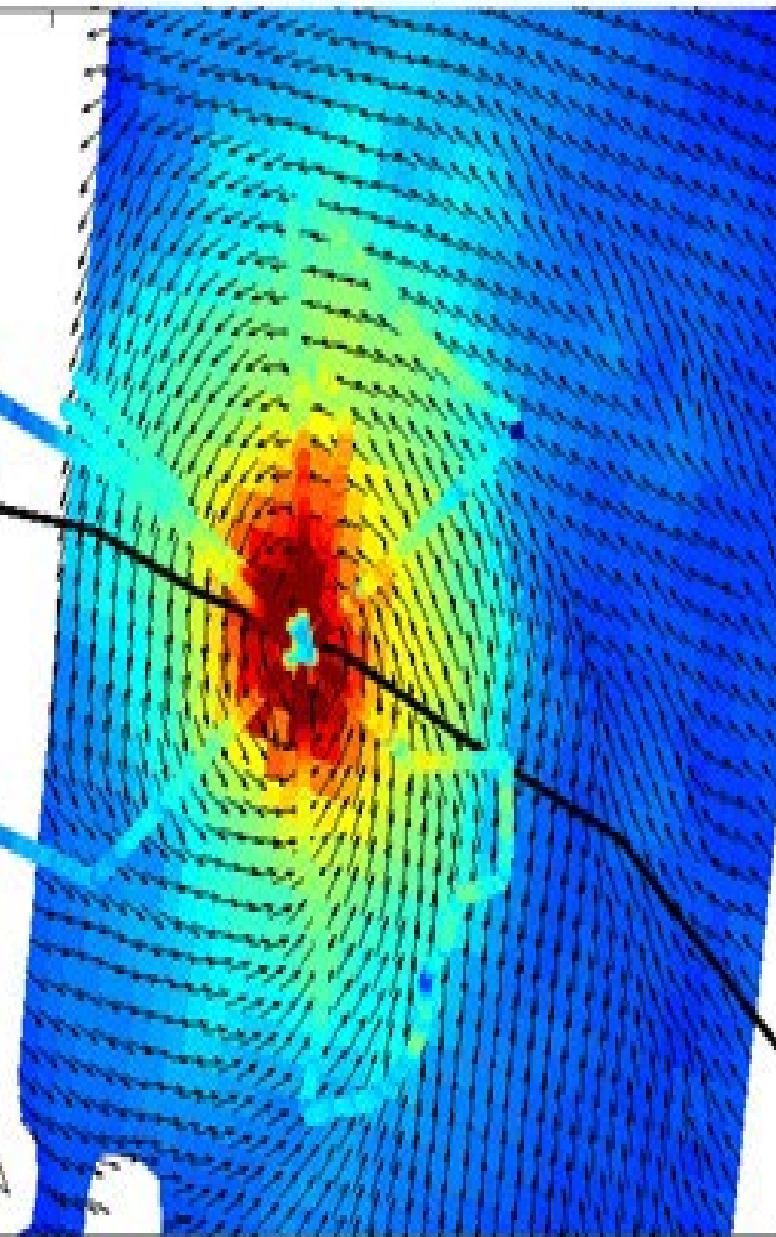


Corrected



45  
40  
35  
30  
25  
20  
15  
10  
5  
0

wind speed (m/s)



Royal Netherlands  
Meteorological Institute  
*Ministry of Infrastructure and Waterworks*

# Hurricane Ocean Wind Speeds

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

KNMI: Gert-Jan Marseille, Weicheng Ni,

IFREMER: Alexis Mouche,

JPL: Federica Polverari,

ICM: Marcos Portabella,

NUIST: Wenming Lin,

NOAA: Joe Sapp, Paul Chang, Zorana Jelenak

IWW15, 12-16 April 2021

-75 -74 -73 -72 -71

Longitude (deg)





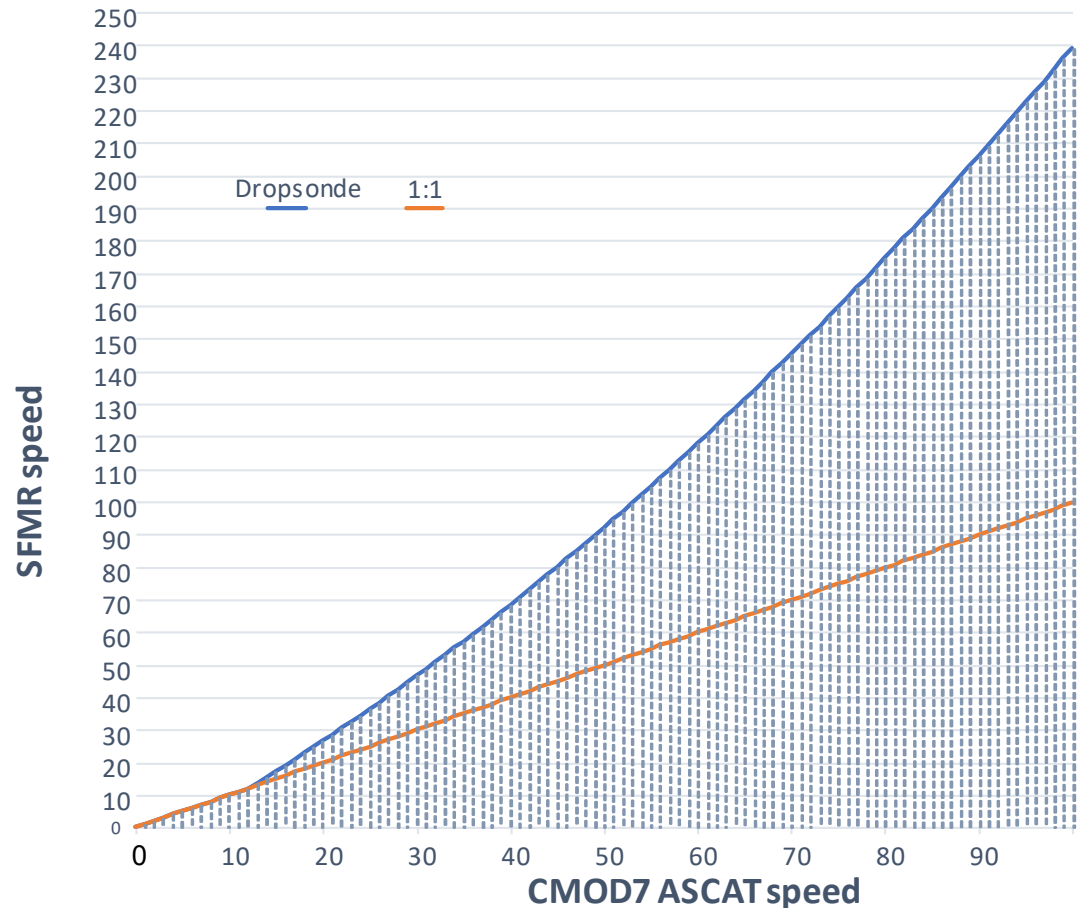
# Need for accurate extreme winds

- **Nowcasting**, though **dropsondes** are the adopted wind speed reference here; if the wind speed reference changes, hurricane scales change too as everything relies on dropsonde wind speed calibration (SFMR, Dvorak, .. )
- **NWP**, to formulate **drag** and air-sea interaction stresses
- **Oceanography**, to determine **mixing depth** in hurricanes
- **Climate** monitoring, to determine climate **change** at the extremes
- **Climate** prediction, to well describe coupled ocean and atmosphere dynamics
- Improved description of hurricane **dynamics**
- Satellite ocean surface wind speed calibration for active and passive microwave remote sensing

