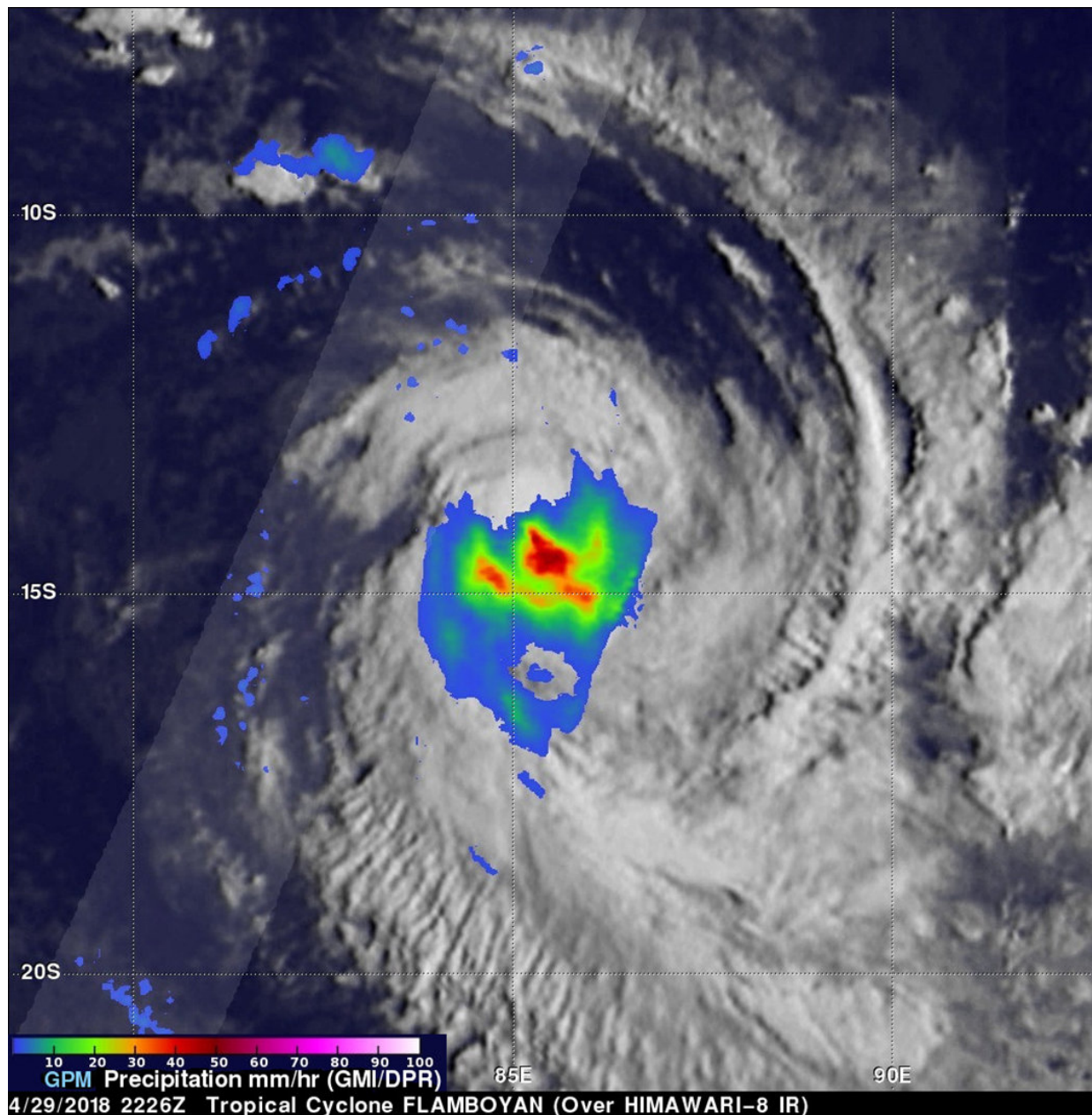


GPM satellite views Tropical Cyclone Flamboyant's rainfall

May 1 2018



On April 29, 2018, at 6:26 p.m. EDT (2226 UTC) GPM's Microwave Imager (GMI) scanned the center of the tropical cyclone and found rain falling there at a rate of over 2.1 inches per hour (53 mm per hour). Credit: NASA/JAXA, Hal Pierce

