

# BUFR/PrepBUFR File Processing

Ruifang Li\* and Ming Hu\*\*

\*NCAR/MMM

\*\*Developmental Testbed Center

# Topics Covered

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- Basic actions and steps of BUFR file processing
- Basic structure of BUFR/PrepBUFR files
- Community tools for BUFR/PrepBUFR users
  - 10 examples are provided in the community GSI release version 3 package
  - Detailed instructions to these examples are in the Chapter 2 of the BUFR User's Guide

# BUFR Processing Actions and Steps

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Actions and steps

# BUFR Processing Actions

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- **Encode:**
  - **Write** the observations into a new BUFR file
  - need to follow WMO defined BUFR format to save the data
- **Decode:**
  - **Read** the observations from a BUFR file
- **Append:**
  - **Add** the observations to the end of an existing BUFR file

# BUFR Encoding Steps

## Step 1: Write the Fortran Code “*encode\_temperature.f90*”

```
Line 01:    program bufr_encode_temperature

Line 02:    implicit none
Line 03:    real(8) :: obs
Line 04:    integer :: iret

Line 05:    obs=10.15

Line 06:! encode
Line 07:    open(20,file='bufrtable.txt')
Line 08:    open(10,file='t.bufr',action='write',form='unformatted')
Line 09:    call openbf(10,'OUT',20)
Line 10:    call openmb(10, 'ADPUPA', 08120100)
Line 11:    call ufbint(10,obs,1,1,iret,'TOB')
Line 12:    call writsb(10)
Line 13:    call closmg(10)
Line 14:    call closbf(10)

Line 15:    end program
```

## Step 2: Compile executable “*encodeT.exe*”

```
$ ifort -c encode_temperature.f90
```

```
$ ifort -o encodeT.exe encode_temperature.o -L../lib -libufr_i4r8
```

**Note:** Need BUFR library under GSI directory `./lib/libbufr_i4r8.a`  
Use same compiler to compile BUFR lib and *encode\_temperature.f90*

# BUFR Encoding Steps (Continue)

## Step 3: Prepare BUFR Table file "*bufrtable.txt*"

```
.-----  
| -----      USER DEFINITIONS FOR TABLE-A TABLE-B TABLE D      -----  
|-----  
| MNEMONIC | NUMBER | DESCRIPTION  
|-----|-----|-----  
| ADPUPA   | A48102 | UPPER-AIR (RAOB, PIBAL, RECCO, DROPS) REPORTS  
| TOB      | 012245 | TEMPERATURE OBSERVATION  
|          |        |  
|-----  
| MNEMONIC | SEQUENCE  
|-----|-----  
| ADPUPA   | TOB  
|          |  
|-----  
| MNEMONIC | SCAL | REFERENCE | BIT | UNITS |-----  
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----  
| TOB      | 1    | -2732    | 14 | DEG C |-----  
`-----`
```

Step 4: Run ***encodeT.exe*** to generate BUFR file  
"*t.bufr*", BUFR Table is also written into *t.bufr*

```
$ encodeT.exe
```

# BUFR Decoding Steps

## Step 1: Write the Fortran Code “*decode\_temperature.f90*”

```
Line 01:    program bufr_decode_temperature
Line 02:    implicit none
Line 03:    real(8) :: obs
Line 04:    character(8) subset
Line 05:    integer :: idate, iret

Line 06: ! decode
Line 07:    open(10, file=' t.bufr', action='read', form='unformatted')
Line 08:    call openbf(10, 'IN', 10)
Line 09:    call readmg(10, subset, idate, iret)
Line 10:    call ireadsb(10, iret)
Line 11:    call ufbint(10, obs, 1, 10, iret, 'TOB')
Line 12:    write(*, *) obs
Line 13:    call closbf(10)

Line 14:    end program
```

## Step 2: Compile executable “*decodeT.exe*”

```
$ ifort -c decode_temperature.f90
$ ifort -o decodeT.exe decode_temperature.o -L../lib -lbufr_i4r8
```