# Validation metrics

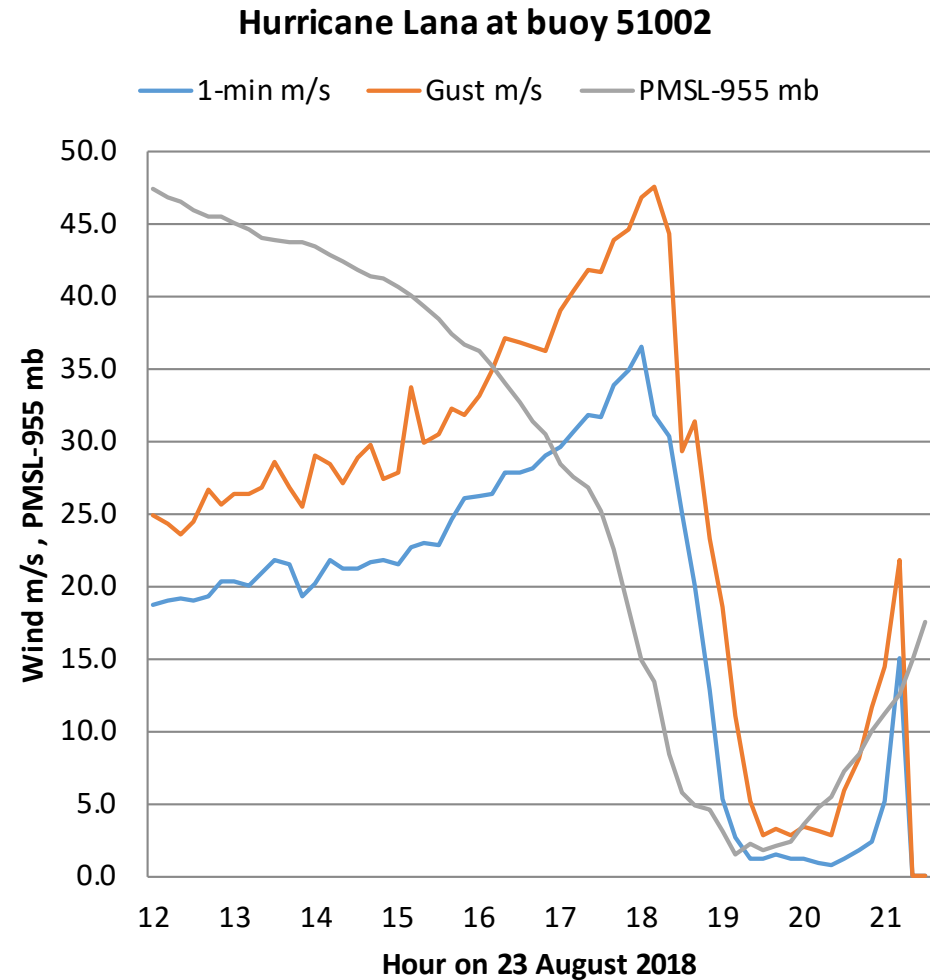


- Based on dropsondes as these are used in the operational community (though open questions remain on their accuracy as articulated in [CHEFS](#))
- Use CHEFS method for spatial scaling, collocation, ..
- SFMR, Dvorak, SMAP, SMOS, .. , depend on dropsondes
- Use stress-equivalent 10-m ECMWF and buoy winds
- Triple collocation
- **CMOD7D**



# Moored buoys

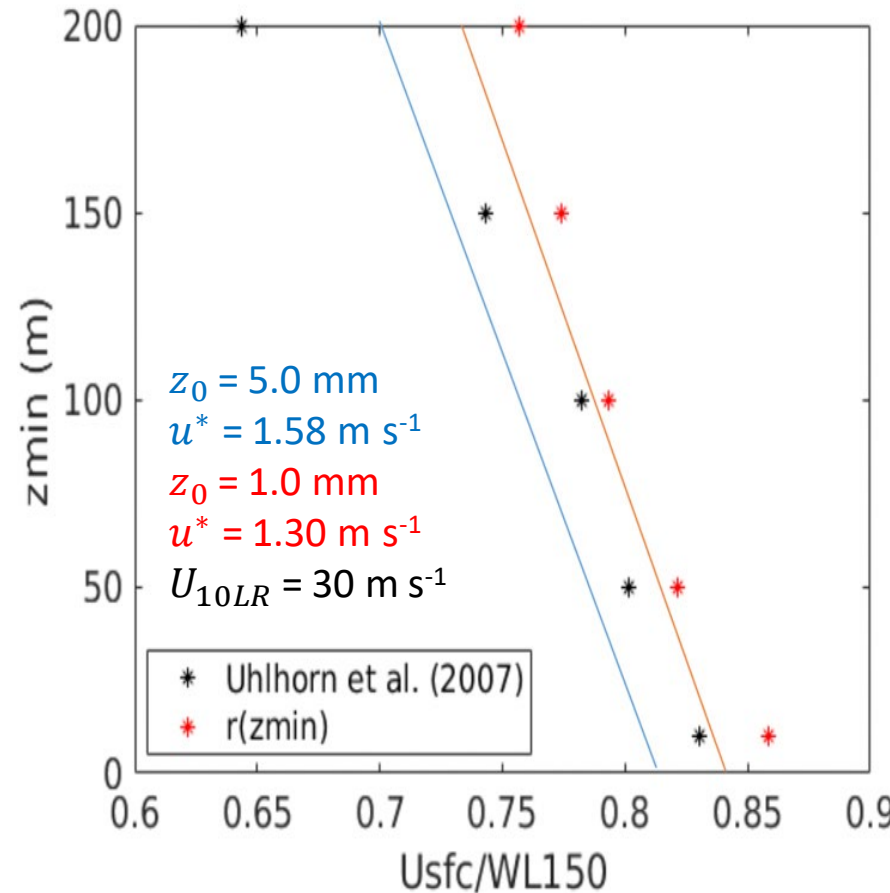
- Best controlled resource for in-situ wind speed calibration at moderate and high winds
- Work well up to 25 m/s as verified with wind tower
- Dynamically corrected platform winds
- Claims of ocean wave shielding lead to non-substantiated sources
- Cup anemometer biases at extreme winds may be a few % (only)
- Rare encounter with hurricanes
- Ethan Wright, IOVWST 2021



# Dropsondes open issues



- Dropsondes cannot follow the wind near the surface, due to the strong deceleration as function of the drag;
- The correction for this leads to an integration effect in the vertical, where the wind profile is logarithmic;
- 10-m SFMR winds in hurricanes are inconsistent with a log profile;
- The position computation by the dropsonde GPS chip has not (yet) been investigated, nor its derivation of speed and acceleration, with may cause further bias in strong deceleration (drag);
- Most passive satellite winds, SFMR, best track, etc. are all calibrated with respect to dropsondes and show the same inconsistency with respect to the buoy winds;
- The above conversion takes the spatio-temporal scale of the verification sources into account, hence differences are believed not to be dominated by local gradient effects;
- On the other hand, ASCAT and ECMWF follow the moored buoy scale (up to recently).
- Buoy winds are not frequent in hurricanes, but are validated by masts to be unbiased up to 25 m/s (within  $\sim 10\%$ ), while at 25 m/s the conversion bias from (1) is **45%**;
- Other in-situ (incl. land-based) wind sources suffer from wind flow distortion biases, positive and negative, or from height down conversion errors to 10m;
- These results call for further investigation of the true in-situ wind speed reference in hurricane conditions.
- Due to the above-mentioned inconsistency, calibration of satellite winds (above 25 m/s) is uncertain, as well as their assimilation in NWP and the associated drag formulation in Earth System Models.



