

# Download ERA5 data with python

Code from Diego Jiménez de la Cuesta-Otero for python, using the Climate Data Storage API (cdsapi)

[getERA5.py](#)

```
import cdsapi # Climate data storage API
import calendar # Calendar module

# I. Section that the user can change

# You can give it a fancy interface to use from command line, if you
# have time
# to program this.

# I.0. Pressure levels or one-level fields
# Possible values are "prl" for pressure levels or "sfc" for one-level
# fields.

levs="prl"

# I.1. Format of the output
# Possible values are "grib" or "netcdf".

formato="grib"

# I.2. Lat-Lon box (The extreme lats and lons of your box)

N_lat=27.5
S_lat=11.5
W_lon=-112
E_lon=-88

# I.3. Resolution (In both directions and not below 0.25 degrees [~ 30
# km])

grid_lat=0.25
grid_lon=0.25

# I.4. Pressure levels to download
# If levs="sfc" selected, this is ignored.

prls=[
"1", "2", "3", "5", "7", "10", "20", "30", "50", "70", "100", "125", "150", "175", "2
00",
"225", "250", "300", "350", "400", "450", "500", "550", "600", "650", "700", "750"
,
"775", "800", "825", "850", "875", "900", "925", "950", "975", "1000"
]
```

```
# Note: Here I download the data in all pressure levels.
# I.5. Date (gives the limits of your request in years, months and
days)

year_ini=2015 # Initial year
year_fin=2019 # Final year
month_ini=3 # Initial month
month_fin=2 # Final month
day_ini=1 # Initial day
day_fin=calendar.monthlen(year_fin,month_fin) # Final day

# Note: I used monthlen to calculate the last day of a month in a given
year.
# I.6. Time (which timesteps you want to download)

times=[ "{0:02d}:00".format(hh) for hh in range(24) ]

# Note: Here I download all the 24 hours of each day.
# I.7. Variables in pressure levels by long name (Check ERA5
documentation)
# If levs="sfc" selected, this is ignored.

prl_vars=[
    "u_component_of_wind", "v_component_of_wind",
    "geopotential",
    "relative_humidity", "specific_humidity", "temperature"
]

# I.8. One-level Variables by long name (Check ERA5 documentation)
# If levs="prl" selected, this is ignored.

sfc_vars=[
    '10m_u_component_of_wind', '10m_v_component_of_wind',
    'sea_surface_temperature', 'skin_temperature',
    '2m_dewpoint_temperature', '2m_temperature', 'surface_pressure'
    'soil_temperature_level_1', 'soil_temperature_level_2',
    'soil_temperature_level_3', 'soil_temperature_level_4',
    'volumetric_soil_water_layer_1', 'volumetric_soil_water_layer_2',
    'volumetric_soil_water_layer_3', 'volumetric_soil_water_layer_4',
    'sea_ice_cover', 'snow_depth',
    'land_sea_mask', 'mean_sea_level_pressure'
]

# I.9. Path and prefix
# Here you should give the path where you will store files.
# Also, you should give the file's prefix. Always the files have the
date as
# suffix. Depending on your selection of levs, the program will take
# prefix_prl or prefix_sfc to form file names.
```

```
path="./"
prefix_prl="era5_regio_prl"
prefix_sfc="era5_regio_sfc"

# HERE ENDS THE SECTIONS THAT A NORMAL USER SHOULD MODIFY.
# II. Construction of the file names
# It uses the user defined prefixes and uses substitution fields to let
the
# program fill the spaces with the date information.

if formato == "grib":
    extension=".grb"
elif formato == "netcdf":
    extension=".nc"

name_sfc=path+prefix_sfc+"_0:04d}{1:02d}{2:02d}" + extension
name_prl=path+prefix_prl+"_0:04d}{1:02d}{2:02d}" + extension

# III. Construction of date dictionaries
# The program will download the data in daily files. Thus, it needs to
know
# how many days each month has. I am sure there are more direct
solutions but
# this script was made for didactical purposes. You can change this if
you
# like.

years=list(range(year_ini,year_fin+1))
months={}
days={}
for year in years:
    sizey=12
    if year == years[0]:
        months[year]=list(range(month_ini,sizey+1))
    elif year == years[-1]:
        months[year]=list(range(1,month_fin+1))
    else:
        months[year]=list(range(1,sizey+1))
    days[year]={}
    for month in months[year]:
        sizem=calendar.monthlen(year,month)
        if year == years[0]:
            if month == months[year][0]:
                days[year][month]=list(range(day_ini,sizem+1))
            else:
                days[year][month]=list(range(1,sizem+1))
        elif year == years[-1]:
            if month == months[year][-1]:
                days[year][month]=list(range(1,day_fin+1))
            else:
```

```
    days[year][month]=list(range(1,sizem+1))
else:
    days[year][month]=list(range(1,sizem+1))

# IV. Dictionary for the CDS API.
# It constructs the options for both levs options.

options={}
options["prl"]={
    "product_type"    : "reanalysis",
    "variable"        : prl_vars,
    "pressure_level"  : prls,
    "year"            : None,
    "month"           : None,
    "day"             : None,
    "time"            : times,
    "area"            : [N_lat,W_lon,S_lat,E_lon],
    "grid"            : [grid_lat,grid_lon],
    "format"          : formato
}

options["sfc"]={
    "product_type"    : "reanalysis",
    "variable"        : sfc_vars,
    "year"            : None,
    "month"           : None,
    "day"             : None,
    "time"            : times,
    "area"            : [N_lat,W_lon,S_lat,E_lon],
    "grid"            : [grid_lat,grid_lon],
    "format"          : formato
}

# V. Execution
# The program now makes a request to the CDS for each day in the range
with
# the provided information. Note: CDS only accepts one request from a
given
# user. That means you cannot download in parallel, unless you have an
account
# with special access.

for year in days.keys():
    for month in days[year].keys():
        for day in days[year][month]:
            options[levs]["year"]="{0:04d}".format(year)
            options[levs]["month"]="{0:02d}".format(month)
            options[levs]["day"]="{0:02d}".format(day)
            c=cdsapi.Client()
client
```

```
if levs == "sfc": # Set download file
name
    filename=name_sfc.format(year,month,day) # and dataset
depending on
    dataset="reanalysis-era5-single-levels" # levs value
elif levs == "prl":
    filename=name_prl.format(year,month,day)
    dataset="reanalysis-era5-pressure-levels"
c.retrieve(dataset,options[levs],filename) # Make the actual
request
```

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