

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

Mesoscale Wind Data Assimilation

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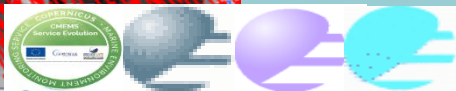
Leader Active Remote Sensing Group
Satellite Observations, KNMI

EUMETSAT OSI SAF

EU Copernicus Marine Core Services

ESA Aeolus L2 product development

EUMETSAT NWP SAF



Mesoscale Wind Data Assimilation

- What do we need ?
- Wind observations
- How well do we model ?
- How to assimilate observations ?

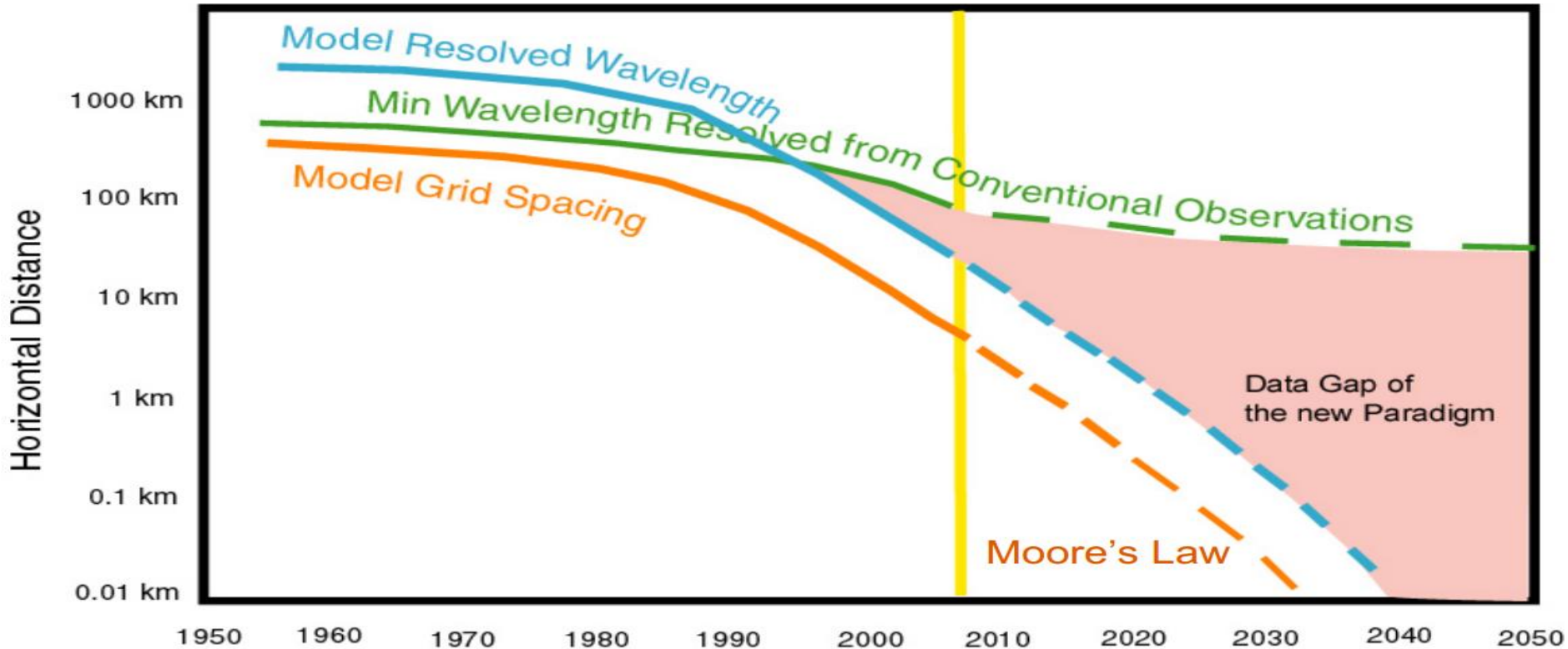
NWP SAF workshop
18 Sep 2018 10:00-13:30

NWP SAF

- Bias correction guide
- Data assimilation guide



Can we still improve forecasts?

