

NASA Earth Observing System Simulator Suite (v 2.0)

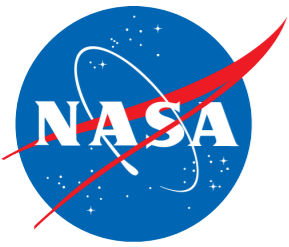
<https://NEOS3.jpl.nasa.gov>
(NEE-os)

N. Niamsuwan¹, S. Tanelli¹ (PI), M. P. Johnson¹, D. Dao¹, J. Jacob¹,
S. Jaruwatanadilok¹, S. Oveisgharan¹, M. Simard¹, F. J. Turk¹, N. Majurec¹, and L. Tsang²

¹Jet Propulsion Laboratory, California Institute of Technology

²University of Washington

Earth Science Technology Forum
Oct 29, 2014



NASA Earth Observing System Simulator Suite (v 2.0)

<https://NEOS3.jpl.nasa.gov>
(NEE-os)

supercomputing facility

cloud computing

N. Niamsuwan¹, S. Tanelli¹ (PI), M. P. Johnson¹, D. Dao¹, J. Jacob¹,
S. Jaruwatanadilok¹, S. Oveisgharan¹, M. Simard¹, F. J. Turk¹, N. Majurec¹, and L. Tsang²

sea ice

snowpack

forest

land

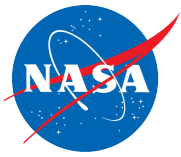
ocean

vegetation

snow/ground

¹Jet Propulsion Laboratory, California Institute of Technology
²University of Washington

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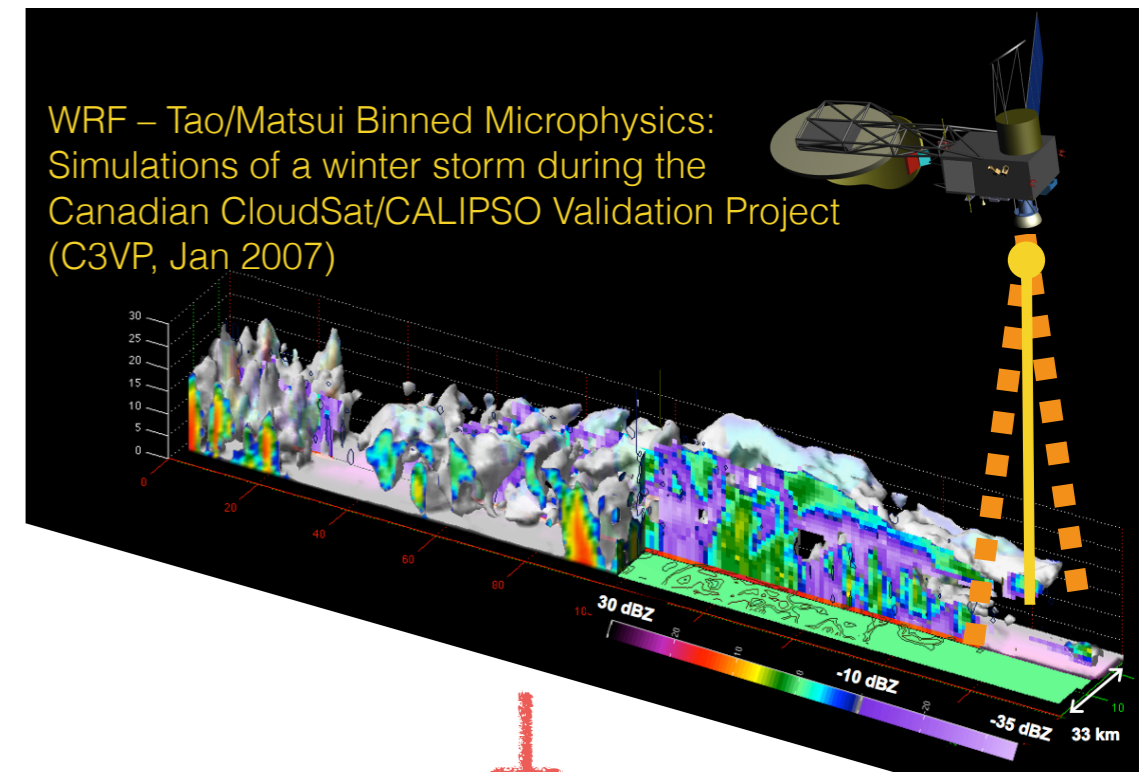
Introduction: What is NEOS³ ?

- Produce simulated satellite observables based on given a 3D field of geophysical description of the Earth's atmosphere and surface as provided by weather and climate models

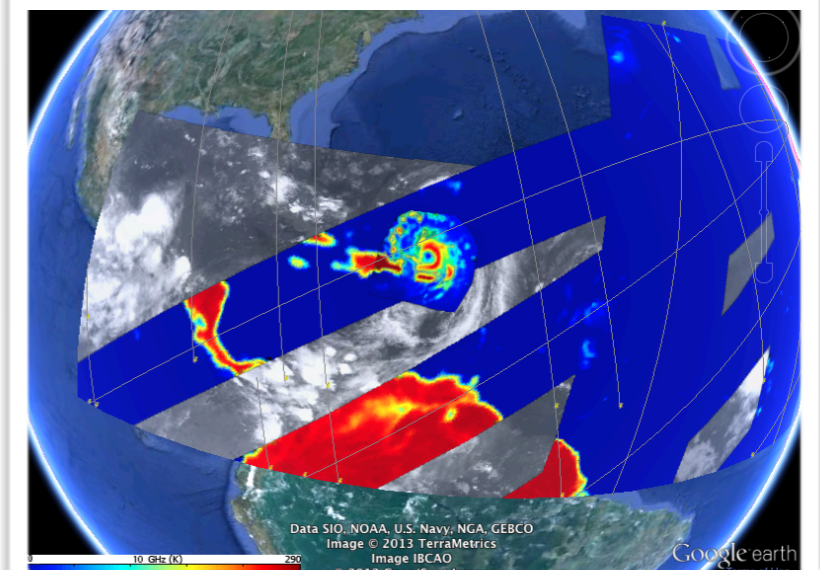
Physical Properties of the Target
(at all 3D grid-points in a domain)

NEOS³

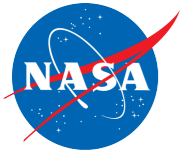
Observables
(e.g. brightness temperature map,
radar reflectivity profile)



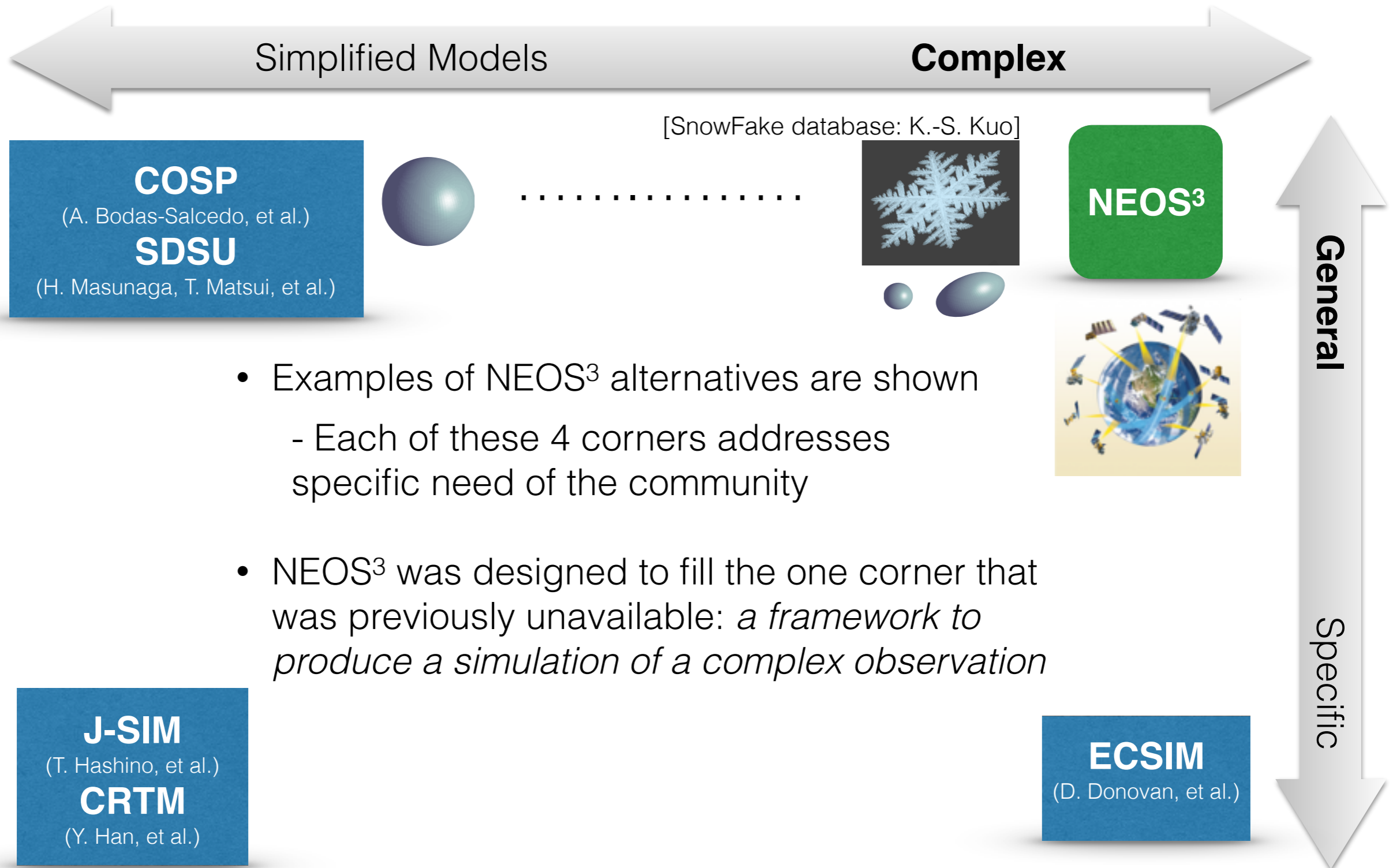
Simulated Brightness Temperature
(89 GHz)



[Tropical Cyclone Information System, S. Hristova-Velleva]

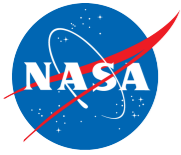


Motivation: Role of NEOS³



- Examples of NEOS³ alternatives are shown
 - Each of these 4 corners addresses specific need of the community
- NEOS³ was designed to fill the one corner that was previously unavailable: *a framework to produce a simulation of a complex observation*

Image credit: http://gpm-gv.gsfc.nasa.gov/img/GPM_constellation.png



Chronicle of NEOS³

- 2009—2012 (AIST'08)

Instrument Simulator Suite for Atmospheric Remote Sensing (ISSARS)

S. Tanelli	PI
W. Tao	Atmospheric Modeling
T. Matsui	SDSU
C. Hostetler	Lidar, HSRL
J. Hair	
C. Butler	
N. Niamsuwan	Architecture and Interface
M. P. Johnson	Processor and IO
J. C. Jacob	High Performance Computing
J. Kwan	System Administrator
K.-S. Kuo	DDSCAT database

Additional contributors: , O. Sy¹, T. Clune², A. Battaglia⁵, D. J. Diner¹, D. Donovan⁶, S. L. Durden¹, A. J. Heymsfield⁷, T. L'Ecuyer⁸, T. Nakajima⁹, G. L. Stephens¹, A. Ackermann¹⁰, R. Bennartz¹¹, K. Bowman¹, A. B. Davis¹, G. DeBoer¹², A. Fridlind¹⁰, S. Ghan¹³, T. Hashino¹⁴, J. T. Johnson¹, O. V. Kalashnikova¹, S. Kneifel¹⁶, P. Kollias¹⁷, S. Kreidenweis⁸, S. Krueger¹⁸, M. Kulie¹¹, S. Kumar², L. Liao², G. Liu¹⁹, N. Majurec¹⁵, J. V. Martonchik¹, D. Mueller²⁰, A. Parodi²¹, W. Szyrmer¹⁷, A. Tatarevic¹⁷, G. Tripoli¹¹, J. Turk¹, G.-J. Van Zadelhoff⁶, F. Weng²²

- 2012—present (AIST'11)

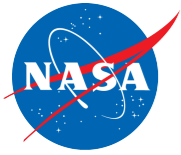
Unified Simulator for Earth Remote Sensing (USERS)

+++

D. Dao	Cloud Computing
S. Jaruwatanadilok	Sea Ice Scattering Model
S. Oveisgharan	Snow Scattering Model
M. Simard	Forest Scattering Model
J. Turk	Land Scattering Model
L. Tsang	Vegetation Scattering Model
N. Majurec	Ocean Scattering Model

Additional contributors: W. Chang²³, T.-H. Liao²³, G.-F. Sacco¹, J. Parker¹, Q. Chau¹

1 - JPL; 2 - NASA/Goddard Space Flight Center; 3 - NASA/Langley Research Center; 4 - Caelum Research Corporation, Rockville, MD, USA; 5 - Univ. of Leicester, Leicester, UK; 6 - Royal Netherlands Meteorological Institute, De Bilt, Netherlands; 7 - National Center for Atmospheric Research; 8 - Colorado State Univ.; 9 - Tokay Univ., Tokyo, Japan; 10 - NASA/Goddard Institute for Space Studies; 11 - Univ. of Wisconsin; 12 - Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory; 13 - Pacific Northwest National Laboratory; 14 - Univ. of Tokyo, Tokyo, Japan; 15 - Ohio State University; 16 - Institute for Geophysics and Meteorology, Univ. of Cologne, Germany; 17 - McGill University, Montreal, CA; 18 - Univ. of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT, USA; 19 - FSU, Tallahassee, FL; 20 - Gwangju Institute of Science and Technology (GIST), Gwangju, South Korea and Leibniz Institute for Tropospheric Research, Leipzig, Germany; 21 - CIMA Research Foundation, Savona, Italy; 22 - NOAA/STAR; 23 - U. of Washington



