



Adjoint estimation of observation impact explored with an Observing System Simulation Experiment

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What is an OSSE?

An OSSE is a modeling experiment used to evaluate the impact of new observing systems on operational forecasts when actual observational data is not available.

- A long free model run is used as the “truth” - the Nature Run
- The Nature Run fields are used to back out “synthetic observations” from all current and new observing systems.
- Suitable errors are added to the synthetic observations
- The synthetic observations are assimilated into a different operational model
- Forecasts are made with the second model and compared with the Nature Run to quantify improvements due to the new observing system



GMAO OSSE

- **Nature Run:** 2 years free forecast of the GEOS-5 model (G5NR)

- 7 km horizontal resolution, 72L
- 30 min output, 13 aerosols

- **Synthetic observations**

- Generated from G5NR output fields
- Include G5NR cloud effects
- conventional, GPSRO, AIRS, IASI, CRIS, AMSUA, MHS, ATMS, SSMIS, HIRS4

- Correlated and uncorrelated **observation errors**

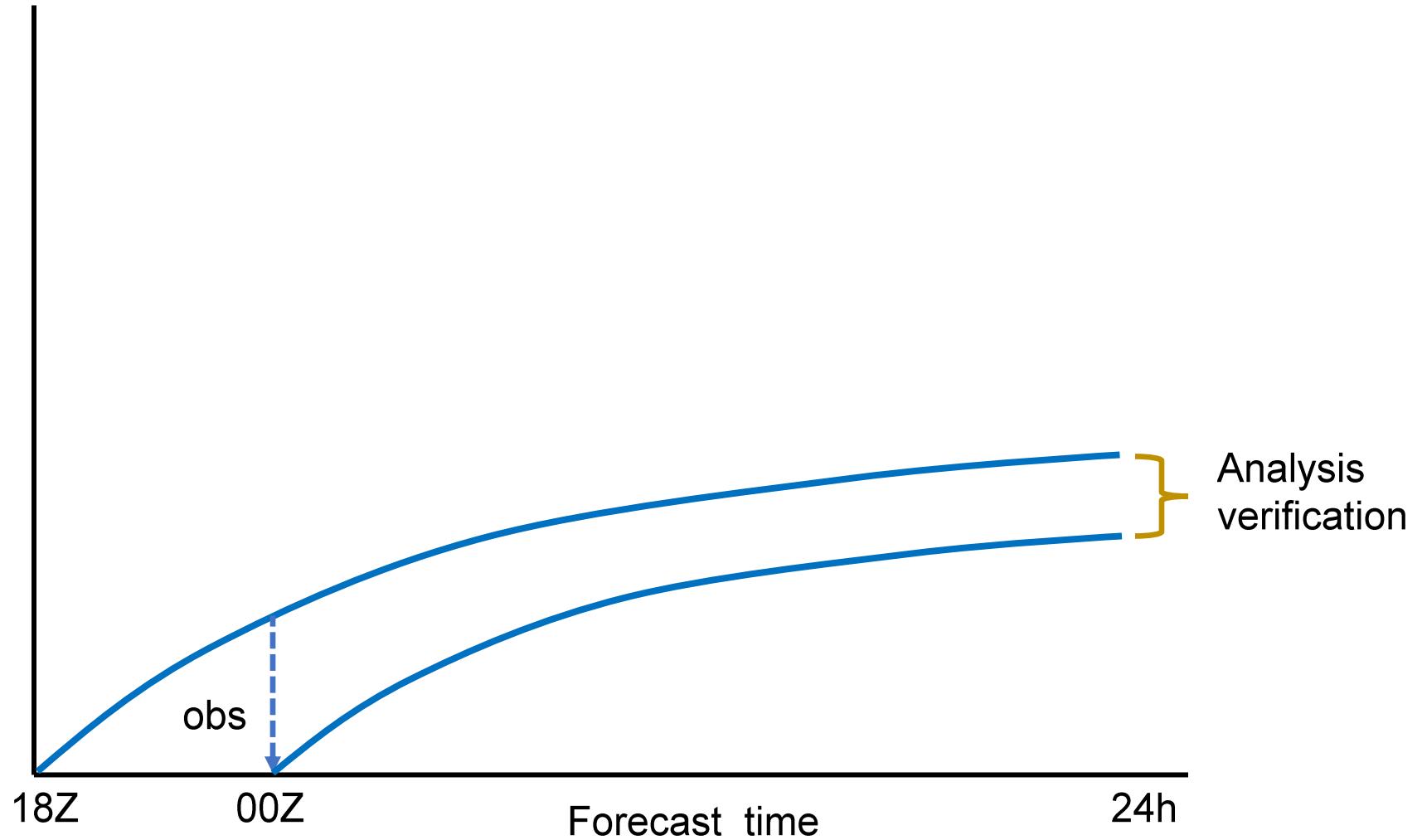
- Calibrated and validated to match statistics of real data

- **Experimental model:** GEOS-5, 3DVar GSI

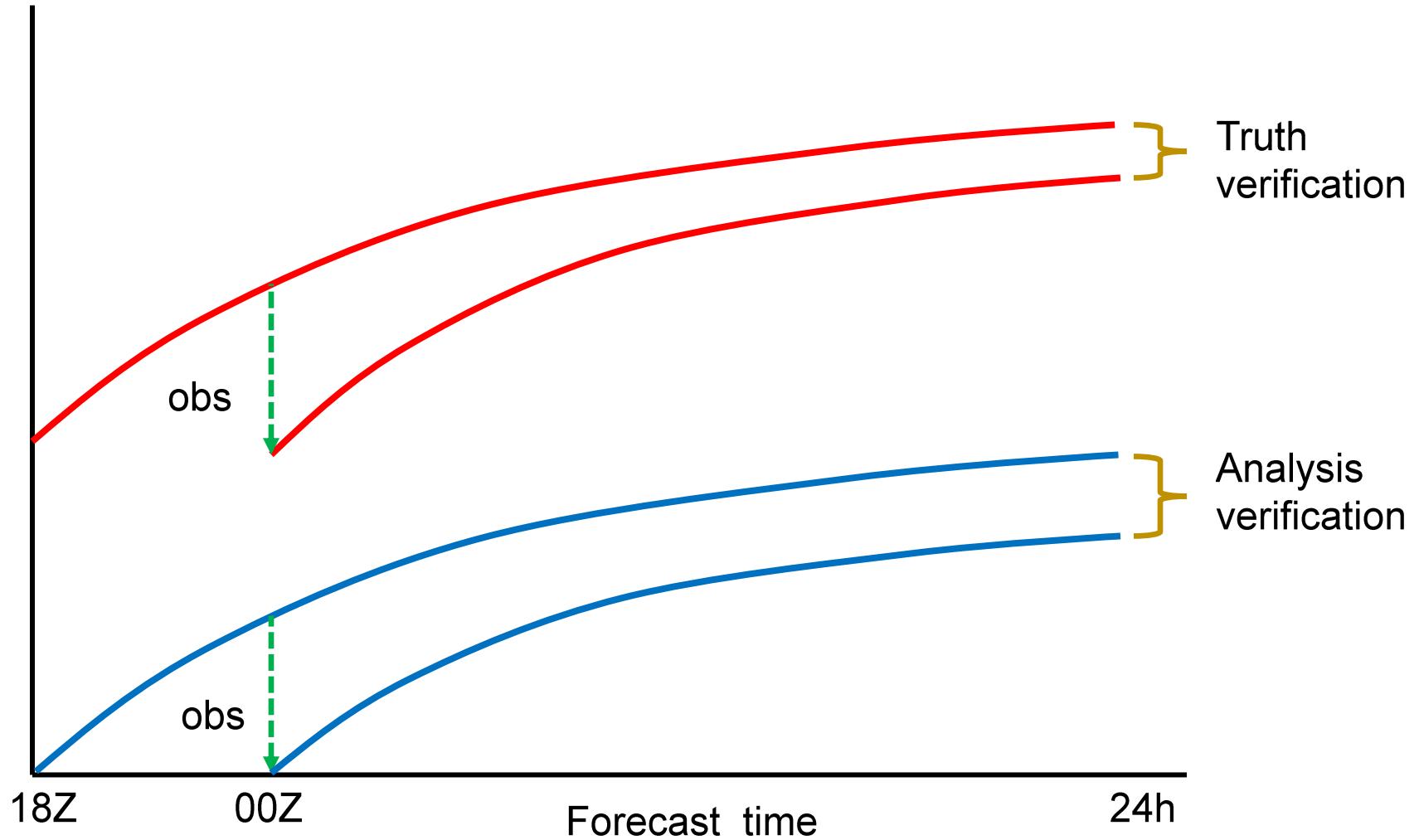
- 25 km horizontal resolution, 72L

- **Adjoint:** moist physics available, total wet energy norm (TWE)

