

## **Status of Terra Mission**

Kurt Thome, Si-Chee Tsay, Robert Wolfe

MODIS/VIIRS Science Team Meeting May, 2023





23YEARS

OVEROOD TOOLBITS 5 INSTRUMENTS

ASTER • CERES • MISR

MODIS • MOPITT

20,000 PUBLICATIONS 350,000 CITATIONS

4.6 MILLION USERS

83 DATA PRODUCTS

SCIENCE AREAS
USING TERRA DATA



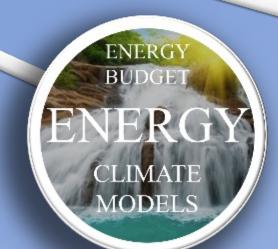


EARTH'S SURFACE and INTERIOR
SINKS AND SOURCES

LAND
FORESTS
CARBON CYCLE

For 23 years, the Terra mission has continually collected scientific data dedicated to understanding Earth's systems

The size of the circles on the right represent the relative number of the 83 data products from Terra data in each science area



WILDFIRES EMISSIONS

DUST STORMS

ATMOSPHERE

CLOUD COVER

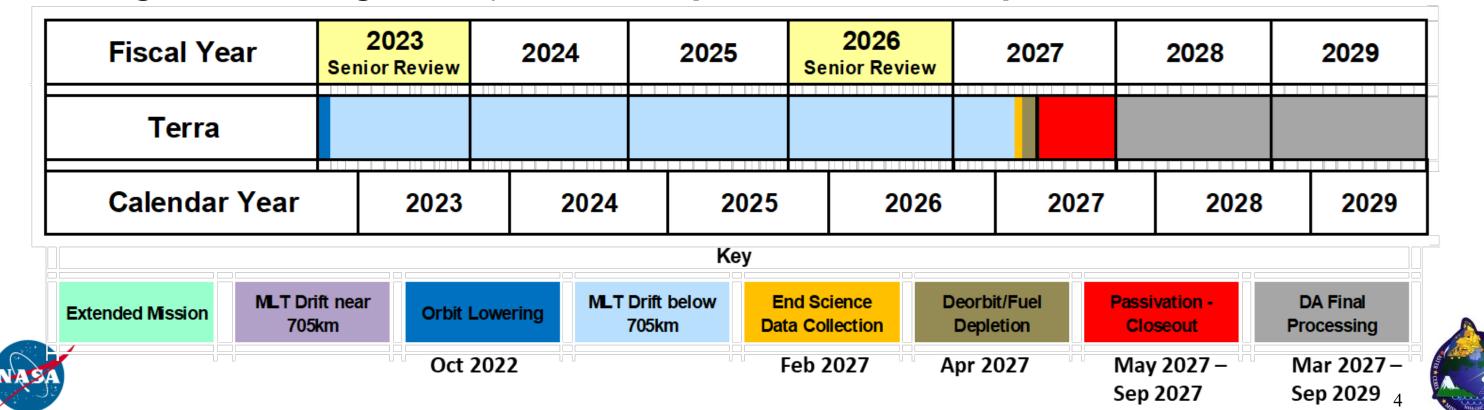
VOLCANIC EMISSIONS

AIR POLLUTION

## Terra is a healthy platform

## No known life-limiting hardware on Terra at this time

- Last inclination burns took place in March 2020 and crossing time changing to earlier times reaching 10:15 am in Sept. 2022
- Terra exited 705-km constellation in Oct. 2022
- Terra continues to drift in crossing time with altitude slowly decaying and end of science in Feb. 2027
- Perigee lowering and spacecraft passivation in Sept. 2027



