



High resolution wind fields of Tropical Cyclones from combined satellite sensors

Living Planet Symposium
23-27 May 2022

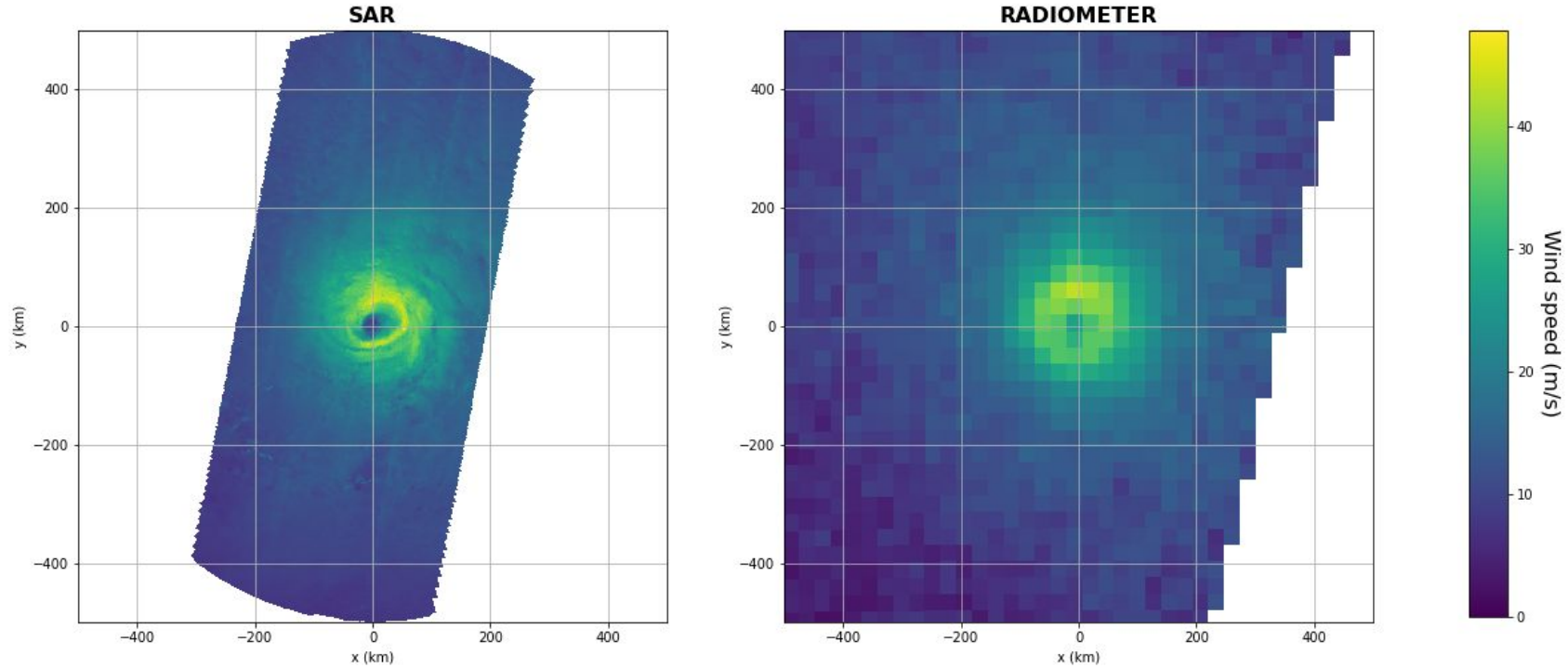
Arthur Avenas^{1,2}, Alexis Mouche¹, Pierre Tandeo², Bertrand Chapron¹,
John Knaff³, Ronan Fablet²

¹Ifremer, *Laboratoire d'Océanographie Physique et Spatiale, France*

²IMT Atlantique, *Laboratoire des Sciences et Technologies de l'Information, de la Communication et de la Connaissance, France*

³NOAA, *NESDIS Regional and Mesoscale Meteorology Branch, Fort Collins, Colorado*

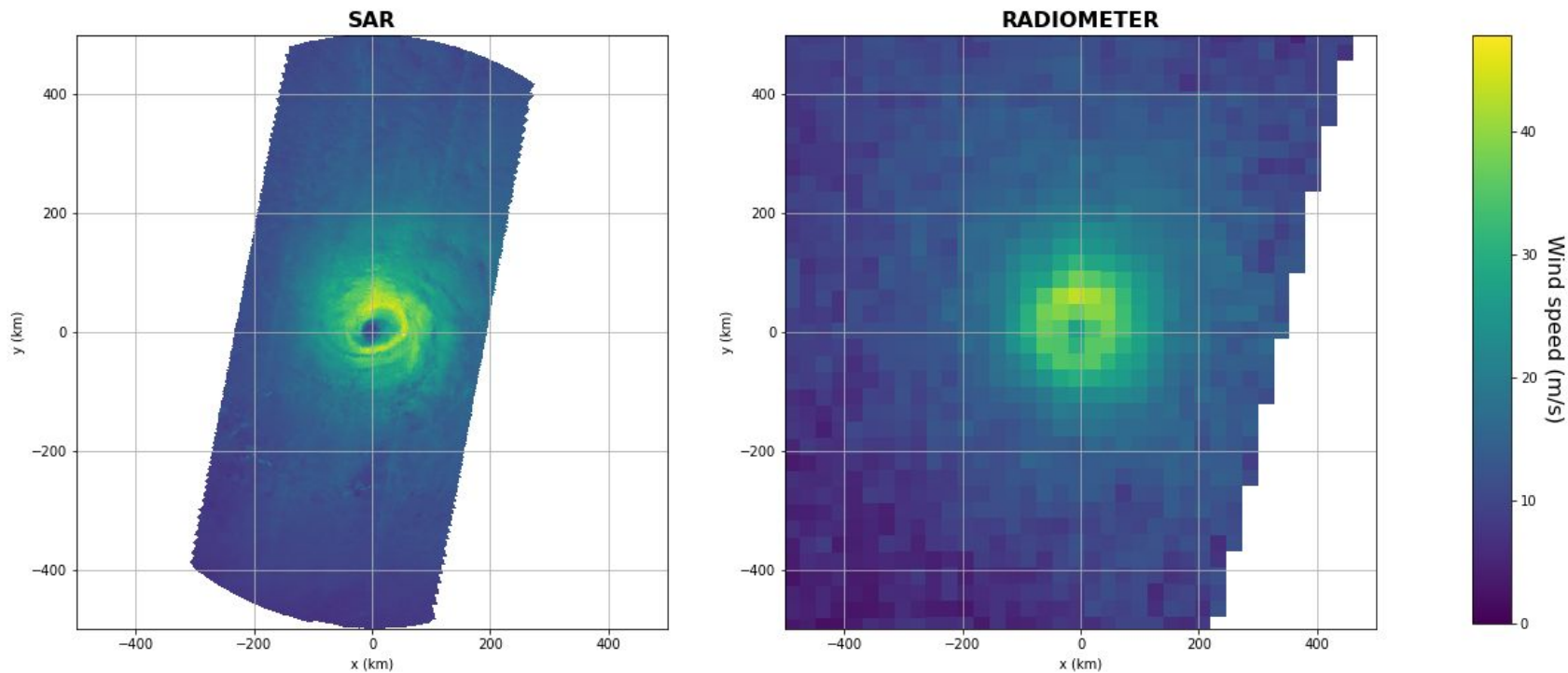
arthur.avenas@ifremer.fr



TC Larry (Category 3, 2021, North Atlantic) on 4th September 2021, observed by Sentinel-1B C-SAR* (8:51 UTC, left) and by SMAP L-Radiometer** (09:10 UTC, right). Wind fields were rearranged at 1km and 25km resolution respectively.

