

A frontal soaring flight across the Gulf of Mexico?

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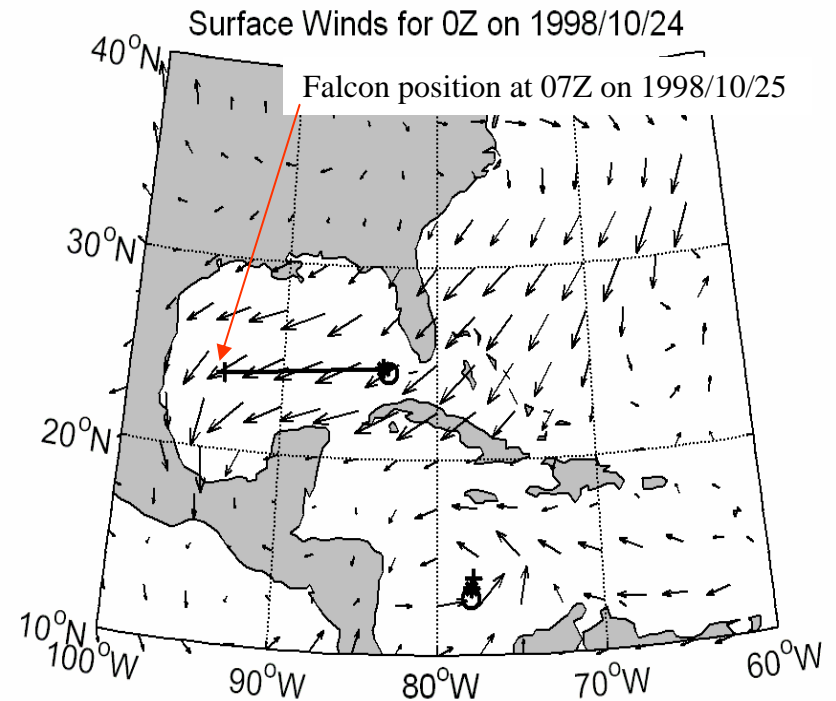
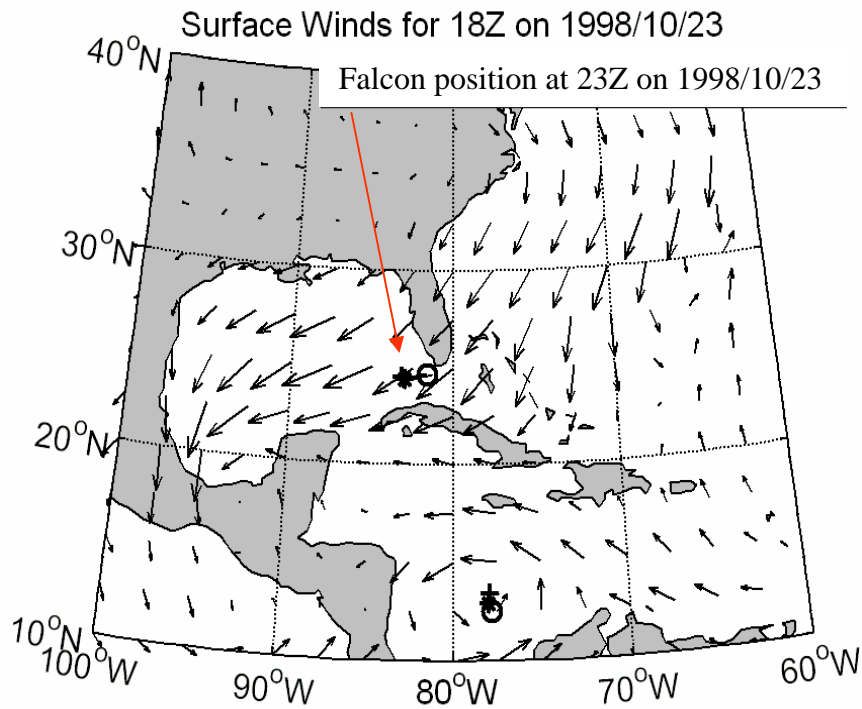
Tracking Peregrine Falcon Migration

- Results from ARGOS satellite navigation backpacks on migrating peregrine falcons
- Fixes roughly once per day
- Mapping typical migration routes
- And, showing the impact of soaring weather on route choice

