

# 2020 NOAA/AOML/HRD Hurricane Field Program - IFEX

## GENESIS STAGE EXPERIMENT *Flight Pattern Descriptions*

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**Experiment/Module:** Favorable Air Mass (FAM)

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**Requirements:** Pre-genesis disturbances (pre-TDs), including NHC-designated “Invests”

**Genesis Stage Science Objective(s) Addressed:**

The overarching objective is to investigate if a pre-genesis disturbance has matured into a TC, including the organization of convection and the development of a closed low-level circulation.

- 1) To investigate the favorability in both dynamics (e.g., vertical wind shear) and thermodynamics (e.g., moisture) for tropical cyclogenesis in the environment near a pre-TD, especially the downstream environment [*IFEX Goal 3*].

### **P-3 Pattern 1**

**What to Target:** The environment near a pre-TD or “invest”, especially ahead of the pre-TD’s trajectory. In most cases, this will be the environment to the west and north of a pre-TD.

**When to Target:** Every 12 h. Could be every 6 h if it is determined that the environment is evolving rapidly and aircraft/crew availability allows it. Sample when pre-TD is at or west of 35°W.

**Pattern:** Lawnmower

**Flight altitude:** 15-20 kft

**Leg length or radii:** 600-1000 n mi (1110-1850 km) x 150 n mi (280 km) with the longer leg oriented approximately perpendicular to the trajectory of the pre-TD. The length of the longer leg should be set based on an analysis of the environment to be measured.

**Estimated in-pattern flight duration:** 3-6 h depending on the number of lawnmower legs and the length of the ferry.

**Expendable distribution:** dropsondes every ~150 n mi (280 km)

**Instrumentation Notes:** Use straight flight legs as safety permits. See attached figure for more information.

### **G-IV Pattern 1**

**What to Target:** The environment near a pre-TD or “invest”, especially ahead of the pre-TD’s trajectory. In most cases, this will be the environment to the west and north of a pre-TD.

**When to Target:** Every 12 h. Sample when pre-TD is at or west of 45°W.

**GENESIS STAGE EXPERIMENT**  
*Flight Pattern Descriptions*

**Pattern:** Lawnmower

**Flight altitude:** 40-45 kft

**Leg length or radii:** 600-1000 n mi (1110-1850 km) x 150 n mi (280 km) with the longer leg oriented approximately perpendicular to the trajectory of the pre-TD. The length of the longer leg should be set based on an analysis of the environment to be measured.

**Estimated in-pattern flight duration:** 3-6 h depending on the number of lawnmower legs and the length of the ferry.

**Expendable distribution:** dropsondes every ~150 n mi (280 km).

**Instrumentation Notes:** Use straight flight legs as safety permits. See attached figure for more information.

