



New “big-data” sources for meteo-climatic community

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Traditional operational meteorology relies on big amount of data, from different simulation models, observation sources and different human-based products. This classical scenario involves large amounts of more or less structured data. Nowadays, connected sensors are becoming ubiquitous and social networks offer valuable real-time geolocalised information. Big data may offer a greater insight and result in better and new products for end-users.

In this context we understand “big data” as data that is too complex to be processed by traditional means in an acceptable way. The complexity comes from the multiple dimensions of data and particularly from Volume, Variety, Veracity or Velocity, the ‘so call four “Vs” of big data.

In this paper we focus on “Variety”. We present some ideas around non-traditional data sources available today or in near future for meteorology and climate community. We analyze different promising data sources as a first step in order to try to incorporate them in the value chain of the climate and meteo business. We present its main characteristics focusing on differences from traditional data sources and we try to imagine in which ways they can be useful for meteo-climatic community and actors. Finally, some conclusions about potential problems associated for its operational use are presented.