

# SST Climatology Task Team Report

Helen Beggs<sup>1</sup>, Yuwei Hu<sup>2</sup>, Xuepeng Zhao<sup>3</sup>, Simon Good<sup>4</sup>, Mike Chin<sup>5</sup>,  
William Skirving<sup>6</sup> and the Climatology Task Team

<sup>1</sup>Bureau of Meteorology, Melbourne, Australia

<sup>2</sup>PEMS, UNSW, Canberra, Australia

<sup>3</sup>NCEI, Silver Spring, MD, USA

<sup>4</sup>Met Office, Exeter, UK

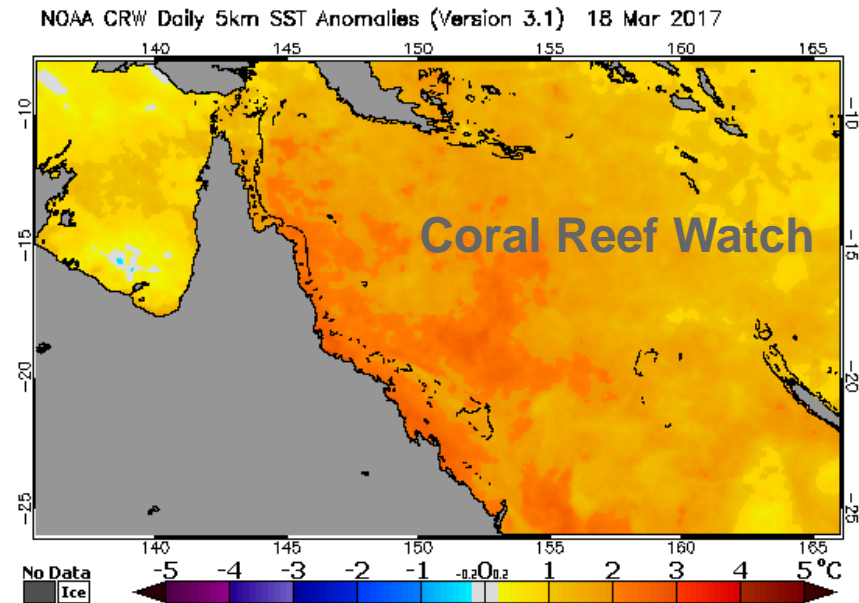
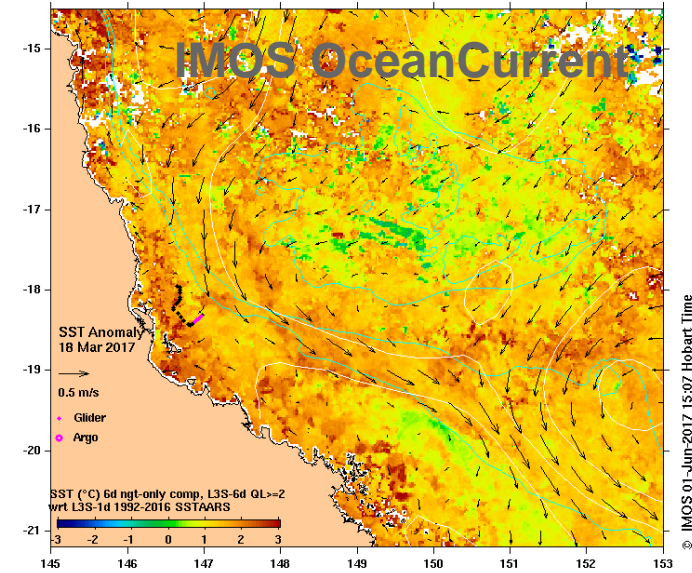
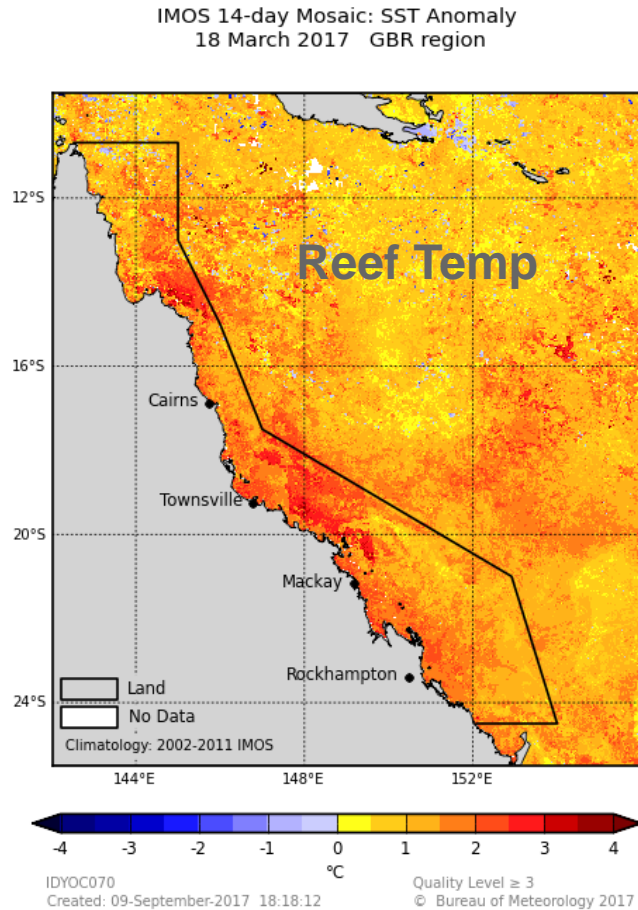
<sup>5</sup>NASA JPL PO.DAAC, Pasadena, USA

<sup>6</sup>NOAA Coral Reef Watch, Townsville, Australia

20<sup>th</sup> GHRSSST Science Team Meeting, Frascati, Italy, 3<sup>rd</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> June 2019

# Why SST climatologies are important

In order to provide SST anomalies, percentiles or coral bleaching nowcasting metrics one needs to have a realistic and appropriate SST climatology. Particularly important for the study of long-term trends in Marine Heat Waves.



