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Status

Hopefully data has been delivered to NCAR this week

- QC'd brightness temperature at 4.0, 5.0, 6.0, 6.6 GHz
- Retrieved Wind Speed and Rain Rate
- Geolocation
- 321 pixels per scan, but ~50 pixels at each edge of scan (> ~50° incidence angle) are especially questionable
- Retrievals are valid for winds ~15 m s⁻¹ and up
- Data is heavily oversampled
- Measurement footprint size ~1 km²

Marty 27-28 September 2015 Joaquin 02-05 October 2015 Patricia 21-23 October 2015

Right:

Hurricane Patricia 22 October Brightness Temperatures at 4.0, 5.0, 6.0, 6.6 GHz



This presentation has retrievals for one leg per flight; others being processed.



Retrievals

Not necessarily the final version

- Lots of retrieval approaches available
- Chose approaches suitable for HIRAD's data characteristics
- All 4 channels are sensitive to wind and rain, but higher frequencies are much more sensitive to rain
- Lower frequencies depict wind more clearly (less rain contamination)
- Higher frequencies have better spatial resolution, less noise/smoothing
- Performed Single-channel retrievals (Constrained Maximum Likelihood Estimate – CMLE) from 4.0 and 5.0 GHz separately
- Used Wind Speed from 4.0 and 5.0 GHz retrievals to constrain possible MLE solutions from 6.0 and 6.6 GHz
- Relies on low frequencies for first-guess wind field, then allows high frequencies to account for rain and improve spatial structure





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Joaquin 02 Oct

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Excess Brightness Temperature

(excess relative to a calm, rain-free background)

110 kt NHC Best Track

(As seen in this example, islands were not screened out before running retrievals, but they should be disregarded)











Joaquin 05 Oct





retrieval images unavailable (still being processed while presentation prepared)





Summary

- HIRAD wind speed retrievals (and TB, rain rate) should be delivered to TCI data archive at NCAR this week
- Retrievals are valid for winds ~15 m s⁻¹ and up
- Retrievals may be improved in a subsequent release (we're working on it)
- Sometimes spatial patterns appear more coherent in excess brightness temperature imagery than in retrievals – there may be ways to improve the spatial patterns of the retrievals based on this
- Quantitative comparison with validation data remains to be done