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# Analysis Tools for Online Evaluation of the Operational Hurricane Forecasts Using Satellite Data

ESTF2014 – October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2014



# Hurricanes are among the most destructive natural phenomena with huge societal and economic impact.

After Katrina:

Venice, Louisiana - 8/30/2005



After Ike:

Galveston, Texas - 9/13/2008



Houston,  
Texas, 2005 –  
unnecessary  
evacuation of  
2 million  
ahead of  
hurricane  
Rita's landfall



Widespread power outages and subway shutdowns may wind up making **Superstorm Sandy** the second most expensive storm in U.S.



Each year they threaten the US coast, cause damages worth billions and take life.

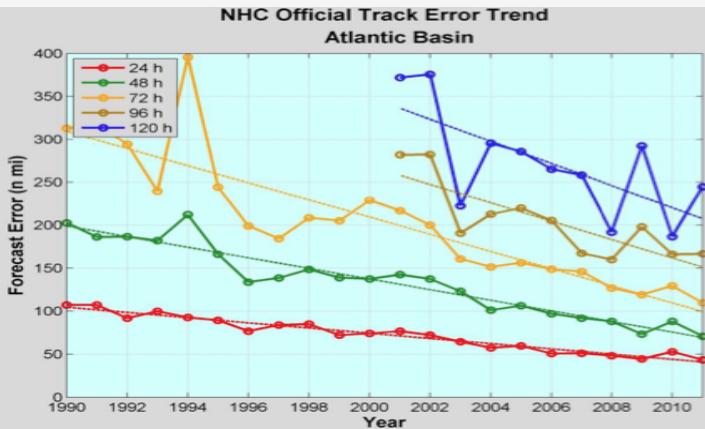
- Some **130,000 died** when a cyclone struck Myanmar along the Andaman Sea **in 2008**.
- The deadliest U.S. hurricane was the 1900 **Galveston storm**, which **killed 8,000 to 12,000** people and destroyed the city.
- **Katrina (2005) killed some 1,200 people**, and left hundreds of thousands homeless.
- **Sandy** is being blamed for about **\$62 billion** in damage and other losses in the U.S. — a number that could increase.
- It is the second-costliest storm in U.S. history after 2005's Hurricane Katrina, which caused **\$128 billion** in damage in inflation-adjusted dollars.



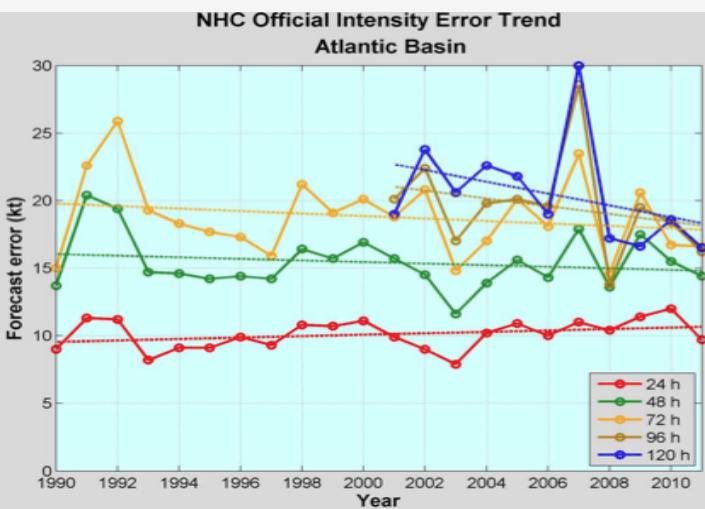


# Current state-of-the-art hurricane prediction

- **25% reduction in 48 hour track error over the past 6 years**



- **Intensity forecasts have not improved.**



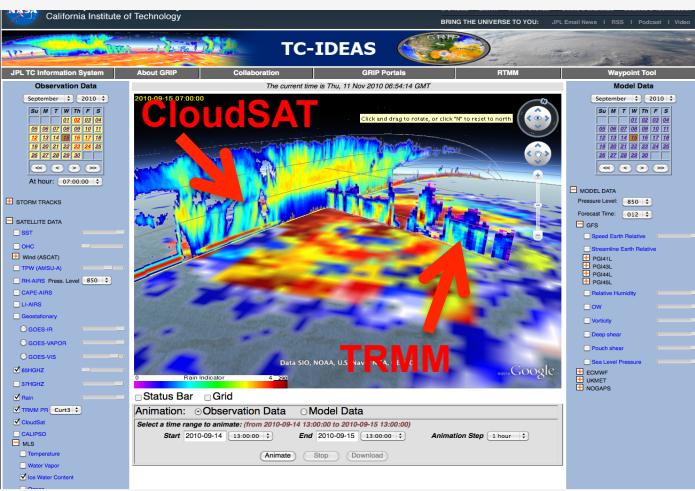
## But WHY ???

- What are the sources of the intensity errors?
- Do the models properly reflect the physical processes and their interactions?
  - Is the representation of the precipitation structure correct?
  - Is the storm scale and asymmetry reflected properly
  - Is the environment captured correctly
  - Is the interaction between the storm and its environment represented accurately
- Recognizing an urgent need for more accurate hurricane forecasts, NOAA recently established the multi-agency 10-year Hurricane Forecast Improvement Project (HFIP).

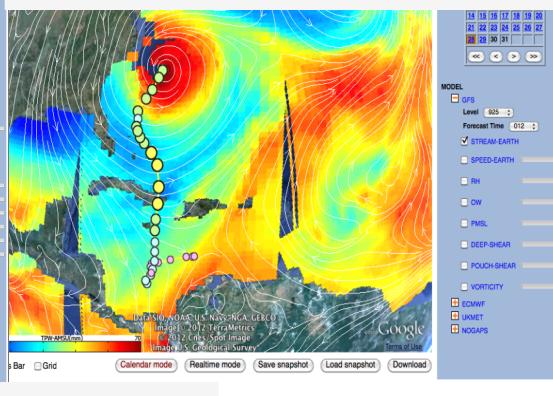


# Motivation for our project - The critical pathways to hurricane forecast improvement

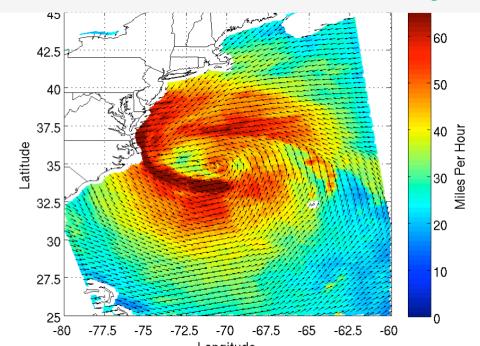
- Is the representation of the precipitation structure correct?



- Is the environment captured correctly?
- Is the interaction between the storm and its environment realistic?

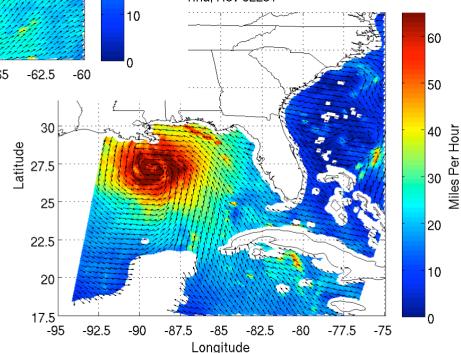


- Is the storm scale and asymmetry reflected properly?



Hurricane Sandy  
As seen by the  
ISRO's OSCAT

Hurricane Katrina  
As seen by the  
NASA's QuikSCAT



1. Understanding the physical processes
  2. Validation and improvement of hurricane models through the use of satellite data
  3. Development and implementation of advanced techniques for assimilation of satellite observations inside the hurricane core.
- Despite the significant amount of satellite data today, they are still underutilized in hurricane research and operations, due to complexity and volume.

To improve Hurricane Intensity forecasts, we need to understand how well the models reflect the physical processes and their interactions.

Satellite observations can help in 3 important ways!



# The JPL TCIS – Tropical Cyclone Information System

<http://tropicalcyclone.jpl.nasa.gov>

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To facilitate hurricane research, we are developing the JPL Tropical Cyclone Information System (JPL TCIS) of multi-instrument observations and some model data pertaining to:

- i) the thermodynamic and microphysical structure of the storms;
- ii) the air-sea interaction processes;
- iii) the larger-scale environment.

This system is being developed under NASA support:

ESTO/AIST funding currently and the Hurricane Science Research Program (HSRP) in the past).

The project is developed in close collaboration with our colleagues from NOAA/EMC and NOAA/AOML/HRD to bring the operational and research versions of HWRF forecasts into the satellite database and to develop a set of on-line analysis tools.



# The JPL TCIS – Tropical Cyclone Information System

<http://tropicalcyclone.jpl.nasa.gov>

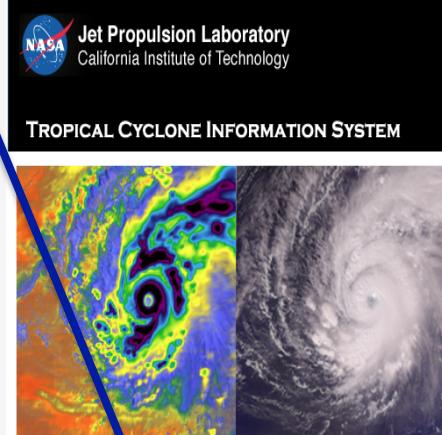
## Tropical Cyclone Data Archive

- Satellite depiction of hurricanes over the globe
- 12-year record (1999-2010)
- offers both data and imagery, making it a unique source to support:
  - hurricane research
  - forecast improvement
  - algorithm development
  - instrument design

## HS3 – Interactive NRT Atlantic portal

<http://tropicalcyclone.jpl.nasa.gov/hs3>

- Integrates model forecasts with satellite and airborne observations from a variety of instruments and platforms, allowing for easy model/observations comparisons.
- Allows interrogation of a large number of atmospheric and ocean variables to better understand the large-scale and storm-scale processes associated with hurricane genesis, track and intensity changes.
- Very rich information source during the analysis stages of the field campaigns.



**TROPICAL CYCLONE INFORMATION SYSTEM**

Welcome to the JPL Tropical Cyclone Information System

The JPL Tropical Cyclone Information System (TCIS) was developed to support hurricane research. It has two components: a 12-year global archive of multi-satellite hurricane observations and what was a near real-time portal, that supported the 2010 NASA Genesis and Rapid Intensification Processes (GRIP) hurricane field campaign. Together, data and visualizations from the near-real time system and data archive can be used to study hurricane process, validate and improve models, and assist in developing new algorithms and data assimilation techniques. Below you will find links to various portals where you can view different types of data.

**Tropical Cyclone Data Archive**

The TCIS Data Archive is a comprehensive tropical cyclone database of multi-parameter satellite observations pertaining to the thermodynamic and microphysical structure of the storms, the air-sea interaction processes and the larger-scale environment. Currently, it contains satellite depictions of hurricanes over the globe from 1999-2010. Users are able to browse through hurricane seasons and ocean basins to find specific storms of interest. The portal is designed to facilitate the finding of coincident observations from multiple instruments, and it provides fast access to pre-subsetted data and plots, making this a unique tool for hurricane research. Additionally, data files can be directly accessed through our [FTP site](#).

**HS3 Data Portal**

This near real-time interactive portal was developed to support the multi-year Hurricane and Severe Storm Sentinel (HS3) aircraft campaign. HS3 is a five year mission with a three year airborne component (2012-2014). The campaign's main goal is to investigate the processes that underlie hurricane formation and intensity change in the Atlantic Ocean basin. This portal allows users to analyze and compare observation data and model forecasts in the North Atlantic basin from July to November of each year of the campaign.

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BRING THE UNIVERSE TO YOU:   

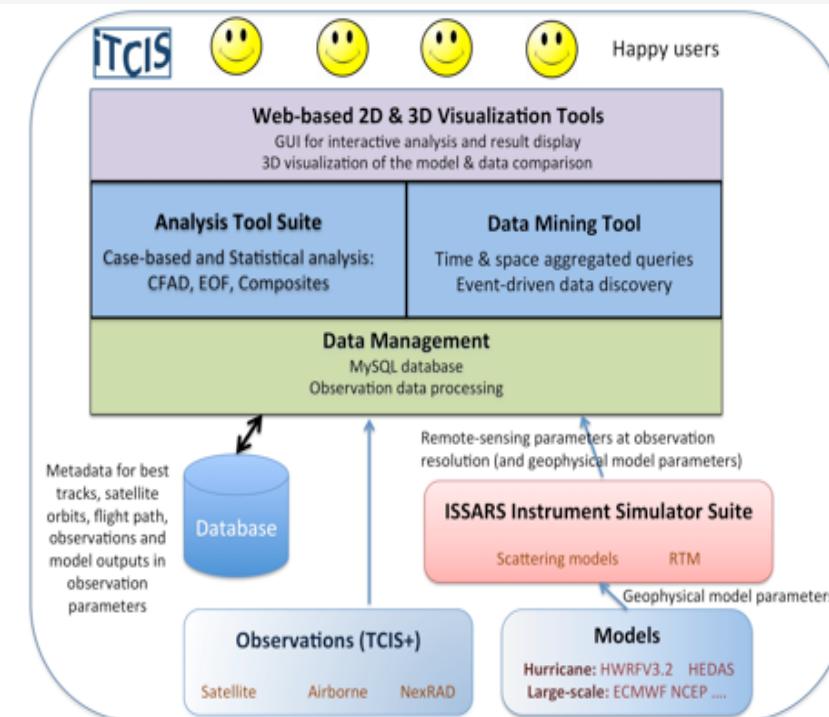
◀ Introduction  
◀ Team  
◀ Collaborators  
◀ Funding  
◀ Publications

Site Manager: Svetla M Hristova-Veleva      PRIVACY      Webmaster: Quoc Vu (JPL Clearance: CL#08-349)



# Goals of our current AIST project

- To develop the technology to provide the fusion of observations (satellite, airborne and surface) and operational model simulations to help improve the understanding and forecasting of the hurricane processes.



We are developing three critical components to allow the merger of observations with model forecasts:

- 1) **Couple an instrument simulator (NEOS<sup>3</sup>) with operational hurricane forecast models** and incorporate simulated satellite observables into the existing database of satellite and air-borne observations.
- 2) **Develop set of analysis tools** that will enable users to calculate joint statistics, produce composites, compare modeled and observed quantities to facilitate the evaluation of different hurricane models
- 3) **Develop visualization to enable analysis** (e.g., data immersion approaches to enable real-time interaction with the models, and visualization of highly complex systems)



# Outline

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1. Bringing observations and models into a common analysis system and developing interactive visualization tools.
2. Projecting the model data into the observational space of the satellite data – the use of instrument simulators
3. Developing analysis tools with the goals to:
  - Understand the observed structure of the hurricanes
  - Evaluate the models



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# 1. Bringing observations and models into a common analysis system and developing interactive visualization tools.



# HS3 Portal – NRT in 2012-14, Atlantic (<http://tropicalcyclone.jpl.nasa.gov/hs3>) Features (needs Google Earth API; opens on the latest available PMW observations)

Links to KML files   HFIP | Related Links   HS3

mwsci.jpl.nasa.gov/hs3/#

Apps Gmail: Email from G JPL Tropical Cyclone Mozilla Firefox Start Google JPL Imported From Firefo AIST WRF TCIS HS3 JOURNALS NASA NOAA\_DOE\_NRL\_etc FIELD Campaign EXTRATROPICAL

NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory California Institute of Technology JPL HOME EARTH SOLAR SYSTEM STARS & GALAXIES SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY BRING THE UNIVERSE TO YOU: Twitter Facebook RSS Email

HURRICANE AND SEVERE STORM SENTINEL [HS3] Tropical Cyclone Information System > HS3 Portal

2014-08-25 02:00:00

SATELLITE & AIRCRAFT DATA MODEL & SIMULATION DATA

GOES IR

“Best Track”

Image Landsat Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO

DATA SELECTION ▲ SNAPSHOT ▲

GOOG Status Bar Grid Terms of Use

Site Manager: Svetla M Hristova-Veleva

PRIVACY

Webmaster: Quoc Vu (JPL Clearance: CL#08-3-190)

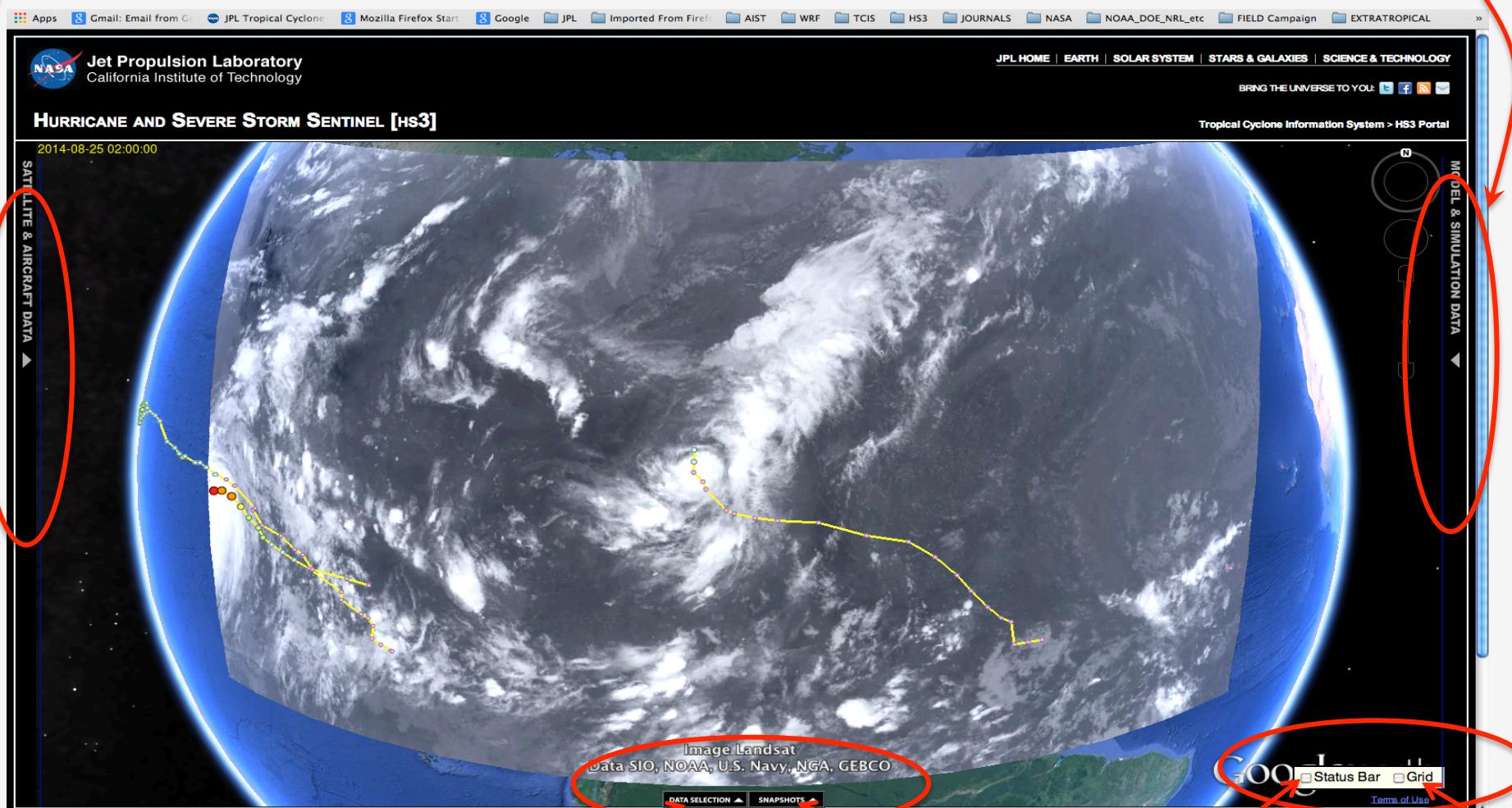


**HS3 Portal – NRT in 2012-14, Atlantic (<http://tropicalcyclone.jpl.nasa.gov/hs3>)**

**Two Calendar-driven menus (click on the triangles on the two sides):**

## - Observations

## - Model data



# Analysis Tools

## Save a view

## Overlay Grid

### Find lat/lon of a point



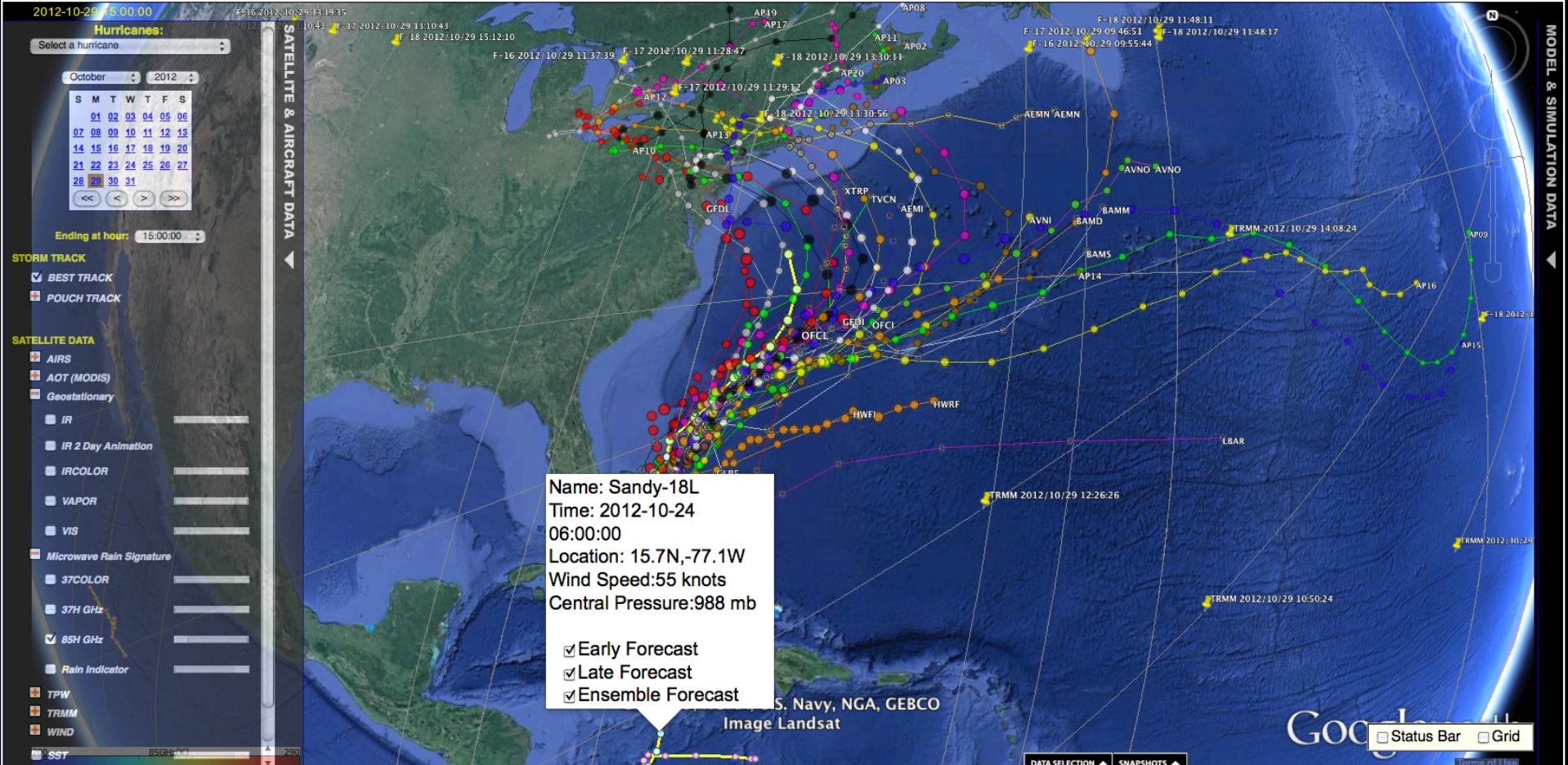
# HS3 Portal – NRT in 2012-14, Atlantic (<http://tropicalcyclone.jpl.nasa.gov/hs3>) Forecast Uncertainty 5 days out - Hurricane Sandy (2012)

NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory  
California Institute of Technology

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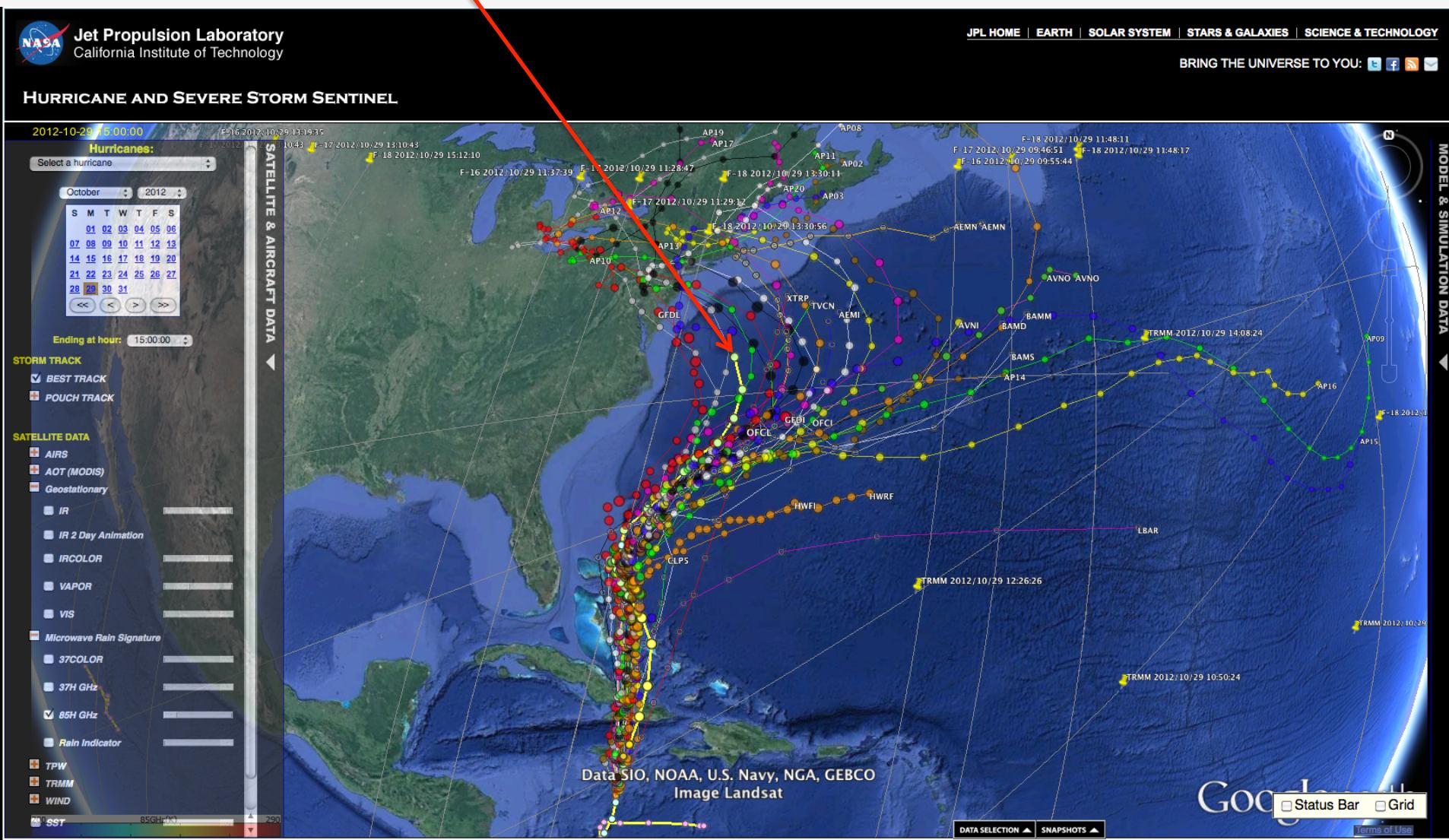
## HURRICANE AND SEVERE STORM SENTINEL





# HS3 Portal – NRT in 2012-14, Atlantic (<http://tropicalcyclone.jpl.nasa.gov/hs3>) Forecast Uncertainty 5 days out - Hurricane Sandy (2012)

## Best Track

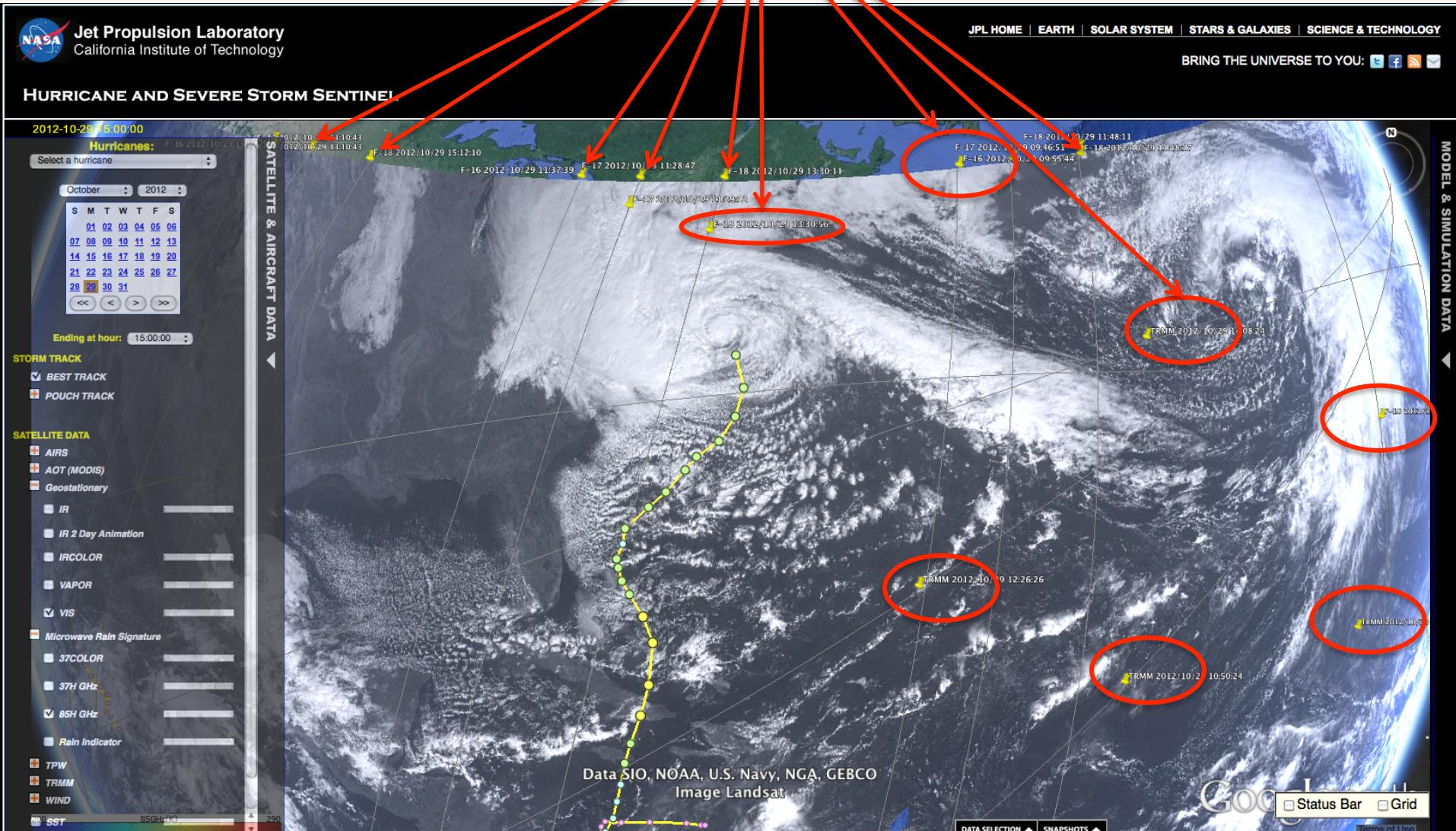




# HS3 Portal – NRT in 2012-14, Atlantic (<http://tropicalcyclone.jpl.nasa.gov/hs3>)

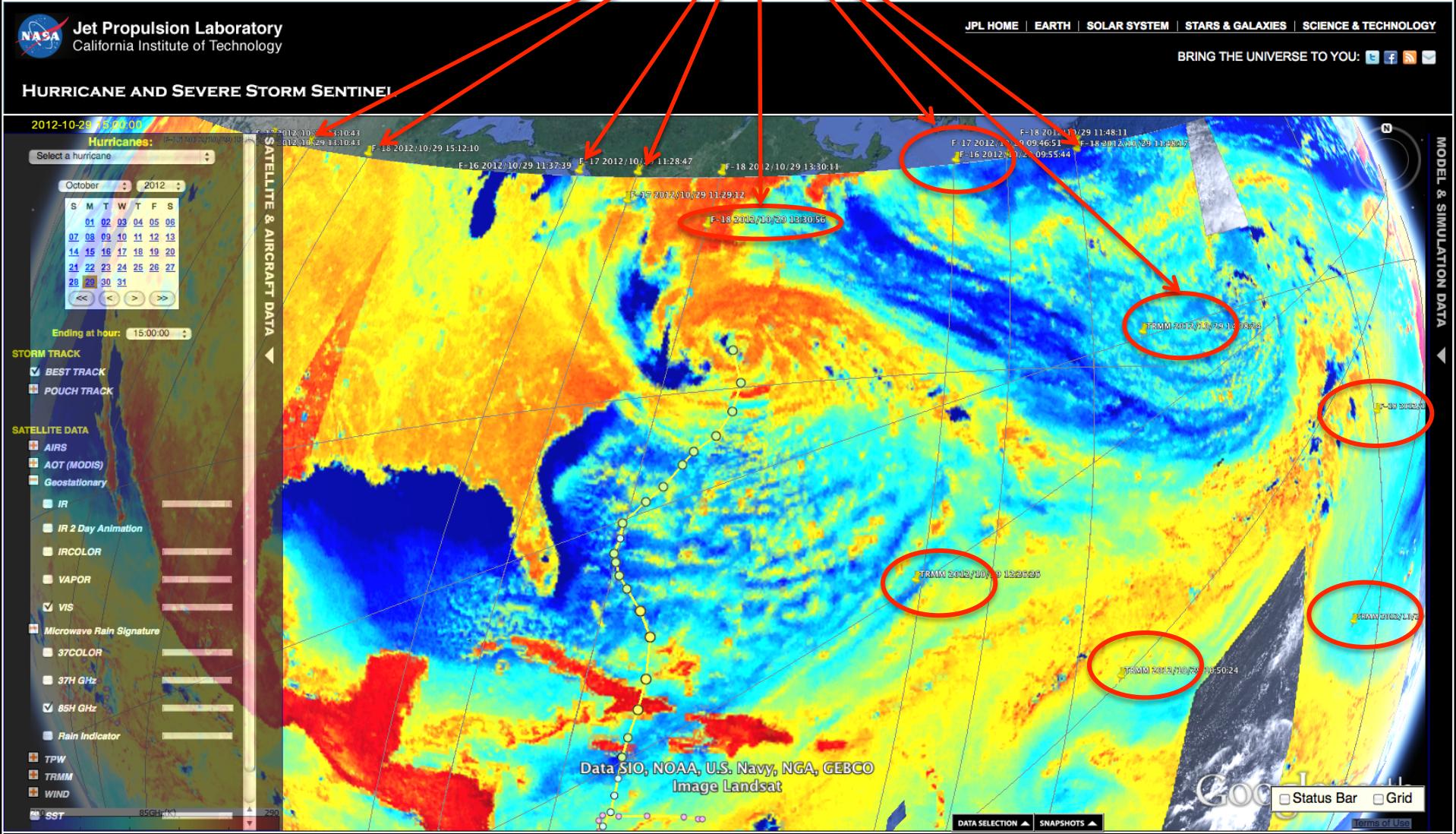
## The Power of the Satellite Observations – Hurricane Sandy (2012)

Note the multitude of Polar Orbiting Satellites that supplement GEOS observations





# HS3 Portal – NRT in 2012-14, Atlantic (<http://tropicalcyclone.jpl.nasa.gov/hs3>) The Power of the Satellite Observations – painted in microwave

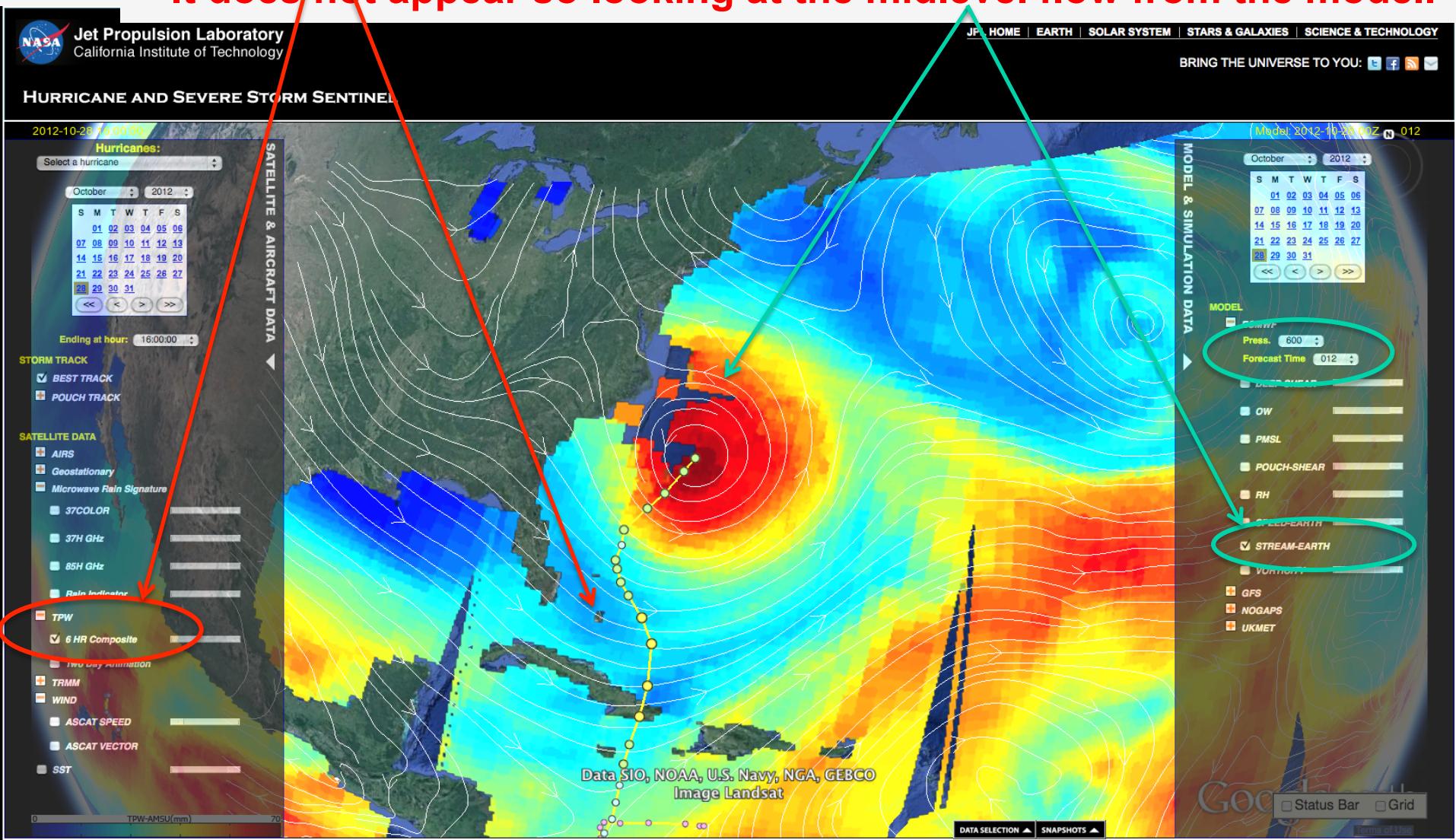




# HS3 Portal – NRT in 2012-14, Atlantic (<http://tropicalcyclone.jpl.nasa.gov/hs3>)

## Bringing model and observations together:

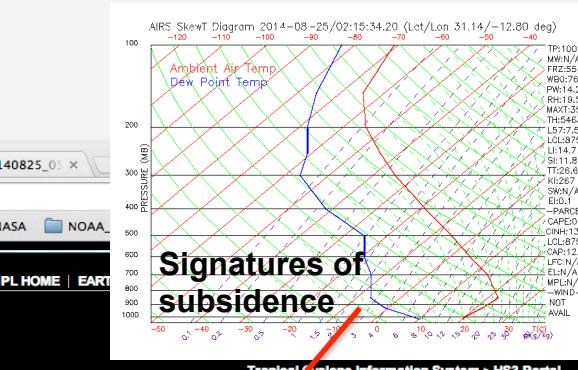
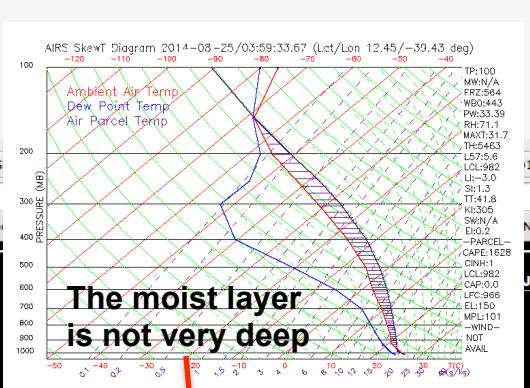
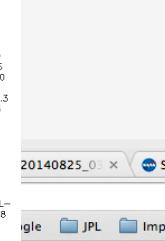
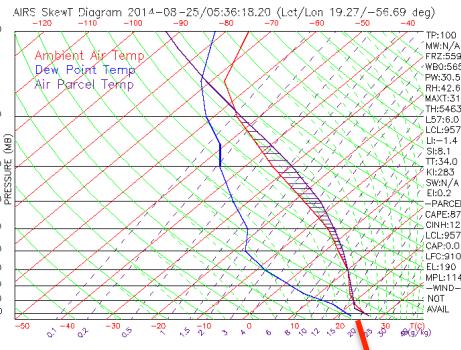
- Is the dry air in the environment (low TPW, from satellite observations) entering the storm ???
- It does not appear so looking at the midlevel flow from the model.





# HS3 Portal – NRT in 2012-14, Atlantic (<http://tropicalcyclone.jpl.nasa.gov/hs3>)

## The thermodynamics from AIRS



**Signatures of subsidence**

### HURRICANE AND SEVERE STORM SENTINEL [HS3]

2014-08-25 08:00:00

03	04	05	06	07	08	09
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

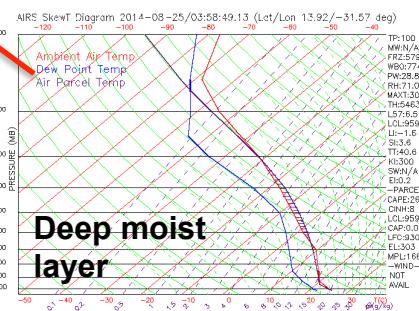
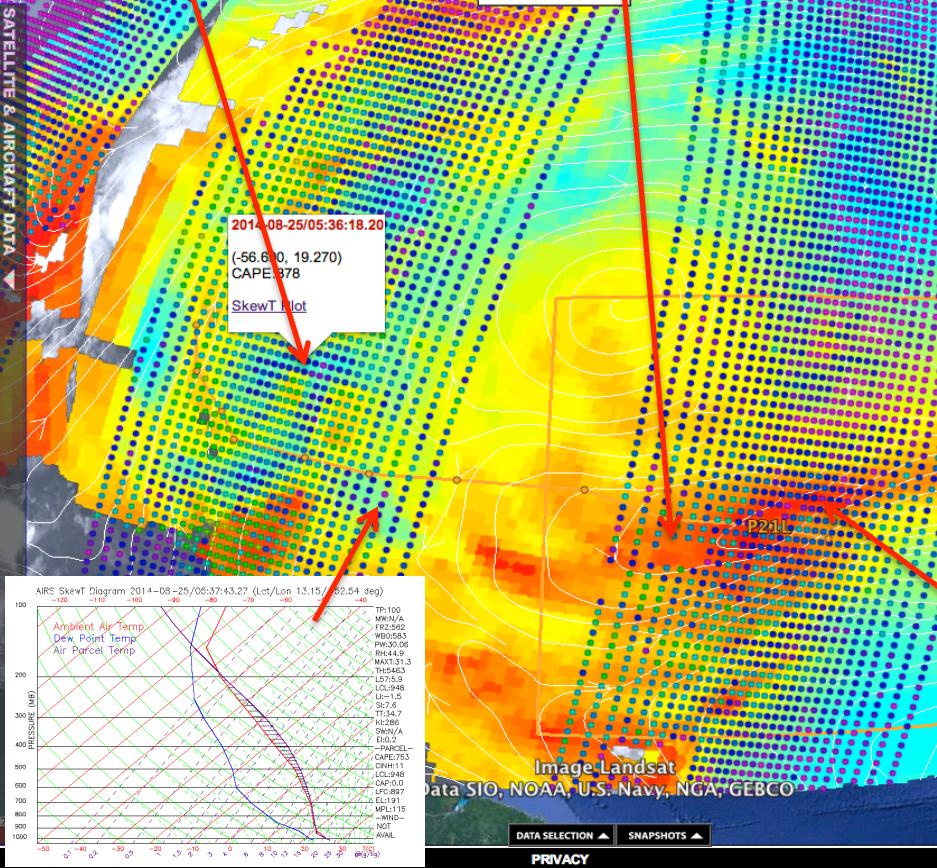
Ending at hour: 08:00:00

#### STORM TRACK

- BEST TRACK
- POUCH TRACK
- P17L
- P21L
- P22L
- P23L

#### SATELLITE DATA

- AIRS
- CAPE
- L
- RH Press. 200
- TEMP Press. 200
- AOT (MODIS)
- Geostationary
- IR
- IR 2 Day Animation
- IRLCOLOR
- VAPOR
- VIS
- Microwave Rain Signature
- TPW
- 6 HR Composite
- Two Day Animation:
- TRMM
- TPW-ANSU(mm)



