

Geophysical Research Abstracts,
Vol. 10, EGU2008-A-06273, 2008
SRef-ID: 1607-7962/gra/EGU2008-A-06273
EGU General Assembly 2008
© Author(s) 2008



Calibration and Validation of ASCAT Backscatter

H. Bonekamp, C. Anderson, J.J. Wilson, J. Figa

Met. Division EUMETSAT, am Kavalleriesand 31, 64295 Darmstadt, Germany
(hans.bonekamp@eumetsat.int)

The Advanced Scatterometer on Metop A is real aperture, vertical polarisation, C band radar whose primary objective is to allow the wind field at the ocean surface to be determined from the backscatter, that is the normalized radar cross section output. Data is provided at nominal resolutions of 25 and 50 km in two swaths, each 550 km wide on either side of the nadir track. A set of three transponders enable the ASCAT antenna gain patterns to be determined and an absolute calibration to be achieved. This presentation describes the results of the calibration and validation process, the accuracy levels achieved and the stability of the instrument.