



# Use of satellite winds at Deutscher Wetterdienst (DWD)

Alexander Cress

Deutscher Wetterdienst, Frankfurter Strasse 135, 63067 Offenbach am Main, Germany  
[alexander.cress@dwd.de](mailto:alexander.cress@dwd.de)

- Introduction
- Atmospheric motion vector winds (geo and polar)
- MISR winds
- IODC experiments



# Numerical Weather Prediction at DWD

Deutscher Wetterdienst  
*Wetter und Klima aus einer Hand*



## Global model GME

Grid spacing: 20 km

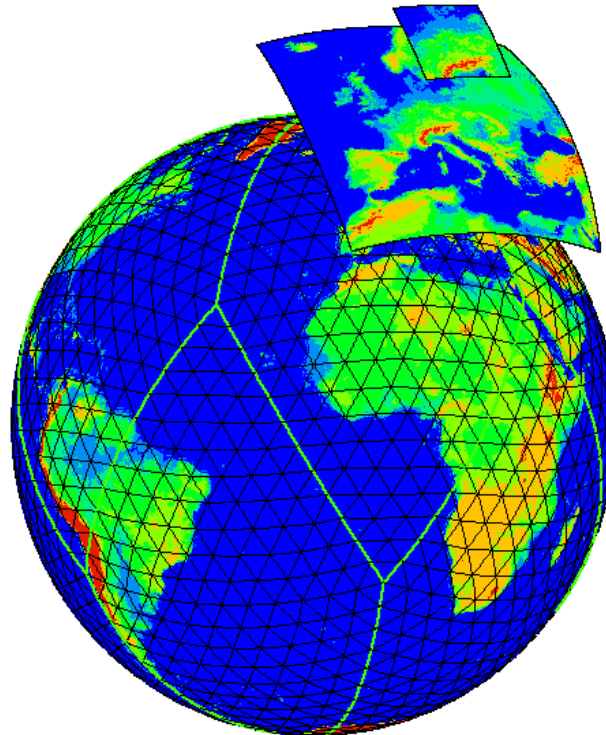
Layers: 60

Forecast range:

174 h at 00 and 12 UTC

48 h at 06 and 18 UTC

1 grid element: 778 km<sup>2</sup>



## COSMO-DE EPS

Pre-operational

20 members

Grid spacing: 2.8 km

Variations in:

lateral boundaries, initial  
conditions, physics

## COSMO-EU

Grid spacing: 7 km

Layers: 40

Forecast range:

78 h at 00 and 12 UTC

48 h at 06 and 18 UTC

1 grid element: 49 km<sup>2</sup>

## COSMO-DE

Grid spacing: 2.8 km

Layers: 50

Forecast range:

21 h at 00, 03, 06, 09,

12, 15, 18, 21 UTC

1 grid element: 8 km<sup>2</sup>





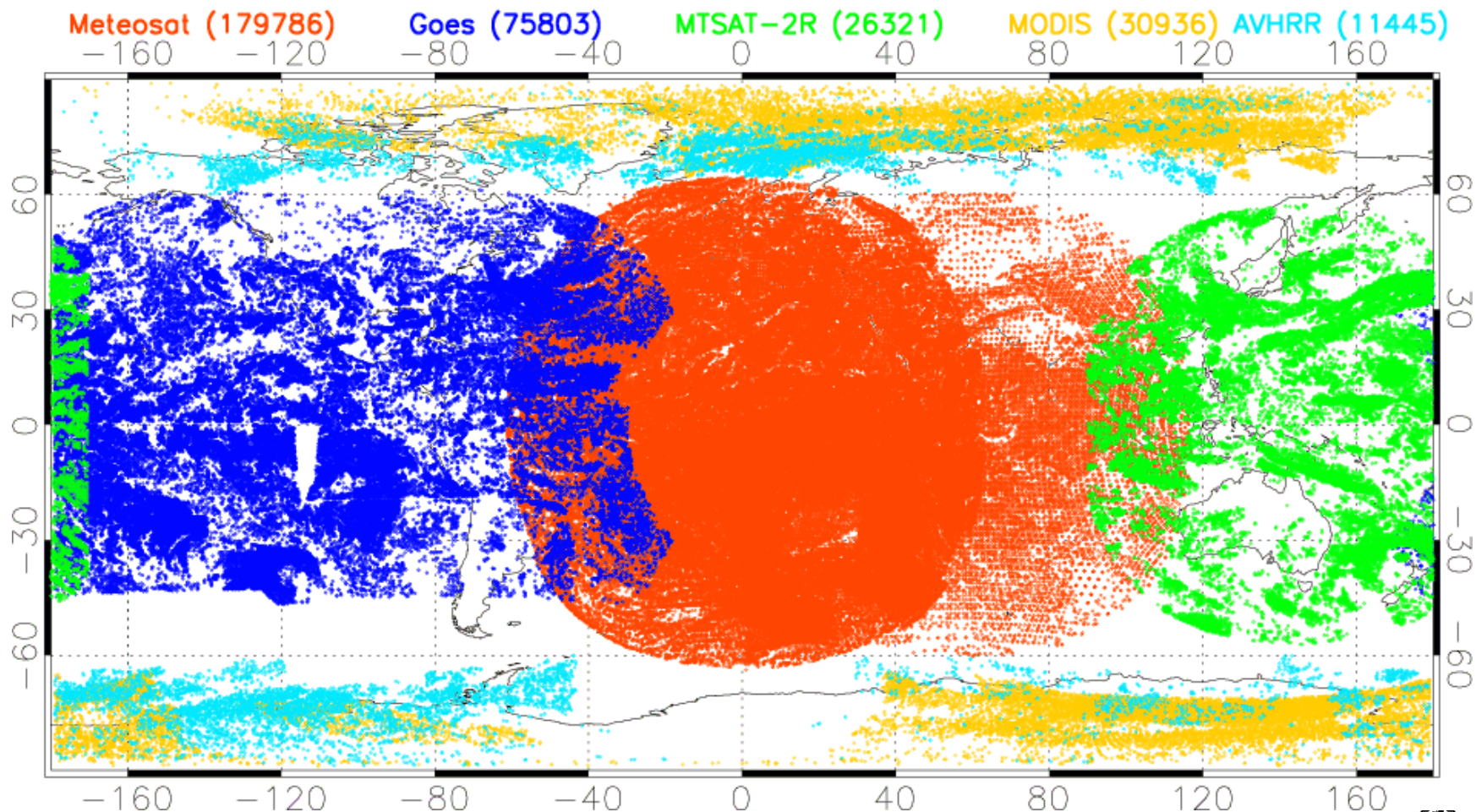
## Usage of AMV winds at DWD

- **Geostationary satellites (GOES 13/15; Eumetsat 7/10; MTSAT-2R)**
  - extratropics and tropics over oceans and land
  - IR above 1000 hPa
  - WVcloudy above 400 hPa; WVclear is not used
  - VIS below 700 hPa
  - QI threshold blacklisting
  - FG check: asymmetric to remove negative OBS-FG bias
  - Thinning: 1 wind per pre-defined thinning box (200 km; 15 vertical layers).  
data selection by highest noFirst Guess QI in a box
- **Polar orbiting satellites (MODIS, AVHRR, DB MODIS, DB AVHRR)**
  - over land and oceans
  - IR above 1000 hPa, over Antarctica over 600 hPa
  - WVcloudy above 600 hPa
  - QI threshold blacklisting
  - FG check: asymmetric to remove negative OBS-FG bias
  - Thinning: 1 wind per thinning box (~60 km; 15 vertical layers)



DWD Observation coverage  
AMV Winds

Date of Analyses: 2013050612 TIME : 10:30 - 12:30



# Eumetsat

## CCC height assignment method

Deutscher Wetterdienst  
Wetter und Klima aus einer Hand



### Before:

- Use of different height assignment methods for different cloud types, independently from feature tracking.
- AMVs assumed to be representative of winds at cloud top height.

### Main changes:

- Use of CCC approach to better link the pixels used in the height assignment with those that dominate in the tracking
- Make direct use of pixel-based cloud top pressures from CLA product rather than generating AMV CTPs.
- Pre-operational monitoring showed significant improvements for medium and high level winds
- Increase in RMSVD of ~20% for IR and VIS winds at low levels in the Southern Hemisphere and Tropics
- ✓ Operational since Sep. 2012; patch for low level winds in April 2013



# CCC height assignment method

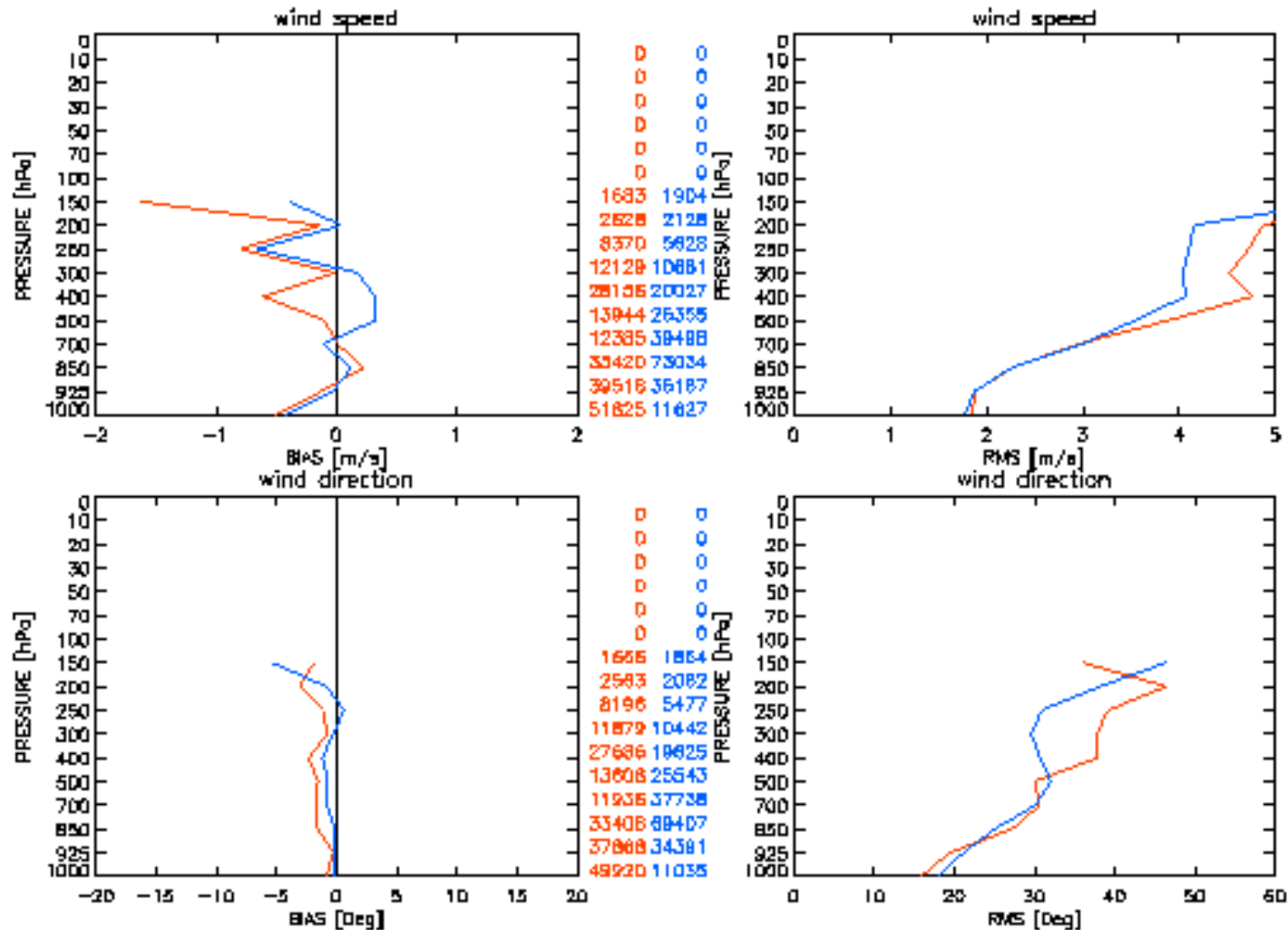


Figure 15: Vertical profiles of infrared AMV wind speed bias (left) and rms (right) for the old AMV height assignment method (red) and the new CCC height assignment method (blue) for the period 05/06/2012 - 05/07/2012.