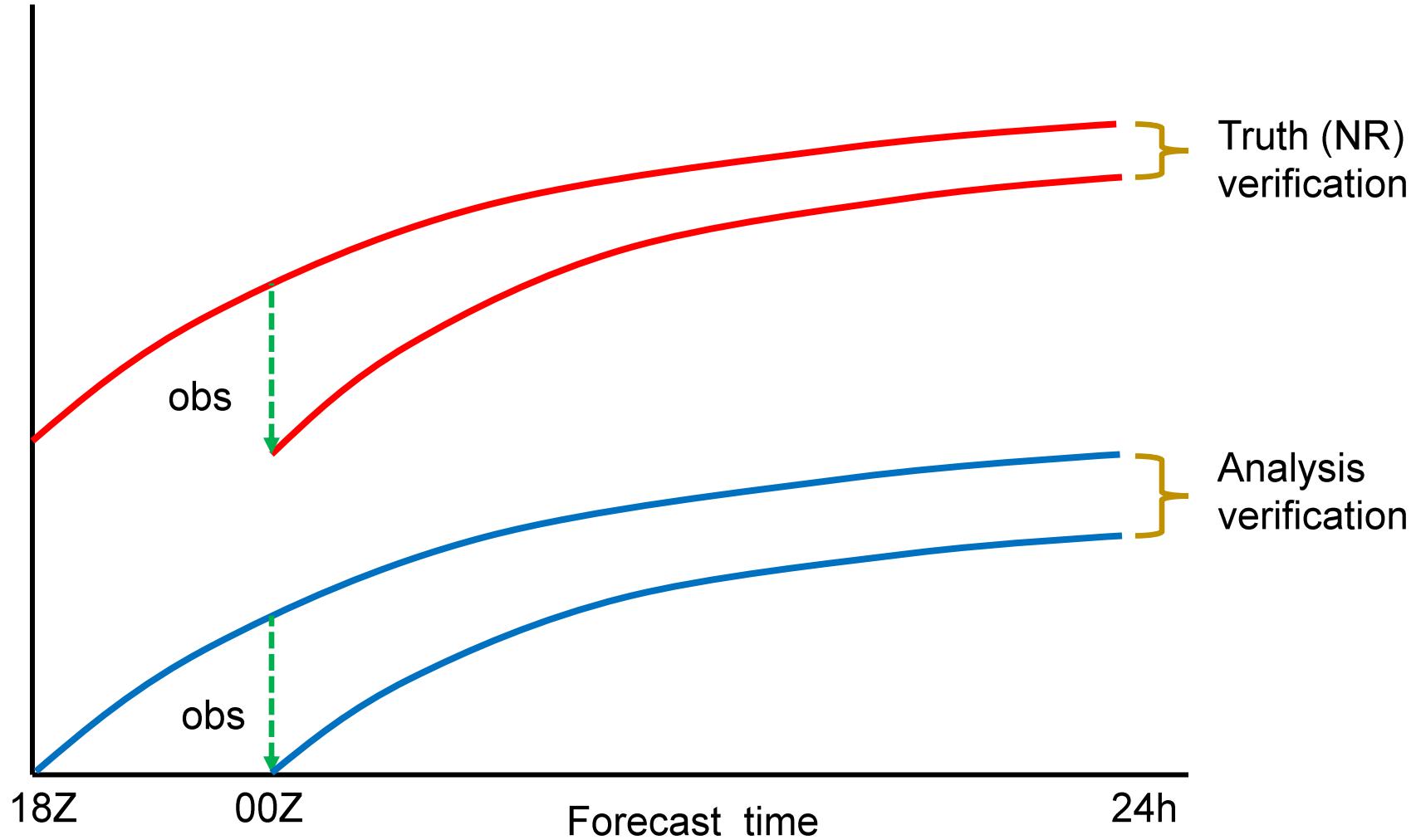
Adjoint estimation of observation impact



Adjoint estimation of observation impact

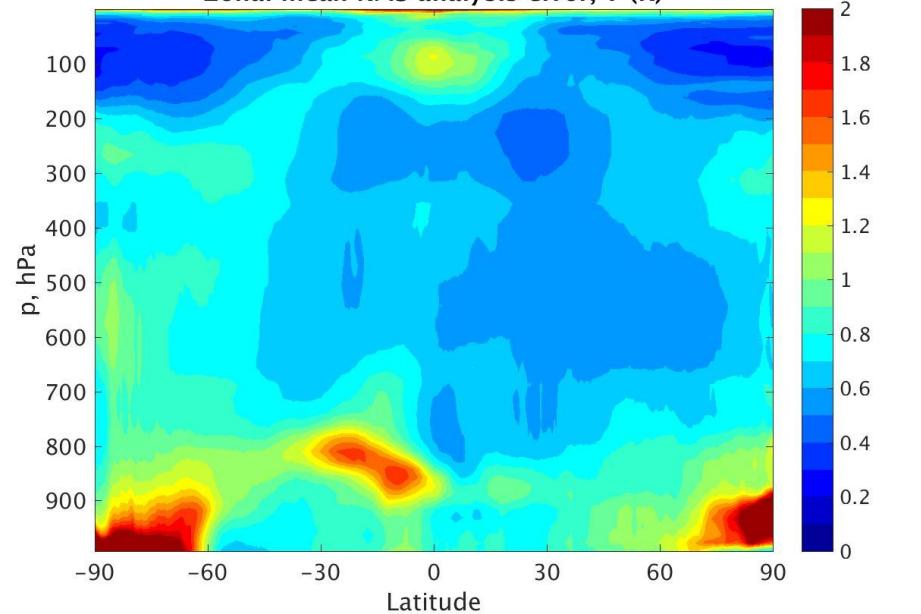


How does the incestuous nature of self-analysis verification affect the adjoint estimate of observation impact?
Use the availability of the Truth (NR) in the OSSE to investigate.

