



*National Aeronautics and Space Administration  
Goddard Earth Science Data Information and  
Services Center (GES DISC)*

# README Document for OMHCH0d

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Goddard Earth Sciences Data and Information Services Center (GES DISC)

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# Revision History

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# 1.0 Introduction

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This document provides information for using version 1.0 of the OMI OMHCHOd product derived from the OMI Level-2 OMHCHO product. The OMHCHOd product consists of global, daily averaged, quality controlled OMHCHO formaldehyde columns on a  $0.1^\circ \times 0.1^\circ$  North-South / East-West regular grid. The columns are accompanied by support data consisting of quality diagnostics, uncertainties, and sample weights to facilitate further aggregation of the column field. The OMHCHOd product Readme aims to provide easy to use formaldehyde information derived from the OMI instrument.

Abbreviation/acronym	Meaning
API	Application Programming Interface
CDL	Common Data Language
CF	Climate and Forecast
DOI	Digital Object Identifier
ECS	EOSDIS Core System
EOS	Earth Observing System
EOSDIS	EOS Data and Information System
HDF5	Hierarchical Data Format Version 5
L-1B	Level-1B (calibrated radiances or irradiances)
L-2	Level-2 (retrieved geophysical values)
L-3	Level-3 (global, gridded, averaged, quality controlled geophysical values)
NetCDF	Network Common Data Form
OMI	Ozone Monitoring Instrument
PI	Principal Investigator
SZA	Solar Zenith Angle
UTC	Universal Time Coordinate

Table 1. List of acronyms and abbreviations

## 1.1 OMI Instrument Description

The Ozone Monitoring Instrument was launched in 2004 on-board NASA's Aura satellite. OMI was designed to provide daily global measurements of ozone and its precursors at spatial resolutions ranging from  $\sim 13 \text{ km} \times 24 \text{ km}$  at the center of the swath to  $\sim 28 \text{ km} \times 160 \text{ km}$  at the most outer swath-angle. Since the on-set of the row anomaly in June 2007 spatial coverage was reduced. The OMHCHOd gridding algorithm filters out pixels affected by the row anomaly. A detailed description of the instrument and its performance is provided by Levelt et al., (2018).

### 1.1.1 OMHCHOd dataset

The OMHCHOd product consists of averaged daily, global and quality controlled formaldehyde vertical columns as observed by the OMI instrument and associated data to facilitate their interpretation. The data set provides easy access to OMI formaldehyde measurements. All level 2 OMHCHO observations for a given day are first explored to filter out pixels with bad formaldehyde retrievals, high cloud fractions (>0.3), high SZA (>70°), and pixels affected by OMI's row anomaly. At each target 0.1° × 0.1° grid box the OMHCHOd algorithm then calculates weighted mean values for vertical column amounts, column uncertainties, AMFs, cloud fraction, cloud pressure, terrain height, and albedos using OMHCHO L2 product as inputs. OMHCHOd files also provide diagnostic information designed to facilitate the calculation of ad-hoc spatial and temporal resolutions by co-adding OMHCHOd pixels from its native daily temporal and 0.1° × 0.1° spatial resolutions to the desired targets. Details about using the sample\_weight information to co-add OMHCHOd pixels are provided in section 3.3.11.

## 1.2 Algorithm Background

For each target grid box,  $j$ , the physics-based gridding algorithm calculates the weighted mean of a Level 2 data field,  $x(i)$ , which is defined at Level 2 pixel  $i$ :

$$x(j) = \frac{\sum_i w(i,j)x(i)}{\sum_i w(i,j)}.$$

Here the weight for Level 2 pixel  $i$  at grid box  $j$  depends on the spatial response of pixel  $i$  at grid box  $j$ ,  $S(i,j)$ , the size of Level 2 pixel  $i$  that is proportional to  $\sum_j S(i,j)$ , and the retrieval error at pixel  $i$ ,  $\sigma(i)$ :

$$w(i,j) = \frac{S(i,j)}{\sigma(i) \sum_j S(i,j)}.$$

The spatial response function,  $S(i,j)$ , is parameterized as a 2D super Gaussian function with an across-track shape factor of 4 and an along-track shape factor of 2 (Sun et al., 2018). The full widths at half maximum of the spatial response function for across- and along-track directions are taken from Level 2 pixel corner coordinates. Table 2 shows the OMHCHO variables from whom each OMHCHOd variable is derived.