# CCC height



dienst  
er Hand

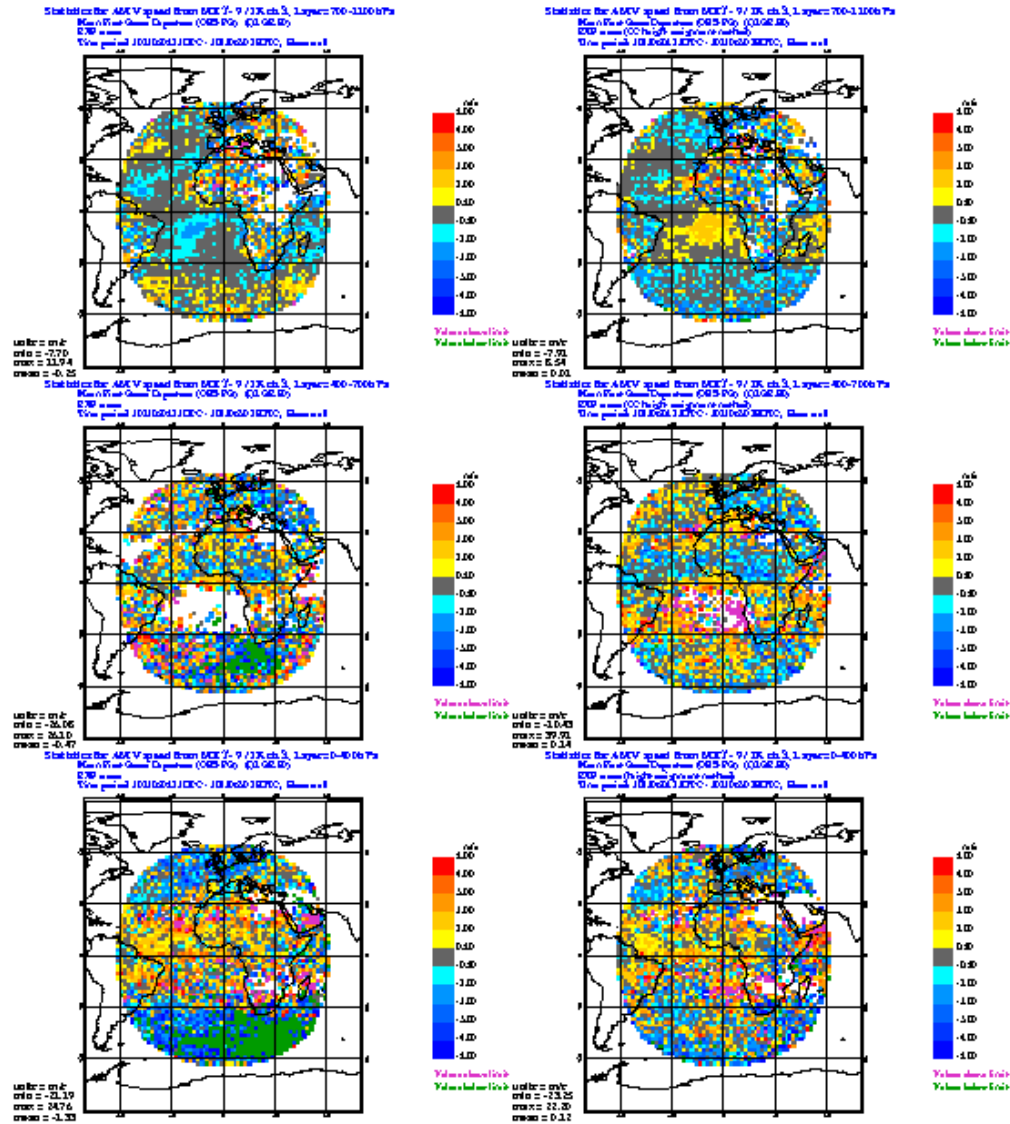
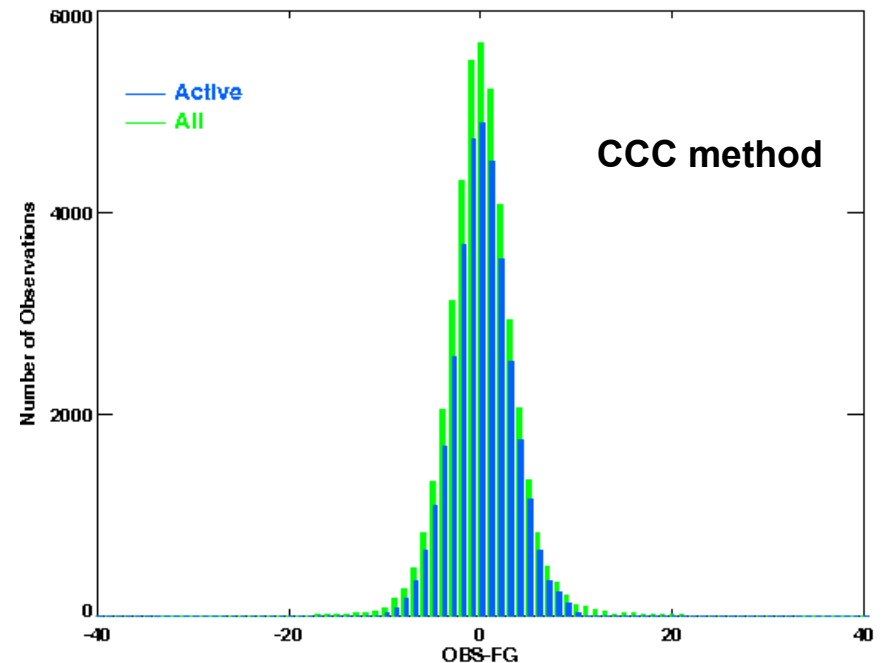
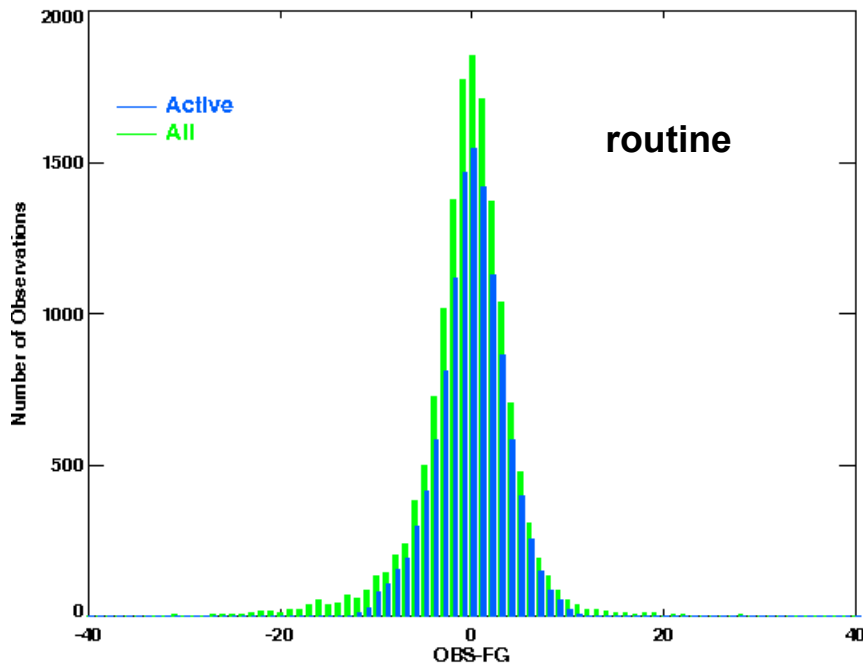


Figure 18: Regional distribution of infrared AMV wind speed first guess departures for the old AMV height assignment method (left) and the new CCC height assignment method (right) for the lower (upper two panels), mid (middle panels) and lower (bottom two panels) levels and the period 05/06/2018 - 05/07/2018.



# AMVs: Monitoring of AMVs with ccc-method height assignment

## Meteosat 9 Medium level (700 – 400 hPa) infrared winds QI > 80 2012060512 - 2012070518



Mean: -0.537940	RMS: 5.15166	Std: 5.12366	Min: -38.3499	Max: 47.1209	Number of Obs.: 15183	Mean: 0.0848109	RMS: 3.78297	Std: 3.78206	Min: -35.3119	Max: 48.4949	Number of Obs.: 42245
Mean: -0.218073	RMS: 3.52936	Std: 3.52276	Min: -13.2699	Max: 11.9076	Number of Obs.: 11782	Mean: 0.0190071	RMS: 3.07234	Std: 3.07232	Min: -13.0674	Max: 12.4585	Number of Obs.: 34953

- Better quality winds by using the CCC Height Assignment method for medium and high level winds
- Number of high quality winds (QI > 80) increases for medium level winds in case of CCC method
- Quality of low level winds in Tropics and Southern Hemisphere decreases slightly

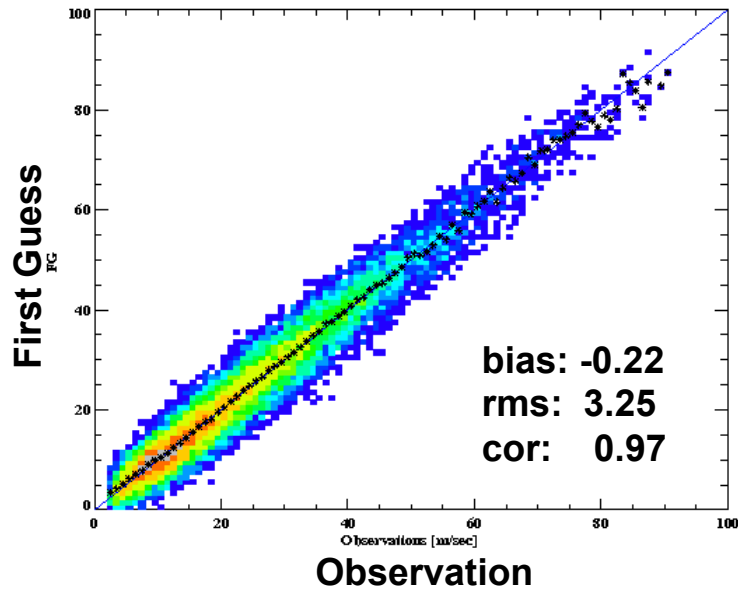




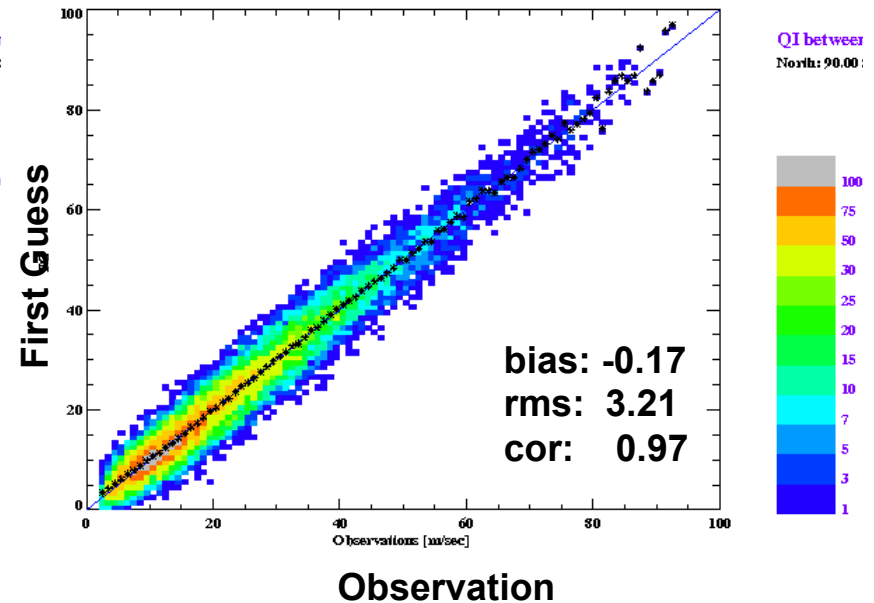
# Validation of MET-10 products (AMVs)

High level infrared AMV winds (used)  
2012121800 - 2012122818

### Meteosat-9



### Meteosat-10

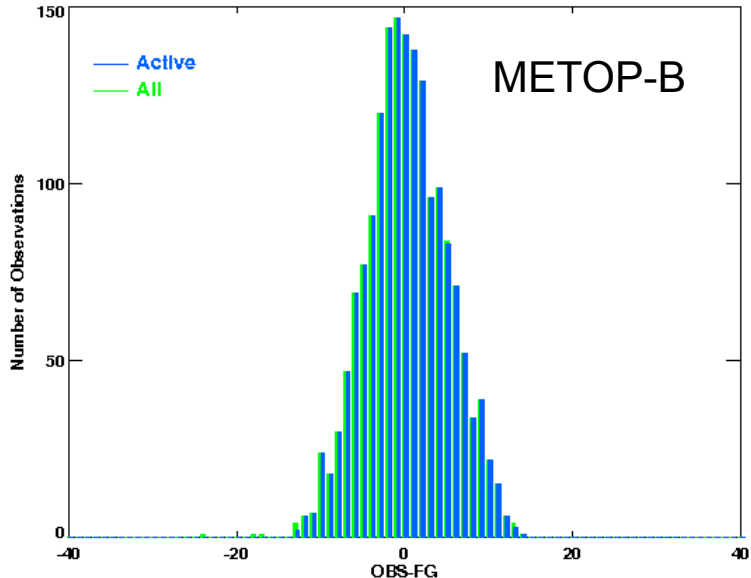


Quality of Meteosat-10 AMV  
comparable to or slightly better than AMVs from Meteosat-9



