

# **Role of Ocean observations in storm surges computations**

Dr. PLN Murty

MDA, INCOIS

[murty.pln@incois.gov.in](mailto:murty.pln@incois.gov.in)

Training Program

on

**Discovery and Use of Operational Ocean Data Products and Services”** scheduled to be  
held from 25th Oct – 29th Oct 2021

ITCOcean, INCOIS, Hyderabad

## **The Mission of INCOIS**

To provide the Ocean Information and Advisory Services to Society, Industry, Government Agencies and Scientific Community through Sustained Ocean Observations and Constant improvements through Systematic and Focussed Research.

## Ocean Observing System in India

The following observation systems have been deployed and maintaining by MoES in and around Indian seas

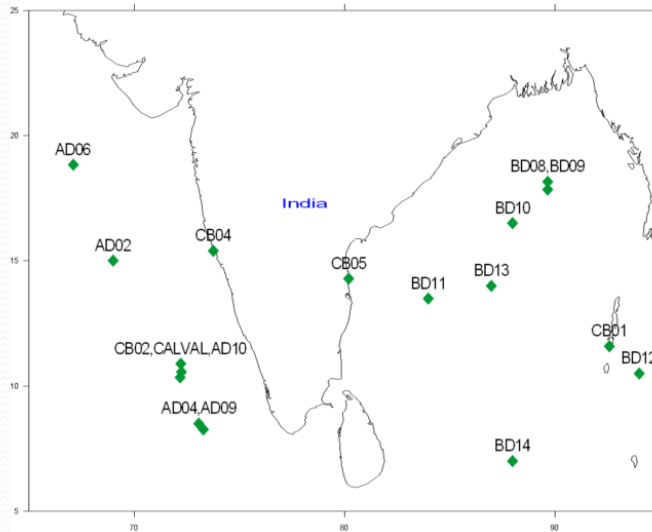
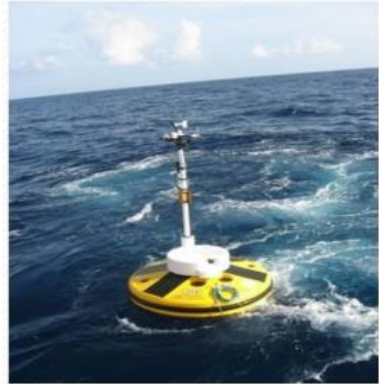
- Moored buoys (offshore)
- Argo profiling floats (one float per  $3^{\circ} \times 3^{\circ}$  box in North Indian Ocean)
- Drifters (one drifter per  $5^{\circ} \times 5^{\circ}$  box in North Indian Ocean)
- XBT/XCTD
- Current meter moorings
- ADCP moorings (coastal)
- Wave rider buoys (coastal)
- AWS (on board ships)
- HF radar
- Tsunami Buoys
- Tide gauges

## OOSs useful for storm surge forecasting

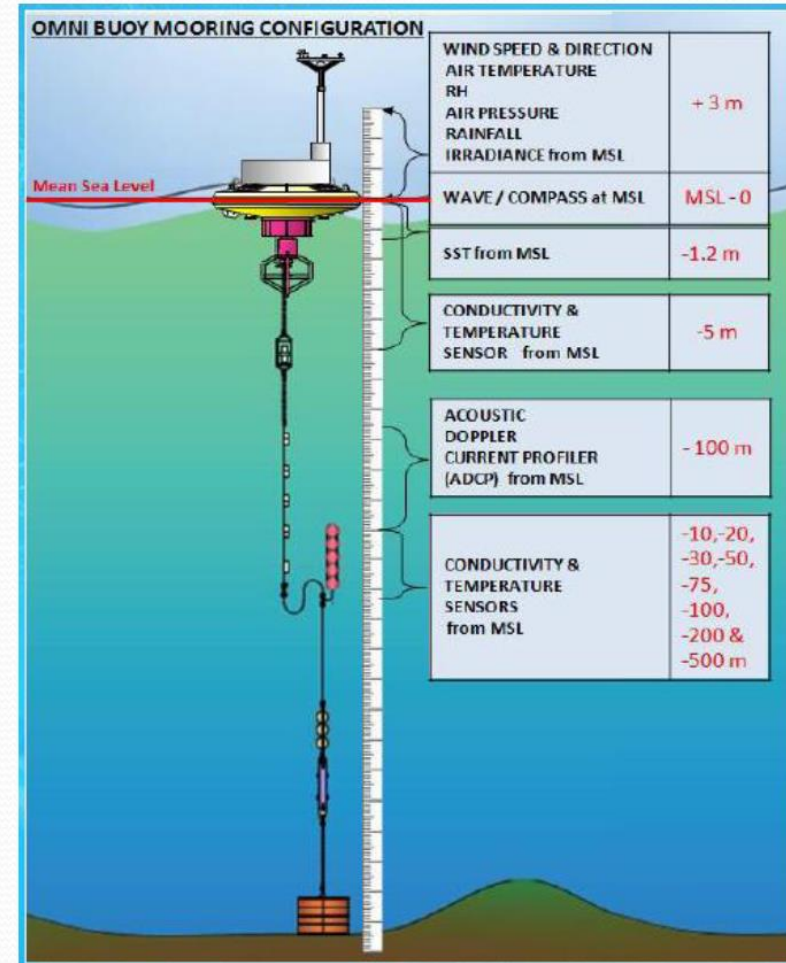
1. **Moored buoys:** To validate the input wind forcing.
2. **Tide gauges:** To validate modeled surge heights.
3. **Tsunami Buoys:** Off-shore water levels can be validated.
4. **Post storm field survey:** To validate model predicted **inland inundation extent**.
5. **Automatic Weather Stations onboard Research Vessels:** Can be useful to validate input wind forcing.
6. **HF-Radar:** Can be useful to validate modeled near shore currents, wave heights etc.
7. **Wave rider buoy:** To validate model (coupled surge + wave) predicted wave.
8. **Satellite imagery:** Bathymetry / shoreline / in land topography
9. **Satellite imagery (CTT):** To retrieval of  $R_{max}$  of a cyclone.
10. **Argo:** This data can be indirectly useful for real time surge modeling. IMD utilizing the available real time products and assimilating in the atmospheric models.  
Accurate track and intensity prediction by IMD is however useful for surge modeling.

# Application of Moored Buoy data

# National Data Buoy Program

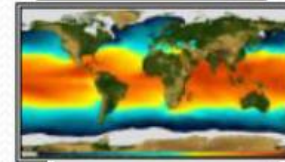
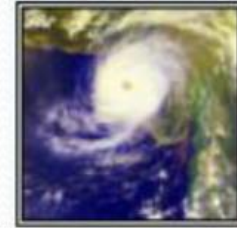


- Moored Buoys (Surface Met-Ocean, Sub-surface, Currents, T&S, Radiation, Rain gauges)
- Coastal Buoys



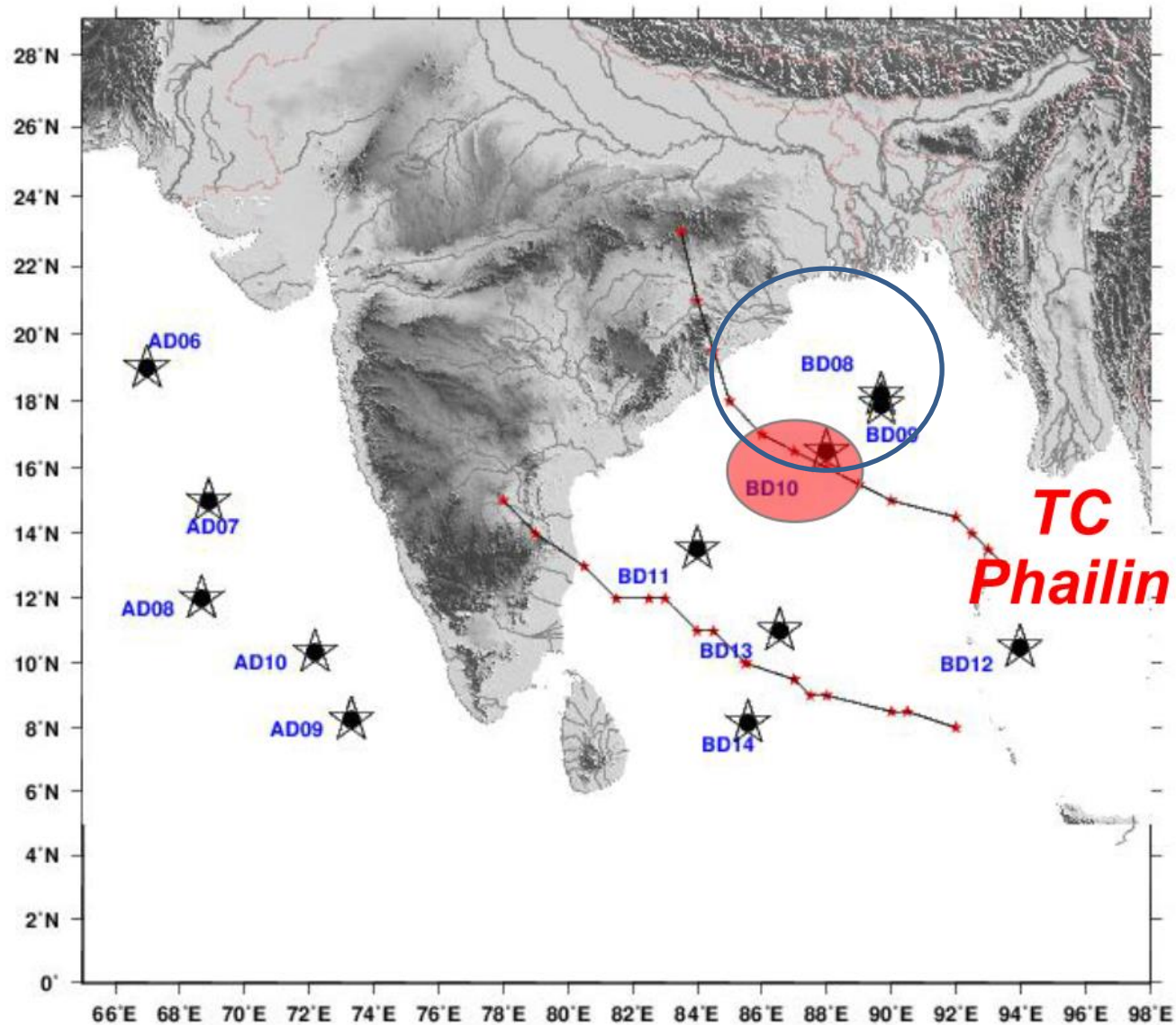
# Applications

- Weather Prediction and Early Cyclone Warning
- Calibration and validation of Satellite Sensors
- Validation of Ocean State Models
- Climate Research
- Engineering and Offshore Projects
- **Validation of model wind forcing.**





