

2015 Pan/ParaPan Am Games: Environment Canada Science Showcase

David Sills

Cloud Physics and Severe Weather Research Section, Toronto, ON

Photo © J. Ponce



Environment
Canada

Environnement
Canada

GLOWW 25-27 Aug 2015, Grand Rapids, MI

Canada

Acknowledgments (Abridged!)

Norbert Driedger
Emma Hung
Dominique Brunet
Brian Greaves
Bill Chang
Bill Burrows
Helen Yang
Neil Taylor
Anna-Belle Filion
Ron Frenette
Joan Klaasen

Stephane Belair
Sylvie Leroyer
Paul Joe
Eva Mekis
Zen Mariani
Michael Harwood
Karen Haynes
Reno Sit
Rob Reed
Jason Iwachow
John MacPhee

Jeff Brook
Craig Stroud
Kathy Hayden
Janti Reid
Bob Crawford
Laura Huang
Sudesh Boodoo
Nathan Batten
Meghan Green
Daniel Liota
Ismail Gultepe



Outline

- Objectives
- Experimental Design
- Field Operations
- Next Gen Demo
- Summary



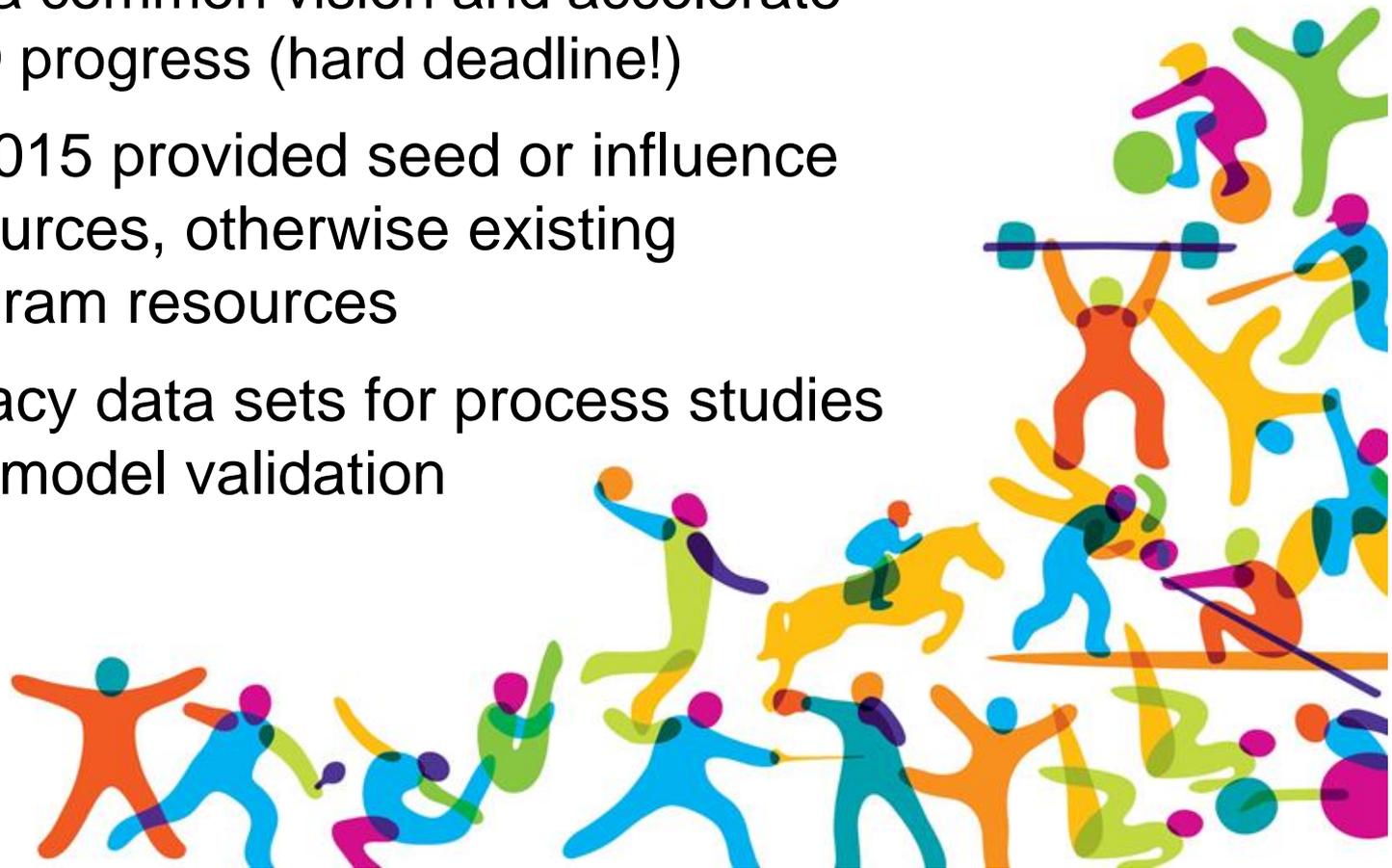
Canada



Pan American Games – July 10-26, 2015
Parapan American Games – August 7-15, 2015

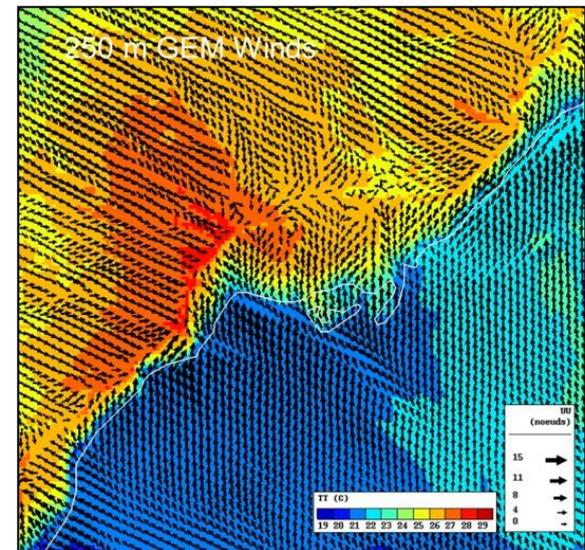
Objectives

- Opportunity to align existing programs into a common vision and accelerate R&D progress (hard deadline!)
- PA2015 provided seed or influence resources, otherwise existing program resources
- Legacy data sets for process studies and model validation



