Stratocumulus decks: an internal gravity wave observatory



A typical day's wavy field of wrinkly clouds

- Fine-textured low cloud decks cover the subtropical oceans
- Animations show waves of darkening and lightening
- This is a direct measurement of downward and upward motions
- We will fine-tune algorithms and isolate and measure these waves from decades of satellite imagery

Where do the waves come from? What do they do? Have they changed over time?

What can they teach us about the clouds (important to Earth's albedo)?

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