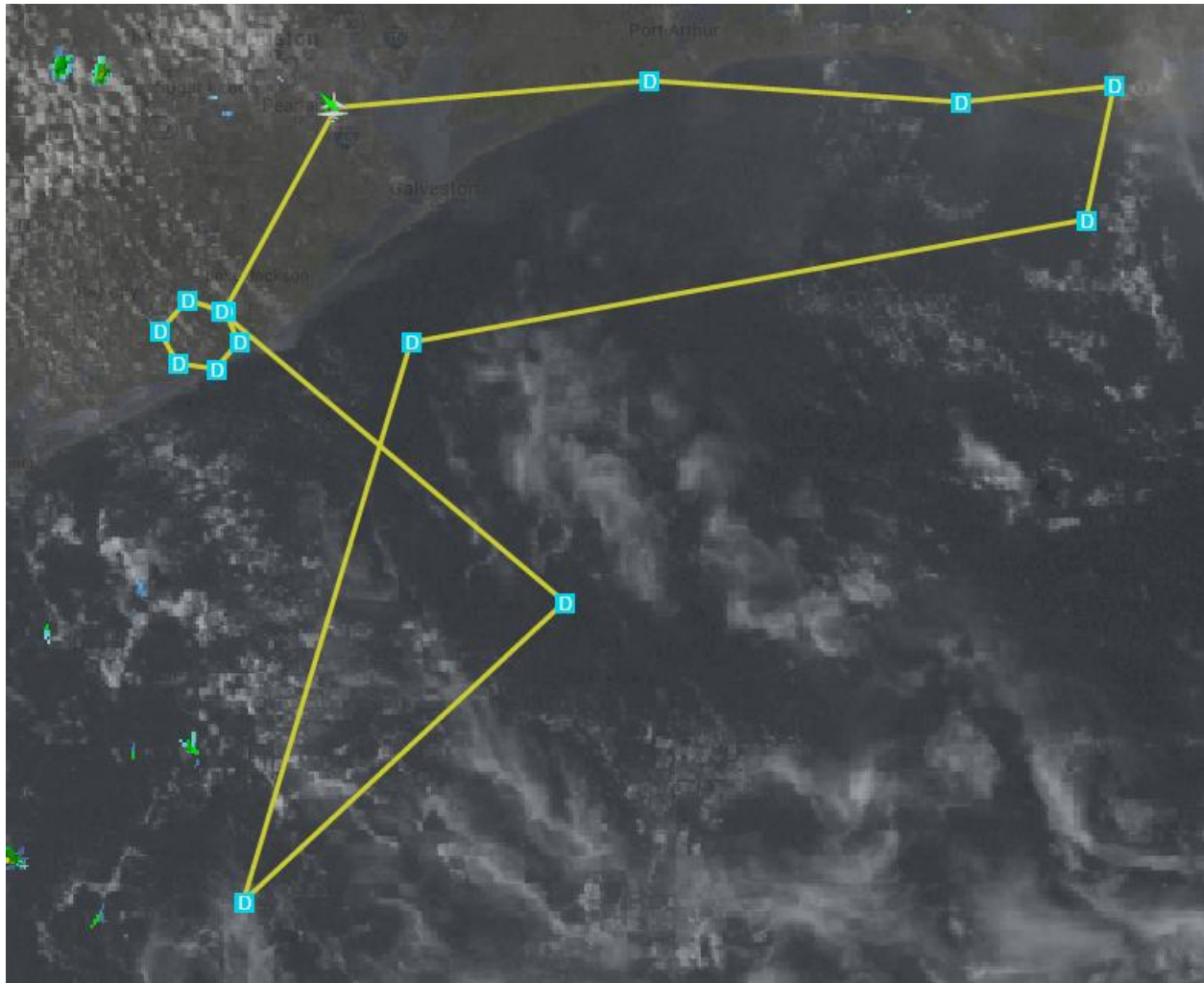


6/24 WB-57 test flight log

2335 UTC: Looking clear for takeoff. Here is the visible satellite and radar with the planned flight track superimposed. Not much convection to go after in the Gulf. Final HDSS load is 12 active sondes (4 with streamers) and 44 dummy sondes.



2336 UTC: Taxiing

2341 UTC: Standing by for takeoff. Comms to payload but not GPS

2346 UTC: HDSS has GPS now. Troubleshooting reception of beacon sonde on hangar roof.

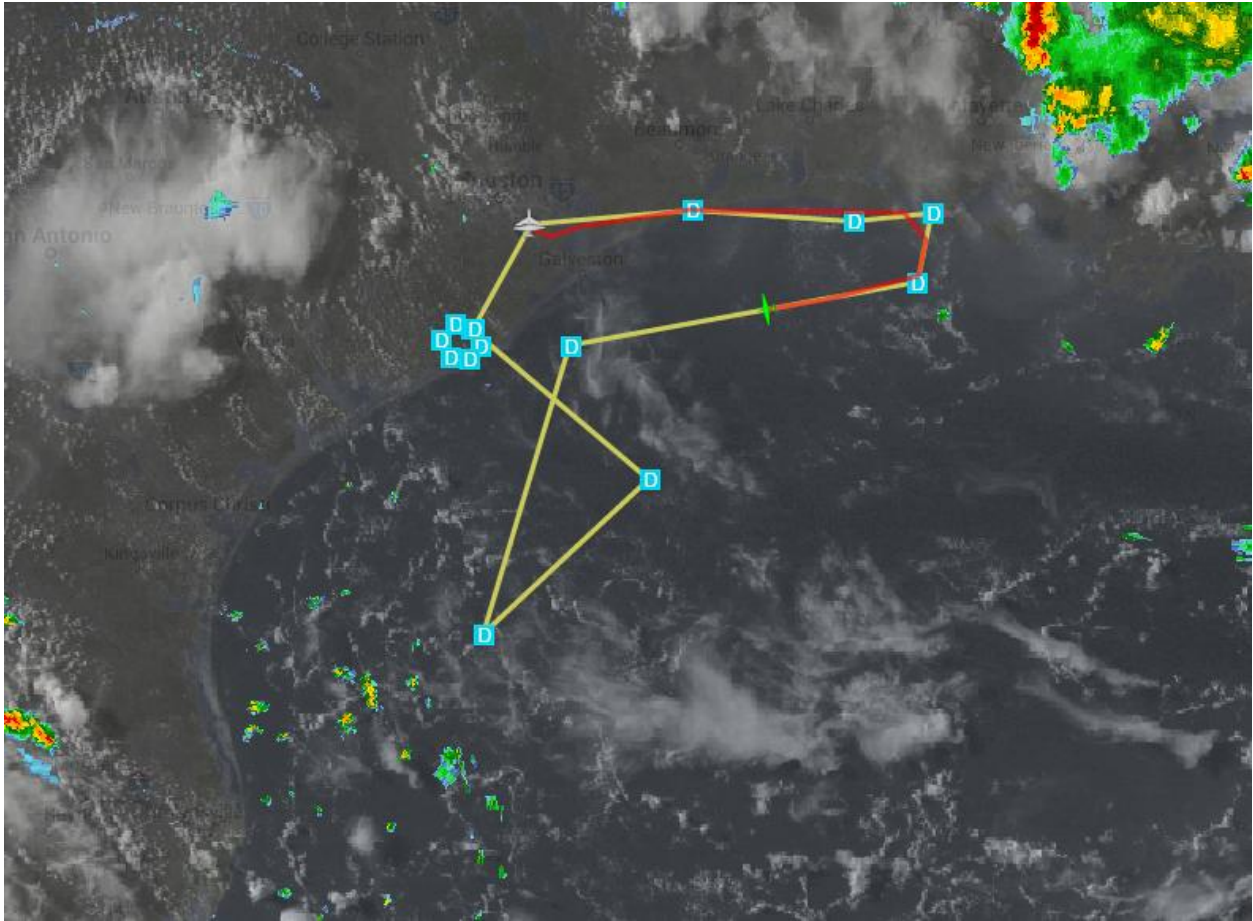
2355 UTC: Receiving data from ground test sondes.

