





Opening Comments

- The current microwave satellite constellation provides limited coverage over tropical systems
- TRMM is essential to JTWC
 - higher resolution (~5-7 km (85 GHz) and 15 km (37 GHz)
 - 37 Ghz channel (can define system center better at times)
 - tropical orbit (up to 4 possible passes over a system per day)
 - accurate fixes (especially in early stages) [see fix quality statistics]
- 2001 Totals Thus Far: TRMM comprises about 13% of microwave fixes (34/255) and 1-2% of total fixes

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Overview



- Impact Case Studies
 - Tropical Cyclone 01A
 - Tropical Storm 03W Cimaron
- TRMM SSTs
- Fix Quality
- Summary
- Further Examples

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Tropical Cyclone 01A

- High-visibility system due to proximity to Persian Gulf and transiting ships
- TRMM data provided critical/timely info for Japanese and US navy ships transiting the region
- "we need to be aware when ships or planes are in harm's way, but we also need to keep in mind that what we fix and forecast can impact folks...or affect plan execution--BG Barno Deputy J3 at CINCPAC"

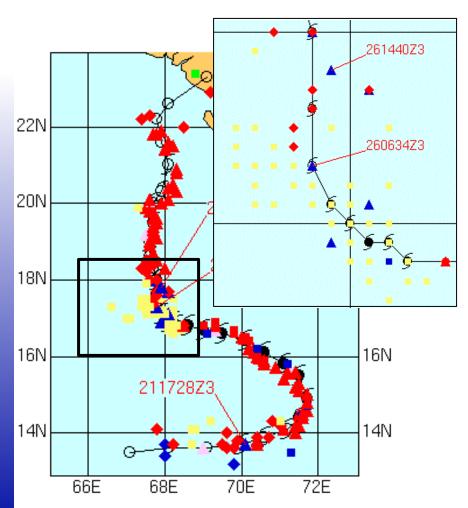
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Use of TRMM in Typhoon Forecast



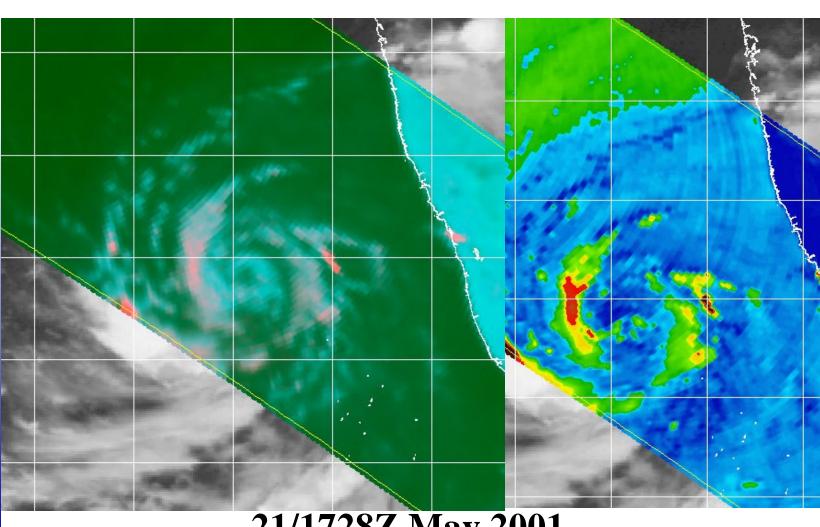
- System weakening from 60 kts at 26/06Z to 50 kts at 26/18Z
- Multiple VIS/IR fixes scattered and therefore flagged
- TRMM fixes vital to determining re-curvature north
- USNS Henson was able to move north around western periphery of system

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Use of TRMM in Typhoon Forecast Operations



