



Dear Members of the Climate and Scatterometry Communities,

A workshop on Scatterometry and Climate is being organized for August 19 – 21, 2009 in the Washington DC area. The goals of this meeting are to document the climate-related impacts of the over decade long scatterometer data record and to determine the climate-related requirements for a new scatterometer.

Recently, a unique opportunity has been identified for potentially flying an advanced scatterometer (with improved accuracy, spatial resolution, and number of radar frequencies) as part of the JAXA Global Change Observing mission (GCOM-W2), which is planned for a January 2016 launch. In addition to the radar scatterometer, the GCOM-W2 mission will fly a 3rd generation JAXA AMSR instrument, allowing simultaneous global coverage with active and passive microwave sensors, opening up many new exciting science opportunities.

Thus far, there has been no systematic survey of the impact or requirements for a continuing long-term scatterometer climate data record. It is desirable to consider the weather and climate requirements in the design and development of a new scatterometer system. Additionally, while retrieval of ocean surface vector winds are a primary driver for the scatterometer, there are other parameters such sea and lake ice, snow cover, and soil moisture are being retrieved and utilized by the science and operational communities. The purpose of this workshop is to survey and document in a workshop report the climate-related impacts and requirements of scatterometry data with contributions from the climate and microwave remote sensing communities.

Tentatively, the meeting topics will be as follows.

Plenary Topics

- 1) GCOM-W2 mission
- 2) The feed-back cycle between ocean SST, winds, ocean mixing, salinity, and the ocean and atmospheric circulation.
- 3) Momentum and energy fluxes & budget, wind stress
- 4) Ocean General Circulation
- 5) Atmosphere and Ocean Prediction and Understanding
- 6) Water cycle and water resources
- 7) High Winds

Topics and groups for splinter sessions:

Group 1

- 1) The Climate data record
- 2) Influences of high frequency (inertial and diurnal) forcing
- 3) Cryosphere: influences on the ice and ice transport
- 4) Regional changes in sea level rise and sea state (waves)

Group 2

- 5) Tropical cyclones
- 6) Extratropical Cyclones
- 7) Decadal variability
- 8) Seasonal and interannual variability, monsoons, MJO

Group 3

- 9) Gas fluxes & ocean acidification
- 10) Ocean productivity
- 11) Coastal and near-coastal wind driven circulation
- 12) Currents and ocean transport

We plan to have two invited talks for each session, which will be complemented by short presentations contributed by the workshop participants during the splinter sessions.

If you are interested in attending the workshop, please let us know at your earliest convenience. Please contact us if you have any questions or comments.

Best Regards,

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