

Community Tools (1) - PrepBUFR/BUFR: Basic tools, NCEP data, and BUFR table

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Topics covered

- NCEP observation data
 - Observation data processing
 - BUFR/PrepBUFR file structure
 - Operation BUFR/PrepBUFR types and data servers
- Community BUFR/PrepBUFR basic tools
 - Encode, decode and append a simple BUFR file
- NCEP DX BUFR table
 - DX BUFR table structure and examples
 - DX BUFR table application examples

This talk is based on DTC BUFR/PrepBUFR User's Guide:
<http://www.dtcenter.org/com-GSI/BUFR/docs/index.php>

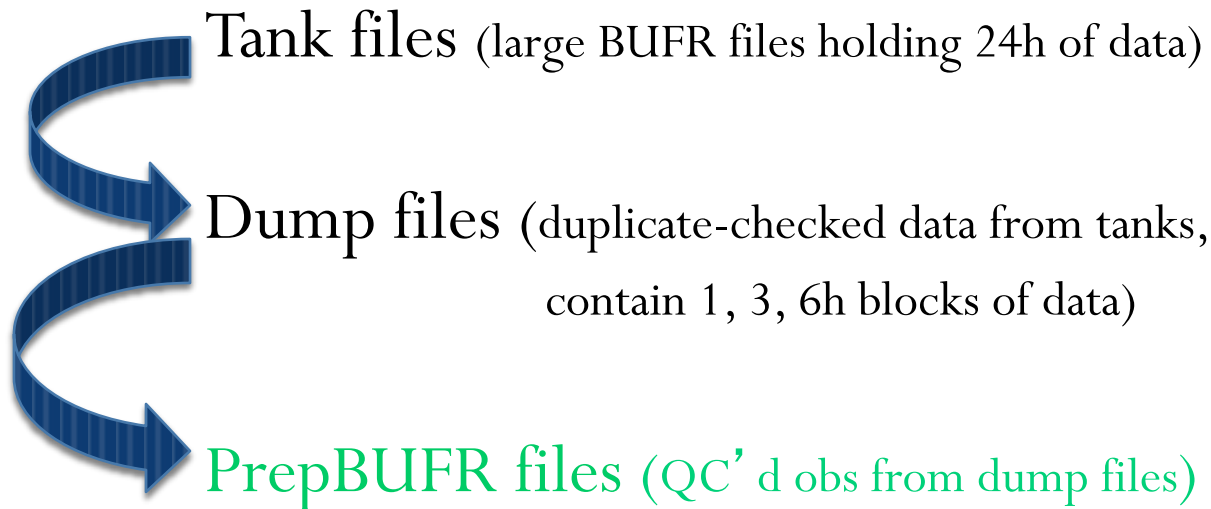


NCEP observation data

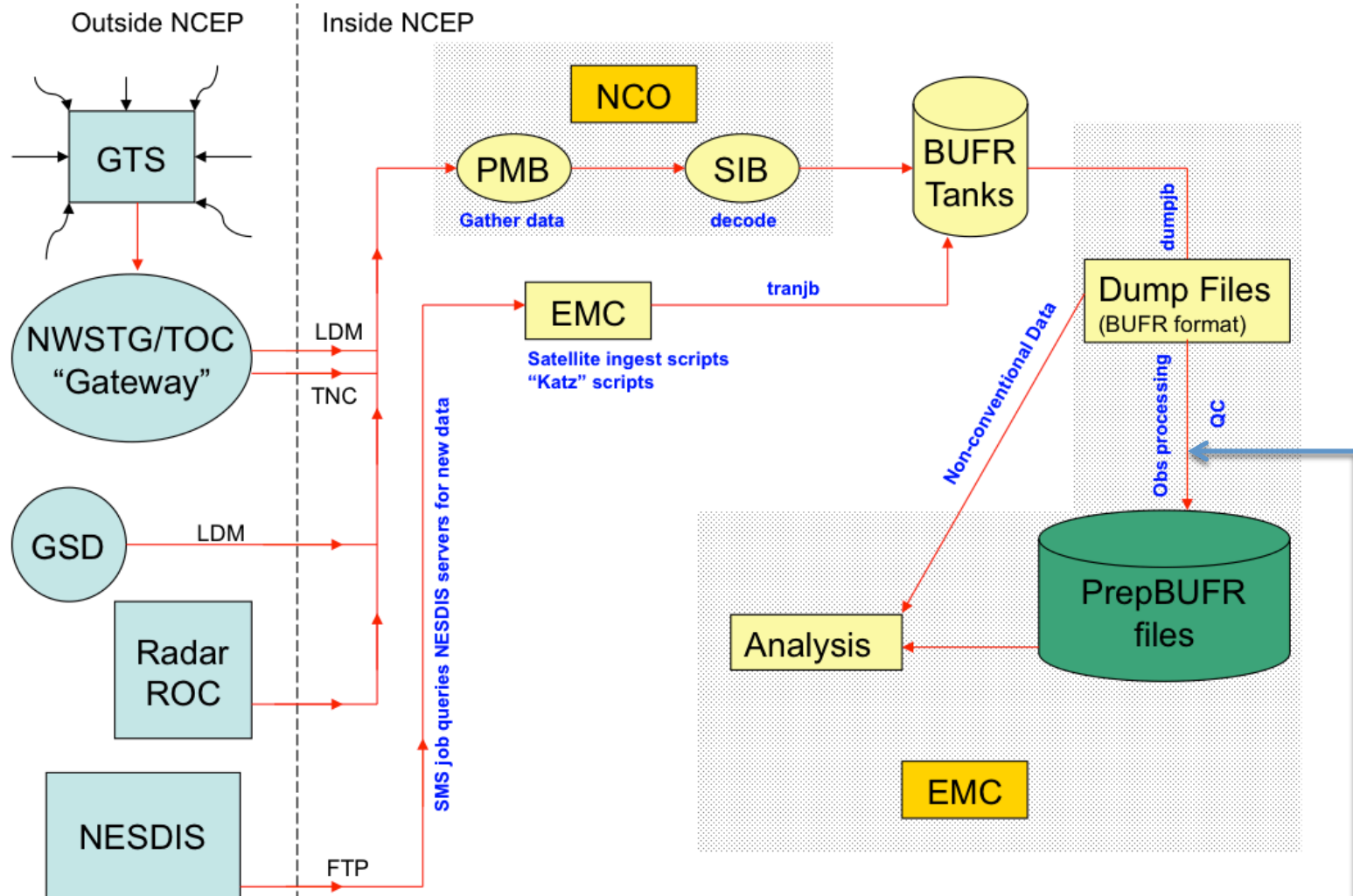
- Observation data processing
- BUFR/PrepBUFR file structure
- Operation BUFR/PrepBUFR types and data servers

Observation processing at NCEP

- Managed jointly by NCEP Central Operations (NCO) and EMC
- Relies on NCEP BUFRLIB software
- Three stages:



Data processing system at NCEP



Dennis Keyser's website on PREPBUFR PROCESSING AT NCEP:
http://www.emc.ncep.noaa.gov/mmb/data_processing/prepbuftr.doc/document.htm

