

Global Formaldehyde Products from the Ozone Mapping and Profiler Suite (OMPS) Nadir Mappers on Suomi NPP and NOAA-20

Caroline R. Nowlan¹, Gonzalo González Abad¹, Hyeong-Ahn Kwon, Zolal Ayazpour², Christopher Chan Miller^{1,3}, Kelly Chance¹, Heesung Chong¹, Xiong Liu¹, Ewan O'Sullivan¹, Huiqun Wang¹, Lei Zhu⁴, Isabelle De Smedt⁵, Glen Jaross⁶, Colin Seftor^{6,7}, Kang Sun²

¹Center for Astrophysics | Harvard & Smithsonian, Cambridge, MA, USA

²University at Buffalo, Buffalo, NY, USA

³Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, USA

⁴Southern University of Science and Technology, Shenzhen, China

⁵Royal Belgian Institute for Space Aeronomy, Brussels, Belgium

⁶NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, Greenbelt, MD, USA

⁷Science Systems and Applications, Inc., Lanham, MD, USA

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Introduction

This document contains supporting information for the article "Global Formaldehyde Products from the Ozone Mapping and Profiler Suite (OMPS) Instruments on Suomi NPP and NOAA-20", which describes the formaldehyde retrieval algorithm and publicly-available data products for the OMPS nadir mapper instruments on the Suomi-NPP and NOAA-20 satellites.

The Level 2 OMPS HCHO (OMPS_NPP_NMHCHO_L2 and OMPS_N20_NMHCHO_L2) files consist of orbital swath total vertical column densities of formaldehyde from the OMPS nadir mappers. The vertical columns are accompanied by support data consisting of uncertainty estimates, geolocation, quality flags and statistics, vertically resolved scattering weights, a priori formaldehyde profiles and ancillary data. Each file contains Level 2 swath data for a single orbit. There are typically 14 to 15 orbits per day.

The OMPS_NPP_NMHCHO_L2 and OMPS_N20_NMHCHO_L2 files are in netCDF (version 4) format. The file information is divided into five main groups:

1. **key_science_data**: the HCHO column, uncertainty and main data quality flag
2. **geolocation**: information on observation time, latitude, longitude, viewing and solar angles, and terrain height at observation surface location
3. **qa_statistics**: fit convergence statistics and flags, RMS fitting residuals
4. **support_data**: support data used in the VCD calculation, including fitted slant column, air mass factor, cloud and surface information. This group also contains the vertically-resolved scattering weights.
5. **uncertainty_budget**: uncertainty estimates in key parameters

Orbital metadata are included as global keyword:value pairs.

Table S1 summarizes the main possible dimensions of data fields. Tables S2 – S6 list the data fields included in the OMPS Level 2 HCHO files by group. Each variables also includes attributes such as units and flag meanings. The data field `support_data/surface_pressure` includes the Eta coordinates for calculating vertical pressure grids. See the OMPS HCHO README document (Nowlan and González Abad, 2022) for further details on the file format.

Table S1. Main data field dimensions. Not all data fields have all dimensions.

Name	Description	Nominal Dimensions
<code>along_track</code>	Number of ground pixels along the satellite track	400 (SNPP) 1201 (NOAA-20)
<code>cross_track</code>	Number of ground pixels across the satellite track	36 (SNPP) 104 (NOAA-20, Orbits 1 – 6418) 140 (NOAA-20, Orbits 6419 – present)
<code>corner</code>	Number of corners in latitude and longitude bounds	4
<code>vertical_layer</code>	Number of layers in data fields with vertical information	47

Table S2. Data fields in `key_science_data` group.

Data Field Name	Description	Type	Dimensions	Units
<code>column_amount</code>	HCHO column amount	64-bit floating-point	<code>along_track</code> , <code>cross_track</code>	molecules/cm ²
<code>column_uncertainty</code>	HCHO column amount uncertainty. This is derived from the random uncertainty in the slant column spectral fit.	64-bit floating-point	<code>along_track</code> , <code>cross_track</code>	molecules/cm ²
<code>main_data_quality_flag</code>	main data quality flag	16-bit integer	<code>along_track</code> , <code>cross_track</code>	none

Table S3. Data fields in geolocation group.

