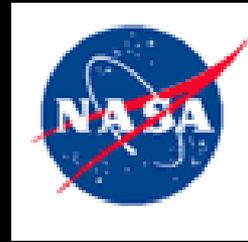


**STAR** Center for Satellite  
Applications and Research  
formerly ORA — Office of Research and Applications



# Advancements toward Fused Satellite, Radar, NWP, and in-situ Aviation Weather Decision Support

Wayne F. Feltz, Tony Wimmers, John Williams<sup>#</sup>, Robert Sharman<sup>#</sup>, Haig Iskenderian<sup>\*</sup>, Bill Smith Jr.<sup>^</sup>, John Mecikalski<sup>+</sup>, Valliappa Lakshmanan<sup>@</sup>, and numerous other UW-CIMSS contributors

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<sup>#</sup>NCAR/UCAR, Boulder, CO

<sup>\*</sup>MIT/Lincoln Labs, Boston, MA

<sup>^</sup>NASA LaRC, Hampton, VA

<sup>+</sup>University of Alabama, Huntsville, AL

<sup>@</sup>University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK

# Satellite-based Decision Support Fusion Overview

- New satellite-based hazardous weather decision support advancements
  - Current and Future NOAA Operational Testbed Activities
  - Fusion Pathways
  - Conclusions
- 

# 2010-2012 GOES-R Warning Product Set

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The following list of products offers opportunity for near-real time Warning Related utility within various fusion pathways:

## Baseline Products:

Volcanic Ash: detection & Height

Cloud and Moisture Imagery

Hurricane Intensity

Lightning Detection: Events, Groups & Flashes

Rainfall Rate / QPE

Total Precipitable Water

Fire/Hot Spot Characterization

Cloud phase/temperature/height/snow discrimination

## Option 2 Products:

Aircraft Icing Threat

Convective Initiation

Turbulence

Enhanced "V" / Overshooting Top Detection

Low Cloud and Fog

SO<sub>2</sub> Detection

# Satellite PG Testbed Demonstrations

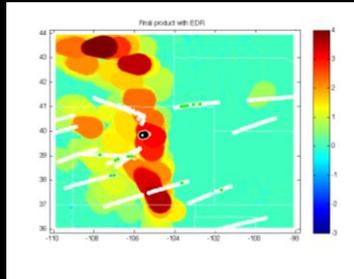
- HWT Spring Experiment at SPC/NSSL (2009 - )
- Aviation Weather Center (2011 - )
- Ocean Prediction Center/Hydrological Prediction Center and NESDIS Satellite Analysis Branch (2011 - )
- Pacific Region Demonstration (2011 - )
- Hurricane testbed (2010 - )
- High Latitude Testbed and Alaska Region (2010 - )
- NWS Operational Testbed (TBD, John Ogren)
- Local WFO Demonstrations
- Future field campaigns (DC3, Brazil Precipitation, ...)

# Weather Decision Support Fusion Occurs at Multiple Levels

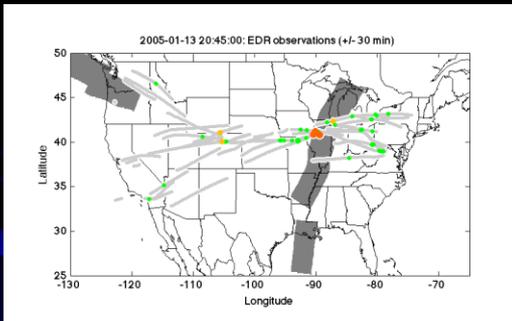
- Satellite decision support primarily not “stand-alone”, transition from GOES-R option 2
- Algorithm developers – NWP/in-situ used within satellite-based algorithms for turbulence, low cloud/fog, etc
- Subject matter multi-agency scientific experts – Satellite-based decision support flows to OU-CIMMS, MIT, and NCAR as additional input
- Operational forecasters – use AWIPS, N-AWIPS, and soon AWIPS-2 to fuse data

# Fusion pathway for satellite turbulence-based inference decision support in NOAA AWC and NextGen:

Mountain wave



Tropopause folding



Overshooting Top



GTG-N → NextGen 4D cube  
(NCAR Sharman/Williams PI)

