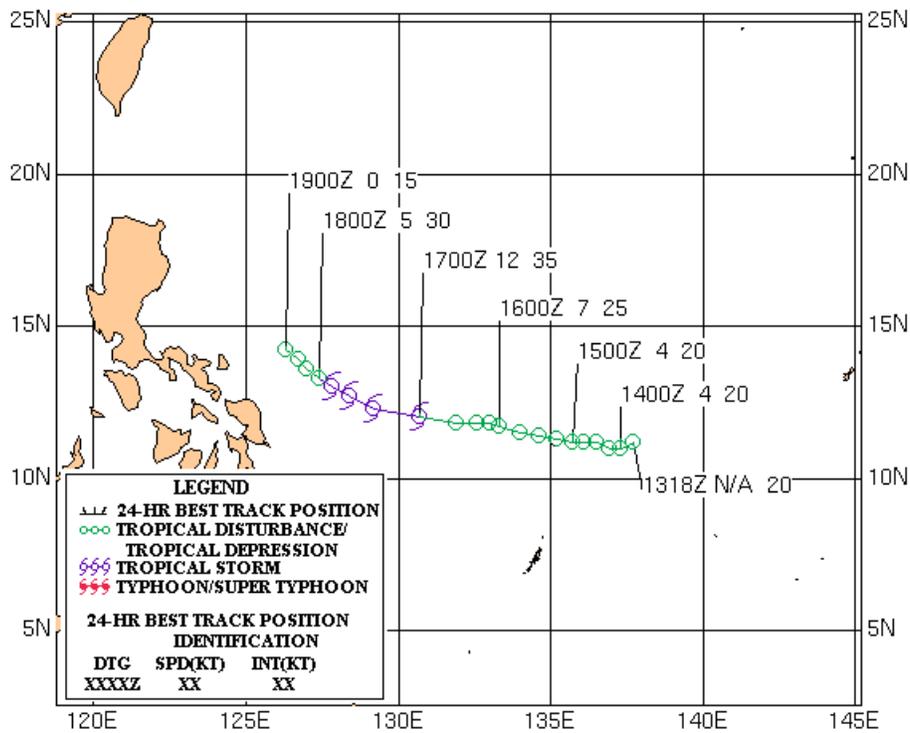


Tropical Storm Iris (02W)

Tropical Storm (TS) Iris (02W) formed in mid-February from a monsoon depression in the Philippine Sea. TS Iris reached a peak intensity of 35 kt as it tracked westward toward the Philippine Islands and dissipated after 6 days in the Philippine Sea.

A TCFA was issued on the monsoon depression approximately 400 nm west-southwest of Guam, at 132330Z February. The depression was slow to consolidate and JTWC issued two subsequent TCFA's (142330Z and 152330Z) before issuing the first tropical cyclone warning on TD 02W on 160000Z February. TD 02W tracked westward toward the Philippines until 170000Z February when it reached tropical storm strength. TS Iris then moved more northwesterward in response to the subtropical ridge to the east. TS Iris attained a maximum intensity of 35 kt and then began to weaken over water, due to strong vertical wind shear. JTWC issued the 13th and final warning on TS Iris at 181800Z February as the cyclone dissipated 120 nm east of the Philippine Islands.



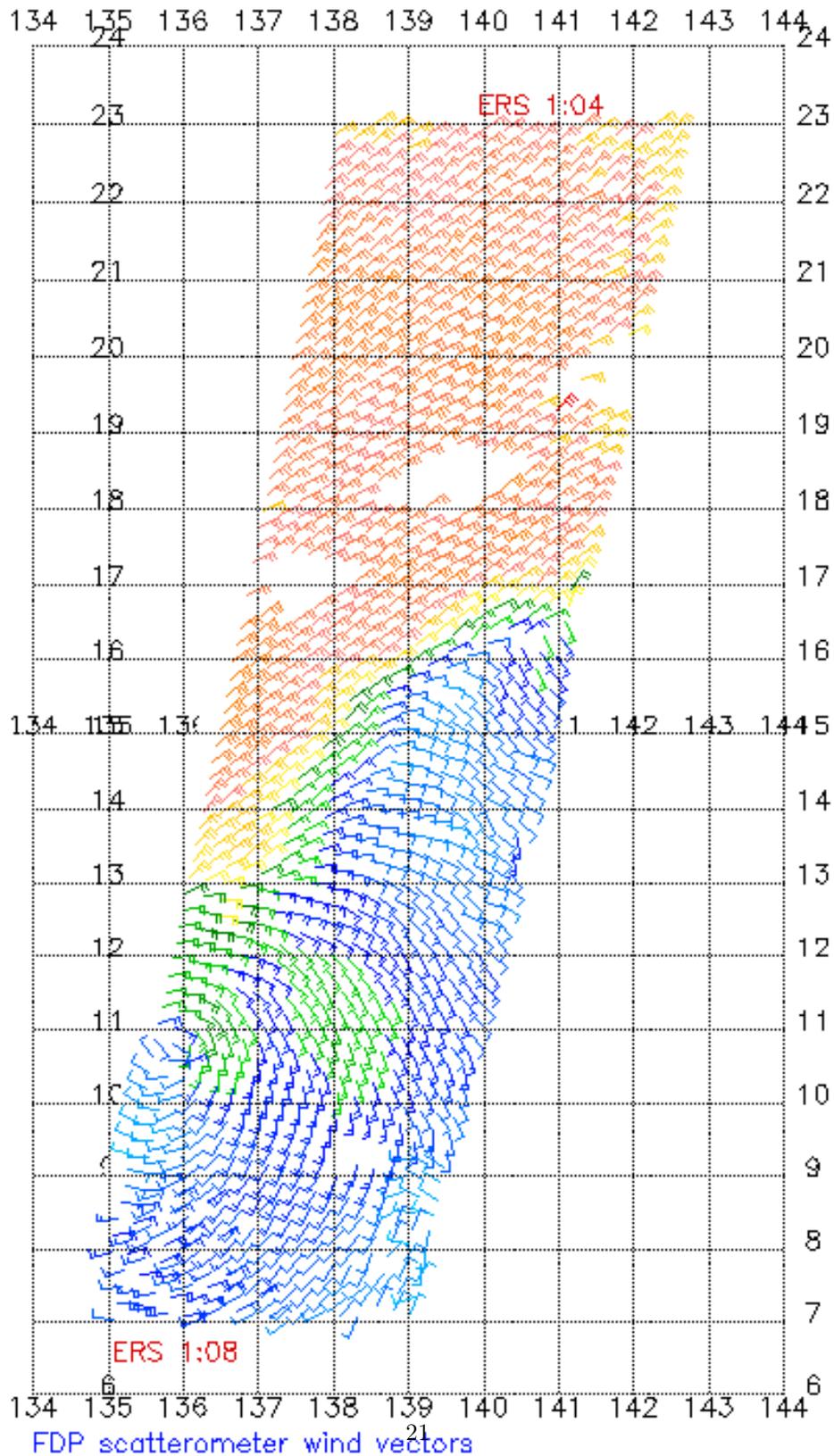


Figure 1-02-1. ERS-2 Scatterometer pass over Tropical Depression 02W which later developed into TS Iris. The low level circulation center seems to be enhanced due to horizontal wind shear from the strong northeasterly monsoon.