



1 **Reviews and syntheses: Physical and biogeochemical processes associated with upwelling in the**  
2 **Indian Ocean**

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35



36 **Abstract.**

37

38 The Indian Ocean presents two distinct climate regimes. The North Indian Ocean is dominated by the monsoons, whereas  
39 the seasonal variation is less pronounced in the south. The prevailing wind pattern produces upwelling along different parts  
40 of the coast in both hemispheres during different times of the year. Additionally, dynamical processes and eddies either  
41 cause or enhance upwelling. This paper reviews the phenomena of upwelling along the coast of the Indian Ocean extending  
42 from the tip of South Africa to the southern tip of the west coast of Australia. Observed features, underlying mechanisms,  
43 and the impact of upwelling on the ecosystem are presented.

44

45 In the Agulhas Current region, cyclonic eddies associated with the Natal pulses drive slope upwelling and enhances  
46 chlorophyll concentration along the continental margin. The Durban break-away eddy spun-up by the Agulhas upwells cold  
47 nutrient-rich water. Besides, topographically induced upwelling occurs along the inshore edges of Agulhas Current. Wind-  
48 driven coastal upwelling occurs along the South coast of Africa and augments the dynamical upwelling in the Agulhas  
49 Current. Upwelling hotspots along Mozambique are present in the northern and southern sectors of the channel, and they  
50 are ascribed to dynamical effects of ocean circulation in addition to wind forcing. Interaction of mesoscale eddies with the  
51 western boundary, anticyclonic eddy pair interactions, and passage of cyclonic eddies cause upwelling. Upwelling along the  
52 southern coast of Madagascar is caused by Ekman wind-driven mechanism and by eddy generation and inhibited by  
53 Southwest Madagascar Coastal Current. The seasonal upwelling that occurs along the East African coast is primarily driven  
54 by the Northeast monsoon winds and enhanced by topographically induced shelf-breaking and shear instability between the  
55 East African Coastal Current and the island chains. Somali coast presents a strong case for the classical Ekman type of  
56 upwelling. This upwelling can be inhibited by the arrival of deeper thermocline signals generated in the offshore region by  
57 wind stress curl. The upwelling is nearly uniform along the coast of Arabia, it is caused by the alongshore component of the  
58 summer monsoon winds and modulated by the arrival of Rossby waves generated in the offshore region by cyclonic wind  
59 stress curl. Along the west coast of India, upwelling is driven by coastally trapped waves together with the alongshore  
60 component of the southwesterlies. Along the southern tip of India and Sri Lanka, the strong Ekman transport drives  
61 upwelling. Upwelling is feeble along the east coast of India and occurs during the summer, caused by alongshore winds. In  
62 addition, mesoscale eddies lead to upwelling but the arrival of river water plumes inhibits upwelling along this coast.  
63 Southeasterly winds drive upwelling along the coast of Sumatra and Java during summer. Kelvin wave propagation  
64 originating from the Equatorial Indian Ocean affects the magnitude and extent of Sumatra and Java upwelling. Both ENSO  
65 and IOD events cause large variability of upwelling here. Along the west coast of Australia, southerly winds can dominate  
66 over the Leeuwin Current, causing sporadic upwelling, which is prominent along the southwest, central, and Gascoyne  
67 coasts during summer. The open ocean upwelling in the southern tropical Indian Ocean and within the Sri Lanka Dome is  
68 driven primarily by the wind stress curl but also impacted by Rossby wave propagations.

69



70 Upwelling is a key driver in enhancing biological productivity in all sectors of the coast, as indicated by enhanced sea  
71 surface chlorophyll concentrations. Additional knowledge at varying levels has been gained through in situ observations  
72 and model simulations. In the Mozambique channel, upwelling stimulates new production, and circulation redistributes the  
73 production generated by upwelling and mesoscale eddies leading to observations of higher ecosystem impact along the  
74 edges of eddies. Similarly, along the southern Madagascar coast, biological connectivity is influenced by the transport of  
75 phytoplankton from upwelling zones. Along the coast of Kenya, both productivity rates and zooplankton biomass are higher  
76 during the upwelling season. Along the Somali coast, accumulation of upwelled nutrients in the northern part of the coast  
77 leads to spatial inhomogeneity in productivity. On the other hand, productivity is more uniform along the coasts of Yemen  
78 and Oman. Upwelling along the west coast of India has several biogeochemical implications, including oxygen depletion,  
79 denitrification, and high production of CH<sub>4</sub> and dimethyl sulfide. Though feeble, wind-driven upwelling leads to significant  
80 enhancement of phytoplankton in the northwest Bay of Bengal during the summer monsoon. Along the Sumatra and Java  
81 coasts, upwelling affects the phytoplankton composition and assemblages. Dissimilarities in copepod assemblages occur  
82 during the upwelling periods along the west coast of Australia. Phytoplankton abundance characterizes inshore edges of the  
83 slope during upwelling season, and upwelling eddies are associated with abundance in Krill.  
84 The review identifies the northern coast of the Arabian Sea and eastern coasts of the Bay of Bengal as the least observed  
85 sectors. Further, sustained long-term observations with high temporal and spatial resolutions along with high-resolution  
86 modeling efforts are suggested for a proper description of upwelling, its variability, and its relationship to the ecosystem.  
87



88 **1 Introduction**

89 Tangential winds that blow parallel to the coast result in the transport of water away from the coast (Ekman, 1905). The  
90 water that is transported from near the coast must be replaced by water from below, usually from a depth range of 100 -  
91 300m. This upward motion of water from below is termed as (coastal) upwelling (Sverdrup, 1937). While the dynamics of  
92 the system primarily concerns the upward flow, the change in properties of the water near the surface is what concerns most  
93 for the ecosystem and biogeochemistry. The water that upwells comes from below the Ekman layer, and therefore it is  
94 cooler, denser, and rich in nutrients. The transport away from the coast is governed by Ekman dynamics, and owing to the  
95 higher density of the upwelled water near the coast, a current that is parallel to the coast gets sets-up. The existence of a  
96 physical boundary, the coast, is a necessary condition for the upwelling to take place. The absence of Coriolis force at the  
97 equator and its change in sign across the equator creates a dynamical boundary at the equator that supports upwelling. Thus,  
98 easterlies drive poleward Ekman transport on both sides of the equator giving rise to equatorial upwelling. Upwelling is  
99 possible in the open ocean as well, even in the absence of a physical or dynamic boundary when the surface winds possess  
100 strong positive vorticity. Cyclonic wind stress curl leads to divergence within the surface layer leading to upward vertical  
101 velocity known as Ekman suction, which is often represented by a 'thermocline dome'. Other mechanisms, such as planetary  
102 waves can cause upwelling, and they will be described later in this paper. Upwelling has great significance in ocean science  
103 owing to its enormous potential to (1) cool the sea surface by several degrees and (2) increase the productivity of near-  
104 surface water by several orders of magnitudes, compared to regions unaffected by upwelling. California, Iberian, Canary,  
105 Humboldt, and Benguela are the well-known eastern boundary current upwelling systems in the world oceans. These  
106 classical eastern boundary upwelling systems are driven by winds blowing towards the equator.

107

108 The upwelling process connects the upper wind-driven part of the ocean with the relatively quiescent sub-surface regimes.  
109 Upwelling brings cold, nutrient-rich bottom waters to the surface layer, which significantly supports the primary production  
110 and hence the higher food web. This connection is vital for cycling tracers and nutrients and invigorating marine life across  
111 all states of the food chain. Water upwelled along the eastern boundaries of the major continents is known to harbor some  
112 of the world's largest marine ecosystems (Hutchings et al., 2009, Montecino and Lange, 2009, Checkley and Barth, 2009,  
113 Aristegui et al., 2009). Globally, the upwelling systems occupy less than 2% of the total oceanic area, but they alone  
114 contribute to ~20% of the total fish catch (Pauly and Christensen, 1995). Upwelling links the ocean interior with the surface  
115 where the ocean and atmosphere interact, exchanging heat, water, and gases, and serves as the source for major  
116 biogeochemical and ecological transformations. Though the impact of upwelling is most pronounced regionally, its impact  
117 could affect basin-scale circulation and regional climate.

118 The Indian Ocean is different from the Atlantic and Pacific due to its unique geographical setting marked by the northern  
119 land boundary located in the tropics itself. The vast landmass situated to the north of the ocean gives rise to the region's  
120 monsoon climate, which is characterized by seasonally reversing winds and copious rainfall during summer. The monsoon





121 winds (**Figure 1**) are southwesterlies during May-September and Northeasterly during December-February. The transition  
122 from one Monsoon to the other occurs during the spring and autumn months of March - April and October - November,  
123 respectively (Schott and McCreary, 2001). Therefore, the most striking characteristic of the upwelling in the Indian Ocean,  
124 particularly concerning other typical Eastern boundary upwelling systems, is its seasonality.

125

126 A review of the coastal currents in the Indian Ocean was carried out by Shetye and Gouveia (1998). Schott and McCreary  
127 (2001) provide a comprehensive review of the monsoon circulation in the Indian Ocean, and an update of this review has  
128 been given in Schott et al. (2009). Shankar et al. (2002) has presented a detailed description of the monsoon currents and a  
129 synthesis of their dynamics. More recently, Hood et al. (2015) have reviewed the boundary currents in the Indian Ocean and  
130 their impact on biogeochemistry. The Indian Ocean science has witnessed a surge in activities in the last decade. Several  
131 multidisciplinary research programs that cut across institutional and national boundaries have been deployed towards  
132 developing new data sets and testing hitherto unknown hypotheses. Concurrently, numerical models have evolved into  
133 higher levels of sophistication, resolution, accuracy, and complexity. Motivated by the rapid progress that the Indian Ocean  
134 has witnessed in the last few years, this paper aims to synthesize the knowledge that has accumulated in recent times.  
135 Additionally, the review covers upwelling regions that have not received enough attention in past reviews. It is expected  
136 that the review would assist in developing future programs in the Indian Ocean coastal oceanography such as those outlined  
137 in the UN Decade of the Oceans.

138

139 The alignment of the coastline with respect to the winds offers favorable conditions for upwelling along several parts of the  
140 Indian Ocean boundaries. The southwesterlies are favourable for upwelling along the western boundary of the North Indian  
141 Ocean, particularly along the coast of Somalia and Oman. As they approach the west coast of India, the southwesterlies turn  
142 towards the equator and blow nearly parallel to the west coast of India, owing to the presence of the Sahyadri (Western  
143 Ghats) mountain ranges. The summer monsoon winds are also favorable for upwelling along the southern coast of Sri Lanka  
144 and along the east coast of India. Persistent wind stress curl in the Southern Tropical Indian Ocean (STIO) leads to a very  
145 shallow thermocline (Xie et al., 2002) and makes it one of the strongest upwelling open ocean upwelling regions. In the  
146 southern hemisphere, upwelling has been observed in the Agulhas Current region, Mozambique channel, in the region of  
147 the East African Current, and along the coast of Java and Australia. In the section that follows, upwelling along each of the  
148 above regions is described.

149

## 150 **2. Coastal Upwelling Systems**

151

152 In this section, each of the coastal upwelling systems in the Indian Ocean are described in detail. We first present an overview  
153 using historic portrayal followed by recent observations; these sections render characteristics of the upwelling and its impact  
154 on physical parameters. A review of the present status of modeling these upwelling systems is presented next, along with



155 mechanisms that drive upwelling. The impact of upwelling on the marine ecosystem and biogeochemistry is discussed next,  
156 including those on the fisheries. Progress made during the IIOE-2 (2015 – 2010) era are paid particular attention, major  
157 outstanding issues are listed, and plausible approaches are suggested. While this general content remains the same for all  
158 regions, no effort has been made to wrap subject matter for each of the regions into the same packaging but follow the  
159 progress of science because the advancement of knowledge in each of these regions have progressed differently in terms of  
160 both the time when major progress was made and also in terms of focus on features that are specific to the region.

## 161 **2.1 Agulhas Current**

### 162 **2.1.1. Characteristics and importance**

163  
164 The warm, fast-flowing Agulhas Current is the western-most outflow of the Indian Ocean. In the form of a 1000 km-long  
165 western boundary current along the southeastern side of the African continent, it transports an average of 84 Sv of upper IO  
166 water into the south Atlantic and Subtropical Convergence (STC; Lutjeharms, 2006; Beal et al., 2015). It is considered the  
167 largest of the WBCs. As such, the Agulhas Current plays a critical role in the planet's global circulation of thermocline water  
168 and the MOC (Rahmstorf, 2003; Donners and Drijfhout, 2004; Biastoch et al., 2008; Beal et al., 2011).

169  
170 It's origin lie in the convergent flows from the Mozambique Channel, the East Madagascar Current, and the southern Indian  
171 Ocean subtropical gyre (**Figure 2**) carrying water masses from the Arabian Sea, Red Sea, and the equatorial Indian Ocean  
172 on the shoreward side, while offshore waters comprise Atlantic Ocean, Southern Ocean, and southeast Indian Ocean  
173 (Lutjeharms 2006; Beal et al., 2006). This convergence occurs in the vicinity of the Delagoa Bight in the southern part of  
174 Mozambique. With a volume transport that can reach 160 Sv, it is one of the most powerful WBCs. Typically, the narrow  
175 core (~200 km wide) has a velocity of ~2 ms<sup>-1</sup> with maximums reaching 3.5 m s<sup>-1</sup> (Lutjeharms, 2006; Beal et al., 2015). The  
176 core closely follows the African continent's steep slope once south of the Delagoa Bight at 27°S. The very narrow shelf (~3  
177 km) here on the off northern KwaZulu-Natal (also known as Maputoland) means that the warm subtropical surface waters  
178 reach the coast and consequently extend the subtropical IO fauna and flora towards the poles (Turpie et al., 2000; Griffiths  
179 et al., 2010).

180  
181 South of Cape St Lucia, the coastline retracts northwards away from the shelf edge for ~120 km forming the KZN Bight  
182 (**Figure 2**). Mid-bight, the Agulhas Current is ~40 km from the coast following the undeviating continental edge/slope. The  
183 small KZN Bight, which has a shelf edge depth of around 100 m and mid-shelf depth of 50 m, offers the only refuge from  
184 the strong Agulhas Current flow in the upper half of its trajectory.

185  
186 Further downstream, more or less mid-length, the core again moves away from the coast as the continental shelf gradually  
187 widens at 27°E (near Port Alfred; see **Figure 2**) to become the Agulhas Bank — an area of great importance for spawning  
188 and the early life cycle of many of South Africa's commercially fisheries (Hutchings et al., 2002). The Agulhas Bank is the



189 most expansive shelf on the African continent and has a shelf edge at 200 m depth with typical mid-shelf depths around  
190 120-150 m. The eastern part of the bank up to 22°E is commonly influenced by plumes of warm water from current meanders  
191 which extend northward (Lutjeharms, 1989; Krug et al., 2017). The Agulhas Bank has some of the most intense thermoclines  
192 found world-wide (Swart and Largier, 1987). At the Agulhas Bank's southern tip, the jet-like Agulhas Current becomes  
193 unstable and undergoes several fates (Lutjeharms, 2006). Ordinarily, the core retroflects south then eastwards, forming the  
194 Agulhas Return Current which flows along to the north of the Subtropical Convergence (STC) — a divide between the IO  
195 and colder Southern Ocean. A temporary northward displacement of the Return Current around the Agulhas Plateau (**Figure**  
196 **2**) at times causes a fusion (occlusion) of the ARC with the Agulhas Current resulting in the formation of warm Agulhas  
197 Rings which propagate westwards into the south Atlantic Ocean — a critical contribution to the MOC (Biaستoch et al., 2008;  
198 Beal et al., 2011). Occasionally the end of the Agulhas Current turns northwards and follows the steep slope of the Western  
199 Agulhas Bank.

200  
201 Surface temperatures of the Agulhas Current range between 22 and 30°C in the northern reaches, reflecting seasonal  
202 oscillations but these decrease with southward latitude along the current's length in both seasons (Lutjeharms, 2006). Being  
203 of subtropical origins, the surface waters of the Agulhas Current are oligotrophic, but at depth, reflect nutrient concentrations  
204 of those typical of the SEC. As with all WBCs, isopycnals slope upwards across the current towards the shelf-slope moving  
205 nutrient-rich, cooler water to shallower depths (Lutjeharms et al., 2000; **Figure 3**).

206  
207 Notwithstanding the current's planetary importance, it is also a major driver of local processes that underpin the shelf  
208 ecosystems along the east and southern shelf region of South Africa. This is underscored in the composite image shown in  
209 **Figure 4** where several important productivity features are highlighted by enhanced surface chlorophyll levels along the  
210 current's boundary. Some are bathymetrically fixed — others transient. All are underpinned by some form of upwelling of  
211 cooler, nutrient-rich water.

#### 212 213 **2.1.2. Transient meanders and cyclonic eddies (core upwelling)**

214  
215 A range of transient meanders and associated cyclonic eddies on the inshore boundary of the Agulhas Current commonly  
216 occur, promoting shelf-edge upwelling which does not usually break the surface. The most well-known is the Natal pulse  
217 which is observed on average 1.6 times a year, but this appearance ranges anywhere between 0 and 6 events a year  
218 (Lutjeharms and Roberts, 1988; de Ruijter et al., 1999; Bryden et al., 2005; Rouault and Penven, 2011; Beal et al., 2015;  
219 Leber and Beal, 2015). These large solitary meander events do not have a discernible seasonal cycle but, as pointed out,  
220 display considerable interannual variability (Krug & Tournadre, 2012). Natal pulses are of the order of 100 km in diameter  
221 and originate in the upper reaches of the current, usually due to the interaction of the core flow with adjacent anticyclonic  
222 eddies (Tsugawa and Hasumi, 2010). Natal pulses propagate down the east coast of South Africa at approximately 10-20  
223 km/day and grow in size (amplitude) (upstream ~30 km, downstream ~200 km) (Lutjeharms et al., 2003), extending the full



224 depth of the Agulhas Current, i.e., ~2000 m (Lutjeharms et al., 2001, 2003; Elipot and Beal (2015); Pivan et al., 2016). The  
225 passage of a Natal pulse is often followed by the spawning of an Agulhas ring which moves off into the south Atlantic (Van  
226 Leeuwen et al., 2000; Lutjeharms 2006; Elipot and Beal, 2015).

227  
228 Natal pulses drive slope upwelling with an order of magnitude of 50–100 m per day (Bryden et al., 2005; Pivan et al., 2016),  
229 and given their slow propagation, are associated with relatively long residence times. Their cold cyclonic cores temporarily  
230 move deeper water onto the narrow continental slope along the Transkei shelf and are coincident with enhanced surface  
231 chlorophyll (**Figure 5**). Their influence on the coastal waters is perhaps greatest between Port Alfred and Algoa Bay on the  
232 far eastern Agulhas Bank, where they facilitate cross-shelf exchange (Jackson et al., 2012; Krug et al., 2014; Pivan et al.,  
233 2016). Goschen et al. (2015) observed the dynamics of six Natal pulses here using in situ moorings, and found slope  
234 upwelling-induced cold bottom water events (10–12°C) to extend over the entire shelf reaching the inshore areas of Algoa  
235 Bay. These lasted last 1–3 weeks during the passing of the pulse, but the cold water on the shelf could linger a further three  
236 weeks. During upwelling, the isotherms ascended at an average rate of 1.8m day<sup>-1</sup> as the cold bottom layer increased in  
237 thickness to 40–60 m, although upwelled water did not break the surface in all cases. Cold water remained in the area for a  
238 further 2–3 weeks.

239  
240 These results were recently contextualized by Malan et al. (2018) using a combination of two ocean models (INALT01 and  
241 AGU HYCOM). They showed that large meander events in the Agulhas Current drive strong shear with the shelf waters on  
242 the meander leading and trailing edges. This induces strong negative vorticity areas, which promotes upwelling events in  
243 the bottom boundary layer, resulting in a significant decrease in subsurface temperatures at 100 m at the shelf edge. This is  
244 particularly prevalent along the slope of the eastern Agulhas Bank. They used a tracer experiment to observe the uplift of  
245 water from 400 m beneath the surface of the Agulhas Current, on the leading edge of a large meander. **Figure 6** depicts the  
246 tracer results at the onset of the meander and follows the dynamics for four weeks. Important to note is the cold-nutrient-  
247 rich Central Water left on the shelf after the meander has moved west.

248  
249 Another common recurring cold-core cyclonic eddy is the Durban break-away eddy first noted by Lutjeharms and Connell  
250 (1989) and more recently studied by Guastella and Roberts (2016). This is a semi-permanent feature of smaller proportions  
251 than the Natal pulse (~ 60 km). It is considered to be lee-trapped during its early development as a result of a submerged  
252 bight off Durban in the 100 m depth contour configuration. It is hypothesized that the cyclone is spun-up by the strong  
253 southwestward flowing Agulhas Current offshore of the regressed shelf edge near Durban. Analysis of ADCP data and  
254 satellite imagery shows the eddy to be present off Durban approximately 55% of the time with an average lifespan of 8.6  
255 days. After spin-up, the eddy breaks loose from its lee position and propagates downstream on the inshore boundary of the  
256 Agulhas Current (**Figure 2**). The eddy is highly variable in occurrence, strength, and downstream propagation speeds. There  
257 is no detectable seasonal cycle in the eddy occurrence, with the Natal pulse causing more variability than any seasonal



258 signal. Moorings and ship data confirm upward doming of the thermal structure in the eddy core associated with cooler  
259 water and nutrients being moved higher in the water column, stimulating primary production. Gaustella and Roberts (2016)  
260 also noted a second mechanism of upwelling by this feature, viz. divergent upwelling in the northern limb of the eddy (where  
261 the cyclonic radial flow separates from the shelf). Moreover, satellite-tracked surface drifters released in the eddy  
262 demonstrated the potential for nutrient-rich eddy water to be transported northwards along the inshore regions of the  
263 KwaZulu-Natal (KZN) Bight, thus contributing to the functioning of the bight ecosystem, as well as southwards along the  
264 KZN and Transkei coasts – both by the eddy migrating downstream and by eddy water being recirculated into the inshore  
265 boundary of the Agulhas Current itself.

266

### 267 **2.1.3 Dynamic boundary upwelling**

268

269 Another form of upwelling also occurs at two bathymetric points along the inshore boundary of the Agulhas Current.  
270 Historically referred to as dynamic or divergent upwelling, surface upwelling expressions (isotherm outcropping) occur west  
271 of Cape Lucia (near Richards Bay), where the very narrow Maputoland shelf (3 km) widens to become the KZN Bight, and  
272 near Port Alfred (27°E) further downstream where the Transkei shelf widens into the Agulhas Bank (**Figure 2**).

273

274 Both Lutjeharms et al. (2000) and Meyer et al. (2002) showed that low water temperatures of <19 °C, high salinities (c.  
275 35.30), and nitrate levels (c. 15  $\mu\text{mol kg}^{-1}$ ) indicated upwelling in the northern KZN Bight with an epicenter between Cape  
276 St Lucia and Richards Bay. This is the prime source of upwelled water and nutrients for the KZN Bight. This upwelling is  
277 responsible for elevated chlorophyll levels commonly observed in the northern part of the Bight (c. 1.5  $\text{mg m}^{-3}$ , cf. c. 0.5  
278  $\text{mg m}^{-3}$ ). More recent work by Roberts and Nieuwenhuys (2016) showed upwelling events to last 5–10 days, with  
279 temperatures commonly dropping by 7°C. The earlier studies (Lutjeharms et al., 2000; Meyer et al., 2002) suggested this  
280 upwelling was topographically and dynamically driven by the juxtaposition of the Cape St Lucia offset and the Agulhas  
281 Current (a solitary mechanism). However, Roberts and Nieuwenhuys (2016) showed almost all major and minor cold-water  
282 intrusions on the shelf coincided with upwelling-favorable north-easterly winds that simultaneously force a southwesterly  
283 coastal current. Analysis of in situ mooring data indicates the strongest upwelling events here are driven by a coupled  
284 mechanism of Ekman bottom veering on the continental slope and upwelling-favorable wind.

285

286 Some 150 km south of Durban, the coastline again undergoes a small northward retraction from the shelf edge — which  
287 begins the slowly southward expanding Transkei shelf (at Port St Johns; see **Figure 2**). The shelf north of here is very  
288 narrow, as is the case north of the KZN Bight. South of Durban (and the Durban Eddy), the Agulhas Current flows close to  
289 the coast. But at Port St Johns, the Current begins to move offshore following the smooth continental slope. Roberts et al.  
290 (2010), using S-ADCP data and satellite SST demonstrated the existence of cyclonic flow in the Port St Johns–Waterfall  
291 Bluff coastal inset, with a northward coastal current similarly ranging in velocity between 20 and 60  $\text{cm s}^{-1}$ . CTD data  
292 indicated that this was associated with shelf-edge upwelling, with surface temperatures 2–4 °C cooler than the adjacent core



293 temperature (24–26 °C) of the Agulhas Current (**Figure 7**). Vertical profiles of the S-ADCP data showed that the  
294 countercurrent, about 7 km wide, extends down the slope to at least 600 m, where it appeared to link with the deep Agulhas  
295 Undercurrent at 800 m. It is not known how often this feature exists. Satellite images at times show enhanced surface  
296 chlorophyll on the narrow shelf here, but often this is overtaken by passing turbulent features on the inshore boundary of  
297 the current.

298  
299 Surface upwelling near Port Alfred occurs on a much grander scale than the KZN Bight or Port St Johns, at times stretching  
300 from East London (29°E) to Port Elizabeth (80-300 km in length **Figure 4**), and is considered the most important upwelling  
301 on the southeast coast of South African. Lutjeharms et al. (2000), using cruise data, showed the upwelled water to originate  
302 from a depth of 200-300 m in the Agulhas Current resulting in the water of 8-11°C moving up onto the continental shelf,  
303 which has an edge break at 100 m depth. This colder, nutrient-rich water is derived from the upper to middle levels of South  
304 Indian Central Water and forms a thermocline, which at times breaks the surface here, resulting in extensive chlorophyll  
305 blooms that propagate westwards well onto the Eastern Agulhas Bank (e.g., **Figure 4**). Lutjeharms et al. (2000) suggested  
306 that topographically induced changes in the Agulhas current structure underpin the mechanism for this ‘dynamic’ upwelling.  
307 The intermittent outcropping of upwelled water occurs more than 40% of the time and dramatically changes the surface  
308 temperatures (Lutjeharms et al., 2000). Moreover, Lutjeharms (2006) suggested that the cold, nutrient-rich bottom layer on  
309 the eastern Agulhas Bank has its origins from upwelling in the Port Alfred region underpinning the intense thermoclines  
310 found here (Swart and Largier, 1987). However, Leber et al. (2017) found that meanders act in combination with upwelling-  
311 favorable winds to force the strongest cold events, while upwelling-favorable winds alone, possibly primed by Ekman  
312 veering, force weaker cold events. This is not unlike that found near Cape St Lucia. It is found that the frontal curvature of  
313 warm Agulhas Current meanders link with the atmosphere to drive local wind stress curl anomalies that reinforce upwelling.  
314 [see below]

315

#### 316 **2.1.4. Wind-driven coastal upwelling**

317

318 Surface coastal upwelling is also found along the south coast of South Africa (i.e., eastern and central Agulhas Bank), some  
319 far removed from the Agulhas Current which is some 200 km away off Mossel Bay. This coastal upwelling is driven by the  
320 easterly winds that dominate during the austral summer months (Walker, 1986). It has been shown that the dynamic  
321 upwelling near Port Alfred is also augmented with easterly wind-driven coastal upwelling (Leber et al. 2016).

322

323 While the upwelling is found on the westward sides of prominent capes that reach deeper water, the epicenter occurs along  
324 the 100 km Tsitsikamma Coast (**Figure 4**), where the coastal bathymetry is steep (Roberts and van den Berg, 2005). A 100  
325 km-long, thin offshore extension of this upwelling is commonly observed in satellite data during the summer months. This  
326 banana-shaped feature, known as the ‘cold ridge’, is associated with high levels of chlorophyll (**Figure 4**). Roberts (2005)



327 suggested that the cold ridge is an upwelling filament drawn out by the shelf circulation; however, this hypothesis is still  
328 under investigation.

## 329 **2.2 The Mozambique Channel**

### 330 **2.2.1 Historical perspectives**

331 Oceanographic sampling within the Mozambique Channel was limited before the first International Indian Ocean Expedition  
332 (IIOE; 1959-1965), with merely six voyages and fewer than 100 stations recorded between 1913 and 1952 (Jorge da Silva  
333 et al., 1981). The Commandant Robert Giraud conducted extensive sampling throughout the Mozambique Channel during  
334 October and November 1957 as part of the International Geophysical Year (Menaché, 1963), but few of the 65 stations were  
335 located close to the coast. It seems likely that prior to the IIOE, coastal upwelling processes in this region were unknown,  
336 as the Somali upwelling system was the only upwelling area in the western Indian Ocean to be investigated during the  
337 expedition.

338 The first hydrographic data used to report on upwelling phenomena in the Mozambique Channel, as inferred from sloping  
339 isotherms and isohalines in the upper 500 m of the water column, were collected onboard RV *Dr. Fridtjof Nansen*, which  
340 surveyed the entire coast of Mozambique four times between August 1977 and June 1978 (IMR 1977a; IMR 1978a, b, c).  
341 Saetre and de Paula e Silva (1979) concluded that, during the NE monsoon (Nov-April), wind-induced upwelling occurs in  
342 a narrow strip of the ocean along the northern Mozambique coast between 11 and 16°S. Although they did not observe any  
343 associated low temperatures or high nutrient concentrations in the surface waters, they observed cyclonic eddies off Angoche  
344 in September and November 1977 and further south off Inhambane and along a transect off ~27°S during the September  
345 1977 and January-March 1978 surveys. A special effort to investigate the upwelling in the northern section of the channel  
346 was subsequently undertaken onboard the RV *Alexander von Humboldt* in February and March 1980 to determine whether  
347 the upwelling was due mainly to wind or current effects (Nehring, 1984). Hydrographic sampling was conducted along nine  
348 transects normal to the coast between Cabo Delgado and Angoche. During this survey, dynamic topography revealed a  
349 cyclonic eddy in the Angoche region, with high NO<sub>3</sub>- and chlorophyll concentrations associated with the core of the eddy  
350 (Nehring, 1984; Nehring et al. 1987).

