

3D Online Visualization and Synergy of NASA A-Train Data using Google Earth

Aijun Chen^{1,2}, Steven Kempler¹, Gregory Leptoukh¹, Peter Smith¹

¹NASA Goddard Earth Sciences (GES) Data & Information Services Center (DISC);

²Center for Spatial Information Science and Systems, George Mason University

Email: Aijun.Chen@nasa.gov

NASA A-Train Constellation Formation

The NASA Afternoon A-Train Satellite Constellation is a succession of seven US & international sun-synchronous orbit satellites, consisting of:

-- OCO-2 (Orbiting Carbon Observatory) (will launch in Feb. 2013);

-- GCOM-W1 (Global Change Observation Mission);

-- Aqua;

-- CloudSat;

-- CALIPSO (Cloud-Aerosol Lidar & Infrared Pathfinder Satellite Observations)

-- Glory (launched on Nov. 22, 2010 2:30am PST);

-- Aura.



The A-Train makes possible synergy of information from multiple resources, so more information about earth condition is obtained from the combined observations than would be possible from the sum of the observations taken independently.

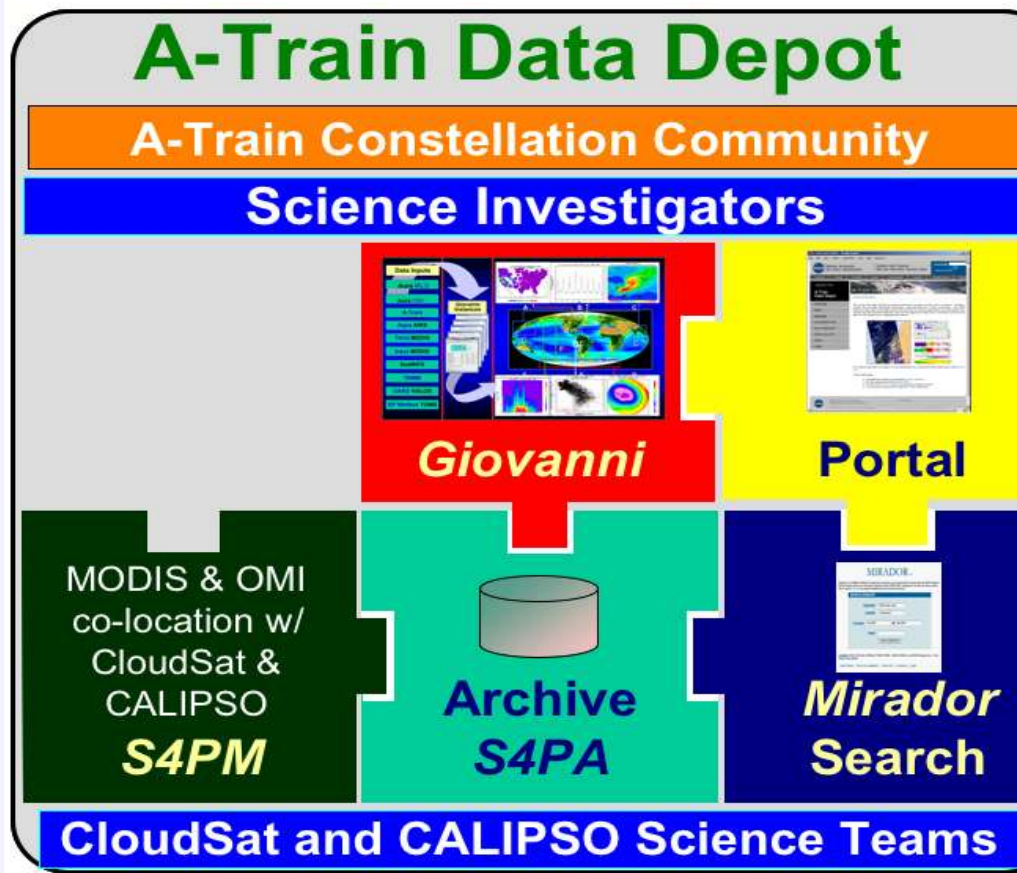
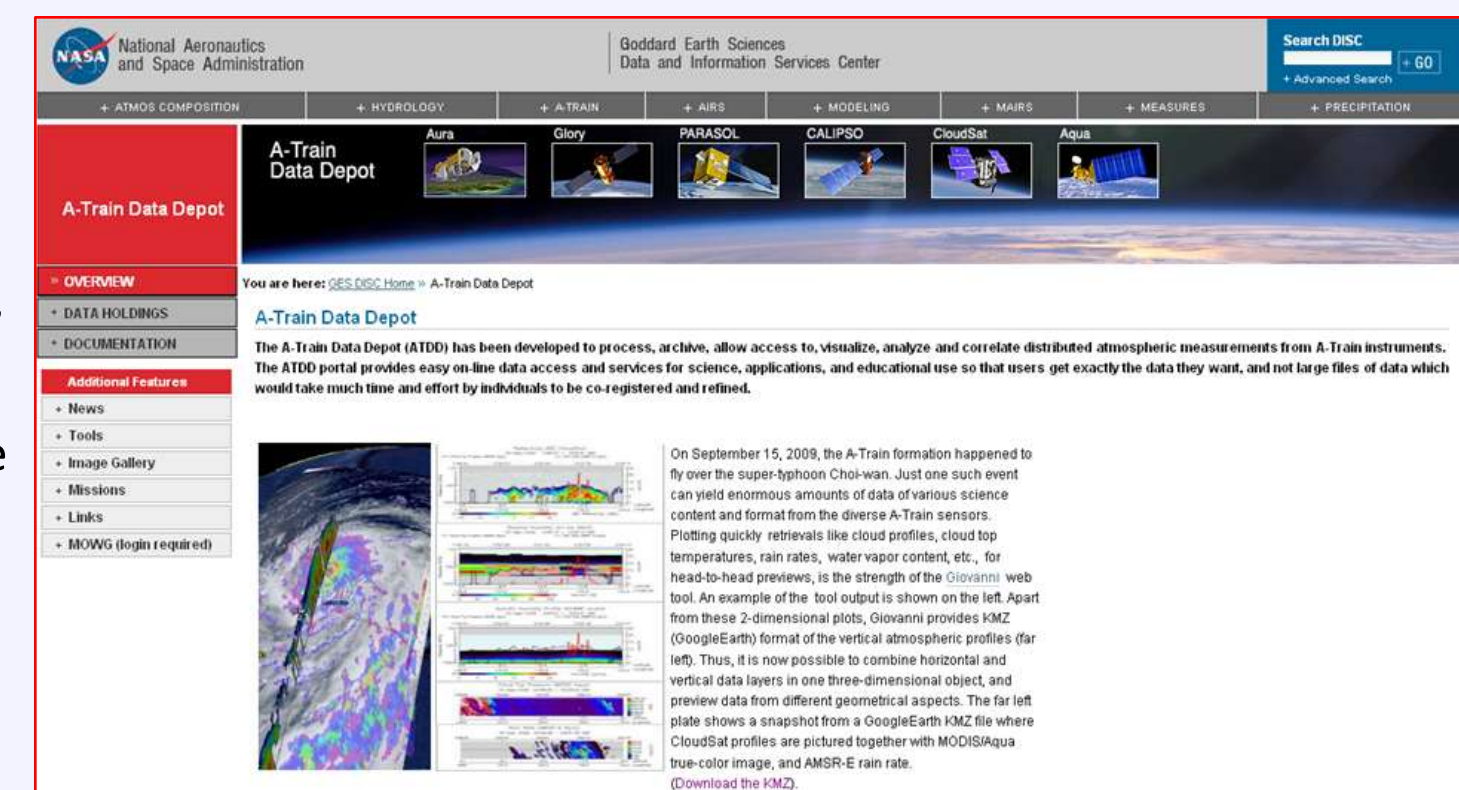
NASA Goddard A-Train Data Depot (ATDD)

The A-Train Data Depot (ATDD)

-- <http://disc.gsfc.nasa.gov/atdd>

processes, archives, allows access to, and visualizes distributed atmospheric measurements from various A-Train sensors, for analysis and correlation.