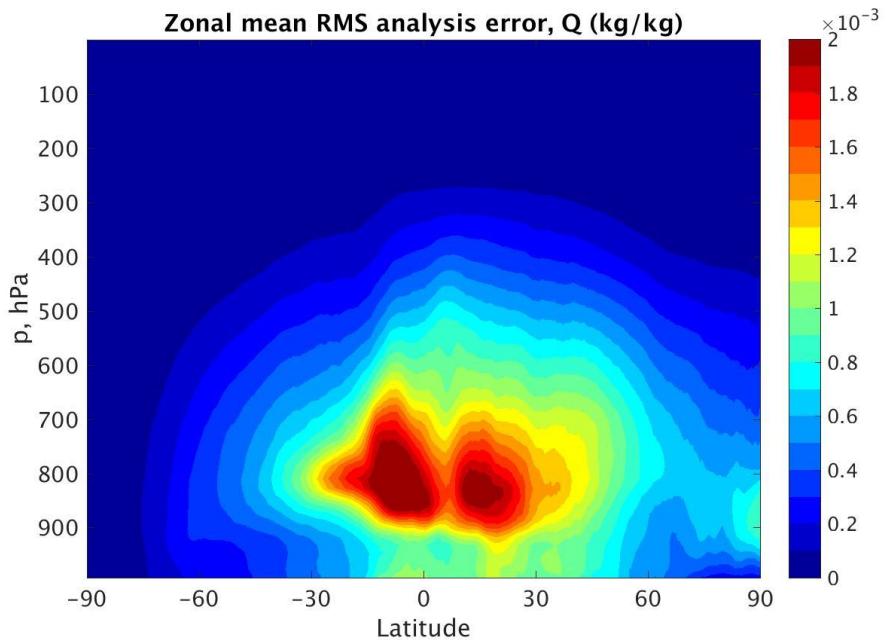


Analysis Error

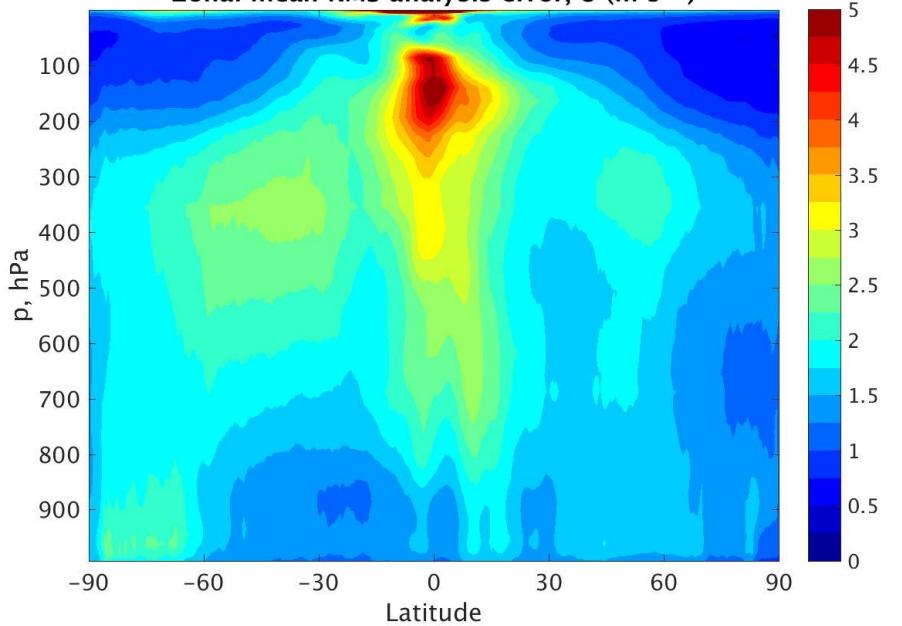
Zonal mean RMS analysis error, T (K)



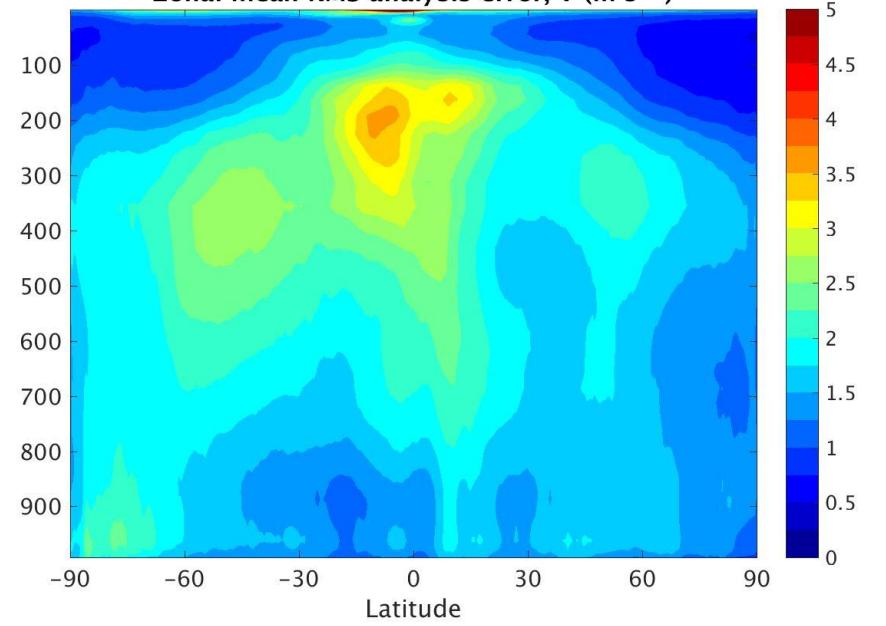
Zonal mean RMS analysis error, Q (kg/kg)



Zonal mean RMS analysis error, U (m s^{-1})

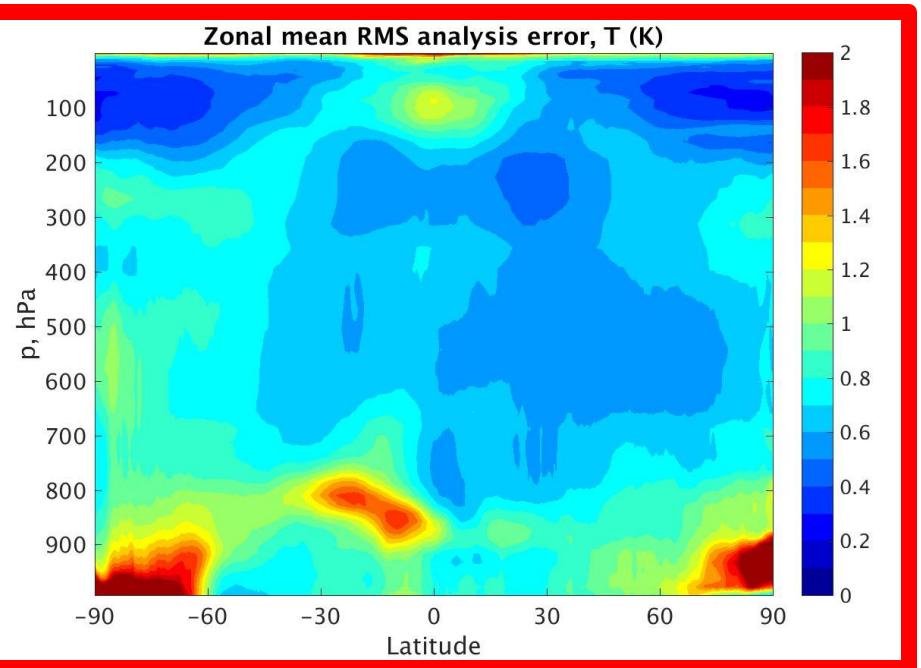


Zonal mean RMS analysis error, V (m s^{-1})