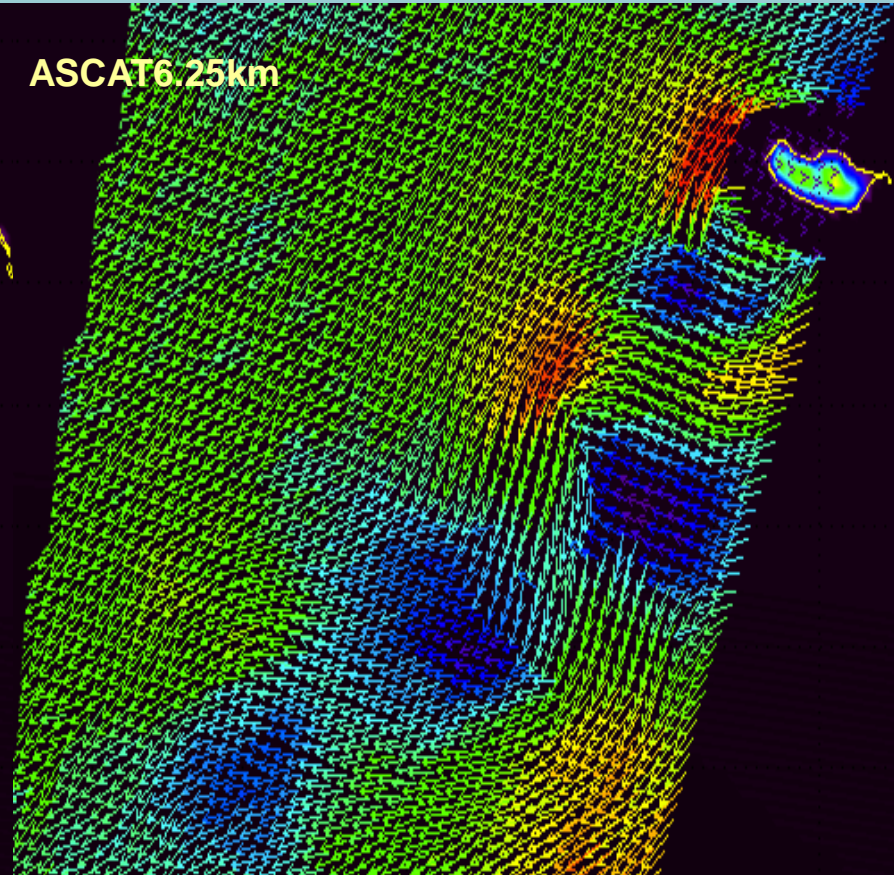
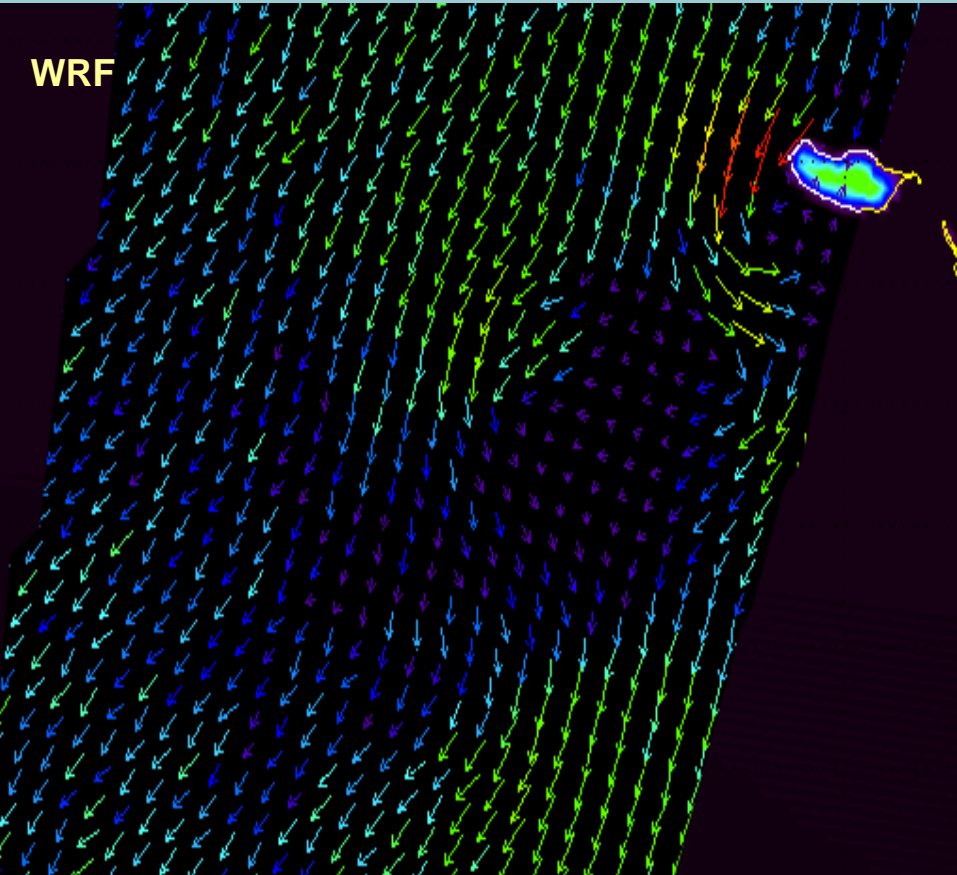




Observations and Models

WRF

ASCAT6.25km



What do we need ?

