



Global Precipitation Sphere

Precipitation Measurement Missions (PMM)

The NASA PMM program, including the Tropical Rainfall Measuring Mission (TRMM) and the Global Precipitation Measurement (GPM) mission, seeks to advance measurements of rain and snow from space for improved scientific understanding of the Earth system and better societal applications. TRMM, launched in 1997, is a partnership between NASA and the Japanese Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) to measure tropical rainfall. GPM is an international satellite mission led by NASA and JAXA in partnership with many nations that will provide next-generation measurements of rain and snow around the globe. The GPM Core Observatory is scheduled for launch in 2013.

<http://pmm.nasa.gov>

The Global Precipitation Climatology Project (GPCP)

This folded sphere shows the precipitation climatology (long-term average) computed by the GPCP for 1979-2008. The data include observations from satellites and surface measurements. The GPCP is an international project of the Global Energy and Water Experiment, which is an activity under the World Meteorological Organization.

<http://precip.gsfc.nasa.gov>

Building the Folded Sphere: You will need: Glue, scissors, ruler, ballpoint pen.

Score along all the solid lines using a ballpoint pen and ruler. Cut along the dashed lines. Cut along the dashed lines, including between the slanted tabs and the colored sections. Crease along each solid line. Glue tab A (far right) at one end of the squares to the inside of the square at the opposite end. [A small amount of glue is sufficient.] Glue each large tab to the inside of the next colored part in turn and gently build up the shape of half of the sphere. Continue with the other half sphere. Finally, glue the top and bottom octagons to the remaining tabs.

