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Global all-sky radiance assimilation for IASI

Kozo OKAMOTO¹

Toshiyuki ISHIBASHI¹, Izumi OKABE¹, Hiroyuki SHIMIZU²

1: JMA/Meteorological Research Institute (JMA/MRI) 2: JMA/Numerical Prediction Development Center (JMA/NPDC)

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1. Background

IR radiance assimilation is significantly beneficial for NWP

- Mostly limited to clear-sky radiances (CSR)
- IR all-sky radiance (ASR) assimilation will be more beneficial because
 - Increasing obs coverage (homogeneous spatial and temporal distribution)
 - Reducing sampling bias (e.g. dry bias)
 - Exploiting cloud and unique obs info

Challenges of ASR assimilation (compared with CSR assimilation)

- Poorer representation in radiative transfer model (RTM) and forecast model
- Stronger situation-dependency of obs statistics
- Higher non-Gaussianity and non-linearity

Encouraging results in many recent studies

Otkin (2010, 2012, JGR), Zhang et al. (2016, GRL), Honda et al. (2018 MWR; 2018 MWR, JGR), Minamide & Zhang (2017 MWR; 2018 MWR), Okamoto et al. 2019, QJRMS), Sawada et al. (2019, JGR)

However, few studies in global DA system, except Geer et al. (2019, AMT) for IASI

1. Objective

- Objective: Improve analysis & forecast by assimilating IR ASR in a global NWP system
- ASR of Himawari/AHI successfully assimilated (Okamoto et al. 2023, QJRMS)
 - Assimilated mid- and upper-tropospheric Water Vapor (WV) ch: (6.2~7.3µm)
 - Developed cloud-dependent QC, BC and observation error covariance
 - Increased obs by almost 3 times and improve Q and T ain the mid- and uppertroposphere over CSR assimilation
- Extend to IASI ASR assimilation



2. ASR assimilation processing

- Processings are the same as AHI ASR except for
 - Additional QC: no sea ice, index of spatial homogeneity
- 3 ch sensitive to mid- and uppertropospheric WV
 - Selected among ch operationally used



2-1. QC (Quality Control)



- over sea ice
- Deeply developed clouds (window ch obs < 230K)</p>
- High inhomogeneity (SD-QC):SD>5K<</p>
- Affected by land surface (transmittance>0.
- Iarge cloud effect (CA>5K)
- Iarge O-B: |O-B|>3*obs error SD
- Iarge difference btw linearized and nonlinear BT simulation

Cloud effect parameter: CA=(|B-Bclr|+|O-Bclr|)/2, Bclr=clear-sky first-guess (Okamoto et al. 2014, QJRMS)



2-2. observation error covariance R_{ii}

Observation error covariance $R_{ij} = f^2 \sigma_i \sigma_j C_{ij}$

- f: inflation factor (=1.5)
- σi: observation error standard deviation (SD) of ch i

■ Estimated as a linear function of CA → cloud dependent

$$\sigma = g(C_A) = \begin{cases} g_{clr} & \text{for } C_A \leq C_{A_{clr}} \\ g_{clr} + \frac{g_{cld} - g_{clr}}{C_{Acld} - C_{Aclr}} (C_A - C_{Aclr}) & \text{for } C_{A_{clr}} < C_A < C_{A_{cld}}, \\ g_{cld} & \text{for } C_A \geq C_{A_{cld}} \end{cases}$$

- $\Box C_{ij}$: Correlation between ch i and j
 - Need to account for the correlation
 - Depend on cloud effect but cloud-dependent Cij did not show positive impacts (at the moment)





2-3. BC (Bias Correction)

Need to correct clouddependent bias

- Significant negative bias (O-B<0) due to cloud underestimation in model
- Some biases remain even after strict QC
- The remaining negative bias produce excessive analysis increments (too moist)
- Apply Variational BC (VarBC) that adds cloud effect predictors to CSR predictors

After removing scan dependent bias BC = c₁*dZ850 + c₂* dZ200 + c₃* dZ50 + c₄* dZ10 + c₅ + c₆*CA + c₇*CA²



3. Data assimilation experiments

Assimilation system
Operational global DA system of JMA (as of Dec. 2019) + RTTOV13.0
Hybrid-4DVar: 4DVar+LETKF
outer-loop:20km, inner-loop:55km, 100 layers

Experiment configurations

CNT: 77 ch CSR from IASI on Metop-1 and -2

ASR: 3 WV-ch ASR and 74 ch CSR

- ASR9: 9 WV-ch ASR and 74 ch CSR
- ASRQT: 3 WV-ch and 40 T-ch ASR and 34 ch CSR

Period

 Assimilation: 10 Jul. – 17 Sep. 2020 (Aug.Exp), 10 Dec. 2020 – 11 Feb. 2021 (Jan.Exp)
Forecast: 20 Jul. - 6 Sep. 2020 (Aug.Exp), 20 Dec. 2020 – 31 Jan. 2021 (Jan.Exp)

nd -2 Okamoto et al. 2024 (QJRMS) 34 ch CSR		CSR	ASR
	CNT	3WV+74T	0
	ASR	74T	3WV
	ASR9	74T	9WV
	ASRQT	34T	3WV+40T

Monthly averaged number of obs assimilated

- 1 -31 Jan. 2021
 - Monthly average in 6-h analysis in 2x2 degree box
- Assimilated obs in ASR increases by 2.77 times over the 3 ch



Change in humidity analysis

ASR mostly increase mid- & upper tropospheric humidity more than CSR, reducing dry bias



Forecast impact (ASR vs CNT)

- Global forecast improvement ratio up to day 5
 - Relative change reduction in forecast error verified against ERA5
- Significant improvement in wind, temperature and relative humidity
 - Greater improvement than AHI ASR assimilation, especially in wind
 - Degradation in RT at 200hPa





Impact of additional WV-ch (ASR9 vs CNT)

400

500

600

700

800

90

9WV

3WV+40T

0 0.5

- Add 6 WV ch further improve forecast
- Notably RH at 200hPa also improved

Q: ASR9-ERA5

atitude

74T

34T

100

20

30

400

500

600

700

850

925

1000

-90

-60

ASR9

ASRQT

-30

Adding the ch sensitive to upper most tropospheric humidity help correct complex model bias

30

60



Impact of ASR of Temperature ch (T-ch) : ASRQT vs CNT

- Compared with 3 WV-ch ASR, further improve forecasts in mid-T & RH
- But upper-T & RH, and wind is degraded
 - Worsen first-guess fit in temperature





Summary and plans

All-sky radiance (ASR) assimilation of AHI was extended to IASI

- No major changes in cloud-dependent QC, BC and obs error model
- Compared with CSR assimilation, IASI ASR assimilation
 - Uses more observations by 2.8 times
 - Reduces dry bias in analysis and improves forecasts T,W, RH
 - Further improves forecast skills by Increasing WV-ch from 3 to 9
 - Mixed impacts from 40 T-ch ASR assimilation

Take Home Message

Our approach may not be really "all-sky" and our forecast model has non-negligible cloud bias, but IR all-sky assimilation works!

Plans

- Continue investigation on more effective use or selection of T-ch
- Increase availability: relaxing cloud QC and extending to other sounders
- Examine applicability to Reconstructed Radiance (RR)