2356 UTC: Takeoff

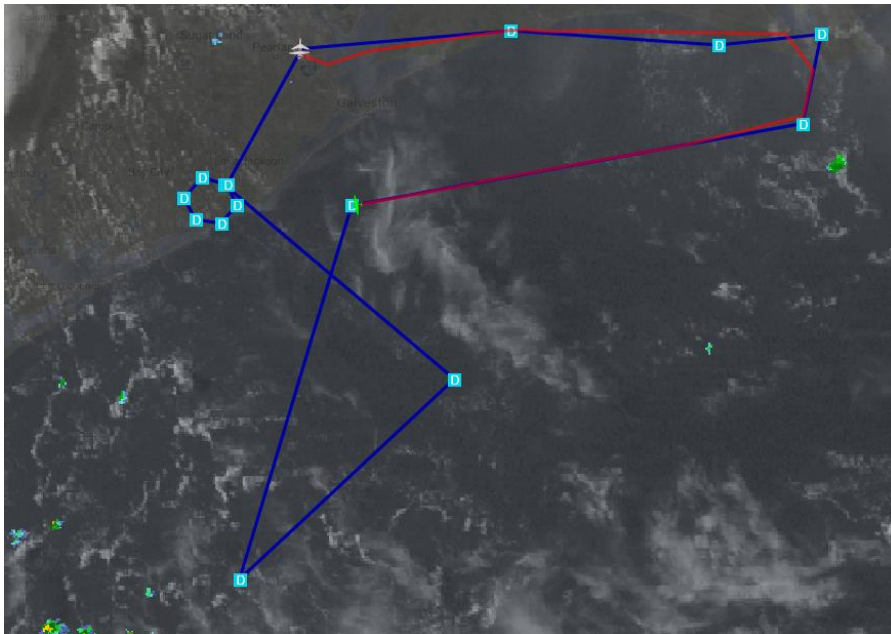
0019 UTC: 51,000 ft, 380 kt.

0025 UTC: 55,000 ft, 406 kt.

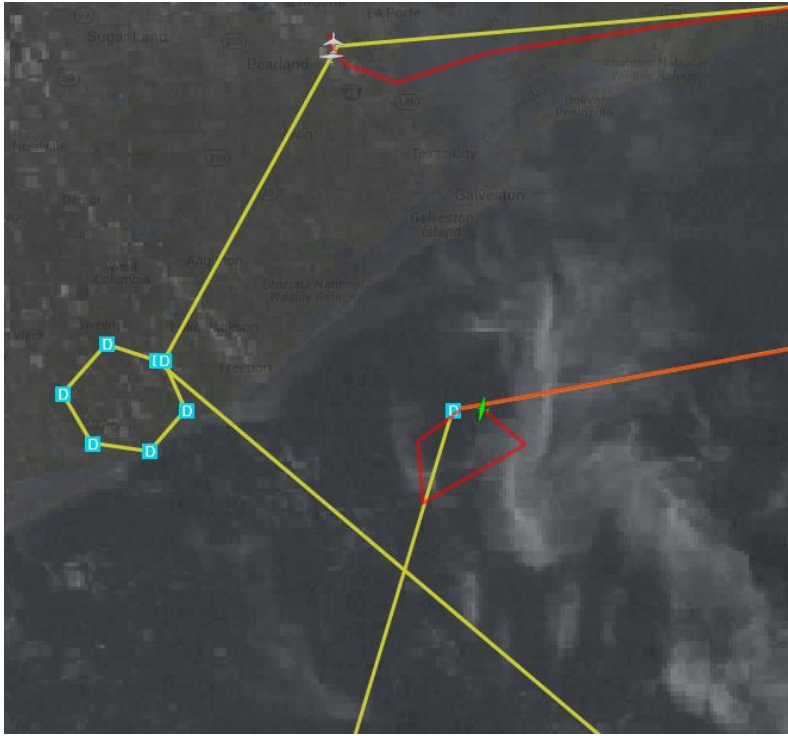
0041 UTC: 62,000 ft, 422 kt. Still no convection action along the flight path.



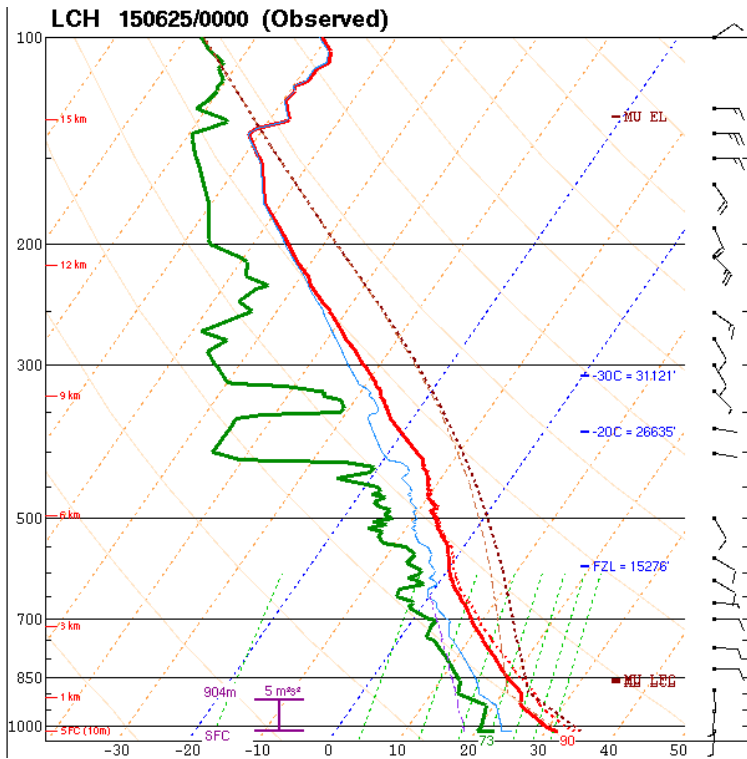
0047 UTC: Good comms check with WC-130. About to turn towards the SSW, at waypoint 5

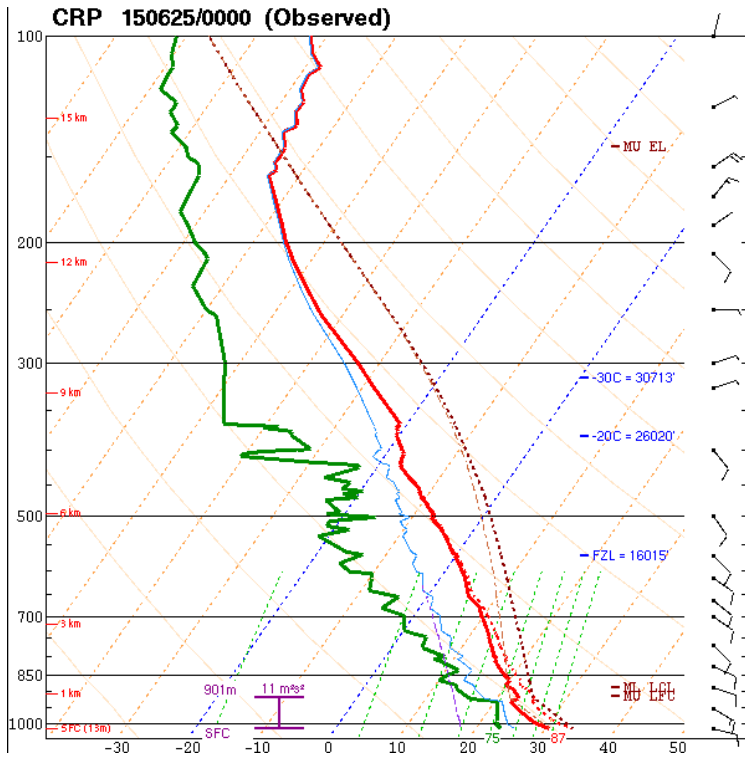


0051 UTC: Holding at waypoint 5.



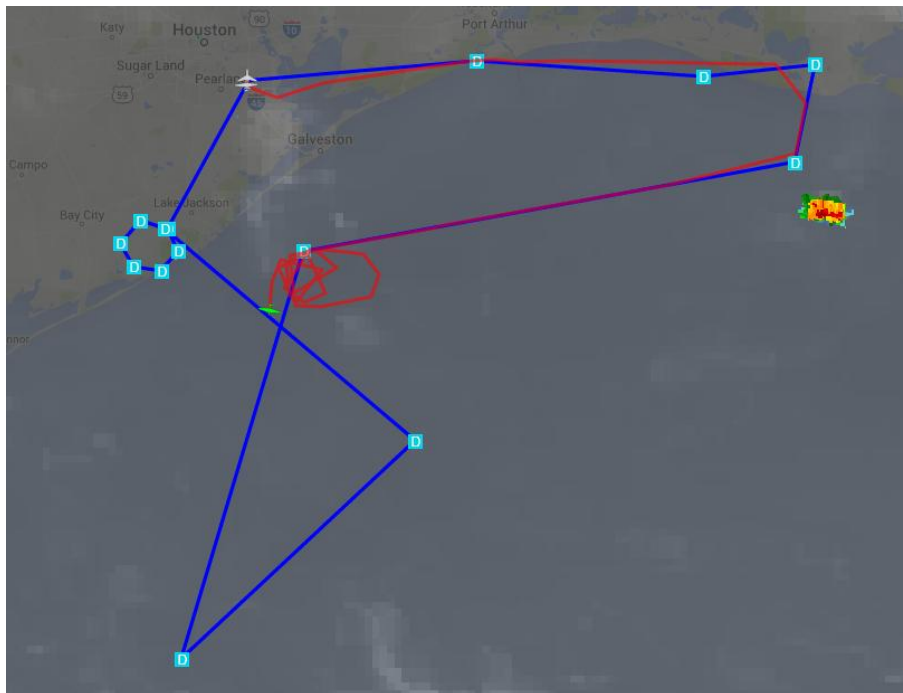
Data from the 00z upsondes is available. Here's what we have from Lake Charles and Corpus Christi. Note much in the way of winds at either site.



