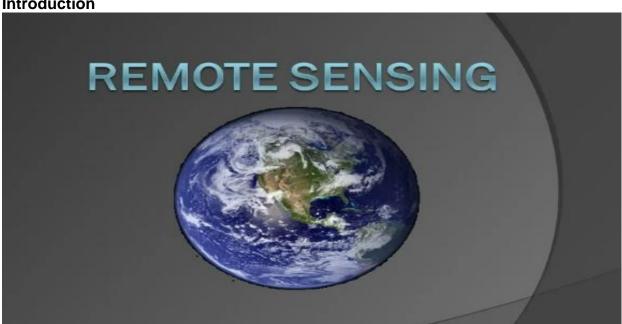
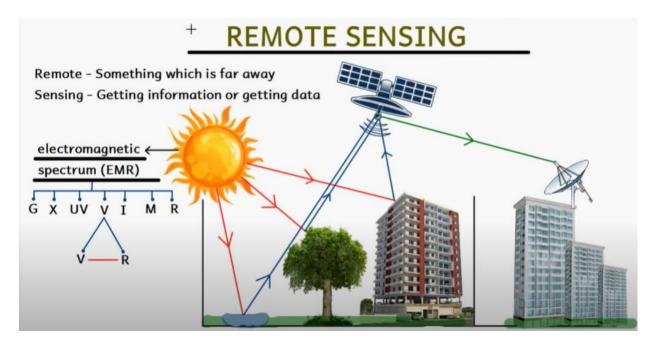
Chapter 8

Remote Sensing

Introduction







What is Remote Sensing?



Remote sensing is a method of obtaining information about the properties of an object without coming into physical contact with it.

Remote Sensing is a technology for sampling electromagnetic radiation to acquire and interpret non-immediate geospatial data from which to extract information about features and objects on the Earth's land surface, oceans, and atmosphere

- Dr. Nicholas Short

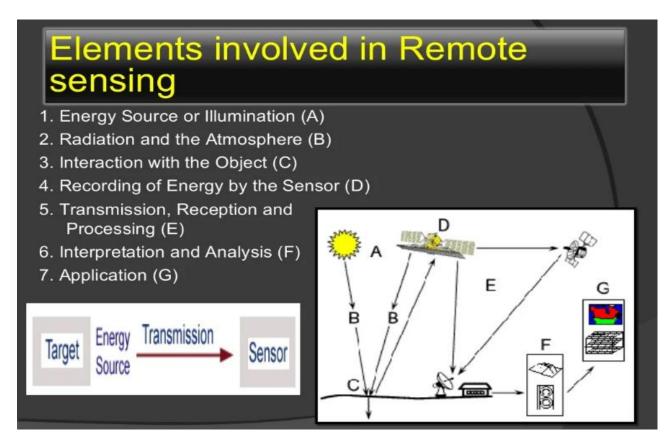


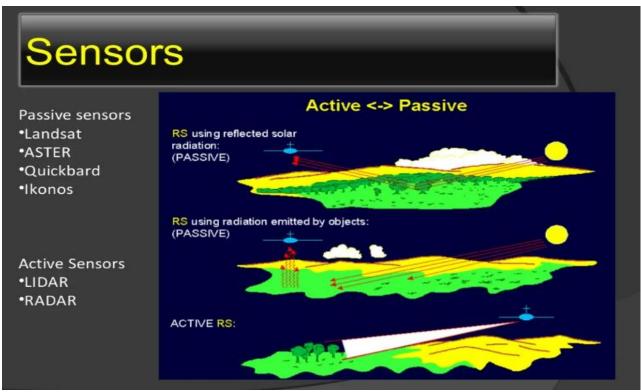
Remote Sensing

- RS System capture radiation in different wavelength reflected/ emitted by the earth's surface features and recorded it either directly on the film as in case of aerial photography or in digital medium used for generating the images
- RS provides valuable data over vast area in a short time about resources, meteorology and environment leading to better resource management and accelerating national development

Advantages of remote sensing

- Provides a regional view (large areas)
- Provides repetitive looks at the same area
- Remote sensors "see" over a broader portion of the spectrum than the human eye
- Sensors can focus in on a very specific bandwidth in an image or a number of bandwidths simultaneously
- Provides geo-referenced, digital, data
- Some remote sensors operate in all seasons, at night, and in bad weather

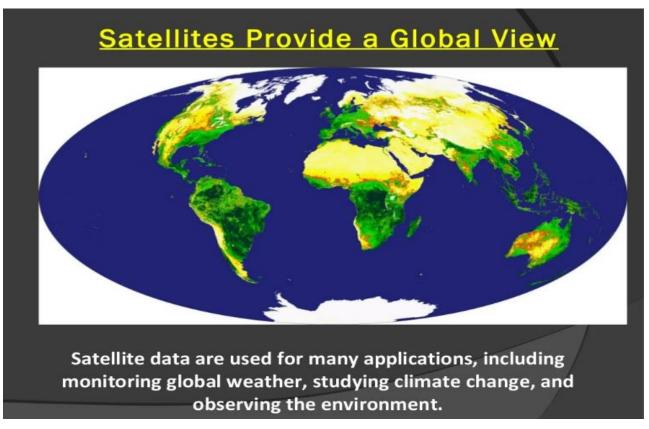






Why use Satellites to Study the Earth?

