

OBDAAC Seasonal News and Updates

Spring 2025

Spring Events

Wave: From Space to Ocean

March 18-April 13, 2025

The Kennedy Center,
Washington D.C.

[More Information](#)

OBDAAC UWG Meeting

May, 2025

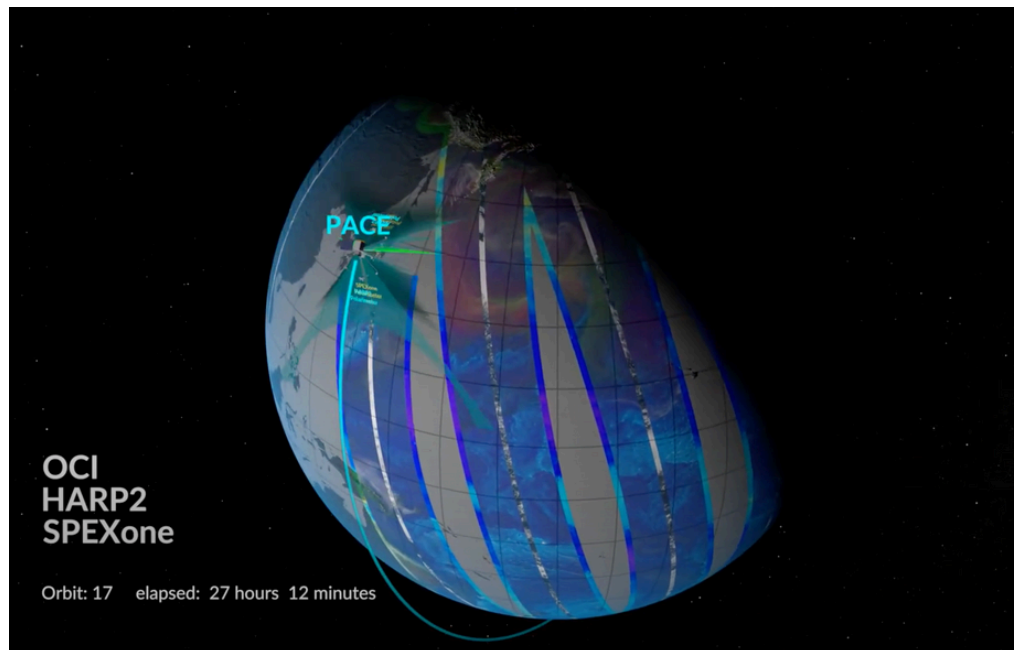
Virtual

NASA Sponsored Workshop on Calibration and Validation of Ocean Color Remote Sensing

May 18-June 14, 2025

Darling Marine Center, Walpole,
Maine, USA

[More Information](#)



Credit: NASA

PACE

Mission Update

As of February 8, 2025, NASA's PACE mission has been in orbit for one year, marking a key milestone. Since its launch, PACE has been collecting high-quality data on ocean color, aerosols, and clouds. The publicly released data, available since April 11, 2024, has already supported various [scientific applications](#). With a year of observations completed, PACE continues to provide valuable insights into Earth's ocean, land, and atmosphere. To explore and learn how to work with PACE data, check out past [tutorials](#) and join the upcoming [PACE Data Hackweek](#) for hands-on experience.



Data and Software

Data in Cloud and Migration Status

In cloud: PACE, HawkEye L1 and L2, MERIS L2-L4, OCTS, CZCS, CyAN, ILW, SeaWiFS,

In Progress: OLCI-S3A

Next Up: MODIS Aqua, MODIS Terra

Data Releases

Recent Data Releases for missions and projects:

- **2025 Feb:**
 - **V3:** PACE Second Reprocessing
 - **R2022:** SeaWiFS, OCTS, CZCS
- **2025 Mar:**
 - **V6:** CyAN

Data Validation

SeaBASS Archive Update:

Since January 1, the SeaBASS archive has processed over **6,400 data files** (new and updated) from more than 90 deployments, including **datasets from the PACE Validation Science Team (PVST)**.

Software Updates

SeaDAS 9.2.0 Expected in April!

The upcoming SeaDAS release will bring key improvements:

- **Cloud Data Access:** Retrieve data from OB.DAAC cloud using search criteria.
- **Expanded File Support:** L2 file readers will support HARP2 L2 and SPEXOne L2 files.
- **Enhanced L1A Reader:** Added support for the latest formats for SeaWiFS, OCTS, CZCS, and PACE L1B V3 data.
- **Processor GUI Updates:** Major revisions to L2bin, L3mapgen, and L3bin GUIs for better parameter handling.
- **Apple Silicon Support:** Full compatibility with aarch64 architecture for smooth performance on Mac systems.

Learn More: Explore **instructional videos** to get started with SeaDAS.

ATBDs

New Algorithm Theoretical Basis Documents (ATBDs) for the PACE mission have recently been published:

- [PACE OCI Surface Reflectance \(SFREFL\)](#).

! DATA FORMAT UPDATE !

From this reprocessing onward, **L1A** data of **SeaWiFS**, **OCTS**, and **CZCS** has been **converted from HDF5 to netCDF4**, with L2 and L3 data products generated using the reformatted L1As.

Important Notice

A letter from the DAAC manager

Decommissioning of Level 1 & 2 Browser

Dear Ocean Color Community,

As the OB.DAAC migrates its data holdings to the Earthdata Cloud and in alignment with the NASA Earth Science Data Systems (ESDS) Program's web unification efforts, the OceanColor Level 1 & 2 Browser (<https://oceancolor.gsfc.nasa.gov/cgi/browse.pl>) has been decommissioned on 14 March 2025.

The Earth Science Data Information Systems project, under which the OB.DAAC falls, provides several equivalent tools:

Earthdata Search

The search, ordering and data extraction capabilities provided by this older browser are available through the Earthdata Search tool:
<https://search.earthdata.nasa.gov/>

Common Metadata Repository (CMR) API

A very capable and powerful application programming interface (API) is available for scripting data search activities:
<https://cmr.earthdata.nasa.gov/search/>

Earthaccess package

A python package, earthaccess, (<https://earthaccess.readthedocs.io/>) facilitates discovery and use of all NASA Earth Science data products - including data from the OB.DAAC - by providing an abstraction layer for this CMR API and by simplifying requests to NASA's Earthdata Cloud. Searching for data is more approachable using earthaccess than low-level HTTP requests directly to the CMR API.

If you have any questions about the use of these tools, please don't hesitate to post to the Earthdata Forum (<https://forum.earthdata.nasa.gov/> ; Remember to tag your post with OB.DAAC, Data Search).

Regards,
Sean