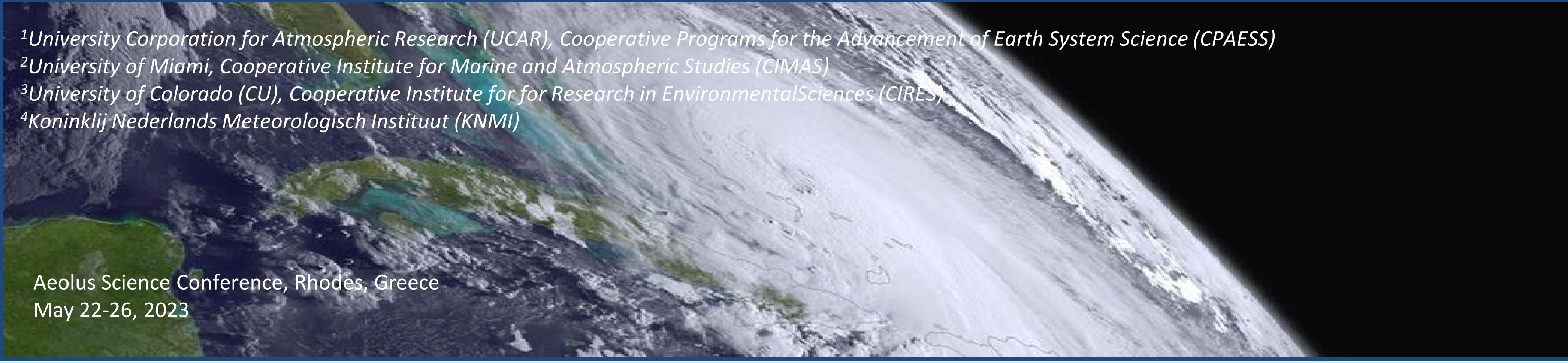
Observing System Simulation Experiments (OSSEs) with 3D Winds from Space under NOAA's Quantitative Observing System Assessment Program (QOSAP)

Lidia Cucurull

Chief Scientist and Deputy Director, NOAA Quantitative Observing System Assessment Program (QOSAP)

Sean Casey[1], Mike Hardesty[2], Agnes Lim[3], Gert-Jan Marseille[4], Mike Mueller[1], Dave Santek[3], Ad Stoffelen[4], And Andres Vidal[5]



[1]University Corporation for Atmospheric Research (UCAR), Cooperative Programs for the Advancement of Earth System Science (CPAESS)
[2]University of Miami, Cooperative Institute for Marine and Atmospheric Studies (CIMAS)
[3]University of Colorado (CU), Cooperative Institute for for Research in EnvironmentalSciences (CIRES)
[4]Koninklij Nederlands Meteorologisch Instituut (KNMI)

Aeolus Science Conference, Rhodes, Greece
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QOSAP background

- Need to provide quantitative information on the impact of proposed observing systems for the next planned generation of numerical weather prediction systems.
- Established in 2014 as a NOAA Program, with the primary objective of increasing the use of quantitative assessments for proposed changes to the global observing system.
- Primary quantitative assessment tools used by QOSAP are Observing System Simulation Experiments (OSSEs) and Observing System Experiments (OSEs).
  - OSEs are used to quantify/optimize the impact of current observations in weather models
  - OSSEs are used to quantify/optimize the impact of proposed/future observations in weather models
- Maintain/develop/update NOAA "OSSE/OSE ready" capabilities for environmental applications.
- Help inform major decisions by evaluating the impact of alternative mix of current and/or proposed instruments for better understanding and prediction of Earth Systems.

Aeolus

- Aeolus observations not assimilated into NOAA's operational models.
- Testing conducted to evaluate the impact of Aeolus in weather forecasting (global and hurricane systems).
- Lessons learned about error characteristics and quality controls procedures tuned to the NOAA system that would help assimilate Aeolus follow-on data operationally.
- NOAA has conducted many OSEs with Aeolus and OSSEs with Aeolus-2 in collaboration with European partners.
- Ongoing OSSE efforts related to 3D winds from space will be discussed in this presentation.

Satellite architecture trade-offs

- NOAA conducted a study to plan for the next generation of weather satellites – NOAA Satellite Observing System Architecture (NSOSA).
- Outlined new capabilities and architectures which NOAA should invest in.
- Generated architectural questions that could be addressed by observing system simulation experiments (OSSEs).
- Benefits from existing observing systems to be combined with potential enhancements from non-yet-existing capabilities.
- Key questions to address:
  - Relative value of sounding quality and quantity for global NWP – to support decision making on sounder performance versus satellite numbers (completed – not presented in this talk).
  - **Value of global wind observations and their value relative to enhanced sounding, relative value of different approaches to global wind observations (active versus passive).**

NOAA global OSSE system

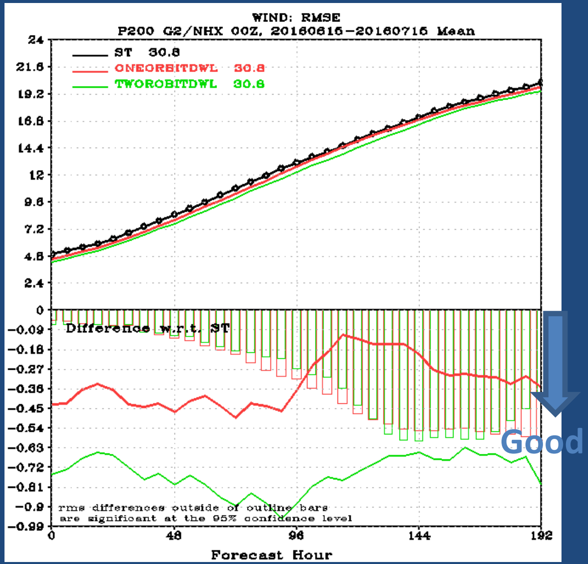
- ECMWF (~ 9km) nature run
  - ECMWF operational configuration November 2016 – July 2017
  - 14 months: 00 UTC Sep 30, 2015 – Nov 30, 2016.
- QOSAP COSS package to generate error-added observations.
- Simulated conventional, RO profiles and MW/IR radiances under cloudy conditions.
- Incorporated 3D active and passive winds from space
  - Doppler Wind Lidar observations in collaboration with EUMETSAT/KNMI – completed.
  - 3D passive Atmospheric Motion Vector winds (tracking moisture features) – ongoing.
- Experiments were run at research resolution (lower than operations).
- OSSE system calibrated with the NOAA's global data assimilation and forecast system.
  - June-July with observing architecture operational in 2020
    - Two-week spin up period (2016060100-2016061418)
    - Forecasts verification (2016061500-2016073000)

OSSE with active winds: one orbit versus two orbits

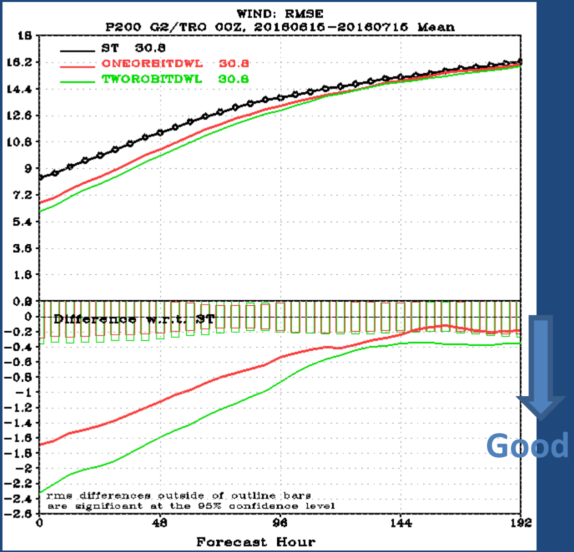
ST = Study Threshold (MW/IR @ 12-hr update rate, 5K RO prof/day)
ONEORBITDWL = ST + DWL in one orbit
TWOORBITDWL = ST + DWL in two orbits