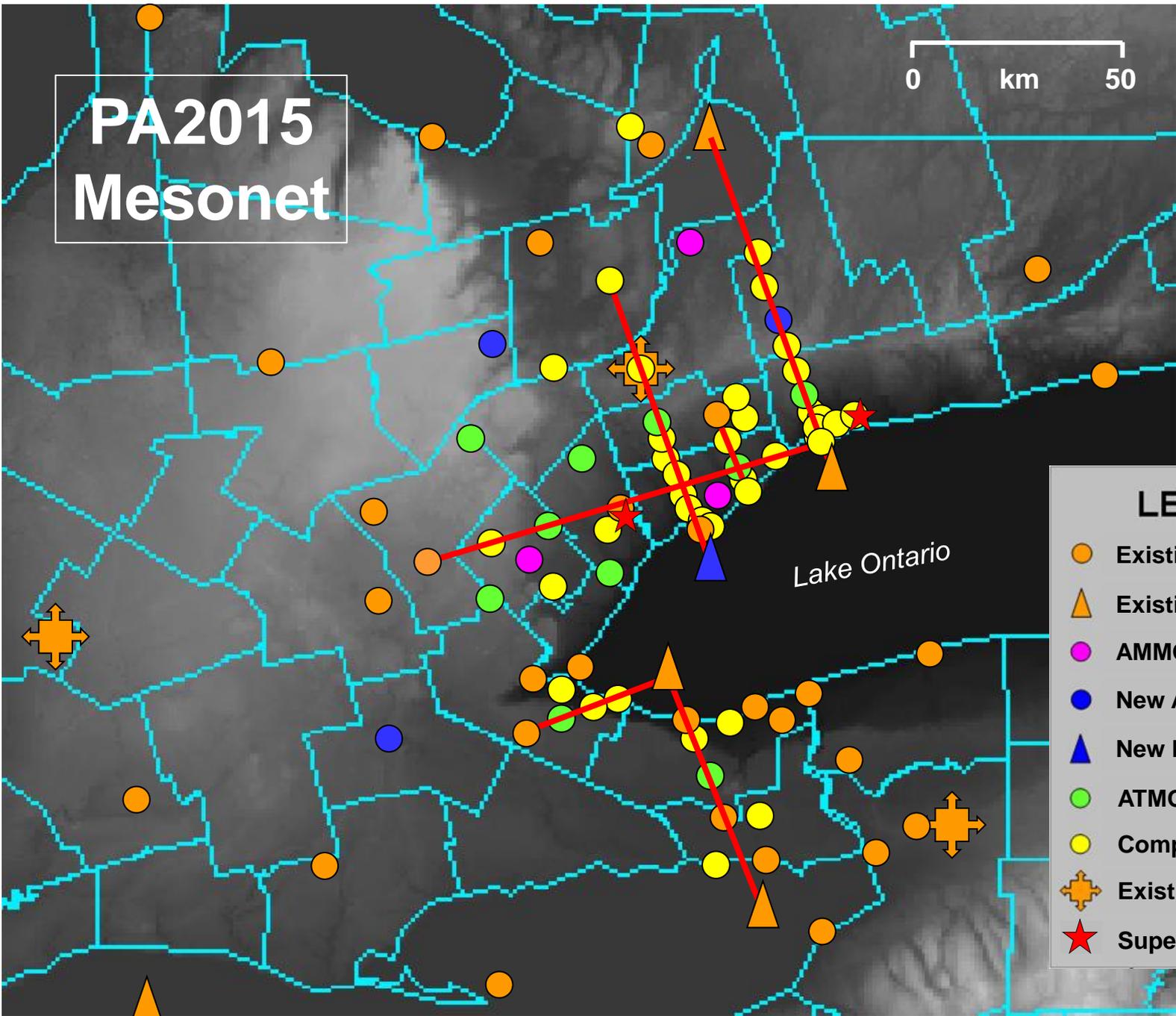
Experimental Design

- 55 new surface stations
- 3 mobile met/AQ vehicles
- 2 'supersites'
- 250 m urban GEM model
- 14 station LMA
- Upper-air RAOB site
- 1 mobile AQ lab
- 2 instrumented boats
- 4 UV sensors
- 1 Waverider buoy
- Doppler LIDAR / UAV testing
- ecpass.ca for data / blogging



PA2015 Mesonet

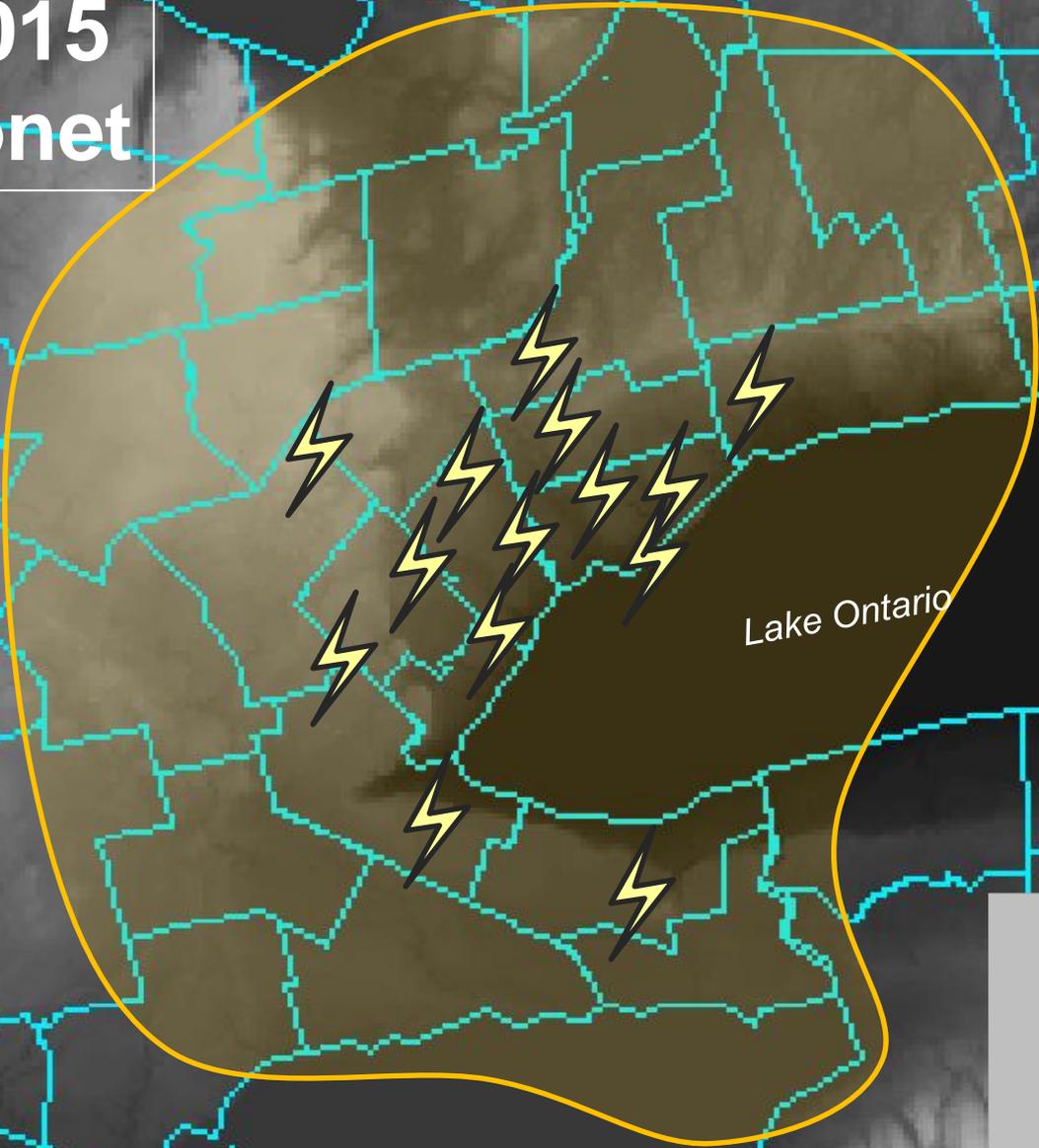
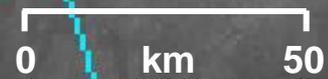
0 km 50



LEGEND

- Existing Sfc Stn
- Existing Buoy
- AMMOS Mobile Stn
- New Auto8 Stn
- New Buoy
- ATMOS 10m Sfc Stn
- Compact Sfc Stn
- Existing Radar
- Supersite

