

**NOAA Technical Information Series NESDIS  
DSMR-00283 Version 1.0**

doi: 10.25923/acwh-yc52

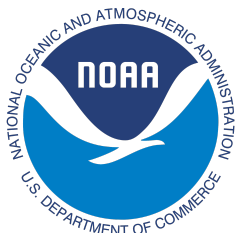


**Data Stewardship Maturity Report for AVHRR Pathfinder Version 5.3 Level 3  
Collated (L3C) Global 4km Sea Surface Temperature**

Table 1 Legend				
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Ad Hoc	Minimal	Intermediate	Advanced	Optimal
Little or no management	Limited Management	Defined Management, partially implemented	Well-defined Management, fully implemented	Full Management, audited, measured, controlled

Table 1. Scores for the Nine DSMM Key Components at a Glance		
Preservability - 5	Accessibility - 5	Usability - 4.5
Production Sustainability - 5	Data Quality Assurance - 4	Data Quality Control/Monitoring - 3
Data Quality Assessment - 3	Transparency/Traceability - 2.75	Data Integrity - 3

NOAA National Centers for Environmental Information January 2020



**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service

Cover Image: Data Stewardship Rating Diagram for AVHRR Pathfinder Version 5.3  
Level 3 Collated (L3C) Global 4km Sea Surface Temperature

Shades of green are used to represent level 1 through level 5 ratings; denoting Ad Hoc, Minimal, Intermediate, Advanced, and Optimal stages for each of the nine key components, respectively. The dark green level indicates all the practices are completely satisfied. The lighter green levels indicate only some of the practices are satisfied. The lightest green level indicates none of the practices are satisfied.

The stewardship maturity of NCEI data product, AVHRR Pathfinder Version 5.3 Level 3 Collated (L3C) Global 4km Sea Surface Temperature, is assessed based on a reference stewardship maturity framework. The current maturity ratings of AVHRR Pathfinder Version 5.3 Level 3 Collated (L3C) Global 4km Sea Surface Temperature are at Level 1 or higher for all nine key components with zero Level 1, one Level 2, three Level 3, two Level 4, and three Level 5 key components.

The National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service (NESDIS) manages the Nation's civil Earth-observing satellite systems, as well as global national data bases for meteorology, oceanography, geophysics, and solar-terrestrial sciences. From these sources, it develops and disseminates environmental data and information products critical to the protection of life and property, national defense, and the national economy, energy development and distribution, global food supplies, and the development of natural resources.

Publication in the NOAA Technical Memorandum series does not preclude later publication in scientific journals in expanded or modified form. The NESDIS series of NOAA Technical Reports is a continuation of the former NESS and EDIS series of NOAA Technical Reports and the NESC and EDS series of Environmental Science Services Administration (ESSA) Technical Reports.

Copies of earlier reports may be available by contacting NESDIS Chief of Staff, NOAA/NESDIS, 1335 East-West Highway, SSMC1, Silver Spring, MD 20910, (301) 713-3578.

## ASSESSMENT REVISION HISTORY

Revision	Description	Date
V01r00	Initial Release	12/27/2021

## **NOAA Technical Information Series NESDIS DSMR-00283**

### **Version 1.0**

doi: 10.25923/acwh-yc52

Data Stewardship Maturity Report for AVHRR Pathfinder Version 5.3 Level 3  
Collated (L3C) Global 4km Sea Surface Temperature

Raisa Ionin, Katy Luquire

NOAA's National Centers of Environmental Information (NCEI)

151 Patton Avenue, Asheville, NC 28801, (828) 271-4800

### **Recommended Citation**

Raisa Ionin, Katy Luquire. (2021), Data Stewardship Maturity Report for AVHRR Pathfinder  
Version 5.3 Level 3 Collated (L3C) Global 4km Sea Surface Temperature NOAA Technical  
Information Series NESDIS DSMR-00283 Version 1.0, 21pp., doi: 10.25923/acwh-yc52

.

## **Table of Contents**

List of Tables	7
Preface	8
1. Introduction	9
2. Results	10
3. Acknowledgment	16
4. References	17
Appendix I The Scientific Data Stewardship Maturity Matrix (DSMM)	18

## List of Tables

Table 1. Scores for the Nine DSMM Key Components at a Glance	1
Table 2. Dataset and Data Stewardship Maturity Assessment Metadata	11
Table 3. Stewardship Maturity Levels and Detailed Justifications for Each of Nine DSMM Key Components for the Dataset	12

## Preface

In response to the President's Open Government Initiative and related policies, NOAA has committed to providing improved public access to all of its environmental information, to enable research and commercial innovation through ease of data discovery and use [Casey, 2016].

