TMI and AMSR-E microwave SSTs

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On May 4, 2002, NASDA's AMSR-E was launched aboard NASA's AQUA spacecraft. AMSR-E represents an important global extension to the TRMM TMI retrievals. Geophysical parameters, such as SST, wind speed, atmospheric water vapor, cloud water, and rain rate, are measured by TMI and AMSR-E. These environmental variables are calculated using a multi-stage linear regression algorithm derived through comprehensive radiative transfer model simulations. SST retrieval is prevented only in regions with sun-glitter, rain, and close to land where there is side-lobe contamination. Since only a small number of retrievals are unsuccessful, the wide swath provides almost complete global coverage daily.