

DATA SET DESCRIPTION

Historical 10-minute station observations of precipitation for Germany

Version V1

Cite data set as: DWD Climate Data Center (CDC): Historical 10-minute station observations of precipitation for Germany, version V1, 2019.

INTENT OF THE DATASET

These high time resolution data are from automatic weather stations of DWD and legally and qualitatively equivalent partner stations.

POINT OF CONTACT

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DATA DESCRIPTION

Spatial coverage stations in Germany

Temporal coverage 01.01.1991 - 31.12.2017

Temporal resolution 10 minutes sampling interval

Format(s) The station observations (produkt_*.txt) are zipped for each station in several files: produkt_zehn_min_rr_[from]_[to]_hist.txt., each of which spanning a decade (or less). An overview over all stations with start and end dates is given in the station list: https://opendata.dwd.de/climate_environment/CDC/help/zehn_min_rr_Beschreibung_Stationen.txt. Note that for convenience, the list comprises not only stations given here, but also stations with more complicated copyright regulations which may be obtained for certain applications, requiring discussion with the point of contact.

Parameters The file produkt*.txt comprises following parameters:

STATIONS_ID	station identification number	
MESS_DATUM	time stamp	yyyymmddhhmi
QN	quality level of next columns	coding see paragraph "Quality information"
RWS_DAU_10	duration of precipitation within the last 10 minutes	min
RWS_10	precipitation height of the last 10 minutes	mm
RWS_IND_10	index	
	0	no precipitation
	1	precipitation has fallen
	3	precipitation has fallen and heating of instrument was on
eor	end of record	can be ignored

Missing values are marked as -999. The time stamp before the year 2000 is given in MEZ, the time stamp after the year 2000 is given in UTC. The measurements relate to a time stamp (in UTC). The meaning of the time stamp is instrument dependent. For the instrument rain[e]H3, the time stamp denotes the end of the measurement interval. In case of instrument Pluvio Ott a time delay of approximately 5 minutes is introduced

due to the inertia of the instrument response. This time shift is applicable for precipitation measurements from November 2008 onwards for DWD station measurements with instrument Pluvio Ott. Until Oktober 2008, the time delay for Pluvio Ott was variable, spanning from seconds (in case of heavy precipitation) to 30 minutes (light precipitation) and cannot be stated in more detail. The 10min values are calculated from the 1min values with the respective time stamps. For instance, from November 2008 onward, the 10min value from Pluvio Ott with time stamp 11:50 UTC corresponds to the actual 10min intervall ending 11:45:00 UTC.

Uncertainties The stations are selected and operated according to WMO guidelines.

Quality information The quality level "Qualitätsniveau" (QN) given here applies for the following columns. QN and describes the method of quality control applied to a complete set of parameters, reported at a common time. the individual parameters of the set are connected with individual quality bytes in the DWD data base, which are not given here. Values marked as wrong are not given here. Different quality control procedures (and at different levels) have been applied to detect which values are identified as erroneous or suspicious. Over time, these procedures have changed.
quality level (column header: QN)
1- only formal control during decoding and import
2- controlled with individually defined criteria
3- ROUTINE automatic control and correction with QUALIMET

DATA ORIGIN

These data are from the station networks of Deutschen Wetterdienst. For details the measurement procedures VuB 3 Beobachterhandbuch (DWD, 2014a), VuB 3 Technikerhandbuch (DWD, 2014b) and VuB 2 Wetterschlüsselhandbuch (DWD, 2013).

VALIDATION AND UNCERTAINTY ESTIMATE

Procedures of quality assurance are explained in Kaspar et al., 2013: several steps of quality control, automated quality control based on the software QualiMET (see Spengler, 2002) for completeness, temporal and spatial consistency, and against statistical thresholds have been applied from 2003 onwards. Corrections in the high resolution recordings are routinely passed on to aggregated values (i.e., the hourly and daily values). Some doubtful values might still exist, especially in data before 2009. No homogenization has been carried out.

CONSIDERATIONS FOR APPLICATIONS

Data sets with quality level QN=1 may contain significant errors. Users have to decide whether for their particular application the more error prone 10-minute data should be used or rather the higher quality data (hourly or daily values). When investigating long term changes or trends, consider the station specific metadata provided in Metadaten_Parameter*, Metadaten_Geraete* and Metadaten_Geographie*, which are stored according to parameter in the subdirectories ../meta_data/.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

More recent data (where quality control is not completed yet) are stored in subdirectory ../recent/. The most recent data are getting updated in subdirectory /now/ .

REFERENCES

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Kaspar, F., et al.: Monitoring of climate change in Germany – data, products and services of Germany's National Climate Data Centre. Adv. Sci. Res., 10, doi:10.5194/asr-10-99-2013, 99–106, 2013.

Long, C. and Dutton, E.: BSRN Global Network recommended QC tests, V2.0, Tech. rep., available as PDF at: <http://www.bsrn.awi.de>, 2002.

Spengler, R.: The new Quality Control- and Monitoring System of the Deutscher Wetterdienst. Proceedings of the WMO Technical Conference on Meteorological and Environmental Instruments and Methods of Observation, Bratislava, 2002.

COPYRIGHT

The instructions in https://opendata.dwd.de/climate_environment/CDC/Terms_of_use.pdf should be followed. The DWD website provides comprehensive copyright information.

REVISION HISTORY

The data in the directories */historical/ are extended each year. The older data are not expected to change. For archived data sets which are required not to change, use hourly or daily values (subdirectories /historical/) instead. This document is maintained by the National Climate Data Centre (NKDZ) of DWD, last edited 26.02.2019.