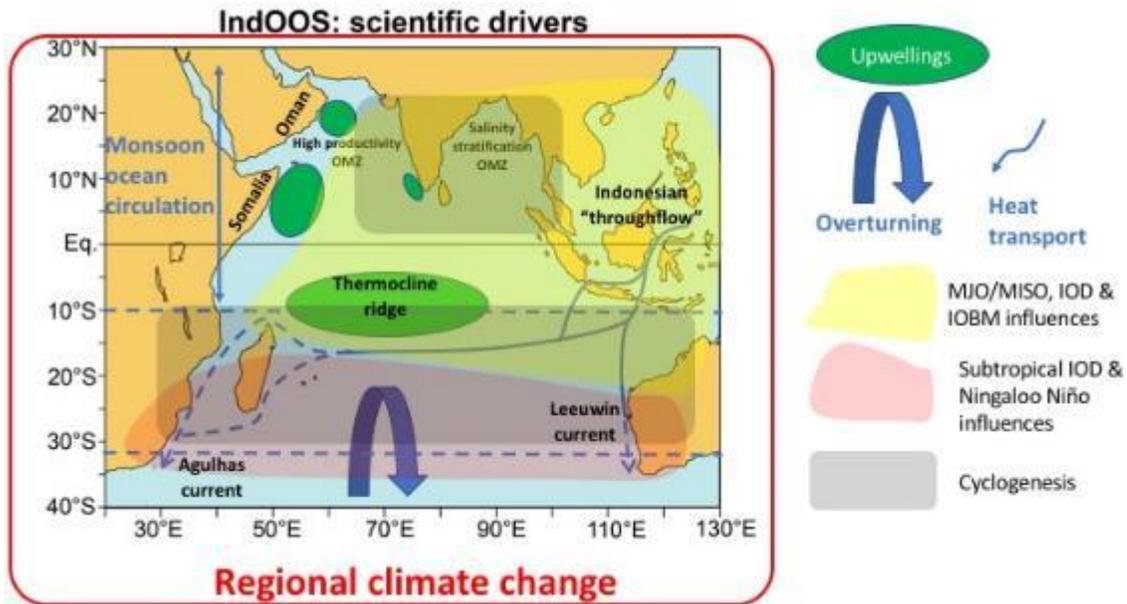
69 The role of the Indian Ocean in regional and global climate variability and change, and the  
70 heightened vulnerability of its rim populations, are strong incentives to better observe,  
71 understand and model this ocean, with the ultimate goal of being able to make quantitative  
72 predictions of future climate.

## 73 **2. Established scientific drivers and new frontiers**

74 Scientific interest in the Indian Ocean is not new and was initially fostered by its unique  
75 features. One of these is its geometry. A low latitude throughflow from the Pacific via the  
76 Indonesian Seas (e.g. Gordon et al. 2010) and the Asian landmass to the north (Figure 1)  
77 bring about unusual features in the Indian Ocean, such as the reversing monsoon currents  
78 and western boundary upwelling in the north, a shallow overturning circulation and semi-  
79 annual jets along the equator, and in the southern subtropics a unique poleward eastern  
80 boundary current and the strongest western boundary current of the world ocean.

81 Cut off to high latitudes, the Indian Ocean receives excess heat from the atmosphere and  
82 via the Indonesian Throughflow that must be evacuated towards the Atlantic and Southern  
83 Oceans. This heat export is achieved through an upper-ocean gyre circulation and a deep  
84 overturning cell (chapter 9; Ganachaud and Wunsch, 2000; Lumpkin and Speer, 2007;  
85 Hernandez-Guerra and Talley, 2016). The properties and heat content of the outflowing

86 waters depend strongly on mixing in the Indian Ocean, which has been estimated to be  
 87 several times stronger than in the Pacific or Atlantic, with unknown causes (Lumpkin and  
 88 Speer, 2007). The variability of Indian Ocean overturning and heat export and its  
 89 relationship with sea surface temperatures across the basin remains unknown at any time  
 90 scale, but is thought to be strongly constrained by the Agulhas Current at the western  
 91 boundary (Bryden and Beal, 2001) and by the Indonesian Throughflow (Sprintall et al.,  
 92 2014).



**Figure 1.** The region north of 10°S is strongly influenced by monsoons. The shaded regions indicate the rough area of influence of important phenomena. The green ovals indicate the main coastal or open-ocean upwellings. The thin blue arrow indicates the Indian Ocean part of the global oceanic “conveyor belt”. Key regions are also named.

93 The presence of the Asian landmass induces a complete reversal of the winds across the  
 94 northern Indian Ocean; the northeast and southwest monsoons (e.g. Schott et al. 2001).  
 95 These winds drive a complex reversal of the currents north of 10°S (Figure 1), including  
 96 the Somali Current at the western boundary and semi-annual eastward jets (the Wyrtki  
 97 jets) along the equator that redistribute heat zonally during the inter-monsoon periods and  
 98 help to establish the mean state. Many of these oceanic processes are not well  
 99 reproduced by state-of-the-art climate models, with adverse impacts on predictability of  
 100 the monsoons (e.g. Annamalai et al. 2016). The strong southwest monsoon winds also  
 101 yield intense upwelling along the western boundary in the Arabian Sea (figure 1, [chapter](#)  
 102 [3](#)). This unique upwelling system modulates evaporation and moisture transport towards  
 103 India ([Chapter 1](#), Izumo et al. 2008), provides a globally significant source of atmospheric  
 104 CO<sub>2</sub> ([chapter SD08](#)), and fosters intense oceanic productivity ([chapter 12](#)). This high  
 105 productivity, together with low ventilation, leads to a subsurface depletion of oxygen  
 106 (oxygen minimum zone, [chapter 2](#)) that is now expanding and has already led to a  
 107 dramatic shift in the Arabian Sea ecosystem (Gomes et al., 2014). In the Bay of Bengal,  
 108 saline stratification creates a very different habitat. Excess freshwater input from monsoon  
 109 rain and river runoff strongly inhibits the vertical mixing of both heat and nutrients. This  
 110 barrier layer is thought to regulate regional climate (Shenoi et al. 2002), oceanic

111 productivity (Prasanna Kumar et al. 2002), wet/dry spells of the monsoon (chapter 5), and  
112 cyclogenesis (Sengupta et al. 2008).

113 While the powerful ENSO climate mode focussed the attention of the international climate  
114 community during the 1980s, the last two decades have witnessed rising awareness of  
115 the importance of coupled climate variations in the Indian Ocean (Schott et al. 2009). The  
116 tropical Indian ocean has a large warm pool (surface temperature  $>27.5^{\circ}\text{C}$ ), common to  
117 the neighbouring Pacific, that maintains atmospheric convection (e.g. Graham and  
118 Barnett, 1987) and energizes the largest global atmospheric circulation cell, the Walker  
119 circulation. This Indian Ocean warm pool is modulated at the 30-90 day timescale by the  
120 Madden-Julian Oscillation (MJO) in boreal winter and by the Monsoon intraseasonal  
121 oscillation (MISO) in summer (chapters OD01 and SD05, figure 1), oscillations that are  
122 strongly coupled with Indian Ocean processes. These modes influence rainfall and  
123 cyclogenesis and, if simulated correctly, could yield enhanced predictability throughout the  
124 tropics (chapter 15). The western tropical Indian Ocean, around  $5\text{-}10^{\circ}\text{S}$ , is another  
125 important region for air-sea coupling. The thermocline dome of the tropical gyre is very  
126 shallow, making sea surface temperatures highly sensitive to atmospheric anomalies, with  
127 impacts on cyclogenesis and MJO development (e.g. Vialard et al. 2009).

128 At interannual time scales the tropical Indian ocean is strongly influenced by ENSO,  
129 warming uniformly during El Niño events (chapter 6) and remaining warm (e.g. Xie et al.  
130 2009), a response known as the Indian Ocean Basin Mode (IOBM). But the Indian Ocean  
131 also has important interannual climate modes of its own, such as the Indian Ocean Dipole  
132 (IOD, Saji et al. 1999; Webster et al. 1999, chapter 6). In its positive phase, cold surface  
133 temperatures near Java-Sumatra, warm temperatures in the western tropical Indian  
134 Ocean thermocline dome, and anomalous easterly winds near the equator induce various  
135 impacts like droughts in Indonesia and Australia and floods over eastern Africa (e.g.  
136 Yamagata et al. 2004). The IOD develops through the Bjerknes feedback, similar to ENSO  
137 (Saji et al. 1999; Webster et al. 1999), with equatorial wave processes playing a central  
138 role in its evolution (Nagura and McPhaden 2010; McPhaden et al. 2015), and often co-  
139 occurs with ENSO (Yamagata et al. 2004). The Indian Ocean is also home to two  
140 subtropical climate modes. Subtropical Indian Ocean Dipole events manifest as large-  
141 scale SST anomalies spanning  $15\text{-}45^{\circ}\text{S}$ , with strong influence on South African rainfall  
142 (Reason 2001). Ningaloo Niño events are marine heatwaves off western Australia which  
143 can affect fisheries and lead to increased Australian rainfall. In 2011 a strong event caused  
144 the first recorded bleaching of the pristine Ningaloo reef (Feng et al. 2013). Some Ningaloo  
145 Niño events have predictability due to their association with ENSO (e.g. Doi et al. 2016).

146 The relative paucity of observations prior to the advent of IndOOS ten years ago has  
147 largely precluded studies of decadal and multi-decadal variability of the Indian Ocean  
148 (chapter 10), except through sparse repeat hydrography lines (now GO-SHIP). Hence,  
149 little is known in comparison with our understanding of the Pacific Decadal Oscillation and  
150 North Atlantic Oscillation (Han et al. 2014) and this is a serious problem when it comes to  
151 distinguishing climate change trends from patterns of natural variability (e.g. Carson et al.  
152 2015). Even less is known about the changing biogeochemistry of the Indian Ocean at  
153 these time scales. There is, however, no doubt that the Indian Ocean, as other basins, is  
154 responding to anthropogenic climate change, with evidence of increasing surface  
155 temperatures and heat content, rising sea level, increased carbon uptake, and an  
156 intensified water cycle (IPCC 2013). The biogeochemical consequences of these changes  
157 are serious, with warming, acidification, and an expansion of oxygen minimum zones all  
158 putting serious stress on ecosystems (Bopp et al. 2013). Understanding regional patterns  
159 of change within the Indian Ocean (e.g. Han et al. 2010), the coupling and time scales of

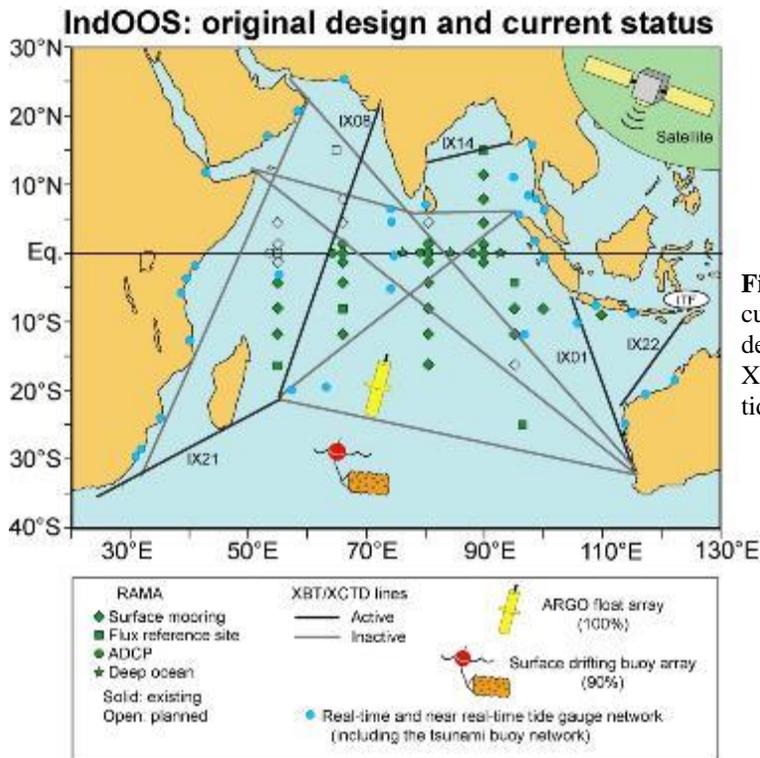
160 those changes, and predicting future change to the benefit of marine management and  
161 coastal resilience for Indian Ocean rim countries is our future challenge. Only a well-  
162 planned and internationally-supported IndOOS can provide the needed data.

163 The outsized increase in Indian Ocean heat content over the last decade, representing  
164 60% of the global increase (Lee et al. 2015; Vialard 2015; Nieves et al. 2015; Liu et al.  
165 2016), is a potent illustration of the need for sustained observations: Will the Indian Ocean  
166 continue to warm more rapidly than the rest of the world ocean? What effects will this have  
167 on the Walker circulation? On upwelling, ecosystems, and fisheries? On the monsoon  
168 wet/dry spells (MISOs)? On carbon uptake and vertical mixing? On cyclone activity and  
169 storm surges? Where and how will the excess heat received by the Indian Ocean be  
170 distributed? To answer these questions and others of societal importance requires  
171 sustained measurements of essential ocean variables (EOVs): upper-ocean temperature,  
172 salinity, air-sea fluxes, and currents at hourly-to-daily time scales across the tropics,  
173 augmented with chlorophyll, nutrients, oxygen, pCO<sub>2</sub>, and pH within the Arabian Sea, Bay  
174 of Bengal, and off western Australia; weekly-to-monthly measurements of full-depth  
175 temperature, salinity, nutrients, and pCO<sub>2</sub> throughout the subtropics; and full-depth, high  
176 spatial resolution, daily-weekly measurements of these same EOVS plus velocity within  
177 boundary fluxes, such as in the Agulhas Current and Indonesian Throughflow.

### 178 **3. IndOOS components and its achievements**

179 IndOOS (Figure 2) has been comprised of five *in situ* observing networks: profiling floats  
180 (Argo), surface drifters (GDP), a moored tropical array (RAMA), seasonal repeat  
181 temperature/salinity lines (XBT/XCTD network), and tide gauges. Augmenting these  
182 networks are remotely-sensed observations of surface winds, sea level, sea surface  
183 temperature and salinity, rainfall, and ocean colour (chapter 18).

184 The Research Moored Array for African-Asian-Australian Monsoon Analysis and  
185 prediction (RAMA, chapter 20, McPhaden et al. 2009) was arguably the observing network  
186 that launched IndOOS. It followed from tropical arrays in the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans,  
187 which together comprise the Global Tropical Moored Buoy Array (McPhaden et al, 2010).  
188 These arrays provide sub-daily time series of key oceanographic and surface  
189 meteorological variables in real-time (<https://www.pmel.noaa.gov/gtmba/>) in a region  
190 where the oceanic response to atmospheric forcing is rapid and coupled feedbacks are  
191 critical. All RAMA moorings measure meteorological surface parameters and oceanic  
192 temperature and salinity down to 500m. Some also make direct measurements of velocity,  
193 including three sites measuring deep currents along the equator, while others are “flux  
194 reference sites” with additional measurements for computation of momentum, heat, and  
195 freshwater fluxes across the air-sea interface (chapter 16), and a few sites have  
196 biogeochemical sensors (chapter 8). RAMA data have enabled the study of tropical modes  
197 of variability in the Indian Ocean, such as the MJO, MISO, and IOD, as well as the  
198 equatorial circulation and biophysical interactions. RAMA data also feed important  
199 operational applications, such as numerical weather and seasonal forecasts, gridded  
200 continuous estimates of air-sea fluxes, ocean re-analyses, and inter-calibration of  
201 successive satellite missions (chapters 15, 16, 17, 18). As one measure of its outstanding  
202 success, the original RAMA publication (McPhaden et al, 2009) has been cited 232 times  
203 as of December 2017.



**Figure 2.** IndOOS original design and current state. The original IndOOS design comprises the RAMA, Argo, XBT/XCTD, surface drifting buoys and tide gauges components.

204 The Argo network is global (Chapter 19, Gould et al. 2004), consisting of one autonomous  
 205 profiler per 3° x 3° region, each profiling the ocean (temperature, salinity, and pressure)  
 206 down to 2000 m every 10 days for at least 3 years. Full coverage requires about 450 floats  
 207 in the Indian Ocean north of 40°S and was first achieved in 2008. There are currently 576  
 208 active floats providing over 20,000 profiles per year. Argo data have captured the  
 209 seasonal-to-interannual variability of the subtropical circulation and thermohaline structure  
 210 in the Indian Ocean for the first time and were instrumental in tracking the enormous  
 211 oceanic heat uptake during the “hiatus” decade (chapter 2). Argo has become a primary  
 212 data source for operational oceanography (chapter 17) and for validating and initialising  
 213 numerical models of the ocean and climate. A growing number of profilers (currently 48)  
 214 are equipped with biogeochemical sensors to measure key processes related to plankton  
 215 blooms, OMZs, and fisheries, to name a few, particularly in the Arabian Sea, Bay of  
 216 Bengal, and thermocline dome region.

217 The voluntary observing ship eXpendable BathyThermograph (XBT) network collects  
 218 temperature observations over the upper ~800 m of the ocean along regular commercial  
 219 shipping routes. Prior to the advent of Argo, XBTs provided more than 50 % of all  
 220 subsurface temperature observations (chapter 22). The XBT network is transitioning to  
 221 monitoring phenomena poorly sampled by Argo, such as boundary currents and oceanic  
 222 fronts, mesoscale variability, and volume and heat transports. For instance, the IX01 and  
 223 IX22 XBT lines between Indonesia and Australia are critical for quantifying the interannual-  
 224 to-decadal variability of the Indonesian throughflow (Meyer et al., 1995; Sprintall et al.,  
 225 2002; Wijffels et al., 2008) and were able to capture its strengthening trend during 1984-  
 226 2013 (Liu et al., 2015), which has played an important role in the redistribution of heat  
 227 between the Pacific and Indian ocean over the last decade (Lee et al. 2015, Nieves et al.  
 228 2016; Vialard, 2015).

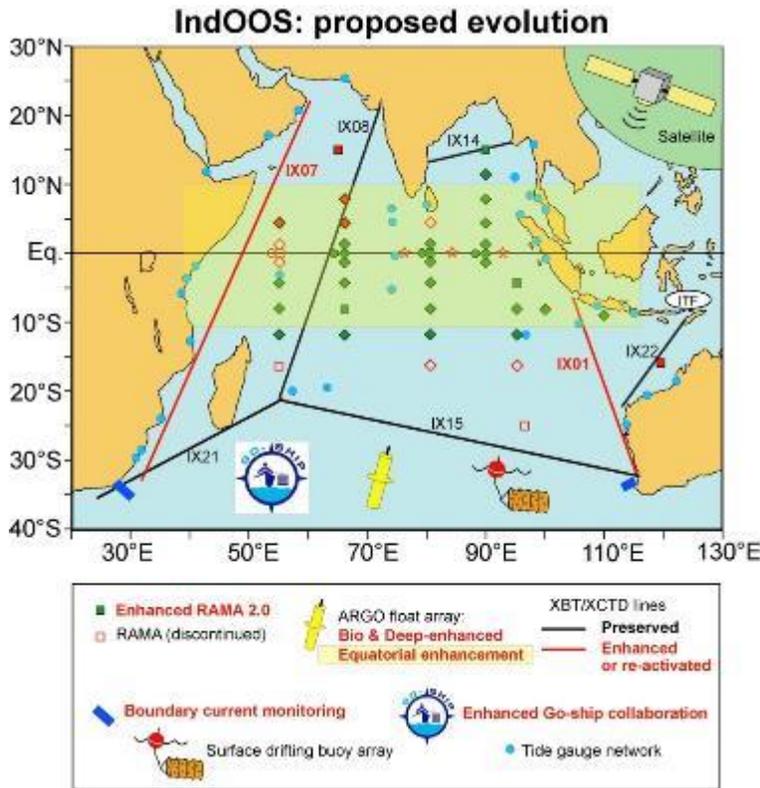
229 The Global Drifter program (GDP, chapter IR04) consists of surface drifters drogued to  
230 follow ocean currents at a density of one drifter per 5° x 5° region. All drifters also measure  
231 temperature and about half now measure sea level pressure, which has significantly  
232 improved numerical weather prediction (Centurioni et al. 2016). Coverage in the Indian  
233 Ocean has been about 70% since 1996 and about 90% since 2014. Surface drifters have  
234 allowed the seasonal mapping of the reversing monsoon circulation in the Arabian Sea  
235 (Beal et al., 2013). The tide-gauge network around the Indian Ocean rim provides  
236 measurements of sea-level (chapter 23) which are needed for Tsunami warnings, the  
237 monitoring and prediction of tides, the study of cyclone-induced storm surges (chapter 4),  
238 and for the understanding of basin-scale variations and trends in sea level rise (chapter  
239 14). Tide gauges can also provide proxies for dynamical changes, such as coastally-  
240 trapped waves and the Pacific inflow along the west coast of Australia (chapter 9). Only a  
241 subset of tide gauges also monitor the level of the land, a necessary condition for a precise  
242 quantification of long term trends in sea level.

243 The observing networks that make up IndOOS are most effective when combined together  
244 and used with other vital observing programs, such as global satellite missions and the  
245 decadal, multi-disciplinary, hydrographic surveys of GO-SHIP. For example, Vialard et al.  
246 (2008) used a combination of RAMA, Argo, and satellite data to discover links between  
247 the thermocline dome region of the southwestern tropical Indian Ocean and the Madden-  
248 Julian Oscillation.

#### 249 4. IndOOS 2020-2030: the way forward

250 The first decade of IndOOS has held its promise for unprecedented measurements of  
251 phenomena such as cyclones, the MJO and IOD, the equatorial circulation, and the  
252 Indonesian throughflow. **These are important measures that must be preserved in the**  
253 **future design.** However, IndOOS has so far fallen short of providing some critical data  
254 for the investigation of Indian Ocean biogeochemistry and fisheries, and for decadal  
255 variability and climate change.

256 In the Arabian Sea, where piracy and vandalism has long been a stumbling block for the  
257 completion of RAMA, **lack of measurements of the uniquely seasonal western**  
258 **boundary current, upwelling system, and oxygen minimum zone has stunted our**  
259 **understanding of biological productivity as well as monsoon variability and**  
260 **predictability.** With piracy receded, deployments are planned in the Arabian Sea in 2018.  
261 There have been few biogeochemical measurements as part of IndOOS (chapters 8, 19,  
262 and 2) and **hence biophysical processes and the carbon cycle remain poorly**  
263 **understood even in critical regions like the northern Indian Ocean oxygen minimum**  
264 **zones and eastern boundary upwelling cells. The subtropical Indian Ocean has also**  
265 **been relatively neglected** while it harbours climate modes, such as Ningaloo Niño and  
266 subtropical IOD (chapter 6), and is one of the fastest warming regions of the world ocean  
267 (chapter 11). Recent widespread interest in the “hiatus” in climate change and the  
268 associated storage of heat in the Indian Ocean has put strong emphasis on the need to  
269 be able to estimate basin-scale budgets over long time scales (chapter 7). This requires  
270 **monitoring the fluxes across the open southern boundary of the Indian Ocean,**  
271 **including the mighty Agulhas Current,** capturing changes in subtropical stratification,  
272 including Antarctic bottom water, and **improving surface flux estimates, particularly in**  
273 **the cloud-rich regions of the tropical Indian Ocean (chapter 16).**



**Figure 3.** IndOOS original design and current state. The original IndOOS design comprises the RAMA, Argo, XBT/XCTD, surface drifting buoys and tide gauges components.

274 Increasing societal demand for seasonal-to-decadal climate predictability in the face of  
 275 global warming makes the need for strategic, sustained observations of the Indian Ocean  
 276 more urgent. At these time scales understanding the role of the ocean and its feedbacks  
 277 are paramount. Here, we distill the collective wisdom from the chapters of this decadal  
 278 review into a list of recommendations that can provide an Indian Ocean Observing System  
 279 more capable of meeting these societal demands in the future.

280 **Actionable recommendations:**

281 **A. Maintain core components of IndOOS. A1:** RAMA, Argo, and surface drifter  
 282 networks are the mainstays of IndOOS and must be completed and sustained.  
 283 Multi-decadal records are critical, since so few long-term measurements exist,  
 284 therefore **A2:** Prioritise XBT lines which have been active for 30 years or more,  
 285 and **A3:** Prioritise established, long-term tide gauge measurements and add  
 286 ground elevation monitoring.

287 **B. Expand observing system into the Arabian Sea.** The Arabian Sea is a critical  
 288 region for understanding monsoon processes and predictability, and  
 289 biogeochemical processes and marine productivity, yet piracy has precluded  
 290 observations for almost two decades. **B1:** Deploy RAMA sites in the Arabian Sea  
 291 with biogeochemical sensors. **B2:** Re-activate a portion of the IX07 XBT line with  
 292 enhanced sampling in boundary current and upwelling regions. **B3:** Prioritise bio-  
 293 Argo deployments in the Arabian Sea (Chlorophyll, oxygen, nutrients, pH).

294 **C. Eliminate redundancy and consider logistical constraints. C1:** Re-evaluate  
 295 the need for XBT lines IX22, IX08, and IX14 and prioritise a sustained Argo network

296 in their place. **C2:** Streamline RAMA by elimination of thirteen moorings from the  
 297 original design. This will ease current implementation challenges and the  
 298 upcoming transition to more capable T-FLEX moorings (Figure 2 and chapter  
 299 IR03).

300 **D. Improve Indonesian Throughflow monitoring. D1:** Maintain and enhance  
 301 measurements of volume, heat, and freshwater transports along XBT line IX01 by  
 302 including XCTDs for salinity measurements, a thermosalinograph to capture  
 303 surface properties, automated XBT launchers, and a hull-mounted ADCP (chapter  
 304 IR07). **D2:** A pilot project for glider deployments along IX01.

305 **E. Measure the overturning and heat budget of the Indian Ocean.** Three elements  
 306 are needed, **E1:** Sustain an Agulhas Current volume, heat, and freshwater  
 307 transport array (such as ASCA, [chapter 24](#)) and consider a pilot glider project. **E2:**  
 308 Deploy a hydrographic end-point mooring (or CPIES) in deep water near the end  
 309 of the Leeuwin current array off Australia, and **E3:** Launch a deep-Argo program  
 310 in the subtropical Indian Ocean to capture the deep overturning cell ([chapter 24](#)).  
 311 Finally, **E4:** Evaluate IX15 and IX21 XBT lines as possible additional constraints  
 312 on transport.

313 **F. Implement joint biophysical measurements**, including chlorophyll, CO<sub>2</sub>,  
 314 oxygen, pH, and essential nutrients, beginning in key regions. **F1:** Deploy bio-Argo  
 315 floats in Somali and Omani upwelling cells, Arabian Sea and Bay of Bengal OMZs,  
 316 thermocline dome upwelling region, and south of Madagascar ([chapter 12](#)). **F2:**  
 317 Enhance RAMA moorings with biogeochemical sensors in the Arabian Sea, Bay  
 318 of Bengal, and Java upwelling regions.

319 **G. Establish and enhance air-sea flux reference sites. G1:** Implement unoccupied  
 320 RAMA flux reference sites in western tropical Indian Ocean. **G2:** Establish new flux  
 321 reference sites at the mouth of the Indonesian Throughflow, in the eastern  
 322 equatorial Indian Ocean where various flux products strongly disagree ([chapter](#)  
 323 [16](#)), and within the Agulhas Return Current. **G3:** Enhance a subset of flux  
 324 reference sites for direct flux measurements. **G4:** Improve vertical sampling to  
 325 capture the diurnal cycle at selected flux reference sites in convective regimes,  
 326 such as the Bay of Bengal, eastern equatorial Indian Ocean, and the thermocline  
 327 dome.

328 **H. Constrain the deep circulation and capture multidecadal timescales.** Improve  
 329 mapping of the deep Indian Ocean thermohaline structure and circulation. **H1:**  
 330 Deploy deep-Argo in the most under-sampled regions of the deep Indian Ocean  
 331 and to capture the deep overturning at ~32°S. **H2:** Increase collaboration with GO-  
 332 SHIP decadal hydrographic surveys to optimize the use of ship-time and promote  
 333 international participation for targeted Indian Ocean surveys.

334 **I. Pilot project for high-resolution thermohaline monitoring in the tropics.**  
 335 Iridium Argo floats spend only minutes at the surface, compared to hours for the  
 336 original Argos floats, allowing for improved sampling of strong and divergent  
 337 currents along the equator that could complement RAMA. **J1:** Pilot project to  
 338 double the number of Argo floats with enhanced 5-day temporal resolution within  
 339 10° of the equator.

340 **J. Complementary satellite observations.** Planned satellite missions will ensure a  
 341 good continuity for EOVs such as SST, sea level, ocean winds and colour, and  
 342 outgoing long-wave radiation. However, the following missions are also essential

343 **I1:** Passive microwave SST measurements to track SST signals under  
344 atmospheric convection (chapter IR01, Sengupta and Ravichandran 2001, Duvel  
345 and Vialard 2007). **I2.** Sea Surface Salinity, due to the strong role of the halocline  
346 in regulating air-sea interactions in the Bay of Bengal and equatorial Indian Ocean.  
347 **I3.** Increase the number of scatterometers (currently 2) to minimize aliasing of  
348 winds by the diurnal cycle in the equatorial Indian Ocean.

## Part I: Science Drivers

### 1. Indian Ocean and South-Asian monsoon: upper-ocean processes relevant to monsoon annual cycle

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1 In the past few decades, research has shown that the annual cycle of the South-Asian  
2 monsoon results from complex interactions among the ocean, atmosphere and land  
3 components of the climate system. At the same time, progress in improving the coupled  
4 models used to simulate and predict the monsoon has been slow (Delsole and Shukla  
5 2002; Turner and Annamalai 2012), despite data available from multiple observational  
6 platforms (in situ, satellite, dedicated field experiments, etc.). Due to the complexity of the  
7 monsoon, identifying specific causes for the slow progress is difficult but possible  
8 conjectures include: (i) persistent model errors are not due to limitations in one particular  
9 parameterization but due to multiple processes and their interactions and (ii) current suite  
10 of observations is not adequate enough for understanding the monsoon systems, and to  
11 constrain model physics (Annamalai et al. 2017; Zhao et al. 2017). The seasonal mean  
12 monsoon rainfall largely dictates the socio-economic conditions of the small-scale farming  
13 communities in South and Southeast Asia that has a direct implication on the rice  
14 cultivation of the World. Furthermore, diabatic heating associated with the monsoon  
15 influences the global circulation. Given the global manifestation of the monsoon,  
16 understanding and modeling the processes responsible for its annual cycle remains a  
17 grand challenge of the World Climate Research Program.

18 In this chapter, with a focus on upper-ocean physics, we argue that, in order to improve  
19 our understanding of coupled process and to constrain model physics, specific, new and  
20 sustained observations in the tropical Indian Ocean (TIO) are needed. Based on existing  
21 knowledge of the impact of TIO processes on the mean monsoon (Section 1.1), we review  
22 essential ocean variables (EOV) that are needed to understand the processes more  
23 completely (Section 1.2). We conclude with a list of specific actions that need to be  
24 undertaken (Section 1.3). Note that this chapter does not address variability associated  
25 with the south Asian monsoon at any time scales.

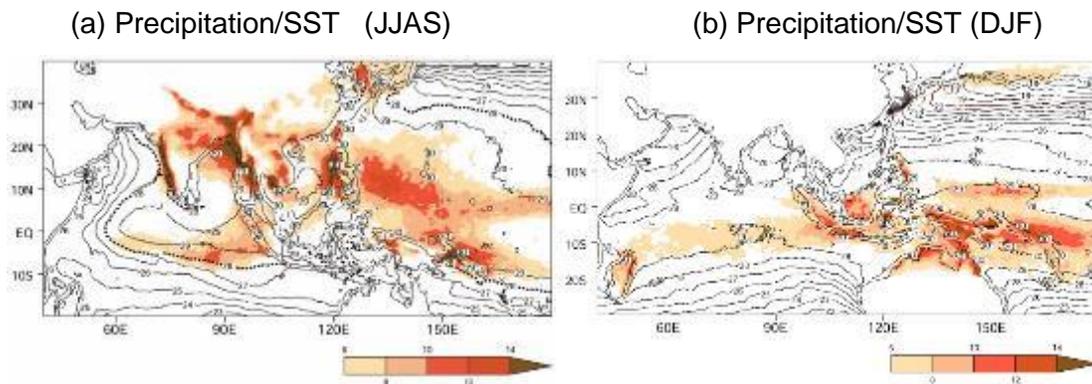
#### 26 1.1 Background

27 Previous works point toward the importance of upper-ocean processes in monsoon annual  
28 cycle (Shenoi et al. 2002; Schott et al. 2009; Seo et al. 2009; Thadathil et al. 2016;  
29 Annamalai et al. 2015; Nagura et al. 2015). Here, we review a few results in support of  
30 this idea.

#### 31 ITCZ/Indo-Pacific warm pool relationship

32 The monsoon annual cycle is primarily driven by the seasonal displacement of the  
33 Intertropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ), which is anchored by the north-south migration of  
34 the Indo-Pacific warm pool (regions where sea surface temperature [SST] is >28°C;

35 Shukla and Fennessy 1994). **Figures 1.1a** and **1.1b** plot SST (contours) and precipitation  
36 (color shading) during boreal summer and winter. During both seasons, there is intense  
37 rainfall (>8 mm/day) only in regions where SST is high (>28°C), suggesting the former is  
38 a necessary condition for the latter (e.g., Graham and Barnett 1987). The SST/precipitation  
39 relationship, however, is not one-to-one, indicating that other factors such as moisture  
40 availability in the atmosphere, tropospheric stability (Raymond 2000; Bretherton et al.  
41 2004) and cloud-radiative feedbacks (Stephens et al. 2008) impact rainfall intensity.  
42 During the summer monsoon, orography clearly impacts precipitation, with the Western  
43 Ghats in India and Arakan Range in Myanmar causing localized heavy rainfall. During  
44 winter (summer), despite southward (northward) displacement of the thermal equator,  
45 SST over the Bay of Bengal (Equatorial Indian Ocean) remains warm with values around  
46 28°C, suggesting the role of oceanic processes in its maintenance. Important aspects of  
47 these oceanic processes, such as upper-ocean stratification and equatorial eastward  
48 flowing Wyrтки Jets (WJs), and relevant EOVs required to understand, and model the  
49 monsoon annual cycle are discussed next.



**Figure 1.1:** (a) Boreal summer (June–September) climatology of precipitation (shaded; mm/day) and SST (contours; °C) constructed from TRMM/TMI products (1998–2015) and (b) same as (a) but for the boreal winter (December–February) season.

## 50 Upwelling

51 In the northern Indian Ocean, there is a remarkable east-west asymmetry in SST  
52 and precipitation during the monsoon (**Fig. 1.1a**), which to a large extent results  
53 from ocean processes. Just prior to the monsoon, SST is the warmest of all the  
54 tropical oceans throughout the northern Indian Ocean (Joseph 1990). During the  
55 monsoon, there is intense upwelling of cold water along the Somali and Omani  
56 coasts driven by the cross-equatorial low-level (Findlater) jet, and SST drops to  
57 about 23–24°C (**Fig. 1.1a**). Subsequently, horizontal advection by ocean currents,

58 in conjunction with evaporative cooling, cools SST in the central Arabian Sea (e.g.,  
59 McCreary et al. 1993), weakening rainfall there. These processes limit the westward  
60 extension of the warm pool (Shenoi et al. 2002). In contrast, SST over the Bay of  
61 Bengal remains high because upwelling along the east coast of India is weak or  
62 absent (McCreary et al. 1993), and rainfall is much stronger there resulting in  
63 upper-ocean stratification (Shenoi et al. 2002; Thadathil et al. 2008; Seo et al. 2009).  
64 During winter, lack of upwelling along the Somali and Omani coasts leads to SST  
65 being warmer there (Fig. 1.1b) than during the summer (Schott and McCreary  
66 2001). Observing and modeling the fine details of the upper-ocean stratification  
67 over the Bay of Bengal, and its subsequent impact on SST evolution remain a  
68 challenge.

### 69 **Salinity impacts on upper-ocean stratification**

70 The near-surface stratification is impacted locally by the surface freshwater flux  
71 (precipitation and river run-off) and remotely through advection. The freshwater thins the  
72 surface mixed layer, and generates a barrier layer that prevents the entrainment of cold  
73 subsurface waters (Lukas and Lindstrom 1991). Furthermore, solar radiation can  
74 penetrate the mixed layer to warm the barrier layer, thereby generating temperature  
75 inversions (Sengupta and Ravichandran 2001). Two such regions in the northern Indian  
76 Ocean are the Bay of Bengal (Howden and Murtugudde 2001; Shenoi et al. 2002;  
77 Thadathil et al. 2008; 2016) and the Arabian-Sea mini-warm pool (Rao and Sivakumar  
78 1999; Durand et al. 2004). *In these regions, are there adequate observations (spatial  
79 coverage, vertical and horizontal resolutions) to quantify processes that determine upper-  
80 ocean physics and assess their subsequent impacts on SST throughout the annual cycle?*

81 Bay of Bengal: During winter, cold and dry northeasterly monsoon winds are directed away  
82 from the Asian continent and SST drops to  $< 27^{\circ}\text{C}$  over the northern Arabian Sea but  
83 remains warm ( $\sim 28^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) over the Bay of Bengal (Fig. 1.1b), due to temperature inversions  
84 in the upper ocean. Results from limited observations over the northern bay suggest  
85 roughly equal contributions from precipitation and river-runoff to the freshwater-flux (e.g.,  
86 Dai et al. 2009). Thadathil et al. (2008) examined seasonal variations in barrier-layer  
87 thickness over the Bay of Bengal and found that the annual mode exhibits maxima during  
88 November-December and the semi-annual mode peaks during February-March and  
89 August-September. By examining observations from RAMA buoys Thadathil et al. (2016)  
90 confirmed that the temperature inversion peaks during November-December but its  
91 existence is prominent only over the northern Bay of Bengal, and through budget analysis  
92 the authors suggested that net heat loss is the dominant process in controlling the  
93 formation and maintenance of the surface temperature inversion. Anderson and Riser  
94 (2014) examined upper-ocean measurements of temperature and salinity obtained from  
95 few Argo profiling floats equipped with auxiliary surface temperature and salinity sensors  
96 (STS) across the Bay of Bengal. These measurements with a vertical resolution of 10 cm  
97 in the top 2-4 m indicate large surface stratification with pronounced vertical gradients  
98 implying the role of heavy precipitation, and river input for the floats located in the northern  
99 Bay of Bengal. By examining fast cycle data (observed every 2 hours), they also noted  
100 large diurnal temperature amplitudes in the precipitation-dominated region of the Bay of

101 Bengal. Note that TMI observations (Fig. 1.1b) suggest SST values are  $> 28^{\circ}\text{C}$  over central  
 102 Bay of Bengal (around  $15^{\circ}\text{N}$ ) during boreal winter. Is this a consequence of upper-ocean  
 103 salinity stratification? Furthermore, Thadathil et al. (2007) pointed out that currents advect  
 104 the barrier layer. The thick barrier layer spreads towards the interior of the bay being  
 105 advected by wintertime anticyclonic circulation. It also spreads to the south being advected  
 106 by the southward East India Coastal Current (EICC) in winter. Akhil et al. (2014) explicitly  
 107 showed the contribution of EICC to the spreading of freshwater using a high-resolution  
 108 regional ocean model. So observations on advection of salinity are needed too.

109 Arabian Sea mini-warm pool: The onset of the monsoon during late May–early  
 110 June is characterized by a spectacular “burst of precipitation” around southern  
 111 tip of India and a “sudden jump in low-level kinetic energy” over the near-  
 112 equatorial western Arabian Sea. In some years during the onset, an “onset  
 113 vortex” that leads to cyclonic storms forms over southern Arabian Sea. It is fueled  
 114 by the presence of very warm SST over southeastern Arabian Sea ( $68^{\circ}$ – $77^{\circ}\text{E}$ ,  $6^{\circ}$ –  
 115  $15^{\circ}\text{N}$ ; the “mini-warm pool”) and barotropic instability of the basic monsoon flow  
 116 (Krishnamurti et al. 1981). Based on limited observations and model solutions, Durand et  
 117 al. (2004), Vinaychandran et al. (2007), Mason et al. (2005) and Nyadijo et al. (2012) noted  
 118 the importance of advection of low-saline waters (from the Bay of Bengal) in promoting  
 119 salinity stratification and temperature inversion in the upper ocean. From case studies, a  
 120 casual relationship between salinity over this mini-warm pool or its latitudinal position and  
 121 monsoon rainfall (Neema et al. 2012; Sijikumar and Rajeev 2012) has been suggested,  
 122 but the actual mechanisms are unclear.

### 123 Equatorial Indian Ocean

124 The equatorial Indian Ocean (EIO) differs from the other equatorial oceans in that it lacks  
 125 trade winds, owing to the strong atmospheric convection over the eastern EIO and  
 126 Maritime Continent (Figs. 1.1a-b). As a consequence, the EIO experiences semiannual  
 127 westerly winds during the intermonsoon periods when the ITCZ crosses the equator, with  
 128 a stress magnitude of about  $0.4 \text{ N/m}^2$  (Fig. 1.2a). They force the eastward-flowing WJs  
 129 (Wyrtki 1973), which attain velocities of the order of  $80 \text{ cm/s}$  near the surface (Fig.1.2b).

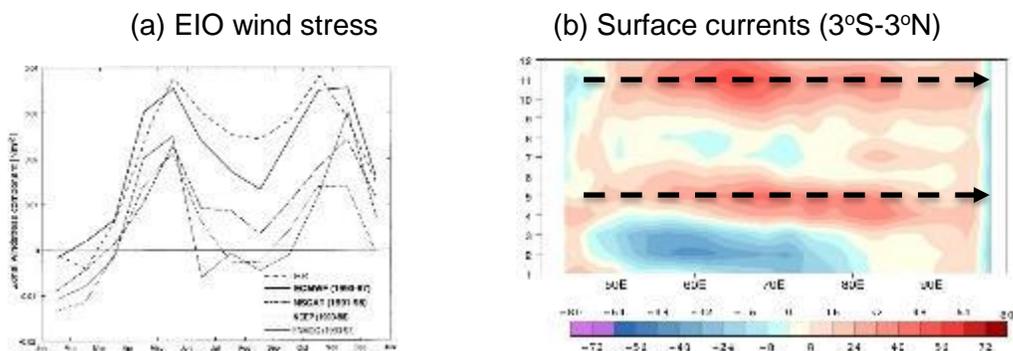


Figure 1.2: (a) Mean seasonal cycle of zonal wind stress ( $\text{N/m}^2$ ) component, averaged from  $60$ – $90^{\circ}\text{E}$ ,  $1^{\circ}\text{S}$ – $1^{\circ}\text{N}$  band from various reanalysis products and observations

(from Schott and McCreary 2001) and (b) annual cycle of equatorial surface currents (cm/s) climatology obtained from OSCAR. The dotted lines in (b) indicate spring and fall Wyrтки Jets. The curves in (a) suggest “observational uncertainty” .

130 The WJs carry mass and heat from the western to the eastern EIO and are instrumental  
131 in maintaining the warm pool over the eastern EIO (Reverdin 1987; Rao and Sivakumar  
132 1999), so that even during boreal summer, eastern EIO experiences warm and wet  
133 conditions (Fig. 1.1a). Conversely, but less clear, they are important for draining warm,  
134 near-surface water from the western EIO, thereby decreasing the likelihood of  
135 atmospheric convection. Since 2009 as part of RAMA array, ADCP observations are  
136 maintained at 78°E, 80.5°E, 83°E and 90°E along the equator, and also at 80.5°E across  
137 latitudes 4°S–3°N. With 5-years of observations at the latter site, McPhaden et al.  
138 (2015) estimated volume transports of spring and fall WJs. Are the estimates at one  
139 longitudinal point sufficient enough to account for mass transport and heat  
140 accumulation over the eastern EIO?

141 The WJs are predominantly forced by the near-equatorial winds but modeling studies  
142 suggest that salinity-induced barrier layer increases the jet speed by trapping the wind  
143 momentum in a thinner-mixed layer (Han et al. 1999; Masson et al. 2003). Note that over  
144 the eastern EIO, precipitation occurs all-year around (Fig. 1.1). A few points of interest  
145 are: (i) during the annual cycle, Bjerknes’ feedback (feedback loop between ocean and  
146 atmosphere; e.g., changes in SST impacts precipitation and wind leading to changes in  
147 ocean thermocline that further impacts SST) occurs along the EIO in which WJs are an  
148 important component (Annamalai et al. 2017); (ii) WJs maintain eastern EIO warm pool  
149 that promotes local precipitation that in turn results in upper-ocean stratification, a feature  
150 important to increase the WJ speed itself and (iii) it is not clear the role of westward,  
151 equatorial current during January-March (Fig. 1.2b) in the EIO processes. Are the existing  
152 Argo floats sufficient enough to study the seasonal cycle in upper-ocean stratification  
153 along central-eastern EIO? Do we need *in-situ* near-surface wind observations to  
154 construct reliable wind-stress climatology?

### 155 **Southwest Indian Ocean thermocline ridge**

156 Over the annual cycle, owing to north-south migration of the ITCZ, thermocline ridge  
157 regions experience in-situ rainfall. While at intraseasonal timescales, there is some  
158 observational evidence for the formation of salinity stratification (Vialard et al. 2009), unlike  
159 over the Bay of Bengal, at seasonal timescales, because of lack of observations role of  
160 upper-ocean stratification is unclear here. Observations during DYNAMO/CINDY field  
161 campaign suggest for advection of freshwater from eastern equatorial Indian Ocean to the  
162 ridge region (Soares et al. 2018, manuscript in preparation). Interannual variations in the  
163 monsoon onset date are linked to variations in boreal spring season SST over the ridge  
164 region through their impacts on the poleward migration of the ITCZ (Annamalai et al.  
165 2005), particularly during years after the peak phase of El Nino when fluctuations in  
166 thermocline depth and SST are strongly coupled (Xie et al. 2002). How to measure the  
167 contributions from horizontal advection?

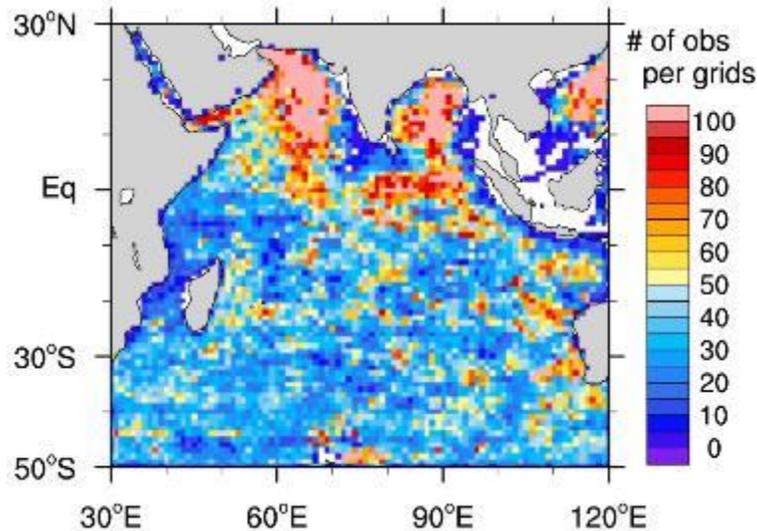
## 168 **Systematic errors in climate models**

169 Finally, analyses of several generations of climate models indicate that model biases in  
170 precipitation (Sperber et al. 2013), SST (Levine et al. 2013; Sandeep and Ajayamohan  
171 2014), thermocline depth (Yokoi et al. 2009; Nagura et al. 2013), and other  
172 atmospheric/oceanic variables persist throughout the annual cycle, implying that the  
173 tropical Indian Ocean and monsoon systems are strongly coupled, with errors in one  
174 system cascading into others (Annamalai et al. 2017). Typically, researchers have sought  
175 to relate model errors to biases in the atmospheric component of the coupled models (e.g.,  
176 Martin et al. 2010). Annamalai et al. (2017), however, argue that their cause is the models'  
177 near-equatorial, coupled, ocean-atmosphere processes (Bjerknes feedback) being strong,  
178 in which case oceanic, as well as atmospheric, errors are involved. Nagura et al. (2017)  
179 note that systematic errors in Bay-of-Bengal precipitation are linked to model biases in  
180 mixed-layer thicknesses and thermocline depths in the northern Arabian Sea. Sperber  
181 and Annamalai (2014) find that almost all CMIP5 models simulate a delayed monsoon  
182 onset, indicating that the delay may result from systematic coupled errors over the  
183 southwest Indian Ocean from earlier seasons in the annual cycle. *In summary, over the*  
184 *TIO-monsoon climate systems, large-scale model errors in ocean-atmosphere variables*  
185 *are prominent over the regions where upper-ocean stratification is expected to impact air-*  
186 *sea interactions.*

## 187 **1.2 Observations needed**

188 Based on our current knowledge (Section 1.1), here we identify regions where  
189 observations of EOVs are needed to improve understanding of the processes that shape  
190 the upper-ocean. Such an understanding is expected to improve models' physical  
191 parameterization schemes.

192 Fig. 1.3 shows a consolidated map of existing observations (ship measurements and  
193 profiling floats) of in-situ temperature and salinity. Current observations along the coastal  
194 regions as well as over the sensitive regions where freshwater-flux forced salinity  
195 stratification impacts on the upper-ocean processes are sparse. In regions of thin mixed-  
196 layer Argo floats do not measure temperature and salinity in the top layers (surface – 25m)  
197 where stratification is expected to impact SST. While satellite-derived sea surface salinity  
198 observations (Aquarius) are available to construct a reasonable climatology, sustained  
199 observations for assessing sub-surface salinity over regions of interest are not yet  
200 available.



**Figure 1.3:** Number of in-situ observations (CTD and profiles from Argo floats) to measure temperature and salinity in the tropical Indian Ocean. (all observations since 1961 are included in constructing this map)

201 **Upper-ocean stratification**

202 Therefore, for a comprehensive understanding of the monsoon annual cycle, sustained  
 203 three-dimensional observations of temperature and salinity over all key regions identified  
 204 here are required. As of December 2017, RAMA array  
 205 (<https://www.pmel.noaa.gov/gtmba/rama-array-map>) covers EIO, southern Indian Ocean  
 206 and parts of Bay of Bengal (around 90°E). It is fair to mention that RAMA array does not  
 207 cover the northern Indian Ocean, particularly upper-ocean stratification regions. Here, we  
 208 focus on instruments for key regions, and suggest optimal horizontal and vertical  
 209 resolutions of observations that are deemed important. Of the regions identified here, we  
 210 prioritize observations for the Bay of Bengal.

211 Bay of Bengal: ASIRI (An Ocean-Atmosphere Initiative for Bay of Bengal), an  
 212 observational and modeling program (2013-17) aimed to study the upper-ocean  
 213 processes has collected unprecedented high-resolution observations from multiple  
 214 instruments and have identified features in the northern Bay of Bengal where shallow,  
 215 salinity-controlled mixed layers result from high river runoff and heavy rainfall (Wijesekera  
 216 et al. 2016). Using field observations during November-December 2013, Mahadevan et  
 217 al. (2016) suggest that mixed layers over the northern bay are of the order of ~20 m and  
 218 lateral mixing due to meso-scale oceanic features contribute to upper-ocean salinity  
 219 stratification. No such observations exist off the Burmese coast where high-mean  
 220 precipitation occurs during boreal summer (Fig. 1.1a) and SST is > 28°C during boreal  
 221 winter (Fig. 1.1b). Additionally, there is a continental shelf near the mouth of  
 222 Ganges/Brahmaputra, where temperature inversion and haline stratification should be  
 223 clearest, but Argo floats cannot enter there, because floats' parking depth is 1000 m, which  
 224 is deeper than the bottom depth of the continental shelf. Next, we outline our  
 225 recommendation for new observations.

226 For an extended region (12°-22°N; 80°-100°E), including the continental shelf, with a  
 227 horizontal resolution of 2°x2° degree or even finer, we can aim for moored buoys in  
 228 addition to Argo floats and/or equip more Argo floats with auxiliary STS sensors (~10 cm

229 vertical resolution in the top 2-4 m) similar to those implemented in certain regions of the  
230 Bay of Bengal (Anderson and Riser 2014). The rectangular mesh aids in the estimation of  
231 advection of salinity to and out of Bay of Bengal. To augment the reliability and in regions  
232 of very shallow mixed-layers, we also consider repeated glider sections across this region  
233 (Rainville et al. 2017) and a suite of autonomous vehicles such as SVP, and SVP-2 surface  
234 drifters (Surface Velocity Program) that are equipped with temperature and salinity  
235 sensors to measure salt fluxes associated near-surface currents and upper-ocean  
236 stratification, and other instruments such as sea-gliders implemented in SPURS (Salinity  
237 Processes in the Upper-ocean Regional Study; Fig. 1 in Lindstorm et al. 2017). *Such a*  
238 *multiple platform will augment the accuracy of measured fields and provide confidence in*  
239 *observations.*

240 Arabian Sea mini-warm pool: To measure upper-ocean salinity and thermal distributions  
241 over the mini warm pool (68°–77°E, 6°– 15°N), moored buoys at 10 – 20 m intervals in  
242 the vertical and at a spatial interval of 5° in longitude and latitude (total of 12 buoys,  
243 preferably a rectangular mesh) with additional deployment of Argo floats with auxiliary  
244 STS sensors (at 10 cm intervals at the upper-ocean) are recommended in conjunction  
245 with ADCPs. To estimate horizontal heat advection, the rectangular mesh of buoys is  
246 necessary for temperature and salinity observations, and that of ADCPs are necessary for  
247 velocity observations. In such a configuration, for example, vertical velocity can be  
248 estimated using the continuity of mass (with a sizable error) from a rectangular mesh of  
249 ADCPs that aid in the estimation of vertical advection too.

250 **Equatorial Indian Ocean:** To assess WJ mass transports and quantify heat accumulated  
251 over eastern EIO, to further our understanding of the Bjerknes' feedback process, and to  
252 quantify accumulation of warm water (charging and discharging) ADCP observational  
253 networks need to be deployed over the eastern EIO (at 100°E and 110°E) and western  
254 EIO (at 45°E, 50°E, 55°E, 60°E and 65°E), respectively. Over the central-eastern EIO, high  
255 vertical resolution (~10 cm) observations of upper-ocean salinity and thermal  
256 stratifications are needed and suggestions made for the Bay of Bengal region can be  
257 considered here.

258 **Southwest Indian Ocean:** Since 2009, two moored buoys (one along 55°E extending  
259 from 12°S-4°S and another along 67°E extending from 12°S-Eq.) offer valuable  
260 information (but no obvious knowledge about salinity stratification) but large data gaps  
261 mask construction of a reliable climatology. Furthermore, currently no observations exist  
262 to measure salinity distribution in the upper-ocean. A feasible approach is to introduce  
263 auxiliary STS sensors on the new Argo floats, and also plan to extend RAMA bouys to few  
264 more locations (along 65°E and 75°E extending from 12°S-Eq) yielding a rectangular mesh  
265 of bouys with the existing ones. We also recommend deployment of downward ADCP to  
266 measure velocity in the upper 40m with a vertical resolution of 0.75m to study surface  
267 Ekman flow (ref..) and examine upwelling and near-surface stratification.

## 268 **Summary**

269 In summary, ASIRI field campaign results imply that sustained observations of very high  
270 spatial (horizontal and vertical) and temporal resolutions are needed to have a  
271 comprehensive understanding of the upper-ocean physics (Wijesekara et al. 2016). In thin  
272 mixed-layer (~20 m) regions such the bay, given the fact that Argo floats could only reach  
273 up to about 25 m, and that they can't be deployed along the coastal regions, in-situ  
274 instruments are needed.

275 **1.3 Actionable recommendations (order of priority)**

- 276 (1) Over the core region of Bay of Bengal for a rectangular mesh (12°N-22°N, 80°-  
277 100°E), we recommend for moored buoys (2°x2° degree or even finer) in addition  
278 to Argo floats and equip more Argo floats with auxiliary surface temperature and  
279 salinity (STS) sensors. Additionally, we recommend repeated glider sections  
280 across regions of interest and a suite of autonomous vehicles as in SPURS (see  
281 Fig. 1 in Lindstorm et al. 2017), particularly over the Bay of Bengal. Vehicles such  
282 as SVP and SVP-2 drifters, and sea/wave gliders would enhance the reliability of  
283 the observations and provide the pathways for improving model parameterization  
284 schemes. Such a multi-platform is highly desirable.
- 285 (2) Over the thermocline ridge, place auxiliary STS sensors on Argo floats and extend  
286 RAMA bouys to few more locations (along 65°E and 75°E extending from 12°S-  
287 Eq) yielding a rectangular mesh of bouys with the existing ones. We also  
288 recommend deployment of downward ADCP to measure velocity in the upper 40m  
289 with a vertical resolution of 0.75m to study surface Ekman flow and stratification.
- 290 (3) Over the EIO, ADCP networks need to be deployed over the eastern (at 100°E and  
291 110°E) and western (at 45°E, 50°E, 55°E, 60°E and 65°E), respectively. Over the  
292 central-eastern EIO, high vertical resolution (~10 cm) observations of upper-ocean  
293 salinity and thermal stratifications are needed and suggestions made for the Bay  
294 of Bengal region can be considered here.
- 295 (4) To measure upper-ocean salinity and thermal distributions over the mini warm pool  
296 (68°–77°E, 6°– 15°N), moored buoys at 10 – 20 m intervals in the vertical and at  
297 a spatial interval of 5° in longitude and latitude (total of 12 buoys, preferably a  
298 rectangular mesh) with additional deployment of Argo floats with auxiliary STS  
299 sensors (at 10 cm intervals at the upper-ocean) are recommended in conjunction  
300 with ADCPs.