# Monitoring Cyclones

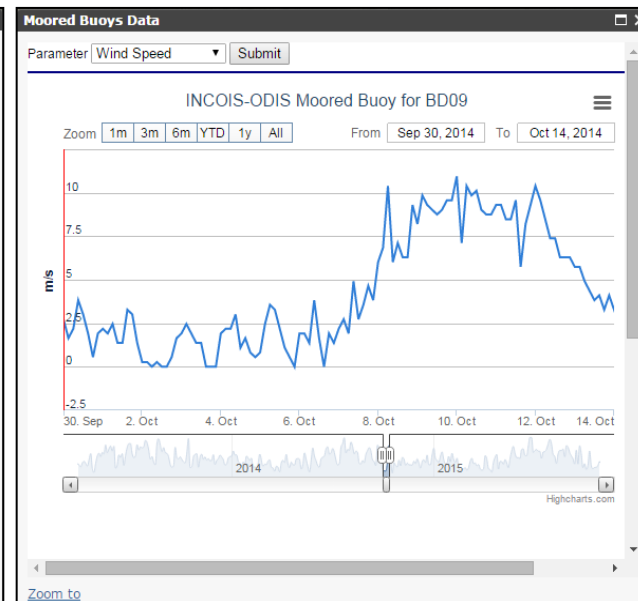




# Buoy recording wind speeds

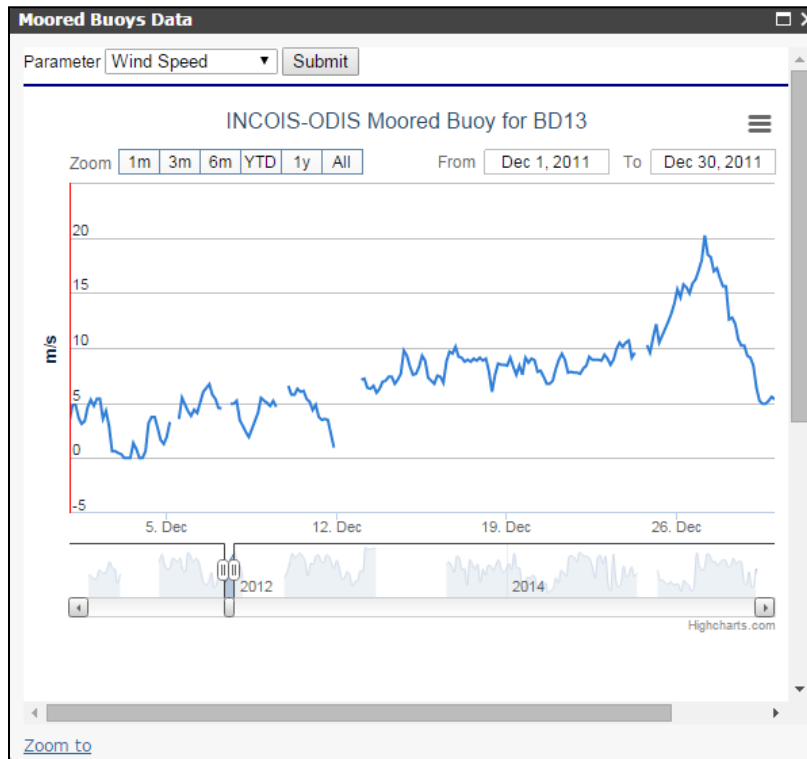


**Phailin event**



**Hudhud event**

## Buoy recorded wind speeds



Thane event

# Buoys 400km away helped track Phailin

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**New Delhi:** Strategically located buoys, some as far as 400km from India's coastline, telegraphed via satellite vital data on sea pressure, surface temperature and wind speeds that helped Indian scientists read Cyclone Phailin with unerring accuracy.

The sea-borne platforms add significant muscle to India's capacity to decipher destructive weather systems like Phailin days before they



A man looks at his damaged house in Podampeta village

strike the Indian coast, saving thousands of lives by giving authorities crucial lead time to take pre-emptive action.

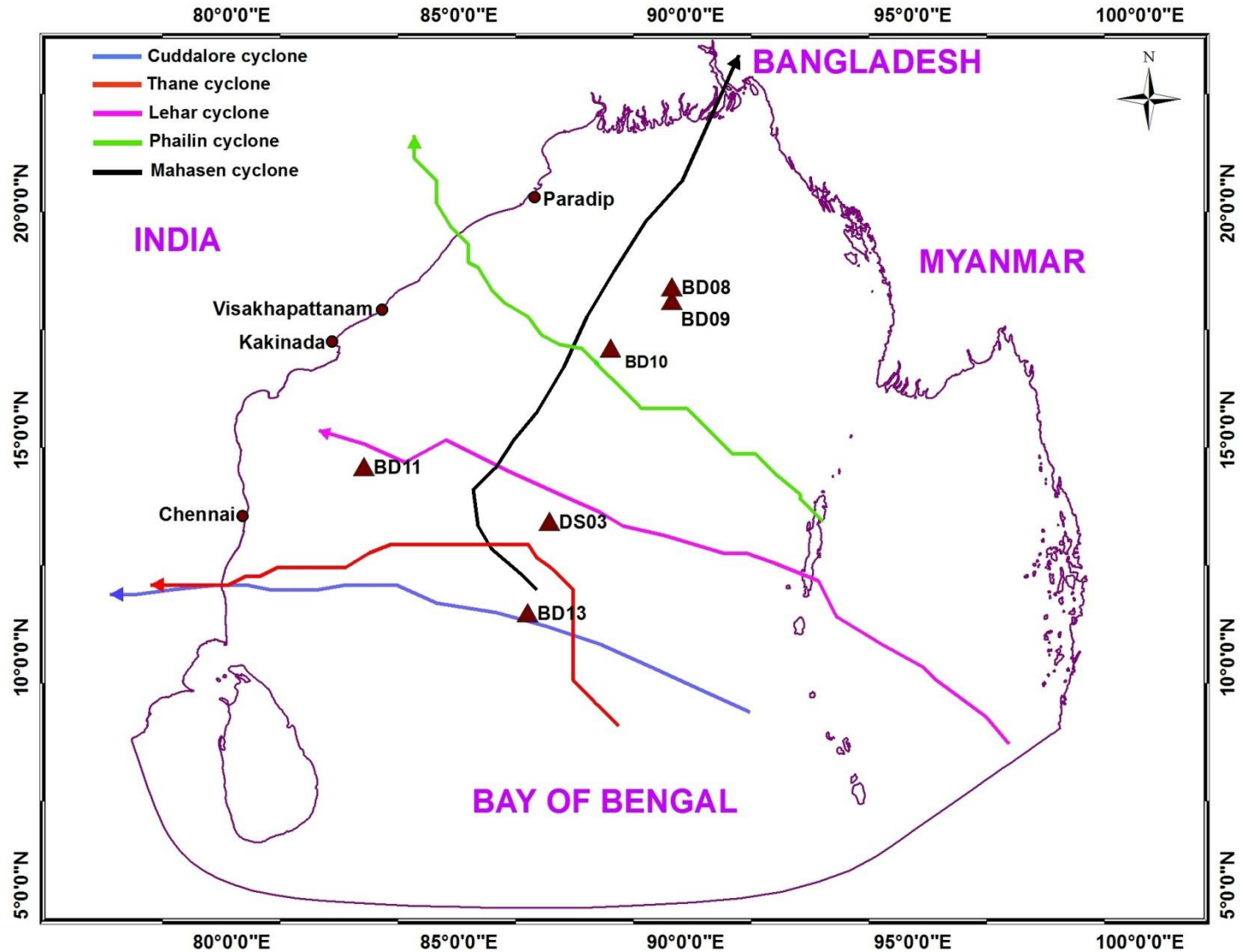
At present, there are 14

buoys in the Arabian Sea and Bay of Bengal busily supplying meteorologists, analysts, programmers and researchers a wealth of information.

