

# COASTAL ZONE COLOR REMOTE SENSING IN JAPAN: OPPORTUNITIES AND CONCERNS

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## Abstract

In this final decade and towards the end of 20th century, a number of satellite sensors capable of providing data on radiance from the sea surface are destined to be launched, enhancing opportunities of synoptic observation in the coastal zone. Japan is now at a stage of launching a sensor as well as planning of data reception from relevant sensors. This paper discusses some of the key factors in view of full utilization of coastal zone color remote sensing in Japan. Firstly, a peculiarity of the regional atmosphere which may lead erroneous satellite estimate is indicated. Secondly the paper introduces the concept of dominant spatial scales in the marginal seas of Japan which will help interpreting satellite-derived information field. The paper also attempts to provide the technical concepts which may underline the efforts in bridging the gap between the information source and targets.