- Consistent, routine, global measurements
- Overview of information on the hemispheric, regional, national, and local scales – the "big picture"
- Provide information in areas where there are no ground-based measurements
- Advance warning of impending environmental events and disasters
- Visual appeal: a picture is worth a thousand words





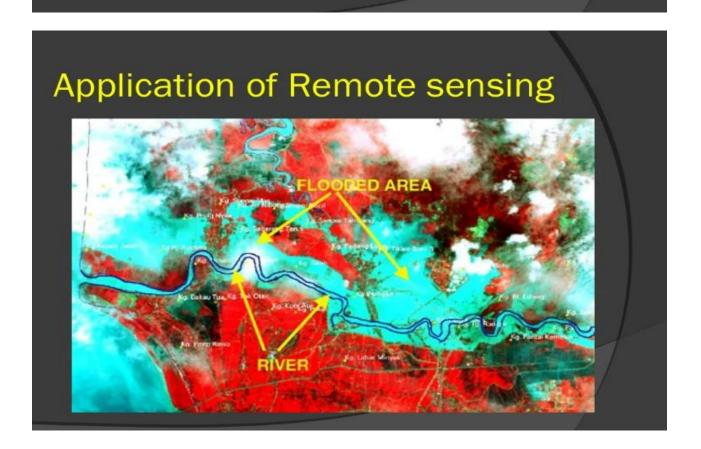
Satellite Images

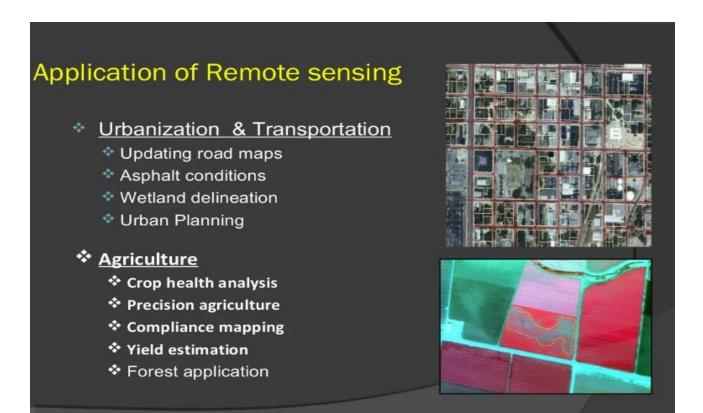
<u>Advantages</u>

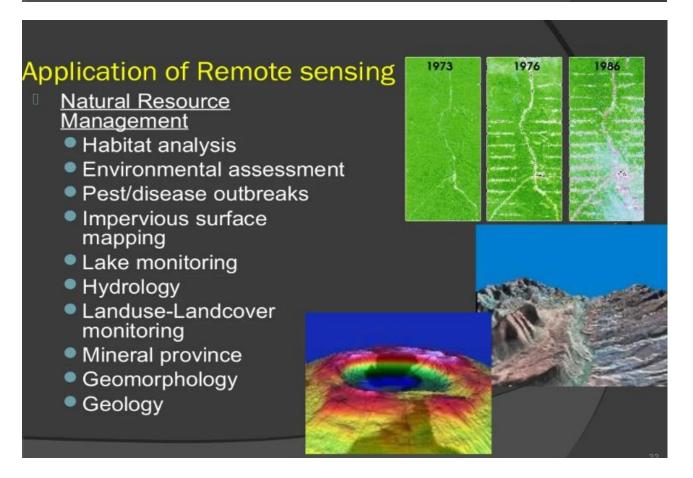
- Covers large areas
- · Cost effective
- Time efficient
- Multi-temporal
- Multi-sensor
- Multi-spectral
- · Overcomes inaccessibility
- Faster extraction of GISready data

Disadvantages

- Needs ground verification
- Doesn't offer details
- Not the best tool for small areas
- Needs expert system to extract data

