# Tropical Indian Ocean science and program updates

Kyla Drushka with input from Nick D'Adamo, Luca Centurioni, Craig Lee, Amit Tandon, Chidong Zhang



Seasonal (monsoon, reversing jets)



Seasonal (monsoon, reversing jets)

Intraseasonal (MJO, Kelvin waves, monsoon active-break phases) Madden-Julian Oscillation



From Madden & Julian 1972

Seasonal (monsoon, reversing jets)

Intraseasonal (MJO, Kelvin waves, monsoon active-break phases)

Interannual (Indian Ocean Dipole, ENSO-related basin-wide warming)

### Indian Ocean Dipole



From JAMSTEC

Seasonal (monsoon, reversing jets)

Intraseasonal (MJO, Kelvin waves, monsoon active-break phases)

Interannual (Indian Ocean Dipole, ENSO-related basin-wide warming)

Decadal, multi-decadal

Short-scale (tropical cyclones, eddies)

### CLIVAR Indian Ocean panel (early 2000s) Achievements:

1. Indian Ocean Observing System (IndOOS)



### CLIVAR Indian Ocean panel Achievements in the past ~10 years

- 1. Indian Ocean Observing System (IndOOS)
- 2. Scientific achievements:
  - Meridional overturning circulation, thermocline ridge
  - Quantifying inputs (ITF, Tasman Leakage, Leeuwin undercurrent), outputs (Agulhas, Leeuwin Currents), and circulation features
  - Cyclones, MJO, eddies
  - Interannual variability (IOD and ENSO teleconnections)
  - Decadal/multi-decadal variability: review paper (Han et al. 2014)
  - Biogeochemistry

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  - Biogeochemistry
- 3. Capacity building:
  - Conferences, meetings, training programs, technology sharing, research cruises

## CLIVAR Indian Ocean panel Plans for the next 5 years

- Complete & sustain IndOOS.
- Develop studies / improve understanding of:
  - decadal and multidecadal variations in the IO
  - influence of SST on the atmosphere
  - meso- and submesoscale variability and its impacts
  - tropical cyclones
  - inter-basin exchanges, including nutrients and organic matter
  - coordinated modelling experiments, in particular seasonal to decadal forecast.
  - exploit new Aquarius and SMOS salinity data
- Support YMC, IIOE-2
- Support two emerging regional programs (as part of IIOE-2):
  - Eastern IO upwelling system: its dynamics and ecosystem impacts.
  - Agulhas System Climate Array

## Indian Ocean field programs

### Past/ongoing and future



## DYNAMO update (from Chidong Zhang)



## **DYNAMO** Data:

- Released for public use since March 2013
- Archived at
  - NCAR EOL (http://data.eol.ucar.edu/master\_list/?project=DYNAMO)
  - ARM (http://www.arm.gov/campaigns/amf2011amie-gan)
  - JAMSTEC (http://www.jamstec.go.jp/iorgc/cindy/obs/obs.html)
- DYNAMO Legacy Data Products:
  - Combined air-sea time series
  - radar, aircraft, and sounding products
  - integrated products for case studies
- DYNAMO-related publications: 73 since 2013

DYNAMO results from one MJO event (from *R/V Revelle*)



## **DYNAMO: US Effort**

# US funding from

NSF, DOE (ARM &ASR), ONR, NOAA, NASA

## The role of US CLIVAR in DYNAMO:

- Critical in communication among the Inter-agency group (IAG) and between the IAG and PIs;
- Disconnection between expectations from the PSMI and peer reviewers.

# Air-Sea Interactions in the Northern Indian Ocean (ASIRI): 2013-present



**Objective:** *improved monsoon prediction* through a better understanding of the upper ocean structure, processes, and ocean-atmosphere exchange.

- Arabian Sea Bay of Bengal exchange dynamics
- Atmospheric phenomena that modulate air-sea exchanges
- Ocean response to surface forcing through observations & high-res coupled models

+ partnership with Indian & Sri Lankan scientists: cruises, science meetings, summer school

## ASIRI schematic



from Emily Shroyer

## ASIRI multi-year observational program

*R/V Revelle* - 5 legs (2013,2014)

*R/V Sagar Nidhi* (India) - process study (2014)

*R/V Samudrika* (Sri Lanka) – coastal measurements

+ more cruises next month (*Revelle* and *Sagar Nidhi*)

Seaglider, Spray gliders, turbulence gliders

Moorings

PIES

Atmospheric stations

Drifters



## ASIRI – early results

WHOI air-sea flux mooring at 18N: Biases in ECMWF (Bob Weller) and MERRA (Jared Buckley)

No current funding plan to sustain this mooring.