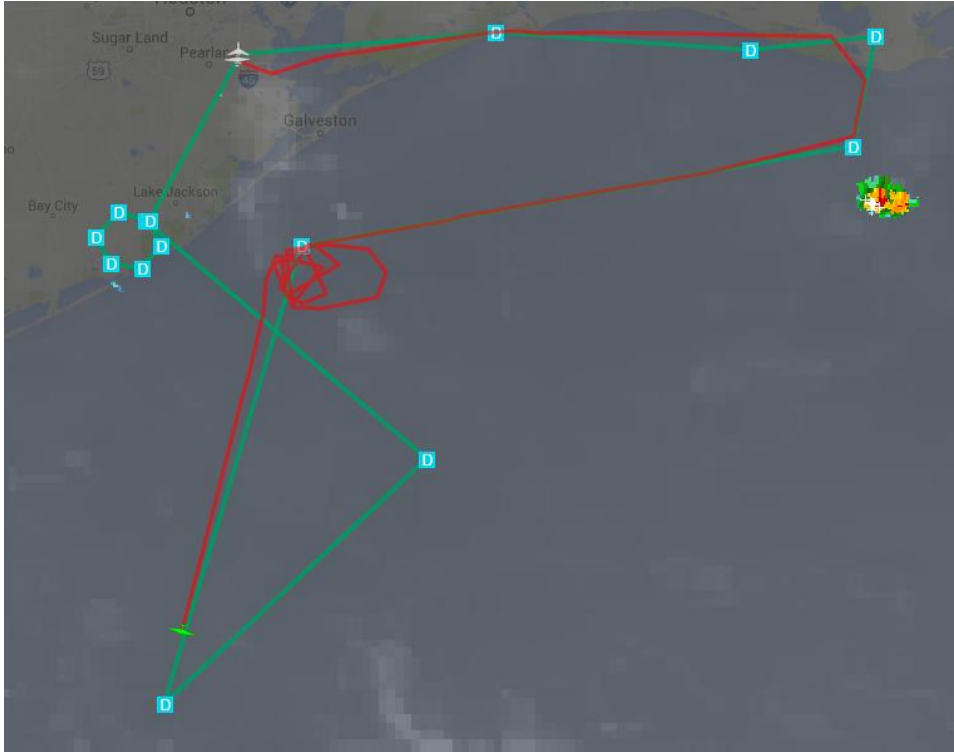


0117 UTC: Air Force commencing sonde drop (WB-57 still circling)

0120 UTC: Starting WB-57 drops. Aircraft at 62,000 ft, on the way to waypoint 6.



0132 UTC: 12 sondes launched so far. Aircraft nearing waypoint 6.

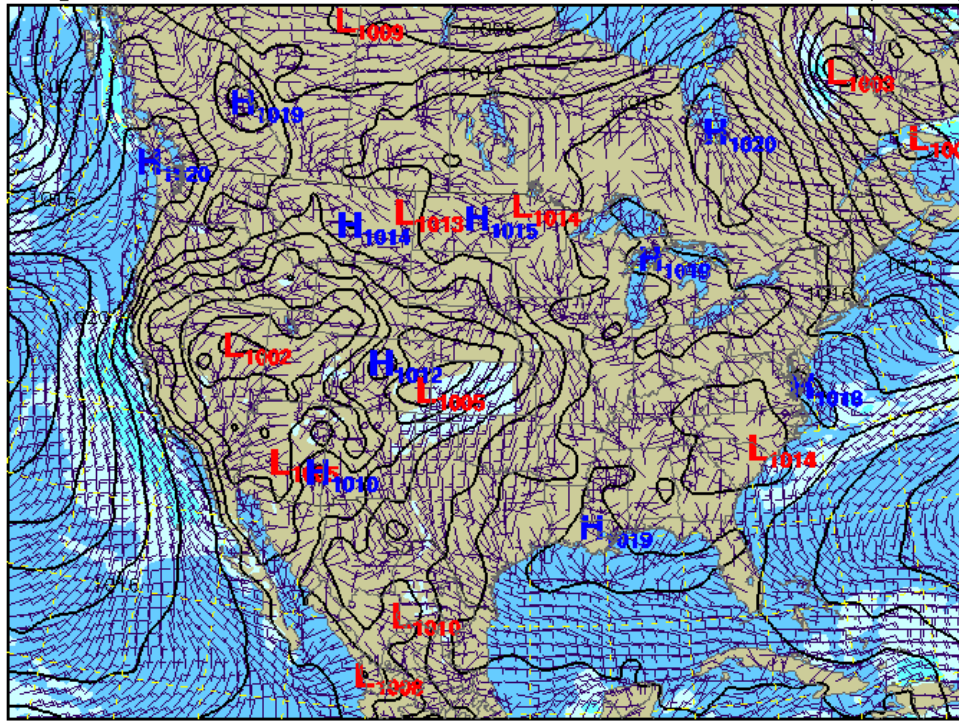


Here's the 25/00z surface chart.

Wind Speed (knots) / MSLP (mb)

Analysis valid 0000 UTC Thu 25 Jun 2015

RAP (00z 25 Jun)

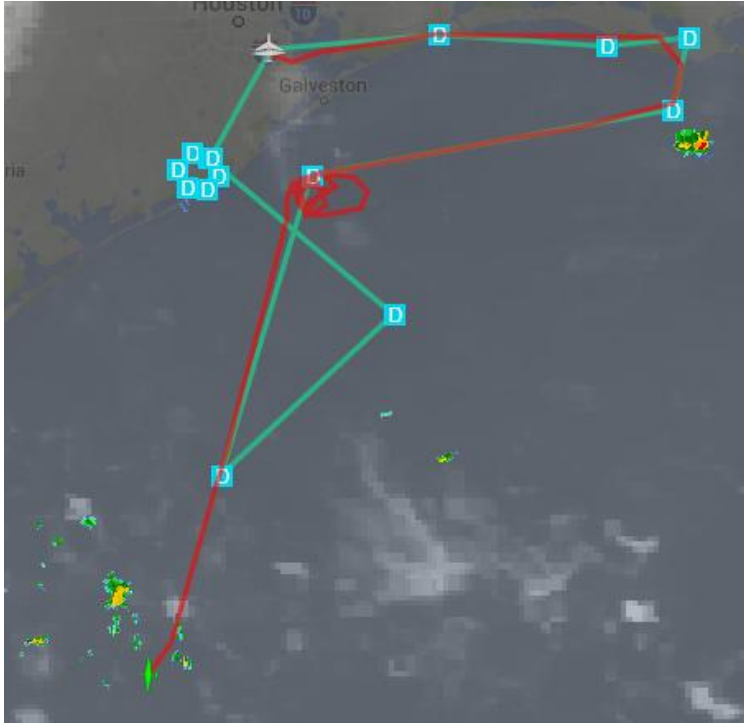


15 20 30 40 50 60 80 100 knots

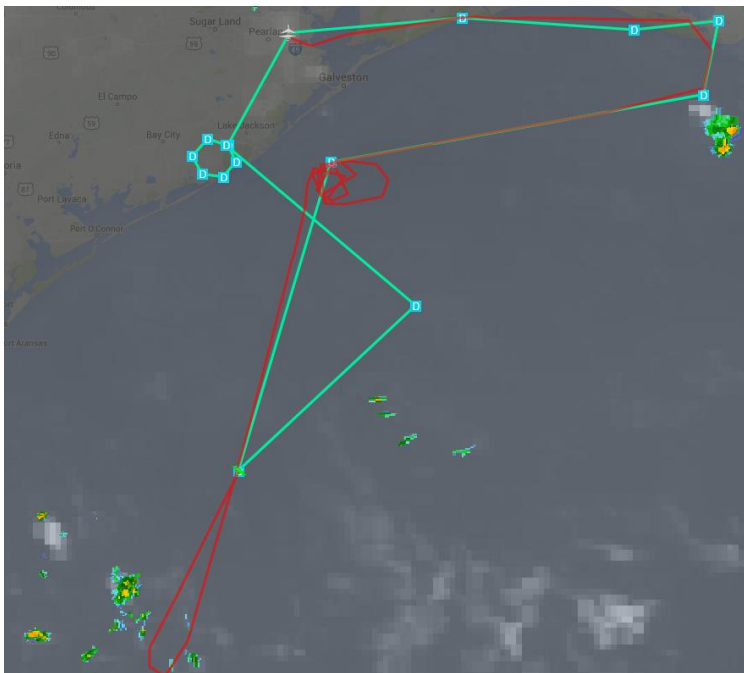
0140 UTC: WC-130 returning home.

