

Sources/Usage: Public Domain.

The Aqua Mission Team won the 2022 group award.

### 2022 Group Award: The Aqua Mission Team

The Aqua Mission Team was honored for its significant contributions to scientific studies of the Earth over two decades and related applications of the Aqua satellite observations. Since its launch more than two decades ago, the Aqua mission has delivered observations essential to improving our understanding of global dynamics and processes occurring on the land and cryosphere, the oceans, and the atmosphere. Furthermore, the Aqua mission has addressed topics of national priority such as weather forecasting, homeland security and defense, and natural resource management. The astonishing performance of the Aqua satellite is attributed to the well-designed and operated Aqua mission, and the collective efforts by the instrument and science teams. Aqua is one of the most highly successful Earth observing satellites ever to have orbited our planet. The mission's free and open data policy has enabled a variety of application areas that generate societal value and support decision-makers. Aqua Moderate-Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer (MODIS) data products have been integrated operationally by many agencies, groups, and the public to meet their specific needs, including for the tracking of Sargassum macroalgae, red tides, and water-quality events. Furthermore, the MODIS instrument onboard the Aqua satellite has enabled water-quality data services to citizens of more than 60 countries worldwide. As the Aqua satellite celebrates its 20th year in space, its contributions continue to advance our knowledge of Earth's systems for the benefit of humanity.



**Aqua Mission Team**  
Pecora Group Award Winner, 2022





## Key Roles and Individuals in the Aqua Mission

- Project Scientist: **Claire Parkinson**
- Mission Director: **Bill Guit**
- Deputy Project Scientist: **Lazaros Oreopoulos**
  - Former Deputy Project Scientists: **Al Chang**, **Peter Hildebrand**, and **Steve Platnick**
- Program Scientist: **Will McCarty**
  - Former Program Scientists: **Ramesh Kakar** and **Gail Skofronick Jackson**
- Pre-launch Project Managers: **Marty Donohoe**, **George Morrow**, and **Phil Sabelhaus**
- AIRS/AMSU/HSB Science Team Leader: **Joao Teixeira**
  - Former AIRS/AMSU/HSB Science Team Leader: **Mous Chahine**
- MODIS Science Team Leader: **Miguel Roman**
  - Former MODIS Science Team Leaders: **Vince Salomonson** and **Michael King**
- CERES Science Team Leader: **Norman Loeb**
  - Former CERES Science Team Leaders: **Bruce Barkstrom** and **Bruce Wielicki**
- Former AMSR-E U.S. Science Team Leader: **Roy Spencer**
- Former AMSR-E Japanese Science Team Leader: **Akira Shibata**
- Outreach Coordinator: **Steve Graham**



