

Google Earth Engine Evapotranspiration Flux --- EEFlux



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Members of the Landsat Science Team



Landsat Science Team Meeting – EROS, July 8, 2015

EEFlux-Development Team

An Evapotranspiration Modeling Tool on Google Earth Engine



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Justin Huntington – Desert Research Institute – Professor, *Member Landsat Science Team*
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David Thau, Google, Inc. – Earth Engine Advocate
Tyler Erickson, Google, Inc. – Earth Engine Advocate
Noel Gorelick, Google, Inc. – Earth Engine Advocate
Rebecca Moore, Google, Inc. – Manager, Earth Engine / *Visionary*

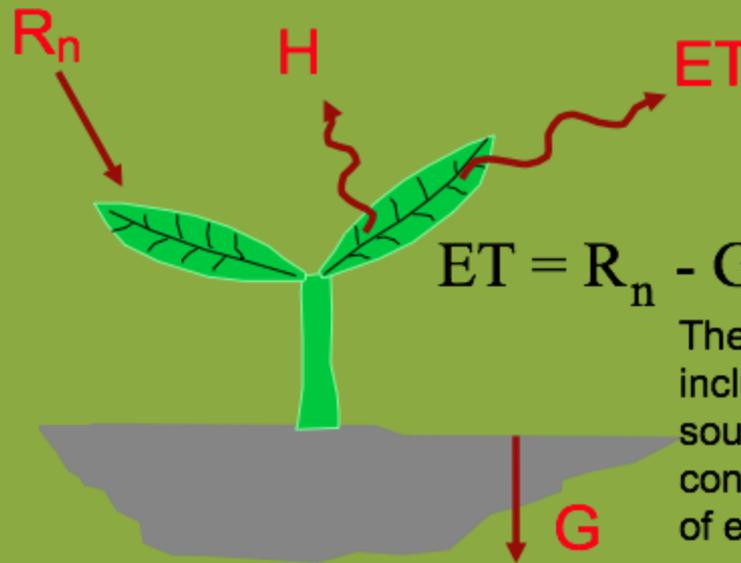


EEFlux = Implementation of METRIC ET mapping algorithms into EarthEngine for processing Landsat and MODIS imagery

ET is calculated as a “residual” of the energy balance

EEFlux uses thermal imagery from Landsat and MODIS

Basic Truth:
Evaporation
consumes
Energy

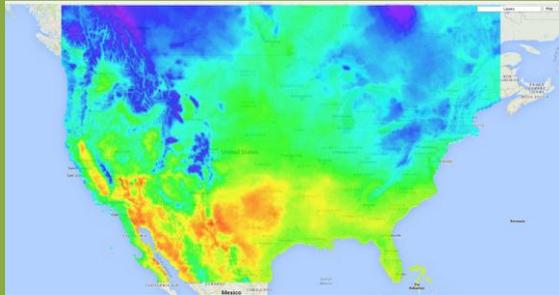


$$ET = R_n - G - H$$

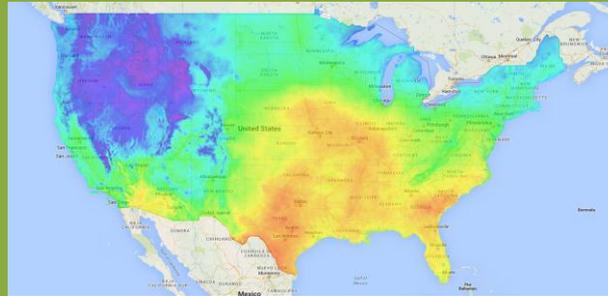
The energy balance includes all major sources (R_n) and consumers (ET , G , H) of energy

Data Resources Used by EFlux

NLDAS-Jan 1, 1979 - Current



GRIDMET-Jan 1, 1979 - Current



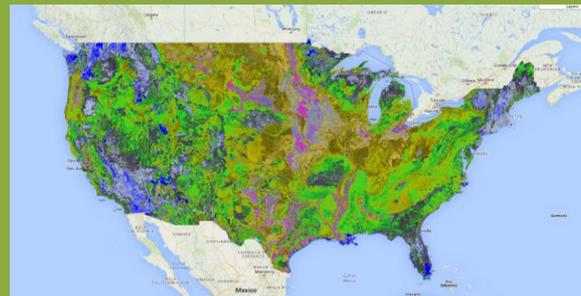
NLCD Landuse



DEM



Soil Data Layers

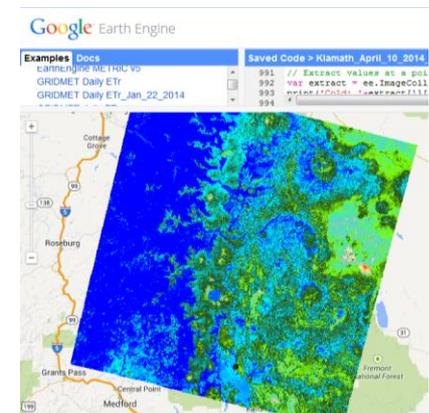


- Landsat 5/7/8 and MODIS
- Weather Data
 - Hourly Weather Data (NLDAS)--CONUS
 - Daily Weather Data (GRIDMET)--CONUS
 - Climate Forecast System Version 2, 6-hourly Products (CSFV2)--nonCONUS
- Landuse and Digital Elevation Maps
- Soil Data Layers (STATSGO--CONUS and FAO)

EEFlux (ET) on Google Earth Engine

Data:

- Gridded Weather data – used to calibrate EEFlux energy balance and to calculate Reference ET used for Time Iteration of ET:
 - NLDAS – North American Land Data Assimilation System
 - hourly weather data at 12 km available for > 30 year period for CONUS
 - GridMET - daily, bias corrected weather data at 4 km available for > 30 year period for CONUS
 - Climate Forecast System Version 2, 6-hourly Product (CSFV2)—nonCONUS
 - Real Time Mesoscale Analysis (RTMA) – downloaded daily to Earth Engine – used to fill in time gaps between NLDAS and today for processing recent Landsat imagery
- Soils -- Used to produce a daily time series of evaporation from bare soil.
 - Statsgo soils data is available for CONUS for top 0.15 m of soil
 - FAO soils data base used for rest of globe



