

# **Satellite Data Assimilation in Regional Models: Promises and Challenges**

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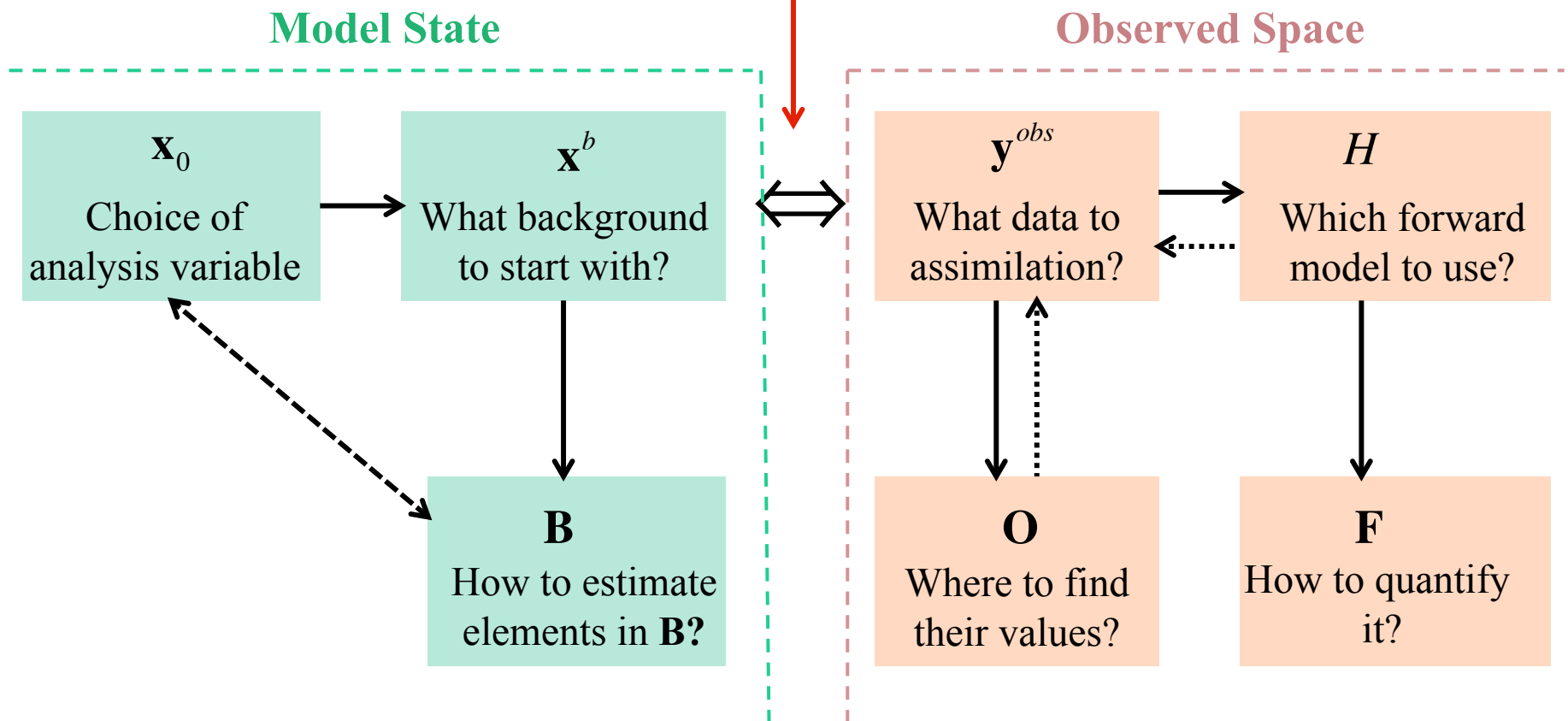
# Outline

- Important Building Blocks for Satellite DA
- GOES Imager Radiance Assimilation in GSI/ARW
- POSE MHS Radiance Assimilation in GSI/ARW
- SNPP ATMS Radiance Assimilation in GSI/HWRF
- Summary & Conclusions

# Important Building Blocks for Satellite DA

$$J(\mathbf{x}_0) = \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x}_0 - \mathbf{x}^b)^T \mathbf{B}^{-1}(\mathbf{x}_0 - \mathbf{x}^b) + \frac{1}{2}(H(\mathbf{x}_0) - \mathbf{y}^{obs})^T (\mathbf{O} + \mathbf{F})^{-1}(H(\mathbf{x}_0) - \mathbf{y}^{obs})$$

$$J(\mathbf{x}^a) = \min_{\mathbf{x}_0} J(\mathbf{x}_0)$$



## **Part I**

# **An Evaluation of Added Benefits of GOES Imager Radiances to Other Satellite Data Assimilation**

# GOES Imager Radiance Assimilation in GSI/ARW

## 1) Comparison of Single Type Satellite Data Assimilation

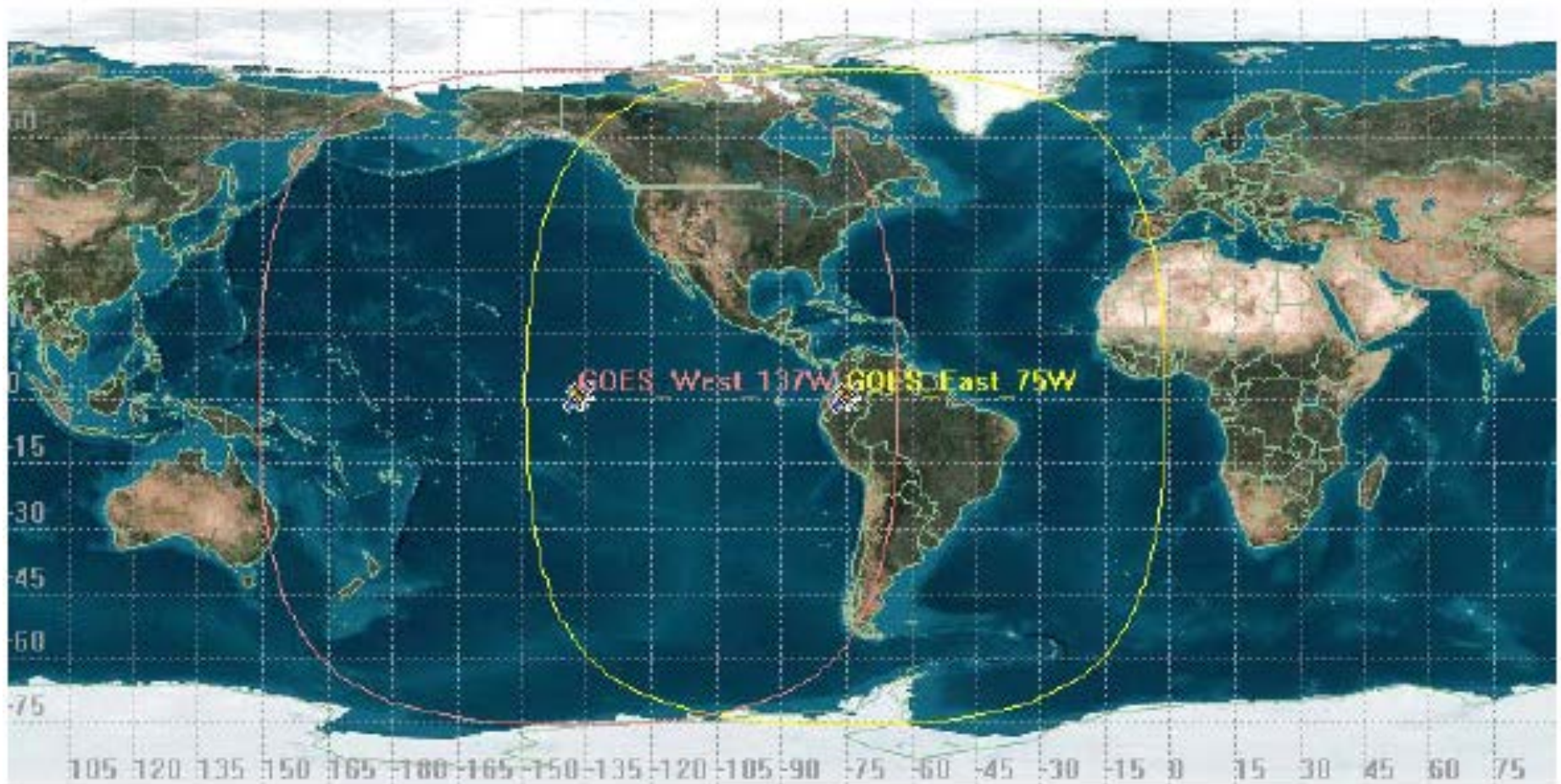
- |          |          |          |               |
|----------|----------|----------|---------------|
| ✓ AMSU-A | ✓ HIRS/4 | ✓ HIRS/3 | ✓ GSN         |
| ✓ AIRS   | ✓ AIRS   | ✓ MHS    | ✓ GOES Imager |

## 2) GOES Imager Added to Different Types of Satellite Data

## 3) GOES Imager Added to All Satellite Data Assimilation

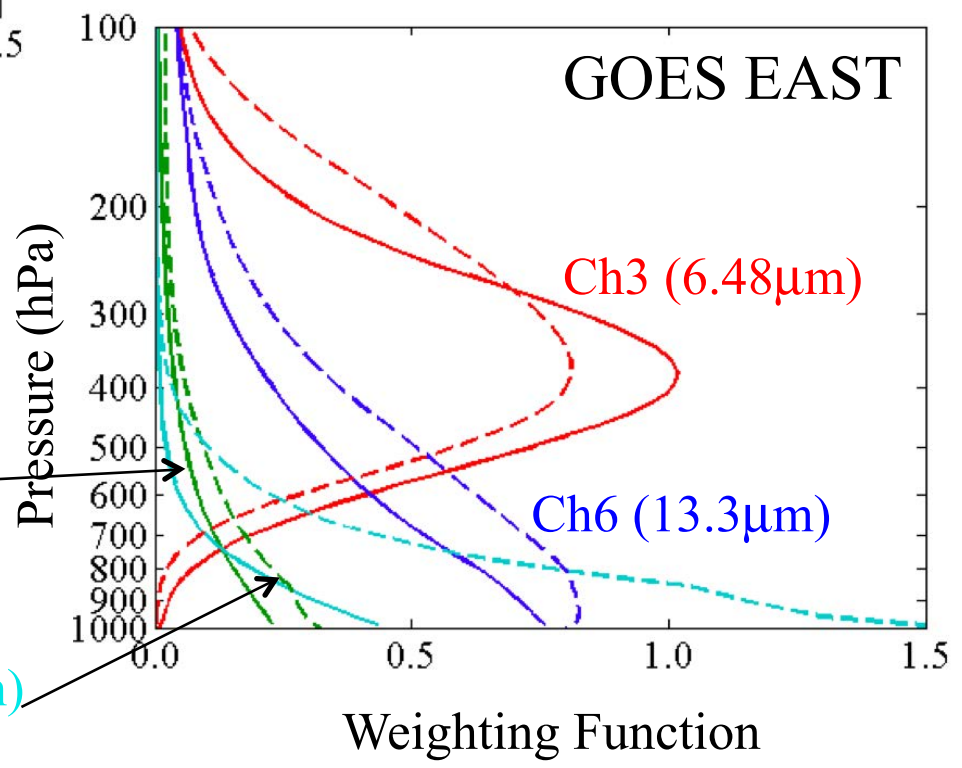
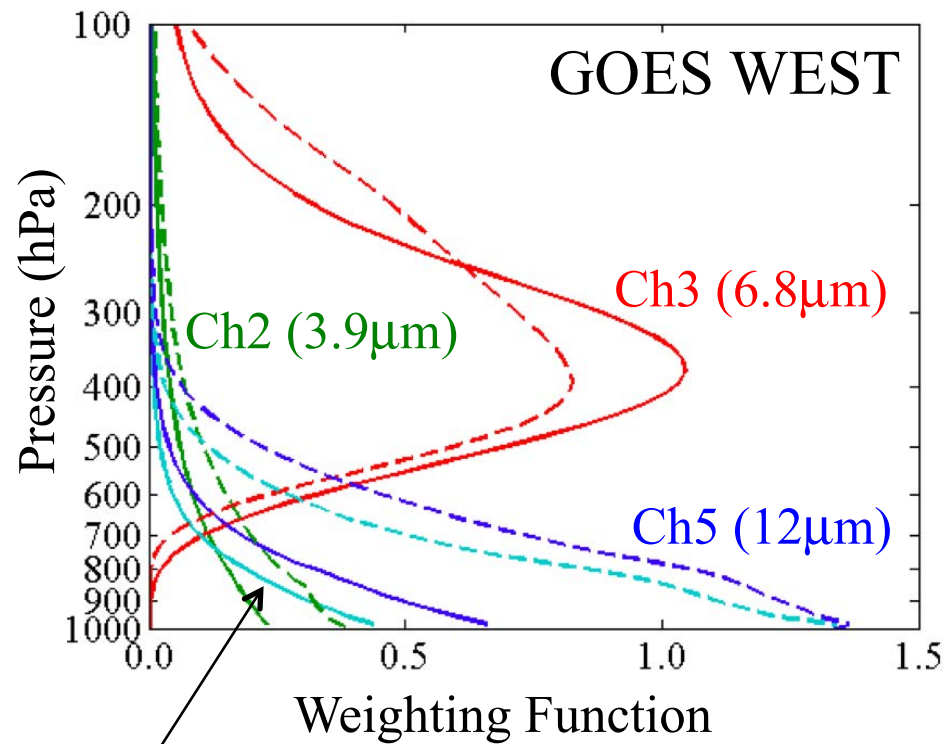
## 4) Impact of Quality Control on MHS Data Assimilation

# GOES West (11) and GOES East (12)

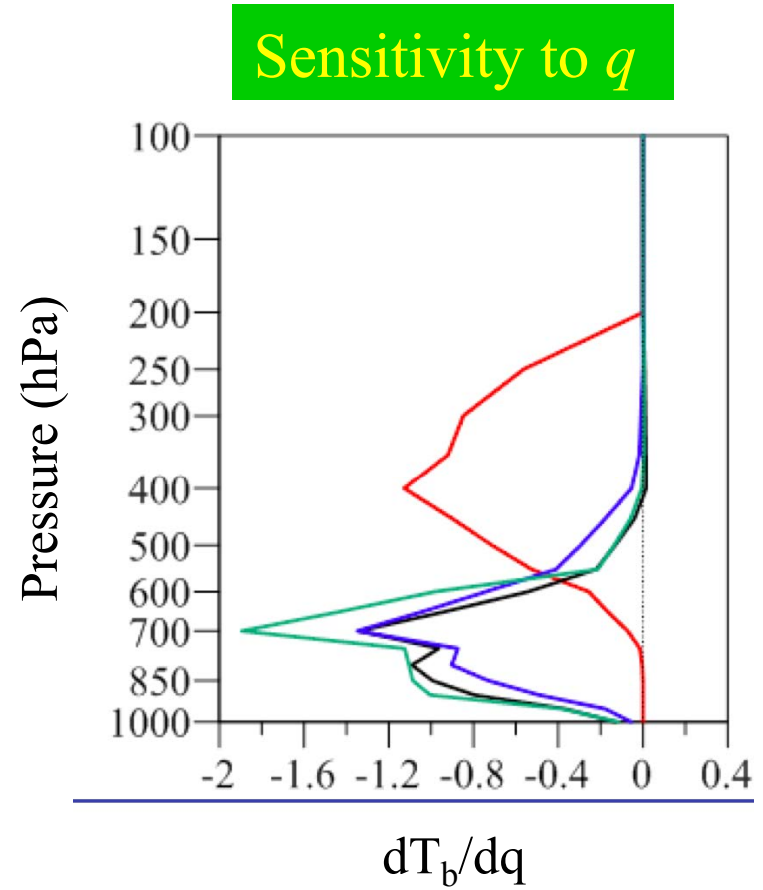
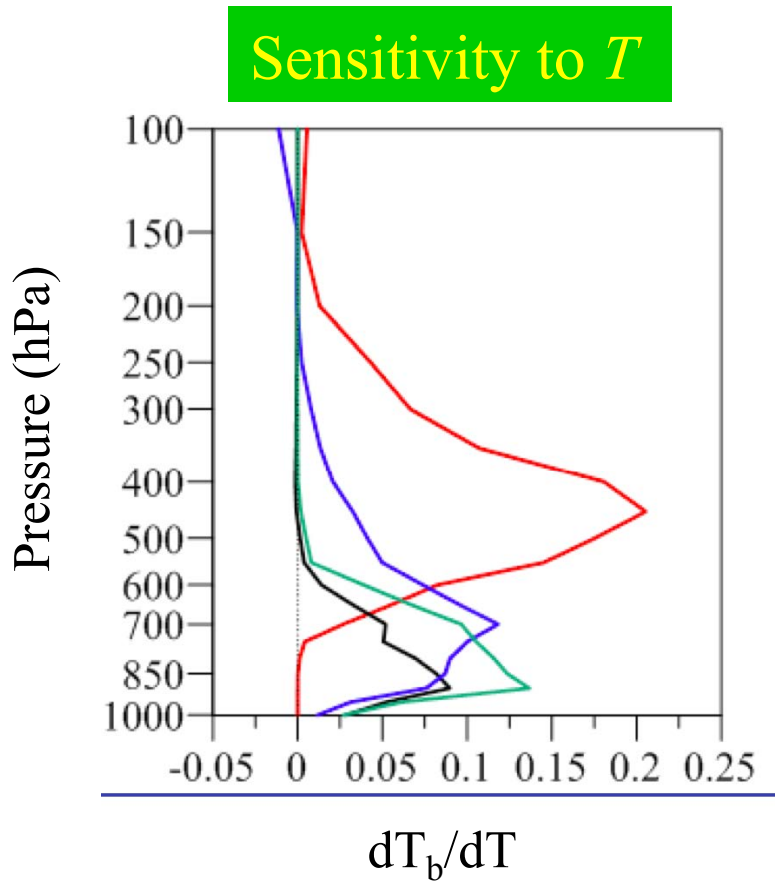


**GOES-R Series Imagery Coverage Figure**

Ch2: near-infrared (low cloud, fog, fire)  
Ch3: infrared (upper-level water vapor)  
Ch4: infrared (surface and cloud-top T)  
Ch5: infrared (low-level water vapor)  
Ch6: infrared (cloud detection)



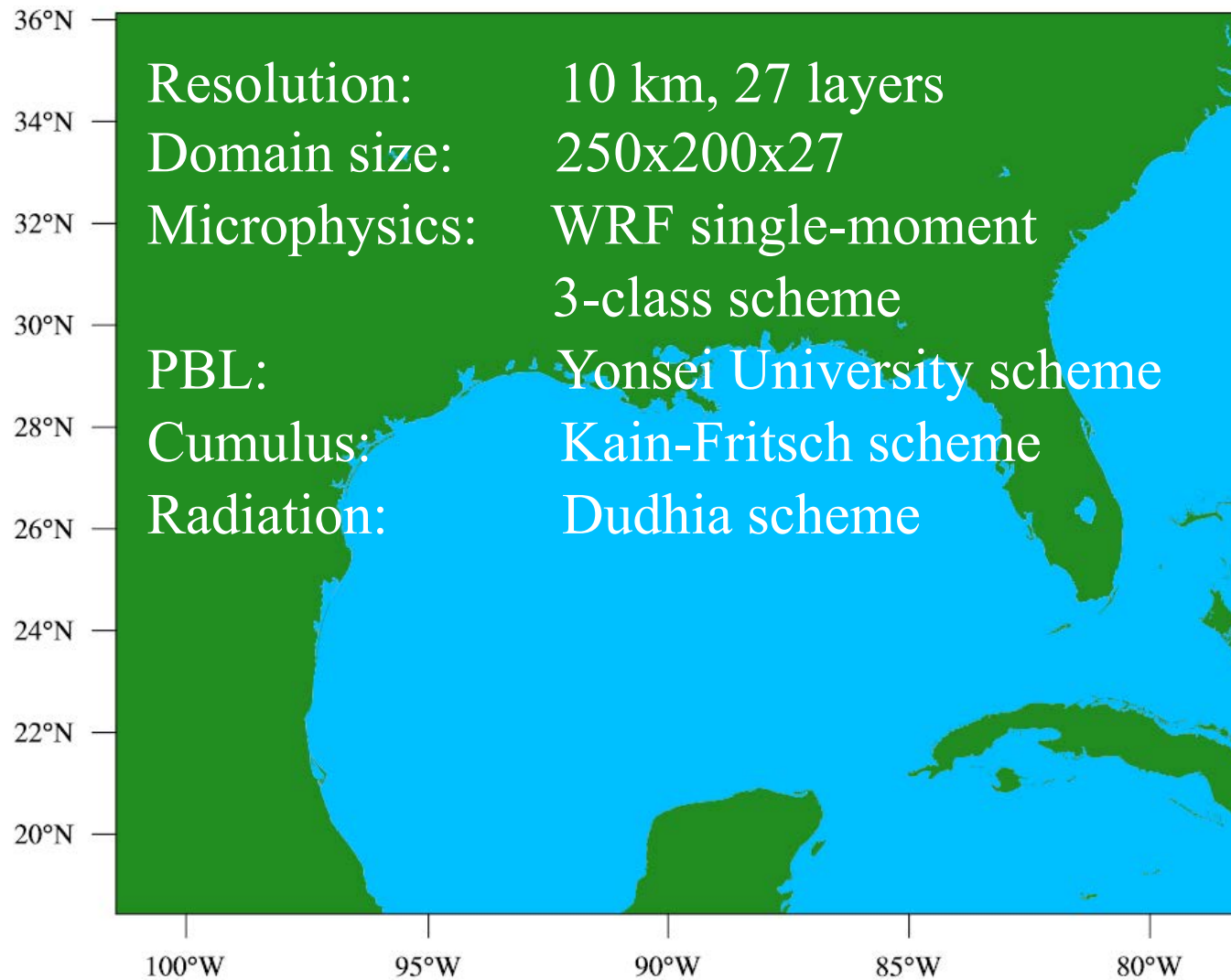
# Mean Jacobian of Brightness Temperature



—Ch3 —Ch4 —Ch5 —Ch6



# Advanced Research WRF (ARW) Model Domain



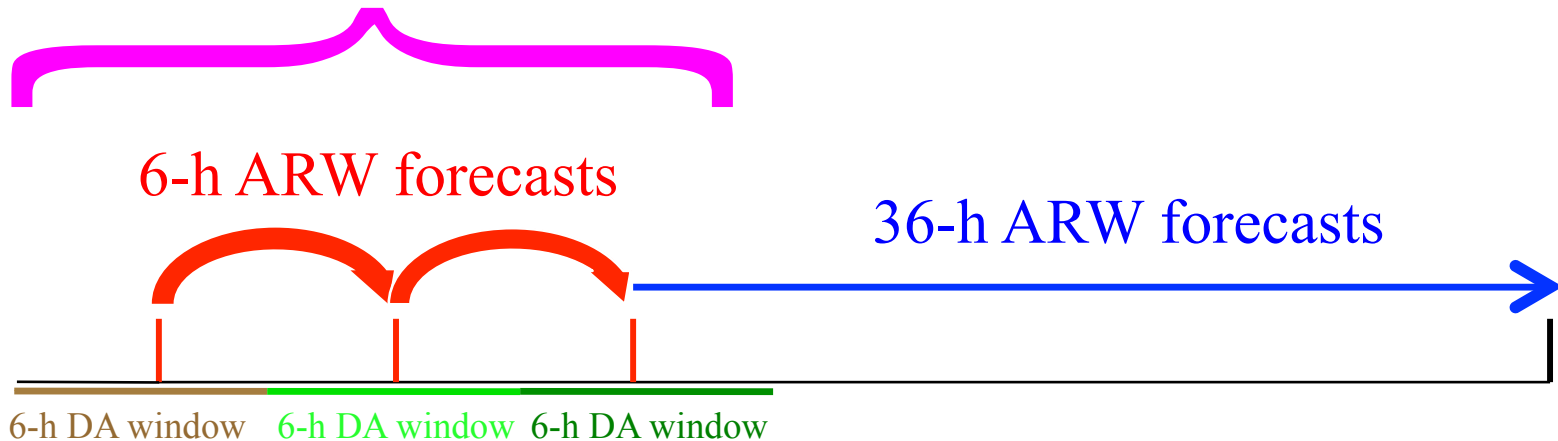
# NCEP GSI 3D-Var Data Assimilation System

