Assimilating Moisture Information from Global Positioning System (GPS) Dropwindsondes into the NOAA Global Forecast System
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This document represents the first semi-annual report for this JHT project.

No work has been completed on this project for two reasons.

1. The operational version of the Global Forecasting System (GFS) was not available on RED, the NCEP computer available for use for JHT projects, until mid-October. This did not provide any time for model testing.

2. The original proposal to run the operational suite of models was found not to be in the interest of the NOAA Environmental Modeling Center (EMC), the main customer for this project. Their specific requirements for assimilation of new data types requires the running of the GFS at reduced resolution as a first test.

By 31 October, the PI and collaborator had agreed with the EMC director to conduct a test of the GFS at reduced resolution for the 2005 Atlantic hurricane season. The initial metric to test is tropical cyclone track forecast errors. It remains unclear whether other metrics will also be required, or whether tests of the GFDL hurricane model will also be required.

A parallel cycle of a reduced-resolution version of the GFS for this project will commence shortly.