# METOP-B : AVHRR polar winds

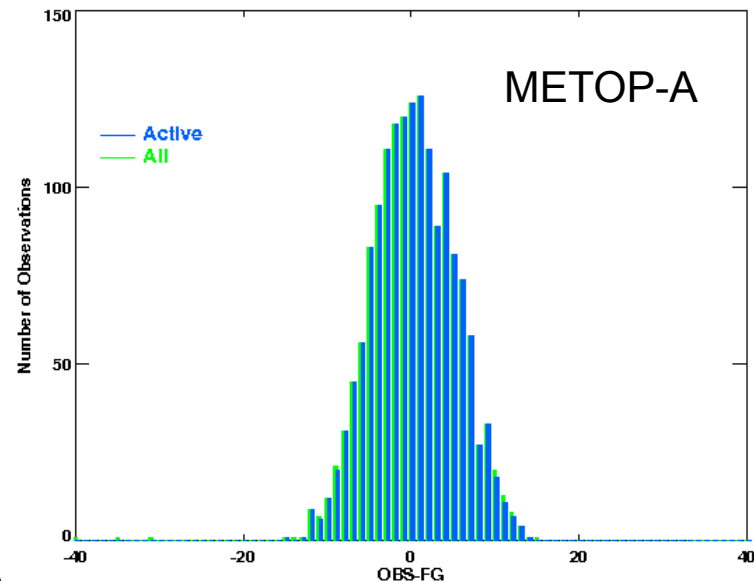
AMV Satellite: AVHRR METOP B / Infrared wind speed [m] QI > 60  
Date : 2013011800 - 2013012400  
North: 90.00 SOUTH: 60.00 WEST: -180.00 EAST: 180.00  
Level Max/Min: 40000.00 / 11840.00



Mean: 0.136615 RMS: 4.86322 Std: 4.86272 Min: -24.0166 Max: 13.8991 Number of Obs.: 1719  
Mean: 0.178272 RMS: 4.76831 Std: 4.76644 Min: -13.3677 Max: 13.8991 Number of Obs.: 1712

Test data 18.1. – 24.1.2013  
IR 400 – 100 hPa  
QI > 60

AMV Satellite: AVHRR METOP A / Infrared wind speed [m] QI > 60  
Date : 2013011800 - 2013012400  
North: 90.00 SOUTH: 60.00 WEST: -180.00 EAST: 180.00  
Level Max/Min: 40000.00 / 20060.00



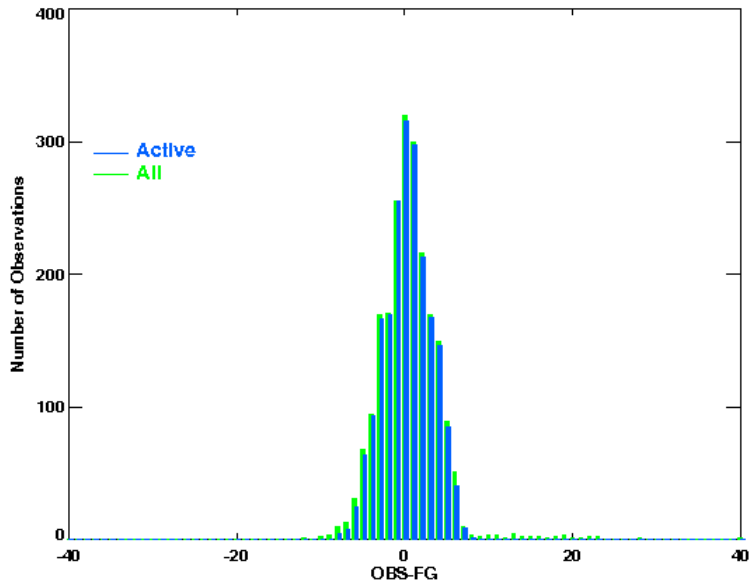
Mean: 0.183896 RMS: 5.15221 Std: 5.15055 Min: -45.6068 Max: 14.5203 Number of Obs.: 1598  
Mean: 0.233686 RMS: 4.82376 Std: 4.81962 Min: -15.3002 Max: 13.6903 Number of Obs.: 1576

- ~10% more data
- highest at 118 hPa (METOP-A: 200hPa)
- slightly smaller bias (and stdv)



# METOP-B : AVHRR polar winds

AMV Satellite: AVHRR METOP B / Infrared wind speed [m]  $QI > 60$   
Date : 2013011800 - 2013012400  
North: 90.00 SOUTH: 60.00 WEST: -180.00 EAST: 180.00  
Level Max/Min:101560.00 / 70010.00

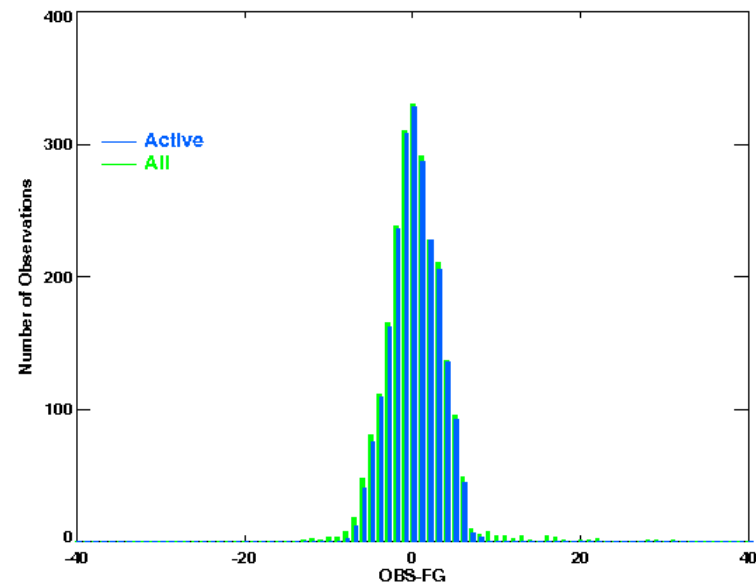


Mean: 0.472658 RMS: 3.69301 Std: 3.66348 Min: -11.5516 Max: 48.5820 Number of Obs.: 2162  
Mean: 0.253801 RMS: 2.79331 Std: 2.78464 Min: -8.40897 Max: 7.61729 Number of Obs.: 2064

- ~10% less data
- slightly larger bias

Test data 18.1. – 24.1.2013  
IR 1000 – 700 hPa  
 $QI > 60$

AMV Satellite: AVHRR METOP A / Infrared wind speed [m]  $QI > 60$   
Date : 2013011800 - 2013012400  
North: 90.00 SOUTH: 60.00 WEST: -180.00 EAST: 180.00  
Level Max/Min:102050.00 / 70010.00



Mean: 0.292839 RMS: 3.60374 Std: 3.59258 Min: -12.9377 Max: 30.9847 Number of Obs.: 2392  
Mean: 0.128330 RMS: 2.81461 Std: 2.81250 Min: -7.82410 Max: 8.29739 Number of Obs.: 2277

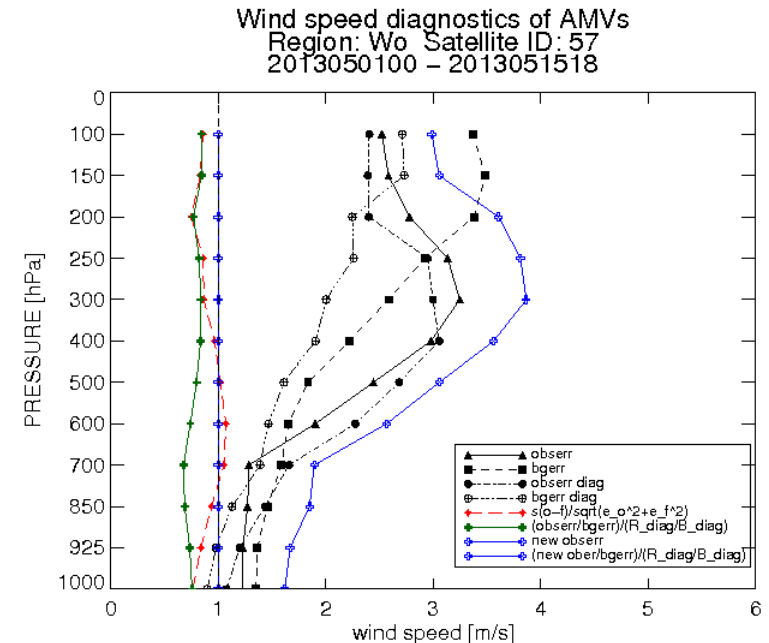
# New observation errors

## Diagnosis of observation, background error statistics in observation space

- After Desroziers et. al.
- Diagnose observation and background-error variance
- Compare diagnosed error variances with corresponding errors used in the assimilation

## Results

- Background errors seems slightly overestimated and observation errors seem to be underestimated in the analysis
- More pronounced in case of polar winds
- Specification of observation errors more critical than background error
- Same differences between tropics, extra tropics and polar regions





Exp: 9325/9327: Revised observation error  
after Desrozier

Exp: 9447/9456: Same as 9327 but with smaller  
 $sgm\_fg$  ( $sgm\_fg$  from 3  $\rightarrow$  2)

First guess check:

$$|obs - fg| < sgm\_fg * \sqrt{obserr^2 + bgerr^2}$$

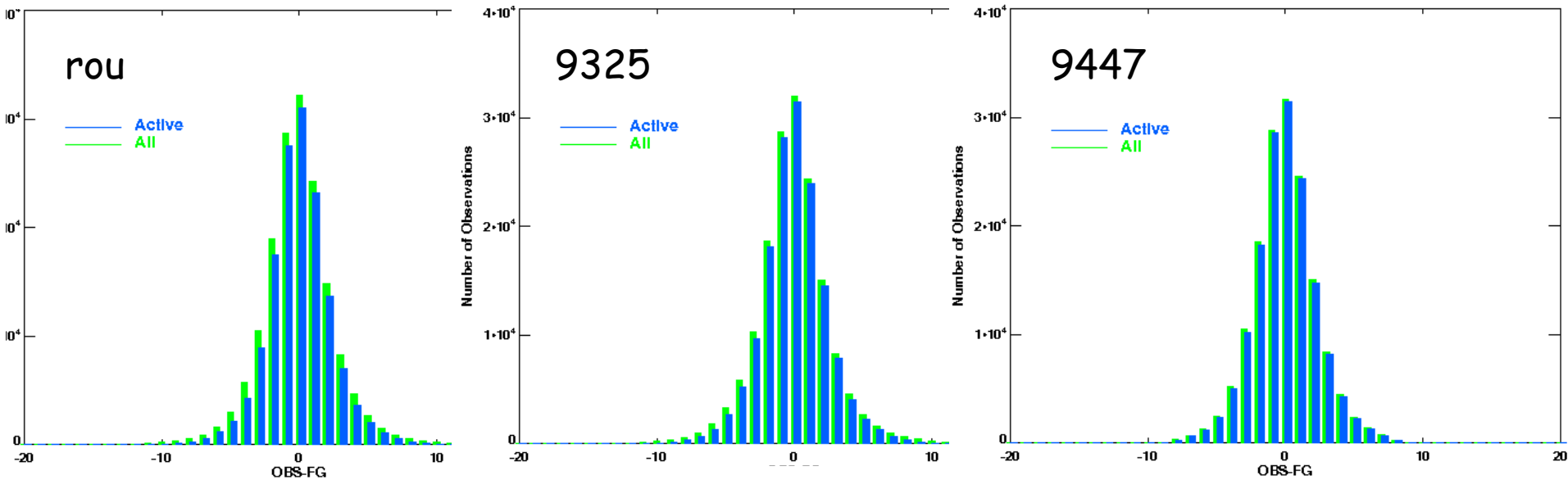
=> more outliers will be rejected

Both changes work global for all different AMVs (geo and polar)  
Specified  $obserr$  different for different satellites



# Meteosat 10 / infrared winds / global 2013050100 - 2013052518

Deutscher Wetterdienst  
Wetter und Klima aus einer Hand



	bias	rms	stdv	min	Max	number
Routine	-0.15483 -0.14779	2.58512 2.26382	2.58049 2.25899	-14.3824 -12.0930	14.2424 12.7403	161348 145354
Exp.: 9325	-0.14741 -0.14919	2.65206 2.35778	2.64797 2.35305	-14.2836 -12.5968	14.1242 14.1242	162384 153181
Exp.: 9447	-0.13149 -0.13014	2.30296 2.26439	2.30011 2.26066	-9.75785 -9.75785	10.1495 10.1495	156711 153861