## 2. Oxygen variability and change, oxygen minimum zones

J. Wiggert and L. Resplandy

### 1 2.1.1 Deoxygenation in the Indian Ocean

2 Under the influence of anthropogenically driven climate change, the world's oceans are  
3 experiencing a clear trend in deoxygenation that has profound implications and impacts  
4 on ecological function that are now being revealed. Oceanic deoxygenation has been  
5 slower to gain recognition in the scientific community, relative to other high profile impacts  
6 such as warming, sea level rise and ocean acidification (Gruber, 2011). The onset and  
7 acceleration of oceanic deoxygenation is driven by global warming through both lower  
8 oxygen solubility as temperatures increase and reduced ventilation, via air-sea exchange  
9 of low O<sub>2</sub> waters within the thermocline, as stratification increases. Reduced dissolved  
10 oxygen (DO) levels within thermocline waters then result from the oxygen demand  
11 associated with heterotrophic remineralization of sinking organic matter no longer being  
12 met by the solubility and ventilation-mediated supply of oxygen. In short, increased flux of  
13 export production (higher oxygen demand) and / or reduced ventilation due to stronger  
14 stratification (lower oxygen supply) will promote oceanic deoxygenation. In coastal waters,  
15 eutrophication due to increases in N-loading associated with use of agricultural fertilizers  
16 is a prime example of amplified oxygen demand that has led to coastal hypoxia in regions  
17 subject to extensive terrigenous runoff or riverine input (Rabalais et al., 2010).

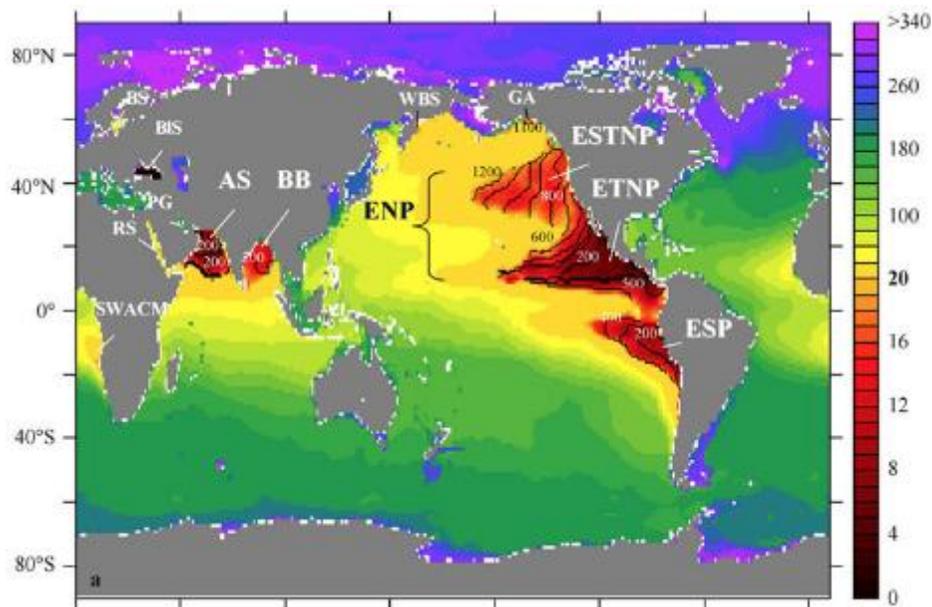


Fig. 1. O<sub>2</sub> distribution (IM) at depth where O<sub>2</sub> concentration is minimal, indicating the extent of the OMZs (in red) according to the WOA2005 climatology. The color bar scale corresponds to a  $1 \pm 2$  IM interval between 0 and 20 IM, and a  $20 \pm 2$  IM interval between 20 and 340 IM. The isolines indicate the limit of the upper OMZ CORE depth in meters with a 100-m contour interval. For OMZ acronyms, see the list at the end of the main text.

Paulmier, A., and D. Ruiz-Pino (2009), Oxygen minimum zones (OMZs) in the modern ocean, *Prog. Ocean.*, 80(3-4), 113-128, doi:10.1016/j.pocean.2008.08.001.

18 Two of the most severe oxygen minimum zones (OMZs) occur in the northern Indian  
19 Ocean, namely the Arabian Sea and Bay of Bengal (Fig. 1, Paulmier and Ruiz-Pino, 2009).  
20 The Arabian Sea OMZ contributes 20% of the global mesopelagic denitrification budget

21 and has been identified as a hotspot of oceanic efflux of N<sub>2</sub>O, which is a greenhouse gas  
22 that factors into atmospheric ozone cycling (Bange et al., 2001; Codispoti et al., 2001;  
23 Bange et al., 2005; Naqvi et al., 2010). The intensity of the Bay of Bengal OMZ does not  
24 extend to hypoxic or anoxic conditions, hence its biogeochemical impact is less significant  
25 (Bange, 2009).

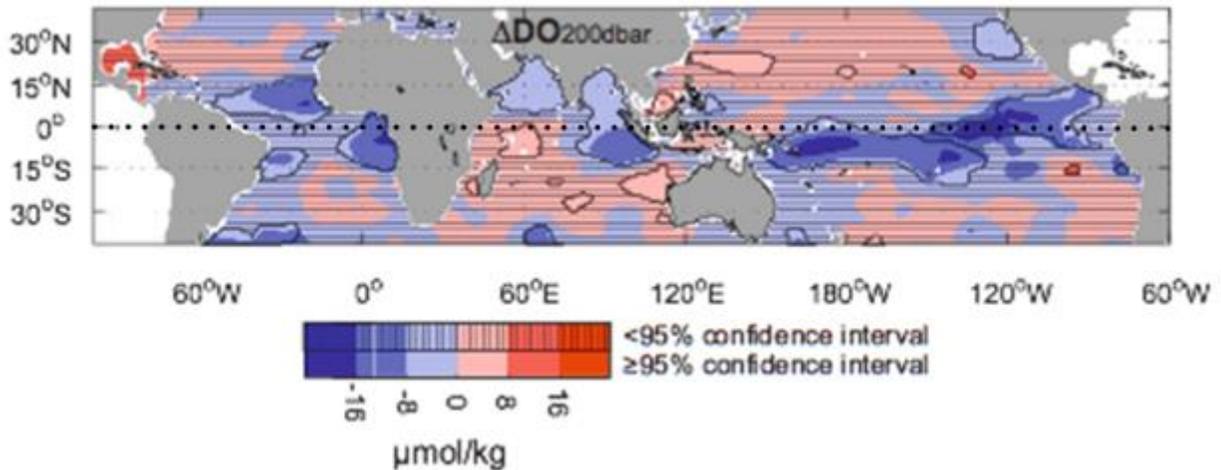


Fig. 2. Changes in dissolved oxygen ( $\Delta\text{DO}$ ) ( $\text{mmol kg}^{-1}$ ) at 200 dbar between 40°S and 40°N between 1960–1974 and 1990–2008. Increases (decreases) in DO are indicated in red (blue), and areas with differences below the 95% confidence interval are shaded by black horizontal lines. The black dotted line demarks the equator.

Stramma, L., S. Schmidtko, L. A. Levin, and G. C. Johnson (2010), Ocean oxygen minima expansions and their biological impacts, *Deep-Sea Res. I*, 57(4), 10.1016/j.dsr.2010.01.005, 587-595.

26 Decadal trends in ocean deoxygenation at 200 dbar, based on analysis of 50-years of DO  
27 concentration measurements, reveal systematic deoxygenation in both sub-regions of the  
28 northern Indian Ocean (Fig. 2, Stramma et al., 2010). In the Arabian Sea, where  
29 thermocline hypoxia is well-established, this deoxygenation trend is consistent with the  
30 reported 63% expansion of the Arabian Sea OMZ since the 1990s (Rixen et al., 2014;  
31 Morrison et al., 1999). In the Bay of Bengal, which has low but typically non-hypoxic  
32 thermocline waters, deoxygenation may trigger a transition to permanent, wide-spread  
33 hypoxia.

34 State of the art Earth system models (ESMs) project consistent de-oxygenation trends at  
35 the global scale but large uncertainties remain for OMZ regions, including those in the  
36 Indian Ocean (Bopp et al., 2013). These uncertainties in future oxygenation changes arise  
37 from a compensation between a robust decrease in oxygen saturation due to warming  
38 and a robust increase in ventilation and oxygen supply of the corresponding water masses  
39 (Bopp et al., 2017). The analysis of OMZs in ESMs is however still difficult, because of  
40 large discrepancies between models and observations. Future developments in ESMs,  
41 including higher spatial resolution, will provide better insights into the future evolution of  
42 OMZs.

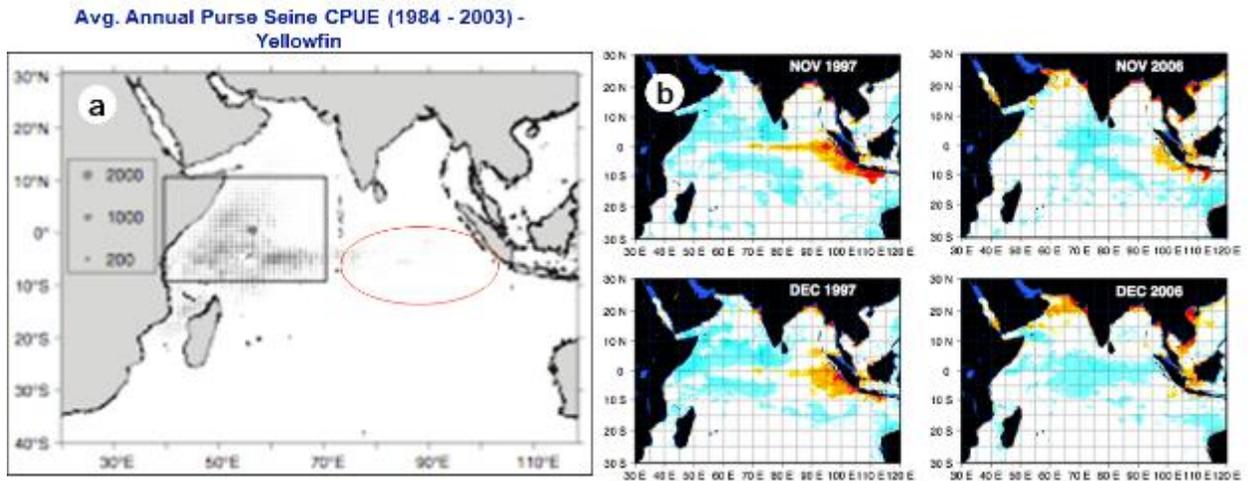


Fig. 3. a) Average annual purse seine catch per unit effort (CPUE) for Yellowfin tuna. During the 97/98 IOD, significant shift of CPUE to eastern Indian Ocean observed. b) Net primary production anomaly (NPPa,  $\text{mgC m}^{-2} \text{d}^{-1}$ ) during Nov-Dec period for the IOD manifestations of 1997 and 2006.

Menard, F., F. Marsac, E. Bellier, and B. Cazelles (2007), Climatic oscillations and tuna catch rates in the Indian Ocean: a wavelet approach to time series analysis, *Fish. Oceanogr.*, 16(1), 95-104.

Wiggert, J. D., J. Vialard, and M. Behrenfeld (2009), Basinwide modification of dynamical and biogeochemical processes by the positive phase of the Indian Ocean Dipole during the SeaWiFS era, in *Indian Ocean Biogeochemical Processes and Ecological Variability*, edited by J. D. Wiggert, et al., p. 350, American Geophysical Union, Washington, D. C.

43 In the southern tropical Indian Ocean (STIO) there is an increase of thermocline DO in the  
 44 west and a decrease in the east (Fig. 2, Stramma et al., 2010), suggesting a linkage to  
 45 the Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD, Saji et al., 1999), and thus a potential multi-decadal  
 46 influence exerted by the IOD on biogeochemical processes. The IOD's influence on cross-  
 47 basin thermocline dynamics is well-established (Webster et al., 1999), and biophysical  
 48 responses have been identified across all marine trophic levels (Menard et al., 2007;  
 49 Wiggert et al., 2009). The spatial coherence between long-term DO trends and the IOD  
 50 signature suggests these readily observed surface biological responses link to underlying  
 51 biogeochemical variability that is poorly characterized. This inference is supported by a  
 52 basin scale biophysical model that demonstrates a strong positive correlation between  
 53 elevated areal chlorophyll and IOD occurrence in the eastern STIO during boreal summer  
 54 and fall, and a strong negative correlation in the western STIO during boreal fall and winter  
 55 (Fig. 4, Currie et al., 2013). Thus in addition to reinforcing the conclusion that IOD impact  
 56 on biological processes extends over the euphotic zone, these model results indicate that  
 57 there is a seasonal lag in impact with the eastern STIO response leading the western  
 58 STIO response.

## Areal Chlorophyll (IChl)

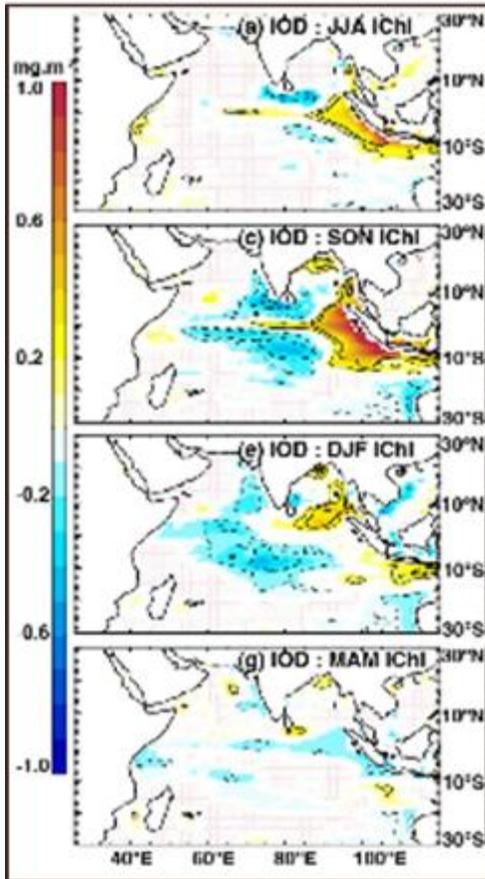


Fig. 4. The impacts of IOD on areal chlorophyll (IChl), determined using regression coefficients of IChl anomalies regressed onto the IOD index with ENSO influence removed. Regressions were computed for the 1961–2001 temporal domain.

Currie, J. C., M. Lengaigne, J. Vialard, D. M. Kaplan, O. Aumont, S. W. A. Naqvi, and O. Maury (2013), Indian Ocean Dipole and El Niño/Southern Oscillation impacts on regional chlorophyll anomalies in the Indian Ocean, *Biogeosci.*, 10(10), 10.5194/bg-10-6677-2013, 6677-6698.

### 59 2.1.2 Ecological and societal impacts of oceanic deoxygenation

60 A prime distinction between the northern Indian Ocean OMZs in the Arabian Sea and Bay  
61 of Bengal, is that only the former has an extensive region of sub-hypoxia, such that there  
62 are profound biogeochemical affects of deoxygenation. The reasons for this distinction are  
63 not fully understood, but (Resplandy et al., 2012; McCreary et al., 2013) include strong  
64 contrasts in buoyancy fluxes (evaporative salinization vs. pronounced hydrologic inputs)  
65 that control contrasting stratification characteristics, the nature and extent of coastal  
66 upwelling, the impacts of seasonally reversing boundary currents (Hood et al., 2017), the  
67 degree to which mesoscale eddy activity contributes to ventilation and to lateral advection  
68 of organic matter (Resplandy et al., 2011; Lachkar et al., 2016), and terrestrial inputs of  
69 organic and inorganic nutrients and particulates (both atmospheric and river borne) that  
70 encompass desertification and increased usage of fertilizer in agricultural activities  
71 (Mahowald et al., 2006; Seitzinger et al., 2010).

72 The need to understand the physical and biogeochemical controls that regulate OMZ  
73 severity within the Arabian Sea and Bay of Bengal is critical to our capacity to project the  
74 consequences of anthropogenically-forced climate change. Should the OMZ in the Bay of  
75 Bengal transition to widespread hypoxia, as prevails in the Arabian Sea, then profound  
76 shifts in nitrogen cycling would be incurred, with globally significant contributions to rates

77 of oceanic denitrification and N<sub>2</sub>O efflux. Deoxygenation impacts all levels of the marine  
78 ecosystem, particularly in combination with global warming. As temperatures in the marine  
79 environment increase, the metabolic rates of organisms tend to rise exponentially (e.g.,  
80 Eppley, 1972), leading to higher production and growth rates that necessitate higher  
81 metabolic rates that, in turn, rely on oxygen availability to satisfy increased respiratory  
82 demands (Doney et al., 2012). Faced with sub-optimal dissolved oxygen availability,  
83 marine organisms will initiate conservation responses (e.g., reduced activity and/or cellular  
84 function) or avoidance behaviors that may adversely impact growth, reproduction and  
85 survival in ways that vary greatly across species (Ekau et al., 2010). As the expected  
86 expansion of suboxic waters and associated shoaling of tropical OMZs unfolds, habitat  
87 compression of planktonic and pelagic species could necessitate enhanced foraging for  
88 large fishes (e.g., billfishes and tuna) and make them more vulnerable to exploitation by  
89 the fisheries industry (Fig. 5, Stramma et al., 2010). Deoxygenation can also lead to  
90 speciation shifts as trophic niches are impacted through the differential response of taxa  
91 to low oxygen conditions, an outcome already evidenced in the Arabian Sea with  
92 increases in specific copepods in the hypoxic water column (Wishner et al., 2008) and the  
93 appearance of *Noctiluca scintillans* during winter and spring (Gomes et al., 2014).

94 Coastal ocean regions, due to their proximity to human influences, including agricultural  
95 activity, sewage outfalls, regulation of riverine inflows, and atmospheric nitrogen  
96 deposition, are even more prone to deoxygenation. In the eastern Arabian Sea,  
97 eutrophication has led to a multi-decadal trend of coastal hypoxia along the west coast of  
98 India that has adversely affected coastal fisheries (Naqvi et al., 1998; Ram et al., 2014).  
99 The southward flowing boundary current (West Indian Coastal Current) during the SW  
100 Monsoon promotes upwelling of these hypoxic waters resulting in fish kill events (Figure  
101 5). The coastal waters of the Bay of Bengal are similarly prone to these mechanisms (Hood  
102 et al., 2017). Projections accounting for evolving agricultural practice and human  
103 population growth indicate that the northern Indian Ocean, and particularly the Bay of  
104 Bengal, is subject to the highest eutrophication potential globally (Seitzinger et al., 2010).  
105 Finally, countries adjacent to the Bay of Bengal and eastern Indian Ocean are recognized  
106 as most dependent on fisheries for supporting their populations (Barange et al., 2014),  
107 and the economies of the Indian Ocean rim nations in general are the most vulnerable to  
108 projected climate change impacts on fisheries production (Allison et al., 2009). Thus, the  
109 potential societal impact of oceanic deoxygenation on Indian Ocean rim nations is acute  
110 and far-reaching, given that the region is home to approximately 2 billion people (~ 30%  
111 of global population).

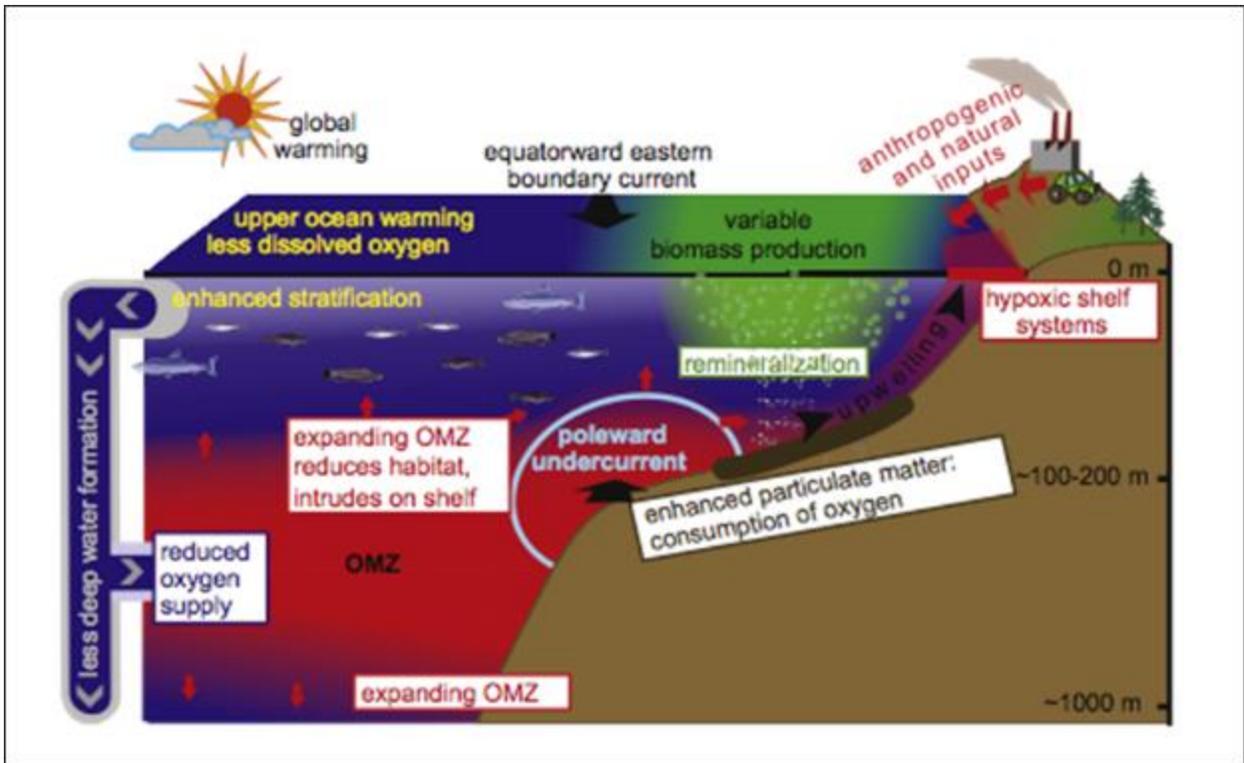


Fig. 5. Schematic of interactions of open ocean oxygen minimum zones (OMZ, red) with hypoxic shelf systems and dead zones on continental shelves of eastern ocean boundaries.

Stramma, L., S. Schmidtko, L. A. Levin, and G. C. Johnson (2010), Ocean oxygen minima expansions and their biological impacts, *Deep-Sea Res. I*, 57(4), 587-595, doi:10.1016/j.dsr.2010.01.005.

112 **2.2 EOVs necessary to identify state and evolution of dissolved oxygen**  
 113 **distribution in the IO**

114 The global database of DO measurements has clear shortcomings in spatial coverage.  
 115 Observations from the 1960s-1970s have higher density than today (fig 2). A more  
 116 comprehensive basinwide coverage of dissolved oxygen is needed to establish changes  
 117 from the earlier period. Additionally, as oceanic deoxygenation accelerates, the need for  
 118 well-resolved DO measurements will be critical for assessing the skill of climate model  
 119 projections.

120 Broad scale observations of DO is a key first component of assessing deoxygenation over  
 121 the basin and mapping the spatial domain and temporal variability of OMZ waters.  
 122 However, to ascertain the degree to which an OMZ is hypoxic, and therefore whether it is  
 123 contributing substantially to global N-cycling, a more comprehensive suite of observations  
 124 with greater precision is required, including NO<sub>3</sub>, NO<sub>2</sub>, NH<sub>4</sub>, PO<sub>4</sub>, and δ<sup>15</sup>NNO<sub>3</sub>, which  
 125 provide information about the extent and function of biogeochemical processing within a  
 126 fully reducing (i.e., hypoxic / anoxic) OMZ.

127 **2.3 Sampling recommendations for obtaining these EOVs within IndOOS**  
 128 **framework**

129 The expansion of the Argo program to include dissolved oxygen and nutrient sensors is a  
 130 core requirement for the future evolution of IndOOS with respect to assessment of

131 deoxygenation trends across the basin. Bio-Argo floats with the sensor packages that can  
132 perform this sampling have been developed by a number of laboratories around the world.  
133 Limited observations to date have already afforded new scientific insights (see chapter by  
134 Ravichandran et al., this report). In order to address the spatial coverage requirement for  
135 addressing basin scale assessment of deoxygenation and defining OMZ extent, called for  
136 above, a significant expansion on the number of deployed Bio-Argo float systems is  
137 needed.

138 To fully characterize the biogeochemical and ecological impacts of expanding OMZs, and  
139 hence their implications for the growing human populations of Indian Ocean rim countries,  
140 close sampling in coastal waters is needed. A fleet of gliders or AUVs outfitted to measure  
141 dissolved oxygen and core nutrients could resolve these processes.

142 Finally, leveraging currently planned ship-based sampling opportunities (GO-SHIP,  
143 GEOTRACES) to obtain the full suite of geochemical measurements, and to perform on-  
144 board rate experiments, would provide critical information for expanding our  
145 understanding of OMZ processes. This information would also serve to advance the skill  
146 of biogeochemical modeling efforts that are vital to synthesizing the available observations  
147 and extending those to project basinwide biogeochemical and ecological function.

### 3. Upwelling, coastal-open ocean interactions, and ecosystems

Yukio Masumoto, Weidong Yu, Raleigh Hood, and Mike McPhaden

1 Upwelling is a key process in three-dimensional ocean circulation, bringing cooler and nutrient rich  
2 water up into surface layer. The surface temperature modified by the upwelling affects weather and  
3 climate over the region as well as remote areas through teleconnection pathways. The nutrient  
4 supply from the subsurface layer can enhance primary productivity in the upwelling regions  
5 (McCreary et al., 2009), thereby influencing marine food web and fishery activities (Hood et al.,  
6 2017). At the same time, the upwelling brings low oxygen and low pH water up to the surface and  
7 onto the shelf, with potentially detrimental impacts on marine ecosystems. Even though the  
8 upwelling zones are geographically confined, they represent ascending branches of basin scale  
9 circulation patterns such as the subtropical cell and cross equatorial cell (e.g., Lee, 2004). Thus,  
10 the upwelling systems should also be considered in the basin scale context, in which they are  
11 embedded.

12 Understanding of upwelling systems is essential for understanding regional- and basin-scale  
13 energy transport and material circulations. The upwelling manifests itself as cooler sea surface  
14 temperature (SST), lower sea surface height (SSH), and higher chlorophyll concentration in readily  
15 available satellite remote sensing products. However, our present understanding of the  
16 characteristics and mechanisms of the upwelling systems, particularly in the subsurface layer, their  
17 roles in larger systems in the ocean and climate, and their response to the climate system internal  
18 variability and anthropogenic forcing are very limited due mainly to scarcity of *in situ* observations  
19 both in physical and biogeochemical parameters.

20 The Indian Ocean is characterized by seasonally evolving upwelling systems associated with  
21 monsoonal winds. However, details on seasonal development and decay of each upwelling system  
22 are not well understood and need to be investigated. The seasonal evolution of the upwelling  
23 systems is disturbed and modulated by phenomena with other time scales, from intraseasonal to  
24 decadal variations that appear in the Indian Ocean (Vialard et al., 2012; Hood et al., 2015; Yu et  
25 al., 2016). The timing, duration, intensity, and spatial structure of the upwelling are determined by  
26 the relative contribution from these different phenomena. In the context of global warming, the  
27 future fate of upwelling is a subject of debate. Several studies have argued that there will be future  
28 intensification of coastal upwelling in response to the amplified land-sea pressure gradient in the  
29 warming world (Bakun, 1990; deCastro et al., 2016; Praveen et al., 2016). However, the story in  
30 the monsoonal Indian Ocean could be far more complex than in this conceptual framework.

31 Fisheries associated with upwelling regions are a particularly important source of protein in  
32 developing Indian Ocean rim countries, and fisheries and fish products from these regions also  
33 provide direct employment to millions of people (FAO, 2004). For example, increases in production  
34 associated with upwelling in the Java Current are linked to increases in sardine (*Sardinella*  
35 *leumuru*) catch in Bali Strait (Ghofar, 2005). IOD-driven interannual variations in the strength of  
36 this current and the intensity of upwelling give rise to dramatic interannual variations in sardine  
37 catch, which impact food supply, and also supply relative to demand and therefore market prices  
38 and income of artisanal fishers in Indonesia (Sartimbul et al., 2010). Similar phenomena are  
39 observed in other Indian Ocean upwelling systems (Hood et al., 2017). It is therefore also crucial  
40 to understand, for societal benefit, how the seasonal, intraseasonal and decadal variability in the  
41 timing and intensity of Indian Ocean upwelling systems is modulated by physical processes, and  
42 how this modulation might be altered in the future due to climate change.

#### 43 3.1 Coastal upwelling systems

44 Fig 3.1 shows climatological horizontal distribution of surface Chlorophyll concentration in  
45 September, showing two major coastal upwelling systems off Sumatra/Java Islands and off  
46 Oman/Somali coasts. Although the two systems are located separately at the eastern and western  
47 boundary regions, respectively, they are both influenced by wind stress and its variability over the

48 regions and in remote areas. Fundamental forcing for the upwelling is local monsoonal winds along  
49 the coast in both regions. In addition, the Sumatra/Java upwelling region is affected by forcing  
50 further to the west in the equatorial waveguide (Iskandar et al., 2005; Chen et al., 2016), while the  
51 Oman/Somali upwelling system is influenced by wind stress curl in open oceans to the east,  
52 through westward propagating Rossby waves (Vic et al., 2017). These upwelling systems are also  
53 affected by interannual climate modes, such as the Indian Ocean Dipole (Saji et al., 1999), through  
54 associated changes in winds, causing anomalous primary productivity in the basin (Wiggert et al.,  
55 2009; Currie et al., 2013). Similarly, upwelling along the northwestern coast of Australia (Rossi et  
56 al., 2013) is affected by local monsoonal winds and signals from the Pacific Ocean, transmitted  
57 through coastal waveguides. There are other coastal upwelling systems with smaller spatial extent  
58 or less intense in magnitude, though the impact of these upwelling systems on socio-economic  
59 activities are as much as the above major ones, particularly off densely populated regions through  
60 fisheries and ecosystems. Another example is the upwelling along the southwestern coast of India  
61 (Gopalakrishna et al., 2008).

62 The strongest upwelling signal is concentrated within  $O(100\text{km})$  of the coasts, while the broader  
63 spatial extent of SST cooling and high chlorophyll concentration during the upwelling season  
64 reflects the horizontal advection of cold upwelled water masses offshore, modified by air-sea heat  
65 exchanges and internal variability in the ocean, such as meso-scale eddies. In turn, meso- and  
66 submeso-scale variability in the open ocean can modify the upwelling systems. Quantitative  
67 understanding of the coastal-open ocean relations need to be improved with temporally and  
68 spatially high density data.

## 69 **3.2 Open ocean upwelling systems**

70 Figure 3.1 also demonstrates open ocean upwelling systems associated with thermocline ridge,  
71 such as the Sri Lanka Dome (Vinayachandran and Yamagata, 1998) and the Seychelles Dome  
72 (Yokoi et al., 2008; Hermes and Reason, 2009), which are excited by local wind stress curl and  
73 remotely forced Rossby wave signals. Shallow thermocline in these regions makes the SST  
74 sensitive to variability in the thermocline depth, affecting cyclone activity in the southwestern basin  
75 (Xie et al., 2002), the Asian monsoons (Annamalai et al., 2005; Izumo et al., 2008; see Chapter 1),  
76 and fisheries (Menard et al., 2007) at seasonal and interannual time-scales. The Seychelles Dome  
77 is located in a region of MJO initiations, showing the strongest intraseasonal variability in the SST  
78 in the Indian Ocean (Vialard et al., 2009; also see Chapter 1.5). It is also affected by westward  
79 propagating Rossby waves triggered by Indian Ocean Dipoles (IODs) and remote influence of  
80 ENSO in the Pacific Ocean (Xie et al., 2002). This strong variability causes the tropical  
81 Southwestern Indian Ocean to be more productive than the nearby sterile subtropical ocean. RAMA  
82 buoys and Argo floats have brought much new knowledge about its basic temporal-spatial  
83 structures (Vialard et al., 2009; Foltz et al., 2010). However, the multiscale dynamics and their  
84 implications for the biological, biochemical processes and fisheries resources have yet to be fully  
85 explored in the tropical Southwestern Indian Ocean.

## 86 **3.3 Physical-biological-biogeochemical interactions**

87 Diverse physical mechanisms in upwelling regions in the Indian Ocean lead to large uncertainties  
88 in the sources and fluxes of major and minor nutrients, thereby limiting our understanding of nutrient  
89 delivery and its ecological and biogeochemical implications, such as nitrogen fixation, cryptic (i.e.  
90 subsurface) plankton blooms, and the oxygen minimum layer. Fundamental questions remain in  
91 the Indian Ocean regarding the impact of upwelling on nutrient stoichiometry (e.g., N, Si, and Fe),  
92 associated influence on nutrient limitation controls, and the subsequent species composition of  
93 upwelling-induced phytoplankton blooms (Wiggert et al., 2006; Resplandy et al., 2011).  
94 Enhancement and transport of plankton production and distribution and variability of the plankton  
95 community, which has important implications for higher trophic levels and efficacy of the basin's  
96 artisanal and commercial fisheries (Kaplan et al., 2014), are also affected by physical processes in  
97 the upwelling systems.

### 98 **3.4 Essential Ocean Variables for the upwelling systems**

99 Detailed mechanisms of variability of the upwelling systems in the Indian Ocean, from intraseasonal  
100 to decadal and much longer time-scales associated with the global warming, are not yet well  
101 understood. For further studies, we need to obtain detailed structures of physical, biological and  
102 biogeochemical parameters at several key locations in the Indian Ocean with temporal resolution  
103 high enough to resolve intraseasonal variability. This can be achieved by a combination of moorings  
104 and frequent hydrographic observations along fixed sections for temperature and salinity down to  
105 1000m. Argo floats add data covering wider areas and complement the moorings and hydrographic  
106 observations. Microstructure measurements are also needed to evaluate vertical mixing processes.  
107 Distributions of biogeochemical and ecological parameters, such as nutrients, chlorophyll, oxygen,  
108 pH, and CO<sub>2</sub>, along the transects across the upwelling regions would be required seasonally,  
109 hopefully as frequent as possible, with several locations measuring plankton community structures.  
110 Bio-Argo floats are a useful new platform for sustained observations of biogeochemical parameters  
111 as well as temperature and salinity profiles. Satellite data can cover SST, ocean color, surface  
112 winds, and SSH. Since the SSH data near the coast is affected by land, tide gauge station data is  
113 also needed.

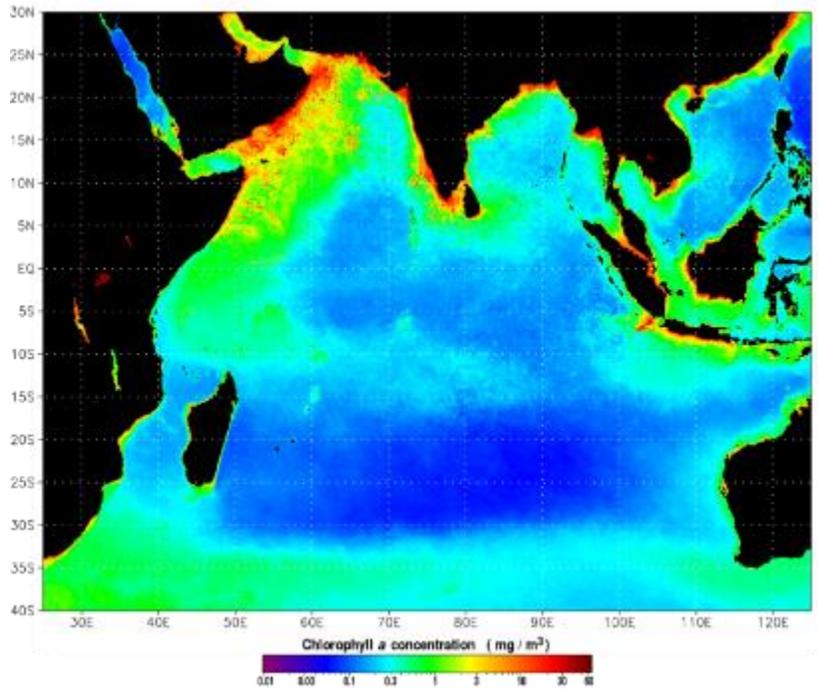
### 114 **3.5 Recommended actions**

115 The main focus of IndOOS is to obtain basin-scale data away from the boundary areas, and the  
116 open-ocean upwelling system in the southwestern Indian Ocean is captured by the observing  
117 systems. However, since most of the core regions of coastal upwelling are located within boundary  
118 regions, only the satellite data cover these regions and sustained in situ observations in the coastal  
119 upwelling hardly exist. Although the upwelling regions are geographically confined, as noted above,  
120 they should be considered as key elements in the basin scale circulations and their variability. The  
121 basin-scale sustained IndOOS observing system, therefore, is required to be maintained to provide  
122 data on background conditions and appropriate perspective of the linkages between the various  
123 components of the circulation system, including the upwelling systems. The fact that most of the  
124 boundary regions are located within EEZs of neighboring Indian Ocean rim countries may cause  
125 some difficulties in conducting research on coastal upwelling systems.

126 We therefore propose the following recommended actions, though they contain challenging issues,  
127 due to difficulties in political situations and logistical arrangement, for constructing observing  
128 systems in some regions in the Indian Ocean.

- 129 (1) Continue RAMA array along 8°S and in the equatorial region to obtain temperature and  
130 salinity data in the thermocline ridge region,
- 131 (2) Conduct microstructure measurements in the upwelling regions to evaluate vertical mixing  
132 processes,
- 133 (3) Extend the IndOOS observing network in the eastern tropical basin into the Sumatra/Java  
134 upwelling region, by enhancing deployment of Argo and Bio-Argo floats and/or glider  
135 sections across the region. An array of current and pressure-recording inverted echo  
136 sounders (CPIES) can monitor transports in the boundary currents associated with the  
137 coastal upwelling systems.
- 138 (4) Develop new observing platforms within the Somali/Oman upwelling region, hopefully new  
139 RAMA buoys, but Bio-Argo deployment, CPIES array, and/or glider sections can provide  
140 new physical and biogeochemical data within the upwelling region.

141 These observations should focus on upwelling on intraseasonal to interannual time scales and  
142 phenomena responsible for mixed-layer processes and their interactions. Relations between  
143 physical forcing and biogeochemical/ecological response and air-sea interactions are some  
144 examples of interdisciplinary research targets. In addition, focused process studies can be  
145 developed on the basis of the IndOOS sustained observing system.



*Figure 3.1: Climatological distribution of Aqua MODIS Chlorophyll concentration in September. The major upwelling regions are indicated by higher chlorophyll concentration with green/orange color shade, except for regions very close to the coasts.*

## 4. Extreme events

Lengaigne, M., M. Feng, S. Neetu, D. Barbary, H. Ramsay, J. Vialard, K. Walsh

### 1 4.1 Motivations

2 The Indian Ocean (IO) region comprises one third of the world population. high population density  
3 distributed along low-lying coastal areas and poor disaster management strategies largely explain  
4 the vulnerability of countries surrounding the IO to extreme events, such as Tropical Cyclones  
5 (TCs). While the Bay of Bengal only hosts 5-6% of global TCs count, it witnesses 80-90% of TC  
6 fatalities (Paul, 2009), with 18 of the 18 deadliest TCs occurring in this region during the historical  
7 period (Needham et al. 2015). The BoB is particularly vulnerable to coastal flooding because of  
8 low-lying heavily inhabited areas and continental shelf with shallow bathymetry, which amplifies the  
9 storm surge (Antony et al. 2014). The Nargis TC in May 2008 is a dramatic example: it reached  
10 Category 4 strength and caused the worst natural disaster in Myanmar history, with more than  
11 140,000 lives lost, one million homeless and over \$10 billion in economic losses (Webster et al.,  
12 2008). Exposure to TC-induced storm surges or erosion is expected to increase over the coming  
13 decades as a result of climate change, global sea-level rise and coastal population density increase  
14 (Karim and Mimura, 2008). Marine Heat Waves (MHWs) are also extreme events, with strong  
15 impacts on marine ecosystems. An unprecedented MHW off the west coast of Australia in early  
16 2011 caused massive fish and invertebrate kills and coral bleaching (Pearce and Feng, 2013;  
17 Wernberg et al., 2013), resulting in a regime shift of the ecosystem in that region (Wernberg et al.,  
18 2016). These MHWs have been observed more frequently in recent decades (Zinke et al., 2014;  
19 Feng et al., 2015), considerably amplifying the effect of the gradual ocean warming and may lead  
20 to severe impacts on future marine ecosystems (Zhang et al., 2017). To their improve predictability,  
21 it is essential to better observe these events and understand the mechanisms driving them.

### 22 4.2 Tropical Cyclones

23 TCs track prediction has improved dramatically over the last decades but intensity forecast  
24 improvements have comparatively stalled (DeMaria et al., 2014). Various environmental  
25 atmospheric conditions influence TC intensification, such as strong vertical wind shear and high  
26 mid-tropospheric humidity. TCs primarily draw their energy from evaporation at the ocean surface,  
27 and hence enthalpy flux at the air-sea interface plays an essential role in maintaining and  
28 intensifying TCs. Because of the strong control of SST on the enthalpy flux, TC intensity is also  
29 sensitive to Sea Surface Temperature (SST): kinetic energy dissipated by friction at the air-sea  
30 interface can result in SST cooling under the TC, largely through vertical mixing (e.g. Price, 1981;  
31 Vincent et al., 2012a) and limit TC intensification (e.g. Cione and Uhlhorn 2003). This cooling can  
32 be modulated by an order of magnitude by oceanic subsurface stratification (Vincent et al. 2012b),  
33 with larger cooling in regions with a shallow thermocline, and hence a larger negative feedback on  
34 TC intensification. This has motivated the inclusion of metrics for oceanic subsurface stratification  
35 in statistical forecasts of TC intensity (e.g. DeMaria et al. 2005)

36 The IO is home to ~25% of global TC activity (Knutson et al., 2015). In the northern IO, they mainly  
37 occur in the western and central part of the Bay of Bengal (BoB; *Figure 4.1*) and exhibit a bimodal  
38 seasonal distribution, with preferential occurrence during the pre- and post-monsoon seasons. In  
39 the southern IO, they occur over an elongated band centred on 15°S from November to April, with  
40 enhanced TC occurrence over the southwestern IO around the islands of Mauritius, La Reunion  
41 and Madagascar (*Figure 4.1*) TC characteristics in this basin are known to be influenced by climate  
42 variability, such as the Madden-Julian Oscillation at intraseasonal timescales (Bessafi and Wheeler  
43 2006) or El Niño at interannual timescales (Kuleshov et al. 2008). Climate change may also  
44 influence the long-term evolution of IO TC characteristics: the intensity of major TCs been  
45 suggested to increase during the post-monsoon period in the Bay of Bengal (Singh et al., 2007;  
46 Balaguru et al., 2014) and during the pre-monsoon period in the Arabian Sea (Evan et al., 2011).  
47 Recent future projections also indicate an increase in the number of the most intense TCs in the

48 IO (Knutson et al. 2015) but more contrasted results in terms of the TC frequency changes  
49 (Murakami et al, 2013). The specific regional characteristics of upper ocean thermohaline structure  
50 in the IO TC-prone regions may also result in a different sensitivity of TCs to ocean-atmosphere  
51 coupling compared to other basins. The BoB is indeed characterized by a strong haline stratification  
52 during the post-monsoon season in response to the summer monsoon freshwater influx, while the  
53 cyclogenesis region in the southwestern IO is one of the rare oceanic regions where warm SSTs  
54 coexist with a shallow thermocline ridge (Vialard et al. 2009). The role of subsurface oceanic  
55 conditions on TCs in the northwest Australian basin is unclear, but is likely to be less prominent  
56 there because of their smaller influence on SST variations (Vialard et al. 2012).

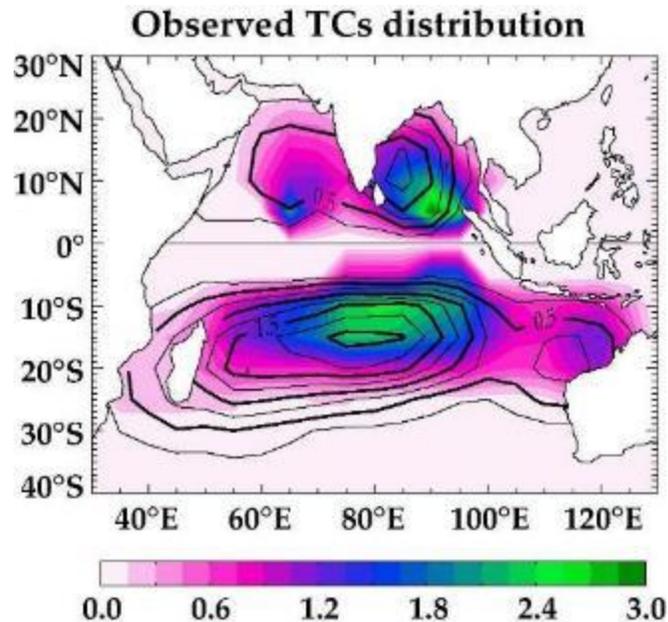


Figure 4.1: Observed climatological distribution of normalised cyclogenesis (colour) and TC density (contour) over the 1989-2009 period derived from the International Best Track Archive for Climate Stewardship (IBTrACS; Knapp et al. 2010).

57 In the BoB, moored buoy data indicated that a combination of a warm subsurface layer and strong  
58 salinity stratification played an essential role in the rapid intensification of Nargis TC (e.g. Lin et al.  
59 2009; Yu and McPhaden 2011). At seasonal timescales, thick barrier layers induced by stronger  
60 haline stratification and deeper thermocline during the post-monsoon in this region largely explains  
61 the much weaker TC-induced oceanic cooling as compared to the pre-monsoon period (Neetu et  
62 al. 2012), which foster TC intensification in that season (Balaguru et al., 2012). At interannual  
63 timescales, the probability of TCs occurrence in the BoB decreases during El Niño events (e.g.  
64 Felton et al., 2013) and positive Indian Ocean Dipole events (e.g. Yuan and Cao, 2013). Similarly,  
65 TC activity decreases dramatically during strong El Niño events in the southwestern IO (e.g. Astier  
66 et al. 2015). Both large-scale variations of atmospheric environment (Felton et al., 2013; Astier  
67 et al., 2015) and of oceanic stratification (Xie et al. 2002; Vincent et al. 2014; Burns et al. 2016)  
68 associated with these climate modes are key drivers of this interannual modulation. TCs in the  
69 southeastern IO have also been related to ENSO (Ramsay et al. 2012) and more recently to IOD-  
70 like SST variability (Ramsay et al. 2017), but with a weaker contribution from subsurface oceanic  
71 conditions. Over the long term, surface and subsurface warming trends has also been related to  
72 an increasing trend in TCs intensity (e.g. Elsner et al. 2008; Rajeevan et al., 2013; Malan and  
73 Reason, 2013; Balaguru et al. 2014). The IO region poses a particular challenge for quantifying

74 long-term TC intensity trends because of the large discontinuity in satellite viewing angle when  
 75 Meteosat-5 was introduced in 1998 (Kossin et al. 2013).

76 **4.3 Marine heat waves**

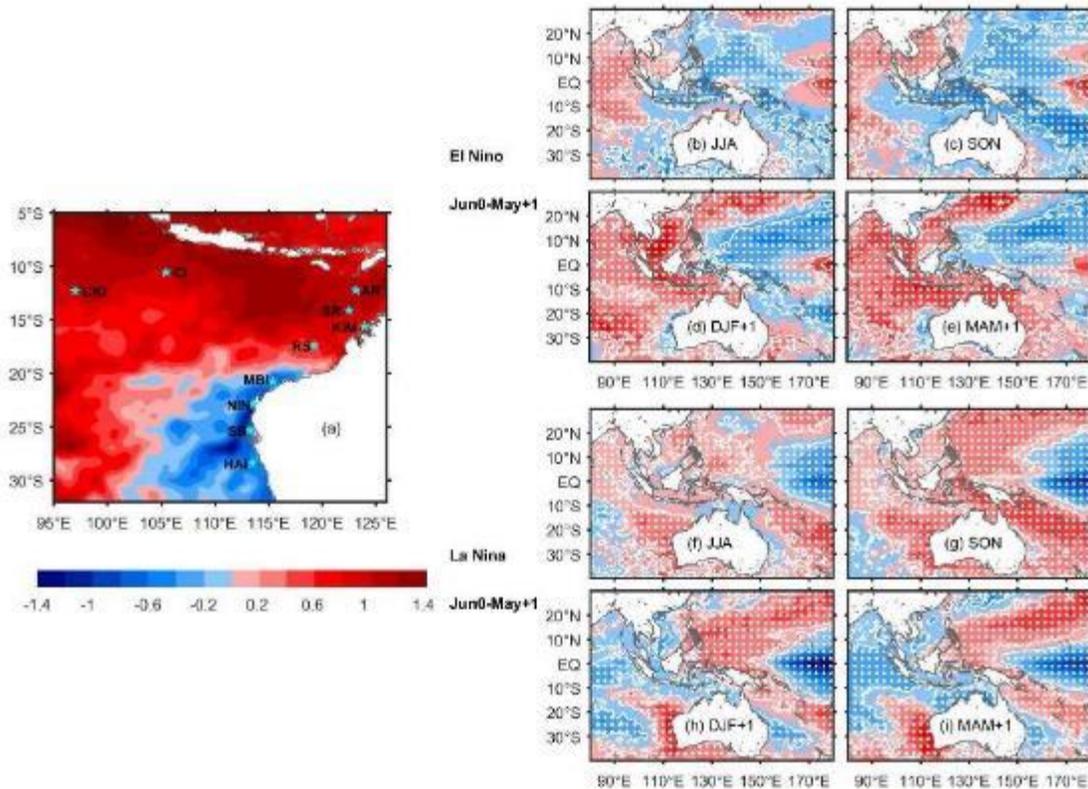


Figure 4.2: (a) Averaged SST anomalies in the southeastern IO during December 2015- April 2016. Stars denote locations of representative reefs. (b)-(e): composited SST anomalies for El Niño events during January 1982- April 2015 and (f)-(i): for La Niña events over the same time period. The white contours and dots indicate anomalies exceeding the 95% significance level based on a two-tailed Student's t test. From Zhang et al. (2017)

77 MHWs are episodic warm SST extremes that persist for days to months (Hobday et al., 2016).  
 78 these extreme events cause extensive coral bleaching (Moore et al., 2012) and alter the ecosystem  
 79 along the West Coast of Australia, including a reduction in the abundance of habitat-forming  
 80 seaweeds (Wernberg et al., 2013) and a subsequent shift in community structure towards a  
 81 depauperate state and a tropicalization of fish communities (Wernberg et al., 2016). MHWs are  
 82 also associated with extreme climate variability, such as ENSO and IOD. The 2011 MHW off the  
 83 west coast of Australia was instigated by an anomalously strong Leeuwin current during a strong  
 84 La Niña event in the Pacific (Feng et al., 2013). The negative phase of the Interdecadal Pacific  
 85 Oscillation since the late 1990s has caused more frequent similar MHWs off the coast (Feng et al.,  
 86 2015). Farther north, tropical oceans off the northwest coast of Australia are more susceptible to  
 87 El Niño influences and more frequent MHWs have occurred during or after the peak of strong El  
 88 Niño events (Zhang et al., 2017; Figure 4.2), such as the 1997-98 and 2015-16 events which were  
 89 due to reduced cloud coverage and a weakened Australian monsoon. Local air-sea-land coupling  
 90 and the Madden-Julian Oscillation also facilitate the genesis of MHWs in this region (Kataoka et

91 al., 2014; Marshall et al., 2015; Zhang et al., 2017). These MHWs have also been observed more  
92 frequently in recent decades as a combined result of natural decadal variability and global warming  
93 (Zinke et al., 2014; Feng et al., 2015; Zhang et al., 2017).

94 MHWs also tend to occur in the tropical western IO due to ENSO teleconnection and IOD influences  
95 (Du et al., 2009), and in the tropical eastern IO and Maritime Continent during the negative IOD  
96 events. However, MHWs in these regions have not been well characterised. MHWs in the Agulhas  
97 Current system may be associated with the variability of the boundary currents.

#### 98 4.4 EOVs for extreme events in the IO

99 The overall picture of IO extreme events drawn in sections 4.2 and 4.3 stresses the importance of  
100 **sustained observations over several key regions to monitor (1) subsurface stratification and**  
101 **air-sea coupling under TCs and (2) MHWs.** TC intensification is influenced by both SST and  
102 upper ocean stratification while MHWs are predominantly driven by air-sea flux anomalies and  
103 ocean boundary current variability. A better understanding and prediction of these extreme events  
104 hence requires accurate observations of:

- 105 1. Heat and momentum fluxes, sea level pressure, sea-level and waves, both in regions of  
106 cyclogenesis and along cyclone tracks with at least at hourly resolution.
- 107 2. Sea Surface Temperature in the BoB and southern IO, i.e. the TC prone regions with at  
108 least at hourly resolution: in situ measurements are of primary importance, since the  
109 cooling under the eye is not well observed, even by microwave radiometers, due to strong  
110 precipitation.
- 111 3. Upper ocean (0-200m) thermohaline background stratification in IO TC-prone regions, at  
112 least at weekly resolution
- 113 4. Upper ocean thermohaline and currents profiles at ~3hr resolution to monitor the oceanic  
114 response of TC in two contrasted TC-prone regions in the IO: the BoB characterized by a  
115 sharp salinity stratification and the southwestern IO characterized by a shallow thermocline  
116 lying below warm surface waters.
- 117 5. Boundary current systems in the IO, since they play a strong role for MHWs
- 118 6. Mixed layer processes and air-sea fluxes in the MHW hotspots, such as the southeast IO  
119 and tropical IO.

#### 120 4.5 Actionable recommendations

- 121 a. Maintain satellite observations and intercalibration-work that allow the development of  
122 basin-scale wind and SST records that can be trusted in rainy/cloudy regions. This includes  
123 the use of MEGHA-TROPIQUES satellite allowing repeated scanning over the tropical  
124 regions of sea surface winds, clouds, humidity, temperature, rainfall and radiation.  
125 (addresses points 1 and 2 in section 4.4).
- 126 b. Maintain satellite altimetry and coastal tide-gauge measurements to allow monitoring storm  
127 surges especially over the Bay of Bengal. Encourage the development of high repetitive  
128 constellation of altimeter satellites in order to enhance the chances of capturing of surge  
129 signals. In complement to Jason-2 mission, the recent SARAL altimetry mission should  
130 improve coastal altimetry monitoring. The new proposed SWOT mission will also  
131 complement the standard nadir altimeter data with fine spatial coverage and high resolution  
132 (point 1)
- 133 c. Encourage the systematic deployment of drifting buoys with barometers in TC-prone  
134 regions. Experiment with drifting buoys including more surface measurements:  
135 atmospheric pressure, wind speed and direction, air and sea temperature, salinity, humidity

- 136 and waves to monitor TC surface signature and improve initialisation of TC dynamical  
137 predictions (points 1 and 2)
- 138 d. Maintain the Argo network in the IO (point 3); encourage the deployment of Iridium profilers  
139 in TC regions, which can be reprogrammed to provide higher temporal-resolution upper  
140 ocean observations near cyclones.
- 141 e. Maintain the RAMA meridional sections at 55°E and 90°E and all moorings in the  
142 southwestern IO (between 55°E and 80°E south of 5°S) as this data is critical to monitor  
143 the thermohaline stratification in the IO TC-prone regions (point 4)
- 144 f. Establish a RAMA flux mooring site in the Northwestern Australian basin (~15°S; 120°E)  
145 to be able to capture the MJO and TC evolution and dynamics in the region (points 4, 5  
146 and 6)
- 147 g. Establish or maintain ocean boundary current observing systems (in particular the Leeuwin  
148 and Agulhas currents) in the IO (point 5)

## 5. Intra-seasonal air-sea coupling: Madden-Julian Oscillation and Monsoon Intra-seasonal Oscillation

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### 1 5.1 Introduction

2 This chapter discusses oceanic and atmospheric variability associated with the Madden-Julian  
3 Oscillation (MJO; Madden and Julian 1972) and the monsoon intra-seasonal oscillation (MISO;  
4 Yasunari 1980 Krishnamurti and Subrahmanyam 1982). In particular, the role of ocean and air-sea  
5 interaction in the MJO and MISO initiation and propagation over the Indian Ocean region is  
6 emphasized.

7 The MJO is a major source of intra-seasonal variability in the tropics, and is associated with large-  
8 scale atmospheric circulation and deep convection. It is characterized by the eastward propagation  
9 around the globe on an approximate timescale of 30-60 days. The MJO impacts the onsets and  
10 breaks of Indian and Australian monsoons (e.g., Yasunari 1979, Hendon and Liebmann 1990), the  
11 tropical cyclone activity (e.g., Liebmann et al. 1994, Maloney and Hartman 2000), climate variability  
12 in the extra-tropics through teleconnection (e.g., Weickmann et al. 1985), and interannual variability  
13 such as ENSO (e.g., Kessler and Kleeman 2000, McPhaden 1999) and the Indian Ocean dipole  
14 (e.g., Han et al. 2006, Shinoda and Han 2005).

15 The MISO is a dominant mode of intra-seasonal variability in the tropical troposphere during boreal  
16 summer over the Asian Monsoon region. It is characterized by 30–60 day variations of convection  
17 and low-level winds, propagating northward from the equator to South Asian and Southeast Asian  
18 region. The MISO largely influences intra-seasonal fluctuation of rainfall associated with the Indian  
19 summer monsoon and plays an important role in triggering the monsoon onset (e.g., Goswami and  
20 Ajaya Mohan, 2001; Webster et al., 2002, Lau and Yang, 1996; Annamalai and Slingo, 2001; Hoyos  
21 and Webster, 2007).

22 Given the strong impact of tropical intra-seasonal variability on monsoons described above, the  
23 importance of the MJO and MISO for agricultural planning and socioeconomic activities in many  
24 Indian Ocean rim countries is becoming increasingly recognized. For example, the Indian summer  
25 monsoon provides the primary water source of agriculture for South and Southeast Asian countries  
26 where millions of people live. The accurate prediction of monsoon rainfall variability caused by the  
27 MJO and MISO would thus help to make adequate agricultural decisions such as scheduling of  
28 planting and harvesting operations. Also, since intra-seasonal rainfall variability in this region often  
29 causes severe floods and droughts, better forecast of the MISO and MJO has a considerable and  
30 growing impact on many people's lives in densely populated areas.

31 It should be noted that there are many important scientific issues on this subject which cannot be  
32 covered in this chapter, and a recent extensive review (DeMott et al. 2015) covers many other  
33 aspects on tropical intra-seasonal air-sea interaction with a comprehensive reference list.

