

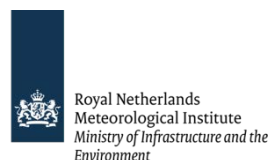


Document NWPSAF-KN-DS-003
Version 3.1.00
April 2017

AWDP Product Specification

Anton Verhoef, Jur Vogelzang, Jeroen Verspeek and Ad Stoffelen

KNMI, De Bilt, the Netherlands



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| NWP SAF | AWDP Product Specification | Doc ID : NWPSAF-KN-DS-003 |
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KNMI, De Bilt, the Netherlands

This documentation was developed within the context of the EUMETSAT Satellite Application Facility on Numerical Weather Prediction (NWP SAF), under the Cooperation Agreement dated 29 June, 2011, between EUMETSAT and the Met Office, UK, by one or more partners within the NWP SAF. The partners in the NWP SAF are the Met Office, ECMWF, KNMI and Météo France.

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| Change record | | | |
|----------------------|-------------|------------------------------|--|
| Version | Date | Author / changed by | Remarks |
| 1.0j | Jun 2007 | Anton Verhoef | First draft |
| 1.0k | Oct 2007 | Anton Verhoef | Adapted for AWDP version 1.0k |
| 1.0.13 | Mar 2008 | Anton Verhoef | Adapted for AWDP version 1.0.13 |
| 1.0.14 | Oct 2008 | Anton Verhoef | First version for external review |
| 1.0.16 | Dec 2008 | Anton Verhoef | Modified according to DRI comments |
| 1.1 | Jan 2010 | Anton Verhoef | Removed a few typo's and corrected some of the diagrams in the appendices for AWDP v1.1 |
| 2.0 | Aug 2010 | Anton Verhoef | Modified for AWDP v2.0; added section 3.5.3, changed sections 2.3, 2.3.4, 2.4, Chapter 9 and Appendix B4 |
| 2.0.01 | Nov 2010 | Anton Verhoef | Modified according to DRI comments |
| 2.2 | Jun 2013 | Anton Verhoef | Version for AWDP v2.2 |
| 2.3 | Feb 2014 | Anton Verhoef | Version for AWDP v2.3 |
| 2.4 | Jun 2016 | Anton Verhoef, Jur Vogelzang | Version for AWDP v2.4, split original UM into UM, PS and TLD docs |
| 3.0 | Feb 2017 | Jur Vogelzang | Adapted for AWDP v3.0 |
| 3.1 | Apr 2017 | Jur Vogelzang | Adapted for AWDP v 3.1 |

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1 Introduction

1.1 Aims and scope

The ASCAT Wind Data Processor (AWDP) is a software package mainly written in Fortran 90 with some parts in C for handling data from the Advanced Scatterometer (ASCAT) and European Remote Sensing satellite (ERS) scatterometer instruments. This document is the Product Specification (PS) of the AWDP software package. Section 2 provides information on the purpose, outputs, inputs and system requirements of the AWDP software. More information about the functionality of the processing steps in AWDP is available in section 3.

More information about AWDP can be found in several other documents. The User Manual and Reference Guide (UM) [1] contains more details about the installation and use of AWDP. Reading the UM and the PS should provide sufficient information to the user who wants to apply AWDP as a black box.

The Top Level Design (TLD) of the code and the Module Design (MD) of the AWDP code can be found in [2]. This document is of interest to developers and users who need more specific information on how the processing is done.

Please note that any questions or problems regarding the installation or use of AWDP can be addressed at the NWP SAF helpdesk at <http://nwpsaf.eu/>.

1.2 Conventions

Names of physical quantities (e.g., wind speed components u and v), modules (e.g. *BufrMod*), subroutines and identifiers are printed italic.

Names of directories and subdirectories (e.g. `awdp/src`), files (e.g. `awdp.F90`), and commands (e.g. `awdp -f input`) are printed in Courier. Software systems in general are addressed using the normal font (e.g. AWDP, genscat).

Hyperlinks are printed in blue and underlined (e.g. <http://www.knmi.nl/scatterometer/>).