# Climatology Task Team Members

- Helen Beggs (Bureau of Meteorology, Australia) – Coordinator
- Yuwei Hu (PhD student, UNSW Canberra)
- Jon Mittaz (Uni of Reading, UK)
- Simon Good (Met Office, UK)
- Sujuan Wang (CMA, China)
- Charlie Barron (NRLSSC, USA)
- Korak Saha (NOAA/NCEI, USA)
- Xuepeng Zhao (NOAA/NCEI, USA)
- Prasanjit Dash (NOAA/NESDIS/STAR, USA)
- Mark Eakin (NOAA CRW, USA)
- William Skirving (NOAA CRW, Australia)

# Climatology Task Team Tasks

Initially working on the following questions:

- How best to produce a climatology from L3 (composite) or L4 (gap-free analysis) SSTs?
- What are the most suitable high resolution SST data sets for a climatology (homogeneous, stable, accurate)?
- How best to compare different climatology data sets, including those produced from L3S and L4 data?

# Climatology Task Team Tasks

Initially working on the following questions:

- How best to produce a climatology from L3 (composite) or L4 (gap-free analysis) SSTs? (e.g. [Wijffels et al., 2018, J Mar Sci](#))
- What are the most suitable high resolution SST data sets for a climatology (homogeneous, stable, accurate)? ([Yuwei Hu, UNSW-Canberra – Poster Thur 5:30 pm](#))
- How best to compare different climatology data sets, including those produced from L3S and L4 data? ([Anyone???](#))

# New SST Climatology Data Sets

- ESA SST Climate Change Initiative (CCI) version 2.1 Daily  $0.05^{\circ}$  SST(0.2m) Climatology (1982 – 2010), derived from averaging daily SST\_CCI v2.1 L4, available for 1981 – 2016
  - To be released very soon!
  - <https://catalogue.ceda.ac.uk/uuid/aced40d7cb964f23a0fd3e85772f2d48>
- JPL MUR Daily  $0.01^{\circ}$  SSTfnd Climatology (2003 - 2014), derived from averaging MUR v4.1 L4
  - [https://podaac-tools.jpl.nasa.gov/measures-drive/files/mur\\_sst/tmchin/seasonal/](https://podaac-tools.jpl.nasa.gov/measures-drive/files/mur_sst/tmchin/seasonal/)
- NOAA/NCEI CoRTADv6  $0.04^{\circ}$  Daily SST climatology, anomalies and percentiles (1982 – 2017), derived from Pathfinder v5.3 AVHRR L3C
  - Available since Sep 2018. Data are updated each year.
  - <https://doi.org/10.25921/ffw7-cs39>
- CSIRO SSTAARS  $0.02^{\circ}$  Daily SST(0.2m) Australasian climatology (1992 – 2016), derived from night-only IMOS HRPT AVHRR L3S data
  - Available from <http://portal.aodn.org.au> - Search for "SSTAARS"
  - Wijffels et al. (2018) J. Mar. Sci., 187. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jmarsys.2018.07.005>

# Yuwei Hu's study of SST climatology datasets over Australian region

Climatology Datasets	Attributes				
	Spatial Resolution	Temporal Resolution	Reference Period	Data Source	Calculation Algorithm
CCI	0.05° (~5 km)	Daily, Monthly	1981-2016 (36 years)	Climate Change Initiative (CCI) SST version 2 analyses (daily SST0.2m)	Daily and Monthly averaging
AVHRR_OI	0.25° (~25 km)	Daily	1981-2016 (36 years)	NCEI AVHRR-only OISST v2 analyses (daily SST0.2m)	Daily averaging then bicubic interpolation to 0.05°
CRW	0.05° (~5 km)	Monthly	1985-2012 (28 years)	OSTIA Reanalysis (1985 - 2002) NOAA Geo-Polar Blended SST reanalysis (2002 – 2012) (daily night-time SST0.2m)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Linear interpolation</li> <li>Monthly averaging</li> <li>Bias adjustment</li> </ul>
SSTAARS	0.02° (~2 km)	Daily	1992-2016 (25 years)	Bias corrected version 1 and version 2 IMOS one-day composite night-time AVHRR SST0.2m L3S data (quality level ≥ 4)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Parametric model fitting</li> <li>Climatology reconstruction</li> </ul>
BRAN	0.1° (~10 km)	Daily	1994-2016 (23 years)	BRAN_2016 ocean reanalysis (daily SST2.5m)	Daily averaging then bicubic interpolation to 0.05°