### 34 5.2 Air-sea coupled processes in the MJO and MISO

#### 35 a. Madden-Julian Oscillation (MJO)

36 The MJO provides significant fluxes of momentum and heat into the tropical western Pacific and  
37 Indian Oceans (e.g., Shinoda et al. 1998), driving large upper ocean responses, including strong  
38 equatorial currents, fluctuation of mixed layer temperature, and changes of thermocline depth (e.g.,  
39 Krishnamurti et al. 1988, Kessler et al. 1995, Shinoda and Hendon 1998, McPhaden 2002, Waliser  
40 et al. 2003, Moum et al. 2013). The importance of air-sea interaction for MJO development and  
41 propagation has been widely debated since the international field campaign in early 1990's  
42 (Webster and Lukas 1992) during which significant SST variations associated with the MJO were  
43 observed (e.g., Weller and Anderson 1996). A comparison of many coupled and uncoupled

44 numerical model experiments suggests that including air-sea feedbacks improves simulations of  
45 MJO's amplitude, period, and propagation (e.g., Kemball-Cook et al. 2002, Sperber 2004, Zhang  
46 et al. 2006, Woolnough et al. 2007, Kim et al. 2008).

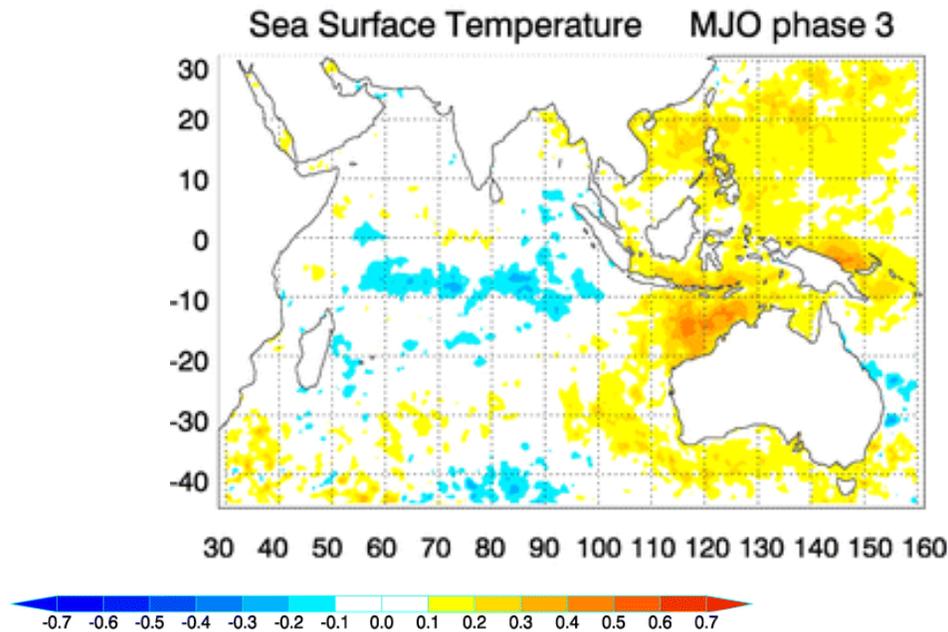


Figure 5.1 Composite SST anomalies ( $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) for phases 3 of the MJO (based on Wheeler and Hendon 2004) over the November–April season calculated from POAMA (Predictive Ocean Atmosphere Model for Australia) Ensemble Ocean Data Assimilation System. Adapted from Marshall and Hendon (2014).

#### 47 **Processes controlling intra-seasonal SST**

48 While surface shortwave radiation and latent heat flux primarily control the intra-seasonal variation  
49 of SST in many locations of the Indian Ocean and western Pacific warm pool (e.g., Shinoda and  
50 Hendon 1998), the contribution of ocean dynamical processes to SST can be significant in some  
51 areas, especially over the Indian Ocean. One such location is the Seychelles-Chagos thermocline  
52 ridge (SCTR; 2S-10S, 60E-80E; McCreary et al. 1993, Xie et al. 2002, Hermes and Reason 2008)  
53 region where the main thermocline is very shallow. Intra-seasonal SST variability is much larger in  
54 the SCTR region than most other areas in the tropical Indian and western Pacific Oceans.

55 The relative importance of surface heat fluxes and ocean dynamics in controlling intra-seasonal  
56 SST in the SCTR region is still unclear (e.g., Duvel et al. 2004, Han et al 2007, Vinayachandran  
57 and Saji 2008, Jayakumar et al. 2011, Drushka et al. 2012, DeMott et al. 2015). Recent studies  
58 (e.g., Halkides et al. 2015, Li et al. 2014) demonstrate the large spatial and temporal variability of  
59 processes controlling SST, suggesting that discrepancies in previous studies are probably due to  
60 regional differences, interannual variability, and event-to-event variability. Also, significant  
61 uncertainties in the mixed layer heat budget still exist due partly to the uncertainty of surface heat  
62 fluxes and the difficulty of quantifying vertical mixing processes including entrainment and vertical  
63 advection.

64 Another area of large SST variability associated with the MJO is the Timor Sea off the northwest  
65 coast of Australia (e.g., Duvel and Vialard 2007, Vialard et al. 2008, Vialard et al. 2013, Marshall  
66 and Hendon 2014) where SST anomalies induced by the MJO exceed  $0.5^{\circ}\text{C}$  (Figure 5.1). It  
67 appears that SST warming (cooling) in this region is driven by surface heat fluxes and coastal  
68 downwelling (upwelling) generated by easterly (westerly) wind anomalies during the suppressed  
69 (active) phase of the MJO (Marshall and Hendon 2014).

70 However, further quantitative discussion requires better spatial and temporal coverage of the data  
71 in this region including in-situ observations.

## 72 ***Impact of diurnal cycle***

73 SST warming during the suppressed phase of the MJO is largely enhanced due to a diurnal cycle  
74 of shortwave radiation (e.g., Shinoda and Hendon 1998, Shinoda 2005, Li et al. 2013). This effect  
75 could play an important role in the initiation of the MJO, since warm SSTs can enhance moisture  
76 accumulation in the troposphere which stimulates the initiation of atmospheric convection. Regional  
77 coupled model simulations demonstrated the importance of the diurnal cycle for the initiation of  
78 MJO convection for the event observed during the international field campaign of 2011/2012 (Seo  
79 et al. 2015). Further experiments as well as observations for many different cases are still  
80 necessary to confirm the role of diurnal warming.

## 81 ***MJO propagation through Maritime Continent***

82 The MJO propagating eastward from the Indian Ocean often weakens over the Maritime Continent  
83 (MC) region, known as the “MJO propagation barrier”. The failure of the propagation through MC  
84 occurs more often in numerical model simulations (e.g., Inness and Slingo 2006), known as the  
85 “MC prediction barrier”. Several mechanisms for the MJO propagation barrier have been  
86 suggested, including a reduced surface moisture source due to the land coverage (Sobel et al.  
87 2008), disruption of low-level winds by the island topography (Inness and Slingo 2006), and the  
88 pronounced diurnal cycle in precipitation over islands (Neale and Slingo 2003). The resolution of  
89 most numerical prediction models may not be sufficient to resolve these processes and thus could  
90 cause the MC prediction barrier. Also, many oceanic processes relevant to air-sea interaction in  
91 this region are still not well understood. For example, salinity stratification caused by a strong  
92 diurnal cycle of precipitation may potentially influence SST and heat fluxes in this region.  
93 Accordingly, understanding physical processes in the MC region may help improve the MJO  
94 prediction.

## 95 ***MJO diversity***

96 During the intensive observation period of a recent international field campaign in October-  
97 December 2011 (Yoneyama et al. 2013), three active episodes of large-scale convection  
98 associated with the MJO propagated eastward across the tropical Indian Ocean. While the strength  
99 of atmospheric convection was similar for the three MJO events, a very strong ocean response to  
100 the atmospheric forcing was observed for the second event (e.g., Moum et al 2013) whereas the  
101 ocean response for the first event was much weaker. This suggests that the role of air-sea coupling  
102 in the MJO varies substantially from event to event (MJO diversity; e.g., Fu et al. 2015). Accordingly,  
103 it is crucial to maintain and enhance long-term measurements that cover many MJO events to  
104 advance our understanding of air-sea coupled processes associated with the MJO.

## 105 **b. Northward propagating monsoon intra-seasonal oscillation (MISO)**

106 Importance of air-sea coupling for MISO development and propagation has been suggested in  
107 many recent studies (e.g., Webster et al., 1998; Vecchi and Harrison, 2002; Rajendran and Kitoh,  
108 2006; Roxy and Tanimoto, 2007; Achuthavarier and Krishnamurthy, 2011). In particular, coupled  
109 and uncoupled numerical model experiments of the MISO demonstrate that the inclusion of air-sea  
110 interaction leads to more realistic simulation and better prediction skills of the MISO (e.g., Kembal-  
111 Cook and Wang, Fu et al., 2003, Seo et al., 2007; Bellon et al. 2008, Wang et al., 2009). However,  
112 it is still unclear to what extent oceanic processes influence the MISO dynamics.

113 As the MISO propagates from the equator to Southeast Asia, it is thought to be influenced by  
114 underlying SSTs in the Bay of Bengal. Processes that control intra-seasonal SST variability in the  
115 Bay of Bengal have been investigated by many observational and modelling studies (e.g.,  
116 Sengupta et al., 2001; Waliser et al., 2004, Duvel and Vialard, 2007, Vialard et al., 2012). While  
117 these studies indicate that shortwave radiation, latent heat flux, and ocean dynamics are all  
118 important, the relative contribution of these processes varies among the studies. The discrepancies  
119 in previous studies could partly be due to the different time period of the analysis as well as the

120 analysis methods and the data source. For example, there are significant year-to-year variations of  
121 the MISO associated with interannual or longer term climate variability such as Indian Ocean Dipole  
122 (e.g., Ajayamohan et al. 2008, Sabeerali et al. 2014, Karmakar et al 2015, Jongaramrungruang et  
123 al. 2017), and such variations could influence the characteristics of MISO and thus the associated  
124 ocean variability.

125 The Bay of Bengal receives a substantial amount of freshwater through precipitation and river  
126 runoff, creating complex upper ocean structure and dynamics including a strong halocline,  
127 temperature inversion, large diurnal variability, and frontal instabilities. In particular, strong salinity  
128 stratification causes shallow mixed layer and thick barrier (isothermal layer below the mixed layer),  
129 which tends to prohibit vertical mixing and reduces the entrainment heat flux, and in turn could  
130 influence intra-seasonal SST (Vinayachandran et al., 2002; Rao and Sivakumar, 2003; Sengupta  
131 et al., 2016). Recent studies suggest that SST variability caused by strong salinity stratification  
132 significantly influences atmospheric convection over the Bay of Bengal associated with the MISO  
133 (Li et al. 2017a, 2017b).

134 Despite recent advances in understanding the ocean's role in the MISO, it is still difficult for models  
135 to accurately simulate upper ocean structure and variability in the Bay of Bengal. For example,  
136 realistic simulations are severely hampered by uncertainties in estimates of river discharge which  
137 directly influences salinity variability in the northern Bay of Bengal. Long-term measurements in the  
138 northern bay, such as a surface mooring at 18°N, 90°E (Weller et al., 2016), would be very useful  
139 for understanding the overall impacts of salinity stratification on the MISO intensity and propagation.

### 140 **5.3 Essential Ocean Variables (EOV)**

141 As the atmospheric forcing associated with the MJO generate equatorial jet and equatorial waves  
142 which could in turn feedback on the MJO, monitoring upper ocean variability near the equator is  
143 crucial. Off the equator, the upper ocean structure over the Bay of Bengal should be monitored,  
144 where air-sea coupling plays an important role in the MISO development and propagation. In  
145 addition, diurnal variability in the near-surface layer needs to be resolved, given its importance for  
146 the MJO initiation. The sustained observation within the Indonesian Seas is desirable, since air-  
147 sea interaction processes in the MC region may play an important role in the MJO propagation (see  
148 the next section).

#### 149 ***Variables***

150 Equatorial (10°N-10°S) and Bay of Bengal temperature, salinity, velocity, SST, SSS, near-surface  
151 wind, air temperature and humidity, precipitation, shortwave and longwave radiation. Since surface  
152 fluxes are essential variables for air-sea coupling, near-surface atmospheric variables are included  
153 here in addition to ocean variables.

#### 154 ***Resolutions***

155 Temporal resolution: One hour to resolve a diurnal cycle

156 Zonal resolution: 10° in longitude (~1110 km)

157 Meridional resolution: 1° in latitude (~111 km) near the equator to resolve equatorial wave guide.

### 158 **5.4 Recommendations**

159 Sustained measurements are crucial for the study of intra-seasonal air-sea coupling over the Indian  
160 Ocean, and thus maintaining the current network of IndOOS especially the RAMA array and Argo  
161 program is the first priority.

162 Given the importance of monitoring the diurnal cycle, increasing the vertical resolution in the upper  
163 10 m of RAMA buoy is desirable. Suggested depths of temperature and conductivity sensors are:  
164 0.5 m, 1.0 m, 2.0 m, 3 m, 5 m, 7 m, 10 m, which can better resolve the shallow diurnal warm layer

165 (upper few meters) and the mixed layer deepening during night time. The enhancement of vertical  
166 resolution would be particularly useful for key regions listed in the following paragraphs.

167 Although the meridional resolution of the current RAMA buoy network is coarser than the desirable  
168 resolution specified in EOV, the current resolution near the equator may be acceptable given the  
169 additional coverage of satellite and Argo data. Perhaps adding new RAMA buoy sites in key areas  
170 for the MJO and MISO monitoring is the higher priority, as follows:

171 ***(1) Surface buoy in the Timor Sea at 14S, 115E***

172 The largest SST anomalies associated with the MJO are found off the coast of northwest Australia.  
173 Hence better understanding of air-sea interaction processes in this region may lead to improving  
174 our ability to predict the MJO and the variability of Australian monsoon. The importance of this  
175 location for other climate variability and ecosystem is discussed in other chapters.

176 ***(2) Continuation of surface buoy measurements at 18N, 90E in the northern Bay of Bengal***

177 Upper ocean and SST variability in the northern Bay of Bengal plays a crucial role in the MISO  
178 development and propagation. The buoy at this location maintained by the Woods Hole  
179 Oceanographic Institution is scheduled for termination in 2018. Continuation of this site would  
180 contribute to better understanding of the ocean's role in the MISO, and thus its prediction.

181 ***(3) ADCP measurements in SCTR***

182 While current RAMA buoys near the center of SCTR (65E) have been monitoring temperature and  
183 salinity, the addition of velocity (ADCP) measurements to the buoy at 4°S, 65°E would provide  
184 useful information for vertical mixing processes and thus the mixed layer heat budget where  
185 equatorial Rossby waves affect the upper ocean structure.

186 ***(4) Additional buoy measurements in Maritime Continent (Indonesian Seas)***

187 At present, long-term data from in-situ measurements within the Indonesian Seas are available  
188 only from the moorings at the Makassar Strait. One possible location for the additional buoy could  
189 be a southern part of Banda Sea where the largest intra-seasonal SST anomalies are found within  
190 the Indonesian Seas (e.g., Napitu et al. 2015).

## 6. Interannual variability and predictability

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1 This chapter reviews progress made in the past decade on interannual variability and predictability  
2 of the Indian Ocean. We focus on four prominent modes of variability, namely the Indian Ocean  
3 Dipole (IOD), the Indian Ocean Basin Mode (IOBM), the Indian Ocean Subtropical Dipole (IOSD),  
4 and Ningaloo Niño (*Figure 6.1*). Understanding and predicting these climate modes are essential,  
5 because the first two modes have large impacts on both local and remote climate, while the latter  
6 two modes strongly influences local climate. One way or another, these climate modes are  
7 influenced by the El Niño/Southern Oscillation (ENSO); the IOBM is predominantly driven by the  
8 ENSO, whereas the other three modes are partially influenced by the ENSO. In addition, both IOSD  
9 and Ningaloo Niño are associated with modulation of the subtropical high in the southern Indian  
10 Ocean. Recommendations in terms of essential ocean variables and measurement strategies for  
11 continuing progress on understanding and predicting these variations are also presented.

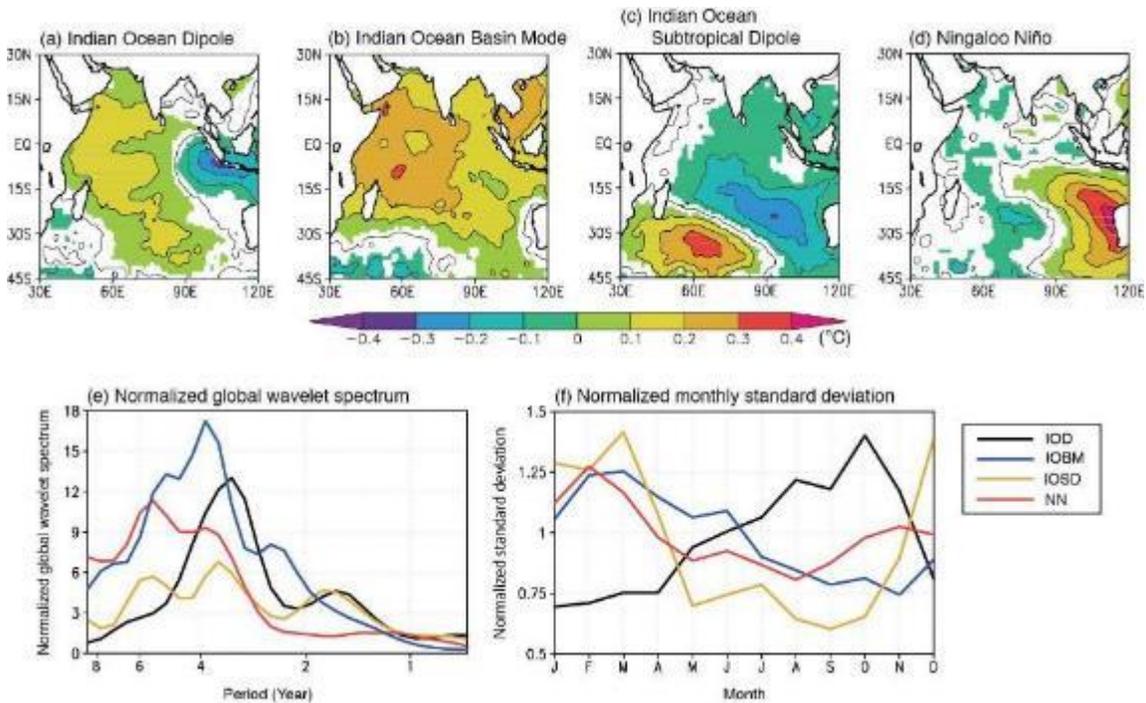


Figure 6.1 : Sea surface temperature (SST) anomalies associated with (a) the Indian Ocean Dipole, (b) the Indian Ocean Basin Mode, (c) the Indian Ocean Subtropical Dipole, and (d) Ningaloo Niño. Here, detrended SST anomalies (in °C) are regressed against their respective normalized indices. Regression coefficients significant at the 99% confidence level by a two-tailed t-test are shaded, and contour intervals are 0.2°C. Note that all months of data are used. (e) Normalized global wavelet spectrum and (f) normalized monthly standard deviation of the four indices (see the legend for the definition of colors). HadISST data (Rayner et al. 2003) is used. See the text for the definition of these four indices.

### 12 6.1 Indian Ocean Dipole

13 The Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) is an interannual tropical air-sea coupled phenomenon with positive  
14 (negative) SST anomalies in the western (southeastern) tropical Indian Ocean during its positive  
15 phase (Saji et al. 1999; Webster et al. 1999) (*Figure 6.1a, e*). It is associated with easterly wind  
16 anomalies and enhanced convection over the western tropical Indian Ocean (Reverdin et al. 1987),

17 and phase-locked to boreal fall (*Figure 6.1f*; Saji et al. 1999). The Dipole Mode Index (DMI) is  
18 defined by the difference in SST anomalies between the western (50°-70°E, 10°S-10°N) and  
19 eastern (90°-110°E, 10°S-Equator) poles (Saji et al. 1999). The IOD develops through the Bjerknes  
20 feedback as in the El Niño/Southern Oscillation (ENSO) (Saji et al. 1999) and ocean dynamics,  
21 including equatorial wave processes, play a central role in its evolution (Nagura and McPhaden  
22 2010; McPhaden et al. 2015). Although the IOD sometimes co-occurs with the ENSO, it can occur  
23 independently (Yamagata et al. 2004). Under global warming, it is projected that extreme IOD  
24 events increase (e.g. Cai et al. 2014) and the IOD skewness decreases (e.g. Zheng et al. 2010)  
25 (see Chapter 11 for the anthropogenic climate change in the Indian Ocean). Also, salinity and  
26 barrier layer variability plays an important role. During the positive IOD, negative sea surface  
27 salinity (SSS) anomalies appear in the central-eastern equatorial Indian Ocean, while positive SSS  
28 anomalies are observed in the southeastern tropical Indian Ocean (Zhang et al. 2013). In the  
29 subsurface, positive salinity anomalies are found near the pycnocline in the eastern equatorial  
30 Indian Ocean and negative anomalies appear over the southern tropical Indian Ocean (Kido and  
31 Tozuka 2017). These salinity anomalies result in barrier layer thickness anomalies and vertical  
32 mixing anomalies and are suggested to modify the amplitude of negative SST anomalies in the  
33 eastern pole (Qiu et al. 2012; Kido and Tozuka 2017).

34 Simulation of the IOD has been evaluated by several studies (e.g. Saji et al. 2006; Liu et al. 2014)  
35 and, because of its impacts on both local and remote climate (Saji and Yamagata 2003), many  
36 studies over the past decade have focused on predictability and prediction. Wajsowicz (2005) made  
37 the first attempt to assess the skill of a coupled model in predicting SST anomalies over the eastern  
38 and western poles of the IOD and Luo et al. (2008) made the first successful real-time prediction  
39 of the IOD. ENSO is a major source of predictability for the IOD through the changes in the Walker  
40 circulation in the Indo-Pacific region (e.g. Luo et al. 2007; McPhaden and Nagura, 2014; Yang et  
41 al. 2015). SST anomalies in the eastern pole show lower prediction skill compared to the western  
42 pole (Luo et al. 2007). This is because the eastern pole is partly driven by the local-air sea coupling,  
43 whereas the western pole is predominantly controlled by the ENSO. Tanizaki et al. (2017) showed  
44 that the generation mechanisms of negative SST anomalies in the eastern pole are diverse among  
45 positive IOD events and those events in which vertical processes play an important role tend to be  
46 better predicted. By comparing the prediction skill of several coupled models with potential  
47 predictability, Liu et al. (2017) suggested that there is potential for improving IOD prediction by 0.2-  
48 0.3 in terms of the correlation skill; the anomaly correlation coefficient currently becomes lower than  
49 0.5 only after 3 months. See Chapter 11 for a more review on the IOD prediction.

## 50 **6.2 Indian Ocean Basin Mode**

51 The Indian Ocean Basin mode (IOBM) is associated with positive (negative) SST anomalies over  
52 the tropical Indian Ocean and usually follows an El Niño (a La Niña) event in the tropical Pacific  
53 (Yu and Rienecker 1999; Yang et al. 2007) (*Figure 6.1b*). This mode is predominantly driven by  
54 surface heat fluxes, although ocean dynamics plays an important role in the southwestern tropical  
55 Indian Ocean (Klein et al. 1999). The IOBM index is defined by the principal component of the first  
56 empirical orthogonal function mode of SST anomalies over the tropical Indian Ocean (40–110°E,  
57 20°S–20°N) (Yang et al. 2007), which explains about 40% of the total SST variability, and it is highly  
58 correlated with ENSO indices with the IOBM index lagging about one season. As a result, the  
59 interannual frequency band is dominant (*Figure 6.1e*) and the IOBM has the monthly standard  
60 deviation peaks in February-March (*Figure 6.1f*). The IOBM has been shown to influence climate  
61 over the Indo-western Pacific and East Asia in the summer following ENSO events and the effect  
62 is known as the “Indian Ocean capacitor effect” (Xie et al. 2009, Annamalai et al. 2005; 2007). About  
63 half of the CMIP5 models capture key processes of the IOBM including its strong link with the  
64 ENSO (Du et al. 2013). Among the four climate modes identified in the Indian Ocean, the IOBM  
65 seems to be the best-predicted climate mode, because of its strong link with the well-predicted  
66 ENSO (Luo et al. 2016).

### 67 **6.3 Indian Ocean Subtropical Dipole**

68 The Indian Ocean Subtropical Dipole (IOSD) is a climate mode associated with positive (negative)  
69 SST anomalies over the southwestern (northeastern) part of the South Indian Ocean (Behera and  
70 Yamagata 2001) (*Figure 6.1c*), and peaks in austral summer (*Figure 6.1f*). It has spectrum  
71 peaks in the interannual frequency range, but the peak is not as sharp as that of the IOD and IOSD  
72 (*Figure 6.1e*). It has been suggested to influence precipitation over southern Africa (Reason  
73 2001). The IOSD index is obtained by subtracting SST anomalies in the northeastern pole (90°-  
74 100°E, 18°-28°S) from those in the southwestern pole (55°-65°E, 27°-37°S) (Behera and Yamagata  
75 2001). The mixed layer warming by the shortwave radiation is enhanced (suppressed) as a result  
76 of negative (positive) mixed layer depth (MLD) anomalies over the southwestern (northeastern)  
77 part, and these MLD anomalies are induced by anomalous winds associated with changes in the  
78 Mascarene High (Morioka et al. 2010). Although many coupled models simulate the IOSD relatively  
79 well, the location and structure of the SST anomaly vary among models (Kataoka et al. 2012).

80 Yuan et al. (2014) evaluated the prediction skill of the IOSD in a coupled model. It was found that  
81 the prediction skill is not much different from the persistence, partly because of the low predictability  
82 of the SST anomalies in the southwestern pole. However, some strong IOSD events were  
83 successfully predicted one season ahead. The low prediction skill may be related to difficulty in  
84 predicting interannual variability of the Mascarene High, although increased observations of MLD  
85 and the upper ocean stratification may be helpful to improve the prediction skill.

### 86 **6.4 Ningaloo Niño**

87 An unprecedented marine heat wave in early 2011 led to the identification of a new climate mode  
88 called “Ningaloo Niño” (Feng et al. 2013, 2015b; see chapter 4 on extreme events for more details).  
89 This recently-identified phenomenon is associated with positive SST anomalies off the west coast  
90 of Australia (*Figure 6.1d*) and its strength is defined by the Ningaloo Niño Index (area-averaged  
91 SST anomalies in 108°E-coast, 28°S-22°S). Both local ocean-atmosphere positive feedback and  
92 remote forcing from ENSO via atmospheric and oceanic teleconnections contribute to its  
93 development (Feng et al. 2013; Kataoka et al. 2014, 2017; Marshall et al. 2015). This climate mode  
94 peaks around austral summer (*Figure 6.1f*) and the power spectrum shows a broad peak for 4-6  
95 years period (*Figure 6.1e*). Salinity variability is also important for Ningaloo Niño; Feng et al.  
96 (2015) showed that low-salinity anomalies contributed to about 30% increase in the southward  
97 Leeuwin Current and thus the unprecedented warming event in 2010-2011. The increased  
98 occurrence of Ningaloo Niño since the late 1990s may be related to the negative phase of the  
99 Interdecadal Pacific Oscillation (Feng et al. 2015a). Because of its impacts on local precipitation  
100 (Tozuka et al. 2014) and marine ecosystems (Depczynski et al. 2013; Wernberg et al. 2013, 2016),  
101 advancing our understanding of this phenomenon is a priority for the coming decade. Kido et al.  
102 (2016) evaluated the ability of coupled models to simulate Ningaloo Niño/Niña and found that  
103 further improvements in resolving this climate mode are required in many coupled models.

104 Doi et al. (2013) were the first to evaluate predictability of Ningaloo Niño/Niña. Although Ningaloo  
105 Niño (Niña) events that co-occur with La Niña (El Niño) events were relatively well predicted by a  
106 coupled model (e.g. the extreme 2011 event was successfully predicted in hindcast experiments 9  
107 months in advance) owing to the high prediction skill of ENSO events, those developing  
108 independent of ENSO events could not be predicted. Resolving the Leeuwin Current with a higher  
109 horizontal resolution in the ocean component of coupled models may lead to improved prediction  
110 skill (e.g. Doi et al. 2016). Also, since mixed layer process plays a key role in the evolution of  
111 Ningaloo Niño/Niña, a RAMA mooring and/or denser observation in the Ningaloo Niño/Niña region  
112 of maximum SST anomalies will be helpful for better understanding and prediction of Ningaloo  
113 Niño/Niña.

114 **6.5 Required Essential Ocean Variables (EOVs) and actionable**  
115 **recommendations for collection of these EOVs**

116 The required EOVs for better understanding and improved prediction of these climate modes are  
117 ocean surface stress, sea surface height, SST, subsurface temperature, surface and subsurface  
118 currents, sea surface and subsurface salinity, and ocean surface heat flux. Considering that coastal  
119 currents and upwelling in the eastern basin play an important role in the development of the IOD  
120 (Halkides and Lee 2009; Tanizaki et al. 2017) and Ningaloo Niño/Niña (Marshall et al. 2015), it is  
121 desirable to obtain the above variables with a horizontal resolution of 0.5° or higher in these regions.  
122 Also, daily data are required especially for the IOD and Ningaloo Niño/Niña, because intraseasonal  
123 variations including the Madden-Julian Oscillations significantly influence evolution of these climate  
124 modes (Rao and Yamagata 2004; Marshall and Hendon 2014). Furthermore, subsurface data in  
125 addition to surface data is valuable for improved prediction of these climate modes (e.g. Horii et al,  
126 2008; Doi et al. 2017).

127 Based on the above, the actionable recommendations on the current Indian Ocean Observing  
128 System (IndOOS) design is as follows:

- 129 1) Sustain the existing satellite and in situ measurements from the IndOOS as well as the Argo  
130 network in the entire Indian Ocean to advance our understanding of and ability to predict these  
131 climate modes.
- 132 2) Complete and maintain the RAMA buoy network. Deployment of the RAMA buoy in the western  
133 tropical Indian Ocean allows us to better understand the dynamics and thermodynamics of the  
134 western pole of the IOD. The RAMA buoys in the eastern pole of the IOD are essential for further  
135 understanding of the IOD as well as improved prediction of the IOD.
- 136 3) Near-coastal enhancement of IndOOS in the eastern pole of the IOD and in the formation region  
137 of the Ningaloo Niño would also be desirable.
- 138 4) Maintain the IX01 XBT line with a monthly resolution. This will be helpful for monitoring the Pacific  
139 influence on the Ningaloo Niño/Niña via the oceanic channel.

## 7. IndOOS Review Chapter: Indian Ocean heat budget

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### 1 7.1 Current Understanding and Societal Impact

2 To date, the world's oceans have absorbed 93% of the global heat gain due to anthropogenic  
3 increases in greenhouse gases over the last 150 years (Cheng et al., 2017). The oceans are acting  
4 as a buffer to global warming. Although the Indian Ocean is the smallest of the world's oceans, it  
5 has accounted for more than one quarter of global ocean heat gain over the last twenty years (Lee  
6 et al., 2015; Cheng et al. 2017) and perhaps as much as 45% over the upper 700 m in the last ten  
7 years (Desbruyeres et al., 2017). Since 1950 it has warmed about 1°C at the surface, compared to  
8 a global average of 0.6°C, possibly due to a faster response to climate change, or to natural decadal  
9 variability (Lau and Weng 1999; Alory et al. 2007; Roxy et al. 2014). Oceanic heat content and its  
10 distribution influences the climate of Indian Ocean rim countries through its feedback on winds,  
11 rainfall, storm intensity, and sea level rise (Han et al., 2014; Chapter OD-02). And can influence  
12 fisheries and marine ecosystems due to associated changes in stratification, oxygen, and nutrient  
13 levels (Roxy et al., 2016). Funk et al. (2008) estimate a 50% increase in undernourished  
14 populations of East Africa owing to long term decreases in rainfall due to warming trends in the  
15 equatorial Indian Ocean. Sea level rise has accelerated along the coasts of India and Australia  
16 since the late 1990s and greater than global increases have been estimated along the coasts of  
17 Indonesia, Sumatra, Oman, and Madagascar (Han et al., 2010, Watson, 2011).

18 Heat content and its variability throughout the Indian Ocean depend on the inflow and outflow of  
19 heat across its borders (Roberts et al., 2017). In contrast to the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, the  
20 Indian Ocean is insulated from surface heat loss at cold northern latitudes by the Asian continent  
21 and receives an influx of warm tropical waters via the Indonesian Throughflow. As a result, there is  
22 large heat gain which is balanced by an export across its open southern boundary, estimated to be  
23 as much as 1.5 PW (Figure 1; Ganachaud and Wunsch, 2000; Lumpkin and Speer, 2007;  
24 Hernández-Guerra and Talley, 2016). This Indian Ocean heat export plays the biggest role in  
25 balancing heat loss in both the Atlantic and Southern Oceans (Talley, 2013). It is carried  
26 predominantly by an overturning circulation, with the transport of warm outflowing surface waters  
27 within the Agulhas Current balanced by deep inflows of cold Antarctic waters, although the  
28 circulation may best be described by separate upper gyre and deep overturning cells (McDonagh  
29 et al., 2008). Some 30% of Indian Ocean heat export is thought to be carried by the gyre circulation  
30 (Talley, 2008). The properties and heat content of the outflowing waters depend strongly on mixing  
31 and diffusion in the Indian and Pacific Oceans.

32 Estimates for Indian Ocean overturning range between 8 and 25 Sv, with an even larger range for  
33 the heat export, of between 0.1 and 1.5 PW (Sultan et al., 2007; Hernández-Guerra and Talley,  
34 2016). Diapycnal mixing at the bottom of the thermocline has been estimated to be several times  
35 stronger than in the Pacific or Atlantic, with unknown causes (Lumpkin and Speer, 2007). All these  
36 estimates have been underpinned by hydrographic (GO-SHIP) data collected across the Indian  
37 Ocean along nominal latitude 32°S, combined with Indonesian Throughflow and surface flux  
38 observations. There have been three occupations at this latitude over the last thirty years; in 1987,  
39 2002, and 2009. To estimate mean absolute fluxes the circulation is assumed to be steady and  
40 geostrophic, and conservation of mass, salt, and other properties are used as constraints. Four  
41 estimates have been derived using global hydrography and constraints (e.g. figure 7.1), yielding  
42 Indian Ocean overturning between 10 and 17 Sv and heat exports of 1.45-1.55 PW (McDonald,  
43 1998; Ganachaud and Wunsch, 2000; Lumpkin and Speer, 2007, Talley, 2008). The temporal  
44 variability of Indian Ocean overturning remains unknown at any time scale and could be as large  
45 as 20 Sv peak-to-peak and 5 Sv at seasonal scales, if similar to the Atlantic overturning (Kanzow  
46 et al., 2010).

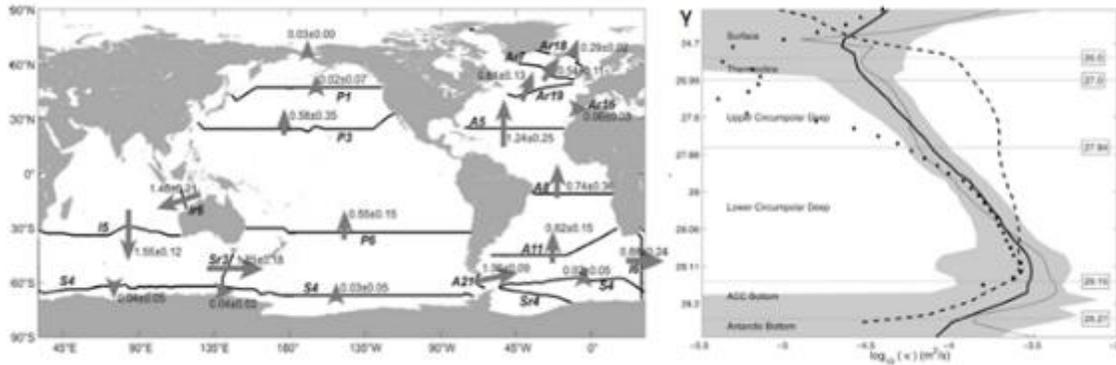


Figure 7.1: The largest oceanic heat transports are estimated in the Indian Ocean (left, PW), where diapycnal mixing at the base of the thermocline may be five times stronger than the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans (right,  $m^2/s$ ). Heat transports are from a global inverse model. Effective diapycnal diffusivities are shown as a function of neutral density ( $\gamma$ ) for the global average (thick line with standard error shaded), Atlantic (thin solid), Indian (dashed), and Pacific (dotted) boxes, all between  $32^{\circ}S$ – $48^{\circ}N$ . Horizontal lines indicate water mass divisions (Orsi et al. 2002). From Lumpkin and Speer (2007).

47 Overturning and heat export are thought to be strongly constrained by the strength and depth of  
 48 the Agulhas Current at the western boundary (Bryden and Beal, 2001) and by the Indonesian  
 49 Throughflow (Sprintall et al., 2014), although the exact dependencies are highly uncertain  
 50 (McDonagh et al., 2008). The Agulhas Current appears to have broadened over the past twenty  
 51 years with little change in its transport despite strengthening Westerlies (Beal and Elipot, 2016),  
 52 while the Throughflow is currently shoaling and strengthening along with strengthening of the  
 53 Pacific Trade winds (Wijffels et al., 2008; Feng et al., 2011; Sprintall and Révelard, 2014). Over the  
 54 long-term the Agulhas is expected to strengthen and the Throughflow to weaken with climate  
 55 change (Yang et al., 2016; Feng et al., 2017). The vertical structure of Indian Ocean overturning is  
 56 less robust than estimates for the Atlantic and Pacific, with net flow direction in the thermocline and  
 57 intermediate waters appearing to change between occupations (Hernández-Guerra and Talley,  
 58 2016). This may be related to decadal variability in Indian Ocean thermocline waters which have  
 59 reversed from freshening (Bindoff and McDougall, 2000) to now becoming saltier (McDonagh et  
 60 al., 2005), while the subtropical gyre may have been strengthening 1987-2002 (Palmer et al., 2004),  
 61 as also indicated by oxygen changes (McDonagh et al., 2005). Long-term warming of upper Indian  
 62 Ocean waters is concentrated in the southern Indian Ocean (Alory et al., 2007) and throughout the  
 63 Agulhas system (Wu et al., 2012) and may be related to a poleward expansion of the subtropical  
 64 gyre. Abyssal ocean warming below 4000 m (Purkey and Johnson, 2010; Desbruyeres et al., 2017)  
 65 and a possible reduction in Antarctic bottom water formation may have contributed to a reduction  
 66 in Indian Ocean overturning since 2002 (Katsumata et al., 2013; Hernández-Guerra and Talley,  
 67 2016). The contribution of eddies to heat transport is difficult to capture (Johns et al., 2011) and  
 68 undetermined in the Indian Ocean.

69 There is much to be gained through monitoring of Indian Ocean overturning and heat fluxes as a  
 70 component of the Indian Ocean Observing System. In the past decade of IndOOS most targeted  
 71 assets have been concentrated within the equatorial region, yet Banks and Wood (2002) suggest  
 72 that subsurface temperature and salinity in the southern Indian Ocean are a good place to look for  
 73 climate change signals. The greatest rates of heat content changes have been in the Southern  
 74 Indian Ocean, thought to be due to a shift and intensification of the Westerly winds and spin-up of  
 75 the Southern hemisphere supergyre (Cai et al., 2007; Wu et al., 2012; Alory et al., 2007; Yang et  
 76 al., 2016). At the same time, a reduction in Antarctic bottom water formation may have weakened  
 77 the overturning while strengthening the export of heat (Katsumata et al., 2013; Hernández-Guerra  
 78 and Talley, 2016). We need to better understand how sea surface temperature, heat content, the  
 79 Agulhas Current, and heat export are linked in order improve predictability of interannual to decadal  
 80 climate variability over the Indian Ocean basin and rim countries.

81 **7.2 Required Essential Ocean Variables**

82 To gain a better understanding of how wind and circulation changes impact the Indian Ocean heat  
83 budget and vice versa we need to measure variability and change in Indian Ocean overturning and  
84 heat flux. This requires the collection of temperature, salinity, pressure, velocity, and where  
85 possible oxygen data in both the upper and deep oceans along the open southern boundary of the  
86 basin, latitudes ~32°-34°S (figure 7.2). Daily observations of these EOVs at 10 km (inshore)—50  
87 km (offshore) horizontal resolution, and 100 m (upper)—1000 m (bottom) vertical resolution are  
88 needed to capture the intense Agulhas Current and its heat flux at the western boundary. At the  
89 eastern boundary, full-depth (>4000 m), daily observations at a fixed point near the foot of the  
90 continental slope are needed to provide, in combination with the western boundary array, a time  
91 series of basin-wide geostrophic fluxes for the overturning. The Leeuwin Current is small and  
92 shallow and currently lies within error bars, but capturing it too would improve estimates. Across  
93 the interior, deep profiles (6000 m) of EOVs T,S,p,O<sub>2</sub> at monthly resolution are needed to capture  
94 eddy fluxes, inflows of deep and bottom waters, and constrain gyre circulation. Periodic GO-SHIP  
95 sections, which include the collection of silicates and other properties, are required to provide  
96 important constraints on circulation and heat flux estimates. These in situ observations must be  
97 augmented by sustained, consistent satellite observations of sea level and wind stress to obtain  
98 barotropic fluxes and meridional Ekman transport.

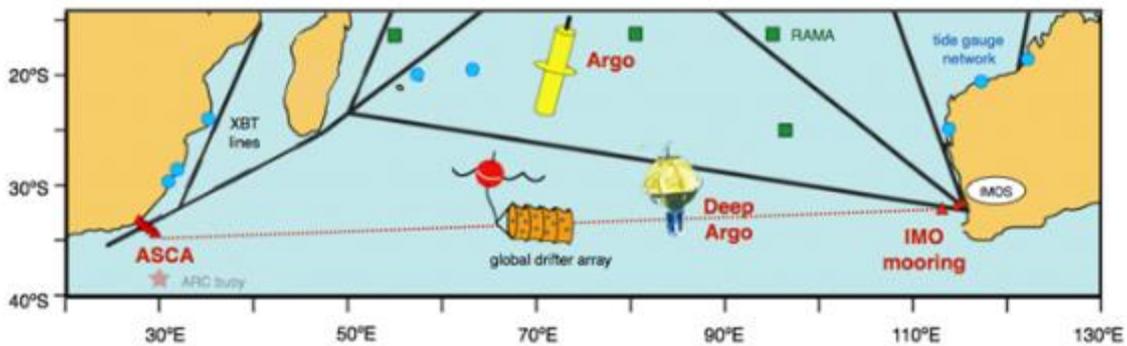


Figure 7.2: Recommendations for targeted observing system elements to capture Indian Ocean overturning and heat transport. Western boundary observing system (ASCA), eastern boundary hydrographic mooring (IMO: Indian Meridional Overturning), and deep Argo. Sustained satellite observations (sea level, temperature, winds), Argo, surface drifters, and measurement of the Indonesian Throughflow are also essential.

99 **7.3 Actionable Recommendations**

- 100 1) Sustained Agulhas array, including a deep western hydrographic “end-point” mooring (>  
101 4000 m).  
102 2) Establishment of a deep eastern hydrographic “end-point” mooring in waters > 4000 m  
103 near Western Australia and the existing Leeuwin Current array.  
104 3) Sustained Indonesian Throughflow volume and heat flux monitoring.  
105 4) Deep Argo float deployments throughout the south Indian Ocean subtropical gyre.  
106 5) Decadal repeat of GO-SHIP line I5.

## 8. Carbon cycle, acidification, and ecological impacts (R. Hood)

### 8.1 Current understanding and societal Impact

The oceanic uptake of atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> is estimated to be 2.6 Gigatonnes (Gt) of carbon per year, which is nearly comparable to the uptake by land (LeQuere et al., 2015). As such, the oceanic sink plays an important role in the global carbon cycle acting to slow the increase of atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> (Sabine et al., 2004; Takahashi et al., 2009) and therefore also global climate change. Thus, it is important to accurately quantify the oceanic sink and understand the factors that drive its spatial and temporal variability in order to accurately project future atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> levels and global climate change (Takahashi and Sutherland, 2013).

1 It has been estimated that the Indian Ocean as a whole accounts for ~1/5 of the global oceanic  
2 uptake of atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> (Takahashi et al., 2002). The Arabian Sea is a source of CO<sub>2</sub> to the  
3 atmosphere because of elevated pCO<sub>2</sub> within the Southwest Monsoon-driven upwelling (*Figure*  
4 *8.1*; see also Takahashi et al., 2009; 2014). Overall, the Indian Ocean north of 14°S loses CO<sub>2</sub> at  
5 a rate of 0.12 PgC/yr. Takahashi et al., 2002; 2009; 2014). Whether the Bay of Bengal is a CO<sub>2</sub>  
6 source or sink remains ill-defined due to sparse sampling in both space and time (*Figure 8.1*;  
7 Bates et al., 2006a). The southern Indian Ocean appears to be a strong net CO<sub>2</sub> sink (-0.44 PgC/yr  
8 in the band 14°S-50°S; *Figure 8.1*). The biological pump (sum of all the biologically mediated  
9 processes that export carbon) and the solubility pump (dissolution of CO<sub>2</sub> and its physical transport)  
10 are estimated to contribute equally to the CO<sub>2</sub> flux in the South Indian Ocean region (Valsala et al.,  
11 2012), but the factors that maintain this sink are unclear. Cold temperatures certainly increase CO<sub>2</sub>  
12 solubility in the austral winter, but there is also evidence that chemical and biological factors are  
13 important (Piketh, Tyson, and Steffen 2000; Wiggert, Murtugudde, and Christian 2006).

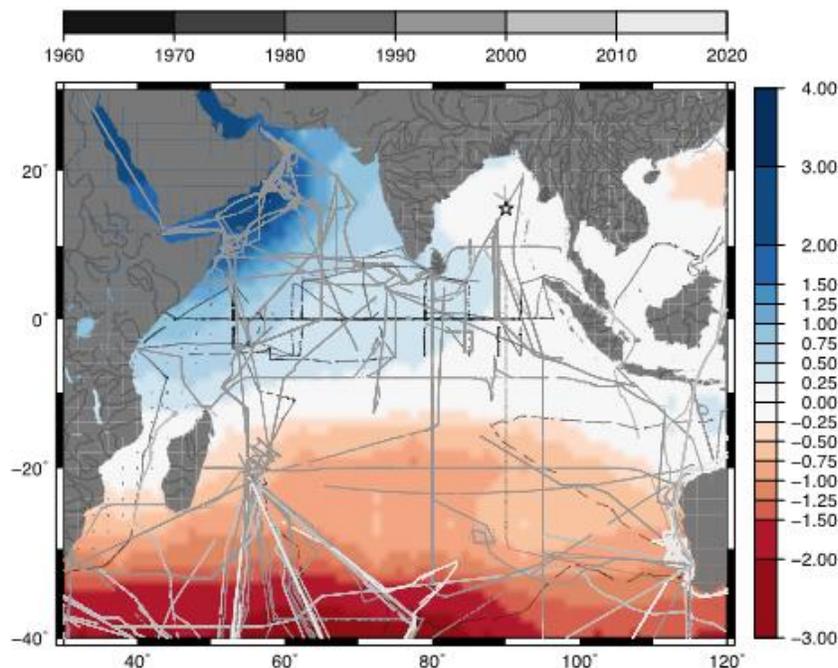


Figure 8.1 Annual CO<sub>2</sub> flux (mol C m<sup>-2</sup> yr<sup>-1</sup>) referenced to the year 2000 (Takahashi et al., 2009) over the Indian Ocean. Data points colored by year of collection (Takahashi & Sutherland, 2016) are overlaid as points. Major rivers are also delineated over the continents.

14 A synthesis of the seasonal, annual and interannual air-sea CO<sub>2</sub> fluxes based on both observations  
15 (Takahashi et al., 2009) and models (ocean, atmospheric inversions), shows that the sea-air CO<sub>2</sub>  
16 uptake derived from models (-0.37 PgC/yr) is not inconsistent with the estimates from observations  
17 (-0.24 PgC/yr), given the uncertainties (Sarma et al., 2013). However, models underestimate the  
18 flux in the northwestern region and overestimate the flux in the Bay of Bengal. This suggests that  
19 the atmospheric inversions are not well constrained due to lack of CO<sub>2</sub> time series. Observations  
20 of ocean carbon flux are very important to constrain these models. Compared to other oceans there  
21 have been few observations in the Indian Ocean (north of 20S) in recent years (Figure 8.1; Bakker  
22 et al., 2014, see also [www.socat.info](http://www.socat.info)).

23 The uptake of anthropogenic CO<sub>2</sub> by the global ocean induces fundamental changes in seawater  
24 chemistry that could have dramatic impacts on upper ocean ecosystems. Estimates based on the  
25 Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) business-as-usual emission scenarios  
26 suggest that atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> levels could approach 800 ppm near the end of this century (Feely  
27 et al., 2009). The associated global trend of increasing oceanic CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations will lead to  
28 lower pH and acidification of the Indian Ocean over the coming decades, with potential negative  
29 impacts on coral reefs and other calcifying organisms (Doney, 2010). The average surface pH  
30 values for the northern (20°E-120°E, 0°-24.5°N) and southern Indian (20°E-120°E, 0°-40°S) oceans  
31 in 1995 were 8.068 +/- 0.03 and 8.092 +/- 0.03, respectively (Feely et al., 2009, the lowest of the  
32 major ocean basins. The causes for these differences are not understood (Takahashi et al. 2014).  
33 Seasonally occurring very low surface pH (<7.9) off the Arabian Peninsula results from upwelling  
34 of (more acidic) subsurface waters during the SW monsoon (Takahashi et al., 2014). There are  
35 only a few studies on the temporal evolution of surface ocean acidification because of the lack of  
36 time-series measurements. The results of a recently published study from the eastern Bay of  
37 Bengal indicate a decrease in pH of 0.2 in the period from 1994 to 2012 (Rashid et al., 2013), which  
38 is much faster than the global rate of 0.1 over the last 100 years (IPCC 2007).

39 The large-scale coral bleaching events of 1998, 2005 and 2011 caused by high sea-surface  
40 temperatures highlight the susceptibility of the Indian Ocean to warming (McClanahan et al., 2007;  
41 Moore et al., 2012; see also section 3 of chapter 4 on the 2011 marine heat wave off Western  
42 Australia), and ocean acidification has the potential to exacerbate these negative impacts on coral  
43 reef areas. For example, the 1998 bleaching event influenced higher trophic levels by altering the  
44 age distribution of commercially harvested fish (Graham et al. 2007). Coral reef ecosystems may  
45 be at greater risk than previously thought because of the combined effects of acidification, human  
46 development and global warming (Hoegh-Guldberg et al., 2007). In addition, some commercially  
47 fished species (e.g., shelled mollusks) are directly vulnerable to ocean acidification (Hoegh-  
48 Guldberg et al., 2014). A study on modern planktonic foraminifera off Somalia suggests that human-  
49 induced ocean acidification reduced the rate at which foraminifera calcify, resulting in lighter shells  
50 (de Moel et al., 2009). The Southern Ocean sector of the Indian Ocean could experience major  
51 disruptions in upper levels of pelagic food webs due to the effects of acidification on calcifying  
52 pteropods, which are preyed on by many higher trophic level organisms (Bednarsek et al., 2012).

53 In addition to the direct impacts of acidification, increasing CO<sub>2</sub> in the upper ocean could lead to  
54 increased primary productivity for some species (e.g., diazotrophs; Hutchins et al., 2007), altering  
55 rates of nitrogen fixation and therefore the biogeochemistry of particulate organic matter formation  
56 and remineralization. Decreasing pH also shifts the chemical equilibrium from ammonia (NH<sub>3</sub>) to  
57 ammonium (NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup>), which may alter key biological processes such as microbial nitrification and  
58 nitrogen assimilation by phytoplankton (Gattuso and Hansson, 2011).

59 Clearly, understanding current carbon uptake by the Indian Ocean is critical for understanding how  
60 the global carbon cycle and climate are evolving under the impact of human activities.  
61 Understanding and predicting rates of carbon uptake and ocean acidification are also fundamental  
62 to understanding the biogeochemical and ecological evolution of the Indian Ocean

63 **8.2 Required EOVs, their spatial coverage and temporal/spatial resolution**

64 The observations required to constrain the carbon system at a point in space and time are any two  
65 of Dissolved Inorganic Carbon (DIC), Total Alkalinity (TA), partial pressure of carbon dioxide ( $p\text{CO}_2$ )  
66 and pH, plus temperature and salinity. The products that can be derived from these carbon system  
67 measurements include saturation state (aragonite, calcite), dissolved carbonate ion concentration,  
68 air-sea flux of  $\text{CO}_2$ , anthropogenic carbon, and the change in total carbon.

69 The carbon cycle research community has set a goal of being able to constrain the regional fluxes  
70 to  $0.2 \text{ Pg C year}^{-1}$ , which translates into measuring the atmospheric  $f\text{CO}_2$  (fugacity to  $\text{CO}_2$  which is  
71 similar to partial pressure) to within  $0.1 \mu\text{atm}$  and the seawater  $f\text{CO}_2$  to within  $2 \mu\text{atm}$  (Pierrot et al.,  
72 2009). These observations can be obtained from ships and moorings, with ships providing  
73 infrequent large-scale spatial transects and moorings providing complimentary continuous  
74 measurements at specific locations.

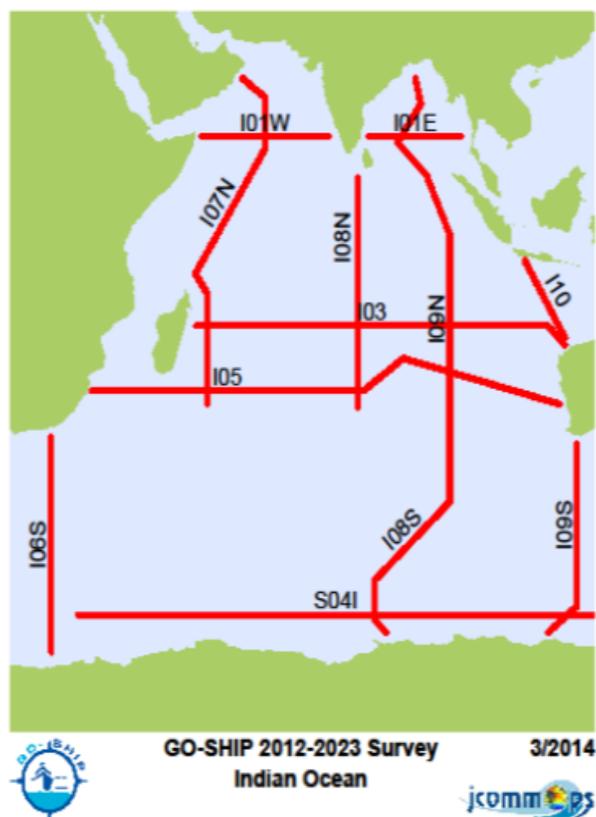


Figure 8.2 GO-SHIP sections in the Indian Ocean.

75 The GO-SHIP program is working to develop a globally coordinated network of sustained  
76 hydrographic sections as part of the global ocean/climate observing system including physical  
77 oceanography, the carbon cycle, marine biogeochemistry and ecosystems. GO-SHIP provides  
78 approximately decadal resolution of the changes in inventories of heat, freshwater, carbon, oxygen,  
79 nutrients and transient tracers, covering the ocean basins from coast to coast and full depth (top to  
80 bottom), with global measurements of the highest required accuracy to detect these changes. GO-  
81 SHIP has several lines in the Indian Ocean that are part of the global decadal survey (Figure 8.2).  
82 Several of these lines have national commitments for occupation over the next 5 – 10 years. These  
83 surveys will be crucial for filling in the current large spatial gaps in carbon system measurement in  
84 the Indian Ocean (Figure 8.1, for more details on the GO-SHIP program see chapter 25).

85 The development and deployment of Moored Autonomous pCO<sub>2</sub> (MAPCO<sub>2</sub>) systems have  
86 dramatically improved our ability to characterize the temporal variability in the carbon system, sea-  
87 air gas exchange, and biogeochemical processes (Sutton et al, 2014). The MAPCO<sub>2</sub> system  
88 provides high-resolution data that can measure interannual, seasonal, and sub-seasonal dynamics  
89 and constrain the impact of short- term biogeochemical variability on CO<sub>2</sub> flux. Overall uncertainty  
90 of the MAPCO<sub>2</sub> using in situ calibrations with certified gas standards and post-deployment standard  
91 operating procedures is < 2 μatm for seawater partial pressure of CO<sub>2</sub> (pCO<sub>2</sub>) and <1μatm for air  
92 pCO<sub>2</sub>. The MAPCO<sub>2</sub> can maintain this level of uncertainty for over 400 days of autonomous  
93 operation and the measurements are consistent with ship- board seawater pCO<sub>2</sub> measurements.  
94 The MAPCO<sub>2</sub> system also provides direct measurements of pH.

95 The deployment of a MAPCO<sub>2</sub> system at the Bay of Bengal Ocean Acidification (BOBOA) mooring  
96 site, established at 15°N, 90°E on 23 November 2013, is providing the first continuous surface  
97 water carbon system measurements along with physical measurements in the northern Indian  
98 Ocean. Data from the time series reveal strong seasonal variations in pCO<sub>2</sub> in the surface water  
99 relative to the air, which are associated with the monsoon seasonal cycle, with a slight  
100 predominance of ingassing over the annual cycle (*Figure 8.3*; Hood et al., 2017). Multiple  
101 deployments of MAPCO<sub>2</sub> systems on RAMA moorings could fill in the current large temporal gaps  
102 in carbon system measurement in the Indian Ocean that cannot be addressed by the infrequent  
103 large-scale GO-SHIP surveys.

