

What's in the MODIS Snow Data Products?

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ABSTRACT

A preview of the snow data products to be produced from the Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectrometer (MODIS), an instrument of the NASA Earth Observing System (EOS), is given. MODIS snow data products are developed to meet the objective of mapping snow cover extent globally. Recommendations from an external ad-hoc advisory committee have resulted in modifications to the products. These snow data products are in hierarchical data format (HDF) HDF-EOS format, a format unfamiliar to many in the community as it is a format developed specifically for EOS data. The sequence of snow data products from a "scene" product to a global gridded product is described. A concise depiction and explanation of data content and structure of each product through the sequence of products is presented using products produced from simulated MODIS instrument data. Launch of the EOS-AM platform is planned for 1999.

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