- Winds for mesoscale dynamics, shear, convergence, . . .
- At high accuracy
- High spatial and temporal density
- Everywhere, not only in dynamic weather
- Fill gaps over the oceans, tropics and southern hemisphere, particularly UTLS
- Fast timeliness
- Well calibrated winds (no bias; BLUE)

Wind Observations

- Will much increase over the sea surface
- Many upper air aircraft winds over land (if made available)
- Aeolus to provide wind profiles in the coming three years
- Many upper cloud winds, but less accurate at mesoscale
- Geometric cloud winds appear better (MISR)

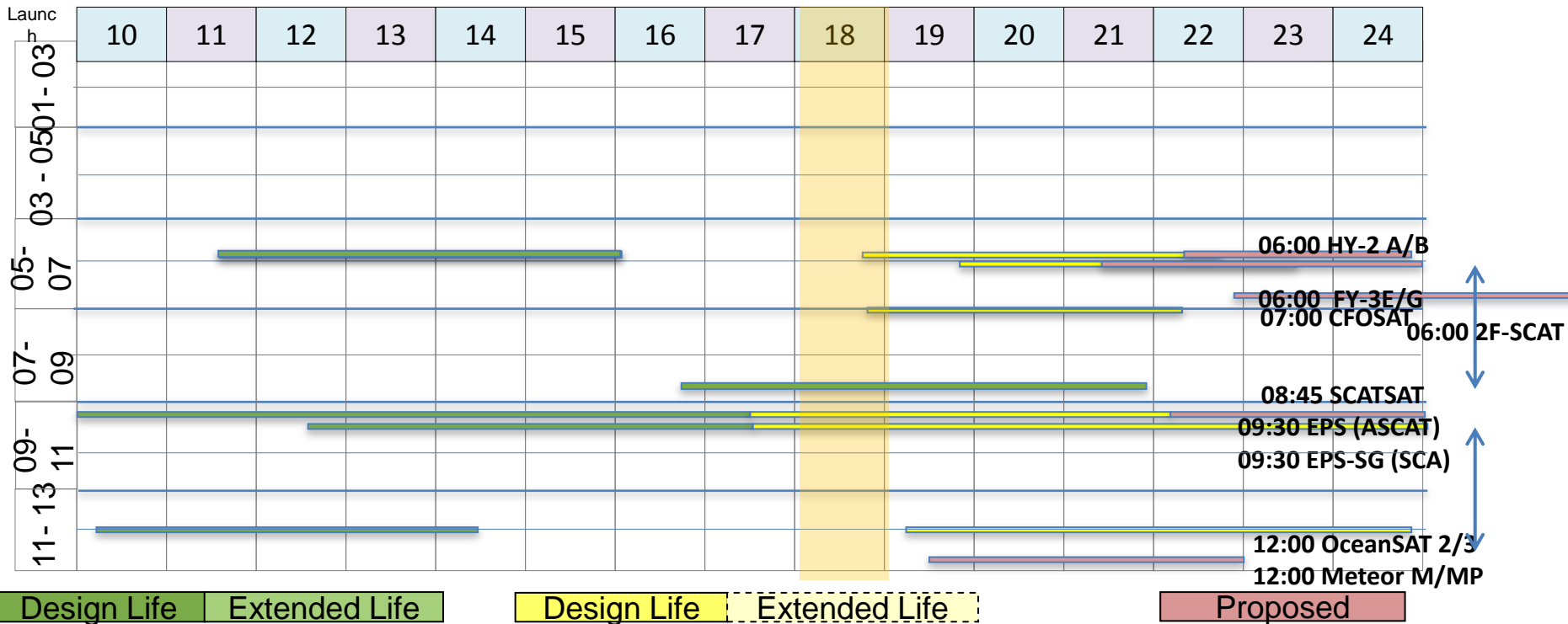
Research:

- Proposed cloud radar mission
- IASI winds/radiances
- Brightness temperatures not good for height knowledge

