WFO MKX 2011 Summer and Fall Weather Local Area Testbed

Training for forecasters is available at http://cimss.ssec.wisc.edu/goes_r/proving-ground/SPC/SPC.html

We are asking forecasters to provide a free-form assessment of the supplied products in a blog format, similar to the NOAA HWT. The blog is http://goesrhwt.blogspot.com and each post should have the "CIMSS-MKX" label.

In formulating the post, the CIMSS guide should direct the evaluation based on the following questions:

ABI Cloud Mask

How can this information assist the NWS in its cloud cover analysis and forecasting responsibilities?

Describe the additional information the ABI cloud mask (ACM) product will provide forecasters as compared to simple observation of the available GOES imagery.

Convective Initiation

1) Estimate how many of the CTC/CI hits you assessed turned into legitimate convection (choose one):
 a) almost none   b) about ¼   c) about ½   d) about ¾   e) almost all

2) Regarding CTC fields, does the magnitude of the cooling rate seem to relate to eventual storm intensity (choose one):
 a) Yes, the larger the cooling rate (more negative), the more intense the storms appeared on radar at later times, compared to developing storms with smaller cooling rates.
 b) No, there did not appear to be such a relationship
 c) There was not enough storms today to comment on such a relationship
 d) We did not assess the CTC fields enough to make a comment on such a relationship

Fog Probabilities

Describe the additional information the fog probability product will provide forecasters as compared to simple observation of the available GOES imagery.

GEOCAT Cloud Type

Describe the additional information the cloud type product will provide forecasters as compared to simple observation of the available GOES imagery.

Nearcasting

Describe how the nearcasting and derived stability parameters added value to your analysis and forecast of convective development in the 0-9 hour period.

Simulated ABI Imagery

What, if any, additional information or insight is provided by any individual, or any combination of, the three available water vapor bands, beyond that otherwise available from moisture fields from "standard" sources (numerical model analyses and forecasts)? In other words, if standard sources of moisture fields do not provide all that a forecaster needed for a given situation (being either wrong or just lacking in detail), is there any additional information/insight garnered from the three water vapor bands? (ABI simulated imagery or actual current GOES Sounder imagery)

What do the remaining longwave infrared bands tell you about lower tropospheric water vapor?

Last revision: June 13, 2011