

Royal Netherlands  
Meteorological Institute  
*Ministry of Infrastructure and the  
Environment*

# Wind Observations

[Ad.Stoffelen@knmi.nl](mailto:Ad.Stoffelen@knmi.nl)

EUMETSAT OSI SAF  
EUMETSAT NWP SAF  
EU CMEMS OSI TAC  
EU MyWave  
EU NORSEWInD  
ESA eSurge  
ESA GlobCurrent  
ESA Aeolus





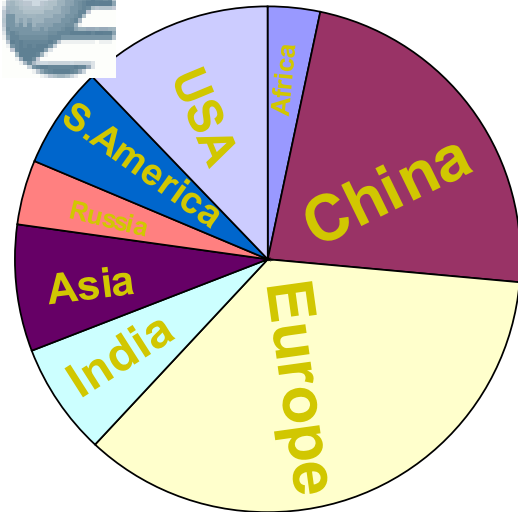
# Overview

- Spatially consistent observed winds are available
  - How do they compare with NWP model winds?
1. Scatterometer ocean vector winds
  2. High-resolution radiosonde profiles
  3. Aircraft flight level

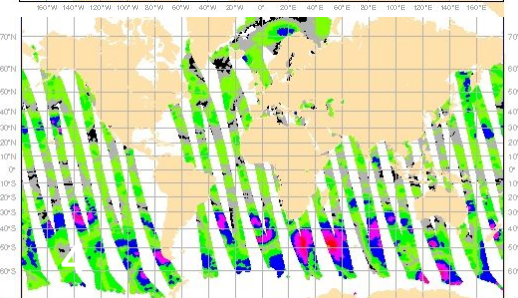
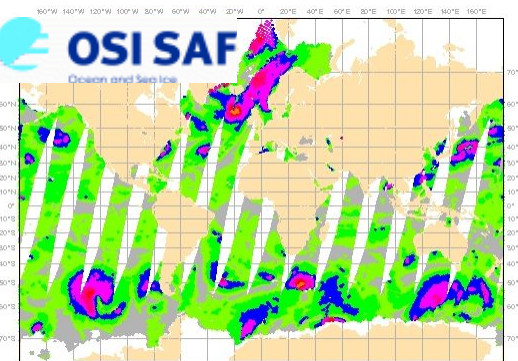
# References

- W. Lin et al., 2015, ASCAT wind quality under high subcell wind variability conditions, JGR Oceans, DOI: 10.1002/2015JC010861, <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/2015JC010861/full>
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- Vogelzang, Jur, Gregory P. King, Ad Stoffelen, Spatial variances of wind fields and their relation to second-order structure functions and spectra, Journal of Geophysical Research: Oceans 01/2015
- King, Gregory P., Jur Vogelzang, Ad Stoffelen, Upscale and downscale energy transfer over the tropical Pacific revealed by scatterometer winds, Journal of Geophysical Research: Oceans 12/2014
- King, Gregory P., Jur Vogelzang, Ad Stoffelen, Second-order structure function analysis of scatterometer winds over the Tropical Pacific: Part 1. Spectra and Structure Functions, Journal of Geophysical Research: Oceans 12/2014,
- Mccoll, Kaighin A., Jur Vogelzang, Alexandra G Konings, Dara Entekhabi, María Piles, Ad Stoffelen, Extended Triple Collocation: estimating errors and correlation coefficients with respect to an unknown target, Geophysical Research Letters 10/2014,
- Wijnant, I.L., G.J. Marseille, A. Stoffelen, H.W. van den Brink and A. Stepek, Validation of KNMI Wind atlas with scatterometer winds (Phase of KNW project), KNMI Technical Report TR353, DOI: 10.13140/RG.2.1.2707.8562
- J. Edson et al., COARE3.5 and wave boundary layer
- International Ocean Vector Winds Science Team meetings (IOVWST)
- Houchi et al. (papers and thesis)

# EO Wind Services at KNMI



- 24/7 Wind product services (OSI SAF)
  - Constellation of satellites
  - High quality winds, QC
  - Timeliness 30 min. – 2 hours
  - Service messages
  - QA, monitoring
- Software services (NWP SAF)
  - Portable Wind Processors
  - Weather model comparison
- CMEMS L3 EO wind production
- Organisations involved: KNMI, EUMETSAT, EU, ESA, NASA, NOAA, ISRO, SOA, WMO, CEOS, ..
- Users: NHC, JTWC, ECMWF, NOAA, NASA, NRL, BoM, UK MetO, M.France, DWD, CMA, JMA, CPTec, NCAR, NL, .

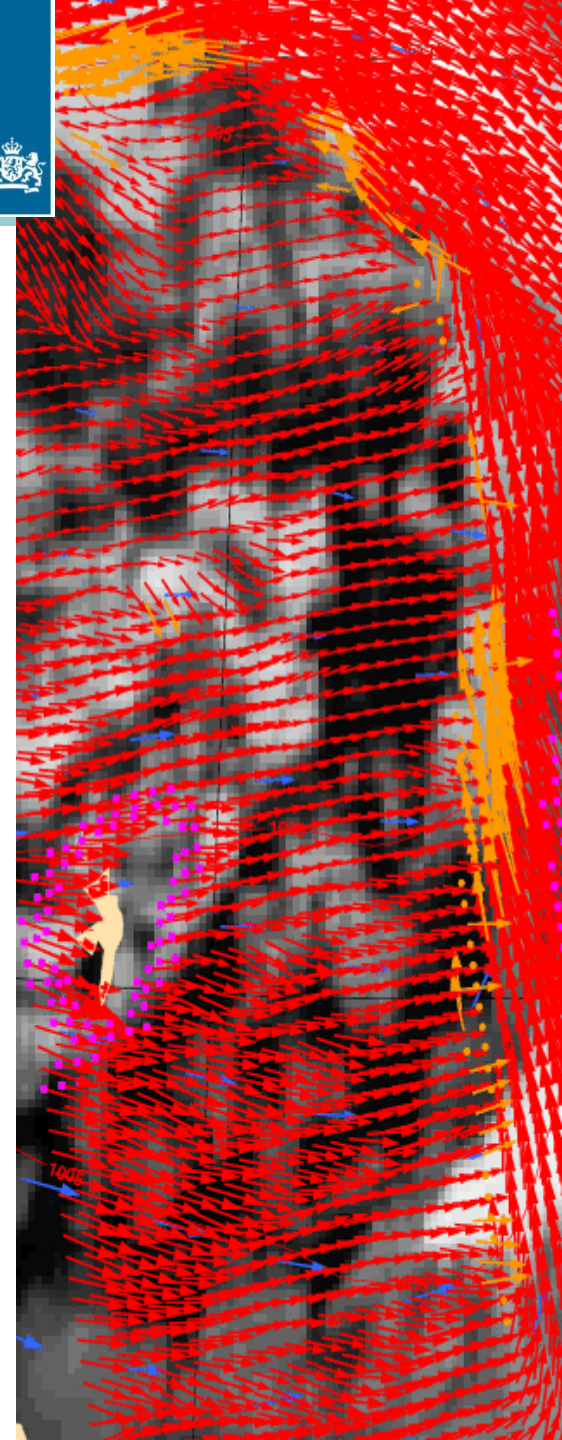


## More information:

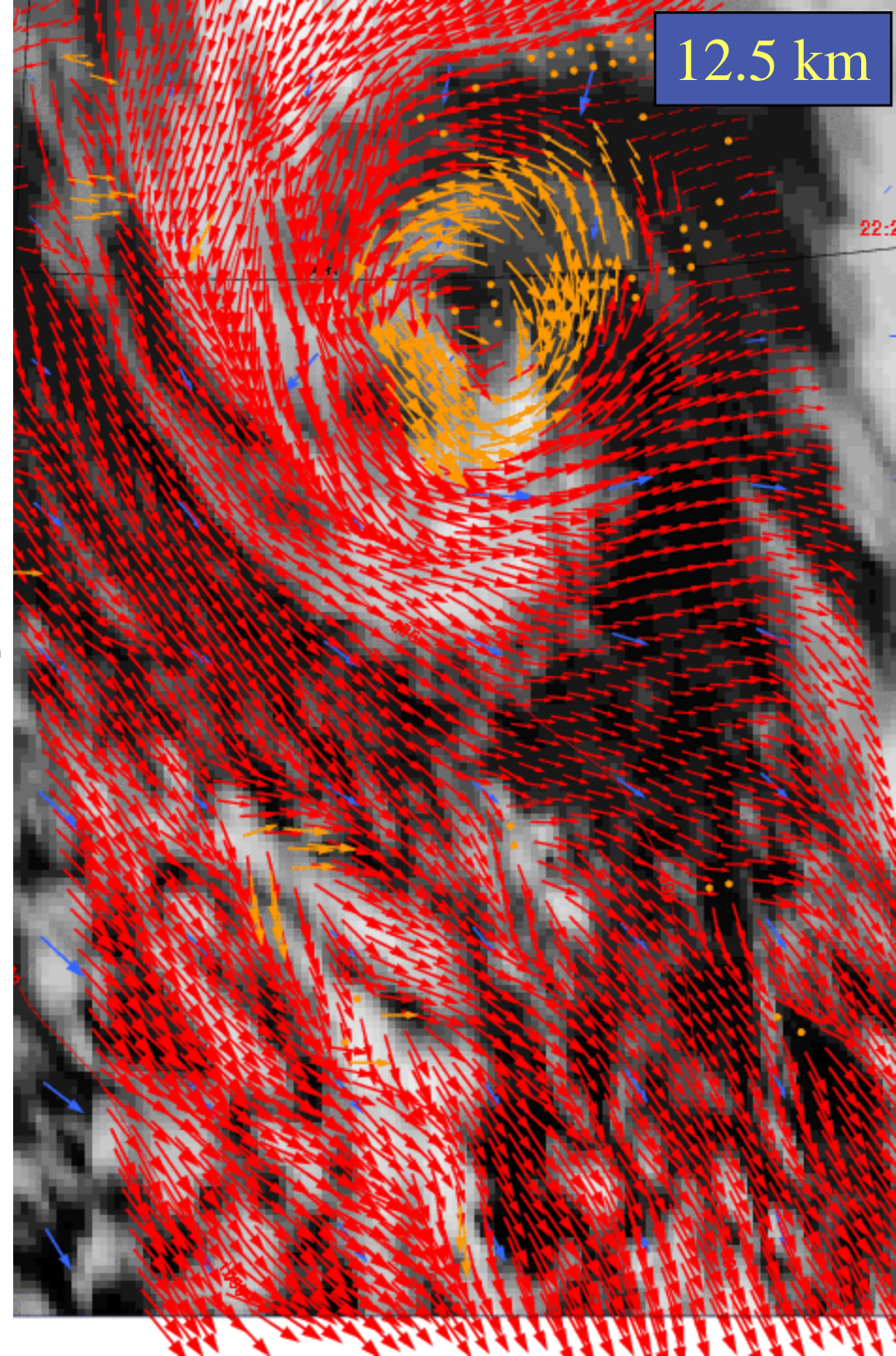
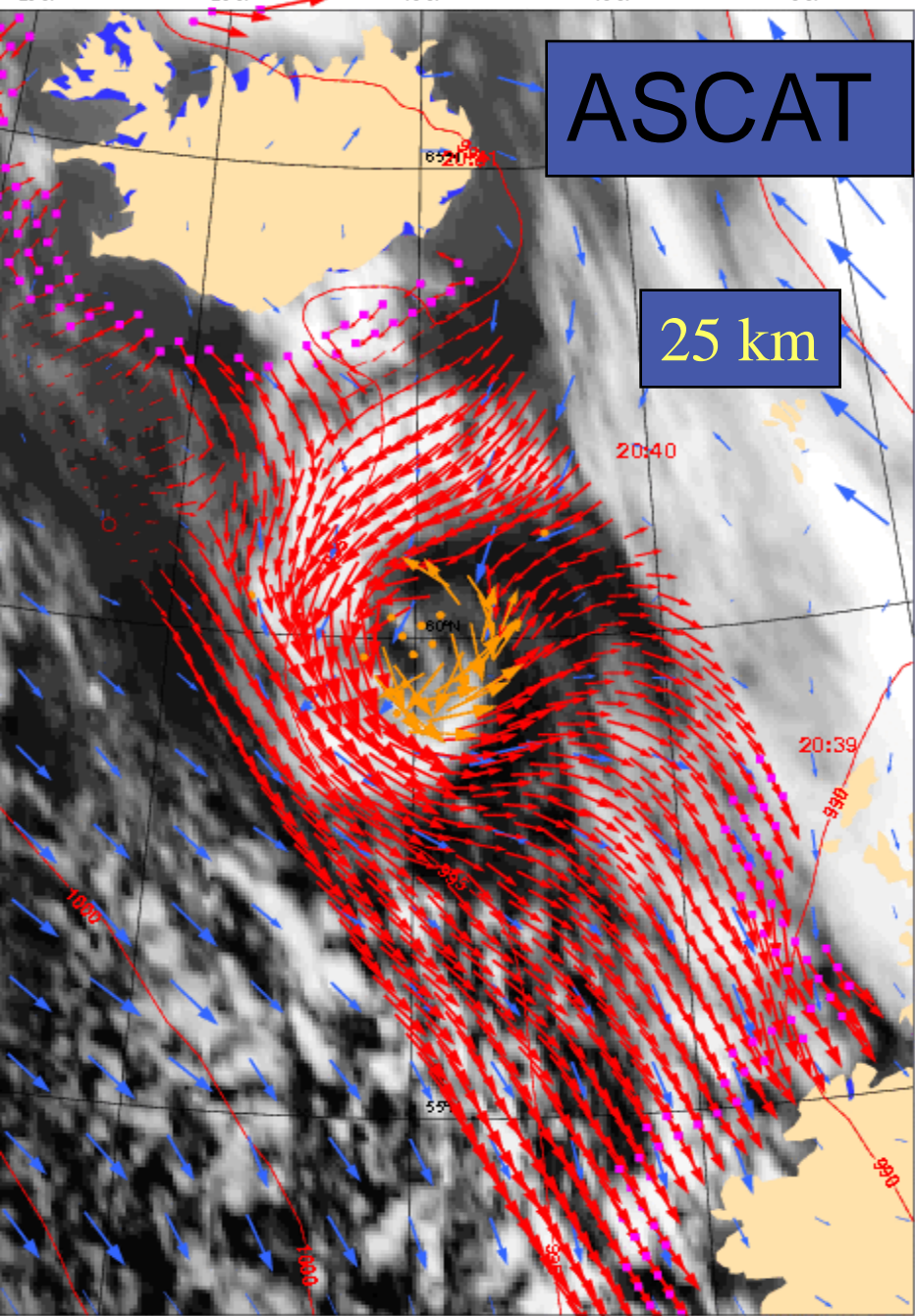
[www.knmi.nl/scatterometer](http://www.knmi.nl/scatterometer)

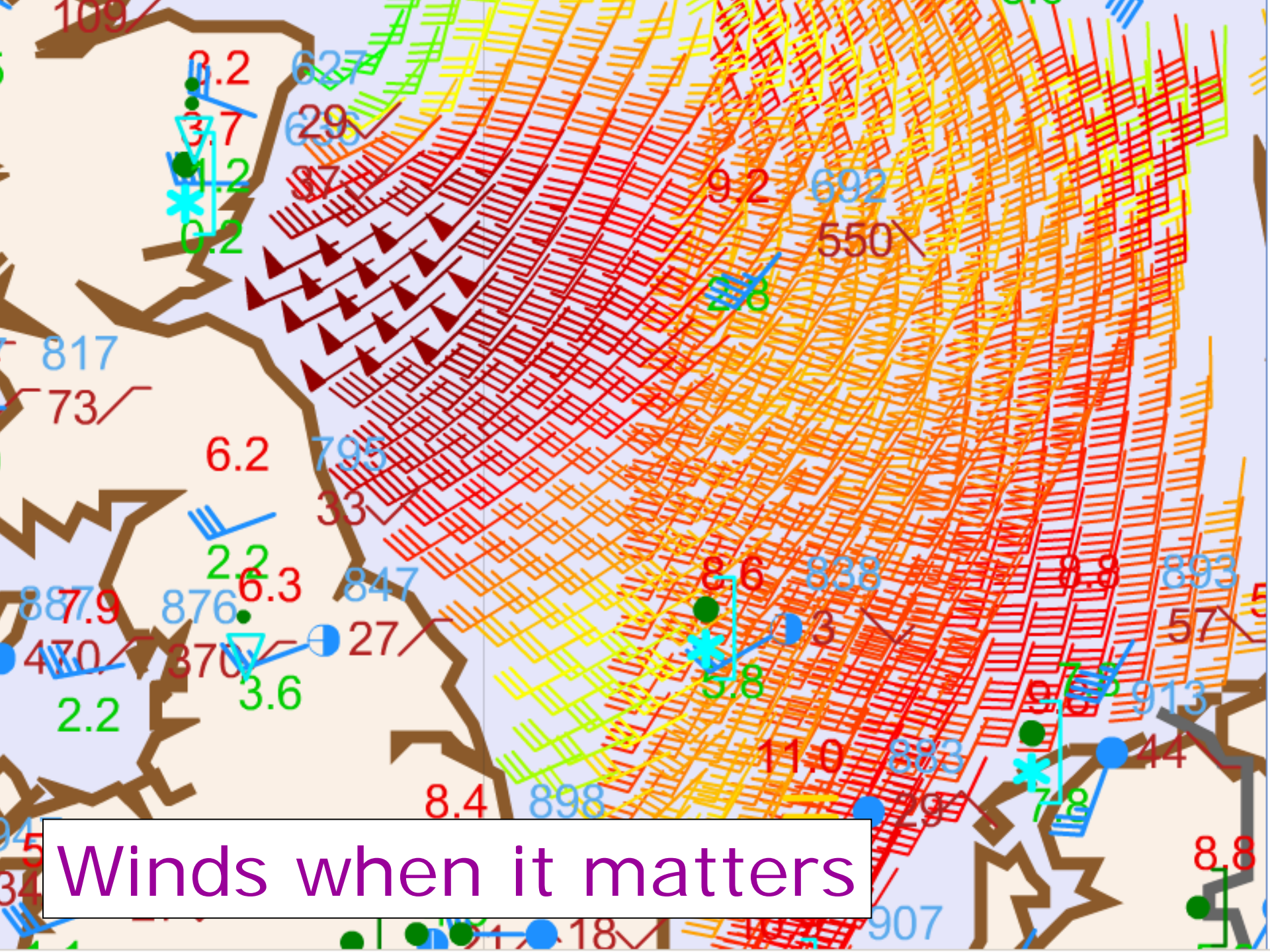
Wind Scatterometer Help Desk

Email: [scat@knmi.nl](mailto:scat@knmi.nl)