** Diagram originally developed by Shelley Melchior **



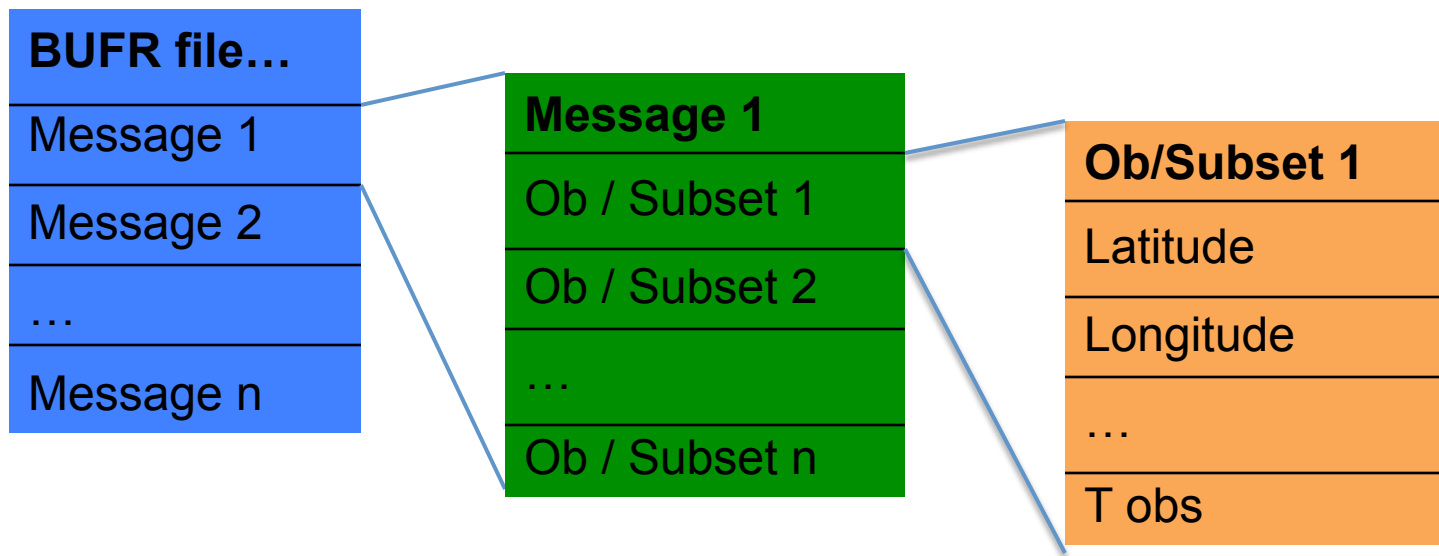
What is BUFR/PrepBUFR

- **B**inary **U**niversal **F**orm for the **R**epresentation of meteorological data (BUFR)
 - BUFR is a “self-descriptive” table driven code form
 - The form and content of the data contained within a BUFR message are described within the BUFR message itself
 - BUFR is one of the code forms WMO recommends for the representation and exchange of observational data
-
- **PrepBUFR is the NCEP term for “prepared” or QC’ d data in BUFR format (NCEP convention/standard)**
 - **PrepBUFR file is still a BUFR file**

BUFR/PrepBUFR file structure

A bit of terminology:

BUFR files (including “PrepBUFR” files) contain “messages”. Each message contains “subsets.” Each subset contains meteorological observation.



BUFR/PrepBUFR file structure

BUFR file example: *gdas1.t12z.prepbufr.nr*

Message 1: ADPSFC: Surface land (synoptic, metar) reports

Message 2: ADPUPA: Upper air (raob, pibal, recco, drops) reports

.
.

Message n:

Message 1	Lat	Lon	P	T	Q	U	V	Type	
Ob / Subset 1	52.1	12.5	984.4	10e10	10e10	1.7	4.7	281	wind report
Ob / Subset 2	52.1	12.5	984.4	23.1	12979.0	10e10	10e10	181	mass report
.									
.									
Ob / Subset n									

Operation BUFR/PrepBUFR types

- File name convention

- gdas1.t00z.prepbufnr.nr
- gfs.t00z.gpsro.tm00.bufnr_d
- ndas.t18z.lbamub.tm03.bufnr_d
- nam.t00z.aircar.tm00.bufnr_d.nr

- Data coverage and cut off time

- GDAS (Global Data Assimilation System):
Covers global, latest 6 hours data
- GFS (Global Forecast System):
Covers global, 2:45 hours data
- NDAS (NAM Data Assimilation System):
Covers North America, longer cut off time than NAM
- NAM (North American Model):
Covers North America, shorter cut off time comparing to others

1st section: operation system

2st section: analysis time

3st section: data type

4st, 5st sections:

nr: non-restricted data

bufnr_d: bufnr format

tm** : indicate the catch up
cycle analysis time,

=0 analysis time = 2st section

>0 analysis time = 2st section - 4st section

For example:

ndas.t18z.lbamub.tm03.bufnr_d
has analysis time=18z-03z=15z

See BUFR User's Guide Chapter 5.2

Operation BUFR/PrepBUFR data servers

- Resources listed in BUFR User's Guide Chapter 5.3
 - NCEP NOMADS Site:
BUFR/PrepBufr for GDAS (Global) - 1 month buffer:
<http://nomads.ncep.noaa.gov/pub/data/nccf/com/gfs/prod/>
BUFR/PrepBufr for NDAS (North America) - 1 month buffer:
<http://nomads.ncep.noaa.gov/pub/data/nccf/com/nam/prod/>
 - NCDC NOMADS Site:
BUFR/PrepBufr for GDAS (Global) - archive starting May 2007:
<http://nomads.ncdc.noaa.gov/data/gdas/>
 - NCAR/CISL Research Data Archive (RDA) Site:
DS337.0: NCEP ADP Global Upper Air and Surface Observations (PrepBUFR and NetCDF PB2NC Output) - archive starting May 1997:
<http://dss.ucar.edu/datasets/ds337.0/>

BUFR/PrepBUFR tools

- All tools are in GSI util/bufr_tools
- Encode, decode and append a simple BUFR file
- Detailed information is in BUFR User's Guide.

All tools based on NCEP BUFRLIB

- BUFRLIB contains close to 250 Fortran and C subprograms and functions, no more than 10-20 of them are directly called by a user, the rest are used to accomplish various underlying tasks.

The detailed BUFRLIB documentation:

<http://www.nco.ncep.noaa.gov/sib/decoders/BUFRLIB/>

- The BUFRLIB requires BUFR/PrepBUFR files to be FORTRAN-blocked before they are used by BUFRLIB.
 - Almost always, any BUFR file is already blocked and you can use the BUFRLIB routines directly to read/write BUFR file.
 - If your BUFR file is not blocked, Use NCEP cwordsh utility to block it
<http://www.nco.ncep.noaa.gov/sib/decoders/BUFRLIB/toc/cwordsh/>

BUFR Processing Actions

- **Encode:**
 - **Write** the observations into a new BUFR file.
- **Decode:**
 - **Read** the observations from a BUFR file.
- **Append:**
 - **Add** the observations to the end of an existing BUFR file.

