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## Supplementary Material

### A historical monthly upper-air humidity dataset for Australia

Branislava Jovanovic<sup>A,\*</sup>, Robert Smalley<sup>B</sup> and Steven Siems<sup>C</sup>

<sup>A</sup>Environmental Prediction Services – Climate, Australian Bureau of Meteorology,  
GPOBox 1289, Melbourne, Vic. 3001, Australia.

<sup>B</sup>Environmental Prediction Services – Water, Australian Bureau of Meteorology,  
Melbourne, Vic., Australia.

<sup>C</sup>School of Earth, Atmosphere and Environment, Monash University, Melbourne, Vic.,  
Australia.

\*Correspondence to: [branislava.jovanovic@bom.gov.au](mailto:branislava.jovanovic@bom.gov.au)

**Table S1.** The potential causes for inhomogeneities in upper-air temperature data series that were found in station history files.

| Station number | Astor 402 MHz | Philips Mark I | Philips Mark II | Philips Mark 2.5 | Philips Mark III | Vaisala RS 80 | PC Cora  | Autosonde/DigiCora | Vaisala RS92 | Vaisala RS41 |
|----------------|---------------|----------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|---------------|----------|--------------------|--------------|--------------|
| 3003           | Jun-1965      | 1976-77        | Jul-1979        | Aug-1982         | Feb-1983         | Mar-1988      | May-1991 | Jun-2004           | Jul-2006     | Jun-2018     |
| 4032           | 1964          | 1976-77        | May-1979        | Jul-1982         | Feb-1983         | Mar-1988      | Nov-1990 | May-1998           | Aug-2005     | Nov-2017     |
| 5007           | 1964          | 1976-77        | Nov-1978        | Aug-1982         | Jan-1983         | Jul-1988      | May-1991 | Dec-1997           | Oct-2005     | Nov-2017     |
| 9021           | 1964          | 1976-77        | Nov-1979        | -                | Apr-1983         | Jun-1987      | Mar-1991 | Jun-2004           | Aug-2006     | Apr-2018     |
| 9741           | Jul-1965      | 1976-77        | Nov-1978        | Aug-1982         | Aug-1983         | Sep-1987      | Mar-1991 | Feb-2005           | Sep-2006     | Mar-2018     |
| 9789           | Jun-1969      | 1976-77        | Nov-1978        | Aug-1982         | Dec-1982         | Oct-1987      | Mar-1991 | Sep-2005           | Aug-2006     | Mar-2018     |
| 12038          | 1964          | 1976-77        | Nov-1978        | Aug-1982         | Feb-1983         | Nov-1987      | Apr-1991 | Oct-2000           | Jun-2006     | -            |
| 13017          | 1964          | 1976-77        | Jan-1980        | -                | Mar-1983         | Jul-1988      | Aug-1991 | -                  | Jul-2006     | Mar-2019     |
| 14015          | 1964          | 1976-77        | Nov-1978        | Aug-1982         | Dec-1982         | Jun-1987      | May-1991 | Jun-2004           | Jan-2006     | Jul-2018     |
| 15590          | 1964          | 1976-77        | May-1979        | Feb-1983         | Aug-1983         | Aug-1987      | May-1991 | Jun-2004           | Jun-2006     | Aug-2018     |
