

Claire L. Parkinson
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Claire Parkinson is a climatologist at NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, with a research emphasis since the late 1970s on polar sea ice and its connections to the rest of the climate system and to climate change. Her research centers mostly on satellite data analysis, although she has also developed a computer model of sea ice and has done field work in both the Arctic and the Antarctic. Since April 1993, Dr. Parkinson has additionally been Project Scientist for the Aqua satellite mission, which launched in May 2002 and is transmitting data on many atmospheric, ocean, land, and ice variables. She has authored or coauthored several books connected with her NASA work and has also written a book on the history of science. Claire has received a NASA Outstanding Leadership Medal for her work as the Aqua Project Scientist and the Goldthwait Polar Medal from Ohio State University for her sea ice research. She is a Fellow of the American Meteorological Society and Phi Beta Kappa and was recently elected to the National Academy of Engineering.