Informatics

“Informatics (academic field), a broad academic field encompassing computing technologies and development in their diverse relations to the human and social worlds, including applications in science, social problems, and the arts” (Wikipedia – accessed Oct. 26, 2014)

Science of information
- Practice of information processing, and engineering of information systems.
- Studies structure, algorithms, behavior, and interactions of natural and artificial systems which store, process, access, and communicate information.
- Considers interaction between humans and information systems alongside the construction of computer interfaces.
- Develops its own conceptual and theoretical foundations and utilizes foundations developed in other fields.
- Informatics has great breadth and encompasses many individual specializations including the more particular discipline of computing science
Earth Science Informatics

- “Earth science informatics, as a specialized branch of informatics science, creates and processes information about the Earth system, to allow conceptualization, design, modeling, and implementation methodologies for the management, processing, and representation of the information and knowledge about the Earth.” - Hassan A. Babaie (Editorial - Earth Sci Inform (2008) 1:1–2; DOI 10.1007/s12145-008-0009-0)

- There are many definitions for informatics in general, and informatics in various Earth science domains. Rahul Ramachandran’s blog - http://www.rramachandran.com/content/science-informatics—what-name does a nice job of summarizing them. In his conclusion he quotes Tolliver:
  - “It is a focus on a specific science domain in which information and computational sciences (including information science, library science, computer science, cognitive science, organizational science, etc.) are utilized to support research, education, and application”.
GRSS Technical Committees

- **FARS TC**: Frequency Allocations in Remote Sensing - Regulatory Environment
- **IFT TC**: Instrumentation and Future Technologies - Development of Future Sensors & Instruments
- **IADF TC**: Image Analysis and Data Fusion - Analysis Techniques for Complementary Datasets
- **ESI TC**: Earth Science Informatics - Standards, Data Access and Usability
- **ISIS TC**: Int’l Spaceborne Imaging Spectroscopy - International Satellite Mission Planning
Earth Science Informatics
Technical Committee (ESI TC)

- **Mission**
  - “...to advance the application of informatics to the geosciences and remote sensing, to provide a venue for ESI professionals to exchange information and knowledge, and to give technology advice to major national and international ESI initiatives.”

- **Evolved from the former Data Archiving and Distribution (DAD) TC to be commensurate with member interests**

- **Leaders:**
  - Chair: Rahul Ramachandran (NASA Marshall Space Flight Center / Global Hydrology Resource Center, USA)
  - Co-Chair: Peng Yue (Yuhan University, China)
  - Standards Group: Siri Jodha Singh Khalsa (National Snow and Ice Data Center, University of Colorado, USA)
Earth Science Informatics - Scope

- The scope of the original DAD TC was essentially limited to the data lifecycle.
- Knowledge generation lifecycle:
  - Depicts the sequence of processes involved in knowledge generation.
  - Useful in identifying where data and information can be enhanced or even lost.
  - Evolving – Data, Technology, Policy, End User.
- Standards play important roles at each stage.
ESI TC – Topics of Interest

- Data and information policies, stewardship, preservation, provenance and quality
- Knowledge representation (ontologies, vocabularies, semantic web)
- Cyberinfrastructures
- Data discovery and access
- Tools supporting spatial and temporal analyses
- Emerging information technologies (Big Data)
Acknowledgement

- This presentation is the result of my long association with the NASA Earth Science Data and Information System Project.
- It has evolved over the years with inputs from several members of the Project and has been used in various forms in many presentations.
- My present work with the ESDIS Project is supported under contract number NNG15HQ01C with NASA Goddard Space Flight Center.
Topics

- NASA’s Earth Science Data Systems
  - Core and Community Capabilities
- Earth Observing System Data and Information System (EOSDIS)
  - Scope and Context
  - System of systems
- EOSDIS Evolution - Community inputs
- IEEE GRSS Earth Science Informatics Technical Committee and EOSDIS
- Recent Developments
- Conclusion
NASA’s Earth Science Data Systems

- “Advance understanding of Earth and develop technologies to improve the quality of life on our home planet.” -- 2014 NASA Strategic Plan

- NASA’s Earth Science Data Systems directly support this strategic goal by providing end-to-end capabilities to deliver data and information products to users

