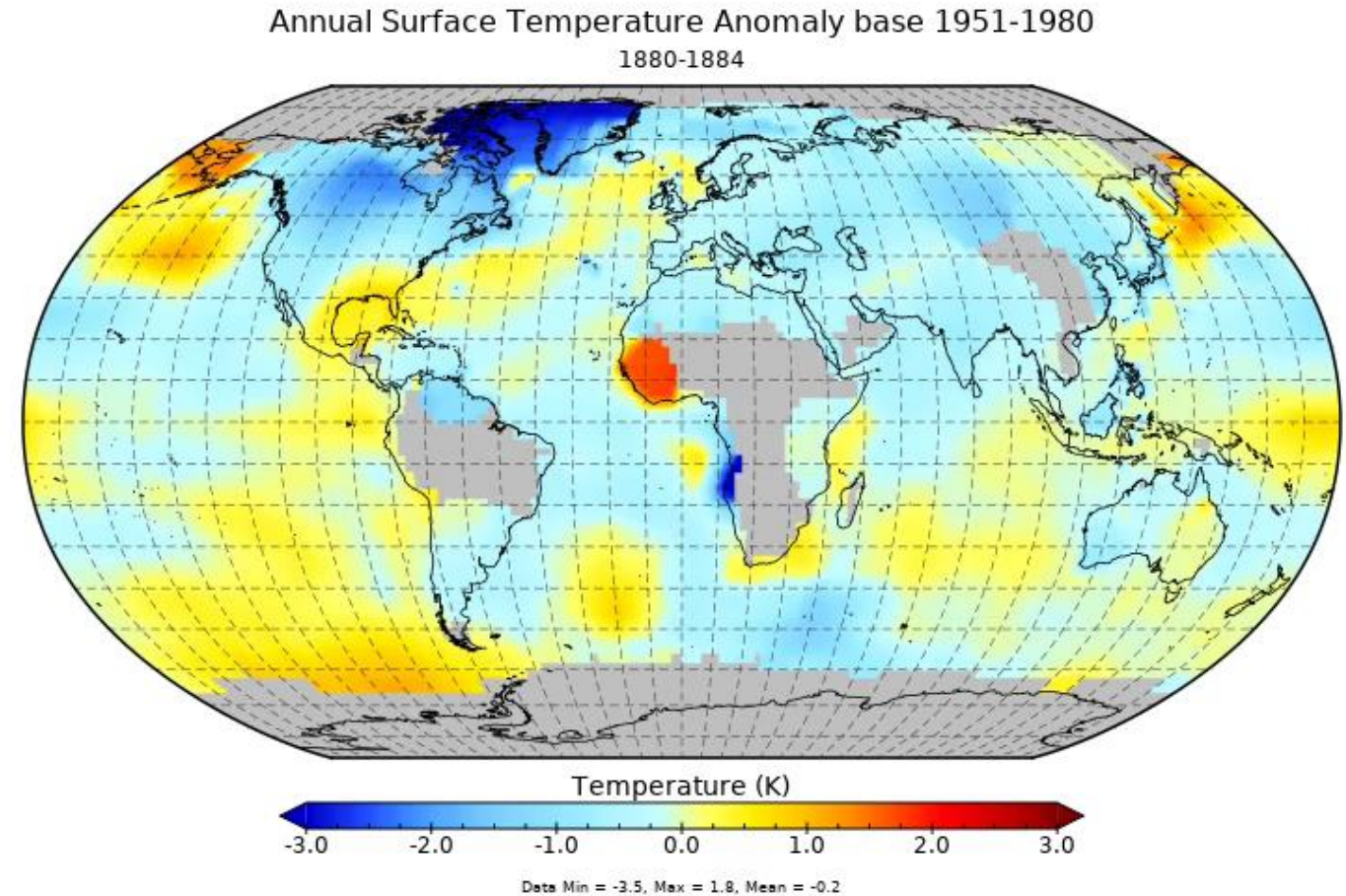


# The International SST FRM Radiometer Network

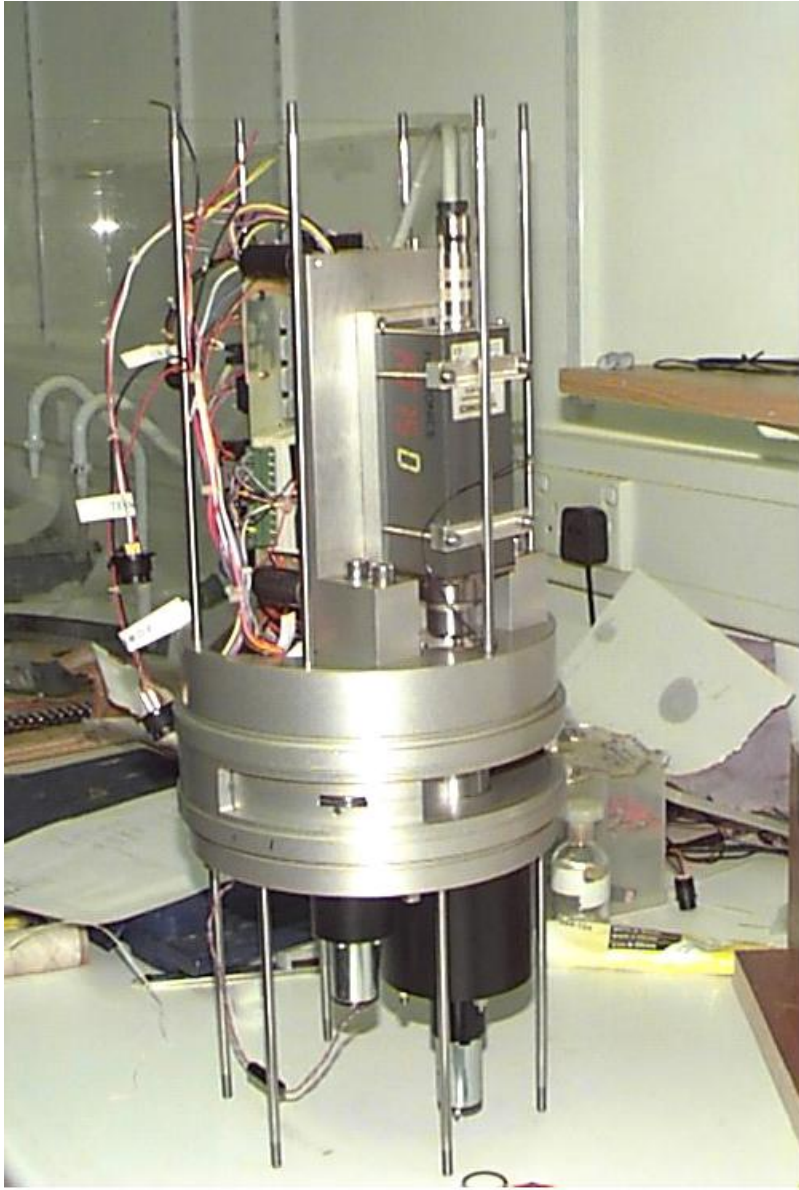
**Craig Donlon**  
ESA/ESTEC, Noordwijk, The Netherlands

ISFRN Workshop, National Oceanography Centre Southampton, UK,  
27-28 February 2019.