Chronicle of NEOS³

version 1.0

- 2009—2012 (AIST'08)

Instrument Simulator Suite for Atmospheric Remote Sensing (ISSARS)

S. Tanelli	PI
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NEOS³

version 2.0

- 2012—present (AIST'11)

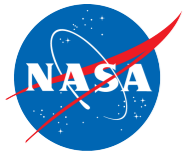
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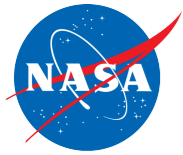
Additional contributors: W. Chang²³, T.-H. Liao²³, G.-F. Sacco¹, J. Parker¹, Q. Chau¹

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Outline

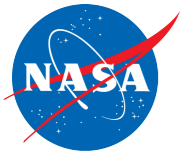
- Overview: demo, input, output
- Sample Applications
- Features
- Architecture
- Collaboration



Demo

- This video shows how to create a new simulation “job”; (~~set up parameters~~); start a simulation “run”; and view/download the output





Creating a New Job

NEOS³ NASA EARTH OBSERVING SYSTEM SIMULATOR SUITE

New... Files... LUTs... Log out

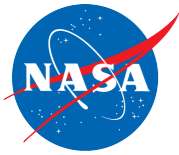
Job History for demo
 Show 10 entries Search:

ID	Name	Modified	Stage	Started
No matching records found				

Showing 0 to 0 of 0 entries

New Job ✕

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CloudSAT/ACE/GPM CloudSAT/GPM DMSP-F16 TRMM DMSP-F17 [AMSR2] CubeSAT [GeoStorm-52] [GeoStorm-118] 	<p>Tropical Rainfall Measuring Mission (TRMM)</p> <p>Two radar channels + six radiometer channels</p> <p><i>*Recommended for a starter.*</i></p>
--	--



Job Manager

Jet Propulsion Laboratory
 California Institute of Technology

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Home | Overview | Fast Facts | Missions | News | Images | Video & Audio | Interactives & Downloads

NEOS³ NASA EARTH ORBITAL SCIENCE CENTER

search

Job History for niamsuwa

Show 10 entries Search:

ID	Name	Modified	Stage	Started	
G-102	[Untitled]	28 Sep 2012, 12:45 PM	Completed	28 Sep 2012, 01:13 PM	
G-103	GPM Radiometer Channel 1 (Ku)	02 Oct 2012, 11:37 PM	Draft	N/A	

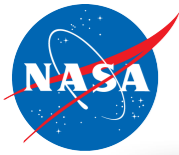
Showing 1 to 2 of 2 entries

Each user has his/her own job list.

(3) Check status

(1) Edit job description

(2) Submit when ready



Quicklook

NEOS³ NASA EARTH OBSERVING SYSTEM SIMULATOR SUITE

Plot
Download

Brightness Temperature (K)
 285
270
255
240
225
210
195
180

Data

Image:	<input type="text" value="Footprints"/>
Line:	<input type="text" value="Select..."/>
Lon. Tile:	<input type="text" value="1"/> <input type="button" value="↑"/> <input type="button" value="↓"/>
Lat. Tile:	<input type="text" value="1"/> <input type="button" value="↑"/> <input type="button" value="↓"/>

Display

CMax:	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Auto <input type="radio"/> <input style="width: 50px;" type="text"/>
CMin:	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Auto <input type="radio"/> <input style="width: 50px;" type="text"/>
Conversion:	<input type="text" value="None"/>
Decimal places:	<input style="width: 30px;" type="text"/>
Unit scale:	<input type="text" value="+"/> <input style="width: 30px;" type="text"/>
Colormap:	<input type="text" value="Jet"/>
Title:	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>

Bluemarble

Download

File Format:	<input type="text" value="SVG"/>
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Input

- 3D Geophysics Description of the Atmosphere

Regional CRM (Cloud Resolving Model)

- NASA-Unified WRF (Weather Research & Forecasting)
- NCAR's Advanced Research WRF
- WRF-Chem (WRF with chemistry coupling)
- HWRF (Hurricane WRF)
- RAMS (Regional Atmospheric Modeling System)

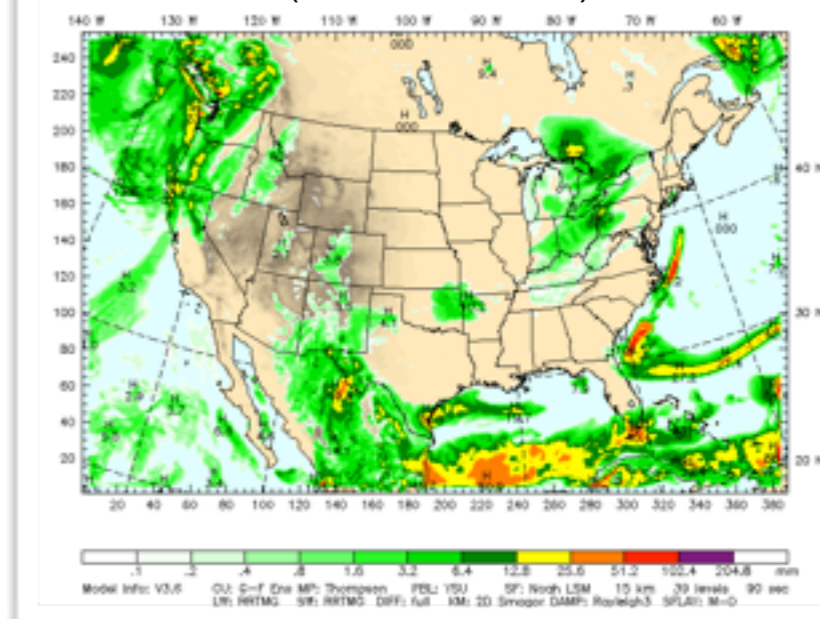
GCM (Global Circulation Model)

- GFS (Global Forecast System)
- ECMWF (European Center for Medium range Weather Forecasting)

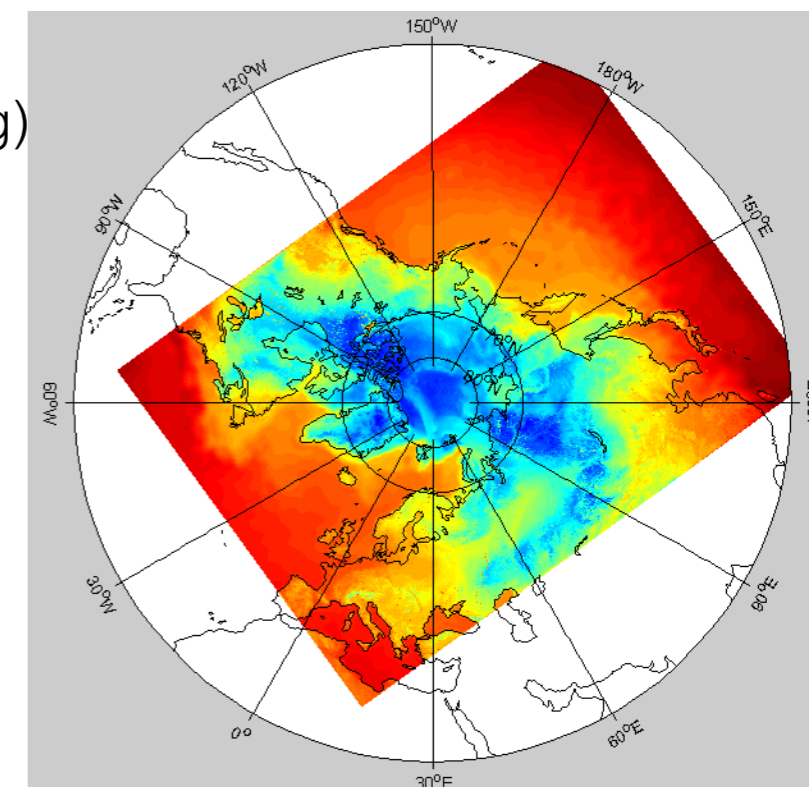
New entries (integration is in progress)

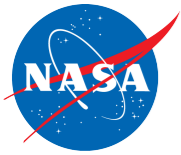
- NICAM Global cloud resolving model
- JPL LES
- Additional 2D Geophysics Description of the Surface
 - LIS (Land Information System)

Total Precipitation, 18-hr WRF forecast
(Oct 20, 2014)



[The Weather Research & Forecasting Model, <http://wrf-model.org>]





Output

Simulated observation for active and passive instruments

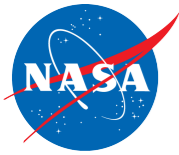
- Microwave radiometers and doppler radars (mature)
- Lidars, including hyper-spectral resolution (validation in progress)
- Polarimeters (development in progress)

Multiple degrees of realism

- **Ideal** quantities from radiative transfer
- Observations affected by **real**istic limitations of actual instruments (e.g. sampling time, thermal noise)

Format

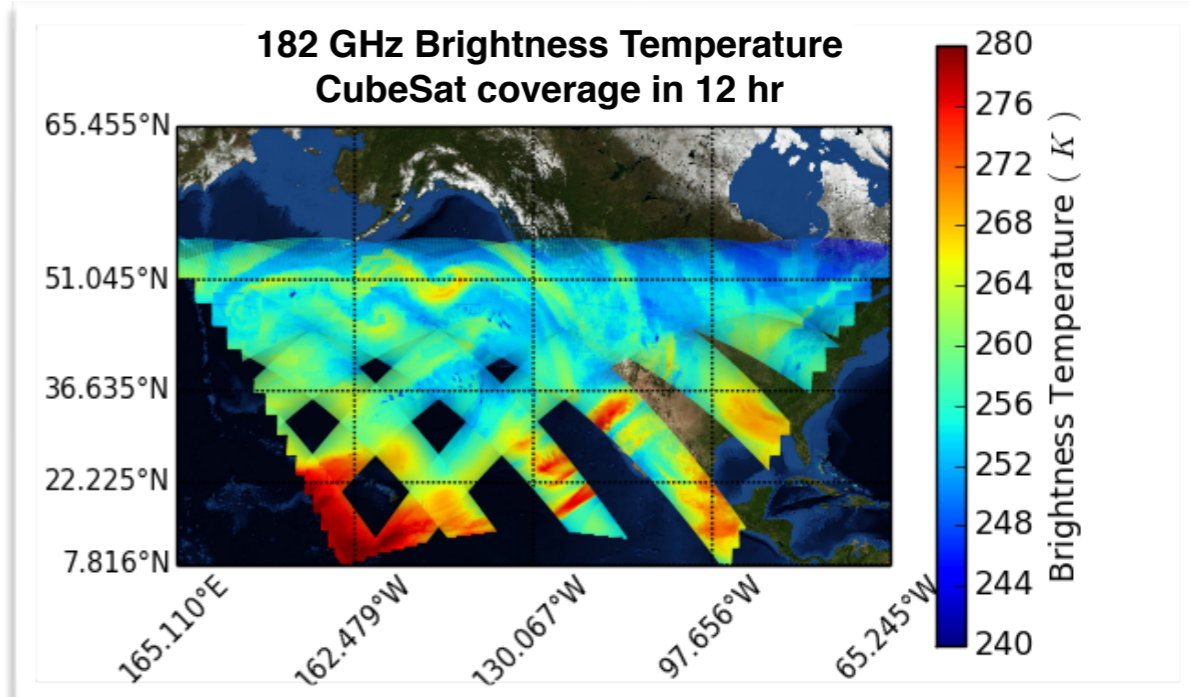
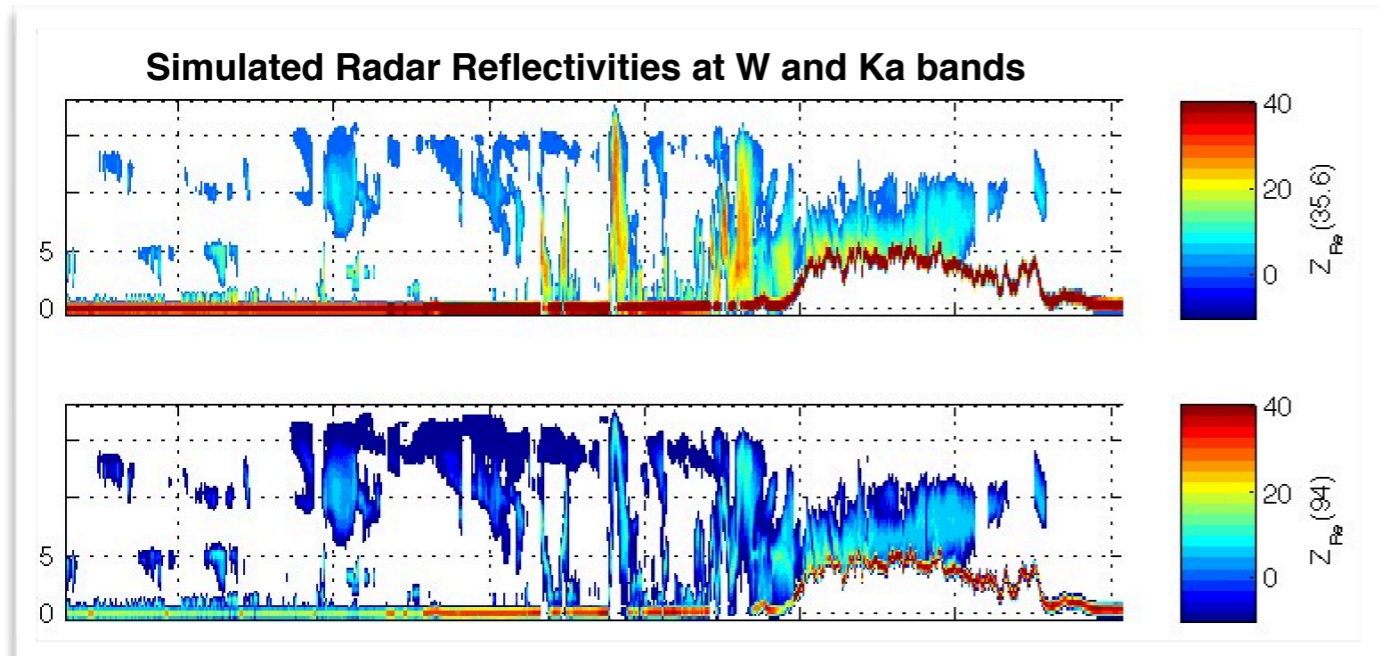
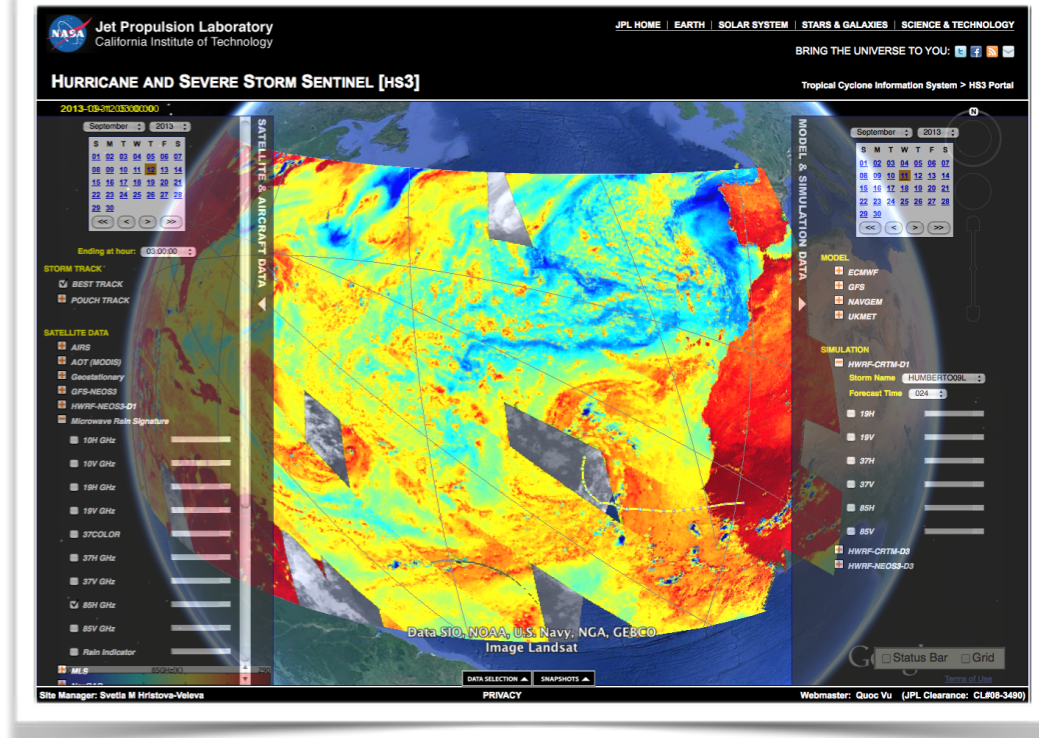
- Standard NEOS³ binary: Python and MATLAB readers for internal use
- NetCDF4 (HDF5) for external use
 - Self explanatory: name, value, unit, dimension
 - MATLAB (built-in), Python (h5py), Fortran/C/Java (officially supported)
 - NEOS3-Complete, NEOS3-Compact, and some custom contents



