

# UW-CIMSS and ASPB 2010 OCONUS Aviation Weather Products Demonstration Status

GOES-R Proving Ground Face-to-Face  
July 28-30, 2010  
Honolulu, HI



**STAR** Center for Satellite  
Applications and Research

*formerly ORA — Office of Research and Applications*

Advanced Satellite Products Branch



UW-Madison

# GOES-R PG Plan Decision Support Candidates

- Baseline Products (Testbed):
  - **Volcanic Ash: detection & Height (Pacific, High Latitude, Aviation)**
  - **Cloud Height and Typing (Pacific and High Latitude)**
  - Cloud and Moisture Imagery (HWT)
  - Hurricane Intensity (Hurricane)
  - Lightning Detection: Events, Groups & Flashes (HWT, Aviation, Hurricane)
  - Rainfall Rate / QPE (Hydrology)
  - Total Precipitable Water (HWT)
  - Fire/Hot Spot Characterization (Fire)
- Option 2 Products:
  - ***Convective Initiation***
  - **Low Cloud and Fog**
  - **SO<sub>2</sub> Detection**
  - Aircraft Icing Threat
  - Enhanced “V” / Overshooting Top Detection

# GOES-R Proving Ground Testbed Participation

GOES-R Proving Ground Testbeds - National Centers	Provider's Focal Point	Convective Initiation AWIPS/N-AWIPS (Option 2 proxy, Funding Source - GIMPAP, transition to GOES-R algorithm)	GOES-R Overshooting-top/Enhanced-V algorithm Proxy - AWIPS/N-AWIPS (Aviation AWG Option 2 proxy)	GOES-R Volcanic Ash algorithm proxy - AWIPS/N-AWIPS (NEW Baseline AWG proxy algorithm)	GOES-R SO2 algorithm proxy - AWIPS/N-AWIPS (NEW Baseline AWG proxy algorithm)	GOES-R Low cloud/Fog proxy - AWIPS/N-AWIPS (NEW Option 2 AWG proxy algorithm)
NOAA Hazardous Weather/Fires/Hydrology Testbed (SPC, NSSL, OU-CIMMS)	Wayne Feltz/Jordan Gerth	FY2009, 2010 HWT Formal Evaluation FY2011 Formal Evaluation Continuation,	FY2010 HWT Formal Evaluation			FY2011 Formal Evaluation Planned
Alaska High Latitude Testbed (Alaska WFO, U of Alaska Fairbanks)	Michael Pavolonis/Jordan Gerth			FY2011 Formal Evaluation planned, 2010 - Volcanic ash algorithm transitioned to Alaska	FY2011 Formal Evaluation planned??	FY2011 Evaluation planned
Aviation Weather Testbed	Wayne Feltz/Michael Pavolonis/Jordan Gerth	FY2011 AWC 2011 Formal Evaluation planned		FY2011 AWC Formal Evaluation planned	FY2011 AWC Formal Evaluation planned??	FY2011 AWC Formal Evaluation planned
Hurricane Testbed	Chris Velden/Wayne Feltz		FY2011 Formal Evaluation Candidate			
Pacific Testbed	Mike Pavolonis/Andy Heidinger/Wayne Feltz	FY2011 Formal Evaluation Candidate		FY2011 Formal Evaluation Candidate	FY2011 Formal Evaluation Candidate	FY2011 Formal Evaluation Candidate



# University of Wisconsin Convective Initiation (UWCI)

## Proxy GOES-R CI Product

Developed by

**Justin Sieglaff, Lee Cronic, Wayne Feltz**

CIMSS UW-MADISON, MADISON, WI

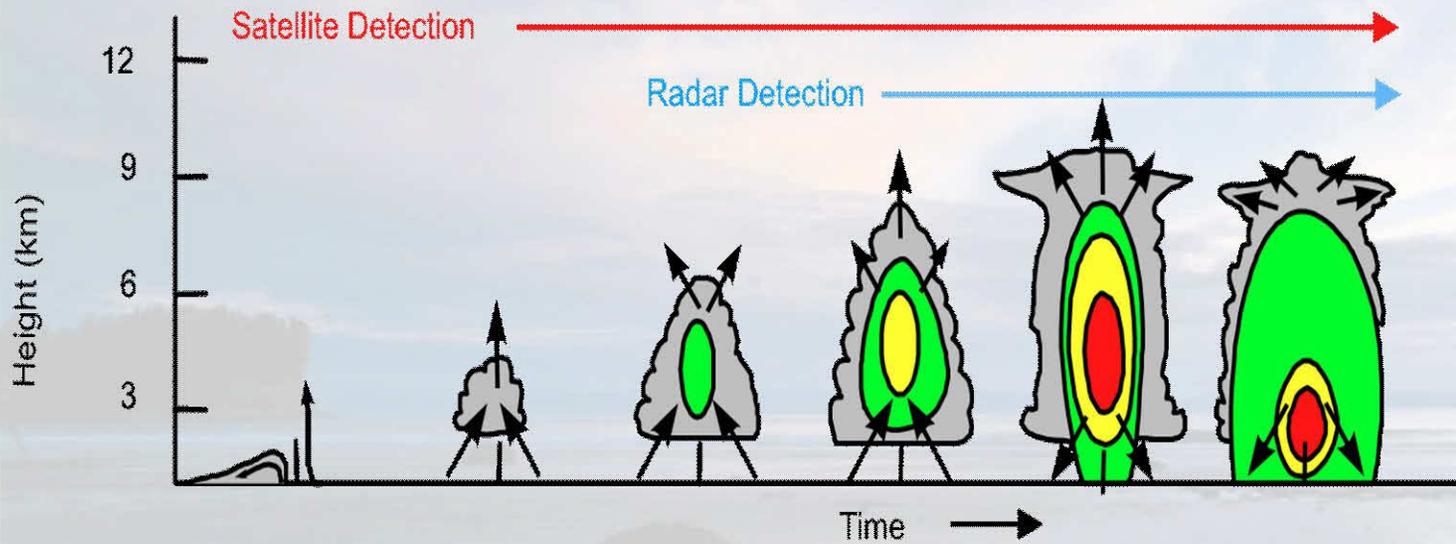
**Kristopher Bedka**

SSAI, HAMPTON VA

**Mike Pavolonis and Andy Heidinger**

NOAA/STAR/ASPT MADISON, WI

# What does satellite data add to convective detection?



# UWCI Objectives

- Provide a CI nowcast signal during day and night
- Minimize false alarm at the expense of some probability of detection
- Use alternative method for time trend computation (non-AMV) to minimize pixelation
- Provide coherent radar-like satellite-based CI signal as direct AWIPS/N-AWIPS satellite convective initiation decision support aid in field

# What is output from UWCI?

- Value of 0: No CI nowcast
- Value of 1: “Pre-CI Cloud Growth”: growing liquid water cloud
- Value of 2: “CI Likely”: associated with growing supercooled water or mixed phase cloud
- Value of 3: “CI Occurring”: Associated with a cloud that has recently transitioned to thick ice – that is, it has glaciated
- Cloud top cooling -> 15 minute BT rate

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***GROWING MEANS THE CLOUD IS COOLING, BECOMING THICKER***

Once the cloud has glaciated, UWCI not needed

# Characteristics of UWCI

- Nowcasts cloud development in regions not dominated by cirrus
- Uses only IR channels from GOES satellite
- Results available ~2 minutes after satellite scan  
(distribution to AWIPS takes an additional 5-10 minutes)
- Operates in regular and RSO mode
- Large spatial coverage: CONUS east of Rockies
- Up to 30-45 minutes of lead time before significant radar echoes/lightning strikes
- Low FAR, good POD, error sources understood

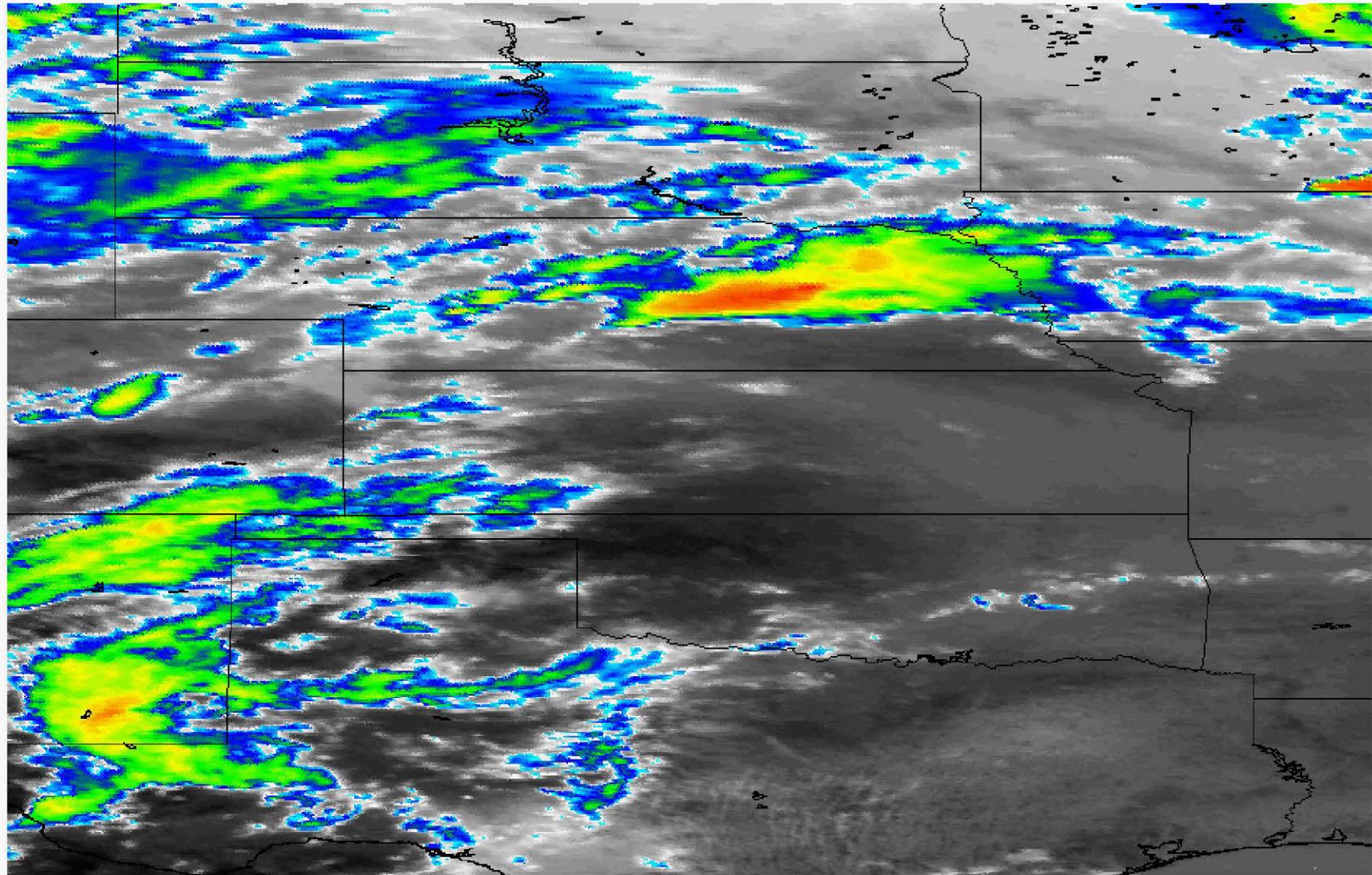
# When should you use UWCI with caution?

- Algorithm does not work well where cirrus cloud cover exists
- Fast-moving clouds can cause false alarms
- Thirty minutes between images? False alarm rate increases
- CI is more a *diagnostic* tool – that is, you lose the good lead times – in true maritime Tropical airmasses

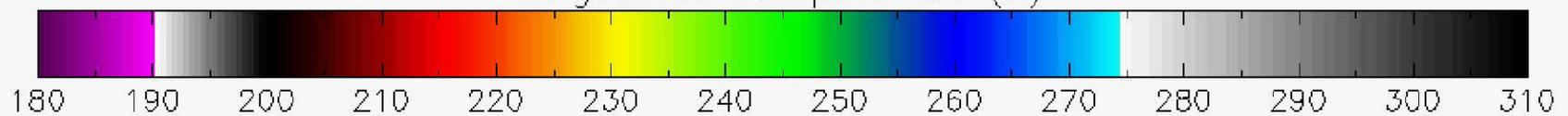
# UWCI: Algorithm logic – an overview in words

1. Box average 11 micron brightness temperature (**BT**) is calculated for current time and previous time, using specific classes from GOES Cloud Typing product
2. Unfiltered Cloud Top Cooling (**CTC**) Rate is calculated by differencing box average 11 micron BT for current time from previous time
3. Large/small box approach eliminates most of false CTC due to cloud motion (and additional checks reduce false cooling further)
4. CI Nowcast is assigned to remaining CTC pixels with cooling rates less than or equal to  $-4.0\text{K}/15$  minutes by leveraging GOES Cloud Typing product

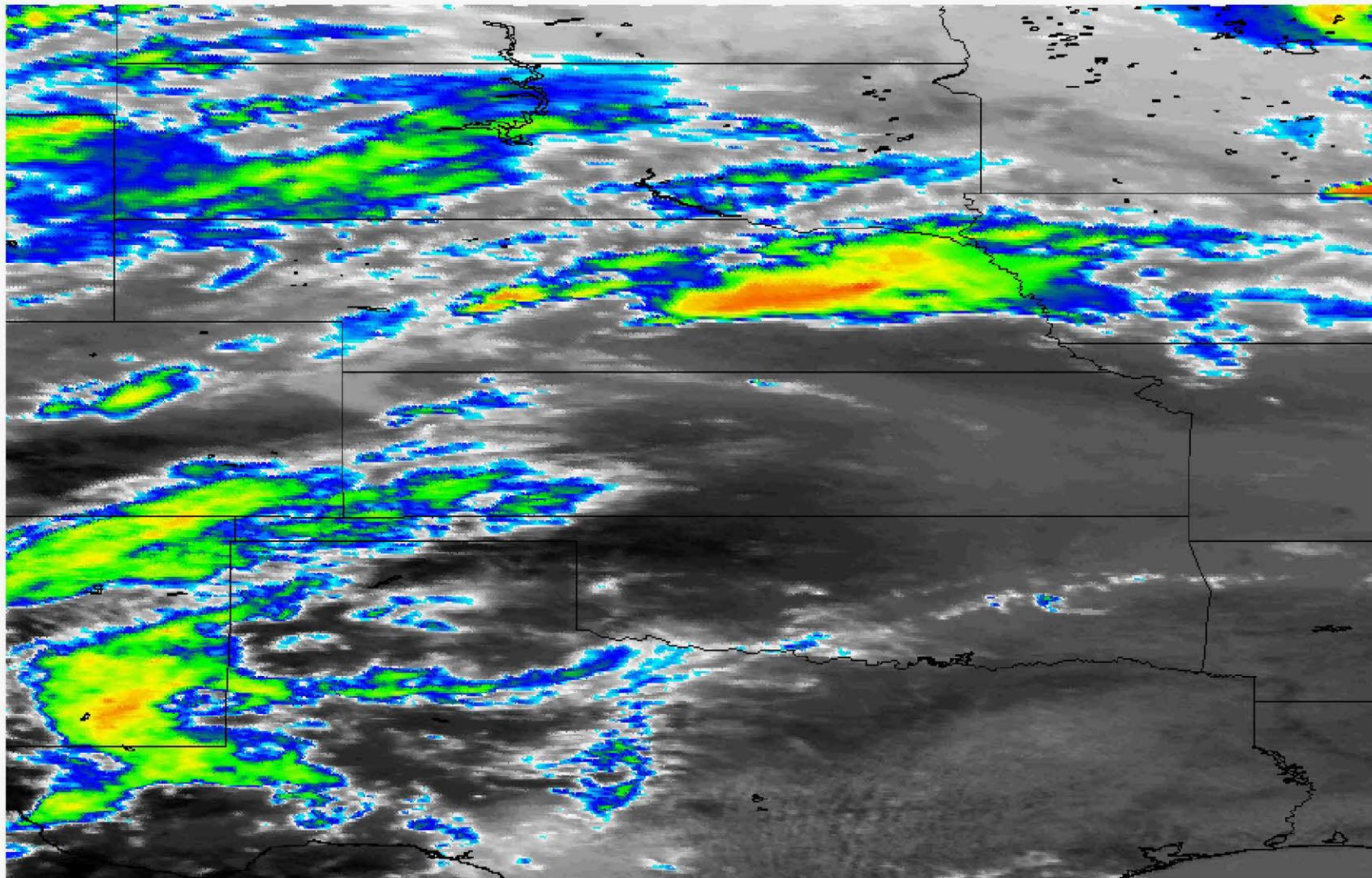
GOES-12 4km IRW: 2009168\_1545



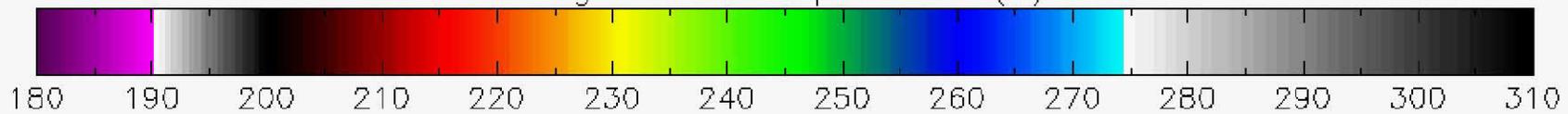
Brightness Temperature (K)



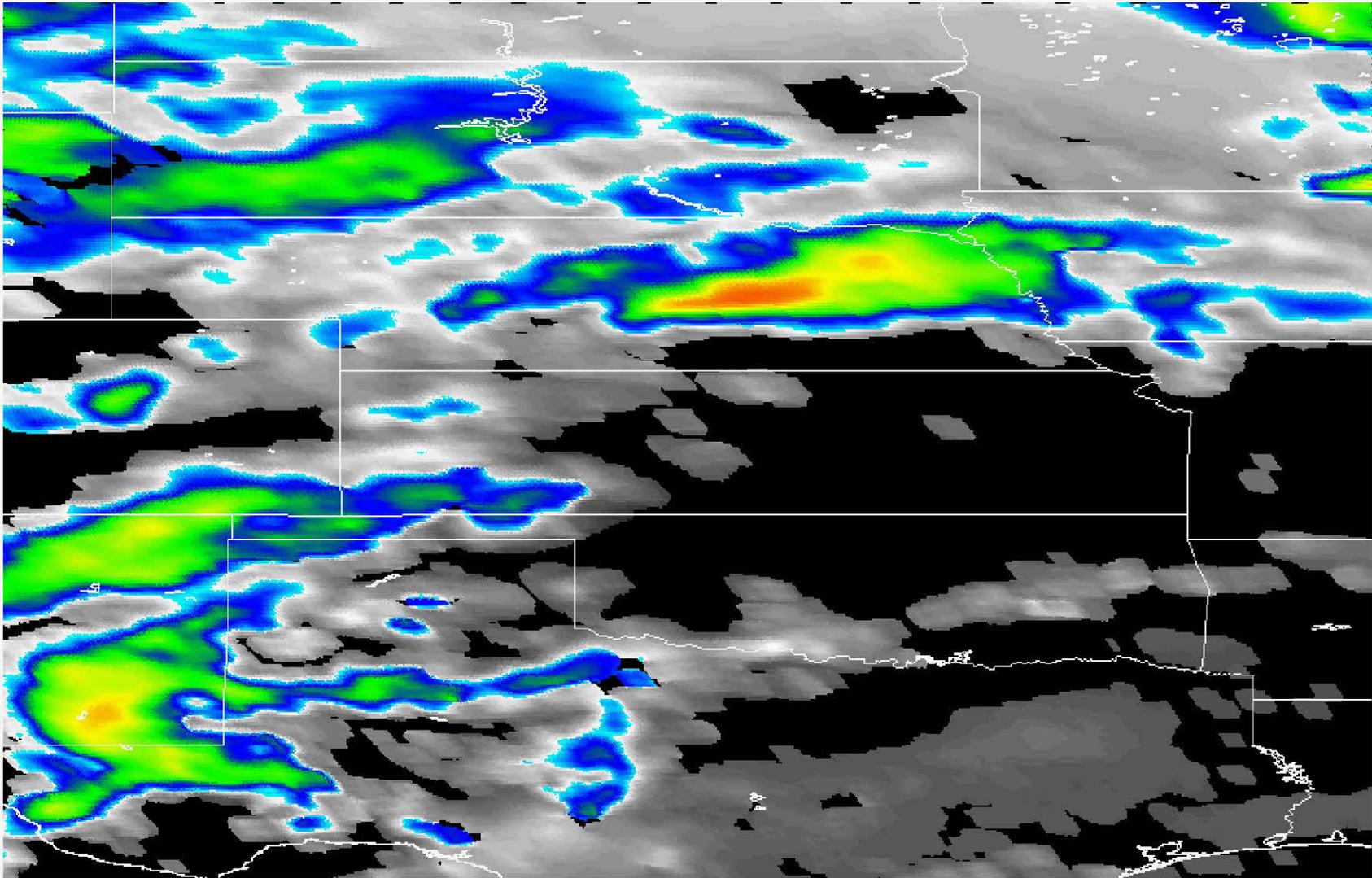
GOES-12 4km IRW: 2009168\_1602



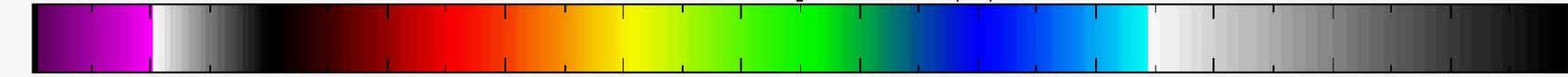
Brightness Temperature (K)



Box Averaged IRW: 2009168\_1545

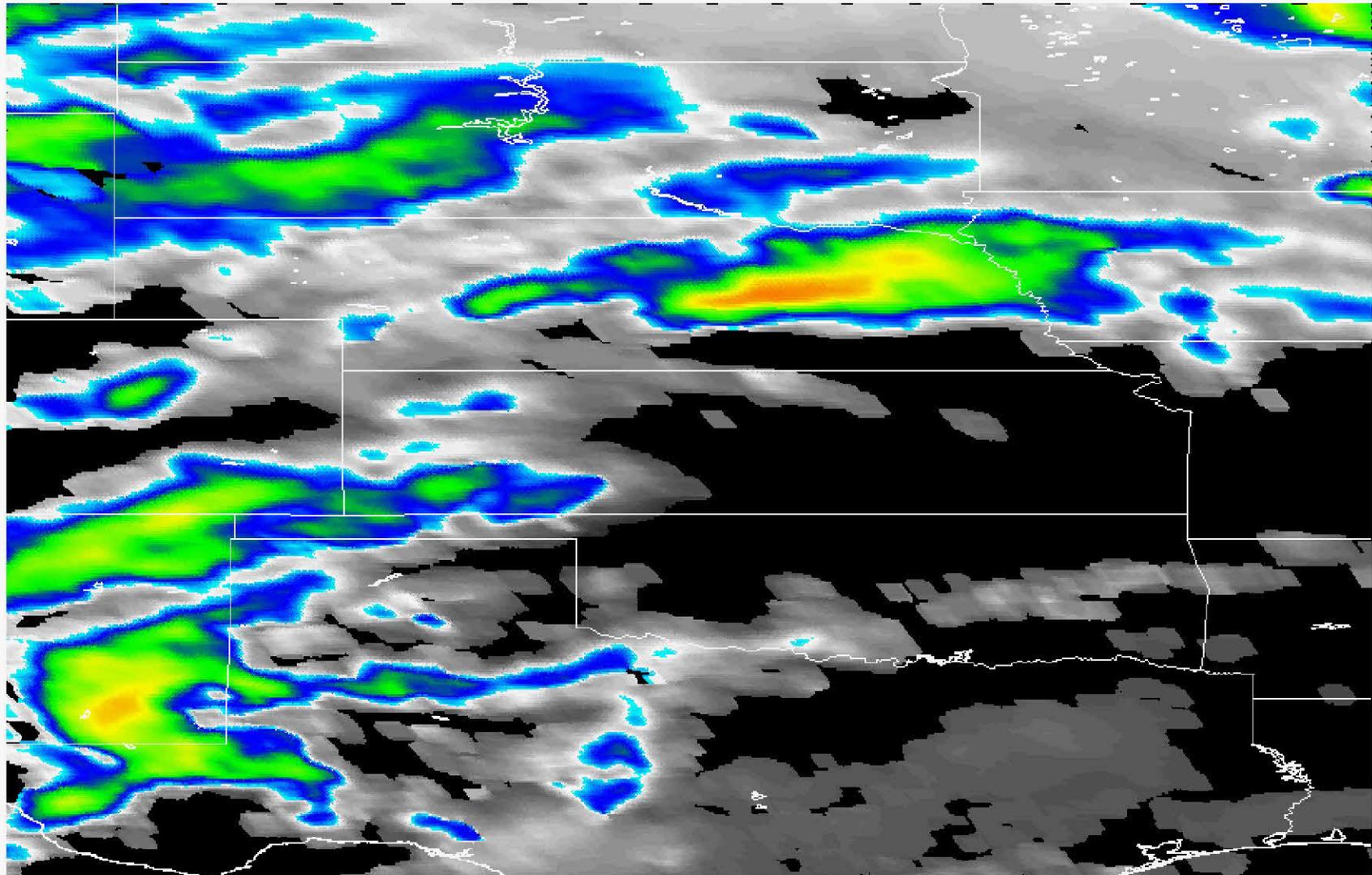


Box Averaged BT (K)

