



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

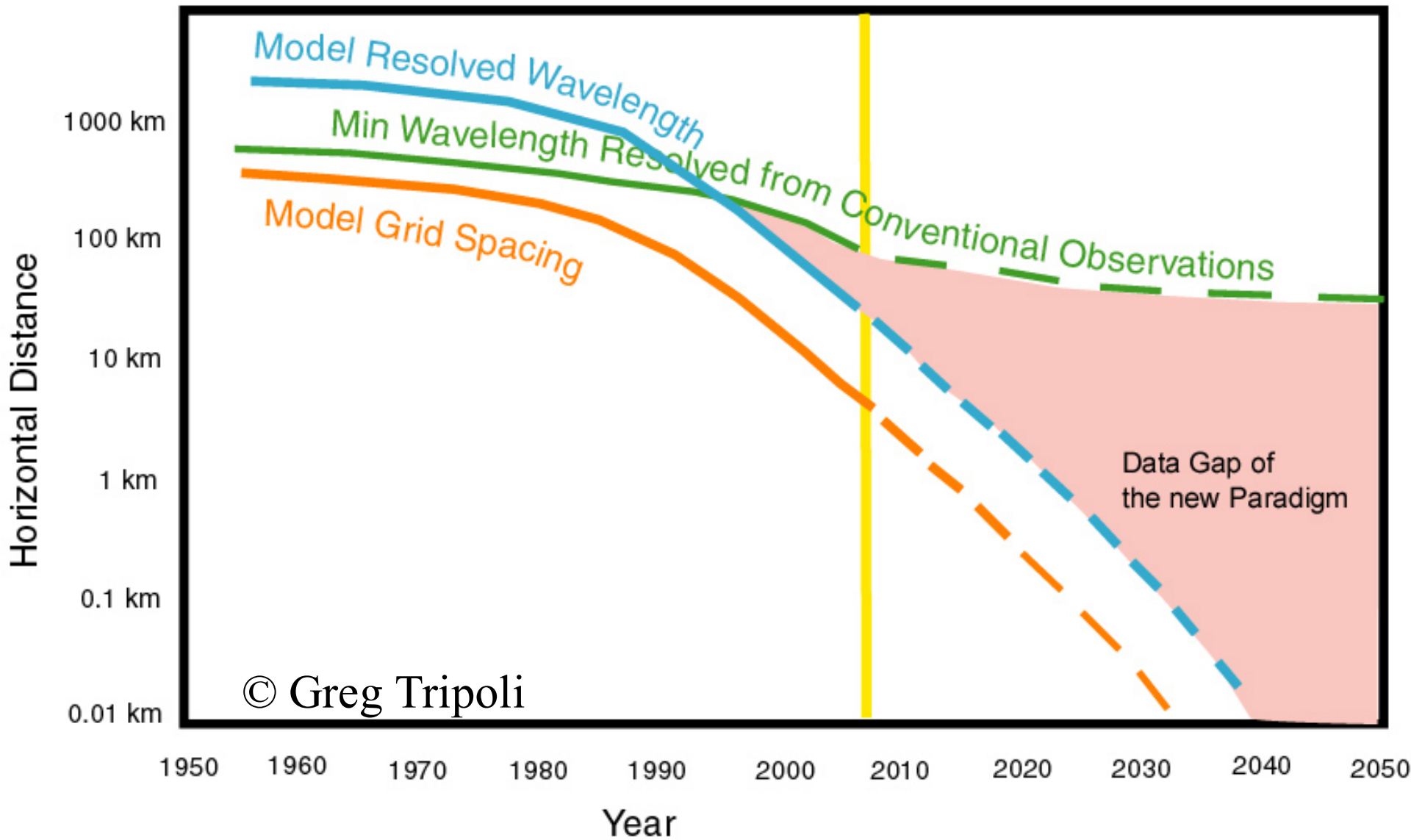
Mesoscale scatterometer assimilation

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Leader Active Remote Sensing Group
Satellite Observations, KNMI

Gert-Jan Marseille
Jur Vogelzang
Wenming Lin (ICM)
Marcos Portabella (ICM)

Do we have enough data?



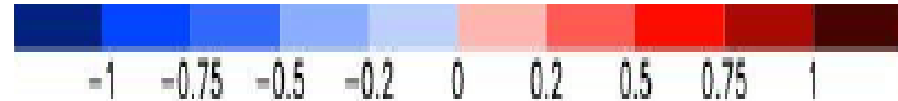
Does Dynamical Downscaling With Regional Climate Models add Value to Surface Marine Wind Speed From Reanalyses?

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¹Institute of Coastal Research, GKSS Research Centre, Geesthacht, Germany

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Simulations with RCMs REMO and CLM: (available from [coastDat Database](#))



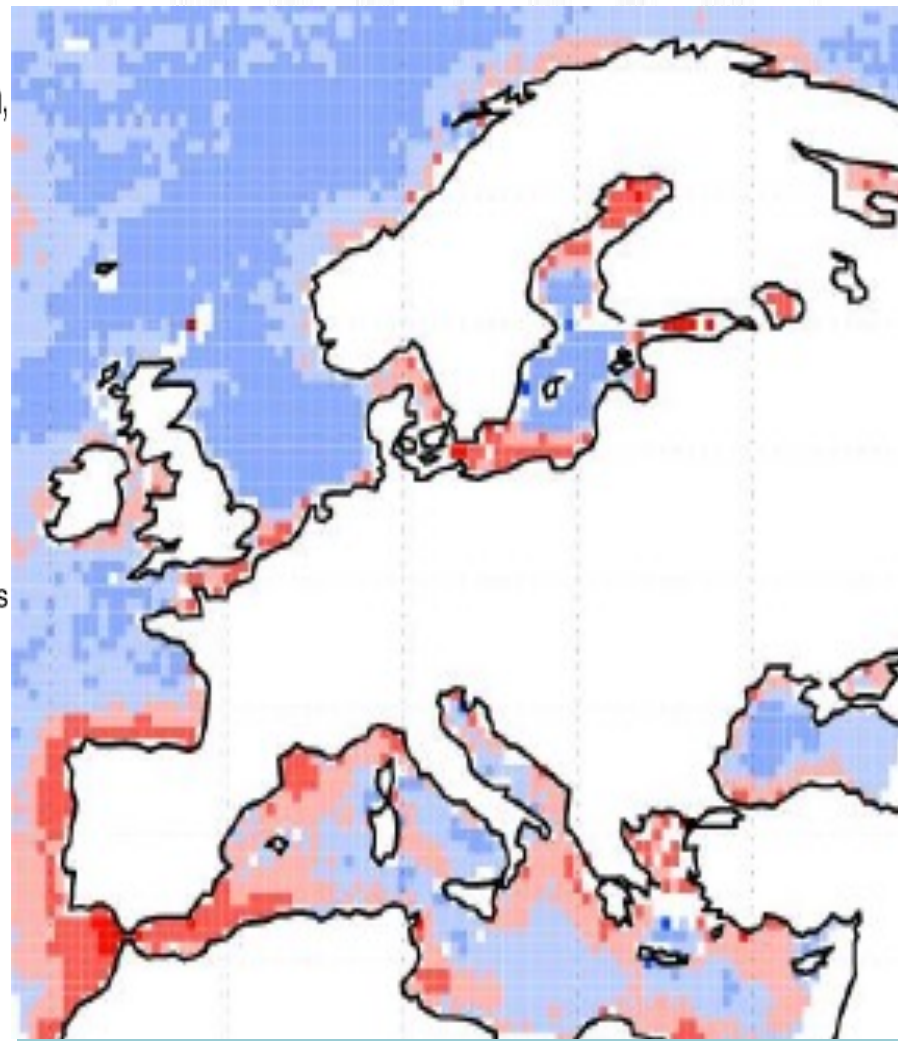
- Three hindcasts with RCMs REMO (Jakob and Podzun, 1997) and CLM (Böhm et al. 2006)
- Initialization and forcing at lateral boundaries: NCEP/NCAR-Reanalysis (NRA), ~1.875° resolution,
- SN-REMO & CLM hindcasts are additionally forced by spectral nudging (von Storch et al., 2000)

Hindcast	STD-REMO (Standard)	SN-REMO	CLM
Based on:	EM	EM	LM
	Hydrostatic	Hydrostatic	Non-hydrostatic
Forcing:	NRA	NRA	NRA
Spectral Nudging:	No	Yes	Yes
Resolution:	0.5°	0.5°	0.44°

- For that purpose a gridded QuikSCAT Level 2B 12.5 km swath (L2B12) data set is produced on SN-REMO grid (rain flagged L2B12 data discarded)
co-location with SN-REMO: QuikSCAT wind speed retrieval max. 12.5 km and +/- 10 min from SN-REMO grid point / time step

$$\text{Modified BSS} = \begin{cases} 1 - \sigma_F^2 \sigma_R^{-2} & \text{if } \sigma_F^2 \leq \sigma_R^2 \\ \sigma_R^2 \sigma_F^{-2} - 1 & \text{if } \sigma_F^2 > \sigma_R^2 \end{cases}$$

- "Forecast" F: SNREMO, reference "forecast" R: NRA,
predictand/observation: gridded QuikSCAT L2B12 data





HARMONIE from ECMWF

- HSCAT scatterometer 50 km
- HARMONIE effective resolution 25 km, grid 2.5 km

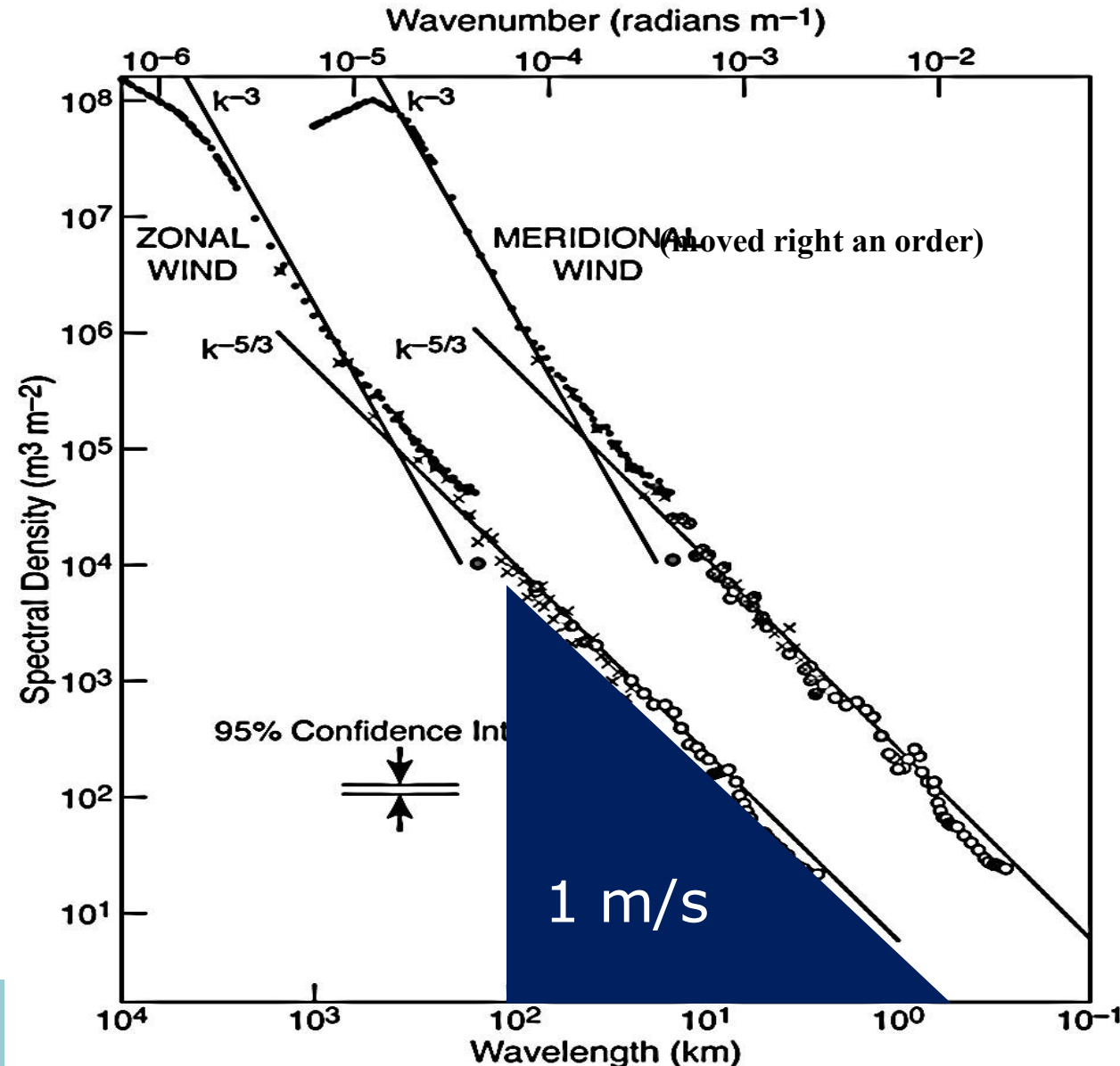
	(m/s)	bias u_{10m}	stdev u_{10m}	bias v_{10m}	stdev v_{10m}
	HSCAT (23.961 collocations); $\Delta t = -0.29$; $ \Delta t = 0.85$				
	$(o - b)$	-0.46	1.61	-0.24	1.57
Temporal interpolation:	$(o - b_t)$	-0.46	1.36	-0.22	1.29
+ spatial averaging:	$(o - \bar{b}_t)$	-0.45	1.25	-0.22	1.18

- ECMWF:

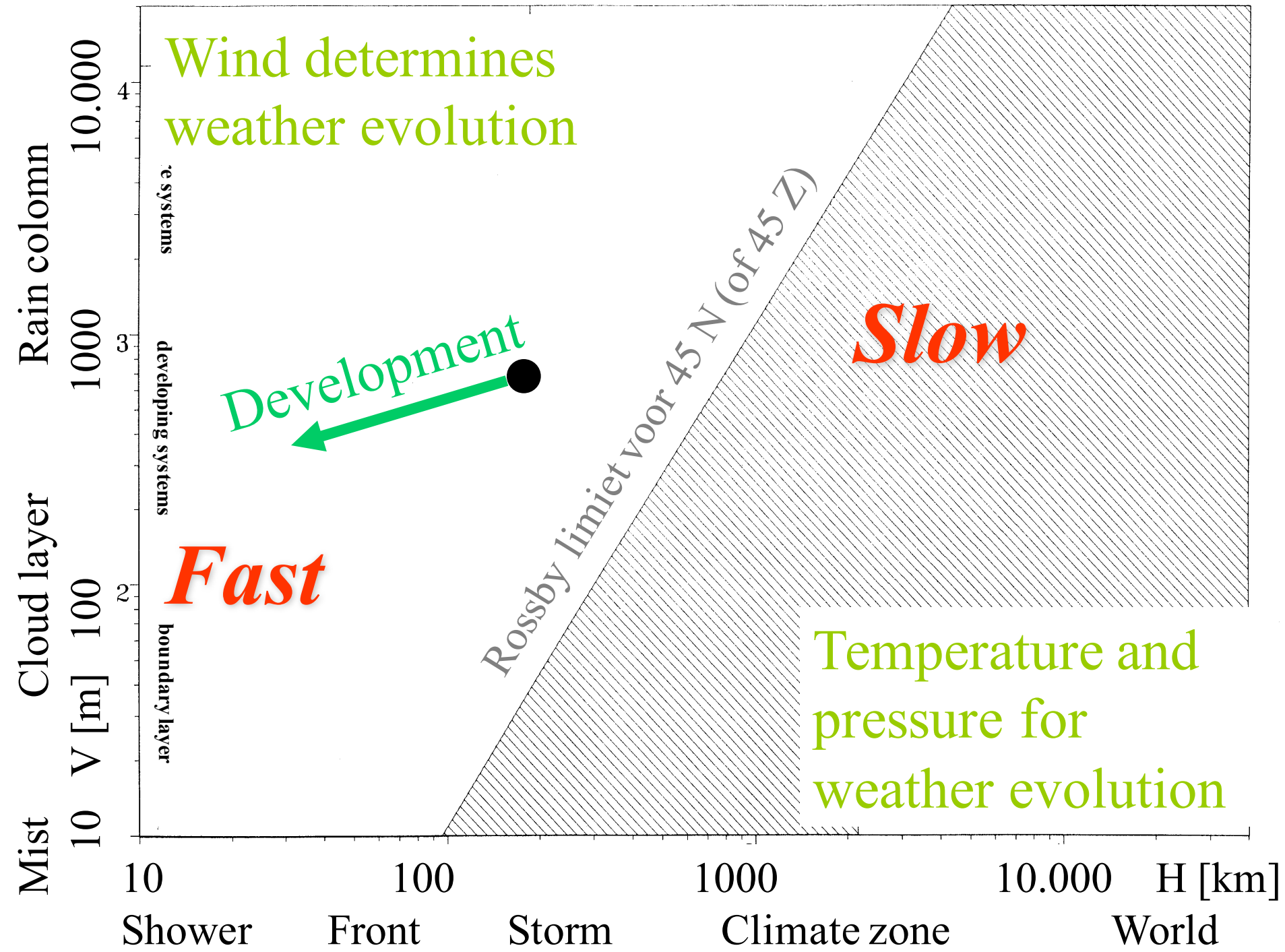
	t_f	bias u_{10m}	stdev u_{10m}	bias v_{10m}	stdev v_{10m}
HSCAT	5.6	-0.11	1.09	0.05	1.15

- ECMWF 6-hour forecast better than matched 50-km scale time-interpolated HARMONIE background
- ECMWF resolution is ~ 150 km over the open ocean
- Deterministic resolution

