Applications of GPS Radio Occultatoin Data over the Antarctic

> Bill Kuo UCAR

GPS Occultation

Basic measurement principle:

Deduce atmospheric properties based on precise measurement of phase delay and amplitude.



COSMIC: Constellation Observing System for Meteorology, Ionosphere and Climate

- 6 Satellites launched: 01:40 UTC 15 April 2006
- Three instruments:
 GPS receiver, TIP, Tri-band beacon
- Weather + Space Weather data
- Global observations of: Pressure, Temperature, Humidity Refractivity Ionospheric Electron Density
 - Ionospheric Scintillation
- Demonstrate quasi-operational GPS limb sounding with global coverage in near-real time
- Climate Monitoring



FORMOSAT-3/COSMIC launched at 01:40 UTC 15 April 2006









- COSMIC satellites are going through check out phase now:
 - All six satellites are healthy
 - All payload working as expected
 - Begin orbit raising for one satellite last week
- Mass production of GPS RO sounding is expected to begin in late June 2006.



Earth-Fixed RO Locations for COSMIC, 6 S/C, 6 Planes, Orbit = 01, Launch+1.5months



Earth-Fixed Occultation Locations for COSMIC, 6 S/C, 6 Planes, 24 Hrs, Launch+~3months



Earth-Fixed Occultation Locations for COSMIC, 6 S/C, 6 Planes, 24 Hrs, Launch+~6months



Earth-Fixed Occultation Locations for COSMIC, 6 S/C, 6 Planes, 24 Hrs, Operational Constell

COSMIC sounding distribution in a day

Occultation Locations for COSMIC, 6 S/C, 6 Planes, 24 Hrs



COSMIC GPS RO Soundings in a Day after it is deployed to final orbits

Occultation Locations for COSMIC, 6 S/C, 6 Planes, 24 Hrs



Locations of the two pairs of COSMIC soundings











Three Polar Soundings

COSMIC GPS RO Sounding Over the Antarctic since launch

Occultation Locations from COSMIC, 2006.111-163



MM5 4D-Var Assimilation of GPS RO data



Wee et al. (2006) assimilated 50+ GPS RO soundings from CHAMP and SAC-C over the Antarctic over a two-day period and demonstrated positive impact on the prediction of an intense Antarctic cyclone out to 3 days. The GPS RO soundings account for \sim 3% of the data used.

Solid contour: Predicted Sea Level Pressure by MM5 using different initial conditions. Dashed lines are verifying ECMWF analysis.

Observations

- GPS RO refractivity
- TEMP (RAOBS/PIBAL)
- SYNOP (SFC/SHIP/BUOY)
- AIRCFT (AIREP/PIREP/AIRCAR)
- ATOVS soundings (Tv and Z)
- MODIS soundings (T, Q, and Z)
- SSM/I (rainrate, liquid water, PW, and SFC wind)
- Satellite wind
- QuikSCAT (SFC wind)

Verification with an independent analysis

(average of forecasts after 4 cycles of assimilation)



Verification against GPS RO observations



Summary

- COSMIC was successfully launched, and we have already collected excellent data during test phase.
- Operational data production will begin by the end of June. The data can support reat-time operational NWP.
 Data latency is less than 2 hours.
- Assimilation results using earlier mission have demonstrated the impact of GPS RO data on Antarctic regional analysis and prediction.
- Data are freely available. Just sign up at COSMIC web site:

http://www.cosmic.ucar.edu/