Impact of GPS Radio Occultation Measurements on Severe Weather Prediction in Asia: What is Taiwan looking for from COSMIC

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Outline

- Introduction
 - Group infrastructure
 - Focuses and missions
- Recent achievements in Taiwan
- The impact of FORMOSAT-3/COSMIC data from international community
- Prospective works in Taiwan

Taiwan's Missions of F-3/C Meteorological Research

The main goals of meteorological research in Taiwan are to develop and improve skills of data assimilation on both basic research and application, and to expose the maximum values of FORMOSAT-3/COSMIC GPS radio occultation data on global and regional weather and climate prediction. Through data assimilation of different GPS data formats and different retrieval methods; their impact on global and regional predictions can be assessed.

> This achievement will be anticipated to improve Taiwan's weather prediction by 20%!

Integrated Meteorological Research in GPS Application and Research Center (GPS-ARC)

The main objectives of meteorological research in GPS-ARC are to

- establish/improve current skills of data assimilation on both basic research and application through 3DVAR and 4DVAR with GPS radio occultation and ground-based data;
- demonstrate the maximum values of FORMOSAT-3 RO and GPS ground-based data for weather and climate prediction on real-time mode and research mode;
- assess data impact on weather simulation and prediction through assimilation of different GPS data formats and different retrieval methods for severe disastrous weathers in vicinity of Taiwan (e.g., Meiyu fronts, typhoons, etc.);
- validate/improve retrieval methods/algorithms of atmospheric* variables for FORMOSAT-3 data set (in collaboration);
- investigate GPS RO data impact on meteorological and hydrological analysis in application to global/regional climate;
- investigate GPS RO data impact on global/regional environment modeling (WRF-Chem and others).





- > 6 LEO satellites provide 2000~2500 measurements daily
- It will offer up to about 50 soundings in a regional model domain for a 6-h assimilation time window.

Current Assimilation Tasks in Taiwan

- Assimilation by WRF 3DVAR for local refractivity, nonlocal refractivity
- Assimilation by MM5 4DVAR for local refractivity
- Assimilation by CWB GFS 3DVAR (SSI) for local refractivity, nonlocal refractivity and 2-D bending angle

Assimilation Tasks to Be Implemented in Taiwan

- Assimilation by WRF 3DVAR for local bending angle (2008)
- Assimilation by WRF 4DVAR for local refractivity, nonlocal refractivity
- Assimilation by WRF DART (using ensemble Kalman filter) for local refractivity and nonlocal refractivity

The simulated severe weather cases in 2006, 2007 and 2008 with FORMOSAT-3 RO data.

Initial Time	Event	GPS RO
2006-07-1200	Typhoon Bilis	2
2006-07-2300	Typhoon Kaemi	7
2006-09-1312	Typhoon Shanshan	27
2007-06-0212	Meiyu Front	31
2007-06-0300	Cyclone Gonu	56
2007-07-1100	Typhoon Manyi	15
2007-07-2900	Typhoon Usagi	39
2007-08-1600	Typhoon Sepat	21
2007-10-0412 (0500)*	Typhoon Krosa	31 (17)
2008-04-2900 (2906)*	Cyclone Nargis	21 (24)







WRF (with AVN) for Typhoon Krosa

2007/10/04 0000UTC

2007/10/04 1200UTC



Compared with best tracks (red dotted-line) from http://agora.ex.nii.ac.jp/digital-typhoon/

(100400UTC)

t: bb RIP: test mm5 Init: 0000 UTC Thu 04 Oct 07 0.00 h Valid: 0000 UTC Thu 04 Oct 07 (0800 LST Thu 04 Oct 07) re pert. (from MM5 std. atm.) at k-index = 23at k-index = 23



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MM5 with AVN



MM5 with BDA (d1)

Typhoon Krosa (2007/10/04 12UTC)



Daily Rainfall



TS : Typhoon Krosa (Initial time: 2007-10-04-12:00)



