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## Progress in the assimilation of AIRS observations

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The Atmospheric Infrared Sounder, AIRS, is a high spectral resolution infrared sounder mounted on the Aqua satellite. Observations of cloud-free fields of view over sea have been operationally assimilated at the Met Office since 26 May 2004. High peaking channels over land have been used since the 6 March 2007. A system has been developed to assimilate information from cloud affected radiances through the use of a single level grey cloud model. Channels where 90% or more of the weighting function lies above the retrieved cloud top are selected for assimilation. The system has performed well in pre-operational performance trials.