

Interactive comment on “Characterization of ASCAT measurements based on buoy and QuikSCAT wind” by A. Bentamy

Anonymous Referee #2

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General Comments:

The paper presents a technical inter-comparison of satellite and in-situ wind measurements. This work, suggesting that QuikSCAT and ASCAT data are generally consistent in terms of wind speed and direction, will encourage the oceanographic scientific community to use the ASCAT wind data.

I suggest two minor revisions of the present work:

1) The founding concerning the hind wind speed behaviour of ASCAT data that underestimate QuikSCAT measurements it is interesting and it deserves further explanations. If possible it would be useful to expand the buoy analysis (table 1) in order to present wind comparison for wind speed range greater then 20 m/s (this may require

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to enlarge the time period considered). As it is presented now, it is not clear which data set (ASCAT or QuikSCAT) should be trusted more for high wind speed regimes.

2) The paper do not present any insight on the kinetic energy spectral behaviour of the ASCAT data in comparison with QuikSCAT. Given the importance of this topic for air-sea interaction studies, the absence of this part should be somehow explained.

Technical Corrections:

Figure 3: remove label a), b) c) since they are not referred in the caption

Table 1: change "0." with "0" in row NDBC/ASCAT (ALL) column Wind Direction (Bias)
change "16." with "16" in row TAO/ASCAT (ALL) column Wind Direction (Std)

Table 2: change "0." with "0" in column Global (QSCAT/ASCAT), row Direction (X bar).

Interactive comment on Ocean Sci. Discuss., 5, 77, 2008.

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