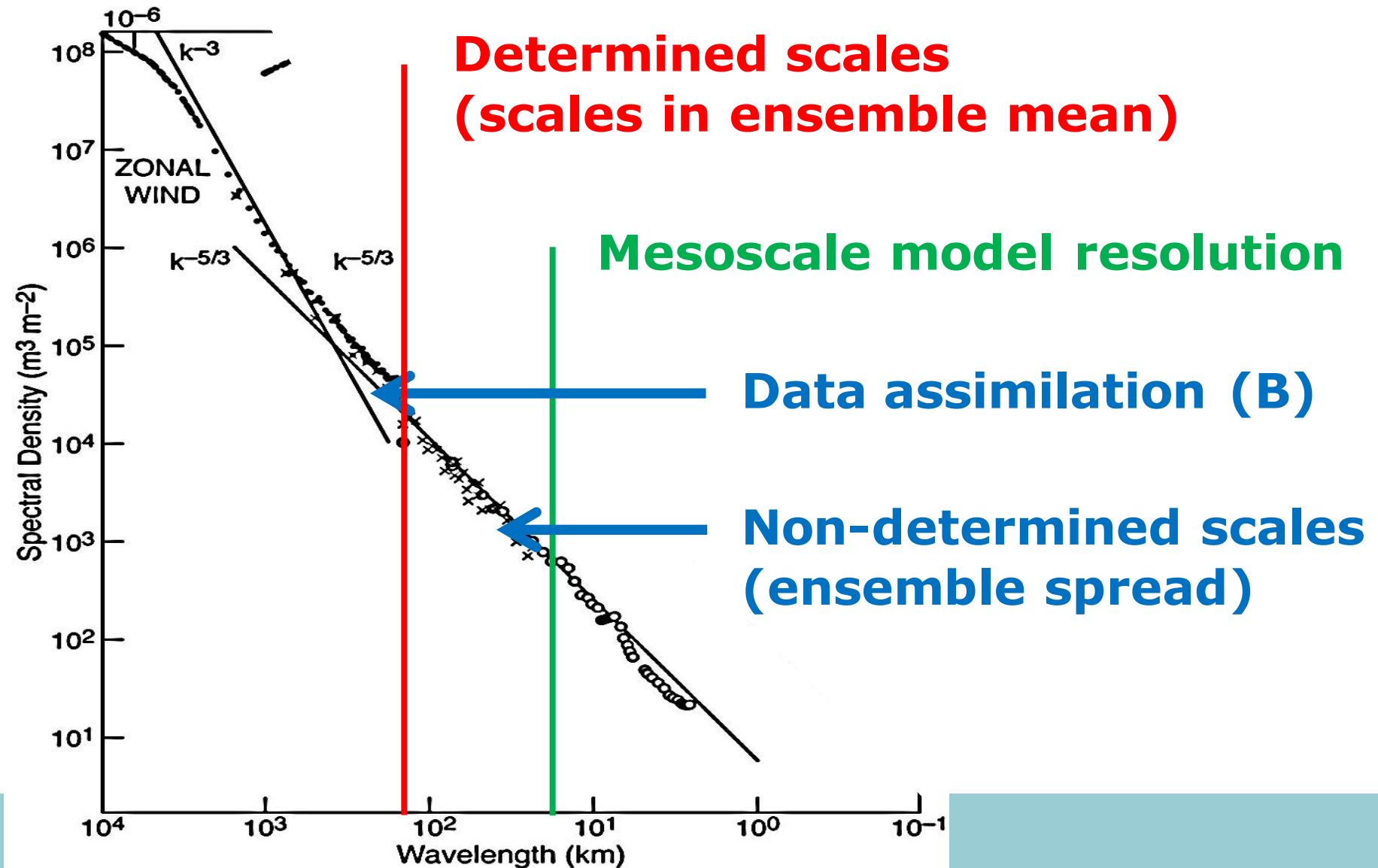
Nastrom & Gage Observed Spectrum



- **Tropospheric spectra are close to $k^{-5/3}$**
- **3D turbulence**
- **$L/H \sim 100$**
- **$SD = 0.4$**
(log spectral density)
- **Least variance/detectability in small scales**



Nastrom & Gage Observed Spectrum



Small-scale data assimilation

- The amplitude spectrum of small-scale atmospheric waves can be well simulated in NWP models, but the determination of the phases of these waves will be problematic in absence of well-determined forcing (orography) or observations
- Undetermined phases at high resolution cause
 - Increased NWP model error, $B' > B$
 - Model errors get more variable and uncertain since small scales tend to be coherent; coherence is of most interest
 - B error structures will be spatially more sharp
 - Increased O-B, while the observation (representativeness) errors will be reduced; observations (should) get more weight, $O' < O$
 - Increments would be larger
 - When $O' > B$, the analysis error will be larger too ! $A' > A$



Challenges

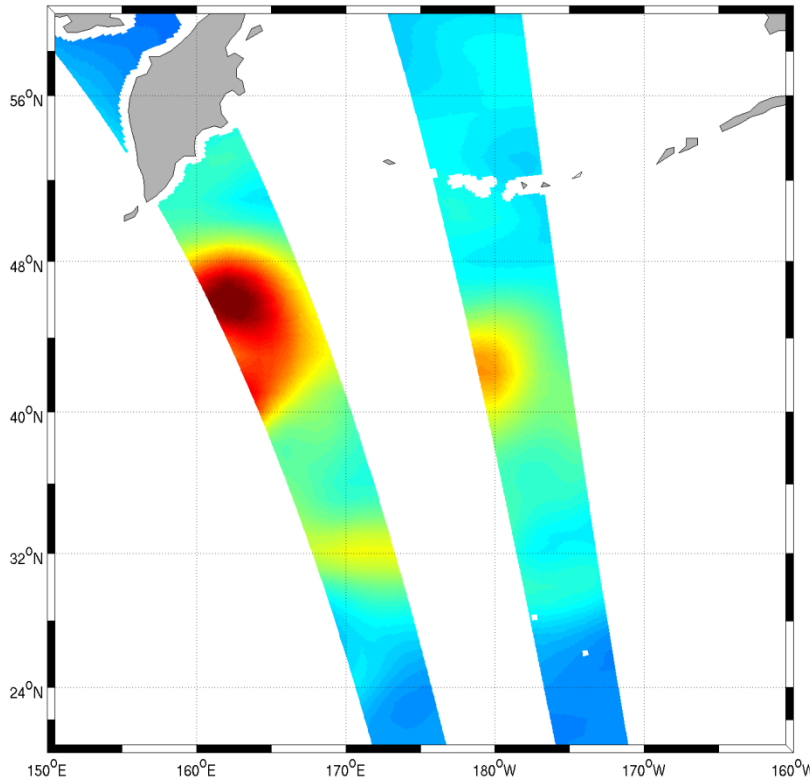
- Adaptive B covariances are difficult to estimate
- More (wind) observations are needed to spatially sample small-scale B structures
- Observations need to be accurate, $O < B$
- How to prevent overfitting (uncertain B, small O) due to inaccurate and high innovation weights ?
- And spin-up due to more noisy analysis (statistical B) ?

- Separate determined from undetermined scales in data assimilation, e.g.,
 - Data assimilation with ensemble mean ?
 - Maintain broad B ?
 - SuperMod up to determined scales ?

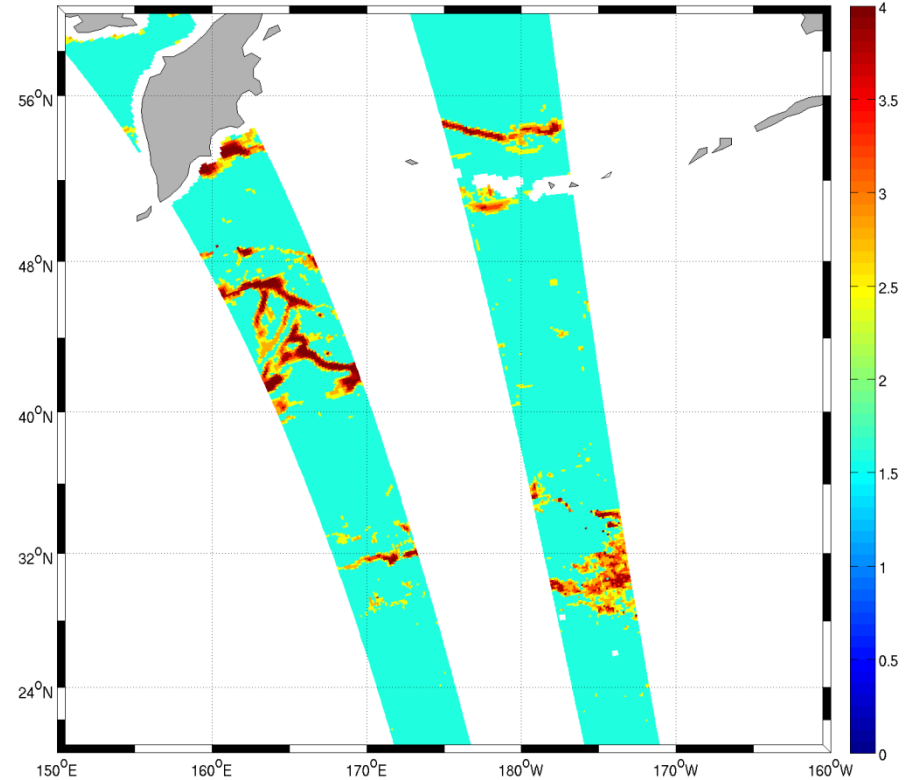


Examples

Estimated B error variances

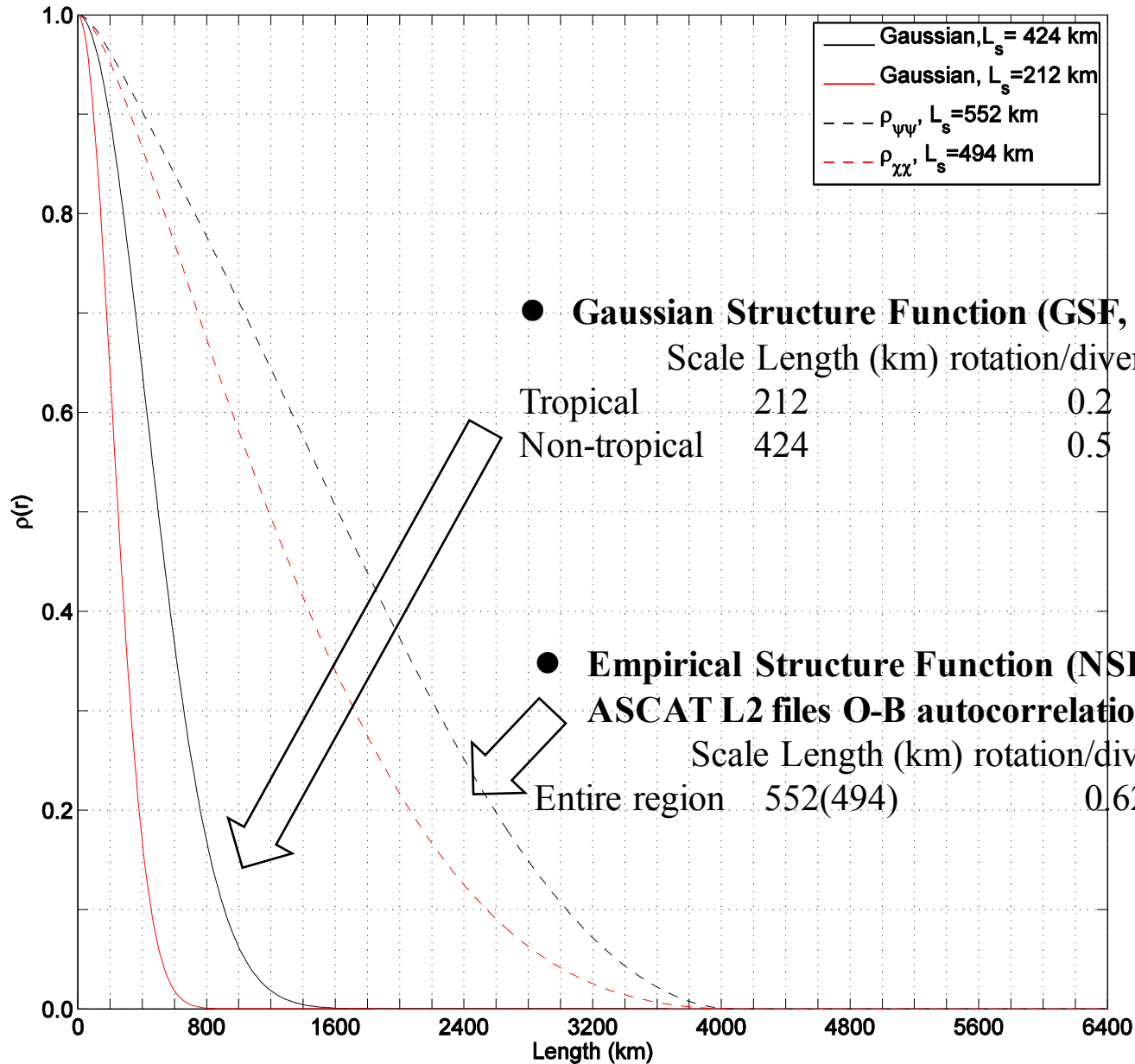


ECMWF Ensemble Data
Assimilation (EDA
background error)

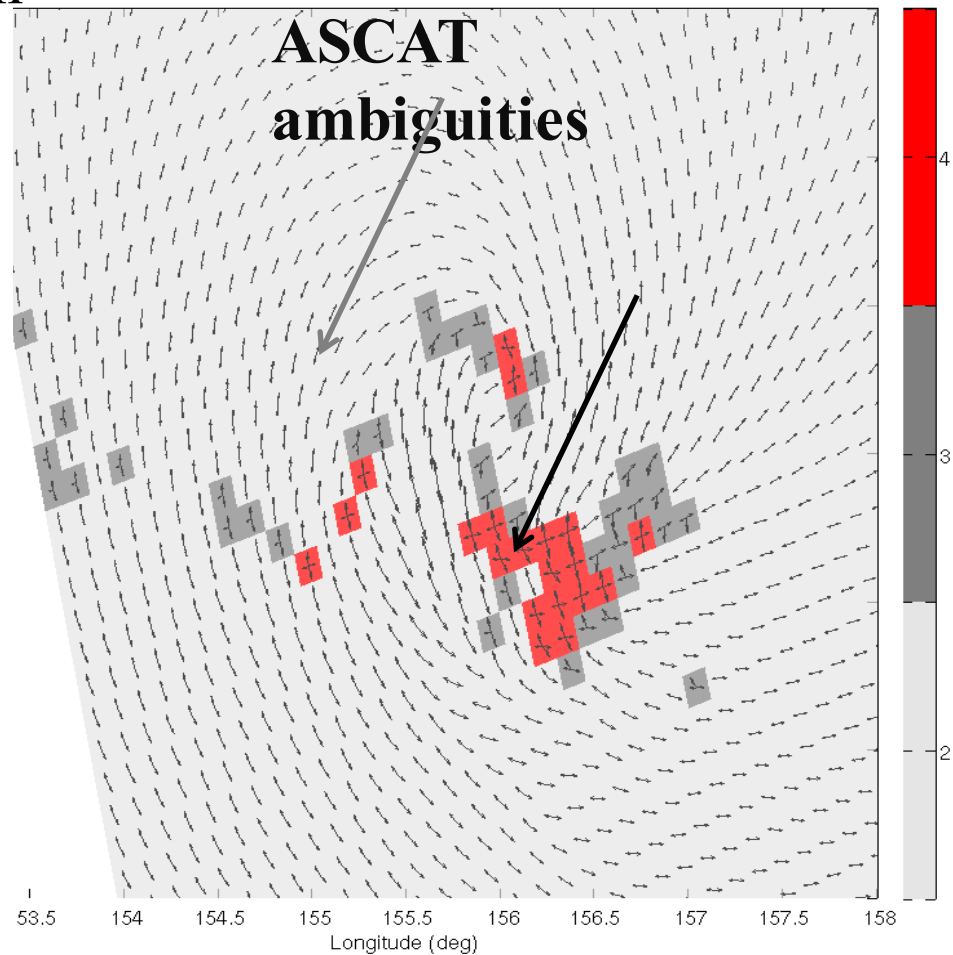
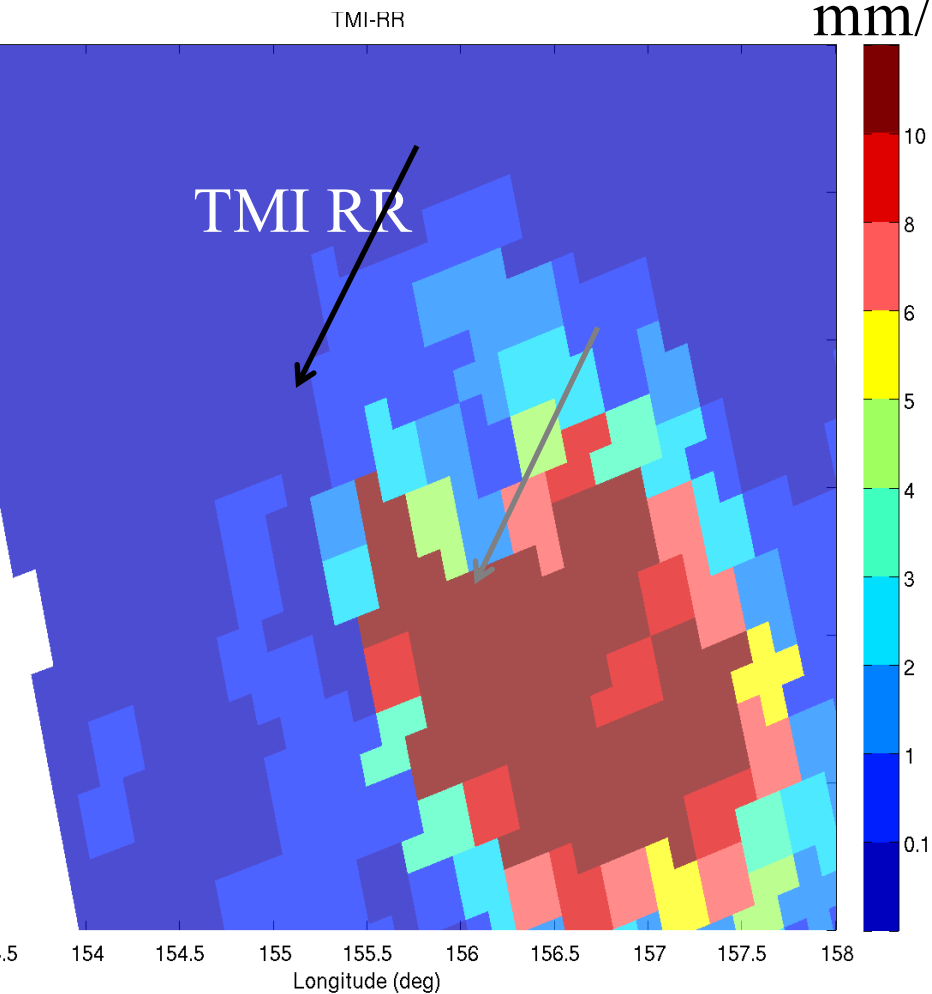