#### **2023 Senior Review**

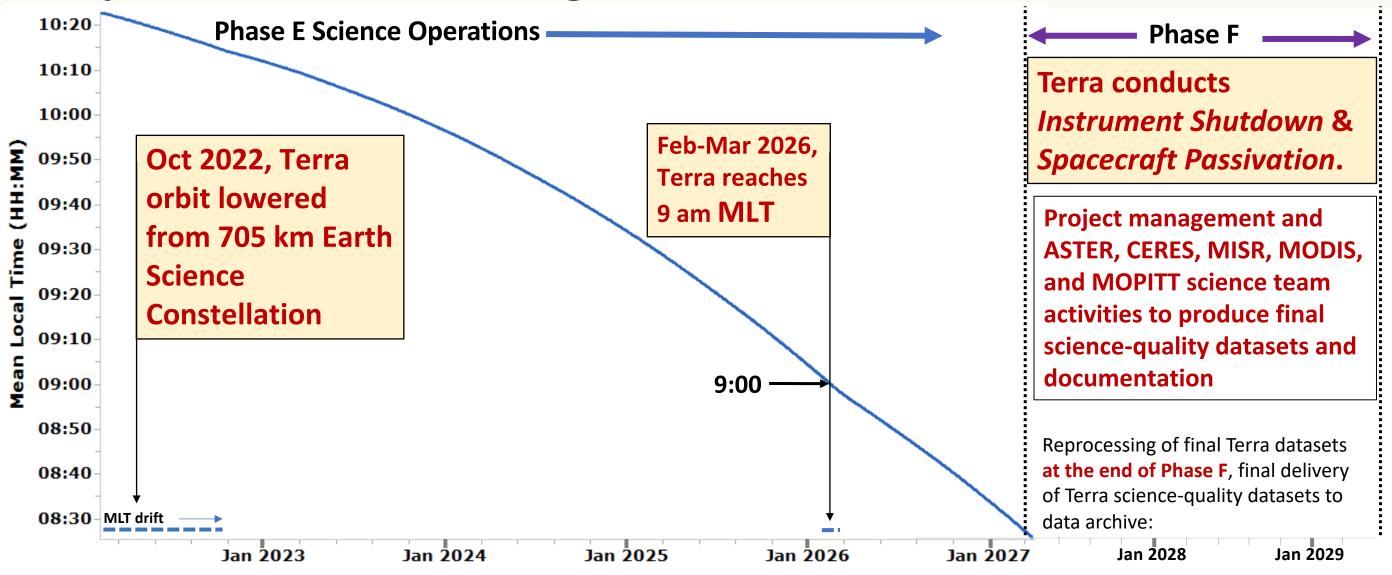
# Senior Review requested a proposal with Terra operations through 2026

- Extended budget is 50% of what has been used in the past to operate mission
  - Budgets assume Terra science collection ends in February 2027
  - Operations budget leads to lights out periods overnight
  - Science budget leads to reduced response to sensor changes
- Algorithm maintenance support is again integrated into the project proposals





## Terra Operations and crossing time



- Risk mitigation maneuvers for orbital debris avoidance continue until passivation
- Inclination adjust maneuvers ended in Spring 2020 (crossing time not maintained)
- Drag makeup maneuvers no longer occur to maintain Terra's altitude
   WRS-2 (worldwide reference system) and 16-day repeat ground track not maintained



## Terra continues to add to its 23-year legacy

## Met the 18-year, planned data record for three EOS AM platforms

- Terra continues to play a role as baseline for comparisons for recent and future missions such as S-NPP, NOAA-20, Earth Venture, ESO
- Successful Senior Review Proposal provides the opportunity for >3 years of additional data
  - Quality of Terra data will be maintained

• Lights out operations and reduced science budgets may lead to delays in

when that quality is achieved

"A well-built spacecraft, talented people running it and making great science products, with lots of people using the data, that's what has kept it running all these years."

Dimitrios Mantziaras, Terra Mission Director marking Terra's 100,000 orbits



NASA scientists, engineers and designers pose in front of a full-sized model of Terra

## Terra team/sensors

GSFC

Project Scientist (PS) Kurt Thome

Deputy PS Si-Chee Tsay

Deputy PS for Data Robert Wolfe

ESMO Project Manager Wynn Watson

Instrument PIs and Team Leads (TL)

ASTER Japan TL Yasushi Yamaguchi

US TL Michael Abrams UJPL)

CERES PI Norman Loeb (LaRC)

MISR PI David Diner (JPL)

MODIS TL Miguel Román (Leidos)

MOPITT Canada PI James Drummond

(Dalhousie Univ.)

US PI Helen Worden (NCAR)



Terra (EOS AM-1)

#### ASTER

 Hi-resolution, multispectral images from 15 m to 90 m resolution, plus stereo

#### CERES

 Earth's shortwave, longwave, and net radiant energy budget

#### MISR

 Global multiangle images for aerosol, cloud, and surface characteristics

#### MODIS

 1-2 day global coverage in 36 wavelengths from 250 m to 1 km resolution

#### MOPITT

Global measures of CQ