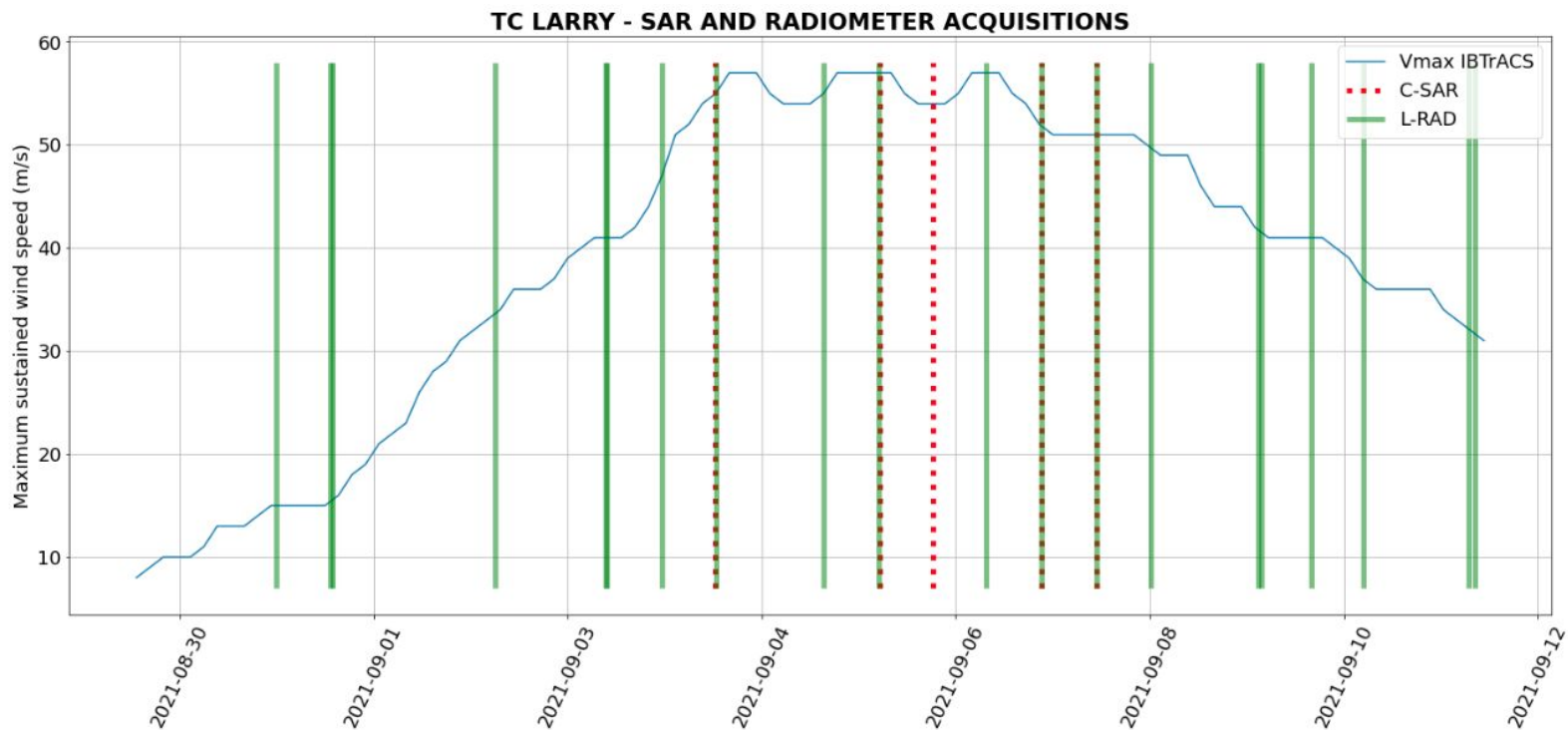
* Mouche, A., Chapron, B., Knaff, J., Zhao, Y., Zhang, B., & Combot, C. (2019). Copolarized and cross-polarized SAR measurements for high-resolution description of major hurricane wind structures: Application to Irma category 5 hurricane. *Journal of Geophysical Research: Oceans*, 124(6), 3905-3922.

** Meissner, T., Ricciardulli, L., & Wentz, F. J. (2017). Capability of the SMAP mission to measure ocean surface winds in storms. *Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society*, 98(8), 1660-1677.



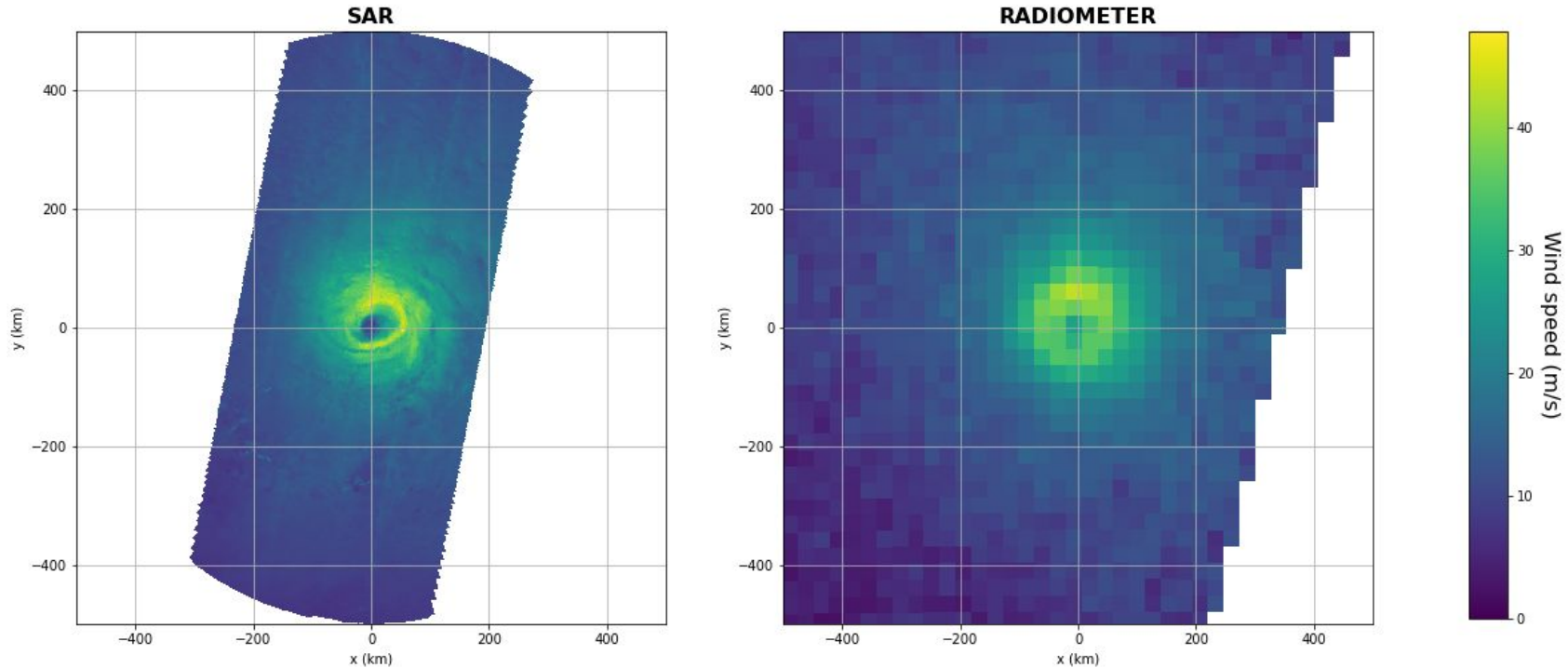
TC Larry (Category 3, 2021, North Atlantic) on 4th September 2021, observed by Sentinel-1B C-SAR (8:51 UTC, left) and by SMAP L-Radiometer (09:10 UTC, right). Wind fields were rearranged at 1km and 25km resolution respectively.

- ➔ SAR (Synthetic Aperture Radar) reveals a lot of surface small-scale features compared to radiometer
- ➔ Radiometer ⇒ estimates of TC intensity and outer-core wind speed gradients



Maximum sustained winds (m/s) of TC Larry (2021, North Atlantic) in the IBTrACS database. Vertical lines represent C-SAR (Sentinel-1A&B, Radarsat-2) and L-radiometer (SMAP, SMOS) acquisitions.

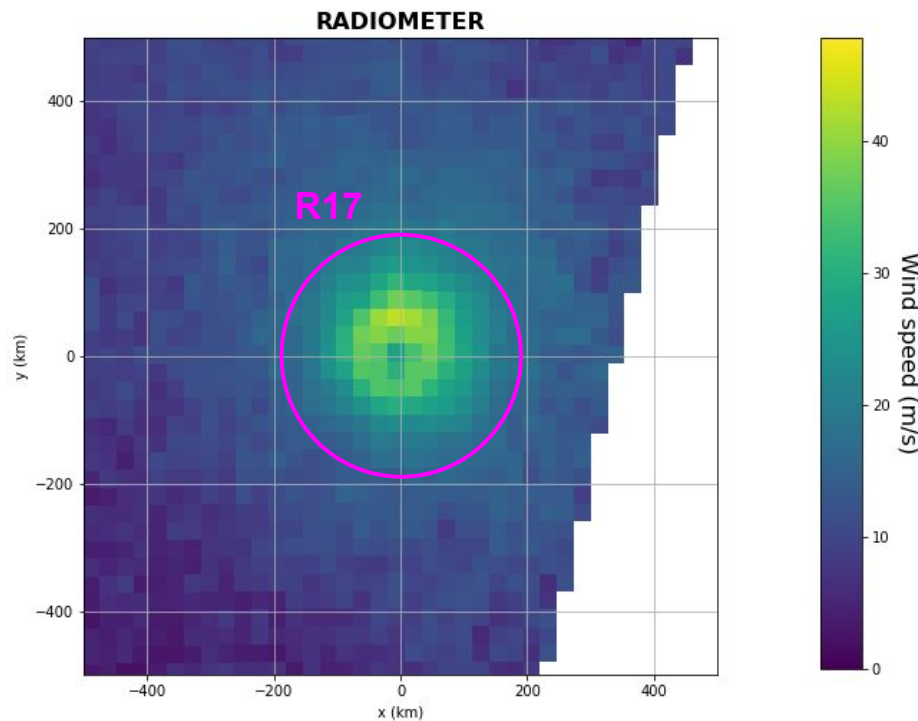
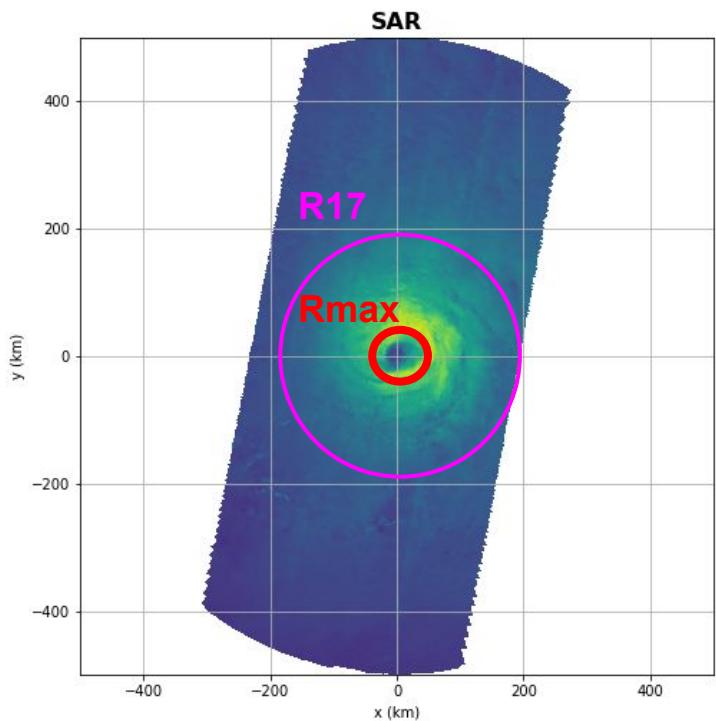
➔ **Many more radiometer data than SAR data in general**



TC Larry (Category 3, 2021, North Atlantic) on 4th September 2021, observed by Sentinel-1B C-SAR (8:51 UTC, left) and by SMAP L-Radiometer (09:10 UTC, right). Wind fields were rearranged at 1km and 25km resolution respectively.