## Step 3: Run *decodeT.exe* to read temperature from BUFR file “*t.bufr*”

```
$ decodeT.exe
```

10.100000000000000

# BUFR/PrepBUFR File Structure

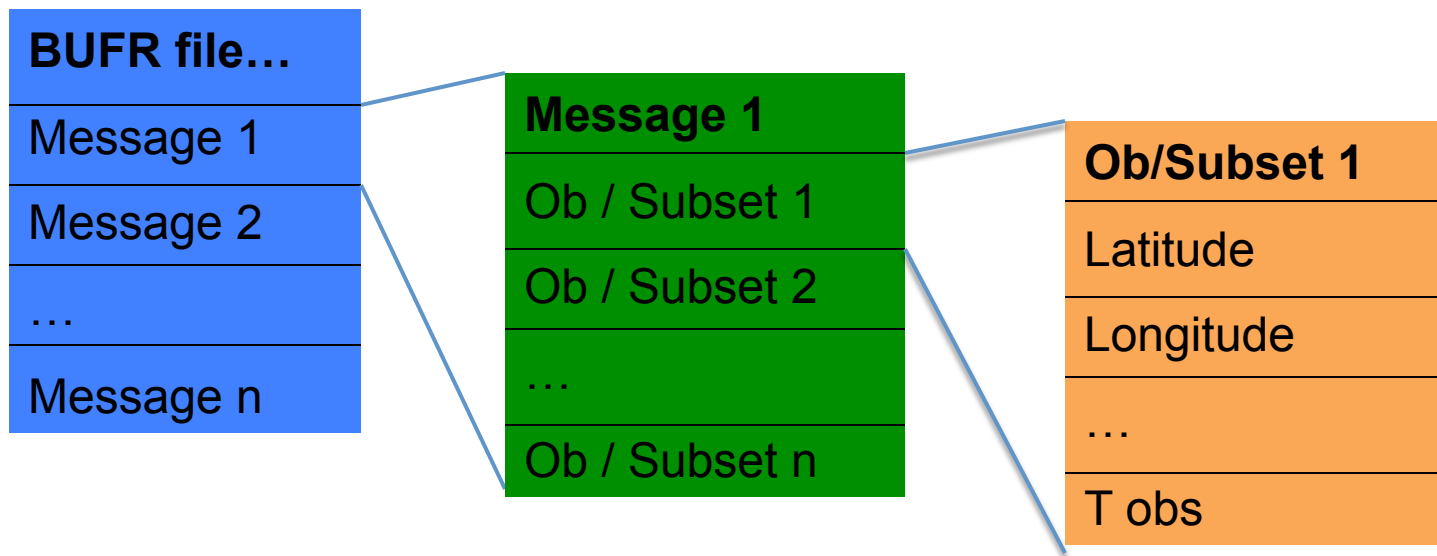
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# BUFR/PrepBUFR file structure

A bit of terminology:

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



# 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									

# BUFR/PrepBUFR Processing Tools

---

- Encode, decode and append a simple BUFR file
- Encode, decode and append GSI conventional PrepBUFR files
- Decode GSI radiance BUFR files
- All tools are in GSI util/bufr\_tools
- Detailed information for these tools are in BUFR user guide chapter 2.

# NCEP BUFRLIB

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- All tools are based on NCEP BUFRLIB
- BUFRLIB contains around 250 Fortran & C routines. No more than 10 to 20 of them are directly called by a user. The rest are used for underlying tasks.
- Excellent BUFRLIB on-line documentation from:

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

- The BUFRLIB requires BUFR (or **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 subroutines 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/>

# 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):: 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

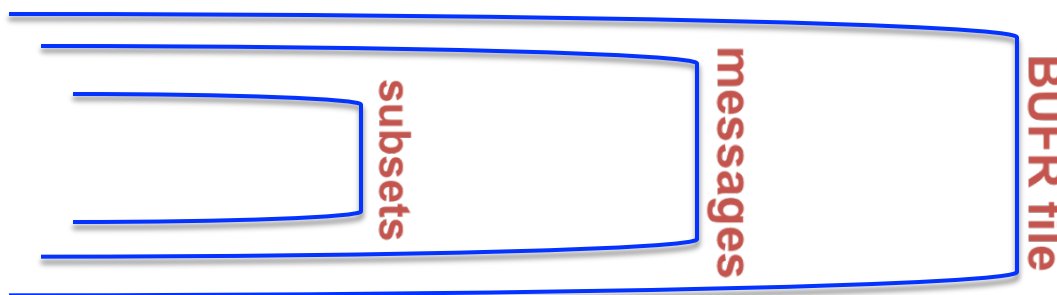
```

"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



# BUFRLIB

```
program bufr_encode_sample (34 Lines)
! 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

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):: 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

```

## DX BUFR table

Fortran 'open' command to open the BUFR tables file.  
(it is under GSI directory ./util/  
bufr\_tools)

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.