**Deep moist layer**

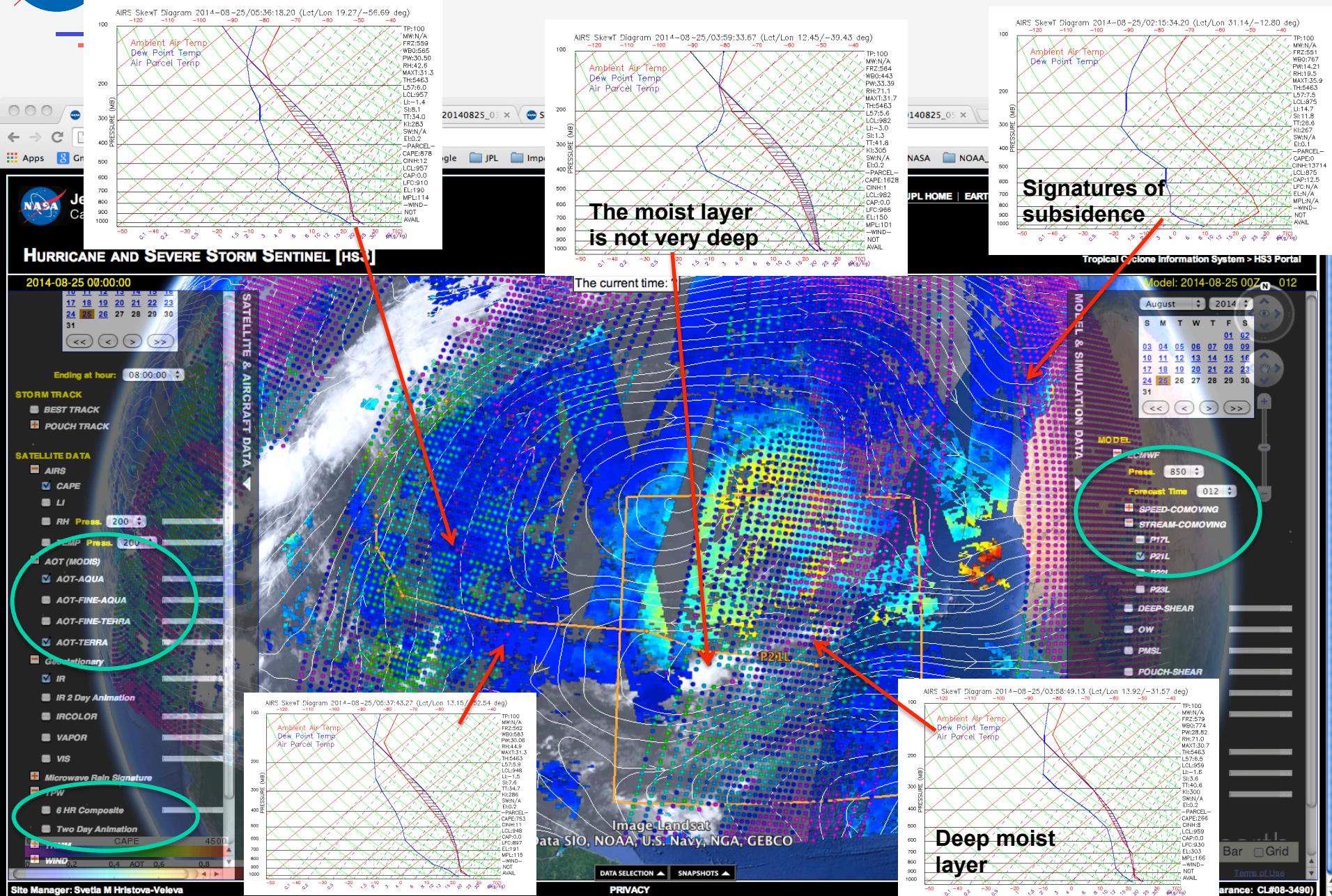


Bar Grid Terms of Use  
CL#08-3490



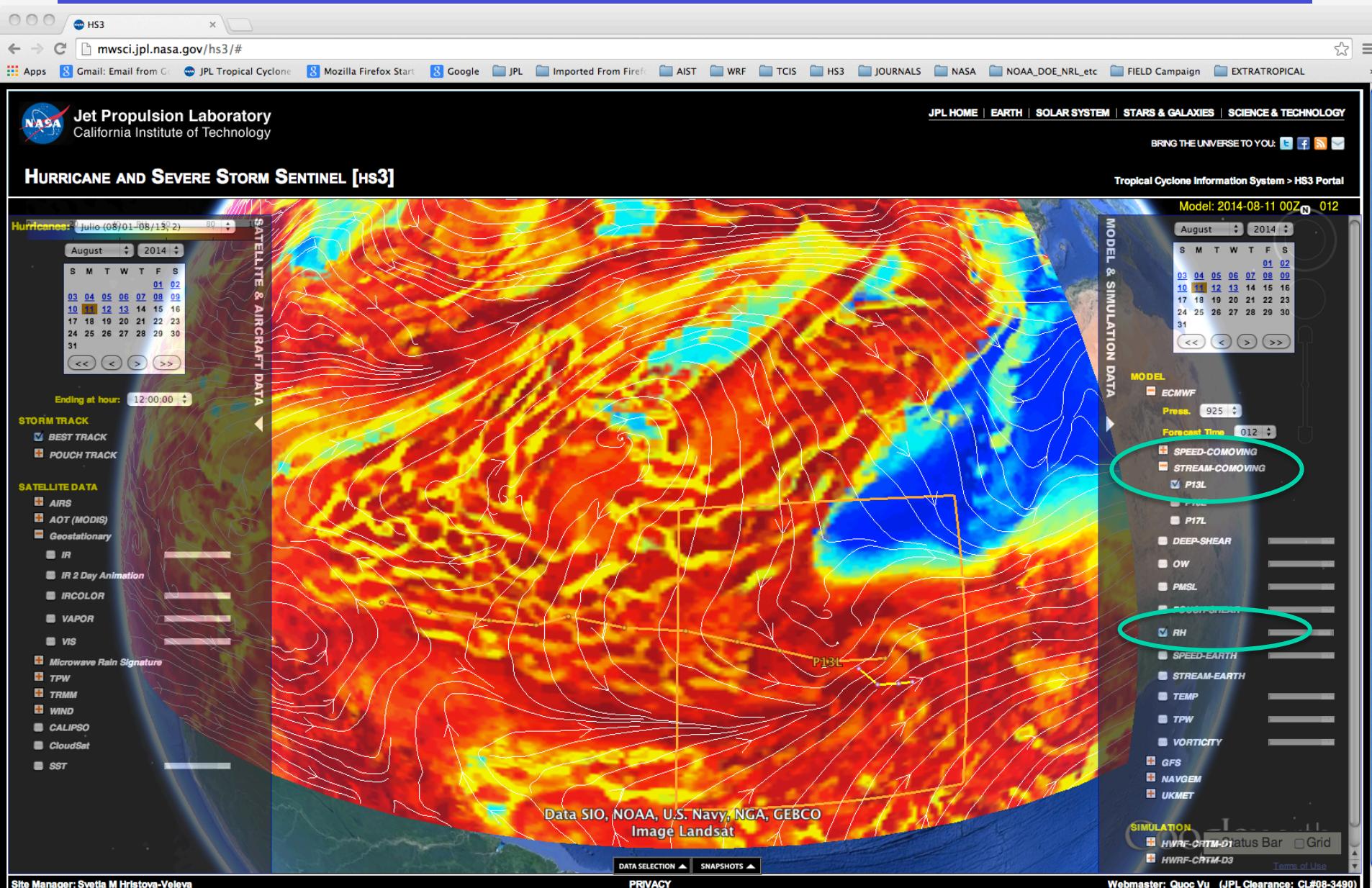
# HS3 Portal – NRT in 2012-14, Atlantic (<http://tropicalcyclone.jpl.nasa.gov/hs3>)

## The thermodynamics from AIRS and the AOT from MODIS



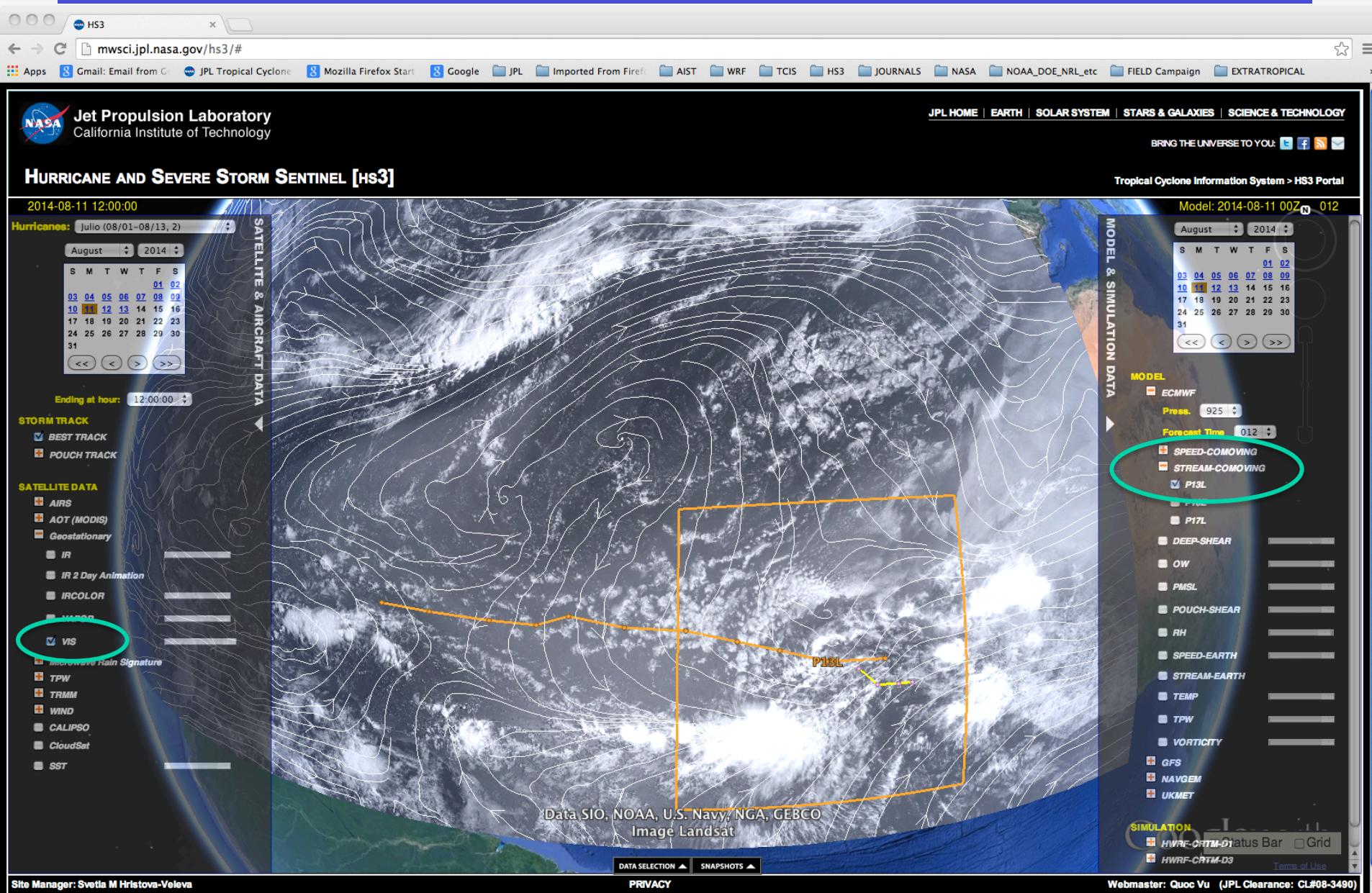


# Understanding what is this structure in the model – Tim Dunkerton called it "leopard's fur" pattern in ecmwf RH in the boundary layer



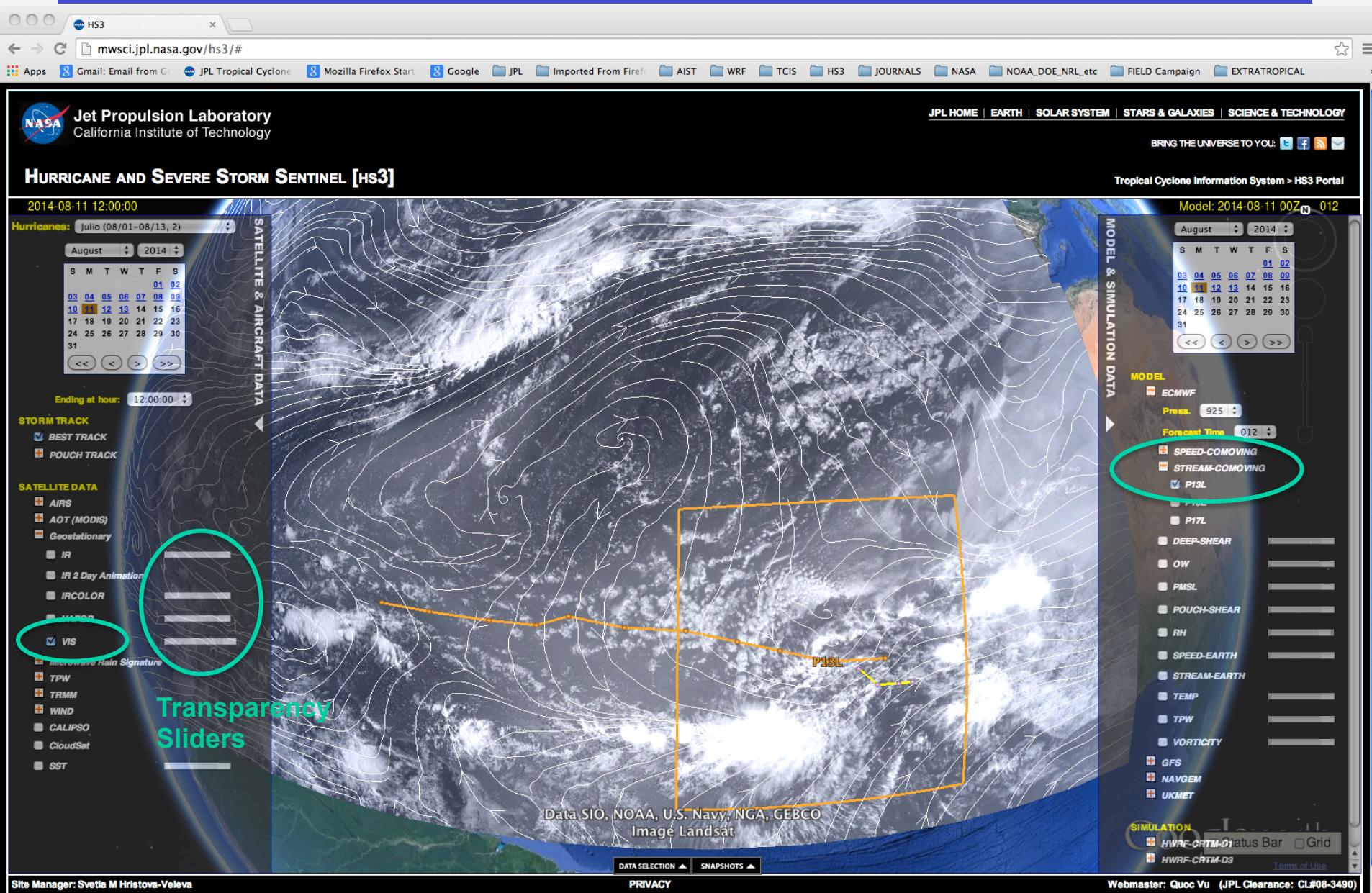


# Understanding what is this structure in the model – Tim Dunkerton called it "leopard's fur" pattern in ecmwf RH in the boundary layer





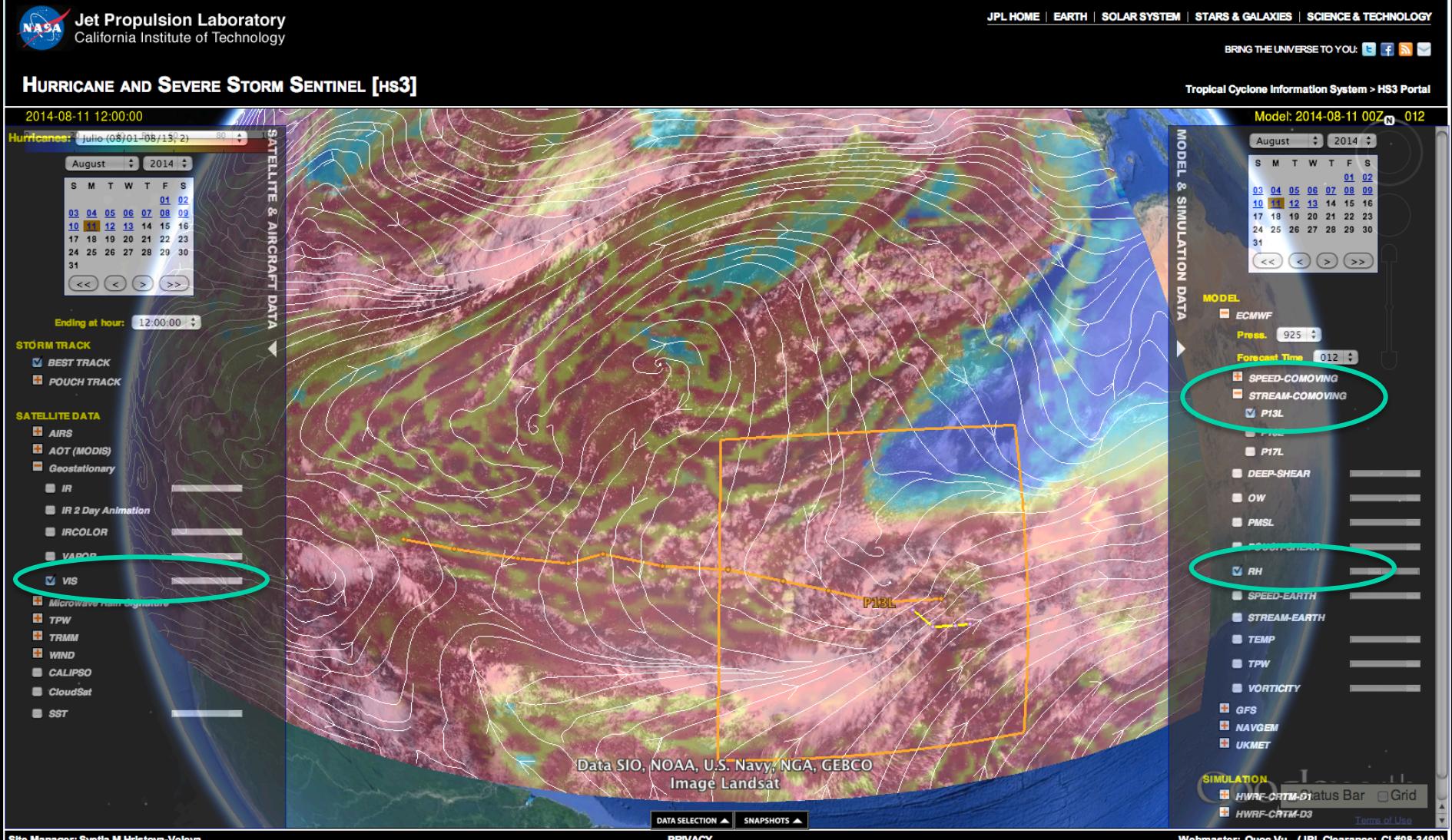
# Understanding what is this structure in the model – Tim Dunkerton called it "leopard's fur" pattern in ecmwf RH in the boundary layer



# Understanding what is this structure in the model?

Tim Dunkerton called it "leopard's fur" pattern in ECMWF boundary layer RH

The model/obs overlay collaborates his suggestion that "shallow overturning circulations are responsible for vorticity and RH anomalies alike in these regions". The Sc in the visible imagery are well correlated with the model's RH and vorticity fields (not shown).





# TC-IDEAS

## JPL TC Information System

## About GRIP

## Collaboration

## GRIP Mission Page

## NASA Hurricanes

### Observation Data

September 2010

Su	M	T	W	Th	F	S
			01	02	03	04
05	06	07	08	09	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

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At hour: 07:00:00

### STORM TRACKS

- Best Tracks
- Pouch Tracks
  - PGI41L
  - PGI43L
  - PGI44L
  - PGI45L

### SATELLITE DATA

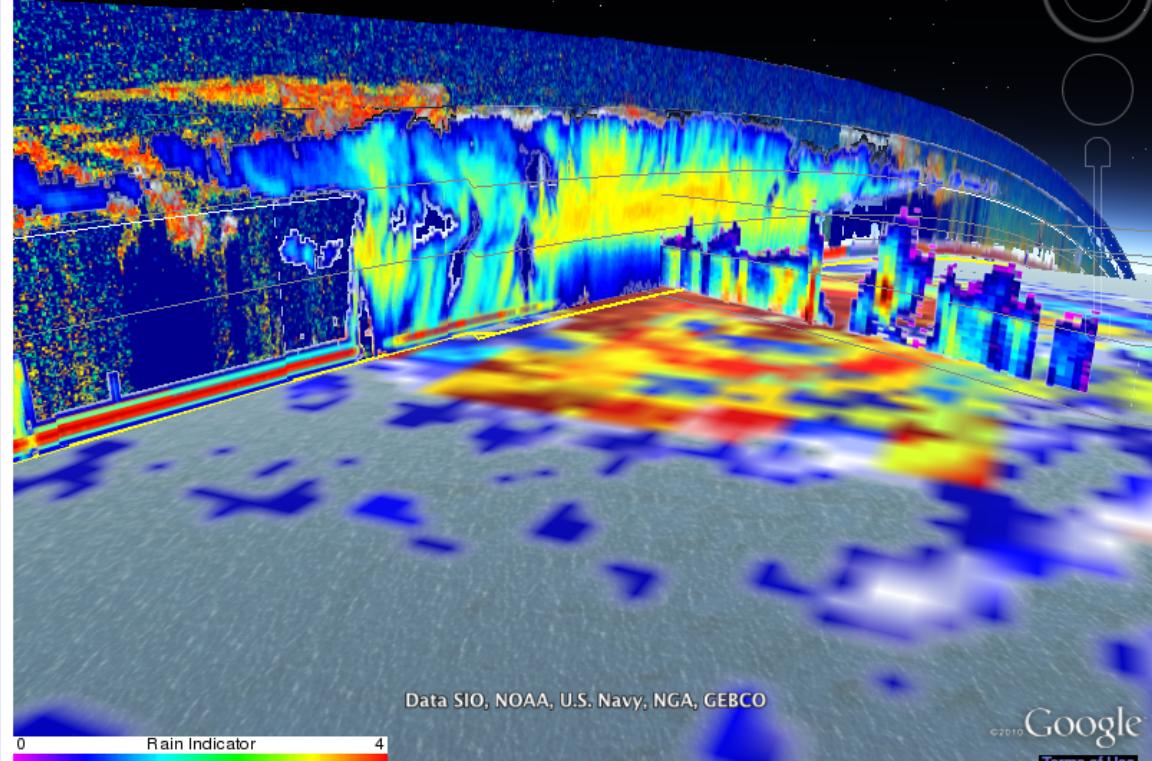
- SST
- OHC
- Wind (ASCAT)
- TPW (AMSU-A)
- RH-AIRS Press. Level 850

- CAPE-AIRS
- LI-AIRS
- Geostationary
- GOES-IR
- GOES-VAPOR
- GOES-VIS

- 85GHZ
- 37GHZ
- Rain
- TRMM PR Curt3

The current time is Tue, 07 Jun 2011 07:03:33 GMT

2010-09-15 07:00:00



Status Bar  Grid

Animation:  Observation Data  Model Data

Select a time range to animate: (from 2010-09-14 17:00:00 to 2010-09-15 17:00:00)

Start 2010-09-14 19:00:00

End 2010-09-15 19:00:00

Animation Step 1 hour

Animate

Stop

Download

### Model Data

September 2010

Su	M	T	W	Th	F	S
			01	02	03	04
05	06	07	08	09	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