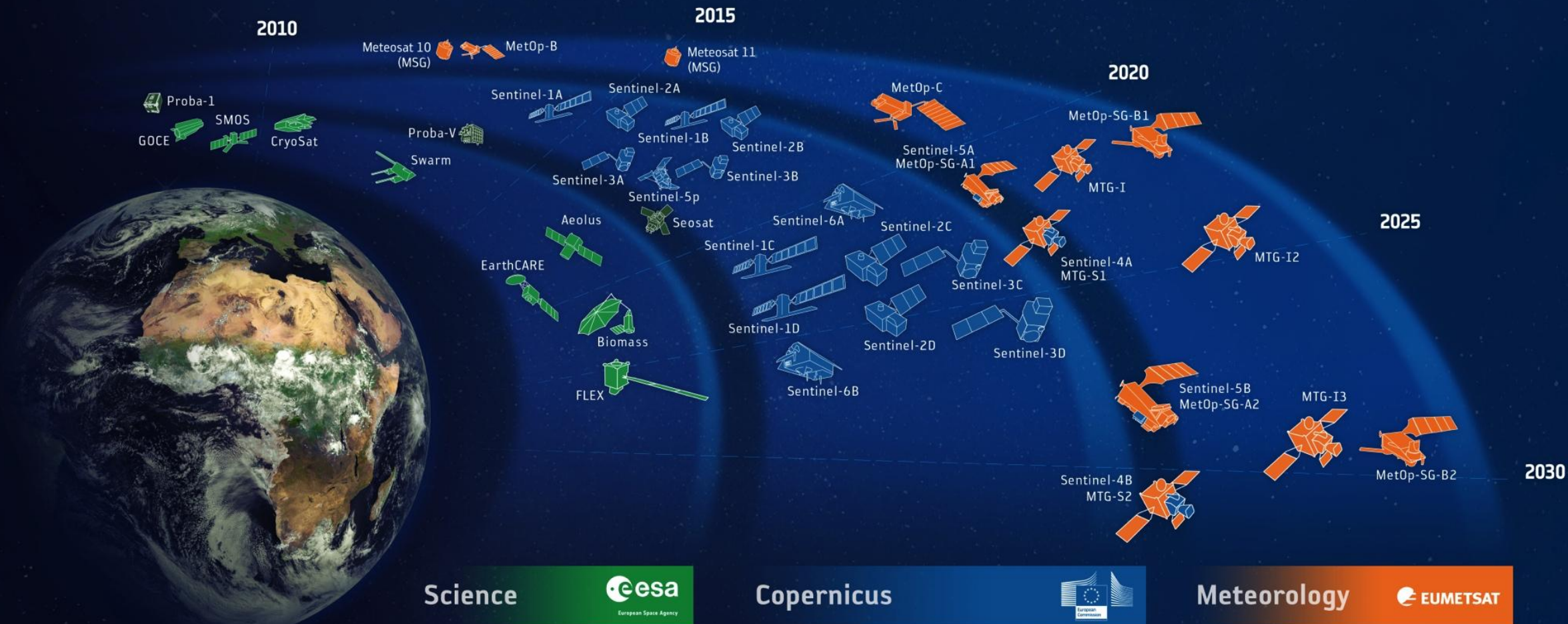
- Why we need it
- Standards and uncertainty
- Developing capability
- Developing the network
- To the future
- Conclusions



GISS Surface Temperature Analysis (GISTEMP) estimate of global surface temperature change ([Hansen et al. 2010](#)).



# ESA-DEVELOPED EARTH OBSERVATION MISSIONS



# Copernicus

- The European Copernicus system, including the Copernicus Space Component (CSC), has been established as **the largest and most proficient EO system in the world**.
- The current Sentinels provide **~10 Tb/day** of world-class data to over **180,000 registered users** – fuelling Copernicus.
- **Service application dependencies** are now in place and there are **great expectations for the future** Copernicus system.
- **User needs and requirements have also evolved** in the new Copernicus paradigm



# Copernicus Sentinel Satellite Status



**S-1**



Radar

**A** 3 Apr. 2014

**B** 25 Apr. 2016

**C**  
2022/23

**D**  
> 2022/23

**S-2**



High Res.  
Optical

**A** 23 Jun. 2015

**B** 6 Mar. 2017

**C**  
2022/23

**D**  
> 2022/23

**S-3**



Medium Res.  
Optical &  
Altimetry

**A** 16 Feb. 2016

**B** 25 Apr. 2018

**C**  
2023

**D**  
> 2023

**S-4**



Atmospheric  
Chemistry  
(GEO)

**A**  
2021

**B**  
2027

**S-5P**



Atmospheric  
Chemistry  
(LEO)

**A** 13 Oct. 2017

**S-5**



Atmospheric  
Chemistry  
(LEO)