Future, in development

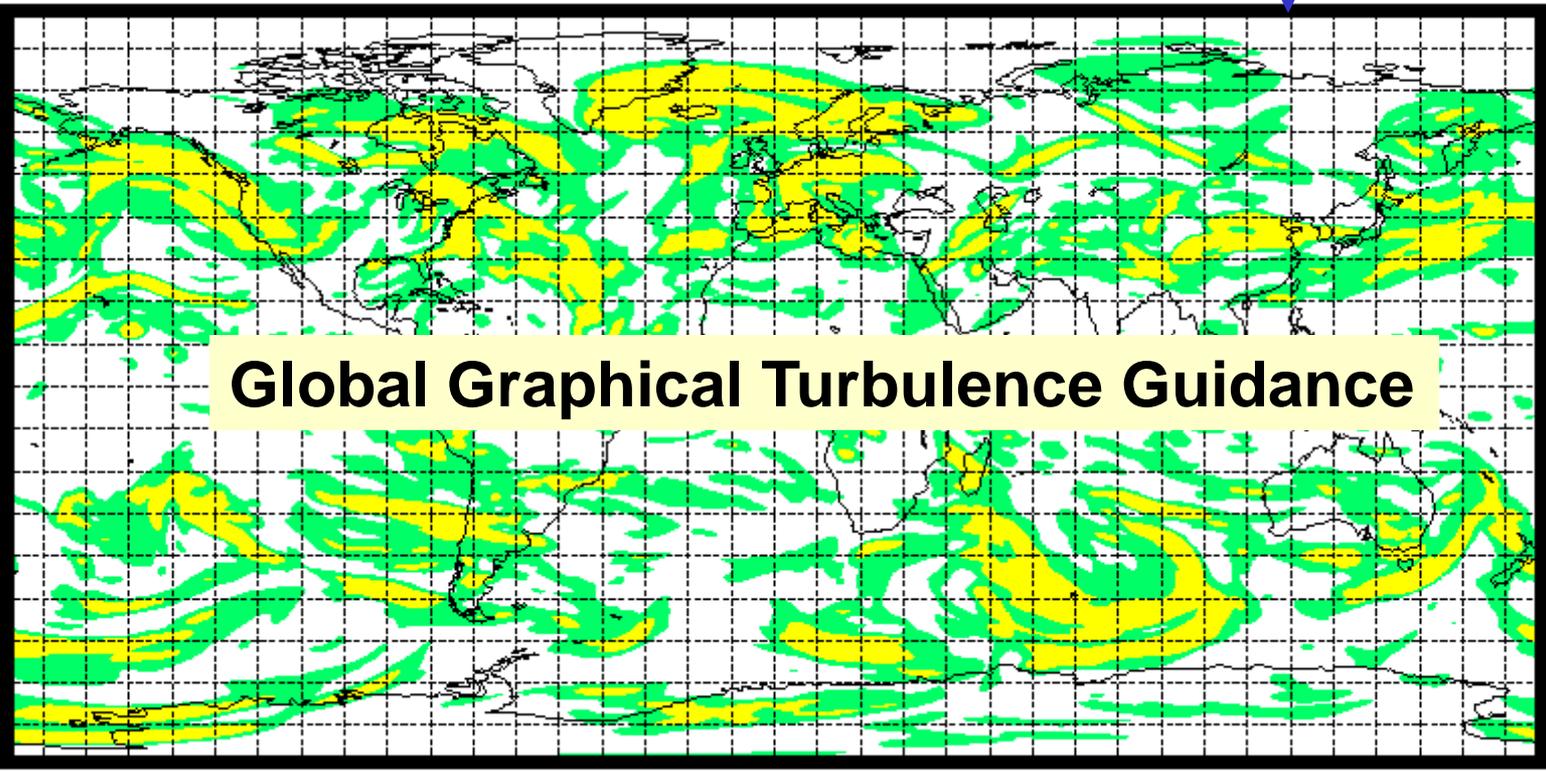
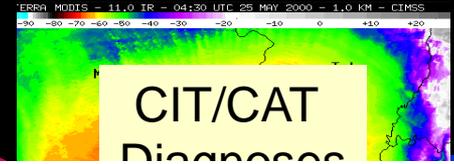
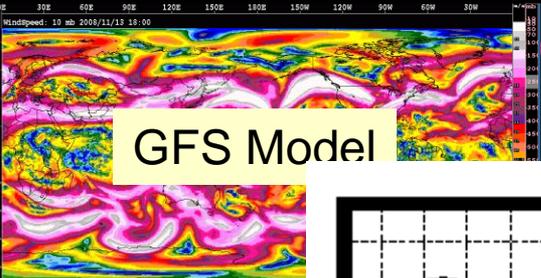
Rapid Anvil,  
Transverse banding  
Cloud top cooling

# Flow Chart for Global GTG



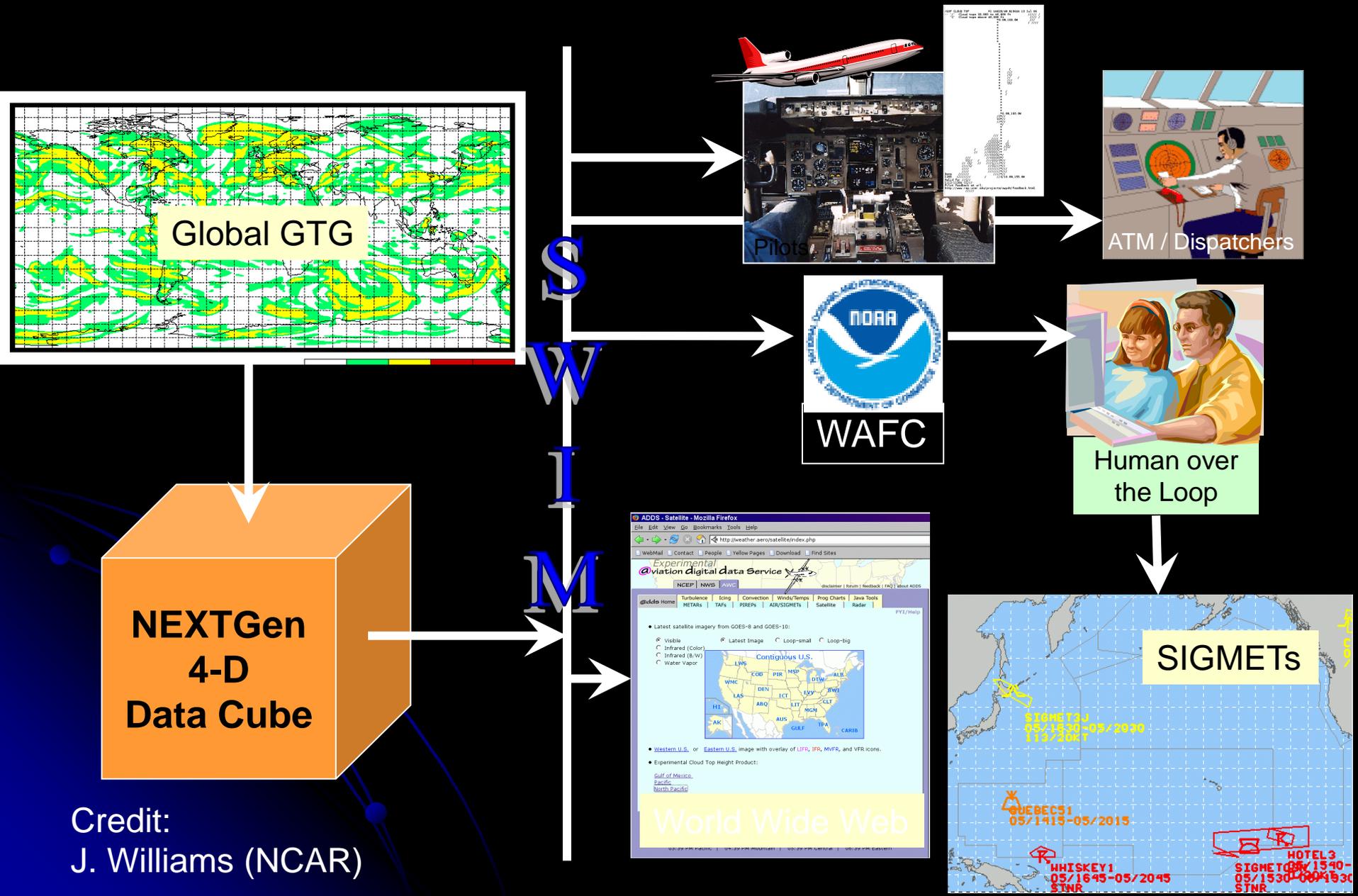
Credit:  
J. Williams (NCAR)

