Weekly Results from 14th April until 21st April 2002

Figure 1 shows the evolution of the mean yaw (over one orbit) and its standard deviation for the period covered in this report.

The Scatterometer data gaps are related with the orbits dumped at Maspalomas and Gatineau station. Those orbits are not received in "real time" and are not included in the weekly report.
Anomalies in the yaw were detected on orbit 36529 and 36550 onwards. As Ian Harrison (ESOC) explains the bad evolution of yaw is due to:

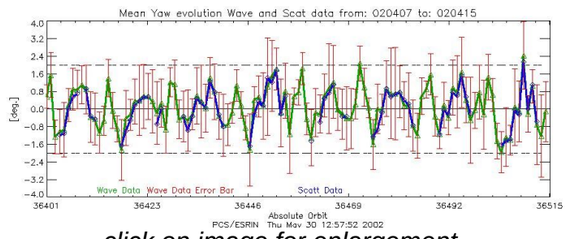
An FCM manoeuvre at the start of orbit 36529, causing the large yaw depointing

A dramatic step increase the Geomagnetic index around orbit 36548 which takes a couple of orbits to effect atmospheric density. This therefore effects orbit 36550 onwards, and is compensated by increasing commanded bias a further 2 orbits later. This depointing is unfortunately to be expected at times of rapidly changing atmospheric conditions.

The data gaps are due to an IDHT anomaly occured on 19th April and AMI unavailability occurred on 20th April.

Apart form the above events, the yaw evolution for most orbit was within +/- 2 degrees.

Good agreement between wave and Scatterometer data.



click on image for enlargement

Figure 1 Mean Yaw Evolution from Wave (green) and Scatterometer Data (blue)