| 23034          | 1964          | 1976-77        | Apr-1979        | <sup>a</sup>     | Nov-1982         | Jun-1987      | Apr-1991 | Jun-2004           | Aug-2006     | Mar-2018     |
| 29127          | May-1975      | 1976-77        | Oct-1978        | Feb-1983         | Jul-1983         | Jan-1988      | Apr-1991 | Oct-1998           | Jun-2006     | Jul-2017     |
| 32040          | 1964          | 1976-77        | Aug-1979        | Aug-1982         | Feb-1983         | Jan-1988      | Jul-1991 | Jul-2004           | May-2006     | Mar-2018     |
| 39083          | Feb-1974      | 1976-77        | Oct-1978        | Jul-1982         | Apr-1983         | Oct-1987      | Apr-1993 | Jan-2005           | Jun-2006     | Jun-2018     |
| 40842          | 1964          | 1976-77        | Oct-1978        | -                | Mar-1983         | Jun-1987      | Apr-1991 | Sep-2004           | Mar-2007     | Apr-2018     |
| 44021          | 1964          | 1976-77        | Feb-1980        | Aug-1982         | Feb-1983         | Jun-1987      | May-1991 | Dec-2000           | Sep-2005     | Apr-2018     |
| 48027          | 1964          | 1976-77        | Oct-1978        | Jul-1982         | Oct-1983         | Sep-1987      | Apr-1991 | May-1997           | Apr-2006     | Jan-2018     |
| 53115          | Apr-1964      | 1976-77        | Oct-1978        | Sep-1982         | Mar-1983         | Oct-1987      | Apr-1991 | Jun-2000           | May-2006     | Jun-2017     |
| 61078          | 1964          | 1976-77        | Oct-1978        | -                | Apr-1983         | Feb-1988      | Mar-1991 | -                  | Mar-2006     | May-2017     |
| 72150          | Nov-1965      | 1976-77        | Sep-1978        | Jul-1982         | Feb-1983         | Feb-1988      | May-1991 | Aug-2005           | Aug-2006     | Sep-2018     |
| 86282          | 1964          | 1976-77        | Sep-1978        | Jul-1982         | Mar-1983         | Jun-1987      | Oct-1990 | Aug-2004           | Jun-2006     | Mar-2018     |
| 94008          | 1964          | 1976-77        | Aug-1979        | -                | May-1983         | Aug-1988      | Mar-1991 | Jun-2004           | Jun-2006     | Aug-2018     |
| 200283         | 1964          | 1976-77        | 1978-79         | -                | Mar-1983         | Dec-1987      | Jul-1991 | -                  | Oct-2006     | Apr-2019     |
| 200284         | Dec-1972      | 1976-77        | 1978-79         | -                | -                | Jan-1987      | Nov-1990 | Oct-1997           | Nov-2006     | Sep-2018     |
| 200288         | 1964          | 1976-77        | Aug-1979        | Aug-1982         | Apr-1983         | Dec-1987      | Jun-1991 | Oct-2005           | Nov-2006     | Jul-2018     |
| 200839         | 1964          | 1976-77        | Aug-1979        | Aug-1982         | Feb-1983         | Mar-1988      | Jun-1991 | May-2005           | Oct-2006     | Mar-2018     |
| 300004         | 1964          | 1976-77        | Dec-1979        | -                | Dec-1983         | Jan-1988      | -        | Sep-2005           | Apr-2006     | Oct-2019     |

