



## Introduction

- Earth Science Objectives
- Earth Science Mission and Technology Requirements
- Current Earth Science Missions at NASA
- Current Earth Science Technologies
- Earth Science Mission Priorities
- Technology Approaches
- Future Mission Concepts

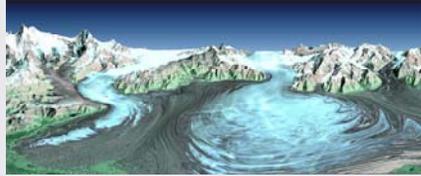
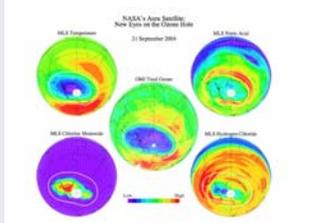
NASA

2

**JPL**  
Jet Propulsion Laboratory  
California Institute of Technology

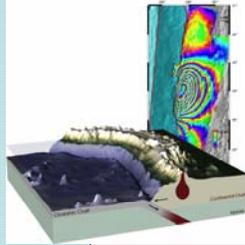
# Earth Science Questions

## How is Earth changing?



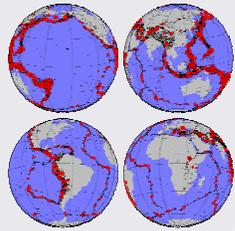
### Science Questions:

- What changes are taking place in atmosphere-ocean circulation?
- How is land cover and land use changing?
- What changes are taking place in the water and energy cycle?
- How is atmospheric composition changing?
- How does solar radiation vary?
- How will all of these changes affect climate?



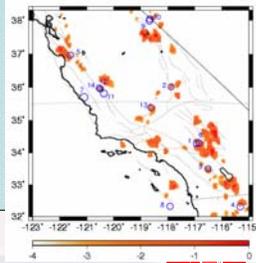
# Earth Science Questions

## How will those changes affect life on Earth?



### Science Questions:

- What are the local impacts of climate change?
- Can the Earth supply enough fresh water?
- Will air quality continue to support a healthy environment?
- Will the future environment allow us to produce enough food?
- Can earthquakes and volcanic eruptions be predicted?
- What is man's overall impact on life on Earth?



## Significant NASA Contributions to Earth Exploration and Earth Science

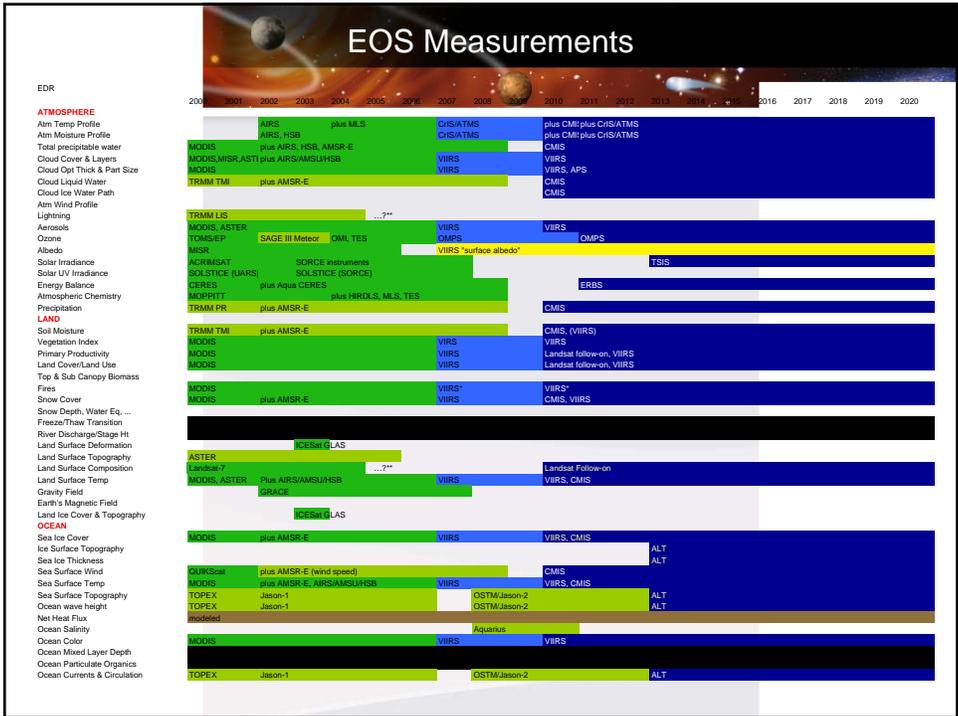
### What have we observed from space.

