

NOAA/NESDIS/STAR

NPROVS Archive Statistics (NARCS)

Quick Start

Version 5.0

October 31, 2025

The purpose of this guide is to demonstrate the initial steps required to obtain the NOAA/NESDIS/STAR NPROVS Archive Statistics (NARCS), access data files, run the program and display data.

Also available is the NARCS User's Guide, which contains detailed information about all program functions.

STEP 1 — Download the program

If NARCS is not already installed or if a new version is available: download the program

- The NARCS program may be directly downloaded from:

<http://www.star.nesdis.noaa.gov/data/nprovs/software/NARCS.jar>

- The program can also be downloaded from the NARCS web page at:

<http://www.star.nesdis.noaa.gov/smcd/opdb/nprovs/narcs.php>

Using one of the above links, download the program to your computer. The program can be installed in any directory/folder.

STEP 2 — Download some data files

Data files used by NARCS are available via the NPROVS web site:

NPROVS (April 2008 to present):

https://www.star.nesdis.noaa.gov/data/nprovs/monitoring/narcs/nprovs_100levels.nc

NPROVS+ (July 2013 to present):

https://www.star.nesdis.noaa.gov/data/nprovs/monitoring/narcs/nprovs_special_100levels.nc

The data files can be downloaded to any directory/folder.

STEP 3 — Start the program

For most people, especially those running the program on Windows or Mac OS X, it will be easiest to run the program by double-clicking the icon of the NARCS.jar file that was downloaded.


NARCS can also be started from a command line by entering the command:

```
java -jar NARCS.jar
```

When the program is run for the first time, several library files are copied to the directory where the Jar file is located. These files allow for images to be saved as PDFs and PowerPoint slides. The installation of these files require the program to be

started and then quit at least once and possibly two times. A dialog box will appear with directions for installing the files. Once the files are installed this step will no longer be necessary.

A New Dialog About Libraries



External Libraries Installed

This version of NARCS includes the ability to save images directory to a PowerPoint slide. To do this it is necessary to install two external libraries, which has just been done.

In order to use the libraries, NARCS must be restarted.

Please close this dialog and run the program again.

OK

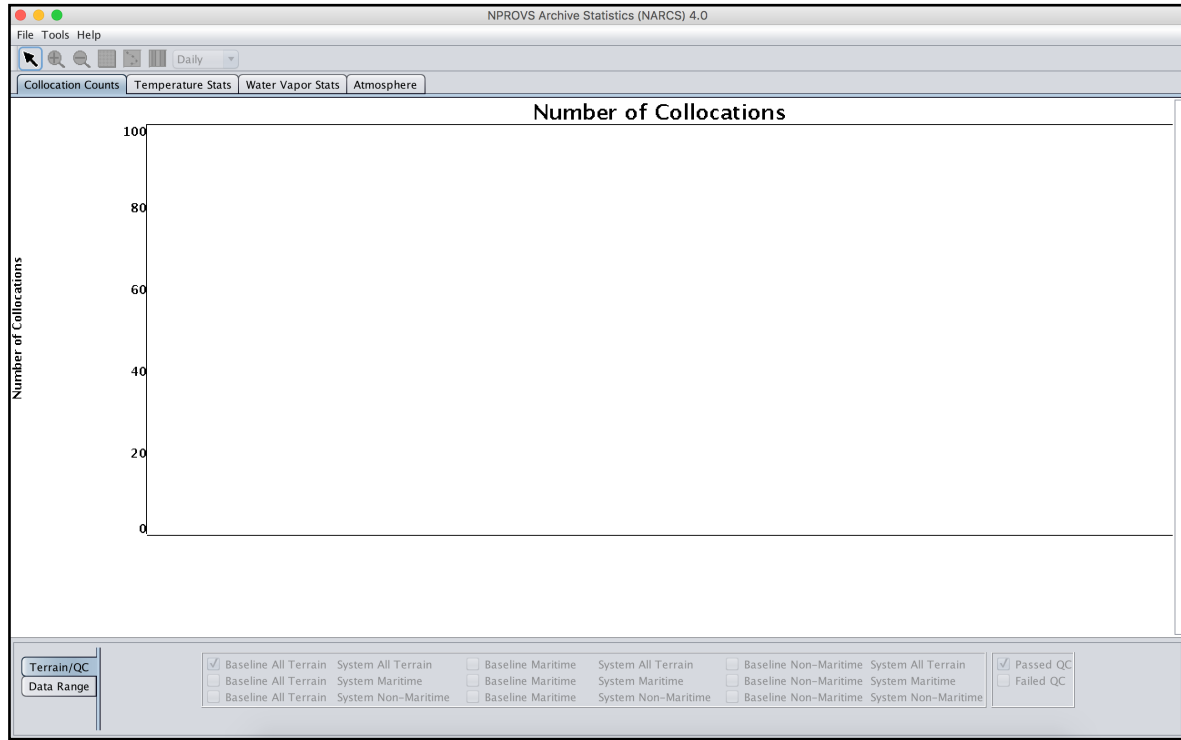
Recent versions of NARCS contain the ability to save images as a PowerPoint slide. To do this, external libraries need to be installed on your computer. The installation is done automatically when NARCS is run for the first time: a directory “lib” is created and the external libraries are copied into it.