# 3. Hurricane Eyewall Detection

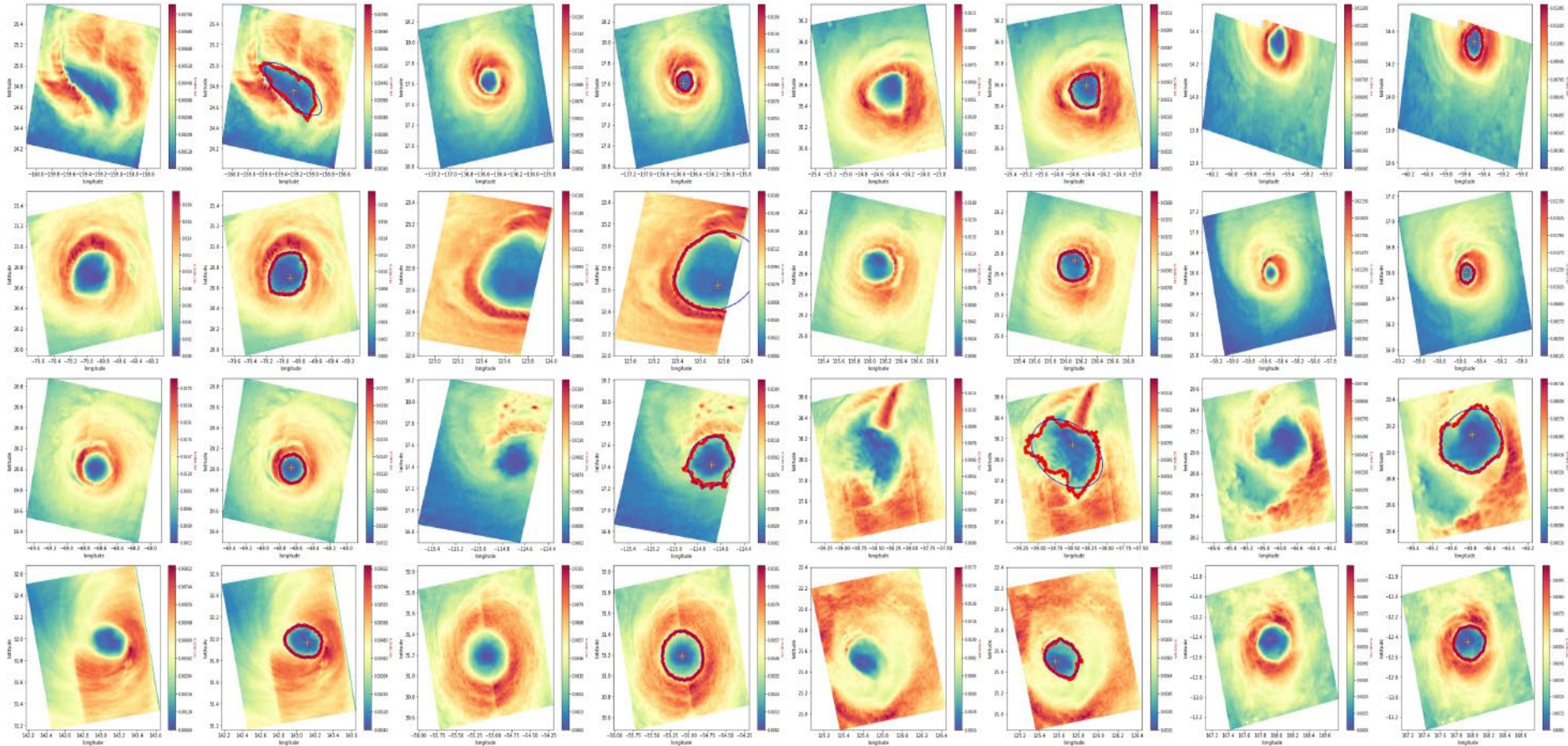


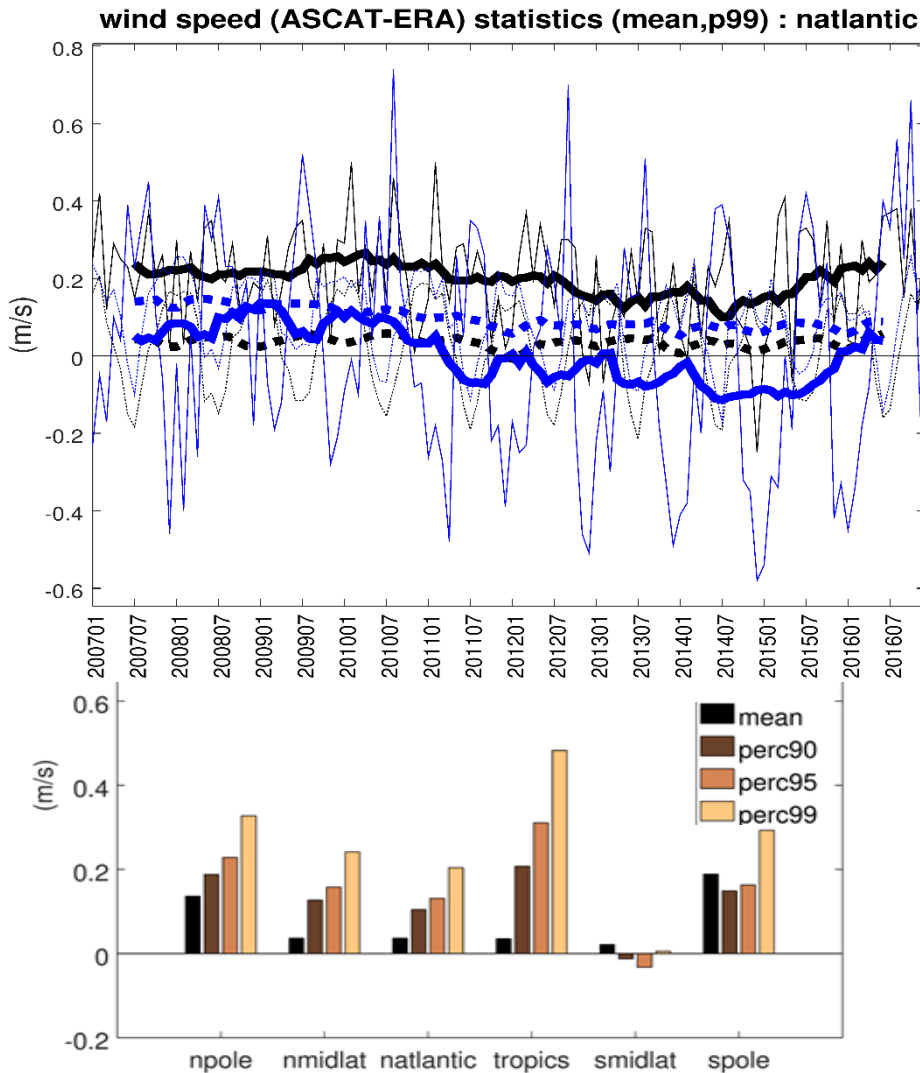
Figure 10. Hurricane Eyewall Detection Results



➤ Exploit SAR for hi-res information

- 2DVAR for vortex construction for SAR and scatterometer

# Decadal differences ASCAT-ERA5



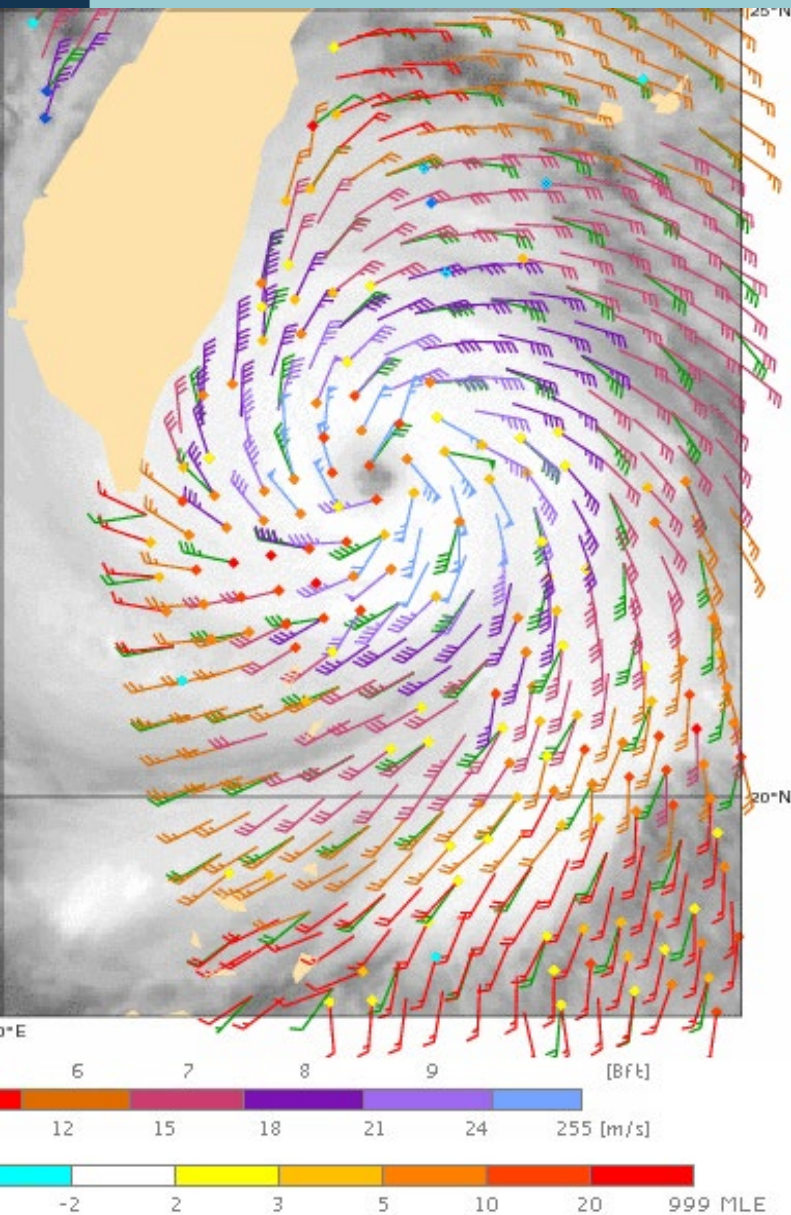
- [Windstorm Information Service](#)
- C3S WISC
- ASCAT versus ERA5 first guess
- Also ERS, QuikScat and OSCAT
- Passive wind instruments reliable?  
From 1988

# Discussion

- Hurricanes are among the deadliest and costly natural disasters
- Extreme wind measurements come in two different flavours
- Uncertainty about the extremes propagates into the modelling of hurricane dynamics and hurricane occurrence
- Further research is needed on dropsondes wind speeds, particularly in the lowest tens of meters
- Although moored buoy winds show less dispersion around 20 m/s than dropsondes, there is room for further uncertainty assessment and attribution (Wright et al., IOVWST 2021)
- Mixing instruments/producers for determining climate trends is not recommendable due to variable sampling and calibration
- Validate reanalyses by collocated stable single-instrument series
- ESA [MAXSS](#) project on satellite hurricane winds
- Further supporting slides follow this slide