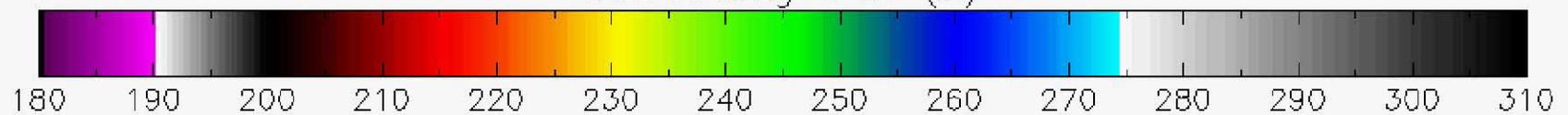


180 190 200 210 220 230 240 250 260 270 280 290 300 310

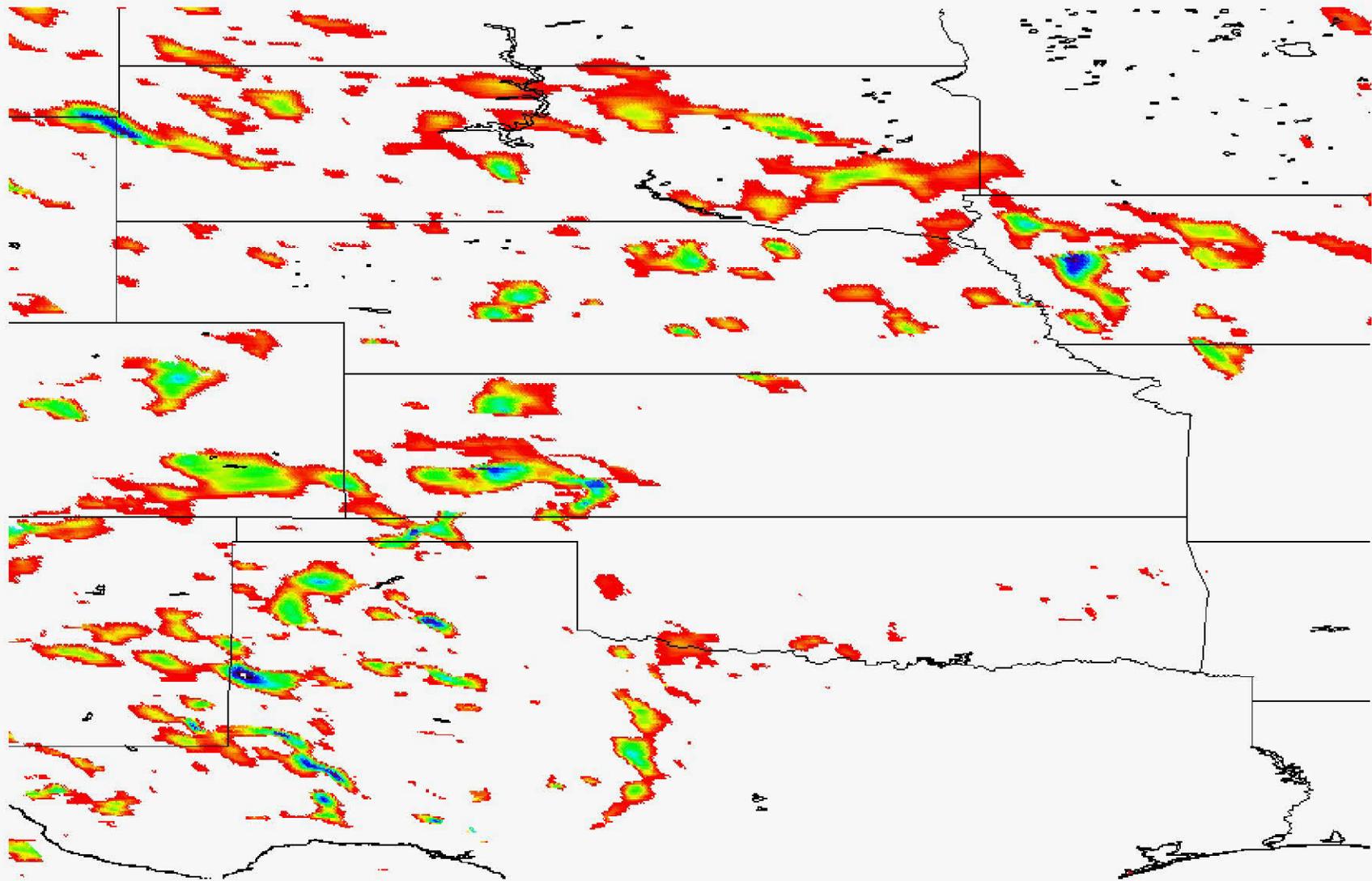
# Box Averaged IRW: 2009168\_1602



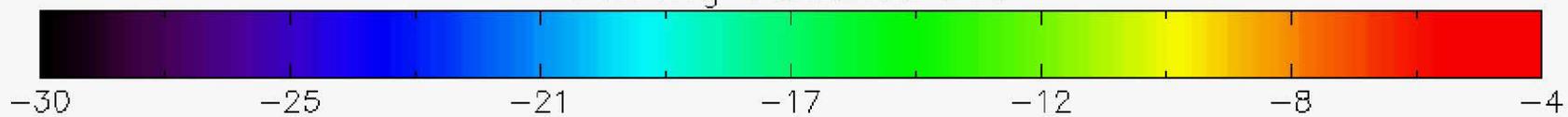
Box Averaged BT (K)



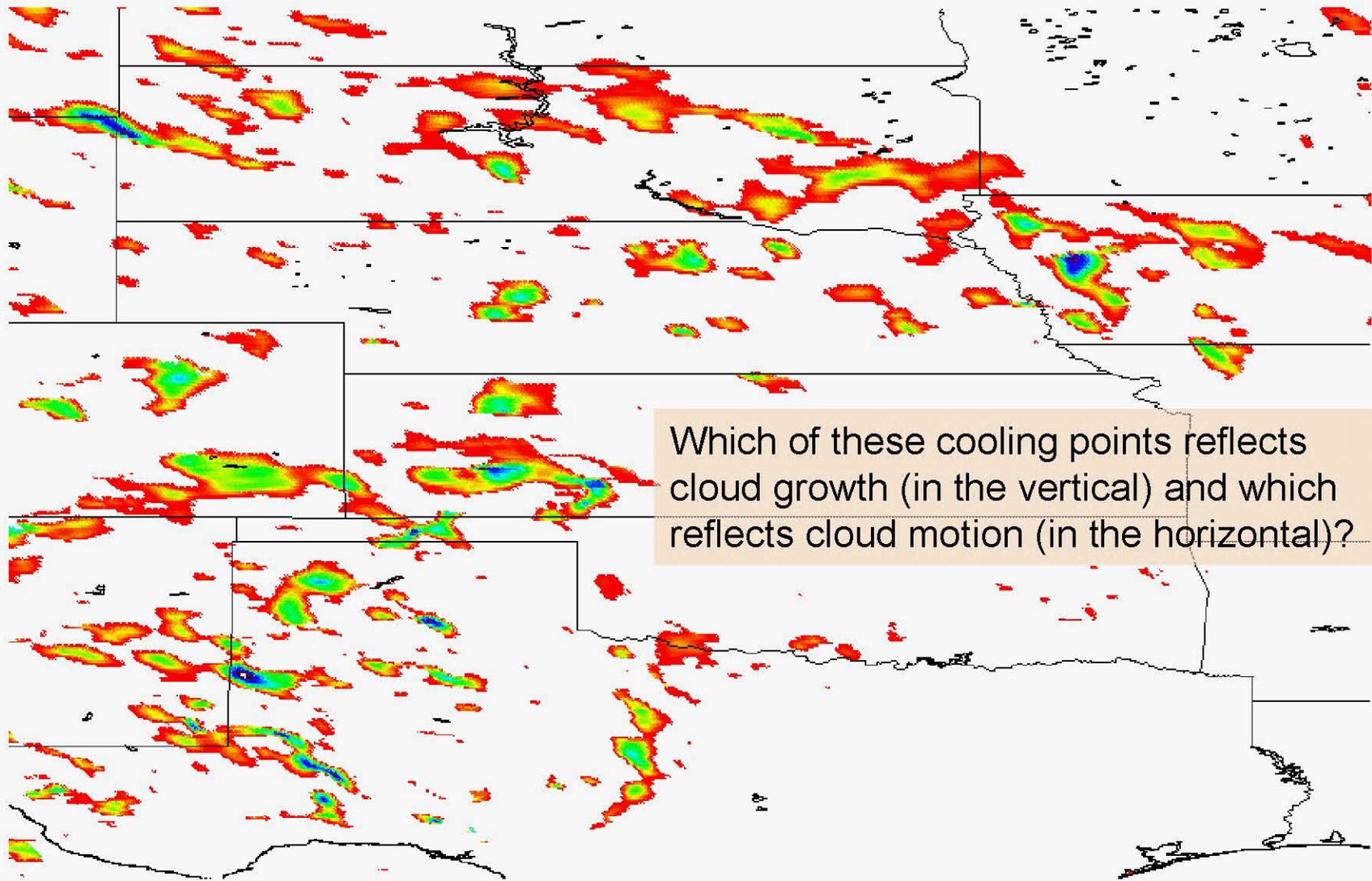
# Box Average Unfiltered CTC: 2009168\_1602



Box Avg Unfiltered CTC

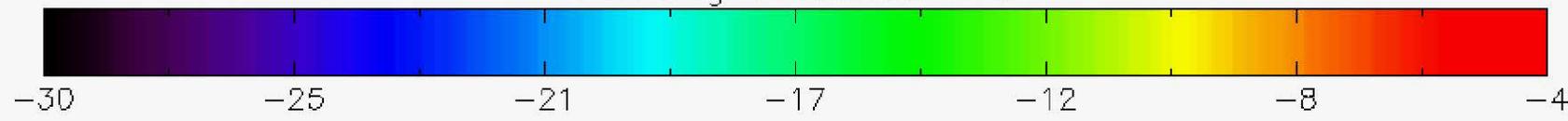


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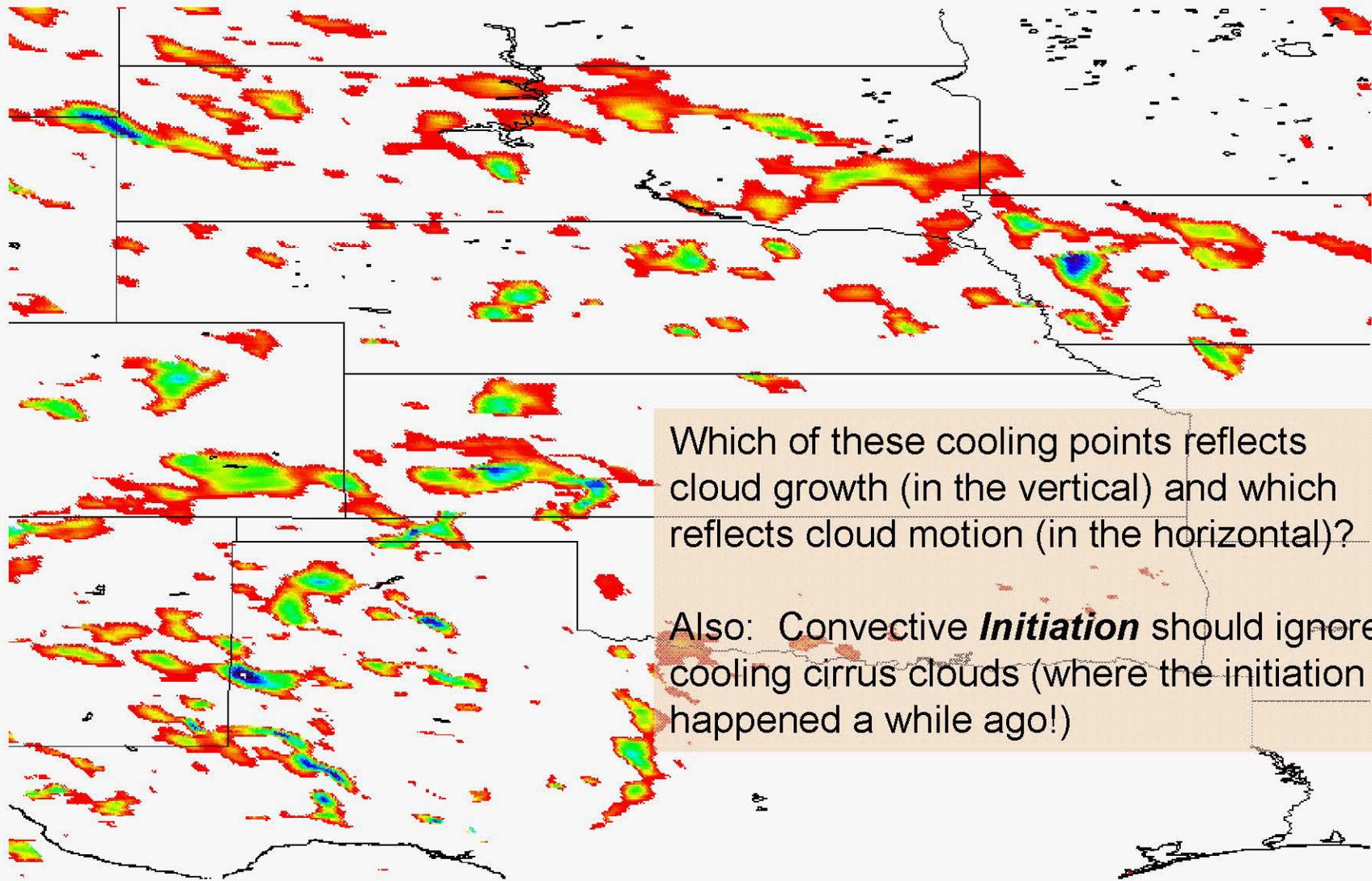


Which of these cooling points reflects cloud growth (in the vertical) and which reflects cloud motion (in the horizontal)?

Box Avg Unfiltered CTC



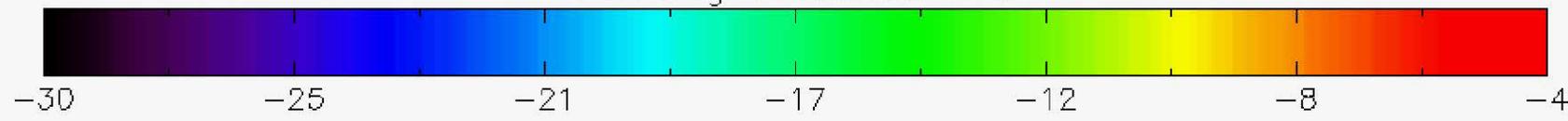
# Box Average Unfiltered CTC: 2009168\_1602



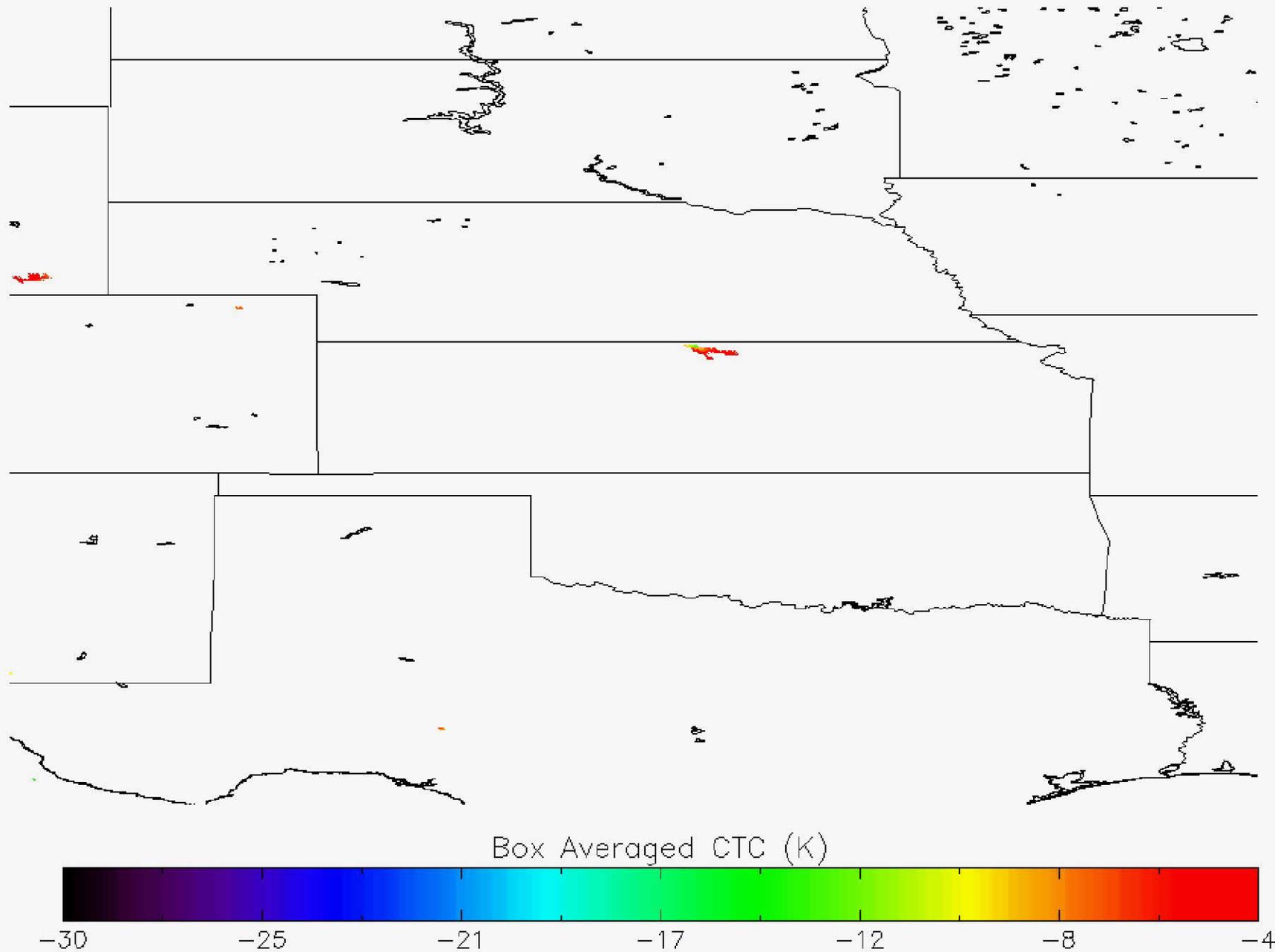
Which of these cooling points reflects cloud growth (in the vertical) and which reflects cloud motion (in the horizontal)?

Also: Convective **Initiation** should ignore cooling cirrus clouds (where the initiation happened a while ago!)

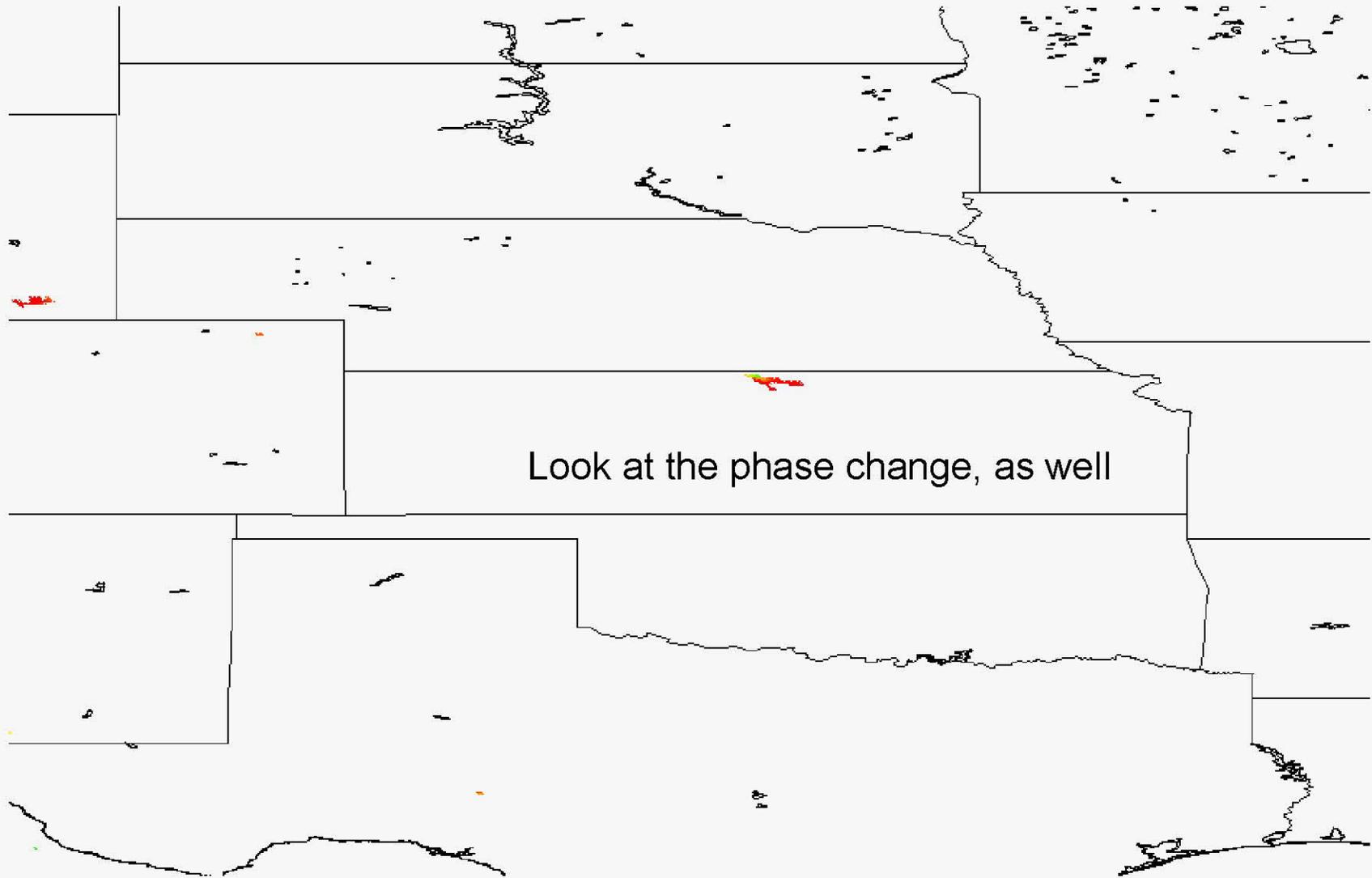
Box Avg Unfiltered CTC



# Box Avg Cloud Top Cooling: 2009168\_1602

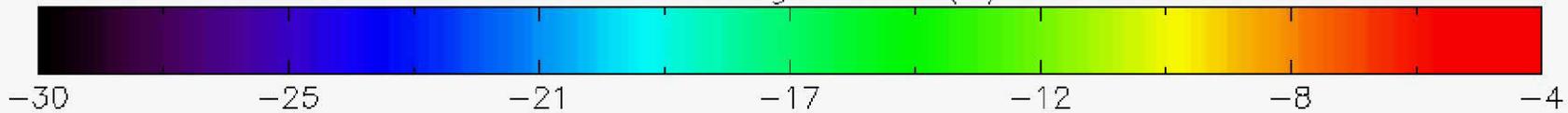


# Box Avg Cloud Top Cooling: 2009168\_1602

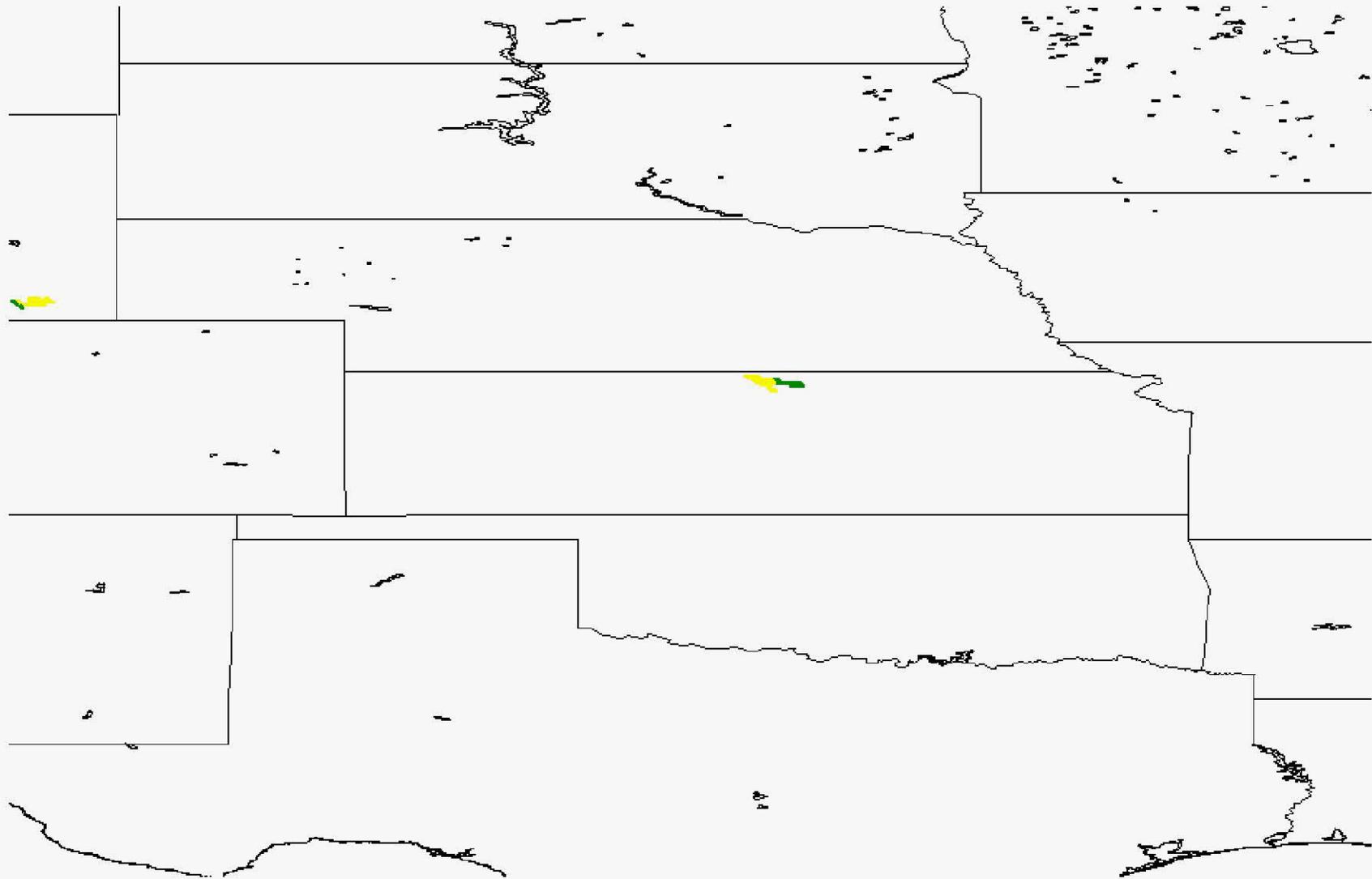


Look at the phase change, as well

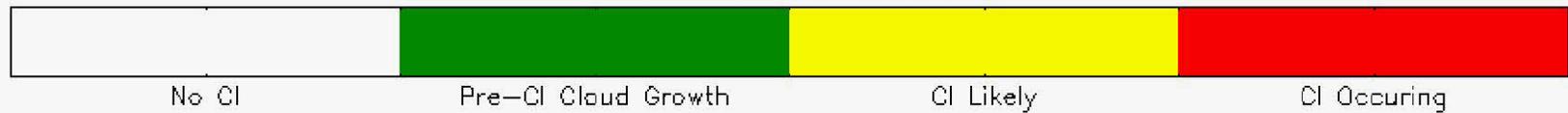
Box Averaged CTC (K)