ASCAT: 20081213 20:30Z HIRLAM: 20081213 15+6 | lat lon: 59.75 -14.42 IR: 20:30





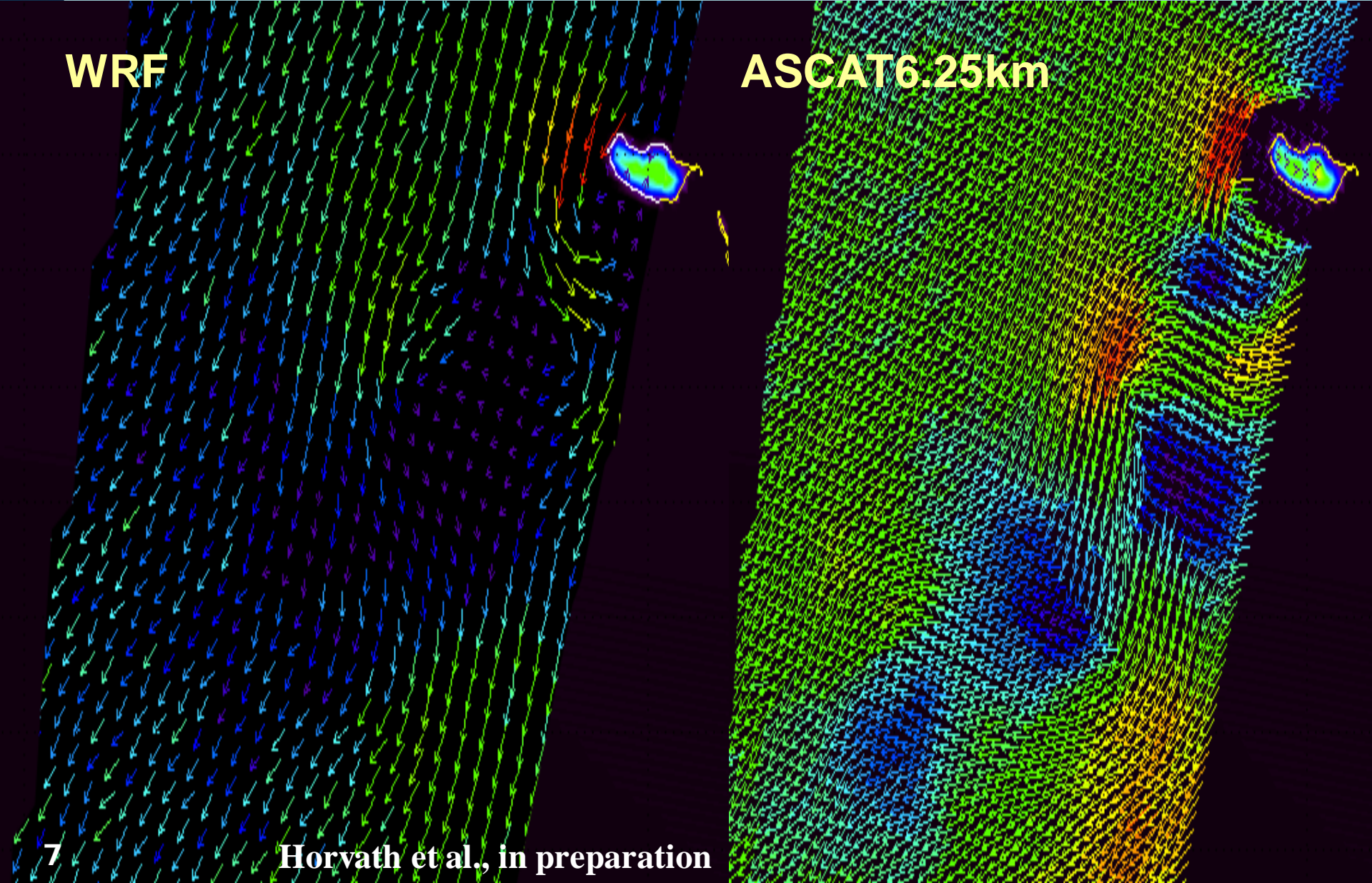
Winds when it matters

# Observations and Models



WRF

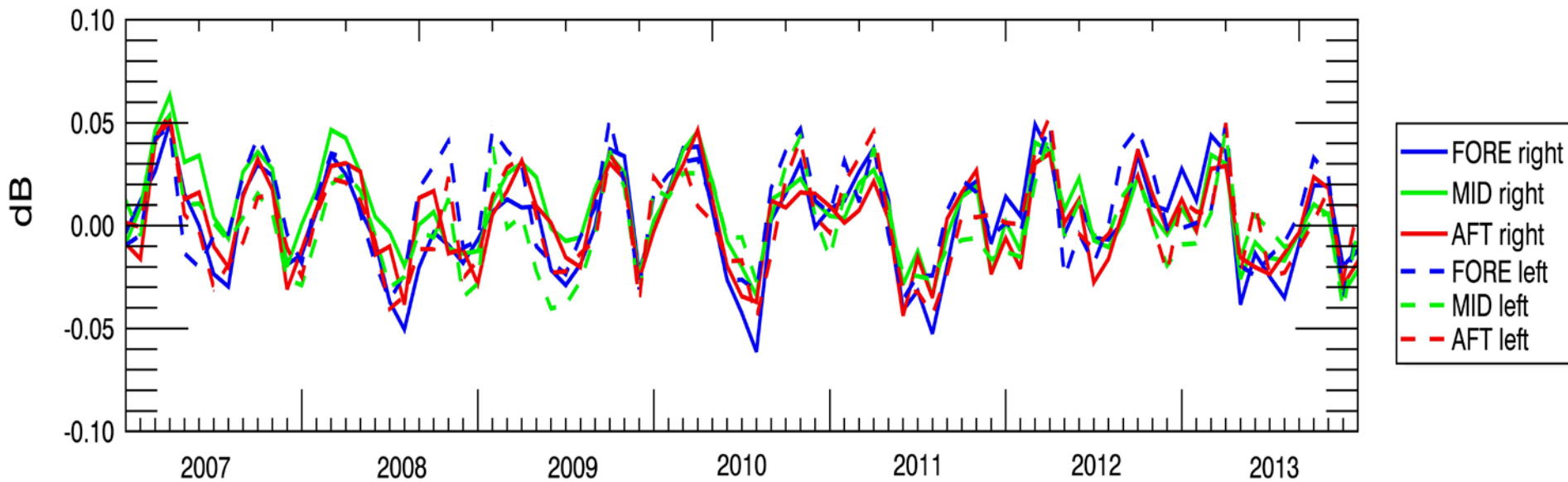
ASCAT6.25km



# Very Stable

- ASCAT-A beams stay within a few hundreds of a dB (m/s)
- Cone position variation due to seasonal wind variability

reprocessed ASCAT A beam offsets from CONE METRICS (relative to mean 2013)



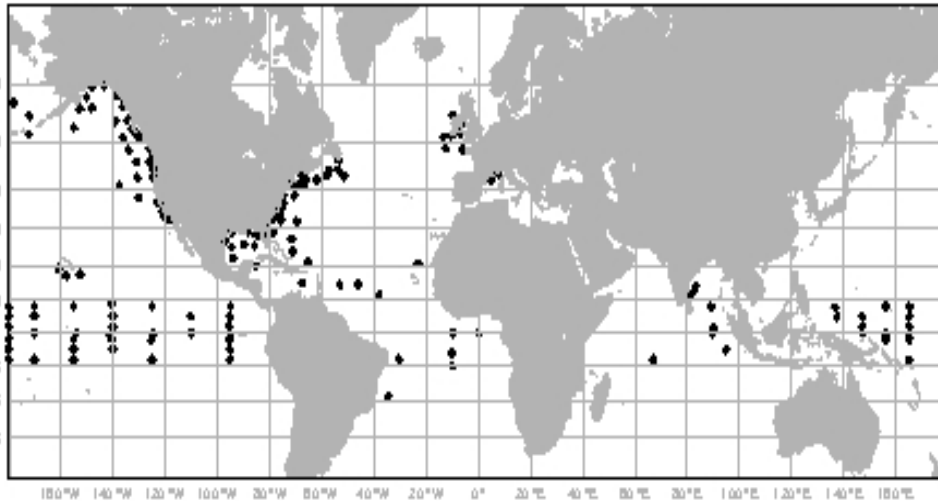




# Wind stress

- Radiometers/scatterometers measure ocean roughness
- Ocean roughness consists in small (cm) waves generated by air impact and subsequent wave breaking processes; depends on gravity, water mass density, surface tension  $\sigma$ , and e.m. sea properties (assumed constant)
- Air-sea momentum exchange is described by  $\tau = \rho_{air} u_* \mathbf{u}_*$ , the stress vector; depends on air mass density  $\rho_{air}$ , friction velocity vector  $\mathbf{u}_*$
- Surface layer winds (e.g.,  $\mathbf{u}_{10}$ ) depend on  $\mathbf{u}_*$ , atmospheric stability, surface roughness and the presence of ocean currents
- Equivalent neutral winds,  $\mathbf{u}_{10N}$ , depend only on  $\mathbf{u}_*$ , surface roughness and the presence of ocean currents and is currently used for backscatter geophysical model functions (GMFs)
- Stress-equivalent wind,  $\mathbf{u}_{10S} = \sqrt{\rho_{air}} \cdot \mathbf{u}_{10N} / \sqrt{\rho_0}$ , is suggested to be a better input for backscatter GMFs, since more closely related to  $\tau$

# How good are these winds?



## Triple collocation errors

ASCAT, buoy and ECMWF data from winter 2012/ 2013

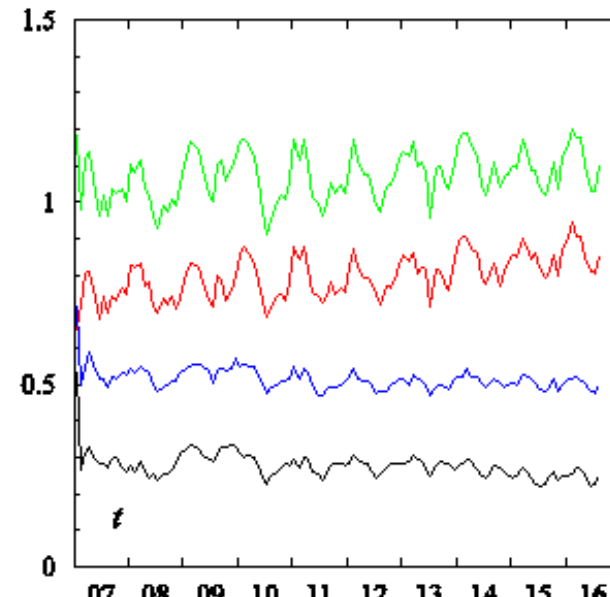
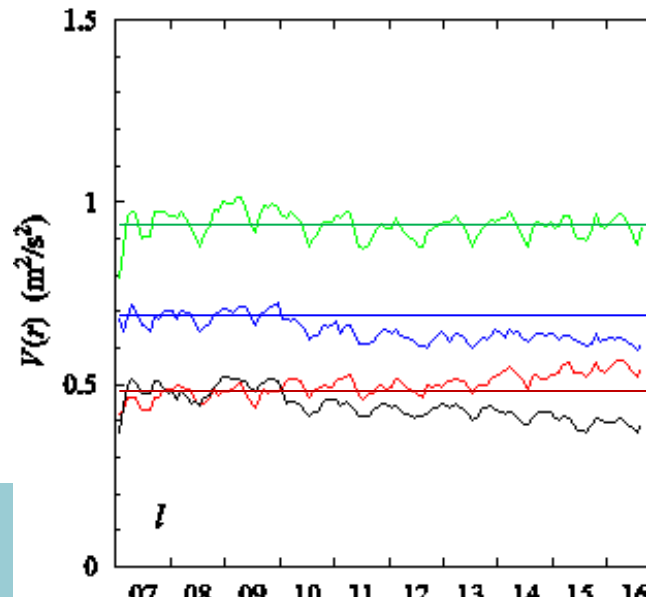
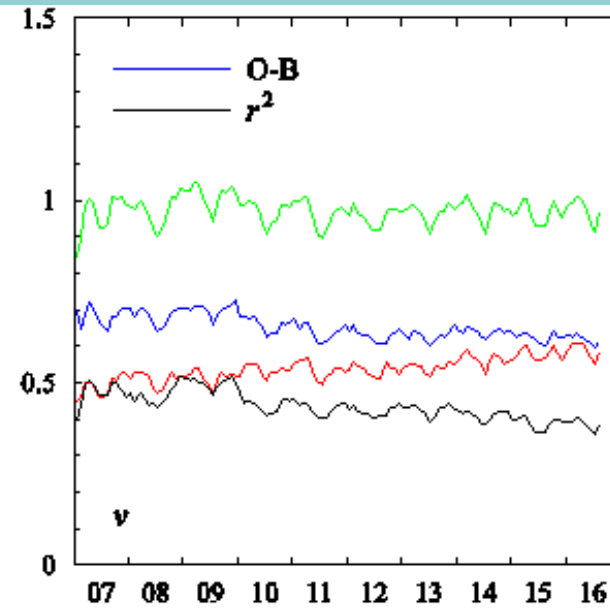
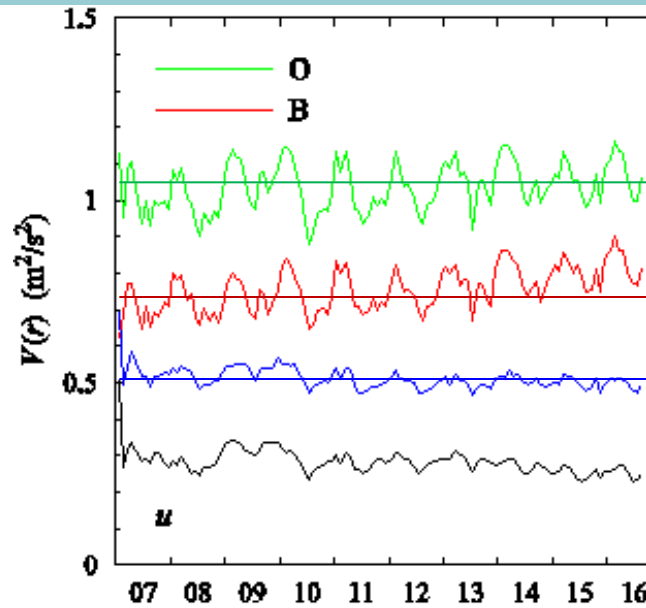
- Small scatterometer wind errors on scatterometer scale
- All scatterometers have very similar local quality
- Buoys measure local variability

	Scatterometer		Buoys		ECMWF	
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	m/s	$\sigma_u$	$\sigma_v$	$\sigma_u$	$\sigma_v$	$\sigma_u$	$\sigma_v$
ASCAT-A 25-km		0.63	0.71	1.21	1.35	1.39	1.44
ASCAT-B 25-km		0.63	0.66	1.26	1.39	1.38	1.42

