

Overview and status of EUMETSAT-supported scientific studies on NWP impact assessments of possible AWS constellation scenarios

C. Accadia, S. Di Michele, J. Ackermann, A. Canestri
Paolo Colucci - EUMETSAT

P. Chambon, L. Rivoire - Météo France/CNRM

N. Bormann, K. Lean - ECMWF

H. Schyberg - MET Norway

A. Dybbroe - SMHI

A. Perrels - FMI

25 May 2022 - Session B3.02.1 Arctic Weather Satellite



Introduction and Objectives


AWS Constellation

AWS Constellation impact studies

Status of activities

Summary and Outlook



- **ESA Arctic Weather Satellite (AWS)** is a small (120 kg) satellite with microwave sounding capabilities (19 channels between 54 and 325 GHz) operated in a polar orbit (sun-synchronous).
- An AWS prototype currently planned for launch in 2024 could be a pathfinder mission in expanding the support of the EUMETSAT Polar System Second Generation (EPS-SG) MicroWave Sounder (MWS) mission to global and regional **numerical weather prediction (NWP)** applications.
- ESA and EUMETSAT are cooperating on the preparatory activities that could possibly lead to a constellation of flying AWS recurrent models, providing sounding information on global humidity and temperature profiles to the users in near real time.  See **A. Canestri's Presentation** in **session B5.01.4 Future Meteorological Missions**
- The Phase A activities for the constellation definition are currently ongoing at EUMETSAT, and include various complementary NWP impact assessment studies by:
 1. **Météo France, Centre Nationale de Recherches Météorologiques (CNRS);**
 2. **European Centre for Medium-range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF);**
 3. **Consortium led by Met Norway, including the Swedish Meteorological and Hydrological Institute (SMHI) and the Finnish Meteorological Institute (FMI).**
- Outcome of these studies will serve as input for cost-benefit assessment (socio-economic impact) of the AWS Constellation.
- This presentation provides an overview of the objectives, methods and status of the scientific studies in support to the definition of the AWS Constellation.