OneStop supports NOAA's efforts by leveraging existing access technologies and infusing specific innovations to provide improved discover, access, and visualization services for NOAA's data. Also, OneStop is viewed by a NESDIS as a pathfinder effort with an initial focus on selected high-priority datasets from NESDIS and other program data meeting OneStop standards, but eventually scalable across NOAA's data. Lastly, OneStop is implementing the USGEO Common Framework for Earth Observation Data and leveraging/supporting the NOAA Big Data Project (BDP) and Big Earth Data Initiative (BEDI) [Casey, 2016].

As with any process of improvement planning, agencies need to find out where they are in terms of their compliance to the federal regulations and what they need to do if any areas of non-compliance are identified. To this end, a unified framework would be beneficial for assessing the current stage of stewardship practices applied to individual datasets and for providing a road map that will guide future investments towards enhanced stewardship of environmental datasets. The value and quality of a dataset depends in part on the stewardship practices applied after its development and production. Therefore, a unified framework providing a holistic view of the quality of stewardship practices applied to individual datasets is beneficial to data stewards and users [Casey, 2016].

The Data Stewardship Maturity Matrix (DSMM), jointly developed by domain (data management, technology, and science) subject matter experts from NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information (NCEI) and Cooperative Institute for Climate and Satellites – North Carolina (CICS-NC), provides such a consistent framework [Peng *et al.*, 2016]. The DSMM, leveraging institutional knowledge and community practices and standards, defines a graduated maturity scale for each of nine key components of scientific data stewardship to enable a consistent assessment of the measureable stewardship practices applied to a given data set or product.

The NOAA Data Stewardship Maturity Technical Series captures stewardship maturity assessment results for individual datasets, provides consistent representation and citable documents of those assessments, ensures transparency, and allows better data quality information integration and content-based search and discovery of NOAA data.



**Data Stewardship Maturity Report for AVHRR Pathfinder Version 5.3 Level 3  
Collated (L3C) Global 4km Sea Surface Temperature**

## **1. Introduction**

### **1.1 Purpose**

The purpose of this document is to describe the results of stewardship maturity assessment for NOAA Climate Data Record for Mean Layer Temperature (Upper Troposphere & Lower Stratosphere from UCAR, Version 2, utilizing the Scientific Data Stewardship Maturity Matrix or DSMM [Peng, et al, 2016]. DSMM defines levels of stewardship maturity stages for Preservability, Accessibility, Usability, Production Sustainability, Data Quality Assurance, Data Quality Control/Monitoring, Data Quality Assessment, Transparency/Traceability, and Data Integrity key components. Each of these components is ranked from 'Ad hoc' to 'Optimal' (see Appendix I). This report is based on evaluation performed by NOAA OneStop metadata specialists working with Subject Matter Experts and utilizing the DSMM template [Peng, 2016].

### **1.2 Scope**

Assessing stewardship maturity - the current state of how datasets are documented, preserved, stewarded, and made accessible publicly, is a critical step towards meeting U.S. federal regulations, organizational requirements, and user needs [Peng et al., 2016]. The goal of this document is to provide consistent and transparent stewardship maturity information to data users and decision-makers.

### **1.3 Dataset Abstract**

The AVHRR Pathfinder Version 5.3 (PFV53) L3C Sea Surface Temperature dataset is a collection of global, twice-daily (Day and Night) 4km sea surface temperature (SST) data produced by the NOAA National Centers for Environmental Information (NCEI). L3C is generated with measurements combined from a single instrument into a space-time grid. In this process multiple passes/scenes of data are combined. PFV53 was computed with data from the AVHRR instruments on board NOAA's polar orbiting satellite series using an entirely modernized system based on SeaDAS (version 6.4). This system incorporates several key changes from its predecessors (mainly version 5.2: PFV52). The SSTs in PFV53 are now available for all quality levels, including quality '0' which was left out of PFV52 due to a memory issue in the version 5.2 code. The Sun glint regions are better represented in the data. Cloud tree tests for NOAA-7 and NOAA-19 are now consistent with the rest of the sensors in contrast to PFV52 where they were inconsistent. Similar to all previous versions of Pathfinder this

