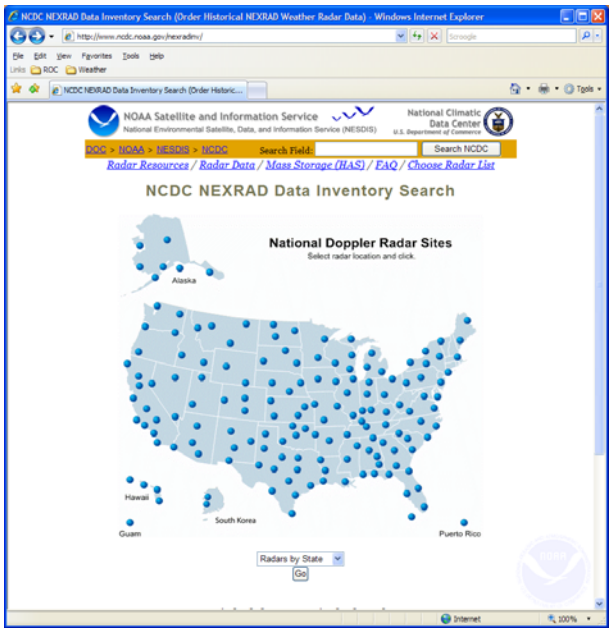
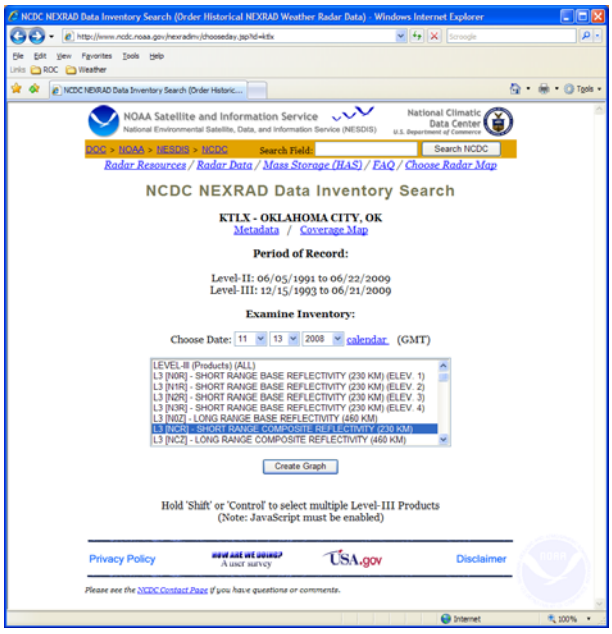
HOWTO: View archived NEXRAD data from the NCDC

Part 1 – HOWTO view data that is weeks, months or even years old.

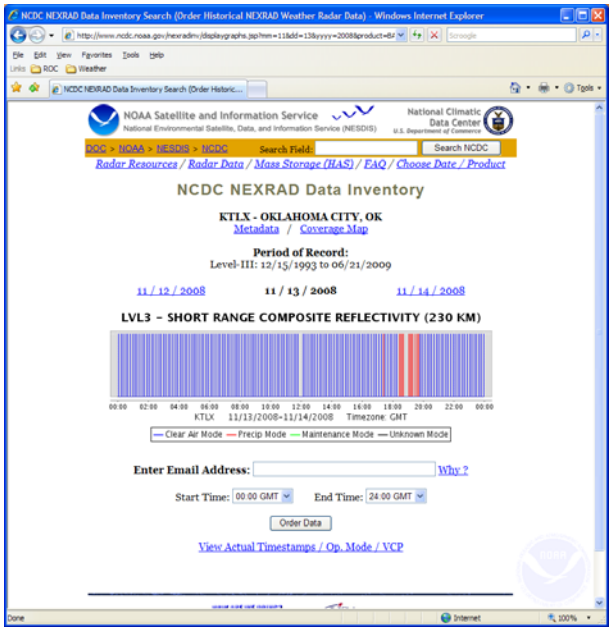
1. Visit the NCDC NEXRAD Data Inventory Search web page at http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/nexradinv/



