



PROCESSING RAW WEATHER DATA INTO WEATHER FILES ACCEPTABLE FOR BUILDING ENERGY PERFORMANCE SIMULATION TOOLS

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Introduction

- All simulation programs need representation of local climate conditions which are relevant for the buildings modeled
 - DBT, RH, WindSpeed, WindDir, ATMPress, Radiation/CC...
- The “typical” weather data are derived from hourly measurements at specific location (national weather stations/building site etc.) for a long period of time
- Special formats:
 - TMY, TMY2, TMY3
 - WYEC, WYEC2
 - TRY
 - AMY
 - IWECC...



Sources of data availability

- BEPST specific
- Tool developers websites
- WMO
- National organizations
- ASHRAE, NREL...
- User support groups



Weather files – general use

- For specific location:
 - For project comparisons or proving building energy performance
 - Long term measurements if available
 - Numerical methods from nearby stations with long term measurements
 - For energy model calibration, online & offline simulations etc.
 - Short term measurements (ongoing)



Raw weather data

- Measured at specific location – national meteorological organization station network
- Different variables and time interval
- Mainly in UTC (Serbia) – Local Time for simulations
- Solar radiation – measured? Which component?

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	AA	AB	AC	AD	AE	AF	AG	AH	AI	AJ
1	IMS Weather Station data export from MET.																																			
2	Station NIS - RHMZ																																			
3	Exported from Integrated Meteorological System of MicroStep-MIS spol. s r.o.																																			
4	Exported time interval: 12.11.2013 00:00:00 - 30.11.2013 23:59:00 UTC.																																			
5	Exported at 02.12.2013 11:11:33 UTC.																																			
6	Time [UTC]	WindDir [Manual]	WindSp Manual	WindSpee	QNH [hPa]	Manual	QFE MET	QFE RWY1	QFE RWY2	QFE RWY3	QFE RWY4	T [degC]	Manual	DP [degC]	Manual	RH [%]	Manual	Prec [mm]	Manual	Prec. Indic	Manual	Tged [deg	Manual	SunDur [s]	Manual	GlobalRad	Manual	SnowW [cn	Bar. readir	Bar. altituc	Bar. readir	Virtual ten	Vapour pressure	[hPa]		
7	12.11.2013 00:00	0	0	0.8	1020.5	996.1						12.4		9.5		82.5		0		0		11.8		0		0		995.9	205.5	995.9	13.7	11.9				
8	12.11.2013 00:01	0	0	0.8	1020.5	996						12.4		9.6		83		0		0		11.8		0		0		995.9	205.5	995.9	13.7	11.9				
9	12.11.2013 00:02	0	0	0.8	1020.5	996						12.4		9.6		83		0		0		11.8		0		0		995.9	205.5	995.9	13.7	11.9				
10	12.11.2013 00:03	0	0	0.8	1020.5	996.1						12.4		9.6		83		0		0		11.8		0		0		995.9	205.5	995.9	13.6	11.9				
11	12.11.2013 00:04	0	0	0.8	1020.5	996.1						12.3		9.5		83.3		0		0		11.8		0		0		995.9	205.5	995.9	13.6	11.9				
12	12.11.2013 00:05	0	0	0.8	1020.5	996.1						12.2		9.6		84		0		0		11.8		0		0		995.9	205.5	995.9	13.5	11.9				
13	12.11.2013 00:06	0	0	0.8	1020.5	996.1						12.2		9.6		84		0		0		11.8		0		0		996	205.5	996	13.5	11.9				
14	12.11.2013 00:07	0	0	0.8	1020.6	996.1						12.2		9.6		84.2		0		0		11.8		0		0		996	205.5	996	13.5	12				
15	12.11.2013 00:08	0	0	0.8	1020.6	996.1						12.1		9.7		85		0		0		11.8		0		0		996	205.5	996	13.4	12				
16	12.11.2013 00:09	0	0	0.8	1020.6	996.1						12.1		9.7		85		0		0		11.8		0		0		996	205.5	996	13.4	12				
17	12.11.2013 00:10	0	0	0.6	1020.6	996.1						12.1		9.7		85		0		0		11.8		0		0		996	205.5	996	13.4	12				
18	12.11.2013 00:11	0	0	0.9	1020.6	996.1						12.1		9.7		85.3		0		0		11.8		0		0		996	205.5	996	13.4	12				
19	12.11.2013 00:12	0	0	1.4	1020.6	996.1						12.1		9.8		86		0		0		11.8		0		0		996	205.5	996	13.4	12.1				
20	12.11.2013 00:13	0	0	1.4	1020.6	996.2						12.2		9.9		86		0		0		11.8		0		0		996	205.5	996	13.5	12.2				
21	12.11.2013 00:14	0	0	1.4	1020.6	996.1						12.3		10		85.5		0		0		11.8		0		0		996	205.5	996	13.7	12.3				
22	12.11.2013 00:15	0	0	1.4	1020.6	996.2						12.5		10		85		0		0		11.8		0		0		996	205.5	996	13.8	12.3				
23	12.11.2013 00:16	0	0	1.4	1020.6	996.2						12.6		10		84.2		0		0		11.8		0		0		996	205.5	996	13.9	12.3				
24	12.11.2013 00:17	96	0.5	1.4	1020.6	996.1						12.5		9.9		84		0		0		11.8		0		0		996	205.5	996	13.8	12.2				
25	12.11.2013 00:18	93	0.5	1.4	1020.6	996.2						12.5		9.9		84		0		0		11.8		0		0		996	205.5	996	13.8	12.2				
26	12.11.2013 00:19	92	0.6	1.4	1020.7	996.2						12.5		9.9		84		0		0		11.8		0		0		996.1	205.5	996.1	13.9	12.2				
27	12.11.2013 00:20	94	0.6	1.4	1020.7	996.2						12.5		9.9		84		0		0		11.8		0		0		996.1	205.5	996.1	13.8	12.2				
28	12.11.2013 00:21	90	0.6	1.4	1020.7	996.2						12.5		9.9		84		0		0		11.8		0		0		996.1	205.5	996.1	13.8	12.2				
29	12.11.2013 00:22	92	0.6	1.4	1020.7	996.2						12.5		9.9		84		0		0		11.8		0		0		996.1	205.5	996.1	13.8	12.2				
30	12.11.2013 00:23	88	0.6	1.5	1020.7	996.3						12.6		9.9		84		0		0		11.8		0		0		996.1	205.5	996.1	13.9	12.2				
31	12.11.2013 00:24	90	0.7	2.1	1020.7	996.3						12.6		9.9		83.4		0		0		11.8		0		0		996.1	205.5	996.1	13.9	12.2				

EnergyPlus weather file - *.epw

- BEPST – EnergyPlus
- Special file format:
 - Similar in structure to TMY2 and TMY3
 - Easier for processing and visualization (*.csv)