In order for NARCS to access the libraries, the program must be closed and run a second time. When presented with the dialog shown above, click the OK button and the program will close. Then run the program again.

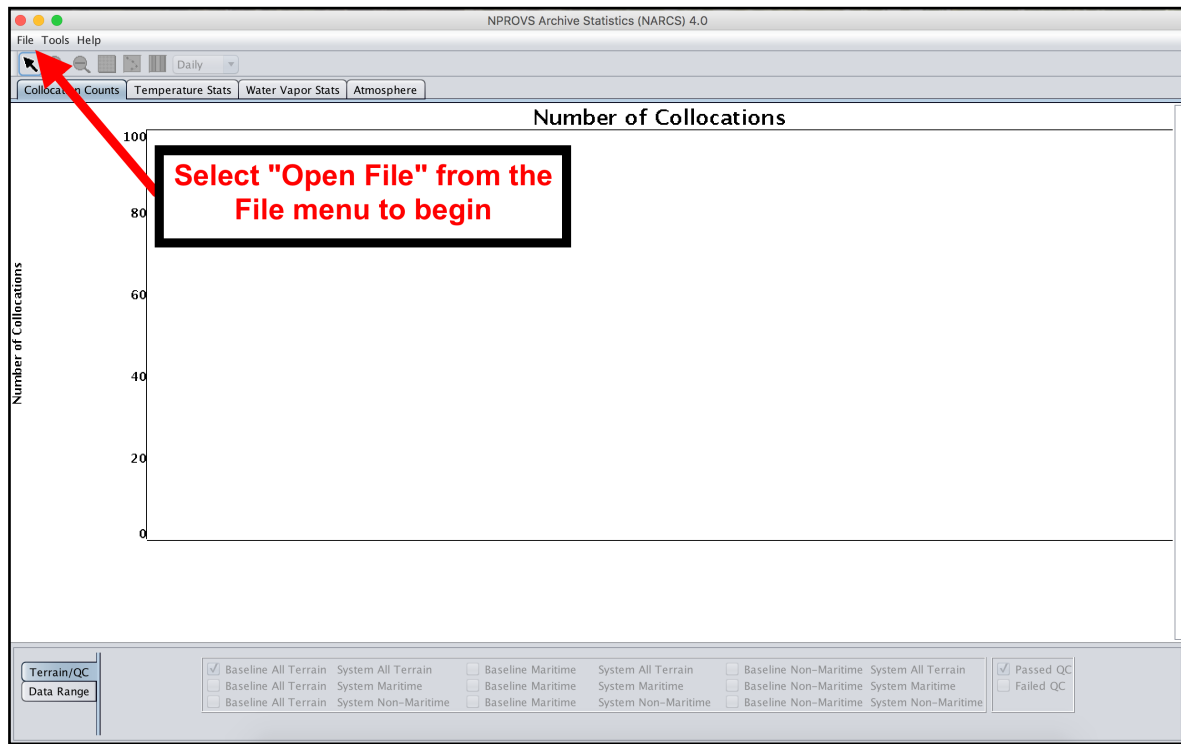
This step should only happen the first time that NARCS is run.