PA2015 Mesonet



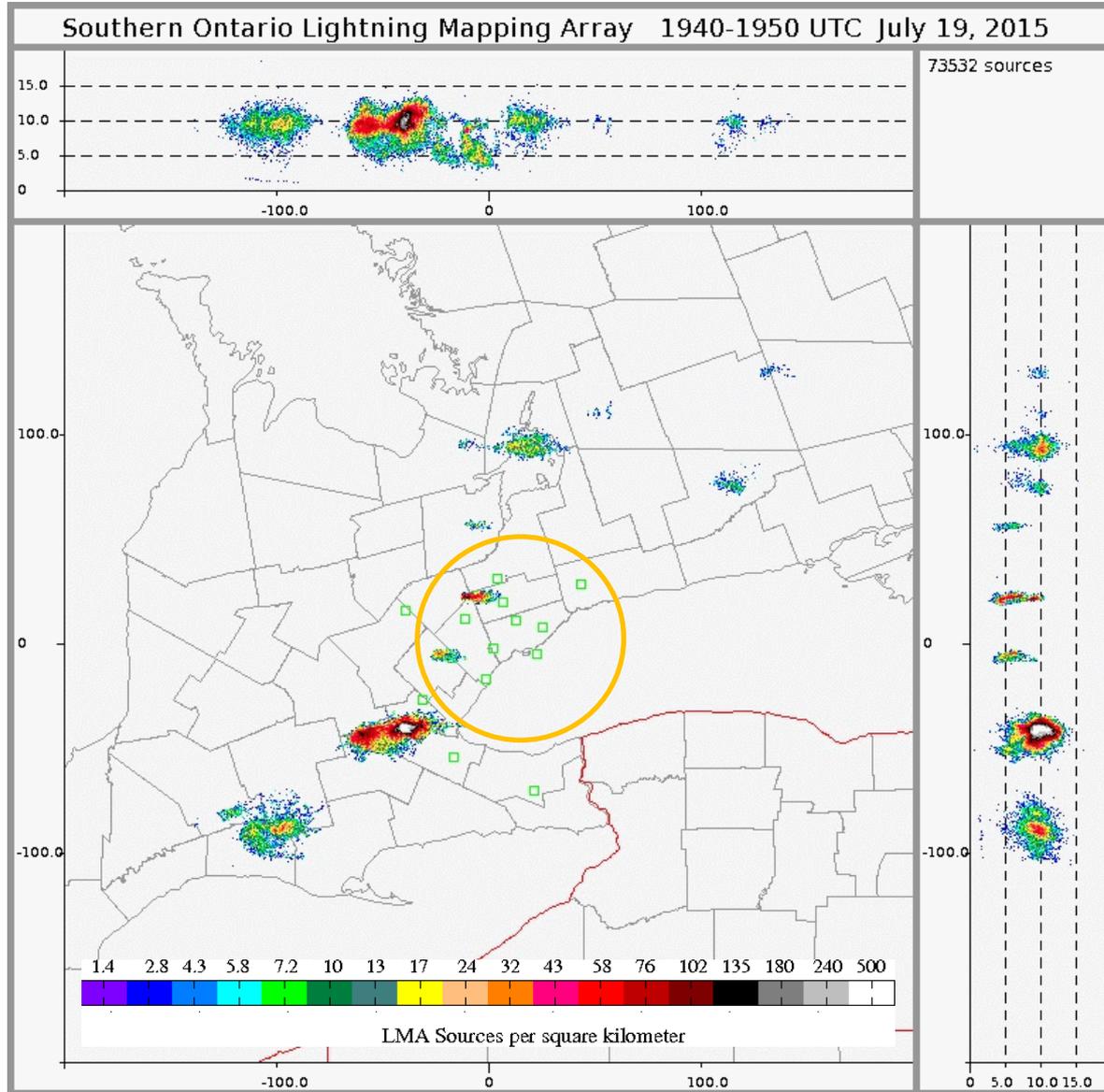
LEGEND

 LMA Station

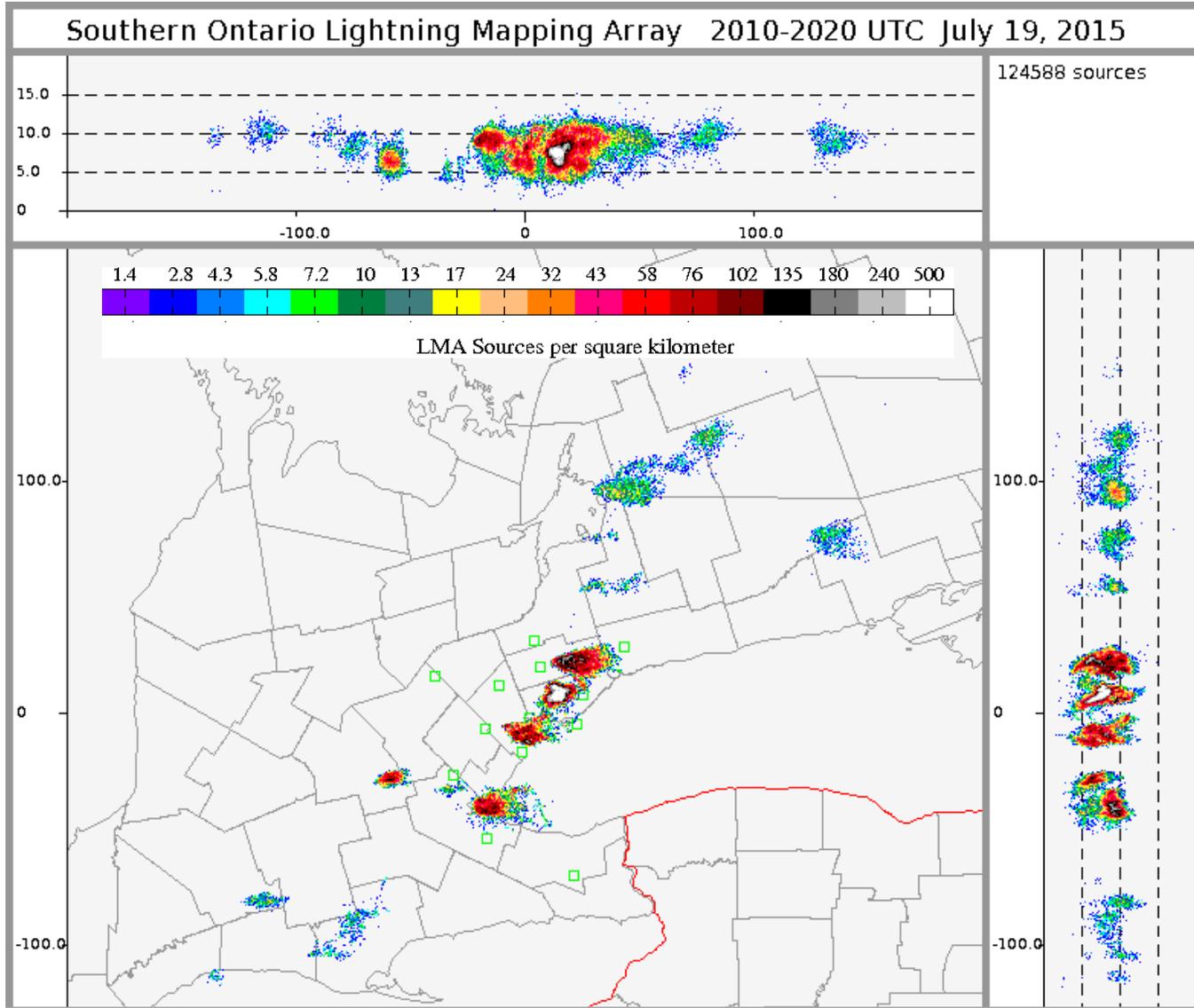
Field Operations - SOLMA

	SOLMA	CLDN
Observation Type 	Discharge sources 3 dimensions	Strokes/flashes 2 dimensions
Detection Efficiency	IC 100% CG not as good	CG excellent IC not good
Location Accuracy	Horizontal 10m <small>(within array)</small> Vertical 50m <small>(within array)</small>	Horizontal 500 m <small>(provinces)</small>
Time Accuracy	40-50 ns	50 ns
Operating Frequency	VHF	VLF/LF
Primary purpose	Research	Operations
Area of Coverage	Southern Ontario	Southern Canada
Number of Stations	14	84 <small>(as of Oct 2013)</small>
Baseline	~ 10-40 km	~ 150-350 km

