

A 3D maze background with dark grey walls and a light grey floor, creating a complex, winding path. The maze is centered and fills the entire frame.

# Introduction to Remote Sensing

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# Outline

- Definition
- History
- Aircraft vs. Satellite
- Data collection systems

# Definition of Remote Sensing

- Gathering or observation about a target by a device in distance literally
- Synonymous with the use of artificial satellites
- dates from long before the launch of the first artificial satellite
- advanced by the invention and development of radar and thermal-infrared systems(especially in the military)

# History

- ❖ Coined in the early 1960s
- ❖ For the military purpose and transferred to civilian domain after World War II
- ❖ Ways to gather remotely sensed data before satellites(1960s):
  - Photogrammetric technique
  - Pinhole camera
  - Camera obscura
  - Infrared photography
  - Color-infrared photography
  - Multispectral scanners
  - Electromagnetic radiation

# History

- ❖ Following World War II, aerial photographic techniques and enormous advances were made in the military front.
- ❖ Uses:
  - Provide valuable meteorological data for defense
  - locate military installations
  - follow the movements of armies
- ❖ Before 1960 —> Photo interpretation

## Comparison of the Two Major Periods in the History of Remote Sensing

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### Prior to Space Age (1860–1960)

### Since 1960

Only one kind and date of photography	Many kinds and dates of remote sensing data
Heavy reliance on the human analysis of unenhanced images	Heavy reliance on the machine analysis and enhancement of images
Extensive use of photo interpretation keys	Minimal use of photo interpretation keys
Relatively good military/civil relations with respect to remote sensing	Relatively poor military/civil relations with respect to remote sensing
Few problems with uninformed opportunists	Many problems with uninformed opportunists
Minimal applicability of the “multi” concept	Extensive applicability of the “multi” concept
Simple and inexpensive equipment, readily operated and maintained by resource-oriented workers	Complex and expensive equipment, not readily operated and maintained by resource-oriented workers
Little concern about the renewability of resources, environmental protection, global resource information systems, and associated problems related to “signature extension,” “complexity of an area’s structure,” and/or the threat imposed by “economic weaponry”	Much concern about the renewability of resources, environmental protection, global resource information systems, and associated problems related to “signature extension,” “complexity of an area’s structure,” and/or the threat imposed by “economic weaponry”
Heavy resistance to “technology acceptance” by potential users of remote sensing-derived information.	Continuing heavy resistance to “technology acceptance” by potential users of remote sensing-derived information.

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Adapted from Colwell, 1983.

# History

- ❖ In 1972, first Earth Resources Technology Satellite (Landsat-1) was launched
- ❖ Improve knowledge of more areas, ex. Environment, Science, Engineering

Archaeology and anthropology  
Cartography  
Geology  
    Surveys  
    Mineral resources  
Land use  
    Urban land use  
    Agricultural land use  
    Soil survey  
    Health of crops  
    Soil moisture and evapotranspiration  
    Yield predictions  
    Rangelands and wildlife  
    Forestry - inventory  
    Forestry, deforestation, acid rain, disease  
Civil engineering  
    Site studies  
    Water resources  
    Transport facilities  
Water resources  
    Surface water, supply, pollution  
    Underground water  
    Snow and ice mapping  
Coastal studies  
    Erosion, accretion, bathymetry  
    Sewage, thermal and chemical pollution monitoring

Oceanography  
    Surface temperature  
    Geoid  
    Bottom topography  
    Winds, waves, and currents  
    Circulation  
    Sea ice mapping  
    Oil pollution monitoring  
Meteorology  
    Weather systems tracking  
    Weather forecasting  
    Heat flux and energy balance  
    Input to general circulation models  
    Sounding for atmospheric profiles  
    Cloud classification  
    Precipitation monitoring  
Climatology  
    Atmospheric minority constituents  
    Surface albedo  
    Heat flux and energy balance  
    Input to climate models  
    Desertification

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Natural disasters  
    Floods  
    Earthquakes  
    Volcanic eruptions  
    Forest fires  
    Subsurface coal fires  
    Landslides  
    Tsunamis

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Planetary studies



**Aircraft**

vs.