# ECMWF OPS improves

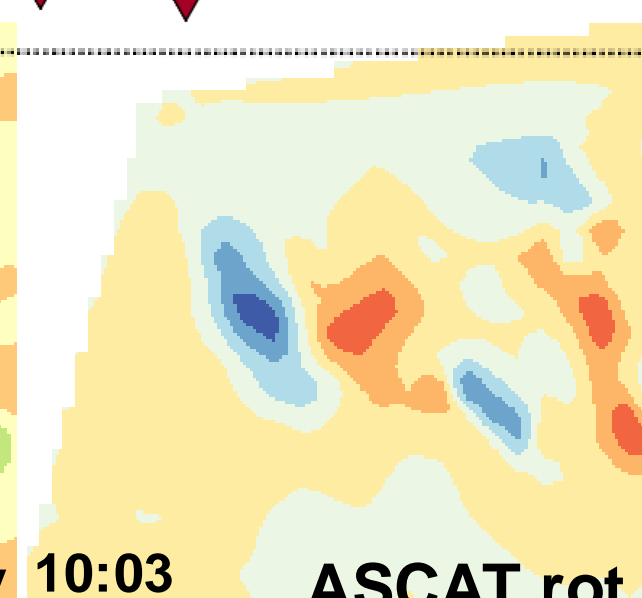
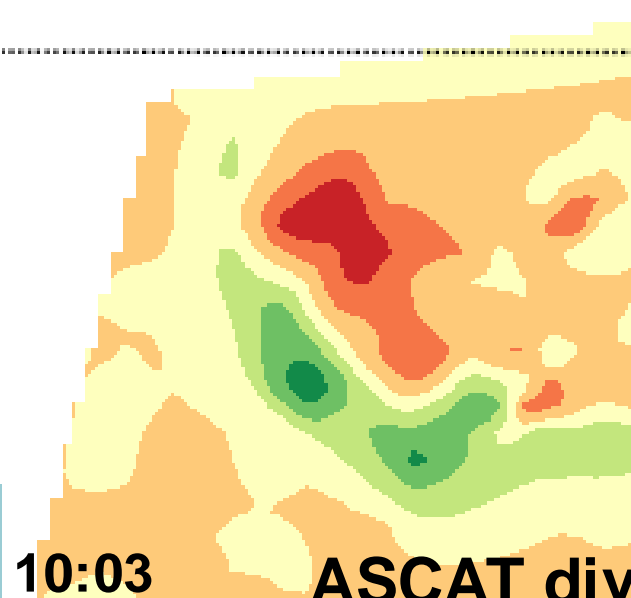
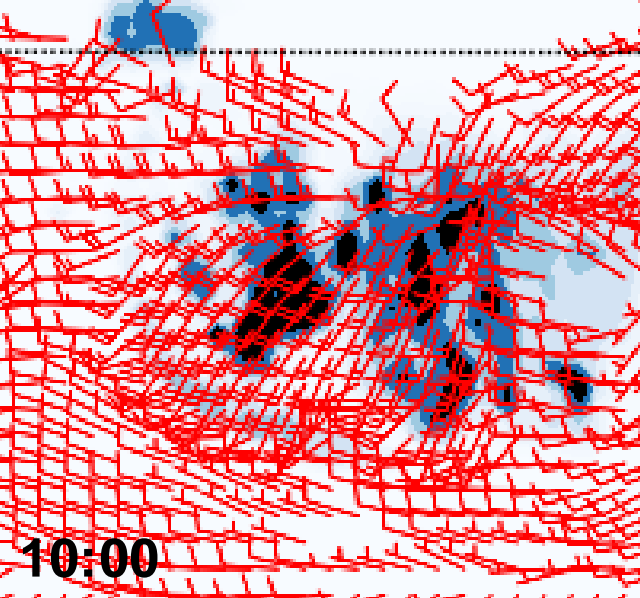
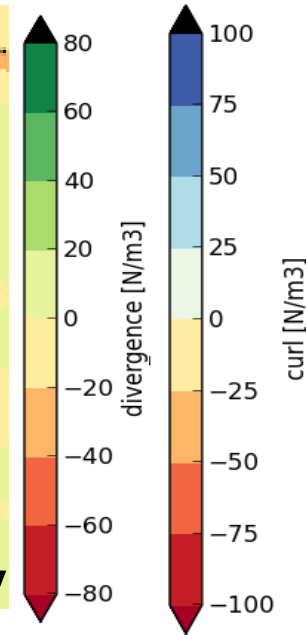
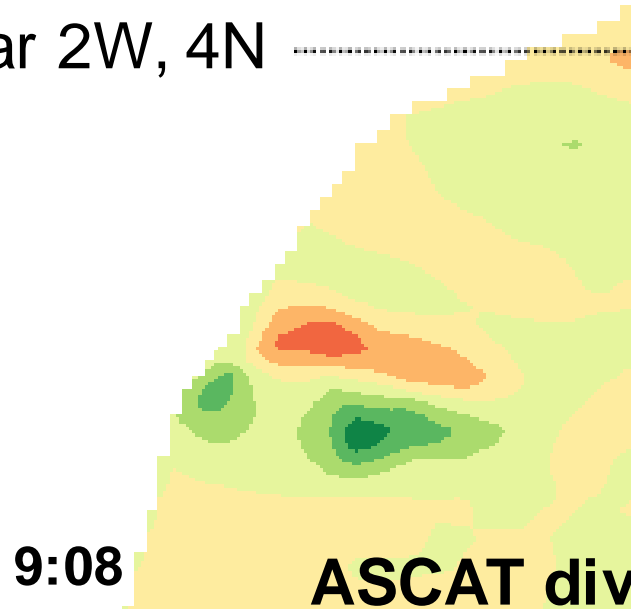
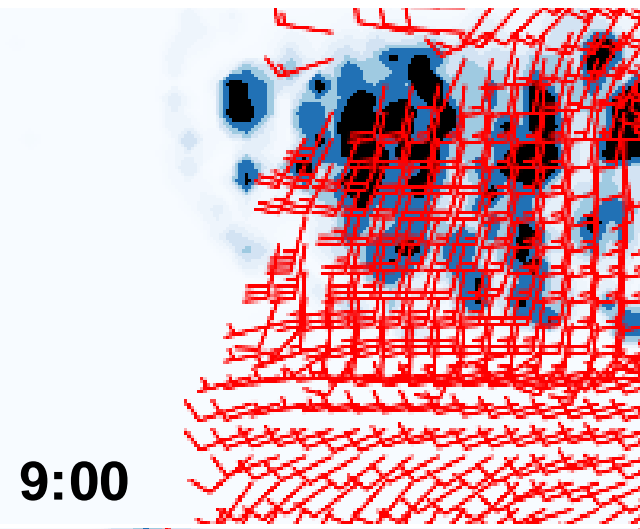
- Scatterometer  $\sigma$  variance under 200 km constant
- $<200$ -km variance  $B$  increases to 80% (u), resp. 60% (v) of  $\sigma$
- O-B decreases, particularly for v
- $l \approx v$  and  $u \approx t$ , but  $u \neq v$  and  $l \neq t$

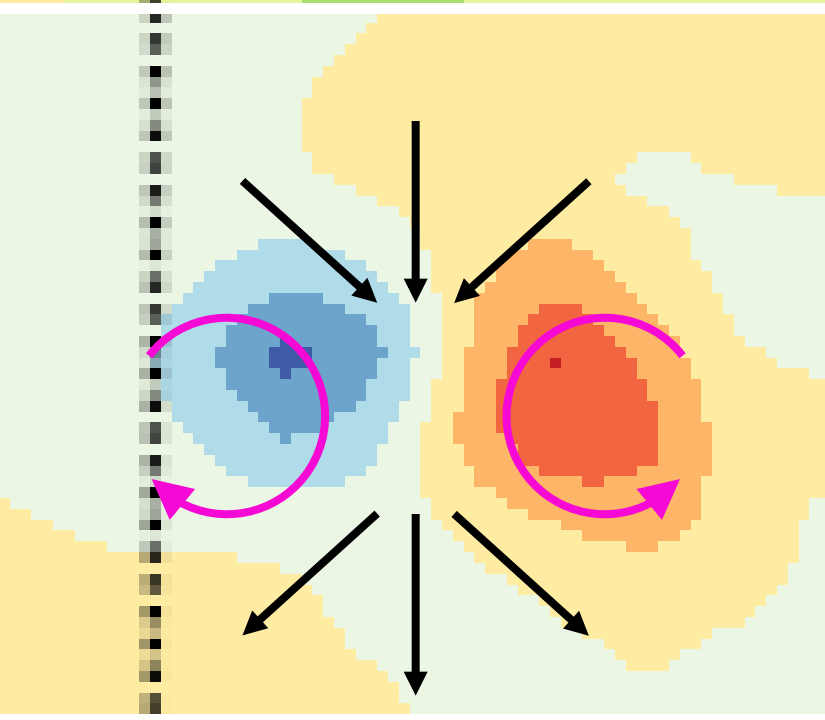
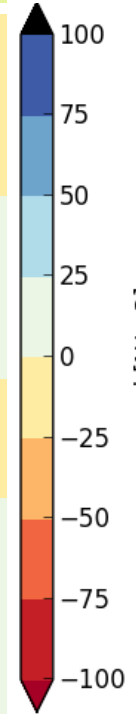
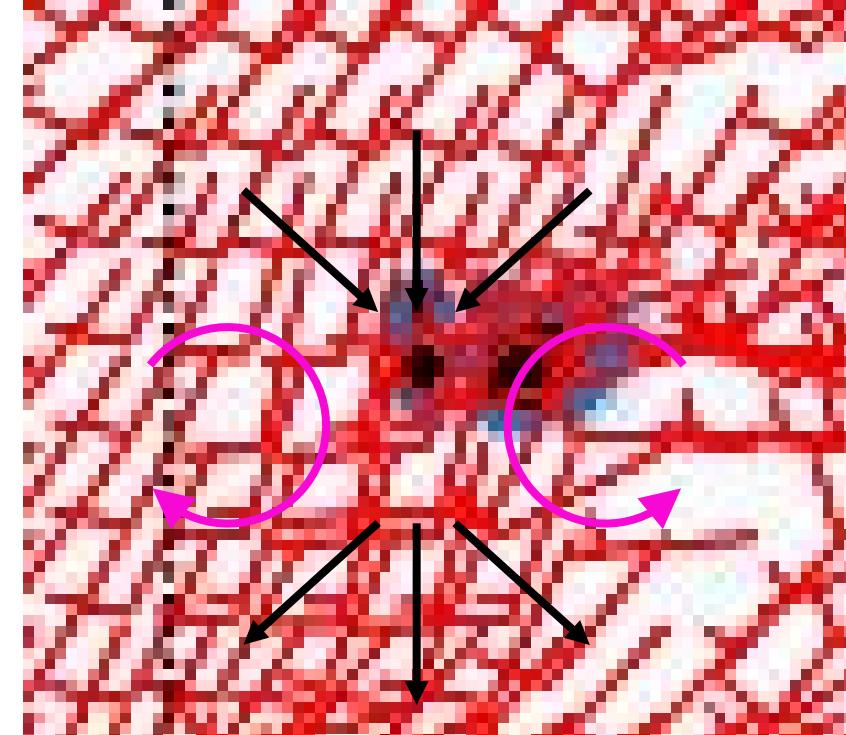
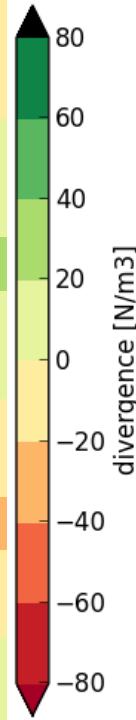
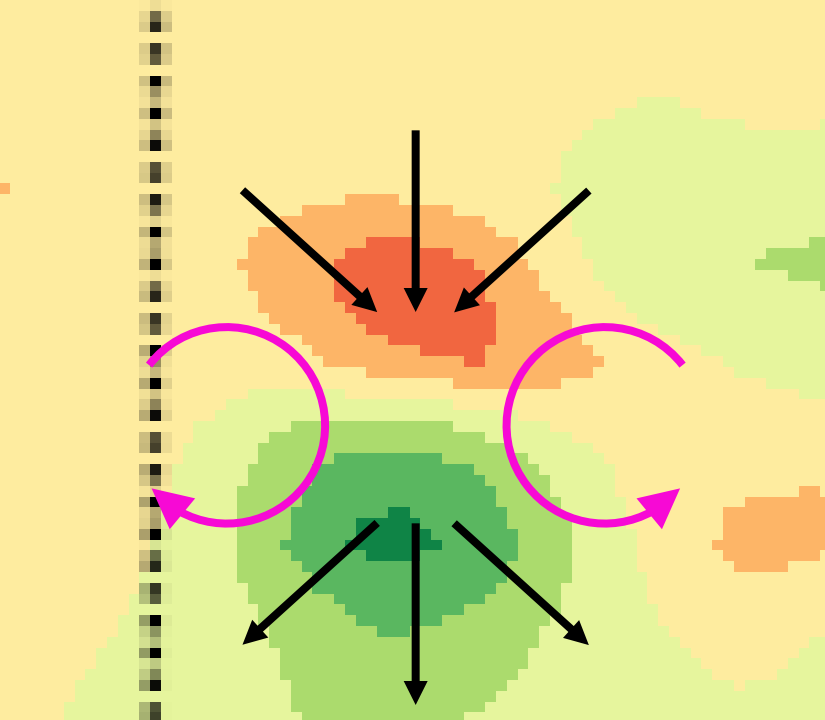




# Developing gust band

25 February 2014, near 2W, 4N

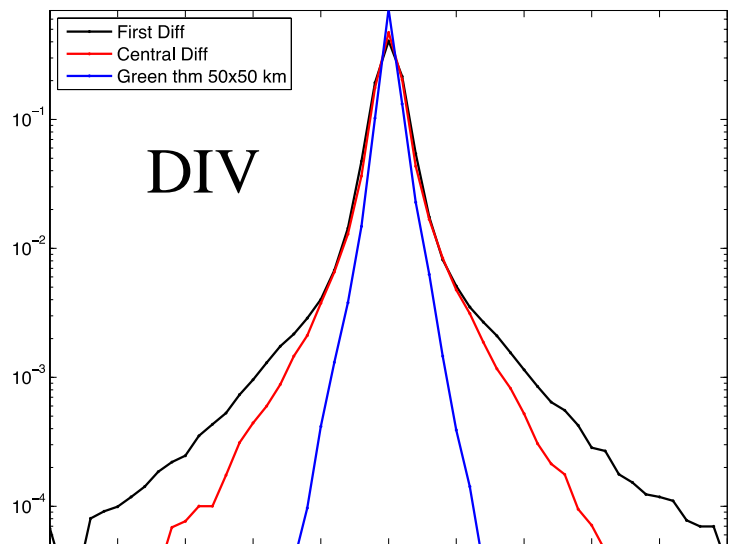




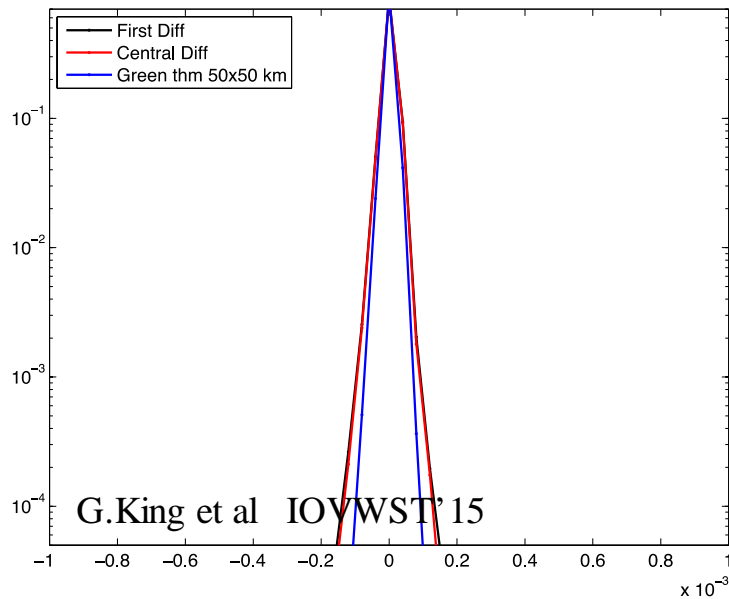
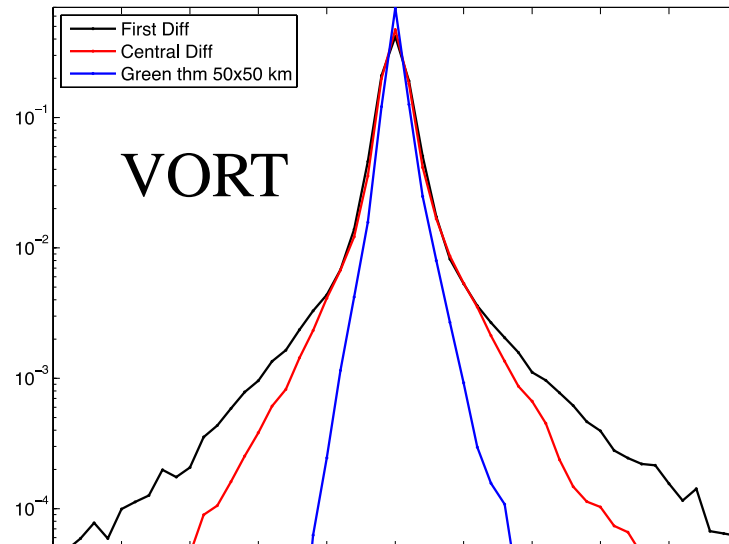
- Convergence and curl structures associated with convective cell
- Inflow convergence
- Precipitation is associated with wind downburst
- Shear zones with curl (+ and -)
- Abundant air-sea interaction