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2 AWDP product specification

2.1 Purpose of AWDP

The ASCAT Wind Data Processor (AWDP) has been developed to fully exploit σ^0 data from the ASCAT scatterometer instrument on the Metop satellites or the AMI scatterometer instrument on the European Remote Sensing (ERS) satellites, to generate surface winds. AWDP may be used for real-time data processing. The main application of AWDP is to form the core of an Observation Operator for ASCAT scatterometer data within an operational Numerical Weather Prediction System.

AWDP is also a level 2 data processor. It reads data from the EUMETSAT level 1b ASCAT BUFR or PFS product or from the ESA ERS scatterometer BUFR product. AWDP applies algorithms for inversion, quality control, and Ambiguity Removal at various spatial resolutions. These methods are mainly developed and published by KNMI. The output of AWDP is a BUFR file in ASCAT BUFR format.

2.2 Output specification

The wind vectors generated by AWDP represent the instantaneous mean surface wind at 10 m anemometer height in a 2D array of Wind Vector Cells (WVCs) with specified size ($25 \times 25 \text{ km}^2$, $12.5 \times 12.5 \text{ km}^2$, $6.25 \times 6.25 \text{ km}^2$, or about 5.6 km along track and varying across track, depending on the cell spacing of the input product, the type of the input product, and the command line options chosen). These WVCs are part of the ground swath of the instrument.

In conventional mode, the wind output for every WVC consists of up to 4 ambiguities (wind vector alternatives, with varying probabilities). The wind solutions are ordered by decreasing probability and the selected wind vector (after ambiguity removal) is indicated by a selection index pointing to the chosen solution. For every WVC additional parameters are stored. These are e.g.: latitude, longitude, time information, orbit and node numbers, background wind vector, cell quality flag, and information on the scatterometer beams including σ^0 and K_p data. The output file is structured according to the same conventions as the ASCAT level 1b input, also if ERS data are processed.

The ASCAT BUFR format consist of three main sections: one section containing level 1b information which is copied from the input data, one section containing Surface Soil Moisture (SSM) level 2 information, which is also copied from the input, and one section containing level 2 wind data, which is calculated in AWDP. The ASCAT BUFR data descriptors are listed in Appendix A.

2.3 Input specification

Input of AWDP is the ASCAT level 1b BUFR or PFS Data Product. These products are created by EUMETSAT; see [3]. Alternatively, the ERS scatterometer wind product in BUFR can be used as

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input; see [4].

It is also possible to reprocess level 2 ASCAT or ERS data in ASCAT BUFR format, and treat them as if they are level 1b data. To achieve this, the command line option `-handleall` needs to be set; see [1].

Apart from the scatterometer data, GRIB files containing NWP output with global coverage are necessary for the wind processing. At least three wind forecasts with constant forecast time intervals of e.g. 1 or 3 hours are necessary to perform interpolation with respect to time and location. The forecast times need to be before and after the data acquisition time, e.g. when an observation at 7:00 UTC is considered, there should be forecast wind fields available at 6:00, 7:00 and 8:00 UTC or at 3:00, 6:00 and 9:00 UTC. More details on the time interpolation are in the `gribio_module` description in [2]. Apart from this, GRIB fields of Sea Surface Temperature and Land Sea Mask are necessary for land and ice masking. These fields are not time interpolated, it is sufficient to provide only one field.

NWP model data are publicly available for example from the ECMWF ERA-Interim archive (<http://www.ecmwf.int/en/research/climate-reanalysis/era-interim>) and from the NOAA NCEP Global Forecasting System (<http://www.nco.ncep.noaa.gov/pmb/products/gfs/>).

NWP data is not needed when AWDP is used on level 2 BUFR data which already contains model winds and ice flagging, or when ambiguity removal is omitted. See the description of the command line options in [1] for more information on this.