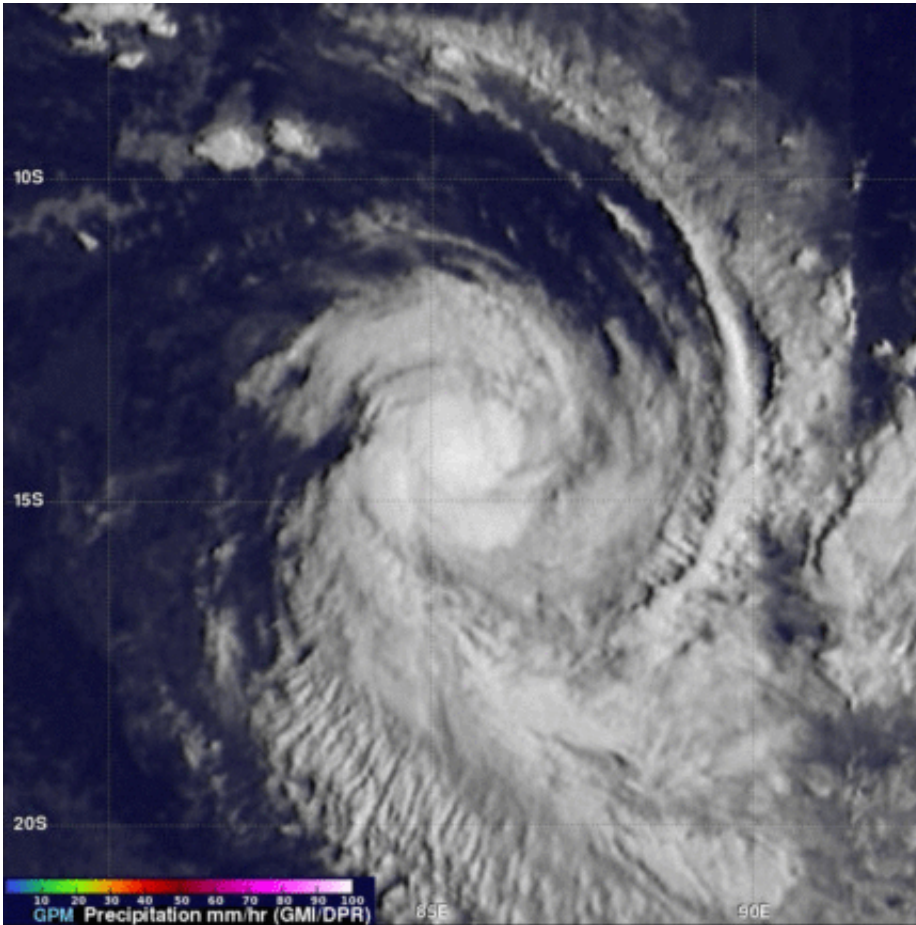
Tropical Cyclone Flamboyant was being battered by vertical wind shear when the Global Precipitation Measurement mission or GPM core satellite passed overhead and analyzed its rainfall rates.

Tropical Cyclone Flamboyant formed in the middle of the South Indian Ocean well to the west of Australia on April 28, 2018. On April 30, Flamboyant's wind speeds had increased to about 81 mph (70 knots) as the tropical [cyclone](#) curved toward the south-southwest around the subtropical ridge or elongated area of high pressure.

The GPM core observatory satellite had a good view of the rainfall in Tropical Cyclone Flamboyant when it flew over on April 29, 2018, at 6:26 p.m. EDT (2226 UTC). The satellite's Microwave Imager (GMI) scanned the center of the tropical cyclone and found rain falling there at a rate of over 2.1 inches per hour (53 mm per hour). The satellite's Dual Frequency Precipitation Radar (DPR) missed Flamboyant's center but showed that only light to moderate rainfall was occurring west of the tropical cyclone's center of circulation. GPM is a joint mission between NASA and the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency, JAXA.

On May 1 at 5 a.m. EDT (0900 UTC) the Joint Typhoon Warning Center (JTWC) noted that Flamboyant's maximum sustained winds dropped to 57 mph (50 knots/92 kph). The tropical storm was located near 7.7 degrees south latitude and 83.9 degrees east longitude, approximately 901 nautical miles southeast of Diego Garcia. Flamboyant

has tracked south-southeastward at 4.6 mph (4 knots/7.4 kph).



This animation of rainfall was created using data from the GPM core satellite. On April 29, 2018 at 6:26 p.m. EDT (2226 UTC) GPM's Microwave Imager (GMI) scanned the center of the tropical cyclone and found rain falling there at a rate of over 2.1 inches per hour (53 mm per hour). Credit: NASA/JAXA, Hal Pierce

The JTWC noted that animated multispectral satellite Imagery on May 1 showed a fully-exposed low-level circulation [center](#) with rapidly decaying deep convection sheared south due to strong 34.5 to 46 mph (30-40 knots / 55.5 to 74 kph) northwesterly vertical [wind](#) shear.

The JTWC predicts that Flamboyant will continue weakening as it encounters increasing [vertical wind shear](#) and colder ocean temperatures. Flamboyant is expected to transition to an extra-tropical cyclone by May 3 as it continues moving over open ocean.

Provided by NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center

Citation: GPM satellite views Tropical Cyclone Flamboyant's rainfall (2018, May 1) retrieved 24 June 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2018-05-gpm-satellite-views-tropical-cyclone.html>

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