

Data Protocol for TACTS

TACTS is a cooperative measurement campaign using the HALO aircraft. This data protocol regulates data delivery, data exchange and the interaction between measuring and modeling participants, and it address issues such as rights for internal and external use of data and the settlement of disputes.

The aims of the data protocol are: a) to encourage rapid dissemination of the scientific results gained from TACTS; b) to uphold the rights of the individual scientists; and c) to have all involved researchers treated equitably. To meet these aims, all TACTS scientists (principal investigators and co-investigators) must sign that they will abide by the following conditions.

General

1. The main TACTS database is the HALO DB. All TACTS scientists are required to register to the HALO DB and have to sign this data protocol in order to exchange data and access other data.
2. All scientists involved in TACTS are to have equal and complete access to measurements and model results produced within TACTS.
3. Users of other groups' data generated under TACTS, must not redistribute these data to third groups
4. Data users who find irregular features in the data or suspect errors must inform the data provider immediately. The data provider has the responsibility of informing the TACTS community of any problems.
5. All issues regulated here apply in equal manner to data gathered during a possible extension of TACTS (e.g. SALSA).

Measurements

1. Preliminary data obtained within TACTS must be made available to other TACTS scientists as soon as possible, and no later than 6 months after the data was taken. There are two advantages to quick release: a) Future planning can be greatly improved, and b) scientific evaluation of the data can occur in a timely manner.
2. Any corrections/amendments to the preliminary data should be made as soon as possible.
3. It is the Principal Investigator's responsibility to ensure that the data used in publications are the best available at that time.
4. All data should be evaluated within a year and a data version representing the best state of knowledge at that time be made available.

Model Studies

1. Results of model studies using data acquired during TACTS must be made available to other TACTS scientists as soon as possible and upon request.
2. Corrections/amendments to the preliminary results should be made as soon as possible.
3. It is the Principal Investigator's responsibility to ensure that the data used in publications are the best available at that time.

Publication

1. If measurements/model results from other research groups within TACTS are used in a publication, joint authorship must be offered. This implies that the lead author should inform the data provider about planned publications in due time before submission.
2. Each Principal Investigator has the right to refuse to allow his/her work, whether measurement or calculation, to be used in another publication prior to his/her publication of that work.
3. It is the responsibility of the lead author on all publication to have the explicit agreement of all co-authors and other data contributors prior to submission.
4. Reference to TACTS must be made in appropriate form in all TACTS relevant publications and whenever TACTS data are used.
5. In all cases of dispute the recommendation of the German Science Foundation (DFG) for good scientific practice shall be applied.

Public Release

1. Presentations in public meetings and press releases may be made subject to approval by the co-authors. Any press release related to TACTS must be agreed upon with the TACTS coordinator.

Associate scientists and collaborations

1. Individual scientists wishing to collaborate with TACTS will provide a short written description of what they wish to do. This will be considered by the coordinator and be granted only after approval by the TACTS PIs.
2. Effective and productive collaborations between TACTS scientists and other projects are strongly encouraged.

Intellectual property rights

1. The intellectual property rights for all measurements remain with the respective measurement PI or group.

Settlement of Internal Disputes

Any disputes about the use of other groups' data, particularly with respect to publications will be resolved by the TACTS coordinator in a cooperative manner

The undersigned agrees to the conditions of this data protocol.

Signature:.....

Date:.....

Name:.....

Position (PI, Post-Doc, student, etc.):.....

Address:.....

.....

.....

E-mail:.....

Please sign and return to:

Andreas Engel
Goethe Universität Frankfurt
Institut für Atmosphäre und Umwelt
Altenöfer Allee 1
D-60438 Frankfurt
Germany