- High spatial resolution;
- Low temporal resolution.
- Low spatial resolution;
- High temporal resolution.

→ We seek to combine SAR with radiometer/scatterometer to get a high spatial resolution at a high temporal resolution



TC Larry (Category 3, 2021, North Atlantic) on 4th September 2021, observed by Sentinel-1B C-SAR (8:51 UTC, left) and by SMAP L-Radiometer (09:10 UTC, right). Wind fields were rearranged at 1km and 25km resolution respectively.

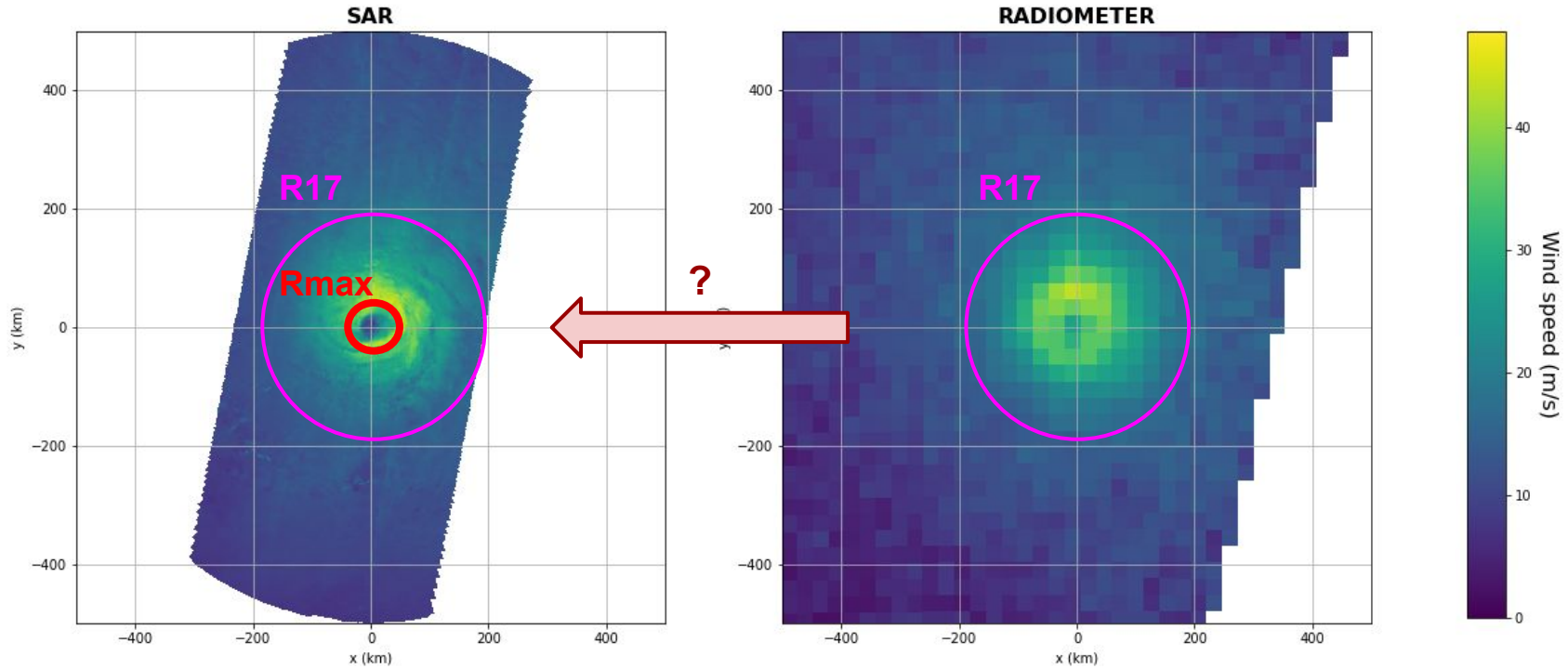
→ **Best-Tracks = Post-season reanalyses: Vmax is well known**

→ **SAR ⇒ Rmax*, R17**

Radiometer ⇒ R17**

* Combot, C., Mouche, A., Knaff, J., Zhao, Y., Zhao, Y., Vinour, L., ... & Chapron, B. (2020). Extensive high-resolution synthetic aperture radar (SAR) data analysis of tropical cyclones: Comparisons with SFMR flights and best track. *Monthly Weather Review*, 148(11), 4545-4563.

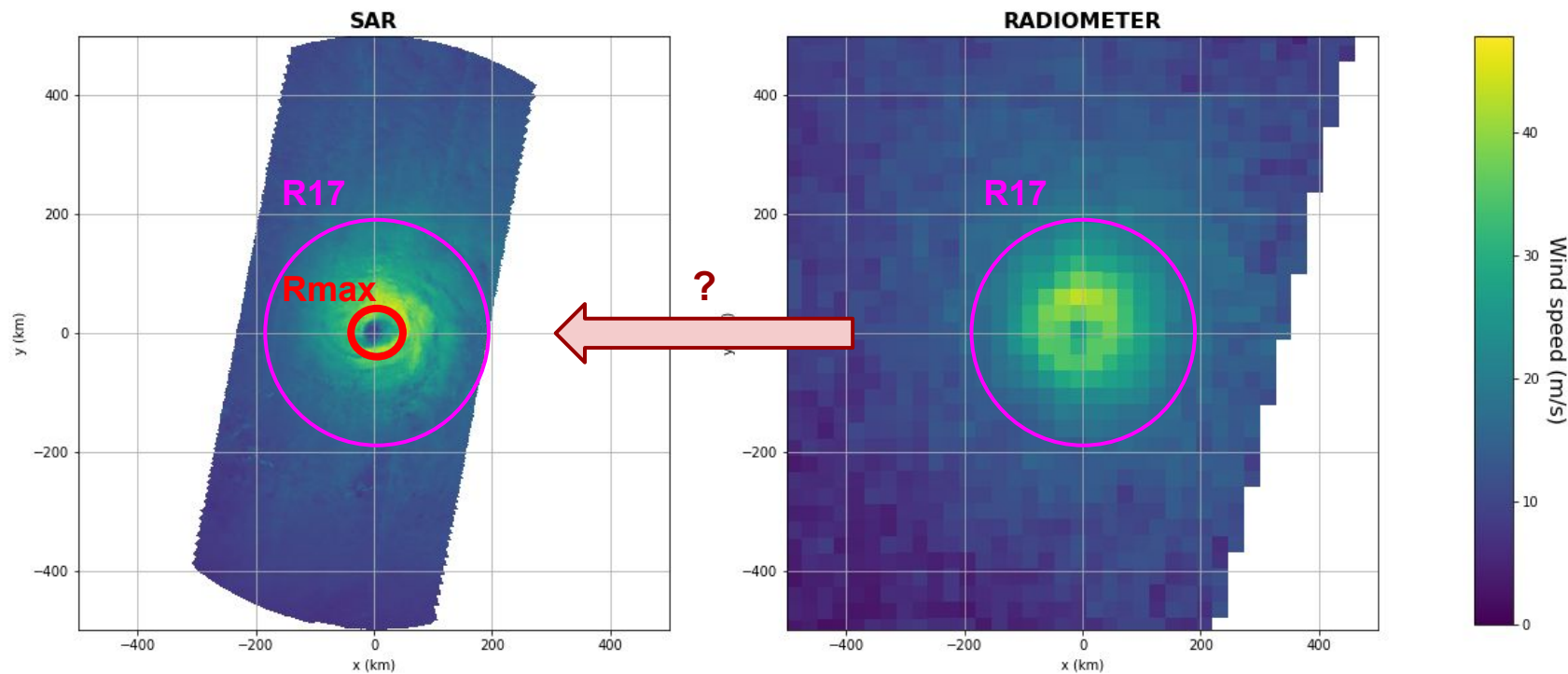
** Reul, N., Chapron, B., Zabolotskikh, E., Donlon, C., Mouche, A., Tenerelli, J., ... & Kudryavtsev, V. (2017). A new generation of tropical cyclone size measurements from space. *Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society*, 98(11), 2367-2385.



TC Larry (Category 3, 2021, North Atlantic) on 4th September 2021, observed by Sentinel-1B C-SAR (8:51 UTC, left) and by SMAP L-Radiometer (09:10 UTC, right). Wind fields were rearranged at 1km and 25km resolution respectively.

