



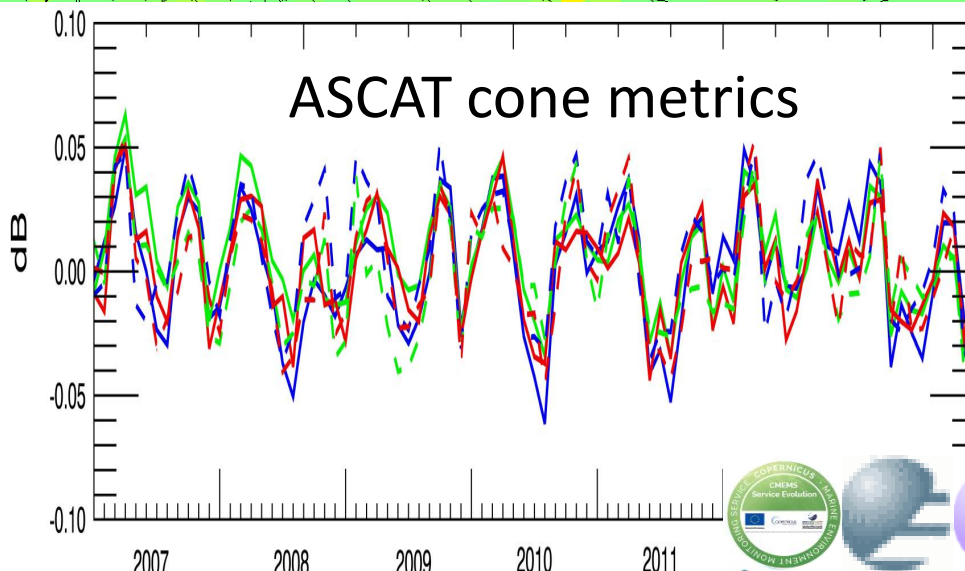
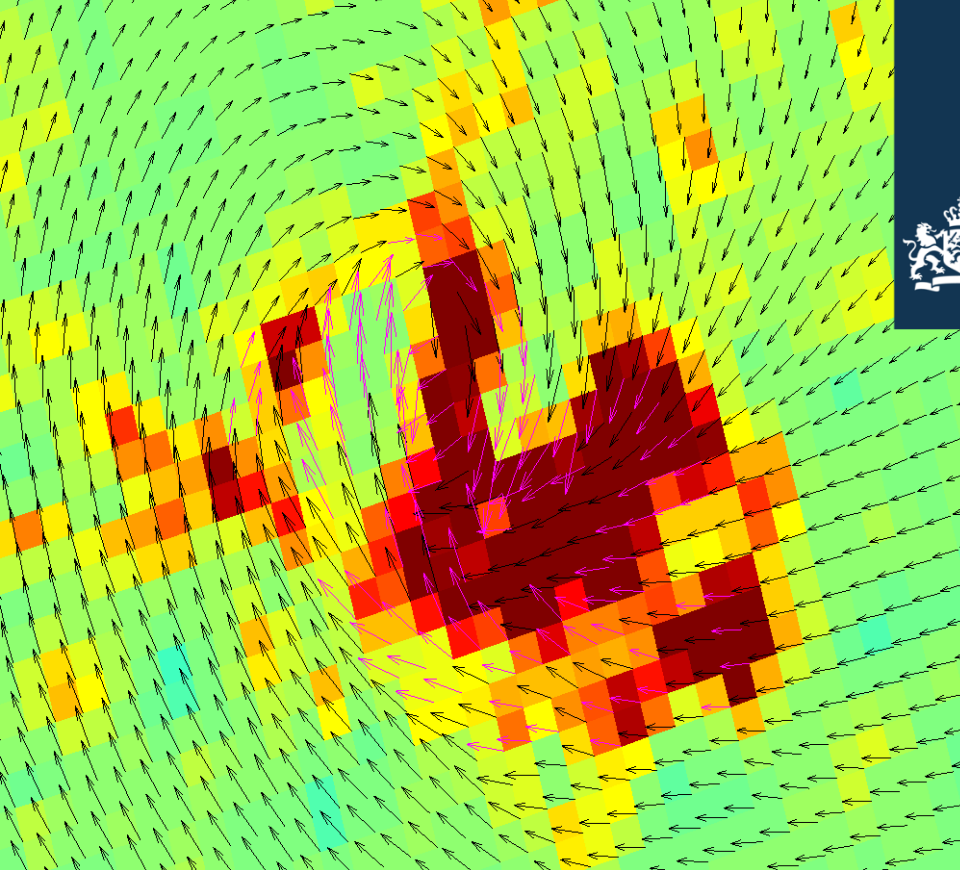
Royal Netherlands  
Meteorological Institute  
*Ministry of Infrastructure and Waterworks*

# ISSI Wg Microwave Scatterometers

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

EUMETSAT OSI SAF: L2 data services  
EUMETSAT NWP SAF: software  
EU Copernicus Marine Core Services: L3/4

Bern, 20 November 2018



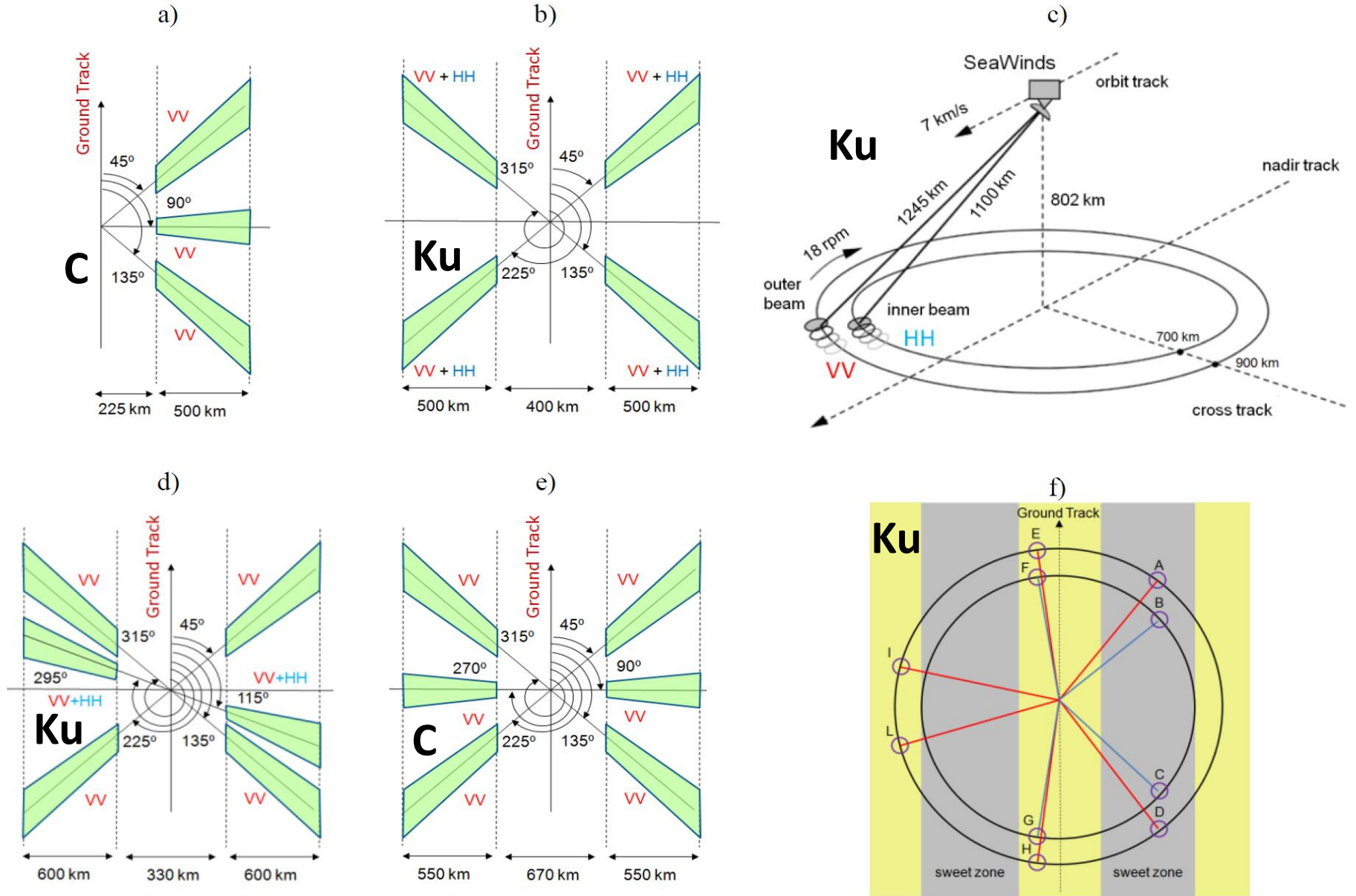


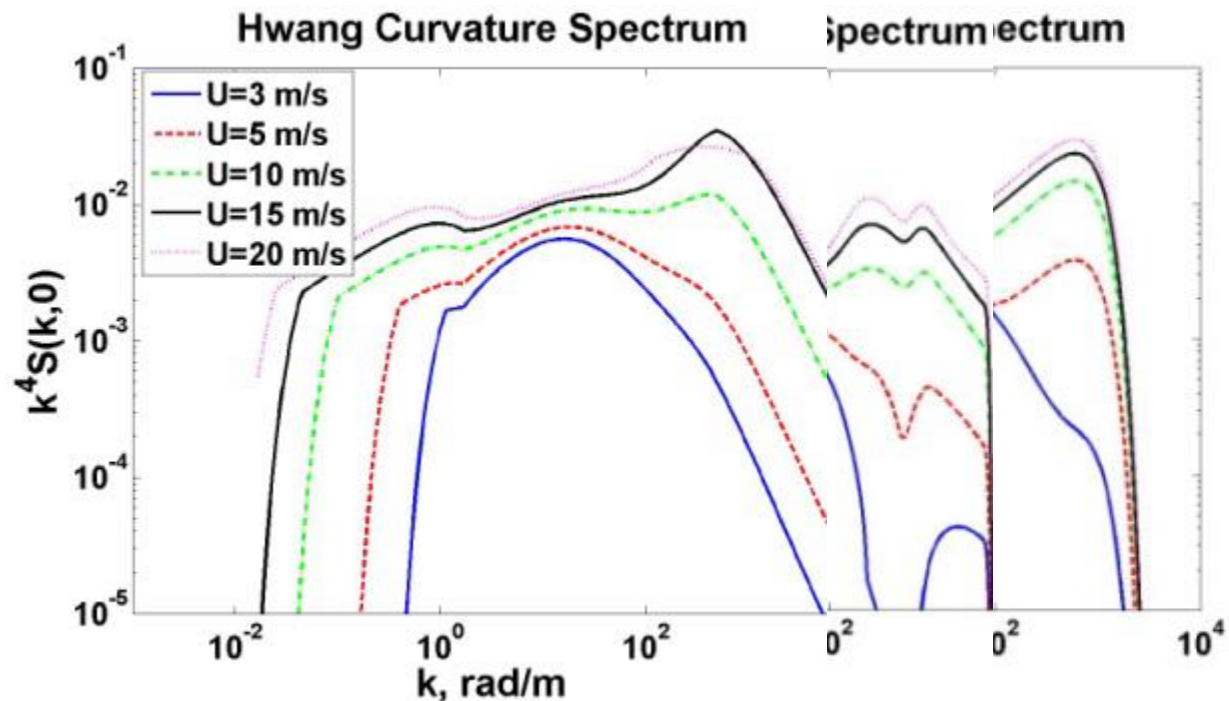
Fig. 1.4 Sketch of the microwave illumination patterns of: a) AMI (ERS-1/2); b) SASS (SeaSat-A); c) and f) SeaWinds, Oceansat-2 SCAT and HY-2A; d) NSCAT; e) MetOp ASCAT-A and B. The case a), b), d) and e) correspond to a fan beam geometry whereas c) and f) correspond to a pencil beam geometry.

# Satellite $\mu\text{w}$ scatterometers

- ❖ Ground-based transponders are inaccurate for quality monitoring, but provide ball-park calibration for ASCAT
- ❖ The rain forest has a daily cycle of about 15% in  $\mu\text{w}$  backscatter; it may be used for stability monitoring at given LTAN
- ❖ Land targets are affected by moisture events (dew, rain)
- ❖ Ice/snow targets may be stable for months, years or decades, but will be affected by  $T > 0$  / rain (climate change)
- ❖ No absolute calibration, but
  - ❖ Very stable instruments within 0.1 dB (2%)
  - ❖ Cone metrics provides order 0.02 dB calibration for ASCAT (0.02 m/s)
  - ❖ Excellent relative calibration between instruments and over time
  - ❖ Non sun-synchronous satellite references for intercalibration
  - ❖ Excellent and consistent GMFs at used wavelengths, polarizations and angles
  - ❖ Many close C- and Ku-band collocations, allowing improved GMFs and consistency
  - ❖ Reasonable control on ancillary parameters: SST, stability, waves, rain, . . .
  - ❖ Well-known and controlled in situ and NWP references (except for extremes)
  - ❖ Generic C- and Ku-band processors
- ❖ Use ASCAT 2013 as calibration reference?