MTS takes up to 7 minutes to update aircraft position. 2 or 3 minutes is common.

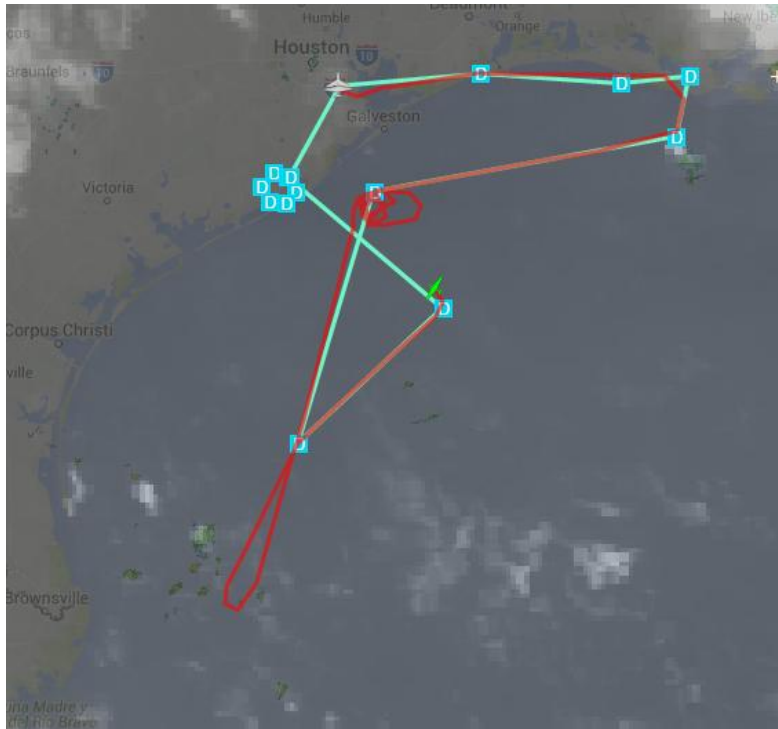
0146 UTC: Now WB-57 is way south of planned track.



0159 UTC: Time to drop some dummy sondes (just foam) to test the mechanics of the system.

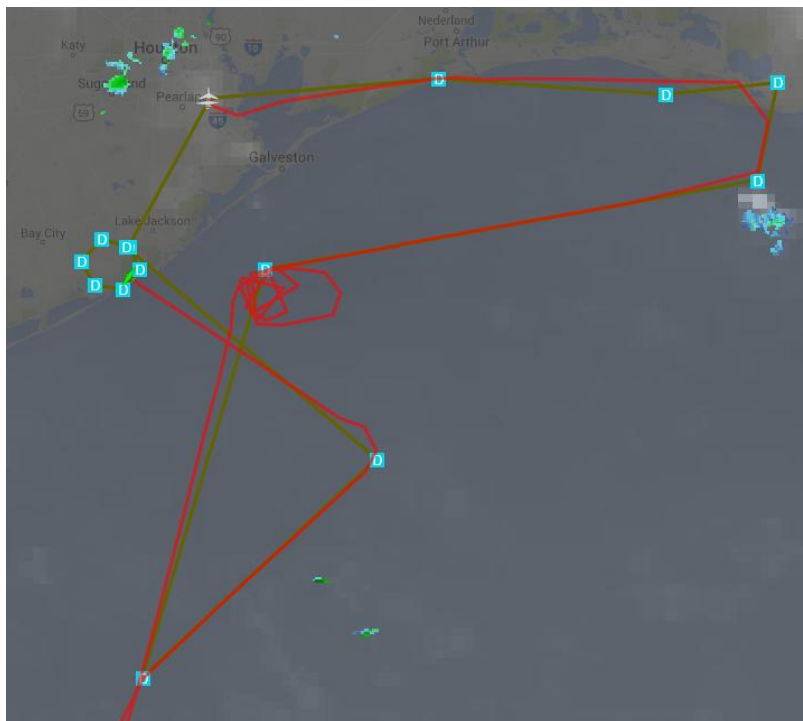


0212 UTC: Just passed waypoint 7; heading NW now.

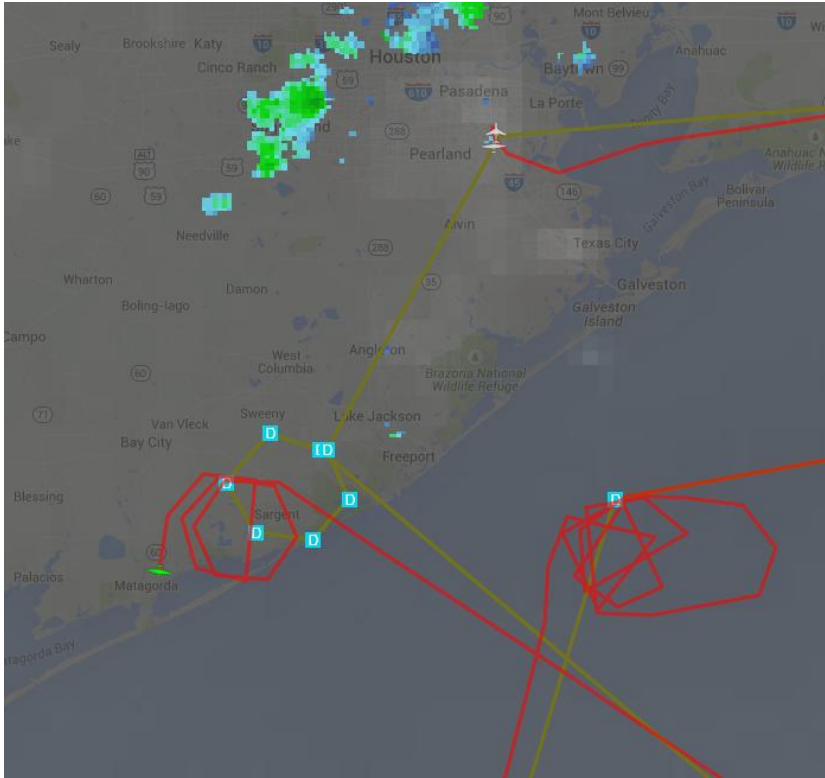


The WB-57 planned flight track keeps changing colors in MTS

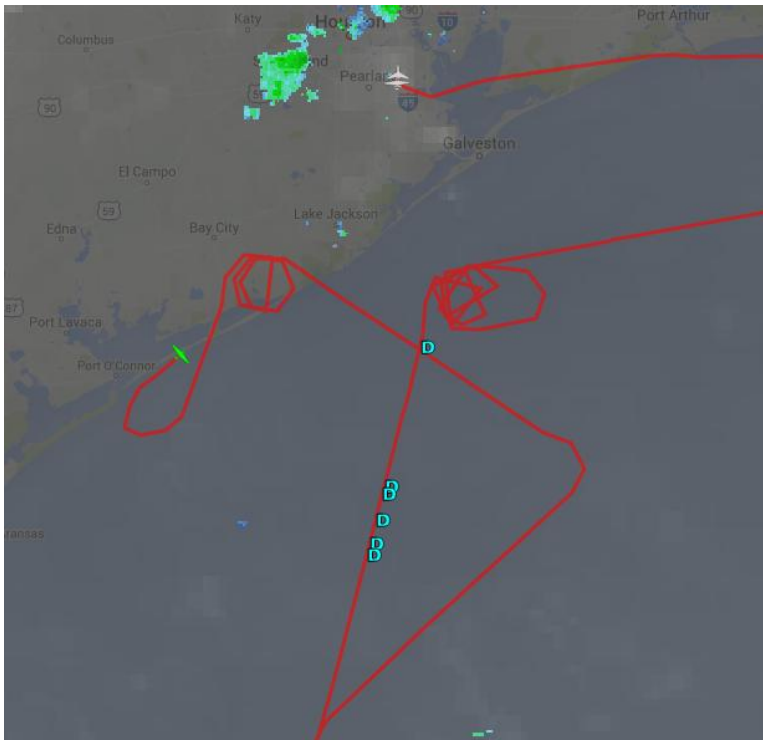
0223 UTC: Approaching the circle part of the pattern.



