

"With their increasing numbers and diversity crowdsourced observations have the potential to reduce, in many areas around the globe, the data availability limitations of traditional in-situ observations. They are potentially beneficial for use in global NWP data assimilation and for verification purposes. A denser network is useful to detect small scale features and rapid changes to the atmosphere. However their usage is very challenging. Data collection and pre-processing (Given the diversity of data sources and formats) is big task that needs to be outsourced to data hubs operationally managed such as WOW (Weather Observation Website). A better understanding of the errors structure is necessary to allow a proper data selection and error specification. This requires a comprehensive set of up to date metadata. The quality control, bias correction and blacklist management require a unique identification of reporting station which makes anonymous reports of less interest to NWP data assimilation"