**Satellites**

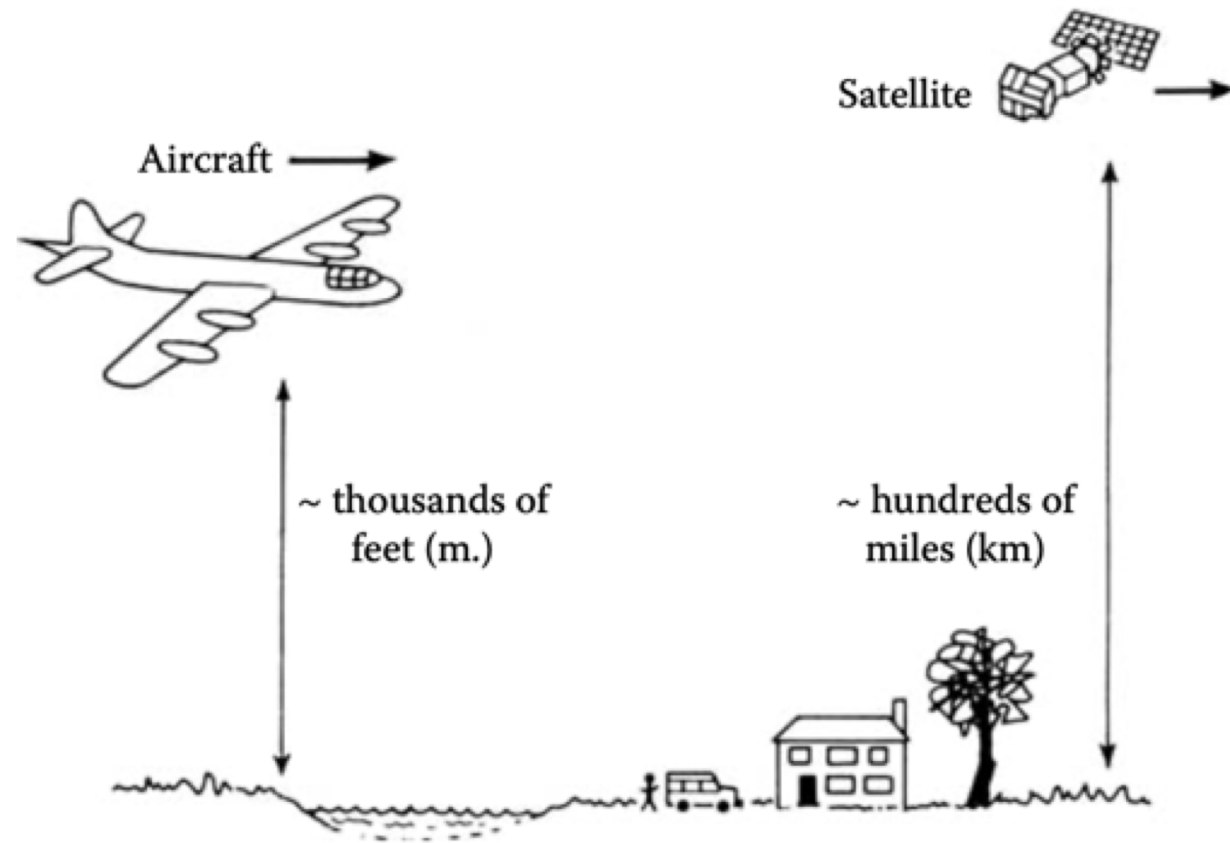
❖ **Advantages:**

- Frequently
- Cover large areas

❖ **Disadvantages:**

- Extraction of required information may be difficult or impossible





Causes of differences in scale of aircraft and satellite observations.



**Aircraft**

VS.

**Satellites**

❖ **Difference:**

- **Aircraft:** fly lower—>see more detail on the ground  
higher frequency
- **Satellite:** regularity of coverage  
area of coverage  
fewer fuel cost



**Aircraft**

VS.