Encode BUFR file

- Write the observation into a BUFR file



```

program bufr_encode_sample (34 Lines)
!
! example of writing one value into a bufr file
!
implicit none

```

```

character(80):: hdst='XOB YOB DHR'
character(80):: obstr='TOB'
real(8) :: hdr(3),obs(1,1)

character(8) msgtype
integer :: unit_out=10,unit_table=20
integer :: idate,iret

! set data values
hdr(1)=75.;hdr(2)=30.;hdr(3)=-0.1
obs(1,1)=17.15
idate=2008120100 ! YYYYMMDDHH
msgtype='ADPUPA' ! upper-air reports

```

```

! encode
open(unit_table,file='prepobs_prep.bufrtable')
open(unit_out,file='sample.bufr',action='write',form='unformatted')
call datelen(10)
call openbf(unit_out,'OUT',unit_table)
call openmb(unit_out,msgtype,idate)
call ufbint(unit_out,hdr,3,1,iret,hdst)
call ufbint(unit_out,obs,1,1,iret,obstr)
call writsb(unit_out)
call closmg(unit_out)
call closbf(unit_out)

```

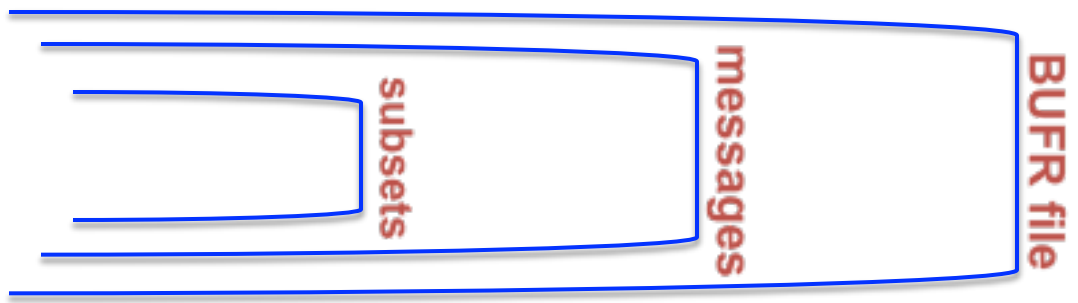
```
end program
```

"A BUFR file contains one or more BUFR messages, each containing one or more BUFR data subsets, each containing one or more BUFR data values"

Define variables and assign obs values

Open BUFR tables file

Open BUFR file



```
program bufr_encode_sample (34 Lines)
! example of writing one value into a bufr file
implicit none
character(80):: hdstr='XOB YOB DHR'
character(80):: obstr='TOB'
real(8) :: hdr(3),obs(1,1)
```

```
character(8) msgtype
integer :: unit_out=10,unit_table=20
integer :: idate,iret
```

```
! set data values
hdr(1)=75.;hdr(2)=30.;hdr(3)=-0.1
obs(1,1)=17.15
idate=2008120100 ! YYYYMMDDHH
msgtype='ADPUPA' ! upper-air reports
```

```
! encode
open(unit_table,file='prepobs_prep.bufrtable')
open(unit_out,file='sample.bufr',action='write',form='unformatted')
```

```
call datelen(10)
call openbf(unit_out,'OUT',unit_table)
call openmb(unit_out,msgtype,idate)
call ufbint(unit_out,hdr,3,1,iret,hdstr)
call ufbint(unit_out,obs,1,1,iret,obstr)
call writsb(unit_out)
call closmg(unit_out)
call closbf(unit_out)
```

```
end program
```

BUFRLIB subroutines

openbf, closbf, openmb, closmg, ufbint, writsb, datelen are the BUFRLIB subroutines and functions. They are very often used to read/write BUFR file. Understanding usage of them will be very helpful in users own application.


```

program bufr_encode_sample (34 Lines)
!
! example of writing one value into a bufr file
!
implicit none

character(80):: hdstr='XOB YOB DHR'
character(80):: obstr='TOB'
real(8) :: hdr(3),obs(1,1)

character(8) msgtype
integer :: unit_out=10,unit_table=20
integer :: idate,iret

! set data values
hdr(1)=75.;hdr(2)=30.;hdr(3)=-0.1
obs(1,1)=17.15
idate=2008120100 ! YYYYMMDDHH
msgtype='ADPUPA' ! upper-air reports

! encode
open(unit_table,file='prepobs_prep.bufrtable')
open(unit_out,file='sample.bufr',action='write',form='unform
call datelen(10)
call openbf(unit_out,'OUT',unit_table)
call openmb(unit_out, msgtype,idate)
call ufbint(unit_out,hdr,3,1,iret,hdstr)
call ufbint(unit_out,obs,1,1,iret,obstr)
call writsb(unit_out)
call closmg(unit_out)
call closbf(unit_out)

```

DX BUFR table

BUFR table is in released GSI version
./util/bufr_tools directory.

BUFR table defines the content and
form for each of message types. It is
embedded within the first few BUFR
messages of the file itself.
Understanding BUFR table will be
very helpful in users own application.

end program



```

program bufr_encode_sample (34 Lines)
!
! example of writing one value into a bufr file
!
implicit none

```

```

character(80):: hdstr='XOB YOB DHR'
character(80):: obstr='TOB'
real(8) :: hdr(3),obs(1,1)

```

```

character(8) msgtype
integer :: unit_out=10,unit_table=20
integer :: idate,iret

```

```

! set data values
hdr(1)=75.;hdr(2)=30.;hdr(3)=-0.1
obs(1,1)=17.15

```

```

idate=2008120100 ! YYYYMMDDHH
msgtype='ADPUPA' ! upper-air reports
! encode
open(unit_table,file='prepobs_prep.bufrtable')
open(unit_out,file='sample.bufr',action='write',form='unformatted')
call datelen(10)
call openbf(unit_out,'OUT',unit_table)
call openmb(unit_out,msgtype,idate)
call ufbint(unit_out,hdr,3,1,iret,hdstr)
call ufbint(unit_out,obs,1,1,iret,obstr)
call writsb(unit_out)
call closmg(unit_out)
call closbf(unit_out)

```

```
end program
```

Define BUFR table mnemonics

A mnemonic is a descriptive, alphanumeric name for an data value.

- XOB: Longitude
- YOB: Latitude
- DHR: obs time – cycle time
- TOB: temperature
- ADPUPA: UPPER-AIR (RAOB, PIBAL, RECCO, DROPS) REPORTS

Setup data

Data written to subset.

hdstr= XOB	YOB	DHR	obstr= TOB
hdr = (1)75.	(2)30.	(3)-0.1	obs(1)= 17.51

```
program bufr_encode_sample (34 Lines)
!  
! example of writing one value into a bufr file  
!  
implicit none
```

```
character(80):: hdstr='XOB YOB DHR'  
character(80):: obstr='TOB'  
real(8) :: hdr(3),obs(1,1)
```

```
character(8) msgtype  
integer :: unit_out=10,unit_table=20  
integer :: idate,iret
```

```
! set data values  
hdr(1)=75.;hdr(2)=30.;hdr(3)=-0.1  
obs(1,1)=17.15  
idate=2008120100 ! YYYYMMDDHH  
msgtype='ADPUPA' ! upper-air reports  
! encode
```

```
open(unit_table,file='prepobs_prep.bufrtable')  
open(unit_out,file='sample.bufr',action='write',form='unformatted')  
call datelen(10)  
call openbf(unit_out,'OUT',unit_table)
```

```
call openmb(unit_out, msgtype,idate)  
call ufbint(unit_out,hdr,3,1,iret,hdstr)  
call ufbint(unit_out,obs,1,1,iret,obstr)  
call writsb(unit_out)  
call closmg(unit_out)  
call closbf(unit_out)
```

```
end program
```

BUFR file

Fortran 'open' command to open an unformatted binary file for write.

OPENBF (LUBFR, CIO, LUNDX)

Purpose: Identifies to the BUFRLIB a BUFR file of logical unit *LUBFR*.

CLOSBF (LUBFR)

Purpose: severs the connection between logical unit *LUBFR* and the BUFRLIB.

```
program bufr_encode_sample (34 Lines)
!  
! example of writing one value into a bufr file  
implicit none
```

```
character(80):: hdstr='XOB YOB DHR'  
character(80):: obstr='TOB'  
real(8) :: hdr(3),obs(1,1)
```

```
character(8) msgtype  
integer :: unit_out=10,unit_table=20  
integer :: idate,iret
```

```
! set data values  
hdr(1)=75.;hdr(2)=30.;hdr(3)=-0.1  
obs(1,1)=17.15  
idate=2008120100 ! YYYYMMDDHH  
msgtype='ADPUPA' ! upper-air reports
```

```
! encode  
open(unit_table,file='prepobs_prep.bufrtable')  
open(unit_out,file='sample.bufr',action='write',form='unformatted')
```

```
call datelen(10)  
call openbf(unit_out,'OUT',unit_table)  
call openmb(unit_out, msgtype,idate)  
call ufbint(unit_out,hdr,3,1,iret,hdstr)  
call ufbint(unit_out,obs,1,1,iret,obstr)  
call writsb(unit_out)  
call closmg(unit_out)  
call closbf(unit_out)
```

```
end program
```

Set cycle date

DATELEN (LEN)

Purpose: specify the format *IDATE*.