Sea level pressure



		50
Experiments	Assimilated data	Assimilated domain
Group A: Cold start	(2007-10-04:12UTC ~ 2007-10-07:12UTC)	
NONE	None	None
EPHrt	GPS refractivity (COSMIC real time)	3 domains
GTS	GTS data	3 domains
GTS+EPHrt	GTS data and GPS real time data	3 domains
EPHqc	GPS refractivity (COSMIC quality check)	3 domains
Group B: Sensitivity	/ test (2007-10-04:12UTC ~ 2007-10-07:120	UTC)
EPHrt_d1	GPS refractivity (COSMIC real time)	1 domain
EPHrt_r2	GPS refractivity (COSMIC real time)	2 domains
EPHrt_r3	GPS refractivity (COSMIC real time)	3 domains
EPHrt_r5	GPS refractivity (COSMIC real time)	1 domains
Group C: Update cy	cle (2007-10-04:12UTC ~ 2007-10-07:12UT	r C)
EPHqc_cyc	GPS refractivity (COSMIC quality check)	3 domains
EPHrt_cyc	GPS refractivity (COSMIC real time)	3 domains
EPHrt_r5_cyc	GPS refractivity (COSMIC real time)	3 domains
GTS+EPHrt_cyc	GTS data and GPS real time data	3 domains

Typhoon Krosa

Experiments	Initial conditions	Different IC
AVN	NCEP Aviation Model (AVN) global ana	alysis (http://www.dss.ucar.edu/)
NCEP	NCEP / GFS forecast	
NOMAD3	NCEP / GFS forecast (http://nomad3.nce	ep.noaa.gov/pub/gfs)
CWB.analysis	CWB / GFS analysis (Central Weather Bu	ureau)
CWB.forecast	CWB / GFS forecast (Central Weather Bu	ureau)

The typhoon track prediction is sensitive to many model and physical factors!



150

100

50

0

DAY1

DAY2

DAY3





Before QC

After QC



The large impact case Bilis (2006)



Model Info: V2.1.2 M KF YSU PBL WSM 3class Ther-Diff 15 km, 30 levels, 60 sec LW: RRTM SW: Dudhia DIFF: simple KM: 2D Smagor

(P.-L. Lin)



The large impact case

WRF D1,D2

TYPHOON SEPAT 2007/08/14/12Z ~ 2007/08/17/12Z



	12	24	36	48	60	72
CTRL	120	52	95	122	160	152
GPS	148	118	45	23	35	30

unit: km

Typhoon Sepat (2007)



The best track (black line) and simulated tracks for experiment NONE (green line) and EPH (blue line).

The 24-h mean track errors for experiments NONE and EPH.

24h accumulated rainfall



TS : Typhoon Sepat (Initial time: 2007-08-16-00:00)



Forecast track error for Typhoon Krosa (initial time : 12Z 4th Oct. 2007) using CWB WRF

2007100412	12hr	24hr	36hr	48hr	60hr	72hr
CS_NGPS / CS_NGPS	1	1	1	1	1	1
CS-WGPS / CS_NGPS	0.98	1.03	0.67	1.61	1.42	1.47
FU-NGPS / CS_NGPS	7.03	1.17	0.63	2.37	2.28	2.12
FU-WGPS / CS_NGPS	5.34	1.29	0.81	2.19	2.29	2.78
NODATA / CS_NGPS	2.34	1.41	0.97	2.36	1.51	1.92

Forecast track error for typhoon Krosa (initial time : 00Z 5th Oct. 2007)

2007100500	12hr	24hr	36hr	48hr	60hr
CS_NGPS / CS_NGPS	1	1	1	1	1
CS-WGPS / CS_NGPS	1.01	1.25	0.96	0.98	1.04
FU-NGPS / CS_NGPS	1.31	1.90	2.34	3.93	1.66
FU-WGPS / CS_NGPS	1.42	1.90	4.16	4.06	1.85
NODATA / CS_NGPS	0.84	0.57	1.02	3.61	1.36

Forecast track error for typhoon Krosa (initial time : 12Z 5th Oct. 2007)

2007100512	12hr	24hr	36hr	48hr
CS_NGPS / CS_NGPS	1	1	1	1
CS-WGPS / CS_NGPS	0.93	1.06	0.73	1.24
FU-NGPS / CS_NGPS	0.27	1.54	0.61	0.53
FU-WGPS / CS_NGPS	0.42	1.71	0.59	0.60
NODATA / CS_NGPS	2.64	0.80	0.85	0.60

Forecast track error for typhoon Krosa (initial time : 00Z 6th Oct. 2007)

2007100600	12hr	24hr	36hr
CS_NGPS / CS_NGPS	1	1	1
CS-WGPS / CS_NGPS	0.91	1.23	0.95
FU-NGPS / CS_NGPS	0.78	0.49	1.15
FU-WGPS / CS_NGPS	1.41	0.53	1.25
NODATA / CS_NGPS	1.43	0.71	0.95

Krosa track predictions are improved with GPS RO data assimilation, for a large portion of the forecasts, in general, giving positive impact.

