

Below, reviewers' comments are shown in black, and our responses are provided in blue.

Reviewer #2: This is a nice short paper summarizing the results from evaluating the assimilation of the ROMEX GNSS-RO observations in the NAVGEM system. The authors conducted two sets of OSEs covering the ROMEX period from September to November 2022. The first set evaluated the impact of the increased number of RO observations, while the second examined the influence of different refractivity coefficients and the bending angle bias correction. The results showed an overall positive impact from the ROMEX data, and a bias in the innovations was further investigated through additional experiments.

Thank you for your positive and encouraging feedback. We appreciate your summary of our work and are glad that the objectives and key findings of our study were clear. Your comments are greatly appreciated.

The manuscript is clear and easy to follow. I only have a few minor suggestions.

1. Please revise Eq. (1) to make it clearer and more consistent with Fig. 1. From Fig. 1, it appears that the bending angle bias correction decreases with height, from 2% near the surface to 0.2% at 10 km impact height, so the current expression in Eq. (1) is somewhat confusing. From 18 km to 23 km, the correction appears to decrease linearly from 0.2% to -0.01%, and from 23 km to 40 km it further decreases from -0.01% to -0.08%, please revise Eq. (1) for a better description. What is particularly confusing is that Eq. (1) indicates a fixed increase of 0.1% at 40 km and above, but this feature is not apparent in Fig. 1.

Eq. (1) is now revised as suggested.

2. In the left panel of Fig. 1, the small inset plot in the upper right seems unnecessary since the zoomed-in view is already shown in the right panel. Also, to make Fig. 1 less confusing, it may be better to plot the bias correction starting from the surface rather than from 2 km height.

We thank the reviewer for this suggestion. The inset plot in the left panel has been removed, as the enlarged view is already provided in the right panel. The bias correction profile is now plotted starting from the surface.

3. In Table 1, please add the average number of profiles assimilated for each experiment.

Added.

4. For the FSOI analysis, could you provide more details about the 24-h forecast metric? For example, what variables and vertical levels are included, and how is the forecast error evaluated.

Additional explanation on FSOI is added in the revision.

5. Why does Spire-07 have the largest total FSOI? Is it because it contains more observations than the other Spire groups, or because the data quality is better? Also, why does Spire-05 have a much larger per-observation FSOI than the other Spire groups and other satellites, except for COSMIC-2?

Spire-07 group has the largest total FSOI because it contains more observations than the other Spire groups.

Thanks for pointing out that Spire-05 (receiver range 103–117) exhibits a noticeably higher per-observation FSOI compared to other Spire groups and most other satellite systems (except COSMIC-2). While the zonal mean (Fig. S1) and standard deviation (Fig. S2) of normalized innovations for Spire-05 are qualitatively similar to those of other Spire groups, the zonal distribution for Spire-05 (Fig. S3) shows some differences, including greater coverage over the Southern Hemisphere, as well as in lower latitudes. Additionally, the global mean of normalized innovations for Spire-05 in the lower troposphere (impact height 2–18 km, Fig. S4–S5) is slightly higher than for other Spire groups, combined with the FSOI error norm having larger values in the lower latitudes. We believe these larger innovations and 24-hour and 30-hour error norms for Spire-05 contribute to its higher per-observation FSOI. We have added these discussions to the revision.

