



1  
00:00:00,640 --> 00:00:03,580

[Music]

2  
00:00:04,720 --> 00:00:09,440

>>Both ocean currents and winds influence the Earth's climate, and they also influence each

3  
00:00:09,440 --> 00:00:10,440

other.

4  
00:00:10,440 --> 00:00:14,559

When the winds blow over the ocean surface, they create current, and current carrying

5  
00:00:14,559 --> 00:00:19,650

warm or cold water can influence the wind speed that's blowing over it.

6  
00:00:19,650 --> 00:00:25,320

Understanding this interaction allows us to better understand how the energy moves between

7  
00:00:25,320 --> 00:00:29,240

atmosphere to the ocean and vice-versa.

8  
00:00:29,820 --> 00:00:35,579

Think of a police gun radar that measures the speed of moving vehicles.

9  
00:00:35,579 --> 00:00:38,370

DopplerScatt has some of the same characteristics.

10  
00:00:38,370 --> 00:00:44,329

That radar can measure the speed of the vehicle coming towards or away from the policeman.

11  
00:00:44,329 --> 00:00:49,239

So what we do is we fly DopplerScatt over the ocean's surface and we point its antenna

12  
00:00:49,239 --> 00:00:55,770  
in 360 degrees using a spinning motor so that  
we can view the ocean's surface from different

13  
00:00:55,770 --> 00:00:56,770  
angles.

14  
00:00:56,770 --> 00:01:01,629  
It pings the ocean, sending microwaves out,  
and waits for the return that comes back from

15  
00:01:01,629 --> 00:01:02,629  
the ocean's surface.

16  
00:01:02,629 --> 00:01:08,770  
So the higher the return power, the higher  
the wind speed that blows over the ocean.

17  
00:01:08,770 --> 00:01:14,640  
Within that signal, we also have information  
about the relative motion of the ocean with

18  
00:01:14,640 --> 00:01:17,960  
respect to the instrument.

19  
00:01:19,050 --> 00:01:23,960  
Whenever possible, we like to trial our instruments  
and our techniques in an airborne environment.

20  
00:01:23,970 --> 00:01:29,030  
This allows us to tinker with them until we  
get them right, and this is on an allowable

21  
00:01:29,030 --> 00:01:33,960  
cost, as opposed to a spaceborne mission,  
which is a lot more expensive.

22  
00:01:36,360 --> 00:01:43,140

To literally get DopplerScatt off the ground,  
the JPL team collaborates with the NASA Armstrong

23  
00:01:43,140 --> 00:01:49,620  
team that own and operates the King Air B-200  
aircraft that DopplerScatt flies on.

24  
00:01:50,200 --> 00:01:55,220  
[Aircraft engines revving up]

25  
00:01:55,220 --> 00:01:59,080  
[Aircraft taking off]

26  
00:01:59,080 --> 00:02:04,300  
DopplerScatt is an amazing Earth Science technology  
because it allows us to simultaneously measure