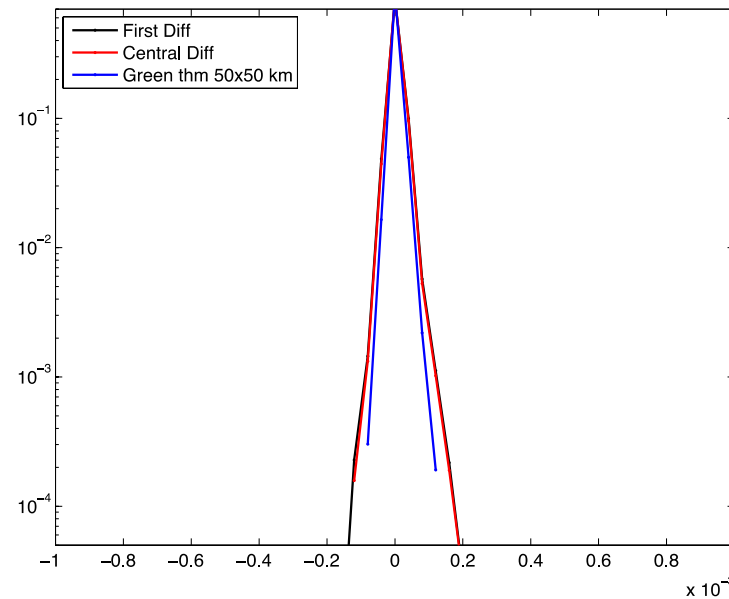
# PDFs of DIV and VORT



ASCAT-A

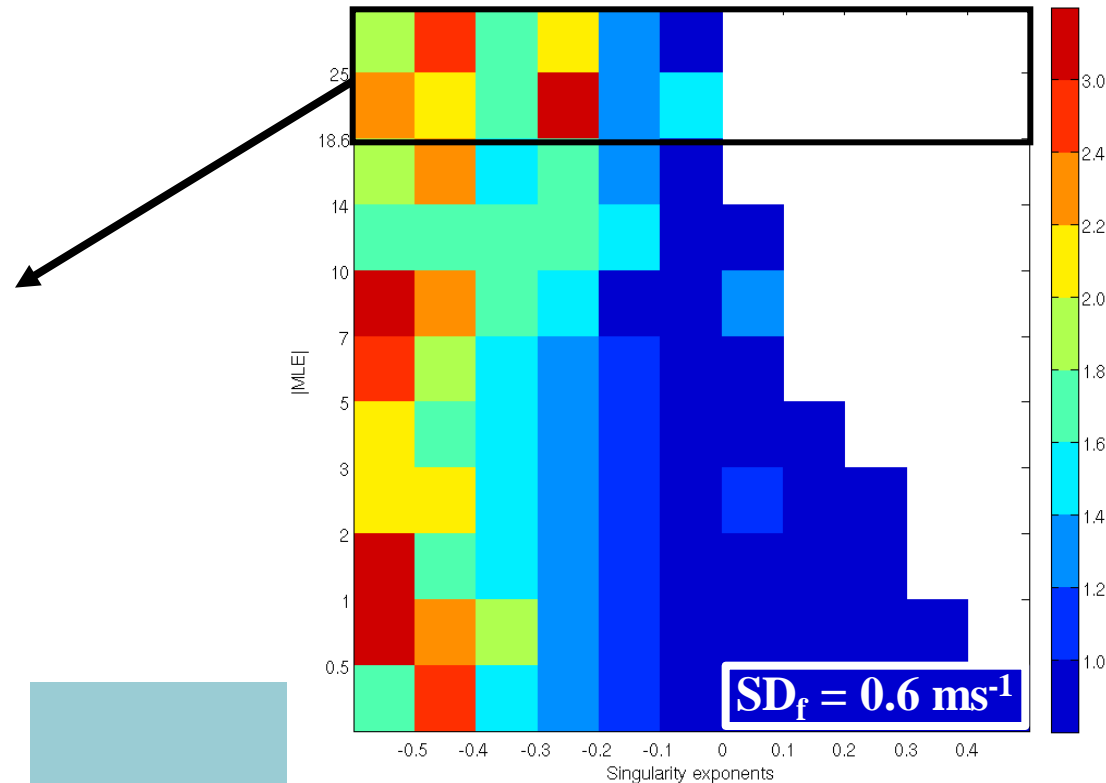
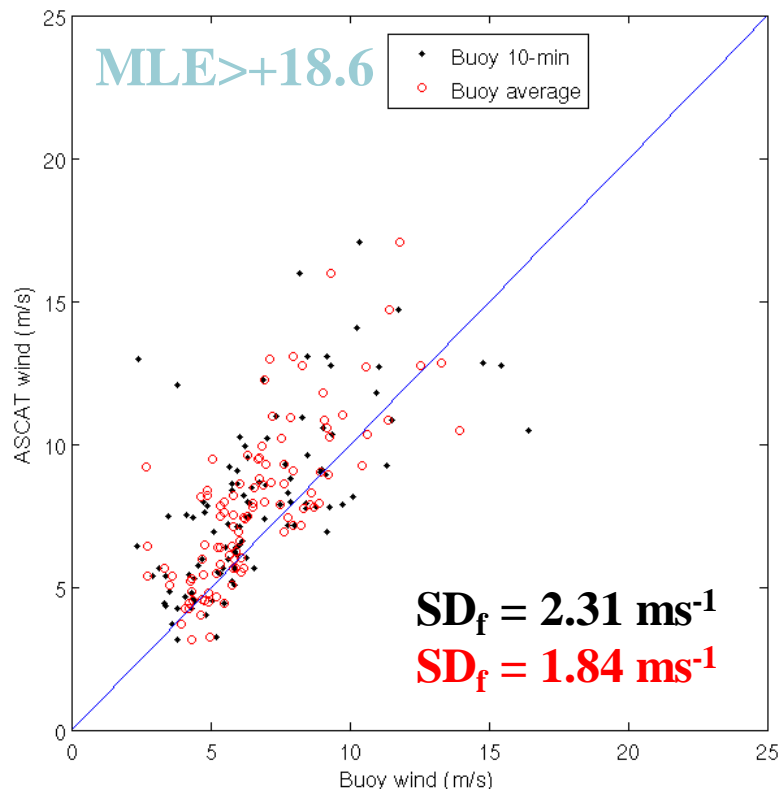


ECMWF

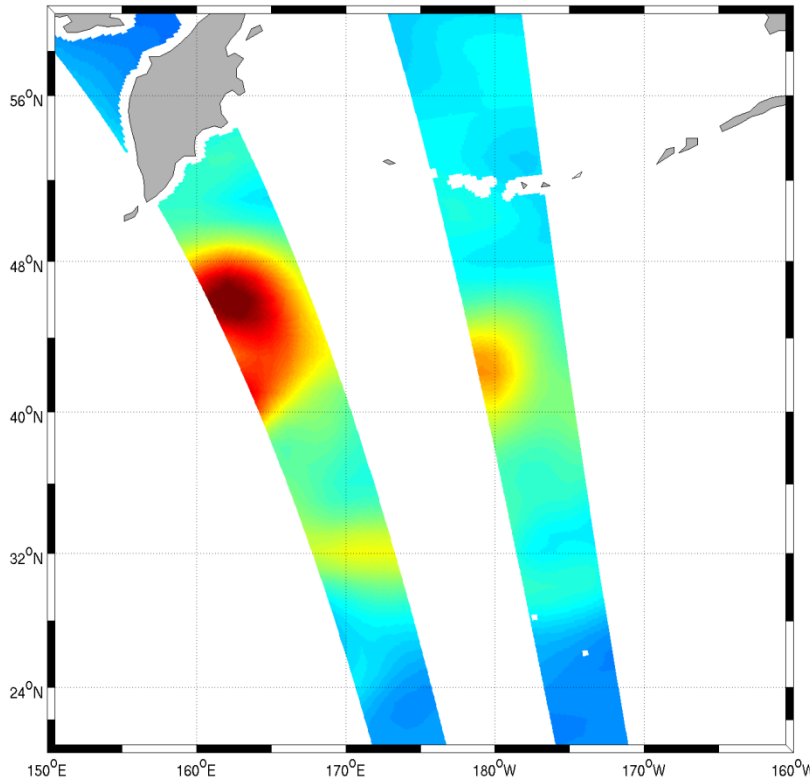


# ASCAT QC

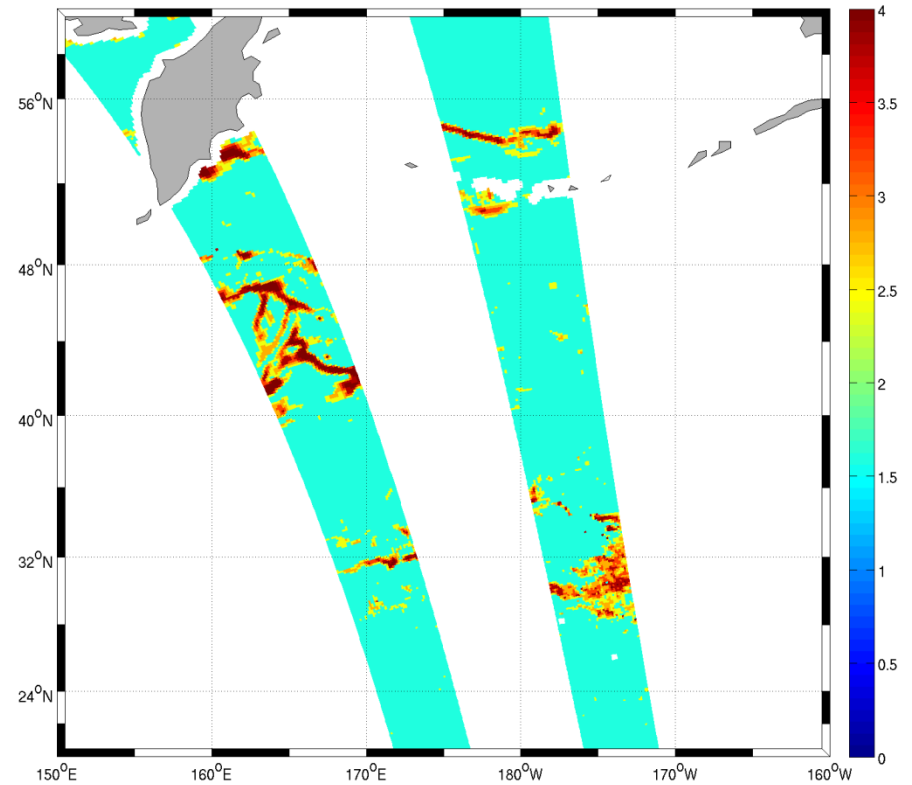
- We can produce winds with SD of buoy-scatterometer difference of 0.6 m/s, but would exclude all high-wind and dynamic air-sea interaction areas
- The winds that we reject right now in convective tropical areas are noisy (SD=1.84 m/s), but generally not outliers!
- What metric makes sense for QC trade-off?



# Estimated B error variances



ECMWF Ensemble Data  
Assimilation (EDA  
background error)



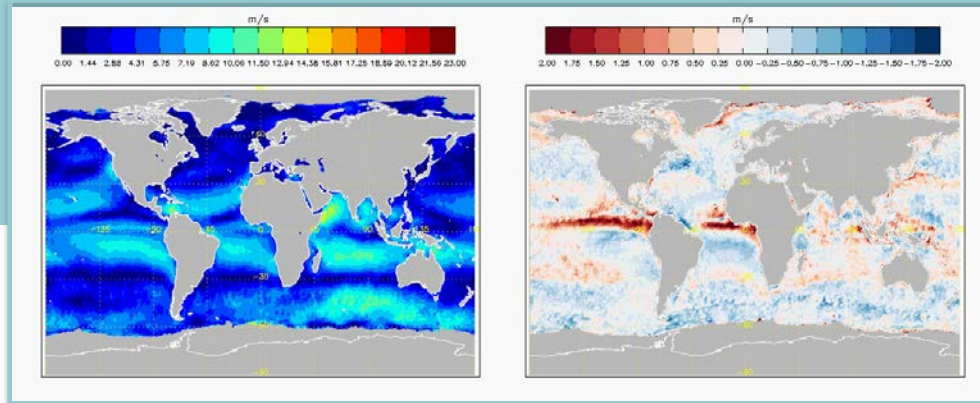
ASCAT-derived ECMWF  
background error by triple  
collocation in QC classes



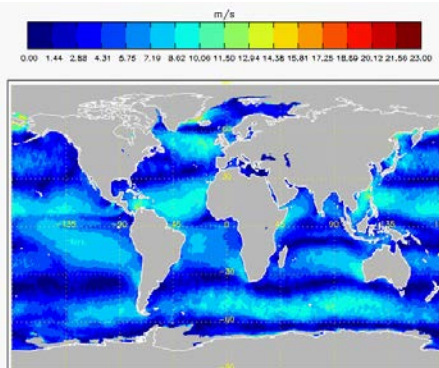


# Wind Speed

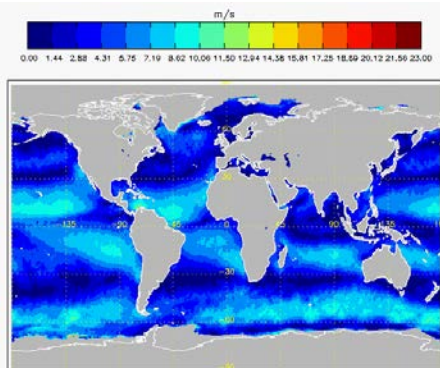
ASCAT



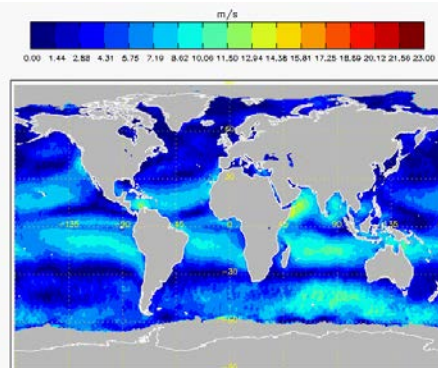
Annual 2014



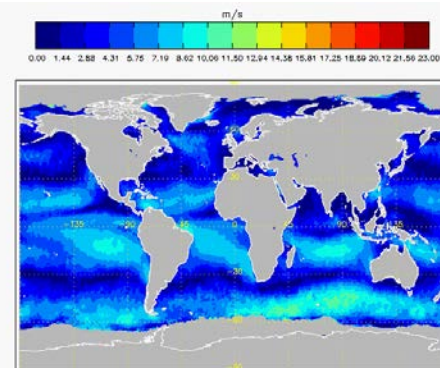
DJF



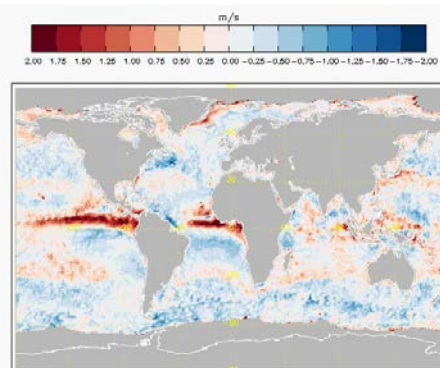
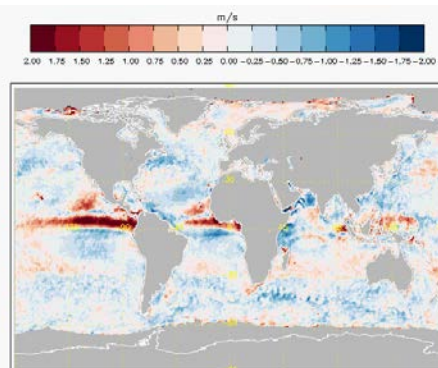
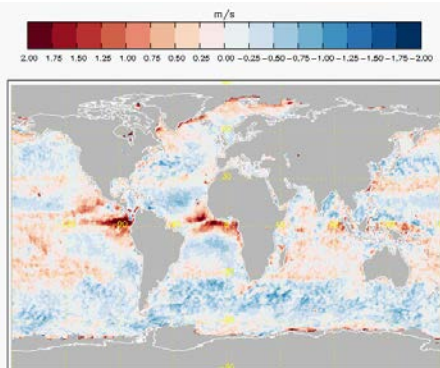
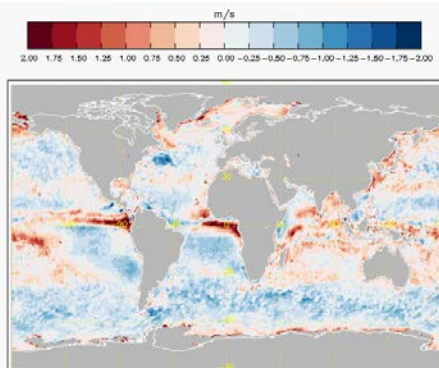
MAM