Indicated are the month and year in which new radiosonde types or models and new procedures were introduced. Types of radiosondes: Astor, models 72 and 402 MHz; Mark, models I, II, 2.5 and III; Vaisala, models RS80, RS92 and RS41, PC-Cora and Austosonde/Digicora: automated systems.

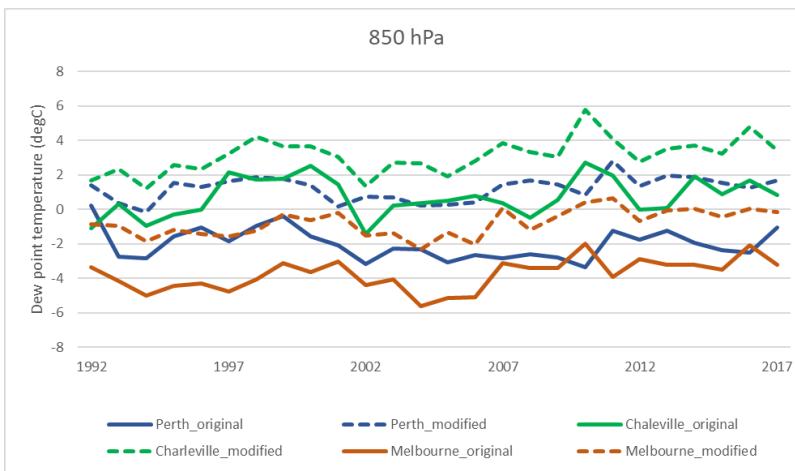
<sup>a</sup>For Adelaide: from Jun-1980 to Mar-1981: Vaisala RS21; then back to Mark II.

**Table S2.** Trends (based on annual data) estimated from the unhomogenised modified and homogenised modified DWPT data for the period 1965–2017.