Assimilation of Different Combinations of Observations

AMSU-A, AIRS, HIRS/3, HIRS/4, MHS, GSN,

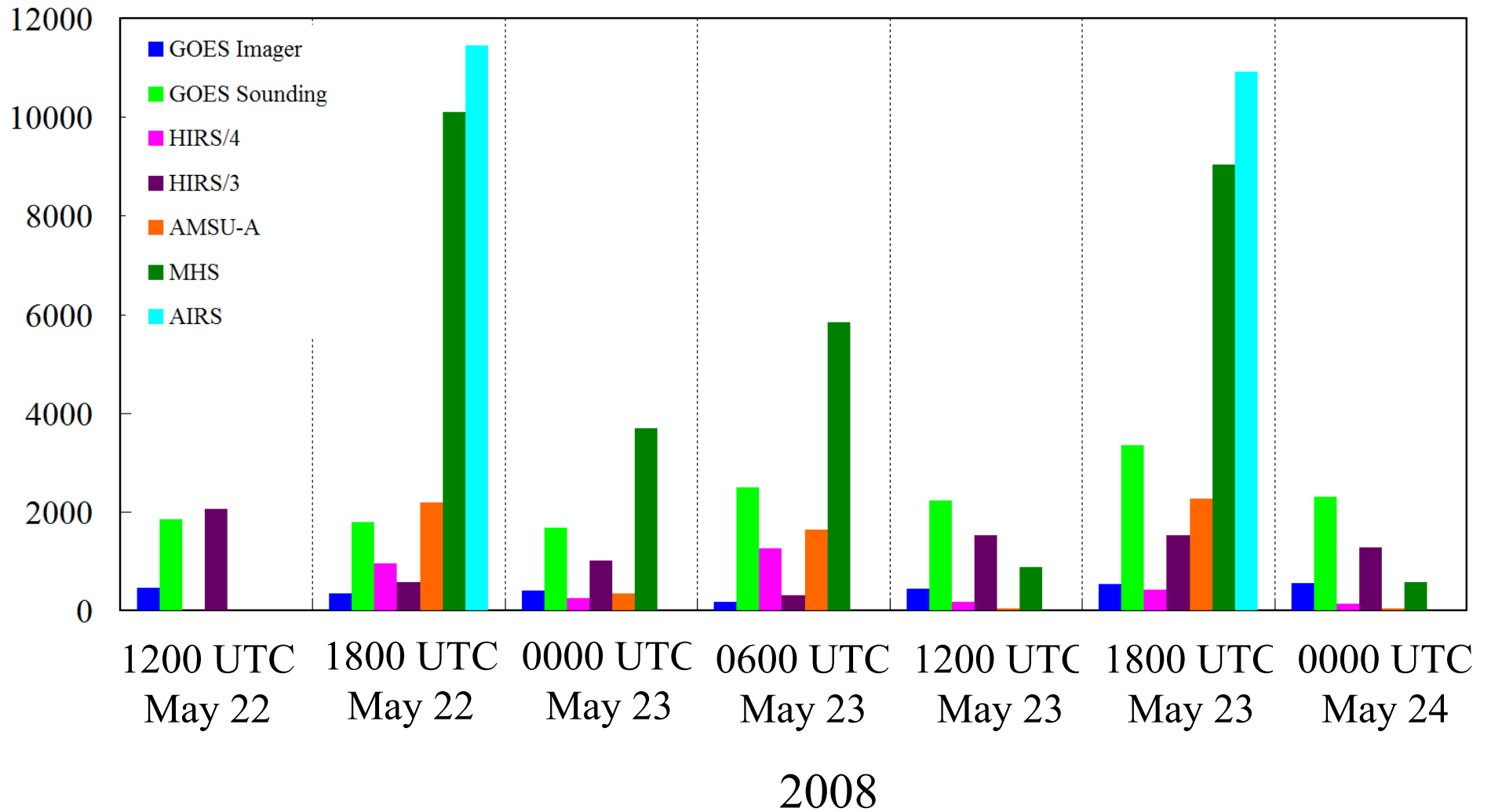
GOES imager, Conventional data

**GSI DA Cycling** (1200 UTC May 22 to 0000 UTC May 23, 2008)

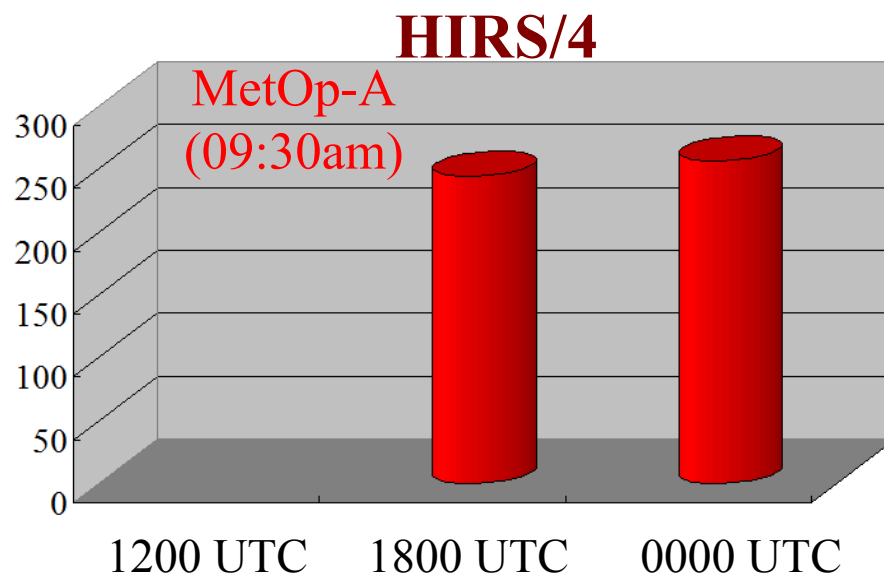
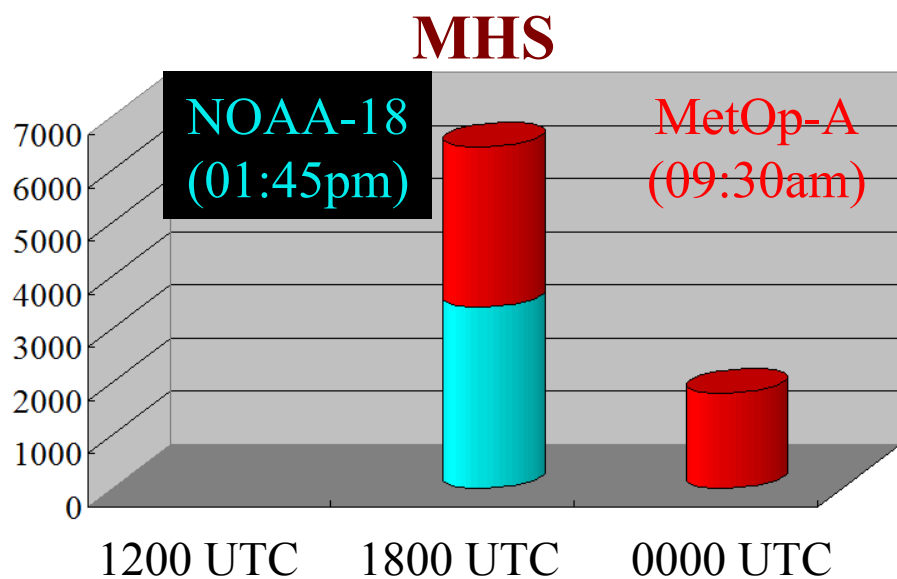
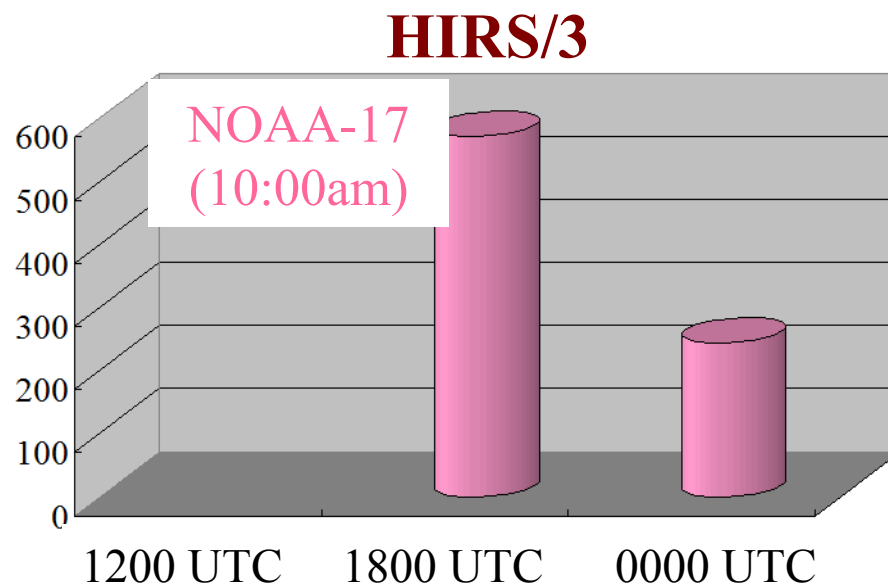
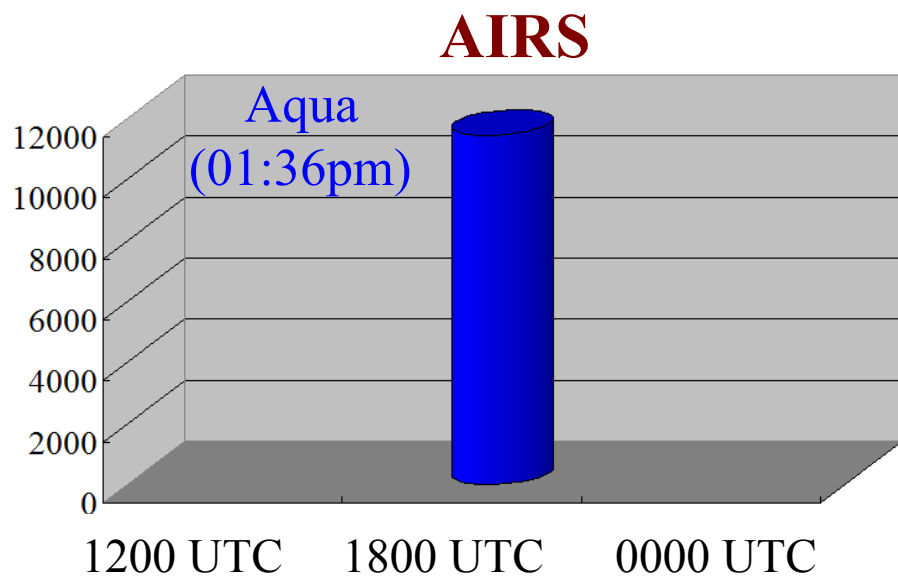


| Satellite  | Instruments             | Satellite | Instruments | Satellite | Instruments |
|--|-------------------------|-----------|-------------|-----------|-------------|
| NOAA-14  | [HIRS/2] <sup>(1)</sup> | MetOp-A   | HIRS/4      | GOES-11   | (SNDR)      |
|  | [MSU]                   |           | AMSU-A      |           | Imager      |
| NOAA-15  | AMSU-A                  |           | MHS         |           | SNDRD1      |
|  | AMSU-B                  |           | [IASI]      |           | SNDRD2      |
| NOAA-16  | (HIRS/3) <sup>(2)</sup> | Aqua      | AIRS        | GOES-12   | SNDRD3      |
|  | (AMSU-A)                |           | (AMSU-A)    |           | SNDRD4      |
|  | AMSU-B                  | (AMSRE)   | (SNDR)      |           |             |
|  | (AVHRR3)                | F13       | (SSMI)      |           | Imager      |
| NOAA-17  | HIRS/3                  | F14       | (SSMI)      | GOES-13   | SNDRD1      |
|  | (AMSU-A)                | F15       | (SSMI)      |           | SNDRD2      |
|  | AMSU-B                  | F16       | (SSMIS)     |           | SNDRD3      |
|  | (AVHRR3)                |           |             |           | SNDRD4      |
| NOAA-18  | (HIRS/4)                |           |             | GOES-13   | (SNDR)      |
|  | AMSU-A                  |           |             |           | (Imager)    |
|  | MHS                     |           |             |           | (SNDRD1)    |
|  | (AVHRR3)                |           |             |           | (SNDRD2)    |
|  |                         |           |             |           | (SNDRD3)    |
|  |                         |           |             |           | (SNDRD4)    |
| <sup>(1)</sup> Data not available for this case.                       |                         |           |             |           |             |
| <sup>(2)</sup> Instruments removed from operational data assimilation. |                         |           |             |           |             |

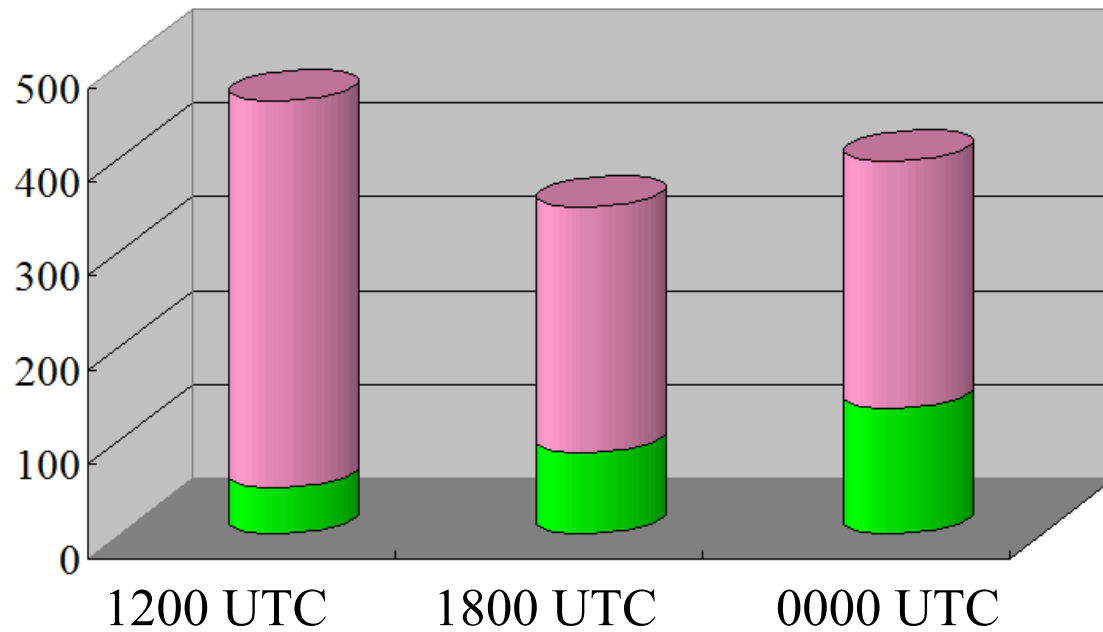
# Total Data Count



# UTC Dependence of POES Data Count



# GOES Imager Data Count

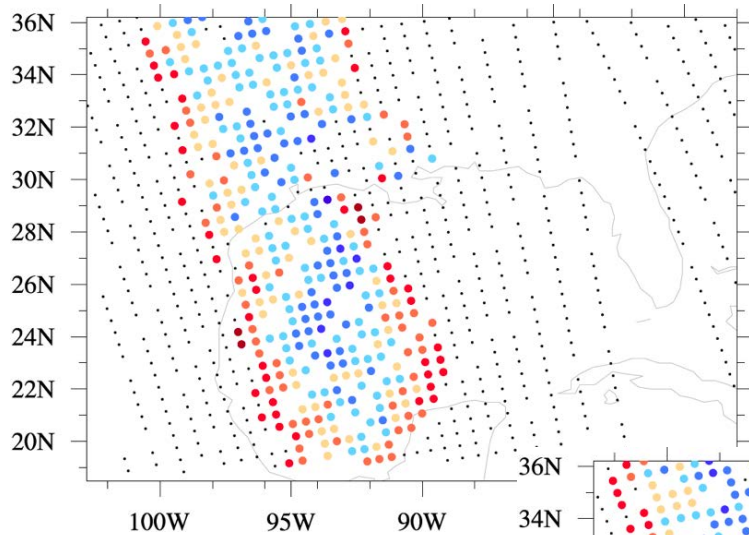


G11-Imager

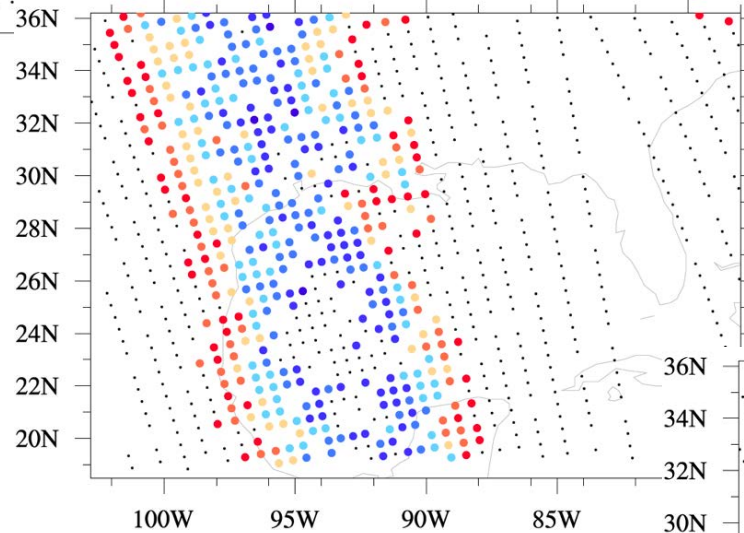
G12-Imager

# O-B for AMSU-A (NOAA-18) 1800 UTC May 22, 2008

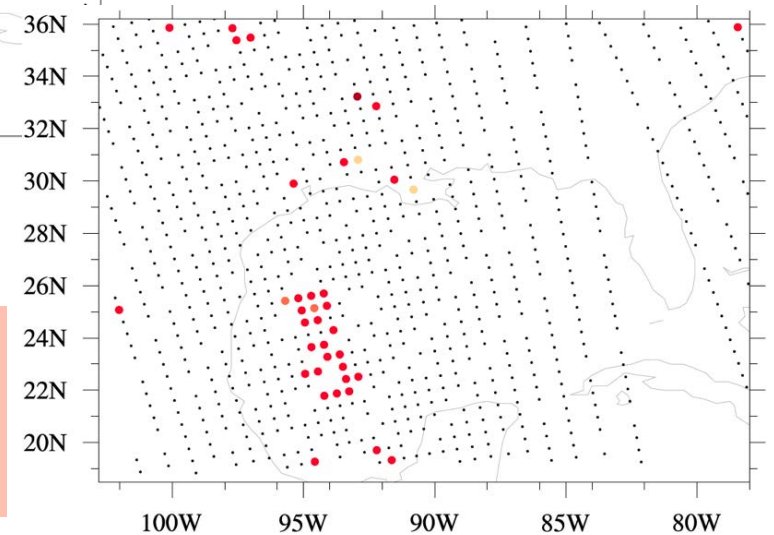
## Ch6



## Ch7



## Ch8



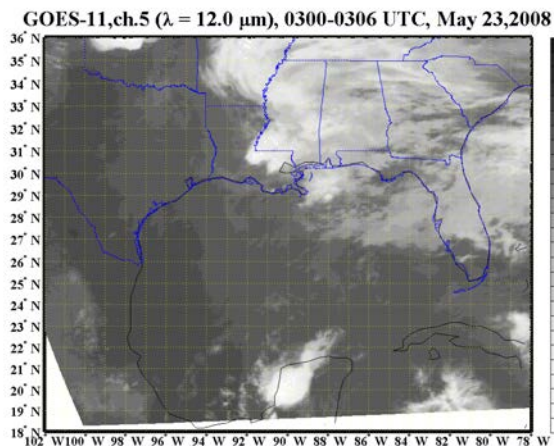
O-B (K)



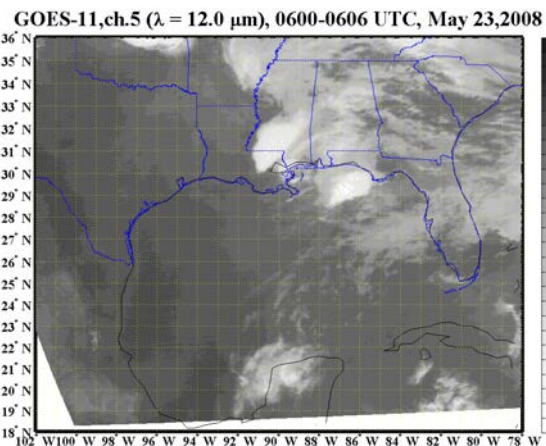
Only three AMSU-A channels are assimilated in GSI/ARW due to a too low model top (~50 hPa) for satellite data assimilation!

# Observed BT of GOES-11 Ch5 on May 23, 2008

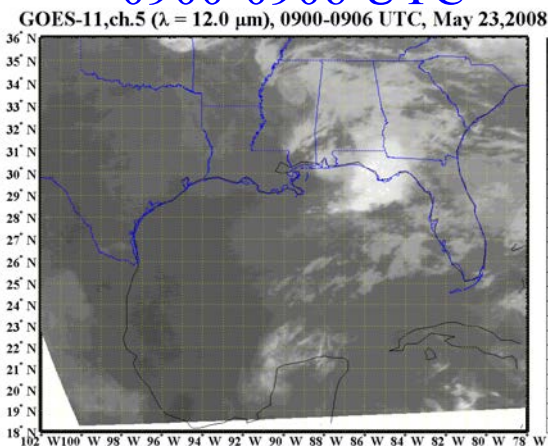
0300-0306 UTC



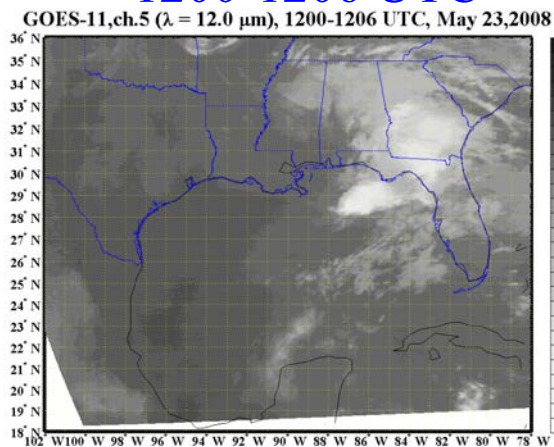
0600-0606 UTC



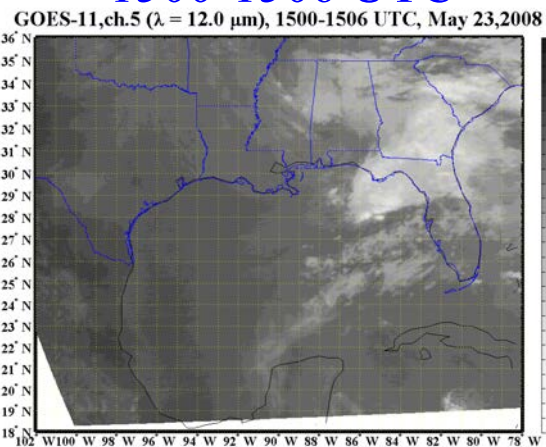
0900-0906 UTC



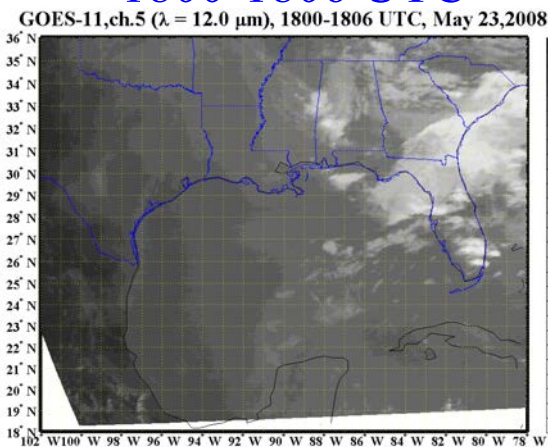
1200-1206 UTC



1500-1506 UTC



1800-1806 UTC



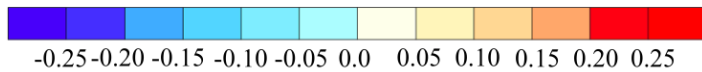
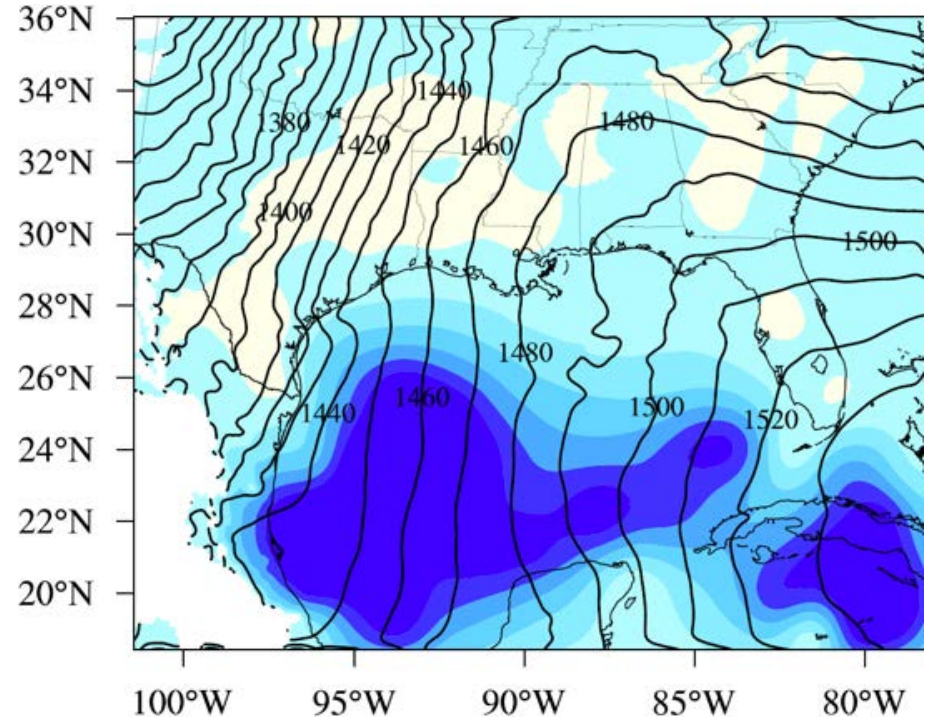
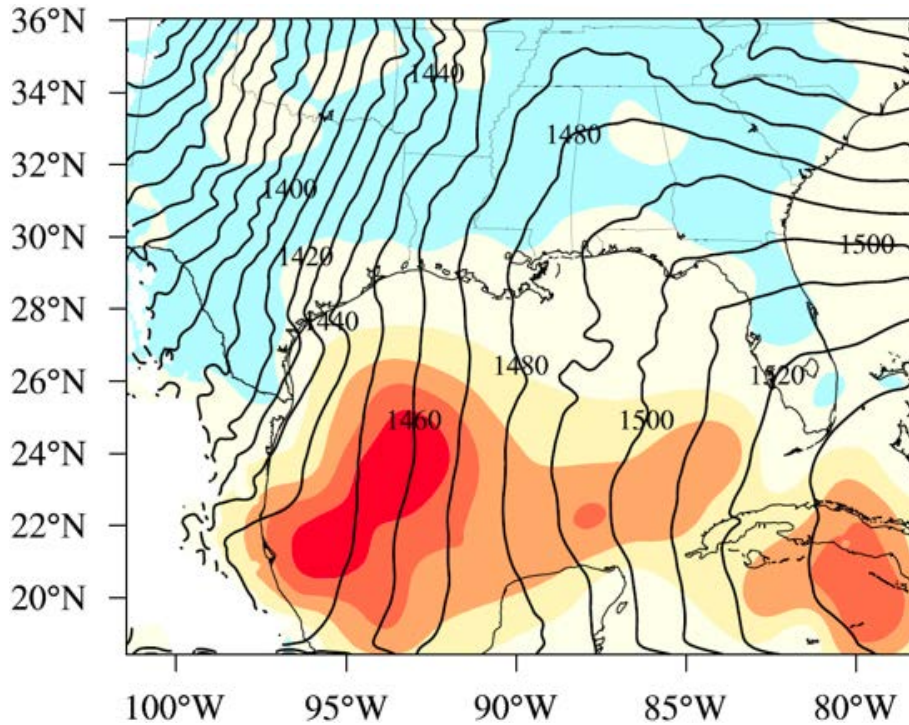