# Satellite $\mu\text{w}$ scatterometers

- ❖ Bragg scattering interference of microwaves and ocean waves
- ❖ Hydrodynamic ocean short-wave modulation, choppy wave model
- ❖ Wave-wind interaction, wave boundary layer (scatterometers see no long waves so far)
- ❖ The short wave spectrum is dominated by breaking waves and their dissipation for modal and higher winds
- ❖ Crucial to describe the short wave spectrum, but rather complex
- ❖ Use satellite data
- ❖ Wave shadowing and interference at grazing incidences
- ❖ Specular reflection dominates at smaller incidence angles (geometric optics)



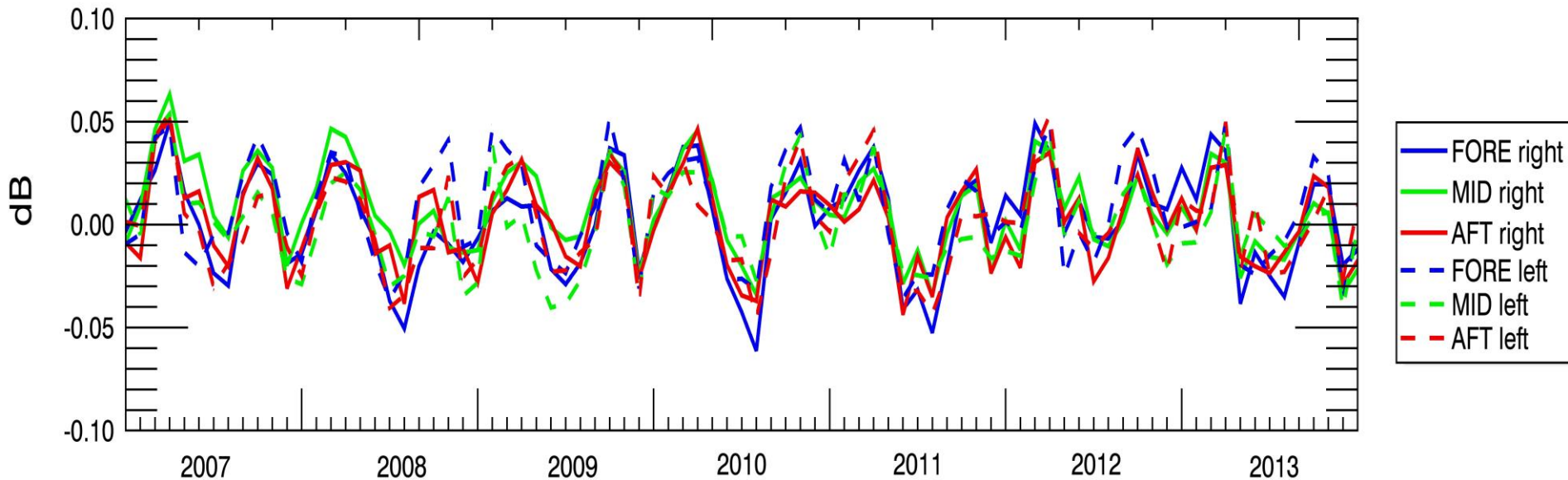
# Uncertainty

- ❖ Users are interested in stability and consistency of L2 geophysical products, e.g., detect 0.1 m/s trends over 10 years
  - ❖ Cone metrics provides order 0.02 dB calibration for ASCAT (0.02 m/s)
- ❖ Cone spread over ocean to provide ocean spatial variability, which is found equal to wind variability (wind downbursts, turbulence, convection)
- ❖ Related to Kp too (Kp is the  $\sigma^0$  SD)
- ❖ Can be segregated into geophysical and instrument contributions
- ❖ Wind retrieval quality is in stress-equivalent wind, correcting for air stability and mass density effects
- ❖ Scatterometer wind retrievals are very consistent after intercalibration of backscatter values and GMFs
- ❖ Physically-based models are useful to describe/understand behaviour at different wavelengths and polarizations, but fed by empirical satellite data characterization to improve accuracy
  - ❖ Wavelength dependency
  - ❖ Wind azimuth and speed dependency
  - ❖ Polarization/incidence dependency

# ASCAT is very stable

- ASCAT-A beams stay within a few hundreds of a dB (eq. to m/s)
- Cone position variation due to seasonal wind variability (reduced with u10s)
- Improve ASCAT attitude knowledge? (cf. Long, 1998)
- Asset for Ku-band scatterometer developments; radiometers
- Reference for NWP reanalyses
- Can method be applied for other scatterometers?

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



# Stress-equivalent wind

- 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  $s$** , and e.m. sea properties (assumed constant)
- Air-sea momentum exchange is described by  $\tau = \rho_{air} u_* u_*$ , the stress vector; depends on air mass density  $\rho_{air}$ , friction velocity vector  $u_*$
- Surface layer winds (e.g.,  $u_{10}$ ) depend on  $u_*$ , atmospheric stability, surface roughness and the presence of ocean currents
- Equivalent neutral winds,  $u_{10N}$ , depend only on  $u_*$ , surface roughness and the presence of ocean currents and is currently used for backscatter geophysical model functions (GMFs)
- $u_{10S} = \sqrt{\rho_{air}} \cdot u_{10N} / \sqrt{\rho_0}$  is now used to be a better input for backscatter GMFs (stress-equivalent wind)
- This prevents regional biases against local wind references



# Intercalibration and standardization

- Our premise is that for given wavelength, polarization and geometry,  $\sigma^0$  should be identical in identical geophysical conditions and independent of instrument settings
- We develop generic L2 wind processing for calibrated instrument data
- Noise properties do however affect  $\sigma^0$  diagnostics, so we develop noise models too to better understand our retrievals and diagnostics
- KNMI is particularly interested to remove ( $\sigma^0$ -dependent) instrument biases as they interfere with Ku-band wind and SST dependencies (Stoffelen et al., 2017; Wang et al., 2017; Belmonte et al., 2017)
- Comparison of ScatSat with QSCAT, RSCAT and OSCAT behavior for given Geophysical Model Function GMF and NWP input to obtain consistency
- CFOSAT, HY-2 and WindRad scatterometers will follow

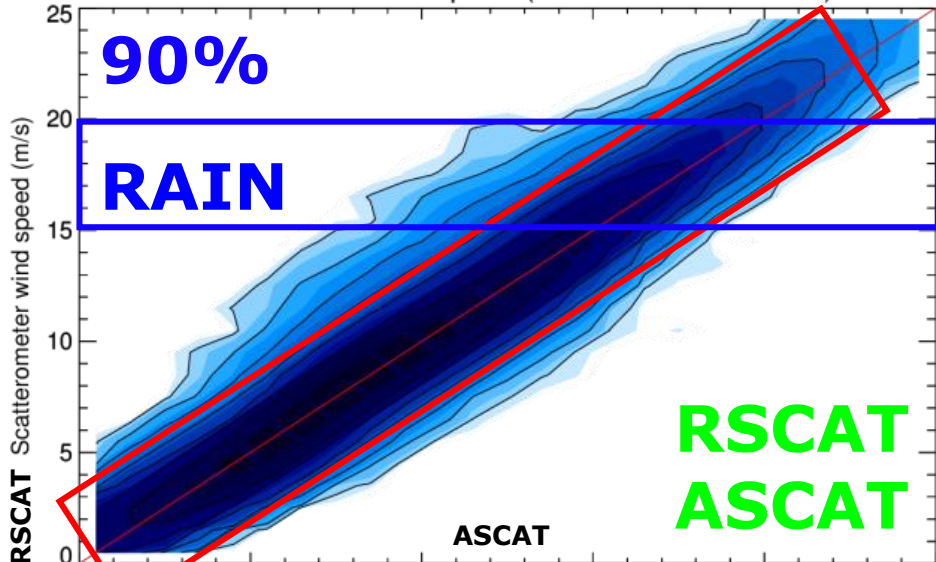




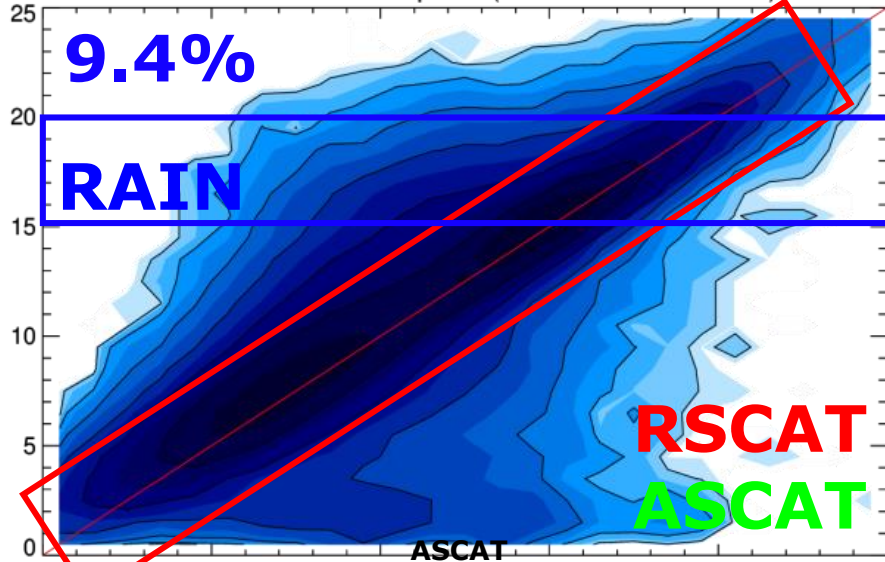
# Rain & QC affect ocean calibration



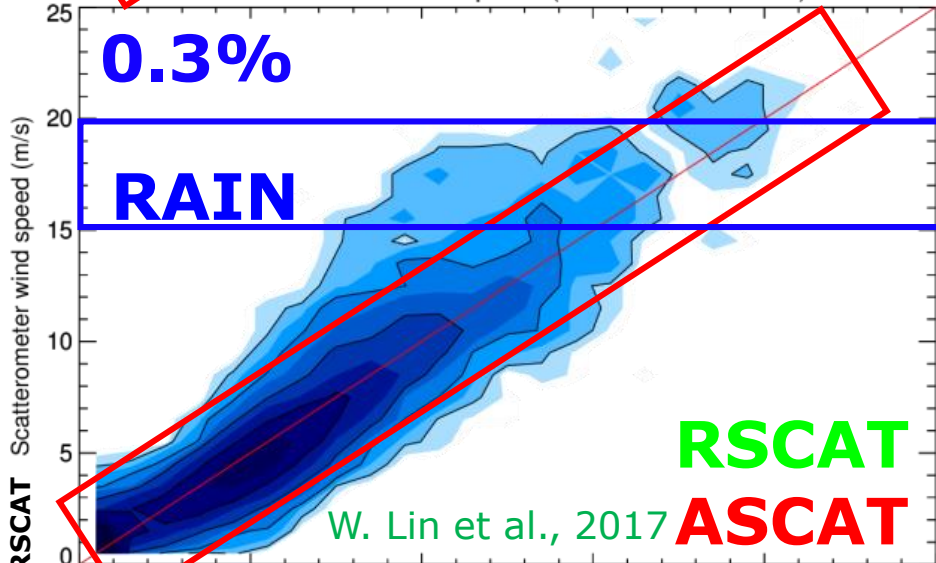
Collocation result - speed (2696733 wind vectors)



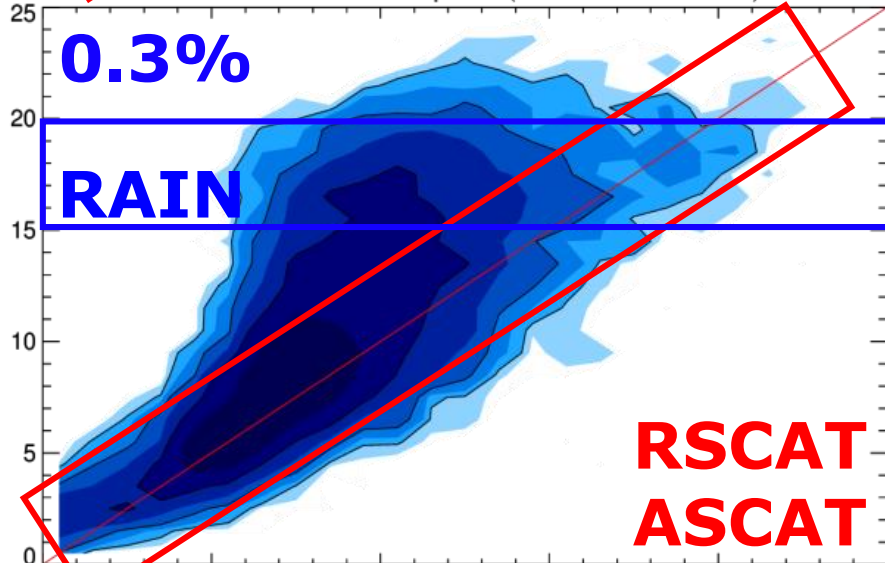
Collocation result - speed (281919 wind vectors)



Collocation result - speed (9188 wind vectors)



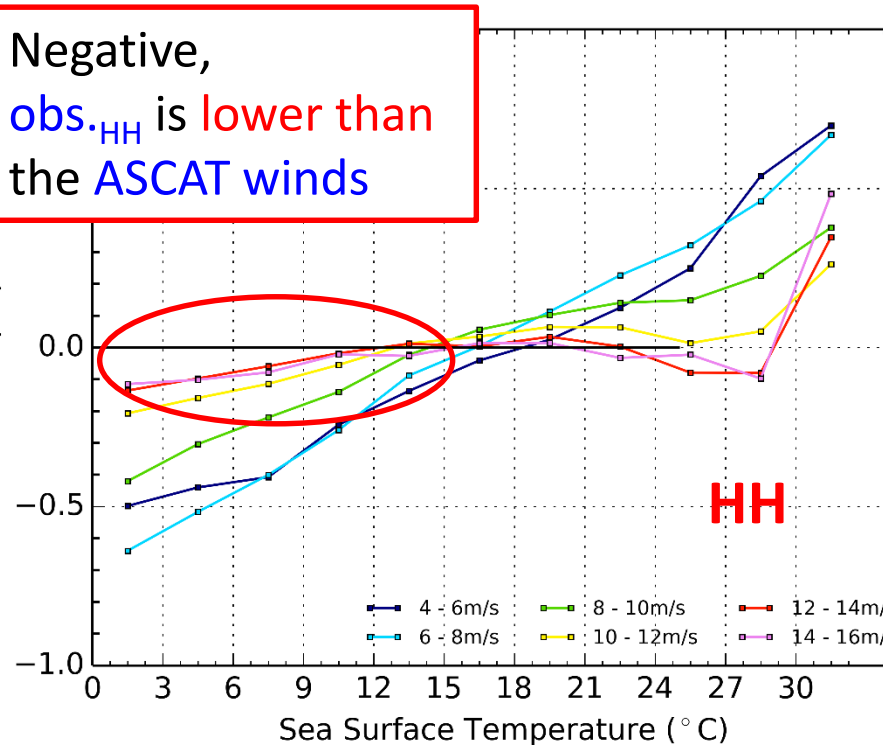
Collocation result - speed (9367 wind vectors)