AppEEARS



GIOVANNI The Bridge Between Data and Science



Terra/Aqua MODIS  
Contribution Goes  
Beyond Science and  
Applications

---



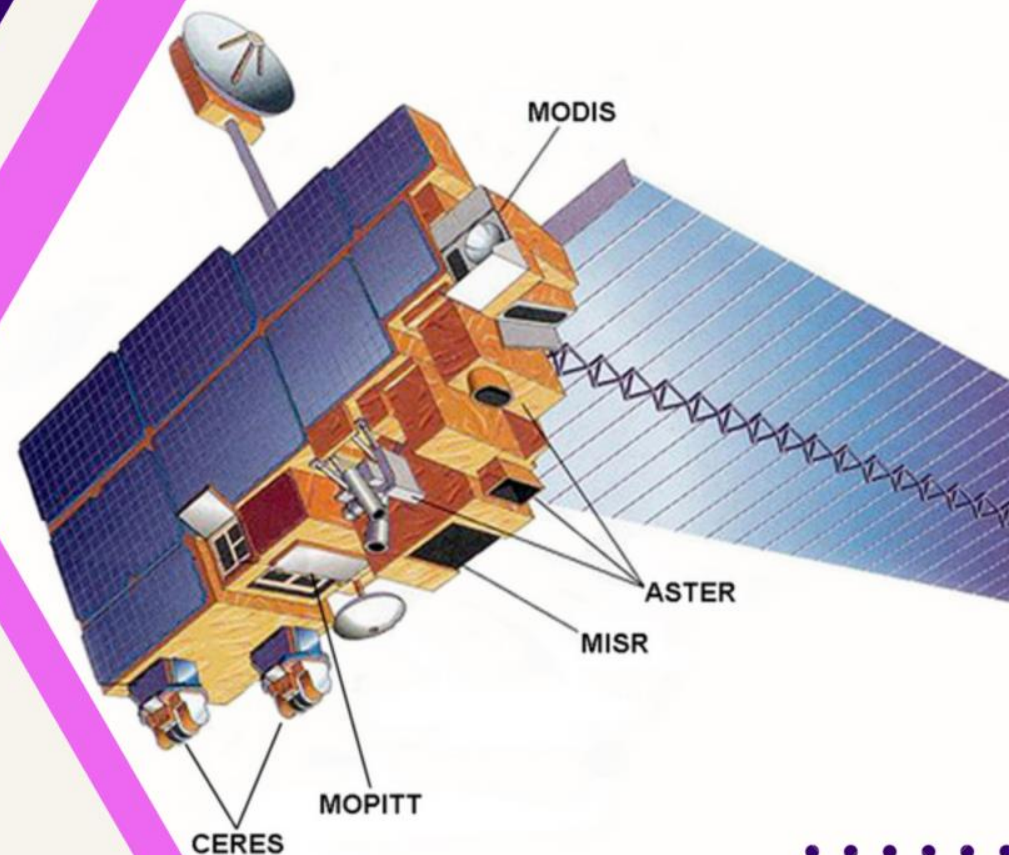
# TERRA'S LOWER ORBIT

## VIRTUAL COMMUNITY FORUM

During this online forum, Terra Project Scientists, Instrument Team Leads, and Flight Operations Team members will provide updates and engage the community in discussions of instrument and spacecraft health, mission longevity, and prospective scientific impacts, data product implications, and opportunities resulting from past and future orbit changes.

**DECEMBER 8, 2022**  
**12:30 PM – 3:30 PM ET**

INFORMATION & REGISTRATION:  
 [terra.nasa.gov](https://terra.nasa.gov)







RFI Due: **October 11** /// Respond online: [nspires.nasaprs.com](https://nspires.nasaprs.com)