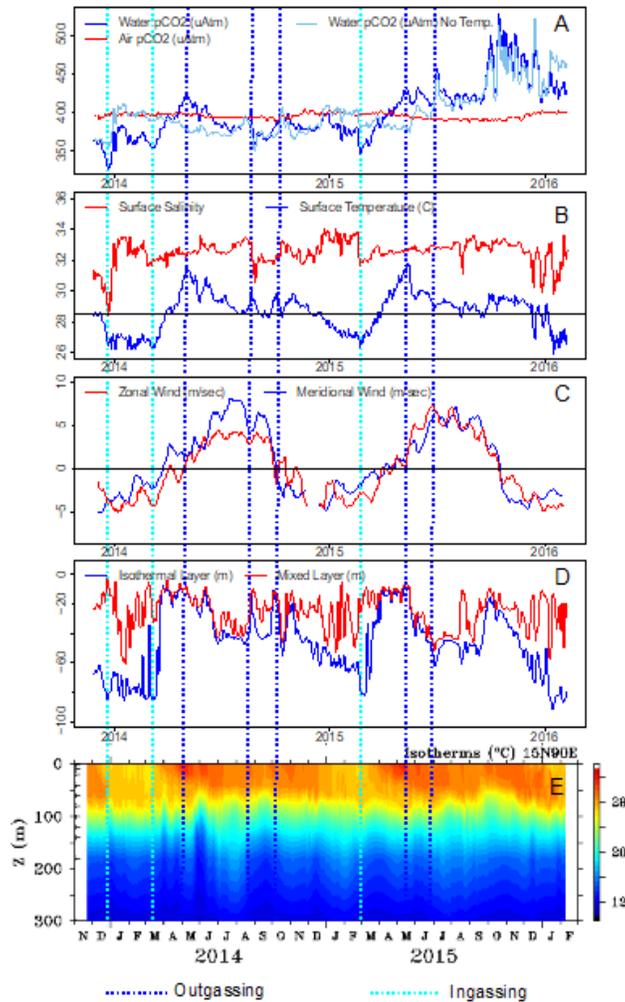


Figure 8.3 Time series plots from the BOBOA mooring of: (A) pCO<sub>2</sub> in the water (dark blue), in the air (red) and with the temperature effect removed (light blue); (B) surface temperature (blue) and salinity (red); (C) zonal (red) and meridional (blue) wind speed; (D) isothermal layer (blue) and mixed layer (red) depth; and (E) water column temperature down to 300 meters depth.

104 **8.3 Recommendations for collection of these EOVS in the context of**  
 105 **IndOOS**

106 IndOOS should seek additional resources to enable deployment of MAPCO<sub>2</sub> systems on RAMA  
 107 moorings. The RAMA mooring array design/deployment team has identified 8 sites for air-sea  
 108 observatories (Flux Reference Sites, Figure 8.4 and Table 8.1). These sites should be targeted for  
 109 deployment of the MAPCO<sub>2</sub> systems (one per mooring) because they provide all of the additional  
 110 atmospheric and physical oceanographic measurements that are needed to calculate the derived  
 111 products mentioned above and, in particular, air-sea flux of CO<sub>2</sub>.

**Research Moored Array for African–Asian–Australian  
Monsoon Analysis and Prediction (*RAMA*)**

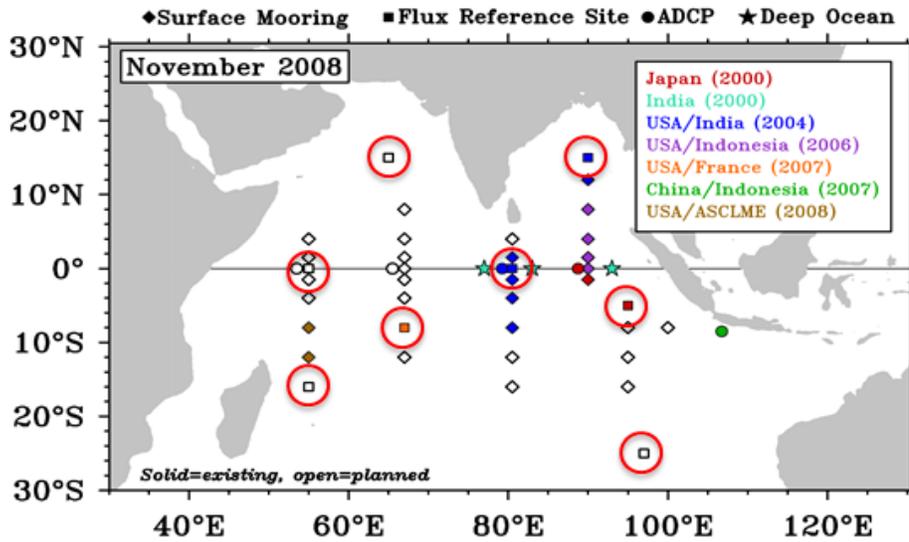


Figure 8.4 The RAMA mooring array Flux Reference Sites (circled in red).

112 In addition, collaboration between GO-SHIP and IndoOS provides a potential opportunity to add  
 113 large-scale carbon system measurements to IndoOS. GO-SHIP should become an integral  
 114 component of IndoOS, providing high-quality carbon system measurements, along with heat,  
 115 freshwater, oxygen, nutrients and transient tracers in the Indian Ocean along dedicated repeated  
 116 hydrographic lines.

## 9. Oceanic fluxes: Boundary currents and Indonesian Throughflow

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### 1 9.1 Motivation

2 Ocean boundary currents of the Indian Ocean, including western boundary currents and eastern  
3 boundary currents, are narrow and fast-flowing currents along boundaries of the ocean basin, are  
4 important for heat transport, nutrient distribution and marine productivity, and ocean climate on  
5 regional and basin scales. The enclosed northern Indian Ocean boundary, seasonally-reversing  
6 monsoonal forcing, and the connection with the Pacific engender some of the unique oceanography  
7 features of the Indian Ocean. Most notable is the low-latitude connection to the Pacific Ocean  
8 through the Indonesian Seas, the Indonesian throughflow (ITF), providing a pathway from the large  
9 heat store of the Western Pacific warm pool into the tropical Indian Ocean. The magnitude and  
10 variability of the ITF are important to the basin budgets of both Pacific and Indian Oceans. The ITF  
11 and the Agulhas Current form the warm route of the global overturning circulation, which regulates  
12 global climate on multi-decadal and centennial time scales. On average, 15 Sv from Agulhas leaks  
13 into Atlantic as surface arm of Atlantic Meridional Overturning Circulation (AMOC, Beal et al., 2011).  
14 Strength of Agulhas and ITF are largest components of the Indian Ocean heat budget, but their  
15 contribution to the variability of basin scale heat budget is still not well quantified (chapter 1.7).

16 Globally, subtropical western boundary currents are the fastest warming regions of the world ocean  
17 (Wu et al., 2012); they integrate changes from across the basin and carry vast amounts of heat  
18 poleward, influencing the overlying atmosphere (Figure 9.1). Models and reanalyses have  
19 suggested that western boundary currents are strengthening with climate change (Wu et al., 2012),  
20 yet direct observations point to an increase in their eddy kinetic energy instead (e.g. Beal and Elipot,  
21 2016). The Agulhas leakage is expected to increase with climate change (Bjastoch et al., 2013)  
22 and could weaken AMOC (Weijer et al., 2002). The ITF is observed to have strengthened during  
23 the climate change hiatus in recent decades (Liu et al., 2015), reversing a previous declining trend  
24 (Wainwright et al., 2008). The ITF is projected to weaken under the influence of human-induced  
25 climate change (sen Gupta et al., 2016; Feng et al., 2017). There are still substantial uncertainties  
26 in the decadal and centennial changes of the ITF and the boundary current systems in the Indian  
27 Ocean in both observations and numerical models, with neither yet able to fully resolve these  
28 narrow, dynamic systems.

29 Almost all the countries in the Indian Ocean region are developing countries which are often  
30 densely populated. In general, ocean boundary currents of the Indian Ocean have not been well  
31 observed under the IndOOS program due to severe lack of resources from the bordering countries.  
32 The narrow, intense nature of boundary currents requires finely spaced instrumentation to observe  
33 their structure and variability. The environment is challenging because the instruments are  
34 susceptible to human interference and require robust engineering to manage long-term deep  
35 deployments. Sustained observations of these boundary currents are crucial to quantify their  
36 contribution to the basin scale heat and freshwater balances and to better constrain future climate  
37 projections of the Indian Ocean circulation and climate.

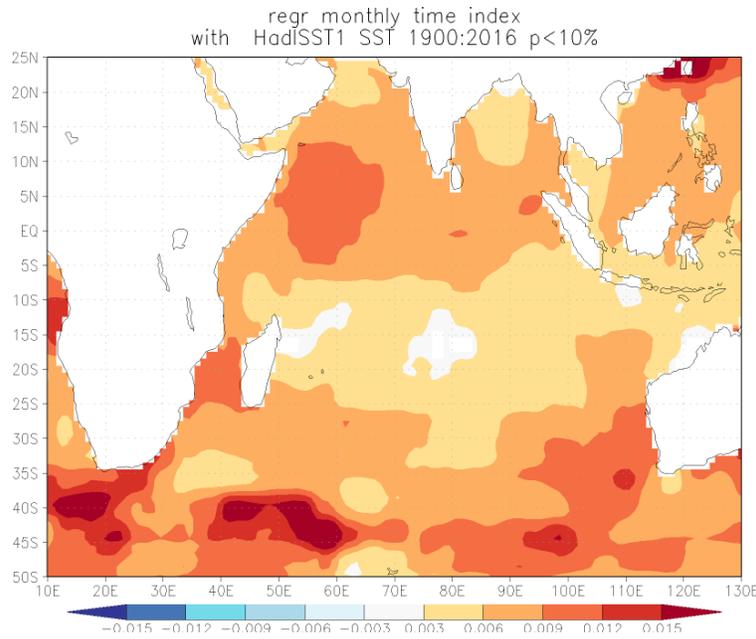


Figure 9.1 Linear trend of sea surface temperature the Indian Ocean during 1900-2016 (unit: K/year)./ HadISST1 data are used to derive the trend. Generated from Climate Explorer.

## 38 9.2 Background

### 39 9.2.1 Indonesian Throughflow

40 The ITF conveys volume, heat, and freshwater fluxes from the tropical Pacific into the southeastern  
 41 Indian Ocean through the complex topography and narrow passages of the Indonesian Seas. There  
 42 are three main pathways of the ITF: the Karimata Strait, Makassar Strait, and Lifamatola passage.  
 43 The ITF exits into the Indian Ocean mainly through the Timor passage, Ombai Strait, Lombok Strait,  
 44 and the Sunda Strait, with an average transport of 15 Sv (Figure 9.2; Sprintall et al., 2009; Susanto  
 45 et al., 2016). Tidal mixing and air-sea interaction in the Indonesian Seas strongly modify the ITF  
 46 water properties (i.e Ffield and Gordon, 1996; Alford et al., 1999; Hatayama, 2004; Koch-Larrouy  
 47 et al., 2007; 2010; 2015; Nagai and Hibiya, 2015; Ray and Susanto, 2016). The ITF variability is  
 48 influenced by El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO) and Inter-decadal Pacific Oscillation (IPO) from  
 49 the Pacific and by the Indian Ocean Dipole (see chapter 1.6) variability (e.g. Deckker, 2016; Lee et  
 50 al., 2015; Sprintall et al., 2014; Liu et al., 2015). Climate models project a significant decline of the  
 51 ITF transport in the future, mostly associated with weakening of the deep upwelling in the Pacific  
 52 and the slowdown of the global overturning circulation (sen Gupta et al., 2016; Feng et al., 2017).  
 53 With the increase in the intensity of ENSO variability under a warming climate (Cai et al., 2014;  
 54 2015), the ITF variability may also increase.

55 Sustained *in situ* measurements of the ITF are logistically challenging and expensive. The longest-  
 56 running time series of 30 years is from the IX1 XBT line between Fremantle, Australia and Sunda  
 57 Strait, Indonesia, currently occupied bi-weekly (chapter 2.3). This line captures the upper ocean  
 58 geostrophic structure of the ITF outflow as it first enters the Indian Ocean (Meyers et al. 1995,  
 59 Wijffels et al. 2008). These observations have also revealed that ITF geostrophic transport is strong  
 60 during La Nina, and weaker during El Nino, Meyers 1996), and that it has been increasing at a rate  
 61 of 1 Sv per decade over the past 30 years (Liu et al., 2015). Measurements in all major ITF  
 62 passages were taken simultaneously for the first time from 2003 to 2007 (Gordon et al., 2010;  
 63 Sprintall et al., 2009; Susanto et al., 2012; Van Aken et al., 2009), revealing a total ITF transport of  
 64 15 Sv. Subsequently, the South China Sea throughflow in the Karimata and Sunda Straits was  
 65 measured from 2007 to 2016 (Fang et al., 2010; Susanto et al., 2010; 2013; Wei et al., 2015).  
 66 Major results from the analysis of these observations and associated modelling work reveal that

67 the ITF has maximum velocities near 100 m depth, with less volume carried in surface waters than  
 68 previously thought; El Nino causes a shoaling and slowing of the ITF; and intense vertical mixing  
 69 produces upwelling and cooling of surface waters in the Indonesian Seas that affects regional  
 70 precipitation and wind patterns (Sprintall et al. 2014).

71 Whereas the IX1 XBT line relies on a reference depth to derive the upper ocean geostrophic  
 72 transport and doesn't resolve processes below 700m, the direct mooring observations were only  
 73 for a much shorter period. Techniques for developing a proxy-ITF monitoring system are ultimately  
 74 needed in order to ensure cost-effective, long-term ITF transport information. Proxies, such as from  
 75 satellite sea surface height observations work well for the case where ITF transport is concentrated  
 76 only in the upper layer (Potemra et al., 1997; Potemra 2005; Sprintall and Revelard, 2014; Susanto  
 77 et al., 2007; van Aken 2009). A combined geostrophic-hydraulic formulation to estimate the full-  
 78 depth ITF transport, which draws upon altimetry sea surface height for the surface layer  
 79 (geostrophic balance) and ocean bottom pressure for the deeper-layer (hydraulic control) (Susanto  
 80 and Song, 2015), provides a two-layer proxy framework.

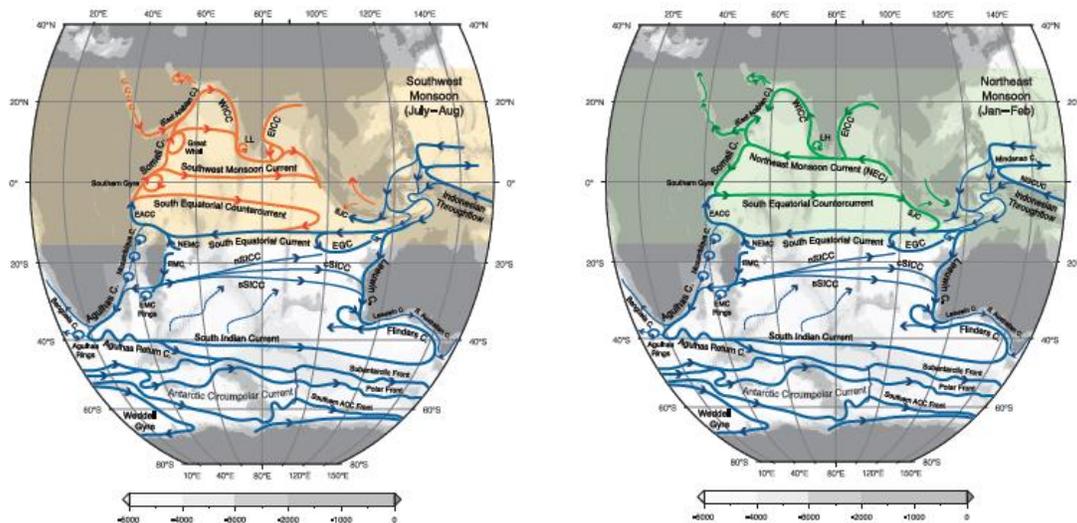


Figure 9.2 Surface circulation of the Indian Ocean in boreal summer and winter. Adapted from Talley et al. (2011), with Southern Indian Ocean interior circulation after Menezes et al. (2013; 2014). Art work: Louise Bell.

### 81 9.2.2 Eastern boundary current systems

82 The meridional pressure gradient in the southeast Indian Ocean provides the driving force for the  
 83 Leeuwin Current, and also supports broad eastward currents that feed into the Leeuwin Current  
 84 (Figure 9.2; Thompson 1984; McCreary et al. 1986; Furue et al. 2017). The Leeuwin Current  
 85 transports warm, fresh tropical waters southwards and is important for the upper ocean heat and  
 86 freshwater balances in the southeast Indian Ocean (Domingues et al., 2007; Feng et al., 2008).  
 87 The Leeuwin Current also hosts broad-scale downwelling (Furue et al. 2017, Liang et al. 2017) of  
 88 the eastward surface currents into the depths of the Leeuwin Undercurrent (200-1000m) to create  
 89 a zonal overturning cell in the upper 1000m of about 4 Sv (Furue et al. 2017). The Leeuwin  
 90 Undercurrent carries waters of Subantarctic origin along the western Australian coast (Woo and  
 91 Pattiaratchi 2008), leaving the coast near 22°S contributing the lower limb of the zonal overturning  
 92 (Furue et al. 2017). Theories around the Leeuwin Current dynamics predict the surface current will  
 93 strengthen southward in response to the zonal inflow of mass (Furue et al. 2013, Benthuisen et al.  
 94 2014), however, this strong downwelling at the coast counters these ideas and is likely a key to the  
 95 not yet understood dynamics of the Leeuwin Undercurrent.

96 The Leeuwin Current system channels Pacific influences such as ENSO and IPO into the Indian  
 97 Ocean through the planetary waveguides (Feng et al., 2003; Wijffels and Meyers 2004). The

98 Leeuwin Current is strong during La Nina and negative Inter-decadal Pacific Oscillation (IPO)  
99 phase. An unseasonably strong Leeuwin Current during the 2010-11 La Nina event in the negative  
100 phase of IPO instigated an unprecedented marine heat wave off the west coast of Australia (Feng  
101 et al., 2013), damaging the marine ecosystems (also see chapter 1.4.3). IPO anomalies transmitted  
102 through the Pacific-Indian waveguide have been suggested to influence decadal variations of  
103 Indian Ocean thermocline depth (Han et al., 2014) and the shallow overturning circulation (e.g.  
104 Zhuang et al., 2013).

105 Measurements of the Leeuwin Current have been patchy. Since 2009, the Australian IMOS  
106 program has been monitoring the Leeuwin Current system using ADCP and thermistor moorings  
107 and monthly/quarterly glider surveys. The mooring observations have been confined to the shelf  
108 within the 500 m isobath. The southern end of the IX1 XBT line does not provide sufficient data  
109 resolution to capture the interannual variations of the Leeuwin Current. So far, most of the  
110 interannual and decadal variations of the Leewin Current have been inferred from the Fremantle  
111 sea level observation in the IndOOS tide gauge network (Feng et al., 2003; Feng et al., 2011;  
112 chapter 2.6).

113 The South Java Current system provides an important oceanic waveguide for communicating  
114 tropical Indian Ocean climate variability into the Indonesian seas (Wijffels and Meyers, 2004;  
115 Sprintall et al., 2014). The region hosts strong coastal upwelling (Susanto et al., 2001; Susanto and  
116 Marra, 2005; see chapter 1.3) and is a key region for the development of the coupled atmosphere-  
117 ocean instability of the Indian Ocean Dipole (chapter 1.6).

118 RAMA moorings off the Sumatra-Java coast have been monitoring the coupled atmosphere-ocean  
119 processes of the boundary current system (chapter 2.3). Variability of the South Java Current has  
120 been partly surveyed by the IX1 XBT line, as a component of the total ITF transport variability. No  
121 designated observing program has been implemented for the South Java Current system.

### 122 **9.2.3 Western boundary currents**

123 The bulk of the ITF waters is carried westward in the South Equatorial Current and feed the Agulhas  
124 Current through the Mozambique Channel or the southern tip of Madagascar (Figure 9.2; Quartly  
125 et al., 2006, Nauw et al., 2008; Ridderinkhof et al., 2013). Agulhas system is a hotspot for air-sea  
126 interaction, pumping moisture into the atmosphere and accelerating winds (Rouault et al., 2003;  
127 Small et al., 2008). Rising sea surface temperatures over the Agulhas system (Figure 9.1; Wu et  
128 al., 2012) are expected to enhance coupling with the atmosphere, altering regional wind and rainfall  
129 patterns, and may act to dry the adjacent southern African continent (Rouault et al., 2010; Neukom  
130 et al., 2014). Ocean reanalyses suggest that warming of the Agulhas system is related to an  
131 intensification and poleward shift of the currents (Wu et al., 2012; Yang et al., 2016), driven by an  
132 intensification and poleward shift of the westerlies which is projected to continue over the twenty-  
133 first century under anthropogenic forcing (Cai, 2006; Sen Gupta et al., 2009; Biastoch & Boning,  
134 2013). In situ observations combined with satellite altimetry point instead to an increase in eddy  
135 kinetic energy throughout the system, such that the Agulhas Current has broadened but not  
136 strengthened over the past 25 years (Beal & Elipot, 2016). About 10% interannual variance of  
137 Agulhas teleconnected to ENSO, with resultant SST anomalies possibly linked to rainfall over  
138 Southern Africa (Rouault et al., 2010; Putrasahan et al., 2016; Dieppois et al., 2015; Elipot & Beal,  
139 in review).

140 The Mozambique Channel has emerged as a major thoroughfare of tropical/subtropical exchange  
141 (Ridderinkhof et al., 2010). Observations of Mozambique Channel inflow from 2003 to 2012  
142 measured a mean transport of 16.7 Sv with a maximum in austral winter, and IOD-related  
143 interannual variability of 8.9 Sv (Ridderinkhof et al., 2010). During 2010-2013 the Agulhas Current  
144 Time-series project measured the variability of the western boundary current proper using an array  
145 of moorings beneath a satellite altimeter ground track at around 34°S off South Africa. The transport  
146 was found to be 85 Sv in the mean, including about 25 Sv of ITF and overturning transport. The  
147 transport varies by 10 Sv throughout the year, with a maximum in austral summer (Figure 9.3; Beal  
148 et al., 2015), opposite to that in the Mozambique Channel. The pilot of a sustained array in the

149 Agulhas Current as part of IndOOS, the Agulhas System Climate Array (ASCA), began in April  
 150 2016 through collaboration between South African, US, and Dutch scientists. ASCA consists of full-  
 151 depth current, temperature, and salinity measurements, with offshore CPIES able to capture the  
 152 flow during meander events (Figure 9.3).

153 During boreal summer monsoon, the East African Coastal Current overshoots the equator to supply  
 154 the northward Somali Current along the boundary (Schott and McCreary 2001, Beal et al., 2013).  
 155 Its strength builds from about 5 Sv in June to 37 Sv in September (Beal and Chereskin, 2003).  
 156 During boreal winter monsoon, the Somali Current is weaker and flows southward. The Somali  
 157 Current is important in the shallow overturning circulation of the Indian Ocean, supplying water to  
 158 the upwelling along the western boundary and compensating the cross-equatorial Ekman transport  
 159 (Schott et al. 2009). Roles of the Somali Current in upwelling, monsoon rainfall, and Arabian Sea  
 160 heat balance are poorly understood, but expected to be rather important given its up to 40 Sv  
 161 transport (e.g. Beal and Chereskin, 2003).

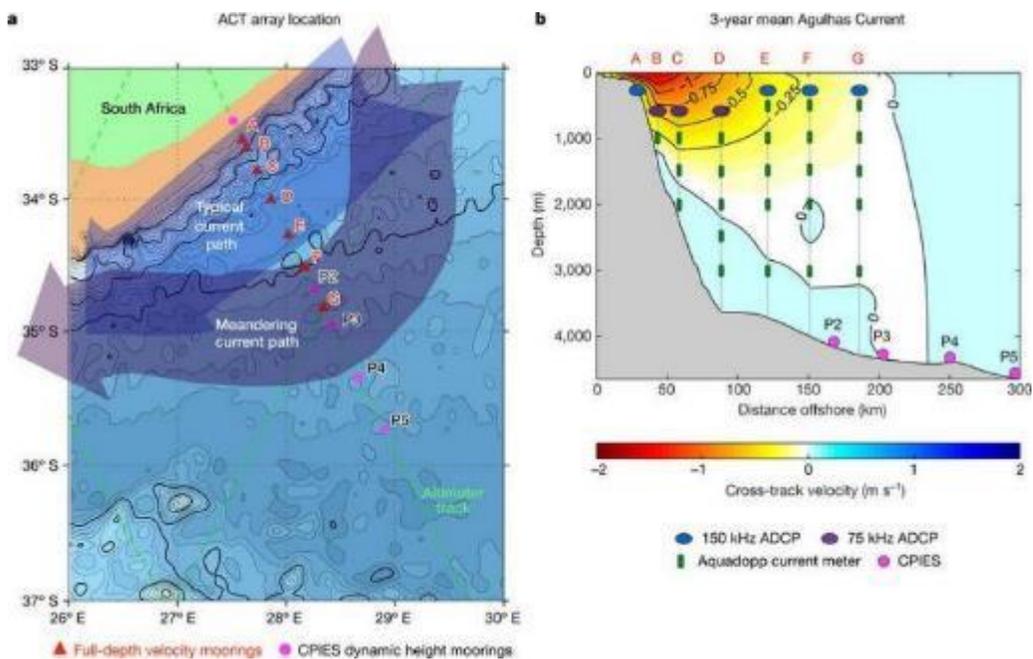


Figure 9.3: Geographical location of ACT mooring array (a) and Vertical section of the mooring array superposed on the 3-year mean cross-track velocity. From Beal and Elipot, 2016.

### 162 9.3 Essential Ocean Variables (EOV)

163 It is essential to capture decadal variations of the Indian Ocean’s boundary currents and the ITF in  
 164 order to understand their roles, as capacitors for Pacific variability and as carriers of heat and  
 165 freshwater, in driving decadal climate variability and rapid warming trends in the Indian Ocean.  
 166 Sustained observations of boundary currents have been a priority for international CLIVAR/GOOS  
 167 for almost a decade, as articulated in an OceanObs09 white paper. Yet currently there is no  
 168 framework in place for systematic coverage of any of the boundary currents of the Indian Ocean.  
 169 Sustained observing of the following EOVs are needed:

- 170 • Velocity, temperature, salinity, and pressure at daily to weekly resolution at the Indonesian  
 171 throughflow inflow and outflow channels.
- 172 • Upper ocean temperature measurements at 50-100 km, at weekly-monthly resolution  
 173 between Australia and Indonesia and between Australia and the Red Sea, with enhanced  
 174 salinity measurements from Argo floats.

- 175 • Full-depth velocity, temperature, salinity, and pressure in key western boundary current  
176 systems, including the Somali Current and Agulhas Current, at daily to weekly resolution,  
177 dependent on regional tides and variance.
- 178 • Upper ocean velocity, temperature, salinity, and pressure measurements in key eastern  
179 boundary current systems, such as the Leeuwin Current and the South Java Current; it is  
180 desirable to integrate the physical measurements with nutrient, plankton biomass and  
181 carbon measurements.

## 182 **9.4 IndOOS recommendations**

183 Maintain the frequently repeated IX1 XBT section across the ITF, and enhance the section with  
184 additional salinity measurements by using XCTDs and/or by increasing the density of Argo floats  
185 around IX1; There is a need to have more emphasis on the end point measurements of the IX1  
186 section, especially at the northern end of the Sumatra-Java coast to resolve the South Java  
187 Current.

188 Maintain the frequently repeated IX12 XBT section across the Somali Current system.

189 Establish an international alliance to coherently monitor the ITF volume and heat transport as well  
190 as biogeochemical fluxes in different inflow and exit channels, to aid the interpretation of the  
191 geostrophic transport estimates from the IX01 XBT section.

192 Maintain the ASCA mooring array for the Agulhas Current system; Integrated observing systems  
193 maintained through regional alliances and combining moorings, gliders, and periodic ship  
194 measurements are optimal.

195 Establish a boundary current array for the Leeuwin Current to monitor the coastal waveguide along  
196 the Australian coast to assess the influences of decadal Pacific climate on the Indian Ocean, and  
197 combined mooring and gliders observations will be optimal.

198 Maintain the existing network of island and coastal sea level stations and ensure open accessibility  
199 of sea level data from this network, so that historical boundary current transports such as the  
200 Leeuwin Current as well as the ITF can be estimated using sea level proxies – Fremantle sea level  
201 records have been crucial to monitor the Pacific influences on the interannual and decadal  
202 variability of the Leeuwin Current and their impacts on the interior southern Indian Ocean, as well  
203 as evaluating numerical model performance.

204 Maintain satellite altimeter missions to characterize long term variations of mesoscale eddy  
205 energetics in the ocean boundary currents in the Indian Ocean.

## 10. Decadal variability and predictability

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### 1 10.1 Motivations: Indian Ocean contribution to decadal climate 2 predictability

3 Modes of decadal internal climate variability have been clearly identified in the Pacific (the IPO or  
4 Interdecadal Pacific Oscillation, e.g. Alexander 2010; Liu 2012) and Atlantic (the Atlantic Meridional  
5 Oscillation or AMO, e.g. Liu 2012). This is not the case for the Indian Ocean: the lack of data and  
6 dedicated studies make decadal variability in this basin a “grey area” (Han et al. 2014a). This is a  
7 problem for attributing climate change signals in this basin. For instance, is the rapid ~1°C Indian  
8 Ocean surface warming between 1950 and 2015 (compared to the ~0.6°C global average) due to  
9 a faster response to climate change in this basin or natural decadal climate variability (Lau and  
10 Weng 1999; Alory et al. 2007; Roxy et al. 2014)? Indian Ocean decadal variability may also have  
11 played an important role in the recent global warming “hiatus”. A negative IPO phase during the  
12 2000-2010 decade has promoted a colder Pacific ocean that has pumped more heat than usual  
13 from the atmosphere, hence yielding a slowdown of global warming (e.g. Kosaka and Xie 2013).  
14 The Indian Ocean recent fast warming appears to have contributed to this negative IPO phase by  
15 enhancing the Walker circulation (Luo et al. 2012; Han et al. 2014b; Hamlington et al. 2014; Li et  
16 al. 2015). A significant fraction of the Pacific heat uptake has also been pushed to the Indian Ocean  
17 via the Indonesian throughflow (Lee et al. 2015; Nieves et al. 2015; Liu et al. 2016). Whether this  
18 extra heat in the Indian Ocean will re-surface or stay at depth during the coming decades could  
19 influence the evolution of the global surface temperature (Vialard, 2015), hence making the Indian  
20 Ocean a potentially important region for decadal climate predictions. The Indian Ocean is also the  
21 region of highest skill for decadal surface temperature predictions, due to a relatively weak internal  
22 variability there (Guemas et al. 2012), offering potential prospects for decadal regional climate  
23 projections. **There is hence a strong need to characterize natural decadal Indian Ocean  
24 variability in order to attribute climate change signals in this region, and predict the global  
25 climate evolution over the coming decades.**

### 26 10.2 What is known about IO decadal variability?

27 The Pacific and Indian Oceans are closely connected through their common warm pool, which  
28 energizes the planetary-scale Walker circulation. This results in a close connection of the two  
29 basins at the interannual time-scale. The eastward shift of the Walker circulation during El Niño  
30 events induces subsidence over the Indian Ocean, leading to a basin-scale warming through  
31 enhanced solar fluxes and local air-sea feedbacks (e.g. Klein et al. 1999; Xie et al. 2009). El Niño  
32 events also tend to trigger positive IOD events (e.g. Annamalai et al. 2003). A close connection  
33 between the two basins is hence expected at decadal timescales.

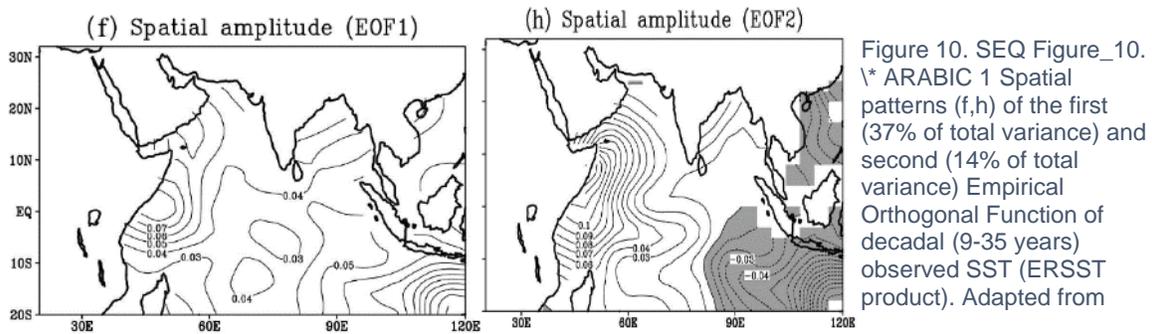


Figure 10. SEQ Figure\_10. \\* ARABIC 1 Spatial patterns (f,h) of the first (37% of total variance) and second (14% of total variance) Empirical Orthogonal Function of decadal (9-35 years) observed SST (ERSST product). Adapted from

34 The leading mode of decadal Indian Ocean SST variability is associated with a relatively  
 35 homogenous basin-scale signal (*Figure 10.1*), referred to as the decadal Indian Ocean Basin-mode  
 36 (decadal IOB). The decadal IOB is in phase with the IPO (Tozuka et al. 2007, Han et al. 2014b,  
 37 Dong et al. 2016). “Pacemaker” experiments with specified SST in the equatorial Pacific are able  
 38 to reproduce the observed decadal IOB phase, demonstrating that the decadal modulation of  
 39 ENSO is its primary driver, essentially through zonal shifts in the Walker circulation, similarly to  
 40 what happens at the interannual timescale (Dong et al. 2016). Han et al. (2014b) however remarked  
 41 that the phase agreement between the IOB and IPO has broken down since the 1980s, with a  
 42 negative IPO phase coinciding with an anomalously warm Indian Ocean over the 2000-2010  
 43 decade. This may be a consequence of a faster warming trend of the IO relative to the Pacific on  
 44 inter-decadal time-scales (Luo et al. 2012; Han et al. 2014b; Dong and McPhaden 2017) and  
 45 volcanic eruptions on decadal time-scales (W. Han, pers. Comm.). The resulting unique SST  
 46 pattern (cold Pacific, warm Indian Ocean) may have contributed to enhance Pacific easterlies  
 47 (Dong and McPhaden 2017), resulting in an unprecedented sea-level rise in the western Pacific  
 48 (Han et al. 2014b) and heat transfer to the Indian Ocean over the last decade (Lee et al. 2015,  
 49 Nieves et al. 2016).

50 The second mode of decadal tropical Indian Ocean SST variability is associated with an east-west  
 51 SST dipole (*Figure 10.1*) which has been interpreted as a decadal modulation of the Indian Ocean  
 52 Dipole (Ashok et al. 2004, Tozuka et al. 2007). Positive IODs are associated with a large sea-level  
 53 signal in the southern tropical Indian Ocean, while the sea-level signal associated with ENSO is  
 54 much weaker (e.g. Yu et al. 2005). There is unfortunately a large spread in the decadal sea-level  
 55 variability reconstructed from observations in this region (*Figure 10.2*, Nidheesh et al. 2017; see  
 56 chapter 14 for a more detailed discussion of decadal Indian Ocean sea-level variations). While  
 57 some products (Nidheesh et al. 2017) or the short altimetry record (Lee and McPhaden 2008)  
 58 suggest coherent variations with those associated with the IPO in the Pacific, other studies suggest  
 59 that the IOD decadal modulation is relatively independent from the IPO (Ashok et al. 2004, Tozuka  
 60 et al. 2007; Nidheesh et al. 2013). The large uncertainties on the observed decadal Indian Ocean  
 61 sea level (Nidheesh et al. 2017) and wind (Nidheesh et al. 2013) variability however prevent a  
 62 thorough assessment of decadal IOD-IPO coupling through the Walker Circulation.

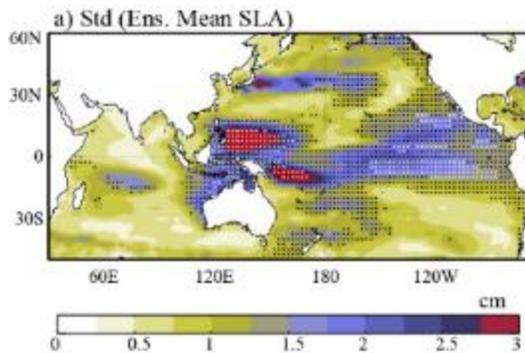


Figure 10. SEQ Figure\_10. \^ ARABIC 2 Standard deviation of the ensemble-mean decadal sea-level variability from ten gridded, observationally-derived sea-level products over the 1960-2010 period. Black (resp. white) dots indicate regions where the inter-product spread is smaller (resp. twice smaller) than the standard deviation of the ensemble-mean, i.e. where sea-level decadal variability is well constrained by available-products. This figure illustrates that decadal sea-level variability is much more uncertain in the Indian Ocean than in the Pacific. It also suggests two regions of strong variability near the west coast of Australia and in the South-western tropical Indian Ocean.

63 The subtropical Indian Ocean dipole is a meridional SST dipole, peaking in austral summer, and  
 64 associated with fluctuations in the Mascarene anticyclone intensity (Behera et al. 2001). Yamagami  
 65 and Tozuka (2015) have shown in ocean modelling experiments that this subtropical SST dipole is  
 66 decadal modulated, as a result of decadal fluctuations of oceanic mixed layer depth in the  
 67 subtropical Indian Ocean: there is however no mixed layer data available to further study decadal  
 68 fluctuations in this region.

69 In addition to the Walker circulation atmospheric bridge described above, the Indian Ocean is also  
 70 connected to the Pacific via the Indonesian throughflow. There is an average mass, heat and  
 71 freshwater transport from the Pacific to the Indian Ocean via the throughflow (e.g. Gordon et al.  
 72 2010). This mass and heat transport is increased during La Niña events, with a clear sea level rise  
 73 signal along the west coast of Australia and Leeuwin current strengthening as a result (e.g. Feng  
 74 et al. 2003). At the decadal timescale, negative IPO phases also induce positive sea-level signals  
 75 off the west coast of Australia (Feng et al. 2004), which are robust in most of the available  
 76 observationally-derived sea-level datasets (Figure 10.2, Nidheesh et al. 2017). The negative IPO  
 77 phase since the 1990s has favored more frequent warm events with large ecosystem  
 78 consequences along the west coast of Australia (Ningaloo Niños, Feng et al. 2013, Feng et al.  
 79 2015). The modulation of the eastern equatorial Indian Ocean heat content by the IPO through the  
 80 oceanic bridge also appears to influence the IOD, with more frequent positive IODs during positive  
 81 IPO phases (Ummenhofer et al. 2017), although those changes may have occurred through the  
 82 atmospheric bridge. Finally, as noted earlier, an important fraction of the heat uptake in the Pacific  
 83 during the last decade negative IPO phase was transferred to the Indian Ocean following this  
 84 pathway (e.g. Lee et al. 2015; Nieves et al. 2015). Whether this heat will re-surface or not once in  
 85 the Indian Ocean has important implications for the future evolution of global surface temperature.

86 Recent studies have suggested a decadal regional sea-level rise in the northern Indian Ocean,  
 87 partly attributed to decadal fluctuations in the cross equatorial cell (CEC, Schott et al. 2002)  
 88 intensity (Thompson et al. 2016), with a possible role of air-sea fluxes (Srinivasu et al. 2017). Dong  
 89 and McPhaden (2016) have suggested that, despite this sea level rise signal, the heat content has  
 90 increased more in the southern than in the Northern Indian ocean over the last decade (i.e. most  
 91 of heat input from the throughflow remains south of the equator), leading to a decadal  
 92 interhemispheric SST gradient change, presumably through a reduction in the vertical turbulent  
 93 transport of heat from the surface layer the deep ocean. Large uncertainties in this region (Figure  
 94 10.2) however currently prevent a thorough assessment of the decadal mass and heat content  
 95 changes in the northern Indian Ocean.

### 96 10.3 EOVs for Indian Ocean decadal climate variability and predictability

97 As was underlined in section 10.1, better describing Indian Ocean decadal climate variability is a  
 98 must for detecting climate change signals in this under-sampled basin & for global decadal climate

99 projections. The overall picture of natural decadal Indian Ocean climate variability is however very  
100 incomplete, with many questions that have yet to be resolved. For instance, is the recent apparent  
101 decoupling between the IPO and decadal IOB a result of external forcing (rapid Indian Ocean  
102 warming associated with anthropogenic climate change and/or decadal SST variability due to  
103 volcanic eruptions), and did this contribute to the unusually fast sea level rise in the western Pacific  
104 and heat transfer to the Indian Ocean over the 2000-2010 decade? Is decadal IOD modulation  
105 partially coupled with the IPO through the Walker circulation or through the Indonesian throughflow  
106 (Ummenhofer et al. 2017), or is it independent as initially suggested by Ashok et al. (2004) and  
107 Tozuka et al. (2007)? Is the northern Indian Ocean sea-level and heat content decadal modulated  
108 through changes in the CEC strength? What are the impacts on the monsoons of the decadal  
109 interhemispheric SST gradient variations as a result of the decadal modulation of the Indonesian  
110 throughflow (Dong and McPhaden, 2016)? Are there other modes of decadal climate variability  
111 intrinsic to the Indian Ocean? What combination of physical processes, e.g. air-sea heat exchange,  
112 changes in ocean circulation and upper ocean heat content, planetary waves etc., give rise to the  
113 observed decadal time scale variations? Our limited ability to answer these questions based on the  
114 existing Indian Ocean observational record stresses the utmost importance of **sustained basin-**  
115 **scale observations over several decades in key regions for decadal climate variability**  
116 **quantification, with a at least ~monthly resolution.** These observations include:

- 117 1. The transport of mass, heat and freshwater into the Indian Ocean through the Indonesian  
118 throughflow.
- 119 2. Sea surface temperature, with special emphasis on key regions like in the eastern  
120 equatorial Indian Ocean (the dynamical core of IOD variability).
- 121 3. Consistent, multi-decadal ocean surface wind stress vector, with special emphasis in the  
122 central equatorial and southern-tropical Indian Ocean (where IOD wind signals are  
123 strongest).
- 124 4. Sea-level and upper ocean heat content, with special emphasis on a) the southern tropical  
125 Indian Ocean (both off the west coast of Australia where signals are large and coherent  
126 across datasets but also in the southwestern tropical Indian Ocean where existing products  
127 suggest large but inconsistent signals); and b) the northern tropical Indian ocean (where a  
128 recent, unprecedented sea level rise has been observed).
- 129 5. Volume and heat transports in key regions: cross-equatorial cell (including the Somali  
130 boundary current), transport across 32°S (including the Agulhas and Leeuwin boundary  
131 currents).
- 132 6. Net surface heat and constituent turbulent and radiative components.

#### 133 **10.4 Actionable recommendations**

134 Based on the suggested Essential Ocean Variables listed above, the actionable recommendations  
135 on the current IndOOS design follow:

- 136 a. Maintain the IX01 XBT line with a monthly resolution at least: allows monitoring geostrophic  
137 mass and heat transport at the throughflow exit and crosses the region of strong decadal  
138 sea-level signal off the west coast of Australia (points 1 and 4 above). Experimental glider  
139 doubling of the IX01 line.
- 140 b. Complete and maintain RAMA for observing and diagnosing surface and upper ocean  
141 variability in key regions and to ensure the inter-calibration of successive satellite missions,  
142 which is essential for producing a decadal record (points 2-6 above)
- 143 c. Maintain the Argo network in the entire Indian Ocean (points 4 and 5 above)
- 144 d. Maintain satellite observations and intercalibration-work that allow the development of  
145 basin-scale wind and SST records that span several decades and can be trusted in  
146 rainy/cloudy regions (points 2 and 3 above)

- 147  
148
- e. Maintain the existing network of island and coastal sea level stations and ensure open accessibility of sea level data from this network.
- 149  
150  
151
- f. Develop collaborations with the paleo-proxy community to provide long records of the SST variability in the IOD eastern pole and sea level variability near the west coast of Australia (e.g. Zinke et al. 2015), Chagos archipelago and Mascarene Islands (point 4 above).

## 11. Anthropogenic climate change in the Indian Ocean

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### 1 11.1 Background

2 The Indian Ocean is responding quickly to anthropogenic climate change, in terms of increasing  
3 surface temperatures and heat content, rising sea level and an intensified water cycle (IPCC 2013).  
4 This has important consequences for the climate system and impacts the food, water and energy  
5 security of Indian Ocean rim countries, which host one third of the world population. Changes in  
6 the Indian Ocean can affect the monsoon system, resulting in extreme droughts, rainfall and high  
7 sea level events (Roxy et al. 2015; Kay et al. 2015). Recent studies show that the warming trend  
8 of the Indian Ocean has far reaching impact, modulating the Pacific climate (e.g., Luo et al. 2012,  
9 Han et al. 2014, Hamlington et al. 2014), affecting the North Atlantic Oscillation (e.g., Hoerling et al.  
10 2004), and causing the West Sahel and Mediterranean droughts (e.g., Giannini et al. 2003; Hoerling  
11 et al. 2012). In light of these impacts, it is of immediate urgency that we should understand the  
12 extent and mechanisms of the changes in the Indian Ocean in a comprehensive manner, so as to  
13 respond effectively by taking the right measures for climate change adaptation and mitigation.

### 14 11.2 Detection and attribution of long-term changes in the Indian Ocean

#### 15 11.2.1 Warming in the Indian Ocean

16 Approximately 93% of the heat due to anthropogenic global warming has gone into the oceans  
17 since the 1950s (Glecker et al. 2012; Pierce et al. 2012; IPCC 2013; Gnanaseelan et al. 2017;  
18 Cheng et al. 2017). The Indian Ocean exhibits a basin wide warming in sea surface temperature  
19 (SST) during this period (Figure 1a; Lau and Weng 1999; Alory et al. 2007; Ihara et al. 2008; Du  
20 and Xie 2008; Rao et al. 2012; Roxy et al. 2014, Dong et al. 2014a,b). While the global mean SST  
21 warming is about 0.67°C and the tropical SST warming is about 0.83°C during 1950-2015, the  
22 tropical Indian Ocean SST has warmed by 1.04°C (numbers from ERSST v4 data).

23 The Indian Ocean basin-mean temperature has experienced consistent warming from the surface  
24 to 2000 m during recent decades, and most of the warming has occurred in the upper 300 m (Pierce  
25 et al. 2006; Cheng et al. 2015), with a substantial increase in ocean heat content (OHC) in the  
26 upper 700 m of the south Indian Ocean (Levitus et al. 2012). The upper 2000m OHC increase in  
27 the Indian Ocean (north of 34°S) is  $0.41 \times 10^{22}$  Joules per decade from 1960 to 2015, based on a  
28 new historical OHC estimate (Cheng et al. 2017). Particularly, the Indian Ocean upper 700m OHC  
29 increased abruptly after 1998 (Figure 1b), at a rate of about  $1.60 \times 10^{22}$  Joules per decade,  
30 accounting for more than 28% of the global ocean heat gain, despite only representing ~12% of  
31 the global ocean area. This suggests that the Indian Ocean has recently been an important heat  
32 sink, offsetting accelerating anthropogenic global warming over the two last decades.

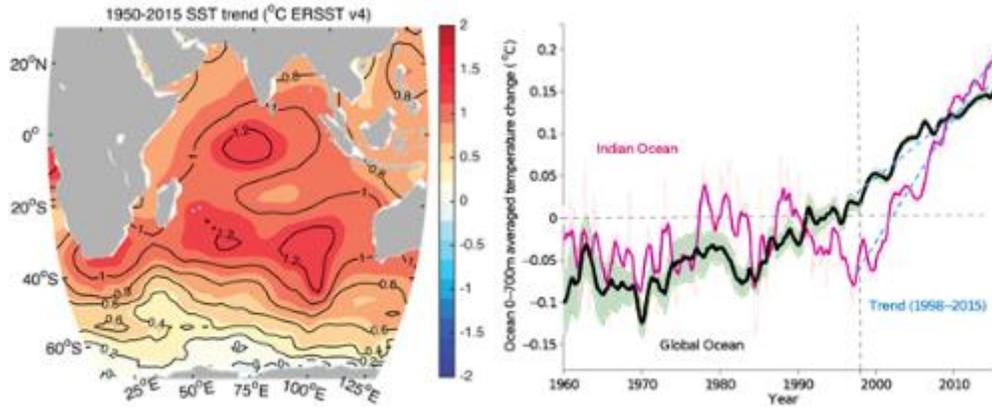


Figure 11.1. a) 1950-2015 SST trend (ERSST v4) represented by total change in 66 years, and b) 12-month running mean time series of the 0-700m averaged temperature for the Global Ocean (black) and Indian Ocean (purple). For the global ocean, the green shading displays the 95% confidence interval. For the Indian Ocean, the thin purple line shows the monthly time series. The 1998 to 2015 linear trends for both series are displayed as blue dashed lines. The data are from IAP-Gridded dataset (Cheng et al. 2017).

33 Despite these inferences, there are substantial uncertainties in long-term changes in OHC due to  
 34 insufficient data coverage (Wang et al. 2017). Some analyses indicate that global ocean warming  
 35 is underestimated in some ocean datasets due to poor sampling of the Southern Hemisphere (Gille  
 36 2008, Durack et al. 2014) and limitations of the objective analysis methods used to fill in data gaps  
 37 (Cheng et al. 2017, Wang et al. 2017). Only 60% of Argo floats successfully reached profiling  
 38 depths of 2000 m in 2010 (Schuckmann and Le Traon 2011) and hence, the data coverage is still  
 39 a major challenge for reliable detection of deep ocean changes below 1500 m. The absence of  
 40 observations in the Indonesian Throughflow (ITF) region may also cause bias for the global and  
 41 regional scale OHC changes (Schuckmann and Le Traon 2011).

42 Climate model experiments indicate that anthropogenic forcing accounts for about 90% of the  
 43 surface warming in the Indian Ocean (Dong et al. 2014a,b). The basin-wide warming trend is  
 44 primarily attributed to atmospheric forcing via radiative and turbulent fluxes associated with  
 45 anthropogenic GHG forcing (Barnett et al. 2005; Pierce et al. 2006; Knutson et al. 2006; Du and  
 46 Xie 2008; Dong et al. 2014b), while anthropogenic aerosols have regional cooling effects (Figure  
 47 2; Dong et al. 2014a). Simulated basin-wide warming is not spatially uniform, but with a maximum  
 48 occurring in the tropical west-central Indian Ocean and a minimum in the south-eastern basin.  
 49 Analyses of climate model results indicate that local air-sea interaction (e.g., Liu et al. 2015, Rahul  
 50 and Gnanaseelan 2016, Yao et al. 2016) and ocean dynamics (Dong et al. 2014b, Rahul and  
 51 Gnanaseelan 2016, Luo et al. 2016) are responsible for the inhomogeneous warming over the  
 52 tropical Indian Ocean. Ocean dynamics results in the positive dipole-like warming pattern via  
 53 anomalous warm water advection, due to the surface easterly wind anomaly along the equator,  
 54 which is mainly associated with anthropogenic GHG forcing (Dong et al. 2014b). Though future  
 55 projections indicate an IOD-like pattern of mean changes, many of these model simulations have  
 56 large biases in the mean state and interannual IOD variance, and hence the warming patterns  
 57 could also be due to artifacts of model errors (Li et al. 2016).

58 In contrast to these simulated results, observations (Yu et al. 2007, Rao et al. 2012, Ummenhofer  
 59 et al. 2017) show a negative surface heat flux trend over the Indian Ocean (for the period 1984-  
 60 2007, Rao et al. 2012), which therefore cannot explain the observed surface warming.  
 61 Considerable uncertainty exists about the sign of the net heat flux into or out of the Indian Ocean  
 62 in some parts (Yu et al. 2007), and the surface fluxes over the global ocean are the most uncertain  
 63 geophysical measurement in the global ocean observing array at present. See Chapter 2 for more  
 64 details on air-sea fluxes.

65 Superimposed on the anthropogenic trend, Indian Ocean SSTs display considerable decadal  
 66 variations (see chapter 10 for more details). Although the external forcing accounts for most of the

67 warming trend over the 1958-2005 period (Dong et al. 2014b), decadal variability induced by the  
 68 Interdecadal Pacific Oscillation (IPO) weakens the trend by about 50% over the Indian Ocean  
 69 during IPO's cold phase, and vice-versa during the warm phase, contributing about 10% to the  
 70 global warming hiatus since 1999 (Dong et al. 2016). This negative IPO phase also increased  
 71 Indian Ocean heat content in the recent decades (2003-2012), linked to an increase in the heat  
 72 transport from the Pacific via the ITF (Lee et al. 2015). Ummenhofer et al. (2017) further suggest  
 73 that this IPO control of multidecadal Indian Ocean heat content via the ITF operates over the entire  
 74 1958-2007 period.

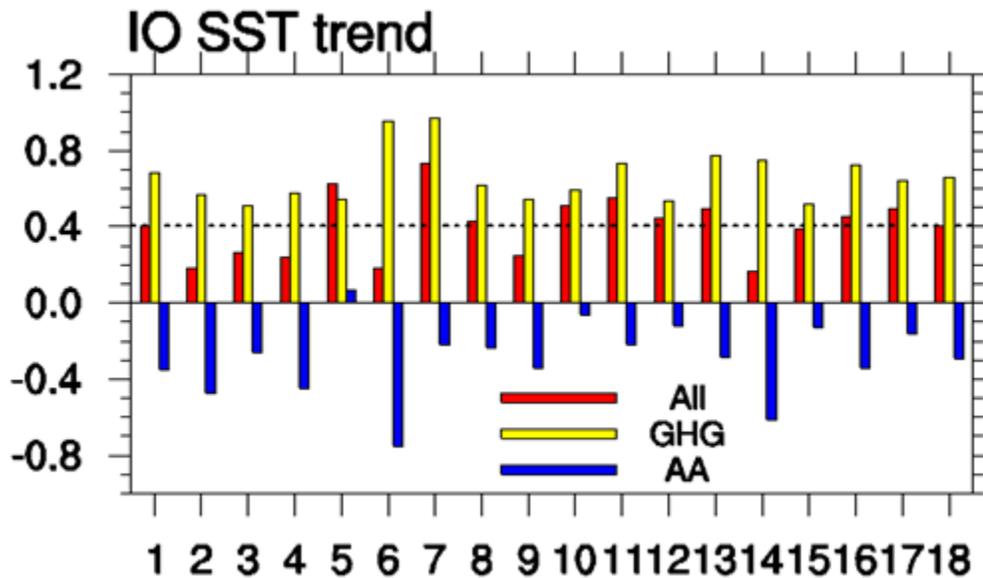


Figure 11.2. The SST trends during 1870-2005 averaged in Indian Ocean (40°S-15°N, 40°E-100°E) under all forcing runs, GHG-only forcing runs, and AA-only forcing (historical-historicalGHG-historicalNat) from 17 CMIP5 models and the MME of them (number 18). The dashed line represents the trends in observation. Units: K (100-year)-1 (Dong and Zhou 2014a).

### 75 11.2.2 Sea level changes

76 The anthropogenic change in ocean temperature affects sea level change (SLC), with thermal  
 77 expansion accounting for 35% of the global sea level rise during 1993-2010 (IPCC 2013). While  
 78 SLC averaged over the entire Indian Ocean (30°E-120°E, 30°S-30°N) is 5.6 mm/year during 2004-  
 79 2013, as shown by satellite altimeter data, the rise in the northern Indian Ocean (30°E-120°E, 5°S-  
 80 30°N) is at a rate of 6.1 mm/year (Srinivasu et al. 2017), dominated by thermosteric effects  
 81 (Thompson et al. 2016; Srinivasu et al. 2017). The northern and eastern coasts of the Bay of Bengal  
 82 experience the largest trends (Unnikrishnan et al., 2015) for the altimetry period of 1993-2012.  
 83 Some studies relate the fast 2004-2013 SLC over the northern Indian Ocean to superimposition of  
 84 natural decadal variability (e.g., Srinivasu et al. 2017). Whether this is the entirely the case or a  
 85 regional signature of global warming, however, deserves more investigation.

86 Distinct spatial patterns of SLC since the 1960s have been detected using tide gauge data and  
 87 OGCM simulations, with rising sea level along most of the coastal regions of the Indian Ocean rim  
 88 countries (e.g., Mumbai, Kochi, Vishakhapatnam on the Indian coast, Durban in South Africa, and  
 89 Fremantle and Port Hedland along the Australian coast) and falling sea level in the southwest  
 90 tropical basin (Han et al. 2010). An enhancement of the Indian Ocean regional Walker and Hadley  
 91 cell (along with changes in the Somali jet), partially attributed to anthropogenic warming, is shown  
 92 to be the major cause for the basin-wide patterns of sea level trend discussed above (Han et al.  
 93 2010).

94 **11.2.3 Changes in salinity**

95 The strong salinity contrast between the Arabian Sea (where evaporation dominates) and the Bay  
96 of Bengal (where precipitation and runoff dominates) has been amplified since 1950, based on in  
97 situ measurements, with an increase in sea surface salinity over the Arabian Sea and a freshening  
98 trend over the Bay of Bengal (Hosoda et al., 2009; Durack and Wijffels 2010). Outside the marginal  
99 seas, the Indian Ocean has a strong near-surface salinity trend in the subtropical gyre which  
100 extends to the depth of the thermocline (Hosoda et al., 2009; Durack & Wijffels, 2010; Skliris et al.,  
101 2014) and a very large and consistent freshening below, which is associated with subduction of  
102 Subantarctic Mode Water (SAMW) south of Australia (Sallee et al., 2009). This feature is one of  
103 the largest magnitude freshening signatures of the global ocean (Durack and Wijffels, 2010; Helm  
104 et al., 2010; Skliris et al., 2014). A freshening plume aligned with the low salinity ITF waters from  
105 the North Pacific is also visible, and extends from the east along 12°S and in the central region  
106 south of the equator. At depth, saline Red Sea Waters (RSW) lead to an enhanced salinity signature  
107 in the Northern Indian Ocean, particularly in the Arabian Sea intermediate waters, extending to  
108 1000 m depth. When considering these Indian Ocean salinity changes together with those in the  
109 Pacific and Atlantic Oceans, these suggest a clear enhancement of both horizontal and vertical  
110 salinity gradients – a signature of fresh regions becoming fresher, and salty regions becoming  
111 saltier (Fig. 11. 3).

112 Studies focused on salinity, temperature and these changes together have successfully attributed  
113 observed changes to anthropogenic influence over the three ocean basins, Indian, Pacific and  
114 Atlantic (e.g. Stott et al., 2008; Gleckler et al., 2012; Pierce et al., 2012; Terray et al., 2012; Durack  
115 et al., 2014, Fig. 11.3). Warming induced stratification (Fig. 11.3) has lead to a decrease in the  
116 transport of dissolved oxygen from surface to subsurface waters, leading to increased  
117 deoxygenation in the Indian Ocean (Stramma et al. 2010). Thermal stratification has also lead to a  
118 reduction in marine phytoplankton (30% during 1998-2013 based on observations, 20% during  
119 1950-2005 based on CMIP5 model historical simulations) in the western Arabian Sea (Roxy et al.  
120 2016).

