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Meteorological data from an open-ocean buoy off the Canary Islands

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Collecting meteorological data at open ocean locations is a challenging task but critical for high quality weather forecasting. Here we present a six month time series of measured (air temperature, air pressure, humidity, wind speed and direction) and derived quantities (wind stress, sensible and latent heat flux) from a number of meteorological sensors mounted on an open ocean-buoy. The buoy is moored off the Canary Islands within the EU FP5 project ANIMATE. Data is recorded every 20 minutes and send ashore via satellite. The measured data and derived quantities will be discussed in relation to meteorological re-analysis products and nearest shore based stations. The possibilities in extending the sensor package to a full air/sea flux buoy will be explored.