### SST fronts from GHRSST 1-km satellite data:

Many strong sub-mesoscale and smaller-scale frontal features

## Subsurface features from a Wirewalker array



Subsurface T max

Salinity stratification dominates vertical structure

Strong shear deepens with mixed layer

Drew Lucas data; from Wijesekera et al., submitted

## ASIRI – early results

- Freshwater from Bay of Bengal river outflow persists during both winter and summer monsoons
  - $\rightarrow$  shallow strong haloclines
  - $\rightarrow$  implications for model SST errors
- Model biases due to missing physics
  - $\rightarrow$  erroneous atmospheric convection
  - $\rightarrow$  monsoon forecasting errors
  - \* New modeling efforts are still needed
- Ocean variability at many scales that will feedback on the air-sea fluxes in the Bay.

NASCar overview (from Luca Centurioni, Craig Lee)

North Arabian Sea Circulation – autonomous research

#### Local drivers of the Somali Current: Southwest monsoon Northeast monsoon Pakistan 25° 257 20<sup>®</sup>N 20<sup>°</sup>N India India 15<sup>°N</sup> 15°N 10<sup>8</sup>N 10<sup>P</sup>N 5°N 5°N 72°E 48°E 56°E 64°E 72°E 48°E 56°E 64°E 80°E convectively $\nabla x(\tau f) > 0$ wind-driver downwelling driven upwelling overturning advection

#### from Lee et al. 2000

### NASCar overview



### Objectives (ASIRI complement)

#### **Physics**

Characterize local & remote processes governing Arabian Sea circulation & the Somali Current system, and their seasonal and interannual variability

### Predictability

Improve/evaluate ocean models.

### Strategy

Autonomous observing array for persistent, sustained measurements in a denied region: *Drifters, Seagliders, gliders, profiling floats, Wirewalkers, and wave buoys, plus existing observing system (e.g., Global Drifter Program, Argo, RAMA) and satellite products* 

### NASCar plan



Ships of opportunity only (US, Aus Navy; Seychelles fishing/ charter fleet; cargo ship; Oman research vessel)

From the draft NASCar Science Plan (2015)

## NASCar overview

### Science Questions

#### Local Processes

- monsoon forcing
- mesoscale and sub-mesoscale processes, turbulence, internal and surface waves

#### **Remote Processes**

- Rossby waves
- SST-wind-currents coupling
- sub-seasonal & small-scale links
- African land mass, air-sea-land interaction processes

### **Seychelles Specifics**

- Drivers of waves, currents, and water mass properties
- Drivers of mass and momentum transport
- Seychelles-Chagos thermocline ridge variability and Arabian Sea links

### YMC Overview (from Chidong Zhang)

#### Years of the Maritime Continent July 2017- July 2019

**Goal:** <u>Observing</u> the <u>weather-climate system</u> of the <u>Earth's largest</u> <u>archipelago</u> to improve <u>understanding</u> and <u>prediction</u> of its <u>local</u> <u>variability</u> and <u>global impact</u>



a field campaign that connects Indian & Pacific, and ocean-atmosphere-land (CLIVAR-GEWEX-SPARC). 46 participating institutes from 15 countries, including US, Philippines, Indonesia, Australia, Singapore, Japan, France, China, Taiwan, Switzerland…

### **YMC** Motivation

### Local Variability:

- Monsoons, the MJO, equatorial waves, Borneo vortices, cold surges, tropical cyclones;
- severe rainfall, flood events, drought; severe storms; high wind events; air quality

### <u>Global Impact:</u>

- Convective center (Walker circulation, ENSO, MJO, troposphere-stratosphere interaction, Rossby-wave source and teleconnection)
- Indonesian throughflow

### <u>Model biases</u>:

Diurnal cycle, monsoon, MJO, mean precipitation

Theme 1: *Atmospheric Convection*.

Theme 2: Upper-Ocean Processes and Air-Sea Interaction.

Theme 3: Stratosphere-Troposphere Interaction

Theme 4: *Aerosols*.

Theme 5: Prediction improvement.

## YMC Main activities: Data sharing

Through collecting, archiving, and sharing data from observing networks in the MC region, satellites, and NWP products, build a two-year (July 2017 – July 2019) comprehensive database for detailed documentation of multi-scale variability and interaction of the MC weather-climate system.



## YMC Main activities: Field campaign

*Data Sharing*: Through collecting, archiving, and sharing data from observing networks in the MC region, satellites, and NWP products, build a two-year (July 2017 – July 2019) comprehensive database for detailed documentation of multi-scale variability and interaction of the MC weather-climate system.