# 12-h Forecast Differences at 850 hPa

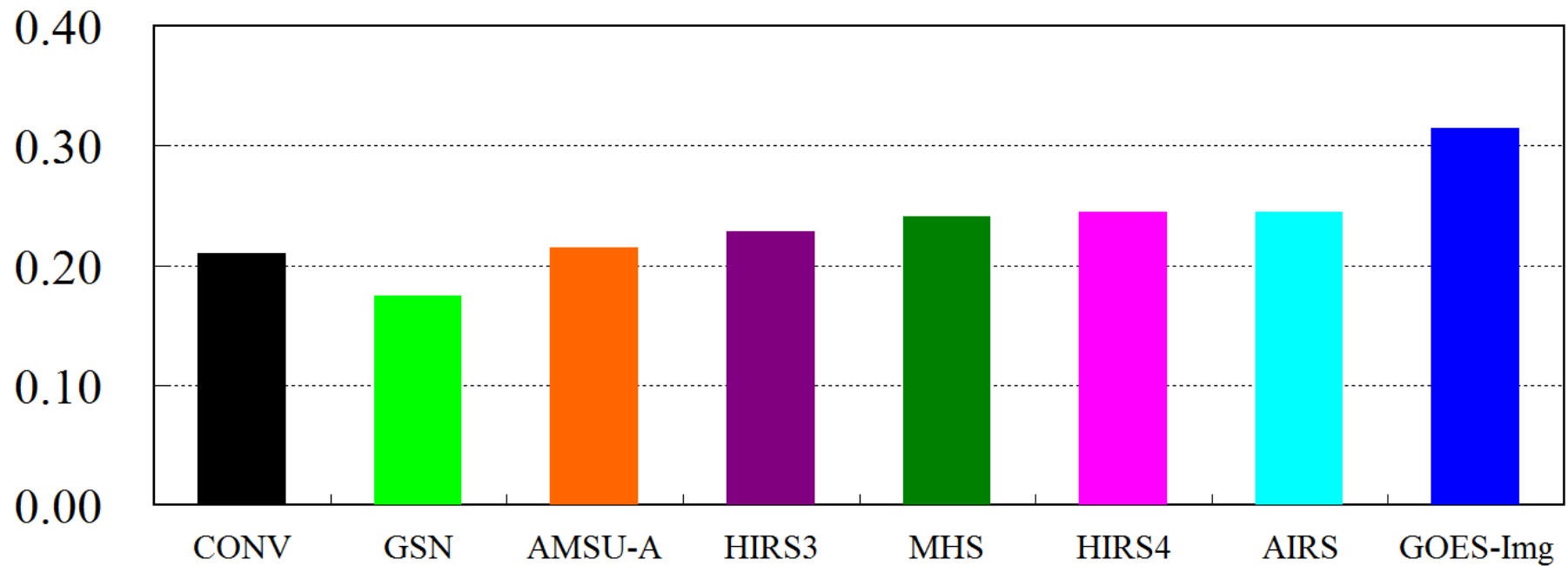
1200 UTC May 23 2008

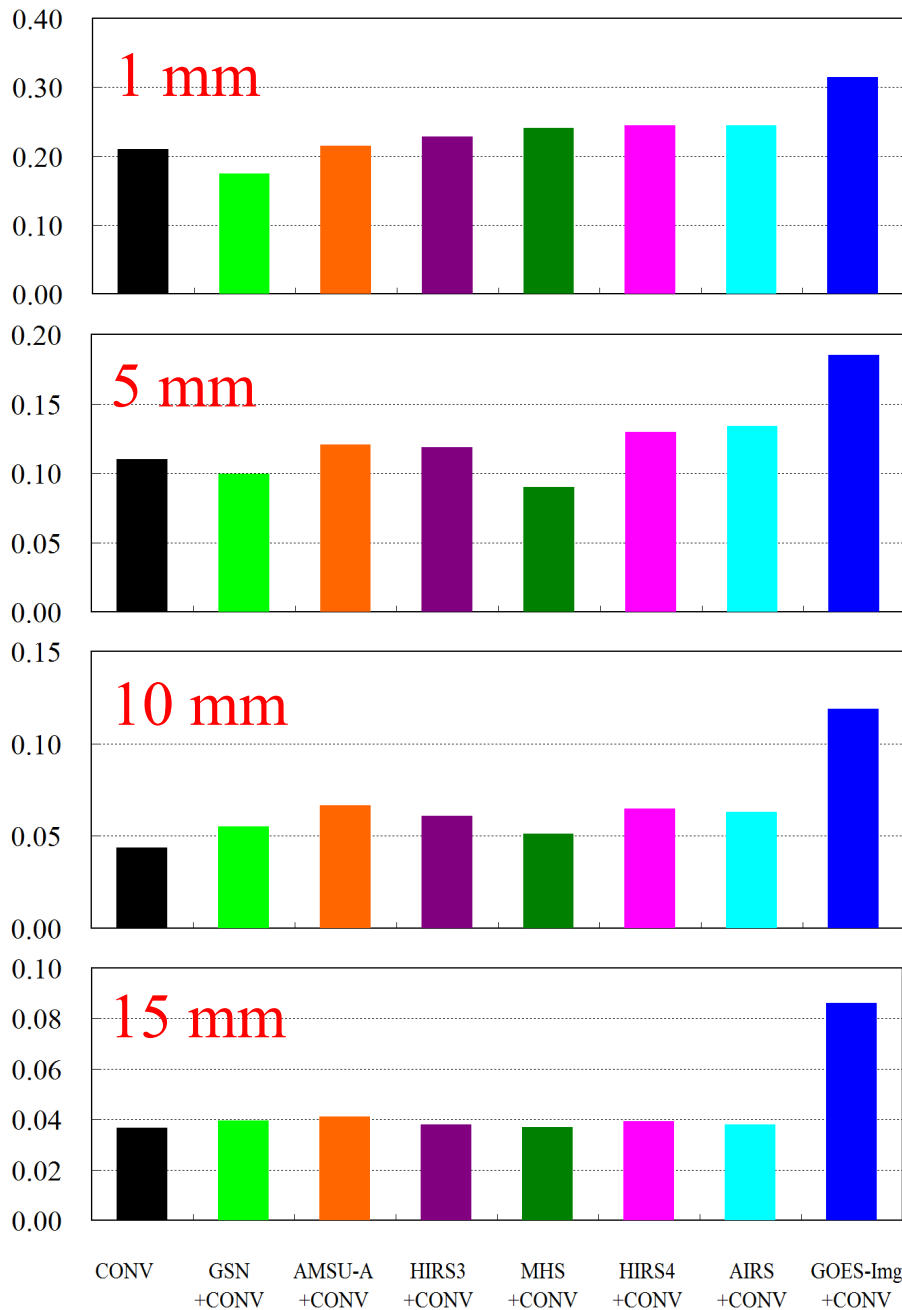
Mixing Ratio  
GOES\_Img - CONV

Temperature  
GOES\_Img - CONV



## Threat Scores of 3-h Accumulative Rainfall at 1mm thresholds Averaged over 24 Hours

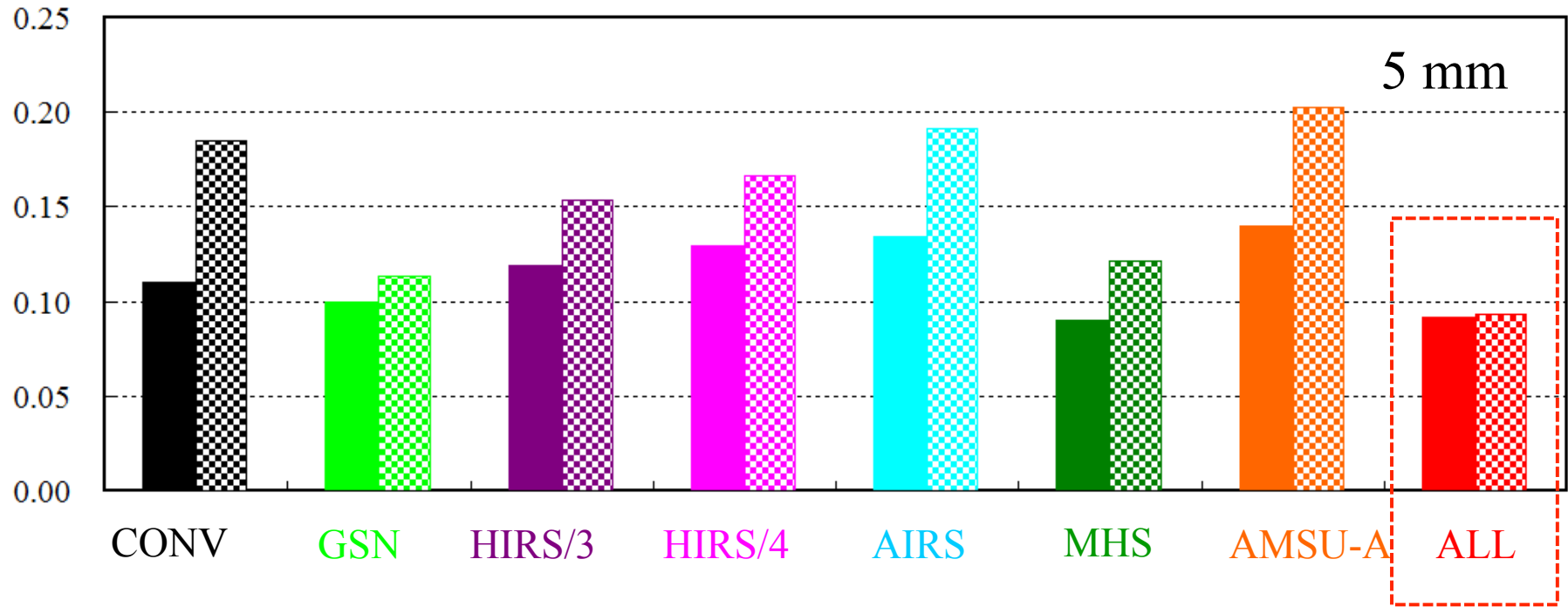




## Threat Scores of 3-h Accumulative Rainfall Averaged over 24 Hours

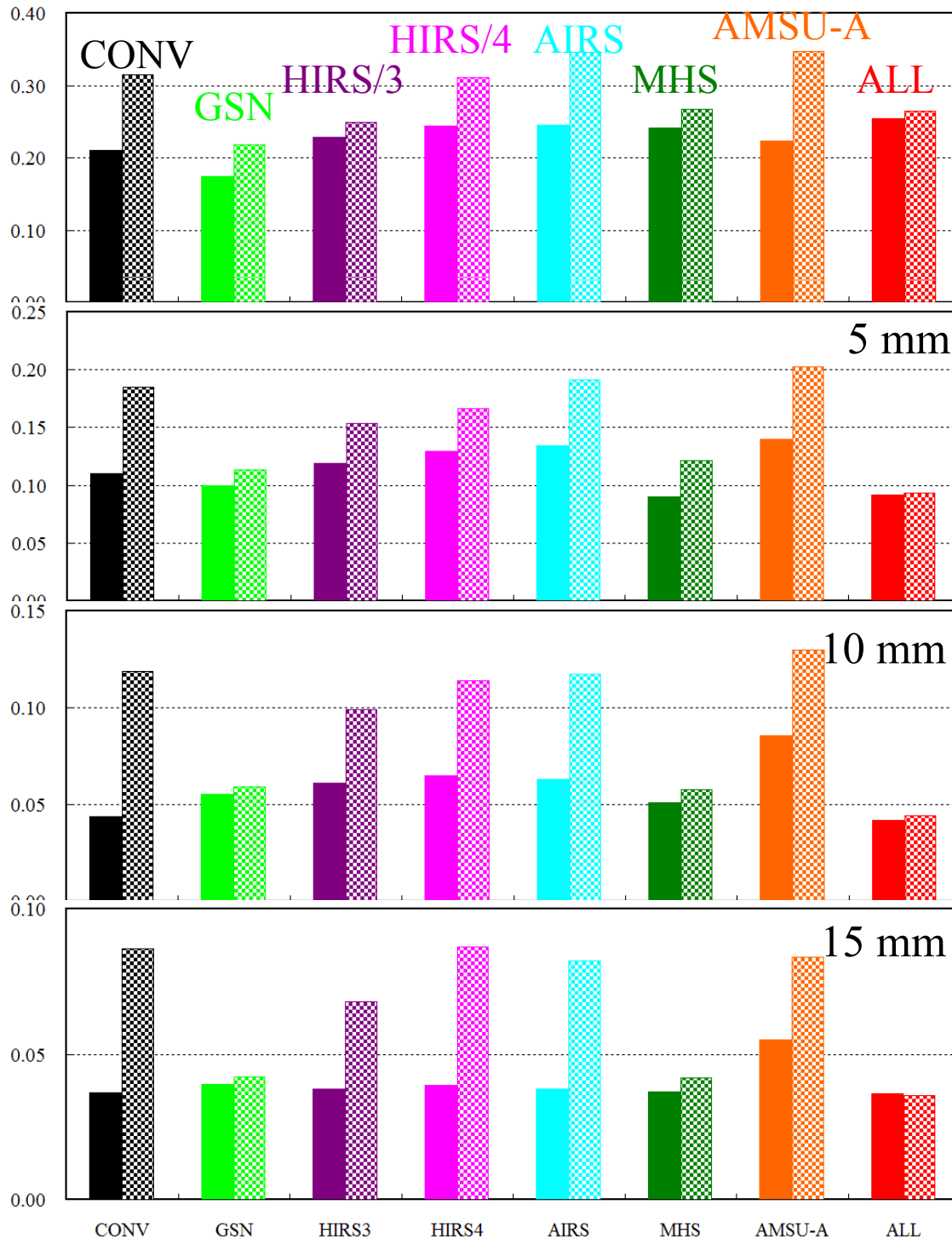
### Assimilation of a Single Type of Satellite Observations

# Threat Scores of 3-h Accumulative Rainfall at 5mm thresholds Averaged over 24 Hours



Left bar: without GOES Imager data

Right bar: with GOES Imager data



1 mm

## Threat Scores of 3-h Accumulative Rainfall Averaged over 24 Hours

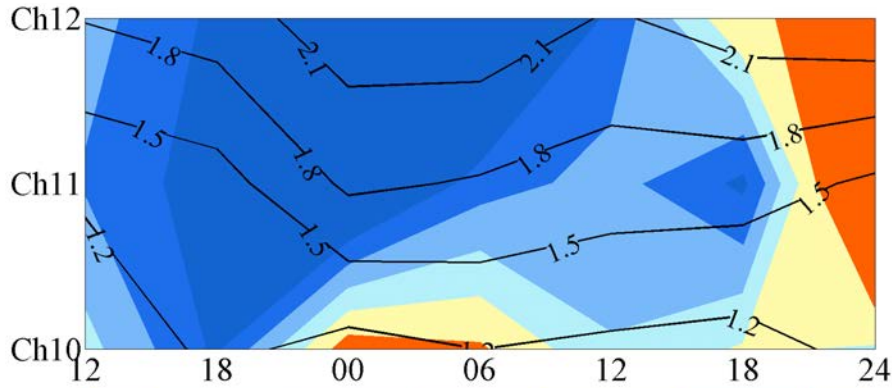
GOES Imager improves  
the assimilation of a single  
type of satellite data.

Left bar: without GOES imager  
Right bar: with GOES Imager

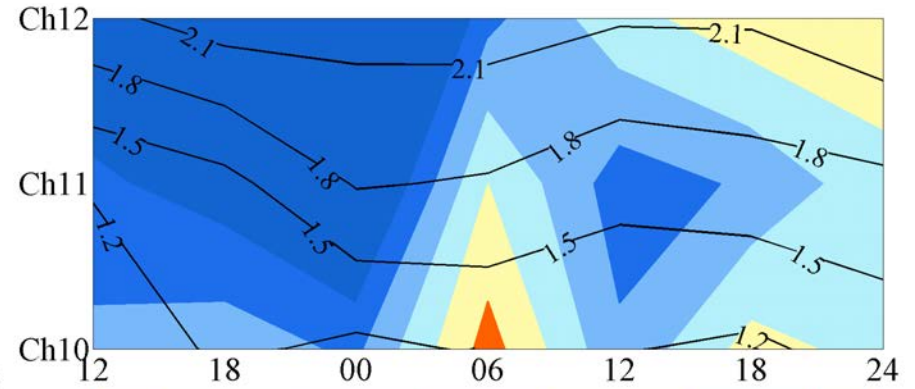
# Verification with GOES Sounder

$$\Delta\sigma = \sigma_{CONV+AMSU-A+GOES\_Img} - \sigma_{CONV+AMSU-A}$$

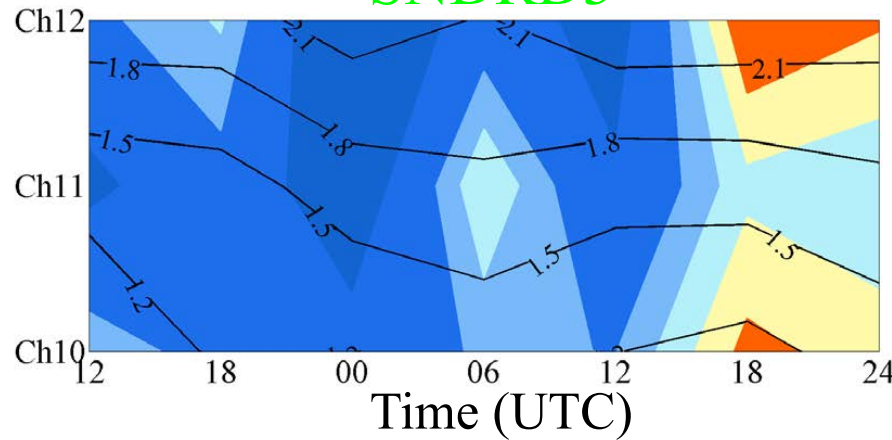
SNDRD1



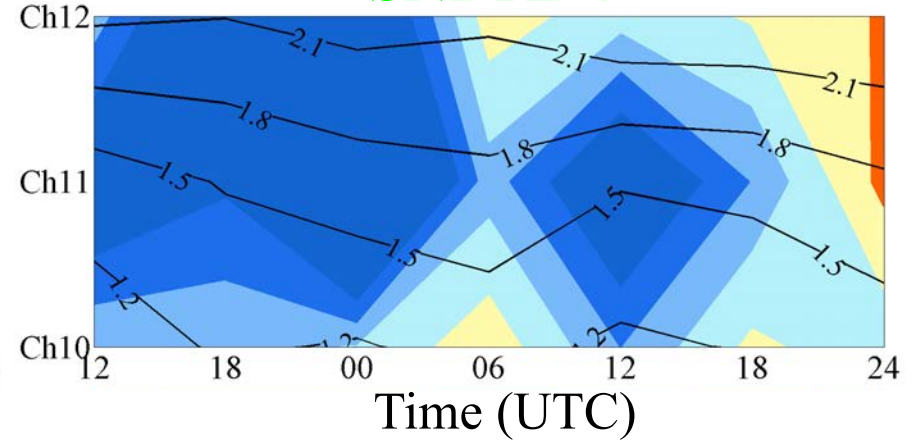
SNDRD2



SNDRD3



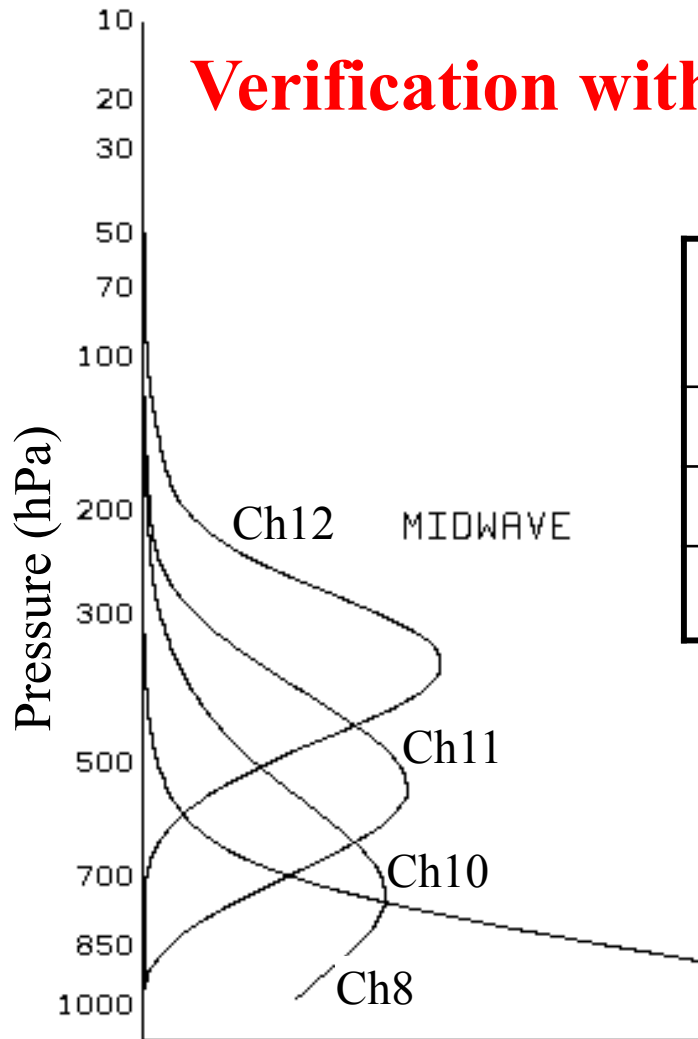
SNDRD4



$\Delta\sigma < 0 \leftrightarrow$  Improvement

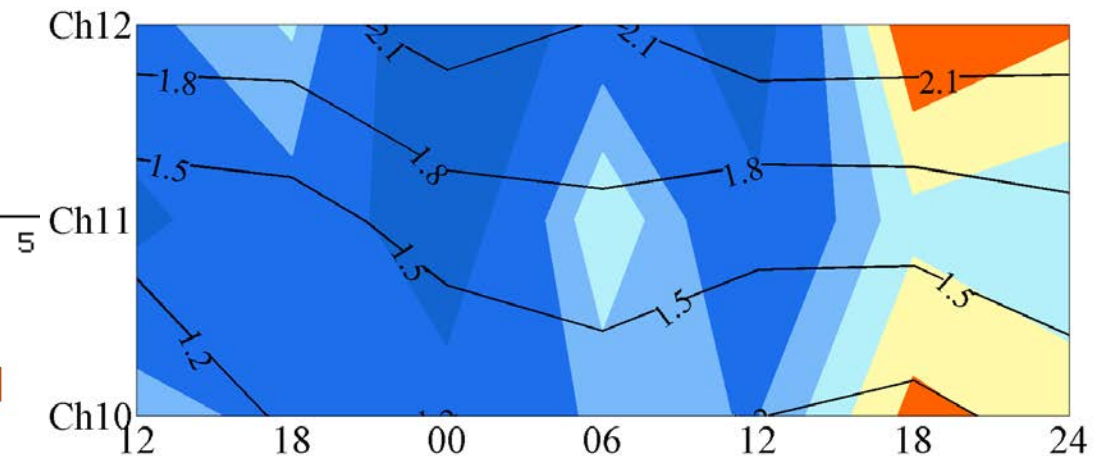


# Verification with Independent GOES Sounder Data



| Channel | Wavelength,um<br>(wavenumber, cm <sup>-1</sup> ) | Purpose              |
|---------|--|----------------------|
| 10      | 7.43(1345)                                       | Low-level moisture   |
| 11      | 7.02(1425)                                       | Midlevel moisture    |
| 12      | 6.51(1535)                                       | Upper-level moisture |