version also includes L3C products. The `sst_dtime` variable is still not included in L3C (it was not included in PFV52 either). The global and variables attributes in netCDF files are revised, have better CF and ACDD compliance, and are consistent with the NCEI netCDF templates. Anomalous hot-spots at land-water boundaries are better identified and flagged in PFV53. The PFV53 land mask has been updated (based on Global Lakes and Wetlands Database: Lakes and Wetlands Grid Level 3, 2015). Sea ice data over the Antarctic ice shelves are marked as ice and flagged as 100% ice cover. The PFV53 output are netCDF version 4 in "classic" mode, whereas in PFV52 the netCDF-4 files were not explicitly identified as "classic". An extra bit (bit 6) is used under `l2p_flags` variable to flag out the daytime unrealistic SST values ( $>39.8^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) that remain in `pf_quality_level` 4 to 7. Users are recommended to avoid these values.

Importantly, PFV53 data provided in netCDF-4 (classic model, with internal compression and chunking) are nearly 100% compliant with the GHR SST Data Specification Version 2.0 (GDS2.0 revision 5) requirements. However, it must be noted that in L3C data the variables `sses_bias`, `sses_standard_deviation`, and `sst_dtime` are still empty. PFV53 data were collected through the operational periods of the NOAA-7 through NOAA-19 Polar Operational Environmental Satellites (POES), and are available from 1981 through Present. Data for all these years are available as multiple NCEI accessions. PFV5.3 production is running on operational mode and will be updated on quarterly basis.

## **1.4 Document Maintenance**

This document is generated and maintained by NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information. More on policy is available at <https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/>.

## **2. Results**

The data stewardship maturity assessment information is summarized in Table 1. Each component is displayed along with its corresponding score in a color-coded table.

Table 2. Dataset and Data Stewardship Maturity Assessment Metadata	
Dataset Title	AVHRR Pathfinder Version 5.3 Level 3 Collated (L3C) Global 4km Sea Surface Temperature
Dataset Information URL	<a href="https://doi.org/10.7289/v52j68xx">https://doi.org/10.7289/v52j68xx</a>
Data Provider POC (Name; Email; Affiliation)	National Centers for Environmental Information, NESDIS, NOAA, U.S. Department of Commerce, 301-713-3277, NCEI. Info@noaa.gov
Dataset POC (Name; Email; Affiliation)	National Centers for Environmental Information, NESDIS, NOAA, U.S. Department of Commerce, 301-713-3277, NCEI. Info@noaa.gov
SMM Version (Document ID and Version Number)	NCDC-CICS-SMM_0001_Rev.1 12/09/2014
SMM POC (Name; E-mail; Affiliation)	Ge Peng, ge.peng@uah.edu, University of Alabama-Huntsville
SMM Template Version (Document ID and Version Numbers)	NCDC-CICS-SMM_0001_Rev.1 v4.0 06/23/2015
SMM Template POC	Ge Peng, ge.peng@uah.edu, University of Alabama-Huntsville
SMM Assessment Version (v<nn>r<mm>, e.g., v01r00)	v01r03
SMM Assessment Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	04/15/2019
SMM Assessment POC (Name; E-mail; Affiliation)	Raisa Ionin; raisa.ionin@noaa.gov; NOAA's National Centers of Environmental Information (NCEI)
Stewardship Maturity Ratings (each key component) (kc1/kc2/kc3/kc4/kc5/kc6/kc7/kc8/kc9)	5 /5 /4.5 /5 /4 /3 /3 /2.75 /3
SMM Original Assessment Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	03/13/2017
SMM Original Assessment POC (Name; E-mail; Affiliation)	Raisa Ionin; raisa.ionin@noaa.gov; NOAA's National Centers of Environmental Information (NCEI)
SMM Last Modified Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	10/13/2021
SMM Last Modification POC (Name; E-mail; Affiliation)	Katy Luquire, catherine.luquire@noaa.gov , CASE Consultants International
SMM Modified Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	04/15/2019
SMM Modification POC (Name; E-mail; Affiliation)	Raisa Ionin; raisa.ionin@noaa.gov; NOAA's National Centers of Environmental Information (NCEI)

Table 3. Stewardship Maturity Levels and Detailed Justifications for Each of Nine DSMM Key Components for the Dataset.