Sample Applications

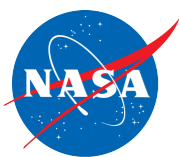
- **Model evaluation**
Tropical Cyclone Information System
- **Trade Studies**
CubeSat and ACE
- **Analysis via IDE**
(Integrated Development Environment)
Collaborative Workbench

[<http://hs3.jpl.nasa.gov>]



[Courtesy: L. Wu, S. Padmanabhan, and H. Su; JPL]

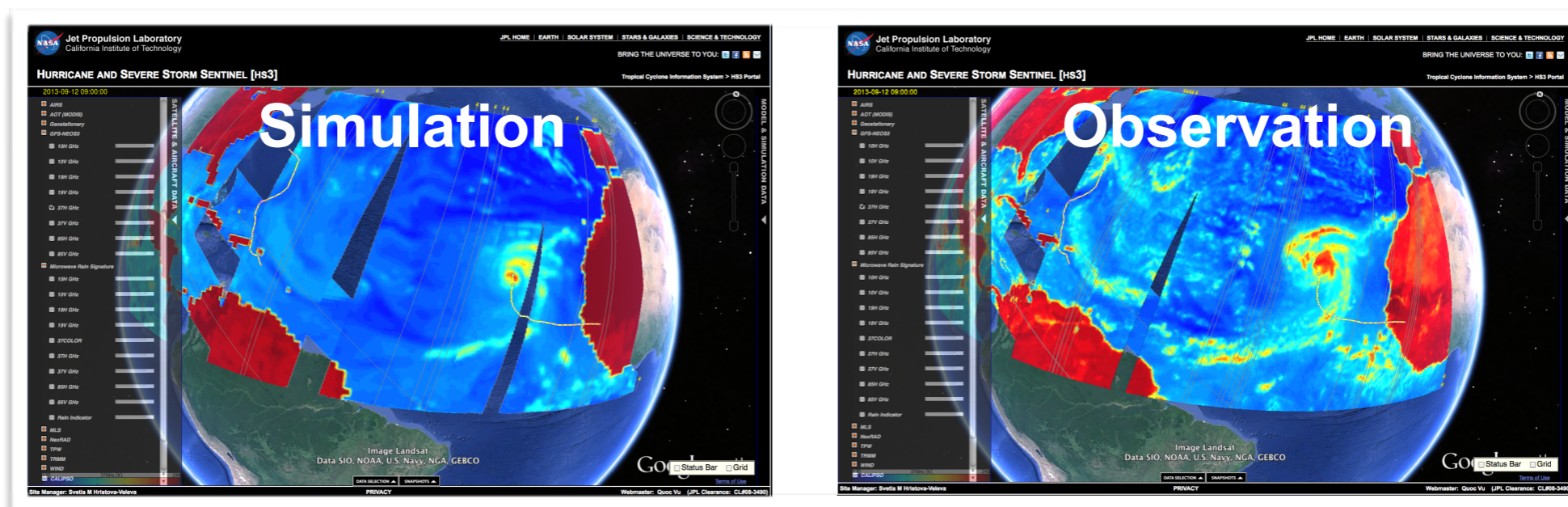




1. Tropical Cyclone Information System (TCIS)

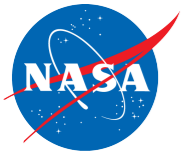
1st Beta User!

- Extensively used by TCIS for simulating brightness temperature observed by multiple instruments: TMI, AMSR2, SSMI, and SSMI/S



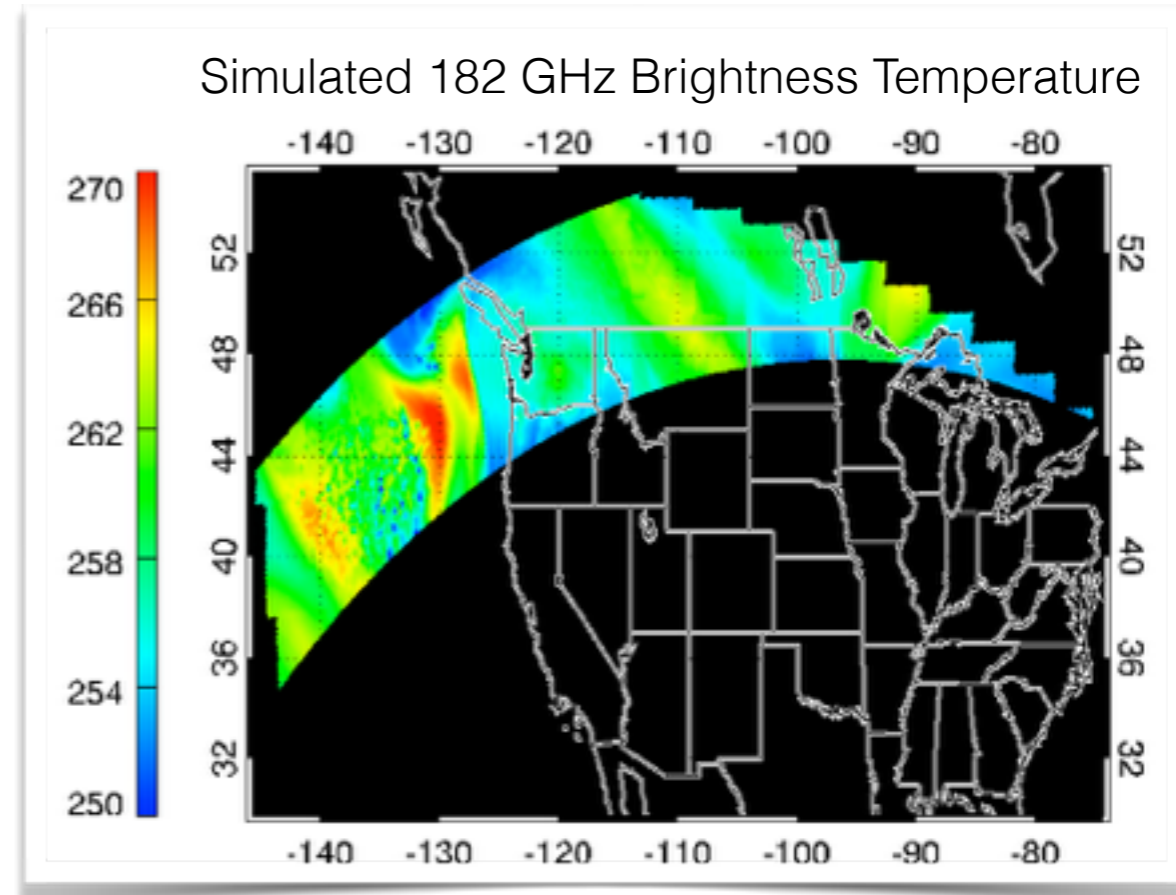
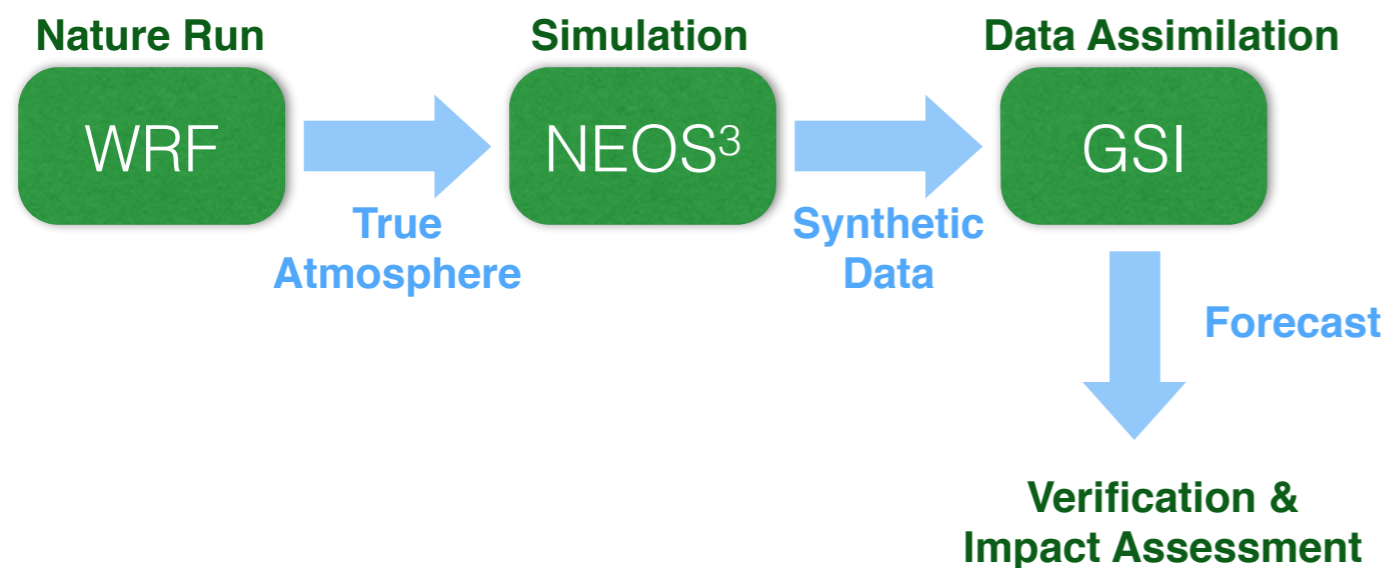
[S. Hristova-Veleva, P. Li, B. Knosp, Q. Vu; JPL]

- Adjust simplifying model assumptions and evaluate its impact (NEOS³ ensures the assumptions are consistent throughout the simulation)
- “Heavy” use of web service capability (manage simulation without web interface)
- Submit a request for simulations (~100s jobs of a few hours each), polling for the status, transfer the output when ready
- Constant demand for NEOS³ to be optimized for speed

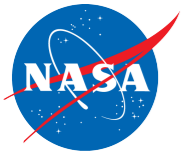


2. OSSE for CubeSat

- Evaluate potential impact of CubeSat sounders on extreme weather forecasts
- NEOS³ serves as a forward simulator producing an “ideal” synthetic observations with and without CubeSat
- Forward simulator in the GSI (Gridpoint Statistical Interpolation) data assimilation system is much cruder, generally uses different and more approximated sets of assumptions)