$$\Delta\sigma = \sigma_{CONV+AMSU-A+GOES\_Img} - \sigma_{CONV+AMSU-A}$$



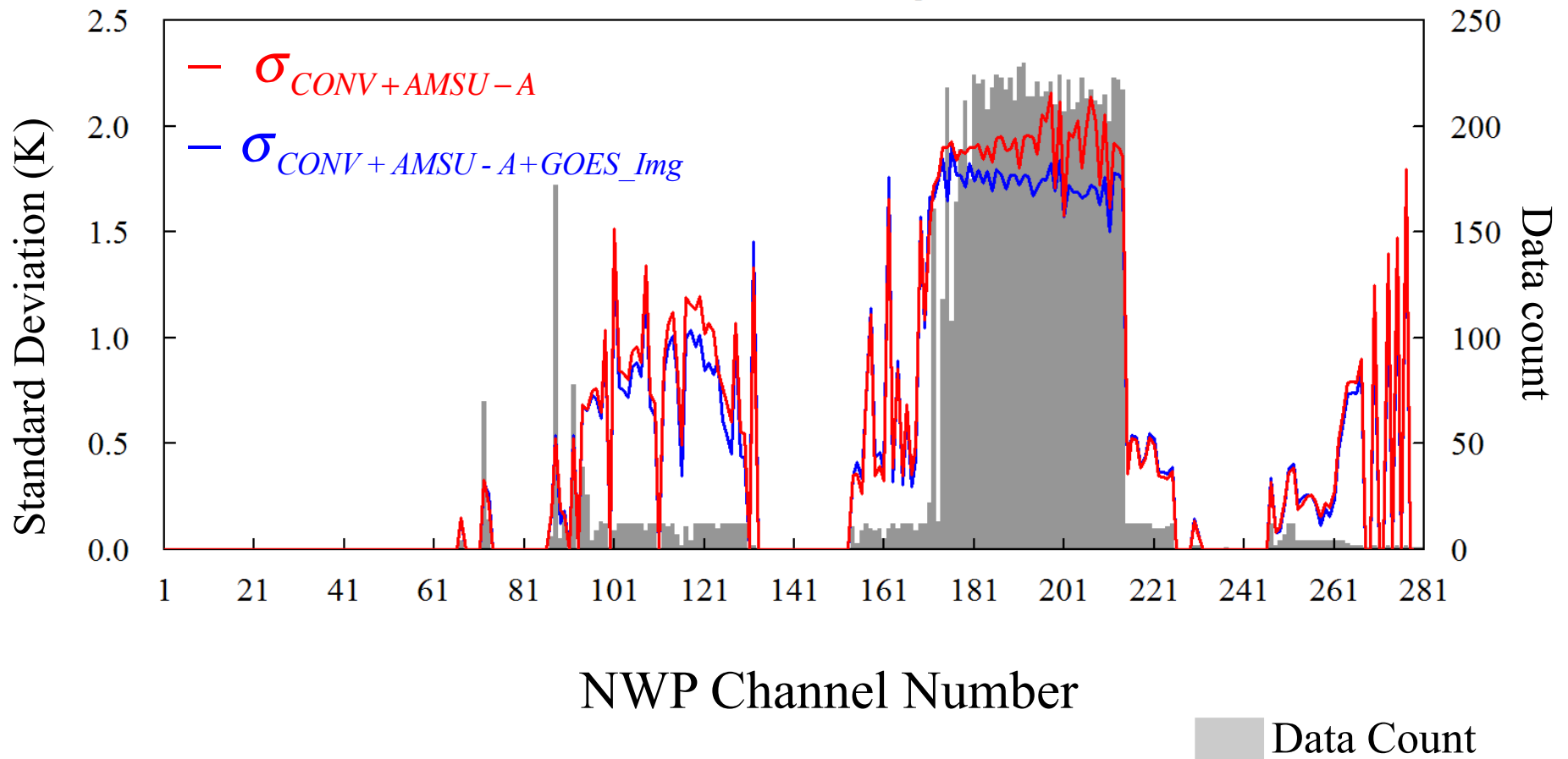
← DA cycle →

← Forecast period →

DA cycle

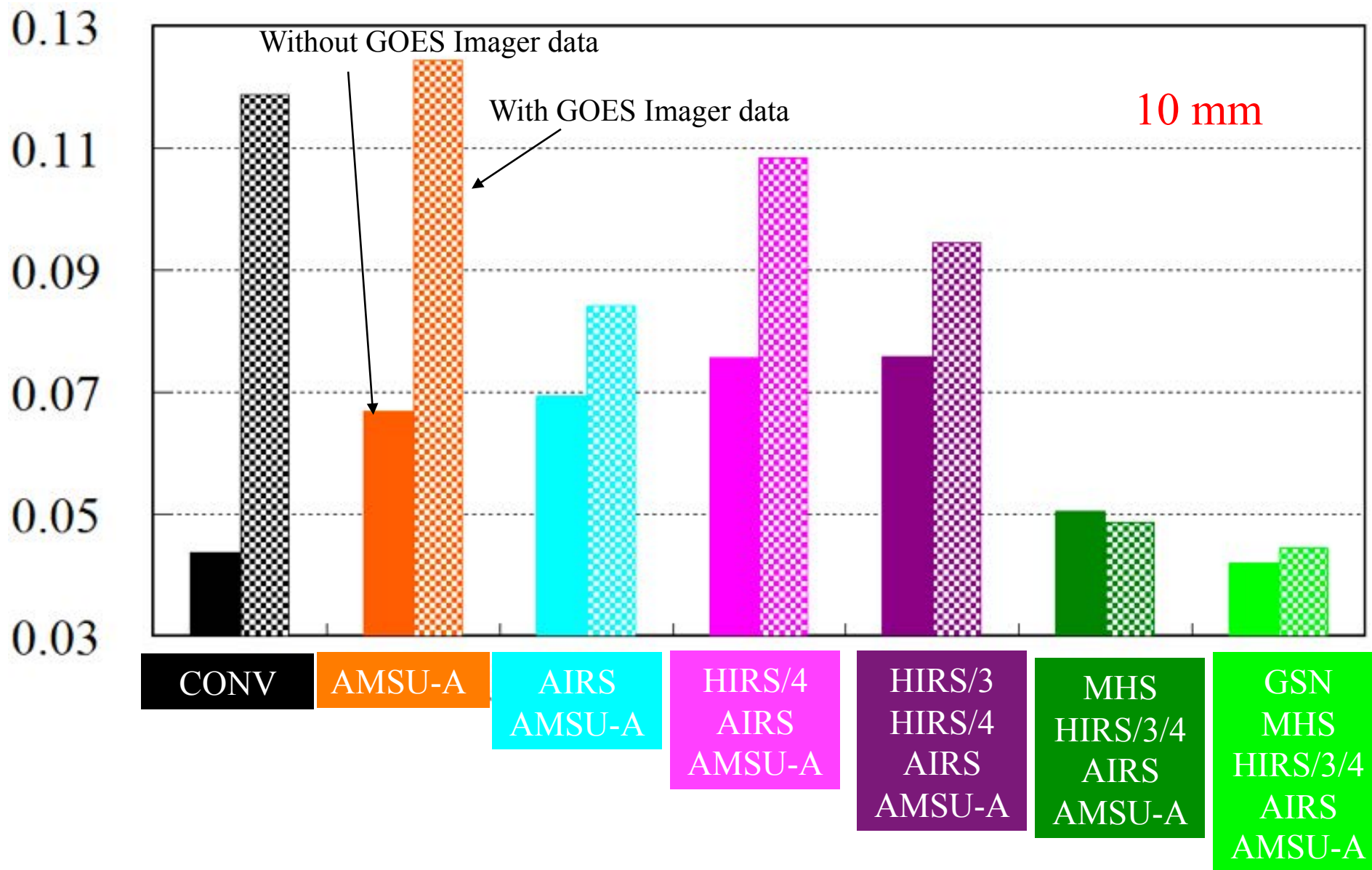
Forecast period

# 12-h Forecast Verification with AIRS

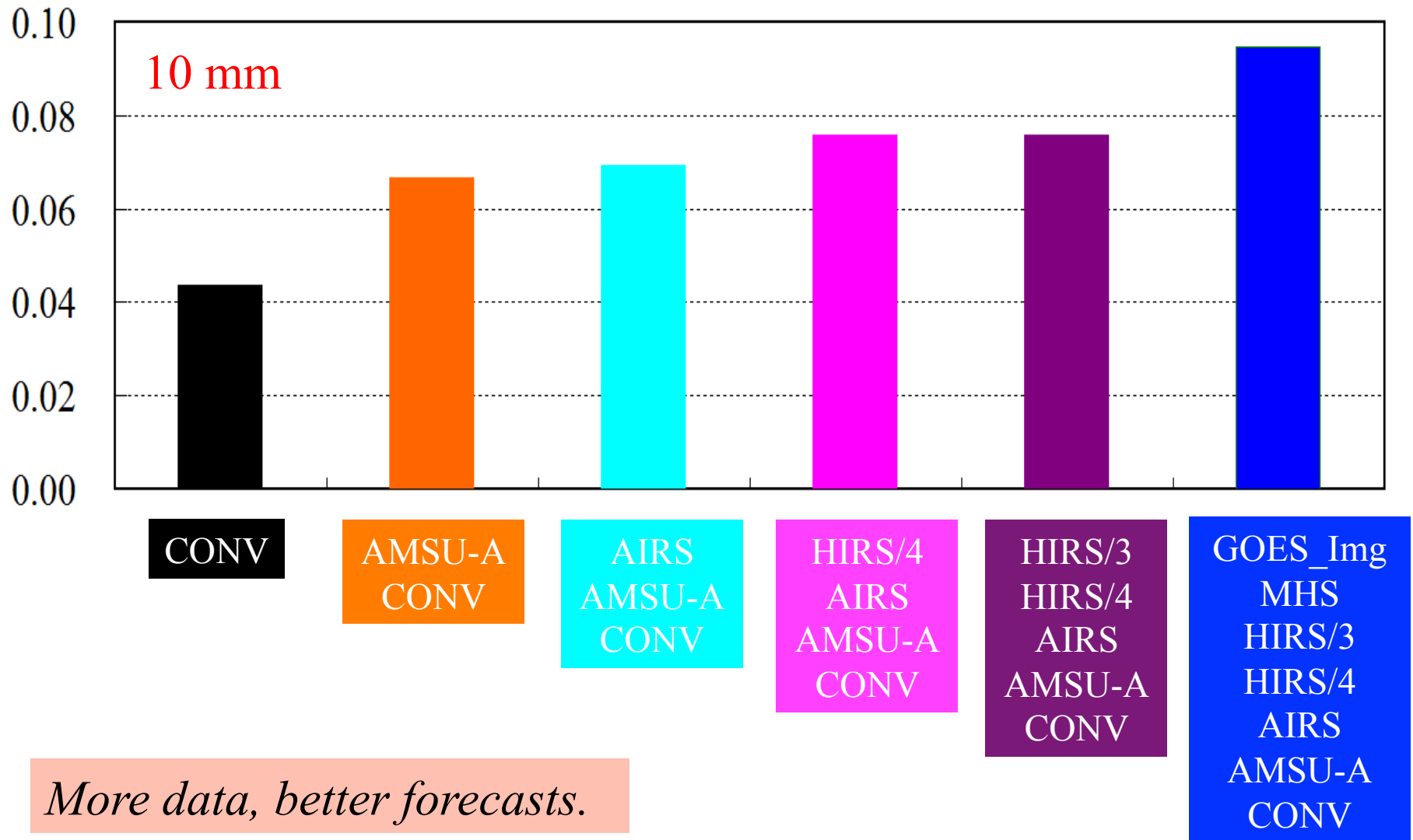




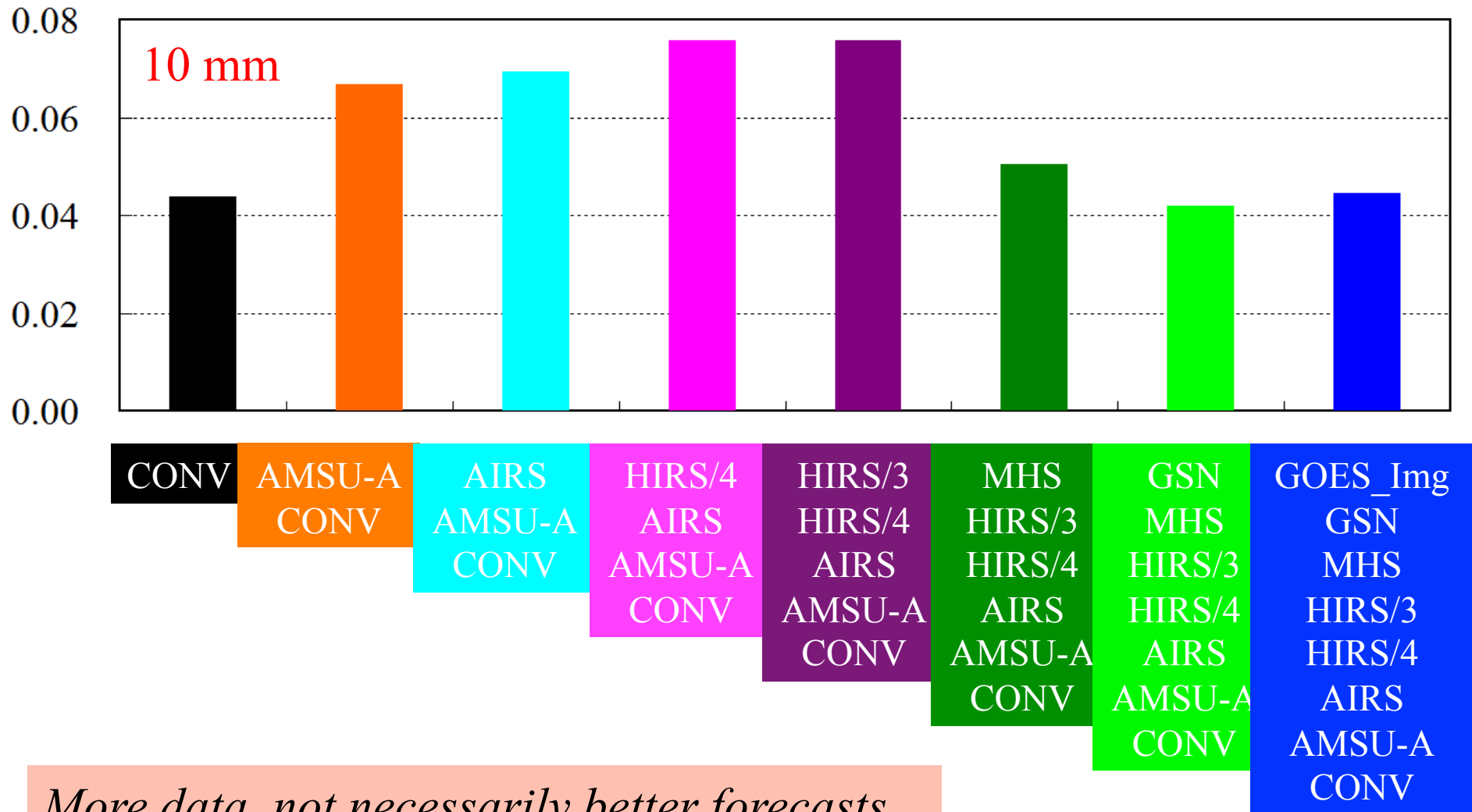
# Threat Scores of 3-h Accumulative Rainfall



# Threat Scores of 3-h Accumulative Rainfall



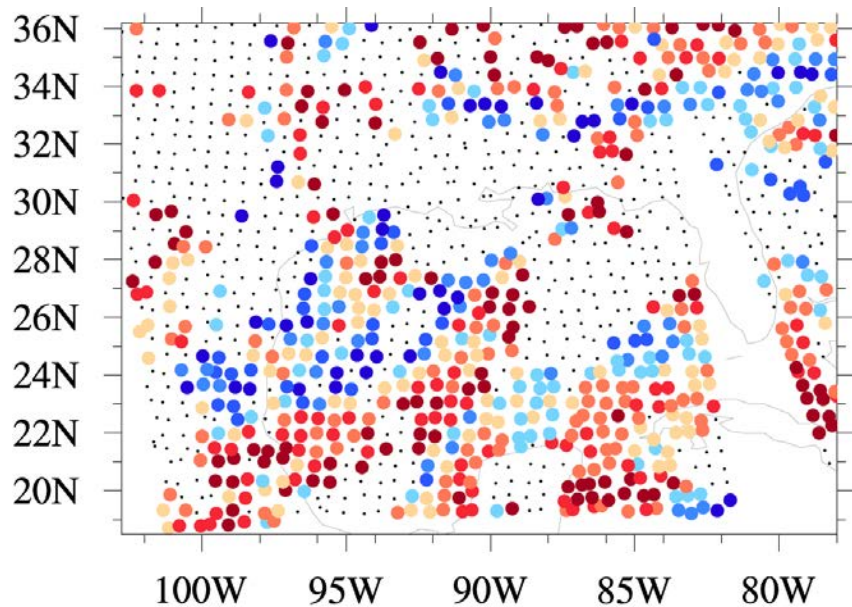
## Threat Scores of 3-h Accumulative Rainfall



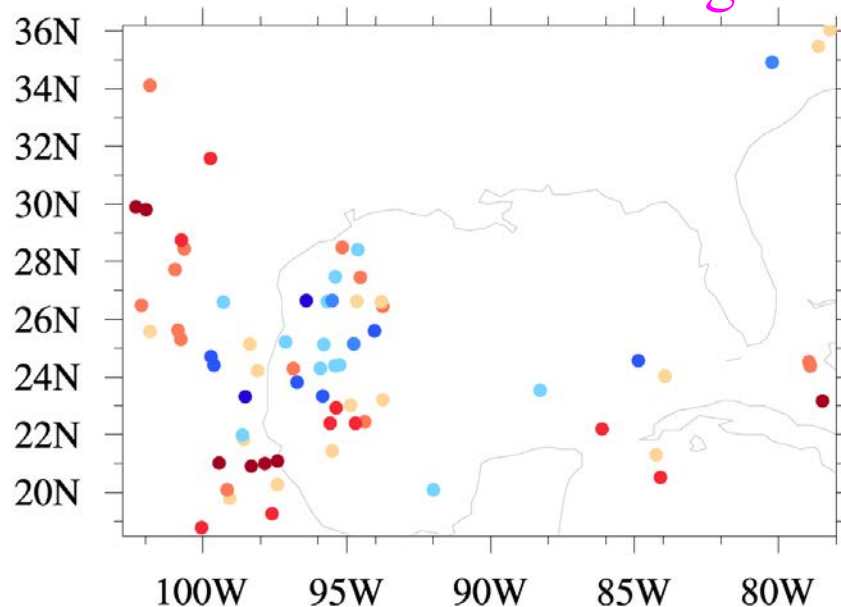
*More data, not necessarily better forecasts.*

# O-B (MHS Channel 3 at 1800 UTC 05/22/08)

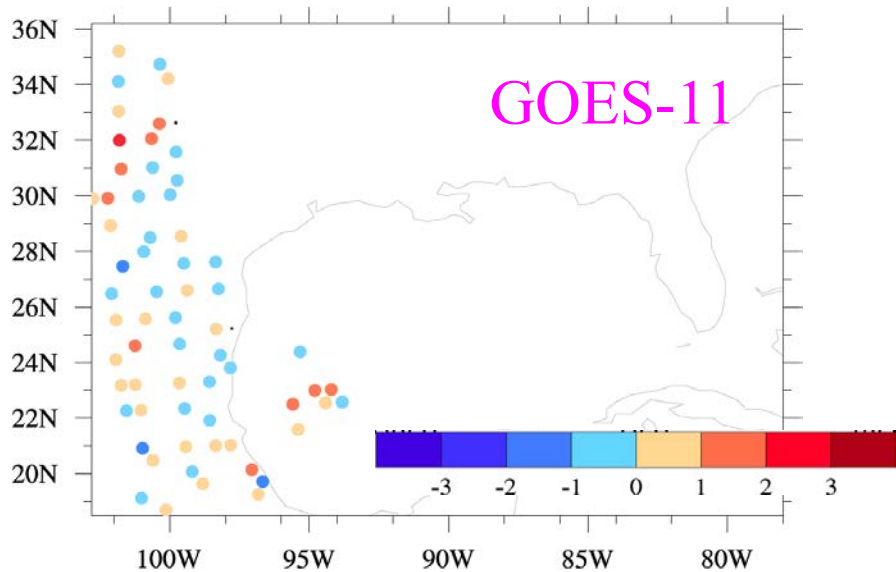
MHS



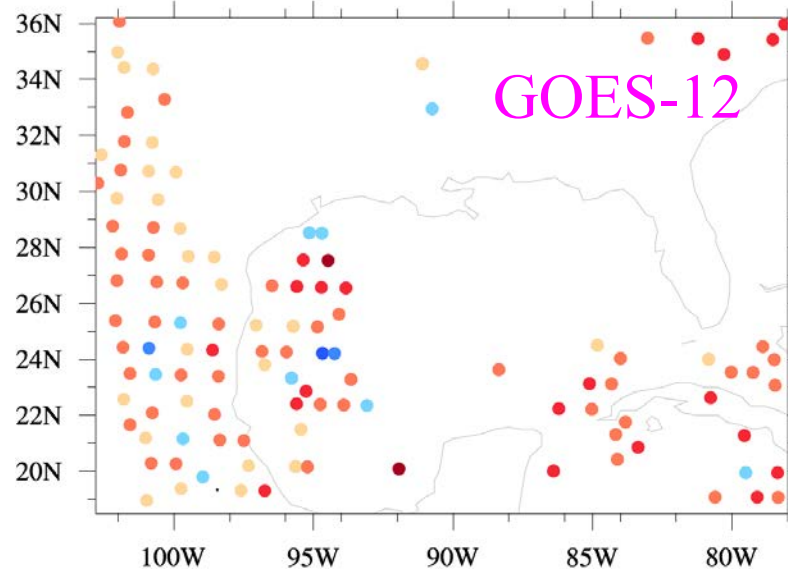
MHS after thinning



GOES-11

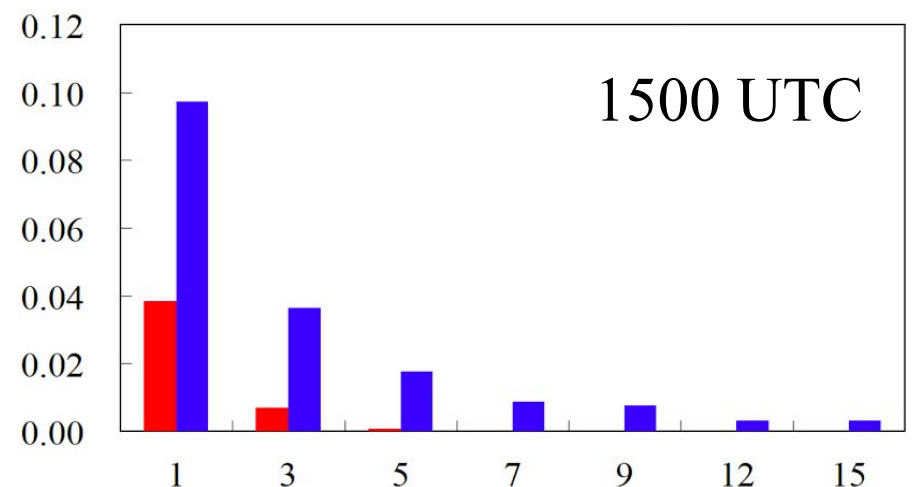
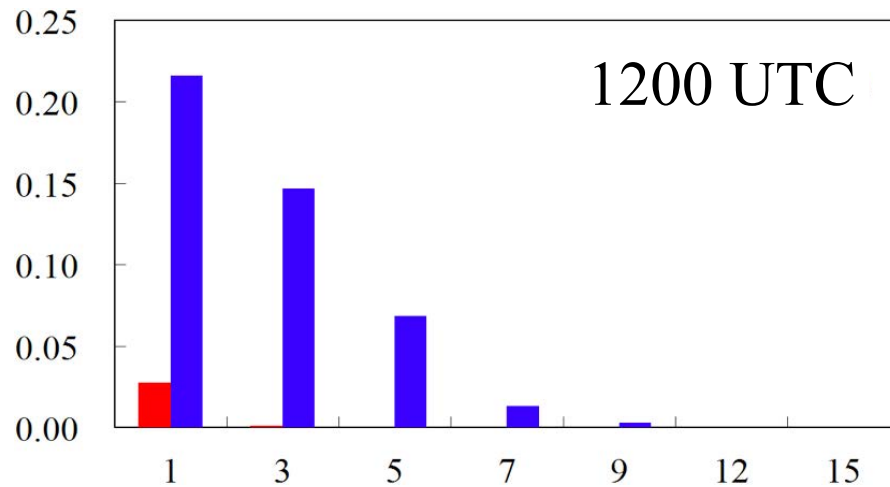
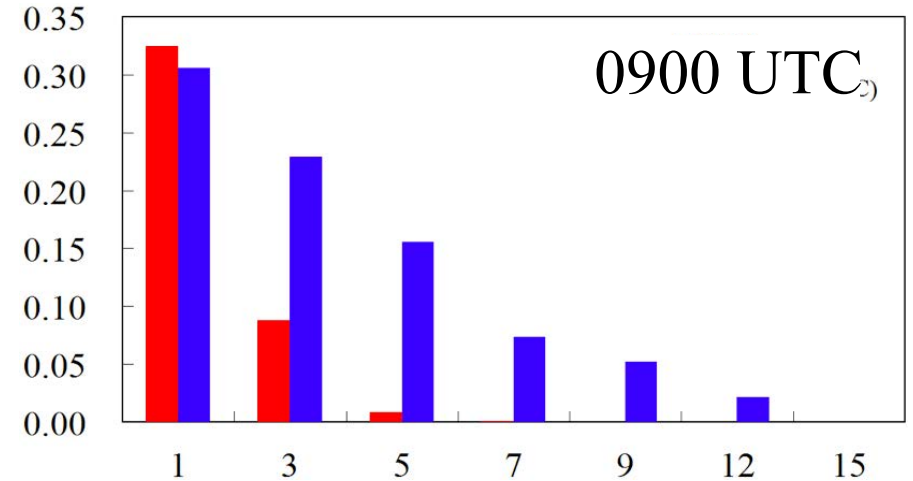
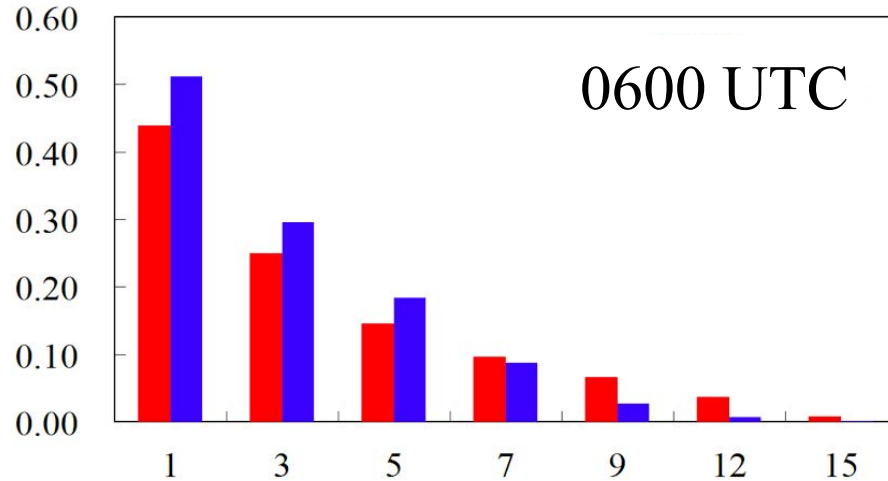


GOES-12



# Threat Scores (May 23, 2008)

■ MHS ■ MHS collocated with GOES



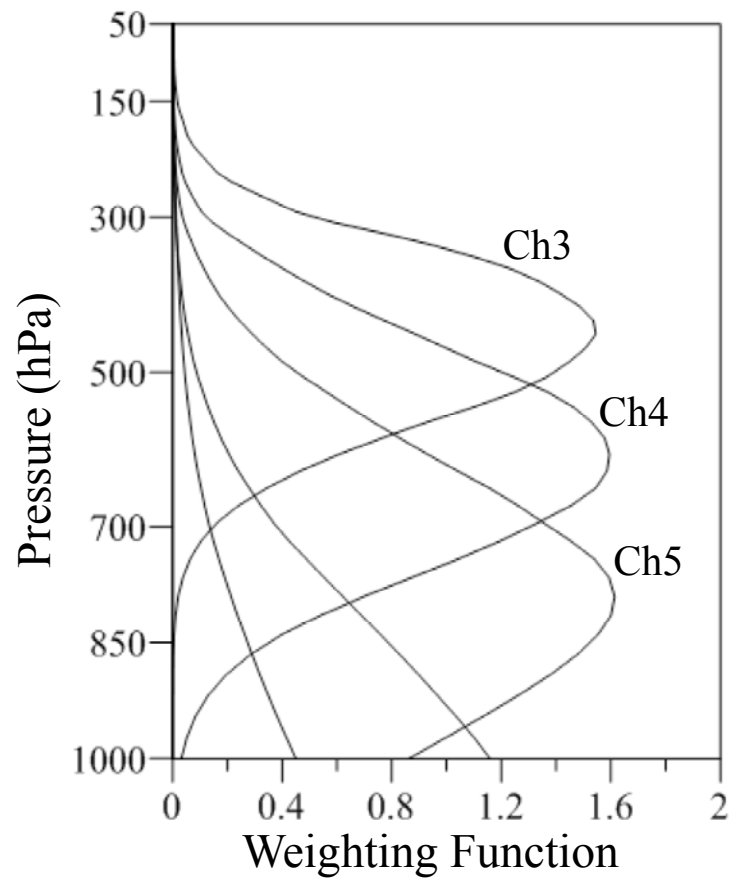
Threshold (mm)

Threshold (mm)

## **Part II**

### **Improved QPFs by MHS Radiance Data Assimilation with a Newly Added Cloud Detection Algorithm**

## MHS Data Quality Control (QC)



- ✓ MHS QC in GSI and GSI QC results
- ✓ A new MHS QC for cloud detection
- ✓ Impact of the modification of MHS QC to QPFs

## LWP Index Used for MHS QC in GSI

Over Ocean:

$$LWP_{index}^{ocean} = \begin{cases} 0.13 \times \left\{ (T_{b,1}^o - T_{b,1}^m) - 33.58 \times \frac{(T_{b,2}^o - T_{b,2}^m)}{300 - T_{b,2}^o} \right\}, & \text{if } T_{b,2}^o \leq 300 \\ 9, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Over Land:

$$LWP_{index}^{land} = 0.85 \times (T_{b,1}^o - T_{b,1}^m) - (T_{b,2}^o - T_{b,2}^m)$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} T_{b,1}^o - T_{b,1}^m \\ T_{b,2}^o - T_{b,2}^m \end{array} \right\} \text{O-B differences of MHS channels 1-2}$$



# $TPW_{index} > 1$ Three Steps for MHS Data Rejection in GSI

Step I:

$$TPW_{index} \equiv \left\{ \left[ \left( T_{b,1}^o - T_{b,1}^m \right) - 7.5 \times LWP_{index} \right] / 10.0 \right\}^2 + LWP_{index}^2 > 1$$

Step II:

$$|O - B| > 3 \left( e_i \times \left( 1 - TPW_{index}^2 \right) \times f_H \times \tau_i^{top} \right)$$

or:  $|O - B| > 6K$

$e_i$  is accuracy of obs.

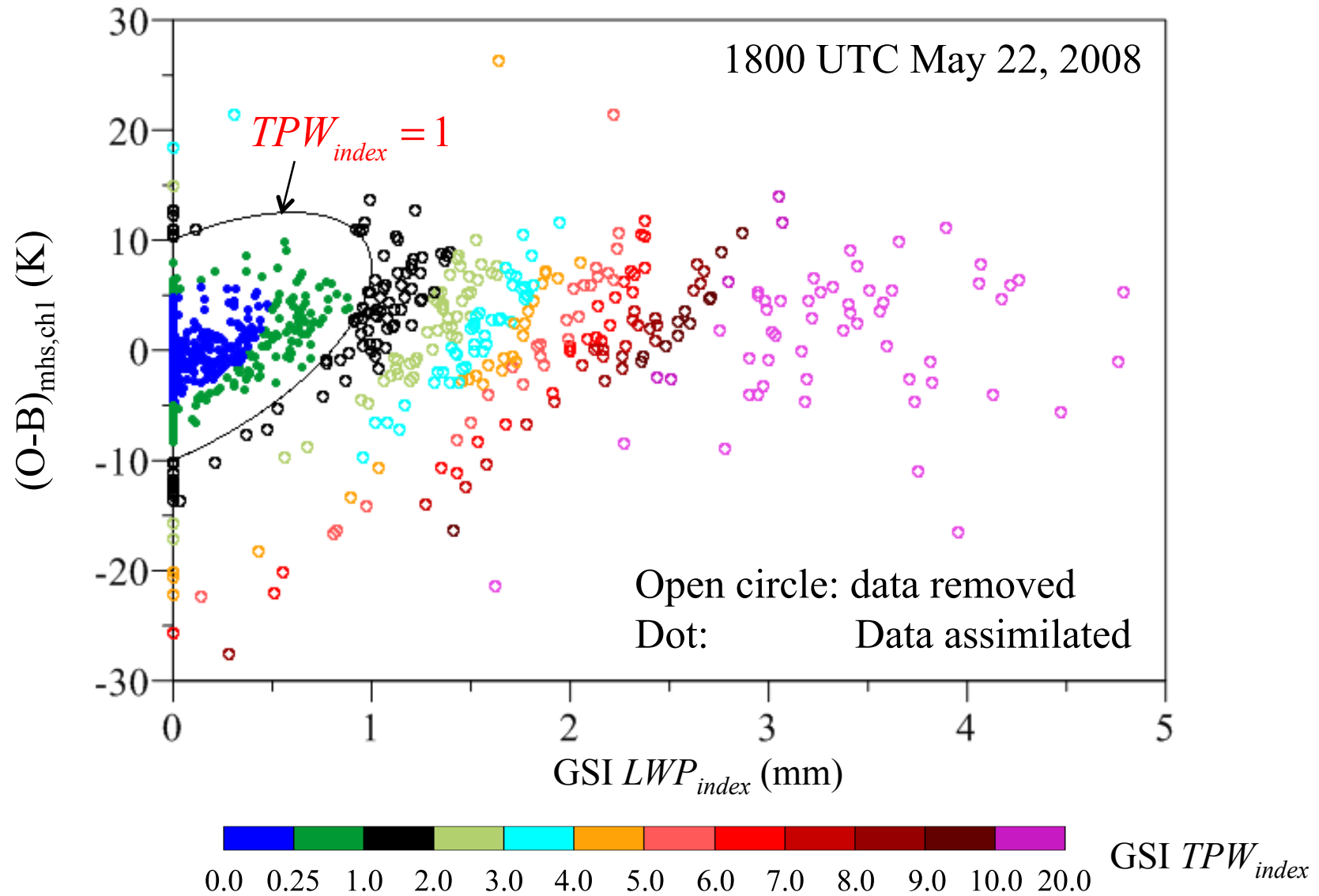
$f_H = 2000/H$ ,  $H$  is terrain height > 2km

$\tau_i^{top}$  is transmittance at model top

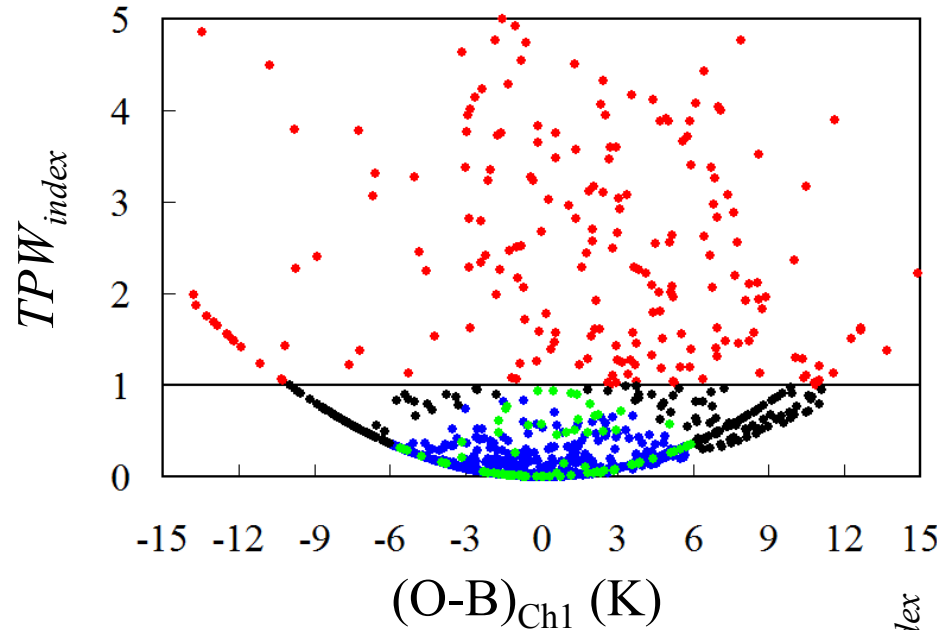
Step III:

All five channels if data of any other channel was removed by the first two QC steps

# Diagnosis of MHS QC Results



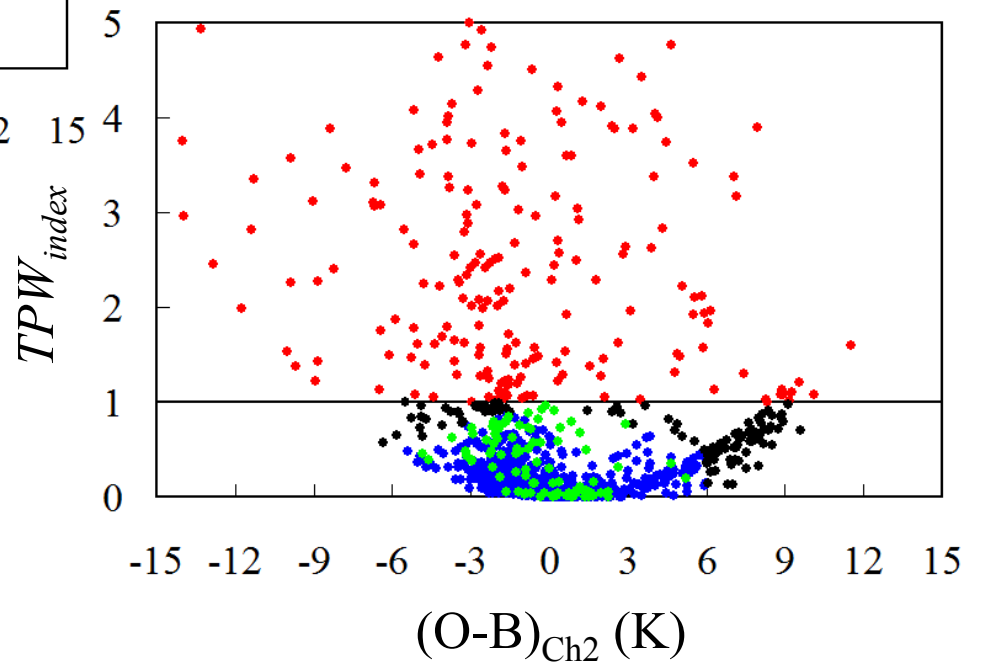
## Diagnosis of MHS QC Results (cont.)