Klamath, 2014

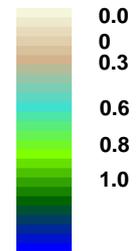
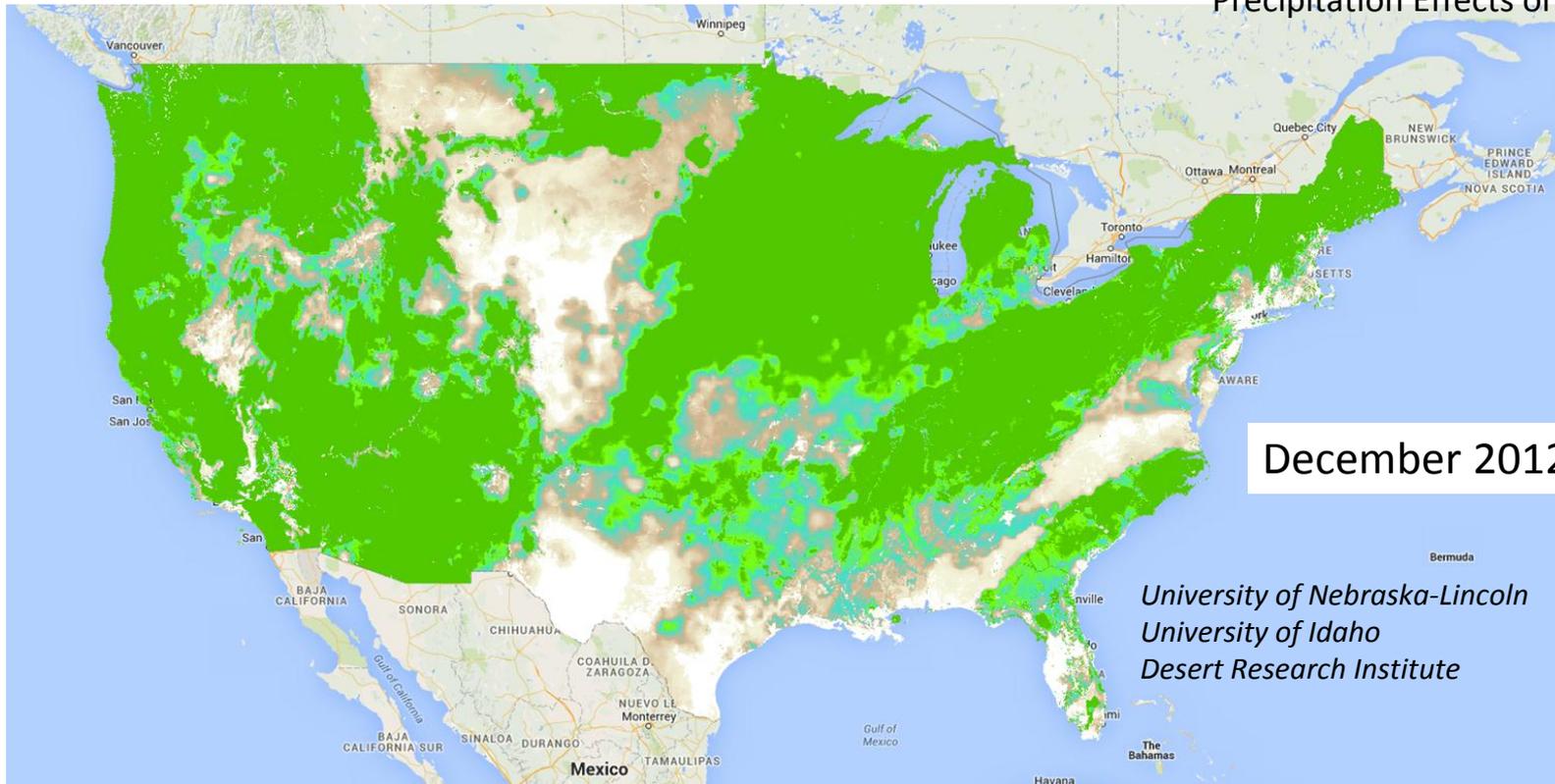
ET between Landsat dates is scaled using Reference ET App of Google EE



Reference ET is calculated using the ASCE Standardized Penman-Monteith Equation for the Tall Reference (Alfalfa) --computed from the daily GridMET data set of Abatzoglou (2012)

The Soil Surface Evaporation Component of the Google Earth Engine EEFlux App.

--- Evaporation from Bare Soil --- used to calibrate the EEFlux Evapotranspiration Surface Energy Balance to account for background Precipitation Effects on ET Evap. Coef. (K_e)



$$(K_e = E_{act} / ET_{ref})$$

--computed from the GridMET weather data set of Abatzoglou (2012)
-- GridMET is traceable to NLDAS and PRISM data sets