JJA



SON

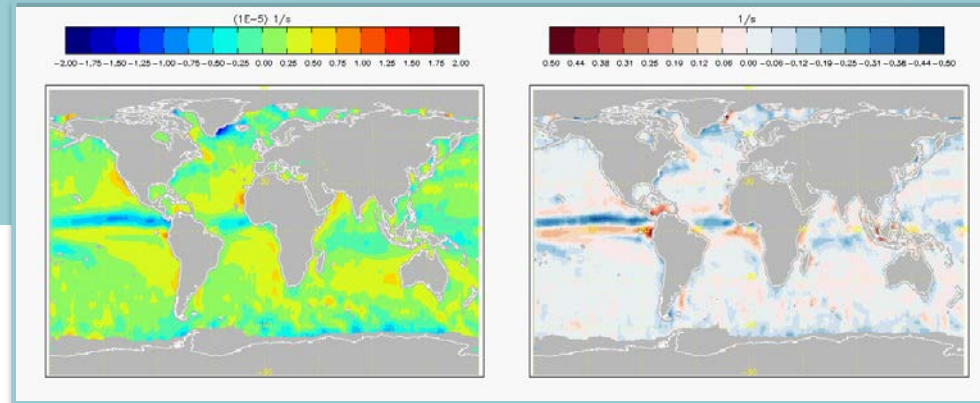


Anomaly (ASCAT-NWP)

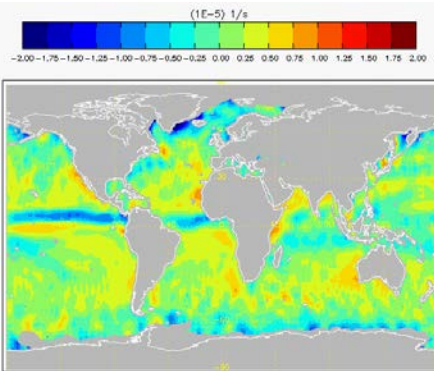


# Wind Divergence

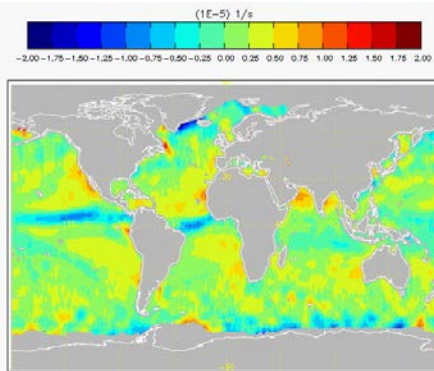
ASCAT



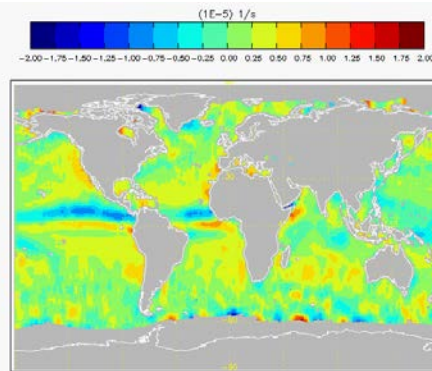
Annual 2014



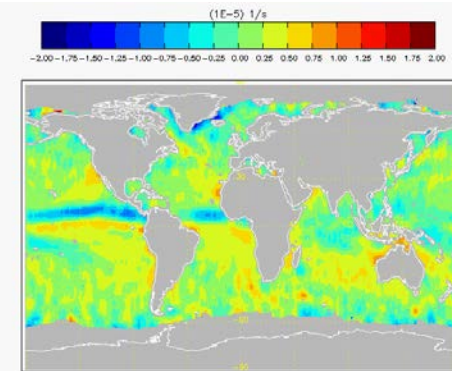
DJF



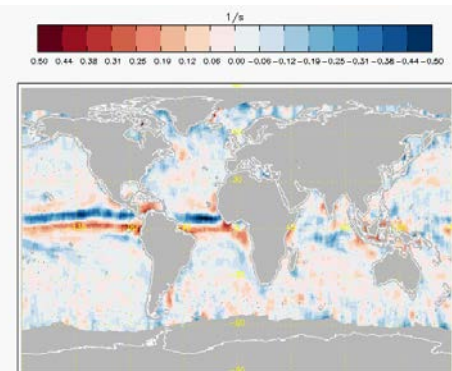
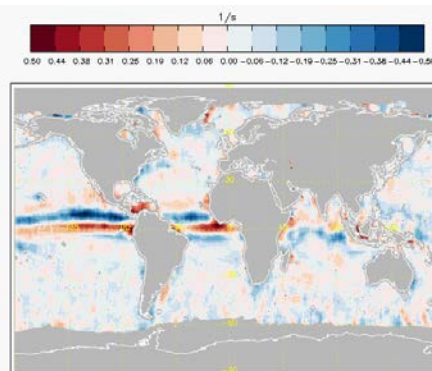
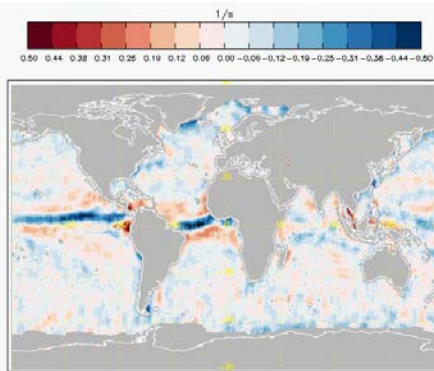
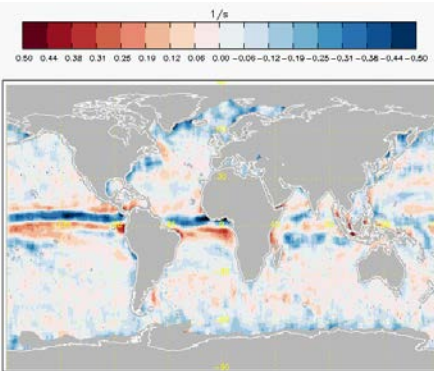
MAM



JJA



SON

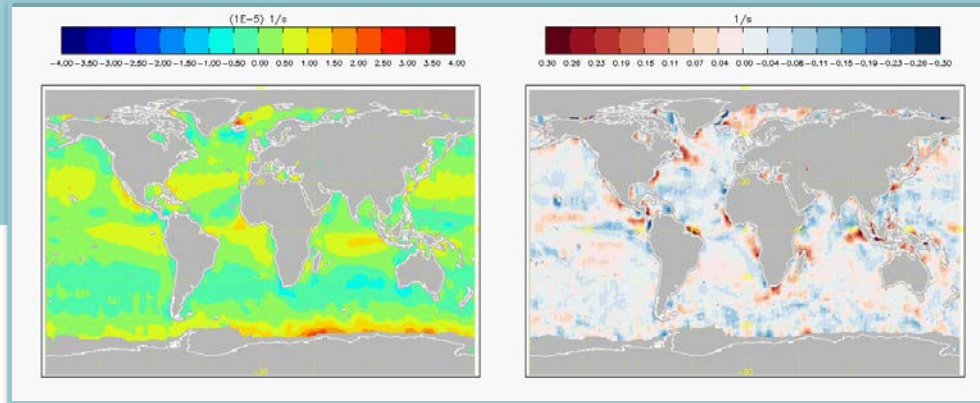


Anomaly (ASCAT-NWP)

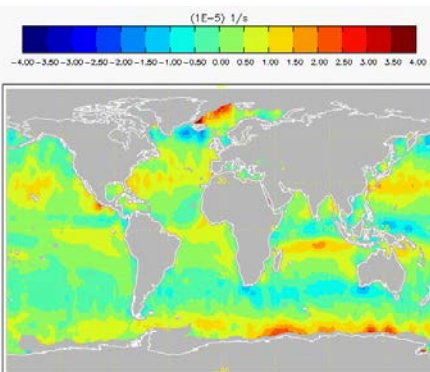


# Wind Curl

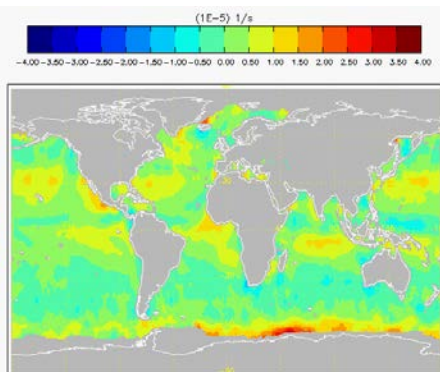
## ASCAT



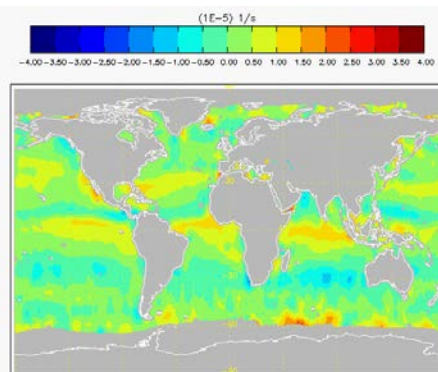
Annual 2014



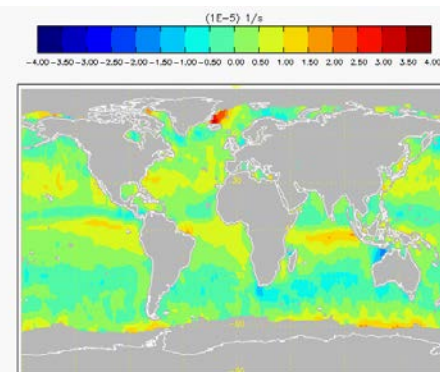
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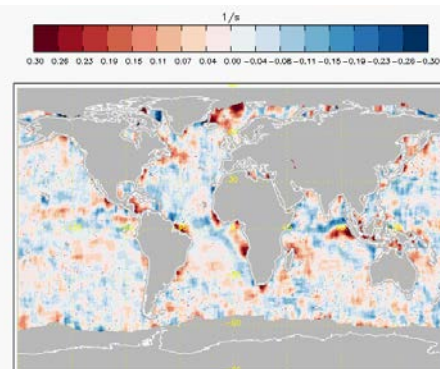
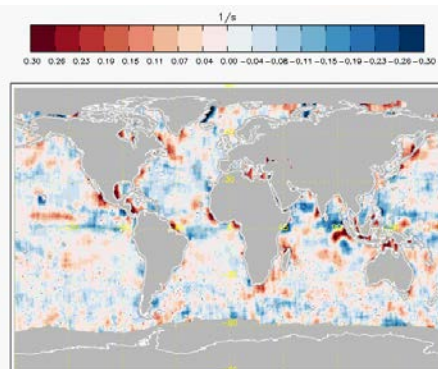
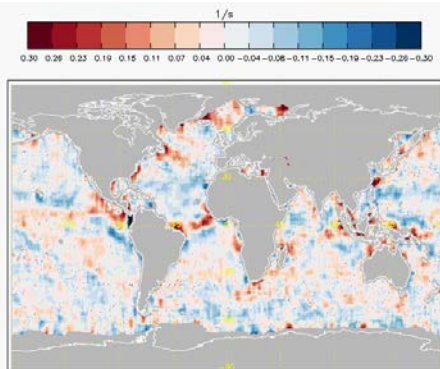
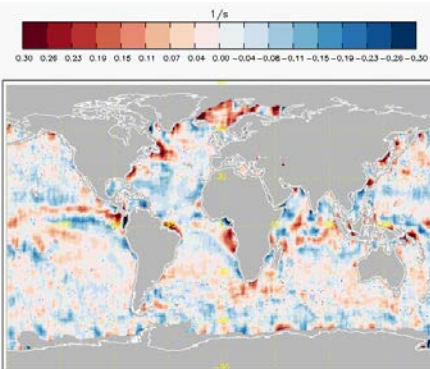
MAM



JJA



SON



## Anomaly (ASCAT-NWP)



# RapidScat on ISS

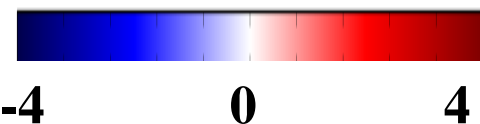
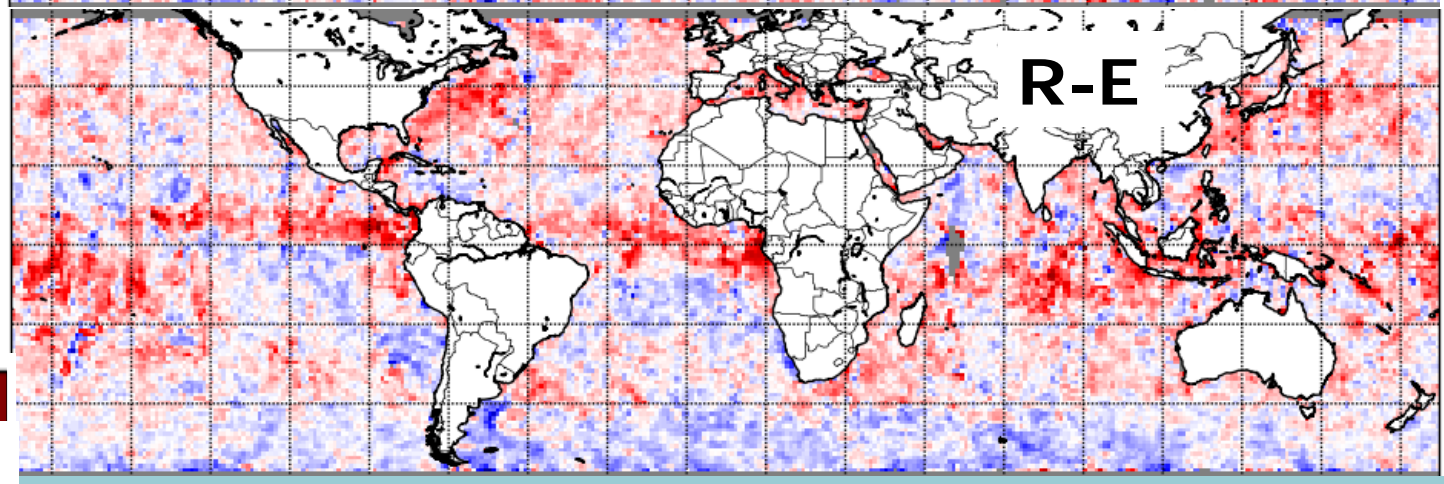
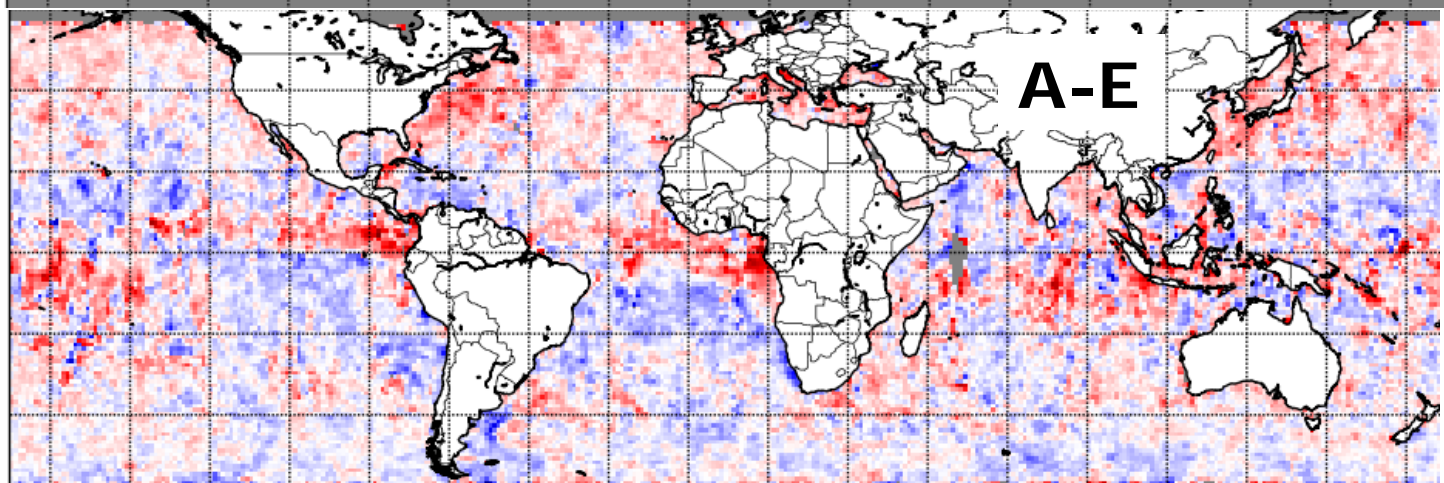
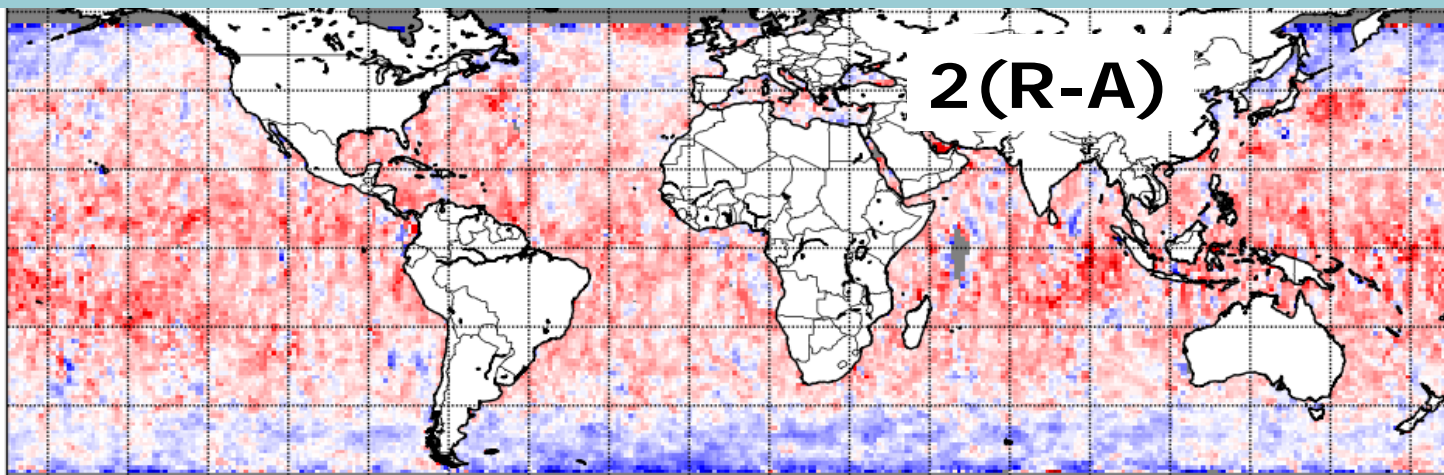
[http://www.telegraaf.nl/tv/opmerkelijk/23929606/Astronaut\\_filmt\\_ISS\\_met\\_GoPro\\_.html](http://www.telegraaf.nl/tv/opmerkelijk/23929606/Astronaut_filmt_ISS_met_GoPro_.html)

