Operational implementation of AIRS and SSM/I assimilation at MSC

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The operational assimilation of about 100 AIRS channels and 7 SSM/I channels is foreseen for early 2007. This will be done in the context of the new GEM-meso forecast model with horizontal resolution of 35 km and 58 vertical levels. In addition the background and observation errors statistics were revised following a Monte Carlo approach instead of the NMC method. Other aspects include the use of RTTOV-8, an improved vertical interpolator, and automated bias correction. Assimilation cycles in 3D-FGAT mode and later full 4D-var mode are planned. The presentation will focus on main results of the combined package and some results on the separate impact of the various components.
Proceedings of the Fifteenth International TOVS Study Conference

Maratea, Italy

4 October - 10 October 2006

cover design by Nicola Afflitto