

Proactive Quality Control to Improve NWP, Reanalysis, and Observations



Tse-Chun Chen Advisor: Eugenia Kalnay University of Maryland

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Massive Amount of Observations

More than 10⁶ of observations assimilated every 6 hours



and more on the way....

Next generation satellites

- 50X more data
- GOES R, S, T, U and Himawari 8, 9 Phase array radar
- 60X more data
- USA, Japan



How to efficiently evaluate the impacts of all of them?

Evaluating Observation Impact

Observing System Experiments (OSEs):

- Comparing forecasts w/ and w/o a set of observations
- Direct approach to evaluate the observational impact
- Low discernibility, Computationally expensive

Forecast Sensitivity to Observations (FSO):

- Langland and Baker (2004)
- Computationally economical
- Require adjoint model (inconsistent in representing moist processes.)

Ensemble FSO (EFSO):

- Kalnay et al. (2012)
- Estimates impact of each observation all at once
- Computationally economical, Free of adjoint model
- Require advection of localization

EFSO Formulation



- Quantifies how much each observation improves or degrades model forecasts.
- A linear mapping from error changes to each observations.
- Negative value: error reduction/ beneficial observation
- Positive value: error growth/ detrimental observation

Experimental Setup

Period (1 month)	Jan/10/2012 00Z – Feb/09/2012 18Z
Model	GFS T254/T126 L64
DA	LETKF/3D-Var Hybrid GSI v2012
Localization cut- off length	2000 km/ 2 scale heights
Error norm	Moist total energy (MTE)
	$MTE = \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{ S } \int_{S} \int_{0}^{1} \{ (u'^{2} + v'^{2}) + \frac{C_{p}}{T_{r}} T'^{2} + \frac{R_{d}T_{r}}{P_{r}^{2}} p_{s}'^{2} + w_{q} \frac{L^{2}}{C_{p}T_{r}} q'^{2} \} d\sigma dS$

Clustered Detrimental Observations



of **detrimental (red)** observations.

Case: Feb/06/2012 18Z Color: 06hr MTE impact (J/kg) Size: Magnitude of impact

Detrimental Episodes

06hr System Total Impact (J/kg)



Detrimental episodes in some observing systems. **MODIS polar winds** is one of the contributors.

Biases: Innovation and Wind Direction



- Prevailing positive innovation bias in U comp.
- Cloud tracking winds (top) and Water vapor tracking (bottom) resemble each other in both hemisphere

Biases: Innovation and Wind Direction



• No such biases for Geostationary Satellite Winds

PQC Algorithm



Three Data Denial Experiment Methods

- 1. Hotta (from Hotta 2017 and Ota 2013)
 - Identify forecast error degradation regions
 - Perform EFSO w.r.t. those regions for 6-hr impact
 - Reject detrimental observations only from the systems that have net detrimental impact. Case: Feb/06/2012 18Z



1. Hotta Method: Impact on the Forecasts



Improved regions strengthen and propagate with weather system

Three Data Denial Experiment Methods

2. Threshold (THR)

- Compute global EFSO for 06-hr impact of each observation
- Reject detrimental observations with a positive (detrimental) impact larger than a 10^-5 (J/kg) threshold.

BGM: 287289 rejected

3. Beneficial Growing Mode (BGM; reanalysis)

- Inspired by Trevisan (2010): Assimilation in Unstable Subspace (AUS)
- Compute the global EFSO for 06, 24-hr impact
- Assimilate only when: $\Delta e_{24|0}^2 < \Delta e_{6|0}^2 < 0$

Threshold: 37951 rejected



Case: Feb/06/2012 18Z Color: 06hr MTE impact (J/kg) Size: Magnitude of impact

Offline Experiment: 18 cases



THR

0.002

0.000 0.008

0.006

0.004

0.002

0.000

DY5

GL

DY1

DY2

DY3

DY4

DY5

0.002

0.000

0.008

0.006

0.004

0.002

0.000

TR

DY1

DY2

DY3

DY4

- All three methods improve model forecasts on average.
- The BGM and THR method have forecast improvements larger than Hotta method.

Cycling PQC Experiment: 40 cycles



Improvement by cycling PQC maximizes around 3-5 day forecasts by accumulated beneficial effect of past PQCs. 15

Necessary Redoing Analysis?

Estimated PQC correction using same Kalman gain K:

• K is actually depending on H, which is determined by observations

$$\bar{\mathbf{x}}_{0}^{a,\text{deny}} - \bar{\mathbf{x}}_{0}^{a} \approx -\mathbf{K}\delta\bar{\mathbf{y}}_{0}^{ob,\text{deny}}$$

$$\mathbf{K} \approx \frac{1}{K-1}\mathbf{X}_{0}^{a}\mathbf{X}_{0}^{aT}\mathbf{H}^{T}\mathbf{R}^{-1} \approx \frac{1}{K-1}\mathbf{X}_{0}^{a}\mathbf{Y}_{0}^{aT}\mathbf{R}^{-1}$$
(Hotta, 2017)



PQC in NCEP Dual Track Analysis

Using GFS-analysis saves 3 hours of waiting

- PQC provides better **GDAS-analysis** product.
- The real-time **GFS-forecast** benefits from the PQC done **12** hours ago and the beneficial impact **accumulates** over each cycle.



Summary

- EFSO is an efficient tool for:
 - Identifying detrimental observations
 - Online monitoring the impact on model forecast of assimilating each observation.
- PQC, affordable in operation, improves analysis and the subsequent forecast for up to 5 days.
- PQC-BGM allows doing assimilation within beneficial growing mode in reanalysis.

Thank you very much for your attention

Backup Slides

Total impact of each observing system



What is EFSO measuring?



PQC: reject-threshold



PQC: reject-number of obs.