**A**  
2021

**B**  
2027

**C**  
> 2027

**S-6**

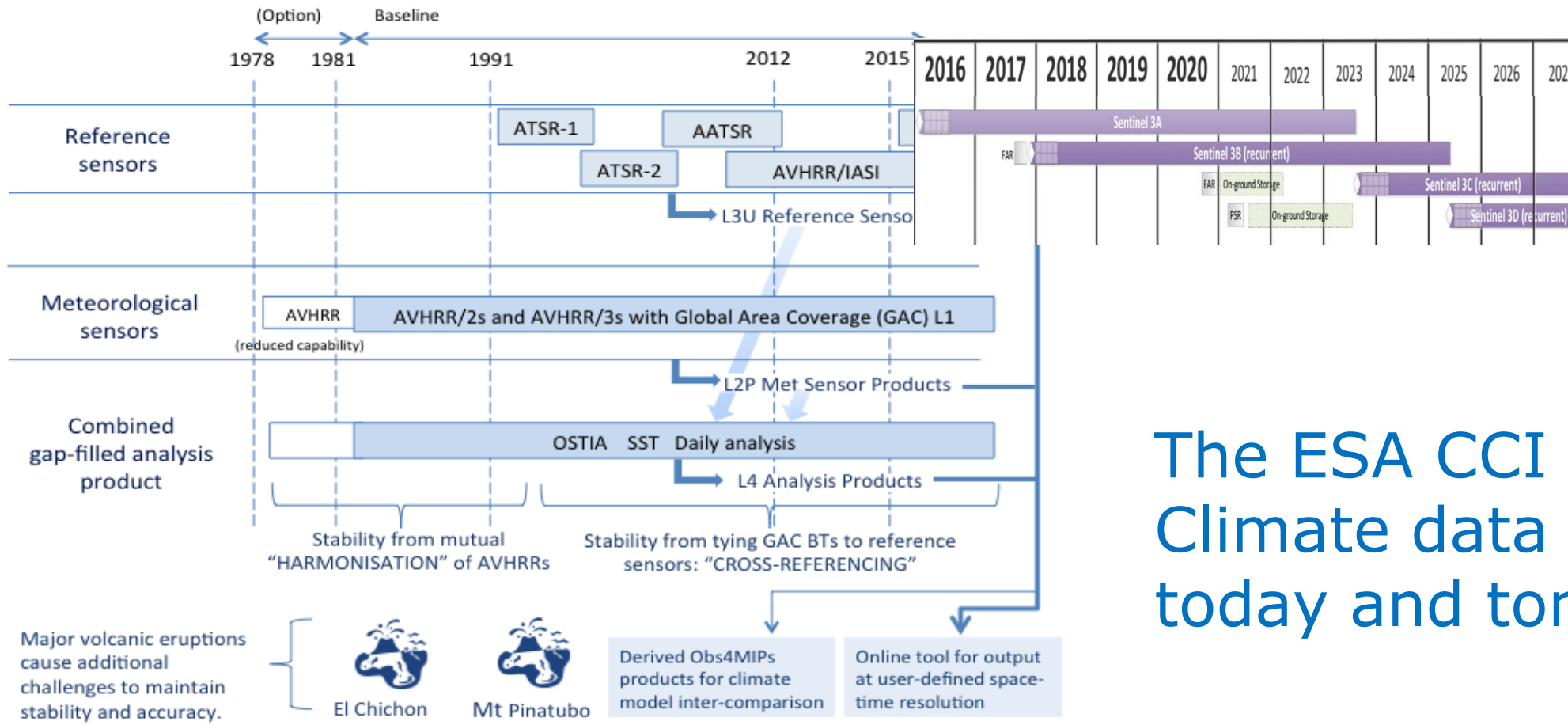


Altimetry

**A**  
2020

**B**  
2025

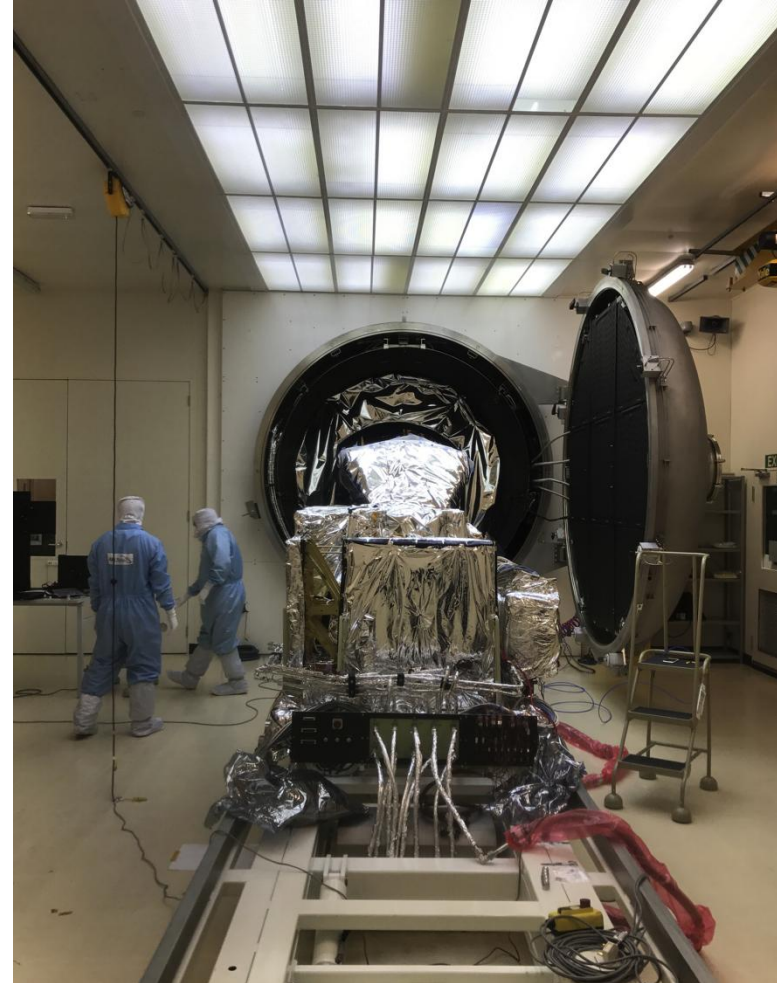
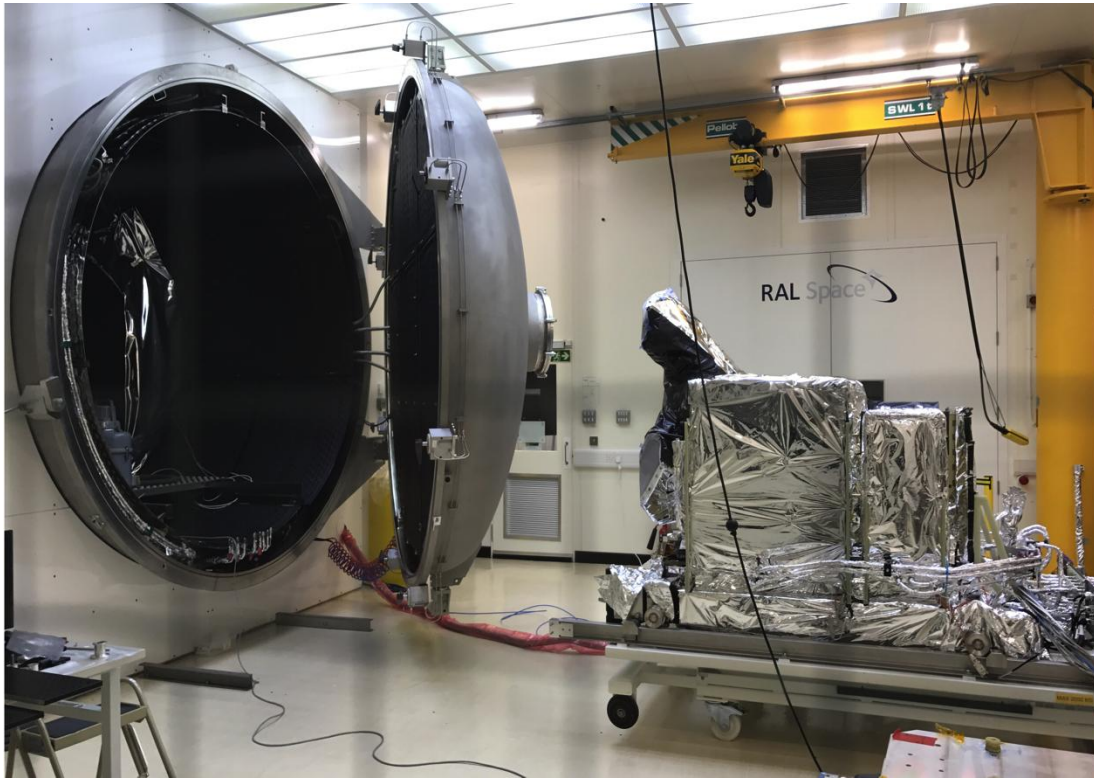




# The ESA CCI SS Climate data record today and tomorrow.



# Fiducial Reference Measurements



**SLSTR Pre-flight Calibration,  
STFC-RAL, UK, December 2016**

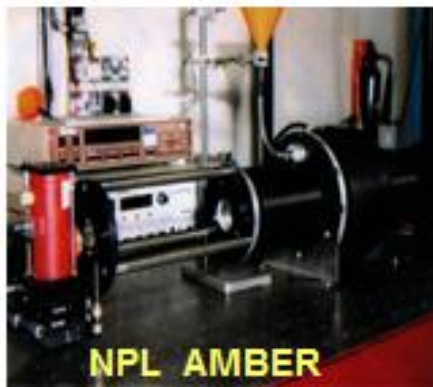


# SI traceability: LCE (June 2016)

Necessary for all participants to assess biases to SI under Laboratory conditions