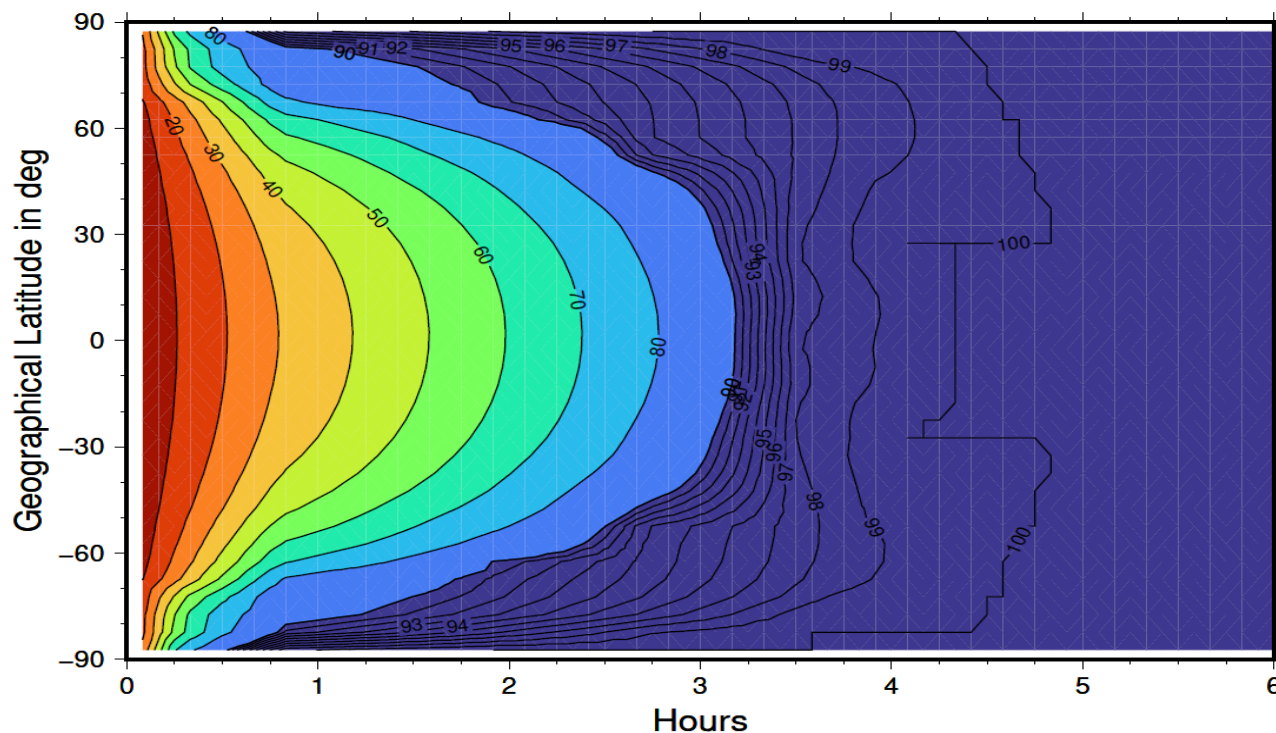


- The AWS Constellation will focus on:
 - Water vapor sounding
 - Temperature sounding
 - Cloud & precipitation detection
- The primary objectives of the AWS Constellation would be to:
 - Contribute to improved global and regional NWP accuracy
 - Complement the microwave observations from the Metop/Metop-SG and NOAA JPSS (Joint Polar Satellite System) polar-orbiting meteorological satellites
- The mission will also contribute to nowcasting applications over the Arctic region through the increase in the frequency and availability of microwave observations.
- Climate monitoring is not a primary objective of the mission, however AWS is expected to contribute through the provision of long-term data records and implementation of the necessary capabilities.



- Illustration of the **Time-to-Coverage** requirement:

Total Number of AWS Satellites 6
Total Number of AWS Planes 3
without EPS-SG and JPSS
=> Total Number of Satellites 6



This 2D representation can be translated in a global requirement resuming in a single figure the setting of a possible constellation system: e.g. achieving 90% global coverage in X hours.

- *The AWS constellation shall achieve 90% of global coverage in 5 hrs (Threshold); 4 hrs (Breakthrough); 3 hrs (Objective);*



	Nr. of satellites	Nr. of planes and satellites over planes	Local Time of Descending Node
Baseline scenario (OP3-6SAT)	6	3 orbital planes, 2 satellites <i>per</i> plane, relative phasing 180 degrees	Plane 1 (P1) - 3:30 LTDN Plane 2 (P2) - 11:30 LTDN Plane 3 (P3) - 7:30 LTDN
Degraded case #1 (OP3-4SAT)	4	3 orbital planes, 1 satellite <i>per</i> plane	Plane 1 (P1) - 3:30 LTDN Plane 2 (P2) - 11:30 LTDN Plane 3 (P3) - 7:30 LTDN
Degraded case #2 (OP2-4SAT)	4	2 orbital planes, 2 satellites <i>per</i> plane, relative phasing 180 degrees	Plane 1 (P1) - 3:30 LTDN Plane 2 (P2) - 11:30 LTDN
Baseline - minimum (OP3-4SAT)	4	3 orbital planes, 1 or 2 satellites <i>per</i> plane	Plane 1 (P1) - 3:30 LTDN Plane 2 (P2) - 11:30 LTDN Plane 3 (P3) - 7:30 LTDN
Augmented baseline (OP4-8SAT)	8	4 orbital planes, 2 satellites <i>per</i> plane, relative phasing 180 degrees	Plane 1 (P1) - 3:30 LTDN Plane 2 (P2) - 11:30 LTDN Plane 3 (P3) - 7:30 LTDN Plane 4 (P4) - 5:30 LTDN

These scenarios have been selected to explore various possible Time-to-Coverage configurations

