

# **The Spectrum of Progressive Derecho Formation Environments**

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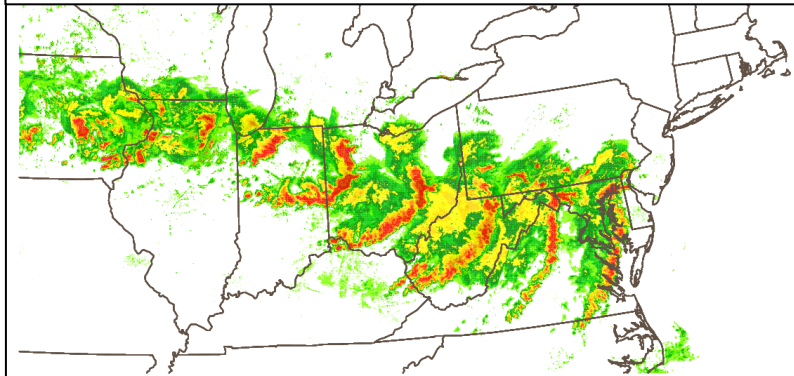
**Derecho:** a swath of severe winds 400 km long or greater caused by bowing mesoscale convective system (MCS)

**Two types:**

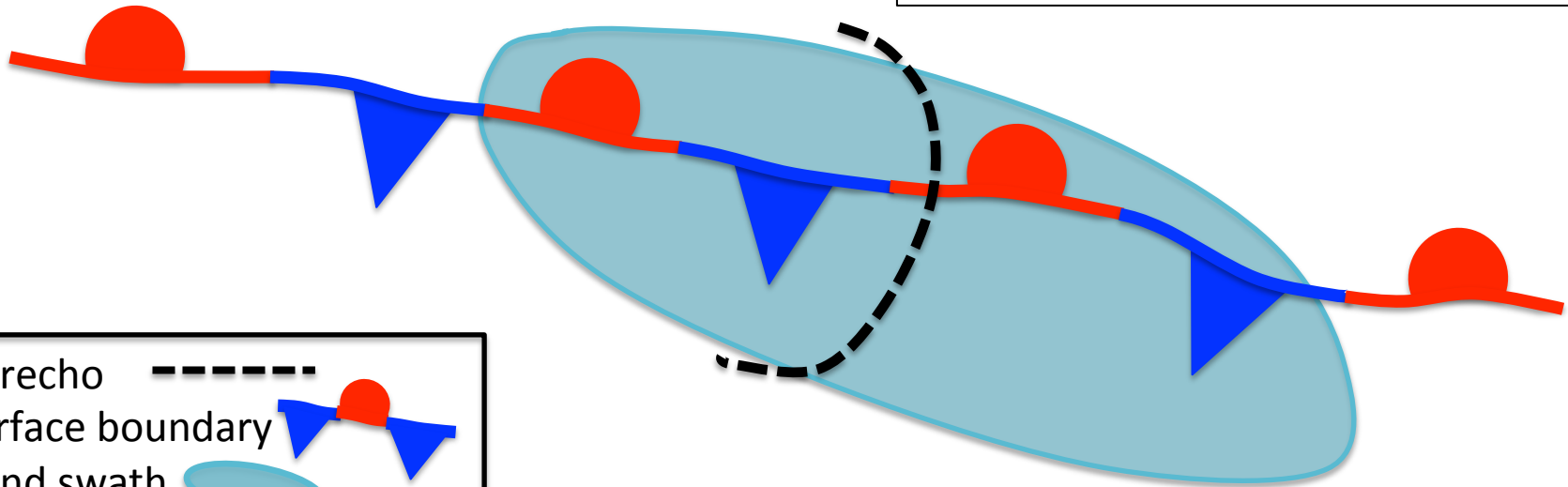
- Progressive
- Serial


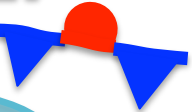

# Progressive Derecho Schematic

1600 UTC 29–0400 UTC 30 June 2012



Mean Wind Direction



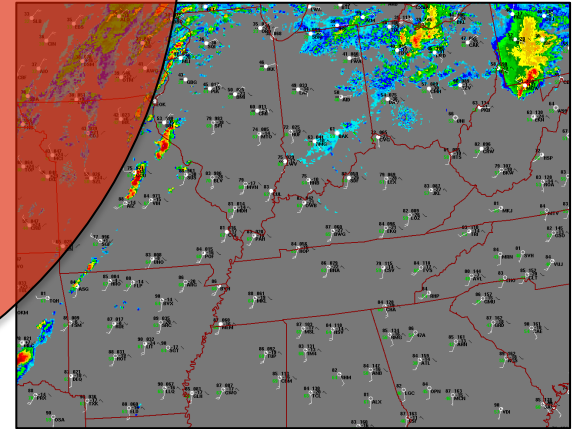
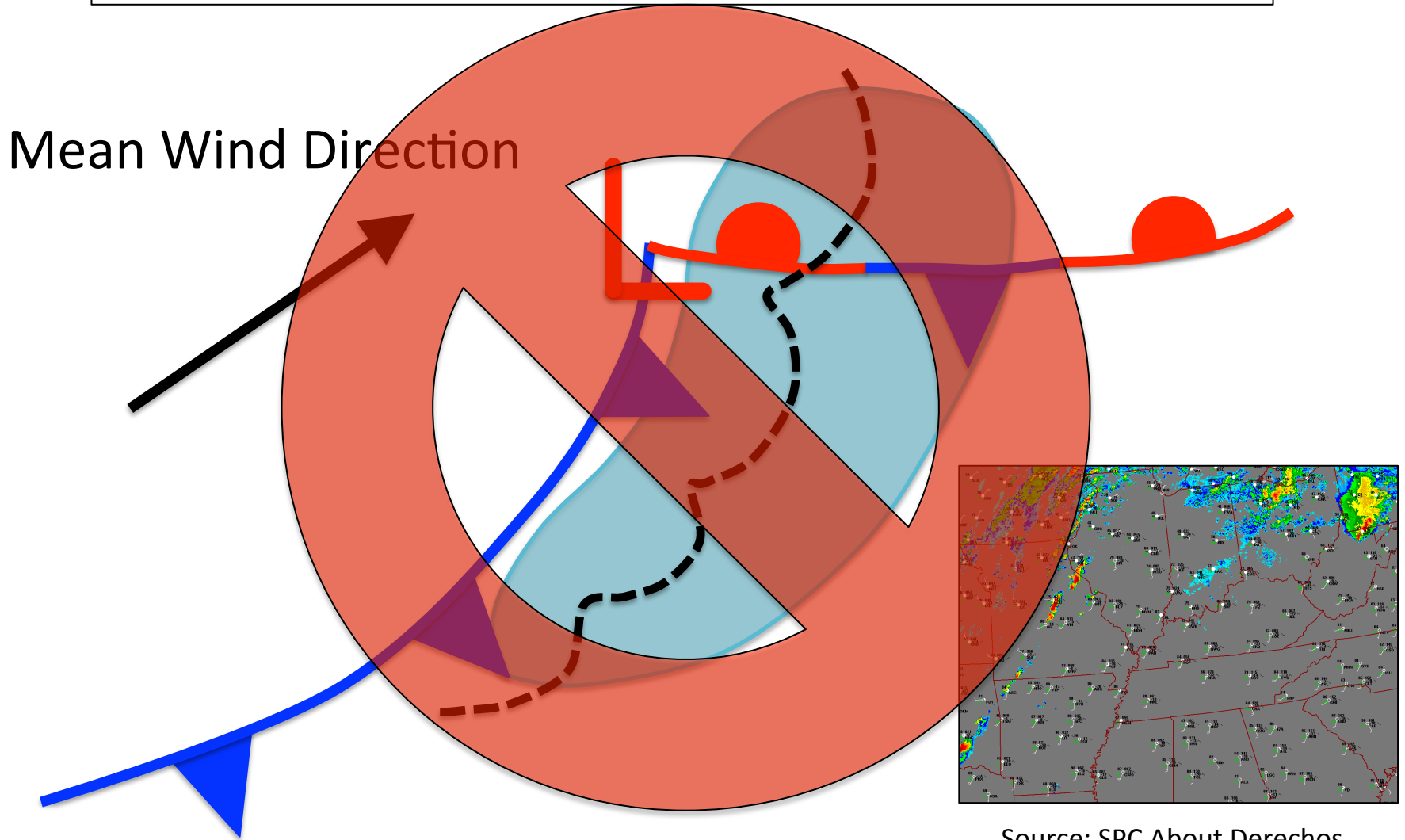
Derecho   
Surface boundary   
Wind swath 

120 km

Adapted from Johns and Hirt (1987)

# Serial Derecho Schematic

Mean Wind Direction



120 km

Adapted from Johns and Hirt (1987)

Source: SPC About Derechos

# Motivation

- Progressive derechos are high impact events
- Progressive derechos may be poorly predicted due to the benign synoptic environments in which they form
  - Able to sustain themselves through cold pool dynamics far away from initial forcing for ascent as long as unfavorable environment not encountered
  - Predicting extent of storm track difficult
- Can progressive derecho formation environments be systematically categorized?

# 29–30 June 2012 Derecho: Statistics

- Duration: ~11 h (1700-0400 UTC)
- Length: ~1200 km (IL/IN to DE/MD)
- Fatalities: 13 direct, 31 indirect
- Peak wind gust: 79 kt (Fort Wayne, IN)
- Damage: \$1+Billion (source: NCDC)
- Power outages: ~4 million **customers**
- Heat stress: Millions of people
- Source: <http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/news/preliminary-info-2012-us-billion-dollar-extreme-weatherclimate-events>



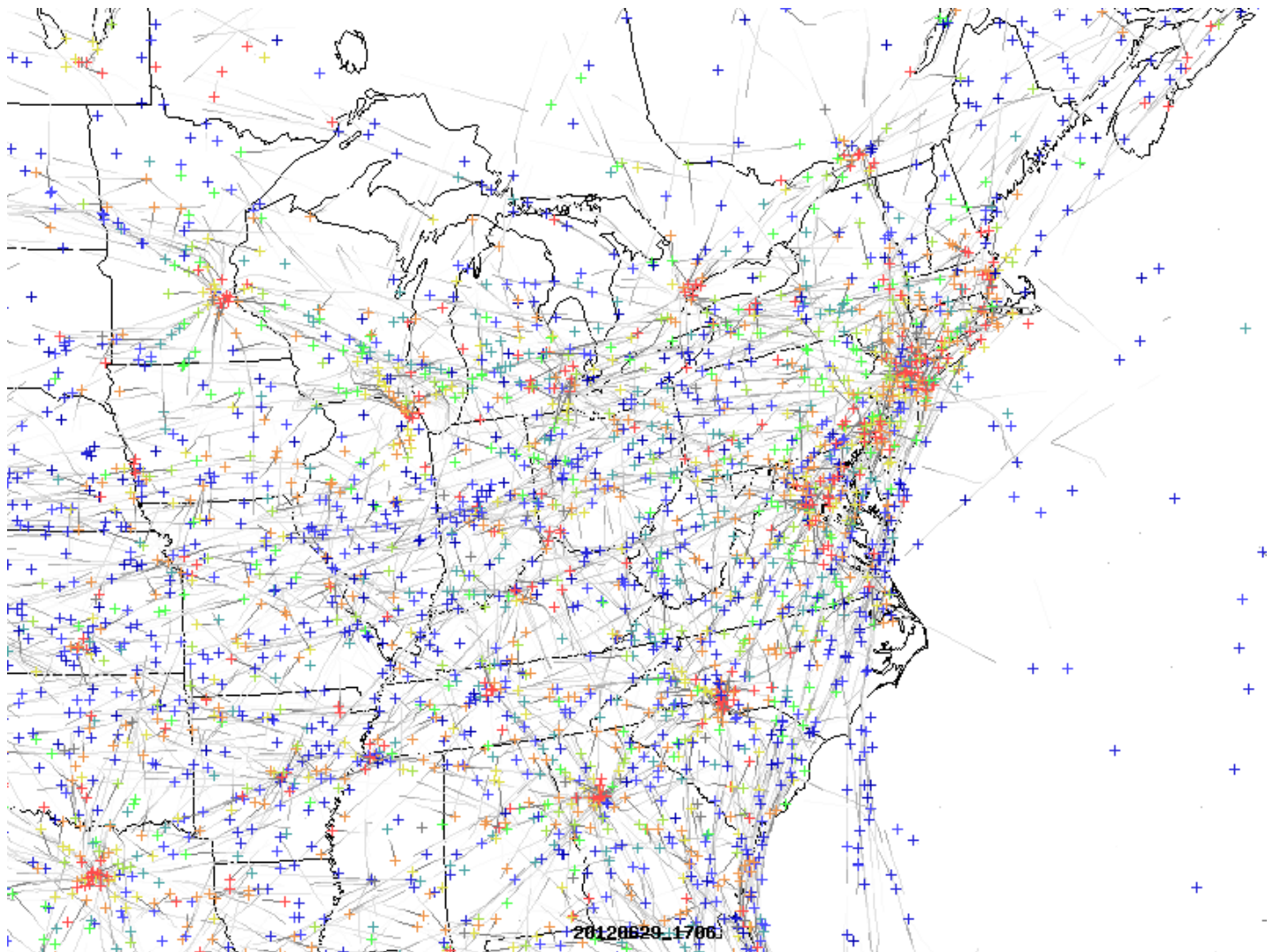
# Flight tracks: 1700 UTC 29 June to 0500 UTC 30 June 2012

A look at how the FAA and the airlines managed flight tracks during the long-lived derecho of 29-30 June 2012

- Source: Daniel Vietor<sup>1</sup> and David Bright<sup>2</sup>
  - 1: Senior Research Meteorologist, CIRA-CSU and NCEP Aviation Weather Center
  - 2: Chief, Aviation support Branch, NCEP Aviation Weather Center



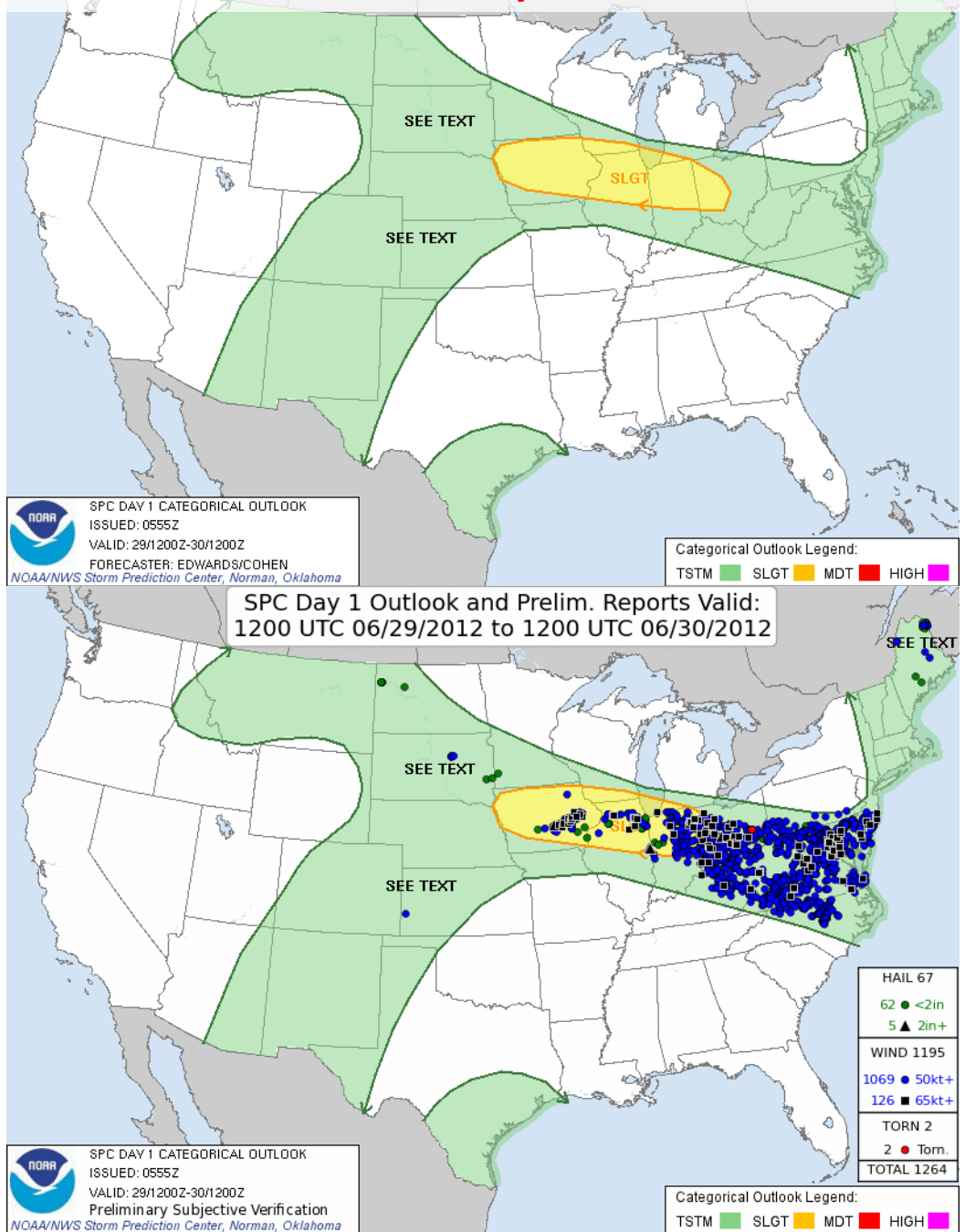
# Flight tracks



# Motivation

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- Progressive derechos may be poorly predicted due to the benign synoptic environments in which they form
  - Able to sustain themselves through cold pool dynamics far away from initial forcing for ascent as long as unfavorable environment not encountered
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- Can progressive derecho formation environments be systematically categorized?

# 0600 UTC 29 June 2012 Day 1 Convective Outlook



# Motivation

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  - Predicting extent of storm track difficult
- Can progressive derecho formation environments be systematically categorized?

# Outline

- Partial extension of existing climatology
  - Warm season (May–August) progressive derechos
    - Storm Prediction Center severe storm reports and NCDC radar archive
- Subjective composites
  - Formation spectrum
    - 0.5° Climate Forecast System Reanalysis (CFSR) data
- Two case studies
  - Ends of formation spectrum
    - North American Regional Reanalysis (NARR), sounding, satellite, radar, surface observations
- Science and forecasting issues

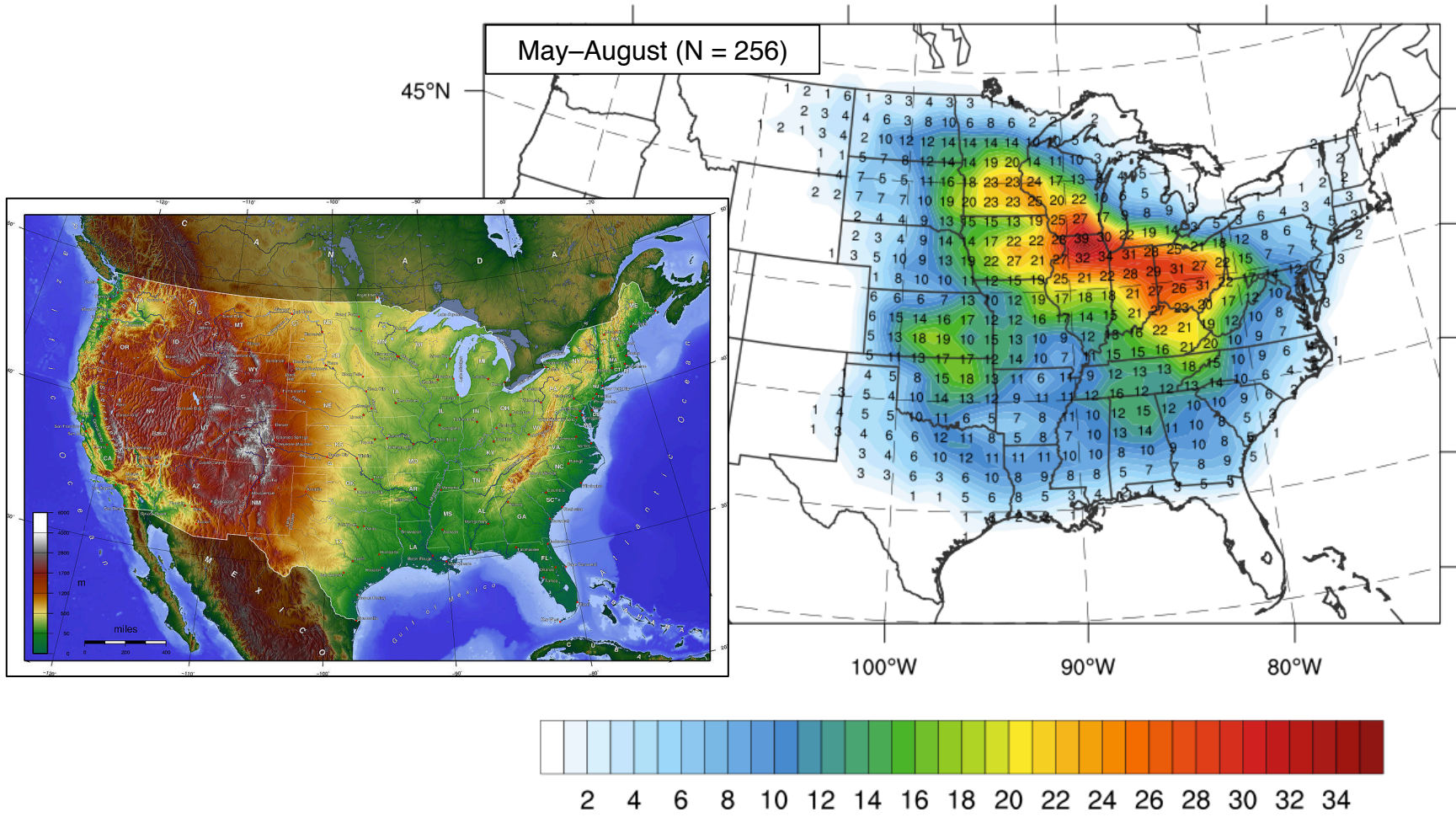
# Origin of Derecho Climatologies

- Derecho first coined in 1888 (Hinrichs)
- First attempt to systematically identify derechos by Johns and Hirt (1987) using the following criteria based on Fujita and Wakimoto's (1981) definition of a family of downburst clusters:
  - Concentrated area of wind reports  $> 26 \text{ m s}^{-1}$  (50 kt) at least 400 km long
  - Reports must exhibit a pattern in a singular swath
  - Must be at least three reports separated by 64 km or more of either F1 damage and/or gusts of  $33 \text{ m s}^{-1}$  or greater
  - No more than three hours can elapse between successive wind reports

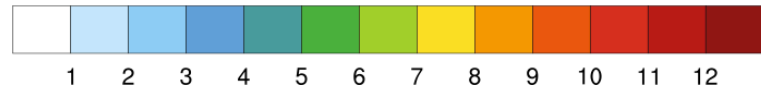
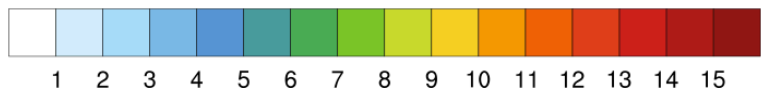
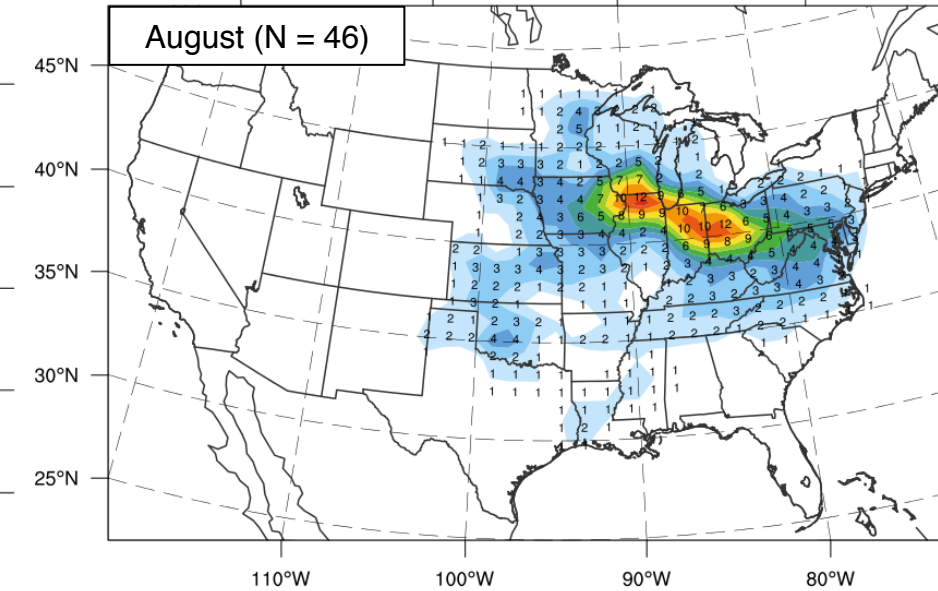
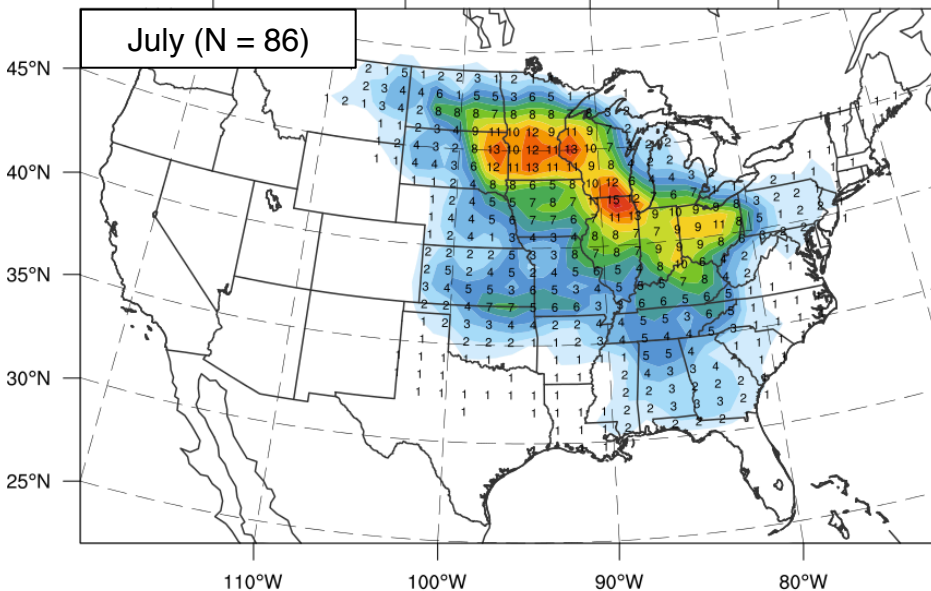
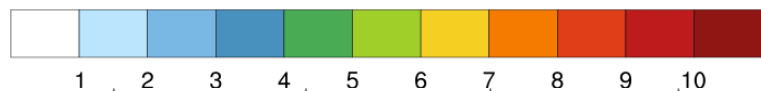
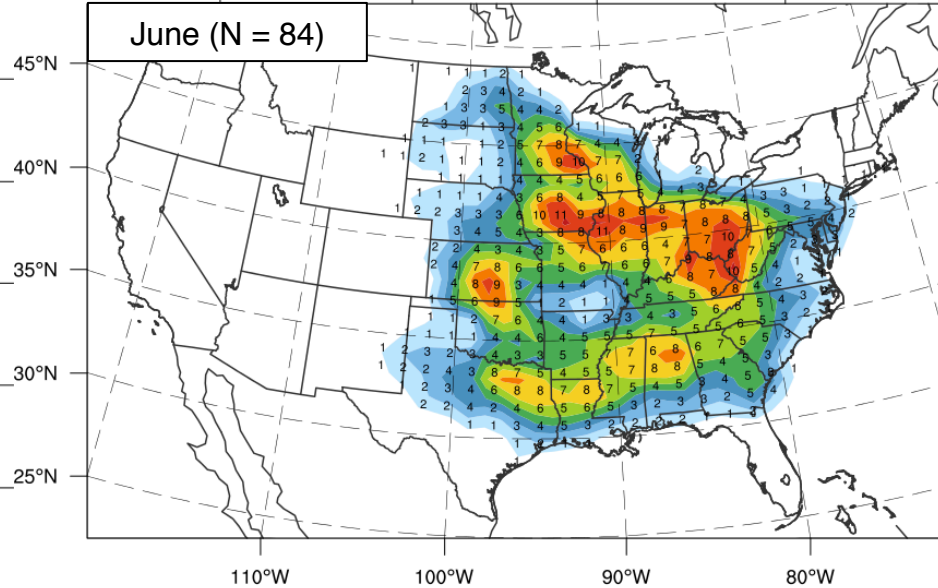
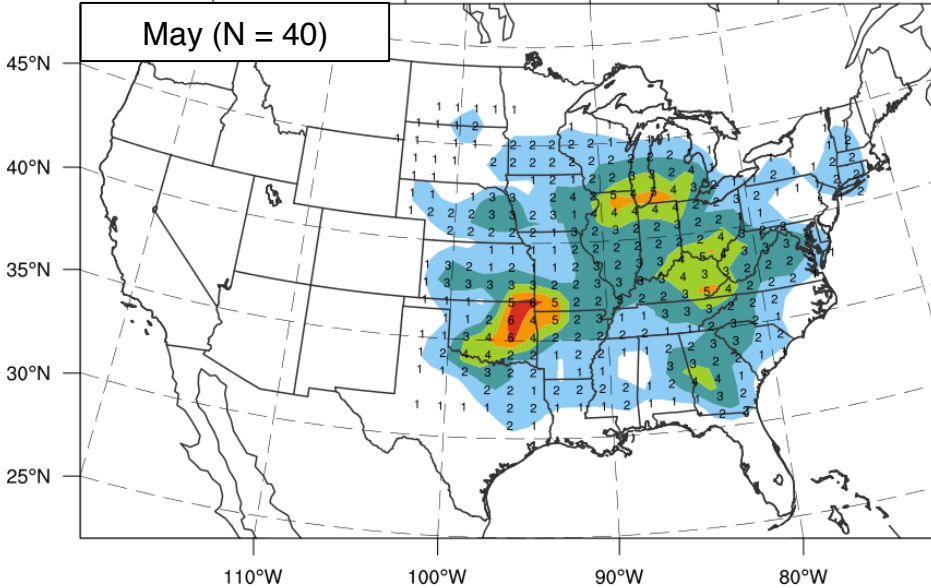
# Origin of Derecho Climatologies

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  - No more than three hours can elapse between successive wind reports

# 1996–2013 progressive derecho climatology





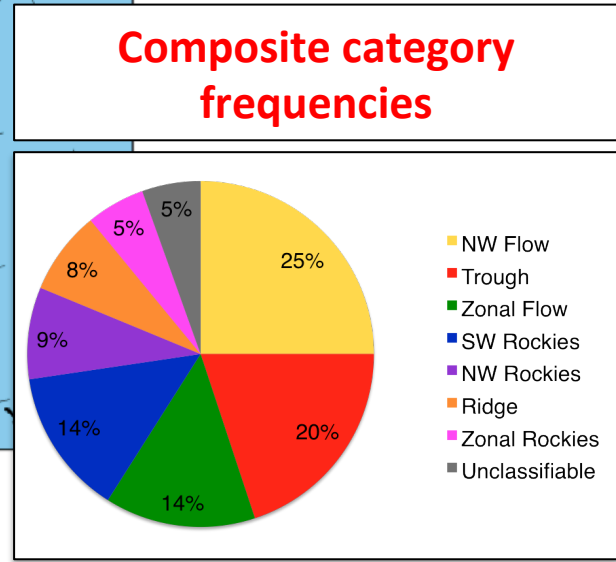
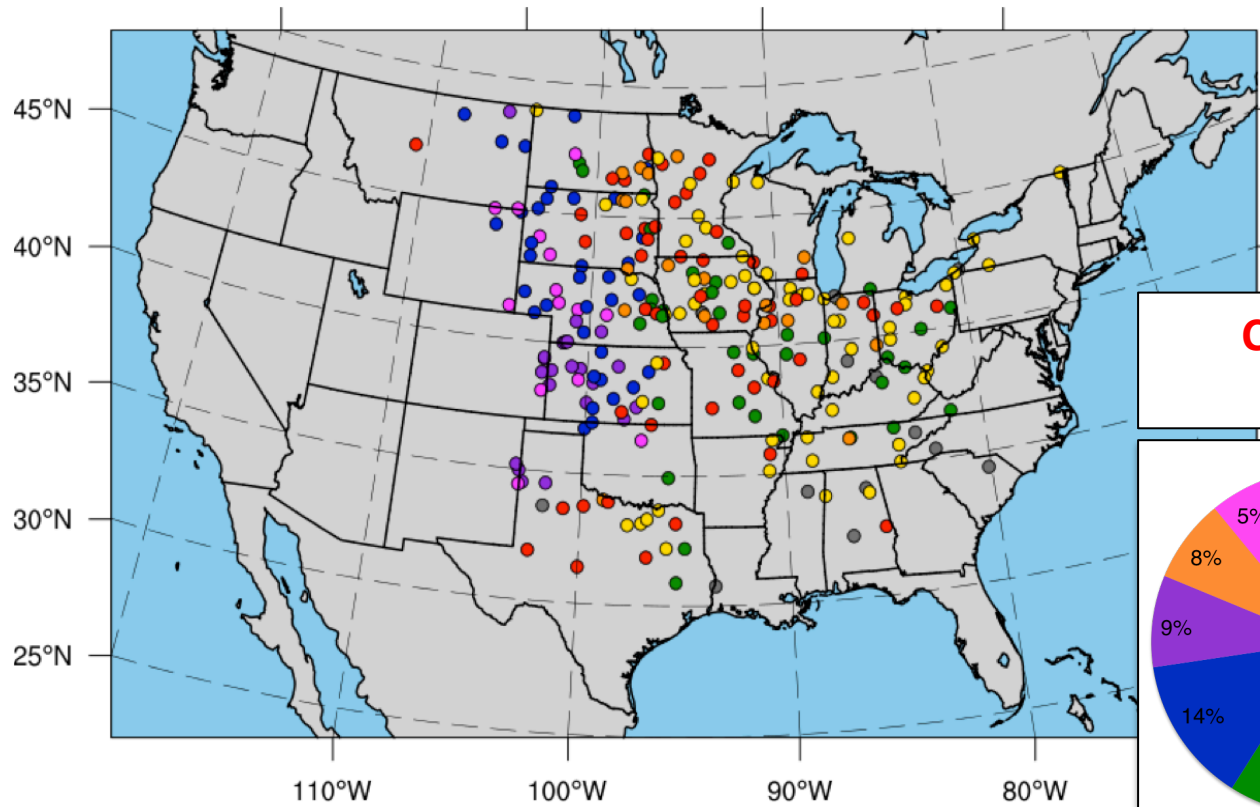