2. Select the radar for which you wish to view data by clicking on the appropriate button.

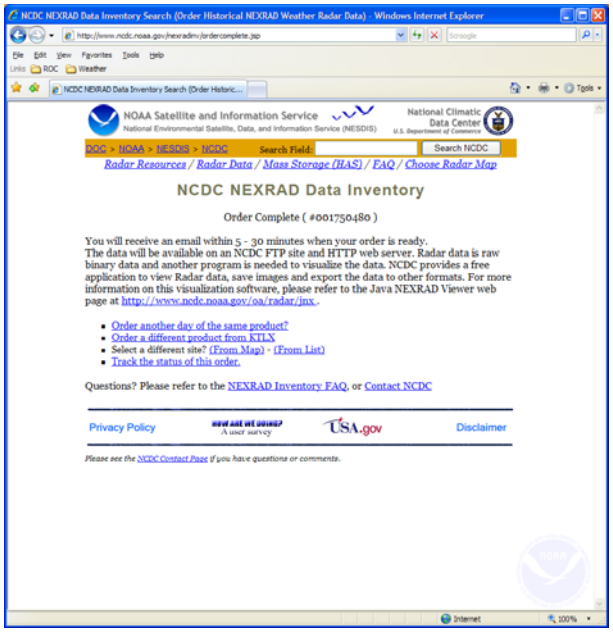


3. Enter a date, select the type of data you want to view, and press the [CREATE GRAPH] button.



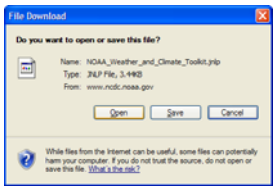
4. A graph will be displayed showing what data is available. Enter your email address, a start time, and an end time for the data you wish to view. Press the [ORDER DATA] button.

The system will process your request, place the data on an FTP server, and send you an email when it is complete. This could take up to 30 minutes or more.

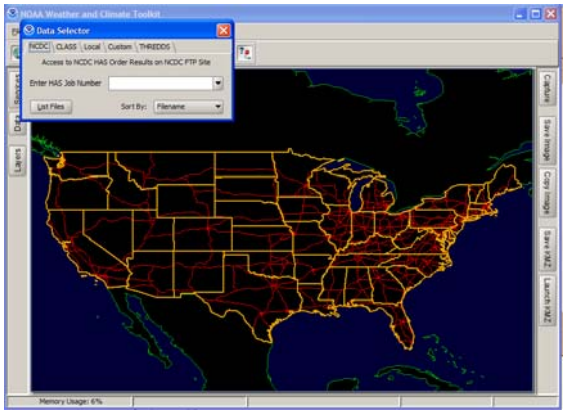


5. Visit the NDCD web page for NOAA's Weather and Climate Toolkit at http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/oa/wct/install.php. Click the [Launch] button.

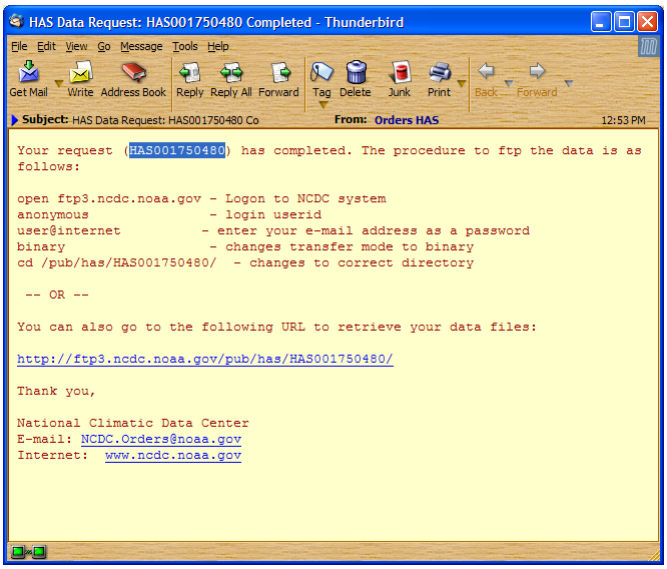
6. When the File Download window pops up, click [Open] button.