Ocean Vector Surface Winds Constellation

Local time coverage assessment (ground track) - NRT data access

DESCENDING NODE CROSSING TIME



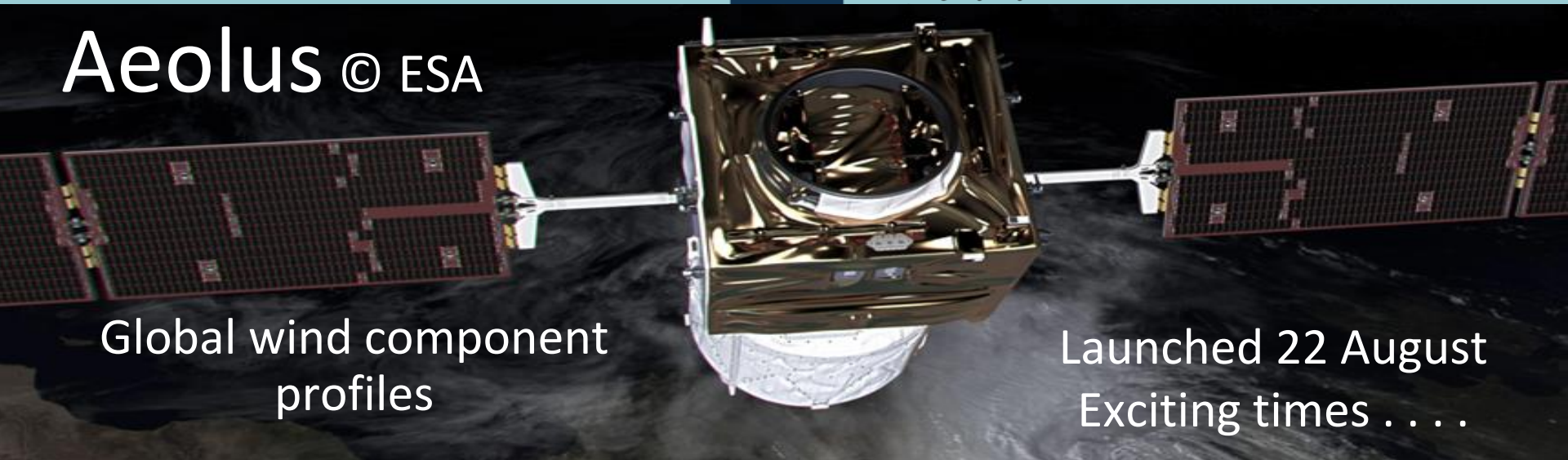
Operating

Approved

Source: WMO OSCAR database and direct interactions with agencies



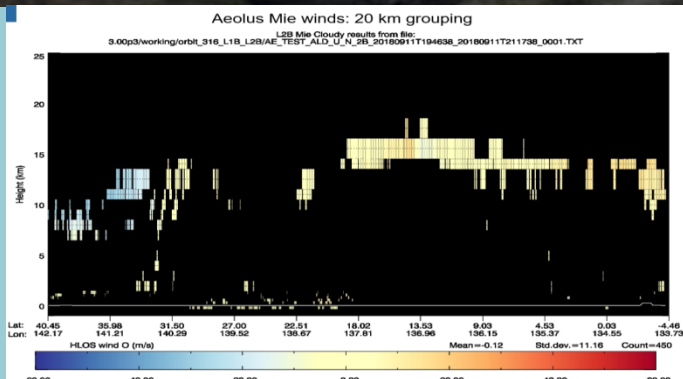
Aeolus © ESA



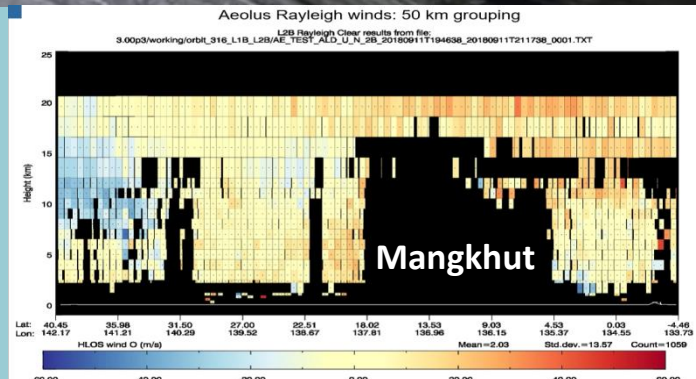
Global wind component profiles

Launched 22 August
Exciting times . . .