OMHCHO variable name	OMHCHOd variable name
ReferenceSectorCorrectedVerticalColumn	column_amount
ColumnUncertainty	column_uncertainty
AirMassFactor	amf
AMFCloudFraction	cloud_fraction
AMFCloudPressure	cloud_pressure
TerrainHeight	terrain_height

Table 2. Each row shows the OMHCHO variable averaged to originate the corresponding gridded OMHCHOd variable.

Sample\_weight is calculated as

$$\sum_i w(i,j),$$

and num\_sample is calculated as

$$\sum_i S(i,j)$$

## 1.3 Data Disclaimer

README document for OMI L3 formaldehyde (OMHCHOd) product. While the OMHCHOd product provides daily observations of OMI formaldehyde for most applications, given the noise levels of the OMI formaldehyde Level 2 product (OMHCHO), further temporal and spatial averaging may be necessary to reach the necessary noise levels. Scientific studies in the past have used monthly and seasonal averages. As explained in section 3.3.11, the OMHCHOd product provides all the information necessary to facilitate the aggregation of OMHCHOd grids in temporal and spatial domains.

### 1.3.1 Acknowledgments

If these data products are to be used in scientific publications please refer to them by including the following citations: Gonzalez Abad et al. (2015) (OMHCHO product) and Sun et al. (2018) (physics-based gridding algorithm). Acknowledgements should be provided to NASA and NASA's Aura Science Team.

### 1.3.2 Contact Information

General information and requests should be addressed via email to OMHCHOd PI Dr. Kelly Chance ([kchance@cfa.harvard.edu](mailto:kchance@cfa.harvard.edu)). Questions about the physical oversampling algorithm should be addressed via email to Dr. Kang Sun ([kangsun@buffalo.edu](mailto:kangsun@buffalo.edu)). Questions about the L-2 OMHCHO, and L-3 OMHCHOd product should be addressed to Dr. Gonzalo González Abad ([ggonzalezabad@cfa.harvard.edu](mailto:ggonzalezabad@cfa.harvard.edu))

### 1.3.3 Citing the data

When using these data in your publication please cite the data product:

Kelly Chance (2019), OMI/Aura Formaldehyde (HCHO) Total Column Daily L3 Weighted Mean Global 0.1deg Lat/Lon Grid V003, Greenbelt, MD, USA, Goddard Earth Sciences Data and



Information Services Center (GES DISC), Accessed:[Data Access Date],  
10.5067/Aura/OMI/DATA3010

References to OMHCHO Level 2 algorithm (González Abad et al., 2015) and the physical oversampling algorithm (Sun et al., 2018) should also be included in your publication.

## 2.0 Data Organization

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Each OMHCHOd product file contains data from a single day. There is only one file per day (if data is available) providing global, averaged, gridded and quality controlled formaldehyde data obtained from the OMHCHO product.

### 2.1 File Naming Convention

OMHCHOd files are named following this schema

<Sensor>-<Platform>\_<DataType>-<DataID>\_<ObservationDate>\_v<ECSCollection>-  
<ProductionDateTime>.<Suffix>

where

<Sensor>: OMI

<Platform>: Aura

<DataType>: L3

<DataID>: OMHCHOd

<ObservationDate>: %Ym%m%d [%Y = year (4 digit string), %m = month (2 digit string) and %d = day (2 digit string)]

<ECSCollection>: 003 is the ECS Collection number (3 digit string)

<ProductionDateTime>: UTC %Ym%m%dt%H%M%S [%Y=year (4 digit string), %m = month (2 digit string), %d = day (2 digit string), %H = hour (2 digit string), %M = minute (2 digit string), and %S = second (2 digit string)]

<Suffix>: .nc file format extension for netCDF.

Filename example: OMI-Aura\_L3-OMHCHOd\_2004m1012\_v003-2019m0725t194423.nc

### 2.2 File Format and Structure

OMHCHOd files use the netCDF (version 4) format. NetCDF was developed and is maintained by [Unidata](#). In particular NetCDF version 4 is capable of using HDF5, developed and maintained by [The HDF Group](#). The general structure of OMHCHOd files is shown in figure 1.