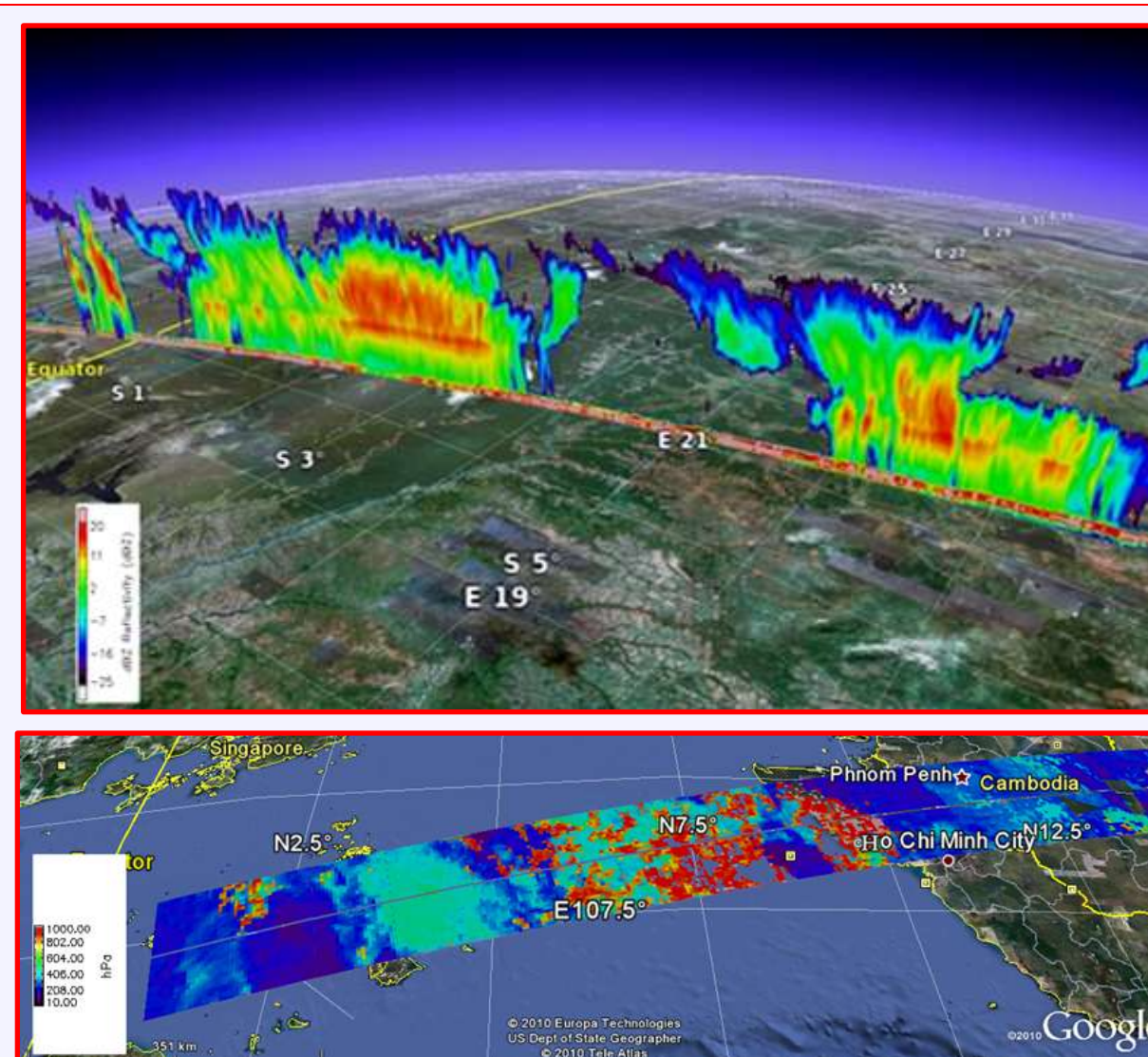
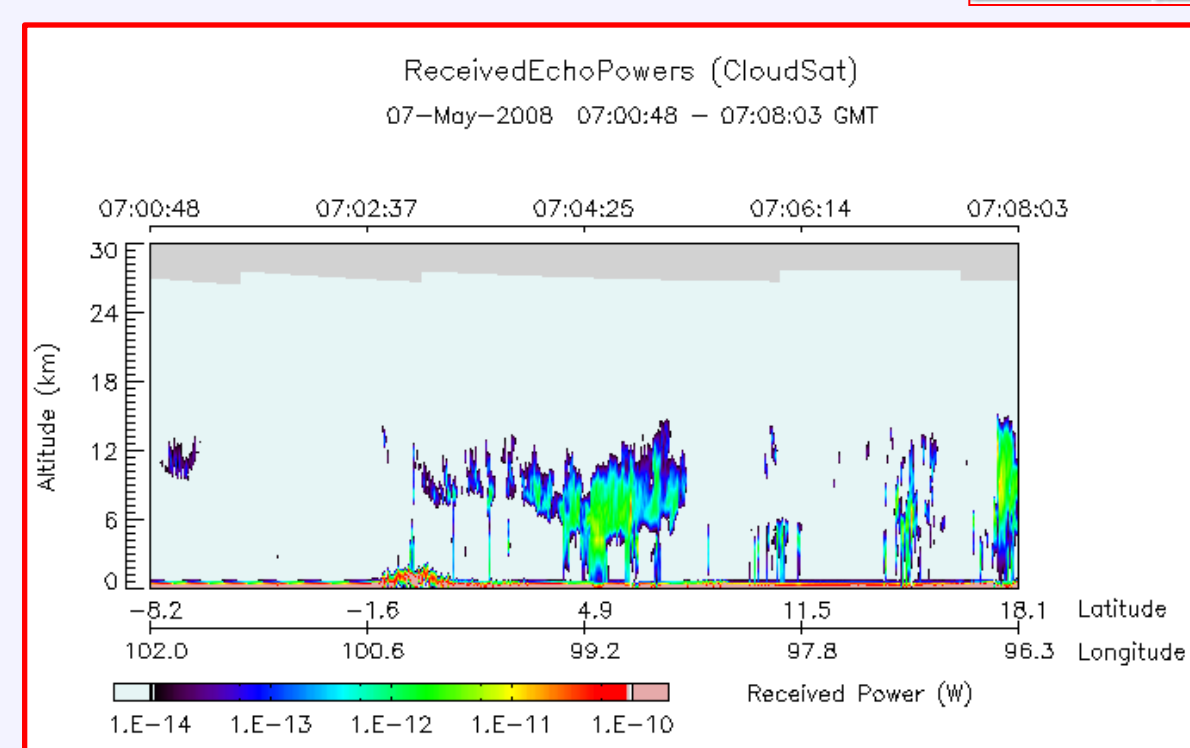
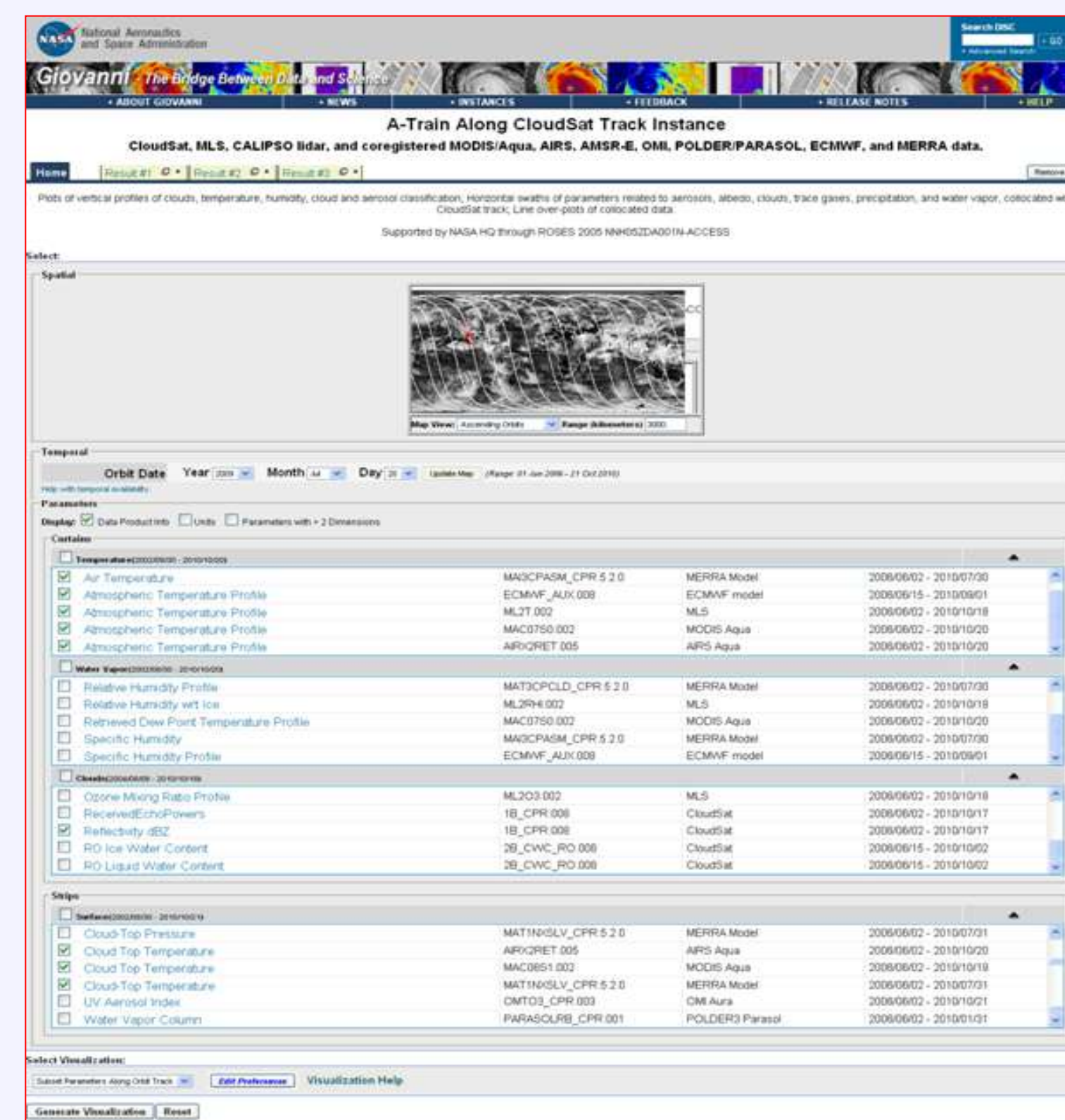
The ATDD Portal (right) provides easy on-line data access and services for science, applications, and educational use so that users easily get exactly the data they want, with no need to download large volumes of whole data sets.