- NASA’s Earth Science Data and Information Policy promotes usage of data by the community
  - No period of exclusive access - Data are available after initial checkout
  - Data available at no cost to all users on a non-discriminatory basis except where agreed upon with international partners
Core Capabilities

- Basic operational capabilities to process, archive, manage and distribute data from NASA missions
  - Earth Observing System Data and Information System (EOSDIS)
  - Precipitation Processing System – NASA GSFC
  - Laboratory for Atmospheric and Space Physics (LASP) Interactive Solar Irradiance Data Center - University of Colorado
  - CloudSat Data Processing Center – Colorado State University

Community Capabilities

- Peer-review-selected projects
- New data products – Making Earth System Data Records for Use in Research Environments (MEaSUREs)
- Research in Earth Science Informatics to feed into the evolution of the core components
  - Applied Information Systems Technology (AIST)
  - Advancing Collaborative Connections for Earth System Science (ACCESS)
EOSDIS

- Major core capability in NASA’s Earth Science Data Systems Program.
- Provides end-to-end capabilities for managing NASA’s Earth science data.
  - Science Operations
    - Science data processing
    - Data management
    - Interoperable distributed data archives
    - On-line data access services
    - Earth science discipline-oriented user services
  - Network Data Transport to distributed system elements
Extensive Data Collection

> 8200 data types (collections)

- Land
  » Cover & Usage
  » Surface temperature
  » Soil moisture
  » Surface topography

- Atmosphere
  » Winds & Precipitation
  » Aerosols & Clouds
  » Temperature & Humidity
  » Solar radiation

- Ocean
  » Surface temperature
  » Surface wind fields & Heat flux
  » Surface topography
  » Ocean color

- Cryosphere
  » Sea/Land Ice & Snow Cover

- Human Dimensions
  » Population & Land Use
  » Human & Environmental Health
  » Ecosystems
# Earth Science Data Operations

## Mission Operations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Data Acquisition</th>
<th>Flight Operations, Data Capture, Initial Processing, Backup Archive</th>
<th>Data Transport to Data Centers/SIPSs</th>
<th>Science Data Processing, Data Management, Interoperable Data Archive, and Distribution</th>
<th>Distribution and Data Access</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EOSSpacecraft</td>
<td>Tracking and Data Relay Satellite (TDRS)</td>
<td>EOS Data Operations System (EDOS) Data Processing</td>
<td>NASA Integrated Services Network (NISN) Mission Services</td>
<td>Research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White Sands Complex (WSC)</td>
<td></td>
<td>EOS Operations Center (EOC) Mission Control</td>
<td>EOSDIS Sci. Data Centers</td>
<td>Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EOS Polar Ground Stations</td>
<td></td>
<td>Instrument Teams and Science Investigator-led Processing Systems (SIPSs)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Value-Added Providers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Direct Broadcast (DB)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Internet (Search, Order, Distribution)</td>
<td>Interagency Data Centers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Direct Broadcast/ Direct Readout Stations</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Earth System Models</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.nasa.gov">www.nasa.gov</a></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>International Partners</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Science Operations

- Research
- Education
- Value-Added Providers
- Interagency Data Centers
- Earth System Models
- International Partners
- Decision Support Systems

---

*Image source: www.nasa.gov*
A subset of interfaces are shown for mission operations.
### Key Life Cycle Phases*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NASA Life Cycle</th>
<th>Formulation</th>
<th>Implementation</th>
<th>Decommission</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Archive Life Cycle Phases</td>
<td>Definition</td>
<td>Specification</td>
<td>Execution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Archive Definition</td>
<td>What are the artifacts to be archived and how should they be managed?</td>
<td>Design and implement the artifacts, and the system to produce and manage them</td>
<td>Produce and distribute artifacts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science Life Cycle Phases</td>
<td>Mission Concept, Requirements, Design</td>
<td>Algorithm Dev/Test</td>
<td>Analysis...</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Long-Term Archive
Transfer of all or select artifacts to a long-term facility

‘n’ years later...