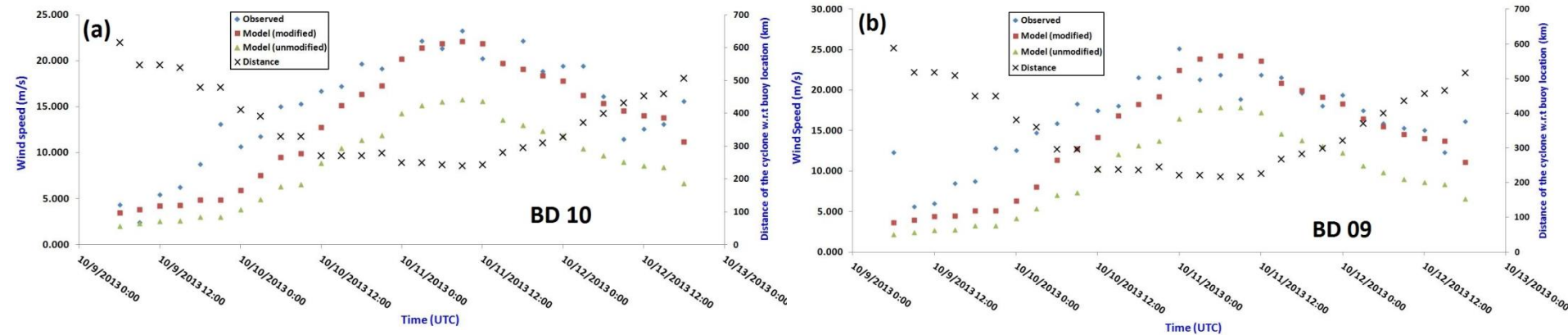
India is now looking to step up its scientific capacities by acquiring an aircraft equipped with advanced gadgetry that allows a specialist crew to take readings of clouds and atmospheric exchanges as much as 12-14 km above the earth's surface.

The fruits of a modernization programme has seen the IMD and the department of earth sciences' various facilities deliver more precise information on the monsoon and weather systems.

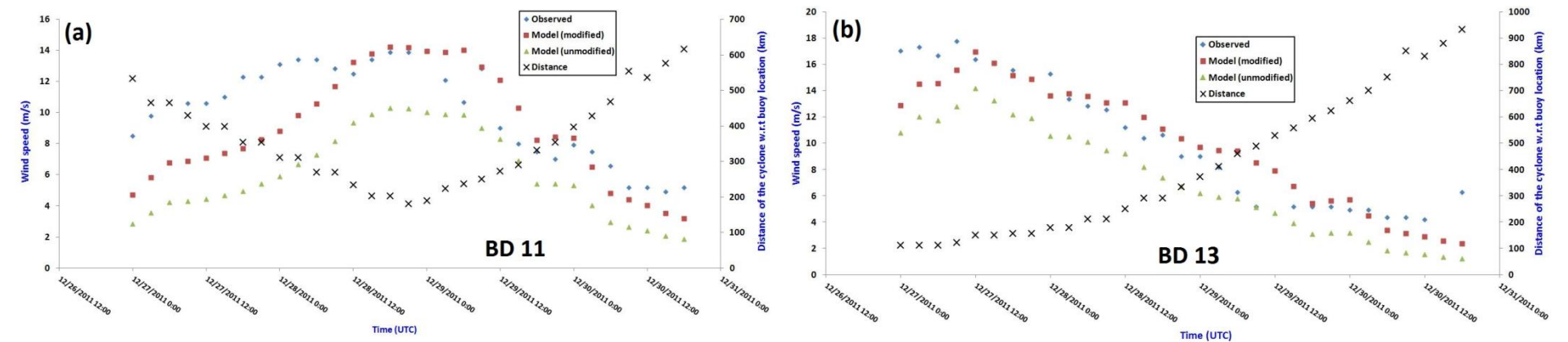
## Selection of buoys to be used based on the cyclone track





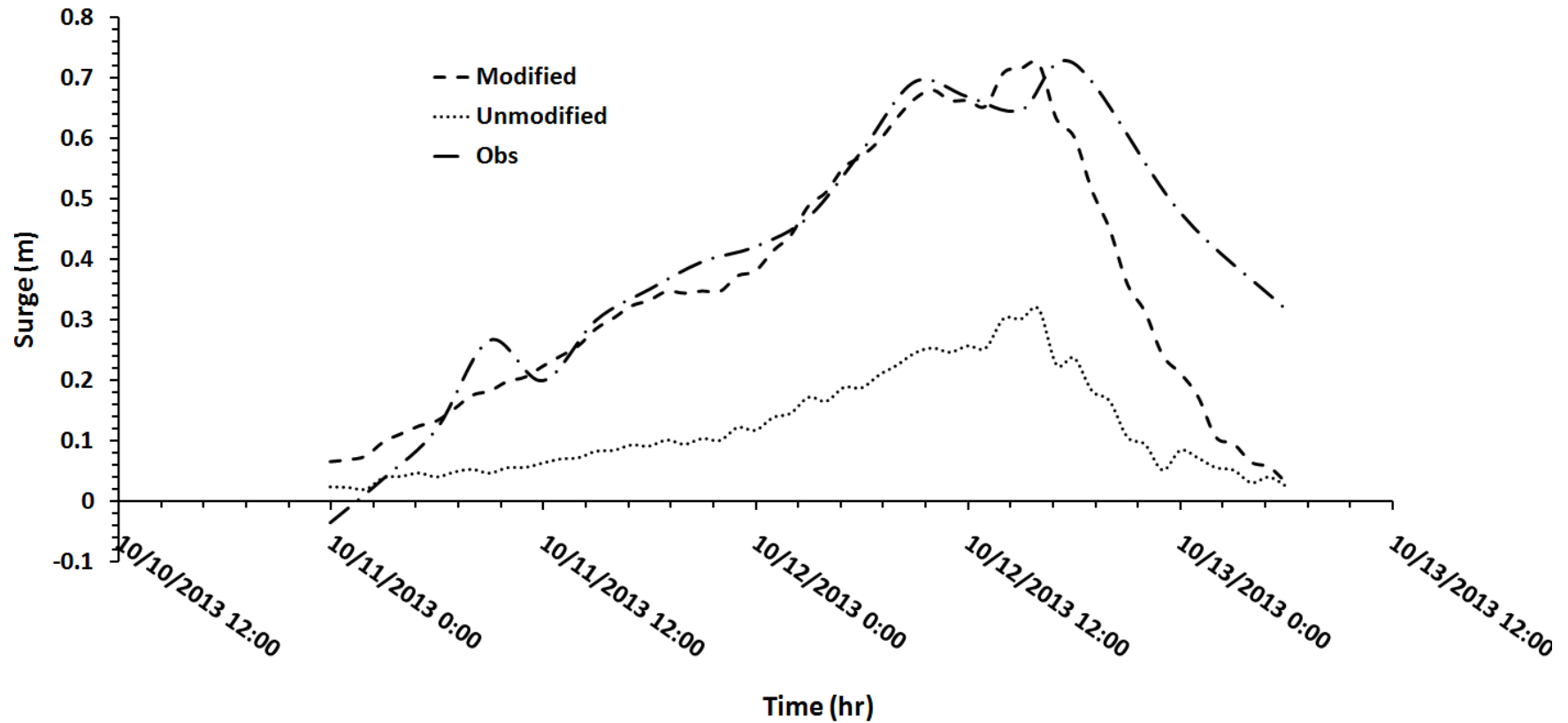


Validation of modeled wind speed with buoy observed data during 'Phailin'



Validation of modeled wind speed with buoy observed data during 'Thane'

**Murty et al., (2016). Numerical study of coastal hydrodynamics using a coupled model for Hudhud cyclone in the Bay of Bengal.**



**Application of fine tuned model wind for 'Phailin' event**

# Utilization of tide gauge data



# Tide Gauge Network



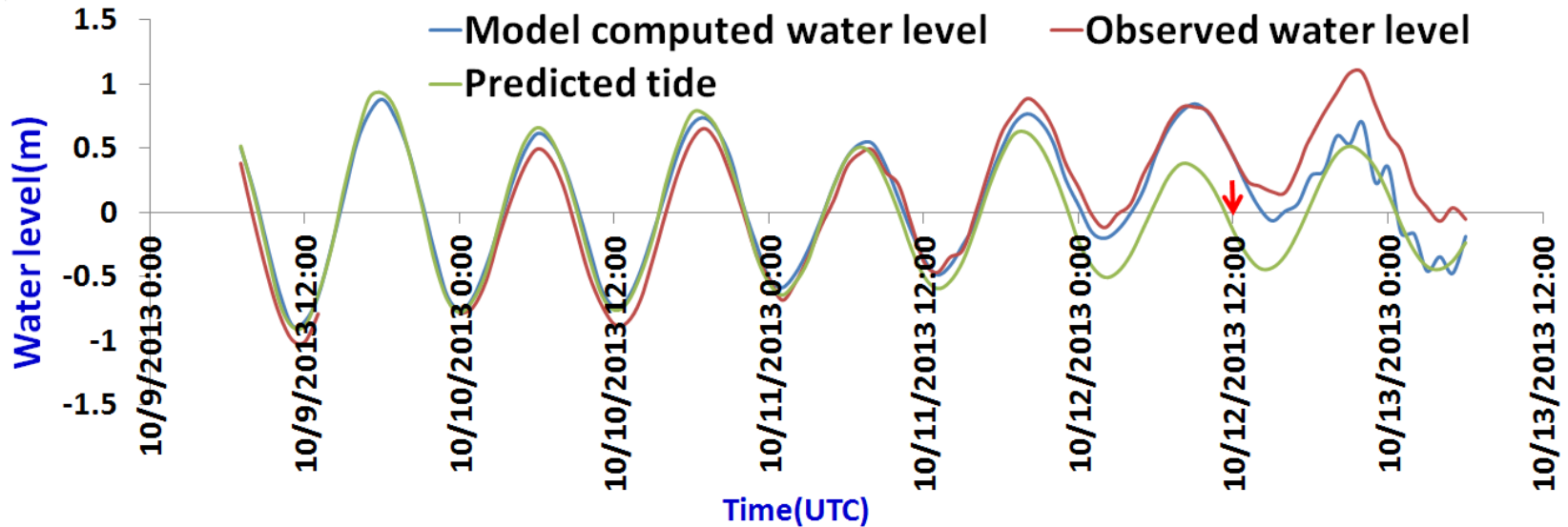
Network of 36 Tide gauges  
Installed and operational along  
the Indian Coast

1 minute averages transmitted  
every 5 minutes

Data come to INCOIS through  
VSAT and INSAT from the Tide  
Gauges

Real time data from 70  
International tide gauges in  
Indian Ocean being received at  
INCOIS