fiducial reference temperature measurements

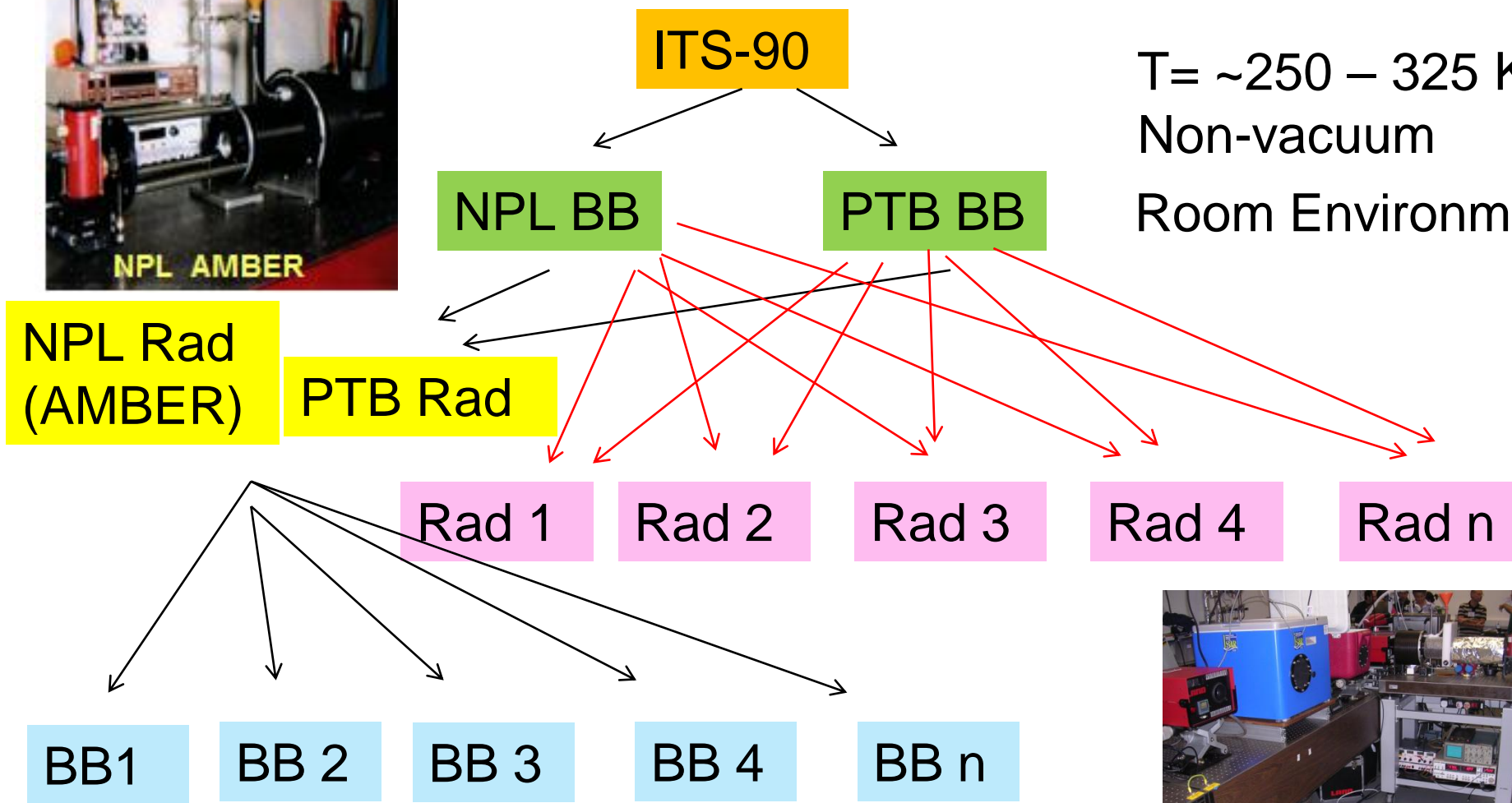


NPL AMBER

$T = \sim 250 - 325 \text{ K}$

Non-vacuum

Room Environment with variable T



# The traceability chain is broken



We have to rely on validation and verification using ground based measurements to monitor in flight performance.

Thus we require excellent knowledge of our ground based measurement uncertainty

For SST this is the ISFRM

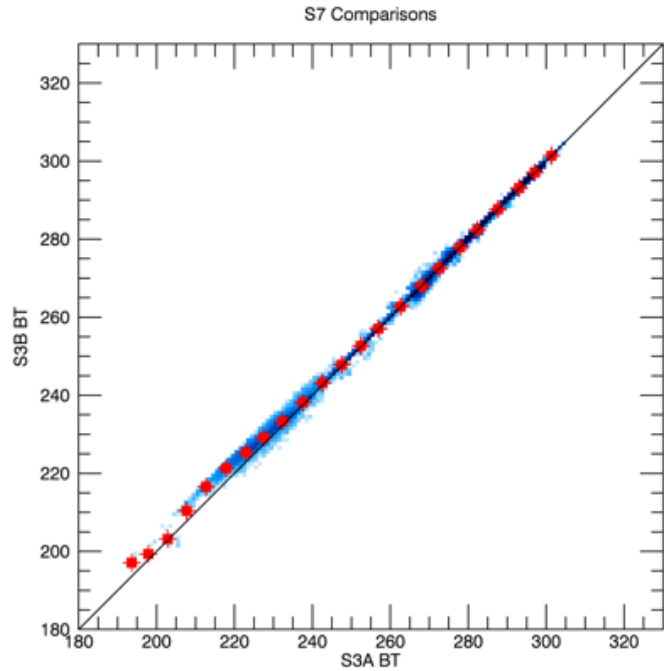
(E. Wooliams)



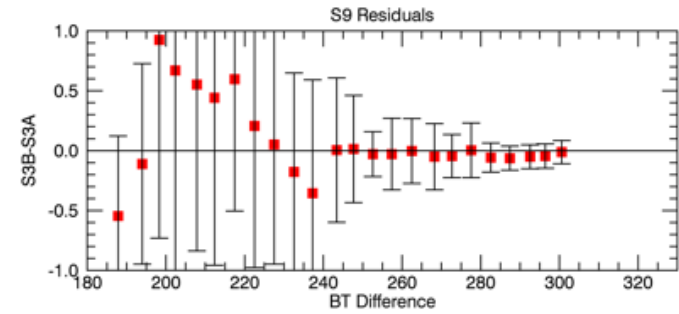
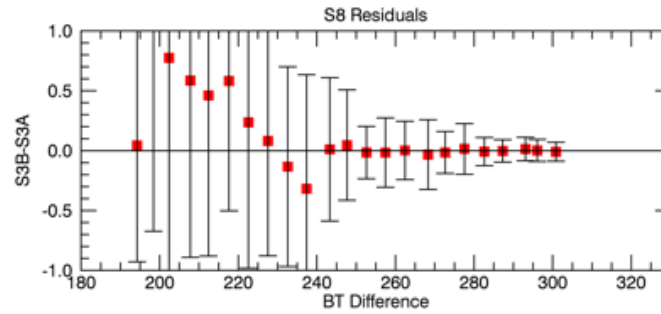
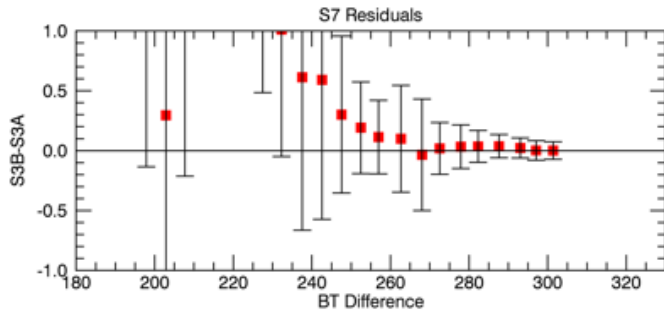
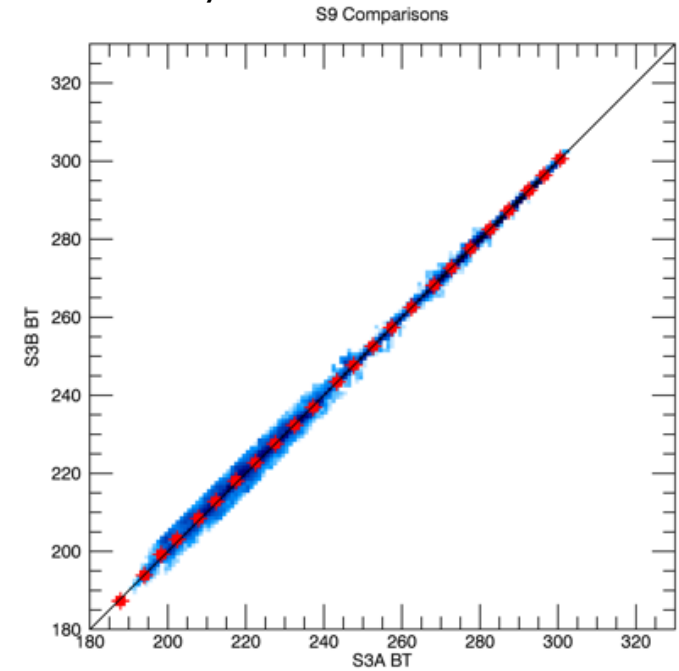
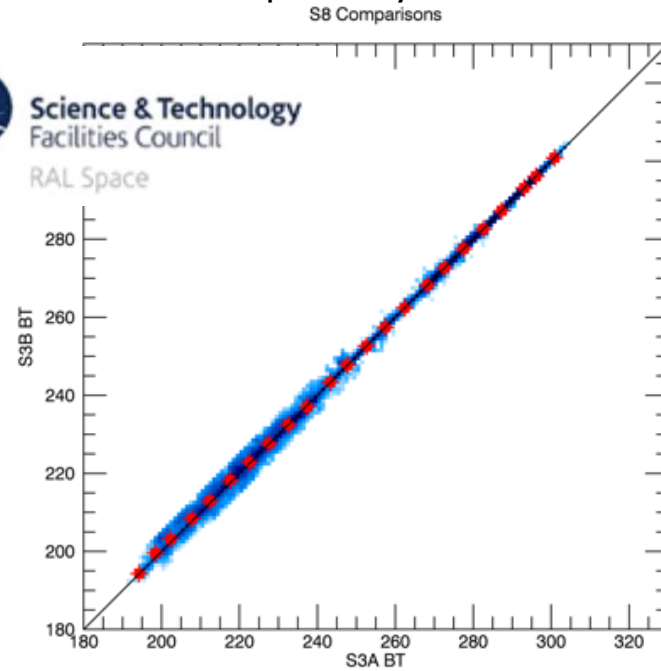
# S3B-S3A Tandem Comparisons – Nadir View



Low temperature differences possibly due to residual non-linearity



Science & Technology  
Facilities Council  
RAL Space



# Fiducial Reference

**Fiducial Reference Measurements** are the suite of independent ground-based measurements that provide the required confidence in data products, in the form of independent validation, over the duration of the mission.