# Terra, Aqua, and Aura Drifting Orbits Workshop

**November 1 - 2, 2022 /// 11 AM - 6 PM EDT**

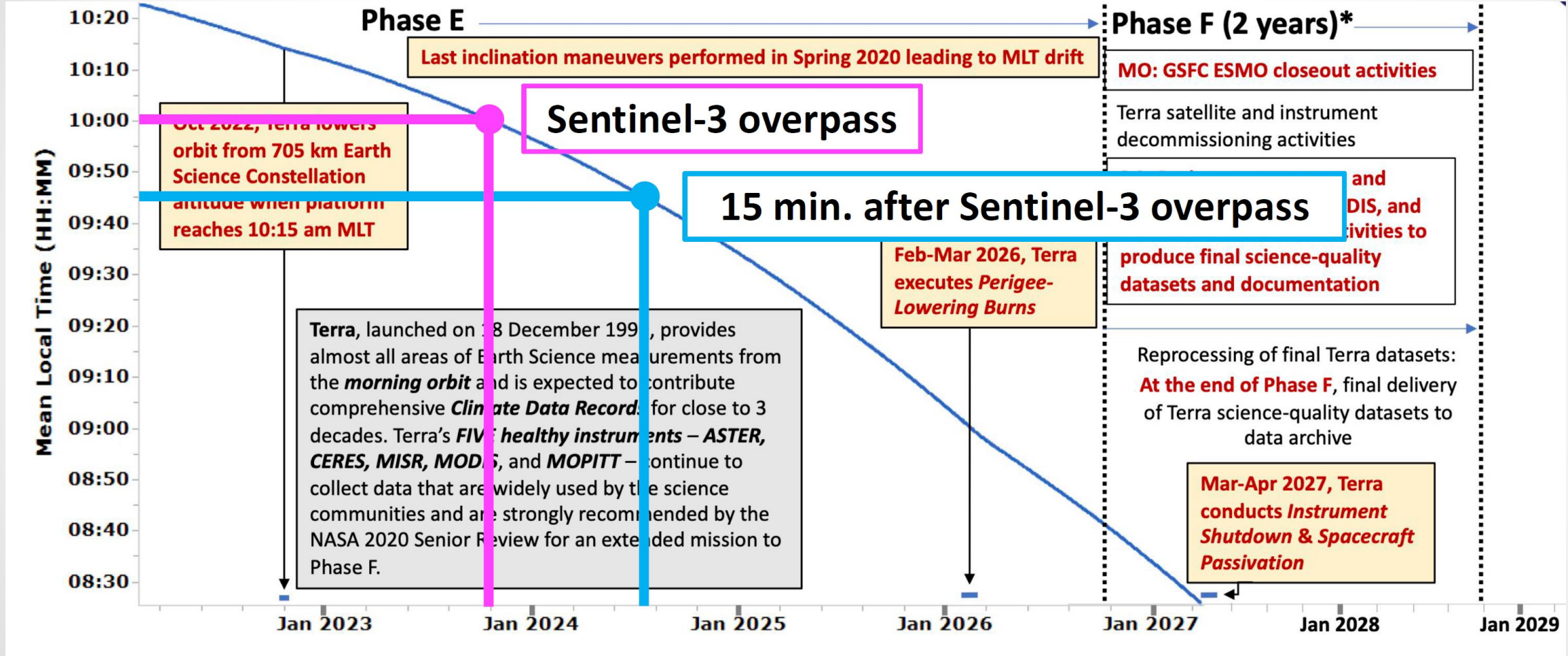


NASA previously released a [Request for Information \(RFI\)](#) on a Terra, Aqua, and Aura Drifting Orbits Workshop, for which the response date is **October 11, 2022**.

The Terra, Aqua, and Aura Drifting Orbits Workshop will be held **virtually** on **November 1-2, 2022**. The [Workshop Agenda](#) has been posted on the NSPIRES page for this RFI. To attend please register at <https://science.nasa.gov/earth-science/terra-aqua-and-aura-drifting-orbits-workshop-registration>, or use the QR code to the left.