EEFlux Applications

Imperial Valley
and Palo Verde,
CA



Jordan

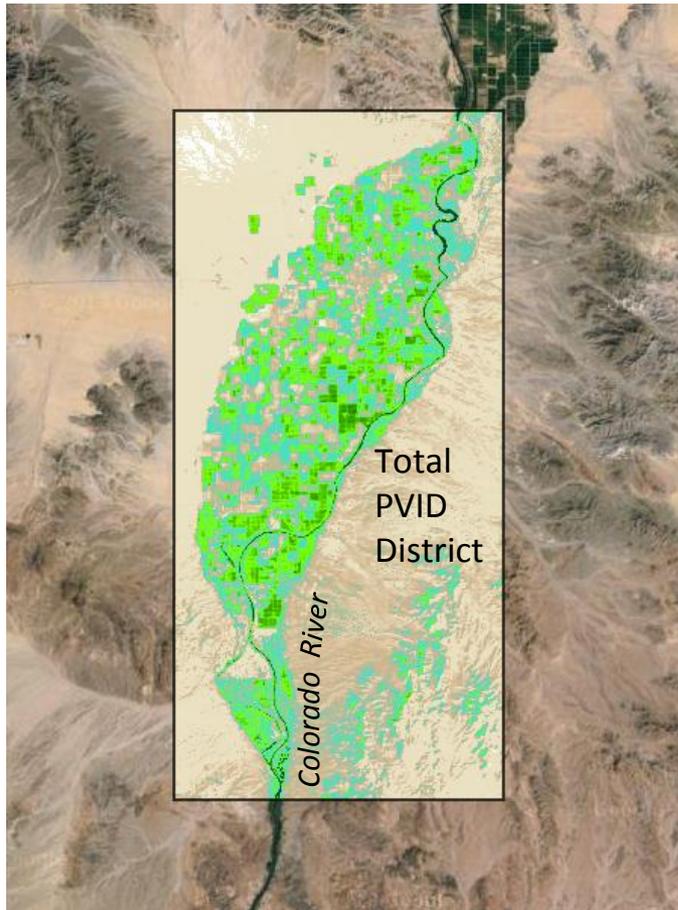


Chile



We are testing EEFlux over the globe in a number of Countries and Conditions

Google Earth Engine Flux --- EEFlux



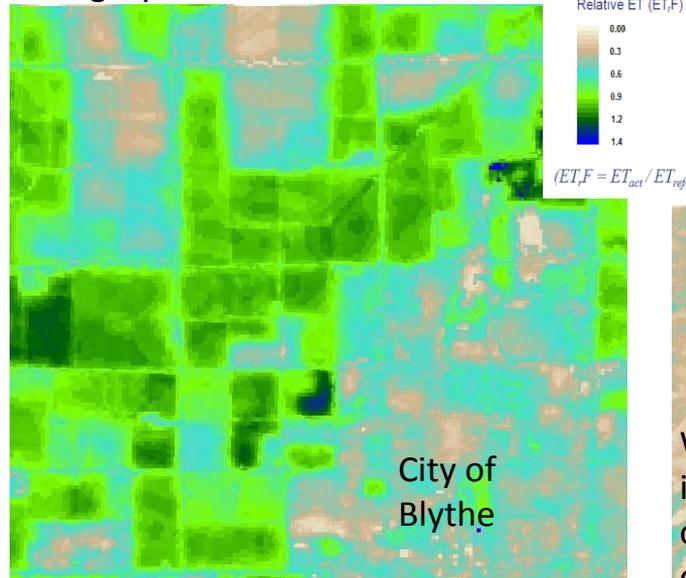
Earth Engine Evapotranspiration Flux

Palo Verde Irrigation District

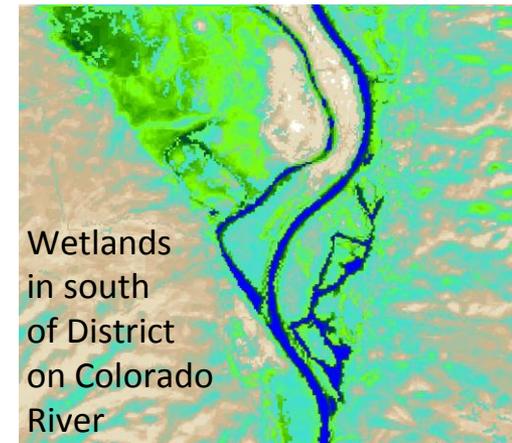
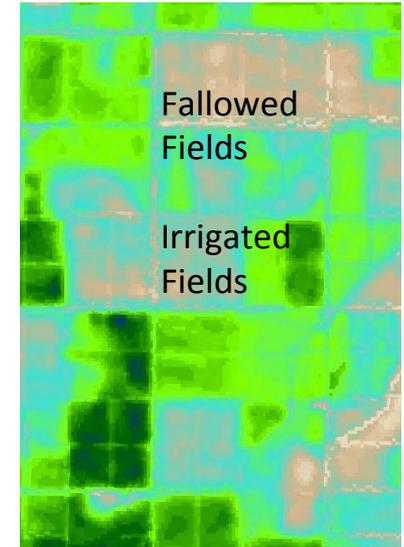
Blythe, California – Jan. – Dec. 2008

-- Landsat 5 imagery

Dec.



Univ. Nebraska-Lincoln, Univ. Idaho, Desert Research Institute



Computations are based on a complete surface energy balance (METRIC)

EEFlux API's

- ee.Algorithms.EEFlux(Landsat)
 - ee.Algorithm.EEFlux.HourlyETr
 - ee.Algorithm.EEFlux.DailyETr
 - ee.Algorithm.EEFlux.SoilWaterBalance
 - ee.Algorithm.EEFlux.LandsatPreprocessing
 - ee.Algorithm.EEFlux.surfaceReflectance
 - ee.Algorithm.EEFlux.surfaceAlbedo
 - ee.Algorithm.EEFlux.surfaceTemperature
 - ee.Algorithm.EEFlux.AutoHC
 - ee.Algorithm.EEFlux.NetRadiation
 - ee.Algorithm.EEFlux.dT
 - ee.Algorithm.EEFlux.SensibleHeatFlux
 - ee.Algorithm.EEFlux.SoilHeatFlux
 - ee.Algorithm.EEFlux.EnergyBalance

API = Application Programming Interface

Each API will be callable by any user's Earth Engine Script

Soon to be available in earth engine playground



sample
ee call

ee.Algorithm.EEFlux

- ee.Algorithms.EEFlux.HourlyETr(Tair, SPH, Rs, WindSpeed, Elevation, Zw, doy, hour, ReferenceSurface)
 - EEFlux (Earth Engine Evapotranspiration Flux), is patterned after the operational stand-alone model METRIC (mapping evapotranspiration at high resolution with internal calibration). EEFlux is a full surface energy balance model, producing estimates of net radiation (Rn), sensible heat flux to the air (H), and conductive heat flux to the ground (G). ET is estimated from these surface energy balance components as a residual: $ET = Rn - H - G$.
- Arguments:
- Input layers:
 - **input (Image):** The Landsat image to process.
- Returns:
 - ETrF: Fraction of Evapotranspiration (ET/ETrF)
 - ET: Evapotranspiration (mm/day)
- Reference:

ee.Algorithm.EEFlux.HourlyETr

sample
ee call

• ee.Algorithms.EEFlux.HourlyETr(Tair, SPH, Rs, WindSpeed, Elevation, Zw, doy, hour, ReferenceSurface)

- Reference evapotranspiration (ETr) is the rate at which readily available soil water is vaporized from specified vegetated surfaces (Grass or Alfalfa).
- This algorithm is based on the 'Standardized Reference Evapotranspiration Equation' recommended by American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE-ET).
- Outputs a single band containing the computed hourly reference ET.

• Arguments:

• Input layers:

- Tair: Air Temperature (C)
- SPH: Specific Humidity (kg/kg)
- Rs: Solar Radiation (W/m2)
- WindSpeed: Wind speed (m/s)
- Elevation : Elevation (meters)
- DoY: Julian Date / Day of Year (Integer (0-365/366))
- Hour: Hour in GMT (Integer 00-23)
- Zw : Anemometer Height (meter)
- Reference surface (0/1):
 - Grass (0) or Alfalfa (1)

Image layers



• Returns: Image of ETr/ETo (mm)

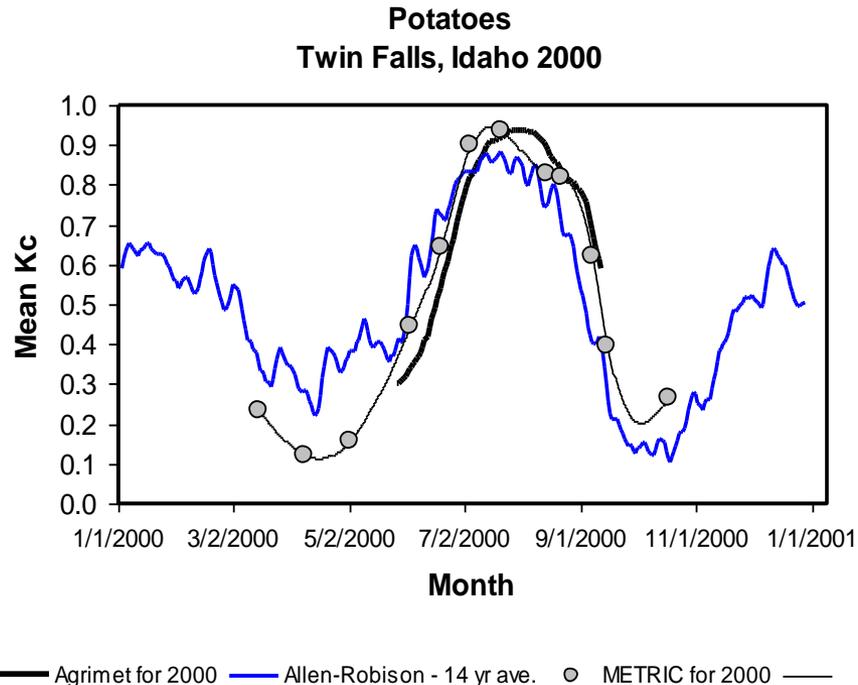
• Reference: Allen, R. G. et al. The ASCE Standardized Reference Evapotranspiration Equation. Reston, VA: American Society of Civil Engineers, 2005.

