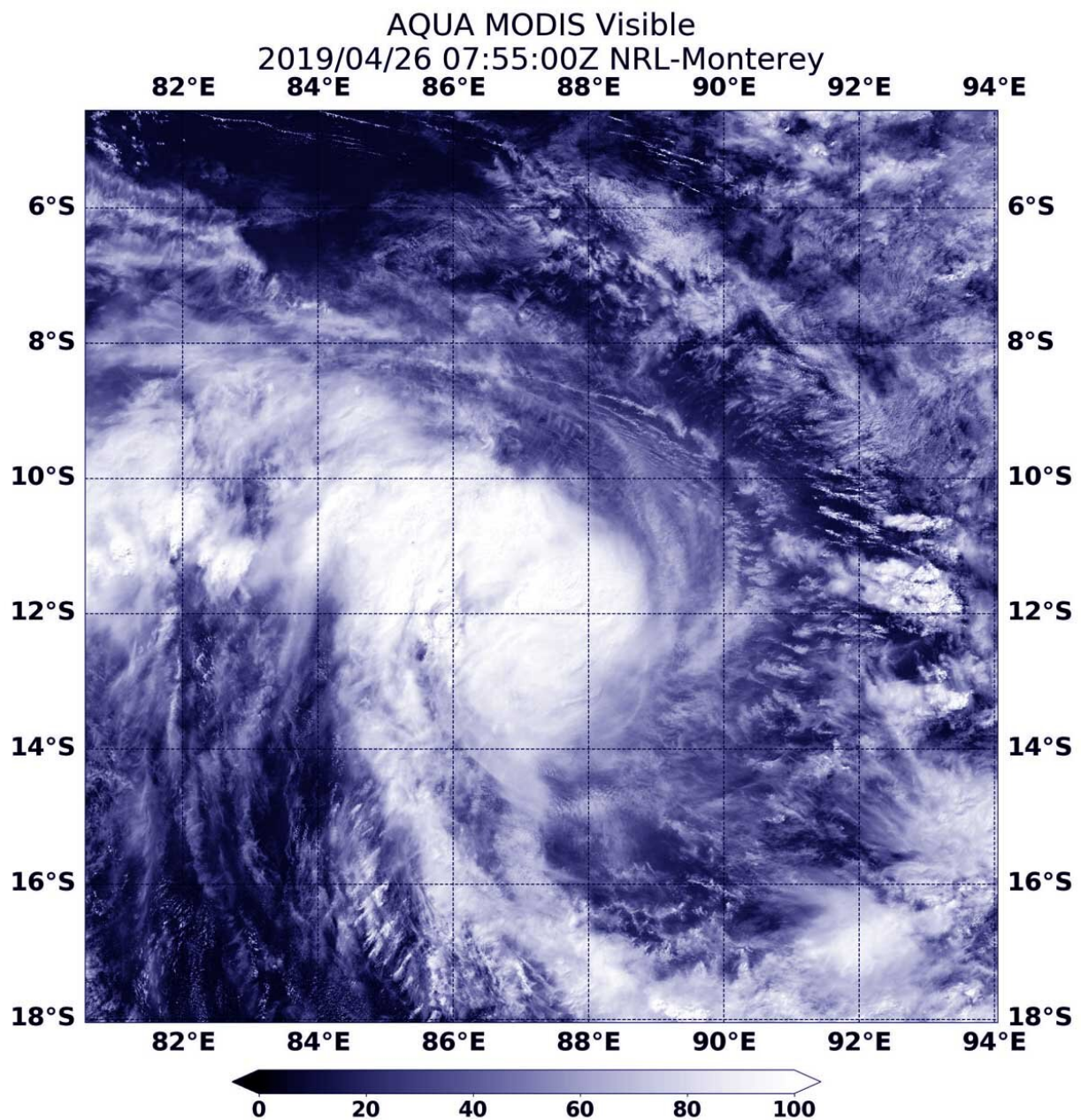


# NASA's Aqua satellite tracks Tropical Cyclone Lorna

April 26 2019



At 3:55 a.m. EDT (0755 UTC) on April 26, the MODIS instrument aboard Aqua captured a visible image of Tropical Storm Lorna in the Southeastern Indian Ocean. Credit: NASA/NRL

As Tropical Storm Lorna continued moving in a southerly direction in the Southeastern Indian Ocean, NASA's Aqua satellite passed overhead and provided forecasters with a look at the storm.

At 3:55 a.m. EDT (0755 UTC) on April 26, the Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer or MODIS instrument aboard Aqua captured a visible image of Lorna. Lorna does not appear symmetrical and the strongest thunderstorms appear over the western side of the storm. The Joint Typhoon Warning Center or JTWC forecasters also noted, "Animated enhanced [infrared satellite imagery](#) depicts a central dense overcast feature obscuring the low-level circulation center."

By 11 a.m. EDT (1500 UTC) on April 26, Tropical Storm Lorna had maximum sustained winds near 60 knots (46 mph/74 kph). Lorna was centered near 13.0 degrees south latitude and 88.6 degrees east longitude, approximately 495 nautical miles west of Cocos Island. Lorna was moving to the east-southeast.

Lorna is forecast to strengthen to hurricane-strength and move in a southerly direction. Over the weekend of April 27 and 28, Lorna is expected to begin transitioning into an extra-tropical cyclone.

That means that a tropical cyclone has lost its "tropical" characteristics. The National Hurricane Center defines "extra-tropical" as a transition that implies both poleward displacement (meaning it moves toward the north or [south pole](#)) of the cyclone and the conversion of the cyclone's

primary energy source from the release of latent heat of condensation to baroclinic (the temperature contrast between warm and cold air masses) processes. It is important to note that cyclones can become extratropical and retain winds of hurricane or tropical storm force.

Provided by NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center

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