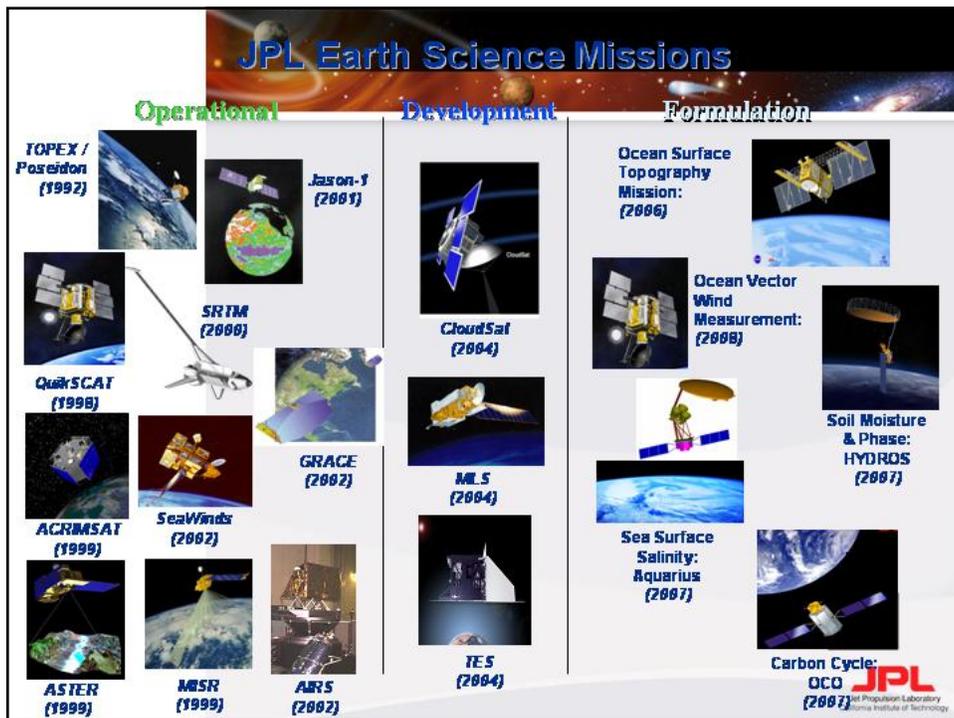
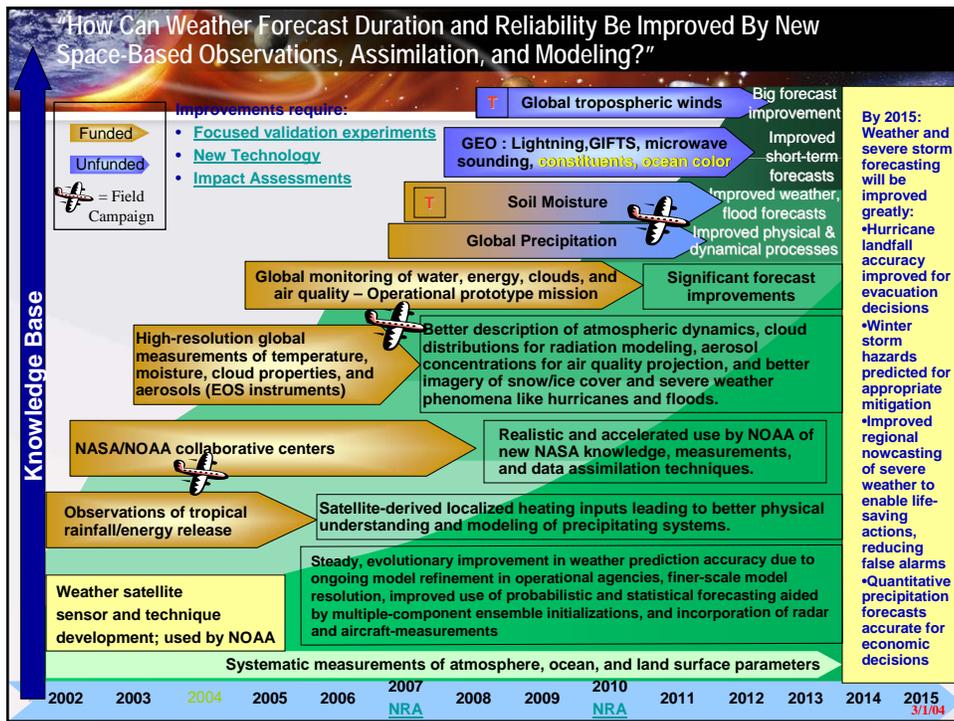
- The extent of the ozone hole and its cause
- The transport of air pollution between countries and continents
- Increasing rates of glacial and sea ice retreat
- Land cover and use change due to urbanization, deforestation, and other causes
- Changing weather patterns due to pollution and land conversion
- The interaction between earthquake faults
- The wide-scale effects of El Nino on weather
- The tracking and development of hurricanes, typhoons, severe storms, and other weather events
- And more...

