



NOAA/National Climatic Data Center

In situ snow observations

Access

Matt Menne
NOAA/National Climatic Data Center
Asheville, North Carolina, USA

ECMWF Snow Archive Workshop
November 17-19, 2014



Access described on web pages

- <http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/oa/climate/isd/>
- <http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/oa/climate/ghcn-daily/>



ISD

<ftp://ftp.ncdc.noaa.gov/pub/data/noaa>

- Synoptic data provided as individual station files in yearly slices

(<ftp://ftp.ncdc.noaa.gov/pub/data/noaa/2014/>)

- Simplified format provided as “ISD-LITE” (does not include snow depth)

(<ftp://ftp.ncdc.noaa.gov/pub/data/noaa/isd-lite/2014/>)

- Daily Summaries (“Global Summary of the Day”)

(<ftp://ftp.ncdc.noaa.gov/pub/data/gsod/2014/>)

- Web accessible database (Climate Data Online)



GHCN-Daily

<ftp://ftp.ncdc.noaa.gov/pub/data/ghcn/daily/>

- Provided as giant tar ball in two formats
 - Fixed format station files
(ftp://ftp.ncdc.noaa.gov/pub/data/ghcn/daily/ghcnd_all.tar.gz)
 - Comma delimited fields (one record per line)
(ftp://ftp.ncdc.noaa.gov/pub/download/superghcnd_full_20141114.csv.gz)
- Individual period of record station files
- Yearly slices
(ftp://ftp.ncdc.noaa.gov/pub/data/ghcn/daily/by_year/2014.csv.gz)
- Difference files between runs (inserts, deletes, changes)
(ftp://ftp.ncdc.noaa.gov/pub/download/superghcnd_diff_20141113_to_20141114.tar.gz)
- NCML metadata has been developed to facilitate machine reading of the data (standard variable definitions, unit descriptions, allowable flags, etc.)