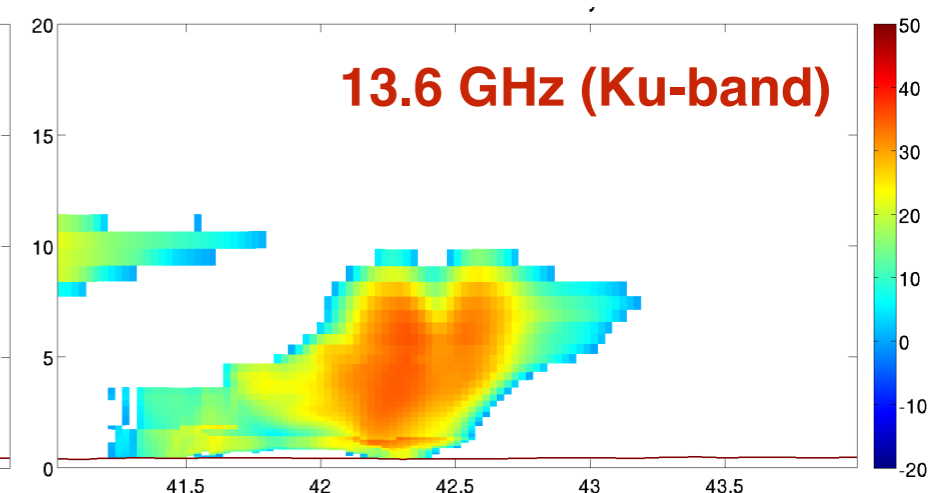
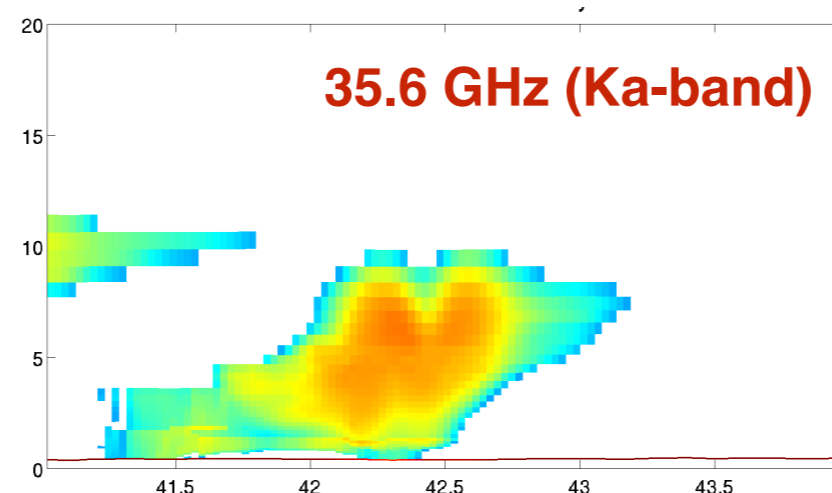
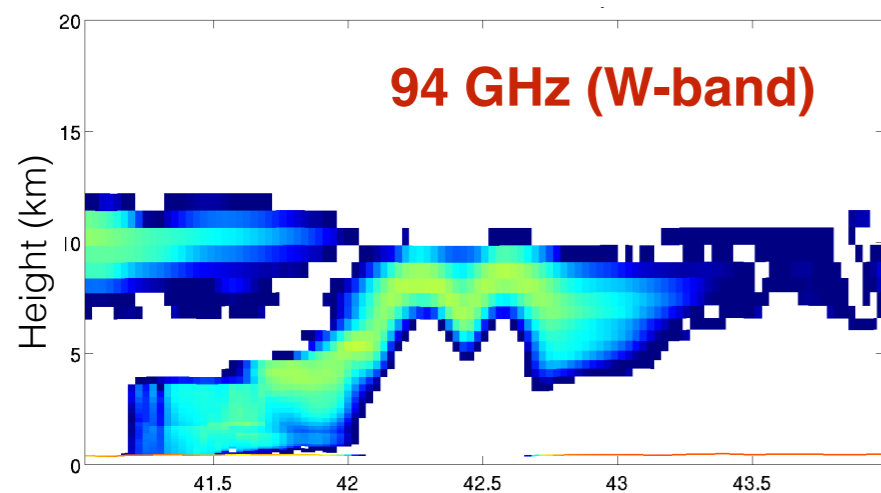
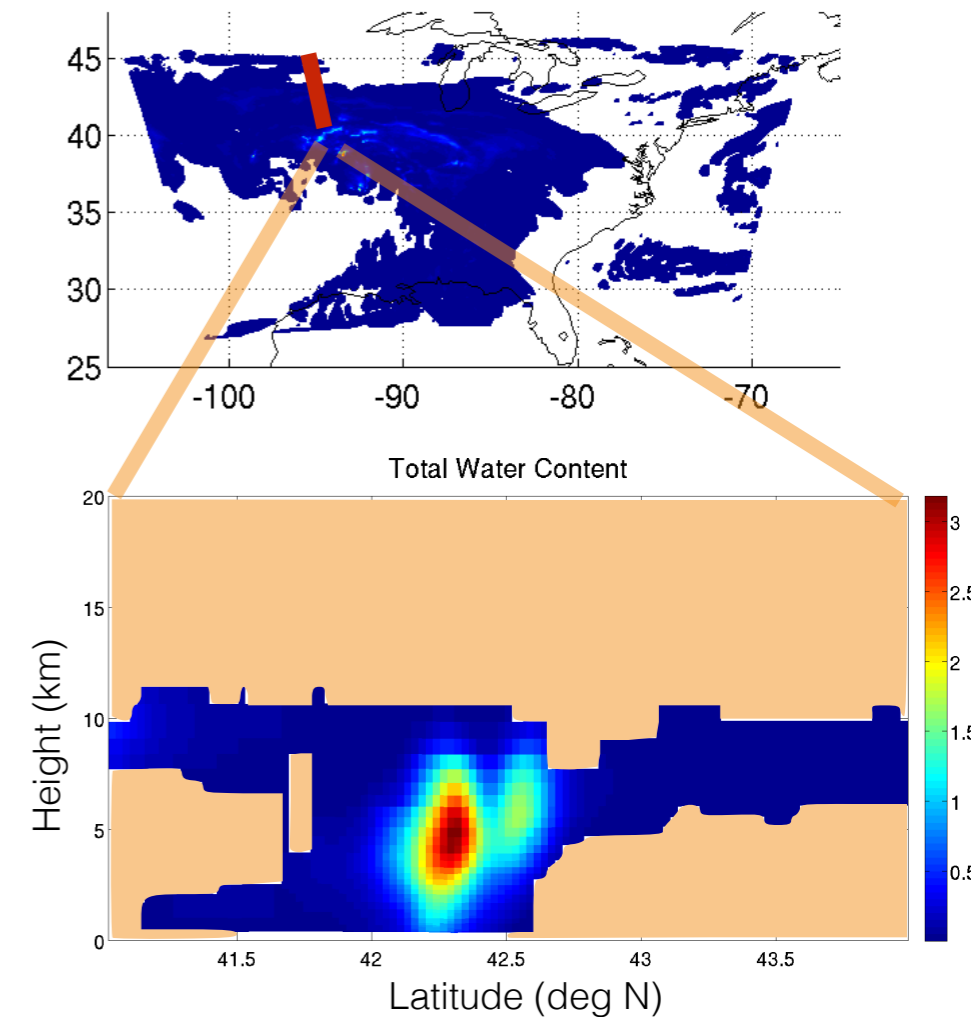


[Courtesy: H. Su, S. Padmanabhan, and L. Wu; JPL]

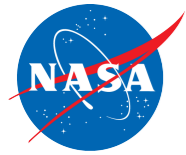


3. Definition of Requirements for Future Satellite Missions

- Currently used by ACE and CaPPM* definition working groups to define mission requirements
- One example of ongoing trade studies is shown below (courtesy T. L'Ecuyer and E. Nelson, U. of Wisc)
 - What Doppler radar characteristics are sufficient to observe the atmospheric phenomena of interest to the minimum accuracy required to address science questions?
 - How much information is gained by improving these characteristics beyond the sufficient level?
- NEOS³ provides the necessary and consistent framework to translate model simulations to satellite observations with prescribed instrument configurations
- Synthetic algorithmic retrievals and information content analyses can then be performed to answer our questions.

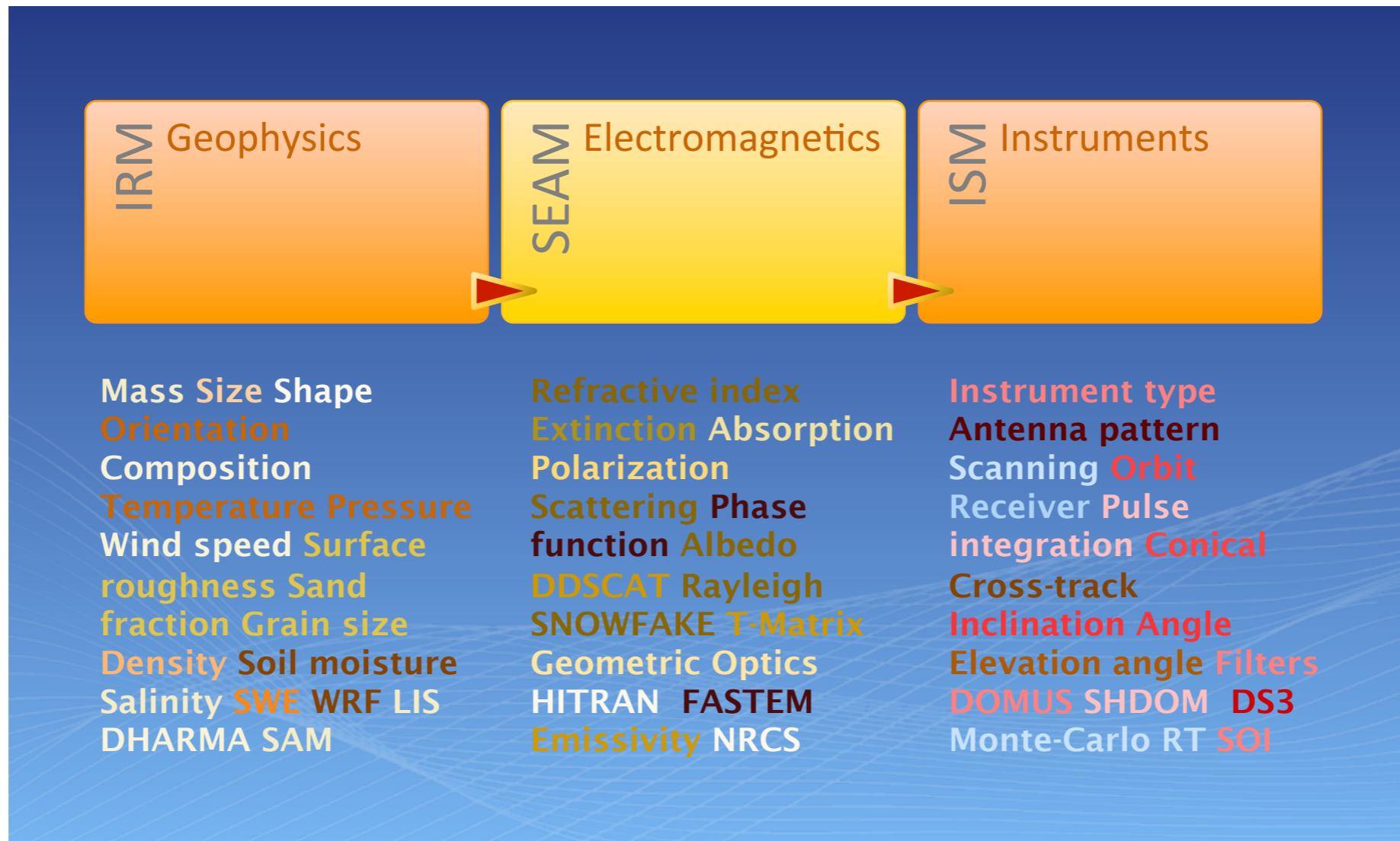


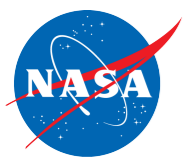
*Cloud and Precipitation Processes Mission



3-Stage Processing

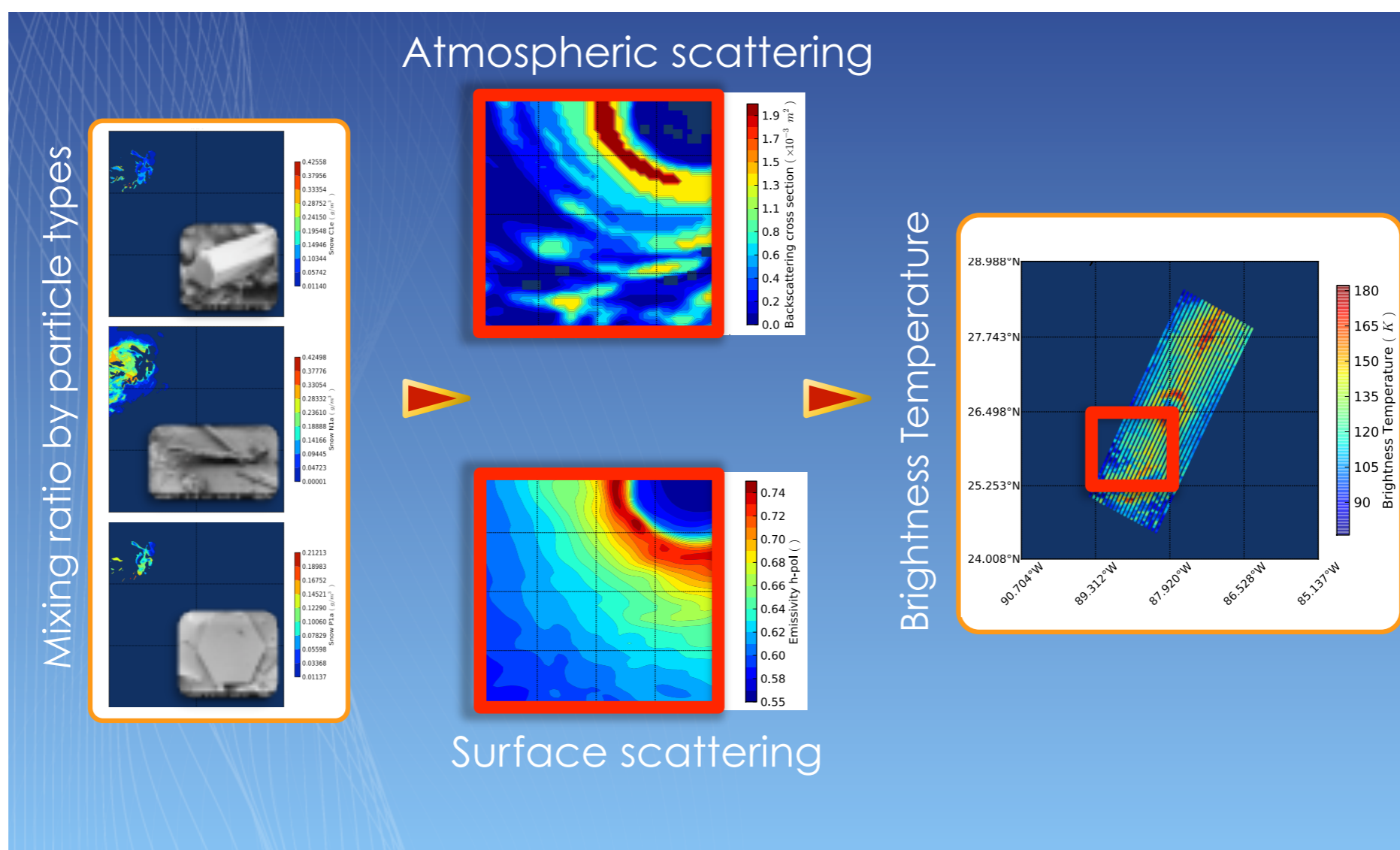
- Simulation is completed in 3 stages
- Parameters are also grouped into 3 categories
- Possible to repeat only later stage(s) of simulation where the parameters have been updated

