**1. Background**:

* For a given date, we have one **compressed file**. This compressed file contains several grib2 files. These grib2 files are recorded at different times of that date. Each compressed file typically contains 30~50 grib2 files.
* Each **grib2 file** contains information for 317 layers for the US continent.
* The different layers record information for different physical values (e.g., temperature, air pressure).
* Each **layer** has a name such as temperature\_alt1, temperature\_alt2, humidity\_alt1 …ect.
* Each layer is partitioned in 337 (rows) x 451 (columns) cells.
* **Each cell** has a (longitude, latitude) coordinate, which is the center point of this cell

**2. Description of input from Josue**:

* Folder named ***RUC13*** (given by Josue) contains 26% of the data in Dr. DuBoise’s lab. This folder contains compressed grib2 files.
* **training\_data\_index.csv**: this file shows the dust events happened from 2002.03.01 to 2012.05.27. The detailed description of this file see below.
* We need to extract the actual data from the grib2 files for the given training data index.

**2.1 training\_data\_index.csv** **File description:**

It contains 4 columns

Longitude/Latitude: the location of a recorded dust event, which may not be the center of a cell (calculations are need in order to find the cells that have this dust event).

Date: date of a dust event in the format of yyyy.mm.dd

ID: does not have any real meaning. It is generated in the original system. Can be deleted.

For example:



**3. How to extract dust events**

**3.1 Procedure to extract training data from grib2 files and training data index**

**Input**: (1) training\_data\_index\_db.csv, (2) compressed grib2 files in RUC13, (3) requested event time periods

**Output**: actual training data

**Procedure**:

* For each row in training\_data\_index.csv which gives a date (2002.03.01), the program first finds the compressed file for that date.
* From the grib2 files in that compressed file, we extract the values at coordinate (-107.40643,31.594833) from all 317 layers.
  + Which grib2 files to use? Set this to be a parameter.
    - E.g., -1 means from all the files.
    - {10, 11, 13} means from the grib2 files that are recorded at 10am, 11am, 1 pm.
  + Which cells for this coordinate (-107.40643,31.594833)?
    - Colby suggested to use the closest cell to this coordinate.
    - Note: (not used, for documentation purpose) Yuhao used a parameter threshold (say delta) to determine whether a cell contains this dust event. Specifically, if abs(event. longitued-cell.longitued)< delta and abs(event. latitude -cell. latitude)< delta, then, this cell is counted as having this dust event.

**3.2 Format of actual dust training data**

**Each row of the training data:**

dust\_event\_date, dust\_event\_longitude, dust\_event\_latitude, cell\_longitude, cell\_latitude, variable\_layer\_1, variable\_layer\_2, …, variable\_layer\_n

**Programs to write:**

1). A program that checks to see if we have data for a given date based on the training data index.

Text file

One row of dust event csv file, grib2 file

2). A program that extracts all the variables and their values from the specified location (lat, long) this program should also export data into a csv file.

**4. How to choose non-dust events**

Suggested by Colby:

For a given cell with dust, randomly choose another cell that is a neighbor of this dust cell. In total, we can choose from 8 neighboring cells.

Reading one compress file: about 1-2 hour.