# Mean relative bias plots

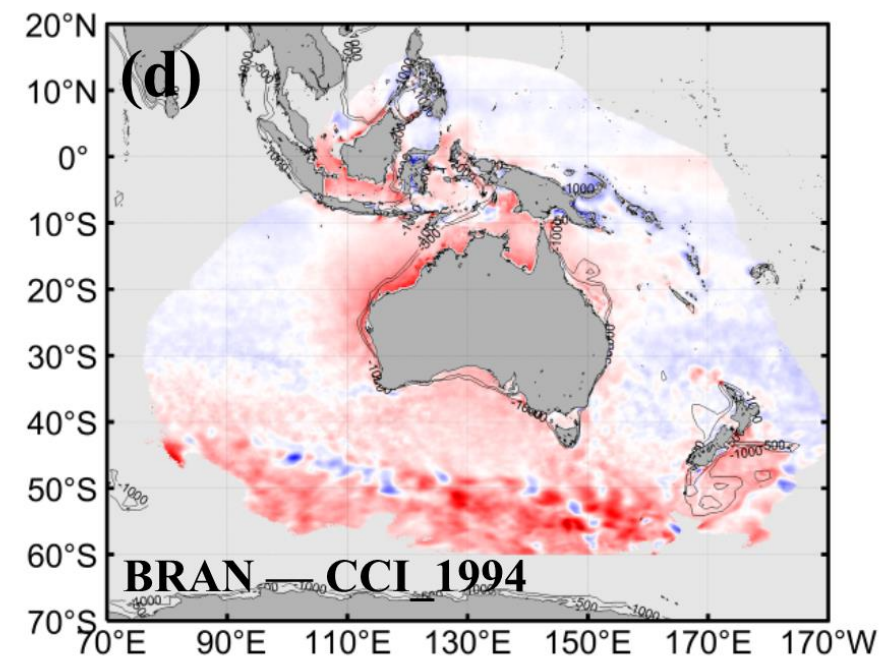
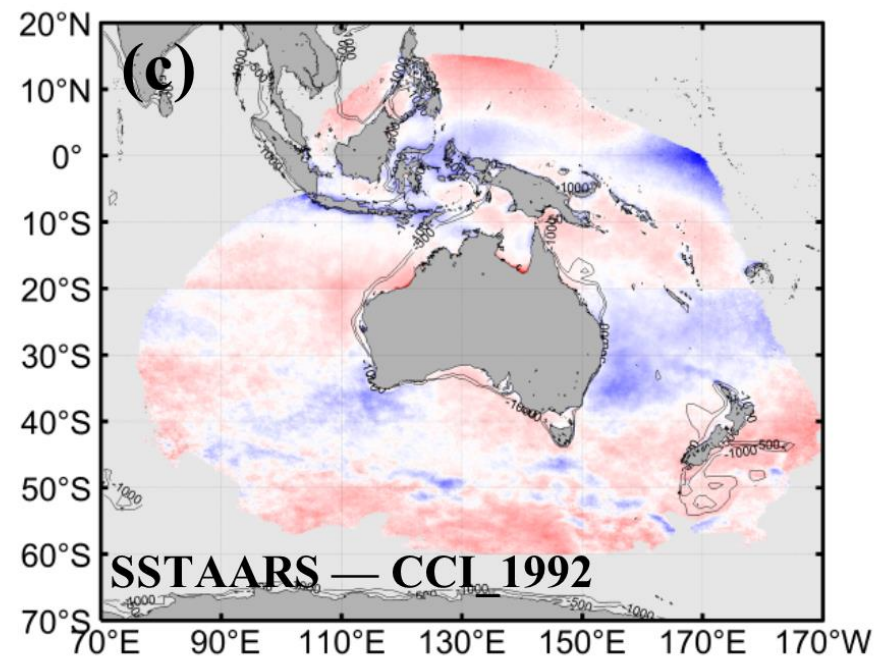
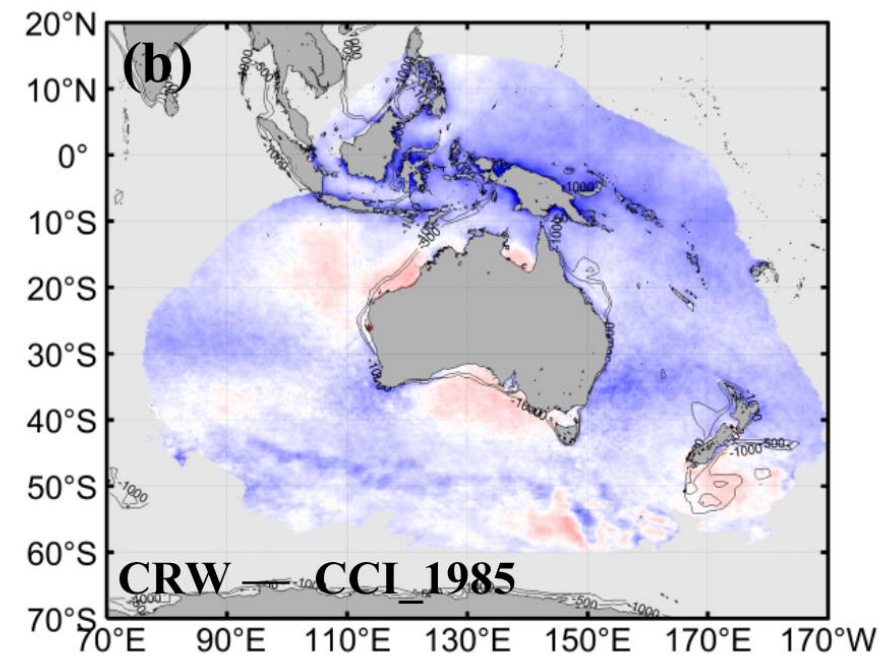
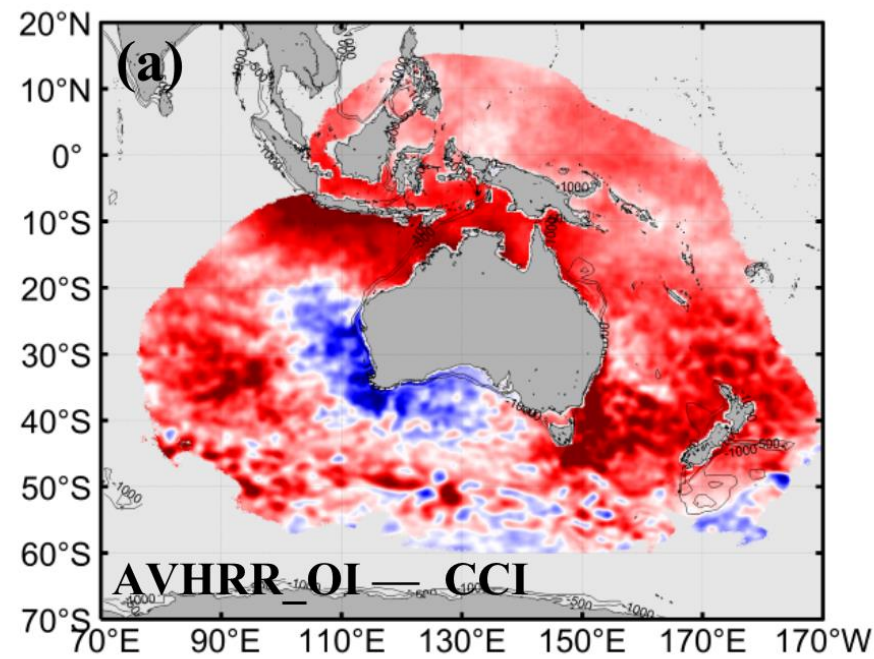
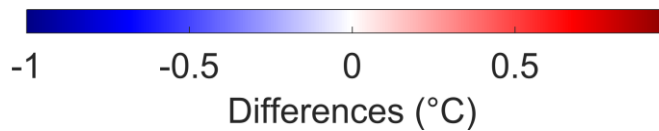


Figure. Spatial distribution of mean relative bias(°C) of group (a) AVHRR\_OI - CCI, (b) CRW - CCI\_1985, (c) SSTAARS - CCI\_1992 and (d) BRAN - CCI\_1994.