---

EOSDIS – A System of Systems

- Instrument and science expertise needed to process data
  - Most EOS standard products are generated at Science Investigator-led Processing Systems (SIPSs) under supervision of PIs
- Earth Science discipline knowledge needed to ensure data stewardship
  - Processed data are archived and distributed by discipline-specialized EOSDIS Science Data Centers (Distributed Active Archive Centers – DAACs)
- Expertise in system interoperability needed to provide cross-system (interdisciplinary) data access
  - EOS Clearing House (ECHO) middleware and associated clients provide search and access to data across all EOSDIS Science Data Centers
- EOSDIS data collections are diverse:
  - Primary sources are instruments on-board NASA spacecraft
  - Ancillary, airborne, in-situ and socio-economic data
  - Data from international partners
  - Comprehensive approach to multi-discipline science
  - Feed growing need by models (e.g., climate models)
EOSDIS Facilities

Data centers, collocated with centers of science discipline expertise, archive and distribute standard data products produced by Science Investigator-led Processing Systems (SIPSs)
# EOSDIS Key Metrics

## EOSDIS FY2014 Metrics

(Oct. 1, 2013 to Sept. 30, 2014)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Metric</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unique Data Sets</td>
<td>8,292</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distinct Users of EOSDIS Data and Services</td>
<td>2.0 M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Web Site Visits</td>
<td>2.3 M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average Archive Growth</td>
<td>6.4 TB/day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Archive Volume</td>
<td>9.1 PB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>End User Distribution Products</td>
<td>1,028 M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>End User Average Distribution Volume</td>
<td>27.9 TB/day</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Distribution by Discipline

Product Counts (M)

(Oct 2013- Sep 2014)

- Atmosphere, 291.8
- Geodesy/Solid Earth, 145.2
- Land, 142.9
- Ocean, 88.3
- Hydrology, 130.7
- Terrestrial Ecology, 61.0
- Other, 92.0
- Radiance/Geolocation, 55.1
- Raw Data, 21.7
- Distribution by Discipline

## Multi-year Total Archive Volume (PBs) Trend

- EOSDIS Science Data Volume Progression

## Multi-Year Product Distribution Trend

- EOSDIS Science Data Products Distribution FY00 through FY14
EOSDIS Advisory Panel – aka Data Panel (early to mid-1990’s)

- adhere to a flexible, distributed, portable, evolutionary design;
- distribute data products by appropriate high-bandwidth communication or other media;
- operate prototypes in a changing experimental environment

→ Distributed architecture with DAACs
→ Version 0 working prototype

NRC Review (1995)

- “Responsibility for product generation and publication and for user services should be transferred to a federation of partners selected through a competitive process open to all”

→ Working Prototype Earth Science Information Partners (ESIP) Federation
EOSDIS Evolution - Community Inputs

- **EOSDIS Review Group (1997)**
  - Recommended “an adaptive approach which will be less centralized, giving more responsibility to the PIs”
  - Science Investigator-led Processing System (SIPSs)

  - Six recommendations
    - Clearly define components
    - Employ Infrastructure providing NASA-private sector liaisons
    - Employ competitive processes to select components
    - Empower science investigators for data system development, processing, archiving and distribution
    - Apply lessons learned from WP-ESIP Federation
    - Charter transition team
  - Core and Community Data Systems (Core: EOSDIS with DAACs; Community: REASoN projects → ACCESS & MEaSUREs)
  - ESIP Federation
Evolution of EOSDIS Elements Study Team/Technical Team (2005)

- Developed “EOSDIS 2015 Vision”
  - First step implementation during 2006-2008 – reallocated functions, simplified system, increased automation, improved services, reduced operations costs
  - Vision tenets continue to be used as a checklist to assess progress of on-going improvements

DAAC User Working Groups (on-going)

American Customer Satisfaction Index Surveys (annual)
Earth Science Data System Working Groups (ongoing)

- focus on exploration and development of recommendations derived from pertinent community insights
- organized around key technology and information system issues
- Members from ACCESS, MEaSUREs, DAACs, ESDIS
- 2014-2015 Working Groups

- Airborne Data
- ASCII for Science Data
- Cloud Computing
- Data-Intensive Architecture
- Data Preservation Practices
- Data Quality
- Data Recipes
- Dataset Interoperability

