

Convection Working Group - Splinter Meeting
Tuesday 4 September, 14:00, Sheraton Sopot Hotel, Sopot, Poland

Meeting Minutes

Chairs: Marianne König, Martin Setvák

Keeper of the Minutes: Pieter Groenemeijer

1. Marianne welcomes the participants

2. Review of the status of the working group's Action Items and Recommendations that were formulated at the meeting 27-30 March 2012 in Prague:

Instability Product:

- Action 1: Providing the instability product with different background model input: Marianne will contact Ralph and other contacts to arrange logistics on providing model information and further actions.

Nearcast Product:

- Action 2: Providing the Nearcast product to the ESSL Testbed: Ralph Petersen is "on track" to provide this product at the 2013 ESSL Testbed.
- Action 3: Nearcast evaluation within the Lake Victoria WMO Forecast Demonstration Project : One case study, provided by Ralph Petersen, was presented by Marianne to the WMO-WGNER meeting on 11 August 2012

Convective Initiation Product:

- Action 4: Provision of products to the ESSL Testbed
The CI (Kris Bedka) and Cloud-top-cooling products (Wayne Feltz) have been products at 2012 Testbed.

Regarding the CI-SATCAST product of John Mecikalski :

- Pierre Fritzsche (DWD) shows interest in testing SATCAST according to Zsofia Kocsis's code at DWD
- It is planned to provide the new probabilistic SATCAST product (John Mecikalski) at the Testbed in 2014
- Kris Bedka would like to provide training at the Testbed
- Action 5: Exploring the relation between the CI product and storm severity: John Mecikalski and Daniel Rosenfeld are work together and expect results in summer 2013

- Action 6: Providing a description of JMA's early Cu detection product to the CWG Best Practice document:

JMA will be able to provide a description to Best Practices document by end of 2012

WV-IR brightness temperature difference:

- Action 7: Making BTD product technical memorandum available on website:

The product is available on the internet at

http://www.eumetsat.int/groups/ops/documents/document/pdf_tm14_interp_warm_wat_vap.pdf

Pieter Groenemeijer will provide a link to this page on the CWG website

- Action 8: Improve theoretical understanding of RTM product
A group action item is formulated to read the document and provide feedback
- Action 9: Development of a comprehensive cold ring database:
Martin Setvák reports that Michaela Radová is working on this with Inna Sobchenyuk
 - Martin asks Pilar Fernández (Nowcasting SAF) about improvements of warm core detection products? Pilar notes that this planned in the current phase and output is expected in 2015
 - John Mecikalski notes that this has a use in validating his studies and approaches
 - Martin Setvák notes that the CWG needs to define thresholds for storm severity in order to be able to answer the question if severe storms show particular features that non-severe Cb's do not show. Marianne proposed that a longer discussion will take place at the next CWG meeting
- Action 10: Collaboration of Ján Kaňák and Kris Bedka on the issue of OT height assignment:
This collaboration is currently taking place, and comparison of OT temperatures with adiabatic lapse rate are being made.
- Action 11: Oleksij Kryvibik and Pieter Groenemeijer collaboration on ESWD:
This collaboration will start after the meeting.

Best Practice Document

- Actions 12-15: The discussion on the Best Practices Document is a point of its own (see below).

ESSL Testbed / Nowcast-SAF

- Action 16: Provision of Nowcast-SAF products for testing at the ESSL Testbed:
The discussion about this for 2013 Testbed will be started after the meeting.

Recommendations:

- Rec. 1. Collaboration on combining Nearcast and CI/SATCAST:
John Mecikalski and Ralph Peterson report that a discussion was started and will be intensified.
- Rec. 2. Usage of multiple datasats for the CI processing:
John will report on this at the next CWG meeting.
- Rec. 3. BTD product. See Action Item 8.
- Rec. 4. Recommendation on ambiguity in interpretation of Storm RGB product:
This recommendation will be forwarded to WMO-EUMETSAT RGB workshop, to take place in September 2012.
- Rec. 5. 2.5 min. MSG scans:
*During the week after the meeting, a first test 2.5 min scans will be made.
Wayne Feltz reports that GOES has already done some rapid-scanning (targeted on OK, Hurricane Isaac) and will provide links to the data and Powerpoint presentation of Steve Goodman.*
- Rec. 6, 9 and 10. It is noted that CHUVA data is now available. Daniel Vila (INPE representative) will be included in CWG communication. John Mecikalski explicitly expresses his interest in collaborating with CHUVA researchers. The CWG is interested in results of the CHUVA campaign.
- Rec. 7. Presentation of CWG accomplishments at international conferences:
Marianne participated in the WSN-12 Conference, Humberto Barbosa, John Mecikalski and Estelle de Koning were also there.
- Rec. 8. The HERz OASE project will report back on their accomplishments in 2014. This recommendation still stands.

3. Discussion on the Best Practices Document

Marianne stresses that the Document is intended to be a “living document” and requests participants to provide pieces of texts addressing methods presented in past CWG meetings. Some of those are not available yet in the document, which should change.

Ján Kaňák will add a text on the OT height determination. Marianne suggests that the scope of the document should also include polar orbiting satellites, and participants from Nordic countries are encouraged to add information on those systems.

John Mecikalski raises the point of discussing what not to include in the document and also suggests to discuss less obvious products such as soil moisture gradients and differential heating for the 2014 Meeting, in a dedicated session to which experts on this topic are invited.

5. ESSL Testbed

Pieter Groenemeijer gives a presentation of the first ESSL Testbed: The first Testbed has taken place at ESSL's new Research and Training Centre in Wiener Neustadt Austria, where over 60 participants from 21 countries took part in testing and training activities, based on making real-time severe weather forecasts. Among the Testbed participants were a number of CWG members, and products that were used for testing included the Overshooting Top/ Cold-ring detection product (Kris Bedka) and the Cloud top colling product (Wayne Feltz) as well as the "sandwich" products of Martin Setvák. The Testbed of 2013 is announced, which will be from 1-26 July 2013. ESSL in principle welcomes the products from CWG members to be tested, as long as adequate financing of the testing activities is ensured.

Regarding Training activities at the ESSL Testbed it was suggested that more training material could be provided to participants beforehand, and only very compact presentations be given on site.

6. Convection Working Group website

Pieter Groenemeijer demonstrates the layout of the CWG website which is under development. A discussion on the layout and the nature of the website evolves. Small requested changes include:

- Making the Documentation section more compact
- List Events and Meetings separately

A larger requested change, an idea of Wayne Feltz, is to give (part of the) CWG website the nature of a Blog. As a side note, this could also be a good form for the ESSL Testbed blog. Wayne will send Pieter links to a blog that works this way, so that he can assess the possibilities. Pieter says he will work with this idea and give (part of the CWG site) the format of a blog, meaning that all CWG members, after requesting an account, can post contributions.

7. Next CWG meetings

The next CWG workshop will be in Spring 2014 in Zagreb. This will be a five-day workshop, hosted by the Croatian Meteorological and Hydrological Service.

The next Workgroup meeting will take place at the European Conference on Severe Storms in Helsinki on Thursday 6 June 2013.

8. The meeting is closed around 16:30.

Participant List

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