Track error ratio for Sepat during 13 to 18 August 2007 using CWB WRF

	12 H	24 H	36 H	48 H	60 H	72 H
1312	0.88	1.11	1.67	1.69	1.92	2.08
1400	5.42	1.43	2.98	4.84	7.65	4.98
1412	0.58	0.20	0.21	0.04	0.04	0.27
1500	2.59	1.55	1.90	2.64	1.80	2.16
1512	0.29	0.36	0.36	0.29	0.31	0.71
1600	0.48	0.14	0.18	0.31	0.5	0.66
1612	0.30	0.70	0.79	0.90	1.01	
1700	0.90	1.65	1.09	0.81		
1712	1.57	1.22	1.46			
1800	0.46	0.16				

The typhoon track error ratio is defined as (track error for GPS) / (track error for CONTROL). CONTROL is the experiment assimilating all the GTS observations, and GPS is the experiment assimilating GTS and FORMOSAT-3/COSMIC GPS RO data.

(P.-L. Lin)

Real-time validation (May-Sept.) in 2007



(P.-L. Lin) WRF D1,D2 Real-time validation (May-Sept.) in 2007



Control run - Assimilate all the GTS observations, and GPS RO Denial run - Assimilate all the GTS observations only 2008





With GPS-RO Fost: 72.00 h Total precip. in past 3 h

Init: 0000 UTC Tue 27 May 08 Valid: 0000 UTC Fri 30 May 08 (0800 LST Fri 30 May 08)

Without GPS-RO Fost: 72.00 h Total precip. in past 3 h

Init: 0000 UTC Tue 27 May 08 Valid: 0000 UTC Fri 30 May 08 (0800 LST Fri 30 May 08)



Without GPS-RO

Init: 1200 UTC Tue 27 May 08

With GPS-RO

In the next initial time 12-h, the control run captures the more realistic typhoon structure at 72-h as compared with satellite image.

Init: 1200 UTC Tue 27 May 08





Mei-yu case (June 2006)

S.-C. Lin

GPS RO soundings show stronger ridge extended from the western Pacific subtropical high.





Mei-yu case (June 2006) S.-C. Lin

GPS RO soundings show significant cloud-top cooling over north Philippine where deep convective activities exist.







Observation of accumulated rainfall (mm) for the 2007 June 02 Mei-yu front case, the predicted rainfalls (mm) with no GPS data, and with 31 GPS RO data in the second day and the third day.

The GPS RO data give a remote impact on the Taiwan Mei-yu rainfall.

24h accumulated rainfall



Threat Score : Meiyu Front (Initial time: 2007-06-02-12:00)



TS(2007060312-0412)

Global Assimilation Methodology

- ECMWF assimilates the COSMIC GPSRO local bending angle data into the modeling system. Test result shown below is for the experiment period of 15 Dec 2006 to 28 Feb 2007.
- CWB assimilates the COSMIC GPSRO local refractivity data in the modeling system. Test result shown below is for the experiment period of 1 April to 30 April 2007.

$$\alpha(a) = -2a \int_{a}^{\infty} \frac{d \ln n}{(x^2 - a^2)^{1/2}} dx$$

Anomaly Correlation Difference of H (GPS - NoGPS) over North Hemisphere Healy (2008)



Anomaly Correlation Difference of H (GPS - NoGPS) over South Hemisphere



ECMWF result (2006/12~2007/02)


Global assimilation of GPS/RO local refractivity

2006/10 500-hPa H over South Hemisphere

mean ach score 1.00 1.00 0.95 0.95 0.90 0.90 correlation 0.85 0.85 0.80 0.80 0.75 0.75 0.70 Anomaly 0.70 0.65 0.65 0.60 0.60 -0.55 + CTL 0-0 REF 0.50 0.55 BND 0.45 3 Forecast day 2 1 5 6 7 O 0.40 1 day 2 day 3 day 4 day 5 day 6 day 7 d FIG. 17. Anomaly correlation scores for the 500-hPa geopotential heights in the Southern Hemisphere for CTL, REF, and BND, nogps 0000 UTC 10 Jul-31 Aug 2005. gps

CWB (local refractivity)

NCEP result (Cucurull et al. 2007)

Global assimilation of GPS RO non-local refractivity

2006/07 500-hPa H over North Hemisphere 200607 500mb H AC - NA



Geopotential height in N. Hemisphere (20-80N) from CWB global model









500 hPa height in S. Hemisphere (20-80S) from CWB global model



100 hPa height in S. Hemisphere scores give a big jump on 7th day!