**Integration**





# Future NEXGen Use of Global GTG



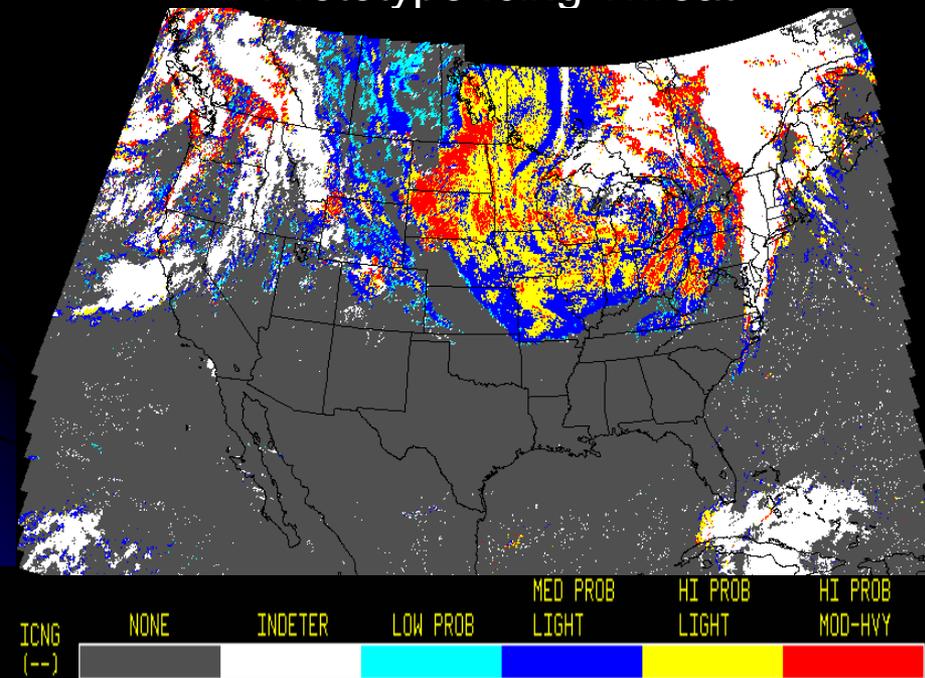
Credit:  
J. Williams (NCAR)