37 GHz vs. 85 GHz

21/1728Z May 2001

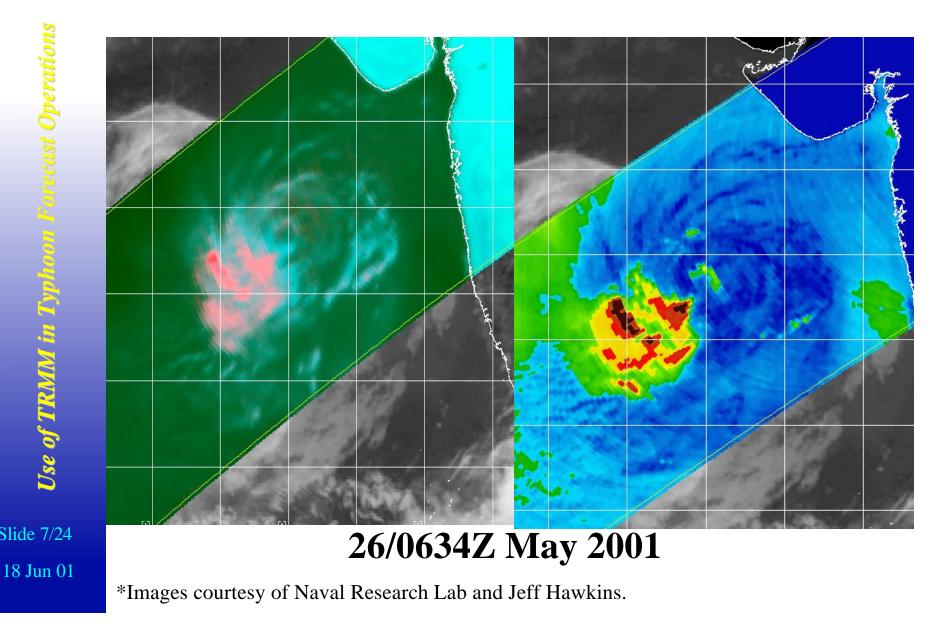
*Images courtesy of Naval Research Lab and Jeff Hawkins.

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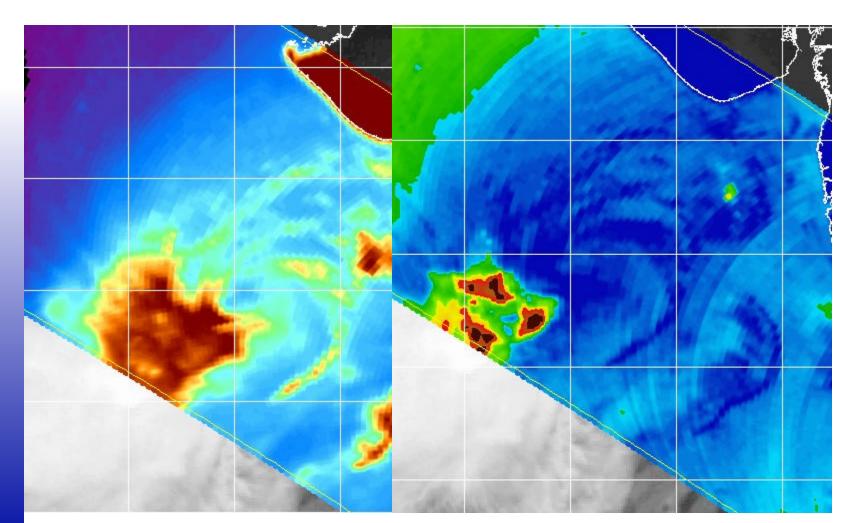


37 GHz vs. 85 GHz





Use of TRMM in Typhoon Forecast Operations



37 GHz vs. 85 GHz

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26/1440Z May 2001



Tropical Storm 03W (Cimaron)

98W INVEST TRMM 85H

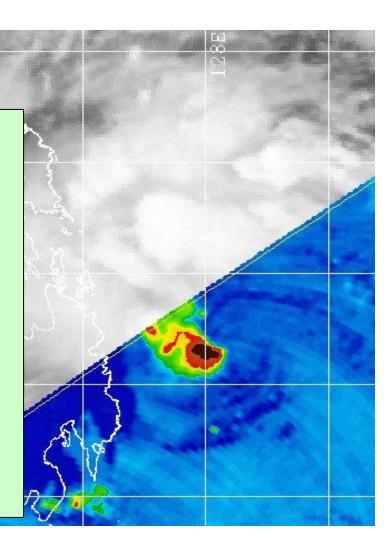


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05/06/01 1200Z 05/06/01 1135Z 05/06/01 1024Z GMS-5 TR Critical for location during

