Mission Summary
Bonnie
980821i Aircraft 43RF

Scientific Crew (43RF)

Lead Project Scientist:	Sim Aberson
Radar Scientist:	John Gamache, Peter Dodge
Dropwindsonde Scientist:	John Gamache, Peter Dodge
Workstation Scientist:	Peter Dodge

Mission Briefing:

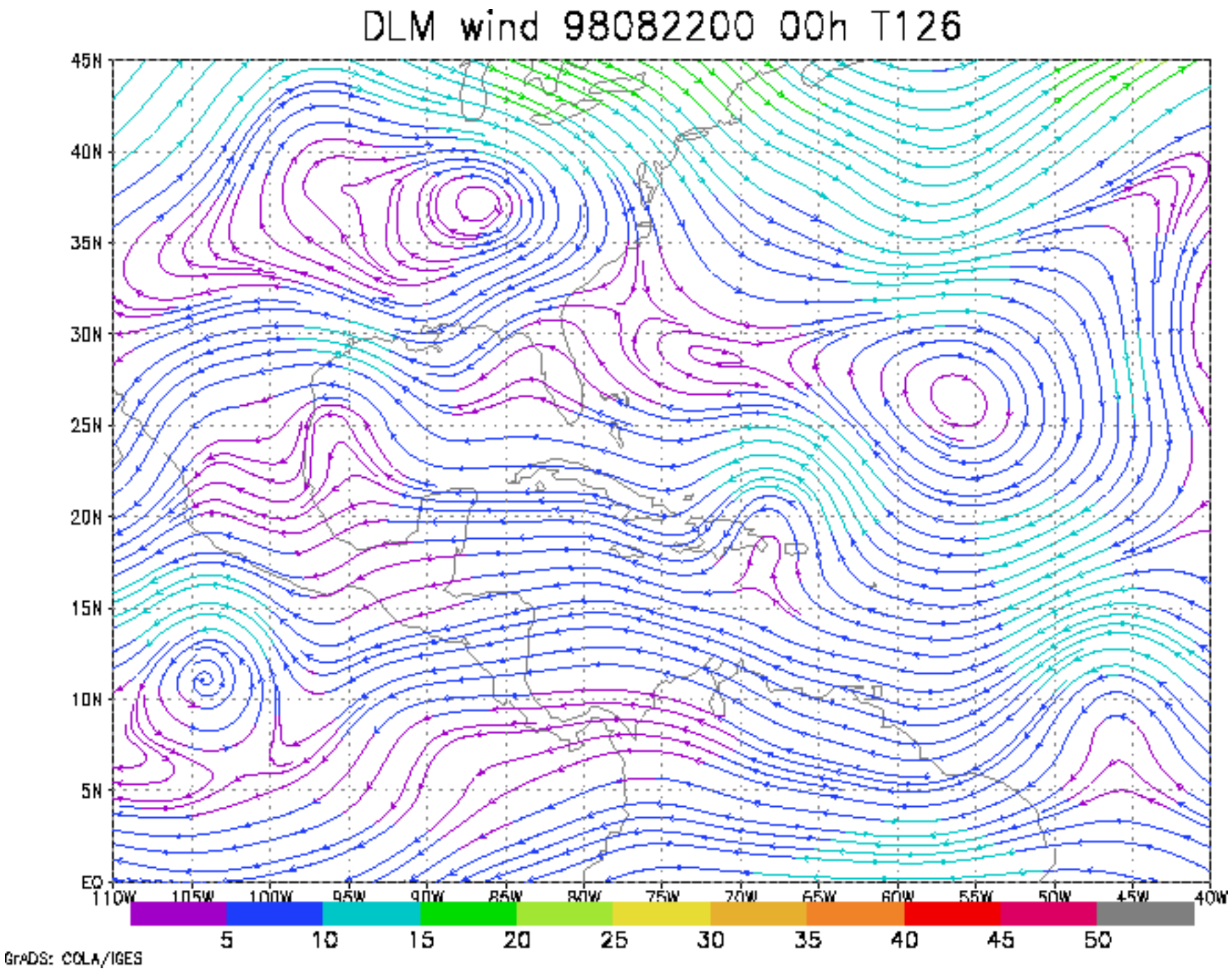
Tropical Storm Bonnie north of the Virgin Islands moving toward the west to west northwest around 20 kn, potentially threatening the Bahama Islands and the southeastern US coastline (Fig. 1). Tropical Storm Charley in the Gulf of Mexico is not a concern during this mission. The ridge to the north is showing signs of weakening just off the US east coast, though a cold low beginning to develop over northern Florida could steer Bonnie further to the north despite the trough over the northeastern US weakening and pulling eastward. The weak features suggest a weakening steering pattern, with resultant forecasting difficulty. A three plane synoptic flow mission was therefore called.