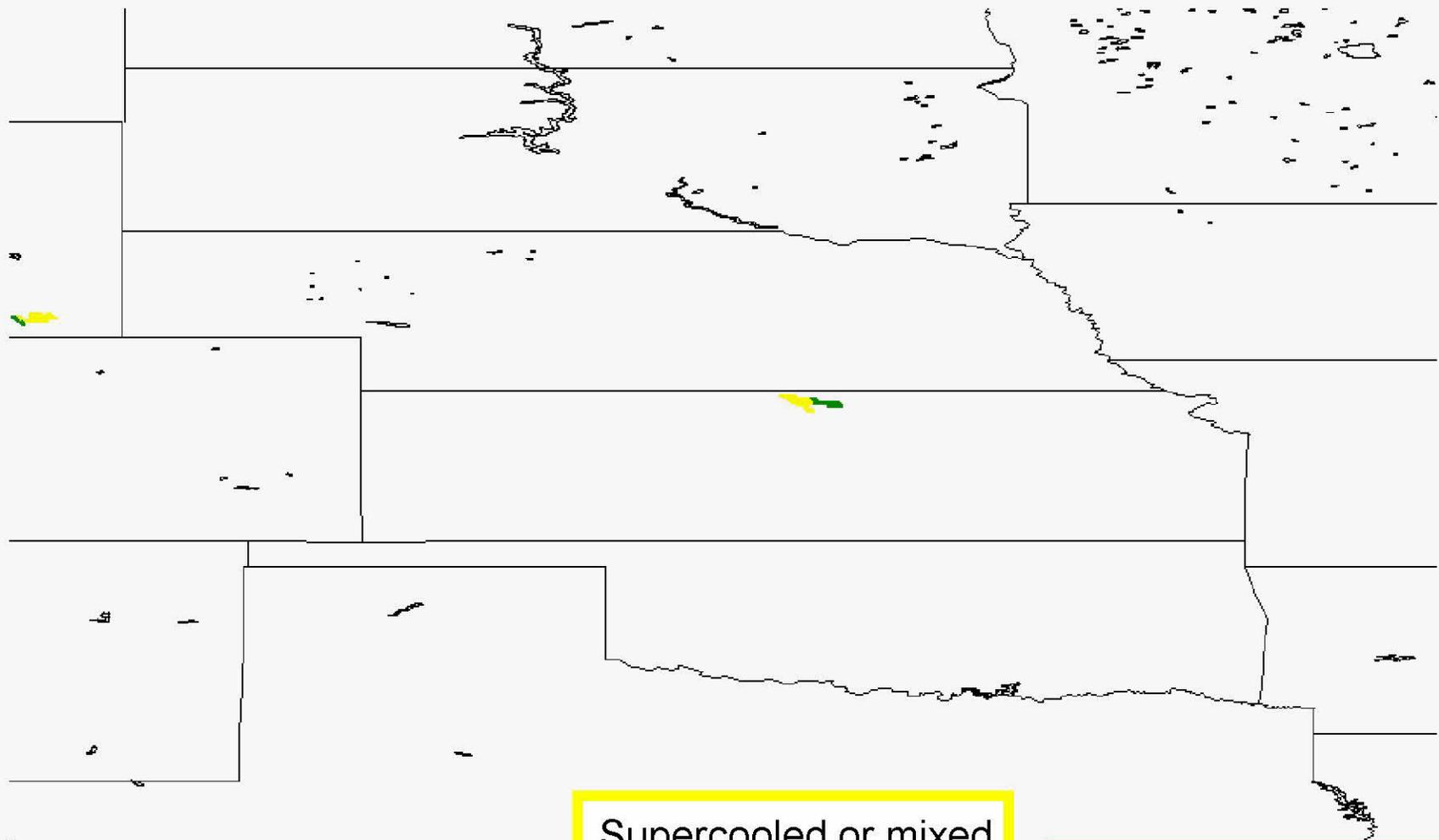
# Convective Initiation: 2009168\_1602



Convective Initiation



# Convective Initiation: 2009168\_1602



All liquid & warmer than 32 F

Supercooled or mixed

Glaciation has occurred



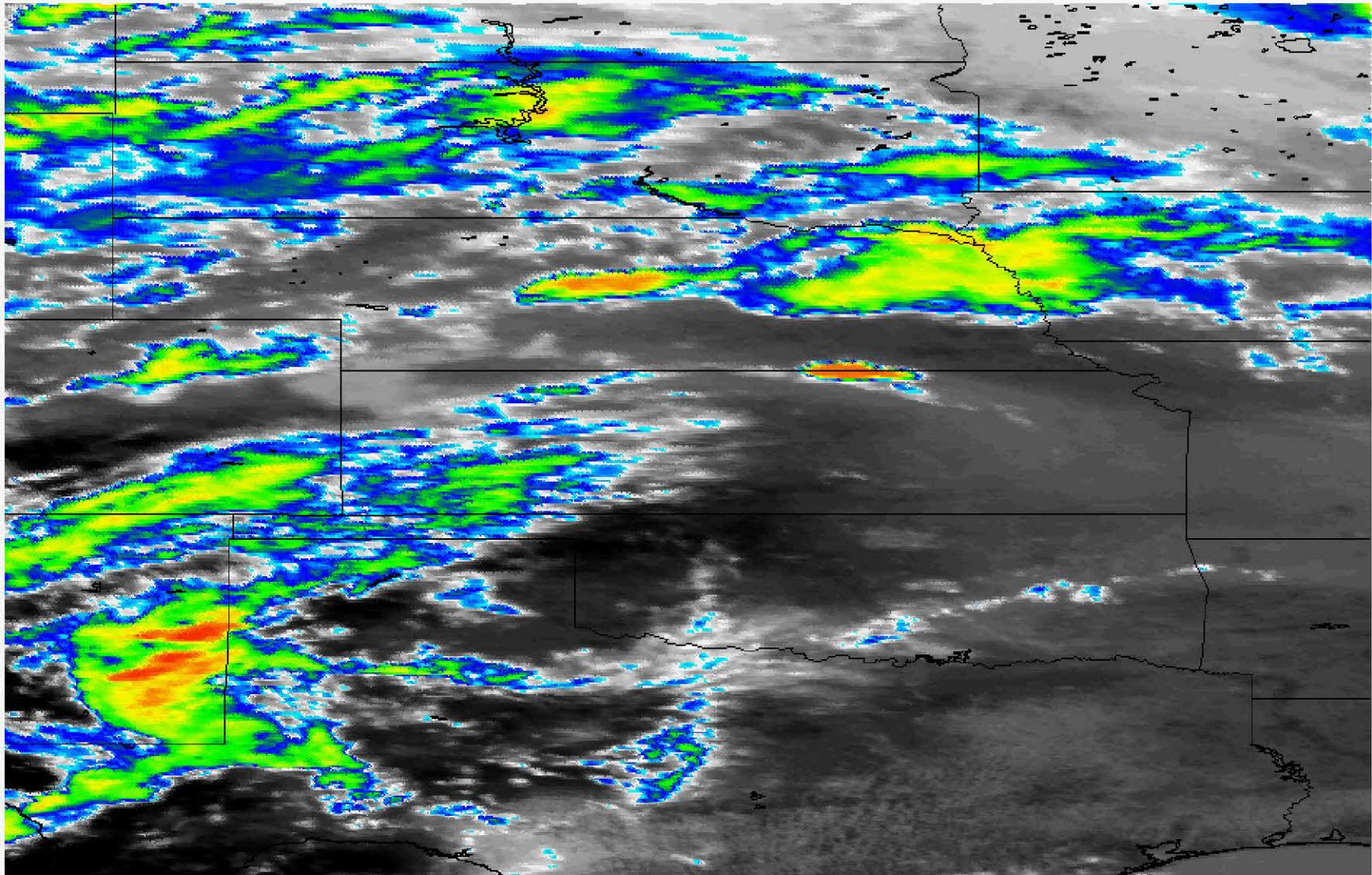
No CI

Pre-CI Cloud Growth

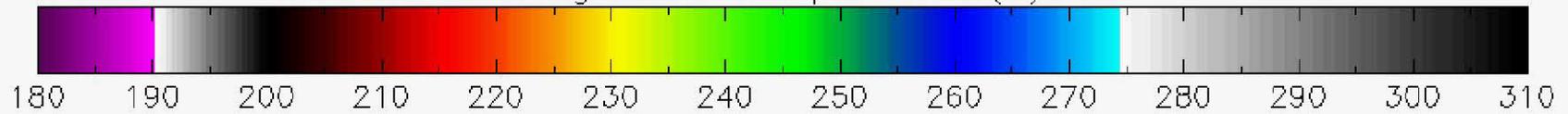
CI Likely

CI Occuring

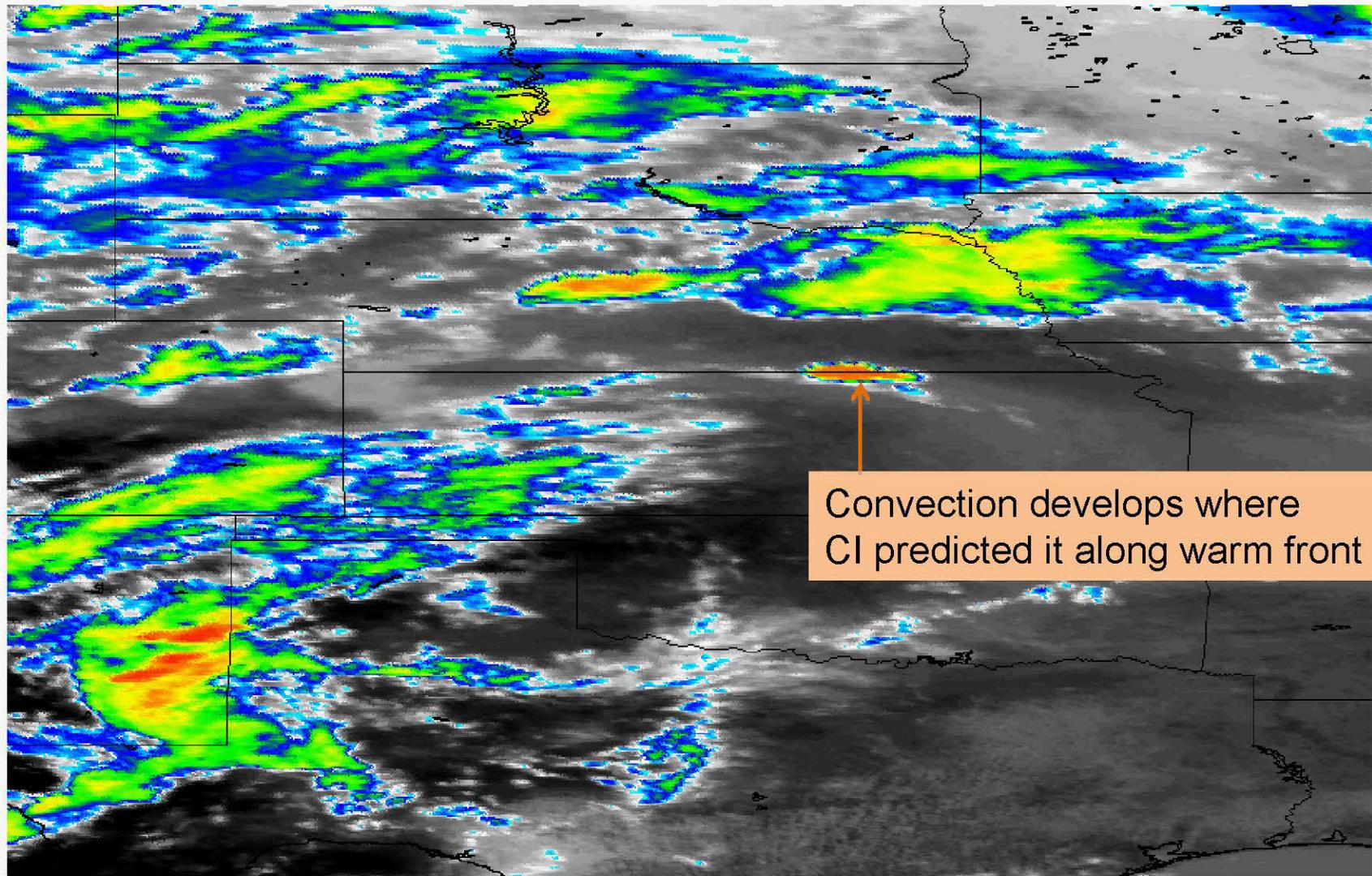
GOES-12 4km IRW: 2009168\_1702



Brightness Temperature (K)

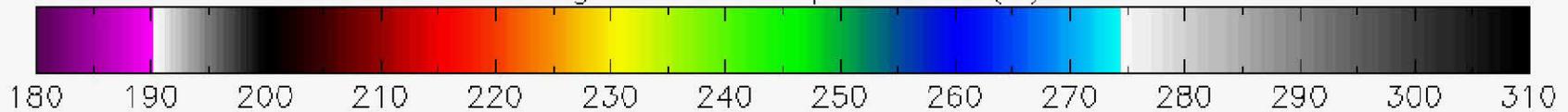


# GOES-12 4km IRW: 2009168\_1702



Convection develops where  
CI predicted it along warm front

Brightness Temperature (K)



Cloud Mask finds cloudy pixels

10.7  $\mu\text{m}$  data

13.0  $\mu\text{m}$  data

Cloud typing determines the type of cloud

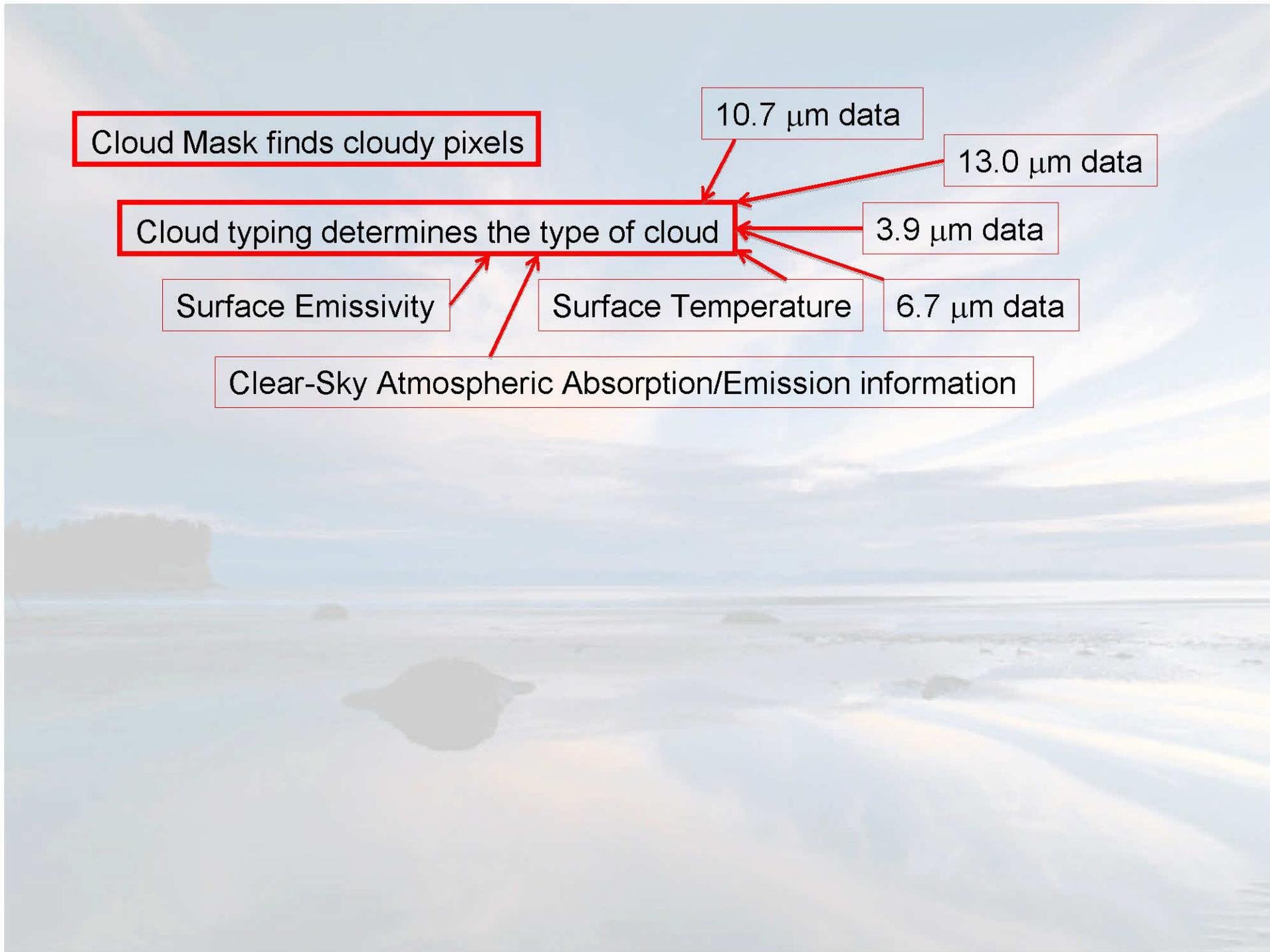
3.9  $\mu\text{m}$  data

Surface Emissivity

Surface Temperature

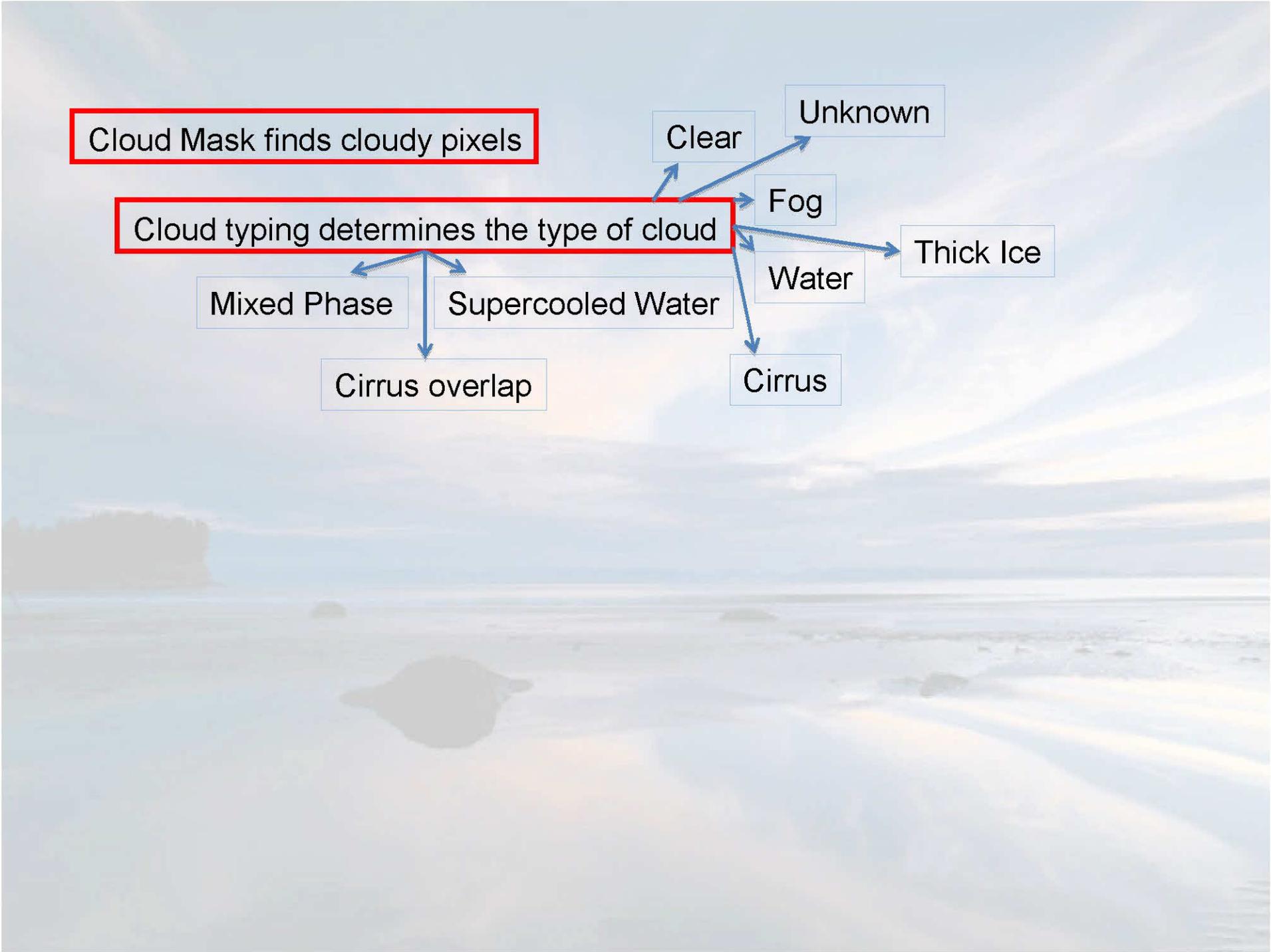
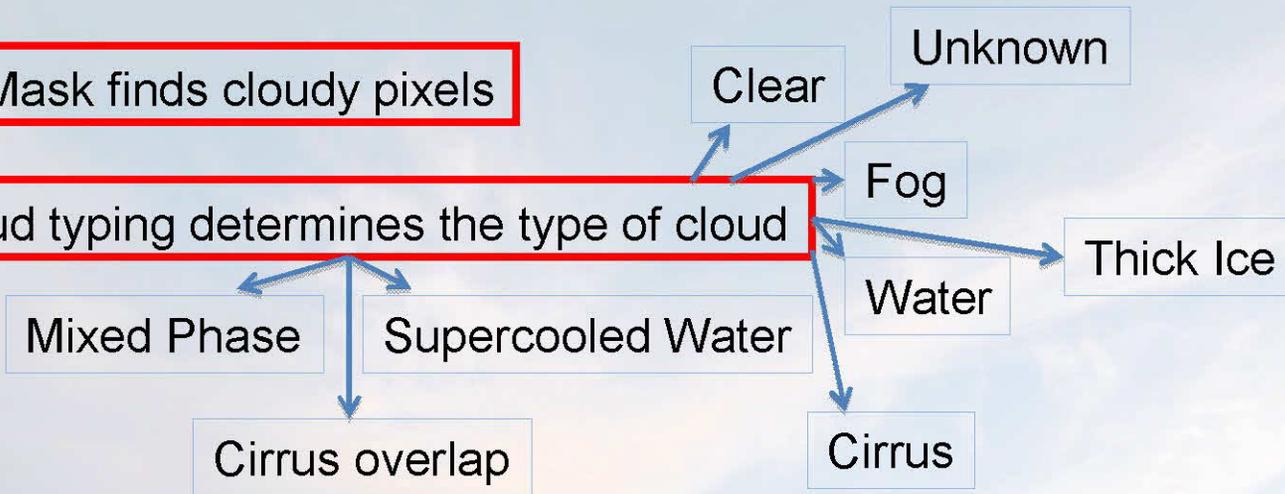
6.7  $\mu\text{m}$  data