ASCAT-derived ECMWF
background error by triple
collocation in QC classes

NWP Background spatial error correlation structure

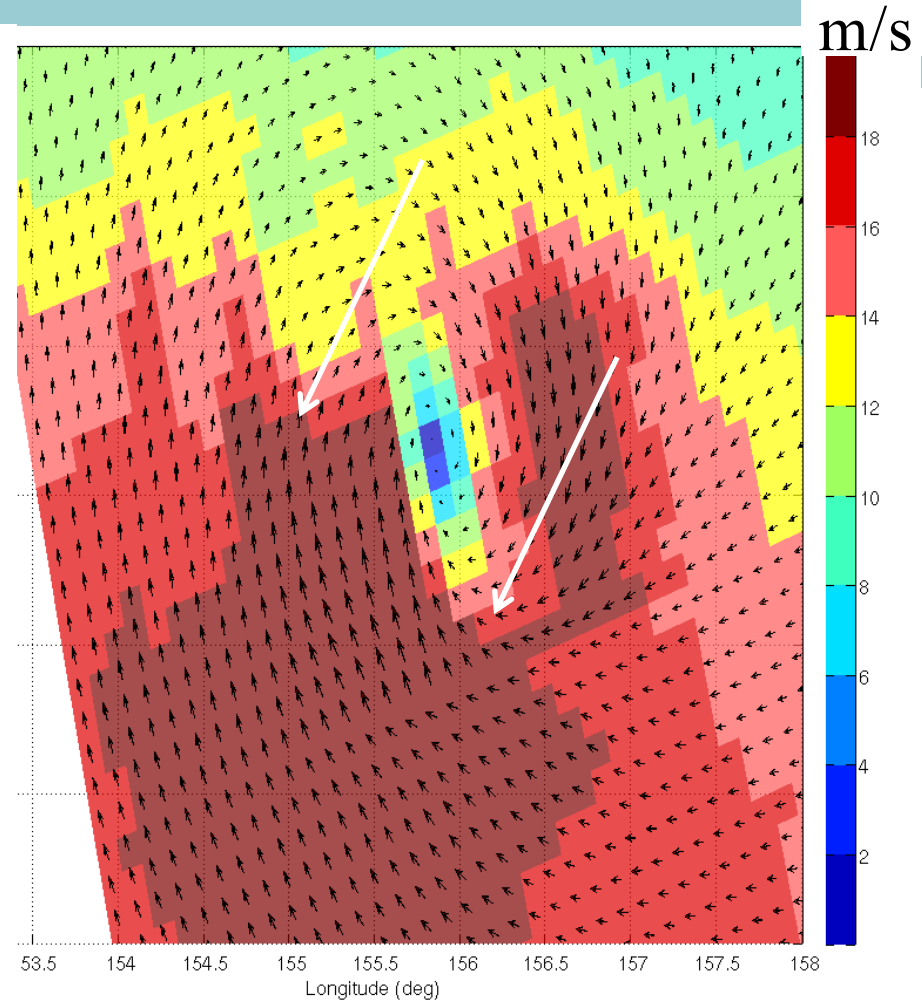
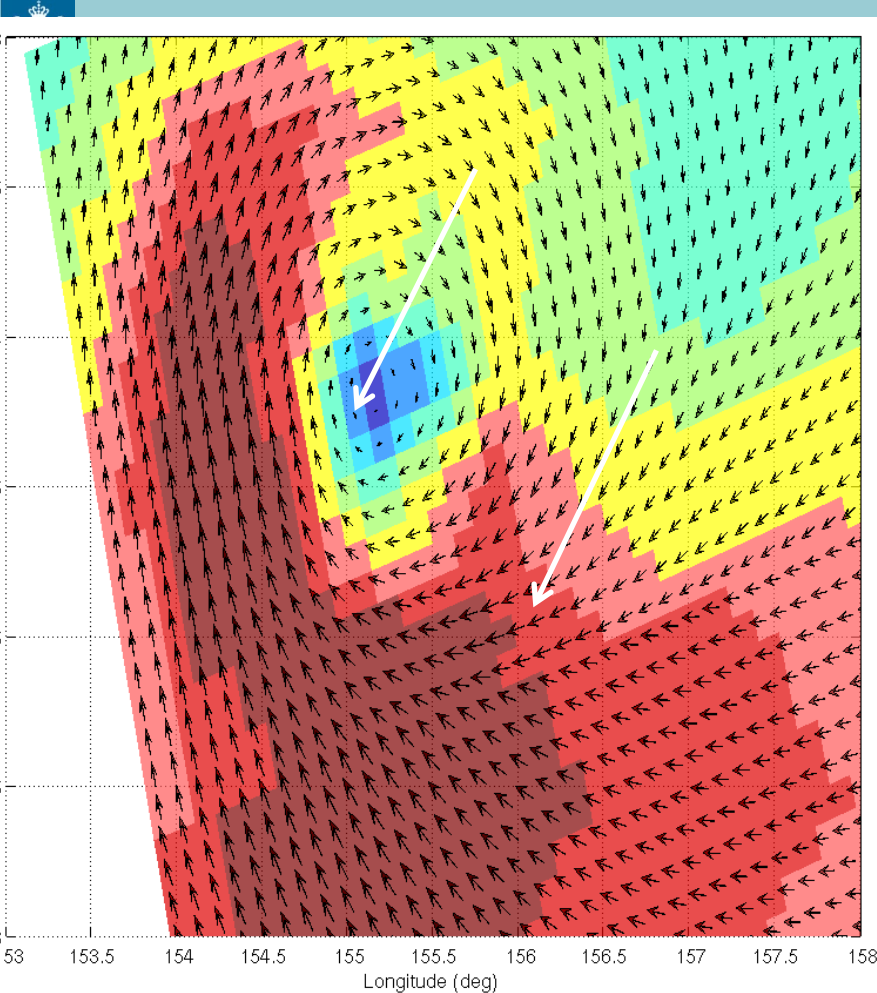


Cyclone SH



↑
Number of
ambiguities

Cyclone SH, 2DVAR analyses



Default setting:

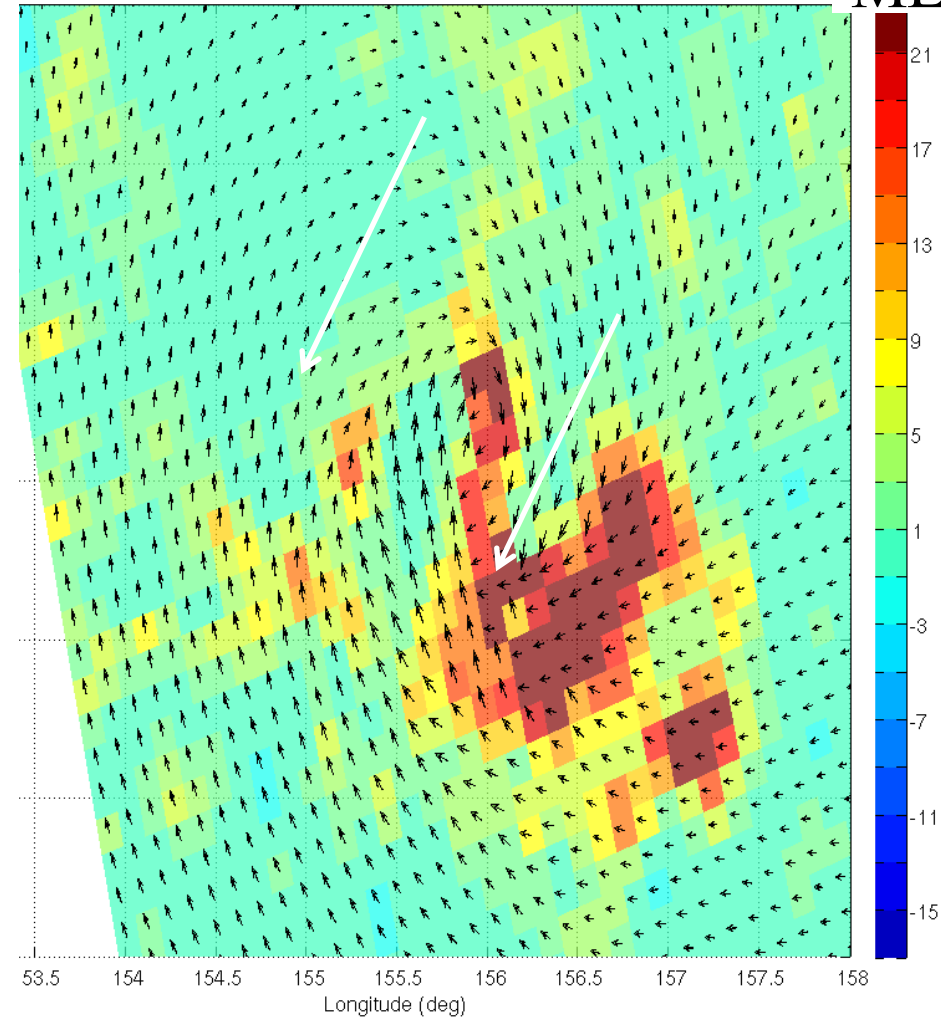
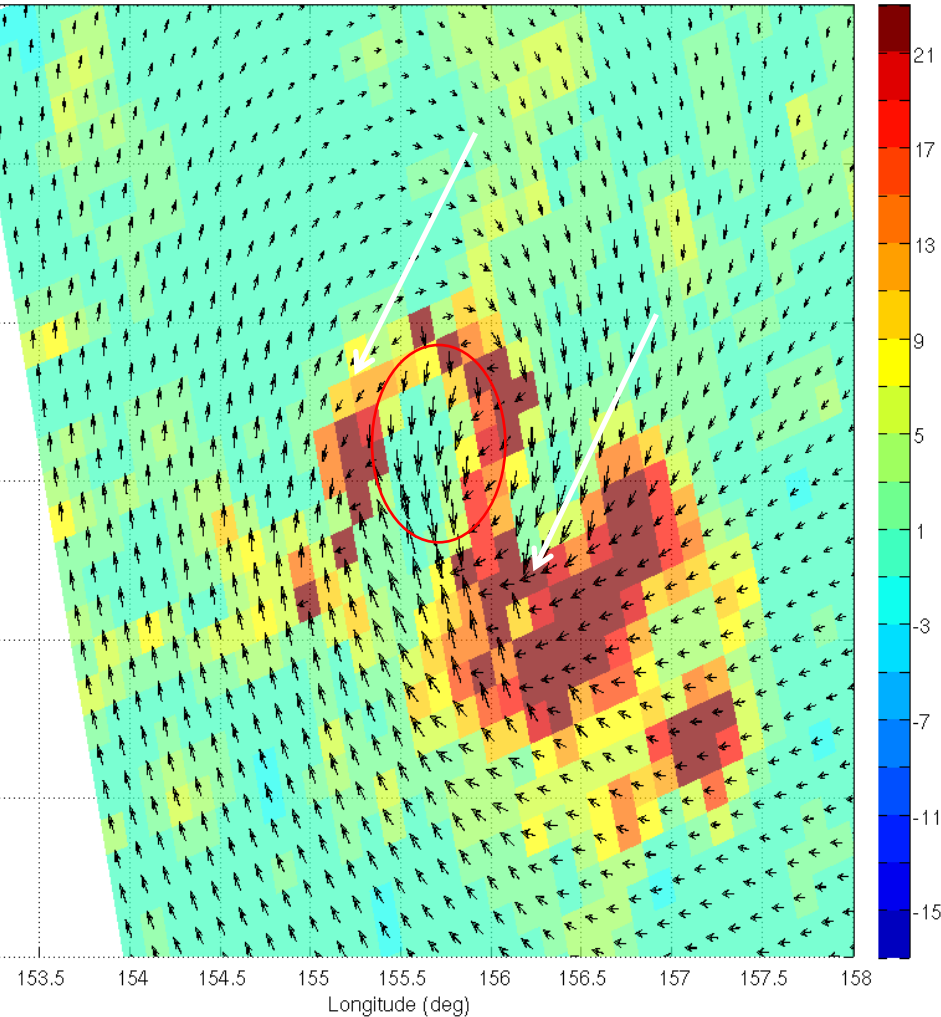
- Gaussian structure function
- Fixed O/B errors

New setting:

- Empirical structure function
- Flexible O/B errors

Cyclone SH, selected solutions

MLI

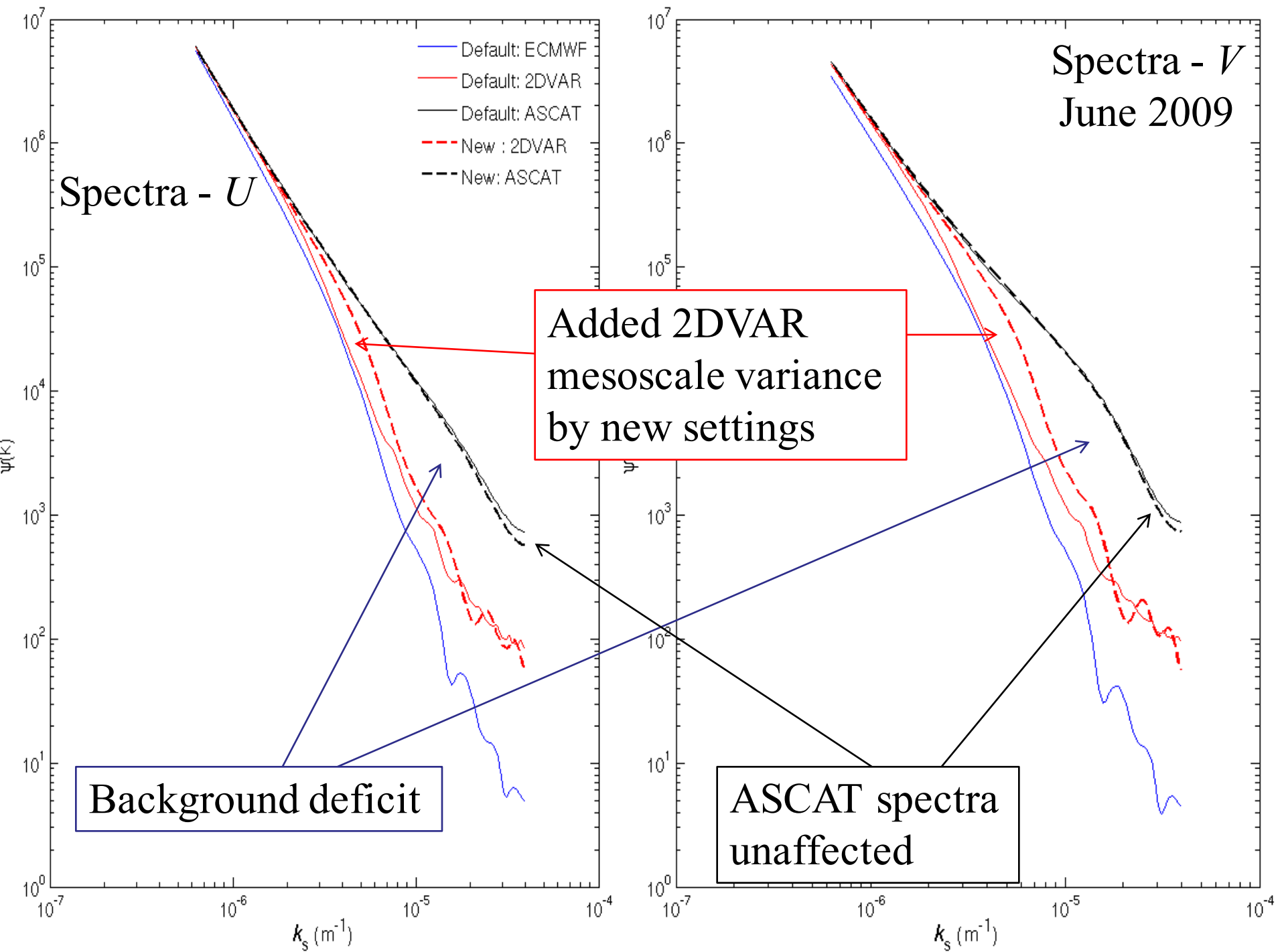


Default setting:

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New setting:

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- Flexible O/B errors



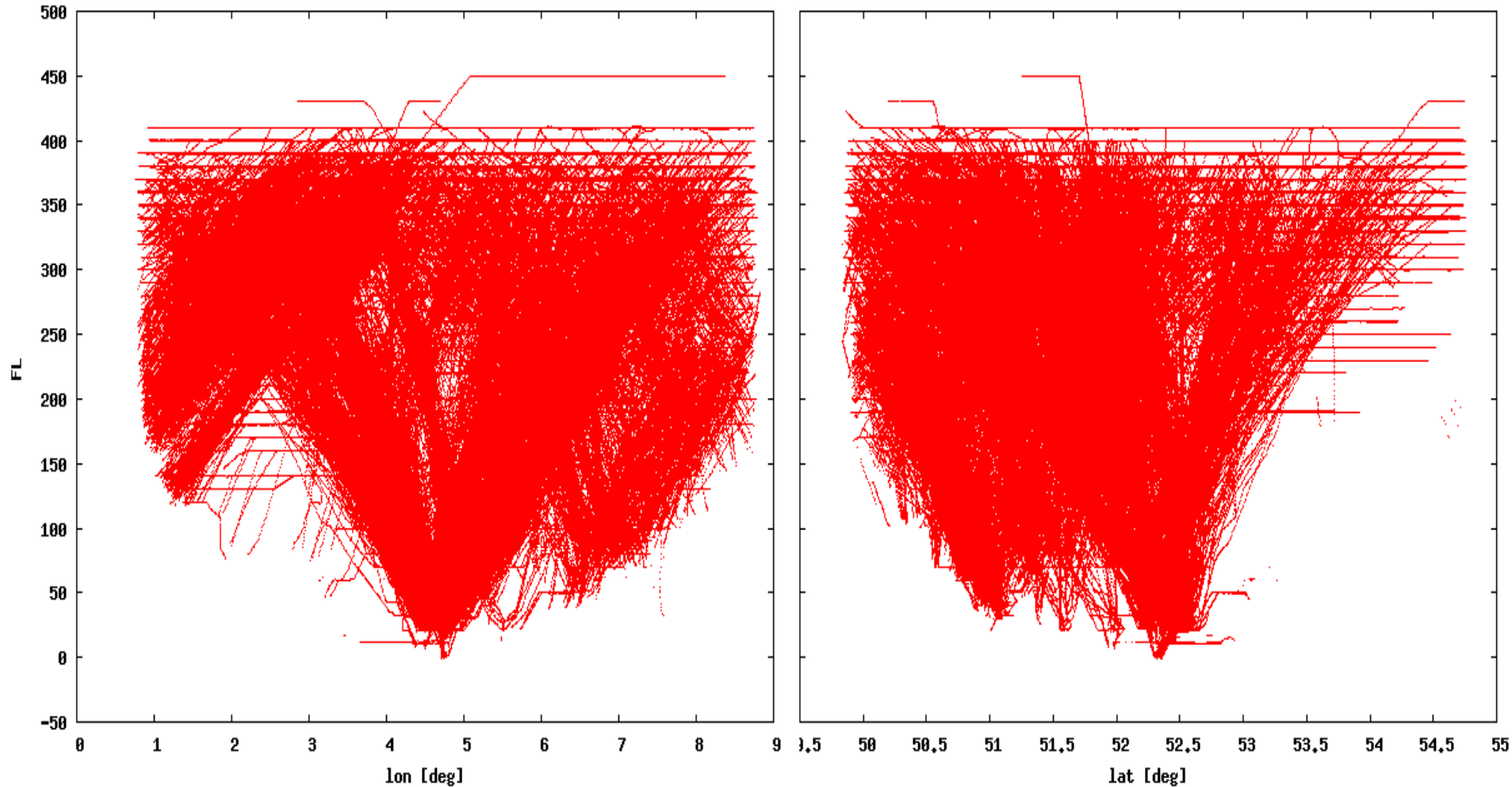
All the QC-accepted data (March-August 2009)