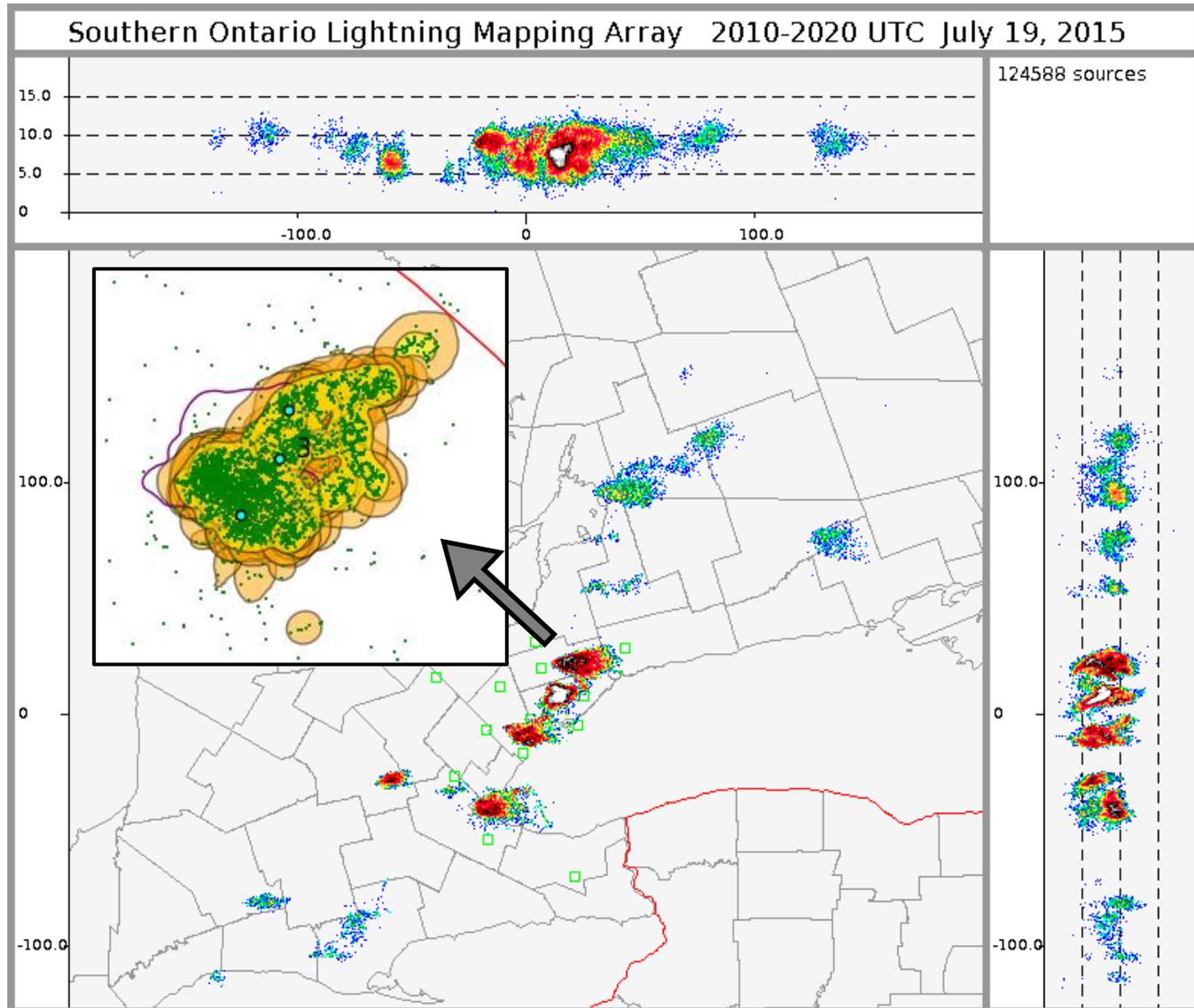
Field Operations - SOLMA



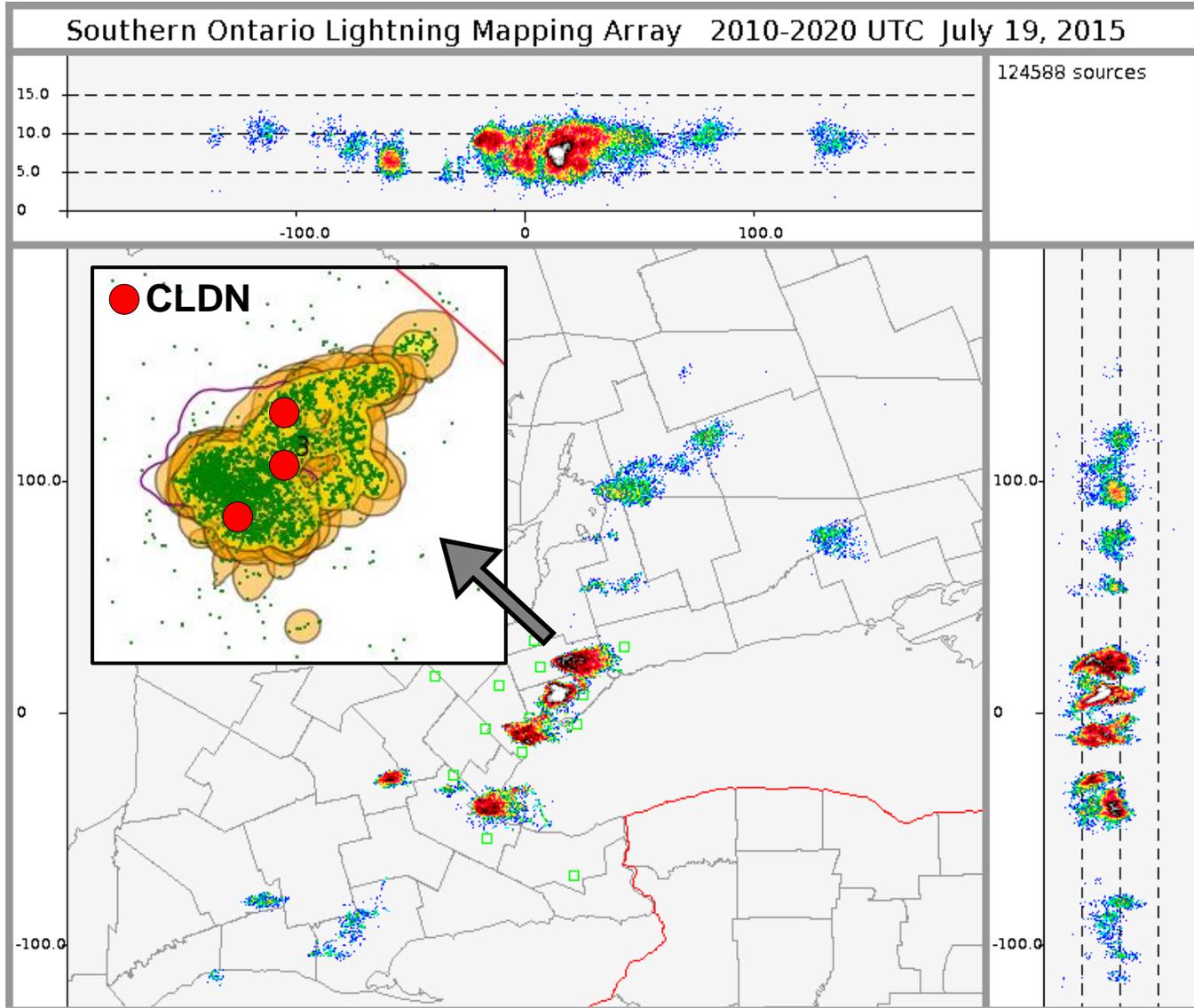
Field Operations - SOLMA



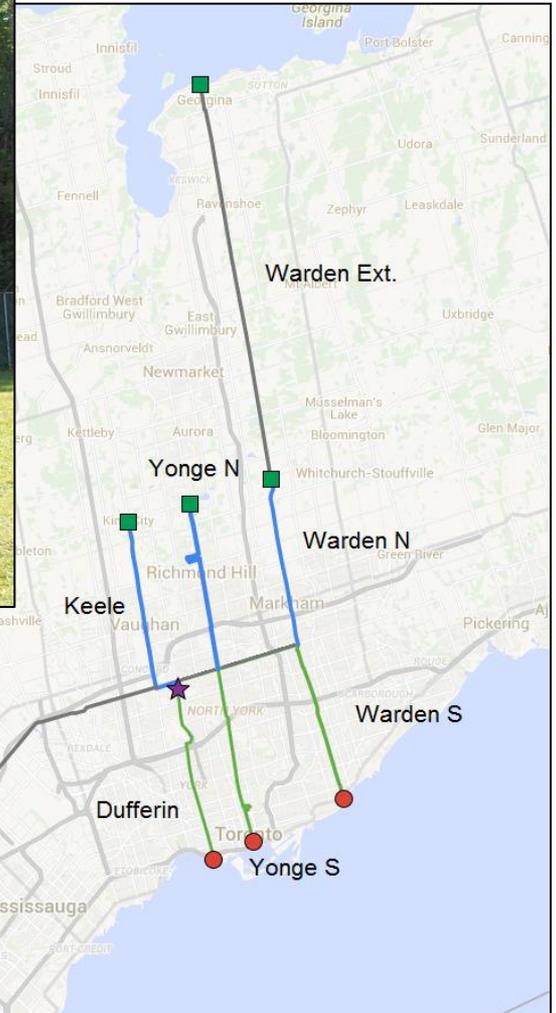
Field Operations - SOLMA



Field Operations - SOLMA

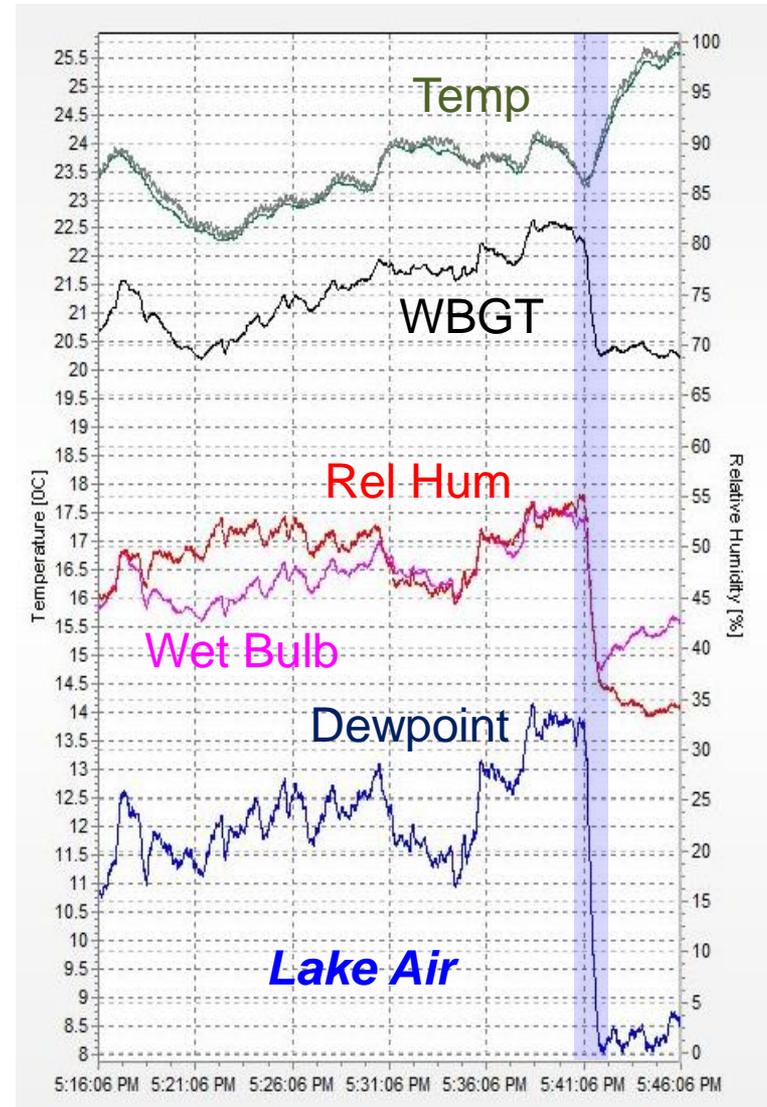