1800 UTC May 22, 2008

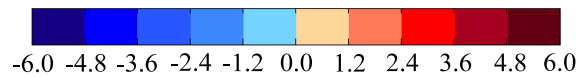
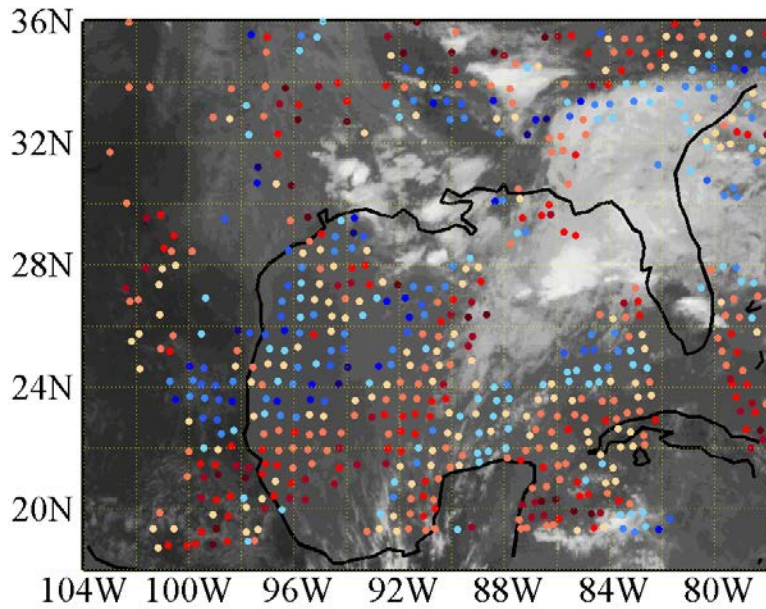
Data eliminated by

- Step I defined by  $TPW_{index}$
- Step II defined by O-B
- Step III defined by inter-channels relationship



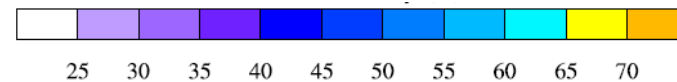
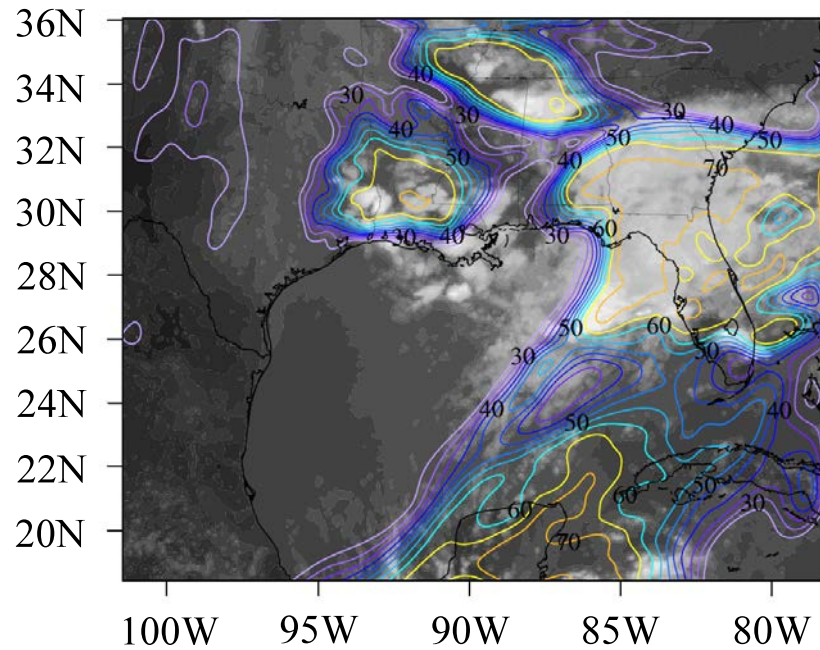
# Diagnosis of MHS GSI QC

Data that pass GSI QC

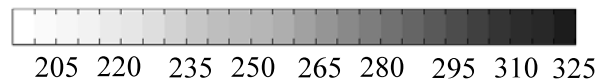


MHS O-B

Modeled RH at 300 hPa

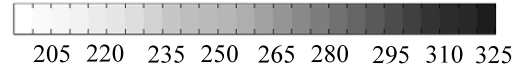
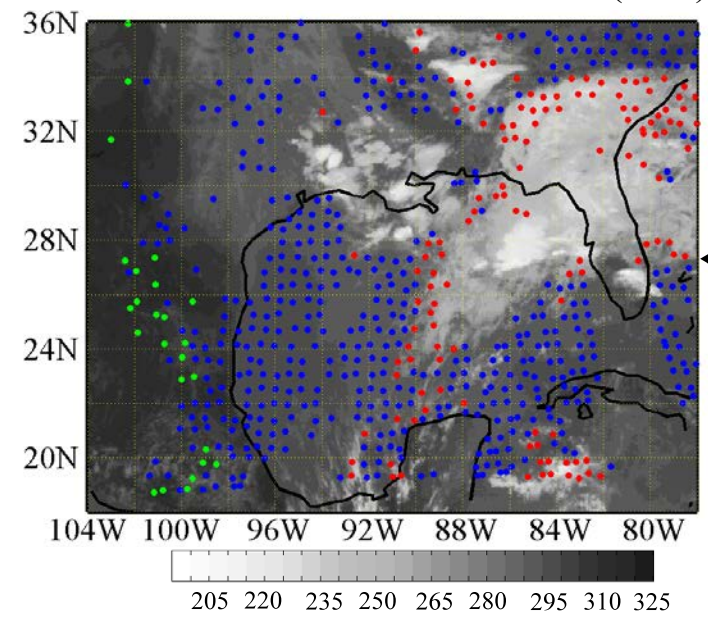
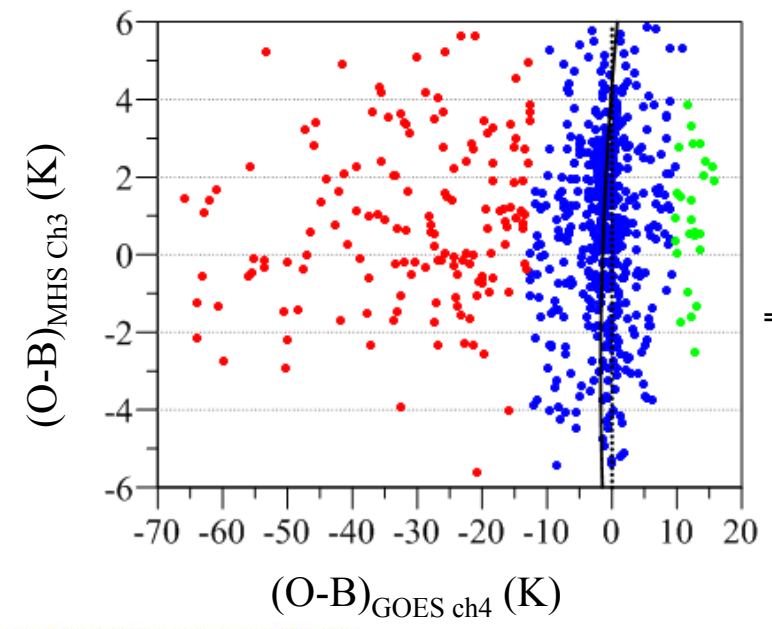
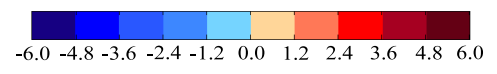
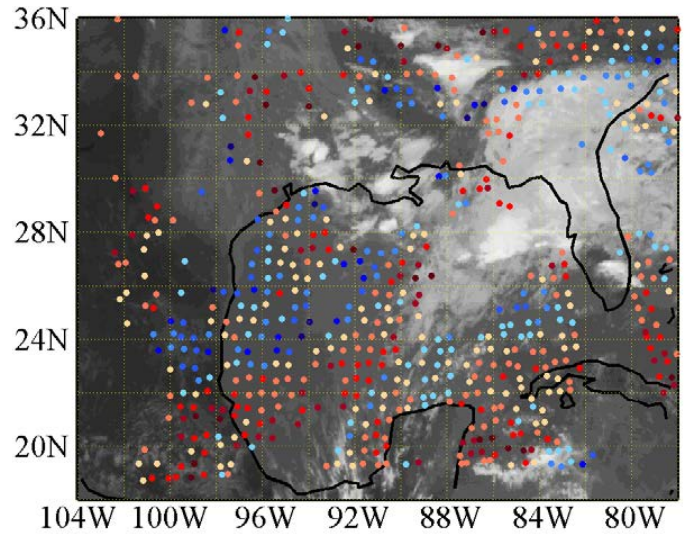


RH at 300-hPa



GOES 10.7μm

# Infrared O-B More Sensitive to Cloud Than Microwave



## “(O-B)<sub>GOES</sub>” Regressed by MHS Channels 1, 2 and 5

Over Ocean:

$$(O - B)_{GOES, ch4}^{regression} = -0.536 \times T_{b, MHS_{ch1}}^{obs} + 1.132 \times T_{b, MHS_{ch2}}^{obs} + 0.537 \times T_{b, MHS_{ch5}}^{obs} - 321.318$$

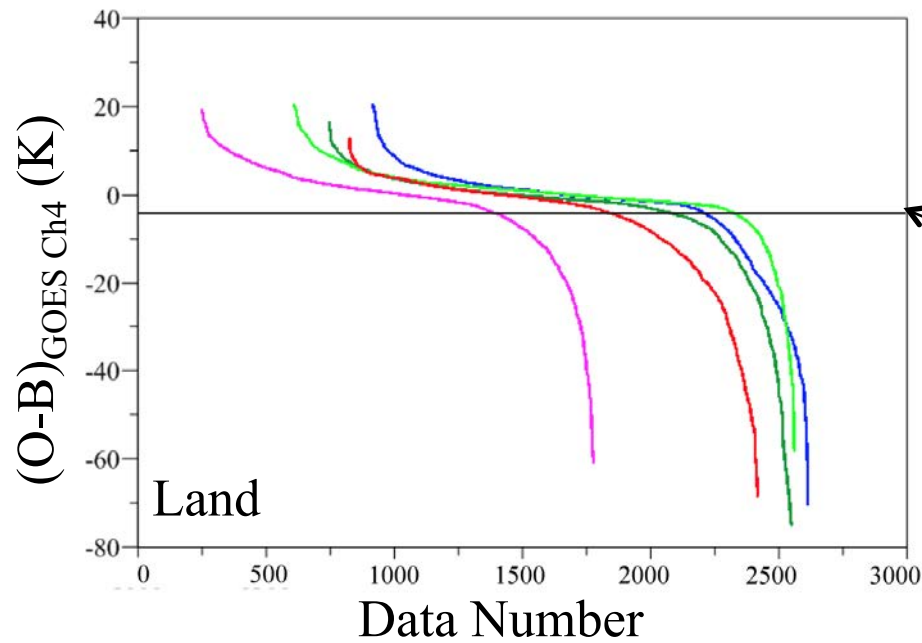
Over Land:

$$(O - B)_{GOES, ch4}^{regression} = 0.009 \times T_{b, MHS_{ch1}}^{obs} + 0.085 \times T_{b, MHS_{ch2}}^{obs} + 0.877 \times T_{b, MHS_{ch5}}^{obs} - 274.255$$

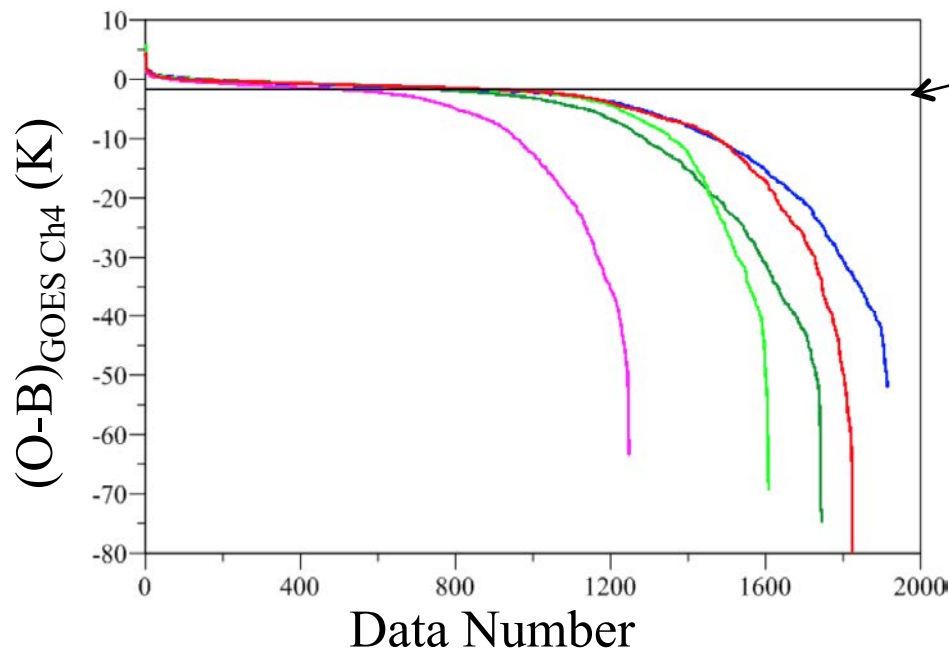
Observations of MHS channels 1-2, 5 are used in the regression.

- Channels 1-2 are affected by the radiation from both the Earth's surface and emission and scattering from ice phase clouds
- Channel 5 is most sensitive to scattering from thin clouds

## Thresholds for Cloud Detection



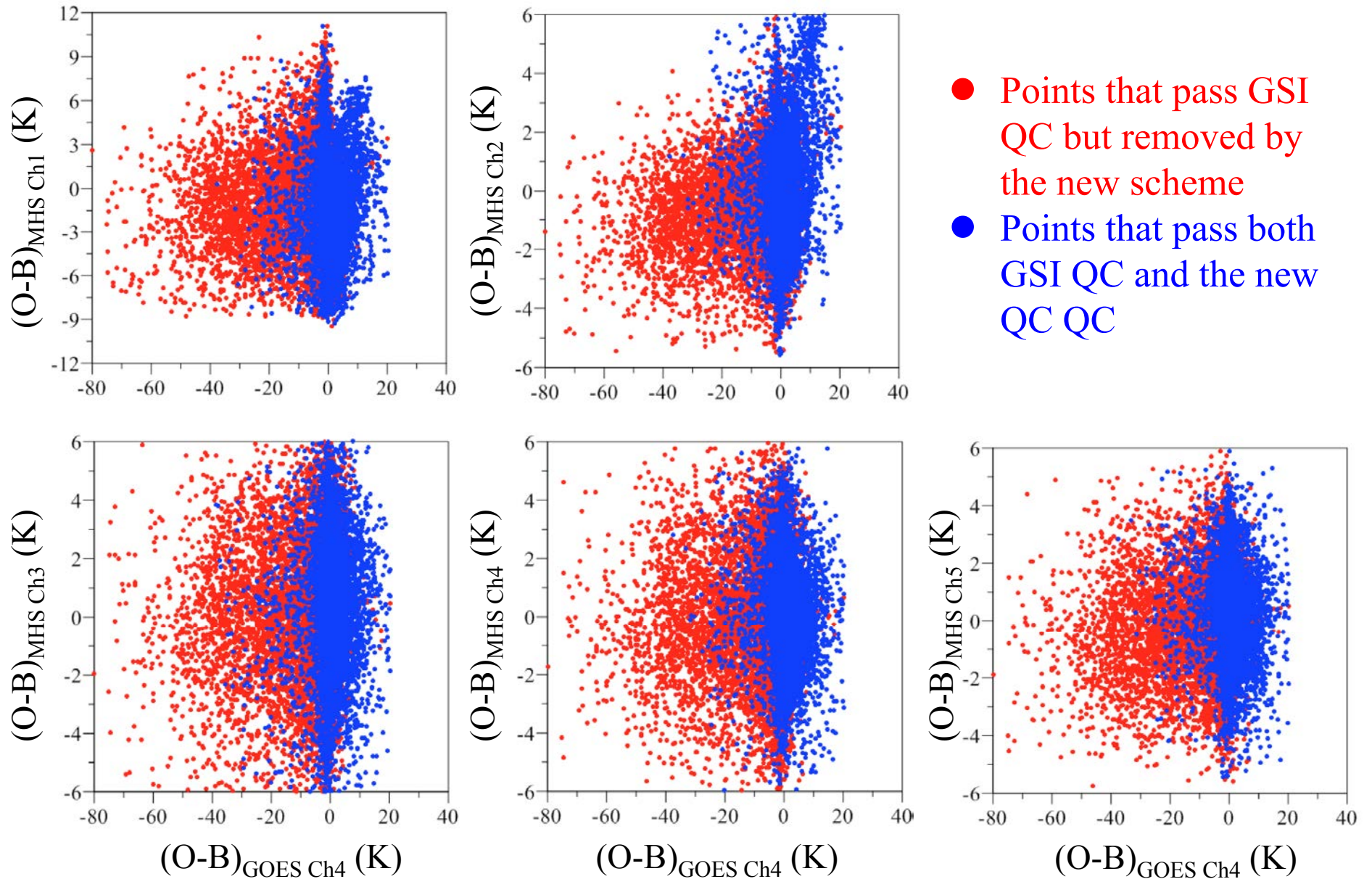
$$(O - B)_{GOES,land}^{regression} \leq -4K$$



$$(O - B)_{GOES,ocean}^{regression} \leq -2K$$

MHS data from NOAA-18 on  
May 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 2008

# O-B Scatter Plots for MHS Channels 1-5 versus GOES-12 Ch4

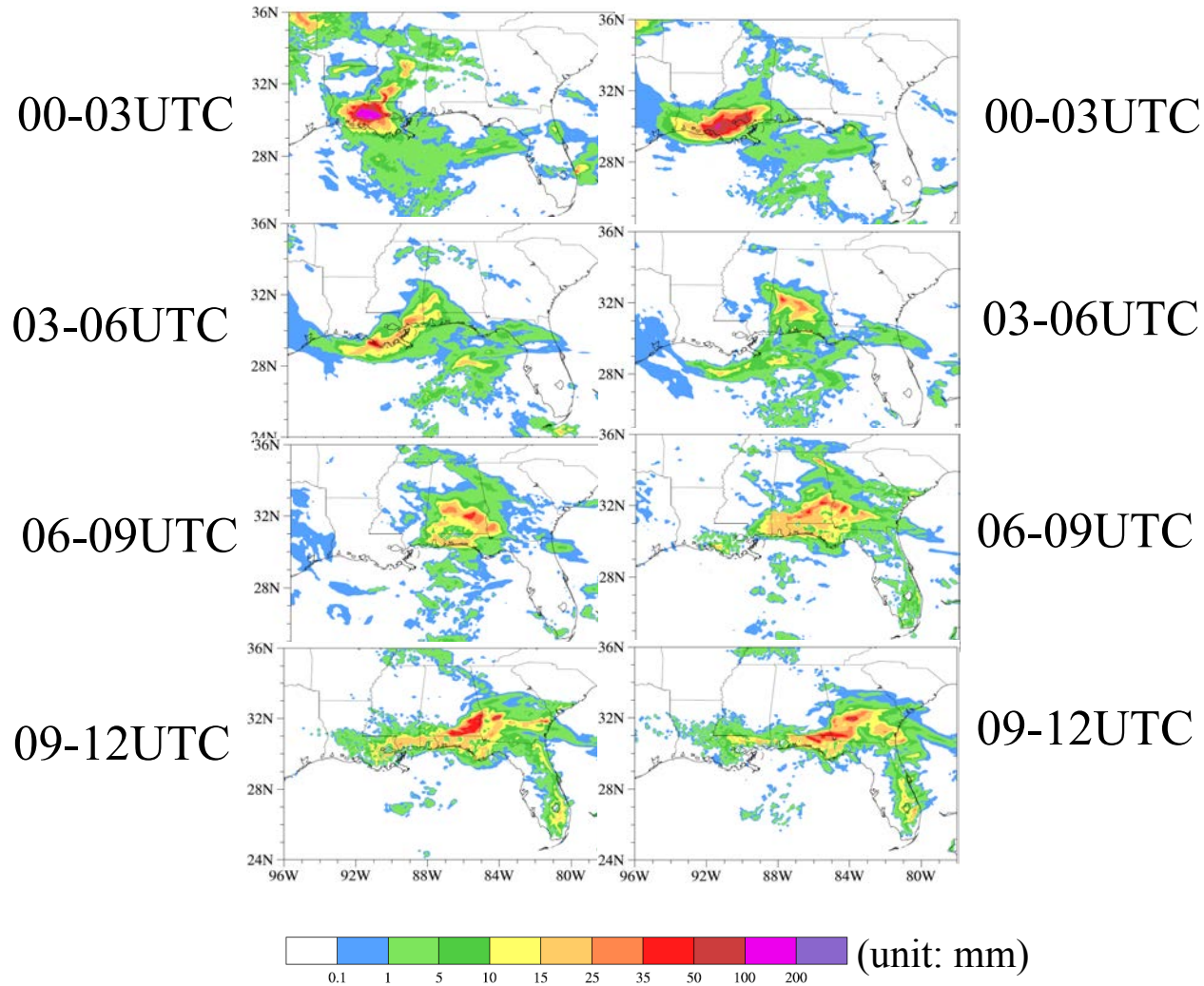




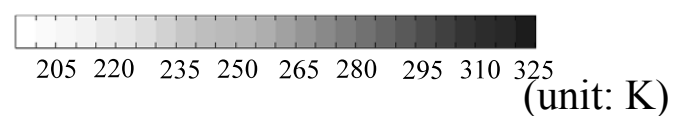
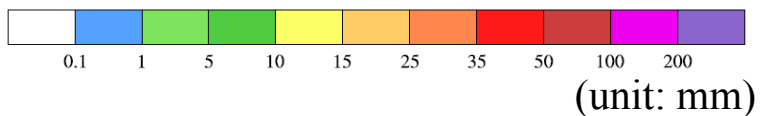
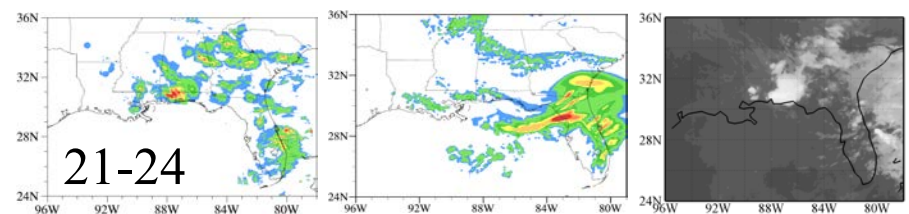
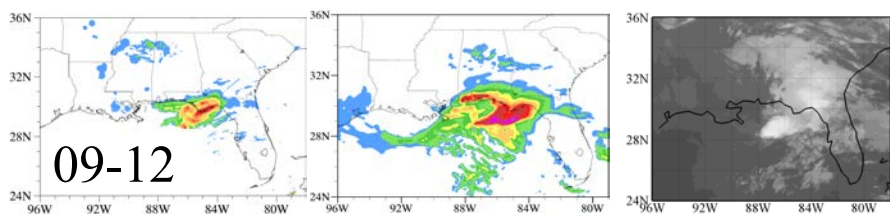
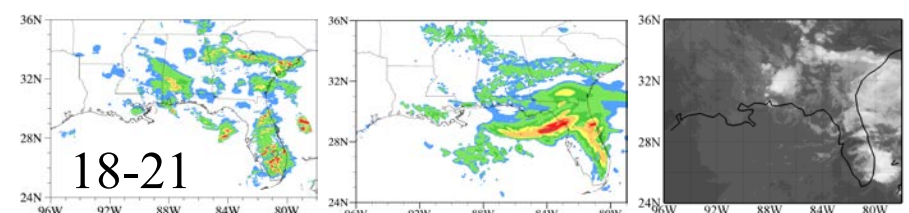
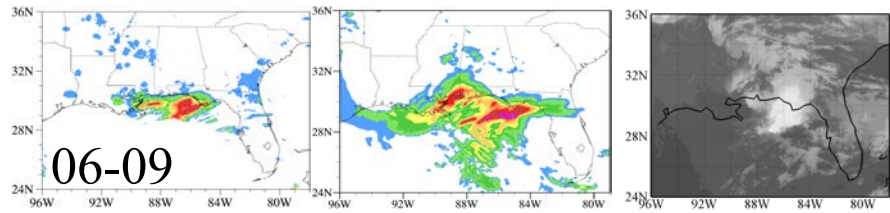
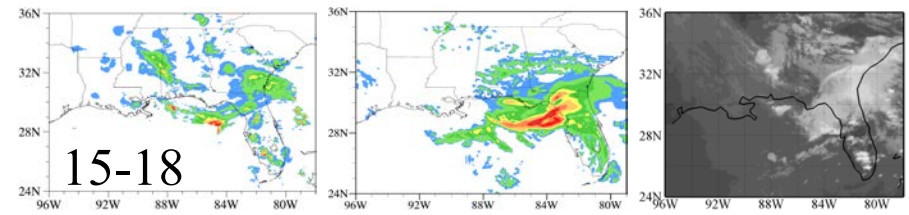
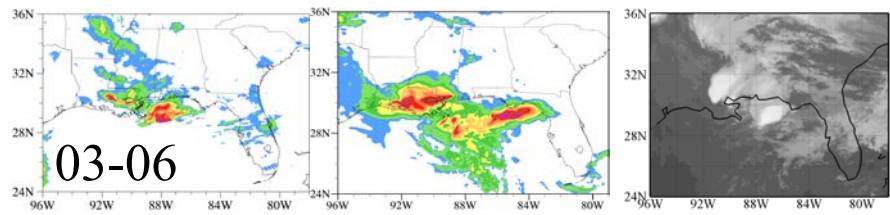
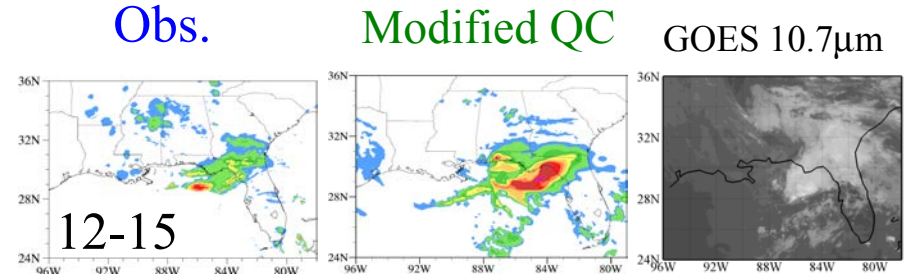
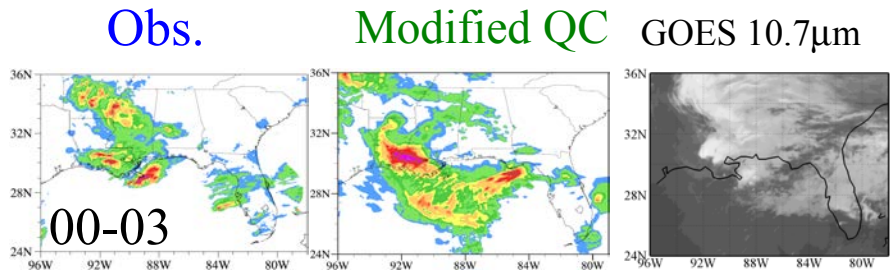
# 24-h QPFs of 3-h Accumulative Rainfall