	ASCAT-ECMWF-buoy comparison (mean buoy winds)		
	ASCAT vs ECMWF	ASCAT vs buoy point wind	N
Default	2.27	1.86	6908
New	2.26	1.83	

	ASCAT-ECMWF-buoy comparison (mean buoy winds)			
	2DVAR vs ECMWF	2DVAR vs buoy point wind	2DVAR vs ASCAT	N
Default	1.91	2.01	1.22	6908
New	2.06	1.85	0.81	

Data volume 15-03-2008



➤ 1 424 147 observations

Improved prediction of landing times by ModeS aircraft winds

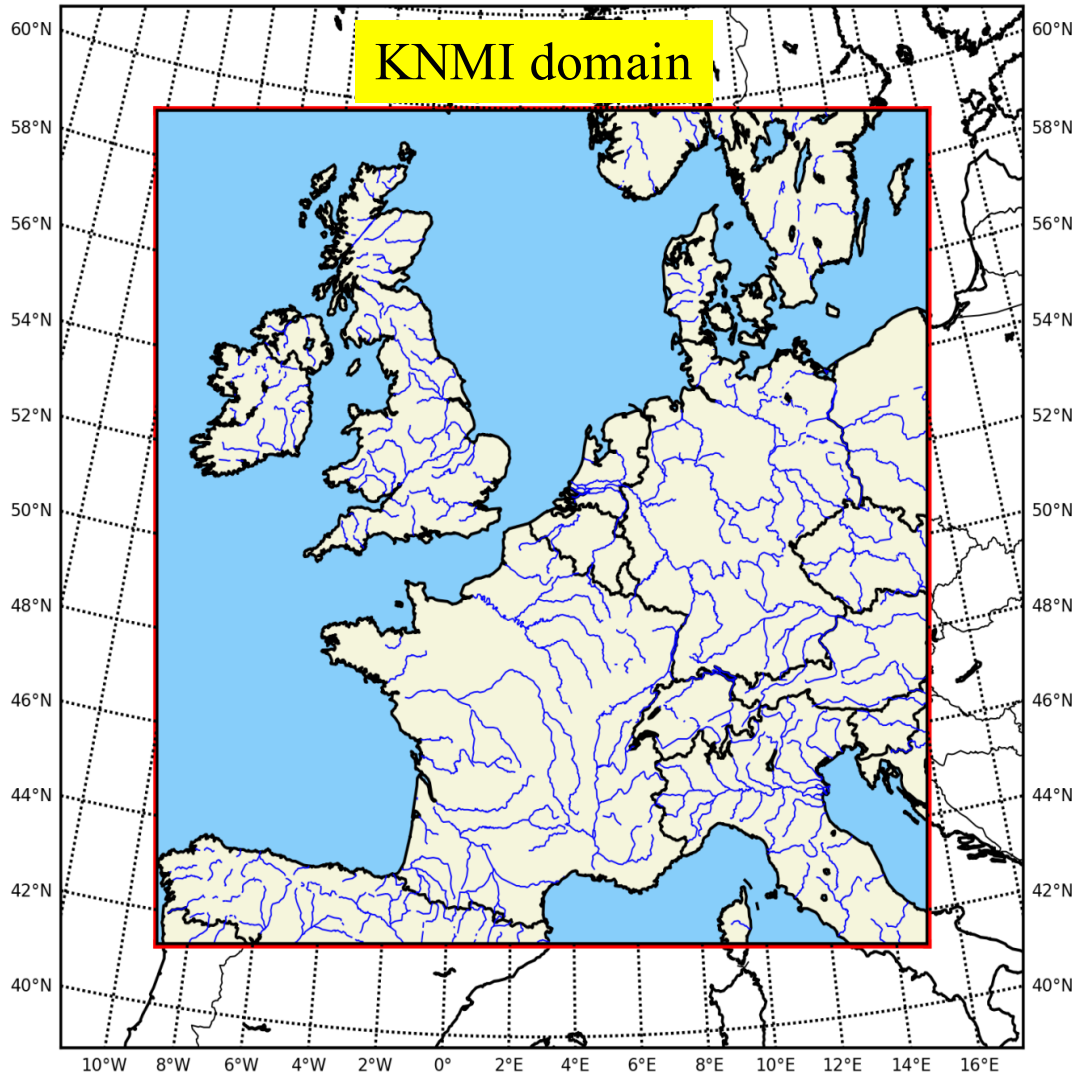
Case\ Parameter	Minimum (s)	Maximum (s)	Mean (s)	St.Dev. (s)
No Wind	-293	169	2,3	79,9
KNMI 1.0	-80	70	-3,8	20,5
D11	-64	56	-3,2	17,7
H11	-58	46	-3,3	17,6
M11(3)	-69	55	-3,4	17,7
M11(1)	-61	50	-4,9	17,4

➤ ModeS winds have impact in HIRLAM, but not in HARMONIE ?

HARMONIE model

(Hirlam ALADIN Research on Meso-scale Operational
NWP in Euromed)

Domain HARMONIE 800 x 800, central pt: 51.0, 3.0



- Non-hydrostatic
- 800x800 grid
- 2.5 km grid size
- 65 vertical levels
- 3D-Var assimilation
 - 8 times per day
 - 48-hour forecast
- ECMWF boundaries
- Available since 2012

HARMONIE impact experiments

- 6-week period 15/11/2013 – 31/12/2013
 - Including 5/6 December “Mandela storm”
- 3D-Var data assimilation
- Conventional observing systems:
 - radiosonde, aircraft, SYNOP (ground stations), buoys
- Available scatterometers: ASCAT A/B (12.5 km coastal), OSCAT (50 km), HSCAT (so far used for verification only)
- Experimental model version; cycle Cy38h1.2

NO OBS

; no observations

CONV-3h

; conventional observations – 3-h cycling

CONV+SCAT-3h

; **CONV-3h** + scat observations - no thinning

CONV+SCAT-THINN-3h

; **CONV+SCAT-3h** but ASCAT thinning (100 km)

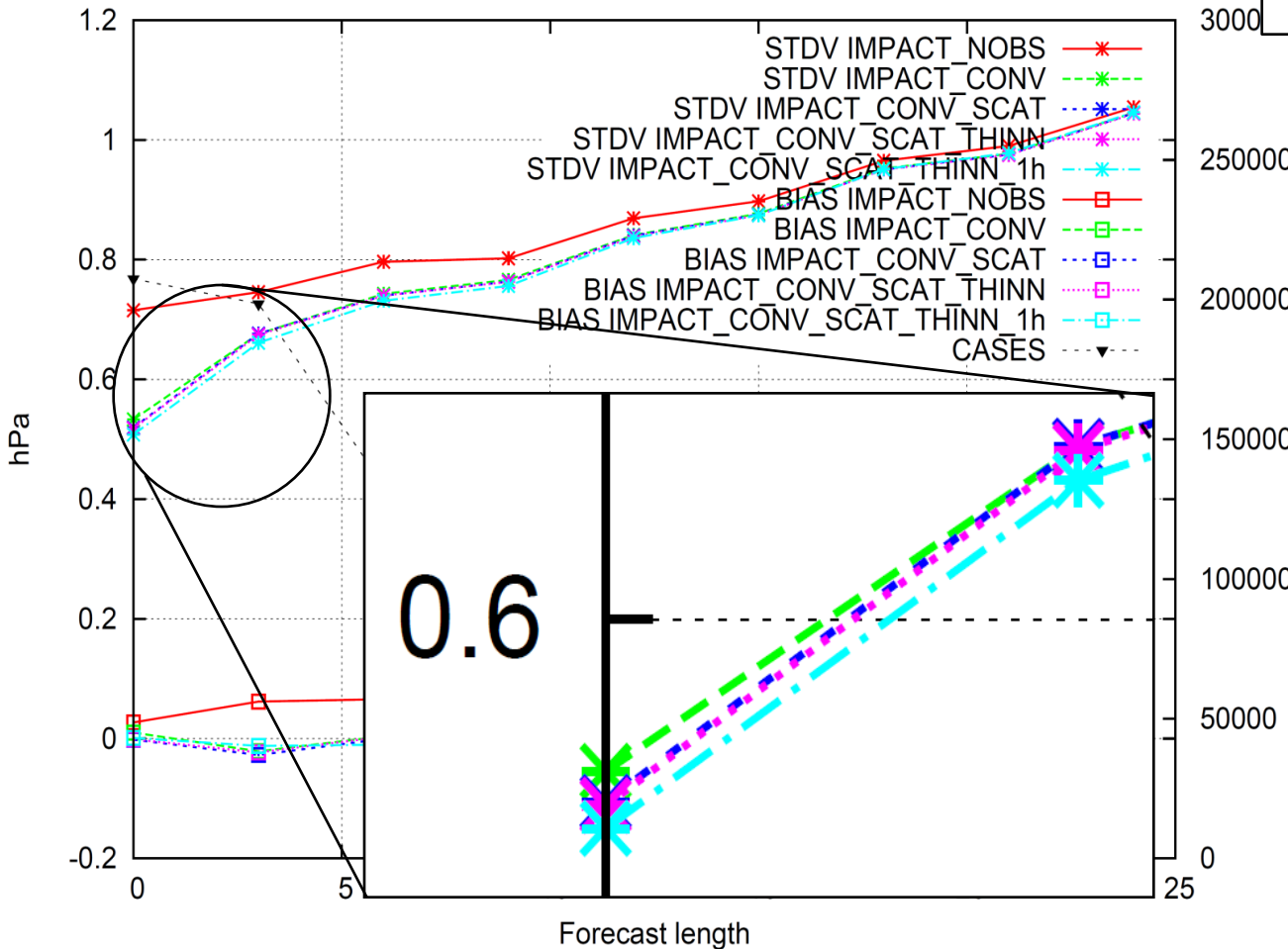
CONV+SCAT-THINN-1h

; **CONV+SCAT-THINN-3h** but 1-h cycling

MSLP verification over land

Selection: ALL using 831 stations
 Mslp Period: 20131115-20131231
 Hours: 00,03,...,21

NO OBS
CONV-3h
CONV+SCAT-3h
CONV+SCAT-THINN-3h
CONV+SCAT-THINN-1h



First time improved forecast skill from DA!!

- Scatterometer improves analyses of **mean sea level pressure** over land
- SCAT impact gone after 3 hours (in 3-h cycle)
- Impact maintained for 1-h cycling; SCAT or additional SYNOPS??

SCAT impact largely gone after 3 hours

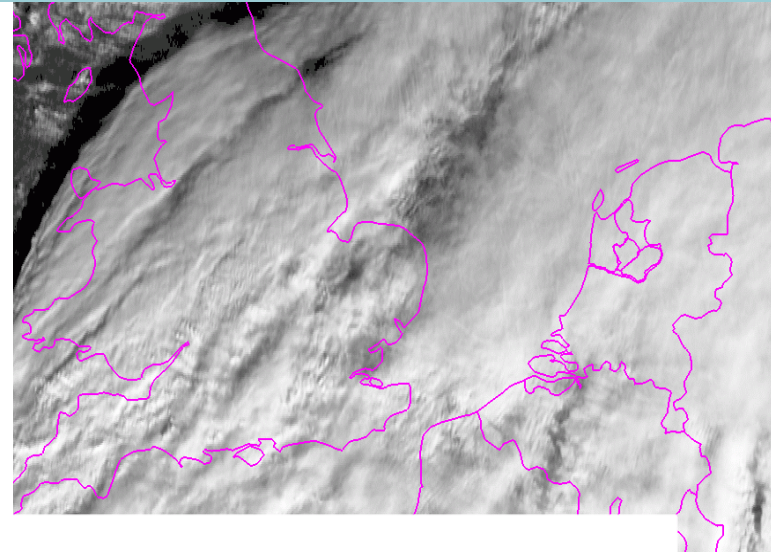
➤ Possible explanations

- Incorrect weight given to observations in the analysis; this was verified and indeed too much weight is currently given to observations.
- For ASCAT: 1.39/1.55 stddev, ignoring “footprint error”
- Timing issue in 3D-Var for e.g. aircraft, all satellite data.
- But scores do not take into account coarse temporal data coverage
 - Most forecast initial states had no SCAT data
 - Probably better to limit verification to forecasts initiated with SCAT
- Model bias (next slides)

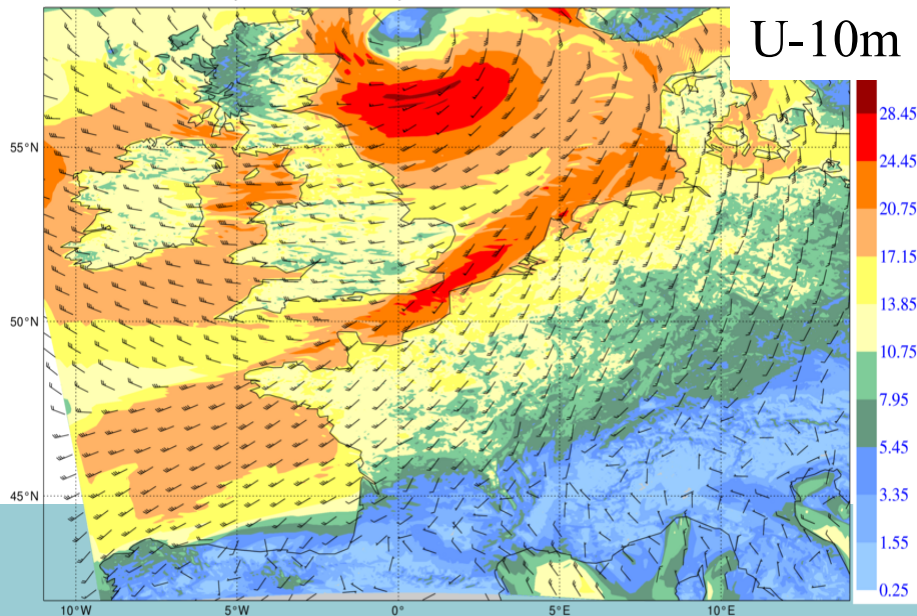
Model bias example: Storm Ulli , 3 January 2012



3 Jan. 2012 ~ 13UTC. In the strong westerly flow, a **cold front** rapidly moved across the North Sea, passing the Dutch coast. The front was accompanied with a **squall line**. The Dutch coastguard reported a so called **meteo-tsunami** at the coast of Ijmuiden, with a sea level change (rise and fall) of over 1.5 meters in 30 minutes.