The defining mandatory characteristics of FRM are:

- Have **documented** procedures that are operational-like conditions

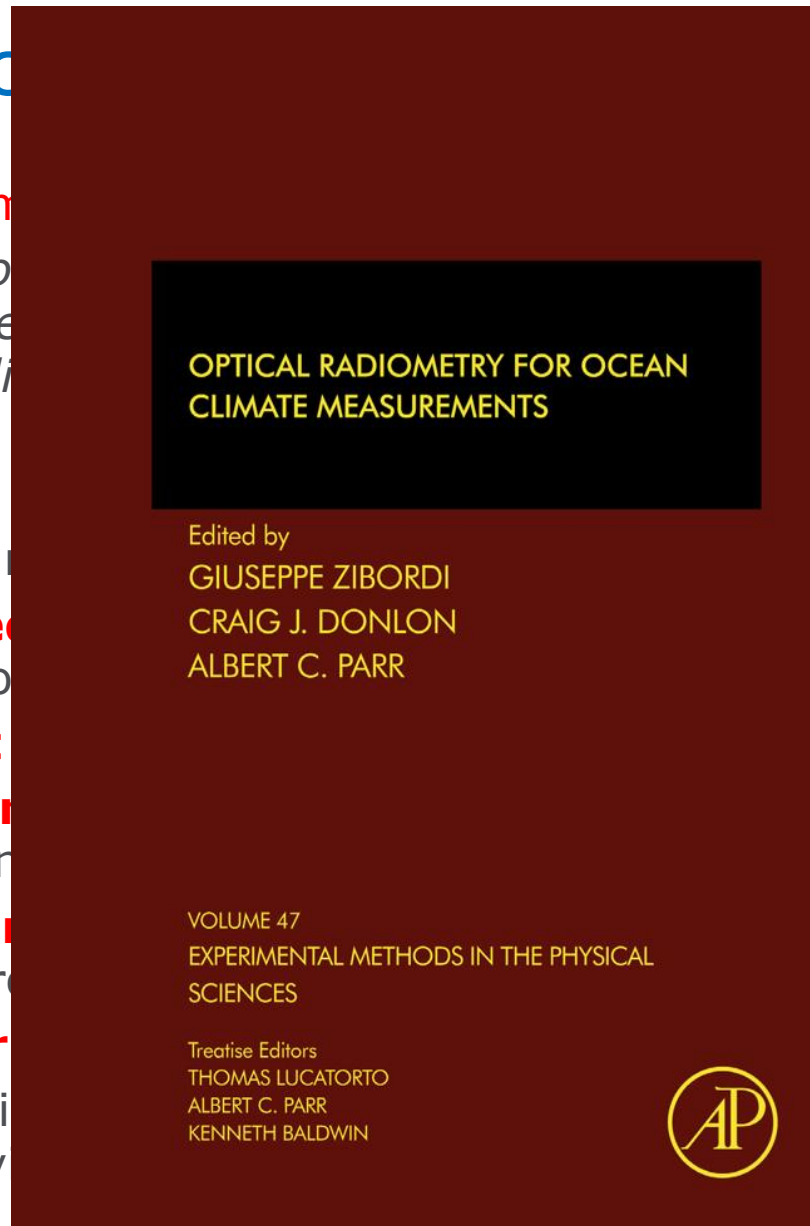
- Are **independent** of the instruments they are intended to validate

- Include an uncertainty budget** that is available and maintained throughout the mission

- Are **collected using** the same instruments (measurement, processing, and calibration)

FRM are as close **to the "Truth"** as possible

FRM are required to determine the accuracy of independent validation activities



the maximum Scientific Utility and Return on Investment, and the required confidence in data products, in the form of independent validation, over the duration of the mission.

inter-comparison of instruments under

cess.

ments and derived measurements is available to SI ideally directly through an NMI. Community-wide management practices are defined and adhered to.

an get!

Characteristics of satellite measurements via

# Strategies for the Laboratory and Field Deployment of Ship-Borne Fiducial Reference Thermal Infrared Radiometers in Support of Satellite-Derived Sea Surface Temperature Climate Data Records

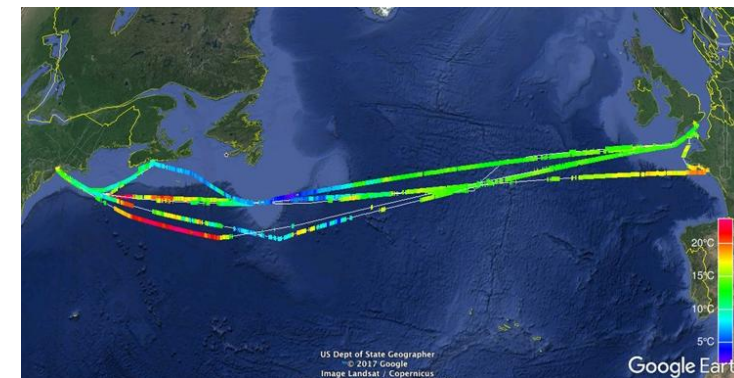
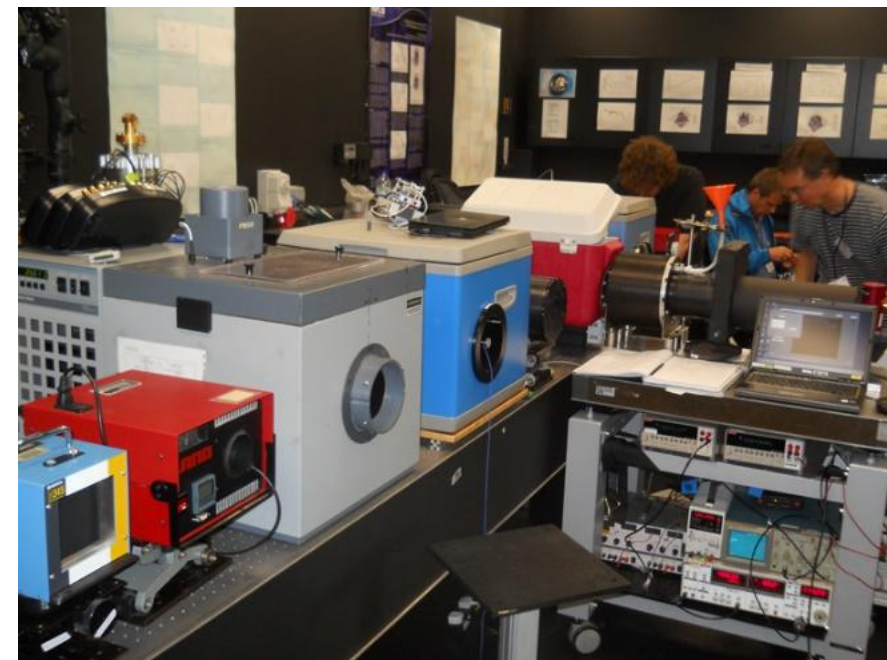
Craig J. Donlon,<sup>1,\*</sup> Peter J. Minnett,<sup>2</sup> Nigel Fox,<sup>3</sup> Werenfrid Wimmer<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> European Space Agency/ESTEC, Noordwijk, The Netherlands; <sup>2</sup> Meteorology & Physical Oceanography, Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science, University of Miami, Miami, FL, USA; <sup>3</sup> National Physical Laboratory (NPL), Teddington, Middlesex, UK; <sup>4</sup> Ocean and Earth Science, University of Southampton, European Way, Southampton, UK

\*Corresponding author: E-mail: [craig.donlon@esa.int](mailto:craig.donlon@esa.int)



1. Miami University (USA)
2. ONERA (France)
3. University of Valencia (Spain)
4. University of Southampton (UK)
5. Qing Dao (China) -1
6. Qing Dao (China) -2
7. RAL (UK)
8. CSIRO (Australia)
9. KIT (Germany)
10. DMI (Denmark)
11. GOTA (Canary Islands)
12. JPL NASA (USA)
13. Ian Barton (Australia)



# ISAR uncertainty model (Dr. W. Wimmer)

## ■ ISAR uncertainty

- Uncertainty value for each SST measurement
- Analysis of the uncertainties of the individual instrument components
- Propagation of uncertainties through the SST processor to the final value.