→ Can we find a relationship between radiometer and SAR?

$$R_{max} \Leftarrow (V_{max}, R17)?$$

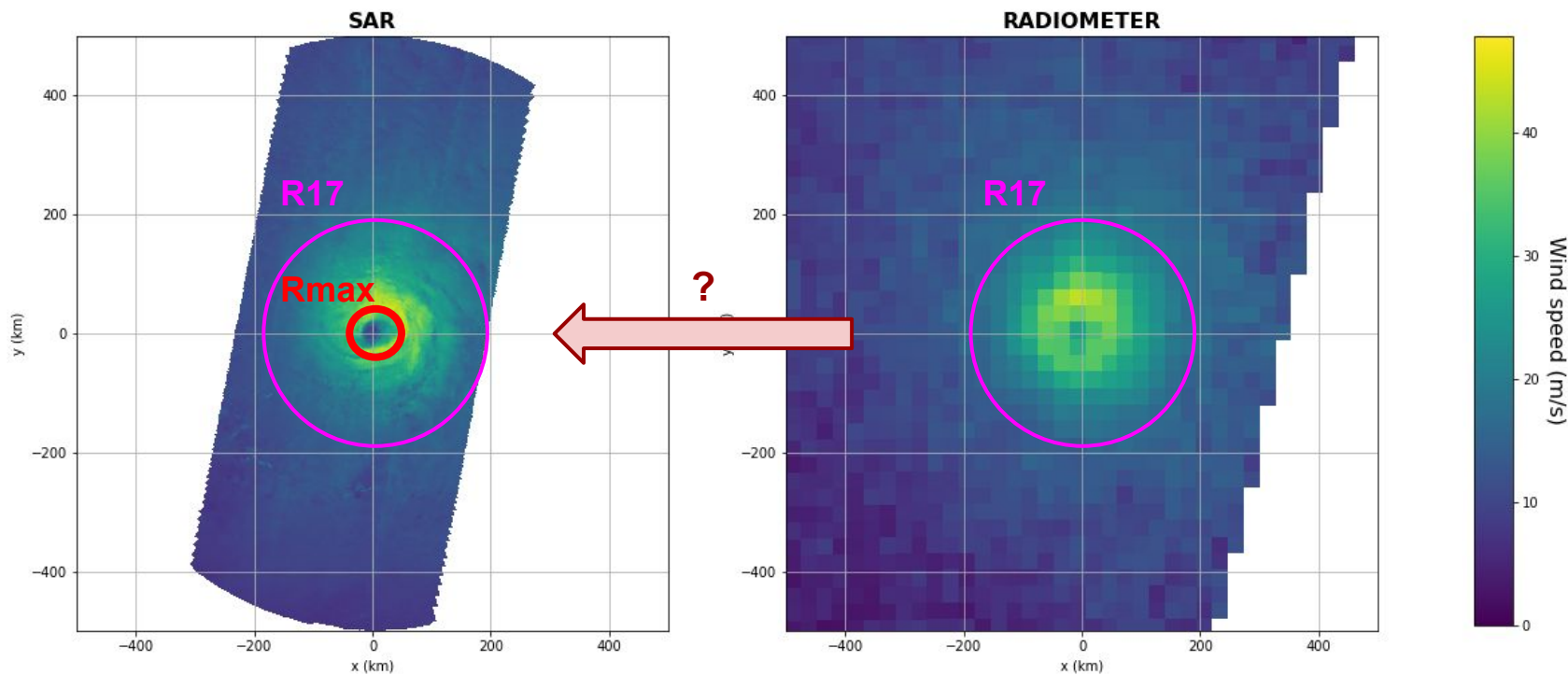


TC Larry (Category 3, 2021, North Atlantic) on 4th September 2021, observed by Sentinel-1B C-SAR (8:51 UTC, left) and by SMAP L-Radiometer (09:10 UTC, right). Wind fields were rearranged at 1km and 25km resolution respectively.

→ **State of the art: Chavas and Knaff (2022) model***

$$R_{max} \leftarrow (V_{max}, R_{17}, f)$$

* Chavas, D. R., & Knaff, J. A. (2022). A simple model for predicting the tropical cyclone radius of maximum wind from outer size. *Weather and Forecasting*.

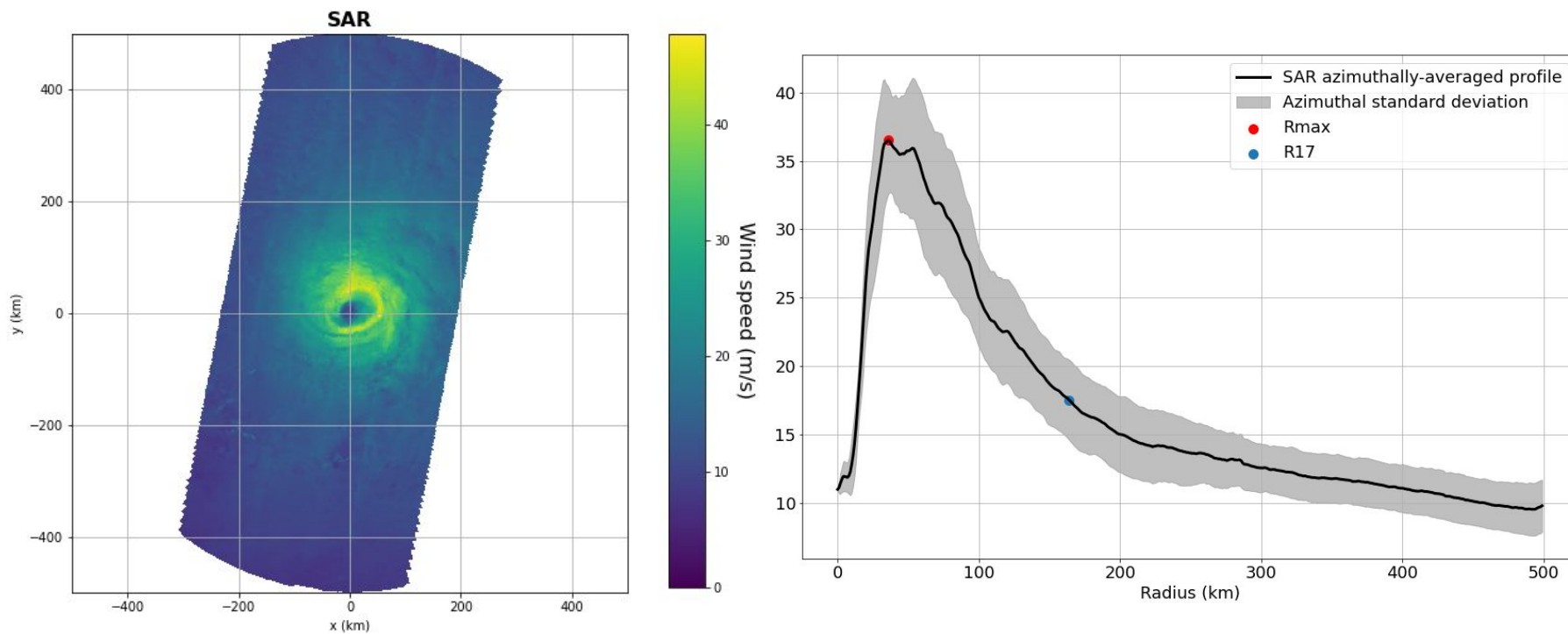


TC Larry (Category 3, 2021, North Atlantic) on 4th September 2021, observed by Sentinel-1B C-SAR (8:51 UTC, left) and by SMAP L-Radiometer (09:10 UTC, right). Wind fields were rearranged at 1km and 25km resolution respectively.

→ **State of the art: Chavas and Knaff (2022) model**

$$R_{max} \leftarrow (V_{max}, R_{17}, f)$$

- Consistent with SAR data?
- If not, can we adjust the relation?



TC Larry SAR-derived wind field (left) and azimuthally-averaged profile (right), with associated Rmax and R17.

- ➔ From observational to parametric space
- ➔ Vmax, Rmax and R17 are computed using the SAR 1D profile*

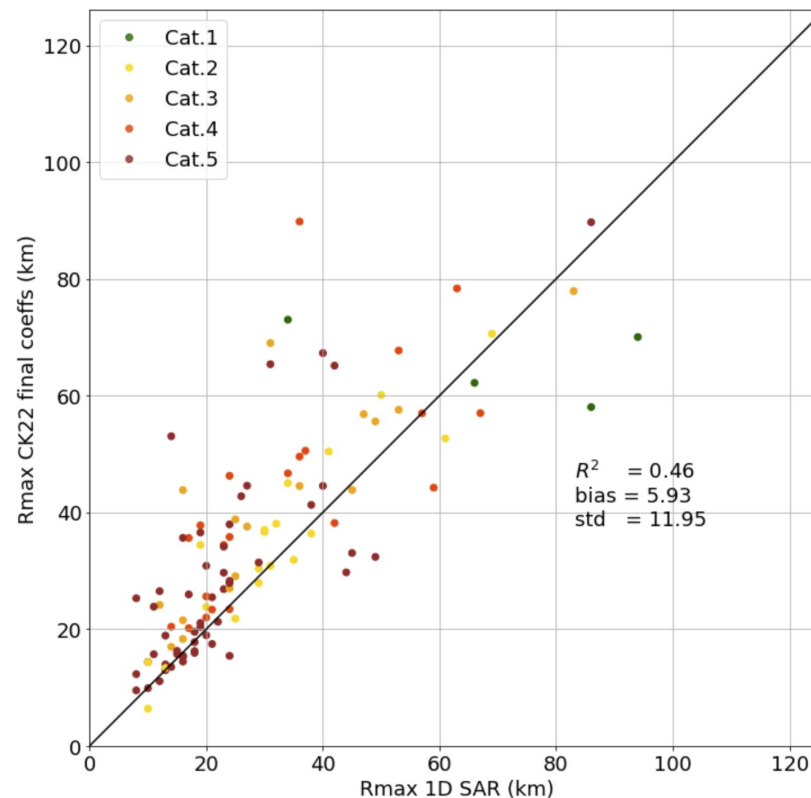
* Vmax, Rmax, and R17 estimates on SAR have been checked against best track data (not shown), and have also been assessed by a previous study (though with a 2D definition): Combet, C., Mouche, A., Knaff, J., Zhao, Y., Zhao, Y., Vinour, L., ... & Chapron, B. (2020). Extensive high-resolution synthetic aperture radar (SAR) data analysis of tropical cyclones: Comparisons with SFMR flights and best track. *Monthly Weather Review*, 148(11), 4545-4563.