Input arguments:

LEN INTEGER

Length of Section 1 date-time values

8 = YYMMDDHH (2-digit year)

10 = YYYYMMDDHH (4-digit year)

```

program bufr_encode_sample (34 Lines)
!
! example of writing one value into a bufr file
!
implicit none

character(80):: hdstr='XOB YOB DHR'
character(80):: obstr='TOB'
real(8) :: hdr(3),obs(1,1)

character(8) msgtype
integer :: unit_out=10,unit_table=20
integer :: idate,iret

! set data values
hdr(1)=75.;hdr(2)=30.;hdr(3)=-0.1
obs(1,1)=17.15
idate=2008120100 ! YYYYMMDDHH
msgtype='ADPUPA' ! upper-air reports

! encode
open(unit_table,file='prepobs_prep.bufrtable')
open(unit_out,file='sample.bufr',action='write' ,form='unformatted')
call datelen(10)
call openbf(unit_out,'OUT',unit_table)
  call openmb(unit_out, msgtype,idate)
    call ufbint(unit_out,hdr,3,1,iret,hdstr)
    call ufbint(unit_out,obs,1,1,iret,obstr)
    call writsb(unit_out)
  call closmg(unit_out)
call closbf(unit_out)

end program

```

Message

OPENMB (LUBFR, CSUBSET, IDATE)

Purpose: Open and initialize, within internal arrays, a new BUFR message for eventual output to *LUBFR*, using *CSUBSET* as message type, *IDATE* as date.

CLOSMG (LUBFR)

Purpose: Close existing internal BUFR message (if any) and write it to output.

```

program bufr_encode_sample (34 Lines)
!
! example of writing one value into a bufr file
!
implicit none

```

```

character(80):: hdstr='XOB YOB DHR'
character(80):: obstr='TOB'
real(8) :: hdr(3),obs(1,1)

```

```

character(8) msgtype
integer :: unit_out=10,unit_table=20
integer :: idate,iret

```

```

! set data values
hdr(1)=75.;hdr(2)=30.;hdr(3)=-0.1
obs(1,1)=17.15
idate=2008120100 ! YYYYMMDDHH
msgtype='ADPUPA' ! upper-air reports

```

```

! encode
open(unit_table,file='prepobs_prep.bufrtable')
open(unit_out,file='sample.bufr',action='write',form='unformatted')
call datelen(10)
call openbf(unit_out,'OUT',unit_table)
call openmb(unit_out, msgtype,idate)

```

```

call ufbint(unit_out,hdr,3,1,iret,hdstr)
call ufbint(unit_out,obs,1,1,iret,obstr)

```

```

call writsb(unit_out)
call closmg(unit_out)
call closbf(unit_out)

```

```
end program
```

Data subsets

UFBINT (LUBFR, R8ARR, MXMN, MXLV, iret, CMNSTR)

Purpose: writes or reads specified values to or from the current BUFR data subset within the internal arrays.

hdstr= XOB	YOB	DHR	obstr= TOB
hdr = (1)75.	(2)30.	(3)-0.1	obs(1)= 17.51

```
program bufr_encode_sample (34 Lines)
! example of writing one value into a bufr file
implicit none
```

```
character(80):: hdstr='XOB YOB DHR'
character(80):: obstr='TOB'
real(8) :: hdr(3),obs(1,1)
```

```
character(8) msgtype
integer :: unit_out=10,unit_table=20
integer :: idate,iret
```

```
! set data values
hdr(1)=75.;hdr(2)=30.;hdr(3)=-0.1
obs(1,1)=17.15
idate=2008120100 ! YYYYMMDDHH
msgtype='ADPUPA' ! upper-air reports
```

```
! encode
open(unit_table,file='prepobs_prep.bufrtable')
open(unit_out,file='sample.bufr',action='write',form='unformatted')
call datelen(10)
call openbf(unit_out,'OUT',unit_table)
  call openmb(unit_out, msgtype,idate)
  call ufbint(unit_out,hdr,3,1,iret,hdstr)
  call ufbint(unit_out,obs,1,1,iret,obstr)
  call writsb(unit_out)
  call closmg(unit_out)
  call closbf(unit_out)
```

```
end program
```

Data subsets

WRITSB (LUBFR)

Purpose: Indicates to BUFRLIB that the subset is ready to be encoded into the current message for the BUFR file.



```

program bufr_encode_sample (34 Lines)
!
! example of writing one value into a bufr file
!
implicit none

```

```

character(80):: hdst='XOB YOB DHR'
character(80):: obstr='TOB'
real(8) :: hdr(3),obs(1,1)

```

```

character(8) msgtype
integer :: unit_out=10,unit_table=20
integer :: idate,iret

```

```

! set data values
hdr(1)=75.;hdr(2)=30.;hdr(3)=-0.1
obs(1,1)=17.15
idate=2008120100 ! YYYYMMDDHH
msgtype='ADPUPA' ! upper-air reports

```

```

! encode
open(unit_table,file='prepobs_prep.bufrtable')
open(unit_out,file='sample.bufr',action='write',form='unformatted')
call datelen(10)
call openbf(unit_out,'OUT',unit_table)
call openmb(unit_out, msgtype,idate)

```

```

call ufbint(unit_out,hdr,3,1,iret,hdst)
call ufbint(unit_out,obs,1,1,iret,obstr)
call writsb(unit_out)

```

```

call closmg(unit_out)
call closbf(unit_out)