Collect special observation through a two-year (July 2017 – July 2019) field campaign to advance our understanding of physical processes key to the multi-scale variability and interaction of the MC weather-climate system.



#### **YMC Focused Observing Areas**



- Topographic effects on the MJO and Kelvin waves
- Troposphere-stratosphere interaction
- Coastal upwelling and airsea interaction

troposphere-stratosphere interaction

CORAL

SEA

 Air-sea interaction over marginal and semi-enclosed seas

#### **YMC Field Campaign Facilities: Seaborne**



#### **YMC Field Campaign Facilities: Airborne**



#### **YMC Field Campaign Facilities: Surface radars**



## YMC Main activities: Modeling

*Data Sharing*: Through collecting, archiving, and sharing data from observing networks in the MC region, satellites, and NWP products, build a two-year (July 2017 – July 2019) comprehensive database for detailed documentation of multi-scale variability and interaction of the MC weather-climate system.

*Field Campaign*: Collect special observation through a two-year (July 2017 – July 2019) field campaign to advance our understanding of physical processes key to the multi-scale variability and interaction of the MC weather-climate system.

#### Modeling:

- Coordinated numerical experiments
- High-resolution (cloud-permitting) simulation and experimental forecast
- High-resolution (cloud-permitting) data assimilation
- WCRP-WWRP Subseasonal Prediction Project
- Subseasonal-to-Seasonal Prediction Project (S2S)/MJO Task Force (MJOTF) Joint Maritime Continent Initiative

#### YMC Field Campaign: US Participation (ONR, NASA, DOE, NSF, NOAA)



### IIOE-2 overview (from Nick D'Adamo)

### Second International Indian Ocean Expedition

#### Original IIOE: 1959-1965



### IIOE (1959-65)

### products

SCOR IIOE website

www.scorint.org/IIOE History.h tm

IOC Library / archives

**IIOE papers** 

Berhman (UNESCO; 1981)

#### THE INTERNATIONAL INDIAN OCEAN EXPEDITION 1959-64

#### ROBERT G. SNIDER

As a result of a unique set of conditions, the Indian Ocean is possibly the most productive of all the oceans, biologically. Virtually nothing is known about it at the present time but it will undoubtedly become the best understood of all the major badies of water ofter this multi-notion effort.



- Indian Ocean still relatively poorly understood
  - Natural and human disasters (climatic, oceanographic, search + rescue)
  - Environmental problems, climate change
  - Food security agriculture, fisheries
- New technology
- Indian Ocean is undersampled especially for biogeochemistry
- Much larger total EEZ now. *For effective research, we need to collaborate under a collegial framework*

- Link & synergize individual research programs
- Tackle truly basin-wide integrative issues that cannot be solved by singular national approaches
- Engage in capacity-building

### IIOE-2 planning undertaken under leadership of:

- Indian Ocean Global Ocean Observing System (IOGOOS)
- Scientific Committee on Ocean Research (SCOR)
- UNESCO Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC)
  - \* IOC recently endorsed IIOE-2 \*

## Science Plan for IIOE-2



Raleigh Hood (USA) & ~100 authors. Reviewed widely by international community. Edited by scientists from Australia, China, Germany, India, Japan, Netherlands, UK and USA.

Purpose: to advance our understanding of interactions among geological, ocean and atmospheric processes that give rise to the complex physical dynamics of the Indian Ocean region, and to determine how those dynamics affect climate, extreme events, marine biogeochemical cycles, ecosystems and human populations.

### **Scientific Themes**

- 1: Human induced stressors & their impacts
- 2: Boundary current dynamics, upwelling variability and ecosystem impacts
- 3: Monsoon variability & ecosystem response







## Science Plan for IIOE-2



### **Scientific Themes**

#### 4: Circulation, climate variability and change



IIOE-2 is a larger envelope for existing programs (e.g. completing RAMA, YMC, eastern Indian Ocean Upwelling Initiative) and also an opportunity for new programs.

Meeting Nov 30-Dec 4, 2015 in Goa, India (http://io50.incois.gov.in/)

What should our priorities be moving forward?

Which elements of the sustained observing system are critical? (RAMA, Argo, XBT, etc)?

– e.g. a flux mooring at 18N?

- What process studies are needed?
- Where are modeling efforts needed?
  - E.g. Bay of Bengal? Maritime continent?

How can US-CLIVAR interact with the CLIVAR Indian Ocean WG?

Are US agencies interested in funding proposals in the Indian Ocean to take advantage of the current programs?