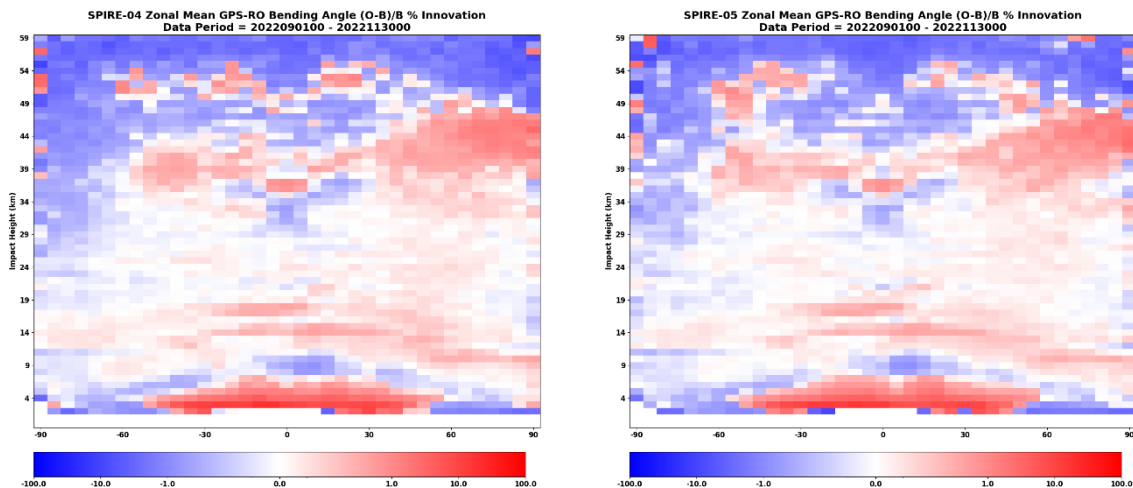


Fig. S1: Zonal mean of normalized innovations for (left) SPIRE-04 and (right) SPIRE-05 from September to November, 2022.

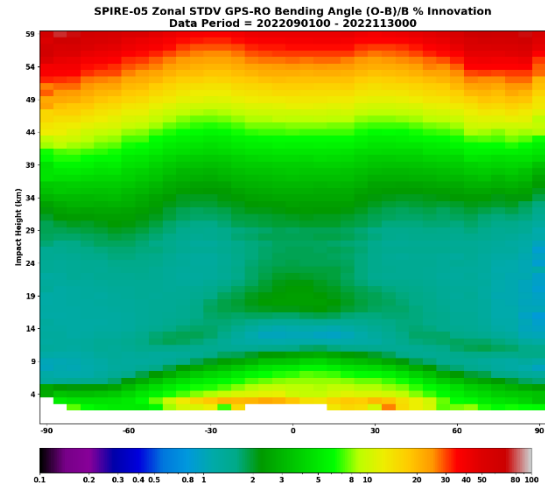
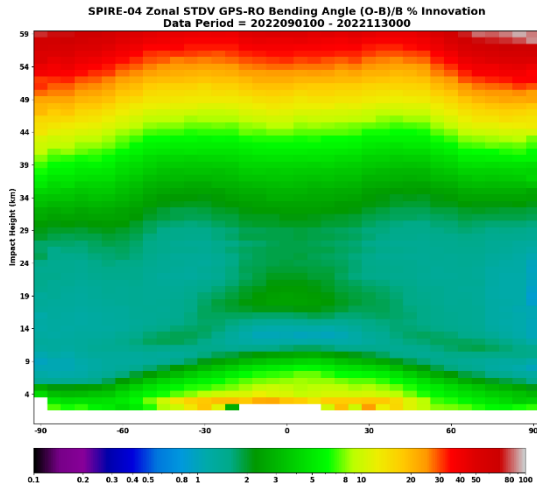


Fig. S2: Same as Fig. S1 except for zonal standard deviation of normalized innovations.

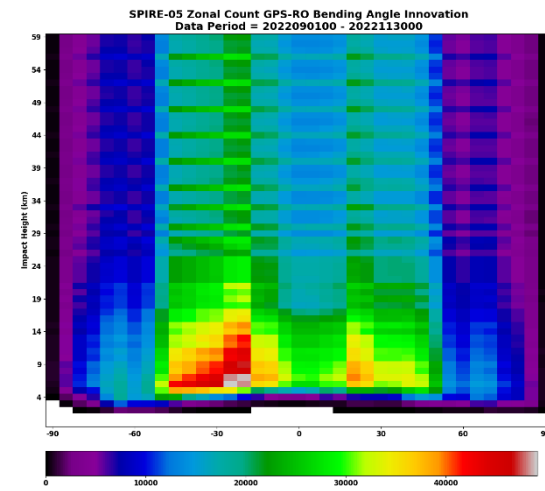
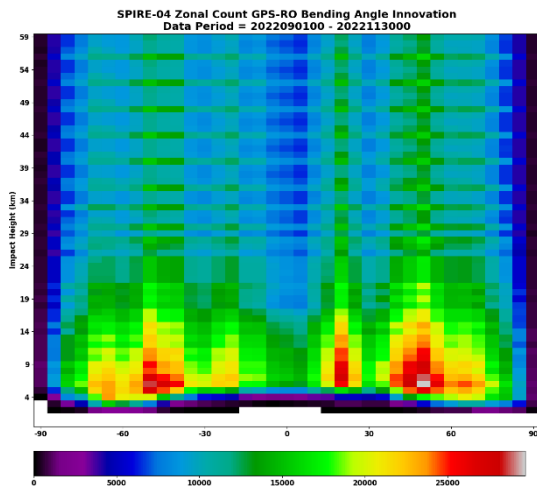