200 hPa RMS Wind error

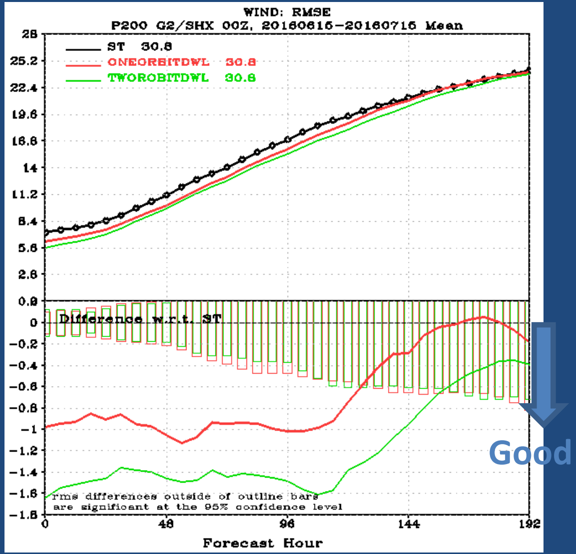
Northern Hemisphere extra-tropics



Tropics



Southern Hemisphere extra-tropics



OSSE with active winds: one orbit versus two orbits

ST = Study Threshold (MW/IR @ 12-hr update rate, 5K RO prof/day)
ONEORBITDWL = ST + DWL in one orbit
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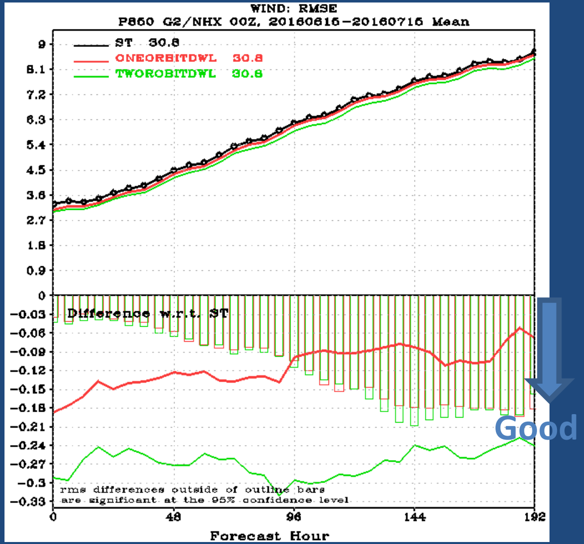
850 hPa RMS Wind error

Northern Hemisphere extra-tropics



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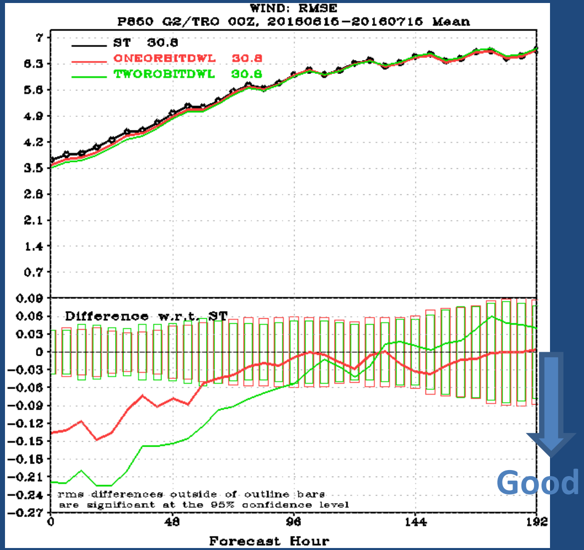
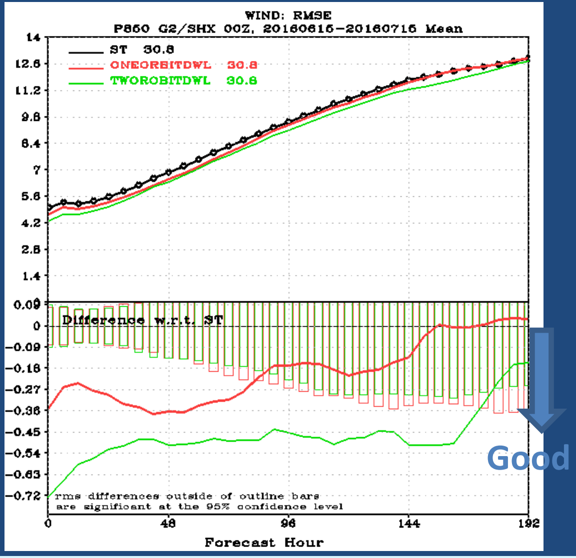


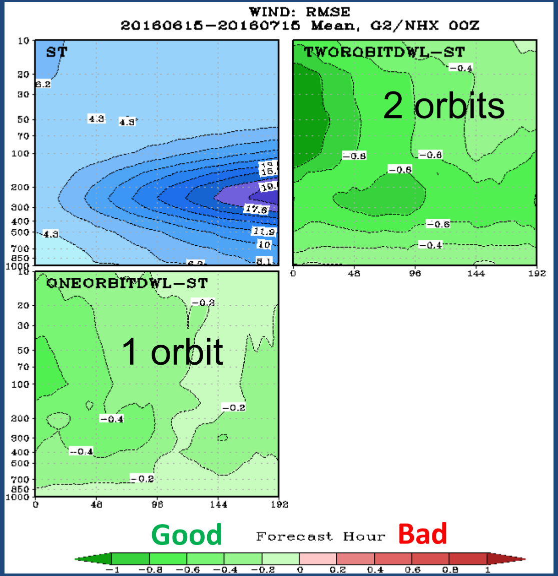
Southern Hemisphere extra-tropics



OSSE with active winds: one orbit versus two orbits

RMS Wind Cross Sections

Northern Hemisphere extra-tropics



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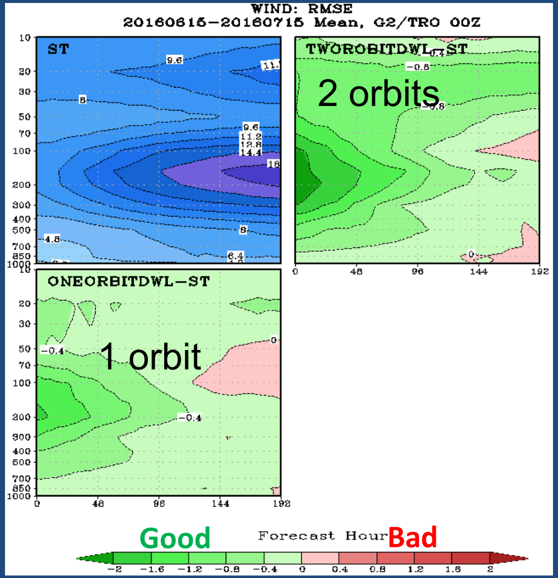
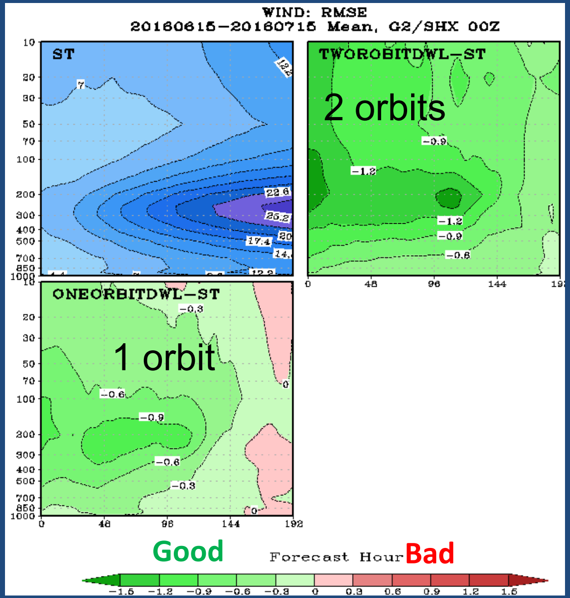


