



Current Status of GPM Data Products: Near-realtime and research

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With the core satellite currently completing testing at the Goddard Space Flight Center and the planned launch of the satellite in February 2014, this paper will provide a public, final, pre-launch status report of the planned GPM data products. This information is provided in four distinct product categories: near realtime, research quality, climate quality, and user products. It provides a high-level summary of the purpose for the categories, the products contained within, the data latencies, and an estimated data volume. The information presented should be sufficient for users to determine the GPM products they desire as well as plan for the necessary storage and code the software to use the products. The paper also provides a high level presentation of the data policy that Precipitation Processing System (PPS) will use for distributing the products.

As the radiometer L1C intercalibrated brightness temperature products provide the entry point for swath based GPM products, this paper provides the underlying purpose of these products and their relationship to the partner provided L1B brightness temperatures from which they are evolved. It provides the differences between L1B and L1C and provides some examples to illustrate this difference.

The chosen "archive" format for GPM products is HDF5. The paper outlines the philosophy used in constructing the HDF5 formats and the impact this has on data product, storage, use, and display. In addition the paper provides an introduction to PPS access and viewing tools available to GPM products.

In conclusion, the paper provides access information for retrieving GPM synthetic data products. These products are used at PPS for algorithm testing and can be used by prospective GPM data users for writing and testing their data read routines. This should greatly facilitate readiness to use GPM products when they become publicly available.