2.4 System requirements

Table 3.1 shows the platform and compiler combinations for which AWDP has been tested. However, the software is designed to run on any Unix (Linux) based computer platform with a Fortran compiler and a C compiler. The equivalent of a modern personal computer will suffice to provide a timely NRT wind product. AWDP requires about 100-150 MB disk space when installed and compiled.

| Platform | Fortran compiler | C compiler |
|---------------------------|---|-------------------|
| Fedora Linux work station | Portland pgf90 GNU g95 GNU gfortran | GNU gcc |
| SunOS Unix | Sun Fortran | Sun C |
| Apple MacBook | GNU gfortran | GNU gcc |

Table 3.1 Platform and compiler combinations for which AWDP has been tested.

AWDP may also run in other environments, provided that the environment variables discussed in section 2.2 are set to the proper values, and that the BUFR library is properly installed. For Windows a Linux environment like Wubi is needed. AWDP can also run on a MacOS machine (Darwin).

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3 Details of functionality

3.1 BUFR IO and coding

Data sets of near-real time meteorological observations are generally coded in the Binary Universal Form for Representation (BUFR). BUFR is a machine independent data representation system (but it contains binary data, so care must be taken in reading and writing these data under different operating systems). A BUFR message (record) contains observational data of any sort in a self-descriptive manner. The description includes the parameter identification and its unit, decimal, and scaling specifications. The actual data are in binary code. The meta data are stored in BUFR tables. These tables are therefore essential to decode and encode the data.

BUFR tables are issued by the various meteorological centres. The largest part of the data descriptors specified in the BUFR tables follows the official BUFR descriptor standards maintained by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO, <http://www.wmo.int/>). However, for their different observational products meteorological centres do locally introduce additional descriptors in their BUFR tables.

Appendix A contains a listing of the data descriptors of the BUFR data input and the BUFR data output of AWDP in the ASCAT BUFR product format. For more details on BUFR, the reader is referred to [5].

ECMWF maintains a library of routines for reading (writing) and decoding (encoding) the binary BUFR messages. This library forms the basis of the genscat BUFR module and hence the AWDP program BUFR interface, see [2].

3.2 Product resolution

An important feature of AWDP is that it may produce a level 2 wind product on different resolutions. The resolution of the level 2 wind product is the same as that of the level 1b input product. ASCAT data are available in three different resolutions: ~50 km resolution with 25 km cell spacing (also known as the ASCAT operational product, SZO), ~30 km resolution with 12.5 km cell spacing (also known as the ASCAT research product, SZR), and full resolution (also known as SZF product) which can result in cell spacings of 25 km, 12.5 km, 6.25 km, or 5.65 km.

3.3 Use of full resolution data

AWDP offers the possibility to replace the backscatter values in the level 1b product by box averaged σ^0 data that are acquired using the full resolution ASCAT level 1 data (SZF). The beam data (σ^0 values, incidence and azimuth angles) which are read from the BUFR or PFS level 1b input file, are replaced by average values of the data from the full resolution file which are located within a certain radius (15 km for a 12.5-km grid and 7.5 km for a 6.25-km grid) from the WVC location. In this way, a coastal product can be created. See [6] for more information on how the box averaged σ^0 data are composed.

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From AWDP version 3.0 onwards it is also possible to process full resolution data on a grid that is synchronised with the ASCAT mid-beam antenna pulses [7]. The resulting product, further referred to as ASCAT-5.6, has a grid size of about 5.65 km and a true spatial resolution of 19 km. Note that the ASCAT-6.25 product has a slightly better true spatial resolution of 17 km, but much poorer radar sampling characteristics.

It is important to notice that the full resolution data which are fed into AWDP (using the `-szffl` option) must span a time starting at least 150 seconds before the first data in the level 1b WVCs and ending no less than 150 seconds after the last data in the level 1b WVCs.

AWDP needs a high-resolution land-sea mask in order to determine if a full resolution backscatter measurement is over land or sea. This information is used in coastal areas to skip backscatter data over land and to use only backscatter data over sea in the averaging of full resolution data. The high resolution land-sea mask should be available in GRIB format and should have a resolution of approximately 15 km or better. The file containing the land-sea mask should be present in the list of GRIB files supplied with the `-nwpfl` command line option (see [1]).