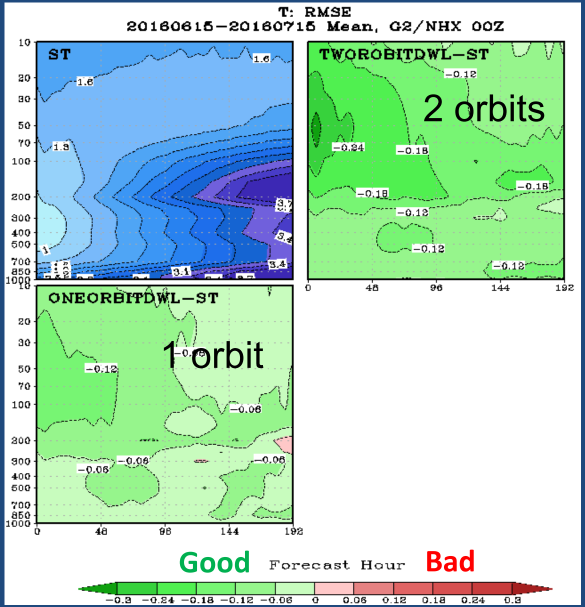
Southern Hemisphere extra-tropics



OSSE with active winds: one orbit versus two orbits

RMS Temperature Cross Sections

Northern Hemisphere extra-tropics



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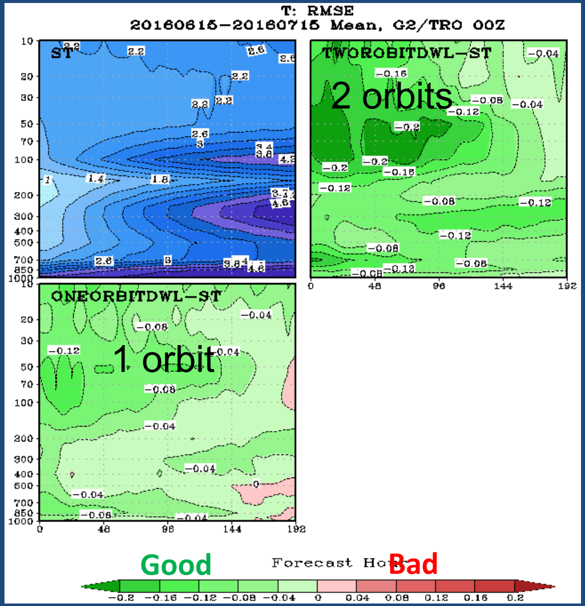
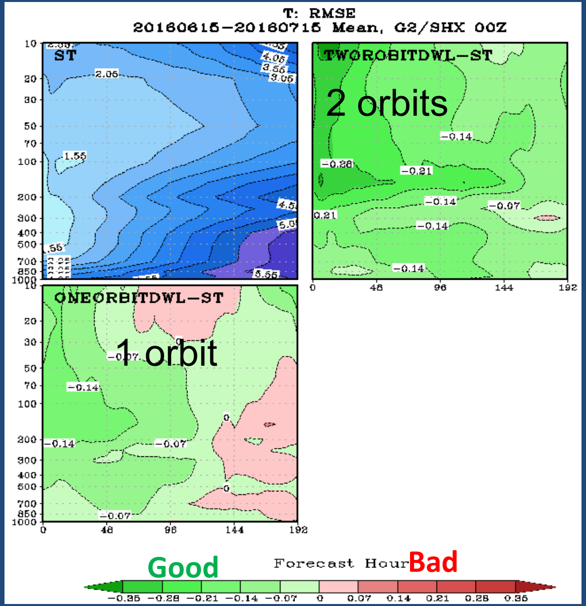


Southern Hemisphere extra-tropics



Passive approach (ongoing effort)

- Train formation versus staggered orbits.
- Exp1: 3D AMVs from 9 satellites: A 3-satellite train in each orbit (orbits at 0530, 0930, 1330 local equator crossing time) and each satellite train (triplet) spaced no more than 15 minutes apart.
- Exp2: 3D AMVs from 9 evenly distributed sun-synchronous orbits with one orbit at 1330.

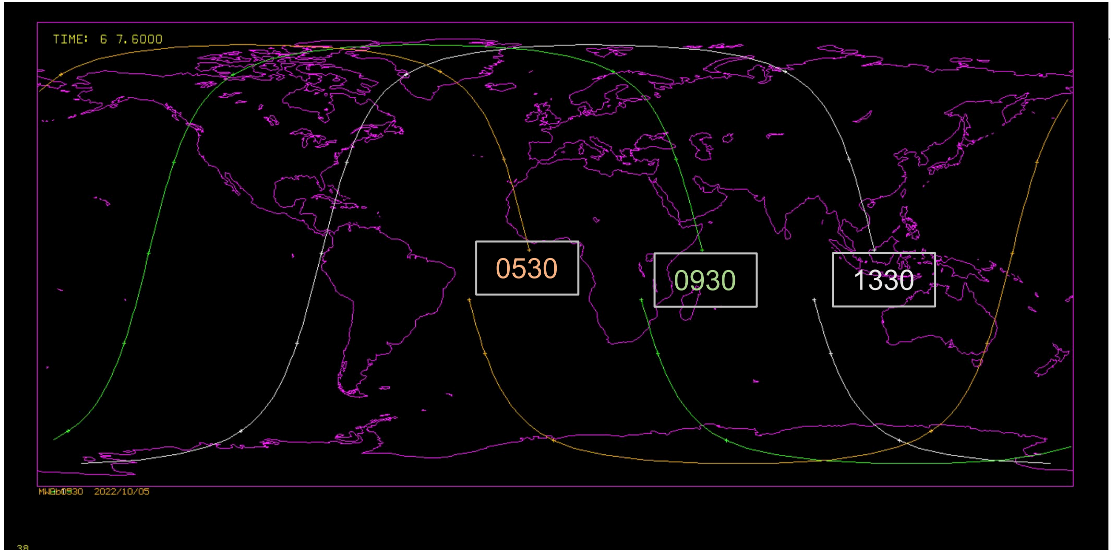
Simulation of 3D Passive Winds

- Track humidity features in the grid Nature Run (ECO1280)
- Winds produced on eight pressure levels (200, 250, 300, 400, 500, 600, 700, 850 hPa)
- Nature Run grids divided into 4 sectors to derive winds
  - NPole, NHemi, SHemi, SPole
- Nature Run cloud top grid used to flag those AMVs in clear sky and above cloud (IR sounder)
  - All AMVs are retained in dataset to simulate all-weather sounding instruments (e.g., microwave)
    - Would sample in vertical (e.g., 300, 500, 700 hPa) to simulate degraded vertical resolution of microwave
- Polar satellite orbit to sample observations
  - Orbit and instrument swath are configurable

Satellite configuration
Exp 1

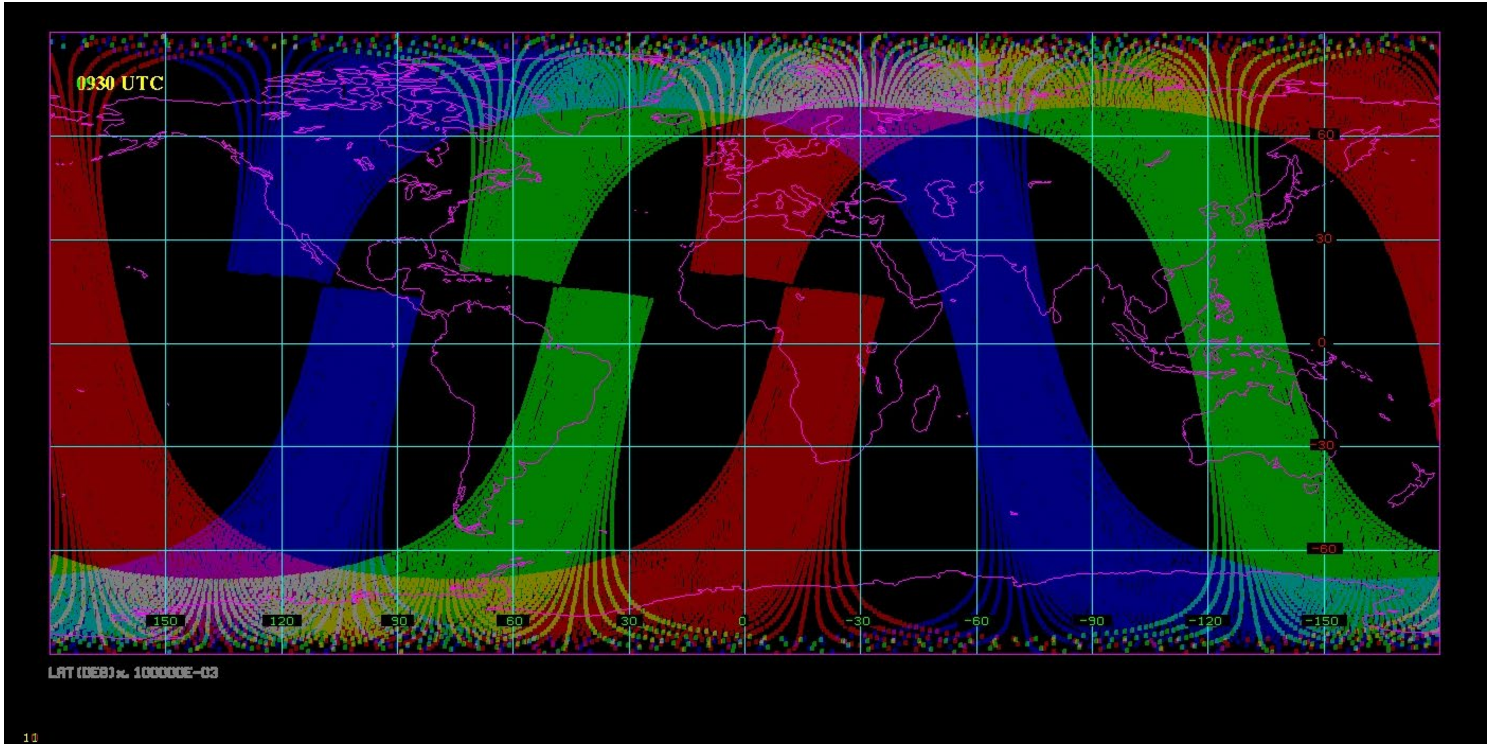
AMVs from 9 satellites: A 3-satellite train in each orbit (orbits at 0530, 0930, 1330 local equator crossing time) and each satellite train (triplet) spaced no more than 15 minutes apart.

