Update on Observing System Simulation Experiments relevant to the impact of space-based lidar winds on weather prediction

Robert Atlas and G. D. Emmitt

Abstract

Observing System Simulation Experiments (OSSEs) are an important tool for evaluating the potential impact of proposed new observing systems. In addition, OSSEs can be beneficial in evaluating trade-offs in observing system design, and in developing and accessing improved methodology for assimilating new observations. OSSEs conducted by both NASA GSFC and NOAA have indicated significant potential for space-based lidar winds to improve numerical weather prediction. In this paper, we summarize OSSE methodology and earlier OSSE results, and present the methodology and new results from a "QuickOSSE" designed to assess the potential impact of lidar winds on the predicted track of a specific hurricane.