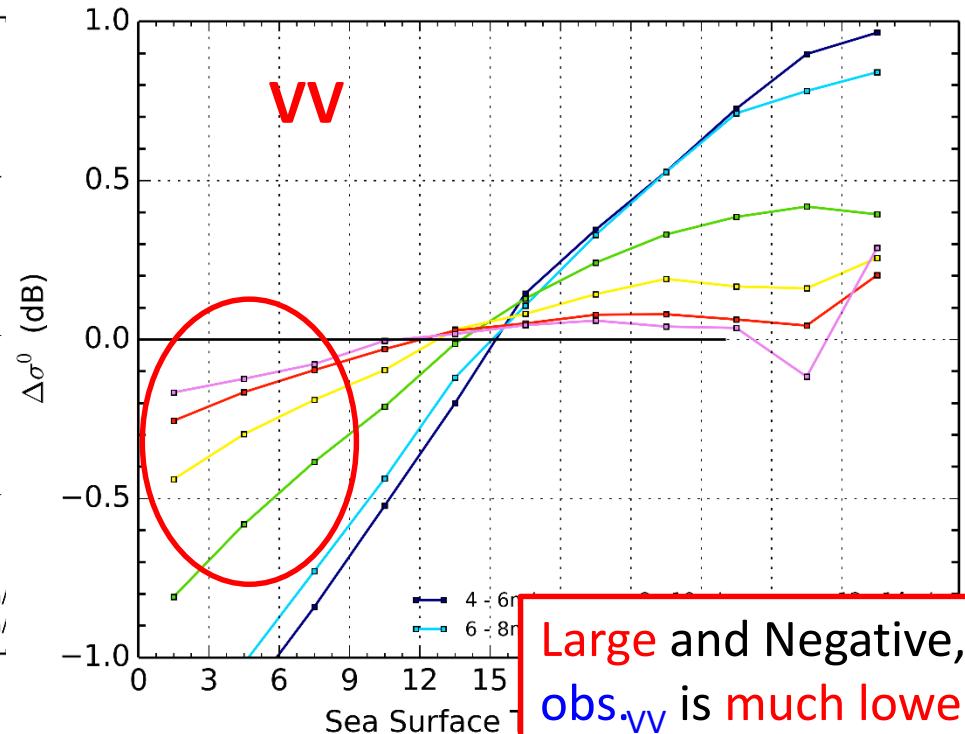
# $\Delta\sigma^0$ RSCAT minus ASCAT

$\Delta\sigma^0$  RSCAT minus simulated by NSCAT4 GMF with *ASCAT* winds

$\Delta\sigma^0$  (Rapid\_Obs. and GMF) as a function of sst HH asc



$\Delta\sigma^0$  (Rapid\_Obs. and GMF) as a function of sst VV asc

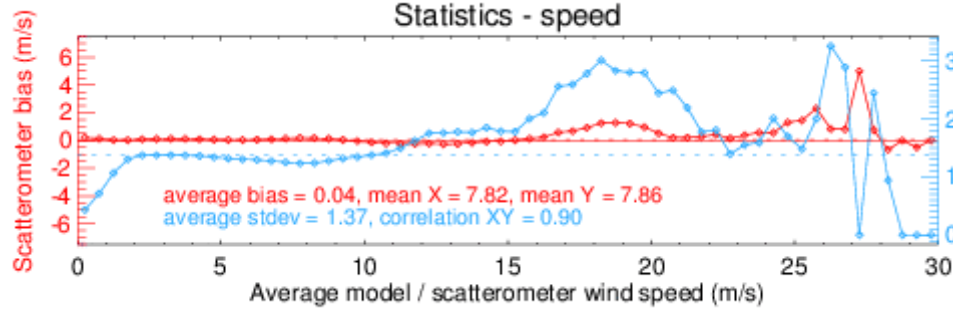


Large and Negative,  $obs_{VV}$  is much lower than the *ASCAT* winds

Inner-Swath Cases, i.e., collocated HH&VV

Basic dependencies similar to those in physically-based models

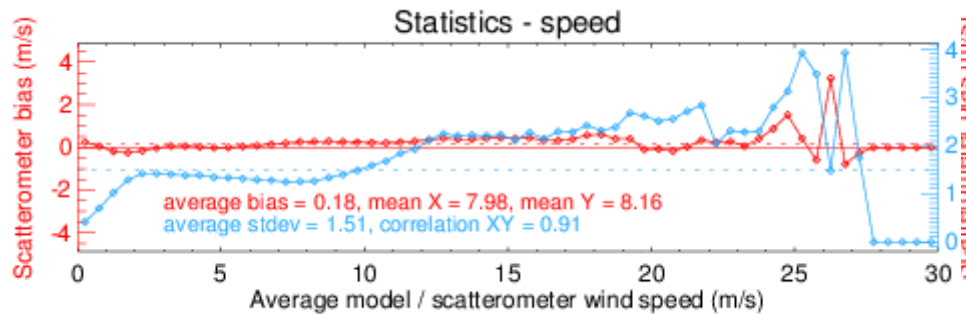
# ScatSat retrievals



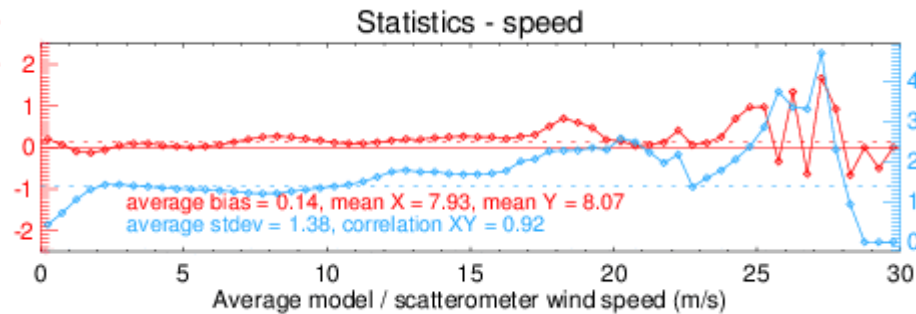
VV only

- ✓ After correction for  $\sigma^0 \geq -19\text{dB}$ :  

$$\sigma^0(\text{new}) = \sigma^0(\text{old}) + [\sigma^0(\text{old}) + 19] * 0.11$$
- ✓ QC not normalized
- ✓ Non-linear  $\sigma^0$  calibration !



HH only



HH + VV

➤ After Cal/Val some unexplained non-linear behaviour in Ku-band systems

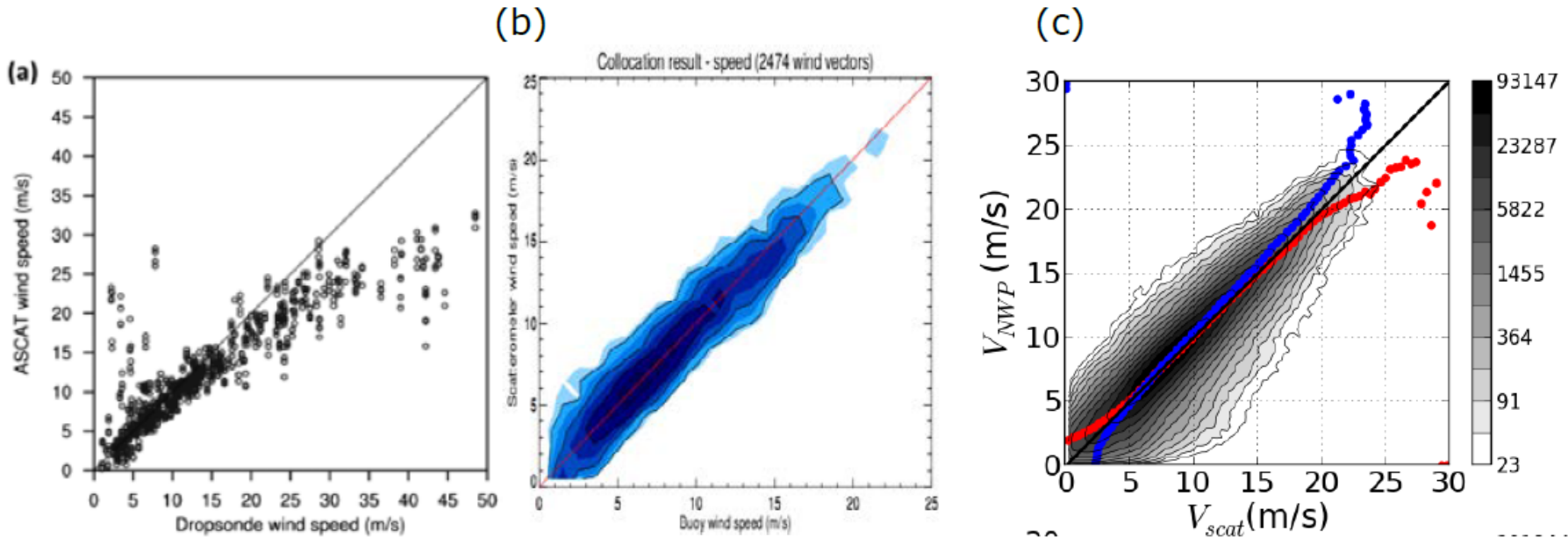
# Intercalibration

Can we make further improvements? Yes, we can:

- ❖ Pencil-beam scatterometers provide fixed combinations of polarization, incidence angle and azimuth angle at each WVC; these could be used for 4D “cone metrics” and provide a measure for long-term  $\sigma^0$  stability and consistency
- ❖ Ocean calibration needs development for new class of CFOSAT and WindRad rotating fan-beam scatterometers; NSCAT-ERS collocations may be used
- ❖ NWP ocean calibration procedures will provide first guidance for CFOSAT and WindRad
- ❖ Effects of rain, SST need to be further controlled in any Ku approach, be it “cone metrics” or NWP based
- ❖ A stable non-synchronous satellite instrument remains extremely useful for intercalibration and geophysical development, which latter is needed for improved error budgets for some calibration methods
- ❖ Error propagation in calibration methods and wind retrieval need to be better understood; “cone metrics” (MLE) provides measure of noise
- ❖ “cone metrics” will be used to improve GMFs to better describe measured  $\sigma^0$  PDF
- ❖ Improve understanding of in situ wind references to allow absolute wind calibration at high and extreme winds (CHEFS)



# Inconsistencies in wind references



**Figure 3.3: ASCAT wind speed scatter plots of a) ASCAT versus drop sondes (from [37]), b) ASCAT versus moored buoy winds and c) ECMWF NWP winds versus ASCAT. Using drop sondes, moored buoy winds and NWP references above 15 m/s may result in discrepancies due to height and position representation differences.**

- Are dropsondes too high, or moored buoys and ECMWF too low at 15-25 m/s ?
- EUMETSAT CHEFS project addresses this; WL150 not suitable for calibration

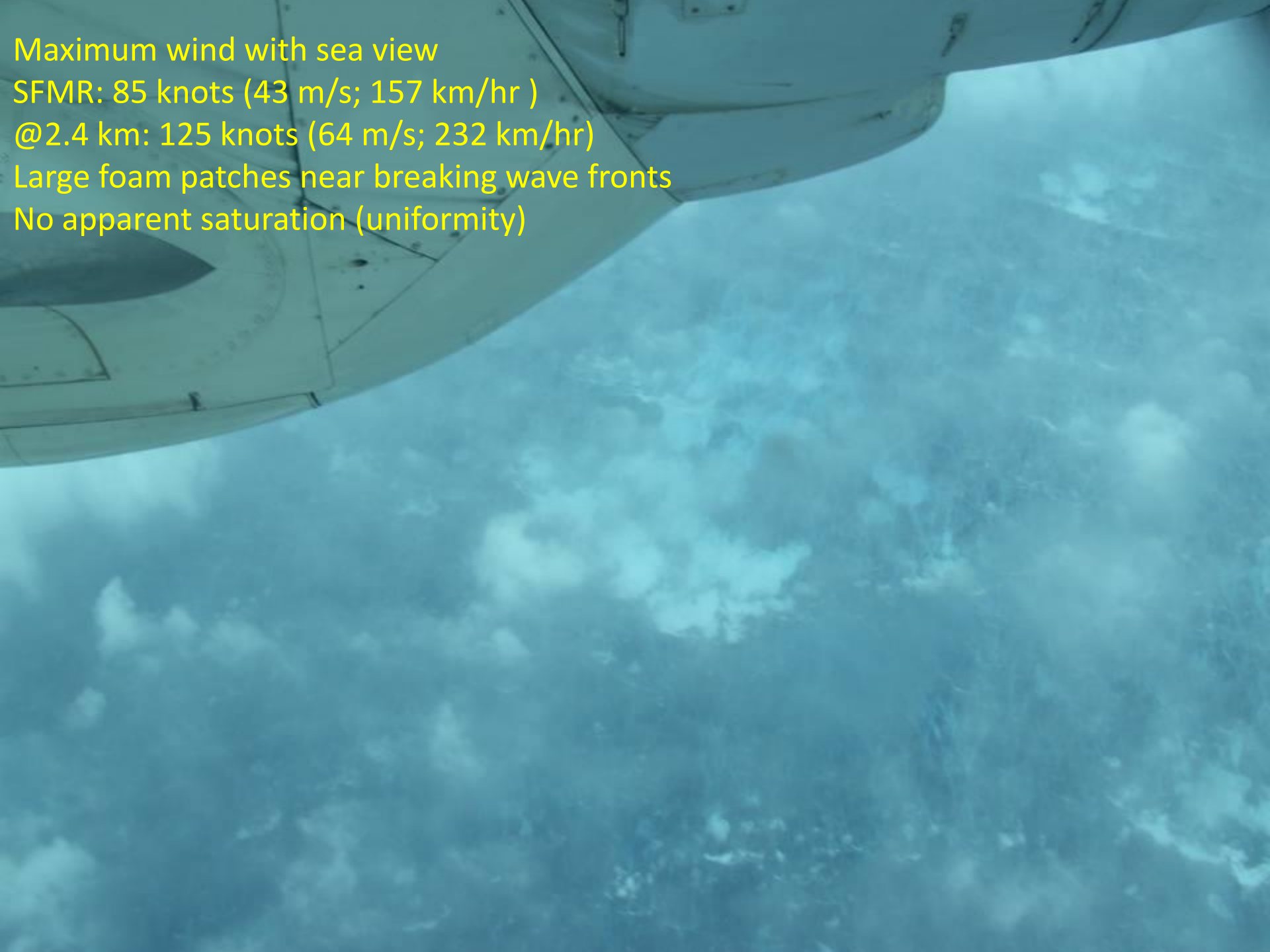
Maximum wind with sea view

SFMR: 85 knots (43 m/s; 157 km/hr )

@2.4 km: 125 knots (64 m/s; 232 km/hr)

Large foam patches near breaking wave fronts

No apparent saturation (uniformity)

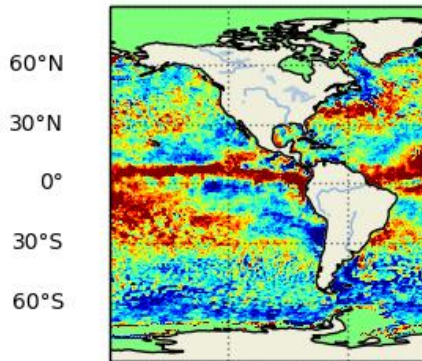


Turbulent sea in the eye (with no wind!)