```

```
end program
```

Mnemonics and data array

hdst= XOB YOB DHR obstr= TOB

hdr = (1)75. (2)30. (3)-0.1 obs(1)= 17.51

Write to bufr file
sample.bufr

Message type: ADPUPA

Section 3

Section 4

XOB YOB DHR TOB

75. 30. -0.1 17.51

Decode BUFR file

- Read the observation out from BUFR file



```

program bufr_decode_sample
!
! example of reading observations from bufr
!
implicit none

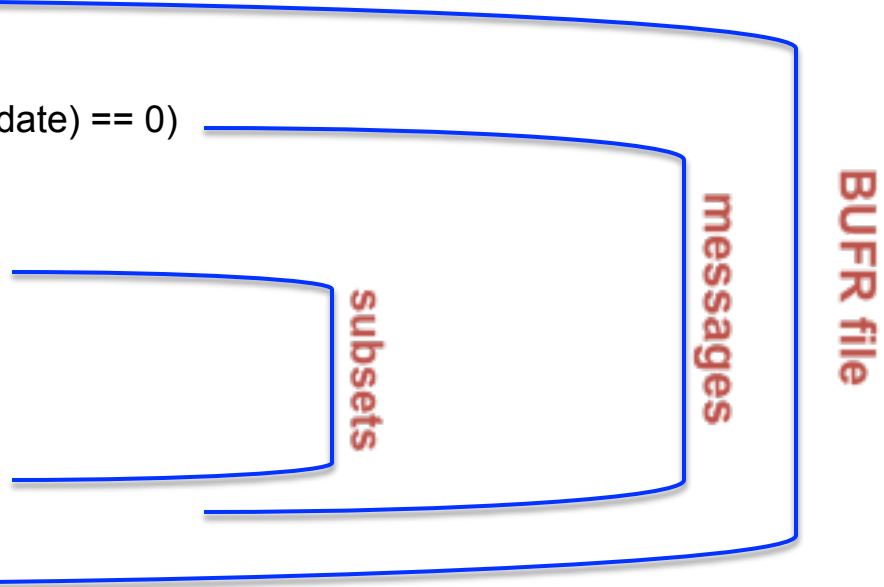
character(80):: hdst='XOB YOB DHR'
character(80):: obstr='TOB'
real(8) :: hdr(3),obs(1,10)

integer :: ireadmg,ireadsb
character(8) msgtype
integer :: unit_in=10
integer :: idate,iret,num_message,num_subset

! decode
open(unit_in,file='sample.bufr',action='read',form='unformatted')
call openbf(unit_in,'IN',unit_in)
call datelen(10)
num_message=0
msg_report: do while (ireadmg(unit_in,msgtype,idate) == 0)
num_message=num_message+1
num_subset = 0
write(*,'(I10,I4,a10)') idate,num_message,msgtype
sb_report: do while (ireadsb(unit_in) == 0)
num_subset = num_subset+1
call ufbint(unit_in,hdr,3,1 ,iret,hdst)
call ufbint(unit_in,obs,1,10,iret,obstr)
write(*,'(2I5,4f8.1)') num_subset,iret,hdr,obs(1,1)
enddo sb_report
enddo msg_report
call closbf(unit_in)

```

"A BUFR file contains one or more BUFR messages, each containing one or more BUFR data subsets, each containing one or more BUFR data values"



end program

```

program bufr_encode_sample
!
! example of writing one value into a bufr
!
implicit none

character(80):: hdstr='XOB YOB DHR'
character(80):: obstr='TOB'
real(8) :: hdr(3),obs(1,1)

character(8) msgtype
integer :: unit_out=10,unit_table=20
integer :: idate,iret

! set data values
hdr(1)=75.;hdr(2)=30.;hdr(3)=-0.1
obs(1,1)=17.15
idate=2008120100 ! YYYYMMDDHH
msgtype='ADPUPA' ! upper-air reports

! encode
open(unit_table,file='prepobs_prep.bufrtable')
open(unit_out,file='sample.bufr',action='write' &
      ,form='unformatted')
call datelen(10)
call openbf(unit_out,'OUT',unit_table)
call openmb(unit_out,msgtype,idate)
  call ufbint(unit_out,hdr,3,1,iret,hdstr)
  call ufbint(unit_out,obs,1,1,iret,obstr)
  call writsb(unit_out)
  call closmg(unit_out)
  call closbf(unit_out)

end program

```

Encode

```

program bufr_decode_sample
!
! example of reading observations from bufr
!
implicit none

character(80):: hdstr='XOB YOB DHR'
character(80):: obstr='TOB'
real(8) :: hdr(3),obs(1,10)

integer :: ireadmg,ireadsb
character(8) msgtype
integer :: unit_in=10
integer :: idate,iret,num_message,num_subset

! decode
open(unit_in,file='sample.bufr',action='read',form='unformatted')
call openbf(unit_in,'IN',unit_in)
call datelen(10)
  num_message=0
  msg_report: do while (ireadmg(unit_in,msgtype,idate) == 0)
    num_message=num_message+1
    num_subset = 0
    write(*,'(I10,I4,a10)') idate,num_message,msgtype
    sb_report: do while (ireadsb(unit_in) == 0)
      num_subset = num_subset+1
      call ufbint(unit_in,hdr,3,1,iret,hdstr)
      call ufbint(unit_in,obs,1,10,iret,obstr)
      write(*,'(2I5,4f8.1)') num_subset,iret,hdr,obs(1,1)
    enddo sb_report
  enddo msg_report
  call closbf(unit_in)

end program

```

Decode

```

program bufr_decode_sample
!
! example of reading observations from bufr
!
implicit none

character(80):: hdstr='XOB YOB DHR'
character(80):: obstr='TOB'
real(8) :: hdr(3),obs(1,10)

integer :: ireadmg,ireadsb
character(8) msgtype
integer :: unit_in=10
integer :: idate,iret,num_message,num_subset

! decode
open(unit_in,file='sample.bufr',action='read',form='unformatted')
call openbf(unit_in,'IN',unit_in)
call datelen(10)
num_message=0
msg_report: do while (ireadmg(unit_in,msgtype,idate) == 0)
num_message=num_message+1
num_subset = 0
write*,'(I10,I4,a10)' idate,num_message,msgtype
sb_report: do while (ireadsb(unit_in) == 0)
num_subset = num_subset+1
call ufbint(unit_in,hdr,3,1 ,iret,hdstr)
call ufbint(unit_in,obs,1,10,iret,obstr)
write*,'(2I5,4f8.1)' num_subset,iret,hdr,obs(1,1)
enddo sb_report
enddo msg_report
call closbf(unit_in)

end program

```

Message and data subset

IRET = IREADMG (LUBFR, CSUBSET, IDATE)

Purpose: reads the next BUFR message from the given BUFR file pointed to by *LUBFR*.

IRET = IREADSB (LUBFR)

Purpose: reads a subset from that internal message.

UFBINT (LUBFR, R8ARR, MXMN, MXLV, iret, CMNSTR)

Purpose: writes or reads specified values to or from the current BUFR data subset within the internal arrays.

```

program bufr_decode_sample
!
! example of reading observations from bufr
!
implicit none

character(80):: hdstr='XOB YOB DHR'
character(80):: obstr='TOB'
real(8) :: hdr(3),obs(1,10)

integer :: ireadmg,ireadsb
character(8) msgtype
integer :: unit_in=10
integer :: idate,iret,num_message,num_subset

! decode
open(unit_in,file='sample.bufr',action='read',form='unformatted')
call openbf(unit_in,'IN',unit_in)
call datelen(10)
num_message=0
msg_report: do while (ireadmg(unit_in,msgtype,idate) == 0)
num_message=num_message+1
num_subset = 0
write(*,'(I10,I4,a10)') idate,num_message,msgtype
sb_report: do while (ireadsb(unit_in) == 0)
num_subset = num_subset+1
call ufbint(unit_in,hdr,3,1 ,iret,hdstr)
call ufbint(unit_in,obs,1,10,iret,obstr)
write(*,'(2I5,4F8.1)') num_subset,iret,hdr,obs(1,1)
enddo sb_report
enddo msg_report
call closbf(unit_in)

end program

```

Mnemonics and data array

hdstr= XOB YOB DHR obstr= TOB

Message type: ADPUPA

Section 3	Section 4
XOB YOB DHR TOB	75. 30. -0.1 17.51



hdr = (1)75. (2)30. (3)-0.1 obs(1)= 17.51



Append to BUFR file

- Append the observation to existing BUFR



Encode

```
program bufr_encode_sample
!  
! example of writing one value into a bufr file  
!  
implicit none  
  
character(80):: hdrstr='XOB YOB DHR'  
character(80):: obstr='TOB'  
real(8) :: hdr(3),obs(1,1)  
  
character(8) msgtype  
integer :: unit_out=10,unit_table=20  
integer :: idate,iret  
  
! set data values  
hdr(1)=75.;hdr(2)=30.;hdr(3)=-0.1  
obs(1,1)=17.15  
idate=2008120100 ! YYYYMMDDHH  
msgtype='ADPUPA' ! upper-air reports  
  
! encode  
open(unit_table,file='prepobs_prep.bufrtable')  
open(unit_out,file='sample.bufr',action='write' &  
      ,form='unformatted')  
call datelen(10)  
call openbf(unit_out,'OUT',unit_table)  
  call openmb(unit_out, msgtype,idate)  
  call ufbint(unit_out,hdr,3,1,iret,hdrstr)  
  call ufbint(unit_out,obs,1,1,iret,obstr)  
  call writsb(unit_out)  
  call closmg(unit_out)  
  call closbf(unit_out)  
  
end program
```