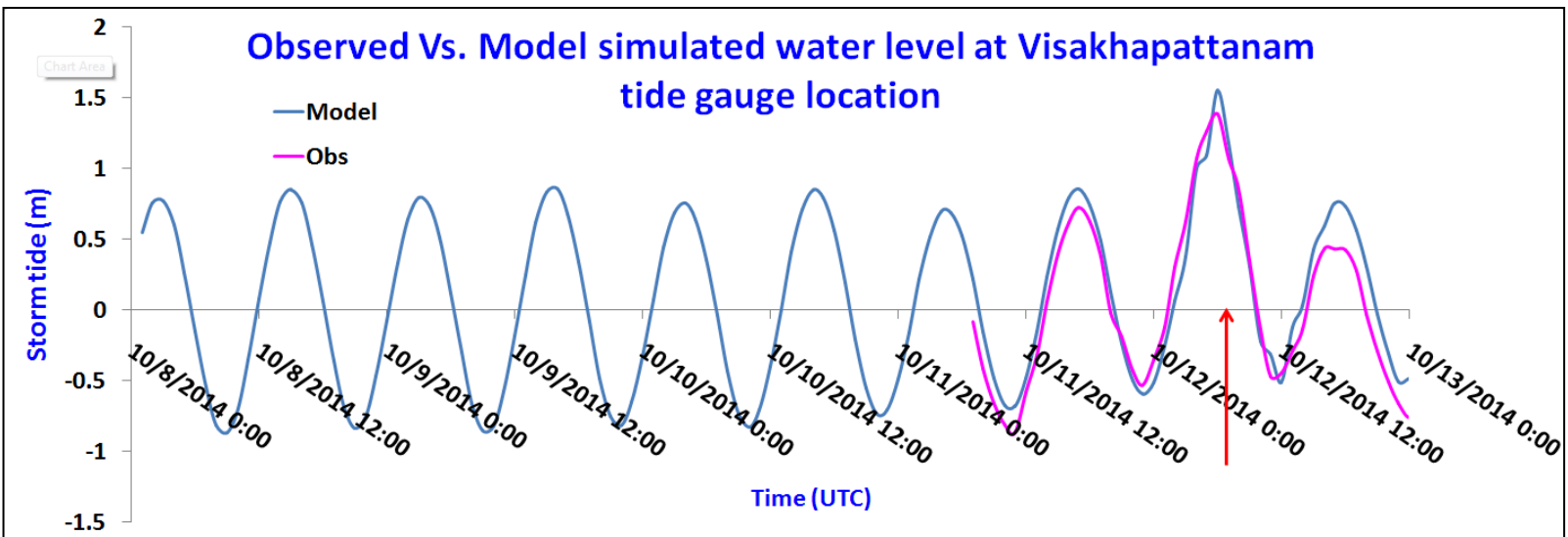
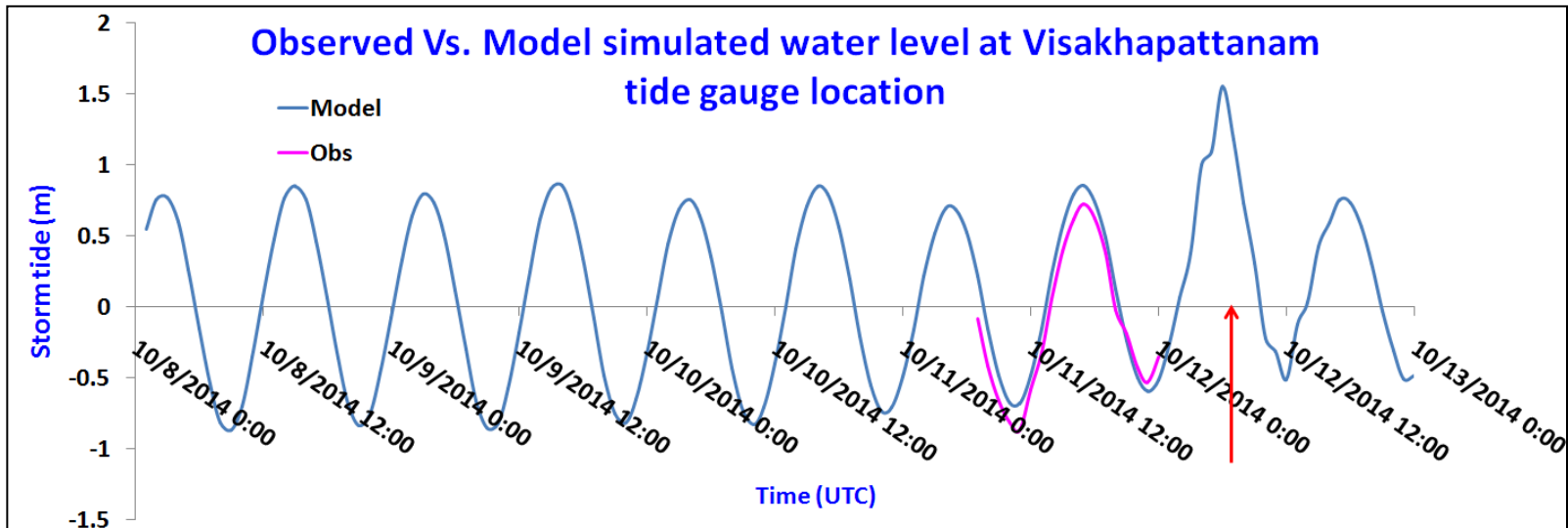
## Real time surge monitoring and validation using tide gauge records during 'Phailin'



Nearest tide gauge available for validation of storm surge is at Paradip location, which is about 200 km (outer core) away from landfall point.

Underestimation in surge heights at Paradip could be due to the underestimation in outer core modeled wind.

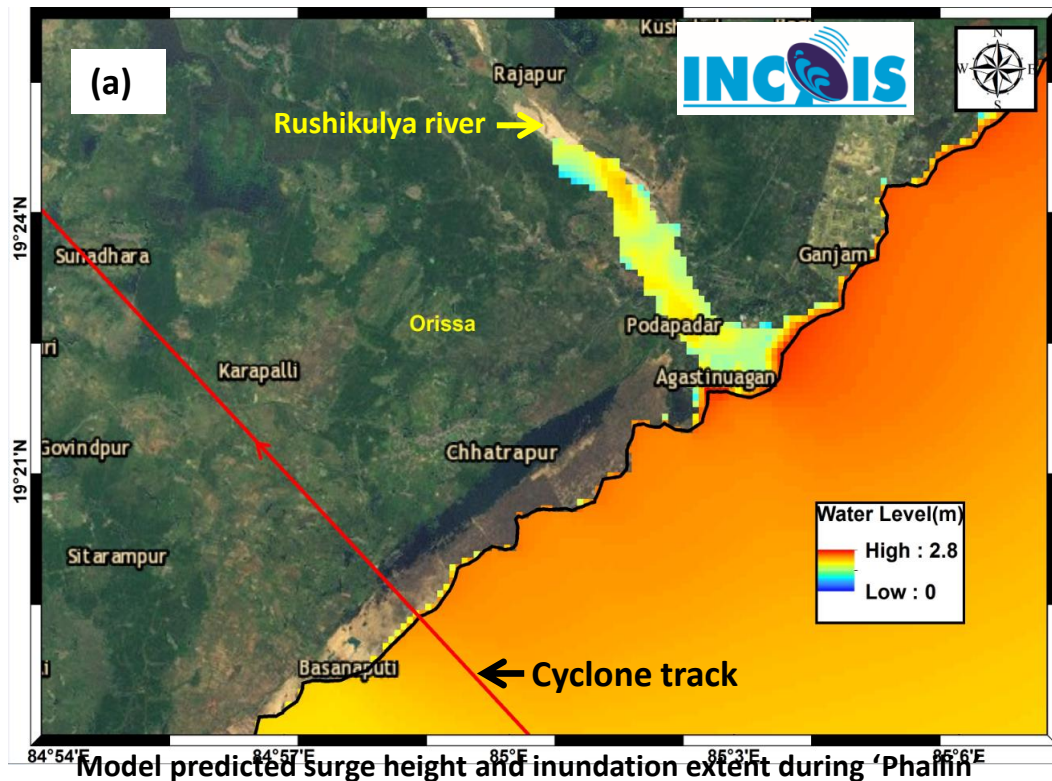
## Real time surge monitoring and validation using tide gauge records during 'Hudhud'



# Post storm field surveys

INCOIS conducted **post storm surveys** soon after the cyclones ‘Phailin’ (2013) and ‘Hudhud’ (2014).

These records were utilized to validate the model predicted inland inundation extents.