DSMM Key Component	Stewardship Maturity Rating, Justification, and Comments
Preservability	<p>Level 5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Archived by NCEI, which is NOAA designated repository. NOAA is compliant to NARA standards</li><li>▪ Metadata following ISO 19115-2 standards.</li><li>▪ Compliant to OIAS RM</li><li>▪ Plans to update metadata to ISO 19115-1 at a later date</li><li>▪ Using NCEI Silver Spring Archive Management System, AMS.</li></ul> <p>Comments:</p>
Accessibility	<p>Level 5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Collection level searchable online</li><li>▪ Granule level is searchable online</li><li>▪ Additional search options available from collection level site</li><li>▪ Direct file download available from</li><li>▪ THREDDS:<a href="https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/thredds-ocean/catalog/pathfinder/Version5.3/L3C/catalog.html">https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/thredds-ocean/catalog/pathfinder/Version5.3/L3C/catalog.html</a></li><li>▪ HTTP:<a href="https://data.nodc.noaa.gov/pathfinder/Version5.3/L3C/">https://data.nodc.noaa.gov/pathfinder/Version5.3/L3C/</a><a href="https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/data/oceans/pathfinder/Version5.3/L3C/">https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/data/oceans/pathfinder/Version5.3/L3C/</a></li><li>▪ FTP:<a href="ftp://ftp-oceans.ncei.noaa.gov/pub/data.nodc/pathfinder/Version5.3/L3C/">ftp://ftp-oceans.ncei.noaa.gov/pub/data.nodc/pathfinder/Version5.3/L3C/</a></li><li>▪ Dissemination reports are available to the public <a href="https://www.nodc.noaa.gov/SatelliteData/pathfinder/logs/">https://www.nodc.noaa.gov/SatelliteData/pathfinder/logs/</a></li><li>▪ Future technology changes are planned</li></ul> <p>Comments:</p> <p>About AVHRR Pathfinder 5.3: <a href="https://www.nodc.noaa.gov/satellitedata/pathfinder4km53/">https://www.nodc.noaa.gov/satellitedata/pathfinder4km53/</a></p> <p>Link to NOAA CDR Sea Surface Temperature – Pathfinder Page <a href="https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/cdr/oceanic/sea-surface-temperature-pathfinder">https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/cdr/oceanic/sea-surface-temperature-pathfinder</a></p> <p>Climate Data Records Factsheet <a href="https://www1.ncdc.noaa.gov/pub/data/sds/rsad-brochure-revised-01-13-09.pdf">https://www1.ncdc.noaa.gov/pub/data/sds/rsad-brochure-revised-01-13-09.pdf</a></p>