State of the art: Chavas and Knaff (2022)*.

Statistical method to determine Rmax:

(Vmax, R17, f) → Rmax

NB: The SAR dataset consists of N = 112 samples.



*Chavas, D. R., & Knaff, J. A. (2022). A simple model for predicting the tropical cyclone radius of maximum wind from outer size. *Weather and Forecasting*.

Comparison between Rmax computed on SAR 1D profile (x-axis) and Rmax computed with Chavas and Knaff 2022 model using Vmax and R17 from SAR 1D profile (y-axis). The SAR dataset contains 112 samples, filtered by category (>= 1), latitude (<= 30°), basin (North Atlantic) and distance to coast (>= R17).

State of the art: Chavas and Knaff (2022)*.

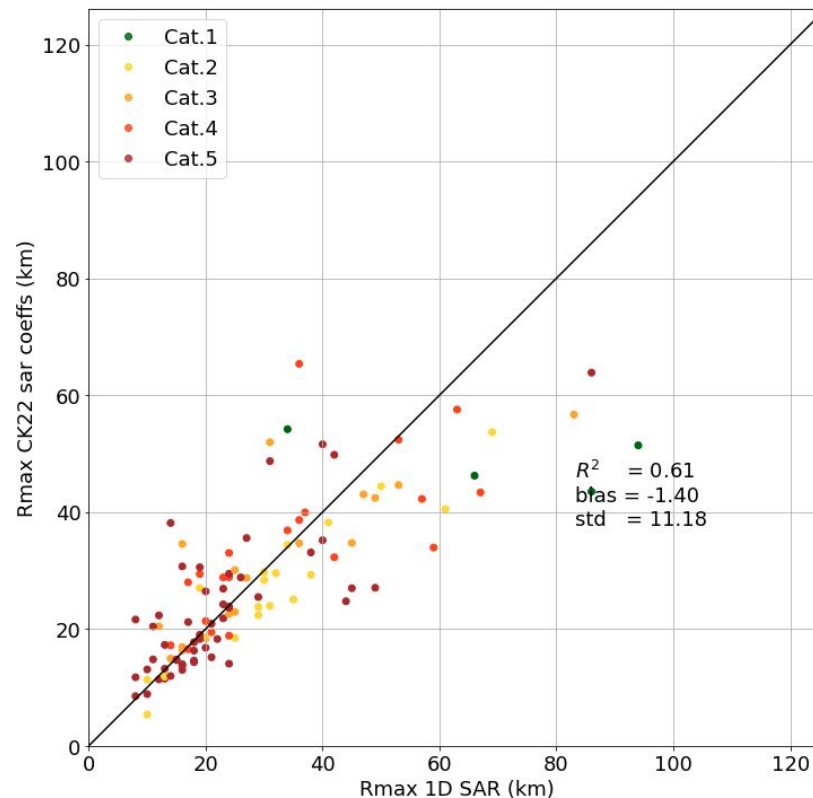
Statistical method to determine Rmax:

(Vmax, R17, f) → Rmax

Coefficients of the Chavas and Knaff 2022 model have been fitted using the SAR dataset (N = 112 samples).

→ Improvement of the model using the SAR dataset

*Chavas, D. R., & Knaff, J. A. (2022). A simple model for predicting the tropical cyclone radius of maximum wind from outer size. *Weather and Forecasting*.



Comparison between Rmax computed on SAR 1D profile (x-axis) and Rmax computed with Chavas and Knaff 2022 model using Vmax and R17 from SAR 1D profile (y-axis). The SAR dataset contains 112 samples, filtered by category (>= 1), latitude (<= 30°), basin (North Atlantic) and distance to coast (>= R17).

State of the art: Chavas and Knaff (2022)*.
Statistical method to determine Rmax:

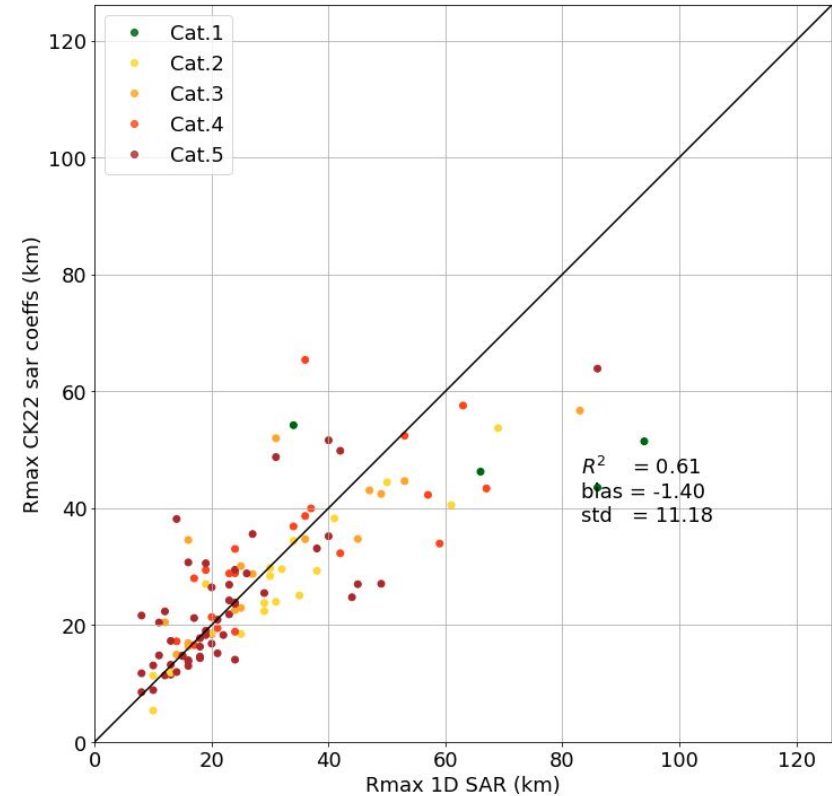
$$(V_{max}, R17, f) \longrightarrow R_{max}$$

Can we find an additional parameter that controls the spread?
After many tests (size, intensification rate, R17 asymmetry, storm age, many adimensional parameters...) \Rightarrow **shape of radial profile** seems to play an important role!

\rightarrow We investigated $\frac{Ck}{Cd}$

- \nearrow Exchange coefficient of enthalpy
- \searrow Exchange coefficient of momentum

*Chavas, D. R., & Knaff, J. A. (2022). A simple model for predicting the tropical cyclone radius of maximum wind from outer size. *Weather and Forecasting*.



Comparison between R_{max} computed on SAR 1D profile (x-axis) and R_{max} computed with Chavas and Knaff 2022 model using V_{max} and R17 from SAR 1D profile (y-axis). The SAR dataset contains 112 samples, filtered by category ($>= 1$), latitude ($\leq 30^\circ$), basin (North Atlantic) and distance to coast ($\geq R17$).

Fitting $\frac{Ck}{Cd}$ on SAR data:

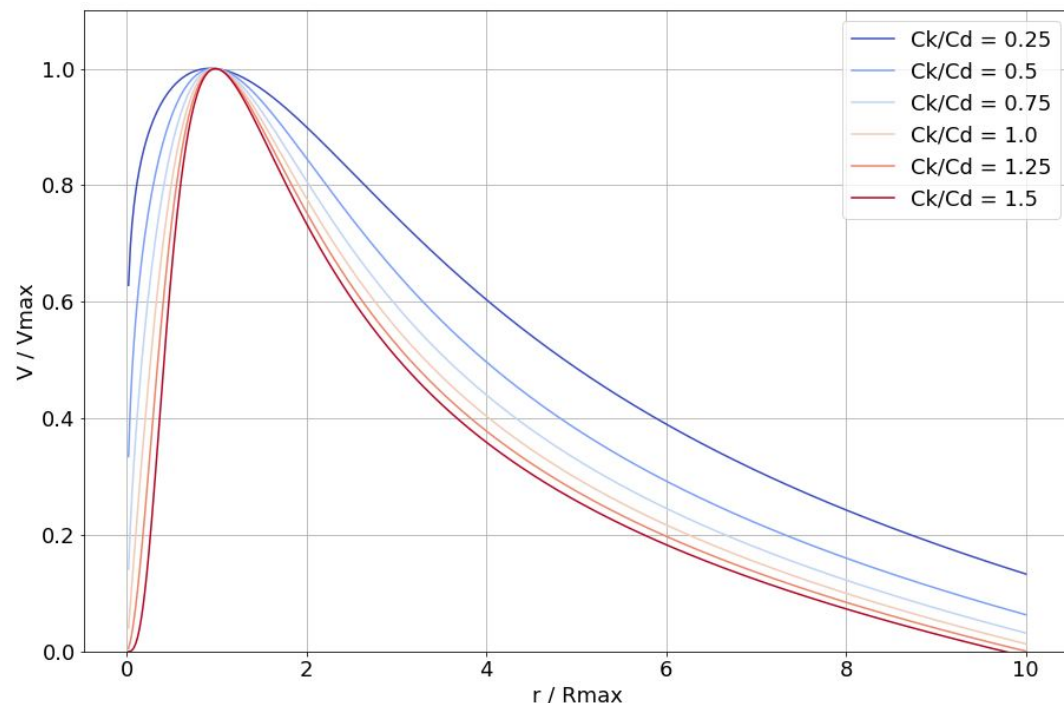
based on Emanuel and Rotunno (2011)*:

$$\frac{R_{max} V_{max}}{17.5 R_{17.5} + \frac{1}{2} f R_{17.5}^2} = \phi\left(\frac{Ck}{Cd}\right)$$

where $\phi(x) = \left(\frac{1}{2}x\right)^{\frac{1}{2-x}}$

and if $V_{max} \gg f R_{max}$ and $R_{17.5} \gg R_{max}$

→ For each SAR image, we can fit one value of $\frac{Ck}{Cd}$



Parametric wind speed profile as defined in Emanuel and Rotunno (2011) and its sensitivity to the Ck/Cd parameter. Radius and wind speed are normalized.