351 More detailed hydrographic surveys within the Delagoa Bight by the RV *Dr. Fridtjof Nansen* in October 1980 (Brinca et  
352 al., 1981) and RV *Ernst Haeckel* in January 1982 (Lutjeharms and Jorge da Silva, 1988) provided further information on  
353 upwelling and circulation in this southernmost part of the Mozambique coast. Lutjeharms and Jorge da Silva (1988) used  
354 data from all these cruises, in conjunction with satellite remote sensing SST imagery from AVHRR for the period spanning  
355 from 1975 to 1985, to study the region in detail. Their results suggested that there is an area in the Delagoa Bight, the  
356 Inharrime terrace, where upwelling enhances biological productivity over the continental shelf. A later study by  
357 Kyewalyanga et al. (2007) using satellite ocean color products and a biological model corroborated this finding. Lutjeharms



358 and Jorge da Silva (1988) also suggested that a cyclonic lee eddy present in the Delagoa Bight during the 1980 and 1982  
359 cruises was topographically driven and a relatively consistent feature. Between 2004 and 2006, a series of four cruises on  
360 the RV *Algoa* was undertaken to investigate the persistence of this lee eddy, as well as the influence of passing eddies on  
361 upwelling in the Bight, as part of the African Coelacanth Ecosystem Project (ACEP), with hydrographic and biological  
362 sampling conducted along a series of shore-normal transects within the Bight (Lamont et al., 2010). The lee eddy was  
363 documented only once during these cruises, leading Lamont et al. (2010) to suggest that the Delagoa Bight eddy is more  
364 transient than previously thought.

365 The RV *Dr. Fridtjof Nansen* returned to the region almost three decades later in 2007 for a comprehensive ecosystem survey  
366 of the entire Mozambique coast (Johnsen et al., 2007), and again in 2009 to survey the Angoche upwelling area during the  
367 Agulhas and Somali Large Marine Ecosystem (ASCLME) program (Olsen et al., 2009). These efforts complemented several  
368 hydrographic surveys within the Mozambique Channel between 2002 and 2010, driven largely by a French–South African  
369 partnership through the multidisciplinary MESOBIO (Influence of mesoscale dynamics on biological productivity at  
370 multiple trophic levels in the Mozambique Channel) research programme (Ternon et al., 2014), which focused on the  
371 mesoscale eddies. Detailed information about the Angoche and Delagoa Bight upwelling events, based on hydrographic  
372 data collected during MESOBIO, has been documented by Malauene et al. (2014), Roberts et al. (2014), and Lamont et al.  
373 (2014).

#### 374 2.2.2. Mechanisms

375 The northern part of the Mozambique Channel is influenced by the monsoonal wind system, with wind stress predominantly  
376 from the north to north-east during austral summer and the south to southeast during austral winter (Saetre and Jorge da  
377 Silva, 1982; Schott et al., 2009). The influence of the monsoon winds in the Mozambique Channel is halted at about 20°S  
378 (Tomczak and Godfrey, 1994; Schott et al., 2009). South of this latitude, the winds are southeasterly (known as the trade  
379 winds) almost all year round and are unfavourable for Ekman upwelling along the Mozambican coast.

380 The monthly mean wind stress (vectors) and wind stress curl (shading) within the Mozambique Channel and around  
381 Madagascar are shown for different seasons in **Figure 8**. January (**Figure 8a**) represents typical austral summer conditions,  
382 corresponding to the boreal northeast Monsoon (NEM) regime. April (fall; **Figure 8b**) represents the period of the transition  
383 from the NEM towards the austral southeast Monsoon (SEM), shown for July, corresponding to the austral winter season  
384 (**Figure 8c**). October (**Figure 8d**) represents the reversal of the Monsoon from the SEM to the NEM. In the southern  
385 hemisphere, negative and positive wind stress curl correspond to Ekman suction and pumping, respectively. Ekman suction  
386 in general leads to the emergence of upward vertical velocities within the water column, resulting in upwelling (blue areas),  
387 whereas Ekman pumping leads downward vertical velocities, leading to downwelling events (red areas). The strongest  
388 upwelling is predicted around Madagascar, especially during July and October.





389 With over 30 cruises in the Mozambique Channel since the late 1970s, there is now a clear picture of where upwelling  
390 hotspots are located along the Mozambique coast. In the northern sector, upwelling develops at Angoche, off the coast of  
391 Nampula between 15°S and 18°S, around the narrows of the Channel (**Figure 9**). Upwelling in the southern sector of the  
392 Mozambique Channel is more variable with regards to location, but several hotspot regions are evident, such as on the Sofala  
393 Bank, at Ponta Zavora, around Inhambane, and at the Delagoa Bight, directly offshore from the Mozambican capital Maputo.  
394 Upwelling within the Mozambique Channel, both in the northern and southern sectors, can be ascribed to two dynamic  
395 forcing mechanisms, one linked to the local characteristics of the oceanic circulation, and the other linked to the atmospheric  
396 wind forcing that transfers its momentum into the ocean's interior (Nehring et al., 1987; Quartly and Srokosz, 2004;  
397 Malauene et al., 2014; Roberts et al., 2014).

398 The drivers of upwelling at Angoche in the northern Mozambique Channel were recently investigated by Malauene et al.  
399 (2014), who inferred dominance of both wind-stress and oceanic mesoscale current instabilities. Data from an in situ  
400 underwater temperature recorder (UTR) deployed near Angoche between 2002 and 2007, combined with satellite data,  
401 revealed intermittent "cool water" events between August and March, which coincides with the period of the northeast  
402 monsoon winds. During this period, the alongshore winds in the northern Mozambique Channel are southward oriented and  
403 upwelling favorable; hence they induce surface divergence in the upper water column, thereby establishing the onset of  
404 wind-driven Ekman coastal upwelling (Malauene et al., 2014). This seasonal wind-driven coastal upwelling results in  
405 elevated chlorophyll-a signatures over an area between 15 and 18°S (Malauene et al., 2014).

406 The other contribution to upwelling at Angoche has been attributed to the dynamics of anticyclonic-cyclonic eddy pair  
407 interaction with the continental shelf (Malauene et al., 2014), due to the southward passage of large anticyclonic eddies and  
408 rings along the western boundary of the Channel (**Figure 9**; de Ruijter et al., 2002; Ridderinkhof and de Ruiter, 2003; Halo  
409 et al., 2014). The interaction of mesoscale eddies with the continental slope on the western side of the Mozambique Channel  
410 has been shown to cause upwelling of cooler, nutrient-rich water, resulting in elevated phytoplankton biomass in the shelf  
411 regions, as described further below (Lamont et al., 2014; Roberts et al., 2014). Malauene et al. (2014) suggested that the  
412 cool surface, elevated chlorophyll-a waters off Angoche are primed and formed by favourable wind-driven Ekman-type  
413 coastal upwelling during August and March, but may be further enhanced in chlorophyll-a by anticyclonic/cyclonic eddy  
414 pairs interacting with the shelf.

415 The interaction between mesoscale eddies and the Mozambican western boundary is intense and a frequent occurrence. This  
416 interaction also causes lateral divergence of the flow-field and has been regarded as an important driver of the observed  
417 upwelling events through slope current topographic-driven upwelling occurring predominantly at Ponta Zavora and Sofala  
418 Bank (Roberts et al., 2014; Lamont et al., 2014). Roberts et al. (2014) used in situ observations of ocean currents measured  
419 by a ship-borne Acoustic Doppler Current Profiler (S-ADCP) and hydrographic data from Conductivity Temperature Depth  
420 (CTD) casts to investigate the interaction of a dipole eddy (with the cyclone to the south of the anticyclone, tracked using



421 altimetry maps of sea level anomalies) with the western continental slope of the southern Mozambique Channel, near  
422 Inhambane. They observed strong ( $>100 \text{ cm s}^{-1}$ ) southward currents over the slope adjacent to the anticyclone, with  
423 horizontal divergence over the shelf at the southern edge of the anticyclone, and intense slope upwelling between the dipole  
424 and the shelf. Nutrient and chlorophyll concentrations were enhanced in the near-surface waters over the shelf, although  
425 there was no evidence of upwelling at the surface. Data from a nearby UTR confirmed prolonged bouts of slope upwelling  
426 over several weeks until the dipole had moved further south. Combined altimetry and UTR data also showed that both  
427 cyclonic and anticyclonic independent eddies (not part of a dipole) along the Mozambique continental shelf may induce  
428 slope upwelling, with divergence north of the contact zone in the case of cyclonic eddies (Roberts et al., 2014). Cyclonic  
429 eddies are usually associated with vertical pumping in the eddy's interior, favouring upwelling of nutrient-rich deep waters  
430 (i.e., new production) into the euphotic zone, particularly during the spin-up phase (Robinson, 1983; Tew-Kai and Marsac,  
431 2009).

432 The southernmost upwelling region in the Mozambique Channel is the Delagoa Bight, centered around  $26^{\circ}\text{S}$  and  $34^{\circ}\text{E}$   
433 (Lutjeharms and Da Silva, 1988; Lamont et al., 2010). The region is one of the largest coastal indentations in the southwest  
434 Indian Ocean, and the second richest area in terms of shrimp fisheries in the country, after the Sofala Bank. The oceanic  
435 circulation in the Bight is dominated by a semi-permanent cyclonic lee eddy (Lutjeharms and Da Silva, 1988; Cossa et al.,  
436 2016), which is topographically trapped and appears to occur about 25% of the time, with no clear seasonal signal (Cossa  
437 et al., 2016). The formation of the lee eddy in the Bight has been linked to the characteristics of the flow-field offshore,  
438 especially the Mozambique Channel rings. In particular, the passage of cyclonic eddies off the Inhambane region influences  
439 the water masses of the Delagoa Bight through upwelling onto the shelf, resulting in enhanced productivity (Quartly and  
440 Srokosz, 2004; Kyewalyanga et al., 2007; Lamont et al., 2010; Lamont et al., 2014). Kyewalyanga et al. (2007) recorded  
441 high chlorophyll a and primary production values in the northern part of the Delagoa Bight (**Figure 10**), where pelagic fish,  
442 mostly round herring (*Etrumeus teres*) have previously been recorded (Brinca et al., 1981).

### 443 **2.2.3 Ecosystem impacts**

444 In addition to stimulating primary production along the continental shelf of Mozambique, often in areas associated with  
445 higher biomass or pelagic fish or shrimps, the mesoscale eddies play an important role in ecosystem dynamics in the  
446 Mozambique Channel through the stimulation of new primary production via upwelling in cyclonic eddies, as well as the  
447 broad distribution of both coastal upwelling-generated and eddy-generated production. Using isotopic tracers, Kolasinski et  
448 al. (2012) showed that the new production is circulated throughout the mixed layer, while some cyclonic production may  
449 also be exported horizontally into the frontal region. Strong currents at the perimeters of these eddies result in the  
450 entrainment and offshore advection of this high biomass, dominated by siliceous diatoms, into the frontal regions (Kolasinski  
451 et al., 2012). Huggett (2014) found mesozooplankton populations were significantly enriched within the cyclonic eddies and  
452 divergence areas, with a higher abundance of copepod and euphausiid nauplii observed in the cyclonic eddies compared to



453 the anticyclonic eddies. This suggests that the divergence areas are constantly “fed” by production from within the cyclonic  
454 eddies. This concentration of coastal production combined with the import of cyclonic production into the boundary region  
455 might explain why it is often the boundaries of eddies that are targeted by consumers in the Mozambique Channel. Sabarros  
456 et al. (2009) documented large aggregations of micronekton (small forage organisms including crustaceans, squid, and fish)  
457 mainly in areas where the local horizontal gradient of sea level anomalies is strong, i.e. at the periphery of eddies, and  
458 foraging frigatebirds tend to avoid the centre of cold-core (cyclonic) eddies, preferring the eddy edges (Weimerskirch et al.,  
459 2004). Mesoscale eddies are also thought to provide better conditions for tuna aggregations throughout the water column,  
460 not just at the surface, and high species diversity among longline catches (tunas and swordfish) in the MC suggests the  
461 eddies may function as biodiversity hotspots (Tew-Kai & Marsac, 2010). Through upwelling in the core of cyclonic eddies  
462 and offshore entrainment of shelf production in the inter-eddy frontal zones, mesoscale eddies are a major source and  
463 distributor of production and organic matter in an otherwise oligotrophic system, and a key driver in supporting the high  
464 biomass and diversity of pelagic consumers observed in this region.

465

## 466 **2.3 Madagascar**

### 467 **2.3.1 Historical perspectives**

468 The island of Madagascar received little attention both before and during the IIOE. The transect made by RV *Atlantis II* in  
469 1963, departing from Maputo at the Delagoa Bight, simply crossed the southern Madagascar coast as a pathway to Reunion  
470 and Mauritius Islands (Miller and Risebrough, 1963). No wonder not even the name Madagascar is mentioned in their  
471 description (Wallen, 1964; Fye, 1965). If a potential upwelling zone off southern Madagascar upwelling had been known  
472 of then, surely a drive to investigate it during the IIOE would have been easily motivated.

473 Even since the IIOE, relatively few large-scale hydrographic surveys have been conducted along the coastline of  
474 Madagascar, which at ~4800 km is the longest in Africa. The first extensive oceanographic survey over the southern  
475 continental shelf of Madagascar to provide evidence of upwelling was conducted in June 1983 onboard the RV *Dr. Fridtjof*  
476 *Nansen* (IMR, 1983a; Lutjeharms 2006). In the south, inshore surface temperatures in the vicinity of Cap Sainte Marie, and  
477 Taolagnaro (Fort Dauphin) at the southeastern corner of the shelf, were about 2°C lower than farther offshore, with salinities  
478 indicating upwelled Subtropical Surface Water originating from depths of about 200 m. Just over a quarter of a century later,  
479 the first “circumnavigation” of this large island was achieved through two “ecosystem surveys” in 2008 and 2009 by the  
480 RV *Dr. Fridtjof Nansen* during the ASCLME programme. Between 24 August and 1 October 2008, the *Nansen* completed  
481 115 CTD stations in total along 11 transects extending far offshore along the south and east coasts of Madagascar, ending  
482 at the northern tip (Krakstad et al., 2008). Evidence was found of upwelled Subtropical Surface water at the southeastern  
483 corner of the shelf (25°S), while relatively fresher and cooler water inshore at 16°S and 14°S was suggestive of upwelling



484 along the northeast coast (Krakstad et al., 2008). One year later, from 25 August to 3 October 2009, the Nansen revisited  
485 the western sector of the south coast and continued sampling along the southwestern and north-western coasts, ending once  
486 more at Antsiranana (Diego Suárez) in the north, completing 10 transects and 182 hydrographic stations (Alvheim et al.  
487 2009). Once again, hydrographic sampling provided evidence of coastal upwelling on the southern coast (26°S), as well as  
488 at two locations on the west coast, near Cap Sainte André (16°S) and Nosy Be Island (13°S), with salinity maxima indicating  
489 upwelling of Subtropical Surface Water in the south and Equatorial Surface Water in the northern region (Pripp et al., 2014).

### 490 2.3.2 Mechanisms

491 Seasonal maps of wind stress curl indicate both strong upwelling and downwelling events around Madagascar are likely  
492 during austral winter (July, **Figure 8c**) through to late spring (October, **Figure 8d**). In July, the strongest upwelling is  
493 predicted to the northwest of Madagascar, around the Comoros basin. During this period, the winds are from the southeast.  
494 In October, the strongest upwelling is predicted all around the south, southeast, and southwest coasts of Madagascar. During  
495 this period, the winds have a northeast orientation along the southeastern coast, and a southeast orientation along the  
496 southwestern coast of the Island, thus becoming upwelling favourable.

497 Since the first observation of upwelling off southern Madagascar, there has been considerable interest amongst the scientific  
498 oceanographic community, both locally and internationally, to confirm this upwelling and understand the physical  
499 mechanisms of its formation, frequency, characteristics, and spatial extension and temporal variability (Lutjeharms and  
500 Machu, 2000; DiMarco et al., 2000; Machu et al., 2002; Ho et al., 2004; Srokosz and Quartly, 2013; Ramanantsoa et al.,  
501 2018; Collins, 2020). Lutjeharms and Machu (2000) used a snapshot composed satellite SST imagery from Advanced High-  
502 Resolution Radiometer (AVHRR) sensor onboard of NOAA satellite, with a spatial resolution of 1°x1° longitude and  
503 latitude, in conjunction with chlorophyll-a concentrations retrieved by SeaWiFS satellite, and Scatterometer wind field data  
504 from Quikscat satellite, to inspect the mechanisms of formation of this upwelling. Their finding suggested that this  
505 upwelling was caused by current instabilities at the inshore edge of the South East Madagascar Current, as no correlation  
506 was found with the local winds (Lutjeharms and Machu, 2000). In a parallel study using SST and wind field data from the  
507 same sources, DiMarco et al. (2000) concluded that upwelling over the southern continental shelf and along the southeastern  
508 continental slope, which extended over an area of 2° longitude by 1° latitude (nearly 24,642 km<sup>2</sup>) during February and  
509 March (North-East Monsoon), was driven by both wind forcing and current interactions with the continental shelf and slope.  
510 However, the paucity of in situ wind and current data prevented them from quantifying the relative contribution of each  
511 process.

512 Machu and colleagues revisited the topic soon thereafter, and surveyed the southern and southeastern continental shelf of  
513 Madagascar on board the Dutch RV *Pelagia*, during the second phase of the Agulhas Current Source Experiment (ACSEX-  
514 2) project in March 2001. Hydrographic measurements conducted along three transects provided the first dedicated and



515 comprehensive hydrographic evidence of the upwelling cell inshore of the EMC. The combination of this dataset and  
516 satellite imagery led the authors to conclude that the southeastern Madagascar upwelling occurs through a combination of  
517 favourable wind stress in the area, enabling an Ekman wind-driven mechanism, and the dynamics of a cyclonic eddy  
518 generated inshore of the current, favoured by the concave-shaped bathymetry as the shelf widens (Machu et al., 2002).

519 An attempt to study the long-term inter-annual variability of the upwelling events to the south and southeastern Madagascar  
520 and their interaction with the EMC was conducted by Ho et al. (2004). Their analysis of monthly SeaWiFs Chlorophyll-a  
521 imagery spanning from September 1997 to November 2001 revealed that the upwelling was generally enhanced in austral  
522 winter and austral summer each year. They also concluded that the southern and southeastern upwelling boundary cells  
523 interact, based on the movement and deformation of the boundary between them, with a mechanism that can be explained  
524 by the shear wave propagation theory (Ho et al., 2004).

525 More recently, Ramanantsoa et al. (2018a) investigated the temporal and spatial variability of the coastal upwelling south  
526 of Madagascar. Using a suite of satellite remote sensing data, in-situ observations, and numerical model simulations, they  
527 provide new insight on the structure, variability, and drivers of this upwelling. Their results suggest that the southern and  
528 southeastern upwelling cells already indicated in former studies (Ho et al., 2004), which they termed core 2 and core 1  
529 respectively, are characterized by distinct seasonal variability, have different intensities and water mass origins, and are  
530 formed by different physical mechanisms (Ramanantsoa et al., 2018a). The core in the southeastern sector is attributed to  
531 dynamical upwelling in response to the detachment of the EMC from the continental slope, reinforced by favorable winds.  
532 The southern core, situated to the west of the southern tip of Madagascar (Cap Ste Marie), is primarily attributed to Ekman-  
533 driven upwelling by favourable winds, whilst being inhibited by the recently described warm poleward current along the  
534 eastern boundary of the Mozambique Channel, the Southwest Madagascar Coastal Current, or SMACC (Ramanantsoa et  
535 al., 2018b).

536 During the *Nansen* survey in 2009, Pripp et al. (2014) observed upwelling off Cap Ste Andre and Nosy Be along the  
537 northwest coast, with elevated sea surface salinities indicative of upwelled Equatorial Surface Water. They suggested this  
538 upwelling was most likely current-driven due to strong northeastward bottom currents associated with passing anticyclonic  
539 eddies, which would have resulted in onshore bottom Ekman transport.

### 540 **2.3.3. Productivity and ecosystem effects**

541 As with other upwelling regions, the upwelling areas on the Madagascar shelf are associated with elevated biological  
542 productivity. During the 2009 survey, Pripp et al. (2014) found all upwelling cells to be associated with relatively high  
543 surface chlorophyll and satellite-derived net primary production (NPP), as well as higher acoustic estimates of pelagic fish,  
544 elevated pelagic and demersal trawl catches, and greater whale sightings. Ockhuis et al. (2017) found the highest neuston



545 biovolume on the Madagascar shelf to be associated with relatively cool water (<22 °C) in the core upwelling areas, and  
546 Ramanantsoa et al. (2018a) describe the coastal upwelling area south of Madagascar as a hotspot of marine biological  
547 productivity. As has been observed for the Mozambique coast, the interaction of eddies with the continental shelf can lead  
548 to the export of this shelf-based, upwelling-derived production into the open ocean. A young cyclonic eddy that formed off  
549 southern Madagascar in 2013 was observed to entrain chlorophyll-rich shelf water around its perimeter (Barlow et al., 2017),  
550 with the associated entrapment of plankton having implications for the dispersal and recruitment of larval stages and  
551 biological connectivity between regions (Braby, 2014; Noyon et al., 2019).

552 The southeast core of current-driven upwelling has been proposed (Longhurst 2001; Lévy et al., 2007; Raj et al., 2010;  
553 Srokosz & Quartly, 2013) to be the main driver of the South-East Madagascar Bloom, an extensive  
554 phytoplankton/cyanobacteria bloom that has been shown by satellite imagery to occur to the southeast of Madagascar during  
555 late austral summer). However, analysis of a 19-year time series of ocean color satellite data by Dilmahamod et al. (2019)  
556 laid this as well as other theories to rest. Bloom occurrence was associated with La Niña conditions when upwelling intensity  
557 south of Madagascar was reduced due to a stronger than average Southeast Madagascar Current detaching from the coast.  
558 The resultant feeding of low-salinity water into the Madagascar Basin and enhanced stratification, along with ample light,  
559 are suggested as ideal conditions for a nitrogen-fixing cyanobacterial bloom onset (Dilmahamod et al., 2019).

## 560 **2.4 East African Coastal Current system**

### 561 **2.4.1. Background**

562 The equatorward-flowing East African Coastal Current (EACC) is present along the coasts of Tanzania and Kenya between  
563 11°S and 3°S (**Figure 11**). Transporting about 19.9 Sv, as estimated by Swallow et al. (1991), the EACC draws much of its  
564 water from the westward-flowing South Equatorial Current. Even though it experiences the impact of the seasonally  
565 reversing winds, the northeast Monsoon in austral summer (NEM, November to March) and southeast monsoon in austral  
566 winter (SEM, April to October), the EACC is northward-oriented all year round, in contrast to the Somali Current located  
567 in its downstream bounds, which reverses its southward – northward orientation in synchrony with the reversal of the  
568 monsoons (Wyrtki, 1973; Schott, 1983; Tomczak and Godfrey, 1994). Downwelling is prevalent throughout the year,  
569 particularly during the SEM when the coastal current is strongest, but irregular upwelling has been observed near the  
570 northern Kenyan coast during the NEM when the EACC moves away from the coast in the region of the confluence with  
571 the southward-flowing Somali Current (Heip et al., 1995; Jacobs et al., 2020).

572 Although upwelling off the East African coast was first documented by Newell (1959), later confirmed by Iversen et al.  
573 (1984), Bakun et al. (1998), and Roberts et al. (2008), it is only recently that the importance of these coastal upwelling cells  
574 have been given deserved consideration through various regional research initiatives, such as the Productivity of the East



575 African Coastal Current (PEACC) project, the Sustainable Oceans, Livelihoods and food Security Through Increased  
576 Capacity in Ecosystem research in the Western Indian Ocean (SOLSTICE-WIO) programme ([www.solstice-wio.org](http://www.solstice-wio.org)), and  
577 the Western Indian Ocean Upwelling Research Initiative (WIOURI) flagship programme of the IIOE-2, due to their potential  
578 to sustain food security to local coastal communities (Roberts, 2015). The dynamics of the overlying atmospheric wind  
579 forcing (Varela et al., 2015) and the progression of the EACC through the chain of small scale islands (from south to north  
580 - Mafia, Zanzibar and Pemba) along the coast of Tanzania (Roberts et al., 2008), combined with the varying local bottom  
581 topography characterized by the presence of shallow banks along the coast of Kenya, have been identified as potential  
582 drivers of upwelling events in the region (Roberts et al., 2008; Roberts 2015; Jacobs et al., 2020).

#### 583 2.4.2 Upwelling mechanisms

584 The southern continental shelf off Kenya is very narrow (0-3 km wide), but in the northern sector the shelf widens to  
585 approximately 45 km due to the presence of the North Kenya Banks (NKBs; Nguli 1995; Jacobs et al. 2020). Upwelling  
586 events along the Kenyan coast are thought to be driven primarily by the northeast monsoonal winds that favor Ekman-driven  
587 coastal upwelling and increased productivity during November -- April (Heip et al., 1995; Varela et al., 2015). However,  
588 recent findings based on outputs from a high-resolution global biogeochemical model and satellite remote sensing  
589 observations along the Kenyan coast suggest that, during the NEM, the Ekman wind-driven coastal upwelling is further  
590 enhanced in the NKBs by a secondary dynamical process, topographically induced shelf-break upwelling, (Jacobs et al.,  
591 2020). This shelf-break upwelling showed high levels of spatial and intensity variability at interannual timescales, related  
592 to the confluence position between the EACC and the Somali Current (**Figure 12 a, b**). The model indicated that shelf-edge  
593 upwelling and productivity were enhanced over the NKBs when the confluence was located further south.

594 Along the coast of Tanzania, both the North-East Monsoonal winds and shear instabilities between the EACC and the chain  
595 of islands along the coast have been attributed as responsible physical mechanisms driving upwelling in the region, as  
596 suggested by a modeling study by Halo et al. (in review). Roberts (2015) suggested elevated chlorophyll-a concentrations  
597 in the lee (downstream) of Zanzibar Island, in particular, and to a lesser extent off Pemba Island, measured during a survey  
598 in 2007, were a consequence of localized upwelling wake induced by an island wake (Roberts, 2015). A ROMS model  
599 constructed by Zavala-Garay et al. (2015) also shows cool temperatures in the Zanzibar Channel during the NEM, potentially  
600 caused by wind-induced upwelling north of Zanzibar Channel, followed by advection into the Zanzibar Channel. A small  
601 but intense upwelling cell also develops around Tanga, between Pemba Island and the Tanzanian coast. This small upwelling  
602 cell has been observed in both monsoons (**Figure 12**), suggesting it is a regular occurrence (Halo et al., in review).

#### 603 2.4.3 Productivity and ecosystem impacts



604 The modeling study by Jacobs et al. (2020) found that upwelling of cold, nutrient-rich water along the Kenyan coast during  
605 the NEM results in elevated chlorophyll, primary production, and phytoplankton biomass. This was particularly enhanced  
606 over the NKBs (**Figure 12 c, d**) and likely to contribute to higher fishery potential in this area, which has been traditionally  
607 low along the Kenyan coast. Interannual variability in wind strength during the NEM is likely to be an important factor  
608 controlling upwelling intensity and subsequent phytoplankton production in the region (Painter, 2020). However, a recent  
609 study by Varela et al. (2015) documented a long-term decline in coastal upwelling off Kenya during the NEM for 1982-  
610 2010, which suggests that upwelling-related productivity may decline in the long-term if this trend continues. In contrast,  
611 analysis of weather station data for the period 1977-2006 generally showed long-term increases in winds along the coast of  
612 Tanzania, although the trends in mean and maximum wind speed varied with latitude and season (Mahongo et al., 2012).  
613 Long-term trends were stronger during the SEM than during the NEM, with increased wind speeds for Tanga and Zanzibar  
614 in the north, but a decline in maximum wind speed for Mtwara in the south, and constant maximum wind speeds for Dar es  
615 Salaam. A coastal upwelling index (CUI) based on SST output from a coupled biophysical climatological model by Halo et  
616 al. (in review) showed a moderate and steady linear increase in upwelling for Tanga over a 23-year period (1990-2013), in  
617 line with the regional increase in wind speed observed by Mahongo et al. (2012).

618 The limited biogeochemical data for the EACC region were recently reviewed by Painter (2020), who noted that the warm  
619 surface waters are permanently N – limited, with low NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>:PO<sub>4</sub><sup>3-</sup>, conditions that favor the nitrogen-fixing  
620 cyanobacterium. *Trichodesmium* colonies are generally more abundant during the NEM off both Kenya and Tanzania  
621 (Kromkamp et al., 1997; Lugomela et al., 2002), but this is unlikely to be related to upwelled nutrients, and more likely due  
622 to wind-borne aeolian dust and land-based nutrient input during the rains, as well as the warmer, more stable conditions  
623 that prevail during the NEM compared to during the SEM. Sampling in Kenyan waters aboard RV *Tyrol* in 1992, Kromkamp  
624 et al. (1995) measured higher rates of primary production during the NEM than during the SW monsoon, with maximum  
625 rates of 6 gCm<sup>-2</sup>d<sup>-1</sup>. Zooplankton biomass was also higher during the NEM, with maximum values of 18.6 mg C m<sup>-3</sup>  
626 (Mwaluma, 1995).

## 627 **2.5 Coast of Somalia**

628 Coastal currents off Somalia exhibit a strong annual cycle forced primarily by the seasonally reversing monsoon winds.  
629 While during winter, alongshore currents are equatorward, during summer it is poleward and exhibits one of the strongest  
630 coastal upwelling of the north Indian Ocean. Until the early 1990s, the Somali upwelling regime was the most studied  
631 region of the Indian Ocean, and a comprehensive review of these studies was given in Shetye and Gouveia (1998), Schott





632 and McCreary (2001), and Hood et al. (2015). Below the historical studies are highlighted briefly and focus primarily on  
633 the recent research on this upwelling region over the last few decades.

#### 634 **2.5.1 Background**

635 In early May, as the Intertropical-Convergence-Zone move north of the equator, the northward East African Coastal Current  
636 crosses the equator and extends till about 3-4°N along the Somali coast and then recirculate to form a gyral circulation called  
637 the Southern Gyre (SG) (Duing et al., 1980). A portion of this SG meanders eastward and the rest flows southward to cross  
638 the equator offshore (Chatterjee et al., 2013). During this process, a cold upwelling wedge forms along its western and  
639 northern front. As the Monsoon progresses, currents north of the SG turn very complex. By June, the southwesterly monsoon  
640 winds (Findlater Jet; Findlater, 1969) strengthen along the coast resulting in a strong alongshore current all along the Somali  
641 coast extending up to a depth of 1000 m and the offshore Ekman transport induced by strong alongshore winds causes a  
642 strong upwelling off the coast of Somalia. By July/August, currents along the Somali coast strengthen rapidly to reach up  
643 to 250-300 cm/s with transport reaching up to 37 Sv (Fischer et al., 1996; Beal and Donohue, 2013) and thus forms the  
644 strongest boundary current of the north Indian Ocean. In the process, another gyre forms towards the offshore side of the  
645 northern part of the Somali coast between ~5-9°N, known as Great Whirl (GW) (Leetmaa et al., 1982). This time, a second  
646 cold-wedge forms along the northern flank of the GW north of ~9°N, where SST falls below 20°C. Interestingly, the early  
647 spin-up of GW can be traced to April, two months before the Findlater Jet initiation, and is linked to the annual Rossby  
648 waves radiated from the west coast of India (Shankar et al., 2002; Beal and Donohue, 2013). As the summer monsoon winds  
649 strengthen, the current along its northern front strengthens and transports up to 60 Sv during August. In some years, the  
650 Somali current continues to flow north through the Socotra passage and across the mouth of the Gulf of Aden (Beal and  
651 Chereskin, 2003). Occasionally the Somali current also flows offshore to the northeast of GW and forms a third anticyclonic  
652 eddy east of Socotra known as Socotra Gyre (Bruce, 1979; Fischer et al., 1996). During the late summer monsoon  
653 (August/September), SG weakens or even disappears in the south, but GW maintains its strength (Schott and McCreary,  
654 2001; Chatterjee et al., 2019). Few observations and modeling study suggests that in late summer, SG migrate north to  
655 coalesce with the GW (Evans and Brown, 1981; Schott, 1983; Swallow and Fieux, 1982; Swallow et al., 1983; Luther and  
656 O'Brien, 1989), but the absence of such migration during WOCE 1995-96 observations (Schott et al., 1997) suggests that  
657 such events may be rare and therefore, does not reflect in climatological maps as well (Chatterjee et al., 2019). Finally, by  
658 late September, as the summer monsoon winds start to withdraw from the north Indian Ocean, the strength of the Somali



659 Current and GW weakens. GW typically survives another month after the southwesterly winds wane off from the Somalia  
660 coast.