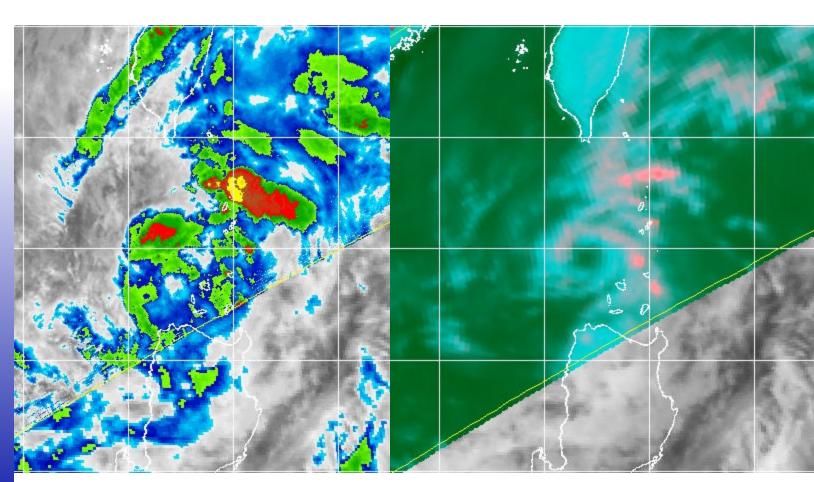
- initial weak stage
- Later, fixes/sat imagery indicated weakening trend, when in reality 37 GHz indicated that system was maintaining and strengthening







Use of TRMM in Typhoon Forecast Operations



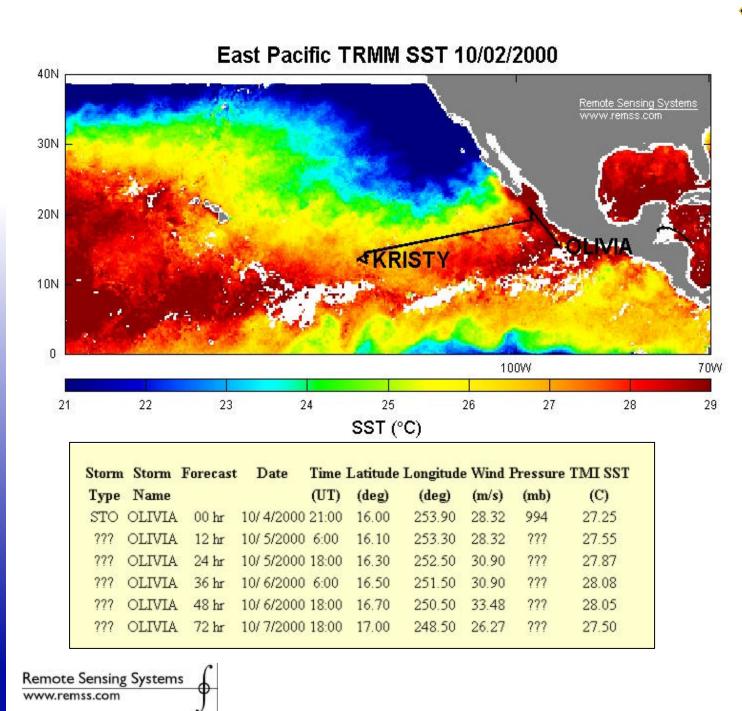
IR vs. 37 GHz

12/1047Z May 2001

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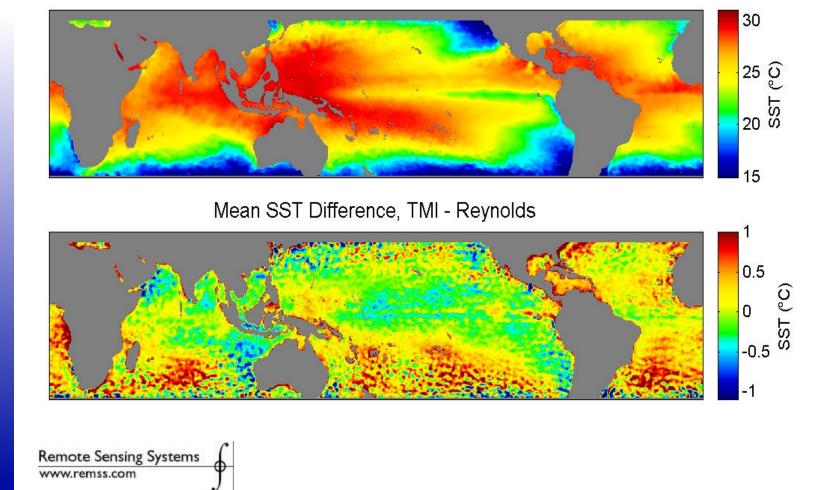