We Need a 30 – m SELFIE of Planet Earth DAILY



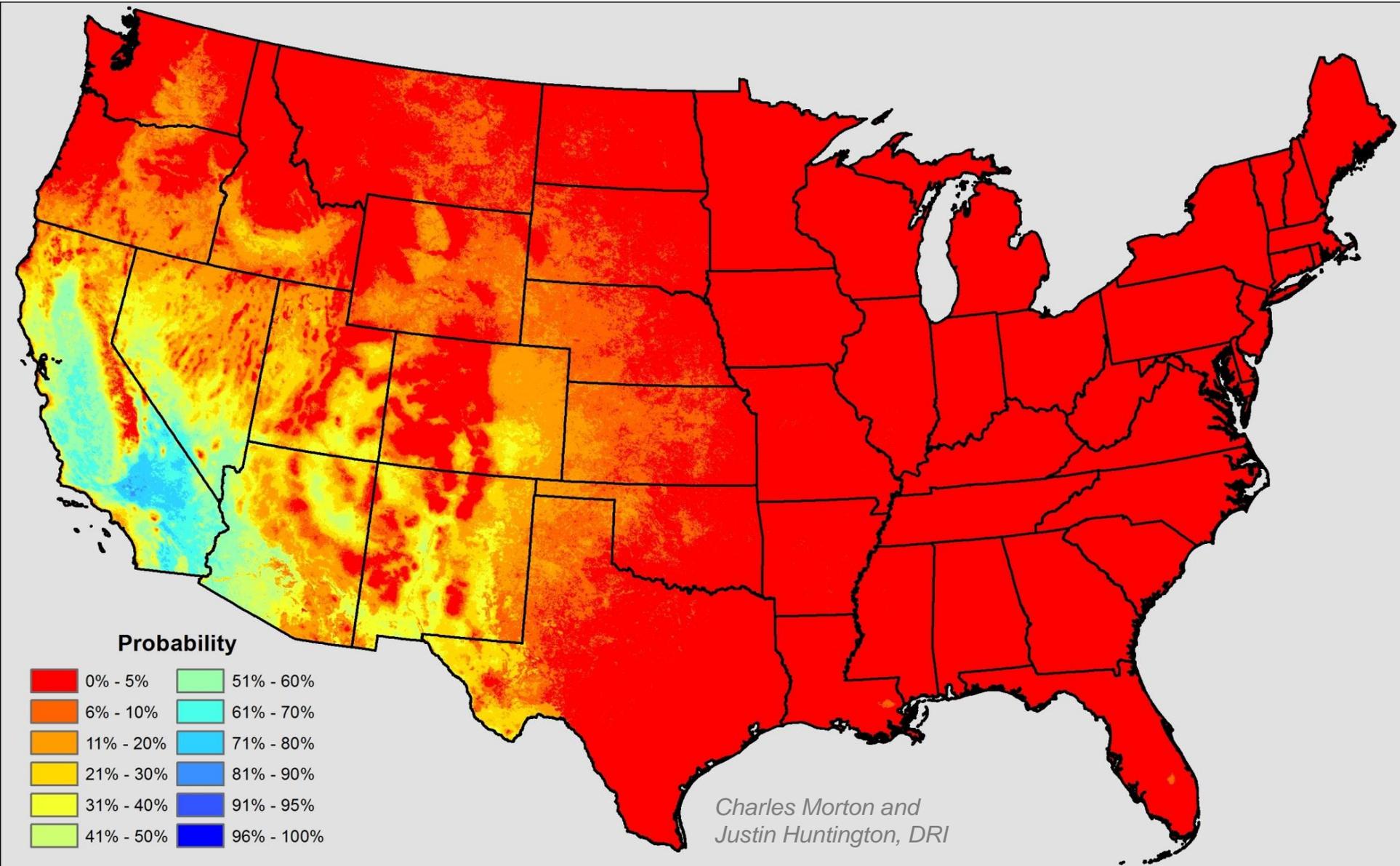
The impact of Number of Satellites (Revisit time) on estimating Water Consumption

- For estimating ET over extended time periods, we would 'like' information for any one 'point' each 32 days (at a minimum) to follow evolution of vegetation and water availability
- For parcel scale ET mapping, this requires multiple Landsat-type satellites



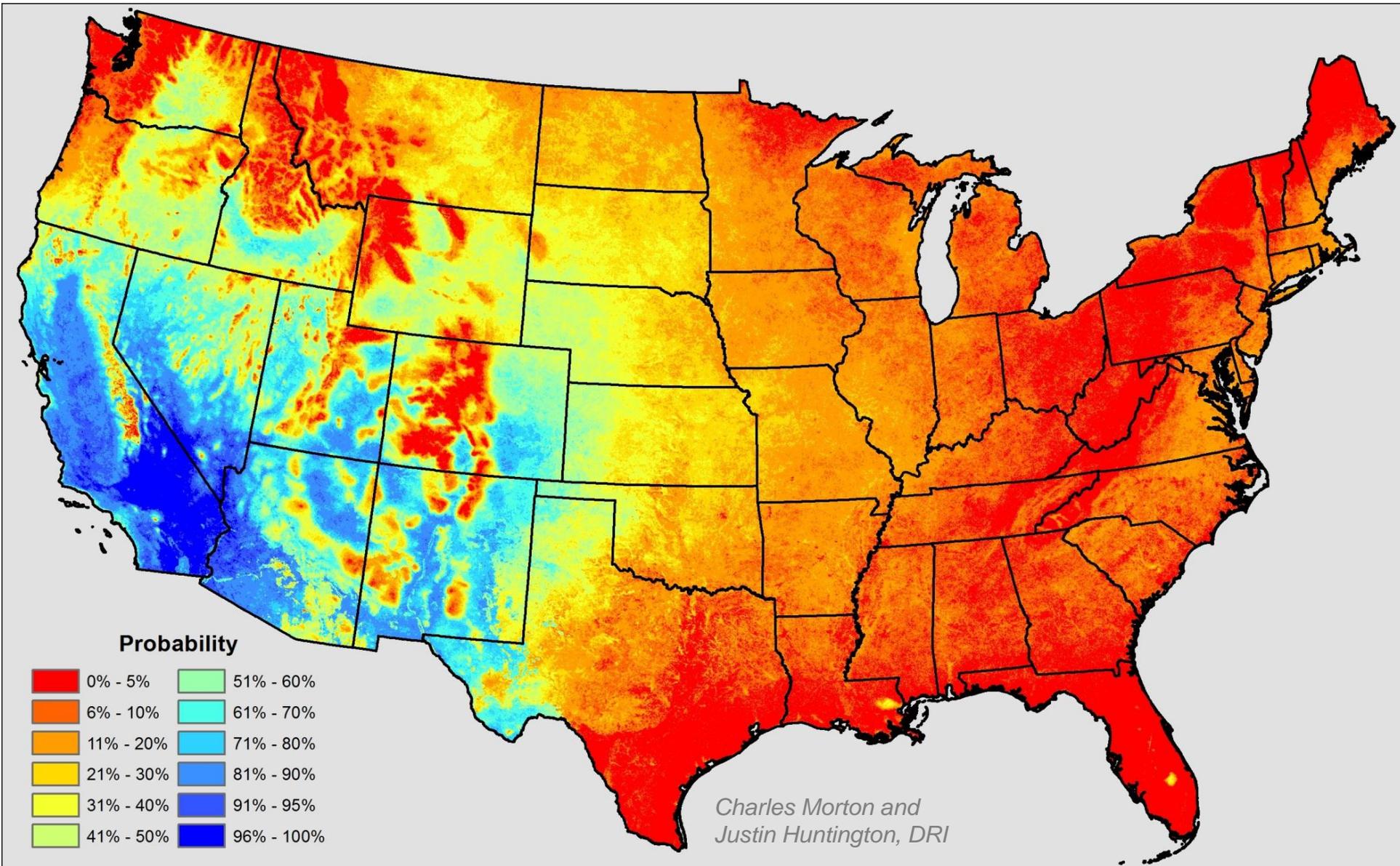
1 (180 km path) Landsat Satellite (each 16 days)

