



*eGY*

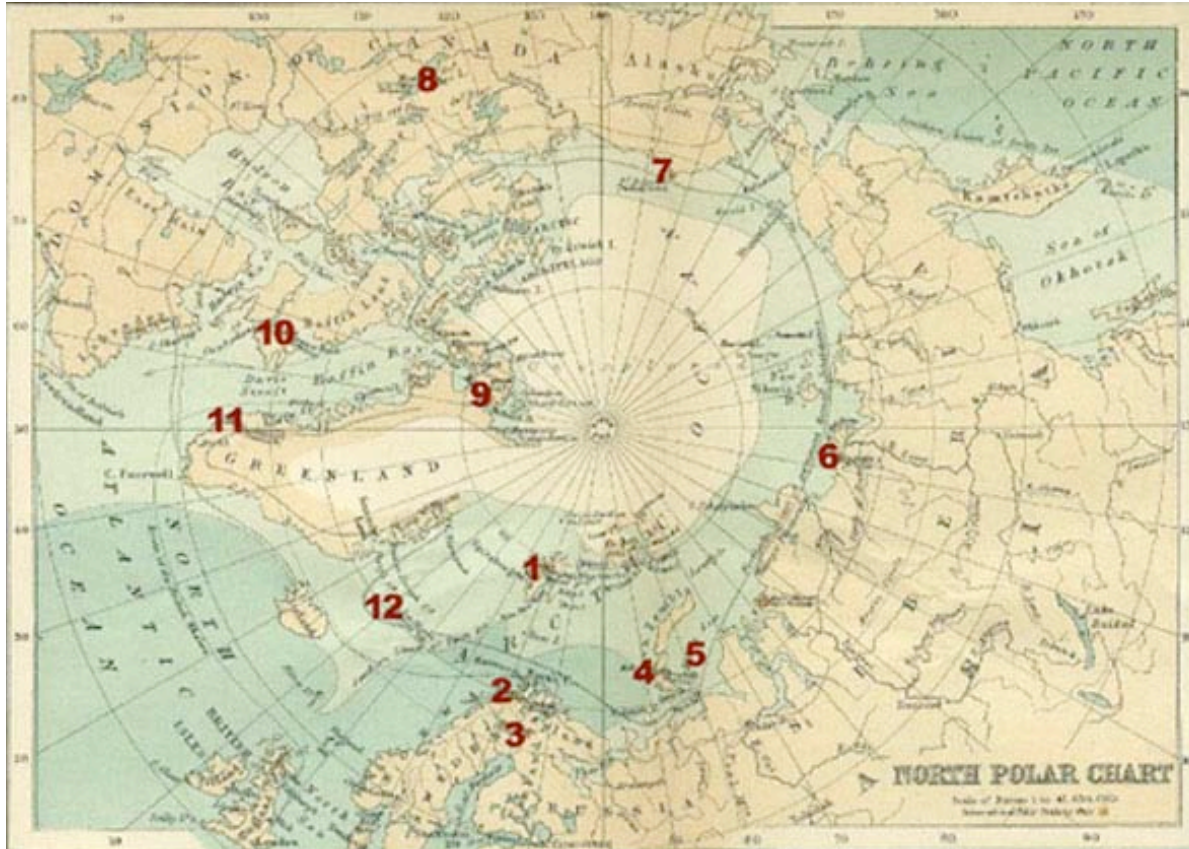
**The Electronic Geophysical Year**

W.K. Peterson, C.E. Barton, D.N. Baker  
and the eGY Team

[www.egy.org](http://www.egy.org)



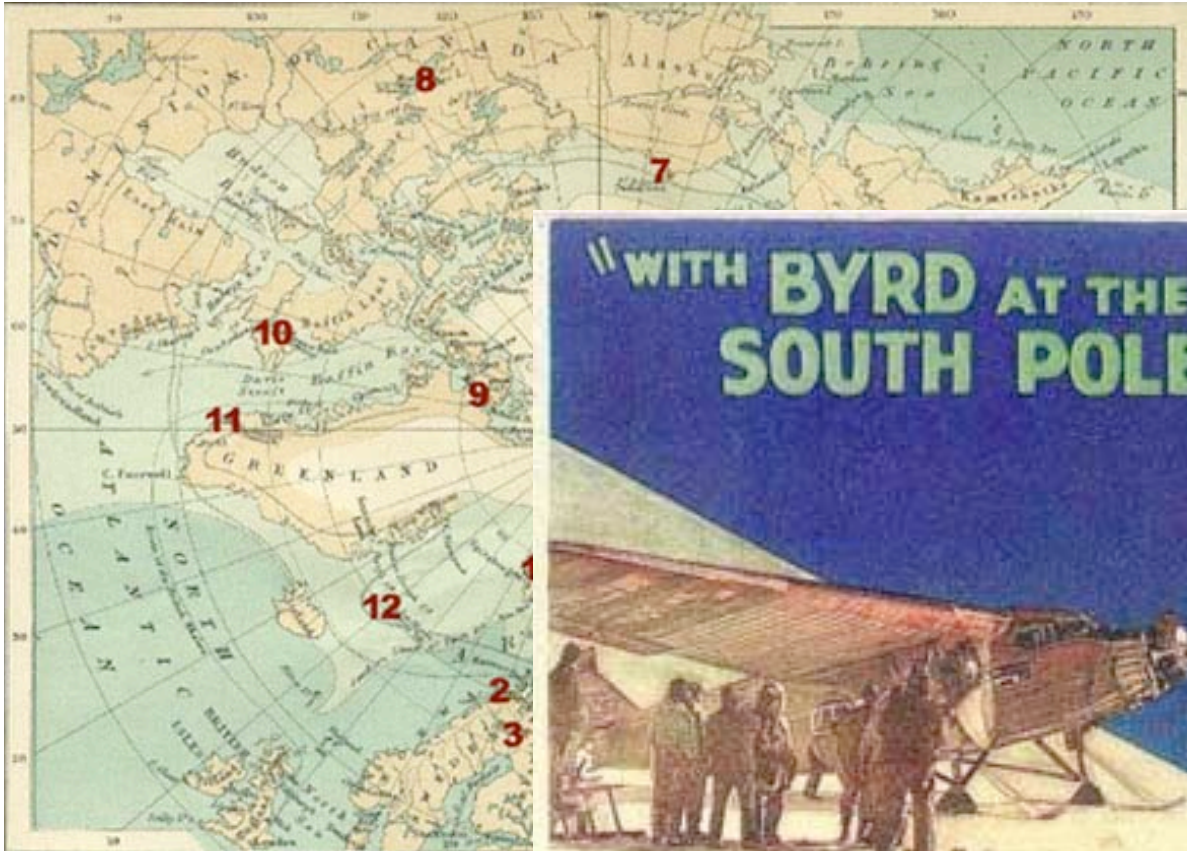
# eGY: A Strong Heritage



The First International Polar Year (1881-1884)