# GOES-R FIT Algorithm Demonstration

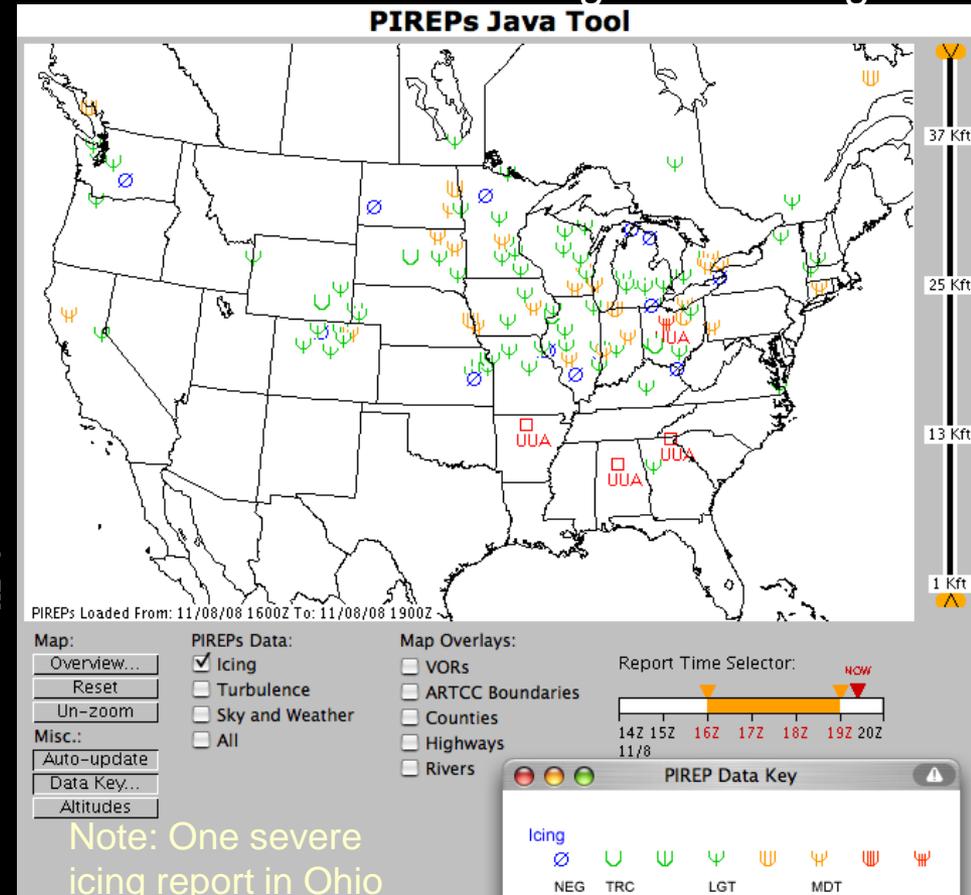
## Icing Severity from Current GOES

Nov. 8, 2008 (1745 UTC)

Prototype Icing Threat



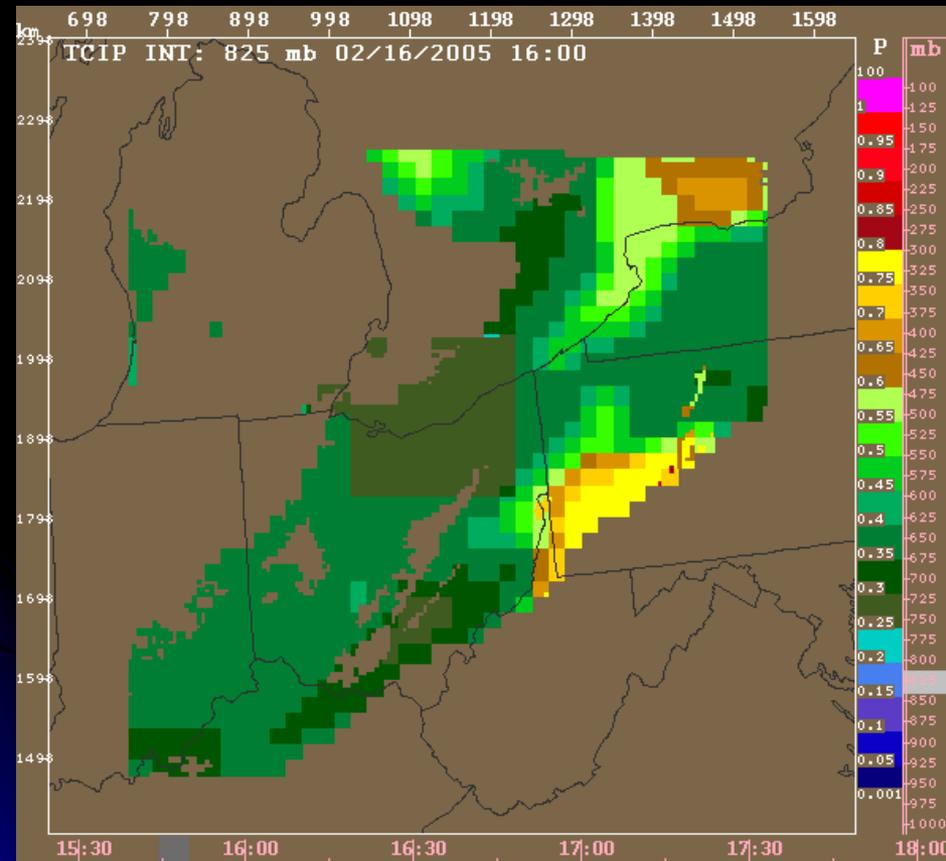
PIREPS confirm significant icing



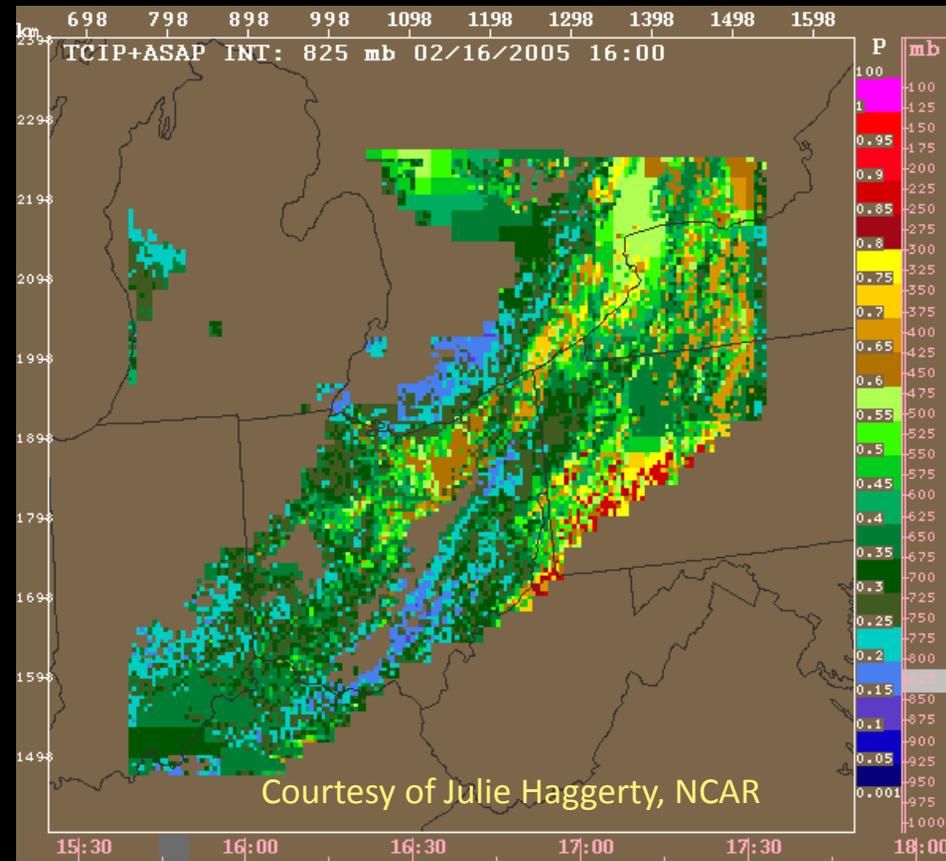
Credit:  
W. Smith Jr. (NASA LaRC)