Comparison TMI and Reynolds

Mean SST: TMI



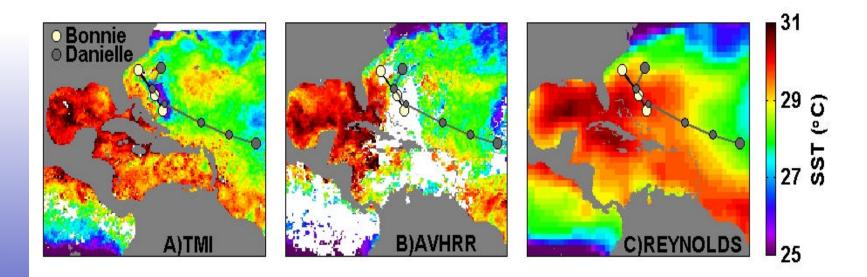
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SST during Hurricane Danielle



TMI views cold wake from Hurricane Bonnie AVHRR misses it due to cloud cover Reynolds (weekly SST) lacks temporal resolution

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Remote Sensing Systems

www.remss.com

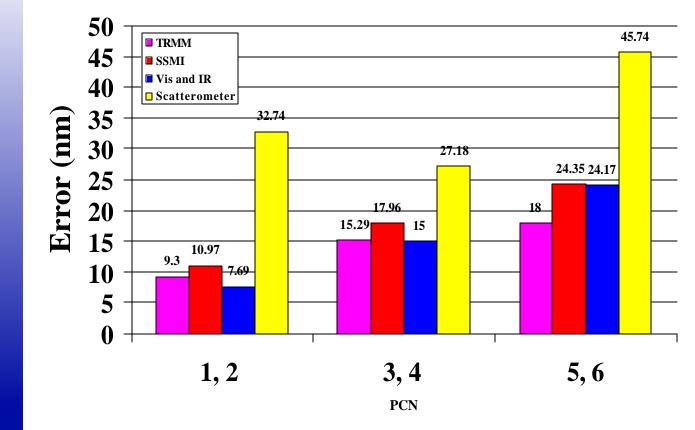
Use of TRMM in Typhoon Forecast Operation





Fix Quality Compared to JTWC Final Track Data

2000 NWP Fix Error



*Analysis performed by Capt Chris Cantrell

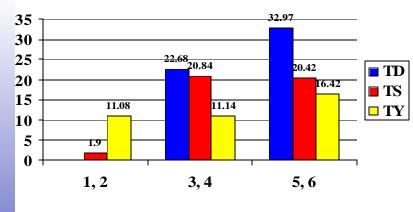
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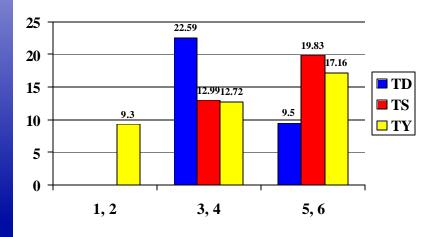


Fix Quality By Intensity

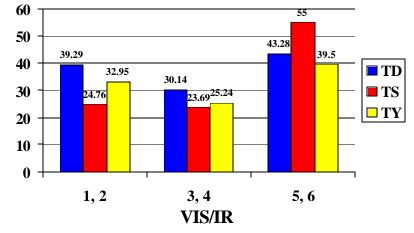
SSMI

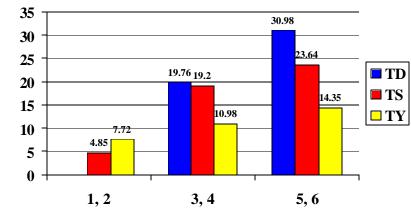


TRMM



SCATTEROMETER





*Analysis performed by Capt Chris Cantrell





Summary



- TRMM data has been fully integrated into JTWC warning process
- TRMM is important to the Tropical Cyclone Reconnaissance Mission
- Sensor fix accuracy is comparable to VIS/IR Imagery for PCN 1-4, but 25% better at PCN 5,6