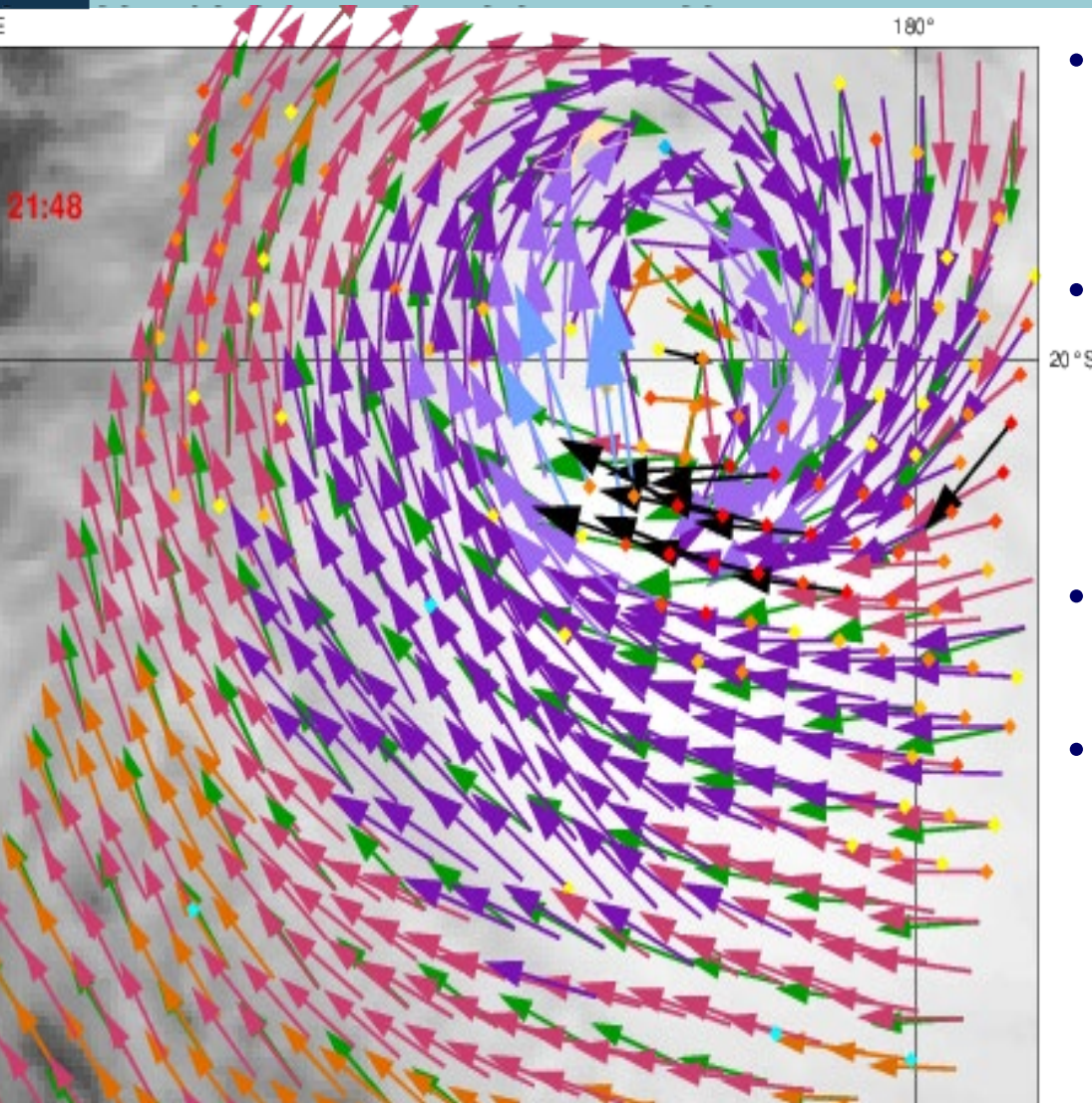


# EUMETSAT CHEFS Objectives



- **VH GMF:** The understanding of the future C-band VH information contribution to high and extreme wind retrievals from C-band scatterometer missions;
- **Spatial scaling** of extremes: The definition of spatial scaling issues and related consequences for product sample resolutions and validation approaches;
- **Understanding** of extremes: To further understanding of satellite remote sensing of high and extreme wind conditions over the ocean.
- In-situ wind speed reference needed for all extreme wind products, from satellites, reanalyses to NWP models

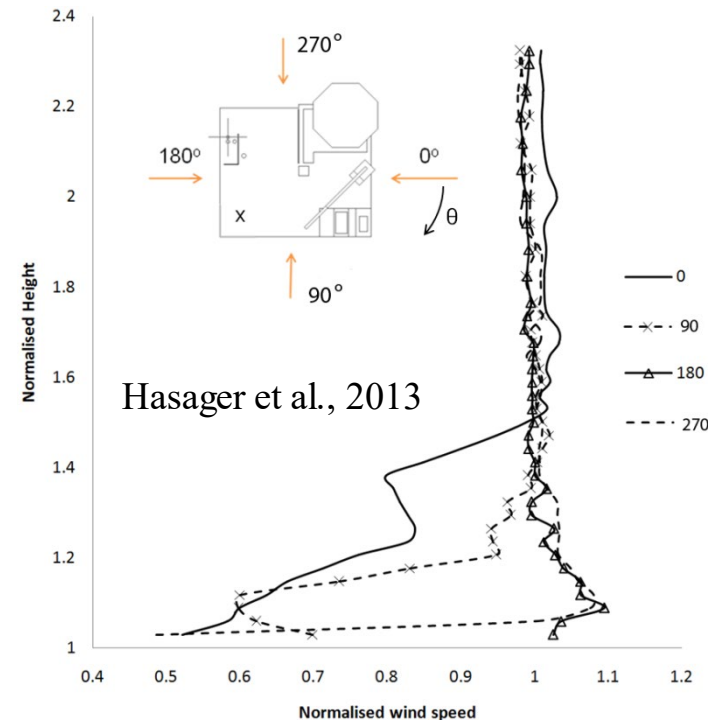
# CHEFS



- EUMETSAT ITT 16/166
  - Extreme winds calibration
  - VH test data
- KNMI
  - EPS-SG design and VH
  - GMF and retrieval
  - Calibration strategy
- ICM
  - Scatterometer science
- IFREMER
  - SAR wind retrieval
  - Data lab, L-band, GMF

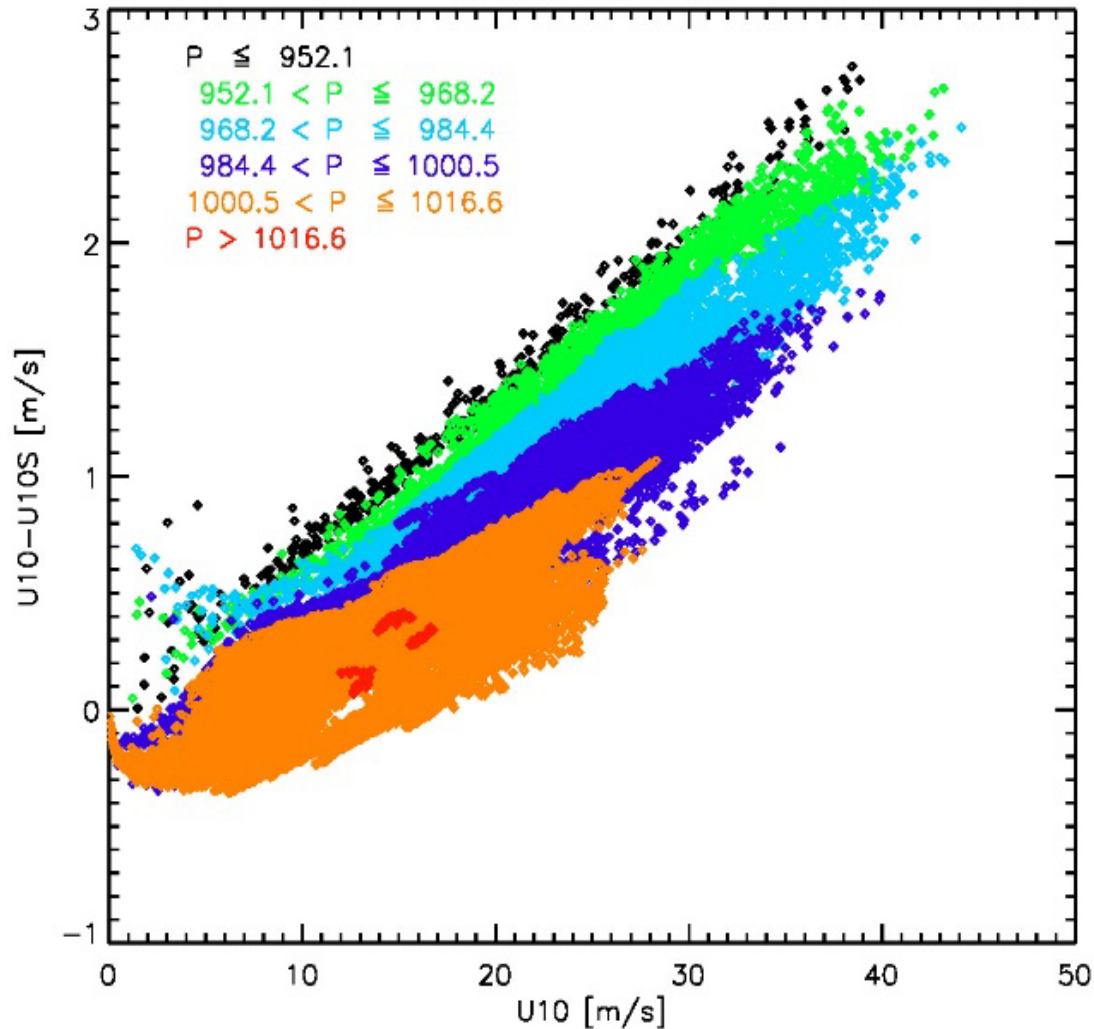
# Other references?