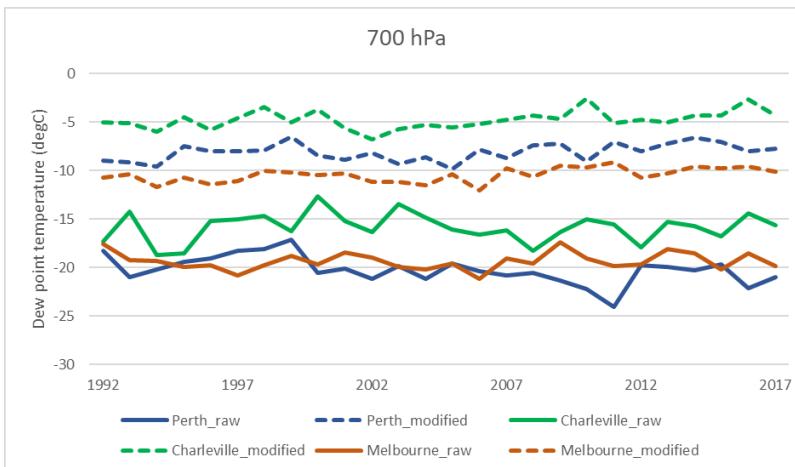
| Station number                  | DWPT<br>850<br>modif. | DWPT 700<br>modif.    | DWPT<br>500<br>modif. | DWPT<br>400<br>modif. |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Broome 3003</b>              | 0.484<br><b>0.40*</b> | 0.622<br><b>0.30*</b> | 0.713<br><b>0.24</b>  | -                     |
| <b>Port Hedland 4032</b>        | 0.537<br><b>0.35*</b> | 0.789<br><b>0.49*</b> | 0.904<br><b>0.43*</b> | 0.525<br><b>0.12</b>  |
| <b>Learmonth 5007</b>           | 0.789<br><b>0.01</b>  | 1.253<br><b>0.31*</b> | 1.22<br><b>0.14</b>   | 0.971<br><b>0.24</b>  |
| <b>Perth 9021</b>               | 0.535<br><b>-0.11</b> | 0.899<br><b>0.38*</b> | 0.741<br><b>0.07</b>  | 0.472<br><b>0.08</b>  |
| <b>Albany 9999</b>              | 0.520<br><b>-0.09</b> | 0.816<br><b>0.21</b>  | 0.676<br><b>0.10</b>  | 0.495<br><b>0.10</b>  |
| <b>Esperance 9789</b>           | 0.506<br><b>0.10</b>  | 0.845<br><b>0.13</b>  | 0.638<br><b>0.37*</b> | 0.385<br><b>0.17</b>  |
| <b>Kalgoorlie-Boulder 12038</b> | 0.498<br><b>0.06</b>  | 0.866<br><b>0.11</b>  | 0.718<br><b>0.38*</b> | 0.438<br><b>0.10</b>  |
| <b>Giles 13017</b>              | 0.391<br><b>0.19</b>  | 0.643<br><b>0.31*</b> | 0.718<br><b>0.18</b>  | 0.514<br><b>0.12</b>  |
| <b>Darwin 14015</b>             | 0.405<br><b>0.10</b>  | 0.499<br><b>0.20</b>  | 0.801<br><b>0.27*</b> | 0.583<br><b>0.27*</b> |
| <b>Alice Springs 15590</b>      | 0.437<br><b>0.14</b>  | 0.718<br><b>0.27*</b> | 0.818<br><b>0.21</b>  | 0.489<br><b>0.06</b>  |
| <b>Adelaide 23034</b>           | 0.481<br><b>0.04</b>  | 0.785<br><b>0.21</b>  | 0.597<br><b>0.26*</b> | 0.373<br><b>0.06</b>  |
| <b>Mt Isa 29127</b>             | 0.387<br><b>-0.13</b> | 0.528<br><b>-0.17</b> | 0.698<br><b>0.34*</b> | 0.688<br><b>0.33*</b> |
| <b>Townsville 32040</b>         | 0.382<br><b>-0.19</b> | 0.553<br><b>0.03</b>  | 0.694<br><b>-0.07</b> | 0.635<br><b>-0.07</b> |
| <b>Rockhampt. 39083</b>         | 0.486<br><b>-0.19</b> | 0.750<br><b>0.02</b>  | 0.674<br><b>0.21</b>  | 0.496<br><b>0.20</b>  |
| <b>Brisbane 40842</b>           | 0.464<br><b>-0.10</b> | 0.728<br><b>0.24</b>  | 0.645<br><b>-0.05</b> | 0.389<br><b>0.02</b>  |
| <b>Charleville 44021</b>        | 0.50<br><b>0.11</b>   | 0.723<br><b>0.25</b>  | 0.798<br><b>0.38*</b> | 0.595<br><b>0.19</b>  |
| <b>Cobar 48027</b>              | 0.478<br><b>0.22</b>  | 0.889<br><b>0.38*</b> | 0.698<br><b>0.34*</b> | 0.462<br><b>0.27*</b> |
| <b>Moree 53115</b>              | 0.530<br><b>0.10</b>  | 0.852<br><b>0.09</b>  | 0.832<br><b>0.11</b>  | 0.505<br><b>0.15</b>  |
| <b>Williamtown 61078</b>        | 0.548<br><b>0.20</b>  | 0.795<br><b>0.28*</b> | 0.663<br><b>0.18</b>  | 0.425<br><b>0.23</b>  |
| <b>Wagga Wagga 72150</b>        | 0.533<br><b>-0.07</b> | 0.904<br><b>0.24</b>  | 0.736<br><b>0.33*</b> | 0.410<br><b>0.16</b>  |
| <b>Melbourne 86282</b>          | 0.474<br><b>-0.05</b> | 0.717<br><b>0.12</b>  | 0.565<br><b>0.22</b>  | 0.373<br><b>0.28*</b> |
| <b>Hobart 94008</b>             | 0.450<br><b>-0.12</b> | 0.663<br><b>0.08</b>  | 0.594<br><b>0.10</b>  | 0.352<br><b>0.05</b>  |
| <b>Willis Is. 200283</b>        | 0.539<br><b>-0.06</b> | 0.572<br><b>0.15</b>  | 0.724<br><b>0.04</b>  | 0.544<br><b>0.06</b>  |
| <b>Cocos Is. 200284</b>         | 0.584<br><b>-0.20</b> | 0.680<br><b>0.34*</b> | 0.881<br><b>0.20</b>  | 0.767<br><b>0.10</b>  |
|                                 |                       |                       |                       | 1987 (+2.4)           |