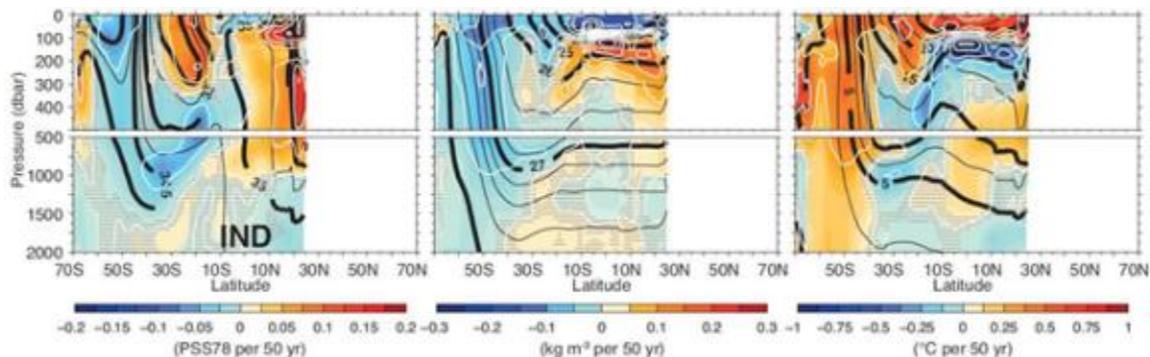


Figure 11.3. Zonally-averaged linear trend of salinity changes (left), neutral density changes (middle), and potential temperature changes (right), for the Indian Ocean during 1950 to 2000. Mean fields are shown as black lines. Regions where the resolved linear trend is not significant at the 90% confidence level are stippled in grey (IPCC 2013).

121 **11.3 EOVs for the long-term changes in the Indian Ocean**

122 Long term changes in Indian Ocean SST, heat content, salinity, and sea level are occurring, among  
123 others (changes in heat content and transport are discussed in Chapter 7 and changes in upwelling  
124 is discussed in Chapter 3). However internal climate variability can obscure the attribution of those  
125 signals to anthropogenic drivers. It is however difficult to distinguish the climate change signal from  
126 internal climate variability without long-term observations. The key is thus to maintain sustained  
127 observations of key-variables over a long period.

- 128 Those variables include:
- 129 1) In situ data to monitor the SST trend at the basin-scale, e.g. to confirm the large and quick  
130 warming in the western Indian Ocean.
  - 131 2) Improved monitoring of mass, heat and salt transport at the key Indian Ocean entrances  
132 (ITF) and exits (section along 32°S, including the Leeuwin and Agulhas boundary currents),  
133 as a tool for basin-scale budget studies.
  - 134 3) Improved long term time series of air-sea heat fluxes and constituent turbulent and  
135 radiative components across the basin, which are currently not consistent with SST trends,  
136 as a tool for basin-scale budget studies.
  - 137 4) Basin scale measurements of subsurface temperature and salinity, in order to provide  
138 reliable estimates of the long-term heat and salt content trends
  - 139 5) Sea level measurements at the basin-scale, in order to maintain a close monitoring of  
140 regional sea level signals, which can also provide indications on long-term wind changes.
  - 141 6) Surface wind and wind stress measurements at the basin scale, in particular along the  
142 equator to monitor the Indian Ocean part of the Walker circulation, in the Somali jet that  
143 plays a strong role for the southwest monsoon, and in the south-western Indian Ocean  
144 where changes in wind stress curl are believed to induce a sea level decrease.

#### 145 **11.4 Actionable recommendations**

146 Based on the suggested Essential Ocean Variables listed above, the actionable recommendations  
147 on the current IndOOS design follow:

- 148 1) Maintain and complete the RAMA array, which provides sustained, high-frequency  
149 observations of, in particular, SST, winds, subsurface temperature, air-sea fluxes in key  
150 regions of the tropical Indian Ocean. In particular, expand the array into the Arabian Sea  
151 and western Indian Ocean – where the uncertainties regarding air-sea fluxes are large.
- 152 2) Maintain the current Argo coverage in the Indian Ocean, but: a) Enhance the coverage  
153 near the ITF exit and b) favour the development of deep Argo (Johnson et al. 2015), in  
154 particular in the Southern subtropical Indian Ocean, e.g., along ~32°S. Explore the  
155 technical feasibility of enhancing Argo observations in the ITF region. Explore the technical  
156 feasibility of a long-distance glider line along 32°S.
- 157 3) Maintain the GO-SHIP array of repeat hydrographic sections in the Indian Ocean (sections:  
158 IO7S, IO5, IO7N, IO1W, IO5, IO8N, IO3, IO8S, IO9N, IO1E, I10, IO9S) to ensure that long-  
159 term, full-depth measurements are available to quantify ongoing change and provide  
160 important regional calibration targets for deep Argo in the region
- 161 4) Maintain the IX01 XBT line to monitor the geostrophic volume and heat transport at the exit  
162 of the ITF. Experimental doubling of the IX01 line by gliders.
- 163 5) Maintain basin-scale satellite observations of SST, SSS, Sea level, Winds, that are inter-  
164 calibrated between various missions in order to reach climate-grade quality. Ensure that  
165 the ongoing satellite missions providing these important measurements are acknowledged  
166 as being an important part of the Indian Ocean observing network, and this information is  
167 conveyed to the agencies responsible for maintaining and renewing these satellite  
168 missions
- 169 6) Maintain and augment (in particular in south-western tropical Indian Ocean Islands &  
170 Madagascar) the existing tide-gauge network, and ensure open distribution and common  
171 processing of the data. Ensure that all contributing stations begin capturing geodetic  
172 information relevant to the site, so that sea-level data quality can be ensured.

## 12. Ocean primary productivity variability, predictability and change

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### 1 12.1 Introduction

2 The Indian Ocean is a basin of considerable primary productivity variability in both space and time.  
3 The boundary currents, particularly in the west, are extremely productive and support fisheries of  
4 local and global importance (Lee et al., 2005). The upwelling system in the northwest, despite high  
5 biological productivity, is a very strong source of CO<sub>2</sub> to the atmosphere, while the southern Indian  
6 Ocean is a weak sink (Takahashi et al., 2009). The Leeuwin current in the east supports moderate  
7 productivity and spawns long-lived eddies that travel west, sometimes as far as Madagascar  
8 (Gaube et al., 2013). The productivity of the equatorial band and the northern basin is strongly  
9 modulated by the monsoons and wind reversals (Hood et al., 2017; Strutton et al., 2015). The  
10 surface Indian Ocean is rapidly warming (Roxy et al., 2014) and there is evidence for long term  
11 change in the productivity of the basin, particularly in the west (Roxy et al., 2016). The Indian  
12 Ocean's role in ecologically and economically important fisheries, air-sea CO<sub>2</sub> exchange, and the  
13 emerging sensitivity to climate change mean that it is important to accurately and comprehensively  
14 observe the system.

15 In addition to long term climate change, the Indian Ocean is also strongly influenced by both the  
16 Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) and the El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO). Several studies have  
17 investigated the impact of these climate modes on the primary productivity of the basin (Currie et  
18 al., 2013; Keerthi et al., 2016; McCreary et al., 2009; Wiggert et al., 2009. See also Wiggert, this  
19 volume). From this work it seems that the IOD is the dominant mode, except in the Somali upwelling  
20 system, where El Niño can suppress upwelling and therefore productivity. A positive IOD increases  
21 productivity in the eastern tropical Indian Ocean, around Sumatra, and slightly decreases  
22 productivity in the central tropical Indian Ocean.

23 Compared to the Pacific and Atlantic, the Indian Ocean is very poorly sampled with respect to  
24 biogeochemistry in general and ocean productivity in particular. For example, the Vertically  
25 Generalized Productivity Model (VGPM; Behrenfeld and Falkowski, 1997) was developed using a  
26 global database of 1698 primary productivity stations. Only 26 of those stations were in the Indian  
27 Ocean sector, from south of 40°S near Kerguelen Island. No data from the temperate or tropical  
28 Indian Ocean went into the development of the satellite productivity algorithm that has become the  
29 gold standard for estimating global ocean primary productivity and its change over time. This  
30 example serves to illustrate the lack of coverage relative to other basins and also raises doubts  
31 about the accuracy of satellite algorithms in the Indian Ocean.

32 The lack of biogeochemical measurements in the Indian Ocean presents both a problem and an  
33 opportunity for the future of the observing system. The opportunity is obvious, but the problem is  
34 that in many areas of the basin, there are insufficient observations to inform the spatial distribution  
35 of platforms and sensors. This chapter reviews some of the existing knowledge, suggests regions  
36 that are obvious candidates for future attention, and recommends an approach to instrument these  
37 areas.

### 38 12.2 The seasonal cycle and major primary productivity features

#### 39 *Basin scale patterns*

40 The primary productivity of the Indian Ocean is strongly forced by the monsoons, the equatorial  
41 jets and the stratification of the south Indian Ocean Gyre. Figure 12.1 shows the climatology of

42 seasonal variability in Indian Ocean chlorophyll, where the seasons are defined by months that  
43 correspond with the monsoons.

44 In June through September (Figure 12.1(a)), the southwest monsoon drives the Arabian Sea  
45 upwelling and productivity there is at its seasonal maximum. The band of coastal high chlorophyll  
46 at the southern tip of India and around Sri Lanka is also at its maximum. Equatorial productivity is  
47 low, but the spatial extent of the lowest chlorophyll there is reduced because of the expansion of  
48 the high chlorophyll region in the Arabian Sea. Winter mixing in the southern hemisphere likely  
49 enhances productivity in the subtropical gyre slightly, and the size of this chlorophyll desert shrinks  
50 to its seasonal minimum.

51 In October-November (Figure 12.1(b)), the northeast monsoon stimulates some productivity in the  
52 Arabian Sea. The equatorial jets intensify and stimulate productivity there, and the size of the  
53 oligotrophic subtropical gyre expands.

54 In December through March (Figure 12.1(c)), there is still high productivity in the central Arabian  
55 Sea, which may be related to convective overturning as opposed to upwelling, but chlorophyll along  
56 the Somali coast is at its annual minimum. The size of the oligotrophic subtropical gyre is at its  
57 maximum and productivity along the equator is decreasing.

58 In April-May (Figure 12.1(d)), productivity across the basin is low. The Arabian Sea upwelling is  
59 absent, equatorial productivity is low and the size of the oligotrophic subtropical gyre in the south  
60 is near its (austral) summer maximum spatial extent.

61 The following sections describe some regional features in more detail.

## 62 ***Bay of Bengal***

63 Vinayachandran (2009) described three important bloom features in the Bay of Bengal. First, rivers  
64 elevate productivity near the coast and the blooms there coincide with the seasonal maximum in  
65 discharge around August and September (Yaremchuk et al., 2005). Second, the northeast  
66 monsoon drives Ekman transport and a bloom in the southwest of the bay in northern hemisphere  
67 autumn. Third, the summer monsoon causes a large bloom around the south of India, that reaches  
68 into the Bay of Bengal to the east of Sri Lanka. In addition to these regular, seasonal features, the  
69 bay is also impacted by cyclones, that can generate nutrient mixing and elevated chlorophyll. This  
70 effect is reduced in the northern part of the bay due to stronger stratification there.

## 71 ***Arabian Sea***

72 McCreary et al. (2009) distinguish the productivity in the Arabian Sea as being driven by two  
73 different processes. First, textbook seasonal upwelling during the southwest monsoon, from about  
74 July through September, drives blooms along the coast of Somalia, Oman and western India.  
75 These have been well-studied during experiments in the 1990s (Barber et al., 2001). Second, in  
76 the central Arabian Sea, blooms driven by either entrainment of a subsurface chlorophyll maximum,  
77 or detrainment (stratification) occur during both the southwest and northeast monsoon. While this  
78 region of the Indian Ocean is in some ways better studied than others, questions remain regarding  
79 the role of zooplankton grazing and potential iron limitation in regulating the bloom. This is also  
80 thought to be a region where nitrogen fixation could play a significant, yet poorly quantified role in  
81 ocean productivity.

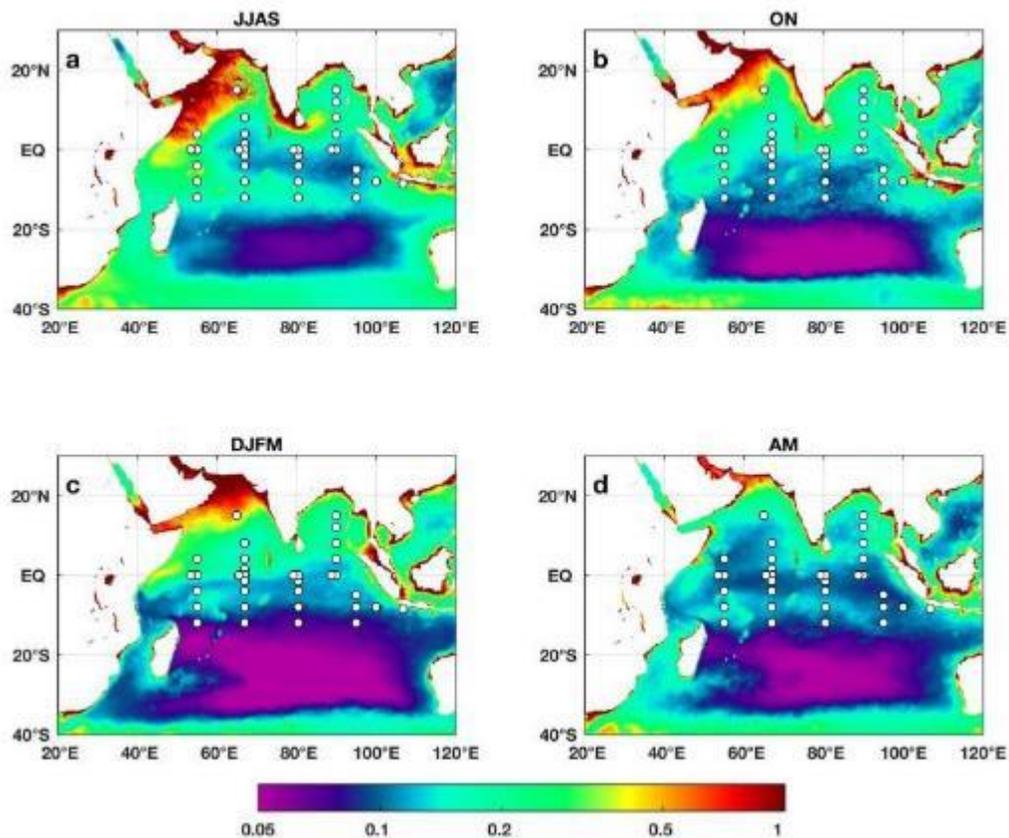
## 82 ***The equatorial Indian Ocean***

83 Productivity is low on the equator during the boreal spring intermonsoon period (March to May, Fig.  
84 12.1c,d). Chlorophyll increases to the north and concentrations are very low to the south in the  
85 subtropical gyre. The southwest monsoon (Fig. 12.1a) drives upwelling and mixing as described  
86 above, and chlorophyll concentrations increase dramatically in the northern Indian Ocean and in  
87 western equatorial waters. Central equatorial chlorophyll remains low, less than  $0.5 \text{ mg m}^{-3}$ , just  
88 south of high concentrations off of southern India and Sri Lanka. In boreal autumn, island wake  
89 effects advect high-chlorophyll water eastward along the equator from the Chagos-Laccadive  
90 Ridge at  $73^\circ\text{E}$  (Fig. 12.1b), reversing and sweeping westward in late winter (Fig. 12.1c). Intermittent  
91 high chlorophyll has been observed at the equator at  $80^\circ\text{E}$  in boreal autumn (Strutton et al., 2015)

92 and has been attributed to (1) local entrainment of nutrients or chlorophyll, or both and (2)  
93 southward advection of the island wake band of high chlorophyll by undulating Wyrтки jets.

#### 94 **The southwest Indian Ocean**

95 South of Madagascar in late Austral summer, a large bloom develops that covers about 1% of the  
96 ocean surface (Figure 12.1c and d). Srokosz et al. (2015) suggested that the bloom is fertilized by  
97 iron that originates from the island of Madagascar and is advected east in eddies. There is  
98 considerable interannual variability in the extent of the bloom, and Srokosz et al. (2015) linked this  
99 variability to interannual differences in the number of eddies.



**Figure 12.1:** Seasonal variability in Satellite-derived surface chlorophyll [ $\text{mg m}^{-3}$ ]. The seasons are defined to correspond closely with the monsoons, as suggested by Jerome Vialard: (a) June through September, (b) October-November, (c) December through March and (d) April-May. The maps are compiled from climatological monthly means from the SeaWiFS satellite. Circles are the currently occupied and proposed Research Moored Array for African-Asian-Australian Monsoon Analysis and Prediction (RAMA) mooring sites, courtesy of Michael McPhaden and Dai McClurg.

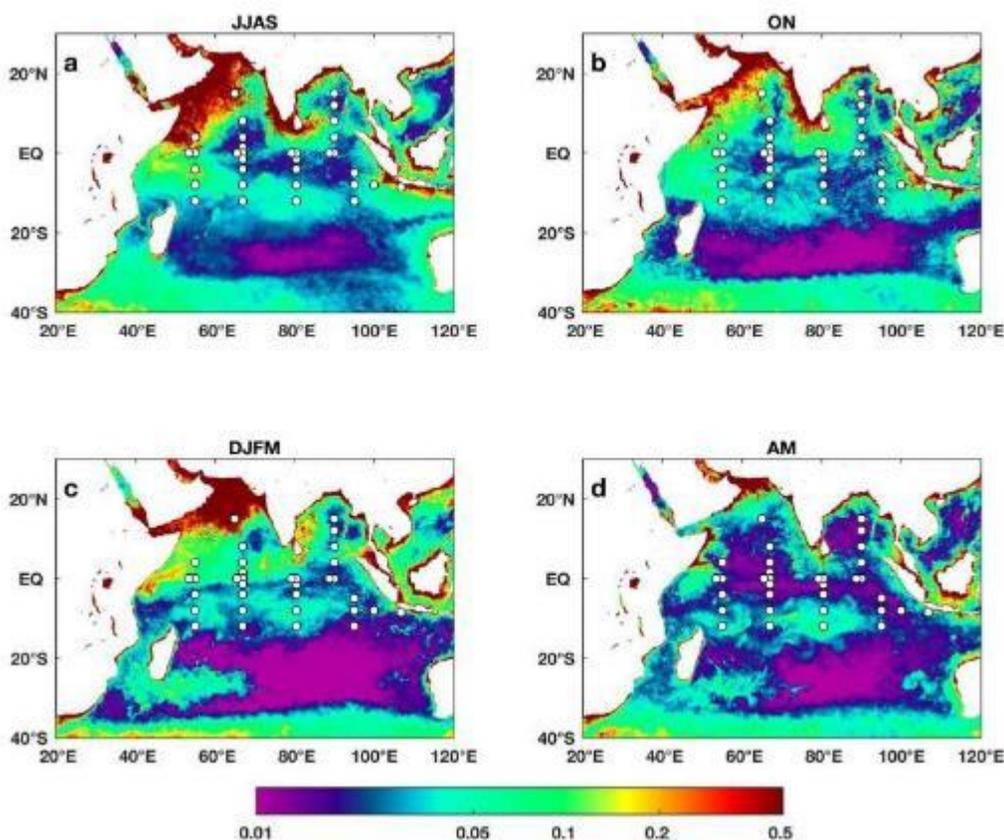
### 100 **12.3 Current productivity observations**

101 Like the tropical Pacific and Atlantic observing systems, sustained productivity observations in the  
102 Indian Ocean are limited to one very important data stream: Satellite ocean color. This data record  
103 consists of the Coastal Zone Color Scanner (CZCS, 1978-1986), Ocean Color Temperature  
104 Scanner (OCTS, 1996-1997), the Sea-viewing Wide Field-of-view Sensor (SeaWiFS, 1997-2010),  
105 the Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer (MODIS, 2002-) and more recently VIIRS and

106 Sentinel. In the northern Indian Ocean, the coverage of ocean color measurements is sometimes  
107 limited by cloud cover. The CZCS pigment measurements are not directly comparable to the  
108 chlorophyll measurements of later satellites and are not quite global in coverage, which limits the  
109 length of the climate data record. Since the launch of SeaWiFS in 1997, the data set is robust and  
110 has been used to document a long term decrease in Indian Ocean productivity (Roxy et al., 2016).

111 Historical ship-based productivity measurements do exist (Zeitzschel, 1973). These data cover not  
112 just phytoplankton primary productivity, but also abundance and rate observations for bacteria and  
113 grazers. These data serve as historical baselines but also as indicators of regions that merit closer  
114 monitoring, as discussed for nutrient limitation versus grazing in the Arabian Sea, above. There is  
115 no coordinated program of bio-optical or nutrient sampling on Indian Ocean moorings, but ad hoc  
116 deployments have revealed interesting dynamics associated with seasonal and shorter time scale  
117 processes (Strutton et al., 2015).

118 Bio-optical and biogeochemical deployments on profiling floats have the potential to answer  
119 questions regarding large scale spatial patterns and seasonal to long term trends, but also more  
120 targeted features such as the role of eddies in nutrient fluxes and sub-surface chlorophyll patterns  
121 (Dufois et al., 2017; Gaube et al., 2013). At the time of writing there have been at least five bioArgo  
122 deployments in the southern Indian Ocean (<https://research.csiro.au/iobioargo/data-access/>). A  
123 pathway to global coverage now exists in the form of an implementation plan for a biogeochemical  
124 Argo float program (Johnson and Claustre, 2016).



**Figure 12.2:** A representation of chlorophyll variability in the Indian Ocean. The seasons in the four panels are defined as for Figure 12.1 to correspond with the monsoons. Each panel is calculated as the standard deviation of chlorophyll [ $\text{mg m}^{-3}$ ] from MODIS-Aqua monthly mean maps spanning 2002 to 2016.

## 125 **12.4 Relevant essential ocean variables (EOVs)**

126 Requirements for understanding carbon chemistry and oxygen distributions are covered in  
127 chapters by Hood and Wiggert, respectively. The Global Ocean Observing System defines  
128 **nutrients, ocean color and phytoplankton biomass and diversity as the relevant EOVs for**  
129 **ocean primary productivity** (<http://www.goosocean.org>).

130 Figure 12.2 shows the variability in satellite chlorophyll, calculated as the standard deviation of  
131 monthly ocean color data at each pixel. These maps contain elements of intraseasonal and  
132 interannual variability because they are calculated from monthly data across all years of MODIS-  
133 Aqua satellite chlorophyll data. For example, panel 2a is calculated from 60 months of satellite data  
134 (15 years of June, July, August, September). Not surprisingly, the regions with moderate to high  
135 chlorophyll concentrations in Figure 12.1 have moderate to high chlorophyll variability, and the  
136 South Indian Ocean gyre has very low chlorophyll variability. The maps show that in general, the  
137 RAMA mooring locations have the potential to provide important data in the regions of greatest  
138 variability in primary productivity, except for the near-coastal parts of the Arabian Sea upwelling  
139 system in the northwest of the basin and the Madagascar bloom.

140 However, obtaining nutrient and chlorophyll measurements from moorings at appropriate depths  
141 and with sufficient resolution of vertical variability represents a challenge. To do so would require  
142 accurate knowledge of the vertical scales or features that need to be resolved. We do not have this  
143 information for the Indian Ocean. A similar statement could be made for dissolved oxygen –  
144 mapping features such as oxygen minimum zones (OMZs) from moorings would require large  
145 numbers of sensors located at depths we can only guess at. For these reasons, oxygen, nutrient  
146 and bio-optical measurements on Argo floats would likely be the best way to observe EOVs in the  
147 Indian Ocean, and this view is shared by Wiggert in the chapter on oxygen. However, autonomous  
148 nutrient measurements of nutrients are currently limited to nitrate. To obtain the full suite of nutrients  
149 (nitrate, phosphate, silicic acid, ammonium) requires ship-based sampling and this could be  
150 achieved during GO-SHIP occupations of the established Indian Ocean lines. These voyages also  
151 represent the best opportunity to collect data on phytoplankton community structure.

## 152 **12.5 Recommendations**

153 Based on the seasonal cycle (Figure 12.1) and intraseasonal and interannual variability (Figure  
154 12.2) of satellite ocean color, the main regional productivity features that an observing system must  
155 quantify are:

- 156 1. The intensity and spatial extent of the Arabian Sea upwelling bloom, mostly during the  
157 southwest monsoon, in the latter part of the calendar year.
- 158 2. The central Arabian Sea, where high productivity begins with the southwest monsoon but  
159 extends into northern hemisphere winter.
- 160 3. The Somali coast.
- 161 4. The signal along the equator, linked to the seasonal variability of the Wyrtki jets.
- 162 5. The Bay of Bengal, coastal India and Sri Lanka.
- 163 6. The spatial extent of the oligotrophic gyre and the (low) levels of productivity there.

164 Satellite ocean color provides the surface-only, broad scale information on variability of primary  
165 productivity, and the Indian Ocean observing community should continue to advocate for satellite  
166 ocean color missions. Some existing and proposed RAMA mooring locations could host  
167 biogeochemical sensors to capture these processes and features. Candidate locations include the  
168 northern-most mooring in the Arabian Sea (65°E, 15°N), the three moorings in the Bay of Bengal  
169 (90°E line), the mooring closest to Sri Lanka (80.5°E line), the southernmost mooring on the 80.5°E  
170 line and the 100°E, 27°S for the gyre, and the equatorial moorings. However, as mentioned above,  
171 comprehensive observations of vertical variability in nutrients and chlorophyll will require large  
172 numbers of well-targeted sensors. For this reason, and especially in areas impacted by piracy, such

- 173 as the western basin and the northern Arabian Sea, autonomous platforms such as Argo floats will  
174 likely be the only feasible platform for the near future.
- 175 The **recommended next steps** for implementation of productivity-related measurements are:
- 176 1. Maintain support and advocacy for satellite ocean color missions.
  - 177 2. Maintain nutrient measurements on GO-SHIP lines and incorporate observations of  
178 phytoplankton community structure where possible.
  - 179 3. Develop a plan in consultation with the global bio-Argo community, for observations of  
180 nutrients, bio-optics and oxygen on Argo floats in the Indian Ocean. This should include  
181 identifying areas of significant nitrogen cycle activity, and prioritize these areas for nutrient  
182 sensor deployments.
  - 183 4. Using the results in Figure 12.2 as a starting point, perform an analysis of existing data or  
184 model outputs, or both, to determine the locations of strongest productivity variability that  
185 needs to be captured by observations.
  - 186 5. Target bio-Argo deployments in these locations, and in areas known to be important for  
187 the nitrogen cycle, such as OMZs..
  - 188 6. Given the lack of Indian Ocean data that has contributed to global satellite ocean color and  
189 productivity algorithms, perform a data mining exercise to create matchups of satellite and  
190 in situ chlorophyll and productivity. With these matchups, quantify the accuracy of satellite  
191 algorithms from SeaWiFS forward. Consider development of a regionally tuned Indian  
192 Ocean algorithms.

## 13. The Indian Ocean's Influence on Regional Hydroclimate

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### 1 13.1 Introduction

2 The importance of upper-ocean conditions in the Indian Ocean for modulating rainfall variability in  
3 surrounding countries is receiving increasing recognition. Indian Ocean SST variability has been  
4 implicated in widespread changes in hydroclimate, such as enhanced rainfall and flooding in East  
5 Africa (Webster et al. 1999), droughts, wildfires, and river streamflow in Indonesia (Abram et al.  
6 2003, D'Arrigo and Wilson 2008), Australian rainfall and droughts (Ashok et al. 2003, Ummerhofer  
7 et al. 2009a), and monsoon rainfall in Southeast Asia (Ashok et al. 2001; Chapter 1).

8 As upper-ocean conditions in the Indian Ocean are experiencing robust changes across a range of  
9 timescales (Chapters 6, 10, 11; and references therein), a better understanding of the mechanisms  
10 by which Indian Ocean variability and change modulate regional hydroclimate is warranted. This  
11 has major implications for seasonal rainfall forecasting and, ultimately, for effective water and  
12 agricultural management in vulnerable societies in Indian Ocean rim countries. The Indian Ocean  
13 region in particular stands out globally as an area with the highest predictive skill in the 2-9yr range  
14 (Guemas et al. 2013). Improved understanding of drivers of low-frequency Indian Ocean variability  
15 could thus help advance decadal forecasting capabilities in the region.

### 16 13.2 Influence of the Indian Ocean on regional hydroclimate

17 Upper-ocean conditions in the Indian Ocean influence regional hydroclimate across a range of  
18 timescales, from sub-seasonal to decadal and beyond. On sub-seasonal timescales, both  
19 northward and eastward propagating intraseasonal oscillations (ISOs) are active in the Indian  
20 Ocean (Schott et al. 2009). The Madden-Julian-Oscillation (MJO; Zhang 2005, 2013; see Chapter  
21 5) is associated with eastward propagating large-scale atmospheric circulation and deep  
22 convection features that interact with the warm underlying SST over the Indian Ocean and Maritime  
23 Continent. Several major flooding events in Indonesia and Malaysia in 2006/2007 have been  
24 associated with strong easterly winds over the eastern Indian Ocean near Java associated with a  
25 Rossby wave-type response to the MJO that allowed for anomalous southward penetration of  
26 northeasterly winds from the South China Sea and strong low-level convergence over the region  
27 (Aldrian 2008, Tangang et al. 2008). Observing the convectively coupled waves especially during  
28 the convectively active MJO phase at sufficient spatiotemporal resolution with *in situ*  
29 measurements, such as upper-air soundings, is important and the limited number of available  
30 soundings in the tropical Indian Ocean region can have adverse effects on estimated rainfall rates  
31 or heat and moisture budgets (Katsumata et al. 2011). Conversely, the skill of representing and  
32 predicting ISOs is larger in ocean-atmosphere coupled models compared to stand-alone  
33 atmospheric models, highlighting the importance of the feedback between air-sea interactions and  
34 upper-ocean structures on intraseasonal timescales (Mahadevan et al. 2016a).

35 Northward propagating ISOs over the Indian Ocean are associated with active and break periods  
36 in the monsoon and thus impact summer rainfall across southern Asia from India to the Philippines  
37 (Annamalai and Sperber 2005, Schott et al. 2009). Central equatorial Indian Ocean SST centred  
38 on 70-90°E are found to interact with northward propagating mesoscale instabilities in the  
39 atmosphere to affect Indian summer monsoon precipitation (Zhou et al. 2017). A persistence of  
40 warm SST anomalies over the shallow thermocline region of the Seychelles-Chagos Thermocline  
41 Ridge (SCTR) can delay the north-northwest migration of the intertropical convergence zone into  
42 the northern Indian Ocean and thus postpone the monsoon onset over southern India (Vecchi and  
43 Harrison 2004, Annamalai et al. 2005a, Vialard et al. 2009). Over the SCTR region 5-10°S, strong  
44 intraseasonal SST signals were associated with active phases of the MJO in 2007/2008 (Vialard et  
45 al. 2008).

46 The Bay of Bengal is an area of particularly active northward propagating ISOs; this is reflected in  
47 strong coupling between SST and intraseasonal summer monsoon rainfall variability (e.g.,

48 Wijsekera et al. 2016 and references therein), with SST warming in the northern Bay of Bengal  
49 leading the onset of intraseasonal rainfall by 5 days. The rainfall-SST relationship, through latent  
50 heating, is strengthened in years with anomalously warm SST in the Bay of Bengal, resulting in  
51 stronger low-level moisture convergence, as occurs during the negative phase of the Indian Ocean  
52 Dipole (IOD; Ajayamohan et al. 2008, Jongaramrungruang et al. 2017).

53 The IOD (Chapter 6; Saji et al. 1999, Webster et al. 1999) is the Indian Ocean's leading mode of  
54 variability on interannual timescales and widely impacts climate in surrounding countries (Saji and  
55 Yamagata 2003): this includes rainfall and flooding in East Africa (Behera et al. 1999, Birkett et al.  
56 1999, Webster et al. 1999, Black et al. 2003, Ummenhofer et al. 2009b, Manatsa et al. 2012;  
57 Manatsa and Behera 2013), droughts, wildfires, and streamflow in Indonesia (Abram et al. 2003,  
58 Hendon 2003, D'Arrigo and Wilson 2008, D'Arrigo et al. 2011), Australian rainfall and droughts  
59 (Ashok et al. 2003, Cai et al. 2009a,b, Ummenhofer et al. 2008, 2009a,c, 2011b), and Indian Ocean  
60 SST modulate the well-known teleconnection between the El Niño-Southern Oscillation (ENSO)  
61 and the Asian monsoon systems (Ashok et al. 2001, 2004, Gadgil et al. 2004, Ummenhofer et al.  
62 2011a). Furthermore, SST in the subtropical southern Indian Ocean in a characteristic dipole  
63 pattern (see Chapter 6) affects southern African rainfall during austral summer, with warm (cool)  
64 SST in the southwest (southeast) Indian Ocean associated with enhanced low-level moisture  
65 advection onto southern Africa (Behera et al. 2001, Reason 2001, 2002).

66 In a series of atmospheric general circulation model experiments, Indian Ocean SST anomalies  
67 were found to modulate low- to mid-latitude precipitation over Indian Ocean-rim countries  
68 (Ummenhofer et al. 2008, 2009b,c). SST anomalies closely resembling both tropical and  
69 subtropical Indian Ocean dipoles induce a basin-wide re-organization of the atmospheric  
70 circulation, resulting in significant rainfall changes over the surrounding landmasses (**Figure 13.1**).  
71 Precipitation over southwestern Australia is modulated by variations in the *meridional* temperature  
72 gradients in the eastern Indian Ocean, which affect thermal winds and moisture flux, as well as  
73 baroclinicity over the region (Ummenhofer et al. 2008, 2009c). Over East Africa, years with an  
74 anomalously wet 'short rain' season (September – November) were primarily due to increased  
75 onshore moisture transport convergence driven by local warm SST in the western Indian Ocean  
76 (Ummenhofer et al. 2009b), rather than a strengthened zonal SST gradient across the equatorial  
77 Indian Ocean associated with the IOD (Saji et al. 1999, Webster et al. 1999, Black et al. 2003).

78 The Indian Ocean is particularly influential for regional hydroclimate on decadal timescales, as  
79 found for droughts and wet spells in eastern Australia and East Africa (Ummenhofer et al. 2009a,  
80 2011b, 2017b). Changes in the tropical atmospheric circulation across the Indo-Pacific on multi-  
81 decadal timescales (Vecchi and Soden 2007, L'Heureux et al. 2013) modulate the relationship  
82 between Indian Ocean SST and regional rainfall: When the Pacific Walker cell weakened, while  
83 the Indian Ocean cell strengthened after 1961, the East African short rains became more variable  
84 and wetter (Nicholson 2015). Similarly, there was a strengthening in the relationship between the  
85 IOD and East African rainfall post-1961, with 73% of short rain variability in East Africa explained  
86 by the IOD, up from 50% in previous decades (Manatsa and Behera, 2013). After 1997, this  
87 increased further to 82%, explaining spatially coherent rainfall extremes across the region (Manatsa  
88 and Behera 2013). The correlation between Indian Ocean SST and East African rainfall is most  
89 pronounced during the short rains, though Williams and Funk (2011) argued that warming Indian  
90 Ocean SST in recent decades were also associated with reduced long rains for the March-June  
91 season in Ethiopia and Kenya. In contrast, increasingly wetter short rain seasons in East Africa  
92 may be related to recent warming trends in the western Indian Ocean (e.g., Liebmann et al. 2014).

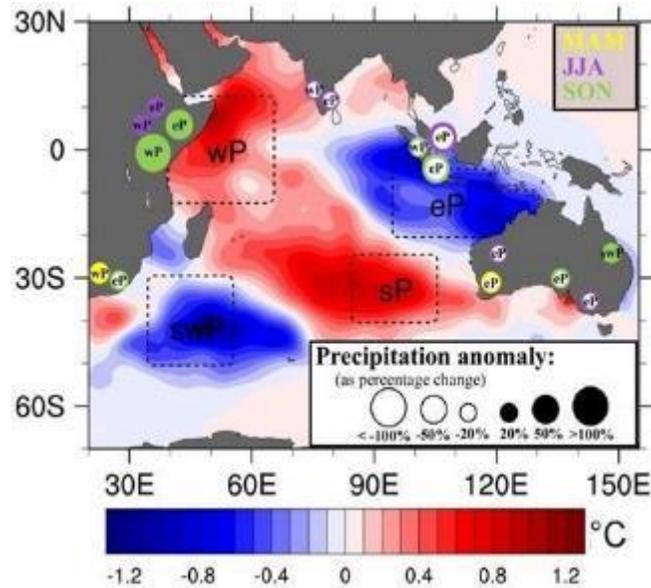


Figure 13.1: Schematic highlighting the influence of Indian Ocean SST anomalies on regional precipitation for the March-May (MAM), June-August (JJA), and September-November (SON) seasons, using atmospheric general circulation model simulations. SST anomalies ( $^{\circ}$  C) are shown as the March-November average. Specific regions with SST anomalies characteristic of tropical and subtropical Indian Ocean dipoles are employed in the simulations, with the poles indicated by the dashed boxes. The anomalous rainfall associated with these regions of SST anomalies is shown by circles in Indian Ocean rim countries. Filled (empty) circles denote an increase (decrease) in precipitation (as percentage change), with the size of the circle reflecting the magnitude of change and the color the season. (Adapted from Ummenhofer et al. 2009d).

93 Changes in the eastern Indian Ocean thermocline depth on decadal timescales can potentially  
 94 impact the frequency and strength of the IOD (Annamalai et al. 2005b). Investigating the rare  
 95 occurrence of three consecutive positive IOD events observed in 2006–2008, Cai et al. (2009c)  
 96 found that subsurface oceanic conditions may be the key triggering mechanism. An anthropogenic  
 97 contribution was also proposed, since positive IOD events became more frequent over the period  
 98 1950–1999 in the CMIP5 models, which also project an increase in extreme positive IOD events  
 99 (Cai et al. 2014). Some decadal IOD variability has been linked to the Pacific Decadal Oscillation  
 100 (Krishnamurthy and Krishnamurthy 2016). Low-frequency changes in the eastern Indian Ocean  
 101 thermocline depth (0–10 $^{\circ}$ S, 90–100 $^{\circ}$ E), in response to multi-decadal variations in Pacific wind  
 102 forcing, were associated with decadal variations in the frequency of IOD events (Ummenhofer et  
 103 al. (2017a). Positive IOD events were unusually common in the 1960s and 1990s with a relatively  
 104 shallow thermocline, while the deeper thermocline depth in the 1970s and 1980s was associated  
 105 with frequent negative IOD and rare positive IOD events (Ummenhofer et al. 2017a). Hence it is  
 106 important to better understand how slowly evolving upper-ocean thermal properties on multi-  
 107 decadal time scales could affect IOD events that influence regional hydroclimate. This could help  
 108 decadal forecasting capabilities for the Indian Ocean region, which stands out globally as an area  
 109 with the highest predictive skill in the 2–9yr range (Guemas et al. 2013).

110 The eastern Indian Ocean has sustained considerable changes in sea surface salinity (SSS) in  
 111 recent decades, with implications for halosteric impacts on sea surface height (Vargas-Hernandez  
 112 et al. 2014, Llovel and Lee 2015). On interannual time scales, Hu and Sprintall (2016a) found that  
 113 the halosteric component of the ITF transport contributes 35% of the total ITF variability. Indeed,  
 114 over the past decade the enhanced rainfall over the Indonesian maritime continent, potentially as  
 115 a regional manifestation of decadal trends in the Walker Circulation (Du et al. 2015), in conjunction  
 116 with Indo-Pacific equatorial wind trends, is thought to have contributed to the strengthened ITF

117 transport (Feng et al. 2015, Hu and Sprintall 2016b) playing a key role in the global ocean  
118 freshwater distribution.

119 To better understand the hydrological cycle over the Indian Ocean region more broadly,  
120 observations of precipitation, riverine input (runoff), and evaporation at daily resolution are  
121 warranted. Focus areas for this should include the Maritime Continent region and northwest shelf  
122 off Australia given the large decadal signal there (Feng et al. 2015, Hu and Sprintall 2016a,b), as  
123 well as the Bay of Bengal where high riverine input and rainfall make the bay's surface waters the  
124 freshest of any tropical ocean (Mahadevan et al. 2016a). In the Bay of Bengal in particular,  
125 uncertainty in the freshwater distribution and mixing pathways for riverine input is high and shallow,  
126 salinity-controlled mixed layers significantly affect upper-ocean heat content and SST (Wijsekera  
127 et al. 2016).

128 Since 2010, the Soil Moisture and Ocean Salinity (SMOS) satellite provides SSS measurements  
129 consistent with *in situ* observations of the equatorial and southern Indian Ocean from the RAMA  
130 array, but exhibits large errors in the Bay of Bengal and Arabian Sea. This is likely due to errors in  
131 the SSS retrieval due to land contamination and strong winds (Ratheesh et al. 2013, Sharma et al.  
132 2016), making it difficult to capture the largest SSS gradients in the Bay of Bengal (Mahadevan et  
133 al. 2016b). With new satellite missions, such as Soil Moisture Active Passive (SMAP), remotely  
134 sensed SSS measurements will hopefully improve in their utility for marginal seas and coastal  
135 regions (Sharma et al. 2016).

### 136 **13.3 Essential ocean variables**

137 To understand how Indian Ocean conditions modulate regional hydroclimate variability across a  
138 range of timescales and ultimately improve rainfall predictions for Indian Ocean rim countries,  
139 sustained measurements of essential ocean variables (EOVs) are required as follows:

- 140 1. Surface variables at the air-sea interface, such as SST, SSS, surface winds, and surface  
141 fluxes, are needed at daily timescale across the entire Indo-Pacific region with large-scale  
142 coverage (e.g., satellite observations).
- 143 2. Direct observations of quantities related to the hydrological cycle (e.g., precipitation,  
144 riverine input/runoff, and evaporation) are warranted at daily resolution, especially for the  
145 Maritime Continent region, northwest shelf of Australia, and the Bay of Bengal with its large  
146 riverine input.
- 147 3. Concurrent measurements of surface meteorology, air-sea fluxes of heat, freshwater, and  
148 momentum, as well as near-surface ocean temperature, salinity, and velocity at sub-daily  
149 timescale from *in situ* observations are needed in key locations identified as particularly  
150 influential in modulating regional rainfall, such as the SCTR, Arabian Sea, Bay of Bengal,  
151 eastern and western equatorial Indian Ocean, and northwest shelf off Australia.
- 152 4. Upper-ocean properties, primarily temperature and salinity, for the top 300m at daily to  
153 weekly resolution that relate to thermocline variations are sought with a focus on the SCTR,  
154 Arabian Sea, Bay of Bengal, the eastern equatorial upwelling region off Sumatra and Java,  
155 the western equatorial Indian Ocean, as well as the northwest shelf off Australia.

### 156 **13.4 Actionable recommendations**

157 Given the EOVs highlighted above to further our understanding of the Indian Ocean's influence on  
158 regional hydroclimate and improve its prediction, the following recommendations for IndOOS are  
159 made:

- 160 a. Maintain existing satellite observations for relevant variables at the air-sea interface with  
161 basin-scale coverage over the Indo-Pacific region. [points 1 and 2 in Section 13.3]

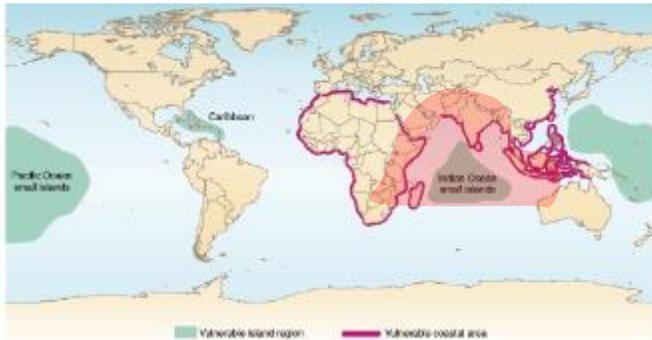
- 162 b. Maintain and replace SSS-sensing satellites with improved capabilities over marginal seas  
163 and coastal regions (cf. SMAP, Aquarius, SMOS). [point 2 in Section 13.3]
- 164 c. Maintain and improve river gauge network to observe runoff and riverine input from Indian  
165 Ocean rim countries along the coasts. [point 2 in Section 13.3]
- 166 d. Maintain the current RAMA array along the equator and the meridional sections, especially  
167 for 90°E into the Bay of Bengal, 55°E and 67°E for the SCTR, and in the eastern Indian  
168 Ocean (95°-107°E). [points 1, 3, and 4 in Section 13.3]
- 169 e. Complete the equatorial RAMA sites near 55°E in the western Indian Ocean. [points 3 and  
170 4 in Section 13.3]
- 171 f. Establish a RAMA surface mooring and flux reference site on the northwest shelf off  
172 Australia. [points 3 and 4 in Section 13.3]

## 14. The regional sea-level variability and change

Han W., J. Vialard, M. McPhaden, M.K. Roxy, M. Feng, T. Shinoda, and T. Lee

### 1 14.1 Background

2 The low-lying coastal areas and island nations of the Indian Ocean are subject to significant stress  
3 of sea level change (SLC), including the likely increased incidence and magnitude of extreme high  
4 sea level events in a changing climate (Church et al. 2013; Rhein et al. 2013; Kay et al. 2015).  
5 These regions are highly vulnerable to SLC, as they harvest one third of the world populations with  
6 many developing countries, which have poor disaster management resources and strategies  
7 (Figure 14.1; Nicholls and Cazenave 2010). The rapid population growth will worsen the situation  
8 in the future. By 2030, the Indian Ocean will harbour 10 countries (India, Bangladesh, Indonesia,  
9 Thailand, Pakistan, Myanmar, Tanzania, Malaysia, Somalia, Mozambique) among the top 25 with  
10 the largest projected population in low-elevation coastal zones, with a total of 339 million people at  
11 risk (Neumann et al. 2015). Consequently, there is a strong societal demand for improved  
12 understanding of SLC on regional and local scales (Milne et al. 2009; Church et al. 2013). This  
13 understanding is instrumental for reliable predictions of future SLC over the Indian Ocean rim. A  
14 reliable prediction could help to inform decision-making, adaptation and response options. Yet, our  
15 knowledge on Indian Ocean regional SLC, sea level variability at a wide-range of timescales  
16 particularly at decadal and multi-decadal timescales, and their major drivers remains limited, due  
17 to the lack of observational records. Here, SLC refers to the secular change associated with  
18 greenhouse gas forcing.

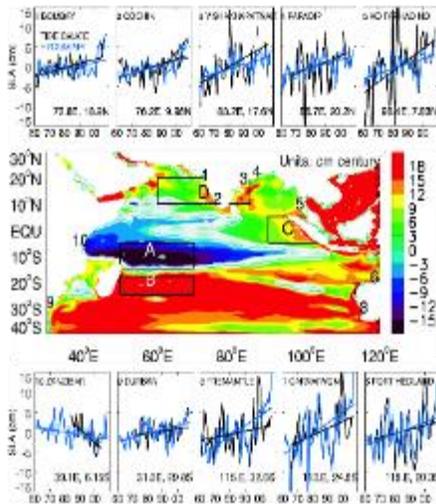


**Figure 14.1. Vulnerable regions to coastal flooding caused by future sea level rise, due to dense population, low elevation, strong subsidence rates and/or inadequate adaptive capacity (from Nicholls and Cazenave, 2010). The Indian Ocean region is highlighted.**

19 Tide gauge data are valuable sources for directly detecting multi-decadal and centennial trends  
20 and inter-decadal variability of sea level at different regions/locations of the Indian Ocean. A rising  
21 trend of sea level at  $1\text{--}2\text{ mm yr}^{-1}$  has been detected around the Indian coast, using tide gauge  
22 records of longer than 40yrs (Unnikrishnan and Shankar 2007); but no statistically significant  
23 centennial trend is detected at Saint Paul Island of the south Indian Ocean for the 1874-2009 period  
24 based on archaeology records (Testut et al. 2010). A century-long tide gauge record at Mumbai  
25 documented significant inter-decadal sea level variability (Shankar and Shetye 1999). Attempt has  
26 been made to estimate the regional patterns of sea level trend over the Indian Ocean. It has been  
27 shown that sea level rises at all tide gauge locations since the 1960s except for the Zanzibar station,  
28 where sea level falls during recent decades (Figure 14.2, black lines). The record length, however,  
29 is only 20 yrs (from 1985 to early 2000s) at Zanzibar, which is significantly shorter than the records  
30 at all other stations (Han et al. 2010). The sparseness of tide gauge stations, together with the very  
31 limited long records, restricts our ability to directly detect the spatial patterns of multi-decadal sea  
32 level trend over the entire Indian Ocean. Indeed, there are only a dozen data points over the Indian  
33 Ocean rim with record lengths  $>50$ yrs and only two  $>100$ yrs (Bradshaw et al. 2015).

34 To compensate for this limitation, reconstructed sea level data were analysed and OGCM  
35 experiments were performed using atmospheric reanalyses as forcing fields (e.g., Han et al. 2010).  
36 The results showed that the sea level fall at Zanzibar is associated with large-scale sea level

37 reduction in the southwest tropical Indian Ocean basin (Figure 14.2; e.g., Han et al., 2010;  
 38 Timmerman et al., 2010; Dunne et al., 2012). This distinct spatial pattern is forced by the changing  
 39 surface winds associated with changing Indian Ocean Walker and Hadley circulations (Han et al.  
 40 2010). While the multi-decadal trend of surface winds might be largely associated with natural  
 41 variability, AGCM experiments suggested that part of it could be forced by Indian Ocean warming  
 42 (Han et al. 2010), which was attributed to anthropogenic greenhouse gas forcing (Du and Xie 2008;  
 43 Dong et al. 2014). What are the spatial patterns and magnitudes of multi-decadal and centennial  
 44 sea level trends? What is the effect of natural internal climate variability vs that induced by external  
 45 (both natural and anthropogenic) forcing? These are important issues that have not yet been  
 46 resolved.



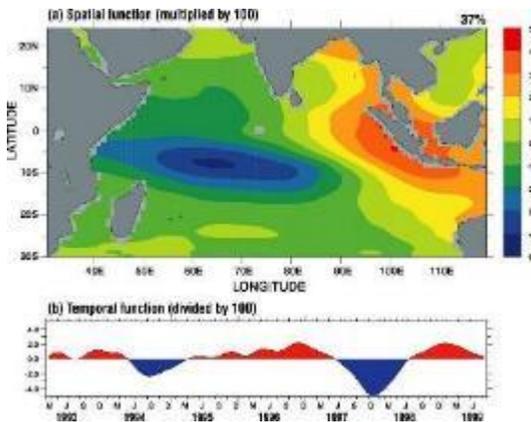
**Figure 14.2.** Tide gauge observed and OGCM simulated annual mean sea level anomalies (SLA) and their trends during 1961-2008. The 10 tide gauge stations with records longer than 30 years (20 years for Zanzibar) are shown. All trends exceed 95% significance except for stations 6 and 9 tide gauge data. Middle color panel shows trend of HYCOM SLA for 1961-2008. Light blue/green regions are below and the rest above 95% significance. Figure from Han et al. (2010).

47

48 Overlying the multi-decadal trend, there is large amplitude variability from intraseasonal to decadal  
 49 timescales. The advent of satellite altimetry since the early 1990s has revolutionized our ability to  
 50 detect basin-scale patterns of sea level variations (Lee et al. 2017). On intraseasonal timescales,  
 51 satellite altimeter data observed strong sea level variability associated with equatorial Kelvin and  
 52 Rossby waves (e.g., Han 2005; Fu 2007; Iskandar and McPhaden 2011; Nagura and McPhaden  
 53 2012), which propagate into the Northern Indian Ocean coastal waveguide (Vialard et al. 2009),  
 54 and led to the discovery of 90-day basin-resonance in the equatorial Indian Ocean (e.g., Han 2005).  
 55 On seasonal and interannual timescales, large amplitude sea level variability was observed in  
 56 various regions of the Indian Ocean associated with the mean seasonal cycle and the Indian Ocean  
 57 Dipole (IOD) (e.g., Perigaud and Delecluse 1992; Fu and Smith 1996; Shankar et al. 2010; Nagura  
 58 and McPhaden, 2010; McPhaden and Nagura, 2014). Interannual signals associated with the IOD  
 59 also propagate into the North Indian Ocean via coastal waveguide, which can affect surface anoxic  
 60 events and thus marine ecosystems (Parvathi et al. 2017). Decadal reversals of basin-wide sea  
 61 level trend patterns from 1993-2000 to 2000-2006, and from 1993-2004 to 2004-2014 have also  
 62 been documented (Lee and McPhaden 2008; Thompson et al. 2016; Srinivasu et al 2017). The  
 63 sea level differences between the east and west coasts of the tropical south Indian Ocean have  
 64 been used to infer the changes of the meridional pycnocline transport (the lower limb of the shallow  
 65 overturning circulations) and the linkages to the Pacific shallow overturning circulation (Lee 2004,  
 66 Lee and McPhaden 2008, Feng et al. 2010).

67 Among the many factors that can cause sea level to change regionally (Church et al., 2013;  
 68 Stammer et al., 2013; Kopp et al., 2015), surface winds - with a large portion being associated with  
 69 natural internal climate variability (e.g., the MJO, monsoon, ENSO and IOD) - are shown to be the  
 70 major force for basin-scale sea level variations on all timescales (e.g., Li and Han 2015; reviews  
 71 by Stammer et al. 2013 and Han et al. 2017). For instance, a distinct spatial pattern of sea level  
 72 variability on interannual timescale is associated with the IOD (Figure 14.3), which is primarily  
 73 driven by IOD-related surface winds (e.g., Han and Webster 2002; Rao et al. 2002; McPhaden and

74 Nagura, 2014). ENSO can affect Indian Ocean sea level through both atmospheric bridge (e.g.,  
 75 surface wind) and oceanic connection via the Indonesian Archipelagos. While ENSO-associated  
 76 winds can cause large sea level variability in the thermocline ridge region (e.g., Xie et al. 2002), its  
 77 effect via the ITF is primarily confined to the southeast Indian Ocean, particularly near the west  
 78 coast of Australia (e.g., Trenary and Han 2012; Feng et al. 2013). Similar conclusions hold for the  
 79 effects of the Interdecadal Pacific Oscillation (IPO) on decadal sea level variations over the Indian  
 80 Ocean (e.g., Feng et al., 2004, 2010; Trenary and Han, 2013; Nidheesh et al., 2013; Srinivasu et  
 81 al. 2017). Basin-wide sea level patterns induced by ENSO and IPO via the integral effect of  
 82 atmospheric bridge and oceanic connection, however, are not well understood. Recent studies  
 83 suggested that the ITF influence on decadal sea level variability over the south Indian Ocean has  
 84 intensified since the early 1990s (Trenary and Han 2013), and most of the “missing heat” of the  
 85 global warming hiatus since ~2002 has been transported from the Pacific into the Indian Ocean  
 86 (e.g., Lee et al. 2015; Nieves et al. 2015; Vialard 2015). Modelling studies demonstrated that Indian  
 87 Ocean warming trend and 10-20yr SST variability during recent decades might have intensified the  
 88 easterly trades of the Pacific (Luo et al. 2012; Han et al. 2014; Hamlington et al. 2014; Dong and  
 89 McPhaden 2017), and therefore may have contributed to the intensified ITF influence on the Indian  
 90 Ocean. Where is the extra heat stored, how is it distributed and how does this “heat” affect the  
 91 regional sea level variations over the Indian Ocean? These are key science questions remain to  
 92 be answered. Given that the tropical Indian Ocean has experienced a rapid surface warming during  
 93 1950-2015 compared to the global mean SST trend (~1.04°C vs 0.64°C; e.g., Roxy et al. 2014,  
 94 Cheng et al. 2017), the possible contribution of the “extra heat” to surface warming and to  
 95 thermosteric sea level variations demands immediate attention.



**Figure 14.3. The leading Complex EOF of SSH (a) and PC1 (b), based on TOPEX/Poseidon SSH anomaly from 1993-1999. This spatial pattern of SSH anomaly is associated with the IOD (Rao et al. 2002). Figure downloaded from: [http://www.jamstec.go.jp/frcgc/research/d1/i/od/fig\\_1.jpg](http://www.jamstec.go.jp/frcgc/research/d1/i/od/fig_1.jpg).**

96 Sea level represents an integral effect of surface and subsurface oceanic processes, particularly  
 97 ocean heat content. Thermosteric sea level is the primary contributor to regional sea level patterns,  
 98 with the upper 700m thermosteric sea level explaining most of the observed decadal sea level  
 99 variations (e.g., Fukumori and Wang 2013; Nidheesh et al. 2013; Srinivasu et al. 2017). Halosteric  
 100 sea level, however, can have significant contributions in some regions (e.g., Shankar and Shetye  
 101 1999; Fukumori and Wang 2013; Llovel and Lee, 2015). Thermosteric and halosteric sea level  
 102 variations tend to compensate each other in most regions of the interior ocean, suggesting the  
 103 importance of oceanic advection in affecting regional sea level patterns (Stammer et al. 2013).  
 104 Large ensemble climate model experiments have been done recently using post-CMIP5 models,  
 105 but the regional SLC patterns since the 1950s vary widely among models (e.g., the 100 member  
 106 ensemble of the Max-Planck Institute of Meteorology model vs 40 member ensemble of NCAR's  
 107 CESM1 model; figure not shown). This further suggests our need to fully understand the forcing  
 108 and processes for sea level variability and change.

109 In addition to the sea level variations induced by surface and lateral boundary forcing, oceanic  
110 internal variability is shown to have a significant contribution to sea level variability on various  
111 timescales in some regions of the Indian Ocean (e.g., Li and Han 2015), and it dominates the small-  
112 scale (<6°) sea level variance globally (Sérazin et al. 2015).