Probability of a Cloud-free Pixel at least every 32 days



2 Landsat Satellites (image each 8 days)

Probability of a Cloud-free Pixel at least every 32 days



3 Landsat Satellites (image each ~5 days)

Probability of a Cloud-free Pixel at least every 32 days

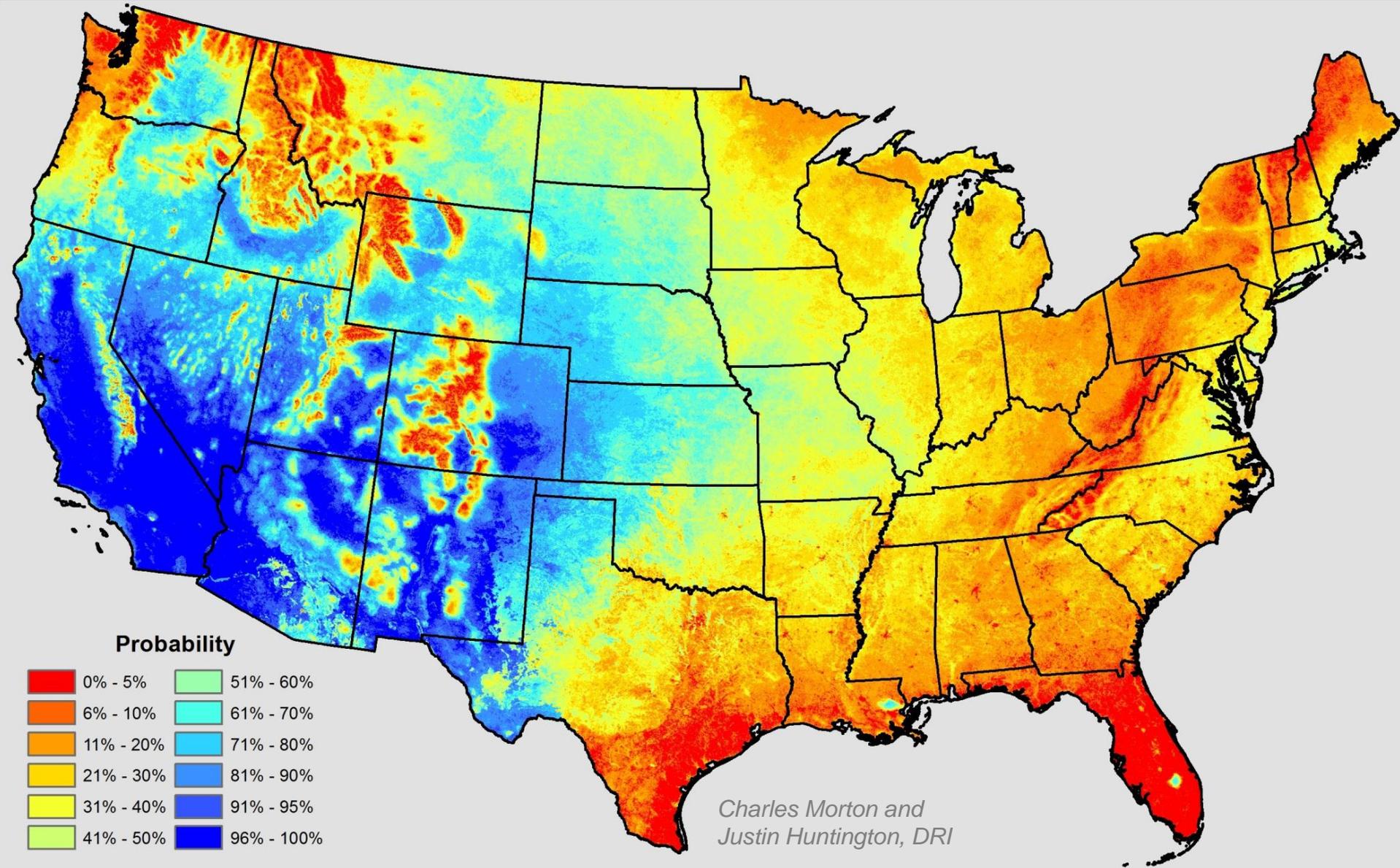


Image each 4 days -- Four 180 km Landsat Satellites or Two 360 km Landsat Satellites

Probability of a Cloud-free Pixel at least every 32 days

(This is what the 'water community' should be asking for)

