

LTDR Data Format Descriptions (Version 5 Release)

1.1 AVH09 Surface Reflectance Product

Naming Convention

The LTDR surface reflectance products in Version 4 release use the following naming convention:

AVH09C1.A2017085.N19.005.2017172112841.hdf

AVH09	identifies the AVHRR land surface reflectance product
C1	indicates compositing interval C1 = daily product
A2017085	is the year (4-digits) of the observation followed by the day within the year
N19	identifies the satellite, NOAA-7, 9, 11, 14, 16, or 19
005	identifies the data product version
2017172	is the year the data were processed followed by the day within the year
112841	is the hour, minute, and second the data were processed
.hdf	indicates the output file is in HDF

Scientific Data Sets

The processed AVHRR observations are packaged into separate Scientific Data Sets (SDS) within a single HDF file. All SDS arrays are dimensioned [7200, 3600] to cover the globe at 0.05° spatial resolution in a latitude/longitude Climate Modeling Grid (CMG). The SDS arrays in the surface reflectance product are:

Array Name	Description	Units	Data Type ¹	Valid Range [low,high]	Scale Factor ²	Fill Value
SREFL_CH1	Surface reflectance for channel 1 (0.5–0.7 μm)	Unitless	Int16	[-0.1, 1]	1E-4	-9999
SREFL_CH2	Surface reflectance for channel 2 (0.7–1.0 μm)	Unitless	Int16	[-0.1, 1]	1E-4	-9999
SREFL_CH3	Surface reflectance for channel 3 (~3.55–3.93 μm)	Unitless	Int16	[-0.1, 1]	1E-4	-9999
BT_CH3	TOA brightness temperature for channel 3	Degrees Kelvin	Int16	[0-100]	0.1	-9999

Array Name	Description	Units	Data Type ¹	Valid Range [low,high]	Scale Factor ²	Fill Value
	(~ 3.55 – 3.93 μm)					
BT_CH4	TOA brightness temperature for channel 4 (~ 10.3 – 11.3 μm)	Degrees Kelvin	Int16	[0-100]	0.1	-9999
BT_CH5	TOA brightness temperature for channel 5 (~ 11.5 – 12.5 μm)	Degrees Kelvin	Int16	[0-100]	0.1	-9999
SZEN	Solar zenith angle	Degrees	Int16	[-90° – 90°]	0.01	-9999
VZEN	View zenith angle	Degrees	Int16	[-70° – 90°]	0.01	-9999
RELAZ	Relative azimuth ³	Degrees	Int16	[-180° - 180°] ³	0.01	-9999
QA	Quality Assessment Field (see section 1.3)	NA	Int16	NA	NA	NA

Notes:

1. The data type int16 is a 2-byte integer, containing 16 bits.
2. The scale factor is the number the physical value is multiplied by to convert to an integer value, thus to retrieve the physical units from the SDS values divide by the given scale factor.
3. The current version of V4 LTDR products contains values in the range (-360, 360) for the dataset relative azimuth. The routine to restrict the range to (-180, 180) was accidentally missed in the current reprocessing and will be corrected in the next reprocessing. Until then users are requested to derive the relative azimuth (GOOD_REL_AZ) from the current file value (RELAZ) using the following pseudocode.

$$\text{SIN_REL_AZ} = \sin(\text{RELAZ})$$

$$\text{COS_REL_AZ} = \cos(\text{RELAZ})$$

$$\text{GOOD_REL_AZ} = \text{atan2}(\text{SIN_REL_AZ}, \text{COS_REL_AZ})$$

1.2 AVH13 NDVI Product

Naming Convention

The LTDR NDVI products in the Version 4 release use the following naming convention:

AVH13C1.A2017215.N19.005.2017216101932.hdf

AVH13	identifies the AVHRR land surface reflectance product
C1	indicates compositing interval C1 = daily product
A2017215	is the year (4-digits) of the observation followed by the day within the year
N19	identifies the satellite, NOAA-7, 9, 11, 14, 16, or 19
005	identifies the data product version
2017216	is the year the data were processed followed by the day within the year

101932
.hdf

is the hour, minute, and second the data were processed
indicates the output file is in HDF

Scientific Data Sets

The processed AVHRR observations are packaged into separate Scientific Data Sets (SDS) within a single HDF file. All SDS arrays are dimensioned [7200, 3600] to cover the globe at 0.05° spatial resolution in a latitude/longitude Climate Modeling Grid (CMG).

Array Name	Description	Units	Data Type ¹	Valid Range [low,high]	Scale Factor ²	Fill Value
NDVI	Normalized Difference Vegetation Index	Unitless	Int16	[-0.1, 1]	10 ⁴	-9999
QA	Quality Assessment Field	NA	Int16	NA	NA	NA

1.3 Quality Assessment Field Description

All LTDR products contain a Quality Assessment (QA) field or SDS. The definition of the QA bits is the same for each product. In the following table the bits are listed from the most significant bit (MSB = bit 15) to the least significant bit (LSB = bit 0):

Bit Number	Description	Meaning
15	Polar flag: latitude > 60° (land) or > 50° (ocean)	1 = yes, 0 = no
14	BRDF-correction issues	1 = yes, 0 = no
13	RHO3 value is invalid	1 = yes, 0 = no
12	Channel 5 value is invalid	1 = yes, 0 = no
11	Channel 4 value is invalid	1 = yes, 0 = no
10	Channel 3 value is invalid	1 = yes, 0 = no
9	Channel 2 value is invalid	1 = yes, 0 = no
8	Channel 1 value is invalid	1 = yes, 0 = no
7	Channel 1-5 are invalid	NA
6	Pixel is at night (high solar zenith angle)	1 = yes, 0 = no
5	Pixel is over dense dark vegetation	1 = yes, 0 = no
4	Pixel is over sun glint	1 = yes, 0 = no
3	Pixel is over water	1 = yes, 0 = no
2	Pixel contains cloud shadow	1 = yes, 0 = no

Bit Number	Description	Meaning
1	Pixel is cloudy	1 = yes, 0 = no
0	Unused	NA