1	Location Title	Latitude (°)	Longitude	TimeZone	Elevation (m)																																				
2	LOCATION_N	43.33	21.9	1	202																																				
3	Number of Days	Title of Design Condition	Design Start	Coldest Month	DB996	DB990	DP996	HR_DP996	DB_DP996	DP990	HR_DP996	DB_DP996	WS004c	DB_WS00	WS010c	DB_WS01	WS_DB99	WD_DB99	Design Start	Hottest Month	DBR	DB004	WB_DB00	DB010	WB_DB01	DB020	WB_DB02	WB004	DB_WB00	WB010	DB_WB01	WB020									
4	1	Climate Design Date Heating	1	-10.9	-8.1	-13.7	1.2	-9.8	-11.2	1.5	-6.8	9.7	-1.9	8.3	-0.5	1.5	320	Cooling	7	13.1	34.3	20.4	32.3	20	30.6	19.5	21.7	31	21	29.7	20.2										
5	Number of T	Period Na	Period Ty	Period St	Period En	<repeat to # periods>																																			
6	6	Summer - Extreme	avg.17	avg.23	Summer - Typical	jun.29	07.maj	Winter - V	Extreme	dec.22	dec.28	Winter - V	Typical	12.avg	dec.14	Autumn - Typical	okt.20	okt.26	Spring - W	Typical	04.dec	apr.18	<repeat to Number of temperature depths>																		
7	Number of G	Ground Tr	Soil Cond	Soil Densi	Soil Speci	Jan (C)	Feb (C)	Mar (C)	Apr (C)	May (C)	Jun (C)	Jul (C)	Aug (C)	Sep (C)	Oct (C)	Nov (C)	Dec (C)	<repeat to Number of temperature depths>																							
8	1	1	1	1	1	8.7	6.5	5.7	6.5	8.7	11.8	14.9	17.1	17.9	17.1	14.9	11.8	<repeat to Number of temperature depths>																							
9	Leap Year	Ok	Daylight	Daylight	Number of Holidays	N	Holiday D	<repeat for # Holidays>																																	
10	No	0	0	0	0																																				
11	Comment Line #1																																								
12	METEDNORM Version 6.0																																								
13	Comment Line #2																																								
14																																									
15	Number of D	Number o	DP Name/	DP Start	CDP Start	CDP End	D	<repeat to # Data Periods>																																	
16	1	1	Data	Sunday	01.jan	dec.31																																			
17	Date	HH:MM	Datasour	Dry Bulb	(DewPoint)	RelHum	% Atmos	Pre	ExtHorzRa	ExtDirRad	HorzIRsky	GloHorzR	Dir	NormR	DifHorzRa	GloHorzI	Dir	NormI	DifHorzI	ZenLum	{C	WindDir	{	WindSpd	TotSkyCvr	OpaqSky	Visibility	Ceiling Hg	PresWeat	PresWeat	Precip	Wt Aerosol	O	SnowDep	Days Last	Albedo	{C	Rain	(mm	Rain Quantity	(hr
18	01.01.2005	01:00	*? *? *? *?	6.6	3.5	81	98849	0	0	308	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9999	128	0.7	9	8	777.7	77777	9	9999999	12	0	0	88	0.1	0	1						
19	01.01.2005	02:00	*? *? *? *?	6.4	3.5	82	98849	0	0	307	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9999	162	0.4	9	8	777.7	77777	9	9999999	12	0	0	88	0.1	0	1						
