

# **Forecast verification study for McMurdo and Palmer Stations: Preliminary results**

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## **ABSTRACT**

With the development and expansion of the internet into its current state of ubiquity, the forecast seeker has access to many sources, which he/she must sift through to discover the most accurate, credible forecasts. The purpose of this presentation is to review a preliminary forecast verification exercise for McMurdo and Palmer stations over a multiple month period to determine which source provides the most accurate forecast. The sources being compared for McMurdo Station are: 1) the resident forecasters funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF), 2) Weather Underground, 3) MSN Weather, and 4) the Weather Channel. The sources being compared for Palmer Station are: 1) the forecasters funded by NSF, 2) Weather Underground, and 3) Qwikcast.

While acknowledging that the McMurdo “Town” forecast is a secondary task for the McMurdo Forecasters, as compared to the primary terminal aerodrome forecast (TAF) activities, the preliminary results reveal the resident forecasters do offer the best forecast of maximum and minimum temperatures. A similar effort for Palmer Station is discussed as well.