Field Operations - AMMOS

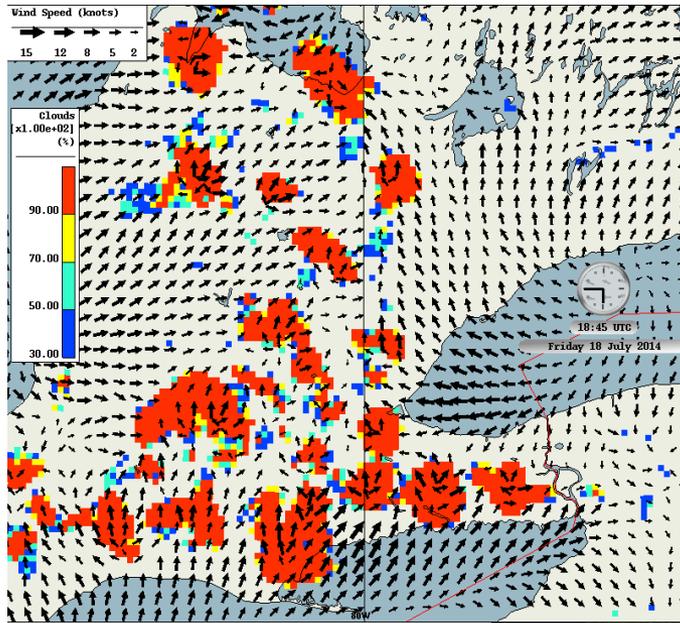


- Automated Mobile Meteorological Observing System (AMMOS) x 3
- Met + WBGT (@ 1 sec) + AQ
- Sampling lake-breeze fronts, gust fronts, heat stress, air quality and urban heat island effects