- +ve and -ve wind flow distortion around platforms
- Verification shows differences to platforms 2x as high as to buoys; what is this scatter? Does it cause bias? Useful as calibration reference?
- Platform motion (ships)
- Errors are not well controlled, larger than for moored buoys and tend to be environmentally dependent



# Stress-equivalent winds in TCs

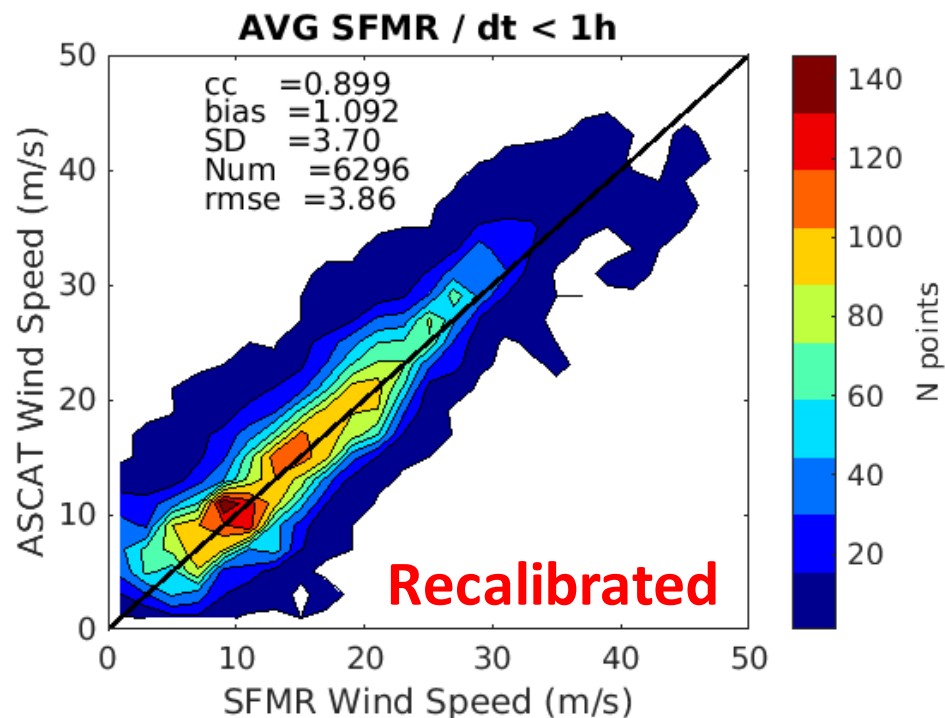
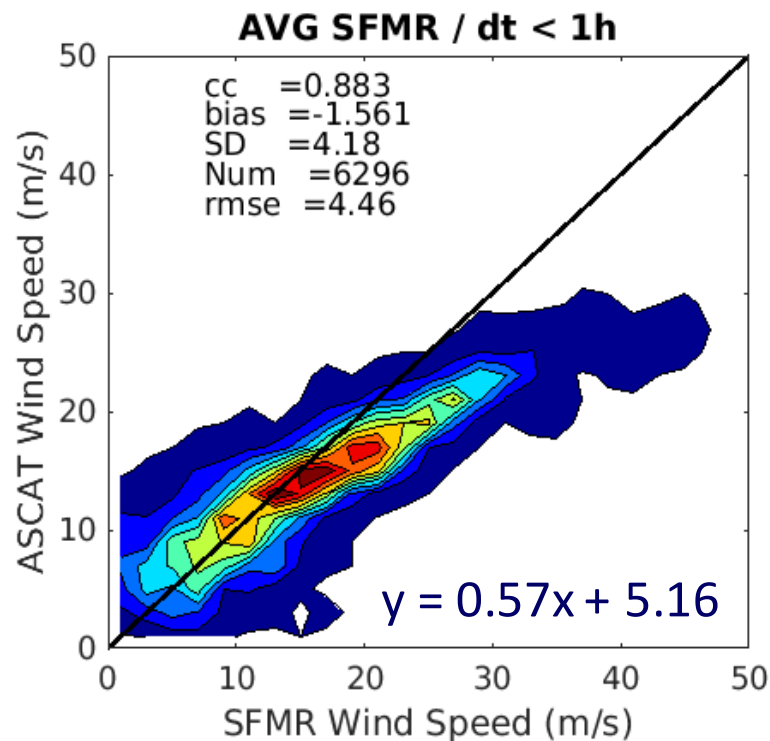
- Only near tropical cyclones (TC)
  - Pressure and humidity affect air mass density
  - Particularly near TC centres
  - At extreme winds up to a few m/s (5%)
- Needs to be accounted for



# ASCAT-VV calibrated to SFMR

- Storm centered
- SFMR relatively high
- SFMR is based on dropsondes
- ASCAT VV is based on buoys

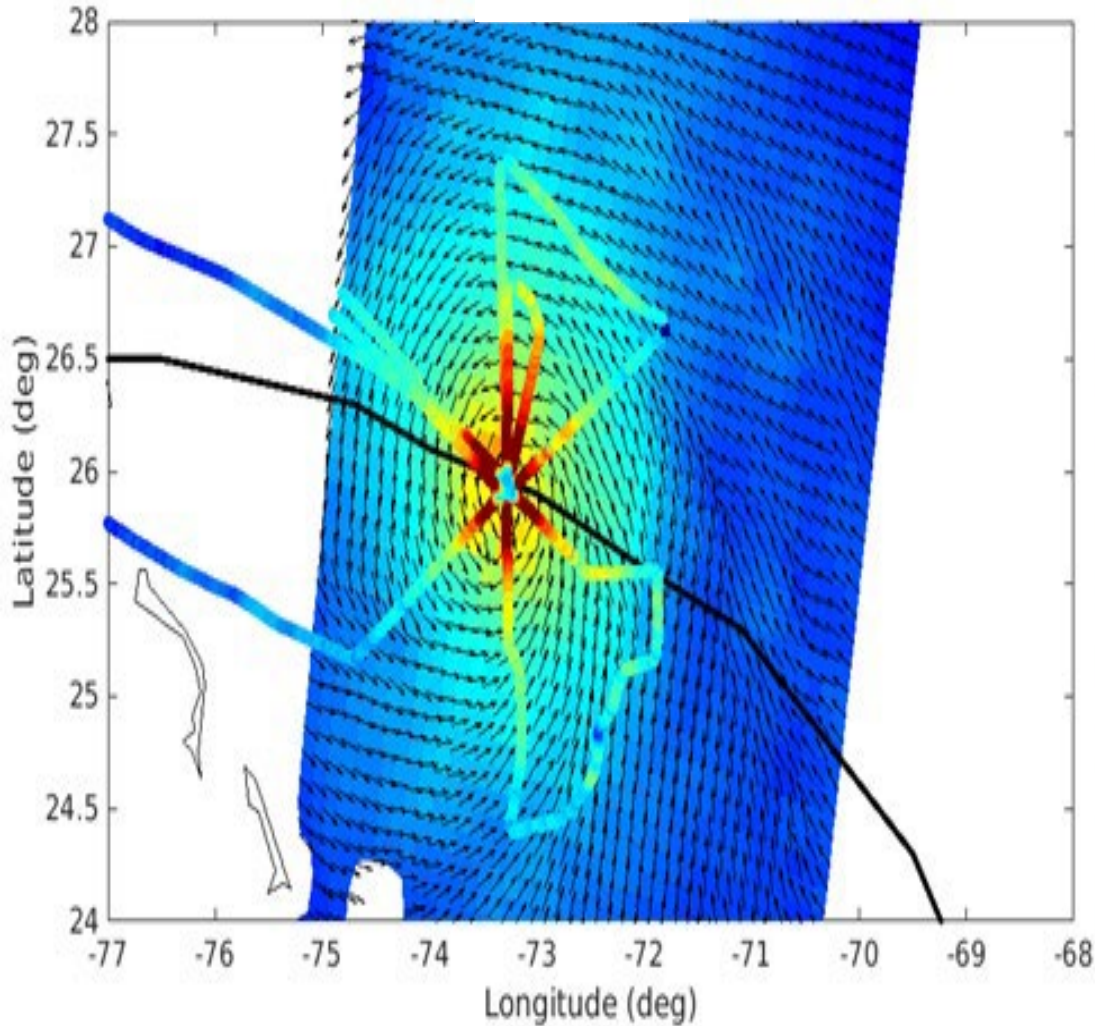
- $> 12$  m/s apply for  $x=V(\text{ASCAT})$ :  
 $V'(\text{ASCAT})=0.0095x^2+1.52x-7.6$
- Better cc, bias, SD and rmse for the same sample with CMOD7D
- ✓ Good match up to 40 m/s