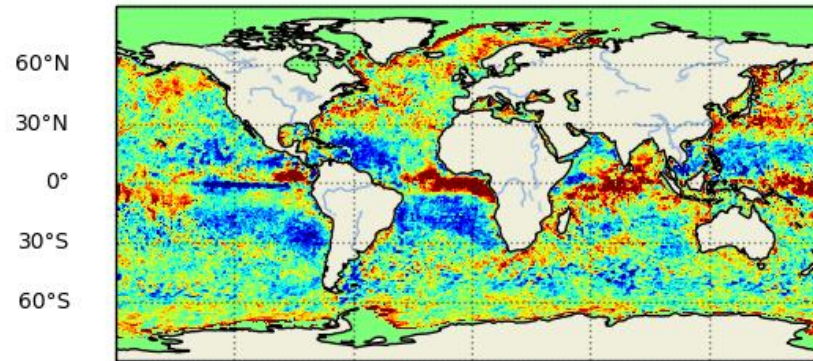
# Global wind speed biases

QuikSCAT



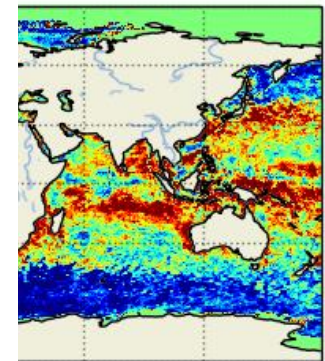
180°W 120°W 60°W

ASCAT-B



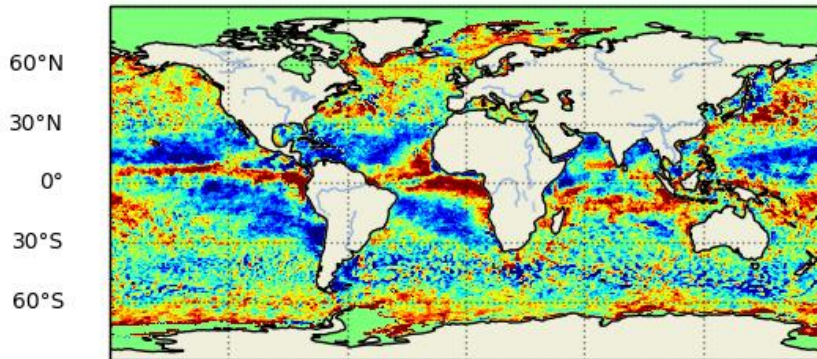
180°W 120°W 60°W 0° 60°E 120°E 180°E

CAT4



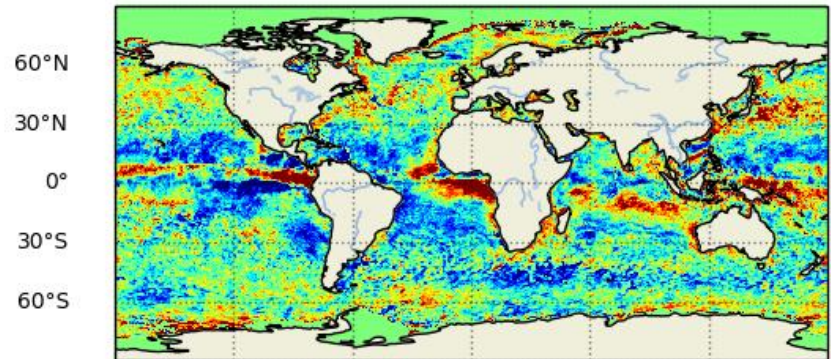
60°E 120°E 180°E

QuikSCAT new cal, NSCAT4DS, SST corr

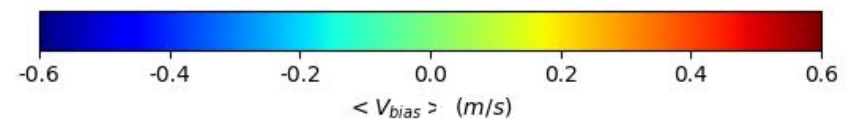
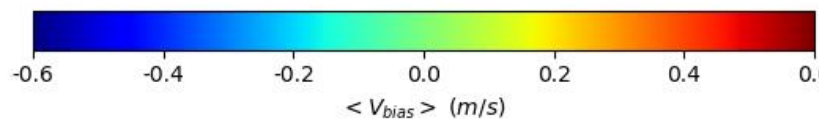


180°W 120°W 60°W 0° 60°E 120°E 180°E

ScatSat-1 with new cal, NSCAT4DS, SST corr



180°W 120°W 60°W 0° 60°E 120°E 180°E

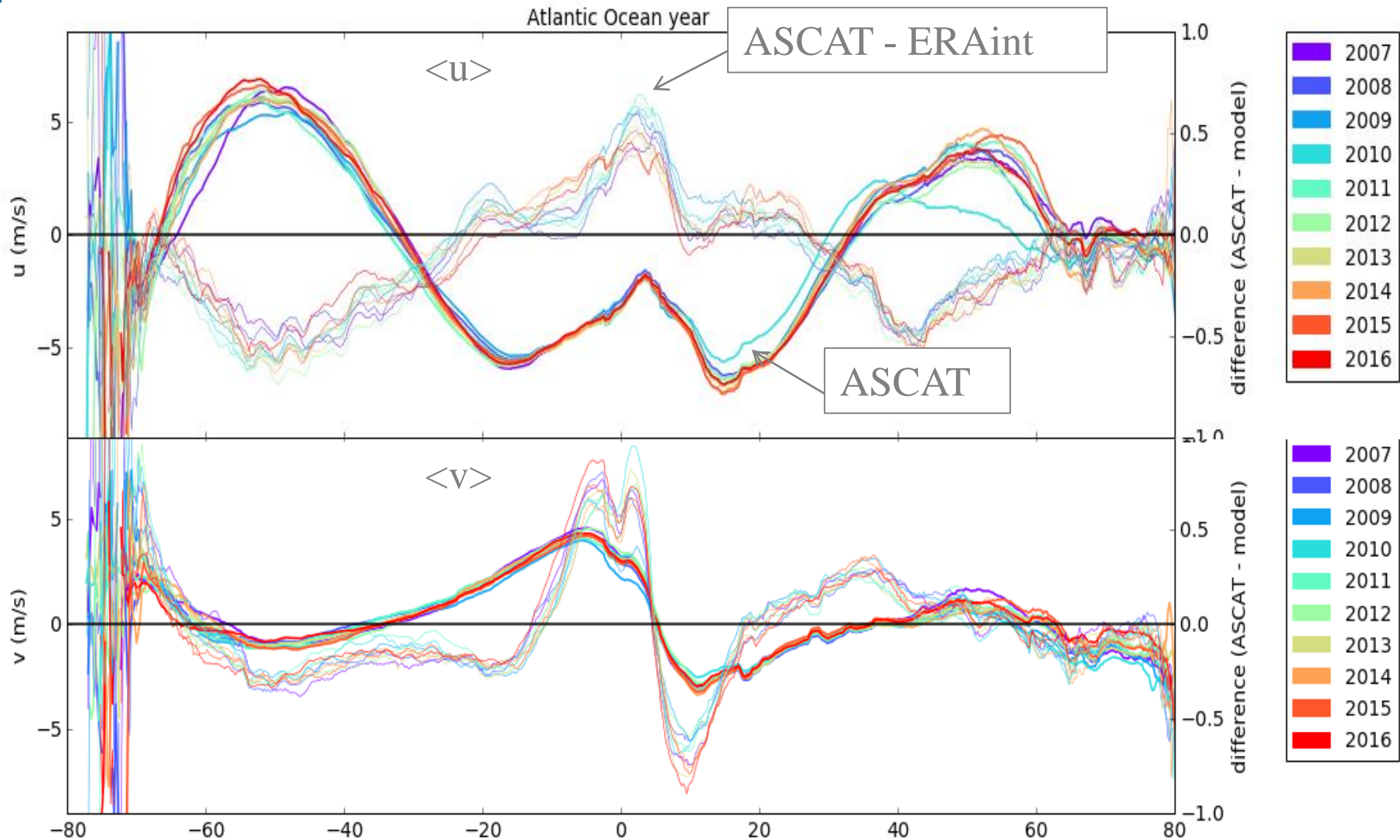




# Model Wind Errors

- Typically 0.5 to 1 m/s in component bias and SD (10-20%) on model scales
  - Underestimation of wind turning in NWP model: surface winds more aligned to geostrophic balance above than to pressure gradient below → stable model winds are more zonal with reduced meridional flows
  - Sandu (ECMWF) reports that turbulent diffusion is too large (enlarged to reduce sub-grid mesoscale variability) which helps improve the representation of synoptic cyclone development at the expense of reducing the ageostrophic wind turning angle ...
- It is a problem that the ocean is forced in the wrong direction though
- Other processes poorly represented include 3D turbulence on scales below 500 km and wide-spread wind downbursts in (tropical) moist convection (King et al., 2017)
- Atmospheric mesoscale variability stirs the ocean and enhances fluxes
- Adaptive bias correction needed for data assimilation and ocean forcing

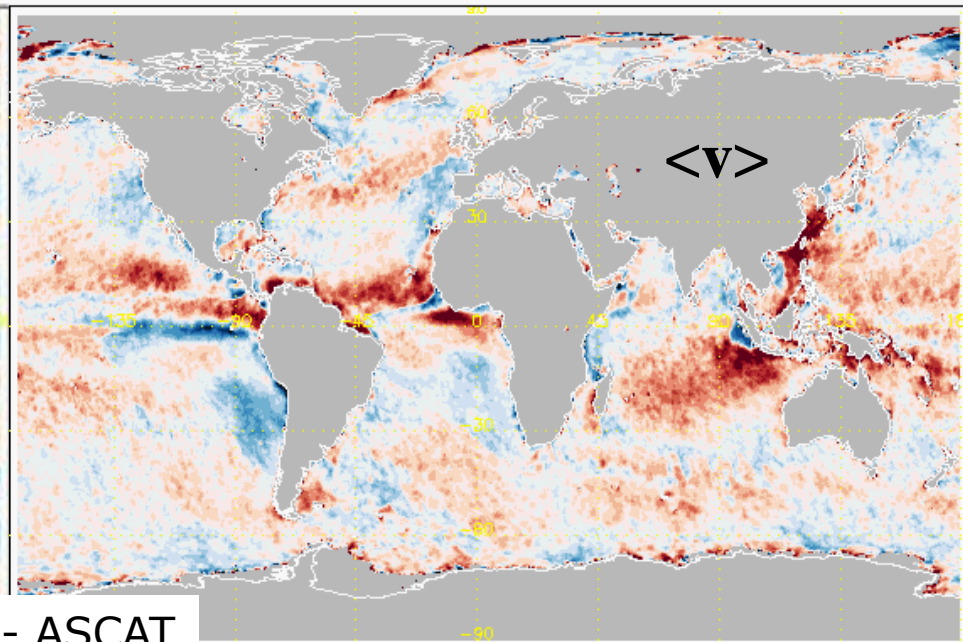
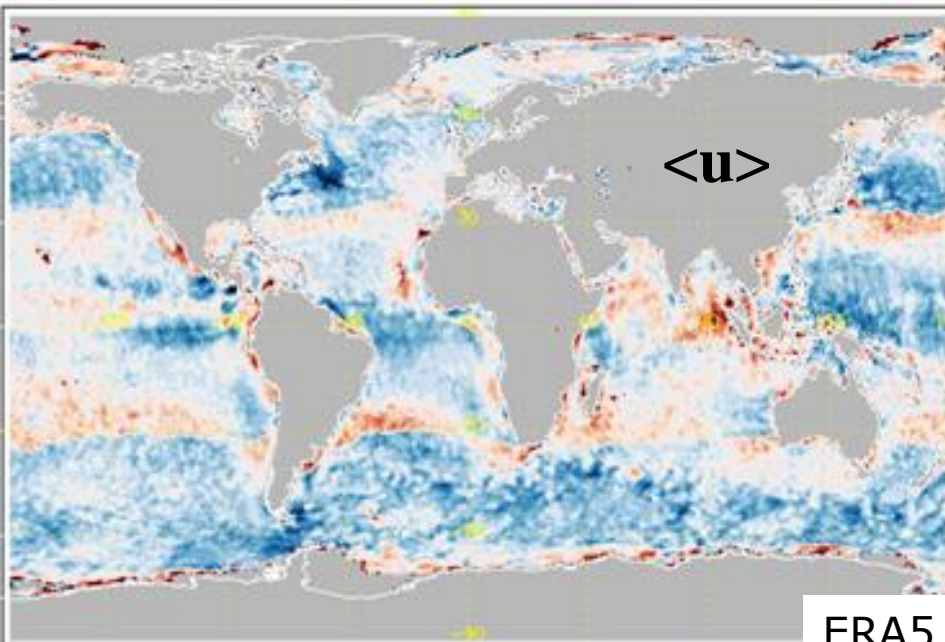
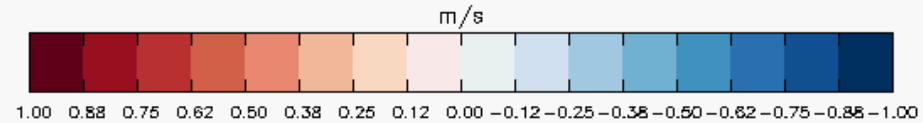
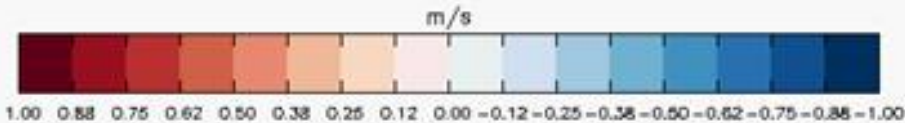
# Zonal, Meridional Errors



