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Abstract

learning. Soft Computing (SC) and Machine Learning (ML) techniques represent a valuable support in many research areas, but require datasets containing information related to the topic under study. Such datasets are not always available in an appropriate format and its preparation and pre-processing implies a lot of time and effort by researchers. This paper presents a novel software tool with an user-friendly GUI to create datasets by means of management and data integration of meteorological observations from two well-known sources of information: the National Data Buoy Center and the National Centers for Environmental Prediction and for Atmospheric Research Reanalysis Project. Such datasets can be created using buoys and reanalysis data through customisable procedures, in terms of temporal resolution, predictive and objective variables, and can be used by SC and ML methodologies for prediction tasks (classification or regression). The objective is providing the research community with an automated and versatile system for the casuistry that entails well-formed and quality data integration, potentially leading to better prediction models. The software tool can be used as a supporting tool for coastal and ocean

engineering applications, sustainable energy production or environmental modelling; as well as for decision making in the design and construction of coastal protection structures, marine

transportation, offshore industry, ocean energy converters and efficient operation of offshore and coastal engineering activities. Finally, to illustrate the applicability of the proposed tool, a case

study to classify waves depending on their significant height and to predict energy flux in the Gulf of Alaska is presented.

Environmental Prediction; Renewable Energy Resource Evaluation; Meteorological Data; Reanalysis Data; Marine Energy; Soft Computing

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Author Information



Corresponding Antonio Gómez-Orellana, Juan Carlos Fernández, Manuel Dorado-

Authors Moreno, Pedro Antonio Gutiérrez, César Hervás-Martínez

Author #1 Antonio Gómez-Orellana

E-Mail am.gomez@uco.es

Author #2 Juan Carlos Fernández

E-Mail jfcaballero@uco.es

Author #3 Manuel Dorado-Moreno

E-Mail manuel.dorado@uco.es

Author #4 Pedro Antonio Gutiérrez

E-Mail pagutierrez@uco.es

Author #5 César Hervás-Martínez

E-Mail chervas@uco.es

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