661 The summer monsoon upwelling off the coast of Somalia also drives one of the most productive zones of the north Indian  
662 Ocean. As the southwesterly alongshore winds strengthen, Ekman transport pushes the coastal surface water offshore,  
663 leading to cold subsurface water to upwell and then advect away offshore by the strong SG and GW fronts. This upwelled  
664 water brings a bounteous amount of nutrients to the euphotic zone (more than 15  $\mu\text{M}$ ), which result in enhanced  
665 phytoplankton concentration in the upper surface layer (Smith and Codispoti, 1980; Hitchcock and Olson, 1992; McCreary  
666 et al., 1996a, Wiggert et al., 2005).

## 667 2.5.2 Observations

668 This is one of the regions of the Indian Ocean where the number of observations has been sparse and mainly dates back to  
669 the early campaigns of the north Indian Ocean in the 1960s' and 1970s' (Chatterjee et al., 2012). In the last couple of  
670 decades, observing networks have grown tremendously over most parts of the Indian Ocean, but owing to the infestation by  
671 pirates (McPhaden et al., 2009), the Somali region remains a data void region.

672 The first modern description of hydrography and circulation across the Somali coast was provided based on cruise based  
673 observations between August-September of 1964 (Warren et al., 1966; Swallow and Bruce, 1966) under the first  
674 International Indian Ocean Expedition (IIOE); a series of cross-shore hydrographic sections were carried out between 3°S-  
675 12°N. They observed upwelled cold surface temperature (reaching up to 12.8°C) north of 7°N, and these cold waters spread  
676 offshore as cold tongues along the northern flank of the GW reaching up to 55°E. Later, an extensive survey of the Somali  
677 basin and the western Indian Ocean was carried out in the summer of 1979 using a multi-ship observation campaign known  
678 as the Indian Ocean Experiment (INDEX) under the framework of the Indian Ocean Panel of SCOR. Based on samples  
679 collected during INDEX, two separate zones of upwelling were identified: one in the south at ~3-4°N associated with SG  
680 and the another in the northern part of the coast north at ~9°N linked to the fronts associated to GW with a minimum SST  
681 of ~ 17°C (Leetmaa et al., 1982, Quadfasel and Schott, 1982) and surface  $\text{NO}_3^-$  concentration of ~15-20  $\mu\text{mole/liter}$  (Smith  
682 and Codispoti, 1980). This enhanced nutrients level increases productivity significantly to more than 300  $\text{g C m}^{-2} \text{ yr}^{-1}$   
683 (Heileman and Scott, 2008). It was also observed that, in the middle part of the coast between ~5-8°N, the surface  
684 concentration of the  $\text{NO}_3^-$  is relatively much lower, with maximum concentration reaching up to 1.8  $\mu\text{mole/liter}$  even during  
685 the peak monsoon (July/August) (Smith and Codispoti, 1980). Veldhuis et al. (1997) also reported strong upwelling with  
686 surface temperature no more than 20°C and dominance of diatoms between 7-11°N along the Somali coast in July 1992. By  
687 the late 90s' the availability of the remotely sensed satellite observations provided an opportunity to observe long term SST



688 variability along this coast and is being used widely for understanding the seasonal variability and climatic trend of coastal  
689 upwelling of this region (Goes et al., 2005; Wiggert et al., 2005; Prakash and Ramesh, 2007; Beal and Donohue, 2013).

690 Due to the large concentration of nutrients in the upper euphotic zone, the phytoplankton communities are mostly dominated  
691 by large phytoplankton (diatoms) in the upwelled waters of the western Arabian Sea during the summer monsoon (Brown  
692 et al., 1999; Shalapyonok et al., 2001; Wiggert et al., 2005). Despite the large abundance of nutrients in the upwelling  
693 wedges off Somalia, the concentration of chlorophyll does not grow exponentially. Smith and Codispoti (1980) suggest that  
694 the zooplankton grazing is the primary factor that limits the phytoplankton from growing exponentially. Few other studies  
695 suggest that the swift Somali Current spreads these upwelled nutrients over a large part of the interior Arabian Sea and thus  
696 enhances the productivity offshore (Keen et al., 1997; Hitchcock et al., 2000; Prasanna Kumar et al., 2001; Kawamiya,  
697 2001). Later, based on in-situ measurements in the western Arabian Sea, Naqvi et al. (2010) suggested that dissolved iron  
698 is one of the stressed micro-nutrient in this region and thus makes it an iron-limited High Nutrient Low Chlorophyll (HNLC)  
699 zone during the summer monsoon.

### 700 **2.5.3 Modelling and Mechanisms**

701 Strong currents and double gyres off the Somali coast is one of the most studied phenomena in the 1970s to late 1990s. The  
702 pioneering works by Lighthill (1969) and Cox (1979) were the first modeling study on the strong Somali currents during  
703 the summer monsoon. Lighthill (1969) showed that as the westward propagating planetary waves excited by the offshore  
704 negative wind stress curl reflect along the continental boundary off Somalia, they generate short-wavelength Rossby waves  
705 that superpose to form the boundary currents. Thereafter, several papers studied the various aspects of this current system  
706 and mainly focused on the dynamical mechanisms of the alongshore currents, the generation and decay of the two gyre  
707 circulations off the Somalia coast, the impact of the slanted boundary in the propagation of these gyres (Anderson and  
708 Moore, 1979; Cox, 1979; McCreary and Kundu; 1988; Luther and O'Brien, 1989; McCreary et al., 1993) and the impact of  
709 internal instabilities (Wirth et al., 2002; Jochum and Murtugudde, 2005; Chatterjee et al., 2013). In a recent study using a  
710 coupled ocean general circulation model, Chatterjee et al. (2019) showed that the upwelling of Somalia is limited to the  
711 early phase of the summer monsoon when the low-level Findlater Jet sets in across the Arabian Sea (**Figure 13**). As the  
712 Monsoon progresses, Ekman pumping induced by offshore negative wind stress curl deepens the thermocline in the interior  
713 Arabian Sea. Subsequently, these downwelling signals propagate westward to interfere with the upwelling signals off  
714 Somalia. As a response, the thermocline along the major part of the Somalia coast (~60%) deepens by about 40-60 m,  
715 particularly in the central part of the Somali coast. Moreover, strong alongshore winds and weaker stratification allow more  
716 mixing in the bottom of the mixed layer, which further deepens the thermocline and cools the surface mixed layer. As a



717 result, during the peak summer months, upwelling becomes limited primarily to the eddy dominated frontal flows in the  
718 northern and to some extent in the southern part of the coast.

719 There are relatively much less modeling studies on the observed intense productivity in response to the upwelling. McCreary  
720 et al. (1996) demonstrated the first reasonable simulation of the annual variability of the surface chlorophyll bloom of the  
721 Arabian Sea based on a simple 2½ layer model coupled with an NPZD biological module. He showed that the phytoplankton  
722 blooms in the northern and central Arabian Sea during summer monsoon is primarily driven by the lateral advection of  
723 upwelled nutrients off the Somalia and Oman coasts and local entrainment. However, it was noted that the model  
724 underestimates the lateral advection as it does not resolve the mesoscale features like filaments that transport nutrients  
725 offshore in the real ocean. Later, Kawamiya (2001) studied extensively the role of this offshore advected nutrients from the  
726 coastal upwelling region in the open ocean of the Arabian Sea and concluded that Somali upwelling is the primary source  
727 of nutrient supply into the southcentral Arabian Sea and the Oman upwelling water supplies nutrient in the northern Arabian  
728 Sea. These coupled physical-biogeochemical models were also used to identify the most limiting factors that suppress the  
729 exponential growth of the phytoplankton in this region. McCreary et al. (1996) showed that nutrients and not the zooplankton  
730 grazing primarily limit phytoplankton growth in the upwelling region, as was suggested earlier (Smith and Codispoti, 1980).  
731 However, as they used a very simple 4 component NPZD model, it was not clear, which are the limiting nutrients that control  
732 the phytoplankton growth. On the other hand, studies with the help of more complex models, in the last couple of decades,  
733 suggest that phytoplankton growth in this region are prone to iron limitation (Wiggert et al., 2006; Wiggert and Murtugudde,  
734 2007) and also likely to be silicate stressed (Kone' et al., 2009; Resplandy et al., 2011). Recently, Lakshmi et al. (2020)  
735 studied various limiting factors and distribution of phytoplankton along the coast of Somalia using a high-resolution  
736 physical-biogeochemical coupled model. They showed that high values of chlorophyll concentration are limited to the  
737 northern flank of the GW north of 9°N and exhibit moderate or low concentration in the south. The strong boundary currents  
738 advect the upwelled nutrients from the southern region to the northern part of the coast and thereby accumulate the advected  
739 nutrients. In contrast, the deepening of the thermocline and horizontal advection keep chlorophyll concentration low to the  
740 south of 9°N. They further noted that dissolved iron concentration (~1.2-1.8 nM) and the NO<sub>3</sub>-:Fe ratio (<15000) do not  
741 indicate iron-deficient conditions throughout the coast but suggests NO<sub>3</sub>- limited growth of phytoplankton communities  
742 south of 9°N.

## 743 **2.6 Upwelling off the coast of Arabia**

744

745 Unlike the Somali coast, upwelling along Arabia (the coast of Yemen and Oman) is more uniform and exhibits classical  
746 upwelling dynamics primarily driven by southwesterly alongshore winds during the summer monsoon. In the 1990s' the  
747 repeated multiple alongshore/crossshore ship-based transects under the US Joint Global Ocean Flux Study (US JGOFS), and  
748 the availability of the satellite observations of SLA, SST, and Chl-a led to a significant advancement in the understanding



749 of the coastal current system and its associated upwelling dynamics of this region. A detailed review based on these  
750 observations is presented in Schott and McCreary (2001) and Hood et al. (2017). Here we briefly highlight some of these  
751 results and review recent advances in our understanding of this upwelling system.

752  
753 The alongshore wind off the coast of Arabia is much weaker than that off the Somali coast but significant enough to cause  
754 coastal upwelling as early as May (Kindle et al., 2002), much before the development of southwest Monsoon. The upwelling  
755 strengthens as the magnitude of the alongshore winds become stronger with the progression of the summer monsoon. During  
756 the late summer (August/September), SST close to the coast decreases by about 5°C from the ambient offshore temperature  
757 to fall below 23°C (Shi et al., 2000). Owing to the offshore Ekman transport driven by the alongshore winds, sea level also  
758 drops by more than 30 cm along the coast. This is the time, owing to the crossshore sea level gradient, a northeastward coastal  
759 current, Oman Coastal Current (OCC; Shi et al., 2000) which persists throughout the summer monsoon (Cutler and Swallow,  
760 1984). Interestingly, the maximum strength of the alongshore winds does not coincide with the minimum SST and sea level:  
761 while the alongshore wind reaches its peak in mid-June, the SST and sea level attain their minimum about one and a half  
762 month later by the end of August or early September (Manghnani et al., 1998; Vic et al., 2017). The reason for this delay is  
763 not very clear. However, Vic et al. (2017) indicated that remotely forced Rossby waves generated due to offshore Ekman  
764 pumping by the upwelling favorable wind stress curl (Smith and Bottero, 1977) north of the Findlater Jet (Findlater, 1969)  
765 axis drive this delay by modulating coastal stratification of the Arabian peninsula.

766  
767 The strength of the OCC varies between 0.4-1.2 m/s during the SWM and attains its peak in the late summer (Lee et al.,  
768 2000). Direct current ADCP measurements suggest that OCC is not coherent all along the coast: its direction frequently  
769 changes in the south driven by eddy induced variability and predominantly southwestward in the north. As the mean current  
770 of the OCC strengthens in the north, its transport reaches ~10 Sv at the northeastern coast of Oman close to the Ras al Hadd  
771 (Lee et al., 2000). Subsequently, it turns offshore and meanders into the northern Arabian Sea to form the Ras al Hadd jet  
772 or front (Böhm et al., 1999). This front advects cold and fresh coastally upwelled water offshore and thereby creates a large  
773 SST gradient between the warm and saltier Gulf of Oman water and fresh and cooler Arabian Sea water and is visible clearly  
774 in the satellite images (Fischer et al., 2002). Moreover, protruding capes in the southern part of the Oman and Yemen coast  
775 generate topographically locked anticyclonic eddies close to the coast (Fagg and Kim, 1998; Lee et al., 2000). The non-  
776 linear interactions between these eddies and OCC create filaments and squirts extending far offshore from the coast  
777 (Manghnani et al., 1998; Wiggert et al., 2005). The width of these filaments is about 100 km with a current speed of ~0.5  
778 m/s and transport ~2-6 Sv upwelled cold water offshore (Brink et al., 1998). This offshore transport by these filaments is  
779 found to be much more than the estimated wind-driven offshore Ekman transport, suggesting possible offshore deflection  
780 of alongshore mean currents which advect surface and upwelled subsurface water offshore. A part of this water then  
781 recirculates back to the coast by the returning flow of the offshore gyres.

782



783 The first estimate of the intensity of upwelling along this coast was given by Smith and Bottero (1977) using hydrographic  
784 observations and winds observed during 1963 under the first IIOE campaign. They estimated a vertical velocity of the order  
785 of  $2 \times 10^{-5}$  m/s with an upwelling transport of  $\sim 8$  Sv through the 50 m depth along the 1000 km long coastline and from  
786 the coast to 400 km offshore. Observations from the JGOFS cruises suggest that the upwelling signature on SST persists to  
787 about 120 km offshore, whereas in the subsurface, upsloping of thermocline can be evident to about 260 km (Shi et al.,  
788 2000). They find that, during the summer of 1995, the lowest SST recorded is 21°C close to the southern part of the Oman  
789 coast in late August to early September, which upwelled from a depth approximately 100-150 m. However, note that the  
790 coolest temperature is observed in the shelf of Oman, where SST starts to fall immediately with the onset of alongshore  
791 winds and falls below 20°C in early July. The gradual increase of temperature away from the coast indicates that the  
792 upwelling predominantly happens near the coast than offshore, where positive wind stress curl favors open ocean upwelling.  
793 McCreary et al. (1996a) further noted that in the open ocean, offshore of the coast of Oman, their model-simulated vertical  
794 velocity at the bottom of the mixed layer remains very small despite a large upwelling favorable Ekman pumping velocity.  
795 This negligible vertical velocity is attributed to the state of Sverdrup balance via the radiation of Rossby waves. Therefore,  
796 they advocated that the open ocean cooling off Oman and the associated biological response is primarily driven by advection  
797 of cold nutrient-rich upwelled water from Oman coast and the wind-driven mixing entrainment at the bottom of the mixed  
798 layer, which deepens the thermocline offshore.

799  
800 This intense upwelling all along the coast of Yemen and Oman in the western Arabian Sea also drives one of the strongest  
801 primary productivity of this region at a rate of more than  $2.5 \text{ gCm}^{-2}\text{day}^{-1}$  (Marra et al., 1998; Morrison et al., 1998). Unlike,  
802 Somali coast, here chlorophyll concentration is found to be more uniform and extend up to 400 km offshore. The offshore  
803 open ocean chlorophyll bloom is attributed to the advection of nutrient-rich upwelled water offshore by the several filaments  
804 along the coast of Oman and wind-driven entrainment (McCreary et al., 1996; Wiggert et al., 2005). A detailed discussion  
805 on biophysical interactions along this coast is discussed in Section 2.7.5.

806  
807 A major part of our understanding about the coastal upwelling off Oman is based on observations and modeling studies  
808 carried out in 90s' and early 2000. Unfortunately, lack of observation and concerted modeling effort resulted in sluggish  
809 progress of our understanding in the last couple of decades for this region. The dynamical reasons for the development of  
810 offshore eddies and their impact on the coastal upwelling, coastal currents, SST, air-sea interactions, and finally, over the  
811 biology is still not clear. Thus, considering the importance of this region in regional physical and ecological processes and,  
812 most importantly its influence on the Indian Monsoon, a much focused effort is needed from the scientific community for a  
813 complete understanding of oceanic processes of this coastal upwelling system.

814  
815

## 816 **2.7 Upwelling along the West Coast of India**



817 The signatures of upwelling along the west coast of India begin to appear during March, peak during June, and weaken by  
818 September. Though several studies have shown that upwelling could start between February and May, the surfacing of cold,  
819 nutrient-rich water is more prominent during June-July. Moreover, the upwelling is more intense along the southwest coast  
820 of India than that along the northwest coast. For the remaining months, the sea level anomaly is positive, and the thermocline  
821 is deeper, indicating conditions unfavorable for upwelling. A major consequence of west coast upwelling is the formation  
822 of anoxia that has a significant impact on the benthic ecosystem on the continental shelf (Banse 1959, Naqvi, 1991).  
823 Although the upwelling along the west coast of India is weaker than that along the coast of Somalia, the region accounts for  
824 70% of the Arabian Sea fish production (Luis and Kawamura 2004).

### 825 **2.7.1 Historical Background**

826 The earliest temperature observations along the west coast were collected by trading vessels and were confined to major  
827 shipping routes. These observations were compiled into several atlases generated by different countries (Anonymous 1945,  
828 1948, 1952). Though there were inconsistencies among the atlases, they showed the presence of cold water off the southwest  
829 coast of India from June to October (Banse, 1959). The decrease in temperature during the summer monsoon was also  
830 evident in sea surface temperature (SST) data shown by Sewell (1929) along the southwest coast of India and Lakshadweep.  
831 However, it was difficult to attribute this decrease in temperature to upwelling as the SST could also be controlled by other  
832 factors like atmospheric fluxes, horizontal advection, or mixing. He showed that SST increased during April-May when the  
833 boreal summer is at its peak and dropped during June-July when the Monsoon picks up. After the Monsoon, the second  
834 oscillation started: the temperature picked up again and dropped during the boreal winter when the winds were cooler.  
835 Naturally, using available observations, Sewell (1929) linked the double oscillation of SST to air temperature change.

836 The first evidence for upwelling along the west coast of India was presented by Sastry and Myrland (1959); they showed  
837 that the isotherms tilted upwards all along the southwest coast of India. Both Sastry and Myrland (1959) and Banse (1959)  
838 argued that the upwelling along the southwest coast of India is not completely driven by monsoon winds because the fall in  
839 SST occurred in April-May, which is a month before the onset of the summer monsoon. They hypothesized that the  
840 prevailing current-system caused the upward tilting of isotherms. The reversal in the West India Coastal Current (WICC)  
841 appeared to coincide with the beginning of upwelling at the southern tip of India. Banse (1959) suggested that after the onset  
842 of Monsoon, the winds could intermittently push the cold water to the surface. Banse (1959) further noted that the poorly  
843 aerated bottom water on the shelf during the summer monsoon was linked to upwelling that takes place along the coast.

844 Hydrographic sections in the decades that followed showed that the upwelling signatures extended all along the west coast  
845 of India and Pakistan (Banse 1968; Sarma, 1968; Ramamirtham and Rao, 1973) and revealed that upwelling sets in earlier  
846 in the south and progresses slowly towards the north (Sharma, 1968, Longhurst and Wooster, 1990). Due to the boisterous  
847 nature of monsoon winds, upwelling along the west coast of India was still considered to be driven by alongshore winds



848 (Ramamirtham and Rao, 1973). The role of wind in driving the upwelling was disputed again by Sharma (1978), using the  
849 available wind data from the atlases that showed that the wind was onshore and poleward and not favorable for upwelling  
850 during the summer monsoon. Notwithstanding, recent wind data sets show that the alongshore winds are not poleward but  
851 equatorward (but weak) during the summer monsoon.

852 Johannessen et al. (1981) used an extensive data set (consisting of 1500 Nansen casts collected from 1971-1975) and  
853 confirmed the upwelling features highlighted in previous studies. The seasonal upwelling was found to repeat every year,  
854 albeit with a certain amount of variability. Upwelling signatures were not evident in salinity but in temperature and oxygen  
855 data. The upwelling process also increased phytoplankton and zooplankton production. However, no such correlation was  
856 evident for the higher trophic level of the food chain. The calculated rate of upwelling was around 1.5 m/day, which was  
857 consistent with the earlier observations.

858 The “wind-driven upwelling” hypothesis was again invoked in the mid-eighties. Shetye et al. (1985) used a more recent  
859 wind product (Hasternath and Lamb, 1978) and found that offshore Ekman transport, though weak, peaked during the  
860 summer monsoon. Using ship-based observations, Shetye et al. (1990) confirmed that the upwelling intensity weakened  
861 from south to north. The width of the surface current, which is related to the upwelling, extended about 150 km from the  
862 coast. The signatures of upwelling were evident only in the top 100 m below which there were signatures of downwelling,  
863 indicative of an undercurrent. They refuted the “current-induced upwelling” hypothesis using regression analysis between  
864 Ekman transport and temperature gradient.

865 In the nineties, numerical models were used to provide insight into the seasonal cycle of north Indian Ocean circulation  
866 (McCreary 1993; Shankar et al., 1996; McCreary et al., 1996; Vinayachandran et al., 1996; Shankar and Shetye 1997).  
867 Using linear wave theory, McCreary et al. (1993) proposed that the upwelling along the west coast of India was primarily  
868 driven by coastal-trapped waves generated by remote winds from the Bay of Bengal (see section 2.7.3 for details). The  
869 wind-driven upwelling was weaker than that caused by the propagation of these waves.

870 The dominance of these waves suggests that upwelling indices based on Ekman theory (Pankajakshan, 1997; Bakun et al.,  
871 1998) do not provide a complete picture of coastal upwelling along the west coast of India. The weak alongshore winds,  
872 however, would still contribute to upwelling and cannot be neglected (Shankar 2002; Suresh et al., 2013). It is to be noted  
873 that, unlike the west coast of India, the southern tip of India is unique in the sense that the Findlater jet is parallel to the coast  
874 and causes strong Ekman Transport (Bakun et al., 1998; Smitha et al. 2008). The wind-induced coastal upwelling index here  
875 was almost five times that observed along the southwest coast of India (Bakun et al., 1998). The study also hypothesized  
876 that the strong upwelling near the southern tip could generate coastal-trapped waves that could propagate along the west  
877 coast of India.





878 **2.7.2 Observations**

879 The double oscillation, as observed by Sewell (1929), is evident in the SST climatology from the satellite data (**Figure 14a,**  
880 **15a**). The temperature peaks during April and is highest along the southwest coast of India. The area surrounding the  
881 southwest coast of India, where the temperature remains above 30°C, is often referred to as the Arabian Sea mini warm pool,  
882 and this region is thought to play an essential role in the onset of the summer monsoon (Vinayachandran and Shetye,  
883 1991; Rao and Sivakumar, 1999; Shenoi et al., 2005; Kurian and Vinayachandran, 2007; Vinayachandran et al., 2007). The  
884 increase in temperature is attributed to air-sea fluxes and is independent of the SST changes observed during the winter  
885 monsoon. The temperature begins to drop after April and is the lowest during July and August. The drop in temperature  
886 starts in the south and progresses northwards within a month. The progression of SST towards the north, also observed in  
887 hydrography data (Sarma, 1968 and Longhurst and Wooster, 1990), could be linked to the poleward propagation of coastal  
888 Kelvin waves. A typical first or second baroclinic mode Kelvin wave would cover the entire west coast of India within 7-  
889 21 days (these waves are sometimes too fast to be detected by a satellite over a small domain).

890 As the satellite SST only permits the assessment of near-surface processes, we use the *North Indian Ocean Atlas* (Chatterjee  
891 et al., 2011) to identify the variations in the thermocline along the west coast of India (**Figure 14**). The atlas includes data  
892 from the Indian Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) and has more stable values in this region compared to the *World Ocean*  
893 *Atlas* (Antonov et al., 2010; Locarnini et al., 2010). Along the southwest coast of India, the isotherms tilt upwards by April  
894 (**Figure 14b-c**). By June, the cooler water starts touching the surface, and the upwelling becomes more intense by July and  
895 August. The isotherms start lowering by September-October, and surface waters become warmer. In the north, the surface  
896 layers are cooler during April, and the downwelling of isotherms persists till June. The isotherms begin to rise by July-  
897 August, but they are very weak compared to the southwest coast of India. Unlike the SST, the depth of 26°C isotherm shows  
898 an annual cycle. The depth decreases during summer and increases during winter. The lag associated with poleward  
899 propagation of the Kelvin wave is also evident in the isotherm depth (See Figure 7 in Shah et al., 2015 and Figure 6 in  
900 Shankar et al., 2019). The larger width of the upwelling region in the south is also indicative of the westward propagation  
901 of Rossby waves, whose westward phase speed decreases with latitude. The westward drift of chlorophyll along with Rossby  
902 waves is evident in the satellite data but is not as prominent as seen during the winter monsoon (Amol, 2018; Amol et al.,  
903 2020).

904 Since wind is the primary driving factor for upwelling around the world, it is essential to look at its behavior along the west  
905 coast of India. Although the monsoon winds are strong (**Figure 15d,e**), they mainly blow perpendicular to the coast. The  
906 alongshore component of the wind is weak and equatorward all around the year. The winds peak during July along the  
907 entire west coast and this increase in the magnitude of the alongshore wind intensifies the upwelling during the summer  
908 monsoon. It is only at the southern tip of India that the alongshore winds reverse with the season. Upwelling indices  
909 calculated using wind data show that the upwelling along the west coast of India is weak compared to the upwelling around



910 Somalia, Oman, Tanzania, and south Madagascar but is equivalent to that in Mozambique and west Madagascar (Bakun et  
911 al., 1998). As the alongshore winds are weak compared to the cross-shore, there is also an ambiguity in the direction of the  
912 wind reported by previous authors (Sarma, 1978; Shetye et al., 1985; Shah et al., 2015). For example, Shah et al., (2015)  
913 showed that the alongshore winds were equatorward during the summer monsoon, but only south of 17°N. The difference  
914 here lies in the angle of rotation applied to compute the alongshore component of wind. Shah et al. (2015) used coastline  
915 angle, which is almost parallel to the longitude in the north. The wind vectors in **Figure 15** are pointing northeast, which  
916 would lead to a poleward wind when rotated based on coastline angle. The slope angle, which is used to compute the  
917 alongshore wind in **Figure 15**, is different from the coastline angle because of the widening of the continental shelf north  
918 of 15°N (see 1000 m contour in **Figure 15a**).

919 Unlike the alongshore wind, which is unidirectional, the alongshore WICC and the sea level anomaly show a strong seasonal  
920 cycle (**Figure 15,f**). The current (sea level anomaly) is equatorward (low) during summer and poleward (high) during winter.  
921 The reversal in current follows the drop in sea level, and the flow is poleward in March, which is much before the onset of  
922 the summer monsoon. The early reversal of current is also evident in direct current measurements (Amol et al., 2014;  
923 Chaudhuri et al., 2020). Unlike the sea level, the currents, particularly along the southwest coast of India, have a significantly  
924 larger intraseasonal component (Vialard et al., 2009; Amol et al., 2014; Chaudhuri et al., 2020). The current could flow in  
925 either direction during a particular time of a year, and the frequent intraseasonal bursts would further make it difficult to  
926 predict its direction. Still, it was the early reversal of current during March that prompted Banse (1959) to discard wind as  
927 the driving factor for upwelling.

928 In response to the raising of the isotherms, chlorophyll also increases from April onwards (**Figure 15c**). The chlorophyll  
929 concentration is highest along the southwest coast of India and peaks during July-August. During this time, the wind, the  
930 sea level, and the SST are at their peak phase as well. The increase in chlorophyll concentration is weakest along the central  
931 west coast of India and only extends over a few months. In the north, the chlorophyll is high all around the year because of  
932 the winter convective mixing that follows the upwelling in the summer.

### 933 **2.7.3 Modelling and mechanisms**

934 McCreary et al. (1993) used a series of reduced-gravity model experiments to show that the upwelling along the west coast  
935 was driven by remote forcing. They concluded that winds in the Bay of Bengal and the equator caused upwelling along the  
936 west coast of India. The local winds, however, enhanced upwelling, but their contribution was weaker than that by remote  
937 winds. They noted that the driving mechanism for upwelling was the generation of coastal Kelvin waves by winds along  
938 the western boundary of the Bay of Bengal. These winds generated upwelling Kelvin waves that propagated equatorward  
939 (with the coast on the right) along the east coast of India, turned around Sri Lanka, and propagated poleward along the west  
940 coast of India. The poleward propagation explained why the upwelling is delayed in the north. Shankar and Shetye (1997)



941 further highlighted the mechanism for the early onset of upwelling using an analytical model. They showed that the  
942 upwelling along the west coast of India and the Lakshadweep low formed in the southeastern Arabian Sea resulted from  
943 poleward propagation of Kelvin waves and westward radiation of Rossby waves, which supported the results shown by  
944 McCreary et al. (1993).

945 Modeling studies for upwelling using ocean general circulation models are very few. Haugen et al. (2002) used a 5-6 km  
946 resolution coastal model that was nested into large-scale models. Their simulations were consistent with the observations  
947 shown by Johannessen et al. (1981). The model upwelling began during April and persisted till October, and was most  
948 intense along the southwest coast of India. Models run by Rao et al. (2005) and Rao et al. (2008) had restricted model  
949 domains, which would not accurately represent the role of remote forcing on upwelling.

950 Lévy et al. (2007) used both satellite chlorophyll and a physical model to assess the timing of the phytoplankton bloom and  
951 its related dynamics. They showed that the onset of summer blooms in the southeastern Arabian Sea occurred during March  
952 and was primarily driven by upwelling. The horizontal currents had a limited role in driving the blooms. Koné et al. (2013)  
953 arrived at the same conclusions using a biophysical model. They further showed high values of NO<sub>3</sub>-that were associated  
954 with the vertical advection in this region.

955 A more recent and extensive study shows that differences in the strength of upwelling between north and south could affect  
956 the nature of fisheries along the coast of India (Shankar et al., 2019). In the south, stronger upwelling permits the growth of  
957 larger phytoplankton owing to a greater supply of nutrients, whereas in the north, phytoplankton tends to be smaller in size  
958 owing to weaker upwelling. The large phytoplankton is directly fed by planktivorous fishes that are not common in the  
959 north.