| Station number                  | DWPT<br>850<br>modif.  | DWPT 700<br>modif.                         | DWPT<br>500<br>modif. | DWPT<br>400<br>modif. |                       |             |
|---------------------------------|------------------------|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-------------|
| <b>Norfolk Is. 200288</b>       | 0.408<br><b>-0.002</b> | 2006 (+1.1)<br>1983 (+1.2),<br>2006 (+1.2) | 0.731<br><b>0.08</b>  | 0.461<br><b>0.02</b>  | 0.295<br><b>-0.11</b> | 1988 (+1.4) |
| <b>L. Howe Is. 200839</b>       | 0.348<br><b>-0.24</b>  | 1983 (+1.6),<br>2006 (+1.0)                | 0.700<br><b>0.21</b>  | 0.518<br><b>0.29*</b> | 0.414<br><b>0.12</b>  | 1988 (+1.0) |
| <b>Macquarie Is.<br/>300004</b> | 0.43*<br>-             |  | 0.553<br><b>0.16</b>  | 0.298<br><b>0.19</b>  | 0.245<br><b>0.03</b>  | 1988 (+0.8) |

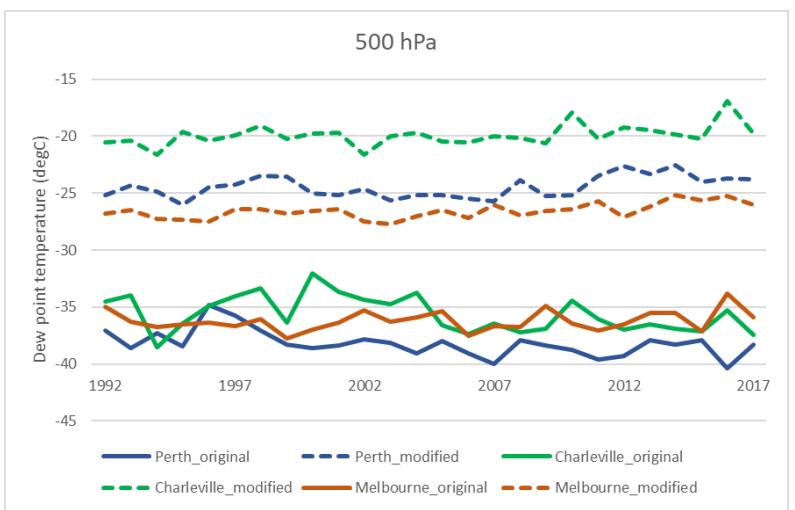
Units are degrees Celsius per decade. Trends estimated from the homogenised modified DWPT data (break points detected with 95% confidence level using log-transformed precipitation data as reference series) are shown in red. The size and year of adjustment is shown in adjacent columns. Probabilities are statistically significant are: \*,  $P < 0.001$ .



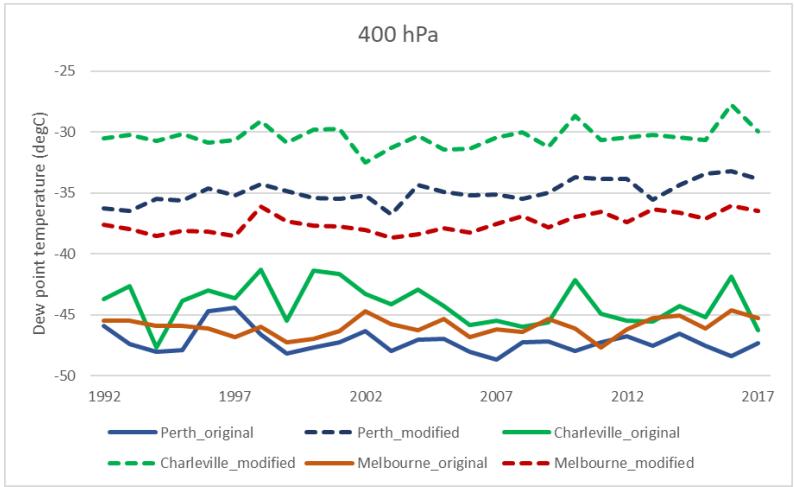
(a)



(b)

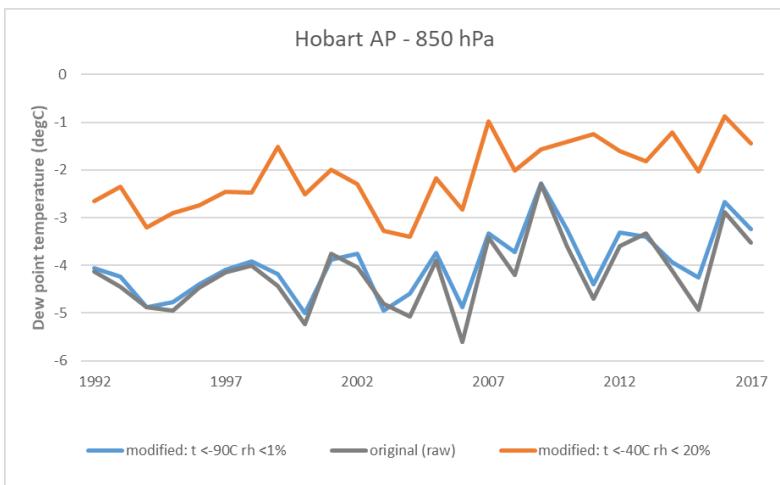


(c)