The degradation of ensuing forecasts appears to be lessoned due to continuous GPS RO data assimilation.

Conclusions from the Centers

- ECMWF shows good improvement in the height scores in both the Northern and Southern Hemispheres, as well as good improvement in stratospheric temperature scores, for a longer performance time.
- CWB shows significantly better forecasting of the height field in the Southern Hemisphere, and slightly better forecasting of height field in the Northern Hemisphere for a limited time.

The impact of FORMOSAT-3/COSMIC data on other recent cyclone predictions







Gonu Cyclone: 03 June 2007. (56 GPS RO)

b

Myanmar Cyclone Nargis (2008)



Rainfall accumulations along Cyclone Nargis by Tropical Rainfall Measuring Mission (TRMM) satellite (http://earthobservatory.nasa.gov)

A perfect cyclone!

Flood area caused by Cyclone Nargis Analyzed form MODIS data by UNOSAT (http://services.google.com/earth/kmz/nargis_n.kmz)





Myanmar Cyclone Nargis

FORMOSAT-2 Image

3/18/2008: Yangon farm before flood5/7/2008: severe flood5/8/2008: subsiding flood

(From: CSRSR, NCU, Taiwan)







21 GPSEP 2008-04 [28_21:00.29_03:00]

0

Typhoon Nargis (Initial time: 2008-04-29-00:00)

NONE (pressure perturbation and wind vector)

aset: none d2RIP: narginInit: 0000 UTC Tue 29 Apr 08::0.00 hValid: 0000 UTC Tue 29 Apr 08 (0800 LST Tue 29 Apr 08)ssure pert. (from MM5 std. atm.)at k-index = 34izontal wind vectorsat k-index = 34



EPH (pressure perturbation and wind vector)



Initial increments of temperature and moisture and wind vector at 2km (BG)



BG : assimilating a bogus Rankine vortex (P_{min} = 975 mb) at 0000 UTC 29 April 2008

Typhoon Nargis (Initial time: 2008-04-29-00:00)

Bogus-vortex run (BG)



LW: RRTM SW: Dudhia DIFF: simple KM: 2D Smagor

GPS RO points (Initial time: 2008-04-29-06)



Initial increments of temperature and moisture and wind vector at 2km (CYCLING)— 24 GPS RO



CYCLING : as EPH but with cycling GPS data at 2008/04/29/06UTC .

Typhoon Nargis (Initial time: 2008-04-29-06:00)

CYCLING (pressure perturbation and wind vector)



Dataset: eph RIP: Track nargis track Init: 0000 UTC Tue 29 Apr 08 Fest: 0.00 h Valid: 0000 UTC Tue 29 Apr 08 (0800 LST Tue 29 Apr 08) Terrain height AMSL



An OSSE Study for Typhoon Krosa

- Perform 96-h MM5 simulation (400x400, 15 km resolution) with an initial Rankine vortex at 0400 Oct. 2007, served as the nature run.
- Retrieve RO soundings by running a ray-tracing model with the input of the nature run to obtain bending angles (assuming uniform 45° azimuthal angle) and the converted RO refractivity in the region of the typhoon vortex circulation at 0412 Oct. 2007.
- Perform a linear filter to smooth the nature run at 0412 Oct. 2007 to provide the control run (as the first guess at coarser resolution)
- Perform WRF 3DVAR to assimilate the RO refractivity soundings using the nonlocal operator and local operators at 041200 Oct. 2007.
- Compare the assimilation runs and non-assimilation run with the nature run.

Krosa OSSE runs

Experiments	Remarks
NTL	MM5 initialization with AVN analysis at 2007100400UTC at 15-km resolution Nature with a Rankine vortex at R_{max} of 200 km and V_{max} of 46 m s ⁻¹ .
CTL	Degraded NTL by smoothing 100 times the model prediction at 2007100412UTC using a 1-2-1 linear filter.
REF	As CTL but assimilating nonlocal REF (as retrieved*) in the vortex (30-km resolution) using the localized nonlocal operator
EPH	As CTL but assimilating EPH (path nonlocal REF) in the typhoon vortex (30-km resolution) using the nonlocal operator
LOC	As CTL but assimilating local REF in the vortex (30-km resolution) using the localized nonlocal operator

*The retrieved soundings are located within the typhoon vortex circulation at 30-km horizontal resolution, with a total of 1252 points assimilated.



