NCEP daily predictor variable codes and definitions

Code	Description	Units	Notes
dswr	Direct shortwave radiation	*	Derived from single cell
lftx	Surface lifted index	*	Temperature difference between an air parcel lifted adiabatically and the environment at a given height in the atmosphere
mslp	Mean sea level pressure	*	Derived from single cell
p__f	Geostrophic airflow velocity near the surface	*	Derived from a 3 x 3 array of mslp
p__u	Zonal velocity component near the surface	*	Derived from a 3 x 3 array of mslp
p__v	Meridional velocity component near the surface	*	Derived from a 3 x 3 array of mslp
p__z	Vorticity near the surface	*	Derived from a 3 x 3 array of mslp
p_th	Wind direction near the surface	° N	Derived from a 3 x 3 array of mslp
p_zh	Divergence near the surface	*	Derived from a 3 x 3 array of mslp
p5_f	Geostrophic airflow velocity at 500 hPa	*	Derived from a 3 x 3 array of 500 hPa levels
p5_u	Zonal velocity component at 500 hPa	*	Derived from a 3 x 3 array of 500 hPa levels
p5_v	Meridional velocity component at 500 hPa	*	Derived from a 3 x 3 array of 500 hPa levels
p5_z	Vorticity at 500 hPa	*	Derived from a 3 x 3 array of 500 hPa levels
p5th	Wind direction at 500 hPa	° N	Derived from a 3 x 3 array of 500 hPa levels
p5zh	Divergence at 500 hPa	*	Derived from a 3 x 3 array of 500 hPa levels
p8_f	Geostrophic airflow velocity at 850 hPa	*	Derived from a 3 x 3 array of 850 hPa levels
p8_u	Zonal velocity component at 850 hPa	*	Derived from a 3 x 3 array of 850 hPa levels
p8_v	Meridional velocity component at 850 hPa	*	Derived from a 3 x 3 array of 850 hPa levels
p8_z	Vorticity at 850 hPa	*	Derived from a 3 x 3 array of 850 hPa levels
p8th	Wind direction at 850 hPa	° N	Derived from a 3 x 3 array of 850 hPa levels
p8zh	Divergence at 850 hPa	*	Derived from a 3 x 3 array of 850 hPa levels
p500	500 hPa geopotential height	*	Derived from single cell
p850	850 hPa geopotential height	*	Derived from single cell
pottmp	Potential temperature	*	The temperature that an unsaturated air parcel would have if lowered (or raised) to a standard pressure
pr_wtr	Precipitable water	*	The depth of water in a column of the atmosphere, if all the water in that column were precipitated as rain
prec	Precipitation total	mm	Total liquid plus solid precipitation
r500	Relative humidity at 500 hPa height	*	Derived from single cell
r850	Relative humidity at 850 hPa height	*	Derived from single cell
rhum	Near surface relative humidity	*	Derived from single cell
shum	Near surface specific humidity	*	Derived from single cell
temp	Near surface air temperature	°C	Derived from single cell

* denotes a dimensionless Z-score with mean zero and standard deviation one

All variables are available from the SDSM portal: https://www.sdsm.org.uk/