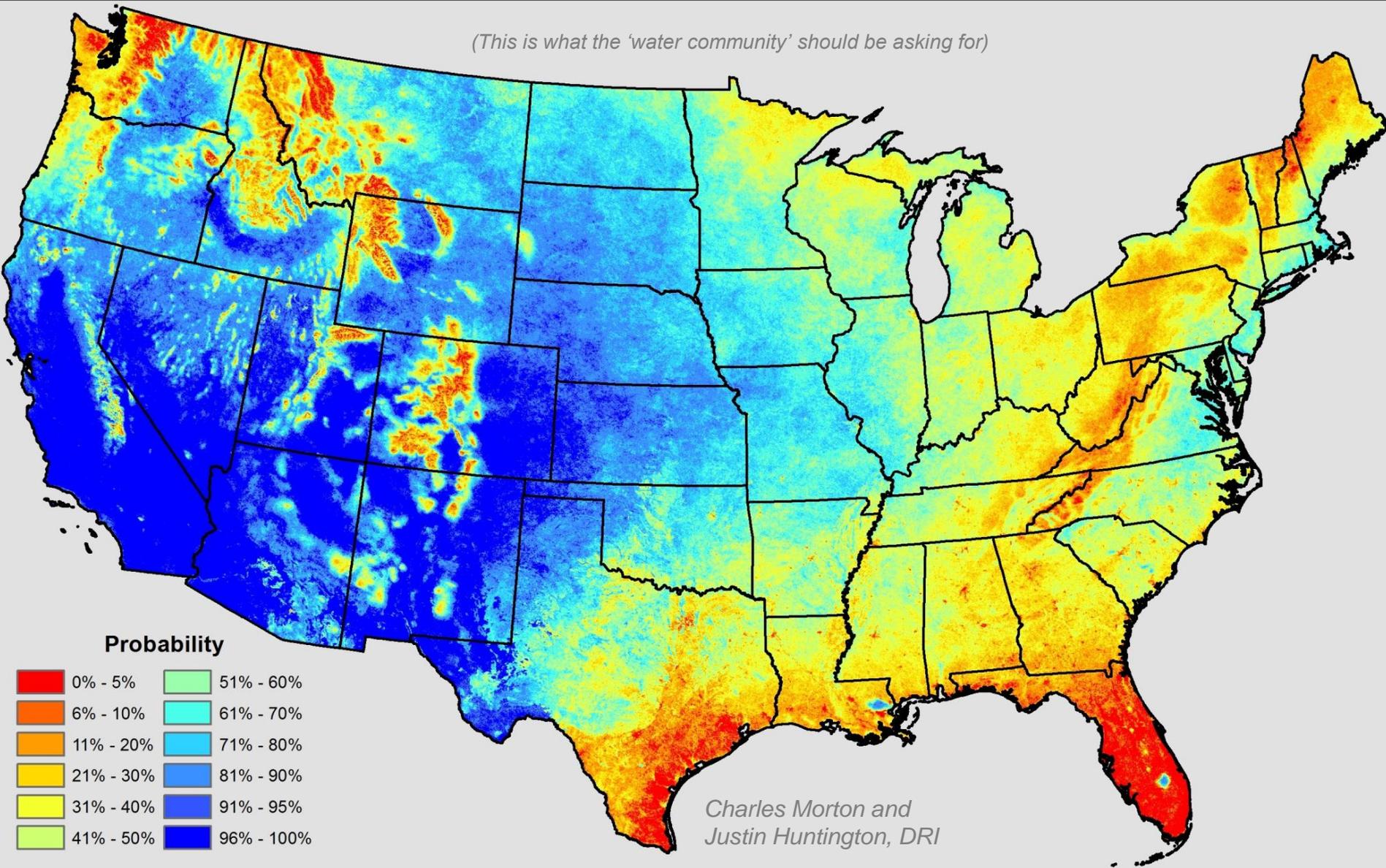
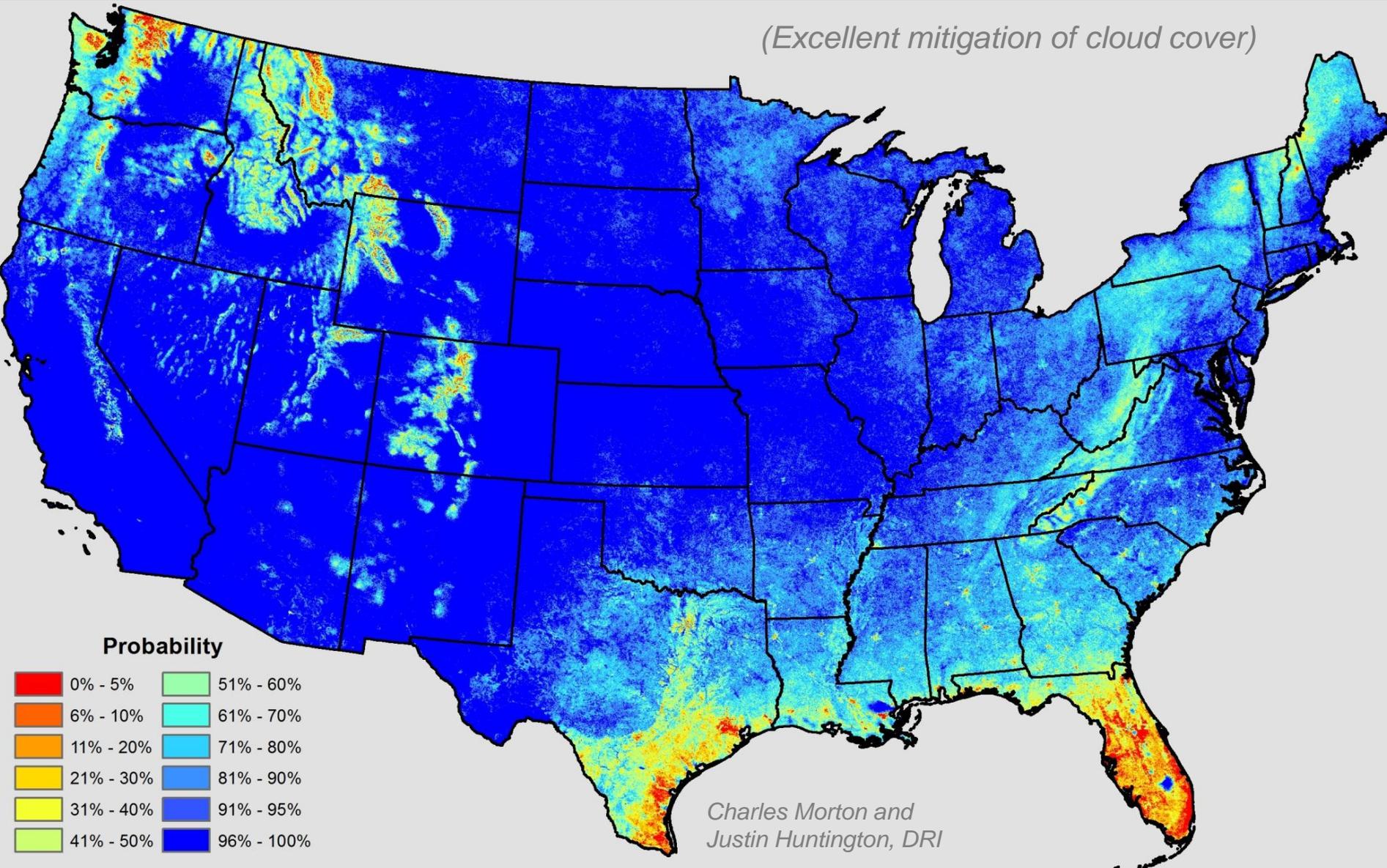