## 113 **14.2 EOVs for Indian Ocean sea level variability and change**

114 Even though significant progress has been made toward detecting and understanding Indian  
115 Ocean sea level variability and change (see above), our knowledge is still limited particularly on  
116 decadal and longer timescales. Direct sea level observations using tide gauge and satellite  
117 altimetry are crucial for understanding sea level variability and change. Thus far, continuous  
118 satellite records with a quarter degree resolution exist only since the early 1990s, which are still too  
119 short for understanding decadal and longer-timescale variability. The importance of wind-driven  
120 ocean circulation, the dominance of thermosteric, and the regional contribution of halosteric sea  
121 level discussed above stress our needs for sustained observations of current, temperature, salinity  
122 as well as surface winds, in order to provide reliable detection and improved understanding of  
123 regional sea level variability and change over the Indian Ocean. Spatially and temporally  
124 continuous records, however, are extremely lack.

125 Efforts have been made to generate reliable longer data records for climate studies (e.g.,  
126 temperature, winds, sea level) by quality control of existing historic datasets, assimilating  
127 observations into numerical models (reanalysis products), and applying statistical techniques to  
128 reconstruct basin- and global-scale datasets during earlier periods when observations were  
129 sparsely distributed (reconstructed data). There is however a non-negligible spread among these  
130 products, especially before the satellite era, leading to significant uncertainties on multidecadal  
131 trends (e.g., winds, air-sea fluxes). There are also significant differences among reconstructed sea  
132 level datasets before the satellite era regarding both global mean SLC and regional multidecadal  
133 trends (e.g. Nidheesh et al. 2017). Continuous effort is needed to further improve the quality of  
134 existing historical, reanalysis and reconstructed datasets, by advancing our statistical techniques  
135 and improving data archaeology to overcome the known limitations. There is also a need to inter-  
136 calibrate successive satellite missions with the help of in situ data, in order to yield more  
137 homogeneous basin-scale products for the key variables discussed above.

## 138 **14.3 Actionable recommendations**

139 Based on the EOVs discussed above, the following actionable items are recommended for  
140 IndOOS:

- 141 a. Maintain the existing tide gauge stations to provide continuous, long-term records; the  
142 recently added tide gauge in the thermocline ridge region in 2010 (Bradshaw et al. 2015) is  
143 particularly important; add new tide gauges around the thermocline ridge (e.g., at Agaléga,  
144 Rodrigues & St Brandon of Mauritius, French “Iles éparses” such as Tromelin, Europa &  
145 Juan de Nova);
- 146 b. Maintain the Argo network in the entire Indian Ocean to obtain basin-wide estimation of  
147 thermosteric and halosteric sea level contributions;
- 148 c. Improve deep ocean observations (e.g., deep ocean moorings and deep Argo) to observe  
149 temperature and salinity to assess the effect of deep ocean variability on SLC;
- 150 d. Maintain the existing RAMA array, particularly the meridional sections at 67°E and 80°E  
151 where sea level variability is large over the thermocline ridge region (Figures 14.1 and 14.2),  
152 and the zonal sections at the equator, 2°N and 2°S (IOD wind, subsurface thermal and  
153 salinity signals, and current) and all moorings in the eastern equatorial Indian Ocean for  
154 temperature and current measurement;

- 155  
156  
157  
158
- e. Maintain the IX01 XBT line to sustain the mass and heat transport estimate of the ITF and sea level variability near the west coast of Australia; Maintain the trans-Indian Ocean hydrographic observations along the 32°S line, including the boundary current regions near the Leeuwin and Agulhas currents;
- 159  
160  
161  
162  
163
- f. Continue satellite altimetry data (e.g., Jason series), which are essential for providing basin-wide multidecadal records, and satellite missions for measuring vector winds over the ocean surface; the upcoming SWOT mission is important for resolving the small scale sea level variability due to oceanic internal variability; Continue Earth gravity satellite missions such as GRACE and GOCE to better capture the changes of mass distribution in the ocean.

## Part II: Operational Drivers

### 15. Indian Ocean observations for operational subseasonal and seasonal forecasts

Aneesh C. Subramanian, Frederic Vitart, Chidong Zhang, Arun Kumar and Magdalena A. Balmaseda

#### 1 15.1 Introduction

2 Intraseasonal (ISV) and seasonal variability are two of the dominant modes of variability in the  
3 tropical Indian ocean-atmosphere system (see chapter 5) linking weather systems to long term  
4 interannual and decadal climate modes of variability. A majority of the annual rainfall over  
5 Southeast Asia is received from the southwest monsoon during June to September. The tropical  
6 ISV influences many temporal and spatial phenomena, including, the diurnal cycle of tropical  
7 convection (Tian et al. 2006; Oh et al. 2012; Seo et al. 2014), tropical cyclone activity (Bessafi and  
8 Wheeler 2006; Kim et al. 2009; Camargo et al., 2009; Vitart 2010; Kim et al. 2014), synoptic  
9 disturbances over the monsoon trough (Goswami et al. 2003; Neena and Goswami 2010), Asian  
10 and Australian monsoons (Sikka and Gadgil 1980; Hendon and Liebmann 1990; Webster et al.  
11 1998; Goswami 2005), coupled modes such as El Nino Southern Oscillation (ENSO; Lau and Chan  
12 1988; Takayabu et al. 1999; Roundy et al. 2008), the Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD; Saji et al., 1999;  
13 Rao and Yamagata 2004; Han et al. 2006) and many other weather-climate phenomena (Zhang  
14 2013). The eastward propagating Madden–Julian Oscillation (MJO) is the most common and  
15 energetic mode of ISV in the tropics (Madden and Julian 1972, 1994; Wheeler and Kiladis 1999;  
16 Zhang 2005; Lau and Waliser 2011). The MJO represents the planetary scale convectively coupled  
17 eastward propagating disturbance of 30–60 day periodicity. In the Indian Ocean region, the  
18 monsoon intraseasonal oscillation (MISO) is another manifestation of ISV and refers to a quasi-  
19 oscillatory mode that modulates the Asian summer monsoon in the region (Goswami 2005; Waliser  
20 et al. 2006a, b). In addition to the eastward propagation, the MISO manifests also as strong  
21 northward propagating convective rainbands and influences intraseasonal rainfall over the south  
22 Asian monsoon region. The subseasonal to seasonal (S2S) variability of rainfall in the region has  
23 profound impacts on the agriculture, economy, water resources and the ecosystem. Recent  
24 droughts in 2002, 2004 and 2009 were poorly predicted by both statistical and dynamical seasonal  
25 forecast models. The economic impacts on the region due to the lack of forecast skill on  
26 subseasonal and seasonal timescales (Gadgil et al. 2005) for the region stresses the need for  
27 improved prediction on these timescales for the region.

28 While the MJO is more active during boreal winter (Madden 1986), the MISO is most active during  
29 boreal summer. The MISO manifests as a quasi-oscillatory mode embedded within the seasonal  
30 variability of the Asian summer monsoon (Webster et al. 1998; Goswami 2005; Waliser 2006a, b).  
31 The MISO typically exhibits a shorter period of two - three weeks compared to a month or two for  
32 the boreal winter MJO (Wang et al. 2006). The MISO is seen as a strong northward propagating  
33 band of convection and precipitation that strongly influences the weather over the entire south  
34 Asian Monsoon domain during this season. Northward propagation is apparent from the equator  
35 into the Northern Hemisphere for both precipitation and zonal wind over a period of two weeks, with  
36 precipitation leading zonal wind by 5-7 days. Many different mechanisms have been proposed for  
37 MISO northward propagation. These include Rossby wave responses to equatorial eastward  
38 propagation (Wang and Xie 1997; Kemball-Cook and Wang 2001), barotropic vorticity induced by  
39 mean easterly vertical wind shear (Jiang et al. 2004), air–sea interaction with SST, radiation and  
40 latent heat fluxes playing a key role in the propagation (Kemball-Cook and Wang 2001; Fu et al.  
41 2003), wind induced moisture-convection feedbacks (Bellon and Sobel 2008a) and others that  
42 incorporate various aspects of the interactions between the largescale tropical dynamics and  
43 convection (Bellon and Sobel 2008b, Boos and Kuang 2010, Kang et al. 2010). The key ocean  
44 mechanisms alluded to in these theories are the upper ocean mixed layer processes that play a  
45 role in SST variability and upper ocean heat content variability. These are modulated mainly by

46 wind induced mixing, latent heat release and freshwater input from precipitation and can act as  
47 sources of predictability on the S2S timescales. Hence, observing and modeling these upper ocean  
48 processes at daily or subdaily frequencies and improving relevant data assimilation capabilities for  
49 reducing uncertainties in representing these processes in the initial conditions can help improve  
50 forecasts on S2S timescales.

51 The processes controlling MISO characteristics like moisture sensitivity and surface-feedbacks are  
52 still not well understood and are likely different from those that govern the MJO dynamics  
53 (Goswami, 2005 and references therein). Global climate models (GCM) are known to have serious  
54 problems simulating the salient features of MISO. Major deficiencies are observed in simulating its  
55 spatial structure, northward propagation and scale-selection (Sperber et al. 2001; Kang et al. 2002;  
56 Waliser et al. 2003; Sperber and Annamalai 2008; Lin et al. 2008; Sperber et al. 2013; Sabeerali  
57 et al. 2013). The northwest–southeast tilted rain band structure is another feature that is often  
58 misrepresented in the models (Waliser et al. 2003; Sperber and Annamalai 2008; Sperber et al.  
59 2013; Sabeerali et al. 2013). This is often associated with the models' limitations in simulating the  
60 eastward propagation and the associated wave responses (Sperber and Annamalai 2008).

## 61 **15.2 Modeling, Observation and Prediction**

62 Atmosphere-only models with prescribed SST forcing have been used for monsoon seasonal  
63 forecasting for several decades (Charney and Shukla 1981; Shukla 1998). These atmosphere-only  
64 models show relatively poor skill in predicting the monsoon as they lack air-sea interaction, which  
65 is a major source of predictability for the S2S timescale in the region (Wang et al. 2005; Wu and  
66 Kirtman 2005). The fidelity of GCMs in representing the seasonal monsoon variations and MISOs  
67 depends on the representation of the air-sea interaction over the Tropical Indian Ocean region  
68 (Wang and Schlesinger 1999; Maloney and Hartmann 2001; Lin et al. 2006; Zhang and Song 2009;  
69 Zhou et al. 2012). A community effort towards improving MJO simulation in many different global  
70 models over the last two decades has helped improve the current generation model physics and  
71 their representation of the MJO (Slingo 1996; Benedict and Randall 2007; Waliser et al. 2009;  
72 Bechtold et al. 2008; Kim et al. 2011, 2014; Vitart 2014; Jiang et al. 2015). However, The current  
73 generation climate and weather forecasting models are still very limited in terms of prediction skill  
74 of MISO events, compared to the potential predictability (Lee et al. 2015, Neena et al. 2015). This  
75 is likely due to the more complex land-ocean-atmosphere interactions involved with the monsoon  
76 prediction problem compare to the eastward propagating MJO over the ocean. Hence, a concerted  
77 effort in diagnosing deficiencies in the representation of air-sea interaction processes in the Tropical  
78 Indian Ocean region is much needed for a similar improvement in MISO representation and  
79 prediction in current generation models.

80 Recent international field campaigns in the central equatorial Indian Ocean and Bay of Bengal  
81 (BoB) have collected unique observations to discern coupled atmosphere-ocean dynamics in the  
82 region. The Dynamics of the MJO (DYNAMO) field campaign in 2011-12 (Yoneyama et al. 2013)  
83 and the Air-Sea Interactions in the Northern Indian Ocean (ASIRI) in 2013-2017 combined mature  
84 and new observational platforms to study multiscale dynamics, thermodynamics and interaction.  
85 These field campaigns observed the myriad processes involved in the MJO and MISO propagation  
86 through the Indian Ocean. The DYNAMO field campaign and follow-on studies show the  
87 importance of ocean-atmosphere interaction in the MJO propagation through the Indian Ocean  
88 region (Zhang et al. 2013). Thes DYNAMO and ASIRI field campaign data revealed the rich frontal  
89 features, sub-mesoscale variability, shallow mixed layer dynamics with weak mixing, strong wind-  
90 forced surface currents, diurnal air-sea interaction, and other dynamic features of the regions,  
91 which were less known previously. All these processes lead to determining the modulation of the  
92 SST and heat fluxes from the ocean surface into the atmosphere on S2S timescales. The inability  
93 of forecast models to capture these cross-component interactions well translates to forecast errors  
94 and limits on prediction skill for MISOs, MJO and the seasonal monsoon. Improving the  
95 observations of air-sea interactions in the region and the upper ocean processes can help  
96 understand how they modulate the boundary layer dynamics in both the ocean and atmosphere

97 and how this links to MJO and MISO convection. This will further help improve our prediction  
98 capabilities for the monsoon, MISO and the MJO on S2S timescales.

99 The MJO initiation and propagation in observations have most commonly been studied using the  
100 Realtime Multivariate MJO (RMM) index of Wheeler and Hendon (2004). A recent study (Zhang  
101 and Ling, 2017) compared results derived from the RMM index to those from a new method of  
102 tracking precipitation of individual MJO events (Ling et al., 2012). They show that while the starting  
103 longitudes for the MJO events are distributed over the entire tropics when using the RMM index  
104 (Matthews, 2008), most of them form over the Indian Ocean (Fig. 15.1a) when derived from tracking  
105 precipitation signals. The distribution of ending longitudes exhibits two peaks: one over the Maritime  
106 Continent (MC) and the other over the central Pacific (Fig. 15.1a). This is direct evidence for the  
107 MC barrier effect on the MJO: an MJO event either fails to propagate through the MC and vanishes  
108 there or continues to move eastward until it reaches the cold sea surface east of the western Pacific  
109 warm pool.

110 The role of coupled processes in the MJO has also been investigated in the European Centre for  
111 Medium-Range Weather Forecasts Extended-Range Forecasting System. A series of subseasonal  
112 (extended range) forecasts initialized daily over the Tropical Ocean Global Atmosphere Coupled  
113 Ocean Atmosphere Response Experiment (TOGA-COARE) period were performed with sea  
114 surface temperatures (SSTs) provided by persistence of initial conditions, observed SSTs and  
115 coupling to a full dynamical ocean model with vertical resolution in the upper ocean typical of  
116 coupled models (10 m). The subseasonal forecast experiment with the full dynamical ocean model  
117 showed improved forecast skill for the MJO compared with the persisted and observed SST  
118 experiments, indicating a role for coupled processes in the MJO (Fig. 15.2). Sensitivity experiments  
119 in this context have revealed that the improved representation of the diurnal cycle in the upper  
120 ocean, which results from the increased vertical resolution in the upper ocean, is a significant factor  
121 in improving the forecast skill (Woolnough et al. 2007; Ge et al. 2017). Hence, observing the upper  
122 ocean (upper 50 m) at a high temporal and spatial resolution could help improve our understanding  
123 of the diurnal cycle and its modulations in the Indian Ocean. This can help improve the process  
124 representation of the diurnal cycle in seasonal forecast models either with an improved  
125 parameterization (Zeng and Beljaars 2005; Large and Caron 2015) or with data assimilation (Koster  
126 et al. 2016; Penny et al. 2017).

127 Hence, being able to observe and understand the diurnal cycle in the upper ocean and how it  
128 couples to the atmospheric boundary layer will require a sustained observing system with moorings  
129 or other platforms and would be beneficial for both improving model representations and  
130 parameterizations of these processes. The sustained observations can also be assimilated in the  
131 forecast models to improve initial conditions for subseasonal forecasts. The sustained moorings  
132 would need to have a high vertical resolution measurement (1 m or less) of temperature, salinity  
133 and currents in the ocean every hour or three hours minimum over the top 25 - 50 m. If this can be  
134 complemented with concurrent surface meteorological measurements of the heat fluxes, surface  
135 temperature, humidity and other variables, it will revolutionize our understanding of air-sea  
136 interactions in the region. This will help improve our models and hence forecasting capabilities for  
137 the monsoon and the MJO in the region.

138 The impact of biases and errors in SST on subseasonal forecasts for the MISOs has been studied  
139 by Abhilash et al. (2014). They show that bias correction in SST has minimal impact in short-to-  
140 medium range, but has a substantial influence on prediction skill for MISOs on subseasonal (12–  
141 18 days) time ranges. Several encouraging studies have shown that air-sea coupling may extend  
142 MISO predictability and suggesting that ocean plays a key role in MISO dynamics and may be a  
143 source of predictability for the MISO (Fu et al., 2008 and references there in).

144 De Boisseson et al (2012) and Wang et al. (2015) showed that the MJO prediction skill is sensitive  
145 to the choice of SST analysis products, with state of the art high resolution SST analyses producing  
146 different results. Recent work with the ECMWF extended-range and seasonal systems also show  
147 that sampling the uncertainty in the ocean initial conditions influence the amplitude of the ensemble  
148 spread significantly on seasonal timescales in the Eastern Indian Ocean region (and therefore the  
149 potential predictability, Andrejczuk et al. 2016). This is also a key geographical region for

150 influencing the prediction of the MJO, ENSO and Indian Ocean Dipole, and needs to be  
151 investigated further. Hence, observing the Eastern Indian Ocean region as well as the Bay of  
152 Bengal with sustained moorings with near surface measurements to complement the Argo array of  
153 subsurface ocean measurements in the region will help improve our understanding of forecast  
154 model uncertainties in the region. The Argo floats are challenged to sample in the strongly  
155 upwelling regions due to strong offshore Ekman transport advecting the Argo floats out of the  
156 region. Hence, having another observation platform that can sample the upwelling region in the  
157 Eastern Indian Ocean region can help improve our understanding of the region and how it  
158 influences S2S forecasts over the South Asian region. There is also an increasing interest on  
159 developing coupled data assimilation methods for initialization of extended range forecast and for  
160 reanalyses applications. Coupled data assimilation involves the assimilation of both oceanic and  
161 atmospheric observations simultaneously into a coupled forecasting system prior to initializing the  
162 forecasts. This will require collocated observations across the ocean and atmosphere, and the  
163 IndOOS will be instrumental to develop such coupled systems (see details in the final section on  
164 recommendations).

165 Hence, availability of a sustained observation system and process-oriented field observations in  
166 the Indian Ocean region targeting timescales from diurnal cycles to longer time periods can help  
167 inform and improve coupled prediction systems in improving their upper ocean representation as  
168 well as air-sea interaction processes. These observations will also be highly useful for coupled data  
169 assimilation to help improve initial conditions for subseasonal and seasonal forecasting over the  
170 entire globe. For observations to have an impact in the complex data assimilation systems, the  
171 observations must also be quality controlled and preferably processed to reduce representational  
172 errors in data assimilation (Penny et al. 2015).

### 173 **15.3 Essential Ocean Variables (EOV)**

174 The atmospheric forcing associated with the monsoon in the boreal summer months and the MJO  
175 in boreal winter months influence the upper ocean processes significantly and lead to strong air-  
176 sea interaction which can in turn modulate the monsoons and MJO. Hence, observing the surface  
177 heat fluxes, temperature, salinity and upper ocean variability in the tropical Indian Ocean is crucial  
178 for improving our understanding as well as forecasting capabilities of the MJO and the monsoon.  
179 Air-sea interaction over the Bay of Bengal is dominated by the upper ocean stratification forced by  
180 anomalously high fresh water influx into the region. The air-sea coupling in this region influences  
181 the development and propagation of MISO significantly. Hence, sustained observations of the  
182 freshwater input into Bay of Bengal from the river runoff as well as precipitation is necessary.  
183 Similarly surface salinity and temperature in the Arabian Sea influence the monsoon jet propagation  
184 as well as moisture transport into the continent and hence, needs to be monitored carefully. The  
185 upper ocean diurnal cycle plays a key role in the evolution of both the MJO as well as the MISO  
186 events. Hence, observing the diurnal cycle over the equatorial Indian Ocean as well as in the  
187 Maritime continent with sustained high frequency measurements can help improve our sampling of  
188 this variability. This can help improve our model representations of the upper ocean diurnal cycle  
189 through coupled data assimilation methods to ingest these sustained observations into forecast  
190 systems.

#### 191 **Variables of interest**

192 Temperature, salinity, velocity in the upper 50 m of the ocean including the surface, 10 m winds,  
193 2m air temperature and humidity, precipitation, shortwave and longwave radiation

#### 194 **Resolutions**

195 Temporal resolution: One hour (minimum 3 hours) to resolve the diurnal cycle

196 Zonal resolution: 5° in longitude (~1110 km)

197 Meridional resolution: 1° in latitude (~111 km) near the equator to resolve equatorial wave guide.

198 **15.4 Recommendations**

199 Sustained long-term measurements of the upper ocean temperature, salinity and currents are key  
200 to observe and understand air-sea interaction over the Indian Ocean region. They are also very  
201 important to assimilate into S2S forecast models to help improve MISO, MJO and seasonal  
202 monsoon predictions in the region. Hence, maintaining the current network of IndOOS especially  
203 the RAMA array and Argo program is the first priority. Recommendations for the enhancements to  
204 the current observing capabilities are described below:

205 Given the importance of representing the diurnal cycle in forecast models for improving MJO and  
206 MISO forecasts, we recommend increasing the vertical resolution in the upper 10 m of RAMA buoy.  
207 Suggested depths of temperature and conductivity sensors are: 0.5 m, 1.0 m, 2.0 m, 3 m, 5 m, 7  
208 m, 10 m, and every 5 m below that upto 50 m which can better resolve the shallow diurnal warm  
209 layer (upper few meters) and the mixed layer deepening during night time.

210 The zonal and meridional resolution of the current RAMA buoy network are coarser than that  
211 recommended in the previous section on EOVs. Since the resources are limited, it is likely more  
212 critical to sample the upper ocean at a higher vertical resolution and supplement the spatial  
213 resolution of the moorings with Argo and satellite observations. Here are some specific  
214 recommendations for improved observations in key areas to help improve MJO and monsoon  
215 predictions. They are listed below:

216 **(1) Adding a new sites of surface buoys in the eastern Indian Ocean with both upper ocean**  
217 **temperature, salinity sensors as well as a meteorological station.**

218 The SST anomalies on interannual timescale varies significantly in this region due to both ENSO  
219 as well as the Indian Ocean Dipole. The SST in this strong upwelling region influences both the  
220 MJO and MISO propagation through the region. Hence better understanding of air-sea interaction  
221 in this region will help to improve MJO and monsoon representation in the forecast models. The  
222 importance of this location for other climate and ecosystem variability is discussed in other  
223 chapters.

224 **(2) Increase the surface flux buoy sites in western Indian Ocean (equatorial and Arabian**  
225 **Sea) while also maintaining the existing surface mooring sites in the revised RAMA-2.0**  
226 **design.**

227 The surface fluxes in this region, especially the latent heat flux, determines the strength of vapor  
228 transport in the monsoon flow and hence is a key driver for downstream precipitation over the  
229 continent. Being able to observe and predict this better on subseasonal timescales can help  
230 advance our warning and disaster mitigation for heavy rainfall events over the continent.

231 **(3) Enhance some of the existing RAMA buoy measurements by augmenting the existing**  
232 **upper ocean measurements with concurrent high frequency meteorological measurements**  
233 **for the atmospheric state**

234 This can help improve our understanding of the diurnal cycle in the region and help improve  
235 representation and prediction of both the MJO and MISO events in the forecast models.

236 **(4) Increase observations of coastal regions especially near the Maritime Continent region.**

237 Argo floats as well as current RAMA array do not observe the ocean state near the coast of the  
238 complex Indonesian Throughflow region. Given that this region is a key connector between two  
239 large ocean basins (Pacific and Indian Ocean), it is important to observe and understand the  
240 complex ocean-atmosphere-land interactions in the region. This will help reduce current model  
241 MJO forecast biases in terms of not propagating MJOs across the Maritime Continent as well as in  
242 nature.

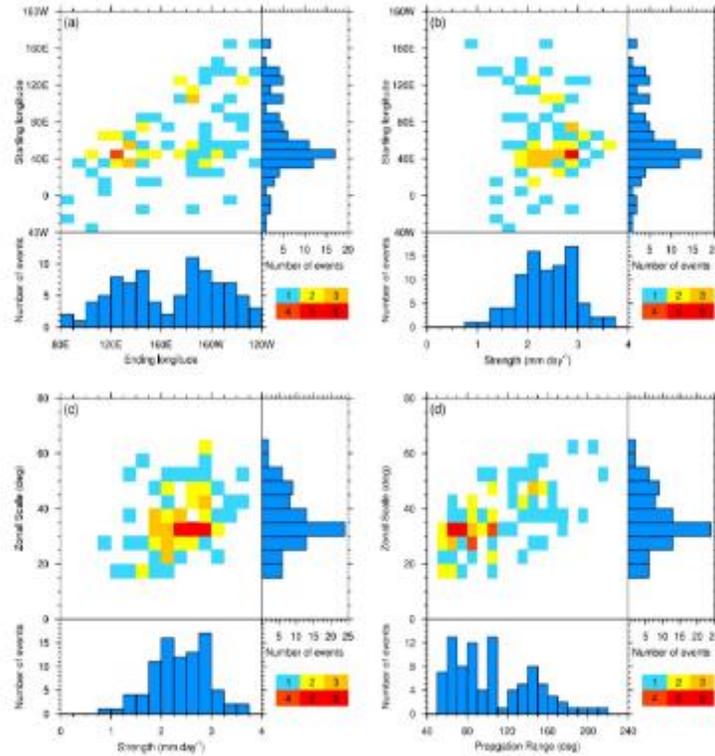


Figure 15.1. Individual and joint number distributions of (a) starting vs ending longitudes, (b) starting longitudes vs mean strength, (c) mean zonal scales vs mean strength, and (d) mean zonal scales vs propagation ranges of tracked MJO events using the TRMM precipitation data. Colors of the joint distributions represent the number of events. Source: Zhang and Ling (2017)

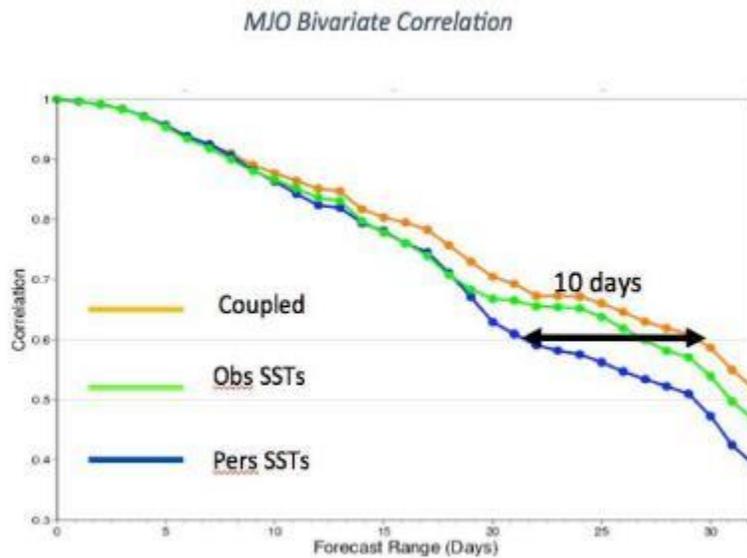


Figure 15.2. Correlation of the observed RMM times series with the ensemble mean forecast time series for a control experiment with observed SST forcing (green line), coupled ocean (orange line) and the persisted SST experiment (blue line).

## 16. Improvement of surface fluxes

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### 1 **16.1 Progress made in improving air-sea flux climatologies in past 10 years**

2 When designing the RAMA moored array 10 years ago (McPhaden et al. 2009), there was strong  
3 consensus on the need for surface moorings that are instrumented with enhanced measurement  
4 capabilities for comprehensive air–sea fluxes (i.e., “flux reference site” moorings) and placed at key  
5 dynamical regimes. The rationale was plain and clear: better surface heat and moisture flux  
6 climatologies are highly desired in a region where surface fluxes are important in determining  
7 mixed-layer temperature and salinity variability from diurnal to intraseasonal and longer timescales  
8 (e.g. Yaremchuk 2006; Yu et al. 2007). Better surface fluxes are essential for improving numerical  
9 weather prediction and climate forecast skills. Better surface fluxes are understanding of the  
10 mechanisms responsible for the frontal-scale air-sea interaction over the western boundary  
11 currents (Beal et al, SD 07 in this review).

12 During the RAMA design phase, six surface flux climatologies that were available at that time were  
13 examined to provide a first-hand experience of the quality of the surface fluxes and to help develop  
14 strategies for air-sea measurements (Yu et al. 2007). The six flux products showed large  
15 discrepancies over the Indian Ocean (Fig.16.1). The standard deviation (STD) in the long-term  
16 mean net heat flux exceeded  $25 \text{ Wm}^{-2}$  over almost the entire basin north of  $20^\circ\text{S}$ , with the  
17 maximum difference of  $40 \text{ Wm}^{-2}$  occurring in the vicinity of the Somali Current.

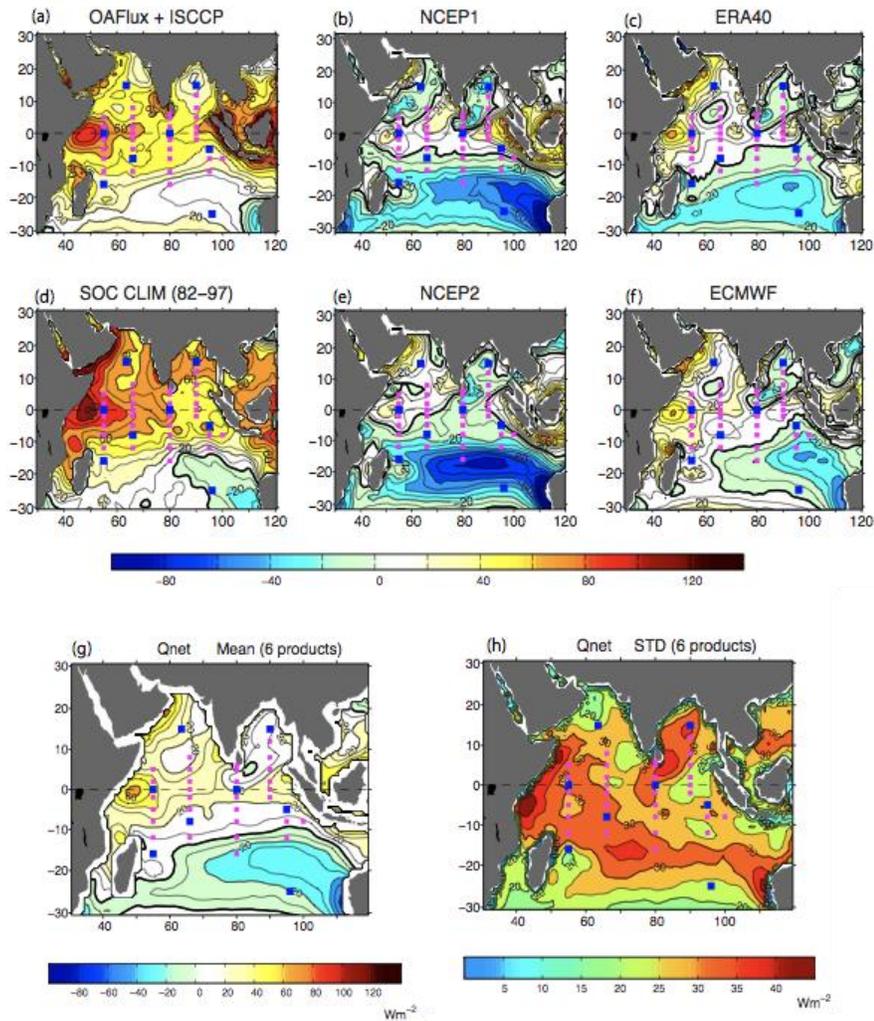


Figure 16.1 Time-mean  $Q_{net}$  from (a) OAFlex+ISCCP, (b) NCEP1, (c) ERA40, (d) SOC, (e) NCEP2, and (f) ECMWF for the period 1988-2000. (g) ensemble mean and (h) STD spread of these 6  $Q_{net}$  products (adapted from Yu et al. 2007). The designed RAMA buoy locations are superimposed, and those marked by blue squares denote flux reference sites.

18 The net surface heat flux ( $Q_{net}$ ) going into the ocean is the sum of a number of heat exchange  
 19 processes at the air-sea interface. These processes include incoming and reflected solar radiation,  
 20 outgoing and re-emitted longwave radiation, sensible heat (SH) transfer by conduction and  
 21 convection, and latent heat (LH) release by evaporation of surface water. In general, these heat  
 22 flux components are estimated using bulk flux parameterizations with surface meteorological  
 23 variables obtained from one of the following sources: numerical weather prediction (NWP)  
 24 reanalysis, ship reports from the Comprehensive Ocean-Atmosphere Data Set (COADS), and  
 25 satellite retrievals. Different data sources have different biases that result from sample frequency,  
 26 coverage, and statistical and/or dynamical interpolation frameworks. Different bulk flux algorithms  
 27 incorporate different physical parameterizations for surface wave spectra, convective gustiness,  
 28 roughness length, etc. (Brunke et al. 2002). All these differences could lead to significant  
 29 differences between surface flux products. For instance, the buoy measurements of Weller et al.  
 30 (1998) taken during the Arabian Sea Experiment in 1994-95 showed a net heat gain of  $60.3 \text{ Wm}^{-2}$ ,  
 31 while the  $Q_{net}$  produced from the National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP) reanalysis

32 had a net heat loss of  $-4.5\text{Wm}^{-2}$  – the mean differences between the two are nearly  $65\text{Wm}^{-2}$ . If  
33 biases in data are disregarded, the flux algorithms alone can give rise to differences of  $23\text{Wm}^{-2}$   
34 (or 16% relative to the algorithm-averaged flux) in monthly LH and  $0.013\text{N m}^{-2}$  (or 19% relative to  
35 the algorithm-averaged value) in monthly wind stress in regions of high SST ( $> 27.75^\circ\text{C}$ ) (Brunke  
36 et al. 2002).

37 Significant progress has been made in surface flux estimates from satellite analyses and  
38 atmospheric reanalyses in the past 10 years due largely to two factors. The ever-advancing satellite  
39 technology for retrieving flux-related variables (Josey et al. 2013), such as near-surface air  
40 temperature and humidity, most significantly, the advancement in surface radiation products. The  
41 CERES instrument onboard the polar-orbiting Aqua satellite and follow-on missions since 2000  
42 have provided the first ever complete coverage of highly accurate energy budget and cloud  
43 observations over the Indian basin, from which the surface radiative budget has been computed  
44 using an energy balanced and filled (EBAF) approach (Kato et al. 2013). Previous surface radiation  
45 products, such as ISCCP and GEWEX SRB, were constructed from geostationary satellites which  
46 have a broad gap in coverage over the Indian Ocean (Zhang et al. 2004). This gap has been a  
47 major obstacle for estimating basin-scale  $Q_{\text{net}}$  spatial and temporal variability and trends in recent  
48 decades, coincident with the period that the basin has seen an unprecedented rise in sea surface  
49 temperature and heat content (Roxy et al. 2014; Lee et al. 2015). The second factor is successive  
50 generations of atmospheric reanalyses that have improved in quality as a result of better physical  
51 models, more observations to constrain the models, and better assimilation methods. As a result,  
52 there has been a wave of latest versions of global reanalyses from NCEP (Saha et al., 2010), JMA  
53 (Kobayashi et al. 2015), NASA (Rienecker et al., 2011), and ECMWF (Dee et al. 2011). Given all  
54 these improvements, we would anticipate an improvement in  $Q_{\text{net}}$ .

55 The degree of improvement in  $Q_{\text{net}}$  over the past 10 years can be evaluated using 6 of the latest  
56  $Q_{\text{net}}$  products (Figs. 16.2a-f) to construct the ensemble mean (Fig.16.2g) and STD between the 6  
57 mean products (Fig. 16.2h) for the period 2001-2010. Compared to the  $Q_{\text{net}}$  ensemble mean of 10  
58 years ago (Fig.16.1), the present  $Q_{\text{net}}$  shows a similar spatial pattern but with enhanced magnitude  
59 in both maximum net heat gain ( $Q_{\text{net}} > 0$ ) and maximum net heat loss ( $Q_{\text{net}} < 0$ ) regimes. The  
60 maximum oceanic net heat gain occurs in the western equatorial region off the coast of Somali and  
61 is enhanced by about  $10\text{Wm}^{-2}$  in the present estimate. Meanwhile, the maximum net heat loss  
62 occurs over the southeastern subtropical basin and is also enhanced by about  $10\text{Wm}^{-2}$ . Compared  
63 to the  $Q_{\text{net}}$  ensemble spread of 10 years ago (Fig. 16.1h versus Fig.16.2h), the spread in the 6  
64 recent  $Q_{\text{net}}$  products is reduced by more than 50%, with the STD difference of  $25\text{Wm}^{-2}$  confined  
65 mostly in the equatorial region and the Somali current region.

66 Reduction in the mean  $Q_{\text{net}}$  is most evident in the CERES EBAF and the newly developed satellite-  
67 only, high-resolution OAFflux (OAFflux-HR) (Fig. 16.2a). This combined satellite  $Q_{\text{net}}$  captures the  
68 net heat loss over the subtropical Indian Ocean, which is a major correction to the basin-wide warm  
69 bias in OAFflux+ISCCP. The correction is attributed mainly to the better surface radiation products  
70 from CERES (Kato et al. 2013) and the use of an improved turbulent bulk flux algorithm (Jim Edson,  
71 personal communication, 2017) in the OAFflux-HR computation. A reduction in mean  $Q_{\text{net}}$   
72 produced by NOC2.0 (previously SOC) using ICOAD ship reports (Berry and Kent 2009) is also  
73 evident (Fig. 16.2d), with the improvement possibly due to increased sampling in the region. The  
74 agreement between the four reanalysis  $Q_{\text{net}}$  is poor however and they still have large uncertainties.  
75 CFSR has an excessive net heat gain ( $+80\text{Wm}^{-2}$ ) in the equatorial region, and MERRA2 has  
76 an excessive net heat loss ( $-30\text{Wm}^{-2}$ ) in the Bay of Bengal and the eastern equatorial basin  
77 (Figs. 16.2c and 16.2f). The differences in these two products account for a large portion of the  
78 STD between the products (Fig. 16.1e). Significantly, despite the fact that ERA-interim and OAFflux-  
79 HR + CERES are totally independent, with one produced by reanalysis system and the other  
80 constructed from satellite retrievals, the two exhibit broad-scale consistency both in spatial pattern  
81 and magnitude.

82 The largest heat loss in the Indian Ocean occurs in mid latitudes along the path of the warm Agulhas  
83 Current, the Current Retroreflection, and the Return Current. Except for NOCS2 that lacks of in situ  
84 representation in the region, the flux products from the recent satellite-derived

85 (OAFfluxHR+CERES) and latest reanalyses (CFSR, MERRA2, and ERA-interim) are generally  
 86 doing well in capturing the flux variability associated the meandering pattern of the Agulhas current  
 87 system. Nevertheless, the STD difference between the 6 mean patterns exceed  $25 \text{ Wm}^{-2}$  along the  
 88 path of the current, reflecting largely the differences in products in representing the strength and  
 89 width of air-sea fluxes on the frontal scales.

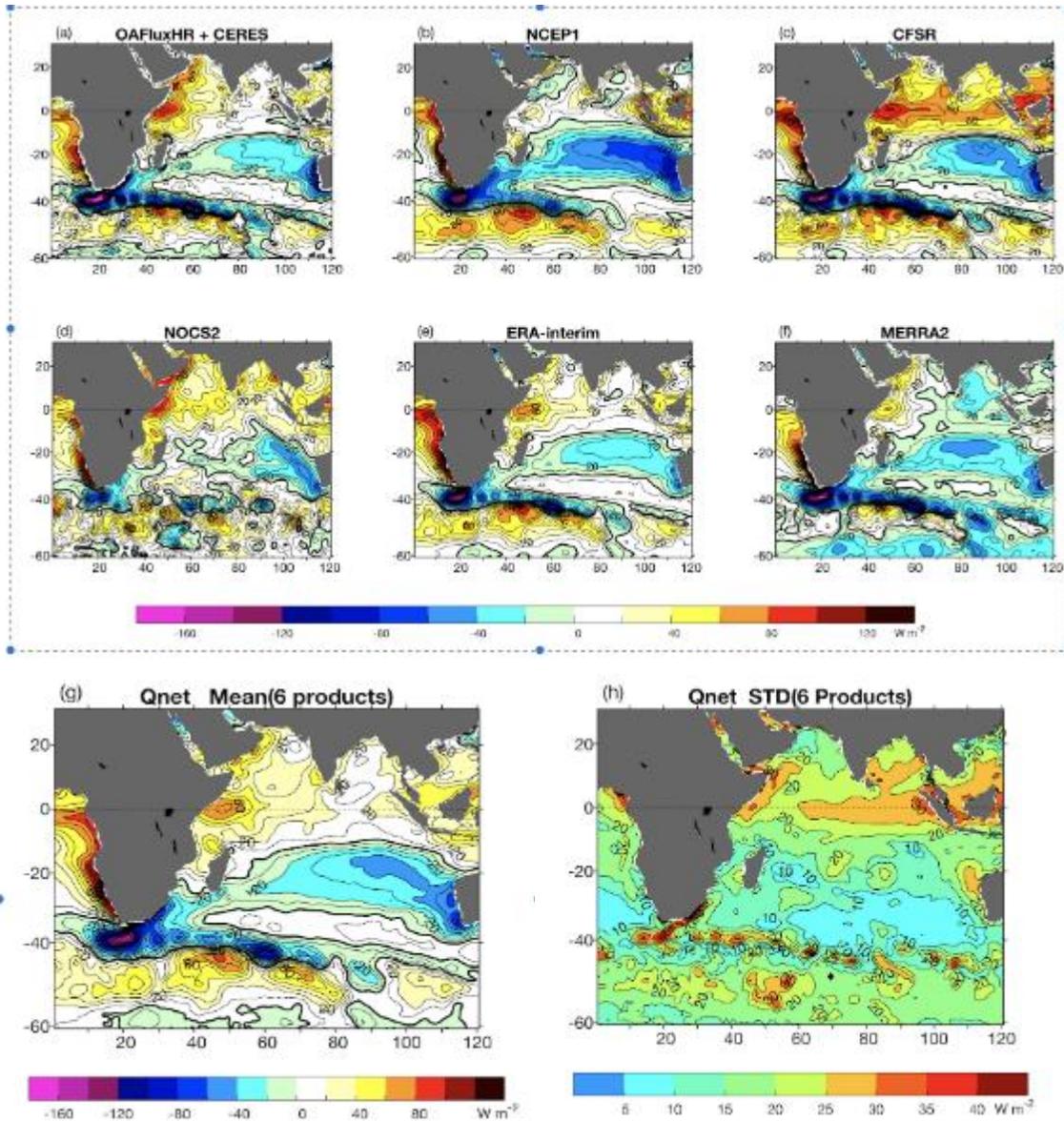


Figure 16.2 Time-mean Qnet from (a) OAFfluxHR+CERES, (b) NCEP1, (c) CFSR, (d) NOCS2, (e) ERA-interim, and (f) MERRA2 for the period 2001-2010. (g) ensemble mean and (h) STD spread of these 6 Qnet products.

## 90 16.2 Leading source of uncertainty and role of RAMA reference sites

91 Although there has been significant progress in reducing the uncertainty in surface flux estimates  
 92 over the past 10 years, the spread in Qnet mean values remains large ( $\sim 20 \text{ Wm}^{-2}$ ) over the warm  
 93 waters of the tropical Indian Ocean north of  $10^\circ\text{S}$  (Fig.16.1e). Moreover, the progress is more  
 94 evident in satellite and ship-based products than in the atmospheric reanalyses. As pointed out by

95 Yu et al. (2017), reanalysis systems have a total energy balance constraint placed at the top of the  
96 atmosphere, not at the surface. Without an energy balance constraint over the ocean surface, the  
97 errors in each flux component add up and give rise to large biases in the analyzed mean Qnet.  
98 Given the current configuration in the reanalysis systems, it appears that improving model  
99 parameterizations of surface flux processes might be the only way forward for improving the mean  
100 Qnet from a reanalysis.

101 Since Qnet is the sum of a number of heat exchange processes at the air-sea interface, it is  
102 necessary to identify the leading source of uncertainties in order to guide improvements in  
103 reanalysis products. 14 products are compared (9 reanalyses (NCEP1, NCEP2, CFSR, ERA-  
104 interim, ERA-20C, MERRA, MERRA-2, JRA55, 20CR), 4 satellite products (ISCCP, SRB, CERES,  
105 OAFux-HR), and 1 ship-based product (NOC)) to gain an understanding of the overall uncertainty  
106 in each flux component over the 10 year period 2001-2010. The STD of the means for the 14  
107 products is computed for both surface radiation (net shortwave and longwave (SW+LW)) and  
108 turbulent latent and sensible heat fluxes (LH+SH) (Figs.16.3a-b) to show that the uncertainty in  
109 SW+LW dominates the uncertainty in Qnet in the tropical Indian Ocean. This uncertainty in SW+LW  
110 is not unique to the Indian Ocean – but is a problem common to the reanalysis models over all  
111 tropical warm pool waters. Net freshwater flux (evaporation-minus-precipitation) products show a  
112 similar STD spread and pattern in the mean precipitation (Yu et al. 2017). This similarity in the  
113 uncertainty patterns in SW+LW and precipitation, along with their close connection to tropical warm  
114 pool waters, indicates that the long-standing problems of parameterizing tropical convective clouds  
115 in reanalysis models impact the surface radiative budget, leading to major errors in the net heat  
116 balance at the tropical ocean surface.

117 The original RAMA array design included 8 full-flux reference sites (Fig.16.1a), although 2 of them  
118 in the Arabian Sea and the western equatorial basin have not yet been occupied. Nevertheless,  
119 the surface flux measurements that were acquired at the 6 sites since RAMA was implemented in  
120 2006 provide solid benchmark time series to help diagnose the problems in reanalyzed radiation  
121 products. At buoy sites, only downward components of shortwave and longwave radiation are  
122 measured. Comparing these measurements to reanalysis models (Figs 16.4a-b), the downward  
123 shortwave radiation is poorly produced, while the downward longwave radiation is better. The  
124 models perform badly when insolation is low ( $<150 \text{ Wm}^{-2}$ ), conditions under which the models tend  
125 to overestimate solar radiation. Overall, ERA-interim surface radiation appears to be least biased,  
126 and CFSR most biased. A similar pattern is obtained using TAO-TRITON buoys for the western  
127 Pacific warm pool.

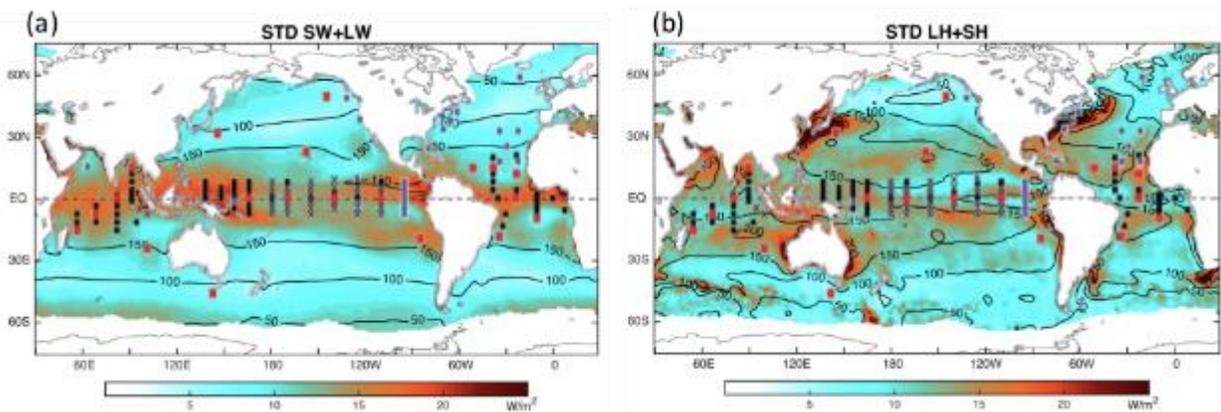


Figure 16.3 STD of the means based on 14 products for (a) SW+LW and (b) LH+SH. Black contours denote the ensemble mean patterns. The location of the global moored surface buoys is superimposed, with red dots indicating flux reference moorings.

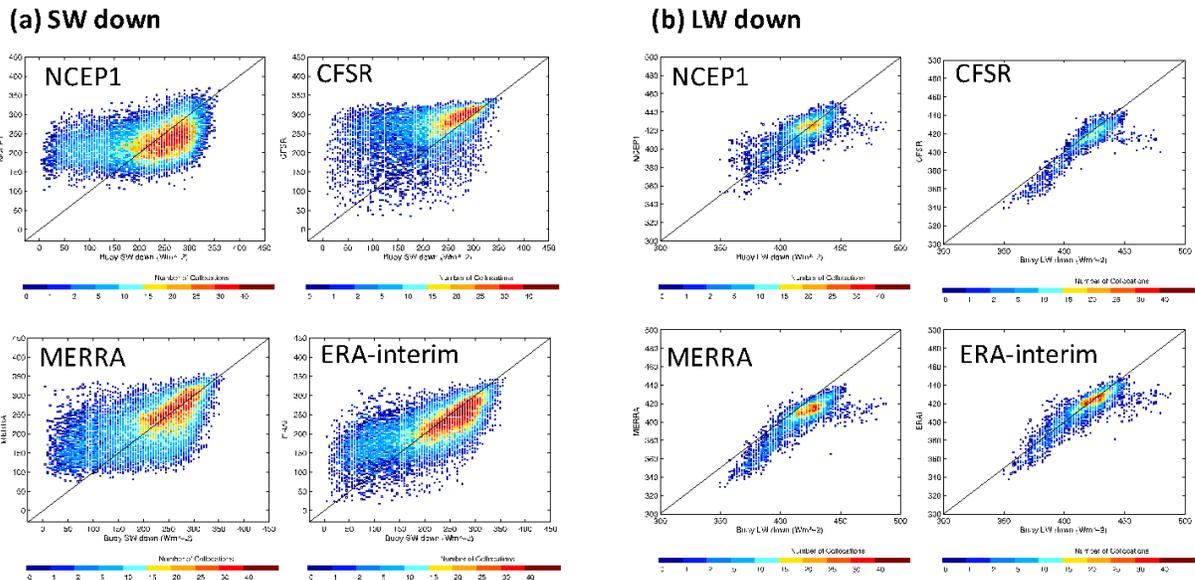


Figure 16.4 Scatter plots of daily-mean buoy versus reanalysis fluxes for (a) SW downward component and (b) LW downward component for four reanalysis products (NCEP1, CFSR, MERRA, and ERA-interim).

### 128 16.3 Air-sea flux EOVs for the Indian Ocean

129 Ocean-surface wind stress are a flux EOV. It has been recommended that turbulent latent and  
 130 sensible heat fluxes be designated as flux EOVs. Given the lack of the energy and freshwater  
 131 budget balance constraints at the ocean surface in the reanalysis systems, the improvement of the  
 132 reanalysis products can best be made through improving model parameterizations of tropical  
 133 convective clouds, as a first priority. Since improvements to the net heat and freshwater balance  
 134 in the latest reanalyses is less than anticipated, the use of reanalyses products for flux estimates  
 135 in the near future is not promising. One exception is the ERA-interim product, as its mean  $Q_{net}$  is  
 136 more consistent with satellite-based products and buoys than other reanalyses. However, the time  
 137 series of ERA-interim has spurious trends, induced by the injection of new SST datasets (e.g. Liang  
 138 and Yu 2016).

139 Satellite products are promising candidates for gridded quality flux estimates into the future, except  
 140 none of the surface heat flux components are directly retrieved from remote sensing. Surface  
 141 radiation is computed from the radiation observed at the top of the atmosphere using an energy  
 142 balanced and filled approach (Kato et al. 2013). Surface moisture and heat fluxes are computed  
 143 from bulk flux parameterization using surface meteorological variables (SST, wind, near-surface air  
 144 temperature and humidity). Retrieving near-surface air temperature and humidity from satellite  
 145 scanners and sounders remains difficult (Jin et al. 2015) and the uncertainty in bulk flux algorithms  
 146 is not negligible (Brunke et al. 2002). Thus, we need flux reference sites at the ocean surface to  
 147 evaluate improvements and new developments for satellite retrieval algorithms and flux products.  
 148 Long time series from moored buoys in general, both as part of the Global Tropical Moored Buoy  
 149 Array (McPhaden et al, 2010) and the OceanSites program (Send et al, 2010), are also valuable  
 150 as inputs to constrain atmospheric analyses and reanalyses.

### 151 16.4 Actionable Recommendations

152 Actionable recommendations on the current IndOOS design are given as follow:

- 153 i. Implement unoccupied flux reference sites in Arabian Sea and western Indian Ocean  
154 and maintain established flux reference sites in the revised RAMA-2.0 design (see  
155 McPhaden et al. white paper).
- 156 ii. Enhance a subset of the flux reference sites for direct flux measurements to validate  
157 bulk algorithm flux computations.
- 158 iii. Engage with the atmospheric reanalysis community to help evaluate and guide the  
159 future improvement of tropical convective parameterizations.
- 160 iv. Engage with the satellite surface radiation producers to help diagnose and validate  
161 surface radiative products

## 17. Contributions of IndOOS to improving ocean data assimilation

Tony Lee, NASA

### 1 17.1 Improving ocean state estimation as a driver for IndOOS

2 A suite of ocean data assimilation (ODA) systems has been developed in the past couple of  
3 decades to characterize ocean variability and understand the related processes, to evaluate  
4 observing system impacts, to initialize climate prediction, and to drive biogeochemistry models.  
5 One of the important drivers for IndOOS is to improve the ODA products to facilitate the  
6 aforementioned applications. Prior to the mid 2000s, ODA systems were primarily constrained by  
7 satellite-derived SST and SSH data as well as measurements from the sparse XBT network in the  
8 Indian Ocean sector. The lack of in-situ data has limited the evaluation of ODA products in terms  
9 of the representation of subsurface ocean structure, especially for currents and salinity, across  
10 various spatiotemporal scales.

11 The development of IndOOS since the mid 2000s, especially for RAMA and Argo, has significantly  
12 enhanced the constraint and evaluation ODA products in terms of subsurface ocean. For example,  
13 the assimilation of Argo salinity data in NOAA National Center for Environmental Prediction (NCEP)  
14 Global Ocean Data Assimilation System (GODAS) has significantly reduced the regional salinity  
15 biases in the GODAS product, including the thickness of barrier layer in the Indian Ocean (Huang  
16 et al. 2008) (Figure 17.1). Comparison of independent data also suggested associated  
17 improvements in zonal currents and SSH in the tropical Indian Ocean. IndOOS in-situ data have  
18 also been important to evaluating and improving the subsurface temperature and salinity structure,  
19 surface and subsurface currents, and SSH in the ODA system of the Indian National Centre for  
20 Ocean Information Services (INCOIS), which is enhanced from NCEP's GODAS system in  
21 collaboration with NCEP (Rahaman et al 2016).

22 In the past decade, there has been significant progress in the development and enhancement of  
23 ODA systems for operational oceanography, initialization of seasonal-to-interannual prediction, and  
24 analysis of seasonal-to-decadal variability of ocean circulation (cf. reviews articles by Dombrowsky  
25 et al. 2009, Lee et al. 2009, and Fujii et al. 2015). Much of the IndOOS observations from in-situ  
26 and satellite platforms provide backbone observational constraints of these system  
27 ([https://www.godae-oceanview.org/science/ocean-forecasting-systems/assimilation-  
28 characteristics/](https://www.godae-oceanview.org/science/ocean-forecasting-systems/assimilation-characteristics/)). IndOOS data are not only fundamental to the evaluation and improvement of  
29 individual ODA systems, but essential to the assessment of the consistency and fidelity of various  
30 ODA systems. In particular, IndOOS is an integral element of the global ocean observing system  
31 that is used in various intercomparison and evaluation of a suite of ODA systems under the Ocean  
32 ReAnalysis Intercomparison Project (ORA-IP) (Balmaseda et al. 2015). As an extension of the  
33 ORA-IP effort, a set of multi-decadal ODA products have been collected and put on a common grid  
34 to facilitate the intercomparison under a NASA-sponsored project Collaborative REAnalysis  
35 Technical Environment (CREATE) ([https://esgf.nccs.nasa.gov/projects/create-  
36 ip/data-description#OceanRe](https://esgf.nccs.nasa.gov/projects/create-ip/data-description#OceanRe)). Comparison of these products shows that there is a generally  
37 better consistency among these products since the mid 2000s (i.e., since the development of Argo  
38 and RAMA) than the previous decades (see example in Figure 17.2).

### 39 17.2 Future observational needs

40 Despite the encouraging improvements brought by IndOOS observations, there remain significant  
41 discrepancies between ODA products and observations as well as among different ODA products.  
42 These arise from limitations in forward ocean models (including errors in model physics and forcing)  
43 as well as in data assimilation. Improving ocean models, surface forcing (for momentum, heat, and  
44 freshwater fluxes), and data assimilation is a longer-term effort than the relatively short  
45 development time of IndOOS. For testing the impacts of ODA on initializing seasonal-to-interannual  
46 prediction, the observational records need to cover many realizations of interannual events such

47 as IOD. Moreover, observational records for the Indian Ocean, especially from the Argo and RAMA  
48 arrays, are too short to evaluate ODA products on multi-decadal time scales. Therefore, sustaining  
49 measurements from IndoOS is imperative for future improvements of ODA systems.

50 Enhancement of IndoOS is also necessary. For example, the roles of the deep ocean below 2000  
51 m (the maximum profiling depth of the current Argo array) may become important at the longer time  
52 scales. Deep-ocean (> 2000 m) structure and changes in ODA products are not well constrained,  
53 thereby prompting for the enhancement by deep Argo. Other areas where IndoOS need to be  
54 enhanced include the coverage of coastal regions that are not sampled or not well sampled by Argo  
55 and RAMA. Continuity and enhancement of satellite measurements as addressed in Chapter IR 1  
56 are also important to improving ODA products. Examples include (1) the continuity and  
57 enhancement of temporal sampling of wind stress measurements from satellites to capture the  
58 diurnal cycle, and (2) the continuity, enhancement of spatial resolution, and improvement of data  
59 quality for satellite SSS, which is especially important for the Indian Ocean due to the very dynamic  
60 variability of SSS across various spatiotemporal scales.