# Composite categories

# Subjective Composite Categories

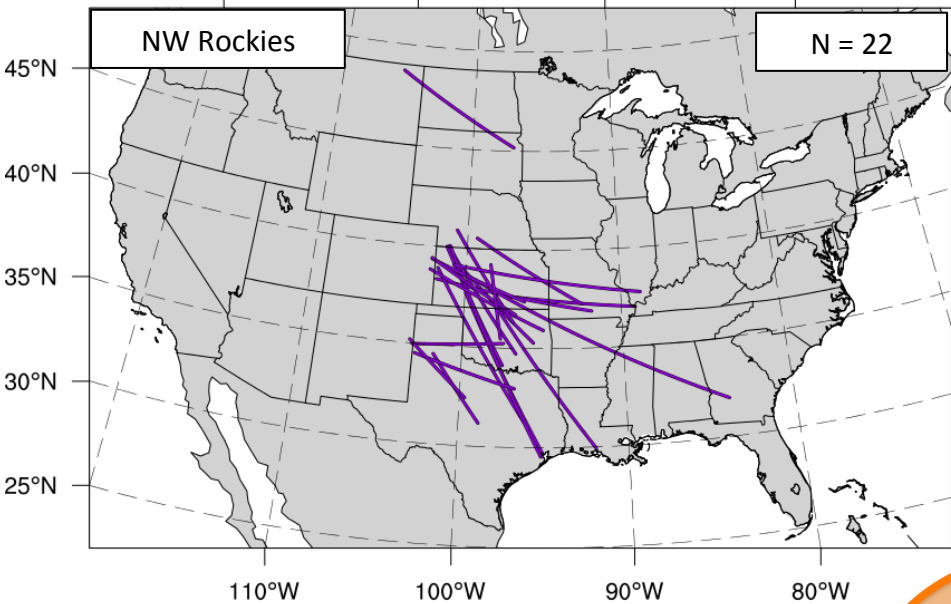
- 0.5° Climate Forecast System Reanalysis (CFSR) data
  - Create plots using analysis closest to derecho initiation time (time of first wind report) from surface to 250 hPa
  - Independently group → meet → regroup → repeat until relatively simple classification scheme agreed upon

# Derecho initiation location colored by composite category



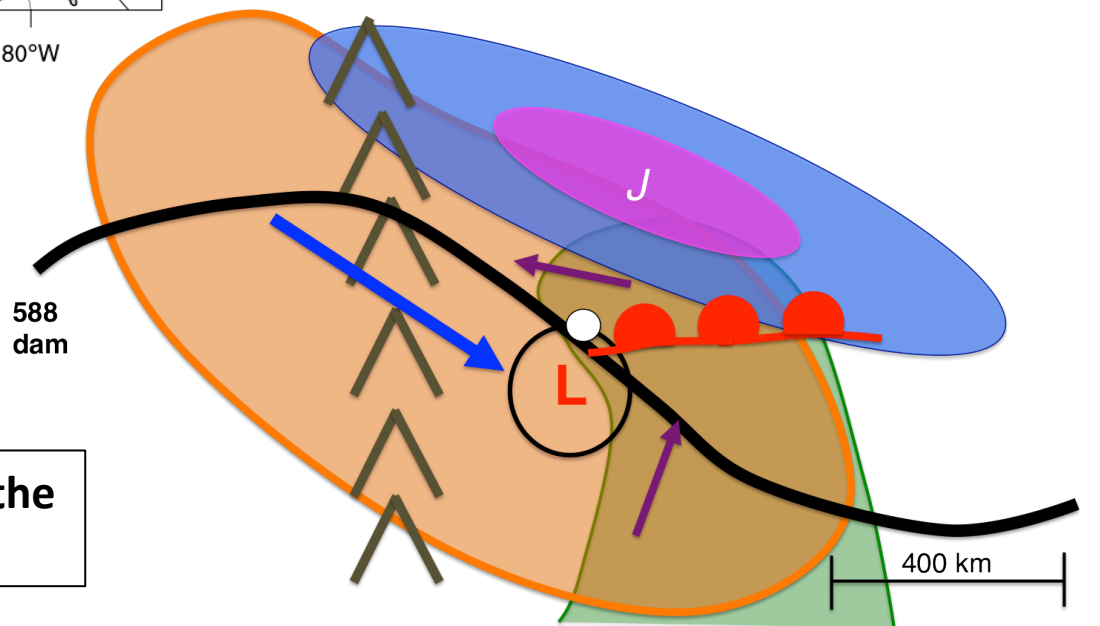
Orographic Influence
No Orographic Influence











- Southwest flow across Rockies
- Upper-level trough
- Unclassifiable
- Northwest flow across Rockies
- Ridge environment
- Zonal flow across Rockies
- Northwest flow
- Zonal flow

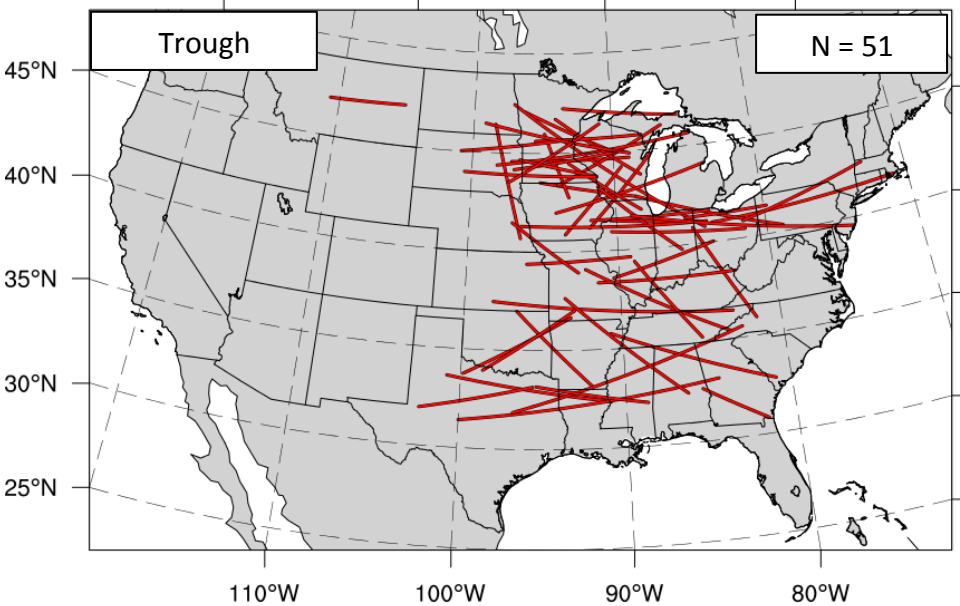


**Northwest flow across the Rockies derecho tracks**

**Northwest flow across the Rockies schematic**

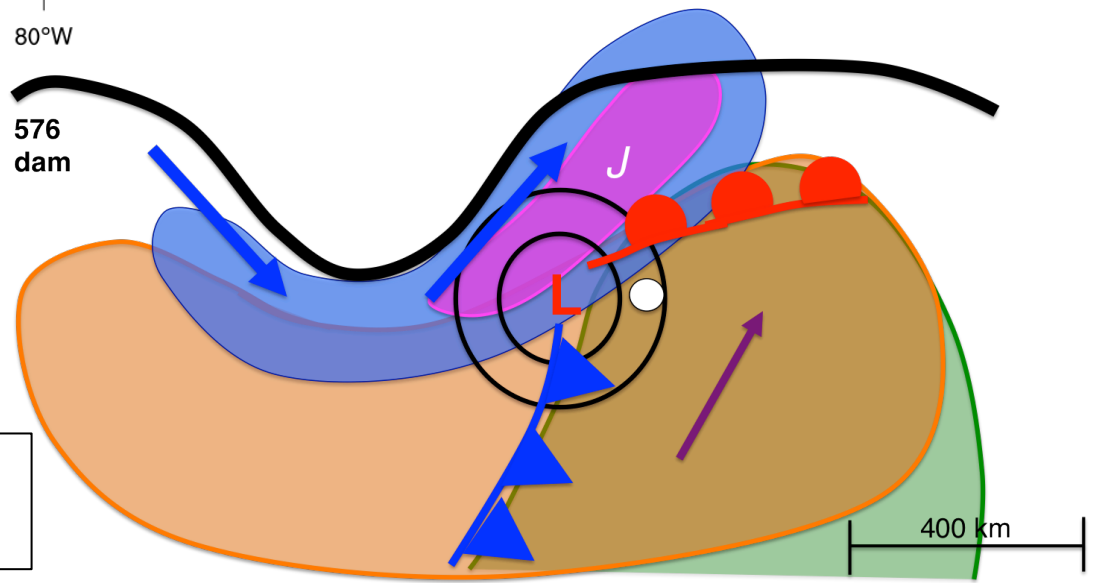












-  Steep midlevel lapse rates
-  High precipitable water
-  Large instability
-  Surface boundary
-  Mean sea level pressure
-  Low-level flow
-  Midlevel flow
-  Initiation location
-  500-hPa geopotential heights
-  Upper-level jet

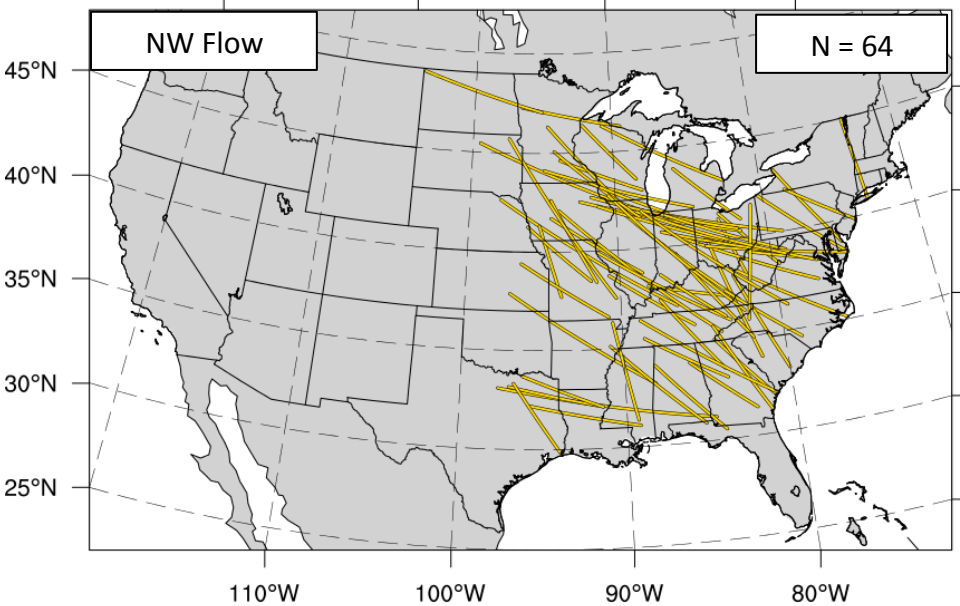


Upper-level trough  
derecho tracks

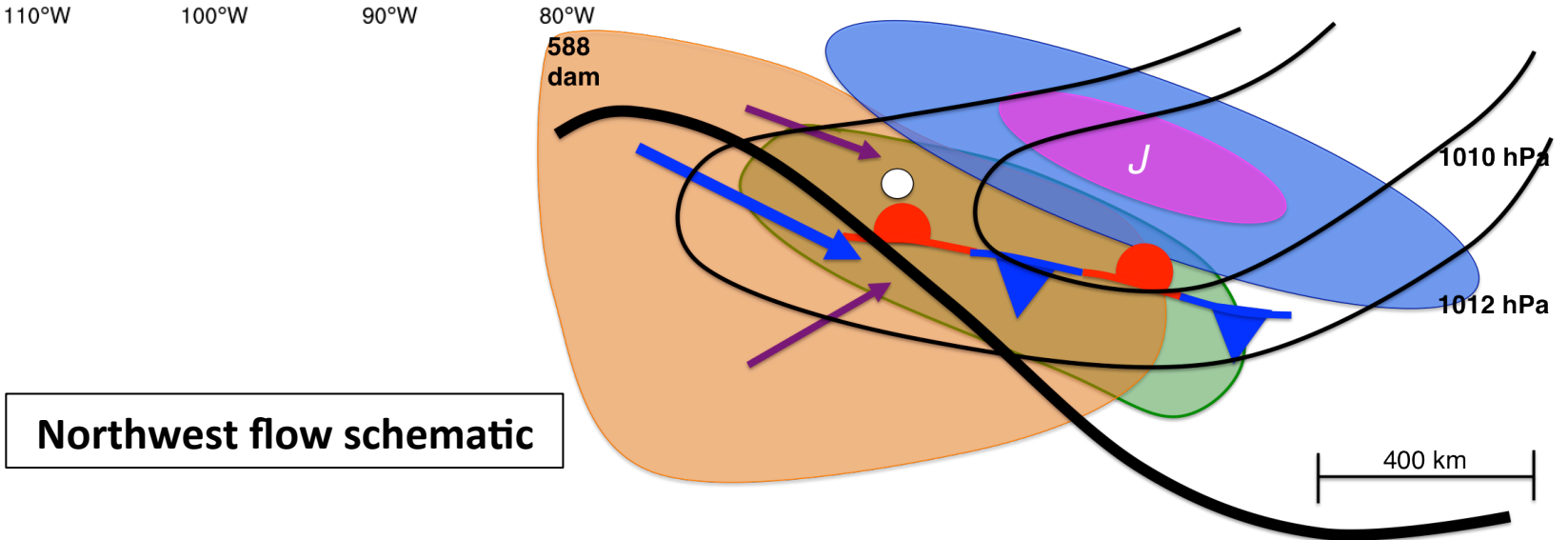
Upper-level trough  
schematic













-  Steep midlevel lapse rates
-  Surface boundary
-  Low-level flow
-  500-hPa geopotential heights
-  High precipitable water
-  Mean sea level pressure
-  Midlevel flow
-  Initiation location
-  Upper-level jet
-  Large instability



**Northwest flow derecho tracks**



**Northwest flow schematic**

-  Steep midlevel lapse rates
-  Surface boundary
-  Low-level flow
-  500-hPa geopotential heights
-  High precipitable water
-  Mean sea level pressure
-  Midlevel flow
-  Initiation location
-  Upper-level jet
-  Large instability

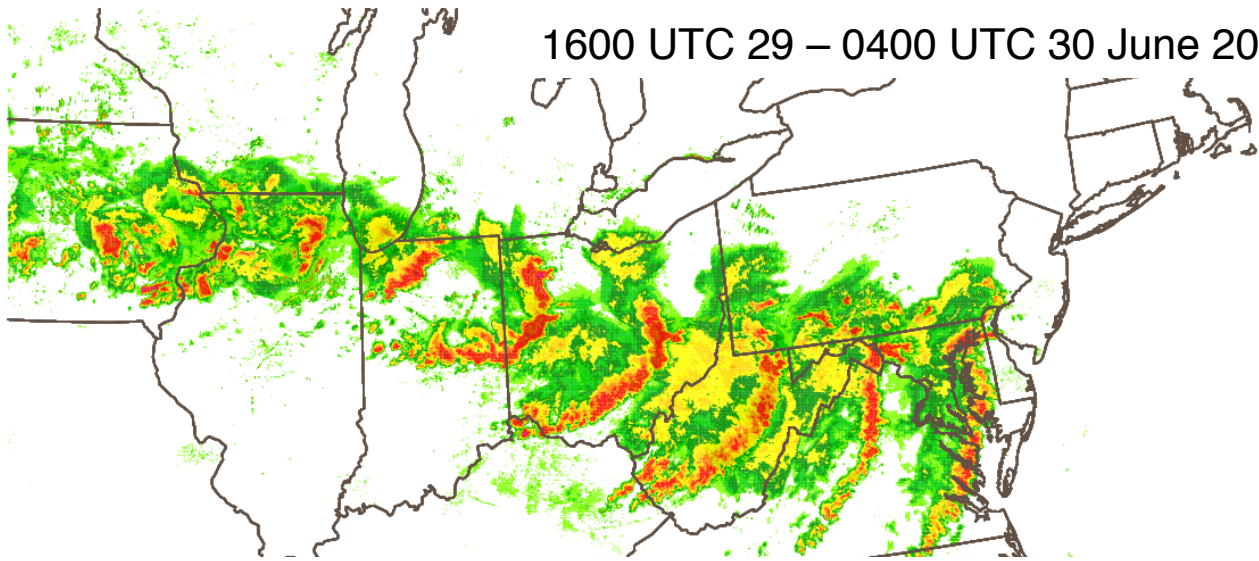
**Case study**

**Northwest flow**

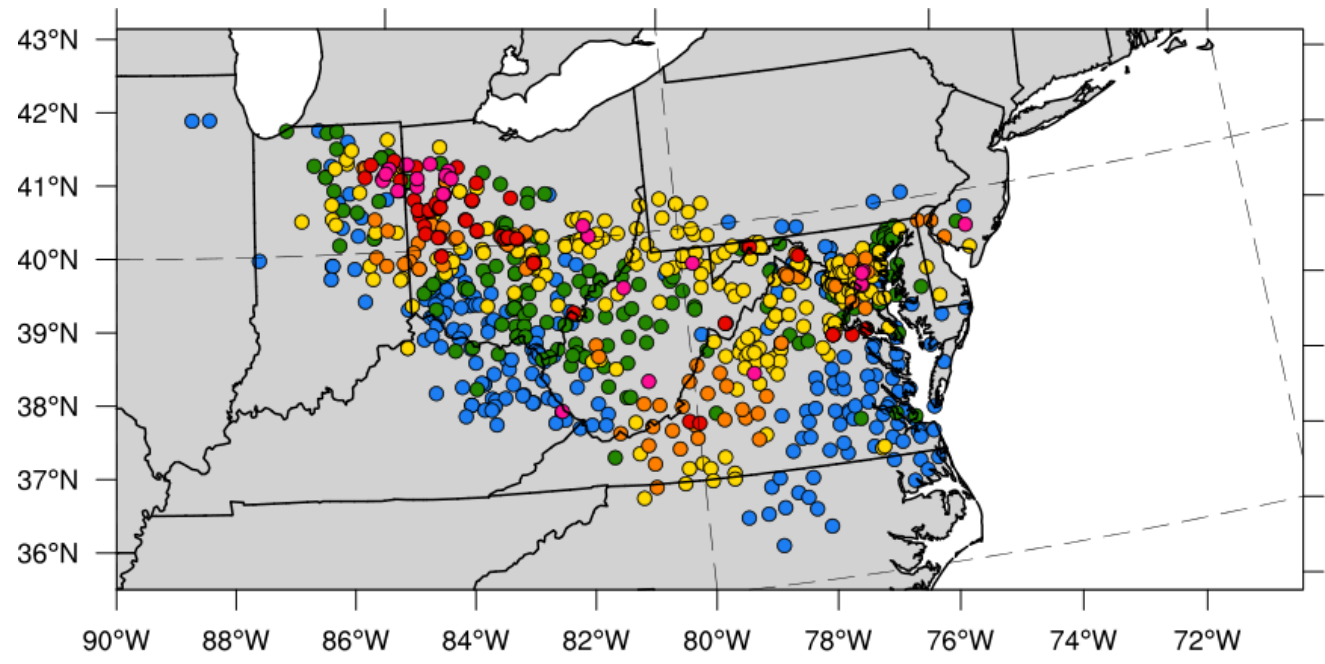
**29–30 June 2012**



1600 UTC 29 – 0400 UTC 30 June 2012



20 25 30 35 40 45 50 55 60 65 70 75

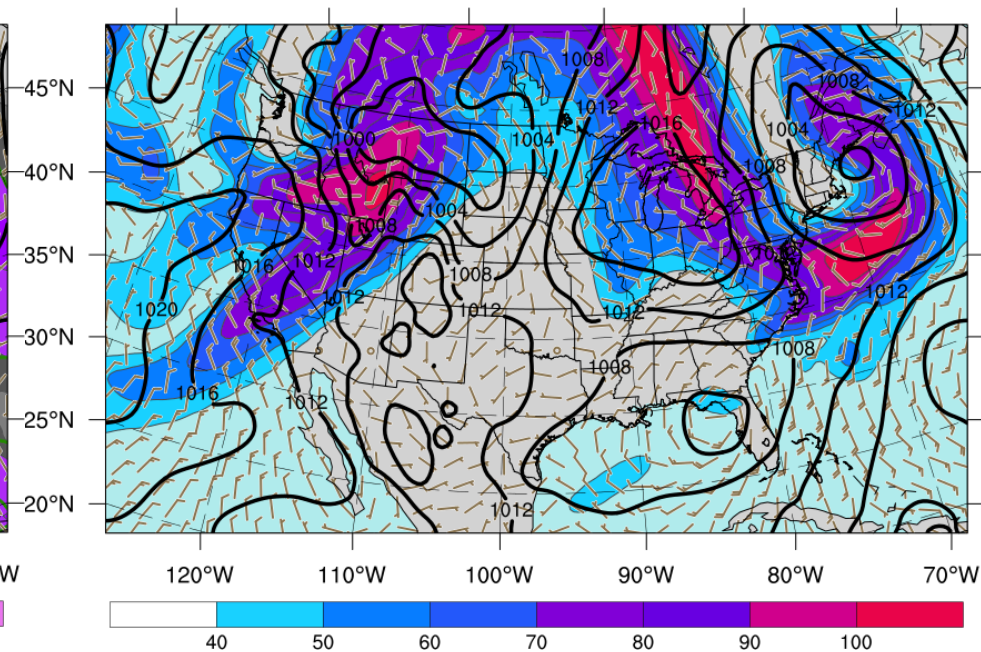
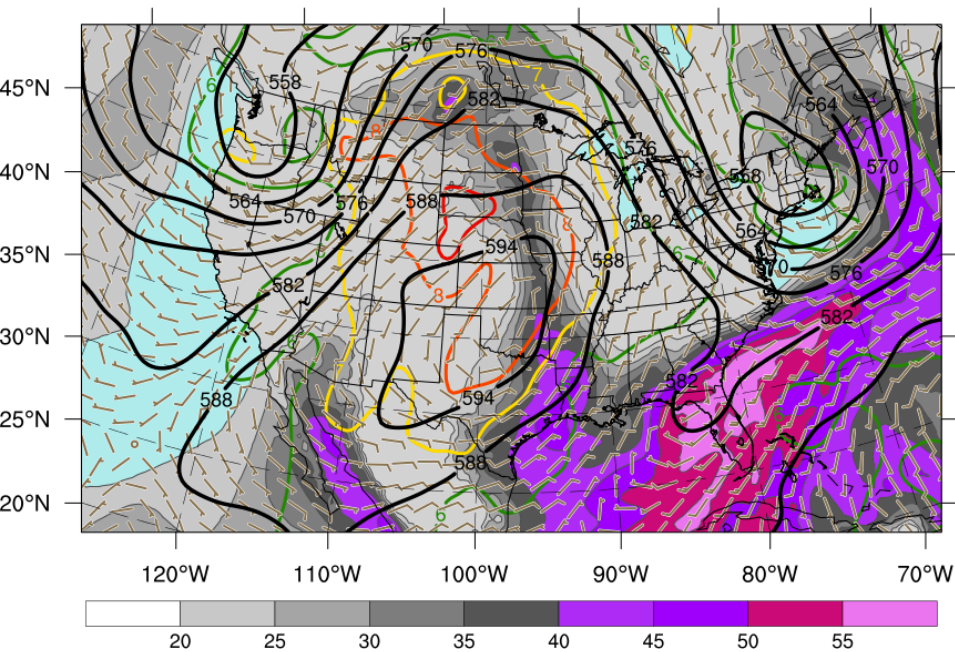


● 50-54 ● 55-59 ● 60-64 ● 65-69 ● 70-74 ● 75+

# 1500 UTC 26 June 2012 (72 hours prior to initiation)

Precipitable water (gray and purple fill; mm),  
700–500-hPa lapse rates (colored contours;  
 $C\ km^{-1}$ ), 500 hPa geopotential heights (black  
contours; dam), and 700–500-hPa layer  
averaged winds (barbs; kt)

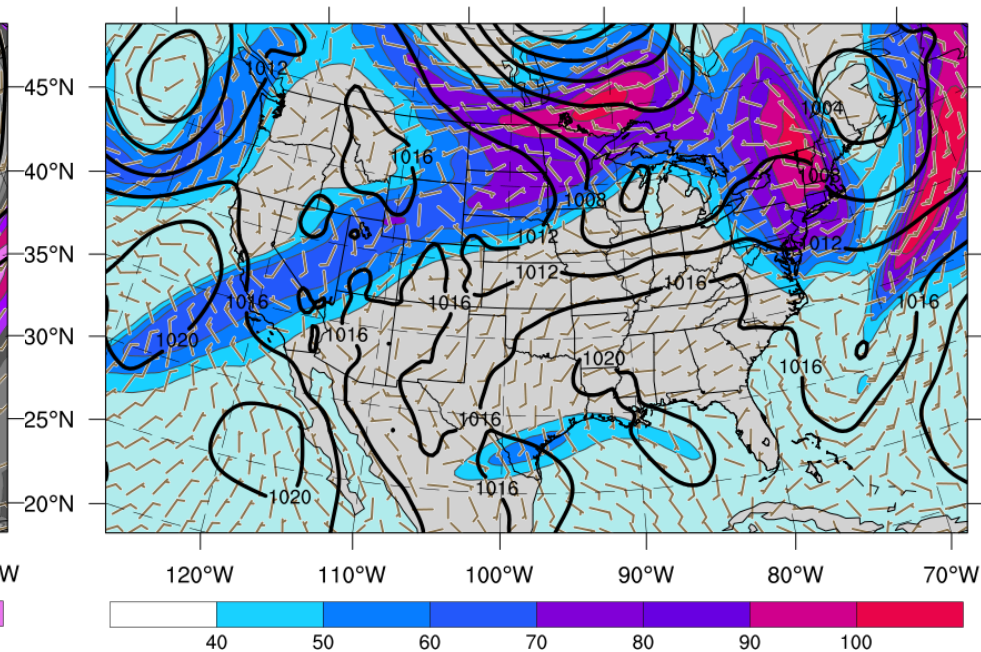
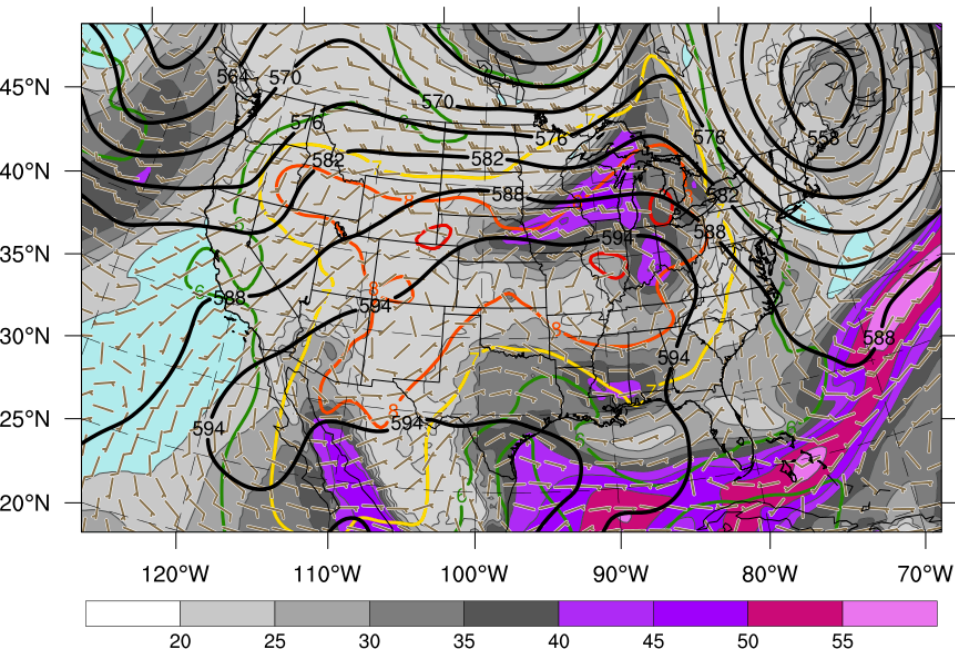
250-hPa wind magnitude (fill; kt), mean sea  
level pressure (contours; hPa), and surface  
winds (barbs; kt)



# 1500 UTC 28 June 2012 (24 hours prior to initiation)

Precipitable water (gray and purple fill; mm),  
700–500-hPa lapse rates (colored contours;  
 $C\ km^{-1}$ ), 500 hPa geopotential heights (black  
contours; dam), and 700–500-hPa layer  
averaged winds (barbs; kt)

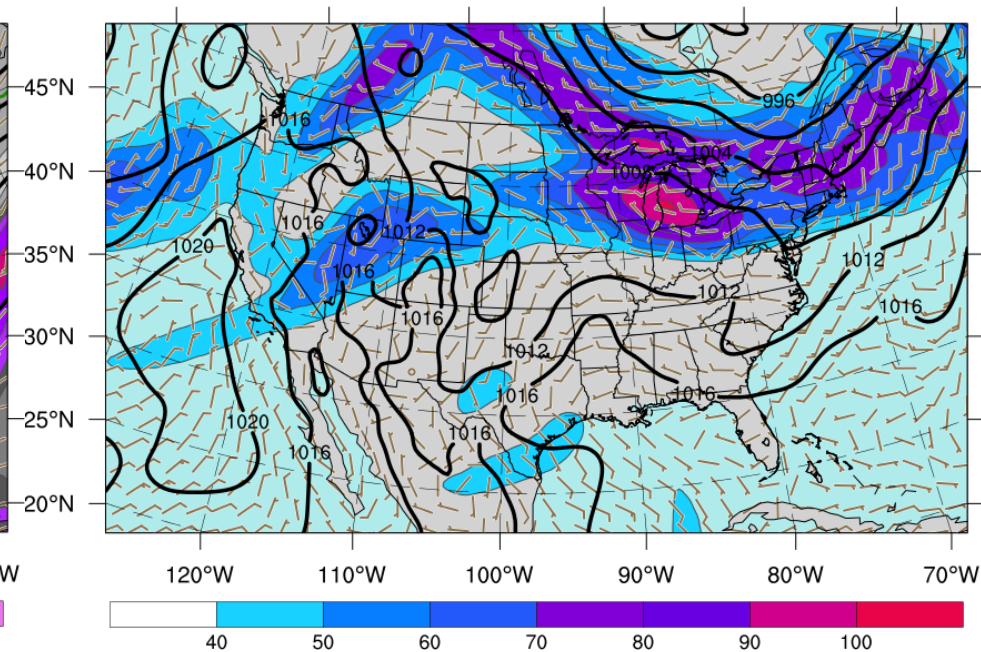
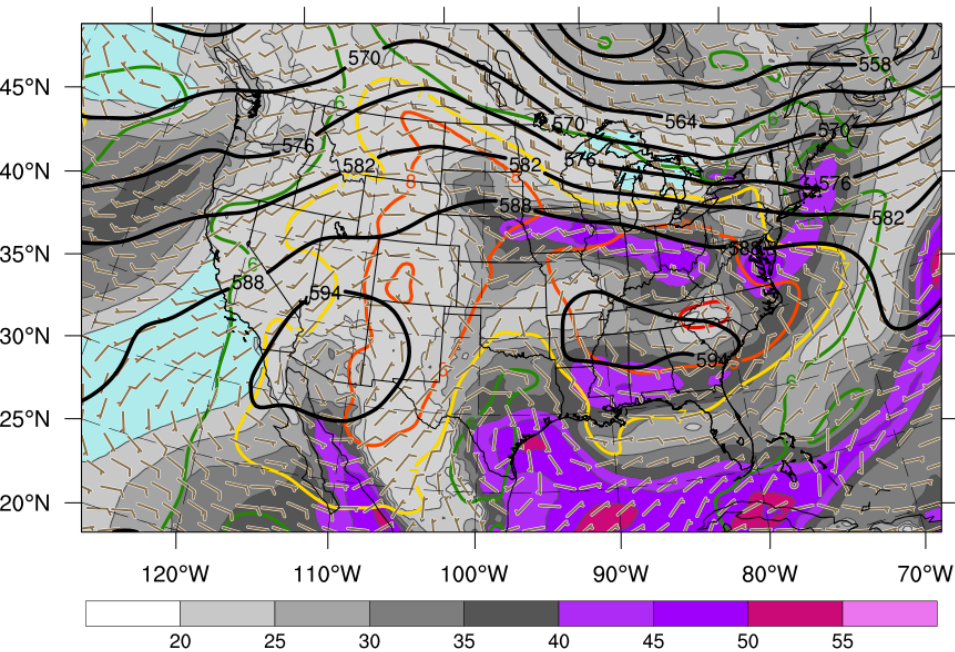
250-hPa wind magnitude (fill; kt), mean sea  
level pressure (contours; hPa), and surface  
winds (barbs; kt)