ISS Expedition 42\_US EVA2 GoPro



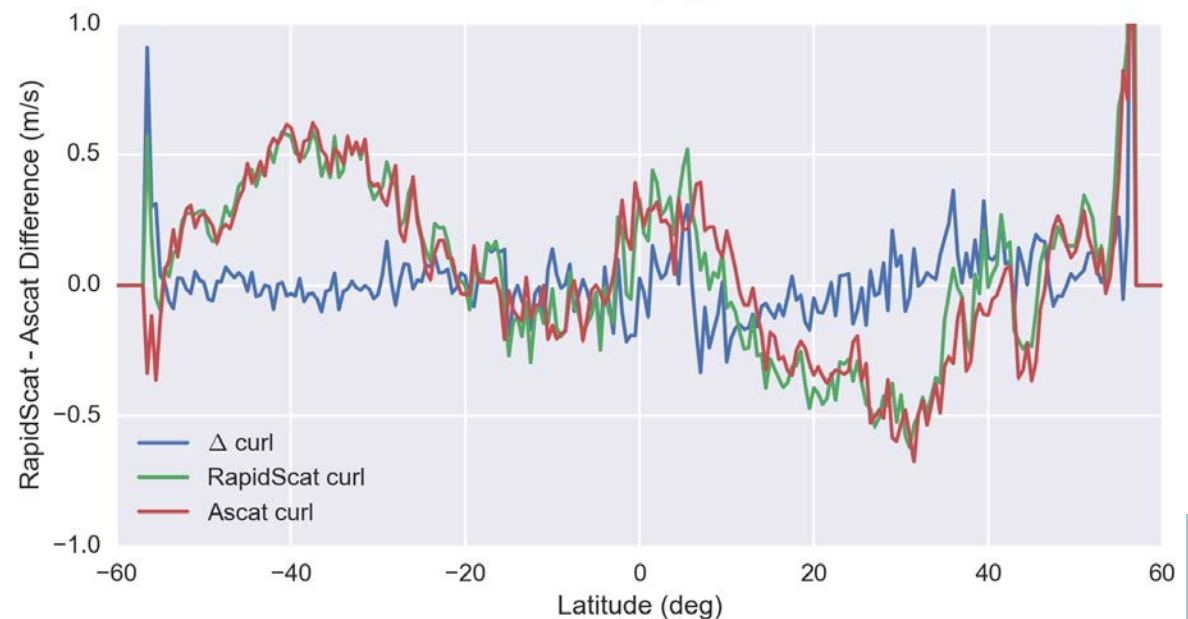
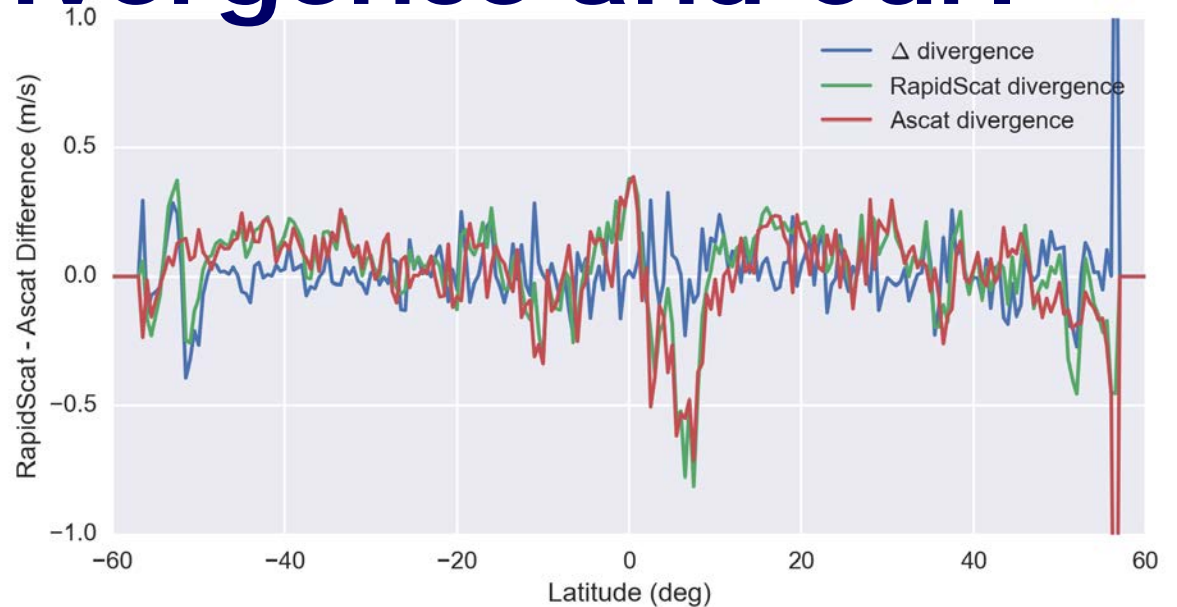
# All $\Delta s$

- All WVCs accepted by both
- A/RSCAT rejects 1/10%
- High latitude low bias RSCAT
- Convection stands out vs ECMWF
- RSCAT and ASCAT much agree on small scales! (must be wind, no rain!)
- RSCAT little more red though in tropics (rain?)
- Currents?



# Zonally Averaged Wind Divergence and Curl

- C- and Ku-band winds are very similar
- Also, curl and divergence show very similar latitudinal variation
- Not hindered by a Ku-band rain effect



# 2-Month Average Wind Stress Magnitude and SST Contours

(Spatially High-Pass Filtered)

Northern Hemisphere  
Summer

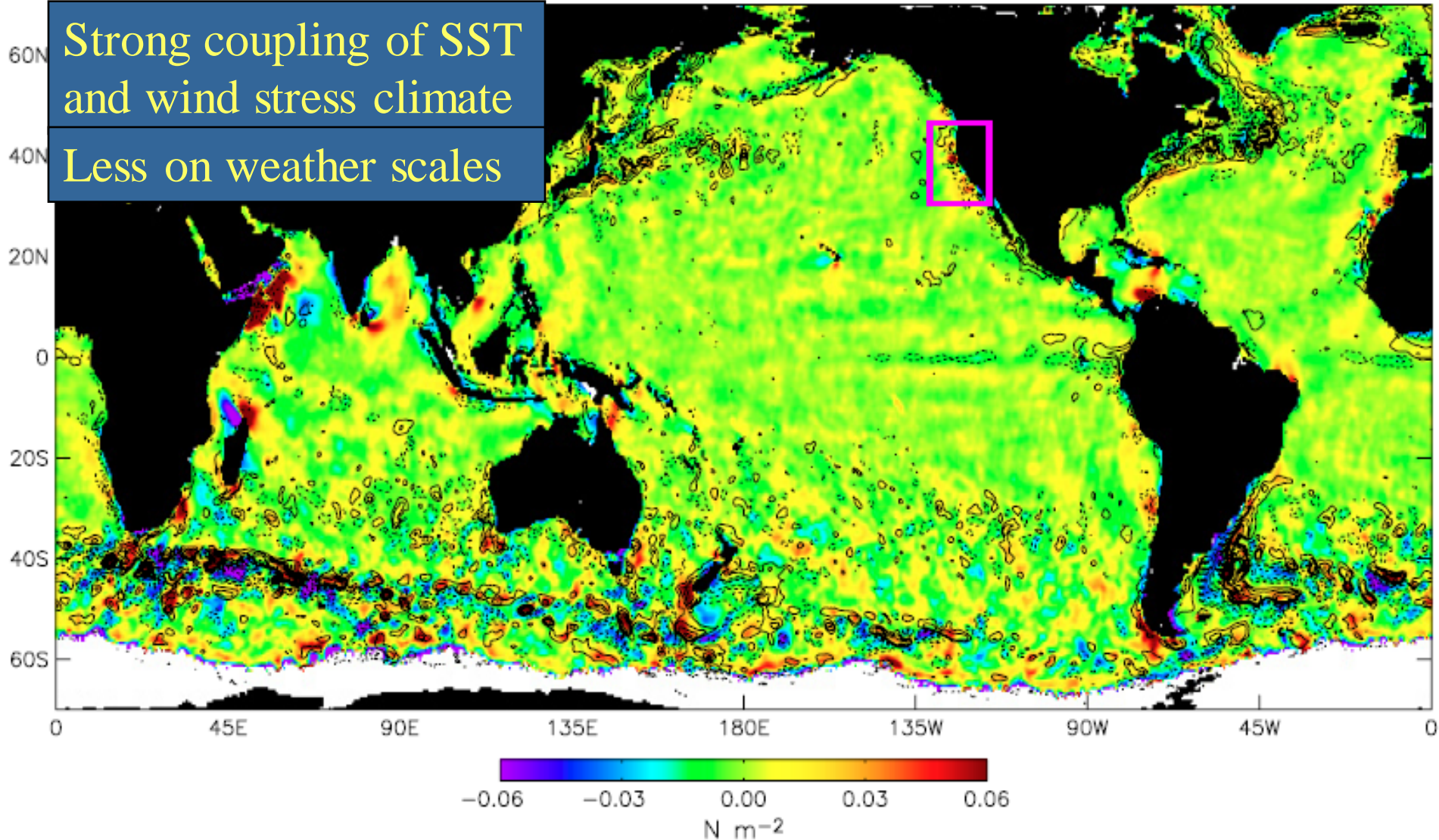
QuikSCAT, July–August 2003

*Small-scale structure is well developed in the California Current region during summer*

High Pass Filtered Wind Stress and SST

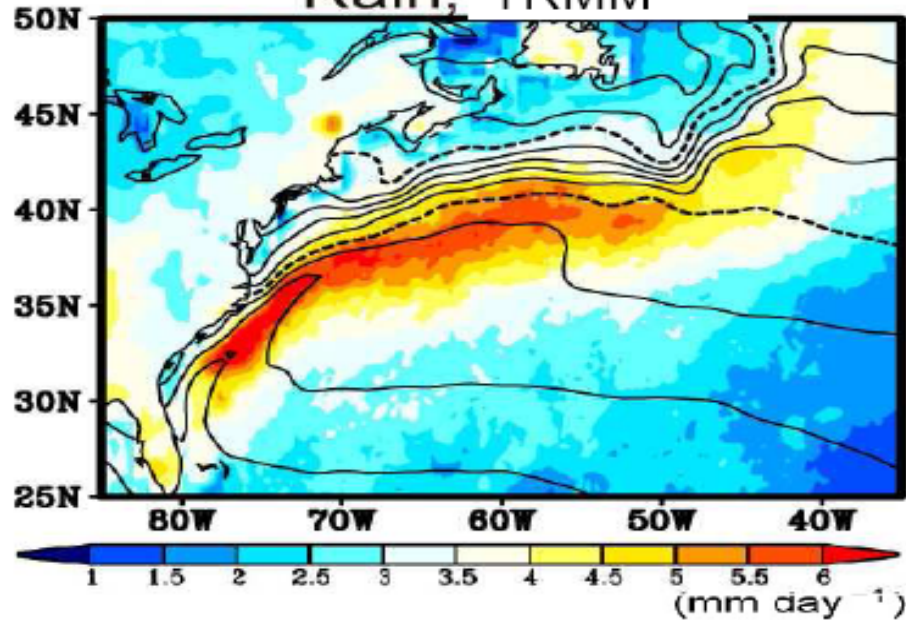
Strong coupling of SST and wind stress climate