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- TRMM's tropical orbit provides increased coverage over tropical systems
- Improved resolution at 85 GHz and 37 GHz provides better eyewall/convective band definition
- At times, the 37 GHz channel provides a better system position than 85 GHz
- New 35-knot wind radii method recently completed by Larry Connor





More Examples

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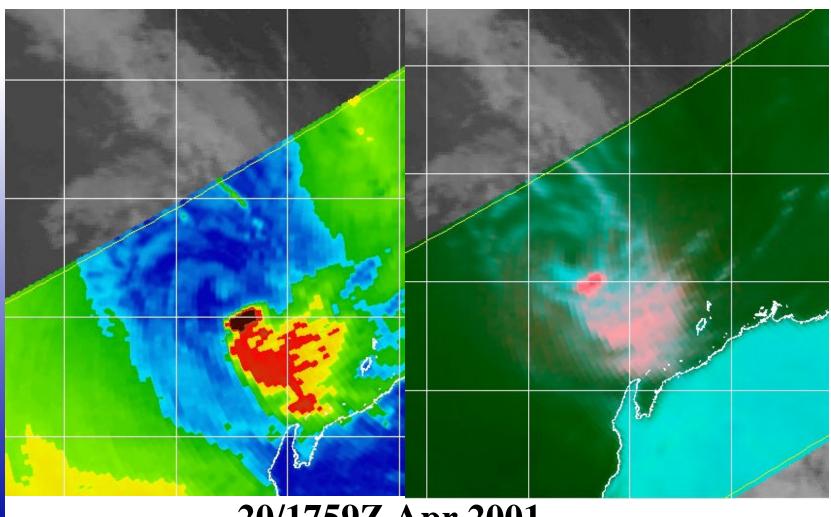
Use of TRMM in Typicon Forecast Operations



TC 20S Alistair: 37 GHz vs. 85 GHz



Use of TRMM in Typhoon Forecast Operations



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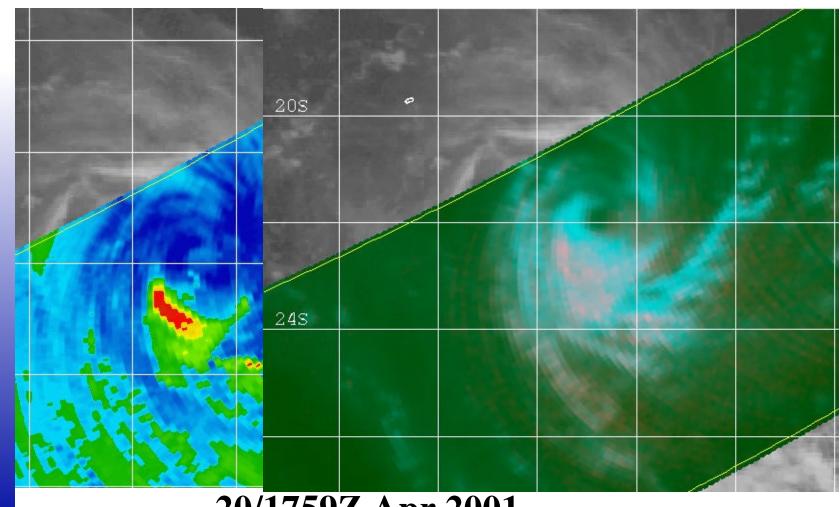
20/1759Z Apr 2001



