Subject: Re: Overlaying gridded winds on satellite data
Posted by R.G. Stockwell on Thu, 21 Jul 2005 14:53:09 GMT
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"Christopher Lee" <cl@127.0.0.1> wrote in message
news:20050721.082817.1875335928.19310@buckley.atm.ox.ac.uk.. .

> Wind barbs point in the direction the wind is coming FROM. Hence the
> terms westward (winds coming from the west) and eastward (winds coming
> from the east) etc.

You forgot to include the minus sign out front. :)
Eastward blows towards the east. Eastward = Westerly (out of the West).
Colin Hines, the great Canadian Physicist, had a great line about the
confusion
between this terminology. I don't remember what it was, so I'll make one
up.
"One walks forwards, one does not walk backwardserly".

The point of course was that everyone should use the terms *wards, and
banish
*erly from the literature.

Having said that, I do recognize that "an eastward wind" often means that it
is
an easterly wind. So basically no one can conclude what the frelling
direction
of the wind is, there is a 180 degree ambiguity.

"David Fanning" <davidf@dfanning.com> wrote in message
news:MPG.1d4873bfdf7ab7a5989a20@news.frii.com...
...
> I'm not making any more changes in this program until
> someone sends me a definitive reference for wind barbs.
..
The barbs are *erly, i.e. what direction the wind came from.
Arrows should be *wards, i.e. what direction the wind is blowing.

What better definitive reference than a semi-anonymous usenet posting.

Also, for barbs, see http://www.al.noaa.gov/WWWHD/pubdocs/windbarb.html

Cheers,
bob (the human, not to be confused with JD's pointer pointing to a big pile
of data)