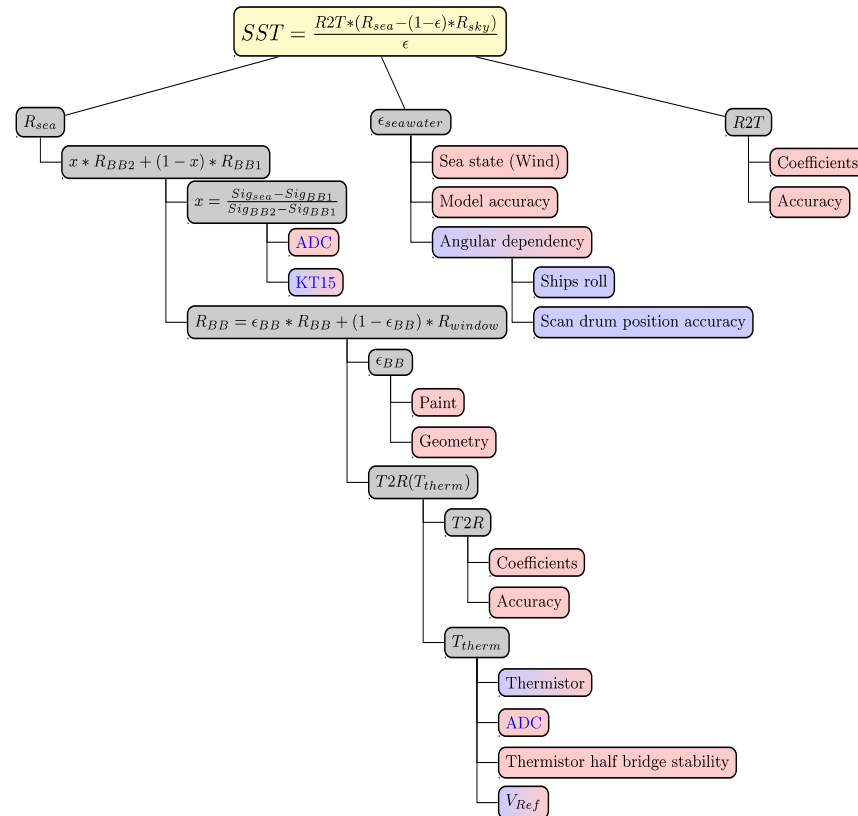
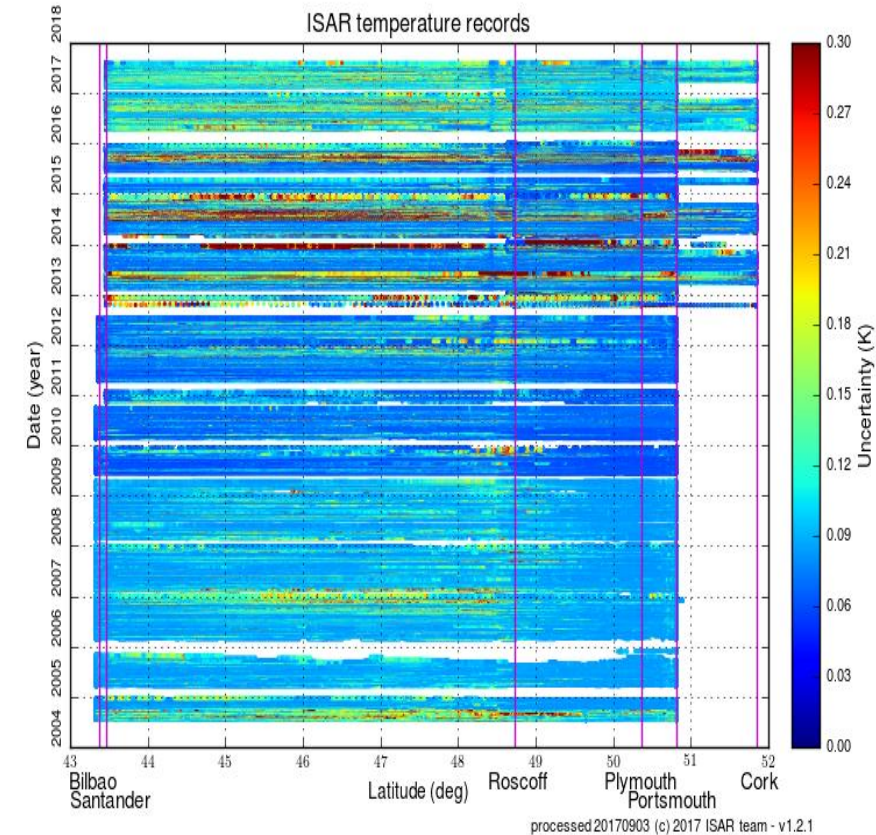
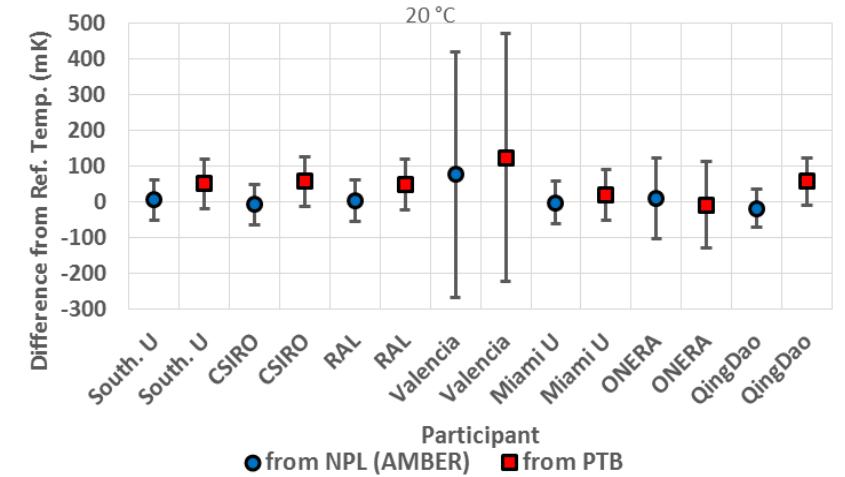


FIGURE 1.1: Flow chart of the ISAR SST processor.  $R_{sky}$  follows the same path as  $R_{sea}$ . Boxes coloured in blue show Type A uncertainties, boxes coloured in red show Type B uncertainties and boxes in red and blue show that the particular box has both Type A and Type B uncertainties.



# FRM Metrology embedded in the ISFRM community



**mean difference from mean (°C)**

Radiometer	All radiometers	SST-Measuring	SST-Measuring
	Included	Radiometers Only	Radiometers excl. CSIRO
	°C	°C	°C
RAL	0.123	0.084	0.037
KIT	-0.159		
CSIRO	-0.189	-0.228	
DMI	-0.020	-0.053	-0.106
UoV	0.117		
UoS	0.125	0.090	0.044
OUCFIRST	0.033	-0.002	-0.054
OUC-ISAR	0.206	0.174	0.119
GOTA	0.593		
JPL	-0.109		





# The current ISFRN <http://www.shipborne-radiometer.org/>



**SHIPBORNE RADIOMETER FOR SEA SURFACE TEMPERATURE**

Welcome to the Shipborne Radiometer Network!