Ensemble-based targeting (Fig. 2) suggests that the areas of uncertainty are Bonnie itself, and the axis of a short-wave trough embedded in the large trough off the US east coast, located near 35N and 60W. The flight tracks of the three NOAA planes would cover these areas of uncertainty.

Mission Synopsis and Evaluation:

N43RF lost it's nose-cone steering on the runway in Bermuda, and the flight was cancelled. A part was ordered, arrived the next day, and was quickly installed.

Sim Aberson
9 September 1998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110W
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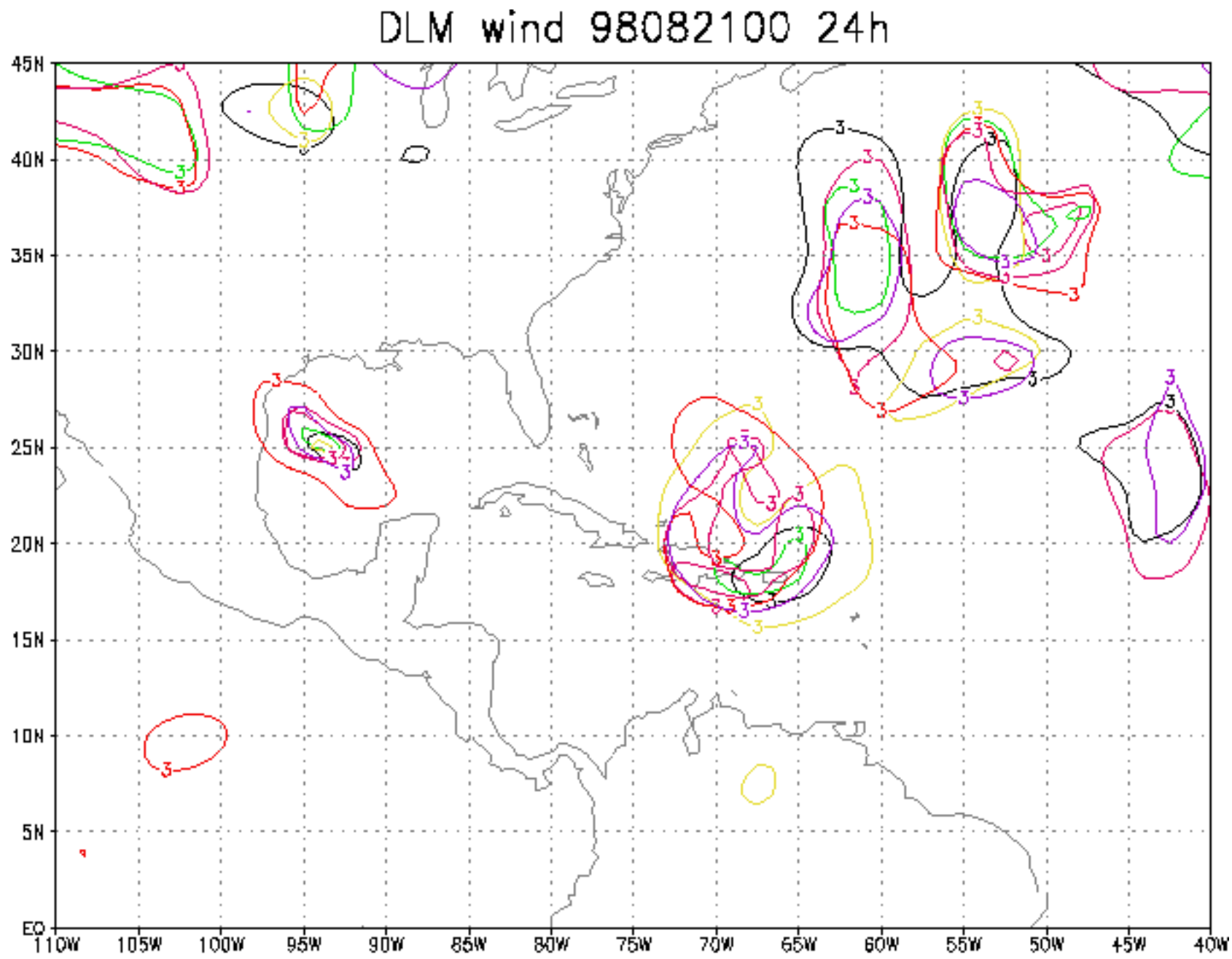
GrADS: COLA/IGES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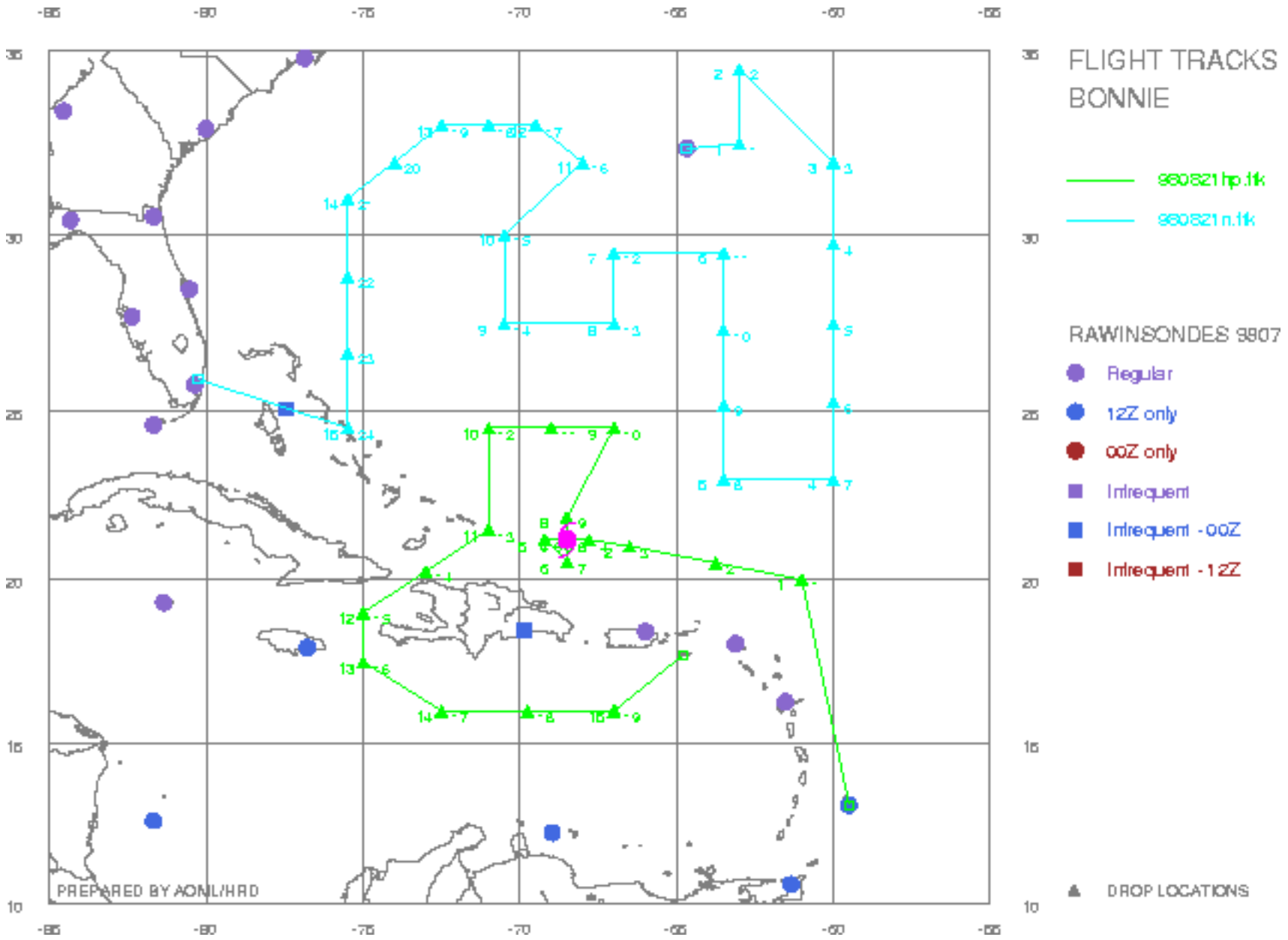
GrADS: COLA/IGES


FLIGHT TRACKS
BONNIE
980821hp.ftk
980821n.ftk
RAWINSONDES 9807
Regular
12Z only
00Z only
Infrequent
Infrequent - 00Z
Infrequent - 12Z
DROP LOCATIONS
PREPARED BY AOML/HRD
-85
-80
-75
-70
-65
-60
-55
35
30
25
20
15
10