Winds are derived from a time-separated triplet of images (3 satellites with the same ground track).



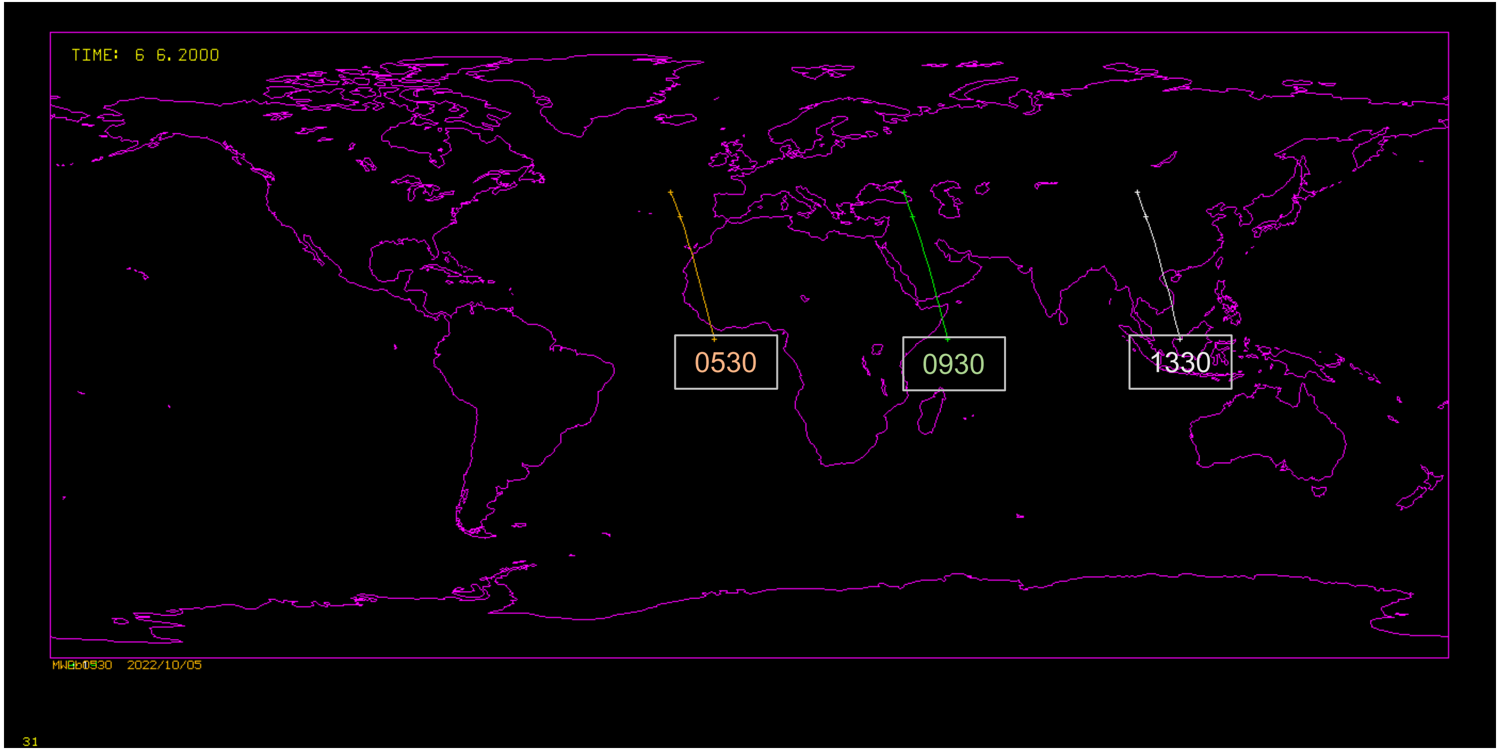
Paths of one orbit for each satellite train

Satellite configuration
Exp 1



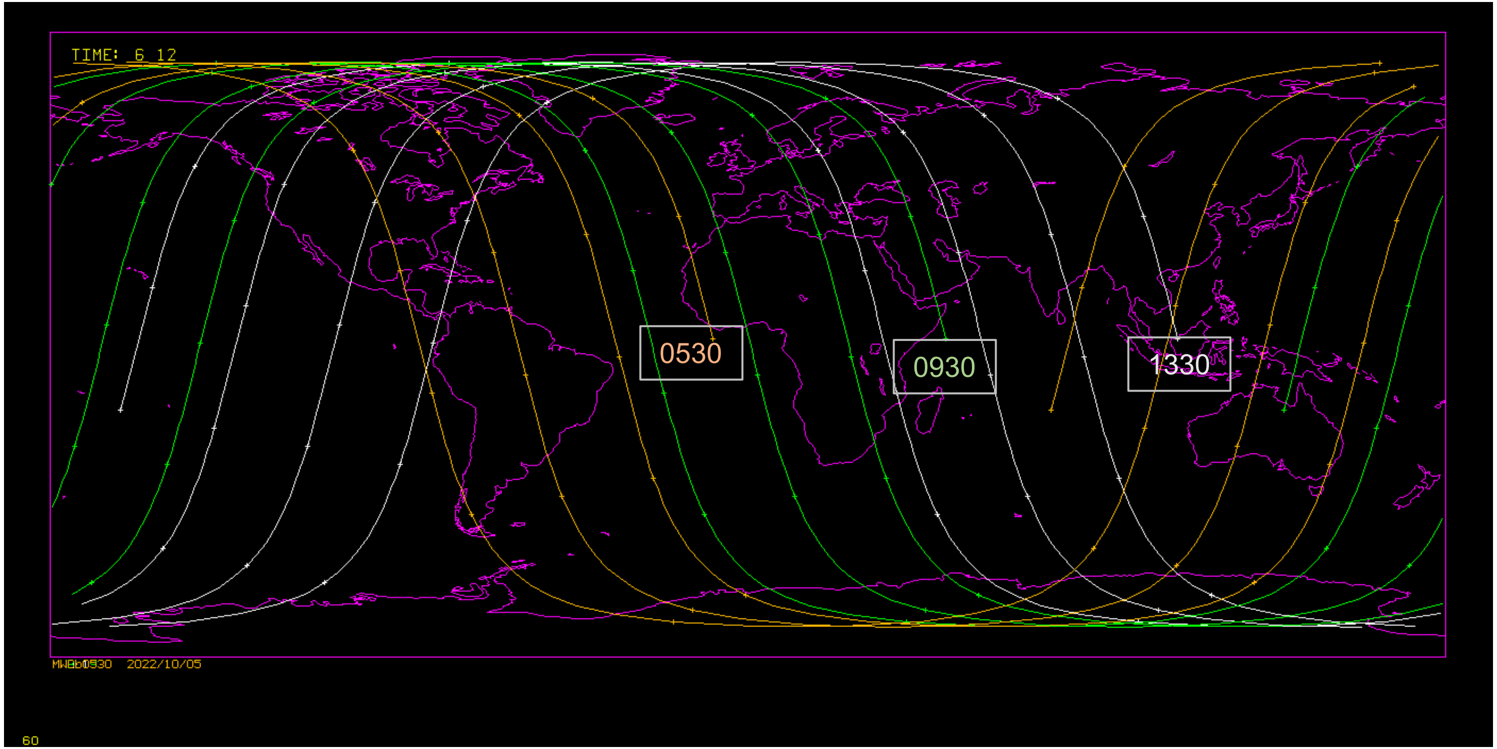
Swath coverage of one orbit (100 minutes) for each satellite train
Note: Different time window than previous slides