→ Systematic errors are larger than interannual variability

# Zonal, Meridional Errors

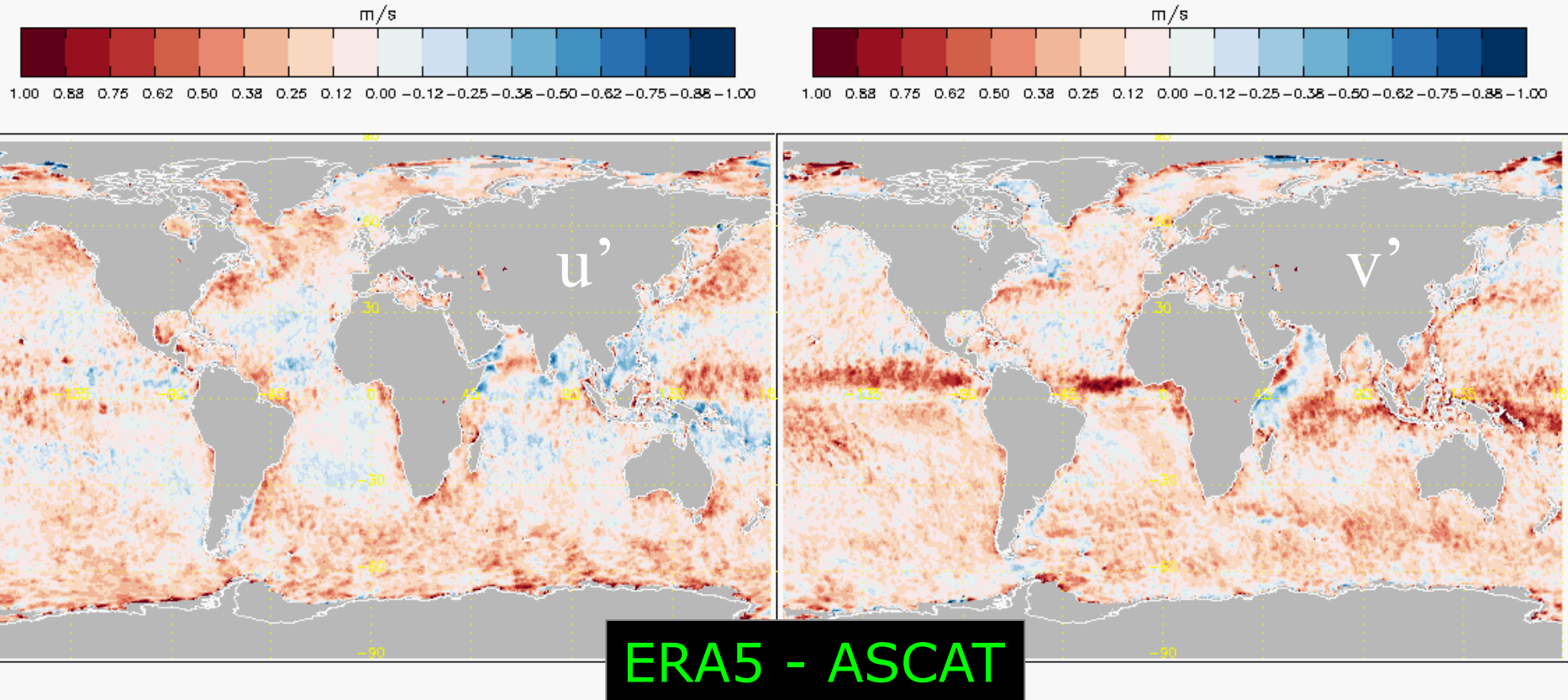
ERA5 has spatial error patterns similar to ERAInt (only reduced in amplitude by ~20%)



ERA5 - ASCAT

- Excess mean model zonal winds (blues at mid-latitudes and subtropics)
- Defective mean model meridional winds (reds at mid-lats and tropics)

# Transient Wind Errors



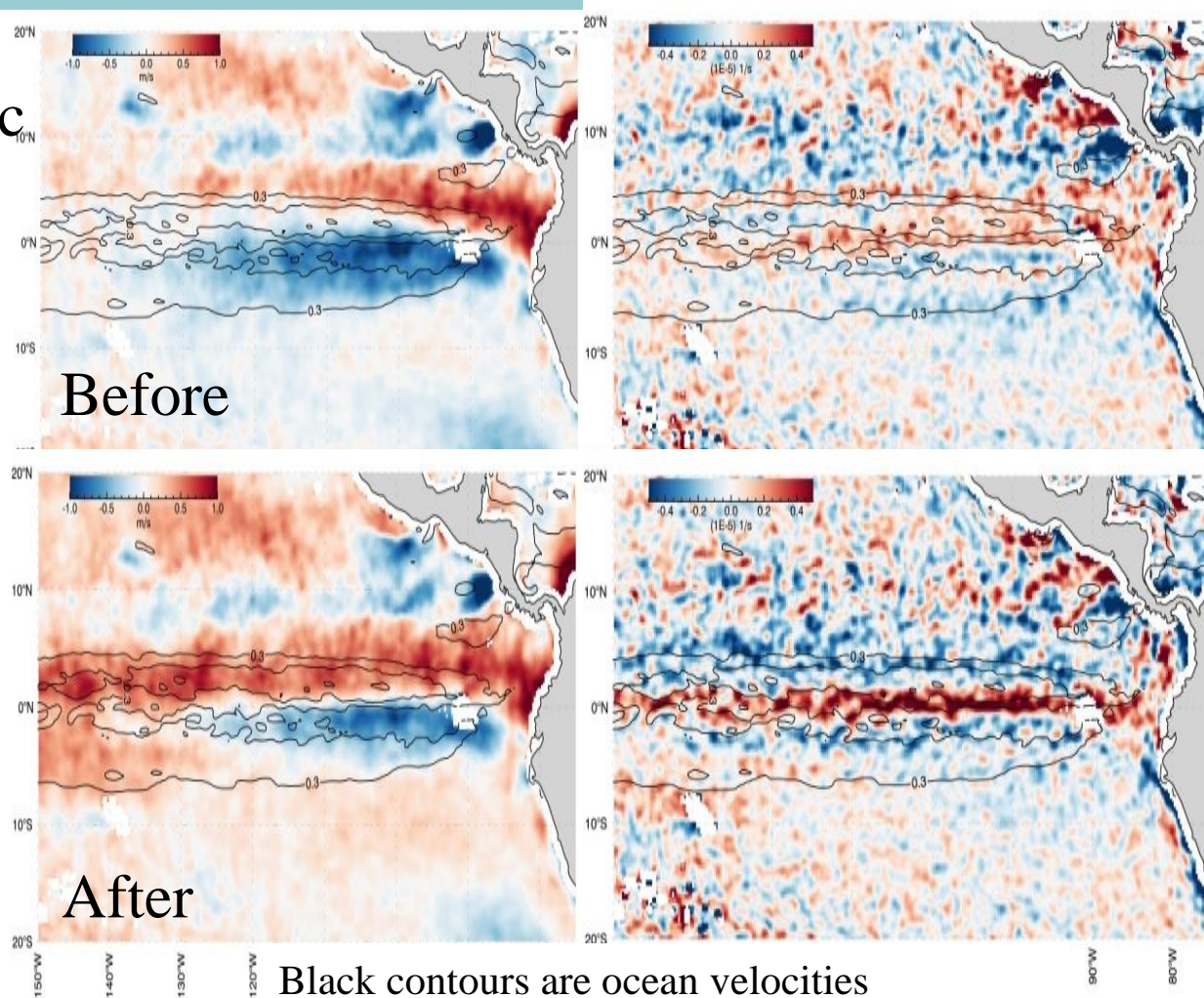
- Defective model wind variability overall:
- Zonal (left) and meridional (right) at mid-to-high latitudes
  - Particularly meridional deficit along ITCZ
  - Locally enhanced along WBCs (ARC, ACC, GS, KE currents)

# Effect of Globcurrent

## Eastern Tropical Pacific

→ Globcurrent accentuates SST effects in ASCAT winds that are missing in ECMWF winds

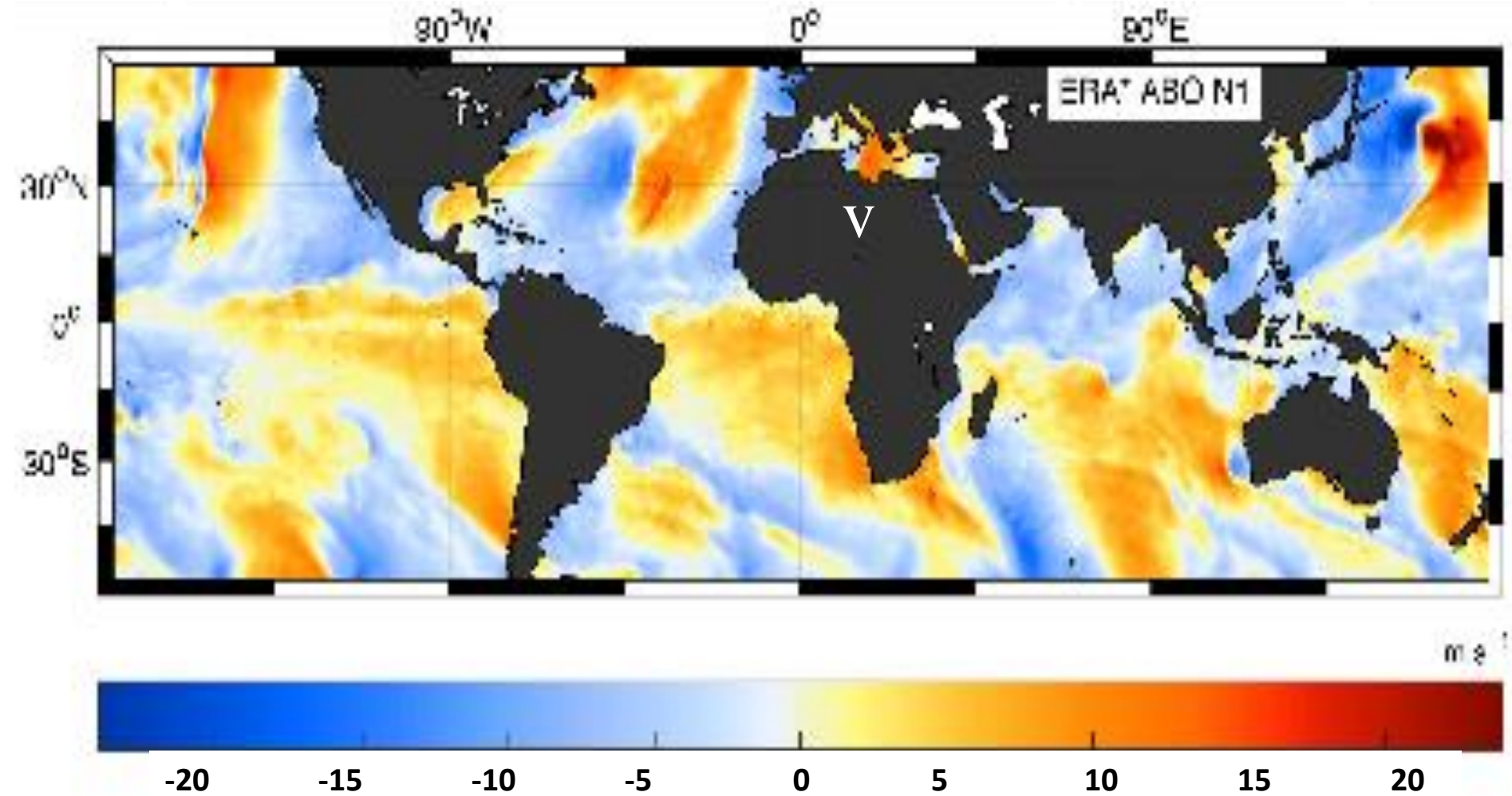
→ Provides much better alignment of ECMWF discrepancies with branched SEC (N and S) to show positive curl error in between



Mean wind speed differences to ERA5

Mean wind stress curl differences to ERA5

# Corrected ERA-i with ASCAT, OSCAT



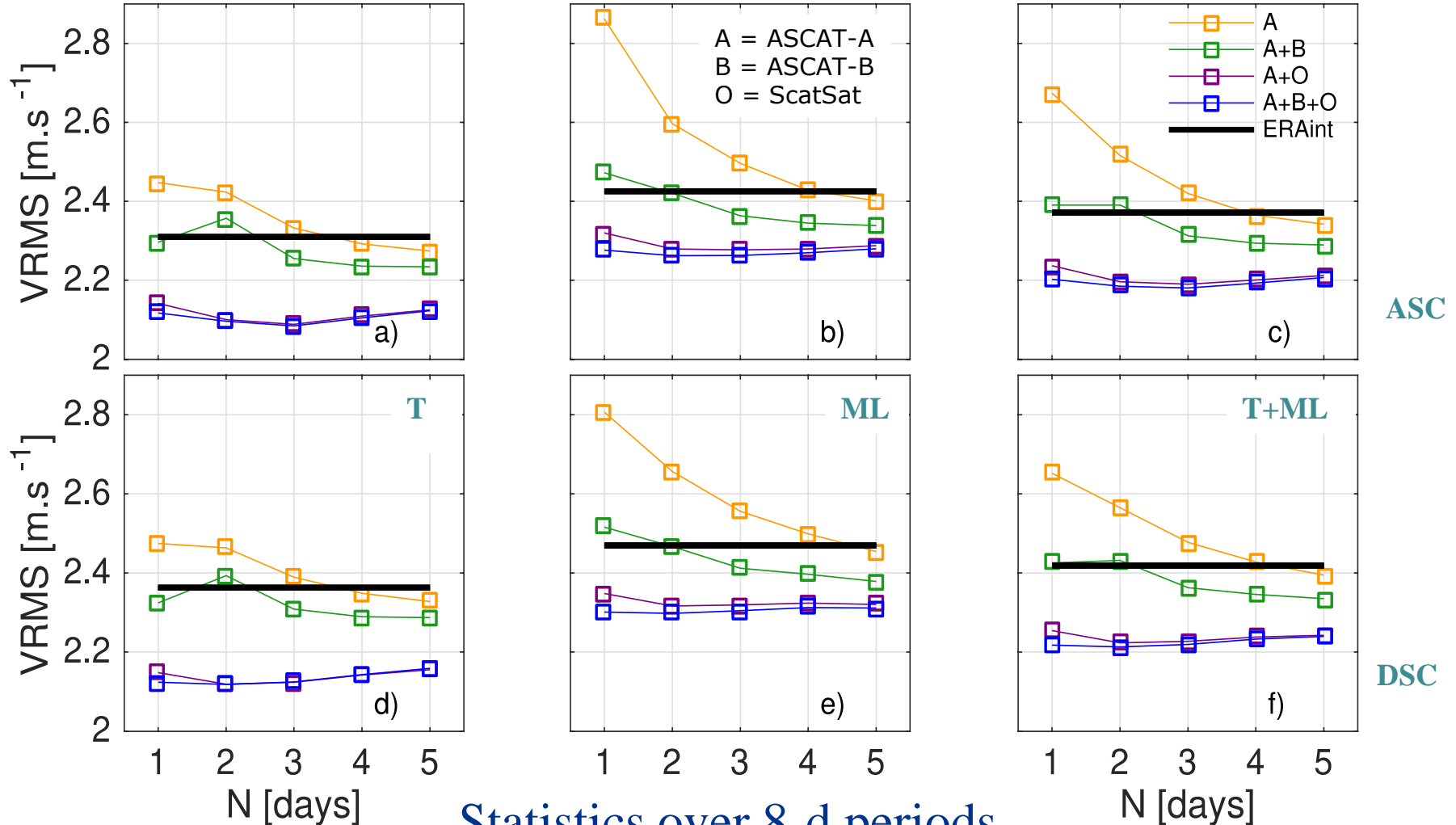
Corrected wind component (v) 20130115 at 06 UTC with 1-day average of ASCAT-A, -B and ScatSat

Trindade et al., 2019



# Verification of ERA\* with HSCAT

ASCAT and ScatSat at 9:00-9:30 LTAN and HY2A SCAT at 6 am/6 pm LTAN





# Model Corrections

- ① Due to the persistence of the bias between model and scatterometer data it is possible to add small scale information, i.e., include some of the physical processes that are missing or misrepresented in ERAi, and reduce the ERAi errors
- ② ERA\* shows a significant increase in small-scale true wind variability, persistent small scales are kept in SC, due to oceanic features such as wind changes over SST gradients and ocean currents
- ③ Although the method is dependent on sampling, it shows potential, notably in the tropics, due to the scatterometer constellation
- ④ Temporal windows could be several days for ocean forcing fields in case of fewer scatterometers as the corrections appear rather stable
- ⑤ From the statistical and spectral analyses, the optimal configuration to introduce the oceanic mesoscale is the use of complementary scatterometers and a temporal window of two or three days.
- ⑥ ERA\* effectively resolves spatial scales of about 50 km, substantially smaller than those resolved by global NWP ocean wind output (about 150 km)
- ⑦ Adaptive SC will be very useful as variational bias correction in NWP data assimilation as it reduces o-b variances by about 20%.