Mie:



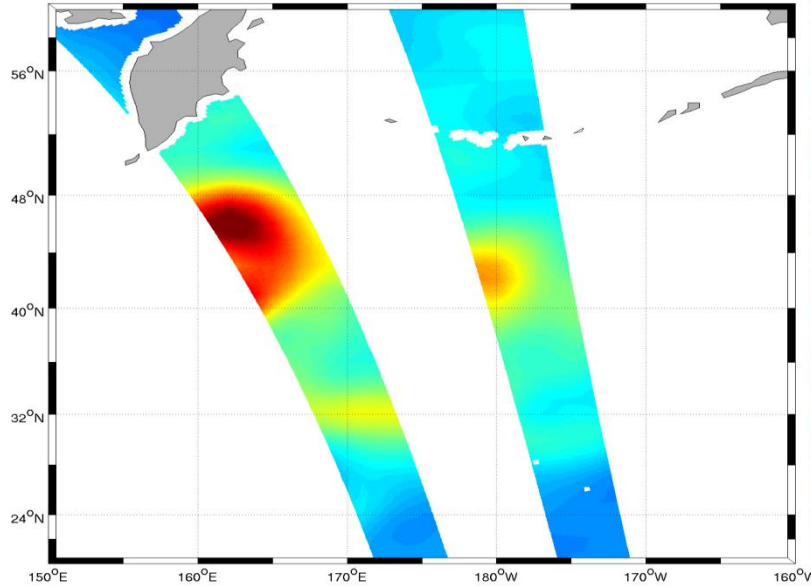
Rayleigh:



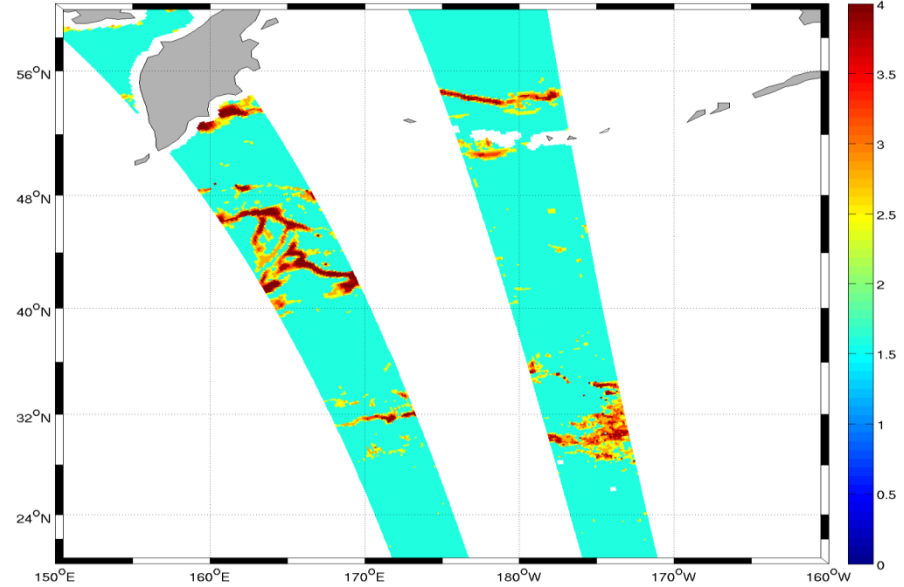
NWP model Winds

- Are initialized from observations in a DAS
- Are continually improving and the forecasters' reference
- Actual background error covariances are poorly known
- Global NWP models lack mesoscale variability
- Regional models lack true mesoscale variability over sea and in the upper air
- Regional models are seriously affected by lateral boundaries
http://meteo.fmf.uni-lj.si/sites/default/files/MesoWindsWorkshopLjubljana2016_Summary.pdf
- Are not so good in the tropics or elsewhere near convection (e.g., polar lows)
- Have large systematic wind biases (in stable air, ocean currents, drag, diurnal cycle, ..)

Estimated B error variances



ECMWF Ensemble Data Assimilation
(EDA background error)