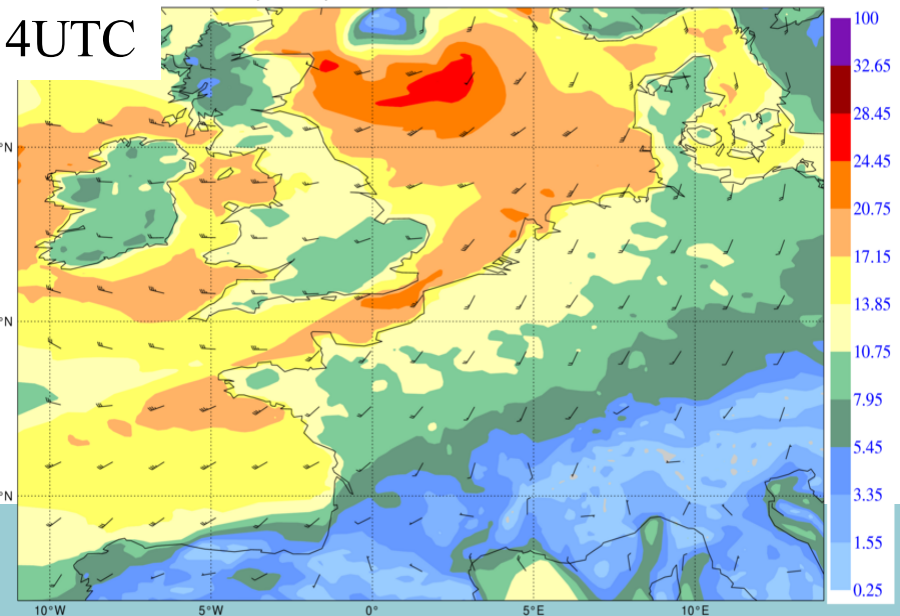


HA-U10; CONV+SCAT-1h; verification time: 2012010314UTC

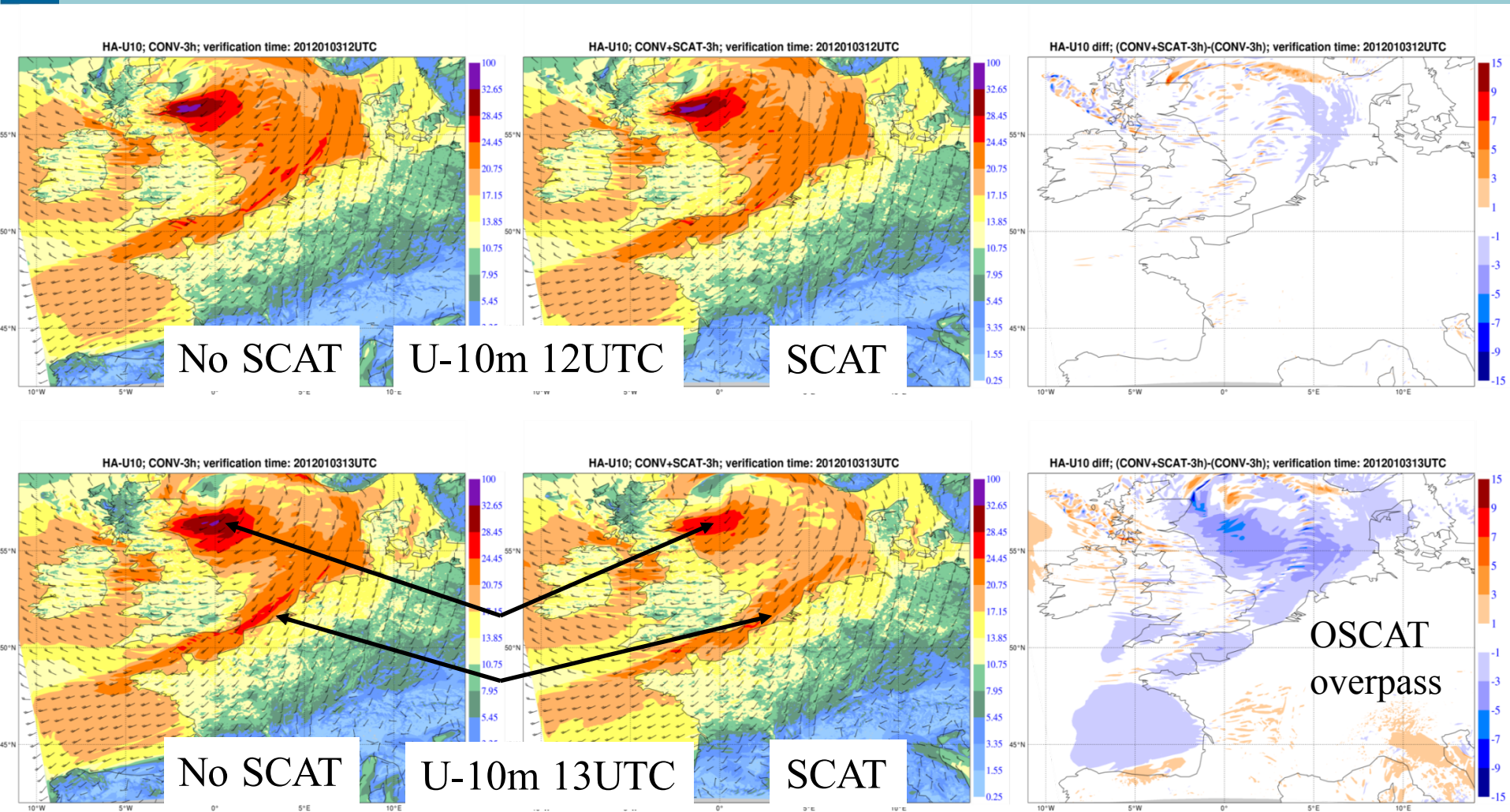


U-10m 14UTC

EC-U10; OPER; verification time: 2012010314UTC



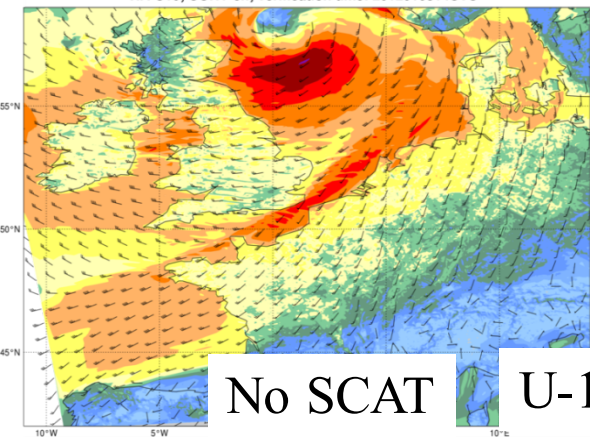
Harmonie 3 January around 13 UTC



Harmonie 3 January around 14 UTC

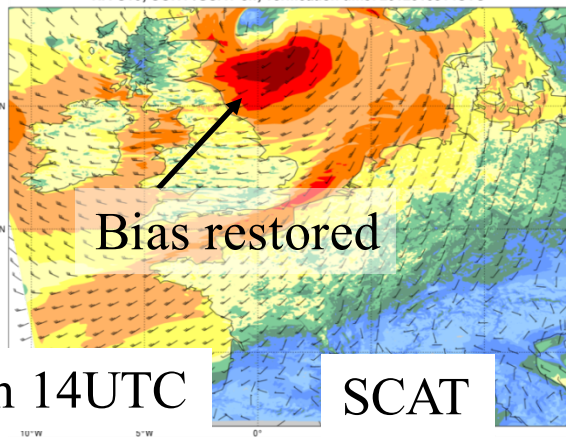


HA-U10; CONV-3h; verification time: 2012010314UTC



No SCAT

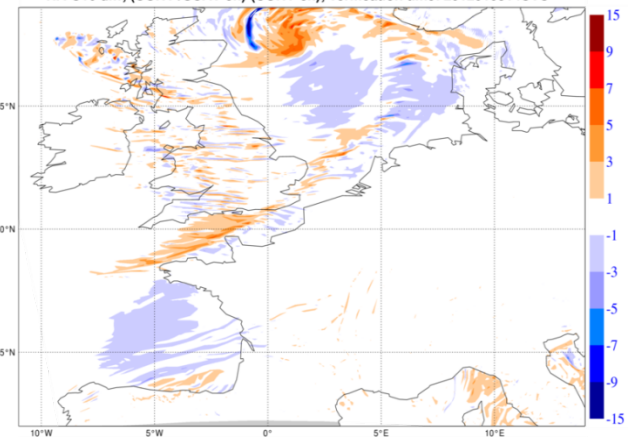
HA-U10; CONV+SCAT-3h; verification time: 2012010314UTC



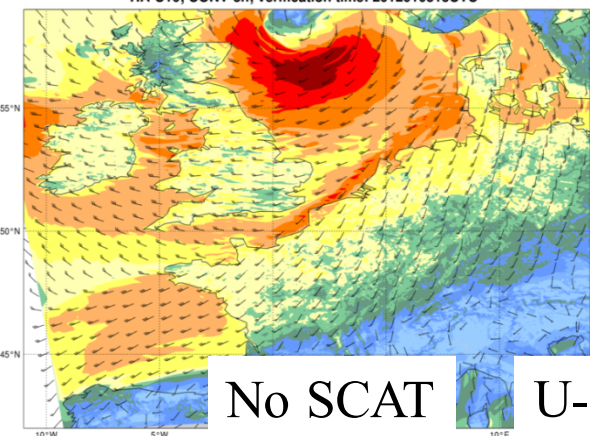
Bias restored

SCAT

HA-U10 diff; (CONV+SCAT-3h)-(CONV-3h); verification time: 2012010314UTC

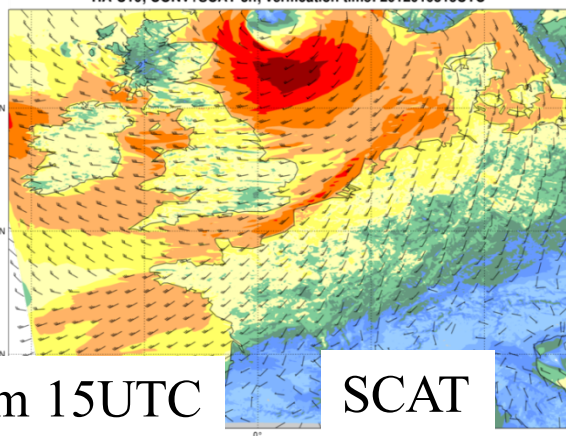


HA-U10; CONV-3h; verification time: 2012010315UTC



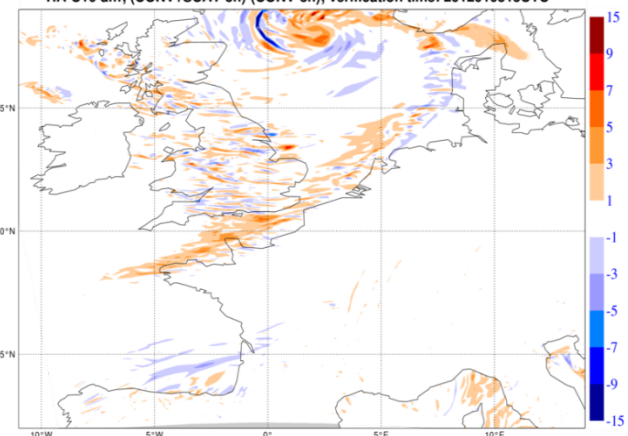
No SCAT

HA-U10; CONV+SCAT-3h; verification time: 2012010315UTC



SCAT

HA-U10 diff; (CONV+SCAT-3h)-(CONV-3h); verification time: 2012010315UTC



Large impact SCAT on analyses but not maintained in a biased model



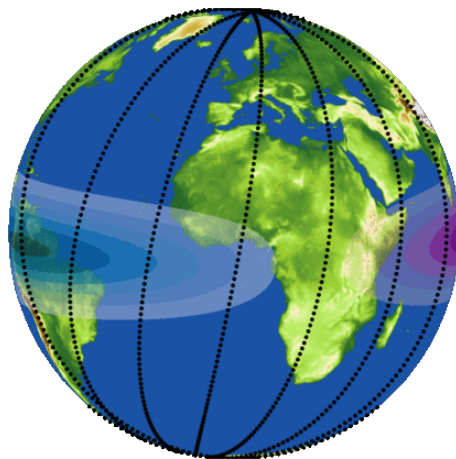
Conclusions

- Mesoscale data assimilation is a new paradigm
- Many accurate 4D wind observations are needed to initialize 3D turbulence and convection in the atmosphere
- Undetermined scales cause headaches and destroy the analysis of the larger scales potentially
- It is possible to determine small observed scales in the analysis, if they did not exist yet (2DVAR)
- Weather models return to their climatological balance very quickly though
- Seek ways to avoid analyzing non-deterministic scales and their detriment as model noise
- Accurate treatment of time and space aspects, balance



Workshop

Wind Profiles and Mesoscale Data Assimilation

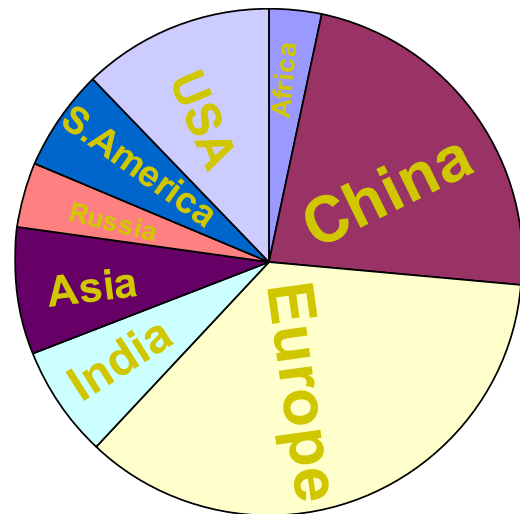


Ljubljana, 19-20 September 2016

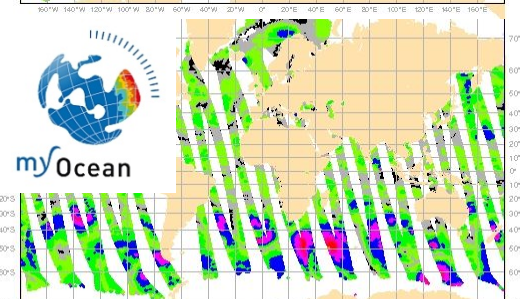
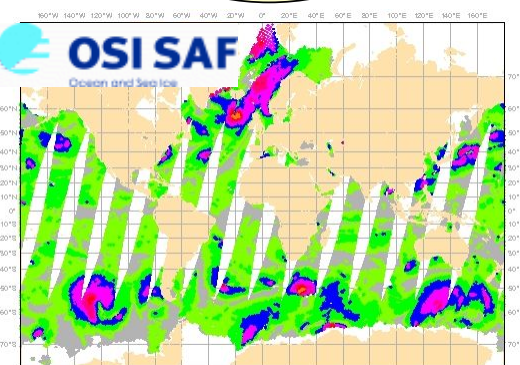
meteo.fmf.uni-lj.si/en/workshop



Satellite Wind Services at Sea

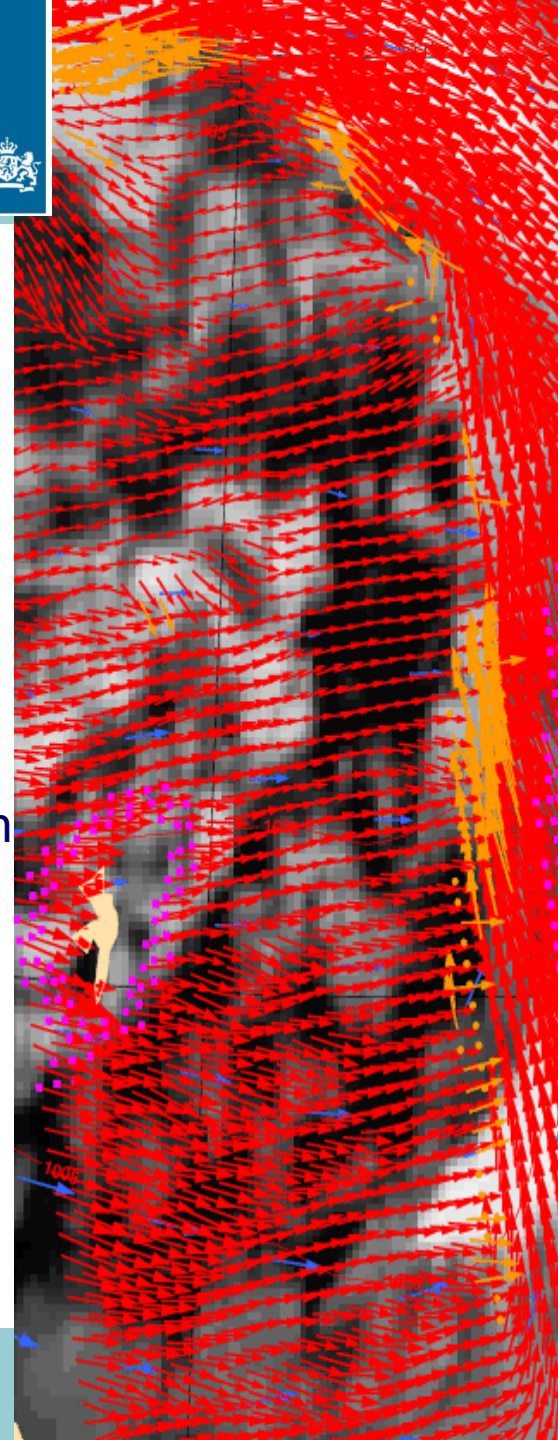


- 24/7 Wind product services (OSI SAF)
 - Constellation of satellites
 - High quality winds, QC
 - Timeliness 30 min. – 2 hours
 - Service messages
 - QA, monitoring
- Software services (NWP SAF)
 - Portable Wind Processors
 - Weather model comparison
- Organisations involved: KNMI, EUMETSAT, EU, ESA, 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:

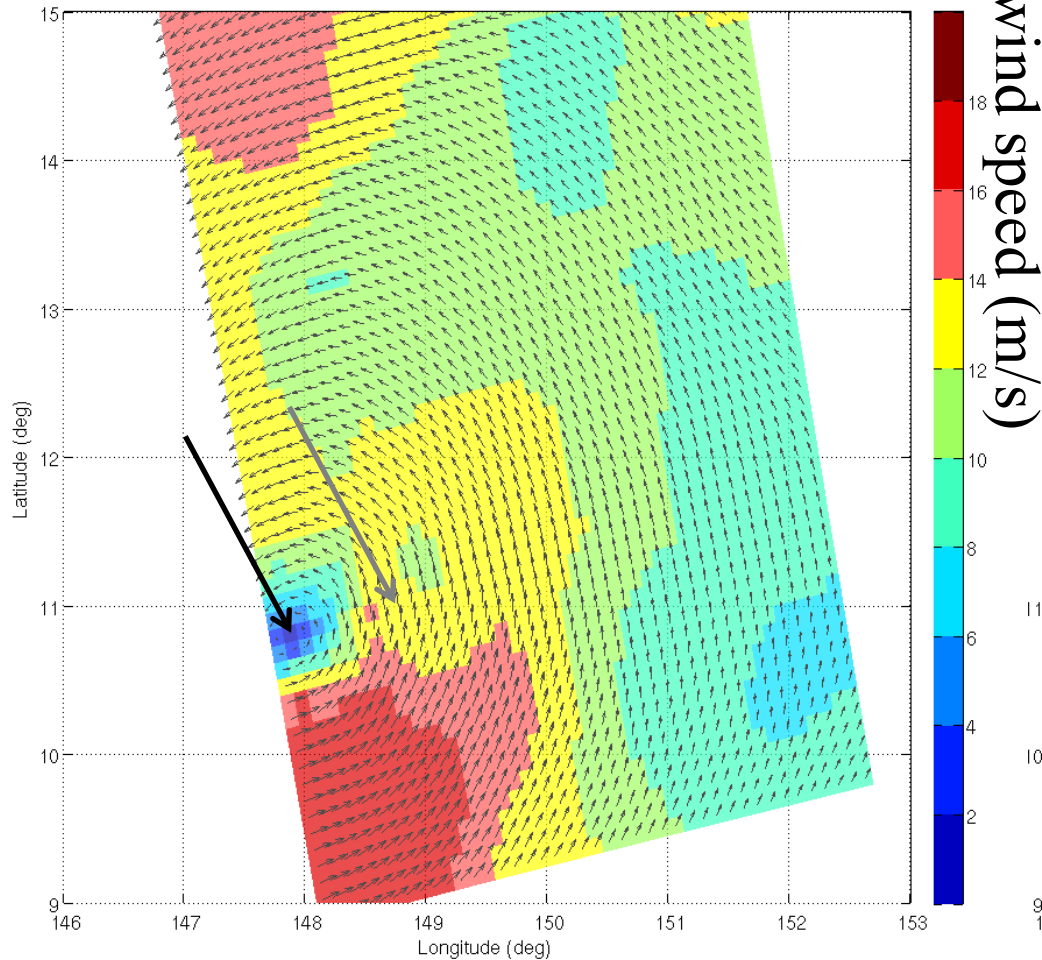
www.knmi.nl/scatterometer



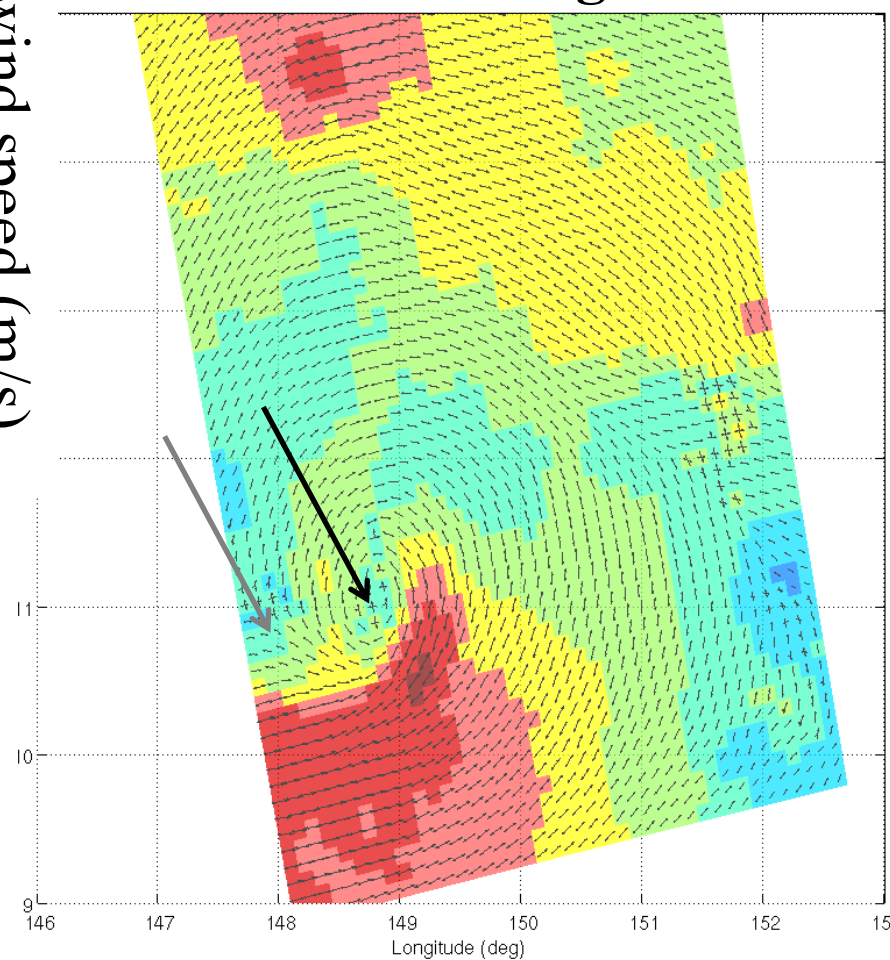
Typhoon Chan-hom, July 3, 2015 (early stage)



ECMWF speed+vector



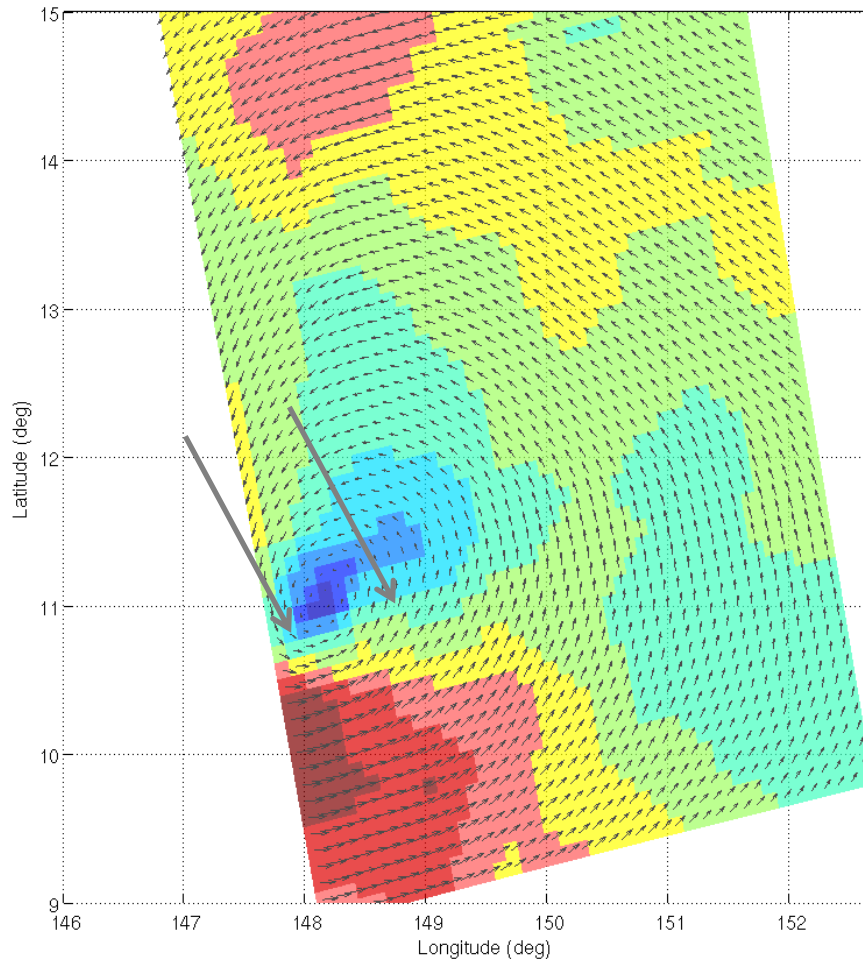
ASCAT ambiguities



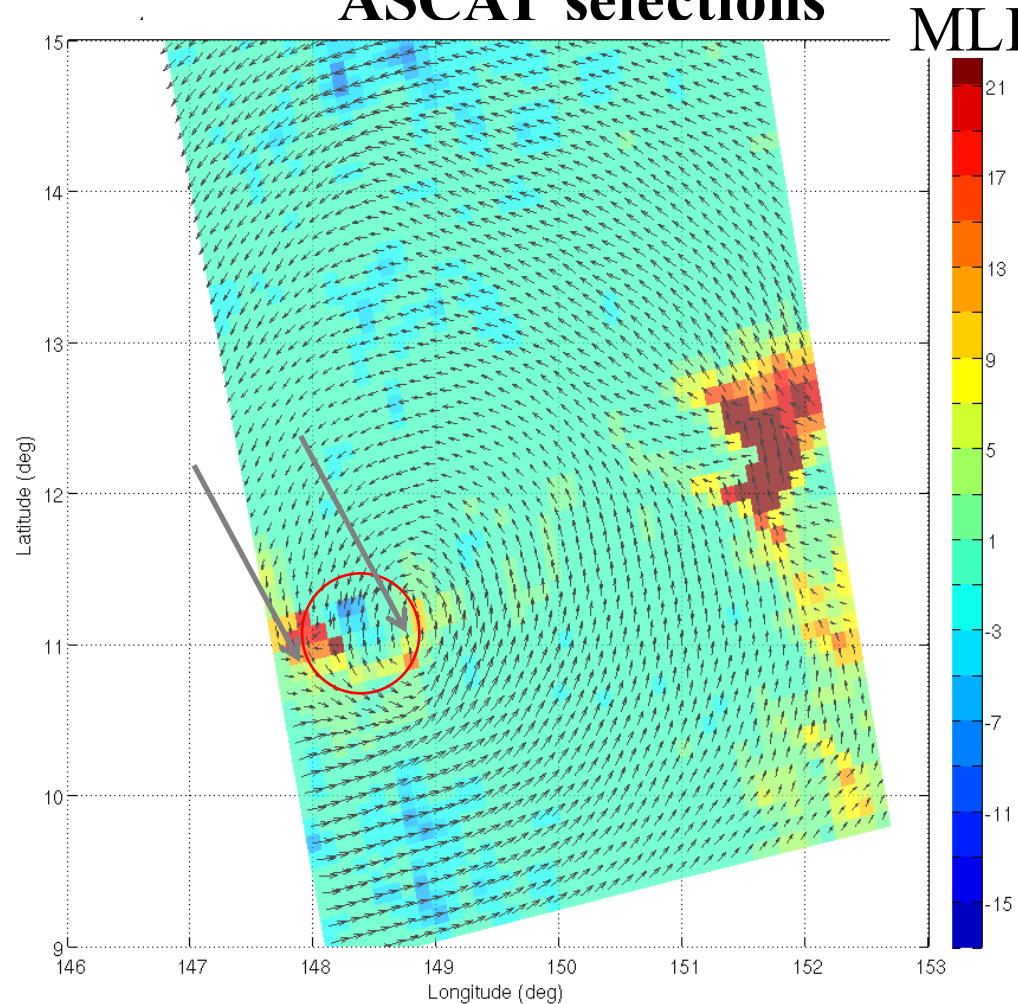
Typhoon Chan-hom, July 3, 2015 (early stage)



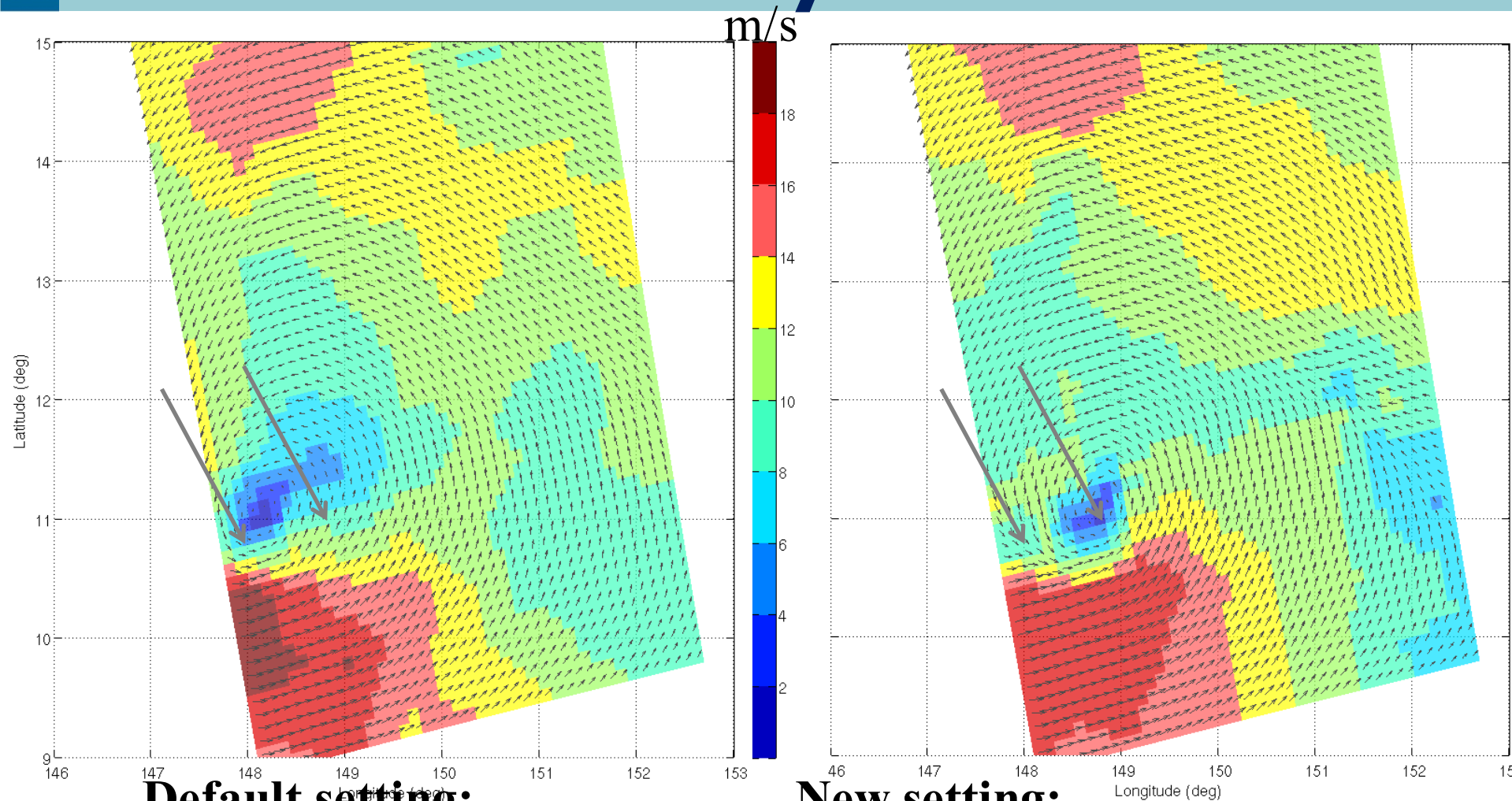
2DVAR analysis



ASCAT selections



Typhoon Chan-hom, 2DVAR analyses



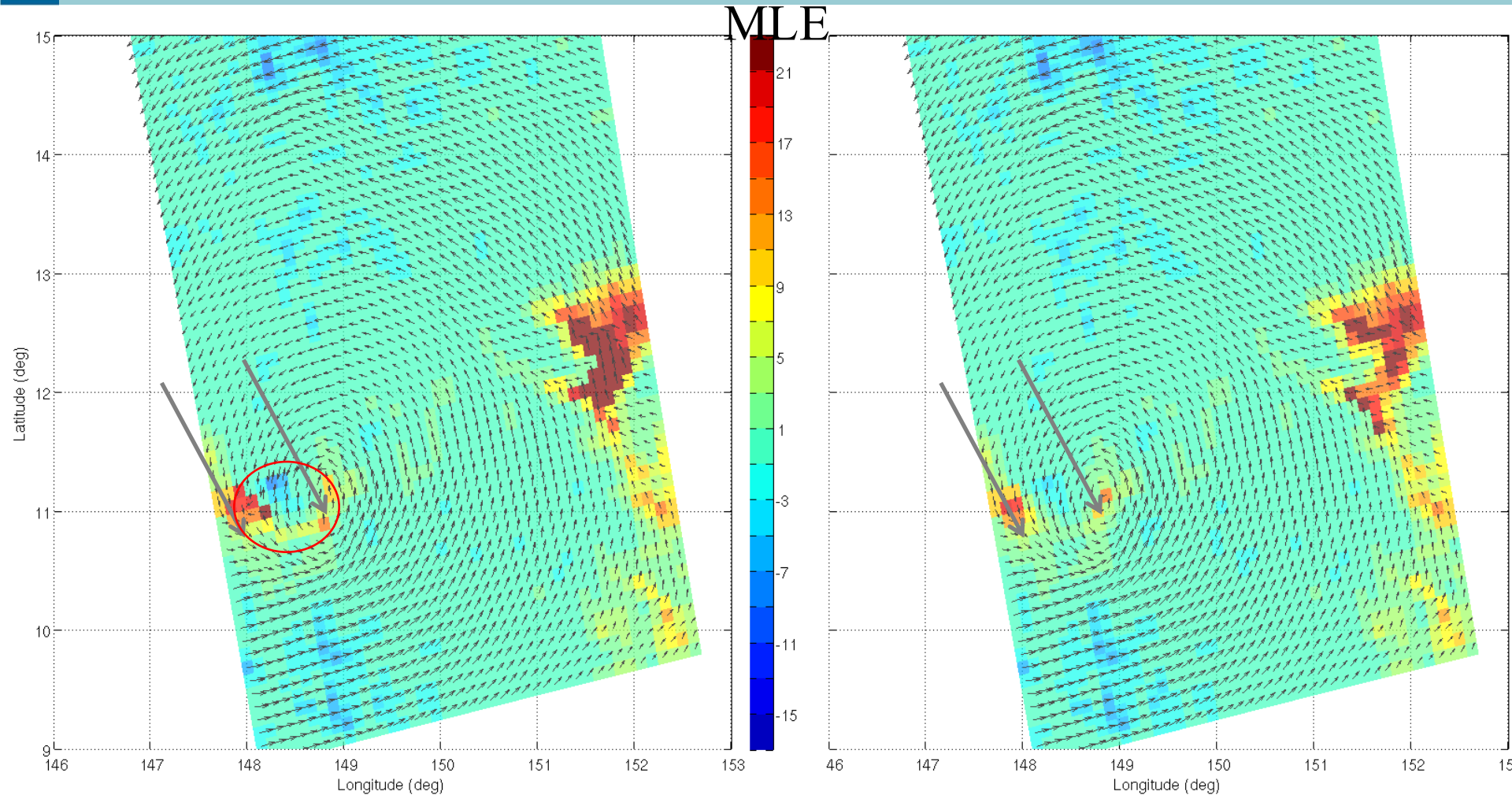
Default setting:

- Gaussian structure function
- Fixed O/B errors

New setting:

- Empirical structure function
- Flexible O/B errors

Typhoon Chan-hom selections



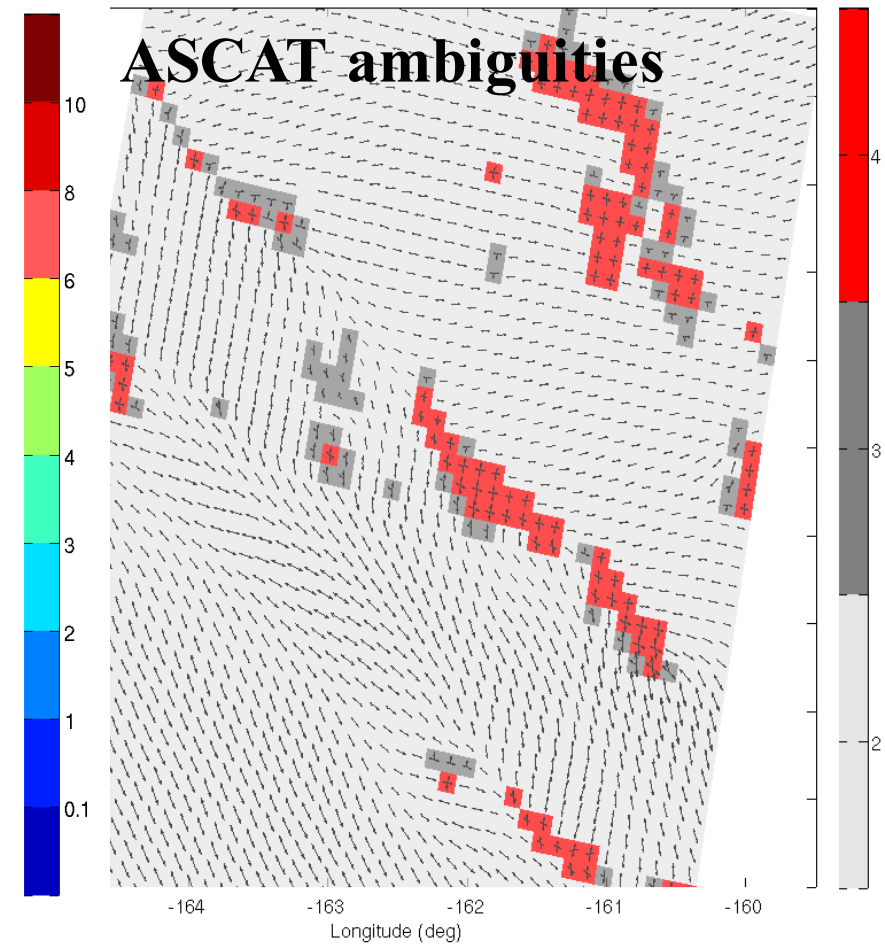
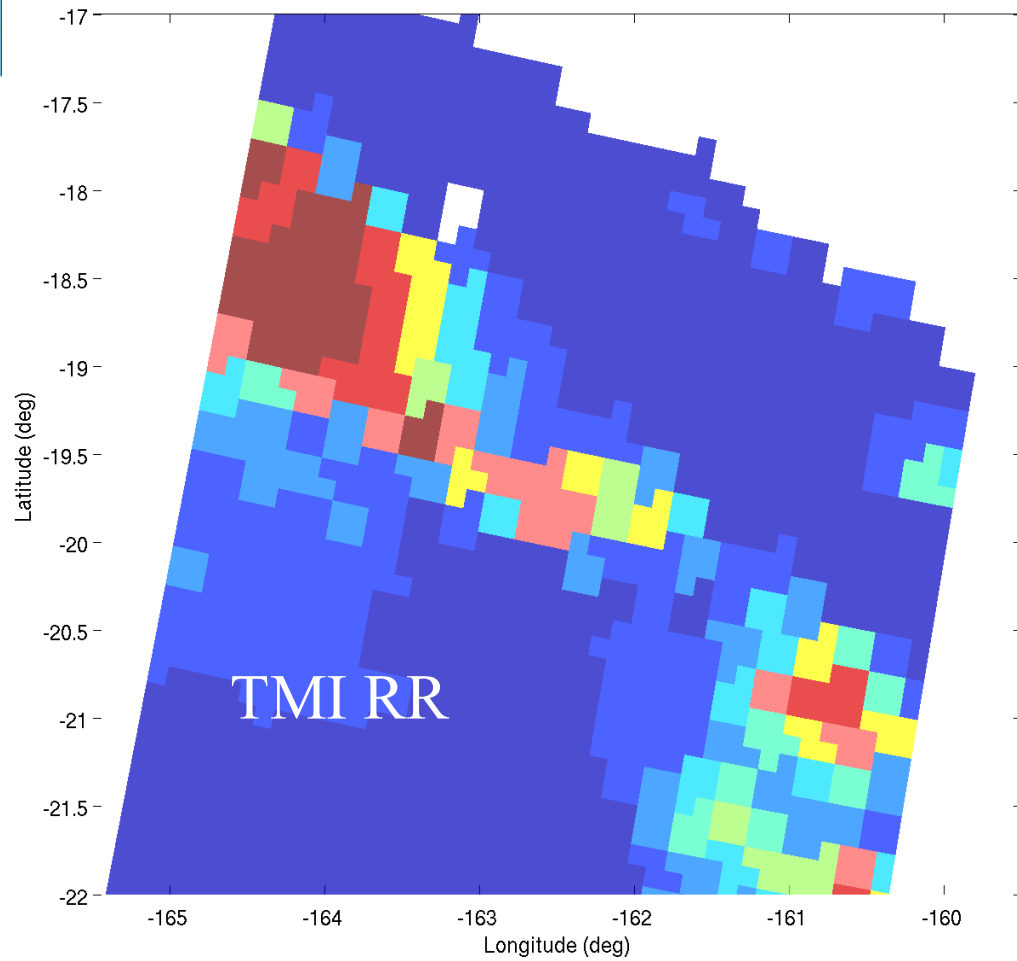
Default setting:

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New setting:

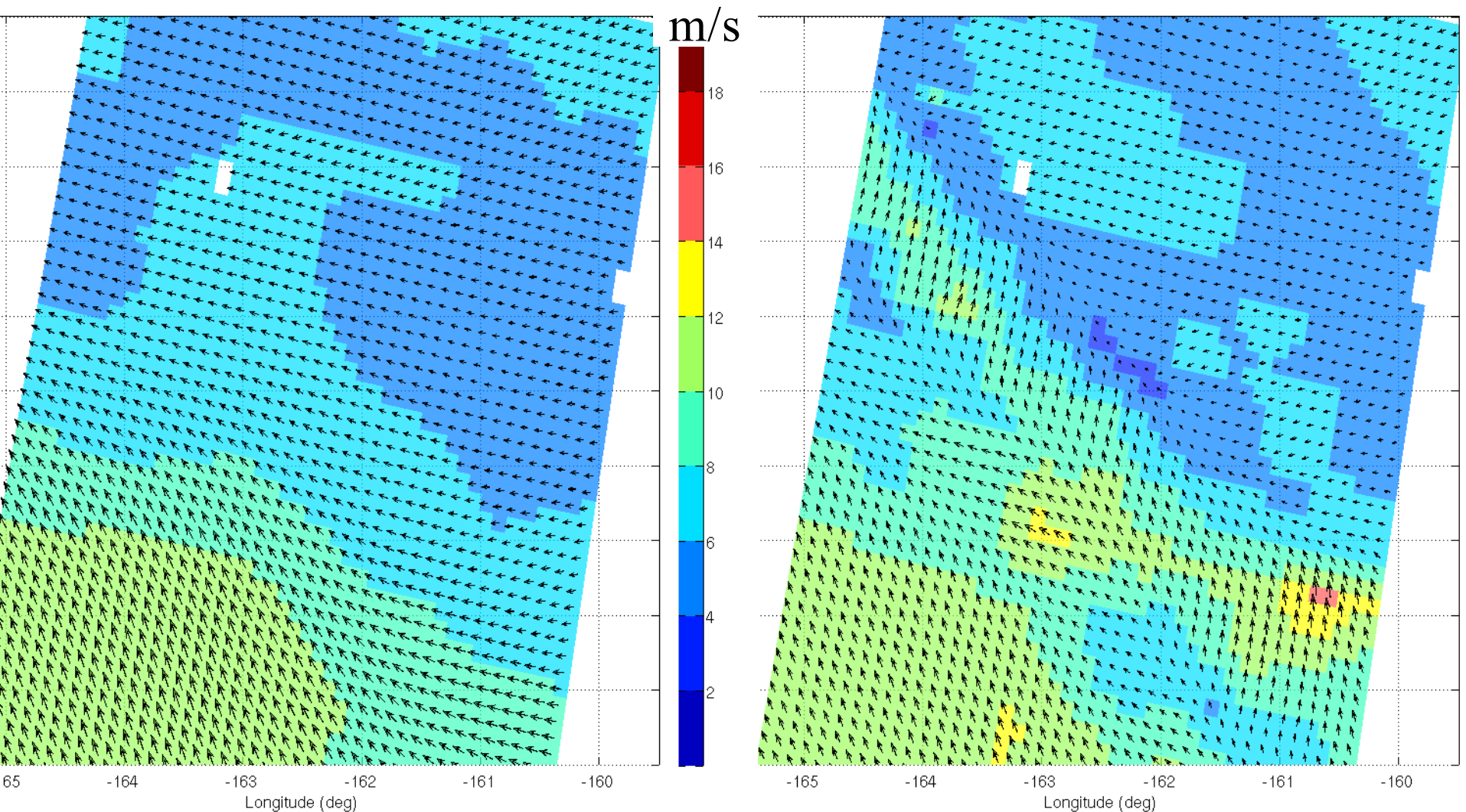
- Empirical structure function
- Flexible O/B errors

Wind front



↑
Number of ambiguities

Wind front 2DVAR analysis



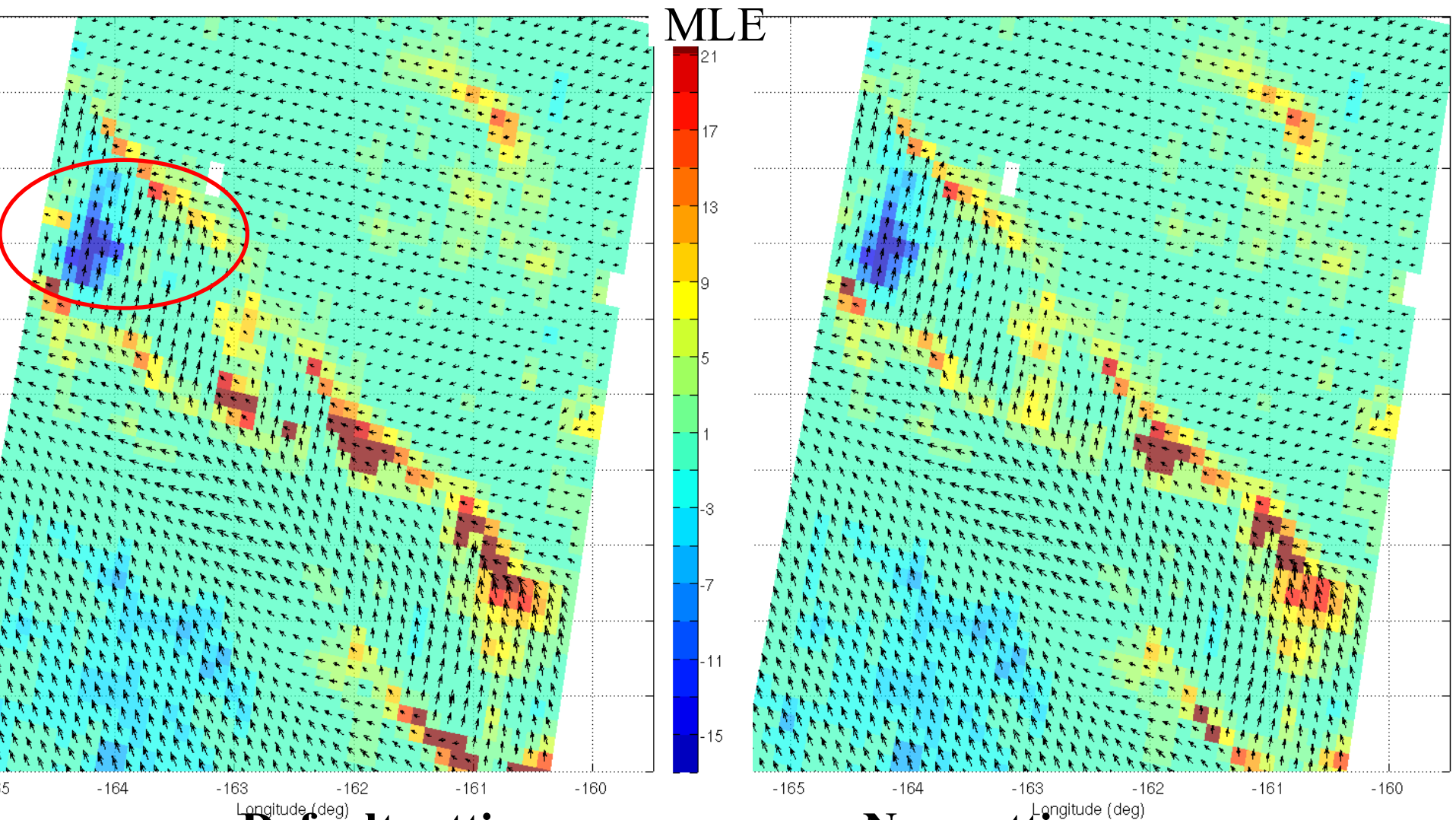
Default setting:

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Wind front selections



Default setting:

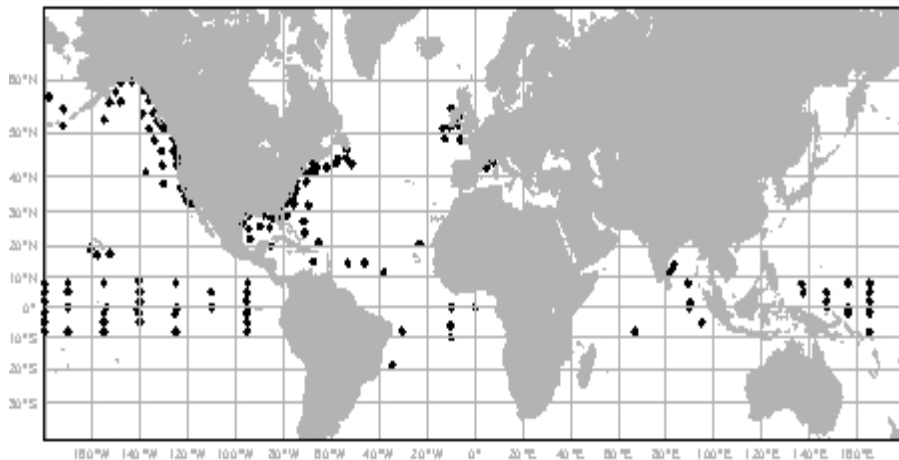
- Gaussian structure function
- Fixed O/B errors

New setting:

- Empirical structure function
- Flexible O/B errors



Triple collocation



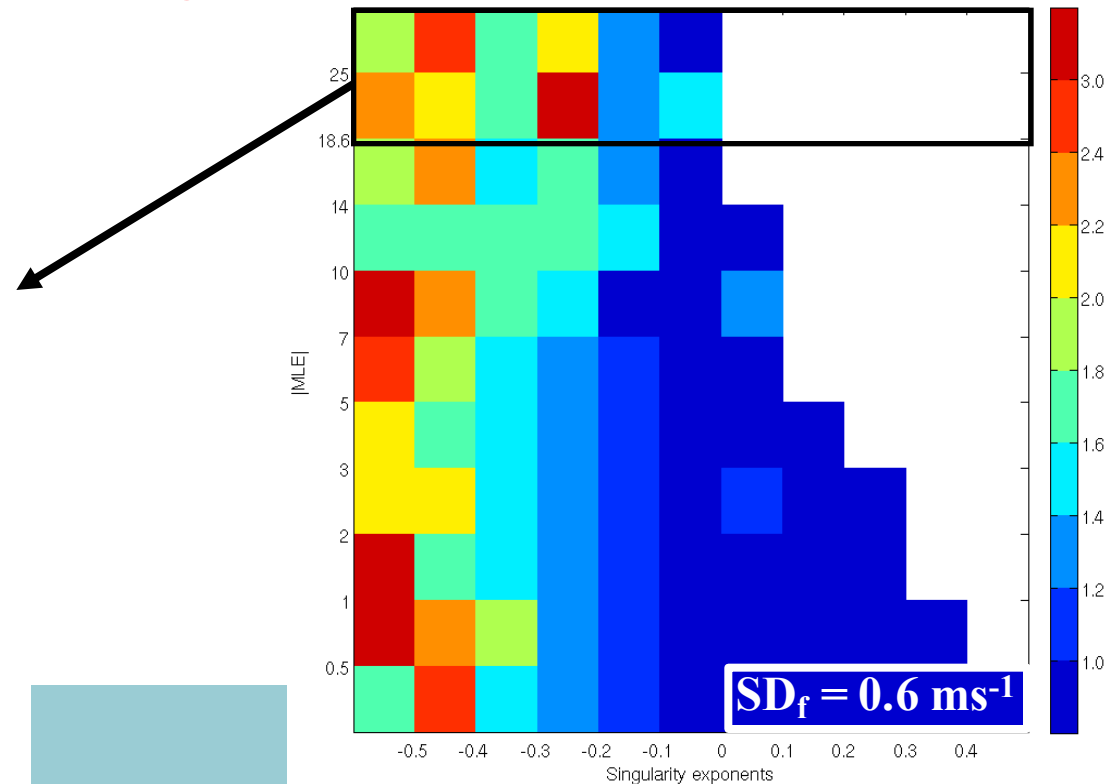
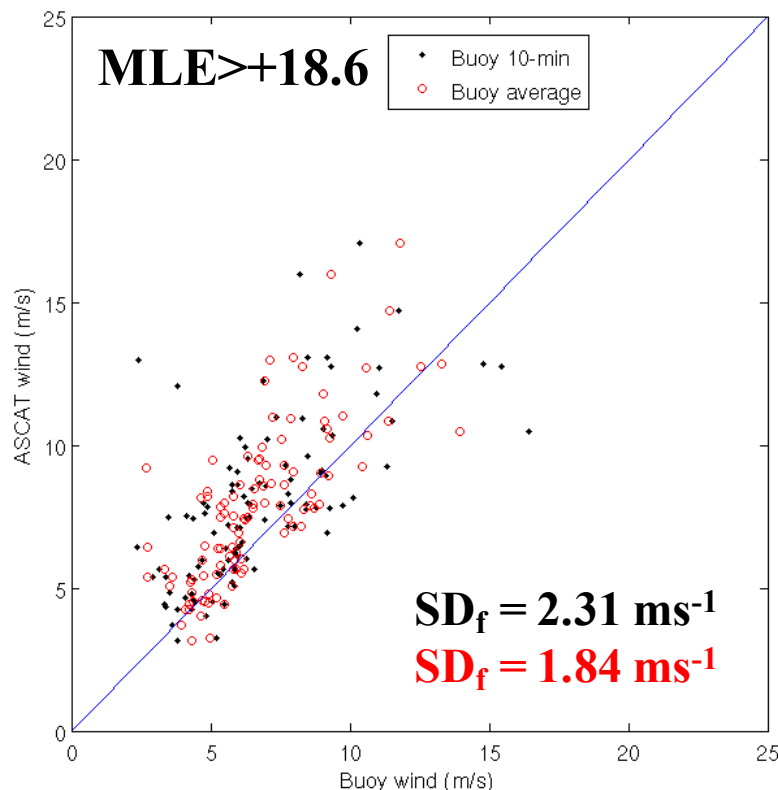
Data from November 2012 to January 2013

- Errors on scatterometer scale
- A and B very similar

	Scatterometer		Buoys		ECMWF	
m/s	σ_u	σ_v	σ_u	σ_v	σ_u	σ_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
ASCAT-A Coastal	0.76	0.84	1.18	1.34	1.54	1.57
ASCAT-B Coastal	0.81	0.79	1.24	1.35	1.53	1.57

QC: Which error is acceptable?

