



WRFDA 2011 Overview

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WRFDA - the Weather Research and Forecasting (WRF) Data Assimilation system is a component of the WRF modeling system developed at the National Center for Atmospheric Research. WRFDA is an advanced data assimilation system, contained with the WRF software that provides state-of-art 3D/4D variational (3D/4D-Var) and hybrid variational/ensemble techniques (Barker et al. 2004; Huang et al. 2009a; Wang et al. 2008). WRFDA is used in both applied and research settings. It is used as the analysis component of several international operational data assimilation systems. It is also used by those centers, as well as by university and research institutions, for data assimilation research. WRFDA is a community data assimilation asset that is maintained and supported by NCAR. Since 2009, NCAR maintains and develops the WRFDA website where one can browse, or download WRFDA documentation, tutorials, test data, participate in user forums, and obtain the latest code. See <http://www.mmm.ucar.edu/wrf/users/wrfda>

In this presentation, I will give a brief description of the WRFDA 2011 status with emphases on the new development in the new background error formulation and its applications in tropical areas.