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### MODEL DATA

Pressure Level: 850

Forecast Time: 000

### GFS

Speed Earth Relative

Streamline Earth Relative

PGI41L

PGI43L

PGI44L

PGI45L

PGI46L

Relative Humidity

OW

Vorticity

Deep shear

Pouch shear

Sea Level Pressure

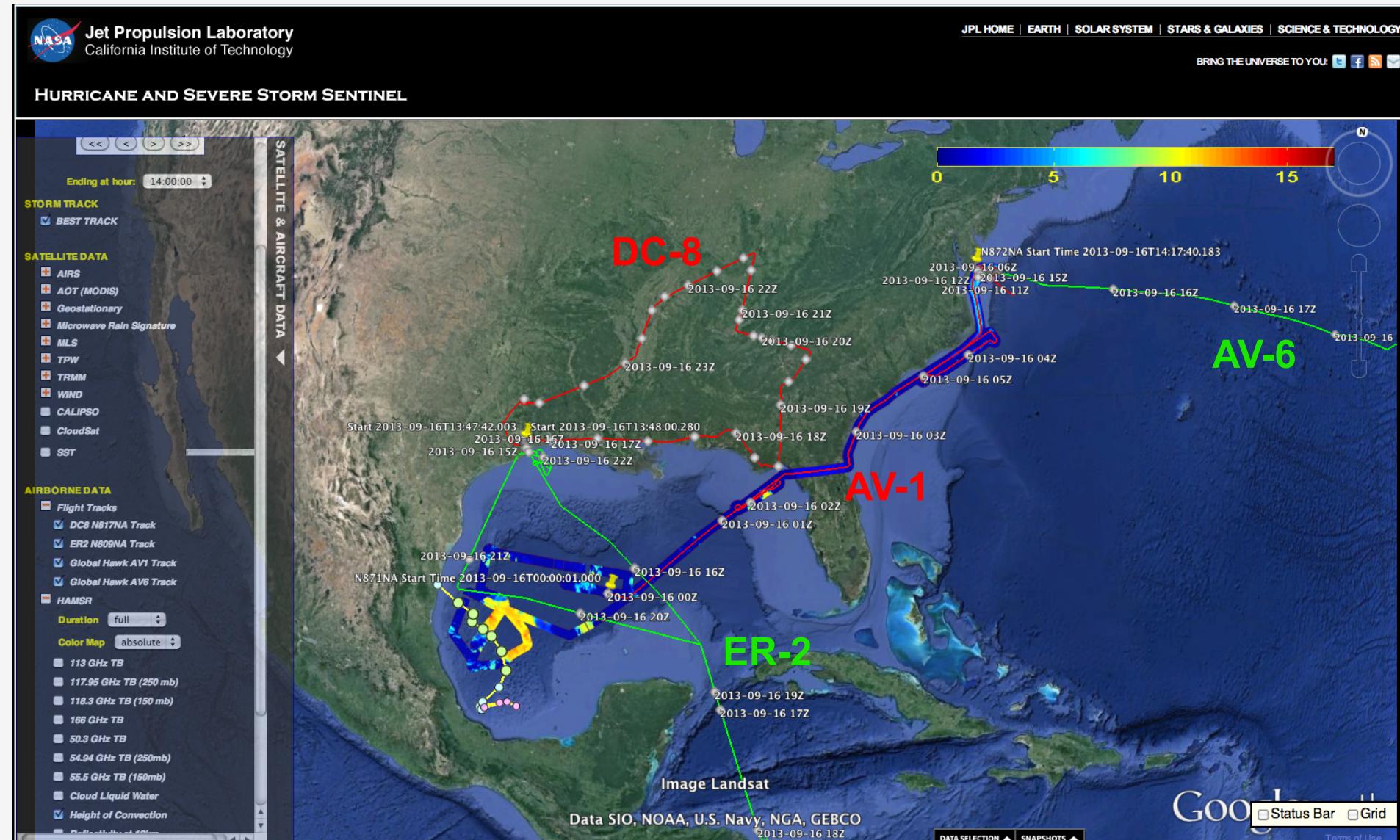
ECMWF

UKMET

NOGAPS



# Airborne Science: HS3 and SEAC4RS 2013-09-16; 14Z - Ingrid; AV-1 (HAMSAR), AV-6, ER2, DC8





# Airborne Science: SEAC4RS–2013-09-04; 14Z

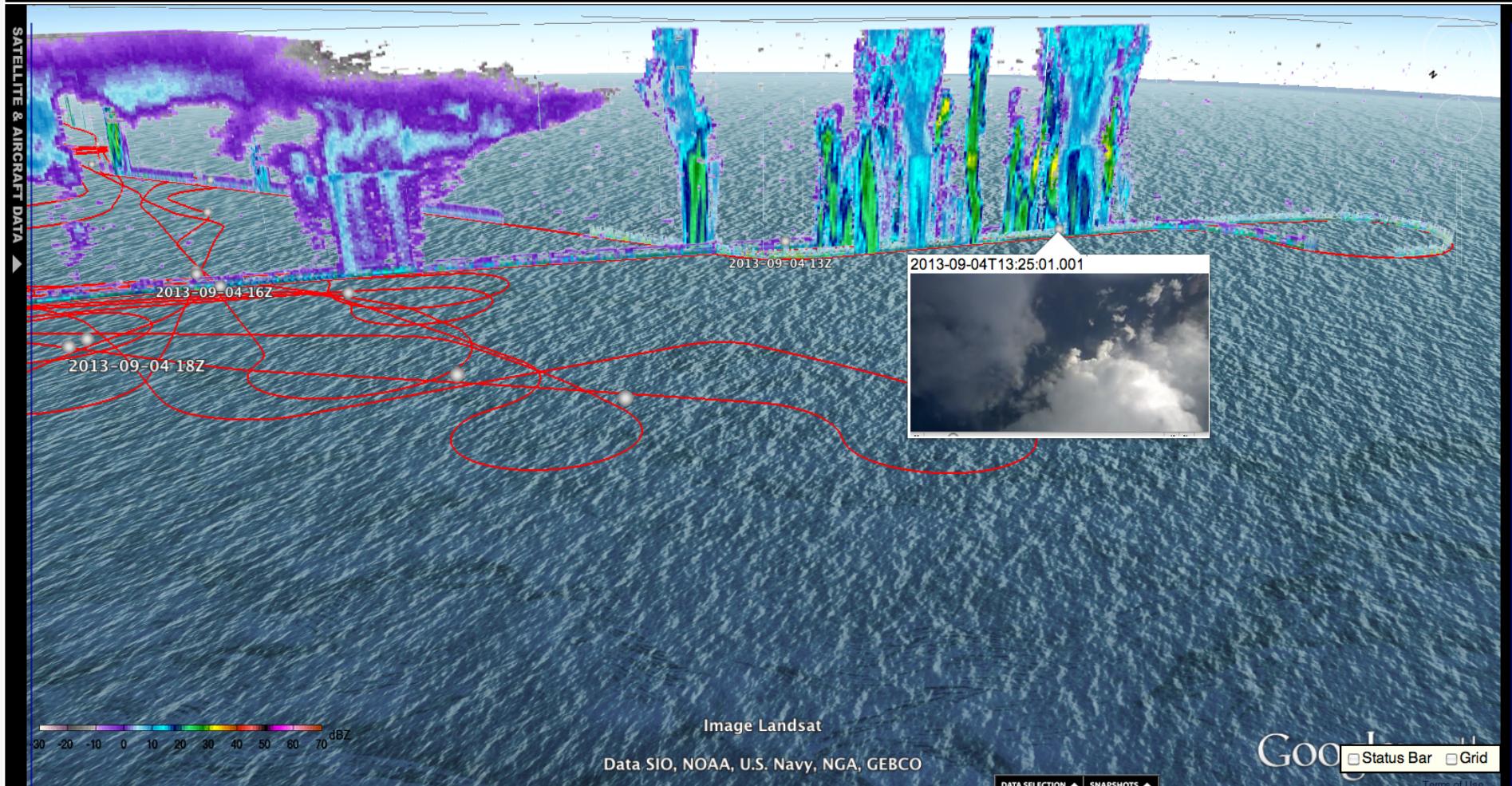
## Vertical Cross-section from APR-2 (on DC-8); Nadir-viewing Camera Movies

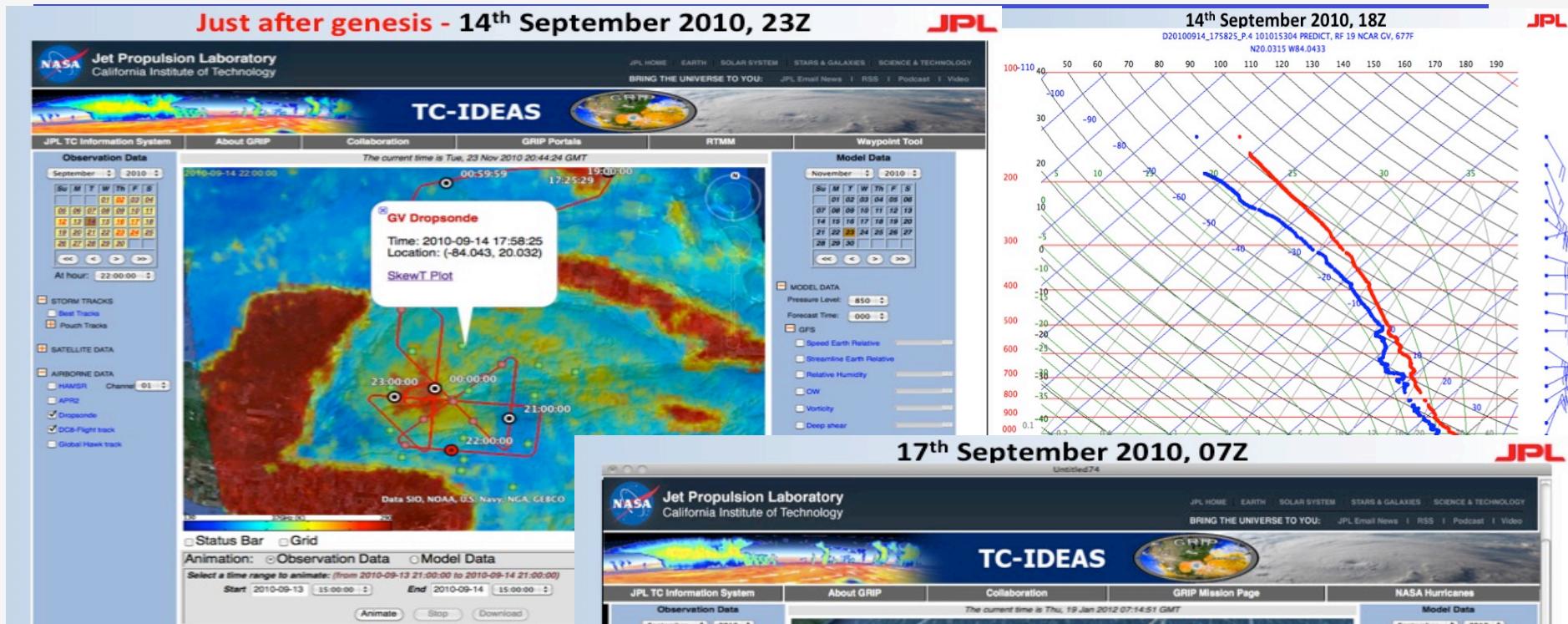
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### HURRICANE AND SEVERE STORM SENTINEL





## Hurricane Karl:

### Genesis and Rapid Intensification from

- satellite,
- airborne and
- in-situ observations



- 
- 
- 1. Bringing observations and models into a common analysis system and developing interactive visualization tools.**
  - 2. Projecting the model data into the observational space of the satellite data – the use of instrument simulators**



# Motivation: How to Evaluate the Models

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- **In situ observations** to distinguish between different modeling approaches and improve on the most promising ones.
- These point measurements cannot adequately reflect the space and time correlations characteristic of the convective processes.
- An **alternative approach** to evaluating model assumptions is to:
  - **bring model and observations into a common analysis system**
  - use **multi-parameter remote sensing observations**. In doing so, we could:
    - Compare modeled to retrieved **geophysical parameters**.
      - The satellite retrievals, however, carry their own uncertainty.
    - Compare synthetic to observed **remote-sensing parameters** using **instrument simulators** to produce **satellite observables** from the model
      - Benefits:
        - » **Increased fidelity of the evaluation results**
        - » **Ability to improve model forecast through data assimilation that also uses the instrument simulators**



# Projecting the operational forecasts into the observational space.

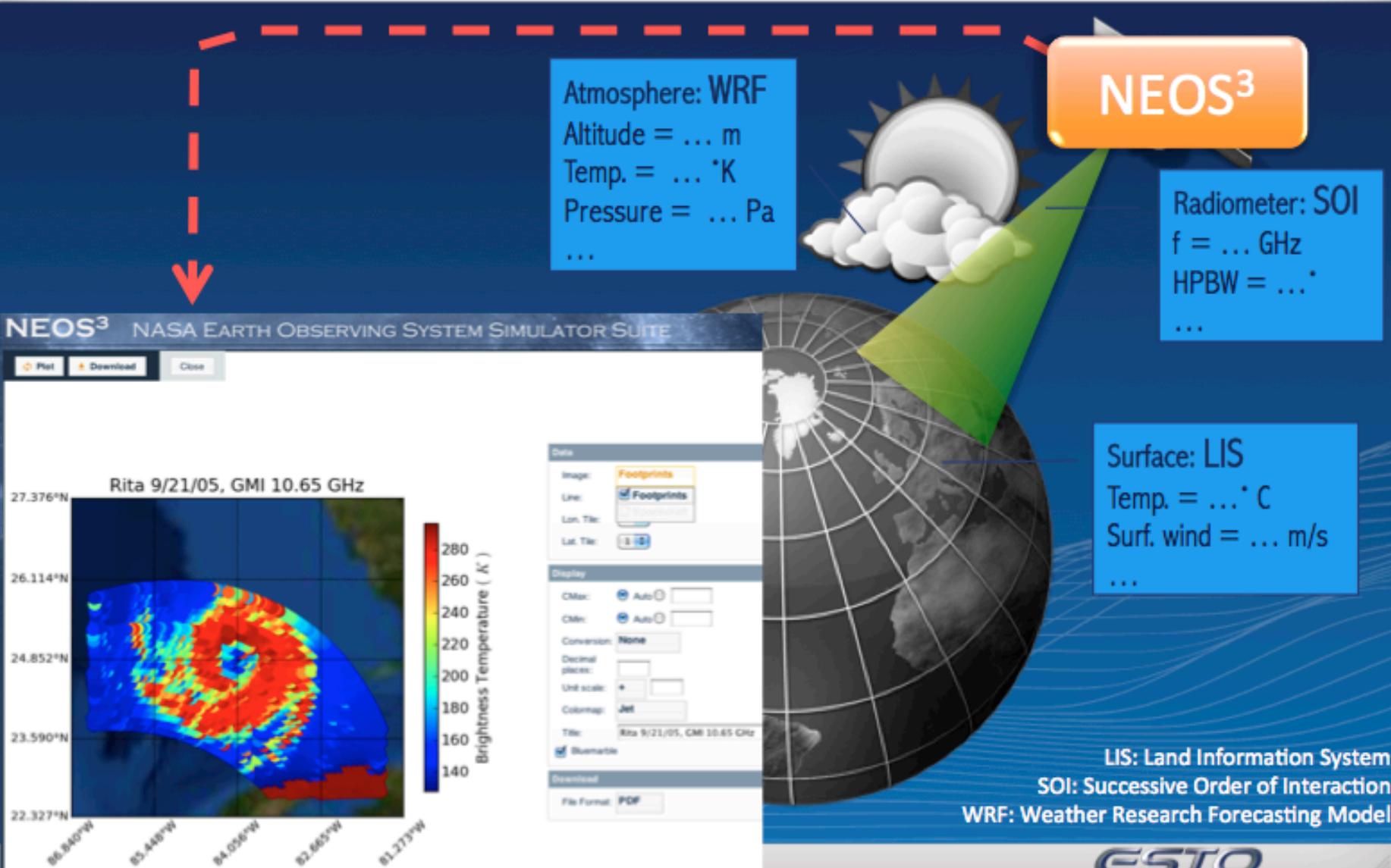
- The components of this effort included:
  1. the use of an instrument simulator (the NASA Earth Observing System Simulator Suite - NEOS<sup>3</sup>) to forward simulate microwave radiances and radar reflectivity – *see the talk by Noppasin Niamsuwan at 4:30pm*
    - at the frequency, polarization and observation geometry of the existing instruments (**TRMM, AMSR-E, SSMIS**)
    - using as input the hydrometeors and the thermodynamic fields produced by the operational forecast models
  2. the development of a strategy for sampling of the model fields according to the characteristics of the existing missions/instruments
    - NOTE – need to sample the model as the satellites sample the globe:
      - Model forecasts are presented as snapshots in time
      - Satellite observations sample the globe at various times
  3. the incorporation of the sensor simulations into the database of satellite and airborne observations. The incorporation strategy includes tools for visualization of models and observations in a common framework.

# NEOS<sup>3</sup> : Purpose

PI S. Tanelli: AIST-08 and AIST-11  
See Noppasin's talk at 4:30pm



... to simulate satellite observables from the using as input the hurricane forecast model



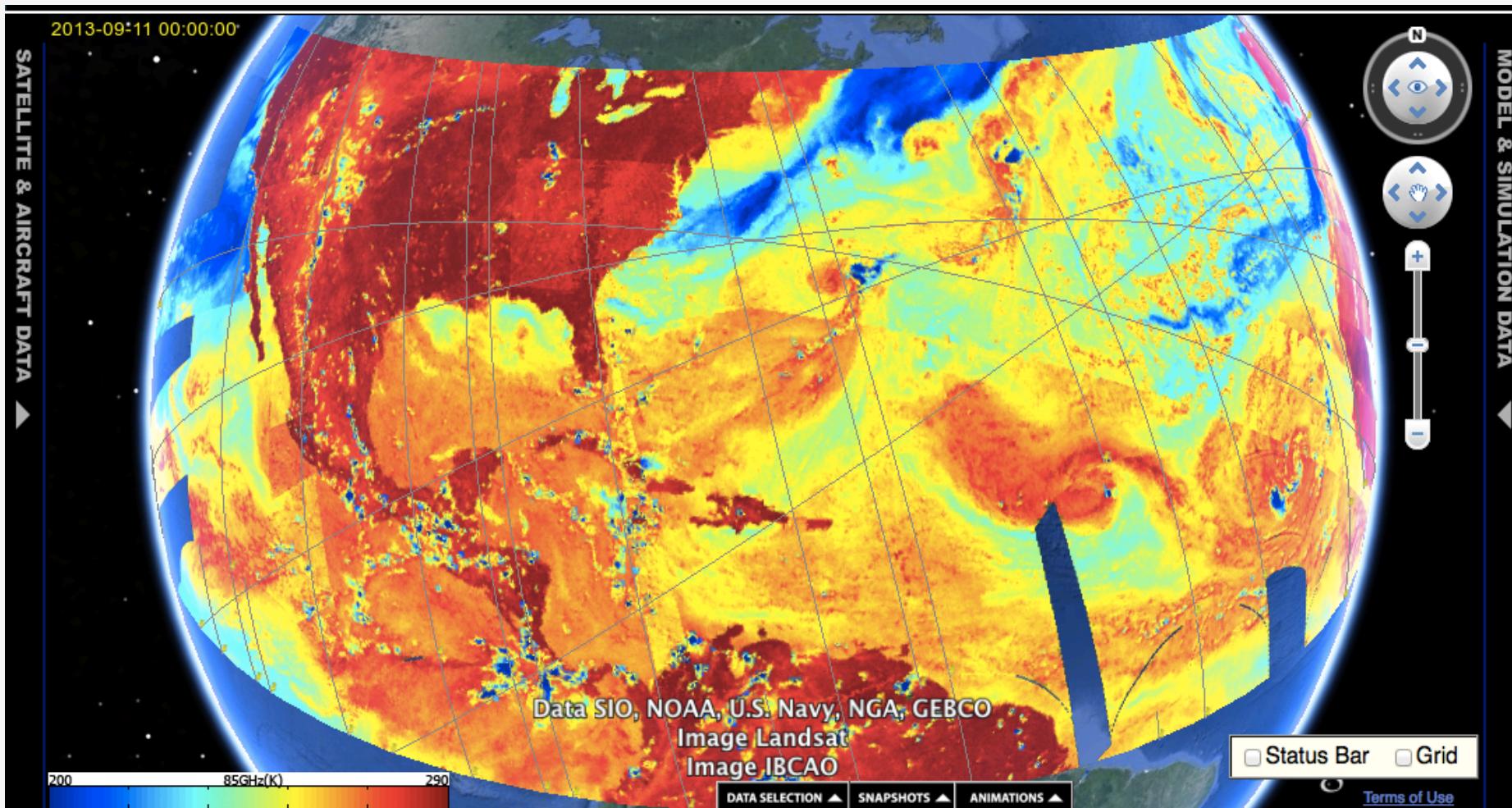


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## 2. The framework for satellite-like sampling of the model

- ✓ Developed the **criteria for triggering NEOS<sup>3</sup>, driven by input from the portal.**
- ✓ **Designed scripts to** provide (from the observations) information to NEOS<sup>3</sup> regarding the:
  - **Satellite orbit type by:**
    - mission – NOAA (F16-F18) vs TRMM vs AQUA;
    - ascending vs descending orbit
  - **Orbit specifics**
    - Time/longitude/latitude of the satellite.
  - **Selected instrument, SSMI/S vs TMI vs AMSR-E, thus specifying:**
    - frequency, polarization
    - viewing geometry (azimuth, incidence angle, Field-Of-View)

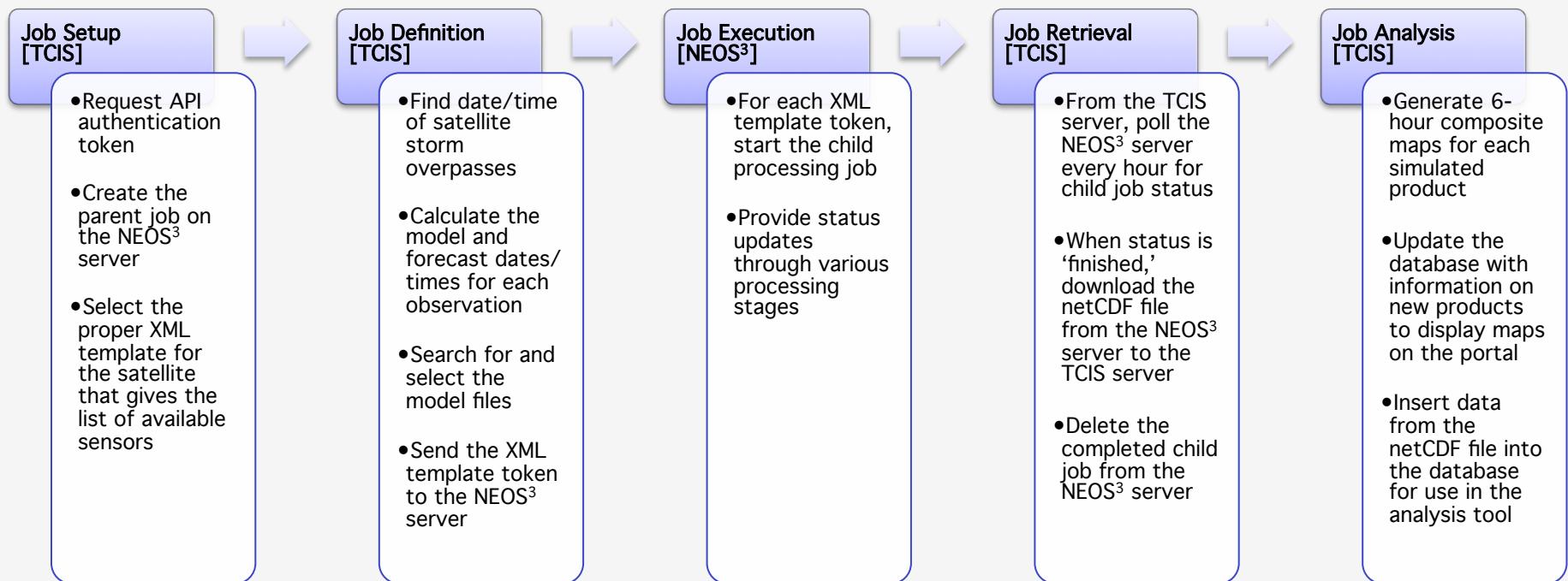
The microwave brightness temperature products are 6 hour composite from multiple sensors, including TMI, SSMI, SSMI/S, and AMSR-2. One satellite location is extracted from each track and sent to NEOS<sup>3</sup> via a TOKEN PUT request.