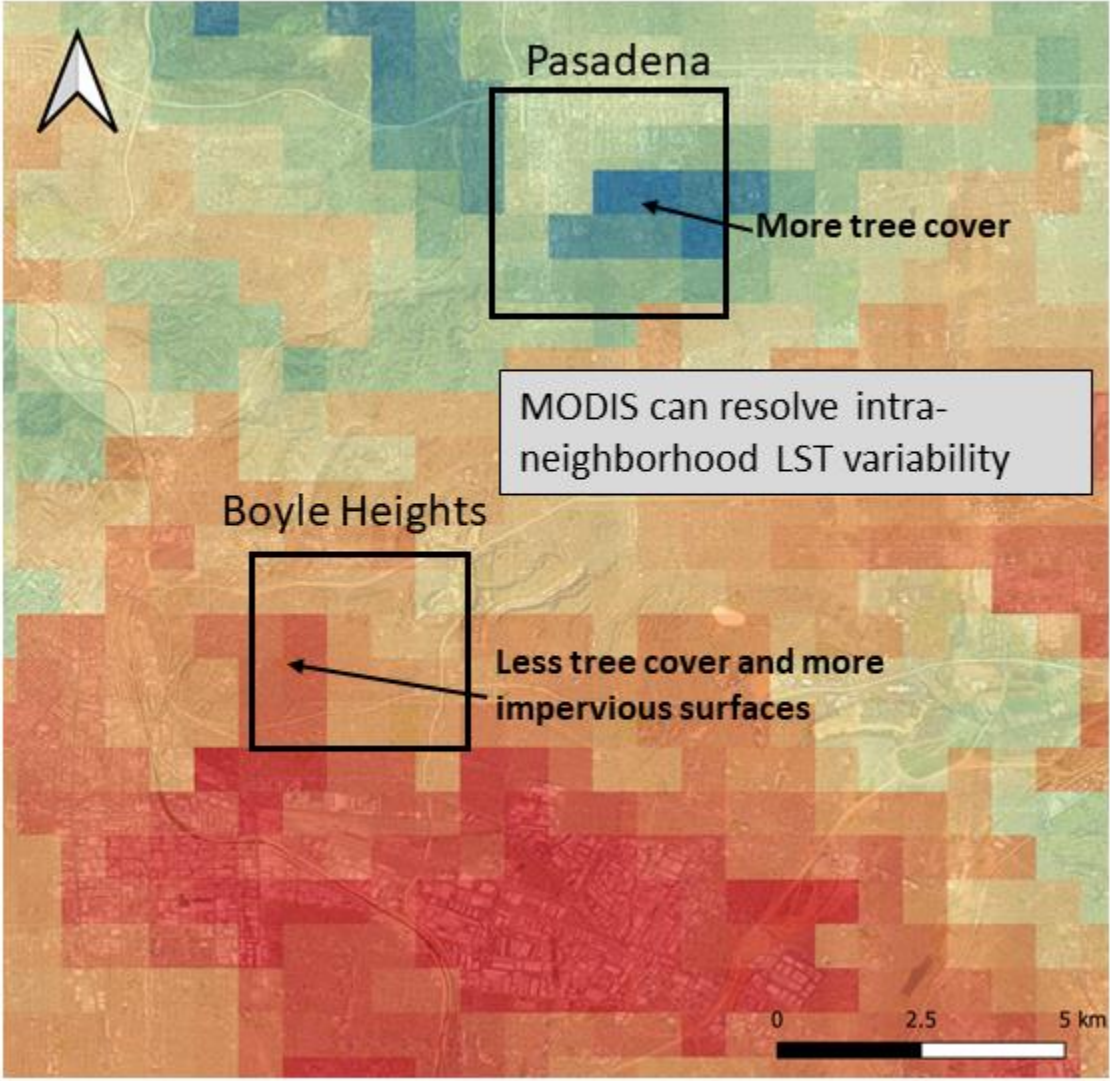
# Terra Timeline if Maximally Extended relative to Sentinel 3