# Further references

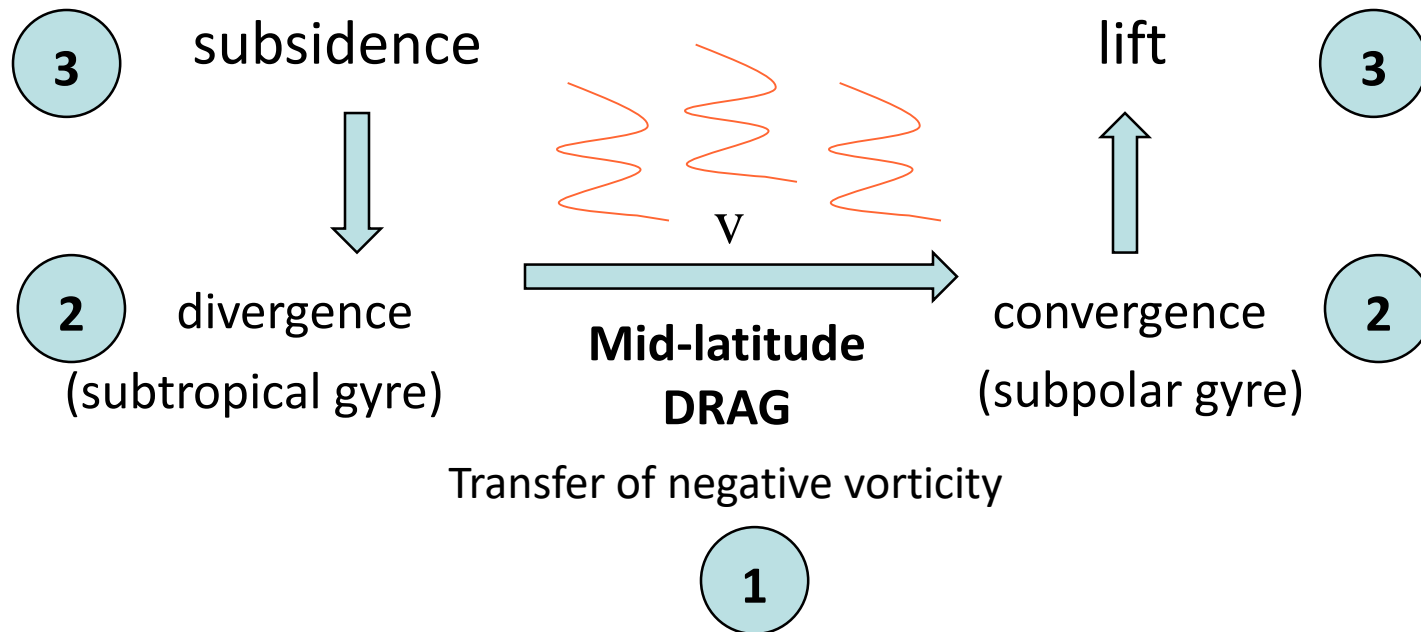
- [scat@knmi.nl](mailto:scat@knmi.nl)
  - Registration for data, software, service messages
  - Help desk
- [www.knmi.nl/scatterometer](http://www.knmi.nl/scatterometer)
  - Multiplatform viewer, tiles!
  - Status, monitoring, validation
  - Validation reports, ATBD and User Manuals
- NWP SAF monitoring [www.metoffice.gov.uk/research/interproj/nwpsaf/monitoring.html](http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/research/interproj/nwpsaf/monitoring.html)
- Copernicus Marine Environment Monitoring Service [marine.copernicus.eu/](http://marine.copernicus.eu/)
- 2016 scatterometer conference, [www.eumetsat.int/Home/Main/Satellites/Metop/index.htm?l=en](http://www.eumetsat.int/Home/Main/Satellites/Metop/index.htm?l=en)
- May 2017 TGRS special issue on scatterometry
- IOVWST, [coaps.fsu.edu/scatterometry/meeting/](http://coaps.fsu.edu/scatterometry/meeting/)



# Error Mechanism ?

At **mid-latitudes**, missing wind variability in ERA can be associated to:

- Excess zonal mean model winds and defective poleward flows
- Excess cyclonic stress curl
- Defective subtropical divergence and defective subpolar convergence

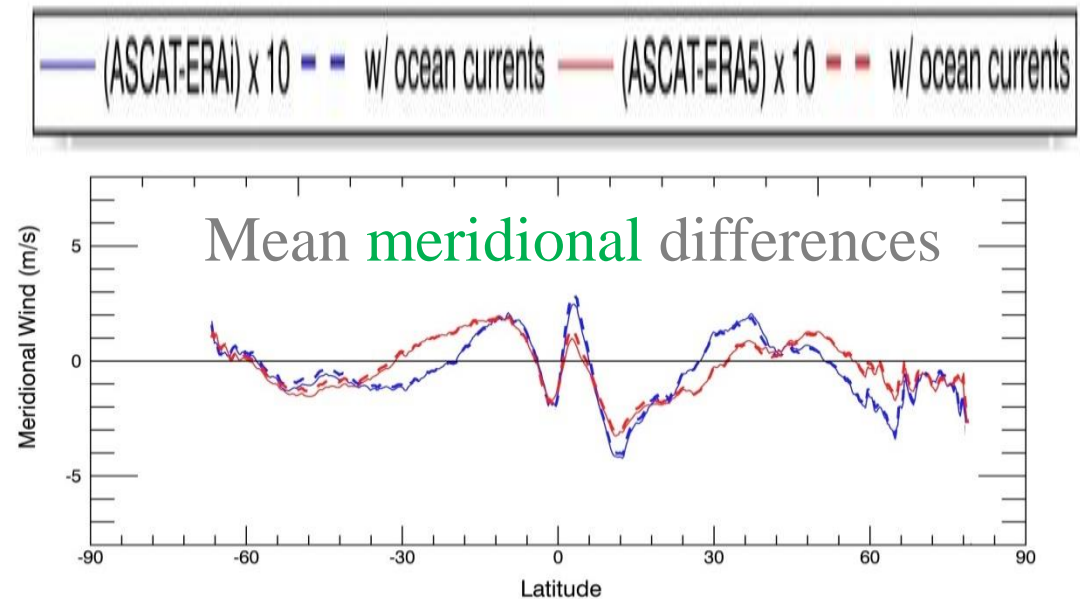
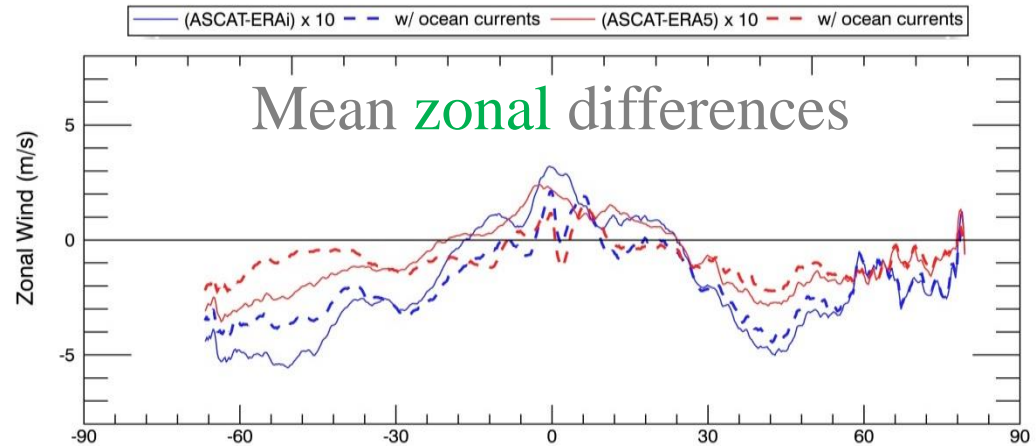


→ Missing 3D turbulence weakens (poleward) flow in Ferrel Cell  
→ Ocean forcing implications?

# Effect of Globcurrent

→ Globcurrent notably relieves the zonal wind biases

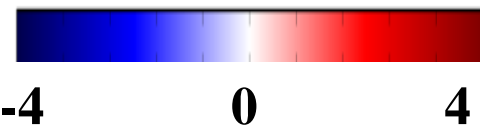
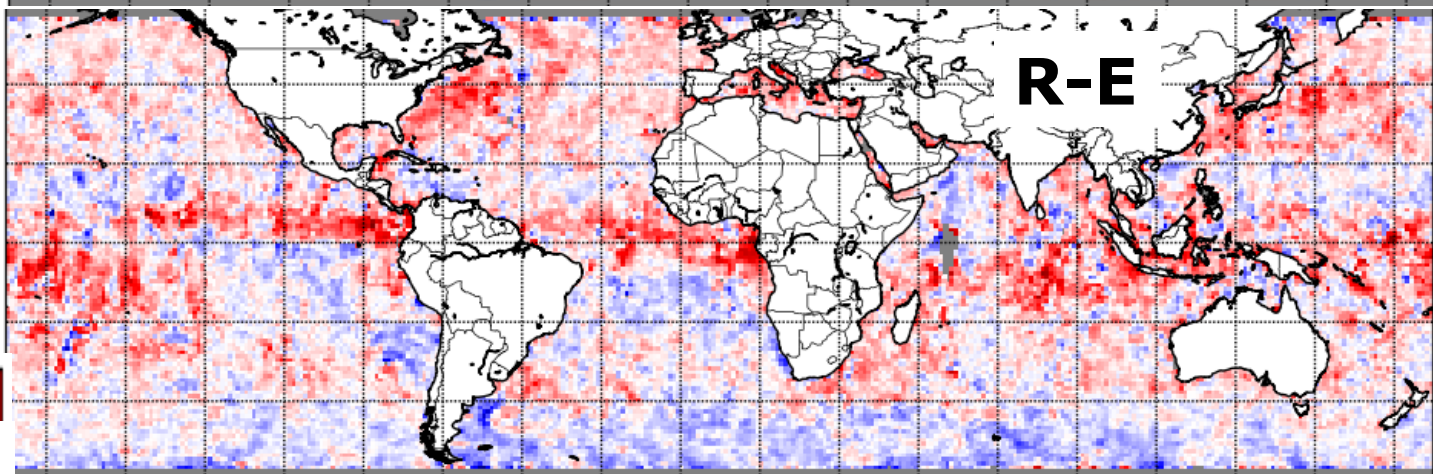
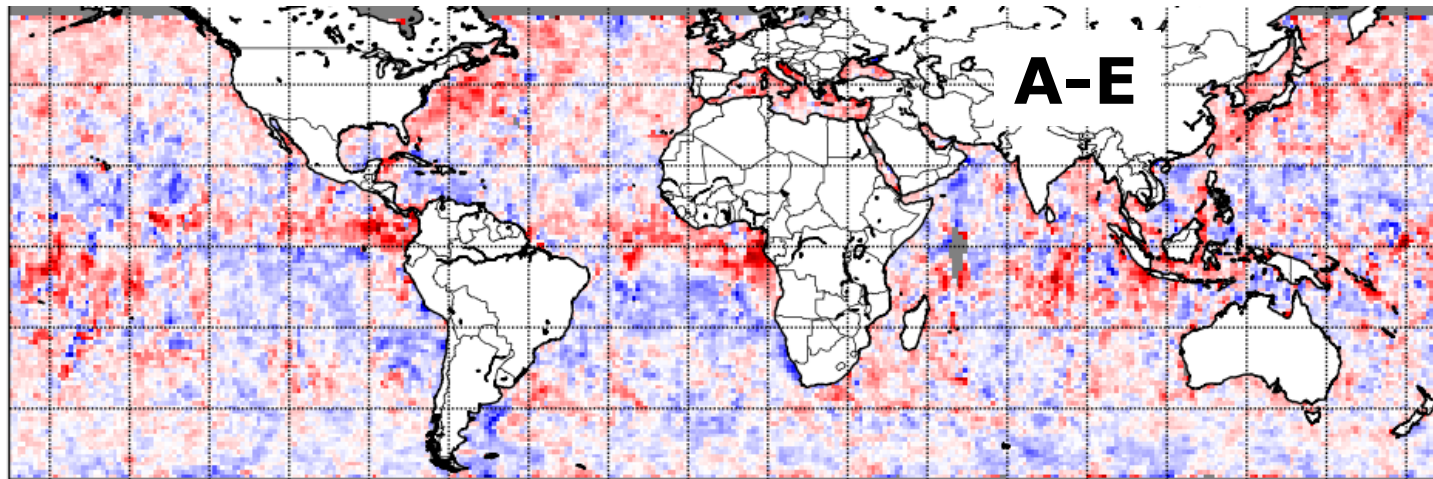
→ Globcurrent has no effect on the smaller meridional wind biases



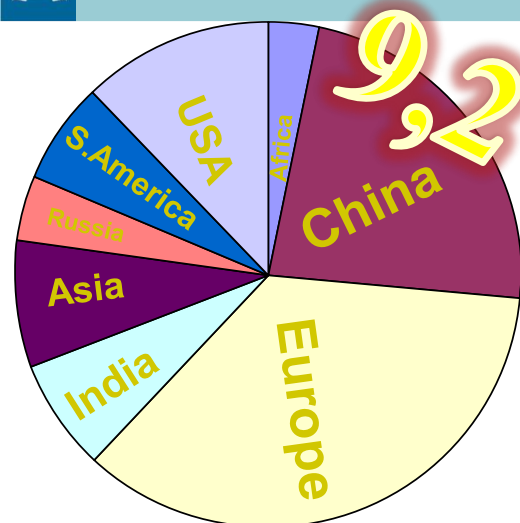
# Bias patterns with NWP

- Systematic wrong ocean forcing in the tropics
- Violates BLUE in data assimilation systems (DAS)
- Similar patterns every day, due to convection, parameterisation, current

