Optimized Tropical Cyclone Retrievals from ASCAT, OceanSAT-2 and QuikSCAT

Bryan W. Stiles, Alex Fore, W. Lee Poulsen, Svetla-Hristova Veleva
Jet Propulsion Laboratory, California Institute of Technology

Michael J. Brennan
National Hurricane Center, NOAA

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Outline

• Background description of technique
• Review of Ku-band neural network performance
  – QuikSCAT/OceanSAR-2 data set description
  – Why does it work?
• ASCAT Neural Networks and Results
  – Comparison with H*WINDS for different networks and training regimes
• Neural Network Derived ASCAT GMF
• Conclusions
Background

• The neural network determines corrections to the MLE speed as a function of
  – SRAD rain rate (for QuikSCAT, OceanSAT-2)
  – Backscatter
    • from two different polarizations, two different azimuths, and two different spatial resolutions (2 X 2 X 2 = 8 values for QuikSCAT/OceanSAT-2)
    • From 3 different incidence angles (3 values for ASCAT)
  – Viewing geometry
    • cross track distance for Ku-band scatterometers
    • Incidence angles for ASCAT
  – MLE speed
  – Passive microwave info from scatterometer noise channel
    • Brightness Temperature (OceanSAT2)
    • QRAD rain rate (QuikSCAT)
QuikSCAT Data Set Description

- Improved QuikSCAT tropical cyclone (TC) wind speed fields
  - 12,476 storm scenes over 12 years
  - Validated vs. hurricane analysis fields and aircraft overflight measurements.

- Problem: Scatterometer winds are corrupted by rain and use empirical retrievals not optimized for high winds.

- Solution: Neural network retrieval method trained specifically for TC winds.

- Developing similar datasets for the ASCAT (ESA) scatterometers.

See http://tropicalcyclone.jpl.nasa.gov

Hurricane Ivan 23:37 UTC 11 Sept. 2004

• improved max QuikSCAT winds
• nominal max QuikSCAT winds
• NOAA best track

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Validation: OceanSAT-2

Hurricane Neural Network Winds

Maximum Likelihood Estimator Winds

OceanSAT-2 wind speeds (m/s)

H*WIND wind speeds (m/s)
How does it work?

• The resultant multi-dimensional mapping is hard to visualize.

• The next few slides exemplify how this works by
  – Showing Ku-band sigma-0 is sensitive to winds from 20-40 m/s
  – Examining a specific case of MLE speed = 24-26 m/s and CTD = 400-450 km
    • We examine how the ANN utilizes three parameters of interest, Copol ratio, sum sigma-0, and SRAD rain rate (backup slides if time allows).
Ku-band NRCS is sensitive to wind speed in 20-40 m/s range.

- In *rainfree* conditions (rain impact quantity $\leq 2.5$), QuikSCAT HH pol 46 degree incidence NRCS values are sensitive to wind speed and direction in the 20-40 m/s range.
- QuikSCAT VV 54 degree incidence values have less sensitivity.

$\text{(Blue, Green, Red)} = (20,30,40) \text{ m/s } + \text{ or -10\% H^*WIND}$
Here’s how the ANN can tell the difference

Agrees with Neural Network 92% of the time

High backscatter Co-polarization HH/VV ratio tends to indicate high MLE winds.

High sum of all backscatter tends to indicate low MLE winds.

Using the two parameters one can mimic the ANN’s decision to raise or lower the MLE wind.
ASCAT NN Methodology

• First extended JPL MLE wind retrieval method to ASCAT.
  – Overall RMS directional difference from ECMWF is ~20 degrees for winds > 3 m/s; speed RMS < 2 m/s
• Compared with H*WIND in 2011 and 2012 North Atlantic Tropical Cyclones
  – For winds over 20 m/s ECMWF RMS directional difference from H*Wind ~ 20 degrees
  – ASCAT MLE winds RMS directional difference from H*WIND is 90 degrees.
  – ECMWF and ASCAT MLE wind speeds are low compared to H*WIND
• Trained Several Neural networks
  – Speed estimation from ASCAT NRCS and incidence angle
  – Speed estimation from ASCAT NRCS, incidence angle, and relative azimuth w.r.t ECMWF
  – GMF estimation (input=speed,relative azimuth, incidence; output = NRCS in dB)
Diagram of ASCAT Networks

- **Output**: Speed
- **Input**: Backscatter values, Incidence Angles, ASCAT MLE speed
- **Option**: ECMWF rel. azimuth