Nature run at 0400

Nature run at 0412



GPS RO refractivity soundings at 30-km resolution





REF with 1252 GPS

CNTL (no GPS)



MAXIMUM VECTOR: 5.8 m s⁻¹

MAXIMUM VECTOR: 6.7 m s⁻¹ -

Wind difference at k= 26

Wind difference at k= 30



Temp. difference at k= 26

Temp. difference at k= 30

The impact of FORMOSAT-3/COSMIC data from international community Kuo, Y.-H., H. Liu, Y.-R. Guo, C.-T. Terng, and Y.-T. Lin 2008: Impact of FORMOSAT-3/COSMIC data on typhoon and mei-yu prediction. *Submitted to NTU Department of Atmospheric Sciences* 50th Anniversary Book.

Data: FORMOSAT-3/COSMIC Variables: local refractivity Model: WRF 3DVAR and WRF/DART EnKF

Mei-yu case

850 mb wind fields



850 hPa Wind GPS-NoGPS

The assimilation of COSMIC data significantly strengthens the Western Pacific Subtropical High, and consequently improves the prediction of Mei-yu precipitation over southern China and Taiwan.

Track forecast errors averaged over different forecast periods

Typhoon case (Shanshan 2006)

Vorticity section along 125.8E, DARTNB

Vorticity section along 125.8E, DARTNBNG

Pressure (hPa)

Pressure (hPa)

Experiment	3-24 h forecast	27-48 h forecast	51-72 h forecast	3-72 h forecast	
NODA	276	294	248	273	
COLDNBNG	197	237	264	233	
COLDNB	199	233	265	232	
COLDALL	111	150	160	140	
CYCLNBNG	166	147	119	144	
CYCLNB	117	132	82	111	
CYCLALL	61	124	211	132	
DARTNBNG	75	57	94	75	
DARTNB	69	38	80	62	

relative vorticity analysis **WRF DART** WRF 3DVAR

Pressure (hPa) × *

Pressure (hPa) × *

w GPS

w/o GPS

 \bigcirc

~15%



➤ The WRF/DART ensemble filter system can assimilate the GPSRO data more effectively than the WRF

➢ In particular, the WRF/DART ensemble filter system is able to produce a more coherent storm after one day of continuous assimilation, while a much weaker and less coherent storm is produced by WRF 3D-Var.

w/o GPS

Terng, C.-T. 2007: The impact study of CWB limited area model prediction with assimilation FORMOSAT-3/ COSMIC GPS RO data. *NSPO final report in 2007*.

Data: CHAMP, and FORMOSAT-3/COSMIC (Dec. 2005 and Jun. 2006) Variables: local refractivity Model: WRF 3DVAR

Diff. in Monthly mean increment (A-B)



A significant impact on the temperaure analysis when the GPS RO data is assimilated.
Assimilated with GPS RO data can reduce the temperature overestimeation from the global analysis in the upper model level.

Healy, S.B. and J.-N. Thépaut 2006: Assimilation experiments with CHAMP GPS radio occultation measurements. *Q. J. R. Meteorol. Soc.*, **132**, 605–623.

Data: CHAMP Variables: 1-D bending angle Model: ECMWF Global 4DVAR (run for 60 days)

The statistical significance (%) of the chance in r.m.s. fit to radiosonde temperature values at four pressure levels (hPa) due to assimilation of GPSRO data.

	Northern hemisphere			Tropics			Sou	Southern hemisphere				
Forecast day	300	200	100	50	300	200	100	50	300	200	100	50
1	_	1.0	0.5	_	-2.0	2.0	0.1	-10.0	1.0	0.1	0.1	5.0
2	10.0	_	0.5	_	_	1.0	0.1	_	2.0	0.5	0.1	0.2
3	_	_	10.0	_	_	_	0.1	10.0	2.0	1.0	0.5	0.1
4	_	_	_	_	_	_	2.0	_	_	2.0	2.0	10.0
5	-	_	-	-	_	-	1.0	0.2	_	10.0	-	0.2

A negative value indicates that the r.m.s. fit is degraded at this level. Only values $\leq 10\%$ are considered significant. Values > 10% are shown as '-'.

Southern Hemisphere: A clear, statistically significant improvement in the r.m.s. forecast fit to radiosonde measurements over the day 1 to day 5 forecast range at 300, 200, 100 and 50 hPa.

