

2nd IBTrACS workshops

Initially, our outcomes are categorized as:

- Recommendations – For approval from the attendees
- Dates – Dates that should be identified and decided – Following Chris Velden's suggestion to have a target dates.
- Actions for the IBTrACS team
- BT Panel Decisions and Actions – Items and issues for the yet-to-be-formed BT Panel

Recommendations

The workshop recommends that ...

1. the WMO enact a BT panel ... (see input from Best Track Panel Terms of Reference).
2. the IBTrACS team report their best estimate of a unified 10-min and unified 1-min wind based on responses to the BT Community Survey, as part of an effort to provide simplified information to the user. (This rec. also assumes that IBTrACS will continue to report the wind speed as reported by the agency, as well)
3. the parameters allowed for in the WMO format be reported by all agencies in BT data be adopted and provided a consensus priority of adopting (and best tracking): ... (BT parameter ranking).
4. percentiles (Already being produced by IBTrACS) be made on their best estimate of a unified 10-min or 1-min wind.
5. the agencies work with the IBTrACS team to reduce the occurrence of spurs, which will be a big help to users.
6. the agencies work with the IBTrACS team to reduce the differences in reported intensities for storms with the largest inter-agency differences.
7. agencies record how they implement new WMO wind conversion (Harper study) in their records and by notifying IBTrACS of changes.
8. the WMO consider additions to the set of parameters reported in the WMO format (e.g., wind flag for Doppler, blanks for future expansion, etc.)

Dates

The following dates are proposed time to complete certain tasks:

- a) Summer 2011 – Form BT panel, approve BT panel terms of reference.
- b) Dec 2011 – Agencies begin working with IBTrACS team to resolve discrepancies in track (resolving “spurs”)
- c) Dec 2011 – Submission of a Best Track data review paper, co-authored by agencies & workshop participants.
- d) Dec 2012 – Agencies begin working with IBTrACS team to resolve discrepancies in intensity (resolving the TCs with largest interagency intensity discrepancies).
- e) Next IWTC (2014?) – Agencies to resolve the majority of storms with track and intensity discrepancies.

Team Actions

The IBTrACS team will ...

- **ASAP**
 - Send attendee list to attendees
 - Send link to survey to attendees
 - Send link to HURSAT S2R (Storms to Reanalyze) to attendees.
 - Send link to workshop presentations to attendees.
 - Contact agencies for BT data through 2010.
- **By May 16th (1 month)**
 - Modify ToR and nominate BT panel members and work with Koji to get the panel working.
- **By July 16th (1 Quarter – 3 months)**
 - Include storms to reanalyze data on the IBTrACS page. This involves:
 - Adjusting calculation to ignore 9636 and ds421
 - Link to storm details page rather than KML file.
 - Look at spur frequency in different decades.
- **By October 16th (0.5 year – 6 months)**
 - Work with Koji to propose a modified WMO format that includes new parameters.
 - Develop in collaboration with agencies and workshop participants a BT review paper that summarizes BT procedures and assesses data quality
- **By April 2012 (1 year)**
 - Contemplate handling collections differently. Perhaps ignore 9636 data when other agencies are available (and ds824 and Neumann as well)
 - Can IBTrACS provide environmental information for TCs? [a la SHIPS type data?]
 - Input from BT Panel would be good
 - other data might include:
 - fix data sets (F Deck, CI/T records, etc.)
 - Size data sets (and other automated datasets like that derived from HURSAT)
 - Other?

Best Track Panel Decisions and Actions

Initial actions for the BT Panel to consider include ...

- Recommending how agencies should handle and IBTrACS should incorporate reanalysis data. (e.g., overwrite previous BT data? New updated version? How to flag that one agency has performed a reanalysis when someone else has)
- Developing a set of recommendations that agencies should consider when planning a reanalysis. Also, considerations for agency coordination should be noted.
- Recommending minimum requirements for Best Track Data. That is, what qualifications are met by best track data. This might be a set of best practices to consider. (e.g., should agencies release best track data with no known source? Winds that are *known* to be wrong).
- Approving planned changes to the IBTrACS dataset.