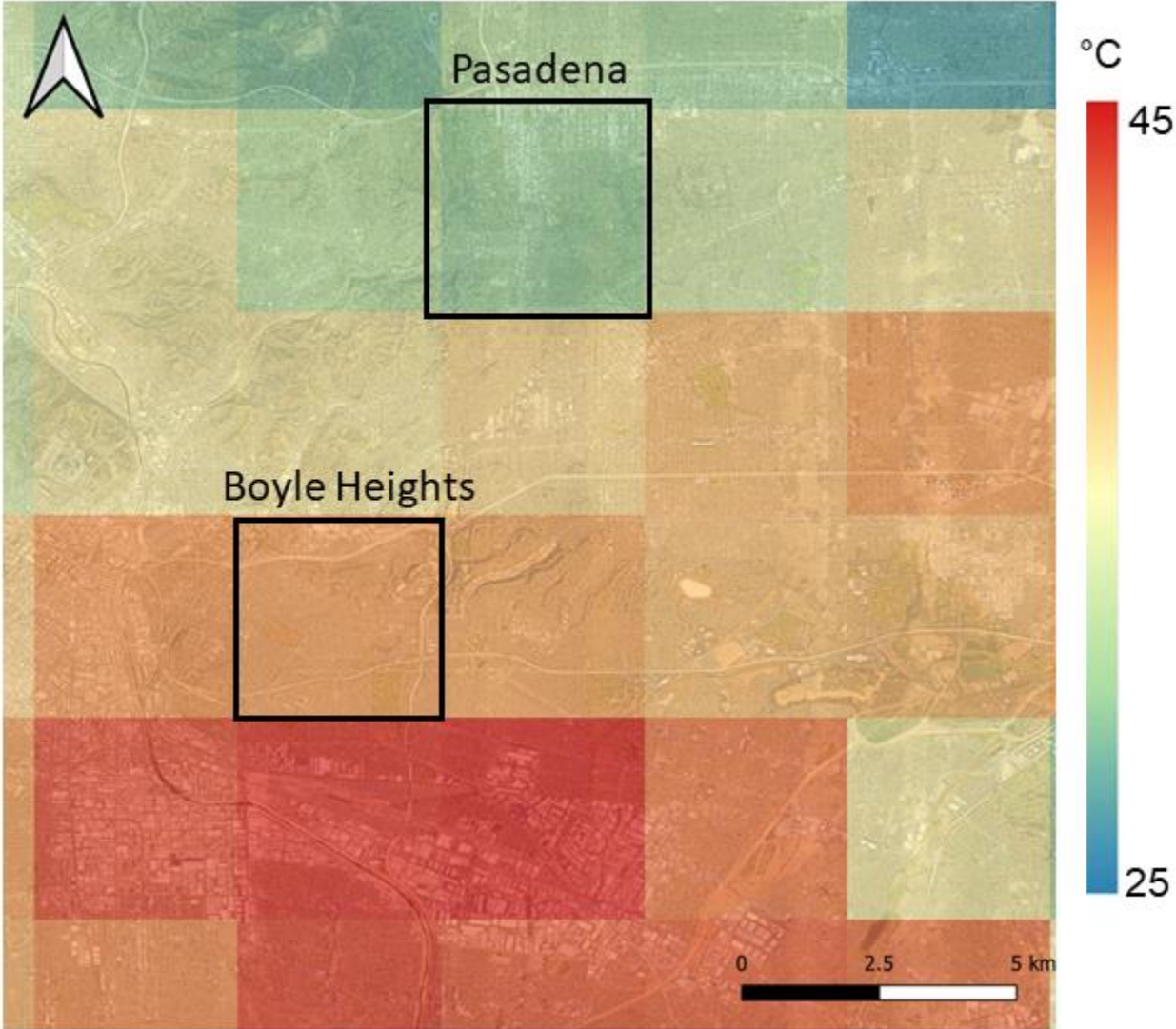


**Terra/Aqua MODIS can resolve intra-neighborhood temperature variability, enabling cities to track progress toward their Equity & Environmental Justice goals and objectives (Hulley et al., N2-TAADOW22-0046)**