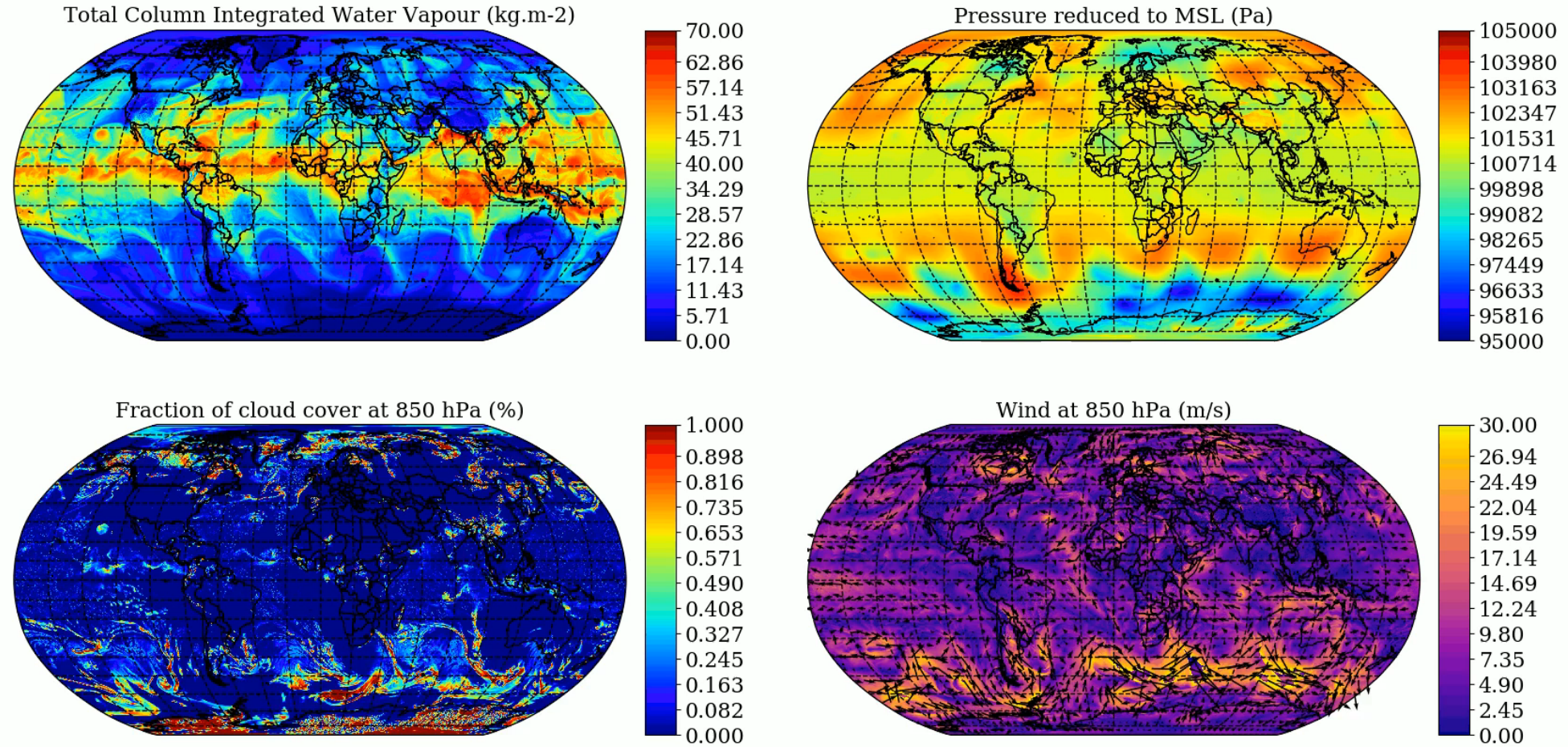


- **CNRS/Météo France** uses the **Observing System Simulation Experiment (OSSE)** approach by simulating all observations from a reference forecast – the nature run – taken as truth.
- Simulated AWS observations are assimilated (all-sky approach) in the ARPEGE (Action de Recherche Petite Echelle Grande Echelle) 4D-Var system, and the day-to-day analysis/forecast errors are collected
- The statistics of the analysis/forecast errors are computed by averaging over the selected time interval
- “Calibration” of the system is a critical step: all the simulated observations in the reference system shall have statistics comparable with the statistics from the equivalent real observations – necessary to provide realistic impact evaluation