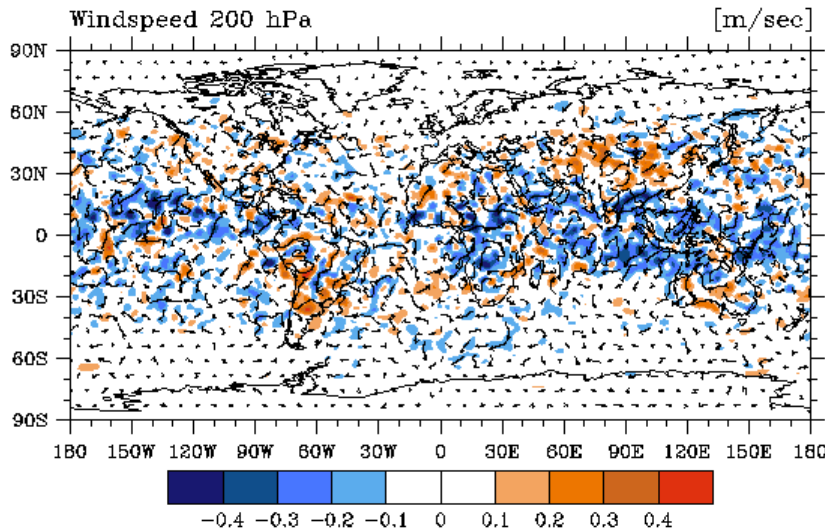


# Mean analysis error difference 2013050112 - 2013053112

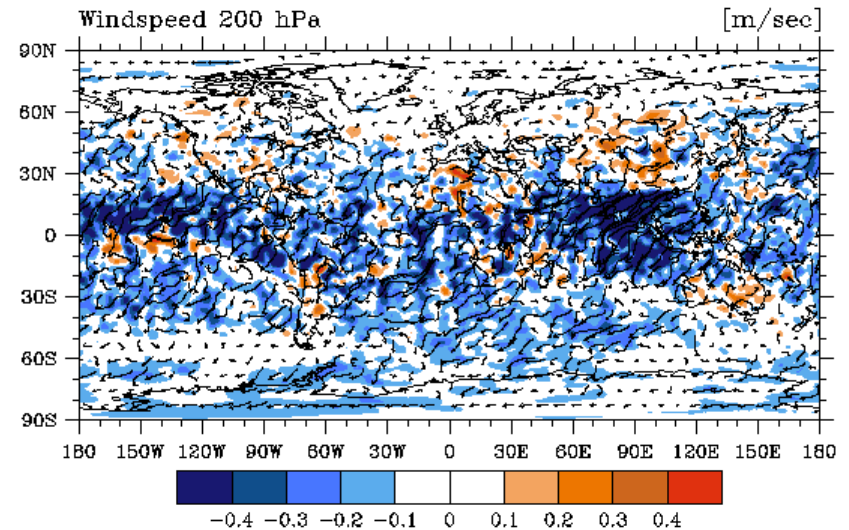
Deutscher Wetterdienst  
Wetter und Klima aus einer Hand



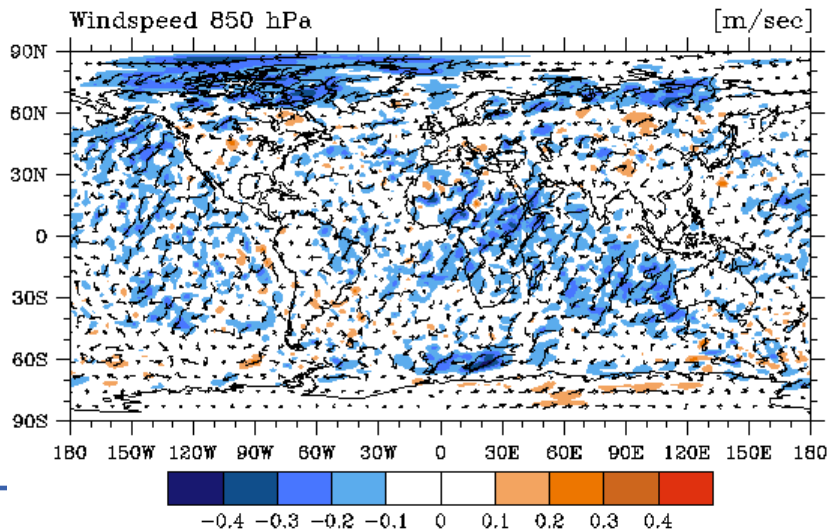
### Mean Windspeed/Vector error difference (9325 - Ctrl)



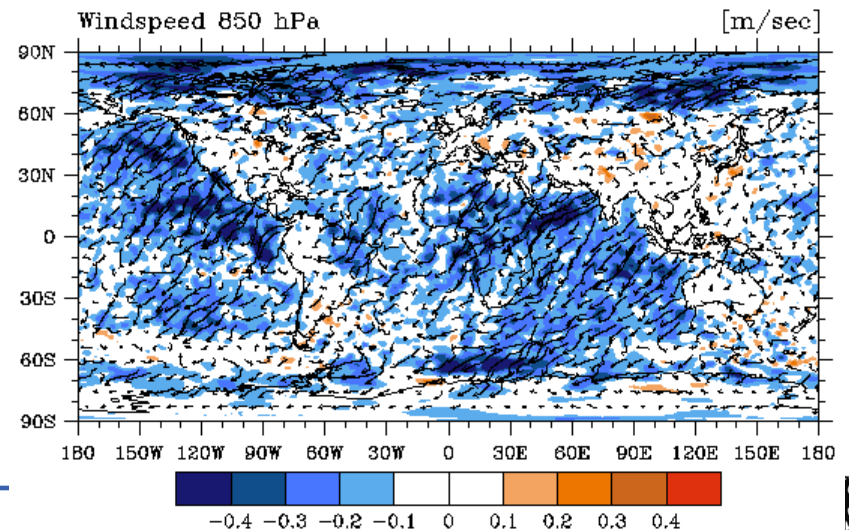
### Mean Windspeed/Vector error difference (9447 - Ctrl)



### Mean Windspeed/Vector error difference (9447 - Ctrl)



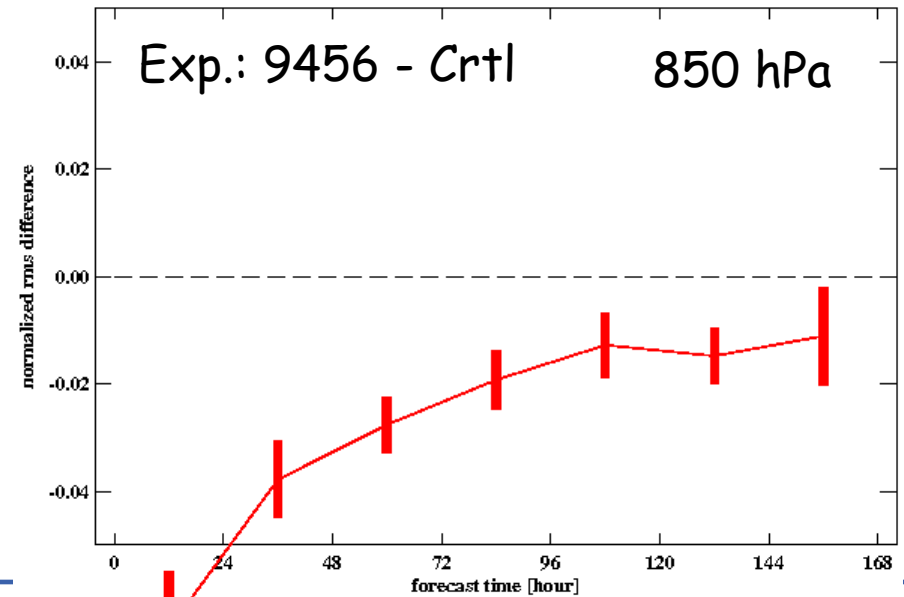
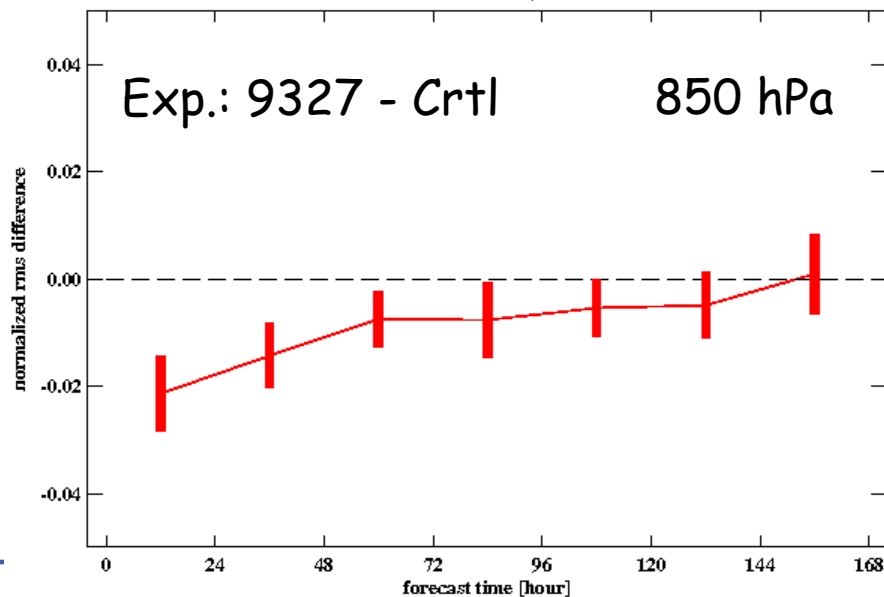
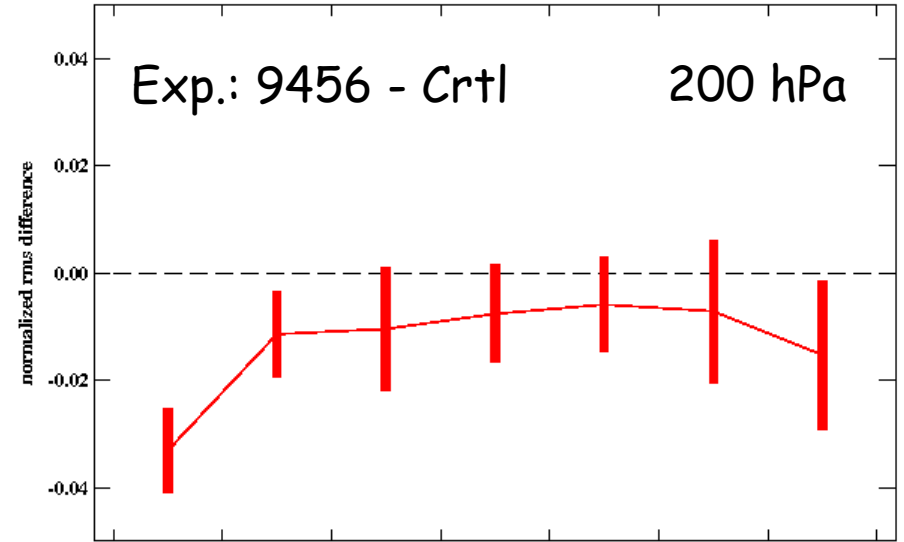
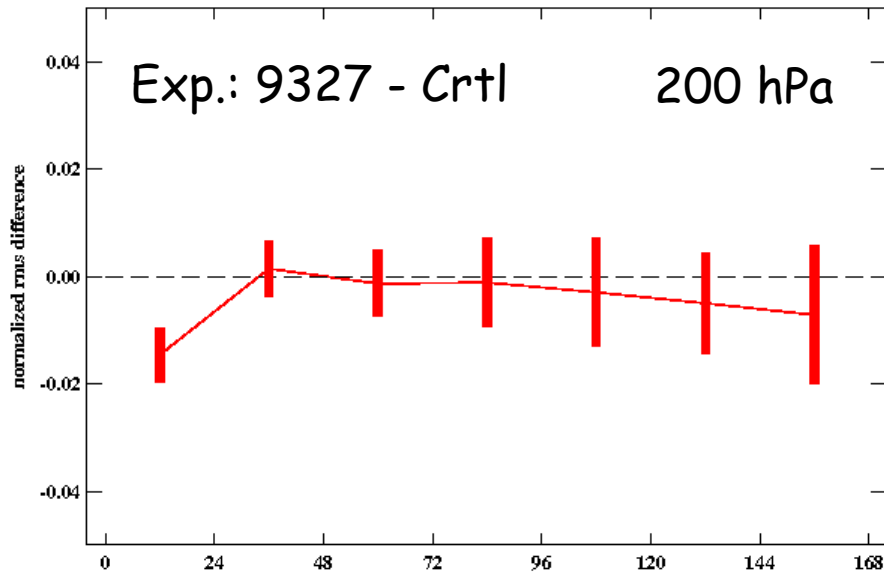
### Mean Windspeed/Vector error difference (9447 - Ctrl)