# eGY: A Strong Heritage



The First International

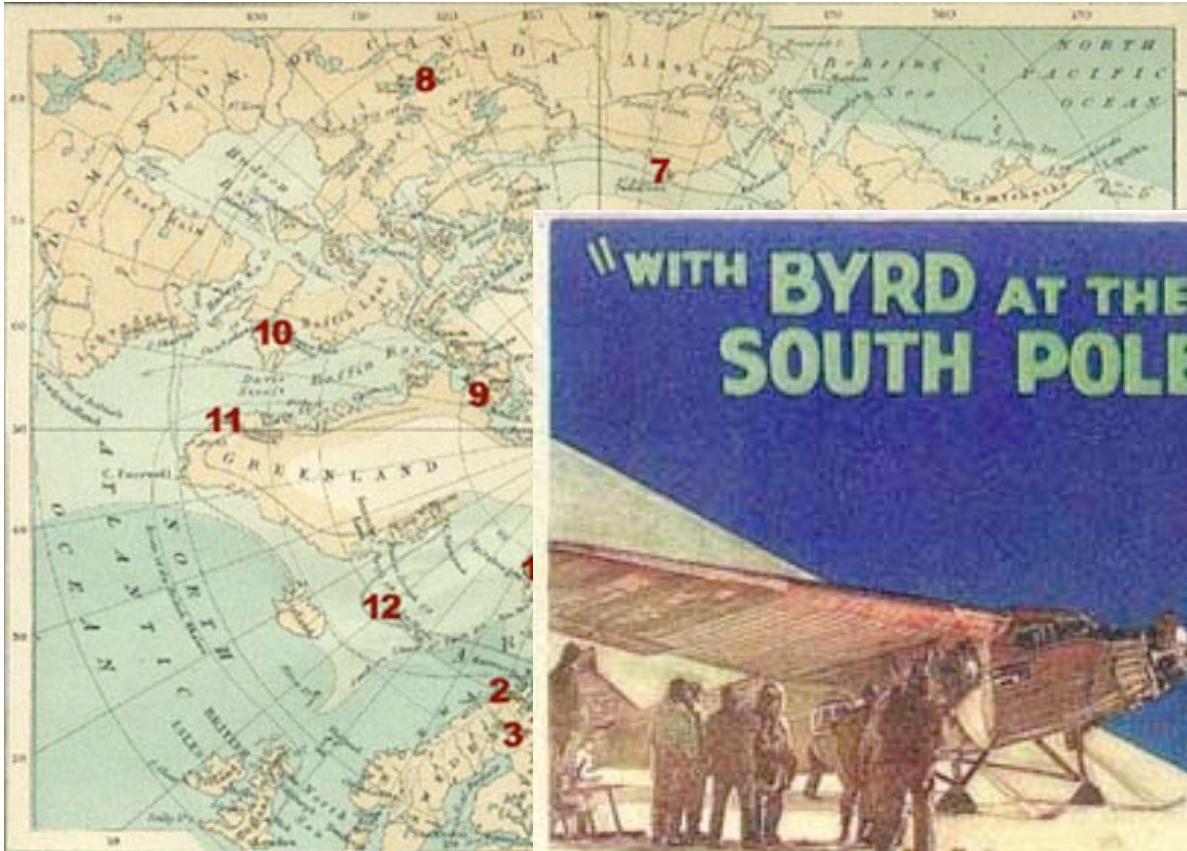


The Second International Polar Year (1932-1933)





# eGY: A Strong Heritage



The First International



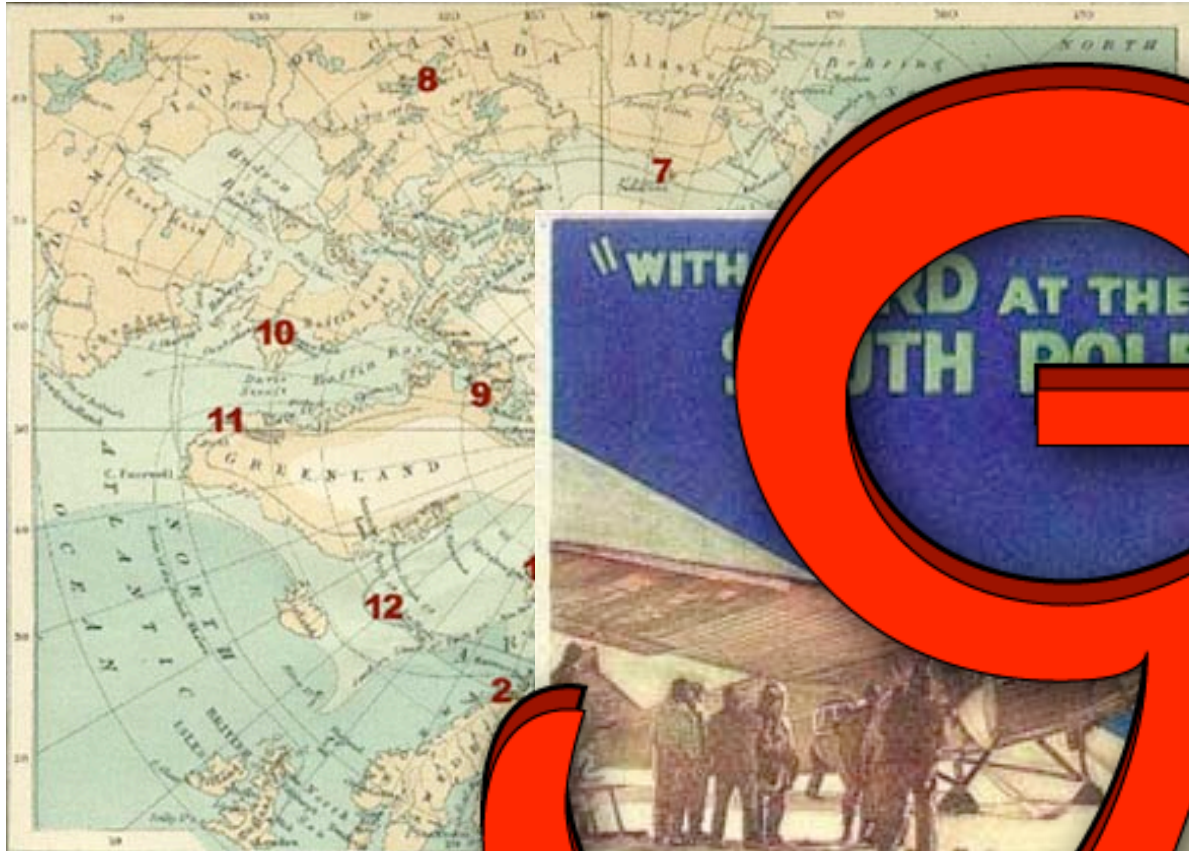
The Second International Polar Year (1957-1958)



(Third International Polar Year)



# eGY: A Strong Heritage



The First International



The Second International Polar Year (1932-1933)