Name	Long Name	Type
OMI-Aura_L3-OMHCHOd_2004m_1012_v003-2019m0725t194423.nc	OMI/Aura Formaldehyde (HCHO) Total Column Daily L3 Weighted Mean Global 0.1deg Lat/Lon Grid	Local File
key_science_data	key_science_data	—
column_amount	HCHO column amount	Geo2D
column_uncertainty	HCHO column uncertainty	Geo2D
latitude	latitude	1D
longitude	longitude	1D
qa_statistics	qa_statistics	—
data_quality_flag	main data quality flag	Geo2D
num_samples	number of samples	Geo2D
support_data	support_data	—
albedo	surface albedo	Geo2D
amf	air mass factor	Geo2D
cloud_fraction	AMF cloud fraction	Geo2D
cloud_pressure	AMF cloud pressure	Geo2D
sample_weight	sample weight	Geo2D
terrain_height	terrain height	Geo2D

Figure 1. OMHCHOd netCDF file structure

Each file has two dimensions, latitude and longitude, defining the center coordinates of each grid box. The information is organized into three groups: (1) key\_science\_data containing the formaldehyde columns and their associated uncertainties, (2) qa\_statistics providing information about the quality of the data in each grid box and the number of samples contributing to each grid box, and (3) support\_data including other averaged fields and the weights associated to formaldehyde columns for each grid box. Granule metadata are included as global keyword:value pairs.

## 2.3 Key Science Data Fields

The variables included in the key\_science\_data group are the ones most likely to be used by users. Other key data fields include data\_quality\_flags in the qa\_statistics group and sample\_weight in the support\_data group.

# 3.0 Data Contents

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## 3.1 Dimensions

The OMHCHOd product has defined 2 dimensions, longitudes and latitudes, defining a  $0.1^\circ \times 0.1^\circ$  global regular grid. Coordinates for each grid box center can be found in the root variables “longitude” and “latitude” defined as degrees east, and degrees north ranging from  $-180^\circ$  to  $180^\circ$  and  $-90^\circ$  to  $90^\circ$ , respectively.

## 3.2 Global metadata

In addition to arrays containing geophysical quantities, support variables, and dimension scales, global metadata are also stored in the file. Some metadata are required by standard conventions, some are included to meet data provenance requirements and others as a convenience to users of the OMHCHOd product. A summary of metadata global attributes present in all files is shown in Table 2.

<b>Global Attribute</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Description</b>
ContactPersonEmail	string	Electronic mail address of the responsible person
ContactPersonName	string	Name of the responsible person
ContractPersonRole	string	Role of responsible person
Conventions	string	CF metadata convention
DataSetQuality	string	Description of the quality controls applied to OMHCHO data
DayOfYear	string	Sequential day of year starting with day 1 on January 1 <sup>st</sup>
EasternmostLongitude	float	Easternmost longitude of OMHCHOd global grid
Format	string	Format of OMHCHOd data (netCDF-4)
GranuleID	string	OMHCHOd file name
history	string	Audit trail for modifications to the original data
IdentifierProductionDOIAuthority	string	<a href="http://dx.doi.org/">http://dx.doi.org/</a>
IdentifierProductDOI	string	Product DOI identifier
InputOriginalFile	string	Comma separated list of OMHCHO granules used to generate the OMHCHOd file
Institution	string	Where OMHCHOd data were produced
LatitudeResolution	float	Latitudinal grid resolution (decimal degrees)
LongitudeResolution	float	Longitudinal grid resolution (decimal degrees)
LongName	string	Descriptive OMHCHOd product name
MaximumCloudFraction	float	Maximum cloud fraction of OMHCHO pixels considered in OMHCHOd
MaximumSZA	float	Maximum SZA of OMHCHO pixels considered in OMHCHOd
NorthernmostLatitude	float	Northernmost latitude of OMHCHOd global grid
ObservationArea	string	Spatial coverage of the OMHCHOd data set
ProcessingLevel	string	Level of data processing
ProductGenerationAlgorithm	string	Algorithm software used to generate the file
ProductGenerationAlgorithmVersion	string	Version of the OMHCHOd algorithm
ProductionDateTime	string	Date and UTC time when the file was produced
RangeBeginningDate	string	Start date of the data in the file (format YYYY-MM-DD)
RangeBeginningTime	string	Start UTC time of the data (format hh:mm:ssZ)
RangeEndingDate	string	End date of the data in the file (format YYYY-MM-DD)
RangeEndingTime	string	End UTC time of the data (format hh:mm:ssZ)

