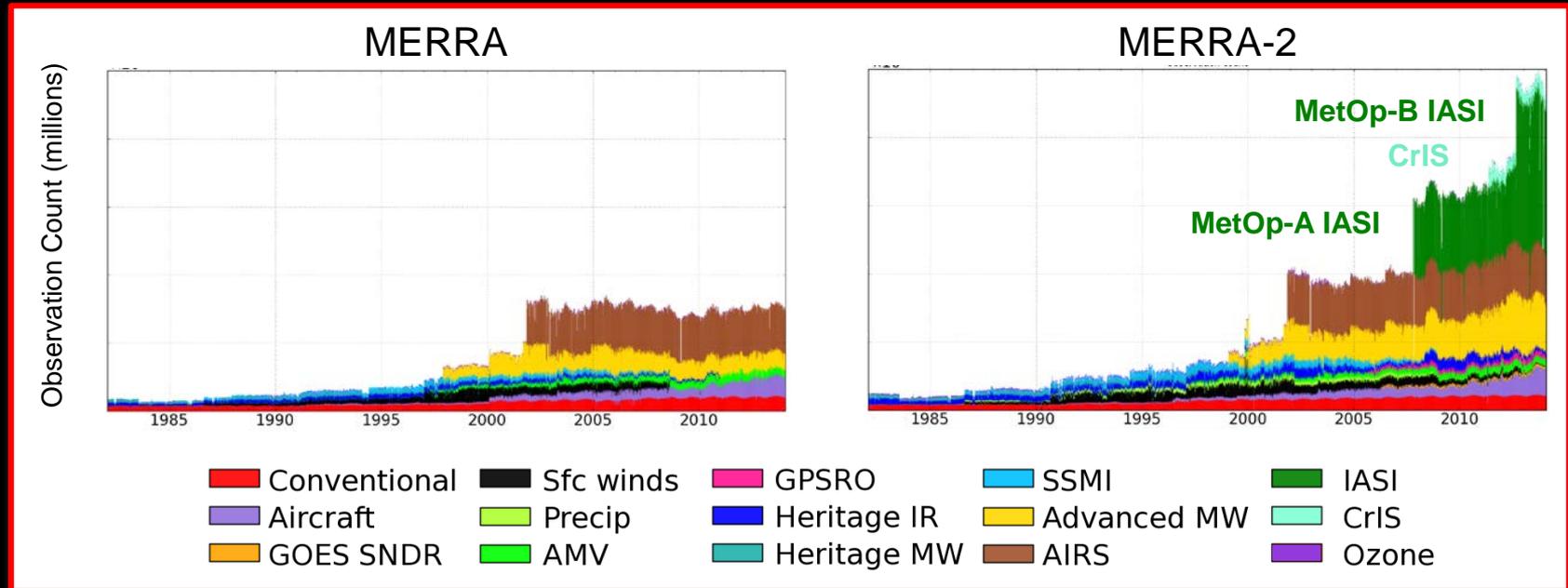




MERRA-2: Observing System Time Series



MERRA-2 assimilates modern satellite observations not available to MERRA. The number of observations in each 6-hr assimilation cycle now approaches five million in **MERRA-2**, as additional hyperspectral sensors such as IASI and CrIS have become active. In contrast, MERRA includes no new satellite radiance data after 2005. Its data count would drop dramatically if Aqua were to fail.