- Digital Object Identifiers
- Geospatial
- Innovations Lab
- Open Source
- Provenance for Earth Science (PROV-ES)
- Technology Infusion
- Vision 2020
- Visualization
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ESDSWG</th>
<th>Earth Science Informatics Technical Committee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Processing</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Cloud Computing</td>
<td>• Cloud Computing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Data-Intensive Architectures</td>
<td>• Spatial/Temporal analysis Tools</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Earth system modeling tools</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Archiving/Stewardship</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Data Preservation Practices</td>
<td>• Preservation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Data Quality</td>
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<td>• Provenance</td>
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<td>• Geospatial</td>
<td>• Data discovery and access</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Evolution/Technology</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Innovations Lab</td>
<td>• Emerging information technologies and their applications in the geosciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>• Sensor web and applications</td>
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<td><strong>Other</strong></td>
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</tr>
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<td>• ASCII for Science Data</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
## Discovery and Access

- **Machine Level Discovery and Access** for all data.
- **Seamless Cross-agency Discovery**.
- **Dataset Selection Guidance** based on fitness for purpose.
- **Metadata Naming Conventions** for Variables, Platforms, Instruments, Resolution…
- **Virtual Collections** oriented around science problems.

## Usage

- **Intelligent Tool Catalogs** suggest tools to work with the data.
- **Publications are linked** to data and tools that allow interactions with the data.
- **Automatic Mobile Data and Processing** to achieve optimal performance.
- **Quantitative Quality** for all data.
- **Reproducibility** of research results with high precision.
- **Documentation** is Concise, Comprehensive and Consistent for all data variables.
- **Capacity Building** mechanisms for people with limited literacy in science, technology, and/or English.
- **Data Analysis at Scale** over any arbitrarily defined area.
- **Dataset Upgrading** for high-value datasets to fully support rich capabilities.

## Integration

- **NASA data can be combined** with data from other agencies and nations.
- **Combining Tools and Services** within the community is easy.
- **Enable sharing** of any scientific resource.
Recent and On-Going Developments (1 of 2)

- Land and Atmosphere Near real-time Capability for EOS (LANCE)
- Coherent Web Interface: [http://earthdata.nasa.gov](http://earthdata.nasa.gov) is operational
  - Provides a unified view of NASA Earth science data system resources
  - Consolidates 14 web sites, and provides links to various ways to access data and to related external sites
- User Registration System – uniform approach to registration across EOSDIS components
- Global Imagery Browse Services (GIBS)
  - Standards-based, full resolution, interactive browse capability
  - Accessible from [http://earthdata.nasa.gov](http://earthdata.nasa.gov) wiki
**Recent and On-Going Developments (2 of 2)**

- **Metadata Architecture Study**
  - Initial Study made recommendations on adopting a common approach to metadata to improve user experience and reduce efforts by data providers
  - Phased approach to implementing recommendations

- **Unified Metadata Model and Common Metadata Repository**

- **Big Earth Data Initiative (BEDI)**

- **Preservation Content Specification**

- **Digital Object Identifiers**
  - ESDIS Project is a registration authority (prefix 10.5067)
  - DOI assignments to datasets in progress
• Building on existing EOSDIS elements provides data from MODIS, OMI, AIRS, MLS, and AMSR instruments in near real-time (< 3 hours from observation)

• Utilizes software for Standard Science Products, but relaxes requirements for ancillary data inputs

• High operational availability

• Applications of LANCE data include:
  – Numerical weather & climate prediction/forecasting
  – Monitoring of Natural Hazards
  – Disaster Relief
  – Agriculture
  – Air quality
  – Homeland Security
Over the four weeks indicated above, >97% of near real-time data requests were satisfied within 3 hours.
What is the Earthdata Website?

- Earthdata was created as a sustainable, evolvable, and reliable Website that represents our community’s needs for NASA Earth science data and information.
- It was designed to support collaboration within and between organizations, and for development and integration of new applications.
- It addresses the need for a coherent and comprehensive Web presence of the Earth Science Data Systems Program.
- See Earthdata at https://earthdata.nasa.gov/.

