



First Images from CERES



TRMM Earth View

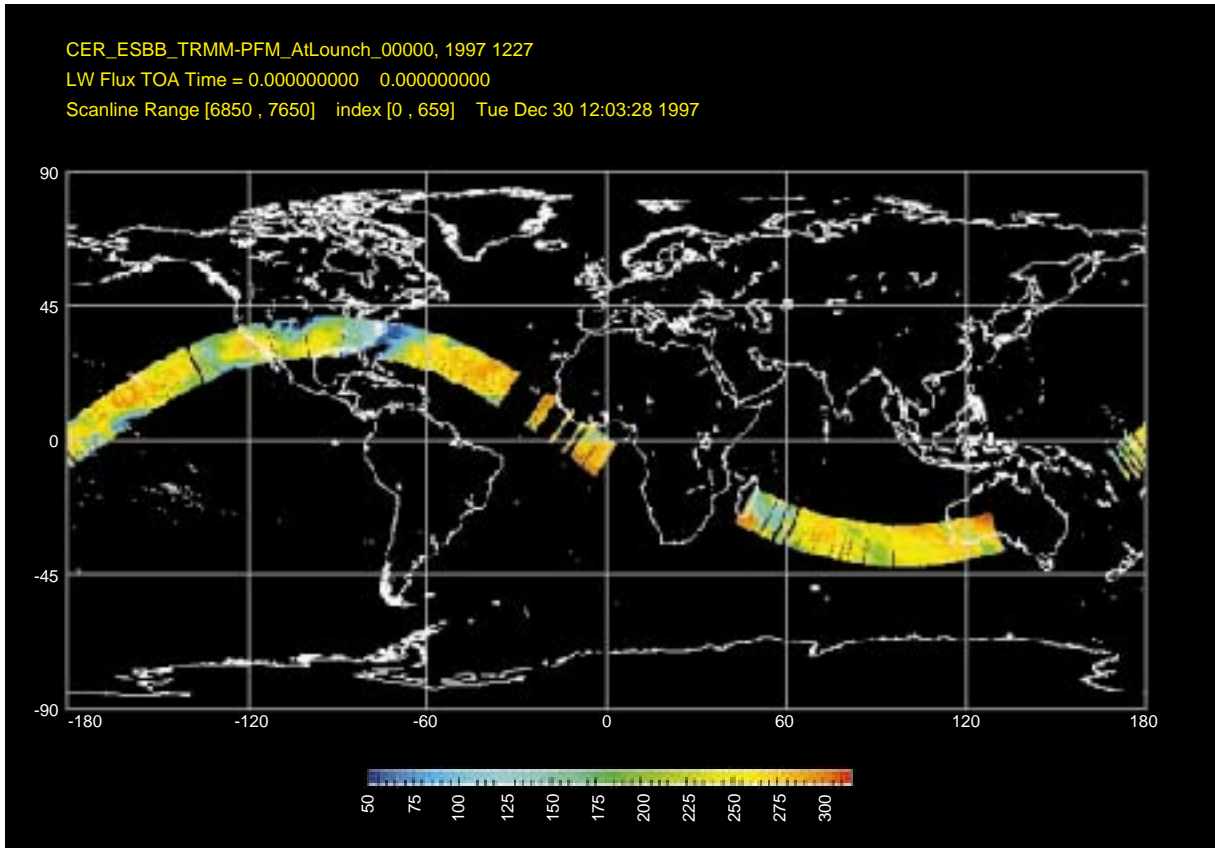


Fig.1 Single Orbit Observation by CERES

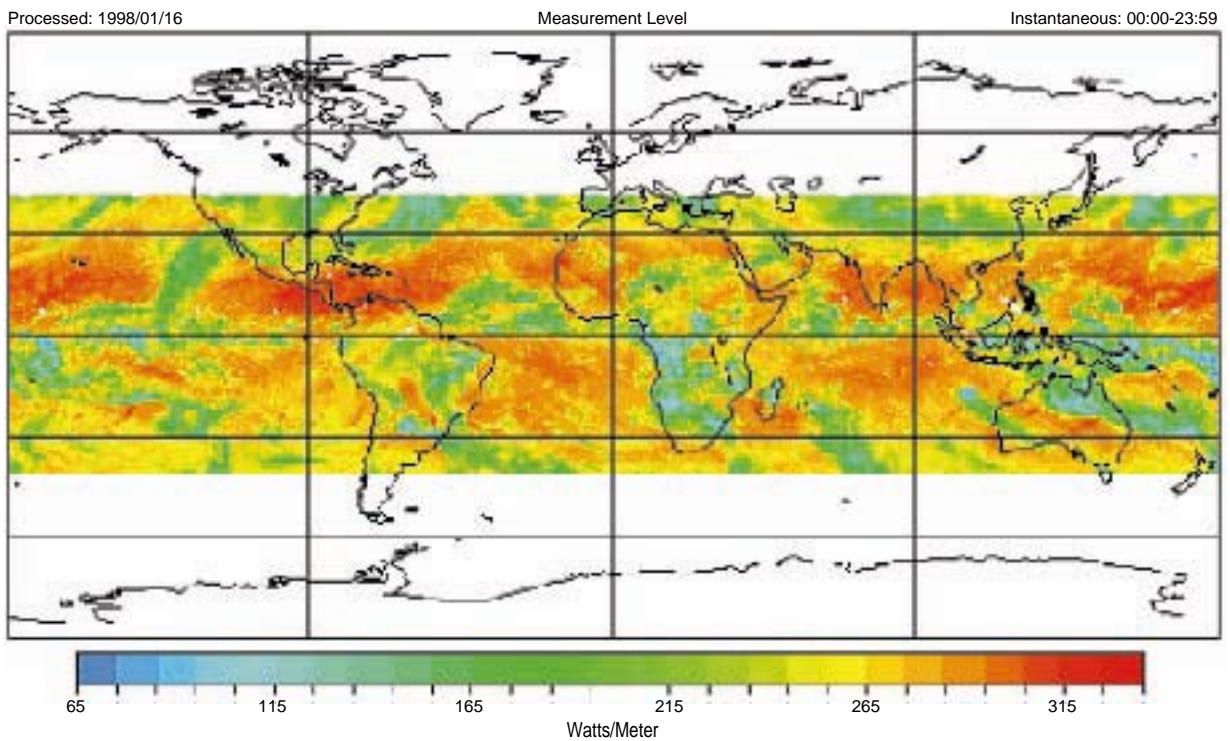


Fig.2 Longwave TOA Flux from CERES ERBE-like Processing TRMM December 28, 1997 ES-8

First CERES Top of Atmosphere Results (Fig. 1)

After the contamination covers were opened on Dec. 27, 1997, Earth-viewing data sets were received at the Langley DAAC, processed from digital counts to engineering units at satellite altitude, then processed with inversion algorithms to estimate the energy leaving the top of the Earth's atmosphere. This plot shows the long-wave flux or heat energy leaving the Earth during the first orbit of measurements after CERES began scanning the Earth. The flux is expressed in units of watts per square meter, or energy per unit area. Blue indicates cold tops of clouds, and red, generally warm, clear desert regions.

Long-wave Top-of-Atmosphere Flux - 12/28/97 (Fig. 2)

This picture shows the amount of heat energy which is emitted from the Earth and its atmosphere. The color scale ranges from cold to hot. Blue indicates cold tops of cloud systems, and red, hotter regions on the Earth such as the deserts and tropical oceans.