**Satellites**

❖ **Four Factors:**

- Extent of the area covered
- Speed of development of phenomenon to be observed
- Detailed performance of the instrument available for flying in the aircraft or satellite
- Availability and cost of the data

# Advantages

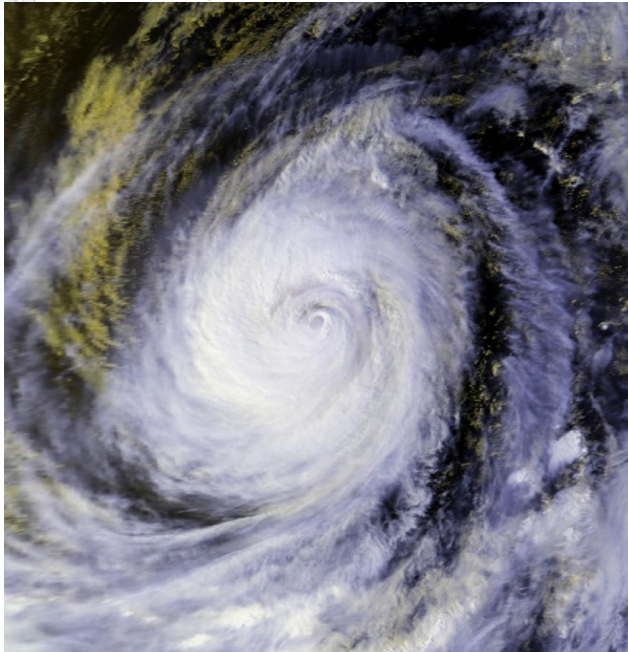
- ❖ Remain in operation for many years.
- ❖ Get information in all air condition. Ex: cloudy day

# Weathering satellite

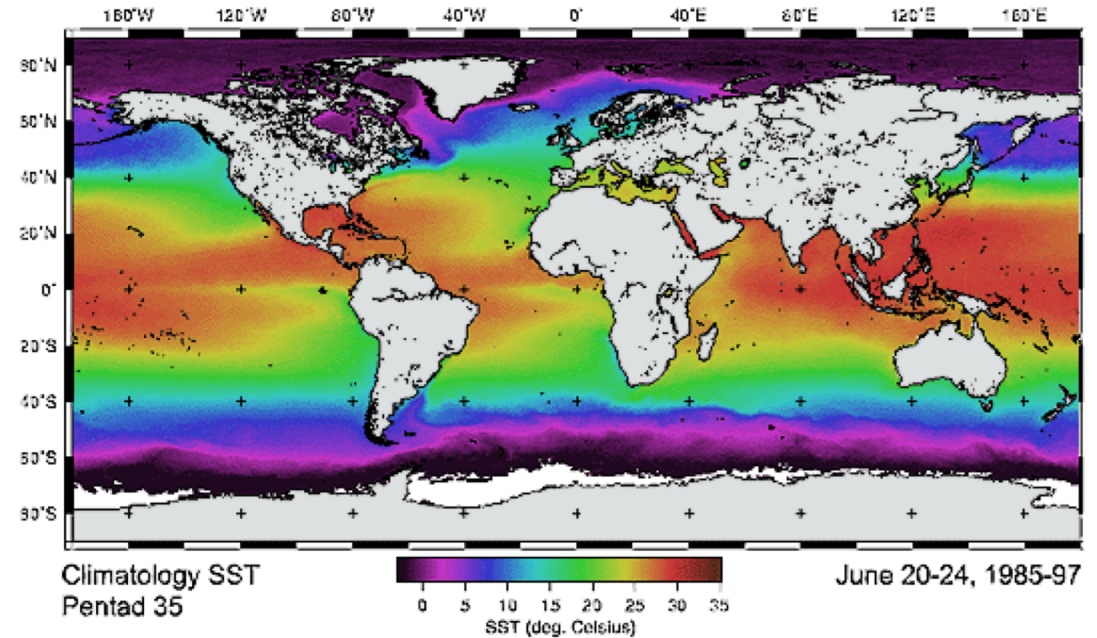
The advantage of satellite:

- ❖ a scale of coverage
- ❖ a regularity of coverage

# Frequency and Coverage

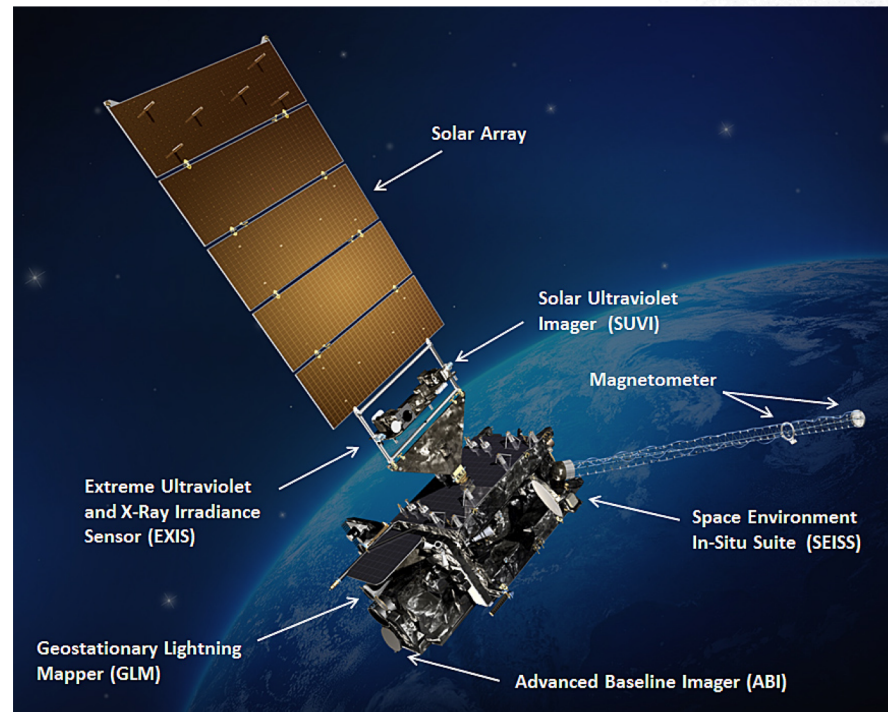


a single satellite of the polar orbiting TIROS-N series



a sensor AVHRR (the Advanced Very High Resolution Radiometer)

# Frequency and Coverage



geostationary weather satellite 30% - 40%

# Data collection systems

Several methods of recording and retrieving data:

- ❖ Cassette tape recorders or computer storage media, which require occasional visits to collect the data. (Amount)
- ❖ A direct radio link to a receiving station conveniently situated on the ground. (Distance)
- ❖ A radio link via a satellite



# Advantages of satellite data collection systems

- ❖ convenience
- ❖ saves the cost
- ❖ distance

# Two satellite based collection systems

- ❖ Geostationary systems. Ex: meteosat
- ❖ Argos data collection system

# two satellite-based collection systems are complementary

- ❖ geostationary satellite
- ❖ Problems of geostationary systems:
- ❖ Locations
- ❖ Problems of polar regions

# Argos satellite

- ❖ Doppler Effect
- ❖ the change in frequency of a sound wave or electromagnetic wave that occurs when the source of vibration and observer are moving relative to each other
- ❖ Approche-Higher; Away-Lower

# Location

$$f' = \left( \frac{c - v \cos \theta}{c} \right) f_0$$

where

$f$  is transmission frequency

$c$  is the velocity of light,

$v$  is the velocity of the satellite

$\theta$  is the angle between the line of sight and the velocity vector of the satellite.

$f_0$ , is fixed and is nominally the same for all platforms.

# GEOMETRIC LOCATION PRINCIPLE

the velocity vector of the satellite

the line of sight