- Correct biases before DAS
- Correct ocean forcing in climate runs
- Investigate moist convective processes
- Correct NWP for currents to obtain stress



# Satellite Wind Services



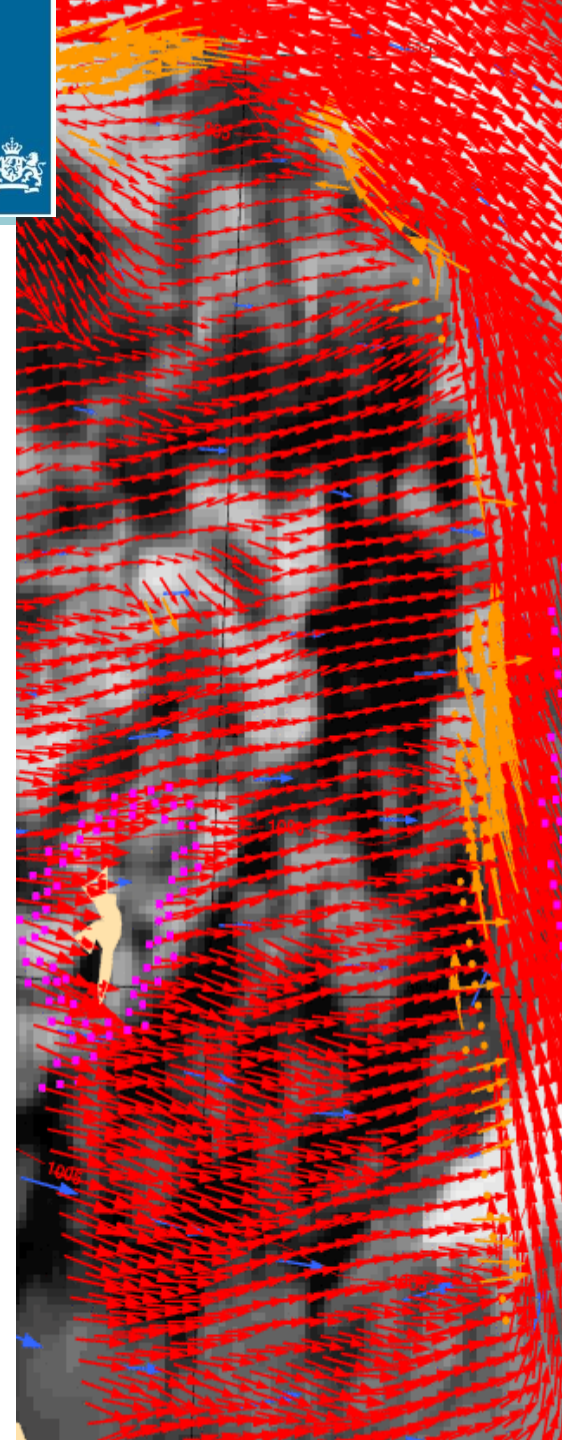
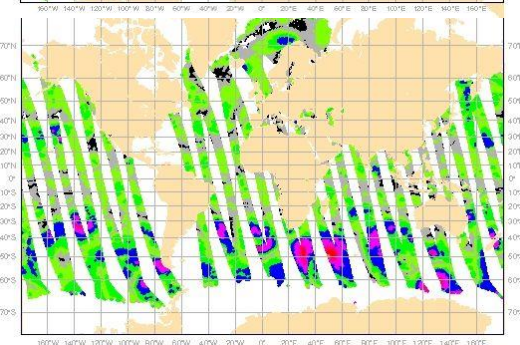
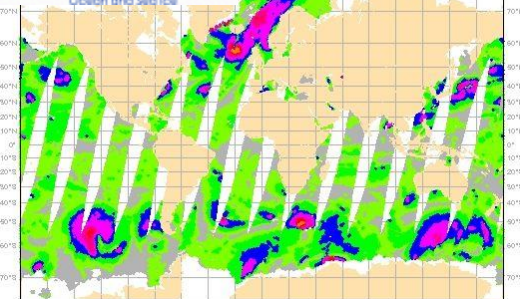
- 24/7 Wind services (EUMETSAT SAF)
  - Constellation of satellites
  - High quality winds, QC
  - Timeliness 30 min. – 2 hours
  - Service messages
  - QA, monitoring
- Software services (NWP SAF)
  - Portable Wind Processors
  - ECMWF model comparison
- Organisations involved:  
KNMI, EUMETSAT, EU,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

## More information:

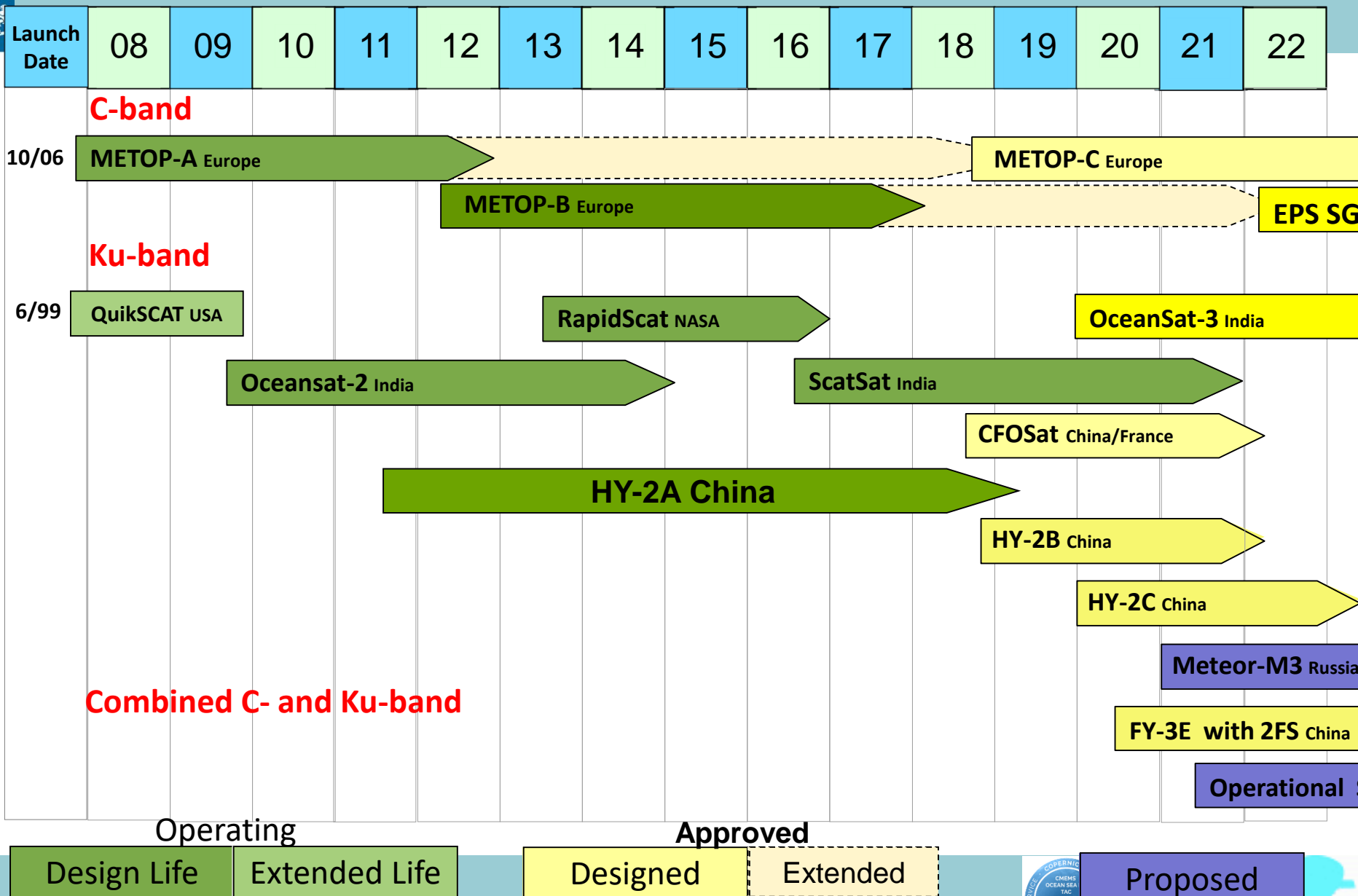
[www.knmi.nl/scatterometer](http://www.knmi.nl/scatterometer)

Wind Scatterometer Help Desk

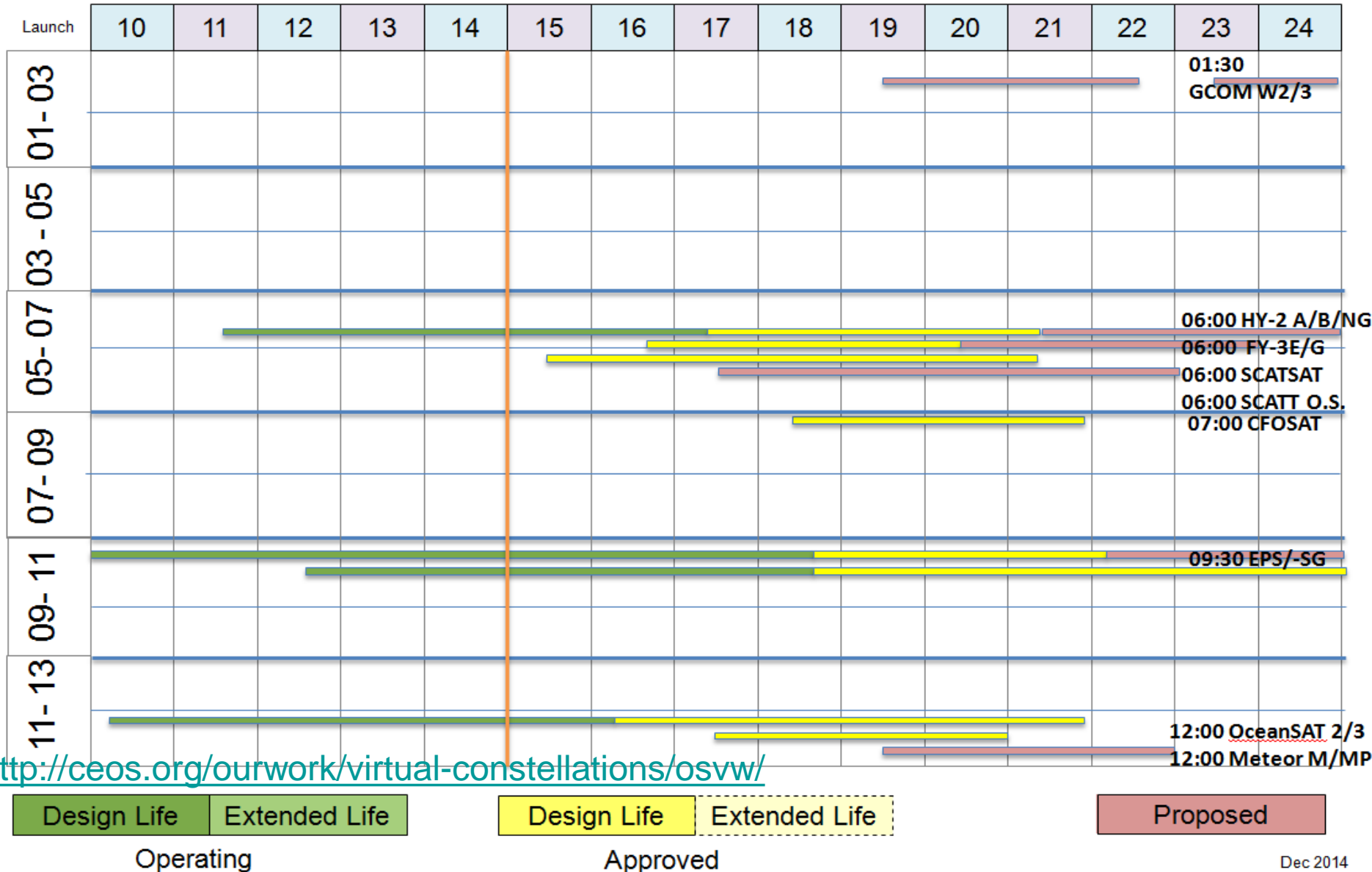
Email: [scat@knmi.nl](mailto:scat@knmi.nl)