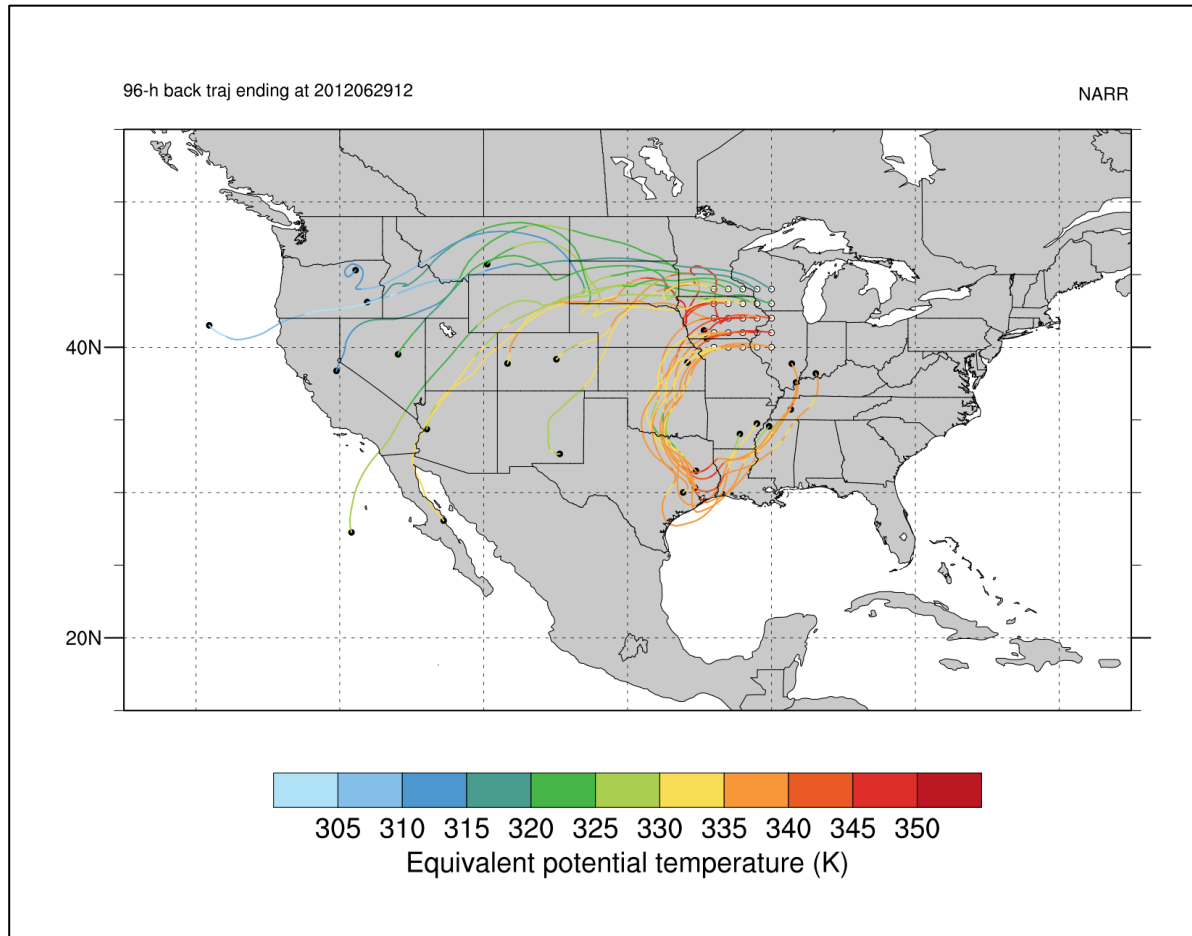
# 1500 UTC 29 June 2012 (at initiation)

Precipitable water (gray and purple fill; mm),  
700–500-hPa lapse rates (colored contours;  
 $C\ km^{-1}$ ), 500 hPa geopotential heights (black  
contours; dam), and 700–500-hPa layer  
averaged winds (barbs; kt)

250-hPa wind magnitude (fill; kt), mean sea  
level pressure (contours; hPa), and surface  
winds (barbs; kt)



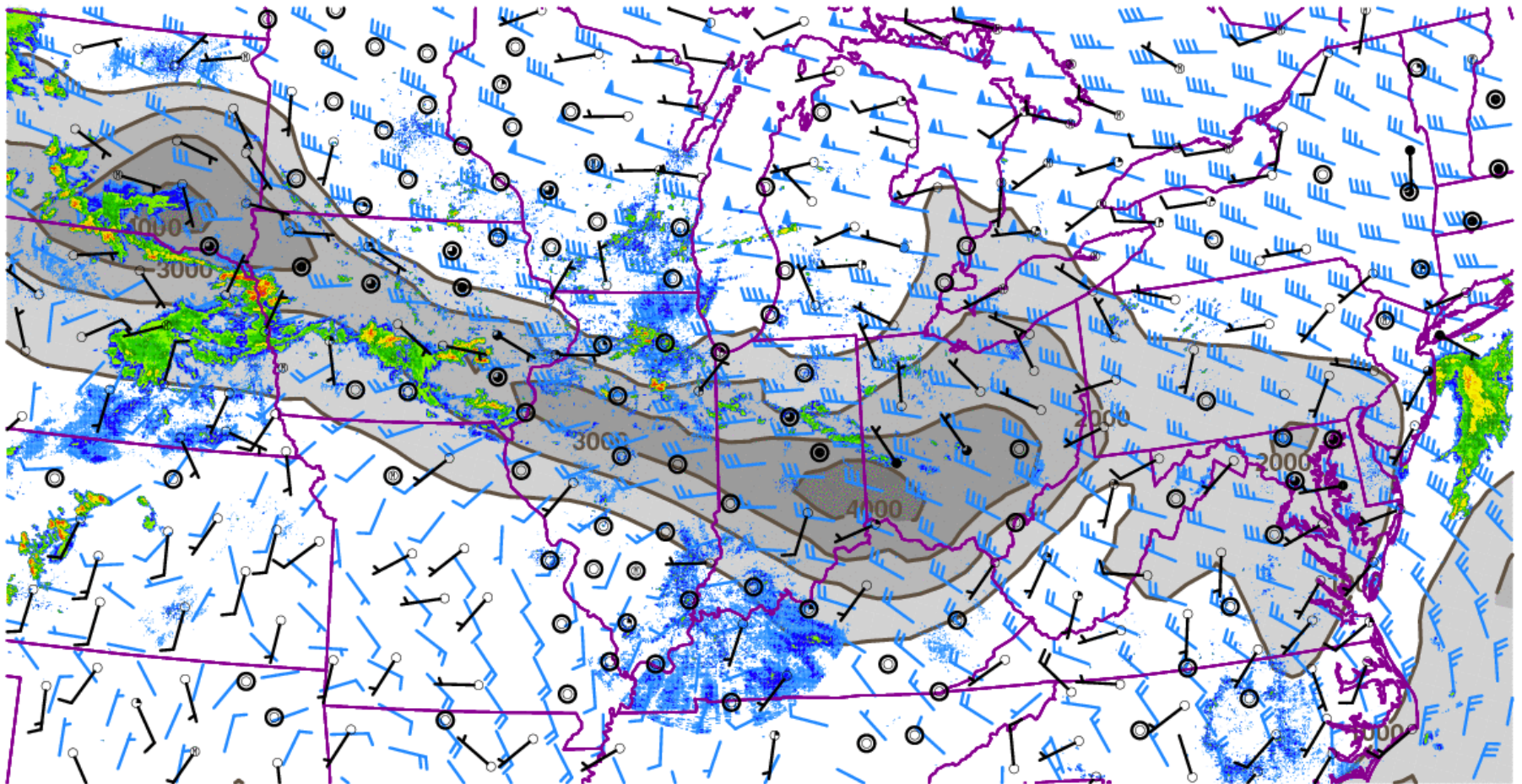
# 96-hour back trajectories ending at 850-hPa at 1200 UTC 29 June 2012



# 1200 UTC 29 June 2012

## Overlap of instability and vertical wind shear

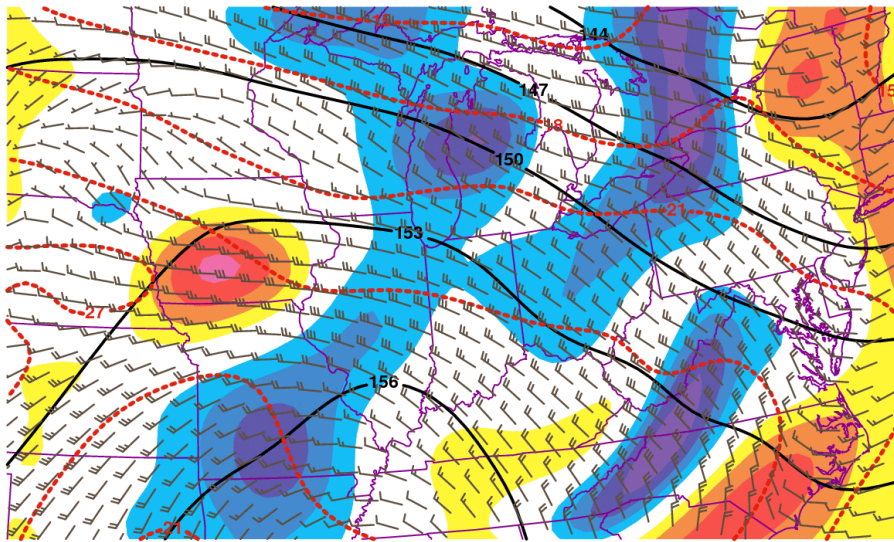
Composite reflectivity overlaid on NARR CAPE (grayscale;  $\text{J kg}^{-1}$ ), winds derived from surface observations (black barbs; kt), and surface–500 hPa wind shear (blue barbs; kt)



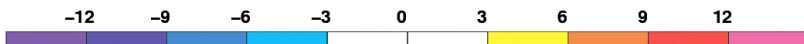
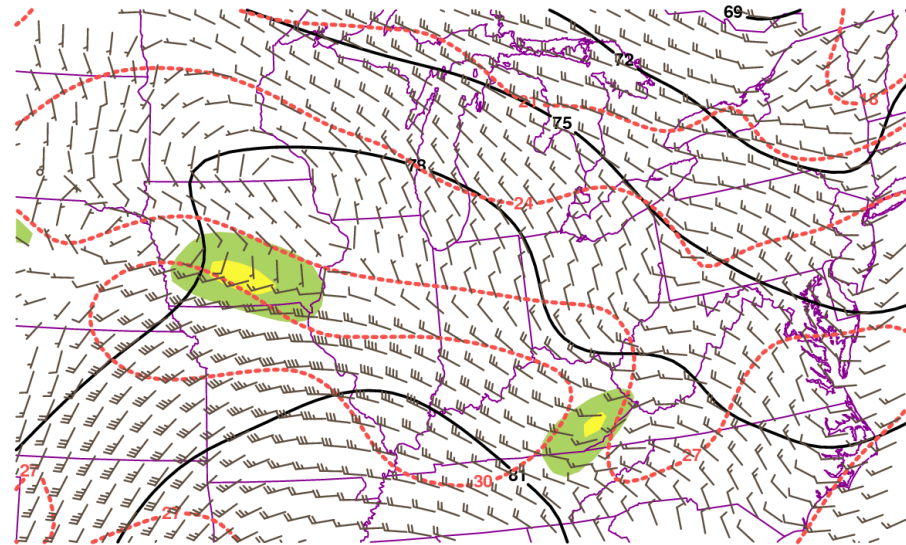
# 1200 UTC 29 June 2012

## Convection initiation mechanism

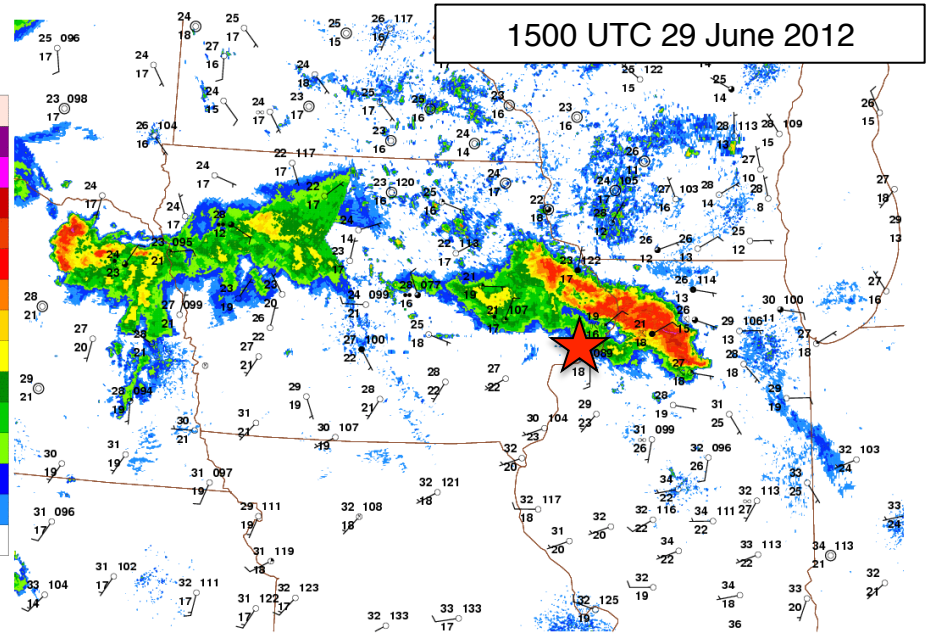
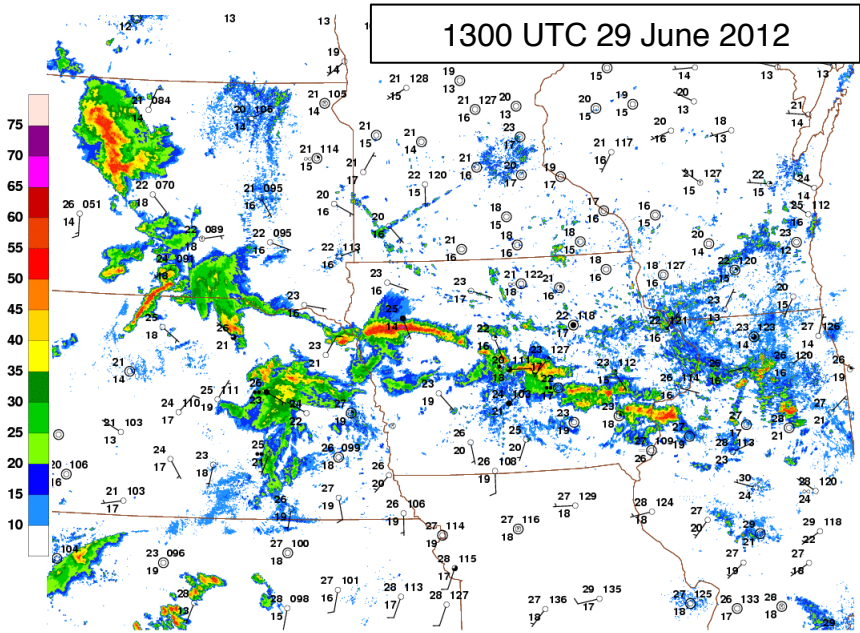
Temperature advection at 850 hPa (fill;  $\times 10^{-5}$  C s $^{-1}$ ), 850-hPa temperatures (red dashed contours; C), and 850-hPa geopotential heights (black contours; dam).



Frontogenesis at 925 hPa (fill; C 3 h $^{-1}$  100 km $^{-1}$ ), 925-hPa temperature (red dashed contours; C), and 925-hPa geopotential heights (black contours; dam)

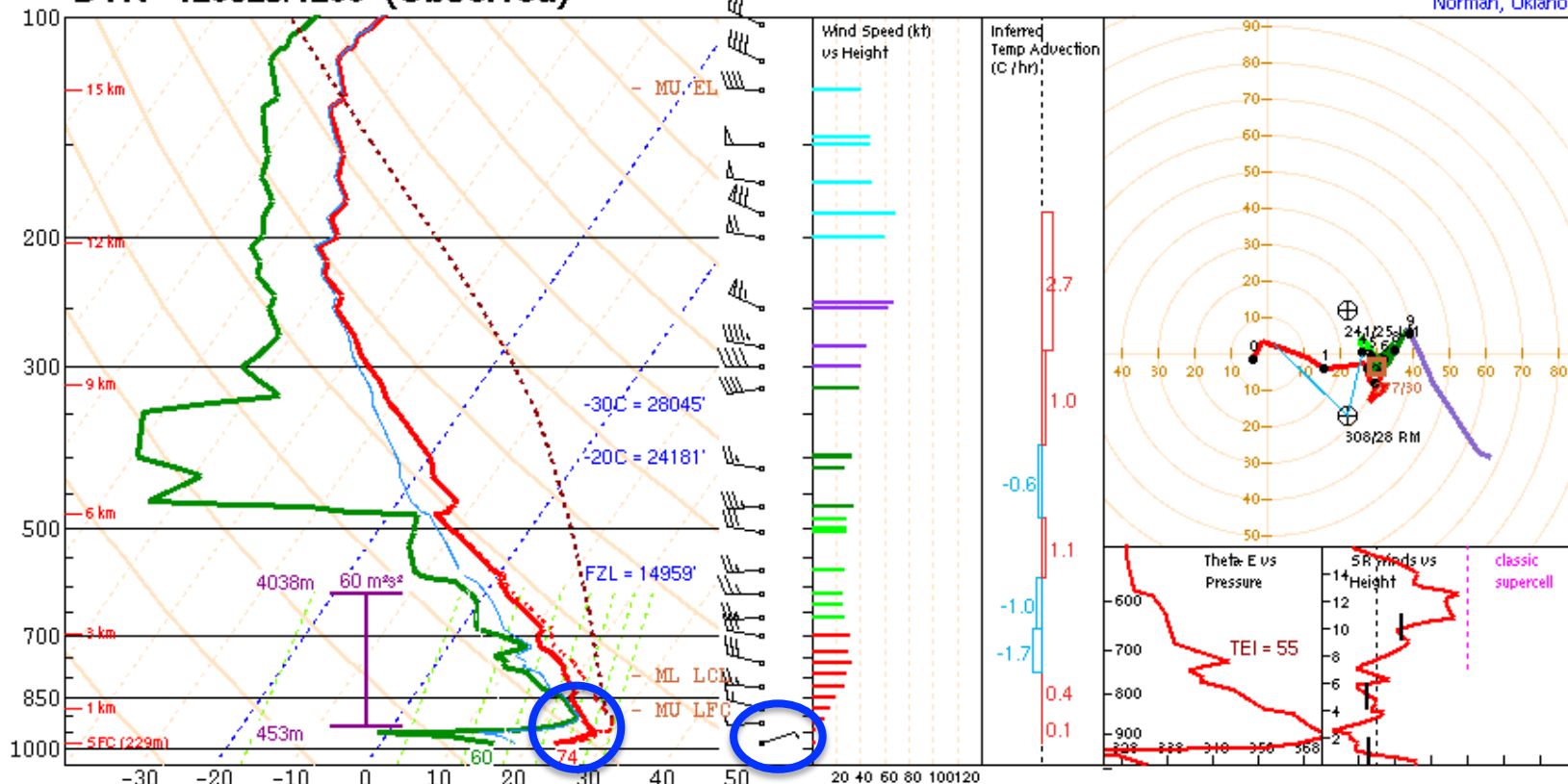


# Early MCS evolution





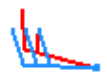
# DVN 120629/1200 (Observed)



PARCEL	CAPE	CINH	LCL	LI	LFC	EL
SURFACE	18	-1161	1045m	-1	5562m	19887'
MIXED LAYER	799	-477	1857m	-5	4367m	37617'
FCST SURFACE	1602	-163	2385m	-7	3733m	39721'
MU (907 mb)	6711	-0	822m	-16	921m	49352'
PW = 1.98 in	3CAPE = 0 J/kg	WBZ = 13496'	WNDG = 0.0			
K = 48	DCAPE = 1334 J/kg	FZL = 14959'	ESP = 0.0			
MidRH = 67%	DownT = 64 F	ConvT = 105F	MMP = 0.98			
LowRH = 56%	MeanW = 11.6 g/kg	MaxT = 95F				
SigSevere = 14656 m3/s3						
Sfc-3km Agl Lapse Rate = 4.3 C/km						
3-6km Agl Lapse Rate = 8.8 C/km						
850-500mb Lapse Rate = 8.0 C/km						
700-500mb Lapse Rate = 8.6 C/km						

**Supercell = 6.6**  
**Left Supercell = -13.8**  
**Sig Tor (CIN) = 0.0**  
**Sig Tor (fixed) = 0.0**  
**Sig Hail = 3.7**

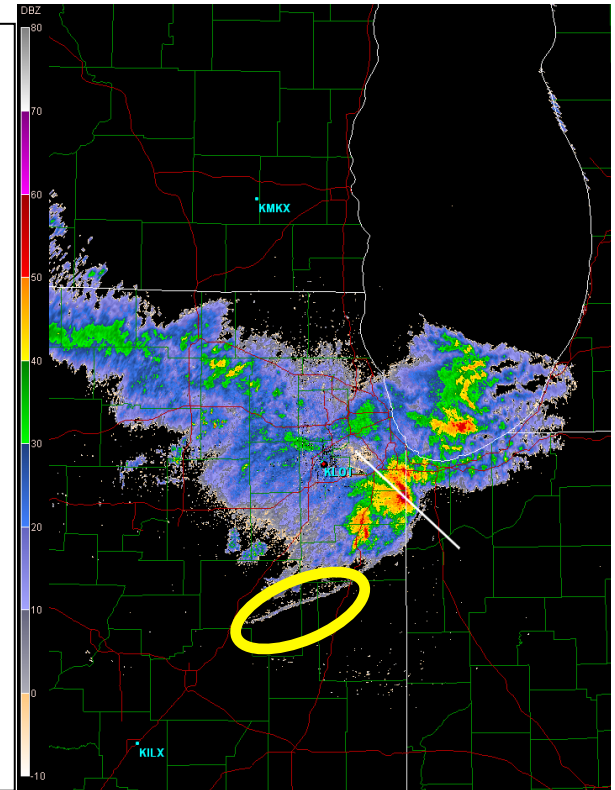
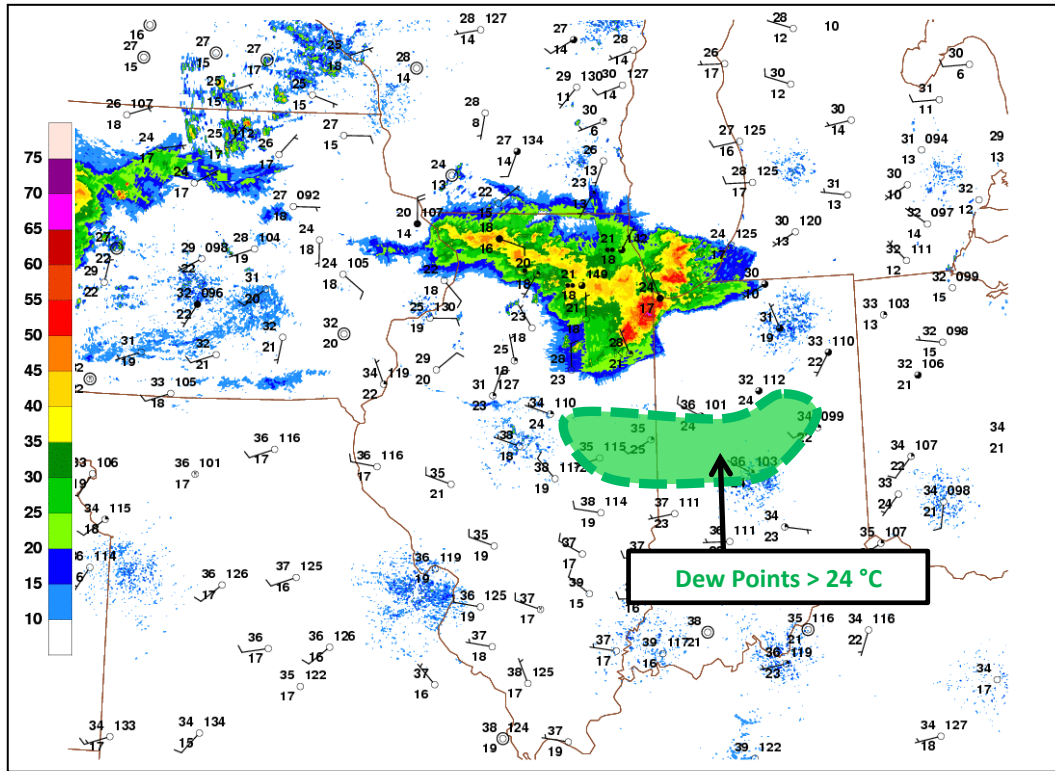
SRH(m2/s2)	Shear(kt)	MnWind	SRW
SFC - 1 km	95	20	268/4
SFC - 3 km	152	35	283/17
Eff Inflow Layer	60	24	279/23
SFC - 6 km	36	277/20	174/15
SFC - 8 km	39	277/22	180/15
Lower Half Storm Depth	32	276/25	191/15
Cloud Bearing Layer	28	277/30	210/16
BRN Shear = 66 m2/s2			
4-6km SR Wind = 201/17 kt			
..... Storm Motion Vectors.....			
Bunkers Right = 308/28 kt			
Bunkers Left = 241/25 kt			
Corfidi Downshear = 273/52 kt			
Corfidi Upshear = 272/21 kt			



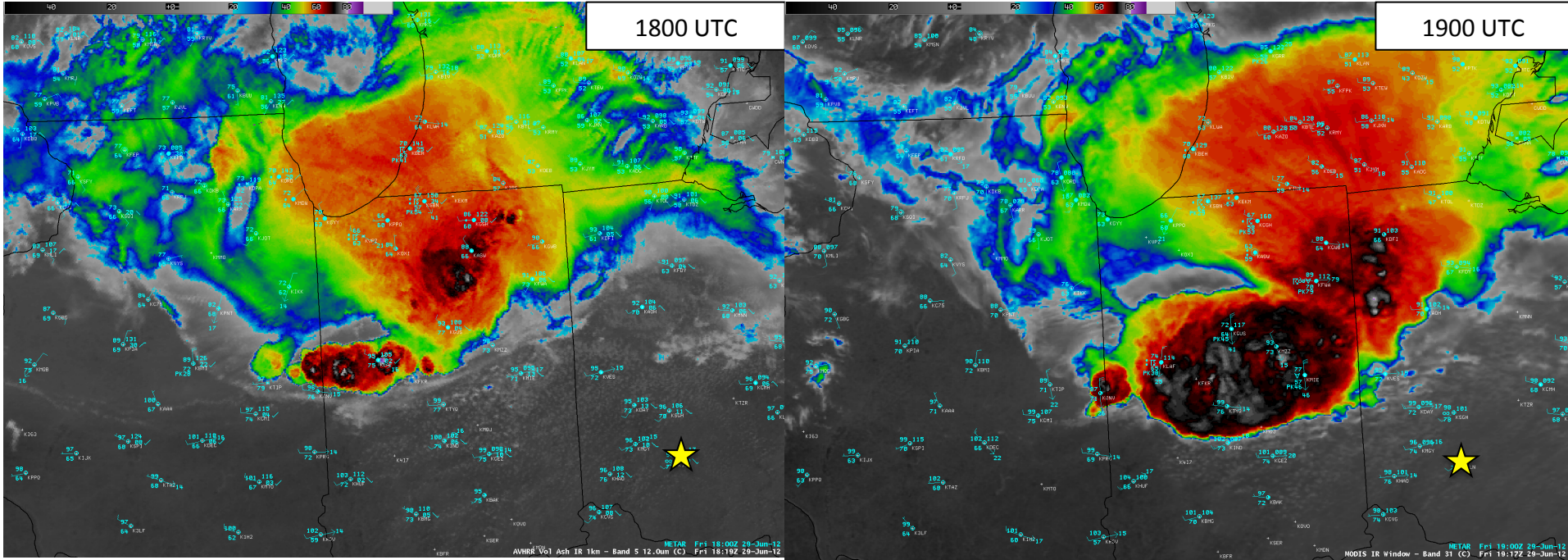
1km & 6km AGL  
Wind Barbs

*** BEST GUESS PRECIP TYPE ***	
Based on sfc temperature of 74.5 F.	
SARS - Sounding Analogs	
SUPERCCELL	SGFNT HAIL
No Quality Matches	No Quality Matches
	(4 loose matches) SARS: 50% SIG

# Elevated to surface-based transition 1700 UTC 29 June 2012



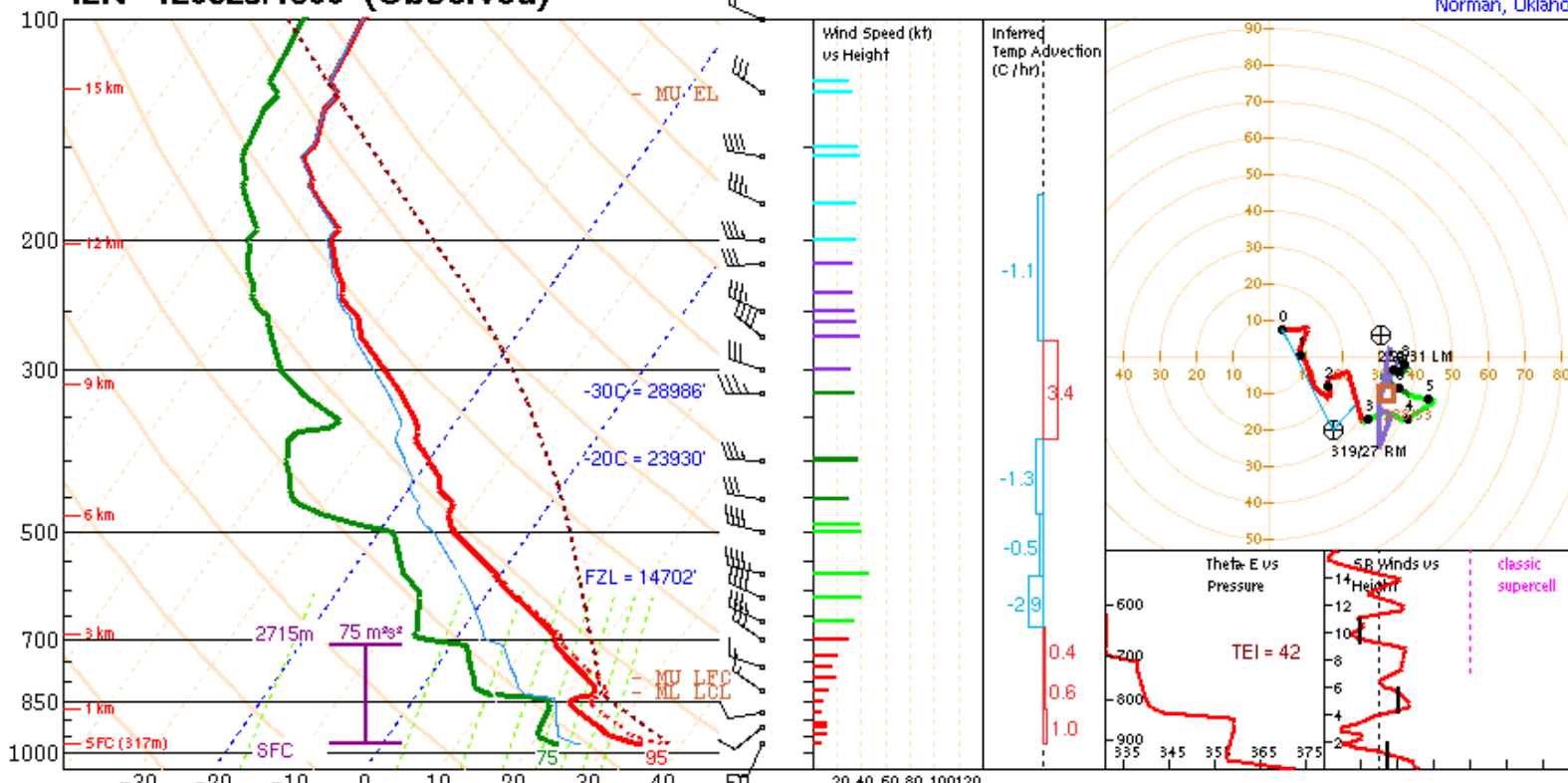
# Elevated to surface-based transition IR satellite imagery



Source: CIMSS Satellite Blog

# ILN 120629/1800 (Observed)

NOAA/NWS Storm Prediction Center  
Norman, Oklahoma



PARCEL	CAPE	CINH	LCL	LI	LFC	EL
SURFACE	6383	-7	1406m	-15	1817m	48815'
MIXED LAYER	3894	-93	1465m	-11	2543m	46314'
FCST SURFACE	4333	-53	1679m	-12	2426m	47019'
MU (974 mb)	6383	-7	1406m	-15	1817m	48815'

PW = 1.56 .in	3CAPE = 10 J/kg	WBZ = 12050'	WNDG = 0.0
K = 33	DCAPE = 1609 J/kg	FZL = 14702'	ESP = 0.3
MidRH = 35%	DownT = 62 F	ConvT = 100F	MMP = 0.98
LowRH = 61%	MeanW = 16.7 g/kg	MaxT = 94F	
SigSevere = 72157 m3/s3			

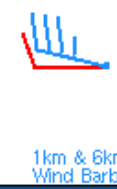
Sfc-3km Agl Lapse Rate = 8.3 C/km	<b>Supercell = 8.6</b> <b>Left Supercell = -15.5</b> <b>Sig Tor (CIN) = 0.4</b> <b>Sig Tor (fixed) = 0.4</b> <b>Sig Hail = 3.3</b>
3-6km Agl Lapse Rate = 8.7 C/km	
850-500mb Lapse Rate = 7.7 C/km	
700-500mb Lapse Rate = 8.8 C/km	

	SRH(m2/s2)	Shear(kt)	MnWind	SRW
SFC - 1 km	24	9	233/10	160/28
SFC - 3 km	86	34	277/13	165/19
Eff Inflow Layer	75	29	275/12	164/20
SFC - 6 km		36	285/22	194/15
SFC - 8 km		35	284/23	198/15
Lower Half Storm Depth		36	284/23	198/15
Cloud Bearing Layer		20	289/31	230/16
BRN Shear = 50 m/s²				
4-6km SR Wind =	252/25 kt			
..... Storm Motion Vectors.....				
Bunkers Right =	319/27 kt			
Bunkers Left =	259/31 kt			
Corfidi Downshear =	292/57 kt			
Corfidi Upshear =	293/25 kt			

\*\*\* BEST GUESS PRECIP TYPE \*\*\*  
**None.**  
Based on sfc temperature of 95.0 F.