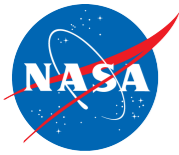




Sample Output of Each Stage

1. **IRM** reads the quantities of each type of particle from the file and splits them into subtypes (shown are 3 different snow crystal shapes)
2. **SEAM** applies scattering models to each grid points in the atmosphere and surface
3. **ISM** then solves the radiative transfer problem and produces the final product





Editing Parameters

- Parameters are organized in a tree structure

NEOS³ NASA EARTH OBSERVING SYSTEM SIMULATOR SUITE

Copy Paste Clone Delete QuickLook
Geophysics Editor... Chemistry Editor... Save Save a Copy Back

Job Name: [TRMM] TMI Job ID: TMI - 10.6

Atmospheric assumptions > Cloud microphysics > Snow > Customized > Single Habit > Particle description > Mass > Power law

Geophysics | Electromagnetics | Instruments and orbit | Simulation

- [-] Snow
 - [-] Customized
 - [+] Multi Habit
 - [-] Single Habit
 - [-] Particle description
 - [-] Subkind ID
 - [+] Area ratio
 - [+] Canting angle
 - [+] Cross-sectional area
 - [-] Mass
 - [-] Oblate raindrop
 - [+] **Power law**
 - [-] α_0
 - [-] β_1

Name	Value	Unit
α_0	6.4E-2.4	
β_1	2.6	
D_{min}	0.2	mm
D_{max}	0.6	

Tag: Update

Help

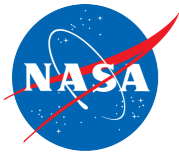
$$m(D) = \alpha_0 D^{\beta_1}, \quad D_{min} \leq D \leq D_{max}$$

Use a power law to describe mass-diameter relationship. D_{min} and D_{max} are optional. If specified, the value of $m(D)$ outside the range will

Mass of Snow particles is described by a Power Law with these parameters

NEOS³ — Noppasin Niamsuwan — ESTF 2014

22



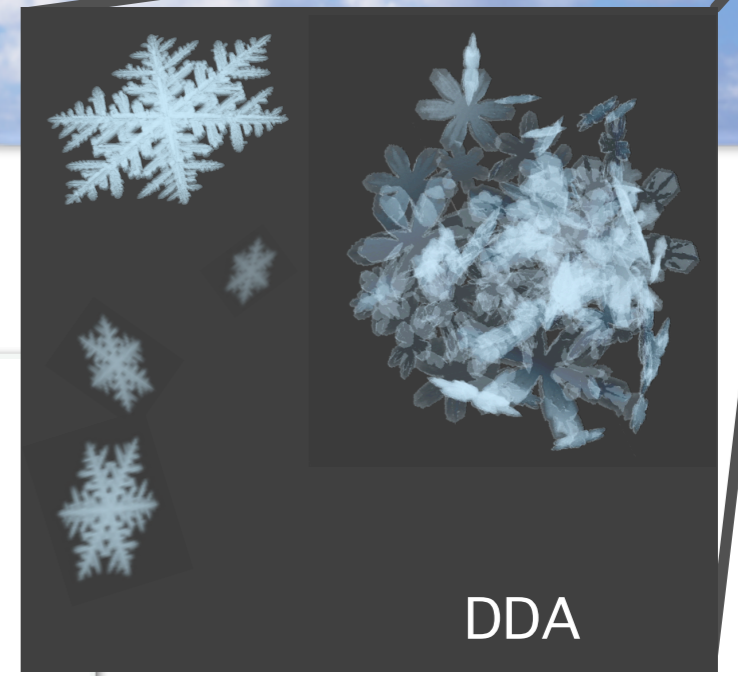
Atmosphere

Particles

- Selectable models (Speed vs. Accuracy)
- Pre-made lookup tables for scattering properties (Speed w/o sacrificing accuracy)

Gases

- **MPM** for Microwave
- **HITRAN** for UV/IR:
w/ clustering algorithm to reduce redundant calls



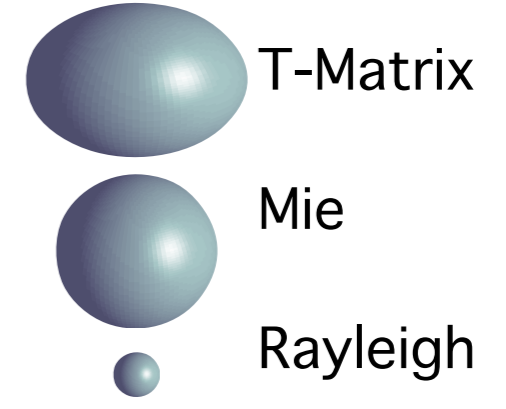
ISSARS HITRAN Query Filters:

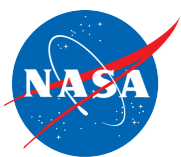
molecule = 2
 isotope = 1
 4870.0 <= trans_wavenum <= 4880.0
 line_intensity >= 1e-26

Matching HITRAN 2008 absorption lines:

Show 10 entries

Molecule Number	Isotope Number	Transition Wavenumber (cm-1)	Line Intensity	Einstein A-Coefficient	Air-Broadened Width	Self-Broadened Width	Lo St: En
2	1	4870.23	4.623e-26	1.462e-05	0.0727	0.096	19
2	1	4870.44	2.416e-22	0.06993	0.072	0.098	19
2	1	4870.63	1.772e-26	0.1364	0.0696	0.071	24
2	1	4871.35	1.241e-26	0.1381	0.0692	0.069	25
2	1	4871.79	2.214e-22	0.07062	0.071	0.095	23

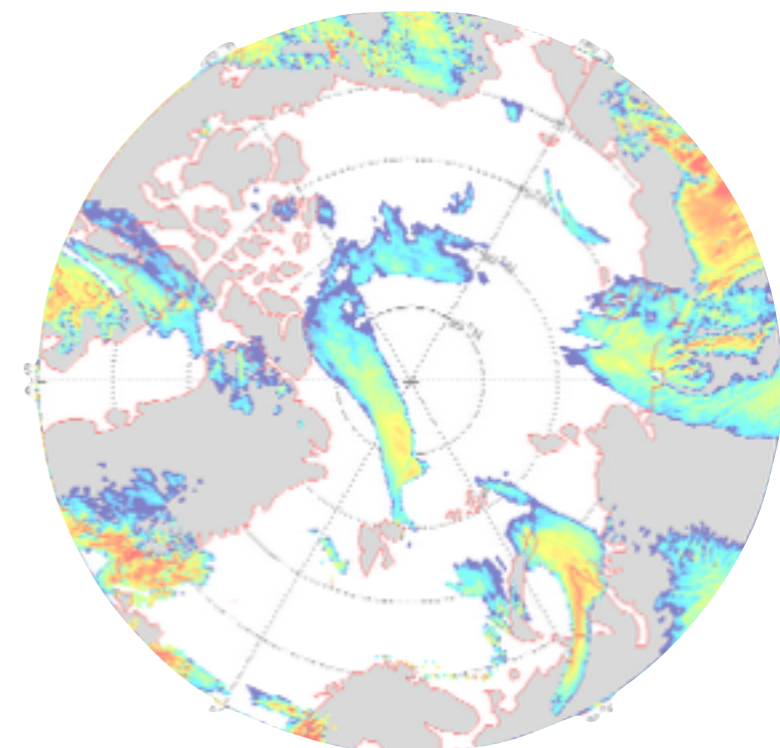




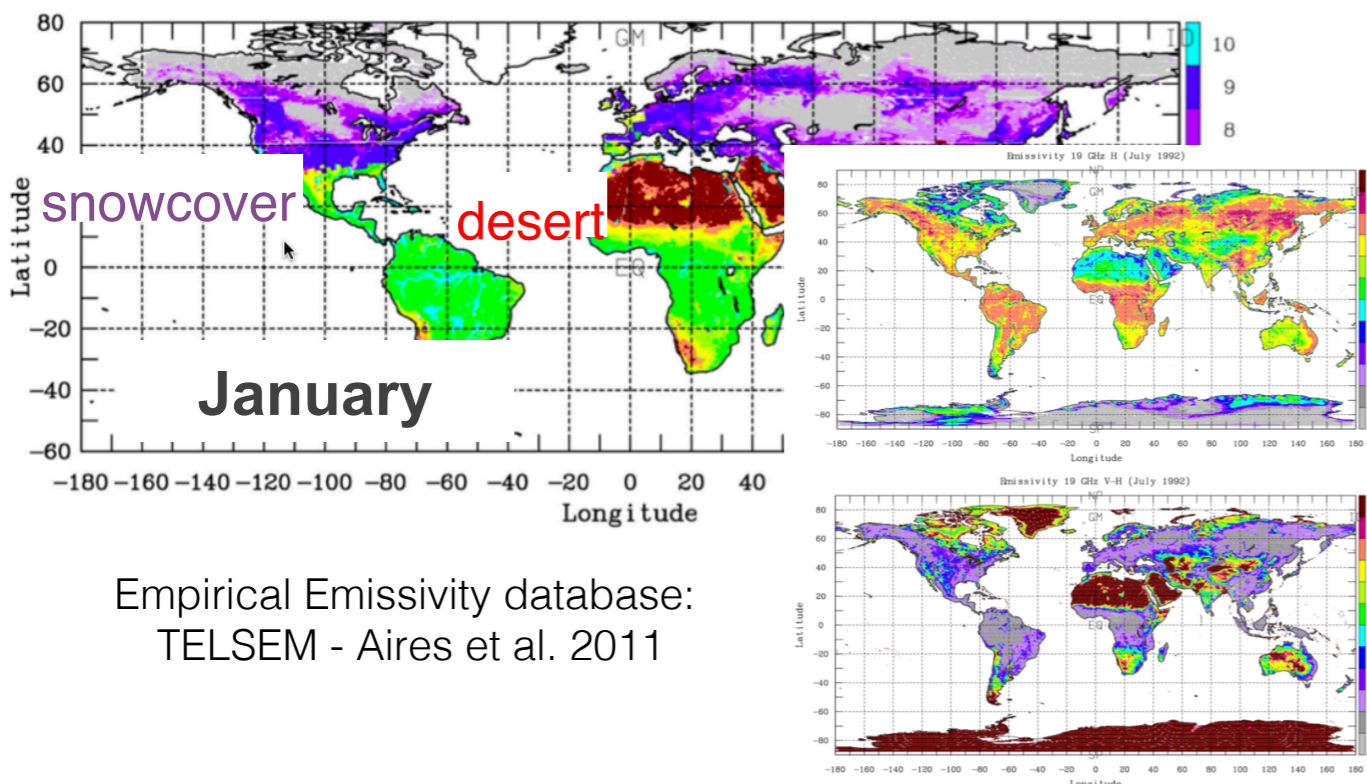
Surface

Surface Properties are imported from

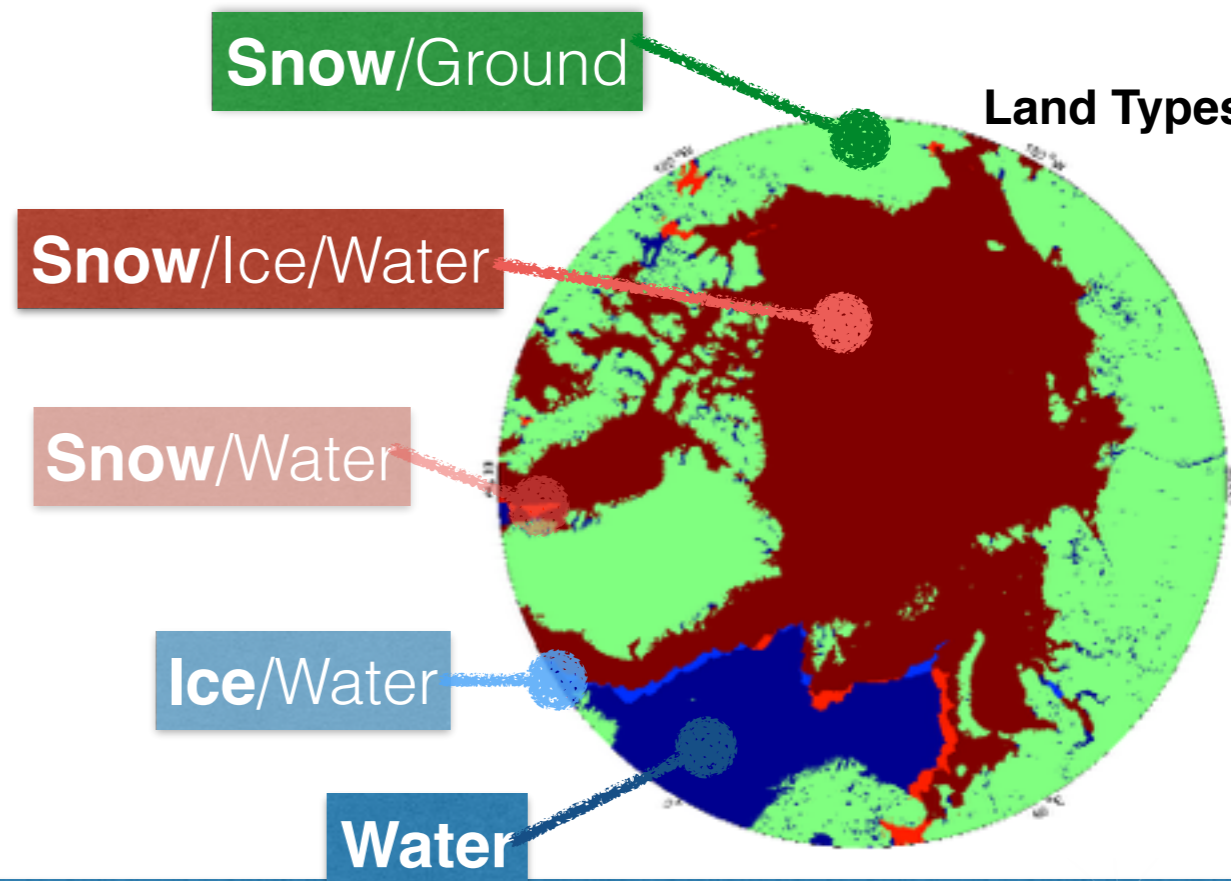
- The atmospheric models themselves
- The Land Information System
- Empirical Databases



