



# NASA Earthdata Forums – An Interactive Venue for Discussions of NASA Data and Earth Science

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## Abstract

We demonstrate how students and teachers can register to use the NASA Earthdata Forums. The NASA Earthdata forums provide a venue where registered users can pose questions regarding NASA Earth science data in a moderated forum, and have their questions answered by data experts and scientific subject matter experts connected with NASA Earth science missions and projects. Since the forums are also available for research scientists to pose questions and discuss pertinent topics, the NASA Earthdata Forums provide a unique opportunity for students and teachers to gain insight from expert scientists and enhance their knowledge of the many different ways that NASA Earth observations can be used in research and applications.

## Current Forum

The current NASA Earthdata forums are an early prototype using a wiki architecture that will eventually be replaced with a more intuitive format. However, the forums are fully functional. Anyone can browse the forums and registered users can pose questions that will be answered by NASA scientists and engineers.

<https://wiki.earthdata.nasa.gov/display/forums/Earthdata+Forums>

**Earthdata Forums**

Welcome to the Earthdata Forums!

The purpose of this page is to improve user service quality and efficiency of NASA Earth science data by providing a quick and easy way to facilitate scientific discussion among scientists and users.

Search the Forums:  Search

**To comment within the forums, an Earthdata Login is required.**

**Responsibilities for posting to this forum.**

Thread	Author	# of Replies	Last Activity Date
MERRA-2 3D data, specific variable access	jimacker	3	Oct 21, 2017
Discussion topic - easy ways to find data gaps in Earth-observing instrument data sets	jimacker	2	Sep 25, 2017
Question from Wes Schwarz	rebagwel	0	Jul 18, 2017
Question from John Scott	rebagwel	0	Jul 18, 2017
NEW TOPIC REQUESTS	emorthup	0	Jun 12, 2017
NLDAS_NOAH hourly surface runoff (non-infiltrating)	mgroene	2	Jun 08, 2017

## Sample Forum Question and Answer

**MERRA-2 3D data, specific variable access**

Created by James Acker on Jun 15, 2017

I would like 3D monthly mean Merra-2 velocities data but it seems that I must download all variables in the appropriate 'collection' (i.e. ASM). This is unwieldy and time consuming. Is there another way? Something like ECMWF provides access?

Thank you very much.

(submitted by Joshua Studholme)

**3 Comments**

**James Acker**  
Reply from Dana Ostrenga:

Hello Joshua,

We provide several services to subset and download the data. For MERRA-2 you can use the subset and regridder tool. You can directly access the product through this link:

[https://disc.sci.gsfc.nasa.gov/daac-bin/FTPSubset2.pl?LOOKUPID\\_List=M2IMNPASM](https://disc.sci.gsfc.nasa.gov/daac-bin/FTPSubset2.pl?LOOKUPID_List=M2IMNPASM)

You can select a different product from the drop down list. This tool will allow you to spatially, temporally, vertically subset as well as variable subset, reformat and regrid the output. Please let me know if you have questions on how to use the tool or run into any further issues.

Dana  
Reply • Delete • Jun 15, 2017

**Joshua Studholme**  
Thank you very much - this is indeed what I was after.

Joshua  
Reply • Delete • Jun 16, 2017

**joao victor**  
Thank you very much.

Reply • Delete • Oct 21, 2017

Write a comment...

## Earthdata Login User Registration

Users may register for a free earthdata login account at <https://urs.earthdata.nasa.gov>

A more detailed description of user registration can be found on the following at

<https://wiki.earthdata.nasa.gov/display/EL/How+To+Register+With+Earthdata+Login>

**EARTHDATA LOGIN**

Username

Password

**LOG IN** **REGISTER**

I don't remember my username  
 I don't remember my password  
 Help

**Why must I register?**

The Earthdata Login provides a single mechanism for user registration and profile management for all EOSDIS system components (DAACs, Tools, Services). Your Earthdata login also helps the EOSDIS program better understand the usage of EOSDIS services to improve user experience through customization of tools and improvement of services. EOSDIS data are openly available to all and free of charge except where governed by international agreements.