CWVC data management at the BADC
April to September 2003

Report to the CWVC Steering Committee

Helen Walker & Anne De Rudder, BADC
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1. CWVC data sets

(GST/02/2316) The filenames and directory structure for the CAMRa data were changed to reflect the UFAM conventions, and hence make the structure like other Chilbolton datasets. Documentation was produced for the web site from information supplied by Robin Hogan and the Reading web pages.

(GST/02/2871) Kevin Smith has delivered data, and is planning to deliver documentation, so the data has not yet been loaded into the CWVC web area.

(GST/02/2324) Robin Asprey has been contacted, and supplied with information about the NetCDF and CF conventions for metadata.

(NER/T/S/2001/205) The GRAPE cluster of computers has been installed and tests are in progress for the smooth transfer of ATSR2 data from tape to disk. The scripts to load in data for the model work are being written. MODIS tapes have been received from the States, and the albedos are being read into the Atlas datastore for transfer to the GRAPE cluster.

2. Supporting data sets

The web pages for ISCCP have been redesigned and reviewed. These will now be installed in the BADC web.

SAGE II CDs have been received with new data. The existing data available from BADC covers the period 1985 – 1993, the new data extends this to 2001.

The BADC has recently acquired data from the Cloud Archive User Service (CLAUS). CLAUS was a 2-year project (1997-1999) coordinated by ESSC and supported under the European Framework IV Programme. The aim of the CLAUS project was to produce a long time-series of three-hourly global window channel thermal infra-red images of the Earth and to test the feasibility of using this in evaluating atmospheric General Circulation Models. The CLAUS archive currently spans the period 1st July 1983 - 31st December 1994. The source data used in CLAUS are the level B3 (reduced resolution) 10 micron radiances from operational meteorological satellites participating in the International Satellite Cloud Climatology Programme (ISCCP) and were obtained from the NASA Langley Atmospheric Sciences Data Center (LASDC). During the CLAUS project the B3 data were processed to create a uniform latitude-longitude grid (or image) of Brightness Temperature (BT) values at a spatial resolution of 0.5 by 0.5 degrees and temporal resolution of three hours. The B3 data are now being rigorously quality controlled by ESSC to remove residual noise and navigation/calibration errors that were noticed in the original processing. The 0.5 degree resolution data are being updated and supplemented by a new product at one-third degree spatial resolution for use in process studies. Data and software provided by ESSC are archived at the BADC and distributed to the community; access to the data is controlled for use monitoring purposes.

3. Further tasks

The forthcoming effort will be put on obtaining and archiving newly produced CWVC datasets.