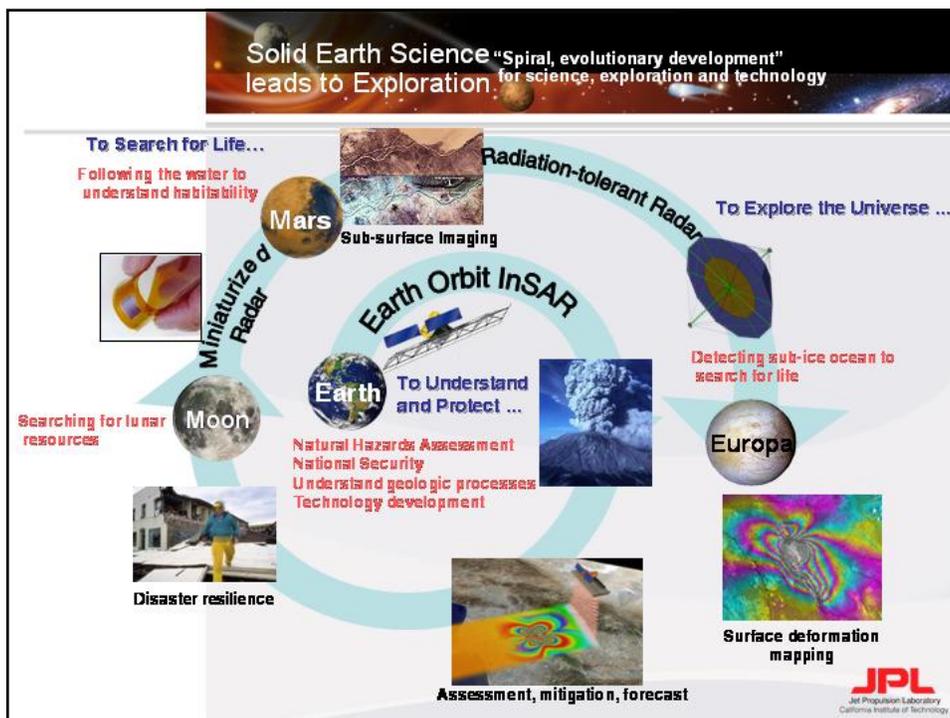
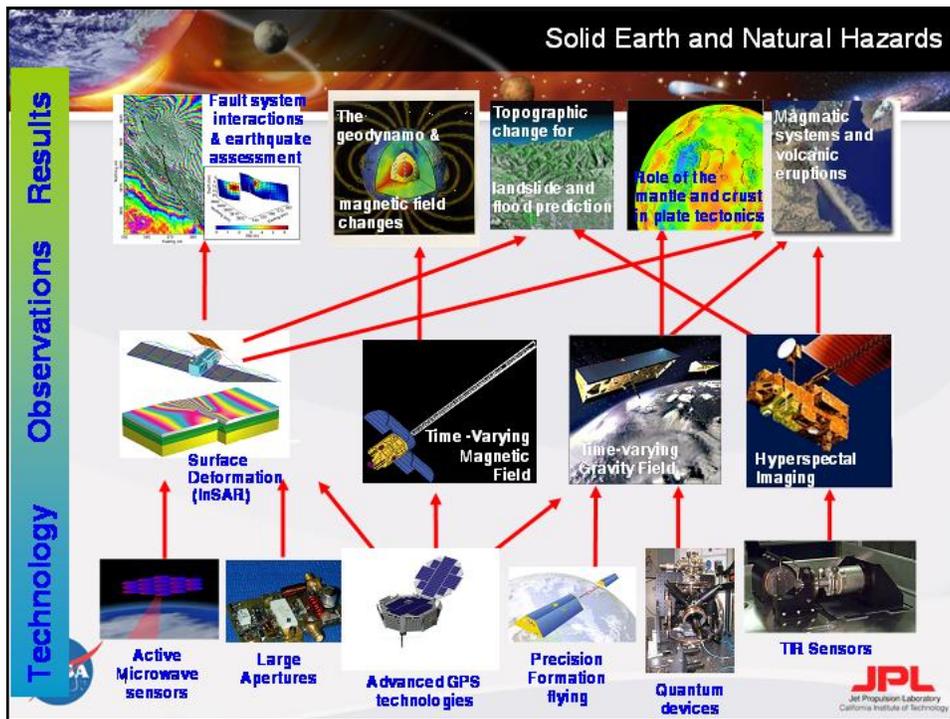
### What are we exploring next.

