Information below was downloaded on 14 July 2015 from: http://rainbow.ldeo.columbia.edu/data/NASAentries/nasa2945.html

WDC-A Meteorological and Oceanographic Data from Chernobyl for 1986

BRIEF

Level II data tape contains a tape header file and one or more data files. Each file contains one of more physical records, consisting of 2960 characters. A single EOF is written after each file and two EOFs are written after the last data file on tape.

The data files have been recorded on tape in a specific order; all data files corresponding to a time period of six hours are grouped together, and, within a given group. The six-hour periods are:

Time of Major Time of first data synoptic time last data

2101 0000 0300 0301 0600 0900 0901 1200 1500 1501 1800 2100

A group of data files for a six-hour period is not split between two magnetic tapes.

TAPE HEADER FILE General information referring to the contents of the tape is provided in plain language in this file. The information is in a sequence of 80 character units so that it can easily be compiled from punched cards.

DATA FILES Each data file contains one or more physical records consisting of observed or derived reports (observations). Each physical record is made up of 80 logical records (37 characters per logical record) and an individual observation is composed of two or more logical records, depending on the type of observation. The first logical record of a data file is the file header record. The purpose of the file header record is to define the contents of the whole data file. The following are the various types of data which were telecommunicated via the GTS and the format used for the international exchange of level II data tapes. Although it was desirable to limit the number of formats to a minimum, it was necessary to provide separate formats for the satellite and drifting buoy data because of major differences between the numbers and types of parameters contained in these reports and the conventional surface, upper air, and aircraft reports.

Upper Air Format: An upper air observation consist of a variable number of logical records. After the ID record, subsequent logical records contain information for a single upper air level. As many logical records as needed are used to record the information for all upper air levels. The following types of observations have been recorded in the upper air format: rawinsonde, pilot, TWOS Navaid, aircraft dropwindsonde, experimental satellite stratospheric profiles (LIMS), and constant level balloons. Specifically observational parameters are upper level temperature, winds, dew point depression.

Aircraft Format: An aircraft observation consists of at least three logical records. After the ID record, the second record always contains meteorological parameters data other then wind. The third record contains reported wind data for up to two positions. If an aircraft report contains wind reports for more than two positions, additional logical records, containing up to two wind reports per record, have been included. In the case of observations telecommunicated in the AIREP code, an optional data record may have been included if information on cloud amount and height of base or top of clouds were available. When included, this optional data record is always the last logical record contained in the report.

Surface Land/Marine Format: Surface parameters included in this dataset are temperature, winds, humidity, pressure, water vapor, solar radiation, salinity, currents, sea ice, swells, and waves. A surface observation consists of 3-5 logical records. After the ID record, two mandatory surface data records are always included. For some surface reports, supplementary cloud data groups are included in the telecommunicated reports (i.e., the 8-groups in the SYNOPTIC and SHIP codes). When these supplementary cloud data are available, an additional record is included in the surface observation. In the case of surface marine observations, an additional record for marine data is included. It occupies the fourth logical record in the case where supplementary cloud data are available, and the fifth logical record in the case where supplementary cloud information are available.

Satellite Sounding Format: A satellite sounding observation consists of a variable number of logical records. After the ID record, for other than SBUV ozone data, a second logical record containing miscellaneous information reported in the SATEM code has been included. Each additional logical record contains a specific type of satellite sounding information (thickness, precipitable water, or mean temperature) for up to two vertical layers. The type of sounding information is identified by the first two characters of each logical record. As many logical records as necessary have been included to record all of the available information.

Drifting Buoy Format: A drifting buoy observation consists of two or more logical records. The drifting buoy format allows for recording observations containing surface information alone, sub-surface information alone, or both. Drifting buoy observations include: sea surface temperature, salinity, currents, swells, and waves; as well as subsurface currents, temperature, and salinity data. The first record is always the ID record. For drifting buoys observations containing both surface and sub-surface information, or surface information alone, the second logical record in the observation contains surface data. In the former case, the third and subsequent records contain sub-surface information. For drifting buoy observations containing only sub-surface information, the second and subsequent records contain sub-surface information. As many logical records as necessary have been included to record all of the available sub-surface information.

ATTRIBUTES

Entry_ID: NC00560 (MD Identifier: 2945) Temporal Coverage: From: 1986-04-25 TO: 1986-05-30 Geographic Coverage: Southwest Extent: 90S,180W Northeast Extent: 90N,180E Source: AIRCRAFT BALLOONS BUOYS DRIFTING BUOYS GROUND STATIONS SHIPS Sensor: DROPWINDSONDE RAWINSONDE Storage Media: Magnetic Tapes Campaign/Project: CGC>NOAA Climate and Global Change Program FGGE>First GARP Global Experiment MONEX>Monsoon Experiment WAMEX>West African Monsoon Experiment Discipline, Subdiscipline: EARTH SCIENCE > ATMOSPHERE Climatology EARTH SCIENCE > ATMOSPHERE Meteorology EARTH SCIENCE > OCEAN Oceanography Location Keyword: BOUNDARY LAYER GLOBAL SEA SURFACE TROPOSPHERE Parameter Group, Parameter: ATMOSPHERIC COMPOSITION > CLOUDS ATMOSPHERIC COMPOSITION > HUMIDITY Surface > Upper level ATMOSPHERIC COMPOSITION > OZONE Upper Level Ozone ATMOSPHERIC COMPOSITION ATMOSPHERIC COMPOSITION > TRACE GASES > WATER VAPOR ATMOSPHERIC DYNAMICS > ATMOSPHERIC TEMPERATURE Surface Upper Level

ATMOSPHERIC DYNAMICS> CLOUD TYPESATMOSPHERIC DYNAMICS> GEOPOTENTIAL HEIGHTATMOSPHERIC DYNAMICS> HUMIDITY Surface > Upper Level

ATMOSPHERIC DYNAMICS Precipitable Water

ATMOSPHERIC DYNAMICS Surface Pressure

ATMOSPHERIC DYNAMICS> SOLAR RADIATIONATMOSPHERIC DYNAMICS> VISIBILITYATMOSPHERIC DYNAMICS> WINDS Surface Winds>Upper Level

EARTH RADIATIVE PROCESSES OCEAN COMPOSITION Surface > Subsurface

OCEAN DYNAMICS Bottom Depth

OCEAN DYNAMICS Surface > Subsurface

OCEAN DYNAMICS OCEAN DYNAMICS OCEAN DYNAMICS > SWELL OCEAN DYNAMICS Sea Surface > Subsurface

OCEAN DYNAMICS

General Keywords: CLIMATOLOGY DEW POINT DEPRESSION METEOROLOGY OCEANOGRAPHY SEA SURFACE TEMPERATURE SURFACE SURFACE CURRENTS SURFACE PRESSURE SURFACE TEMPERATURE SURFACE WINDS TD-9681 UPPER AIR UPPER LEVEL DEW POINT UPPER LEVEL TEMPERATURE UPPER LEVEL WINDS

Revision Date: 1993-07-09

> PRECIPITATION > PRESSURE EARTH RADIATIVE PROCESSES > BRIGHTNESS TEMPERATURE > RADIANCE > SALINITY

- > BATHYMETRY
- > CURRENTS

> SEA ICE

- > SEA LEVEL
- > TEMPERATURE

> WAVES

DATACENTER

Archive:

NOAA/NESDIS/NCDC>National Climatic Data Center, NOAA Data Set ID: TD-9681

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Information in this entry provided by NOAA/NESDIS/NCDC

REFERENCE

** No Bibliographic Reference Information supplied for this Entry **

SUP_MENU

***** No Supplementary Information available for this selection *****