# GOES Cloud Product Fusion Test with FAA-NCAR Current Icing Potential (CIP) Product

## CIP without Satellite Products



## CIP with Satellite Cloud Water Path

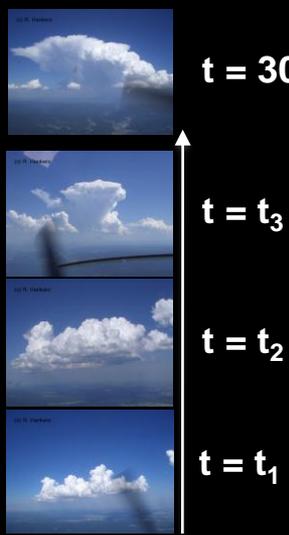
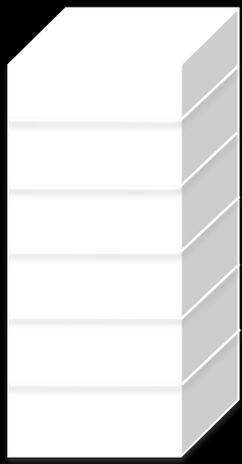


Credit:

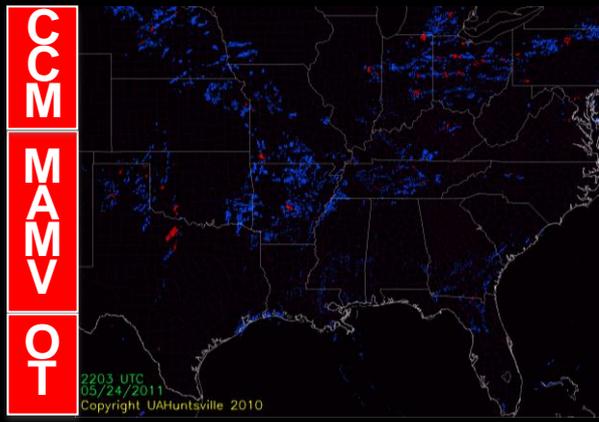
W. Smith Jr. (NASA LaRC)

- Warmer colors imply higher icing potential
- Better definition of the field gives more options to pilots!
- Results validated against research aircraft flights from NASA GRC
- Improved CIP is on pathway to AWC and NextGen (M. Polotivitch)

Today



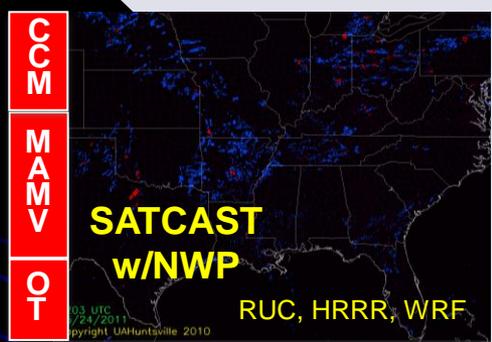
### SATCAST 0-1 hr Nowcast



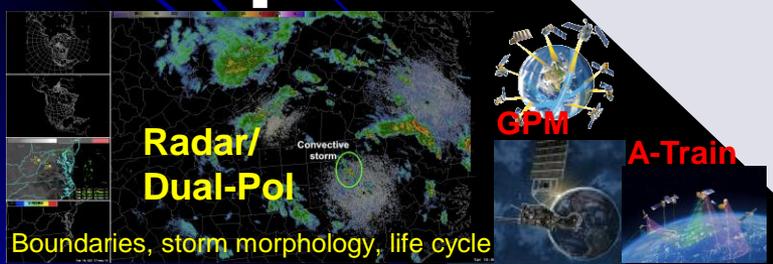
SATCAST is a satellite product, yet is constrained by NWP/RUC CAPE to limit CI Nowcasts to where there is instability