# Mean relative bias plots

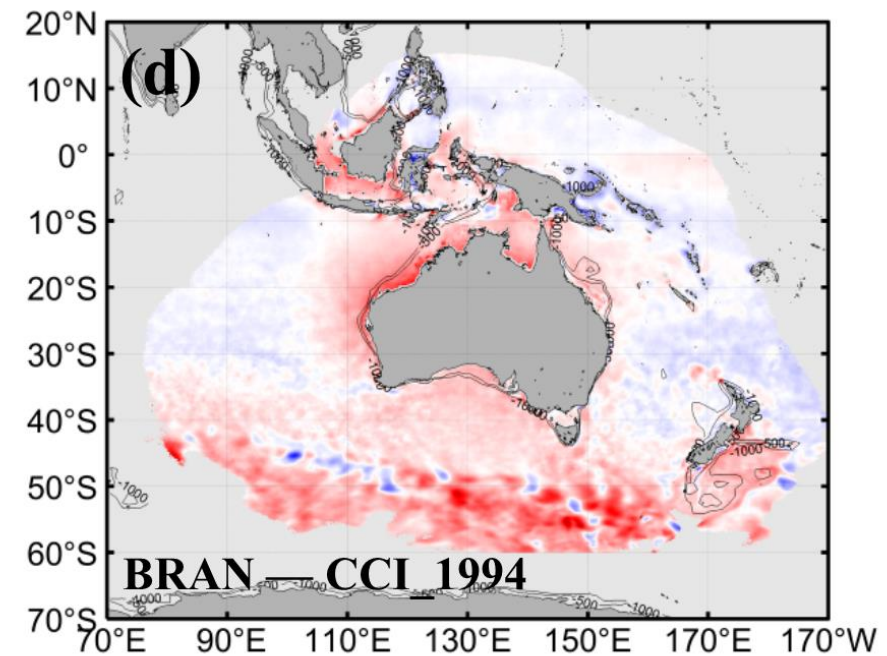
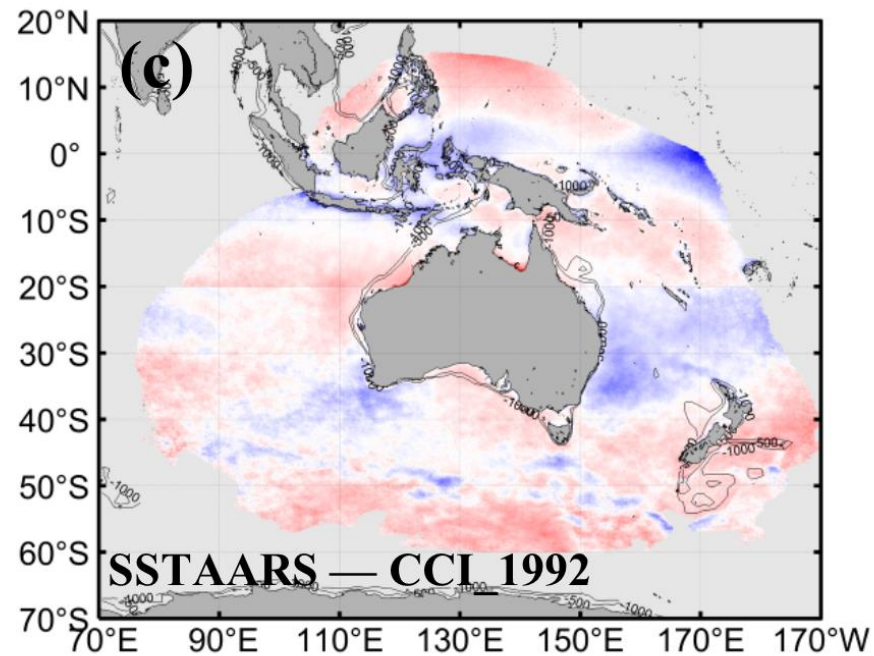
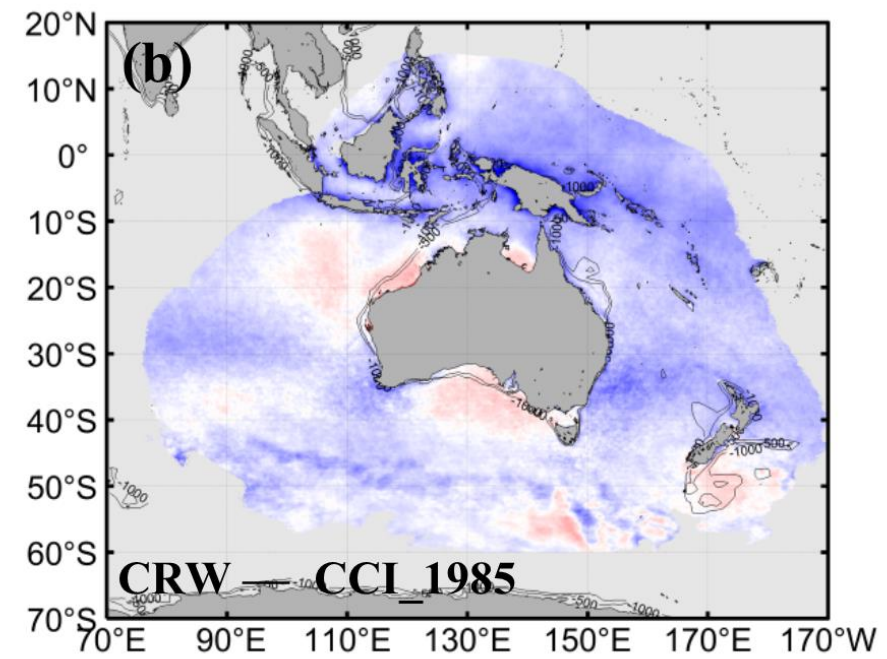
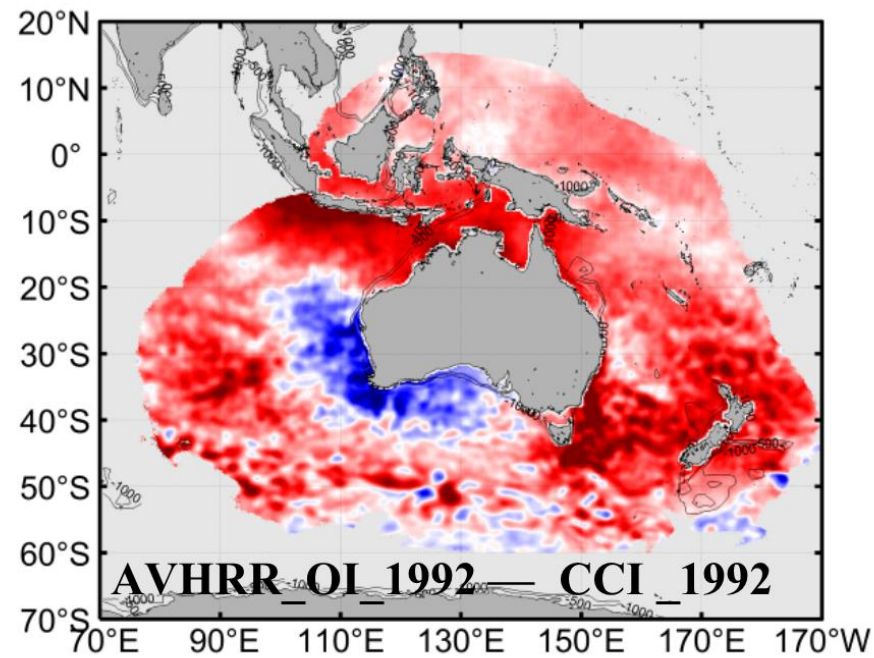
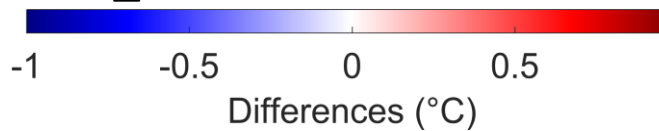