Clear-Sky Atmospheric Absorption/Emission information



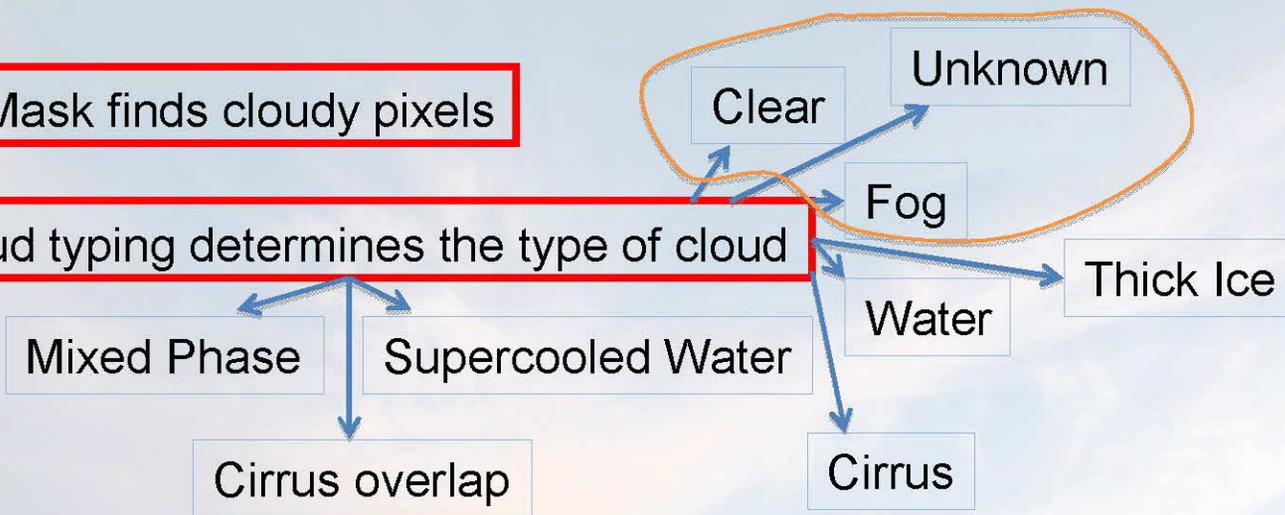
Cloud Mask finds cloudy pixels

Cloud typing determines the type of cloud



Cloud Mask finds cloudy pixels

Cloud typing determines the type of cloud



Mixed Phase

Supercooled Water

Cirrus overlap

Clear

Unknown

Fog

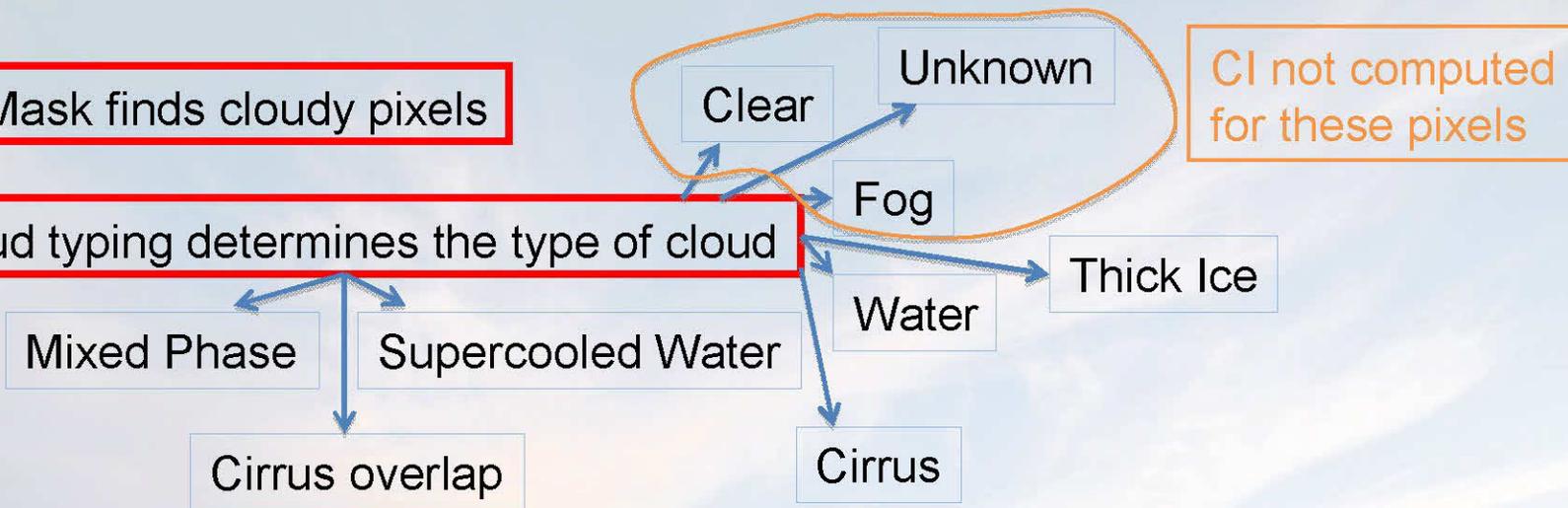
Water

Thick Ice

Cirrus

Cloud Mask finds cloudy pixels

Cloud typing determines the type of cloud



CI not computed for these pixels

Cloud Mask finds cloudy pixels

Cloud typing determines the type of cloud

Mixed Phase

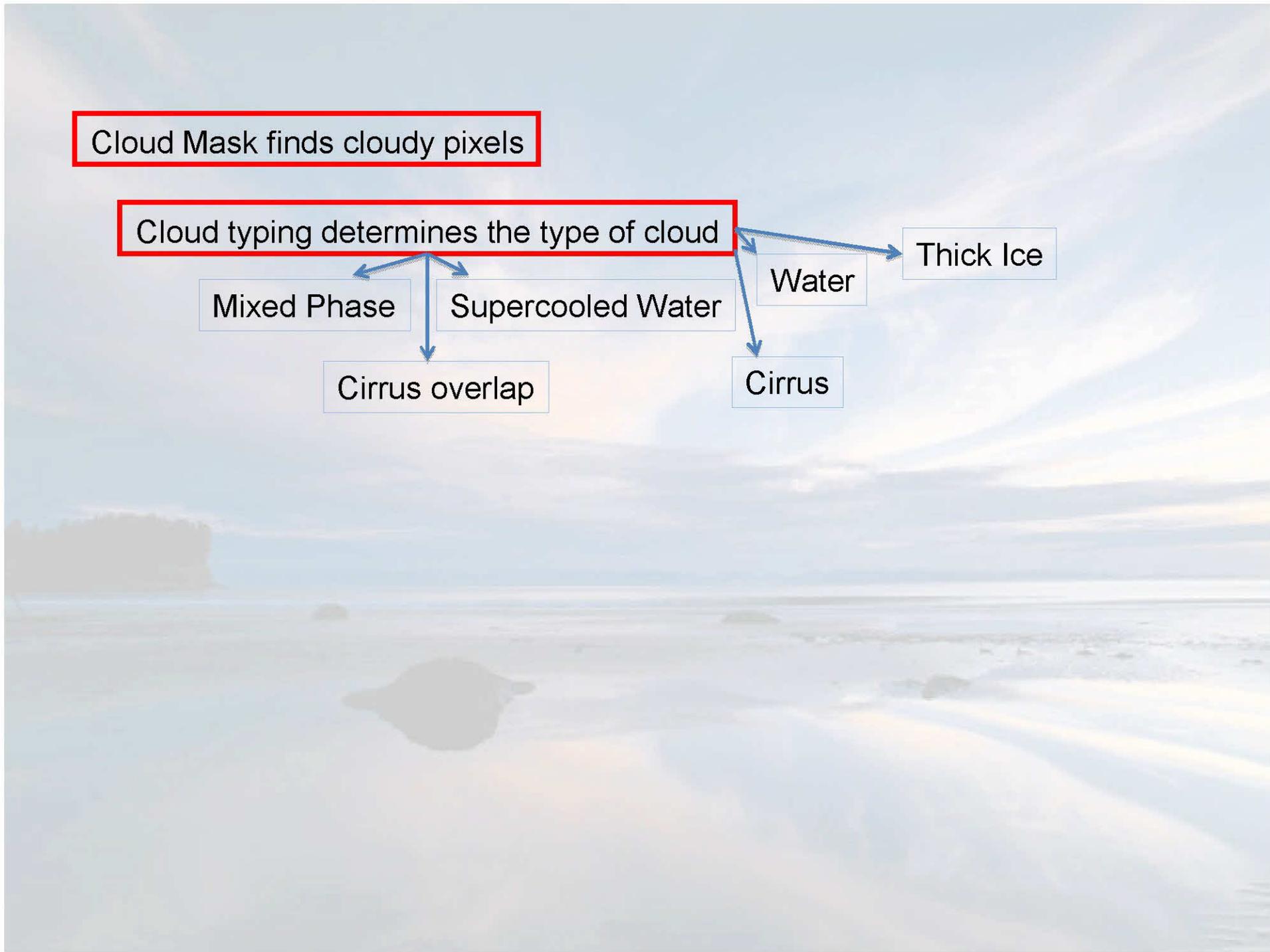
Supercooled Water

Water

Thick Ice

Cirrus overlap

Cirrus



Cloud Mask finds cloudy pixels

Cloud typing determines the type of cloud

Mixed Phase

Supercooled Water

Water

Thick Ice

Cirrus overlap

Cirrus

Determine percentages of each cloud type in 7x7 and 13x13 box

Determine cooling rate of cloudy pixels (normalized to a 15-minute  $\delta t$ )

Throw out pixels that show warming relative to the values  
around the perimeter of the larger box

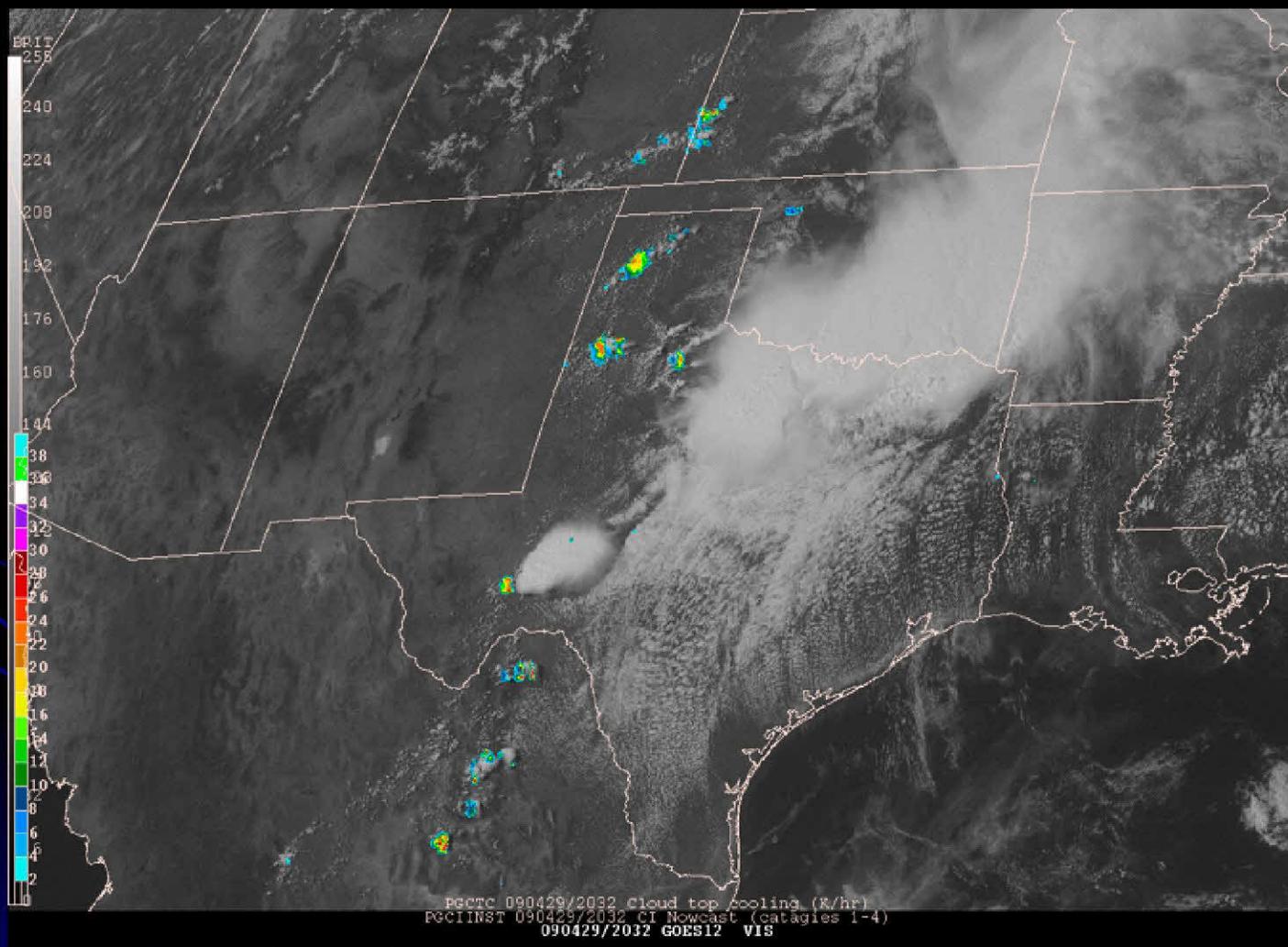
Throw out pixels if >50% of pixels in large box are ice clouds

Sieglaff et al, 2010: Nowcasting Convective Storm Initiation Using Satellite Based Box-Averaged Cloud-Top Cooling and Microphysical Phase Trends, Accepted for publication Journal of Applied Meteorology

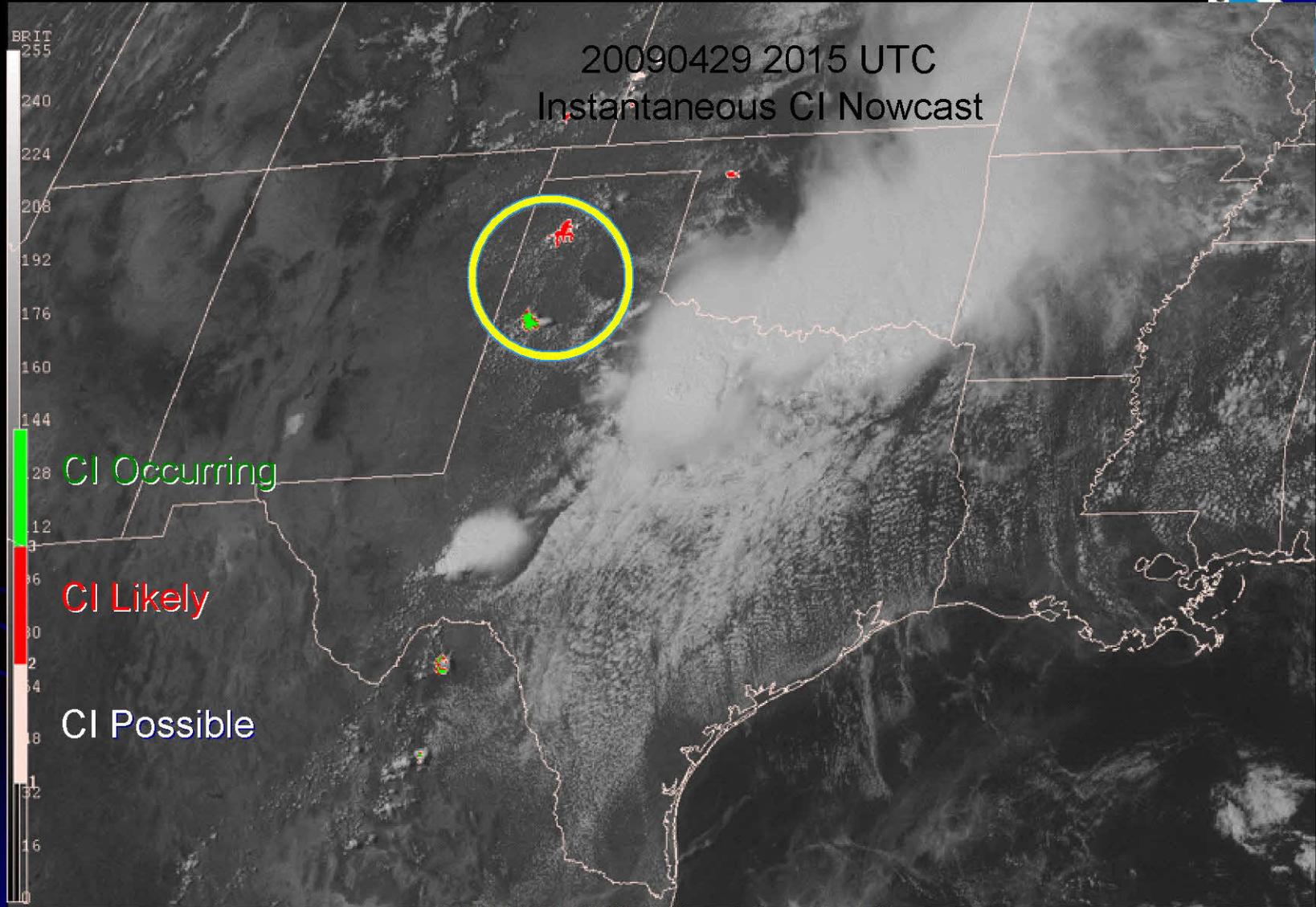
A scenic view of a beach at sunset or sunrise. The sky is filled with soft, wispy clouds in shades of blue, orange, and yellow. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright glow. The wet sand in the foreground is highly reflective, mirroring the colors of the sky and the clouds. The ocean is visible in the distance, with gentle waves washing onto the shore. The overall atmosphere is calm and serene.