3.4 WVC triplet completion and row merging

AWDP sorts the WVC rows in the input file by their acquisition date and time and merges WVC information if duplicate rows occur. The duplicate information is considered and the output will contain as much useful information as is available in the input WVCs. This is especially useful if direct readout data from different ground stations is processed. Sometimes a WVC from one ground station contains only fore beam information, whereas the corresponding WVC from a second ground station contains only the mid and aft beam information. For ERS data, AWDP will combine the information and it will process and write one WVC containing all three beams. For ASCAT data, the duplicate rows will be merged keeping the wind information if it is available in one of the input rows but no attempt is done to combine beam information. This is the established mode of operation in the EUMETSAT Advanced Retransmission Service (EARS) ASCAT service.

3.5 Quality control

The quality of every WVC is controlled. Before processing the beam data, checks are done on the completeness and usability of the σ^0 data. After the wind inversion step, the distance of the first rank wind solutions to the GMF is considered. If this value is too large, the wind solutions are flagged. The K_p values are also considered. If one of the three beam K_p values is above a threshold which is wind speed dependent, the wind information is flagged 0.

3.6 Inversion

In the inversion step of wind retrieval, the radar backscatter observations in terms of the Normalized Radar Cross Sections (σ^0 's) are converted into a set of ambiguous wind vector solutions. In fact, a Geophysical Model Function (GMF) is used to map a wind vector (specified in term of wind speed and wind direction) to a σ^0 value. The GMF depends not only on wind speed and wind direction but also on the measurement geometry (relative azimuth and incidence angle) and beam parameters (frequency and polarization). Currently, the CMOD7 GMF is in use, see [9].

AWDP also includes the Multiple Solution Scheme (MSS). In MSS mode, a large number of wind

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vector solutions is produced, typically 144. The wind vector solutions are ranked according to their probability based on the MLE and constitute the full wind vector probability density function. Subsequently, the 2DVAR Ambiguity Removal method, see, e.g., section 3.8, is applied with a much larger set of wind vector solutions. The output BUFR format can accommodate any number of wind solutions due to the use of the so-called delayed descriptor replication. Details on the KNMI inversion approach can be found in [2]. For SeaWinds, MSS compares better to an independent NWP model reference and buoys than conventional two or four-solution schemes [10], [11], but for ERS and ASCAT this needs to be investigated further.

Technical information on the KNMI inversion approach can be found in [2].

3.7 Ice screening

A Bayesian sea ice detection algorithm was developed for ASCAT [12] and this algorithm is implemented in AWDP. It is based on the probabilistic distances to ocean and sea ice geophysical model functions. When a combination of backscatter measurements is close to the wind GMF, the probability that the WVC is covered with water is high. On the other hand, when the measurement is close to the sea ice GMF, the probability that the WVC contains ice is high. Each satellite overpass over the poles will yield new measurements which contribute to an ice map containing the ice probabilities.

3.8 Ambiguity Removal

The Ambiguity Removal (AR) step of the wind retrieval is the selection of the most probable surface wind vector among the available wind vector solutions, the so-called ambiguities. Various methods have been developed for AR. More information on Ambiguity Removal is given in [2]. The default method implemented in AWDP is the KNMI 2DVAR AR scheme. A description of its implementation can be found in [2]. The Multiple Solution Scheme (MSS) offers the possibility to postpone AR to the NWP step in order to treat all information from models and measurements in the same manner. Further details on the algorithms and their validation can be found in the reports [13], [14], and [15].

From version 3.0 onwards AWDP offers the possibility to use empirical background error correlations in 2DVAR [16].

From version 3.1 onwards AWDP also offers the possibility to use flow-dependent errors in 2DVAR, but only for ASCAT-coastal. The flow-dependent errors are based on the values of the MLE and the alternative singularity exponent [16].

The performance of 2DVAR with meteorological balance constraints was tested and optimized for ERS, ASCAT, and QuikSCAT data. It was found to be superior to other schemes.