### Data Fusion:

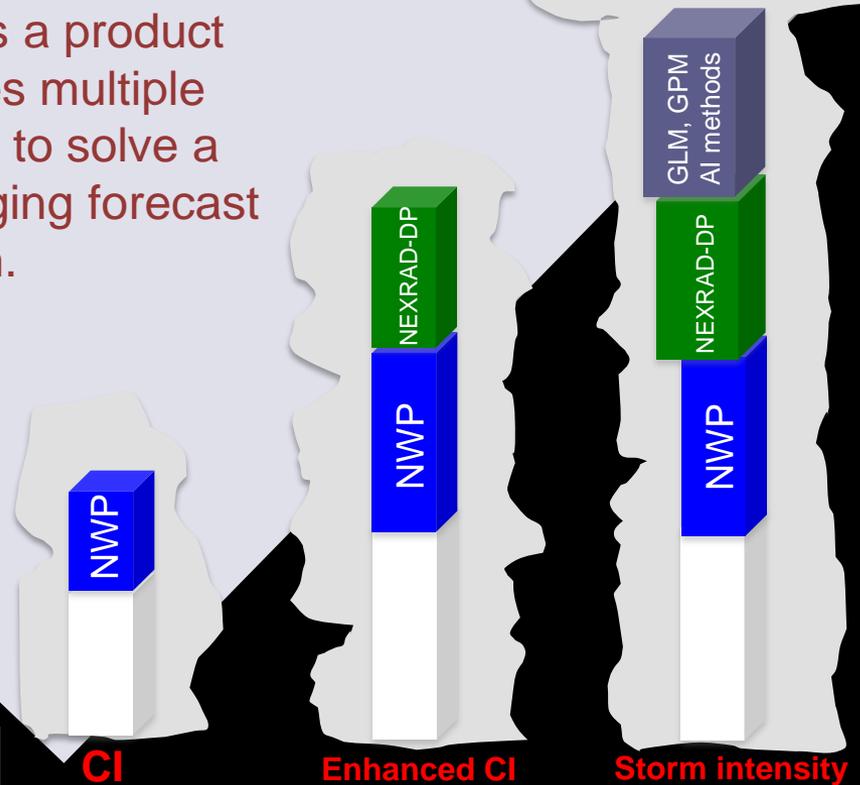
Towards a product that uses multiple sensors to solve a challenging forecast problem.



+



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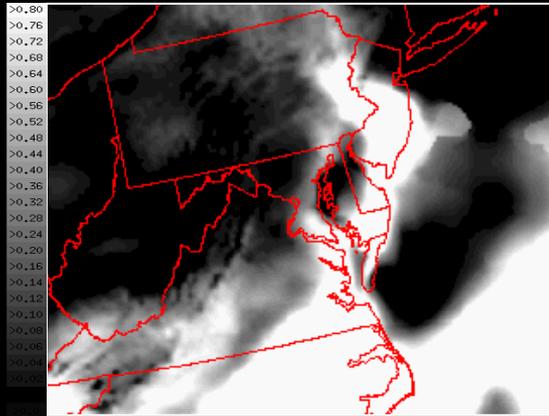
21 Sept 2011

Where we are headed...

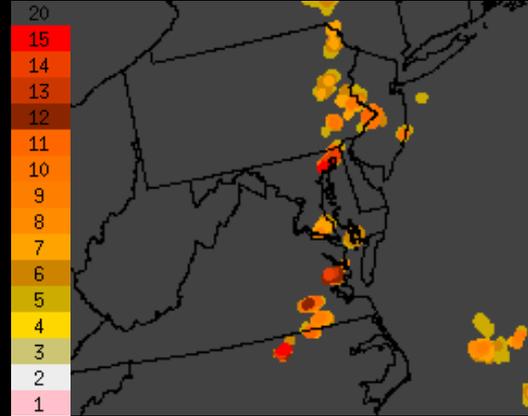
# Fusion of Satellite, Radar, and NWP Data for Convective Initiation Forecasts in the FAA's CIWS System

