Committee on Earth Observation Satellites

The Ocean Surface Vector Wind Constellation: Status, Health and Future?

CEOS OSVW-Virtual Constellation

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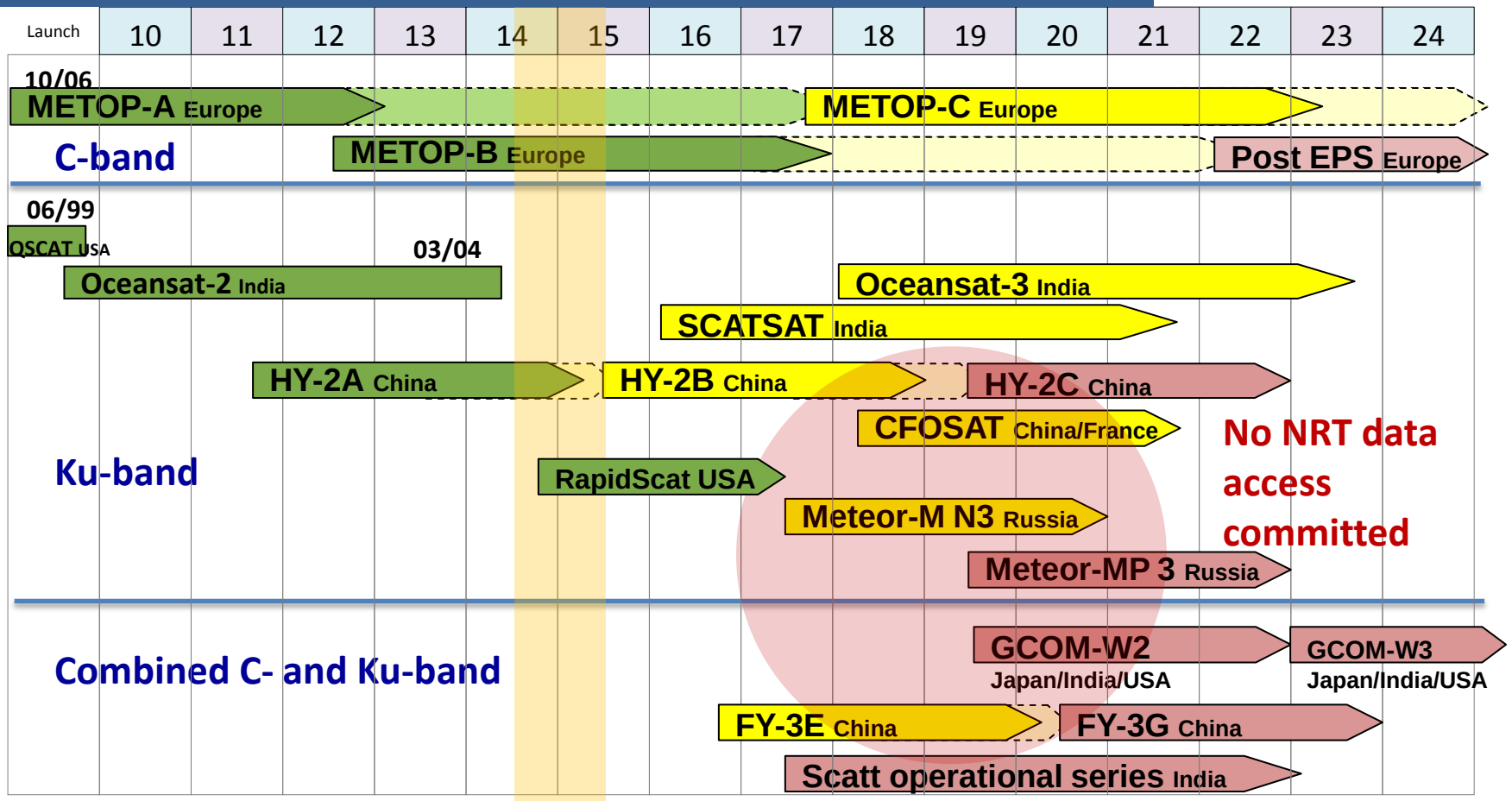
OSVW Constellation Status and Health

- ASCAT (METOP-A&B) and RapidScat
  - Open and timely data access
  - ASCAT available through EPS-SG(SCA) ~2023
  - RapidScat at least until Feb 2017 (2 year ISS lease…can this be extended?)
- SCA (ASCAT Follow-On, EPS-SG) ~2022/23
- ScatSat early 2016
- OSCAT follow-on (OceanSat-3) ~2018

Ocean Vector Surface Winds Constellation
Current status and Outlook – NRT data access