3.9 Setting and unsetting of WVC quality flag bits

The attributes of the WVC quality flag (see [2]) are read from the BUFR input file and they are changed only when necessary and when the relevant processing step is invoked. This means that

- The ice flag will be set or unset depending on the Sea Surface Temperature from the GRIB model input when this is available, or depending of the result of the Bayesian ice screening when this is activated through the command line. It will not be changed when no NWP SST is

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used and the ice screening is not used.

- The land flag will be set or unset based on the land-sea mask from the GRIB model input when this is available. It will not be changed when no GRIB land-sea mask is used.
- The KNMI QC flag and GMF distance too large flag are unset whenever the wind inversion is invoked, and set after wind inversion depending on the result. They will not be changed when the wind inversion is skipped.
- The variational QC flag is unset whenever the wind inversion or ambiguity removal are invoked, it is set after ambiguity removal depending on the result. It will not be set when the ambiguity removal is not used.

3.10 Monitoring

For the automatic ingestion of observations into their NWP systems, meteorological centres require quality checks on the NRT products. For the ASCAT wind product a monitor flag is under development, analogous to the one developed for the SeaWinds Wind Product. This flag indicates that several measures on the level of corruption of the output BUFR files are above a specified threshold. Data with the monitoring flag set should be rejected for ingestion by the NWP system. Details on the monitoring flag can be found in the NWP SAF document [14].

3.11 Details of performance

AWDP is delivered with two example BUFR input files containing data from 26 April 2007. They are named `ascat_20070426_test_250.11_bufr` (25 km cell spacing) and `ascat_20070426_test_125.11_bufr` (12.5 km cell spacing) and contain approximately half an orbit of data. Moreover, a set of ECMWF GRIB files containing the necessary NWP output is supplied. Table 3.2 gives the approximate times needed for processing these files under various options on a personal workstation with a 4 core 3.2 GHz Xeon processor under Linux using the GNU g95 Fortran compiler.

| Cell spacing (m) | MSS? | Inversion (seconds) | AR (seconds) | BUFR IO (seconds) | GRIB IO (seconds) | Total (seconds) |
|------------------|------|------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| 25000 | No | 2.5 | 1.4 | 0.4 | 0.2 | 4.5 |
| 12500 | No | 10.0 | 4.5 | 0.9 | 0.3 | 16 |
| 12500 | Yes | 13.0 | 35.0 | 0.9 | 0.3 | 50 |

Table 3.2 Approximate times needed by AWDP to process example BUFR files under various input resolutions and options.

As can be seen from table 3.2, the use of MSS results in slightly larger processing times needed for inversion and in much larger processing times needed for AR. The computation time, of course, increases with increasing resolution.

The choice of platform, compiler and compiler settings will result in a large variation in the processing times. Using the Portland pgf90 compiler rather than the GNU g95 compiler in the examples in table 3.2 will result in processing times that are 25% to 50% smaller.

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Appendix A: ASCAT BUFR data descriptors

This appendix contains lists of descriptors for the ASCAT BUFR format.

