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OESCHGER CENTRE CLIMATE CHANGE RESEARCH

Results from ERA-preSAT

Chances and challenges of assimilating pre-IGY upper air data

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Outline

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- ERA-preSAT was an experimental assimilation run at ECMWF for the years 1939-1967
 - Assimilating model as used for ERA-20C
 - In addition to surface pressure data, early upper air data have been assimilated
 - All upper air data collected in ERA-CLIM have been assimilated, in particular CHUAN v1.7
 - SSTs, sea ice as in ERA-20C, only one realization
- > Aims:
 - Feedback on quality of early upper air data
 - Impact of early upper air data
 - Detect problems in preparing/reading those data

Much can be done with ERA-20C





Results

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Reason for Arctic temperature «jump»

- > Anomalies 1943-46 minus 1948-51, 700 hPa T
- Difference ERA-20C and ERA-PreSAT in North American sector
- > Due to assimilated data?



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Total ozone day-to-day correlations 1939-1963

- Correlations of 0.6-0.8 between historical total ozone observations and reanalyses
- > ERA-PreSAT clearly the best of all reanalyses



December 11, 2015

Moscow obs-ERA-presat



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Adjustment of early RS-temperatures

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Unadjusted

RAOBCORE adjusted

RICH adjusted

- Radiosonde T-trends 1954-1974, at 300 hPa.
- Reference Series ERA-preSAT (-1967), JRA55 (1968-1979)
- Improvements due to digitized FSU data, ERA-preSAT observation feedback archive
- Part of D4.1

Upper air winds

c) Observations 20°S-20°N 50 hPa

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d) Reanalyses 20°S-20°N 50 hPa

GRASP (-0.31)

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0

-5

-10

10

5



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BAMS state of the climate 2014

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- Extension of realistic QBO in reanalyses feasible back late 1930s?
- ERA-preSAT ok back to mid-1940s.



Issues detected

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- Some data missed (cyclone track data)
- Some data assimilated twice (bias-corrected and unadjusted versions of CHUAN)
- > Inhomogeneities in boundary condition data sets
- Strong changes of inter-hemispheric gradients and fluxes

Data issues



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Typhoon COBRA Cyclone track data not assimilated

18 Dec 1944

- T-observations in ERA-preSAT 2K lower than in ERA-40.
- Due to bias correction in CHUAN v1.7
- Not documented in assimilation.



Differential warming

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1%=2.5K

Boundary conditions and fluxes



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Cross-equatorial total atmospheric energy flux

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EOF analysis of tropical belt

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Horizontal energy flux divergence anomaly



1939-1967 EOF1 is zonal mean change of gradient of energy fluxes EOF2 is ENSO pattern

PCs of tropical mean energy flux divergence



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Conclusions

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- > Upper air data are of quite high quality. Yes, there are biases but the variance of background departures is small
- Some issues in assimilation in ERA-preSAT that are not too hard to fix
- > No recent ECMWF assimilation of UA data 1967-1978, only JRA55
- STRONG RECOMMENDATION: Repeat ERA-PreSAT (correct hurricanes, radiosonde ingestion, extend time frame to 1918-2017: ERA100)

Knowledge of the great climatic changes of the past can help in the development of a system of long range weather forecasting. But the work of collecting, and putting into order, sufficient data on a worldwide scale is only just beginning.

Lamb 1969, Nature

Lamb described ERA-CLIM, ERA-CLIM2, ERA-CLIM3?

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EOFs 1979-2013

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Wind speed

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Wind speed of ensemble mean (dotted) and ensemble mean of wind speed (solid), for 0.995 sigma in 20CRv2 (darker colours) and for 10 m wind in ERA20C (lighter colours, different scale), 20-yr smoothed



Snow cover: Anomalies of 30-yr climatologies

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- Anomalies of 30-yr climatologies (w/r to 1981-2010) of snow depth over northern Russia (60-75N, 50-150E)
- > 20CRv2/20CRv2c and ERA-20C/ERA-20C_LAND go towards different background climatologies prior to 1950



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Outline

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- Comparison and Analysis of ERA-20C: Southwardshift of Tropical Belt 1945-80
- Comparison and Analysis of ERA-20C: Arctic climate
- > ERA-PreSAT
- Conclusions and outlook

Cross-equatorial total atmospheric energy flux



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year

Arctic 700 hPa temperature, DJF



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Time