960 In summary, model simulations show that the upwelling is primarily driven by poleward propagation of coastal Kelvin  
961 waves. The linear wave theory explains the early onset of upwelling and the progression of upwelling from south to north.  
962 The alongshore winds also favor upwelling and could contribute significantly to its variability along the coast. A detailed  
963 analysis using observations and numerical models would be required to delineate the relative contribution of the wind and  
964 large-scale waves during the peak of the summer monsoon.

#### 965 **2.7.4 Biogeochemistry**

966 Unlike most parts of the world ocean, the biophysical provinces of the Indian Ocean vary seasonally (Rixen et al., 2020;  
967 Lévy et al., 2007). This is because during both the monsoons, the underlying mechanisms for nutrient intrusion that support  
968 elevated primary productivity are different during summer and winter. During summer, there is strong coastal upwelling,  
969 while cooler and dry air from the northern Indian subcontinent drives convective mixing in the Arabian Sea during winter  
970 (Madhupratap et al., 1996).



971 One of the most fascinating biogeochemical aspects on the west coast of India has been the seasonal occurrence of two  
972 phytoplankton blooms of the different phylum. First, there are winter mixing driven blooms of *Noctiluca* scintillans  
973 (hereafter *Noctiluca*), a mixotrophic dinoflagellate that occur during winter in the northern Arabian Sea (Prakash et al.,  
974 2008; do Rosario Gomes et al., 2008; Rixen et al., 2020). And almost at the same time, there are massive cyanobacterial  
975 blooms of *Trichodesmium* ( $N_2$  fixers) in the central – eastern Arabian Sea during March-May until summer monsoonal  
976 turbulence brings it down (Capone et al., 1998; Gandhi et al., 2011; Kumar et al., 2017).

977 The occurrence of *Noctiluca* blooms was first discovered in the early part of this century and seemed to have displaced the  
978 previously occurring diatom blooms in this region (do Rosario Gomes et al., 2008; Sarma et al., 2018). These blooms create  
979 a biogeochemical divide – making the northern Arabian Sea more productive than its southern part (Prakash et al., 2008).  
980 These massive outbreaks of *Noctiluca* blooms were reported to be fueled by an unprecedented influx of oxygen-deficient  
981 waters into the euphotic zone (do Rosário Gomes et al., 2014). However, such claims have been refuted (Prakash et al.,  
982 2017) and proved that they are naturally driven by changes in nutrient stoichiometry (Lotliker et al., 2018; Sarma et al.,  
983 2018).

984 Once nutrients supply driven by the winter mixing is consumed and the ocean begins to stratify, *Trichodesmium* blooms  
985 start to appear by early spring in the central Arabian Sea (Capone et al., 1998; Mulholland and Capone, 2009). These become  
986 so massive in the eastern Arabian Sea that they fix up to  $34 \text{ mmol N m}^{-2} \text{ d}^{-1}$ , which is the highest reported rate of  $N_2$  fixation  
987 ever among the world oceans (Gandhi et al., 2011; Kumar et al., 2017). In fact, when similar conditions prevail during fall  
988 intermonsoon immediately after the summer monsoon upwelling, the  $N_2$  fixation rate makes a surplus contribution to the  
989 nitrogen-nutrients to fuel primary production in the eastern Arabian Sea (Singh et al., 2019).

990  $N_2$  fixers are associated with excess phosphate (compared to  $NO_3^-$  if normalized as per the Redfield Ratio) concentration  
991 (Deutsch et al., 2007). Summer upwelling of oxygen-deficient waters along the shelf break is the major process regulating  
992 the biogeochemistry on the west coast (Gupta et al., 2016). Summer upwelling, driven by high primary production, is  
993 followed by the occurrence of denitrification (a nitrogen loss process) at subsurface layers (500-2000 m) in the eastern  
994 Arabian Sea (Naqvi et al., 2000), which would make these layers phosphate-rich. Hence, in this cycling, the upwelling  
995 would intrude phosphate-rich water to the sea surface (Sudheesh et al., 2016). The notion is that once parts of upwelled  
996 nutrients are utilized by autotrophs in the sunlit layers, it will create a niche for  $N_2$  fixers. However, recent studies suggest  
997 that  $N_2$  fixers can also occur in eutrophic conditions (Landolfi et al., 2015).

#### 998 2.7.5 Variable impact of coastal upwelling on the biogeochemistry of east and west coasts of Arabian Sea

999 There are distinct differences in the observed biogeochemical processes between eastern and western upwelling regions of  
1000 the Arabian Sea. The major differences are:



1001 (1) Along the western Arabian Sea, the upwelling is more vigorous, with the surface temperature reaching as low as 16°C  
1002 (Swallow and Bruce, 1966). These waters are enriched with macronutrients (the near-surface  $\text{NO}_3^-$  recorded up to 15-20  $\mu\text{M}$   
1003 (Smith and Codispoti, 1980; Morrison et al., 1998), which triggers large phytoplankton blooms; these upwelled waters  
1004 transport quickly to the offshore due to strong Ekman flow. This leads to the extent of upwelling induced fertilization and  
1005 the high phytoplankton bloom to a distance exceeding ~1000 km offshore (Naqvi et al., 2003, 2006).

1006 (2) The eastern part is net heterotrophic whereas its western counterpart is net autotrophic (Sarma, 2004) due to the upwelled  
1007 waters in the western Arabian Sea having a high initial oxygen concentration, and a vigorous upwelling and narrow shelves  
1008 do not allow the upwelled waters to stay long enough to develop intense hypoxia (Naqvi et al., 2010).

1009 (3) Unlike the eastern Arabian Sea, the influence of freshwater is very weak in the western Arabian Sea, and therefore the  
1010 nearshore regions are not strongly stratified. This leads to sufficient ventilation to the sub-pycnocline waters to a more  
1011 oxygenated condition.

1012 The progression of upwelling over the eastern Arabian Sea is slow, and the upwelled waters sustain 4-6 months over the  
1013 shelf (Gupta et al., 2016); i.e., a wider shelf over the eastern Arabian Sea allows the upwelled waters to persist long enough  
1014 till the oxygen is completely utilized and seasonally cover the entire shelf (area ~200,000  $\text{km}^2$ ), making it the largest shallow  
1015 water oxygen-deficient zone in the world (Naqvi et al., 2000). The intensely oxygen-depleted environment favors the  
1016 development of diverse microbial populations that utilize anaerobic pathways to derive energy, mediating elemental  
1017 transformations that are of immense geochemical significance (Wright et al., 2012). Denitrification is one of the classical  
1018 examples for this kind, which makes the eastern Arabian Sea upwelling system one of the ‘hot spots’ of  $\text{N}_2\text{O}$  production in  
1019 the world ocean with  $\text{N}_2\text{O}$  saturations up to 8250% (Naqvi et al., 2005). Moreover, these upwelling regions are also  
1020 characterized by a high production of other climate-relevant trace gases such as  $\text{CH}_4$  and dimethyl sulfide (Naqvi et al.,  
1021 2010; Shenoy et al., 2012). Further, spring *Trichodesmium* blooms seem to be responsible for the emission of volatile organic  
1022 compounds, such as isoprene – a precursor of ozone formation in the troposphere, in the eastern Arabian Sea (Tripathi et  
1023 al., 2020a,b). The upwelling biogeochemistry of this seasonal oxygen-deficient zone also significantly impacts the cycling  
1024 of several other micronutrients, like manganese, iron, etc. (Breitburg et al., 2018).

1025 The variability in magnitude and intensity of upwelling and the characteristics of upwelled waters play a major role in  
1026 shaping biogeochemistry of the eastern Arabian Sea shelf that designates it as a ‘Hotspot’ for greenhouse gas production  
1027 during the summer monsoon. The upwelled waters are hypoxic in the south (Gupta et al., 2016) and suboxic in the central-  
1028 eastern Arabian Sea (Sudheesh et al., 2016). This combines with strong thermohaline circulation leading to high oxygen  
1029 demand over the central shelf, relative to the south, making the region extremely oxygen-depleted and sulphidic with  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$   
1030 levels goes up to ~15  $\mu\text{M}$  in the nearshore waters (Naqvi et al., 2006, 2009). While the hypoxic upwelling over the southern  
1031 shelf restricts the denitrification to sediment, the anoxic/sulphidic conditions over the central shelf extend its occurrence to



1032 the water column as well (Sudheesh et al., 2016). Though the waters over the western Arabian Sea shelf are net autotrophic  
1033 (Sarma, 2004), moderately low surface pH (<7.9) was recorded during the summer monsoon (Takahashi et al., 2014). Being  
1034 limited with very few studies on carbon dynamics over both east and west coasts, the temporal evolution of surface ocean  
1035 acidification is still not clear, although Kanuri et al. (2017) reported  $p\text{CO}_2$  up to 630  $\mu\text{atm}$  along the southeastern Arabian  
1036 Sea shelf and even levels exceeding 1000  $\mu\text{atm}$  are common during peak upwelling (Sudheesh, 2018). Refuting the charges  
1037 levied by huge productions of  $\text{CO}_2$  and  $\text{N}_2\text{O}$ , massive methane loss through anaerobic oxidation by sulphate in the nearshore  
1038 waters of the eastern Arabian Sea during late summer monsoon upwelling (Sudheesh et al., 2020) is a great relief to the  
1039 environment as the potential greenhouse effect is naturally diluted by converting methane to  $\text{CO}_2$  (the latter is almost 300  
1040 times less potential compared to former).

1041 On comparable lines of intensification of oxygen deficiency in the western Arabian (Piontkovski and Al-Oufi, 2015), eastern  
1042 Arabian Sea shelf was also earlier reported with such intensification (Naqvi et al., 2000, 2006), but the comparison of  
1043 monthly studies for one year in 2012 with similar data set from July 1958 to January 1960 (Banse, 1959) revealed remarkably  
1044 little change in oxygen concentrations (Gupta et al., 2016; Figure 16) with inter-annual variations between the years  
1045 supported by global climatic events such as IOD, ENSO, etc., as these warm years impact upwelling intensity and prevents  
1046 the anoxia formation on the shelf (Parvathy et al., 2017).

1047 The productivity of the western Arabian Sea has earlier been shown to increase over the years (Goes et al., 2005) due to the  
1048 warming of the Eurasian landmass, but such a trend was not discernible over the eastern Arabian Sea (Prakash and Ramesh,  
1049 2007) as neither wind speeds nor SSTs could show any significant change. Although no information available on such recent  
1050 trends, the dissolved oxygen concentrations of recent years were comparable with that of five decades ago over the southwest  
1051 coast of India (Gupta et al., 2016) despite the period gained significant developmental activities on the hinterland co-  
1052 occurred with a steep rise in Arabian Sea warming. In the absence of climatology data, the maintained dissolved oxygen  
1053 levels can be considered as a proxy to show the sustained upwelling intensity and biogeochemistry of this region. Further,  
1054 the upwelling intensity and consequent biological production over its eastern part are several-fold less than the western  
1055 region. Yet, the famous and thickest Arabian Sea oxygen minimum zone (OMZ) is closer towards the eastern side,  
1056 underlying the importance of circulation in OMZ formation and source water characteristics for upwelling induced primary  
1057 production. Though the upwelling over both east and west coasts is progressed from south to north during the summer  
1058 monsoon, the coast of Somalia is pronounced with significant gradients in biological production – several folds high in the  
1059 north during the advanced phase of summer monsoon when nutrients from local upwelling as well as advected from south  
1060 support enhanced growth of phytoplankton (Lakshmi et al., 2020). In contrast, the productivity of eastern upwelling is higher  
1061 in the south due to relatively intense upwelling compared to its north (Gupta et al., 2016; Shankar et al., 2019). Though  
1062 upwelling over the west coast is much intense, it never experienced strong oxygen-depleted conditions, unlike its east coast.  
1063 The strong biological pump (Ekman transport) operating from the west coast transports organic matter too far off distances



1064 beyond the central Arabian Sea and pushes the OMZ towards the east (Naqvi et al., 2003, 2006). Being closer, these OMZ  
1065 waters feed the eastern Arabian Sea upwelling and develop hypoxic/anoxic conditions there (Gupta et al., 2016; Sudheesh  
1066 et al., 2016, 2020). The upper 300m water column of the western Arabian Sea (Oman region) has witnessed warming by  
1067  $\sim 1.5^{\circ}\text{C}$  from 1960 to 2008; it lost dissolved oxygen by  $\sim 1 \text{ ml L}^{-1}$  (at 100m) and became near anoxic with oxycline shoaled  
1068 at  $\sim 19 \text{ m}$  per decade during this period (Piontkovski and Al-Oufi, 2015). While it was hypothesized that the upper ocean  
1069 warming reduces ocean mixing and biological production in the western Arabian Sea (Roxy et al., 2016), it was quickly  
1070 refuted as a northward shift in monsoon low-level jet can orient the wind angle to the Oman coast in such a way that the net  
1071 upwelling increases and so the primary production (Praveen et al., 2016). In the scenarios of such increasing upwelling and  
1072 shoaling of oxycline, if more deoxygenated/near anoxic waters upwell, it may turn the future of the west coast comparable  
1073 to the present-day east coast in terms of biogeochemistry under seasonal hypoxia/anoxia.

1074 The impact of upwelling on oxygen concentration has a profound socio-economic impact too as it directly affects living  
1075 resources and biodiversity (Panikkar and Jayaraman, 1966; Naqvi et al., 2006). Though the available information from the  
1076 Arabian Sea is scanty, the mesopelagic fish populations appear to be impacted by a reduction in suitable habitat as respiratory  
1077 stress increases due to deoxygenation (Naqvi et al., 2006). Benthic ecosystems along the eastern Arabian Sea affected worst  
1078 owing to the unusually large area of continental margins being exposed to hypoxic/anoxic waters (Helly and Levi, 2004).  
1079 During this period, the density and diversity of larger benthic fauna (prawns, crabs, mollusks, etc.) become insignificant,  
1080 and groups that are sensitive to hypoxia, like echinoderms, are either absent or least abundant (Parameswaran et al., 2018).  
1081 However, macro-infaunal communities are overwhelmingly dominated by deposit-feeding opportunistic polychaetes,  
1082 particularly the proliferation of juveniles (Abdul Jaleel et al., 2015). The upwelling region of the Arabian Sea is a major  
1083 ground for fishery potential in terms of their eggs laying and recruitment succession. The upwelling induced high primary  
1084 production supports higher trophic level productivity but with less biodiversity. It is found that upwelling intensity and  
1085 coastal currents during summer monsoon are highly influencing fish eggs transport, their recruitment success rate, and  
1086 juveniles transport.

## 1087 **2.8 South Coast of Sri Lanka**

1088 The upwelling off the southern coast of Sri Lanka (which is slightly tilted towards the north in the east) begins with the  
1089 onset of the SWM, during the last week of May or during the first of June, and continues through October. The coastal  
1090 upwelling here is primarily caused by summer monsoon winds, which have a strong alongshore component along the  
1091 southern coast of Sri Lanka (Vinayachandran et al., 2004). The SMC that flows eastward to the south of Sri Lanka and  
1092 northeastward to the east of Sri Lanka (Vinayachandran et al., 1999, 2018; Webber et al., 2018; Rath et al., 2019) influences  
1093 the advection of cold upwelled water. During the early part of the SWM, some advection of cooler water occurs towards the  
1094 south, away from the coast. During the later half, most of the upwelled water flows into the BoB along with the SMC



1095 (Vinayachandran et al., 2004; Das et al., 2018; Vinayachandran et al., 2020). Numerical simulations have successfully  
1096 reproduced the upwelling along the southern coast of Sri Lanka (Vos et al., 2014).

1097

1098 Satellite-derived chlorophyll data (**Figure 17**) during summer monsoon clearly shows that the coastal upwelling has a clear  
1099 expression on the biogeochemistry (Vinayachandran et al., 2004; Vinayachandran 2009). The chlorophyll concentration is  
1100 high near the coast in response to upwelling. In addition, the advection by SMC spreads water from near the coast towards  
1101 the east of Sri Lanka, impacting a larger region. In situ sampling to quantify the physical and biological impacts of upwelling  
1102 around Sri Lanka is yet to take place. The physical impact on the ecosystem in this upwelling zone is complex, owing to the  
1103 simultaneous influence of multiple factors. The upwelled water advects to the southern coast of Sri Lanka from the southern  
1104 tip of India and the Gulf of Mannar. There is additional advection along the path of the SMC. Finally, the currents along the  
1105 east coast of Sri Lanka is southward during summer, being the eastern arm of the cyclonic gyre, associated with Sri Lanka  
1106 Dome (SLD, Vinayachandran and Yamagata, 1998). There are indications from model simulations that the pCO<sub>2</sub>  
1107 distribution is impacted by the combined influence of upwelling and advection (Chakraborty et al., 2018). On the whole,  
1108 satellite-derived SST and chlorophyll data clearly show an active upwelling zone along the southern coast of Sri Lanka,  
1109 which draws out a definite response from the ecosystem and biogeochemistry.

1110

1111 Using shipboard observations, Jyothibabu et al. (2015) suggest that capping of the upper layer by low salinity water in this  
1112 region can restrict the chlorophyll concentration in the near-surface layers. Using the glider data set, Thushara et al. (2019)  
1113 has provided in situ observational evidence for the chlorophyll blooms associated with SLD. The observed bloom followed  
1114 a period of Ekman suction caused by cyclonic wind stress curl, and the decay was caused by the arrival of Rossby waves  
1115 from the east. Model simulations (Thushara et al., 2019) support these processes and suggest that the Ekman pumping is  
1116 capable of enriching the euphotic zone with nutrients, but there is a lack of corresponding in situ observations that are much  
1117 needed to validate these processes.

1118

## 1119 **2.9. East Coast of India**

### 1120 **2.9.1 Physical Processes**

1121 Circulation in the Bay of Bengal (BoB) is driven by a rather intricate combination of local winds over the BoB and remote  
1122 forcing originating from the equatorial Indian Ocean. During the southwest monsoon, strong southwesterly winds along the  
1123 western boundary of the BoB (WBoB) makes conditions favorable for coastal upwelling (Shetye et al., 1991; Shankar et al.,  
1124 1996; McCreary et al., 1996; Vinayachandran et al., 1996; Shankar et al., 2002; Thushara and Vinayachandran, 2019). The  
1125 winds are northeasterly during the northeast monsoon, which is favorable to coastal downwelling (Shetye et al., 1996). BoB  
1126 is also known for high SST (average temperature greater than 28 C) (Vinayachandran and Shetye, 1991; Shenoi et al., 2002)  
1127 and the formation of several low-pressure systems (Sikka 1980; Gadgil et al., 2004). A significant amount of freshwater  
1128 influx from major river sources like Ganga, Brahmaputra, etc., plays a dominant role in stratifying the upper layer affecting





1129 the strength and intensity of coastal upwelling (Vinayachandran et al., 2002; Behara and Vinayachandran, 2016; Thushara  
1130 and Vinayachandran, 2016). Additionally, coastal processes in the WBoB are influenced by complex bathymetry, shallow  
1131 mixed layer, the formation of mesoscale eddies, and propagations of large-scale planetary waves (Mukherjee et al., 2017).  
1132 Detailed description of the East India Coastal Current (EICC) and its variability, based on moored observations, are given  
1133 in Mukherjee et al. (2014) and Mukhopadhyay et al. (2020).

1134

1135 Unlike the Arabian Sea, which experiences intense upwelling along the Somalia and Kerala coasts in the western and  
1136 southeastern coasts, respectively, during the summer monsoon, the Bay of Bengal experiences feeble upwelling near India  
1137 and Sri Lanka (Shetye et al., 1991; Vinayachandran et al., 2004). The first evidence of coastal upwelling along WBoB was  
1138 observed between 1952–1965, during IIOE. The first published report, although insufficient to present evidences of coastal  
1139 upwelling or downwelling for a season, along WBoB using hydrographic data, was by La Fond (1954, 1957, 1958, 1959).  
1140 Evidence of coastal upwelling during summer monsoon along the east coast of India was reported by Varadachari (1961).  
1141 Murty and Varadachari (1968) found stronger upwelling at Visakhapatnam compared to Chennai during both spring and  
1142 summer seasons. Similarly, upwelling at the northern part of the east coast of India (**Figure 18**) was also reported by several  
1143 investigators (Murty, 1958; Murthy, 1981; Gopalakrishna and Sastry, 1984; Rao et al., 1986, Shetye et al., 1991).

1144

1145 Satellite altimeter data show that mesoscale eddies (both upwelling (cyclonic) and downwelling (anticyclonic) favorable)  
1146 play a dominant role in causing coastal upwelling/downwelling in the BoB (Ali et al., 1998; Gopalan et al., 2000; Chen et  
1147 al., 2012; Nuncio and Kumar, 2012; Cheng et al., 2013; Mukherjee et al., 2019). However, the vertical structure of mesoscale  
1148 eddies along WBoB is still unknown due to the lack of appropriate in-situ measurements. As cyclonic eddies upwell cold  
1149 water from its lower base to upper depth and enhance vertical mixing (Falkowski et al., 1991; Kumar et al., 2004), and  
1150 vertical structure of eddies affect the strength of upwelling and associated transport of heat, salt, and nutrients in the ocean  
1151 (Chaigneau et al., 2011; Dong et al., 2014), it is required to understand the role of eddies in the upwelling along the east  
1152 coast of India.

1153

1154 Model simulations that began in the 1990s to investigate EICC found local wind-driven coastal upwelling along WBoB  
1155 during the summer season compared to spring and northeast monsoon (McCreary et al., 1996; Shankar et al., 1996;  
1156 Vinayachandran et al., 1996). During spring, seasonal sea level variability along WBoB is dominated by remote forcing that  
1157 originating from interior Ekman pumping in the BoB, the equatorial Indian Ocean, and alongshore wind along the eastern  
1158 and northern boundary of the BoB (McCreary et al., 1996; Vinayachandran et al., 1996; Aparna et al., 2012; Mukherejee et  
1159 al., 2017). During the winter, seasonal coastal downwelling occurred due to the northeasterly winds (McCreary et al., 1996;  
1160 Shetye et al., 1996). Based on satellite and in-situ observations and models, Shankar et al. (2002) showed that the dynamics  
1161 of sea level and associated upwelling along WBoB at seasonal time scales could be explained using linear theory.



1162

1163 At interannual time scales, dynamics of sea level and associated upwelling are dominated by El Niño-Southern Oscillation  
1164 (ENSO) and Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) (Saji et al., 1999). During ENSO and IOD events, interannual variability of sea  
1165 level is influenced by remotely propagating waves from the equatorial Indian Ocean (Clarke and Liu, 1994; Rao et al., 2009;  
1166 Aparna et al., 2012; Mukherejee and Kalita, 2019). At intraseasonal time scales, coastal upwelling or downwelling is  
1167 dominated by mesoscale eddies formed due to instability of the ocean (Nuncio and Kumar, 2012; Chen et al., 2012; Cheng  
1168 et al., 2013; Mukherejee et al., 2017).

1169

1170 Recent studies also showed that Andaman and Nicobar Islands (ANIs) play a dominant role in the dynamics of sea level and  
1171 associated upwelling along WBoB (Chatterjee et al., 2017; Mukherjee et al., 2019) by influencing the wave propagation.  
1172 While propagating in the interior BoB, the Rossby wave is significantly modified in the presence of ANIs (Chatterjee et al.,  
1173 2017) and generates coastal upwelling by the formation of mesoscale eddies in the WBoB (Mukherjee et al., 2019). Another  
1174 significant force for modifying coastal upwelling comes from freshwater discharge by rivers (Behara and Vinayachandran,  
1175 2016). Owing to the presence of fresh river water, barrier layer formation is common in the northern Bay of Bengal  
1176 (Vinayachandran et al., 2002), which has the potential to weaken upwelling (Behara and Vinayachandran, 2016). However,  
1177 the impact of river runoff inhibits upwelling only towards the end of the summer monsoon (**Figure 19**), and the local winds  
1178 sustain upwelling for most of the summer monsoon (Thushara and Vinayachandran, 2016)

1179

1180 In summary, coastal upwelling along WBoB is not simply local wind-driven but affected by several oceanic processes,  
1181 which includes mesoscale eddies, remote forcing from equatorial Indian Ocean & interior BoB, freshwater forcing from  
1182 rivers, etc. At the seasonal time scale, coastal upwelling along WBoB is dominated by linear processes either by local wind  
1183 or remotely propagating waves. At interannual time scales, sea level variability along WBoB is dominated by remotely  
1184 propagating waves from the equatorial Indian Ocean. At intraseasonal time scales, mesoscale eddies dominate sea level  
1185 variability. More in-situ observations are necessary in order to understand the vertical structure of coastal upwelling at  
1186 intraseasonal, seasonal, and interannual time scales. Additionally, ocean models need to be better parameterized for  
1187 resolving vertical processes near the coast related to mixed layer, thermocline, barrier layer, vertical stratification, etc, based  
1188 on in-situ observations.

1189

### 1190 **2.9.2 Ecosystem Response & Biogeochemical impacts**

1191 *Biogeochemistry of the Bay of Bengal:* Despite being situated at similar latitudes and experiencing similar monsoonal force,  
1192 the Bay of Bengal is a low productive basin compared to the Arabian Sea. The large influx of freshwater leads to a strong  
1193 salinity gradient that stratifies the upper layer and also leads to the formation of the salinity-driven “barrier layer,”  
1194 particularly during the peak discharge season in the summer monsoon (Vinayachandran et al., 2002). This restricts  
1195 entrainment of nutrients into the upper sunlit layer. The inorganic nutrient (nitrate and phosphate) transport through rivers



1196 draining into the bay is also abysmal (Sengupta et al., 1981; Sengupta and Naqvi 1984). The salinity driven stratification is  
1197 so strong that monsoonal winds are unable to erode them and inject nutrients from the subsurface layer. The surface  
1198 chlorophyll concentration is therefore, always low in the Bay of Bengal. However, the basin is characterised by the perennial  
1199 presence of sub-chlorophyll maximum (SCM), which is located at 40-90 m depth (Prasanna Kumar et al., 2007; Thushara  
1200 et al., 2019). Cyclonic old-core eddies, which are predominantly present in the Bay of Bengal, do pump nutrients into the  
1201 upper layer and can enhance the productivity by more than two-fold (Prasanna Kumar et al., 2007; Singh et al., 2015).  
1202 Anticyclonic eddies, on the other hand, recharge the subsurface layer with dissolved oxygen and restrict the strengthening  
1203 of the OMZ. Episodic atmospheric disturbances such as depressions and cyclones also erode the stratification by churning  
1204 up the ocean and inject nutrients into the upper sunlit layer to fuel productivity (Gomes et al., 2000; Vinayachandran and  
1205 Simi 2003; Sarma et al., 2013; Vidya et al., 2017).

1206 One of the most intriguing aspects of the BoB is that its organic carbon export fluxes are comparable to that of the Arabian  
1207 Sea though the bay is less productive (Ittekkot et al., 1991; Lee et al., 1998). Various theories have been proposed to explain  
1208 observed high fluxes in the bay, such as the ballasting effect due to high terrigenous input by the river (Ittekkot et al., 1991),  
1209 low respiration rates (Naqvi et al., 1996), high new production (Sanjeev Kumar et al., 2004) to list a few. The ballasting  
1210 effect helps flux material to coagulate, enhances the particle sinking rate (Ramaswamy et al., 1991), and decreases the  
1211 remineralisation in the upper layer, thereby decreasing the biological oxygen demand in this layer. These all collectively  
1212 impact the dissolved oxygen concentration in the bay and does not make it denitrifying.

1213 *Upwelling in the Bay of Bengal:* Though feeble, the upwelling in the Bay of Bengal does drive regimes of high productivity  
1214 in the southwestern region during the Southwest monsoon (Vinayachandran et al., 2004) and in the northeastern region  
1215 during the northeast monsoon (Vinayachandran, 2009). The nitracline, usually situated at a depth of ~75 m, below the  
1216 stratified layer, shoals upward by poleward flowing EICC during the pre-southwest monsoon and enhances productivity  
1217 (Gomes et al., 2000). But despite nutrient enrichment due to upwelling, the highest productivity was found in the eddy  
1218 region along the coast during the pre-monsoon. During the post-monsoon, although the wind-driven upwelling and river  
1219 discharge increased the column chlorophyll concentration by nearly five-fold, the productivity decreased to half (Gomes et  
1220 al., 2000) due to light limitation.

1221 *OMZ in the Bay of Bengal:* Like the Arabian Sea, the Bay of Bengal also hosts a thick oxygen minimum zone in its core  
1222 despite having low surface production. However, unlike the Arabian Sea, which has significant seasonal variability in the  
1223 OMZ, the Bay of Bengal OMZ is seasonally stable but has significant short-term temporal variabilities (Johnson et al.,  
1224 2019). The high temporal variability can be attributed to the supply/injection of oxygen to the deeper layer by mesoscale  
1225 eddies and sporadic cyclonic activities (Sarma and Bhaskar, 2018; Johnson et al., 2019), which can help break the surface  
1226 layer stratification. The freshwater driven stratification has profound effects on the oxycline variability as well. Prakash et  
1227 al. (2013) showed, using Argo-Oxygen data, that the oxycline in the Bay of Bengal is shallower than the Arabian Sea and  
1228 has a strong correlation with sea level anomaly. They also suggested that such a strong correlation is possible only when the



1229 physical properties played a dominant role in defining the Oxygen minimum zone. The biological activity, however, can  
1230 determine the strength of the OMZ. Sarma et al. (2013) showed that freshwater discharge during the southwest monsoon  
1231 and associated organic debris input can help intensify the OMZ in the bay.

1232 The high surface productivity may not necessarily translate into high export production, and this probably explains the  
1233 absence of seasonality in the Bay of Bengal OMZ. Anand et al. (2018) found that export production at 100 m depth in the  
1234 BoB was much less compared to that in the Arabian Sea, which indicated high utilization of organic matter by the  
1235 heterotrophs (Anand et al., 2017). This has implications for dissolved oxygen concentration in the BoB. The BoB, though  
1236 harbors low oxygen water in its core, its concentration is slightly above compared to its counterpart, the Arabian Sea, and  
1237 therefore was not denitrifying yet. Bristow et al. (2017), based on dissolved oxygen measurements using STOX sensors,  
1238 suggested that dissolved oxygen concentration in the bay is much lower than earlier believed and suggested that any further  
1239 increase in primary productivity in the basin in the climate change scenario may lead to the formation of dead zones and  
1240 severely impact fisheries. Sridevi and Sarma (2020) argue that the observations of Bristow et al. (2017) may be biased due  
1241 to the selection of sites for sampling as most of the samples were collected from the outer boundary of the anticyclonic  
1242 eddies. Sarma and Bhaskar (2018), however, showed using Bio-Argo data that eddies recharge the subsurface water with  
1243 dissolved oxygen and is probably one of the reasons why the bay is still not denitrifying. Johnson et al. (2019) further  
1244 argued, based on the Argo float-derived long-term oxygen and NO<sub>3</sub>-data, that highly variable dissolved oxygen  
1245 concentration, owing to injection of oxygen by eddies, helps BoB remain above the threshold limit to support denitrification.  
1246 Any climate-driven change in eddies distribution and the number of occurrences may alert this balance and drive bay towards  
1247 a denitrifying basin. At the same time, increasing occurrences of cyclonic activity may counterbalance an apparent decrease  
1248 in the number of eddies in the future under the climate change scenario.