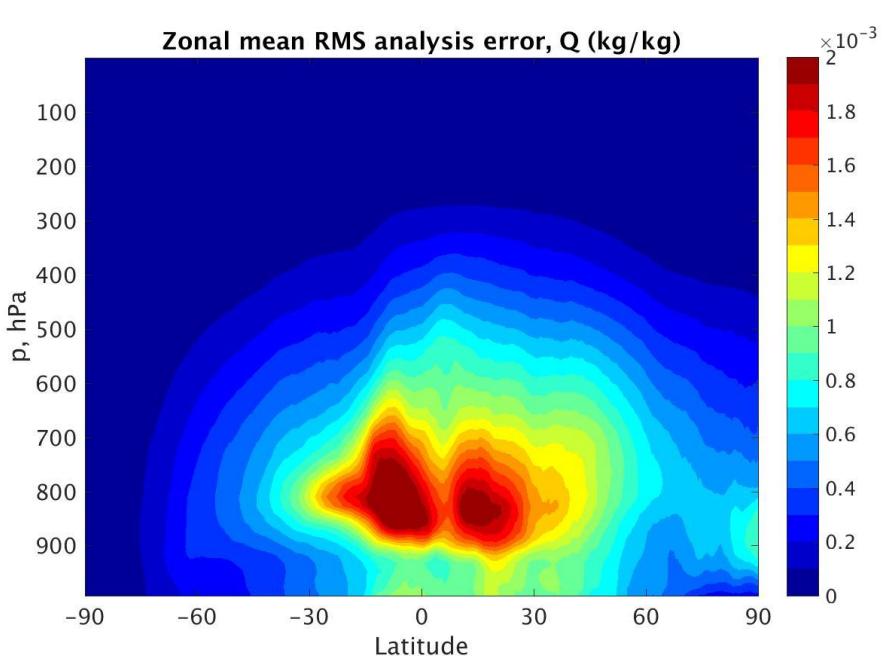


Analysis Error

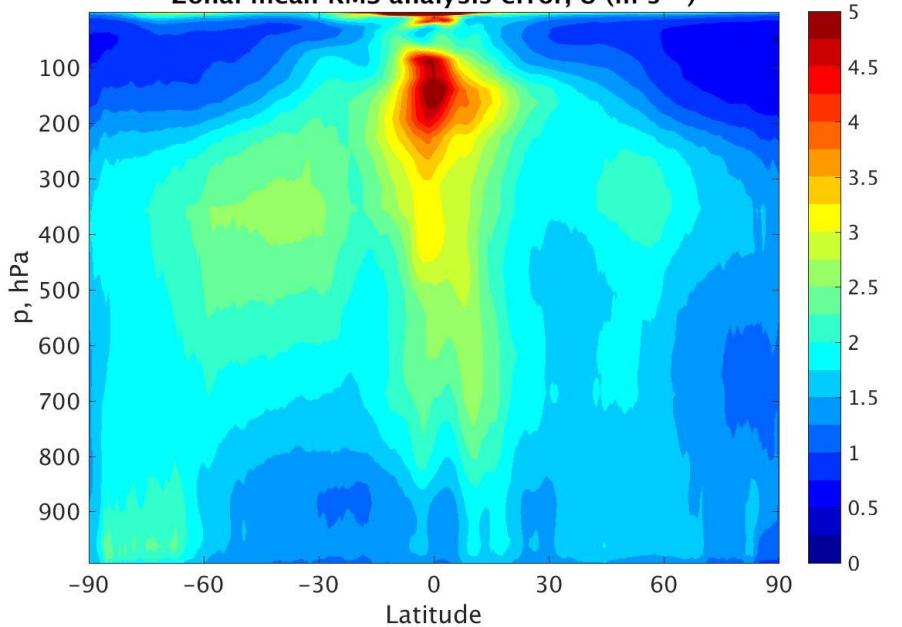
Zonal mean RMS analysis error, T (K)



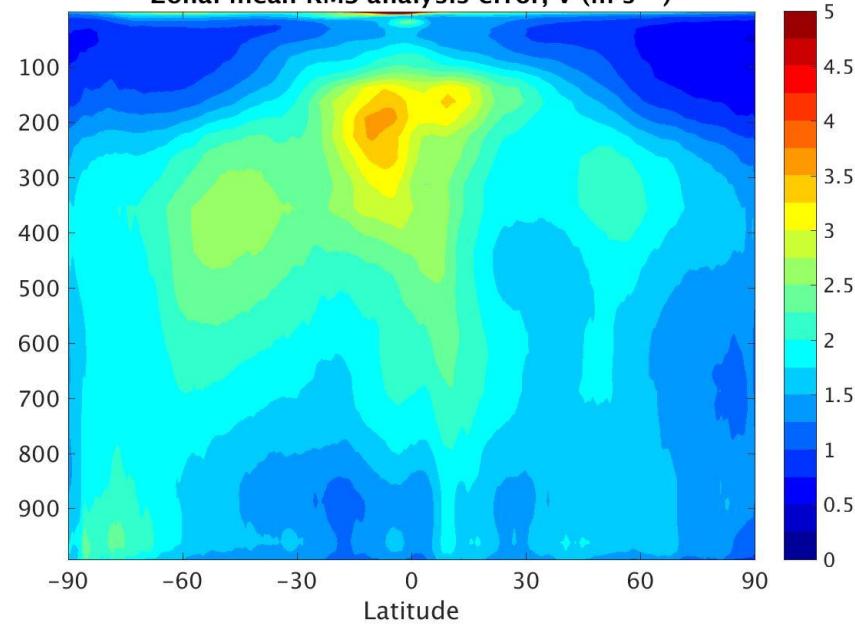
Zonal mean RMS analysis error, Q (kg/kg)



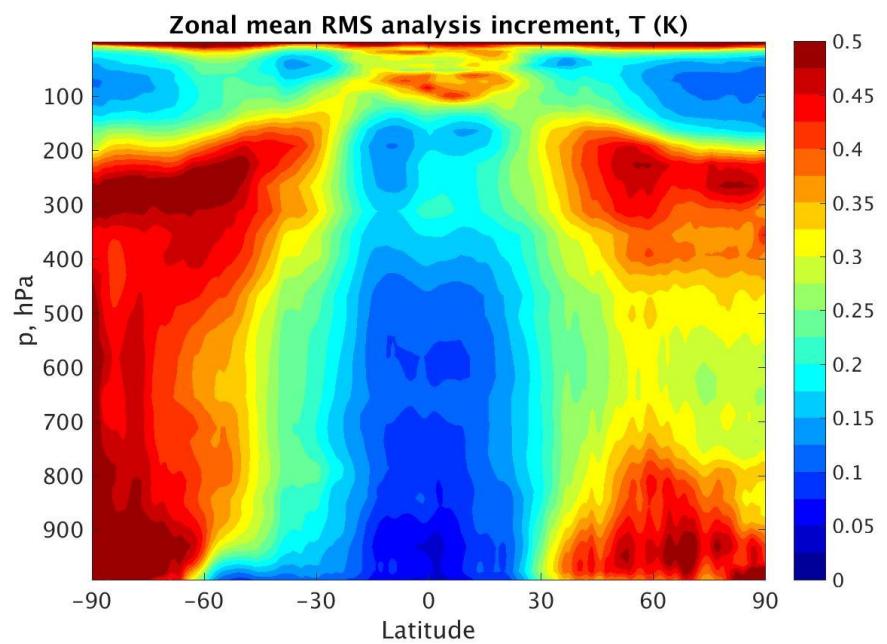
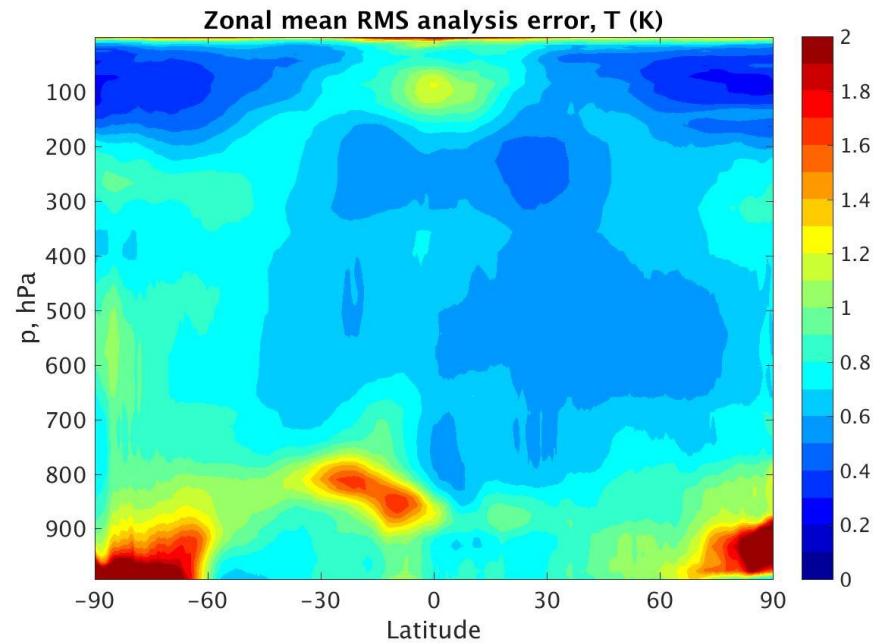
Zonal mean RMS analysis error, U (m s^{-1})