Coastal locations of Odisha	Model computed inland extent of inundation from coast line (m)	Observed inland extent of inundation from coast line based on field measurement(m)
Dhepanuapada	-	23
Lohadigam	130	35
Humirbana	100	101
Humirbana	100	115
Podapadar	120	106
Ganjam	180	173
Ganjam	150	110
Ganjam	400	670
Mayarpada	200	160
Jayamangalhil	150	65
Bhramarakudi, Ganjam	-	35
Bhramarakudi, Ganjam	-	44

Table: Comparison of model simulated inland inundation (based on observed track) with field observationsb

**Srinivasa Kumar et al., (2015). Modeling Storm Surge and its Associated Inland Inundation Extent Due to Very Severe Cyclonic Storm ‘Phailin’**

## Comparison of model simulated inland inundation (based on observed track) with field observations

Place	Mandal	District, State	Inundation extent	
			Forecasted (m)	Observed (m)
Konada	Puspatirega	Vijayanagaram, AP	300	400
Kollayavalasa	Puspatirega	Vijayanagaram, AP	100	90
Pathiwada	Puspatirega	Vijayanagaram, AP	200	150
Kancheru	Puspatirega	Vijayanagaram, AP	160	150
Pedanagayypalem	Bhimunipattanam	Visakhapattanam, AP	100	50
Chintapalle	Puspatirega	Vijayanagaram, AP	200	80
Mentada	Chipurupalle	Srikakulam, AP	150	110
Kancherupalem	Puspatirega	Vijayanagaram, AP	nil	nil
Ramachandrapuram	Chipurupalle	Srikakulam, AP	180	120
Nerellavalasa Rural	Bhimunipattanam	Visakhapattanam, AP	nil	60
Kothuru	Bhimunipattanam	Visakhapattanam, AP	100	70
Kolli Bheemavaram	Chipurupalle	Srikakulam, AP	140	140
Rishikonda beach	Bhimunipattanam	Visakhapattanam, AP	nil	60
Thimmapuram	Bhimunipattanam	Visakhapattanam, AP	100	100
Kottapalem	Chipurupalle	Srikakulam, AP	150	160
Yethapeta	Chipurupalle	Srikakulam, AP	100	80
Atchanna Agraharam	Chipurupalle	Srikakulam, AP	nil	60
Bontalakoduru	Srikakulam	Srikakulam, AP	150	190
MVP Colony	Visakhapattanam	Visakhapattanam	nil	20
Rama Krishna Beach	Visakhapattanam	Visakhapattanam	nil	50
Galla Peta	Srikakulam	Srikakulam, AP	200	150
Pathiwada	Puspatirega	Vijayanagaram, AP	200	180
Kuppili	Chipurupalle	Srikakulam, AP	200	180
Tekkali	Chipurupalle	Srikakulam, AP	100	100

# **Automatic Weather Stations onboard Research Vessels**



# Automatic Weather Stations onboard Research Vessels

## Objectives

- Validation Ocean forecast models in delayed mode and real time.
- Data assimilation in high resolution atmospheric forecast models
- Validation of satellite data.
- High Resolution coastal wind Atlas
- Real-time vessel tracking

## Ships

MoES, CSIR, GSI, FSI, NHO,SCI, ONGC

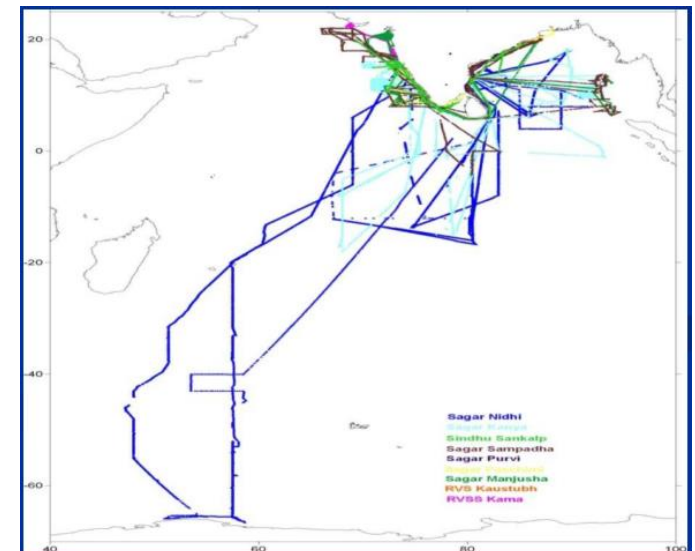
## Parameters Measured

Wind vector, Air temperature, Sea surface temperature, Relative humidity, Rainfall, Long wave radiation, Shortwave radiation

**The data is transmitted to INCOIS in real time**



AWS onboard ORV Sagar Nidhi

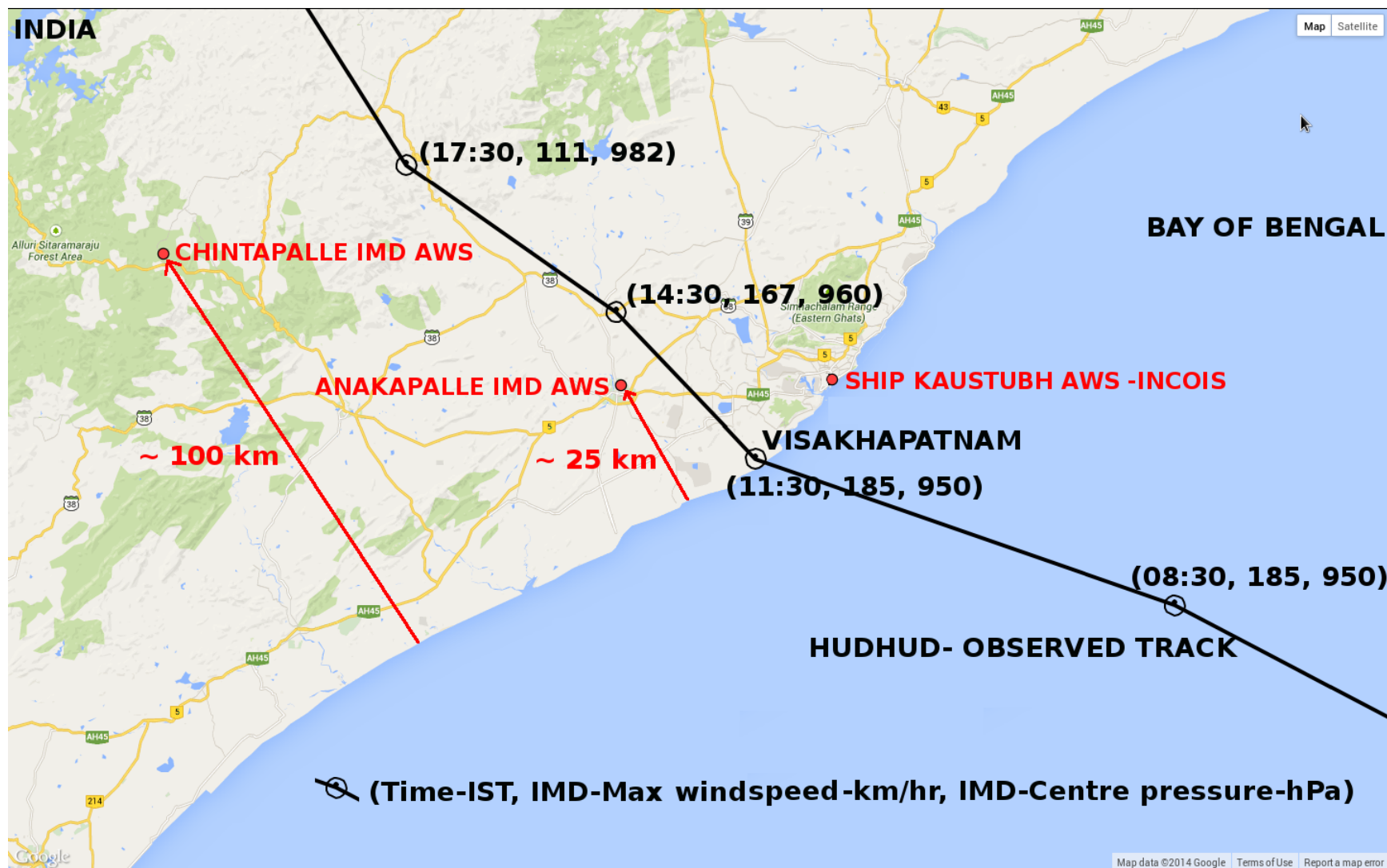


## Ocean Research Vessels

- Sagarkanya– NCAOR
- Sagar Nidhi– NIOT
- Sagar Manjusha– NIOT
- Sagar Purvi - NIOT
- Sagar Paschami– NIOT
- Sagar Sampada– CMLRE