Append

```
program bufr_append_sample  
!  
!sample of appending one observation into bufr file  
implicit none  
character(80):: hdrstr='XOB YOB DHR'  
character(80):: obstr='TOB'  
real(8) :: hdr(3),obs(1,1)  
  
character(8) msgtype  
integer :: unit_out=10,unit_table=20  
integer :: idate,iret  
  
! set data values  
hdr(1)=85.0;hdr(2)=50.0;hdr(3)=0.2  
obs(1,1)=15.0  
idate=2008120101 ! YYYYMMDDHH  
msgtype='ADPSFC' ! surface land reports  
  
! get bufr table from existing bufr file  
open(unit_table,file='prepobs_prep_app.bufrtable')  
open(unit_out,file='sample.bufr',status='old',form='unformatted')  
call openbf(unit_out,'IN',unit_out)  
call dxdump(unit_out,unit_table)  
call closbf(unit_out)  
  
! append  
open(unit_out,file='sample.bufr',status='old',form='unformatted')  
call datelen(10)  
call openbf(unit_out,'APN',unit_table)  
  call openmb(unit_out, msgtype,idate)  
  call ufbint(unit_out,hdr,3,1,iret,hdrstr)  
  call ufbint(unit_out,obs,1,1,iret,obstr)  
  call writsb(unit_out)  
  call closmg(unit_out)  
  call closbf(unit_out)  
  
end program
```

BUFR table

```
program bufr_append_sample
!
! sample of appending one observation into bufr file
implicit none
character(80):: hdstr='XOB YOB DHR'
character(80):: obstr='TOB'
real(8) :: hdr(3),obs(1,1)

character(8) msgtype
integer :: unit_out=10,unit_table=20
integer :: idate,iret

! set data values
hdr(1)=85.0;hdr(2)=50.0;hdr(3)=0.2
obs(1,1)=15.0
idate=2008120101 ! YYYYMMDDHH
msgtype='ADPSFC' ! surface land reports

! get bufr table from existing bufr file
open(unit_table,file='prepobs_prep_app.bufrtable')
open(unit_out,file='sample.bufr',status='old',form='unformatted')
call openbf(unit_out,'IN',unit_out)
call dxdump(unit_out,unit_table)
call closbf(unit_out)

! append
open(unit_out,file='sample.bufr',status='old',form='unformatted')
call datelen(10)
call openbf(unit_out,'APN',unit_table)
call openmb(unit_out, msgtype,idate)
call ufbint(unit_out,hdr,3,1,iret,hdstr)
call ufbint(unit_out,obs,1,1,iret,obstr)
call writsb(unit_out)
call closmg(unit_out)
call closbf(unit_out)
end program
```

Appending requires the report structure (BUFR table) of the new data subset fits the report structure in the existing file. So we use the following subroutine to retrieve BUFR table from the existing BUFR file:

DXDUMP (LUBFR, LDXOT)

Purpose: reads the embedded tables information in the BUFR file and write it out to the ASCII format file.


```

program bufr_append_sample
! sample of appending one observation into bufr file
implicit none
character(80):: hdstr='XOB YOB DHR'
character(80):: obstr='TOB'
real(8) :: hdr(3),obs(1,1)

character(8) msgtype
integer :: unit_out=10,unit_table=20
integer :: idate,iret

! set data values
hdr(1)=85.0;hdr(2)=50.0;hdr(3)=0.2
obs(1,1)=15.0
idate=2008120101 ! YYYYMMDDHH
msgtype='ADPSFC' ! surface land reports

! get bufr table from existing bufr file
open(unit_table,file='prepobs_prep_app.bufrtable')
open(unit_out,file='sample.bufr',status='old',form='unformatted')
call openbf(unit_out,'IN',unit_out)
call dxdump(unit_out,unit_table)
call closbf(unit_out)

! append
open(unit_out,file='sample.bufr',status='old',form='unformatted')
call datelen(10)
call openbf(unit_out,'APN',unit_table)
call openmb(unit_out, msgtype,idate)
call ufbint(unit_out,hdr,3,1,iret,hdstr)
call ufbint(unit_out,obs,1,1,iret,obstr)
call writsb(unit_out)
call closmq(unit_out)
call closbf(unit_out)
end program

```

Write the new message type and data subset to the existing BUFR file.



Test results (Basic Practice case 0):

./bufr_encode_sample.exe

This generates a new bufr file *sample.bufr*

./bufr_decode_sample.exe

This reads one observation from *sample.bufr*, and write result on screen:

```
2008120100    1  ADPUPA
              1    1    75.0    30.0    -0.1    17.1
```

./bufr_append_sample.exe

Now, append a new observation to *sample.bufr*.

./decode_sample.exe

Read *sample.bufr* and show two observations in it:

```
2008120100    1  ADPUPA
              1    1    75.0    30.0    -0.1    17.1
2008120101    2  ADPSFC
              1    1    85.0    50.0     0.2    15.0
```

Examples for GSI BUFR/PrepBUFR files

Code name	Illustrated process function
<i>prepbufr_decode_all.f90</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • read BUFR table from an existing prepbufr file • read all observation information used by GSI analysis from an existing prepbufr file.
<i>prepbufr_encode_surface.f90</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • write a surface observation into a new prepbufr file
<i>prepbufr_encode_upperair.f90</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • write a upper air observation into a new prepbufr file
<i>prepbufr_append_upperair.f90</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • read BUFR table from an existing prepbufr file • append a upper air observation into an existing prepbufr file
<i>prepbufr_append_surface.f90</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • read BUFR table from an existing prepbufr file • append a surface observation into an existing prepbufr file.
<i>prepbufr_append_retrieve.f90</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • read BUFR table from an existing prepbufr file • append retrieved data into an existing prepbufr file.
<i>bufr_decode_radiance.f90</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • read BUFR table from an existing radiance bufr file • read radiance data from an existing radiance bufr file.

- These examples have **the same structure and call the same BUFRLIB subroutines/functions** as those three simple examples
- The only **difference is the mnemonic lists** used in these examples are much longer

MNEMONIC in prepbuf_r_decode_all.f90

In GSI, *read_prepbuf_r.f90* reads PrepBUFR file. The following mnemonic lists come from *read_prepbuf_r.f90* and are used in PrepBUFR sample code.

```
integer, parameter :: mxmn=35, mxlv=250
character(80):: hdstr='SID XOB YOB DHR TYP ELV SAID T29'
character(80):: obstr='POB QOB TOB ZOB UOB VOB PWO CAT PRSS'
character(80):: qcstr='PQM QQM TQM ZQM WQM NUL PWQ      '
character(80):: oestr='POE QOE TOE NUL WOE NUL PWE      '
real(8)  ::  hdr(mxmn), obs(mxmn,mxlv), qcf(mxmn,mxlv), oer(mxmn,mxlv)
```

```
call ufbint(unit_in, hdr, mxmn, 1, iret, hdstr)
call ufbint(unit_in, obs, mxmn, mxlv, iret, obstr)
call ufbint(unit_in, oer, mxmn, mxlv, iret, oestr)
call ufbint(unit_in, qcf, mxmn, mxlv, iret, qcstr)
```

NCEP DX BUFR table

- DX BUFR table structure and examples
- DX BUFR table application examples
- Detailed information is in BUFR user guide.