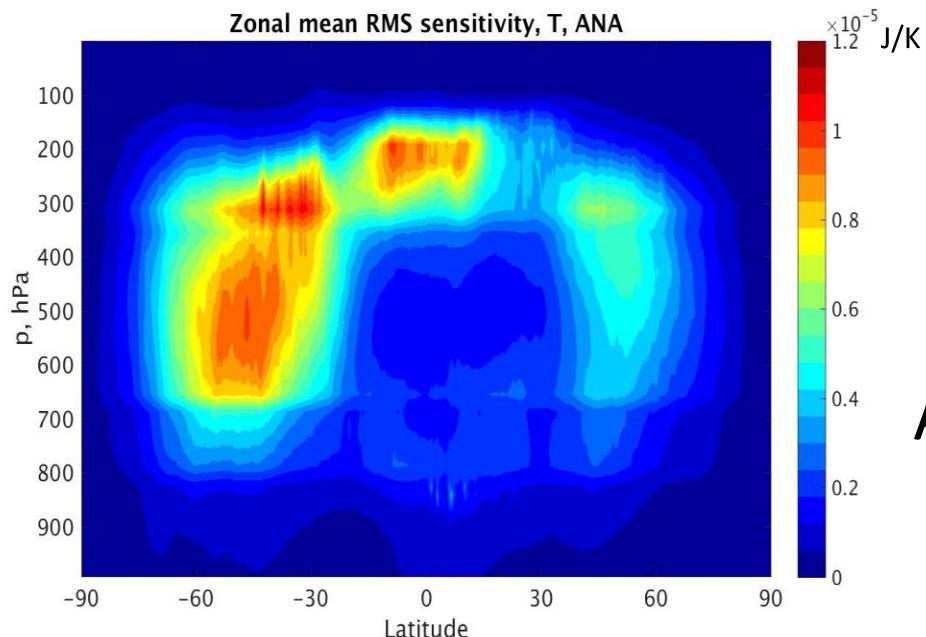
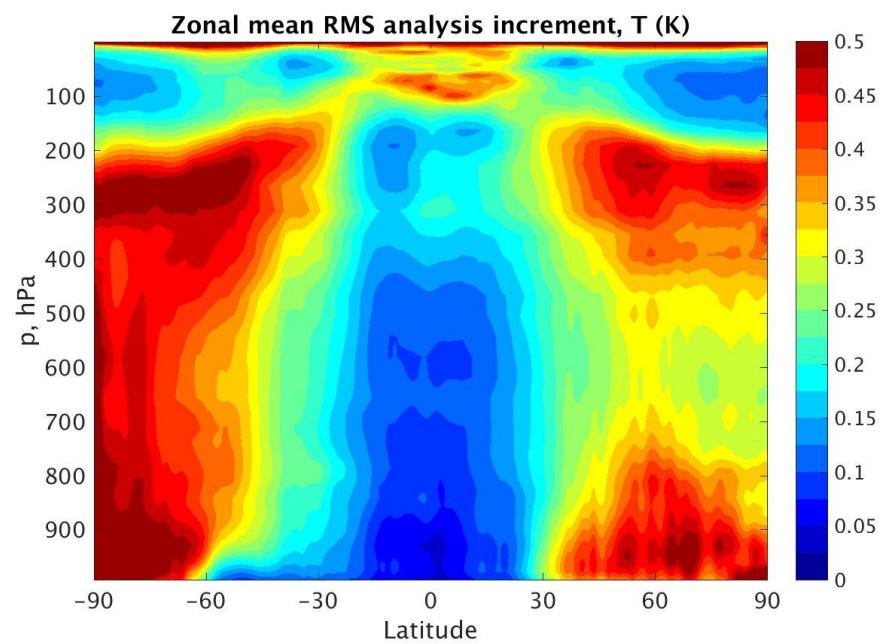
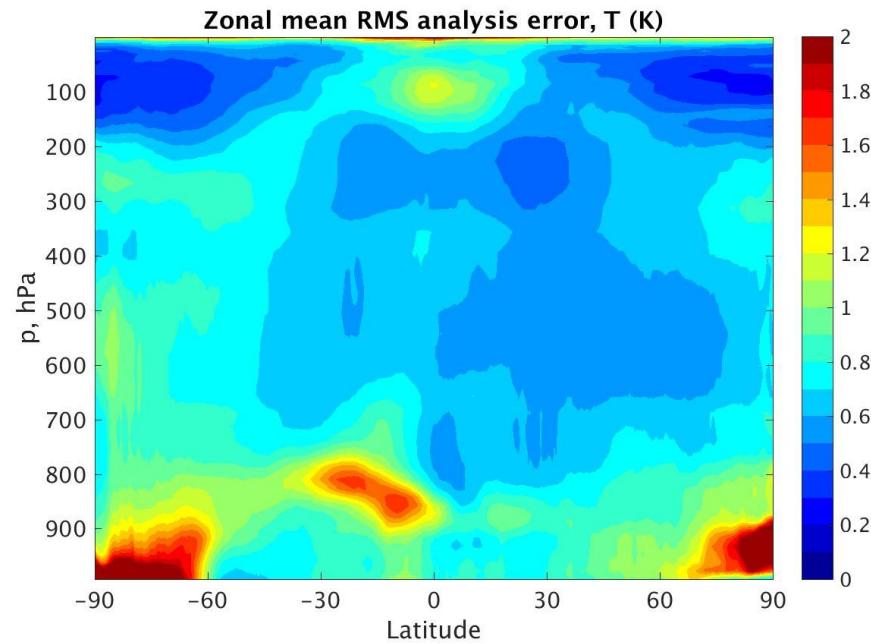
Zonal mean RMS analysis error, V (m s^{-1})



Analysis Error and Increment

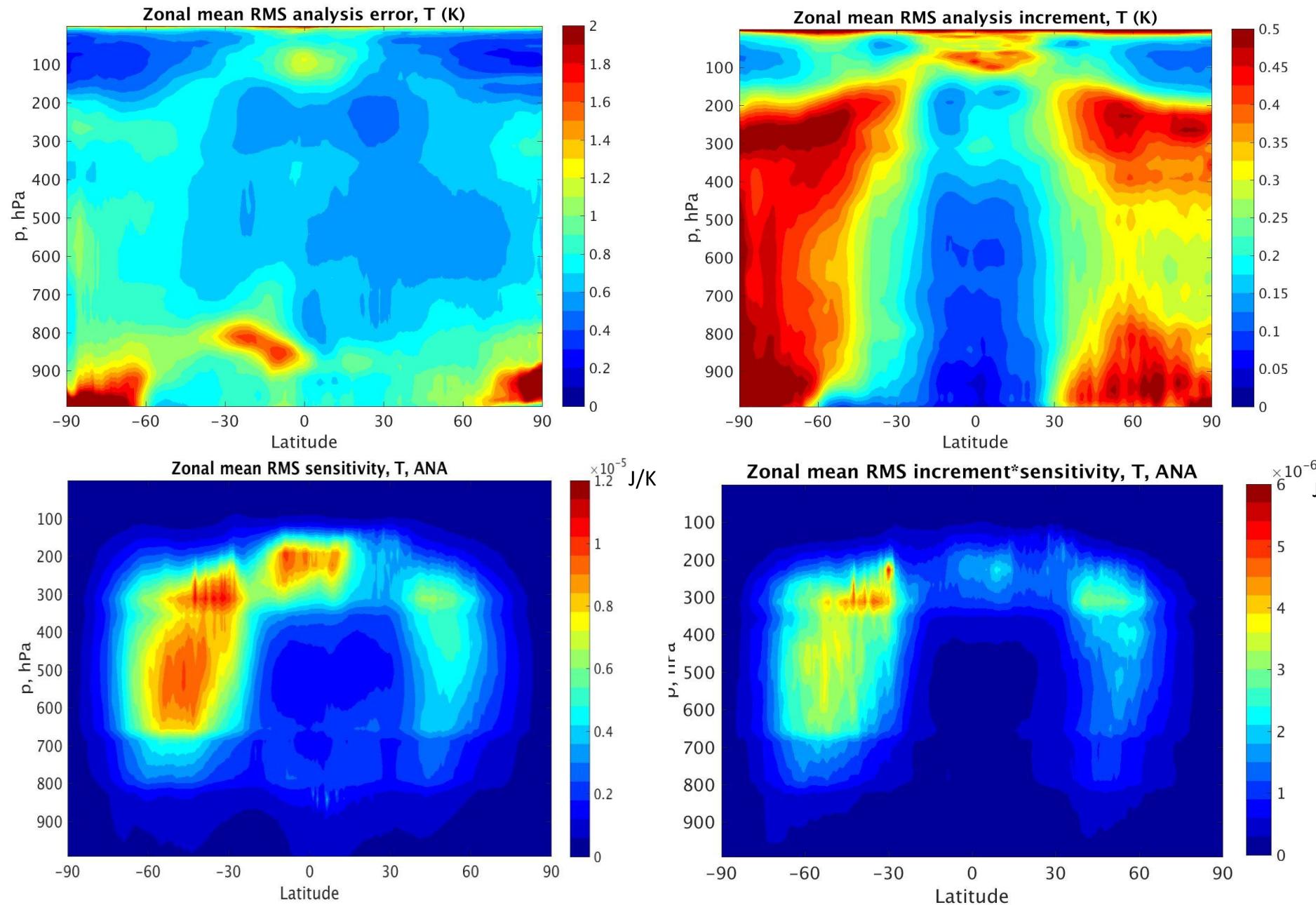


Sensitivity (Total Wet Energy norm)