A-Train Data online analysis and visualization system

Right: A-Train data online analysis and visualization system web interface:

Giovanni provides a convenient and useful platform for bridging the geospatial imagery data with implied science and explicitly visualizing the results for the scientific community. Giovanni Version 3 (G3) adopts service- and workflow-oriented asynchronous architecture and uses standard protocols, such as FTP, OPENDAP, GrADS Data Server to transparently access local and remote data. Service-Oriented Architecture guarantees that data processing and rendering modules are implemented through standard web services.



Above: 3D Vertical profiles of cloud from CloudSat satellite and 2D swath data of Cloud Top Pressure from MODIS/Aqua were rendered by G3 A-Train instance.

Above: 3D Vertical profiles of cloud from CloudSat satellite and 2D swath data of Cloud Top Pressure from MODIS/Aqua are visualized in Google Earth after processing and rendering by G3 A-Train instance.

Integrating Google Earth Plug-in into Giovanni A-Train Instance

Web Interface Design for integrating A-Train Data Depot with Google Earth Plug-in

The interface is based on AJAX technology, and mainly consists of: (see left figure)

Design principles followed:

- Web-based, no need to open new third vendors' application /windows
- Seamlessly integrated into A-Train instance
- Making interfaces between Giovanni infrastructure and Google Earth "new stuff" as simple as possible
- Uniform interface as A-Train instance

Functions added and processes for user request

- Add new tab "View in Google Earth" in A-Train instance interface for user viewing and comparing multiple parameters in multiple Google Earth windows in one browser.

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SciFlow XML file from A-Train