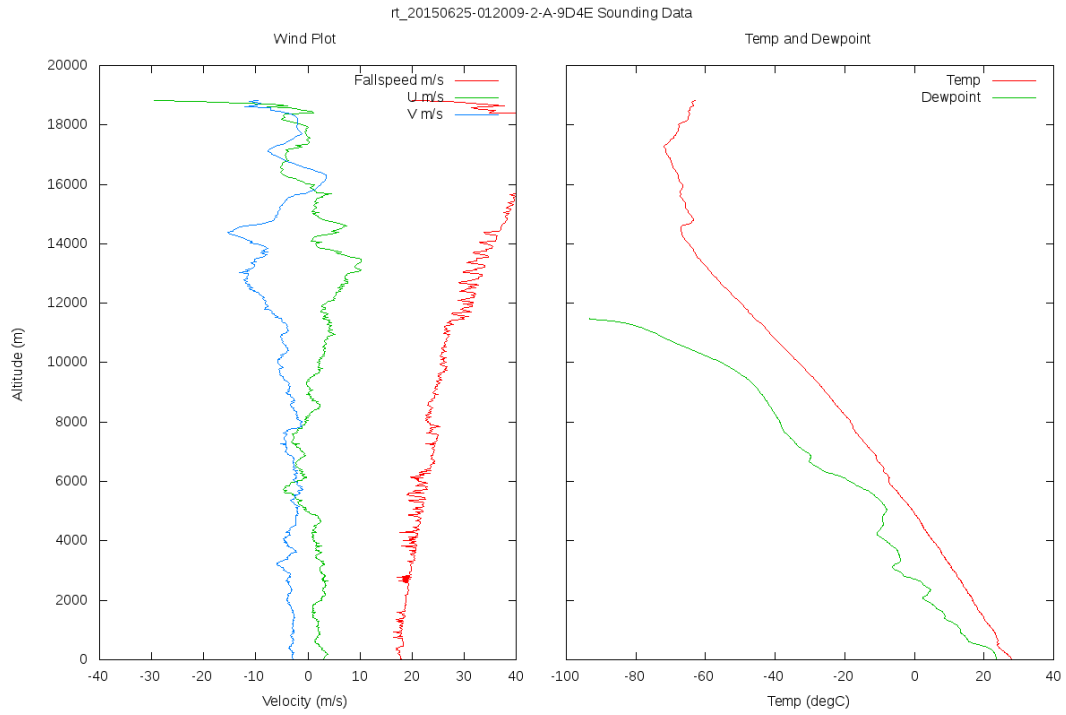
0241 UTC: Finished with circling. Commencing descent and return to base.



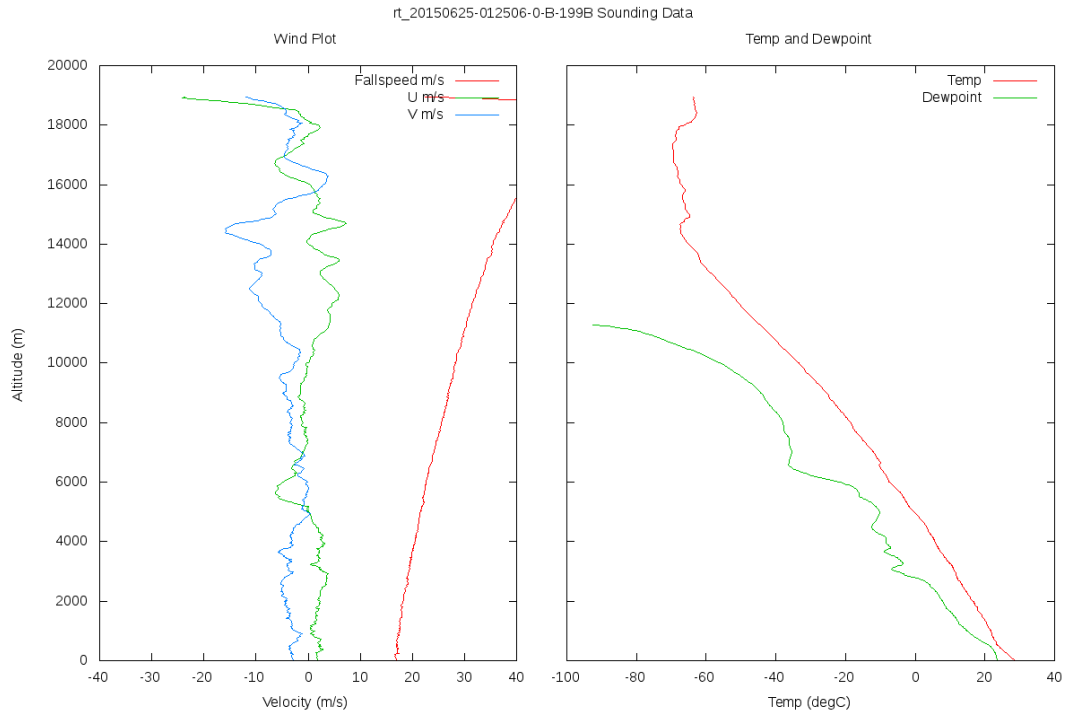
0251 UTC: Some dropsonde products just appeared on MTS. Blue "D" symbols indicate drop positions, presumably



First drop (along NNE to SSW oriented leg)