DX BUFR table

- Define report structures in any kind of BUFR/ PrepBUFR files.
- Report structures for various types of observations are defined by “NCEP BUFR Tables” when using the NCEP BUFRLIB software.
- In NCEP BUFR files, the BUFR tables are embedded at the top of the files.
- Excellent reference for NCEP BUFR Tables:
<http://www.nco.ncep.noaa.gov/sib/decoders/BUFRLIB/toc/dfbftab/>

DX BUFR table: structure example

```

----- USER DEFINITIONS FOR TABLE-A TABLE-B TABLE D -----
MNEMONIC | NUMBER | DESCRIPTION
-----|-----|-----
ADPUPA   | A48102 | UPPER-AIR (RAOB, PIBAL, RECCO, DROPS) REPORTS
ADPSFC   | A48109 | SURFACE LAND (SYNOPTIC, METAR) REPORTS

HEADR    | 348001 | REPORT HEADER SEQUENCE
PRSLEVEL | 348002 | PRESSURE LEVEL SEQUENCE (ALL TYPES EXCEPT GOESND)
T__INFO  | 348143 | TEMPERATURE INFORMATION

SID      | 001194 | STATION IDENTIFICATION
DHR      | 004215 | OBSERVATION TIME MINUS CYCLE TIME
YOB      | 005002 | LATITUDE
XOB      | 006240 | LONGITUDE

-----
MNEMONIC | SEQUENCE
-----|-----
ADPUPA   | HEADR SIRC {PRSLEVEL} <SST_INFO> <PREWXSEQ> {CLOUDSEQ}
ADPUPA   | <CLOU2SEQ> <SWINDSEQ> <AFIC_SEQ> <TURB3SEQ>

HEADR    | SID XOB YOB DHR ELV TYP T29 TSB ITP SQN PROCN RPT
HEADR    | TCOR <RSRD_SEQ>

-----
MNEMONIC | SCAL | REFERENCE | BIT | UNITS
-----|-----|-----|-----|-----
SID      | 0    | 0          | 64  | CCITT IA5
DHR      | 5    | -2400000  | 23  | HOURS
YOB      | 2    | -9000     | 15  | DEG N
XOB      | 2    | -18000    | 16  | DEG E
ELV      | 0    | -1000     | 17  | METER
TYP      | 0    | 0          | 10  | CODE TABLE
    
```

Section 1:
 Table A mnemonic
 Table D mnemonic
 Table B mnemonic

Section 2:
 Table A and Table D
 sequences

Section 3:
 Table B mnemonics defined
 in term of scale, reference
 value, bit width, and unit.



DX BUFR table example (GSI util/bufr_tools/prepobs_prep.bufrtable)

- **Section 1:** all Table A, B and D mnemonics are declared, assigned a unique FXY number, and given a short description.

Table A mnemonic:
Refer to report types

MNEMONIC	NUMBER	DESCRIPTION
ADPUPA	A48102	UPPER-AIR (RAOB, PIBAL, RECCO, DROPS) REPORTS

Table B mnemonic:
Refer to basic data values

MNEMONIC	NUMBER	DESCRIPTION
SID	001194	STATION IDENTIFICATI
XOB	006240	LONGITUDE
YOB	005002	LATITUDE
DHR	004215	OBSERVATION TIME MINUS CYCLE TI

Table D mnemonic:
Constituents of a particular
Table A mnemonic.

MNEMONIC	NUMBER	DESCRIPTION
HEADR	348001	REPORT HEADER SEQUENCE
PRSLEVEL	348002	PRESSURE LEVEL SEQUENCE (ALL TYPES EXCEPT "GOESND", "AIRCFT" and "AIRCAR")

DX BUFR table example (GSI util/bufr_tools/prepobs_prep.bufrtable)

• Section 2

Table A, D mnemonic making up sequence

MNEMONIC	SEQUENCE
ADPUPA	HEADR SIRC {PRSLEVEL} <SST_INFO> <PREWXSEQ> {CLOUDSEQ}
ADPUPA	<CLOU2SEQ> <SWINDSEQ> <AFIC_SEQ> <TURB3SEQ>
HEADR	SID XOB YOB DHR ELV TYP T29 TSB ITP SQN PROCN RPT
HEADR	TCOR <RSRD_SEQ>
PRSLEVEL	CAT <P___INFO> <Q___INFO> <T___INFO> <Z___INFO> <W___INFO>
PRSLEVEL	<DRFTINFO>

Replication:

a way to efficiently store data in BUFR format

- <> Indicates that the enclosed mnemonic is replicated using 1-bit delayed replication (either 0 or 1 replications). e.g. <SST_INFO>
- {}/[] Indicates that the enclosed mnemonic is replicated using 8-bit delayed replication (between 0 and 255 replications) e.g. {PRSLEVEL}
- () Indicates that the enclosed mnemonic is replicated using 16-bit delayed replication (between 0 and 65535 replications)
- " "n Indicates that the enclosed mnemonic is replicated using regular (non-delayed) replication, with a fixed replication factor of n. e.g. "QCPRMS"3

DX BUFR table example (GSI util/bufr_tools/prepobs_prep.bufrtable)

- Section 3

**Table B mnemonic
scale, reference,
bit, unit**

MNEMONIC	SCAL	REFERENCE	BIT	UNITS
SID	0	0	64	CCITT IA5
XOB	2	-18000	16	DEG E
YOB	2	-9000	15	DEG N
DHR	3	-24000	16	HOURS
ELV	0	-1000	17	METER
TYP	0	0	9	CODE TABL

Units:

CCITT IA5: character

CODE TABL: go to http://www.emc.ncep.noaa.gov/mmb/data_processing/prepbufr.doc/table_1.htm, search that Table B mnemonic, click CODE TABL link and see the code.

DX BUFR table application examples: understand SID

```
character(80):: hdstr='SID XOB YOY DHR TYP ELV SAID T29'
```

```

----- USER DEFINITIONS FOR TABLE-A TABLE-B TABLE D -----
|-----|-----|-----|
| MNEMONIC | NUMBER | DESCRIPTION | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| ADPUPA   | A48102 | UPPER-AIR (RAOB, PIBAL, RECCO, DROPS) REPORTS |
|-----|-----|-----|
| HEADR    | 348001 | REPORT HEADER SEQUENCE |
| PRSLEVEL | 348002 | PRESSURE LEVEL SEQUENCE (ALL TYPES EXCEPT GOESND) |
| T__EVENT | 348173 | TEMPERATURE EVENT SEQUENCE |
|-----|-----|-----|
| SID    | 001194 | STATION IDENTIFICATION |
| TOB      | 012245 | TEMPERATURE OBSERVATION |
| TQM      | 012246 | TEMPERATURE (QUALITY) MARKER |
|-----|-----|-----|
| MNEMONIC | SEQUENCE |
|-----|-----|
| ADPUPA   | HEADR SIRC {PRSLEVEL} <SST_INFO> <PREWXSEQ> {CLOUDSEQ} |
|-----|-----|
| HEADR    | SID XOB YOY DHR ELV TYP T29 TSB ITP SQN PROCN RPT |
| HEADR    | TCOR <RSRD_SEQ> |
|-----|-----|
| PRSLEVEL | CAT <P__INFO> <Q__INFO> <T__INFO> <Z__INFO> <W__INFO> |
| PRSLEVEL | <DRFTINFO> |
|-----|-----|
| T__EVENT | TOB TQM TPC TRC |
|-----|-----|
| MNEMONIC | SCAL | REFERENCE | BIT | UNITS |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| SID    | 0 | 0 | 64 | CCITT IA5 |
| TOB      | 1 | -2732 | 14 | DEG C |
| TQM      | 0 | 0 | 5 | CODE TABLE |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|