Nature run – example CNRS/Météo France

Nature run on the 02/09/2021 at 00:00



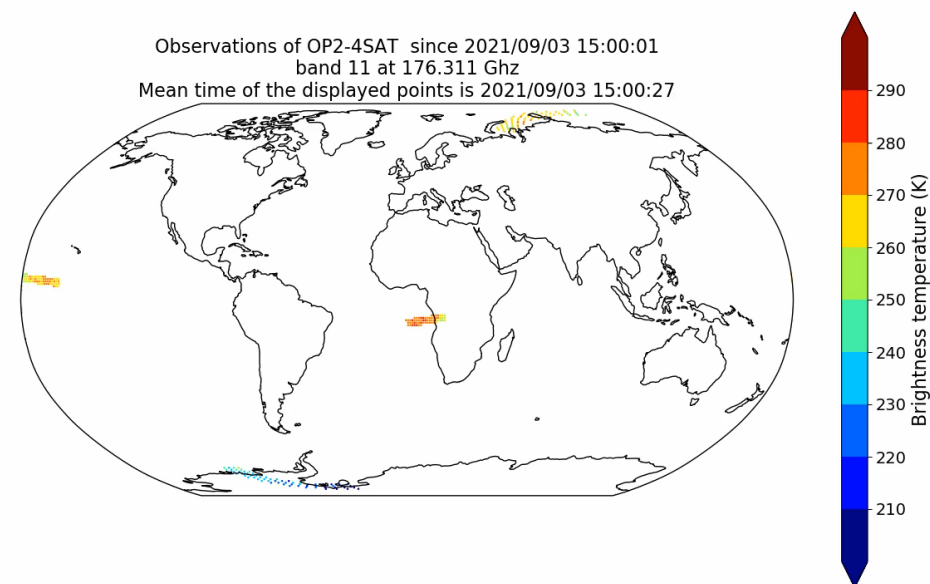
Courtesy Météo France – Louis Rivoire



- Computation of the Nature Run completed (both summer 2021 and winter 2021/22)

Ongoing:

- OSSE calibration (adjustment of the Nature Run) using real observations
- Integration of AWS Constellation within the assimilation system
- Initial focus on temperature and water vapour sounding channels
- First results expected by the end of 2022, study to be completed by summer 2023



Courtesy Météo France – Louis Rivoire

- ECMWF uses the Ensemble of Data Assimilations (EDA) method by simulating the new AWS observations on top of real observations.
- Based on the assumed observation/forecast model error statistics, the EDA method estimates the analysis and forecast error covariance matrices (rather than the actual forecast errors).
- The Spread (variance) of ensemble members for EDA experiments for each analysis/forecast time provides information on the impact of the new observations (less spread => analysis closer to real observations => less uncertainty in forecasts => positive impact).
- EDA spread is assessed when simulated AWS data are added to the operational global observing system → AWS observations impact. This approach has been already explored during a previous ESA-funded study.