# Forecast impact / wind speed

## Normalized rms difference / tropics

### 2013050112 - 2013053112





- Multi-angle Imaging SpectroRadiometer (MISR) instrument (TERRA)
- Employing nine fixed cameras pointing at fixed angles
- Provides wind speed and direction in visible channel

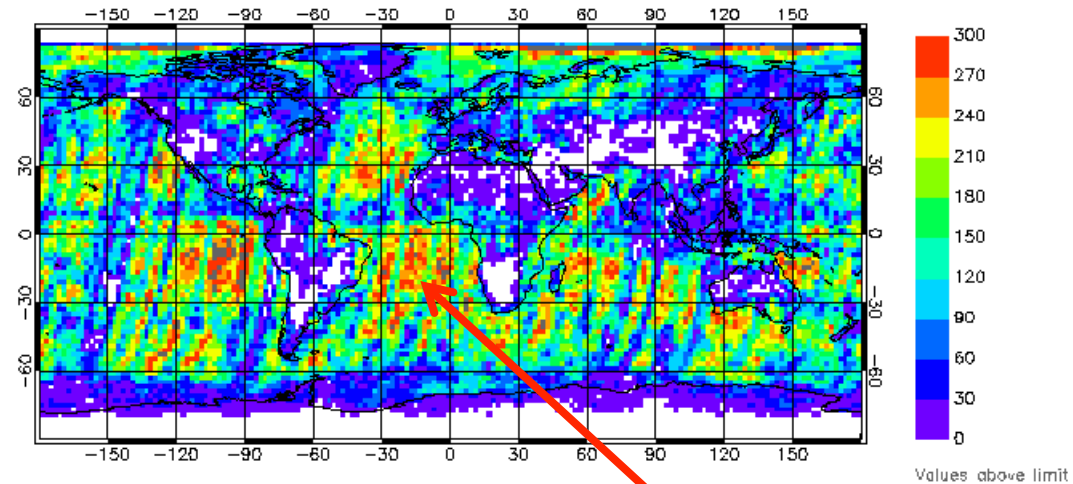
Monitoring of wind product on behalf of the Int. Wind Working Group and following SWG suggestion

- Use of the global assimilation and forecasting system of DWD
- Two monitoring periods:
  - Summer 2010: 15<sup>th</sup> August - 30<sup>th</sup> September 2010
  - Winter 2010/11: 01<sup>th</sup> December 2010 - 15<sup>th</sup> January 2011



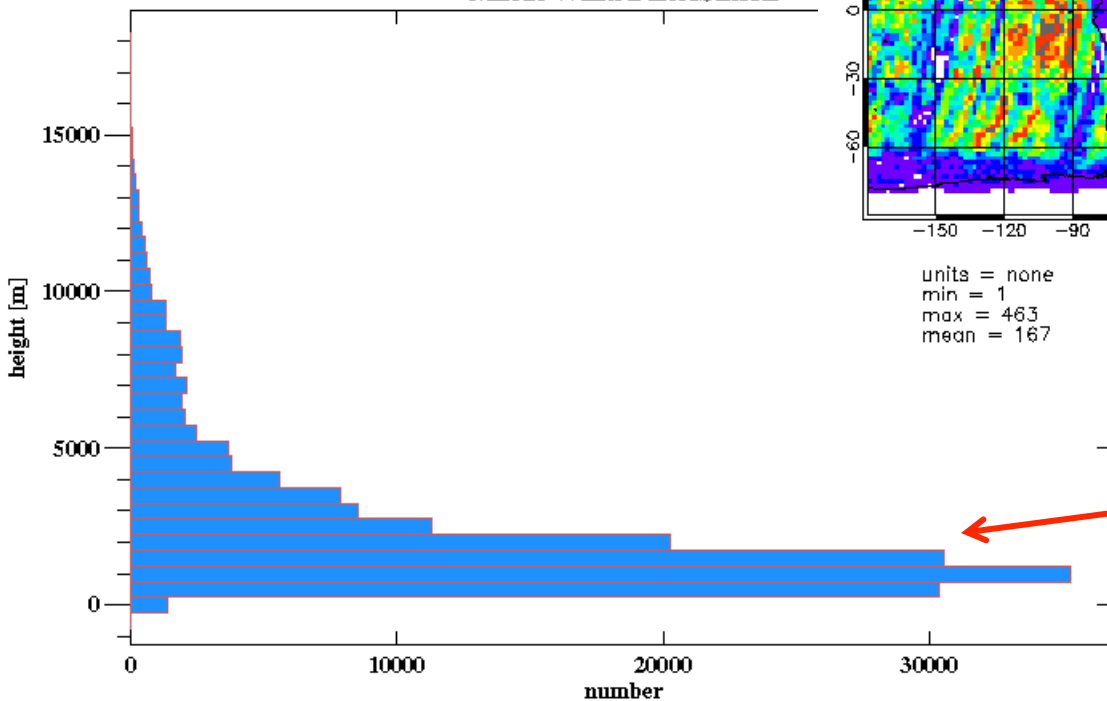
# Observation Coverage MIRS Winds

### Number of MIRS Winds 15 days



units = none  
min = 1  
max = 463  
mean = 167

### MIRS Wind Distribution



**Most MIRS winds found in the  
lower troposphere over Sea**

# MISR Winds Monitoring

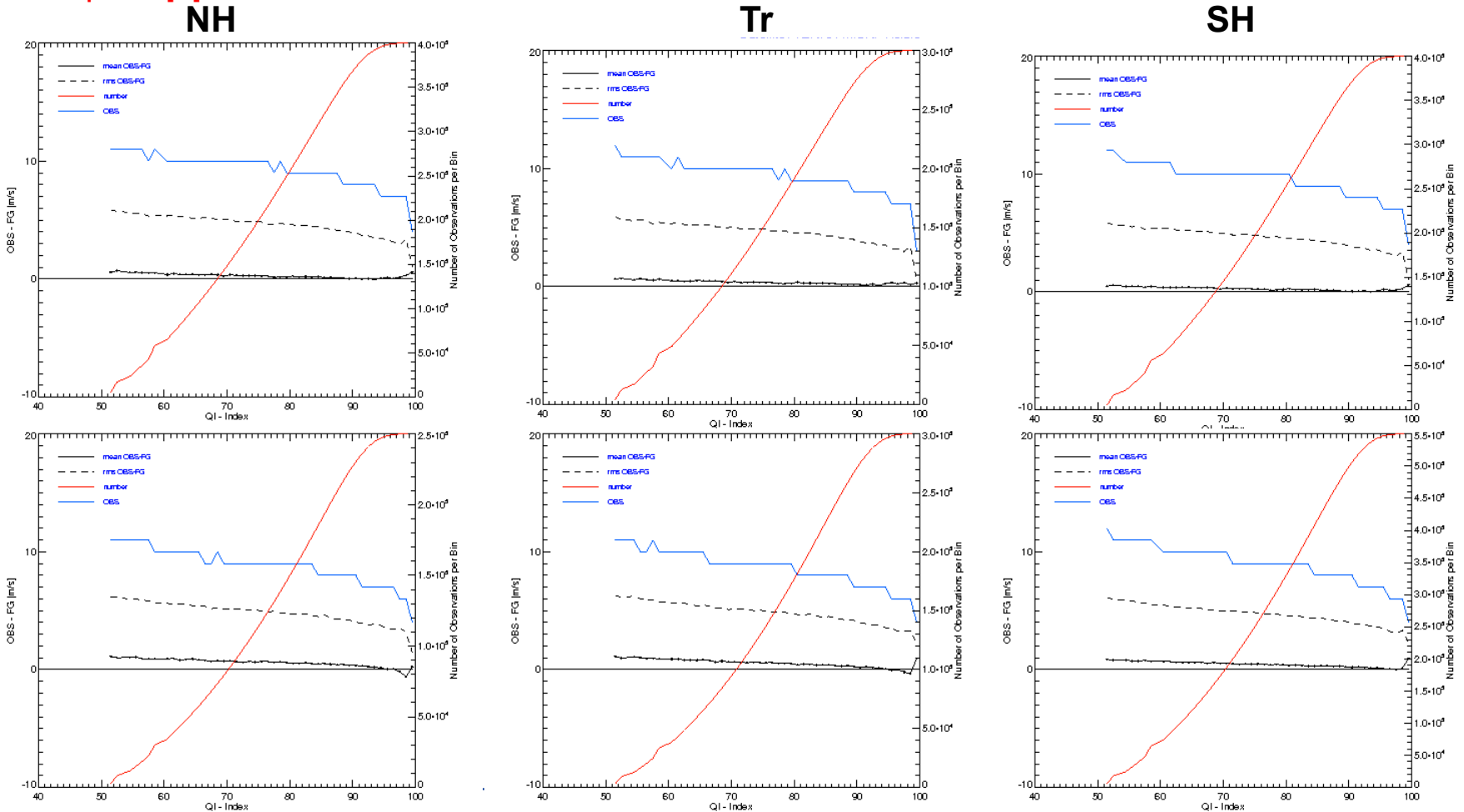


## First Guess departures against MISR QI Index visible / 1100 - 700 hPa

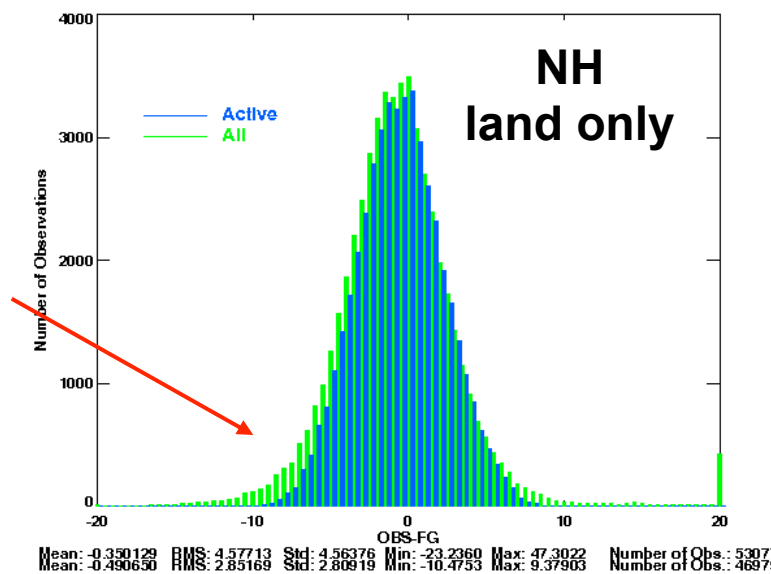
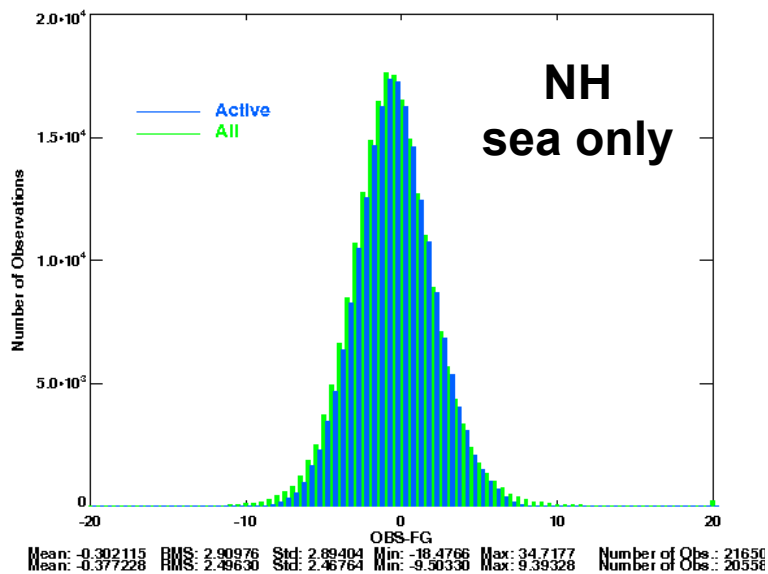
Obs - fg  
Obs - fg stdv  
Observation  
Number per bin [%]