Table 3. Stewardship Maturity Levels and Detailed Justifications for Each of Nine DSMM Key Components for the Dataset.	
DSMM Key Component	Stewardship Maturity Rating, Justification, and Comments
Usability	<p>Level 4.5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The format is interoperable: netCDF for granules</li> <li>▪ User guide [GHR SST, 2011] is available online <a href="https://www.nodc.noaa.gov/archive/arc0072/0123222/1.1/data/0-data/GHR SSTUserGuidev91.pdf">https://www.nodc.noaa.gov/archive/arc0072/0123222/1.1/data/0-data/GHR SSTUserGuidev91.pdf</a></li> <li>▪ User Manual [GHR SST, 2011] is available online <a href="https://www.nodc.noaa.gov/archive/arc0072/0123222/1.1/data/0-data/GDS20r5.pdf">https://www.nodc.noaa.gov/archive/arc0072/0123222/1.1/data/0-data/GDS20r5.pdf</a></li> <li>▪ All GHR SST collections have error estimate.</li> <li>▪ Error estimates/error budget for AVHRR Pathfinder can be found in [ Baker-Yeboah, 2016] and are available online <a href="https://www1.ncdc.noaa.gov/pub/data/sds/cdr/CDRs/Sea_Surface_Temperature_Pathfinder/AlgorithmDescription.pdf">https://www1.ncdc.noaa.gov/pub/data/sds/cdr/CDRs/Sea_Surface_Temperature_Pathfinder/AlgorithmDescription.pdf</a></li> <li>▪ All GHR SST collections have enhanced online capability (e.g., visualization, multiple data formats): TDS, DAP; access from metadata main landing page.</li> <li>▪ A GHR SST User Guide, Quick Start Guide, GHR SST Data Specification (GDS) manual, and other relevant documents describing GHR SST data sets can be found in the archive accession, Documentation for The Group for High Resolution Sea Surface Temperature (GHR SST) data archived at NODC (NODC Accession 0123222), <a href="https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/access/metadata/landing-page/bin/iso?id=gov.noaa.nodc:0123222">https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/access/metadata/landing-page/bin/iso?id=gov.noaa.nodc:0123222</a></li> <li>▪ Data flow diagram is available: <a href="https://www1.ncdc.noaa.gov/pub/data/sds/cdr/CDRs/Sea_Surface_Temperature_Pathfinder/DataFlowDiagram.pdf">https://www1.ncdc.noaa.gov/pub/data/sds/cdr/CDRs/Sea_Surface_Temperature_Pathfinder/DataFlowDiagram.pdf</a></li> <li>▪ Algorithm documents are available:</li> <li>▪ [Sea Surface Temperature - Pathfinder - Climate Algorithm Theoretical Basis Document, 2016] available online <a href="https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/sites/default/files/2020-04/AlgorithmDescription.pdf">https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/sites/default/files/2020-04/AlgorithmDescription.pdf</a></li> <li>▪ [Casey, 2010] available online <a href="https://www.nodc.noaa.gov/SatelliteData/pathfinder4km/OFS_21_Cas_09Dec2009.pdf">https://www.nodc.noaa.gov/SatelliteData/pathfinder4km/OFS_21_Cas_09Dec2009.pdf</a></li> <li>▪ No external ranking</li> <li>▪ *Ranking was done for the previous version, Found previous version, 4 km AVHRR Pathfinder Version 5.2 Public Review Results: <a href="https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/products/avhrr-pathfinder-sst">https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/products/avhrr-pathfinder-sst</a></li> </ul> <p>Comments: About AVHRR Pathfinder 5.3:<a href="https://www.nodc.noaa.gov/satellitedata/pathfinder4km53/">https://www.nodc.noaa.gov/satellitedata/pathfinder4km53/</a></p>
Production Sustainability	<p>Level 5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The dataset is currently supported.</li> <li>▪ Pathfinder is an Ad Hoc product. It receives updates with every version change.</li> <li>▪ Changes for technology planned</li> <li>▪ This is a NOAA NCEI product, under long-term institutional/national commitment</li> </ul> <p>Comments:</p>

Table 3. Stewardship Maturity Levels and Detailed Justifications for Each of Nine DSMM Key Components for the Dataset.

DSMM Key Component	Stewardship Maturity Rating, Justification, and Comments
<b>Data Quality Assurance</b>	<p>Level 4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ DQA procedure defined, documented and fully implemented based on the following documentation:</li> <li>▪ [Sea Surface Temperature - Pathfinder - Climate Algorithm Theoretical Basis Document, 2016] available online <a href="https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/sites/default/files/2020-04/AlgorithmDescription.pdf">https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/sites/default/files/2020-04/AlgorithmDescription.pdf</a></li> <li>▪ [Casey, 2010] is available online <a href="https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/products/avhrr-pathfinder-sst">https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/products/avhrr-pathfinder-sst</a></li> <li>▪ [ Kilpatrick , 2001] is available online <a href="https://doi.org/10.1029/1999jc000065">https://doi.org/10.1029/1999jc000065</a></li> <li>▪ File level quality flags exist which can be considered limited data quality assurance metadata.</li> </ul> <p>Comments: Public review results for previous version only:<a href="https://www.nodc.noaa.gov/SatelliteData/pathfinder4km/pfv52_public_review_results.html">https://www.nodc.noaa.gov/SatelliteData/pathfinder4km/pfv52_public_review_results.html</a></p>
<b>Data Quality Control/Monitoring</b>	<p>Level 3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Limited Quality Control metrics are available based on publications</li> <li>▪ [Sea Surface Temperature - Pathfinder - Climate Algorithm Theoretical Basis Document, 2016] available online <a href="https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/sites/default/files/2020-04/AlgorithmDescription.pdf">https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/sites/default/files/2020-04/AlgorithmDescription.pdf</a></li> <li>▪ [Casey, 2010] is available online <a href="https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/products/avhrr-pathfinder-sst">https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/products/avhrr-pathfinder-sst</a></li> <li>▪ [ Kilpatrick , 2001] is available online <a href="https://doi.org/10.1029/1999JC000065">https://doi.org/10.1029/1999JC000065</a></li> <li>▪ Sampling and analysis are frequent and systematic but not automatic</li> <li>▪ Procedure documented and available online</li> <li>▪ Community metrics defined and partially implemented</li> </ul> <p>Comments: NCEI Product description page:<a href="https://www.nodc.noaa.gov/satellitedata/pathfinder4km53/">https://www.nodc.noaa.gov/satellitedata/pathfinder4km53/</a></p>
<b>Data Quality Assessment</b>	<p>Level 3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Algorithm Based Documentation (ATBD)</li> <li>▪ [Sea Surface Temperature - Pathfinder - Climate Algorithm Theoretical Basis Document, 2016] available online <a href="https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/sites/default/files/2020-04/AlgorithmDescription.pdf">https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/sites/default/files/2020-04/AlgorithmDescription.pdf</a></li> <li>▪ Research product assessed in literature:</li> <li>▪ [Sea Surface Temperature - Pathfinder - Climate Algorithm Theoretical Basis Document, 2016] available online <a href="https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/sites/default/files/2020-04/AlgorithmDescription.pdf">https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/sites/default/files/2020-04/AlgorithmDescription.pdf</a></li> <li>▪ [Casey, 2010] is available online <a href="https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/products/avhrr-pathfinder-sst">https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/products/avhrr-pathfinder-sst</a></li> <li>▪ [ Kilpatrick , 2001] is available online <a href="https://doi.org/10.1029/1999JC000065">https://doi.org/10.1029/1999JC000065</a></li> <li>▪ Operational product is assessed based on this publication:</li> <li>▪ [ Kilpatrick , 2001] and is available online <a href="https://doi.org/10.1029/1999JC000065">https://doi.org/10.1029/1999JC000065</a></li> </ul> <p>Comments:</p>

