

THE DYNAMIC EARTH: NASA OBSERVES OUR EVER-CHANGING PLANET

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Acronyms

A

ASTER	Advanced Spaceborne Thermal Emission and Reflection Radiometer
AIRS	Atmospheric Infrared Sounder
AMSR-E	Advanced Microwave Scanning Radiometer for EOS
AOD	Aerosol Optical Depth
AVHRR	Advanced Very High Resolution Radiometer

C

CALIOP	Cloud-Aerosol Lidar with Orthogonal Polarization
CERES	Clouds and the Earth's Radiant Energy System
CNES	Centre National d'Études Spatiales
CPR	Cloud Profiling Radar

D

DSMP	Defense Meteorological Satellite Program
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E

EOS Earth Observing System
EPA Environmental Protection Agency

G

GEOS 5 Goddard Earth Observing System Model, Version 5
GISS Goddard Institute for Space Studies
GISTEMP Goddard Institute for Space Studies Surface Temperature Analysis
GOES Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellite
GOME Global Ozone Measuring Experiment

M

MLS Microwave Limb Sounder
MODIS Moderate-resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer

N

NOAA National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

O

OMI Ozone Monitoring Instrument

P

PR Precipitation Radar

S

SBUV Solar Backscatter Ultraviolet Instrument

SeaWiFS Sea-viewing Wide Field of view Sensor

T

TMI TRMM Microwave Imager
TOMS Total Ozone Mapping Spectrometer
TRMM Tropical Rainfall Measuring Mission

V

VIRS Visible and Infrared Scanner

Chemicals

C carbon
CFC chlorofluorocarbon
Cl chlorine
ClO chlorine monoxide
CO carbon monoxide
CO₂ carbon dioxide
NO nitrogen monoxide
NO₂ nitrogen dioxide
O oxygen
O₃ ozone

Units

°C degrees Celsius (or centigrade)
cm centimeter
°F degrees Fahrenheit
ft feet
hr hour
kg kilogram

km	kilometer
m	meter
mg	milligram
mi	mile
mm	millimeter
ppbv	parts per billion by volume
ppm	parts per million
ppmv	parts per million by volume
s	second
yr	year
W	Watts
W/m²	Watts per square meter
%	percent (parts per hundred)

References:

King, M. D., C. L. Parkinson, K. C. Partington, and R. G. Williams, eds., 2007: Our Changing Planet: The View from Space, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, United Kingdom, 391 pp.