references	string	Published references that describe the data and methods used to produce the data
ShortName	string	Abbreviated name of the product (OMHCHOD)
Source	string	Instrument origin of the OMHCHOD product
SouthernmostLatitude	float	Southernmost latitude of OMHCHOD global grid
Title	string	A succinct description of OMHCHOD
VersionID	string	ECS collection identifier
WesternmostLongitude	float	Westernmost longitude of OMHCHOD global grid

Table 3. Global metadata attributes included in OMHCHOD files.

### 3.3 Data Fields

A detailed list of data fields included in OMHCHOD file follows in sections 3.3.1 to 3.3.12. Each section presents the CDL data field definition including its type, name, dimensions and attributes.

Table 3 shows a list of data field metadata stored as attributes (keyword:values) for each variable. Not all metadata fields apply to all data fields.

Data Field Attribute	Type	Description
_FillValue	data field type	Fill value or missing value
comment	string	Additional description about the data field
long_name	string	Data field long name
units	string	Data field units (geophysical units or "1" for fraction)
valid_min	data field type	Data field minimum value. Values below valid_min should be discarded
valid_max	data field type	Data field maximum value. Values below valid_min should be discarded
coordinates	String	Dimension coordinates of the data field

Table 4. Data field attributes

#### 3.3.1 latitude

Center grid box latitude values defined as degrees north.

```
float latitude(latitude=1800);
:_FillValue = -1.0E30f; // float
:_comment = "latitude at grid box center";
:_long_name = "latitude";
:_units = "degrees_north";
:_valid_min = -90.0f; // float
:_valid_max = 90.0f; // float
:_Storage = "contiguous";
:_ChunkSizes = 1800U; // uint
```

### 3.3.2 longitude

Center grid box longitude values defined as degrees east.

```
float longitude(longitude=3600);
:_FillValue = -1.0E30f; // float
:comment = "longitude at grid box center";
:long_name = "longitude";
:units = "degrees_east";
:valid_min = -180.0f; // float
:valid_max = 180.0f; // float
:_Storage = "contiguous";
:_ChunkSizes = 3600U; // uint
```

### 3.3.3 column\_amount in key\_science\_data group

Mean formaldehyde column amount derived from the OMHCHO

ReferenceSectorCorrectedVerticalColumn data field. OMHCHO README file and González Abad et al., (2015) provide further information about the OMHCHO product.

```
float column_amount(latitude=1800, longitude=3600);
:comment = "mean formaldehyde column amount; units of molecules/cm^2";
:units = "molecules/cm^2";
:coordinates = "longitude latitude";
:_Storage = "contiguous";
:_FillValue = -1.0E30f; // float
:long_name = "HCHO column amount";
:_ChunkSizes = 600U, 1200U; // uint
```

### 3.3.4 column\_uncertainty in key\_science\_data group

Mean formaldehyde column amount uncertainty. See section 1.2 for calculation details.

```
float column_uncertainty(latitude=1800, longitude=3600);
:_FillValue = -1.0E30f; // float
:comment = "mean column amount uncertainty; units of molecules/cm^2";
:long_name = "HCHO column uncertainty";
:units = "molecules/cm^2";
:coordinates = "longitude latitude";
:_Storage = "contiguous";
:_ChunkSizes = 600U, 1200U; // uint
```

### 3.3.5 data\_quality\_flag in qa\_statistics group

Quality flag providing a guide to users about the availability of the OMHCHO product. The quality flag is computed based on the number of samples, considering the area overlap, available for each grid box. The flag values range from 0 for good to 2 for not calculated or failed calculation. A value equal to 1 indicates a small number of samples ( $\text{num\_sample} > 1e-6$  and  $< 0.1$ ). It is suggested to use grid cells with flag values 0 for daily Level 3 data. Grid cells with flag values of 1 may be included when aggregating daily Level 3 data spatially or temporally, as shown in section 3.3.11.

```
byte data_quality_flag(latitude=1800, longitude=3600);
:_FillValue = 2B; // byte
:comment = "main data quality flag. 0 (good, number of samples > 0.1) 1 (good, number of samples < 0.1) 2 (bad / not computed)";
```

```

:long_name = "main data quality flag";
:flal_values = 0B, 1B, 2B; // byte
:flag_meanings = "good_number_of_samples_greater_than_0.1
good_number_of_samples_less_than_0.1 bad_or_not_computed";
:valid_min = 0B; // byte
:valid_max = 2B; // byte
:coordinates = "longitude latitude";
:_Storage = "contiguous";
:_ChunkSizes = 900U, 1800U; // uint