Table 3. Stewardship Maturity Levels and Detailed Justifications for Each of Nine DSMM Key Components for the Dataset.	
DSMM Key Component	Stewardship Maturity Rating, Justification, and Comments
<b>Transparency / Traceability</b>	<p>Level 2.75</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Limited product information available, metadata only on the AVHRR_Pathfinder_L3C_V5.3landing page: <a href="https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/access/metadata/landing-page/bin/iso?id=gov.noaa.nodc:AVHRR_Pathfinder-NCEI-L3C-v5.3">https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/access/metadata/landing-page/bin/iso?id=gov.noaa.nodc:AVHRR_Pathfinder-NCEI-L3C-v5.3</a></li> <li>▪ GHR SST datasets are under Configuration Management principles: <a href="https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.4700465">https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.4700465</a></li> <li>▪ Product information is available in literature: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ [ Baker-Yeboah , 2016]</li> <li>▪ [Casey, 2010] is available online <a href="https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/products/avhrr-pathfinder-sst">https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/products/avhrr-pathfinder-sst</a></li> <li>▪ [ Kilpatrick , 2001] is available online <a href="https://doi.org/10.1029/1999JC000065">https://doi.org/10.1029/1999JC000065</a></li> <li>▪ [Sea Surface Temperature - Pathfinder - Climate Algorithm Theoretical Basis Document, 2016] available online <a href="https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/sites/default/files/2020-04/AlgorithmDescription.pdf">https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/sites/default/files/2020-04/AlgorithmDescription.pdf</a></li> <li>▪ DOI is assigned - 10.7289/V52J68XX</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Comments:</p>
<b>Data Integrity</b>	<p>Level 3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Data archive integrity verifiable - Checksum technology is available, each AVHRR Pathfinder package is accompanied by a manifest in XML format containing hash digests generated using various algorithms, including MD5, SHA-1, SHA-384, etc. That includes checksums (.md5) for every file package. <a href="https://www.nodc.noaa.gov/archive/arc0095/0129789/0129789.1.1.xml">https://www.nodc.noaa.gov/archive/arc0095/0129789/0129789.1.1.xml</a></li> <li>▪ Data authenticity is verifiable (since data can be downloaded via HTTPS and HTTPS uses certificates to prove site authenticity)</li> <li>▪ NCEI-MD does not provide digital signatures for data dissemination</li> </ul> <p>Comments:</p>

### **3. Acknowledgment**

This work is supported by the NOAA OneStop Project.

We thank the dataset POCs for their valuable input, as well as the collaborative efforts of the OneStop teams, especially the Metadata team. We would also like to show appreciation to Ge Peng for her contributions.

