

Data Policy for the Aerosol, Radiation, and Cloud Processes affecting Arctic Climate (ARCPAC) Program

ARCPAC project investigators are committed to full sharing of data between all participants during all phases of the field experiment and subsequent research and analysis activities. The goal is not only to ensure access to data, but also to foster collaborations that will fully utilize the scientific value of the ARCPAC observations in the broader context of POLARCAT and IPY research. It is imperative that scientific courtesy be observed and that investigators be consulted, appropriately acknowledged, and offered coauthorship whenever their data are used.

Data availability and access

ARCPAC data will be password protected and accessible for download from <http://www.esrl.noaa.gov/csd/tropchem/2008ARCPAC/P3/DataDownload/>. ARCPAC participants as well as POLARCAT and IPY partners will have access via the standard ARCPAC username and password.

Data timeline

The status of experimental data sets can be thought of as going through three phases: Field, Preliminary, and Final. For ARCPAC, the dates corresponding to these phases are:

- **Field Phase:** March 20 – April 23, 2008.
- **Preliminary Phase:** April 23 – October 1, 2008. Preliminary data are due from all instruments on July 1, 2008.
- **Final Phase:** Final data are due on October 1, 2008.

During the Field Phase, P-3 investigators should post their ICARTT-formatted quick-look field data, aligned to the 1-Hz P-3 time base, to <ftp.al.noaa.gov> (standard ARCPAC username and password) within 24 hours of the aircraft flight whenever possible. The ARCPAC Data Manager will verify formatting and subsequently post the data to the web site.

During the Preliminary Phase, preliminary data from all instruments should be submitted to the [Data Manager](#) by July 1, 2008. This includes instruments from which quick-look field data are typically not provided, e.g., whole-air canister samples. Quick-look data submitted during the Field Phase may be updated, with versions noted, during the Preliminary Phase at the discretion of the PI.

Final Data must be submitted by October 1, 2008.

Requirements for submitting or using ARCPAC data

Submission or use of ARCPAC data implies acceptance of the following responsibilities:

- Submit data according to the schedule specified above.

- Submit data in ICARTT format, and provide clearly stated uncertainties and other relevant information regarding data quality in the header.
- Consult early with other PIs when using their data during analysis.
- Invite PIs of any data used to be co-authors on subsequent presentations and publications.

Investigators are encouraged to share data and collaborate with groups outside the ARCPAC project, particularly with POLARCAT partners. Such data sharing must respect all relevant data usage policies. Please encourage these external collaborators to download data directly from the ARCPAC web site.

The data to be archived include:

- All P-3 measurements in ICARTT format
- Satellite and meteorological data and model forecasts and analyses specifically prepared for ARCPAC, and which are not otherwise available on the internet.

Data formats

The ICARTT file format (modified NASA Ames) will be used for all aircraft data. The ICARTT format is a text (ascii) file format that is easily produced and used by most investigators. Information and a link to full description of the ICARTT format can be found at <http://www.esrl.noaa.gov/csd/tropchem/2008ARCPAC/P3/datamanager.html>

Downloading ARCPAC data (standard ARCPAC password required)

- <http://www.esrl.noaa.gov/csd/tropchem/2008ARCPAC/P3/DataDownload/>

Data merges

Once all final data are available after October 1, 2008, the ARCPAC Data Manager will create “merges” - files of fast-response data averaged to time bases of less frequent or irregular measurements such as canister samples - of the ICARTT-format files and post them for download from the web site.

ARCPAC Data Manager and Project Scientists

The ARCPAC Data Manager and Project Scientists will ensure that data are submitted and posted to the web site according to the deadlines given above.

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