```

### 3.3.6 num\_samples in qa\_statistics group

Number of samples for each grid box contributing to the calculation. The number of samples considers the sum of spatial sensitivity of all Level 2 OMHCHO pixel contributing to a particular L3 OMHCHOd grid box and therefore is defined as a real number.

```

float num_samples(latitude=1800, longitude=3600);
:_FillValue = -1.0f; // float
:_comment = "number of samples in the calculation considering the
summed spatial sensitivity of all satellite pixels in each level 3 grid box";
:long_name = "number of samples";
:units = "1";
:valid_min = 0.0f; // float
:valid_max = 1000.0f; // float
:coordinates = "longitude latitude";
:_Storage = "contiguous";
:_ChunkSizes = 600U, 1200U; // uint

```

### 3.3.7 albedo in support\_data group

Mean surface reflectance calculated by weighting the albedos reported in the OMHCHO files using the same weights used for the mean column amount calculation.

```

float albedo(latitude=1800, longitude=3600);
:_FillValue = -1.0E30f; // float
:_comment = "surface albedo";
:long_name = "surface albedo";
:units = "1";
:valid_min = 0.0f; // float
:valid_max = 1.0f; // float
:coordinates = "longitude latitude";
:_Storage = "contiguous";
:_ChunkSizes = 600U, 1200U; // uint

```

### 3.3.8 amf in support\_data group

Mean AMF calculated by weighting the AMFs reported in the OMHCHO files using the same weights used for the mean column amount calculation.

```

float amf(latitude=1800, longitude=3600);
:_FillValue = -1.0E30f; // float
:_comment = "air mass factor (AMF)";
:long_name = "air mass factor";
:units = "1";
:valid_min = 0.0f; // float
:valid_max = 100.0f; // float
:coordinates = "longitude latitude";

```

```

:_Storage = "contiguous";
:_ChunkSizes = 600U, 1200U; // uint

```

### 3.3.9 cloud\_fraction in support\_data group

Mean cloud fraction calculated by weighting the cloud fractions reported in the OMHCHO files using the same weights used for the mean column amount calculation. OMHCHOd cloud fractions are always smaller than 0.3 since this is the threshold for filtering OMHCHO pixels.

```

float cloud_fraction(latitude=1800, longitude=3600);
:_FillValue = -1.0E30f; // float
:comment = "cloud fraction for AMF calculation";
:long_name = "AMF cloud fraction";
:units = "1";
:valid_min = 0.0f; // float
:valid_max = 1.0f; // float
:coordinates = "longitude latitude";
:_Storage = "contiguous";
:_ChunkSizes = 600U, 1200U; // uint

```

### 3.3.10 cloud\_pressure in support\_data group

Mean cloud pressure calculated by weighting the cloud pressures reported in the OMHCHO files using the same weights used for the mean column amount calculation after excluding pixels with cloud fraction equal to zero.

```

float cloud_pressure(latitude=1800, longitude=3600);
:_FillValue = -1.0E30f; // float
:comment = "cloud pressure for AMF calculation";
:long_name = "AMF cloud pressure";
:units = "hPa";
:valid_min = 0.0f; // float
:valid_max = 1200.0f; // float
:coordinates = "longitude latitude";
:_Storage = "contiguous";
:_ChunkSizes = 600U, 1200U; // uint