## Fuzzy Logic CI Nowcast Model

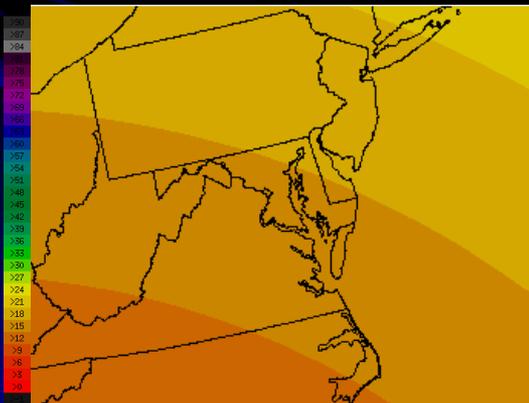
RUC/STMAS Instability



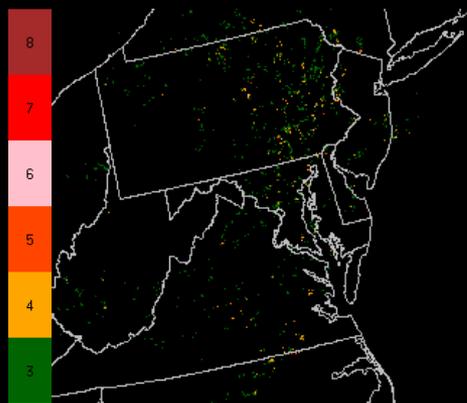
NEXRAD Radar Growth



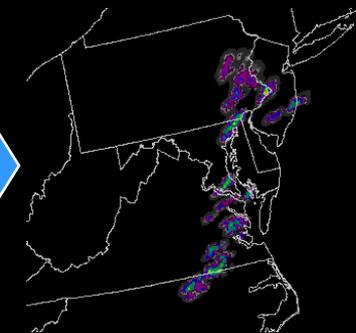
GOES Solar Angle



# of SATCAST CI Indicators



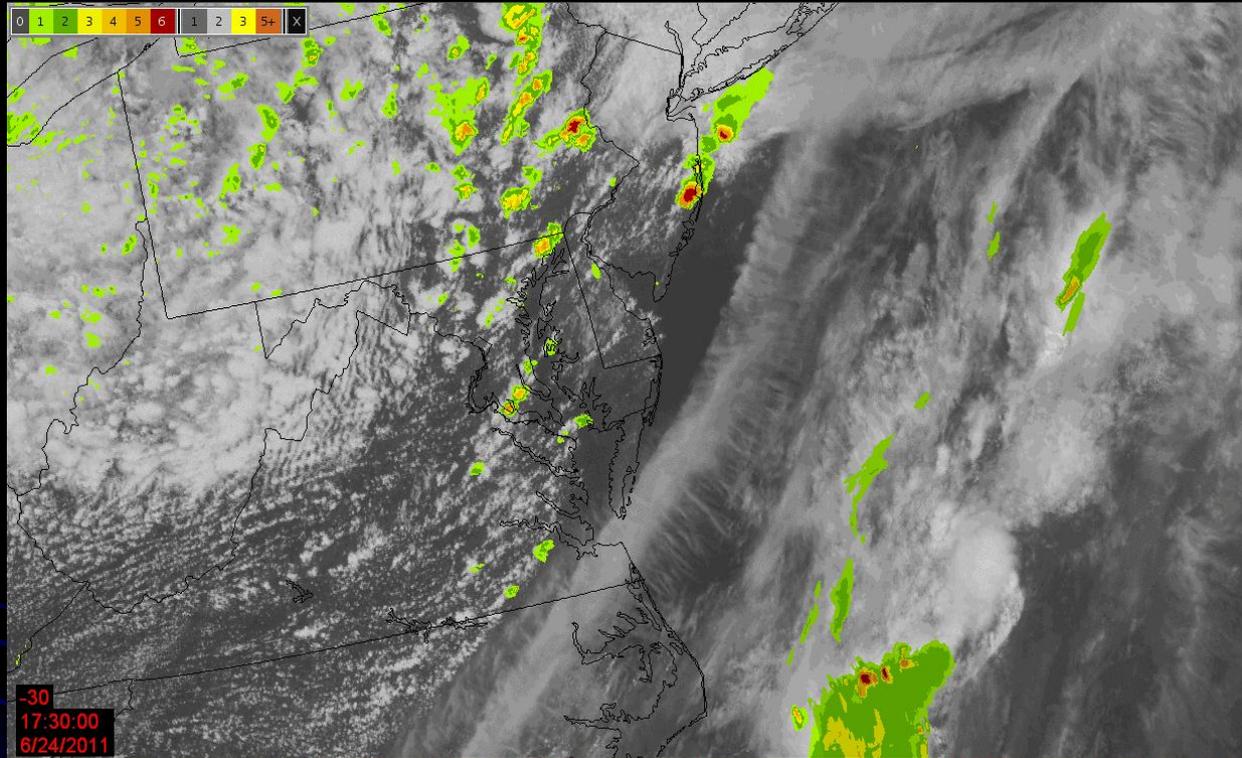
CI Interest



CIWS Forecast Engine

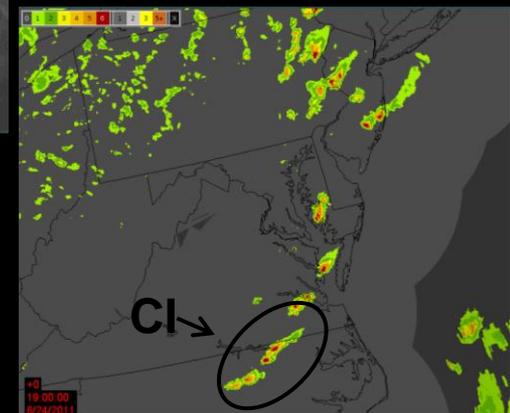
Credit: Haig Iskenderian MIT Lincoln Laboratory