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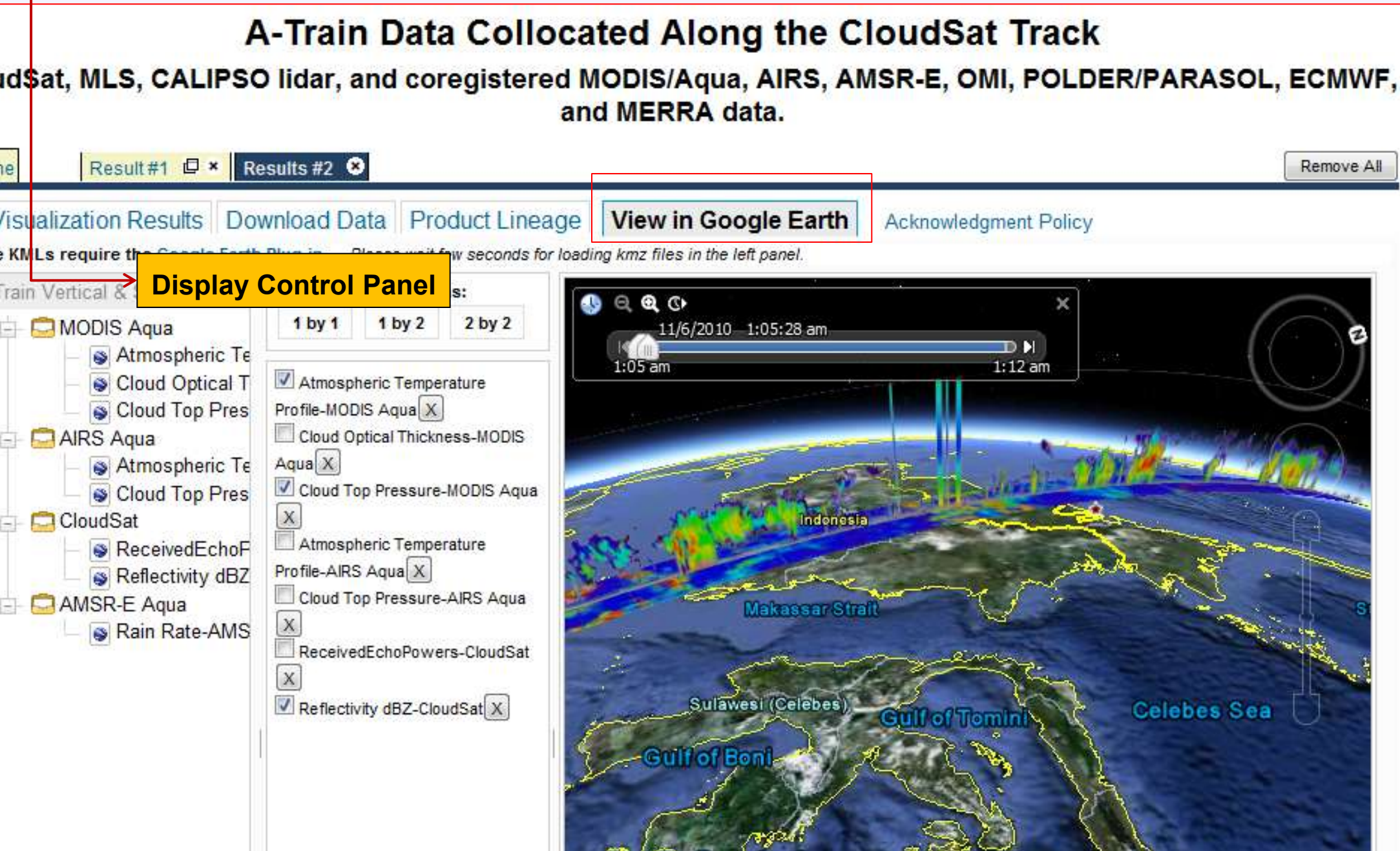
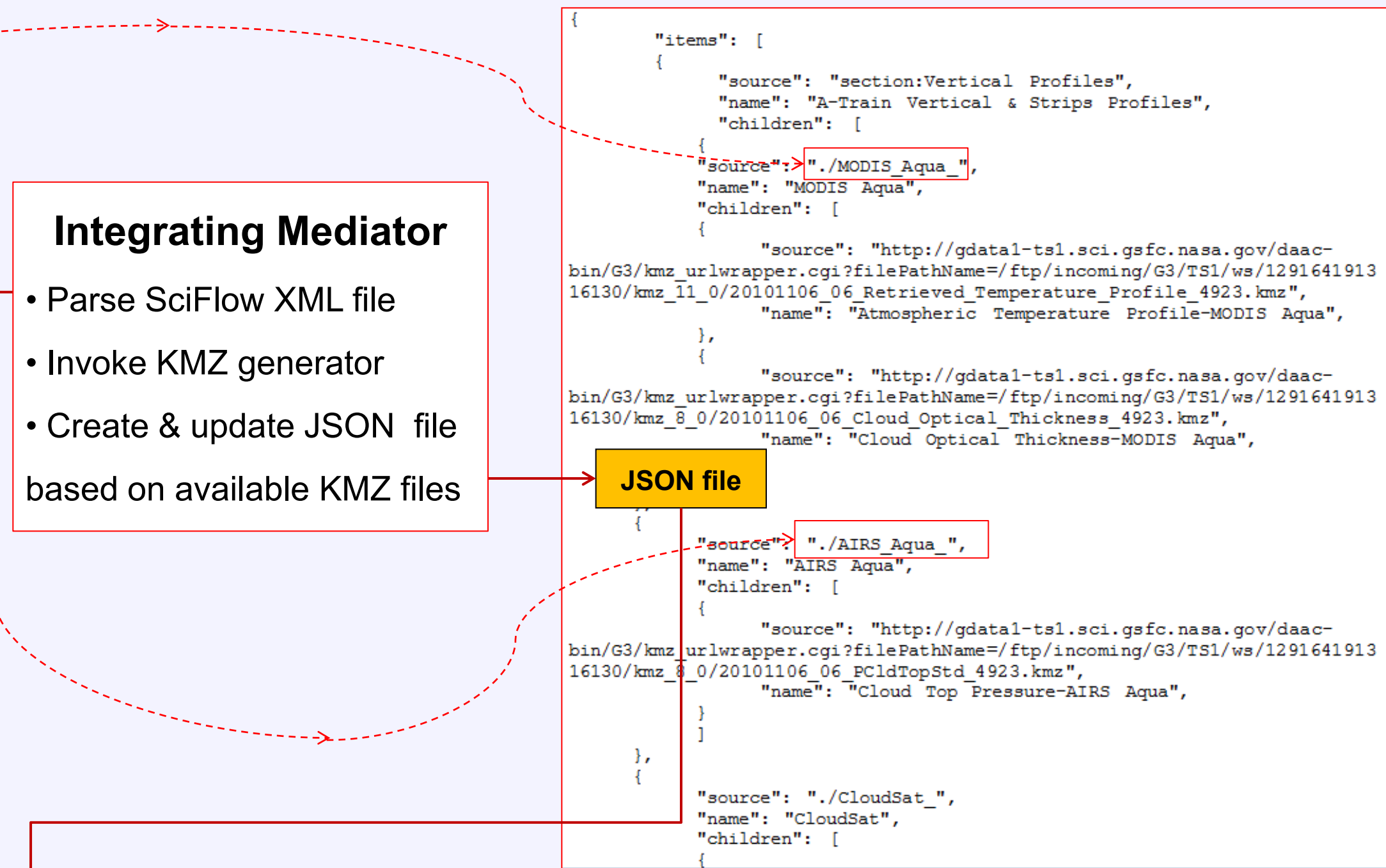