```

### 3.3.11 sample\_weight in support\_data group

Weights assigned to each OMHCHOd grid box resulting from adding the weight of each OMHCHO Level 2 pixel contributing to the calculation of the mean column amount, column uncertainty, and support data. Using the sample\_weight users can calculate further averaged amounts by spatial and temporal co-addition of pixels. Consider a set of  $n$  OMHCHOd pixels. To calculate the co-added value of  $X$  (for example column\_amount) for this set of pixels, given  $W$  the sample weight of each pixel the co-added quantity can be obtained as  $\bar{X} = \sum X_i W_i / \sum W_i$  with  $i = 1, n$ .

```

float sample_weight(latitude=1800, longitude=3600);
:_FillValue = -1.0E30f; // float
:comment = "sample weight";
:long_name = "sample weight";
:units = "1";
:valid_min = 0.0f; // float
:coordinates = "longitude latitude";
:_Storage = "contiguous";

```

```
:_ChunkSizes = 600U, 1200U; // uint
```

### 3.3.12 terrain\_height in support\_data group

Mean terrain\_height calculated by weighting the terrain\_heights reported in the OMHCHO files using the same weights used for the mean column amount calculation.

```
short terrain_height(latitude=1800, longitude=3600);
:_FillValue = -30000S; // short
:_comment = "terrain height";
:_long_name = "terrain height";
:_units = "m";
:_valid_min = -1000S; // short
:_valid_max = 10000S; // short
:_coordinates = "longitude latitude";
:_Storage = "contiguous";
:_ChunkSizes = 900U, 1800U; // uint
```

## 4.0 Options for Reading the Data

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### 4.1 Command Line Utilities

Ncdump and h5dump utilities provide convenient options to explore the structure and file contents of OMHCHOd files. To take full advantage of OMHCHOd netCDF, reading big data sets using these utilities is discouraged.

#### 4.1.1 ncdump

With ncdump it is possible to generate CDL text representations of OMHCHOd netCDF datasets. A full description of the capabilities of ncdump can be found here:

<https://www.unidata.ucar.edu/software/netcdf/netcdf/ncdump.html>

To quickly explore the structure of OMHCHOd, outputting it to struc.txt, issue the following command:

```
ncdump -c <filename> > struc.txt
```

or if coordinate variable values (longitude and latitude) are not desired in the output:

```
ncdump -h <filename> > struct.txt
```

#### 4.1.2 h5dump

H5dump allows the user to explore the contents of OMHCHOd netCDF datasets owing to the fact the HDF5 underlies the netCDF binary format. A full description of h5dump capabilities can be obtained here: <https://support.hdfgroup.org/HDF5/doc/RM/Tools/h5dump.htm>



To explore the structure of OMHCHOd, these two commands will help:

```
h5dump -H <filename>
```

or a very simplified version

```
h5dump -n <filename>
```

## 4.2 Tools/Programming

### **HDFView**

HDFView is a Java-based graphical user interface created by the HDF Group, which can be used to browse OMHCHOd files. The utility allows users to view all objects in an HDF file hierarchy, which is represented as a tree structure.

HDFView documentation and downloads are available at

<https://www.hdfgroup.org/downloads/hdfview/>

### **Panoply**

OMHCHOd data sets are geo-referenced and can be visualized using Panoply, a Java based graphical user interface capable of plotting arrays from netCDF files. Further information and download options are available at

<https://www.giss.nasa.gov/tools/panoply/>

netCDF programming interfaces are available for major high-level languages including IDL, Matlab, R, and Python. Appendix A reproduces a basic Python script to read column amount from multiple OMHCHOd files and co-add them on the temporal domain.

## 5.0 Data Services

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OMHCHOd products are archived and distributed by the Goddard Earth Science Data & Information Services Center (GES-DISC). The files can be directly downloaded from the GES-DISC or search using NASA's EarthData web services which provides capabilities for spatial and temporal subsetting. GES-DISC provides a list of tools that can read netCDF-4 files. To download GES-DISC data you must (1) register in Earthdata Login and (2) be authorized for NASA GES-DISC Data Access.

Registering and downloading data with Earthdata can be achieved here:

<https://disc.gsfc.nasa.gov/data-access>

The GES DISC Giovanni service (<https://giovanni.gsfc.nasa.gov/giovanni/>) allows users to view and explore the OMHCHOd product before downloading the data files.