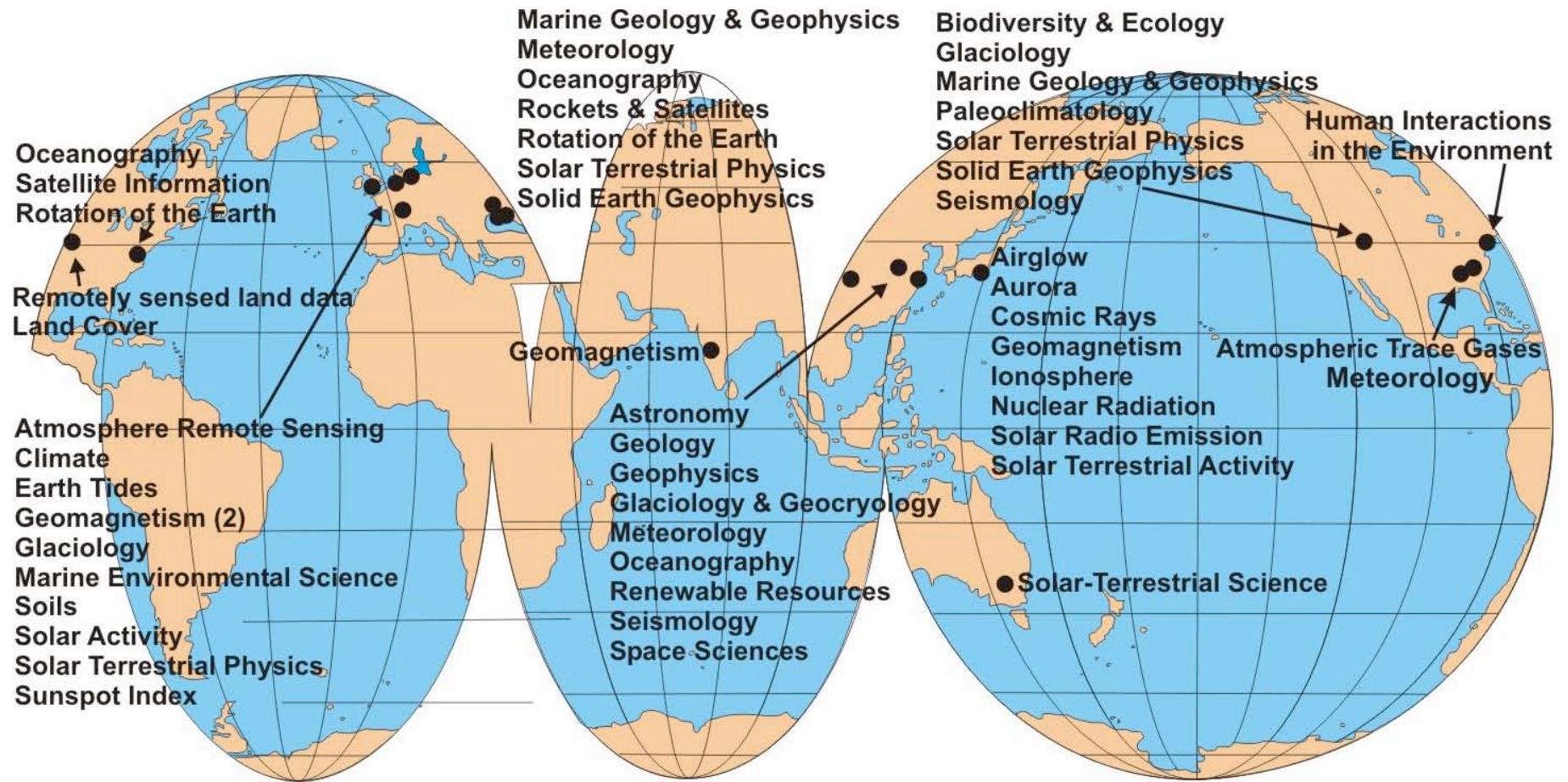


(Third International Polar Year)





# The Legacy of IGY

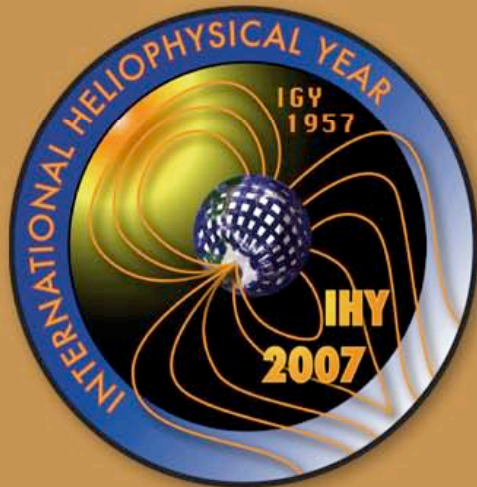


## World Data Centers

February 2004



# Science years 2007-2009





# IPY 2007-2008



ICSU and WMO are co-sponsoring:

An intensive burst of internationally coordinated, interdisciplinary, scientific research and observations focused on the Earth's Polar regions starting in 2007