Figure. Spatial distribution of mean relative bias(°C) of group (a) AVHRR\_OI\_1992 – CCI\_1992, (b) CRW – CCI\_1985, (c) SSTAARS – CCI\_1992 and (d) BRAN – CCI\_1994.



# STD plots

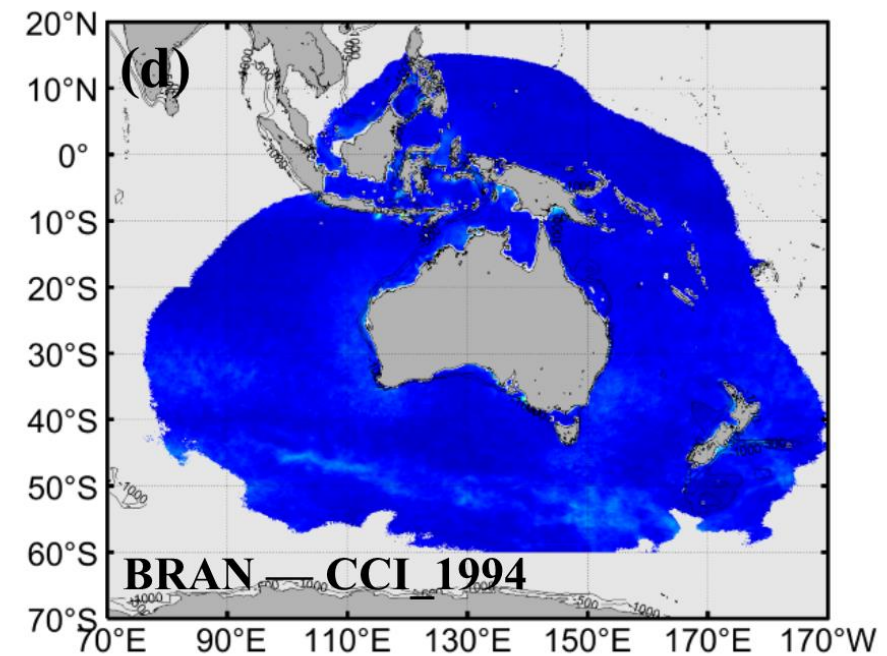
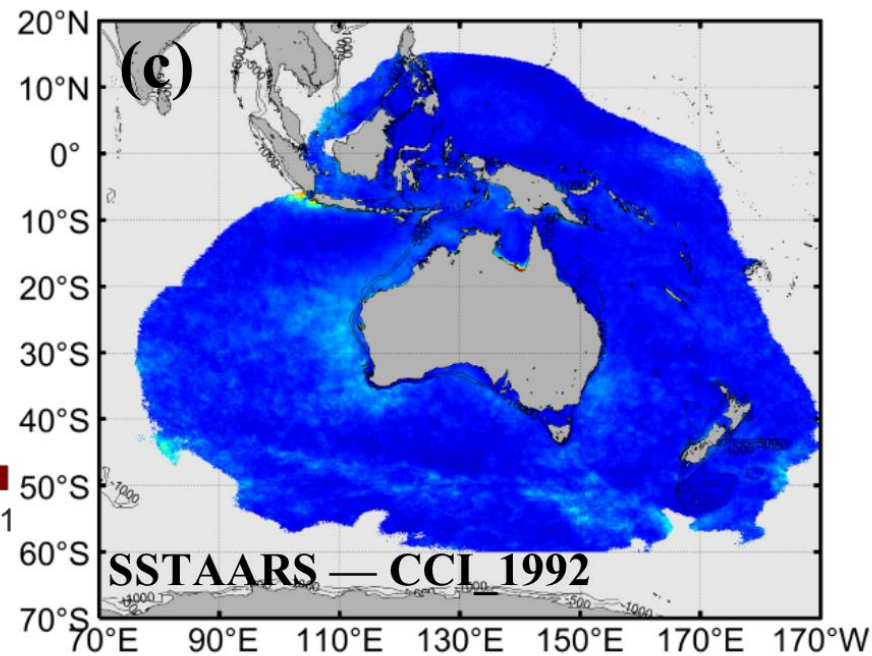
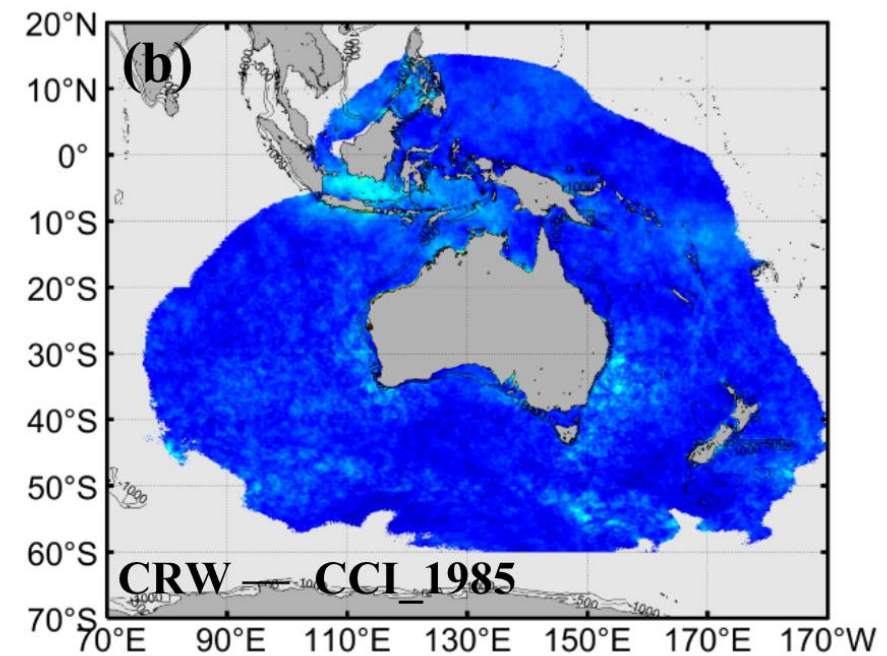
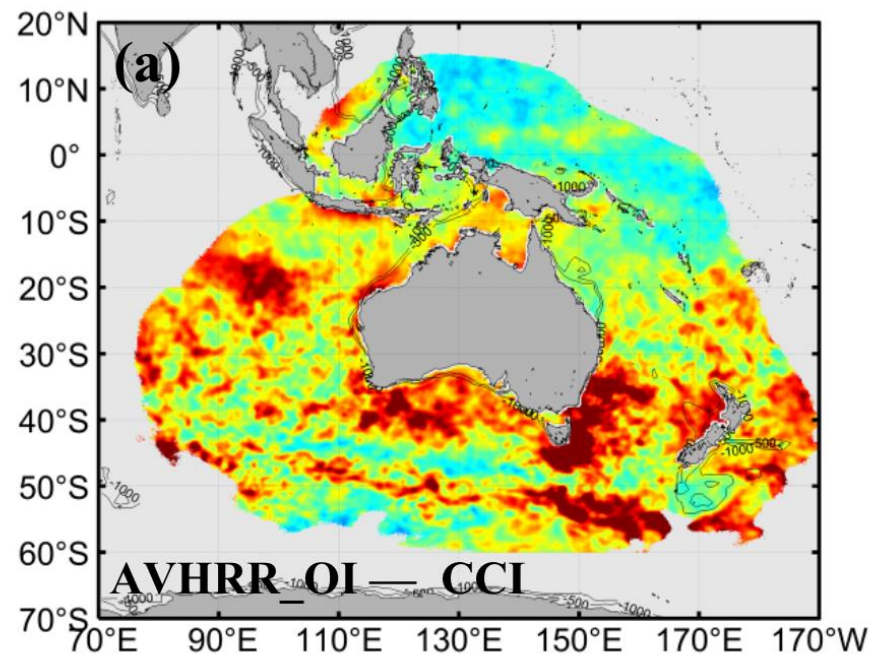