Tropics: An improved r.m.s. fit to radiosondes is also evident at 100 hPa

Operational implementation of GPSRO at ECMWF



Neutral in the troposphere, but some improvement in the stratospheric temperature scores. Obvious improvement in time series for operations.

Operational implementation represented a quite conservative use of data. No data below 4 km, no rising occultations.

Next set of experiments to investigate increased use of the data.

(O-B)/sigma_o bending angle statistics for rising and setting occultations (eg, SH, COSMIC-3)



Conclusions from ECMWF

- GPSRO becomes operational from December 12, 2006. Good improvement in stratospheric temperature scores.
- Good improvement in the height scores in both Northern Hemisphere and Southern Hemisphere.
- Future missions: where does GPSRO fit into the global observing system – remember GPSRO can improve the bias correction of satellite radiances.

Poli, P., P. Moll, D. Puech, F. Rabier, and S. B. Healy 2008: Quality control, error analysis, and impact assessment of FORMOSAT-3/COSMIC in numerical weather prediction. *Terr. Atmos. Ocean.*



After assimilation, the standard deviations of the departures are reduced between 5-15 km altitudes. The limited reduction is an effect of the conservative observation error estimate.

Forecast RMS score differences of the ARPF3C(with GPS) vs. ARPEGE(w/o GPS) system **Geopotential Height**



 Indicate a very clear positive impact of the assimilation of F3C bending angle data in the Southern Hemisphere for the prediction of geopotential heights and winds.
Also observe an improvement in wind forecast skill in the Northern hemisphere, albeit smaller than in the Southern Hemisphere.
Cucurull, L., J. C. Derber, R. Treadon, and R. J. Purser 2007: Assimilation of Global Positioning System Radio Occultation Observations intoNCEP's Global Data Assimilation System. *Mon. Wea. Rev.*, **135**, 3174-3193.

Data: CHAMP Variables: local bending angle, local refractivity Model: Grid-point Statistical Interpolation (GSI) developed by NCEP/EMC

Anomaly correlation scores for the temperature field at 200 hPa (0000 UTC 10 Jul-31 Aug 2005)



The use of GPS RO observations slightly improves anomaly correlation scores for temperature (by 0.01–0.03) in the Southern Hemisphere and Tropics throughout the depth of the atmosphere while a slight degradation is found in the upper troposphere and stratosphere in the Northern Hemisphere.



Significant reduction of the temperature and humidity biases (not shown) is found for all latitudes.

500-hPa Geopotential height



The benefits from assimilating GPS RO data also extend to other fields, such as 500-hPa geopotential heights and tropical winds (not shown). Cucurull, L. and J. C. Derber 2008: Operational implementation of COSMIC observations into the NCEP's global data assimilation system. *Wea. Forecasting*, accepted.

Data: FORMOSAT-3/COSMIC Variables: local refractivity Model: Grid-point Statistical Interpolation (GSI) developed by NCEP/EMC



- A significant improvement of the anomaly correlation skill and a global reduction of the NCEP model bias and root-mean-squared errors when COSMIC observations are assimilated into the system.
- The improvement is found for the temperature, geopotential heights and moisture variables.



Anomaly correlation scores for the 1000 hPa geopotential height



Larger benefits are found in the Southern Hemisphere Extratropics, although a significant positive impact is also found in the Northern Hemisphere Extratropics and Tropics.

➤A slight benefit is found in the wind components.

Prospective works

- Use FORMOSAT-3/COSMIC and CHAMP data for severe weather cases, e.g. typhoon, meiyu, cold front and heavy rainfall, etc. in WRF 3DVAR, WRF 4DVAR, and WRF DART.
- Develop a local bending angle operator and insert it into WRF 3DVAR, and then compare it with the local refractivity.
- Assimilate GPS RO data by using WRF 4DVAR and/or MM5 4DVAR with local bending angle operator.
- Conduct OSSE studies to fully understand the impacts of the GPS RO data on regional weather prediction with more verifications and better quantify the performances of different GPS assimilation operators.

Prospective works (cont.)

- Help to insert the nonlocal operator into CWB WRFVAR version (operational system) and compare it with the local operator.
- Test for different data assimilation schemes in the operational system (ex. WRFVAR V3.0 and EnKF), different background errors, and investigate different data quality control.
- Quantify and clarify the impact of GPS RO data on the CWB GFS through statistically systematic yearly evaluation.
- Determine the statistical confidence level of the improvement of CWB/GFS performance introduced as assimilating the GPS RO data.