If you need assistance or wish to report a problem:

**Email:** [gsfc-help-disc@lists.nasa.gov](mailto:gsfc-help-disc@lists.nasa.gov)

**Voice:** 301-614-5224

**Fax:** 301-614-5268

**Address:**

Goddard Earth Sciences Data and Information Services Center NASA Goddard Space Flight Center Code 610.2 Greenbelt, MD 20771 USA

## 6.0 Acknowledgments

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## References

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The OMHCHO README file is at

[https://aura.gesdisc.eosdis.nasa.gov/data/Aura\\_OMI\\_Level2/OMHCHO.003/doc/README.OMHCHO.pdf](https://aura.gesdisc.eosdis.nasa.gov/data/Aura_OMI_Level2/OMHCHO.003/doc/README.OMHCHO.pdf)

# Appendix A. Python reader and temporal co-add script

---

```
# -*- coding: utf-8 -*-
"""
Created on Thu Aug  1 15:07:52 2019
This example script is provided as is with no warranty of any kind,
either expressed or implied. You are solely responsible for
determining the appropriateness of using or redistributing the
software and assume any risks associated.

@author: Kang Sun
"""
from netCDF4 import Dataset
import sys, os, glob
import datetime
import numpy as np
from calendar import monthrange

if sys.platform == 'win32':
    omhchod_dir = r'C:\<Input_Files_Path>'
    l3_path_structure = None
else:
    omhchod_dir = '<Input_Files_Path>'
    l3_path_structure = '%Y/%m/'

def
F_aggregate_OMHCHOd(start_date,end_date,omhchod_dir,l3_path_structure=None
):
    """
    aggregate operational omhcho daily level 3 over some time interval
    start_date:
        python datetime object for the start date
    end_date:
        python datetime object for the end date, inclusive
    omhchod_dir:
        root directory where omhchod are saved
    l3_path_dir:
        None by default, indicating individual files are directly under
    path
        '%Y/' if files are like omhchod_dir/2019/*.nc
        '%Y/%m/%d/' if files are like omhchod_dir/2019/05/01/*.nc
    created on 2019/08/03
    """
    days = (end_date-start_date).days+1
    dates = [start_date+datetime.timedelta(days=d) for d in range(days)]
    os.chdir(omhchod_dir)
    if 'A' in vars():
```

```

del A
for date in dates:
    if l3_path_structure == None:
        fn = glob.glob('OMI-Aura_L3-
OMHCHOd_'+date.strftime("%Ym%d")+ '*.nc')
    else:
        fn = glob.glob(date.strftime(l3_path_structure)+\
            'OMI-Aura_L3-
OMHCHOd_'+date.strftime("%Ym%d")+ '*.nc')
    if len(fn)>0:
        nc = Dataset(fn[0])
        nc.set_auto_mask(False)
        if 'A' not in vars():
            cc = nc['/key_science_data/column_amount'][:]
            bb = nc['/support_data/sample_weight'][:]
            dd = nc['/qa_statistics/num_samples'][:]
            qa = (nc['/qa_statistics/data_quality_flag'][:] <= 1)
            cc[~qa] = 0.
            bb[~qa] = 0.
            dd[~qa] = 0.
            aa = cc*bb
            A = aa
            B = bb
            D = dd
            lon = nc['longitude'][:]
            lat = nc['latitude'][:]
        else:
            cc =
nc['/key_science_data/column_amount'][:].astype(np.float64)
            bb =
nc['/support_data/sample_weight'][:].astype(np.float64)
            dd = nc['/qa_statistics/num_samples'][:]
            qa = (nc['/qa_statistics/data_quality_flag'][:] <= 1)
            cc[~qa] = 0.
            bb[~qa] = 0.
            dd[~qa] = 0.
            aa = cc*bb
            A = A+aa
            B = B+bb
            D = D+dd

l3_data = {}
if 'A' in vars():
    l3_data['xgrid'] = lon
    l3_data['ygrid'] = lat
    l3_data['A'] = A
    l3_data['B'] = B
    l3_data['D'] = D
return l3_data

start_year = 2004
start_month = 1
end_year = 2019
end_month = 7

```

```
for y in range(start_year, end_year+1):
    for m in range(1, 13):
        if y == start_year and m < start_month:
            continue
        if y == end_year and m > start_month:
            continue

        start_date = datetime.date(y, m, 1)
        end_date = datetime.date(y, m, monthrange(y, m)[-1])
        l3_data =
F_aggregate_OMHCHOd(start_date, end_date, omhchod_dir, l3_path_structure)
```