1249 *Primary and New production:* The established belief is that BoB is less productive ( $344 \pm 164$  MgC/M<sup>2</sup>/d; Gauns et al.,  
1250 2005) compared to the Arabian Sea ( $1,032 \pm 260$  MgC/m<sup>2</sup>/d; Barber et al., 2001). A recent study of Anand et al. (2018)  
1251 however, reported that productivity in the bay ( $936 \pm 350$  MgC/m<sup>2</sup>/d) is comparable to that in the AS and suggested that  
1252 the earlier reports underestimated the productivity partly due to less spatial coverage. Saxena et al. (2020) also recently  
1253 observed ~5-fold increase in productivity compared to the earlier reports (Madhupratap et al., 2003) and suggested that the  
1254 increase in productivity over the past two decades is in-line with the observed increase in the global marine primary  
1255 production. The lower concentration of nutrients, particularly NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>, does not explain the observed high productivity. Sarma  
1256 et al. (2019) showed that 40-75% of the column productivity was observed in the upper 25m of the water column where the  
1257 inorganic component of nutrient was limiting (0.2μM), but dissolved fraction was available at much higher concentration  
1258 (>6μM). Therefore, uptake of DON by plankton may be responsible for the observed high productivity.

1259 The new production, measured using <sup>15</sup>N tracer, in the BoB was higher during the pre-monsoon ( $5 \pm 4$  mmol N/m<sup>2</sup>/d)  
1260 compared to the post-monsoon (2.6 mmol N/m<sup>2</sup>/d) (Kumar et al., 2004; Gandhi et al., 2010). The *f*-ratio, which provides  
1261 information about the fraction of primary production that can be exported to the deep, has been estimated to be high in the  
1262 BoB (Gandhi et al., 2010): it was higher during the pre-monsoon (~0.7) compared to post-monsoon (0.5). The high *f*-ratio



1263 was in good agreement with the earlier estimates of high export fluxes in the bay (Ittekkot et al., 1991). Sarma et al. (2018b),  
1264 however, Anand et al. (2018) argued that the estimated high f-ratio needs to be revisited since most of the organic matter  
1265 produced in the upper sunlit layer is remineralised and the export below 100m depth is quite low (<2% of the production).  
1266 They reported f-ratio, estimated using the isotopic signature of nitrogen in the particulate organic matter, to be less than 0.31  
1267 even at the core of the cyclonic eddies; f-ratio was further lower in non-eddy and anticyclonic regions.

1268 *N<sub>2</sub> fixation*: Bio-available NO<sub>3</sub>-being below the detection limit in the upper water column of BoB and an apparent nitrogen  
1269 deficit of  $4.7 \pm 2.4$  Tg N/yr indicates the importance of dinitrogen fixation in the basin (Loscher et al., 2020). Though the  
1270 presence of Trichodesmium in the bay has been reported by several authors, direct measurement of N<sub>2</sub> fixation rates was  
1271 available from this basin till recently. Indirect estimates of N<sub>2</sub> fixation in the bay, using other proxies such as atmospheric  
1272 soluble iron deposition, phosphorus limitation, and mass balance, range between 0.4 –1 TgN/Yr (Bikkina and Sarin 2013).  
1273 Low  $\delta^{15}\text{N}$  in the sinking matter also indicates a considerable amount of dinitrogen fixation in the bay. A recent report based  
1274 on a field survey conducted in 2014 during the winter monsoon did not find detectable dinitrogen fixation in the bay despite  
1275 having N<sub>2</sub> fixer community in the water column (Loscher et al., 2020). Since the sampling was carried out in the Oxygen  
1276 minimum zone layer below the photic zone (>60m) and mostly diazotrophs are found in near-surface waters, the fixation  
1277 rates were below the detection limit. The isotopic analysis of the settling flux also did not indicate significant N<sub>2</sub> fixation.  
1278 Saxena et al. (2020) recently reported first N<sub>2</sub> fixation rates from the bay using <sup>15</sup>N<sub>2</sub> tracer gas experiment. Despite getting  
1279 the signature of N<sub>2</sub> fixation in the particulate organic matter ( $\delta^{15}\text{N} \sim -0.6\text{‰}$ ), the N<sub>2</sub> fixation rates were very low (4 to 75  
1280  $\mu\text{mol N/m}^2/\text{d}$ ): the maximum fixation rates were measured at the surface, which decreases with the depth. Saxena et al.  
1281 (2020) further argued that fixation rates are too low to support high nitrogen demand for the observed primary productivity  
1282 rates and contributes to only 1% of the observed productivity of the bay. A considerable NO<sub>3</sub>- deficit, undetectable NO<sub>3</sub>-  
1283 concentration in the upper water column, presence of diazotrophs capable of doing N<sub>2</sub> fixation, and yet only 1% contribution  
1284 towards the primary productivity of the bay indeed calls for a more focussed approach to measure fixation rates in this  
1285 important basin.

1286 **Modeling Biogeochemical processes in the Bay**: Vinayachandran et al. (2005) made the first attempt to use a four-  
1287 component ecosystem model coupled with a general circulation model to simulate the evolution of phytoplankton bloom in  
1288 the bay during the northeast monsoon. The biogeochemical simulation successfully captured the bloom evolution supported  
1289 not only by the entrainment of nutrients but also through upward transport of significant amounts of chlorophyll from the  
1290 sub-surface layer. It highlights the contribution of deep chlorophyll maxima in the observed surface bloom. Thushara and  
1291 Vinayachandran (2016) later studied the evolution of phytoplankton bloom in the northwestern bay during the summer  
1292 monsoon. Their chlorophyll simulations could successfully capture the seasonal distribution of biomass, including the  
1293 coastal blooms at major river discharge mouths, and were in good agreement with the satellite-derived chlorophyll data. The  
1294 bloom intensity, however, is more realistic in the east of Srilanka and also in parts of the Andaman Sea. At other places,  
1295 models tend to underestimate the chlorophyll values in comparison with the satellite chlorophyll. Thushara and  
1296 Vinayachandran (2016) argued that the negative bias might be due to overestimation in the satellite-derived chlorophyll.



1297 Their biogeochemical simulations showed that as the river plumes were pushed away due to coastal upwelling, they did not  
1298 change the biological production in model simulations. Surface winds appear to have significant control over governing  
1299 bloom in the southwestern bay during the summer monsoon. Chakraborty et al. (2018), a high-resolution biogeochemical  
1300 model coupled with Regional Ocean Modelling System (ROMS), investigated the CO<sub>2</sub> dynamics of the Sri Lanka dome  
1301 region, which experiences intense upwelling during the southwest monsoon and showed that biological processes in the  
1302 upwelling region contribute towards draw-down of the pCO<sub>2</sub>. Their simulations indicated that biological processes dominate  
1303 over the physical upwelling in terms of the CO<sub>2</sub> outgassing and leads to a net decrease (~11uatm) of pCO<sub>2</sub>. Shallower  
1304 nitracline in the region pumps more nutrients into the upper layer and fuels biological production that compensates for the  
1305 CO<sub>2</sub> outgassing. In fact, the region becomes a sink for CO<sub>2</sub> despite having significant upwelling. These new results vouch  
1306 for more concerted modeling efforts in the bay, a basin that has received insufficient modelling attention.

1307 To summarize, recent studies indicate that the bay still remains largely an unexplored region for the following reasons: 1.  
1308 sources of nutrients such as dissolved inorganic nitrogen and its contribution to the primary production is heavily  
1309 underestimated, 2. The historical data and understanding of the quantum of primary productivity also have been questioned  
1310 in the new estimates, 3. A large influx of debris and dissolved organic matter and their decomposition have huge  
1311 contributions to the outgassing. They have ramifications on the carbon budget for the bay and also on the ocean acidification  
1312 at least near the zones of such discharges and 4. Finally, all of these have an impact on the dissolved oxygen content at the  
1313 mid-depth layer in the bay. New state of the art instruments, measurement techniques, and sustained long term observations  
1314 can help understand and predict if the bay will be the “next hotspot” waiting to explode under climate change.

#### 1315 **2.10 Sumatra and Java**

1316  
1317 The upwelling off the southern coasts of Sumatra and Java Islands is a remarkable eastern boundary upwelling system  
1318 (EBUS) in the Indian Ocean. Comparing with the other EBUS in the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans (Chavez et al., 2009),  
1319 however, the upwelling system in the Sumatra-Java coast had been overlooked until recently despite its important roles in  
1320 climate and ecosystem dynamics. This is because the average magnitude of the upwelling signals is smaller compared to the  
1321 other major EBUS in the world, due partly to a strong seasonality associated with monsoonal wind forcing and partly to the  
1322 existence of the Indonesian throughflow to the east and south of the upwelling region (Qu et al., 1994; Du et al., 2005). In  
1323 addition, the insufficient availability of in-situ data and complex geometry near the Indonesian Seas make detailed  
1324 investigations difficult.

1325  
1326 The Sumatra-Java upwelling region is embedded in rather complex upper-layer circulations in the southeastern tropical  
1327 Indian Ocean between Indonesia and Australia (**Figure 20**). Seasonally changing South Java Coastal Current is associated  
1328 with the monsoonal wind reversal and is directly linked with the upwelling system (Quadfasel and Cresswell, 1992; Sprintall  
1329 et al., 1999). The westward flowing South Equatorial Current, a part of which is fed by the Indonesian throughflow from



1330 the Indonesian Archipelago, is located to the south of the upwelling region (e.g., Qu and Meyers, 2005a). Since the Sumatra-  
1331 Java upwelling region sits close to the equator (from the equatorial region down to around 9°S), the equatorial and coastal  
1332 waveguide affects variability in upwelling signatures significantly.

1333  
1334 A major feature of the upwelling in this region is the seasonal variation associated with the monsoonal wind along the coasts;  
1335 the upwelling favorable southeasterly winds prevail during boreal summer while the northwesterly winds appear during  
1336 boreal winter, which generates downwelling condition. Wyrтки (1962) is the first to demonstrate that the Ekman upwelling  
1337 along the coast of Sumatra and Java occurs during the boreal summer associated with the local southeasterly monsoon over  
1338 the region. Upwelling signatures in this region are well observed in in-situ measurements and satellite remote sensing  
1339 observations as in the other upwelling regions; e.g., cooler SST and subsurface temperature, shallower thermocline depth  
1340 and lower sea surface height, and higher chlorophyll-a and nutrients concentrations compared to the surrounding area (e.g.,  
1341 Wyrтки, 1962; Susanto et al., 2001; Susanto and Marra, 2005; Iskandar et al., 2017) (**Figure 20**). The upwelling signatures  
1342 propagate to the west in association with the westward movement of the along-shore winds (Susanto et al., 2001). However,  
1343 locations of maximum amplitude of the upwelling signatures may differ in space among the variables due to dynamical  
1344 upper-ocean responses to the wind forcing. One such example can be seen in a phase relation between the winds and SST  
1345 along the Java coast; strong winds appear in the western area of the Java coast while the SST signal comes further east  
1346 (Naulita et al., 2020). In addition to this local wind forcing, the Sumatra-Java coastal area is affected by remotely forced  
1347 Kelvin waves propagating from regions further northwest along the Sumatra coast and from the equatorial Indian Ocean.  
1348 Several studies have shown that both the local wind forcing and this remote wave influence play key roles in determining  
1349 the magnitude and area of the Sumatra-Java upwelling (e.g., Cheng et al., 2016; Horii et al., 2016; Delman et al., 2018).

1350  
1351 The local and remote influences vary year-to-year, generating interannual variability of upwelling strength and spatial  
1352 coverage. The most significant interannual variability in the tropical Indian Ocean is the Indian Ocean Dipole Mode (IOD),  
1353 whose center of action in the eastern pole appears over the Sumatra-Java upwelling region. During the positive IOD, the  
1354 southeastern Indian Ocean, particularly along the Sumatra-Java coasts, are occupied by negative SST anomaly, which tends  
1355 to be phase-locked to the seasonal upwelling during the boreal summer to fall. While the cool SST in seasonal variation is  
1356 pronounced along the Java coast (see **Figure 20**), the interannual SST anomaly appear in both Sumatra and Java coastal  
1357 regions with relatively stronger signal off the coast of Sumatra. Besides, the upwelling variability in the interannual time-  
1358 scale is also related to ENSO phenomena in the Pacific Ocean (Susanto et al., 2001; Susanto and Marra, 2005), partly due  
1359 to co-occurrence of ENSO and IOD in some years and also to atmospheric teleconnections from the Pacific for modifying  
1360 the strength of along coast component of the wind stress over Sumatra and Java. Oceanic teleconnections from the Pacific  
1361 through the Indonesian archipelago via the Indonesian throughflow may also affect the upwelling variability.

1362  
1363 There have been attempts to investigate the ocean processes responsible for the seasonal and interannual variations in the  
1364 mixed-layer or upper-layer temperature using heat/temperature budget analyses. Both the seasonal and interannual variations





1365 are dominated by vertical processes associated with the Ekman upwelling, with significant contributions from horizontal  
1366 advection, including the one from the Indonesian throughflow (e.g., Qu et al., 1994; Du et al., 2005, 2008). The barrier layer  
1367 is also affecting the seasonal SST variability, especially in the region off the Sumatra coast (Du et al., 2005; Qu et al.,  
1368 2005b). For interannual time-scales, the SST variability is driven by both the local and remote wind forcing, both of which  
1369 are strongly related to the IOD and to a lesser extent to ENSO, while the thermocline depth variations are mostly due to the  
1370 remote wave influences from the equatorial eastern Indian Ocean (Chen et al., 2016). There are several studies, including  
1371 those under the IIOE-2 program, focusing on the roles of variability in the upwelling region on the evolution of IOD events.  
1372 Initiation of positive IOD events is related to anomalous cooling off the coast of Sumatra-Java, which may be generated by  
1373 local winds, particularly along the coast of Sumatra Island (Delman et al., 2016, 2018; Kämpf and Kavi, 2019), or remotely  
1374 forced Kelvin wave signal originated in the equatorial Indian Ocean (Horii et al., 2008). During the mature stage of the  
1375 positive IOD, vertical upwelling processes, as well as horizontal advection, contribute to keeping anomalous cooling of the  
1376 SST off the coasts of Sumatra and Java (Du et al., 2008; Chen et al., 2016). While the seasonal March to the northwesterly  
1377 monsoon condition terminates this maintaining process forced by local and remote winds, oceanic eddy heat flux associated  
1378 with mesoscale eddies generated by enhanced instability during the height of the positive IOD is also shown to facilitate the  
1379 disappearance of the anomalous conditions in the strong events (Ogata and Masumoto, 2010, 2011).

1380  
1381 The upwelling off Sumatra and Java is also affected by intraseasonal variability in the ocean and atmosphere. This  
1382 intraseasonal variability is, as in the case of seasonal and interannual variations, due both to the local winds and to remotely  
1383 forced oceanic Kelvin waves (Iskandar et al., 2006; Horii et al., 2016). Even during the height of the positive IOD in 2008,  
1384 strong intraseasonal upwelling signals are observed in temperature and salinity profiles obtained by Argo floats (Horii et al.,  
1385 2018). In addition, a long-term trend in the upwelling strength is studied recently. For example, Varela et al. (2016) suggest  
1386 the weakening of the upwelling although the SST shows a cooling trend due to cooler subsurface temperature. Sources of  
1387 this upwelled water mass are not clearly determined yet. A study using a numerical model proposes the Indonesian  
1388 throughflow as a possible source for the upwelling water off the Java coast (Valsala and Maksyutov, 2010), while another  
1389 study suggests that water mass from the northwest via South Java Current could be upwelled in this region (Varela et al.,  
1390 2016).

1391  
1392 As in the other EBUS, high biological productivity is expected in the Sumatra-Java upwelling region during boreal summer  
1393 and fall (Wei et al., 2012), with high nutrient and chlorophyll-a concentrations along the coasts (e.g. Wyrski 1962; Tranter  
1394 and Newell, 1962; Susanto et al., 2001; Asanuma et al., 2003; Iskandar et al., 2009). Spatial distributions and temporal  
1395 variations of various biogeochemical parameters have been detected from in-situ observations, coral records, and sediment  
1396 cores for the present situations and paleo-oceanographic conditions (e.g., Grumet et al., 2004; Murgese and De Deckker,  
1397 2005; Andrulleit 2007; Andrulleit et al., 2008; Baumgart et al., 2010; Ehlert et al., 2011). Recent in-situ observations in the  
1398 Sumatra-Java upwelling region conducted during the IIOE-2 period indicate different phytoplankton compositions and





1399 assemblages between upwelling and non-upwelling regions (Gao et al., 2018) and physical and biological processes that  
1400 determine aragonite saturation state (Xue et al., 2016). Efforts to develop and improve biogeochemical models of the  
1401 upwelling systems are also in progress (e.g., Sreeush et al., 2018). These researches on biogeochemistry are important to  
1402 understand key processes operating in the Sumatra-Java upwelling system. However, these results are rather fragmented at  
1403 this stage, and integrated studies on biophysical interactions, ecosystem dynamics, and the marine food web in the Sumatra-  
1404 Java upwelling region would be strongly required.

1405  
1406 During the IIOE-2 period (2015 - 2020), Argo float measurements and satellite remote sensing data have been accumulated  
1407 significantly, and there were several in-situ observations of physical and biogeochemical aspects of the upwelling system.  
1408 These data sets provide us key evidences for a better understanding of physical processes responsible for the upwelling  
1409 variability in various time-scales and of distributions of biogeochemical variables. However, in-situ measurements are still  
1410 quite limited to obtain a synthetic view of the upwelling system off Sumatra-Java coasts, particularly on biogeochemical  
1411 parameters. Mixed-layer dynamics and mixing processes in this unique region for relating subsurface oceanic variability to  
1412 SST need to be investigate in more detail. Further observations and accumulation of additional evidences are necessary to  
1413 obtain a comprehensive view of the upwelling system off the Sumatra-Java coasts.

1414

## 1415 **2.11 West coast of Australia**

### 1416 **2.11.1 Overview**

1417 Unlike other eastern boundary systems, such as the highly productive Humboldt and Benguela upwelling systems, the west  
1418 coast of Australia features a downwelling current that carries tropical water southward along the shelf-break (Pearce, 1991).  
1419 In the late nineteenth century, the presence of tropical corals at the Abrolhos Islands (28°- 29°S 114° E) was observed by  
1420 Saville-Kent (1897), and from sea temperature measurements, he postulated that there was an offshore, warm, southward-  
1421 flowing current. A drift-card study conducted near Rottneest Island (32°S, 115°E) confirmed that during the austral winter,  
1422 there was a southward flowing current (Rochford, 1969), and Gentilli (1972) explored the seasonal southward progression  
1423 of “rafts” of warm water off the west coast of Australia.

1424 The Leeuwin Current (LC) was named and described by Cresswell and Golding (1980) from the trajectories of satellite-  
1425 tracked buoys and measurements of surface temperature and salinity from the shelf and slope stations. Other early studies  
1426 of the LC, which included using current meters, shipboard measurements, satellite imagery, steric height gradients, wind  
1427 stress calculations, and modeling, identified the seasonal nature of the current, origins along the North West Shelf, an  
1428 eastward extension to the Great Australian Bight, the frequent presence of meanders and eddies and low nutrient status  
1429 (Godfrey and Ridgway, 1985; Holloway and Nye, 1985; Pearce, 1991; Smith et al., 1991; Thompson, 1984; Thompson and  
1430 Veronis, 1983; Weaver and Middleton, 1989). Essentially, the alongshore steric height gradient is set up by the Indonesian  
1431 throughflow (which delivers warm, less saline waters from the Pacific into the Indian Ocean) and surface heat loss at higher  
1432 latitudes (Smith et al., 1991). Later, using remote sensing and modeling, research attention centered on understanding the



1433 influence of the LC on the recruitment of puerulus larvae of the economically-important rock lobster *Panulirus cygnus* (e.g.,  
1434 Griffin et al., 2001; Phillips and Pearce, 1997).  
1435 More recent shipboard studies along the entire west coast of Australia (Weller et al., 2011; Woo and Pattiaratchi, 2008)  
1436 provided more detailed information on the trajectory and features of the LC, including the chemistry, primary production,  
1437 zooplankton and larval fishes (Buchanan and Beckley, 2016; Holliday et al., 2012; Lourey et al., 2012; Sutton and Beckley,  
1438 2016; Thompson et al., 2011). Further, remote sensing and modeling have confirmed the seasonal nature of the LC and the  
1439 influence of the El Niño Southern Oscillation with stronger LC flows occurring during La Niña years (Domingues et al.,  
1440 2007; Feng et al., 2003). The ecological significance of the LC eddy field was investigated with two dedicated voyages  
1441 (Paterson et al., 2008; Waite et al., 2007b). The most recent ecological work explored the significance of the LC and its  
1442 eddy field on the ecology of the planktonic phyllosoma of *P. cygnus* in the wake of a drastic decline in puerulus settlement  
1443 (Saunders et al., 2012; Säwström et al., 2014; Waite et al., 2019).

1444 Many of the early studies on the LC noted the occurrence of inshore northward-flowing currents during the summer months  
1445 (e.g., Thompson and Veronis, 1983; Thompson, 1984) with Holloway and Nye (1985) specifically mentioning upwelling  
1446 along the northwest coast. Subsequent studies highlighted regional upwelling nodes (see below) and, using an upwelling  
1447 index developed from 15 years of satellite data, (Rossi et al., 2013b) produced a synopsis covering the development of  
1448 sporadic upwelling events (generally lasting 3-10 days) along the entire western coast of Australia (**Figure 21 and 22**).  
1449 Although such upwelling generally occurs from September to April (austral summer) sporadic events can occur at any time  
1450 north of 30°S (**Figure 23**). Upwelling favorable winds, local topography, and the characteristics of the LC such as onshore  
1451 geostrophic flow, stratification, mesoscale eddies, and meanders influence the intensity of intermittent upwelling. For this  
1452 review of upwelling along the western coast of Australia, we have separated the coast into three nodes of upwelling, namely,  
1453 the South West (35°-30° S), Central (30°-25° S), Gascoyne (25° - 22° S) and will also cover upwelling in the eddy field.

1454

### 1455 **2.11.2 Upwelling nodes**

#### 1456 **South West**

1457 A northward-flowing inshore current along parts of the southwest coast was indicated by several early LC studies (Cresswell  
1458 et al., 1989; Cresswell and Peterson, 1993; Cresswell and Golding, 1980; Pearce, 1991; Thompson, 1987). For example,  
1459 Cresswell and Peterson (1993) noted in the austral summer of 1986-87 that a cold upwelling plume (-17.5°C) extended  
1460 westward along the shelf from the southern coast of Western Australia around Cape Leeuwin and northward to Cape  
1461 Naturaliste. They speculated that the absence of the LC south of 34°S might have allowed upwelling-favorable easterly  
1462 winds on the south coast to drive this upwelling. From a detailed analysis of satellite imagery (1987-1993) and environmental  
1463 data, Pearce and Pattiaratchi (1999) described the narrow, northward flowing counter-current between Cape Leeuwin and  
1464 Cape Naturaliste during the austral summer months and named it the Capes Current. They indicated that strong northward  
1465 wind stresses between November and March slowed the LC and drove the Capes Current and that localized upwelling also  
1466 contributed to it. This upwelling was examined by Gersbach et al. (1999) using XBT, CTD, nutrient, and ADCP data from



1467 summer sections off Cape Mentelle (located between Cape Leeuwin and Cape Naturaliste) and several sections between  
1468 Albany and Perth, as well as wind data and satellite imagery. They concluded that northward wind stress in summer could  
1469 overcome the alongshore steric height gradient on the continental shelf, inducing the thermocline to lift and sporadic  
1470 upwelling to occur 5-9 times per summer. Interestingly, the T/S characteristics of the water upwelled at Cape Mentelle were  
1471 slightly different from that of the current setup from the south (Gersbach et al., 1999).

1472 Rossi et al. (2013b) indicated that, overall, the transient upwelling events in this southwest region last 3-10 days, and shelf  
1473 regions between 34°S and 31.5°S exhibit up to 12 upwelling days per month during the austral spring/summer (Figure 22).  
1474 Historical current measurements near Perth suggest that the Capes Current continues northwards past Rottnest Island, and  
1475 there may also be links with shelf counter-currents well past the Abrolhos Islands at 29°S (Cresswell et al., 1989).

1476

### 1477 **2.11.3 Central coast**

1478

1479 Along the central Western Australian shelf inshore of the Leeuwin Current, there is a general northward flow during the  
1480 austral summer months based on current measurements across the shelf near the Houtman Abrolhos Islands (Cresswell et  
1481 al., 1989; Rochford, 1969). Rossi et al. (2013b) indicated a high upwelling index along the central coast with locations  
1482 around 28°S and 26° S producing elevated mean numbers of upwelling days per year. Interestingly, both show peaks in  
1483 upwelling from March to May, with upwelling at 28° S continuing through the austral winter.

1484

### 1485 **2.11.4 Gascoyne coast**

1486

1487 The Gascoyne coast is characterised by a northward flowing inshore current known as the Ningaloo Current. Various studies  
1488 have revealed that the Ningaloo Current consists of water sourced from upwelling of shallow water (~100 m) from the base  
1489 of the LC (Hanson et al., 2005; Taylor and Pearce, 1999; Woo and Pattiaratchi, 2008; Woo et al., 2006a, 2006b). Previously,  
1490 it was understood to be strongly seasonal in the austral summer, but recent investigations have shown autumn upwelling  
1491 events as well (Lowe et al., 2012; Xu et al., 2013; Rossi et al., 2013a). The source water in autumn may be from a greater  
1492 depth (150m) under the increased mixed layer depth (Rossi et al., 2013a). The Ningaloo upwelling region around 22.5°S  
1493 has the highest number of upwelling days per year (140), and the events are often longer in duration than elsewhere on the  
1494 west coast (Rossi et al., 2013b).

1495

### 1496 **2.11.5 Biogeochemical & ecological impacts**

#### 1497 **Nutrients, primary productivity, pro- and micro-eukaryotes**

1498 In the next section, we explore how the regional dynamics along the west coast of Australia control the spatio-temporal  
1499 variability of biogeochemical cycles, such as primary productivity and nutrient cycles in general. Water column productivity  
1500 along the west coast of Australia (generally  $<200 \text{ mg C m}^{-2} \text{ d}^{-1}$ ; Hanson et al., 2005) peaks at the deep chlorophyll maximum



1501 (DCM), which is closely aligned with the base of the nutricline. Productivity at the DCM in this system is strongly influenced  
1502 by the mixed layer depth (MLD), with deeper DCMs having lower productivity and shallower DCMs resulting in higher  
1503 productivity rates (Hanson et al., 2007a; Johannes et al., 1994).

1504 Furnas (2007) argued that intermittent bursts of high productivity could occur in specific locations or under certain  
1505 circumstances along this coast. The strength of the LC is controlled by the weakening of southerly winds in the austral  
1506 autumn and winter. Modeling results from Feng et al. (2003) suggest that an increase in the southward transport of the LC  
1507 has been linked to an erosion of the thermocline, which then brings  $\text{NO}_3^-$  into the euphotic zone, thereby enhancing primary  
1508 productivity in early autumn (Feng et al., 2009; Rousseaux et al., 2012). Satellite observations across the shelf and LC  
1509 confirmed these results with the highest chlorophyll levels in autumn and winter (Lourey et al., 2006; Lourey et al., 2012).  
1510 Similarly, in summer, the wind-driven Capes Current locally enhances productivity near the shelf (Pearce and Pattiaratchi,  
1511 1999), yet, generally, the oligotrophic nature of this system limits  $\text{NO}_3^-$  driven new production throughout the year (Hanson  
1512 et al., 2005; Twomey et al., 2007). The recycling of organic matter, however, via microbial regeneration has been shown to  
1513 primarily control the rates of primary production in this system (Hanson et al., 2007b; Pearce et al., 2006; Twomey et al.,  
1514 2007) rather than the strong upwelling as seen in other eastern boundary systems, such as the Humboldt and Benguela  
1515 systems (Hood et al., 2017).

1516 The inputs of new N derived from  $\text{N}_2$  fixation is also an important pathway supporting primary productivity in this region.  
1517 Along the Western Australian shelf from 32°S northwards to 12°S, and west to 110°E, the contribution of new N from  $\text{N}_2$   
1518 fixation towards the total dissolved inorganic nitrogen (DIN) assimilation pool can be ~ 20% and up to 50% during the  
1519 winter months (with  $\text{N}_2$  fixation rates ranging from 0.01 up to 12  $\text{nmol}^{-1} \text{L}^{-1} \text{h}^{-1}$ ), making  $\text{N}_2$  fixation equal to  $\text{NO}_3^-$  in terms  
1520 of N assimilation into this ecosystem (Raes et al., 2015; Raes et al., 2014). Waite et al. (2013) and Raes et al. (2015) also  
1521 noted that the small diffusive deep-water  $\text{NO}_3^-$  fluxes are not able to support the measured  $\text{NO}_3^-$  assimilation rates. Their  
1522 data suggest that nitrification above the nutricline (referred to as “shallow nitrification”; see also Thompson et al., 2011)  
1523 could be an important pathway of the N-cycle along the southwest coast of Australia. Waite et al. (2016) suggested that the  
1524 persistent layers of low oxygen, high dissolved nitrogen (LDOHN;  $\text{O}_2 \sim 150 \mu\text{mol L}^{-1}$  and  $\text{NO}_3^- \sim 2\text{--}10 \mu\text{mol L}^{-1}$ ) just below  
1525 the euphotic zone ( $\sim 150\text{--}250\text{m}$ ; Thompson et al., 2011; Weller et al., 2011) are hotspots for the mineralization of organic  
1526 material from local sources (< 500 km away). In addition, Waite et al. (2016) noted that the depletion of oxygen in these  
1527 isolated layers along with the release of  $\text{NO}_3^-$ , could happen on a time-scale of ~2 weeks. Warren (1981), on the other hand,  
1528 originally suggested that the isolated nature of the lower oxygen features is created by density gradients, which prevent the  
1529 mixing of deep  $\text{O}_2$  rich water. According to Thompson et al. (2011) and Weller et al. (2011), the source of the oxygen  
1530 minimum layer is associated with multiple water masses further upstream, possibly at lower latitudes north of Australia.  
1531 Overall, a number of studies point to the conclusion that an active microbial loop (Azam et al., 1983) controls the biogenic  
1532 C and N fluxes through heterotrophic recycling via ammonification, nitrification, and  $\text{N}_2$  fixation in this vast region (Hanson  
1533 et al., 2007b; Raes et al., 2015; Waite et al., 2016).



