

Re: Averaging wind speed in tropical and extra-tropical storms

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- *From:* Scott <ScottLWI@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Fri, 23 Sep 2005 07:25:51 -0500
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I'm not sure which buoys you are talking about here, but the NOAA ones have sensors nowhere near 30m. More like 10 at most -- and those are the big disc buoys in the middle of the gulf.

See, for example

<http://www.ndbc.noaa.gov/station_page.php?station=42001>
<http://www.ndbc.noaa.gov/station_page.php?station=42003>

Scott

Shawn Delaney wrote:

The height on the bouys that are used run about 30m which the frictional effects of land can be assumed to be nil...on land the wind sensors at most airports sits ~6m of the gorund in which case would yield different wind speeds. Hurricane tracking software is now incorporating frictional effects as the storms approach land and do a fairly good job of accounting for terrian effects.

"Øyvind Seland" <oyvindse@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
[news:dqr6tk\\$vg2\\$1@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:dqr6tk$vg2$1@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

On the NOAA webpage I noted that the classification on hurricane strength

was based on

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wind speed averaged over 1 minute. At least in Europe classification of

wind speeds in extra-tropical

storms call for a 10 minute average. Going from 10 to 1 minute average may

yield a quite large

increase in wind speed, depending on the nature of the storm and terrain.

I suppose for

a tropical storm over ocean, it is probable not that large variation? For

an extra-tropical

storm over hilly terrain, the effect may be going from a strong gale to

close to hurricane wind speed

Are there no agreed on definition of wind speed?

Øyvind Seland

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