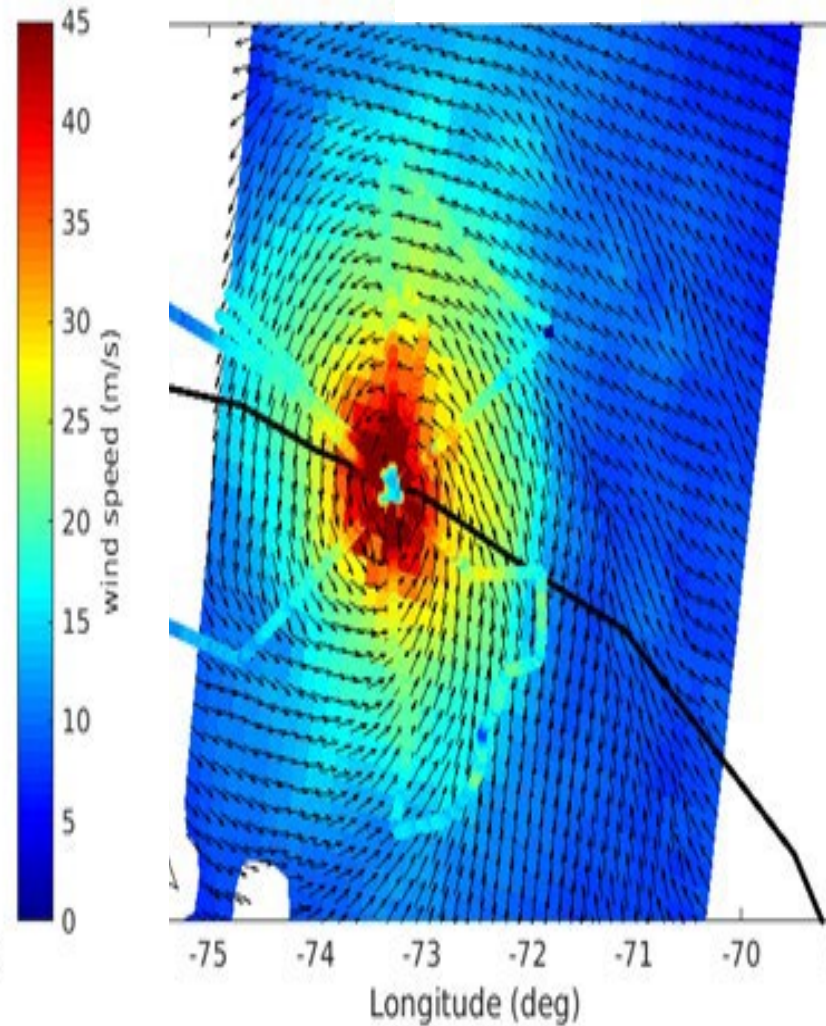
# Operational CMOD7 versus CMOD7D



CMOD7

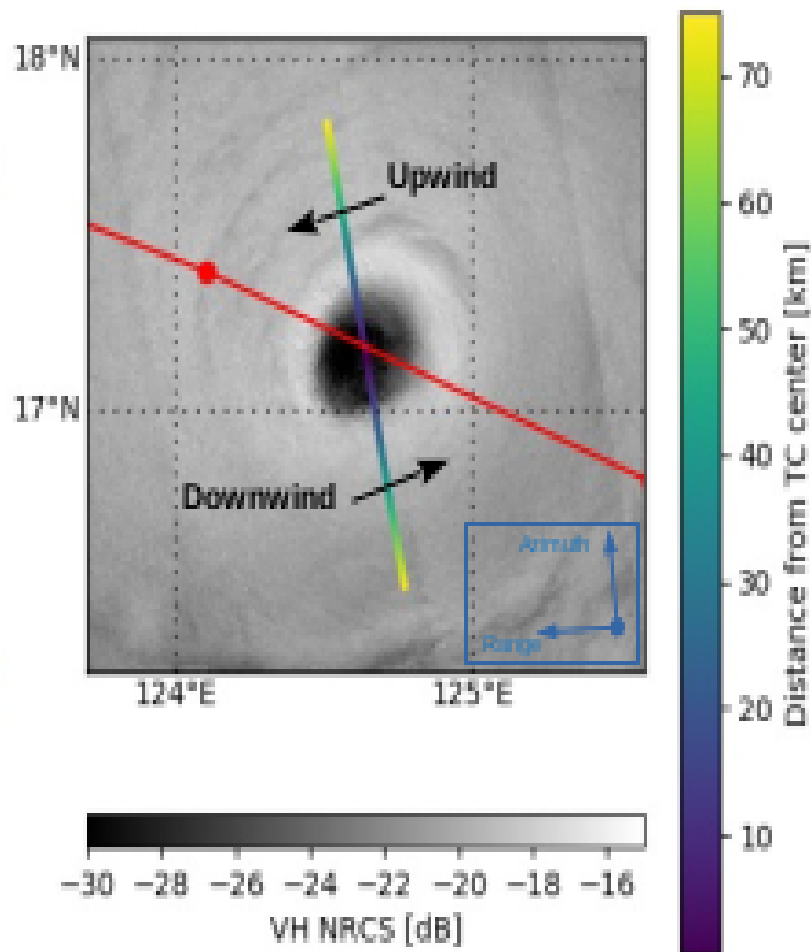
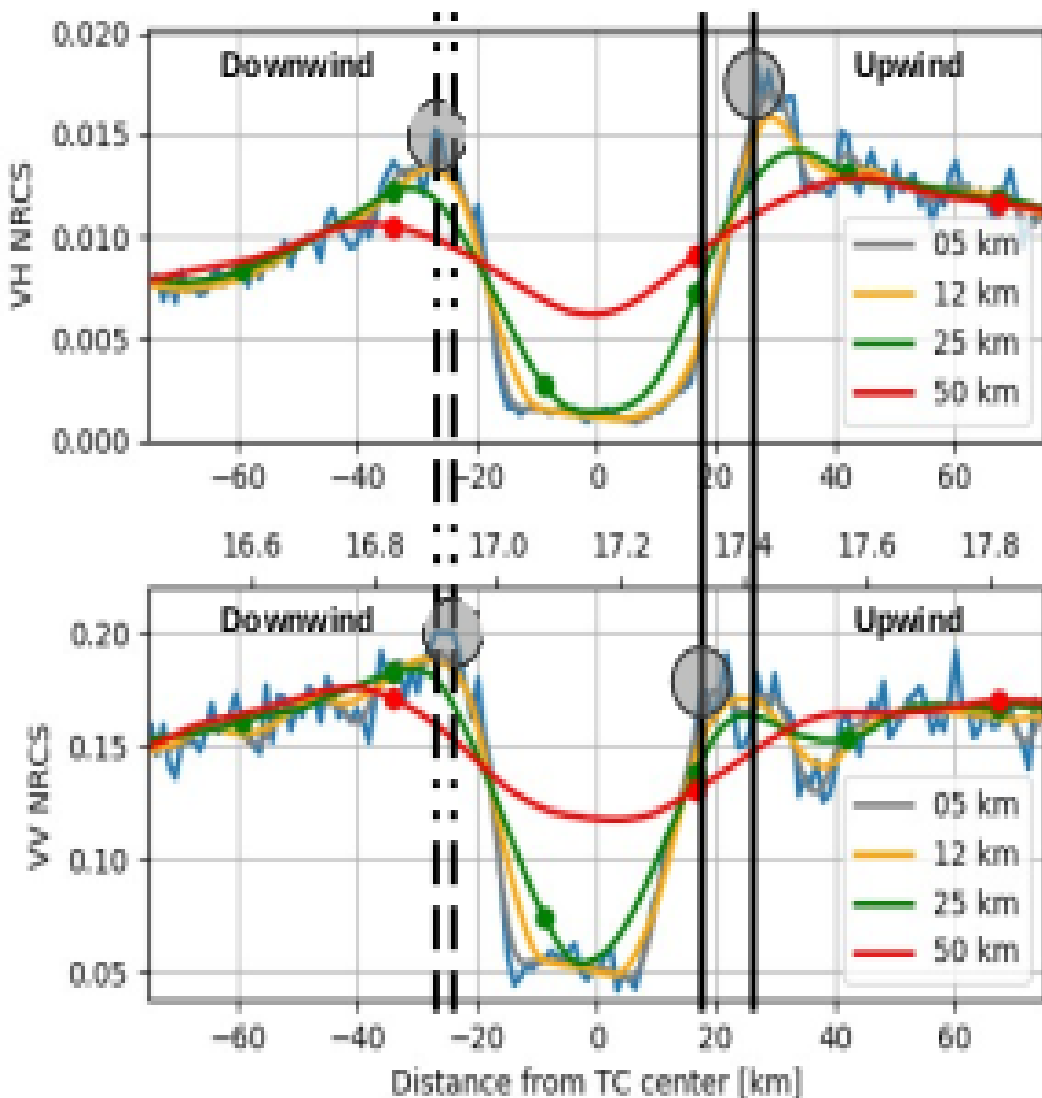