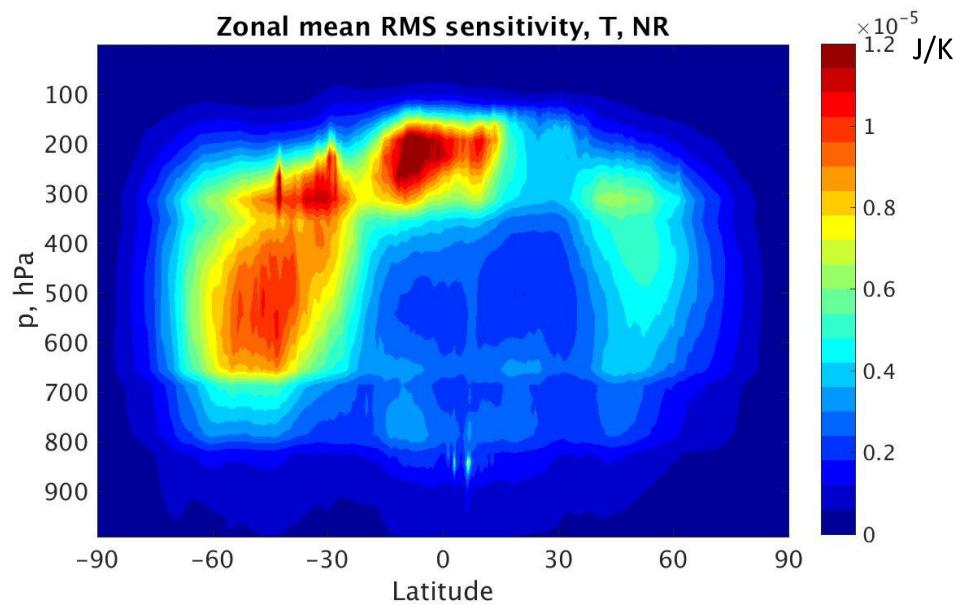
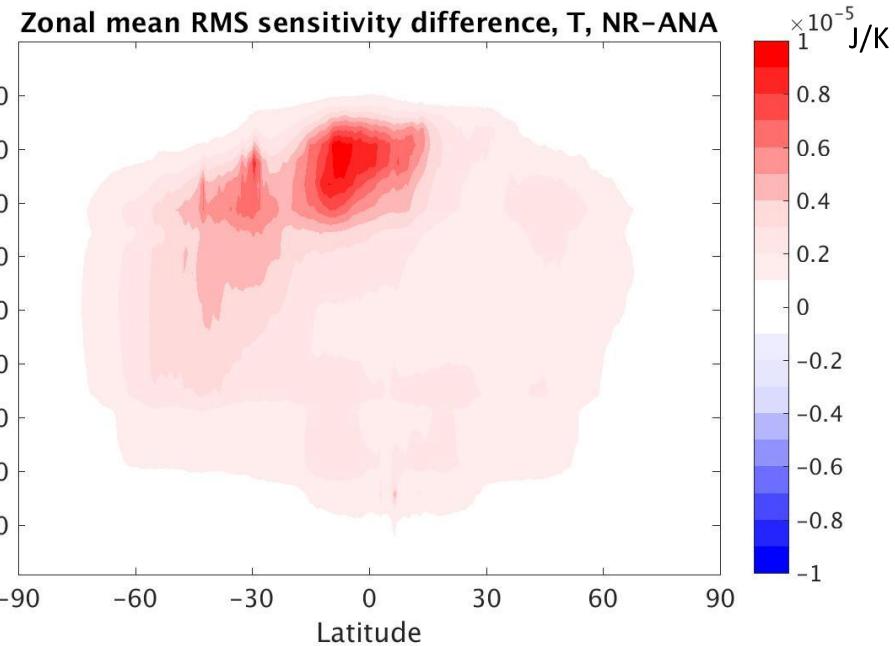
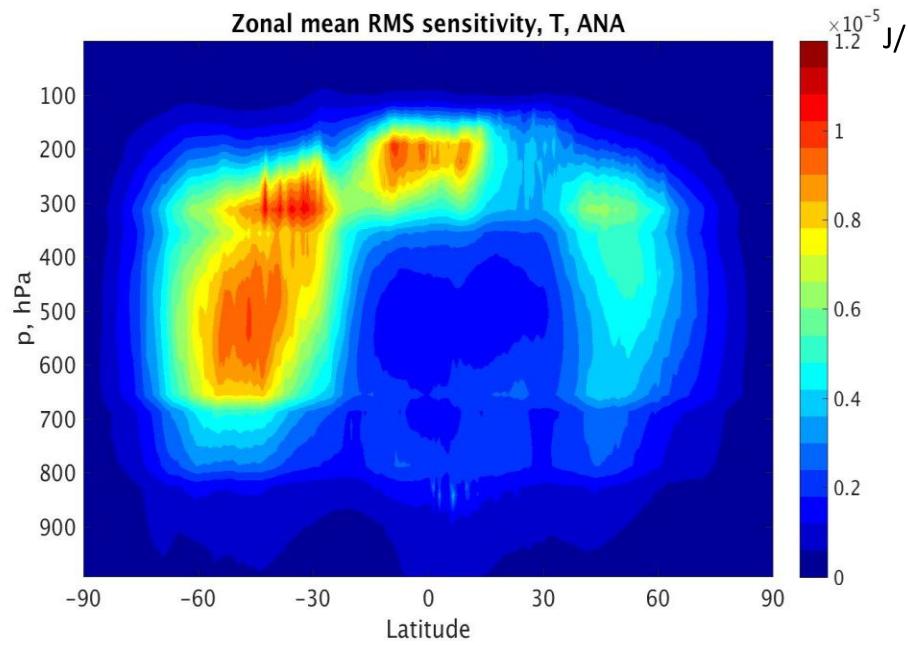


