

Impact of Aerosols on Oceans and Rainforests



Figure 1: Field sites in Barbados (left) and South America (right) where aerosols are collected.

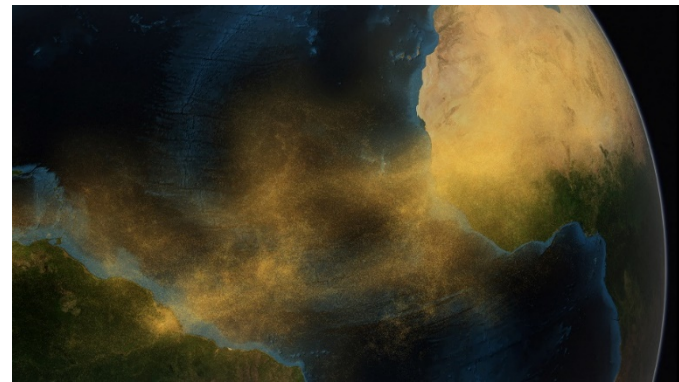


Figure 2: Satellite image of African dust being transported to the Tropical Atlantic Ocean and Amazon Basin. Image from NASA.

Aerosols (e.g., atmospheric particulate matter) are transported across the globe and contain nutrients that can stimulate primary production in the oceans and tropical forests. We collect aerosols (Fig. 1) and perform laboratory studies to investigate the different aerosol sources, including African dust seen in Fig. 2, that contribute nutrients to aquatic and terrestrial biomes and what the implications are for ecosystem health and the global carbon cycle. Interested students are encouraged to contact Dr. Gaston and to visit our lab website: <https://cassandragaston.weebly.com/>