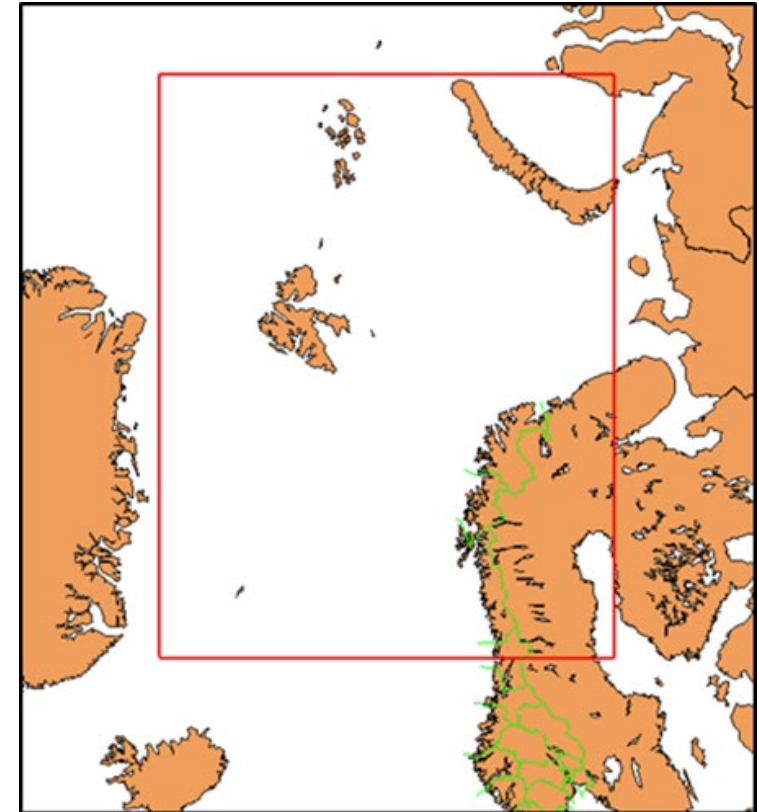
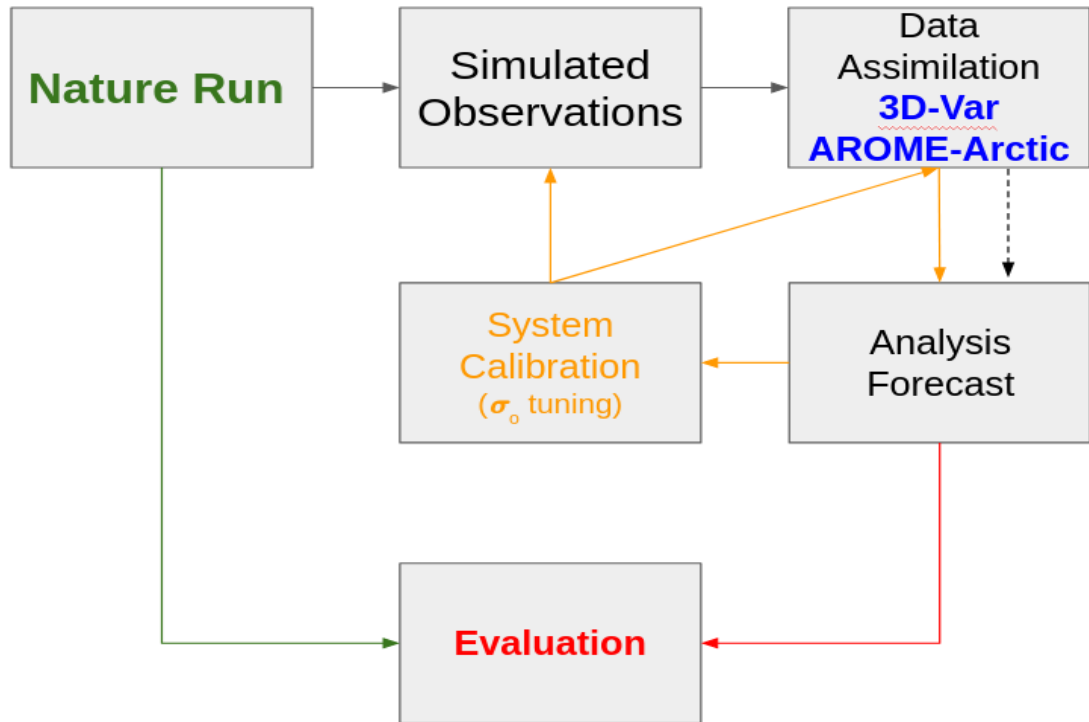
- 4-week study period of 1–28 July 2019 will be used for all EDA experimentation
- EDA experimentation will use a standard 10-member configuration
- All spread analyses will be based on 12-hour forecasts, as this maximises the signal to be analysed
- Assimilation of the new AWS observations based on ECMWF's all-sky approach, covering clear, cloudy, and precipitating scenes

- Kick-off of activities on 25 April 2022 – initial scenarios agreed and consistent with the ones used in the Météo France study.
- Ongoing:
 - Integration of AWS observations into the ECMWF assimilation system
 - Initial focus on T and Q sounding channels, use of 325 GHz at a later stage
- Some results expected by the end 2022, study to be completed by summer 2023.
- Also Doppler Wind Lidar assessment performed (as separate activity).