STEP 4 — Select some data to display

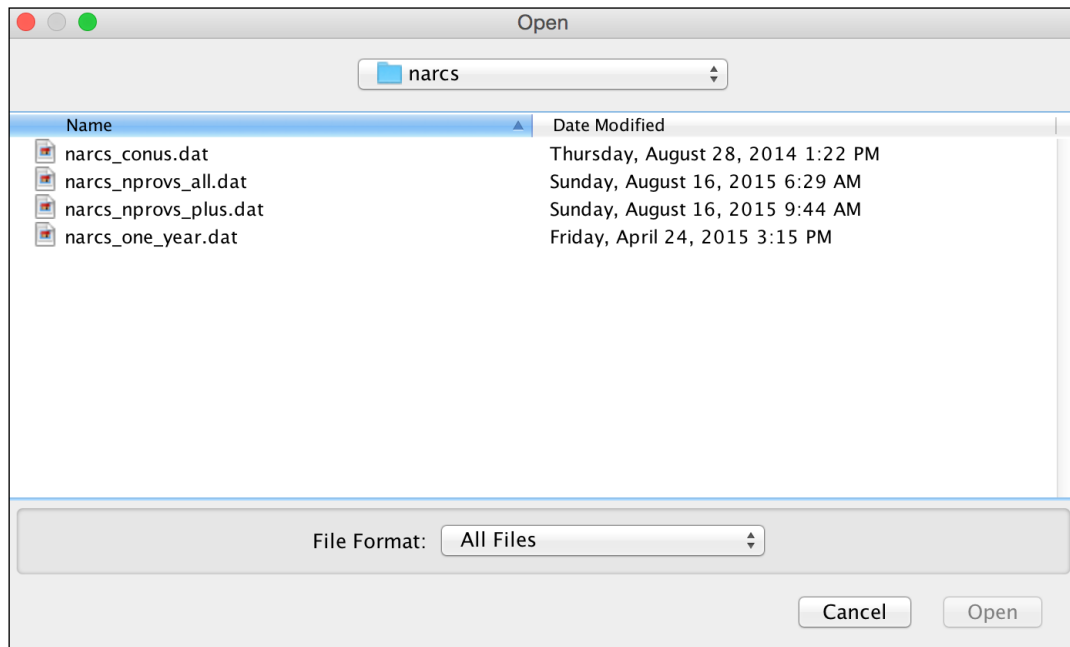
When the program opens for the first time, the window will look similar to:



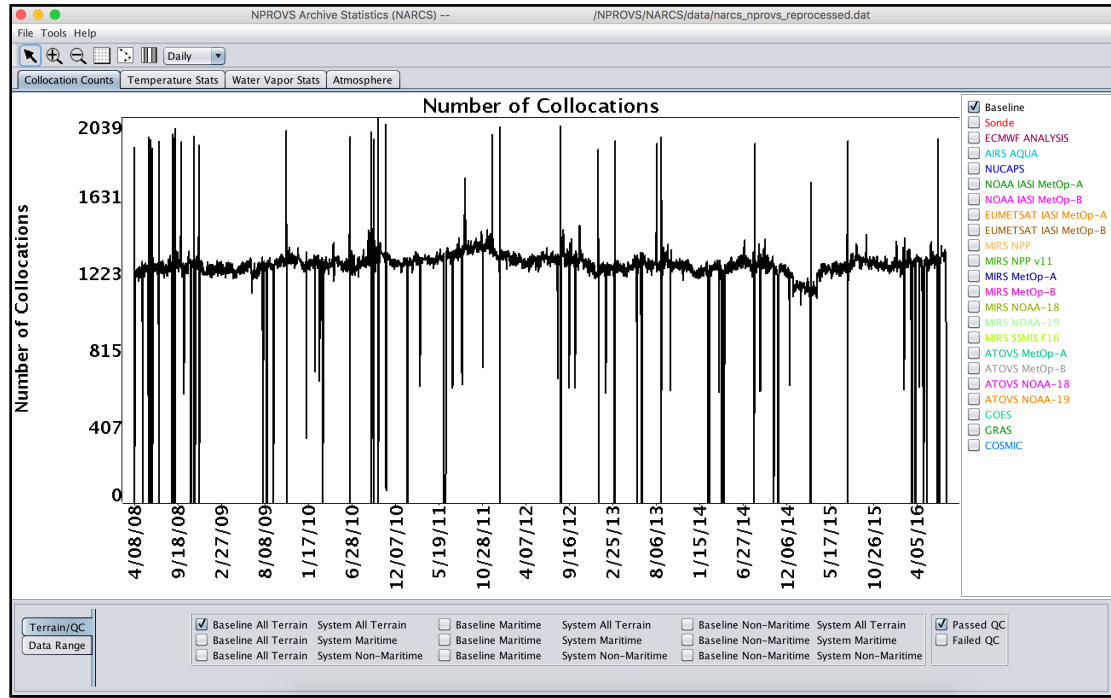
To start using the program, select “Open File” from the File menu



