Feedback on data accessibility for essd-2026-549 "Observations from a 94-GHz spectral polarimetric vertically-pointing radar at Villum research station during the CLAVIER Clean Cloud campaign" by Foskinis et al.

https://doi.org/10.5194/essd-2026-549

This feedback on accessibility issues was sent to me by one of the invited reviewers. I am summarizing it here and ask for your answer and a solution to make the data access more user-friendly. One of the main aims for ESSD is to provide data products in user-friendly form and the report below clearly depicts some issues that could be solved. I will extend the review period until receiving your answer and thank you very much for your cooperation

In the manuscript, the text explicitly states that the files contain radar observations, the output of the higher-level processing chains using peakTree and pyLARDA and pyLWP (lines 634-677 of the data paper). While it is true that all the things listed in these lines are available, their access is tedious if I am to review the entirety of the data set and not just very tiny samples of it.

Given the access link to the dataset, https://doi.org/10.60656/7aa872e5b5f84583 (e.g., line 648), one arrives at the overview site of the dataset:

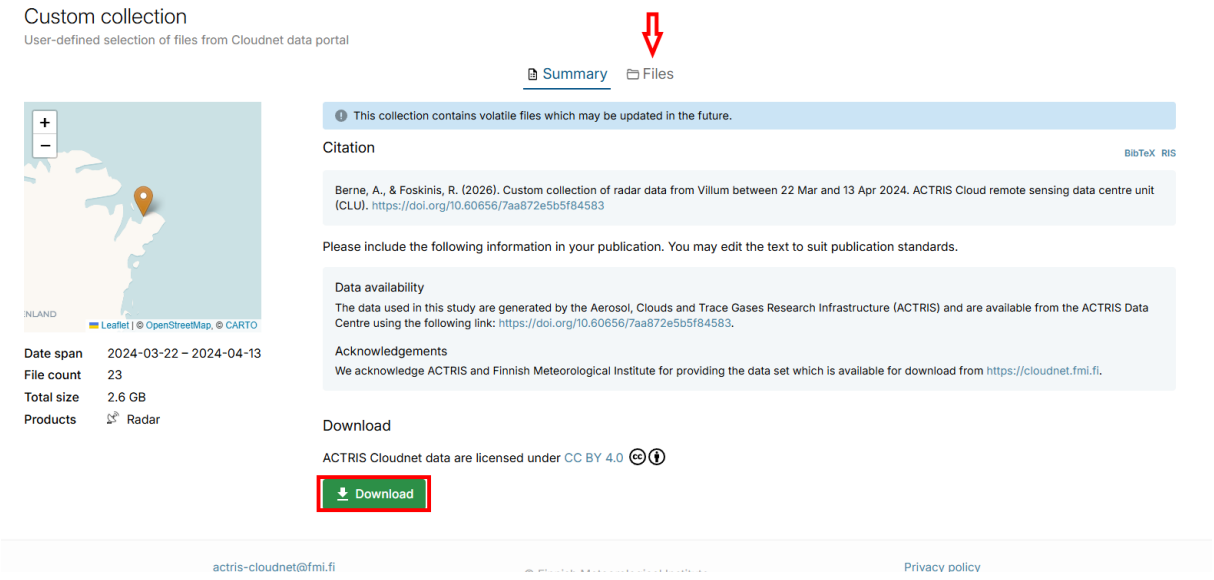


Figure 1: Step 1

If one clicks Download here (red rectangle in above figure), a roughly 3 GB zip file is downloaded with daily files, e.g., 20240409_villum_rpg-fmcw-94_cec71b56.nc)

One would assume that this should represent the essence of the data set presented in the paper but it merely contains a (probably) intermediate step of the radar moments, the meteorological station attached to the radar, and additional parameters (noise, liquid water path, housekeeping data, …). However, this file does not contain the

essence of the data paper, the higher-level output of processed radar moments and peakTree (mode-separated) output.

Unfortunately, getting the more interesting and relevant data of the paper, various steps are needed.1. Click on Files (red arrow in step_1.png)2. Select date folder (red arrow in step_2.png)3. Click Details (red arrow in step_3.png) - note that if you clicked Download in step_3.png (red rectangle), you'd obtain one of the files from the zip container described above4. Click Raw files (red arrow in step_4.png) - again, if you clicked Download in the top right corner in step_4.png (red rectangle), you'd obtain one of the zip container files5. Click on one of the files listed in step_5.png (e.g., red rectangle)