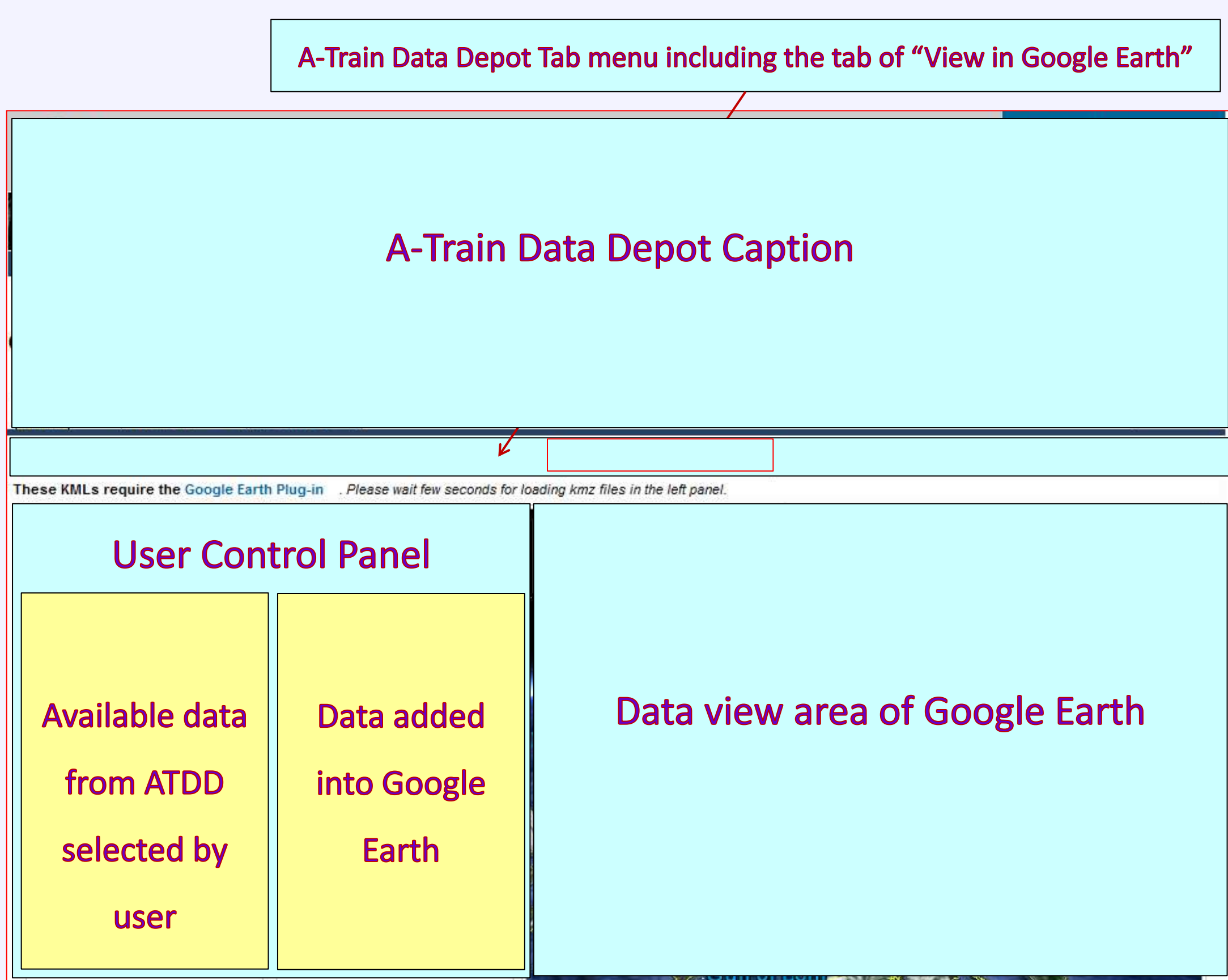
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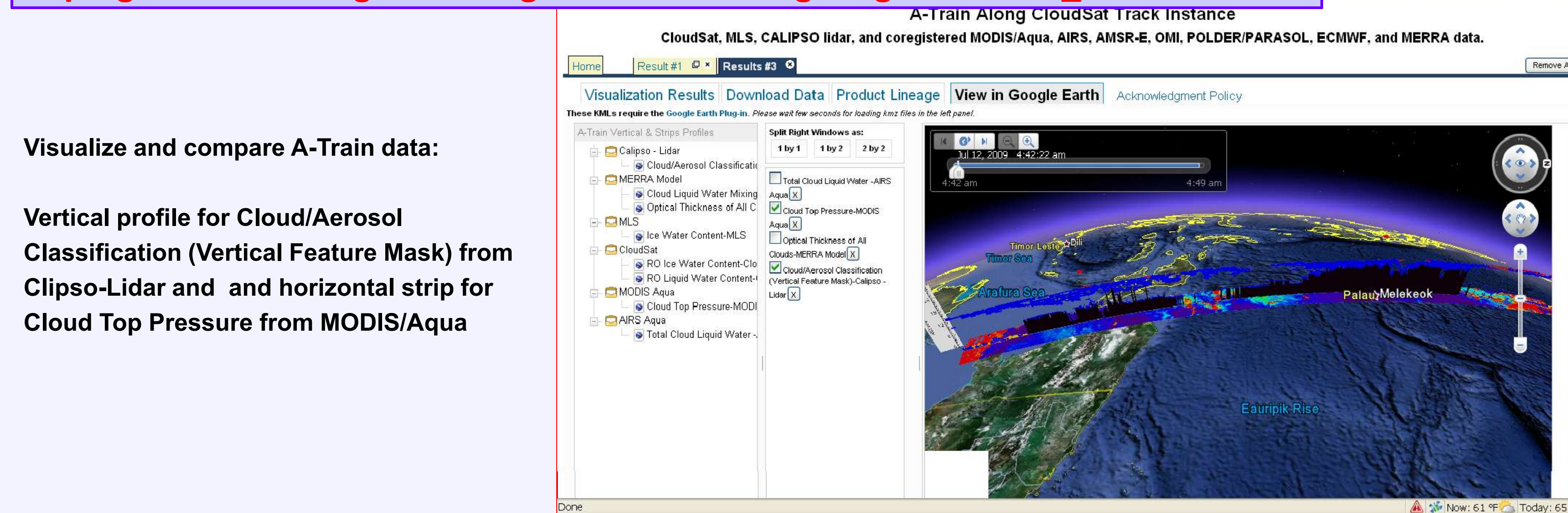
datasetName

