We compare winds from QuikSCAT and ASCAT to 20 U.S. meteorological buoys.

The Figures Below Show in Each Group of Variance Ellipses:

Top Left: Individual met buoys compared to QuikSCAT Version 2 and Version 3: Complete QuikSCAT mission.

Top Right: The same information for QuikSCAT Vers 3 and ASCAT during 9 months (March-November, 2009).

Bottom Left: The same for last 3 years of QuikSCAT Vers 2 and 3.

Bottom Right: The same for 3 years of ASCAT.

Scatterometer data are accepted as coincident if they occur within 30 minutes of the buoy data and within a radius of 50 km of the buoy location.

General Results:

- Statistics for QuikSCAT Version 3 are (modestly) better than for Version 2.
- The ASCAT and QuikSCAT statistics are similar, given the short period of overlap.
- Note the offset of the mean location of QuikSCAT observations for one Hawaii buoy (far left panel). The offset disappears if we (1) ignore the rain flags or (2) use only a radius of 25 km (vs 50 km) for acceptable QuikSCAT observations.

Overall Statistical Characteristics of the Data: ASCAT and QuikSCAT

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