MODIS LST, 1-km, 1:18pm

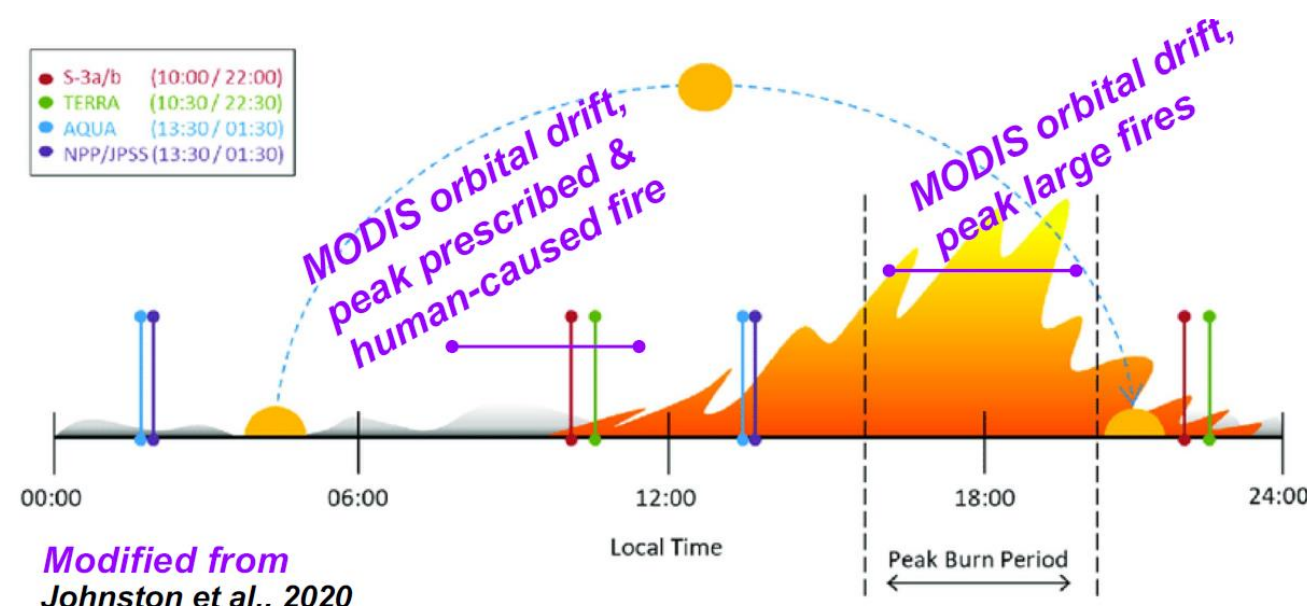
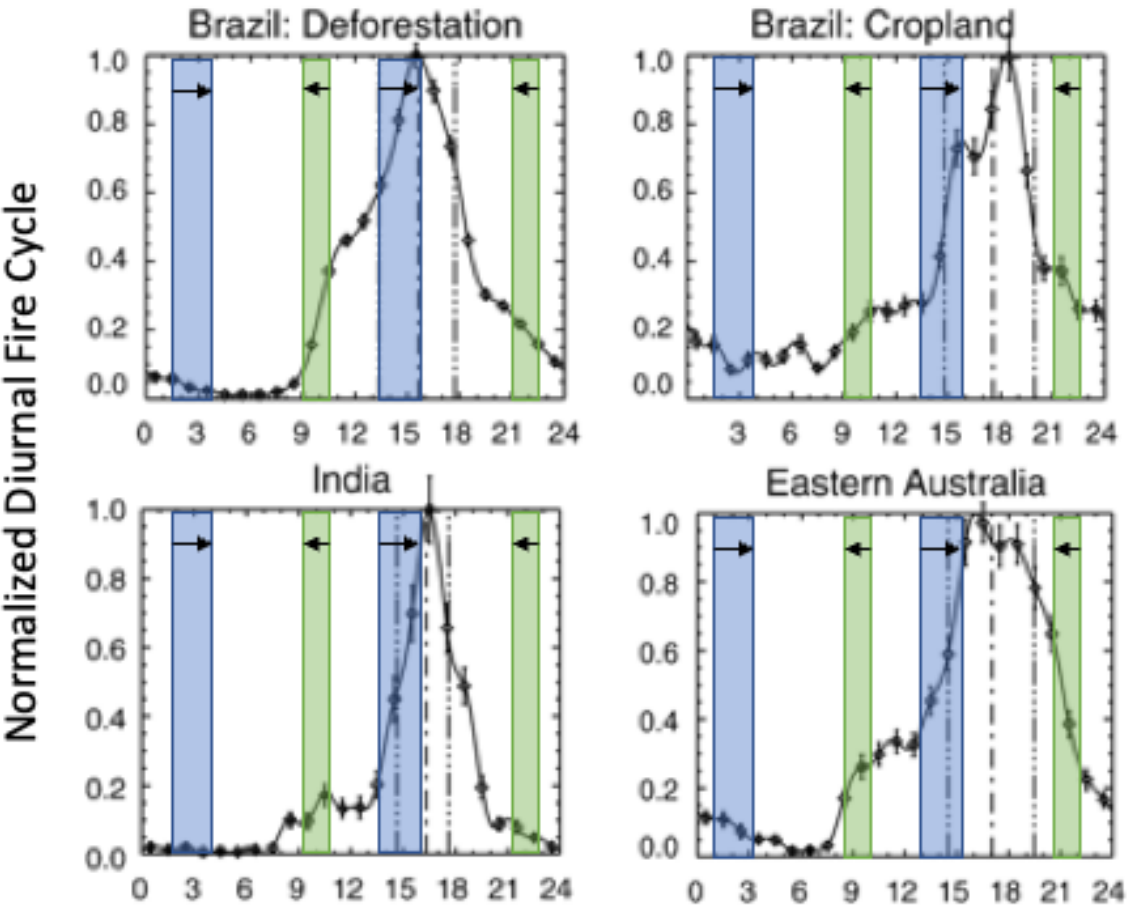