Benefits of the Earthdata Website:

- Better represents EOSDIS programmatic investments and capabilities.
- Presents data centers more clearly as elements within a larger system of systems.
- Facilitates multidisciplinary research and data integration.
- More quickly responds to emerging technologies
- Provides a platform for demonstration of interoperability throughout all of our systems.
GIBS / Worldview Goal:
To transform how users interact with and discover NASA Earth data; make it visual

Approach:

- The **Global Imagery Browse Services (GIBS)** provide open access to full resolution imagery derived from NASA products to any mapping client and script
  
  https://earthdata.nasa.gov/gibs

- **Worldview** is an open source, browser-based client to interactively explore GIBS (and SEDAC) imagery and download the underlying data
  
  https://worldview.earthdata.nasa.gov
Global Image Browse Service (GIBS)

- Goal: “Parameter Visualizations” for all EOSDIS Imagery
- Standardized access via OGC WMTS / TWMS / WMS / KML
- Source code for the GIBS OnEarth server and sample code available at the GIBS GitHub site
- Repository of pre-prepared, hierarchically stored imagery to maximize performance for “full-resolution” browse
- Clients can be built to use and display images in GIBS – WorldView is an example
Worldview: Reference Client for GIBS

http://earthdata.nasa.gov/worldview
http://earthdata.nasa.gov/gibs
Goals

- Designed to improve the discovery and access of NASA data, CMR will provide a single source of unified, high-quality, and reliable Earth Science metadata while merging the inventories of ECHO (EOS Clearing House) and GCMD (Global Change Master Directory) / IDN (International Directory Network). CMR will be the authoritative management system for all metadata of EOSDIS data holdings.

- CMR also provides a metadata model that documents vital elements that may be represented across various metadata formats and standards and unify them through core fields useful for data discovery and service invocations.

Current Status

- By the end of CY 2015, CMR will have released the minimal set of functionality that addresses the major goals laid out in a CMR Operations Concept including, sub-second search response, unification of ECHO and GCMD/IDN metadata, enhanced metadata management capabilities, and a unified (and expandable) metadata model representing collections, granules, and services.

Next Steps

- In 2016, CMR will begin to implement enhancements to quality assessment and assurance, search relevancy ranking, science keyword support and ontology and service initiation and chaining.
Big Earth Data Initiative (BEDI)

- **Background:**
  - In 2013, the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) kicked off the Big Earth Data Initiative (BEDI) as a multi-agency (NASA, NOAA, USGS) effort to make the collection of Earth Observation (EO) data more readily available and useful to users.
  - The data directly supports 12 Societal Benefit Areas (SBAs).
  - Funding provided to NASA FY14, FY15

- **BEDI Objectives:**
  - Discovery – Make finding of datasets *simpler*
  - Accessibility - Make datasets readily *available* to users
  - Usability – Provide services to *use* datasets

- **Task objectives for EOSDIS DAACs:**
  - Provide metadata to EOSDIS Common Metadata Repository (CMR)
  - Maintain persistent identifiers for data collections via Digital Object Identifiers (DOIs)
  - Make data available online via OPeNDAP or some other useful service
  - Make imagery available in Worldview via GIBS
  - Report metrics
Preservation

- NASA is not a “permanent archive” agency
  - Must maintain “research archive” for as long as data are used for scientific research and/or transition responsibility to permanent archives
  - Research archive responsibilities persist well beyond lives of missions
  - NASA works with USGS and NARA for long-term preservation
  - NASA has to ensure data and other critical items are preserved and made available to permanent archival agencies

- General requirements
  - No loss of bits
  - Discoverability and accessibility
  - Readability
  - Understandability
  - Usability
  - Reproducibility of results

- NASA has developed Preservation Content Specifications for Earth Science Data

- NASA is participating in Earth Science Information Partners (ESIP) Data Stewardship Committee, on an “emerging” Provenance and Context Content Standard
Categories of Content to be Preserved

1. **Preflight/Pre-Operations:** Instrument/Sensor characteristics including pre-flight/pre-operations performance measurements; calibration method; radiometric and spectral response; noise characteristics; detector offsets

2. **Science Data Products:** Raw instrument data, Level 0 through Level 4 data products and associated metadata

3. **Science Data Product Documentation:** Structure and format with definitions of all parameters and metadata fields; algorithm theoretical basis; processing history and product version history; quality assessment information

4. **Mission Data Calibration:** Instrument/sensor calibration method (in operation) and data; calibration software used to generate lookup tables; instrument and platform events and maneuvers

5. **Science Data Product Software:** Product generation software and software documentation

6. **Science Data Product Algorithm Input:** Any ancillary data or other data sets used in generation or calibration of the data or derived product; ancillary data description and documentation