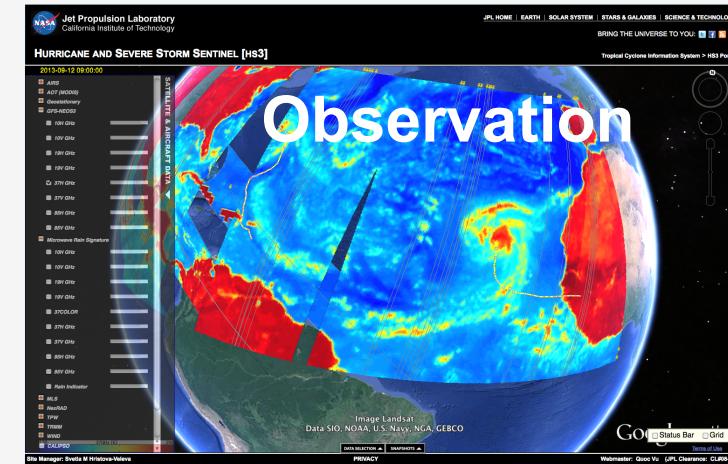
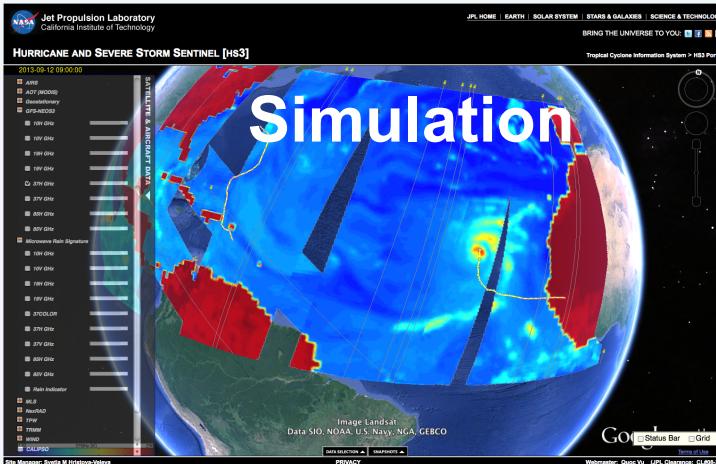


# TCIS-NEOS<sup>3</sup> Automated Interaction – The Job Processes

The TCIS and NEOS<sup>3</sup> servers interact through a series of Python scripts that request and send XML documents, using pre-defined RESTful webservices.



- TCIS uses NEOS3 to simulate brightness temperature observed by multiple instruments: TMI, AMSR2, SSMI, and SSMI/S
    - Access to a suite for instrument simulators
    - Possible to specify explicit microphysics assumption; some additional libraries were contributed by TCIS



- Submit a simulation request, check the simulation status, and retrieve the simulation product via NEOS<sup>3</sup>'s secured web service
  - Computation performance of NEOS<sup>3</sup> is *important* for this process to be practically useful.
    - ~100s simulation jobs of a few hours each for global coverage. High resolution input models (e.g., ECMWF) also demand relatively large memory (on the orders of GBs)

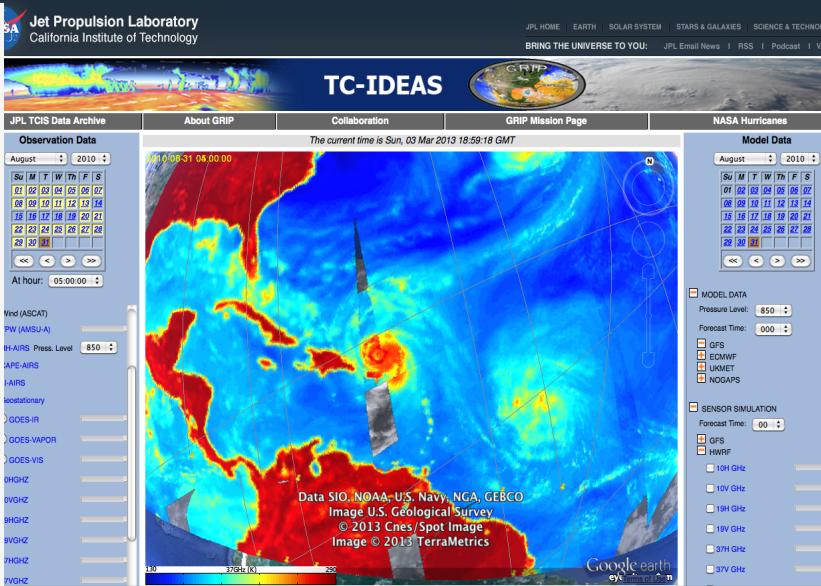
# FUSION OF MODELS AND OBSERVATIONS

Integrating hurricane model forecasts with satellite & airborne observations from a variety of instruments and platforms

- Research HWRF model forecasts were used as input to NEOS<sup>3</sup>

- Considered are the model microphysical assumptions; the instrument characteristics and sampling

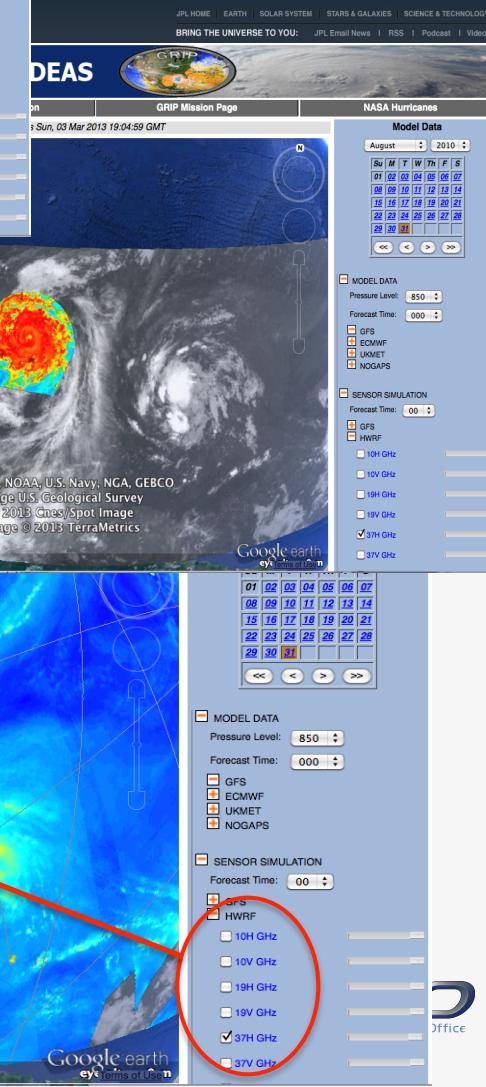
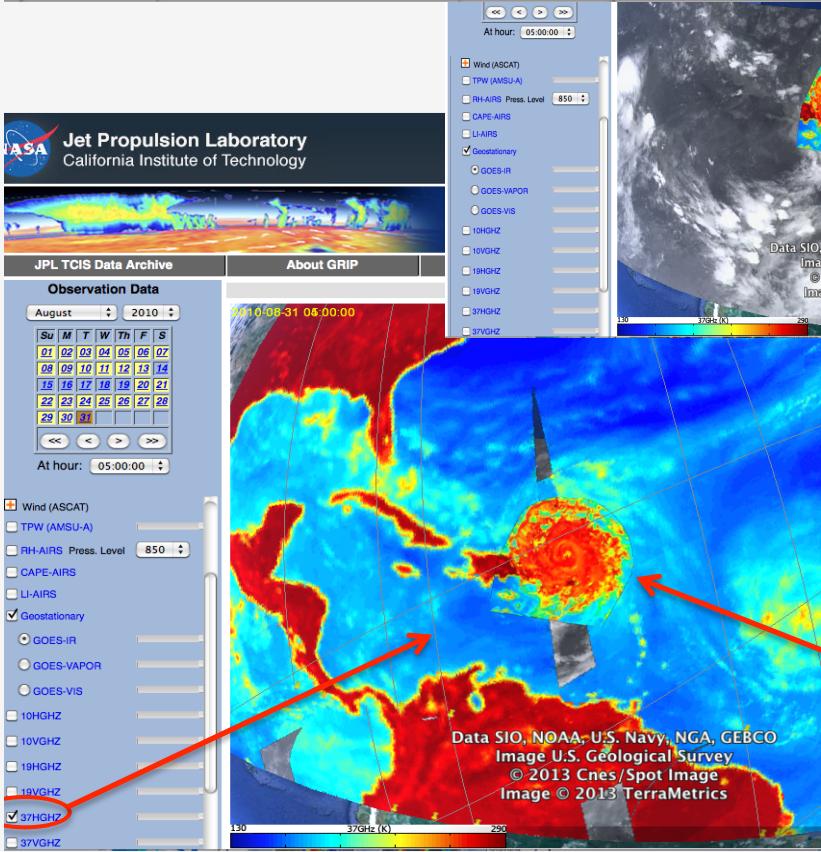
- The synthetic “satellite observations” were:
  - Incorporated in the database of satellite obs.
  - Visualized in the portal
- Limited # of cases!
- Not in NRT !



## Satellite Observations



## Synthetic Observations from Model



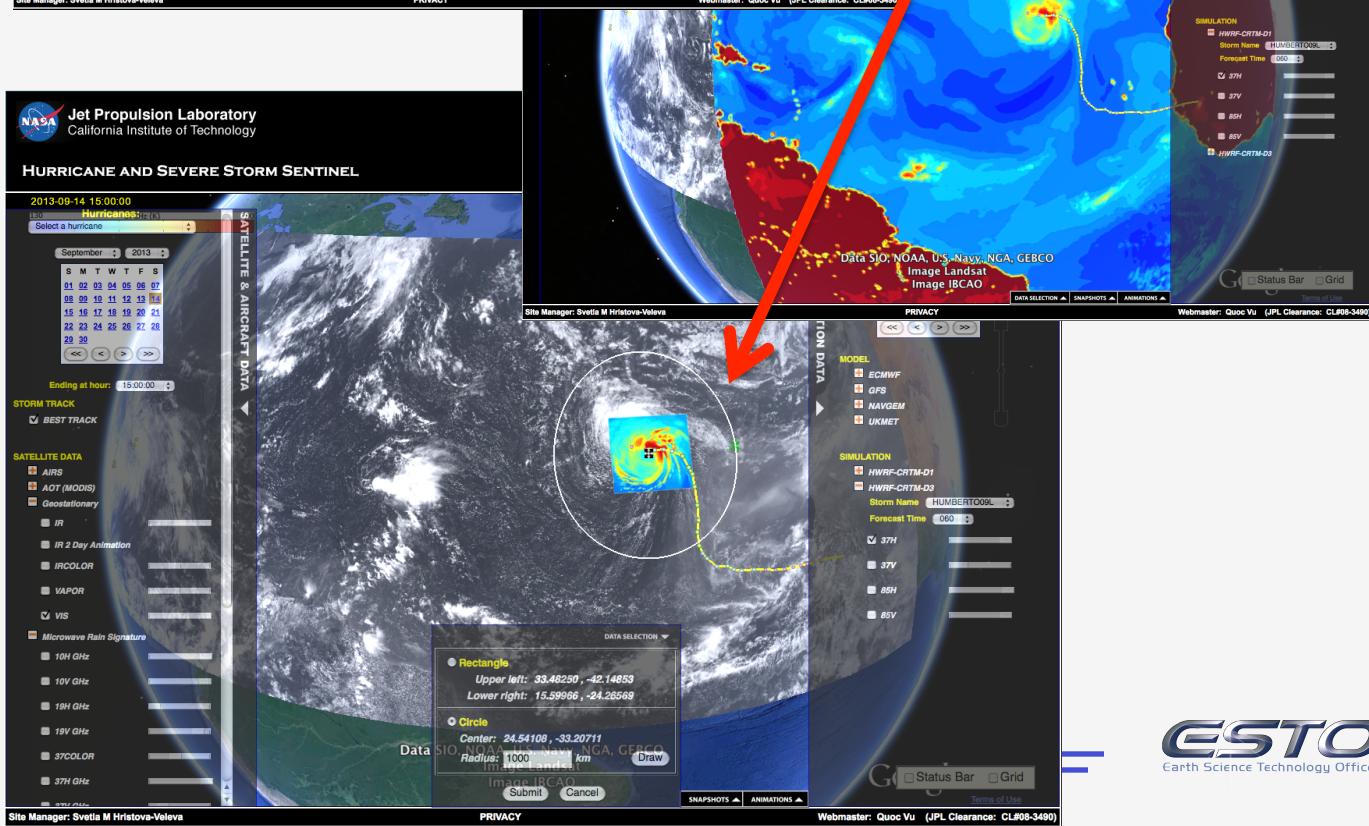
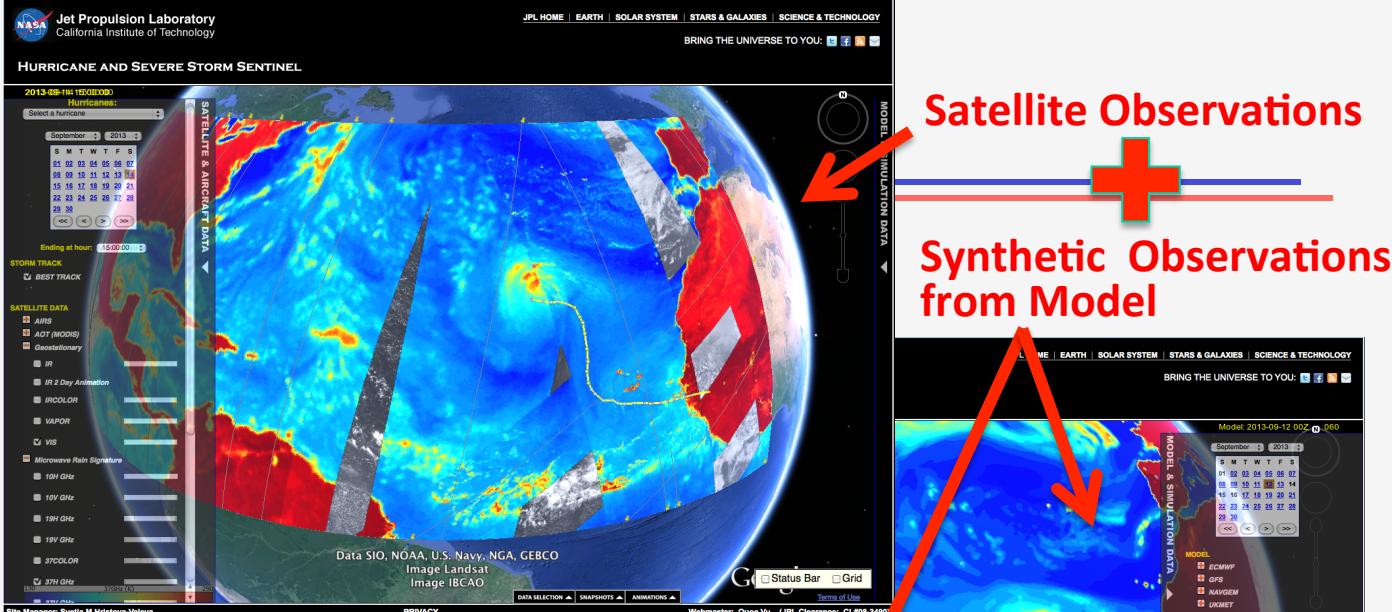
# FUSION OF MODELS AND OBSERVATIONS - OPERATIONALLY

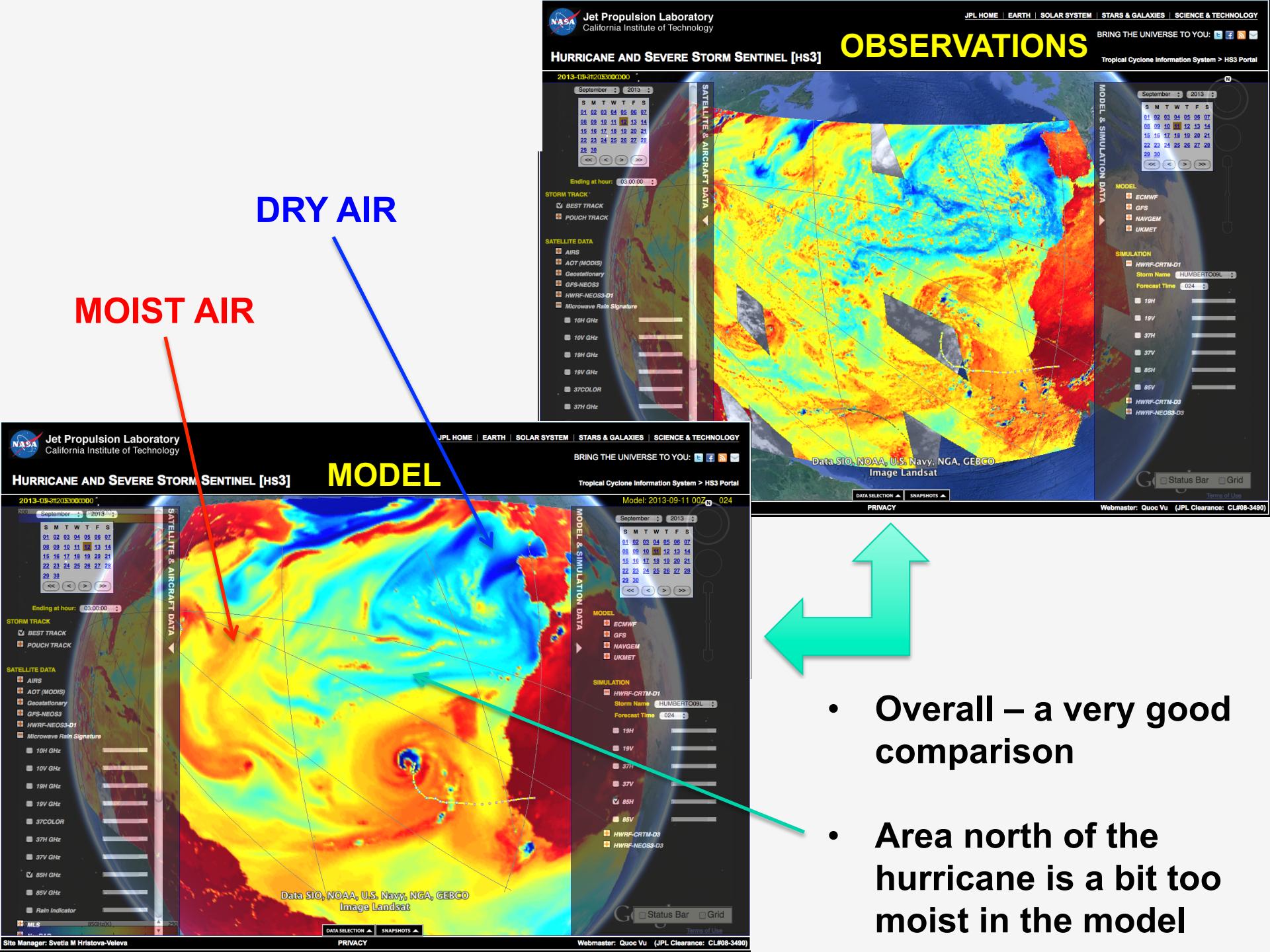
Operational HWRF model forecasts are used as input to CRTM

- Incorporated in the database of satellite obs.
- Visualized in the portal

## Why use a second source?

Including simulations from the same NWP model (say HWRF) but produced by different forward simulators and under different micro-physical & electromagnetic assumptions (as in NEOS<sup>3</sup> and CRTM) will help reveal the uncertainty that comes from the forward modeling itself.



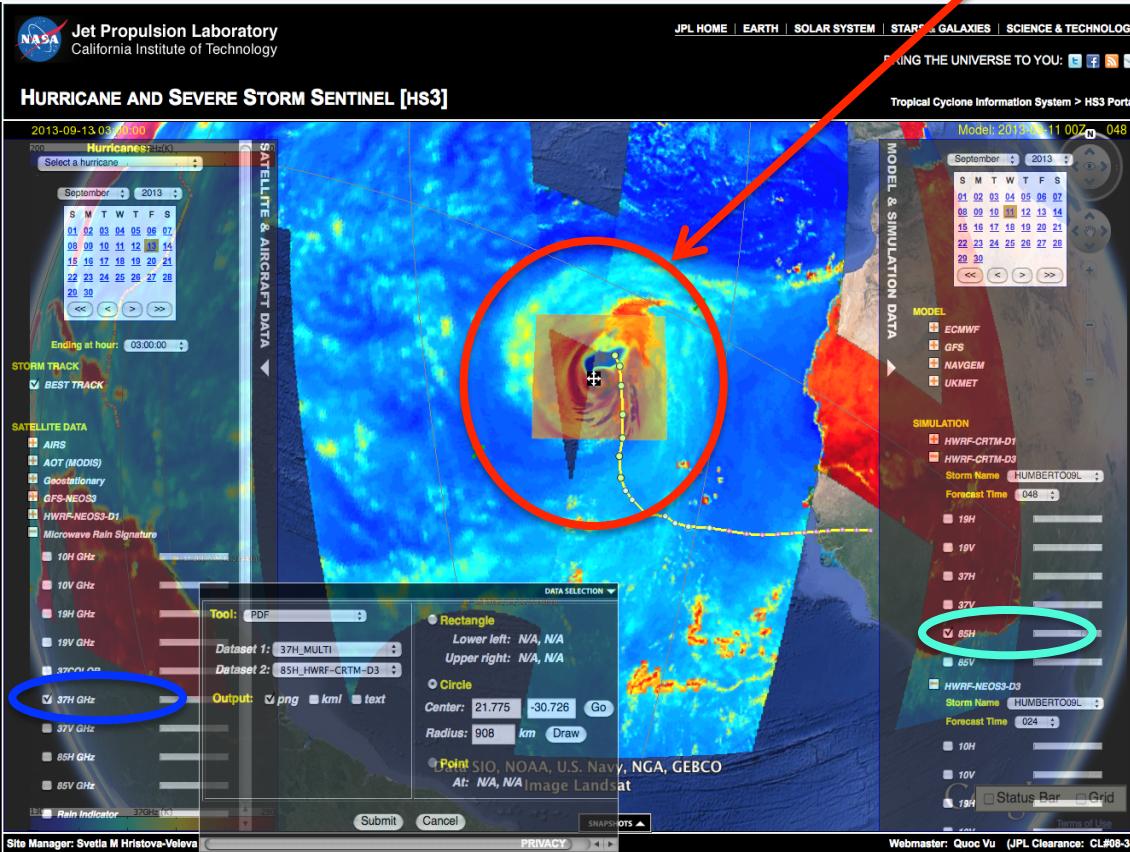




- 
- 
- 1. Bringing observations and models into a common analysis system and developing interactive visualization tools.**
  - 2. Projecting the model data into the observational space of the satellite data – the use of instrument simulators**
  - 3. Developing analysis tools with the goals to:**
    - Understand the observed structure of the hurricanes**
    - Evaluate the models**



# Analysis tools for model validation



- Interactively select region
- Gather data from observed and synthetic
  - brightness temperatures
  - radar reflectivity
- Statistical comparisons
  - Storm-relative coordinates
  - EOFs, CFADs
  - Azimuthal averages = $f(r)$
  - Wave-number analysis = $f(r)$
- Storm Structure
  - Object classification
  - Metrics for model/obs object
- Visualization of analysis