- 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?

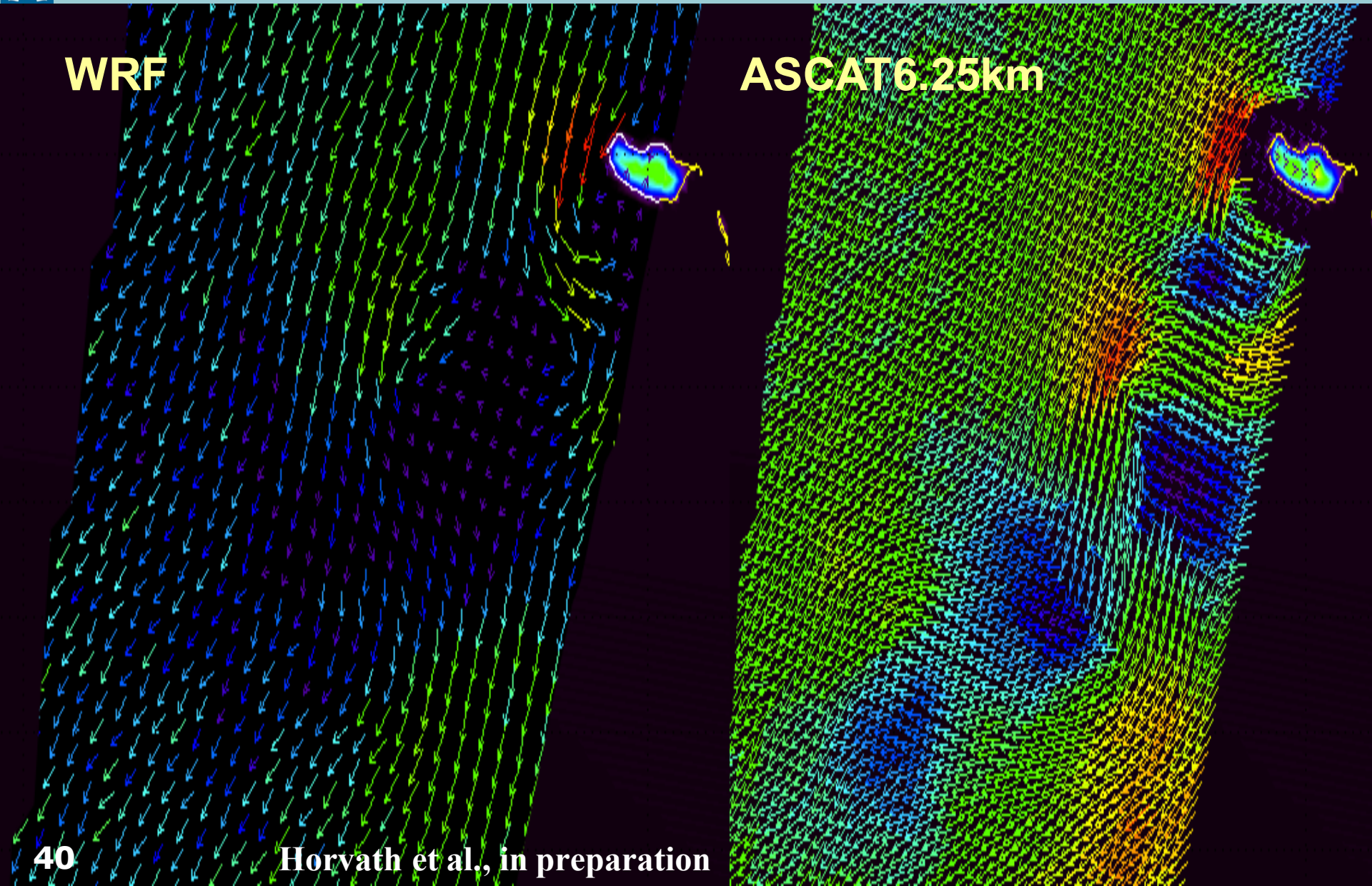


Observations and Models



WRF

ASCAT6.25km

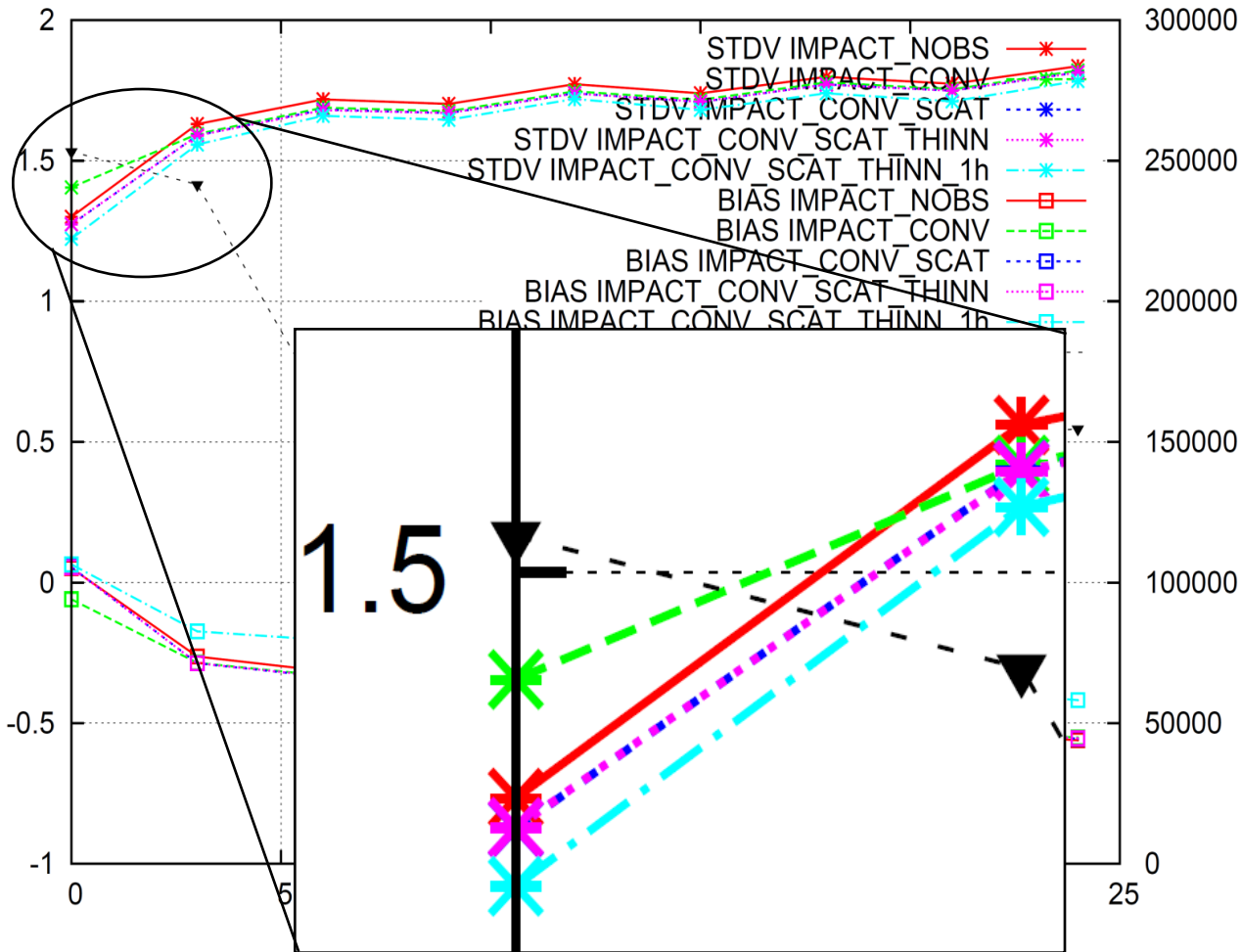




T2m verification over land

Selection: ALL using 1026 stations
T2m Period: 20131115-20131231
Hours: 00,03,...,21

NO OBS
CONV-3h
CONV+SCAT-3h
CONV+SCAT-THINN-3h
CONV+SCAT-THINN-1h

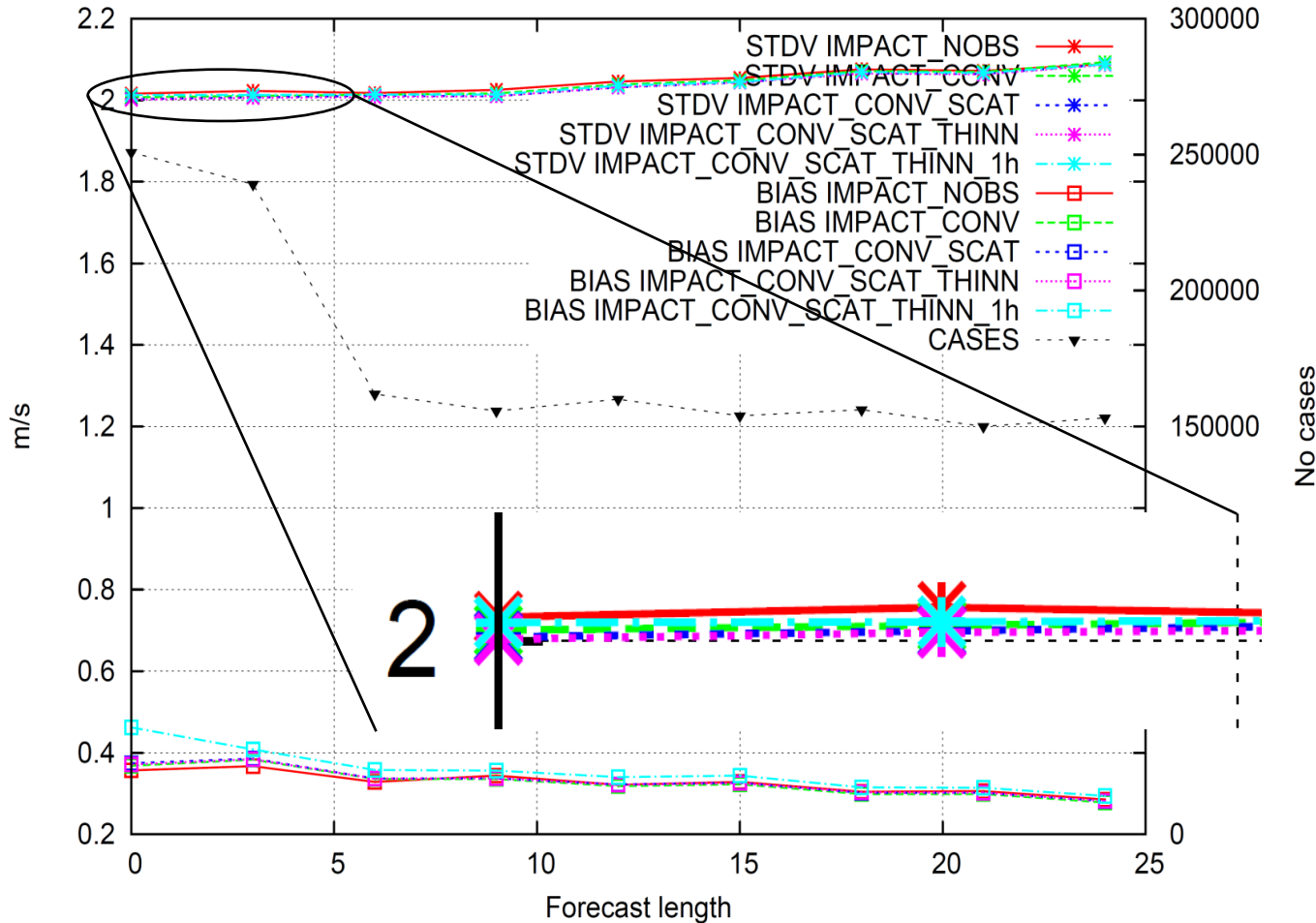


- Scatterometer improves analyses of **2-m temperature** over land
- SCAT impact gone after 3 hrs (3-h cycle)
- Impact maintained for 1-h cycling; SCAT or additional SYNOPS??

0-10m verification over

Selection: ALL using 1021 stations
 U10m Period: 20131115-20131231
 Hours: 00,03,...,21

- NO OBS
- CONV-3h
- CONV+SCAT-3h
- CONV+SCAT-THINN-3h
- CONV+SCAT-THINN-1h



Scatterometer
 slightly positive
 for 10-m wind
 over land
 Similar scores for
 SCAT
 thinning/no-
 thinning

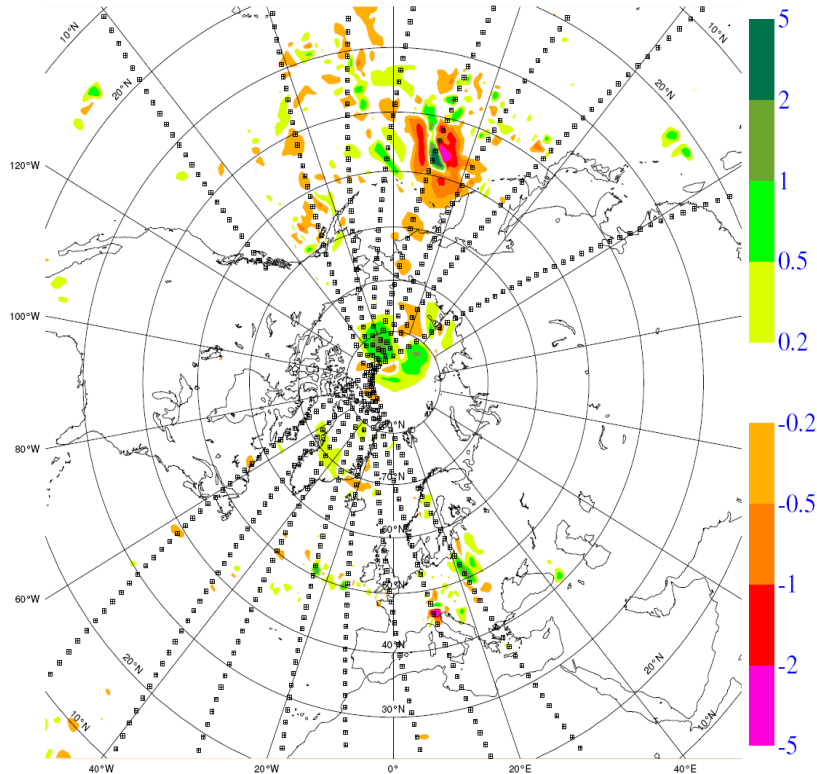


Tandem-Aeolus impact on analyses

Analysis improvement at forecast initial time of '99 Christmas storm Martin (26 Dec 1999 12:00 UTC) for the Tandem-Aeolus scenario

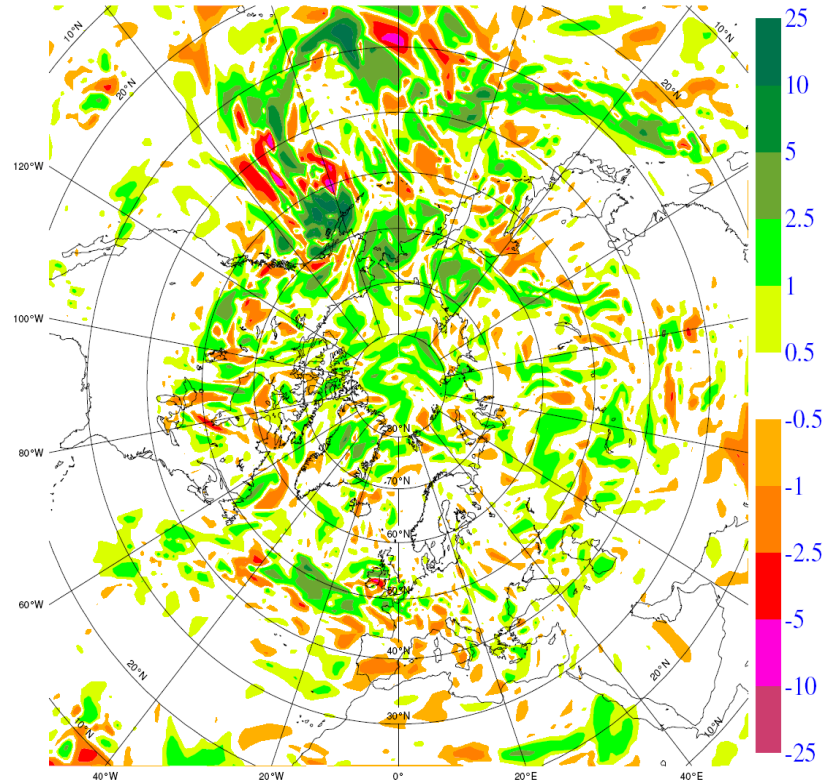
Single-time SOSE; 6 hours DWL obs.

ANALYSIS IMPROVEMENT (m/s) 500 hPa (u,v); andate=19991226 12UTC
RMSE N.HEMIS: -0.01, EUR: -0.03, N.ATL: 0, N.AMER: 0, N.PAC: -0.03, N.ASIA: -0.05



SOSE – cycling; 84 hours DWL obs.

TANDEM_AEOLUS ANALYSIS IMPROVEMENT (m/s) 500 hPa (u,v); andate=26 December 1999 12UTC
RMSE N.HEMIS: 0.54, EUR: 0.03, N.ATL: 0.25, N.AMER: 0.13, N.PAC: 1.02, N.ASIA: 0.37, N.POLE: 0.72



➤ Positive interference of subsequent cycles

All the QC-accepted and 2-solution ($|\text{MLE}_1| < 1$)



ASCAT-ECMWF-buoy comparison (mean buoy winds)			
	ASCAT vs ECMWF	ASCAT vs buoy point wind	N
Default	2.19	1.74	5034
New	2.17	1.71	

ASCAT-ECMWF-buoy comparison (mean buoy winds)				
	2DVAR vs ECMWF	2DVAR vs buoy point wind	2DVAR vs ASCAT	N
Default	1.85	1.94	1.17	5034
New	2.00	1.76	0.74	