# Case Studies

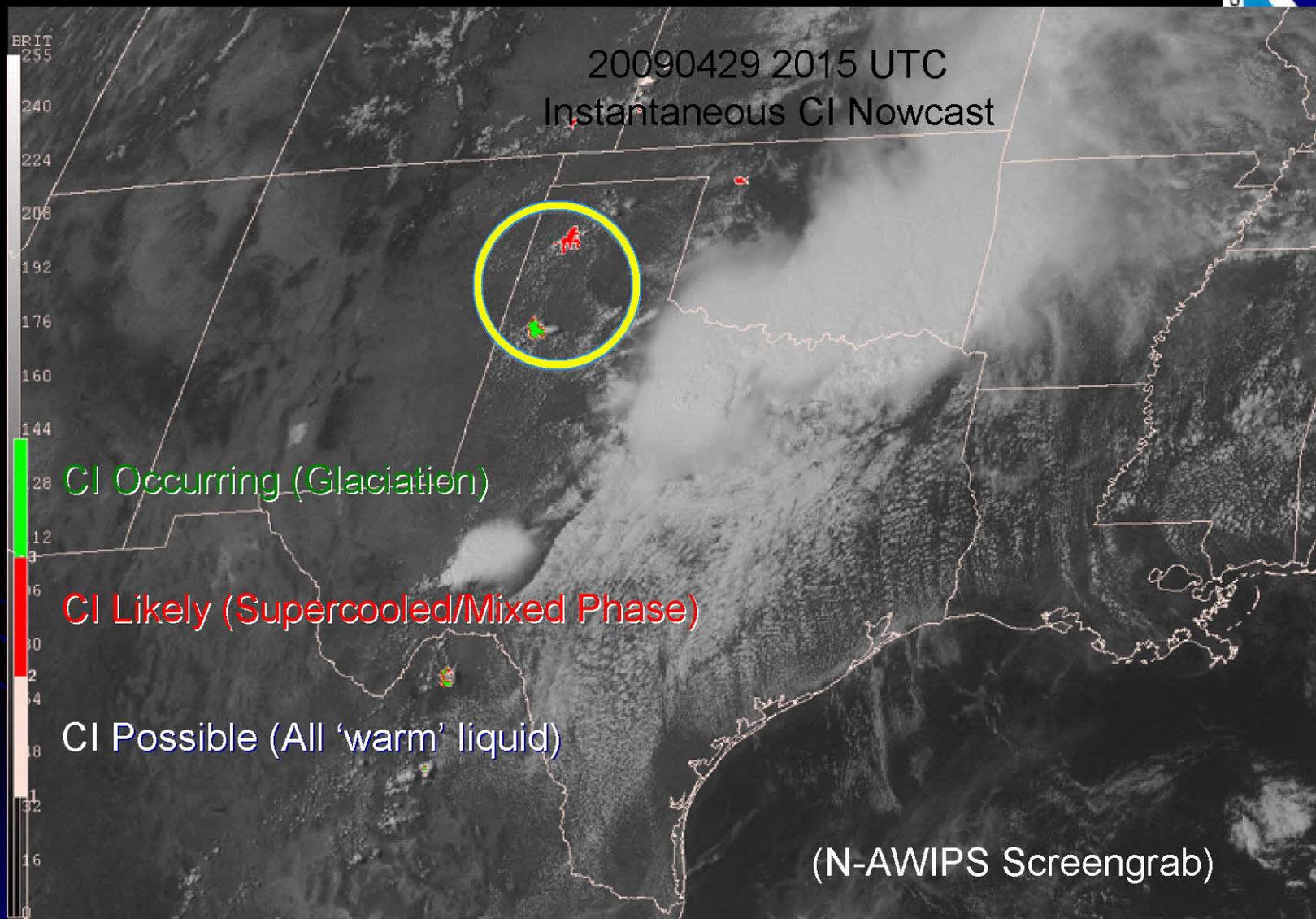
# 20090429 Dryline CI Case



# 20090429 2015 UTC Instantaneous CI Nowcast



PGCIINST 090429/2015 CI Nowcast (catagies 1-4)  
090429/2015 GOES12 VIS

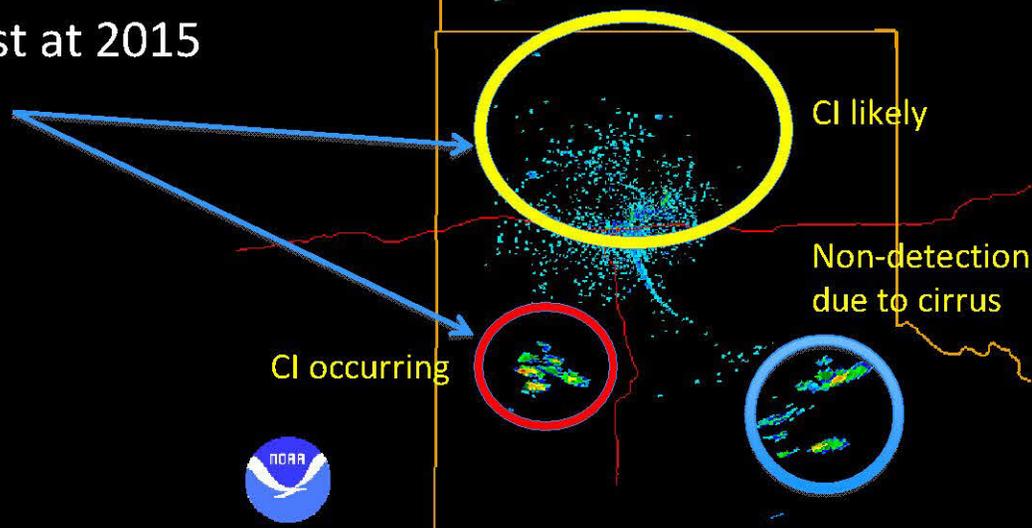


PGCIINST 090429/2015 CI Nowcast (catagies 1-4)  
090429/2015 GOES12 VIS

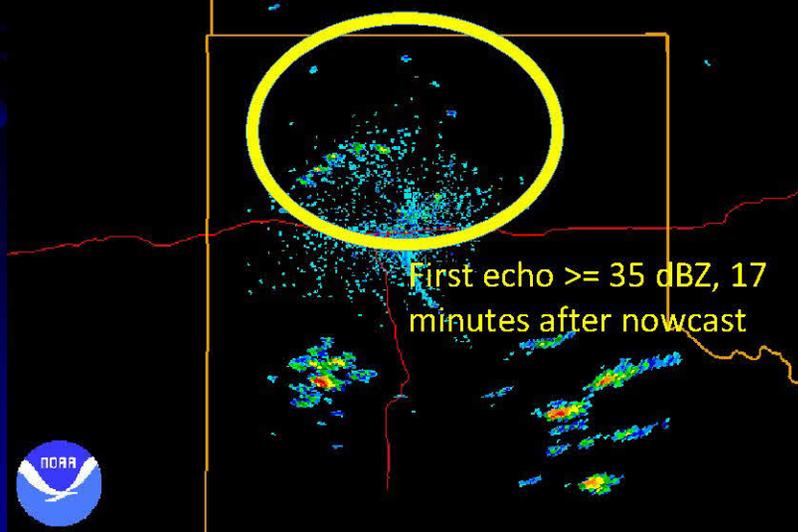
29 April 2009

### KAMA 2018 UTC Base Reflectivity

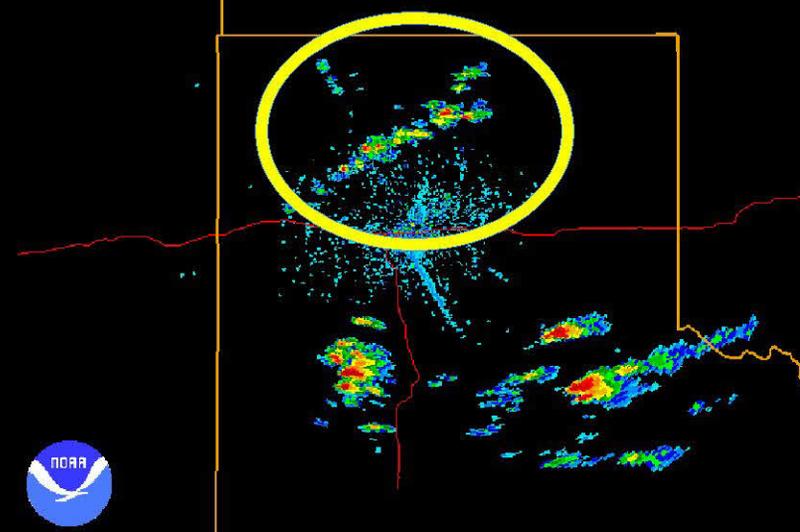
CI nowcast at 2015 UTC



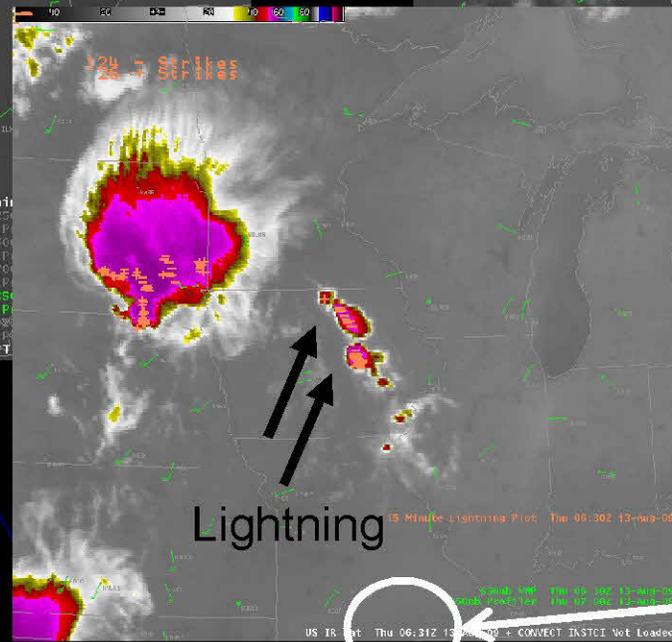
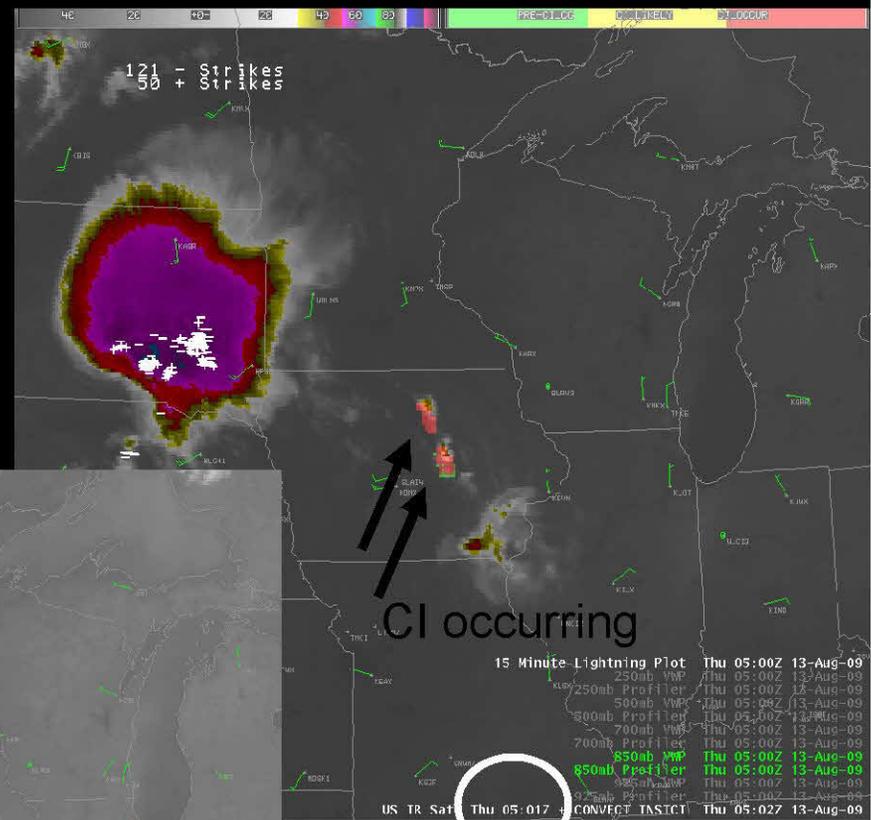
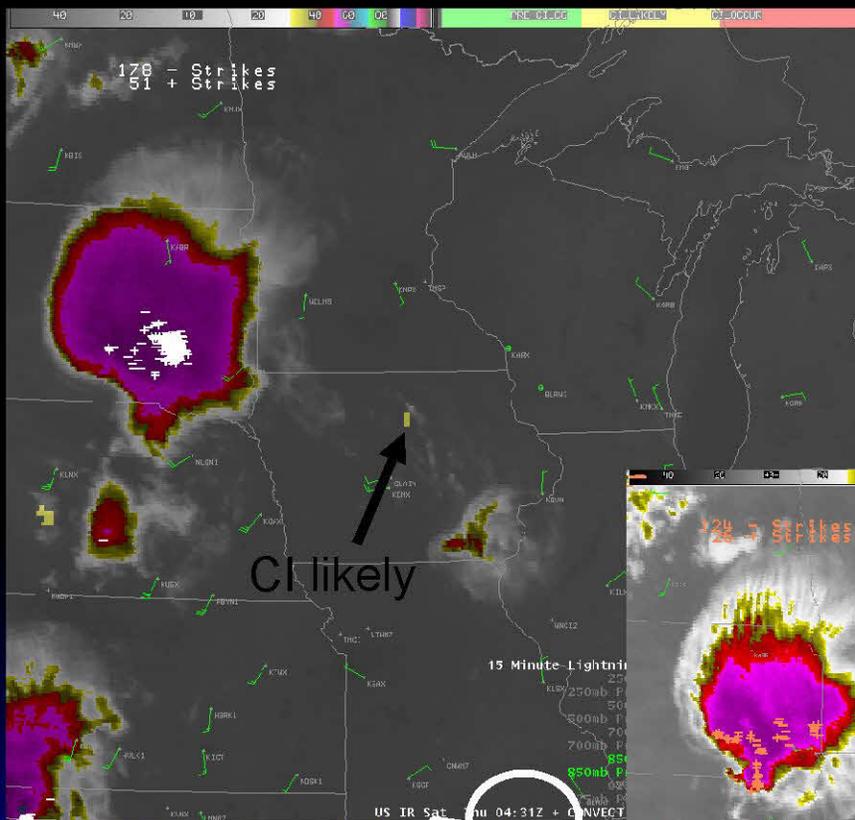
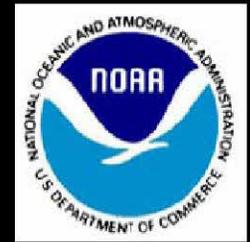
### KAMA 2035 UTC Base Reflectivity



### KAMA 2103 UTC Base Reflectivity



# AWIPS CI/CTC Interaction with Sullivan (MKE) NWS Office

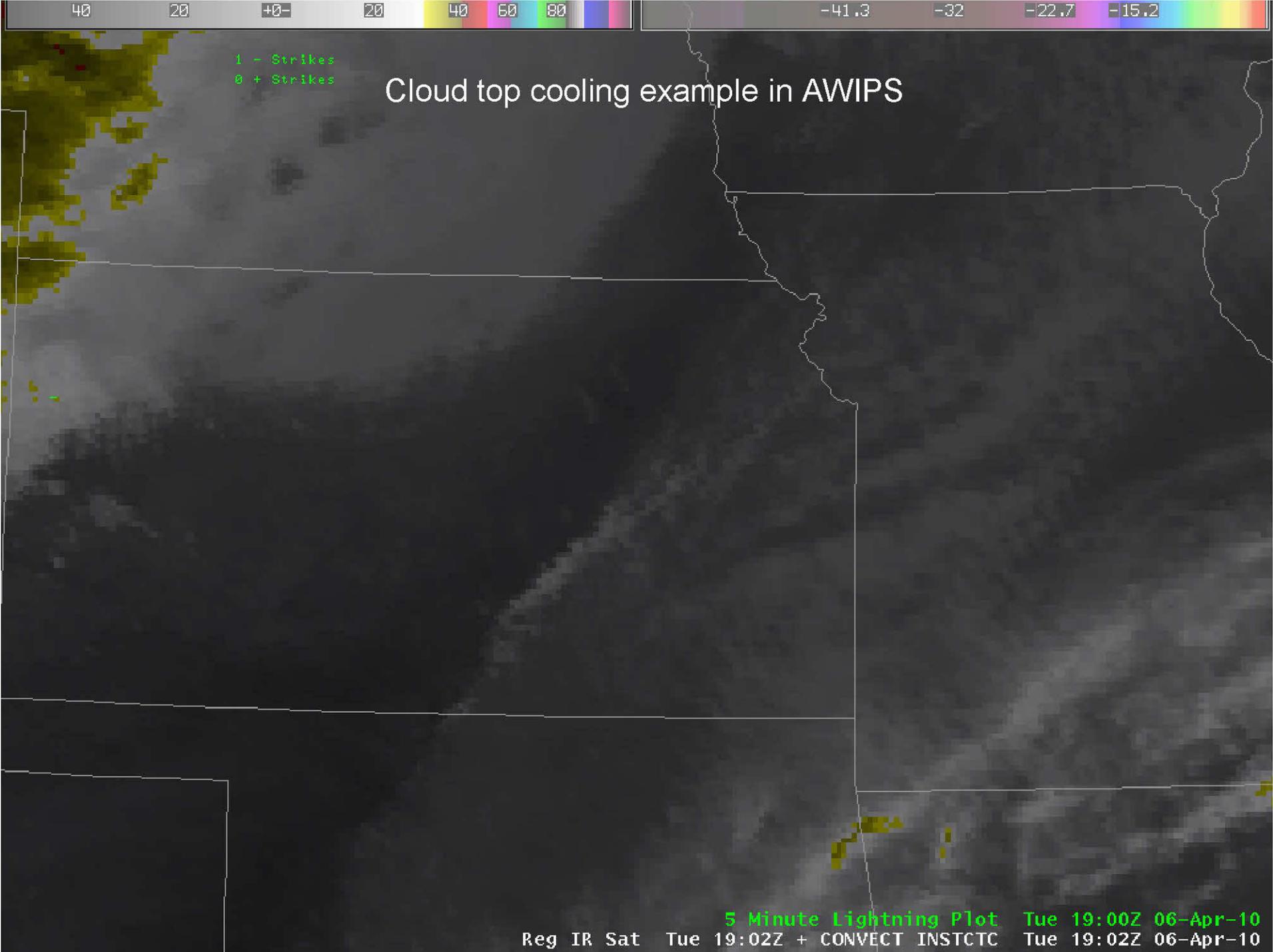


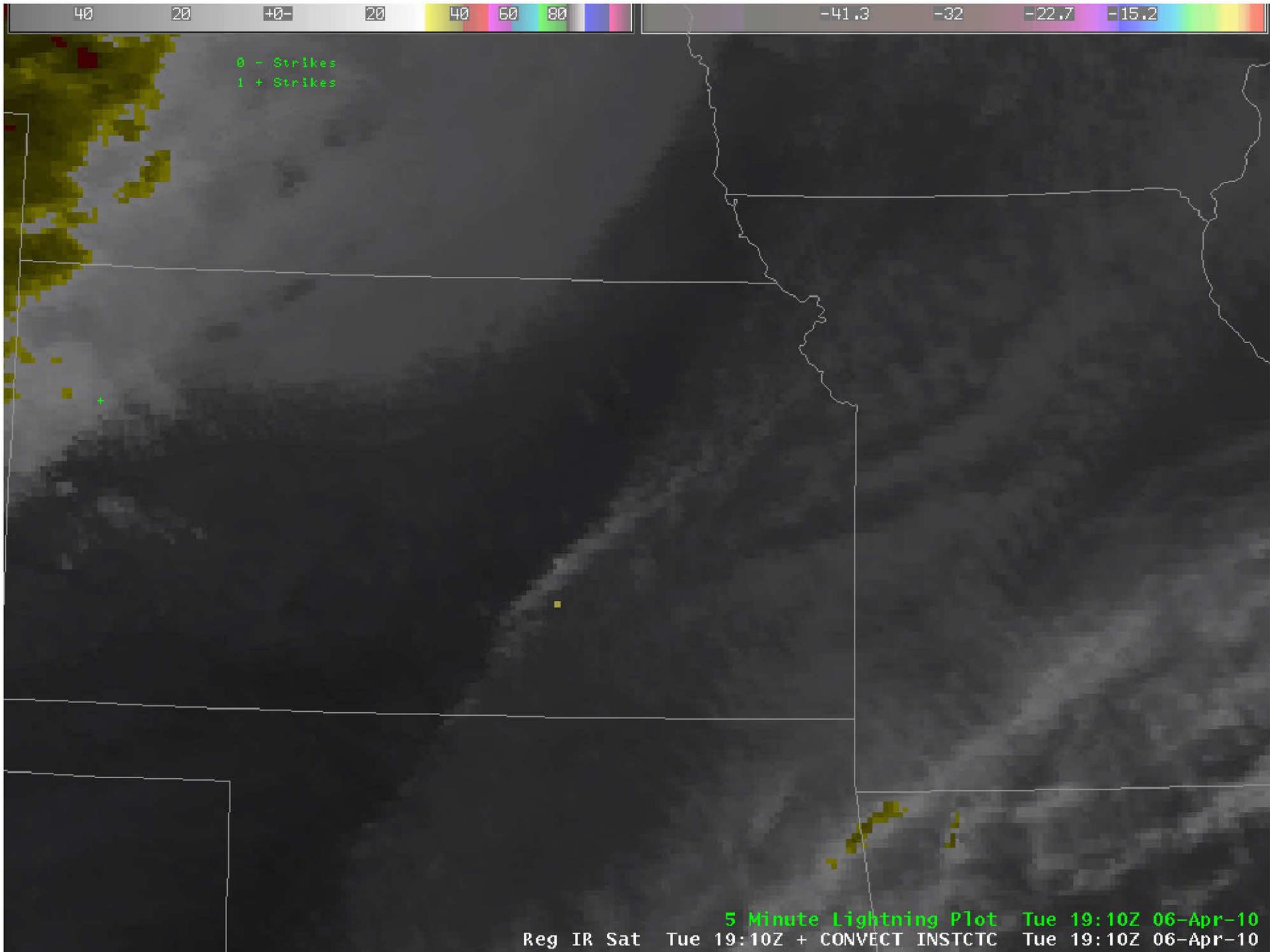
Forecaster generated screen captures from AWIPS at MKE