Figure. Spatial distribution of STD( $^{\circ}$ C) of group (a) AVHRR\_OI — CCI, (b) CRW — CCI\_1985, (c) SSTAARS — CCI\_1992 and (d) BRAN — CCI\_1994.



# Hovmöller plots

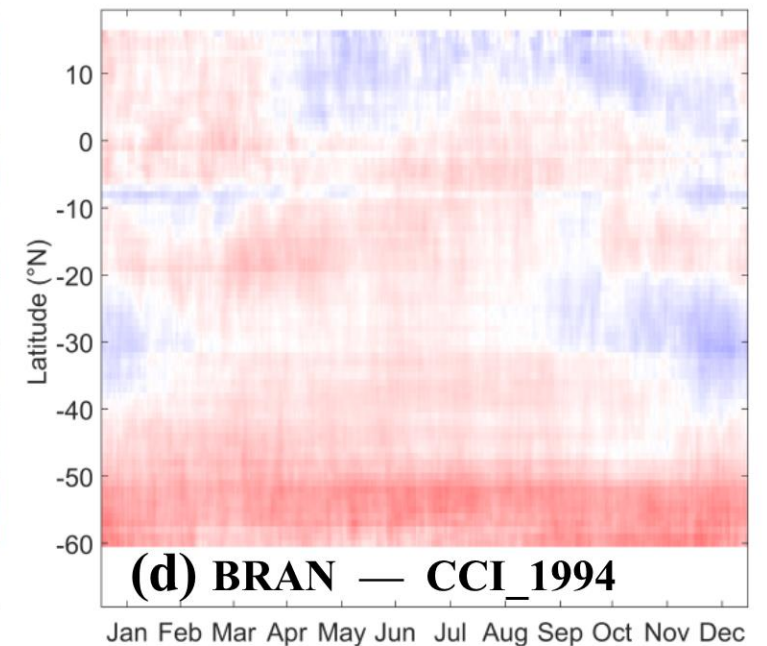
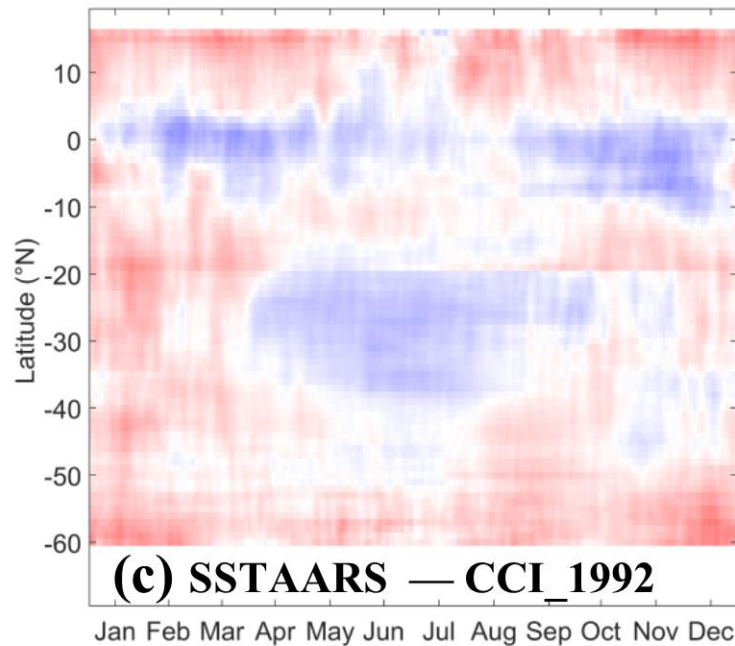
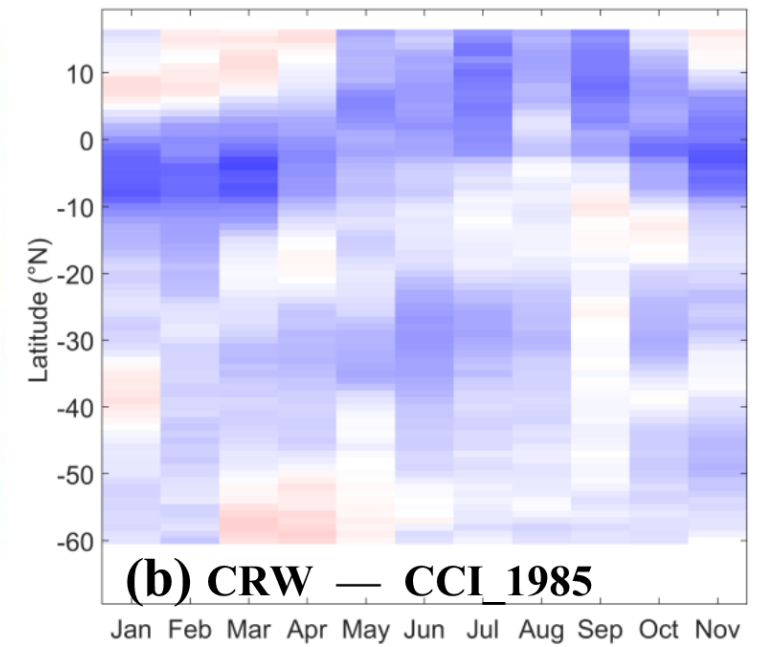
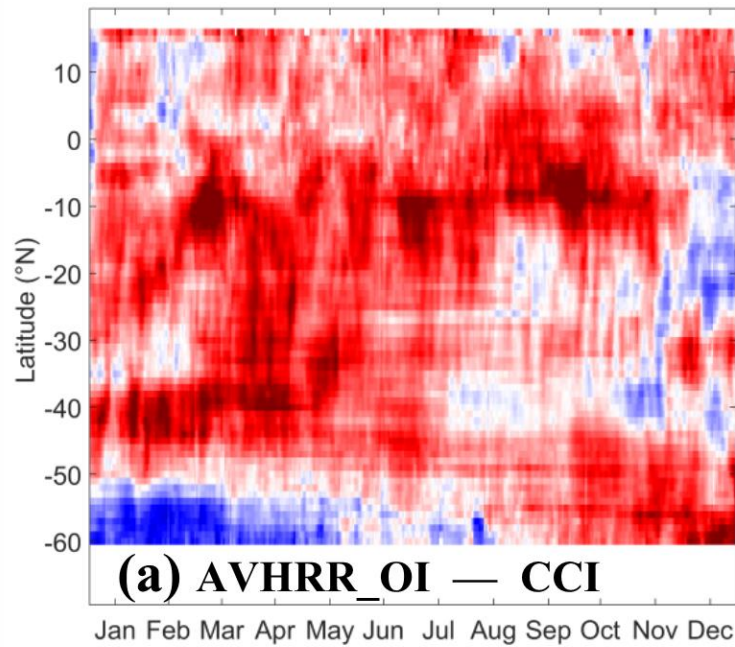
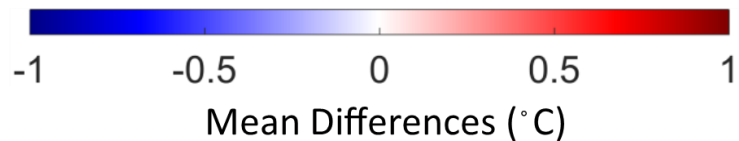


Figure. Hovmöller plots(°C) of group (a) AVHRR\_OI – CCI, (b) CRW – CCI\_1985, (c) SSTAARS – CCI\_1992 and (d) BRAN – CCI\_1994.



Comments?  
Questions?

Propose meet over Thursday Lunch to discuss  
Task Team Activities for 2019-2020

New members welcome!