Less on weather scales

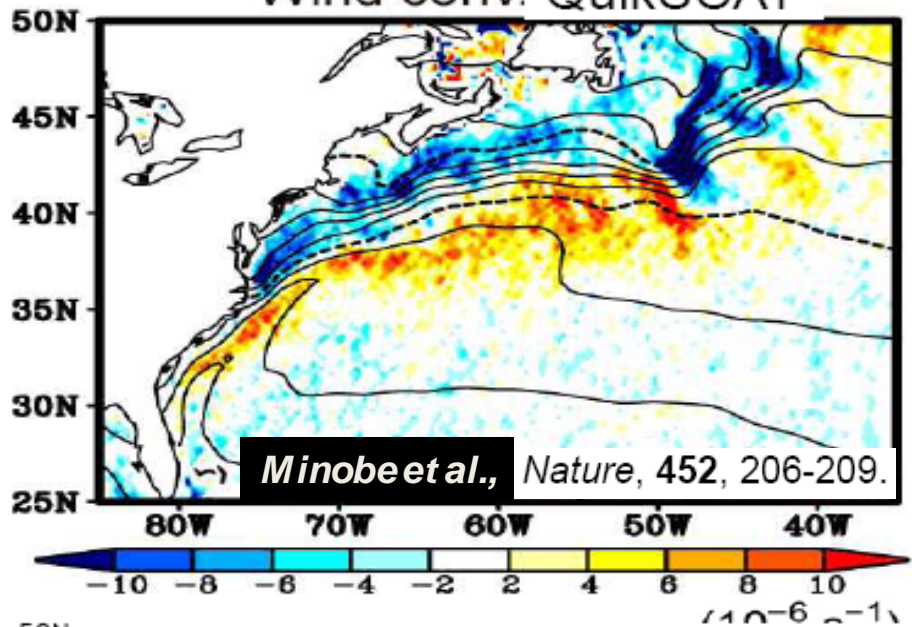


# Coupling ocean and atmosphere (climate scales)

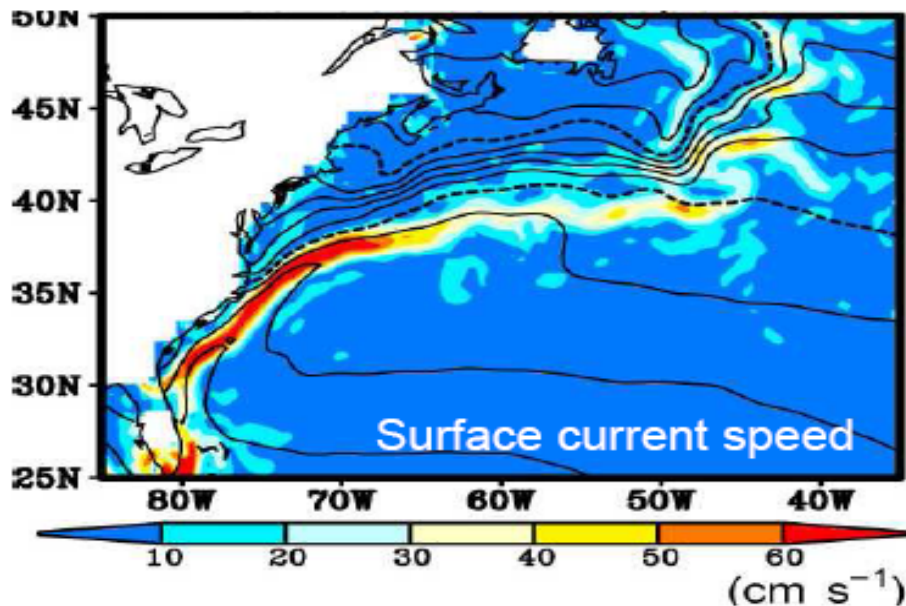
Rain, TRMM



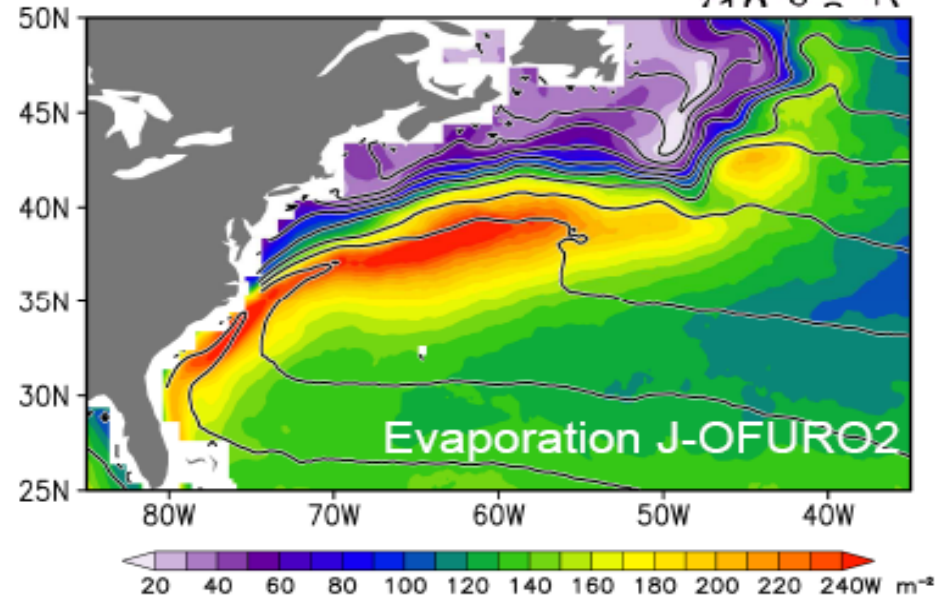
Wind conv. QuikSCAT



Surface current speed



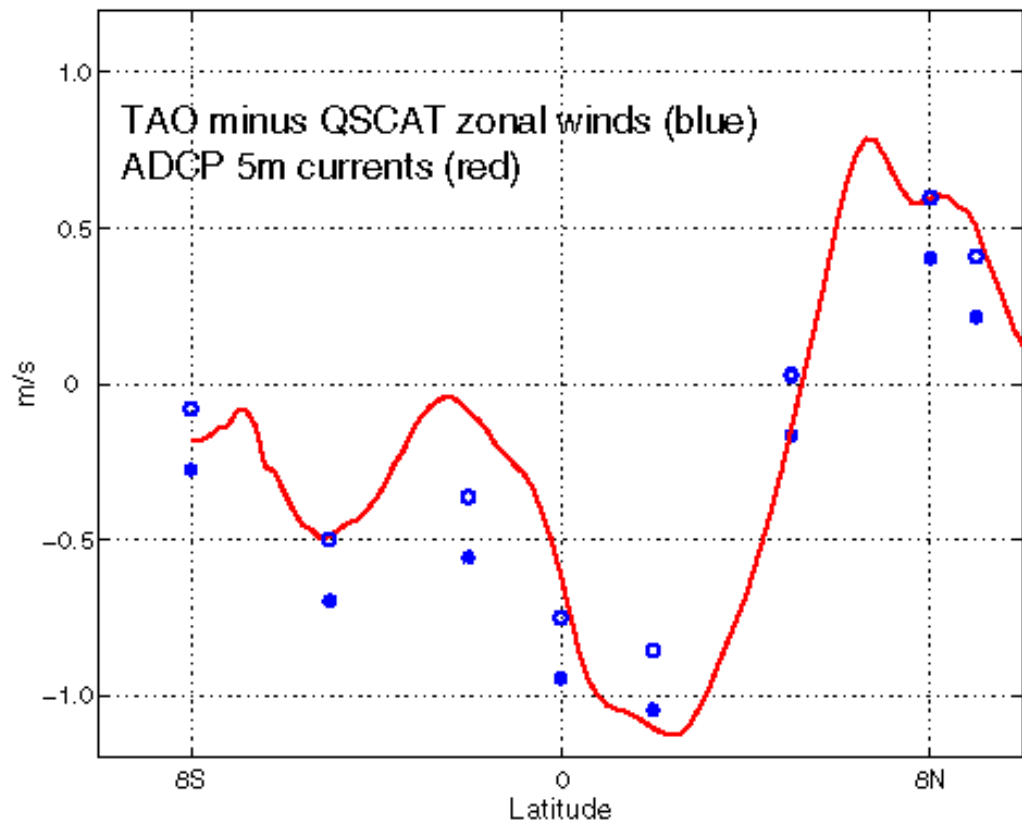
Evaporation J-OFURO2







# Precision

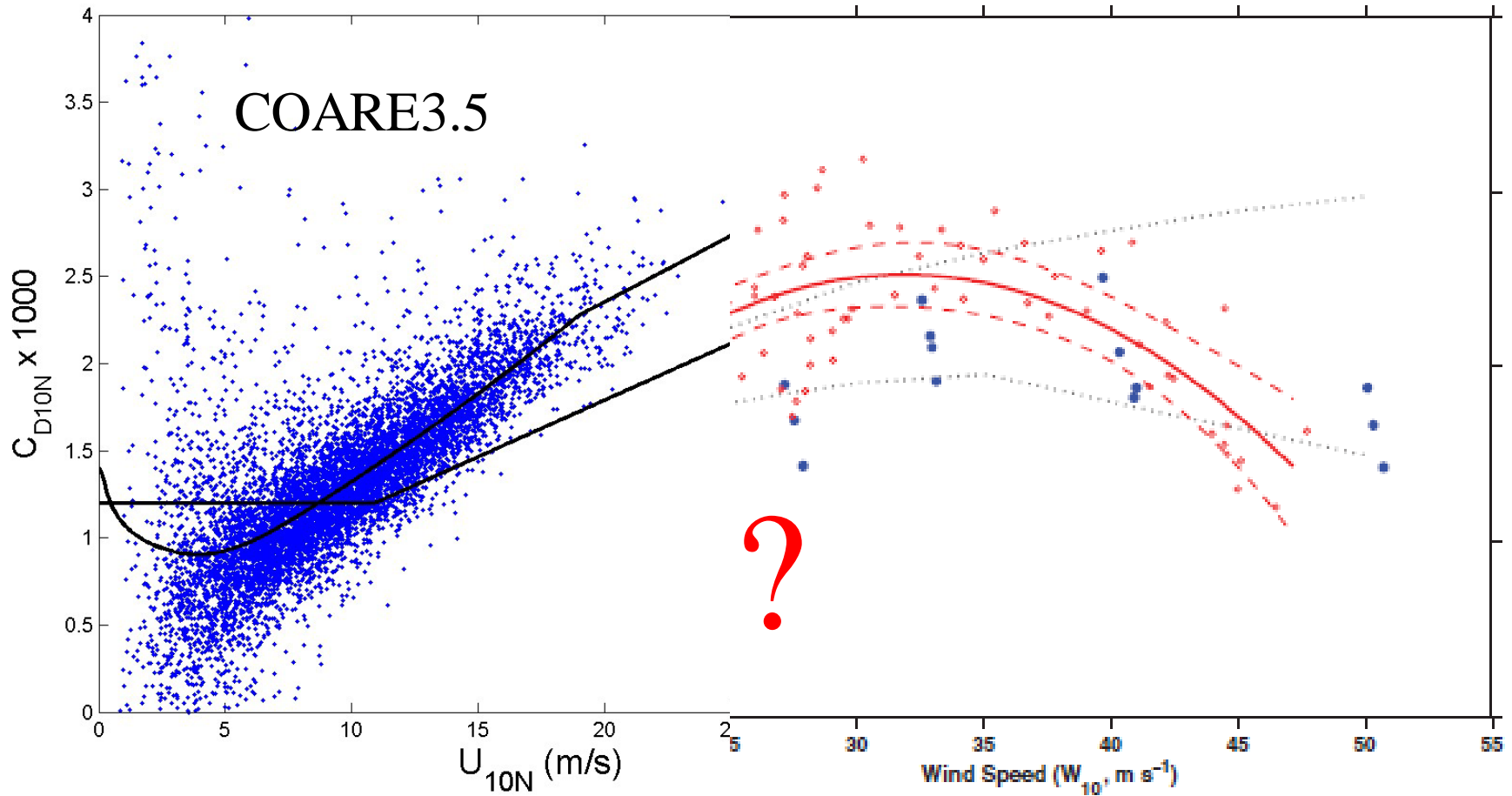


- Scatterometer roughness relates to the relative atmosphere-ocean motion
- Buoy winds are absolute with respect to the earth frame

Mean differences between scatterometer winds and TAO anemometer winds are due to ocean currents.

- ADCP zonal currents extrapolated to 5-m depth averaged over three meridians (155°, 140°, 125°W) from TAO buoy servicing cruises Fall of 1999.
- Average difference between TAO and QuikSCAT zonal wind components at TAO buoys before (asterisks) and after (open circles) removing a  $0.2 \text{ ms}^{-1}$  bias.
- The  $1 \text{ ms}^{-1}$  differences between the anemometer and scatterometer winds are clearly due to the ocean currents.

# Surface Stress and Roughness at High Winds



Refinement of DC Stress  
Measurements

How do we quantify the  
behavior at High Winds?

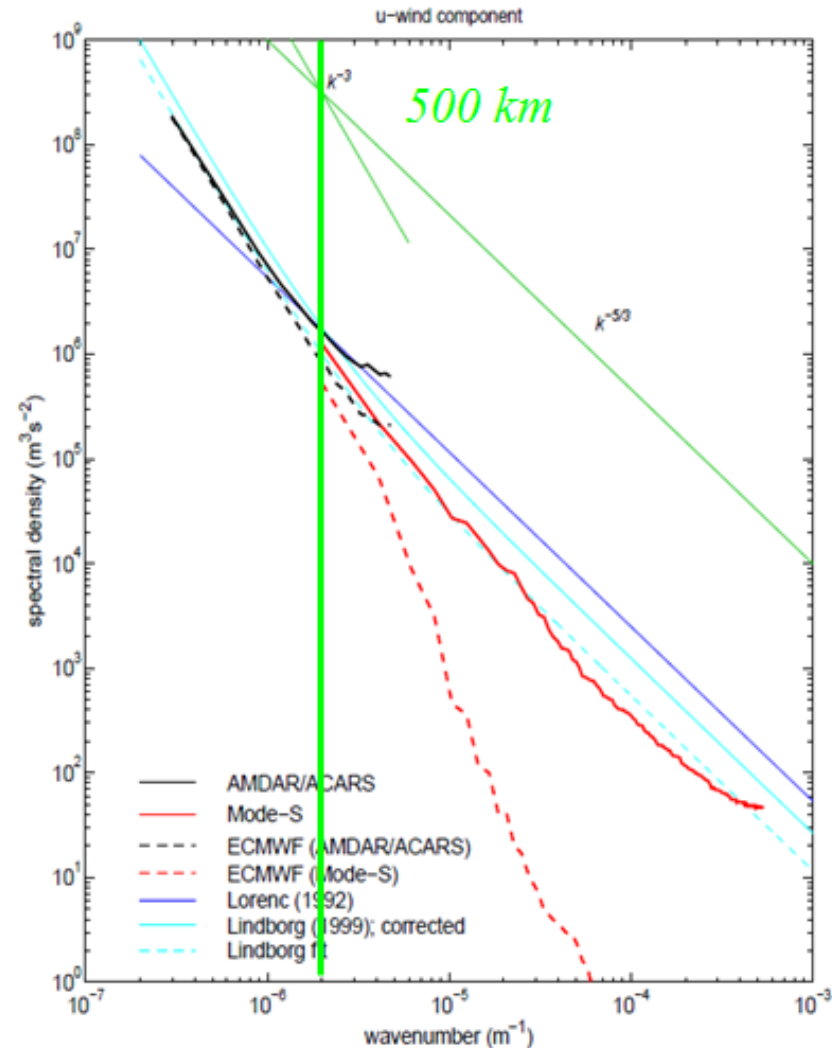


# Wave surface layer

- <https://www.dropbox.com/s/hys9ekhvzji5y5o/Winds%20on%20waves.avi?dl=0>
- Scatterometers only see roughness/stress and retrieval residuals do not depend on sea state (so far)

# Flight level spectra

- Observed  $-5/3$  turbulence spectrum below 500km, just like at the surface, down to km scale
- Collocated ECMWF spectra are much steeper, both MARS and IFS
- VHAMP final report

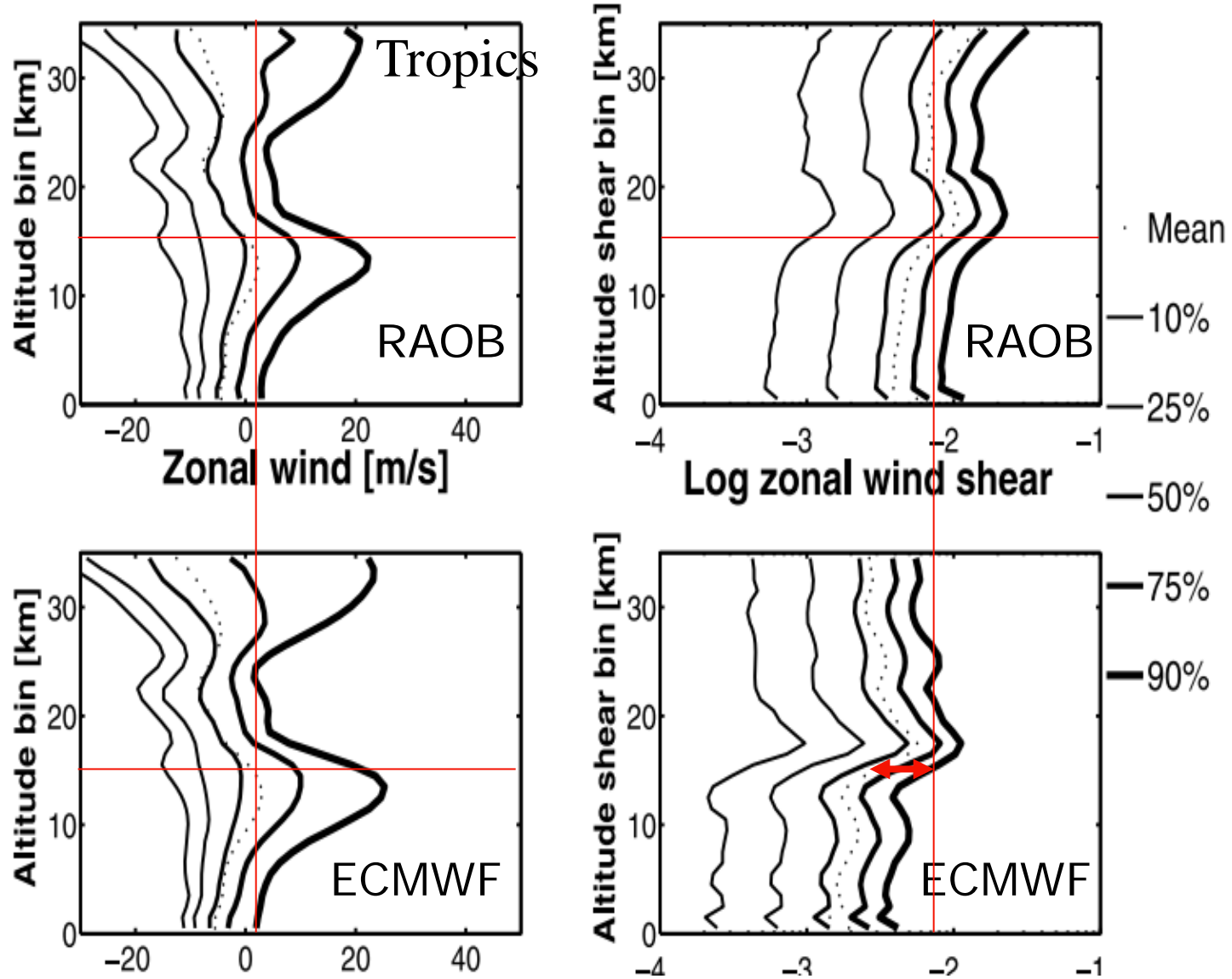


# Hi-res radiosonde shear



- ✓ Collocation data base
- ✓ ECMWF winds agree very well
- ✓ Shear in ECMWF model 2-3 times lower, however
- ✓ Tropical tropopause strongly variable
- Shear determines mixing of air, cloud forming, ..