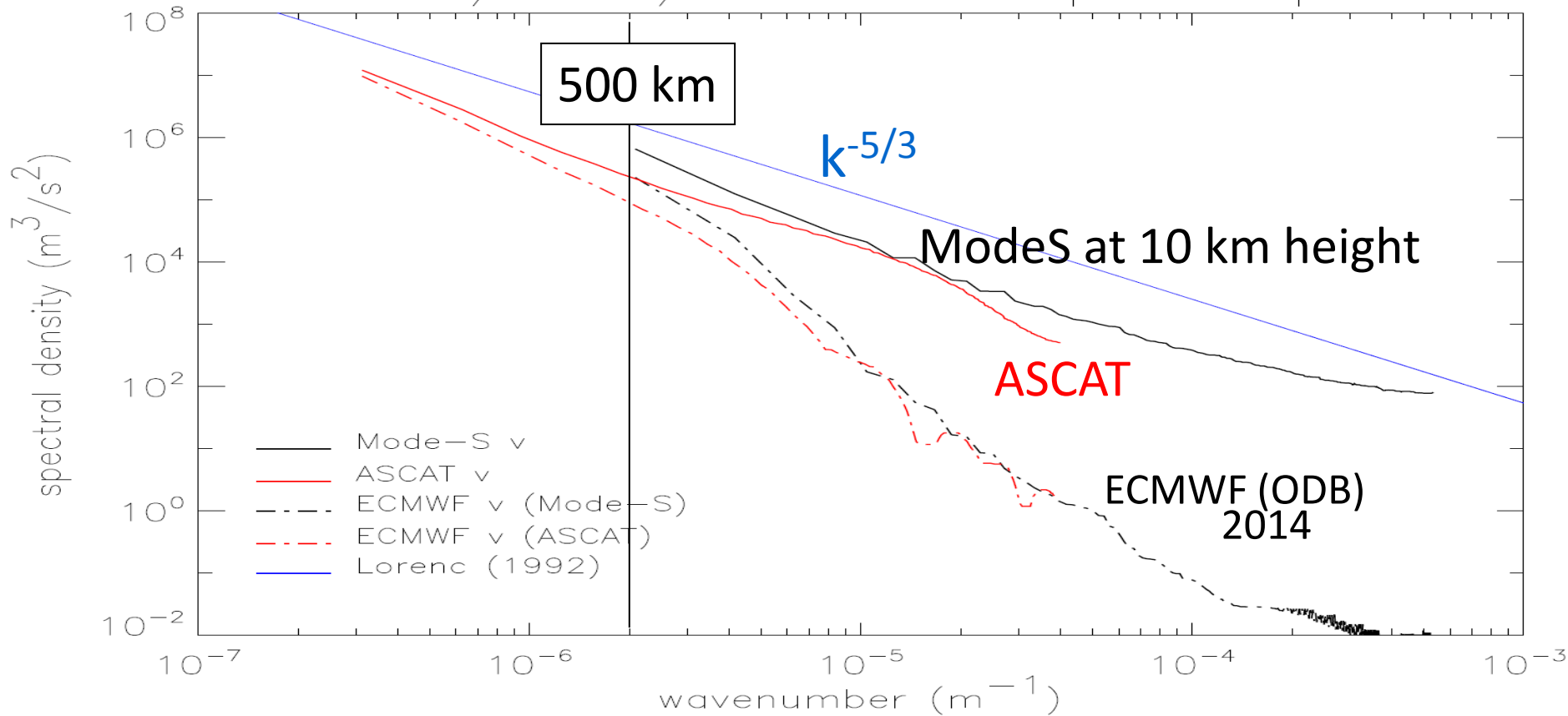
ASCAT-derived ECMWF background
error by triple collocation in QC classes

- The structure and location of ECMWF errors is not well resolved in EDA



NWP gap for small scales upper air

Mode-S/ASCAT/ECMWF v-component spectra



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

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Simulations with RCMs REMO and CLM: (available from  Database)