**Sessions H1 and J1, Wednesday AM  
International Polar Year Activities**



# INTERNATIONAL HELIOPHYSICAL YEAR

2 · 0 · 0 · 7

## Leadership:

1. IHY Secretariat
2. Regional Organizers
3. National Organizers
4. Working Groups

## Organizational Elements:

1. Scientists
2. Institutes and Scientific Orgs
3. Events
4. Observatories
5. Campaigns

## Special Programs:

1. U.N. Developing Nations Initiative
2. "IGY Gold" Historical Initiative
3. Education/ Public Outreach

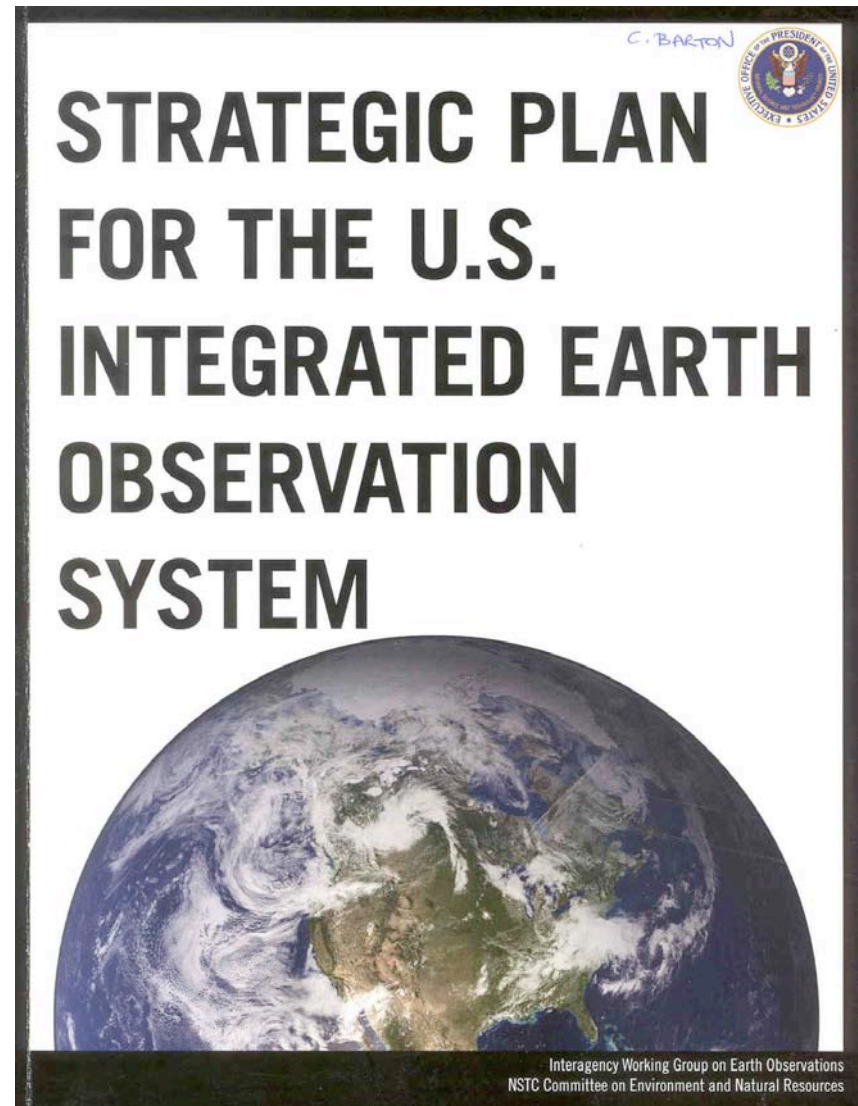


Peter Fox will discuss  
IHY later in this session



# Earth Observing Systems

- GEO** - Group on Earth Observations
- GEOS** - Global Earth Observation System of Systems
- GEM** – Global Environment Modelling project
- GMES** – Global Monitoring for Environment and Security
- IWGEO** – Interagency Working Group on Earth Observation
- IGOS** – International Global Observing Strategy
- IGOS-P** - International Global Observing Systems Partners
- IGOSS** – International Global Observing System of Systems
- IGGOS** – Integrated Global Geodetic Observing System
- GOS** - Global Observing Systems
- GCOS** - Global Climate Observing System
- GOOS** - Global Ocean Observing System
- GTOS** - Global Terrestrial Observing System
- GOSIC** - The Global Observing Systems Information Center
- GOS/GAW** - Global Observing System/ Global Atmosphere Watch (WMO)
- ESONET** – European Sea Floor Observatory Network
- EOSDIS** – Earth Observing System Data and Information System





# Effectively Infinite Information

Magnetic (PC and Tape) Media



1,066,000 terabytes/year

Print Media



240 terabytes/year

Film Media  
427,000 terabytes/year



Magnetic (Server) Media



627,000 terabytes/year

Optical (CD-DVD) Media



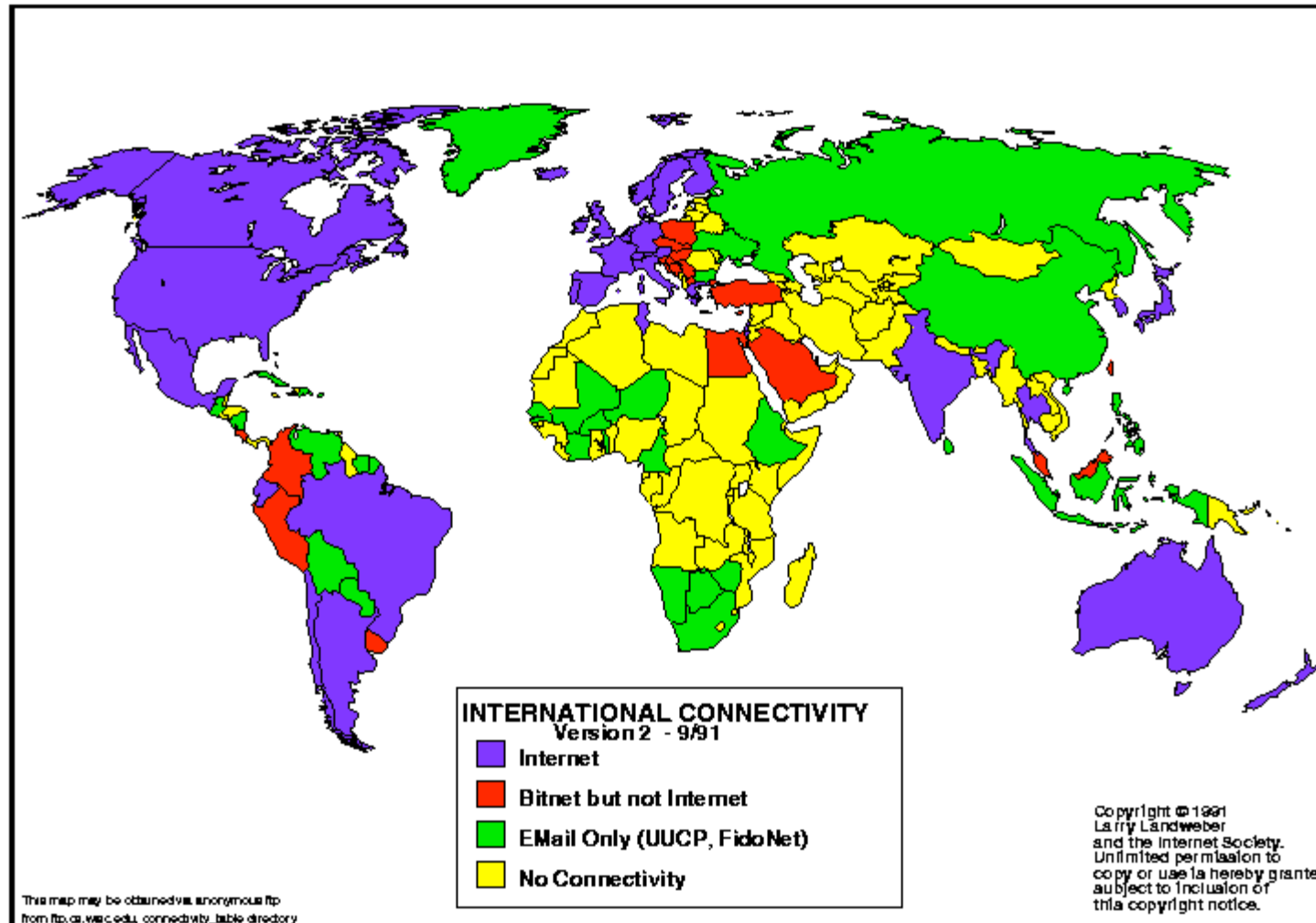
83 terabytes/year

More than 20,000 petabytes of digital information are stored in various media in our world every year – and the rate is growing exponentially