Analysis Verification

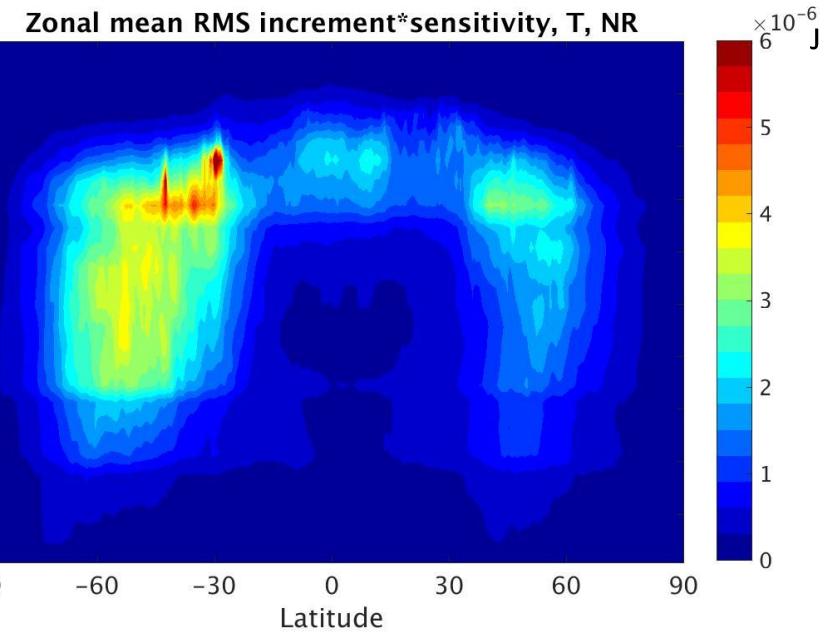
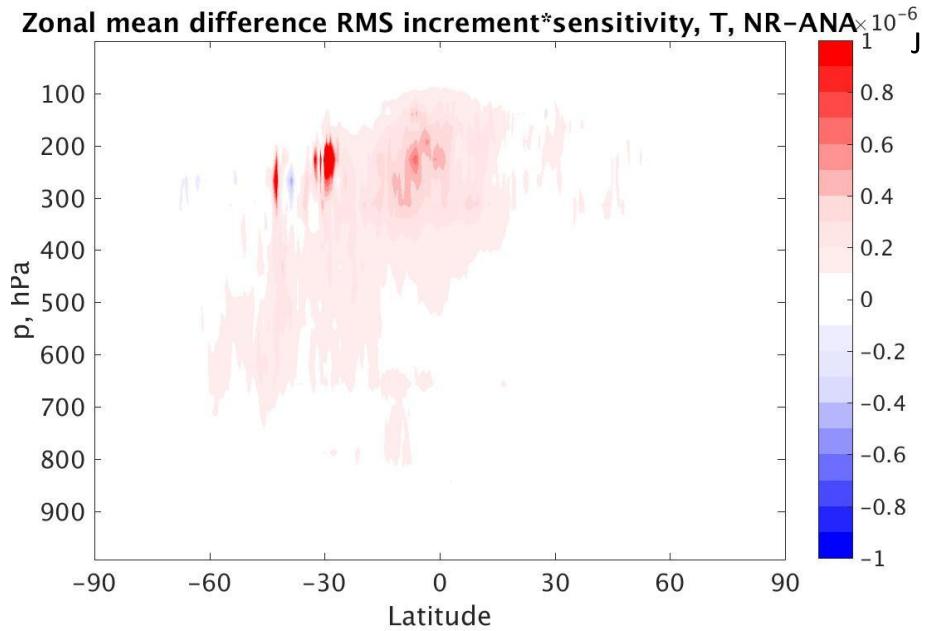
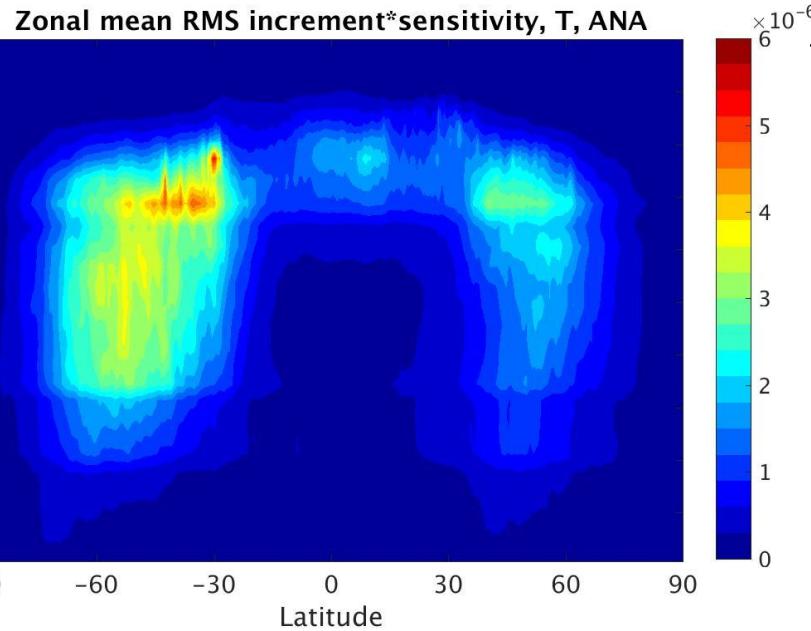
Analysis Increment * Sensitivity



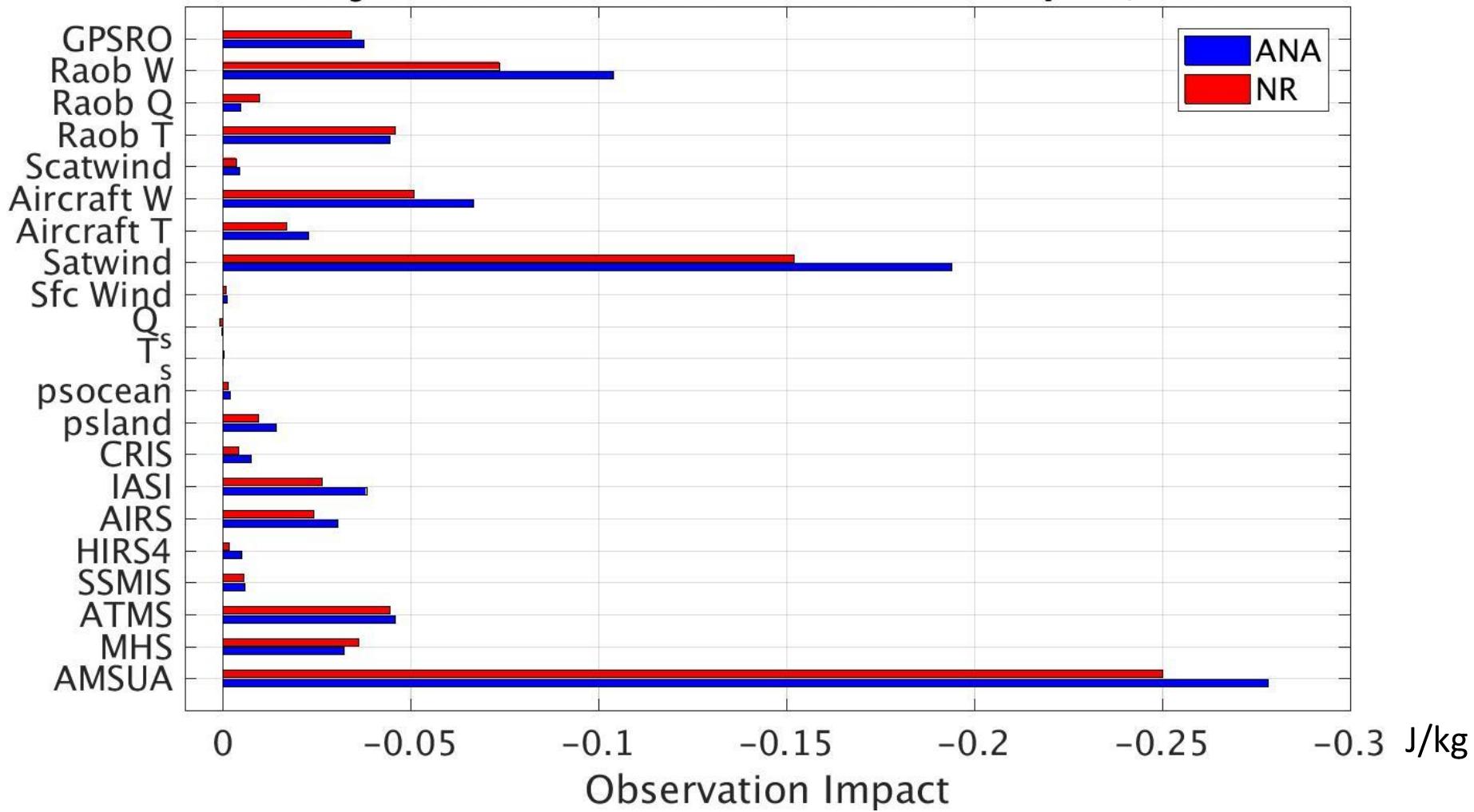
Sensitivity: Analysis vs NR Verification