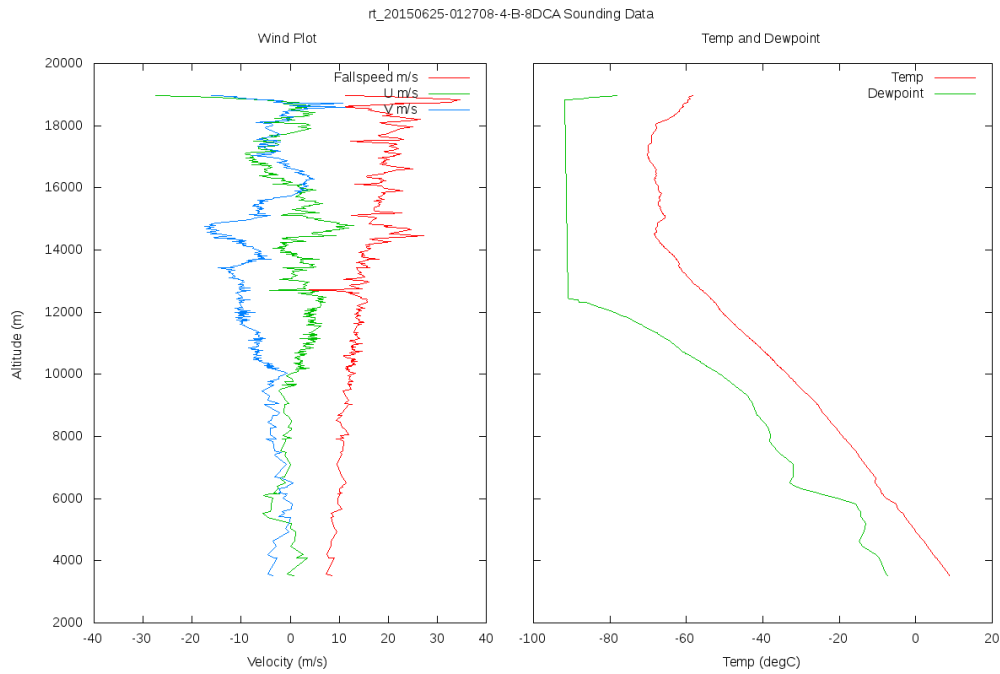
Second drop



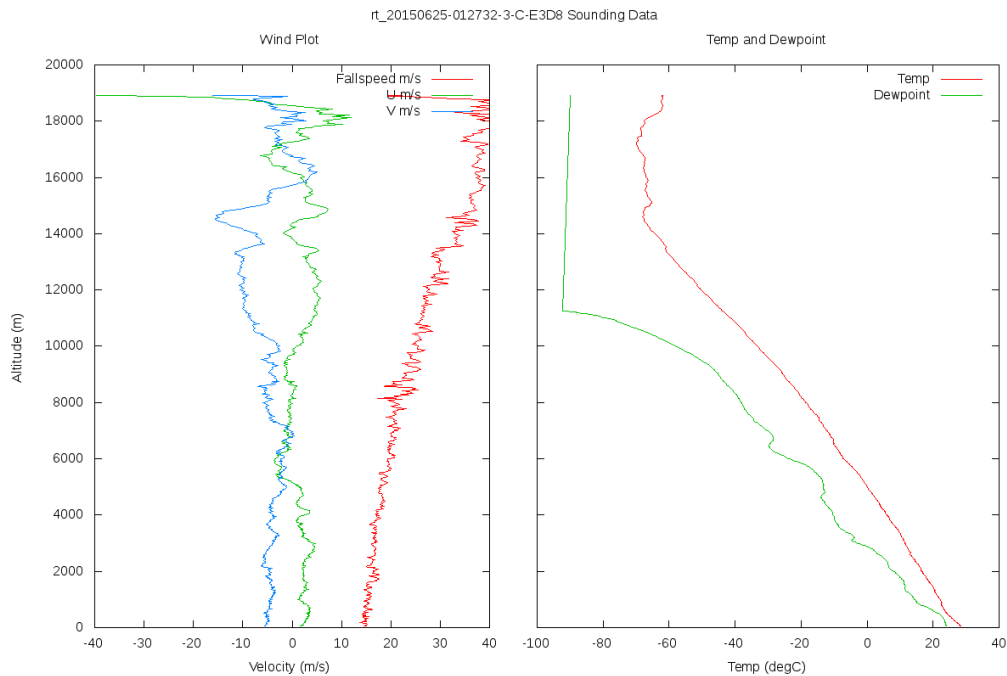
Third drop: Plot is missing

Fourth drop: Plot is missing

Fifth drop: (looks like a slow fall, note fall speed and missing near-surface data)

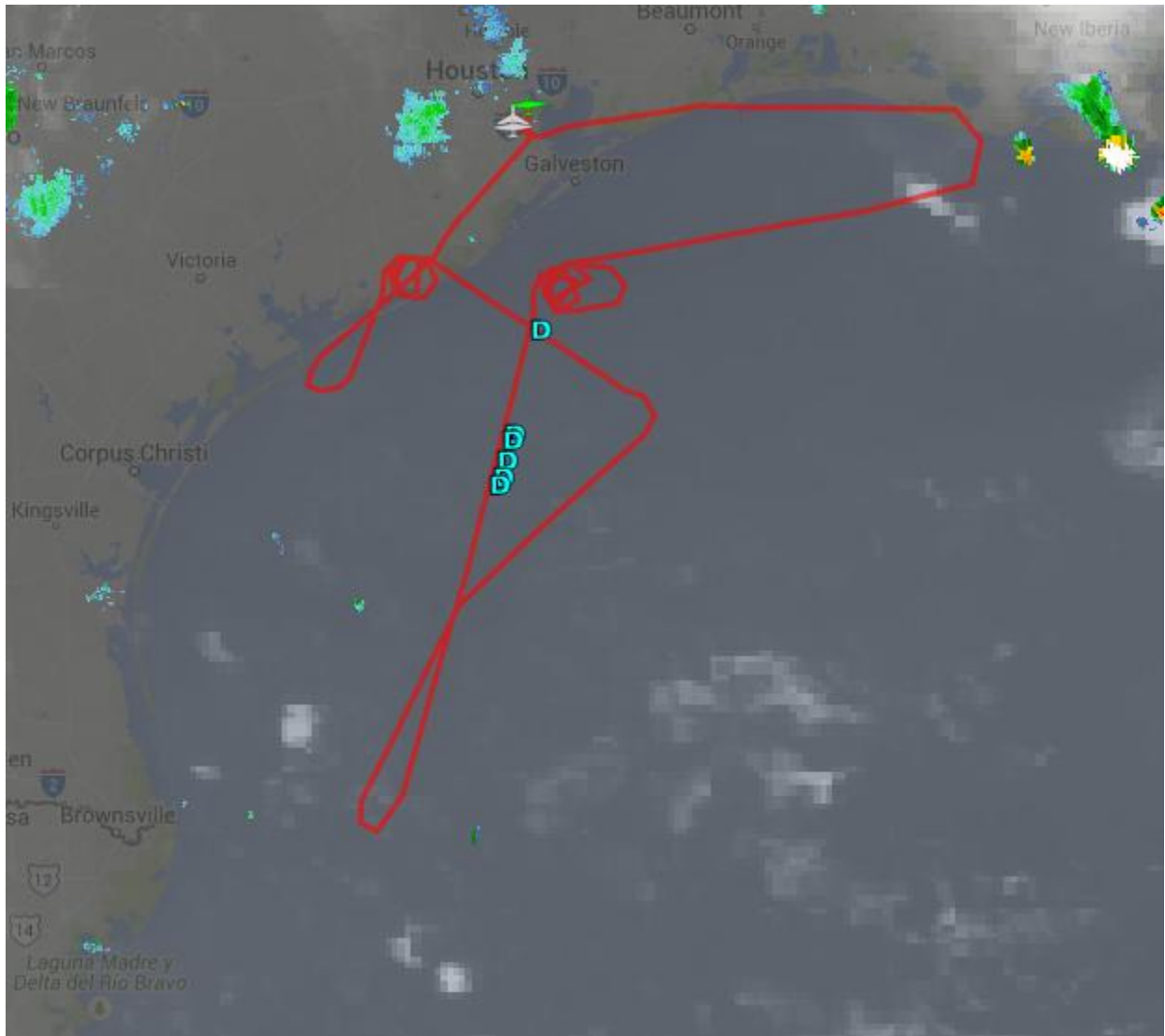


Sixth drop:



0318 UTC: Aircraft ready to land soon at Ellington

0324 UTC: On approach to Ellington. Here is the nearly-complete flight track and six of the sonde drop locations:



0330 UTC: WB-57 landed back at Ellington.

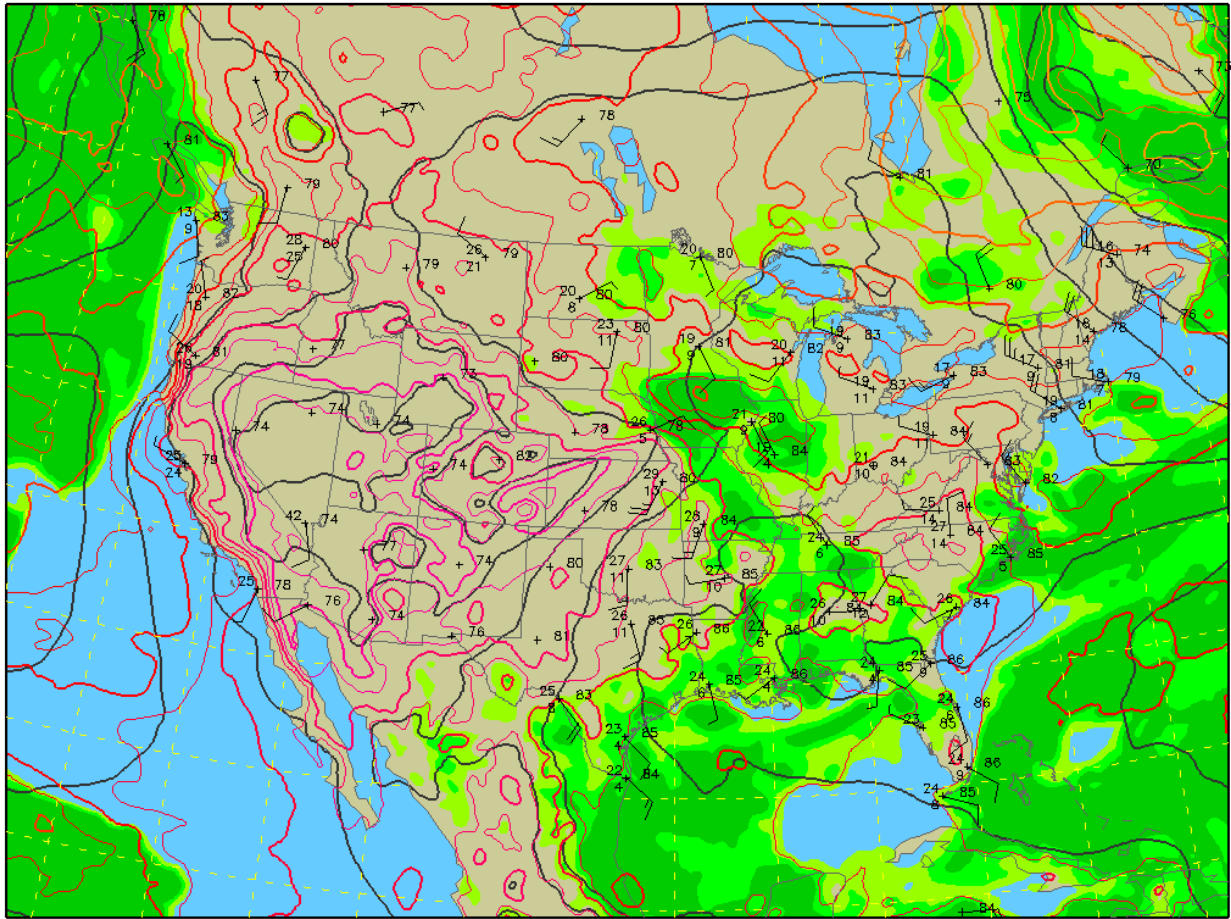
Some 25/00z upper air charts:

925 mb rawinsonde data 00z Thu 25 Jun 2015

925 mb Heights (dm) / Temperature (°C) / Humidity (%)

0-hour analysis valid 0000 UTC Thu 25 Jun 2015

RAP (00z 25 Jun)



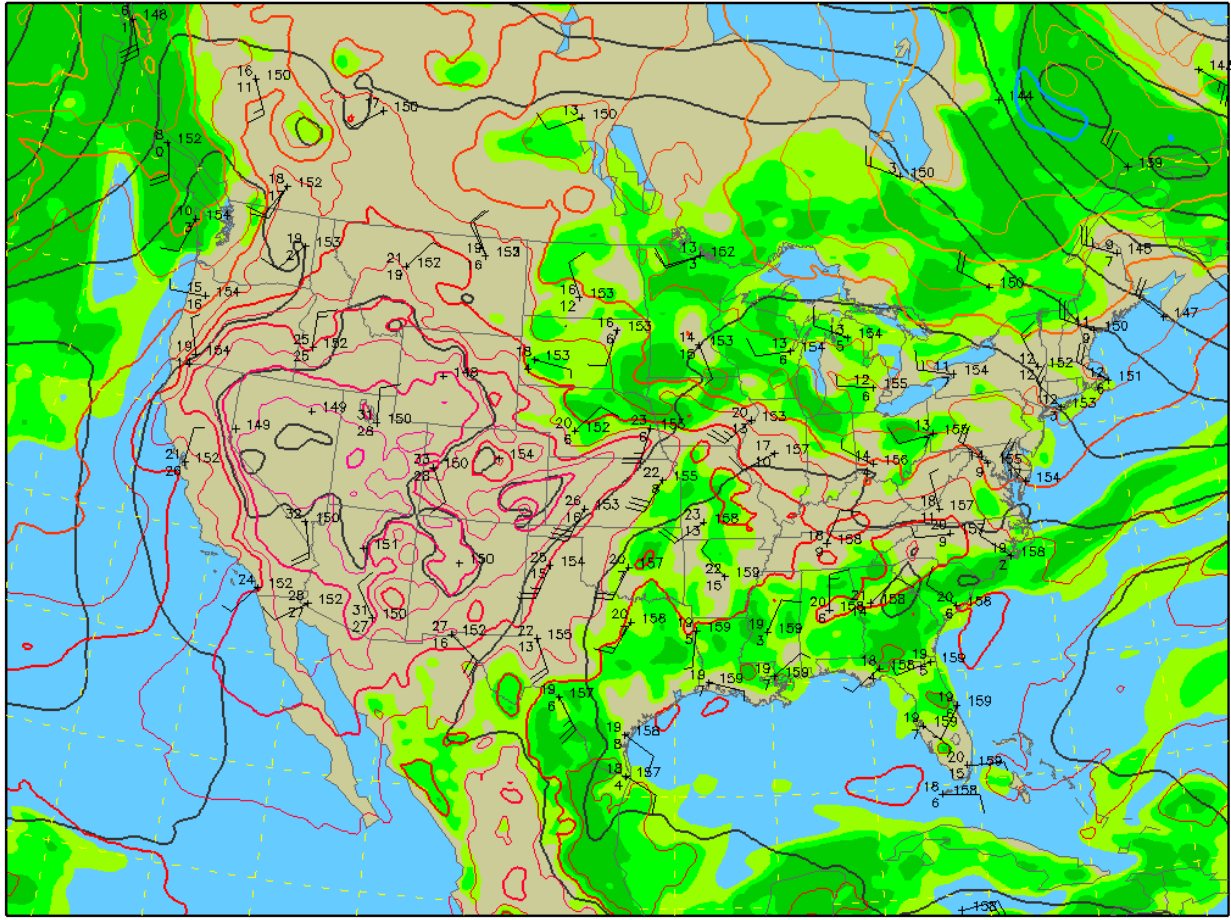
70 80 90 (percent)

850 mb rawinsonde data 00z Thu 25 Jun 2015

850 mb Heights (dm) / Temperature (°C) / Humidity (%)

0-hour analysis valid 0000 UTC Thu 25 Jun 2015

RAP (00z 25 Jun)



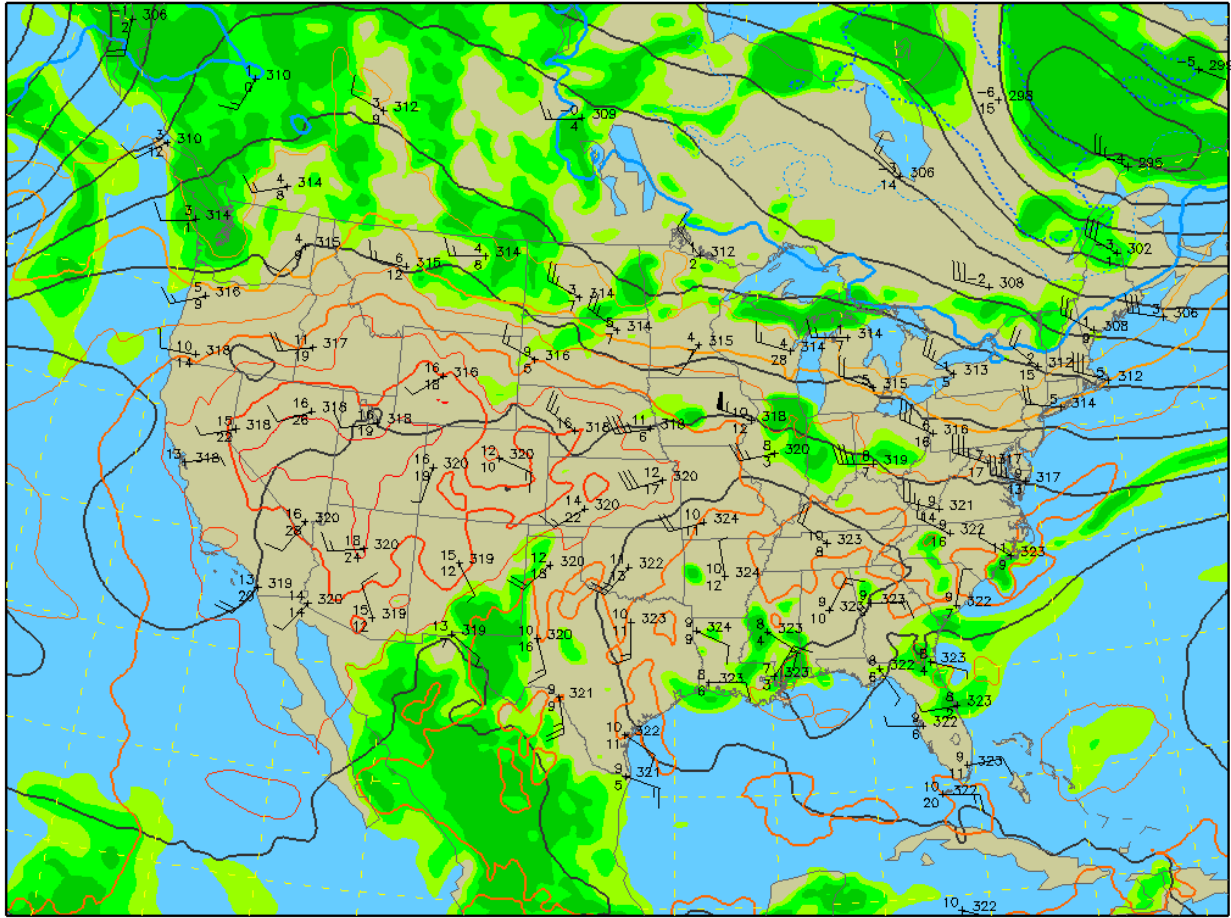
70 80 90 (percent)