```

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

```

```

character(80):: hdsr='XOB YOB DHR'
character(80):: ostr='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,hdsr)
call ufbint(unit_out,obs,1,1,iret,ostr)
call writsb(unit_out)
call closmg(unit_out)
call closbf(unit_out)

```

```

end program

```

## Define mnemonics

DX BUFR table includes Table A, B, D mnemonic.

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

**Table A mnemonic:** refer to report types.

**ADPUPA:** UPPER-AIR (RAOB, PIBAL, RECCO, DROPS) REPORTS

**Table B mnemonics:** refer to basic data values.

XOB: Longitude

YOB: Latitude

DHR: obs time – cycle time

TOB: temperature

## Setup data

Data written to subset.

Array hdr/obstr is associated to mnemonics in string hdsr/obs.

# 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
```

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*.

**Input arguments:**

**LUBFR=INTEGER:** Logical unit for BUFR file

**LUNDX=INTEGER:** Logical unit for BUFR tables

**CIO** = 'IN' or 'OUT' or 'APN'

'IN': reading/decoding BUFR

'OUT': writing/encoding BUFR

'APN': append to existing BUFR

## **CLOSBF ( LUBFR )**

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

**Input arguments:**

**LUBFR=INTEGER:** Logical unit for BUFR file

**Note:** **CLOSBF** actually executes a FORTRAN "CLOSE" on logical unit *LUBFR* before returning.

```
program bufr_encode_sample (34 Lines)
```

```
!
```

```
! example of writing one value into a bufr file  
implicit none
```

```
character(80):: hstr='XOB YOB DHR'  
character(80):: ostr='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,hstr)
```

```
call ufbint(unit_out,obs,1,1,iret,ostr)
```

```
call writsb(unit_out)
```

```
call closmg(unit_out)
```

```
call closbf(unit_out)
```

```
end program
```

## Set 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):: 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

```

# 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.

### **Input arguments:**

**LUBFR=INTEGER:** Logical unit for BUFR file

**CSUBSET=CHAR\*(\*):** Table A mnemonic for type of BUFR message to be opened

**IDATE=INTEGER:** Date-time to be stored within Section 1 of BUFR message

## **CLOSMG ( LUBFR )**

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

### **Input arguments:**

**LUBFR=INTEGER:** Logical unit for 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

```

# 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.

**Input arguments:**

**CMNSTR=CHAR\*(\*):** String of blank-separated mnemonics associated with R8ARR

**MXMN** INTEGER Size of first dimension of R8ARR

**MXLV** INTEGER Size of second dimension of R8ARR OR number of levels of data values to be written to data subset

**Input or output argument:**

**R8ARR(MXMN, MXLV)=REAL\*8**

Data values written/read to/from data subset

**Output argument:**

**iret** = INTEGER Number of levels of data values written to data subset

hdst= XOB	YOB	DHR	obstr= TOB
hdr = (1)75.	(2)30.	(3)-0.1	obs(1)= 17.15

```
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
```

## Data subsets

### **WRITSB ( LUBFR )**

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

**Input argument:**

**LUBFR=INTEGER;** Logical unit for 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='u')
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)= 17.15

Write to bufr file  
sampe.bufr

**Section 3**

XOB YOB DHR TOB

**Section 4**

75. 30. -0.1 17.1

# Decode BUFR file

---

- Read the observation from the 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

```

"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"