7. **Science Data Product Validation:** Records, publications and data sets

8. **Science Data Software Tools:** product access (reader) tools.
Success of EOSDIS has been based on its ability to meet and adapt to needs of diverse Earth science communities

- >20 years of diverse science data centers’ operation to meet the needs of a growing user community
- >16 years of support for EOS missions (starting with TRMM)
- Working with new missions (e.g., EVS-1 aircraft investigations, EV-2 missions, SMAP, ICESat-2, OCO-2)

Some key areas in which improvements are required and incremental progress is being made:

- Ease of discovery and access
- Cross-organizational interoperability
- Data inter-use
- Ease of collaboration
- Ease of citation of datasets
- Preservation of provenance and context and making them conveniently available to users
BACK-UP
EOSDIS ACSI Customer Satisfaction Survey 2014: Relative Rankings

- EOSDIS sponsors an annual independent customer survey in conjunction with the American Customer Satisfaction Index (ACSI)
- EOSDIS consistently exceeds the Federal Government average
- Ratings in the mid to upper 70s are considered “very good” by the rating organization, the CFI Group
- 2014 Survey results based on 4,147 responses
- Comments in surveys help define system improvements

Bar chart showing:
- Federal Government Overall (2013) at 66
- NASA EOSDIS at 78
- E-Business Internet News & Information at 73
EOSDIS Technology Improvements and System Evolution

Lessons learned and information technology advances coupled with advice/comments from community supports a continuously evolving data system with growing capabilities

- **Discipline/mission specific data systems**
- **Community-specific standards only**
- **Data inter-use proved cumbersome**

- **Improved access to heritage data**
- **Cross-system search and order access via data interoperability model**
- **Common distribution format (HDF); other formats also supported**

- **Support for high data volumes**
- **Integrated core plus coupled elements**
- **Common data model**
- **Expanded software tools and services**
- **Options to support or interoperate with external data sources**

- **Coexistence of heterogeneous, distributed data providers / information partners**
- **Minimal set of core standards; support for community-specific standards**
- **Preservation – content specifications**
- **Reusable software**
- **Service Oriented Architecture**
- **On-line archives and cross-system service invocation**
- **Near Real-Time access**
- **Ease of innovation and technology infusion**
- **Coherent Web – earthdata.nasa.gov**
- **Common Metadata Repository**
- **User Registration System**
- **Full-Resolution, fast, image browse**