Data Field Name	Description	Type	Dimensions	Units
latitude	Latitude at pixel center	32-bit floating-point	along_track, cross_track	degrees north
latitude_bounds	Latitude at pixel corners	32-bit floating-point	along_track, cross_track, corner	degrees north
longitude	Longitude at pixel center	32-bit floating-point	along_track, cross_track	degrees east
longitude_bounds	Longitude at pixel corners	32-bit floating-point	along_track, cross_track, corner	degrees east
solar_zenith_angle	Solar zenith angle at pixel center	32-bit floating-point	along_track, cross_track	degrees
solar_azimuth_angle	Solar azimuth angle at pixel center	32-bit floating-point	along_track, cross_track	degrees
relative_azimuth_angle	Relative azimuth angle at pixel center	32-bit floating-point	along_track, cross_track	degrees
terrain_height	Terrain height	16-bit integer	along_track, cross_track	m
time	Exposure start time in seconds since 1993-01-01T00:00:00Z	64-bit floating-point	along_track	seconds
viewing_zenith_angle	Viewing zenith angle at pixel center	32-bit floating-point	along_track, cross_track	degrees
viewing_azimuth_angle	Viewing azimuth angle at pixel center	32-bit floating-point	along_track, cross_track	degrees

Table S4. Data fields in qa_statistics group.

Data Field Name	Description	Type	Dimensions	Units
fit_convergence_flag	Slant column fit convergence flag	16-bit integer	along_track, cross_track	none
fit_rms_residual	Normalized radiance fit RMS residual	64-bit floating-point	along_track, cross_track	none
num_good_input	Number of pixels for which slant column fitting is attempted	32-bit integer	1	none
percent_bad_output	Percent of num_good_input flagged as “bad” in main quality flag	32-bit floating-point	1	%
percent_good_output	Percent of num_good_input flagged as “good” in main quality flag	32-bit floating-point	1	%
percent_suspect_output	Percent of num_good_input flagged as “suspect” in main quality flag	32-bit floating-point	1	%

Table S5. Data fields in `support_data` group.

Data Field Name	Description	Type	Dimensions	Units
albedo	Geometry-dependent surface Lambertian-Equivalent Reflectivity. This is not used in the AMF calculation but is given to help user estimate effective surface reflectivity.	32-bit floating-point	along_track, cross_track	none
amf	Calculated air mass factor	32-bit floating-point	along_track, cross_track	none
bias_correction	Bias correction	32-bit floating-point	along_track, cross_track	molecules/cm ²
brdf_geo	Amplitude of Li-Sparse BRDF kernel	32-bit floating-point	along_track, cross_track	none
brdf_iso	Amplitude of isotropic BRDF kernel	32-bit floating-point	along_track, cross_track	none
brdf_vol	Amplitude of Ross-Thick BRDF kernel	32-bit floating-point	along_track, cross_track	none
cloud_fraction	Effective cloud fraction used in AMF computation	32-bit floating-point	along_track, cross_track	none
cloud_pressure	Cloud pressure used in AMF computation	32-bit floating-point	along_track, cross_track	hPa
fitted_slant_column_amount	Fitted slant column density	64-bit floating-point	along_track, cross_track	molecules/cm ²
fitted_slant_column_uncertainty	Fitted slant column density uncertainty	64-bit floating-point	along_track, cross_track	molecules/cm ²
gas_profile	A priori gas mixing ratio profile used in AMF calculation	32-bit floating-point	vertical_layer, along_track, cross_track	none
glint_flag	Flag for possible glint	byte	along_track, cross_track	none
ice_fraction	Sea ice fraction	32-bit floating-point	along_track, cross_track	none
land_fraction	Land fraction	32-bit floating-point	along_track, cross_track	none
meridional_wind	Meridional wind	32-bit floating-point	along_track, cross_track	m/s
ocean_salinity	Ocean salinity in Practical Salinity Units (PSU)	32-bit floating-point	along_track, cross_track	g/kg (1e-3)
ref_sector_correction	Reference sector background correction	32-bit floating-point	along_track, cross_track	molecules/cm ²
scattering_weights	Scattering weights	32-bit floating-point	vertical_layer, along_track, cross_track	none
snow_fraction	Snow fraction	32-bit floating-point	along_track, cross_track	none
surface_pressure	Surface pressure	32-bit floating-point	along_track, cross_track	hPa
temperature_profile	Temperature profile	32-bit floating-point	vertical_layer, along_track, cross_track	K
zonal_wind	Zonal wind	32-bit floating-point	along_track, cross_track	m/s

Table S6. Data fields in `uncertainty_budget` group.

Data Field Name	Description	Type	Dimensions	Units
<code>amf_total_uncert</code>	Total AMF uncertainty	32-bit floating-point	<code>along_track</code> , <code>cross_track</code>	%
<code>bias_uncertainty</code>	Estimated uncertainty in bias correction	32-bit floating-point	<code>along_track</code> , <code>cross_track</code>	molecules/cm ²
<code>ref_sector_uncertainty</code>	Estimated uncertainty in reference background correction	32-bit floating-point	<code>along_track</code> , <code>cross_track</code>	molecules/cm ²