20	01.01.2005	03:00	*? *? *? *?	6.2	3.1	80	98849	0	0	305	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9999	159	0.2	9	8	777.7	77777	9	9999999	11	0	0	88	0.1	0	1						
21	01.01.2005	04:00	*? *? *? *?	6.1	2.9	80	98849	0	0	305	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9999	265	0.5	9	8	777.7	77777	9	9999999	11	0	0	88	0.1	0	1						
22	01.01.2005	05:00	*? *? *? *?	6.1	2.7	79	98849	0	0	304	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9999	173	0.5	9	8	777.7	77777	9	9999999	11	0	0	88	0.1	0	1						
23	01.01.2005	06:00	*? *? *? *?	6	2.9	80	98849	0	0	304	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9999	162	0.9	9	8	777.7	77777	9	9999999	11	0	0	88	0.1	0	1						
24	01.01.2005	07:00	*? *? *? *?	6	2.6	79	98849	0	0	303	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9999	186	0.5	9	8	777.7	77777	9	9999999	11	0	0	88	0.1	0	1						
25	01.01.2005	08:00	*? *? *? *?	6.4	2.4	75	98849	178	1413	303	11	0	11	14	0	14	9999	192	1.4	9	8	777.7	77777	9	9999999	11	0	0	88	0.1	0	1									
26	01.01.2005	09:00	*? *? *? *?	7.9	3	71	98849	273	1413	296	98	121	74	108	97	89	9999	169	0.9	9	8	777.7	77777	9	9999999	11	0	0	88	0.1	0	1									
27	01.01.2005	10:00	*? *? *? *?	9.2	3.5	67	98849	428	1413	298	167	103	135	182	76	159	9999	208	3.6	10	9	777.7	77777	9	9999999	12	0	0	88	0.1	0	1									
28	01.01.2005	11:00	*? *? *? *?	10.4	2.8	59	98849	528	1413	294	236	146	181	256	124	210	9999	140	2.2	9	8	777.7	77777	9	9999999	11	0	0	88	0.1	0	1									
29	01.01.2005	12:00	*? *? *? *?	11.2	3	57	98849	566	1413	296	246	126	196	268	104	226	9999	181	2	9	8	777.7	77777	9	9999999	11	0	0	88	0.1	0	1									
30	01.01.2005	13:00	*? *? *? *?	11.7	3.2	56	98849	539	1413	298	232	156	172	253	139	200	9999	145	2.3	9	8	777.7	77777	9	9999999	12	0	0	88	0.1	0	1									
31	01.01.2005	14:00	*? *? *? *?	11.4	2.9	56	98845	450	1413	305	125	13	121	141	12	137	9999	103	2.8	9	8	777.7	77777	9	9999999	11	0	0	88	0.1	0	1									
32	01.01.2005	15:00	*? *? *? *?	10.8	2.9	58	98841	304	1413	310	55	0	55	63	0	64	9999	145	1.8	9	8	777.7	77777	9	9999999	11	0	0	88	0.1	0	1									
33	01.01.2005	16:00	*? *? *? *?	9.9	3.2	63	98836	112	1413	310	5	0	5	6	0	6	9999	176	3.6	9	8	777.7	77777	9	9999999	12	0	0	88	0.1	0	1									
34	01.01.2005	17:00	*? *? *? *?	9.3	3.3	66	98832	2	1413	310	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9999	81	1.8	9	8	777.7	77777	9	9999999	12	0	0	88	0.1	0	1						
35	01.01.2005	18:00	*? *? *? *?	8.8	3.2	68	98828	0	0	310	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9999	155	2.3	9	8	777.7	77777	9	9999999	12	0	0	88	0.1	0	1						
36	01.01.2005	19:00	*? *? *? *?	8.4	2.9	68	98824	0	0	308	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9999	142	1.4	9	8	777.7	77777	9	9999999	11	0	0	88	0.1	0	1						