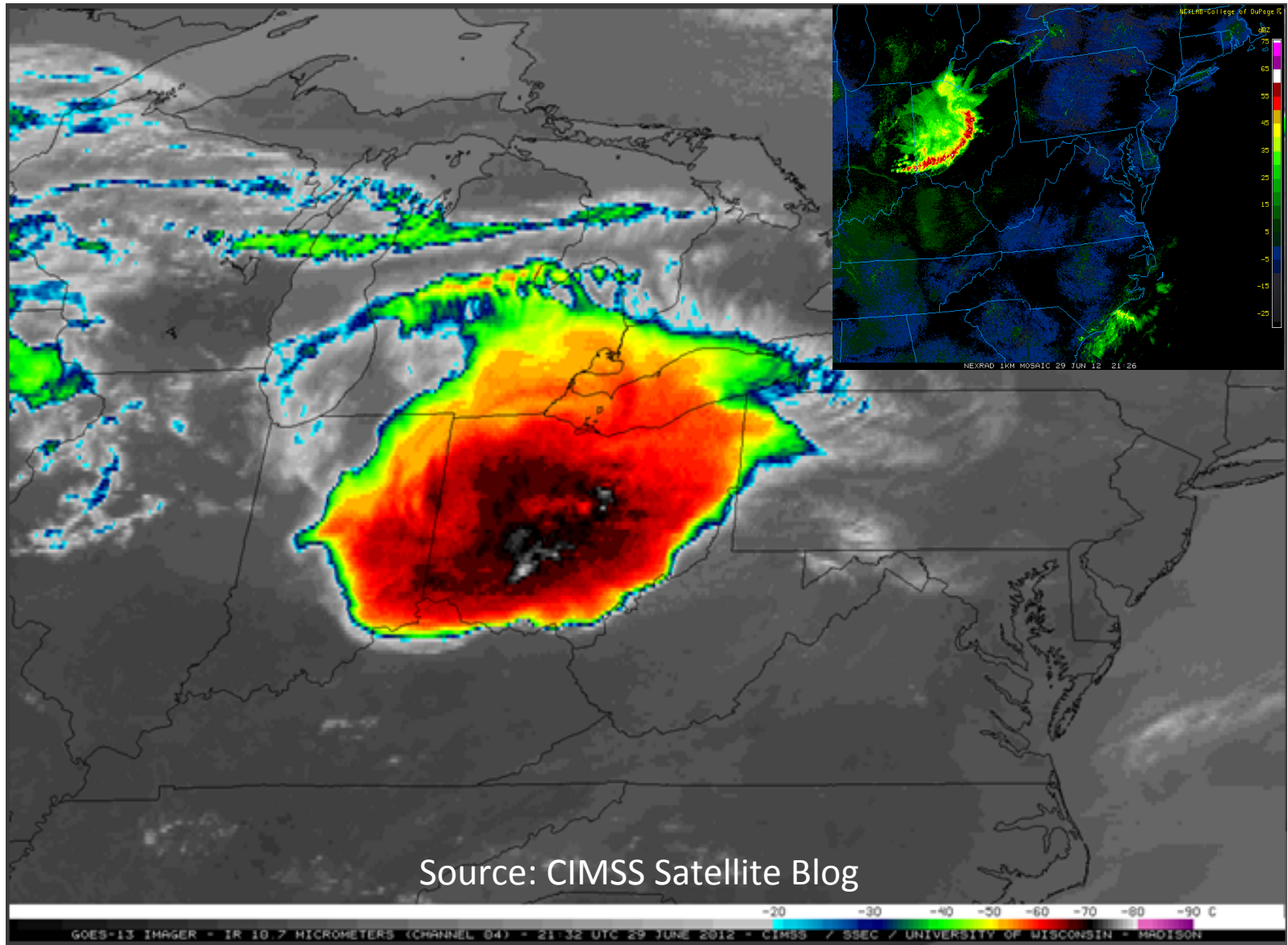
**SARS - Sounding Analogs**

SUPERCCELL	SGFNT HAIL
No Quality Matches	No Quality Matches
(4 loose matches) SARS: 75% TOR	(33 loose matches) SARS: 76% SIG

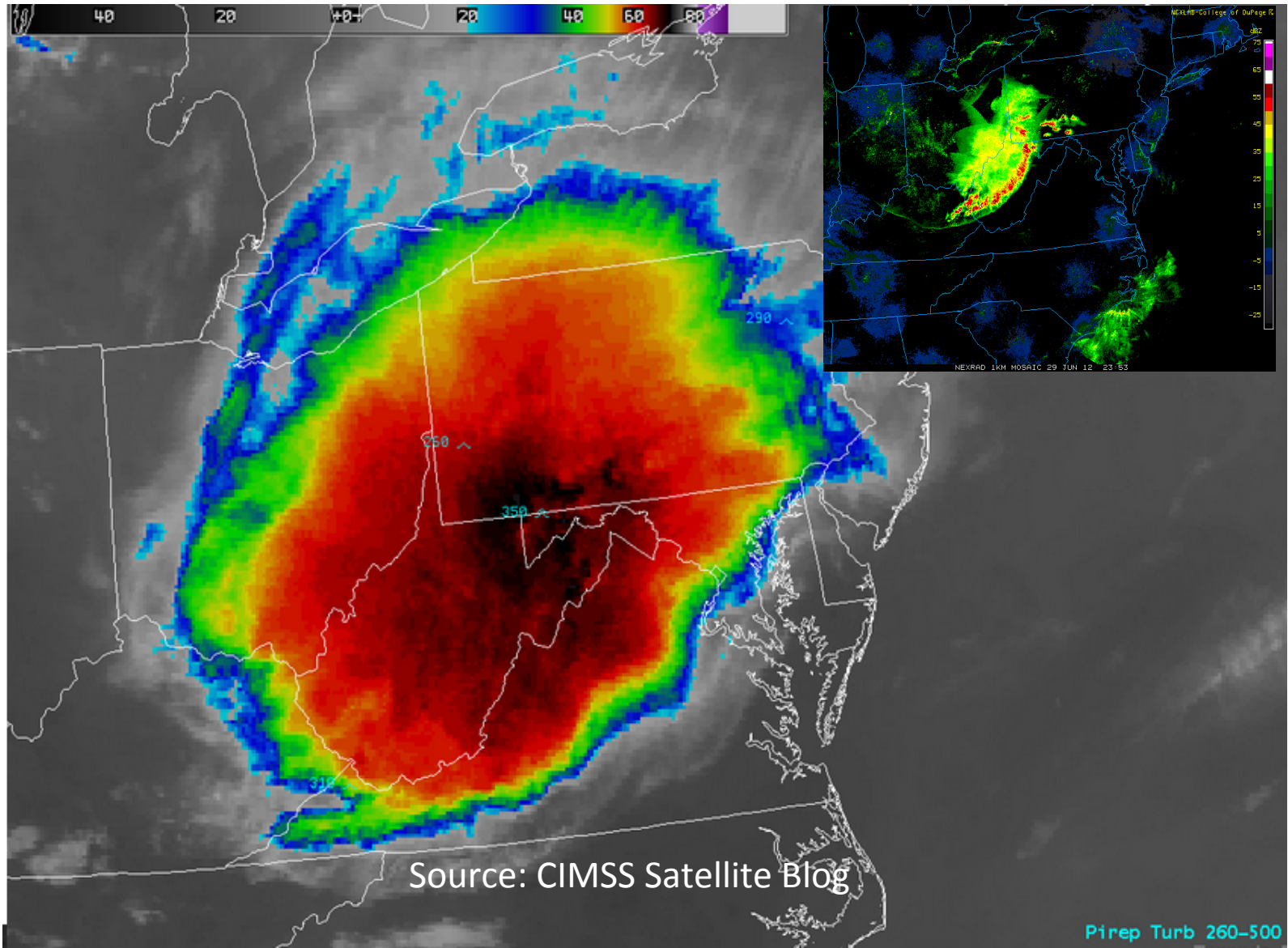


1km & 6km AGL  
Wind Barbs

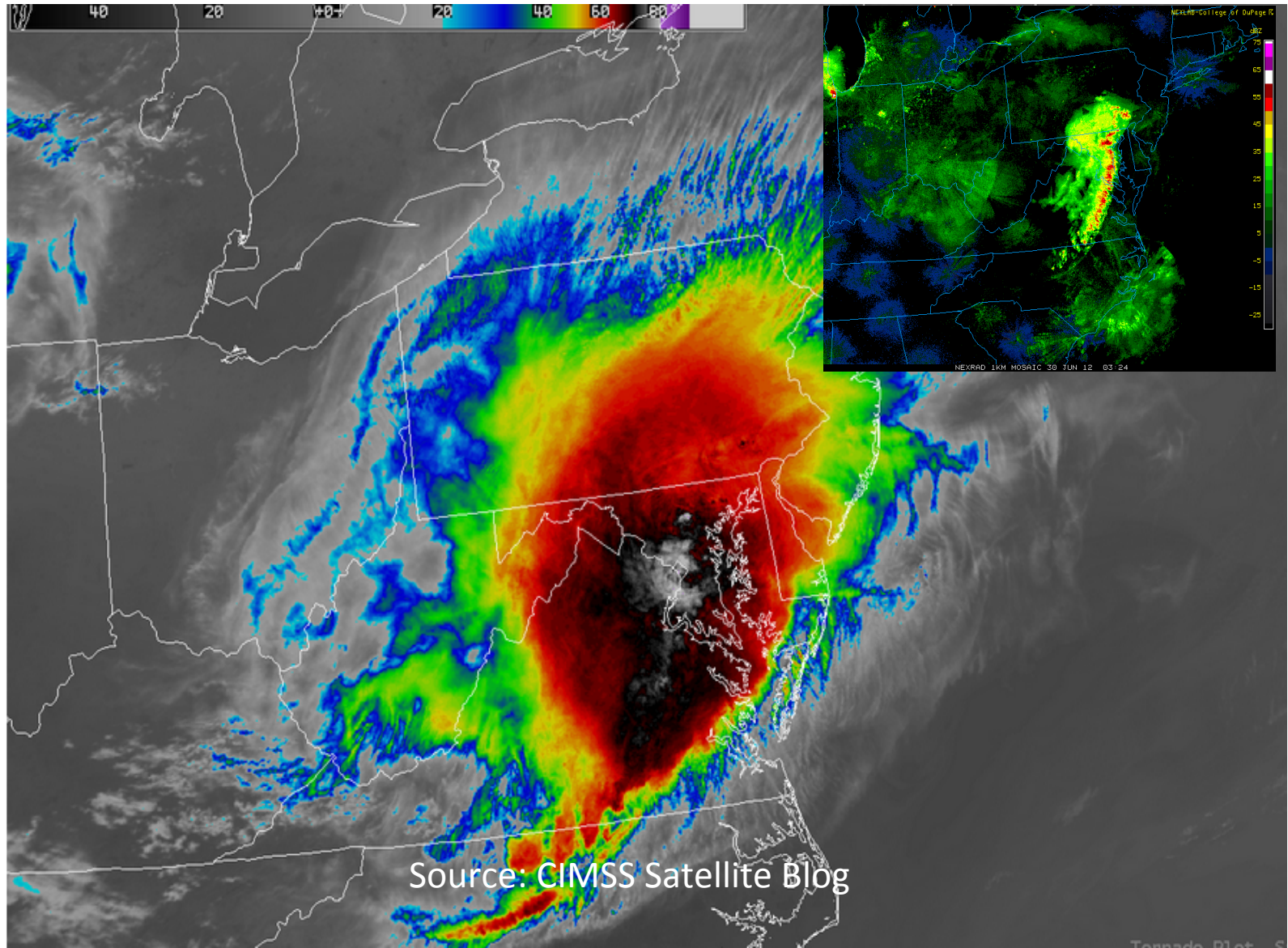
# 2130 UTC 29 June 2012 IR/Radar



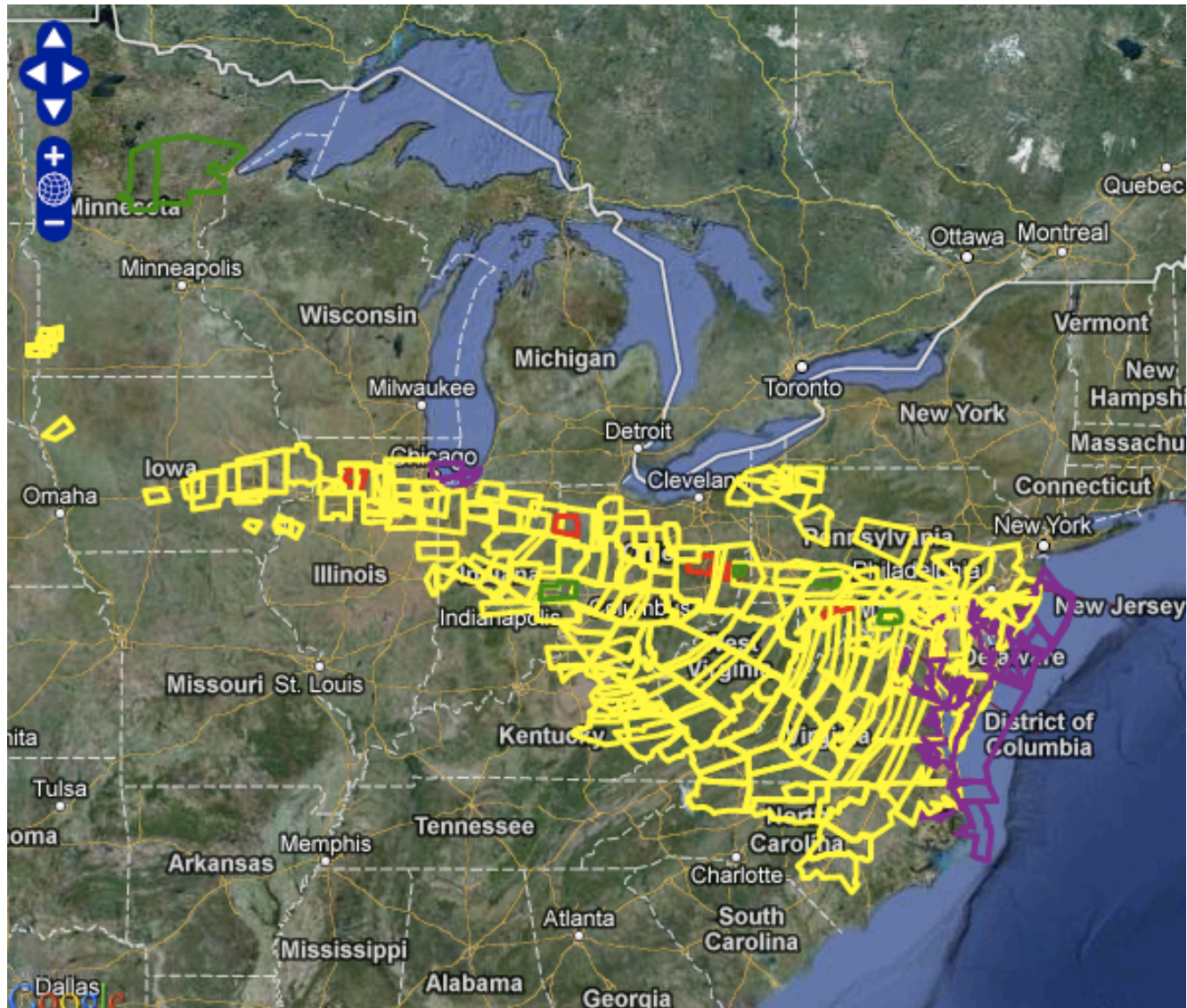
# 0000 UTC 30 June 2012 IR/Radar



# 0300 UTC 30 June 2012 IR/Radar



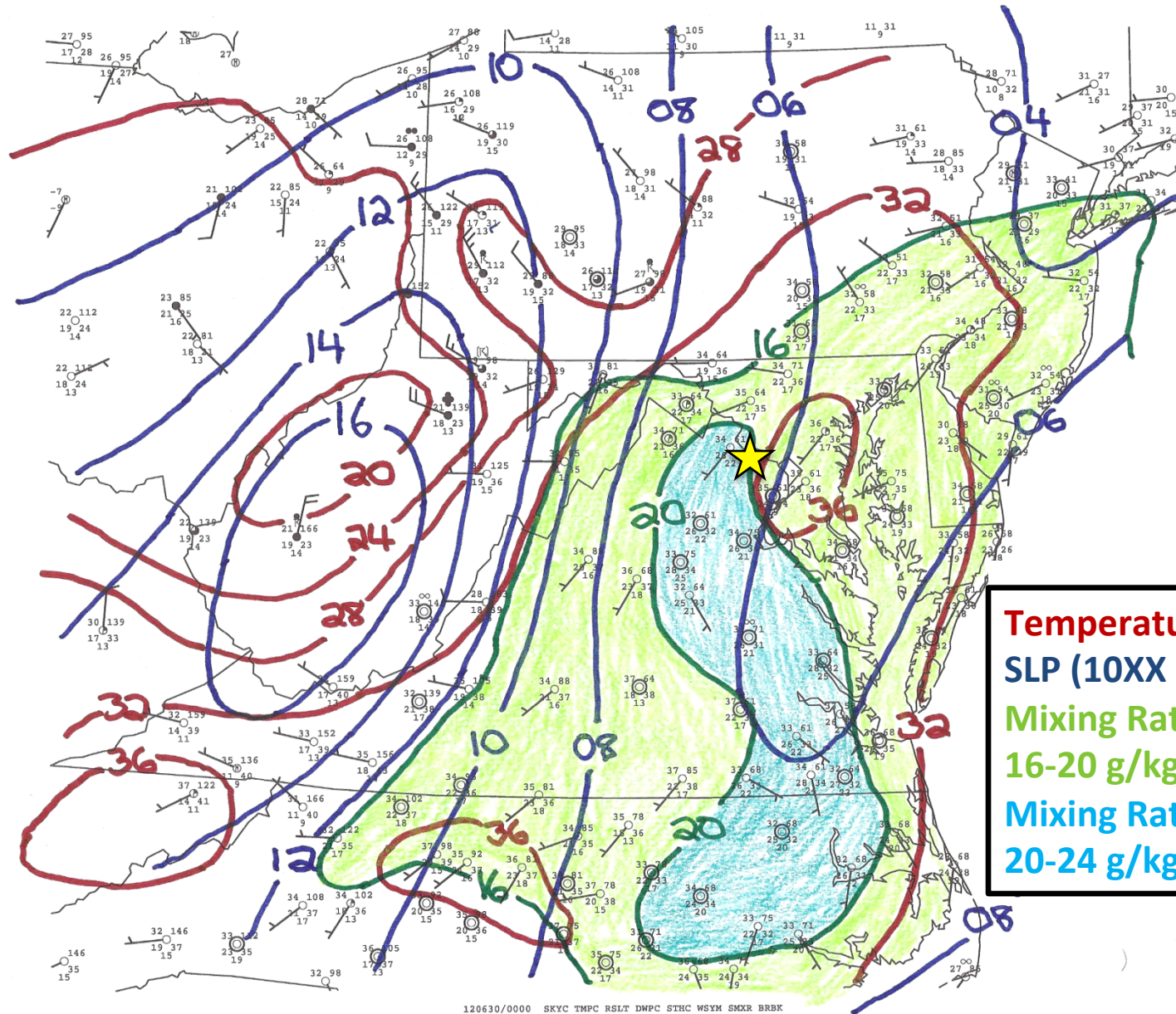
# Coastal Impact



Source: Iowa Environmental Mesonet



# 0000 UTC 30 June 2012 Surface Analysis



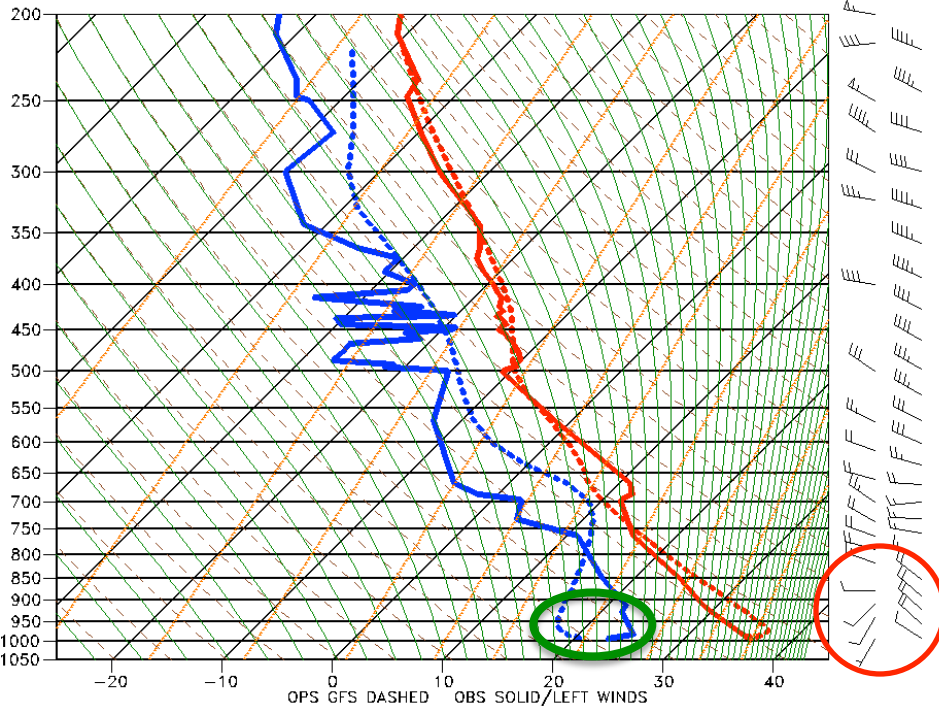
**Temperature (°C)**  
**SLP (10XX hPa)**  
**Mixing Ratio**  
16-20 g/kg  
20-24 g/kg

# IAD 12 Hour Forecast Soundings (dashed) vs. Observed (solid) for 0000 UTC 30 June 2012

GFS

120630/0000 72403 IAD CAPE: 5534  
120630/0000 724030 CAPE: 2180

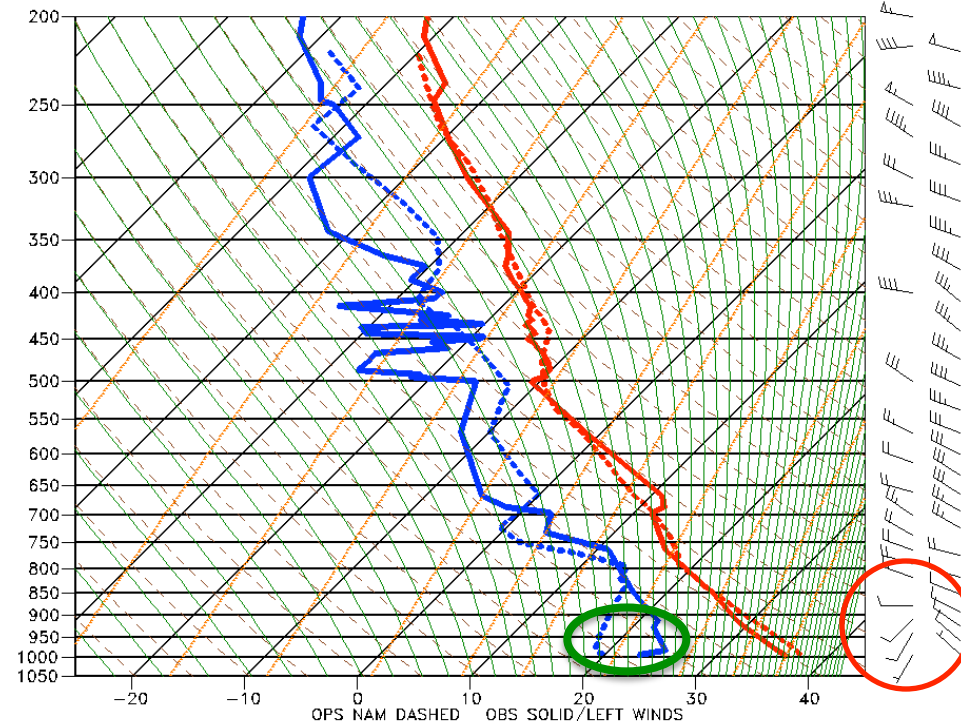
O F



NAM

120630/0000 72403 IAD CAPE: 5534  
120630/0000 724030 KIAD CAPE: 2596

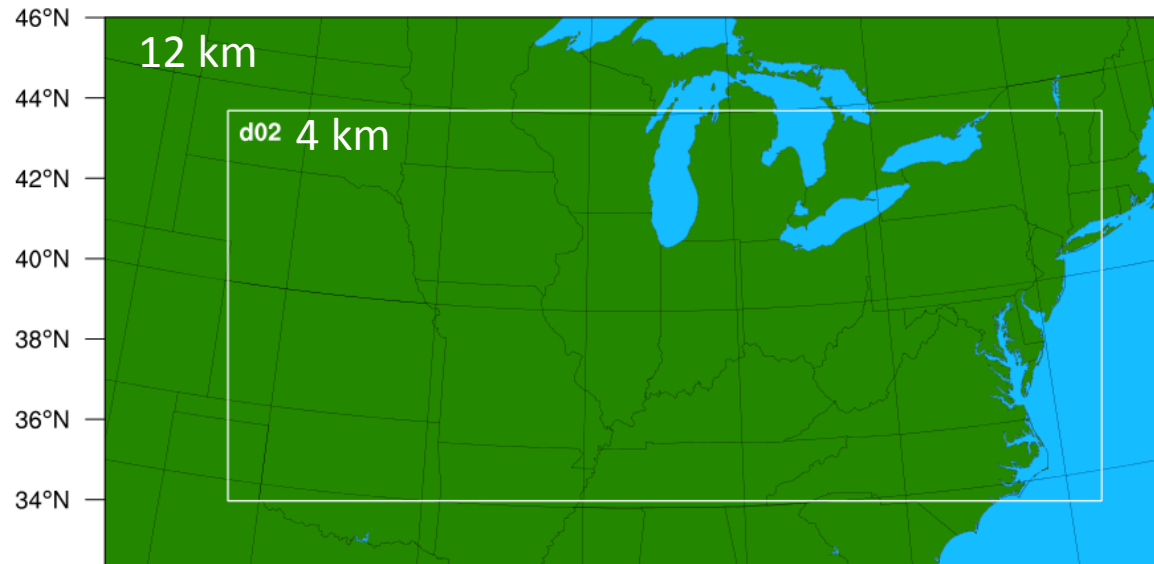
O F



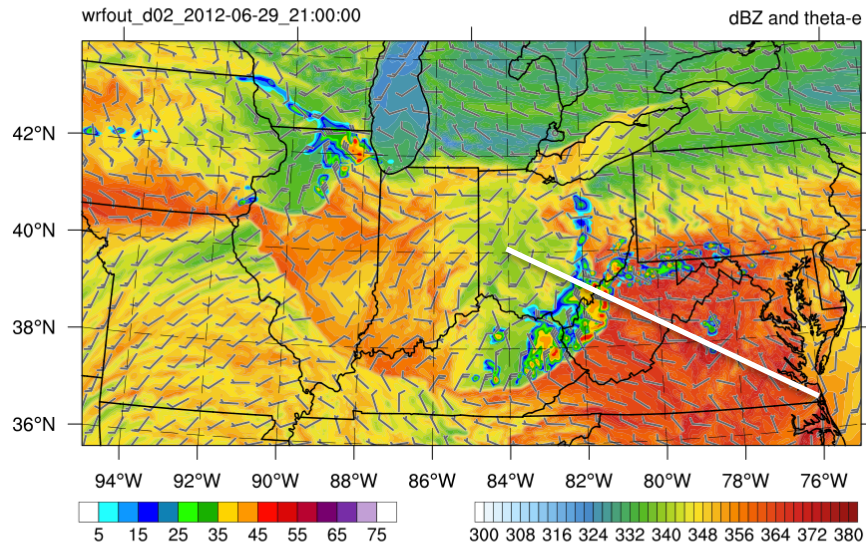
Source: Geoffrey Manikin

# 29–30 June 2012 WRF Run

- Initialized at 0000 UTC 29 June 2012 with NAM data
- 12 km outer grid with 4 km nested grid
- Convection explicitly resolved in 4km grid
- Morrison double-moment microphysics
- Mellor-Yamada-Janjic PBL scheme

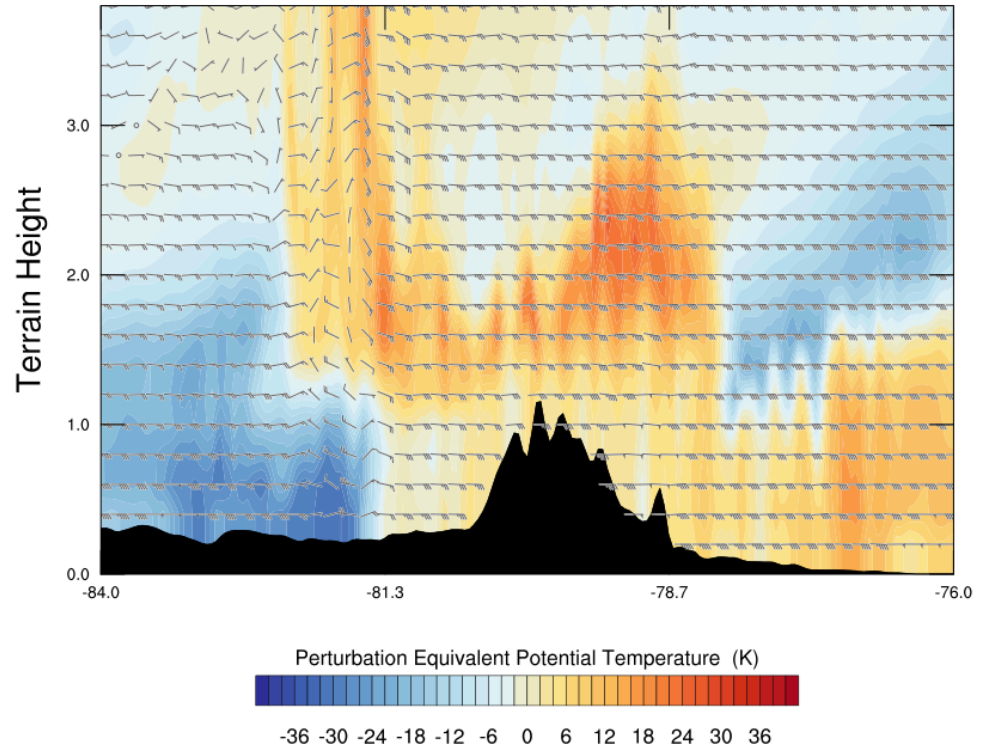


Surface  $\theta_e$  (K, fill), surface winds (kt, barbs), and lowest model level reflectivity