* Emanuel, K., & Rotunno, R. (2011). Self-stratification of tropical cyclone outflow. Part I: Implications for storm structure. *Journal of the Atmospheric Sciences*, 68(10), 2236-2249.

Fitting $\frac{Ck}{Cd}$ on SAR data:

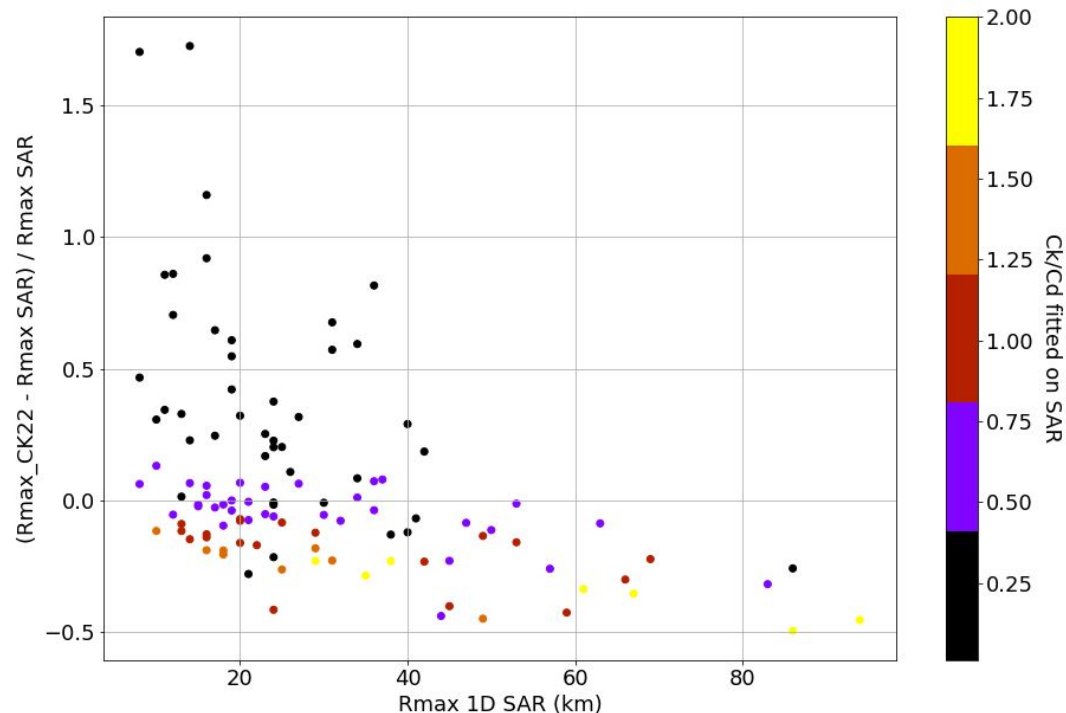
based on Emmanuel and Rotunno (2011)*:

$$\frac{R_{max} V_{max}}{17.5 R_{17.5} + \frac{1}{2} f R_{17.5}^2} = \phi\left(\frac{Ck}{Cd}\right)$$

where $\phi(x) = \left(\frac{1}{2}x\right)^{\frac{1}{2-x}}$

and if $V_{max} \gg f R_{max}$ and $R_{17.5} \gg R_{max}$

- Errors are stratified by $\frac{Ck}{Cd}$
- Small errors for $\frac{Ck}{Cd} \sim 0.5-0.75$

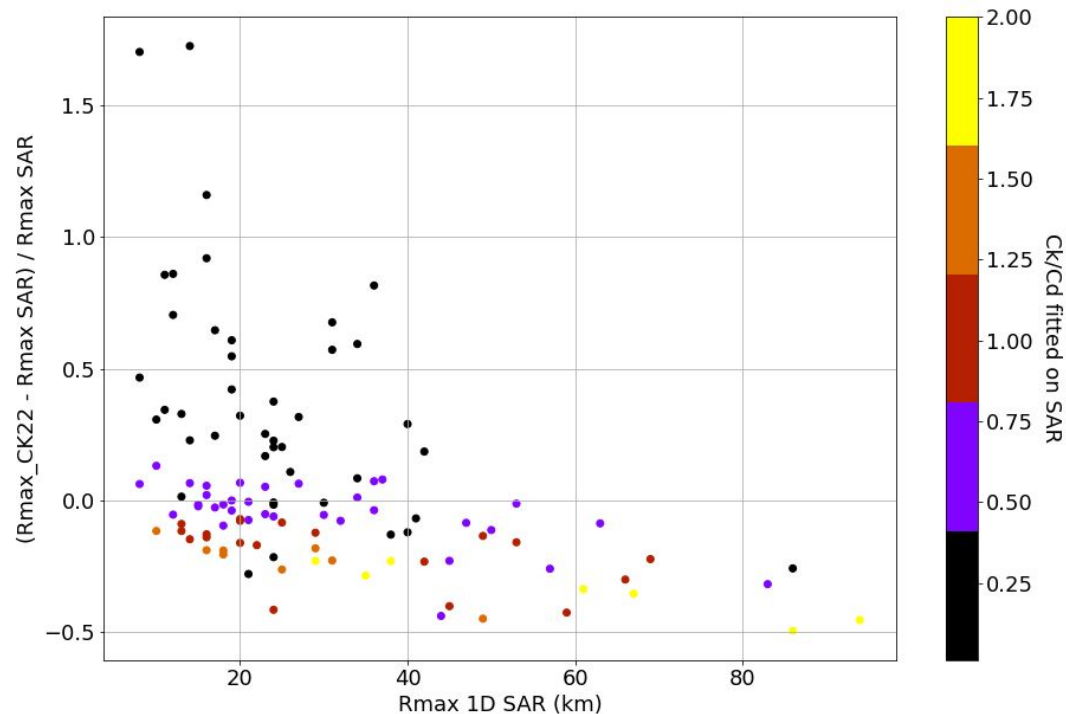


Error of Chavas and Knaff 2022 R_{max} model normalized by SAR R_{max} , as a function of SAR R_{max} . Each point represents one of the 112 SAR samples.

* Emanuel, K., & Rotunno, R. (2011). Self-stratification of tropical cyclone outflow. Part I: Implications for storm structure. *Journal of the Atmospheric Sciences*, 68(10), 2236-2249.

→ $\frac{Ck}{Cd}$ acts as a hidden parameter that constrains how R_{max} is linked to (V_{max}, R_{17}, f) .

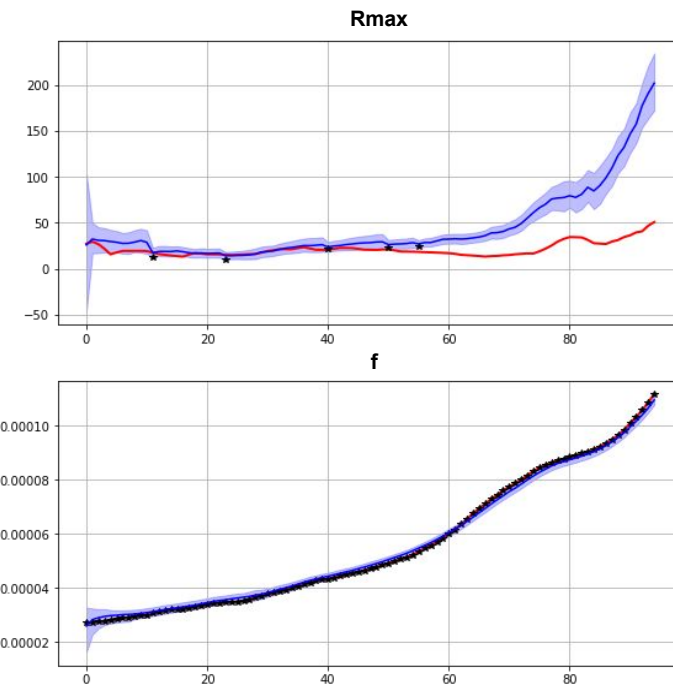
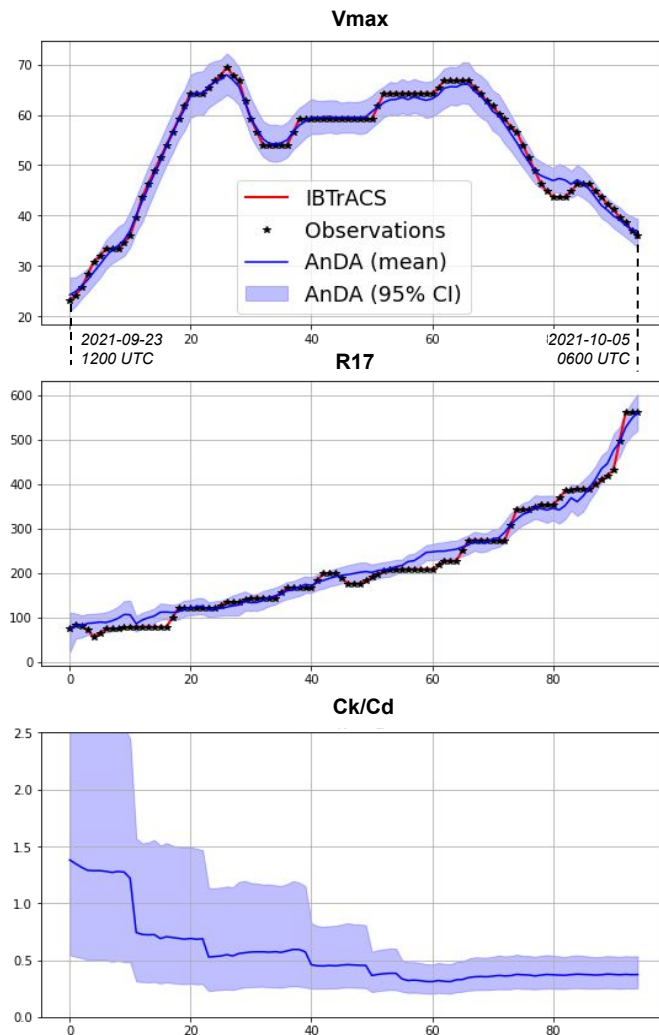
→ Can we use this prior knowledge to more accurately reconstruct R_{max} time series?