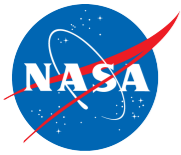
Snow water content at 750 mbar altitude



Empirical Emissivity database:
TELSEM - Aires et al. 2011



Land Types



Radiative Transfer

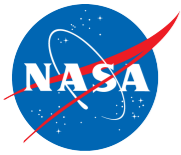
(Currently integrated models)

Time independent (for passive instruments)

- **SOI**: Successive Order of Interaction
(A. Heidinger, C. O'Dell, R. Bennartz, and T. Greenwald; U. of Wisconsin)
- **SHDOM**: Spherical Harmonic Discrete Ordinate Method
(R. Pincus and K. F. Evans; NOAA/ U. of Colorado)
- **SOS**: Successive Order of Scattering
(Pengwang Zhai; NASA Langley)
- **MC3D**: Monte Carlo 3D Radiative Transfer
(A. Battaglia, U. of Leicester)

Time dependent (for active instruments)

- **DS3**: Doppler Simulator 3D (S. Tanelli, et al.; JPL)
- **DOMUS2**: Monte Carlo Polarimetric Doppler Radar Simulator
(A. Battaglia, U. of Leicester, and S. Tanelli, JPL)
- **Quick1D**: 1D single-scattering non-doppler model (similar to Quickbeam and SDSU radar and lidar)



Observer Placement

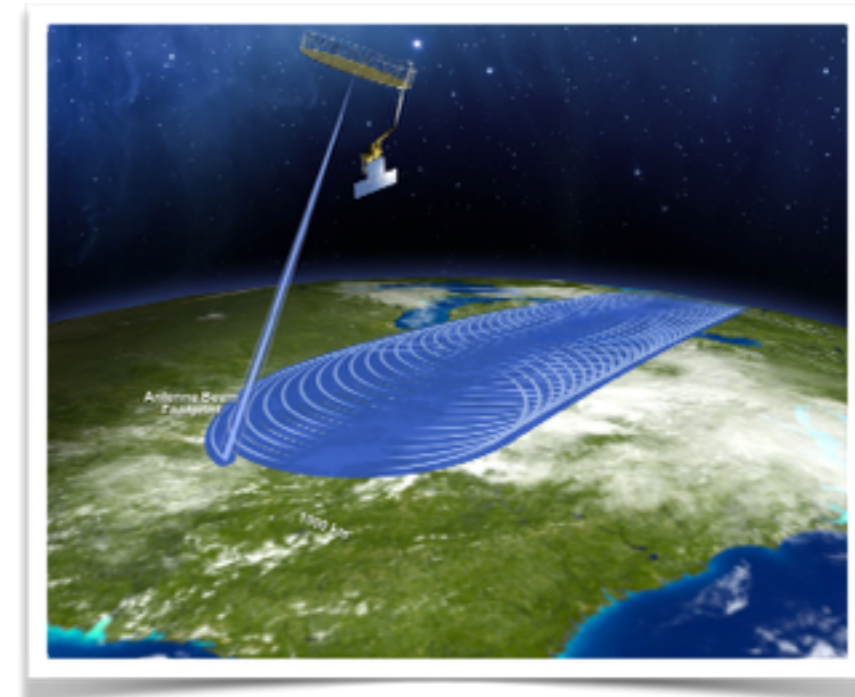
Orbit simulator

(Current method)

- Specify 5 Keplerian elements and position of the satellite at 0-sec simulation time
- Specify start and stop simulation time

(To be added)

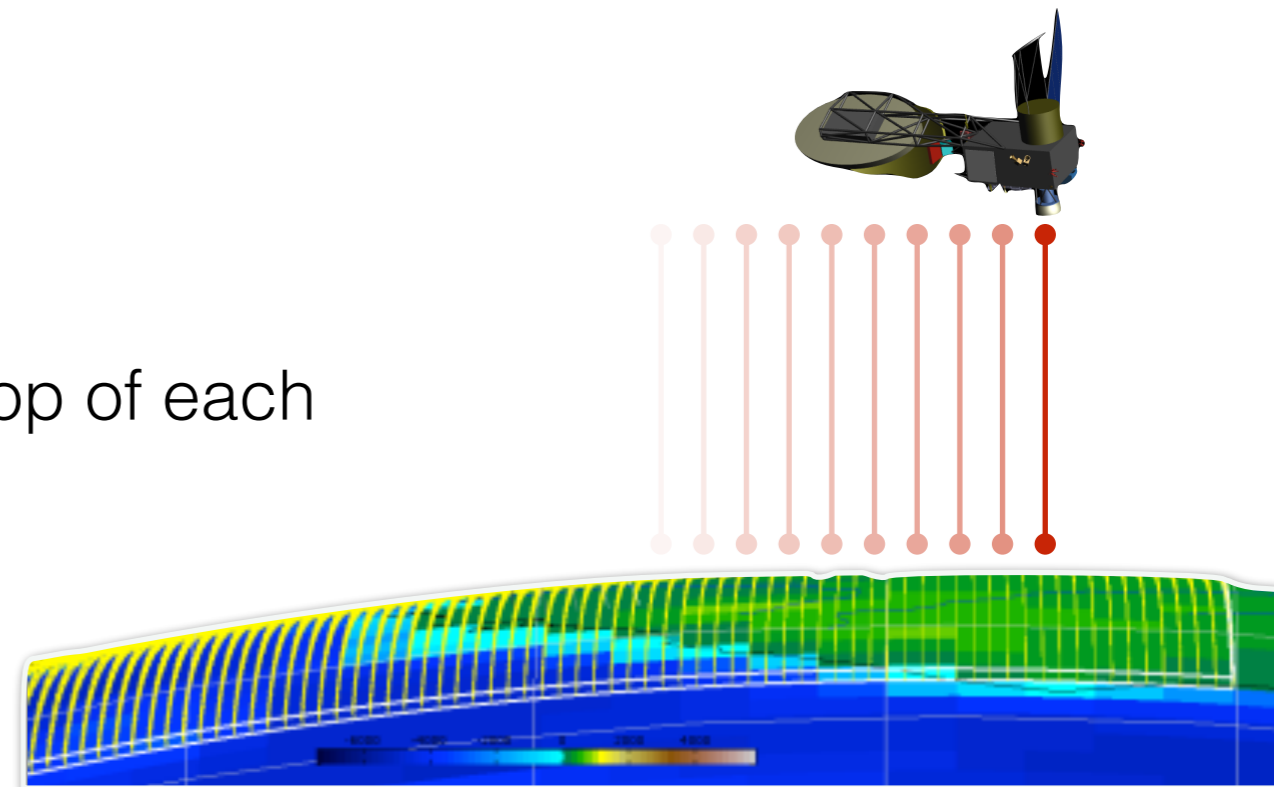
- Two-Line Element (TLE) and STK (Systems/Satellite ToolKit)

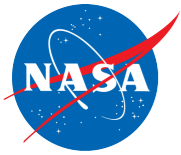


Domain sampling (current method)

(Current method)

- Place observing instrument at the top of each column of the atmosphere
- Simulate the observation at nadir, ignoring antenna's beam and pointing parameters
- Specifically added to satisfy custom requests





NEOS³ 2.0 (ETA 2015)

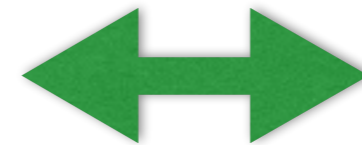
- Main areas of improvement

- Surface Scattering Models



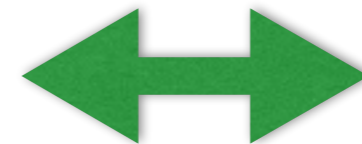
Physics

- Web service/ OSSE Interface

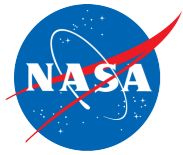


Analysis

- Cloud Computing

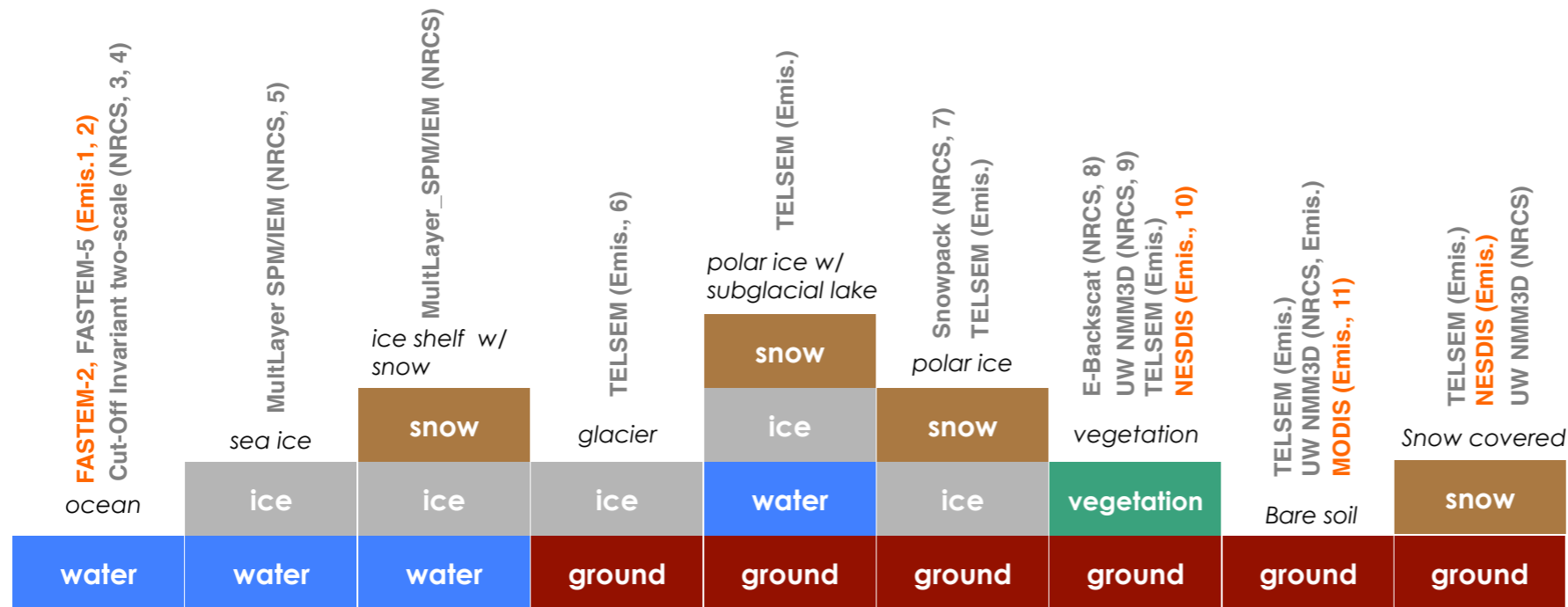


Performance



New Surface Scattering Models

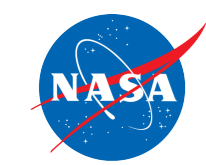
- **Version 1.0:** Earth's surface has no sub layer
- **Version 2.0:** Layered surface can be specified.
Scattering Models that can support layered surface have been integrated



Implemented for v1
Being implemented for v2

- (1) English, S., and T. Hewison, 1998: A fast generic millimeter-wave emissivity model, Proceedings of SPIE, 3503, 288-300.
- (2) Liu, Q., F. Weng, and S. English, 2011: An improved fast microwave water emissivity model. IEEE TGRS, 49, 1238-1250.
- (3) Majurec, N. ; Johnson, J.T. ; Tanelli, S. ; Durden, S.L., (2014) Comparison of Model Predictions With Measurements of Ku- and Ka-Band Near-Nadir Normalized Radar Cross Sections of the Sea Surface From the Genesis and Rapid Intensification Processes Experiment, IEEE TGRS, Volume: 52 , Issue: 9, Page(s): 5320 – 5332
- (4) Majurec, N., Johnson, J. T., Tanelli, S., & Durden, S. (2012). Near-nadir normalized radar cross section of the SEA surface at Ku, Ka, and W-Bands: comparison of measurements and models. (<http://trs-new.jpl.nasa.gov/dspace/handle/2014/42527>).
- (5) Sermsak Jaruwatanadilok; JPL
- (6) Aires, F., Prigent, C., Bernardo, F., Jiménez, C., Saunders, R. and Brunel, P. (2011), A Tool to Estimate Land-Surface Emissivities at Microwave frequencies (TELSEM) for use in numerical weather prediction. Q.J.R. Meteorol. Soc., 137: 690–699. doi: 10.1002/qj.803
- (7) Shadi Oveisgharan; JPL
- (8) Marc Simard; JPL
- (9) L. Tsang, W. Chang, T.-H. Liao; University of Washington
- (10) Weng, F, B. Yan, and N.C. Grody, 2001: A microwave land emissivity model. J. Geophys. Res., D17, 20115-20123.
- (11) MODIS derived emissivity model