**EXP1: The original GSI QC for MHS data is used.**

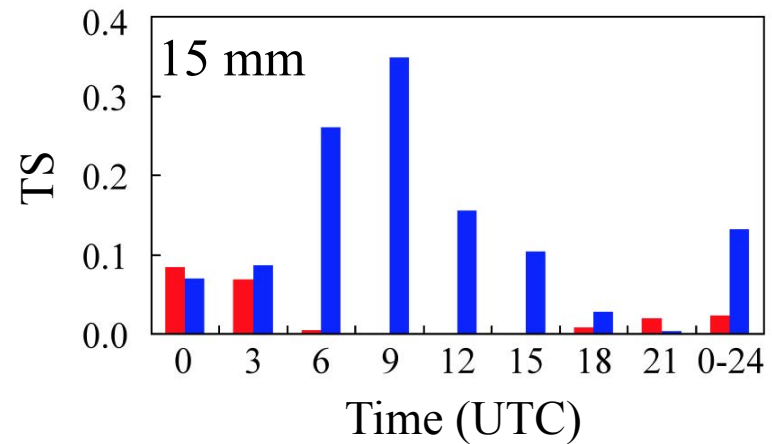
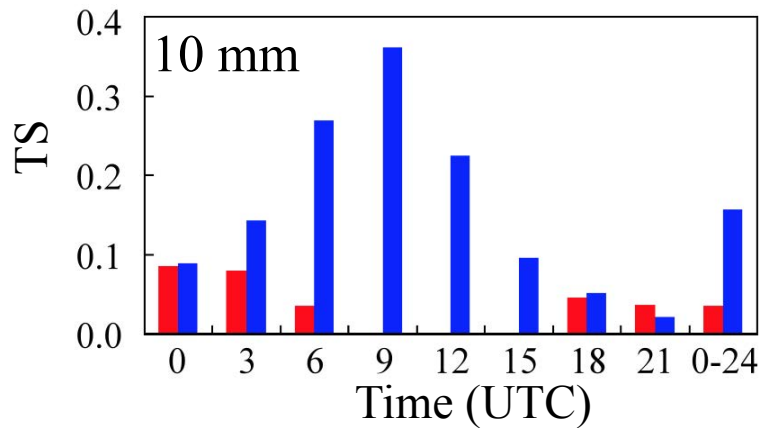
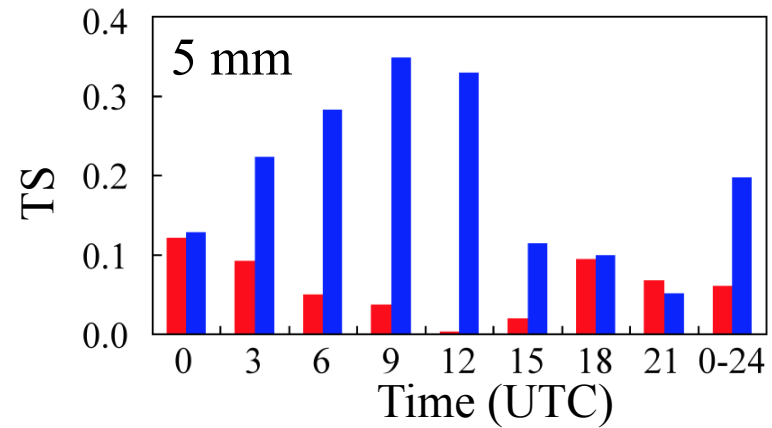
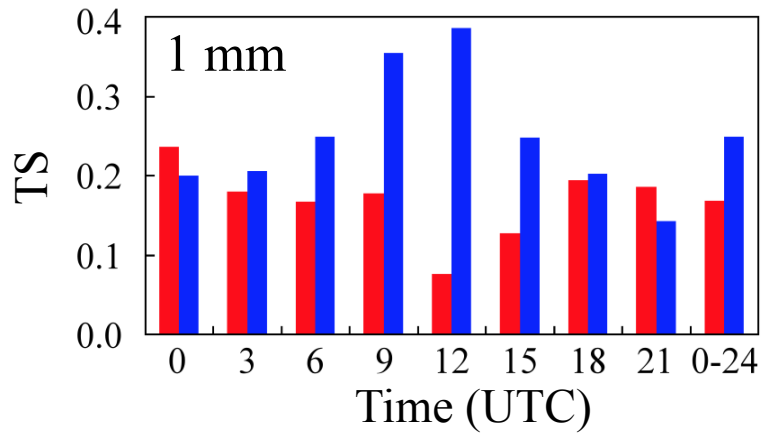
May 23, 2008



# 24-h Forecasts of 3-h Accumulative Rainfall



# Threat scores (TS) of 3-hour Accumulative Rainfall



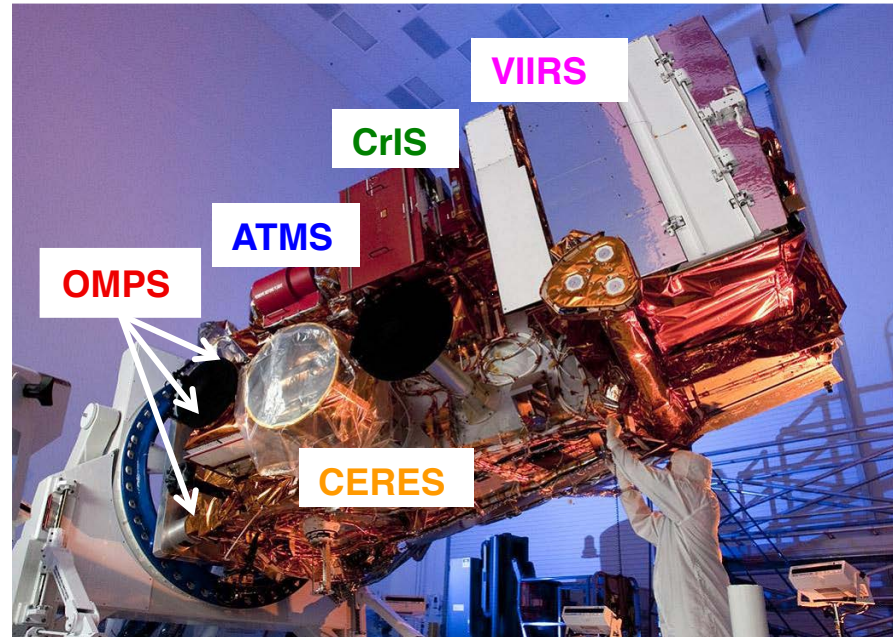
EXP1: CONV+AMSU-A+MHS

EXP2: Same as EXP1 except for modified MHS QC

## **Part III**

# **Impacts of ATMS Data Assimilation on Hurricane Track and Intensity Forecasts**

# Suomi NPP Satellite Instruments

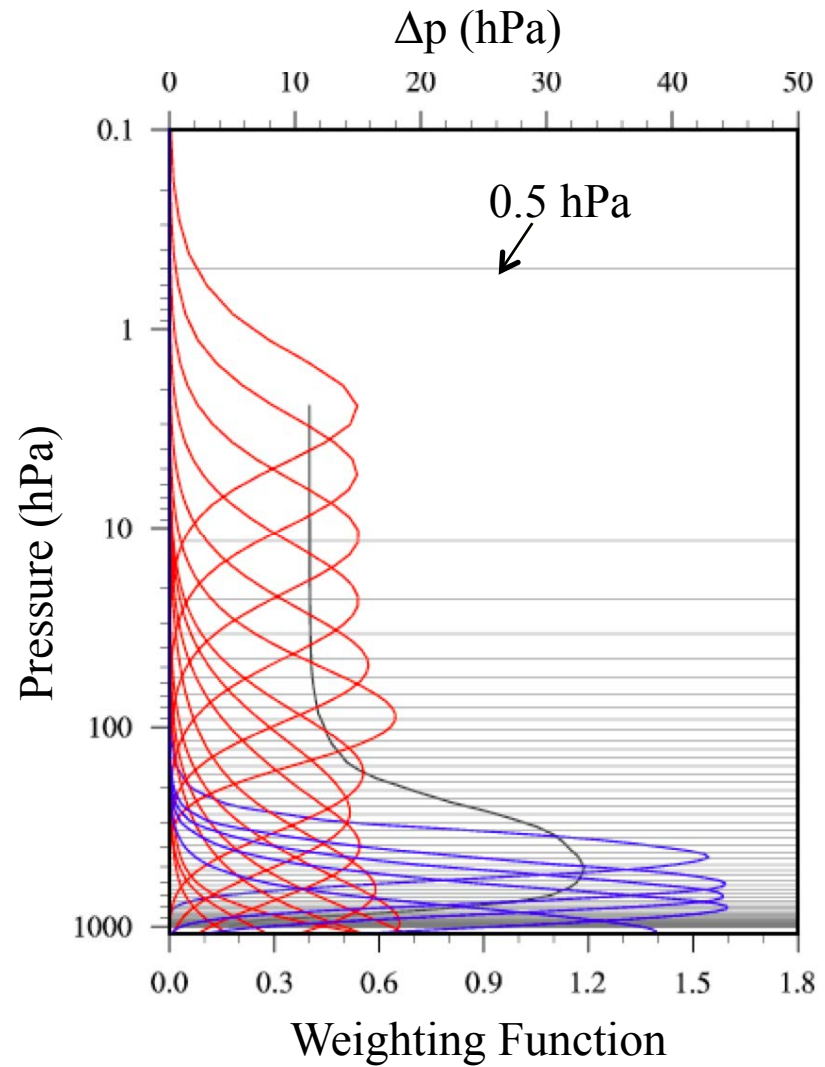
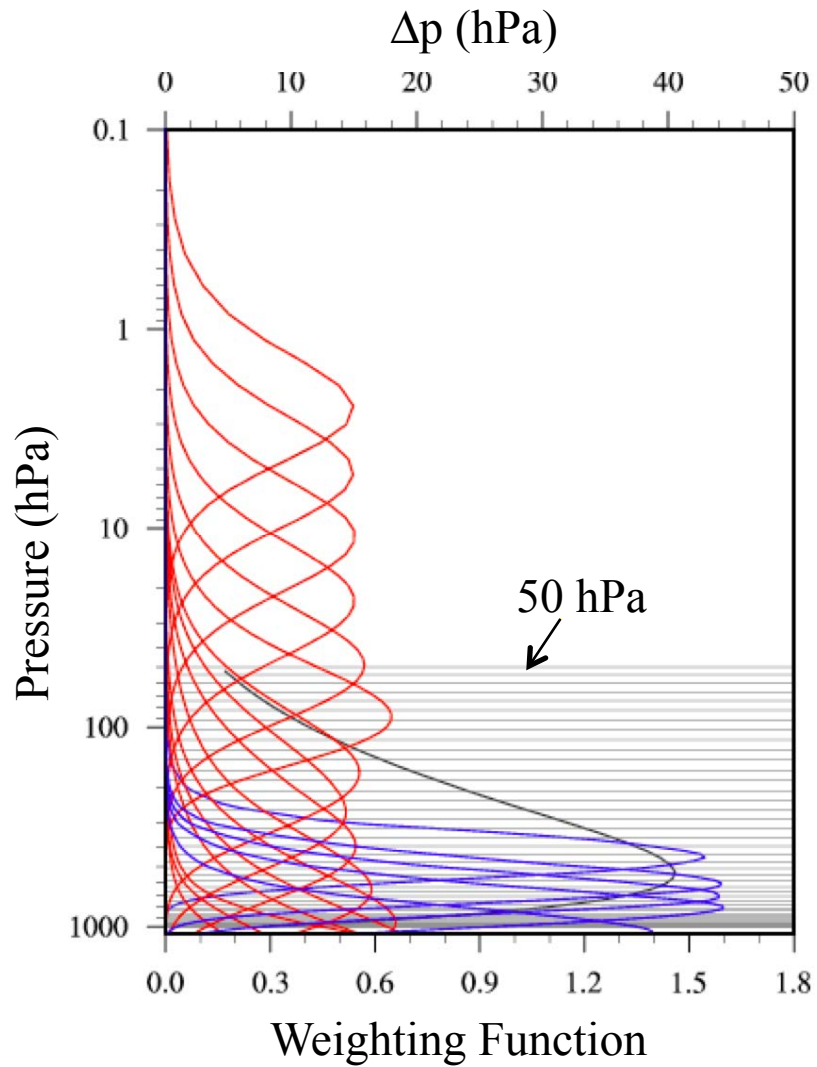


- ATMS** --- Advanced **T**echnology **M**icrowave **S**ounder
- CrIS** --- Cross-track **I**nfrared **S**ounder
- VIIRS** --- Visible/**I**nfrared **I**mager/**R**adiometer **S**uite
- OMPS** --- Ozone **M**apping and **P**rofiler **S**uite
- CERES** --- Cloud and **E**arth **R**adiant **E**nergy **S**ystem

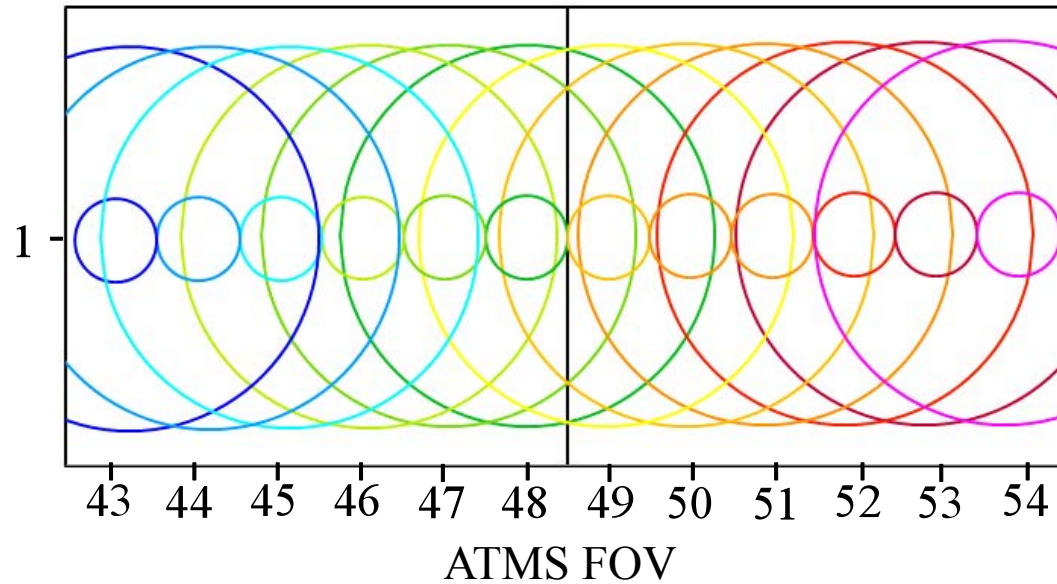
## Channel Characteristics of ATMS and AMSU

| Channel |      | Frequency (GHz)      |            | NEΔT (K) |      | Beam width (°) |      | Peak WF (hPa) |         |
|---------|------|----------------------|------------|----------|------|----------------|------|---------------|---------|
| ATMS    | AMSU | ATMS                 | AMSU       | ATMS     | AMSU | ATMS           | AMSU | ATMS          | AMSU    |
| 1       |      | 23.8                 |            | 0.50     | 0.30 | 5.2            | 3.3  | Surface       |         |
| 2       |      | 31.4                 | 31.399     | 0.60     | 0.30 | 5.2            | 3.3  | Surface       |         |
| 3       |      | 50.3                 | 50.299     | 0.70     | 0.40 | 2.2            | 3.3  | Surface       |         |
| 4       |      | 51.76                |            | 0.50     |      | 2.2            |      | Surface       |         |
| 5       | 4    | 52.8                 |            | 0.50     | 0.25 | 2.2            | 3.3  | 1000          |         |
| 6       | 5    | 53.596±0.115         |            | 0.50     | 0.25 | 2.2            | 3.3  | 700           |         |
| 7       | 6    | 54.4                 |            | 0.50     | 0.25 | 2.2            | 3.3  | 400           |         |
| 8       | 7    | 54.94                |            | 0.50     | 0.25 | 2.2            | 3.3  | 270           |         |
| 9       | 8    | 55.5                 |            | 0.50     | 0.25 | 2.2            | 3.3  | 180           |         |
| 10      | 9    | 57.29                |            | 0.75     | 0.25 | 2.2            | 3.3  | 90            |         |
| 11      | 10   | 57.29± 0.217         |            | 1.00     | 0.40 | 2.2            | 3.3  | 50            |         |
| 12      | 11   | 57.29± 0.322± 0.048  |            | 1.00     | 0.40 | 2.2            | 3.3  | 25            |         |
| 13      | 12   | 57.29± 0.322 ± 0.022 |            | 1.25     | 0.60 | 2.2            | 3.3  | 12            |         |
| 14      | 13   | 57.29± 0.322 ± 0.010 |            | 2.20     | 0.80 | 2.2            | 3.3  | 5             |         |
| 15      | 14   | 57.29± 0.322± 0.0045 |            | 3.60     | 1.20 | 2.2            | 3.3  | 2             |         |
| 16      | 15   | 88.2                 | 89.0       | 0.30     | 0.50 | 2.2            | 3.3  | Surface       |         |
| 17      | 16   | 165.5                | 89.0       | 0.60     | 0.84 | 1.1            | 1.1  | 1000          | Surface |
| 18      | 17   | 183.31±7.0           | 157.0      | 0.80     | 0.84 | 1.1            | 1.1  | 800           | Surface |
| 19      | 18   | 183.31±4.5           | 183.31±1.0 | 0.80     | 0.60 | 1.1            | 1.1  | 700           | 400     |
| 20      | 19   | 183.31±3.0           |            | 0.80     | 0.70 | 1.1            | 1.1  | 600           |         |
| 21      | 20   | 183.31±1.8           | 183.31±7.0 | 0.80     | 1.06 | 1.1            | 1.1  | 500           | 800     |
| 22      |      | 183.31±1.0           |            | 0.90     |      | 1.1            |      | 400           |         |

# ATMS Weighting Functions and HWRf Model Levels

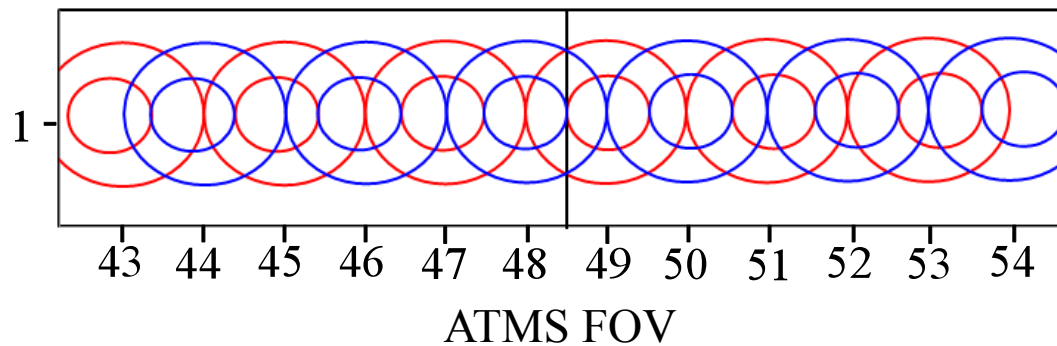


## Same FOVs for All ATMS Channels



Channels 1-2 (larger FOV)

Channels 17-22 (smaller FOV)



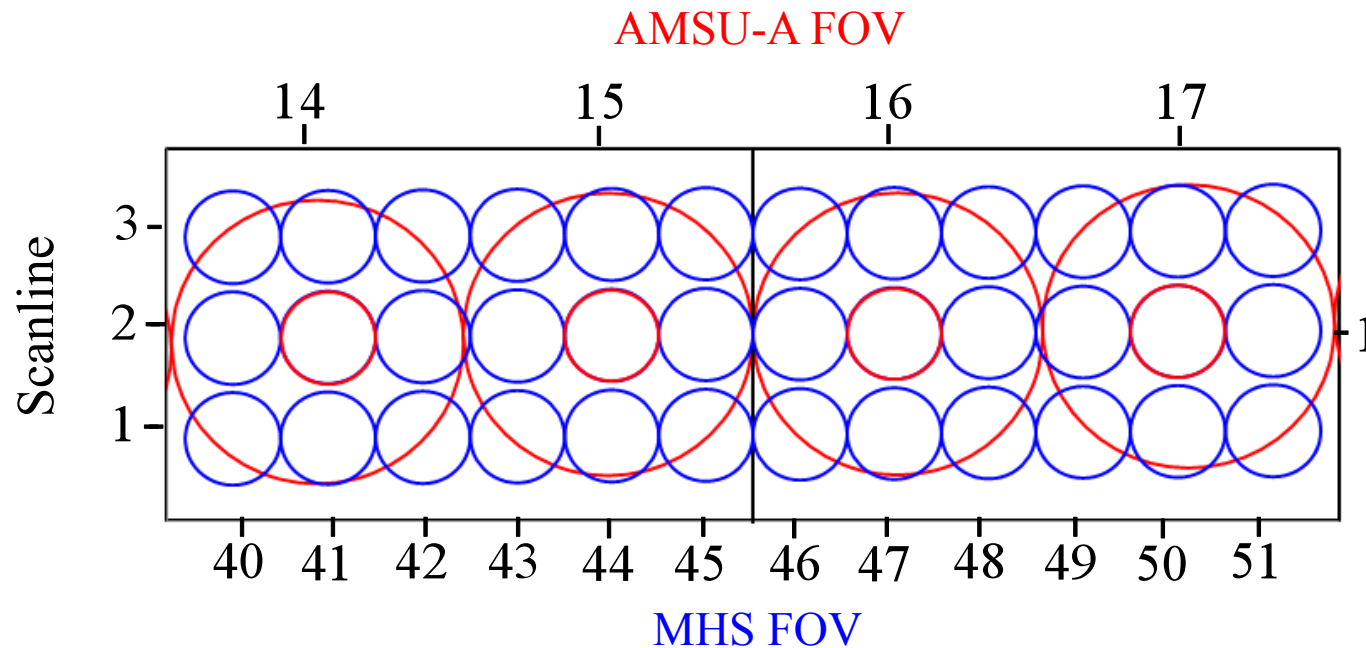
Channels 3-16 (larger FOV)

Channels 17-22 (smaller FOV)

A consistent FOV distribution between temperature and humidity channels on ATMS makes the cloud detection easy to implement.

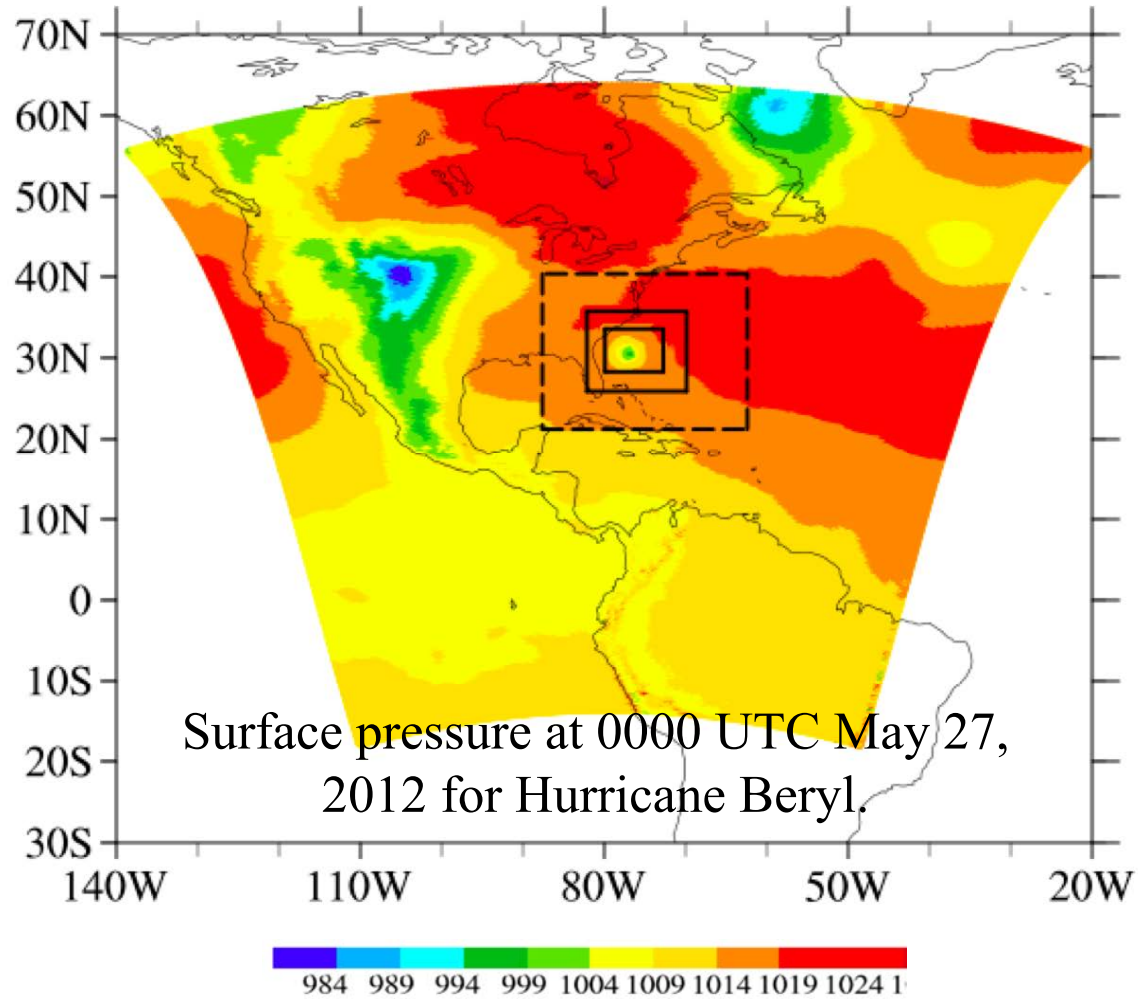


## Inconsistent FOVs between AMSU-A and MHS

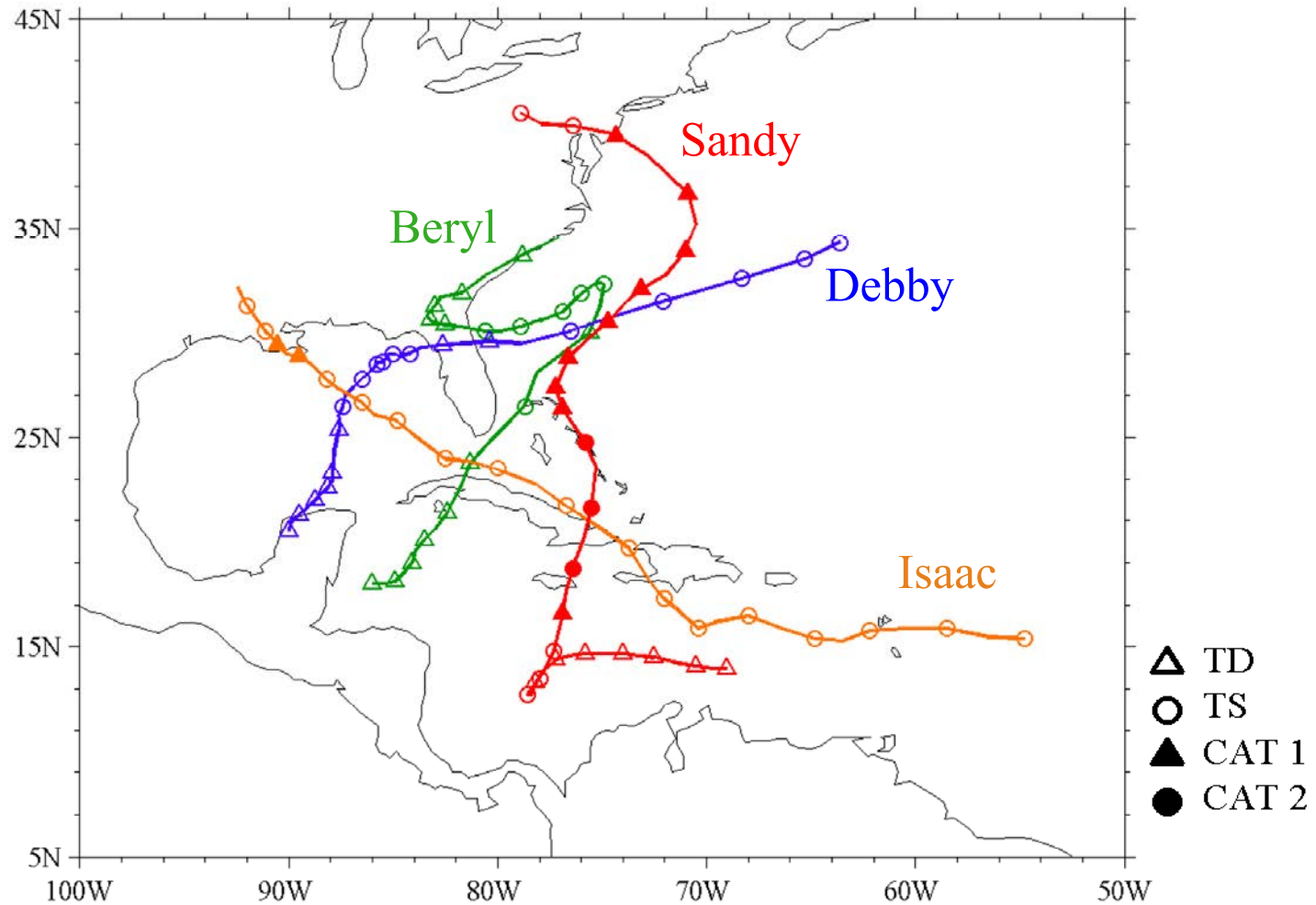


An inconsistent FOV distribution between AMSU-A and MHS channels makes the cloud detection for MHS data difficult.