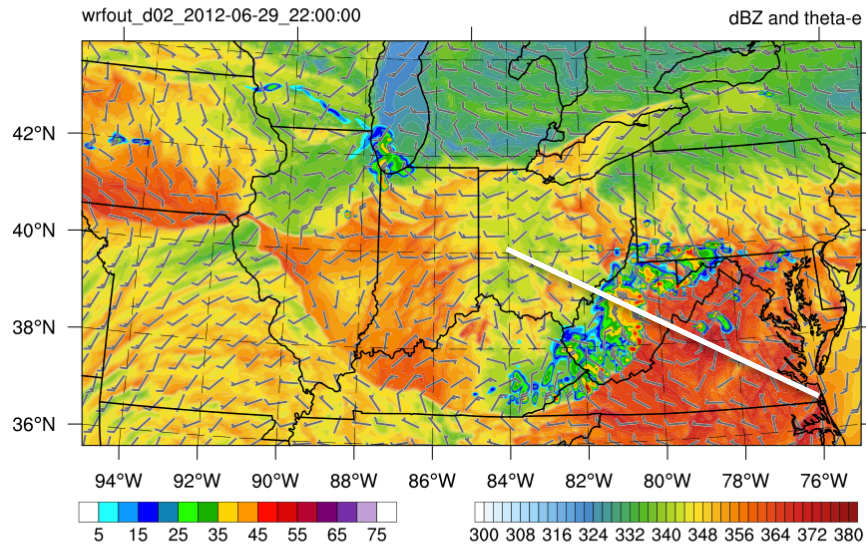
- Morrison double-moment microphysics
- Mellor-Yamada-Janjic PBL scheme

Perturbation  $\theta_e$  (K, fill) and system relative winds (kt, barbs)



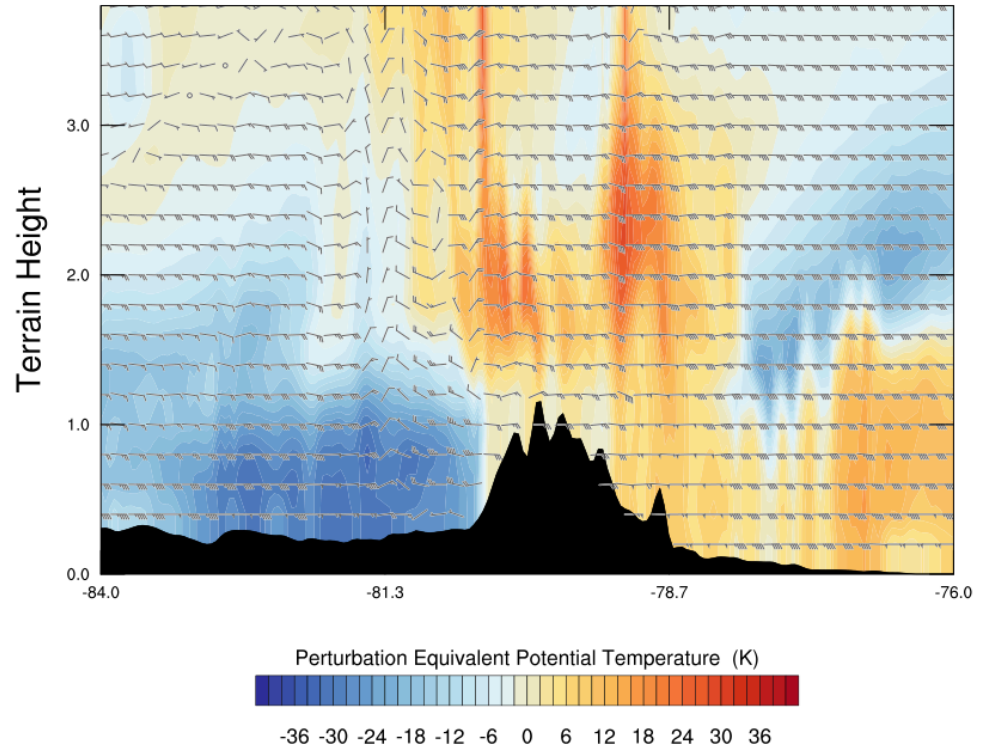
OUTPUT FROM WRF V3.4 MODEL  
WE = 619 ; SN = 277 ; Levels = 35 ; Dis = 4km ; Phys Opt = 10 ; PBL Opt = 2 ; Cu Opt = 0

Surface  $\theta_e$  (K, fill), surface winds (kt, barbs), and lowest model level reflectivity



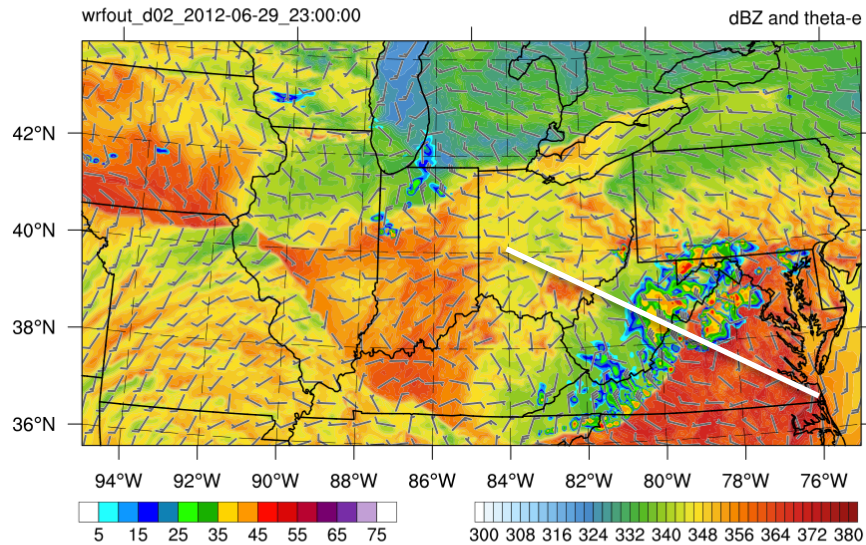
- Morrison double-moment microphysics
- Mellor-Yamada-Janjic PBL scheme

Perturbation  $\theta_e$  (K, fill) and system relative winds (kt, barbs)

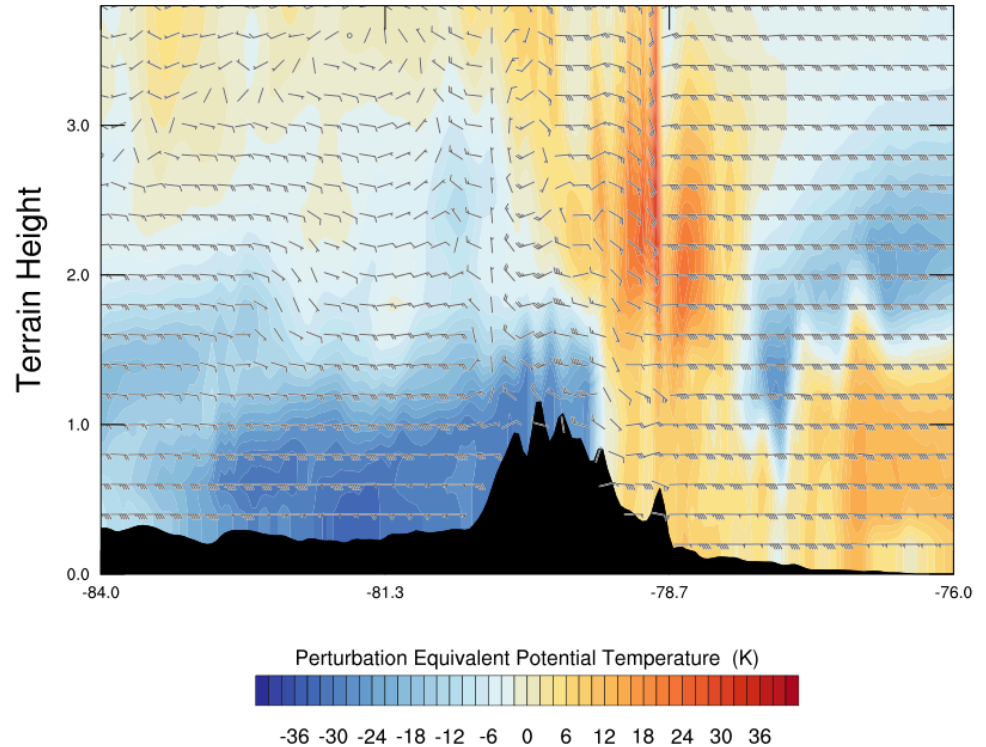


OUTPUT FROM WRF V3.4 MODEL  
WE = 619 ; SN = 277 ; Levels = 35 ; Dis = 4km ; Phys Opt = 10 ; PBL Opt = 2 ; Cu Opt = 0

Surface  $\theta_e$  (K, fill), surface winds (kt, barbs), and lowest model level reflectivity



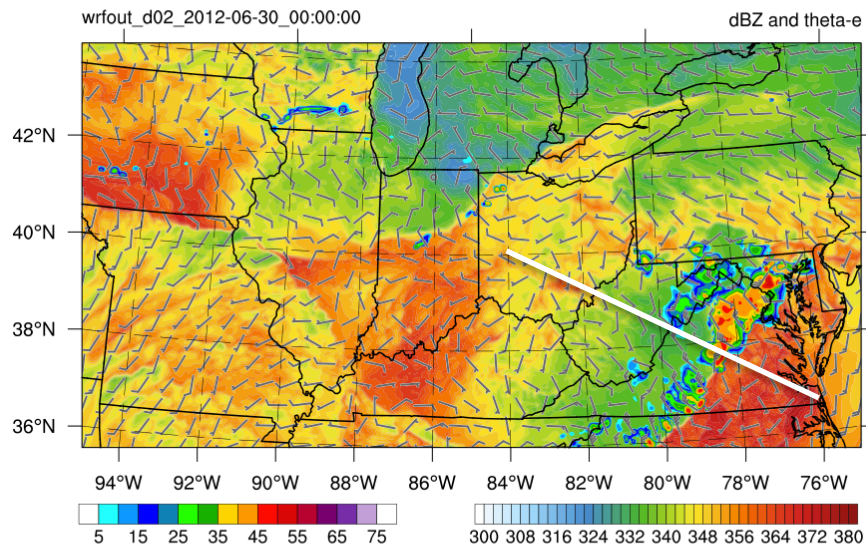
Perturbation  $\theta_e$  (K, fill) and system relative winds (kt, barbs)



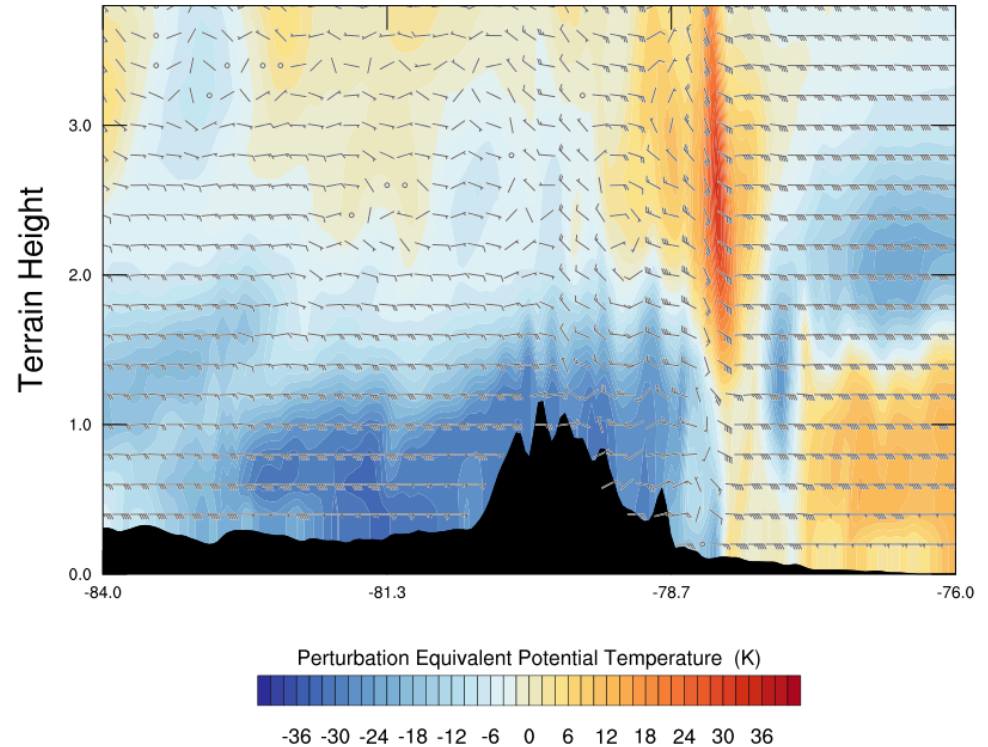
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OUTPUT FROM WRF V3.4 MODEL  
WE = 619 ; SN = 277 ; Levels = 35 ; Dis = 4km ; Phys Opt = 10 ; PBL Opt = 2 ; Cu Opt = 0

Surface  $\theta_e$  (K, fill), surface winds (kt, barbs), and lowest model level reflectivity



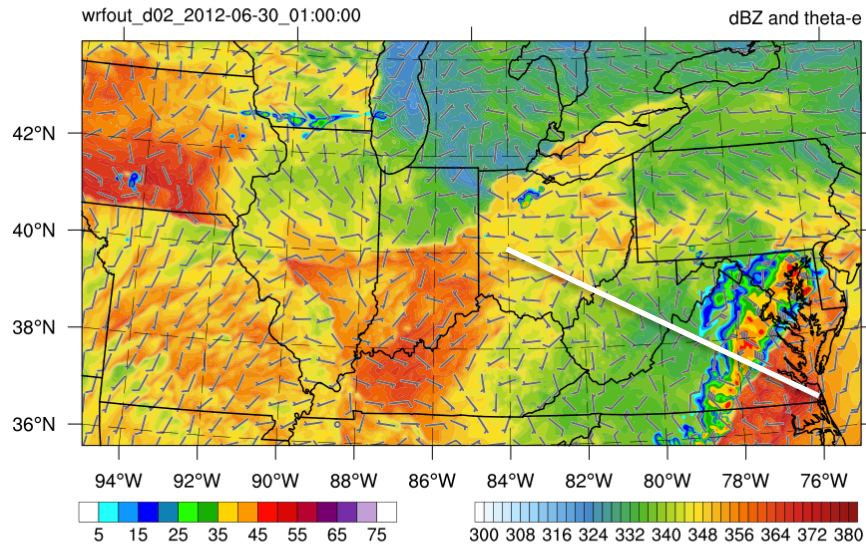
Perturbation  $\theta_e$  (K, fill) and system relative winds (kt, barbs)



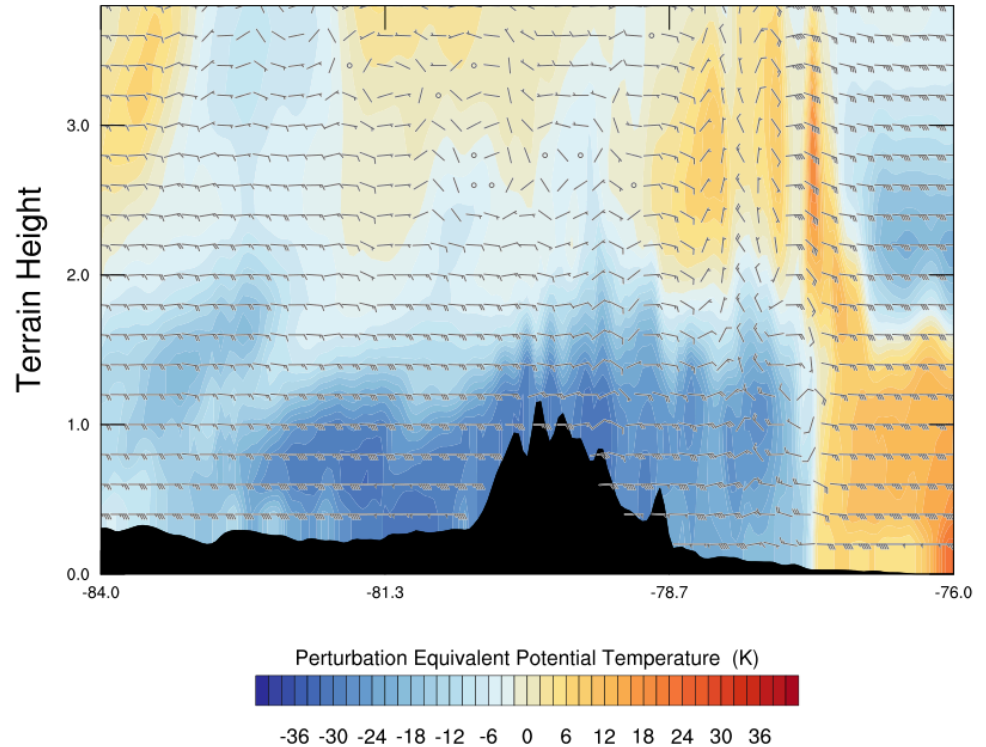
- Morrison double-moment microphysics
- Mellor-Yamada-Janjic PBL scheme

OUTPUT FROM WRF V3.4 MODEL  
WE = 619 ; SN = 277 ; Levels = 35 ; Dis = 4km ; Phys Opt = 10 ; PBL Opt = 2 ; Cu Opt = 0

Surface  $\theta_e$  (K, fill), surface winds (kt, barbs), and lowest model level reflectivity



Perturbation  $\theta_e$  (K, fill) and system relative winds (kt, barbs)



- Morrison double-moment microphysics
- Mellor-Yamada-Janjic PBL scheme

OUTPUT FROM WRF V3.4 MODEL  
WE = 619 ; SN = 277 ; Levels = 35 ; Dis = 4km ; Phys Opt = 10 ; PBL Opt = 2 ; Cu Opt = 0



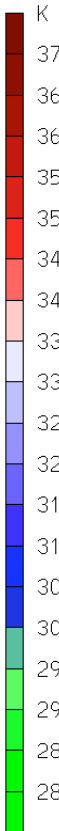
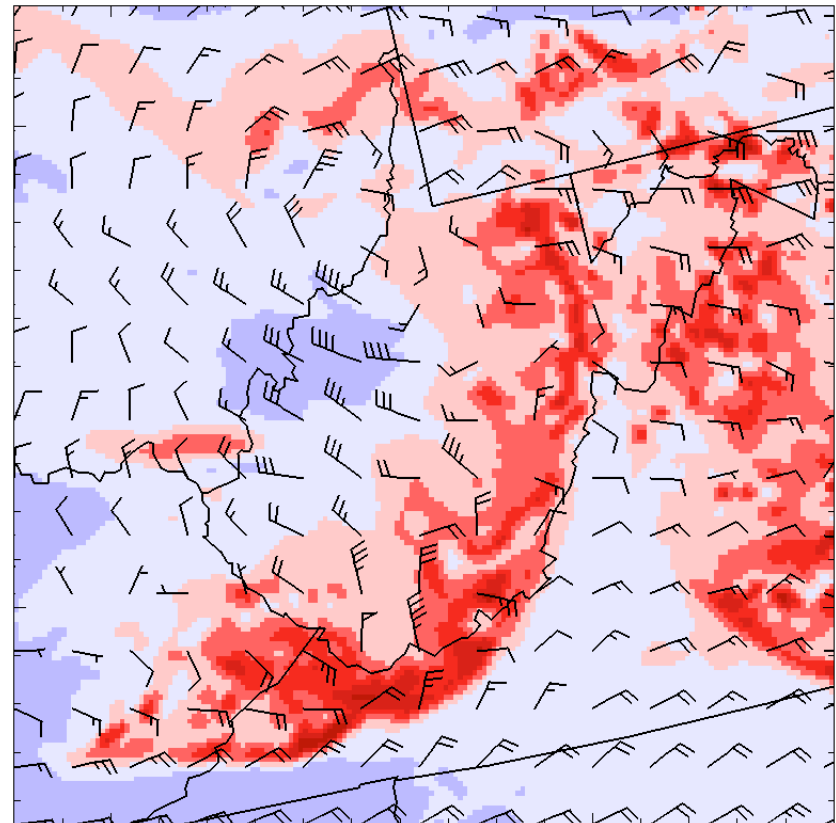
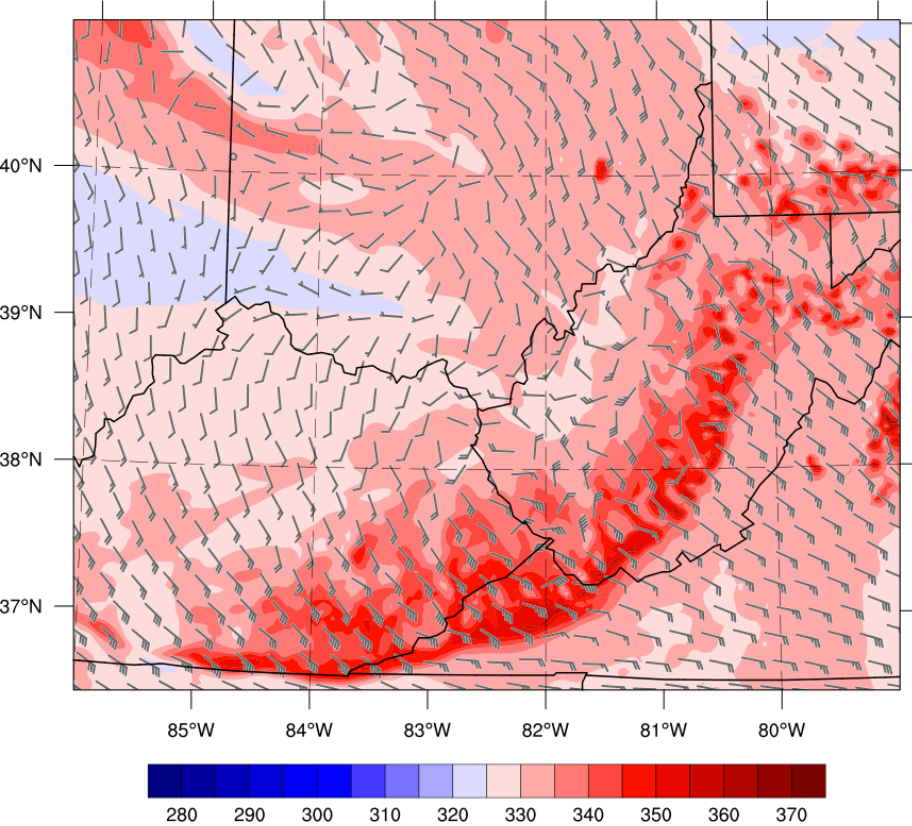
**Brief comparison to WRF-ARW  
run presented by Morris Weisman**

2200 UTC

# 700-hPa Theta-e

0000 UTC

wrfout\_d02\_2012-06-29\_22:00:00



0000 UTC initialization  
4km  
NAM  
Morrison  
MYJ

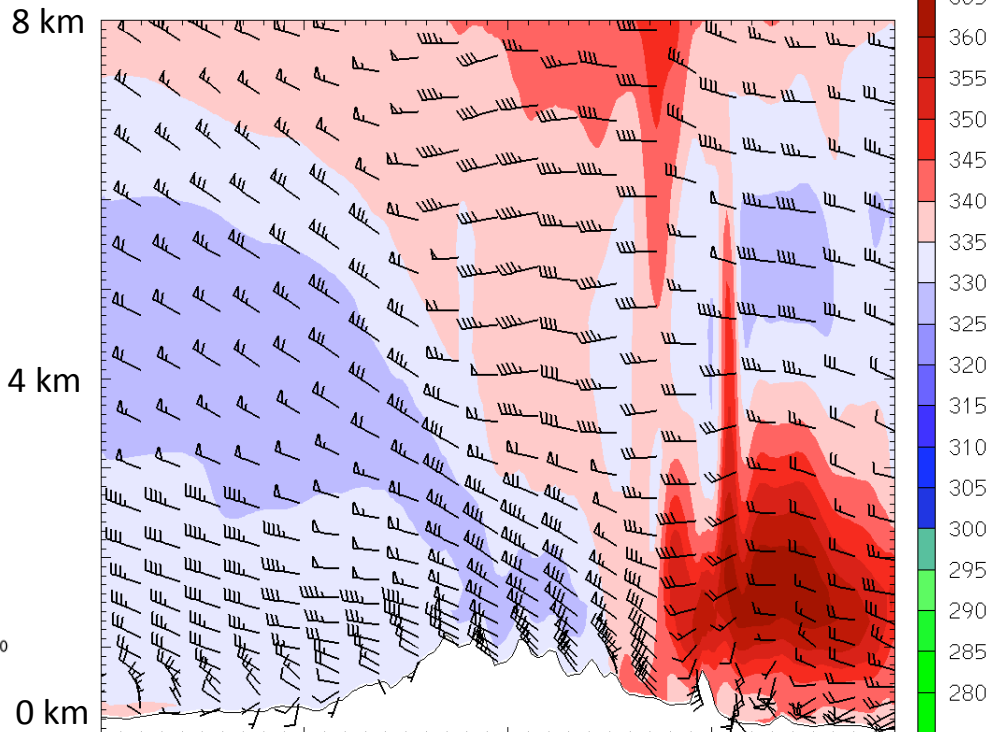
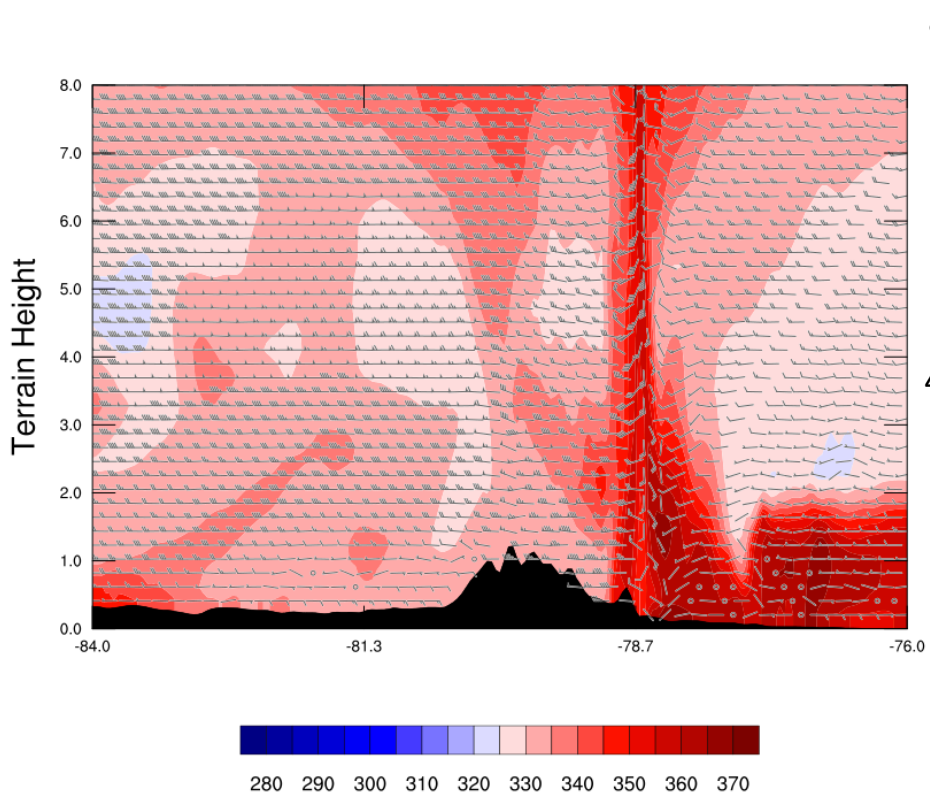
1200 UTC initialization  
3km  
DART Analysis  
Morrison  
MYJ

2330 UTC

Theta-e

0100 UTC

Init: 2012-06-29\_00:00:00  
Valid: 2012-06-29\_23:30:00



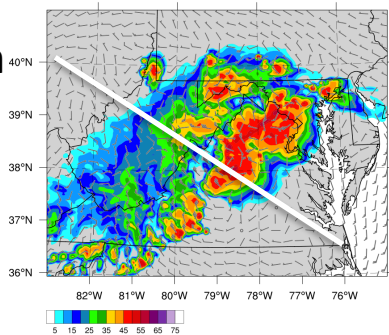
0000 UTC initialization

4km

NAM

Morrison

MYJ



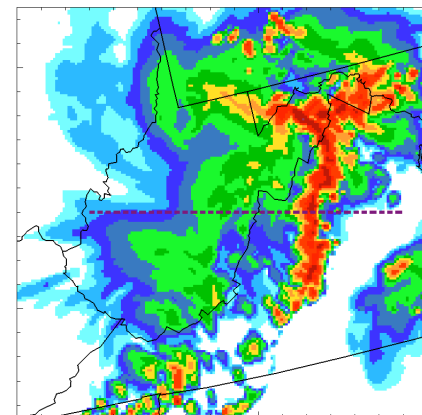
1200 UTC initialization

3km

DART Analysis

Morrison

MYJ



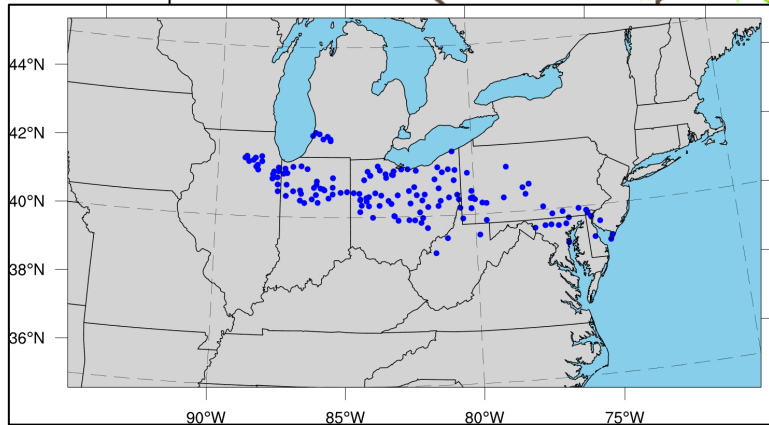
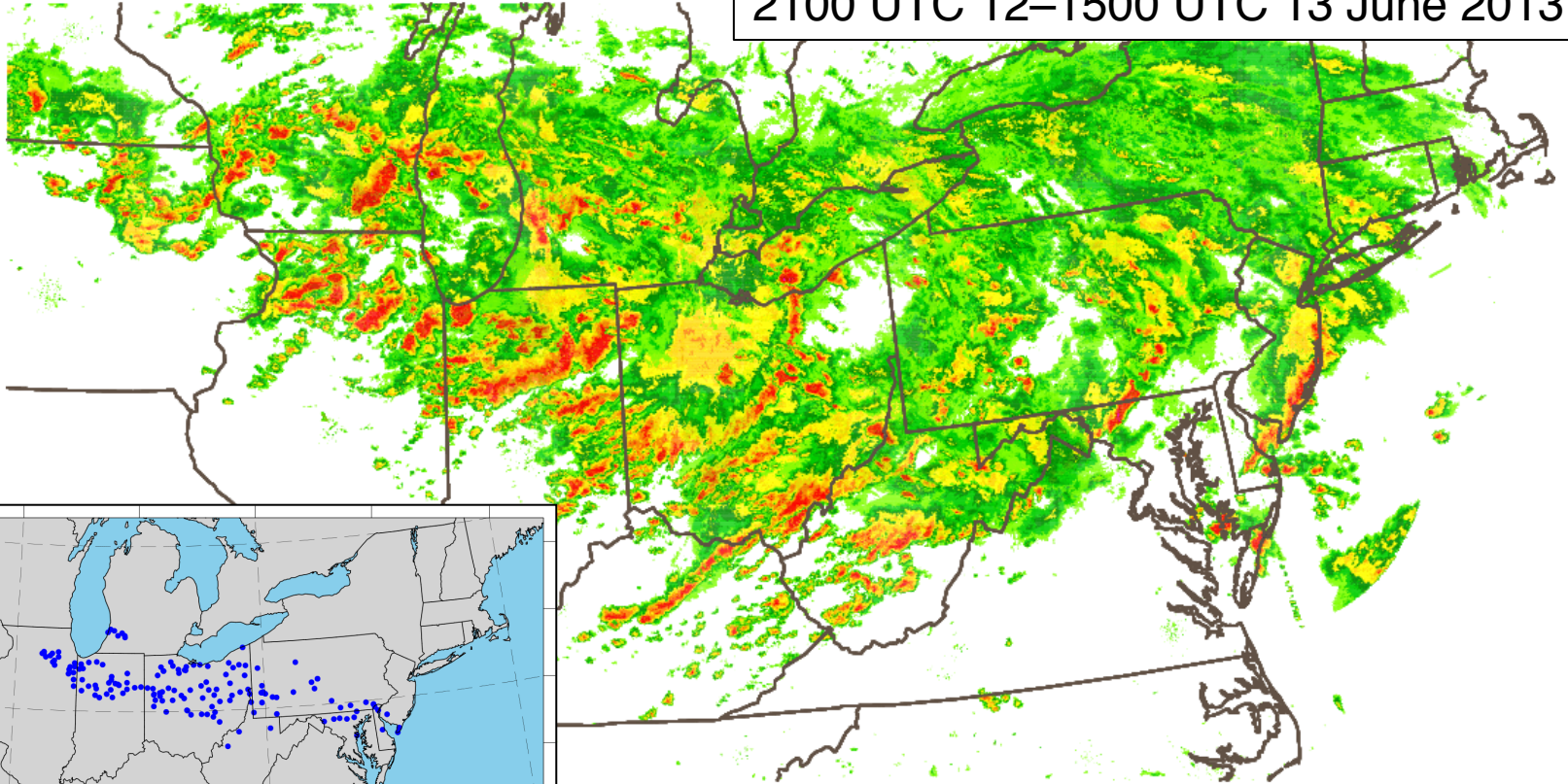
# **Case study**