| Number | Descriptor | Parameter | Unit |
|--------|------------|---|-------------|
| 1 | 001033 | Identification Of Originating/Generating Centre | Code Table |
| 2 | 001034 | Identification Of Originating/Generating Sub-Centre | Code Table |
| 3 | 025060 | Software Identification | Numeric |
| 4 | 001007 | Satellite Identifier | Code Table |
| 5 | 002019 | Satellite Instruments | Code Table |
| 6 | 001012 | Direction Of Motion Of Moving Observing Platform | Degree True |
| 7 | 004001 | Year | Year |
| 8 | 004002 | Month | Month |
| 9 | 004003 | Day | Day |
| 10 | 004004 | Hour | Hour |
| 11 | 004005 | Minute | Minute |
| 12 | 004006 | Second | Second |
| 13 | 005001 | Latitude (High Accuracy) | Degree |
| 14 | 006001 | Longitude (High Accuracy) | Degree |
| 15 | 005033 | Pixel Size On Horizontal-1 | M |
| 16 | 005040 | Orbit Number | Numeric |
| 17 | 006034 | Cross Track Cell Number | Numeric |
| 18 | 010095 | Height Of Atmosphere Used | m |
| 19 | 021157 | Loss Per Unit Length Of Atmosphere Used | dB/m |
| 20 | 021150 | Beam Collocation | Flag Table |
| 21 | 008085 | Beam Identifier | Code Table |
| 22 | 002111 | Radar Incidence Angle | Degree |
| 23 | 002134 | Antenna Beam Azimuth | Degree |
| 24 | 021062 | Backscatter | dB |
| 25 | 021063 | Radiometric Resolution (Noise Value) | % |
| 26 | 021158 | ASCAT Kp Estimate Quality | Code Table |
| 27 | 021159 | ASCAT Sigma-0 Usability | Code Table |
| 28 | 021160 | ASCAT Use Of Synthetic Data | Numeric |
| 29 | 021161 | ASCAT Synthetic Data Quality | Numeric |
| 30 | 021162 | ASCAT Satellite Orbit And Attitude Quality | Numeric |
| 31 | 021163 | ASCAT Solar Array Reflection Contamination | Numeric |
| 32 | 021164 | ASCAT Telemetry Presence And Quality | Numeric |
| 33 | 021165 | ASCAT Extrapolated Reference Function | Numeric |
| 34 | 021166 | ASCAT Land Fraction | Numeric |
| 35 | 008085 | Beam Identifier | Code Table |
| 36 | 002111 | Radar Incidence Angle | Degree |
| 37 | 002134 | Antenna Beam Azimuth | Degree |
| 38 | 021062 | Backscatter | dB |
| 39 | 021063 | Radiometric Resolution (Noise Value) | % |
| 40 | 021158 | ASCAT Kp Estimate Quality | Code Table |
| 41 | 021159 | ASCAT Sigma-0 Usability | Code Table |
| 42 | 021160 | ASCAT Use Of Synthetic Data | Numeric |
| 43 | 021161 | ASCAT Synthetic Data Quality | Numeric |

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| NWP SAF | AWDP Product Specification | Doc ID : NWPSAF-KN-DS-003 |
| | | Version : 3.1.00 |
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| Number | Descriptor | Parameter | Unit |
|---------------|-------------------|---|-------------|
| 44 | 021162 | ASCAT Satellite Orbit And Attitude Quality | Numeric |
| 45 | 021163 | ASCAT Solar Array Reflection Contamination | Numeric |
| 46 | 021164 | ASCAT Telemetry Presence And Quality | Numeric |
| 47 | 021165 | ASCAT Extrapolated Reference Function | Numeric |
| 48 | 021166 | ASCAT Land Fraction | Numeric |
| 49 | 008085 | Beam Identifier | Code Table |
| 50 | 002111 | Radar Incidence Angle | Degree |
| 51 | 002134 | Antenna Beam Azimuth | Degree |
| 52 | 021062 | Backscatter | dB |
| 53 | 021063 | Radiometric Resolution (Noise Value) | % |
| 54 | 021158 | ASCAT Kp Estimate Quality | Code Table |
| 55 | 021159 | ASCAT Sigma-0 Usability | Code Table |
| 56 | 021160 | ASCAT Use Of Synthetic Data | Numeric |
| 57 | 021161 | ASCAT Synthetic Data Quality | Numeric |
| 58 | 021162 | ASCAT Satellite Orbit And Attitude Quality | Numeric |
| 59 | 021163 | ASCAT Solar Array Reflection Contamination | Numeric |
| 60 | 021164 | ASCAT Telemetry Presence And Quality | Numeric |
| 61 | 021165 | ASCAT Extrapolated Reference Function | Numeric |
| 62 | 021166 | ASCAT Land Fraction | Numeric |
| 63 | 025060 | Software Identification | Numeric |
| 64 | 025062 | Database Identification | Numeric |
| 65 | 040001 | Surface Soil Moisture (Ms) | % |
| 66 | 040002 | Estimated Error In Surface Soil Moisture | % |
| 67 | 021062 | Backscatter | dB |
| 68 | 021151 | Estimated Error In Sigma0 At 40 Deg Incidence Angle | dB |
| 69 | 021152 | Slope At 40 Deg Incidence Angle | dB/Degree |
| 70 | 021153 | Estimated Error In Slope At 40 Deg Incidence Angle | dB/Degree |
| 71 | 021154 | Soil Moisture Sensitivity | dB |
| 72 | 021062 | Backscatter | dB |
| 73 | 021088 | Wet Backscatter | dB |
| 74 | 040003 | Mean Surface Soil Moisture | Numeric |
| 75 | 040004 | Rain Fall Detection | Numeric |
| 76 | 040005 | Soil Moisture Correction Flag | Flag Table |
| 77 | 040006 | Soil Moisture Processing Flag | Flag Table |
| 78 | 040007 | Soil Moisture Quality | % |
| 79 | 020065 | Snow Cover | % |
| 80 | 040008 | Frozen Land Surface Fraction | % |
| 81 | 040009 | Inundation And Wetland Fraction | % |
| 82 | 040010 | Topographic Complexity | % |
| 83 | 025060 | Software Identification | Numeric |
| 84 | 001032 | Generating Application | Code Table |
| 85 | 011082 | Model Wind Speed At 10 m | m/s |
| 86 | 011081 | Model Wind Direction At 10 m | Degree True |
| 87 | 020095 | Ice Probability | Numeric |
| 88 | 020096 | Ice Age (A-Parameter) | dB |
| 89 | 021155 | Wind Vector Cell Quality | Flag Table |
| 90 | 021101 | Number Of Vector Ambiguities | Numeric |
| 91 | 021102 | Index Of Selected Wind Vector | Numeric |
| 92 | 031001 | Delayed Descriptor Replication Factor | Numeric |
| 93 | 011012 | Wind Speed At 10 m | m/s |
| 94 | 011011 | Wind Direction At 10 m | Degree True |
| 95 | 021156 | Backscatter Distance | Numeric |
| 96 | 021104 | Likelihood Computed For Solution | Numeric |
| 97 | 011012 | Wind Speed At 10 m | m/s |
| 98 | 011011 | Wind Direction At 10 m | Degree True |