- The recovery of the ozone layer
- The impact of global pollution transport on regional air quality
- The quantity and quality of fresh water resources
- The future sea level rise and coastal flooding
- Identifying precursors for earthquakes and volcanic eruptions
- Identifying human impact on life on the land and in the ocean
- Improving weather forecasts, severe weather event warnings, and regional climate change predictions
- And more...









## Earth Science Mission Priorities (preliminary)

<b>NPOESS Preparatory Project (2009)</b> Strategic mission - Systematic measurement	Required for continuity of several key climate measurements between EOS and NPOESS
<b>Landsat Data Continuity Mission (2010)</b> Strategic mission - Systematic measurement	Required for continuity of long-term global land cover change data; plan for post-LDCM acquisition operational agency in work
<b>Ocean Surface Topography Mission (2008)</b> Strategic mission - Systematic measurement	Required for continuity ocean altimetry; planned as part of a transition to operational agencies
<b>Glory (2008)</b> Strategic - Initializes a systematic measurement	Addresses high priority objective of the US Climate Change Science Program
<b>Orbiting Carbon Observatory (2008)</b> Competed mission - Earth System Science Pathfinder	First global measurement of CO2 from space
<b>Aquarius (2009)</b> Competed mission - Earth System Science Pathfinder	First global measurement of sea surface salinity from space
<b>Global Precipitation Measurement (2012)</b> Initializes a systematic measurement	Extend spatial coverage to global and temporal coverage to every 3 hours with constellation
<b>Earth System Science Pathfinder – TBD (2014)</b> Competed mission - 2008 solicitation for 2014 launch; subsequent TBD	<i>Could address one of the future representative mission elements below; focus and relative priority to be determined using decadal survey</i>



11



## Future Missions (preliminary)

<p><b><i>Future Representative Mission Elements (unprioritized):</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Changes in Earth's Ice Cover</li> <li>• Global Ocean Carbon, Ecosystems &amp; Coastal Processes</li> <li>• Global Soil Moisture</li> <li>• Global Wind Observing Sounder</li> <li>• Multi-spectral Atmospheric Composition</li> <li>• Sea Surface &amp; Terrestrial Water Levels</li> <li>• Vegetation 3-D Structure, Biomass, Disturbance</li> <li>• Wide-swath All-weather Geodetic Imaging</li> </ul>	<p><i>Mission concept definitions and priorities to be determined after the NRC decadal survey is available. Mission concept studies will likely result in integrating more than one of these elements into a single mission based on common or compatible technologies and observing techniques.</i></p>
--	---