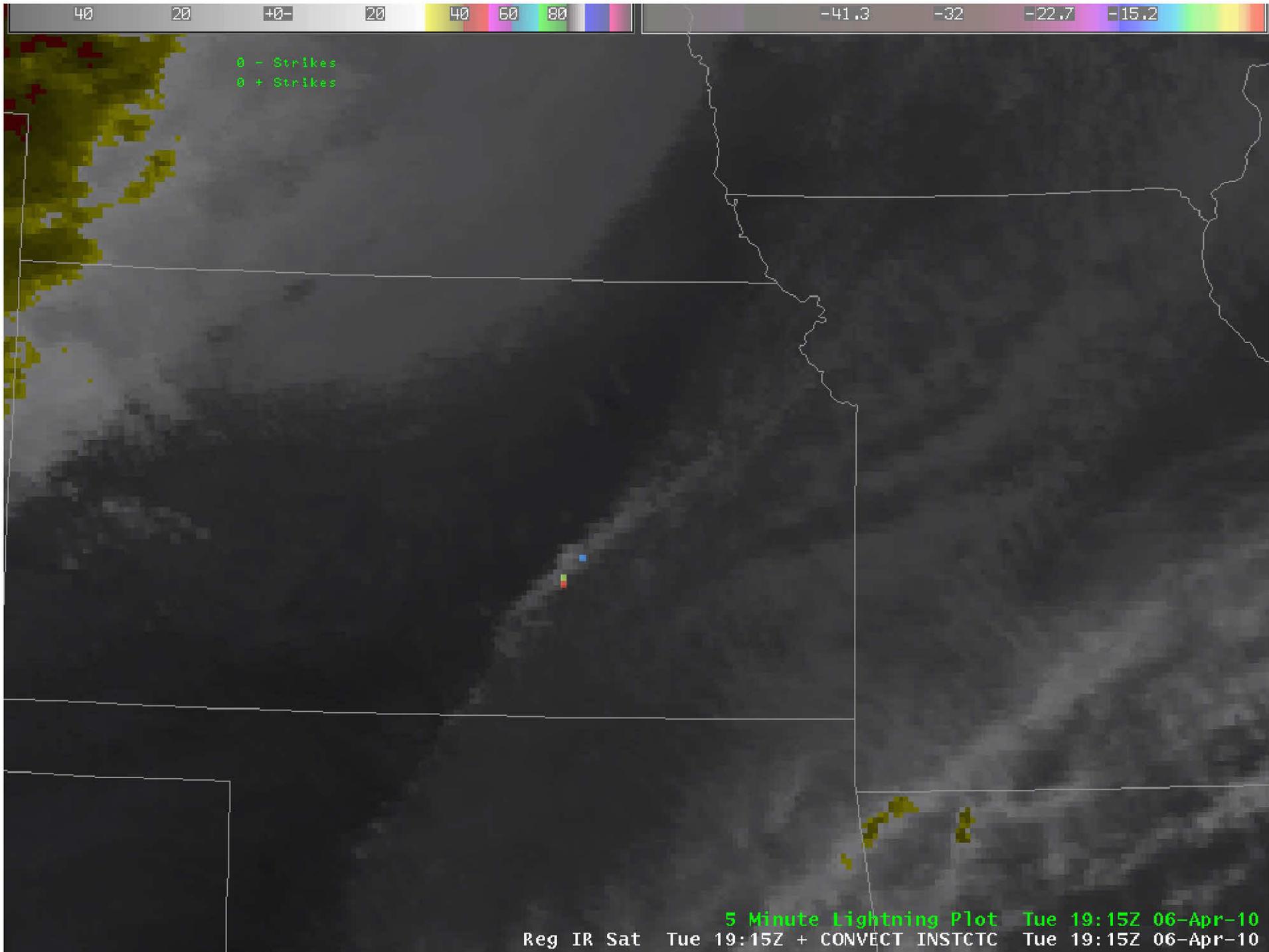
4:31 Z

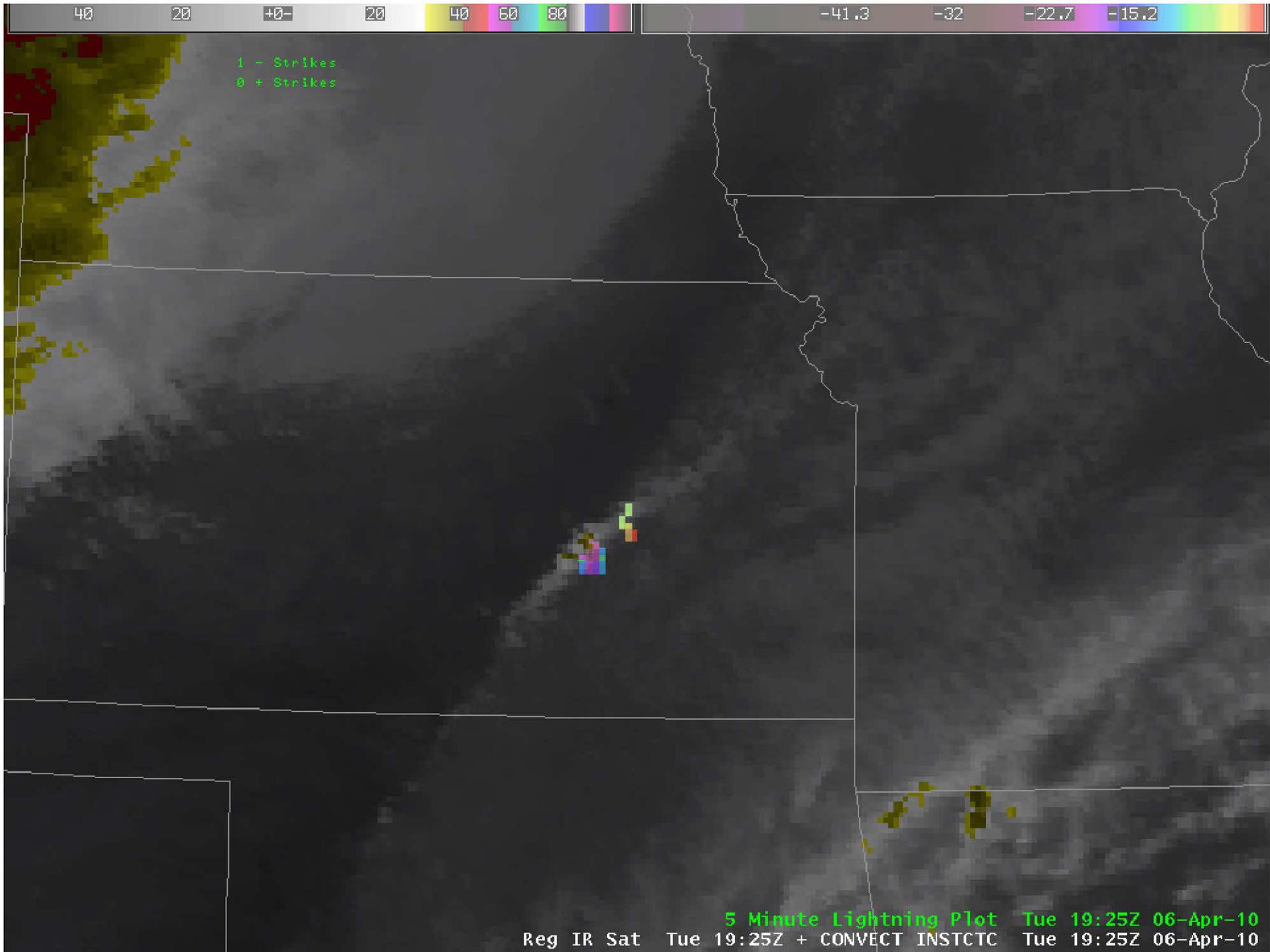
5:01 Z

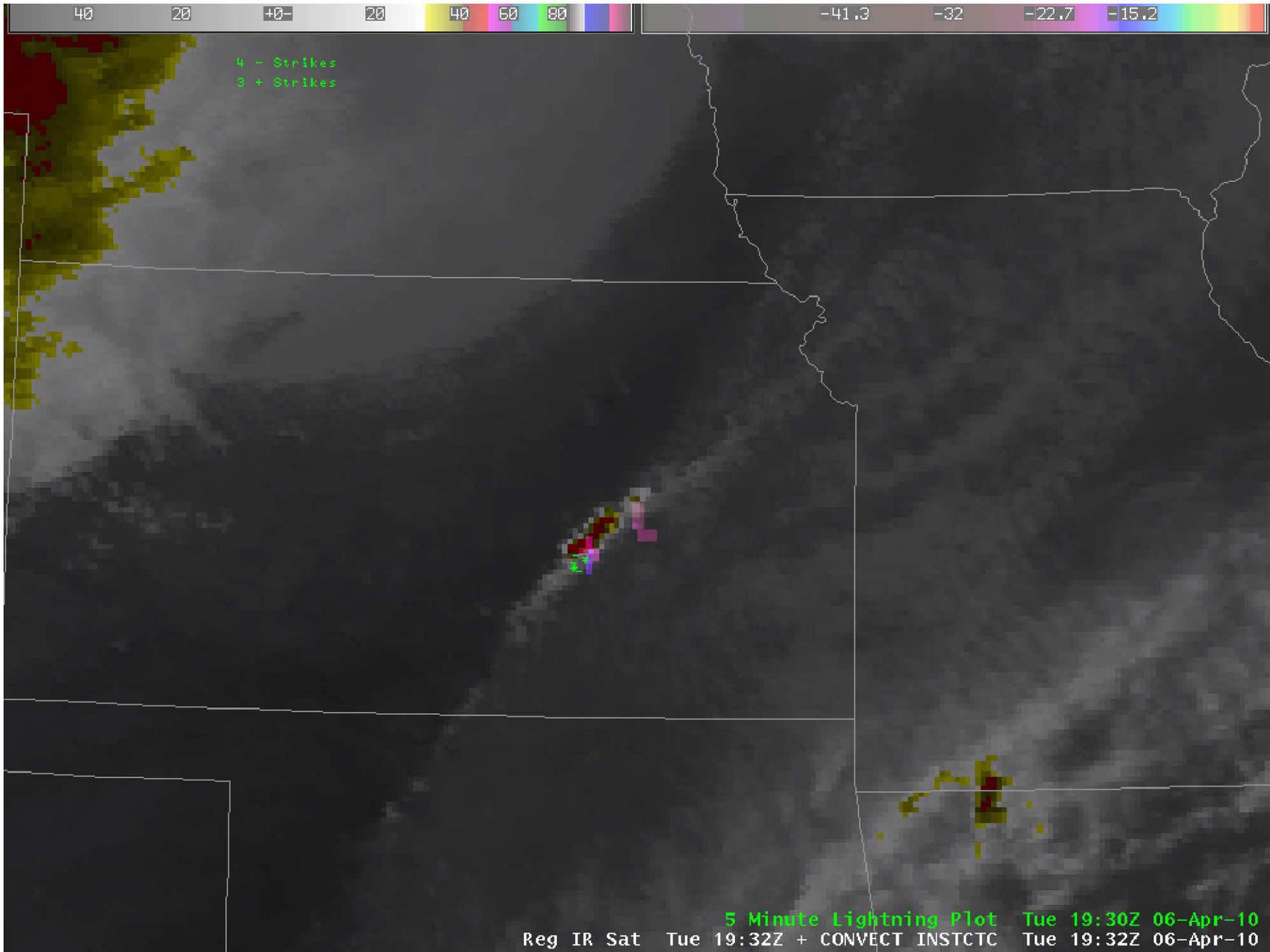
6:31 Z

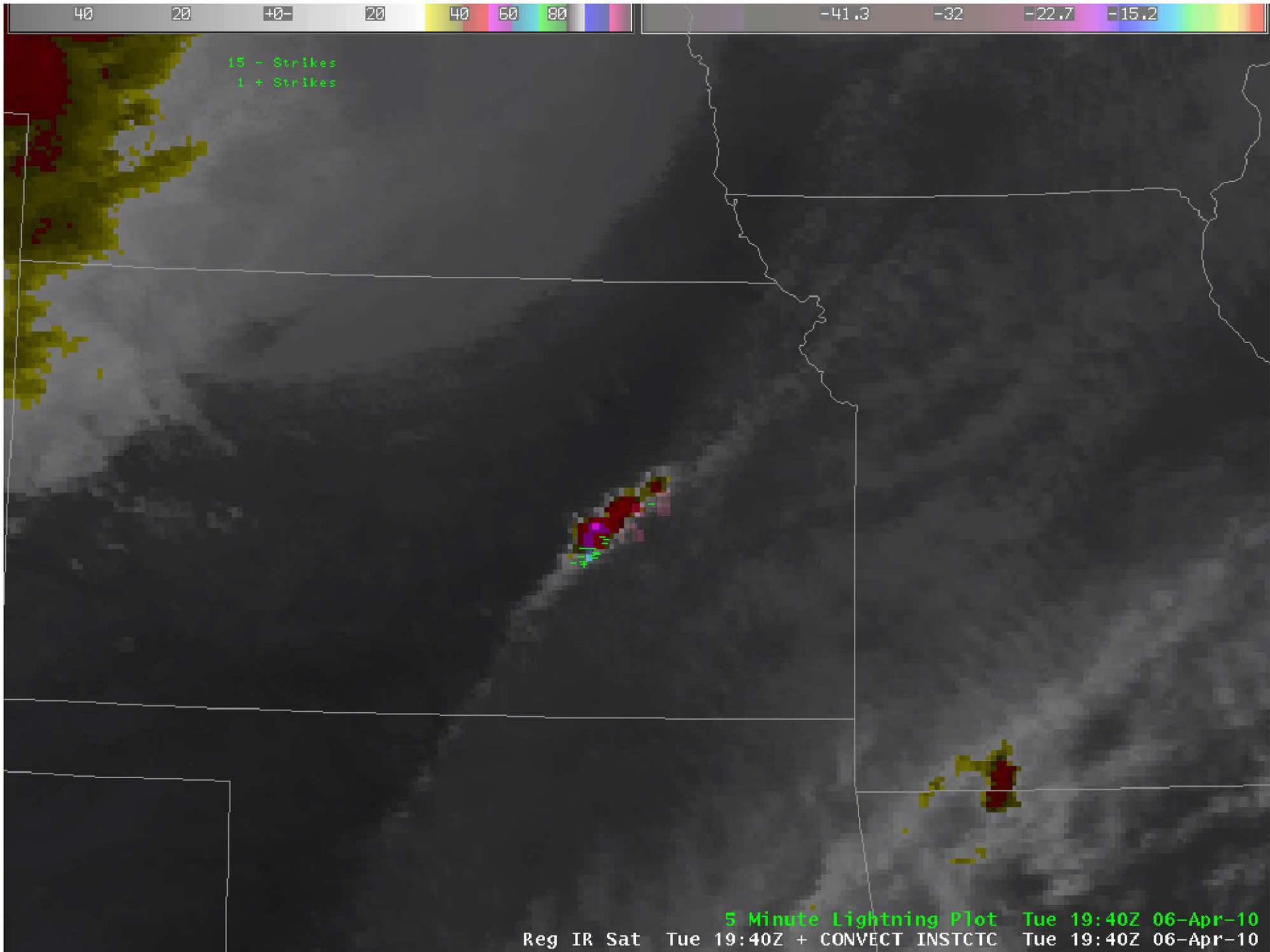


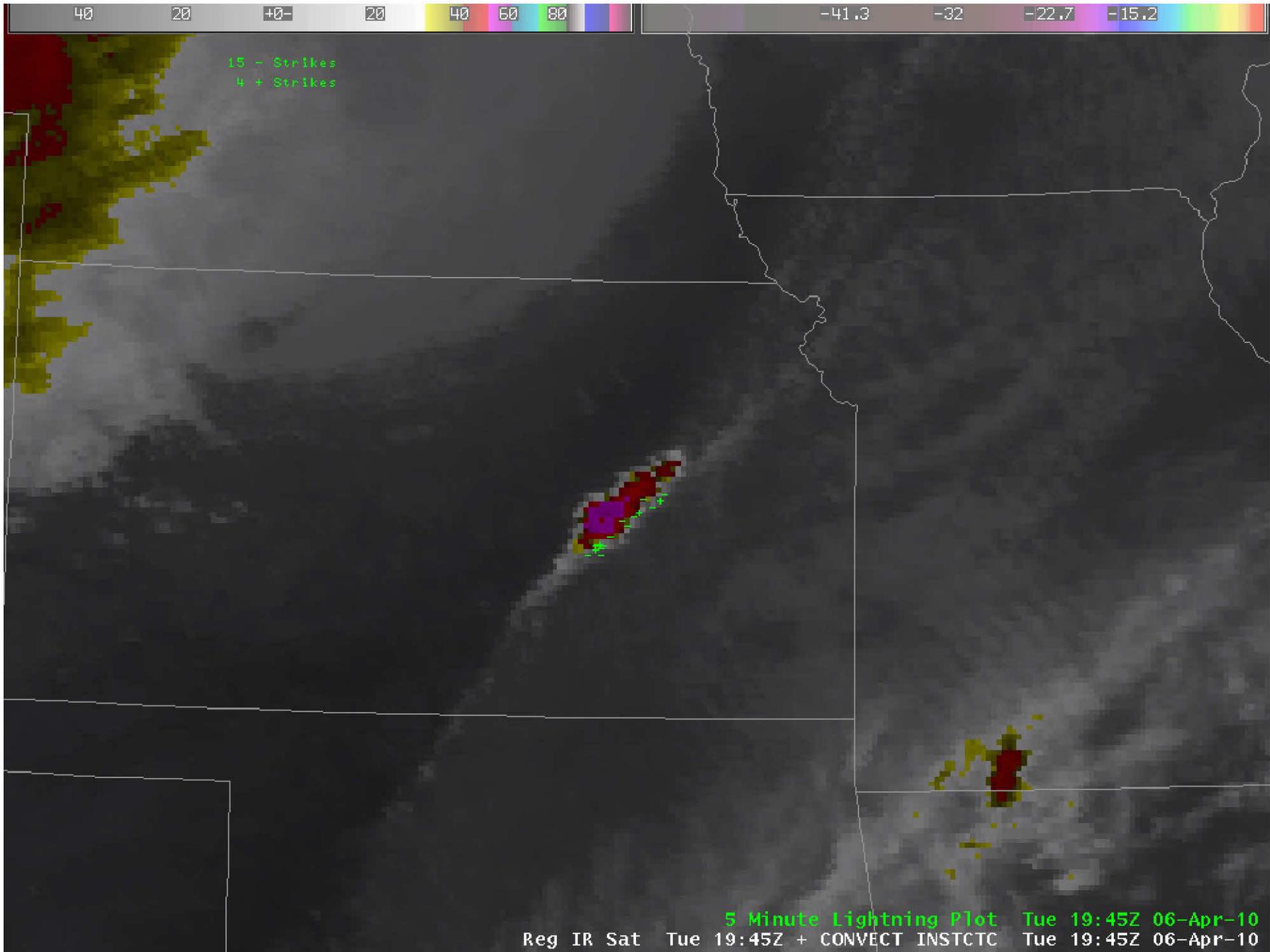


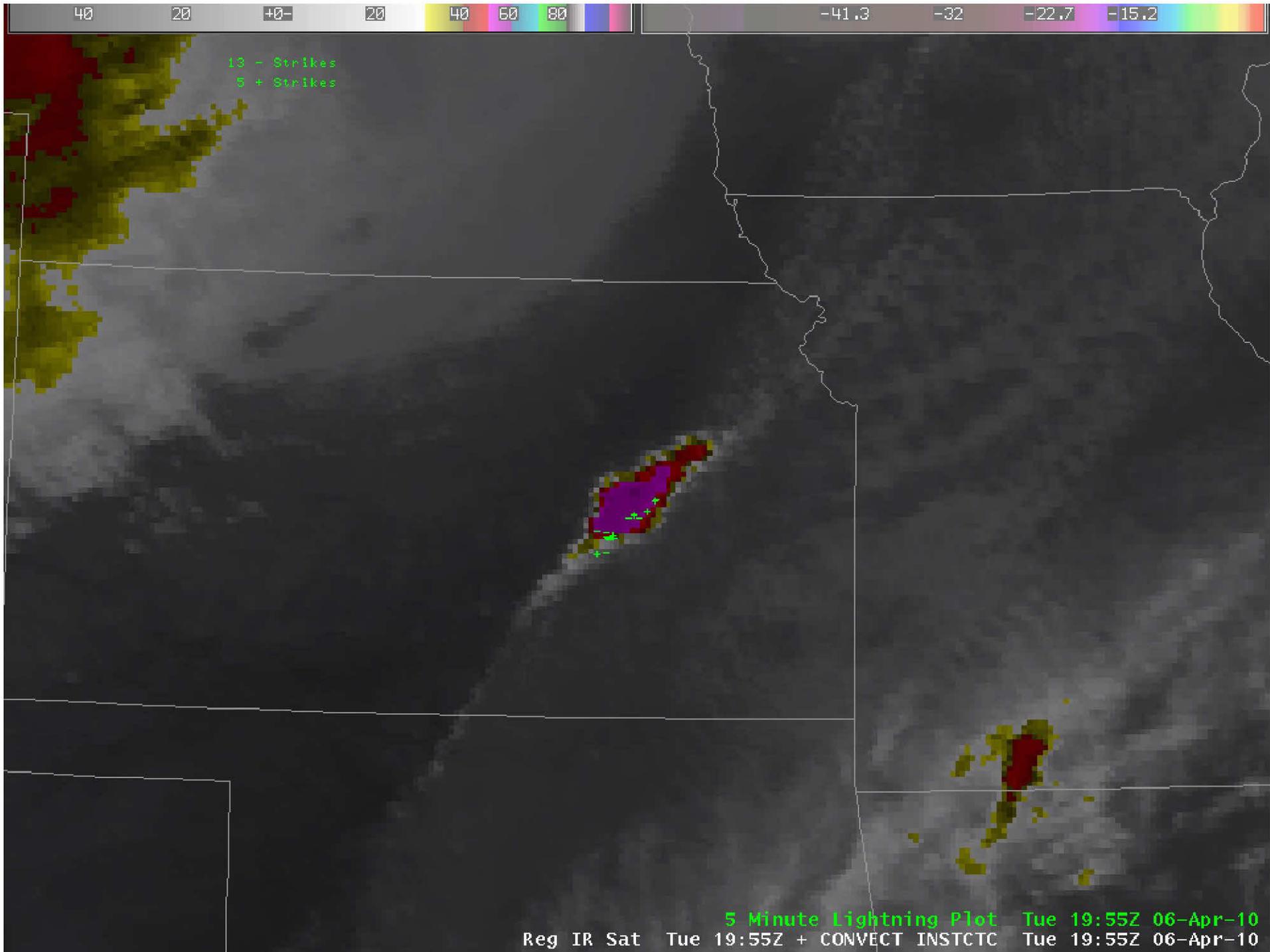


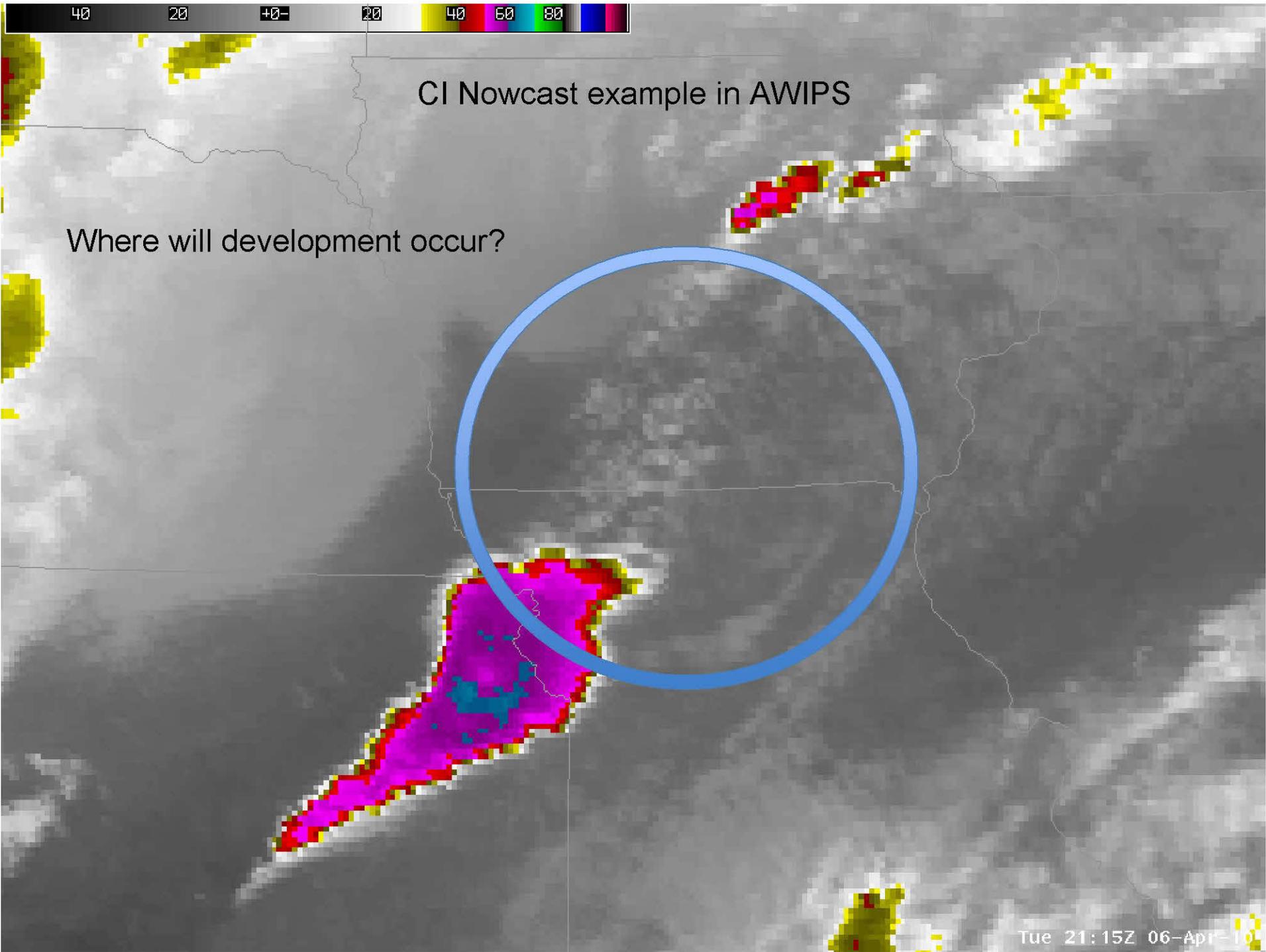






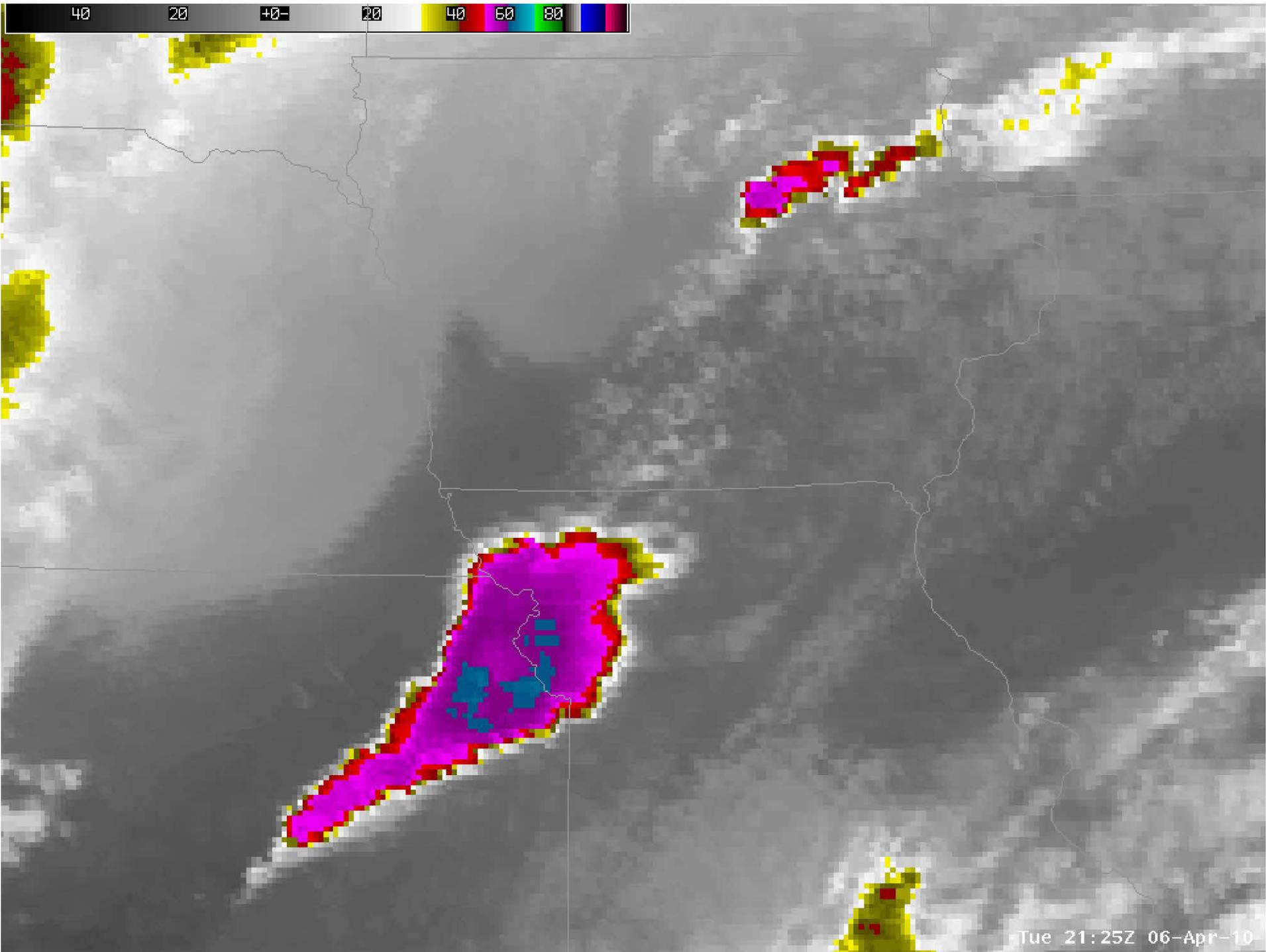


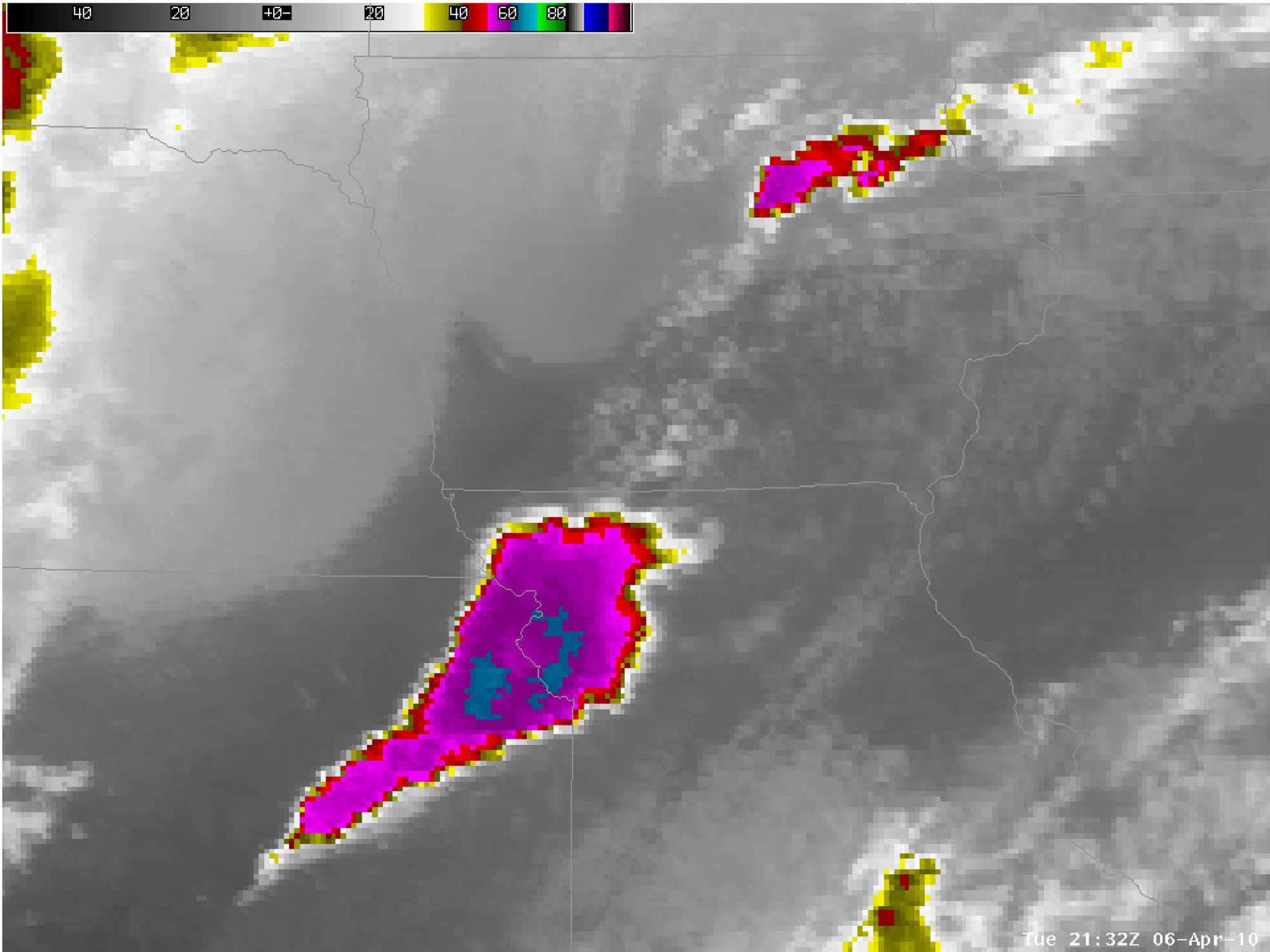


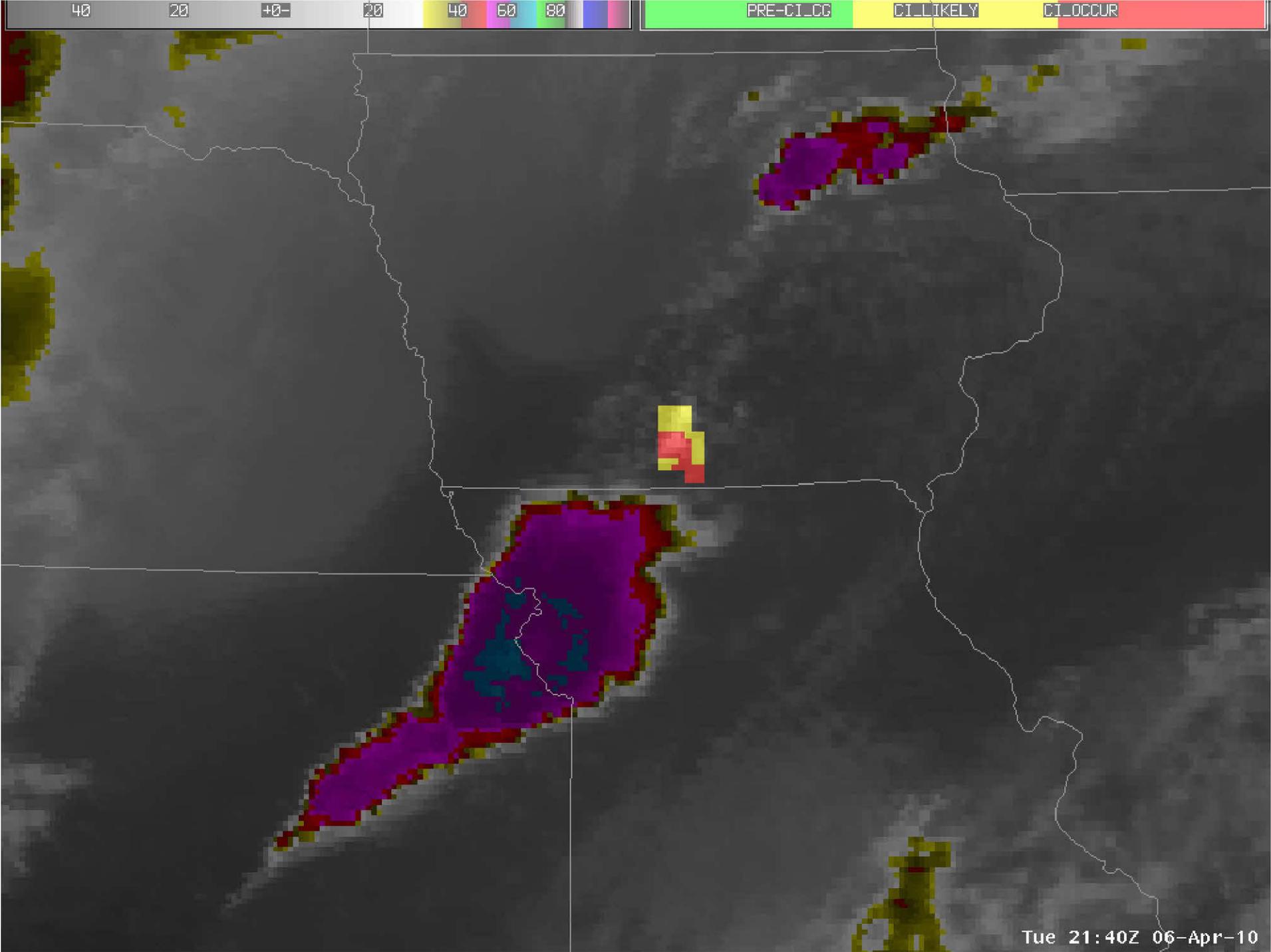


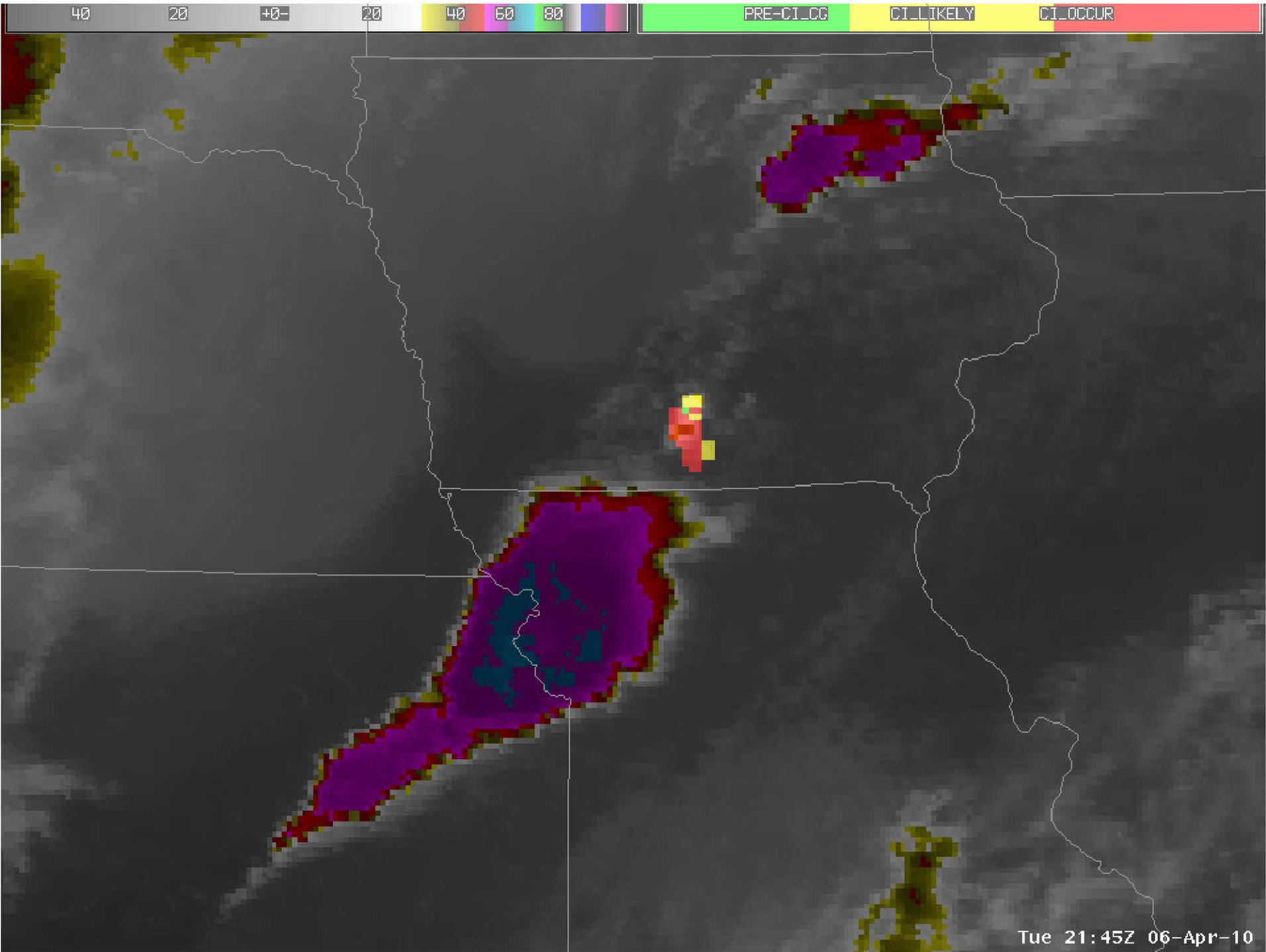
CI Nowcast example in AWIPS

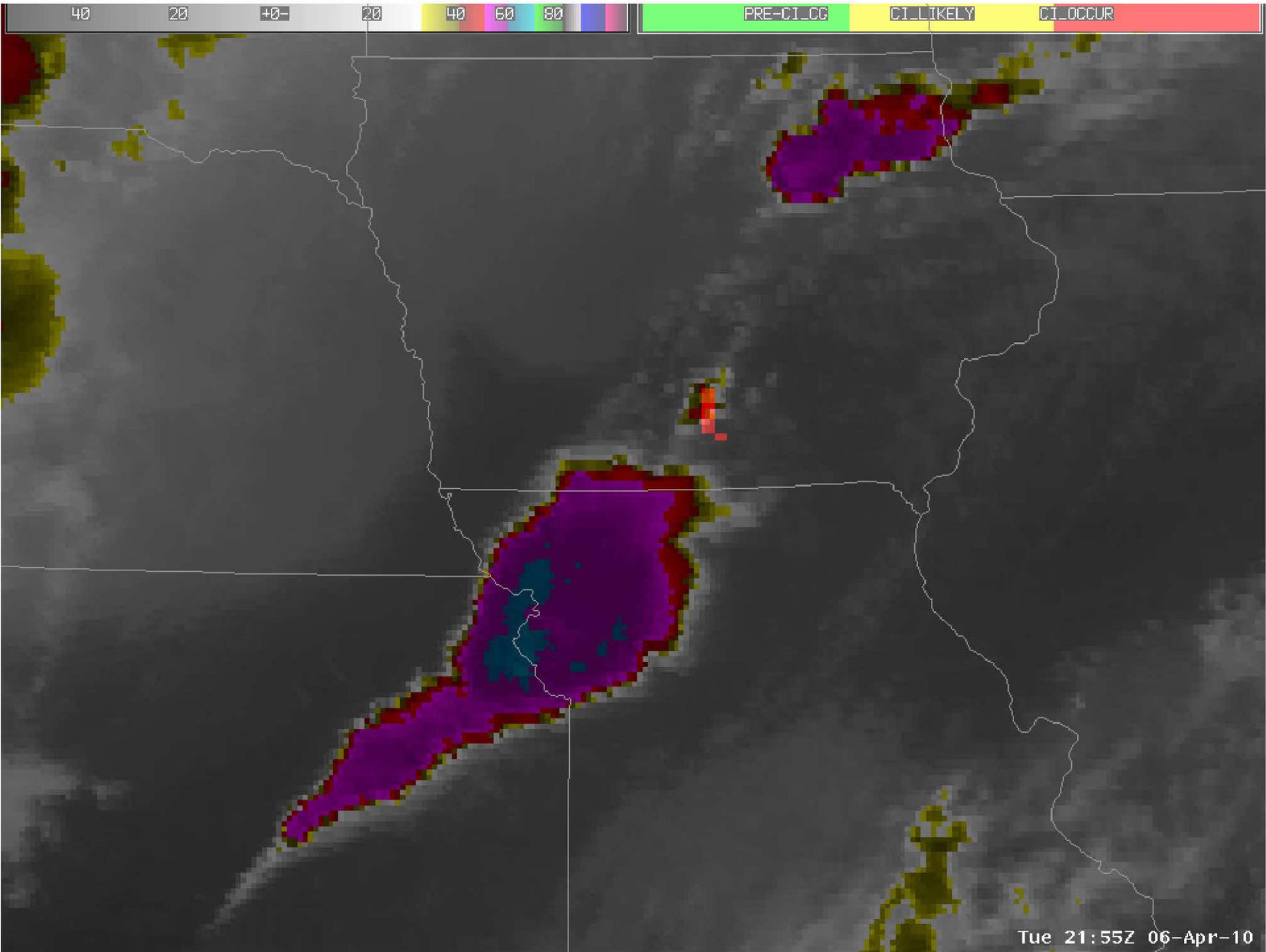
Where will development occur?

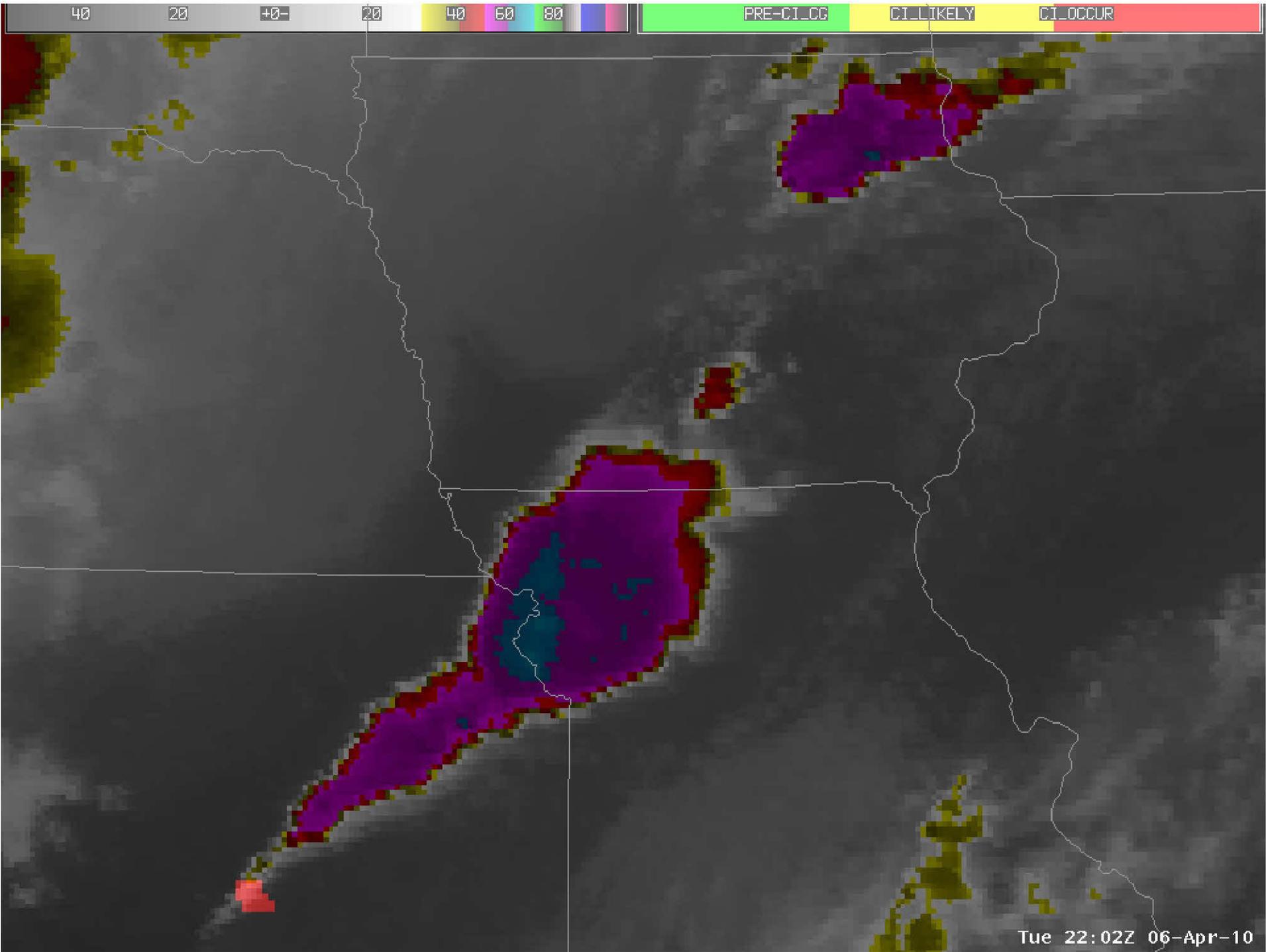