Satellite configuration
Exp 1



6-hour time window; orbits of 3 satellite trains at 0530, 0930, 1330 local time

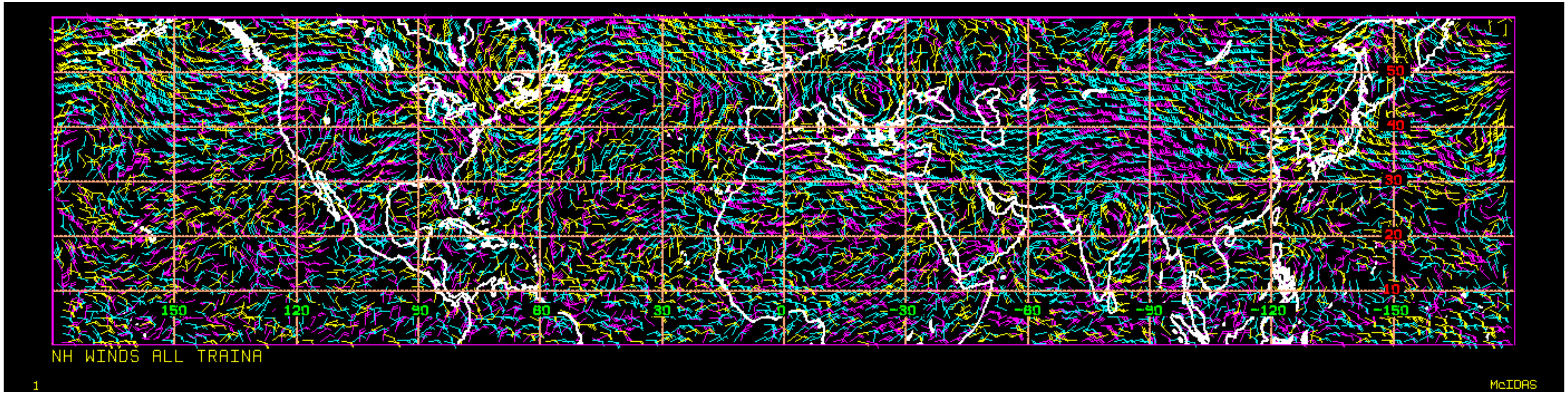
Satellite configuration
Exp 1



6-hour time window, corresponding to expected AMV coverage for an assimilation cycle

N. Hemisphere Winds Derived from ECO1280 Nature Run
Equator to 60 deg. latitude

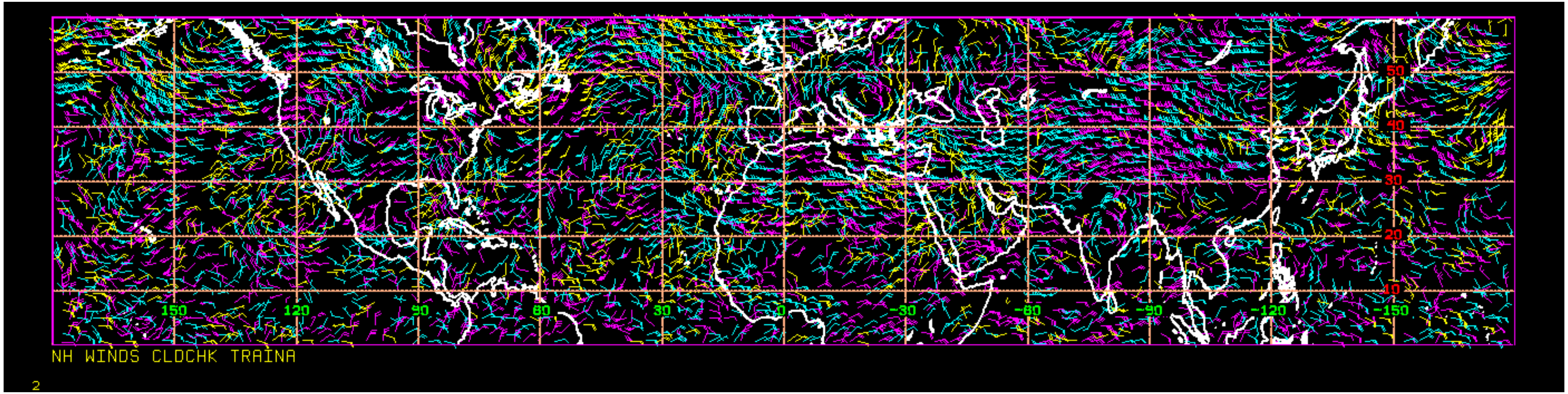
- All derived winds from Nature Run



0130 to 0430 UTC
Color-coded by height: Low (yellow), Middle (cyan), High (magenta)

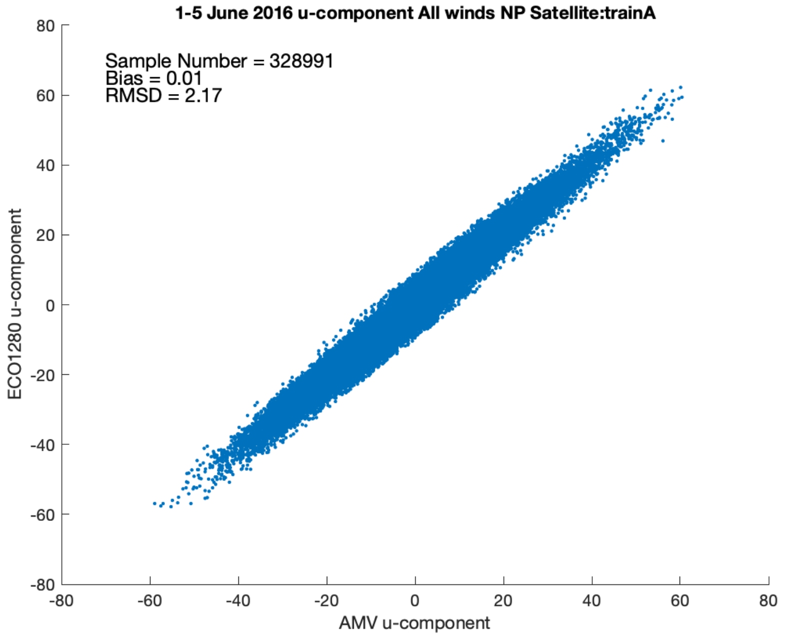
N. Hemisphere Winds Derived from ECO1280 Nature Run
Equator to 60 deg. latitude

- All derived winds from Nature Run; screened by clouds
  - Note low-level clouds (yellow) greatly reduced; mid-level (cyan) thinned

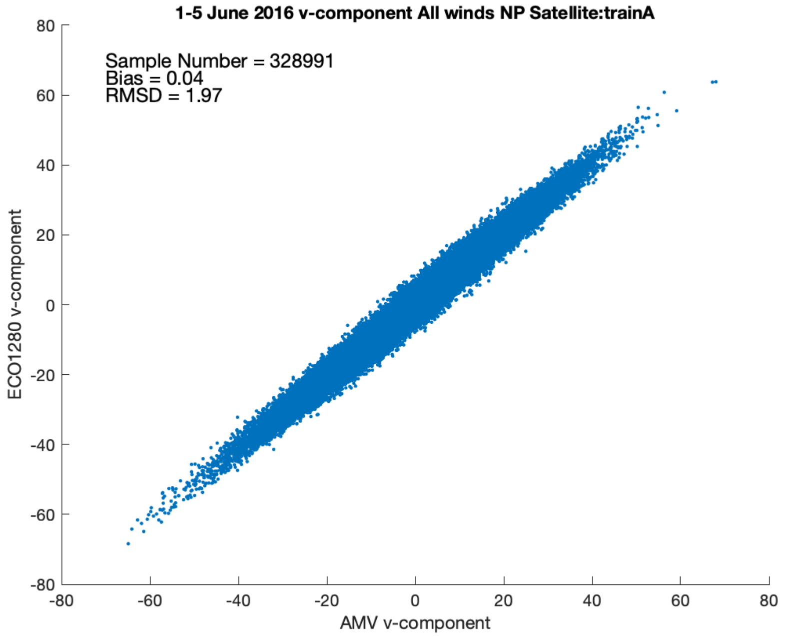


0130 to 0430 UTC
Color-coded by height: Low (yellow), Middle (cyan), High (magenta)

Wind derivation using ECO1280: Northern Pole sector
5 days (01-05 June 2016)