Image each 2 days – Eight 180 km Landsat Satellites or Four 360 km Landsat Satellites

Probability of a Cloud-free Pixel at least every 32 days

(Excellent mitigation of cloud cover)

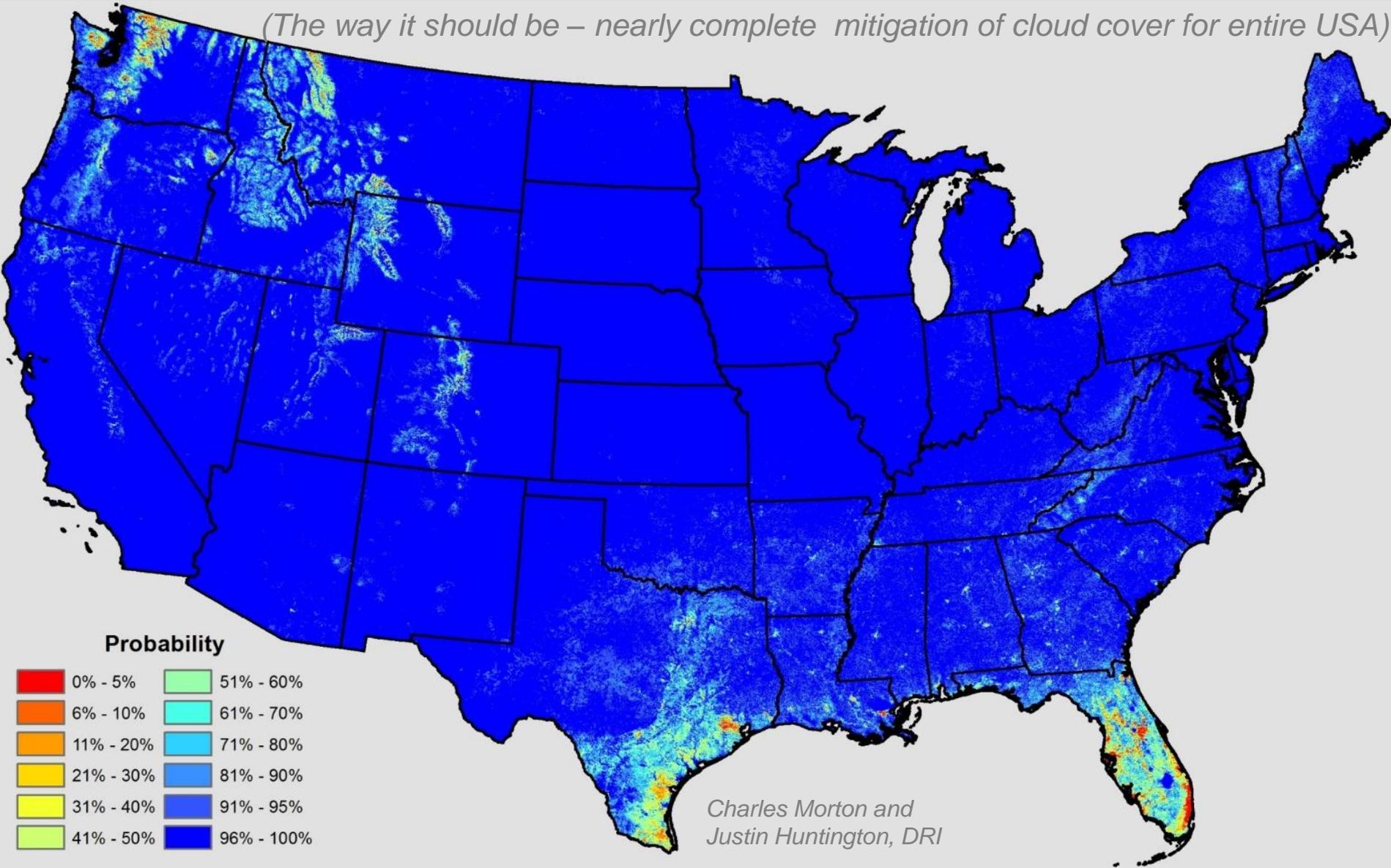


*Charles Morton and
Justin Huntington, DRI*

A daily **SELFIE** at 30 m -- 16 – 180 km Landsat Satellites or 8 – 360 km Landsat Satellites

Probability of a Cloud-free Pixel at least every 32 days

(The way it should be – nearly complete mitigation of cloud cover for entire USA)

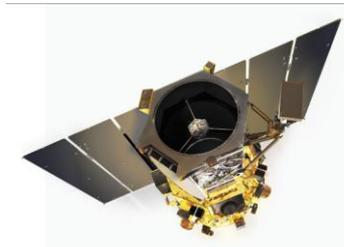


Why 30 m? (or 10 m or 20 m)

- 30 m provides enough detail for parcel – scale observations ---- The level of human impacts
 - agricultural fields
 - riparian systems
 - wetlands
- 30 m ‘blends’ very fine details such as shadows and individual vegetation into 30 m ‘blocks’ of blended impacts having intra-parcel definition
- 30 m pixel size is constrained by size, optics, accuracy and revisit time of satellite

Matching Imaging with Impact Scale

High resolution (< 10 m) imaging is highly valuable, but not necessary for high frequency mapping of evolutionary processes like vegetation growth and water consumption on 1) a parcel scale and 2) nationally or globally



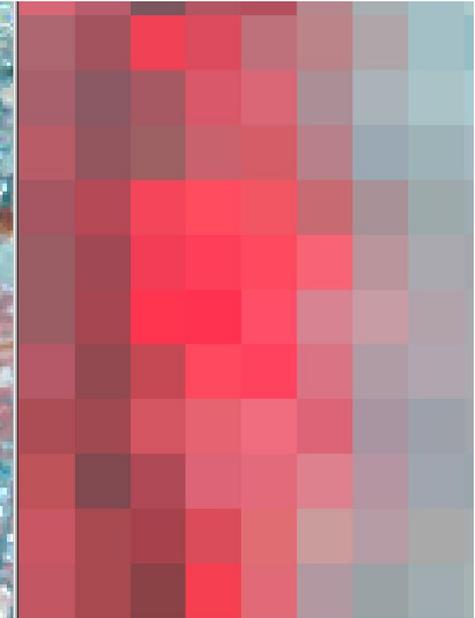
High Resolution intra-human impact scales



Landsat specific human impact scale



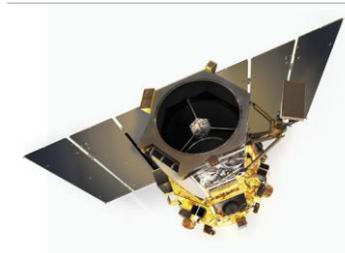
MODIS subregional / local scale



The Challenge for US Congress and others



“No, Take me!”