Fig. S3: Same as Fig. S1 except for zonal mean of data counts.

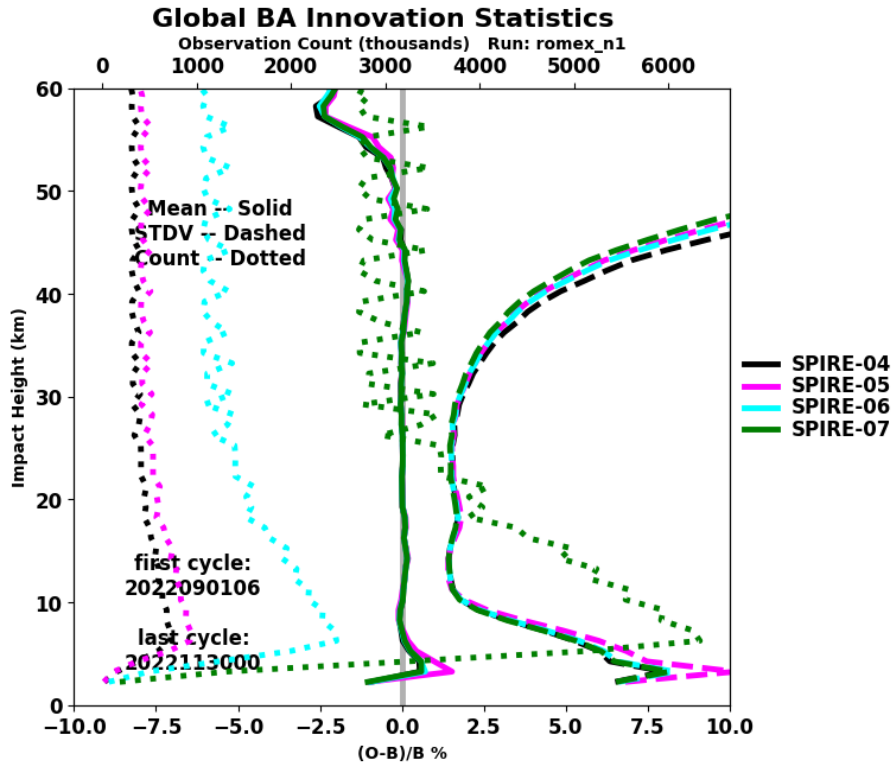


Fig. S4: Global mean, standard deviation, and observation count for the normalized innovations for SPIRE-04, -05, -06, and -07 from September to November, 2022.