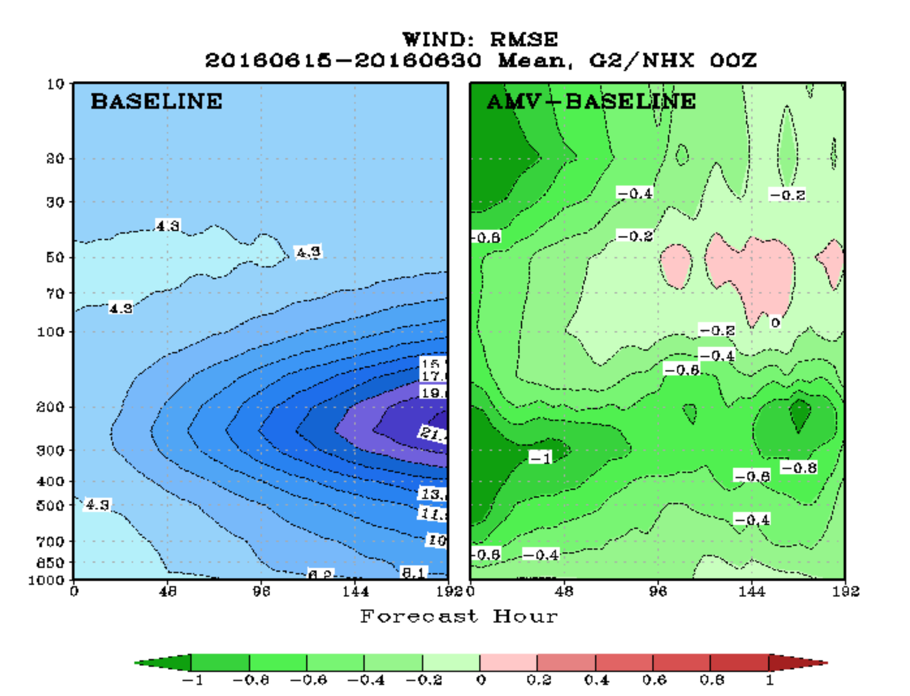
ECO1280 u-comp vs AMV u-comp (QC'd)



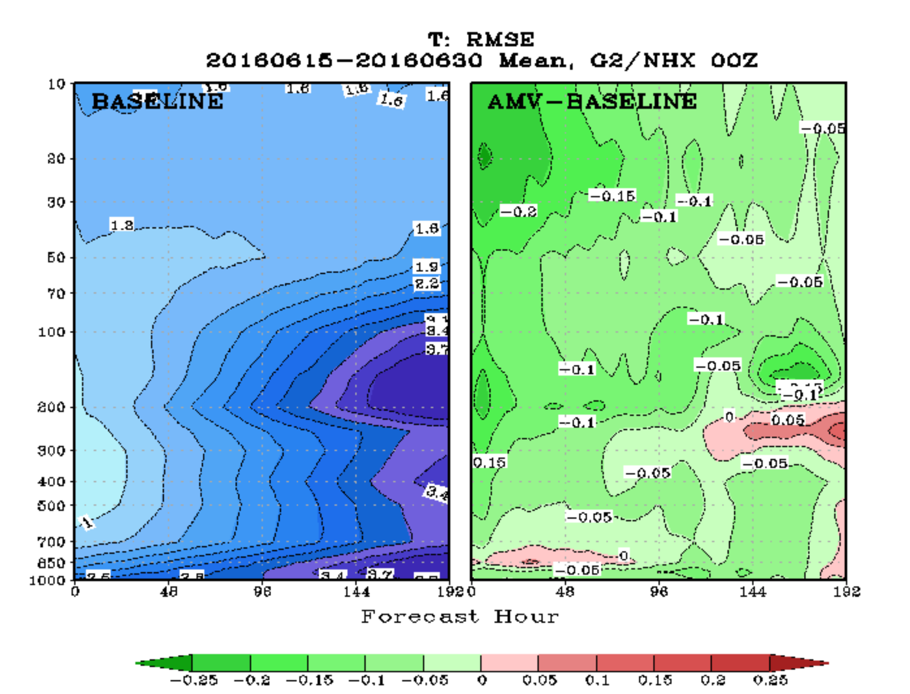
ECO1280 v-comp vs AMV v-comp (QC'd)

