



GHRC DAAC File Naming Convention Guidelines

The GHRC DAAC recommends a common file naming convention for all data sets. The convention is fairly liberal and permits you to add some descriptive information. Use of lower case for file names is recommended.

Recommendations:

filename = <proj>_<instr>_<date>_<optional>_<version>.ext where

- **<proj>** = project or mission name, separated by a “_” from the next field
- **<instr>** = instrument ID of up to 10 letters; separated by a “_” from the next field
 - e.g., avaps, cpl, hamsr, hirad, s-his, hiwrap, ...
 - Navigation datasets should include the aircraft abbreviation in the instr field (e.g., er2, cit, ...)
- **<date>** = in yyyyymmdd format; separated by a “_” from the next field. Four digit years are required
 - If both start and stop dates are required, then separate the two dates by an underscore.
 - **<date-time>** = in yyyyymmdd-hhmmss format; time is separated by a hyphen from the date. A “_” separates start and stop dates. Times should be in UTC. It is also acceptable to use “T” as a time separator and have “z” at the end of the time field.
- **<optional>** = any other descriptive information (e.g., channel, band; separate fields with a “_”
- **<version>** = optional field: version number use v###.#, where # is 1 or 2 sequential digits and a decimal if desired.
- **.ext** = common 2-3-letter file format description (e.g., .hdf, .jpg, .txt, .gif, .pdf, .asc, .nc, ...)

Maximum file name length is no more than 100 characters including the extension.

Only allowable symbols are the underscore (_) or hyphen (-) and a single period (.) for the extension. A hyphen (-) is used to separate the time field from date, but not as a separator between instr and date or date and optional field. A “-” may be used in the optional field.

Examples for the HS3 campaign:

hs3_avaps_20110331-182033_recomp_P_3QC.eol.hdf

HS3_HAMSR_L1B_20110908T185915_20110909T185423_v01.nc

Contact:

If you have any questions or comments, please contact the Data Management Group at support-ghrc@earthdata.nasa.gov.