The draft of this data stewardship maturity report is systematically generated by a tool created by Kieran Hodnett and populated with the stewardship maturity assessment done by the author(s) of this report. The tool was developed based on a Word template created collaboratively by Robert Partee II, Raisa Ionin, Paul Lemieux III, Ge Peng, Don Collins, and Sonny Zinn with helpful input from the NOAA Central Library and the NCEI Communication Team.



#### 4. References

Casey, K. (2016), The NOAA OneStop data discover and access framework project, Version: June 3, 2016. <https://cdn.ioos.noaa.gov/media/2017/12/OneStop-IOOS-DMAC-03-June-2016.pdf>

Peng, G. (2015) The scientific data stewardship maturity assessment model template, Version: NCDC-CICS-SMM-0001-Rev.1 v4.0 6/23/2015. doi:10.6084/m9.figshare.1211954.

Peng, G., J.L. Privette, E.J. Kearns, N.A. Ritchey, and S. Ansari (2015), A unified framework for measuring stewardship practices applied to digital environmental datasets, *Data Science Journal*, 13, 231-253, doi: 10.2481/dsj.14-049.

Peng, G., J. Lawrimore, V. Toner, C. Lief, R. Baldwin, N. Ritchey, D. Brinegar, and S. A. Delgreco (2016) assessing stewardship maturity of the global historical climatology network-monthly (GHCN-M) dataset: use case study and lessons learned, *D-Lib Magazine*, 22, doi:10.1045/november2016-peng.

GHRSSST User Guide version 9.1, 2011, retrieved online: <https://www.nodc.noaa.gov/archive/arc0072/0123222/1.1/data/0-data/GHRSSSTUserGuidev91.pdf> (Accessed December 14, 2016)

The Recommended GHRSSST Data Specification (GDS) GDS 2.0 revision 5, 2011, retrieved online: <https://www.nodc.noaa.gov/archive/arc0072/0123222/1.1/data/0-data/GDS20r5.pdf> (Accessed 12 December 2016)

Baker-Yeboah, S., K. Saha, (2016), Climate Data Record (CDR) Program, Climate Algorithm Theoretical Basis Document (C-ATBD). Sea Surface Temperature – Pathfinder, \_Rep. CDRP-ATBD-0099\_, retrieved online: [https://www1.ncdc.noaa.gov/pub/data/sds/cdr/CDRs/Sea\\_Surface\\_Temperature\\_Pathfinder/AlgorithmDescription.pdf](https://www1.ncdc.noaa.gov/pub/data/sds/cdr/CDRs/Sea_Surface_Temperature_Pathfinder/AlgorithmDescription.pdf) (Accessed 15 March 2017)

Sea Surface Temperature - Pathfinder - Climate Algorithm Theoretical Basis Document, NOAA Climate Data Record Program CDRP-ATBD-0099 Rev.3 (2016). Available from <https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/sites/default/files/2020-04/AlgorithmDescription.pdf> . (Accessed 13 October 2021)

Casey, K. S., T. B. Brandon, P. Cornillon, and R. Evans (2010), The Past, Present, and Future of the AVHRR Pathfinder SST Program, \_Oceanography from Space\_, 273–287, doi:10.1007/978-90-481-8681-5\_16

## Appendix I: The Scientific Data Stewardship Maturity Matrix (DSMM)

Table A1: This matrix (Version: NCDC-CICS-SMM-0001-Rev.1. 12/09/2014) describes the criterion used to evaluate data stewardship maturity for each of the nine DSMM key components [Peng *et al.*, 2015].

<b>DSMM Component</b>	<b>Level 1 <i>Ad hoc</i> Little or no management</b>	<b>Level 2 <i>Minimal</i> Limited management</b>	<b>Level 3 <i>Intermediate</i> Defined management, partially implemented</b>	<b>Level 4 <i>Advanced</i> Well-defined management, fully implemented</b>	<b>Level 5 <i>Optimal</i> Full management, audited, measured, controlled</b>
<b><i>Preservability</i></b> <i>(The state of being preservable)</i>	Any storage location  Data only	Non-designated repository  Redundancy  Limited archiving metadata	Designated archive  Redundancy  Community-standard archiving metadata  Conforming to limited archiving standards	Level 3 +  Conforming to community archiving standards	Level 4 +  Archiving process performance controlled, measured, and audited  Future archiving standard changes planned
<b><i>Accessibility</i></b> <i>(The state of being searchable and accessible publicly)</i>	Not publically available person-to-person	Publically available direct file download (e.g., via anonymous FTP server)  Collection or dataset level searchable online	Level 2 +  Non-standard data service  Limited data server performance  Granule/file level searchable  Limited search metrics	Level 3 +  Community-standard data service  Enhanced data server performance  Conforming to community search metrics  Dissemination report metrics defined and implemented internally	Level 4 +  Dissemination reports available online  Future technology and standard changes planned