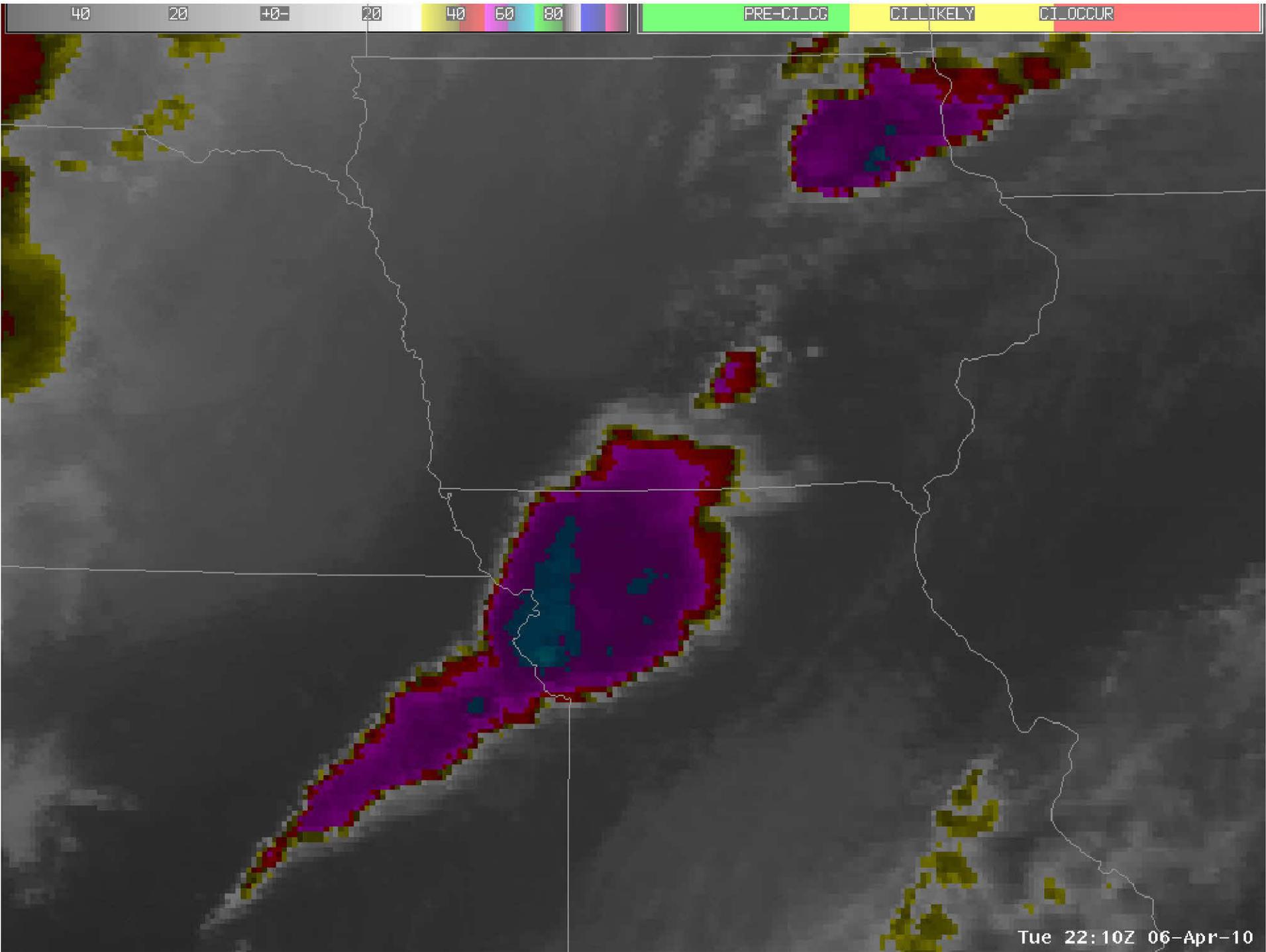


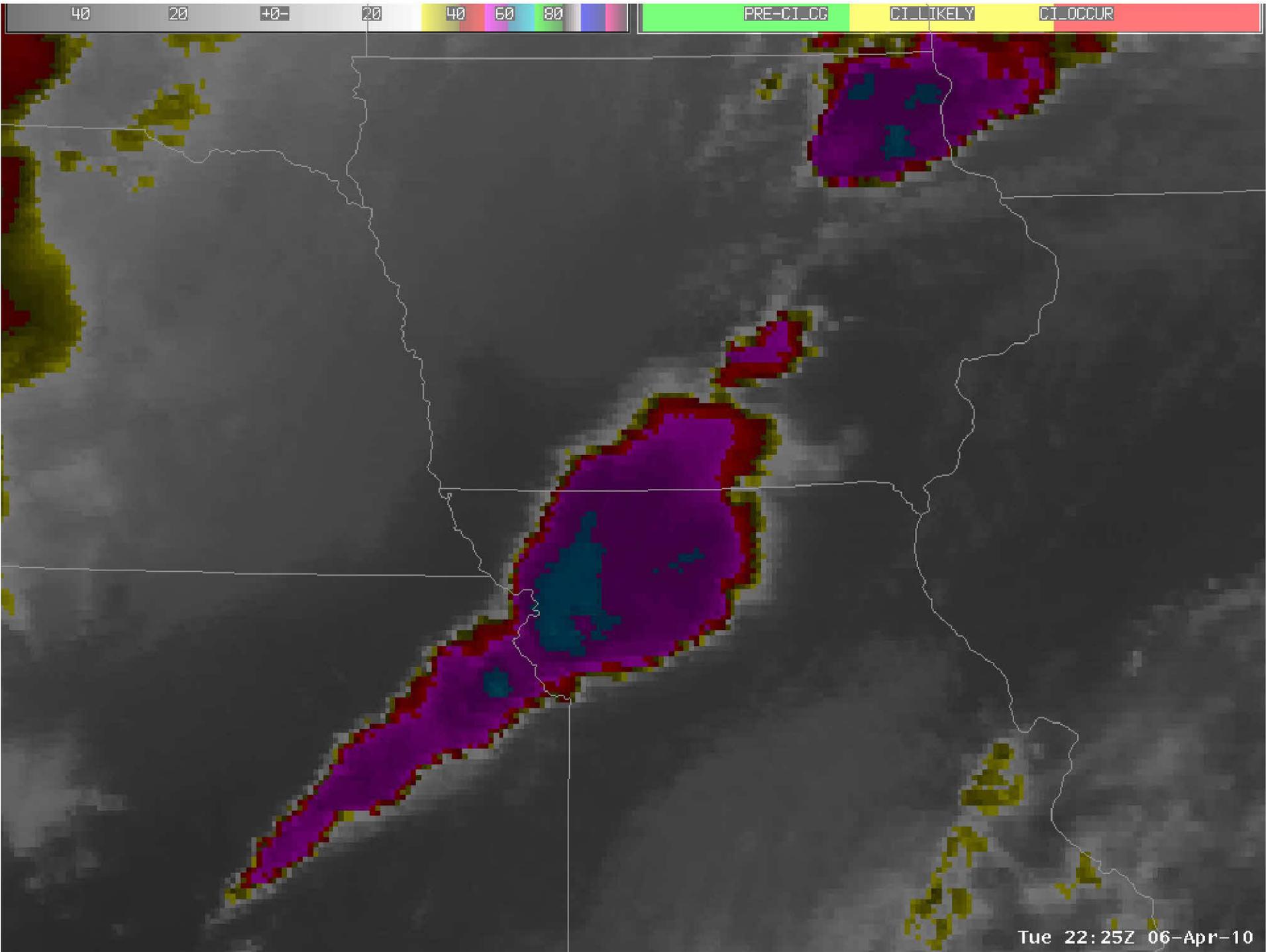


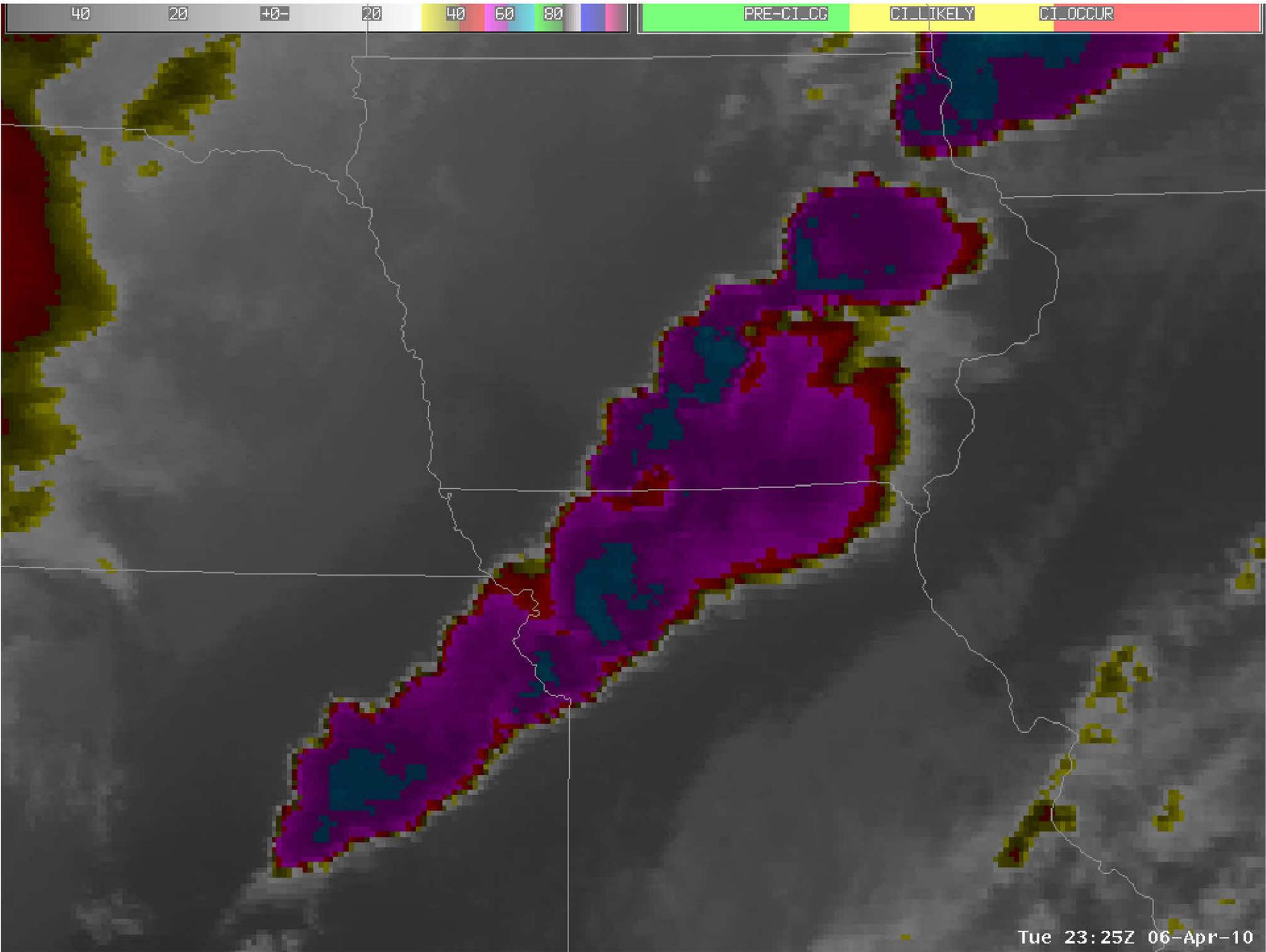




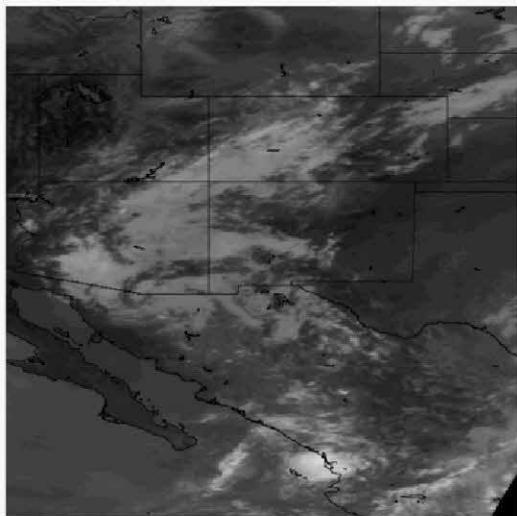






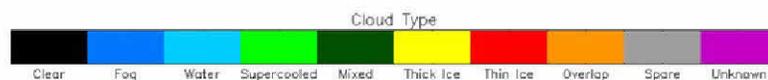
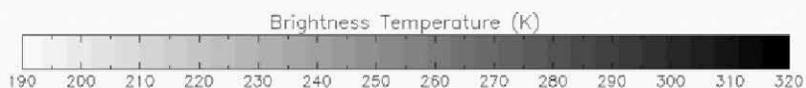
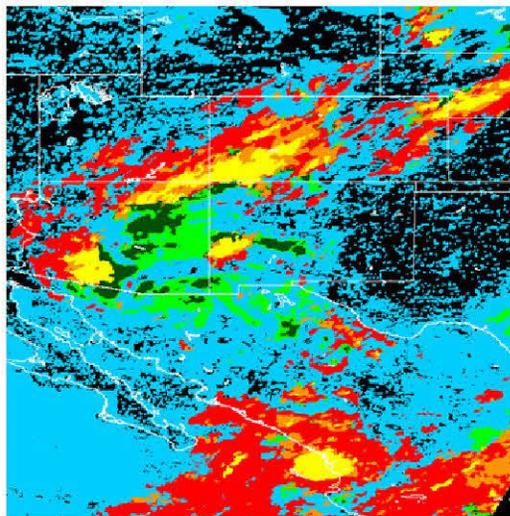


GOES-11 4km IRW: July 22, 2010 1715 UTC

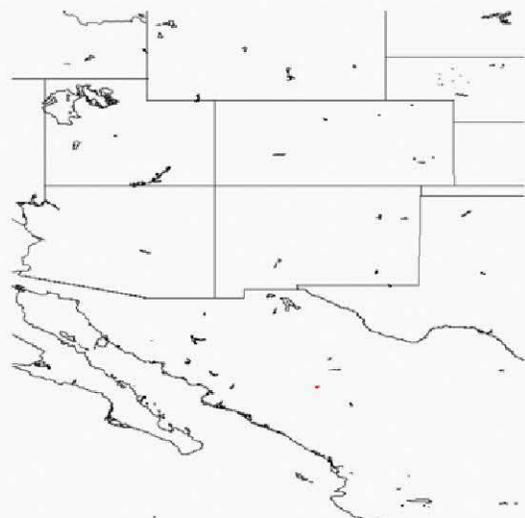


GOES-11 Capable

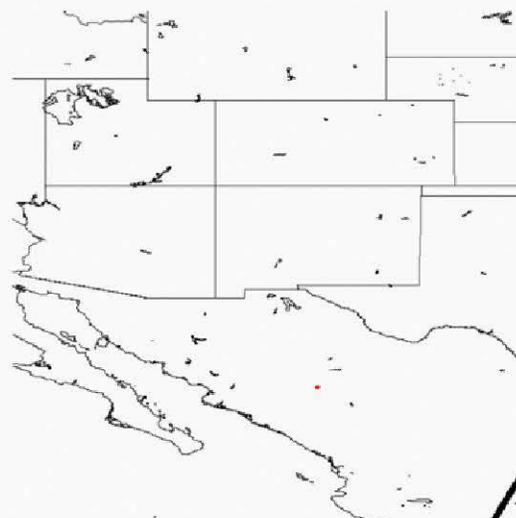
Cloud Type: July 22, 2010 1715 UTC



Box Avg Cloud Top Cooling: July 22, 2010 1715 UTC



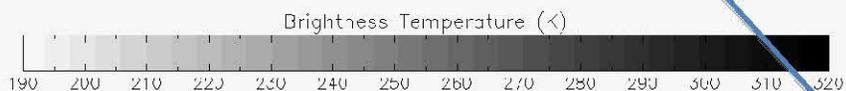
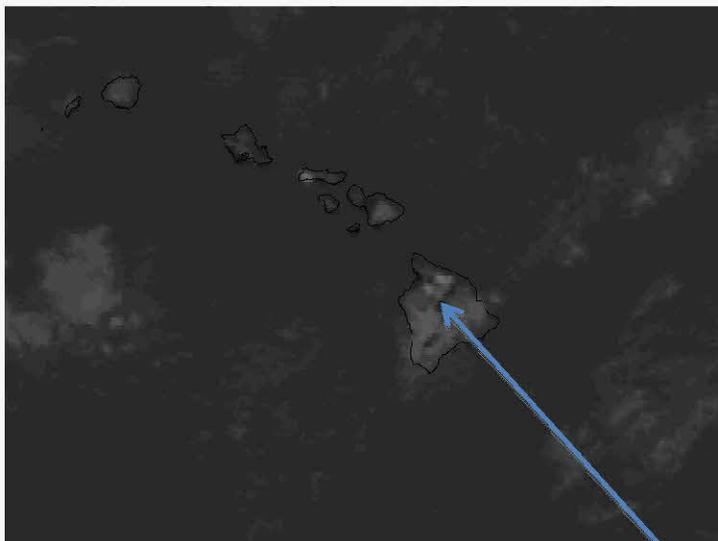
Convective Initiation: July 22, 2010 1715 UTC



