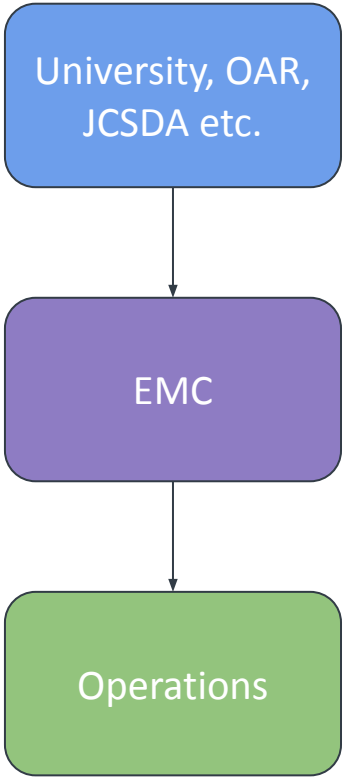
Panelist: Dan Holdaway

- Acting Branch Chief for Data Assimilation and Quality Control @ NOAA-EMC (EMC → MDC).
- NOAA for ~1.5 years.
- Previously NASA GMAO and JCSDA.
- JEDI development, coupled DA, adjoint development, observation impacts, sensitivity, infrastructure.

Main Priorities at EMC

- Development and maintenance of observation processing and assimilation for GFS, RRFS, HAFS.
- JEDI Transition
- Incorporating new observation types including commercial.
- Development of traditional and non-traditional AI methods.



Question 1

What do you think data assimilation should/will look like 5 years from now?

Question 2

Thanks to the wide adoption of JEDI, data assimilation appears to be the poster child of unifying innovations. Does a unified infrastructure like JEDI automatically ensure a smooth research-to-operations pathway?

Question 3

What else is needed to accelerate the transition of JEDI to operations?

Question 4

AI/ML may challenge our assumptions about the observing system we need. Could this change how we prioritize investments in observations? Follow on: should the community play an active role in these decisions?

Question 5

Many recent innovations have come out of the private sector and there is a move towards the use of commercial observations. How can the DA community engage more with the private sector?

Question 6

What skill set do you think data assimilation scientists will need in the future and how can the community help bring on the next generation?