12





## Potential Missions/Implementation

Focus Areas	Potential Element / Measurements	Implementation Approach
Atmospheric Composition	Sentinel multispectral atmospheric composition	GEO or L1 spectrometers UV/vis, near-IR, thermal IR
	Next Generation Aerosol Measurements	Multi-angle multi-spectral imaging polarimeter + High sensitivity backscatter lidar
	Atmospheric Composition for Climate and Transport	Advanced microwave sounder mid-earth orbit
	Systematic Upper Trop/lower Strat Composition	Micro-FTS Solar Occultation
Carbon Cycle and Ecosystems	Vegetation 3-D Structure, Biomass & Disturbance	In priority order: 1) Profiling lidar; 2) P-band SAR; 3) InSAR? <b>Optimal: Combination of 1 and 2 or 3</b>
	Global Ocean Carbon, Ecosystems, and Coastal Processes	LEO spectrometer and aerosol instrument; 20 aggregate bands in 350-1400 nm region with 5nm resolution from UV to 800nm (longer wavebands for atmospheric correction); 1 km spatial resolution; SNR greater than 1000 for UV and visible aggregated bands, greater than 500 in near infrared
	Physiology & Functional Groups	Polar-orbiting imaging spectrometer(s) (-340-2500 nm) -- with aerosol lidar for atmospheric correction. over ocean


15


## Potential Missions/Implementation

Focus Areas	Potential Element / Measurements	Implementation Approach
Climate Variability and Change	Sea surface and terrestrial water levels	Radar altimeter/ wide swath/ delayed Doppler
	ICESat Follow-on (Detailed Ice elevation, ice sheet mass)	
	Next Generation Ocean Surface Winds	Advanced scatterometer
Earth Surface and Interior	Wide Swath All Weather Geodetic Imaging	L-Band InSAR
	Land Surface Imaging	Spectrometers UV/vis, near-IR, thermal IR
	Advanced Gravity Measurements	GRACE-like satellite pairs, gradiometer constellation
	Geodetic Observing System	SLR/VLBI/GNSS ground networks
	Ionospheric Dynamics and Atmospheric Surface Pressure	GNSS Remote Sensing/Magnetometry
Water and Energy Cycle	Global Soil Moisture	Active & Passive L-band (microwave) remote sensing system
	Surface Water Runoff	Dual Ka-band SARs
	Measurement of Snow and its Water Equivalent	Active Ku-band SAR + passive microwave radiometer (K or Ka band)
	Changes in Groundwater Storage	Constellation of GRACE satellite pairs


16


## Potential Missions/Implementation

Focus Areas	Potential Element / Measurements	Implementation Approach
Weather	Global Wind Observing Sounder	Hybrid (coherent and direct detection) Doppler wind lidar
	Geostationary Synthetic Thinned Aperture Radiometer	Synthetic aperture microwave radiometer
	Active Temperature and Humidity Sounder	Combination active (i.e., lidar) and passive IR sounder
	Geostationary Precipitation Radar	Precipitation radar
Crosscutting	Advanced Remote-sensing Imaging Emission Spectrometer	Hyperspectral, high horizontal resolution IR and visible grating spectrometer imager sounder


17


## Summary

- How can technology enable new missions within the current cost constraints?
  - Innovation
    - Large Aperture, Gigapixel FPA, Laser (1/2 um), On board computing, Miniaturization
    - Technology infusion & validation
      - Airborne and UAV demo, simulation
    - Simulation and Model
      - OSSE, validation & verification, data assimilation
    - Application/Decision support systems
      - 3 hr requirements for weather
  - Opportunities
    - NASA Roses IIP, ACT, and AIST
      - \$500K to \$1M per year for 3 years
    - Collaboration and partnerships
      - NASA , Academia, Industries
      - Foreign spacecraft


18