61 The observations of the Indonesian throughflow (ITF) is of particular importance to the Indian  
62 Ocean. There is no current observing system that can monitor the ITF adequately. The data from  
63 the IX1 XBT line allows estimate of the geostrophic transport of the ITF relative to 750 m (e.g.  
64 Wijffels et al. 2008). Effect of salinity on the geostrophic transport was inferred from only a  
65 climatological temperature-salinity relation as opposed to be based on direct measurement of  
66 salinity. Moreover, transport deeper than 750 m is not accounted for. ODA products have significant  
67 discrepancies in representing the ITF (e.g., Lee et al. 2010). This has ramifications to the  
68 representation of the state of the Indian Ocean as well as heat and freshwater exchanges between  
69 the Pacific and Indian Oceans. Development of a sustained observing system for the ITF is thus  
70 an important aspect that needs to be considered between IndoOS and the Tropical Pacific  
71 Observing System (TPOS).

72 Most ODA systems do not assimilate surface meteorology measurements from IndoOS. Efforts of  
73 coupled ocean-atmosphere data assimilation are emerging (e.g., Saha et al. 2010, Penny et al.  
74 2017). Measurements of the coupled ocean-atmosphere boundary layers can provide effective  
75 constraints on such coupled assimilation systems. Therefore, enhancement of these  
76 measurements will be more important for the future generation of coupled assimilation systems.

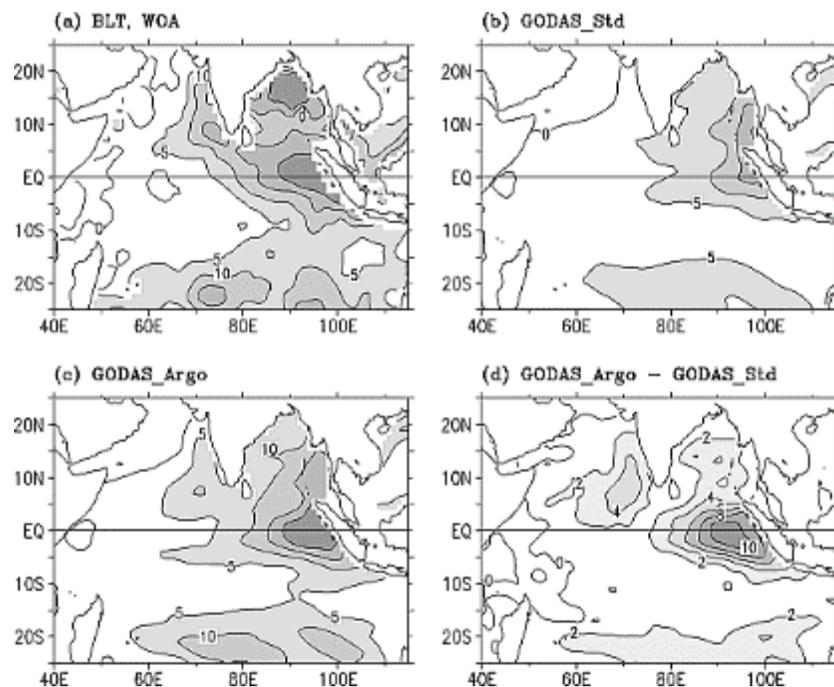


Figure 17.1. Barrier-layer thickness inferred from observations from the World Ocean Atlas (WOA) data (a), GODAS standard assimilation without using Argo data (b), GODAS assimilation with Argo data (c), and the difference between (c) and (b) (d). After Huang et al. 2008).

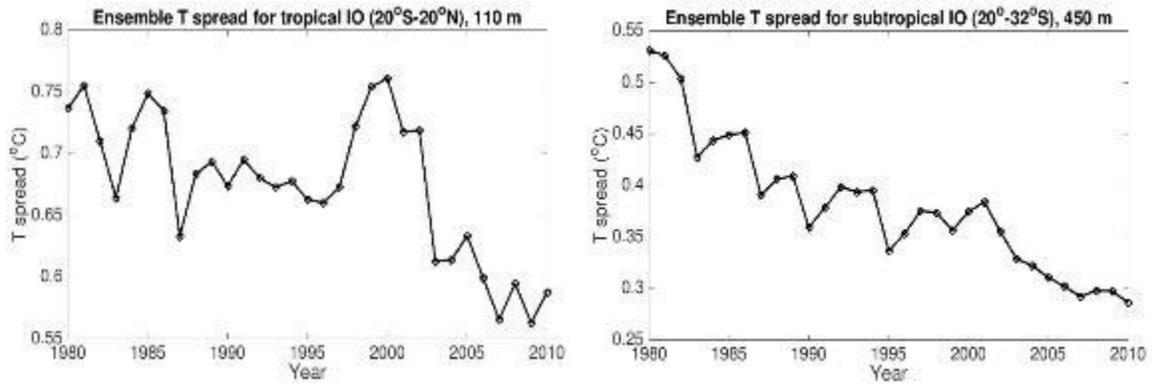


Figure 17.2. Ensemble spread of subsurface temperature near the thermocline in the tropical (a) and subtropical Indian Ocean (b) among eight multi-decadal ocean state estimation products. The consistency (as indicated by smaller spread) is significantly better since the mid 2000s after the development of the Argo and RAMA arrays.

## Part III: IndOOS Component Review

### 18. Past, present & future satellites in support of IndOOS

Tony Lee, NASA

#### 1 18.1 Past and current contributions of satellites to Indian Ocean research

2 Satellites have been an integral component of the IndOOS. Oceanographic satellite missions have  
3 been providing measurements for a suite of oceanographic variables such as sea surface  
4 temperature (SST) and height (SSH), significant wave height (SWH), ocean mass, variables related  
5 to ocean color (e.g., chlorophyll concentration), and in the past several years, sea surface salinity  
6 (SSS). In addition, satellites also provide measurements of surface meteorology variables such as  
7 ocean surface wind speed and wind stress, precipitation, outgoing longwave radiation (OLR), and  
8 surface radiation. Combinations of satellite measurements also provide estimates of ocean surface  
9 currents and surface turbulent heat fluxes (cf. Chapter OD 2 for further discussion of surface  
10 fluxes). Even before the major elements of the in-situ component of IndOOS were developed in the  
11 2000s, ocean observing satellites have been providing routine measurements of some oceanic  
12 variables. Examples include SST from Advanced Very High Resolution Radiometers (AVHRRs)  
13 since the early 1981 and SSH anomalies from TOPEX/Poseidon (1992-2006).

14 Satellites present advantages in observing the Indian Ocean in many aspects. They have overall  
15 more uniform spatiotemporal sampling than *in-situ* systems to capture oceanographic features. The  
16 extensive spatial sampling of satellite observations enables the calculation of spatial derivative  
17 fields that are important for the study of ocean and atmospheric circulation and air-sea interaction.  
18 Such derivative fields include SST and SSS gradients, surface geostrophic currents (from  
19 horizontal gradients of SSH), and the ocean surface wind stress curl and divergence. Satellite data  
20 help capture spatiotemporal variations at scales not resolved or inadequately captured by in-situ  
21 data. Even though some satellite measurements of the ocean adjacent to land are contaminated  
22 by land signals, satellites in general provide more useful measurements in coastal oceans and  
23 marginal seas than those obtained from in-situ platforms. The more extensive (often global)  
24 coverage of satellites facilitates studies of large-scale teleconnections and impacts over and  
25 beyond the Indian Ocean.

26 Satellite observations are complementary to in-situ observations in the Indian Ocean (e.g., from  
27 RAMA moorings, Argo array, XBT, and shipboard CTD). Satellite altimetry data (and in some cases  
28 together with gravimetry data) in combination with Argo observations since the mid 2000s have  
29 enabled a comprehensive study of sea level and the relative contributions of thermosteric,  
30 halosteric, and mass contributions, including those for the Indian Ocean (e.g., Fukumori and Wang  
31 2013, Llovel and Lee 2015). Satellites and mooring data together have greatly facilitated the studies  
32 of upper-ocean processes such as mixed-layer heat balance (e.g., Foltz et al. 2010) and the  
33 dynamics of equatorial Indian Ocean currents (e.g., Nagura and McPhaden 2012).

34 On the other hand, in-situ data help interpret surface observations from satellites by providing  
35 information about vertical structure below the sea surface (e.g., Llovel and Lee 2015). In-situ data  
36 also provide independent measurements that are critical to the calibration and validation of many  
37 satellite measurements (e.g., Ebuchi et al. 2012, Lee 2016). High-frequency measurements of  
38 some in-situ data (e.g., mooring measurements) help de-alias signals that are not adequately  
39 sampled by satellites such as diurnal variability (e.g., Gille et al. 2003). Sustained in-situ  
40 measurements are critical to the inter-calibration of an observed variable from different satellite  
41 missions (e.g., Wentz et al. 2017).

42 Satellite observations have provided fundamental contributions to Indian Ocean research. A  
43 comprehensive review of the huge body of related literature is not possible within this manuscript.  
44 The following simply provides a brief summary on various time scales. On intraseasonal time  
45 scales, various satellite observations (e.g., SSH, winds, surface currents, SST, SSS, and ocean  
46 color) have been used to study the nature of intraseasonal variations of the Indian Ocean in relation

47 to Kelvin and Rossby waves, basin mode (resonance), wind-thermocline-SST coupling, the  
 48 response to MJO, and effects of mesoscale eddies (e.g., Han et al. 2001, Han 2005, Fu 2007, Zhou  
 49 and Murtugudde 2010, Nagura and McPhaden 2012, Grunseich et al. 2013, Gaube et a. 2013,  
 50 Suresh et al. 2013; Girish Kumar et al. 2013, Guan et al. 2014). In particular, microwave  
 51 measurements from satellites, not affected by clouds, allow studies of sea surface properties such  
 52 as SST and SSS under convective regions. On seasonal time scales, satellite data have been used  
 53 to understand the dynamics of seasonal SSH in the Indian Ocean, in particular, the roles of Rossby  
 54 waves driven by winds and radiated from the eastern boundary (e.g., Fu and Smith 1996,  
 55 Eigenheer and Quadfasel 2000, Yang et al. 2001, Wang et al. 2001, Brandt 2002), and the different  
 56 signatures of annual Rossby waves from SSH and SSS (Menezes et al. 2014). On interannual time  
 57 scales, satellite data revealed the variations associated with Indian Ocean Zonal/Dipole Mode  
 58 (IOZDM) and the basin-scale warming in the Indian Ocean associated with the 1997-98 El Nino  
 59 (e.g., Yu and Reinecker 1999, Webster et al. 1999), the interpretation of IOZDM in terms of  
 60 Recharge Oscillator theory (McPhaden and Nagura 2014), and the relationships of the IOZDM with  
 61 variations in the southern tropical Indian Ocean (Rao et al. 2002, Han and Webster 2002, Xie et al.  
 62 2002, Rao and Behera 2005). On decadal time scales, satellite observations illustrated the  
 63 relationships of SSH changes with local and remote forcings, the extent of regional association with  
 64 decadal variability of the Pacific sector, and the inference of changes of the shallow meridional  
 65 overturning circulations (e.g., Lee 2004, Lee and McPhaden 2008, Llovel and Lee 2015, Wang et  
 66 al. 2015, Srinivasu et al., 2017).

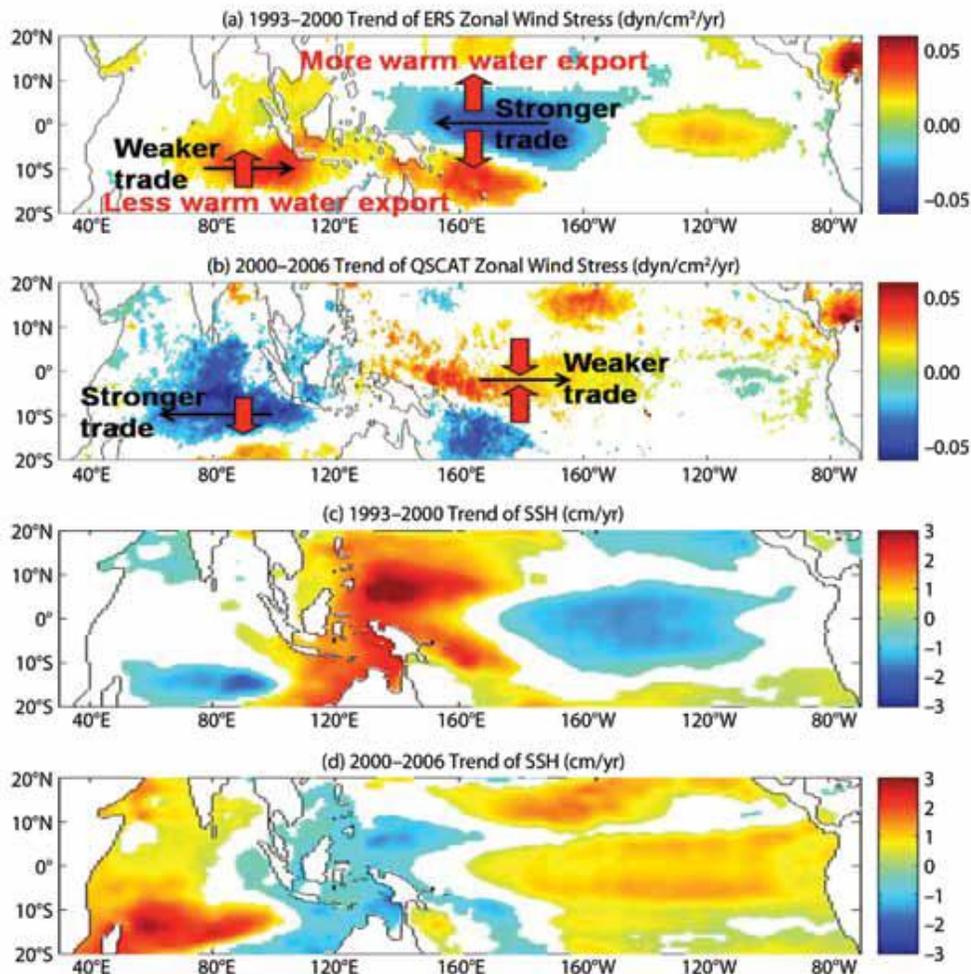


Figure 18.1 Trends of zonal wind stress during 1993-2000 estimated from ERS scatterometer data (a) and those during 2000-2006 estimated from QuikScat scatterometer data. SSH trends for the

1993-2000 (a) and 2000-2006 (b) periods estimated from altimeter data. These observations were also used to infer changes in the upper and lower branches of the shallow overturning circulations in the Pacific and Indian Oceans and their linkages as described in Indo-Pacific linkage subsection. After Lee et al. (2010). Adapted from Lee and McPhaden (2008).

## 67 **18.2 Enhancement of satellite observing capability for the future IndOOS**

68 Despite the significant contributions of satellite observations to Indian Ocean research in the past  
69 few decades, there are several areas where improvements are required in order to further advance  
70 our knowledge of ocean dynamics and air-sea interaction in the Indian Ocean sector as well as  
71 biogeochemical impacts. Of particular importance is the enhancement for spatiotemporal sampling.  
72 The need to enhance spatiotemporal sampling is particularly important for the Bay of Bengal where  
73 mesoscale and sub-mesoscale variability is abundant, which is believed to be important to the  
74 horizontal dispersal of freshwater as well as vertical mixing of heat and nutrients (e.g.,  
75 Ramachandran et al. 2017). The Surface Water Ocean Topography (SWOT) satellite, scheduled  
76 to be launched in 2021, is expected to provide critical observational resources to study these sub-  
77 mesoscale processes. This will complement other Ka-band SAR altimeter missions that have  
78 capability to monitor sub-mesoscale SSH (e.g., CryoSat-2, Altika, Sentinel-3, and Jason-  
79 CS/Sentinel-6). The BoB is also associated with narrow coastal freshwater plumes caused by river  
80 discharge and ocean dynamics that have significant implications to biogeochemistry and cyclone  
81 genesis. The currently ~40-km resolution of the satellite SSS from SMOS and SMAP (Reul et al.  
82 2013, Fore et al. 2016) is marginal to study these features. Future enhancement of the spatial  
83 resolution of satellite SSS and improvement of accuracy are necessary to enhance the capability  
84 to monitor these plumes, the interaction between the Bay of Bengal and the Arabian Sea, and  
85 effects on biogeochemistry and cyclone genesis.

86 Enhancement of the temporal sampling of satellite-derived wind and wind stress measurements is  
87 important for the Indian Ocean, especially in the equatorial Indian Ocean and near the Maritime  
88 Continent where diurnal variability is strong. Currently, there are only two continuity series of  
89 satellite scatterometers: the MetOp series by the European Space Agency (ESA) and EUMETSAT  
90 and the Oceansat series by the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO). Two scatterometers  
91 only have an approximately 60% coverage of the ocean at the 6-hourly interval, the de-correlation  
92 time scale of the diurnal cycle. Wind measurements from additional scatterometers and passive  
93 microwave radiometers can improve the sampling of diurnal variability to minimize the aliasing of  
94 diurnal variations into lower frequencies. In addition to wind and wind stress, continuity and  
95 enhancement of other surface meteorology variables such as OLR, surface radiation, and  
96 precipitation are important to further advancement of IndOOS research.

97 In addition to the need for enhancing spatiotemporal sampling, the continuity of satellite  
98 observations of Essential Ocean Variables (EOVs) is essential for the future IndOOS. SSH  
99 measurements from nadir altimetry missions are reasonably ensured to 2030 and beyond. There  
100 are also operational commitment for IR SST and various missions planned for ocean color  
101 measurements in the foreseeable future. However, the equatorial Indian Ocean and southern  
102 subtropical Indian Ocean are associated with strong atmospheric convection (e.g., associated with  
103 MJO and the Southern Indian Ocean convergence zone). Passive microwave (PMW) SST  
104 retrievals are not influenced by clouds like IR SST. The continuity PMW SST, which is not currently  
105 ensured, is important for the Indian Ocean. The continuity of satellite missions for SSS is also an  
106 issue. The Indian Ocean has the most dynamic variability of SSS among major oceans in the world.  
107 In-situ measurements have limited coverage in coastal regions (that are key to the linkage with  
108 terrestrial water cycle) and generally sparse sampling in the open ocean. Sustaining satellite SSS  
109 measurements is thus necessary to further the understanding of the dynamics of the Indian Ocean  
110 and its linkages with climate variability and regional terrestrial water cycle. Remote sensing  
111 technologies for direct measurements of ocean surface currents are also being developed, which  
112 may further enhance IndOOS research in the future.

## 19. Argo Profiling floats in the Indian Ocean

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### 1 Abstract

2 Argo is a global array of profiling floats to measure temperature and salinity of the upper 2000 m of  
3 the Ocean, once in 10 days. This document provides the present status of Argo floats and its typical  
4 applications, both operational and scientific, in the Indian Ocean. Also presented is an update on  
5 future directions of Argo in the Indian Ocean, such as the implementation of a Deep Argo array to  
6 map the heat and mass below 2000 m, enhancement of floats with biogeochemical and bio-optical  
7 sensors to understand biogeochemical processes (contributing to plans for Global Biogeochemical  
8 Argo) and enhancing the number of floats in the equatorial Indian Ocean to fully capture the  
9 intraseasonal to interannual variability. Recommendations are made on the need for observing  
10 system (OSE) and observing system simulation experiments (OSSE) to define requirements for  
11 the optimum number of floats and other *in-situ* observational components in the Indian Ocean.

### 12 19.1 Introduction

13 Ocean and climate have a symbiotic connection through the complex processes of heat and mass  
14 transfer that are still not well understood. The international oceanographic community recognized  
15 the imperative for enhancing ocean predictability and the requirement for well-designed and  
16 sustained operational ocean observations to enable this. Under a unique, internationally  
17 coordinated effort, it was envisaged to establish a global array of about 3000 floats to map the heat  
18 and mass of the global ocean. Hence, the Argo programme was realized. The Argo programme is  
19 an element of the *in-situ* observing system and an important component of the Global Ocean  
20 Observing System (GOOS), designed to continuously measure temperature and salinity of the  
21 upper 2000 m of the ice-free ocean once every 10 days (Riser et al, 2016). Temperature and salinity  
22 are both essential ocean variables (EOV) and essential climate variables (ECV) of GOOS and the  
23 Global Climate Observing System (GCOS). Once deployed, Argo floats descend to a parking depth  
24 of 1000 m, drift at that depth for nearly 9 days and then descend again to a profiling depth of 2000  
25 m. From 2000 m, the float acquires temperature and salinity data while ascending, at  
26 predetermined depths (pressures) up to the ocean surface. Once it reaches the surface, it transmits  
27 the data to a ground station via satellite for real-time availability. Both ARGOS and Iridium satellites  
28 are used for communication, however, Iridium provides much higher data transmission capability  
29 than ARGOS, allowing greater vertical sampling resolution and two-way communication. Argo data  
30 are made available by the National Argo Data Assembly Centers to the global community on the  
31 global telecommunication system (GTS) to enable its use for operational forecasts, within 24 hours  
32 of collection. Fully quality-controlled data sets are also made available by the Regional Argo Data  
33 Centers to the Global Community within 6 months. The regional Argo Data Center for the Indian  
34 Ocean is maintained at INCOIS (<http://www.incois.gov.in/argo/ARDCenter.jsp>), making available a  
35 range of derived Argo products, such as objectively analyzed data for the Indian Ocean, present  
36 status of floats, yearly float deployments and profiles, age of floats, etc. The Global Data Centers  
37 archive the global data sets at <http://www.coriolis.eu.org/Observing-the-Ocean/ARGO> or  
38 <http://www.usgodae.org/argo/argo.html>. Many operational centers  
39 ([http://www.argo.ucsd.edu/Use\\_by\\_Operational.html](http://www.argo.ucsd.edu/Use_by_Operational.html)) use Argo data to provide real time ocean  
40 analysis and also forecasting the state of ocean for the different regions and Global Ocean.

41 **19.2 Present status of Argo floats in the Indian Ocean**

42 To meet the Global Argo design requirement of one float per 3° x 3°deg, the Indian ocean requires  
43 450 floats north of 40° S. Presently, 576 active floats are providing temperature and salinity data  
44 from the surface to 2000 m (Fig. 19.1). Over and above, 48 floats are Biogeochemical-Argo floats,  
45 which provide dissolved oxygen (DO), chlorophyll fluorescence, backscattering of light by particles  
46 (as a measure of particle distributions) light attenuation and in some cases nitrate concentration  
47 and pH, as well as the standard measurements of temperature and salinity. Deployment of Argo  
48 floats with Oxygen alone sensor started in 2008 and with chlorophyll fluorescence, backscattering  
49 and other started since 2012. Although the target number of core Argo floats (floats with only CTD)  
50 has been achieved in the Indian ocean, there are gaps, especially in the central Indian ocean,  
51 northern Bay of Bengal (BoB), Andaman Sea, etc, while other regions are over-sampled with  
52 respect to the Global Argo design requirement, such as Arabian Sea, central BoB, etc. Most of the  
53 floats in the BoB provide 5 days temporal resolution (to capture the intra seasonal variations),  
54 whereas standard Argo floats are deployed with 10 days temporal resolution.

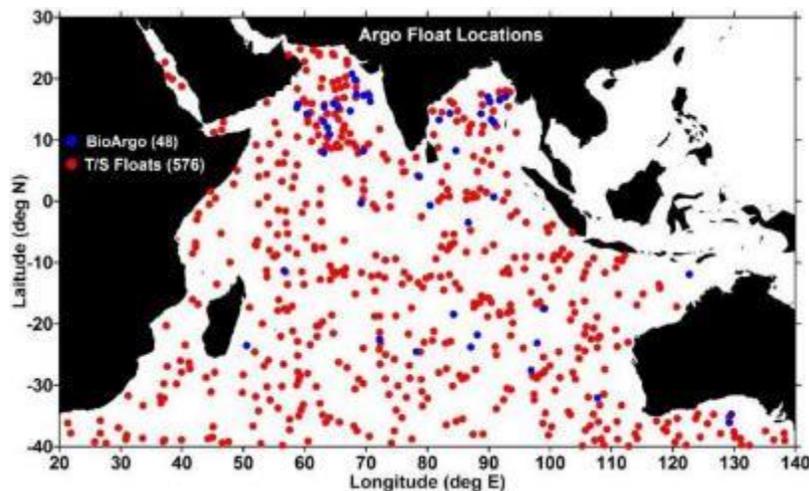


Figure 19.1. Present status of Argo profiling floats in the Indian Ocean. Red color dots indicate core Argo, provides temperature and salinity, and blue color indicate locations of Bio-Argo.

55 The growth of Argo array in the Indian ocean is shown in Fig. 19.2. Since 2008, full coverage has  
56 been achieved for the Indian ocean with more than 450 floats and more than 600 floats sustained  
57 for the past 8 years. Australia, China, France, Germany, India, Japan, Korea, U.K, and U.S has  
58 contributed to the growth of Argo both in terms of ship time for deployments and instruments.  
59 Though availability of ship time for the Arabian was a problem earlier due to piracy issue, now there  
60 more ship is operating in that area and hence there is no problem in deploying floats in the North  
61 Indian Ocean. However, there are less opportunity to deploy floats in the Southern Indian ocean.  
62 Argo Information Center and Regional Argo data center are coordinating the ships of opportunity  
63 to deploy floats in the Indian Ocean. Also, RAMA cruises provide opportunities for Argo  
64 deployments, which could be mentioned as a synergetic interaction in the implementation of these  
65 two IndOOS programs.

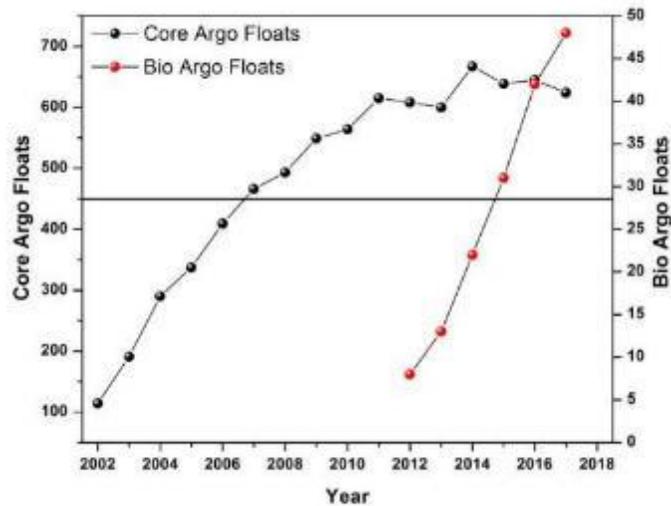


Figure 19.2: Growth of active Argo profiling floats in the Indian Ocean. Horizontal line indicates the 450 floats mark indicating full coverage of core Argo floats in the Indian Ocean. (note different axes for core and bioArgo floats)

### 66 19.3 Argo applications

67 Though Argo float deployments commenced in 1999, the build-up of an Argo array in the Indian  
 68 Ocean began in 2001. Data from these floats, together with satellite remote sensing and other *in-*  
 69 *situ* observations, are enhancing the understanding of the ocean circulation pattern and its  
 70 influence on the global climate variability. Argo has revealed the local balances of evaporation  
 71 minus precipitation in the salinity structure of the upper ocean (Durack et. al 2012, Helm et. al 2010,  
 72 Hosoda et. al 2009), as well as longer term changes in temperature/salinity characteristics of  
 73 subsurface water masses brought about by climate change (Zhang et. al 2008, Downes et. al  
 74 2009). Furthermore, these data sets are contributing to improving prediction skill for seasonal  
 75 climate variability. Presently, many operational centers are assimilating these data for seasonal  
 76 prediction of the monsoon, El Niño, Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD), etc.

77 Although these observations are envisaged for studying seasonal to climate time scale  
 78 phenomena, many new insights have been gained, utilizing these data by many investigators.  
 79 Detailed publication lists are available at <http://www.argo.ucsd.edu/Bibliography.html>. Assimilation  
 80 of subsurface temperature and salinity profiles from Argo in the Indian Ocean has been initiated to  
 81 understand the impact of Argo floats in simulating temperature and salinity (Oke and Schiller, 2007,  
 82 Agarwal et. al 2008, Schiller et al 2008, Oke et al 2008, Krishnamurti et al, 2007, Huang et.al, 2008,  
 83 Siva Reddy et al, 2017). The assimilation of Argo data has revealed that the subsurface ocean  
 84 temperatures carry signatures on the passage of the intraseasonal waves (Krishnamurti et.al, 2007)  
 85 and the inclusion of subsurface Argo data can be useful for prediction of the intraseasonal waves  
 86 in the atmosphere/oceans. On the technology front, Riser et. al, (2008) demonstrated float-based  
 87 three hourly measurements of wind speed and rainfall in the Bay of Bengal and Ravichandran et  
 88 al (2012) demonstrated the importance and usefulness of Bio-Argo deployed in the Arabian Sea.

89 Yet, Argo floats cannot satisfy all the requirements of a comprehensive ocean observing system,  
 90 although this technology is a major step forward to enable the first regular sampling of the global  
 91 ocean on broad spatial scales, thus making possible a comprehensive observing system.  
 92 Considering the mature technology of profiling floats, the bio-geochemical and bio-optical  
 93 community has begun to benefit from the increase in observational capacities by integrating key  
 94 bio-optical, bio-geochemical and ecosystem sensors such as chlorophyll-a, dissolved oxygen,

95 optical back scattering or attenuation coefficients - proxies of particulate organic Carbon - colored  
96 dissolved organic matter, pH, nitrate, etc., enabling the emergence of Biogeochemical-Argo (BGC-  
97 or Bio-Argo) floats.

## 98 **19.4 Future directions**

99 The core Argo has been implemented and sustained in the Indian Ocean since 2008 and it is  
100 imperative to have more observations in the Indian Ocean, in terms of spatial, vertical, temporal  
101 resolution of data and also incorporating biogeochemical sensors in the Argo floats to capture many  
102 missing ecosystem and climate links. These can be achieved by deploying deep ocean Argo floats,  
103 Bio-Argo floats, and twice the number of floats in the equatorial Indian Ocean.

### 104 **19.4.1 Deep Ocean Argo**

105 The Argo array provides temperature and salinity of the upper ocean upto 2000 m, which is half of  
106 the total ocean volume. The need for deep ocean observations has been recognized since the  
107 upper ocean warming has shown uncertainties in the Ocean's role in the Earth's energy budget  
108 and transient climate sensitivity. Also, the information below 2000 m significantly contributes to both  
109 heat content and sea level (Zilberman et. al 2017). Deep Argo floats profile down to 4000/6000 m,  
110 providing temperature and salinity information to understand the deep ocean thermohaline changes  
111 and its circulation, which enables the closure of global budgets of heat content, freshwater, and  
112 steric sea level.

113 Many countries have already deployed Deep Argo floats in the global ocean, as a pilot study to  
114 demonstrate the technical capability of floats and scientific value of the data. In the western Indian  
115 Ocean, 2 Deep NINJA floats were deployed by JAMSTEC, Japan in early 2016. These floats profile  
116 down to 4000 m with 10-30 days cycles. In the South Australian Basin, 8 Deep SOLO floats and 1  
117 Deep APEX float were deployed in October 2016 by Scripps Institution of Oceanography. Deep  
118 SOLO floats are presently cycling to or near the ocean bottom every 10 days. The Deep APEX  
119 float is cycling every 5 days down to 5200 m. JAMSTEC plans to deploy 1 more Deep NINJA float  
120 in the eastern Indian Ocean in November 2017, and 2 Deep Apex with dissolved oxygen in the  
121 South Australian Basin in December 2017. More efforts are required to deploy deep Argo in the  
122 Indian Ocean to observe the thermohaline changes below 2000 m. The global Argo design is to  
123 have one deep Argo float per 5° lat x 5° long, and hence the Indian Ocean requires at least 250  
124 floats north of 40° S. However, in the coming years, it is important to deploy at least one float in  
125 each key region of the Arabian Sea, BoB, eastern equatorial Indian Ocean, western equatorial  
126 Indian ocean, thermocline ridge region and at least four floats in the southern Indian Ocean.

### 127 **19.4.2 Enhancement of Bio-Argo**

128 Bio-Argo or Biogeochemical Argo is the extension of the Argo array by augmenting additional  
129 biogeochemical sensors such as dissolved oxygen – to understand marine photosynthesis and  
130 respiration, and exchange with atmosphere; chlorophyll fluorescence –a proxy of phytoplankton  
131 biomass; nitrate – for understanding new production, and particulate backscattering – as a proxy  
132 for particulate carbon. Additionally, pH, CDOM, PAR, irradiance and transmissometry are important  
133 for many biogeochemical studies, mainly to address six major scientific questions related to carbon  
134 uptake, OMZs and nitrate cycling, acidification, the biological carbon pump, and phytoplankton  
135 communities (see <http://Biogeochemical-argo.org>). Despite limited data from Bio-Argo floats  
136 deployed in the Indian Ocean, some insightful studies have been published: e.g. on oxycline depth  
137 in the Arabian Sea OMZ (Prakash et al. 2012), chlorophyll distributions in eddies (Dufois et al.  
138 2017) and chlorophyll variability in the southeastern Arabian Sea (Ravichandran et al 2012). A  
139 Global Biogeochemical Argo group has been established and initial designs indicate a need for  
140 1000 floats globally. To meet this global design, the Indian Ocean requires at least 200  
141 Biogeochemical floats. Presently, the Australia-India joint Indian Ocean Bio-Argo project brings

142 together Indian Ocean researchers interested in Biogeochemical Argo observations. Most of the  
143 active floats (48) are mainly integrated with sensors to measure oxygen, chlorophyll and particle  
144 backscattering at 700 nm. It is imperative to increase the number of Bio-Argo floats to answer the  
145 above six critical scientific challenges in the Indian Ocean, especially in the North Indian Ocean  
146 and it is important to augment the array with other biogeochemical sensors. The specifications of  
147 the floats and its sensor is available at <https://soccom.princeton.edu/content/float-specifications>.

#### 148 **19.4.3 Enhancement of Equatorial floats**

149 A successful Argo pilot deployment was carried out following the decline of TAO in 2013. 41 faster  
150 cycling (7 days) floats were deployed by US Argo along the Pacific equator in early 2014. These  
151 are providing an unprecedented view of intraseasonal (kelvin wave) propagation.

152 Using a decade long observations of temperature and salinity profiles, a new mapping of the upper  
153 ocean in the equatorial Pacific, double the spatial sampling, is reported by Gasparin et al (2015).  
154 Following Roemmich and Gilson's procedures, which were formulated for describing monthly large  
155 scale anomalies globally, Gasparin et al (2015) constructed anomaly fields at 5 day intervals  
156 utilizing improvements in the optimal interpolation that include more accurate representation of  
157 zonal and meridional scales and the noise-to-signal ratio, and by including the time domain. Argo  
158 is able to represent around 70-80% of the variance at intraseasonal time scales and more than  
159 90% of the variance for the seasonal to long term variability in the Pacific Ocean (Gasparin et al,  
160 2015).

161 From the above study, it is clear that even in the Indian Ocean it is essential to deploy double the  
162 number of floats within a few degrees of the equator (10° S to 10° N), with the objective of improving  
163 the resolution of intraseasonal to interannual variability – critical for observation of IOD, Monsoon,  
164 MJO, etc. It is worth mentioning here that Iridium floats need to be deployed in these regions, since  
165 these floats have a shorter surface time compared to ARGOS, and hence these floats will not drift  
166 away from equator.

#### 167 **19.5 Conclusion**

168 Deployment of Argo profiling floats in the Indian Ocean was initiated in the year 2001 and matured  
169 in the year 2008. The array is sustained from 2008 until now. The data from these floats are utilized  
170 both for operational use (e.g. seasonal forecast) as well as to improve our understanding of  
171 oceanography and climate variability in the Indian Ocean sector. The use of this data has also  
172 revealed some new insights in the Indian Ocean which were not possible earlier due to lack of  
173 sufficient data mapping. About 576 core Argo floats and 48 Bio-Argo floats are active in the Indian  
174 Ocean. The spatial requirement of Argo floats was designed two decades ago and it is important  
175 to re-think now. Also, important to measure additional parameters (Oxygen, chlorophyll, pH, nitrate,  
176 light attenuation, etc. ) to better understand biogeochemical processes, enhancement of floats in  
177 the equatorial Indian Ocean to fully capture the intraseasonal to interannual variabilities, and to map  
178 the heat and salt trapped below 2000 m. Accordingly, it is recommended to deploy more  
179 biogeochemical floats, double the number of floats in the equatorial Indian ocean and deployment  
180 of deep Argo in the Indian Ocean. It is important to conduct Observing System Experiment (OSE)  
181 and Observing system simulation experiment (OSSE) to evaluate the relative importance of existing  
182 observational components and future observational requirements, both spatial and temporal  
183 resolutions, similar to Schiller et al (2004) and Vecchi and Harrison (2007).

## 20. RAMA-2.0

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### 1 **Abstract**

2 We briefly summarize scientific progress enabled by RAMA—The Research Moored Array for  
3 African-Asian-Australian Monsoon Analysis and Prediction—as well as the current status of its  
4 implementation and the challenges involved in sustaining it. We also propose adjustments to the  
5 design of RAMA based on lessons learned over the past decade. These adjustments will result in  
6 a more robust and cost-effective array design for meeting the scientific objectives of CLIVAR and  
7 GOOS. Finally, a protocol is described for establishing new sites in the array to address scientific  
8 questions that have arisen since the array was originally designed.

### 9 **20.1 Introduction**

10 RAMA was first established 13 years ago in 2004 as the moored buoy component of the Indian  
11 Ocean Observing System (IndOOS; Masumoto et al, 2010). It is the Indian Ocean complement to  
12 the TAO/TRITON moored buoy array in the Pacific and the PIRATA moored buoy array in the  
13 Atlantic Ocean, which together comprise the Global Tropical Moored Buoy Array Program  
14 (McPhaden et al, 2010). There are four type of moorings in RAMA (Figure 20.1), namely standard  
15 ATLAS or ATLAS-equivalent surface moorings, more heavily instrumented surface moorings for  
16 comprehensive air-sea flux determination (Flux Reference Sites), Acoustic Doppler current profiler  
17 (ADCP) sites for direct measurement of velocity in the upper ocean, and three Deep Ocean sites  
18 along the equator equipped with current meters at selected depths down to 4000 m. All the surface  
19 moorings transmit data in real-time to shore for use in weather, ocean and climate forecasting.

20 Moorings have the advantage that they provide high-resolution time series in real-time of key  
21 oceanographic and surface meteorological variables for studies of ocean-atmosphere interactions  
22 and ocean dynamics. They are especially valuable in the tropics where there is a broad spectrum  
23 of energetic variations in both the ocean and the atmosphere across a wide range of time scales  
24 and where the ocean response to atmospheric forcing is very rapid. Moored arrays are thus a vital  
25 element in a balanced network of satellite and in situ platforms required to deliver essential ocean  
26 variables (EOVs) and essential climate variables (ECVs) as part of the Global Ocean Observing  
27 System (GOOS) and the Global Climate Observing System (GCOS).

28 RAMA has successfully enabled a number of scientific advances since inception and is a valuable  
29 source of data for ocean, weather and climate forecasting. New multi-national partnerships have  
30 been formed between institutions within and outside the Indian Ocean rim region to both build  
31 RAMA and to promote joint research and capacity building efforts. An open RAMA data policy and  
32 easy access to RAMA data (<https://www.pmel.noaa.gov/gtmba/>) has facilitated collaborations  
33 across national boundaries on key scientific questions concerning the Indian Ocean's role in  
34 climate. Some of these collaborations have been interdisciplinary in nature, involving studies of  
35 biogeochemistry and biophysical interactions unique to the Indian Ocean basin. An extensive and  
36 growing bibliography of RAMA-related refereed journal publications, with authorship spanning  
37 many nations, attests to the array's success (<http://www.pmel.noaa.gov/tao/rama/ramapubs.html>).  
38 As one measure of success, the original RAMA publication (McPhaden et al, 2009) has been cited  
39 229 times through the end of October 2017. This document recommends evolving the RAMA array  
40 design based on lessons learned since its inception to make the array more robust, cost-effective,  
41 and operationally efficiency.

## 42 20.2 Current Implementation Challenges

43 The current RAMA design (Figure 20.1) consists of 46 moorings intended to sample key  
44 oceanographic and climate regimes around the basin. These regimes, and the need for sustained  
45 moored measurements in them, are described in McPhaden et al (2009). At present the array is  
46 78% complete, thanks to the efforts of many institutions in countries committed to advancing Indian  
47 Ocean science. India, Indonesia, Japan, China, the United States, Australia, the 13 African nations  
48 that comprise the Agulhas and Somali Current Large Marine Ecosystem (ASCLME) program and  
49 the 8 Asian countries that comprise the Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem (BOBLME)  
50 program have all participated.

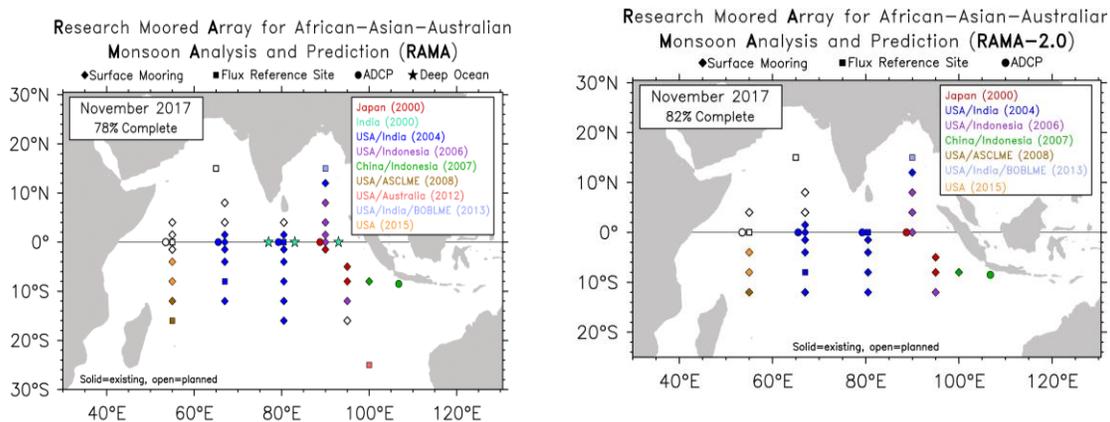


Figure 20.1 (left). Current status of RAMA. Sponsoring nations/programs are color coded by site in the legend, with the first year of engagement shown in parentheses. (right) Proposed configuration for RAMA-2.0.

51 There are a variety of challenges to fully implementing RAMA that need to be addressed. Piracy  
52 is a major reason why the array is not yet 100% complete after 13 years. Piracy has kept ships  
53 from freely working in the Arabian Sea for several years, preventing the establishment of sites in  
54 this key region. Fortunately, through naval interventions of many nations and the introduction of  
55 best practices for ship operations, piracy is now non-existent in the region. As an indicator of  
56 progress, in December 2015 Lloyds of London significantly reduced the so-called piracy “high risk  
57 area,” where insurance premiums for merchant vessels were substantially higher  
58 ([http://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/indian-oceans-piracy-risk-area-reduced-in-a-boost-for-  
59 shipping-firms/](http://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/indian-oceans-piracy-risk-area-reduced-in-a-boost-for-shipping-firms/)). Also, in early 2018, the NOAA Ship *Ron Brown* will venture into the Arabian Sea,  
60 occupying three sites there for the first time.

61 Another significant challenge to completing and sustaining the array is ship time. Surface moorings  
62 have a design lifetime of one year and require regular servicing from specialized vessels capable  
63 of deep sea mooring operations. Securing adequate ship time has been an ongoing challenge in  
64 RAMA. On average over 2014-16 for example, only 94 sea days per year were available to service  
65 U.S. cooperative sites maintained with PMEL equipment, well short of the estimated 145 sea days  
66 that were needed. Several sites have not been serviced in the past 3-4 years because of this lack  
67 of ship time as detailed in an earlier and more extended version of this document (McPhaden et al,  
68 2016). Among these sites are two flux reference sites at 25°S, 100°E and 16°S, 55°E (Table 1).

69 A third significant challenge is fishing vandalism, which plagues all surface mooring programs in  
70 the tropics. Some RAMA sites, though regularly maintained, are characterized by very poor data  
71 return because of this problem. At such sites, mooring equipment is either heavily damaged or  
72 completely lost because of fishing interference. The most extreme example of this situation is the

73 mooring at 1.5°N, 80.5°E where data return for the past 12 years has been only ~50% and less  
 74 than half of the 11 moorings deployed there have been recovered. This is the worst performing  
 75 site maintained with PMEL equipment in the array. The site is relatively close to land, which is a  
 76 major factor in the prevalence of fishing damage experienced by surface moorings. Vandalism has  
 77 also increased at 1.5°N, 90°E and 1.5°S, 95°E possibly due to changes in fishing practices. In  
 78 particular, there are indications that purse seine fishing has increased in the eastern Indian Ocean,  
 79 for which gear conflict leads to more severe mooring damage than in the case of long line fishing.

80 The site at 4°N, 80.5°E is in the Sri Lankan EEZ and has never been occupied. Its Achilles heel is  
 81 proximity to land and the likelihood of debilitating fishing vandalism. Arguably we might have  
 82 anticipated this situation in the design phase of RAMA. However, the severity of now well  
 83 documented damage over the past decade from fishing vandalism further south at 1.5°N, 80.5°E  
 84 convinces us that this site in the Sri Lankan EEZ is not viable.

85 Some mooring sites have been terminated because of programmatic changes. For instance,  
 86 maintenance of the deep sea mooring at 0°, 93°E by India's National Institute of Oceanography  
 87 (NIO) ended in late 2014. There is no longer a mooring at this location and no future deployments  
 88 are planned there. Final recoveries of the NIO equatorial deep ocean moorings at 77°E and 83°E  
 89 were made in November/December 2016 and there is no plan to replace them.

90 Finally, budgetary issues are also a concern that must be addressed in RAMA. For example,  
 91 PMEL's annual operating budgets have been flat for many years, which translates into decreased  
 92 funding because of inflation. At the same time, PMEL is transitioning to a newer mooring system  
 93 called T-Flex that will replace legacy ATLAS systems. T-Flex is more capable and will provide  
 94 much higher data throughput in real-time, which will reduce the impact of mooring losses on the  
 95 availability of high-resolution data (i.e., data sampled at 10 minute to hourly intervals). But it is also  
 96 a costlier mooring system because it uses commercially available off-the-shelf (COTS) components  
 97 almost exclusively.

### 98 **20.3 A Sustainable Mooring Array**

99 Given budget pressures, ship time limitations, heavy equipment losses at sites prone to fishing  
 100 vandalism, and the reality that some sites have already been decommissioned in RAMA, we  
 101 propose a modified array design that still meets most of the scientific objective described in  
 102 McPhaden et al (2009), but with fewer moorings. This modified RAMA design (Figure 20.1),  
 103 optimized for long-term viability and sustainability, contains 30 rather than 46 sites. Even with fewer  
 104 moorings, key regions such as the equatorial waveguide, the Seychelles-Chagos Thermocline  
 105 Ridge (SCTR), Bay of Bengal, Arabian Sea, and the eastern and western poles of the Indian Ocean  
 106 Dipole are still well sampled. This modified array design, embedded in the full multi-platform  
 107 IndOOS observing system, will allow us to concentrate efforts on maintaining sites that have  
 108 produced good data, are logistically accessible, and still meet most of the original objectives of  
 109 RAMA. The table below lists the mooring sites scheduled for decommissioning and the primary  
 110 reason for it. In addition to these reasons, there are budgetary constraints as well that are an  
 111 aggregate factor as well.

Mooring Site	Reason
1.5°N, 90°E	Vandalism
1.5°S, 90°E	Vandalism
16°S, 95°E	Ship Time
25°S, 100°E	Ship Time

4°N, 80.5°E	Vandalism
1.5°N, 80.5°E	Vandalism
16°S, 80.5°E	Ship Time
0°, 77°E	Program Termination
0°, 83°E	Program Termination
0°, 93°E	Program Termination
1.5°N, 55°E	Ship Time
1.5°S, 55°E	Ship Time
16°S, 55°E	Ship Time

Table 1. List of RAMA sites to be decommissioned and the primary reason for this action.

112 With fewer moorings in RAMA-2.0 overall, the total ship time requirement will be considerably lower  
 113 than would be needed for the original RAMA design. With fewer mooring sites to occupy, we will  
 114 also be able to accelerate the transition from the PMEL’s legacy ATLAS system to the new more  
 115 capable T-Flex mooring system. Considering all existing mooring sites in RAMA-2.0, we estimate  
 116 the total ship time requirement to be about 160 days per year.

#### 117 **20.4 Potential New Sites**

118 In addition to winnowing out RAMA sites that are either unsustainable or have already been  
 119 decommissioned, we recognize there may be compelling reason to add sites based in new scientific  
 120 insights that have been gained since the original design. One example of a possible addition that  
 121 has been mentioned in discussions over the past few years is a Flux Reference site in the Timor  
 122 Sea (14°S, 115°E). The Timor Sea exhibits the largest intraseasonal SST variability associated  
 123 with the MJO in the tropical Indian Ocean. Air-sea interactions in this region affect tropical storm  
 124 formation and rainfall variations across southern and eastern Australia. Improved description and  
 125 understanding of air-sea interaction in this region would lead to a better understanding and ability  
 126 to predict intraseasonal variations of the MJO and their remote impacts. The Timor Sea is a heavily  
 127 fished region however, so feasibility of maintaining a surface mooring in the region needs to be  
 128 demonstrated.

129 There are other examples of new sites that could be considered for inclusion in RAMA, so to  
 130 accommodate evolving scientific priorities we propose a protocol for expansions that was devised  
 131 by the Tropical Moored Buoy Implementation Panel (TIP), an Action Group of the Data Buoy  
 132 Cooperation Panel, and that has been adopted successfully by PIRATA (Bourles et al, 2008).  
 133 Parties interested in establishing a new site or sites formulate a proposal defining the scientific  
 134 objectives, how they are consistent with the mission of array, how the sites would be funded, and  
 135 how they would be maintained logistically (specifically with regard to ship time). These proposals  
 136 are submitted to the CLIVAR/GOOS Indian Ocean Regional Panel (IORP) for review and approval.  
 137 Approved expansions are given a three-year pilot phase to demonstrate feasibility, namely that the  
 138 site can be continuously maintained, not suffer grievously from fishing vandalism, produce good  
 139 data, and stimulate new scientific progress. At the end of the three years, the parties submit a  
 140 report to the the IORP describing outcomes in relation to objectives. If deemed successful by the  
 141 IORP, the expansion becomes a permanent part of the array. This proposal driven process ensures  
 142 a scientifically sound approach to expansions and a committed constituency who will find the  
 143 resources to establish and maintain new sites.

144 **20.5 Conclusion**

145 RAMA was established in 2004 through partnerships involving several nations with a commitment  
146 to advancing Indian Ocean science in support of monsoon research and forecasting. It has proven  
147 to be a highly successful venture in sustained ocean observing that has enabled many new  
148 scientific discoveries as well as contributing to capacity building in the region. However, after 13  
149 years, the array is not yet complete and we have learned some practical lessons since 2004 that  
150 need to be incorporated into a redesign to make RAMA more cost-effective and sustainable, while  
151 still preserving its core functions and its value to the oceanographic and climate science  
152 communities. The proposed array configuration, dubbed RAMA-2.0, takes these lessons into  
153 account.

154 This document has focused primarily on the geographical dimensions of the RAMA network design.  
155 However, we recognize that moorings can be enhanced with wide variety of additional sensors for  
156 specialized studies. In particular, it is possible to add more temperature/salinity vertical resolution  
157 in the surface mixed layer, additional current meters, or other sensors for focused air-sea  
158 interaction studies at selected locations. It would also be valuable to introduce biogeochemical  
159 measurements into RAMA-2.0 as a contribution to the Second International Indian Ocean  
160 Expedition (IIOE-2) in collaboration with the Sustained Indian Ocean Biogeochemistry and  
161 Ecosystem Research (SIBER) program (Hood et al, 2015). This document can serve as a basis for  
162 discussions on how to move forward on a robust and sustainable integrated Indian Ocean  
163 observing system that addresses ocean, weather, climate, biogeochemistry, and ecosystem  
164 research imperatives for the next decade.

## 21. Surface Drifter Observations in the Indian Ocean

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### 1 21.1 Overview

2 A satellite tracked Surface Velocity Program (SVP) drifter (hereafter “drifter”) of NOAA’s Global  
3 Drifter Program (GDP) is a Lagrangian instrument drogued to follow currents at a depth of 15m.  
4 The product between the cross-sectional area of the drogue and the drag coefficient is at least 40  
5 times than that of the tether and surface float, in order to guarantee an accuracy of the 15 m depth  
6 mixed-layer currents better than  $1 \text{ cm s}^{-1}$  per  $10 \text{ m s}^{-1}$  wind (Niiler et al., 1995, 1987). There are  
7 many other drifter designs that have been exploited for various regional studies and operational  
8 purposes (for a recent review, see Lumpkin et al., 2016).

9 Drifters observe several key EOVs, principally surface currents and SST. Approximately half of the  
10 drifters additionally measure surface barometric pressure because of the large positive impact of  
11 the data in numerical weather prediction and for other applications including inverse barometer  
12 effect correction of satellite altimetry product and computation of several climate indexes  
13 (Centurioni et al., 2016). Less than 1% of the drifters measure upper ocean temperature (to a depth  
14 of 150m), surface wind velocity, SSS, and/or surface waves.

### 15 21.2 History

16 Overviews of the purpose and history of the GDP are given by Niiler (2001), Lumpkin and Pazos  
17 (2007), and Maximenko et al. (2014). Large-scale deployments of GDP drifters in the Indian Ocean  
18 ( $25^{\circ}\text{E}$ — $125^{\circ}\text{E}$ ,  $30^{\circ}\text{N}$ — $32^{\circ}\text{S}$ , excluding the region northeast of Indonesia and Malaysia) started in  
19 1995. Fig. 21.1 shows a time series of the number of drifters in the Indian Ocean since that time,  
20 and also of the fraction of  $5^{\circ}\times 5^{\circ}$  bins occupied by at least one drifter (the Global Ocean Observing  
21 System requirements for in-situ surface temperature and velocity measurements call for  
22 observations at  $5^{\circ}\times 5^{\circ}$  resolution; Needler et al., 1999). Since 1996, around 60—80% of region is  
23 sampled; this has increased to 80—95% in the last three years thanks to several research initiatives  
24 sponsored by the US Office of Naval Research and partnerships associated with the basin-scale  
25 moored buoy array known as the Research Moored Array for African–Asian–Australian Monsoon  
26 Analysis and Prediction (RAMA) partnerships.

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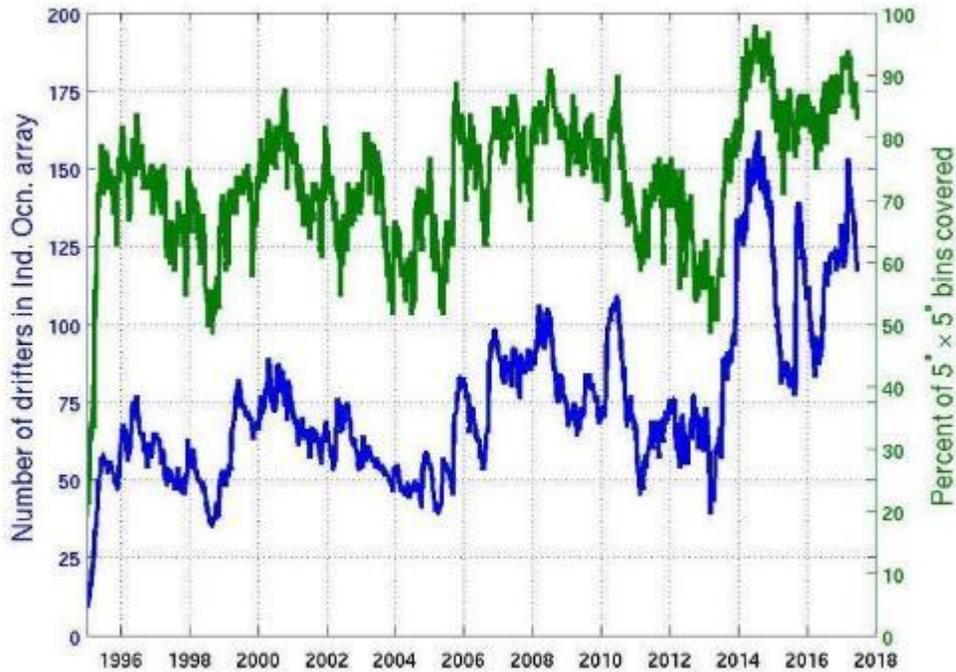


Fig. 21.1: number of GDP drifters in the Indian Ocean (blue) and percent of  $5^{\circ} \times 5^{\circ}$  bins sampled by the drifters (green).

27 Of recent scientific interest was the deployment of 36 high-temporal-resolution (5 min) salinity  
 28 drifters designed by the Lagrangian Drifter Laboratory (LDL) at the Scripps Institution of  
 29 Oceanography (SIO) in the Bay of Bengal in September 2015, as a part of the ONR Air-Sea  
 30 Interactions Regional Initiative (ASIRI) field campaign (Hormann et al., 2016). These drifters  
 31 revealed salinity patches with anomalies of  $>1.5$  psu in a field with spatial scales of  $<5$  km and  
 32 temporal scales of only a few hours (Hormann et al., 2016).

### 33 21.3 Current status

34 Fig. 21.2 shows the density of GDP observations in the historical database, in drifter days per  
 35 square degree. As of this writing, over 90% of the  $5^{\circ} \times 5^{\circ}$  bins are sampled by drifters. Historically  
 36 undersampled regions include the eastern equatorial region, the central and northern Somali  
 37 Current and Great Whirl, and the region between Australia and Indonesia. In order to achieve  
 38 100% coverage, deployment opportunities must be sustained in these regions. The Somali Current  
 39 and Great Whirl are persistently under-sampled because drifters passing westward in the South  
 40 Equatorial Current (SEC) north of Madagascar tend to run aground at the Mozambique/East Africa  
 41 Coastal Current (EACC)-Somali Current bifurcation (i.e., the coasts of Mozambique and Tanzania).  
 42 The Andaman Sea is also poorly sampled but drifters are likely to run aground rapidly in this shallow  
 43 water region; other platforms are more appropriate to collect observations there.