- OSSE assessment using the AROME-Arctic regional NWP model (under Met Norway lead)
- Considering nowcasting applications (SMHI lead)
- Downstream socio-economic impact (FMI lead)
- Kick-off planned on 30 May 2022

- Regional OSSE (3D-Var, clear sky microwave sensor data assimilation)



- Nature Run provided by Météo France

— **AROME** (Applications de la Recherche l'Opérationnel à Mésos-Echelle)-**Arctic domain**

- Three different and complementary NWP impact studies:
 1. **CNRS/Météo France (global OSSE)**
 2. **ECMWF (global EDA)**
 3. **Met Norway, SMHI and FMI (regional OSSE + Nowcasting assessment + socio-economic impact at high latitudes)**
- First impact assessments expected by Q3/Q4 2022



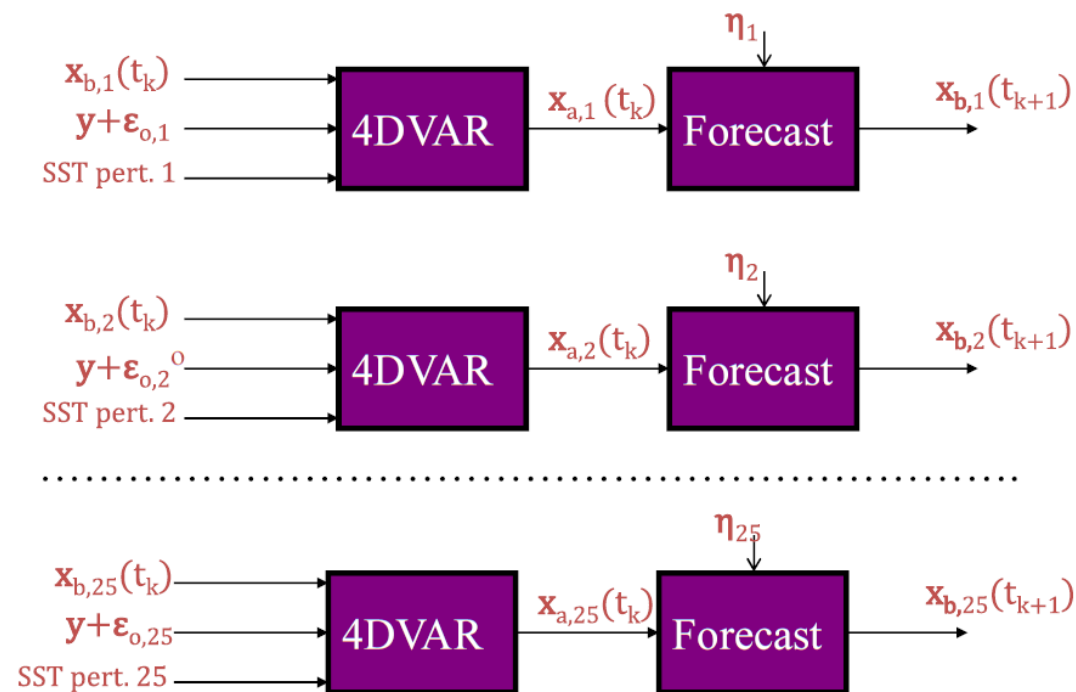
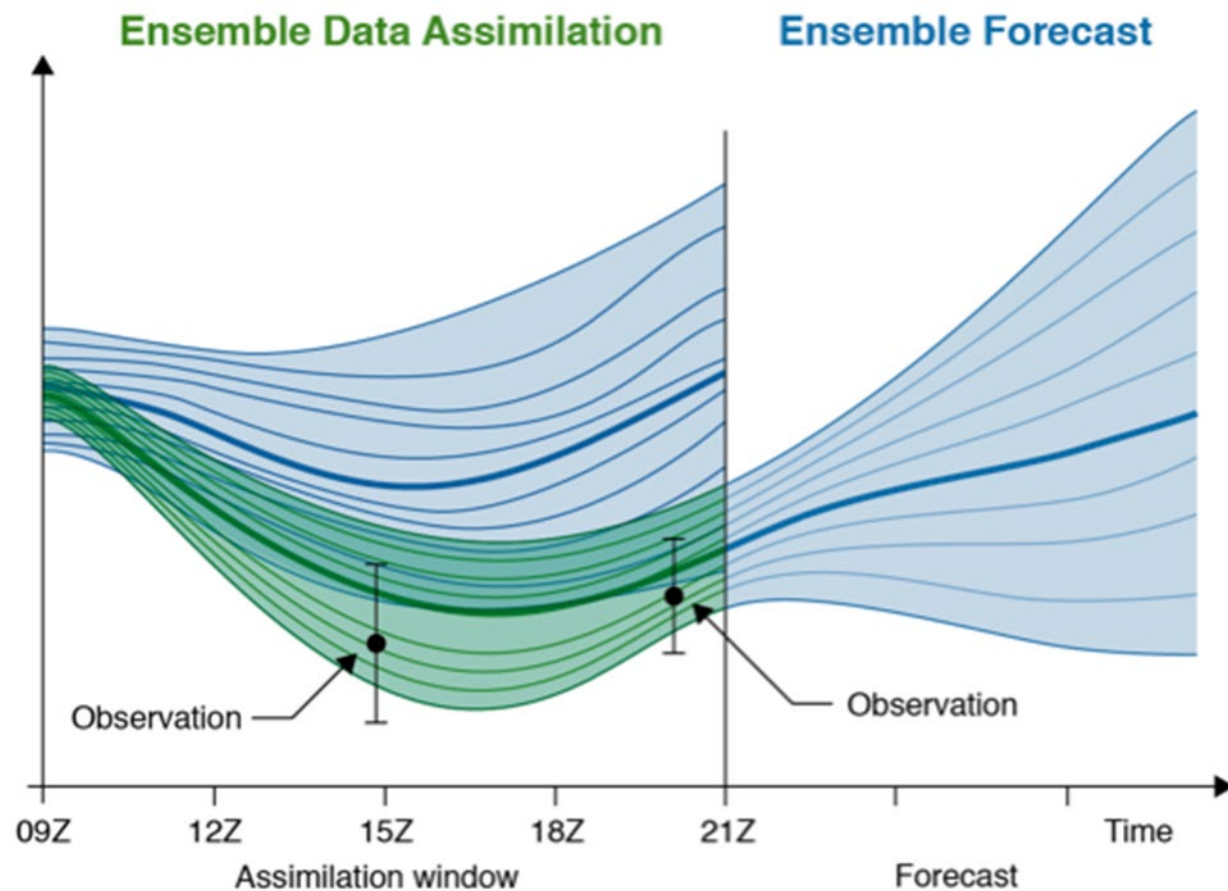
Thank you!
Questions are welcome.