Field Operations - AMMOS

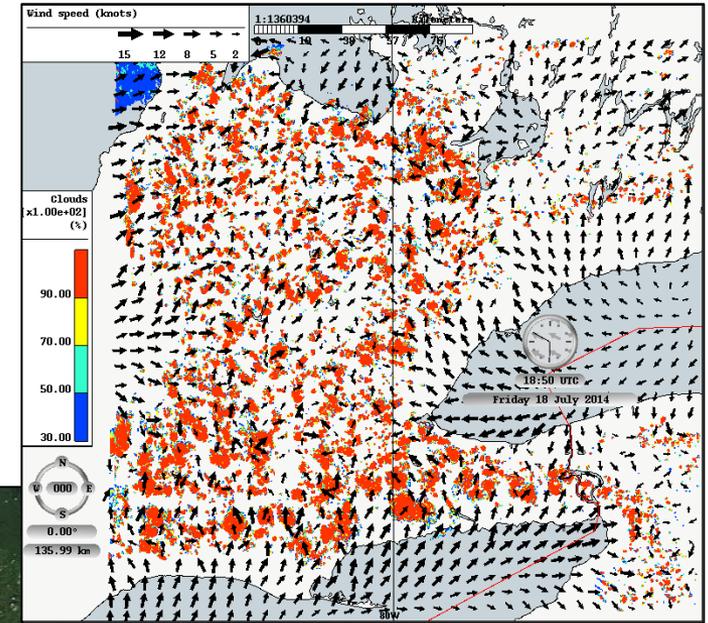


250 m urban GEM-LAM Model



2.5 km

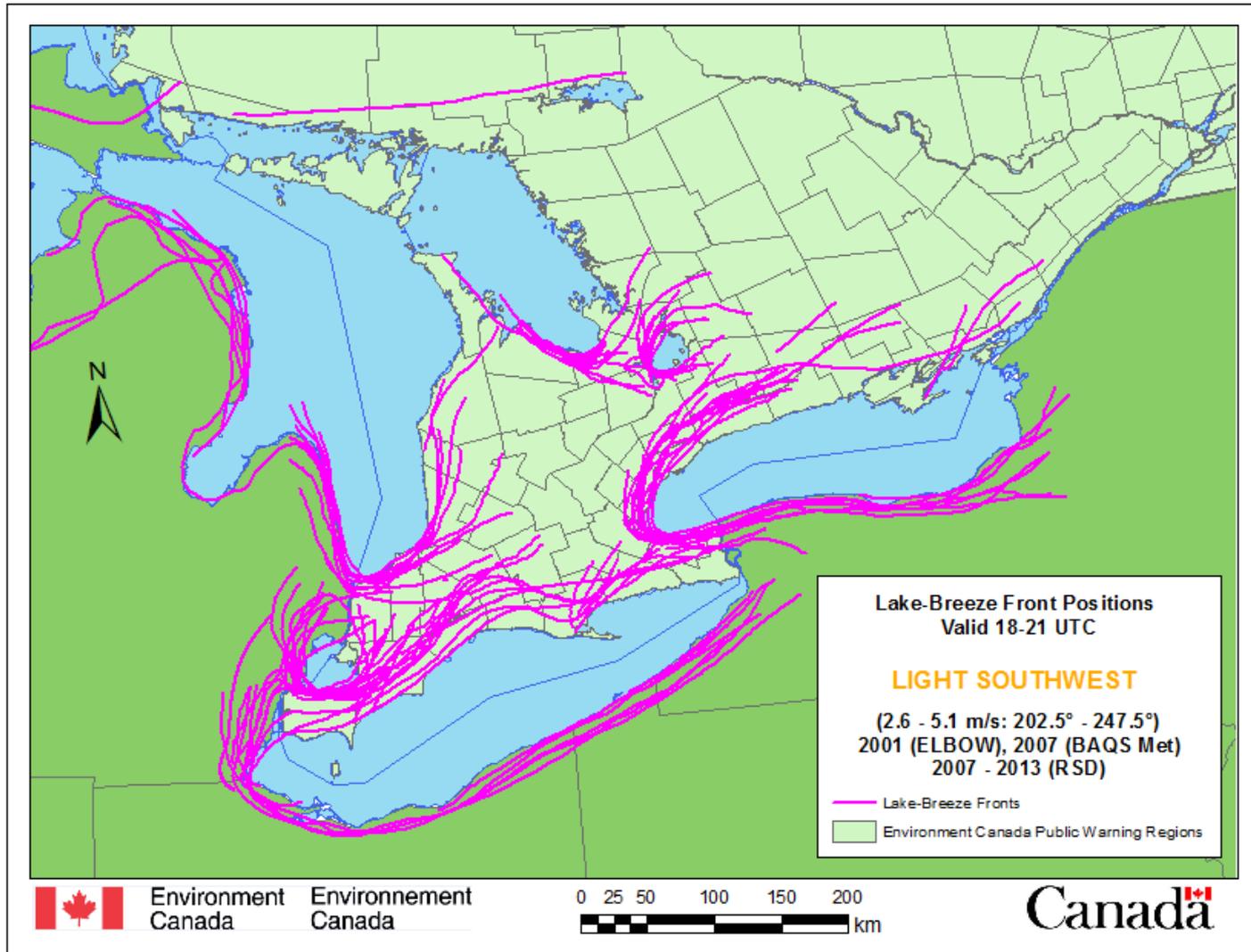
MODIS



250 m

- Cascade from 2.5 km to 1 km to 250 m
- 1048 x 1048 grid cells in 250 m domain
- 24-hour integration
- Running time 1h 30m with 1824 CPUs

LBF Locator Charts - Light SW Flow

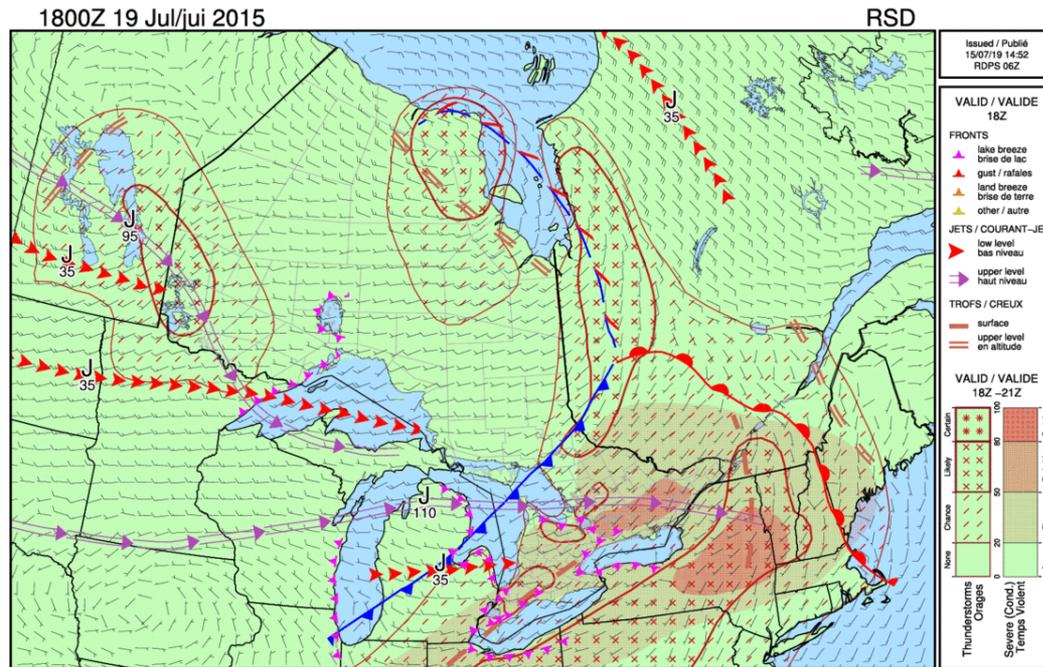


Next Gen Forecast Demonstration

iCAST – interactive Convective Analysis and Storm Tracking

- Integrates alerting, nowcasting and forecasting functions using *MetObjects* – focus on summer convection
- *Multi-scale and area-based* – facilitates forecaster analysis / diagnosis / prognosis from synoptic scale down to storm scale and from T0 (analysis) to T0+72 h
- Find ‘*optimal human-machine mix*’ at each scale
- *Forecaster works on meteorology, not products* → increases ‘situational awareness’
- Incorporates *real-time verification* scoring
- Tested / evaluated via Research Support Desks (RSDs) at including Pan/ParaPan Am Games periods
- Functionality being transferred to MSC’s NinJo workstation