EnergyPlus weather file - *.epw

- This is achieved with the use of Weather converter (included in EnergyPlus installation)
- Difficulties observed:
 - A lot of measured data at one minute resolution – selection of the most appropriate data to process
 - Instantaneous readings or averages?
 - Time conversion: from UTC to Standard Local Time
 - Global radiation measured, but EnergyPlus uses Direct Normal and Diffuse Horizontal in heat balance algorithms



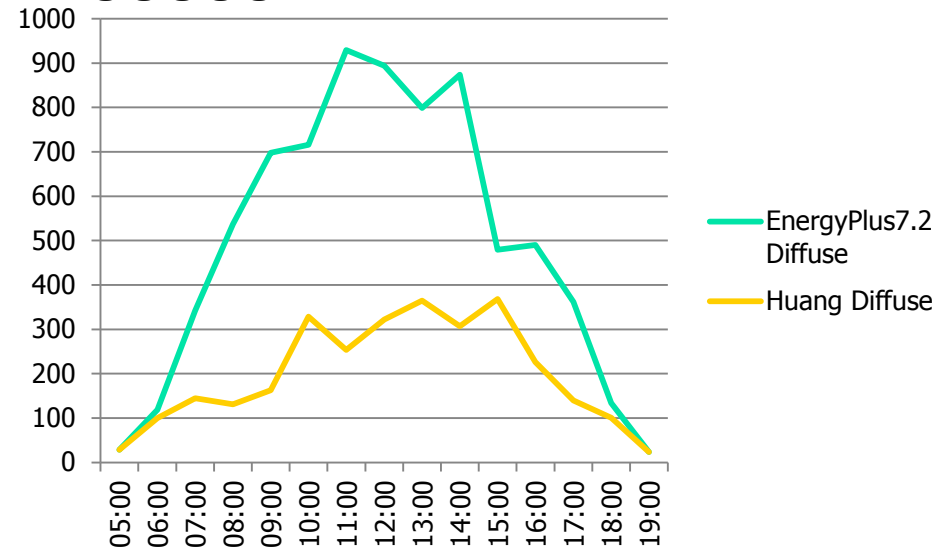
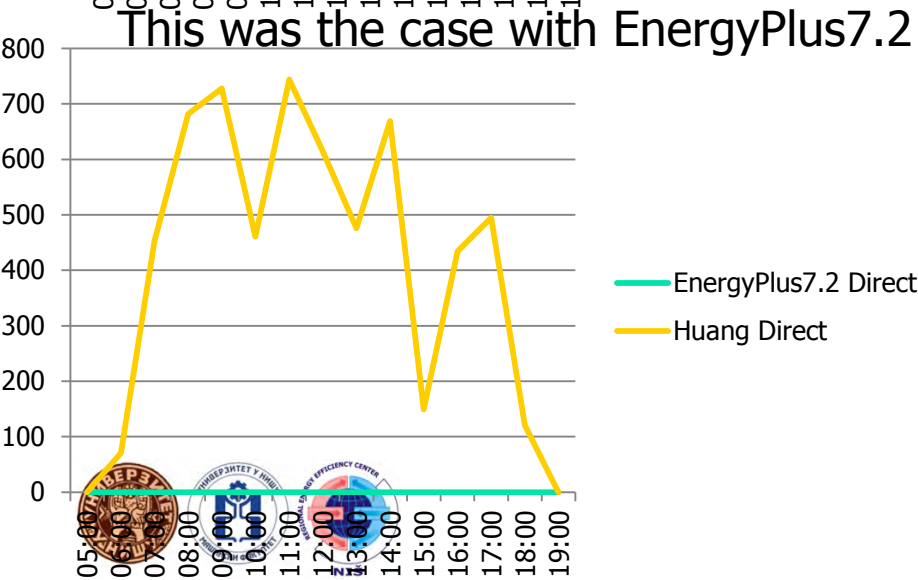
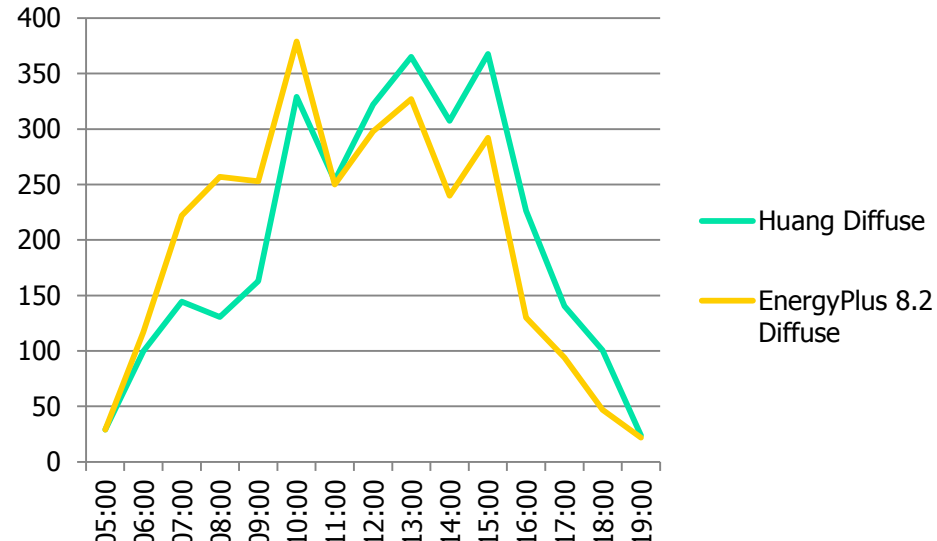
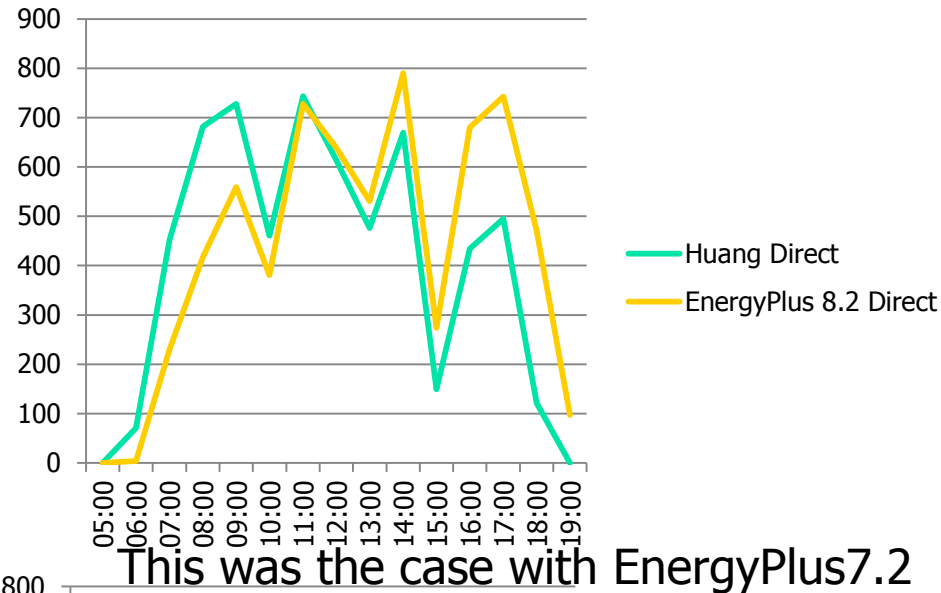
Creating custom *.epw for City of Niš