The International Sea Surface Temperature (SST) Fiducial Reference Measurement (FRM) Radiometer Network (ISFRN) sets out to develop and promote an international network of ocean and remote sensing scientists who share a particular interest in promoting and improving the use of shipborne infrared radiometers for measuring skin SST at the surface of the ocean, comparable to measurements made by satellite infrared radiometers. This includes operators, designers and builders of such instruments as well as the user of the data.

The scope of the ISFRN activity can cover all aspects of the science and technology of shipborne radiometers used to measure SST. This includes

- exchange of operating advice and information that promote best practice for radiometer deployments,
- establishing protocols for shipborne radiometry including the validation of observations traceable to NMI reference standards,
- agreeing formats for skin SST data retrieved from ship radiometers,
- setting procedures for quality control in order to meet agreed standards of accuracy, and
- provide a single access point of the data collected around the world.

Follow us on Twitter @ships4sst

TAKE A LOOK AT OUR INSTRUMENTS

SERVICES CONTACT

Sign up to the Shipborne-radiometer network

JOIN

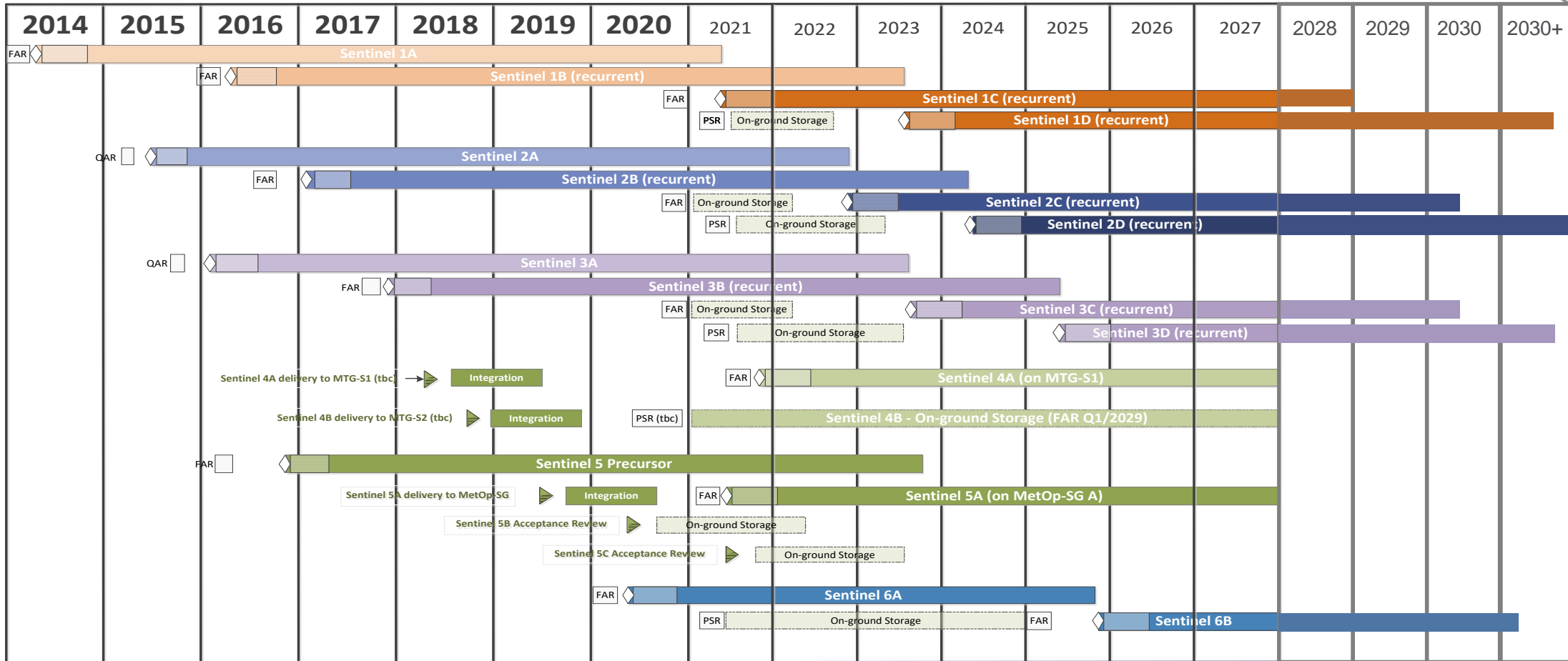
NERC  
SCIENCE OF THE ENVIRONMENT

This website is hosted by the National Oceanography Centre (NOC) on behalf of The International Shipborne Radiometer Network.  
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- **International partnership** (UK, USA, DK, AUS, CN, KO)
- **A common data format** used by most if not all radiometer operators
- **A central archive**, again used by all - a truly international archive
- **Web presence** with protocols, data format access to archive
- **Software tools**
- **Validation analysis**
- **A real credit to the people involved!**



# CSC Segment-4 (2020-2029)



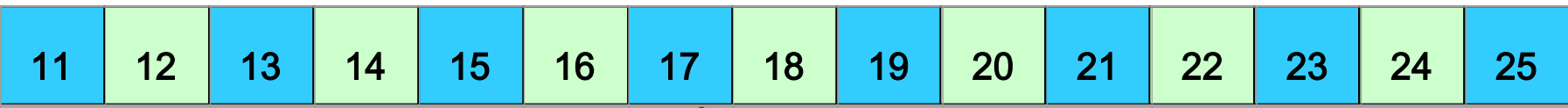
**Copernicus Extension:  
Copernicus-NG**

**Legend:** □ Qualification Acceptance Review (QAR) □ Flight Acceptance Review (FAR) or PreStorage Review (PSR) □ On-ground Storage □ Tentative launch date □ In-orbit Commissioning **Status: 22 March 2016**

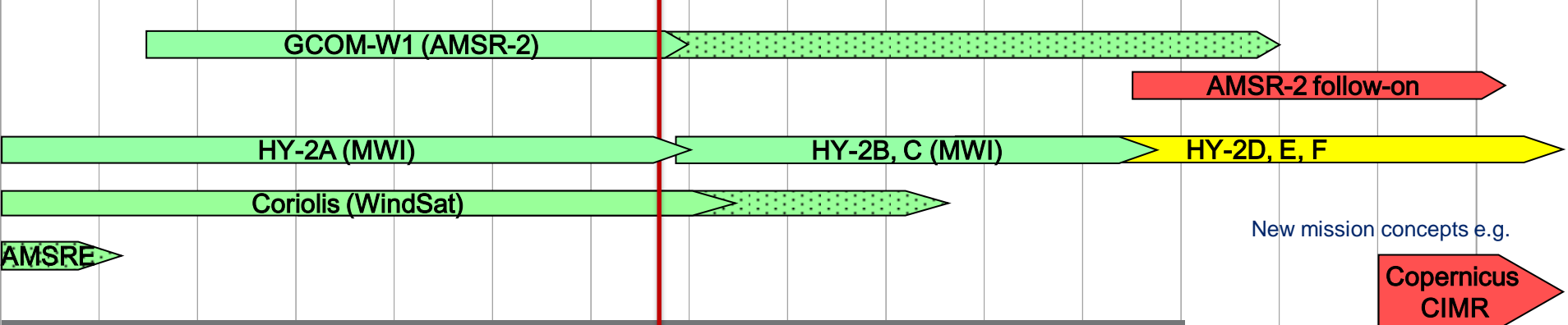
**Copernicus Expansion:  
High Priority Candidate Missions**