<b><i>Usability</i></b> <i>(The state of being easy to use)</i>	<p>Extensive product-specific knowledge required</p> <p>No documentation online</p>	<p>Non-standard data format</p> <p>Limited documentation (e.g., user's guide online)</p>	<p>Community standard-based interoperable format &amp; metadata</p> <p>Documentation (e.g. source code, product algorithm document, processing or/and data flow diagram) online</p>	<p>Level 3 +</p> <p>Basic capability (e.g., subsetting, aggregating) &amp; data characterization overall/global,</p> <p>e.g., climatology, error estimates) available online</p>	<p>Level 4 +</p> <p>Enhanced online capability (e.g., visualization, multiple data formats)</p> <p>Community metrics of data characterization (regional/cell) online</p> <p>External ranking</p>
<b><i>Production Sustainability</i></b> <i>(The state of data production being sustainable and extendable)</i>	<p>Ad Hoc or Not applicable</p> <p>To obligation or deliverable requirement</p>	<p>Short-term</p> <p>Individual PI's commitment (grant obligations)</p>	<p>Medium-term</p> <p>Institutional commitment (contractual deliverables with specs and schedule defined)</p>	<p>Long-term</p> <p>Institutional commitment</p> <p>Product improvement process in place</p>	<p>Level 4 +</p> <p>National or international commitment</p> <p>Changes for echnology planned</p>
<b><i>Data Quality Assurance</i></b> <i>(The state of data quality being assured)</i>	<p>Data quality assurance (DQA) procedure unknown or none</p>	<p>Ad Hoc and random</p> <p>QA procedure not defined and documented</p>	<p>DQA procedure defined and documented and partially implemented</p>	<p>DQA procedure well documented, fully implemented and available online with master reference data</p> <p>Limited data quality assurance metadata</p>	<p>Level 4 +</p> <p>DQA procedure monitored and reported</p> <p>Conforming to community quality metadata &amp; standards</p> <p>External review</p>

<b>Data Quality Control/Monitoring</b>  <i>The state of data quality being controlled and monitored</i>	None or Sampling unknown or spotty  Analysis unknown or random in time	Sampling and analysis are regular in time and space  Limited product-specific metrics defined & implemented	Level 2 +  Sampling and analysis are frequent and systematic but not automatic  Community metrics defined and partially implemented  Procedure documented and available online	Level 3 +  Anomaly detection procedure well-documented and fully implemented using community metrics, automatic, tracked and reported  Limited quality monitoring metadata	Level 4 +  Cross-validation of temporal & spatial characteristics  Physical consistency check  Conforming to community quality metadata & standards
<b>Data Quality Assessment</b>  <i>(The state of data quality being assessed)</i>	Algorithm/method/model  Theoretical basis assessed (methods and results online)	Level 1 +  Research product assessed (methods and results online)	Level 2 +  Operational product assessed (methods and results online)	Level 3 +  Quality metadata assessed  Limited quality assessment metadata	Level 4 +  Assessment performed on a recurring basis  Conforming to community quality metadata & standards  External ranking
<b>Transparency/Traceability</b>  <i>(The state of being transparent, trackable, and traceable)</i>	Limited product information available  Person-to-person	Product information available in literature	Algorithm Theoretical Basis Document (ATBD) & source code online  Dataset configuration managed (CM)  Unique Object Identifier (OID) assigned (dataset, documentation, source code)  Data citation tracked (e.g., utilizing Digital Object Identifier	Level 3 +  Operational Algorithm Description (OAD) online, OID assigned, and under CM	Level 4 +  System information online  Complete data provenance online

<b><i>Data Integrity</i></b> <i>(The state of data integrity being verifiable)</i>	Unknown or no data ingest integrity check	Data ingest integrity verifiable (e.g. checksum technology)	(DOI) system) Level 2 + Data archive integrity verifiable	Level 3 + Data access integrity verifiable  Conforming to community data integrity technology standard	Level 4 +  Data authenticity verifiable (e.g., data signature technology) Performance of data integrity check monitored and reported