- **Output**: NRCS
- **Input**: cos(H*WIND rel. azimuth), H*WIND speed, Incidence Angle

ASCAT Neural Net Trained on 2011-2012 ASCAT/H*WIND data
GMF Neural Net Trained on 2011-2012 ASCAT/H*WIND data
Training and Validation Sets

• Wind ground truth H*WIND in 2011 and 2012
  – Very few wind sample above 30 m/s that have ASCAT co-locations.
  – Large portion of highest winds from Sandy.
• Highest resolution available ASCAT NRCS was binned in 12.5 km cells.
• Breaking up data at orbit boundaries between training and validation sets led to poor performance.
  – Needed to break up randomly at WVC level to get sufficient statistics to train.
    • Need good sampling over full 3-D space of speed, incidence, and relative azimuth space.
    • Indicates not enough training data.
    • Should revisit problem with larger data set.
Validation ASCAT
Training Set and Test Set from disjoint orbits.

Hurricane Neural Network Winds

Test Set
RMS=3.61 m/s

Maximum Likelihood Estimator Winds

Test Set
RMS=5.10 m/s
Validation ASCAT – Training Set and Test Set from disjoint wind vector cells, but not orbits.

Hurricane Neural Network Winds

Test Set
RMS=3.27 m/s

Maximum Likelihood Estimator Winds

Test Set
RMS=4.22 m/s
Validation ASCAT — Training Set and Test Set disjoint wind vector cells, using ECMWF relative azimuth.

Hurricane Neural Network Winds

Test Set
RMS=2.82 m/s

Maximum Likelihood Estimator Winds

Test Set
RMS=4.29 m/s
Hurricane Sandy 27-Oct 2012 UTC 02:39,
Max Speed= Best Track 63 knots (32.4 m/s), ANN 65.7 knots (33.8 m/s)

Not Using ECMWF direction
Hurricane Sandy 27-Oct 2012 UTC 02:39,
Max Speed= Best Track 63 knots (32.4 m/s), ANN 69.7 knots (35.9 m/s)
Neural Net  GMF – 40 degrees incidence

Incidence Angle = 40 degrees

NRCS (dB)

Relative Azimuth (deg)
## NN GMF Residual Error Statistics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Metric</th>
<th>All</th>
<th>H*WIND speed&gt;20</th>
<th>H*WIND speed&gt;25</th>
<th>H*WIND speed&gt;30</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RMS</td>
<td>2.34 dB</td>
<td>1.12 dB</td>
<td>1.24 dB</td>
<td>1.62 dB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median Absolute Error</td>
<td>1.15 dB</td>
<td>0.65 dB</td>
<td>0.75 dB</td>
<td>0.95 dB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of WVCs</td>
<td>163,426*</td>
<td>18,031*</td>
<td>5,172*</td>
<td>706*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of ASCAT orbits</td>
<td>105*</td>
<td>47*</td>
<td>28*</td>
<td>13*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* All numbers are for validation set, training is same size as validation set
NN GMF 40 deg, 20 m/s speed

Incidence Angle = 40 degrees

NRCS (dB)

Relative Azimuth (deg)

6/2/14
IOVWST Meeting, Brest, France
NN GMF 40 deg, 25 m/s speed
NN GMF 40 deg, 30 m/s speed
Summary

- Neural networks have been developed to obtain accurate tropical cyclones winds from 3 ocean wind scatterometer instruments.
  - Ku-band (QuikSCAT and OceanSAT-2) data available at http://tropicalcyclone.jpl.nasa.gov
- QuikSCAT ANN technique has been thoroughly validated and applied over entire 10 year mission to all known storms that achieved at least tropical storm status during their lifetimes.
  - Publication accepted in IEEE Trans. Geosci.
- Ku-band technique relies on autonomous brightness temperature measurements from rain channel and other rain-dependent backscatter signatures (e.g. copol ratio) to correct MLE winds for substantial rain contamination.
- C-band technique is promising but has remaining challenges
  - V-pol C-band has reduced sensitivity at high winds
  - Needs more training data.
  - Directional information is very important for determining wind speed in high winds.
- Future C-band scatterometers should consider adding H-pol to improve sensitivity at high winds!
Reference

• Details of QuikSCAT ANN technique, its validation, and how to obtain ten years of global QuikSCAT tropical cyclone wind speed data can be found in:
  — Data found at http://tropicalcyclone.jpl.nasa.gov
Acknowledgements

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  – The website portal used to distribute the data set is part of a program funded by NASA’s Hurricane Science Research program.