Estimating Winds from Synthetic Aperture Radar in Typhoon Conditions

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J. Horstmann¹, C. Wackerman², R. Foster³, M. Caruso⁴, R. Romeiser⁴, and H. Graber⁴

 28.00°

¹Center for Maritime Research and Experimentation, Italy ²General Dynamics Advanced Information Systems, USA ³Applied Physics Laboratory, JHU, USA ⁴CSTARS, University of Miami, USA

Why SAR for Tropical Cyclones





SAR Typhoon Processing System within the ITOP Project of ONR



Applied Physics Laborator

University of Washing

Wave height







Local Gradient Method

$$(B^2B^4_{xy})^3 \supseteq Sobel \supseteq (B^2B^4_{xy}) \supseteq \Phi$$



Optimized Sobel-Filter



Geophysical Model Function



$$\sigma_0^{pol} = a(\theta)u^{\gamma(\theta)}[1+b(\theta)\cos\phi + c(\theta)\cos(2\phi)]$$



Removal of Scalloping

Scalloped

Romeiser et al., TGARS 2012

Descalloped



Scalloped

Descalloped



qscat

SAR-Retrieved Wind Field and Comparison to SFMR data







Estimation of Wind Field Uncertainties and GMF Limitations





definition

Wind speed uncertainty

Noise Correction of Radarsat-2 Cross Pol NRCS





Noise Correction of Radarsat-2 Cross Pol NRCS





Noise Correction of Radarsat-2 Cross Pol NRCS





Dependence of NRCS on Wind Speed (Including Noise Floor)



CMRE

Dependence of NRCS on Wind Speed (Noise Floor removed)



CMRE

Additional Dependencies of Cross-pol NRCS





Modelling of the NRCS Excluding Cross Talk





Modelling of the NRCS Including Cross Talk (-32 dB Isolation)





Radarsat-2 Crosspol (HV) Retrieved Wind Speeds





Radarsat-2 HV image of Typhoon Megi 17. Sep 2010



Comparison of Co-pol and Cross-pol Retrieved Wind Speeds to SFMR data



Comparison of Co-pol and Cross-pol Retrieved Wind Speeds to SFMR data



Comparison of Co-pol and Cross-pol Retrieved Wind Speeds to SFMR data



GMF	Bias [m]	Standard Deviation [m]	Correlation
Co pol GMF	0.4	6.42	0.75
HV GMF	0.11	3.75	0.83
HV GMF wind	-0.69	3.79	0.85
direction dependent			
VH GMF	-1.48	3.22	0.8

Summary & Outlook

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SAR wind directions from orientation of linear features (rms of 18°, lack of inflow)

Filters have been developed to flag:

- non wind induced areas
- areas with uncertain wind speeds

C-band cross pol GMF developed (better for high wind speeds)

Investigation of cross pol with respect to wind direction and incidence angle

Merging of co-pol and cros pol retrieved winds