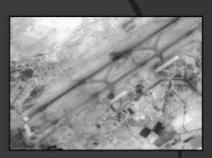






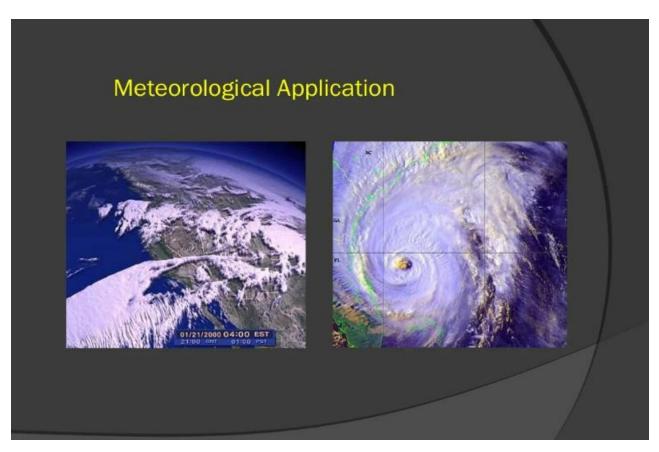
Application of Remote sensing

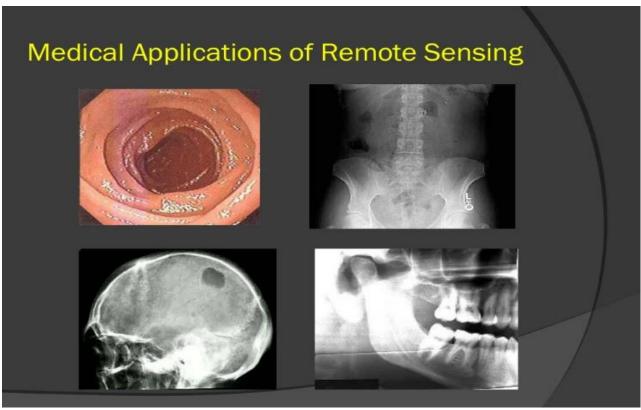
- National Security
 - -Targeting
 - -Disaster mapping and monitoring
 - -Damage assessment
 - -Weapons monitoring
 - -Homeland security
 - -Navigation
 - -Policy
 - -Telecommunication planning
 - -Coastal mapping

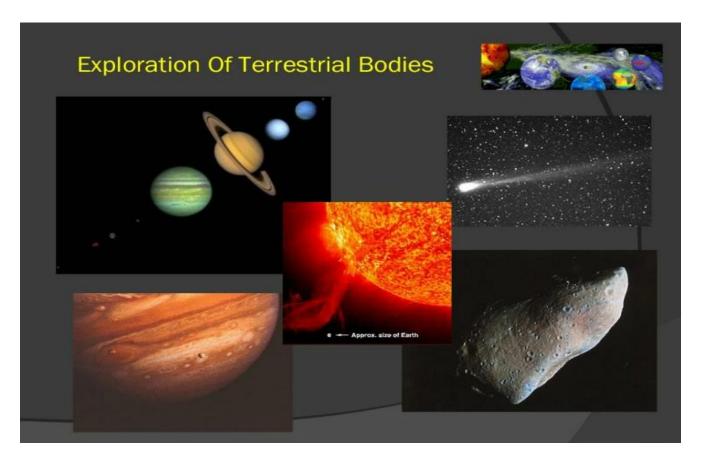


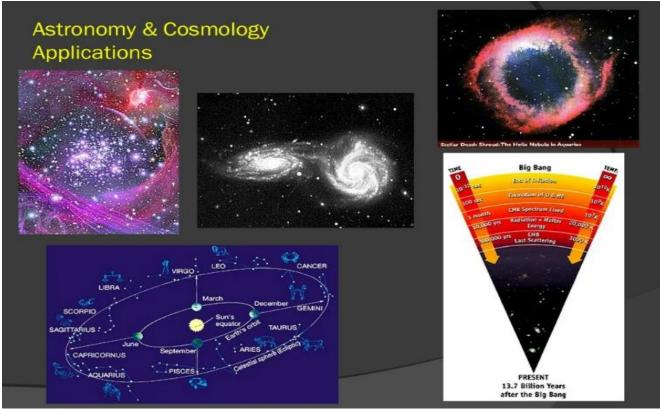










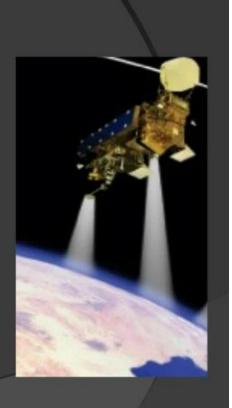


Remote sensing basic processes

- Data acquisition (energy propagation, platforms)
- Processing (conversion of energy pattern to images)
- Analysis (quantitative and qualitative analysis)
- Accuracy assessment (radiometric and geometric correction)
- Information distribution to users (hard copy, CCT, CD-ROM, X-BYTE)

How Do Satellites Make Measurements?

- Satellites do not make direct measurements of the Earth's geophysical parameters.
- Instead, satellites measure solar and/or terrestrial radiance (light) in a vertical column of the atmosphere.
- Radiance data are converted into
 - geophysical parameters using science-based algorithms.



Remote Sensing: Challenges

- Satellites are very expensive to build and launch.
- No direct measurements radiance (light) measurements must be converted to geophysical parameters, such as temperature or pollutant concentration.
- Tradeoffs between spatial and temporal resolution.