# GLOBAL SCATTEROMETER MISSIONS (CEOS VC)



# CEOS Virtual Constellation

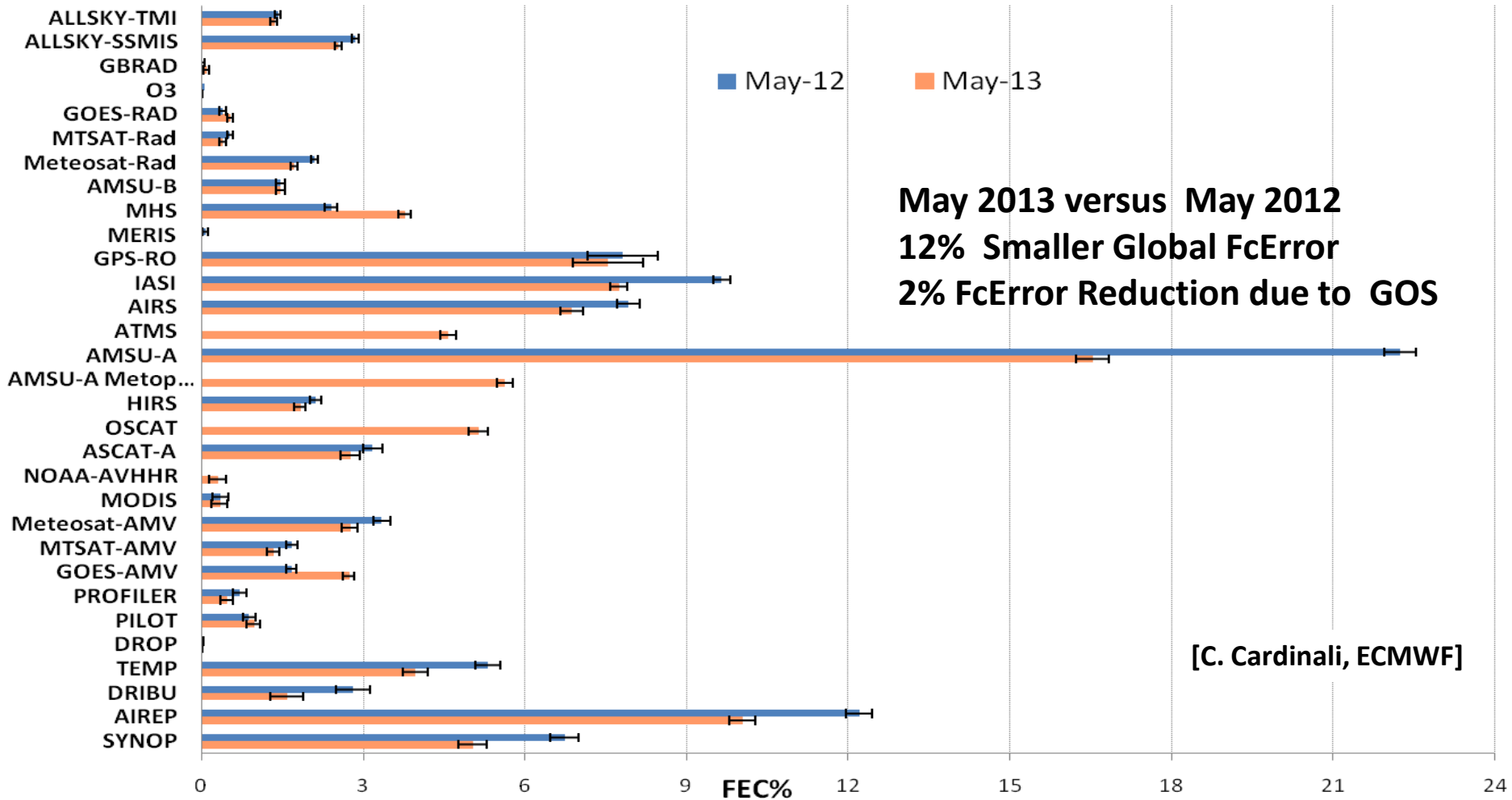




# Impact of assimilated observations on Forecast Error Reduction

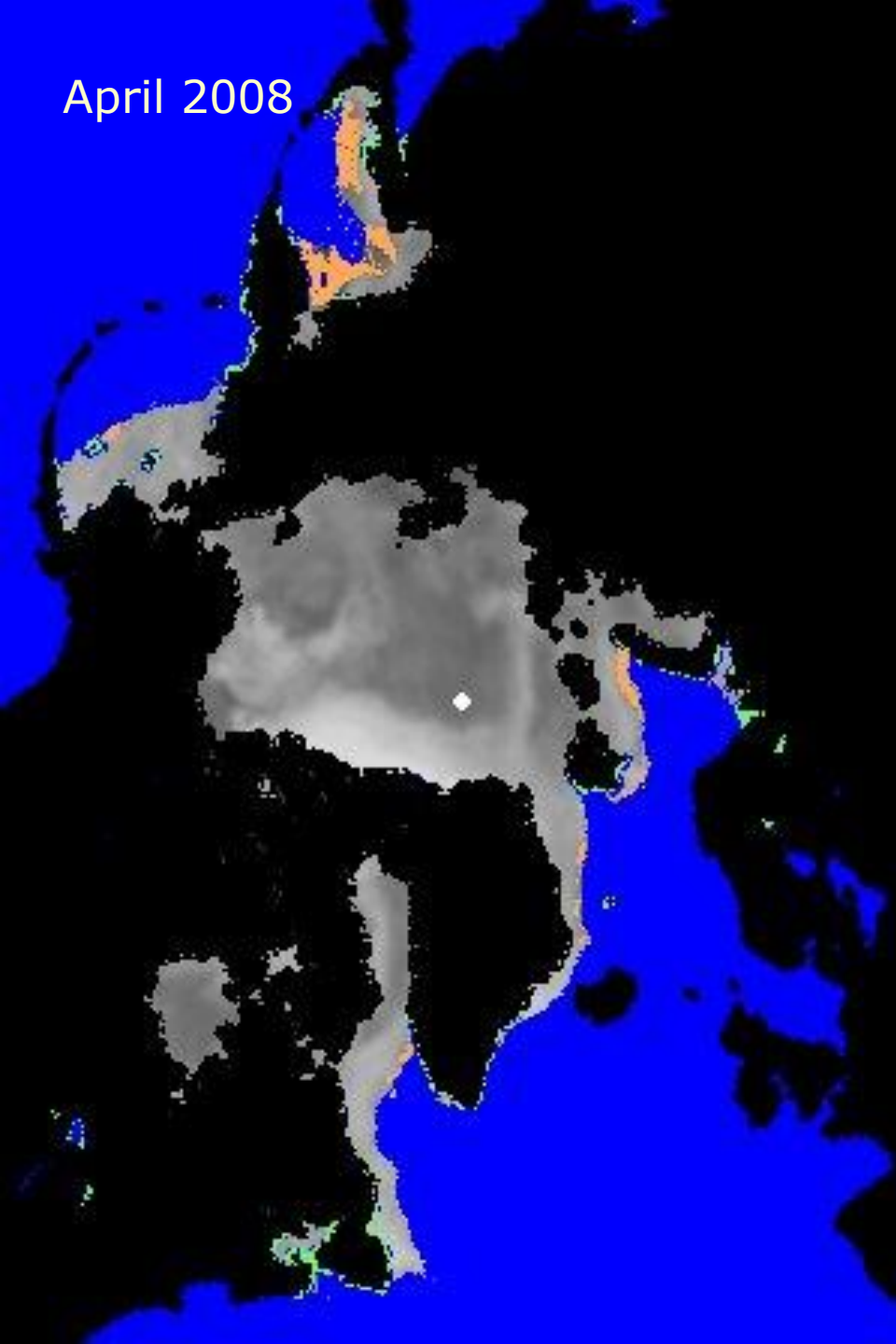


The **forecast sensitivity to observations** measures the impact of the observations on the short-range forecast (24 hours). The forecast sensitivity tool developed at ECMWF computes the Forecast Error Contribution (FEC) that is a measure (%) of the variation of the forecast error (as defined through the dry energy norm) due to the assimilated observations.

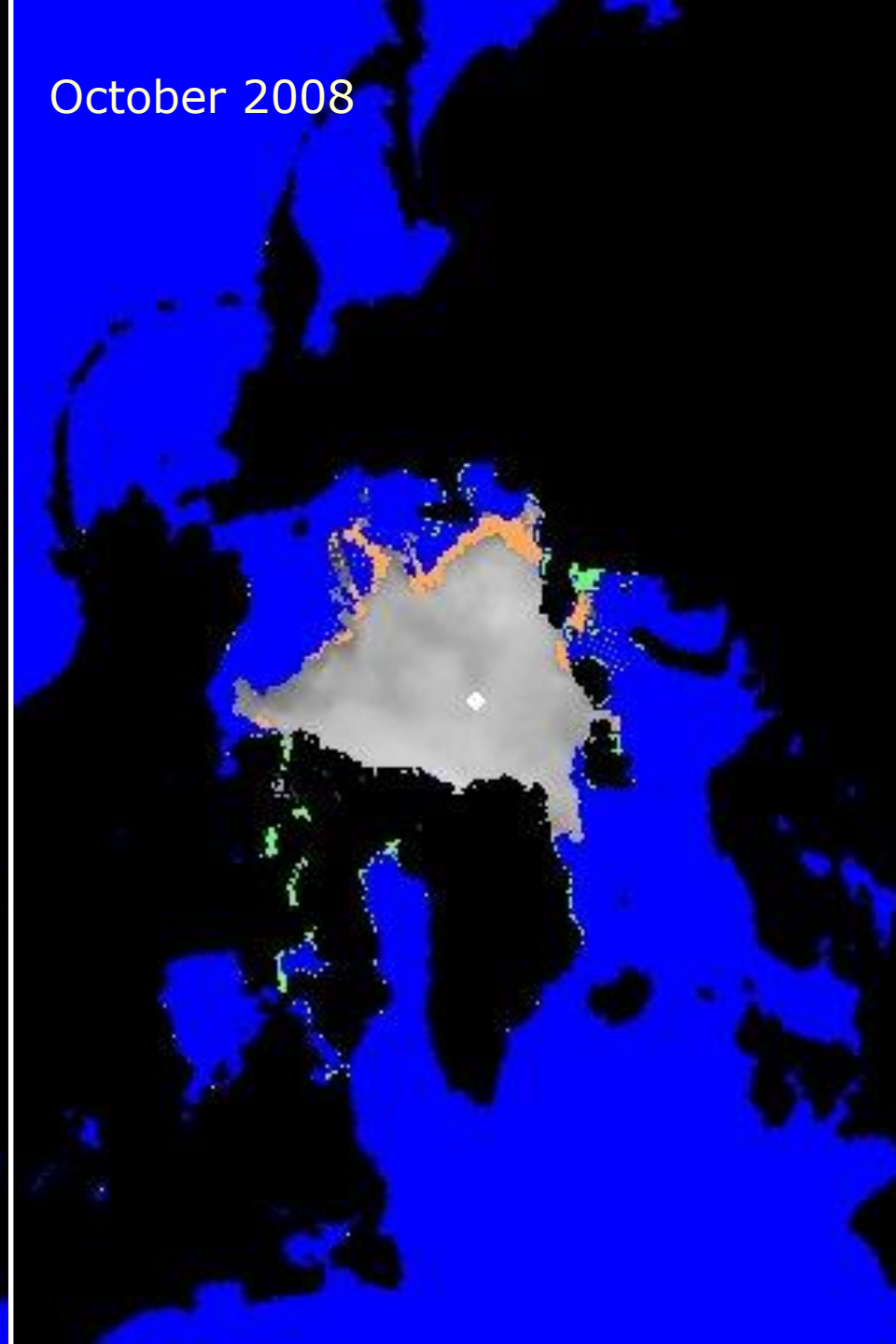


[C. Cardinali, ECMWF]

April 2008

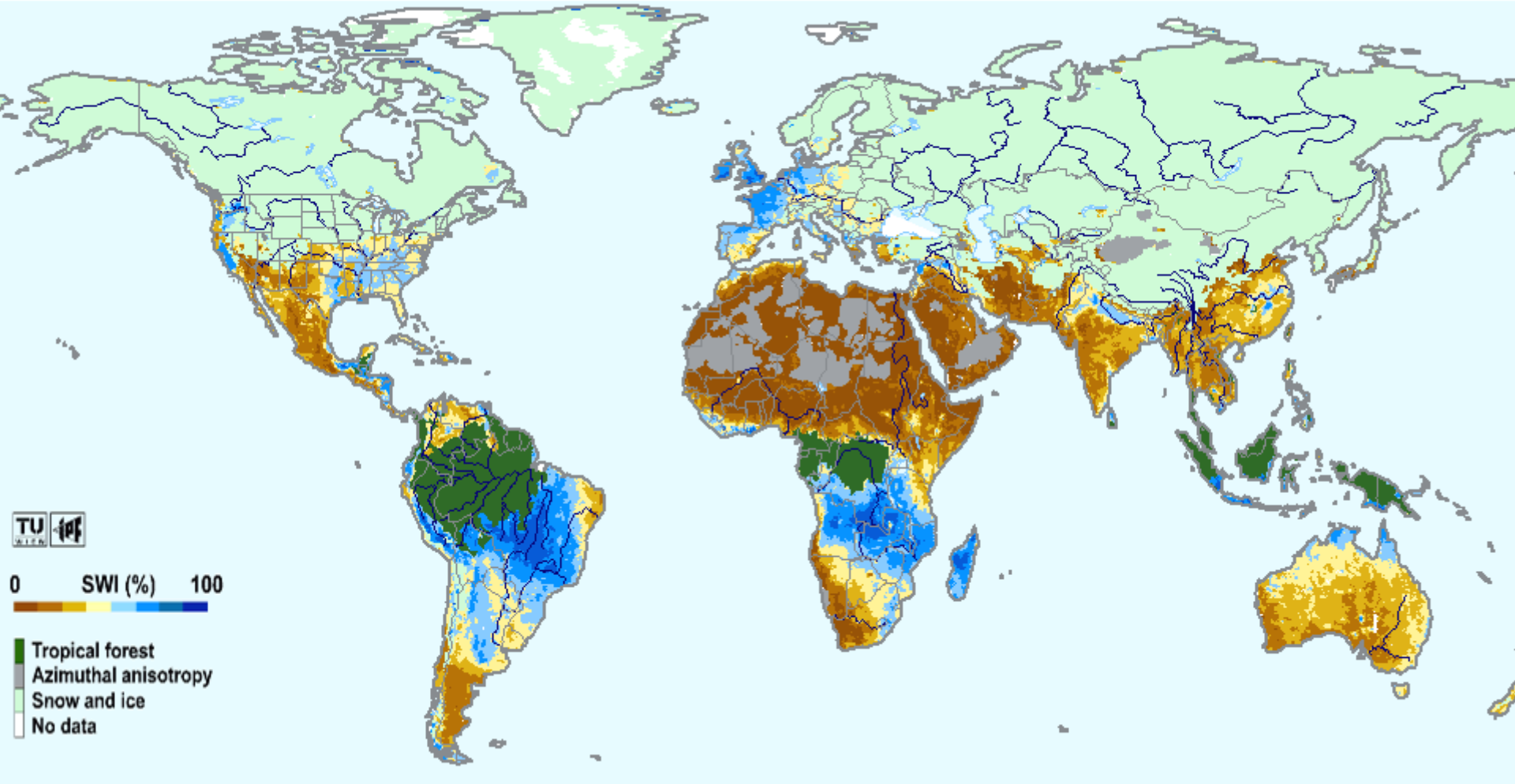


October 2008



# Soil Water Index

JANUARY



Vegetation and rain too

# Training/interaction

- Training Course Applications of Satellite Wind and Wave Products for Marine Forecasting  
[vimeo.com/album/1783188](https://vimeo.com/album/1783188) (video)
- Forecasters forum  
[training.eumetsat.int/mod/forum/view.php?f=264](https://training.eumetsat.int/mod/forum/view.php?f=264)
- Xynthia storm case  
[www.eumetrain.org/data/2/xynthia/index.htm](http://www.eumetrain.org/data/2/xynthia/index.htm)
- EUMETrain ocean and sea week  
[eumetrain.org/events/oceansea\\_week\\_2011.html](http://eumetrain.org/events/oceansea_week_2011.html) (video)
- NWP SAF scatterometer training workshop  
[nwpsaf.eu/site/software/scatterometer/](http://nwpsaf.eu/site/software/scatterometer/)
- Use of Satellite Wind & Wave Products for Marine Forecasting  
[training.eumetsat.int/course/category.php?id=46](https://training.eumetsat.int/course/category.php?id=46) and others
- Satellite and ECMWF data visualisation  
[eumetrain.org/eport/smhi\\_12.php?](http://eumetrain.org/eport/smhi_12.php?)
- MeteD/COMET training module  
[www.meted.ucar.edu/EUMETSAT/marine\\_forecasting/](http://www.meted.ucar.edu/EUMETSAT/marine_forecasting/)