```

! 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

```

```

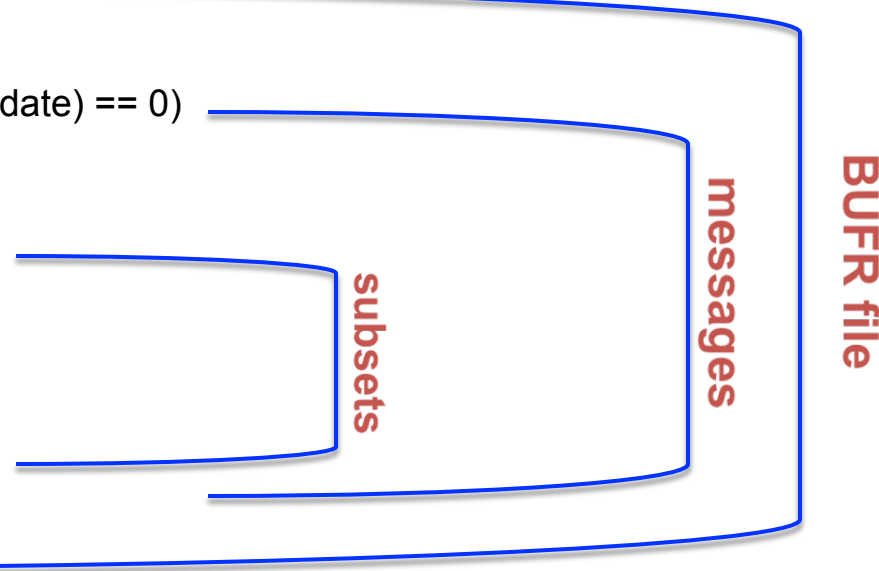
call closbf(unit_in)

```

```

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

**IRET = IREADMG ( LUBFR, CSUBSET, IDATE )**

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

**Input argument:**

**LUBFR=INTEGER:** Logical unit for BUFR file

**Output arguments:**

**CSUBSET=CHAR\*(\*):** Table A mnemonic for BUFR message

**IDATE=INTEGER:** Section 1 date-time for BUFR message

**IRET=INTEGER:** Return code:

0 = normal return

-1 = no more BUFR messages in BUFR file

```

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

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

integer :: ireadm,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 (ireadm(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,hdsr)
    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

```

# Data Subset

**IRET = IREADSB ( LUBFR )**

**Purpose:** reads a subset from that internal message.

**Input argument:**

**LUBFR=INTEGER:** Logical unit for BUFR file

**Output arguments:**

**IRET INTEGER** Return code:

0 = normal return

-1 = no more BUFR data subsets in  
current BUFR message

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

Write subset to hdr, obs array.

**Note:**

**Decode BUFR file:** **MXLV** contains the actual second  
dimension of **R8ARR**.

**Encode BUFR File:** **MXLV** contains the actual number of levels  
of data values that are to be written to the data subset.

# Mnemonics and data array

```

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)

end program

```

hdst= XOB YOB DHR obstr= TOB

Section 3	Section 4
XOB YOB DHR TOB	75. 30. -0.1 17.1

read from bufr  
file sampe.bufr

hdr = (1)75. (2)30. (3)-0.1 obs(1)= 17.1

# Append to BUFR file

---

- Append the observation to an existing BUFR file



```
program bufr_encode_sample
```

## Encode

```
! 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
```

```
program bufr_append_sample
```

## Append

```
! 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):: hdsr='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,hdsr)
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.

**Input arguments:**

**LUBFR:** INTEGER Logical unit for BUFR file

**LDXOT:** INTEGER Logical unit for output BUFR tables file



```

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 closmq(unit_out)
call closbf(unit_out)
end program

```

Write the new 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    30.0
```

# Examples for GSI BUFR/PrepBUFR files

Code name	Illustrated process function
<i>prepbuf_decode_all.f90</i>	! read BUFR table from an existing prepbuf file ! read all observation information used by GSI analysis from an existing prepbuf file.
<i>prepbuf_encode_surface.f90</i>	! write a surface observation into a new prepbuf file
<i>prepbuf_encode_upperair.f90</i>	! write a upper air observation into a new prepbuf file
<i>prepbuf_append_upperair.f90</i>	! read BUFR table from an existing prepbuf file ! append a upper air observation into an existing prepbuf file
<i>prepbuf_append_surface.f90</i>	! read BUFR table from an existing prepbuf file ! append a surface observation into an existing prepbuf file.
<i>prepbuf_append_retrieve.f90</i>	! read BUFR table from an existing prepbuf file ! append retrieved data into an existing prepbuf file.
<i>buf_decode_radiance.f90</i>	! read BUFR table from an existing radiance buf file ! read radiance data from an existing radiance buf file.

- These files 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 files are much longer

# MNEMONIC in prepbufr\_decode\_all.f90

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

```
integer, parameter :: mxmn=35, mxlv=250
character(80):: hdst='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,hdst)
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)
```

# Questions?

[gsi\\_help@ucar.edu](mailto:gsi_help@ucar.edu)