Source: WMO OSCAR database and direct interactions with agencies

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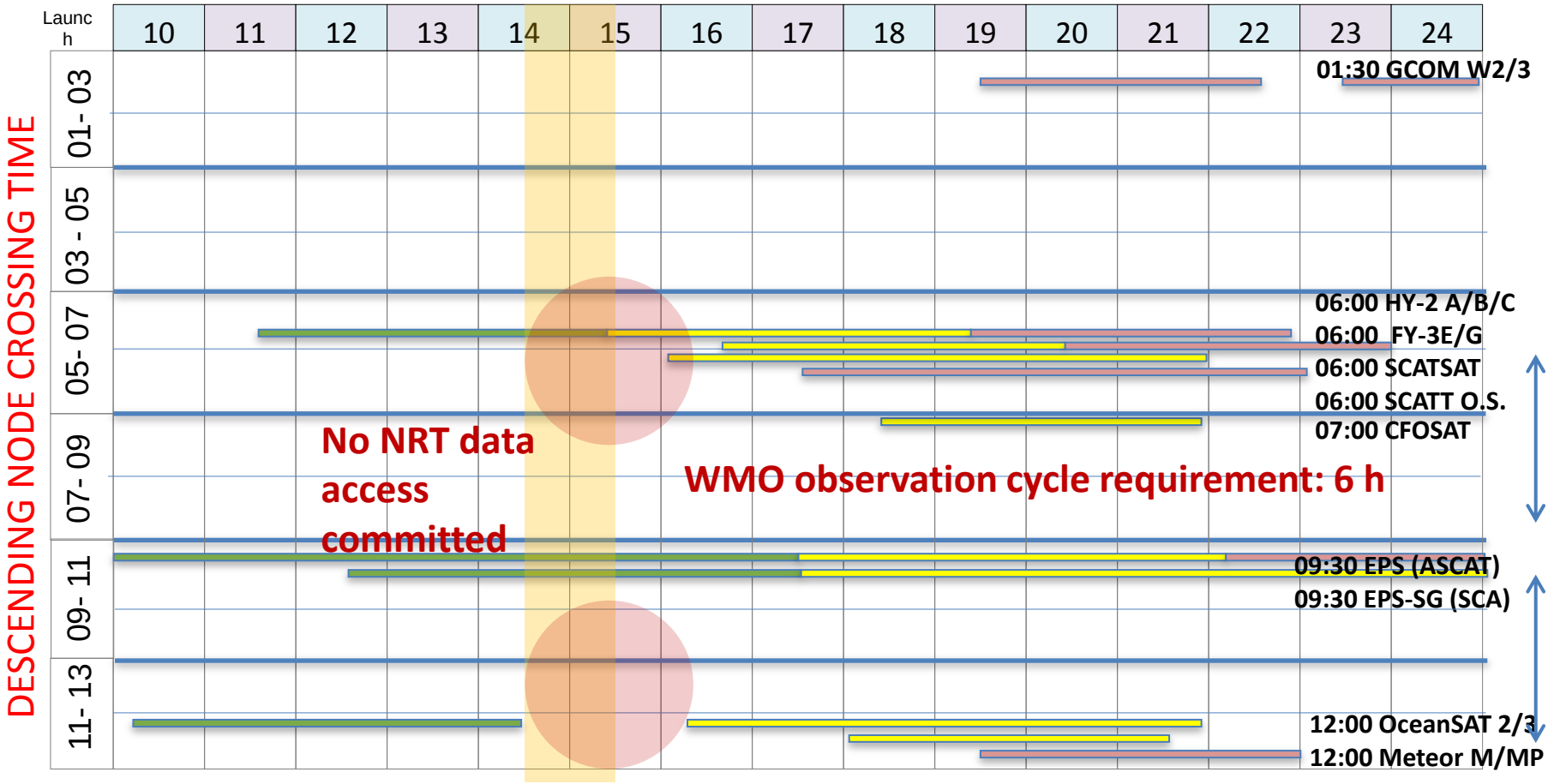
Ocean Vector Surface Winds Constellation
Local time coverage assessment (ground track) - NRT data access



Design Life | Extended Life — Operating

Design Life | Extended Life — Approved

Proposed

Source: WMO OSCAR database and direct interactions with agencies

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Next Steps

- Any possibility of open and timely data access to planned missions by China and Russia?
  - planned orbits overlap with other missions
- Any future U.S. scatterometer plans?
  - Next NRC satellite decadal survey process initiated which will play a role in determining future U.S. EO missions.
- JAXA/ISRO/JPL AMSR-3 and scatterometer mission (GCOM-W1 follow-on)?

Summary

- The OSVW Constellation is anchored by current and planned missions of EUMETSAT and ISRO
- The CEOS OSVW-VC advocates:
  - Open and timely data access
  - Coordination of orbits to optimize temporal sampling
  - Cross calibration of missions
  - Cal/val and data product standards
  - Outreach and education

  Additional information including Terms of Reference can be found at http://ceos.org/ourwork/virtual-constellations/osvw/
- While each agency needs to work within its resource and political environment, international groups such as CEOS can help communicate objectives and recommendations of the international community directly to agencies

Questions

- Is the current constellation sufficient?
  - Temporal sampling?
  - Spatial resolution?
  - Complementary measurements?
- Should a constellation minimum capability be defined?
  - Should continuity and new measurement capability be identified separately?
- What are the priorities of the OSVW community (i.e., IOVWST)?
- Is there any particular advocacy/actions from the OSVW community that would be helpful for the space agencies?