- **<1990**
- **Mid-1990s**
- **Late 90s +**
- **Past decade to near future**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acronym</th>
<th>Full Form</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ACSI</td>
<td>American Customer Satisfaction Index</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GES</td>
<td>Goddard Earth Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NRL</td>
<td>Naval Research Laboratory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACRIM</td>
<td>Active Cavity Radiometer Irradiance Monitor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GHRC</td>
<td>Global Hydrology Resource Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NSIDC</td>
<td>National Snow and Ice Data Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARS</td>
<td>Atmospheric Infrared Sounder</td>
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<tr>
<td>GLAS</td>
<td>Geoscience Laser Altimeter System</td>
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<tr>
<td>OBPG</td>
<td>Ocean Biology Processing Group</td>
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<tr>
<td>AMSR-E</td>
<td>Advanced Microwave Scanning for EOS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GMAO</td>
<td>Global Modeling and Assimilation Office</td>
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<tr>
<td>OGC</td>
<td>Open Geospatial Consortium</td>
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<tr>
<td>API</td>
<td>Application programming interface</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GMU</td>
<td>George Mason University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OMI</td>
<td>Ozone Monitoring Instrument</td>
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<tr>
<td>ASTER</td>
<td>Advanced Spaceborne Thermal Emission and Reflection Radiometer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GRACE</td>
<td>Gravity Recovery and Climate Experiment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ORNL</td>
<td>Oak Ridge National Laboratory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASDC</td>
<td>Atmospheric Sciences Data Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GSFC</td>
<td>Goddard Space Flight Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PB</td>
<td>Peta Byte</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASF</td>
<td>Alaska Satellite Facility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HDF</td>
<td>Hierarchical Data Format</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PO.DAAC</td>
<td>Physical Oceanography DAAC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMSU</td>
<td>Advanced Microwave Sounding Unit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIRDLS</td>
<td>High Resolution Dynamics Limb Sounder</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RBD</td>
<td>Rate Buffered Data</td>
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<tr>
<td>CALIPSO</td>
<td>Cloud-Aerosol Lidar and Infrared Pathfinder Satellite Observations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HSB</td>
<td>Humidity Sounder for Brazil</td>
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<tr>
<td>SAGE</td>
<td>Stratospheric Aerosol and Gas Experiment</td>
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<tr>
<td>CDDIS</td>
<td>Crustal Dynamics Data Information System</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IWGDD</td>
<td>Interagency Working Group on Digital Data</td>
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<tr>
<td>SAR</td>
<td>Side Aperture Radar</td>
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<tr>
<td>CERES</td>
<td>Clouds and the Earth's Radiant Energy System</td>
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<tr>
<td>JPL</td>
<td>Jet Propulsion Laboratory</td>
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<tr>
<td>SEDAC</td>
<td>Socioeconomic Data and Applications Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>CEOS</td>
<td>Committee on Earth Observation Satellites</td>
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<tr>
<td>LAADS</td>
<td>Level 1 and Atmospheric Archive and Distribution System</td>
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<tr>
<td>SIM</td>
<td>Spectral Irradiance Monitor</td>
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<tr>
<td>CFI</td>
<td>Claes Fornell International</td>
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<tr>
<td>LANCE</td>
<td>Land, Atmosphere Near-real-time Capability for EOS</td>
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<tr>
<td>SIPS</td>
<td>Science Investigator-led Processing Systems</td>
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<tr>
<td>DAAC</td>
<td>Distribute Active Archive Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>LIS</td>
<td>Lightning Imaging Sensor</td>
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<tr>
<td>SNOW-I</td>
<td>Search 'N Order Web Interface</td>
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<td>DISC</td>
<td>Data and Information Services Center</td>
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<td>LP DAAC</td>
<td>Land Processes DAAC</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOLSTICE</td>
<td>Solar Stellar Comparison Experiment</td>
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<tr>
<td>ECHO</td>
<td>EOS ClearingHOuse</td>
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<tr>
<td>ManLan</td>
<td>Manhattan Landing (high performance exchange point in New York City)</td>
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<tr>
<td>SORCE</td>
<td>Solar Radiation and Climate Experiment</td>
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<tr>
<td>ECS</td>
<td>EOSDIS Core System</td>
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<tr>
<td>MISR</td>
<td>Multi-angle Imaging SpectroRadiometer</td>
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<td>SPORT</td>
<td>Short-term Prediction Research and Transition Center</td>
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<td>Tera Byte</td>
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<td>MODAPS</td>
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<td>TES</td>
<td>Tropospheric Emission Spectrometer</td>
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<td>EOS</td>
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<td>MODIS</td>
<td>Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer</td>
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<td>TIM</td>
<td>TRMM Microwave Imager</td>
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<td>MOPITT</td>
<td>Measurements of Pollution in the Troposphere</td>
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<td>TRMM</td>
<td>Tropical Rainfall Measuring Mission</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Earth Science Data and Information System</td>
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<td>UMBC</td>
<td>University of Maryland, Baltimore County</td>
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<td>ESIP</td>
<td>Federation of Earth Science Information Partners</td>
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<tr>
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<td>ESSI</td>
<td>Earth and Space Science Informatics</td>
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<td>NGIX</td>
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<td>WGISS</td>
<td>Working Group on Information Systems and Services</td>
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<td>Federal Geographic Data Committee</td>
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<tr>
<td>NISN</td>
<td>NASA Integrated Services Network</td>
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<tr>
<td>WIST</td>
<td>Warehouse Inventory Search Tool</td>
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<tr>
<td>FRGP</td>
<td>Front Range GigaPOP</td>
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<tr>
<td>NITRD</td>
<td>Networking and Information Technology Research and Development</td>
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<tr>
<td>XPS</td>
<td>XUV Photometer System</td>
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<tr>
<td>gbps</td>
<td>Giga bits per second</td>
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<tr>
<td>NPP</td>
<td>NPOESS Preparatory Project</td>
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<tr>
<td>GCMD</td>
<td>Global Change Master Directory</td>
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<tr>
<td>NPOESS</td>
<td>National Polar-orbiting Operational Environmental Satellite System</td>
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