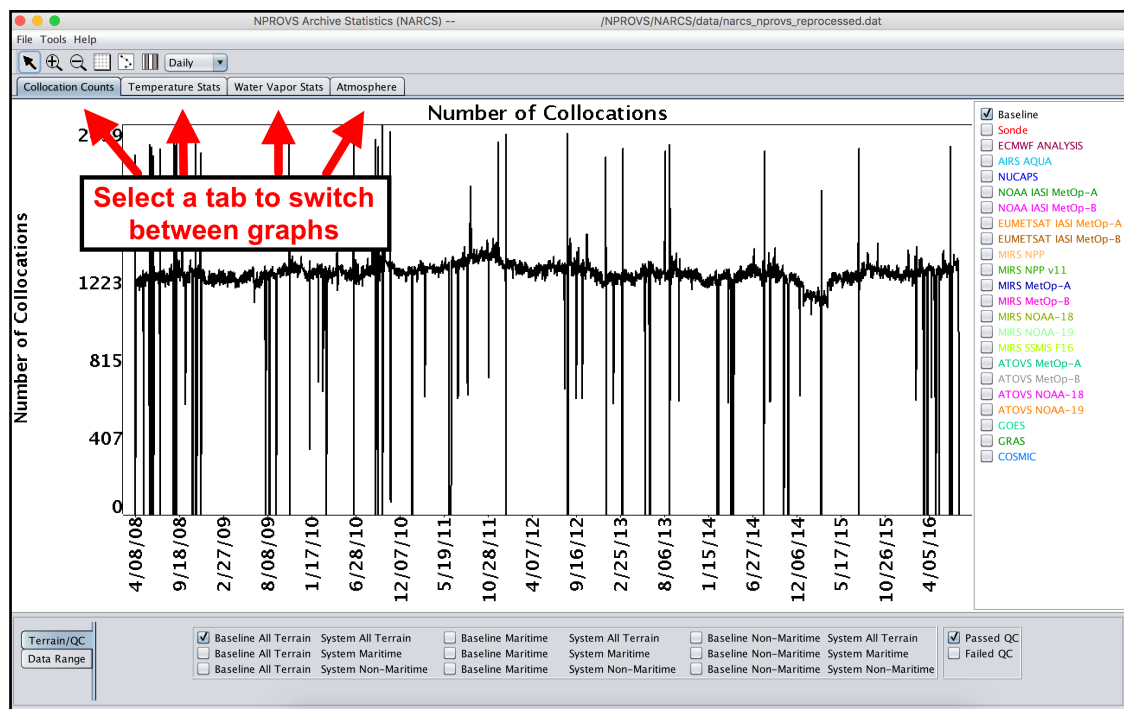
A file selection dialog will appear. Select a file and open it.