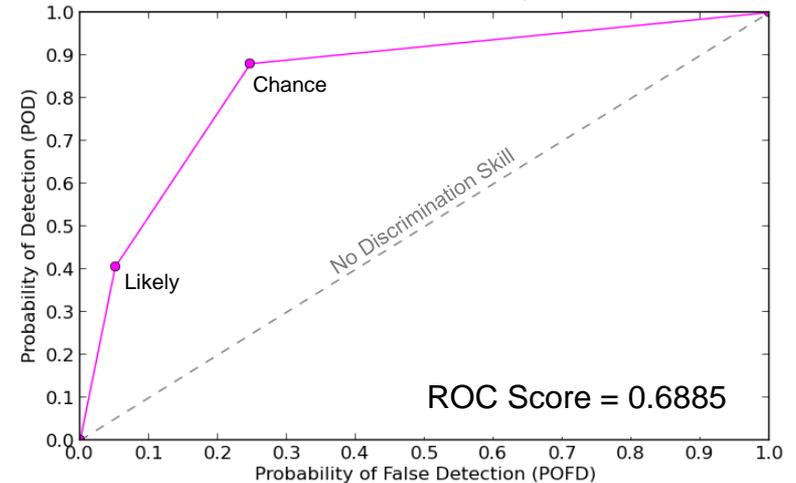
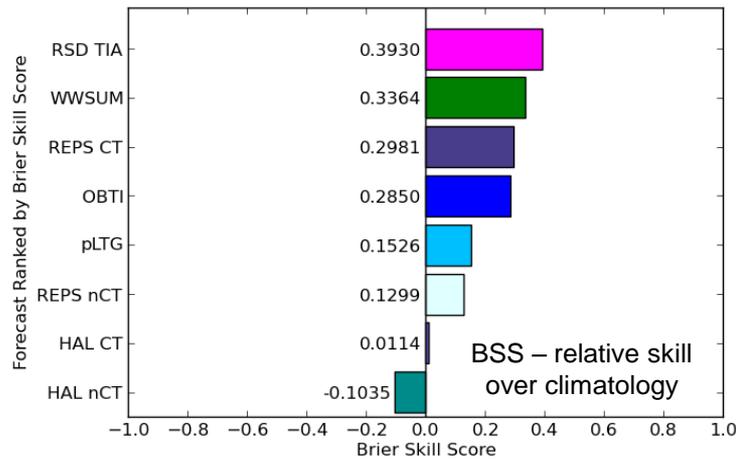
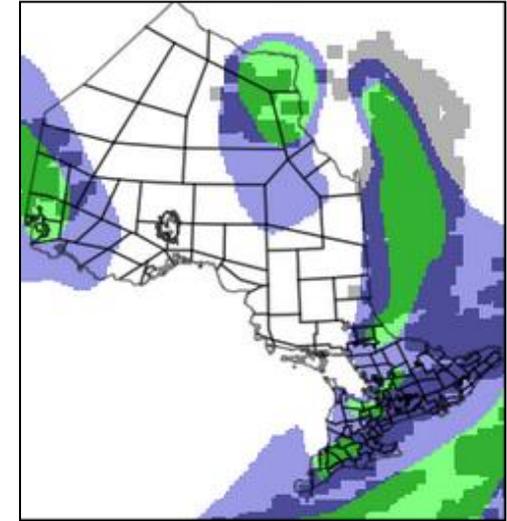
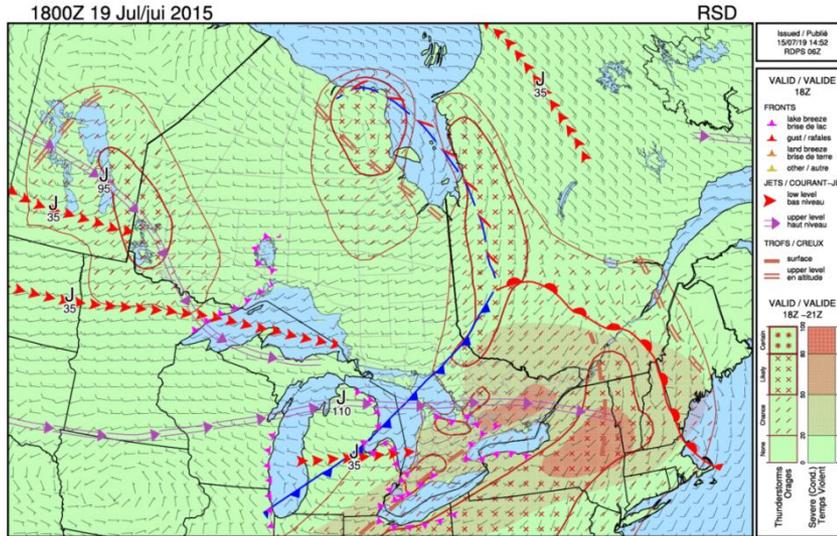
RSD1 Synoptic Space / Time Scale



MetObject-based prognoses for T0+3 hr to T0+72hr:

- Synoptic-scale and mesoscale features important for convection based on observations, det/ens NWP guidance, conceptual models, etc.
- Probabilistic areas for thunderstorm likelihood and severity
- Derived outlooks, interpolated animations, time series, verification products

Real-Time Verification



RSD2 Hourly Mesoscale Analysis

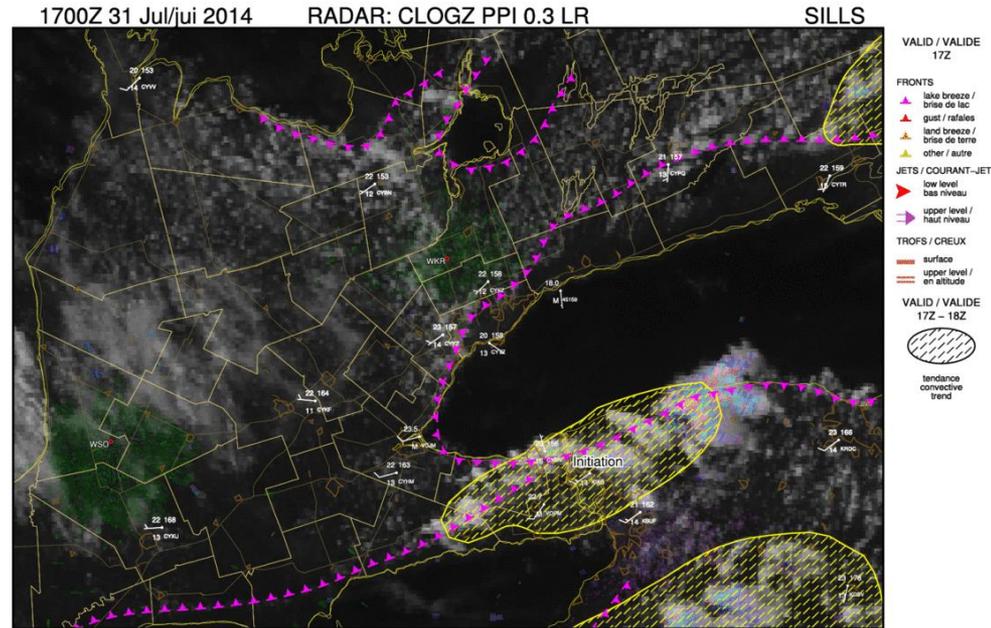


THUNDERSTORM INITIATION EXPCTD NEXT 1-2 HOURS IN MARKED AREAS.

MetObject Analysis / Nowcast

- Forecaster synthesizes satellite, radar and surface weather stations obs / rapid update cycle NWP, and makes use of library of conceptual models to identify convection-inducing features (e.g. lake-breeze fronts, gust fronts) and nowcast areas of thunderstorm development

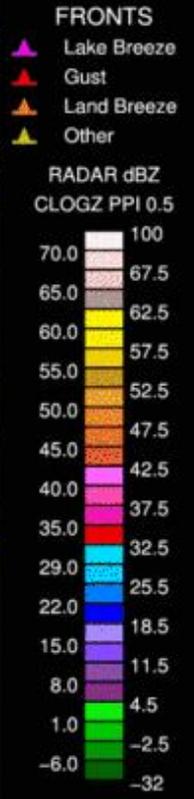
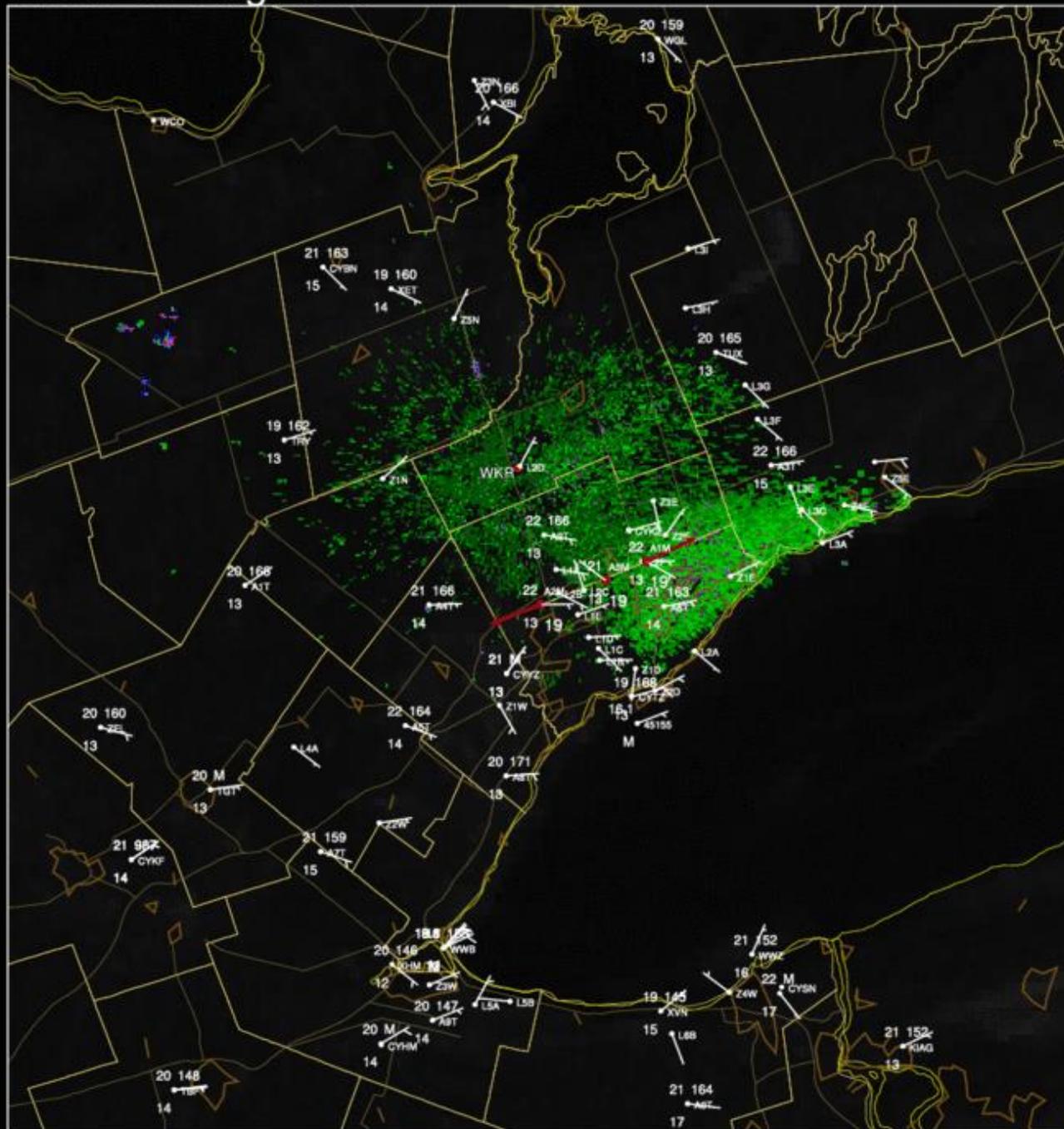
RSD2 Hourly Mesoscale Analysis