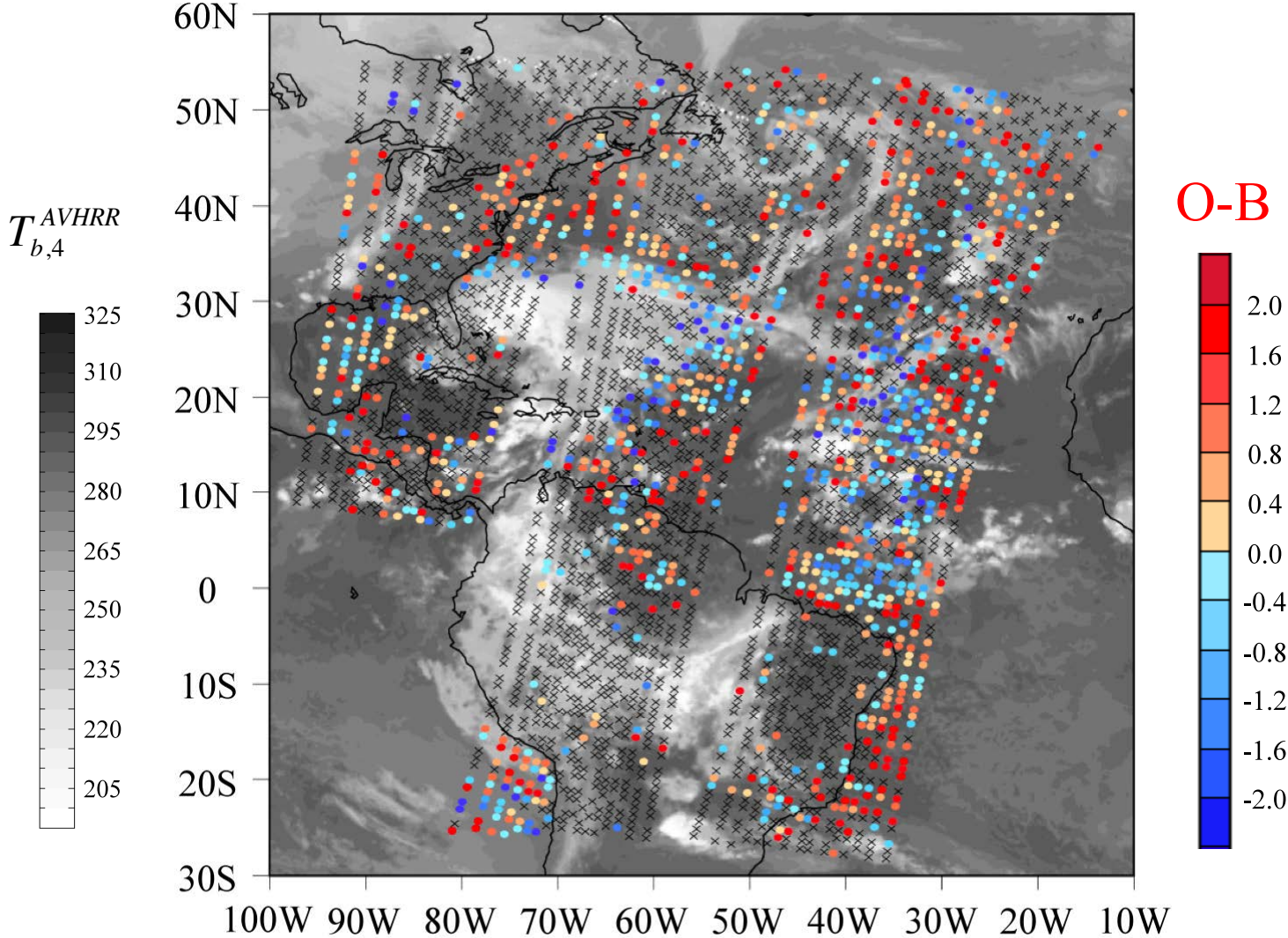
# The outer domain, ghost domain, middle nest and inner nest of HWRF



# Four 2012 Atlantic Hurricanes which Made Landfall

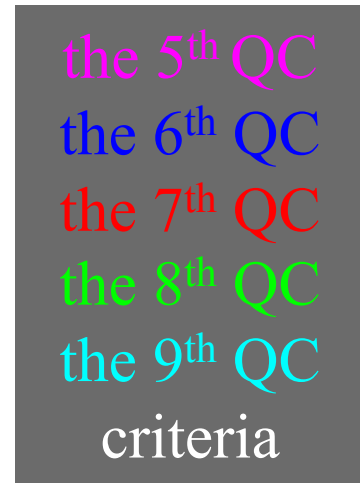
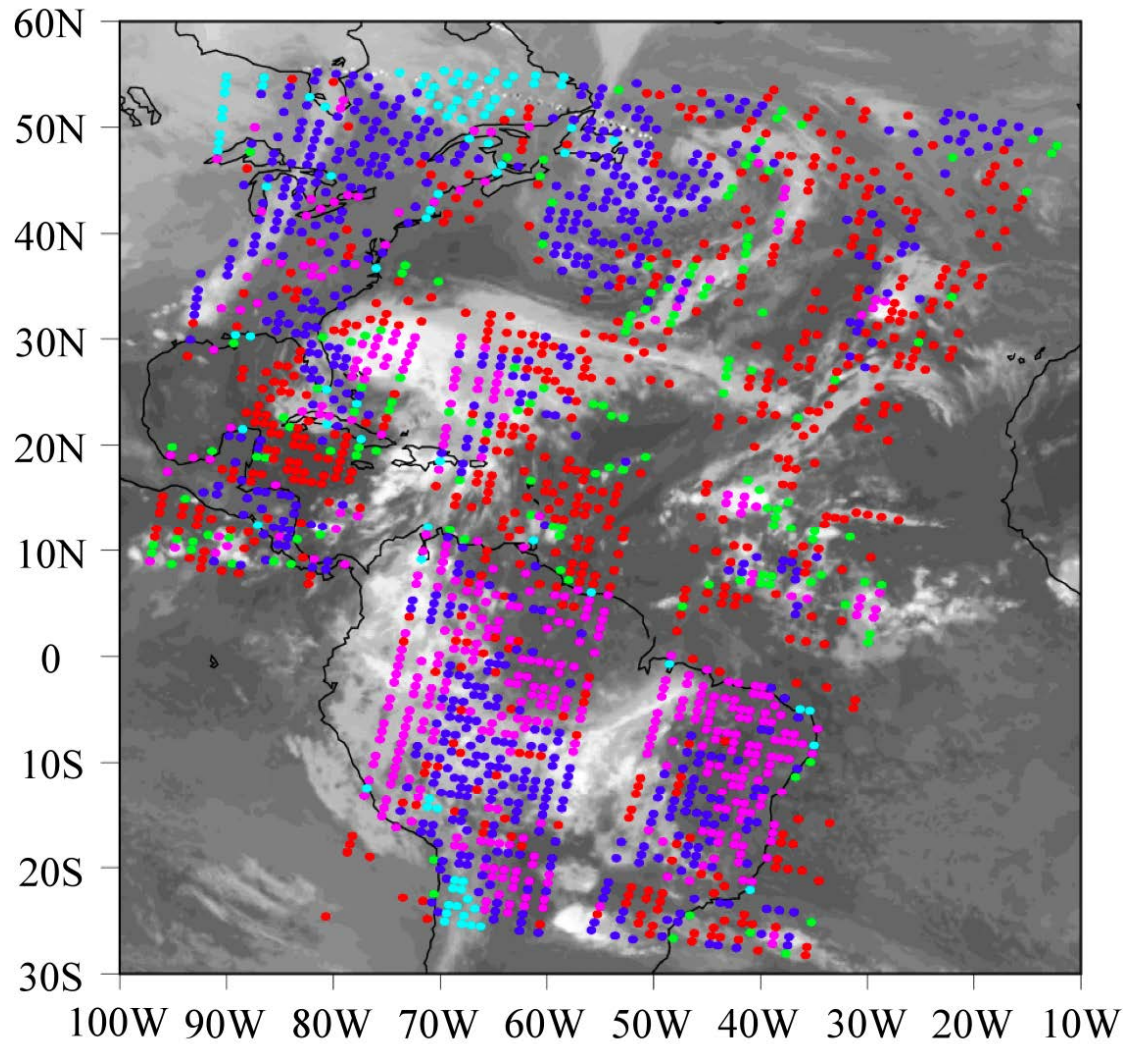


# O-B Values for Those Data Points that Pass QC



0600 UTC October 26, 2012

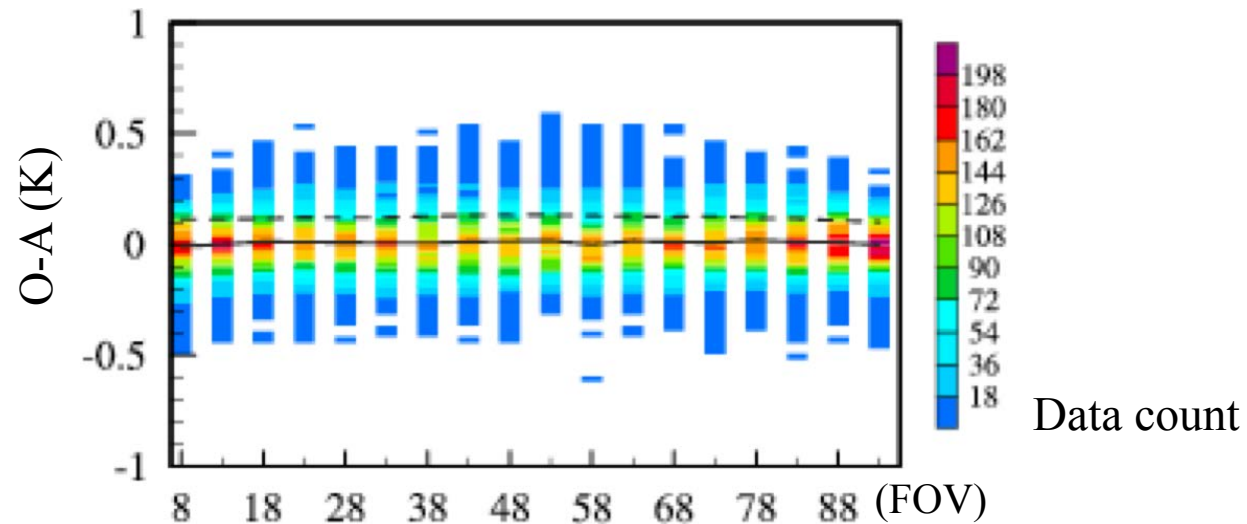
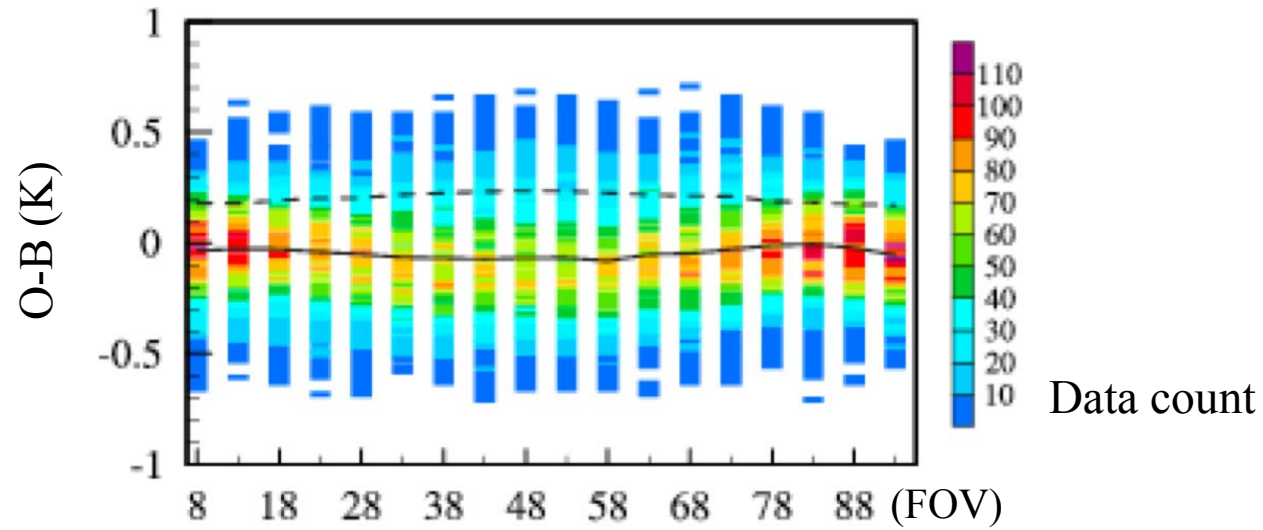
# Data Points Removed by QC



0600 UTC October 26, 2012

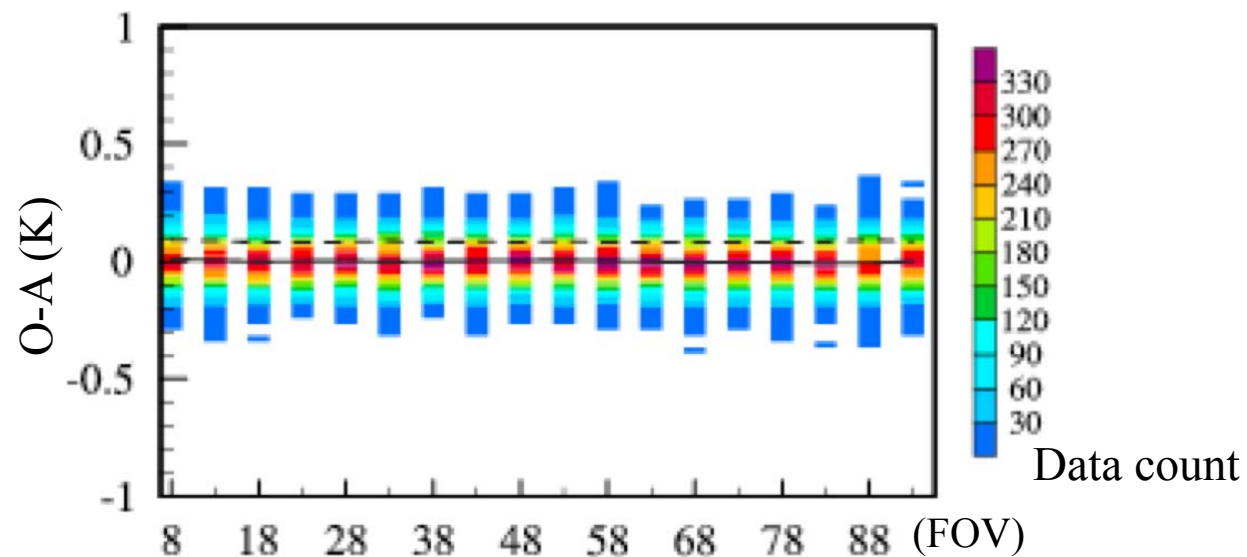
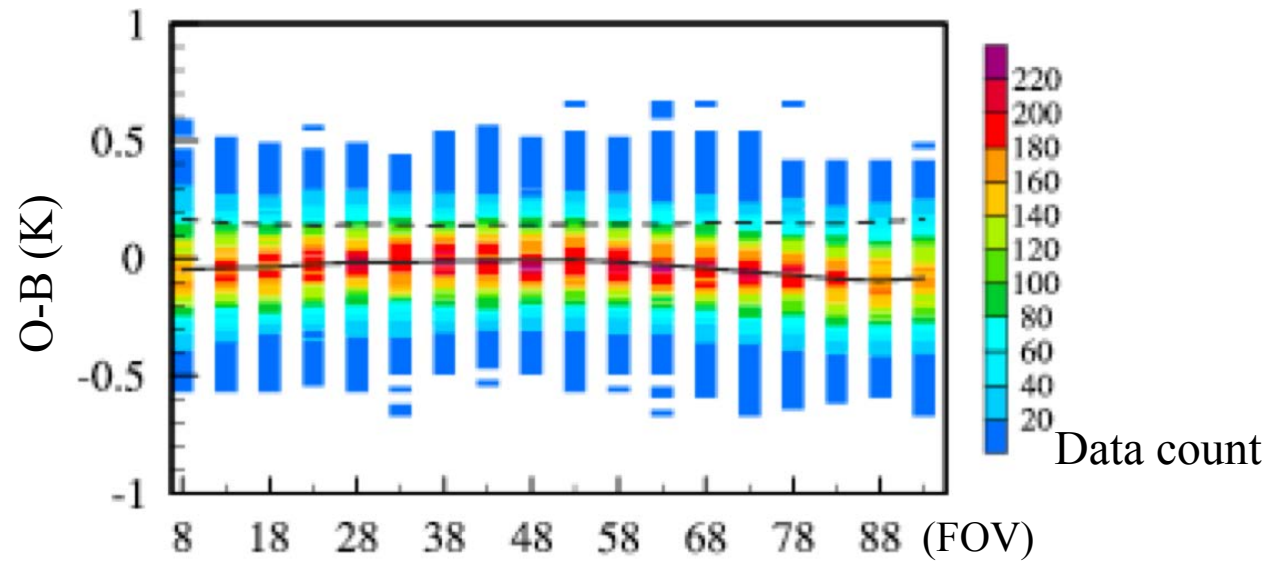
# Convergence of ATMS Data Assimilation (Isaac)