# Interactive tool for data analysis: Implementation Flow Diagram

Select the Products, the time period and the region of interest from the HS3 Portal

- Select a date/time from either the observation calendar or the model calendar
- Display the products of interest by checking the menu buttons on the observation or the model panel
- Select a region of interest by using the Rectangle or Circle selection tool  
**(Google Earth API, Java Script, PHP)**



Subset the data

- Query the database to retrieve all the observations that satisfy the selection criteria
- Prepare data in the format required for the analysis tool  
**(MySQL, Python)**



Run the analysis tool and generate the statistical results in form of graphics or text  
**(Matlab, Fortran, IDL, web services, etc..)**



Display the results back to the portal  
**(Image pop up, tables, GE overlays)**

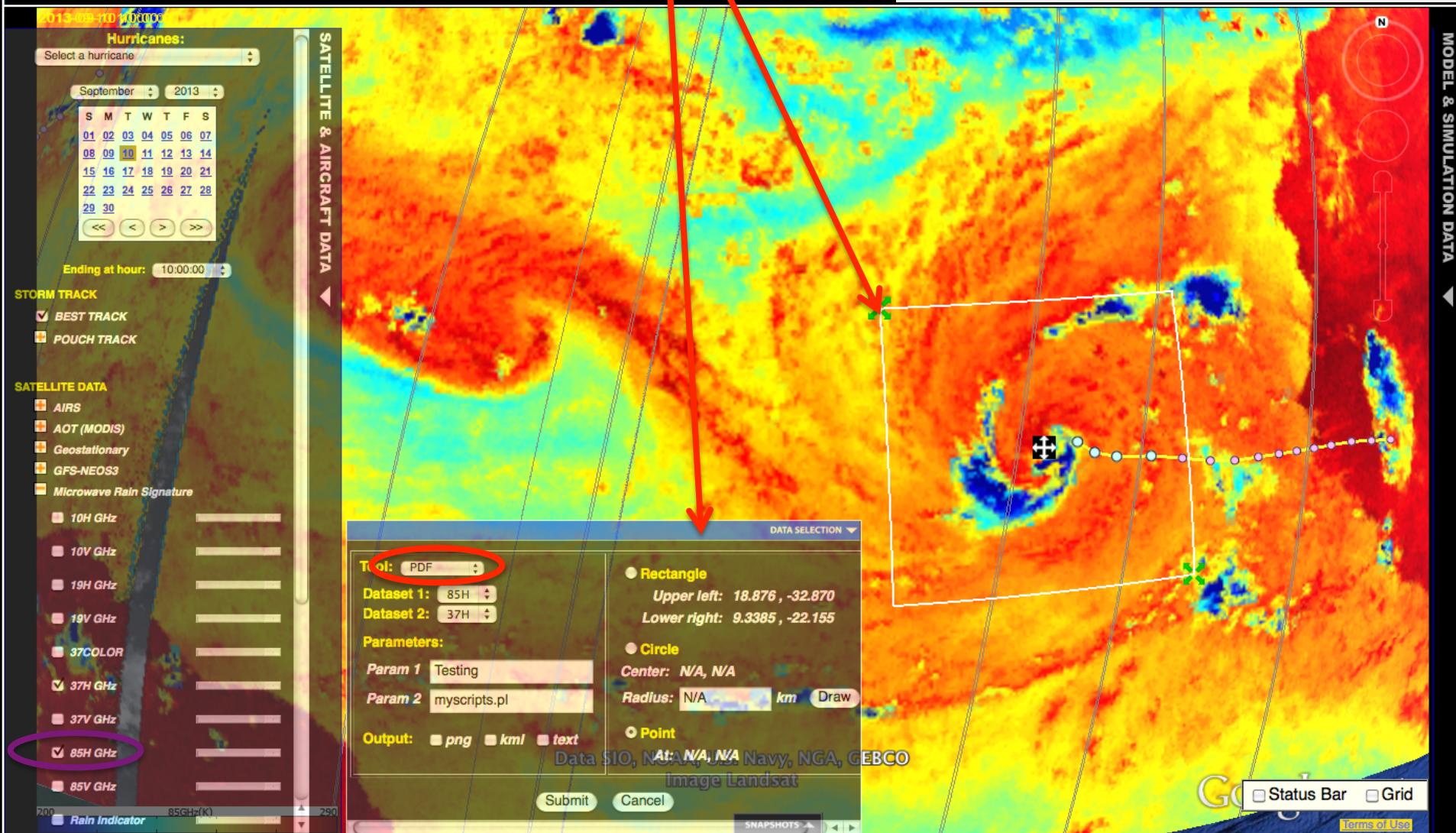


# The Selection Tool

NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory  
California Institute of Technology

HURRICANE AND SEVERE STORM SENTINEL

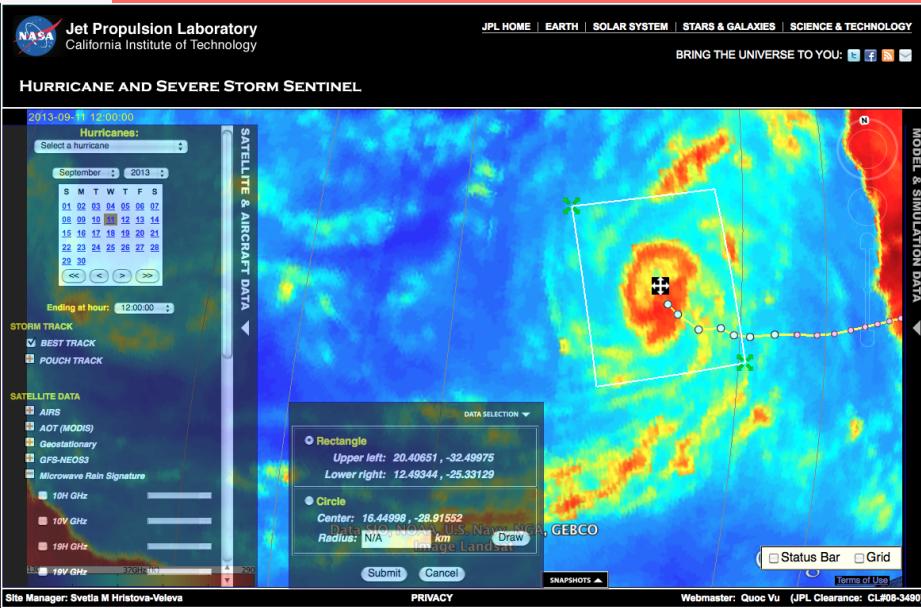
1. Select the region of interest
  - Circle, Square, Point
2. Select the tool (e.g. PDF)
3. Select two frequencies
4. Submit the job ...



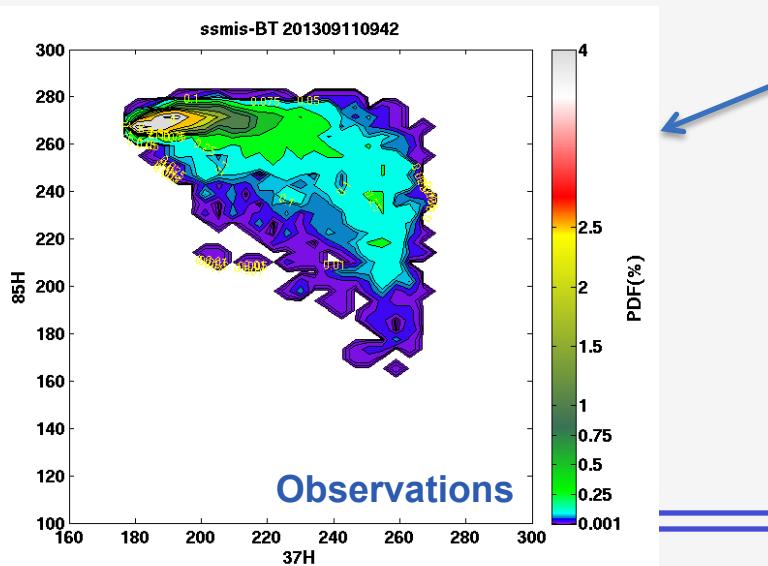


# Statistical Tool: Joint Distribution of Brightness Temperatures

## Example: The Joint PDF of 37GHz and 85GHz TBs; Humberto



- The statistical relationship between the 37 GHz TBs and the 85 GHz TB presents information on the vertical structure of the storm

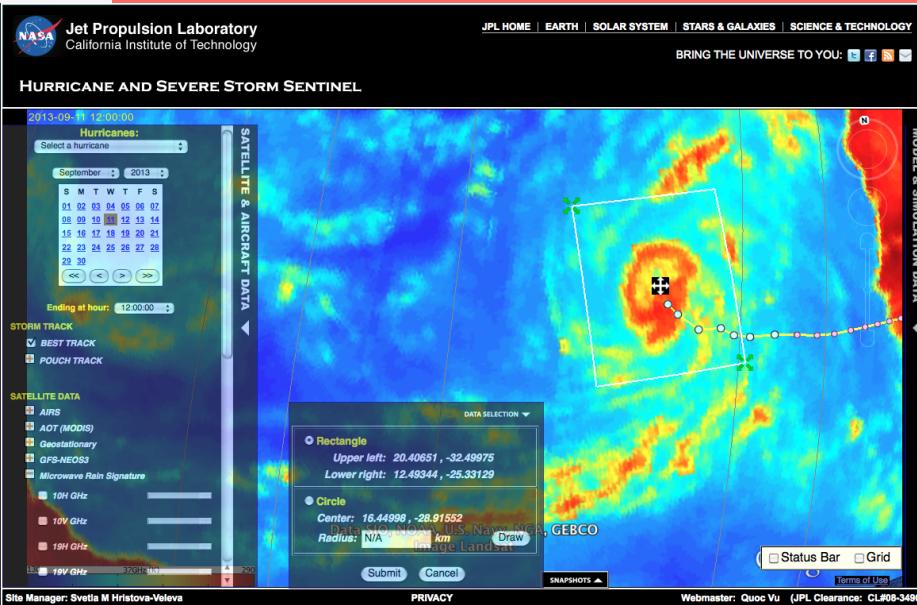


- The Joint PDF illustrates this relationship

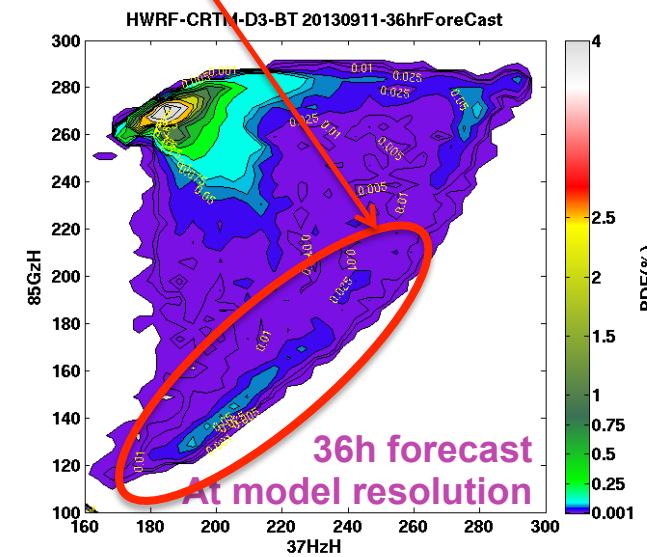
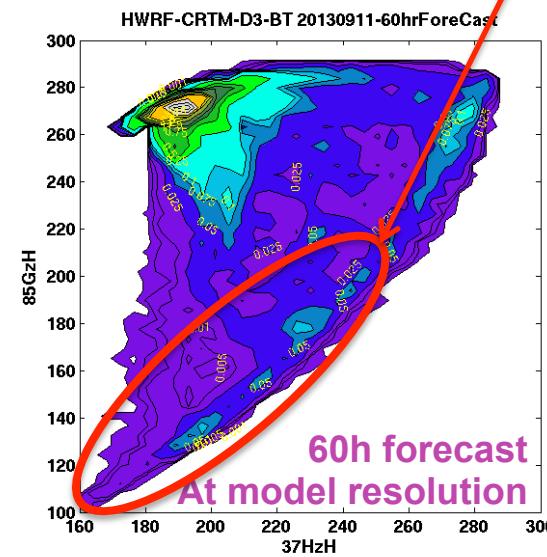
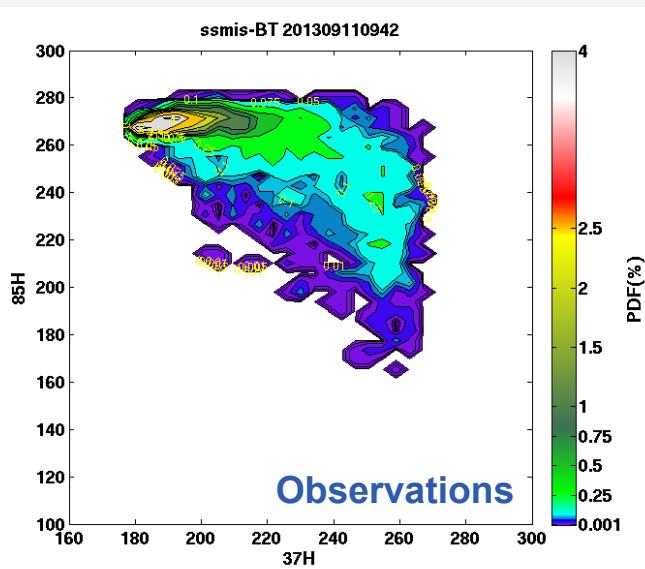
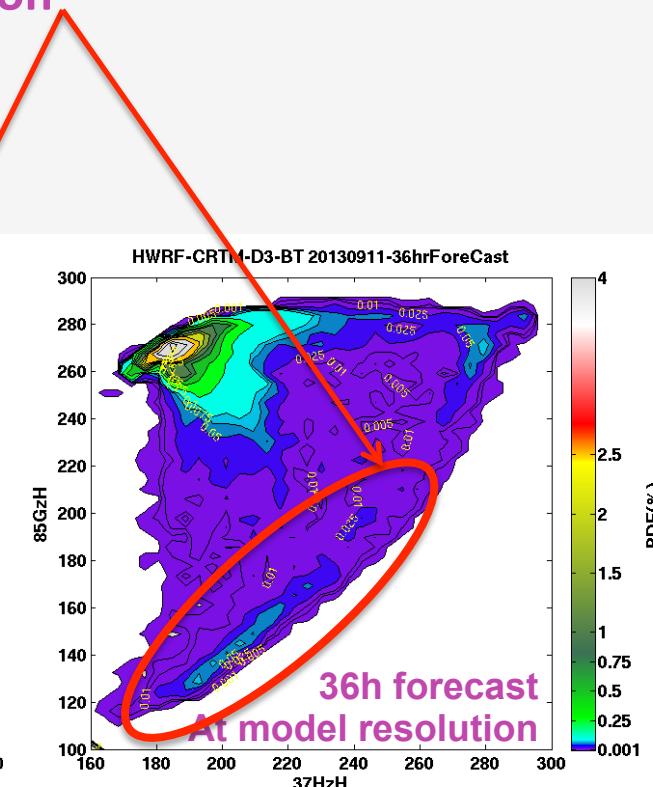


# Statistical Tool: Joint Distribution of Brightness Temperatures

## Example: The Joint PDF of 37GHz and 85GHz TBs; Humberto



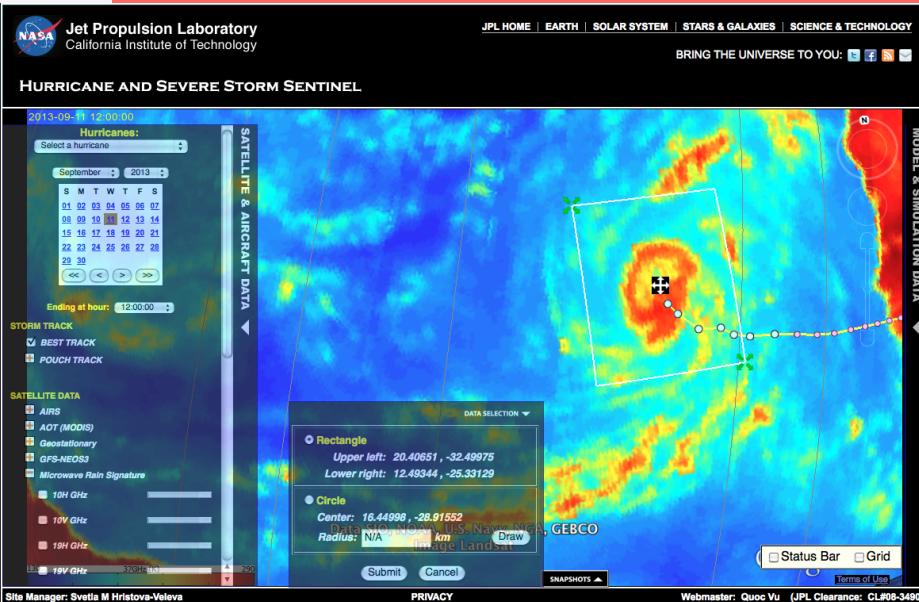
- The statistical relationship between the 37 GHz TBs and the 85 GHz TB presents information on the vertical structure of the storm
- The vertical branch indicates too much scattering of radiation by the frozen precipitation



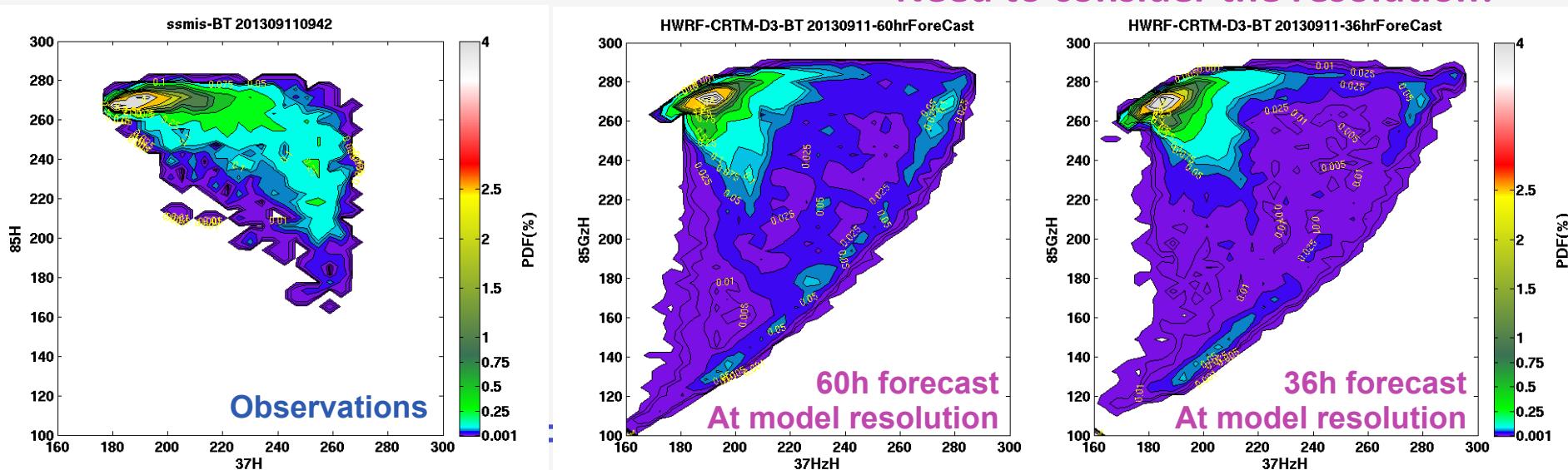


# Statistical Tool: Joint Distribution of Brightness Temperatures

## Example: The Joint PDF of 37GHz and 85GHz TBs; Humberto



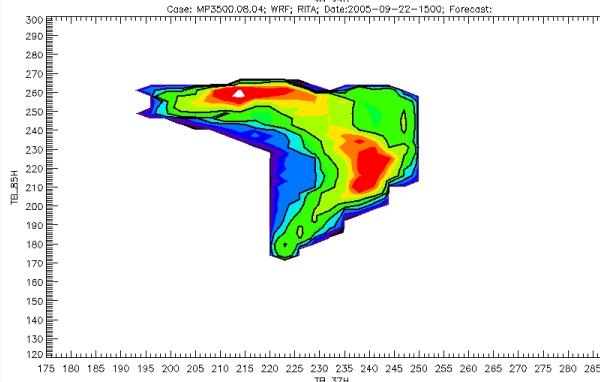
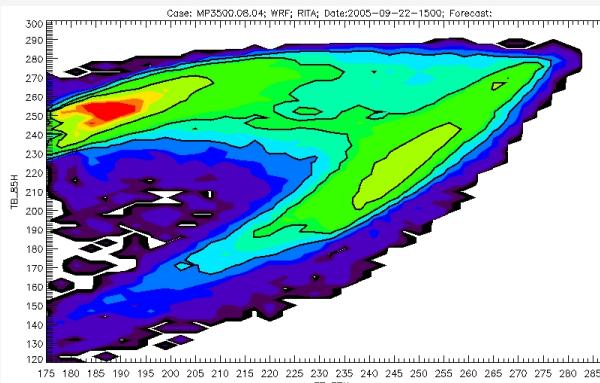
- The statistical relationship between the 37 GHz TBs and the 85 GHz TB presents information on the vertical structure of the storm
- The vertical branch indicates too much scattering of radiation by the frozen precipitation
- Question: Is the ice too much or is its forward modeling inaccurate?
- Need to consider the resolution!