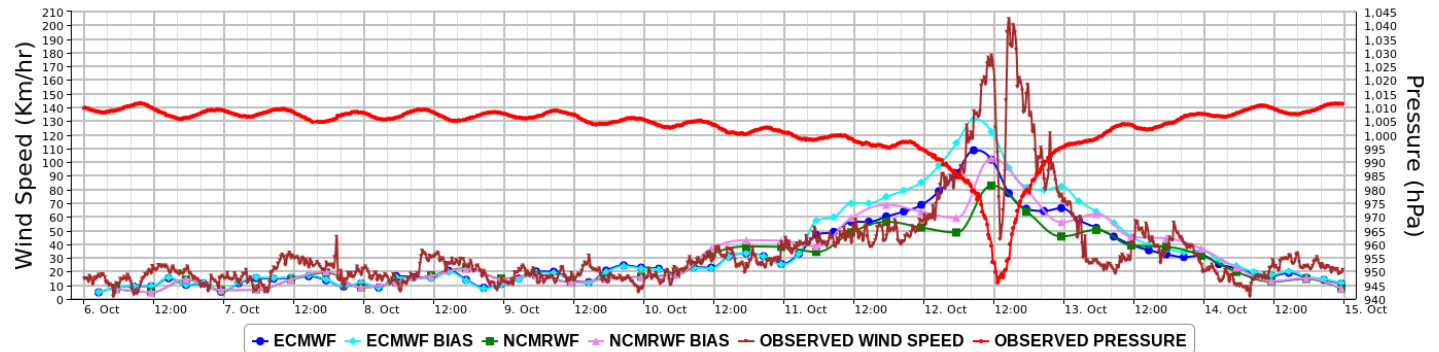


## Cyclone Hudhud - AWS observations at Visakhapatnam RV Kaustubh & 2 IMD AWSs inland

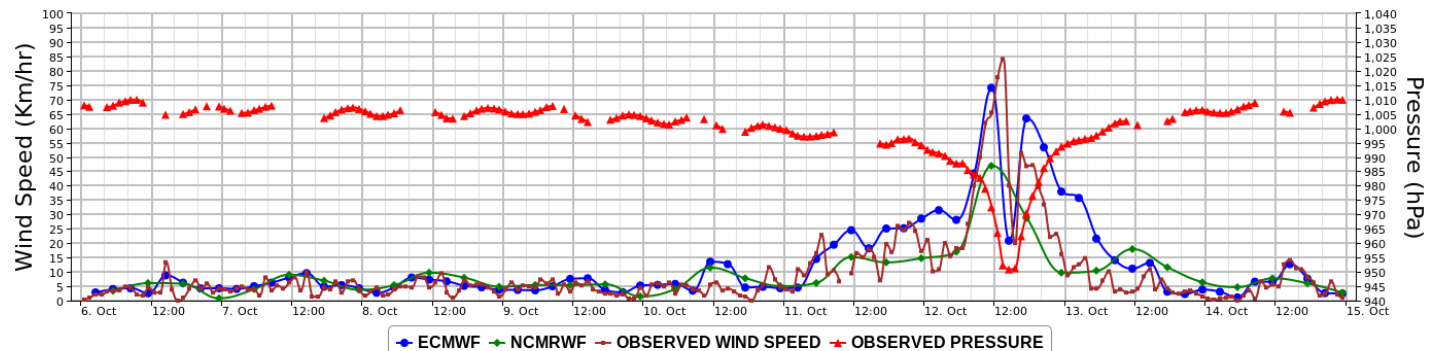


Surface  
observations  
at Vizag  
during the  
Hudhud  
landfall

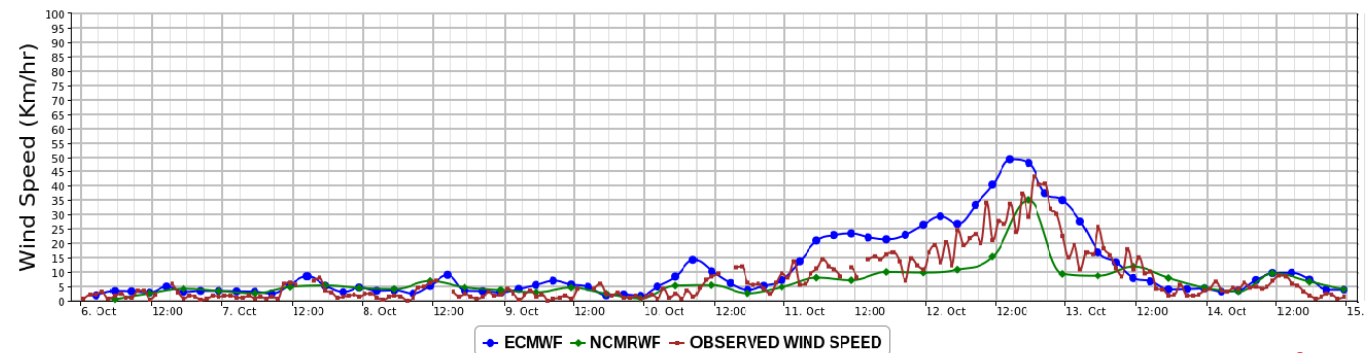
Real Time Validation (Forecast vs Observation) : Kausthub



Real Time Validation (Forecast vs Observation) : Anakapalle

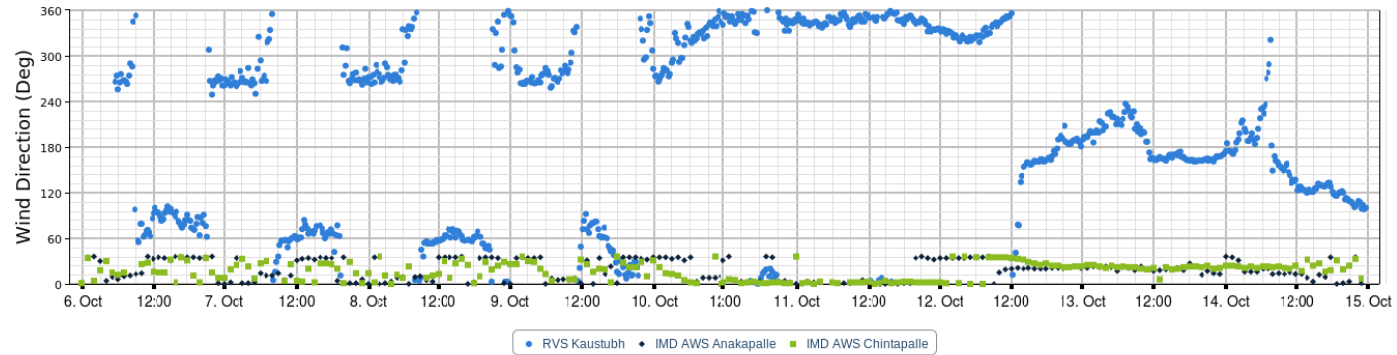


Real Time Validation (Forecast vs Observation) : Chintapalle

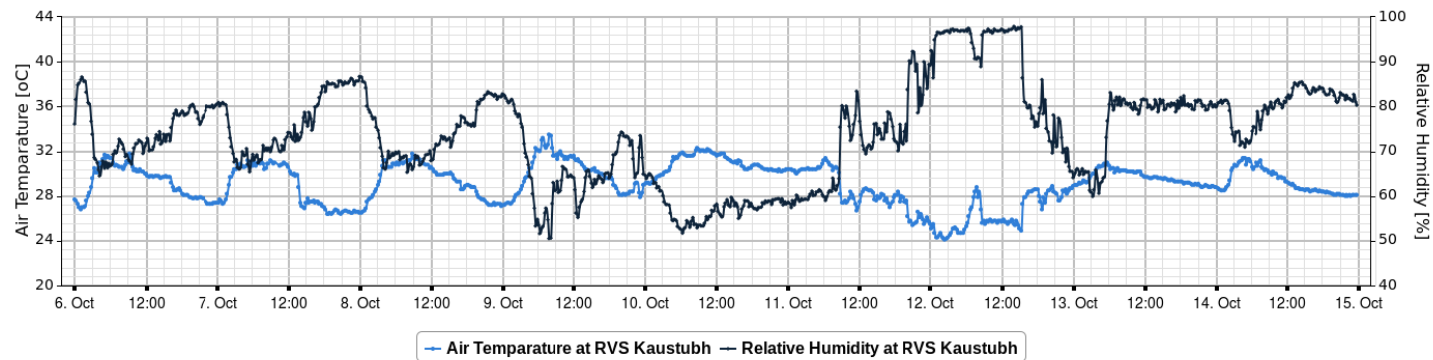


Harikumar et al. (2016)

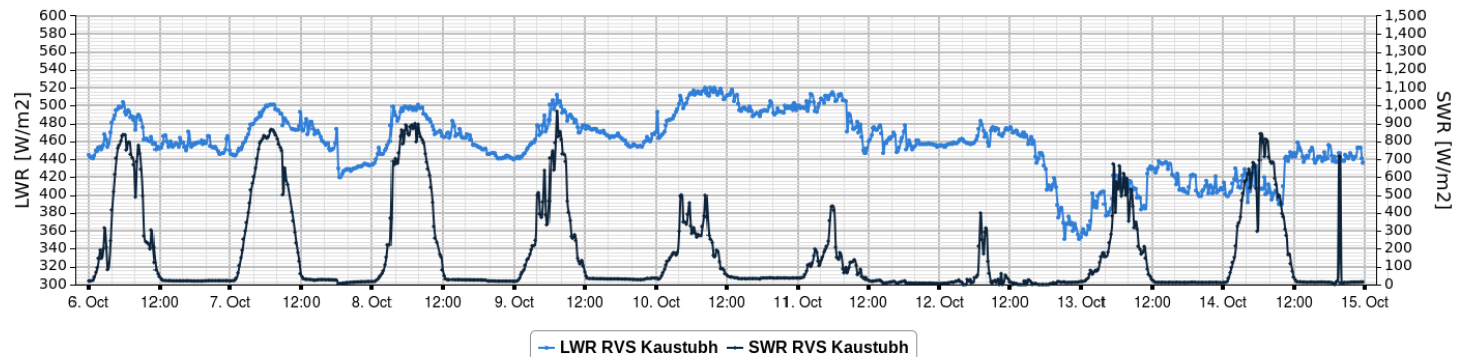
Real Time Observation (Wind Direction)



Real Time Observation (Air Temperature & Relative Humidity)



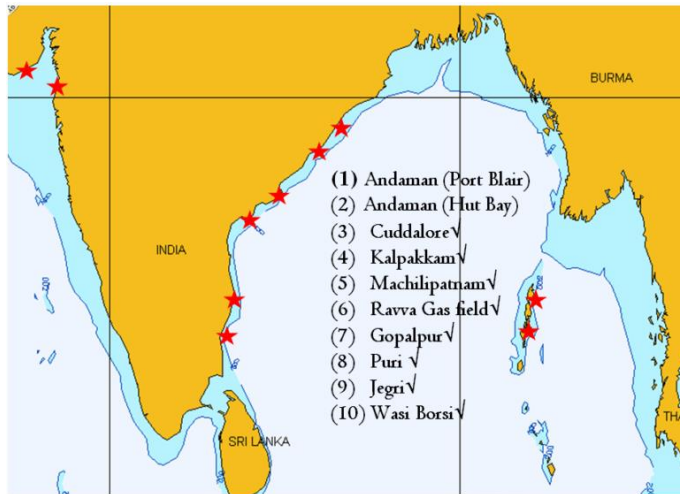
Real Time Observation (LWR & SWR)