**Contact: [helen.beggs@bom.gov.au](mailto:helen.beggs@bom.gov.au)**

# STD plots

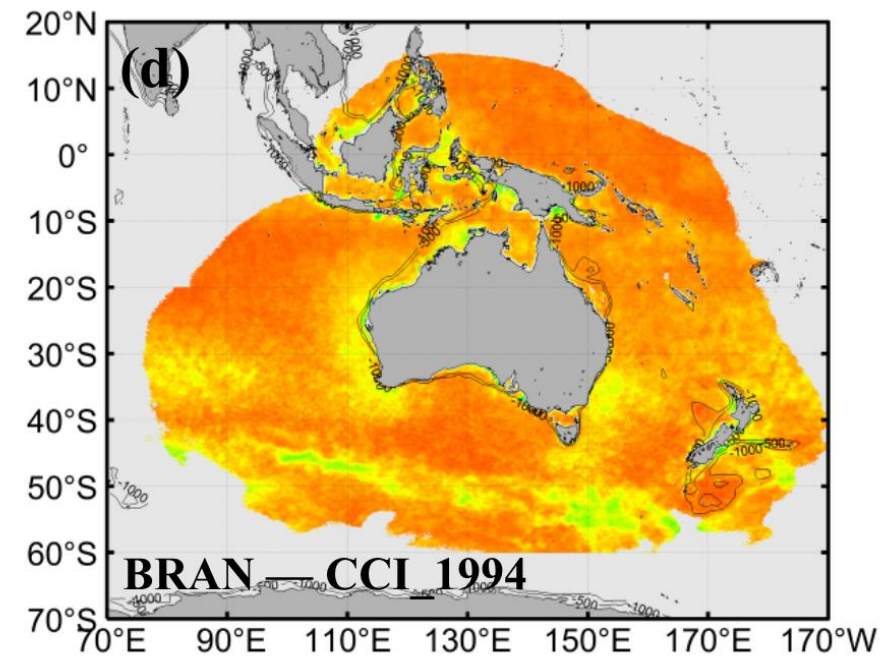
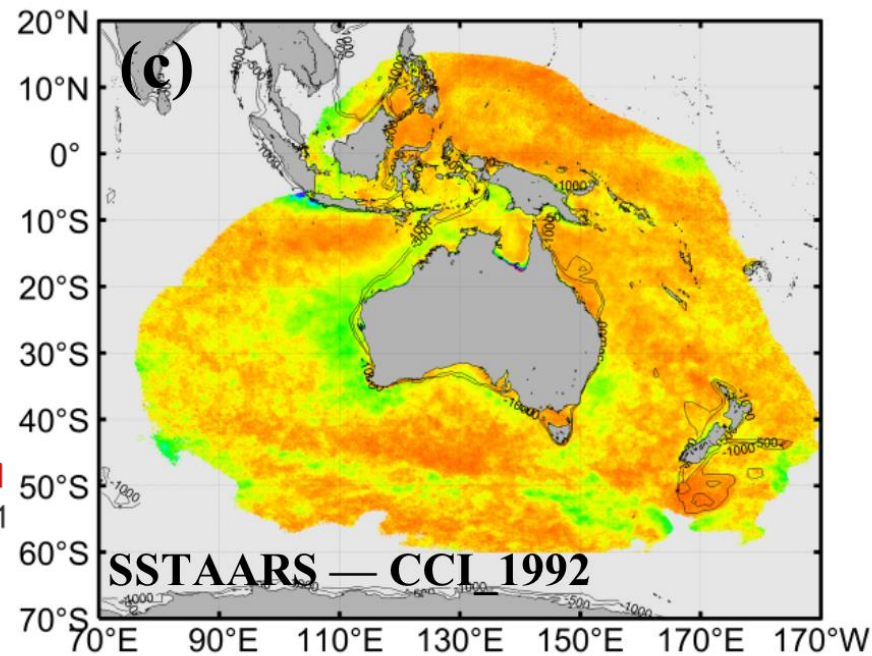
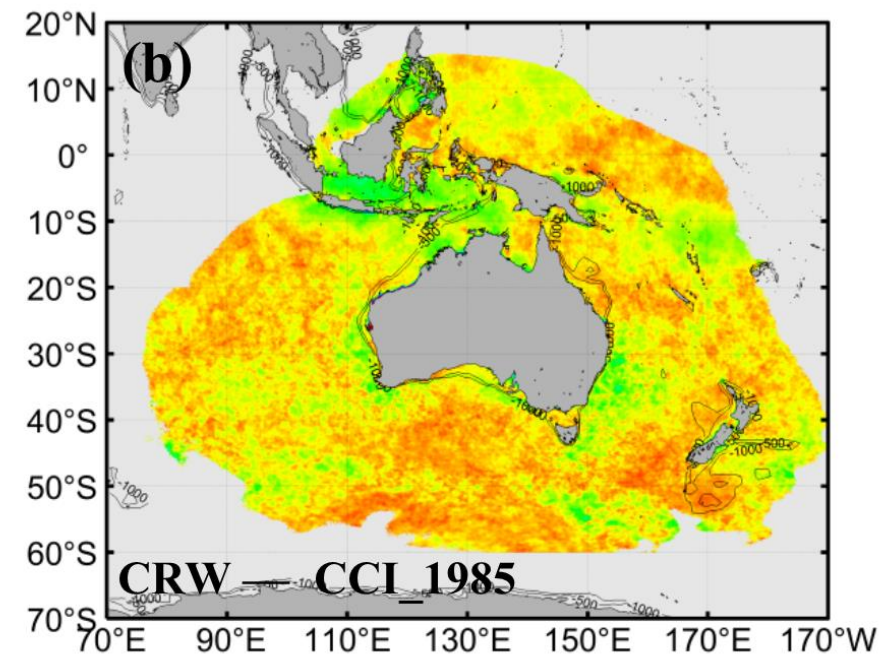
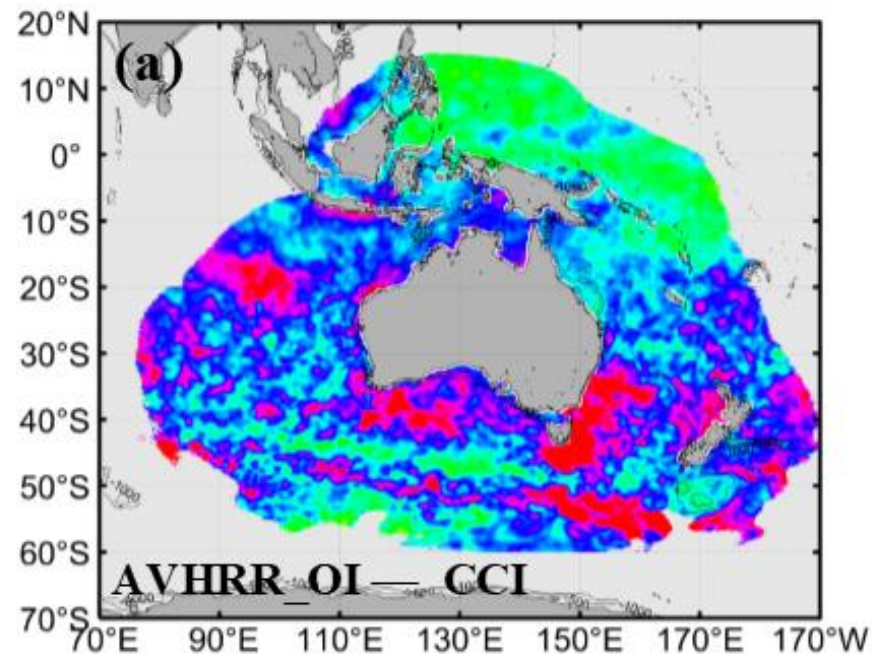


Figure. Spatial distribution of STD( $^{\circ}$ C) of group (a) AVHRR\_OI — CCI, (b) CRW — CCI\_1985, (c) SSTAARS — CCI\_1992 and (d) BRAN — CCI\_1994.