AWS payload channels and performance requirements

Channel	Frequency (GHz)	Bandwidth (MHz)	NEΔT (K)	Footprint (km)	Utilisation
AWS-11	50.3	180	<0.6	≤ 40 km	Temperature sounding
AWS-12	52.8	400	<0.4	≤ 40 km	Temperature sounding
AWS-13	53.246	300	<0.4	≤ 40 km	Temperature sounding
AWS-14	53.596	370	<0.4	≤ 40 km	Temperature sounding
AWS-15	54.4	400	<0.4	≤ 40 km	Temperature sounding
AWS-16	54.94	400	<0.4	≤ 40 km	Temperature sounding
AWS-17	55.5	330	<0.5	≤ 40 km	Temperature sounding
AWS-18	57.290344	330	<0.6	≤ 40 km	Temperature sounding
AWS-21	89	4000	<0.3	≤ 20 km	Window and Cloud detection
AWS-31	165.5	2800	<0.6	≤ 10 km	Window/humidity sounding
AWS-32	176.311	2000	<0.7	≤ 10 km	Humidity sounding
AWS-33	178.811	2000	<0.7	≤ 10 km	Humidity sounding
AWS-34	180.311	1000	<1	≤ 10 km	Humidity sounding
AWS-35	181.511	1000	<1	≤ 10 km	Humidity sounding
AWS-36	182.311	500	<1.3	≤ 10 km	Humidity sounding
AWS-41	325.15±1.2	800	<1.7	≤ 10 km	Humidity sounding/cloud detection
AWS-42	325.15±2.4	1200	<1.4	≤ 10 km	Humidity sounding/cloud detection
AWS-43	325.15±4.1	1800	<1.2	≤ 10 km	Humidity sounding/cloud detection
AWS-44	325.15±6.6	2800	<1	≤ 10 km	Humidity sounding/cloud detection



$$s = \sqrt{\mathbb{E}[\sigma_d^2]} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{D} \sum_{d=1}^D \left(\frac{1}{N-1} \sum_{n=1}^N (x^n - \bar{x})^2 \right)}$$