# Utilization of coastal HF Radar



## Coastal HF Radar Network



### Phase I ( completed by March 2008)

- Cudallore
- Kalpakkam
- Machilipatnam
- Yanam

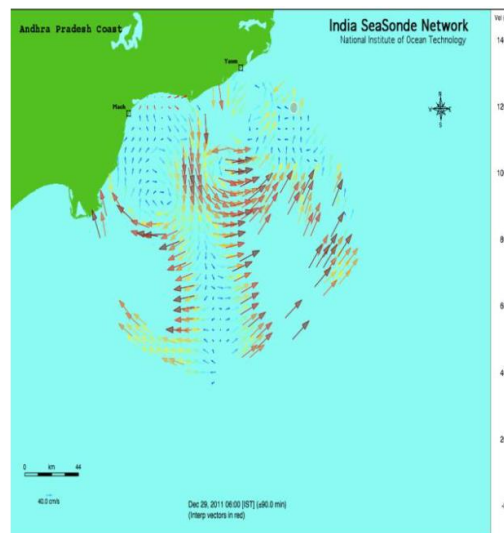
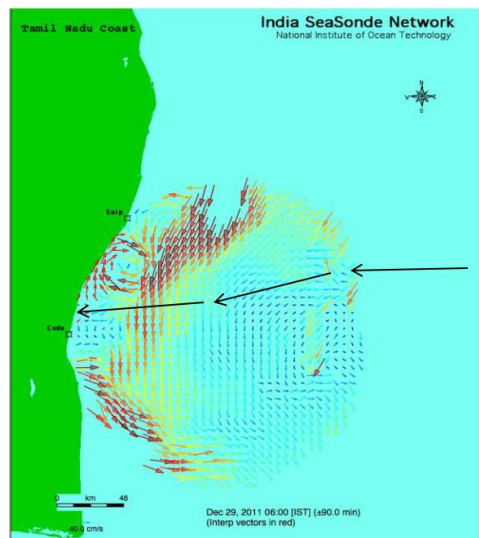
### Phase II (completed by September 2009)

- Jegri
- Wasi
- Gopalpur
- Puri

### Phase III (completed by May 2010)

- Port-Blair
- Hut-Bay

Enables measurement of Waves & Currents to about 200 Kms from the Coast



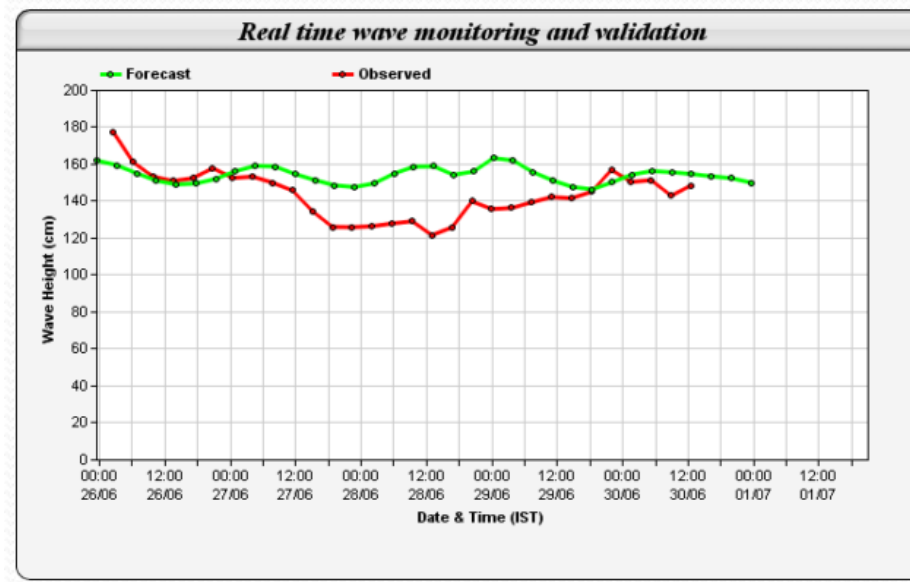
Cyclonic signatures in Surface Current



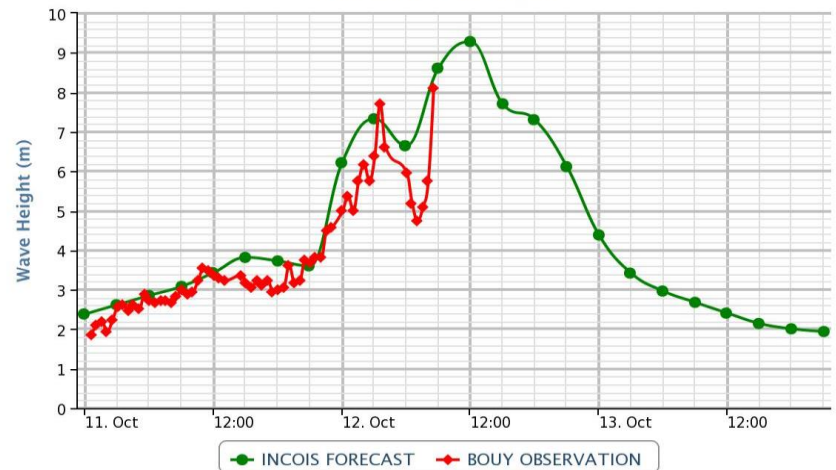
## Wave Rider buoys



# Real time monitoring of wave heights






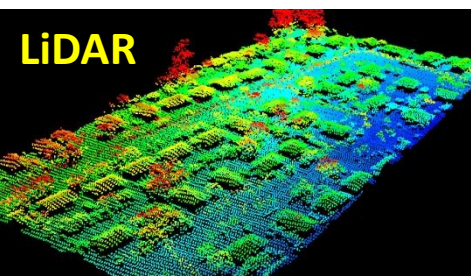
Real Time Validation (Forecast vs Observation) : Vizag  
Significant Wave Height (SWH)



## Satellite imagery: Bathymetry / shoreline / in land topography

### High Resolution Topographic Mapping

Platforms	Sensors/Cameras	Altitude	Ground Coverage	Details
 <b>Satellite</b>	CCD RADAR	~700km	More	Less
 <b>Aeroplane</b>	Camera LiDAR RADAR	~2–6km	Medium	Moderate
 <b>UAV</b>	Camera LiDAR	~100– 2000m	less	More

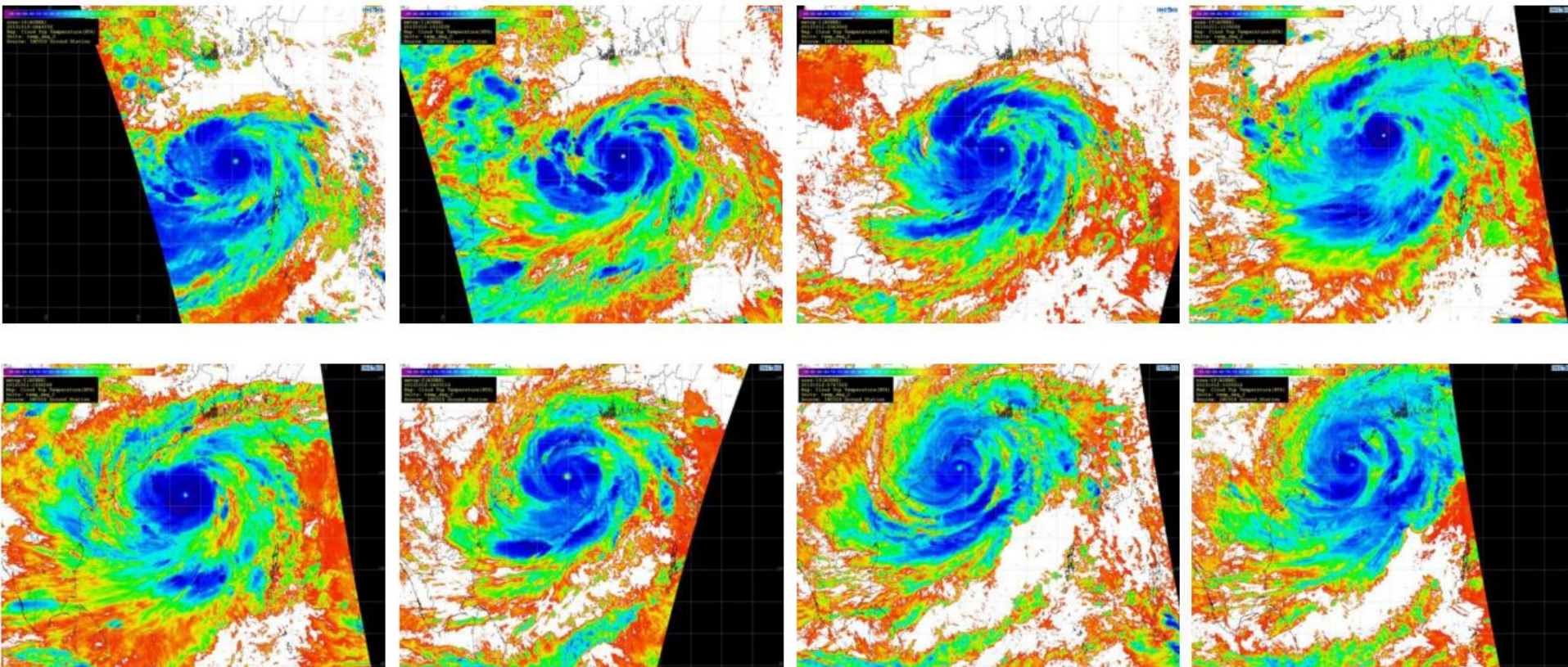


# **Utilization of satellite derived CTT to retrieve $R_{max}$ of a cyclone**



## Cyclone Phailin Rmax estimation from AVHRR-BT4 (10.5 – 11.5 $\mu\text{m}$ )

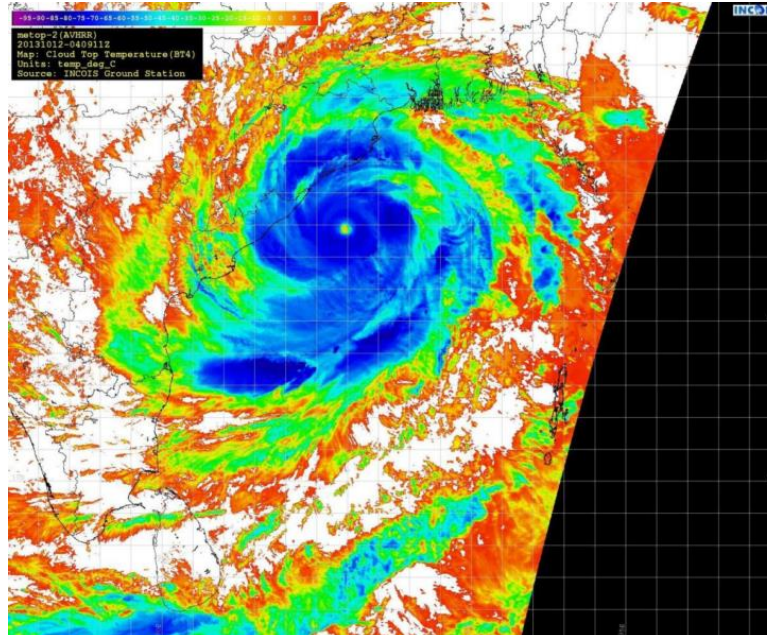
Following images shows the various stages of cyclone and it's Rmax varied from 25 to 36 Km



Satellite based determination of Rmax is a new technique based on the cloud top temperatures.