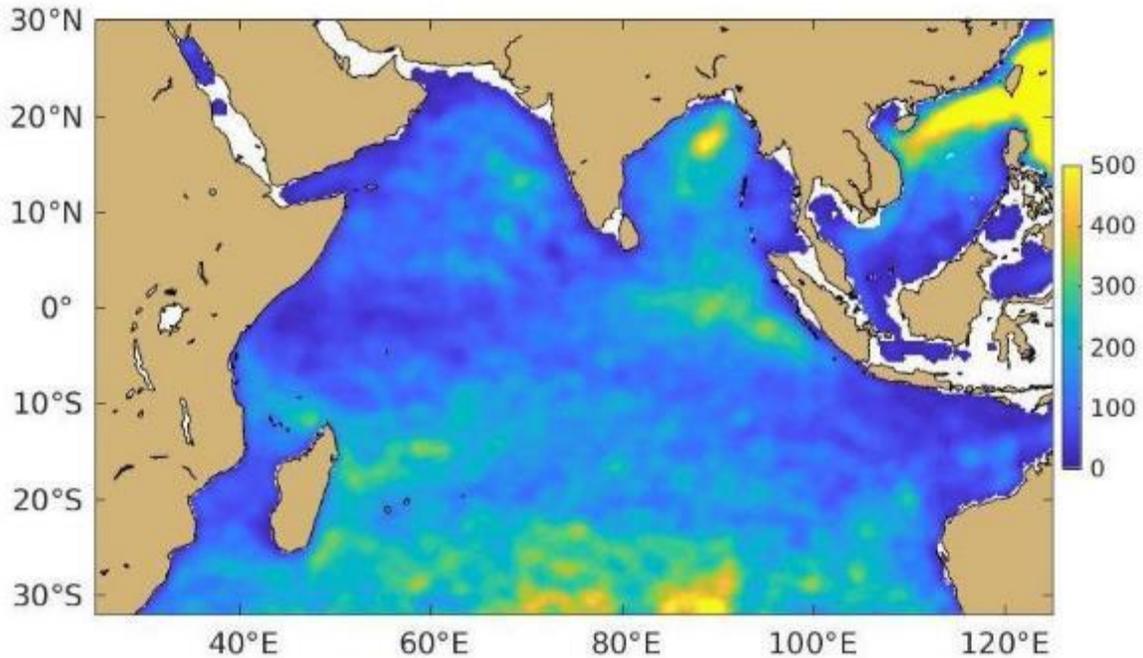


Fig. 21.2: density of drifter observations (drifter days per square degree) in the Indian Ocean, in the quality-controlled GDP database (observations through 30 June 2017).

44 A number of active partnerships are used to deploy drifters in the Indian Ocean. The Australian  
 45 Bureau of Meteorology arranges the deployment of nearly 40 drifters equipped with barometers per  
 46 year in the equatorial and South Indian Ocean. GO-SHIP lines such as I05, I06S and I07N are  
 47 used in years that they are occupied. Through collaboration with NOAA/PMEL, drifters are  
 48 deployed during RAMA mooring cruises originating from Indonesia, India, Korea, and other RAMA  
 49 partners.. Because this cruise happens only one time per year, there is a strong desire to increase  
 50 deployment efforts and increase collaboration with Indonesia. Through collaborations with the  
 51 Kenyan Meteorological Agency, the US Naval Oceanographic Office, and the Royal Australian  
 52 Navy, over 50 GDP NOAA and ONR funded drifters are currently being deployed each year in the  
 53 western and northern Arabian Sea.

#### 54 **21.4 Data policy compliance**

55 Drifter data are made available in near-real time and through ftp and web application services by  
 56 the LDL, Collecte Localisation Satellites (CLS), and MeteoFrance on the Global  
 57 Telecommunications System for operational purposes, and in delayed mode (approximately three  
 58 months, after quality control and interpolation) at the GDP web page  
 59 ([www.aomi.noaa.gov/phod/dac](http://www.aomi.noaa.gov/phod/dac)) and (with an additional six months' delay) at the data archive at  
 60 Canada's Marine Environmental Data Service (MEDS). Work is underway to archive the delayed  
 61 mode data at NOAA's National Center for Environmental Information (NCEI) (real-time data is  
 62 already archived there) and assign them a digital object identifier. The drifter data management  
 63 plan is described in the OceanObs'09 Community White Paper "Data Management System for  
 64 Drifting Buoys" (Keely et al., 2009).

65 **21.5 GDP-Specific Recommendations for the IndOOS:**

- 66 1. Deploy drifters in persistently undersampled regions such as the Somali Current, Great  
67 Whirl, and the region between Australia and Indonesia west of the Timor Sea.
- 68 2. Sustain the array via international partnerships coordinated through the Data Buoy  
69 Cooperation Panel.
- 70 3. Evaluate the GOOS/GCOS sampling requirements in light of the scales of motion in the  
71 basin. E.g.,  $5^{\circ}\times 5^{\circ}$  bins are very coarse compared to features such as the Wyrski Jet,  
72 Somali Jet, and East India Coastal Current.
- 73 4. Evaluate the value of barometric pressure observations in this region for numerical weather  
74 forecasting efforts, in order to evaluate if 100% of the drifters should collect these  
75 observations.

## 22. XBT network

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### 1 22.1 Background

2 The eXpendable BathyThermograph (XBT) network consists of transects across all ocean basins  
3 where XBTs are used to collect temperature observations of the upper 1 km of the ocean. The  
4 XBTs are deployed from research vessels and ships of opportunity program (SOOP). XBT lines  
5 combined with Argo floats are effective in cutting the upper ocean into regions where the net  
6 transport in or out of the region, and along with the estimates of the interior heat and freshwater  
7 storage and the surface fluxes, provide a method for understanding the role of ocean dynamics in  
8 climate variations (International CLIVAR Project Office, 2006). XBT transect data are important for  
9 model testing, ENSO prediction, tropical ocean variability and prediction, and heat content and  
10 climate change estimates (Smith et al, 2001). The repeat XBT transects also are effective for  
11 monitoring changes in specific ocean structures that affect Indian Ocean climate, such as the  
12 upwelling zones of Java, Somalia, the Lakshadweep Dome and the thermocline ridge near 10°S.

13 The XBT network in the Indian Ocean was originally established as individual research projects  
14 under TOGA (1985-1994) and WOCE (1990-1997). The network has been largely operated by  
15 national agencies from Australia, India, and the US. After the introduction of Argo, the XBT  
16 observations shifted from so called “broad-scale sampling” to “line sampling”, and so became more  
17 focused on monitoring changes of the narrow boundary currents and ocean fronts, mesoscale  
18 variability, as well as maintaining across-basin transects to monitor and study meridional heat  
19 transport. There are two modes of XBT line sampling. XBTs can be deployed in High Resolution  
20 (HR) mode and so transects are carried out at least 4 times per year along near-exactly repeating  
21 transects, with XBTs typically deployed every 20 to 30 km to obtain high spatial resolution in one  
22 single realization to resolve the spatial structure of mesoscale eddies, fronts and currents. XBTs  
23 can also be deployed in Frequently Repeated (FR) mode sampling, with ~12 transects carried out  
24 per year and XBT deployments every 100 to 150 km so as to obtain reasonably high spatial  
25 resolution in consecutive realizations in regions where temporal variability is strong. An  
26 implementation plan for the XBT operations in the Indian Ocean was recommended (International  
27 CLIVAR Project Office, 2006) and more recently these transects were prioritized as part of the 2017  
28 JCOMM SOT-9 panel. The main Indian Ocean transects are shown in Figure 22.1: FR transect  
29 IX01 line monitors the Indonesian Throughflow (ITF) and the Java/Sumatra upwelling zone and  
30 began sampling in 1983; FR IX22 samples through the Banda Sea Indonesia to the Northwest  
31 Australian shelf and began sampling in 1987; FR IX12 samples the thermocline ridge in the central  
32 Indian Ocean and the Arabian Sea boundary currents and began in 1983; FR IX14 crosses the Bay  
33 of Bengal; and HR IX15/IX21 together closes the southern limit of the subtropical Indian Ocean and  
34 began in 1994 (Table 22.1). Hence many of these XBT transects have been in operation for over  
35 30 years.

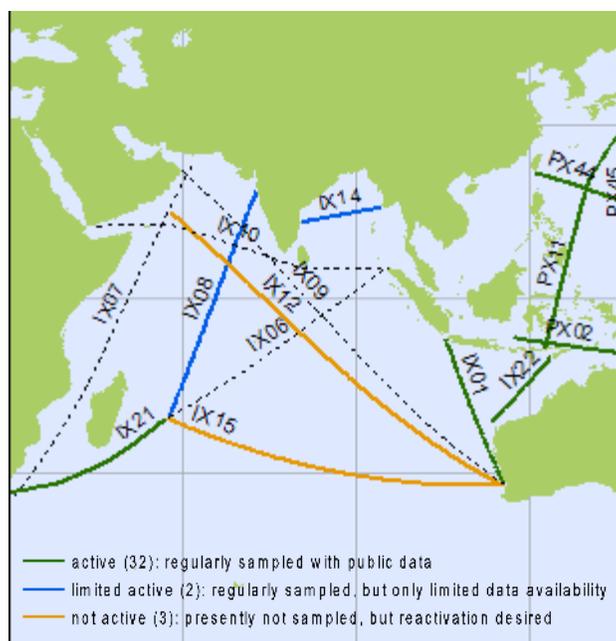


Figure 22.1: Implemented XBT lines in the Indian Ocean. Numbers in brackets refer to global totals.

Table 22.1. Summary of status and sampling strategy for XBT transects shown in Figure 1. FR: frequently repeated; HD: high density; LD: low density.

Line	Status	Data years	Number of transects per year	Operator
IX01	Active	1983-present	FR and HD, >12	Australia
IX06	Ceased	Infrequent	-	USA
IX07	Ceased	Infrequent	-	France
IX08	Data unavailable	Unknown	-	India
IX09	Ceased	1990-1998	LD	-
IX10	Ceased	1990-1998	LD	-
IX12	Inactive	1986-2015	FR and HD, Up to 20	Australia
IX14	Data unavailable	Unknown	-	India
IX15	Inactive	1994-2013	HD, 4	USA
IX21	Active	1994-present	HD, 4	USA
PX11/IX22	Active	1986-present	FR, Up to 20	Australia

36 As of 2017, transects IX01, IX08, IX14, IX21, and IX22 remain in operation. The vessels that  
 37 sampled along IX12 went offline in 2015, but the XBT community is actively seeking a replacement  
 38 vessel to continue this important time series. Transect IX15 is not currently operable due to a lack  
 39 of shipping traffic along this route.

40 All XBT profile data from IX01, IX22, IX12, IX21 and IX15 are publicly available through NCEI  
 41 (<https://www.nodc.noaa.gov>), as well as in transect mode from IMOS and SIO ([imos.org.au](https://imos.org.au));

42 <http://www-hrx.ucsd.edu>). Transect data along IX14 and IX08 are maintained by India and data  
43 along these transects is presently not publicly available.

## 44 **22.2 What have we learnt from XBT observations in the Indian Ocean?**

45 *The XBT observations provided >50 % of the subsurface thermal structure and variations prior to*  
46 *the arrival of the Argo data stream in ~2003. As such, they played a crucial role in closing the global*  
47 *heat budget under the influence of anthropogenic global warming (e.g. Domingues et al., 2008).*  
48 *They have also played a significant role in improving our understanding the Indian Ocean response*  
49 *and feedback to the climate change hiatus period in the recent decades (Drijfhout et al., 2014;*  
50 *Dong and McPhaden 2016), as well as decadal variations in the Indian Ocean (Han et al., 2014).*

51 *The XBT network is at present the main element of the global observing system to provide*  
52 *systematically repeating observations to resolve the narrow swift boundary currents, including*  
53 *those boundary currents in the Indian Ocean as well as the Indonesian throughflow. XBTs from*  
54 *IX01 and IX22 in the Indonesian Seas provide the only real-time profiling data in an area where*  
55 *Argo float observations are sparse, particularly in the coastal wave-guides. These XBT data, which*  
56 *are transmitted in real-time, are fed into ocean and seasonal weather and climate forecasting*  
57 *models. The IX01 and IX22 XBT data have been used to quantify the Indonesian throughflow*  
58 *volume and heat transport (Meyer et al., 1995; Sprintall et al., 2002; Wijffels et al., 2008), and their*  
59 *interannual and decadal variability (Meyer 1996; Wijffels and Meyers 2004; Liu et al., 2015). The*  
60 *IX01 and IX12 XBT data have also been used to quantify the upwelling characteristics off Java-*  
61 *Sumatra and their interannual variations associated with the Indian Ocean Dipole (Feng and*  
62 *Meyers 2003), geostrophic transport (Donguy and Meyers, 1995), as well as large scale Rossby*  
63 *wave propagation in the tropical/subtropical Indian Ocean, influenced by the planetary waves*  
64 *transmitted from the Pacific (Masumoto and Meyers 1998; Feng and Meyers 2003). More recently,*  
65 *the IX12 data have been used to examine changes in the Arabian Sea boundary current system*  
66 *as part of the U.S. ONR NASCar project. The IX21/IX15 data are being used to examine the long-*  
67 *term variability in the Agulhas Current. All the XBT data have been assimilated into numerical*  
68 *models and reanalysis products (e.g. EN4) to better capture the dynamics of these interannual and*  
69 *decadal processes in the Indian Ocean (e.g. Good et al., 2013; Zhuang et al., 2013). The IX01 XBT*  
70 *data has been used to identify the strengthening trend of the ITF up to 1 Sv per decade during the*  
71 *30-year period of 1984-2013 (Liu et al., 2015), which could be important in the heat transfer from*  
72 *the Pacific into the Indian Ocean over the last decade (Lee et al. 2015, Nieves et al. 2016; Vialard,*  
73 *2015).*

74 *In deriving volume and heat transport across the XBT lines, dynamic height and geostrophic*  
75 *velocities are derived by assuming a tight T-S relationship obtained through a look-up table of*  
76 *salinity climatology. Interannual and decadal variations of upper ocean salinity have been found to*  
77 *influence the geostrophic calculations along the IX1 section (Liu et al., 2015), thus, it is still*  
78 *important to monitor upper ocean salinity variability along IX1 that measures the ITF as it exits into*  
79 *the Indian Ocean, to be able to more accurately capture the across-section fluxes.*

## 80 **22.3 EOVs**

81 *As noted above, XBTs measure the EOV of temperature in the upper 1 km of the ocean. Although*  
82 *the function of the XBT network for broad scale upper ocean heat storage monitoring has been*  
83 *largely replaced by the Argo program, the XBTs still provide the only sustained observation tool for*  
84 *repeat surveying of upper ocean temperature in the marginal seas, within the ocean boundary*  
85 *currents and in Argo data void regions. The repeated XBT lines across the outflow of the ITF and*  
86 *the Agulhas Current system are the only long term observations of the major ocean fluxes that are*  
87 *crucial for the Indian Ocean basin scale heat and freshwater balances. Thus, it is still the utmost*  
88 *importance to maintain XBT transect sampling of the Indian Ocean boundary currents (IX21, IX12,*  
89 *IX14, IX08), as well as the XBT lines that transect the Indonesian seas (IX01, IX22). Salinity*  
90 *measurements along the IX1 section is also a crucial EOV for accurate flux estimations.*

91 **22.4 Actionable recommendations**

92 *Based on the suggested Essential Ocean Variables listed above, as well as in line with the XBT*  
93 *community recommendations made as part of the 2017 JCOMM SOT panel, actionable*  
94 *recommendations for the current IndOOS design follow:*

- 95 a. *Maintain the Frequently Repeated IX01 and IX22 XBT lines: permits monitoring*  
96 *geostrophic mass and heat transport of the ITF into the Indian Ocean;*
- 97 b. *Maintain thermosalinograph measurement along the IX01 line (e.g. Phillips et al., 2005);*
- 98 c. *Enhance Argo deployment density along IX01 XBT line to better resolve salinity variability*  
99 *related to the ITF;*
- 100 d. *Maintain the High Resolution IX21 XBT line to monitor the long term changes of the*  
101 *Agulhas Current system.*
- 102 e. *Reactivate the Frequently Repeated IX12 XBT line to detect long term changes in the*  
103 *tropical thermocline ridge as well as the boundary current system in the Arabian Sea*
- 104 f. *Maintain the Frequently Repeated IX08 and IX14 (Bay of Bengal) XBT lines which are*  
105 *important for model testing, ENSO, Indian Ocean Dipole, and Asian monsoon associated*  
106 *tropical ocean variability and prediction, and heat content and climate change estimates*  
107 *(Smith et al, 2001). Further, encourage the public release of XBT data along these two*  
108 *transects that are maintained by India.*
- 109 g. *The implementation of automatic XBT launchers in the Indian Ocean, such as AXIS – the*  
110 *Automated eXpendable Instrument System (Frantantoni et al., 2017) that is operational in*  
111 *the Atlantic XBT program and the SIO Autolauncher that is operational on US maintained*  
112 *lines in the Pacific and Indian (IX21) Oceans, needs to be more fully explored to alleviate*  
113 *crew intervention on the SOOP vessels (Andres et al., this report).*
- 114 h. *The installation of ADCP velocity measuring instruments on ships that participate in the*  
115 *XBT network should be encouraged where possible. Combined with simultaneous velocity*  
116 *measurements from hull-mounted ADCPs, this could provide a powerful way to monitor the*  
117 *upper ocean heat transport across key transects, such as the ITF, the Agulhas Current,*  
118 *and across the southern Indian Ocean (Beal, this report).*

## 23. Tide gauges in the Indian Ocean

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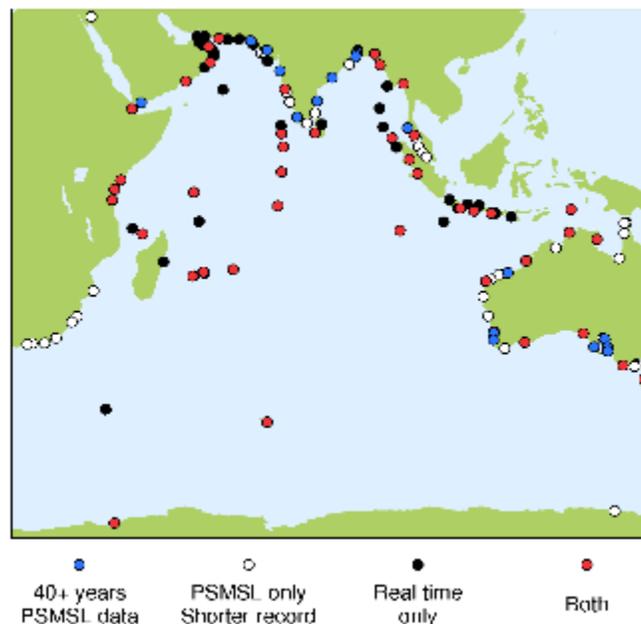
<sup>1</sup>CSIR-National Institute of Oceanography, Goa, India, <sup>2</sup>National Oceanography Centre, Liverpool, U.K., <sup>3</sup>LIENS, La Rochelle, France, <sup>4</sup>LEGOS, Toulouse, France, <sup>5</sup>GLOSS/IOC, UNESCO, Paris, France, <sup>6</sup>ESSO-INCOIS, Hyderabad, India

### 1 23.1 Introduction

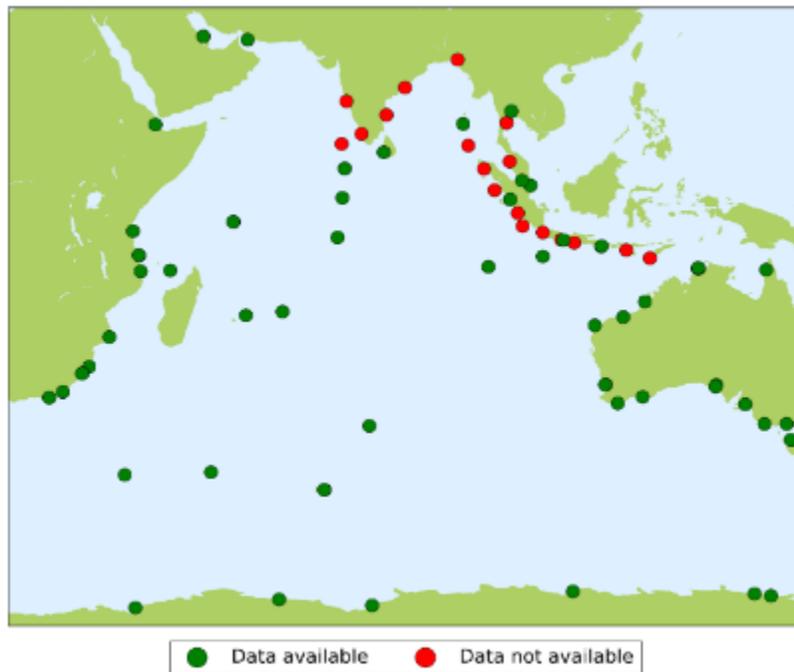
2 Tide-gauge measurements provide data for routine tidal predictions in ports as well as reporting of  
3 extreme events such as storm surges and tsunamis. Along with satellite altimeter measurements,  
4 tide gauges give data that can be used for estimating sea-level rise trends. This is particularly  
5 important for impact assessment in low-lying coastline of south Asia as well as islands such as  
6 Maldives in the Indian Ocean.

### 7 Current status of the network

8 Figure 23.1 shows a map of active tide gauge stations in the Indian Ocean either supplying quality  
9 controlled monthly mean sea level data to the Permanent Service for Mean Sea Level (PSMSL,  
10 <http://www.psmsl.org>) or real-time data to the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission's  
11 Sea Level Station Monitoring Facility (<http://www.ioc-sealevelmonitoring.org>), operated by the  
12 Flanders Marine Institute (VLIZ, Belgium). The stations shown as 'PSMSL only' include historical  
13 records, possibly without complete datum control (non-Revised Local Reference (RLR) stations).  
14 However, many of these are of short duration. Real-time stations have increased in number since  
15 the 2004 tsunami. In Figure 23.1, the stations that have both real-time and PSMSL data are shown  
16 in red. There are 20 stations that have datum-controlled records (RLR) longer than 40 years that  
17 can be used for estimating long-term changes (shown in blue). However, most of them are in the  
18 northern hemisphere. It may be noted that only two stations, namely, Mumbai (along the west coast  
19 of India) and Fremantle (west coast of Australia) have more than 100 years of data. In Figure 23.2,  
20 the network of Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) stations co-located with tide gauges in  
21 the Indian Ocean is shown; GNSS is needed for monitoring changes in the level of the land on  
22 which the gauges are located.



**Figure 23.1** Distribution of active tide gauge stations in the Indian Ocean. PSMSL stations are considered active if data is available for 2011 or later. Real-time stations are considered active if they have supplied data in 2017.



**Figure 23.2** Current status of the GNSS network co-located with tide gauges in the Indian Ocean. Data since 2016 are considered.

23 **High-frequency data:**

24 The tide-gauge network in the Indian Ocean has been extended since the commencement of the  
 25 Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System (IOTWMS) following the 2004 Indian Ocean  
 26 tsunami. This was achieved by upgrading some stations and with installations of some new  
 27 stations. There are now more than 100 tide gauges in the Indian Ocean (GLOSS and non-GLOSS)  
 28 that provide sea level data in real time (not quality controlled) via the IOC Sea Level Station  
 29 Monitoring Facility (<http://www.ioc-sealevelmonitoring.org>). Higher-frequency, quality-controlled  
 30 data (hourly values and similar) are available from the University of Hawaii Sea Level Center  
 31 (<http://uhslc.soest.hawaii.edu/>).

32 **23.2 Recommendations**

33 The spatial coverage of the tide- gauge network in the Indian Ocean is not as good as in the Atlantic  
 34 and Pacific. Due to the inadequacies in spatial data coverage, particularly in the southern Indian  
 35 Ocean, questions to do with long-term trends and variability at decadal and longer time scales are  
 36 less well addressed.

37 Since the 2004 tsunami, the network in the Indian Ocean was strengthened. However, many of  
 38 these stations fall in the north Indian Ocean. For studies leading to understanding of various  
 39 oceanographic processes, for example, the contribution of Indonesian throughflow waters to the  
 40 variability in the southern Indian Ocean, there is a need for more observations than those that are  
 41 presently available. . There is a particular need for strengthening the network at island stations.

42 *Specific Recommendations of Essential Ocean Variables*

- 43
- 44
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- The tide-gauge network needs to be improved in many regions, such as the coast of Thailand western equatorial Indian Ocean, the coast of Africa and the Southern Ocean sector. The network in island stations is highly useful in comparing with satellite altimeter data and in the combined ‘reconstructions’ of long-term regional sea level change. Inconsistency across different sea-level reconstruction products in determining decadal variability has been shown by Nidheesh et al. (2017).
- 49
- 50
- 51
- The existing networks in the Southern Ocean and Antarctica, particularly difficult to maintain, must be consolidated and sustained on a long term basis by their countries (namely Australia, France, Japan, Russia, South Africa and UK).
- 52
- 53
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- 55
- The core tide gauge network for GLOSS and for tsunami monitoring (IOC, 2015) should be sustained. The CLIVAR linkage and support in this respect is beneficial. Tide gauge hardware with real time transmission has declined in price, and one can expect the network may be more readily densified over coming years.
- 56
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- 62
- There is a corresponding requirement for GNSS equipment to be co-located at GLOSS core network tide gauge stations (IOC, 2012). Figure 23.2 shows where GNSS data are available near to tide gauges as stored in the SONEL (Service d’Observation du Niveau des Eaux Littorales) database (<http://www.sonel.org>); it can be seen that the Indian Ocean is particularly deficient in this respect. King (2014) has highlighted several sites as priorities for GNSS stations near to Indian Ocean tide gauges. There is a particular need for long-term datum control within the tide gauge network and for ties between the tide gauges and GNSS equipment (Woodworth et al., 2017).
- 63
- 64
- ‘Data archaeology’ and archival of historical sea level data not already in data banks needs to take place in several countries through the digitization of old records.
- 65
- 66
- 67
- Lastly, there is a need for some level of network linkage activities (advocacy, technical assistance/training) among national operators of tide gauge and GNSS stations in order to sustain the network.

## 24. New Technologies for In Situ IndOOS Measurements

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1 Observational strategies that cleverly leverage technology are required to achieve the goal of the  
2 Indian Ocean Observing System (IndOOS) to “provide sustained high-quality oceanographic and  
3 marine meteorological measurements to support knowledge based decision-making through  
4 improved scientific understanding, weather and climate forecasts, and environmental assessments  
5 for the benefit of society”. Autonomous platforms provide access to regions of the spatial and  
6 temporal sampling spectrum that have previously been unachievable. Integrated systems that  
7 employ complementary platforms, exploiting each for their particular strengths, will be required to  
8 resolve the broad range of spatial and temporal scales inherent to the dynamics of the Indian  
9 Ocean. A sampling of technologies and approaches follows below.

### 10 24.1 Giving New Life to an Old Technology

11 Targeted subsurface temperature observations from expendable bathythermographs (XBTs) have  
12 been important for documenting changes in ocean heat content and will likely continue to play an  
13 important role in the IndOOS (e.g., Cheng et al., 2016 and Feng et al., this report) particularly when  
14 combined with the growing Indian Ocean Argo array. One way to make repeated XBT lines a  
15 sustainable part of an observing system is through the use of volunteer observing ships (VOS) with  
16 automatic launchers that require no rider on the ship and little intervention from the ship’s crew,  
17 while providing an Iridium satellite link to enable remote data retrieval and mission setup. One such  
18 system, AXIS – the Automated eXpendable Instrument System (Fratantoni et al., 2017), has been  
19 part of an Atlantic Meridional Overturning Circulation (AMOC) observing system since 2011. VOSs  
20 can also be equipped with hull-mounted acoustic Doppler current profilers (ADCPs); this provides  
21 a powerful way to obtain repeated measures of upper-ocean heat transport (Rossby et al., 2017).  
22 If suitable commercial partners and vessels can be found, the 10,000 km long southern boundary  
23 of the Indian Ocean (e.g. between Cape Town and Melbourne) would be a particularly suitable  
24 repeat-line for of an AXIS system (or other auto launcher) in combination with a hull-mounted  
25 ADCP.

### 26 24.2 Boundary Current Observations with CPIESs and Underwater Gliders

27 Current and pressure-sensor-equipped inverted echo sounders (CPIESs) can be used to obtain  
28 long-duration, high temporal resolution time series of western boundary current transport and  
29 velocity structure. Process studies with CPIESs include investigations of (1) the coupling between  
30 the upper ocean and deep ocean, (2) interactions between eddies and western boundary currents  
31 and (3) the role of topography in shaping the flow. CPIESs have been deployed as ‘transport  
32 lines’—e.g., as part of the ACT time series, OKTV Line, PN Line and ASUKA Line (Beal and Elipot,  
33 2016; Andres et al., 2015), in ‘dynamics arrays’—e.g., KESS, CDRAKE, SYNOP, SK-II and FLEAT  
34 (Donohue et al., 2010; 2016) and in various ‘niche’ applications such as the study of non-linear  
35 internal waves in the South China Sea (Li et al., 2009).

36 CPIESs are deployed on the seafloor in a rigid anchor stand for typical durations ranging from  
37 about one to five years. Each CPIES measures the round-trip surface-to-bottom acoustic travel  
38 time (typically from 24 pings per hour to obtain an hourly measure); near-bottom pressure and  
39 temperature; and the horizontal currents 50 m above the seabed. In many regions, an empirical  
40 lookup table can be used to convert the CPIESs’ acoustic travel times to full-water column profiles  
41 of temperature, salinity and density. From these profiles, the velocity shear between pairs of  
42 CPIESs can be estimated using the thermal wind relationship. This shear is referenced using the

43 CPIESs' time-varying pressure records that have been 'leveled' with the time-mean currents.  
44 (Leveling is the technique of referencing all pressure measurements onto a common geopotential  
45 surface.) The result is time series of absolute geostrophic velocity profiles from the surface to the  
46 bottom and the corresponding absolute geostrophic transports. Several technological advances  
47 are under development to enhance the capabilities of CPIESs. These include (1) the capability for  
48 remote retrievals of data batches (via a popup data shuttle which rises to the surface at a prescribed  
49 time and links to the satellite Iridium network) and (2) incorporation of a Doppler current profiler  
50 instead of the current sensor (DCPS-PIES).

51 Gliders have seen widespread success for science (Rudnick, 2016 provides a review) and  
52 operational missions, and could contribute to IndOOS. Underwater gliders are small (50-kg mass,  
53 2-m length), buoyancy driven vehicles that have been optimized for extended endurance. Gliders  
54 propel themselves by changing buoyancy, such that they sink or rise through the water column,  
55 and adjusting attitude to use lift provided by hull and wings to project vertical motion into the  
56 horizontal. This allows the vehicles to navigate from point to point while profile vertically through  
57 the water column. At the surface between dives, gliders geolocate using GPS, and upload data and  
58 download new commands via Iridium satellite modem. Gliders carry flexible payloads that can  
59 include sensors for temperature, conductivity (for salinity), velocity profiles, dissolved oxygen,  
60 chlorophyll and CDOM fluorescence, optical backscatter, temperature and shear microstructure,  
61 nitrate, spectral irradiance, PAR, nitrate, zooplankton and marine mammals.

62 Gliders are well-suited for quantifying boundary current variability within the IndOOS. Gliders move  
63 slowly (20 km/day) to provide finely-spaced profiles, with the capability to maintain continuous  
64 sampling for periods typically lasting roughly half a year. They can thus resolve scales of a few  
65 kilometers and weeks over sections of hundreds of kilometers length, while maintaining sampling  
66 over seasons to years – scales that are well-matched to resolving variability in Indian Ocean  
67 boundary flows. (While trans-basin glider missions have been achieved—see the Challenger  
68 Program, <https://challenger.marine.rutgers.edu/2-uncategorised/33-indian-ocean-perth-to-sri-lanka>—this type of endurance is not yet routine.) Geostrophic transports can be reliably calculated  
69 from density sections using the thermal wind relationship (e.g. Lien et al., 2014), referenced to the  
70 depth-average current calculated as the difference between observed and modeled glider  
71 displacement over a dive (Eriksen et al., 2001; Rudnick and Cole, 2011), or direct transports can  
72 be measured using glider-mounted ADCPs (Todd et al., 2017). Gliders have been successfully  
73 used for sustained, multi-year quantification of eastern (California Current; Todd et al., 2011; Zaba  
74 and Rudnick, 2016) and western (Kuroshio Current; Lien et al., 2014) boundary currents. Similar  
75 approaches, using logistics local to target regions in the Indian Ocean, could be applied to sustain  
76 measurements for the IndOOS.  
77

78 Recent use of moorings and CPIESs in tandem with gliders has proven invaluable for leveraging  
79 each platform's capabilities. Gliders can resolve water mass changes that CPIESs or moorings  
80 alone could not detect (Andres et al., 2017). The combination of fixed (moorings and CPIESs) and  
81 mobile (gliders) platforms resolves a broader range of scales than could be achieved by one of  
82 these platforms alone, allowing investigations of the interactions between scales. In the Indian  
83 Ocean, integrated glider/CPIESs arrays could contribute significantly to studies of surface  
84 boundary currents and their undercurrents (e.g., the Agulhas, the Somali Current, and Leeuwin  
85 Current) and the currents along the equator, to establish both the mean and the time varying  
86 transports and velocity structures. They could be used to investigate the flows' interactions with  
87 topography at the many dramatic ridges in the Indian Ocean and the interactions of mesoscale  
88 eddies with these ridges and the western boundary currents. In addition, CPIESs are well suited  
89 to study the thermocline movement (and the bottom pressure signals) at the Seychelles-Chagos  
90 Thermocline Ridge.

### 91 **24.3 Moored Profilers for High-Current Regimes**

92 In some cases it is desirable to resolve subtle changes in water properties at a fixed location (like  
93 within a boundary current) or to resolve transport variability in density space rather than depth  
94 space. Moored profilers, which can sample temperature, salinity and velocity at high vertical

95 resolution as they ride up and down a mooring line are particularly suitable for such studies and  
96 have been used as part of the AMOC observing system in a 10-year study of the Deep Western  
97 Boundary Current south of Cape Cod on Line W (Toole et. al., 2017). Two important enhancements  
98 to the basic moored profiler technology are underway at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution  
99 (WHOI) and these enhancements, which build on the success of moored profilers at Line W, are  
100 important innovations for long-endurance observing systems. The first is an Articulated Profiler,  
101 which minimizes drag (and hence increases endurance by minimizing the instrument's power  
102 requirement) by aligning the profiler body with the relative 3-D flow. The sensors will be mounted  
103 at the leading end of the body so that sampling is in undisturbed water (leading to less noisy  
104 measurements). The second development leverages hydrodynamic lift from the incident ocean  
105 currents. A LAMP (Lift-Assisted Moored Profiler) will provide better reliability in strong currents,  
106 where the present traction drive wheel sometimes stalls. This will make moored profiler  
107 measurements of strong current like the Agulhas feasible.

## 108 **24.4 Capitalizing on Expendable Platforms**

109 The operational contribution of the Global Drifter Program to IndOOS in terms of mixed layer (15-  
110 m depth) ocean currents, in-situ SST and sea-level pressure (SLP) data is discussed by Lumpkin  
111 and Centurioni (this report). Emerging technologies have the potential to further the impact of  
112 surface observations from Lagrangian drifters. Low-cost, expendable, undrogued drifters equipped  
113 with SST and GPS sensors capable of measuring the directional spectra of surface gravity waves  
114 have been developed by the Lagrangian Drifter Laboratory (LDL) at the Scripps Institution of  
115 Oceanography (Centurioni et. al. 2017). The Directional Wave Spectra (DWS) drifter samples the  
116 vertical, zonal and meridional velocity components of the GPS antenna for approximately 17 min  
117 at 2 Hz. The drifter controller, also developed by the LDL, computes the power spectral density,  
118 co-spectra and quadrature-spectra parameters with the Fourier transforms of the correlation  
119 functions of each pair of the velocity time-series, and the first 5 independent Fourier coefficients  
120 ( $a_0$ ,  $a_1$ ,  $a_2$ ,  $b_1$ ,  $b_2$ ) of the wave spectra at a minimum interval of 30 min. These are relayed to the  
121 LDL data server in real-time through the Iridium satellite system. Commands sent over two-way  
122 Iridium communication can modify the mission for power consumption and telemetry cost savings  
123 while the DWS drifter mission is underway. All of the transmitted wave data, as well DWS drifter  
124 status are accessible in real time on a dedicated website as well as through the Global  
125 Telecommunication System of the World Weather Watch. The first open ocean array of 22 DWS  
126 drifters deployed in the tropical North Pacific Ocean was deployed in winter 2016.

127 Surface Lagrangian drifters equipped with salinity sensors were deployed in the Bay of Bengal in  
128 2015 as part of the Office of Naval Research (ONR) funded program ASIRI (Hormann et al, 2016)  
129 but their cost prevents basin-wide, sustained implementation. New low-cost sensors are currently  
130 being tested for long-term stability and may offer viable solution for the calibration and validation of  
131 satellite salinity observations.

132 Expendable Lagrangian drifters equipped with sonic anemometers and configurable for air or ship  
133 deployment also exist and could represent a valuable addition to the IndOOS and the global array.  
134 Such drifters, termed Minimets (see for example [http://gdp.ucsd.edu/ldl\\_drifter/index.html](http://gdp.ucsd.edu/ldl_drifter/index.html)) have  
135 been used for over a decade to measure sea-level wind within hurricanes and typhoons. Other  
136 promising unmanned platforms that are being used in an experimental mode to obtain momentum  
137 and flux measurements, as well other sea surface and meteorological observations, include the  
138 Saildrone and the Wave Glider. An inexpensive (and hence expendable) freely-drifting spar buoy  
139 instrument system (X-Spar) that could provide cost-effective, distributed measurements of  
140 meteorological variables is under development at WHOI. It will return near-surface meteorological  
141 and oceanographic observations for periods of a year or longer. Since data are recovered remotely  
142 via Iridium satellite link, it will be particularly suitable to use in regions where regular shipboard  
143 mooring servicing is not feasible.

## 144 **24.5 Augmenting the Capabilities of Existing Assets**

145 Integration of new sensors on existing IndOOS platforms, such as Argo and the RAMA array, offers  
146 added value and targets specific science focuses. For example, the shallow stratification in the Bay  
147 of Bengal necessitates clean near-surface measurements of both temperature and salinity.  
148 Modifications to the standard Argo capabilities by including a secondary, unpumped conductivity-  
149 temperature sensor allows for near-surface sampling without loss in quality of deep measurements  
150 by the primary sensor (Anderson and Riser 2014). Furthermore, addition of optical and chemical  
151 sensors to Argo floats provides the potential to greatly enhance our understanding of the  
152 biogeochemistry and biophysical connections in this historically undersampled region  
153 (Ravichandran, this report). Supported through ONR's DYNAMO program (Moum et al., 2013) and  
154 continuing with the ASIRI and MISO-BOB initiatives (Wijesekera et al., 2016), turbulent mixing  
155 sensors (|-pods) have been added to the Equatorial and Bay of Bengal RAMA moorings along the  
156 Equatorial Indian Ocean and within the Bay of Bengal along 90E (e.g., Warner et al., 2016). |-pods  
157 provide a direct measurement of temperature, velocity, and temperature variance dissipation at  
158 each deployment location (Moum and Nash 2009). These sensors have allowed for evaluation of  
159 multi-year time series of turbulent mixing, and the role of subsurface fluxes in modulation of the  
160 upper ocean structure (e.g., Moum et al., 2013, Warner et al., 2016). |-pods are also being  
161 integrated on the SOLO II floats with the long-term goal of including this capability within the Argo  
162 program (Shroyer et al., 2016). |-SOLO floats were first tested in the Bay of Bengal in 2015, yielding  
163 both upper ocean turbulent flux information as well as a clean in situ measurement of temperature  
164 within a few centimeters of the ocean's surface.

## 165 **24.6 Concluding Remarks**

166 Future efforts to sustain and improve the capabilities of the IndOOS should look to novel  
167 approaches that integrate complementary combinations of platforms. Key components of the  
168 observing system where recent technological advancements and synergies between platforms  
169 could be leveraged include the following:

170 - Monitoring boundary current strength, velocity structure and water masses with arrays comprising  
171 CPIES, gliders and articulated moored profilers or LAMPs in regions like the Somali, Leewindward and  
172 Agulhas Currents.

173 - Investigating the remote Indian Ocean interior with autonomous or expendable platforms that  
174 incorporate traditional and new sensor technologies including DWS drifters (with SST and GPS  
175 sensors), |-SOLO floats X-Spar floats, Saildrones, Wave gliders, and Minimets.

176 - Continued integration of |-pods mounted on RAMA moorings through the Bay of Bengal and  
177 across the Equatorial array to examine seasonal transitions within the Equatorial wave guide and  
178 the accompanying atmospheric and oceanic variability.

179 - Doubling of traditional XBT sampling on some key lines like IX01, that monitors exchanges  
180 between the Pacific and Indian Oceans.

181 - Outfitting commercial vessels with hull-mounted ADCPs and XBT auto launchers to provide a  
182 measure of the heat flux across key lines like the southern boundary of the Indian Ocean between  
183 Cape Town and Melbourne.

184 Continued advancements in the technology and analysis techniques will be critical to achieving the  
185 IndOOS goals.

## 25. The Global Ocean Ship-Based Hydrographic Investigations Program (GO-SHIP)

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### 1 25.1 Introduction

2 GO-SHIP is the systematic and global survey of select hydrographic sections, carried out by an  
3 international consortium countries and laboratories (Figure 25.1). These span all of the major ocean  
4 basins and the full-depth water column with measurements of the climate accuracy, attainable only  
5 with research ships at present and for the foreseeable future.

6 Global hydrographic surveys have been carried out approximately every decade since the 1950s  
7 through research programs such as IGY, IIOE, GEOSECS, WOCE / JGOFS, and CLIVAR. In 2009  
8 the Global Ocean Ship-based Hydrographic Program (GO-SHIP, <http://www.go-ship.org>) was  
9 established as part of the Global Climate Observing System (GCOS) as a component of the Global  
10 Ocean Observing System (GOOS) to provide international coordination and scientific oversight of  
11 the decadal global ocean survey. The international hydrographic surveys of the 1960s, 1990s  
12 (WOCE) and 2000s (CLIVAR Repeat Hydrography and GO-SHIP) were successful in answering  
13 many first- order questions about large-scale ocean circulation and carbon inventories. Their results  
14 also raised many new questions concerning ocean variability and trends, circulation, and  
15 biogeochemical controls on carbon and tracer inventories, distributions, and long-term secular  
16 trends associated with climate change and ocean acidification. These observations showed that  
17 the full-depth ocean exhibits significant interannual variability on top of the expected smooth  
18 decadal trend as part of patterns of global change, complicating efforts to detect and attribute  
19 human influences on the ocean.

20 GO-SHIP will continue to build the time-series of full-depth repeat ocean measurements capable  
21 of resolving decadal and longer time scale changes in the circulation and property storage  
22 (including heat, freshwater, oxygen and carbon) of the global oceans.

### 23 25.2 GO-SHIP Objectives

24 The GO-SHIP principal scientific objectives are:

25 (1) Understanding and documenting the large-scale ocean water property distributions, their  
26 changes, and drivers of those changes, and

27 (2) Addressing questions of the large physical, biogeochemical and biological changes anticipated  
28 for the future ocean. This includes increasing dissolved inorganic carbon, warming, acidification,  
29 and increased stratification due to atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> increases and associated changes in the  
30 Earth's radiation balance.

31 The observations will aid understanding of interaction of anthropogenic perturbations with natural  
32 cycles of water and sea-ice and with changes in circulation and ventilation processes.

33 In addition, to the scientific objective, GO-SHIP provides the high-quality reference observations to  
34 other components of ocean observing system that use autonomous observing platforms (e.g. Argo,  
35 BCG-Argo) for delayed mode quality control procedures of these programs. GO-SHIP also support  
36 the testing new ocean observing technologies and sensors.

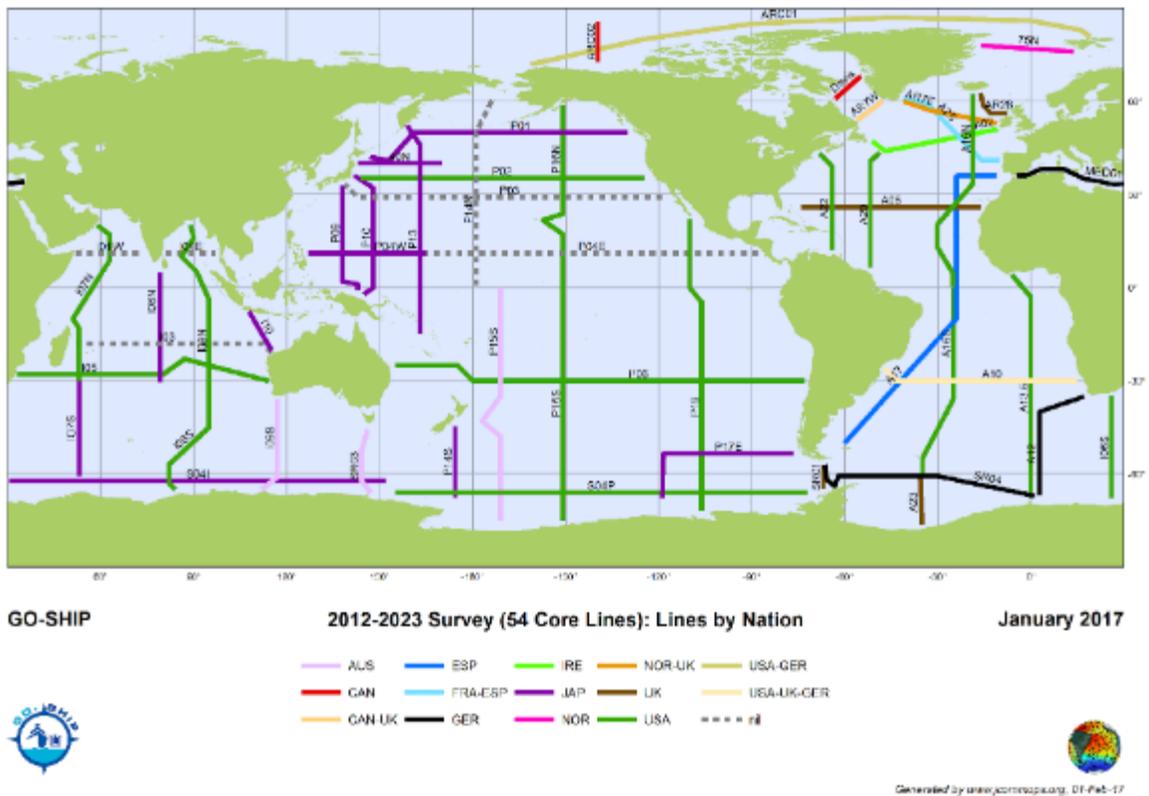


Figure 25.1. Hydrographic sections that comprise GO-SHIP. Countries undertaking sections of the 2012-2023 global survey are shown. Section without national support are shown as gray dashed lines.

- 37 A globally coordinated sustained hydrography program is built on 5 basic components:
- 38 (1) Joint Planning: Nations come together for joint planning exercises for each basin to agree
- 39 on implementation to avoid gaps and duplications. Nations agree to adhere to GO-SHIP
- 40 sampling resolution, measurement of core variables, and data release policy.
- 41 (2) Implementation: Nations commit to implement sections according to agreements and
- 42 timeframes. International collaborations are established where necessary to ensure that
- 43 the full suite of measurements are made on all cruises.
- 44 (3) Data Assembly and Quality Control: National programs and/or individual scientists submit
- 45 their data following data release timeframes to the appropriate data assembly centers. The
- 46 Data Assembly Centers assemble, check, and disseminate data to the scientific
- 47 community. Accuracy requirements are verified and problems signaled. The Global DAC
- 48 serves as a clearinghouse for all hydrographic data variables, and provides global
- 49 coordination for monitoring data flow.
- 50 (4) Data Product Development and Joint Scientific Syntheses: As the basin and global
- 51 surveys are completed, scientific synthesis groups are brought together to develop data
- 52 products and establish collaborations for global, interdisciplinary science projects,
- 53 including collaborations with other parts of the observing system.
- 54 (5) Network Evaluation and System Design Feedback: Based on the science, implementation
- 55 and data flow evaluations, the observing network is reviewed and redesigned as necessary
- 56 in collaboration with other components of the observing system.



77 based on data required to directly quantify change in ocean carbon inventory, estimate  
78 anthropogenic CO<sub>2</sub> empirically, characterize large-scale water mass ventilation rates, constrain  
79 horizontal heat, freshwater, carbon, nitrogen, and oxygen transports and/or net divergence, and  
80 provide an ongoing basis for model evaluation.

81 *Level 2 measurements* are highly desirable on a subset of cruises. They may be collected on  
82 coarser station spacing and are closely coordinated with the core effort.

83 *Level 3 ancillary measurements* are done according to opportunity and space available. They  
84 should not significantly interfere with Level 1 or 2 efforts, and may be regional or specific to an  
85 individual cruise. They include new technologies and measurement techniques.

86 Measurement standards for all Level 1 and 2 measurements should adhere to or be higher than  
87 those set by the GO-SHIP repeat hydrography manual (Hood et al. 2010b), which update standards  
88 laid out originally in the WOCE manuals (<http://cchdo.ucsd.edu/policy>). These measurement  
89 standards are routinely reviewed and updated. Certified reference materials are used for all  
90 measurements where such standards are available.

91 **Table1 GO-SHIP Measurement and Data Release Schedules.** Notes <sup>[1]</sup> Data available daily  
92 during the cruise. <sup>[2]</sup> Data released to the relevant data management structure within 5 weeks  
93 of the cruise; (2P) in preliminary form. <sup>[3]</sup> Data released within 6 months of shore-based  
94 analysis. <sup>[4]</sup> Data released within 15 months of sample collection.

**Level 1:** (All data are to be released in final form 6 months after the cruise except where noted) <sup>[1]</sup>

Inorganic carbon system parameters: Dissolved inorganic carbon (DIC); Total Alkalinity (TAlk); pH (two of three) (2P); CTD pressure, temperature, conductivity (salinity) (1,2); CTD oxygen (sensor) (2P); Bottle salinity (2); Nutrients by standard auto analyzer (NO<sub>3</sub>/NO<sub>2</sub>, PO<sub>4</sub>, SiO<sub>3</sub>) (2); Dissolved oxygen (2P); Chlorofluorocarbons (CFC-11, CFC-12) and SF<sub>6</sub> (2P); Surface underway parameters (T, S, pCO<sub>2</sub>) (1); ADCP shipboard (2P); ADCP lowered (2P); Underway navigation and bathymetry (2); Meteorological data (1).

**Level 2:** (All data are to be released in final form 6 months after the cruise except where noted)

Examples include discrete pCO<sub>2</sub> (2); N<sub>2</sub>O (2); 14C (3); CCl<sub>4</sub> (2); δ<sup>13</sup>C of DIC (3); Dissolved organic carbon; dissolved organic nitrogen; 3H/3He (4); Fe/trace metals; CTD Transmissometer; Surface underway measurements (nutrients, O<sub>2</sub>, Chl, pH, DIC, TAlk, skin temperature).

**Level 3:** (All data are to be released in final form within 2 years of analysis) <sup>[1]</sup>

Examples include, but are not limited to, microstructure/turbulence; chlorophyll; Primary production; HPLC pigments; Experimental continuous analyzers; δ<sup>15</sup>N; NO<sub>3</sub>; <sup>32</sup>Si; δ<sup>18</sup>O of H<sub>2</sub>O; NH<sub>4</sub>; Low level nutrients; Total organic phosphorus; Upper ocean optical; isotopes of O<sub>2</sub>; N<sub>2</sub>, Ar, O<sub>2</sub>; Methyl halides; DMS.

95 **25.5 Data policies**

96 The GO-SHIP data policy is stringent and geared toward rapid, open dissemination, with a clear  
97 structure for all data to undergo quality control and to be sent to and available from recognized data  
98 centers. The policy includes:

99 1) All Level 1 and 2 observations, cruise reports, and metadata are made public in preliminary form  
100 through a specified data center soon after collection (“early release”), with final calibrated data  
101 provided six months after the cruise, with the exception of those data requiring on-shore analyses  
102 (see Table 1).

103 2) All data collected as part of the program are submitted to a designated data management  
104 structure for quality control and dissemination for synthesis.

105 **25.6 Conclusion**

106 GO-SHIP builds on previous global-scale hydrography efforts. The program evolves based on the  
107 findings of the previous work and emerging science requirements and technological developments.  
108 A future development will include addition of further biogeochemistry and biology measurements  
109 to enable GO-SHIP to determine trends and variability in marine biogeochemistry and ecosystems.  
110 These objectives will be incorporated into the sustained primary objectives of GO-SHIP.

111 GO-SHIP will continue to provide and expand its capacity to provide a mechanism for testing and  
112 validating new autonomous sensors and serve as a reference/calibration dataset for other  
113 observing system. As biogeochemical and biological sensors are added to these autonomous  
114 platforms, the GO-SHIP data will be invaluable for validating and calibrating these new sensors. In  
115 addition, the global hydrographic survey will continue to provide a means to access remote ocean  
116 areas for the deployment of all autonomous observing platforms.

117 **25.7 ACTIONS**

- 118 • GO-SHIP and CLIVAR INDIAN Ocean panel to work constructively to increase national  
119 participation in the GO-SHIP program, with focus on increase Indian Ocean rim country  
120 activity in GO-SHIP.
- 121 • Promote a strong collaboration between GO-SHIP and IndOOS to enable optimum use of  
122 GO-SHIP research vessels and support of other component of the Indian Ocean Observing  
123 system, where feasible.

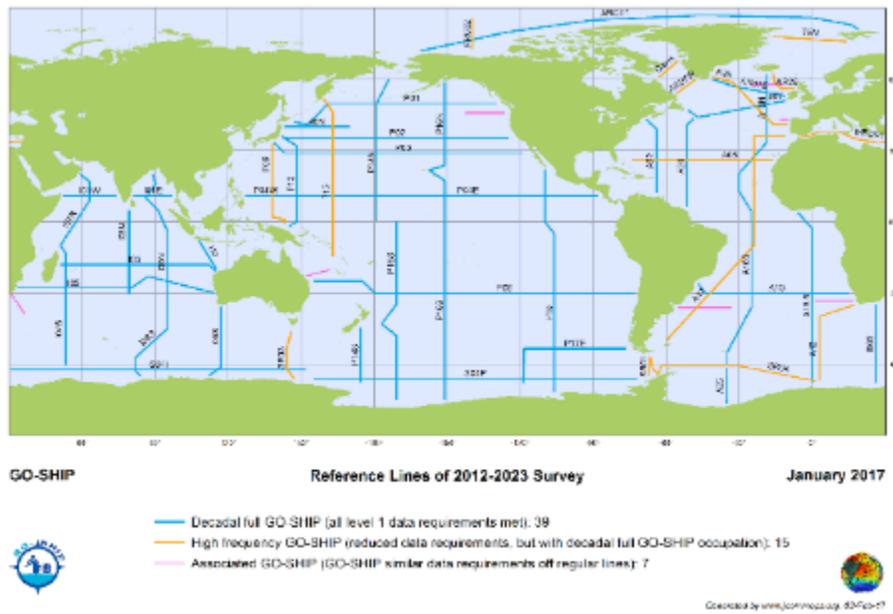


Figure 25.3 Reference Lines of 212-2023 Survey

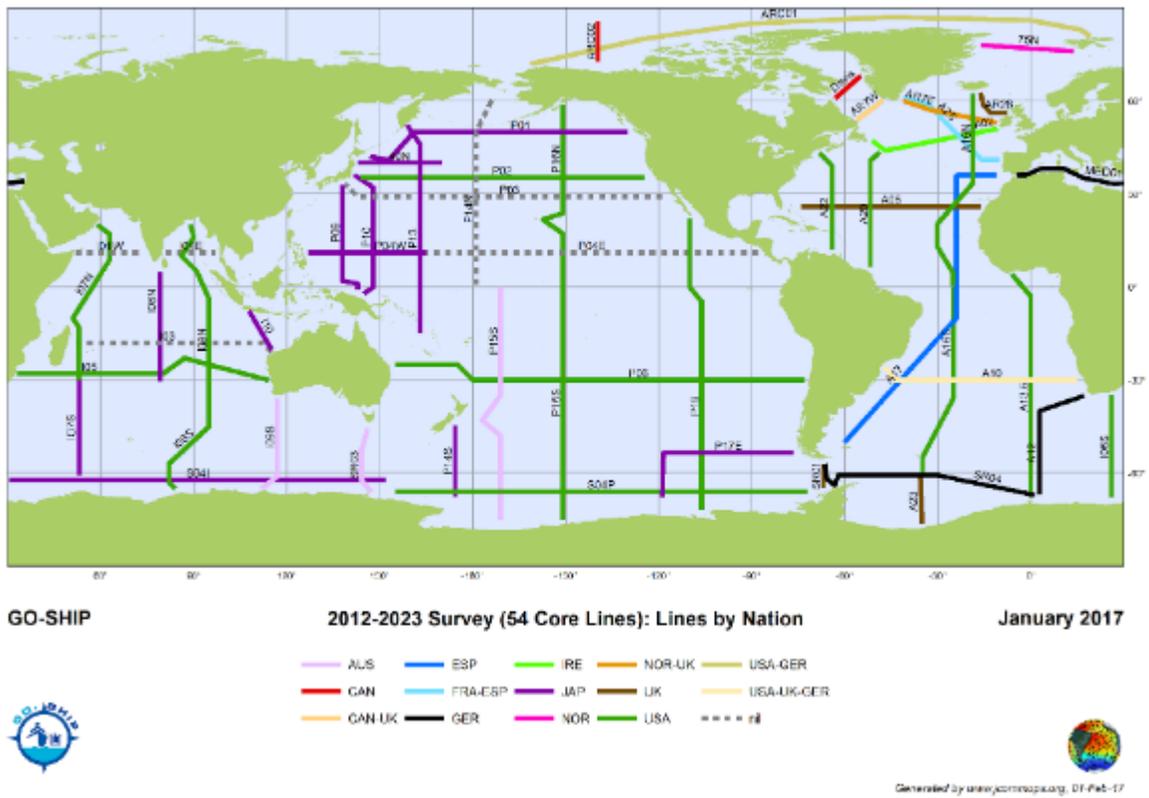


Figure 25.4 2012-2-23 Survey (54 Core Lines): Lines by Nation

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126 **Chapter 2**

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