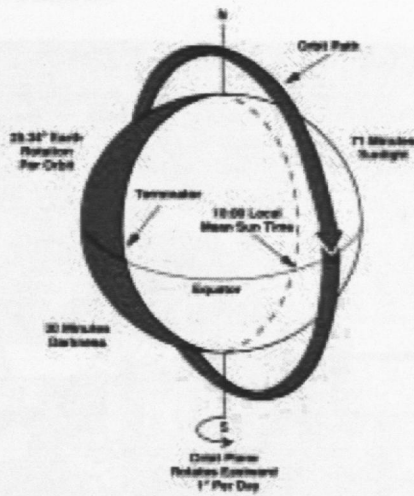


POLAR ORBIT METEOROLOGICAL SATELLITE⁴⁸



Meteorological satellites have lower resolution capability than remote sensing satellites.



First image, MSG-1, 28 November 2002⁴⁹

The WMO operates a Global Observation System⁵⁰ with five operational near-polar-orbiting satellites and five operational geostationary environmental observation satellites that are owned by different countries. Satellites operating in different orbits also have different capacities.

“Polar orbiting and geostationary satellites are normally equipped with visible and infrared imagers and sounders, from which one can derive many meteorological parameters. Several of the polar-orbiting satellites are equipped with sounders instruments that can provide vertical profiles of temperature and humidity in cloud free areas. Geostationary satellites can be used to measure wind velocity in the tropics by tracking clouds and water vapour”⁵¹.

⁴⁸ http://www.gsfc.nasa.gov/gsfcearth/pictures/noaam/High%20Resolution/Orbit_hi.jpg.

⁴⁹ <http://www.esa.int/export/esaMI/MSG/>.

⁵⁰ <http://www.wmo.ch/web/www/OSY/GOS.html>

⁵¹ <http://www.wmo.ch/web/www/OSY/GOS.html>