The IP3 Data Archive



Michael Allchin

IP3 Data & Information Manager

Aim

To make IP3 data available to the broader scientific community and general public, in a permanent legacy archive, as required under the terms of the funding agreement with CFCAS

Principles

US National Academy of Sciences: 3 pillars of 'data husbandry'

- 1. Integrity
- 2. Access
- 3. Stewardship

Kleppner *et al.* 2009. *Ensuring the Integrity, Accessibility, and Stewardship of Research Data in the Digital Age.* National Academy of Sciences. ISBN 978-0-309-13684-6

Tasks Obtain

Tasks Obtain

Understand

Data Organisation: Good



Data Organisation: Less Good



Tasks

Obtain

Understand

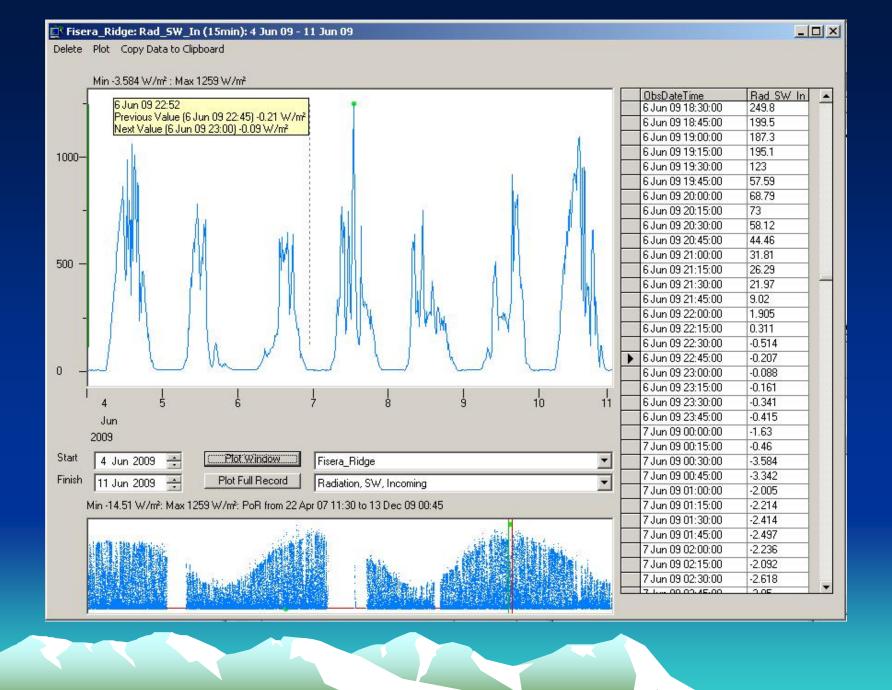
Validate

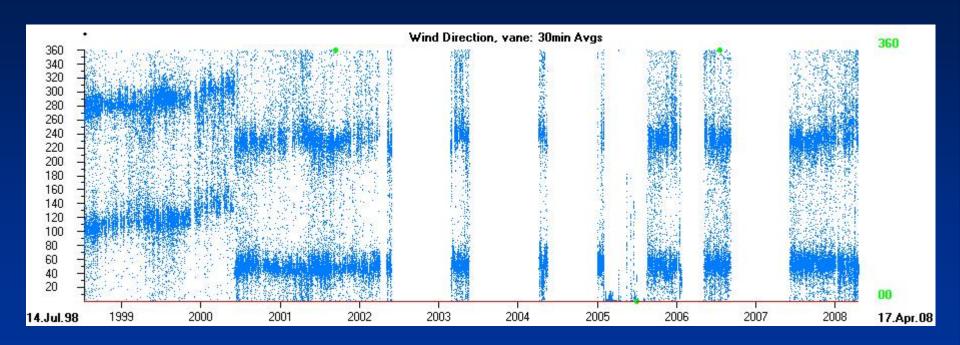
- Build continuous series in Excel (mostly manual)