700 mb rawinsonde data 00z Thu 25 Jun 2015

700 mb Heights (dm) / Temperature (°C) / Humidity (%)

0-hour analysis valid 0000 UTC Thu 25 Jun 2015

RAP (00z 25 Jun)

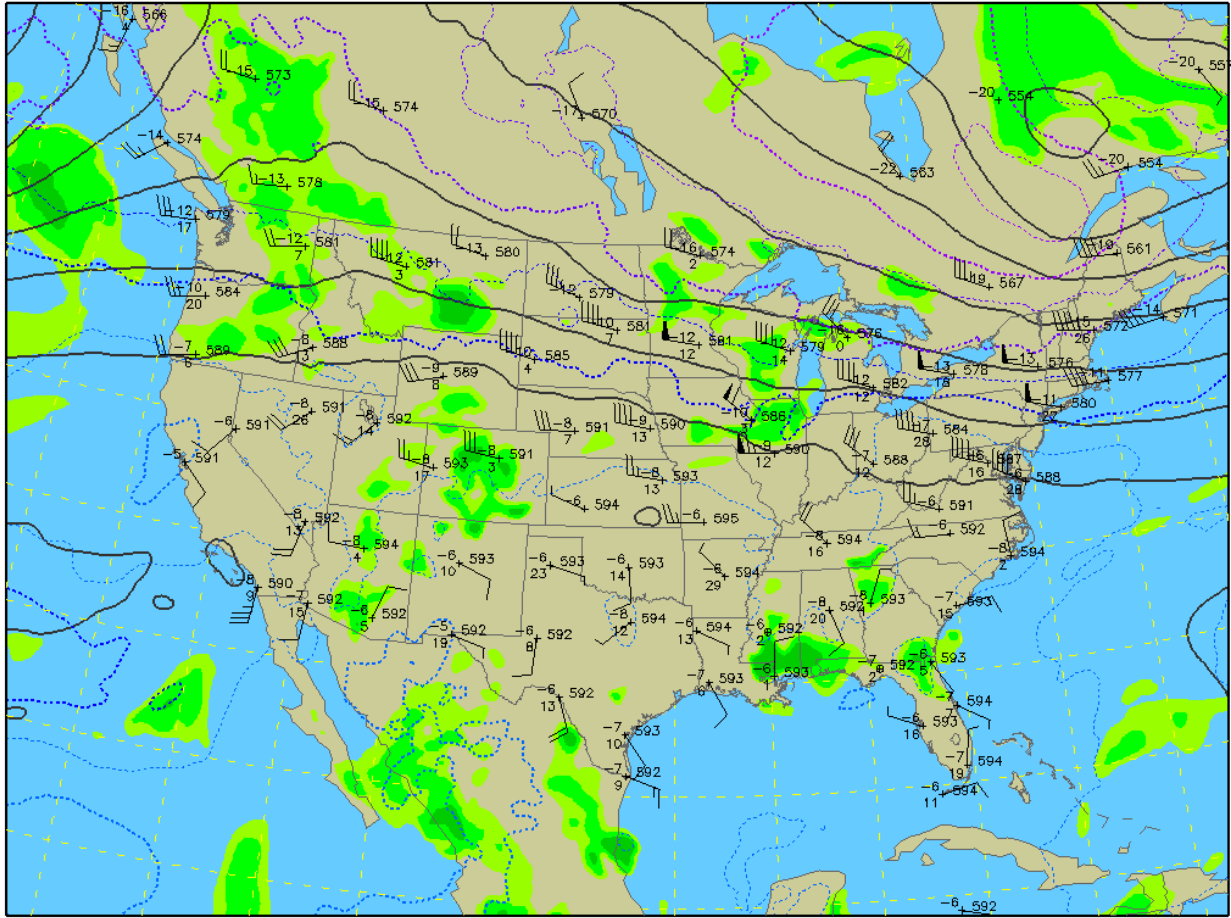


500 mb rawinsonde data 00z Thu 25 Jun 2015

500 mb Heights (dm) / Temperature (°C) / Humidity (%)

0-hour analysis valid 0000 UTC Thu 25 Jun 2015

RAP (00z 25 Jun)



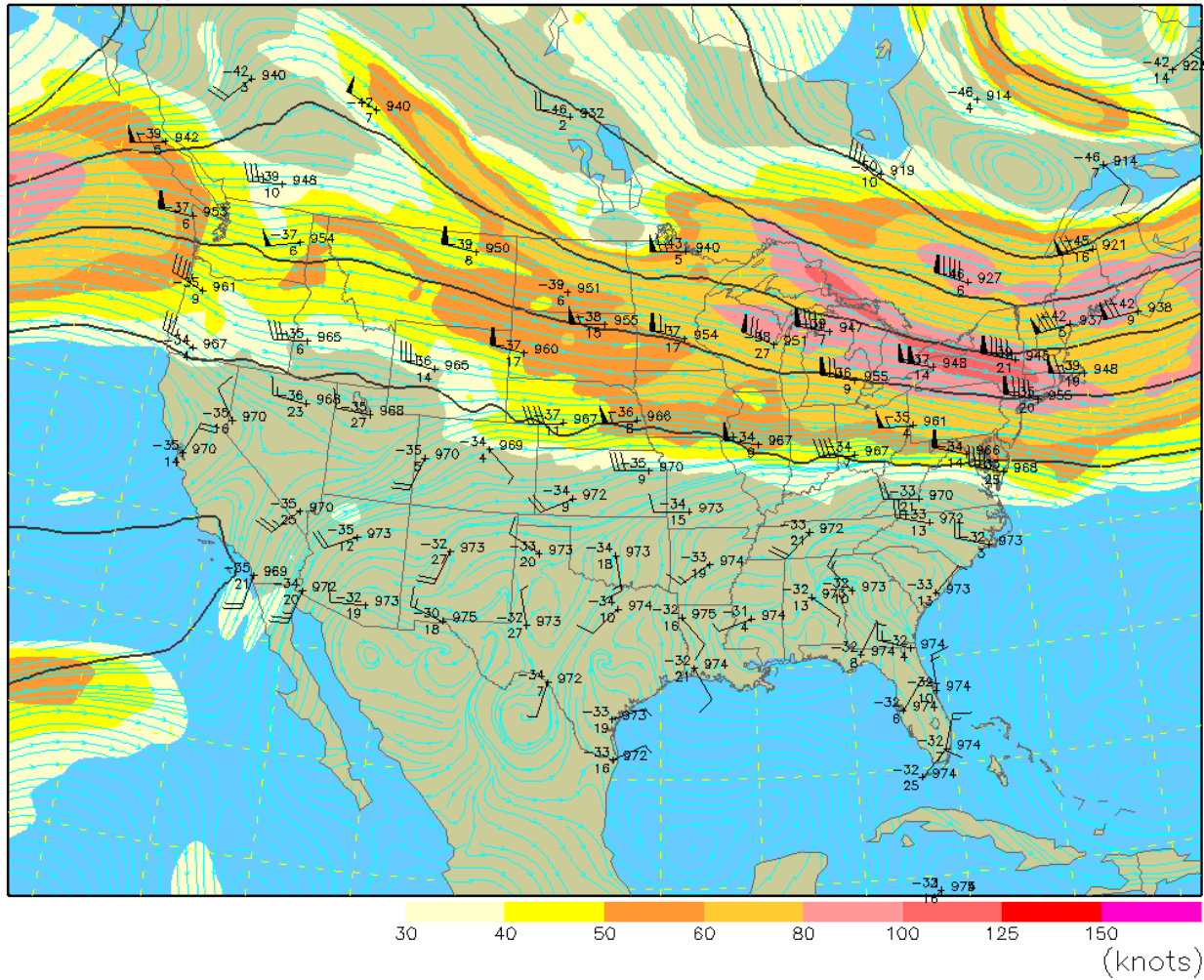
70 80 90
(percent)

300 mb rawinsonde data 00z Thu 25 Jun 2015

300 mb Heights (dm) / Isotachs (knots)

0-hour analysis valid 0000 UTC Thu 25 Jun 2015

RAP (00z 25 Jun)



200 mb rawinsonde data 00z Thu 25 Jun 2015

200 mb Heights (dm) / Isotachs (knots)

0-hour analysis valid 0000 UTC Thu 25 Jun 2015

RAP (00z 25 Jun)