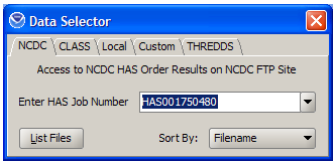


After a few seconds, the NOAA Weather and Climate Toolkit screen will open.

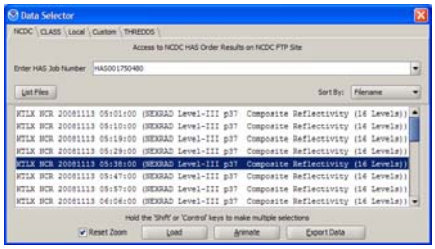


7. When you receive the email from the NCDC, copy the request number from the message and paste into the NCDC tab of the Data Selector window of the NOAA Weather and Climate Toolkit.

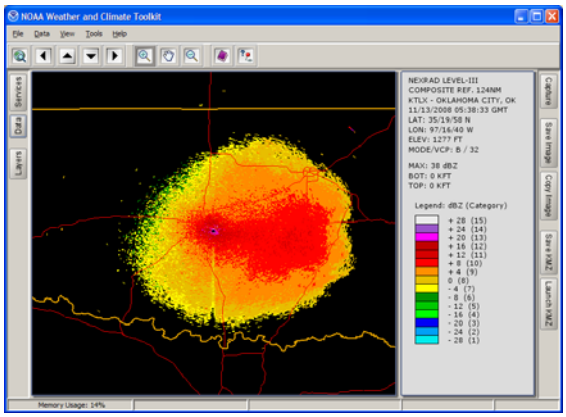




8. Press the [List Files] button and the Data Selector window will expand to show a list of available files for your request.

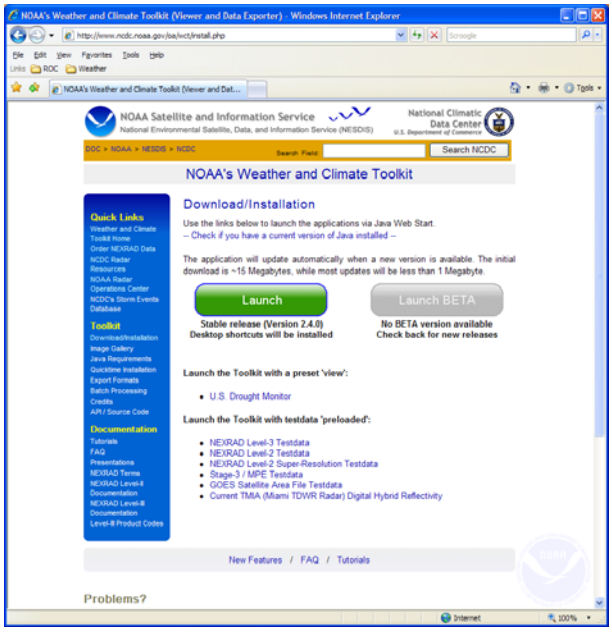


9. Double click on a file name to open it in the viewer.

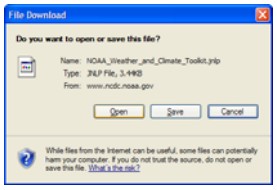


Part 2 – HOWTO view data that is only a few days old.

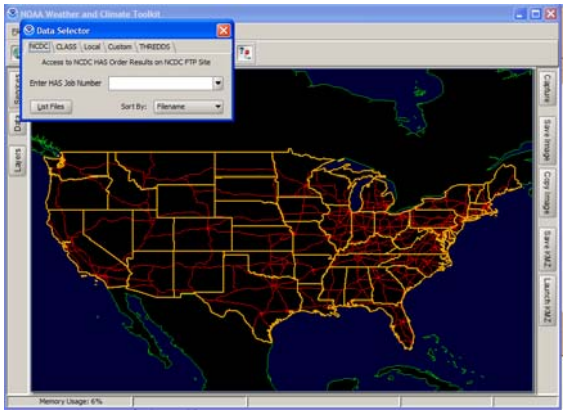
1. Visit the NDCD web page for NOAA's Weather and Climate Toolkit at http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/oa/wct/install.php and click the [Launch] button.