1534 The west coast of Australia has been suggested to have a subtropical phytoplankton cycle, with a winter bloom, similar to  
1535 the open ocean waters of the subtropical South Indian Ocean (**Figure 24**). Picoplankton (unicellular cyanobacteria and  
1536 prochlorophytes) have been shown to contribute >40% of the pigment biomass (Hanson et al., 2007b). In terms of bio-  
1537 volume, the Dinophyceae, including large gymnoids and other Dinophyceae (e.g., *Gyrodinium* spp., *Prorocentrum* spp.),  
1538 are the most abundant microplankton and can account for up to 50% of the microplankton component in this region (Raes  
1539 et al., 2014). Sightings of N<sub>2</sub>-fixing microorganisms (such as *Trichodesmium*) in the oligotrophic waters off the west coast  
1540 of Australia date back to voyages of Captain Cook and Charles Darwin (Cook et al., 1999; Darwin, 1889). *Trichodesmium*  
1541 occurrences have been measured at the Australian National Reference stations from the tropics (Darwin) to the temperate  
1542 waters off Rottnest Island.

1543

1544 Amplicon sequencing of the nitrogenase (*nifH*) gene, however, has shown a low diazotrophic evenness across a transect  
1545 along the shelf from Perth (32°S) to Darwin (10°S). One operational taxonomic unit (OTU) made up 65–95% of the *nifH*  
1546 enzyme diversity along the transect, and was identified as a Gamma 4 proteobacteria (Raes et al., 2018). This dominant *nifH*  
1547 OTU was nearly identical (one nucleotide difference) to the gamma 4 proteobacteria (HM201363.1) found by Halm et al.  
1548 (2012) in the oligotrophic South Pacific Gyre. The ubiquitous finding of these gamma proteobacterial *nifH* genes is  
1549 consistent with the results from Schmidt et al. (1991) and Langlois et al. (2015) in open, oligotrophic oceanic waters.

1550

#### 1551 **2.11.6 Zooplankton**

1552

1553 Ecological studies about zooplankton community structure along the west coast of Australia are few, and most studies have  
1554 examined specific taxa (e.g., larval fishes, chaetognaths, or krill) particularly in relation to the effect of the LC on dispersal  
1555 (Beckley et al., 2009; Buchanan & Beckley, 2016; Holliday et al., 2012; Sutton & Beckley, 2016). Although inshore stations  
1556 (50 m depth) were sampled during the voyage when most of these studies were made (extending from 22°S - 34°S), there  
1557 was no evidence of coastal upwelling, likely because it was conducted in the austral autumn (May 2007). Recently, meso-  
1558 zooplankton abundance, composition, and diversity data from the three years (2010-2012) that the IMOS Australian  
1559 National Reference Stations (Ningaloo, Rottnest Island, and Esperance) were concurrently sampled were analyzed  
1560 (McCosker et al., 2020). Besides the obvious influence of the LC in winter, there were clear dissimilarities between the  
1561 copepod assemblages, particularly during the summer months when coastal upwelling-associated currents such as the Capes  
1562 and Ningaloo Currents influenced the biota.

1563 Specific effects of coastal upwelling on zooplankton have not been explored in the South West, but concurrent with the  
1564 phytoplankton study of Koslow et al. (2008) across the Two Rocks transect north of Perth, mesozooplankton assemblages  
1565 were examined (Strzelecki and Koslow, 2006). During the summer, the inshore shelf stations were found to have  
1566 significantly higher zooplankton abundance than the offshore sampling stations, but this was reversed in the winter months  
1567 when the LC was flowing strongly. Copepod production ranged from 0.4-10 mg C m<sup>-2</sup> d<sup>-1</sup> (Strzelecki and Koslow, 2006),



1568 which is low compared to upwelling regions elsewhere in the world but comparable to copepod production in the North  
1569 West Cape region (McKinnon and Duggan, 2003). Along the same cross-shelf transect, Muhling and Beckley (2007) and  
1570 Muhling et al. (2008b) found clear seasonal differences in the diversity and abundance of inshore larval fish assemblages  
1571 when the cool Capes Current was flowing northwards during the austral summer compared to the austral winter months  
1572 when the LC strongly influenced larval fish assemblages on the continental shelf.

1573 Little is known about the effect of coastal upwelling on zooplankton along the central part of the Western Australian coast,  
1574 and the only extensive zooplankton survey in the region targeted the phyllosoma larvae of the rock lobster, *Panulirus cygnus*.  
1575 Nevertheless, the study highlighted the presence of the Abrolhos front separating the tropical waters of the LC from the  
1576 dominant oligotrophic subtropical surface water (STSW), and the LC waters had much higher chlorophyll *a* and zooplankton  
1577 concentrations than the STSW (Sävström et al., 2014).

1578 In the north, the coastal copepod communities at Ningaloo are diverse (> 120 species; McKinnon and Duggan 2001). They  
1579 are characterized by small “upwelling- ready” species, which can react quickly to pulses of sporadic upwelling and  
1580 phytoplankton blooms, but, unlike the high primary production rates, copepod production rates are generally low (~ 13 mg  
1581 C m<sup>-2</sup> d<sup>-1</sup>; Hanson and McKinnon, 2009). Interestingly, *Calanoides carinatus*, a copepod that is characteristic of upwelling  
1582 regimes elsewhere, was absent, and they proposed that upwelling was too infrequent and episodic to sustain zooplankton  
1583 specific to upwelling regimes. Of the macro-zooplankton, krill, especially, *Pseudeuphausia latifrons* has been investigated  
1584 in coastal waters at Ningaloo (Wilson et al., 2003), and seasonal occurrence of whale sharks has been linked to aggregations  
1585 of this species during the austral autumn months (Hanson and McKinnon 2009).

1586

#### 1587 **2.11.7 Fisheries**

1588

1589 Investigations into the spawning of sardines (*Sardinops sagax*) off southwestern Australia have highlighted advective  
1590 transport (Fletcher et al., 1994; Gaughan et al., 2001b) and variation in the growth rate of larvae from areas with different  
1591 levels of productivity (Gaughan et al., 2001a). Muhling et al. (2008a) showed that, although adult sardines had a winter  
1592 spawning peak coinciding with the seasonal peak in chlorophyll *a* (Koslow et al., 2008), it also matched the seasonal peak  
1593 in the southward flow of the LC, resulting in low retention of the early life history stages. Thus, egg and larval concentrations  
1594 were lower than expected in winter but higher in summer when retention conditions were more favorable. They postulated  
1595 that, as larval growth rates were actually high, the insignificant catches of adults in the fishery compared to other eastern  
1596 boundary upwelling systems was due to a combination of suppression of large-scale upwelling and the modest seasonal  
1597 maximum in primary productivity occurring during the time least favourable for pelagic larval retention.

1598 There has been commentaries on the role of the Capes Current in assisting migrations of south coast fish species such as  
1599 *Arripis truttaceus* and *Arripis georgianus* in their migrations to autumn spawning areas in southwestern Australia and  
1600 subsequent return transport of early life stages by the LC during winter (Pearce and Pattiaratchi, 1999). Both Caputi et al.  
1601 (1996) and Lenanton et al. (2009) have reviewed the importance of the LC with respect to Western Australian fisheries and



1602 have noted the likely role of the Capes Current for several species, including the economically important rock lobster.  
1603 Through modeling, Feng et al. (2010) examined dispersal and retention areas along the west coast. Although the LC was  
1604 dominant in winter, northward flow in summer was linked with recruitment success of scallops (*Amusium balloti*), abalone  
1605 (*Haliotis roei*), and tropical sardines (*Sardinella lemuru*).

1606

#### 1607 **2.11.8 Eddies**

1608 The vast eddy-field associated with the LC is well-known and has been investigated by numerous oceanographers and  
1609 shown to influence regional biogeochemistry and pelagic ecology (e.g., Andrews, 1977; Feng et al., 2007; Waite et al.,  
1610 2007b; Moore et al., 2007; Paterson et al., 2008; Holliday et al., 2011; Dufois et al., 2014). Though the warm, anticyclonic  
1611 eddies have been explored in greater detail than the cyclonic eddies, it is the latter which are cold-core upwelling systems  
1612 and deserve mention here as they have been shown to drive a significant fraction of cross-shelf transport and enhance local  
1613 and regional productivity (Waite et al., 2016).

1614

1615 A study contrasting a dipole pair of eddies off Western Australia revealed many differences in the biota between the two  
1616 eddies (Muhling et al., 2007; Strzelecki et al., 2007) as a result of the differences in physical and chemical properties. Warm-  
1617 core eddies (WCEs; anticyclonic) have greater surface chlorophyll signatures compared to cold-core eddies (CCEs;  
1618 cyclonic) in the eastern Indian Ocean (Dufois et al., 2014; Waite et al., 2016). Yet, Waite et al. (2019) showed that CCEs  
1619 actually have greater depth-integrated primary productivity as their shallower mixed layers are closer to the nutricline and  
1620 across pycnocline mixing then increases the upward flux of dissolved inorganic nutrients. This results in greater flagellate  
1621 and dinoflagellate populations in CCEs, which provide a high-quality food source for zooplankton, and consequently  
1622 increases their lipid stores (Waite et al., 2019). Earlier work showed no significant differences between the fractionated  
1623 isotopic zooplankton analyses between CCEs and WCEs but highlighted that micro-heterotrophs are positioned on a trophic  
1624 level as third and fourth-order consumers (Waite et al., 2007a). The high position of micro-heterotrophs again confirms the  
1625 rapid recycling of particulate organic matter in this system in general, as outlined previously (Hanson et al., 2005; Raes et  
1626 al., 2014; Twomey et al., 2007). Further, upwelling eddies generated by the Leeuwin Undercurrent in the Perth Canyon have  
1627 been implicated in the abundance of krill in the area and consequent feeding of migrating blue whales (Rennie et al., 2007).

#### 1628 **2.12 Seychelles-Chagos Thermocline Ridge**

1629 The Seychelles-Chagos Thermocline Ridge (SCTR, Xie et al, 2002; Hermes and Reason, 2008; Yokoi et al., 2008; Vialard  
1630 et al., 2009) is an upwelling region across the southern tropical Indian Ocean in the latitude band 5-15°S (**Figure 25**). It is  
1631 characterized by a thin mixed layer (~30m) and a relatively shallow thermocline. The ridge, and the upwelling associated  
1632 with it, is set up by wind stress curl patterns, and it has significant variability on seasonal and interannual time scales due to  
1633 both remote and local and forcing (Xie et al., 2002; Hermes and Reason, 2008; Yokoi et al., 2008; McPhaden and Nagura,



1634 2014; Nyadjro et al., 2017). It is coincident with the southernmost latitudes of monsoon-driven circulation in the Indian  
1635 Ocean, south of which a steadier trade wind regime prevails (**Figure 26**). During boreal winter, the Intertropical  
1636 Convergence Zone (ITCZ) is located over the SCTR. The ITCZ and associated rainfall migrate northwards to the Indian  
1637 subcontinent as the year progresses, where it is the source of precipitation during the summer monsoon.

1638 Upwelling along the SCTR affects sea surface temperature (SST, **Figure 26**), biogeochemistry (**Figure 26**), and fisheries  
1639 (**Figure 27**), and drives strong ocean-atmosphere coupling (Vinayachandran and Saji, 2008, Vialard et al., 2009; Resplandy  
1640 et al., 2009; Robinson et al., 2010; Dilmahamod et al., 2016). As discussed previously, upwelling centers in the monsoon-  
1641 dominated Indian Ocean are found in off-equatorial regions because the mean winds along the equator are westerly, unlike  
1642 in the easterly trade wind-forced Pacific and Atlantic Oceans (Schott et al., 2009; Wang and McPhaden, 2017). The SCTR  
1643 is the largest and most persistent upwelling region in the Indian Ocean.

1644 The SCTR represents the ascending branch of the subtropical circulation cell in the southern hemisphere, where upwelling  
1645 is balanced primarily by meridionally divergent flow in the surface layer (Lee, 2004; **Figure 28**). Horizontal flow in the  
1646 upper ocean circulates cyclonically around the SCTR axis, with the westward-flowing South Equatorial Current (SEC) to  
1647 the south and the eastward-flowing South Equatorial Countercurrent (SECC) to the north (**Figure 25**). The westward-  
1648 flowing SEC in the SCTR region provides the conduit for interbasin exchanges that link the Pacific Ocean to the Atlantic  
1649 Ocean through the Indonesian Seas and the Agulhas Current.

1650 SST varies substantially in the SCTR on intraseasonal to interannual time scales because the shallow mixed layer is sensitive  
1651 to changes in upwelling, vertical mixing, air-sea heat fluxes, and horizontal advection (Vialard et al., 2008; Foltz et al.,  
1652 2010). On intraseasonal time scales, pronounced SST variations in the SCTR happen in response to forcing from the  
1653 Madden-Julian Oscillation (MJO, Madden and Julian 1972), which is generated in this region. This variability feeds back  
1654 to the atmosphere, which helps to organize the MJO convective cells. Large SST variations on interannual time scales are  
1655 associated with the El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO) and the Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD; Webster et al., 1999; Saji et  
1656 al., 1999). This year-to-year SST variability affects the frequency of Indian summer monsoon rainfall (Izumo et al., 2008),  
1657 tropical storms in the southwestern Indian Ocean (Xie et al., 2002), and the climate of East Asia (Yamagata et al., 2004).  
1658 The IOD also profoundly affects the tuna fishery in the Indian Ocean, which is well developed in the SCTR during normal  
1659 years (**Figure 27**). However, during the positive IOD events, when upwelling is weakened in the SCTR and strengthened  
1660 off the coast of Java and Sumatra, tuna migrate eastward, apparently in search of more favorable foraging grounds (**Figure**  
1661 **27**, Robinson et al., 2010).

1662 Observational studies have documented concentrated tuna fishing activities at locations where surface phytoplankton  
1663 blooms had been observed in satellite observations 2-3 weeks previously (Fonteneau et al. 2008), demonstrating a strong  
1664 connection between the food webs that respond to SCTR blooms and the prey required by large tuna. In contrast,





1665 biogeochemical modeling results indicate that neither phytoplankton biomass nor carbon export from the euphotic zone  
1666 changes significantly in response to seasonal and interannual variability of the SCTR thermocline depth (Resplandy et al.,  
1667 2009). These contrasting results represent a paradox in the current understanding of ecological dynamics in the SCTR  
1668 upwelling region, which can neither be so subtle as to produce no biogeochemical signals from the episodic nutricline  
1669 intrusions into surface waters nor so strong and efficient as to produce an almost instantaneous population response of the  
1670 large, long-lived prey that tuna consume. The extent to which iron may be a limiting primary production in the SCTR region  
1671 is also unknown, though independent modeling studies and remote sensing-based analyses both suggest it may be (Wiggert  
1672 et al., 2006; Behrenfeld et al., 2009). Finally, there is still considerable uncertainty in whether the Indian Ocean is a net  
1673 source or sink of carbon to the atmosphere because the variability in pCO<sub>2</sub> fluxes across the air-sea interface is poorly  
1674 constrained by existing observations, particularly in active upwelling zones like the SCTR

### 1675 3. Summary

1676  
1677 The unique features of the oceanography of the Indian Ocean and the complexities associated with its circulation, boundary  
1678 currents, climate, and ecosystem response, driven and modulated by the monsoons, have been a matter of extensive  
1679 discussion in the past reviews of the Indian Ocean (Shetye and Gouveia, 1998, Schott and McCreary, 2001 Shankar et al.,  
1680 2002, Hood et al. 2015). The coastal upwelling, despite its importance for the ecosystem and economic impacts, however,  
1681 has not received sufficient attention (Hood et al., 2015) till the recent past. Several new programs were launched in the last  
1682 decade, which has shed considerable new light on the coastal upwelling system in the Indian Ocean. The WIOURI was  
1683 initiated to study nine upwelling systems in the western Indian Ocean (Roberts et al., 2015). Similarly, EIOURI was planned  
1684 to study a large spectrum of processes affecting the upwelling in the eastern half of the Indian Ocean (Yu et al., 2016). Along  
1685 the coasts of India, an array of ADCP mooring deployed since 2008 (Mukhopadhyay et al., 2017, Chaudhari et al., 2020)  
1686 complemented intense programs such as WIOURI and EIOURI. Such programs have contributed significantly to enhancing  
1687 our knowledge of the science of the upwelling in the Indian Ocean, its science, ecosystem impacts, and sensitivity to changes  
1688 in the environment. The prime goal of this paper is to review the upwelling in the Indian Ocean extending from the Agulhas  
1689 region to the western coast of Australia.

1690  
1691 *The Upwelling:* While some of the upwelling systems, such as that along the Somali coast, were surveyed early (during  
1692 IIOE or before), others such as Mozambique were sampled much later. The surveys, particularly those in the recent period,  
1693 have revealed multiple processes that trigger and control upwelling, the combination varying for each of the systems. Salient  
1694 features of their progress are summarized here. The northeasterly monsoon winds are favorable for upwelling along the  
1695 western boundary, in the southern hemisphere, up to about 20°S. Along the coast of Kenya, in addition to an Ekman type of  
1696 mechanism, shelf-break upwelling induced by topography is a driving force. Along the coast of Tanzania, the additional  
1697 forcing for upwelling is drawn from the shear instability of EACC. In the Mozambique channel, competing roles of local



1698 winds and eddies drive upwelling in the channel. South of Madagascar, upwelling is caused by local winds, the interaction  
1699 of the currents with the continental margin and eddies. Eddies associated Natal pulses cause subsurface upwelling in the  
1700 Agulhas region, and surface-reaching upwelling occurs in its inshore edge due to dynamical processes and wind forcing.

1701

1702 The distinct feature of the Somali upwelling system is the cold wedges. One wedge forms in May on the shoreward edge of  
1703 the Southern Gyre during May and the other along the northern flank of the Great Whirl, during the peak of the summer  
1704 monsoon. The presence of multiple gyres and the intense current present a complicated upwelling system in this region. In  
1705 addition to alongshore winds, Rossby wave radiation from the east by Ekman pumping driven by anticyclonic wind stress  
1706 curl drive upwelling in this region. The downwelling of the thermocline due to the wind stress curl, however, can lead to a  
1707 weakening of the upwelling as the deepening reaches up to the coastal region during the fully developed phase of the SWM.  
1708 Consequently, upwelling is limited to frontal regions dominated by eddies. The coast of Oman, on the other hand, presents  
1709 a classical Ekman type of upwelling system. The intensity of the upwelling increases with the progress in the SWM.  
1710 However, the influence of Rossby wave radiation has been suggested to affect the timing of the peak phase of the SST  
1711 decrease associated with upwelling. Generation of eddies and filaments are well-known features associated with the currents  
1712 and upwelling along the coast of Oman.

1713

1714 Along the west coast of India, upwelling is more prominent along the southern part of the coast and begins about two months  
1715 before the onset of the summer monsoon. The alongshore winds are weak and are only partly responsible for the upwelling.  
1716 The major driving force is the coastally trapped wave propagation originating from the Bay of Bengal. The alongshore winds  
1717 are unidirectional, but the currents reverse, confirming the dominant role of remote forcing. Winds along the southern tip  
1718 of India and along the southern coast of Sri Lanka drive Ekman type of upwelling during the summer monsoon. Upwelling  
1719 along the east coast of India is feeble and available evidences suggest the presence of upwelling during the summer monsoon.  
1720 The intricate combination of forcing by local winds, Kelvin waves originating from either EIO or the eastern boundary of  
1721 the BoB, Rossby wave propagation all affect the upwelling. At interannual time scales, ENSO and IOD dominate the  
1722 variability, whereas at intraseasonal time scales, mesoscale eddies appear to be important.

1723

1724 The upwelling along the Sumatra and Coasts is mainly driven by alongshore winds during the summer monsoon but affected  
1725 by Kelvin wave propagations and circulation in the Equatorial Indian Ocean, Indonesian throughflow and the subtropical  
1726 Indian Ocean. It is affected severely by the IOD events and modified significantly by intraseasonal events. The circulation  
1727 along the west coast of Australia is dominated by the LC but upwelling occurs at several nodes along the coast. Transient  
1728 wind-driven upwelling that lasts for 3-20 days occurs along the southwest part of the coast. Along the central coast,  
1729 upwelling takes place during March-May. Along the Gascoyne coast, Ningaloo upwelling takes place during austral summer  
1730 and autumn.

1731



1732 *Ecosystem Impacts:* It is evident that in all regions, the upwelling stimulates an ecosystem response and the facilitation of  
1733 this response is achieved by different processes in different regions. In the Mozambique channel, peripheries of the cyclonic  
1734 eddies are found to be centers of biological activity in terms of increased productivity, aggregation of small organisms and  
1735 foraging bird populations. Along the southern coast of Madagascar, upwelling nodes enhance primary productivity, fish  
1736 catch and whale sightings. The interannual variability of the cyanobacteria bloom here is modulated by the detachment of  
1737 the South-East Madagascar current. The chlorophyll concentration is high along the coasts of Somalia and Oman, during  
1738 the summer monsoon, which has been known since a long time. Recent advances in this region have been slow and a  
1739 modeling study suggests that the influence of upwelling is restricted to limited areas and the strong currents spread the effect  
1740 to larger spatial coverage. Off the coast of Oman, advection of nutrient-rich water can give rise to blooms in the offshore  
1741 region.

1742  
1743 Recent research has revealed the high impact of upwelling on the biogeochemistry of the eastern Arabian Sea. Most  
1744 significantly, the upwelling affects the OMZ and its spatial and temporal limits, in spite of the upwelling itself being weaker  
1745 compared to that in the western Arabian Sea. This has an impact on the mesopelagic fish population, benthic ecosystems,  
1746 macro infaunal communities and biodiversity. The upwelling in the Bay of Bengal, on the other hand, is feeble and it is not  
1747 clear what the ecosystem responses are to upwelling; The productivity appears to be more under the control of eddies and  
1748 the stratification imposed by rainfall and river runoff. The upwelling along the coasts of Sumatra and Java enhances  
1749 productivity and the phytoplankton composition here is distinctly different during upwelling compared to that during  
1750 downwelling. Along the west coast of Australia, upwelling has a lesser role in controlling the rates of primary productivity  
1751 compared to that of remineralization. However, there are indications that summertime zooplankton biota is affected by  
1752 upwelling. The SCTR is a prominent open ocean upwelling region in the Southern Tropical Indian Ocean that are caused  
1753 primarily by the persistent wind stress curl and this upwelling has a clear expression on the surface chlorophyll distribution.  
1754 This region also has a significant role in the air-sea interaction in this region.

1755  
1756 *Future prospects:* Some of the upwelling zones have registered significant progress during the period of IIOE-2 (2015  
1757 onwards) while some others have rather been left behind. Agulhas current, Mozambique channel, Madagascar Coasts and  
1758 coasts of India, Sumatra-Java and Africa belong to the former category whereas Somali and Oman coasts to the latter. In  
1759 addition, the northern coast of the Arabian Sea and the eastern boundary of the Bay of Bengal still remain poorly observed  
1760 and understood. The spatial and temporal variability of upwelling is not sufficiently documented for the most part of the  
1761 Indian Ocean coastline. This emphasizes the importance of sustained observations and modeling, and a combination of  
1762 them.

1763  
1764 The new knowledge that has been acquired from the recent research has posed new questions and challenges. One of them  
1765 is related to the variability of upwelling. There is a considerable gap in the space-time variability of upwelling in almost all



1766 the regions, primarily owing to the lack of systematic long-term data sets with sufficient spatial resolution and coverage.  
1767 Second, the processes that drive upwelling are complicated in several regions and there is no consensus or quantities account  
1768 of the relative roles of each process; the role of eddies in the Mozambique channel, impact of currents along the southern  
1769 coast of Madagascar and coastally trapped waves are good examples for the dichotomy. A combination of focused modeling  
1770 studies and systematic observations are required to address such issues. The required in-situ observations need to be with  
1771 high temporal and temporal resolutions and with the capability for long-term monitoring. In addition, intensive process-  
1772 oriented observational programs are required to understand physical processes and their interconnection to the ecosystem.  
1773 Such observing strategies together with high-resolution regional and global models that include both physical and  
1774 biogeochemical/ecosystem components have the potential to develop strategies for sustainable uses of coastal resources. A  
1775 related and more sophisticated issue is the ecosystem response and fisheries. While definite progress has been made in the  
1776 Eastern Arabian Sea and off the coast of Australia, a complete picture regarding the dependence of marine biota on upwelling  
1777 is yet to emerge for the entire upwelling system along the periphery of the Indian Ocean.

1778

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1780 paper preparation.

1781

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1783

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1788

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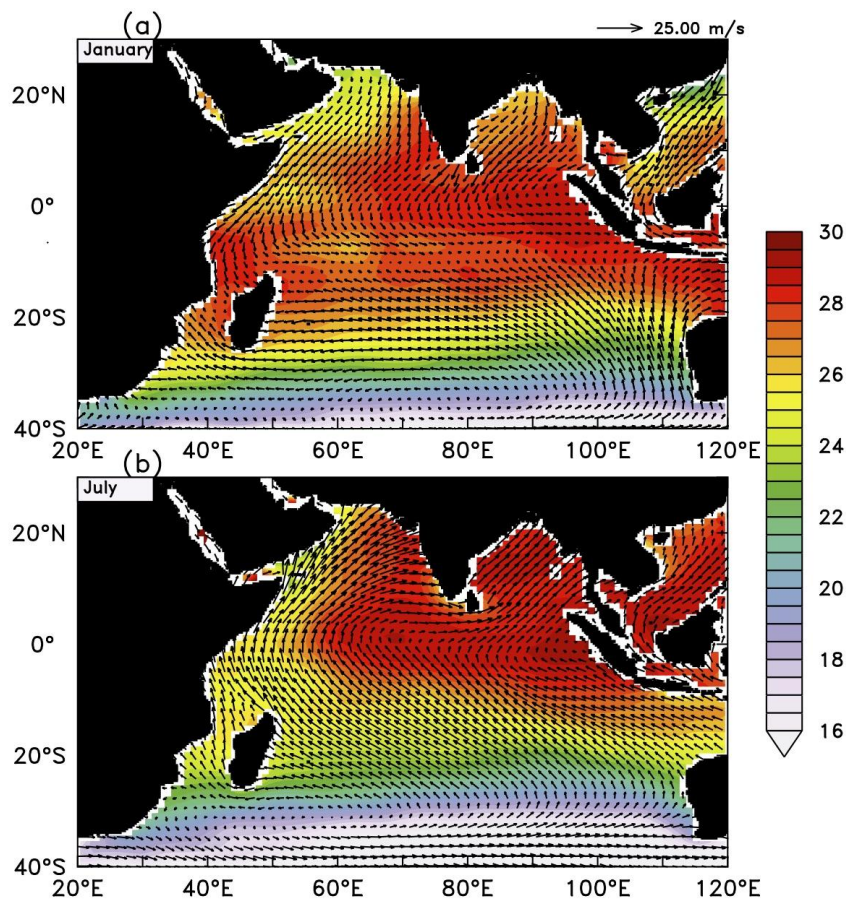


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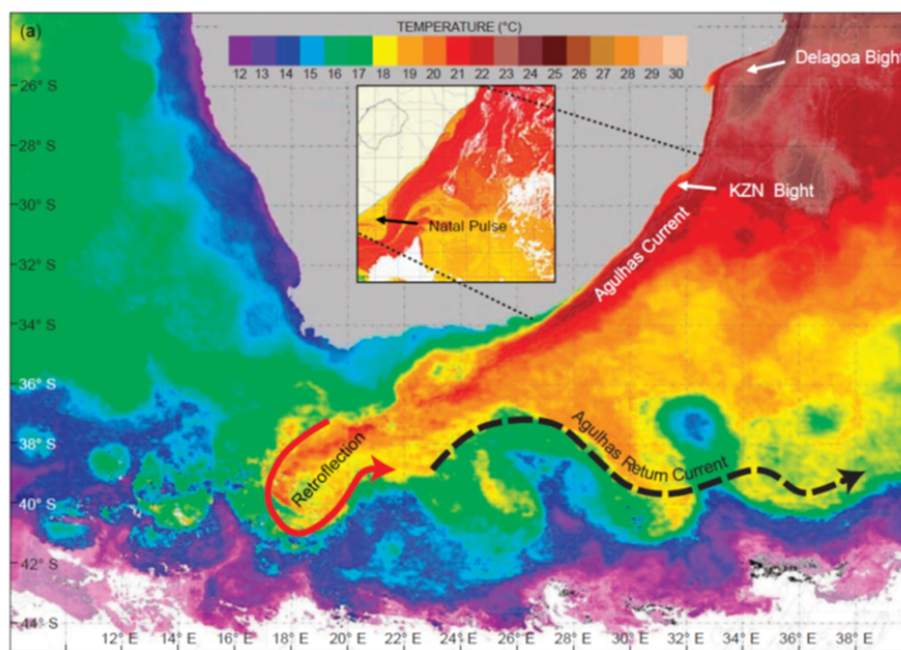
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3043 **Figures**



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3045 **Figure 1.** Climatological (Locarnini, 2018) SST averaged from surface to 50 m depth (shaded ) and winds (vectors m s  
3046 <sup>-1</sup>), data from QuikSCAT (<http://apdrc.soest.hawaii.edu>.) for the months of (a) January and (b) July. The scale for SST is  
3047 given to the right of each panel and the scale vector for wind speed is given at the top of each panel.



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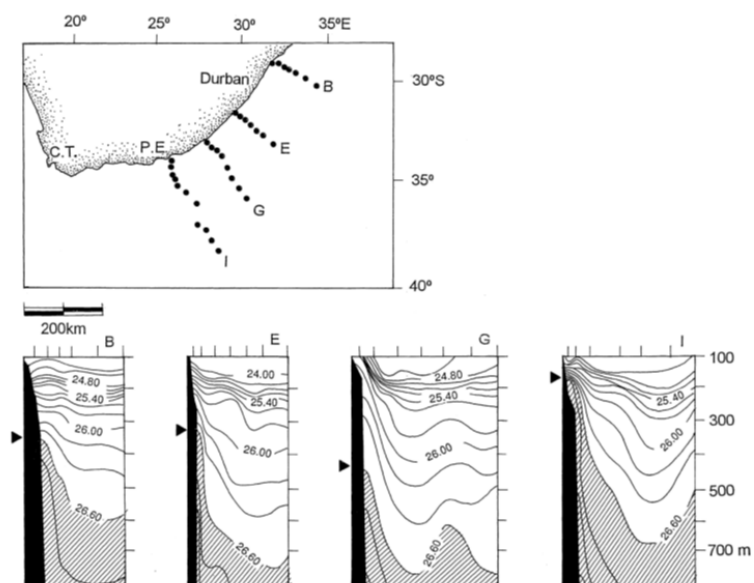
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**Figure 2.** SST image highlighting the Agulhas Current flowing along the east coast of South Africa. PE = Port Elizabeth, PA = Port Alfred. Insert highlights a south-westward propagating Natal pulse (a singular meander in the trajectory) which has a cold core. The shelf on the east coast is narrow with a steep continental slope. Exceptions are the KZN Bight and the Agulhas Bank.

