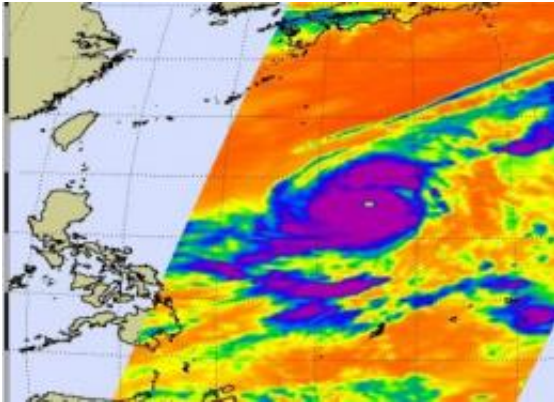


# Super typhoon Lupit heading west in the Philippine Sea

October 19 2009

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Aqua's Atmospheric Infrared Sounder instrument captured Lupit's high thunderstorm cloud temperatures (in purple) were colder than minus 63F. Lupit's eye is clearly visible in this image from October 18. The Philippines are located to Lupit's west. Credit: NASA JPL, Ed Olsen

Lupit has joined the ranks of super typhoons in the Western Pacific Ocean, and is currently packing maximum sustained winds near 132 mph, down from a previous peak near 149 mph, but still a Category Four strength typhoon.

On Monday, October 19 at 11 p.m. local time (Asia/Manila), or 11 a.m. EDT, Super [Typhoon](#) Lupit was located about 715 miles east-northeast of Manila, the Philippines, near 19.5 North and 132.0 East. It was moving west-northwest near 11 mph. Lupit is forecast to keep moving

westward toward northern Luzon because of a sub-tropical ridge (area of high pressure) to its north.

There are a lot of things happening with the storm, and forecasters at the U.S. Navy's Joint Typhoon Warning Center (JTWC) have seen some changes using animated multispectral [satellite imagery](#). Lupit's eye has become cloud-filled, and since early this morning, forecasters have watched the Lupit's eye decrease from 30 nautical miles to 10 nautical miles.

In addition, JTWC noted that "a slot of dry cooler air has started to wrap to the south of Lupit in the past 12 hours, with a ribbon of dry air continuing on to the eastern half of the system. The dry air has not (yet) started to interact with the core of deepest convection near the low level circulation center."



This is NASA's MODIS instrument on the Terra satellite captured Super Typhoon Lupit on October 19 at 0210 UTC (10:10 a.m. local time Asia/Manila), moving through the Philippine Sea. Credit: NASA, MODIS Rapid Response

Forecasters expect a landfall in northern Luzon during the afternoon hours (Asia/Manila Time) on October 22. The U.S. East coast is 12 hours behind local time in Manila.

NASA's Aqua satellite again flew over Super Typhoon Lupit late last night and captured an infrared image of the monster typhoon. Aqua's Atmospheric Infrared Sounder (AIRS) instrument showed high [thunderstorm](#) cloud temperatures were colder than minus 63 Fahrenheit indicating a very strong tropical cyclone.

NASA's Terra satellite also passed over Lupit, and captured an image of the storm using the Moderate Imaging Spectroradiometer (MODIS) instrument, that clearly showed Lupit's eye.

Atmospheric conditions are becoming less favorable as Lupit continues moving west, so the storm is expected to weaken as it crosses the Philippine Sea. Residents of northern Luzon are on alert.

Source: JPL/NASA ([news](#) : [web](#))

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