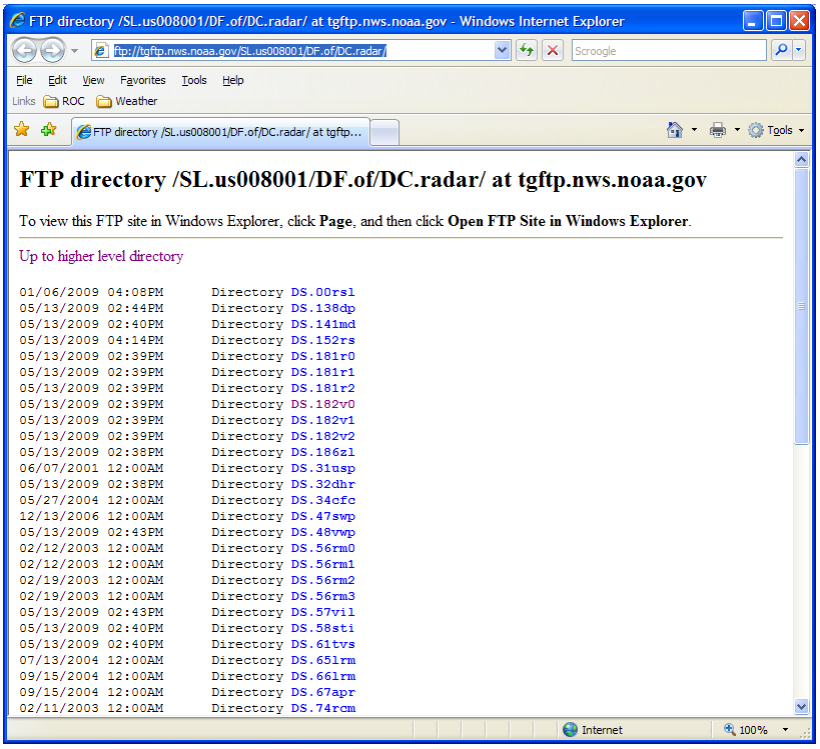
2. When the File Download window pops up, click [Open] button.



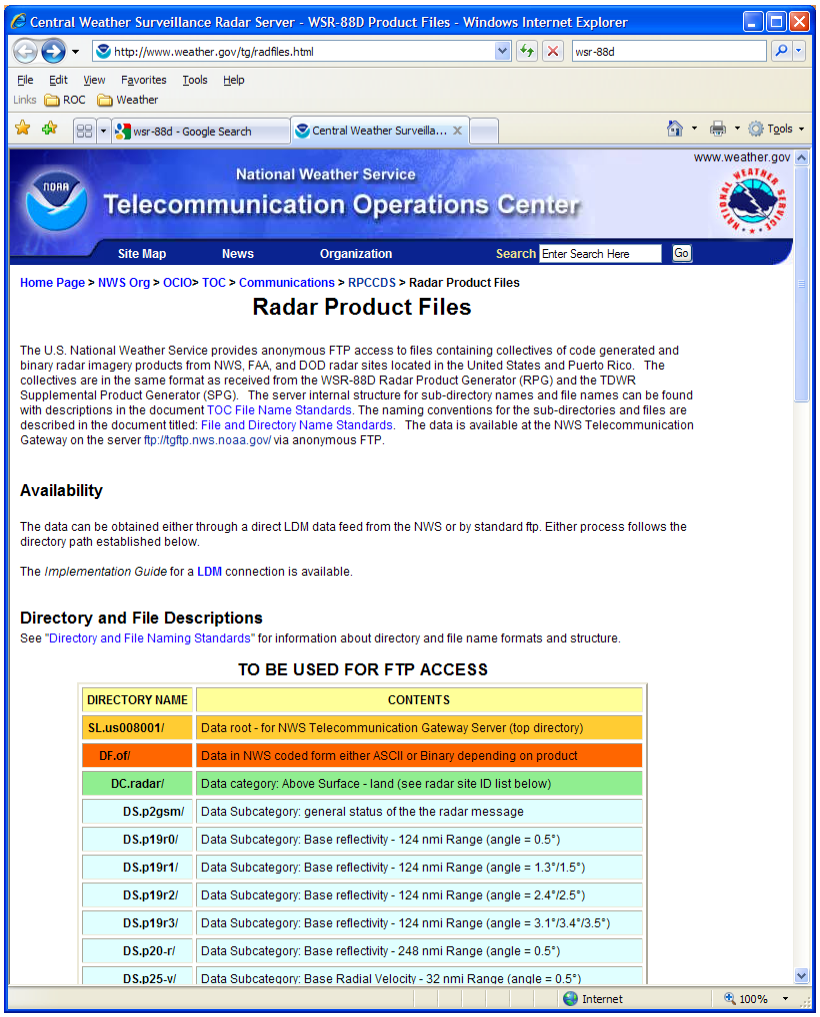
After a few seconds, the NOAA Weather and Climate Toolkit screen will open.



