



Operation

IceBridge

Monitoring Ice

Jakobshavn in 3D

A laser scan, collected during NASA's Operation IceBridge in 2010, maps icebergs broken off from the 90-meter-tall calving front of Greenland's Jakobshavn Glacier. Red and yellow represent higher elevations and green and blue represent lower elevations.

Operation IceBridge

An airborne mission monitoring Earth's ice sheets, glaciers, and sea ice



Monitoring Ice

- Researchers calculate that Jakobshavn, a major glacier in Greenland, drains as much as 10 percent of all ice lost from the island.
- Some satellite instruments can see through clouds, allowing the satellites to obtain a record of ice extent despite unfavorable conditions.
- IceBridge spends more than four months per year monitoring polar ice.
- Instruments on satellites and aircraft use laser or radar instruments to measure elevation of the ice sheets and thickness of the sea ice.

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

NASA's Cryospheric Science Program

www.nasa.gov/icebridge

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