NHX RMS Cross Sections

Wind

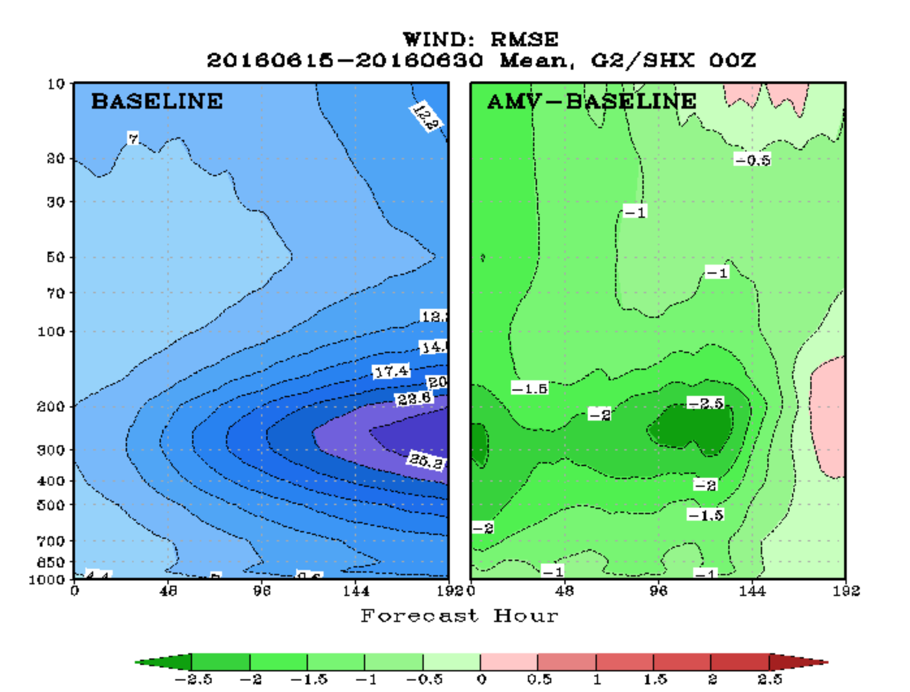


Temperature

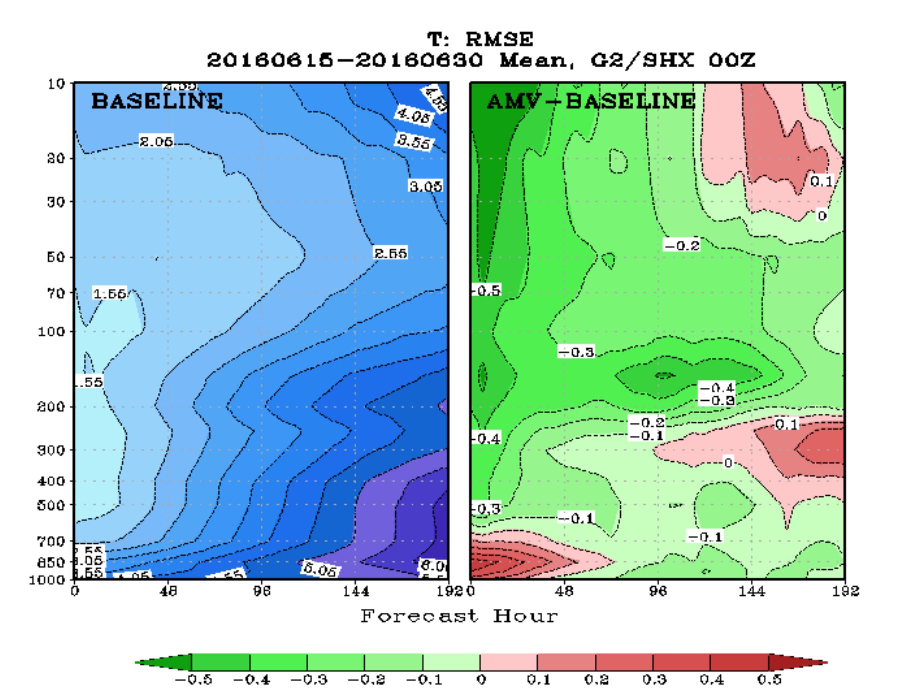


SHX RMS Cross Sections

Wind



Temperature

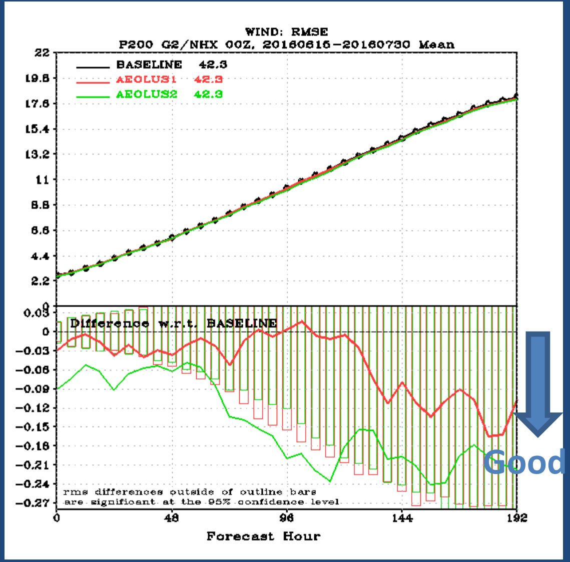


OSSE with active winds: Aeolus and Aeolus-2

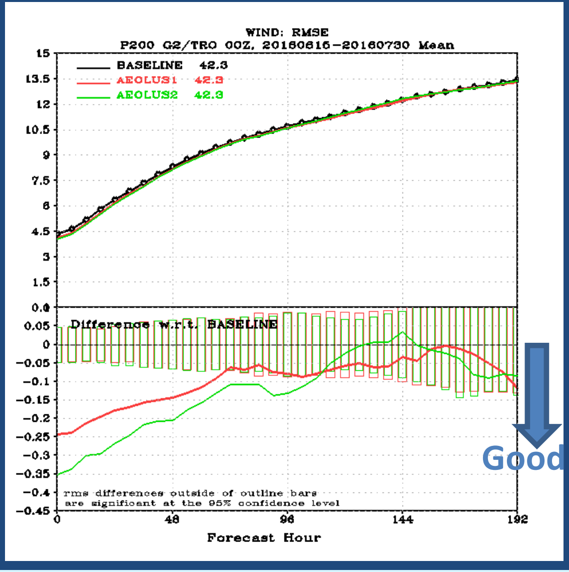
BASELINE = Baseline control configuration
AEOLUS1 = Baseline + Aeolus-1
AEOLUS2 = Baseline + Aeolus-2

200 hPa RMS Wind error

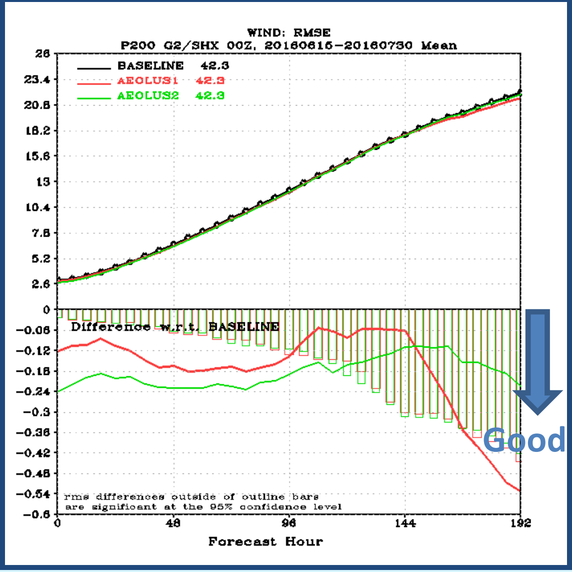
Northern Hemisphere extra-tropics



Tropics



Southern Hemisphere extra-tropics

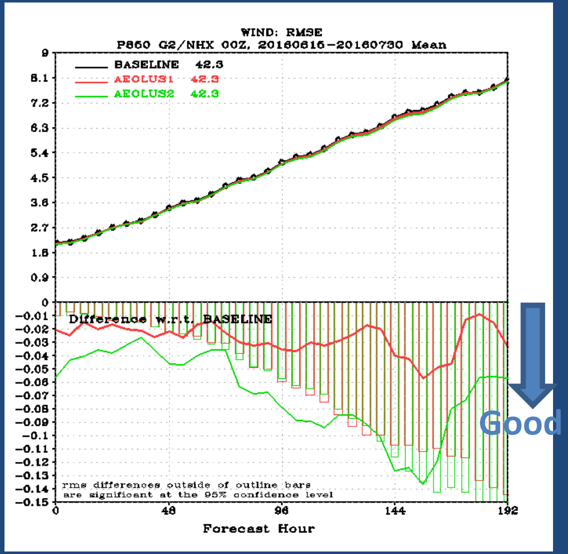


OSSE with active winds: Aeolus and Aeolus-2

BASELINE = Baseline control configuration
AEOLUS1 = Baseline + Aeolus-1
AEOLUS2 = Baseline + Aeolus-2

850 hPa RMS Wind error

Northern Hemisphere extra-tropics



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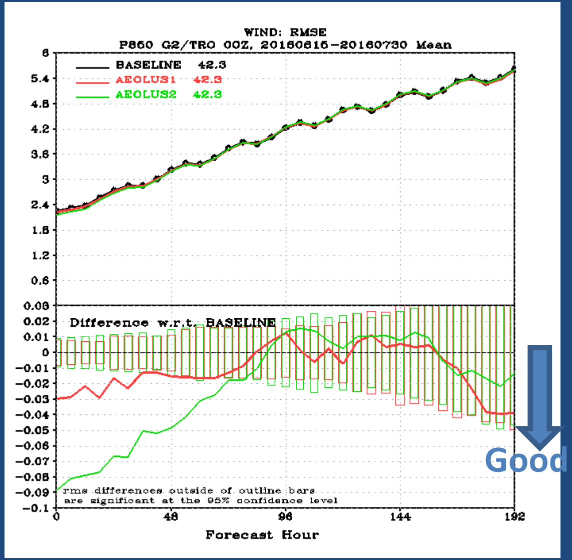

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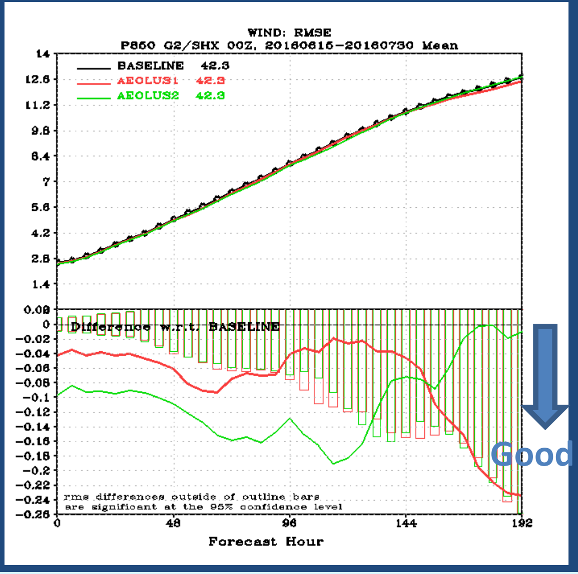
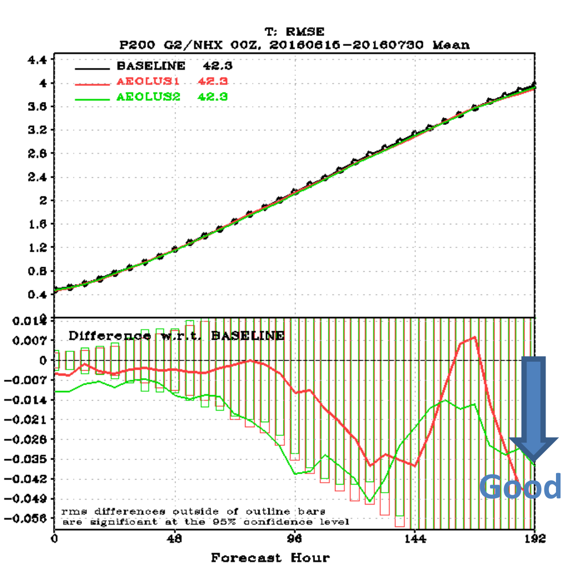