Typical Migration Route

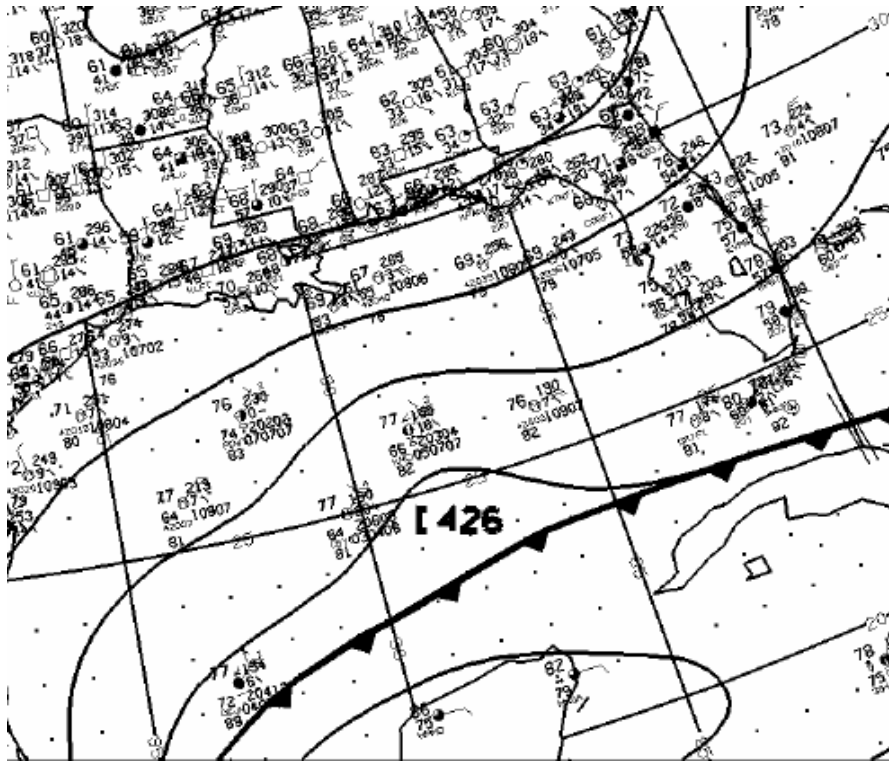
- Peregrines migrating from Greenland to South America follow the USA Atlantic coast to Florida
- The over water route from Florida to South America is generally southward
- Taking advantage of “stepping stones”: Cuba, Yucatan and other Caribbean land masses
- Other routes are possible, however

Peregrine Falcon – Downwind Dash

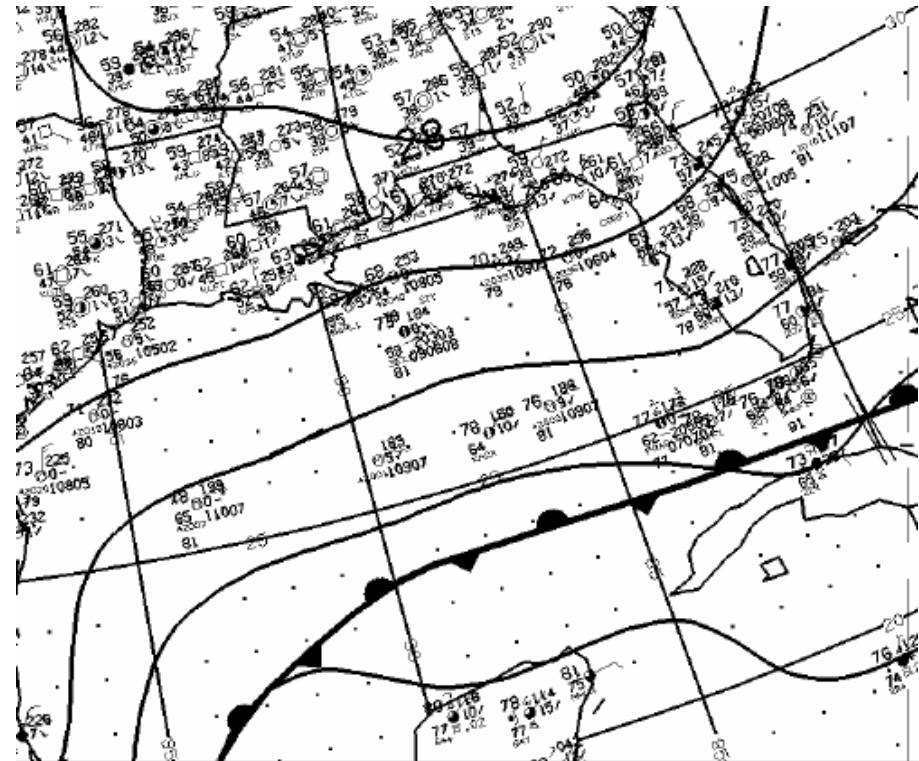


Frontal Position – Along Flight Path

18Z 1998/10/23



00Z 1998/10/24



Conclusions

- Most peregrines use post-cold-frontal tailwinds to make a southward crossing of the Florida Straits and the Caribbean Sea
- In contrast, one peregrine was observed to follow a stationary front westward across the Gulf of Mexico
- Tailwinds and frontal lift would have favored this route