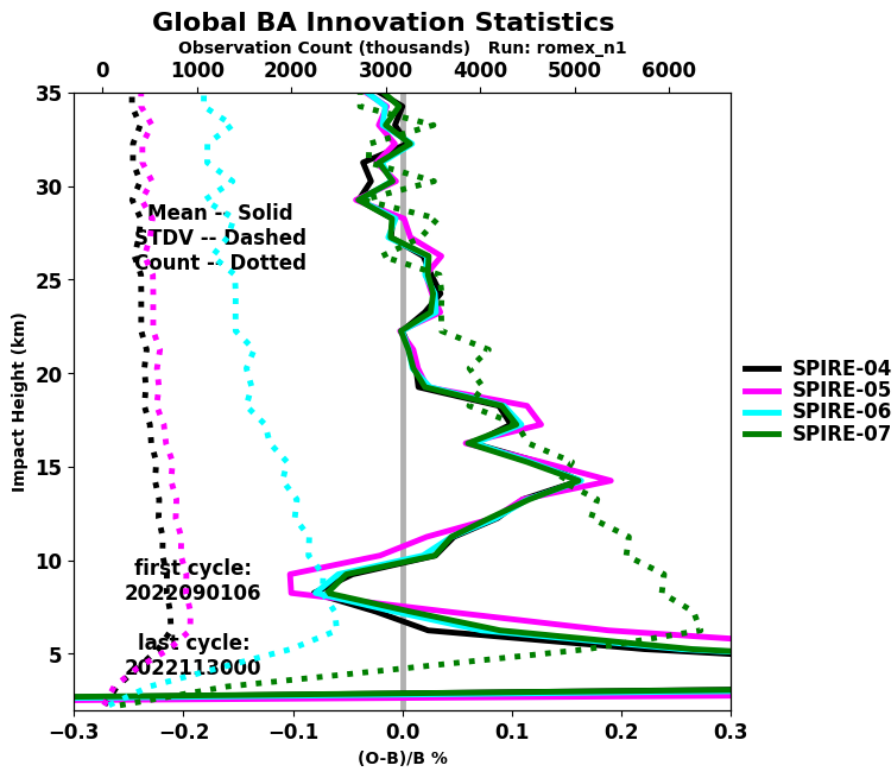


Fig. S5: A zoom-in plot for Fig. S4.

Line 73: missing a period at the end of the sentence.

Thanks for catching this.

Reviewer #3: This manuscript “ Impact of high-volume GNSS Radio Occultation data on improving the accuracy of Navy's global weather prediction models.” by Christophersen, Ruston and Tyndall assesses the impact of high-volume GNSS Radio Occultation data during ROMEX on improving the accuracy of Navy's global weather prediction models. I recommend to publish this work with some minor revisions, see listed below.

In general, it would be good to see that not only RMSE is used to assess forecast scores but also statistical measures as well, as e.g. std deviation or anomaly correlation.

We appreciate the reviewer’s thoughtful comments and suggestions. We agree that it is generally beneficial to consider additional metrics beyond RMSE, such as standard deviation or anomaly correlation, when evaluating forecast performance. In our routine analyses, we do generate these supplementary performance metrics. However, for the purposes of this manuscript, we chose to focus on RMSE statistics, as we believe they effectively convey the key findings regarding forecast accuracy. Thank you again for your valuable feedback.

P3, eq (1); for h lower equals 10km which correction is used at 0km? Does it start with 2% and the linearly decreasing to 0.2% at 10km?

Yes, the threshold value at 0km is 2%, and at 10km is 0.2%, with a linear interpolation for 0-10km.

We added the starting value for $h \leq 10 \text{ km}$ range.

linearly ramped from 0.2% to 2%, $h \leq 10 \text{ km}$

P4, l.110/111: Be clearer what you mean with “normalized by error”, as you normalise background in Fig. 2a and by obs error in Fig. 2b.

We revised the sentence to differentiate the two normalizations for Fig. 2.

P5, Fig.2: Why didn’t you plot romex_cntl? It would have been interesting to see how it looks for this experiment. Also colour choice is not colourblind friendly (also applies to Fig.3).

Thanks for the suggestion. We added the control experiment in Fig. 2 and updated all the colors in Fig. 2, Fig. 3, Fig. 6, Fig. 8, and Fig. 10 to be colorblind friendly.

P8, Fig 4. COSMIC-2 satellites naming by E1 to E6 needs to be clearer for the reader. Maybe COSMIC-2 E1....

Added.

P 9, l.212 Could you mention the magnitude of this bias for GP?

The bias for geopotential is about 5 meters. Added in the revision.

P 15, chapter 4. Please mention that also other studies using a more advanced forward operator - e.g. 2D ROPP version – could also be tested if this helps to improve forecast scores, especially in the troposphere.

Added.