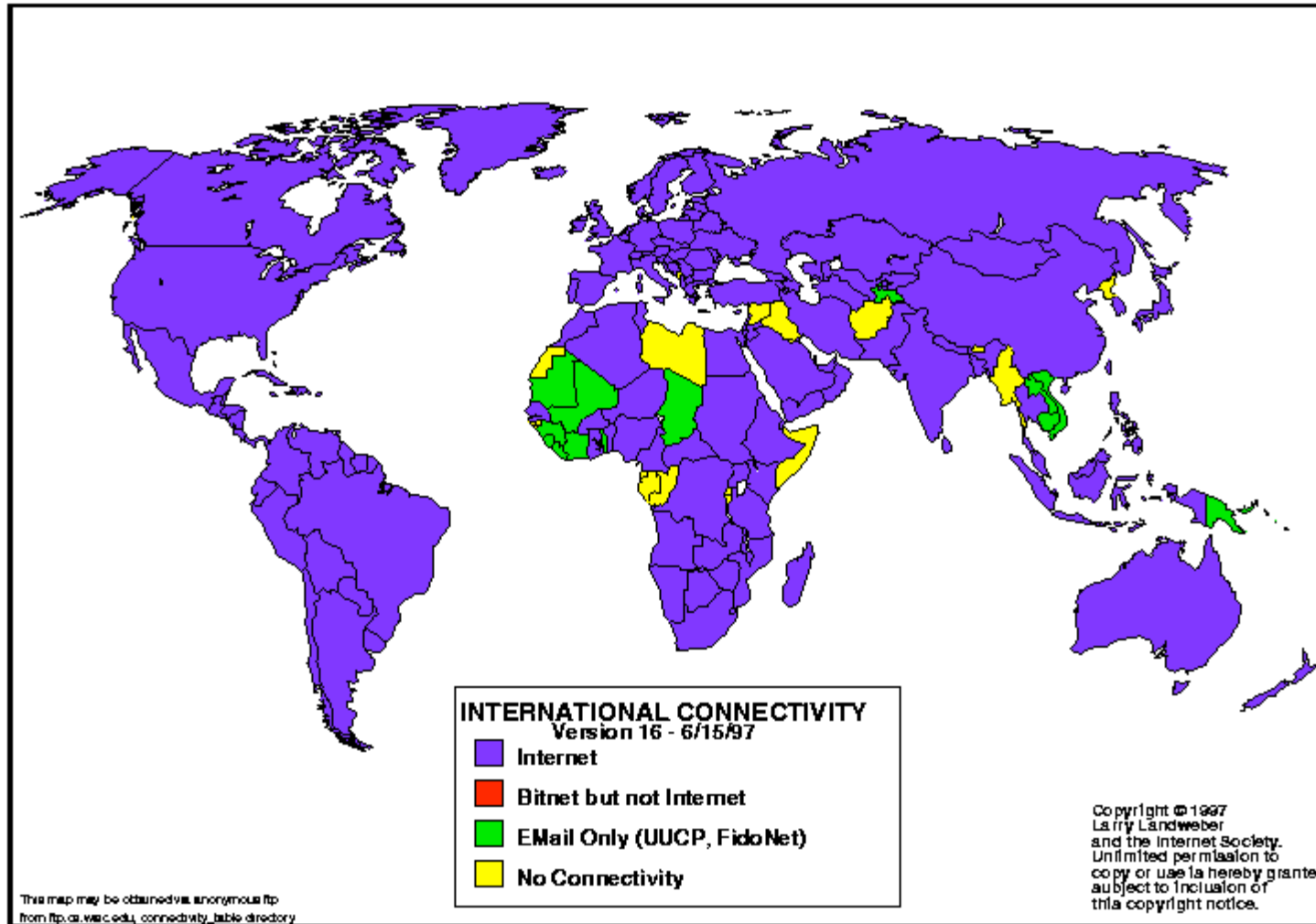
# Growth of Internet Connectivity



1991



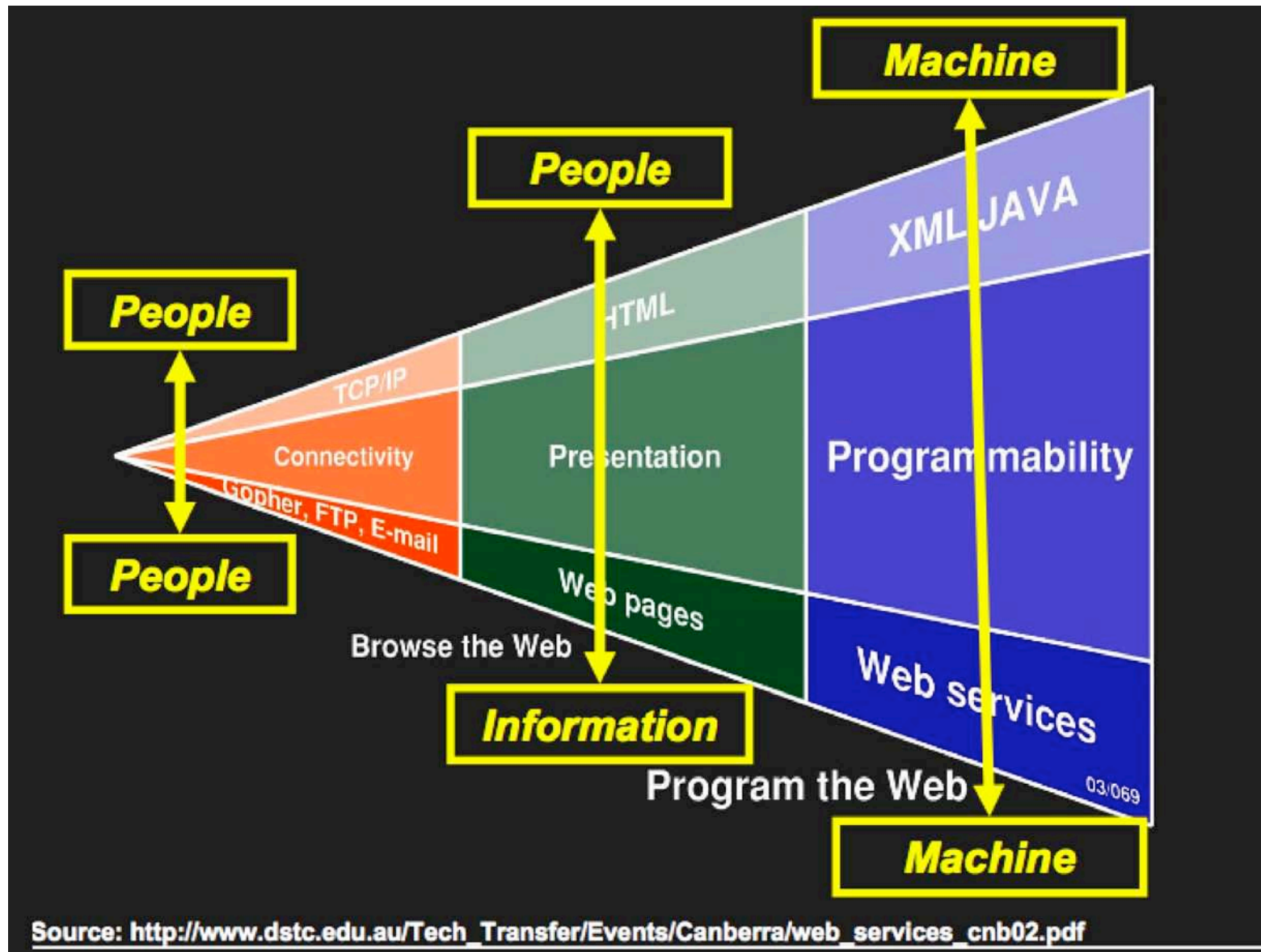
# Growth of Internet Connectivity



1997



# Evolution of a Machine Readable Web







## OUR GOAL: Transform Information into Wisdom

There is an incredible amount of data being collected and information being generated.

What will we do with it?



*"Before you become too entranced with gorgeous gadgets and mesmerizing video displays, let me remind you that information is not knowledge, knowledge is not wisdom, and wisdom is not foresight. Each grows out of the other, and we need them all. "*

*Arthur C. Clarke*



# 21<sup>st</sup> Century Science Drivers

- Complex System science
- Higher resolution – space and time
- Rapid response
- Data assimilation into models

**Challenges:** distributed data, cross-disciplinary data, large and complex data sets, open data access and sharing, data discovery, data preservation, data rescue, .. interoperability ...

**“What few things must be the same so everything else can be different.”**



“Knowledge is the common wealth of humanity.”

Adama Samassekou, Convener of the United Nations World Summit on the Information Society



# The Information Commons

“The Tragedy of the Commons”  
Garrett Hardin (*Science*, 1968)





# eGY Declaration

“Knowledge is the common wealth of humanity”

We have a shared responsibility to create and implement strategies to realize the full potential of digital information for present and future generations. In the 21<sup>st</sup> century and beyond, access to digital information and new technologies for information integration and knowledge discovery will influence the free and productive development of societies around the world. In the geosciences, as elsewhere, providing ready and open access to the vast and growing collections of cross-disciplinary digital information is the key to understanding and responding to complex Earth system phenomena that influence human survival.