GOES LST, 4-km, 1:00pm





# Under orbital drift, Terra/Aqua MODIS will sample longstanding data gaps when fires are most common and often most intense (Morton et al., N2-TAADOW22-0071)



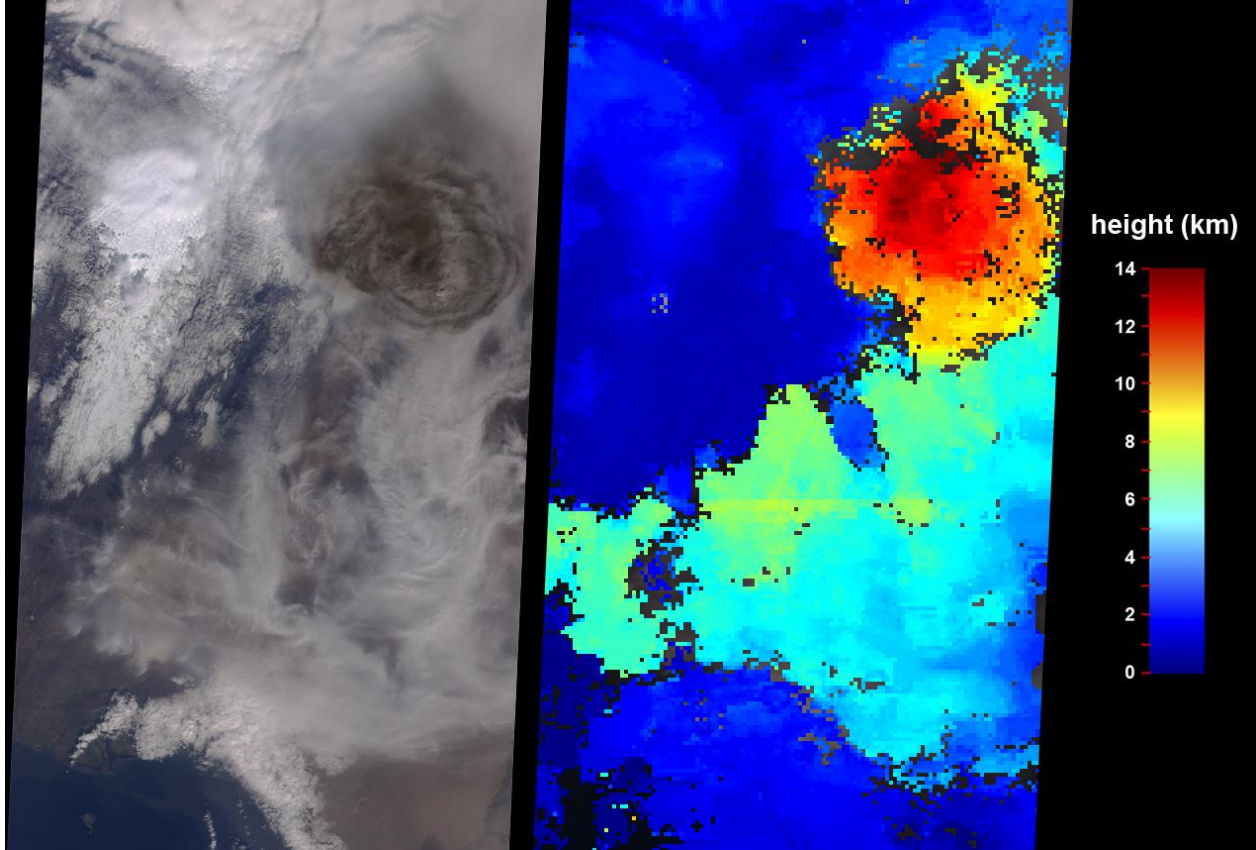
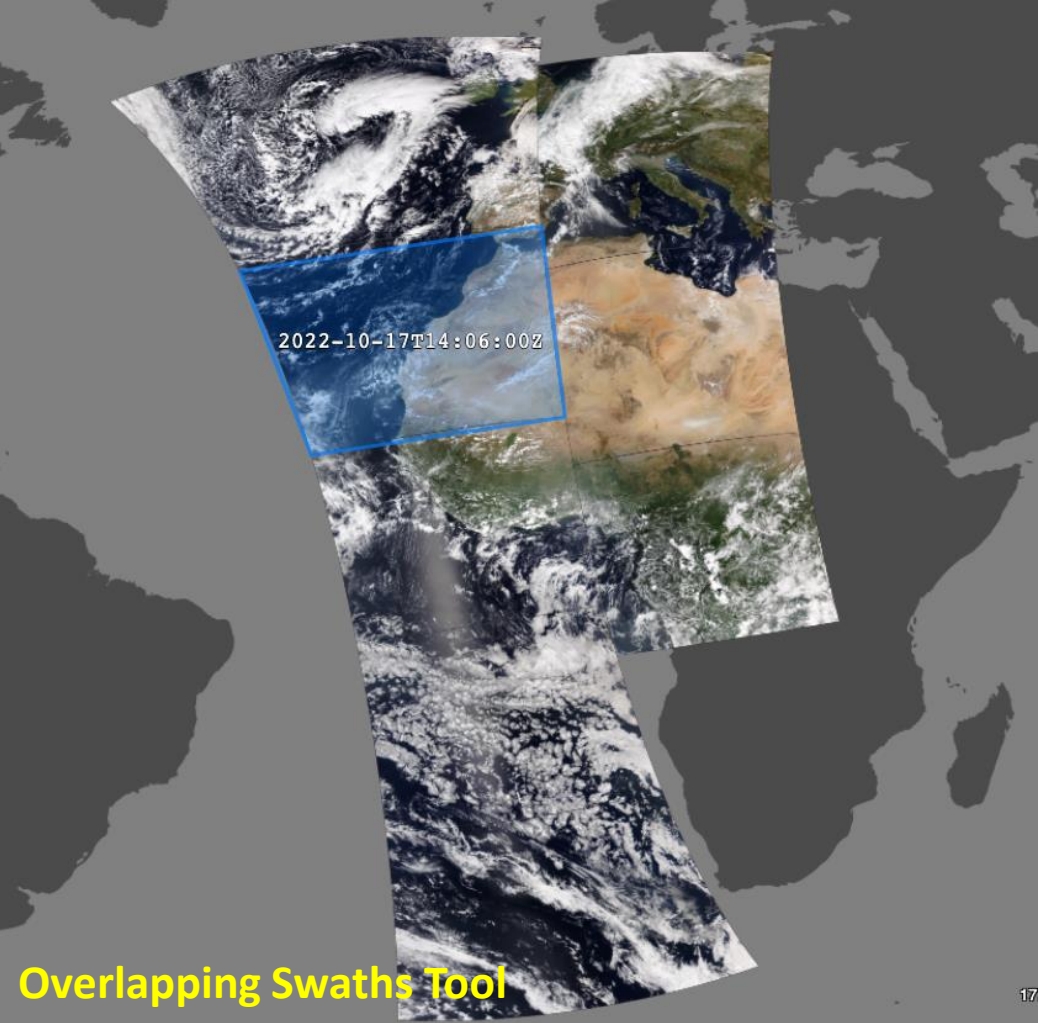
Aqua  
Terra

Local Hour

Local Time

Peak Burn Period

# Investments in LANCE Worldview/GIBS capabilities will accelerate near-real-time science and applications during Terra/Aqua/Aura orbital drift.



Terra-MISR stereoscopic height analysis of Grímsvötn Volcano Injects Ash.