datasetName



URL for A-Train system with new functions and simple example

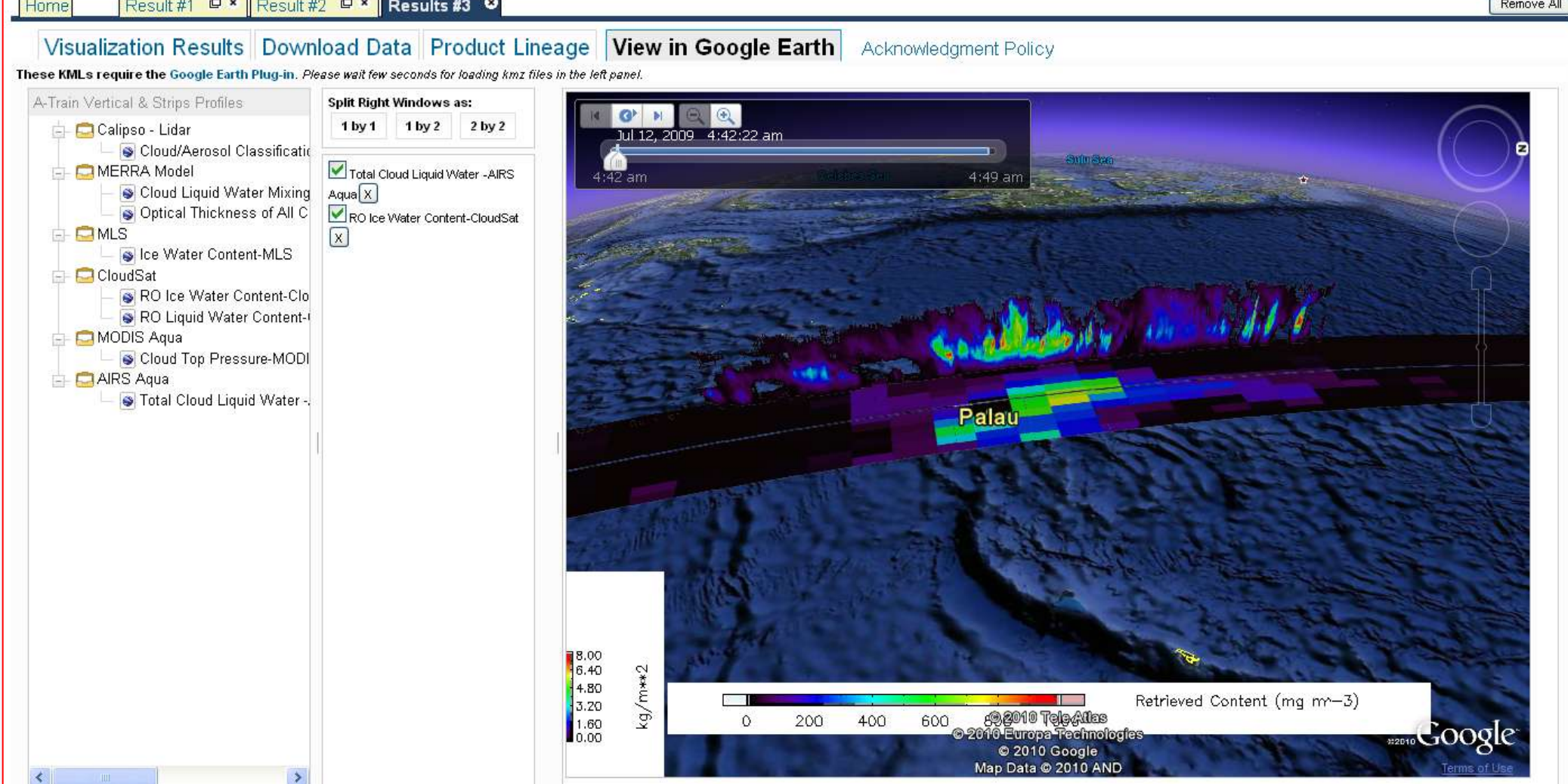
http://gdata1-ts1.sci.gsfc.nasa.gov/daac-bin/G3/gui.cgi?instance_id=atrain



Visualize and compare A-Train data:

Vertical profile for Cloud/Aerosol Classification (Vertical Feature Mask) from Clipso-Lidar and horizontal strip for Cloud Top Pressure from MODIS/Aqua