CMOD7D



# SAR aggregated NRCS

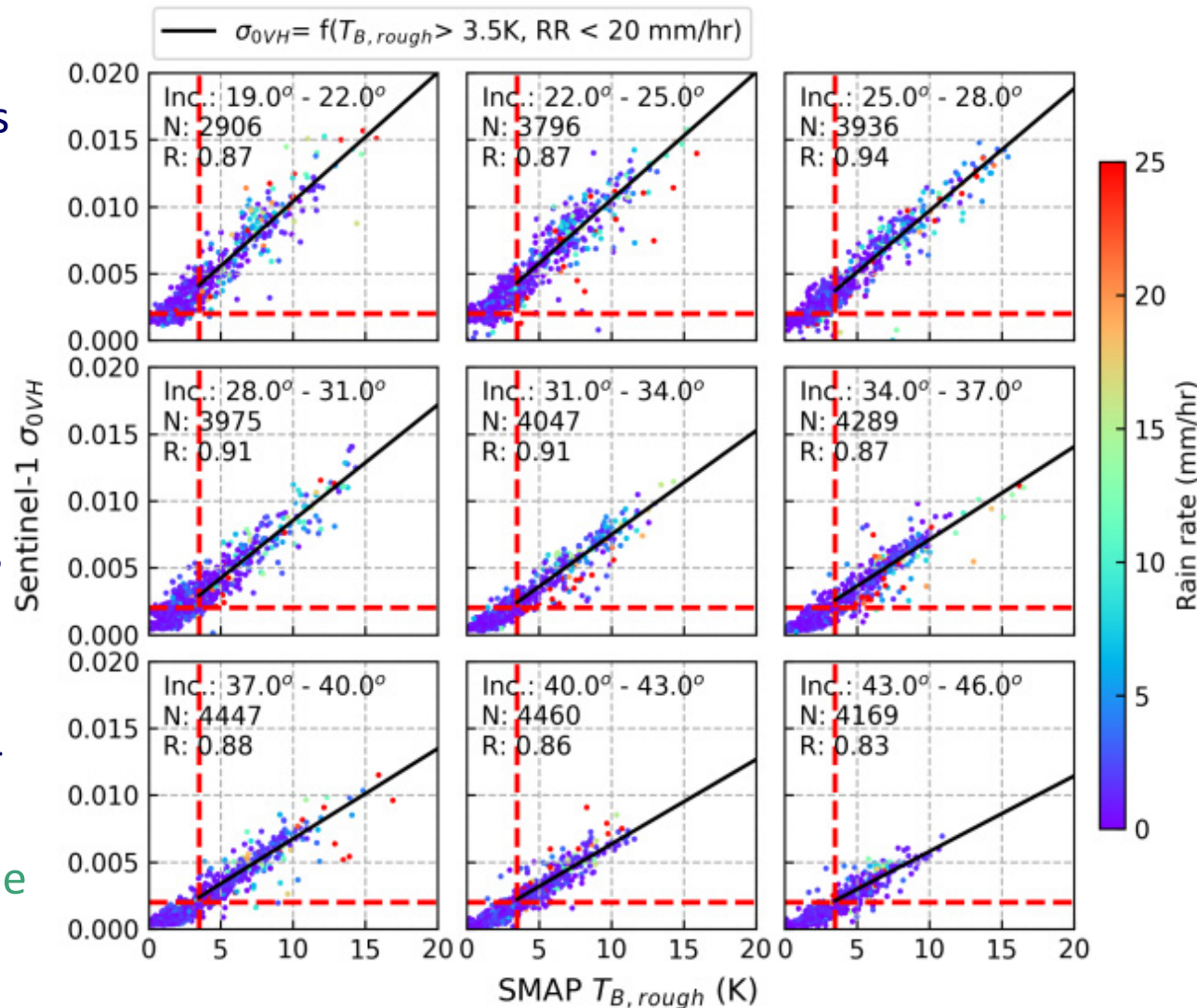
MANGKHUT - S1A - From 2018/09/14 09:50:35 to 2018/09/14 09:52:21 - Cat 5 - Incidence Angle: 39.18 deg



# VH and L-band $T_B$



- Linear dependency
- Theoretically not obvious to relate Bragg to L  $T_B$
- Measurement accuracy will determine quality of L-band and VH extreme winds
- High rain enhances VH NRCS at 19-22 and 40-43 degrees
- High rain reduces VH NRCS at 22-25 and 31-34 degrees
- SCA VH is excellent choice for extremes





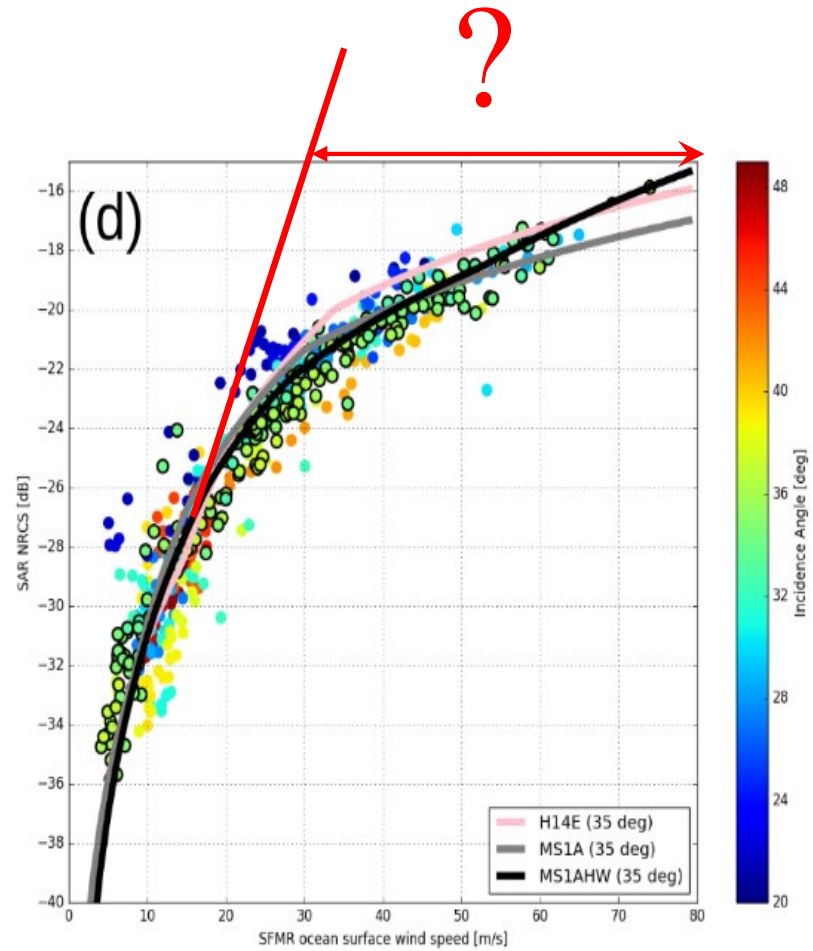


# Recommendations

- Use dropsonde  $U_{10S}$  rather than WL150
- Perform a log-profile analysis
- Investigate speed-dependent deceleration error dropsondes at 10 m
- Convert buoys, dropsondes and model winds to  $U_{10S}$
- Investigate different buoy types and possible wave effects on buoy measurements
- Investigate direct buoy-dropsonde collocations  $> 15$  m/s
- After in-situ wind speed calibration, SFMR needs adaptation, as well as all satellite sea surface winds
- It furthermore will allow NWP model drag parameterization tuning
- Closer collaboration with JCOMM, satellite wind producers and ECMWF will be very beneficial to consolidate the in situ, satellite winds and NWP community practices
- Refine ASCAT calibration, VV GMF (cone) and retrieval at high/extreme winds
- Extend SAR and NOAA campaigns for refined geophysical studies