*Article 1: Data access*

*Article 2: Data release*

*Article 3: Data description*

*Article 4: Data persistence*

*Article 5: Data rescue*

*Article 6: Common standards and cooperation*

*Article 7: Capability building*

*Article 8: Education and public outreach*



# eGY Principles

## Exploit evolving e-Science opportunities

- International cooperation and sharing
- Global, cross-disciplinary scope
- Free, universal, open access to data
- Timely and convenient access to data
- Data preservation
- Capacity building, especially in developing. countries
- Education and public outreach
- Data integration and knowledge discovery



## Role

Provide an international, cooperative cross disciplinary, environment to

- facilitate
- inform
- stimulate
- encourage
- promote



# Working Groups

- Virtual Observatory Working Group
  - Facilitating interoperability
  - Closely linked to the AGU focus group on informatics
- Best Practices for Data Management
  - What are the attributes of successful systems (including people)
  - Focus on access and usability
  - Initial effort sponsored by CODATA
- Data Integration and Knowledge Discovery
  - Truly interdisciplinary understanding of data and information
- Education and Outreach
  - Connecting teachers to virtual observatories





# eGY Symposium Sessions

## **Next Big Things in Managing Data and Information:**

*50 Years after the International Geophysical Year*

### **Tuesday: 14:30 - 16:00**

- F1: Virtual Observatories in the Geosciences
- F8: Showcase Demonstration: “All-Hazards, All Media Public Warning

### **Tuesday 16:30 - 18:00**

- G1: Best Practices for Scientific Data Stewardship

### **Wednesday Morning**

- H1 and J1: International Polar Year Activities

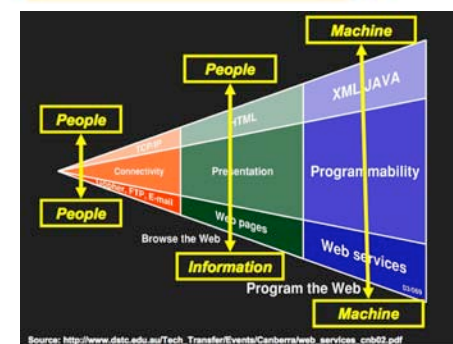
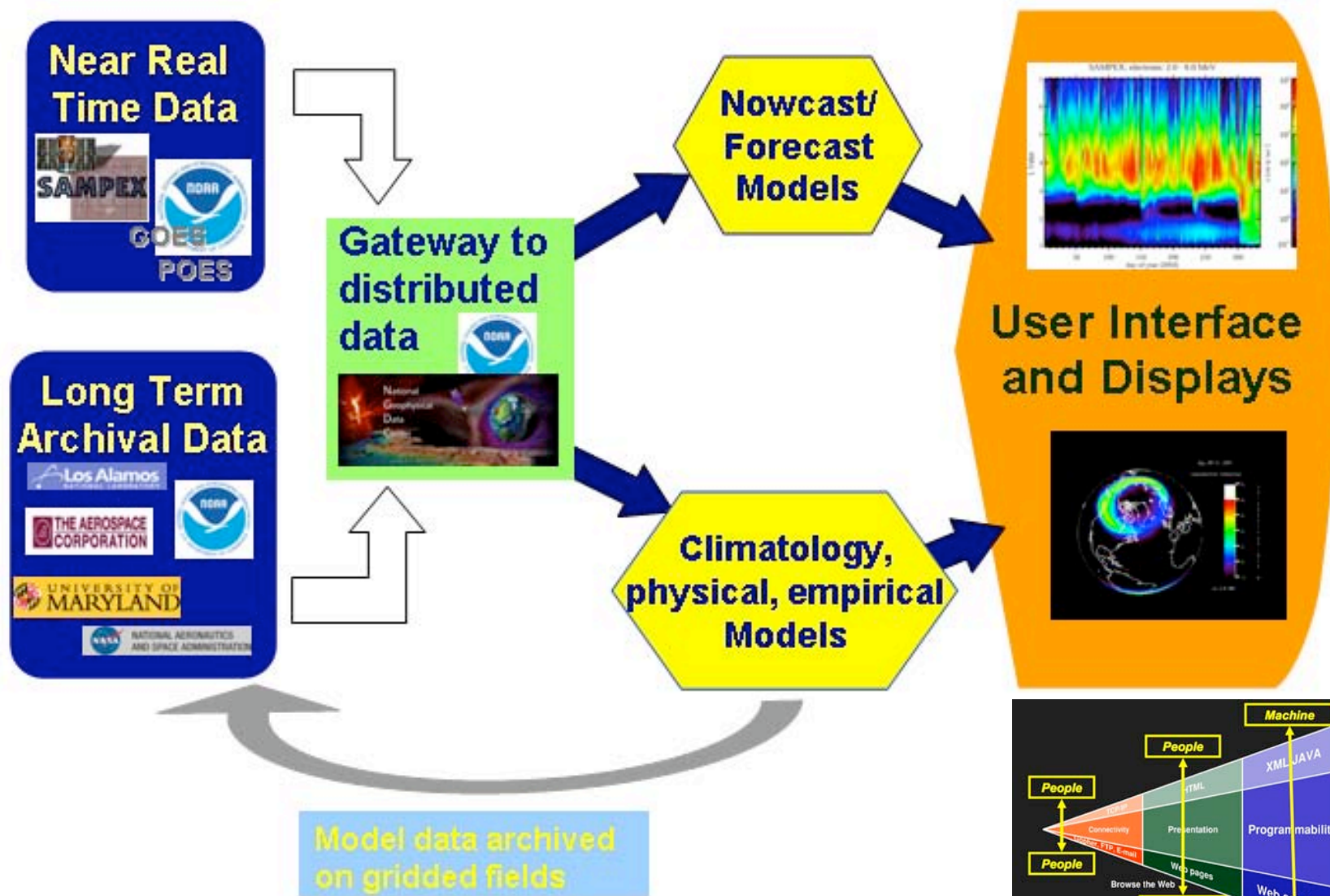
### **Wednesday 16:00 - 17:30**

- L1: Workshop on "*The New Frontier in Defining the Data to Knowledge Paradigm*"