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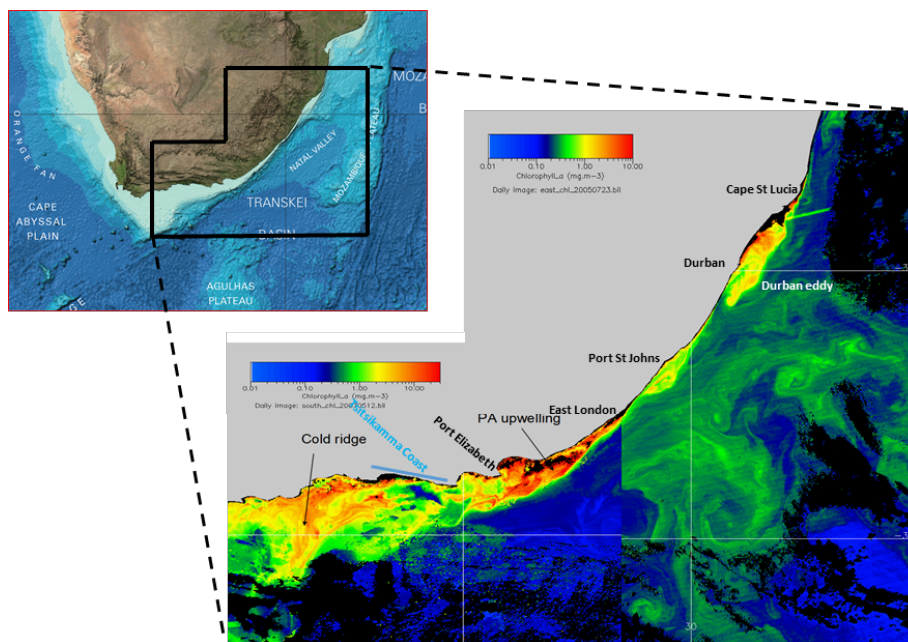


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**Figure 3.** Sections across the Agulhas Current, showing sigma-t values obtained during March 1969 (after Harris and Van Foreest, 1978). All show water with a density greater than 26.60 upwelled along the inshore edge of the Agulhas Current.

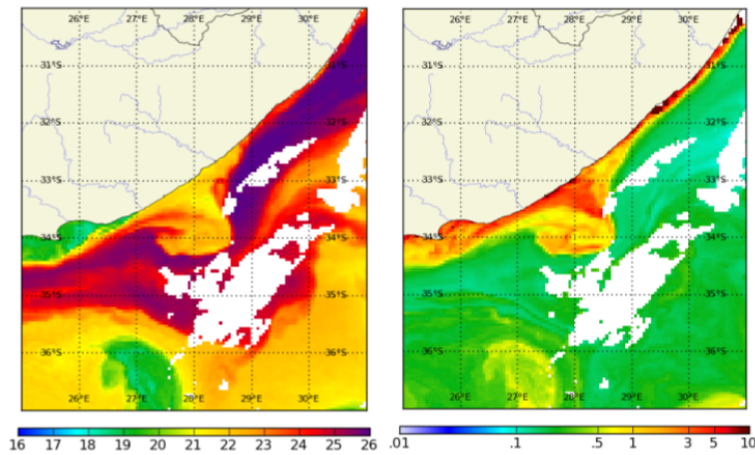


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**Figure 4.** A composite chlorophyll satellite image chosen to highlight the main productivity features commonly found on the inshore edge of the Agulhas Current. Note the different chlorophyll scales applicable to the LHS and RHS parts of the composite. Highlighted are the cold ridge on the central Agulhas Bank (AB), Port Alfred upwelling extending onto the eastern AB, the Durban (break-away) eddy with a similar feature passing Port St Johns where a semi-permanent smaller cyclonic feature often exists.



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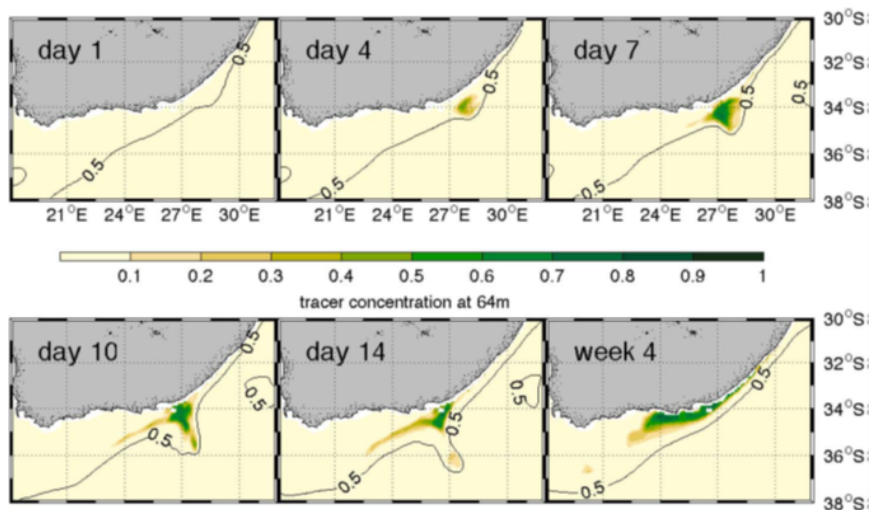


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**Figure 5.** Satellite SST (LHS) and chlorophyll-a (RHS) images of a Natal pulse on 2 April 2010 off the narrow Transkei shelf. Note the high levels of chl-a on the eastern side of the cyclone (meander) which protrude of the shelf.



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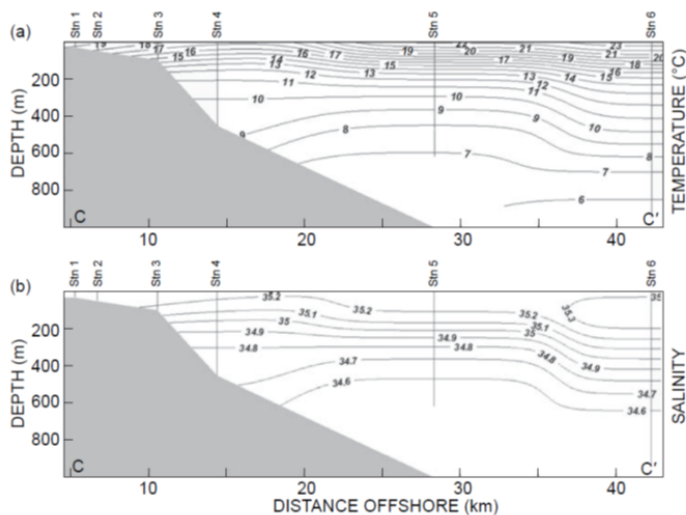
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**Figure 6.** Tracer concentration at 64 m in a AGU-HYCOM to reveal shelf edge upwelling. Tracers were initialized in the Agulhas Current below 400 m over a 6-week period during a meander event in 2001 and used as a proxy for upwelling. The 0.5-m sea level contour is highlighted to show the inshore edge of the current as the meander propagates along the coast (after Malan et al., 2018).



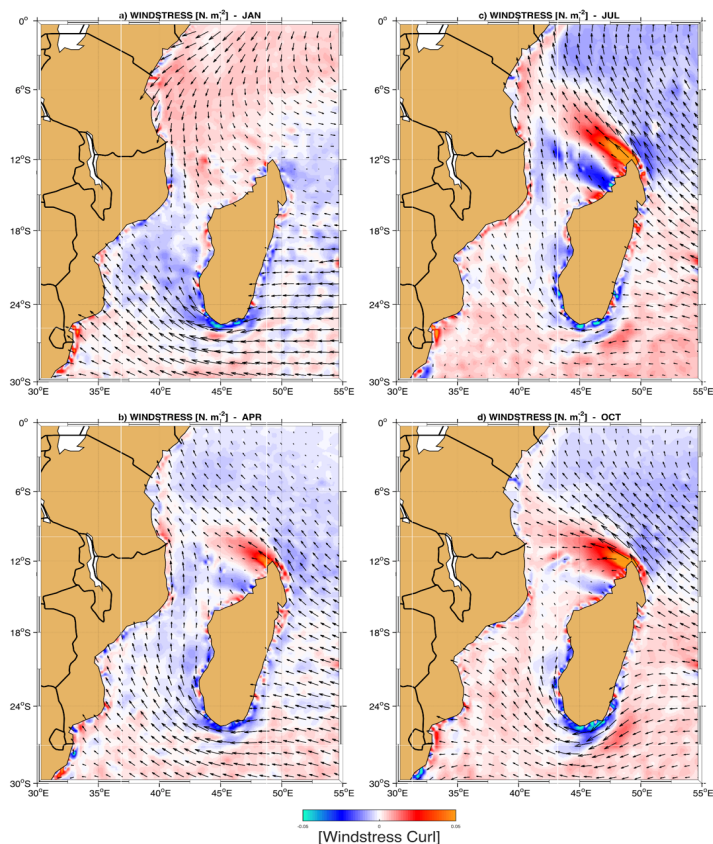


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**Figure 7.** Vertical sections of CTD data collected along a trans-shelf transect off Port St Johns to a depth of 1 000 m near Port St Johns on 4 May 2005 (see Roberts et al., 2010). Both temperature (a) and salinity (b) show slope upwelling with a surface temperature of 16 °C near Station 4 in the centre of the Port St Johns–Waterfall Bluff cyclonic eddy. Graphic after Roberts et al. (2010).

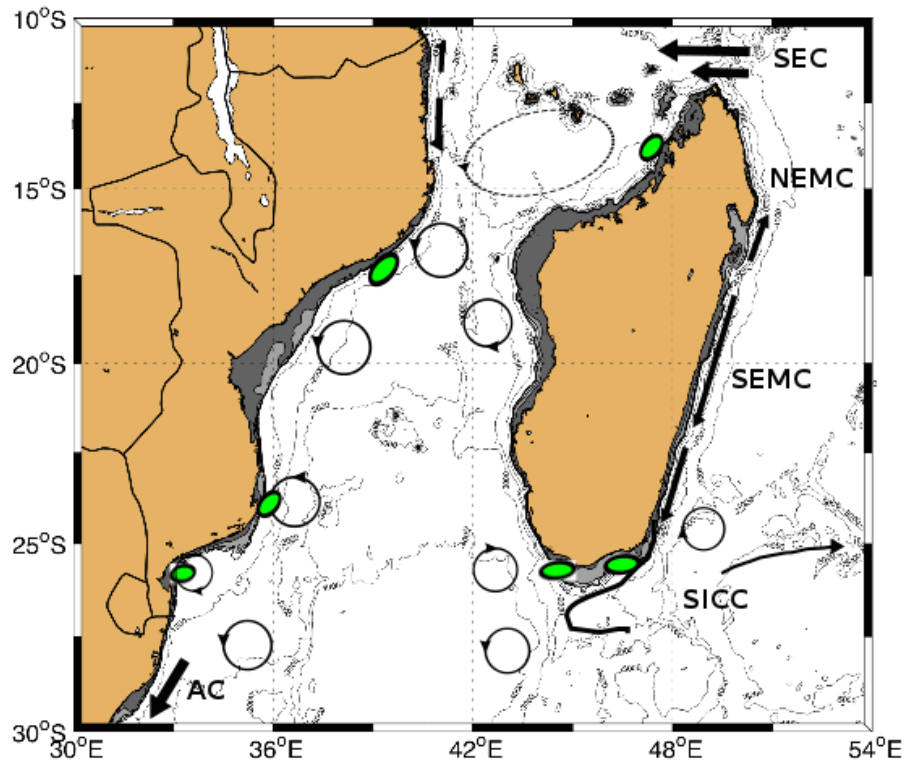


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3149 **Figure 8.** Climatological monthly means of wind stress (vectors) and wind stress curl (shading) during different seasons.  
3150 Austral summer (a), fall (b), winter (c) and spring (d). Negative (blue) and positive (red) wind stress curl depict favourable  
3151 upwelling and downwelling areas respectively. The data was extracted from Scatterometer Climatology of Ocean Winds  
3152 (SCOW), described by Risien and Chelton (2008); mapped globally with a spatial grid resolution of  $1/4^\circ \times 1/4^\circ$ , estimated  
3153 from 10 years' period, ranging between September 1999 and August 2009, measured by NASA Quick Scatterometer  
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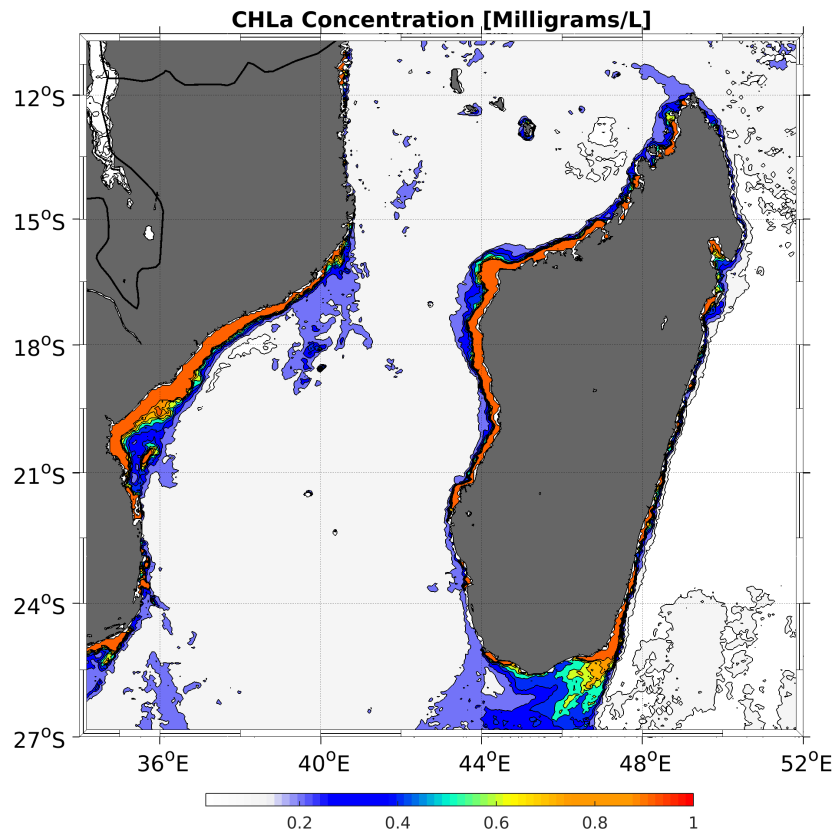
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3158 **Figure 9.** Bathymetry and major circulatory features in the Mozambique Channel and around Madagascar. Currents include  
3159 the South Equatorial Current (SEC), Northeast and Southeast Madagascar Current (NEMC and SEMC), South Indian  
3160 Countercurrent (SICC) and the Agulhas Current (AC). Shaded areas show the extent of the continental shelf to a depth of  
3161 200 m. Green ellipses denote upwelling areas.

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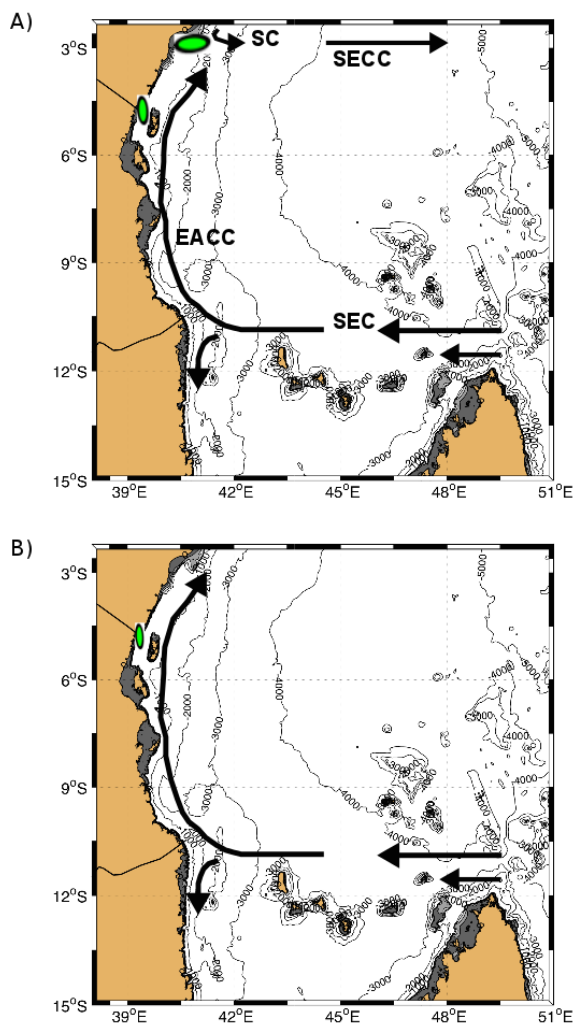


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3165 **Figure 10.** Monthly mean chlorophyll-a concentration for February 2003, derived from Moderate Resolution Imaging  
3166 Spectroradiometer (MODIS) Aqua satellite (<https://oceancolor.gsfc.nasa.gov/data/aqua/>). Intermediate values beyond the  
3167 continental shelf-edge highlight areas of elevated productivity off the Mozambique and Madagascar coasts that are primarily  
3168 upwelling-driven.

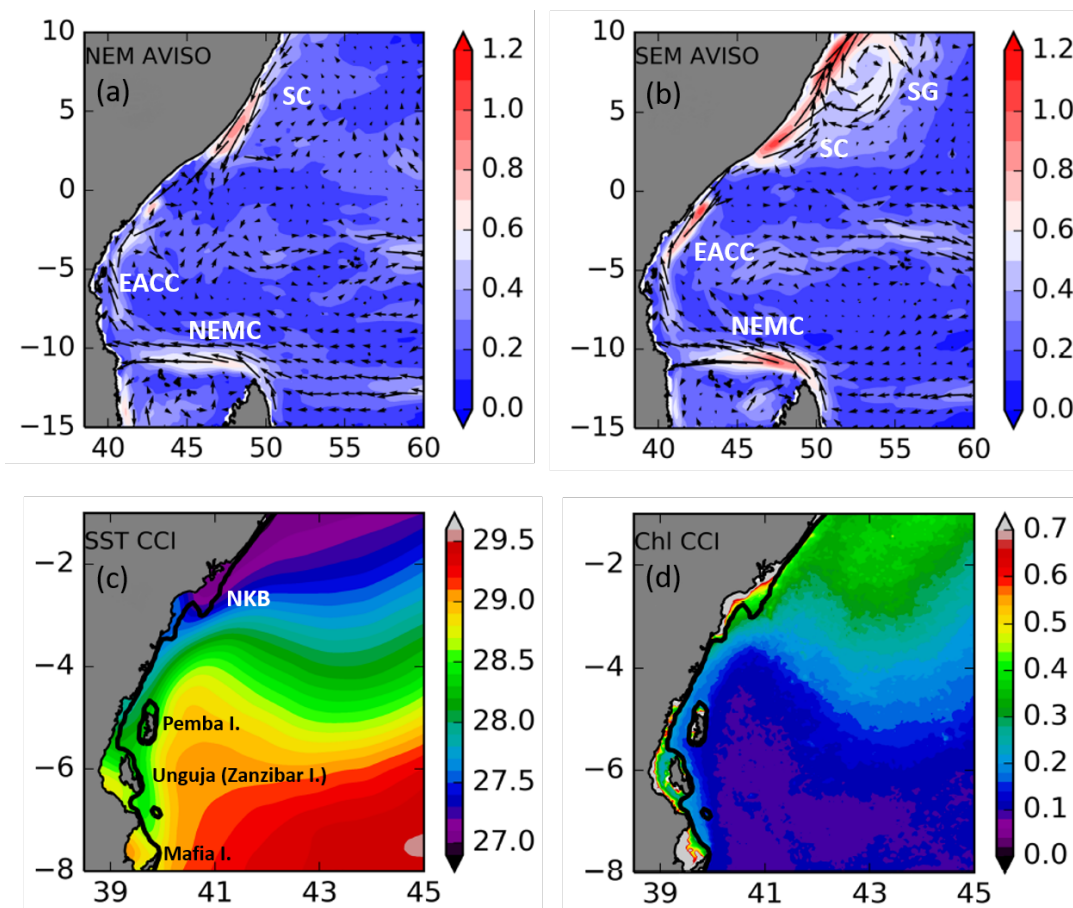


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3171 **Figure 11.** Circulation patterns during (A) the northeast monsoon and (B) the southeast  
3172 monsoon, showing the Somali Current (SC), South Equatorial Counter Current (SECC), East African Coastal Current (EACC) and the South Equatorial  
3173 Current (SEC). Green ellipses denote upwelling areas.



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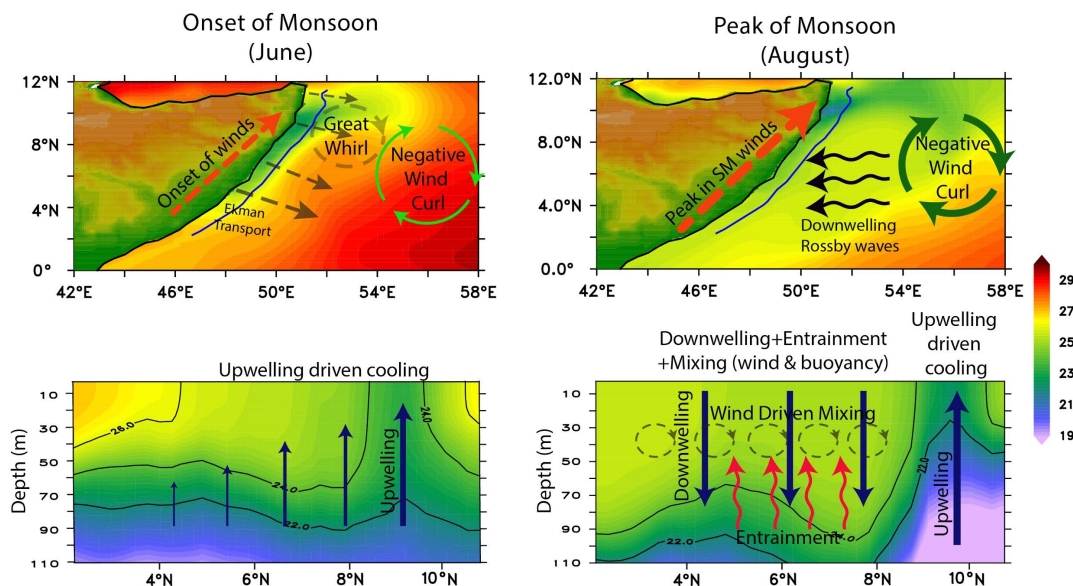
3175 **Figure 12.** Decadal average of surface currents ( $\text{m s}^{-1}$ ) during (a) the NEM (DJF) and (b) the SEM (MJJAS) from altimetry  
3176 (AVISO), over the period 2001–2010. Features shown are the Somali Current (SC), the East African Coastal Current  
3177 (EACC), the Northeast Madagascar Current (NEMC), the Somali Gyre (SG) and the North Kenya Banks (NKB). Decadal  
3178 average of (c) SST ( $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) and (d) surface chlorophyll ( $\text{mg m}^{-3}$ ) during the NEM (DJF) from remote sensing (CCI) over the  
3179 period 2001–2010. The thick black line represents the 200-m isobath. Adapted from Jacobs et al. (2020).

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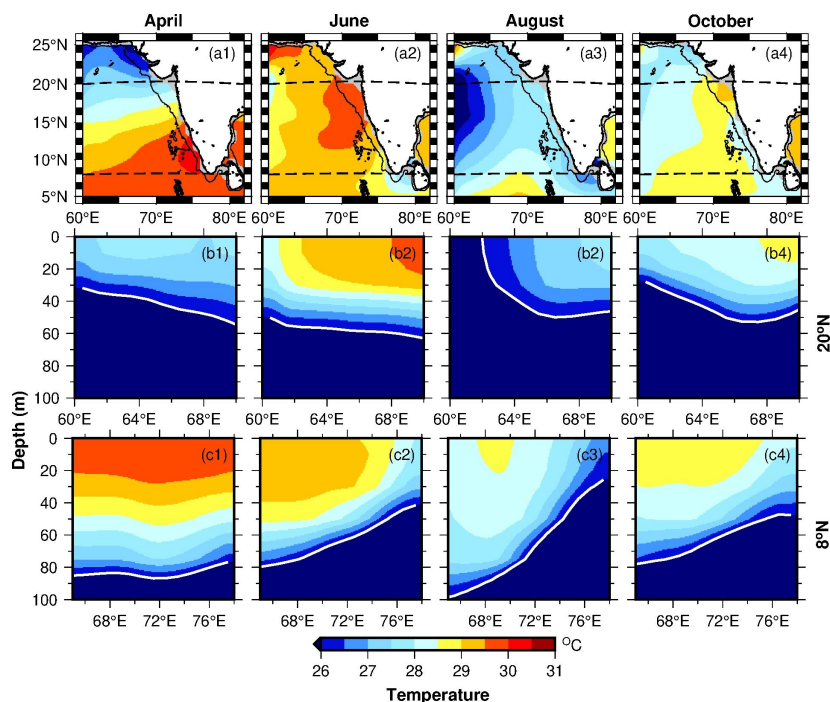
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3184 **Figure 13.** Climatological SST ( $^{\circ}\text{C}$ , Panel a and b) and vertical section of temperature ( $^{\circ}\text{C}$ , Panel c and d) along the  
 3185 vertical section aligned roughly around 1000 m isobath (blue contour along the Somali coast in the top panels) for the month  
 3186 of June (left panels) and August (right panels). The climatology is computed from model (Modular Ocean Model, Version  
 3187 5.1) interannual simulations for 1993-2018 (reproduced from Chatterjee et al., 2019; Lakshmi et al., 2020). As the monsoon  
 3188 onset during early June, southwesterly winds blow along the coast of Somalia (red dashed arrow) leading to offshore Ekman  
 3189 transport (which is stronger in the south than the northern part; see Panel a black dashed arrows) driven coastal upwelling  
 3190 (upward blue arrows; Panel c). Though the offshore transport is strongest in the south, the maximum upwelling (upsloping  
 3191 of thermocline) is seen along the front of the Great Whirl north of  $\sim 8^{\circ}\text{N}$  (Panel c). Notably, offshore wind stress curl turns  
 3192 negative south of the Findlater Jet axis favorable for open ocean downwelling. As the monsoon peaks, this negative wind  
 3193 stress curl radiates downwelling Rossby waves (Panel b) which propagate westward and upon reaching the Somali coast  
 3194 deepen the thermocline there against the upwelling favorable winds (downward blue arrows; Panel d). Further, stronger  
 3195 winds during peak monsoon enhance wind driven mixing which further deepen the thermocline in most parts of the Somalia  
 3196 coast. By late summer, the upwelling remains confined to the front of the Great Whirl in the northern part of the Somalia  
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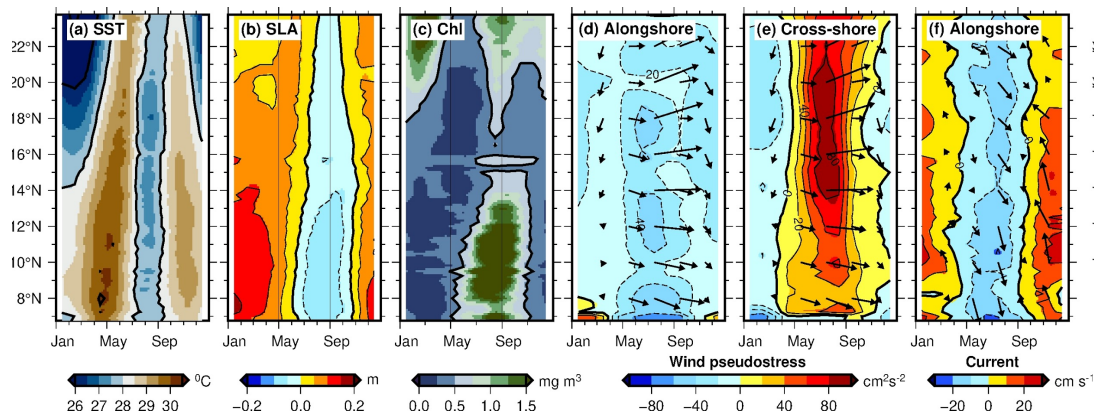


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**Figure 14.** Monthly climatology of temperature from April to October. The data are from *North Indian Ocean Atlas* (Chatterjee et al. 2012). (a1-a4) Sea surface temperature from the eastern Arabian Sea. The black contour represents the 1000 m water-column depth, and the horizontal dashed lines are the 20°N and 8°N. (b1-b4) Vertical section of temperature at 20°N. (c1-c4) Vertical section of temperature at 8°N. The white contour is 26°C. The figure highlights how the upwelling evolves from pre-monsoon to post-monsoon season along the west coast of India. The upwelling sets earlier in the south and progresses slowly towards north. The upward tilt of the isopycnals, though weak, is evident at 20°N towards the end of the summer monsoon.