Web Interface for Surface Properties



Some Selected Surface Models

U. of Washington Vegetation Model

- Modeled as cylinders for different types of vegetation
- Numerical Maxwell Equation Model (NMM3D)
- SMAP, AMSR-E, GPM, GCOM-W satellites

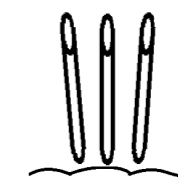
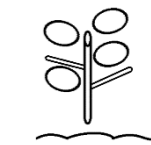
U. of Washington Snow Model

- GCOM-W, TRMM, SnowSAR (ESA aircraft), SCLP, GPM
- Validated with SnowScat measurement

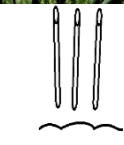
Grassland



Soy bean

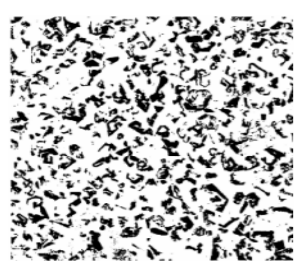


Corn



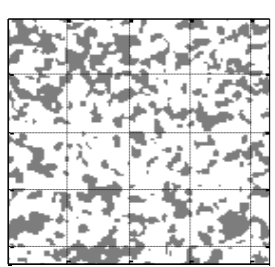
Wheat

Real Snow

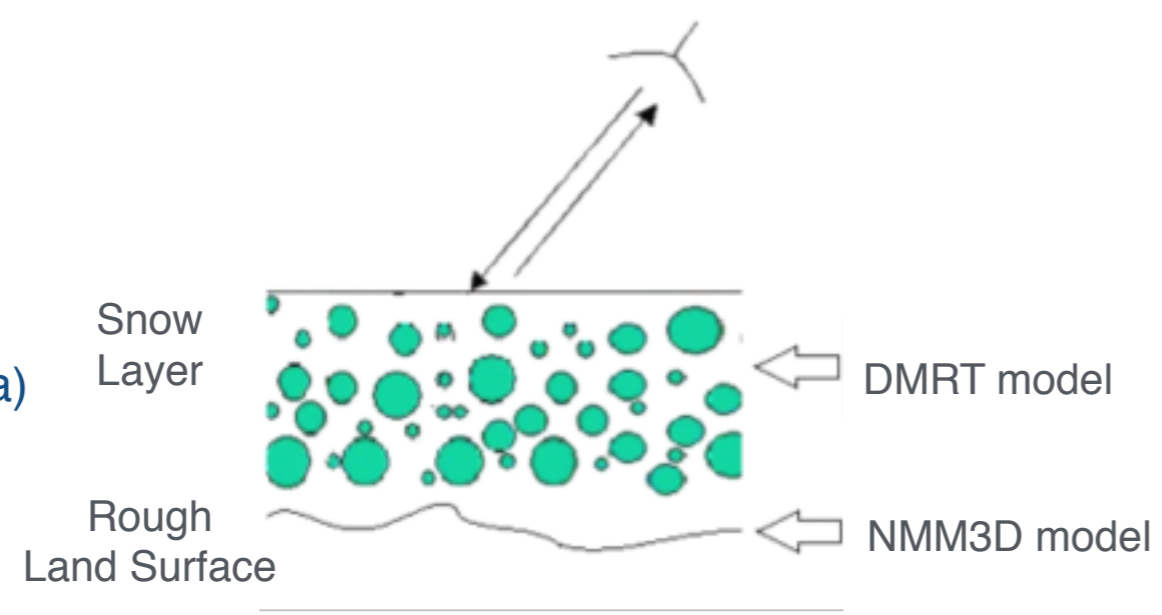


Model

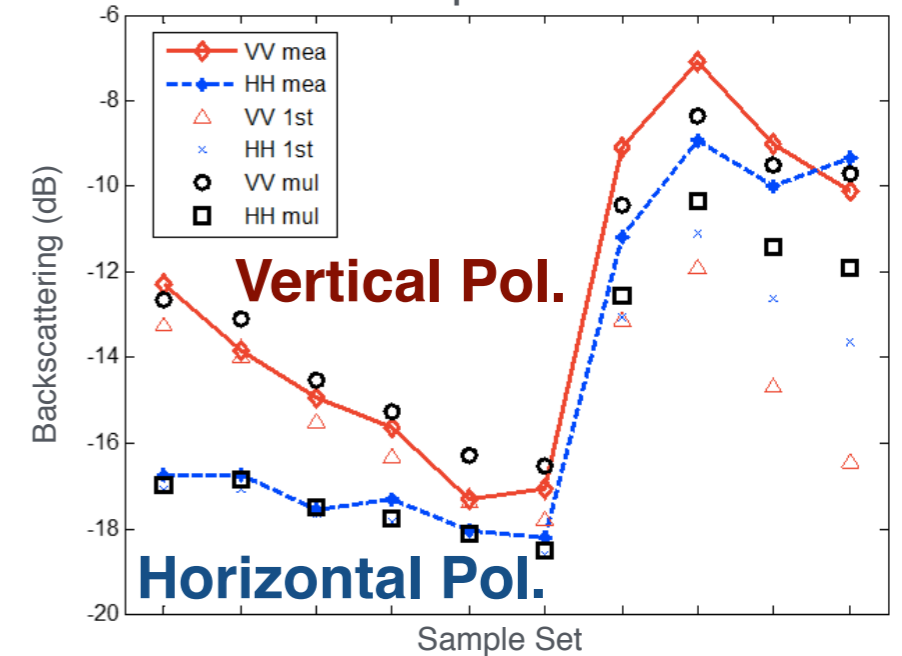
(Bi-continuous media)



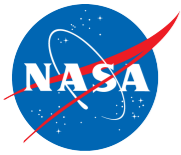
Radar



Forward model validation with Experimental data from SMAPVEX12



[Leung Tsang, Tien-Hao Liao; U. of Washington]

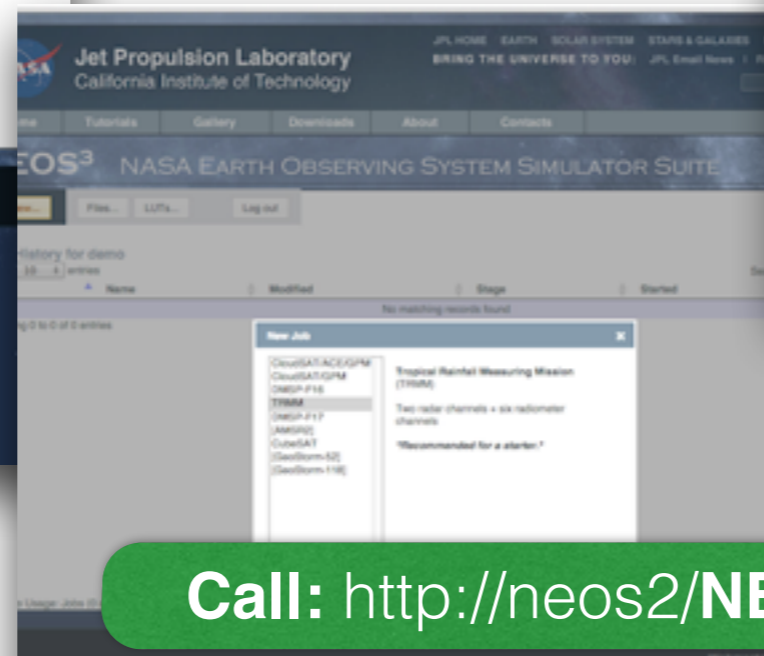


Web Service

- Simulation process can also be controlled via web service calls
- Especially useful for repeating simulation while varying certain sets of parameters:
 - Running simulation for comparison with actual observations
 - OSSE: perturb a parameter over a range of interest and observe the impact



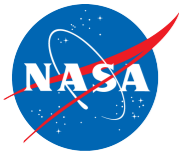
Call: <http://neos2/LOG-IN>



Call: <http://neos2/NEW-JOB>



Call: <http://neos2/START>



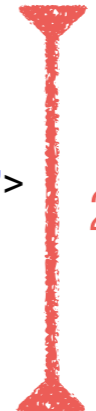
Updating Simulation Parameters via Web Service

- **Version 1.0:** Update a complete set of simulation configuration



```

...
<channel description="Channel" units="," selectable="multiple">
  <_tag>KuPR</_tag>
  <_selected/>
  <frequency description="Frequency" units="MHz,GHz,nm,um">
    <_decimal>13.8</_decimal>
    <_unit>GHz</_unit>
  </frequency>
  ...
</channel>
...
    
```



21,335 lines



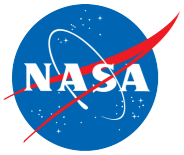
- **Version 2.0:**
 - Only send updated values
 - Recognize a list input and automatically generate multiple jobs
 - Reuse intermediate outputs from similar jobs



```

<task>
  <FREQUENCY> 13.8 : 0.1 : 14.0 </FREQUENCY>
  <BEAMWIDTH> 0.45 : 0.1 : 0.55 </BEAMWIDTH>
</task>
    
```





Processing Options

- **Local**

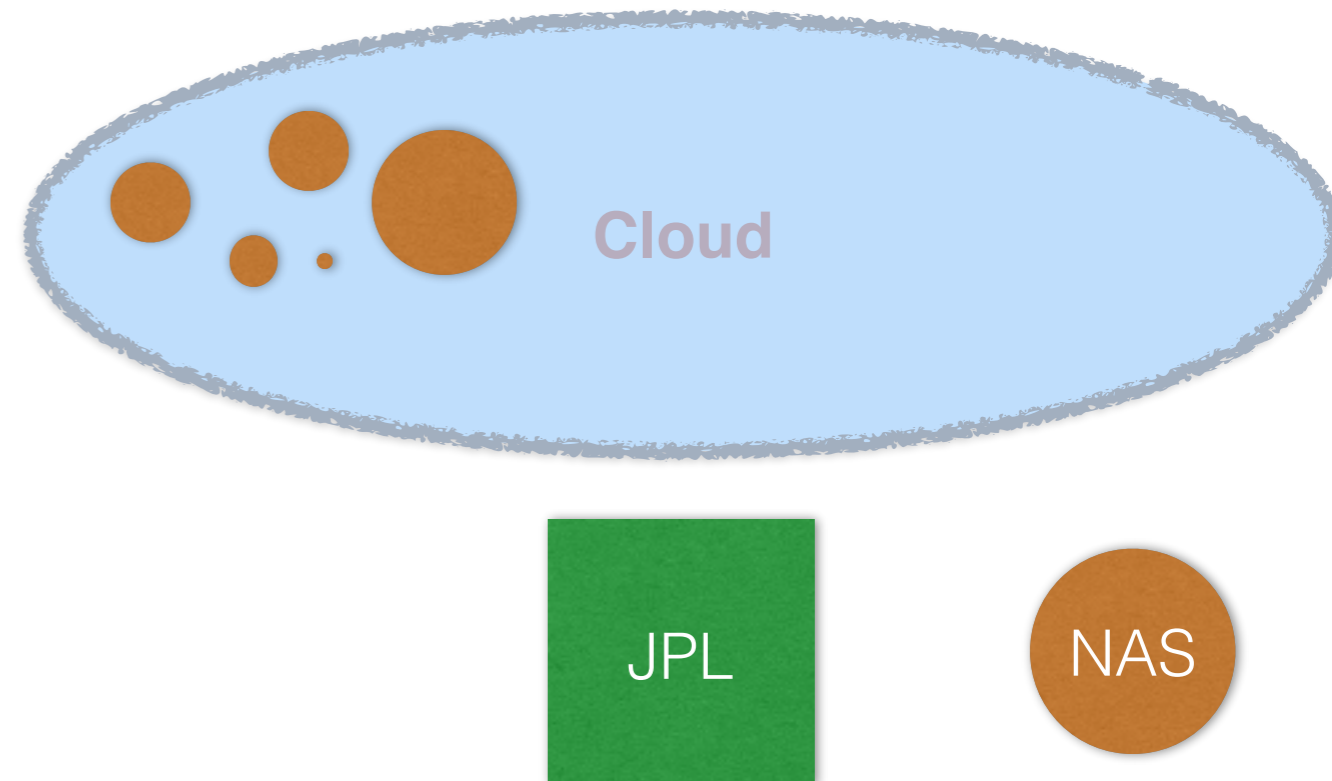
neos3.jpl.nasa.gov, 16 CPUs, 128GB memory