“Take me!”



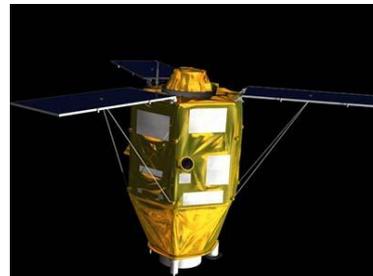
“Take me!”



“No, Take me!”



“Take me!”



“No, Take me!”



“Take me!”

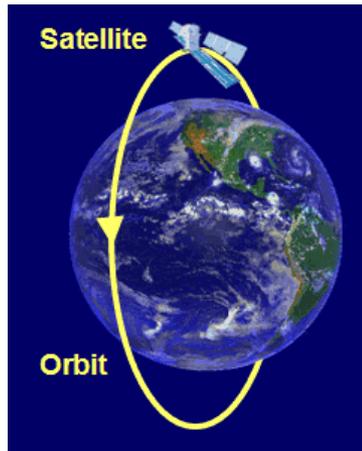
A formula for calculating revisit time for a satellite (and the number of satellites needed for a daily “Selfie”)

Earth’s Circumference = 40,000,000 m

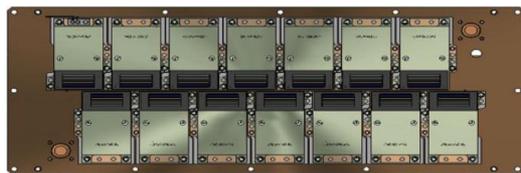
Satellite Orbit time = 98.9 minutes for L8



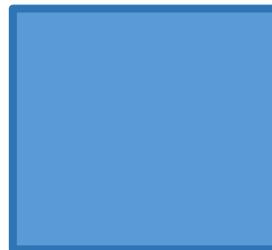
X



= 16 days for 1 sat.
or 16 satellites for daily



X



X 24 X 60

constrained by telescope
size and signal to noise
ratio req.

Effective Number of Detectors
(no. pixels) = ~5,700 for L8

Pixel size = 30 m for L8

Swath Width of Satellite

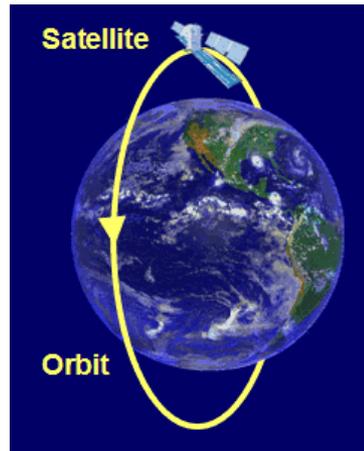
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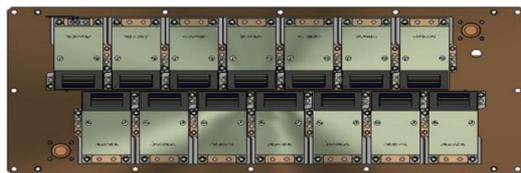
Satellite Orbit time = 98.9 minutes for L8



X



= 48 days for 1 sat.
or 48 satellites for daily



X



X 24 X 60

Effective Number of Detectors
(no. pixels) = ~5,700 for L8

Pixel size = 10 m

constrained by telescope
size and signal to noise
ratio req.

Swath Width of Satellite

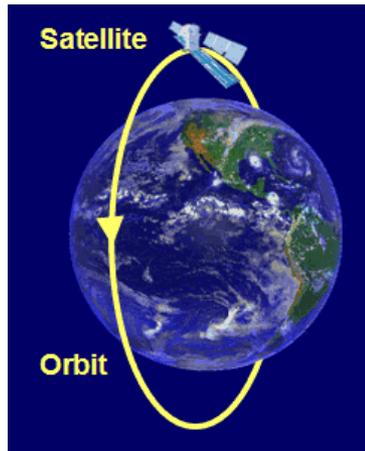
A formula for calculating revisit time for a satellite (and the number of satellites needed for a daily “Selfie”)

Earth's Circumference = 40,000,000 m

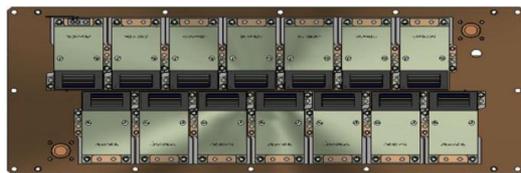
Satellite Orbit time = 98.9 minutes for L8



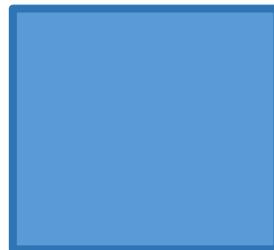
X



= 480 days for 1 sat.
or 480 satellites for daily



X



X 24 X 60

Effective Number of Detectors
(no. pixels) = ~5,700 for L8

Pixel size = 1 m

constrained by telescope
size and signal to noise
ratio req.

Swath Width of Satellite

Cost - three coffee-lattes per American per year
= \$15 billion over 10 years
= 16 Landsats per 10 years

A Dream for 30 meter Imaging every Day

I have a Dream today.

*Where all of God's children, black and white,
Asian and African, American and Australian,
See their Earth, EVERY changing day,
in all its living and dynamic colors and transformations.*

I have a Dream today,

*where EVERY field of lettuce and EVERY patch of forest
and EVERY patch of ice sheet and EVERY small pond of
water
are seen and examined and monitored and managed
EVERY day.*

I have a Dream today,



A Dream for 30 meter Imaging every Day

I have a Dream today,

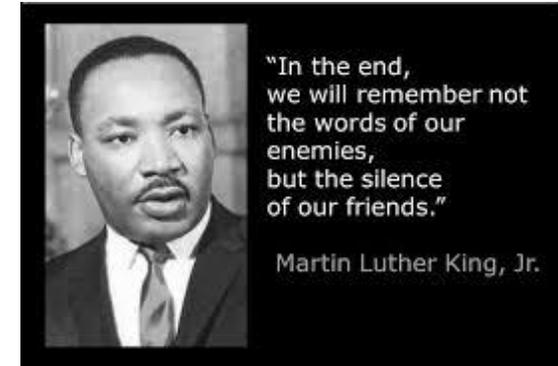
Where we do not have ONE Landsat, not TWO Landsats, but EIGHT and SIXTEEN Landsats,

Where we do not SUFFER from lack of knowledge, where we do not SUFFER in our management of our Earth's precious resources, where we do not SUFFER because we DO NOT have a view of ourselves.

I have a Dream today,

Where EVERY DAY, our Earth has its own Landsat SELFIE.

Yes, Let's all have this Landsat DREAM TODAY.



"No, no, we are not satisfied, and we will not be satisfied until justice rolls down like waters and righteousness like a mighty stream." M.L. King. 1963.