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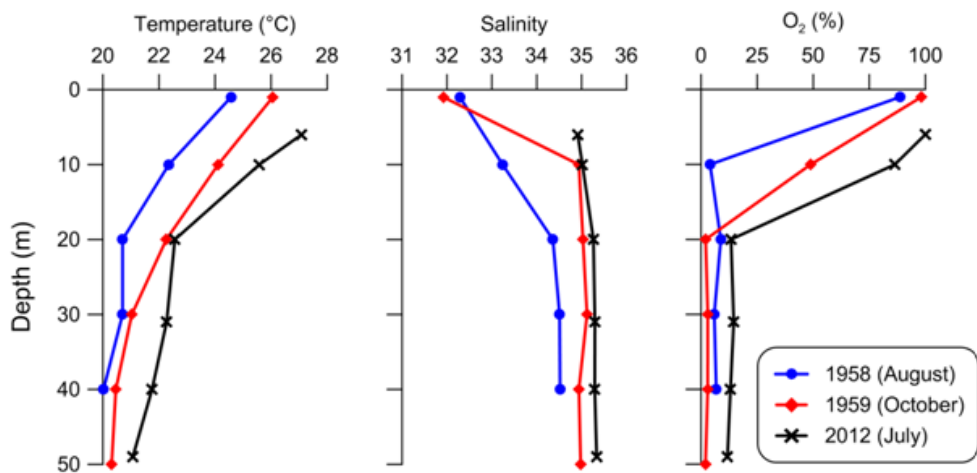


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3222 **Figure 15.** Climatology of (a) sea surface temperature from Terra MODIS, (b) sea-level anomaly from Aviso  
3223 SSALTO/DUACS, (c) chlorophyll- $\alpha$  from SeaWIFS, (d) alongshore and (e) cross-shore wind pseudostress from QuikSCAT,  
3224 and (f) alongshore current from OSCAR. The data were picked and the vectors were rotated based on the 1000 m contour  
3225 (see Figure 15). Panels (a) and (c) are redrawn based on (Shankar et al., 2019).  
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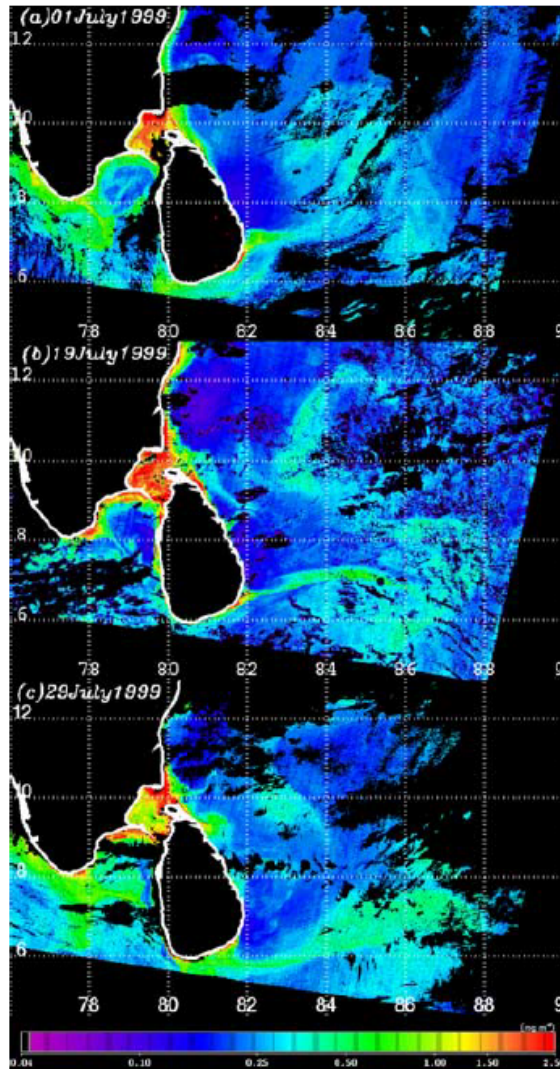




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**Figure 16.** Comparison of historical profiles of temperature, salinity and dissolved oxygen corresponding to peak upwelling months over the inner shelf off Kochi, southwest coast of India (From Gupta et al., 2016).



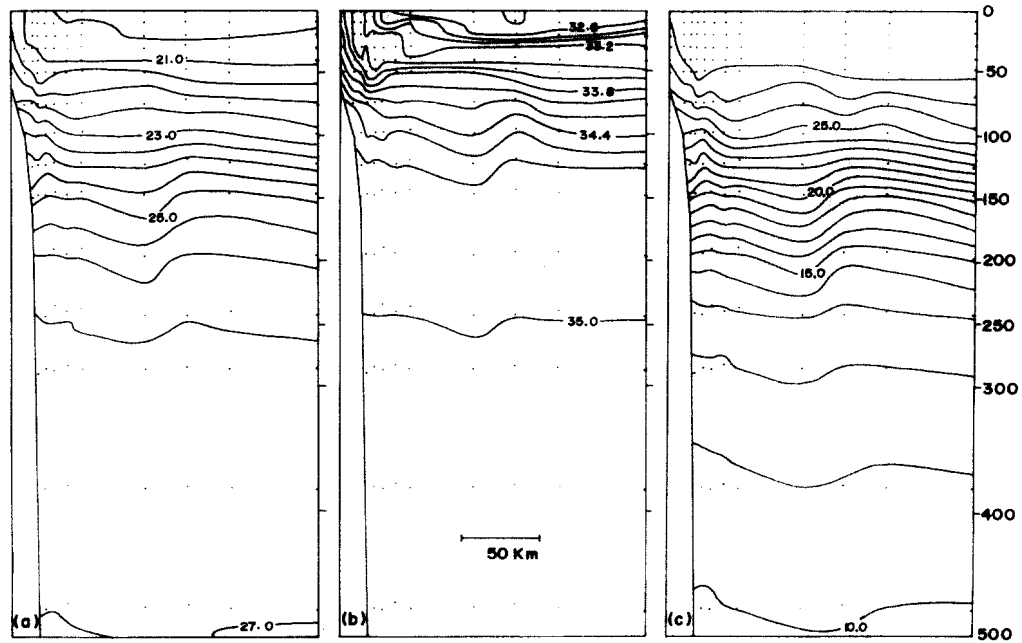


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**Figure 17.** Chlorophyll a ( $\text{mg m}^{-3}$ ) images around Sri Lanka for (a) 1 July 1999, (b) 19 July 1999 and (c) 29 July 1999 obtained from OCM on board IRS-P4 Oceansat (From Vinayachandran et al., 2004).

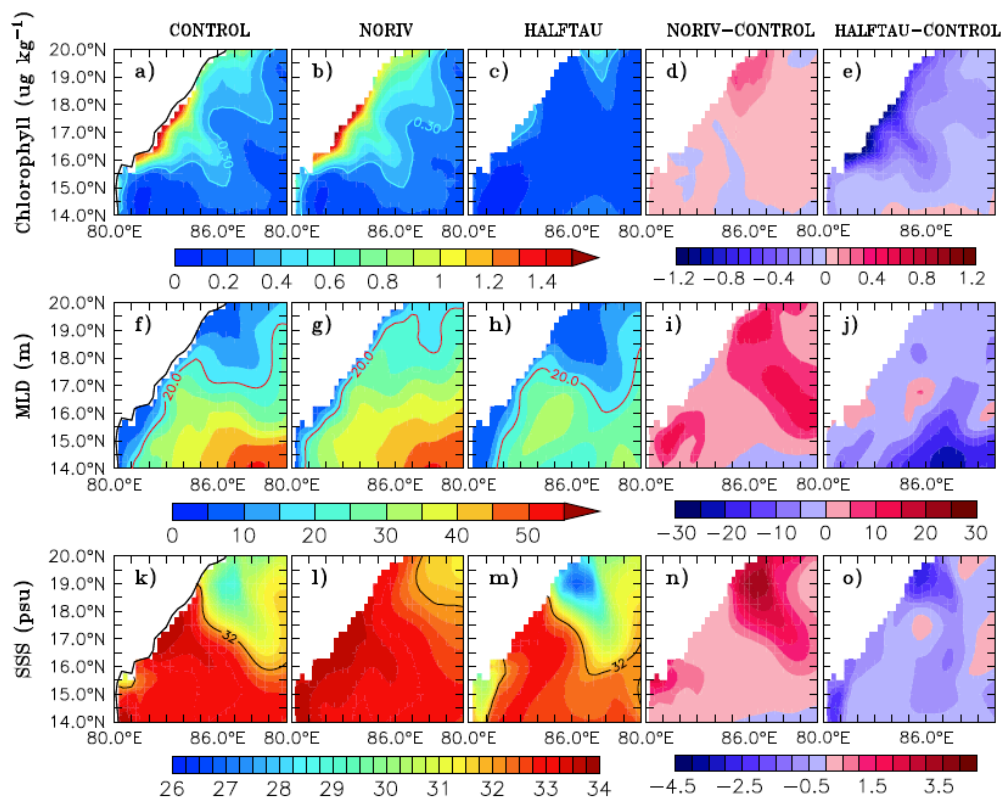


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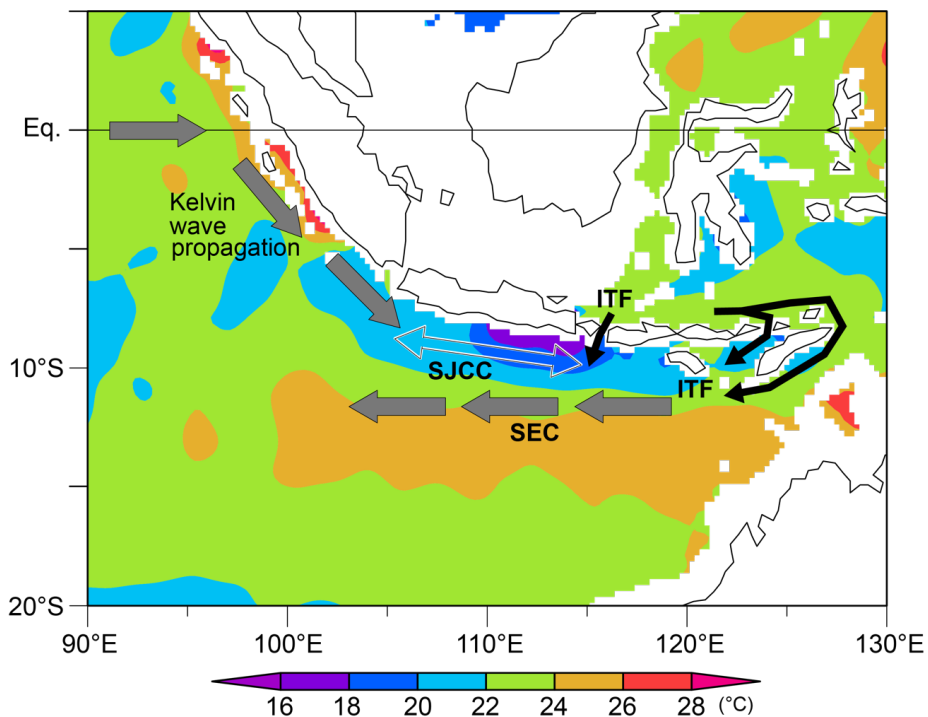
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**Figure 18.** Hydrography along a section (normal to the coast) which lies approximately midway of the east coast of India. (a) potential density ( $\text{g cm}^{-3}$ ); (b) salinity (ppt); (c) temperature ( $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ). The scale shown in (b) also applies to (a) and (c). (From Shetye et al., 1991).

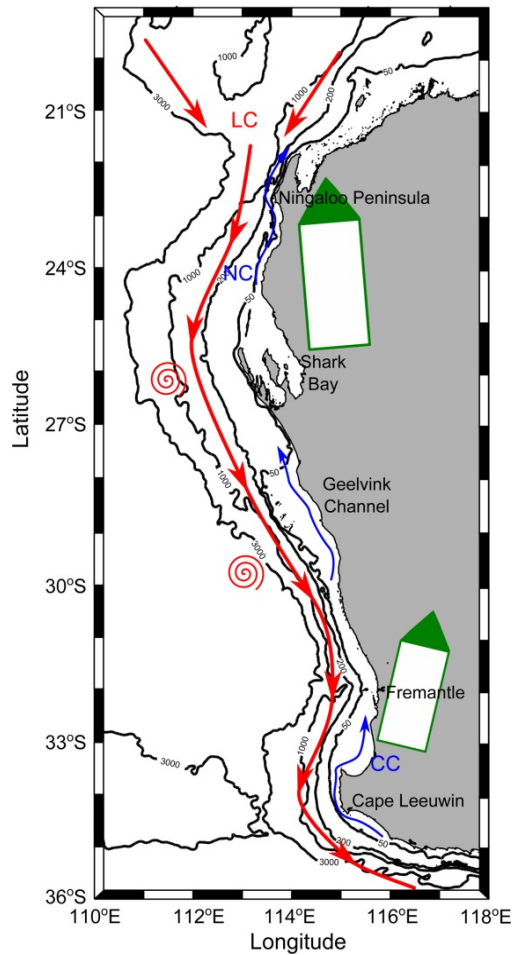


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3254 **Figure 19.** Forcing mechanisms of upwelling induced chlorophyll distribution in the northwestern Bay of Bengal.  
 3255 Comparison of model simulated surface (a–e) chlorophyll, (f–j) MLD, and (k–o) SSS from CONTROL, NORIV, and  
 3256 HALFTAU experiments averaged for the month of August. Contours shown are for chlorophyll, MLD, and salinity of 0.3  
 3257  $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ , 20 m and 32 psu, respectively. Shown are model simulations from a control run which included all the forcings  
 3258 (CONTROL), without river runoff (NORIV) and with the magnitude of wind stress reduced by 50% (HALFTAU) (From  
 3259 Thushara and Vinayachandran, 2016)  
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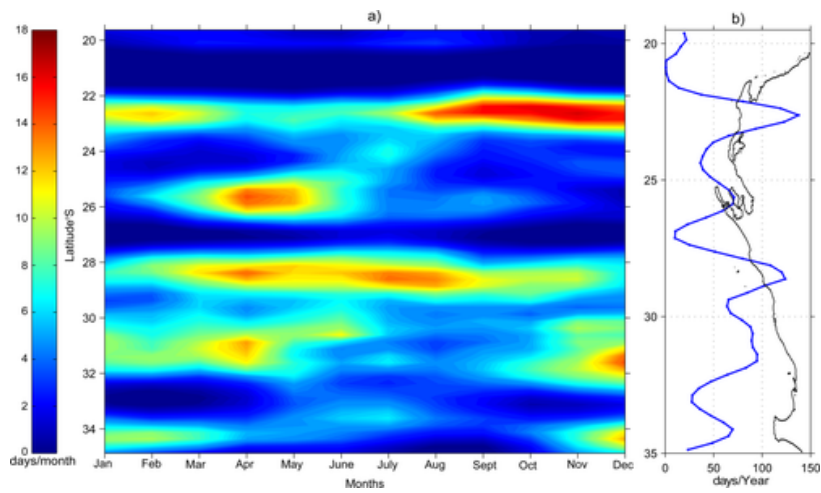
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3262 **Figure 20.** Map of the Sumatra-Java upwelling region and surrounding area. Background color shade shows July-August-  
3263 September mean climatological temperature at 100 m depth from World Ocean Atlas 2018 (Locarnini et al., 2018). Grey,  
3264 black, and line arrows schematically indicate representative surface currents near the upwelling system (SEC: South  
3265 Equatorial Current; SJCC: South Java Coastal Current; ITF: Indonesian throughflow) and a route of Kelvin wave  
3266 propagation from the equatorial region down to the Sumatra and Java coasts.  
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3270 **Figure 21.** Map of the Western Australian coast with thin black contours showing the 50, 200, 1000 and 3000m isobaths.  
3271 Green arrows represent mean surface winds, red arrows indicate the Leeuwin Current, red schematic vortices indicates  
3272 meso-scale eddies and blue arrows indicate the Capes and Ningaloo Currents (from Rossi et al., 2013b)

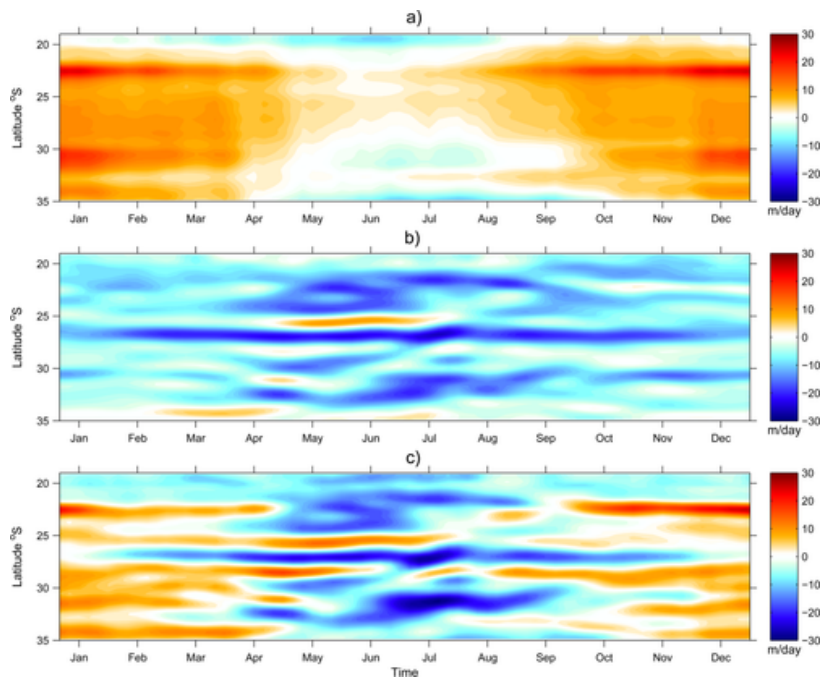
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3275 **Figure 22.** Climatological analysis of sporadic upwelling events. a) Hovmöller (latitude versus time) diagram of the mean  
3276 number of “upwelling days” (CUI > 15 m/day during 3 days or more) per month and b) mean number of “upwelling days”  
3277 per year, recorded from 1995-2010 (from Rossi et al. 2013b).

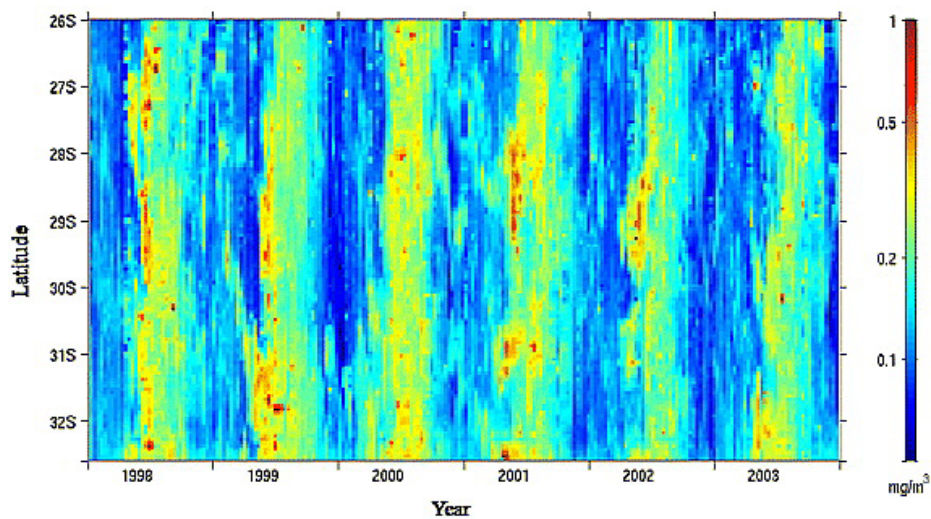
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3280 **Figure 23.** Hovmöller diagrams (latitude versus time) of a) the Ekman upwelling index (m/day, equivalent to vertical  
3281 velocities), b) the geostrophic upwelling index (m/day, equivalent to vertical velocities), and c) composite upwelling index  
3282 (in m/day of vertical velocities, a combination of the two previous components). Red colours represent a balance of forces  
3283 favouring upwelling events (from Rossi et al., 2013b).

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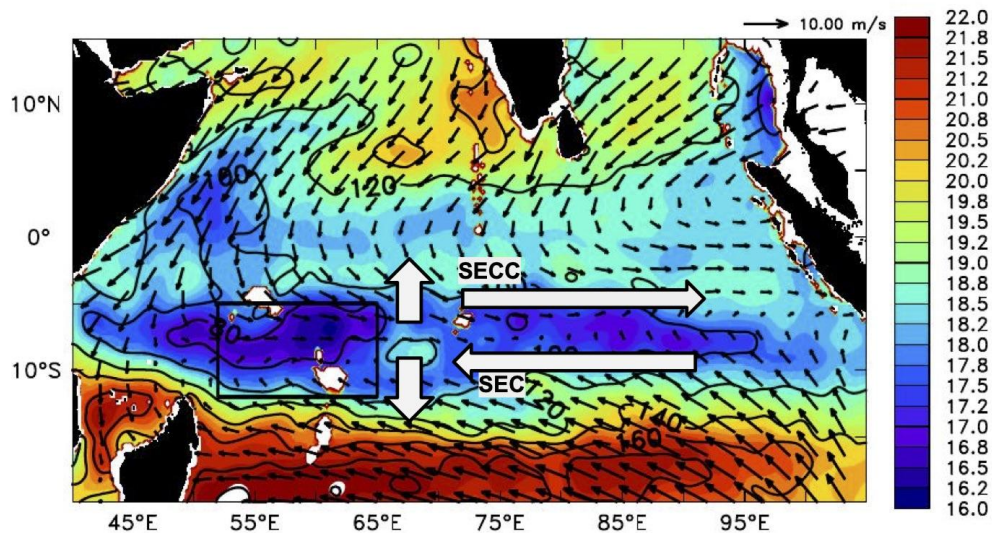
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3286 **Figure 24.** Annual distribution of chlorophyll estimated from SeaWiFS ocean colour data along the shelf break off the west  
3287 coast of Australia from 26°- 32°S , 1998-2003 (from Koslow et al., 2008).

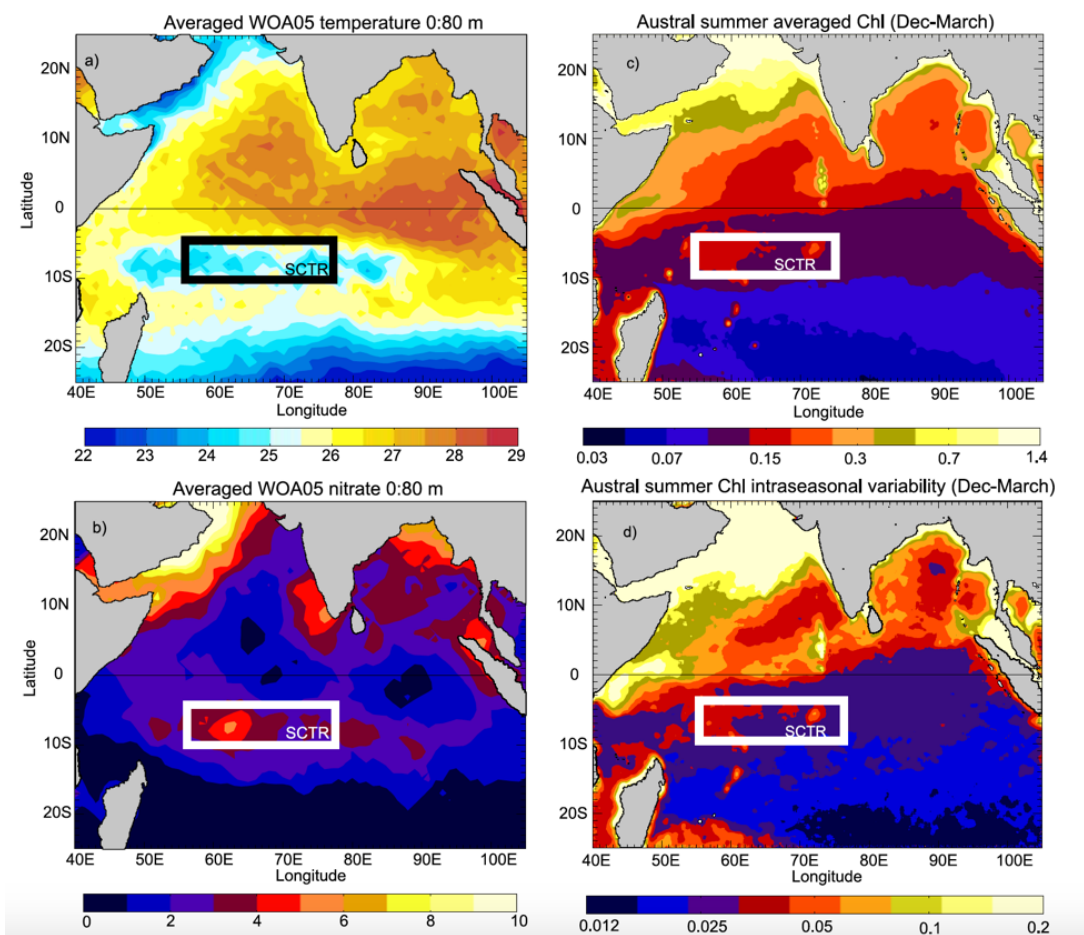
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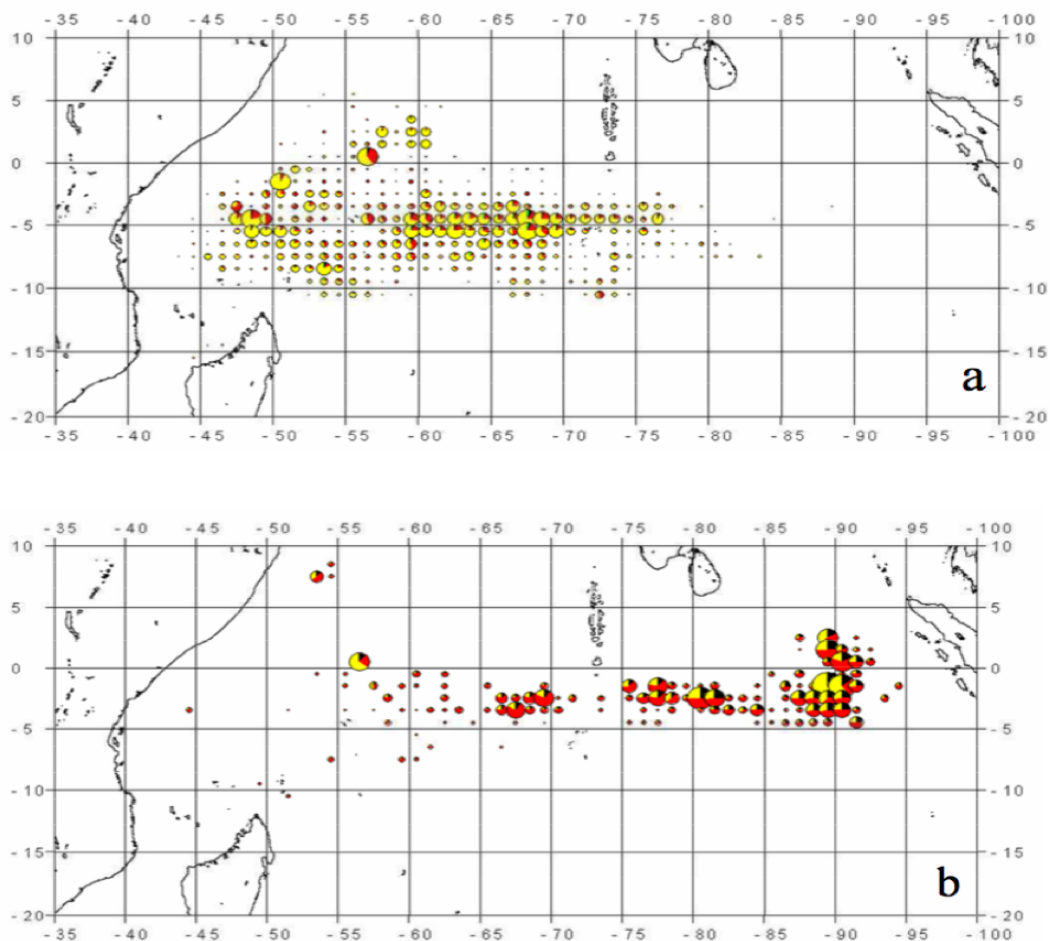




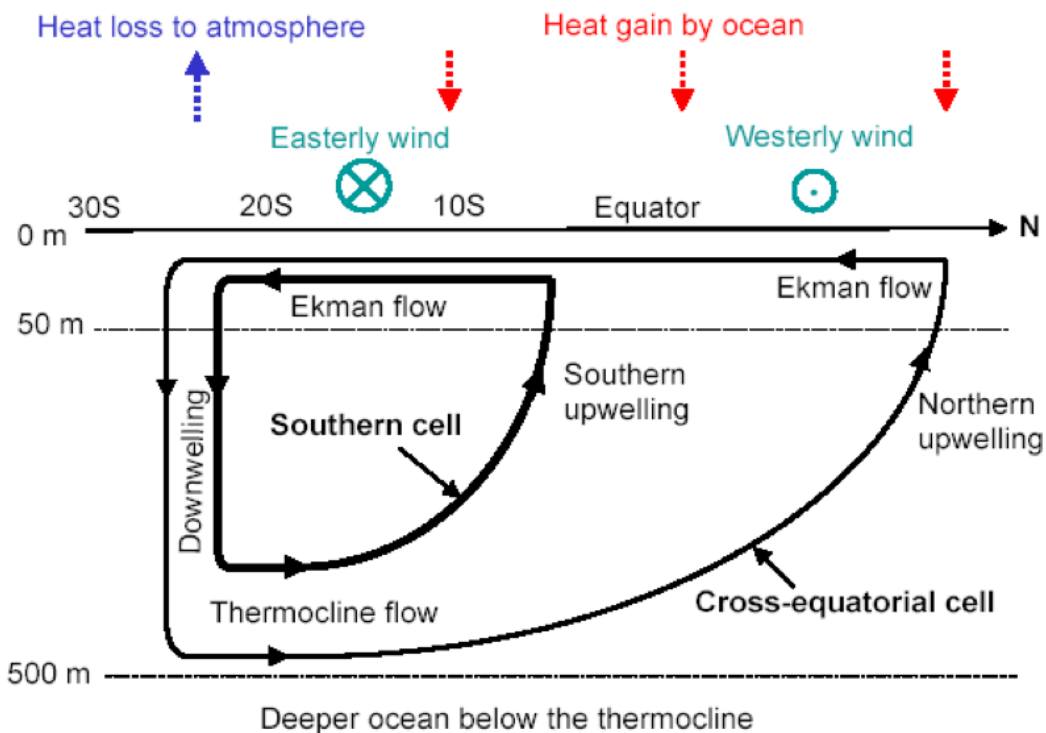
3290  
3291 **Figure 25.** Climatological (Locarnini, 2018) temperature (shading with scale shown to the right) averaged over 0-300m for  
3292 the months of January and February (shaded) overlaid with wind vectors (m/s) from QuikSCAT Climatology (2000-  
3293 2008) and thermocline (depth of 20 degree C isotherm, m) depth as the black contour lines. Reference vector for winds  
3294 is given at the top right corner. The black box marked represents the Seychelles-Chagos Thermocline Ridge (SCTR). The  
3295 surface flow indicated by upward and downward white arrows promotes upwelling leading to the formation of the SCTR.  
3296 The white arrows aligned left is the South equatorial current (SEC) and right is the South equatorial counter currents (SECC).  
3297 Redrawn after Vialard et al. (2009)



3298  
3299 **Figure 26.** Annual World Ocean Atlas (2005 ) (a) temperature and (b) nitrate concentration (in  $\text{mmol N m}^{-3}$ ) averaged  
3300 between the surface and 80 m in the Indian Ocean. (c) SeaWiFS seasonal mean during austral summer (December–March)  
3301 ( $\text{mg m}^{-3}$ ). (d) Intraseasonal variability of SeaWiFS Chl during austral summer estimated by the averaged RMS of  $(\text{Chl}-\text{Chl}^*)$   
3302 between December and March of years 1998–2007. (from Resplandy et al. (2009)).  
3303



3304  
3305 **Figure 27.** Tuna catch in the Indian Ocean during the 1997/1998 IOD event (bottom panel) compared to catch in normal  
3306 years (top panel). From Robinson et al. (2010), Copyright Inter-Research 2010.



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**Figure 28.** Conceptual illustration of the time-mean meridional overturning circulation of the upper Indian Ocean that consists of a southern and a cross-equatorial cell. The time-mean zonal wind and surface heat flux are also shown schematically. This flow is believed to partially supply the cross-equatorial thermocline flow. From Lee (2004)