

POST

Microsoft's "Planetary Computer

May 19, 2020

Google & Microsoft's ambitious plans to map nature

Microsoft Announcement:

“We’re building a Planetary Computer”



What exactly is a planetary computer? Microsoft's explanation of a planetary computer (http://r2o.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=0016TnpZ5bEtNa5ImGrpJMJr4xAJFemZy2KO7jUAkY4zDCrbh6fSHY3M9uGT3VQJFTi__UhmeHLGBFBavbwldAuwO8P98qaNu2tbJyWHZV8N_kEVJHlLrMIAH6v91j9pZf98wrcyog4eQch2p2KFyhEhg==&c=&ch=)).

Microsoft and Google are in a race to digitize and map earth's features. The companies figured out that if they can map streets and houses, they can map frogs and molecules. It's just scaling.

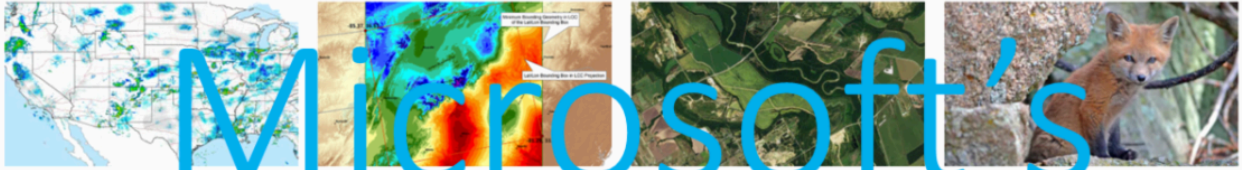
The companies are giving away monstrous sets of environmental data and computer code in this race.

“It’s great. These billion dollar companies with oodles of resources are putting this monstrously powerful environmental computer code and data sets out there for free —and telling us to use it. We’re like kids being offered free ice cream.”

—Jed Anderson, Creator, Ceres AI

Data

AI for Earth hosts key geospatial and conservation datasets on Azure, so that our grantees – and anyone else applying technology to conservation – can use the power of the Azure cloud to operate on global-scale environmental data. Do you have feedback about these datasets, or about other environmental datasets that would accelerate your work on Azure? Contact us at ai4earthdatasets@microsoft.com.



NEXRAD
Radar data from 159 stations across the U.S.
[NEXRAD on Azure Open Datasets >](#)

Daymet
Gridded temperature data across North America
[Daymet on Azure Open Datasets >](#)

NAIP
High-resolution aerial imagery across the continental U.S.
[NAIP on Azure Open Datasets >](#)

LILA BC
Labeled images related to wildlife conservation
[Explore LILA BC >](#)



MODIS surface reflectance
500m-resolution global daily surface reflectance

Harmonized Landsat Sentinel-2
30m-resolution satellite imagery for North America

NOAA Global Forecast System
15-day US hourly weather forecast data

NOAA Integrated Surface Data
Worldwide hourly weather history data

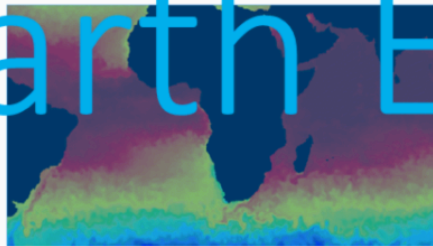


A planetary-scale platform for Earth science data & analysis

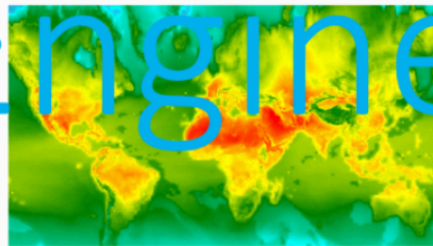
Earth Engine's planetary-scale archive includes more than forty years of historical imagery and scientific data, updated daily.

[View more](#)

Climate and Weather



Surface Temperature



Climate

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Ceres AI™

Environmental A. I.



[More Information on EnviroAI \(http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=0016TnpZ5bEtNa5ImGrpJMJr4xAJFemZy2KO7jUAkY4zDCrbh6fSHY3MxOVuSnV98M9UxbeJ2dl1oXp2_qCsKe-1mWWNvd-hix-kMsoz4oUtdhLNQYA5LIkzUHL6iuot4Fm43sKRVonTt98slTdoEEpzA==&c=&ch=\)](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=0016TnpZ5bEtNa5ImGrpJMJr4xAJFemZy2KO7jUAkY4zDCrbh6fSHY3MxOVuSnV98M9UxbeJ2dl1oXp2_qCsKe-1mWWNvd-hix-kMsoz4oUtdhLNQYA5LIkzUHL6iuot4Fm43sKRVonTt98slTdoEEpzA==&c=&ch=)

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Original source: Constant Contact campaign

Markdown source: <https://jedanderson.org/posts/microsofts-planetary-computer.md> (https://jedanderson.org/posts/microsofts-planetary-computer.md).

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