

ATL04 Known Issues for ASAS V6.0 (Data Release 006)

The following lists the known issues with the ASAS version 6.0 (data product release 006) ATL04 atmospheric parameters. We are actively working to correct the problems for the next release.

/Profile_x

Backg_method1: This is the calculated background used in the subsequent Normalized Relative Backscatter (NRB) calculation. The background calculated for twilight data (solar elevation angles -7 to -1) can have large error. This can affect the NRB and subsequent calibration of the data.

Nrb_profile: In a region known as the South Atlantic Anomaly (SAA), enhanced detector noise causes elevated NRB values in nighttime data. This effect is not noticeable in daytime. The nighttime calibration in these areas is adversely affected, but it has been improved over data release 005.

Note for Nighttime data collection:

The ATLAS instrument performs calibrations that are used to optimize the altimetry retrievals during nighttime passes over parts of the oceans. During the calibration maneuvers, the atmospheric data are not collected. This results in areas where no data are collected as seen in the figure below (white areas). This affects data collected prior to March, 2019. After this date the calibration strategy was changed which greatly reduced this problem.

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