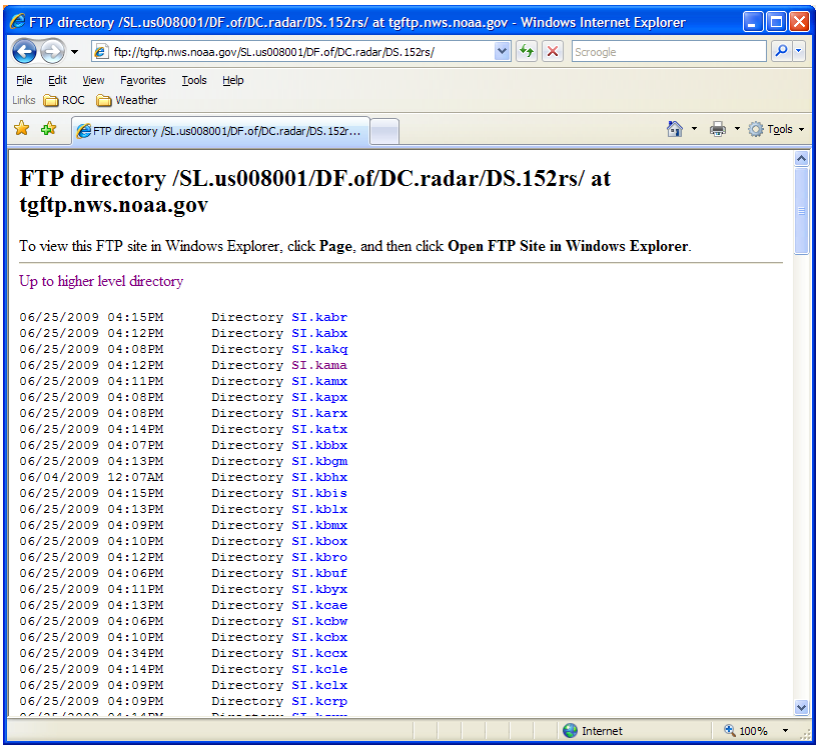
3. Visit the NWS Telecommunications Gateway via anonymous FTP at ftp://tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/SL.us008001/DF.of/DC.radar/.



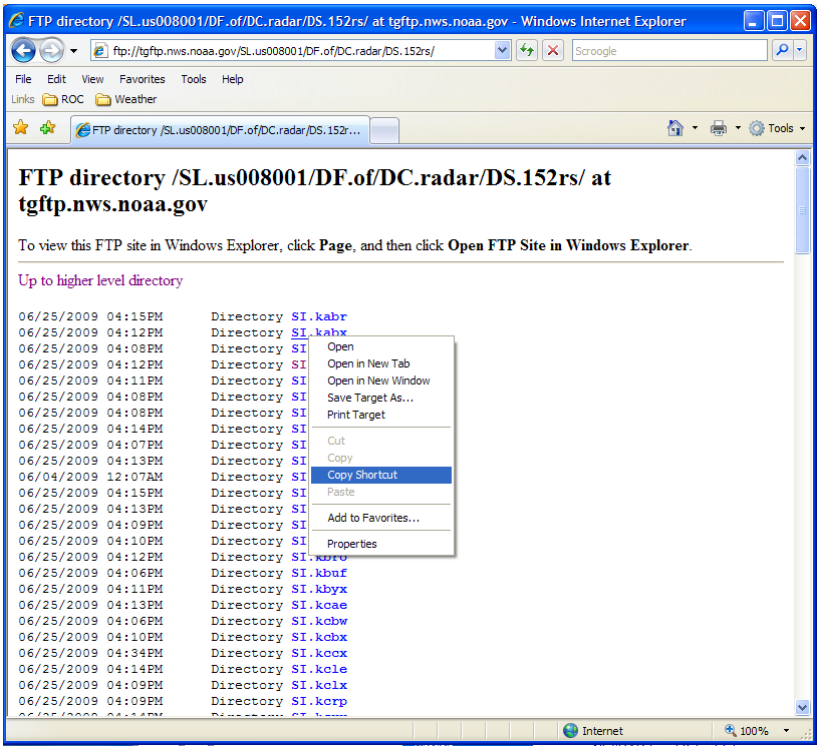
4. Open the subdirectory containing the data you wish to view. Refer to the TOC's Radar Product Files web page at http://www.weather.gov/tg/radfiles.html to cross reference the directory names to the type of data contained therein.