MetObject Analysis / Nowcast

- Forecaster synthesizes satellite, radar and surface weather stations obs / rapid update cycle NWP, and makes use of library of conceptual models to identify convection-inducing features (e.g. lake-breeze fronts, gust fronts) and nowcast areas of thunderstorm development

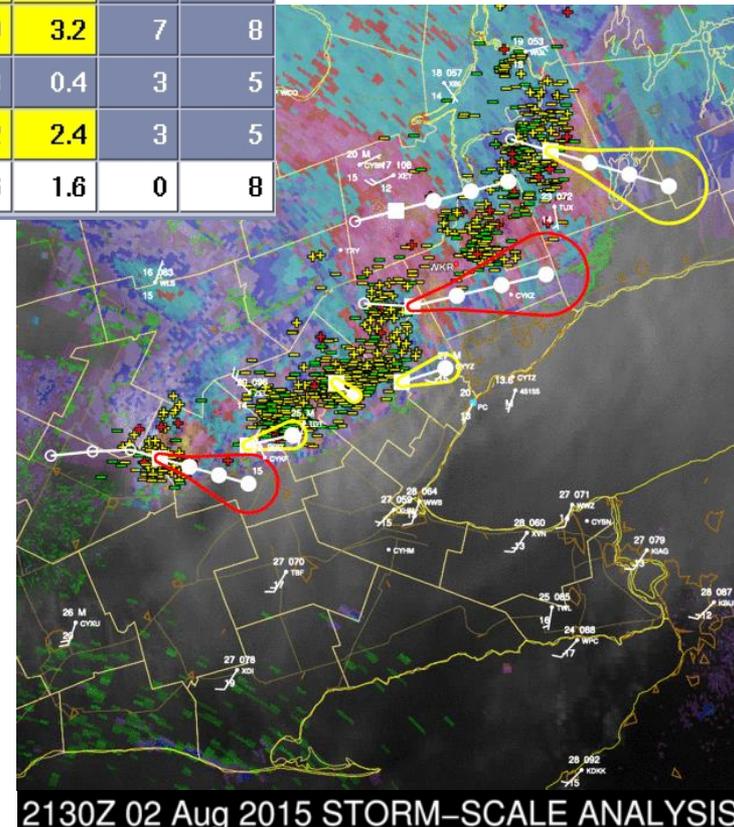
1400Z 07 Aug 2015



RSD2 10-min Storm scale

ID	Dist	Dir	Location	Mean Vel (Km/Hr)	Radar	Rank Weight	Rank T+10	Rank T+20	Rank T+30	Hail (mm)	MESH (mm)
347	231km	WNW	Tobermory	298/30	WGJ	3.8	4.4	5.1	5.8	38	22
349	305km	NNW	Tobermory	282/28	WGJ	2.4	2.6	2.8	3.0	11	10
348	318km	WNW	Tobermory	277/33	WGJ	2.3	2.6	2.9	3.2	7	8
345	18km	WSW	Nicolet	283/36	WMN	1.8	1.3	0.8	0.4	3	5
341	326km	WNW	Tobermory	359/10	WGJ	1.8	2.1	2.2	2.4	3	5
350	285km	SSE	Thunder Bay	N/A	WGJ	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	0	8

- New prototype approach to severe thunderstorm nowcasting and alerting
- Forecaster manages 'track' MetObjects and associated intensity trends for significant storms
- Warn on the *nowcast* location and intensity – increases *lead time*
- Alerts derived from the MetObjects

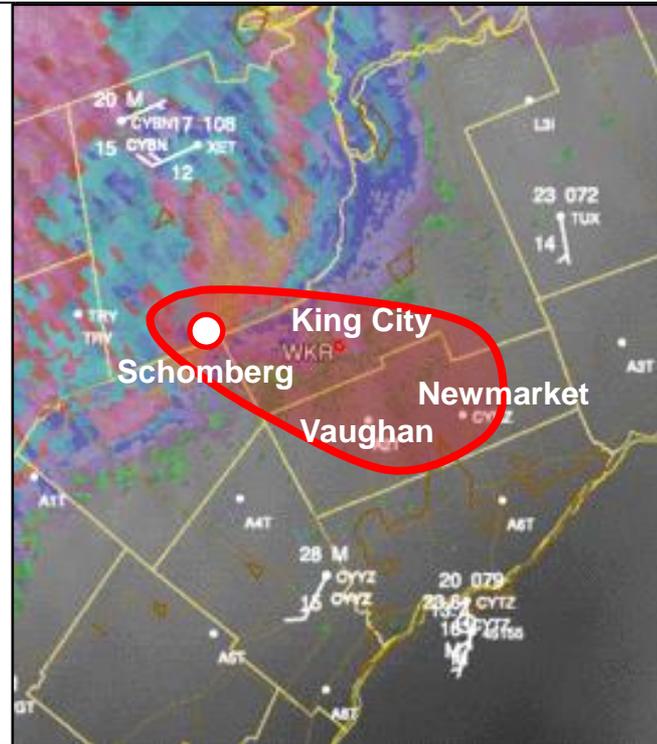


Product Generation

**SEVERE THUNDERSTORM WARNING
FROM ENVIRONMENT CANADA AT
5:00 PM EDT SUNDAY 2 AUGUST 2015.**

**SEVERE THUNDERSTORM WARNING
FOR: =NEW= AREAS NEAR
SCHOMBERG, KING CITY, VAUGHAN,
RICHMOND HILL, AND MARKHAM**

**A SEVERE THUNDERSTORM
PRODUCING QUARTER-SIZE HAIL,
DAMAGING WINDS TO 100 KM/H AND
HEAVY RAIN LOCATED 1 KM WEST OF
SCHOMBERG IS MOVING SOUTHEAST
AT 40 KM/H. THIS STORM IS
EXPECTED TO REACH VAUGHAN AT
5:25 PM EDT.**



Multimedia Alert Product Example



Environment
Canada

Environnement
Canada

Canada

Summary

David.Sills@ec.gc.ca

- The Toronto 2015 Pan / ParaPan Am Games provided a focal point for collaborative science activities and accelerated a number of projects
- Scope kept growing right up until the Games!
- Large quantity of data to quality control and analyze for process studies and hi-res model validation – numerous reports, presentations and publications anticipated
- Toronto Summer Olympic Games in **2024???**

Thank you!



Canada



Environment
Canada

Environnement
Canada