**Upper-level trough**

**12–13 June 2013**

# Radar Continuity Map and Storm Reports

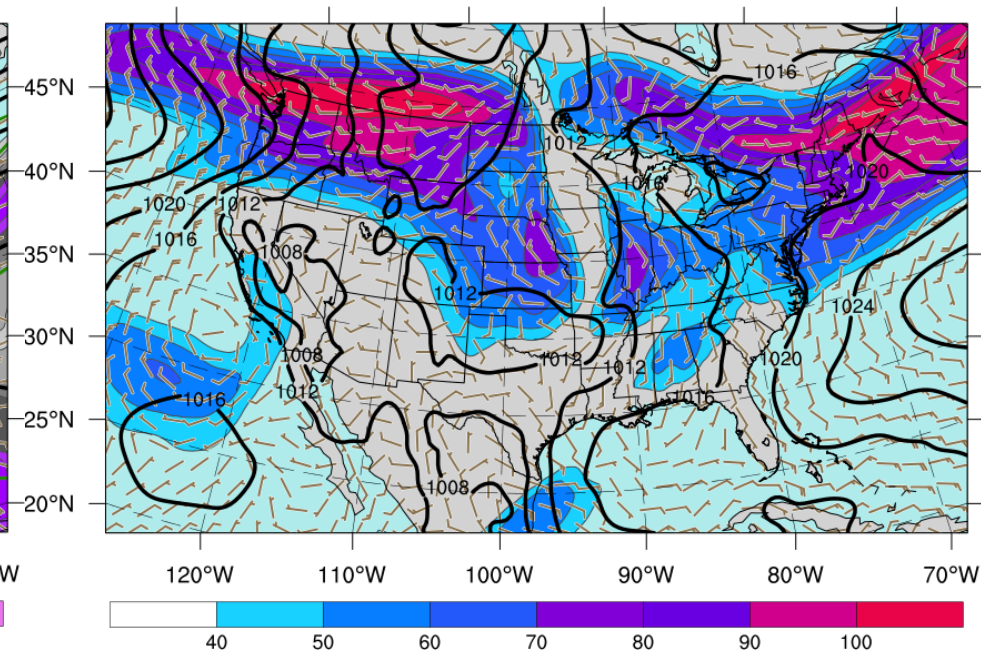
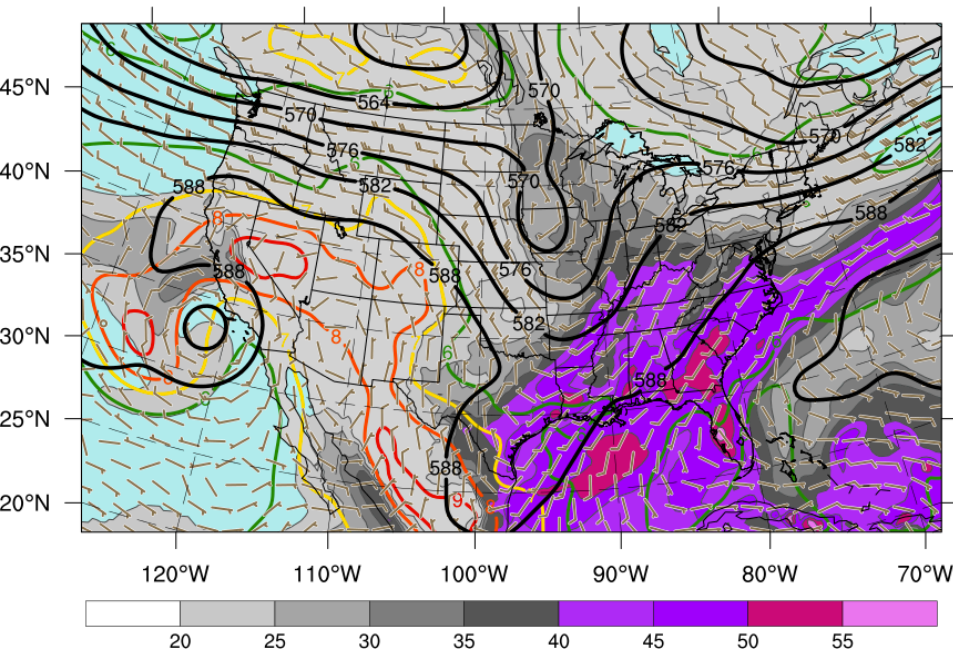
2100 UTC 12–1500 UTC 13 June 2013



**2100 UTC 9 June 2013  
(72 hours prior to initiation)**

Precipitable water (gray and purple fill; mm),  
700–500-hPa lapse rates (colored contours;  
 $C\ km^{-1}$ ), 500 hPa geopotential heights (black  
contours; dam), and 700–500-hPa layer  
averaged winds (barbs; kt)

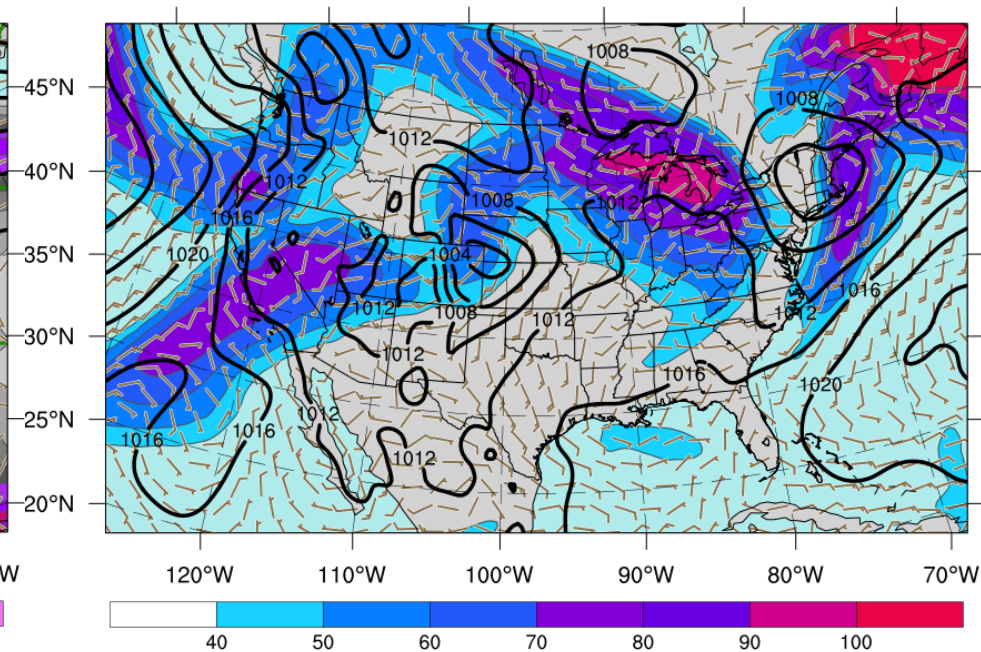
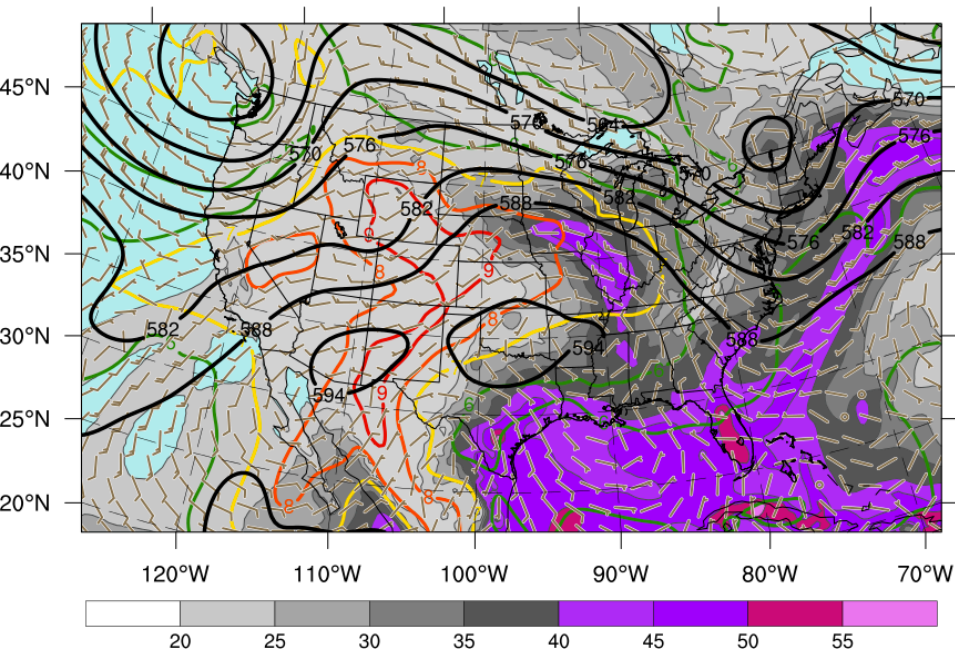
250-hPa wind magnitude (fill; kt), mean sea  
level pressure (contours; hPa), and surface  
winds (barbs; kt)



# 2100 UTC 11 June 2013 (24 hours prior to initiation)

Precipitable water (gray and purple fill; mm),  
700–500-hPa lapse rates (colored contours;  
 $C\ km^{-1}$ ), 500 hPa geopotential heights (black  
contours; dam), and 700–500-hPa layer  
averaged winds (barbs; kt)

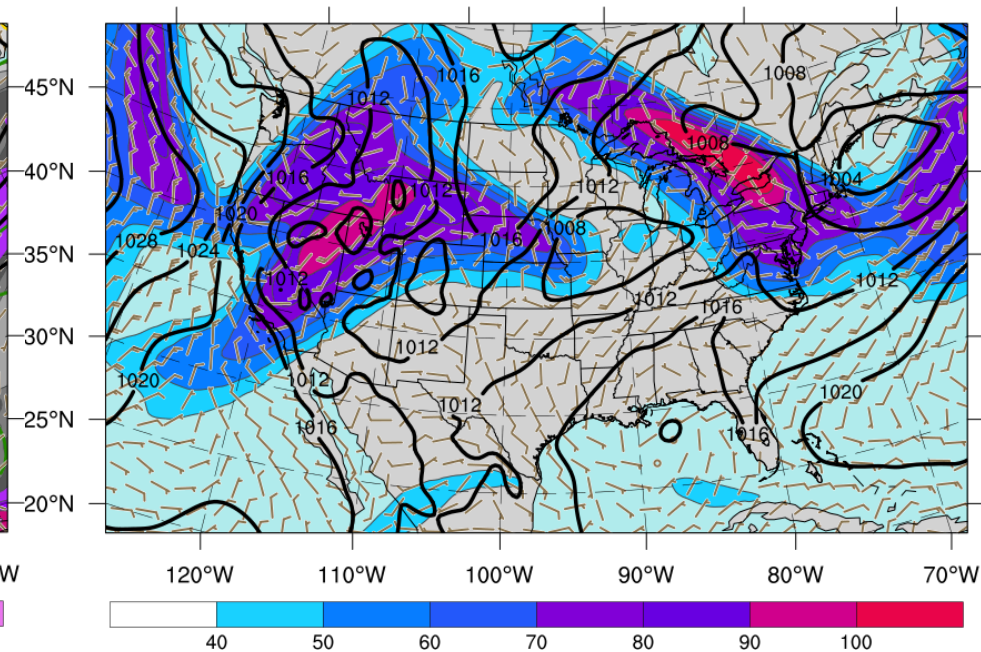
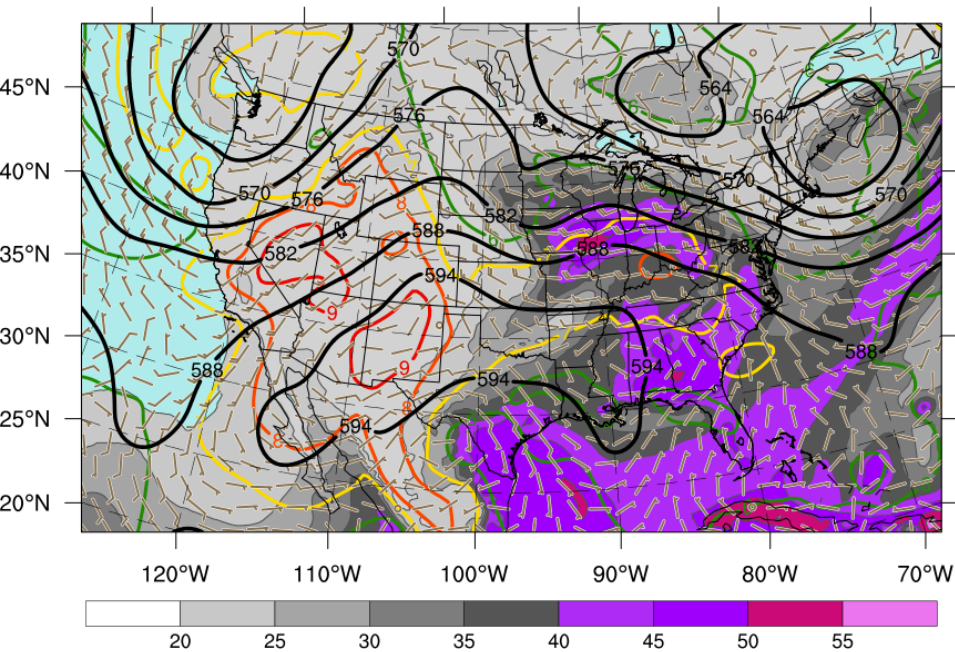
250-hPa wind magnitude (fill; kt), mean sea  
level pressure (contours; hPa), and surface  
winds (barbs; kt)



**2100 UTC 12 June 2013  
(at initiation)**

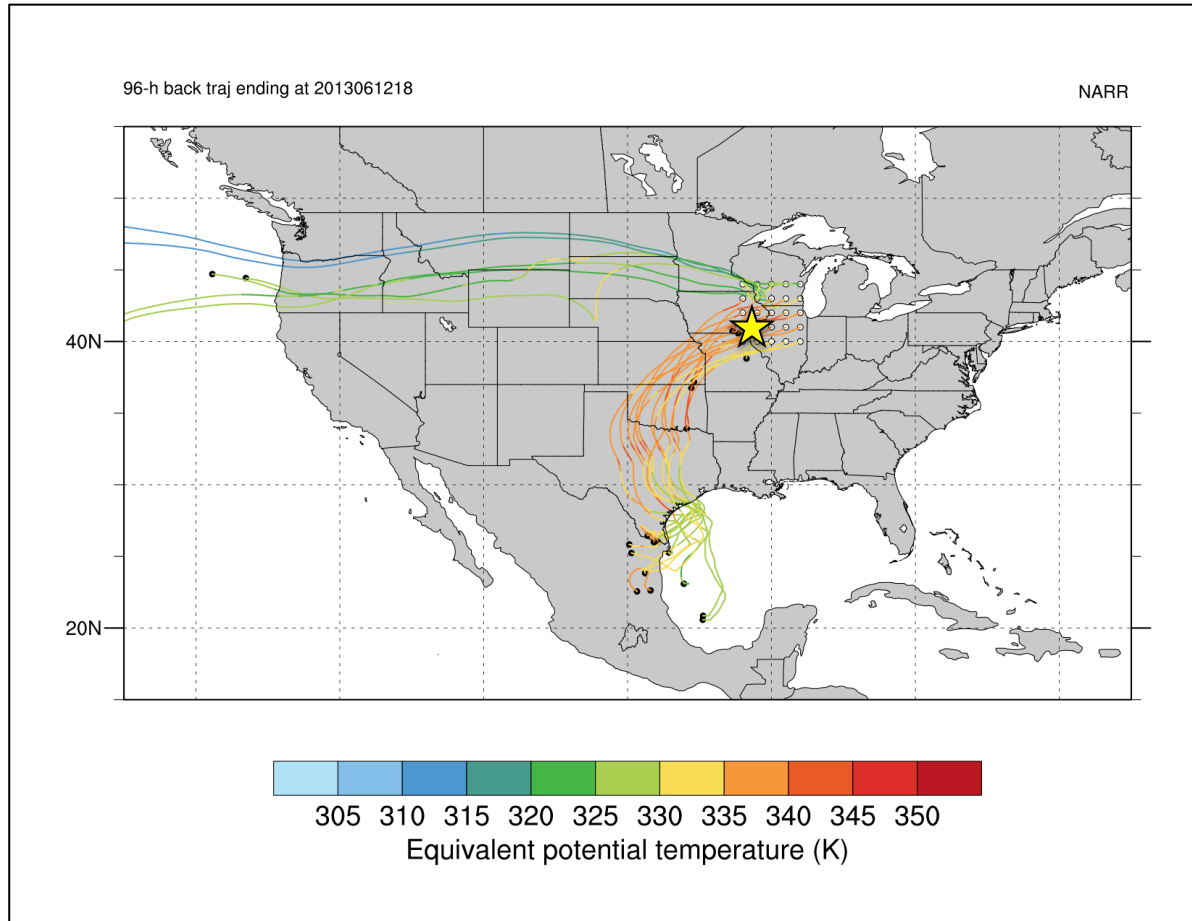
Precipitable water (gray and purple fill; mm),  
700–500-hPa lapse rates (colored contours;  
 $C\ km^{-1}$ ), 500 hPa geopotential heights (black  
contours; dam), and 700–500-hPa layer  
averaged winds (barbs; kt)

250-hPa wind magnitude (fill; kt), mean sea  
level pressure (contours; hPa), and surface  
winds (barbs; kt)



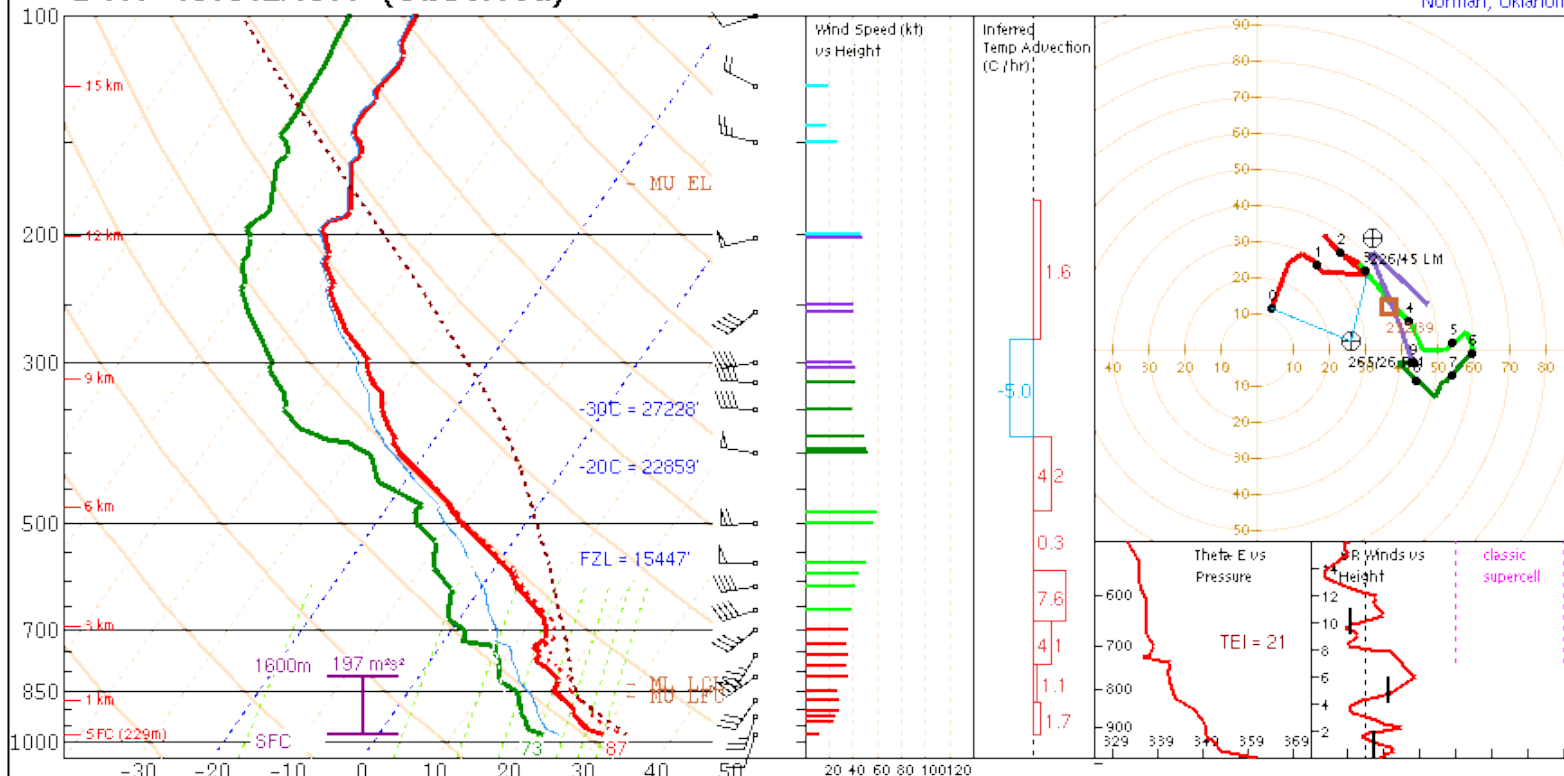


# 96-hour back trajectories ending at 850-hPa at 1800 UTC 12 June 2013



# DVN 130612/1800 (Observed)

NOAA/NWS Storm Prediction Center  
Norman, Oklahoma



PARCEL	CAPE	CINH	LCL	LI	LFC	EL
SURFACE	4079	-1	1023m	-10	1073m	42820'
MIXED LAYER	2341	-100	1413m	-6	3685m	40827'
FCST SURFACE	2991	-9	1797m	-8	3429m	41281'
MU (980 mb)	4079	-1	1023m	-10	1073m	42820'

PW = 1.73 in	3CAPE = 0 J/kg	WBZ = 13386'	WNDG = 0.0
K = 32	DCAPE = 1109 J/kg	FZL = 15447'	ESP = 0.0
MidRH = 57%	DownT = 66 F	ConvT = 95F	MMP = 0.99
LowRH = 65%	MeanW = 14.6 g/kg	MaxT = 93F	
SigSevere = 68099 m3/s3			

Sfc-3km Agl Lapse Rate = 6.8 C/km	<b>Supercell = 16.1</b>
3-6km Agl Lapse Rate = 8.2 C/km	<b>Left Supercell = 1.3</b>
850-500mb Lapse Rate = 6.9 C/km	<b>Sig Tor (CIN) = 1.1</b>
700-500mb Lapse Rate = 8.1 C/km	<b>Sig Tor (fixed) = 3.4</b>
	<b>Sig Hail = 2.5</b>

	SRH(m2/s2)	Shear(kt)	MnWind	SRW
SFC - 1 km	134	18	204/24	140/25
SFC - 3 km	197	28	217/29	158/22
Eff Inflow Layer	197	28	212/26	147/23
SFC - 6 km		57	235/32	180/15
SFC - 8 km		45	242/33	194/13
Lower Half Storm Depth		55	238/32	185/15
Cloud Bearing Layer		30	251/38	226/14
BRN Shear = 49 m/s²				
4-6km SR Wind =		270/26 kt		
..... Storm Motion Vectors .....				
Bunkers Right =		265/26 kt		
Bunkers Left =		226/45 kt		
Corfidi Downshear =		274/69 kt		
Corfidi Upshear =		295/31 kt		

\*\*\* BEST GUESS PRECIP TYPE \*\*\*

**None.**  
Based on sfc temperature of 87.1 F.

**SARS - Sounding Analogs**

SUPERCCELL	SGFNTHAIL
01053000.AMA SIG	01090800.OUN 2.00
99060100.CSM WEAK	

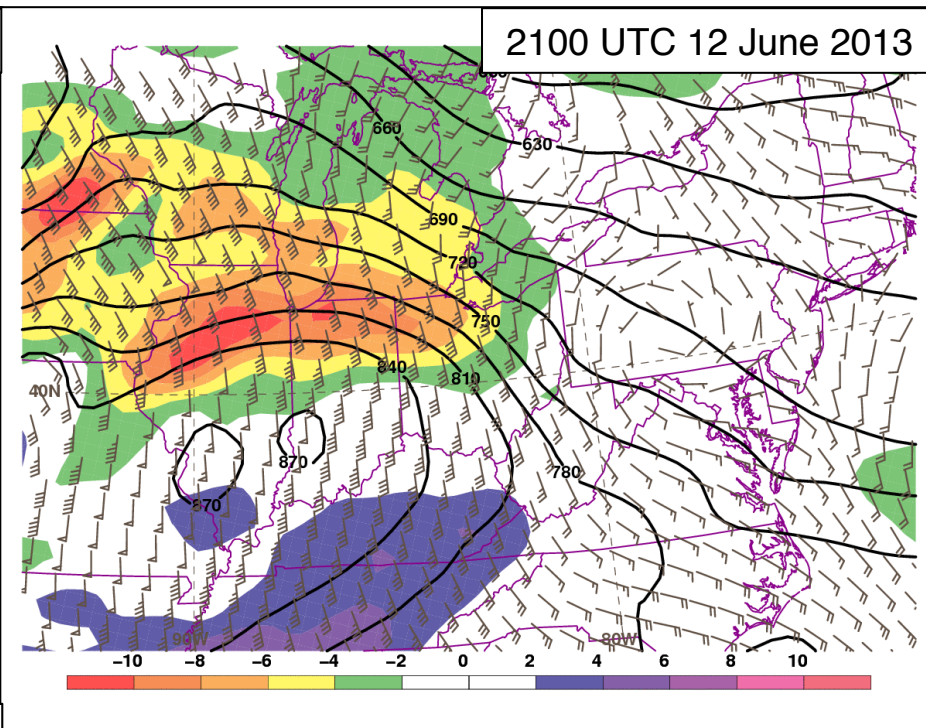
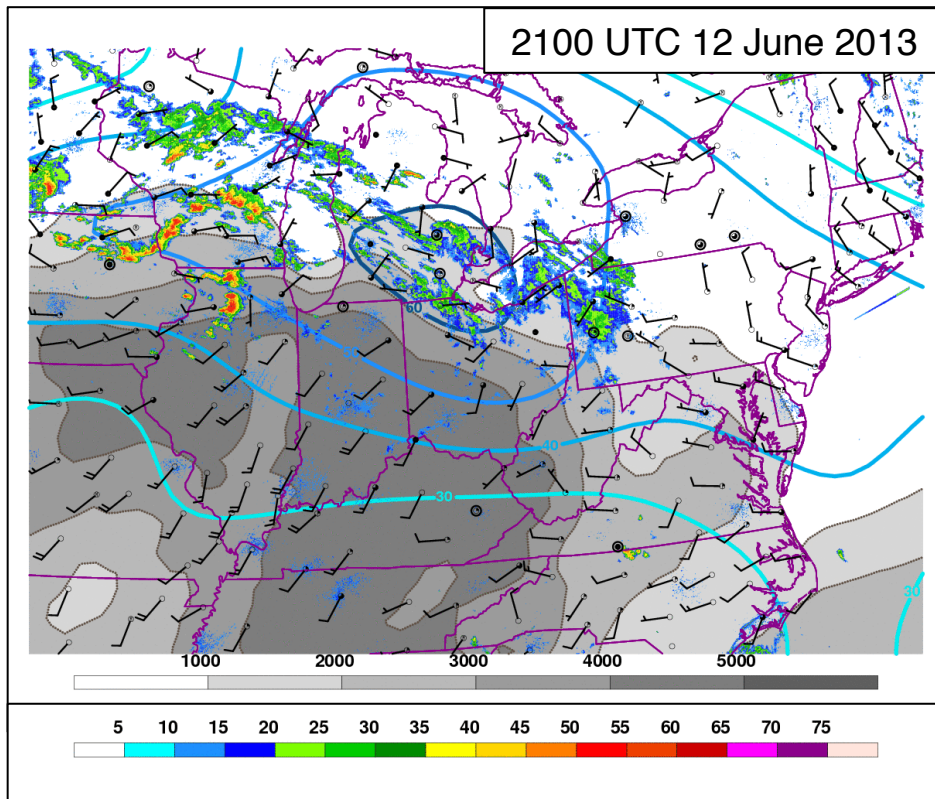
(5 loose matches) SARS: 80% TOR  
(63 loose matches) SARS: 87% SIG



# 310 K isentropic analysis using system-relative winds

0.5° composite reflectivity, NARR CAPE (grayscale;  $\text{J kg}^{-1}$ ), 1000 – 500-hPa shear magnitude (blue contours; kt), and surface observations

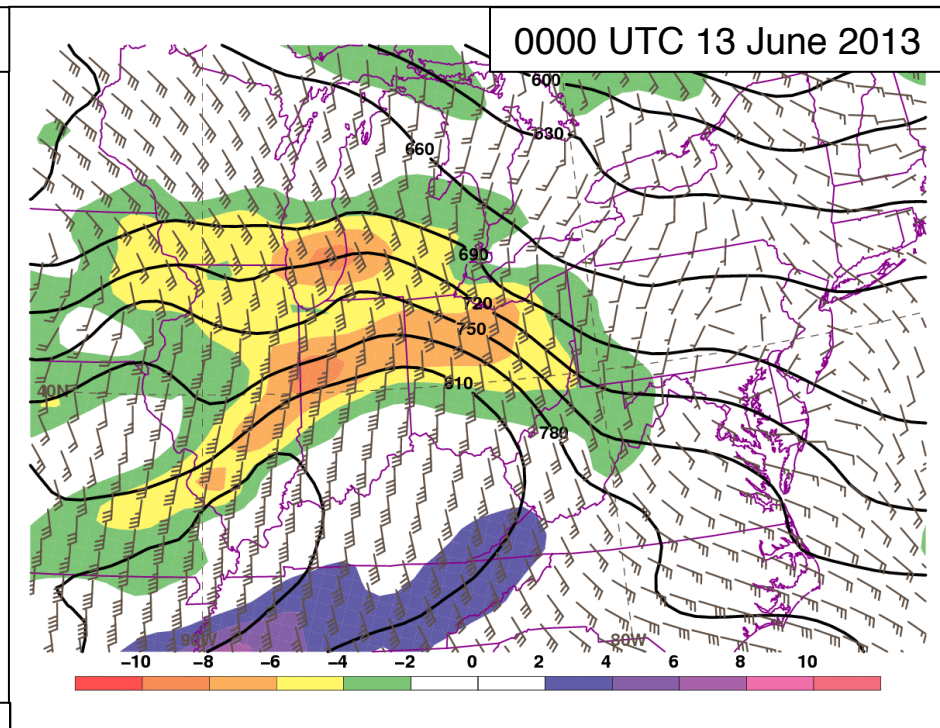
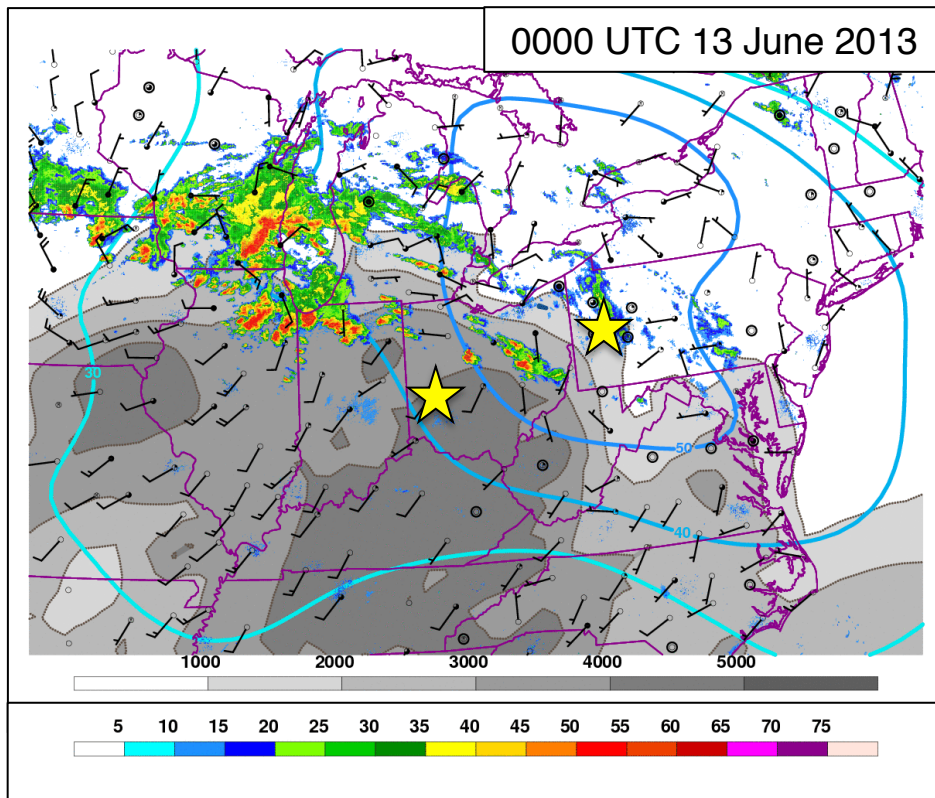
Omega (fill;  $\text{hPa s}^{-1} \times 10^{-3}$ ), pressure (contours, hPa), and system relative winds assuming propagation to the southeast at 45 kt