- #WMO133880
- Averaging data for every 60 minutes (i.e. readings from 15:00 to 15:59 are averaged and stored as data at 16:00)
- Time conversion: from UTC to Standard Local Time (UTC+1 for Niš)
 - Solved in data preparation phase by offsetting readings for one row
- Global radiation measured
 - Solved by implementing "Perez split"
 - Incorporated in weather converter but with some issues



Creating custom *.epw

Not huge difference with EnergyPlus 8.2!



This split is performed with the source code provided by Joe Huang

DW

```

$location
City='Nis'
Country='SRB'
InLat=43.31
InLong=21.89
InTime=1
InElev=202
/

$miscdata
Comments1='This data was prepared by Marko Ignjatovic, based on data provided by Official Meteorological Observatory of Nis'
SourceData='global horizontal radiation measured in the period 15.10.2013-31.08.2014.'
/

$wthdata
InputFileType='Custom'
InFormat='Delimited'
NumInHour=1
DataElements=Day,Month,Year,HH:MM,drybulb,relhum,atmos_pressure,glohorrad,winddir,windspeed,dirnorradi,difhorrad
DataUnits='x','x','x','hh:mm','oC','%','Pa','Wh/m2','deg','m/s','Wh/m2','Wh/m2'
DataConversionFactors=1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1
DelimiterChar=';'
DecimalSymbolChar='.'
/

$datacontrol
NumRecordsToSkip=1
MaxNumRecordsToRead=8760
/

```

Global Horizontal Radiation	Wind Direction	Wind Speed	Direct Radiation	Diffuse Radiation
0	68.12	0.76	0	0
0	51.77	0.55	0	0
0.2	26.95	0.28	0	0.2
29.1	27.37	0.26	0	29.1
118.5	30.17	0.28	70.6	99.8
341.9	80.12	0.39	453	144.5
536.9	256.22	1.04	681.6	130.7
697.6	273.35	1.2	728.3	162.9
716.2	255.75	1.59	460.5	329
929.1	303.17	2.32	743.6	253.5
894.3	305.36	2.77	613.7	322