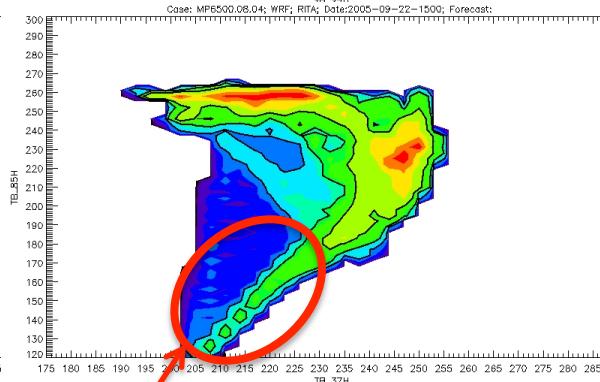
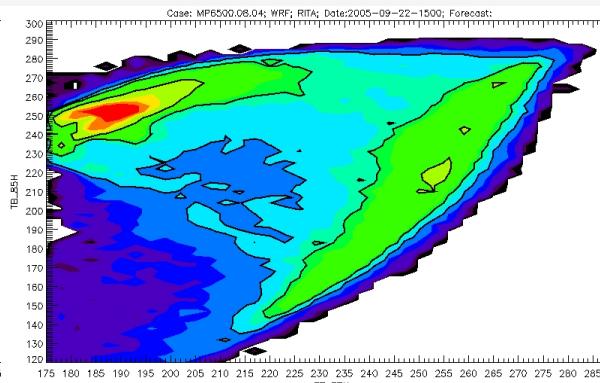


# Joint Distribution (37H vs 85H) – Impact of Resolution

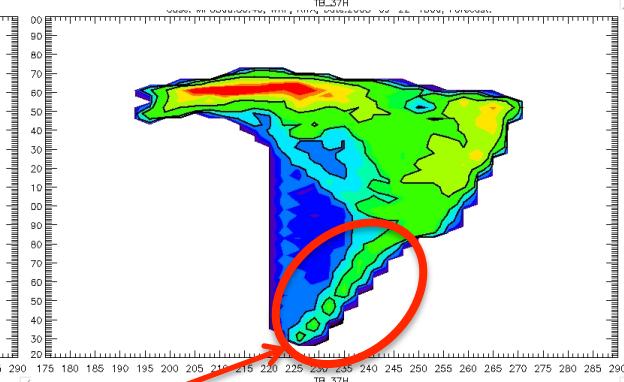
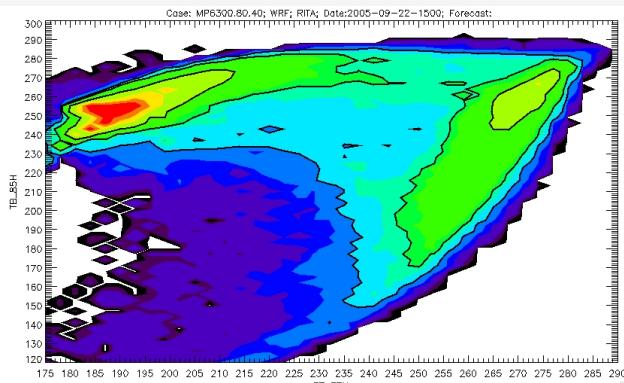
M3-500.08.04



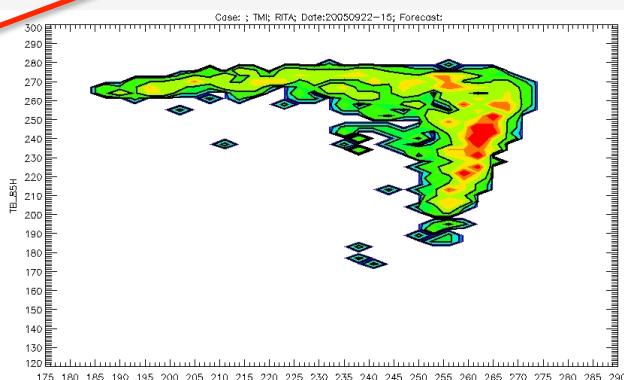
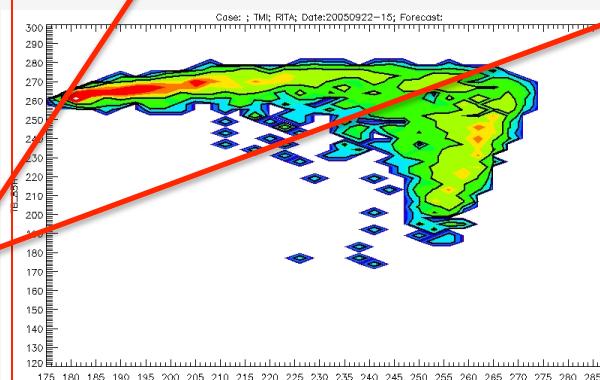
M6-500.08.04



M6-300.80.40



The Joint Distribution of the model data is improved when the synthetic data are convolved with the antenna pattern!!  
Still – too much scattering in the model data.



WRF res.

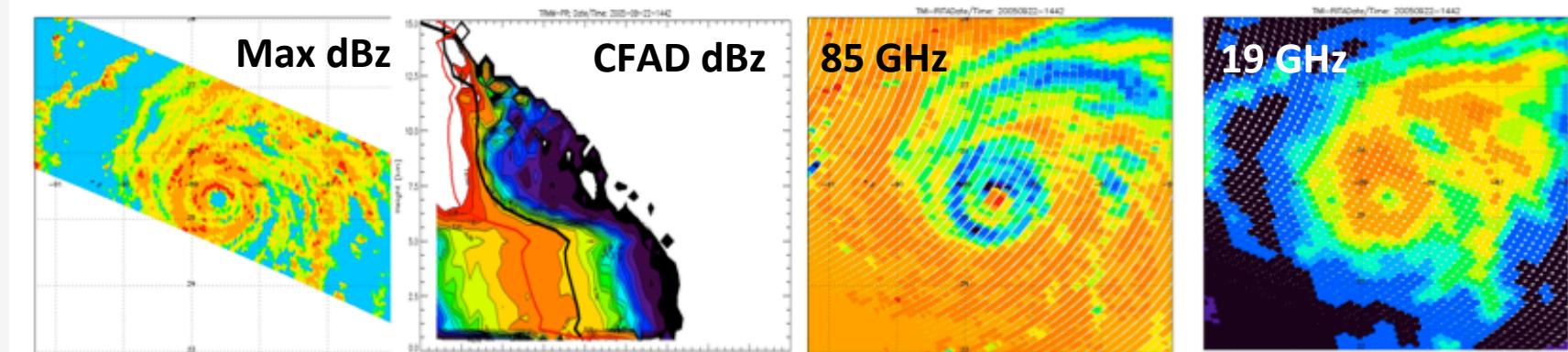
TMI obs.

NASA Goddard Space Flight Center Office

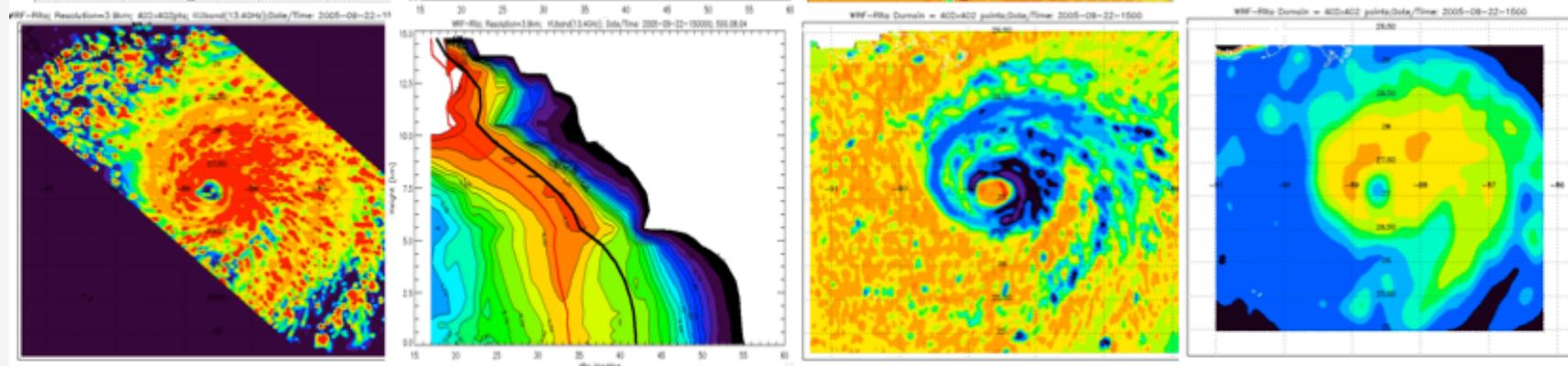


# Example of MODEL EVALUATION – the Impact of Microphysics

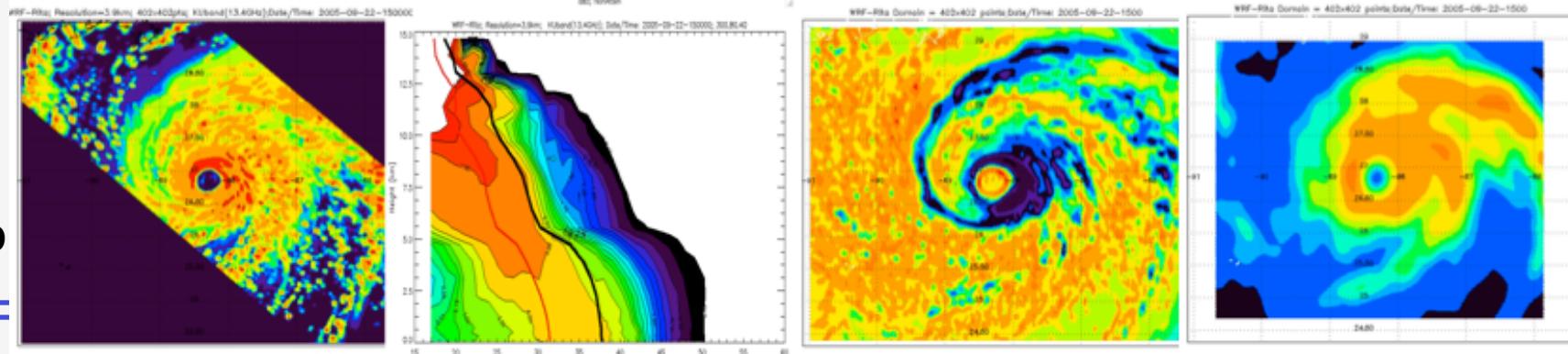
TRMM



WRF  
WSM3



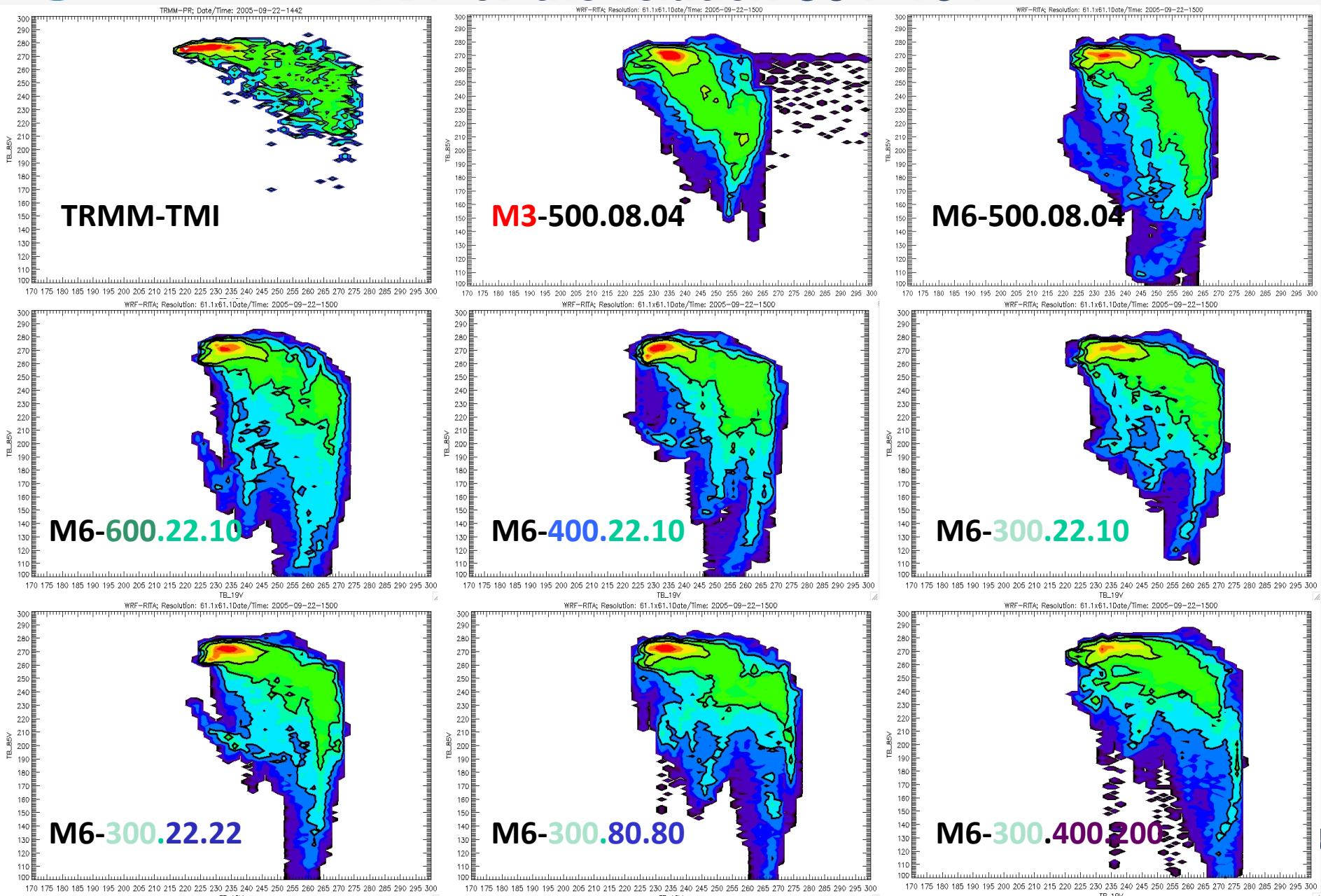
WRF  
WSM6  
New PSD





# Joint Distribution (19H vs 85H) – Impact of Microphysics

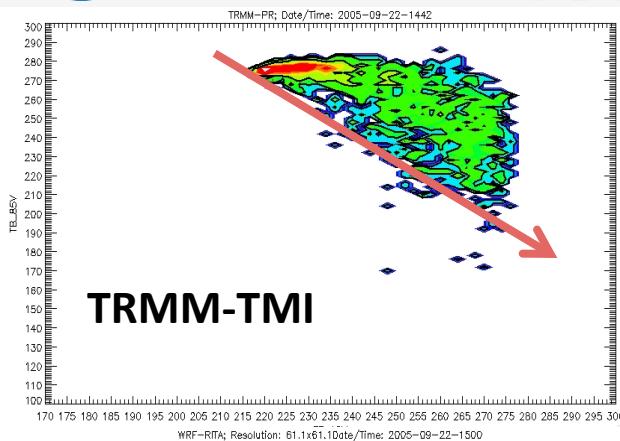
## PDF of the relation 85V-19V



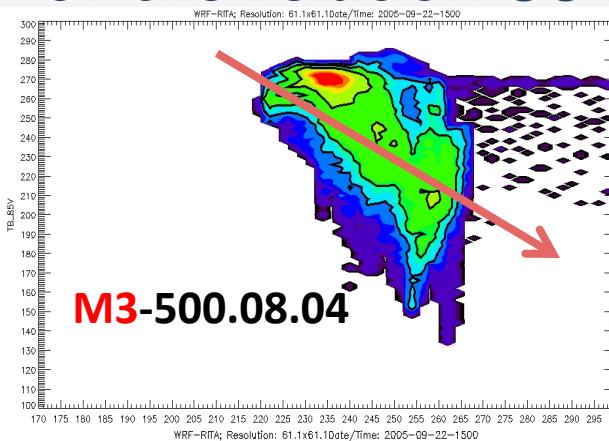


# Joint Distribution (19H vs 85H) – *Impact of Microphysics*

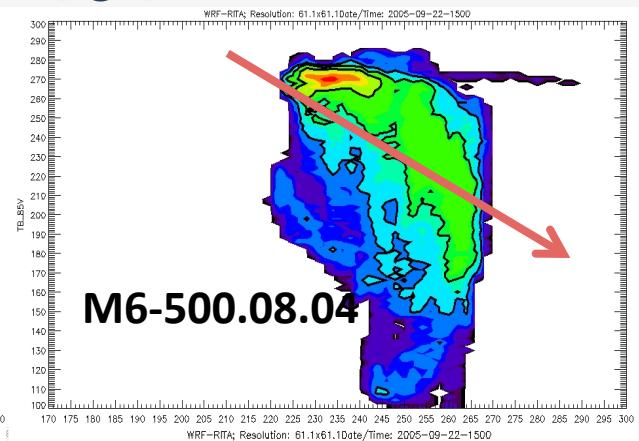
## PDF of the relation 85V-19V



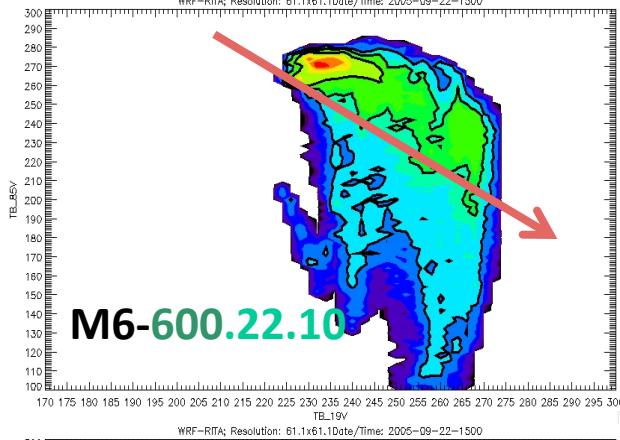
TRMM-TMI



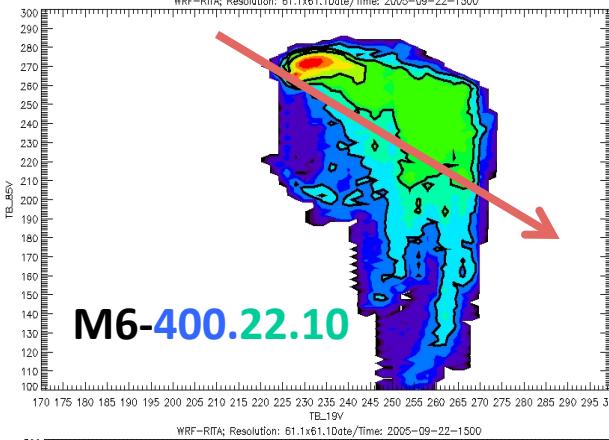
M3-500.08.04



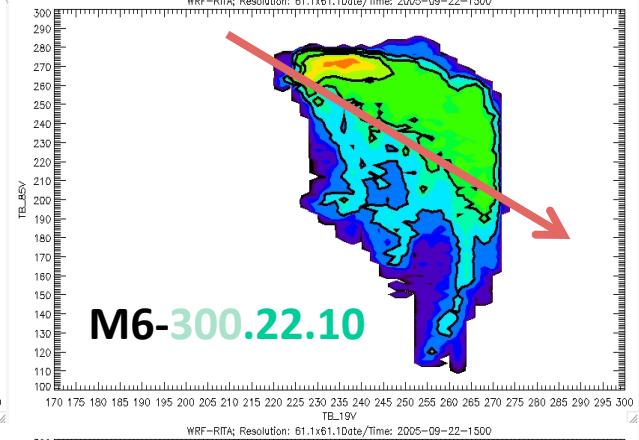
M6-500.08.04



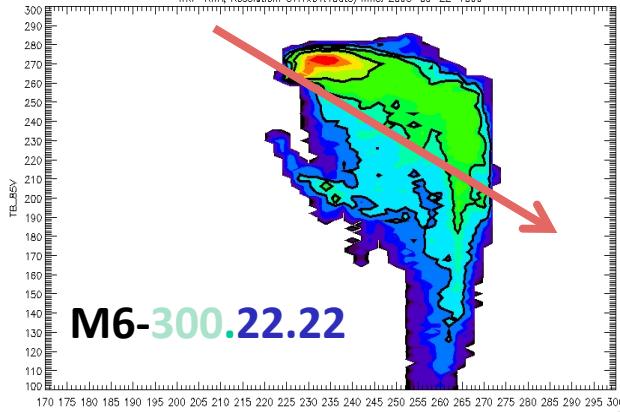
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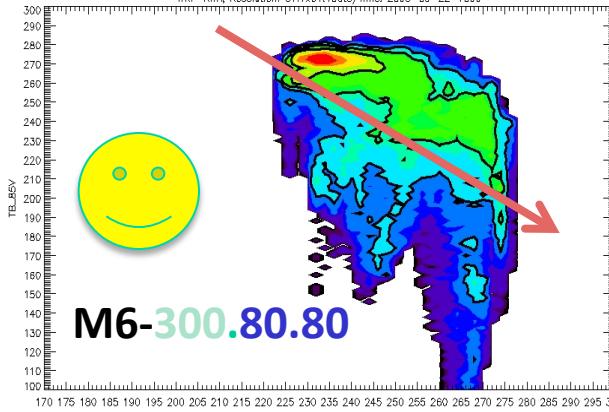
M6-400.22.10



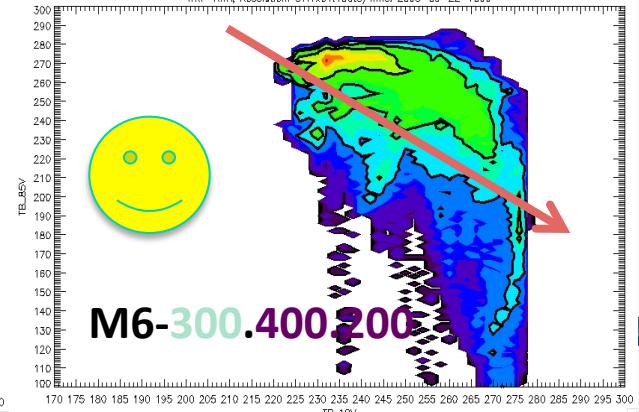
M6-300.22.10



M6-300.22.22



M6-300.80.80

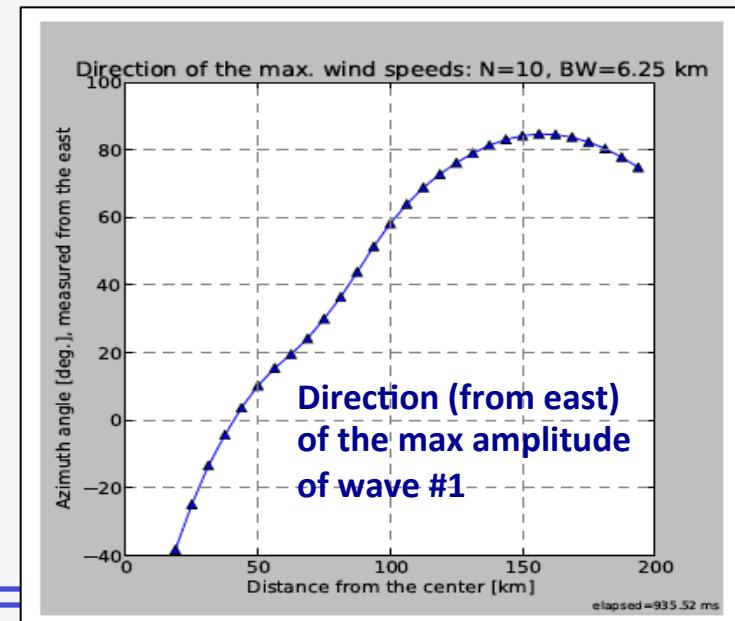
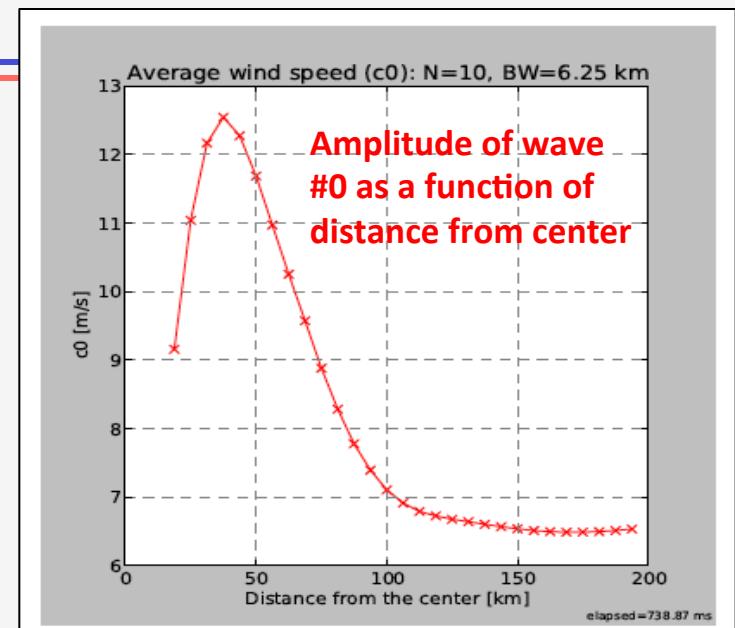
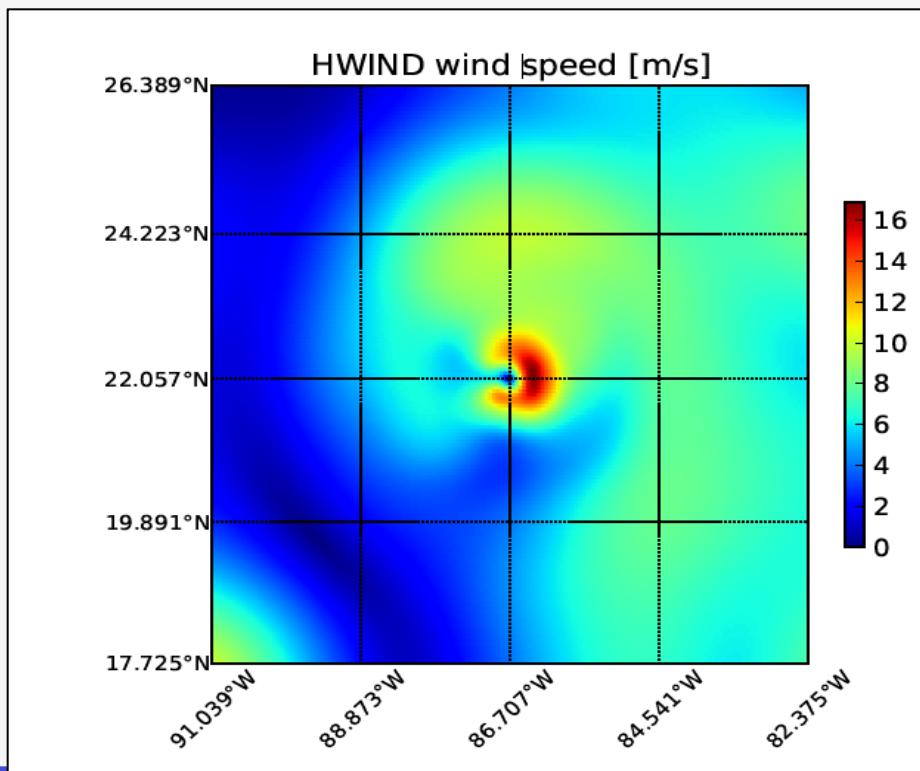