by GKSS Forschungszentrum Geesthacht

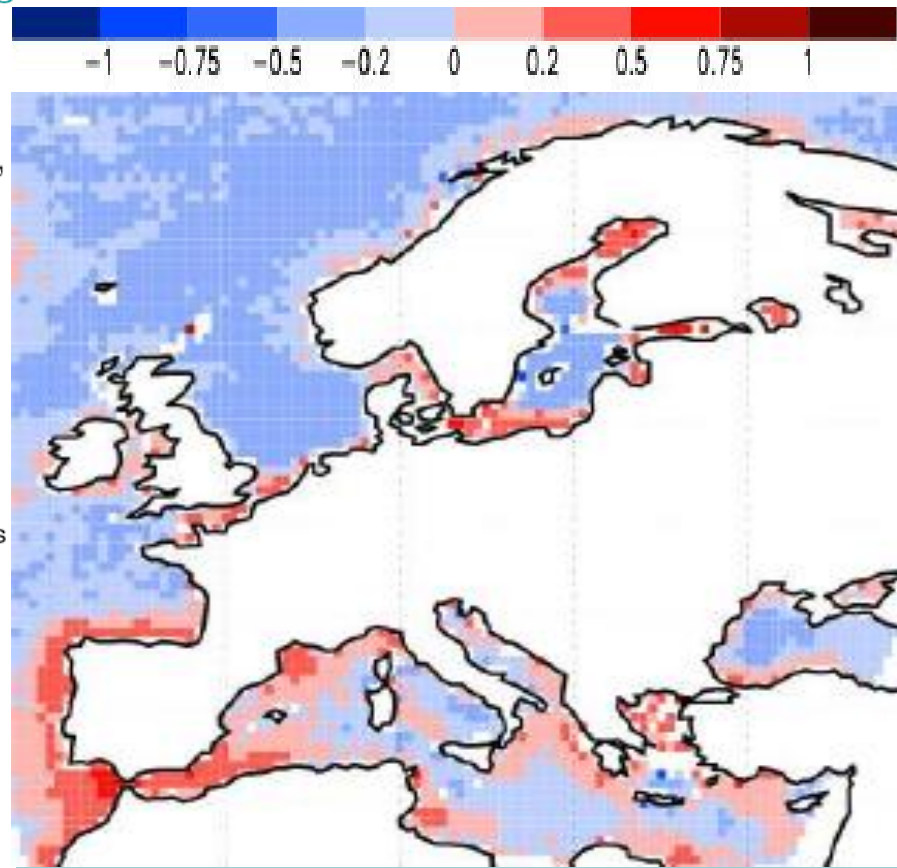
- Three hindcasts with RCMs REMO (Jakob and Podzun, 1997) and CLM (Böhm et al. 2006)
- Initialization and forcing at lateral boundaries: NCEP/NCAR-Reanalysis (NRA), ~1.875° resolution,
- SN-REMO & CLM hindcasts are additionally forced by spectral nudging (von Storch et al., 2000)

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

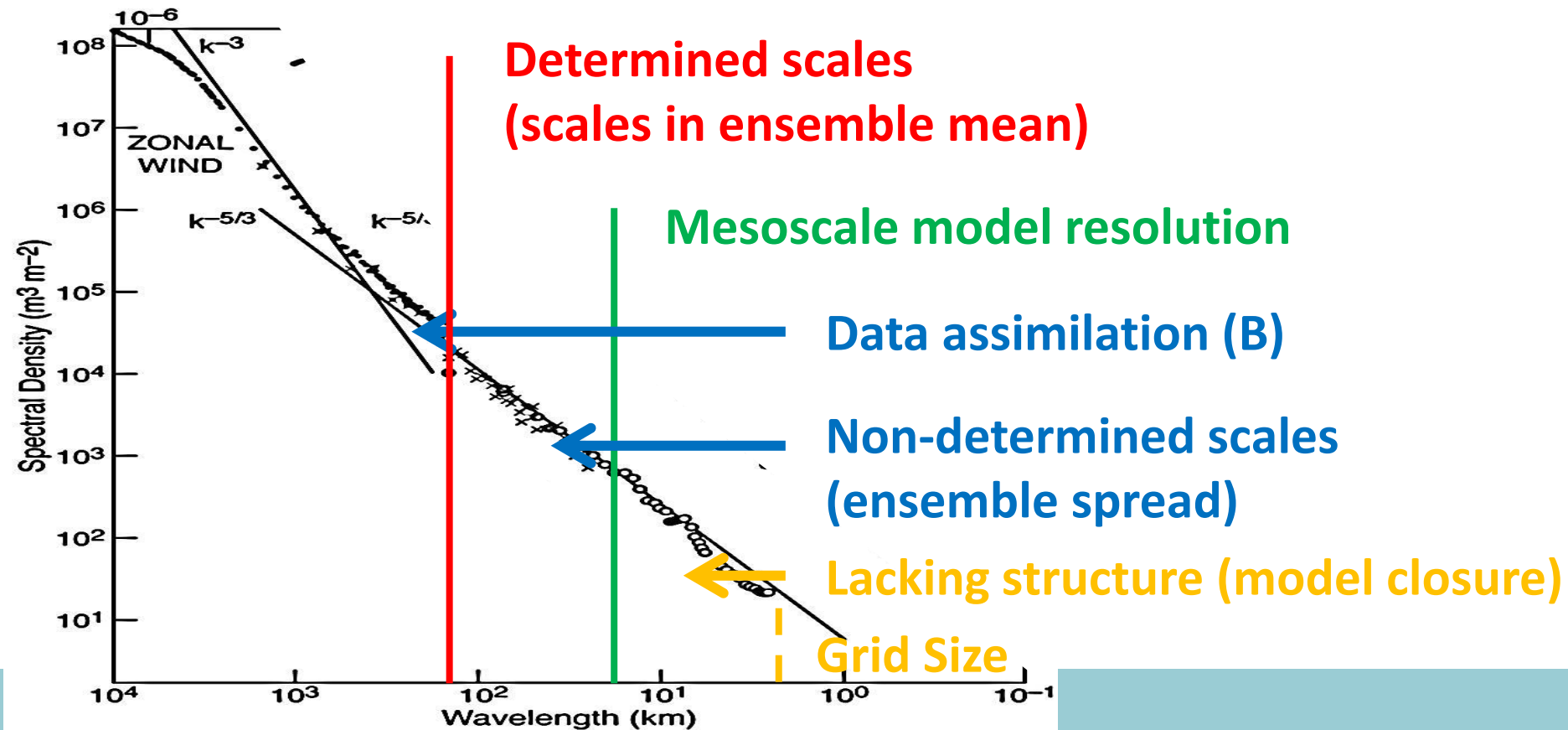
$$\text{Modified BSS} = \begin{cases} 1 - \sigma_F^2 \sigma_R^{-2} & \text{if } \sigma_F^2 \leq \sigma_R^2 \\ \sigma_R^2 \sigma_F^{-2} - 1 & \text{if } \sigma_F^2 > \sigma_R^2 \end{cases}$$