Online visualize and compare multiple data in multiple GE

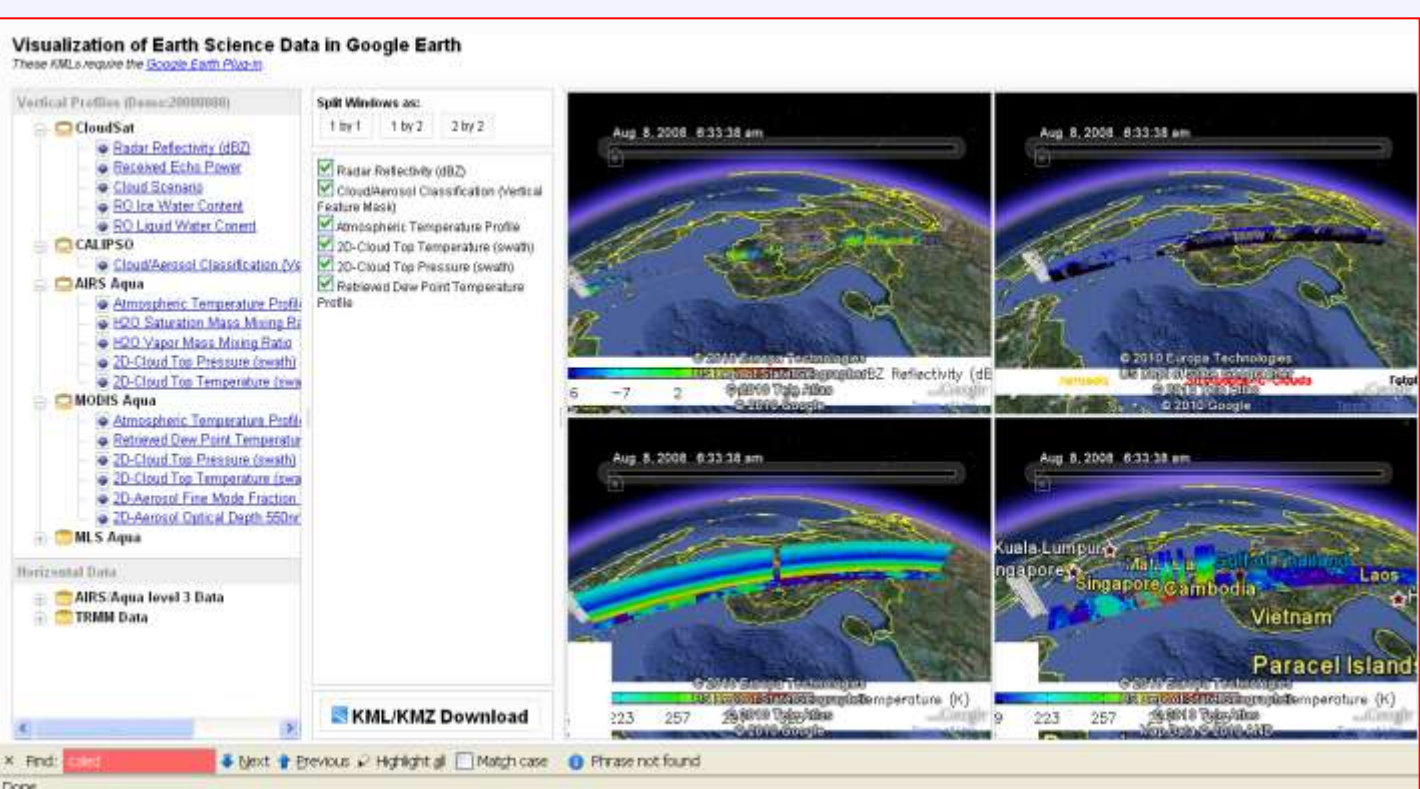


3D visualization of A-Train data for science -- 1

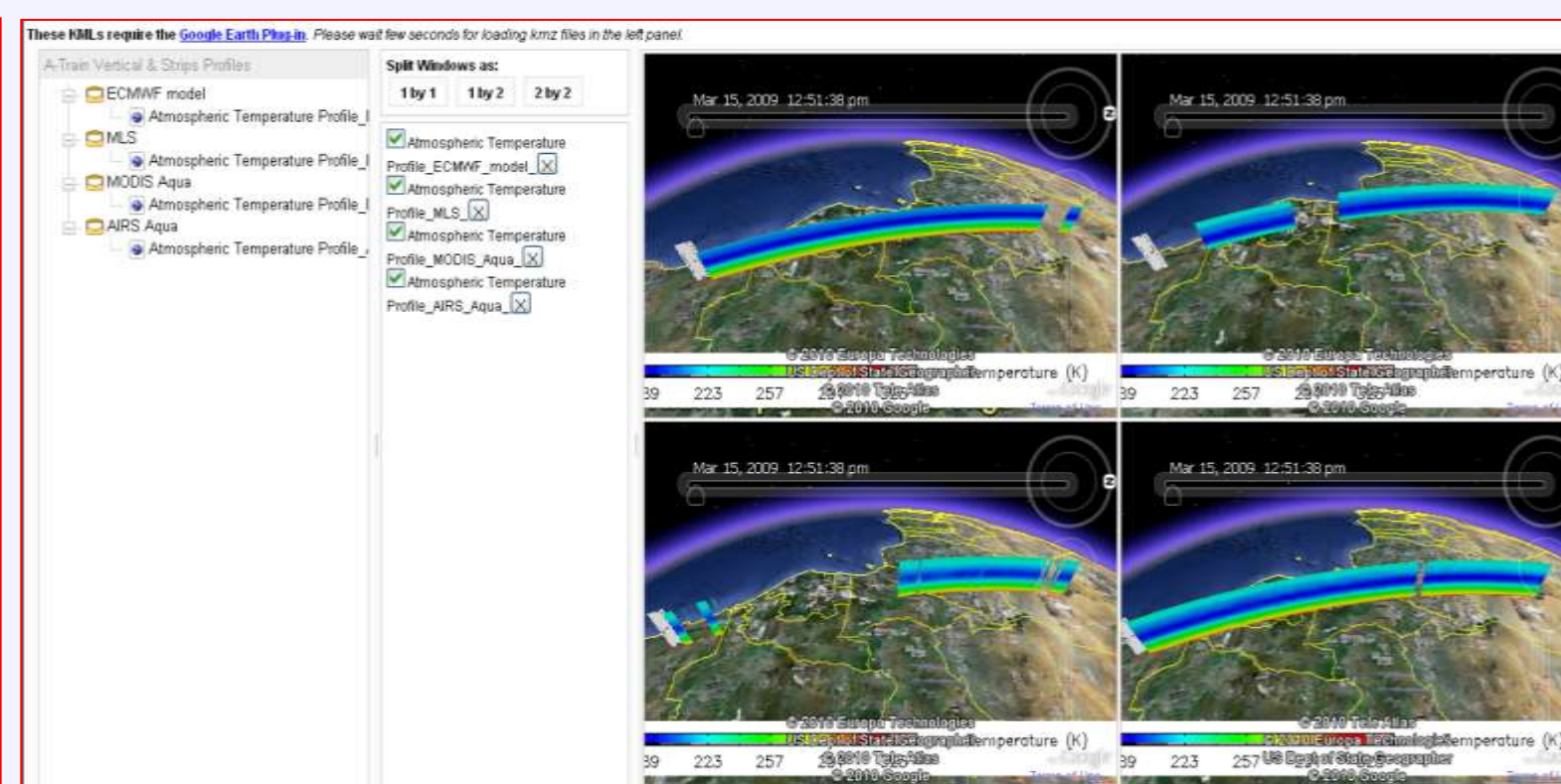
Vertical profile for RO (Radar Only) Ice Water Content from CloudSat is compared with horizontal strip for Total Cloud Liquid Water from AIRS/Aqua to reflect the relationship between these two kinds of data

Visualize and compare A-Train data in multiple Google Earth windows in one browser:

Any vertical profiles and horizontal strips from A-Train Data Depot can be visualized in four Google Earth windows allowing comparison of related data parameters at the same time

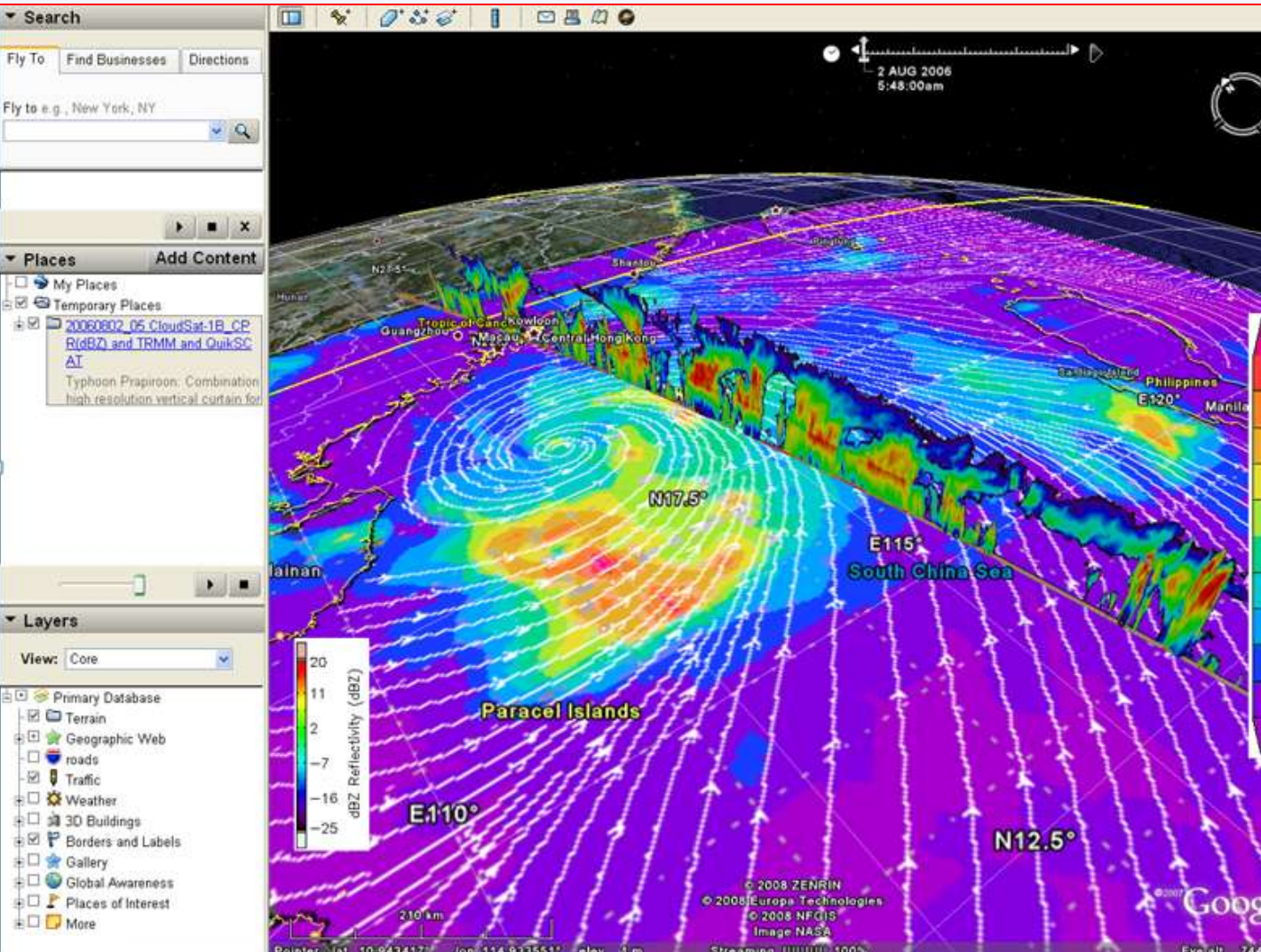


Above: Comparison of versatile 2D and 3D data from A-Train sensors in multi-GE windows of one browser window