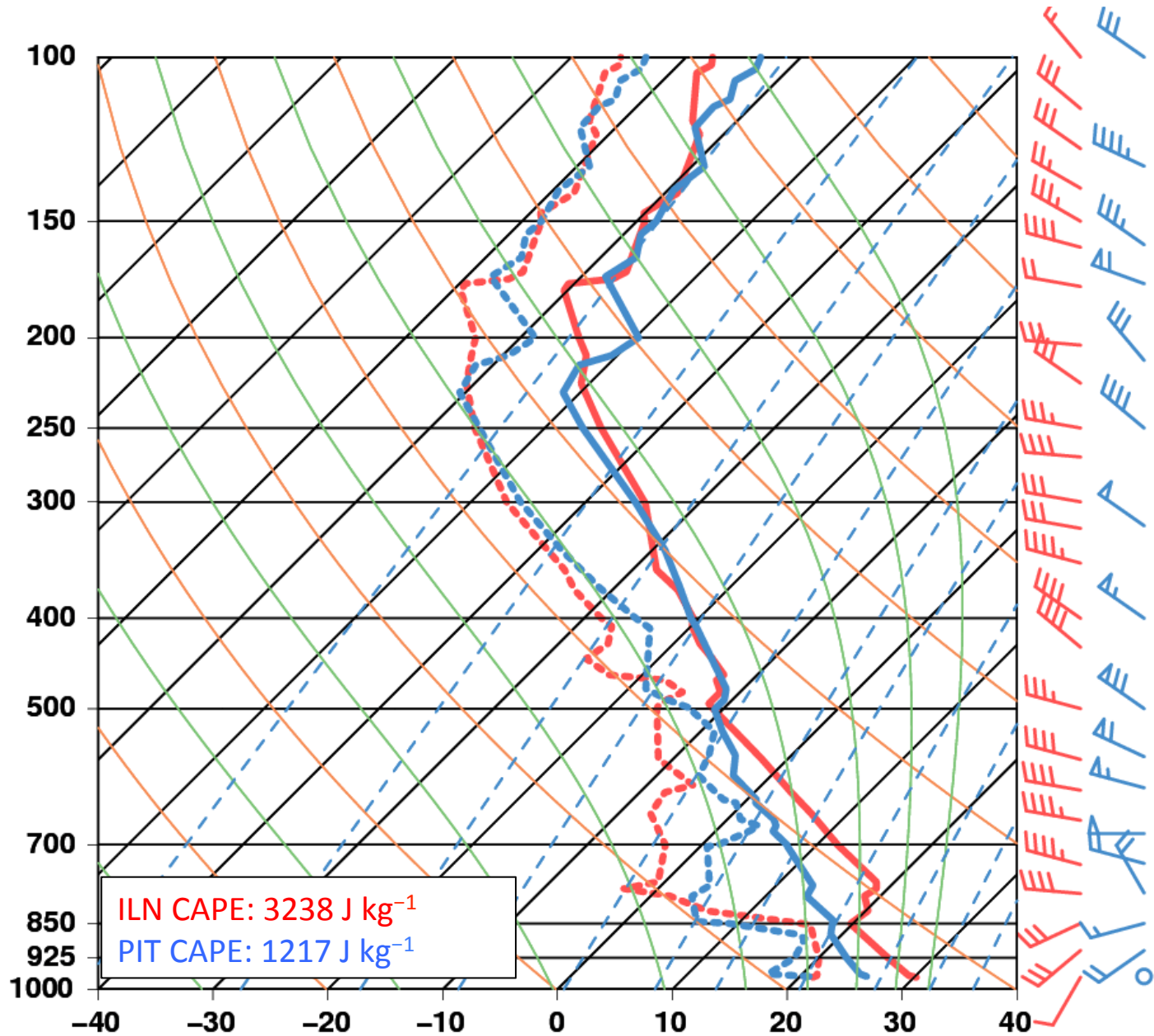
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0.5° composite reflectivity, NARR CAPE (grayscale; J kg<sup>-1</sup>), 1000 – 500-hPa shear magnitude (blue contours; kt), and surface observations

Omega (fill; hPa s<sup>-1</sup> × 10<sup>-3</sup>), pressure (contours, hPa), and system relative winds assuming propagation to the southeast at 45 kt

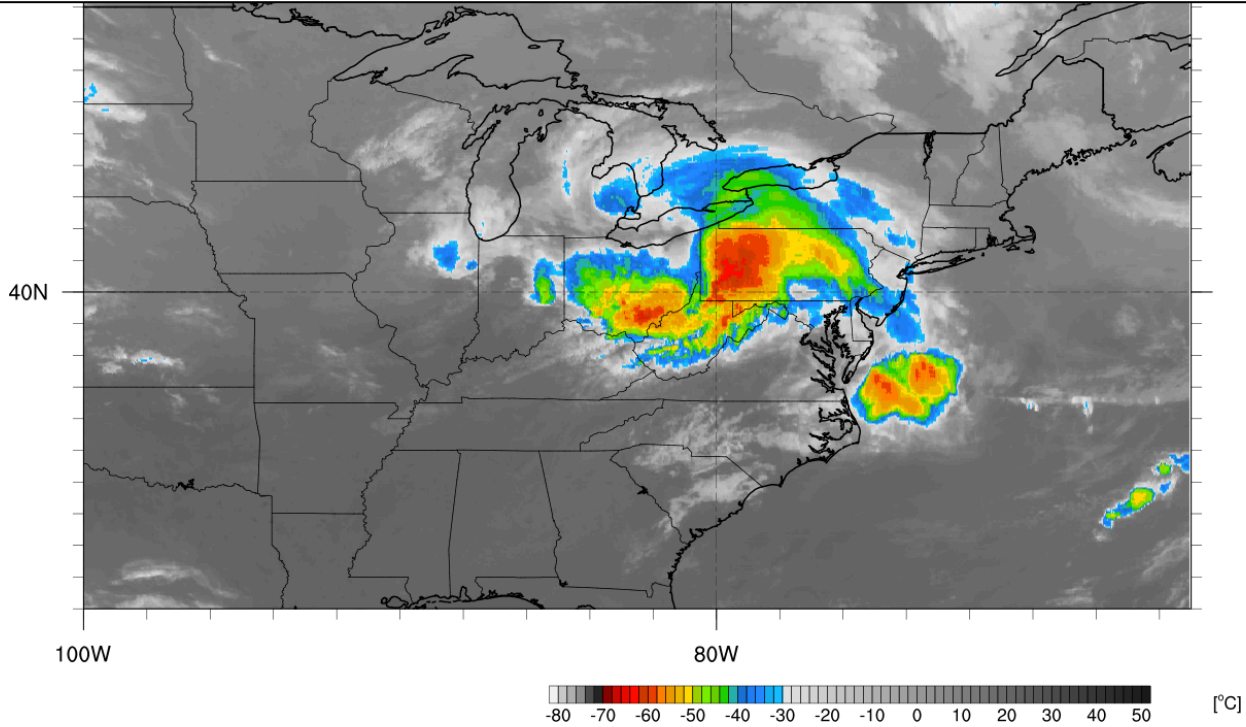


# Wilmington, OH (ILN) and Pittsburgh, PA (PIT) Soundings for 0000 UTC 13 June 2013

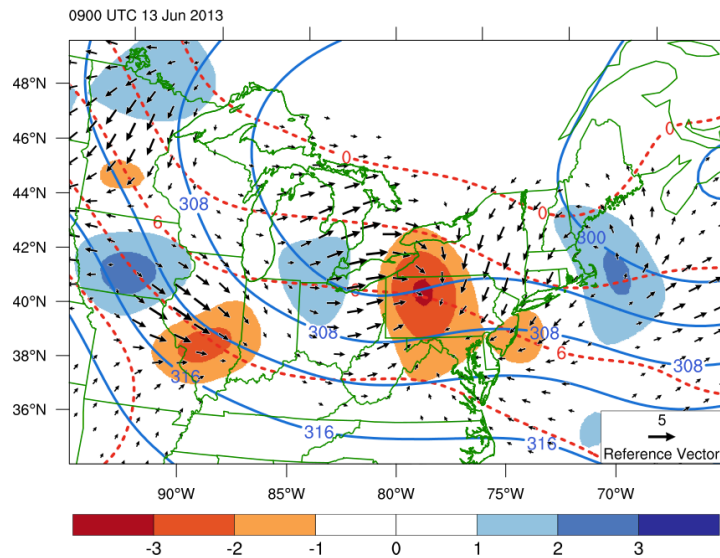


# Encountering Appalachians and Atlantic Coast 0900 UTC 13 June 2013

IR Imagery

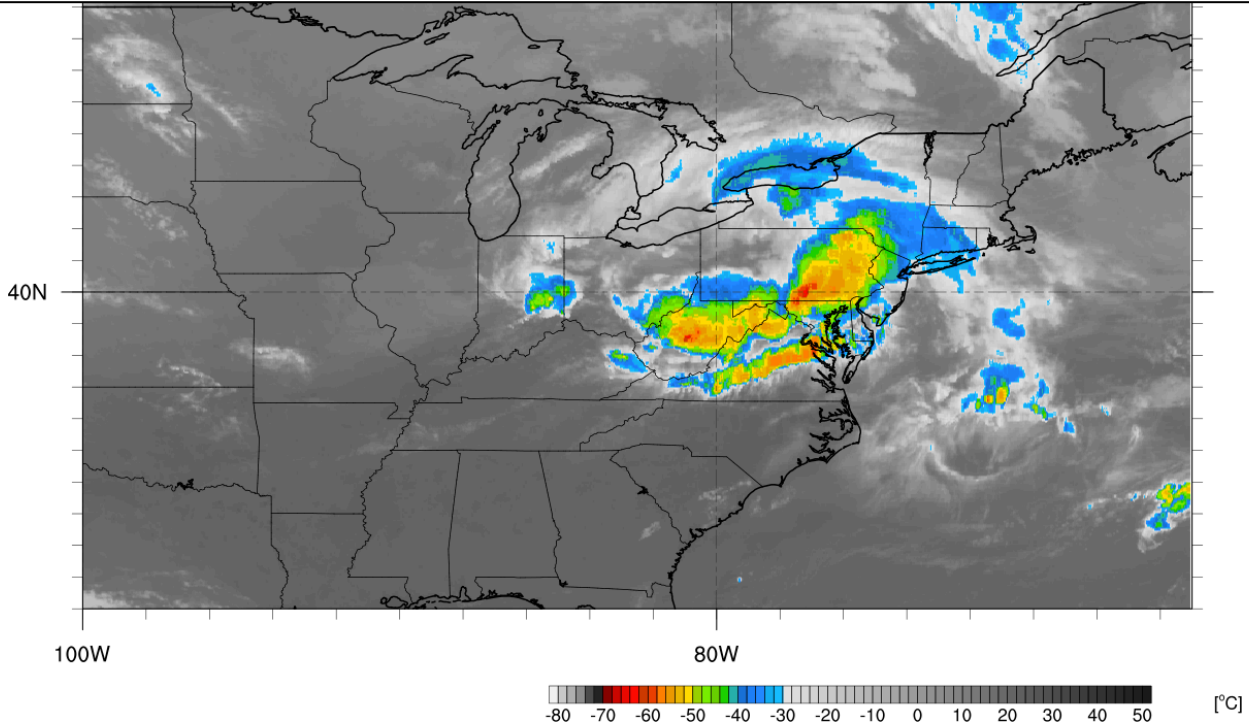


700-hPa Q-vectors, Q-vector convergence, geopotential heights, and temperature

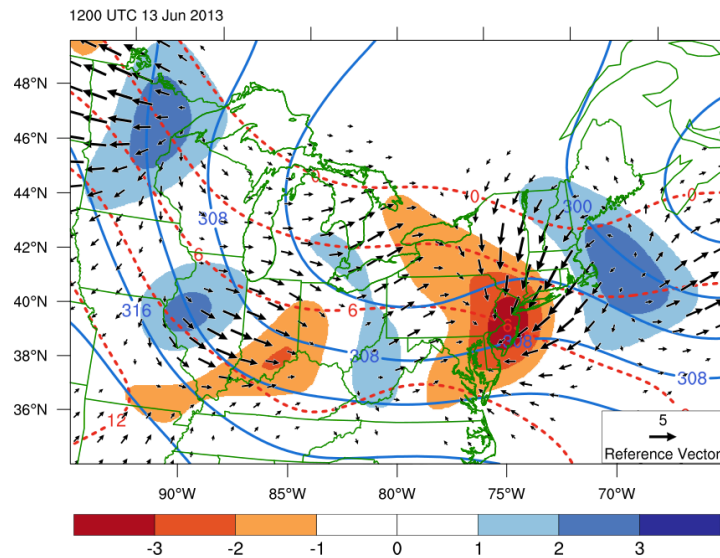


# Encountering Appalachians and Atlantic Coast 1200 UTC 13 June 2013

IR Imagery

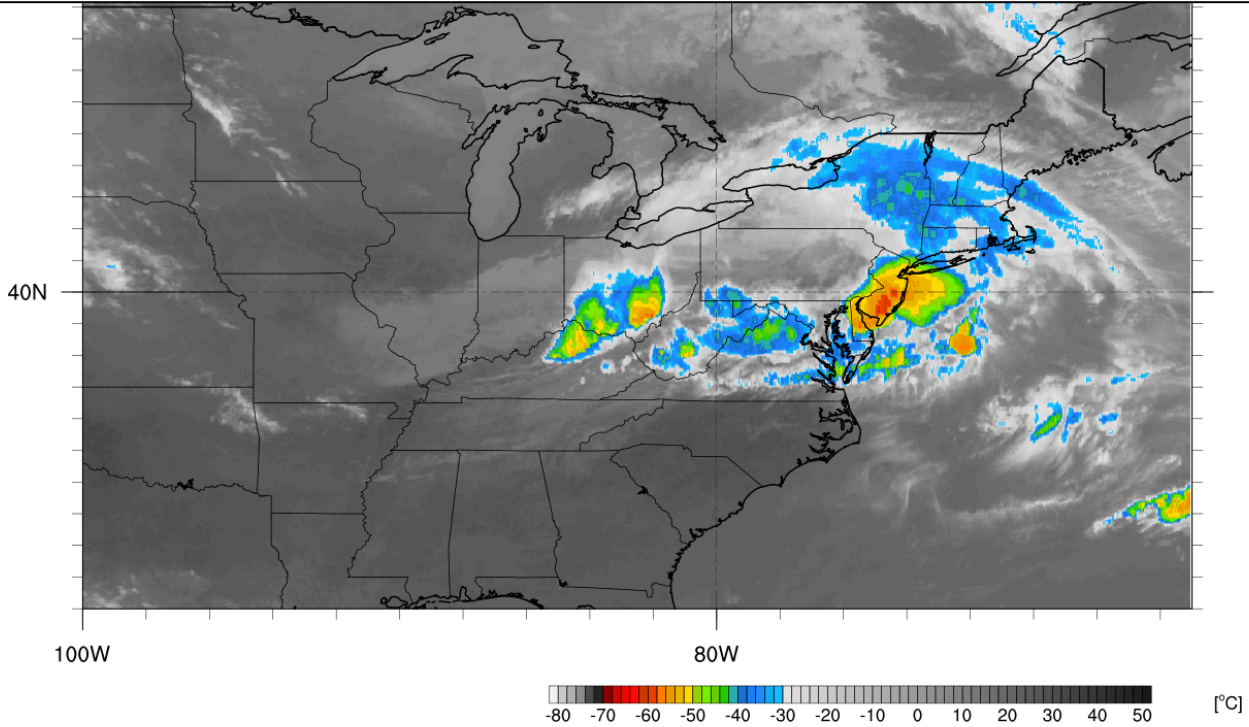


700-hPa Q-vectors, Q-vector convergence, geopotential heights, and temperature

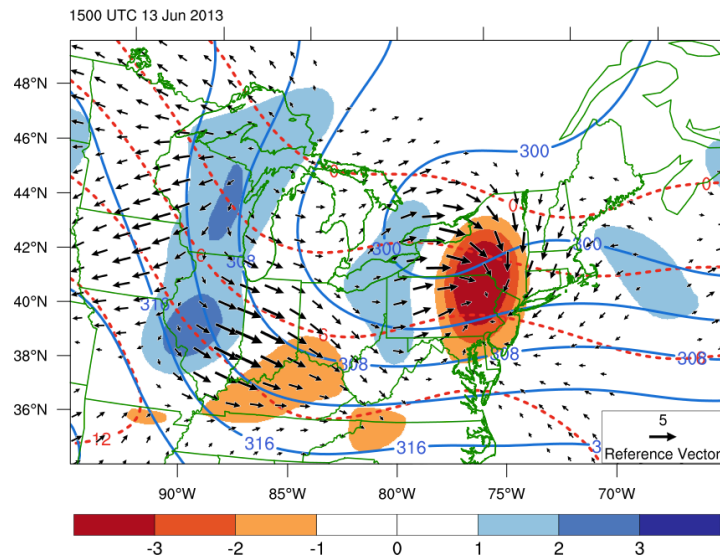


# Encountering Appalachians and Atlantic Coast 1500 UTC 13 June 2013

IR Imagery



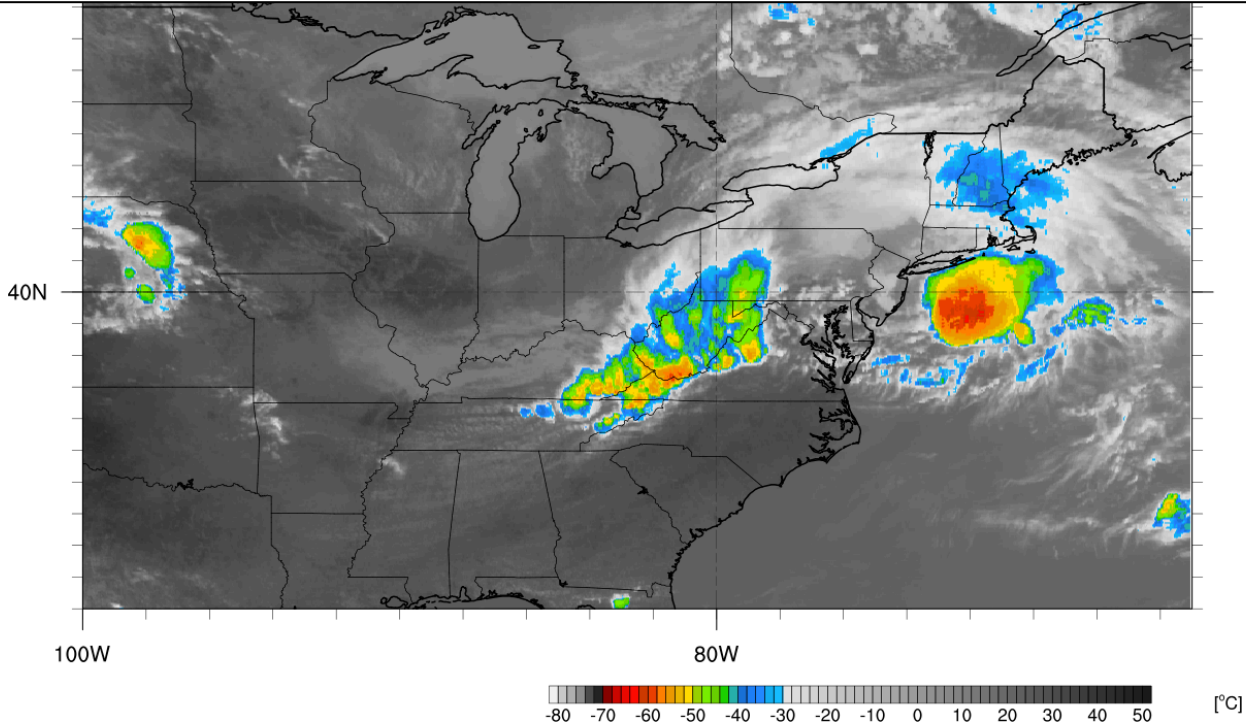
700-hPa Q-vectors, Q-vector convergence, geopotential heights, and temperature



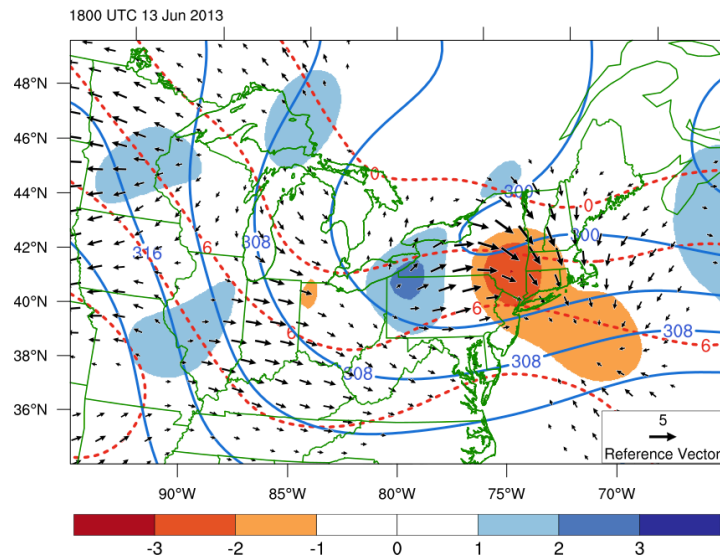


# Encountering Appalachians and Atlantic Coast 1800 UTC 13 June 2013

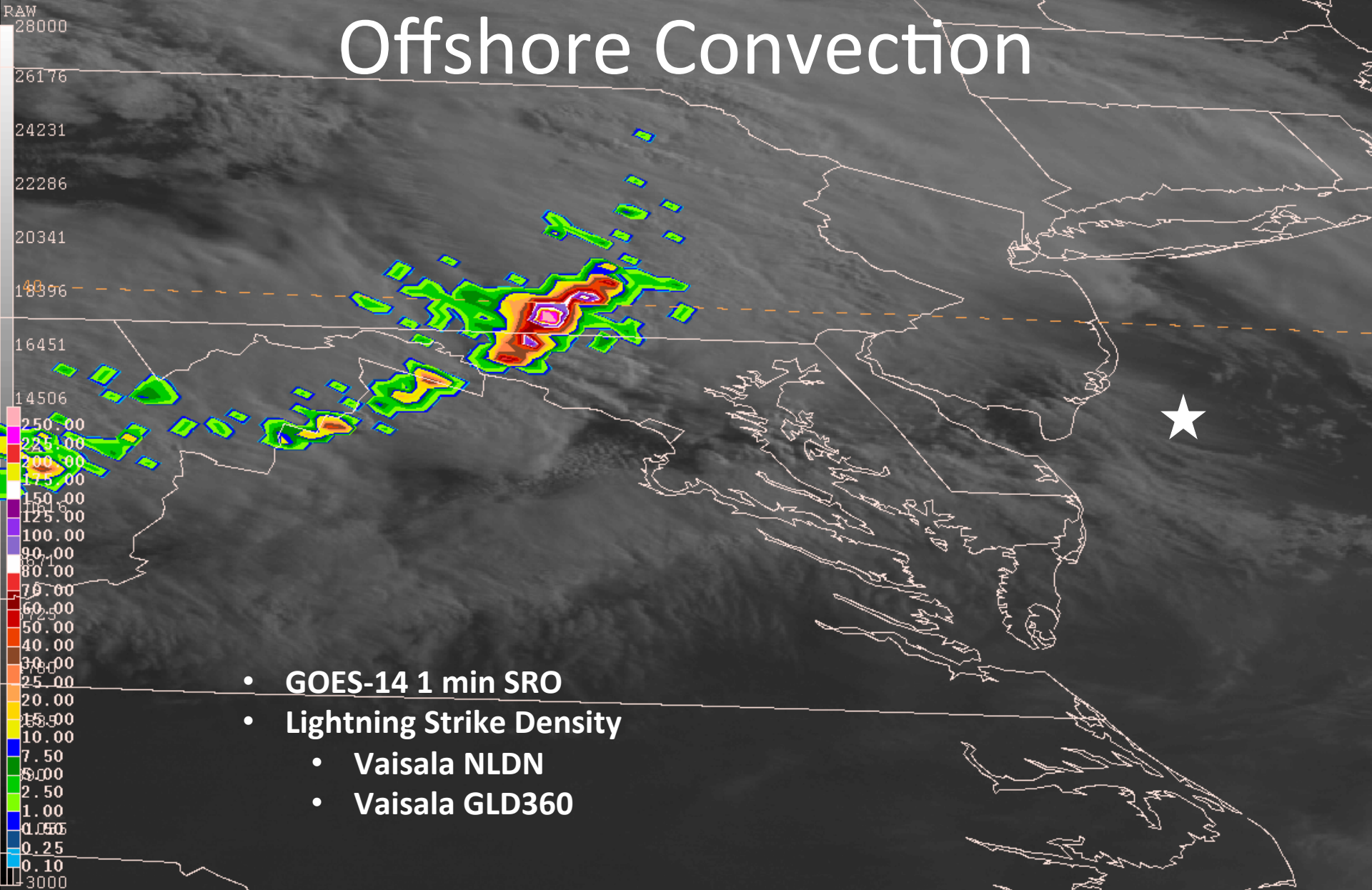
IR Imagery



700-hPa Q-vectors, Q-vector convergence, geopotential heights, and temperature



# Offshore Convection

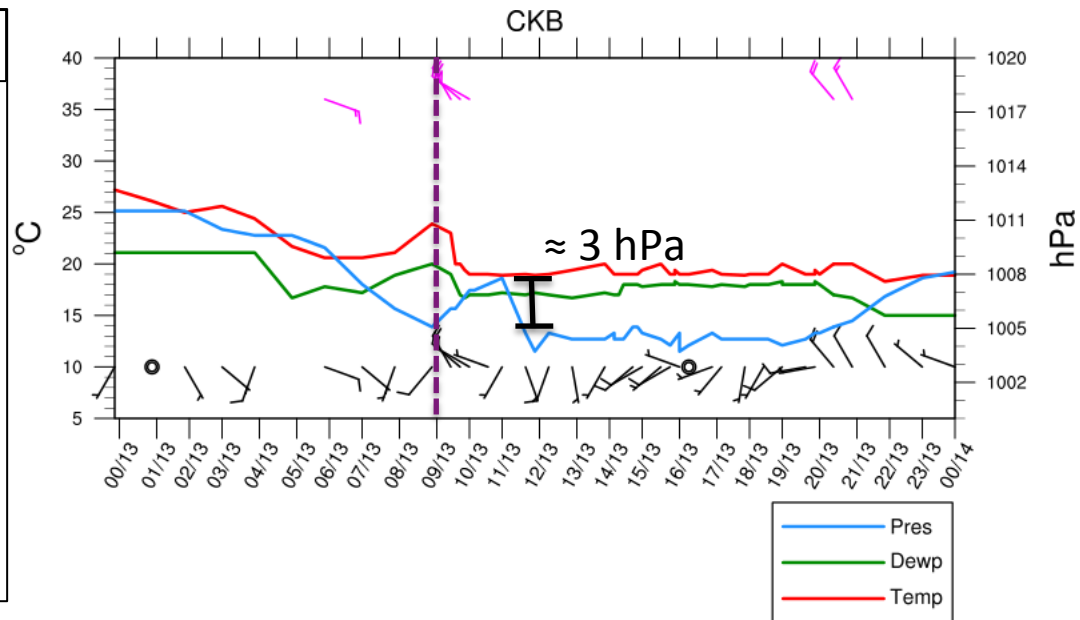
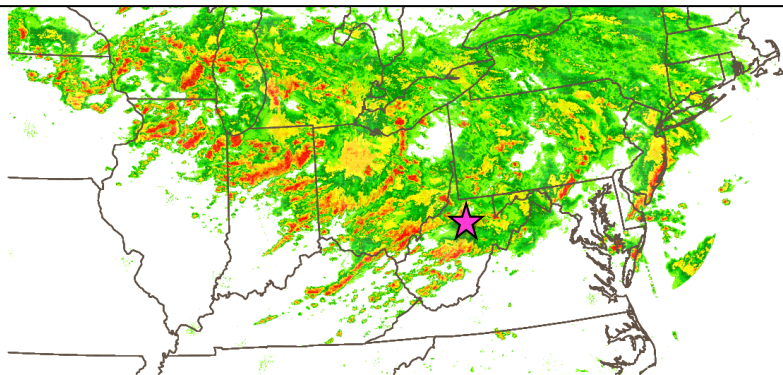


LTNG\_5MIN 130613/1150 EXPERIMENTAL ltng strike density (count/km\*\*2/min)\*10 \*\* 3  
130613/1149 GOES14-RAW VIS

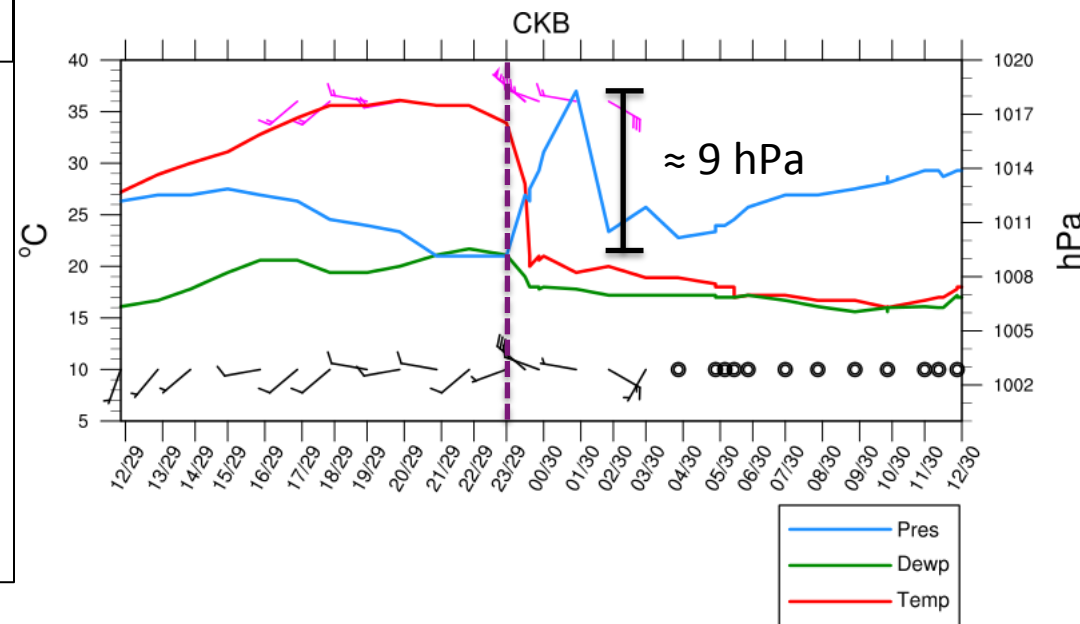
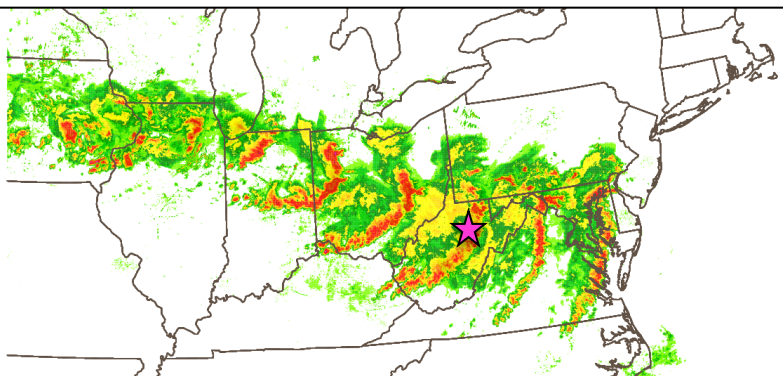
**Comparison of 29–30  
June 2012 and 12–13  
June 2013 progressive  
derechos**