TC 06S Charly: 37 GHz vs. 85 GHz







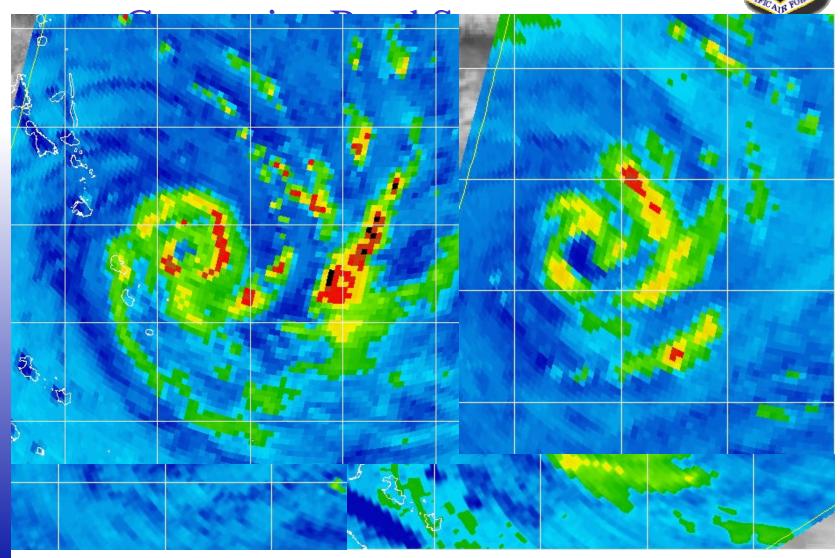
20/1759Z Apr 2001

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TC 05S Bindu and TC 13P Paula:



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Use of TRMM in Typhoon Forecast Operations

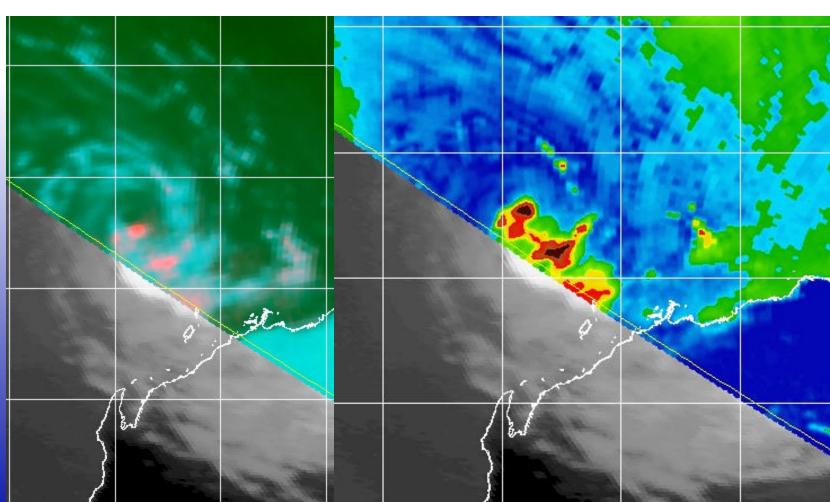
12/0019Z Jan 2001

28/1648Z Feb 2001



TC 20S Alistair: 37 GHz vs. 85 GHz





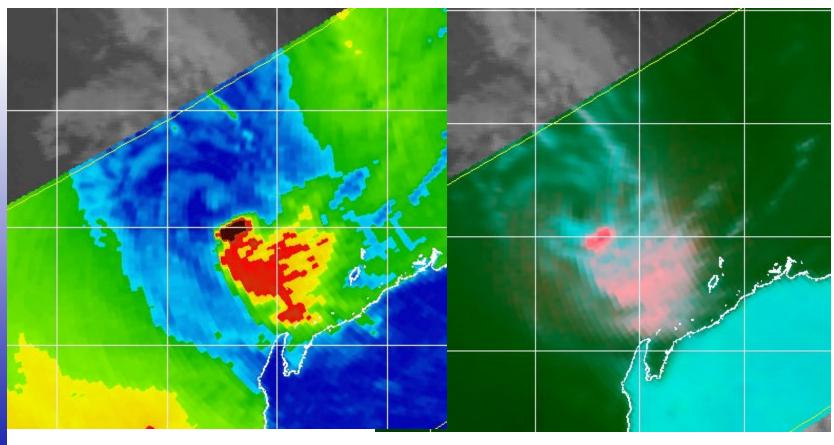
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20/0954Z Apr 2001



TC 20S Alistair: 37 GHz vs. 85 GHz





20/1759Z Apr 2001

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Use of TRMM in Typhoon Forecast Operations

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