## ATMS channel 6

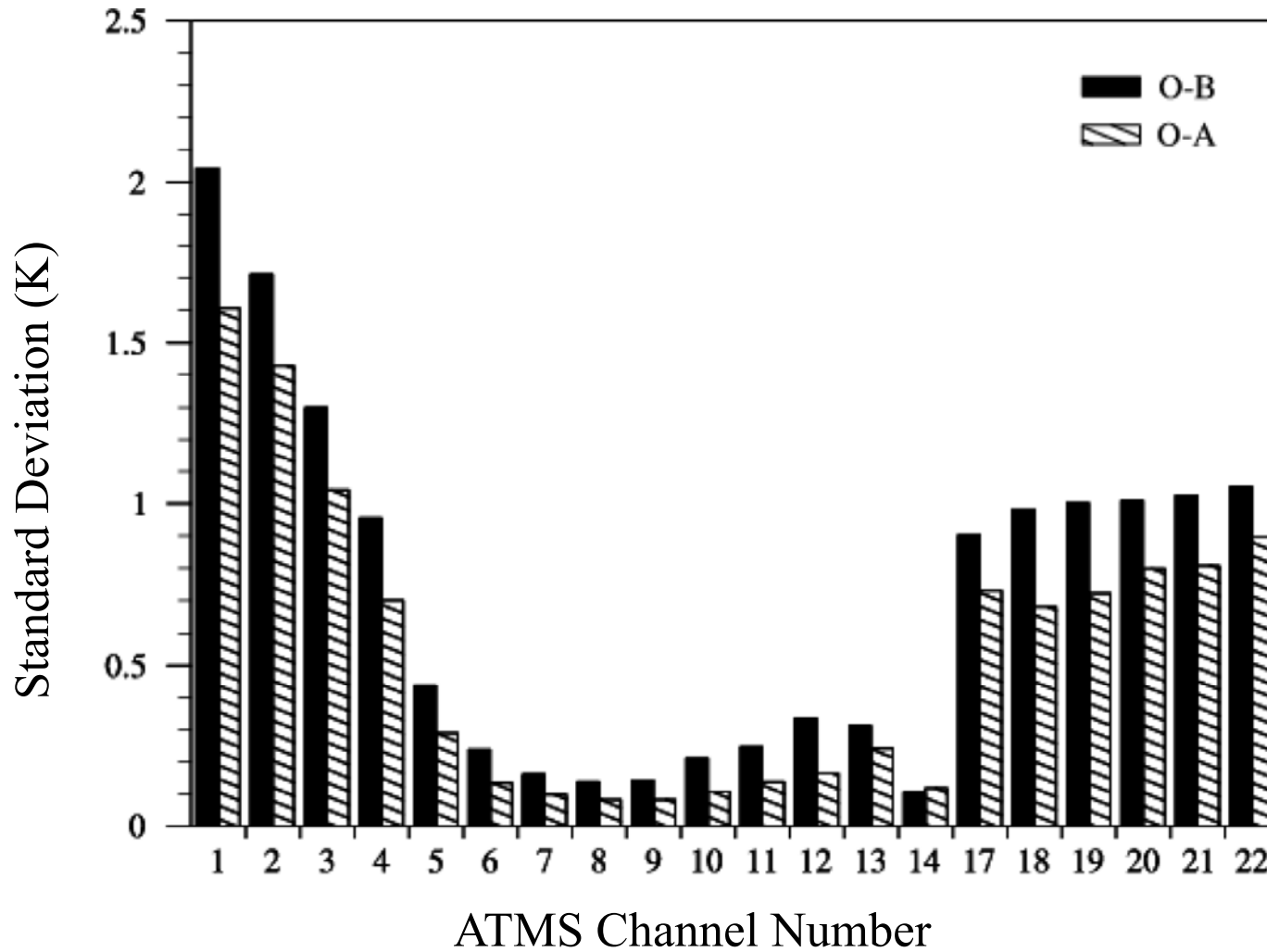


# Convergence of ATMS Data Assimilation (Isaac)

## ATMS channel 9

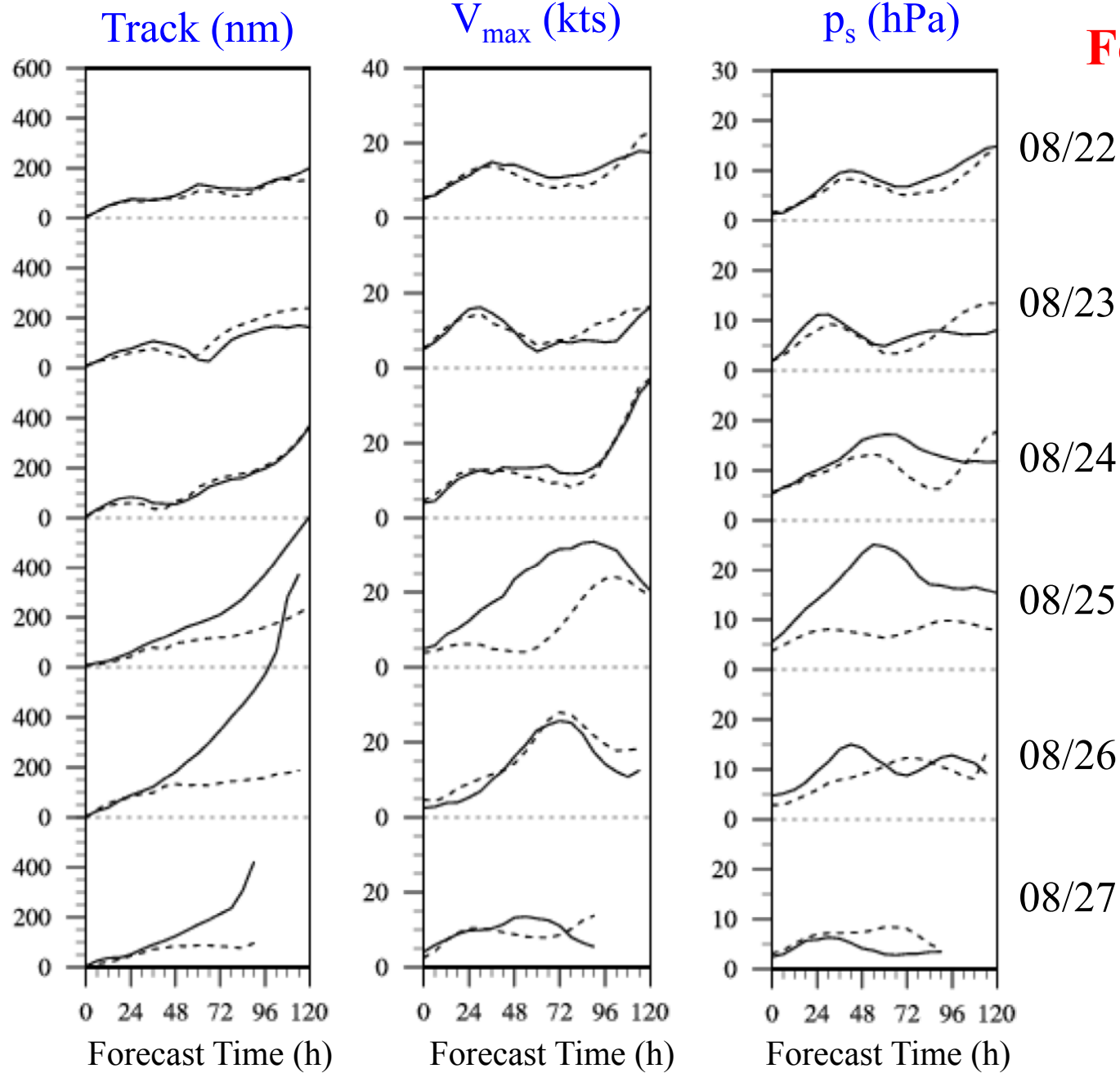


# Standard Deviation before and after Data Assimilation For Hurricane Isaac

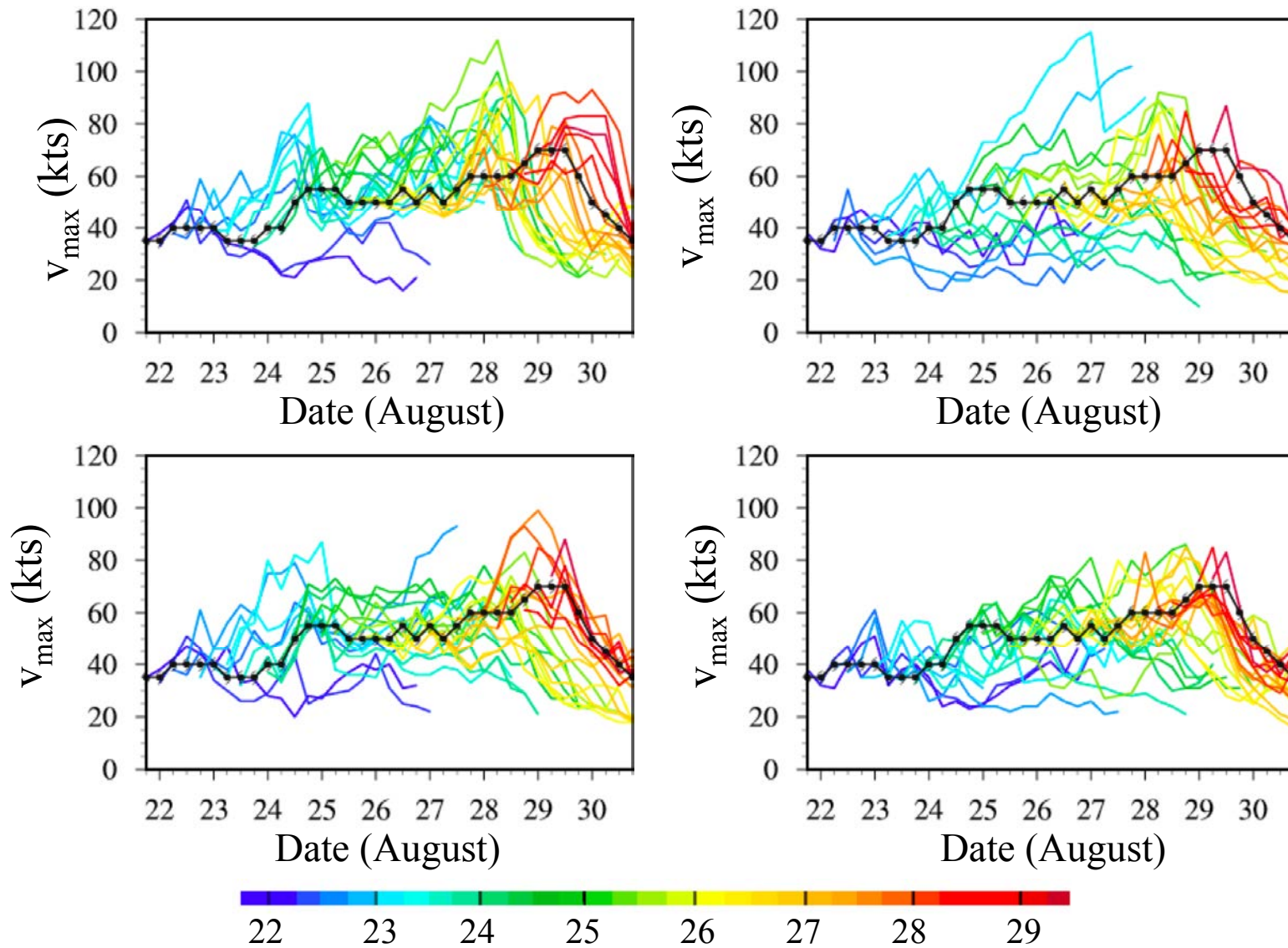




# Daily Mean Forecast Errors For Isaac

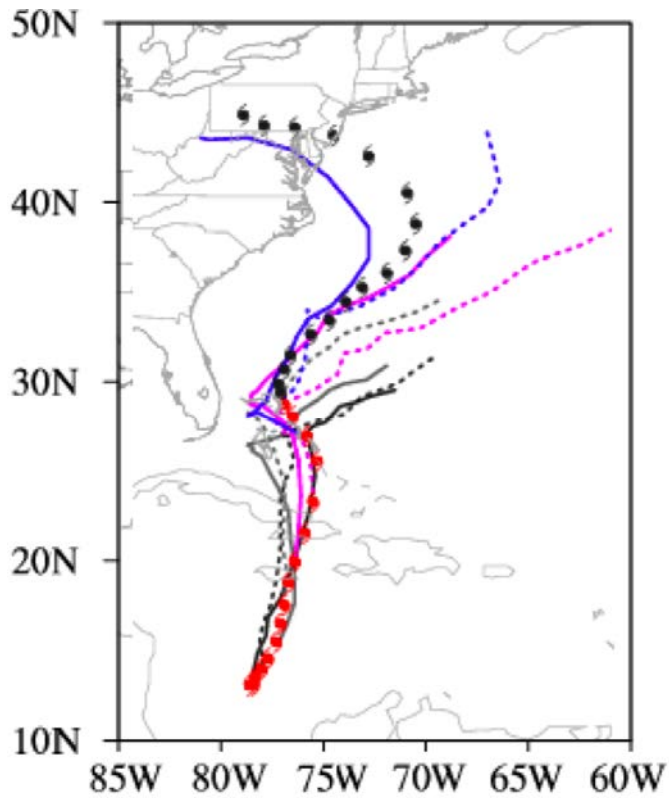


# Impacts of Satellite Data Assimilation on $v_{\max}$ Forecast Errors for Hurricane Isaac

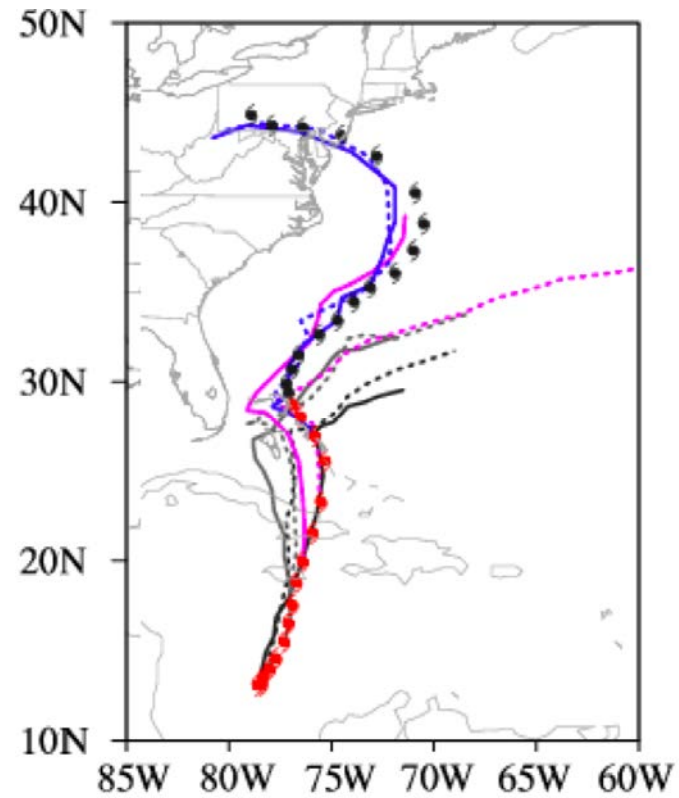


# Impacts of ATMS Data Assimilation on the Track Forecast of Hurricane Sandy

without ATMS

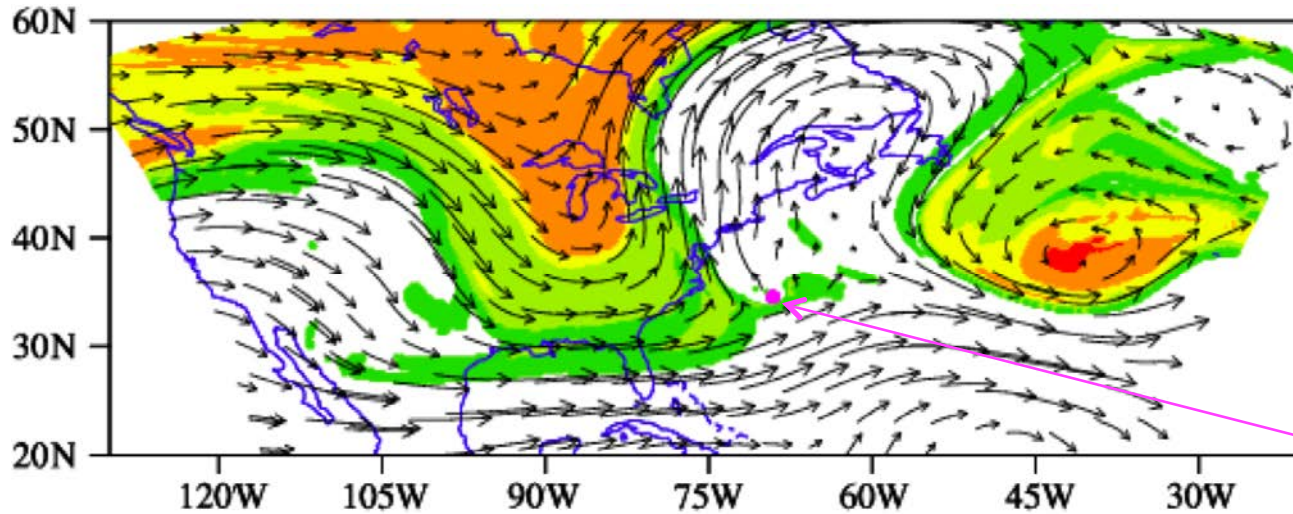


with ATMS



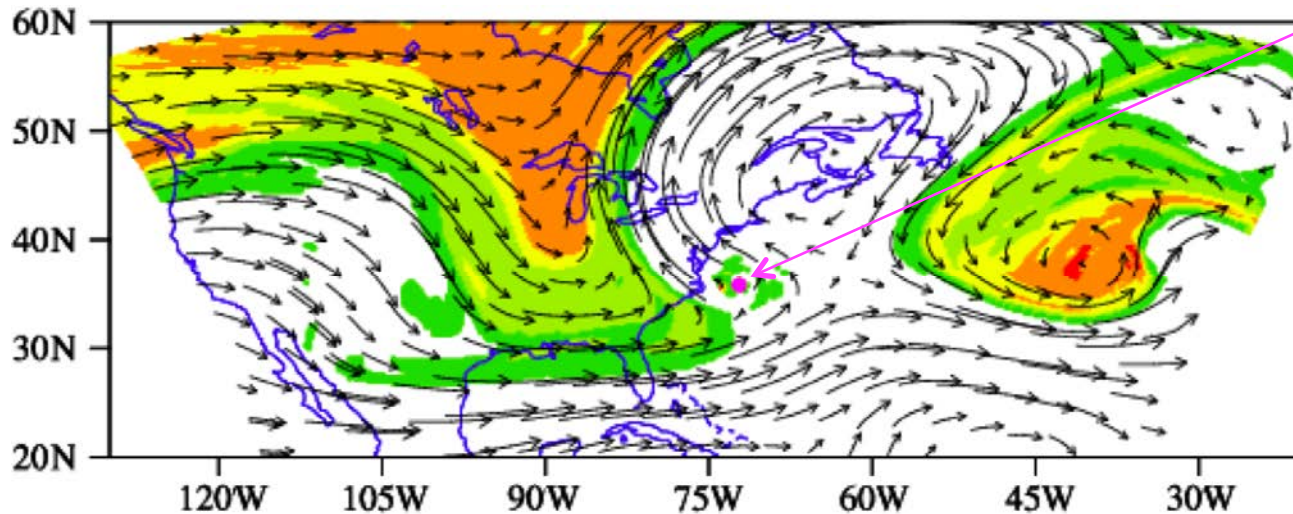
23 24 25 26 27 28 29 (October)

## 72-h Forecasts of PV and Wind Vector at 200 hPa



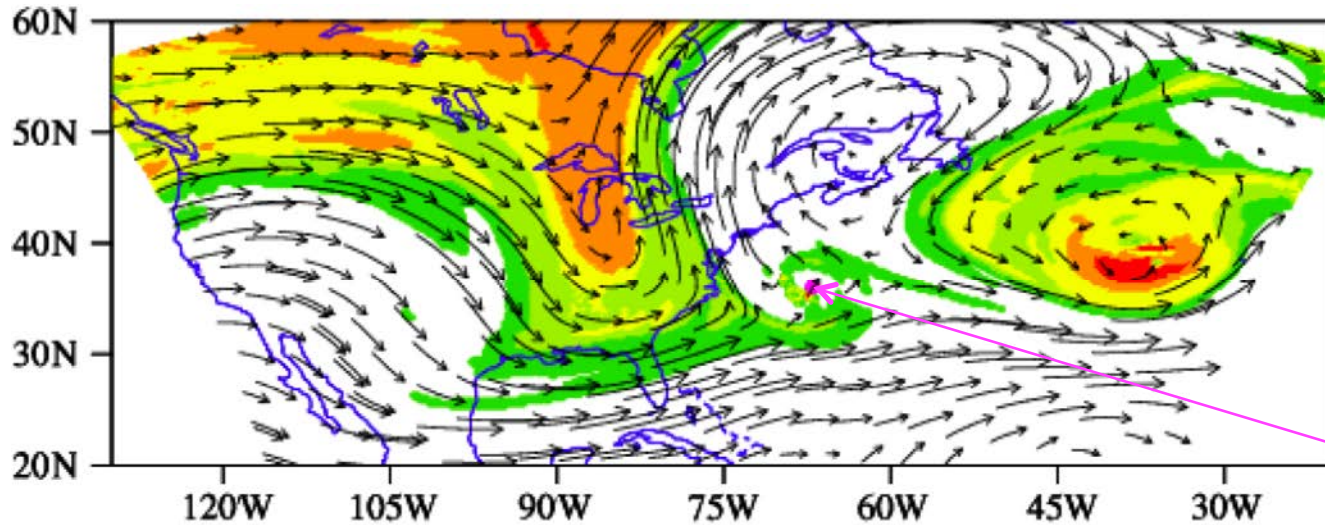
Without ATMS

Sandy



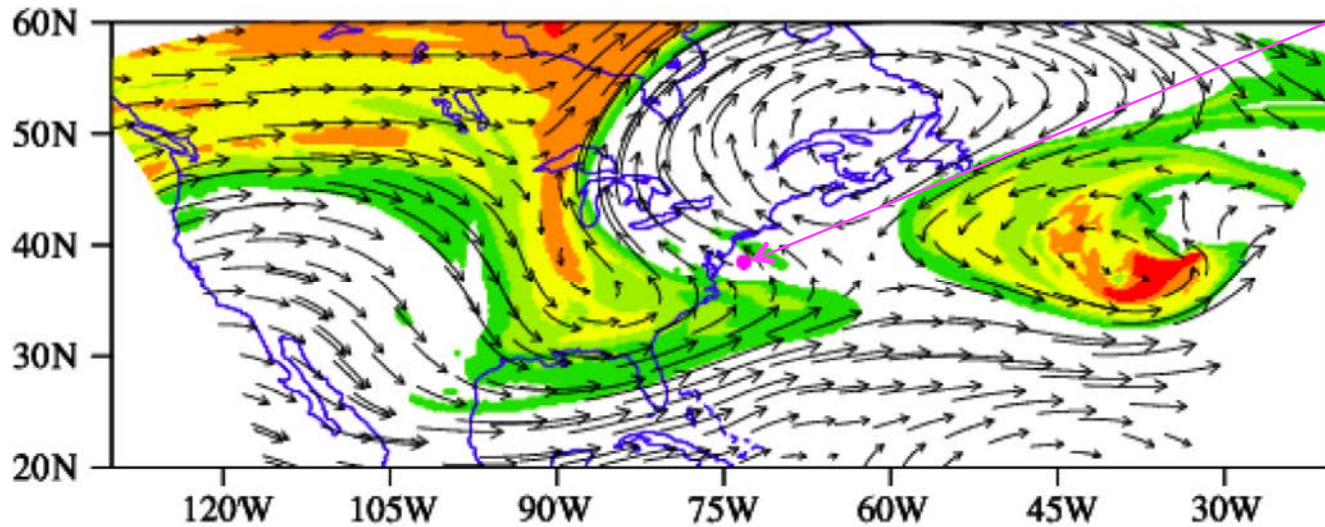
With ATMS

## 84-h Forecasts of PV and Wind Vector at 200 hPa



Without ATMS

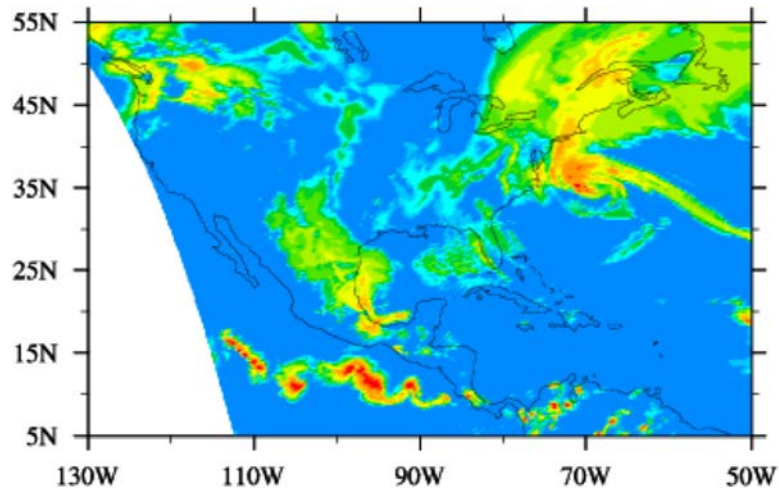
Sandy



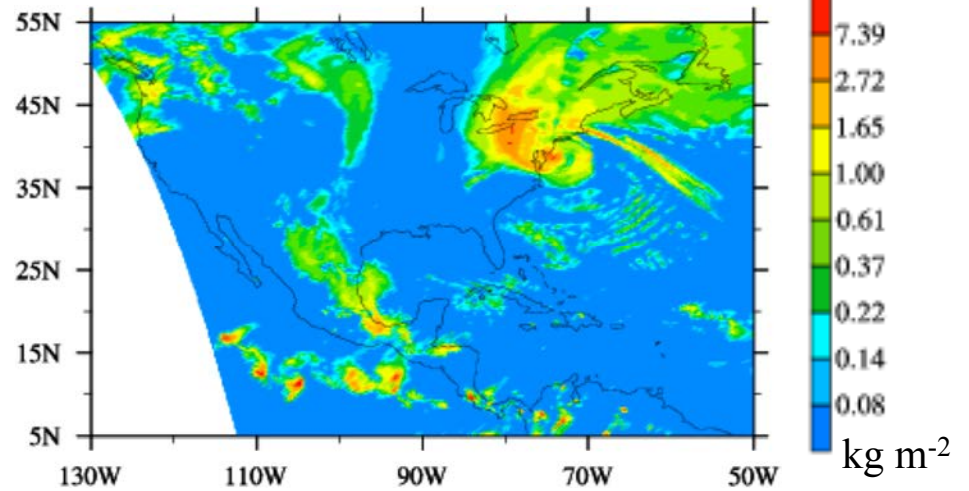
With ATMS

# 84-h Forecasts of Cloud Liquid Water Valid at 0000 UTC 30 October 2012

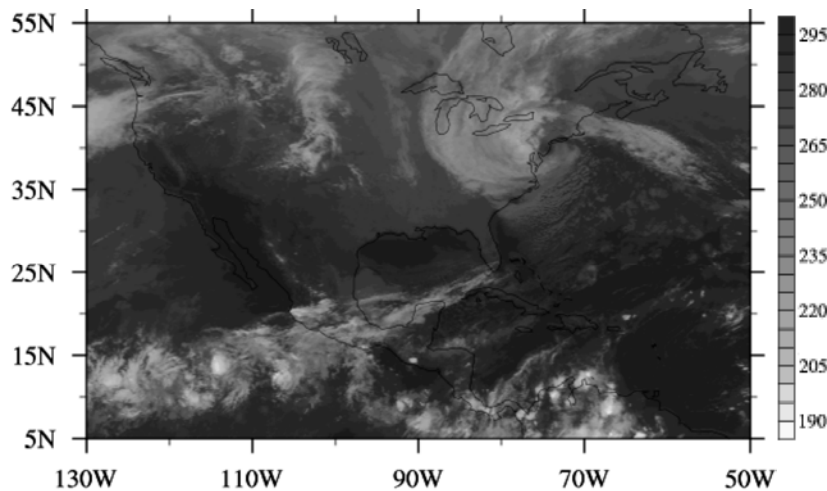
Without ATMS



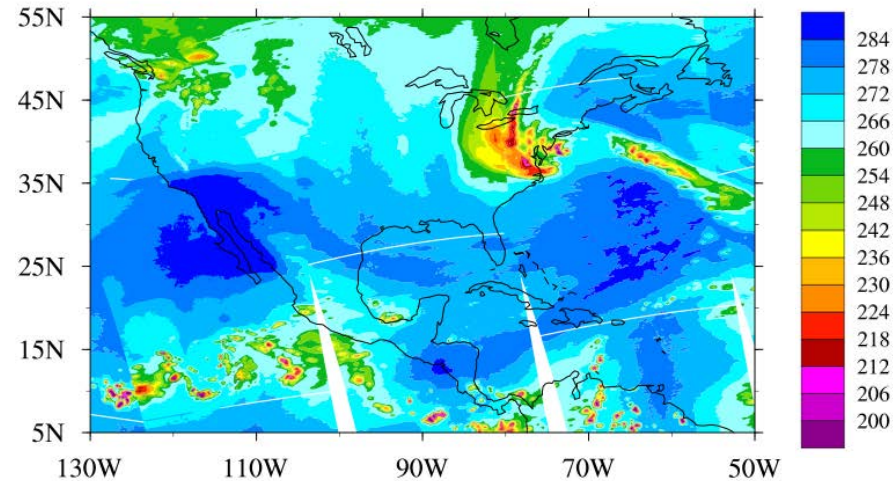
With ATMS



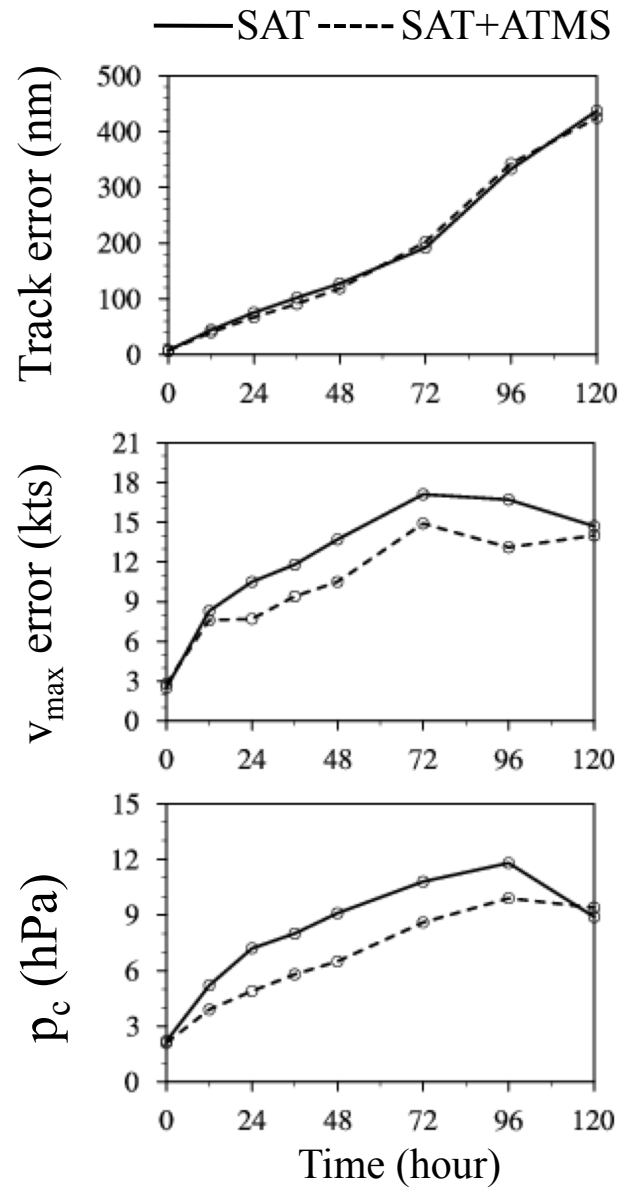
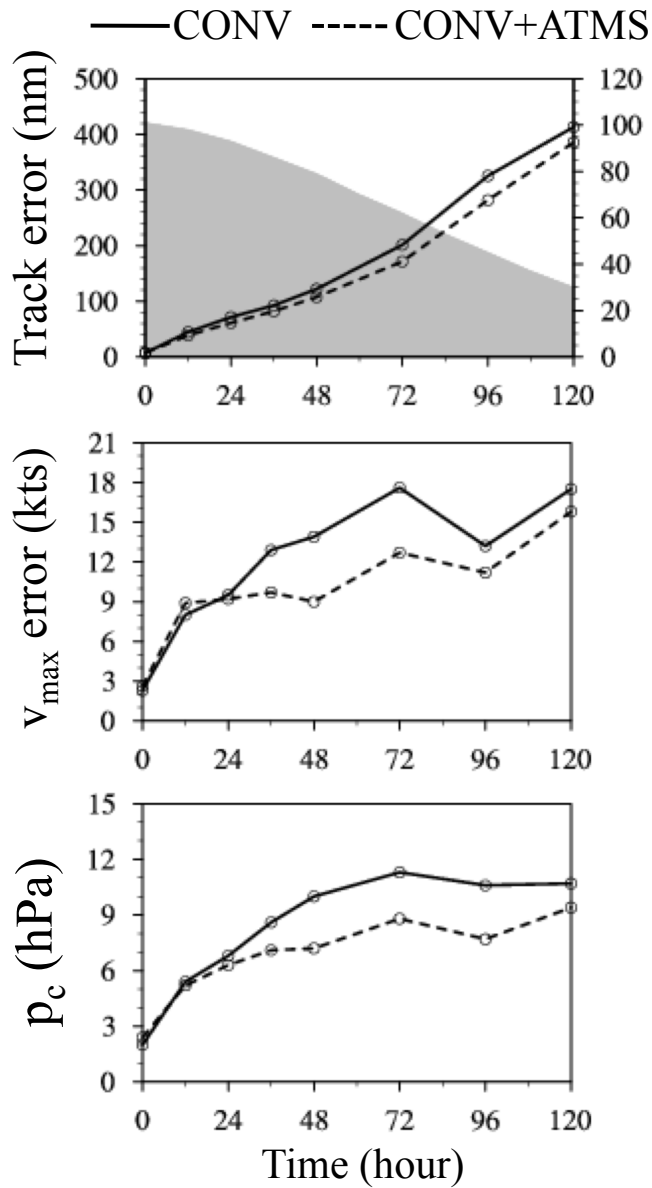
GOES-13  $T_{b,4}$  for Verification



ATMS  $T_{b,18}$  at 1727 UTC 10/29/12



# Mean Forecast Errors for 2012 Atlantic Landfalling



## Summary (Part I)

- AMSU-A and GOES imager data contribute most significantly to improved QPFs near Gulf of Mexico
- Assimilation of GOES imager radiances contributes positively to any single type of satellite data
- Assimilation of all types of satellite data in the GSI system did not produce a better forecast than any experiment assimilated a single type of satellite data
- An improved cloud detection for MHS observations results in a significant positive impact to coastal QPFs



## Summary (Part II)

- Some cloudy radiances remain near cloud edges after the MHS QC in GSI
- The cloud detection algorithm effectively removes those cloudy radiances remaining near cloud edges after the MHS QC in GSI
- The MHS data assimilation with the revised QC is shown to significantly improve coastal QPFs

## Summary (Part III)

- A consistent FOV distribution between temperature and humidity channels on ATMS makes the cloud detection easy to implement
- ATMS data assimilation in GSI/HWRF results in a consistent positive impact on the track and intensity forecasts of the four landfall hurricanes in 2012
- Hurricane Sandy's forecasts are significantly improved after ATMS data assimilation when verified with independent GOES and POES observations

*More details can be found in*

Zou, X., Z. Qin, and F. Weng, 2012: Improved coastal precipitation forecasts with direct assimilation of **GOES 11/12 imager radiances**, *Mon. Wea. Rev.*, **139**, 3711-3729.

Qin, Z., X., Zou, and F. Weng, 2013: Evaluating added benefits of assimilating **GOES imager radiance** data in GSI for coastal QPFs. *Mon. Wea. Rev.*, **141**(1), 75-92.

Zou, X., Z. Qin, and F. Weng, 2013: Improved quantitative precipitation forecasts by **MHS radiance** data assimilation with a newly added cloud detection algorithm, *Mon. Wea. Rev.*, **141**, 3203-3221.

Weng, F., X. Zou, X. Wang, S. Yang, and M. D. Goldberg, 2012: Introduction to **Suomi NPP ATMS** for NWP and tropical cyclone applications. *J. Geophys. Res.*, **117**, D19112, 14pp, doi:10.1029/2012JD018144.

Zou, X., F. Weng, B. Zhang, L. Lin, Z. Qin and V. Tallapragada, 2013: Impact of **ATMS radiance** data assimilation on hurricane track and intensity forecasts using HWRF. *J. Geophys. Res.* JPSS Special Issue, (revised)

# **Acknowledgement**

This work was supported by NOAA GOES-R risk reduction program and JPSS Proving Ground Program.