# GOES-11 Imager UWCI Support for Hawaii

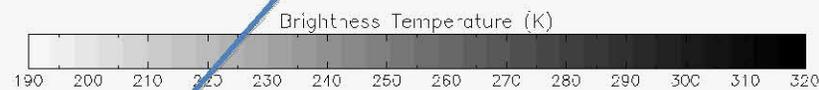
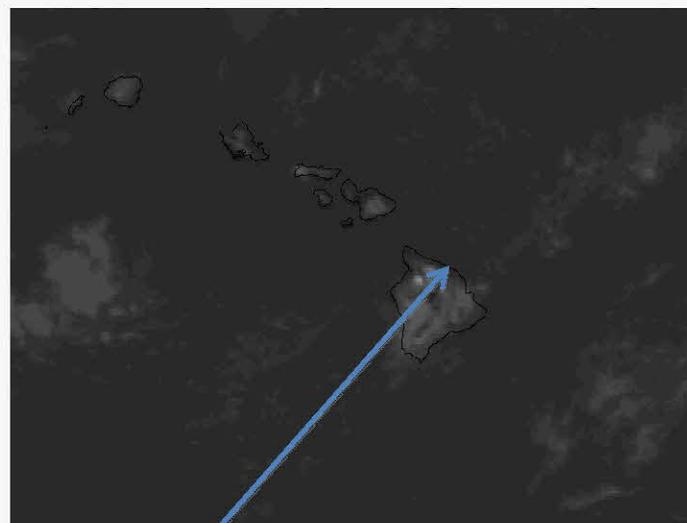
2200 UTC

GOES-11 4km IRW: April 26, 2008 2200 UTC



2215 UTC

GOES-11 4km IRW: April 26, 2008 2215 UTC

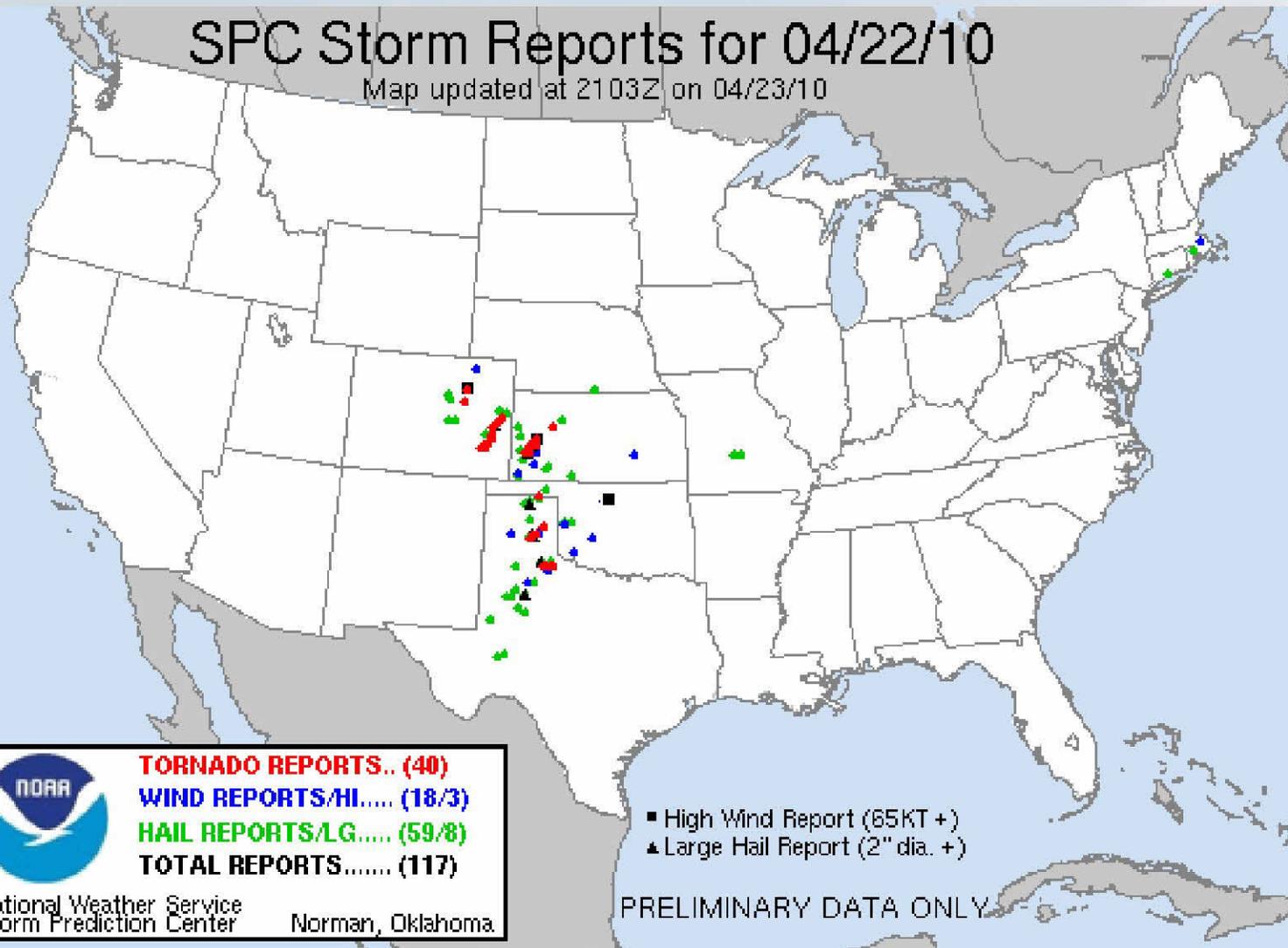


April



# SPC Storm Reports for 04/22/10

Map updated at 2103Z on 04/23/10



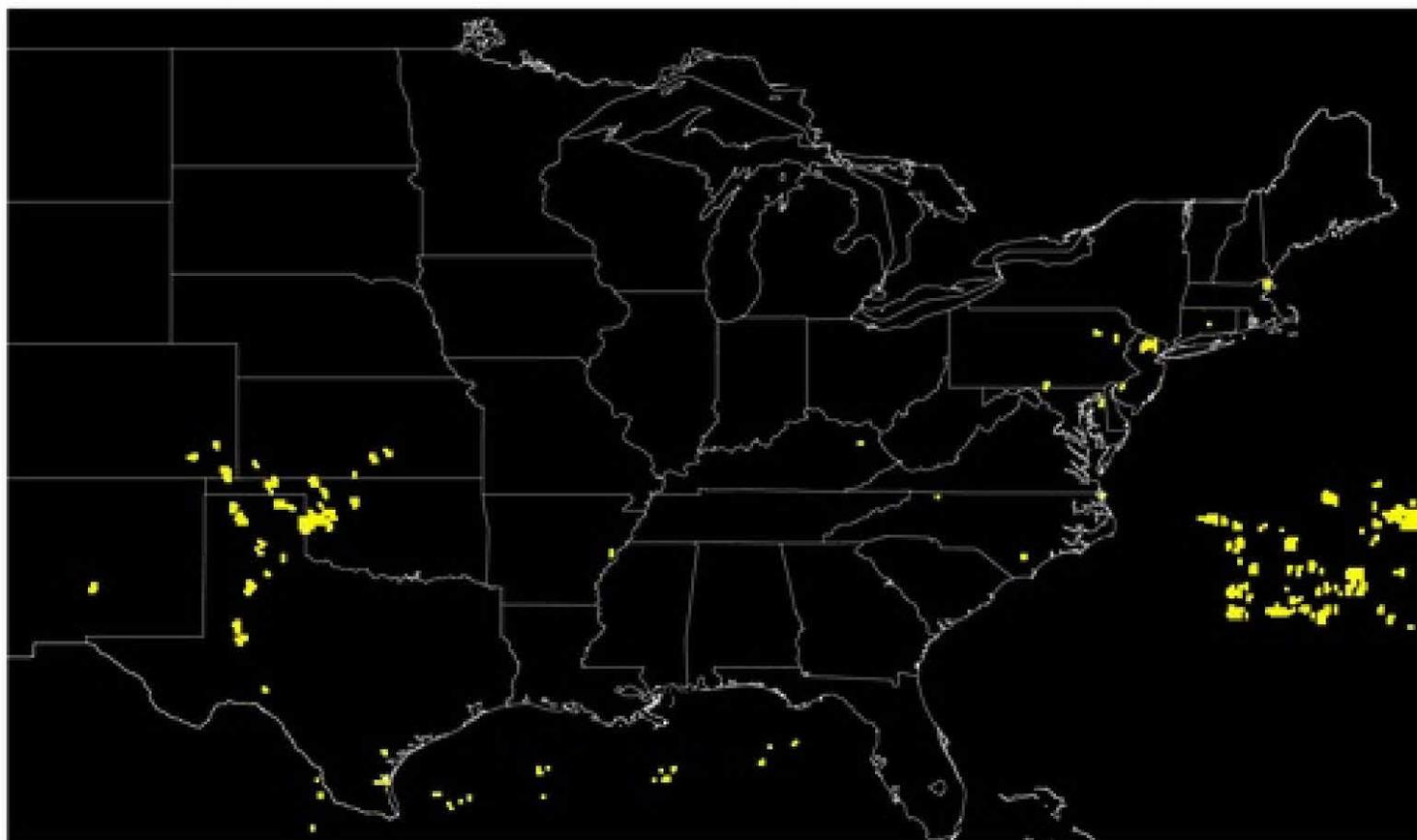
**TORNADO REPORTS.. (40)**  
**WIND REPORTS/HI..... (18/3)**  
**HAIL REPORTS/LG..... (59/8)**  
**TOTAL REPORTS..... (117)**

National Weather Service  
Storm Prediction Center      Norman, Oklahoma

■ High Wind Report (65KT +)  
▲ Large Hail Report (2" dia. +)

PRELIMINARY DATA ONLY

24-hour CI valid from  
20100422 1200 UTC to 20100423 1200 UTC



# Current Status UWCI

- UWCI are available in GRIB2 format -> AWIPS, N-AWIPS, AWIPS-II, McIDAS-V, GEMPAK, and other visualization software.
- Training is provided via Visitview module and web based sessions
- Transition to GOES West processing in ongoing
- Evaluations at: SPC, AWC, MKX WFO, CRH
- Algorithm peer reviewed paper has been accepted for publication and further information is available at:

[http://cimss.ssec.wisc.edu/goes\\_r/proving-ground/SPC/SPC.html](http://cimss.ssec.wisc.edu/goes_r/proving-ground/SPC/SPC.html)

# UWCI Conclusions

- Algorithm considers both cloud-top temperature changes and cloud type changes
- Works day and night
- Lead time of up 45 minutes before 35 dbZ echoes is common
- Several checks to minimize false alarms:  
When CI says convection is initiating, it usually is (POD: 55.6%; FAR: 26.0%)

# CI Conclusions

Nowcast forecasts more than half the storms that develop

- Lead time is comm
- Several checks to minimize false alarms. When CI says convection is initiating, it usually is (POD: 55.6%; FAR: 26.0%)

Forecaster can trust that 3 out of 4 forecasts verifies

# CI Conclusions

Nowcast forecasts more than half the storms that develop

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Stats are from UWCI nowcasts and newly-developing CG-producing storms occurring within SLGT (or greater) RSK boxes for 23 convective afternoons (1800 – 0000 UTC) in Spring/Summer 2008 and 2009. CI nowcasts: 288; LI events: 260. Includes clear sky days when POD is very high and cirrus-filled days when POD is low.

# More information on UWCI

- Satellite blog:  
<http://cimss.ssec.wisc.edu/goes/blog>  
(check on the 'Convective initiation' category)
- Strengths and weaknesses are discussed at  
[http://cimss.ssec.wisc.edu/goes\\_r/proving-ground/GOES\\_CINowcast.htm](http://cimss.ssec.wisc.edu/goes_r/proving-ground/GOES_CINowcast.htm)
  - Ice clouds and rapidly moving clouds cause problems
  - 30-minute step between imagery? Detection drops

# Source of Confusion: More than one CI algorithm exists!

- CI from UAH (SatCast)
  - Daytime Only
  - Uses pixel-based mesoscale Atmospheric Motion Vectors
  - Uses multispectral GOES IR data
  - Computationally intense (esp. to compute vectors)
  - Being extended via object tracking

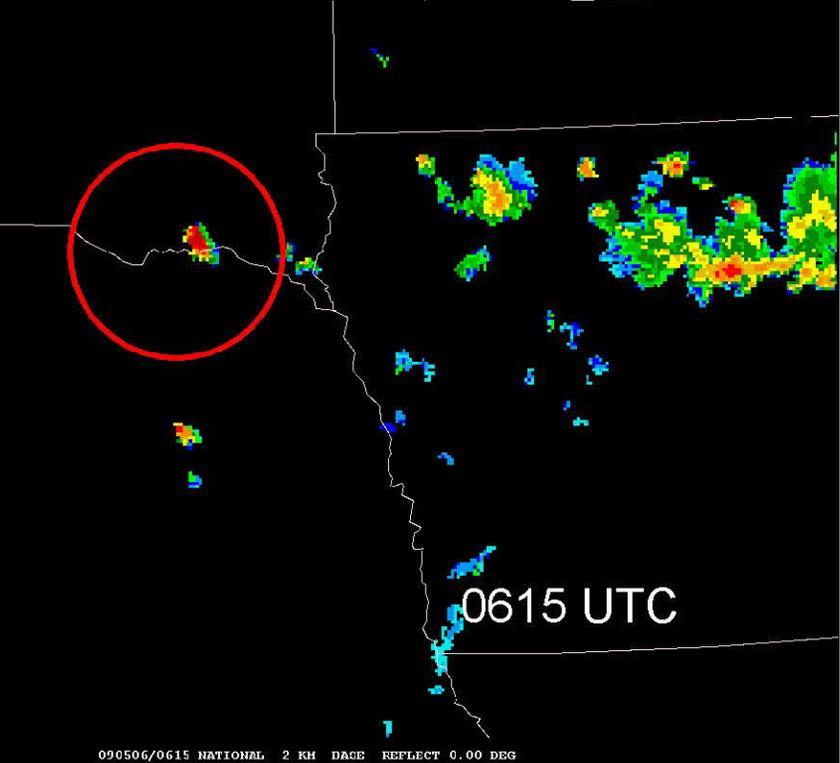
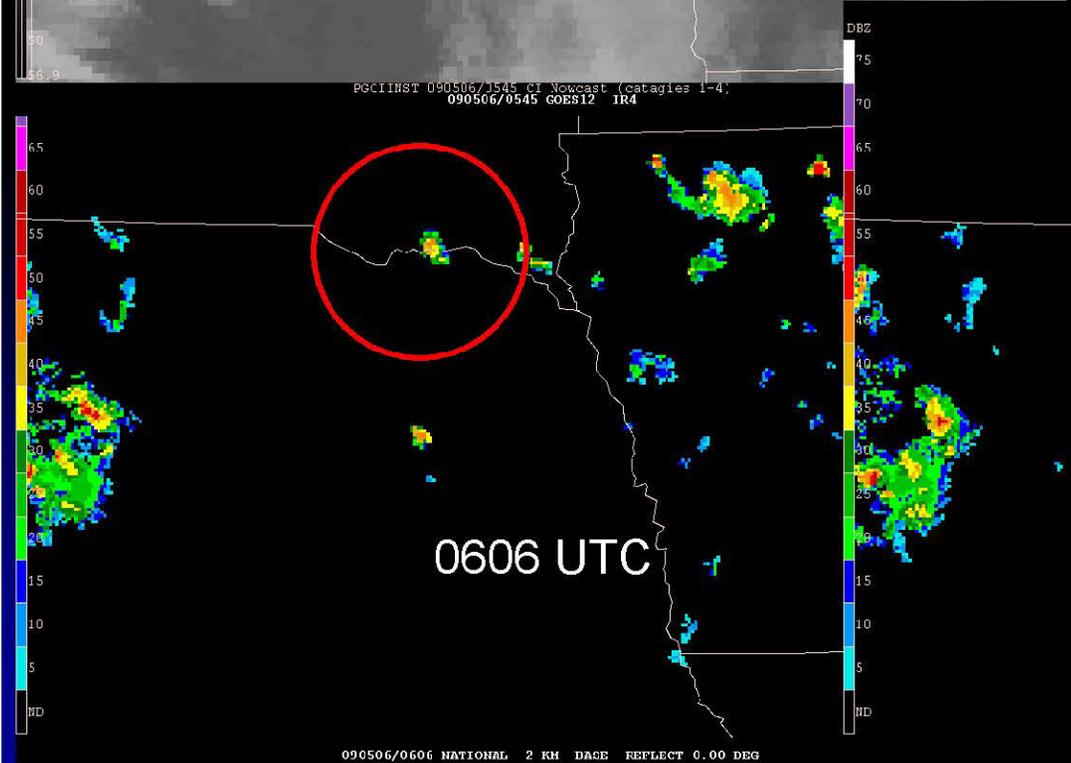
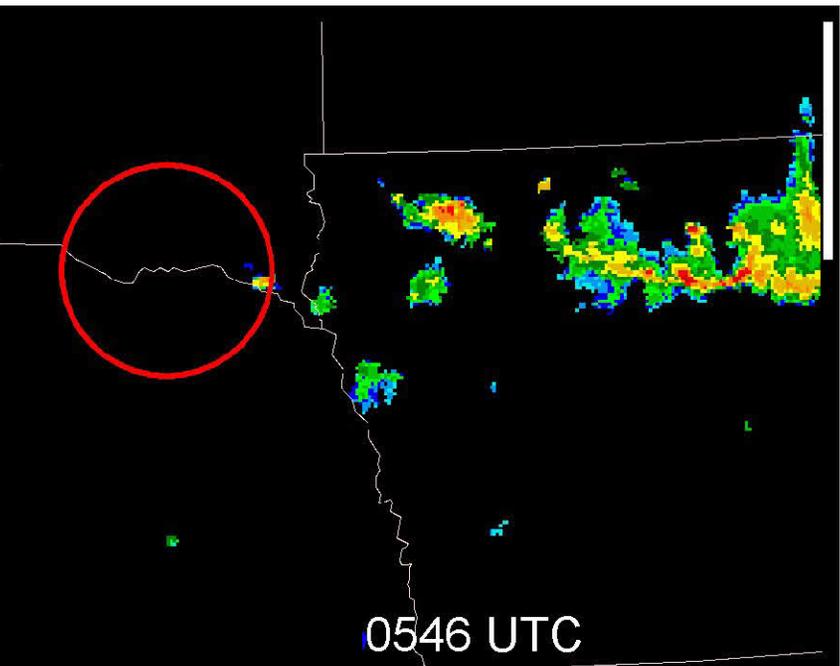
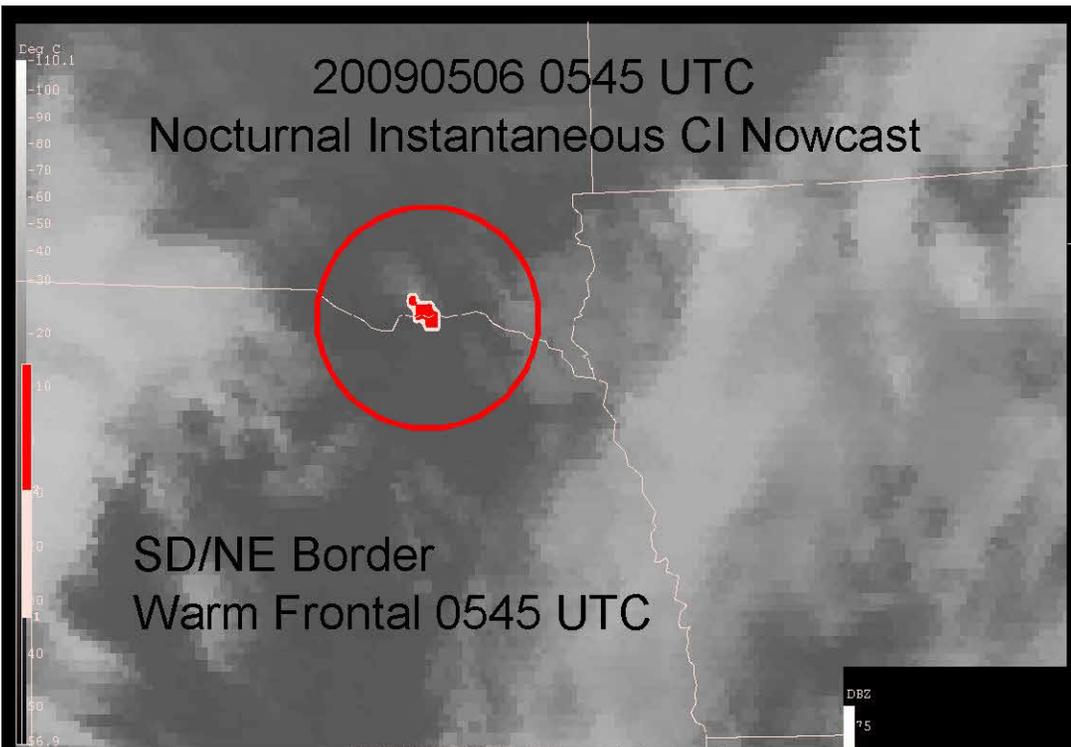
# Source of Confusion: More than one CI algorithm exists!

- CI from CIMSS

- 24-hour coverage
- Uses cloud-typing algorithm to detect phase changes
- Uses multispectral GOES IR data
- Not computational intensive

- CI from UAH (SatCast)

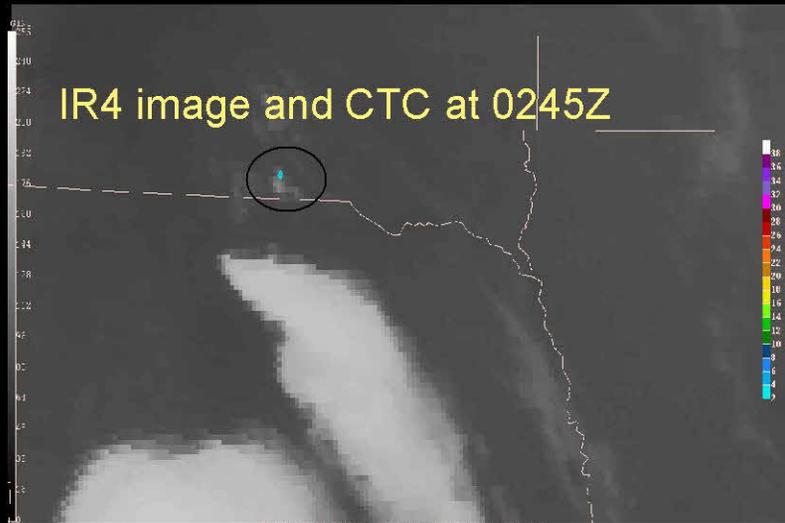
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# Nebraska 090724: Nocturnal Case

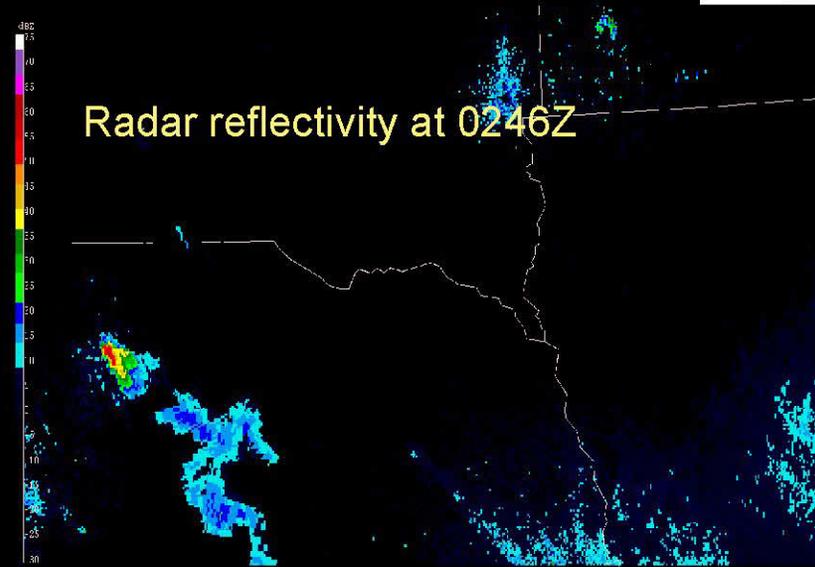


IR4 image and CTC at 0245Z



090724/0245 CTC8 Cloud Top Cooling 0711-mmm  
090724/0245 006312 IR4

Radar reflectivity at 0246Z



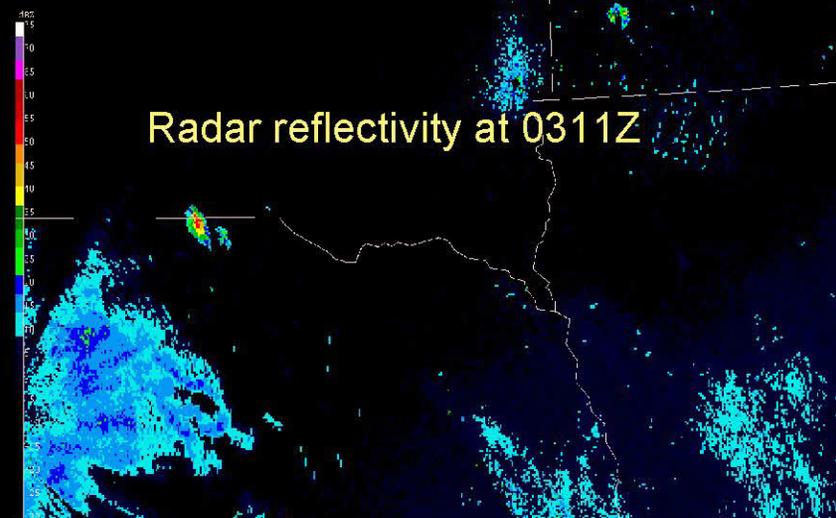
090724/0246 RADAR 00W

IR4 image and CTC at 0315Z



090724/0315 CTC8 Cloud Top Cooling 0711-mmm  
090724/0315 006312 IR4

Radar reflectivity at 0311Z



090724/0311 RADAR 00W