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New Generation Sea Surface Temperature

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Real-time generation/distribution of New Generation Sea Surface Temperature for open ocean (NGSST-O) started in September 2003 as a demonstration operation of the GODAE High Resolution Sea Surface Temperature Pilot Project. Satellite sea surface temperature (SST) observations from infrared radiometers (AVHRR, MODIS) and a microwave radiometer (AMSR-E) are objectively merged to generate the NGSST-O product. The product is a quality-controlled, cloud-free, high-spatial resolution (0.05 degree-gridded), wide-covering (13-63N, 116-166E), and daily SST digital map. A NGSST-O demonstration operation system has been developed through cooperation with regional operational and Research and Development (R&D) agencies. Its demonstration operation continues for about three years without large gaps of the product generation. Comparing with the in-situ SSTs measured by drifting buoys, the rms error of NGSST-O has been kept about 0.9C.