Validation of ASCAT Wind Vectors with Buoy, Radiometer and Model Data

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BUFR ASCAT files obtained from OSI SAF have been downloaded and processed to orbit files similar to the QuikScat files available from Remote Sensing Systems. The winds in the ASCAT files are obtained using the CMOD5.n model function at OSI SAF. For this analysis, we use ASCAT data available after April 3, 2008 when the most recent beam balancing and model function changes were implemented. We present an analysis of wind speeds and directions as compared to ocean moored buoy winds, NCEP GDAS winds, and QuikScat winds. Also, there are currently multiple radiometers available for comparison with ASCAT wind speeds. We provide statistics and difference maps of ASCAT to SSM/I, TMI and AMSR-E global ocean winds.