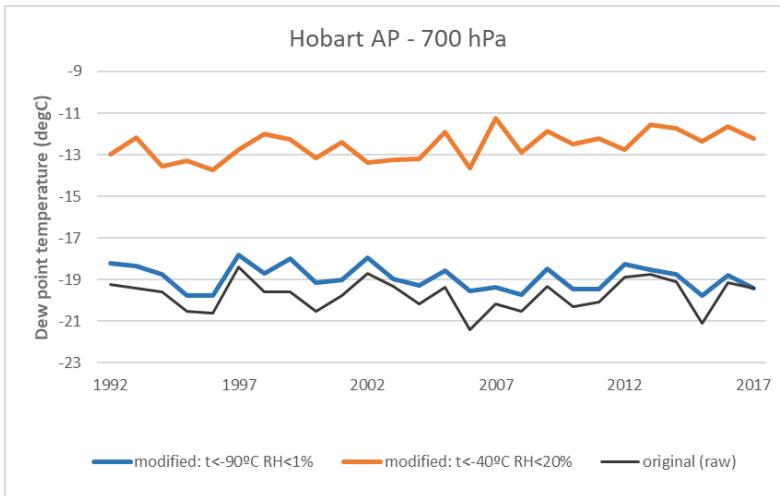
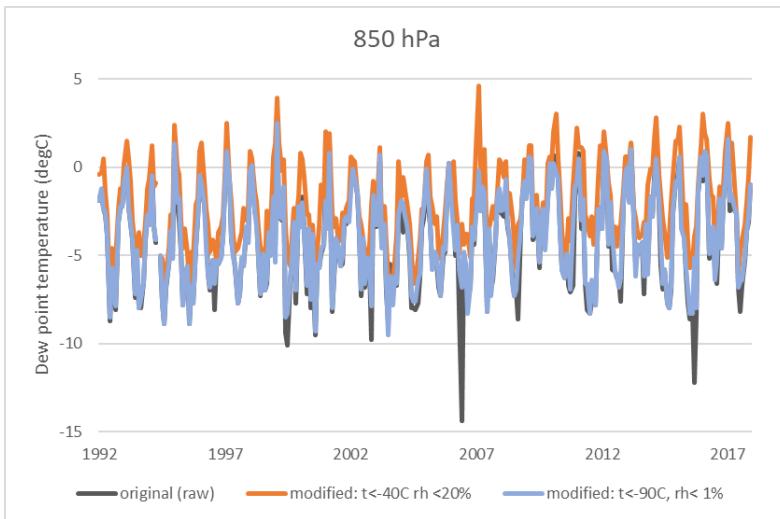


(d)

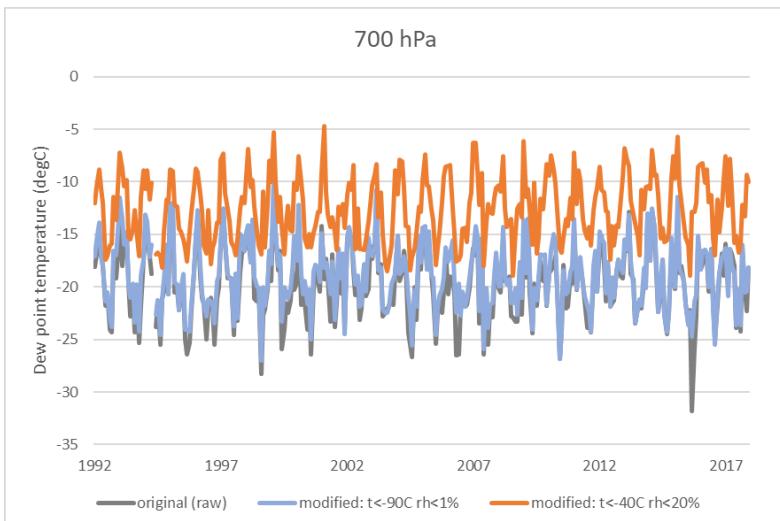
**Figure S1.** Comparison over the 1992–2017 period between annual mean DWPT based on the original (raw) and modified ( $t < -40^{\circ}\text{C}$ ,  $\text{rh} < 20\%$ ) data for Perth AP, Charleville Aero and Melbourne AP for (a) 850-, (b) 700-, (c) 500- and (d) 400-hPa levels.



(a)



(b)



**Figure S2.** Comparison over the 1992–2017 period between annual mean DWPT based on the original (raw) and modified data for Hobart AP for (a) 850-, (b) 700-, (c) 500- and (d) 400-hPa levels. Modified data were produced for two different cases:  $t < -40^{\circ}\text{C}$ , rh < 20% and  $t < -90^{\circ}\text{C}$ , rh < 1%. Also shown are corresponding monthly DWPT data series.