summer 2010

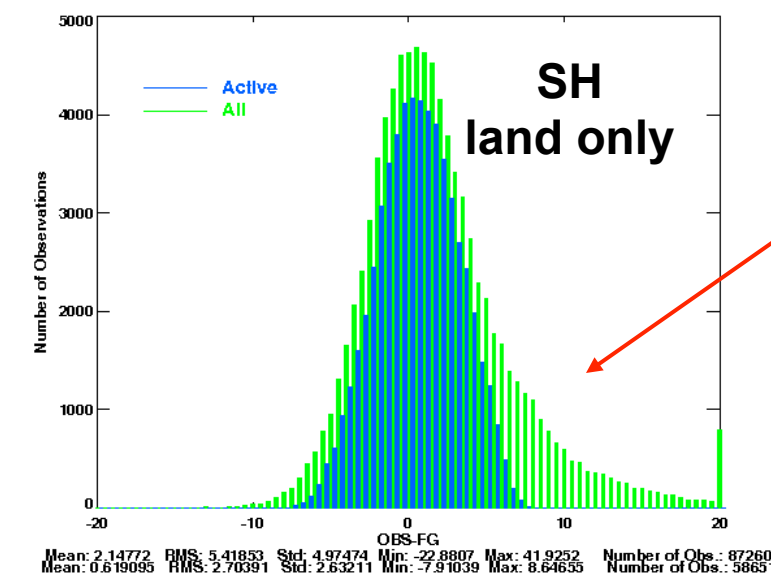
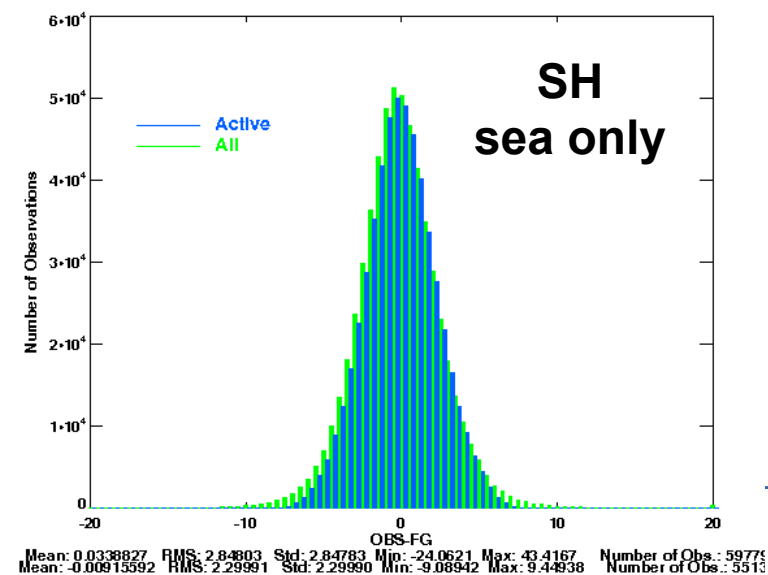
winter 2010



# MISR winds monitoring



Winter  
QI > 80

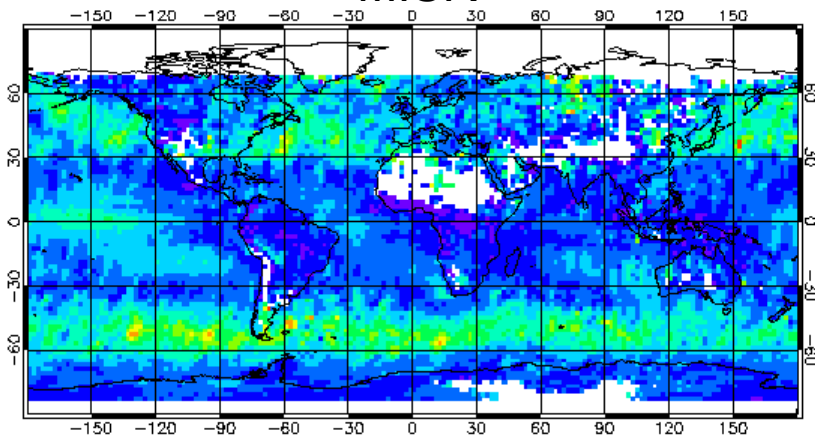


# MISR winds monitoring

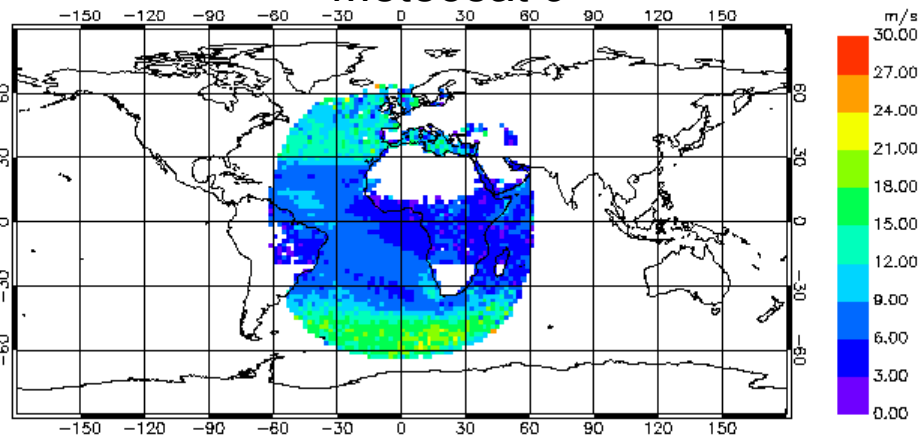
Wind Speed Observation  
Visible 1100 – 700 hPa

Winter  
QI > 80

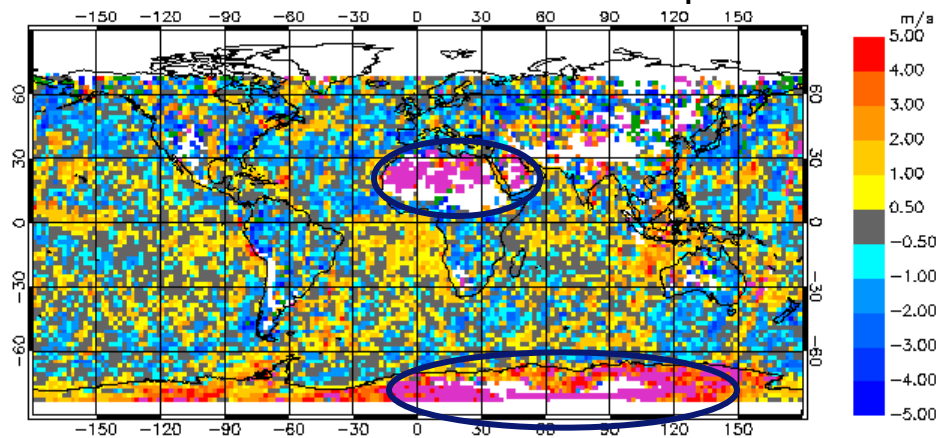
MISR



Meteosat 9



MISR obs – FG wind speed



Promising data source over sea

Problems visible over land  
(esp. ice/desert)

QI currently a relatively weak  
- indicator of dataquality



- Two test periods

- summer case: 15<sup>th</sup> Aug - 30<sup>th</sup> Sept. 2010
- winter case: 1<sup>st</sup> Dez 2010 - 15<sup>th</sup> Jan. 2011

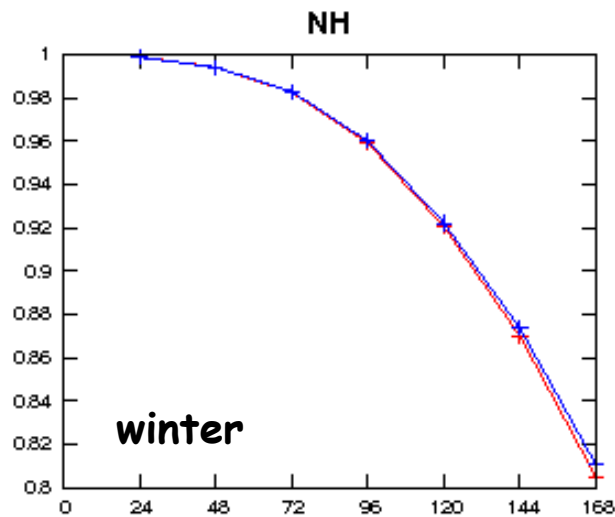
- Experiments:

- Ctrl (as routine without MISR winds)
- Exp (as routine with MISR winds)

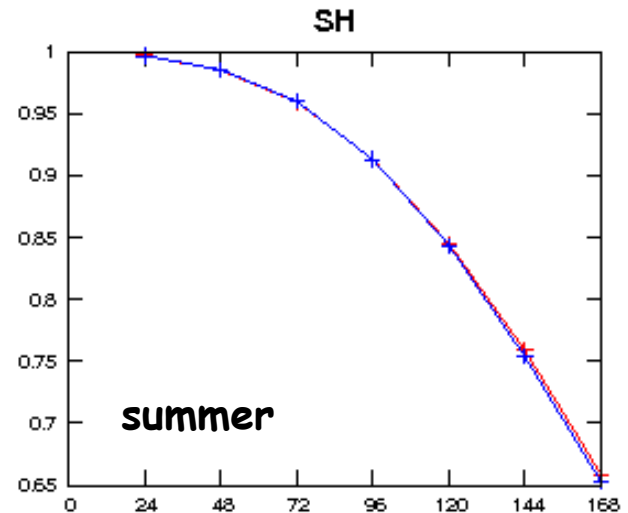
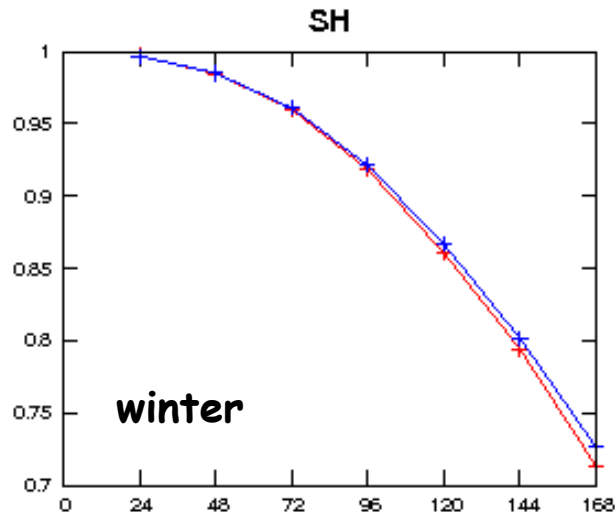
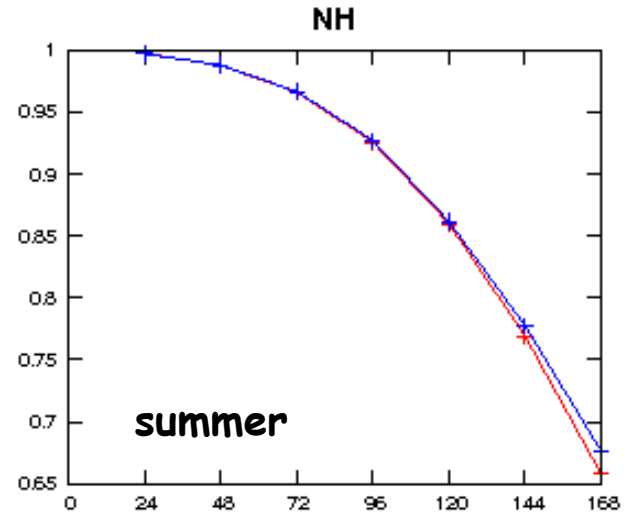
- Observation errors estimated after Dezroisier et. al.



