



Contribution ID: 70

Type: **Oral presentation**

Convective scale data assimilation and the use of radar observations

Tuesday, October 6, 2020 2:45 PM (20 minutes)

There is an ever-increasing demand for high-resolution weather prediction, which in the UK has an emphasis on improved forecasts/nowcasts of the types of convective storms that, in recent years, have led to serious flooding. In this talk, we will present some of the latest contributions made by the Met Office Reading group to the field of convective data assimilation and the use of radar observations to improve precipitation forecasts. This will include a comparison between a 4DVar hourly cycling NWP and the Met-Office operational nowcasting system, a pragmatic approach to account for Doppler radial wind correlated observation error and results from a new scheme for the direct assimilation of radar reflectivity observations.

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Session Classification: Numerical Weather Prediction (NWP)