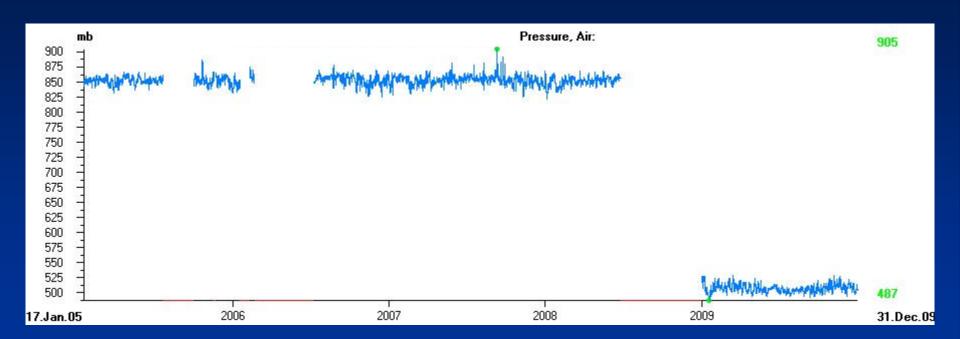
- Build continuous series in Excel (mostly manual)
- First-pass programmatic (+Mk1 Eyeball) validation (check date progression, interval consistency, watch for estimation formulae, etc)

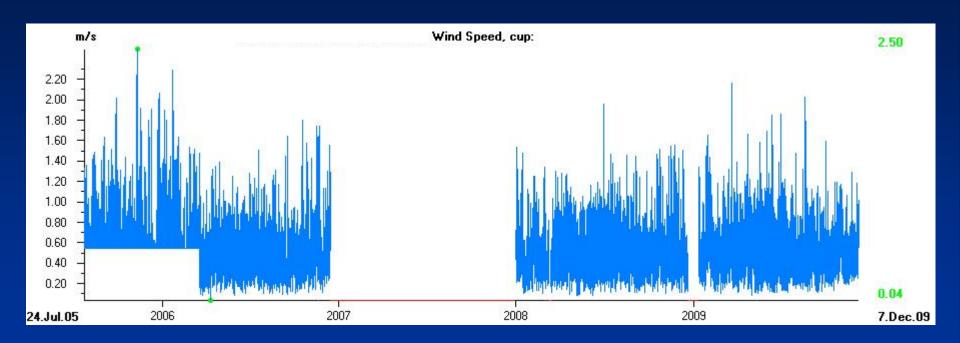
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- Write to data-model in RDBMS (Access MDB)

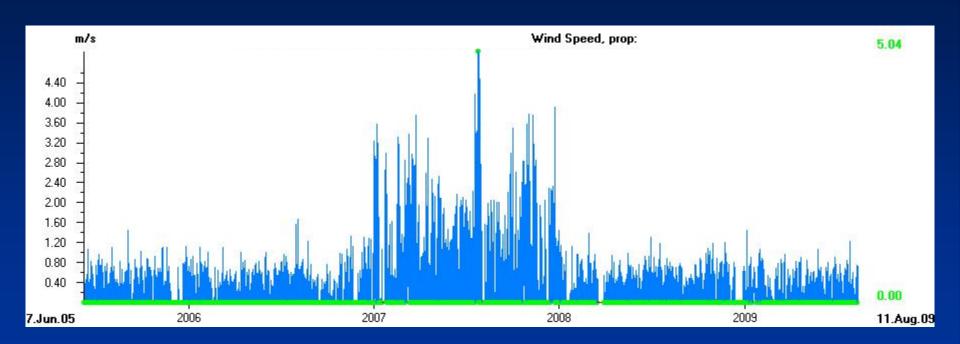
- Build continuous series in Excel (mostly manual)
- First-pass programmatic (+Mk1 Eyeball) validation (check date progression, interval consistency, watch for estimation formulae, etc)
- Write to data-model in RDBMS (Access MDB)
- Plot and check for consistency / problem areas: resolve or delete!

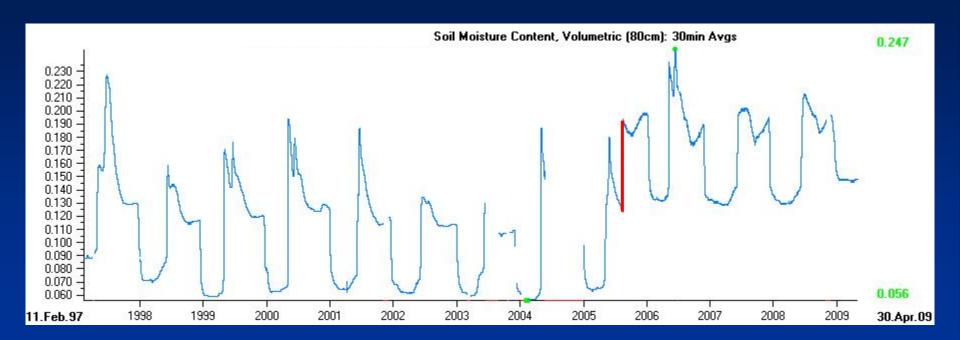












Tasks

Obtain

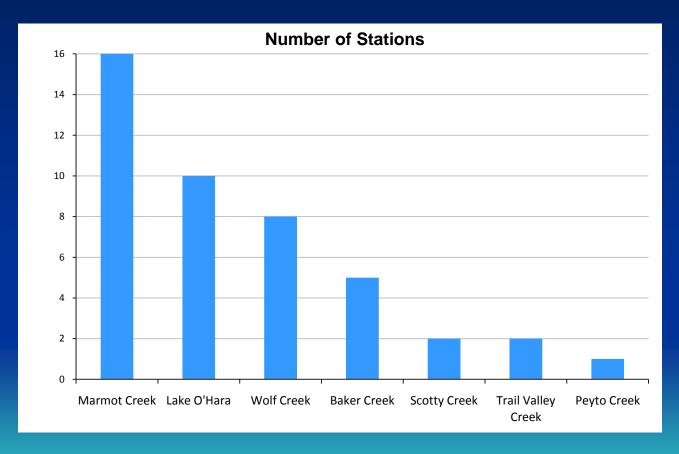
Understand

Validate

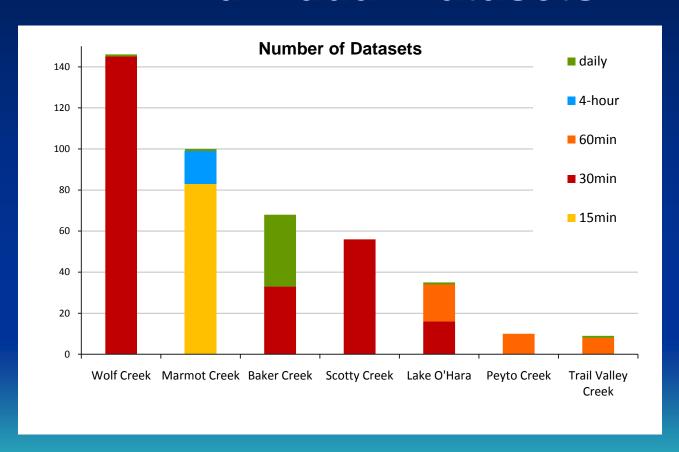
Archive

Vital Statistics

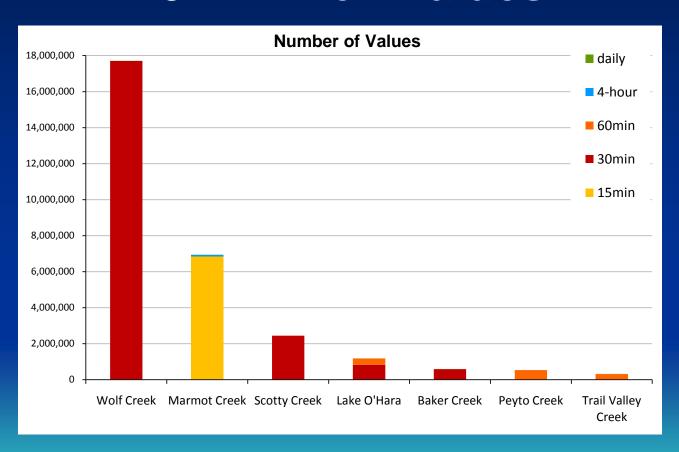
7 Basins: 44 Stations



Vital Statistics 424 Individual Datasets



Vital Statistics 29.7 Million Values



Vital Statistics

LiDAR for principal research basins (~89Gb)

One Major Problem

How to ensure open-ended public accessibility to large volumes of complex and disparate data and associated information, with no ongoing budget or staff establishment?

Solution: Part 1

Go low-tech

write datasets to simply-formatted text files: make available for download from website (hosted indefinitely by U.Sask.)

Demo 1

To include...

- Principal originator ('Basin Lead') and co-authors
- General contact details
- Official citation
- Other funding agencies / contributors / support
- Disclaimer
- 'Licensing' text
- Basin / Station details
- Instrumentation and contextual information (where available)
- Notes
- Flag key

Solution: Part 2

Implement metadatabase on server to support basic searches

Demo 2

Other Routes: 1

Make full database available for download as Access MDB (with schema)

Other Routes: 2

Partner with WE-Hub

cutting-edge environmental data repository: will host clone of IP3 data archive

Lessons

Organise early: adopting standardised procedures and protocols for gathering, validating, storing and transmitting data will streamline generation of high-quality datasets, provide better support for collaborative research, and enhance credibility / defensibility