The file will open and data will appear:



There are four graphs available. Select one of the tabs to switch between the graphs:



Collocation Counts — Displays the number of collocations (daily, weekly or monthly) between each system and the baseline system within NPROVS.

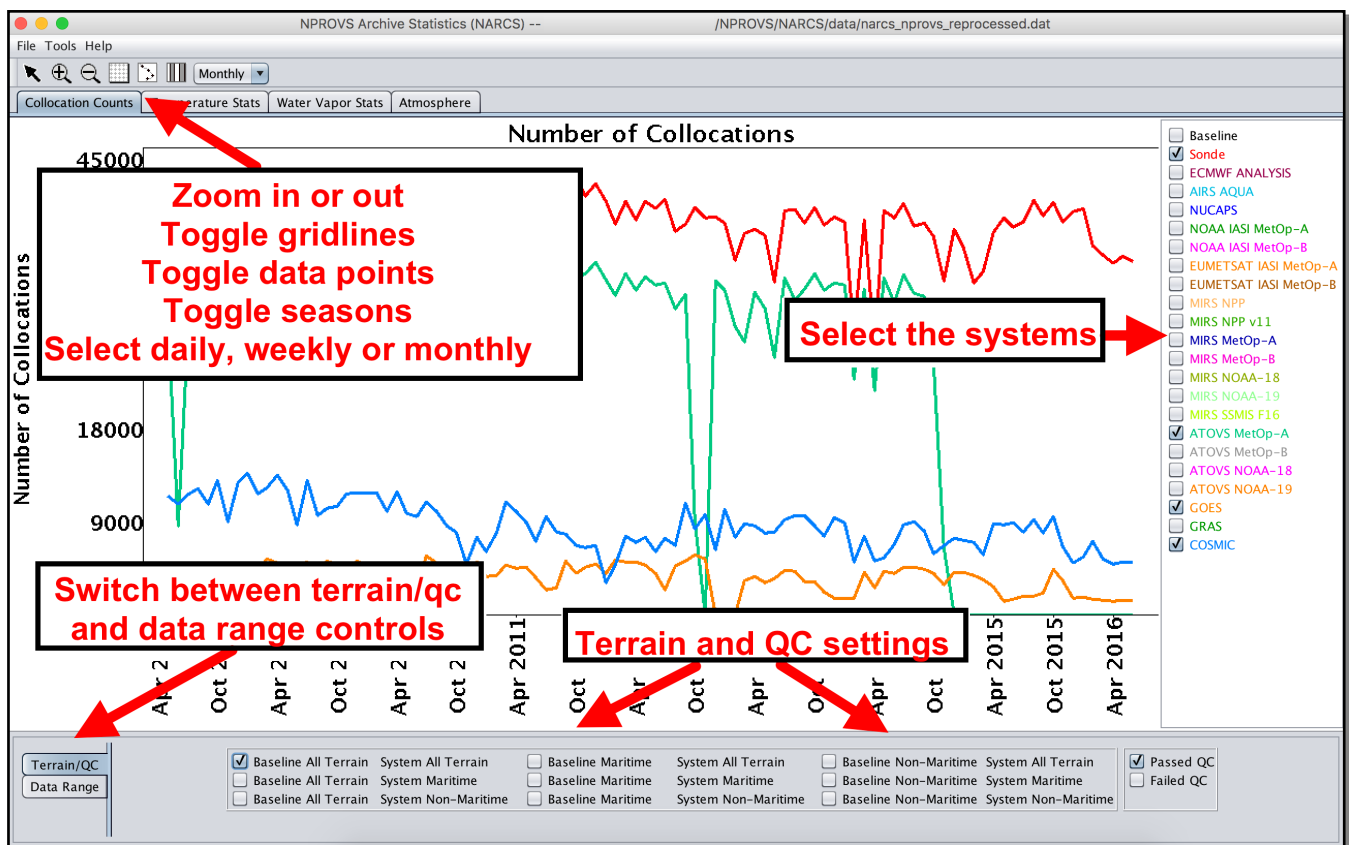
Temperature Stats — Displays temperature accuracy statistics.