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



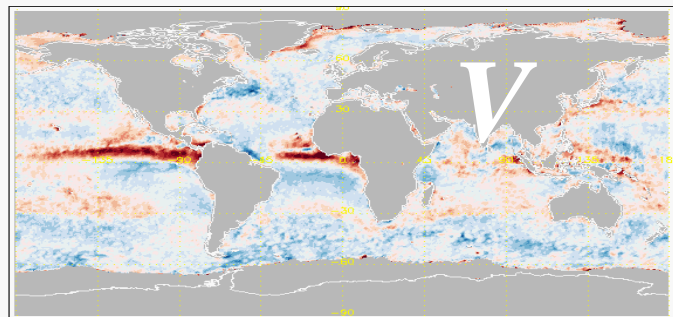
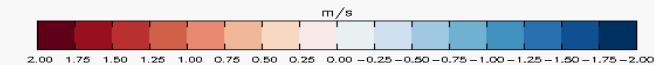


Nastrom & Gage Observed Spectrum

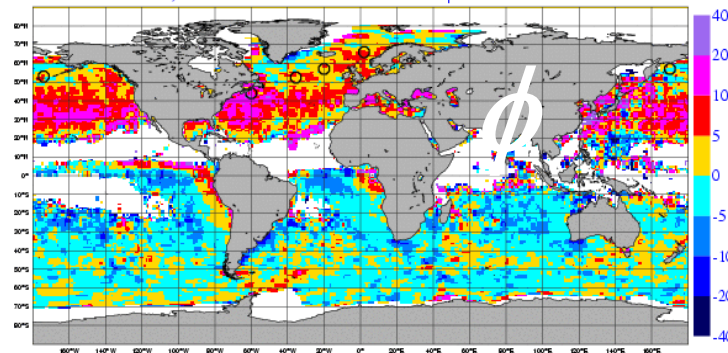


Best Linear Unbiased Estimate

- Common assumption in data assimilation
- NWP model biases exist due to drag, ocean currents, stable PBL, moist convection, diurnal cycle, . . .
- Biases are not only speed dependent, but also air mass dependent
- Correcting parameterizations may detriment forecasts (Sandu, 2013)
- Correct model in \mathbf{H} operator to follow BLUE ?
- Local bias contributions are not negligible in $o-b$, but of the order of the innovations !
- Biases probably severely detriment scatterometer impact in NWP
- Most biases are stable in time -> apply VarBC



Wind direction bias (Deg) of ECMWF vs QuikSCAT for Southerly flows
DJF 0001, Globe 0.5 N.Hem 6.0 Tropics -1.0 S.Hem -1.6





Conclusions

- Mesoscale data assimilation is a new paradigm
- Many accurate 4D wind observations are needed to initialize 3D turbulence and convection in the atmosphere
- NWP models are locally substantially biased over long periods -> VarBC needed
- Undetermined scales cause headaches and destroy the analysis of the larger scales potentially
- It is possible to determine small observed scales in the analysis, even if they did not exist yet (2DVAR)
- Weather models return to their dynamical balance very quickly though
- Seek ways to avoid analyzing non-deterministic scales and to avoid their detriment as model noise:
 - Ensemble mean ?
 - Broad B (low pass filter) ?
 - Supermod and superob up to deterministic scales ?