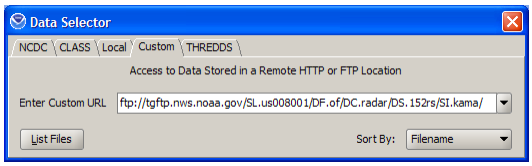
For example, to view Archive III Status Products, open subdirectory DS.152rs.



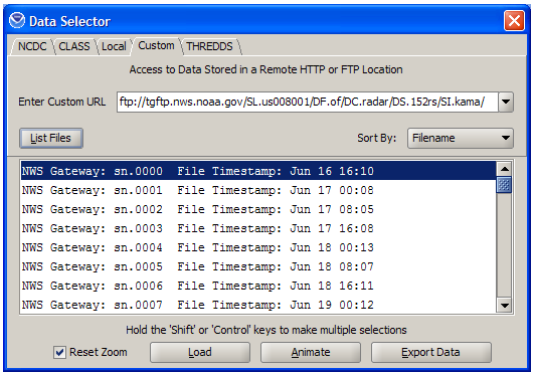
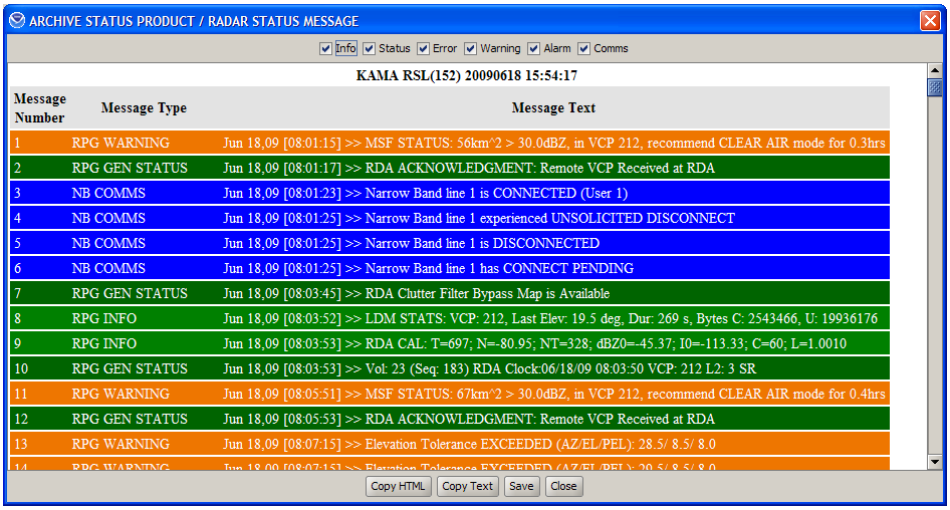
5. Right click on the ICAO of the radar for which you wish to view data and click Copy Shortcut.



6. Go to the Custom Tab of the Data Selector window of the NOAA Weather and Climate Toolkit. Paste the shortcut into the Enter Custom URL field



7. Press the [List Files] button and the Data Selector window will expand to show a list of available files for your request.



8. Double click a file name to open in the viewer.