Error of Chavas and Knaff 2022 R_{max} model normalized by SAR R_{max} , as a function of SAR R_{max} . Each point represents one of the 112 SAR samples.

SAM (2021, North Atlantic): Reconstruction of “realistic” Rmax time series

- $\frac{Ck}{Cd}$ is used in an augmented state to constrain Rmax reconstruction
- Kalman-like framework allows to estimate parameters uncertainties



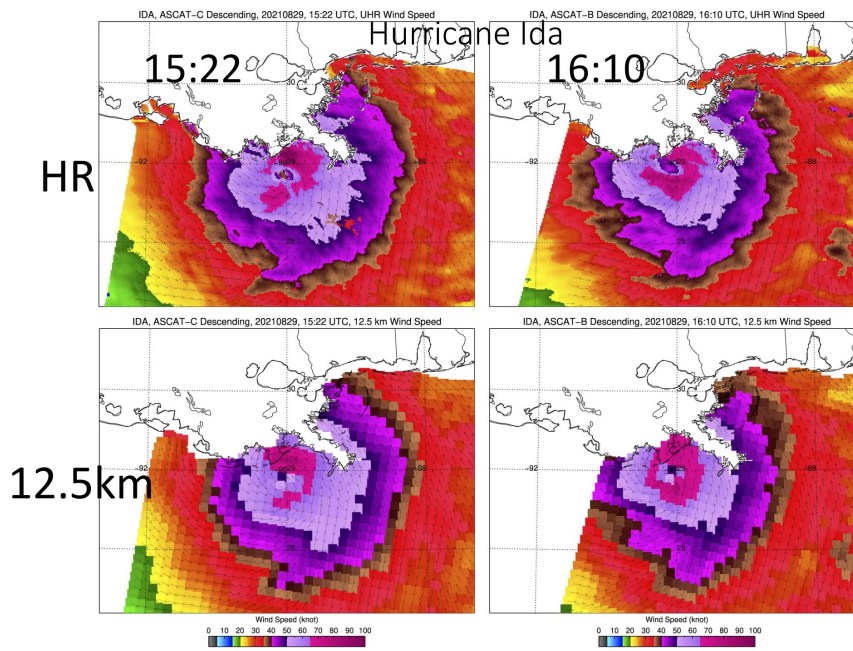
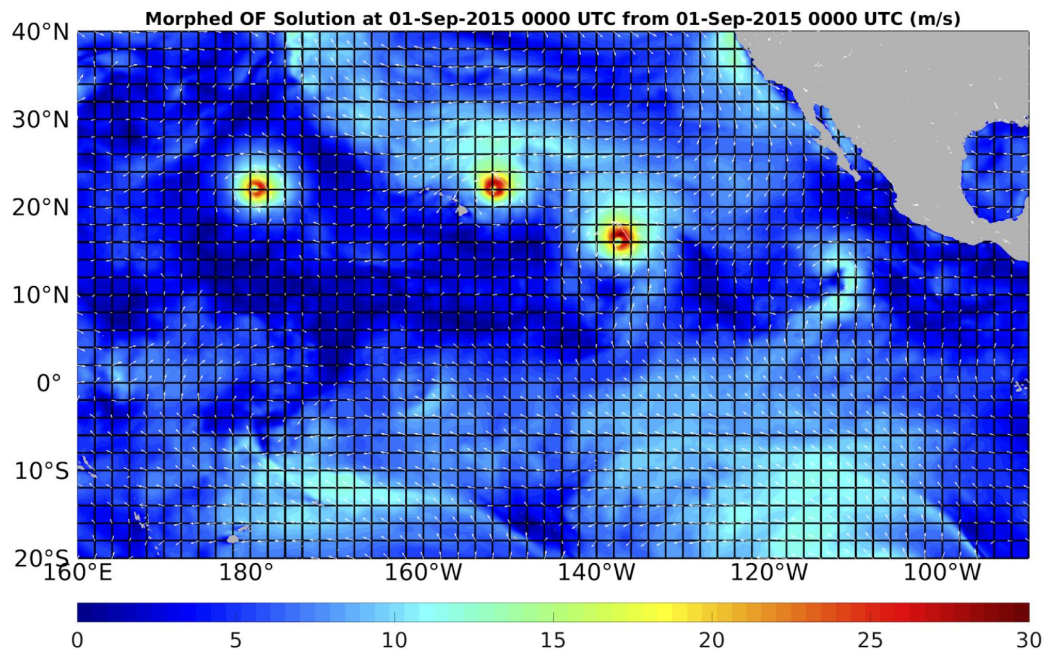
Time series of SAM (2021, North Atlantic) issued from the IBTrACS database (red), from September 23rd 12:00 UTC to October 5th 06:00 UTC (= starting time of extratropical phase). Reconstruction of these time series using an Analog Data Assimilation method (AnDA, blue) with a catalog of 110 TCs. Black stars represent assimilated observations. Rmax time series correspond to Chavas and Knaff 2022 model applied to IBTrACS (red) and observations (black stars) correspond to SAR-derived Rmax, which have been assimilated. Ck/Cd is modeled by a random walk and used to constrain Rmax reconstruction.

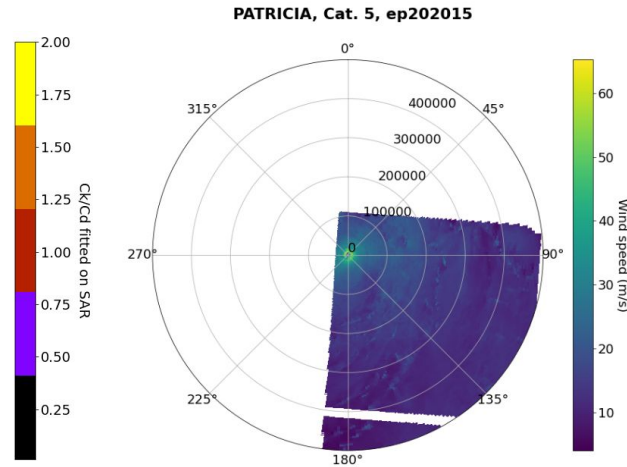
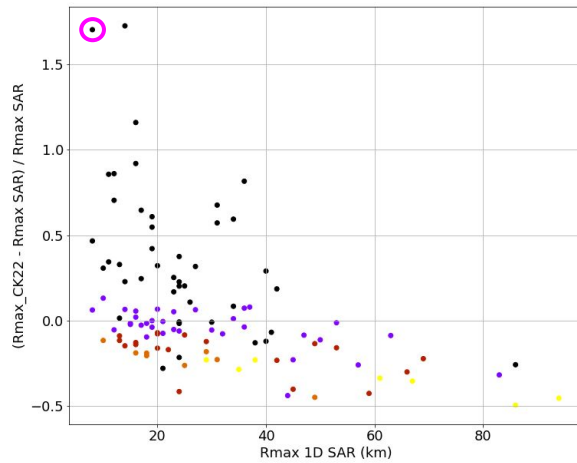
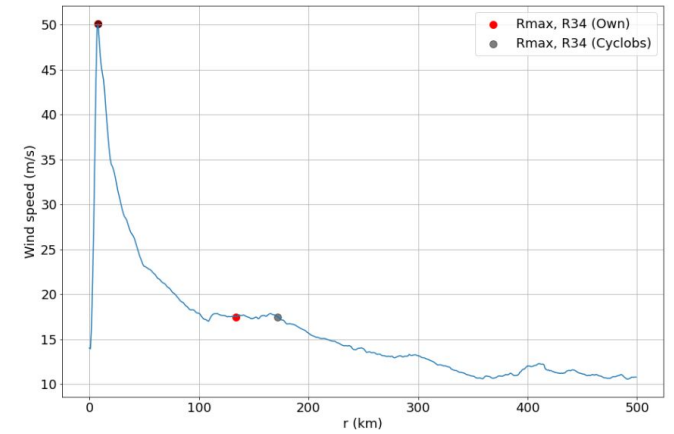
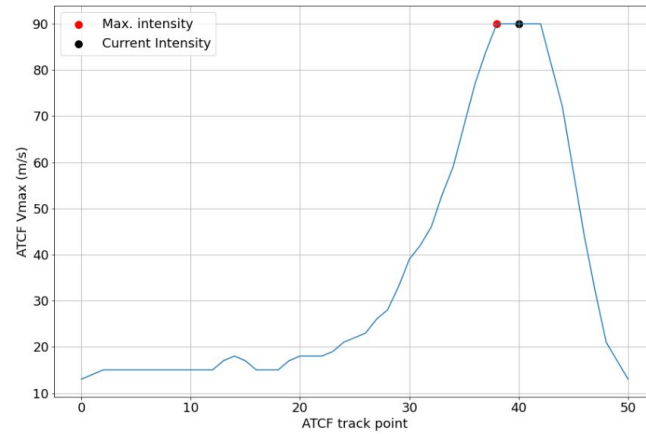
Downscaling the wind structure

- 1 The reconstruction of a TC HR wind structure requires a **high quality estimate of Rmax**, as well as other features: asymmetry, wind directions, spiral rainbands...
- 2 To what extent do such features **constrain Rmax values**?