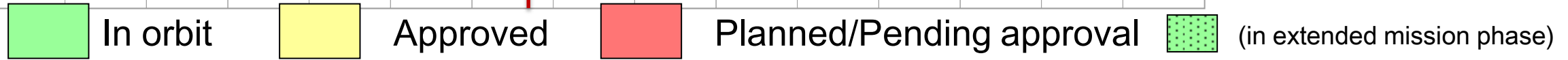
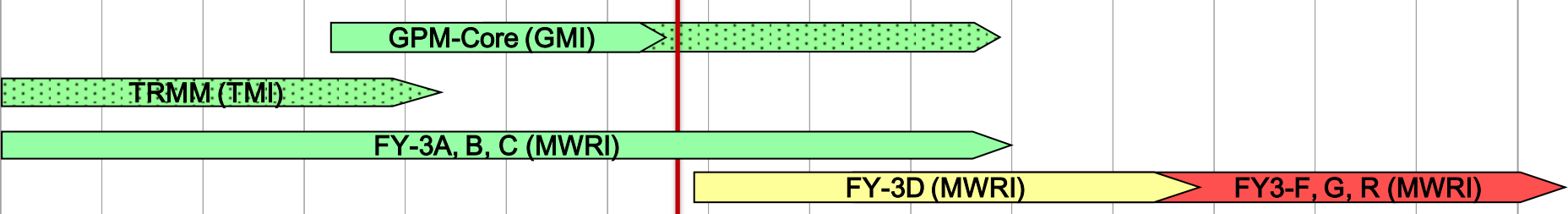
# Polar Orbiting Microwave Radiometers



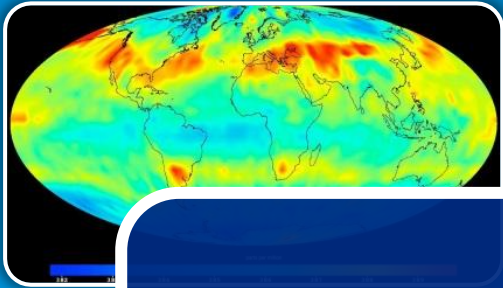
~7 GHz channel(s) available enabling global retrievals:



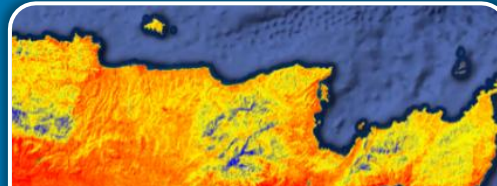
No ~7 GHz channel(s) so retrievals only available at low to mid latitudes:



## 6 High Priority Candidate Missions



Anthropogenic CO<sub>2</sub>  
Emissions Change  
Imaging



High Resolution Water  
Surface Temp

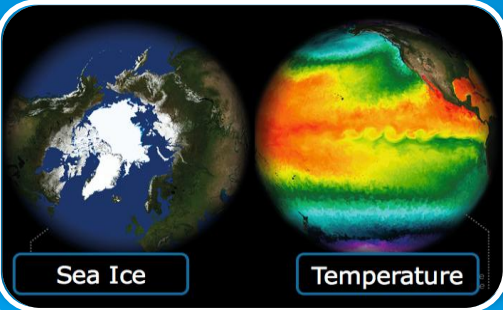
**Phase A/B1 HPCM Studies are ongoing**



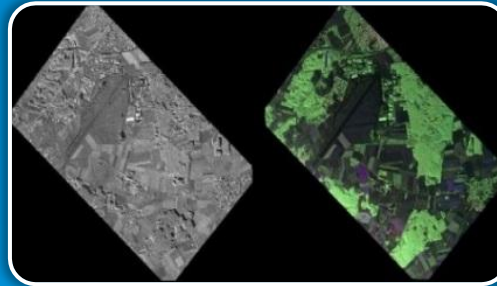
(volume)



Biodiversity



Sea Ice & SST  
Imaging Microwave  
Radiometer  
(Arctic situational  
awareness)



Soil Moisture,  
Vegetation &  
Ground Motion

# Copernicus Imaging Microwave Radiometer (CIMR)



## Mission Objective

Responds directly to the **Integrated EU Arctic Policy**

- Climate Change and Safeguarding the Arctic
- Environment Sustainable Development in and around the Arctic
- International Cooperation on Arctic Issues
- Operational Sea Ice Services and Global SST capability

## Characteristics

- **Conically scanning multi-frequency microwave radiometer**
- **Single satellite**, Observation Zenith angle  $55 \pm 1.5^\circ$
- **Coordinated flight with MetOp-SG(B)** <360s separation
- **~95% global coverage every day, mean 6 hourly-revisit in Arctic Areas**
- In Phase A/B1, Launch: 2025

Channels (GHz, Full Stokes):	<b>1.4</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>10.65</b>	<b>18.7</b>	<b>36.5</b>
Resolution (km):	<b>&lt;60</b>	<b>≤15</b>	<b>≤15</b>	<b>≤5</b>	<b>≤5 (g:4km)</b>
NEΔT (K @150K):	<b>≤0.3</b>	<b>≤0.2</b>	<b>≤0.3</b>	<b>≤0.4</b>	<b>≤0.8</b>

## L2 Products (Performance, P=Primary, S=Secondary)

**P1: Sea Ice Concentration (≤5 km, 5%)**

**P2: Sea Surface Temperature (5 km km, ~0.2 K)**

S: Sea Ice Drift (≤25 km, 3 cm/s)

S: Thin Sea Ice Thickness (~40 km, 10%)

S: Terrestrial Snow extent

S: Snow Water Equivalent

S: Sea Surface Salinity (~40 km)

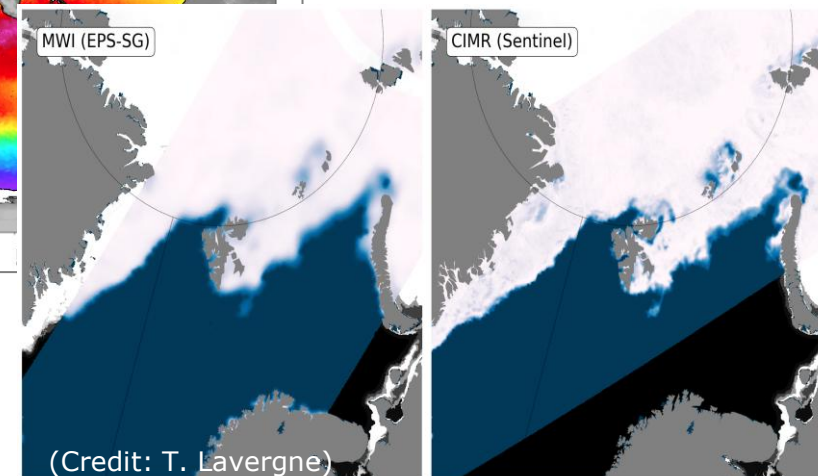
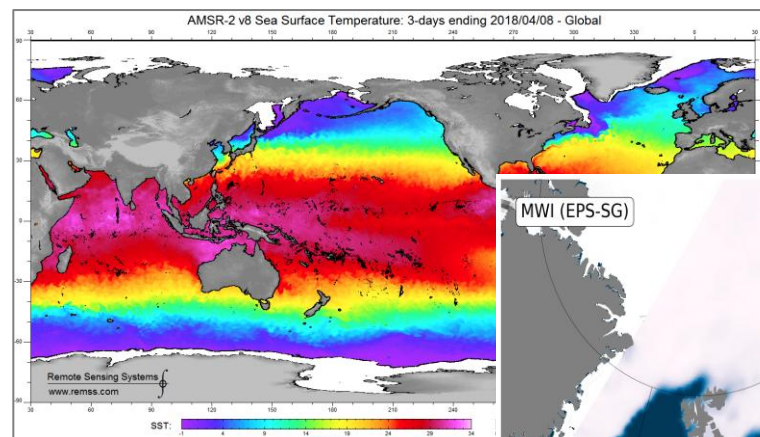
S: Ice Type (≤5 km)

S: Extreme Wind

Additional tertiary products (eg. global soil moisture, water vapour, precipitation rate...)

## Driving requirements:

- Low frequency L, C, X, Ku, Ka) Polarized channels
- Ka and C band essential
- High spatial resolution
- Radiometric performance (NEΔT 0.3K), proximity to radiometric boundaries
- Wide Swath (no hole at pole)
- RFI mitigation



# living planet symposium

MILAN  
13-17 May  
2019

UNDERSTANDING THE EARTH SYSTEM

SPACE 4.0 AND EARTH OBSERVATION

BENEFITS FOR A RESILIENT SOCIETY

PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTOR INTERACTIONS

## Deadlines

Session Proposals  
17 June 2018

Abstracts  
11 November 2018

Registration  
April 2019

[lps19.esa.int](http://lps19.esa.int)



# Copernicus

Europe's eyes on Earth