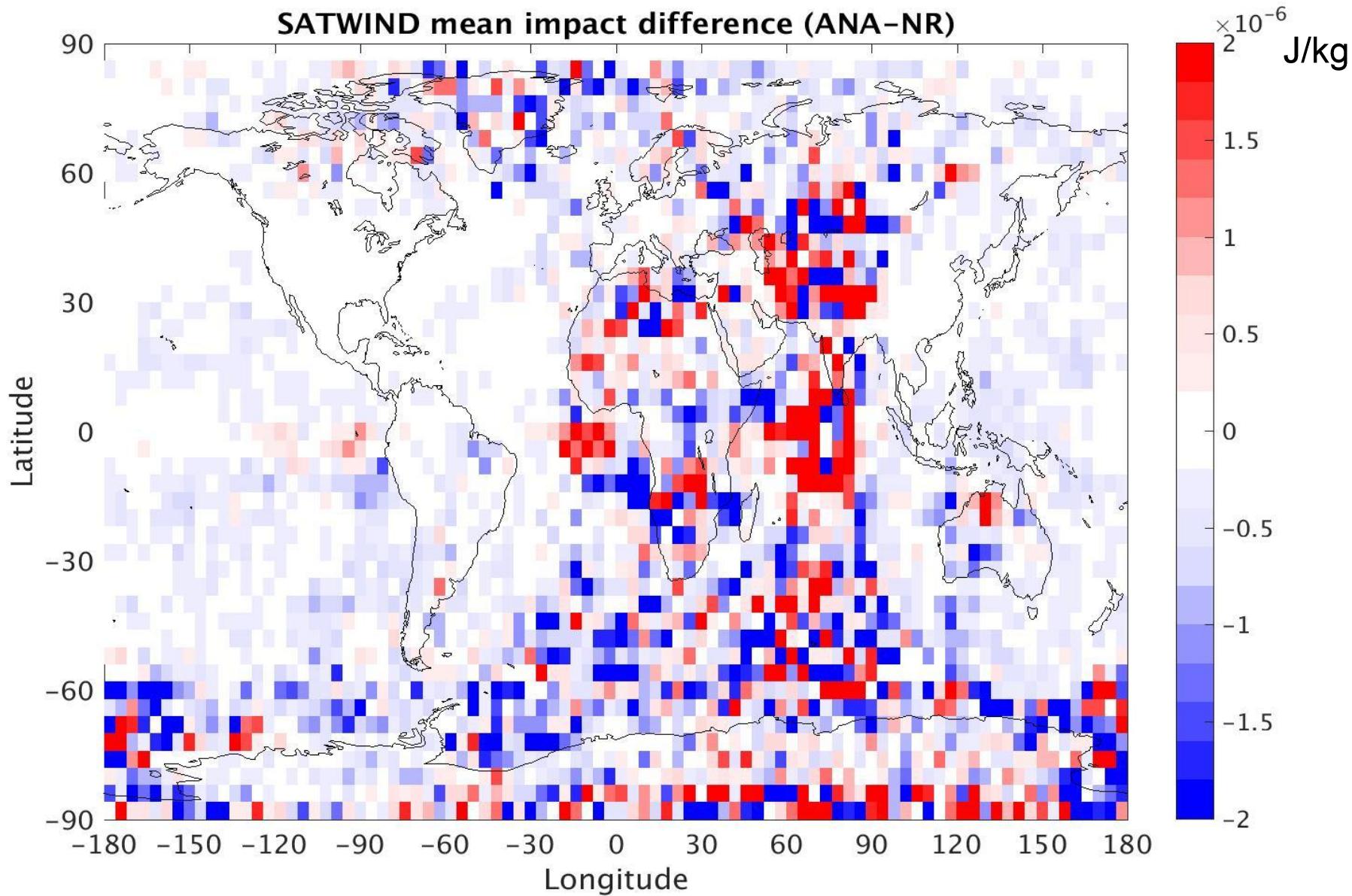
Increment *Sensitivity: Analysis vs NR Verification



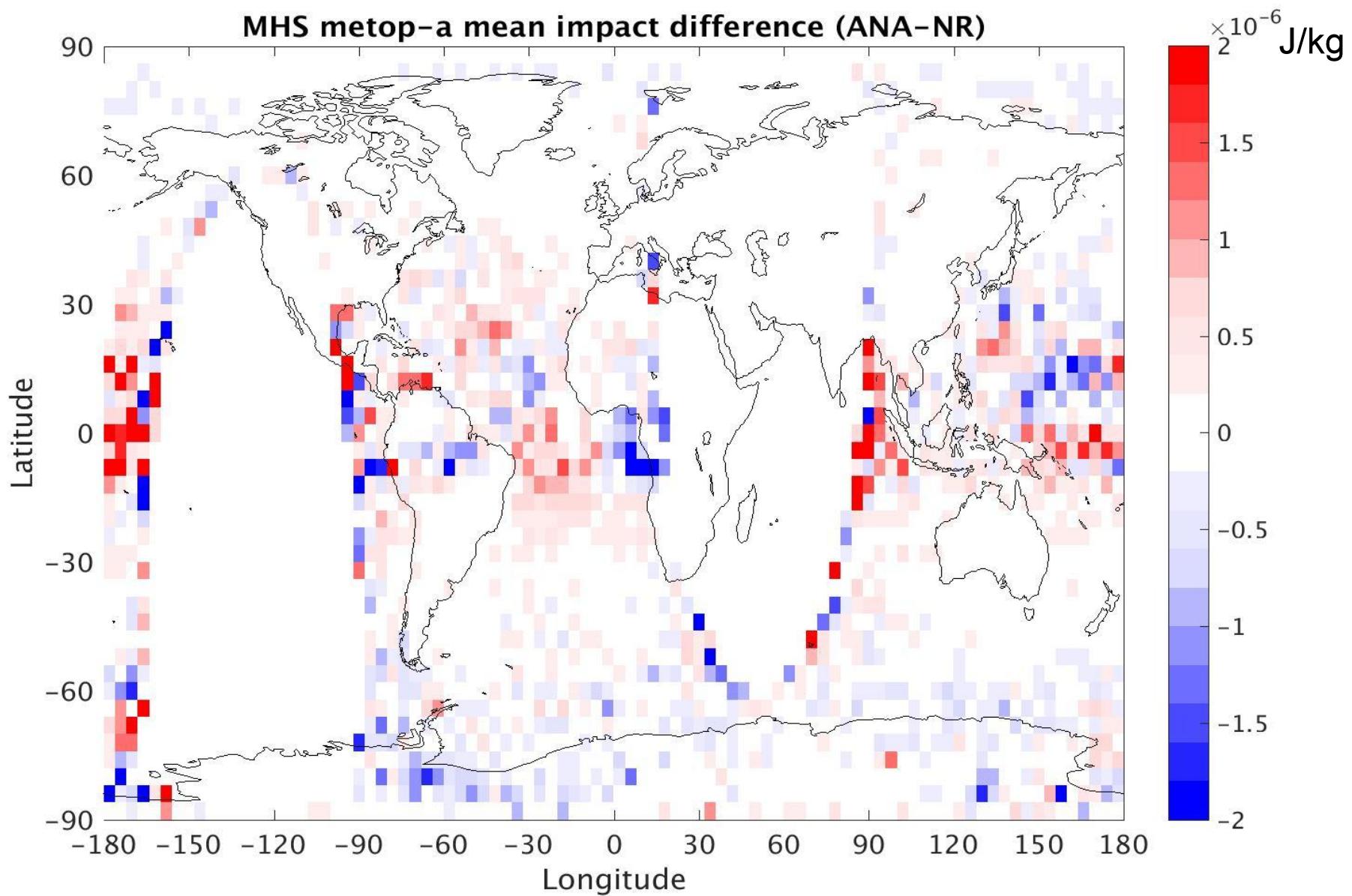
Adjoint Estimation of Observation Impact, TWE



NR Verification has smaller impact overall, especially winds (AMVs, Raob, Aircraft).
Humidity obs have higher impact exception (MHS, Q)



Blue = weaker impact with NR verification





Inconclusive Ideas

- Greater sensitivity with Truth verification
 - Projection onto norm
- Weaker impact with Truth verification
 - But not a huge difference, fidelity of rank largely maintained
 - Validity of using analysis verification supported overall
 - Incestuousness of analysis verification inflates impact even though sensitivity is less?
- What is different about wind vs humidity observations?
 - Humidity observations have equal or greater impact with Truth verification, while wind observation have less
 - Q field more incestuous than wind at synoptic scales in previous OSSE