



## **Extreme winds in the Nordic Seas**

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Events of extreme winds observed by the QuikSCAT remote sensing system are studied in the Nordic Seas. A large majority of extreme wind cases are associated with a reverse vertical windshear and northerly surface winds, while only a few cases of extreme winds occur in winds between south and west with a positive or little vertical windshear. In many of the extreme cases, cold air damming over the sea ice east of Greenland contributes to the extreme winds through deformation of extratropical cyclones. This is a preparatory study for the IPY THORPEX campaign of 2008.