# Comparison of June 2012 and June 2013 Progressive Derechos

2100 UTC 12–1500 UTC 13 June 2013

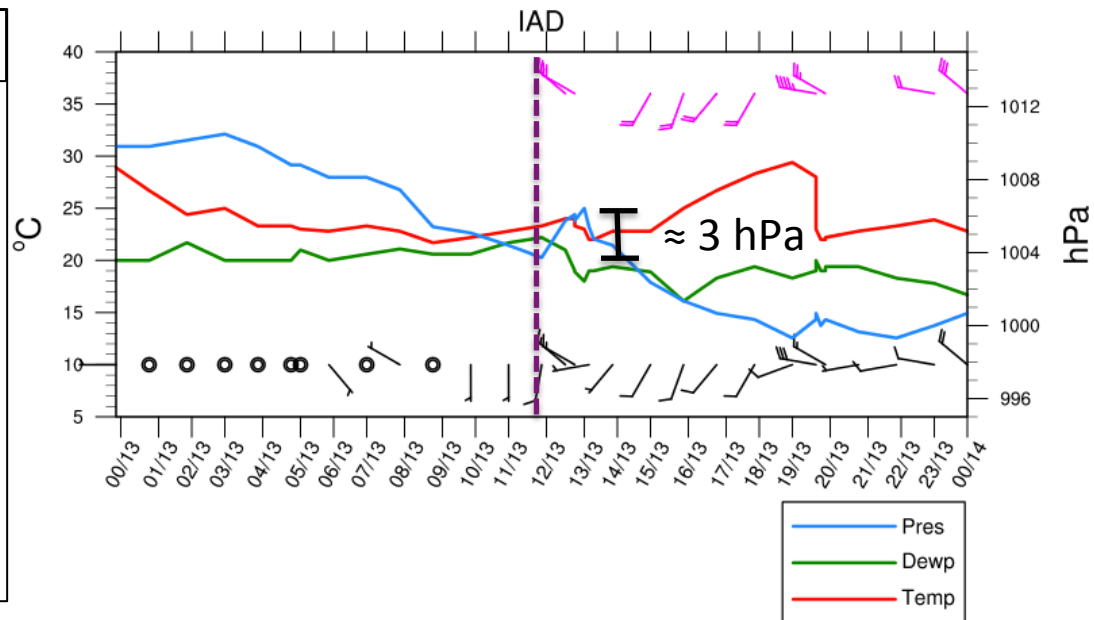
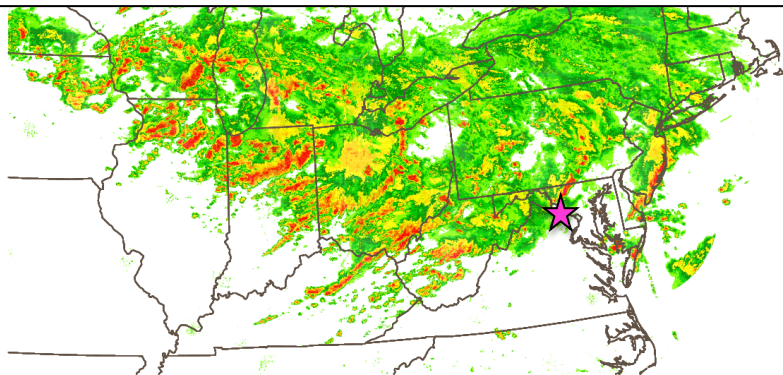


1600 UTC 29–0400 UTC 30 June 2012

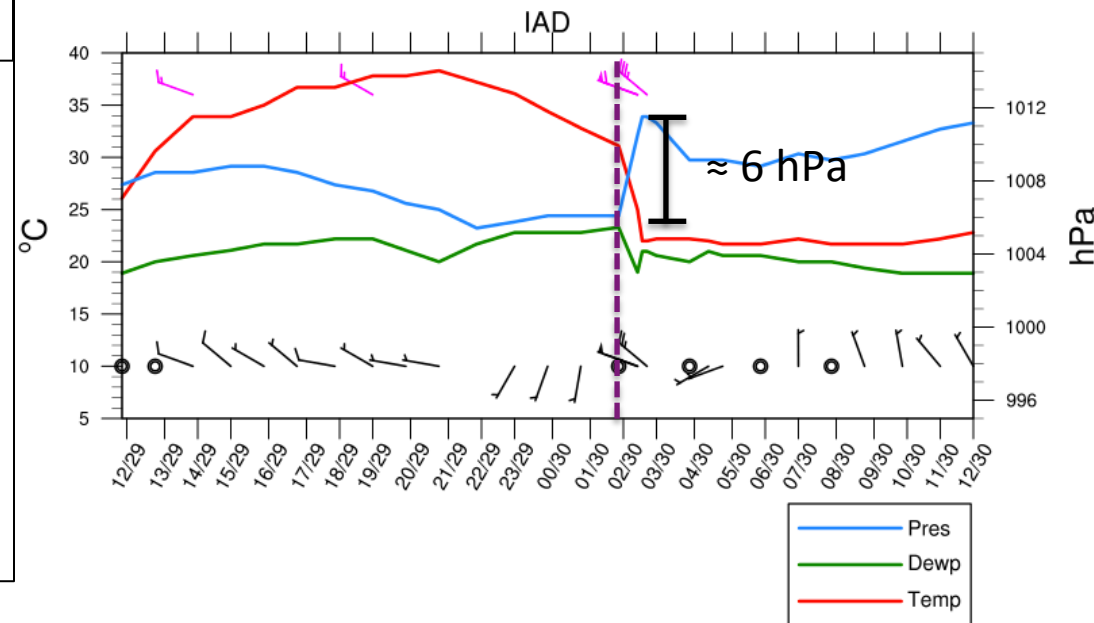
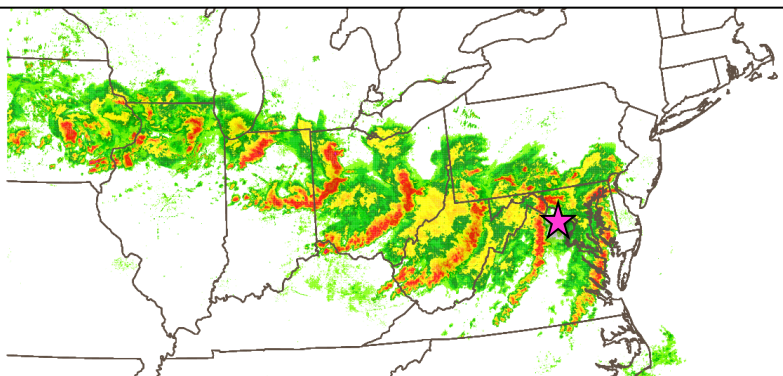


# Comparison of June 2012 and June 2013 Progressive Derechos

2100 UTC 12–1500 UTC 13 June 2013

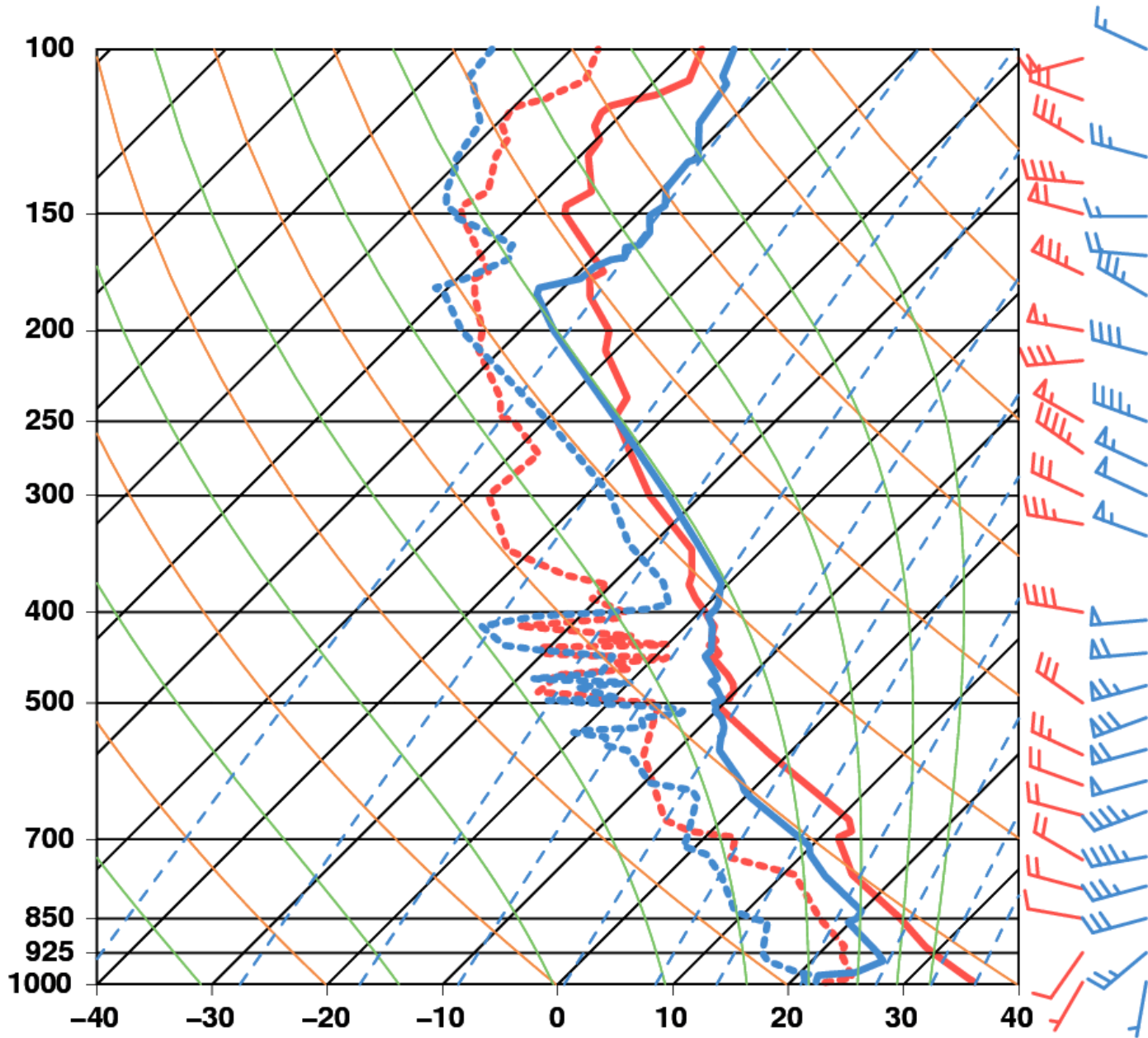


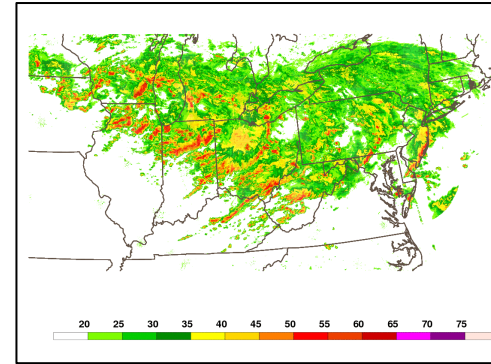
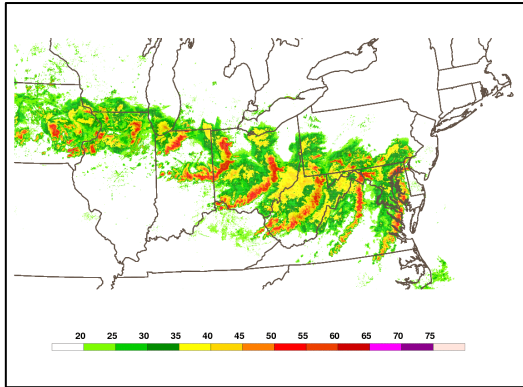
1600 UTC 29–0400 UTC 30 June 2012



120630/0000 72403  
130613/1200 72403

IAD CAPV: 5902 CINV: -11  
IAD CAPV: 871 CINV: -201





### 29–30 June 2012

Zonally oriented instability corridor

Weak forcing for ascent (frontogenesis and low-level WAA) along east/west oriented surface boundary

Crossed Appalachians due to strong cold pool (~9 hPa) and extreme lee instability

Persistent weakly forced large-scale pattern through life cycle

### 12–13 June 2013

Meridionally oriented instability corridor

Strong forcing for ascent (isentropic lift) associated with surface cyclone ahead of upper-level trough

Largely failed to cross Appalachians due to weak cold pool (~3 hPa) and moderate lee instability

Deepening upper-level trough through life cycle

## Science issues

- Role of Rockies in derecho formation (e.g., lee troughs and upslope flow)
- Dynamic and thermodynamic processes associated with elevated to surface-based transitions
- Role of Appalachians in MCSs reaching the Atlantic Coast
- Impact of increasing synoptic-scale forcing on derecho maintenance and severity (June 2013 progressive derecho)



## Forecast issues

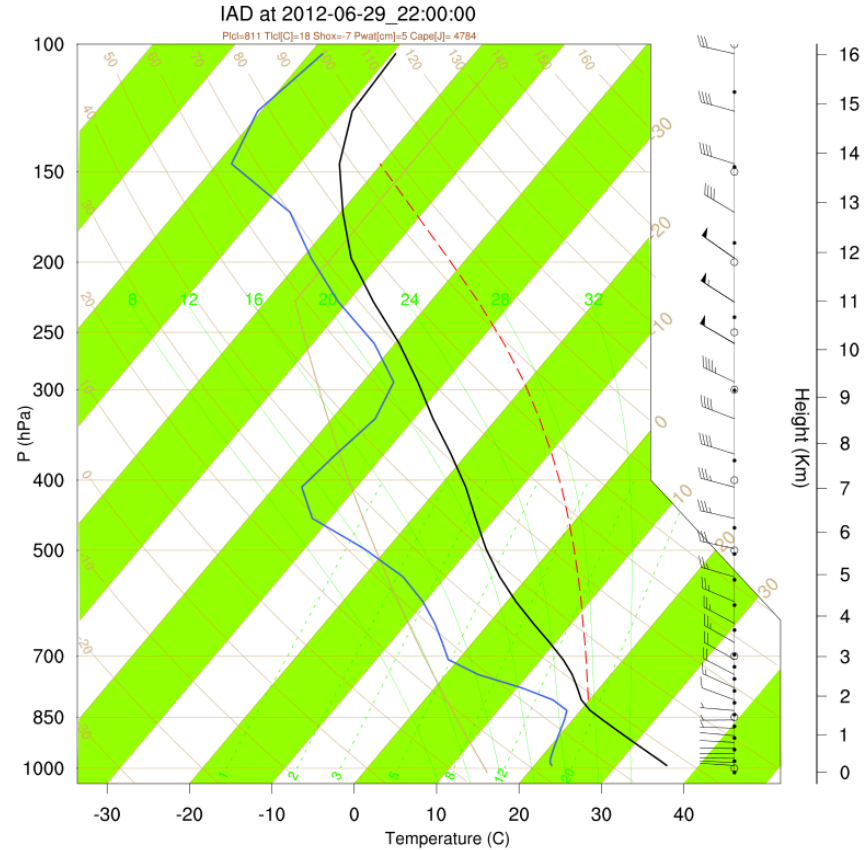
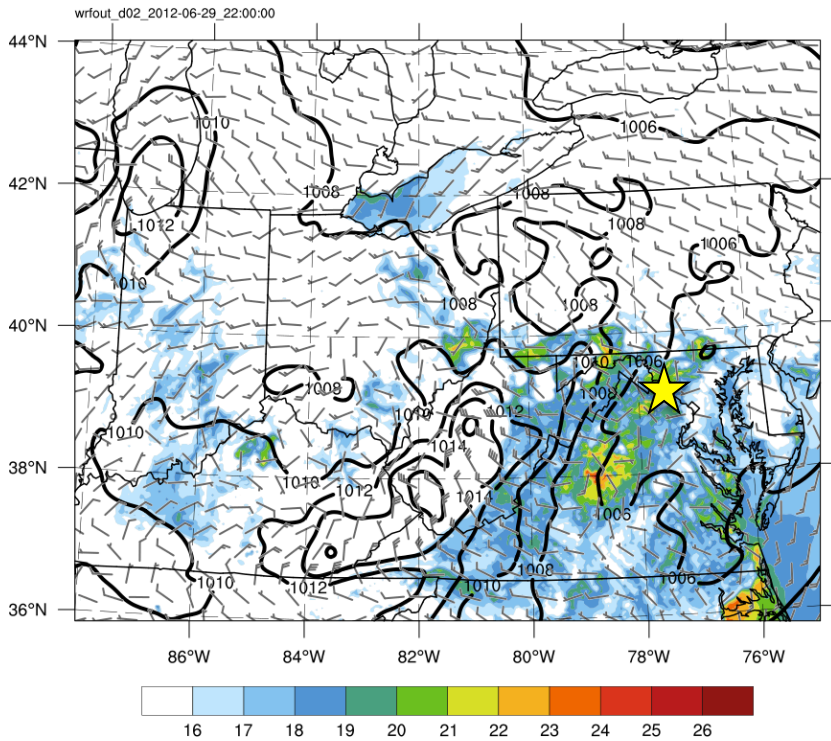
- More accurate representation of planetary boundary layer temperatures, dew points, and winds
- Better understanding the extent to which cold pool depth and strength in a sheared environment controls MCS maintenance across the Appalachians
- Better understanding of the factors controlling MCS longevity in general

# Questions?

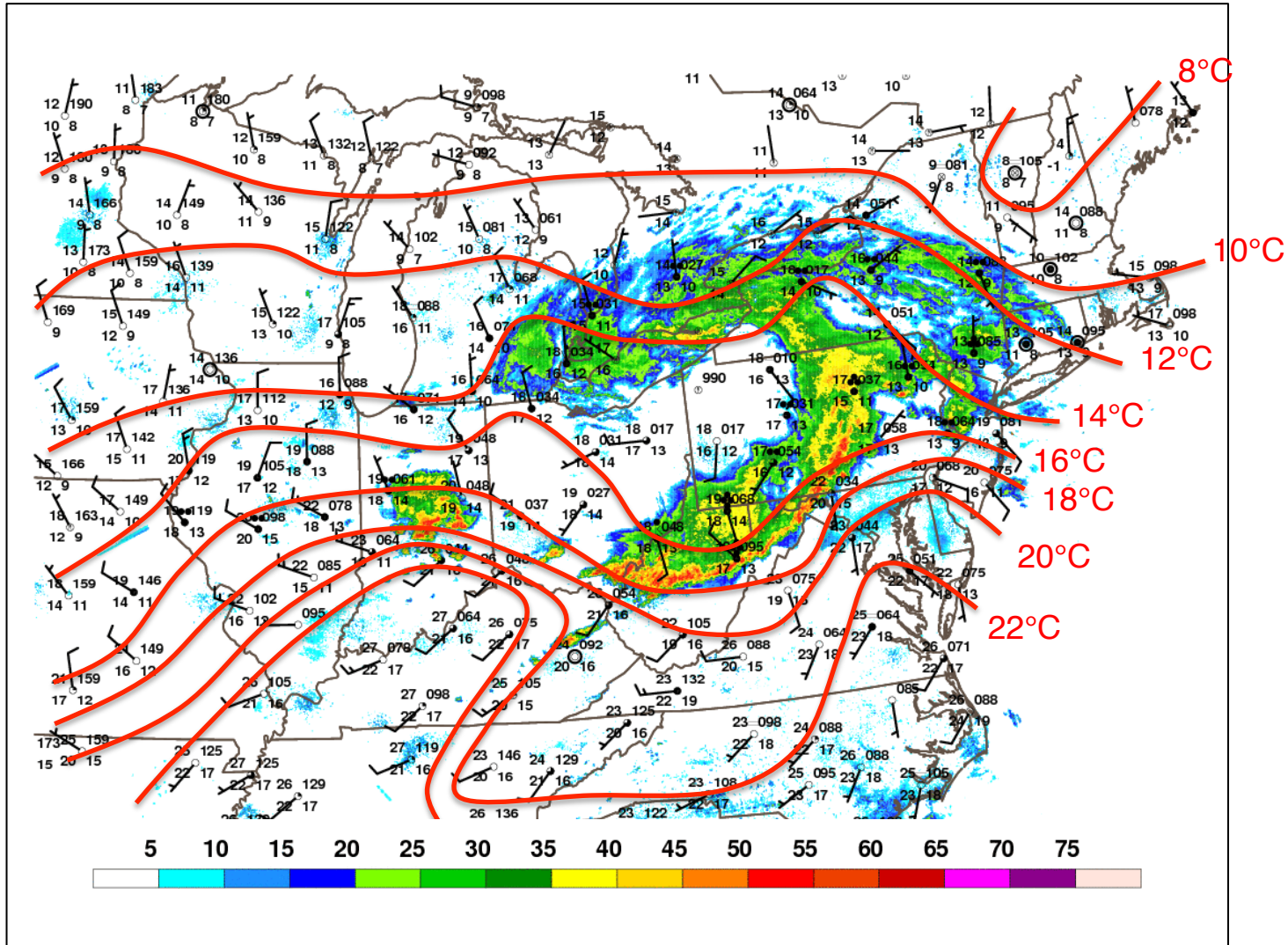
Email: [cguastini@albany.edu](mailto:cguastini@albany.edu)

Extra

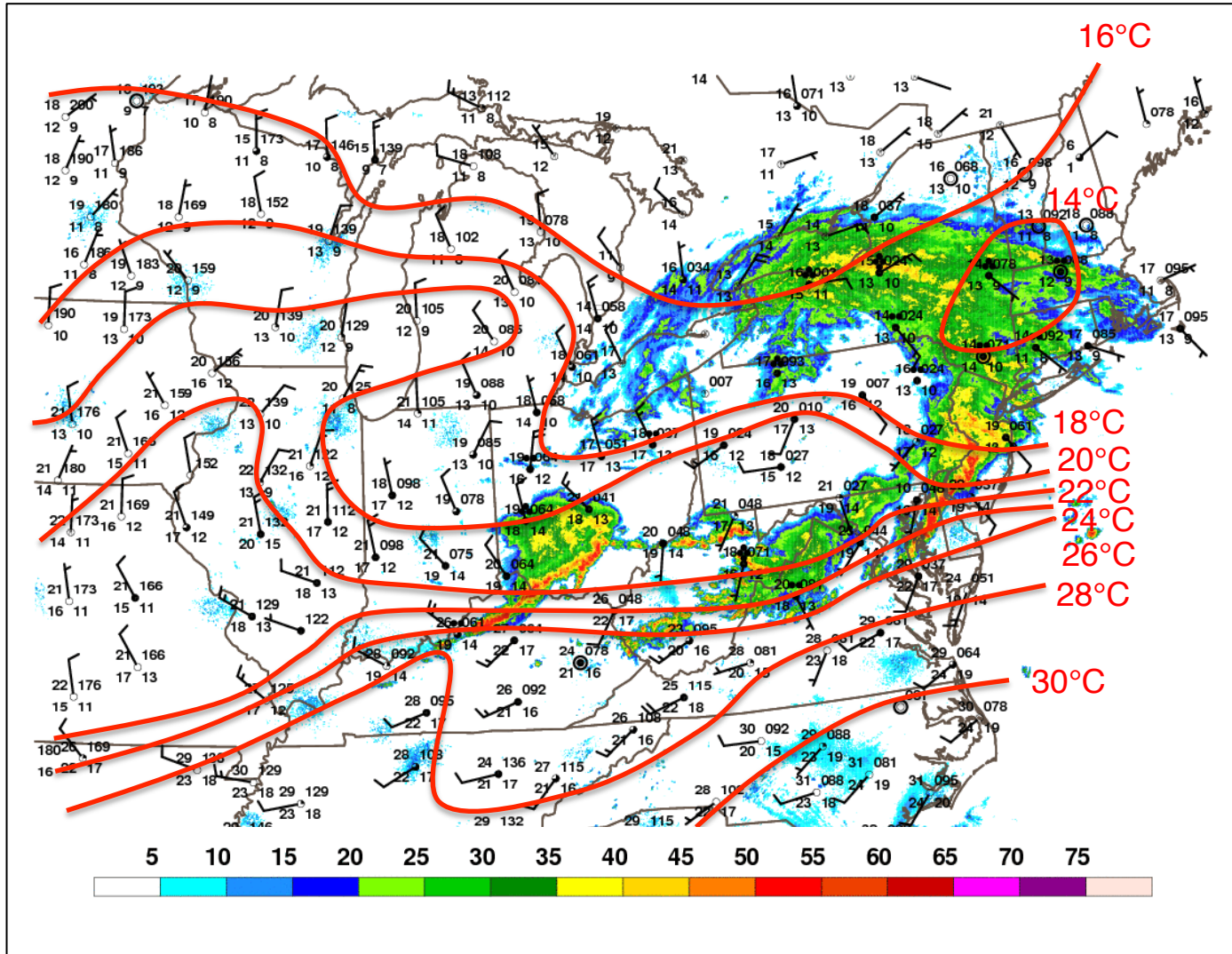
# WRF IAD Sounding, Surface Mixing Ratio, Winds, and Sea-level Pressure



# Composite Reflectivity, Surface Observations, and Hand-Analyzed Surface Temperature 1100 UTC 13 June 2013



# Composite Reflectivity, Surface Observations, and Hand-Analyzed Surface Temperature 1400 UTC 13 June 2013



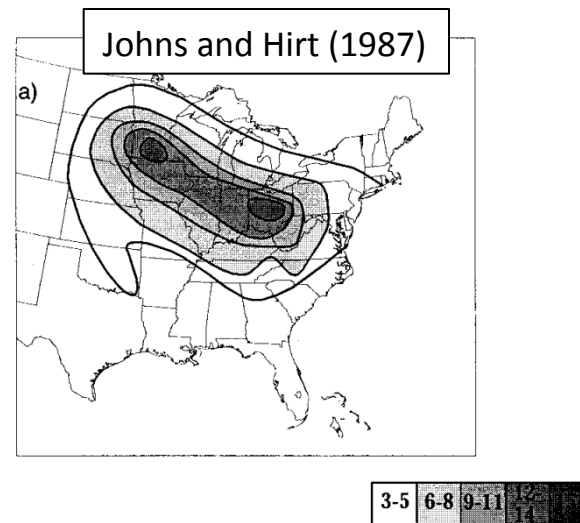
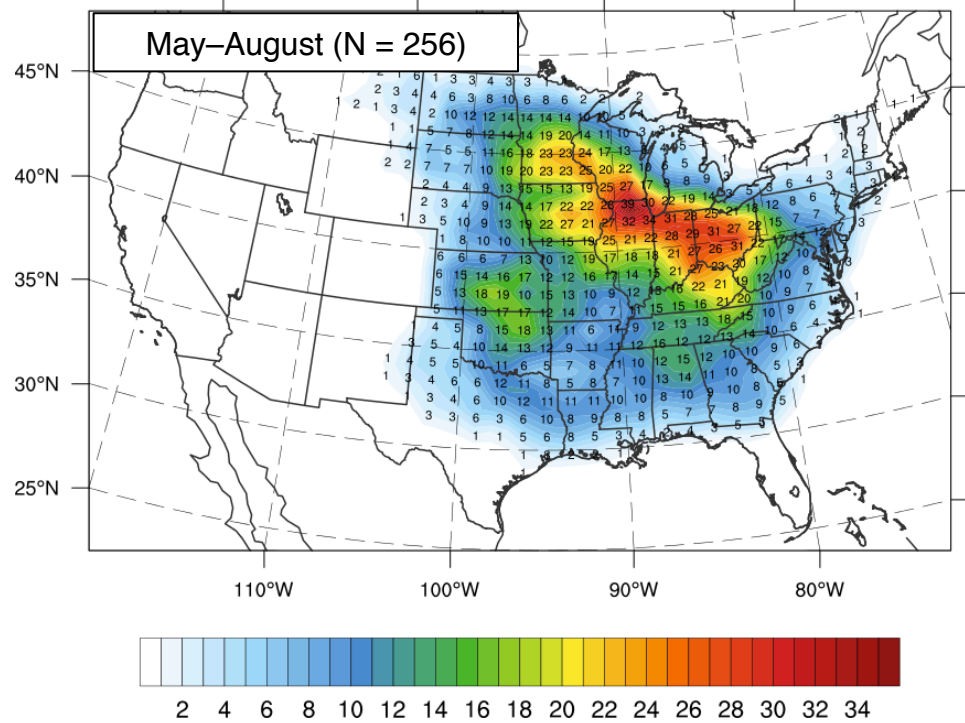
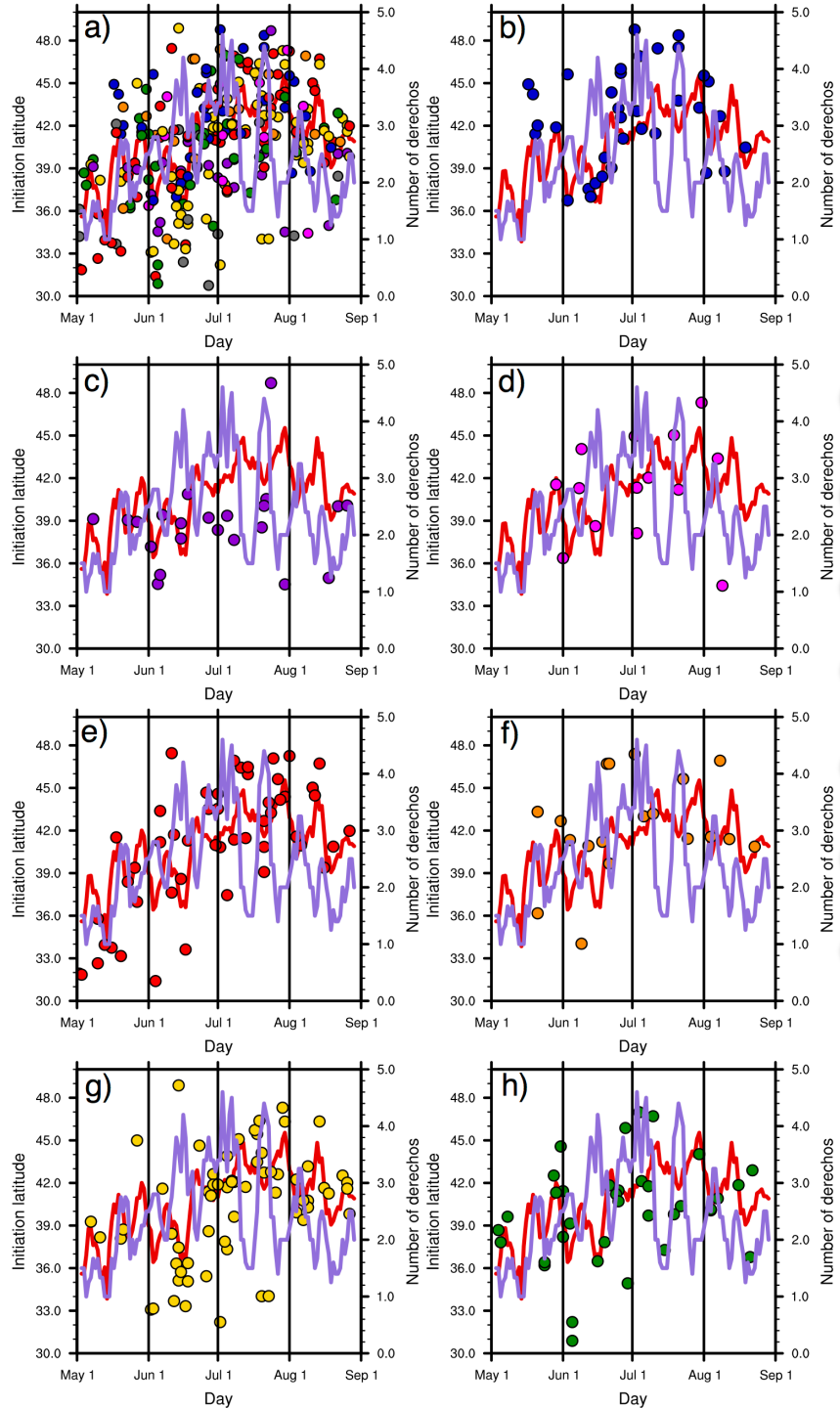


FIG. 1. (a) Total number of derechos occurring during the warm season, 1980–83 (JH87).  
(b) Total number of derechos occurring during the warm season, 1986–95.

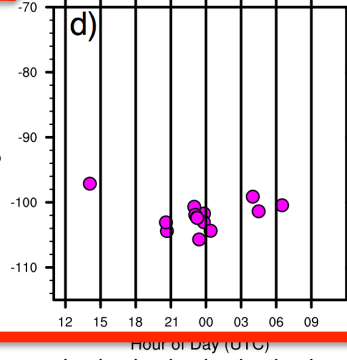
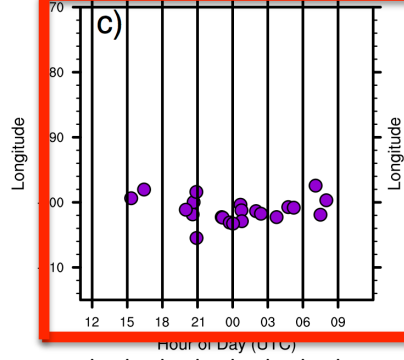
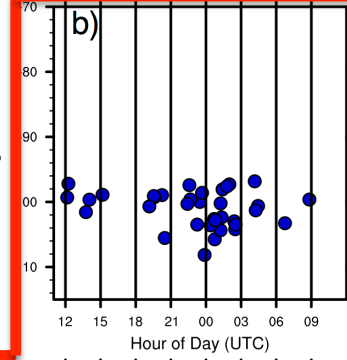
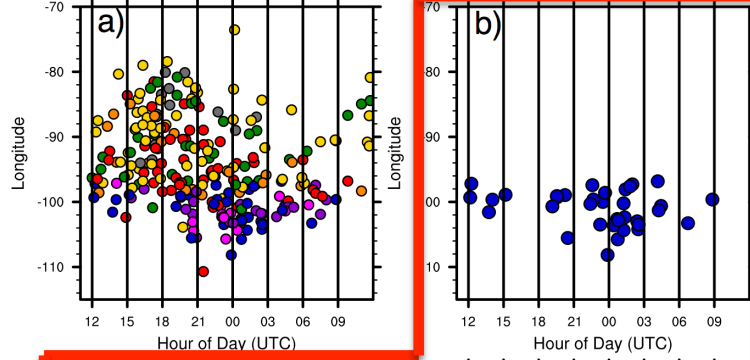
**Derecho  
initiation  
latitude  
through the  
warm season**



- Southwest flow across Rockies
- Northwest flow across Rockies
- Zonal flow across Rockies
- Upper-level trough
- Ridge environment
- Northwest flow
- Zonal flow

- Initiation latitude
- Number of derechos





**Derecho  
initiation  
longitude  
through the day**

- Southwest flow across Rockies
- Northwest flow across Rockies
- Zonal flow across Rockies
- Upper-level trough
- Ridge environment
- Northwest flow
- Zonal flow