Water Vapor Stats — Displays water vapor accuracy statistics.

Atmosphere — Shows accuracy statistics for a selected value (bias, standard deviation or RMS) at all levels of the atmosphere.

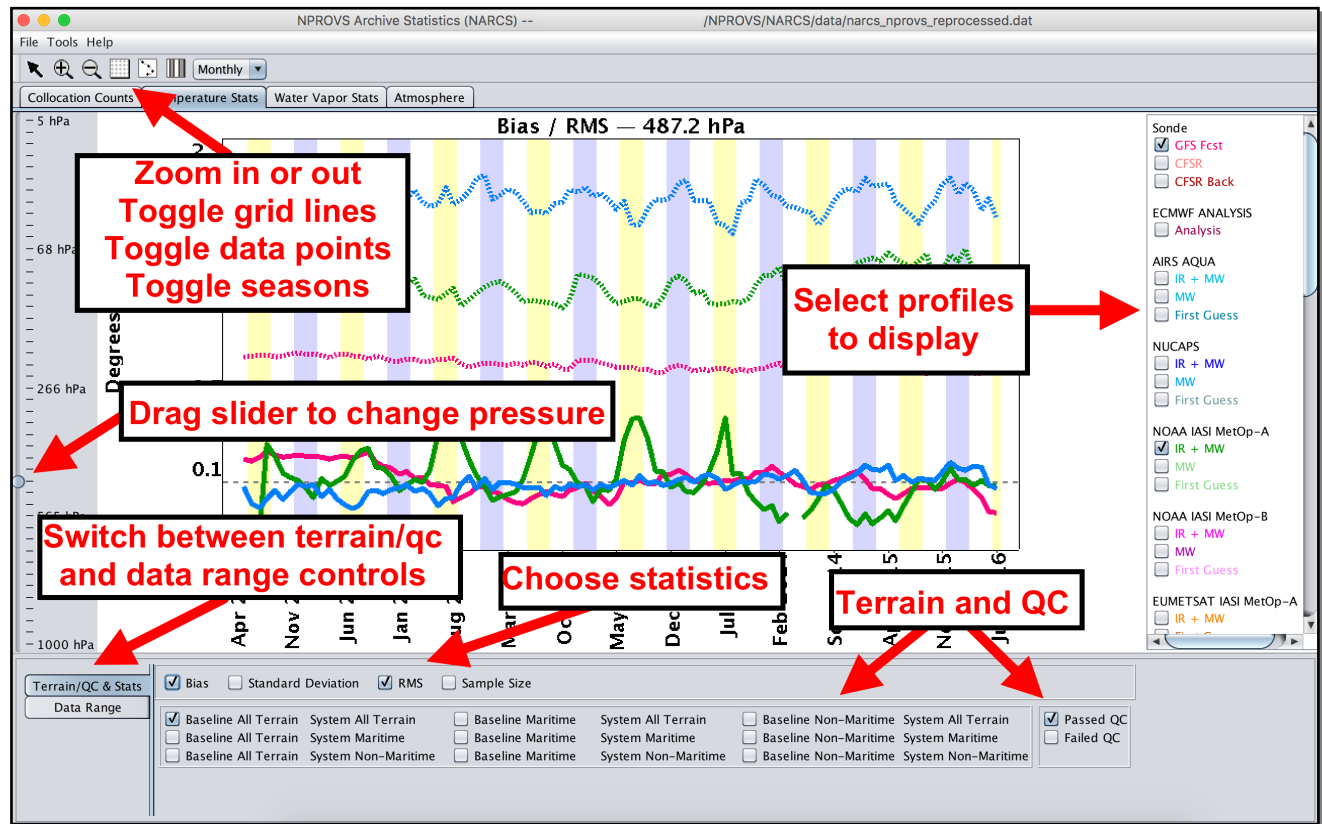
Collocation Counts Graph

Many options are available to control the display of the data:



Temperature/Water Vapor Statistics Graph

Many options are available to control the display of the data:



Atmosphere Statistics Graph

Many options are available to control the display of the data:

