

Package ‘GSODR’

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Type Package

Title Global Surface Summary of the Day (GSOD) Weather Data from R

Version 1.2.0

URL <https://github.com/ropensci/GSODR>

BugReports <https://github.com/ropensci/GSODR/issues>

Description Provides automated downloading, parsing, cleaning, unit conversion and formatting of Global Surface Summary of the Day (GSOD) weather data from the from the USA National Centers for Environmental Information (NCEI) for use in R. Units are converted from from United States Customary System (USCS) units to International System of Units (SI). Stations may be individually checked for number of missing days defined by the user, where stations with too many missing observations are omitted. Only stations with valid reported latitude and longitude values are permitted in the final data. Additional useful elements, saturation vapour pressure (es), actual vapour pressure (ea) and relative humidity are calculated from the original data and included in the final data set. The resulting data include station identification information, state, country, latitude, longitude, elevation, weather observations and associated flags. Data may be automatically saved to disk. File output may be returned as a comma-separated values (CSV) or GeoPackage (GPKG) file. Additional data are included with this R package: a list of elevation values for stations between -60 and 60 degrees latitude derived from the Shuttle Radar Topography Measuring Mission (SRTM). For information on the GSOD data from NCEI, please see the GSOD readme.txt file available from, <<http://www1.ncdc.noaa.gov/pub/data/g sod/readme.txt>>.

Depends R (>= 3.2.0)

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get_GSOD

Download and Return a Tidy Data Frame of GSOD Weather Data

Description

This function automates downloading, cleaning, reformatting of data from the Global Surface Summary of the Day (GSOD) data provided by the US National Centers for Environmental Information (NCEI), <https://data.noaa.gov/dataset/dataset/global-surface-summary-of-the-day-gsod/>, and elements three new variables; saturation vapour pressure (es) – Actual vapour pressure (ea) and relative humidity (RH). Stations reporting a latitude of < -90 or > 90 or longitude of < -180 or > 180 are removed. Stations may be individually checked for number of missing days

to assure data quality and omitting stations with too many missing observations. All units are converted to International System of Units (SI), *e.g.* Fahrenheit to Celsius and inches to millimetres. Alternative elevation measurements are supplied for missing values or values found to be questionable based on the Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research's Consortium for Spatial Information group's (CGIAR-CSI) Shuttle Radar Topography Mission 90 metre (SRTM 90m) digital elevation data based on NASA's original SRTM 90m data. Further information on these data and methods can be found on GSODR's GitHub repository here: https://github.com/ropensci/GSODR/blob/master/data-raw/fetch_isd-history.md.

Usage

```
get_GSOD(years = NULL, station = NULL, country = NULL,  
          max_missing = NULL, agroclimatology = FALSE)
```

Arguments

years	Year(s) of weather data to download.
station	Optional. Specify a station or multiple stations for which to retrieve, check and clean weather data using STNID. The NCEI reports years for which the data are available. This function checks against these years. However, not all cases are properly documented and in some cases files may not exist on the FTP server even though it is indicated that data was recorded for the station for a particular year. If a station is specified that does not have an existing file on the server, this function will silently fail and move on to existing files for download and cleaning from the FTP server.
country	Optional. Specify a country for which to retrieve weather data; full name or ISO codes can be used.
max_missing	Optional. The maximum number of days allowed to be missing from a station's data before it is excluded from final file output.
agroclimatology	Optional. Logical. Only clean data for stations between latitudes 60 and -60 for agroclimatology work, defaults to FALSE. Set to TRUE to include only stations within the confines of these latitudes.

Details

Data summarise each year by station, which include vapour pressure and relative humidity elements calculated from existing data in GSOD.

All missing values in resulting files are represented as NA regardless of which field they occur in.

For a complete list of the fields and description of the contents and units, please refer to Appendix 1 in the GSODR vignette, `vignette("GSODR", package = "GSODR")`.

For more information see the description of the data provided by NCEI, http://www7.ncdc.noaa.gov/CDO/GSOD_DESC.txt.

Value

A data frame as a `tibble` object of weather data.

Note

While **GSODR** does not distribute GSOD weather data, users of the data should note the conditions that the U.S. NCEI places upon the GSOD data. “The following data and products may have conditions placed on their international commercial use. They can be used within the U.S. or for non-commercial international activities without restriction. The non-U.S. data cannot be redistributed for commercial purposes. Re-distribution of these data by others must provide this same notification.”

Author(s)

Adam H Sparks, <adamhsparks@gmail.com>

References

Jarvis, A., Reuter, H. I, Nelson, A., Guevara, E. (2008) Hole-filled SRTM for the globe Version 4, available from the CGIAR-CSI SRTM 90m Database <http://srtm.csi.cgiar.org>

See Also

[reformat_GSOD](#)

Examples

```
## Not run:
# Download weather station for Toowoomba, Queensland for 2010
t <- get_GSOD(years = 2010, station = "955510-99999")

# Download data for Philippines for year 2010 with a maximum of five missing
days per station allowed.

get_GSOD(years = 2010, country = "Philippines", max_missing = 5)

# Download global GSOD data for agroclimatology work for years 2009 and 2010

get_GSOD(years = 2010:2011, agroclimatology = TRUE)

## End(Not run)
```

get_inventory

*Download and Return a Tidy Data Frame of GSOD Weather Station
Data Inventories*

Description

The NCEI maintains a document, <<ftp://ftp.ncdc.noaa.gov/pub/data/noaa/isd-inventory.txt>>, which shows the number of weather observations by station-year-month from the beginning of the stations' records. This function retrieves that document, prints the header to display the last update time and returns a data frame of the inventory information for each station-year-month.

Usage

```
get_inventory()
```

Value

A data frame as a tibble `tibble` object of station inventories

Note

The GSOD data, which are downloaded and manipulated by this R package, stipulate that the following notice should be given. “The following data and products may have conditions placed on their international commercial use. They can be used within the U.S. or for non-commercial international activities without restriction. The non-U.S. data cannot be redistributed for commercial purposes. Re-distribution of these data by others must provide this same notification.”

The download process can take quite some time to complete.

Author(s)

Adam H Sparks, <adamhsparks@gmail.com>

Examples

```
## Not run:  
inventory <- get_inventory()  
  
## End(Not run)
```

GSODR

GSODR: Global Surface Summary of the Day (GSOD) Weather Data from R

Description

Provides automated downloading, parsing, cleaning, unit conversion and formatting of Global Surface Summary of the Day (GSOD) weather data from the from the USA’s National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s (NOAA) National Centre for Environmental Information (NCEI) for use in R. All units are converted from from United States Customary System (USCS) units to International System of Units (SI). Stations may be individually checked for number of missing days defined by the user, where stations with too many missing observations are omitted. Only stations with valid reported latitude and longitude values are permitted in the final data. Additional useful elements, saturation vapour pressure (es), actual vapour pressure (ea) and relative humidity are calculated from the original data and included in the final data set. The resulting data include station identification information, state, country, latitude, longitude, elevation, weather observations and associated flags. Additional data are included with this R package: a list of elevation values for stations between -60 and 60 degrees latitude derived from the Shuttle Radar Topography Measuring Mission (SRTM). For information on the GSOD data from NCEI, please see the GSOD readme.txt file available from, <http://www1.ncdc.noaa.gov/pub/data/g sod/readme.txt>.

Details

For climate data that have been formatted specifically for use with the GSODR package, please see the GSODRdata package (Sparks *et al.*) available on GitHub: <https://adamhsparks.github.io/GSODRdata/>. Four data frames of climate data are provided from various sources for GSOD station locations.

Author(s)

Adam Sparks, Tomislav Hengl and Andrew Nelson

Source

<https://data.noaa.gov/dataset/dataset/global-surface-summary-of-the-day-gsod/>

References

- Karger, D. N., Conrad, O., Bohner, J., Kawohl, T., Kreft, H., Soria-Auza, R. W., *et al.* (2016) Climatologies at high resolution for the Earth land surface areas. *arXiv preprint arXiv:1607.00217*
- New, M., Lister, D., Hulme, M., Makin, I., (2002) A high-resolution data set of surface climate over global land areas. *Climate Research* **21**:1–25
- Sparks A., Hengl T., Nelson A. (2017) GSODRdata: Extra Climate Data for the GSODR Package. R package version 0.1.0, <https://adamhsparks.github.io/GSODRdata/index.html>.
- Wilson A. M., Jetz W. (2016) Remotely Sensed High-Resolution Global Cloud Dynamics for Predicting Ecosystem and Biodiversity Distributions. *PLoS Biol* **14**(3): e1002415. doi:10.1371/journal.pbio.1002415

See Also

GSODR functions:

[get_GSOD](#) Download, Clean, Reformat Generate New Elements and Return a Tidy Data Frame of GSOD Weather Data

[reformat_GSOD](#) Clean, Reformat Generate New Elements and Return a Tidy Data Frame of GSOD Weather Data from Local Disk

[nearest_stations](#) Find Nearest GSOD Stations to Specified a Latitude and Longitude

[update_station_list](#) Download the Latest Station List Information and Update GSODR's Internal Database

[get_inventory](#) Download and return a tidy data frame of GSOD weather station data inventories

Useful links:

- Static documentation at <https://ropensci.github.io/GSODR/>
- Development repository at <https://github.com/ropensci/GSODR>
- Report bugs at <https://github.com/ropensci/GSODR/issues>

GSODR-deprecated *Deprecated function(s) in the GSODR package*

Description

These functions are provided for compatibility with older version of the GSODR package. They may eventually be completely removed.

Usage

```
get_station_list()
```

Details

`get_station_list` now superceded by [update_station_list](#)

`get_station_list` was used to download the list of weather stations and the corresponding meta-data. The station list is no longer fetched on-the-fly. Instead a version is supplied with the GSODR package upon installation. To update the internal database, please use [update_station_list](#).

nearest_stations *Find Nearest GSOD Stations to a Specified Latitude and Longitude*

Description

Given latitude and longitude values entered as decimal degrees (DD), this function returns a list (atomic vector) of STNID values, which can be used in [get_GSOD](#) to query for specific stations as an argument in the `station` parameter of that function.

Usage

```
nearest_stations(LAT, LON, distance)
```

Arguments

LAT	Latitude expressed as decimal degrees (DD) [WGS84]
LON	Longitude expressed as decimal degrees (DD) [WGS84]
distance	Distance in kilometres from point for which stations are to be returned.

Value

[vector](#) object of station identification numbers

Note

The GSOD data, which are downloaded and manipulated by this R package, stipulate that the following notice should be given. “The following data and products may have conditions placed on their international commercial use. They can be used within the U.S. or for non-commercial international activities without restriction. The non-U.S. data cannot be redistributed for commercial purposes. Re-distribution of these data by others must provide this same notification.”

Author(s)

Adam H Sparks, <adamhsparks@gmail.com>

Examples

```
## Not run:
# Find stations within a 100km radius of Toowoomba, QLD, AUS

n <- nearest_stations(LAT = -27.5598, LON = 151.9507, distance = 100)

## End(Not run)
```

reformat_GSOD

Tidy and Return a Data Frame of GSOD Weather from Local Data

Description

This function automates cleaning and reformatting of GSOD, <https://data.noaa.gov/dataset/dataset/global-surface-summary-of-the-day-gsod/>, station files in "WMO-WBAN-YYYY.op.gz" format that have been downloaded from the United States National Center for Environmental Information's (NCEI) FTP server.

Usage

```
reformat_GSOD(dsn = NULL, file_list = NULL)
```

Arguments

dsn	User supplied file path to location of data files on local disk for tidying.
file_list	User supplied list of files of data on local disk for tidying.

Details

This function reformats the data into a more usable form and calculates three new elements; saturation vapour pressure (es), actual vapour pressure (ea) and relative humidity (RH). All units are converted to International System of Units (SI), *e.g.* Fahrenheit to Celsius and inches to millimetres. Alternative elevation measurements are supplied for missing values or values found to be questionable based on the Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research's Consortium for Spatial Information group's (CGIAR-CSI) Shuttle Radar Topography Mission 90 metre (SRTM 90m) digital elevation data based on NASA's original SRTM 90m data.

If multiple stations are given, data are summarised for each year by station, which include vapour pressure and relative humidity elements calculated from existing data in GSOD. Else, single stations are tidied and a data frame is returned.

All missing values in resulting files are represented as NA regardless of which field they occur in.

Only station files in the original ".op.gz" file format are supported by this function. If you have downloaded the full annual "gsod_YYYY.tar" file you will need to extract the individual station files from the tar file first to use this function.

For a complete list of the fields and description of the contents and units, please refer to Appendix 1 in the GSODR vignette, `vignette("GSODR", package = "GSODR")`.

Value

A data frame as a `tibble` object of weather data.

Note

While **GSODR** does not distribute GSOD weather data, users of the data should note the conditions that the U.S. NCEI places upon the GSOD data. "The following data and products may have conditions placed on their international commercial use. They can be used within the U.S. or for non-commercial international activities without restriction. The non-U.S. data cannot be redistributed for commercial purposes. Re-distribution of these data by others must provide this same notification."

Author(s)

Adam H Sparks, <adamhsparks@gmail.com>

References

Jarvis, A., Reuter, H.I, Nelson, A., Guevara, E. (2008) Hole-filled SRTM for the globe Version 4, available from the CGIAR-CSI SRTM 90m Database <http://srtm.csi.cgiar.org>

See Also

For automated downloading and tidying see the `get_GSOD` function which provides expanded functionality for automatically downloading and expanding annual GSOD files and cleaning station files.

[get_GSOD](#)

Examples

```
## Not run:

# Reformat station data files in local directory
x <- reformat_GSOD(dsn = "~/tmp")

# Reformat a list of data files
y <- c("~/GSOD/gsod_1960/200490-99999-1960.op.gz",
      "~/GSOD/gsod_1961/200490-99999-1961.op.gz")
```

```
x <- reformat_GSOD(file_list = y)

## End(Not run)
```

update_station_list *Download Latest Station List Information and Update GSODR's Internal Database*

Description

This function downloads the latest station list (isd-history.csv) from the NCEI FTP server and updates the data distributed with GSODR to the latest stations available. These data provide unique identifiers, country, state (if in US), latitude, longitude, elevation and when weather observations begin and end. Stations with invalid latitude and longitude values will not be included.

Usage

```
update_station_list()
```

Details

Care should be taken when using this function if reproducibility is necessary as different machines with the same version of GSODR can end up with different versions of the isd_history.csv file internally.

There is no need to use this unless you know that a station exists in the GSODR data that is not available in the database distributed with [GSODR](#).

To directly access these data, use: `load(system.file("extdata", "isd_history.rda", package = "GSODR"))`

Author(s)

Adam H Sparks, <adamhsparks@gmail.com>

Examples

```
## Not run:
update_station_list()

## End(Not run)
```

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