# Anomaly correlation coefficient 500 hPa geopotential height

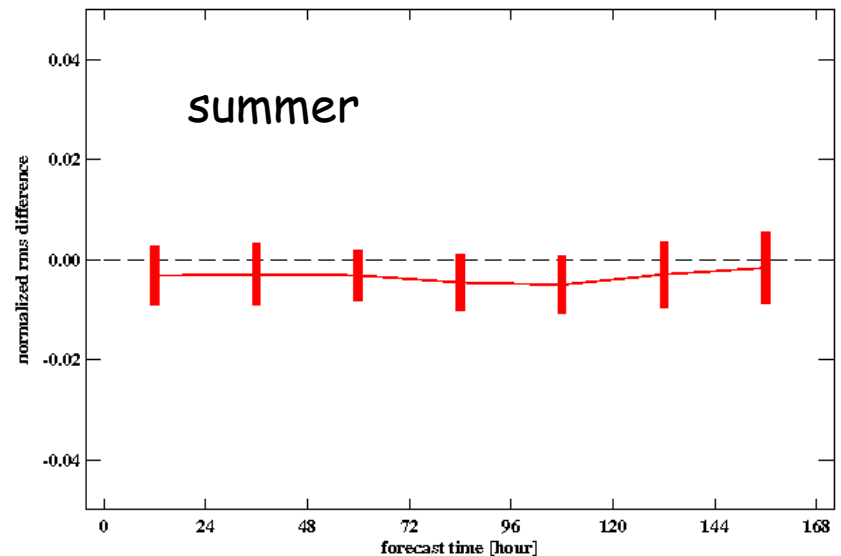
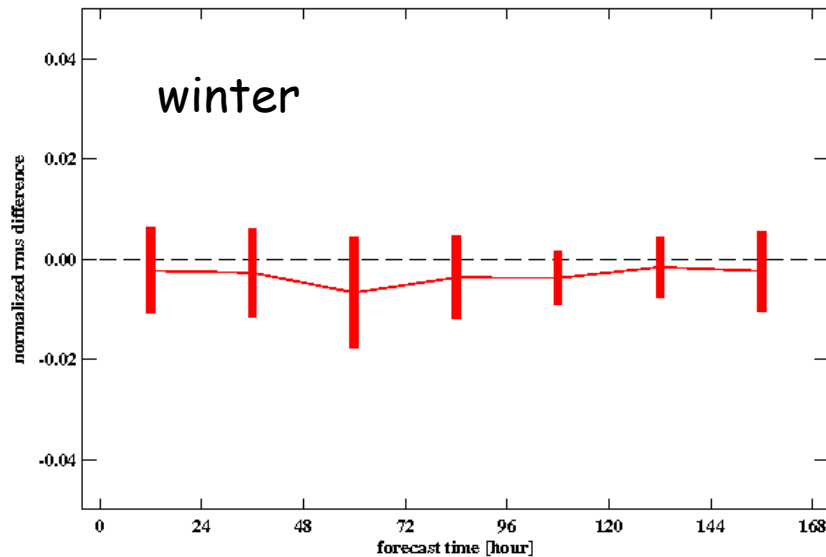


Ctrl  
Ctrl + Misr



# normalized rms difference 850 hPa wind vector

## Tropics



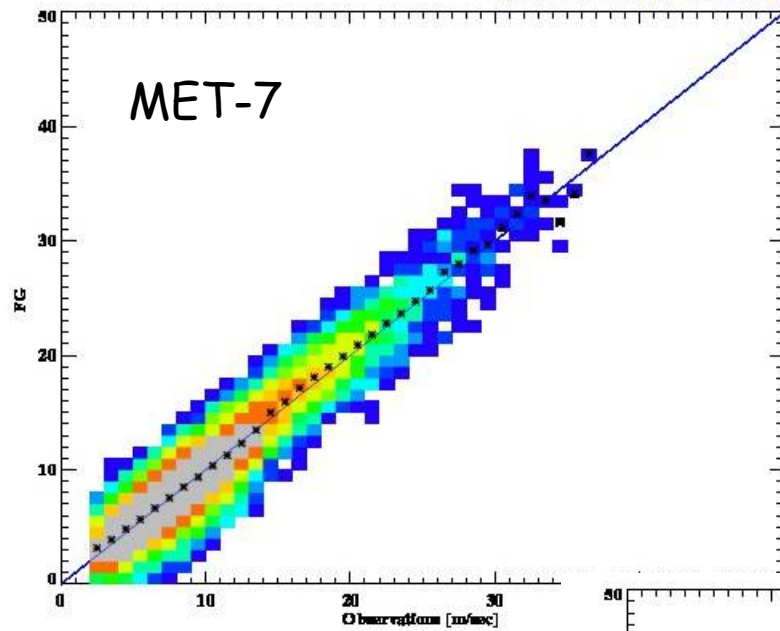
- Positive impact of MISR winds throughout the whole forecast range
- Positive impact in summer and winter case
- Impact larger in lower atmosphere



- IODC: GEO coverage of the Indian Ocean  
(Support for decision whether to extend the Meteosat IODC mission)
  - MET-7 denial experiment
  - MET-7 replaced by Chinese FY-2E
  - Winter period: 1.12.2012 - 31.01.2013



# Exemple of monitoring results for MET-7 and FY-2E

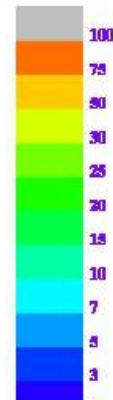


data QI > 80 after FG Check  
North: 90.00 SOUTH: -90.00 WEST: -180.00 EAST: 180.00

min = 2.10  
max = 36.30  
mean = 9.44  
median = 8.40

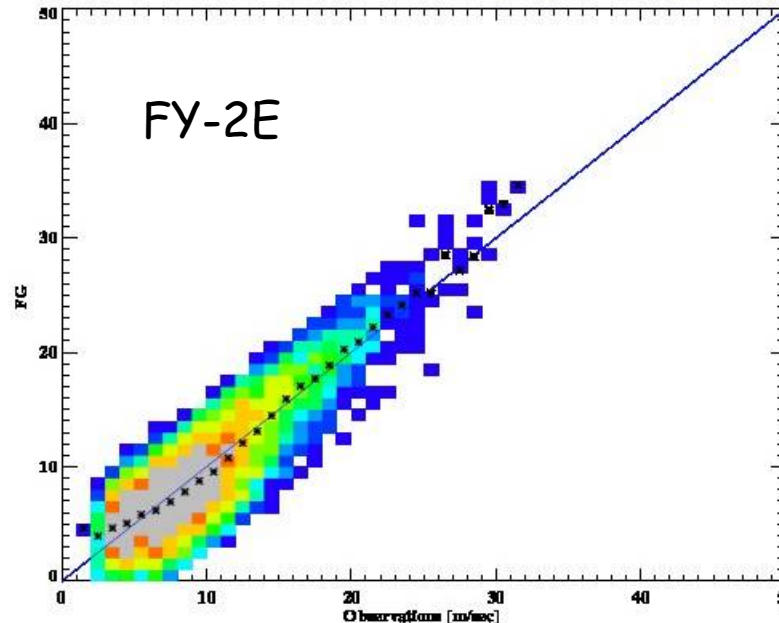
min = 0.13  
max = 37.59  
mean = 9.62  
median = 8.55  
bias = -0.18  
rms = 1.82  
cor = 0.94

total number = 16750  
max number in bin = 427  
\* : mean of values per column



IR winds, QI > 80  
1000 – 700 hPa  
1.10. – 29.10.2012

- Fewer winds
- Larger wind speed dependent biases
- Larger rms

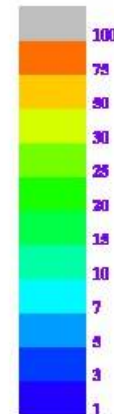


data QI > 80 after FG Check  
North: 90.00 SOUTH: -90.00 WEST: -180.00 EAST: 180.00

min = 1.00  
max = 31.00  
mean = 8.19  
median = 8.00

min = 0.09  
max = 34.78  
mean = 8.49  
median = 7.72  
bias = -0.30  
rms = 2.45  
cor = 0.84

total number = 11633  
max number in bin = 262  
\* : mean of values per column

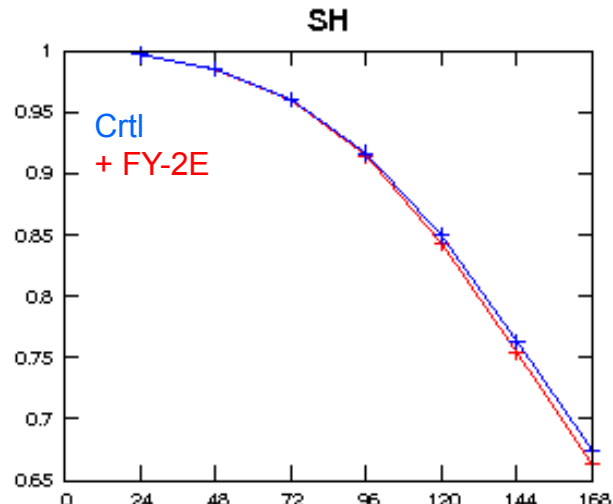
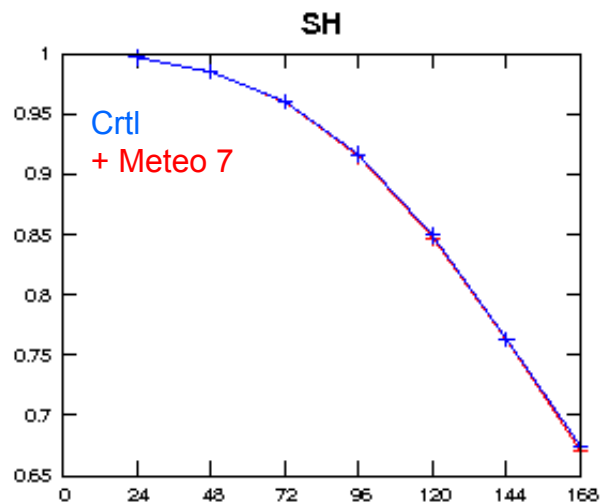
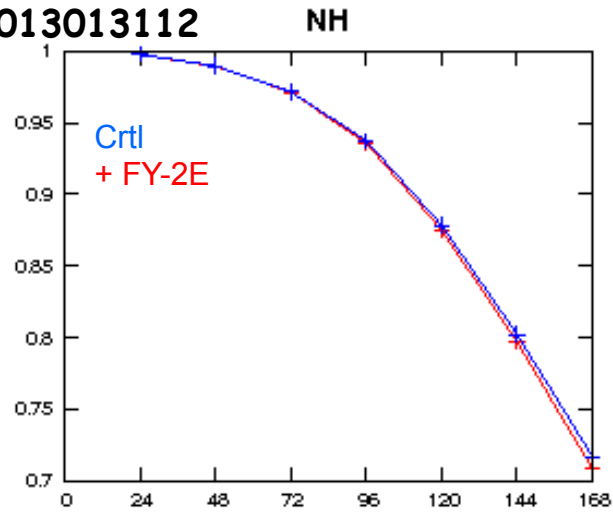
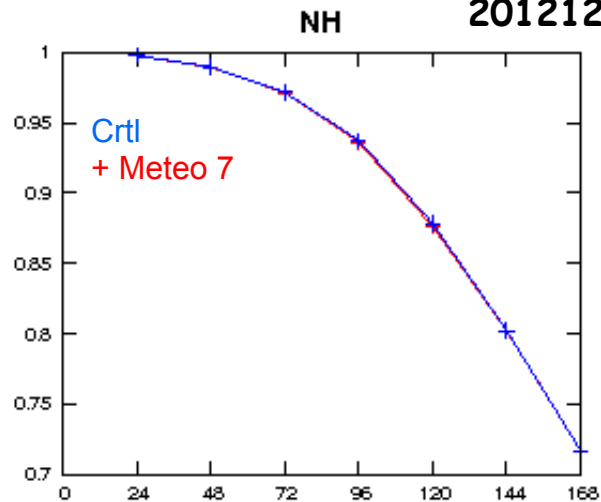