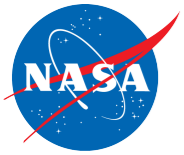
- **Remote**

NASA's Advanced Supercomputing (NAS) Division

- **Cloud**

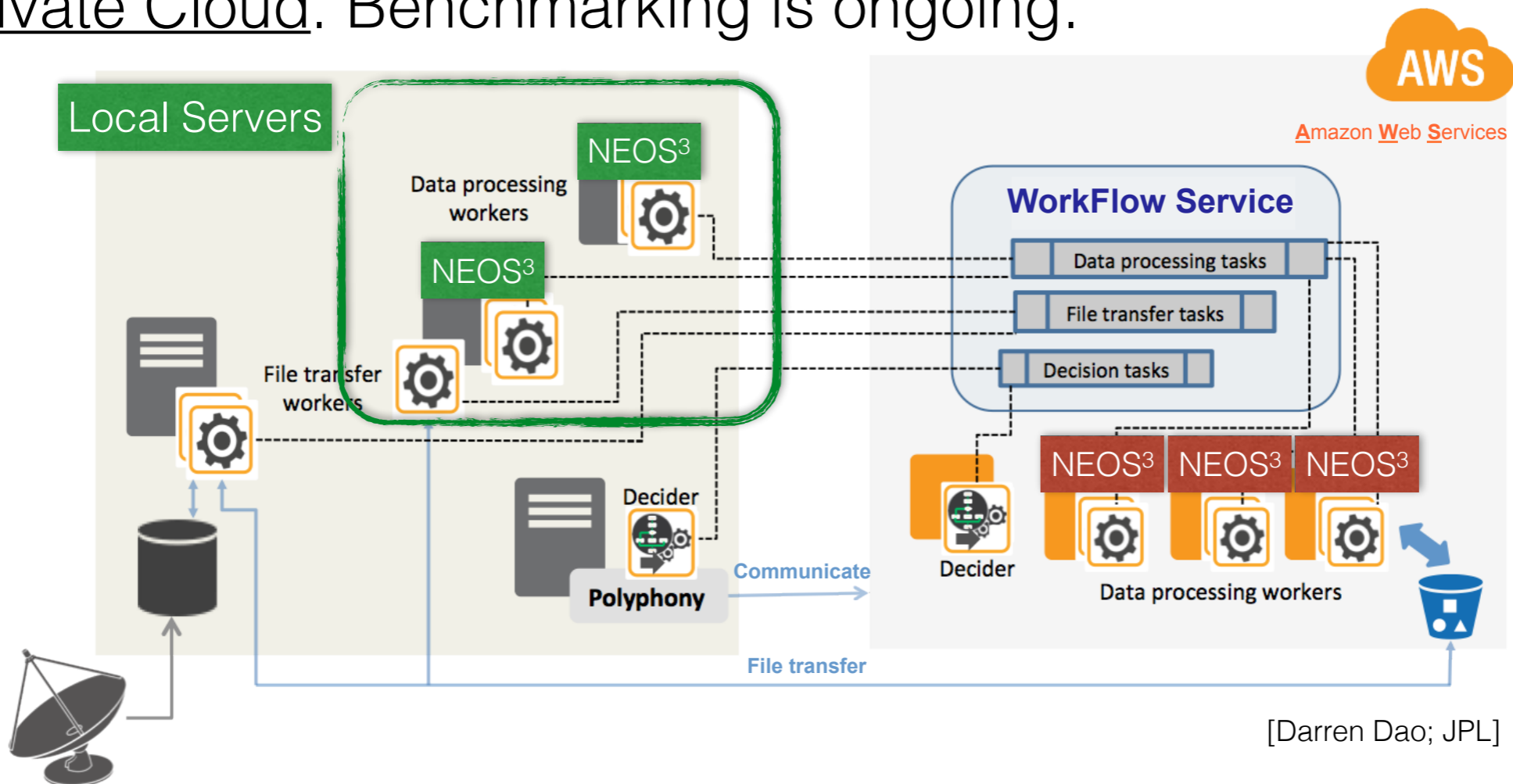
New in Version 2.0 !



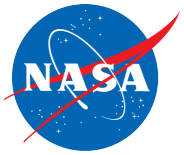


Cloud Computing

- Automatically adapt to workload changes
- Implemented JPL Polyphony, a resilient, scalable, and modular workflow orchestration framework for Cloud Computing
- Private Cloud. Benchmarking is ongoing.

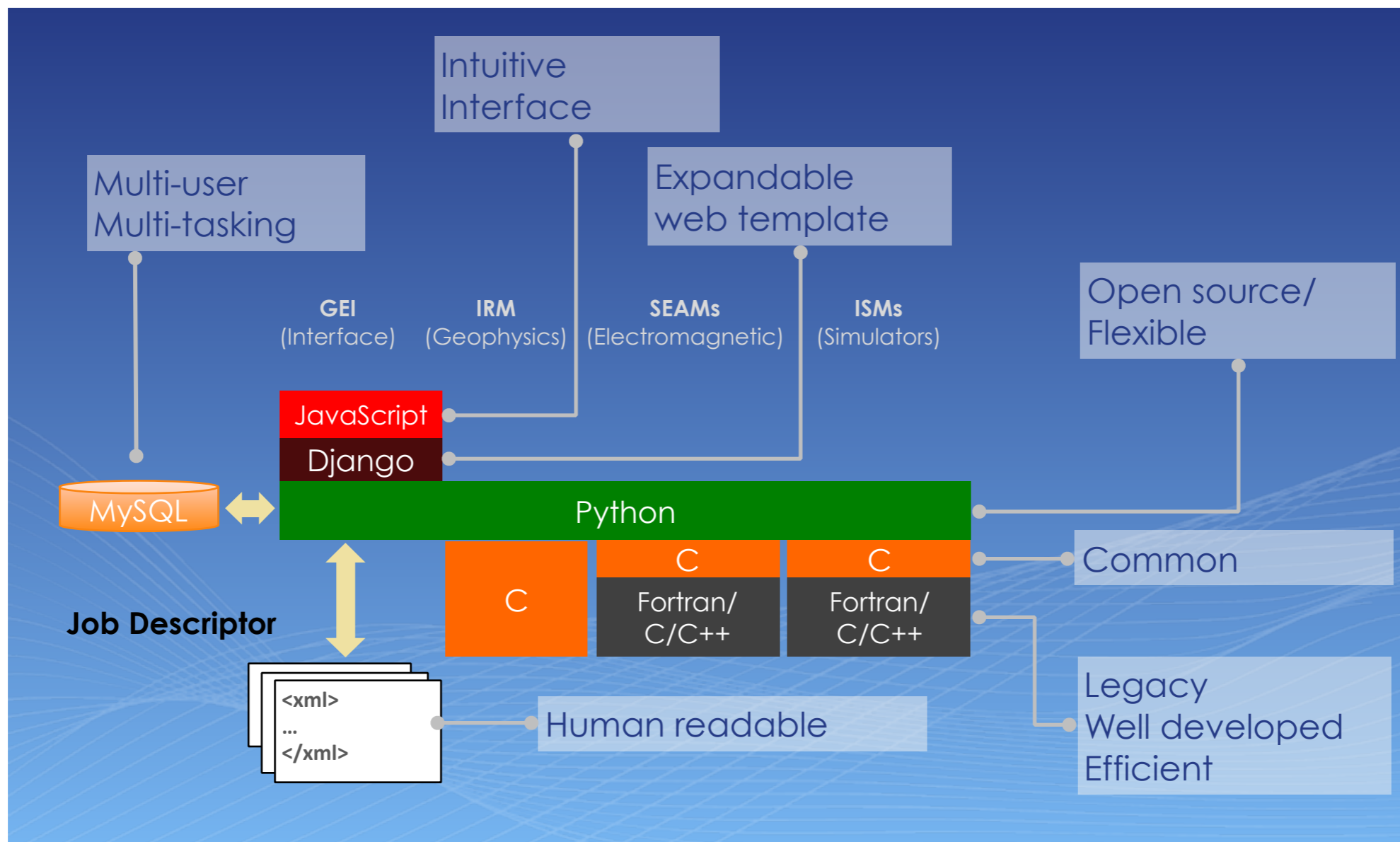


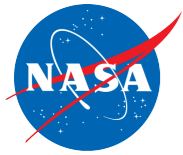
[Darren Dao; JPL]



Architecture

- **NEOS³ developer:** Adaptable to future technology changes. Thanks to modularity of the design and the software frameworks
- **Contributors:** minimal change is required. No code restructuring needed (w/ some exceptions)





Collaboration

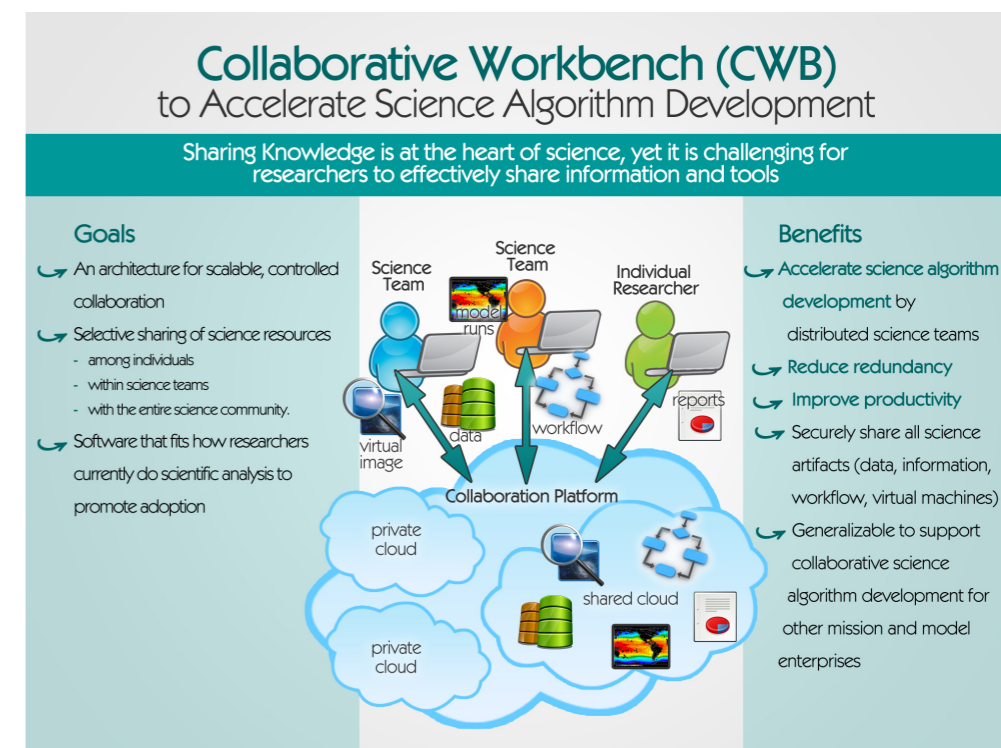
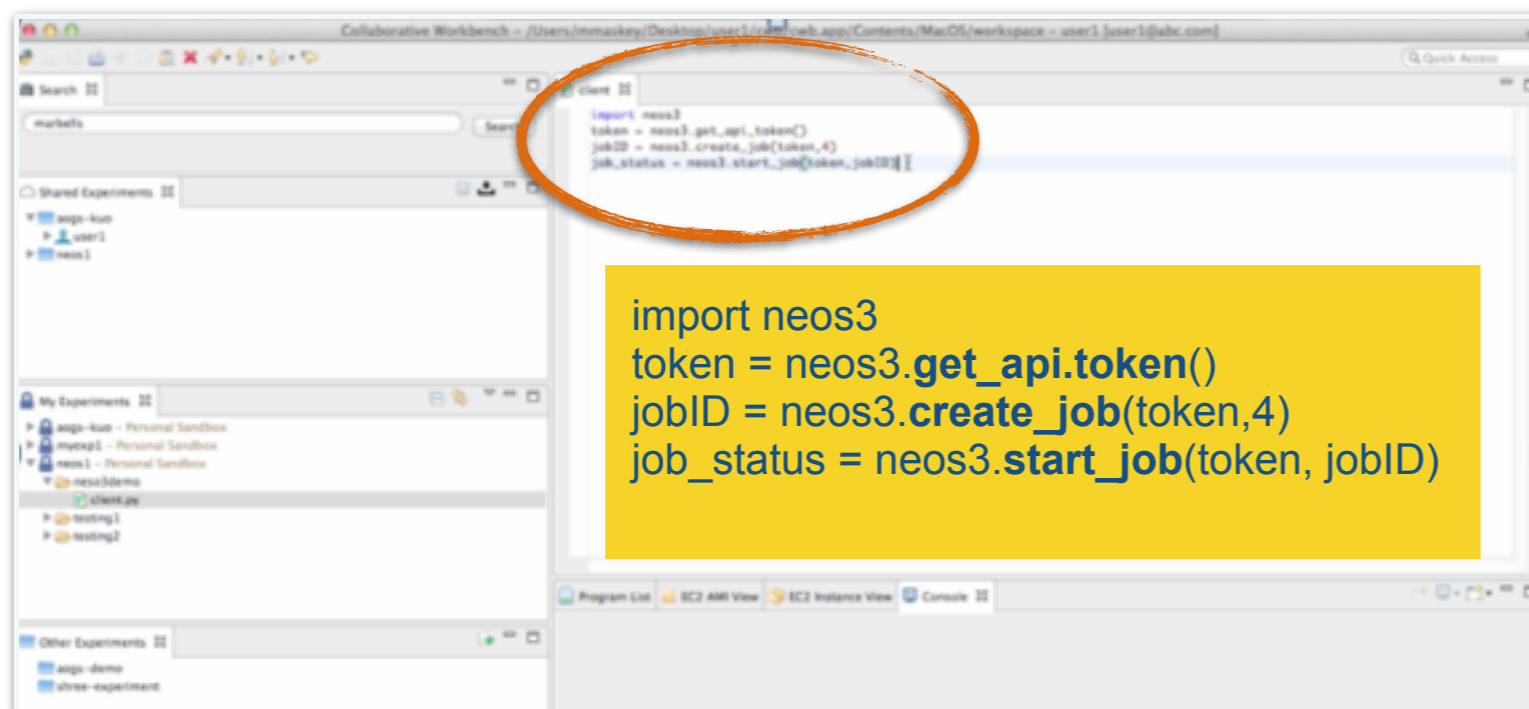
- **Request** for NEOS³ account or suggestion: Noppasin.Niamsuwan@jpl.nasa.gov
- **Contributing** a model
 - Source code is revision controlled (git) and hosted by our server
 - Minimal change is required: interface compliance, unit tests
 - Alternative: Contribute a lookup table for more complex algorithm
 - The approach has been successfully demonstrated for internal (JPL) and external (university partner) code contributors.



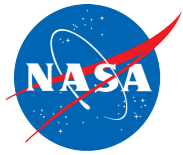


Collaborative Workbench (CWB)

- CWB (R. Ramachandran¹, M. Maskey², C. Lynnes³, K.-S. Kuo^{3,4}) is a framework for facilitating science algorithm development
- Eclipse based IDE (Integrated Development Environment)
- NEOS³ contributed to CWB development by serving as a practical example of an external tool integrated in CWB via web services (i.e. users run NEOS³ from Eclipse editor)
- CWB will facilitate user access, further development, and expansion of NEOS³



¹NASA Marshall Space Flight Center, ²University of Alabama-Huntsville, ³NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, ⁴Bayesics, LLC



Summary

- NEOS³ was developed to fulfill the need of generalized observing system simulators
 - Web-based and web-service enabled
 - State-of-the-art models
 - Modular and extensible infrastructure
 - Local and remote (including Cloud) processing options
- Possible applications include model evaluation, trade studies
- Collaboration is encouraged: Use it or help us improving it