# CHEFS Conclusions

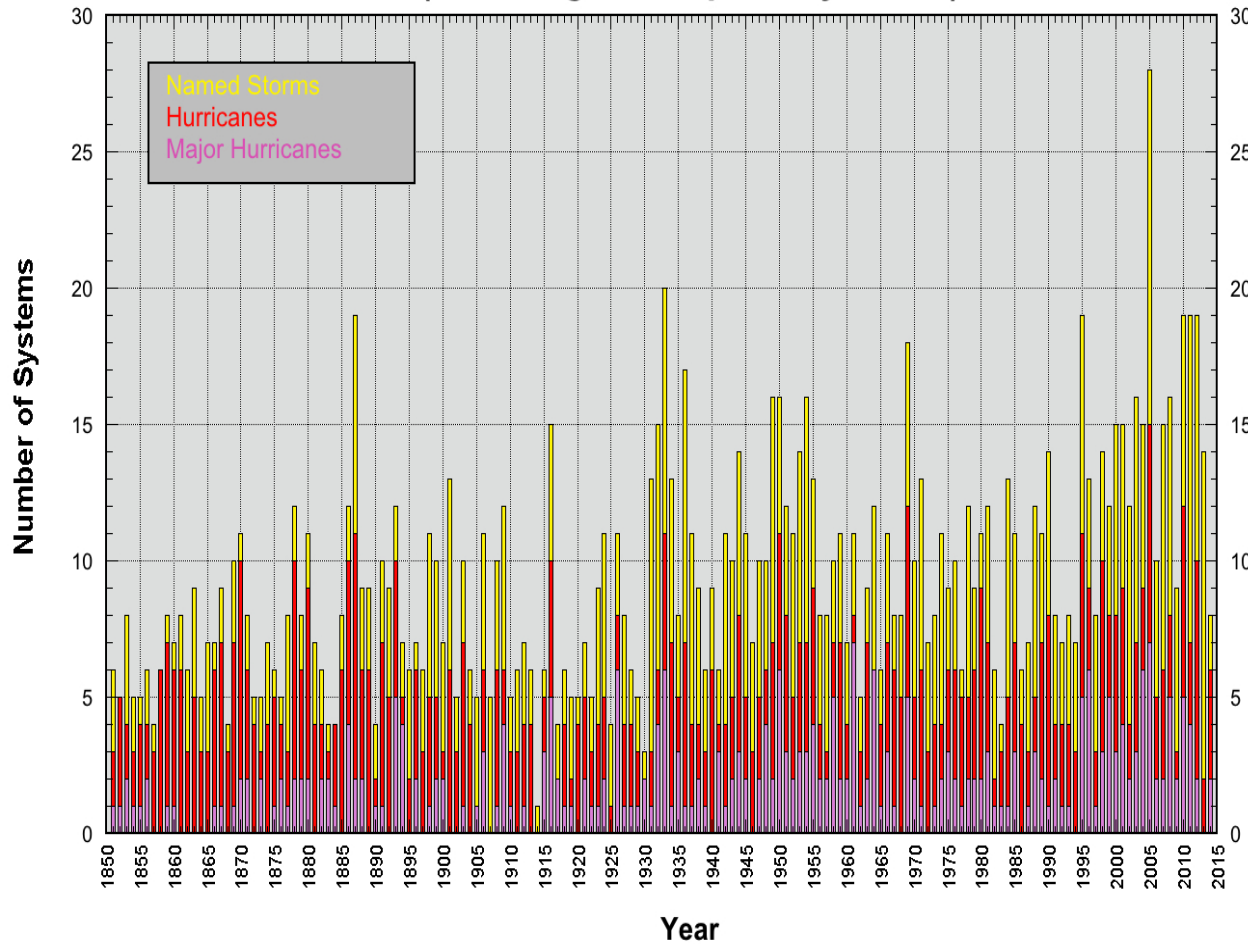
- We still lack a consolidated in-situ wind speed reference
- Affects satellite & NWP products and hurricane advisories!
- Confidence in moored buoys up to 25 m/s
- U10S needed
- Questions drop sondes?
- ASCAT VV correlates well at high winds
- SCA VH excellent choice



# Decadal extreme changes



Atlantic Basin Storm Count  
(Including Subtropical Cyclones)

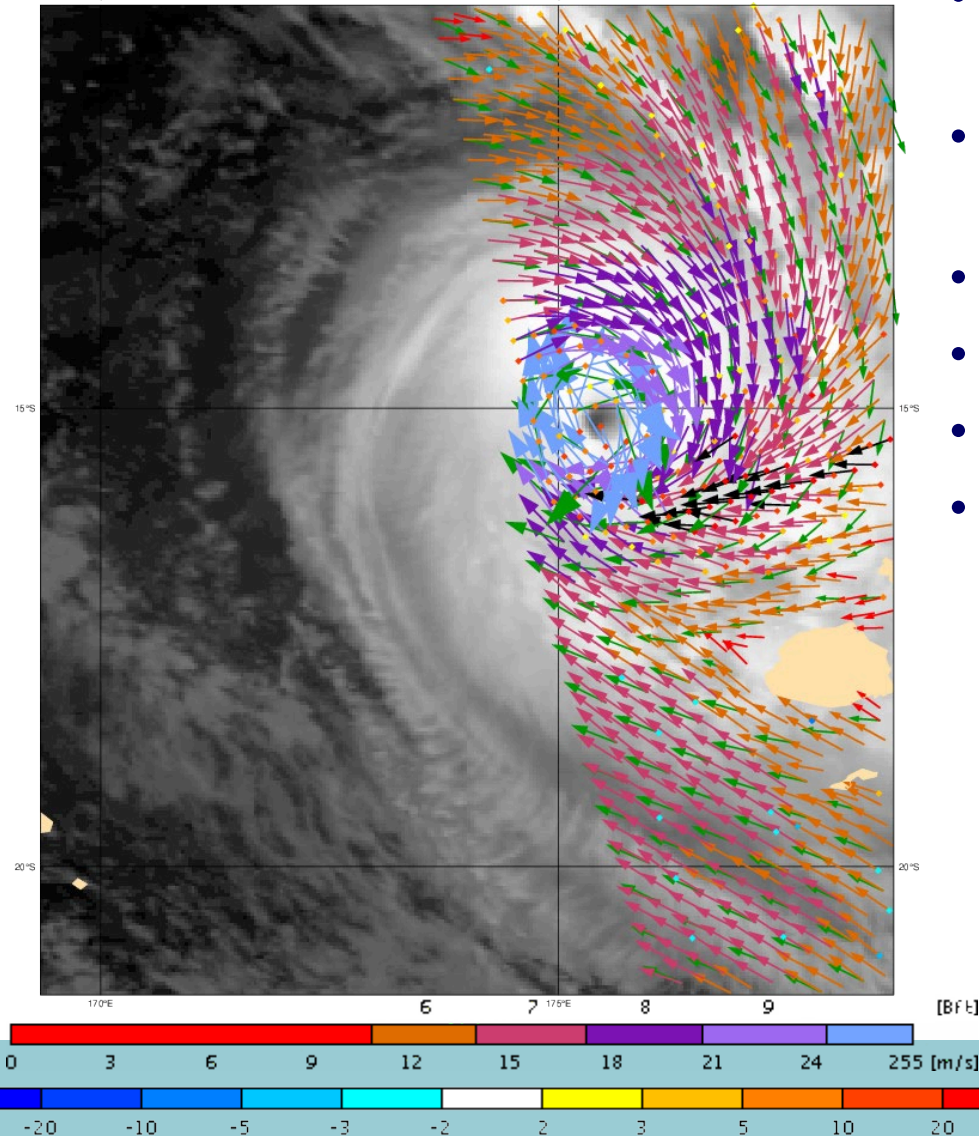


- Huge year-to-year variability in extremes
- Depends on El Nino
- Use longest possible satellite record
- Depends on observing system sampling, single processor version (calibration, QC), uniform sampling over decade
- Use overlapping single-instrument/single-processor series for climate analyses

# NRT OSI SAF visualization at KNMI



ASCAT-B: 20201216 10:30Z lat lon: -16.0 174.0 IR: 10:30



- Considered as part of ESA MAXSS project
- Storm-centric tiles based on track predictions of TC and Polar Low?
- Dropsonde scale
- SMOS, SMAP, radiometers?
- High resolution, 5.6 km for ASCATs ?
- Maintenance in OSI SAF ?

# ESA Marine Atmosphere eXtreme Satellite Synergy (MAXSS)



- IFREMER has scientific lead
- Tropical Cyclones (TC), extra-tropical cyclones (ETC), polar lows (PL)
- Integrate research and operational instruments: SMOS, SMAP, SSMI, AMSR, WindSat
- Integrated product (atlas)
- Intercalibration, production, visualization, monitoring
- Application in climate, nowcasting, NWP, ..
- Links to EUMETSAT [OSI SAF](#), EU [C3S](#), EU [CMEMS](#)



# ESA MAXSS project WPs and SubWPs