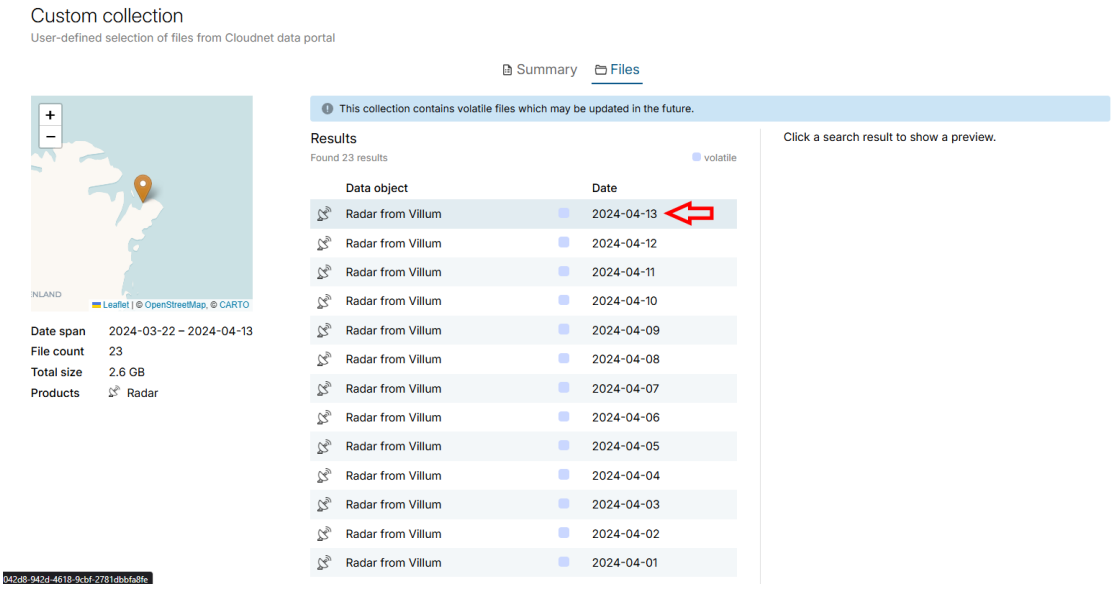


Figure 2: Step 2

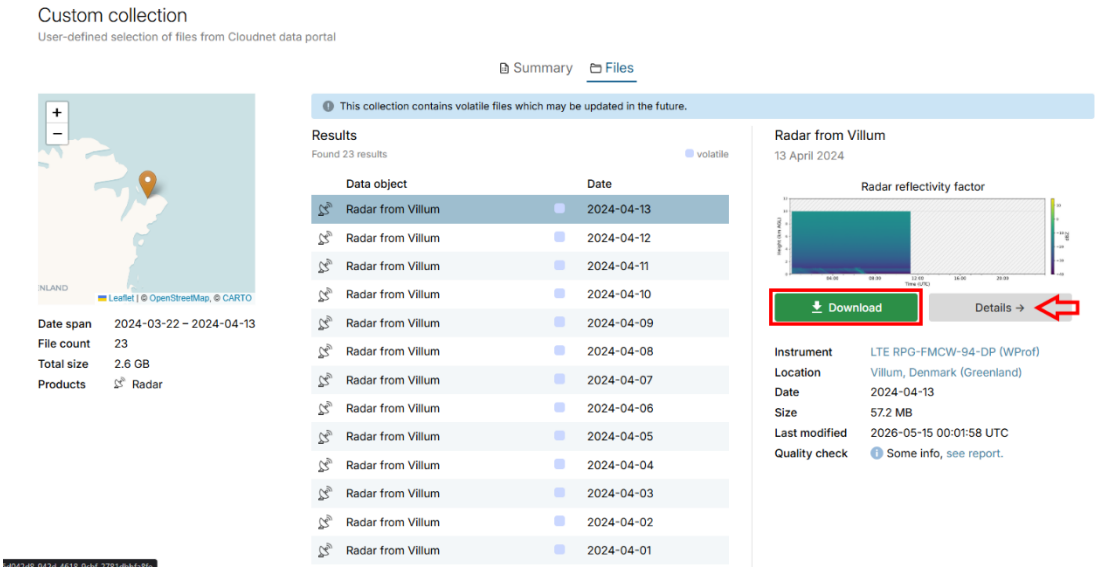


Figure 3: Step 3

Only in step 5 can I find the peakTree output and radar observations on a higher processing level, as well as the other data listed in the Data Availability section of the paper.

I have not found a way to easily automatize the download of these files listed in step 5 and I am not willing to download every single item manually (time consuming). The alternative, to write an automated url-request-based script using regular expression search to download the raw files for each day should not be the task of the reviewer, but of the author.

