

Interactive comment on “HadISD: a quality controlled global synoptic report database for selected variables at long-term stations from 1973–2010” by R. J. H. Dunn et al.

Anonymous Referee #3

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The manuscript describes HadISD, which embodies a thoroughly quality controlled version of the existing Integrated Surface Database (ISD) as held at NOAA’s National Climatic Data Center.

Emphasis is on a sufficient level of sampling and quality for climate applications, and a very careful quality control to retain good quality extreme synoptic observations as much as possible. The quality control involves an impressive number of thorough test, which are described in detail in the manuscript. Data is flagged rather than removed or bias corrected.

The work presented is impressive, and the quality control achieved in HadISD is likely

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to become an important source of information for many climate applications.

The manuscript is very well written. It is very long. However, in my view this is justified since it provides an accurate record of all choices made in the various quality control procedures.

Although I have a few minor remarks, I recommend publication as is.

Minor remarks and questions. ————— Would it be possible to provide information on the total number of observations before and after quality control, and stratified with respect to geophysical quantity?

Are there any plans to incorporate ISD data from 1901 in future releases, despite its limited coverage before 1973?

Are there any plans to estimate bias corrections in future releases?

The summary mentions the availability of HadISD at the www.metoffice.gov.uk/hadobs/hadisd website. Although I found a number of data sets at that location I failed to encounter HadISD. Will that be resolved soon?

Is it true that all input observations, regardless of any quality control, are available in the ‘.all’ dataset?

Interactive comment on Clim. Past Discuss., 8, 1763, 2012.

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