Rmax is the distance between the coldest cloud top temperature surrounding the eye and the warmest temperature within the eye of the cyclone. (S. A. Hsu & Adele Babin, 2005)

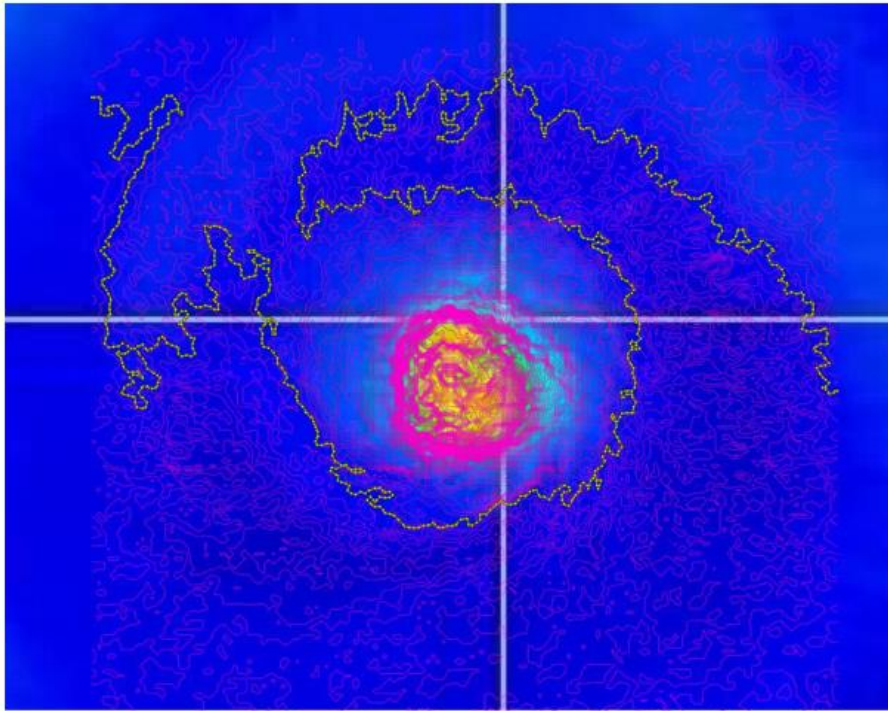
Noticeable eye structure is necessary to estimate the Rmax.



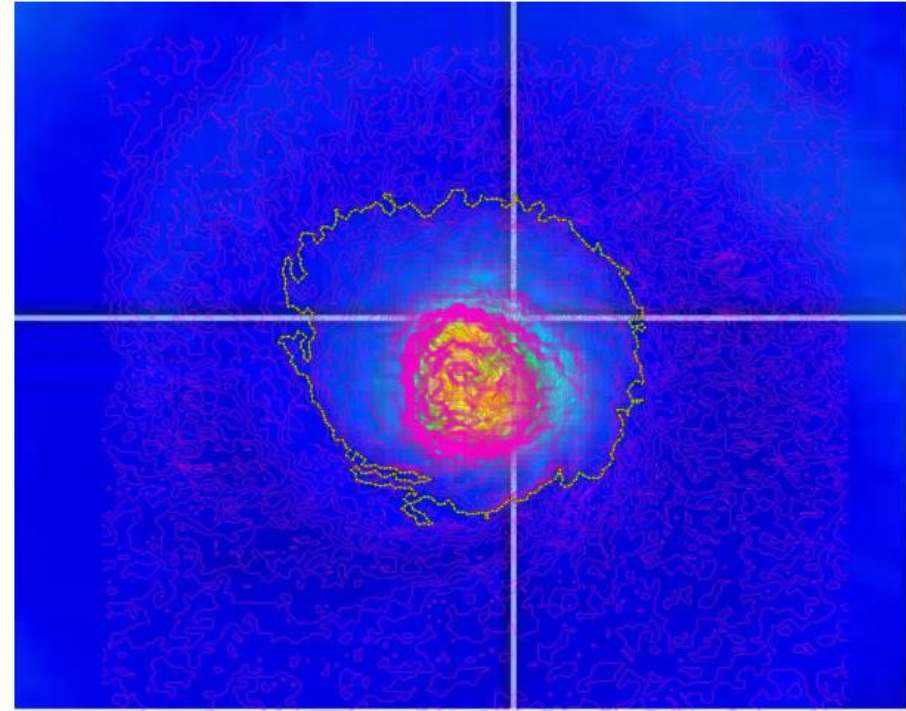


1°C contours interval, 10 Oct 2013-04:09Z

-71 °C contours



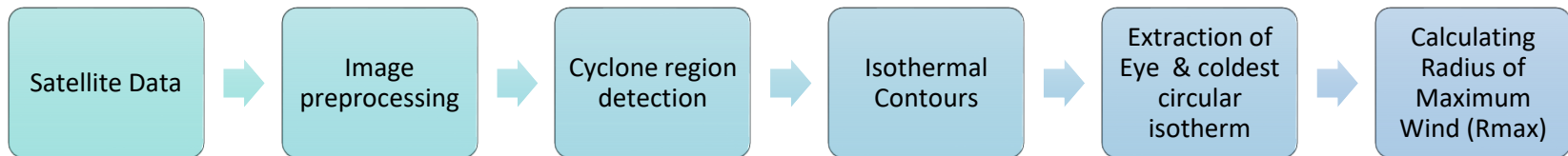
-70 °C contours



The coldest contour (-70 °C) surrounded around the eye is considered to measure  $R_{max}$ , the diameter( $D$ ) of the circle is 72Km ( $R_{max}[D/2]=36\text{Km}$ ).



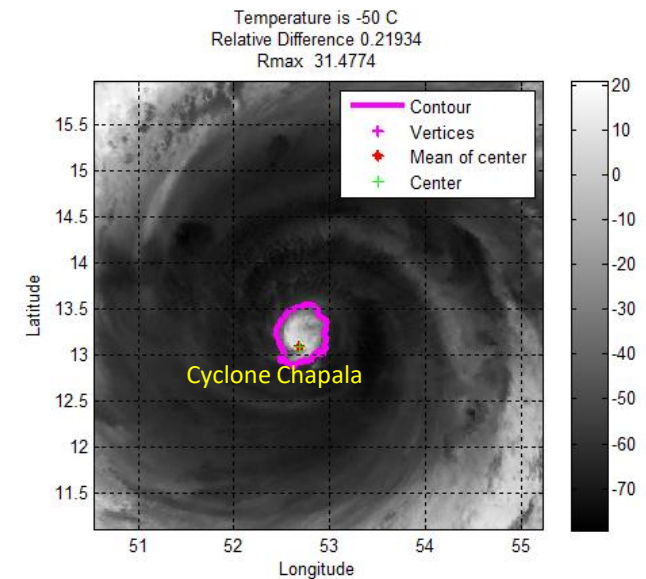
## Automatic Extraction of radius of WIND Maximum ( $R_{max}$ ) of a tropical cyclone from IR images through image processing techniques



SOFTWARE USED: MATLAB

### Out come

- Real-time operational  $R_{max}$  estimation
- Extract cyclone eye position (Lat/Long)
- Estimation of translational speed of the cyclone
- Position shift and time



France et al., 2008. A Technique to Determine the Radius of Maximum Wind of a Tropical Cyclone.  
(<https://journals.ametsoc.org/doi/pdf/10.1175/2008WAF2007077.1>)

Xiaoqin et al., 2017. Estimating Tropical Cyclone Size in the Northwestern Pacific from Geostationary Satellite Infrared Images. ([www.mdpi.com/2072-4292/9/7/728/pdf](http://www.mdpi.com/2072-4292/9/7/728/pdf))

## Utilization of ocean observations by IMD

India Meteorological (IMD) Department is mandate for track prediction in India.

IMD makes use of observations from ships Ocean Weather Stations (OWS), Manned and Unmanned light vessels, Moored buoys, Drifting buoys, Towers, Island Automatic Weather Stations.

The observations from ocean are directly available to forecasters to evaluate the state of sea and that of atmosphere. These are also assimilated in the Numerical Weather Prediction (NWP) models to provide the forecast.

Simulation experiments with high resolution regional model show that buoy observations show significant impact on intensity and track.

A study by Osuri et al (2012), with remotely sensed satellite-derived winds over the North Indian Ocean (NIO), show that the inclusion of satellite-derived winds through a three-dimensional variational (-3DVAR) data assimilation system improves significantly the initial position, track, intensity and landfall forecast.

**The error in landfall point was reduced by 25 km by 2010 mainly due to installation of coastal AWS.**



Thank You