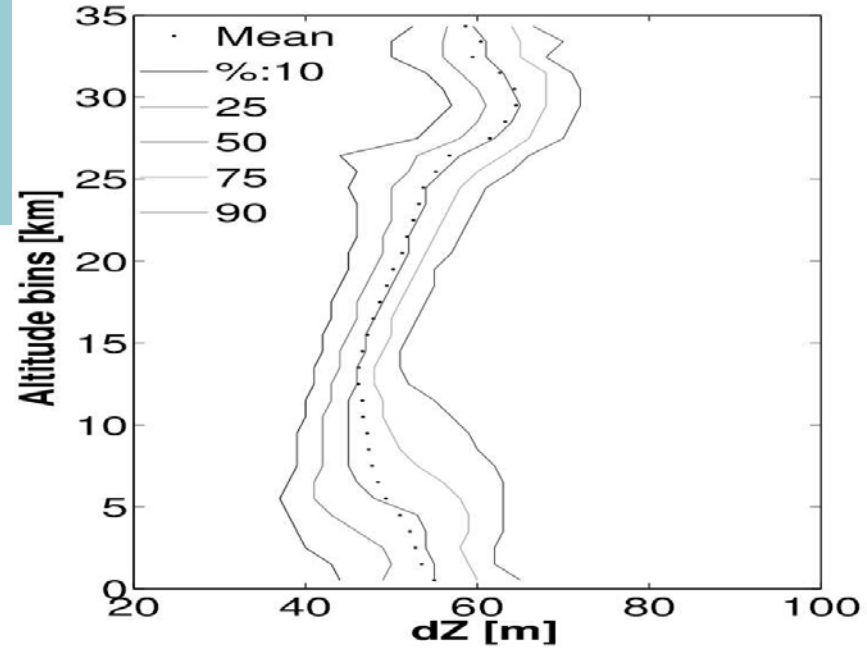
Houchi et al. 2010





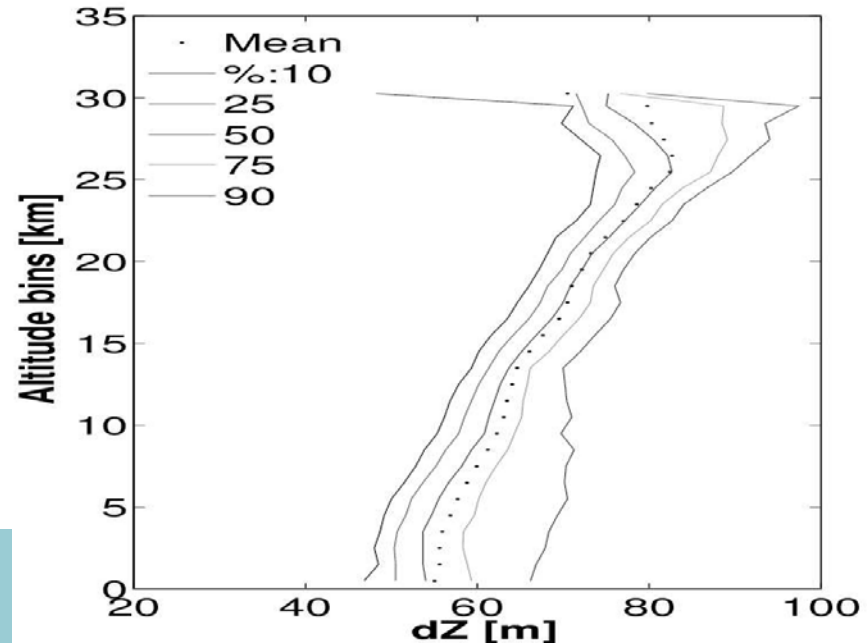
# Vertical motion

- Ascent rate about 5 m/s
- Depends on initial mass; mass distribution spread causes ~ constant ascent rate spread with height
- Depends on balloon drag, perhaps enhanced by precip. loading, but no slow branch visible
- Depends perhaps on flow around balloon, but air stability dependence is expected small
- Ascent rate depends on cooling rate balloon, which is mainly an internal redistribution process in the balloon
- Asymmetric tropospheric ascent distribution, probably enhanced by cloud updrafts



^ de Bilt

v AMMA





# Take home issues

## Global NWP models

- Lack scales below 200 km
- Lack convection and associated wind downbursts
- Have a weak diurnal cycle
- Lack air-sea interaction and PBL structure
- Are rather neutral stability and show large direction errors
- Lack meridional flow
- Are rather inaccurate on the ocean eddy scale
- Are relative to the fixed earth rather than the moving water
- Lack substantial wind shear (on vertical km scale)

## Regional models

- Need improved PBL (LLCJ), surface layer and moist convection parameterisations

# What's next?

## Aeolus

- Provides averages with a reasonable aspect ratio for vertical and horizontal structures (in clear air)
- Thus provides large-scale statistical properties of the tropo- and stratospheric flow in the 3D turbulence regime

Radar, lidar and acoustic techniques for the upper air









# Back-up slides

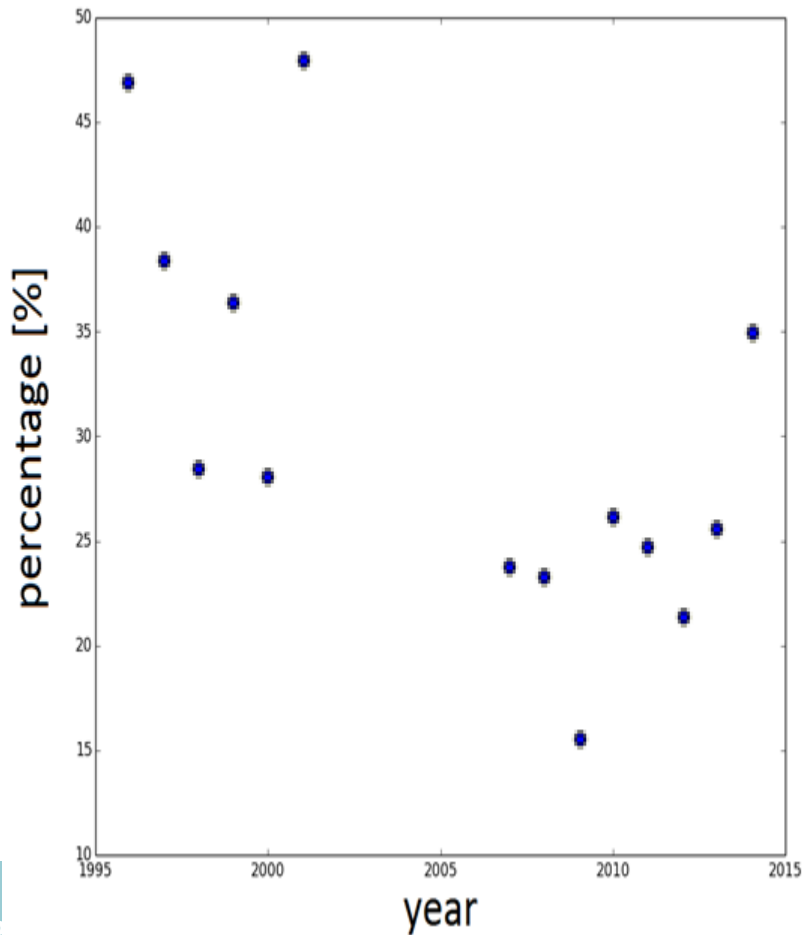
# Statistics of RSCAT Buoy Comparisons

	Nudged	DIRTH	NC	KNMI
Spatial resolution	25	25	12.5	25
Wind Speed (m/s)				
Number of data	3,184	3,184	1,675	2,334
Bias	-0.07	-0.05	0.23	0.22
Rms difference	1.16	1.11	1.11	0.98
Correlation	0.938	0.943	0.944	0.954
Wind Direction (deg.), wind speed > 3 m/s				
Number of data	2,813	2,813	1,490	2,064
Bias	1.5	0.9	1.6	3.2
Rms difference	25.6	23.7	20.4	19.4
Correlation	0.962	0.967	0.977	0.977

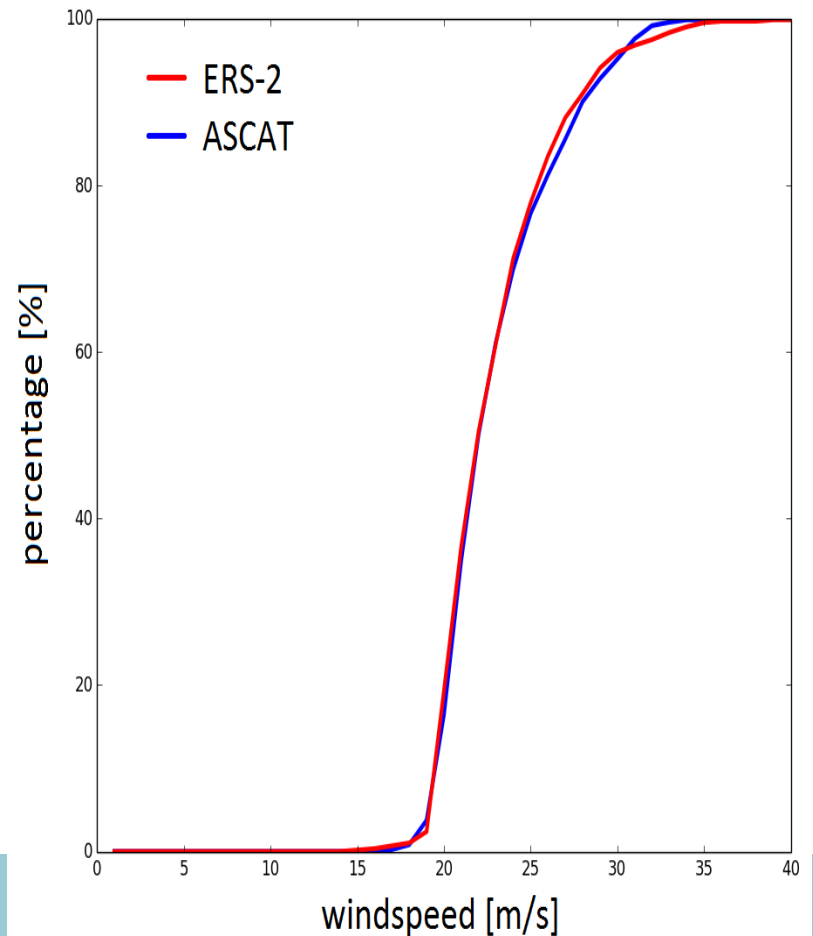
# Climate extremes



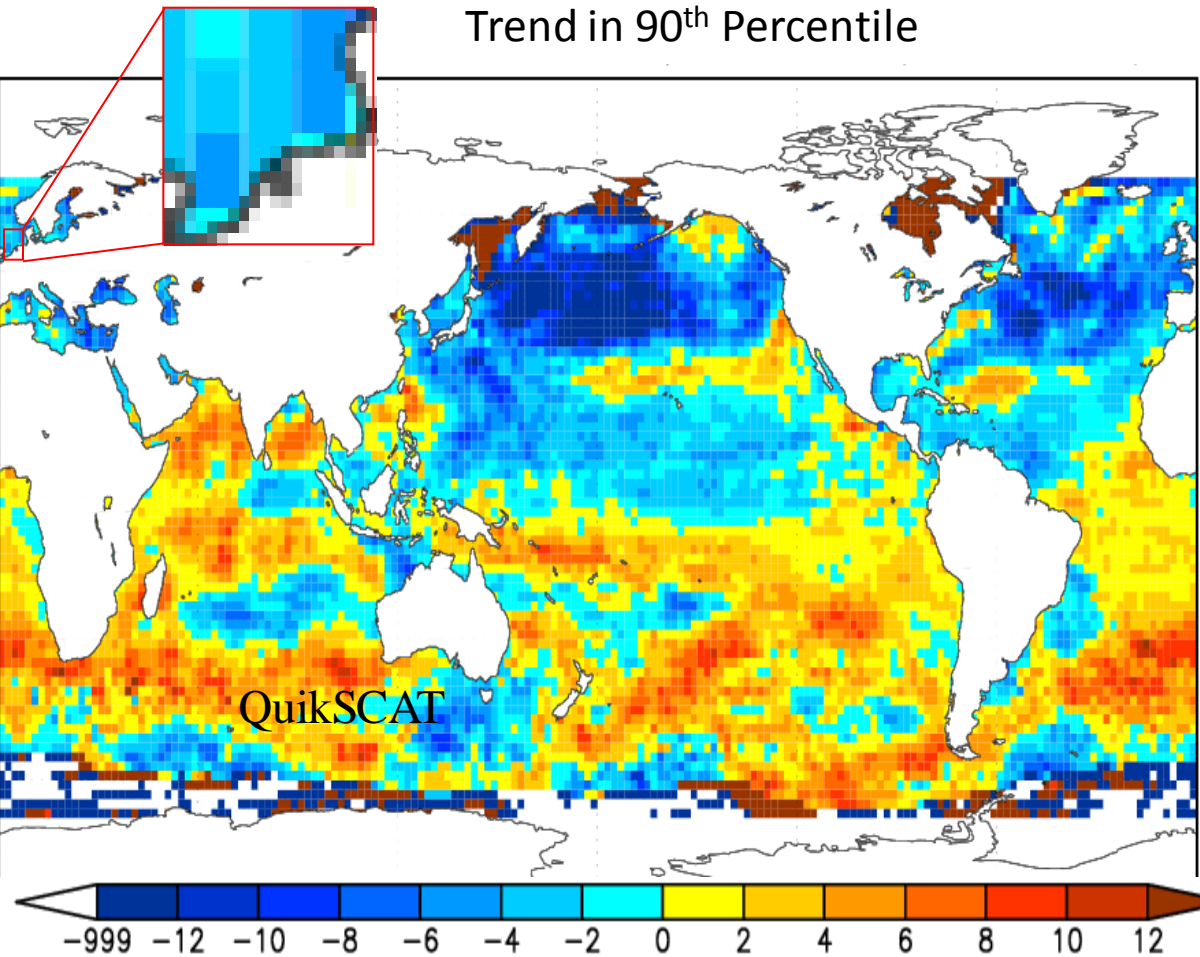
PERCENTAGE OF HURRICANES  
> 20 M/S IN ERA-INTERIM FOR  
SCAT WINDS > 20 M/S



ACCUMULATED PDF OF  
SCATTEROMETER WINDS  
ABOVE 20 M/S



# Trends in extreme wind speed



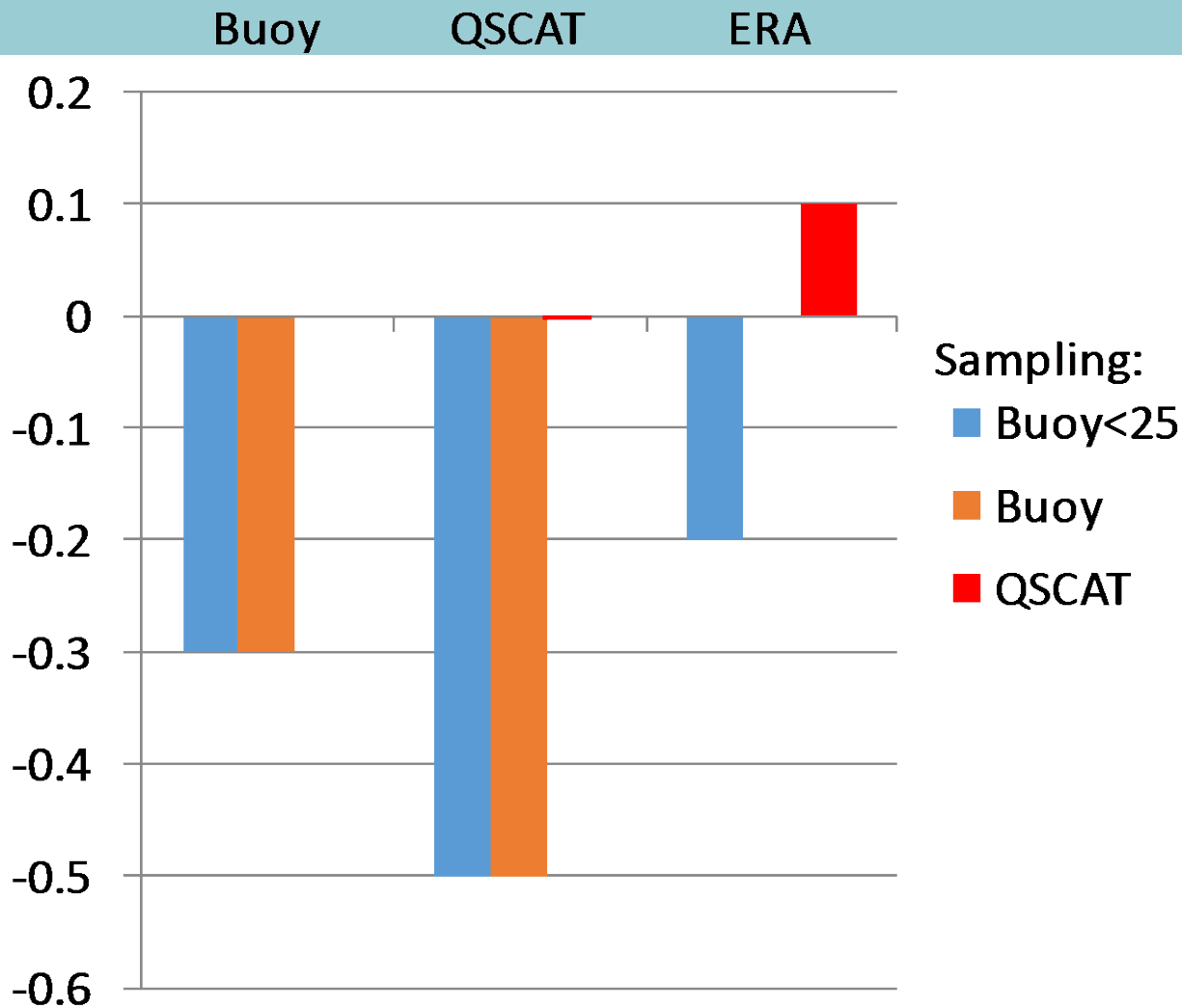
Trend in Wind Speed (in 0.1 m/s per 10 year)

- Controversy in trends of mean and extremes
- Wentz, F. J., and L. Ricciardulli, 2011, *Science*
- Young, I. R., S. Zieger, and A. V. Babanin, 2011: *Science*
- Local trends of 1 m/s are quite feasible
- Satellite, NWP and buoy sampling see different trends

# Climate trends 1999-2009



- Required accuracy is 0.1 m/s per 10 years (GCOS)
- Trends sampled at buoys are different from global trends sampled by QSCAT or ERA
- Moored buoys are **absolutely** needed for satellite calibration
- Moored buoys do not represent the global climate (SH lacking)
- Satellites can measure global climate change





# Project ERA\*

- KNMI produced ERA-interim U10S at full resolution
- ERA-interim is interpolated to scatterometer WVCs
- Difference PDFs between ERA and scatterometers are locally accumulated to correct ERA-interim; these identify:
  - NWP artefacts
    - › Lack of ocean current
    - › Excessive mixing in stable air (Randu)
    - › Lack of ocean eddy-scale structure (Chelton)
    - › Poor tropical dynamics, particularly convective scales
  - Scatterometer artefacts, presumably small