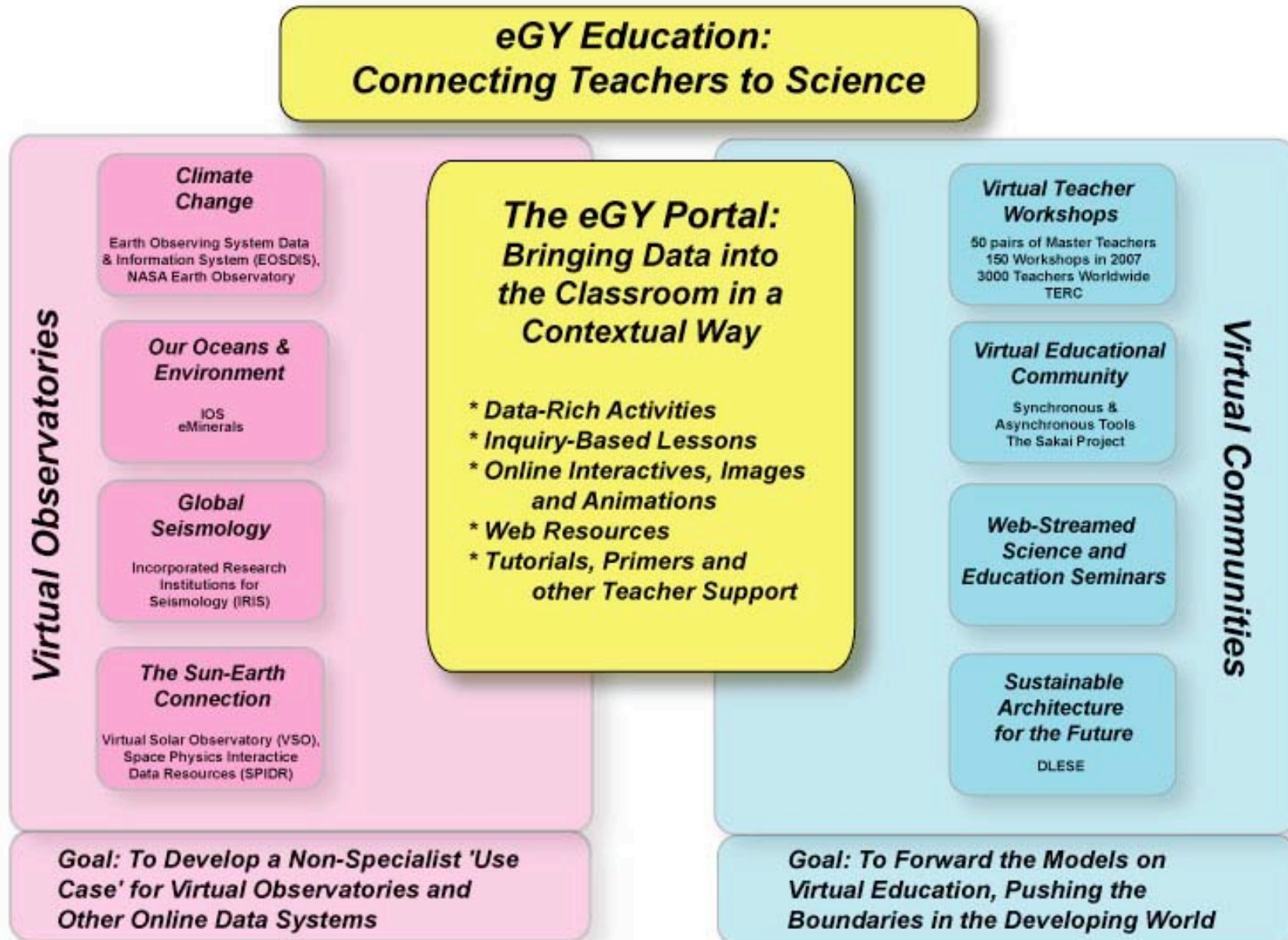
# ViRBO – The Virtual Radiation Belt Observatory

Using the power of machine to machine protocols





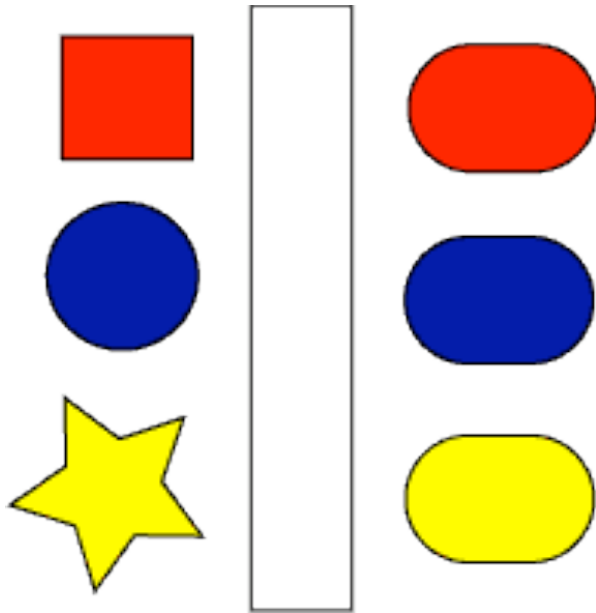
# The General Use Case





## Connecting It All Together...

### What are the Architectural Barriers?



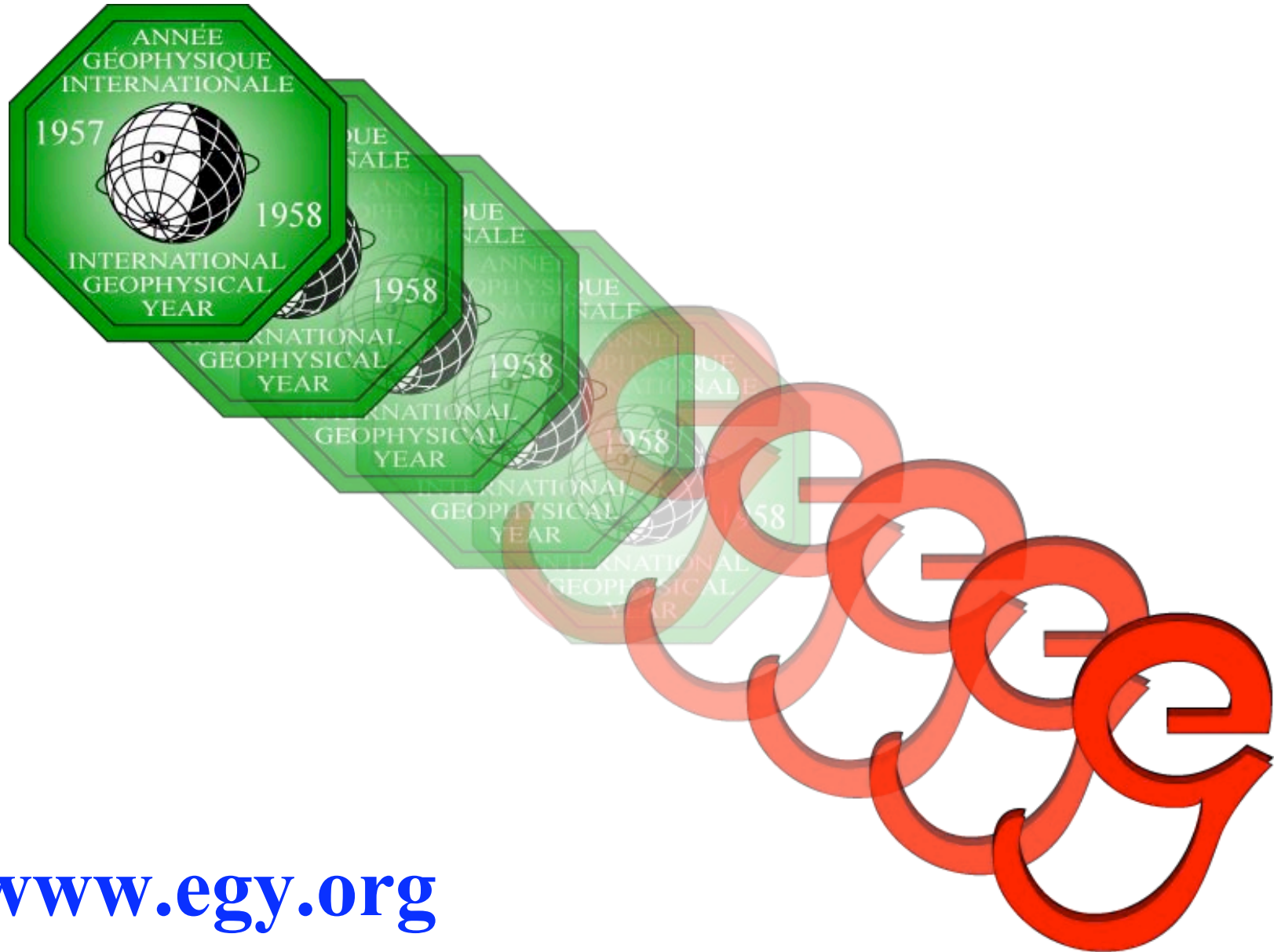
- Each Virtual Observatory has its own structure for interfacing with the outside world – Both in terms of how users defined their requests and how products are delivered
- Very few of the VOs have an interface that allows ready access for the general public (including teachers)