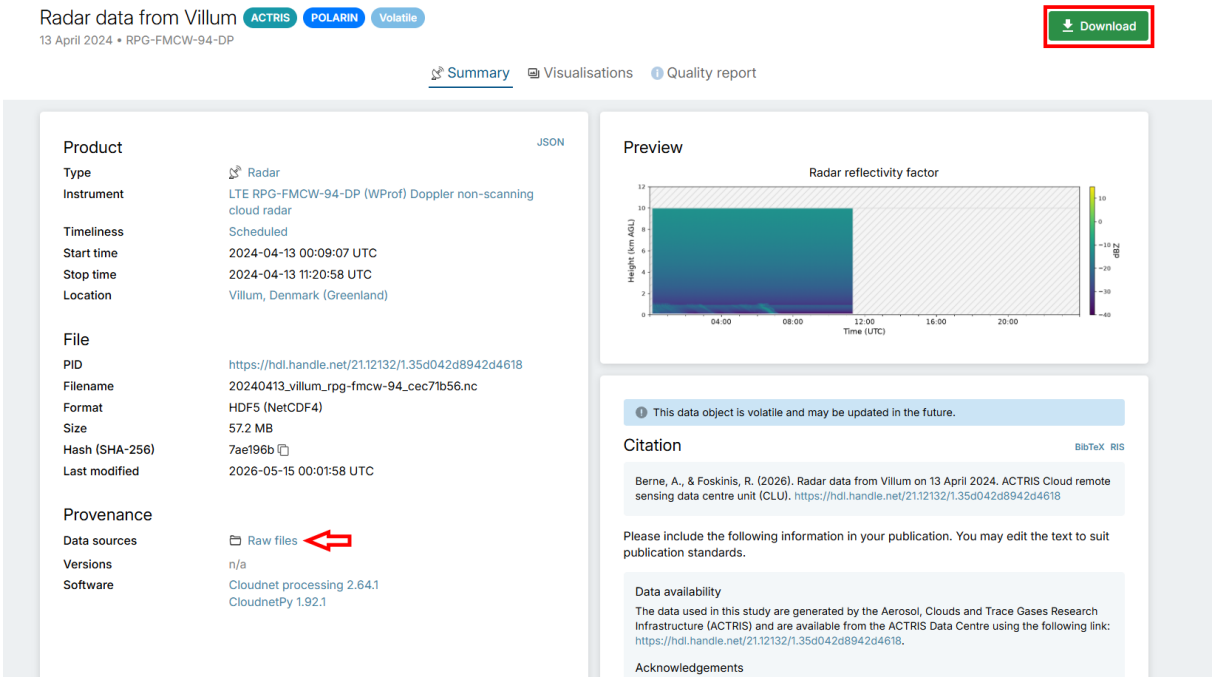


Figure 4: Step 4

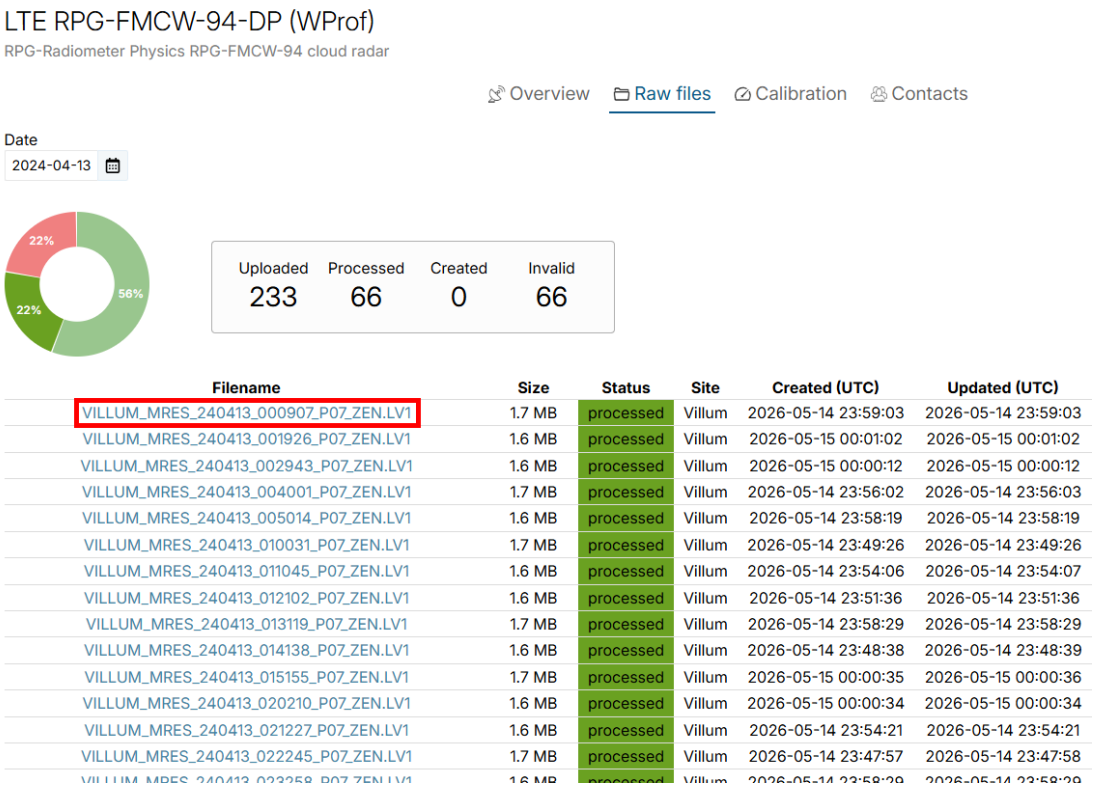


Figure 5: Step 5

I am convinced that such a script can be written quickly, especially with the support of AI. As providing a usable data product is one of the key requirements for a successful data description article with ESSD, I am asking the authors to comment on these findings, and to consider a solution, in particular. One possible solution is to consider the suggested script for bulk download, but you may have other ideas.

Many thanks and best regards,

Kirsten Elger