Related studies

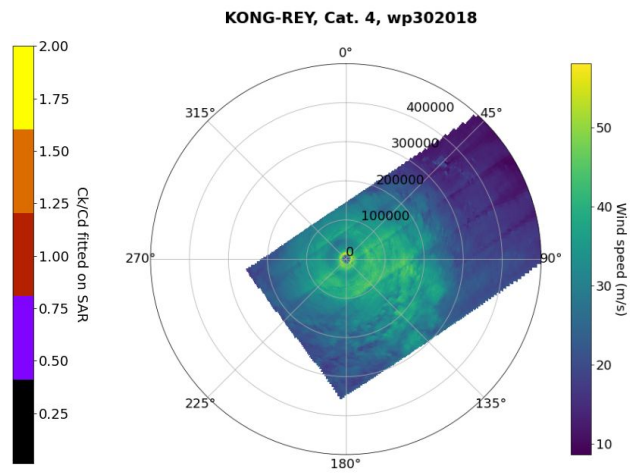
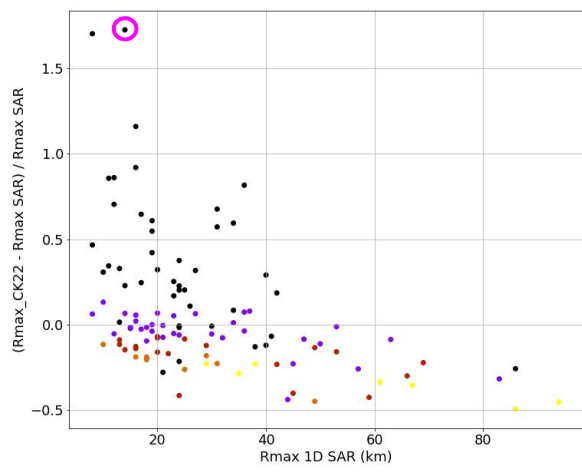
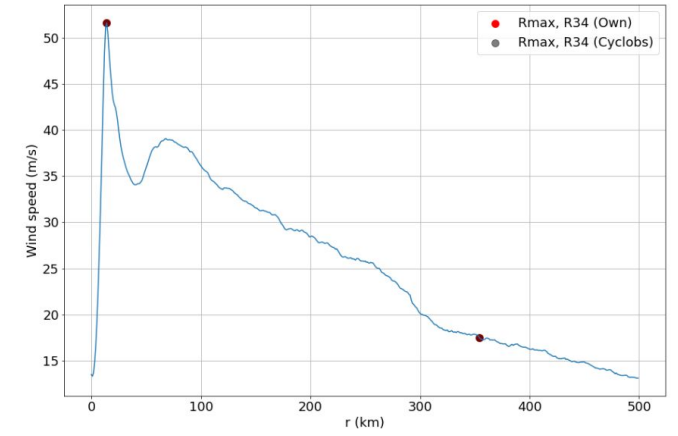
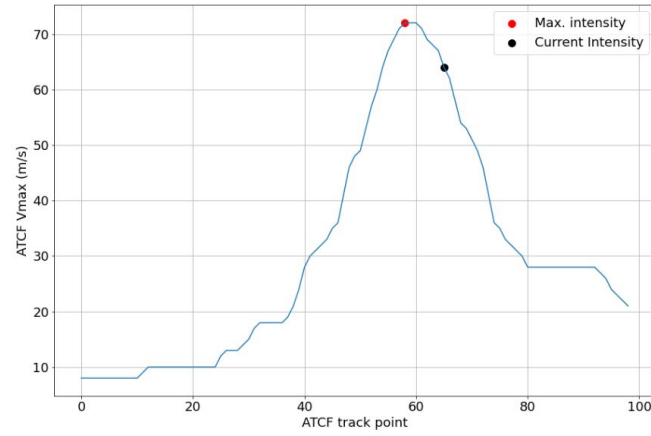
- 3 **Multi-mission blended wind fields** (ESA MAXSS project) ⇒ global and gridded product merging radiometer/scatterometer data, but at low spatial resolution (left, courtesy of Joe Tenerelli).
- 4 **High spatial resolution wind fields from scatterometer data** ⇒ detailed representation of the inner-core (right, courtesy of Seubson Soisuvann).





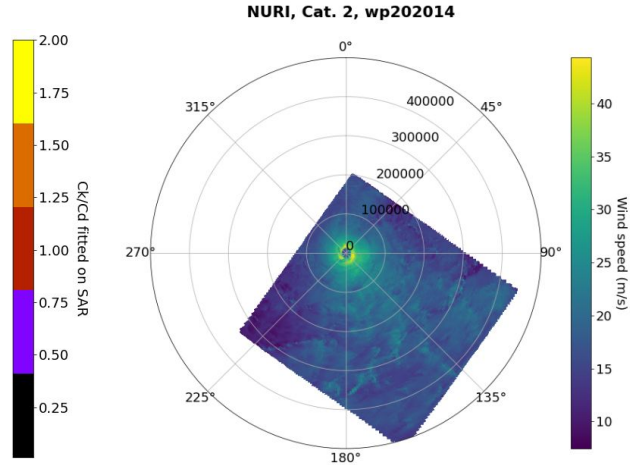
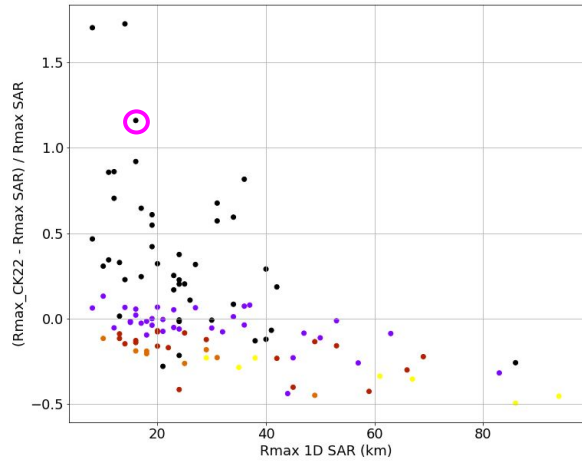
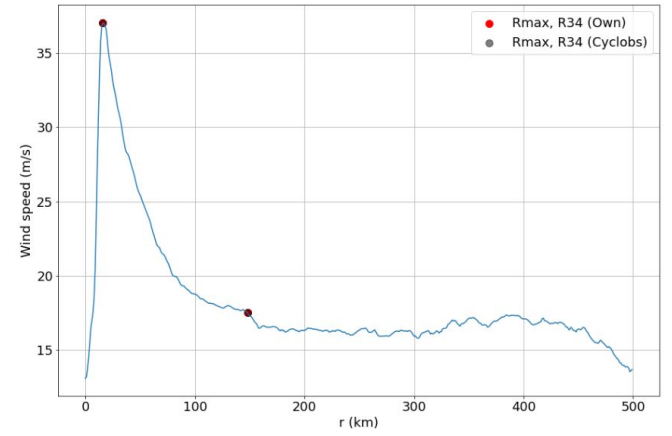
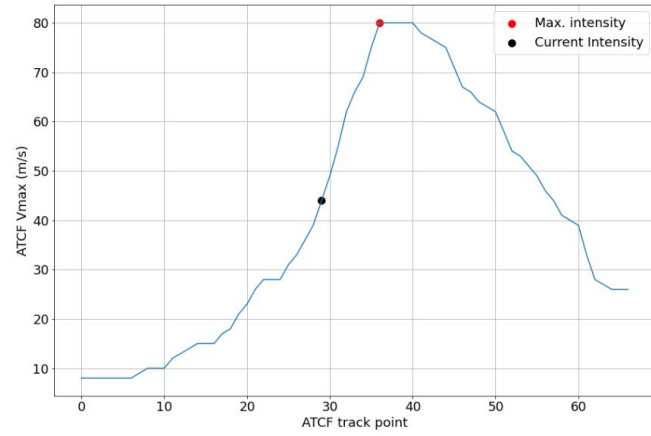
```

Rmax_1D = 8.0
Rmax_CK22 = 21.47
cyclone_speed = 4.67
lat_center = 17.27
distance_to_coast = 225189.55
forw_inten = -1.5
curr_inten = 0.0
back_inten = 1.08
life_cyc_idx = 0.8
life_vmax_idx = 1.05
Vmax_STD = 6.96
V17_STD = 2.61
    
```



```

Rmax_1D = 14.0
Rmax_CK22 = 35.6
cyclone_speed = 4.57
lat_center = 19.82
distance_to_coast = 675469.47
forw_inten = -0.92
curr_inten = -0.83
back_inten = -0.58
life_cyc_idx = 0.66
life_vmax_idx = 1.12
Vmax_STD = 2.79
V17_STD = 2.86
    
```



```

Rmax_1D = 16.0
Rmax_CK22 = 33.77
cyclone_speed = 3.52
lat_center = 15.12
distance_to_coast = 839652.89
forw_inten = 1.83
curr_inten = 1.58
back_inten = 1.08
life_cyc_idx = 0.44
life_vmax_idx = 0.81
Vmax_STD = 3.85
V17_STD = 2.93
    
```