# Scores: Ctrl + Met7 / FY-2E

## Geopotential Height 500 hPa

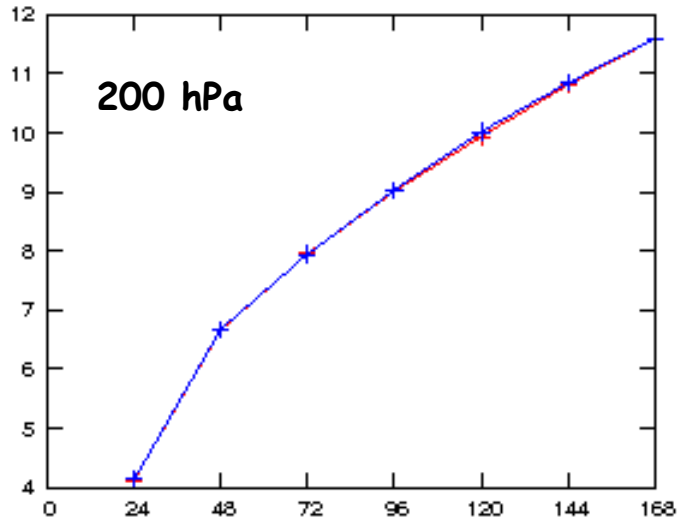
### Winter period

2012120112 - 2013013112

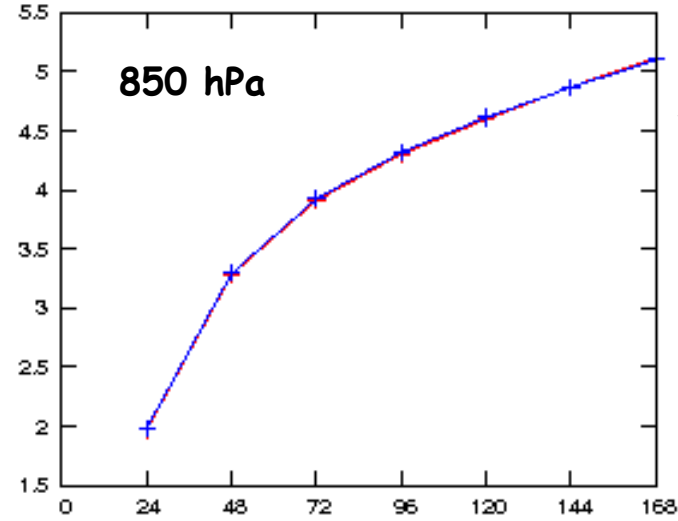


# Scores: MET-7 denial RMSV of Wind Vector in the Tropics

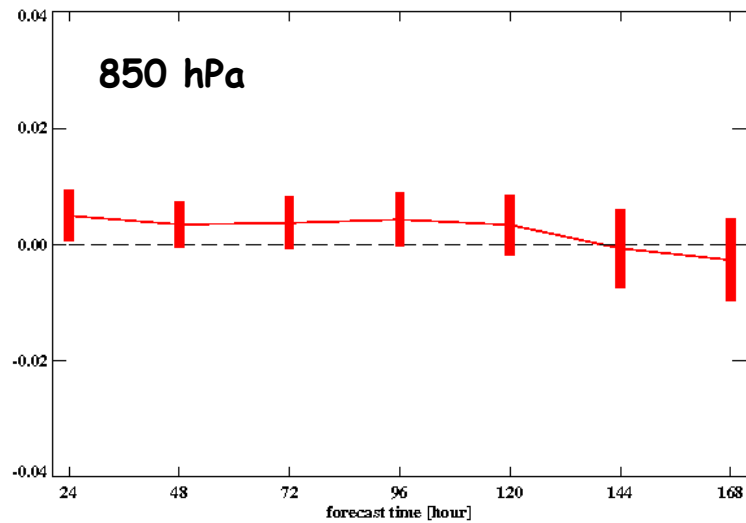
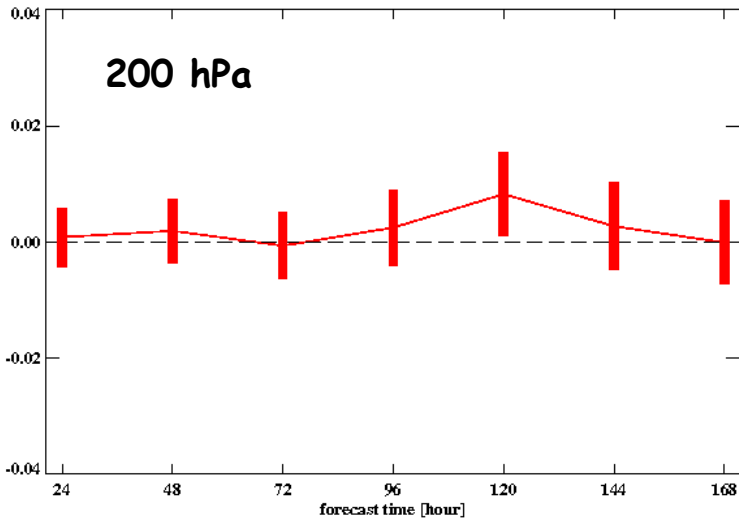
TR



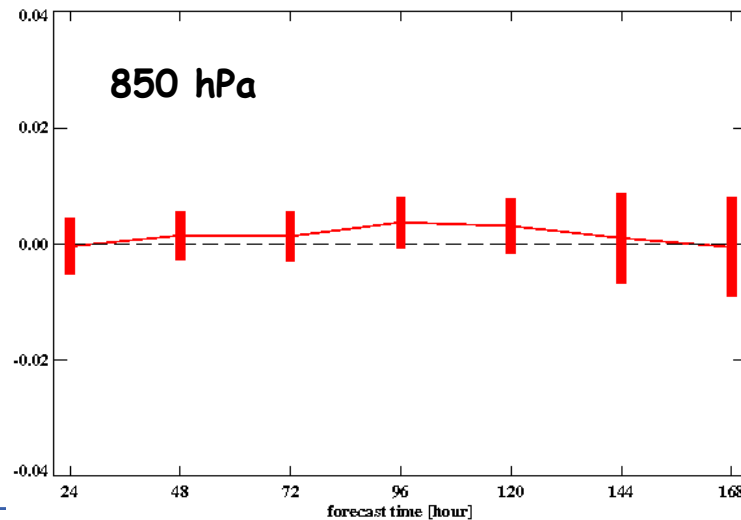
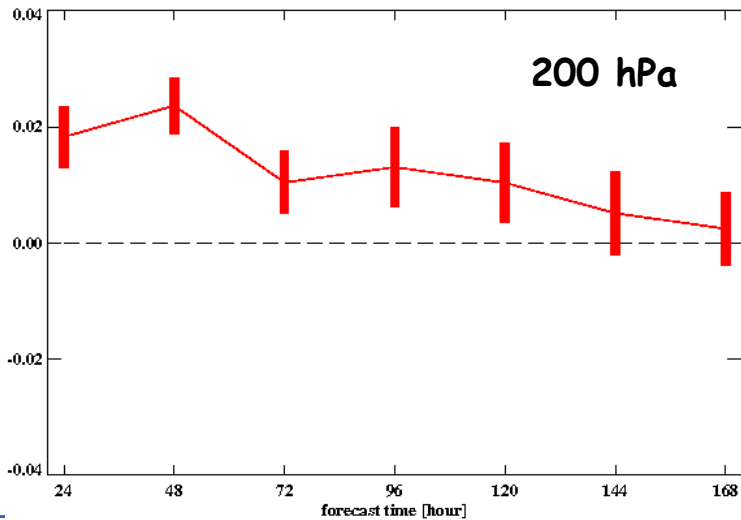
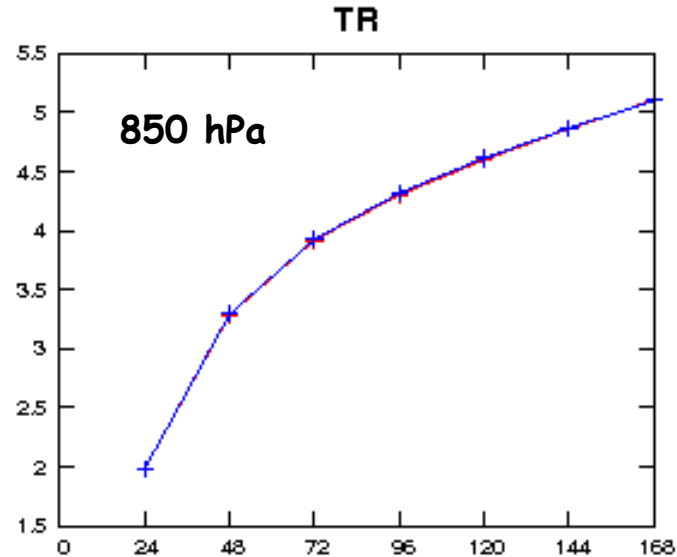
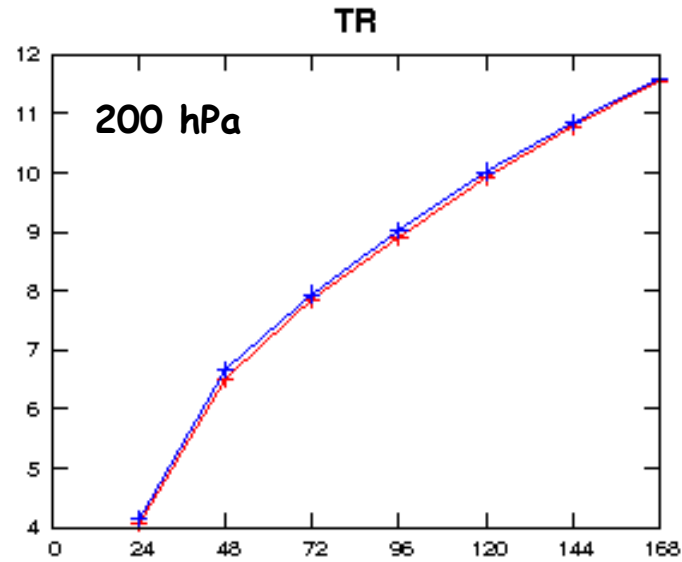
TR



Verification  
against  
own analysis



# Scores: FY-2E replacing MET-7 RMSV of Wind Vector 850 hPa



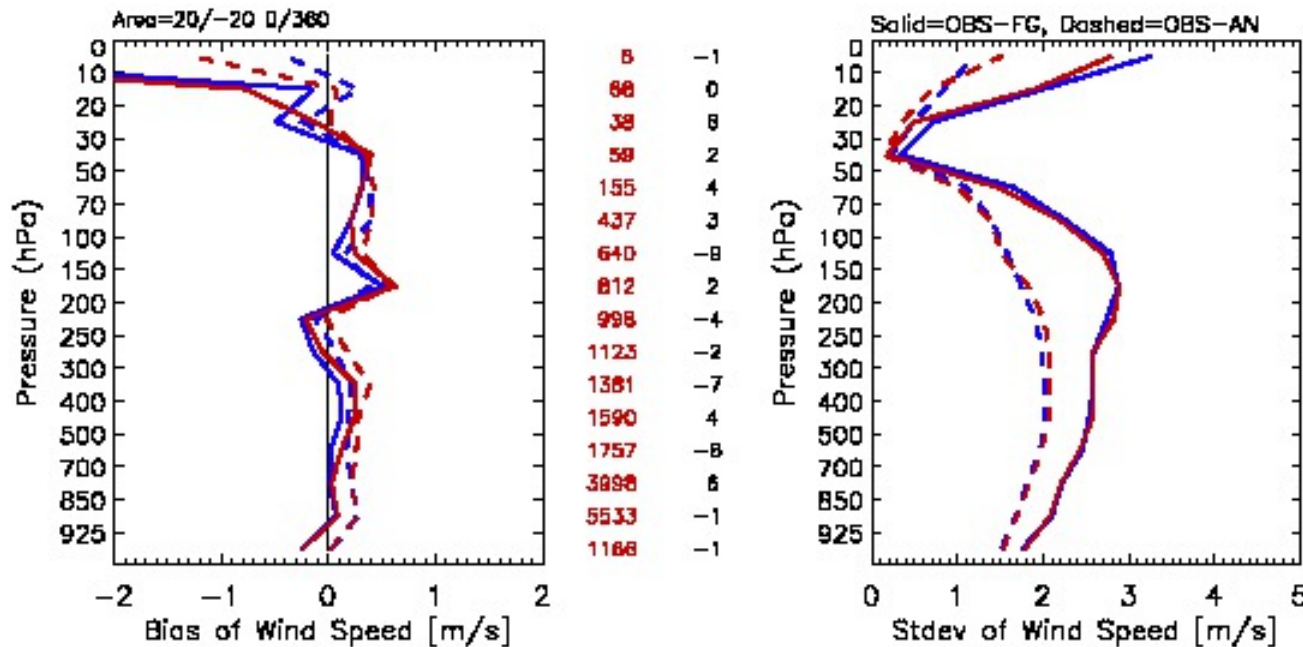
Verification  
against  
own analysis



# IODC exp : FY-2E replacing MET-7

## Statistics for PILOT wind observations

### OBS – FG / OBS – AN for PILOT winds



Area: Tropics

MET-7 (Cntl)  
FY-2E

Preliminary results:

- MET-7 AMVs have best quality according to monitoring statistics
- No IODC Meteosat AMVs lead to degraded analysis and forecast quality
- Use of Chinese FY-2E AMVs is currently no adequate substitute  
(data quality, no VIS winds, no WVclear-WVcloudy distinction)



- METOP-B and MSG-3 (Met-10) AMVs show very good quality in our monitoring
  - operationell since beginning of May 2013
- CCC height assignment method improve the number and quality of AMVs in the middle and upper troposphere. After a revision of the method also the lower level AMVs are comparable to the old method
- Revised obs. Error and FG check leads to positive impact in the tropics and SH (smaller impact on NH and EU). Impact larger in lower troposphere.
- MISR winds over sea a promising new data source.
  - Still problems over Land (Sahara, Greenland, Antartica)
  - QI currently a relatively weak indicator of data quality
  - Positive impact in both hemispheres larger in winter
- IOCD experiments:
  - MET-7 AMVs have best quality according to monitoring statistics
  - No IOCD Meteosat AMVs lead to degraded analysis and forecast quality
  - Use of Chinese FY-2E AMVs is currently no adequate substitute (data quality, no VIS winds, no WVclear-WVcloudy distinction)