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| Number | Descriptor | Parameter | Unit |
|---------------|-------------------|----------------------------------|-------------|
| 99 | 021156 | Backscatter Distance | Numeric |
| 100 | 021104 | Likelihood Computed For Solution | Numeric |

Table A.1 List of data descriptors. Note that descriptor numbers 93-96 can be repeated 1 to 144 times, depending on the value of the Delayed Descriptor Replication Factor (descriptor number 92)

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Appendix B: Acronyms

| Name | Description |
|-------------|---|
| AMI | Active Microwave Instrument, scatterometer on ERS-1 and ERS-2 satellites |
| AR | Ambiguity Removal |
| ASCAT | Advanced SCATterometer on Metop |
| BUFR | Binary Universal Form for the Representation of data |
| C-band | Radar wavelength at about 5 cm |
| EARS | EUMETSAT Advanced Retransmission Service |
| ERS | European Remote Sensing satellites |
| ECMWF | European Centre for Medium-range Weather Forecasts |
| EUMETSAT | European Organization for the Exploitation of Meteorological Satellites |
| genscat | generic scatterometer software routines |
| GMF | Geophysical model function |
| KNMI | Koninklijk Nederlands Meteorologisch Instituut (Royal Netherlands Meteorological Institute) |
| Ku-band | Radar wavelength at about 2 cm |
| L1b | Level 1b product |
| Metop | Meteorological Operational Satellite |
| MLE | Maximum Likelihood Estimator |
| MSS | Multiple Solution Scheme |
| NCEP | United States National Centers for Environmental Prediction |
| NWP | Numerical Weather Prediction |
| OSI | Ocean and Sea Ice |
| PFS | Product Format Specification (native Metop file format) |
| QC | Quality Control |
| SAF | Satellite Application Facility |
| SSM | Surface Soil Moisture |
| SST | Sea Surface Temperature |
| WVC | Wind Vector Cell, also called node or cell |

Table D.1 List of acronyms.