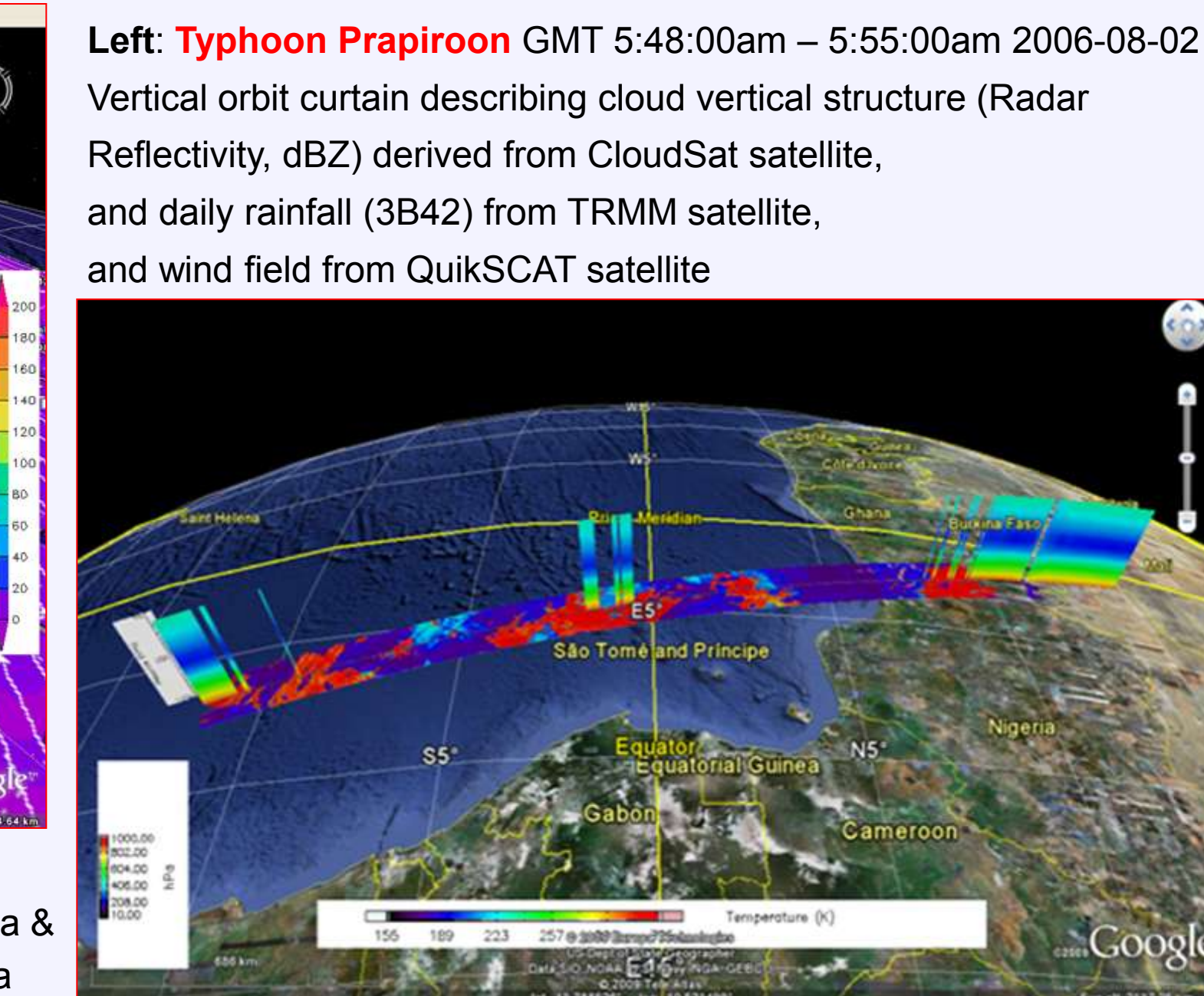


Above: Comparison of Atmospheric Temperature Profiles from ECMWF model, MLS, MODIS/Aqua and AIRS/Aqua in multi-GE windows.

Synergy and visually comparison of ATDD data with other data in GE

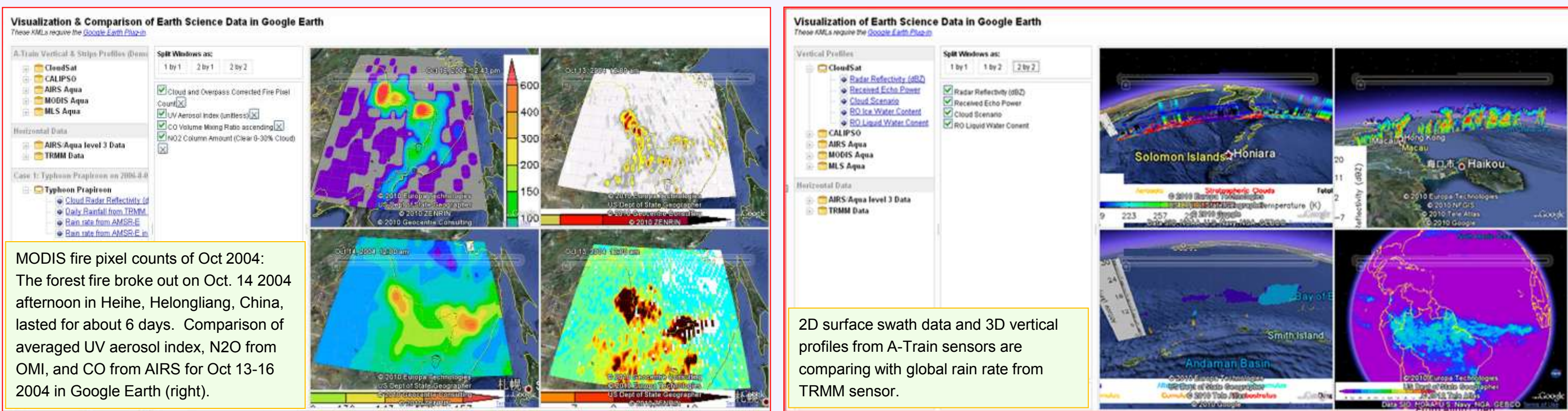


Right: March 9, 2009 Atmospheric Temperature Profile (3D) from MODIS/Aqua & Cloud Top Pressure 2D surface strips from MODIS/Aqua



Future work: Combining other data with A-Train data in GE

Future work holds out the possibility of intercomparing A-Train and non-A-Train data using multiple window Google Earth interface. Ultimately the interface could also be used for downloading the visualized data to the user's computer.



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