Date	HH:MM	Data Source	Dry Bulb T	Dew Point	Relative Humidity	Atmos Pressure	Extraterrestrial Radiation	Extraterrestrial Radiation	HorzIRSky	Global Horizontal Radiation	Direct Normal Radiation	Diffuse Horizontal Radiation	Global Horizontal Radiation	Direct Normal Radiation	Diffuse Horizontal Radiation	Zenith Luminance	C Wind Direction	D Wind Speed	T
11.06.2014	01:00	?	19	16.2	84	99401	9999	9999	363	0	0	0	999900	999900	999900	99990	80	0.9	
11.06.2014	02:00	?	18.2	16.1	88	99375	9999	9999	360	0	0	0	999900	999900	999900	99990	68	0.8	{d WindSpd {t
11.06.2014	03:00	?	17.7	15.8	89	99353	9999	9999	357	0	0	0	999900	999900	999900	99990	51	0.6	rec Wind Spee T
11.06.2014	04:00	?	16.9	15.7	92	99372	9999	9999	353	0	0	0	999900	999900	999900	99990	26	0.3	30
11.06.2014	05:00	?	17.4	15.9	91	99405	9999	9999	355	29	0	29	999900	999900	999900	99990	27	0.3	58
11.06.2014	06:00	?	18.6	15.9	84	99417	9999	9999	361	119	71	100	999900	999900	999900	99990	30	0.3	1
11.06.2014	07:00	?	20.7	16	74	99429	9999	9999	372	342	453	145	999900	999900	999900	99990	80	0.4	16
11.06.2014	08:00	?	22.5	16.6	69	99425	9999	9999	382	537	682	131	999900	999900	999900	99990	256	1	17
11.06.2014	09:00	?	24.4	16.8	62	99399	9999	9999	392	698	728	163	999900	999900	999900	99990	273	1.2	30
11.06.2014	10:00	?	26.4	17.6	58	99369	9999	9999	404	716	461	329	999900	999900	999900	99990	255	1.6	30
11.06.2014	11:00	?	28.5	17.6	52	99347	9999	9999	415	929	744	254	999900	999900	999900	99990	303	2.3	36
11.06.2014	12:00	?	29.2	16	45	99295	9999	9999	417	894	614	322	999900	999900	999900	99990	305	2.3	73
11.06.2014	13:00	?	30.2	17.1	46	99256	9999	9999	424	799	476	365	999900	999900	999900	99990	316	2.5	35
11.06.2014	14:00	?	30.9	16.5	42	99193	9999	9999	427	874	669	307	999900	999900	999900	99990	305	3	33
11.06.2014	15:00	?	30.2	16.9	45	99173	9999	9999	424	479	149	368	999900	999900	999900	99990	321	2.5	35
11.06.2014	16:00	?	30.6	16	41	99137	9999	9999	425	490	434	226	999900	999900	999900	99990	311	2.7	16
11.06.2014	17:00	?	30.4	14.8	30	99135	9999	9999	422	352	405	140	999900	999900	999900	99990	300	2.0	



Conclusion

- Check for availability of data for specific location
 - Standard weather file formats
 - Measurements from local meteorological station (preferably for several years)
 - Perform on-site measurements (useful only for calibration and online simulations) in order to provide data for weather files
- Select data which can be used within BEPST of choice
- Check if Solar radiation is measured and what components
 - One can obtain Global Radiation from Cloud Cover!
- Perform necessary data pre-processing before creating weather files
- Always check the environmental outputs from BEPST!



Acknowledgments

- Special gratitude to Republic Hydrometeorological Service of Serbia, Observatory in Niš and director Zoran Vasiljević
- Special thanks to Mr Joe Huang from White Box Technologies for providing source code for Direct/Diffuse split





Thank you for Your attention!

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NIS