# CIWS 1 Hour Convective Initiation Forecast



24 June 2011

1 Hour Truth



Credit: Haig Iskenderian MIT Lincoln Laboratory

# Satellite-based Object Tracking

## Motivation – Why?

### WDSS-II – OU-CIMMS/UW-CIMSS

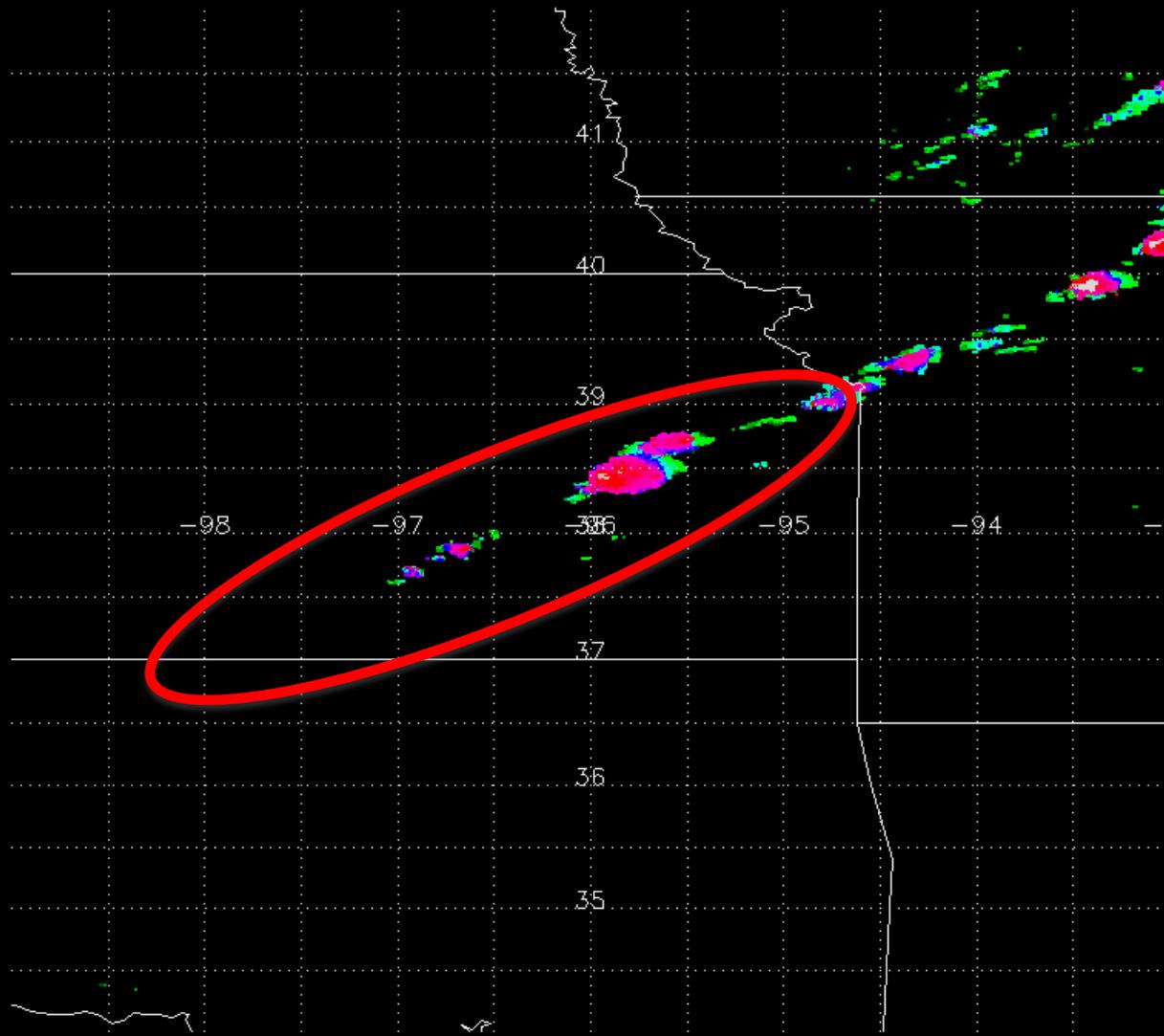
1) As a validation tool (Satellite-based convective decision support vs Radar)

2) Fusion of any number of data fields from any sensor type (satellite, satellite algorithm output, radar, lightning, NWP model, surface and upper air observations, etc.) into a single framework for 0-1 hour nowcasting relationships

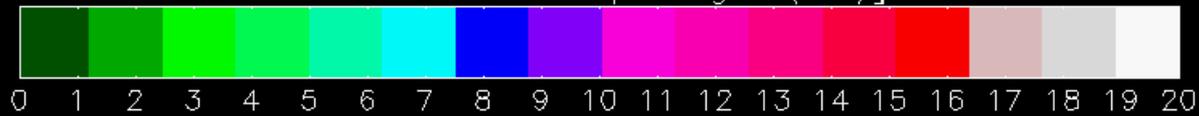
All these quantities are used in cloud object space, not single pixel space, allowing for easy monitoring of temporal as well as spatial trends

- A continuously (not discrete) changing field is key, in this case: Top of Troposphere Cloud Emissivity (Pavolonis, 2010)

# 30 dBZ Echo Top Height:20090513-2216



30 dBZ Echo Top Height (km)



# GOES R – Why are WFO forecasters excited?

- Ability to sync satellite, radar, lightning, profiler, and ASOS/mesonet observations every 5 minutes (regional with highest fidelity resolution data)
- Potential to change analysis standard (RTMA) from hourly to 5 minute by 2020? (Draft of NWS S&T Roadmap)



Credit: Jeff Craven SOO Milwaukee/Sullivan -WFO

# Satellite-based Future Capabilities Fusion Bottom-line

GOES-R/JPSS satellite-based weather decision support are or will be fused systematically at developmental, subject matter expert, and operational venues:

- Satellite-based future capability science team
- Turbulence (T. Wimmers CIMSS)
  - AWC/NextGen Graphical Turbulence Guidance – N (John Williams/Bob Sharman NCAR/RAL PI)
- Icing (William Smith Jr NASA Langley)
  - Cloud Icing Product (Marcia Politovich NCAR/RAL PI)
- Convective initiation (J. Mecikalski UAH)
  - AWC/FAA/NextGen CoSPA (Haig Iskendarian MIT PI)
- National/Regional/ and WFO operational level

# Satellite-based Future Capabilities Fusion Bottom-line

- GOES-R algorithm development has fostered new decision support applications with current imager technology (expected launch of GOES-R in 2015) and new JPSS PG:
  - Convective Initiation, Overshooting-top, Volash, SO<sub>2</sub>, Fog/low cloud, Cloud typing, Fires
- Vested interest in fused satellite-based decision support products (AWG to Proving Ground connections)
- Very exciting interaction and process has shown new ways to uses Polar and Geostationary data fusion for NOAA decision support guidance and will occur at multiple stages within research to operations process



# NPP Launch

- JPSS will be particularly valuable over northern (Alaska) and polar regions where multiple overpasses should provide near geostationary-like capabilities and therefore compliment GOES-R
- VIIRS will provide low-light imaging capability, new uniform nadir to limb horizontal resolution and improved temporal latency, all important for aviation applications
- CrIS will provide an additional hyperspectral platform for monitoring atmospheric stability, flight level temperature for fuel conservation purposes, polar wind information, and improved high latitude volcanic ash monitor (US to China routes are expected to increase rapidly in the near future)

**Reference: National Polar-orbiting Operational Environmental Satellite System (NPOESS): New Capabilities for Supporting Aviation Applications, NASA Tech Report 2008, Wayne Feltz and David Johnson**