*We will work with the VOs to develop, through the eGY portal, a way for teachers (and the general public) to access data in a constrained and contextual way.*





# From IGY to eGY



[www.egy.org](http://www.egy.org)



# Summary

- The IGY of 1957-58 established effective, powerful principles of free and open data exchange in geoscience
- The last decade has seen development of new, cost-effective ways to acquire, store and exchange data
- Virtual Observatories offer the kind of forward impetus today that World Data Centers and the IGY offered 50 years ago
- Data access, sharing, and display are the common themes across all of the “International Years” (IYPE, IHY, IPY)
- The electronic Geophysical Year (*eGY*) is being incorporated into all the I\*Ys and addresses key issues of data release, data discovery, and data preservation



# Extra Slides



# Structure

## **Executive**

Key persons who are the architects of business

## **International Coordination Office**

Secretariat to conduct eGY business

## **Scientific Advisory Committee**

Policy, planning, opportunity identification, scientific links  
(representatives from key participants, e.g., WDCs)

## **National/Regional/Partner committees**

To liaise, stimulate, and interact with national/regional initiatives

## **Thematic Working Groups**

VOs, data discovery, release, preservation, standards, DCs





# Structure

## **International Coordination Office (Secretariat, Boulder)**

To conduct business

Executive Director - Dan Baker

Secretary - Bill Peterson

Communications and Marketing - Marissa Rusinek

## **International Committee**

Policy, planning, opportunity identification, scientific links

Chair: Charlie Barton

Representatives from stakeholders and key participants

## **Working Groups (thematic)**

Knowledge Integration; E/PO; Best Practice; Virtual Observatories

## **National-Regional-Body Reps/Committees**

To liaise, stimulate, and interact with national/regional initiatives

Japan

Europe



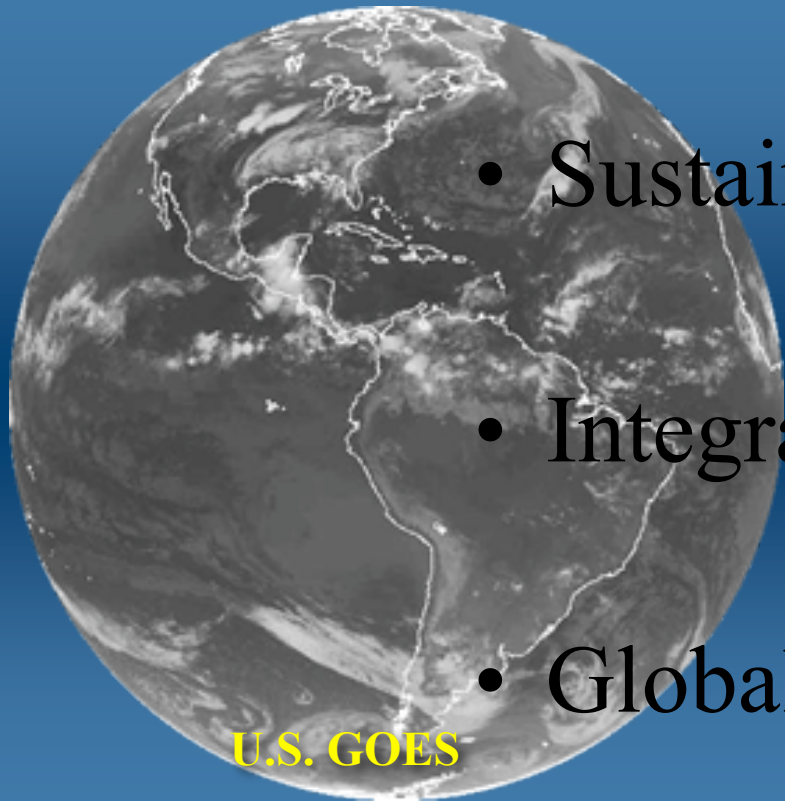
# Attributes of an Integrated Global Observing System

- Comprehensive

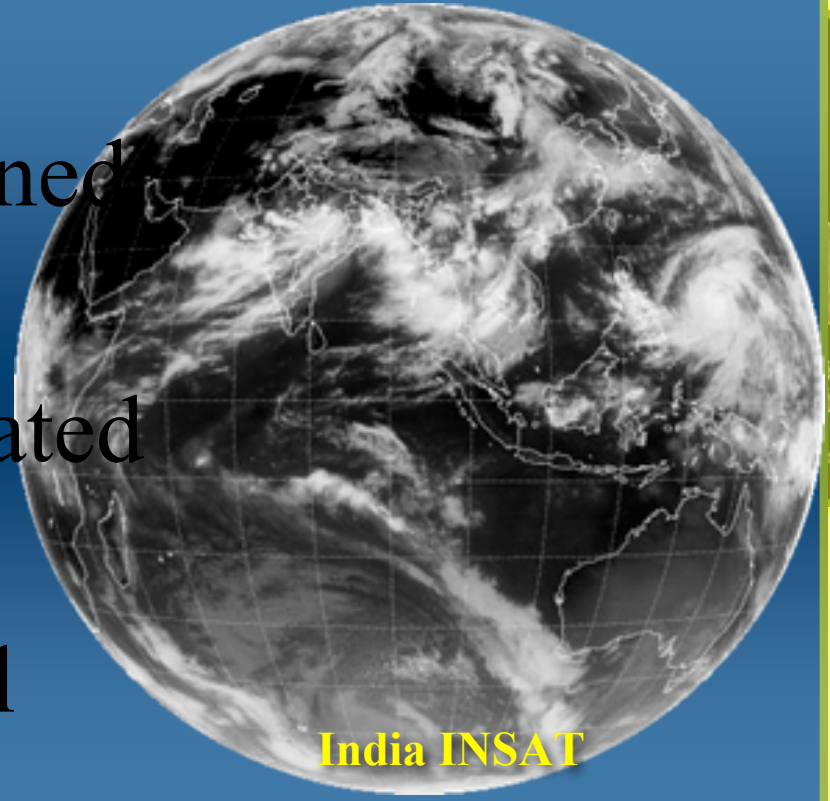
- Sustained

- Integrated

- Global



U.S. GOES



India INSAT





# eGY

eGY was established to affirm and expand the contribution of Geoscience to the benefit of humanity started with the IGY

eGY is an IUGG initiative

Led by IAGA

Endorsed by ICSU, and the WMO

Cooperating with IPY, IHY, IYPE and other organizations





## eGY is:

- An “opportunity” to participate in forum to collaboratively address the challenges of modern data management and integrative science:
  - Distributed data
  - Cross-disciplinary data
  - Large, complex data sets,
  - Open data access and sharing,
  - Data, information, knowledge discovery
  - Data preservation and rescue
  - Interoperability
  - Data usability and quality
  - and more