RMS Temperature @ 200 hPa RMS

Northern Hemisphere extra-tropics



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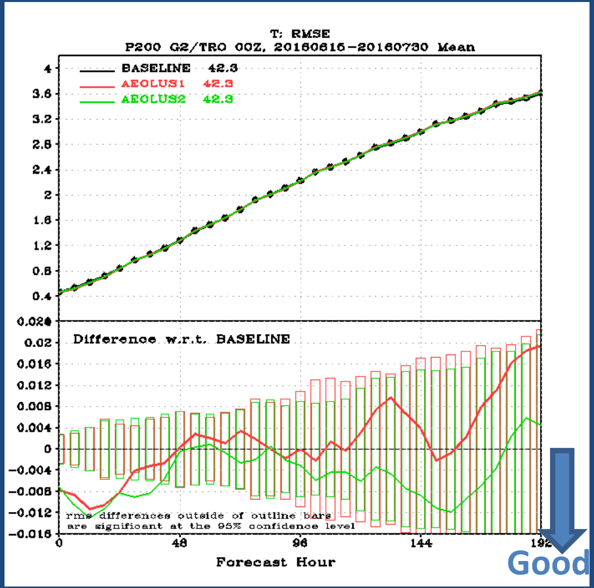
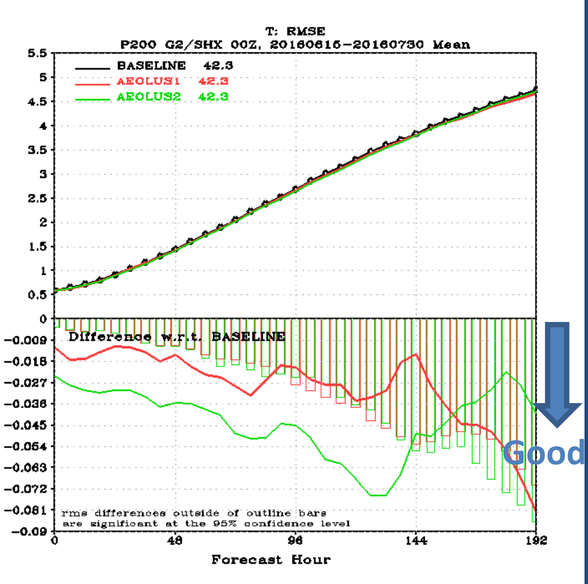
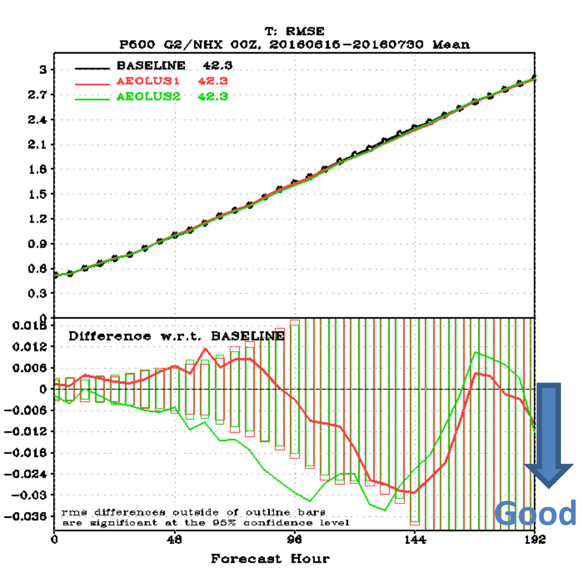


Southern Hemisphere extra-tropics



RMS Temperature @ 500 hPa RMS

Northern Hemisphere extra-tropics



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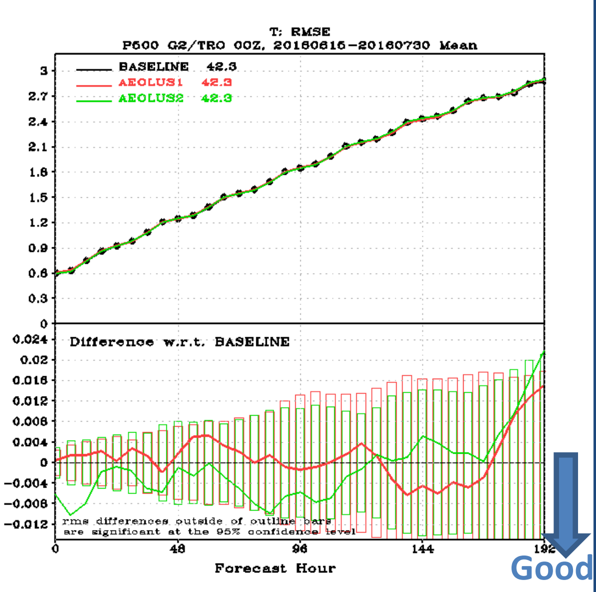
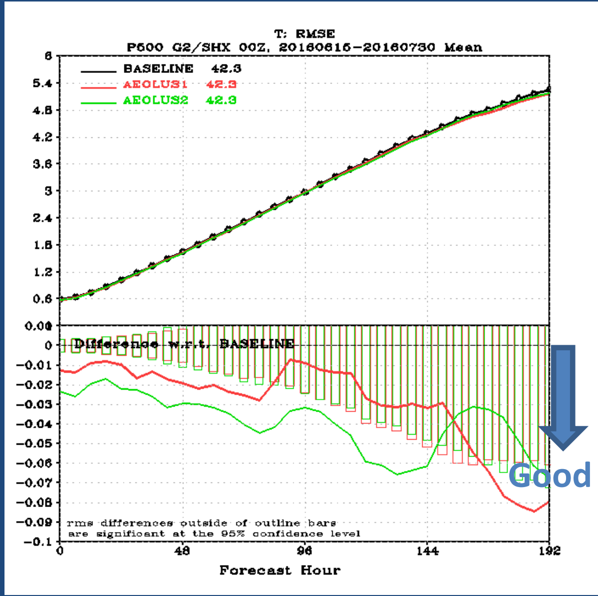
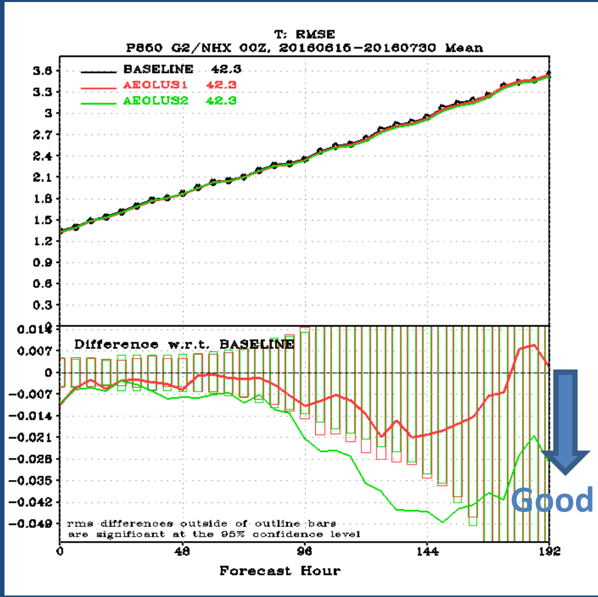


Southern Hemisphere extra-tropics



RMS Temperature @ 850 hPa RMS

Northern Hemisphere extra-tropics



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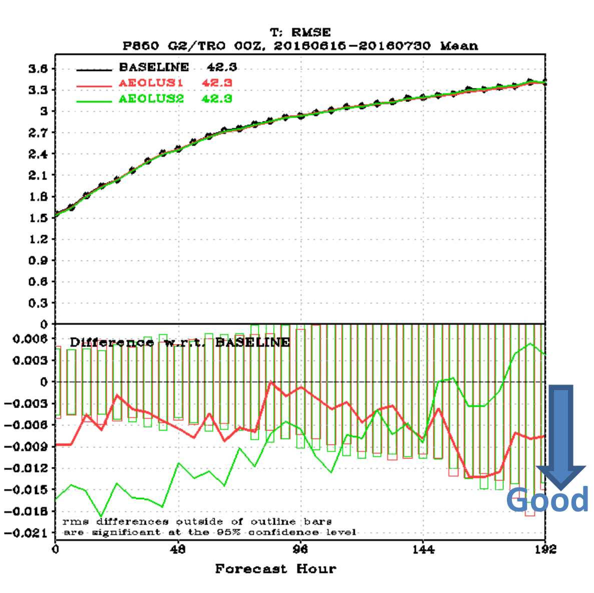

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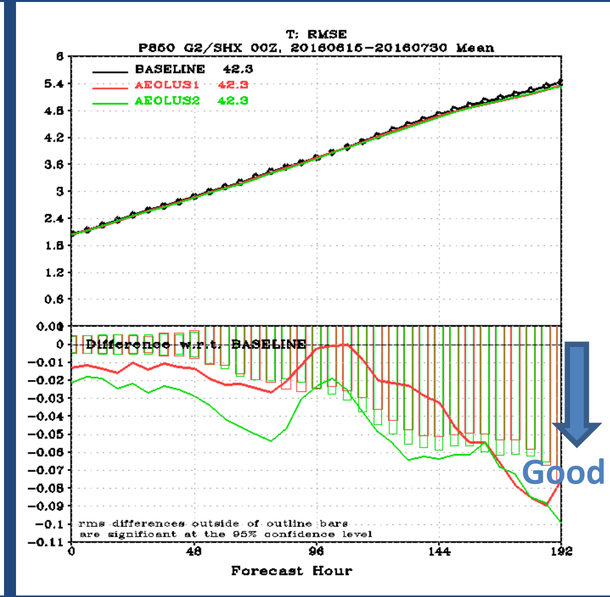

Questions?

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