Notes from the final discussion of the OSI SAF Workshop

Amsterdam, 27 September 2007

H. Roquet

1- Fluxes products :

P. Le Borgne (M-F/CMS) presented the plans for the upgrade of the processing chain for geostationary satellites (MSG, GOES-East) at CMS in 2009. The new products will be hourly products on a regular grid at 0.1° resolution. There is a requirement from the GHRSST users that the timing of the hourly fluxes products is the same as the timing of the hourly geostationary products (the current 3-hourly products are shifted). Another possibility would be to produce them at every round UTC hour (00, 01, 02…… 23 UTC).

2- SST products :

The plans for the upgrade of the processing chain for geostationary satellites at CMS are to improve time and horizontal resolution (hourly, 0.05°) of current SST products. The requirements from the GHRSST users are for products at the maximum resolution in satellite projection. However, products on a regular grid are preferred by some users. If the OSI SAF produces geostationary SSTs in satellite projection, these users could be served by the NAIAD system developed and implemented at IFREMER, which offers a re-mapping capability.

The GHRSST users require an improved coverage of the MSG-derived SST products over the Indian Ocean.

J. De Vries (KNMI) asked for improved SST products, in particular in terms of bias correction and diurnal warming effects. P. Le Borgne answered that these problems will be dealt with in the framework of the GMES MyOcean project.

3- Sea Ice products :

L.-A. Breivik (Met.no) mentioned some new requirements related to sea ice products (ex : lake ice). He explained also that the real utility of sea ice type products is questionable. For NWP applications, sea ice type products should be advantageously replaced by sea ice emissivity products, which are under development in the framework of the CDOP. He reported also that the OSI SAF is part of the International Ice Charting Working Group, which is an important source for new users requirements. Other international users groups could be also considered.

4- Wind products :

A. Stoffelen (KNMI) presented a list of questions related the OSI SAF wind products, asking for users feedback. As far as the archiving of ASCAT wind products is concerned, the users present in the room supported the PODAAC request for a unique NetCDF format. The detailed definition of this format should be established between EUMETSAT and NOAA (since METOP is part of the Initial Joint Polar System), with the necessary interactions with PODAAC and the climate community. These discussions could take place in the Ocean Wind Vector Science Team. This format should also include information about the version of the L1 and L2 processors.

The participants supported also the need for the ASCAT/ERS continuity and consistency, in particular in terms of sigma0 calibration. R. Ezraty (IFREMER) recalled that the ERS-1 C-band scatterometer was the only one to be fully calibrated in absolute.

A. Stoffelen explained that the content (sigma0's + wind) and the processing (including the geophysical transfer function) of the high resolution wind products was the same as for the lower resolution products. The participants asked for an early access to the high resolution (and later coastal) wind products on a demonstration basis as soon as possible.

The participants expressed that there was no need for a L2 wind stress products, since they prefer to derive wind stress themselves from wind, using their own drag coefficient.