```

DX BUFR table application examples: understand PQM

```
character(80):: qcstr='PQM QQM TQM ZQM WQM NUL PWQ      '
```

```

----- USER DEFINITIONS FOR TABLE-A TABLE-B TABLE D -----
|-----|
| MNEMONIC | NUMBER | DESCRIPTION | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| ADPUPA   | A48102 | UPPER-AIR (RAOB, PIBAL, RECCO, DROPS) REPORTS |
| HEADR    | 348001 | REPORT HEADER SEQUENCE |
| PRSLEVEL | 348002 | PRESSURE LEVEL SEQUENCE (ALL TYPES EXCEPT GOESND) |
| T__EVENT | 348173 | TEMPERATURE EVENT SEQUENCE |
|-----|-----|-----|
| SID      | 001194 | STATION IDENTIFICATION |
| POB      | 007245 | PRESSURE OBSERVATION |
| PQM    | 007246 | PRESSURE (QUALITY) MARKER |
|-----|-----|-----|
| MNEMONIC | SEQUENCE |
|-----|-----|
| ADPUPA   | HEADR  SIRC  {PRSLEVEL}  <SST_INFO>  <PREWXSEQ>  {CLOUDSEQ} |
| HEADR    | SID  XOB  YOB  DHR  ELV  TYP  T29  TSB  ITP  SQN  PROCN  RPT |
| HEADR    | TCOR  <RSRD_SEQ> |
|-----|-----|
| PRSLEVEL | CAT  <P__INFO>  <Q__INFO>  <T__INFO>  <Z__INFO>  <W__INFO> |
| PRSLEVEL | <DRFTINFO> |
|-----|-----|
| P__EVENT | POB  PQM  PPC  PRC |
|-----|-----|
| MNEMONIC | SCAL | REFERENCE | BIT | UNITS |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| SID      | 0 | 0 | 64 | CCITT IA5 |
| POB      | 1 | 0 | 14 | MB |
| PQM    | 0 | 0 | 5 | CODE TABLE |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|

```

DX BUFR table application examples: flag and code table

http://www.emc.ncep.noaa.gov/mmb/data_processing/prepbufr.doc/table_1.htm

MNEMONIC	NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	SCALE	REFERENCE	BITS	UNITS
POB	007245	PRESSURE OBSERVATION	1	0	14	MB
PQM	007246	PRESSURE (QUALITY) MARKER	0	0	5	CODE TABLE

Find: Match case Reached end of page, continued from t

Table 7. Code table for observation quality markers (last revised 1/22/2008).

Quality Marker	Definition
0	All steps: Keep (always assimilate). Applies to pressure, height, wind, temperature, specific humidity, rainfall rate, precipitable water and cloud top pressure.
1	All steps: Good. Applies to pressure, height, wind, temperature, specific humidity, rainfall rate, precipitable water and cloud top pressure.
2	All steps: Neutral or not checked (default). Applies to pressure, height, wind, temperature, specific humidity, rainfall rate, precipitable water and cloud top pressure.
3	All steps: Suspect. Applies to pressure, height, wind, temperature, specific humidity, rainfall rate, precipitable water and cloud top pressure.
4-15	All steps: Rejected (don't assimilate), as defined below (see % below table):
4	Step OIQC : An observation with pre-existing quality marker 0 (keep) is flagged. Applies to pressure, height, wind, temperature, specific humidity and precipitable water.
5	Step OIQC : An observation with pre-existing quality marker 1 (good) is flagged. Applies to pressure, height, wind,

Find: Match case Reached end of page, continued from

DX BUFR table application examples: message content

```
msg_report: do while (ireadmg(unit_in,subset,ide) == 0)
subset = ADPUPA, ADPSFC, ...
```

```

----- USER DEFINITIONS FOR TABLE-A TABLE-B TABLE D -----
|-----|-----|-----|
| MNEMONIC | NUMBER | DESCRIPTION | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| ADPUPA | A48102 | UPPER-AIR (RAOB, PIBAL, RECCO, DROPS) REPORTS |
|-----|-----|-----|
| HEADR | 348001 | REPORT HEADER SEQUENCE |
| PRSLEVEL | 348002 | PRESSURE LEVEL SEQUENCE (ALL TYPES EXCEPT GOESND) |
| T__EVENT | 348173 | TEMPERATURE EVENT SEQUENCE |
|-----|-----|-----|
| SID | 001194 | STATION IDENTIFICATION |
| TOB | 012245 | TEMPERATURE OBSERVATION |
| TQM | 012246 | TEMPERATURE (QUALITY) MARKER |
|-----|-----|-----|
| MNEMONIC | SEQUENCE |
|-----|-----|
| ADPUPA | HEADR SIRC {PRSLEVEL} <SST_INFO> <PREWXSEQ> {CLOUDSEQ} |
| HEADR | SID XOB YOB DHR ELV TYP T29 TSB ITP SQN PROCN RPT |
| HEADR | TCOR <RSRD_SEQ> |
| PRSLEVEL | CAT <P__INFO> <Q__INFO> <T__INFO> <Z__INFO> <W__INFO> |
| PRSLEVEL | <DRFTINFO> |
|-----|-----|
| MNEMONIC | SCAL | REFERENCE | BIT | UNITS |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| SID | 0 | 0 | 64 | CCITT IA5 |
| TOB | 1 | -2732 | 14 | DEG C |
| TQM | 0 | 0 | 5 | CODE TABLE |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|

```

DX BUFR table example: expand ADPUPA

MNEMONIC	SEQUENCE
ADPUPA	HEADR SIRC {PRSLEVEL} <SST_INFO> <PREWXSEQ> {CLOUDSEQ}
ADPUPA	<CLOU2SEQ> <SWINDSEQ> <AFIC_SEQ> <TURB3SEQ>
HEADR	SID XOB YOB DHR ELV TYP T29 TSB ITP SQN
HEADR	PROCN RPT TCOR <RSRD_SEQ>
PRSLEVEL	CAT <P__INFO> <Q__INFO> <T__INFO> <Z__INFO> <W__INFO>
PRSLEVEL	<DRFTINFO>
P__INFO	[P_EVENT] <P_BACKG> <P_POSTP>
Q__INFO	[Q_EVENT] TDO <Q_BACKG> <Q_POSTP>
T__INFO	[T_EVENT] TVO <T_BACKG> <T_POSTP>
Z__INFO	[Z_EVENT] <Z_BACKG> <Z_POSTP>
P_EVENT	POB PQM PPC PRC
Q_EVENT	QOB QQM QPC QRC
T_EVENT	TOB TQM TPC TRC
Z_EVENT	ZOB ZQM ZPC ZRC
P_BACKG	POE PFC <PFC_MSQ>
Q_BACKG	QOE QFC <QFC_MSQ>
T_BACKG	TOE TFC <TFC_MSQ>
Z_BACKG	ZOE ZFC <ZFC_MSQ>
P_POSTP	PAN <PCLIMATO> POETU PVWTG PVWTA
Q_POSTP	QAN <QCLIMATO> QOETU QVWTG QVWTA ESBK
T_POSTP	TAN <TCLIMATO> TOETU TVWTG TVWTA
Z_POSTP	ZAN <ZCLIMATO>

It is always a good idea to fully expand all the sequences for Table A mnemonic, which help you easily understand exactly what is contained within the report.



Reference

- <http://www.dtcenter.org/com-GSI/BUFR/docs/index.php>
 - BUFR User's Guide version 1.0: [[pdf \(1M\)](#)], last update: Jan. 13, 2012];

Questions?

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