M6-300,400,200

# Storm structure Tool: Storm Size and Asymmetry

## The Wave Number Analysis Tool

- First adopted and used by NOAA/AOML/HRD
  - Vukicevic, T., E. Uhlhorn, P. Reasor and B. Klotz, 2013: "A novel multi-scale intensity metric for evaluation of tropical cyclone intensity forecasts", Journal of the Atmospheric Sciences 2013 ;doi: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1175/JAS-D-13-0153.1>
- Tool Developed for the JPL TCIS by
  - Z. Haddad, N. Niamsuwan, T.-S. Shen



# Storm structure Tool:

## Storm Size and Asymmetry

The Wave Number Analysis Tool using the Rain Index (EP hurricane Lowell)



NASA  
Jet Propulsion Laboratory  
California Institute of Technology

### HURRICANE AND SEVERE STORM SENTINEL [HS3]

2014-08-19 15:00:00

0 15 Hurricanes:mm. 55  
Karina (08/10-08/19, 1)

August 2014  
S M T W T F S  
01 02  
03 04 05 06 07 08 09  
10 11 12 13 14 15 16  
17 18 19 20 21 22 23  
24 25 26 27 28 29 30  
31  
<< < > >>

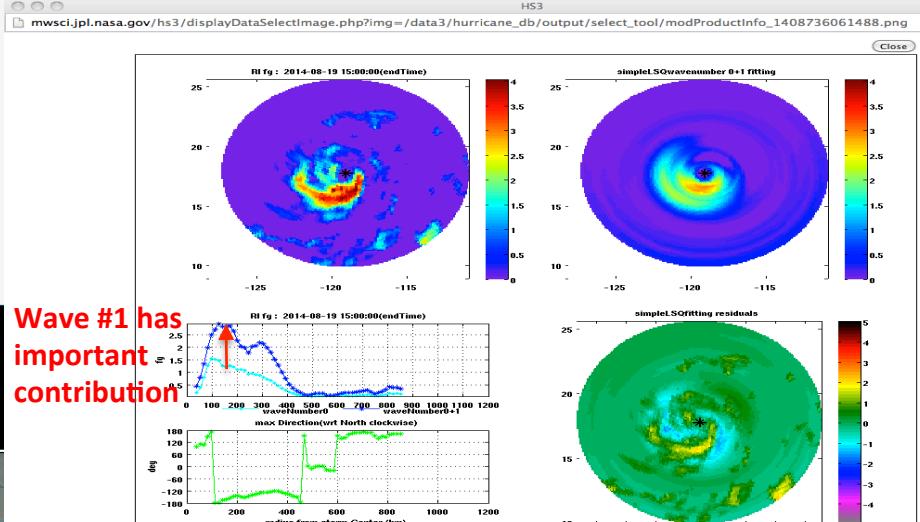
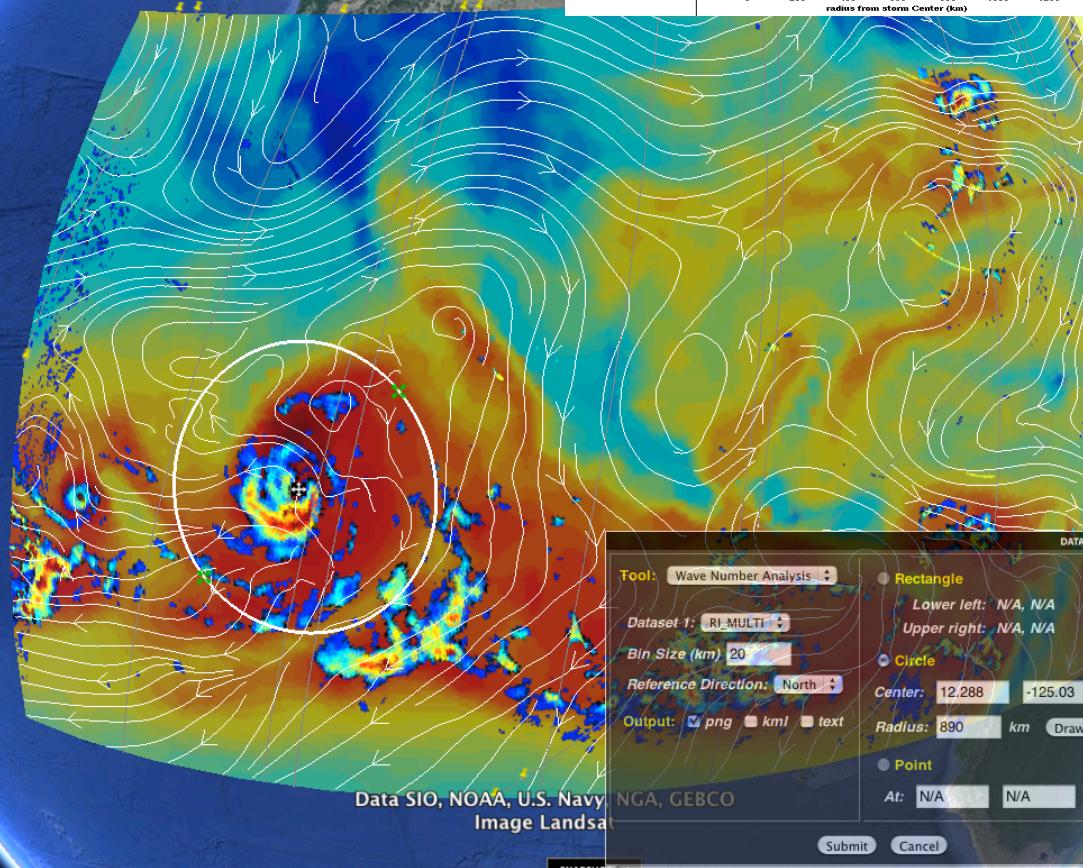
Ending at hour: 15:00:00

#### SATELLITE & AIRCRAFT DATA

- AIRS
- Geostationary
- IR
- 2 Day Animation
- ICOLOR
- VAPOR
- VIS
- Microwave Rain Signature

- 10H GHz
- 10V GHz
- 19H GHz
- 19V GHz
- 37COLOR
- 37H GHz
- 37V GHz
- 85H GHz
- PRE-GM
- Rain Indicator

Site Manager: Svetla M Hristova-Veleva



PRIVACY

Webmaster: Quoc Vu (JPL Clearance: CL#08-3490)

# Storm structure Tool:

## Storm Size and Asymmetry

The Wave Number Analysis Tool using the Rain Index (EP hurricane Lowell)



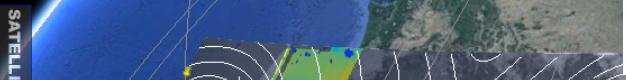
Jet Propulsion Laboratory  
California Institute of Technology

### HURRICANE AND SEVERE STORM SENTINEL [hs3]

2014-08-20 15:00:00



Ending at hour: 15:00:00

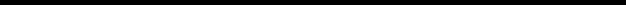
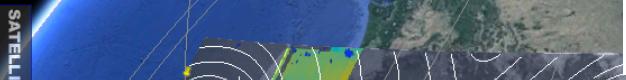


#### STORM TRACK

- BEST TRACK
- POUCH TRACK

#### SATELLITE DATA

- AIRS
- AOT (MODIS)
- Geostationary
- IR
- IR 2 Day Animation
- IRCOLOR
- VAPOR
- VIS
- Microwave Rain Signature
- 10H GHz
- 10V GHz
- 19H GHz
- 19V GHz
- 37COLOR
- 37H GHz
- 37V GHz
- 85H GHz
- 85V GHz
- Rain Indicator
- TPW
- HIR Composite
- Two Day Animation
- TRMM Rain Indicator



# Storm structure Tool:

## Storm Size and Asymmetry

The Wave Number Analysis Tool using the Rain Index (EP hurricane Lowell)



Jet Propulsion Laboratory  
California Institute of Technology

### HURRICANE AND SEVERE STORM SENTINEL [hs3]

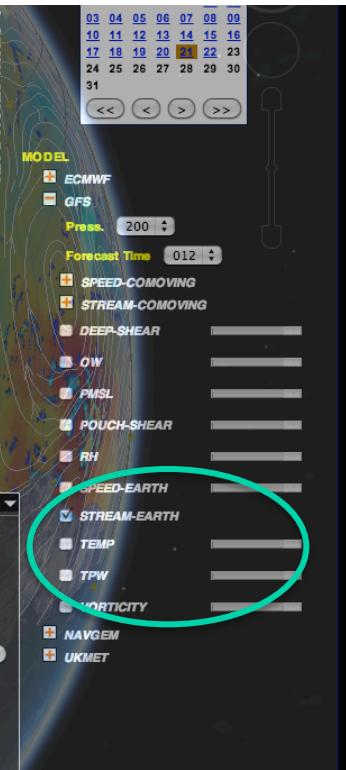
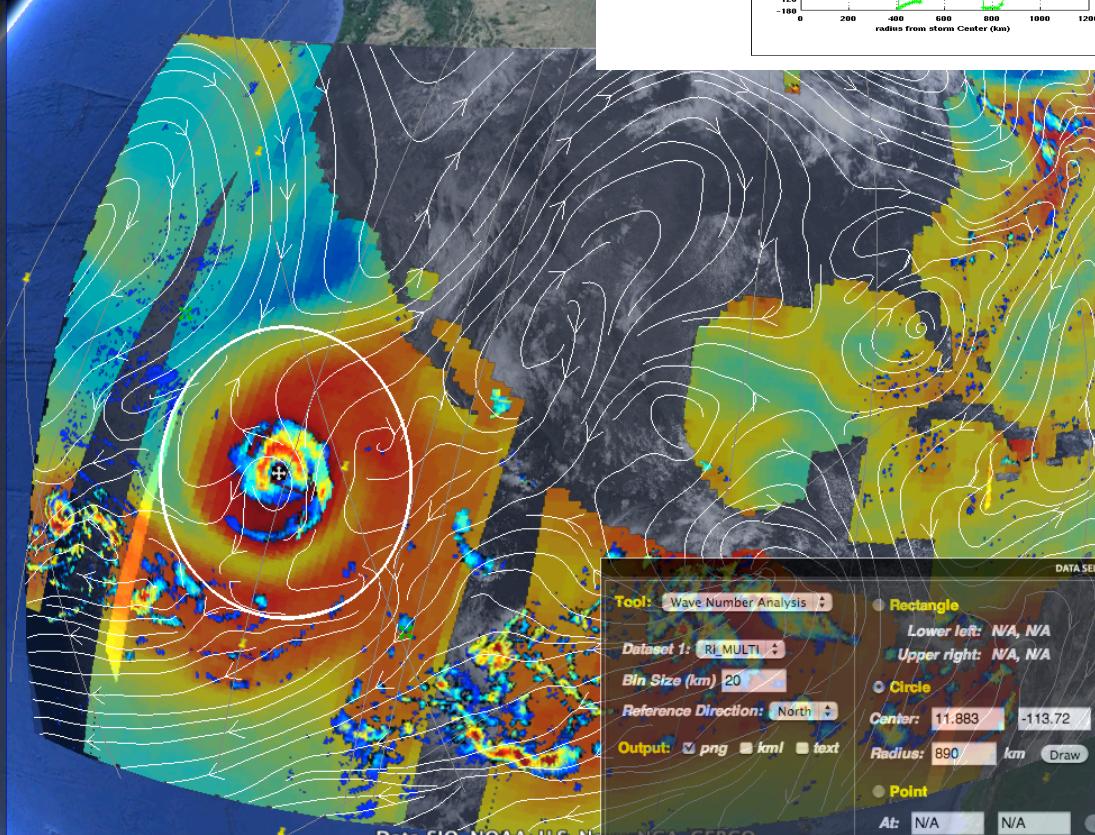
2014-08-21 15:00:00

STORM TRACK  
■ BEST TRACK  
+ POUCH TRACK

SATELLITE DATA  
■ AIRS  
■ AOT (MODIS)  
■ Geostationary

■ IR  
■ IR 2 Day Animation  
■ IRCOLOR  
■ VAPOR  
■ VIS  
■ Microwave Rain Signature  
■ 10H GHz  
■ 10V GHz  
■ 19H GHz  
■ 19V GHz  
■ 37COLOR  
■ 37H GHz  
■ 37V GHz  
■ 85H GHz  
■ 85V GHz  
■ Rain Indicator  
■ TPW  
■ 6 HR Composite  
■ Two Day Animation  
■ TRMM  
■ WIND  
■ CloudSet  
■ SST

SATELLITE & AIRCRAFT DATA ▾



Wave #1 has  
LEAST  
important  
contribution

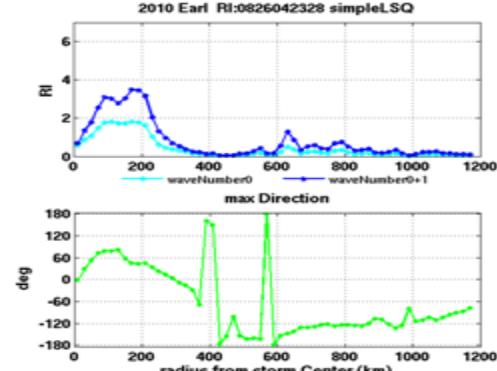
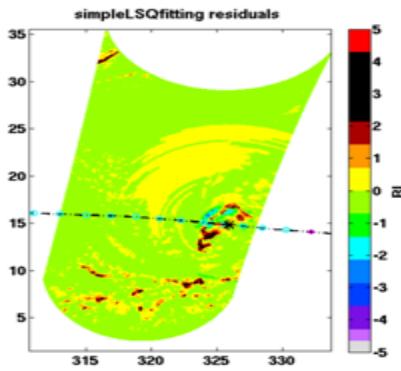
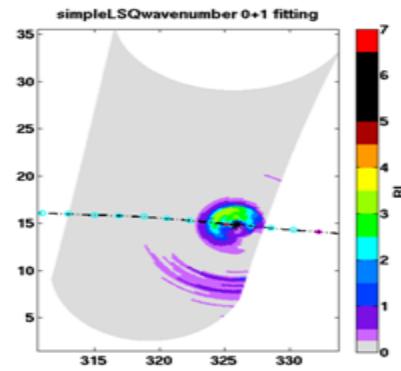
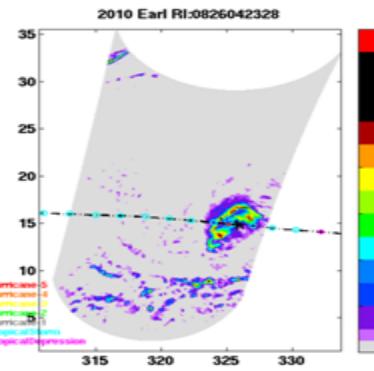


# Storm structure Tool: Storm Size and Asymmetry

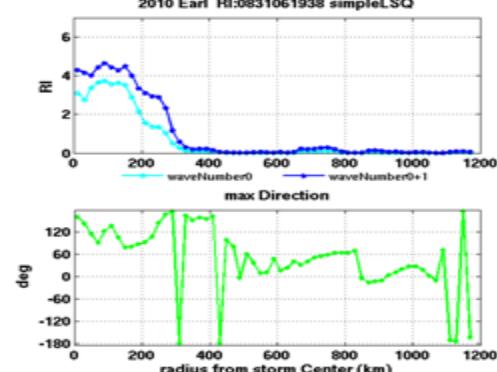
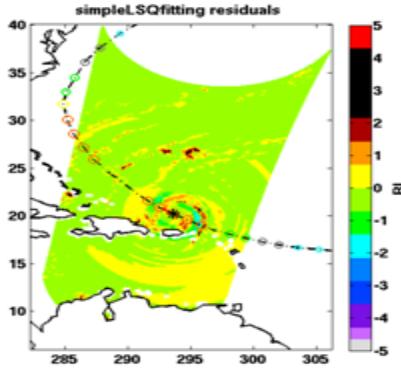
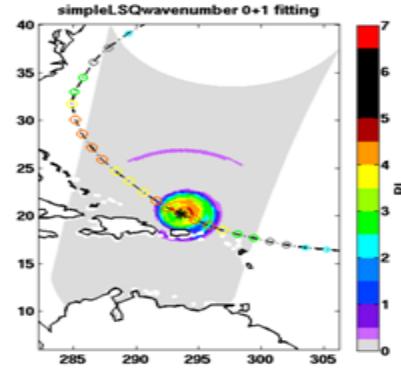
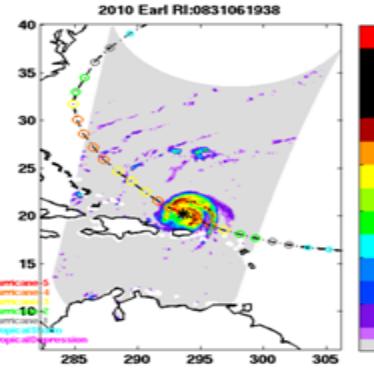
*The Wave Number Analysis Tool using the Rain Index (multi-channel PMW index)*

More details in the Rain Index can be found in Hristova-Veleva et al. 2013, JAMC 52, 2828–2848

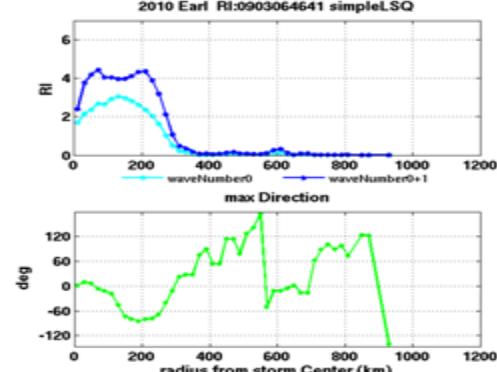
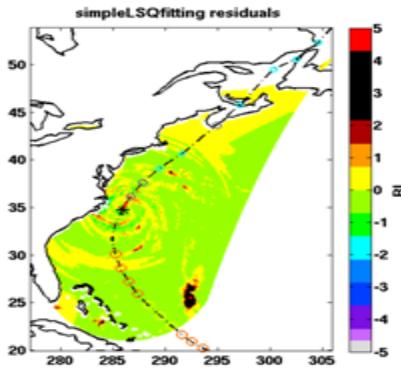
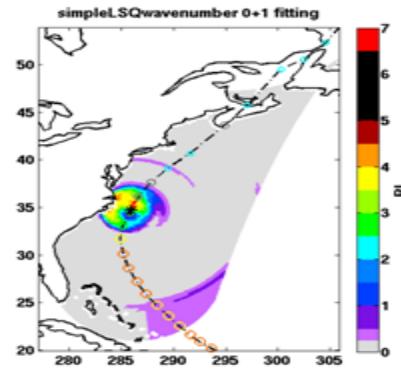
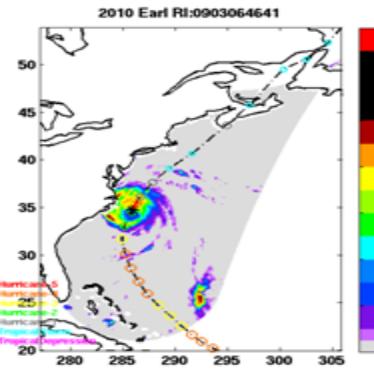
Developing



During RI



Mature



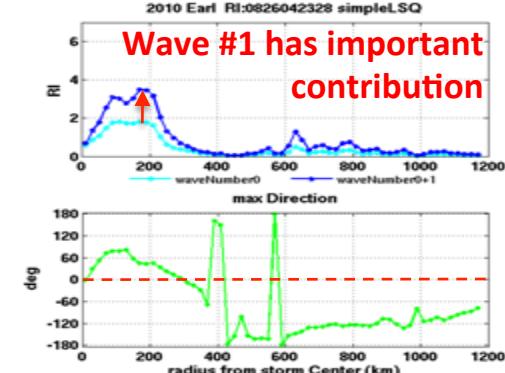
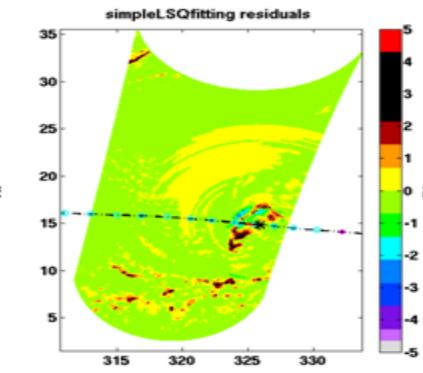
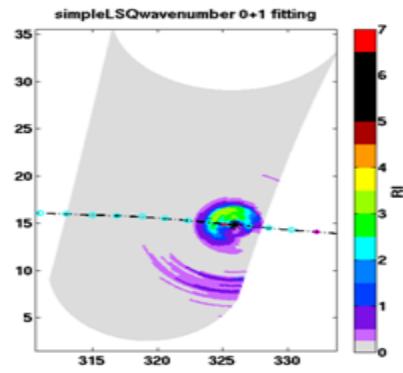
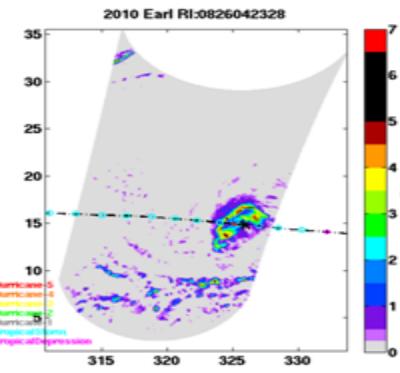


# Storm structure Tool: Storm Size and Asymmetry

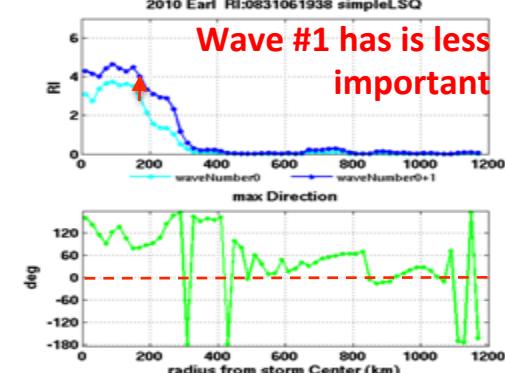
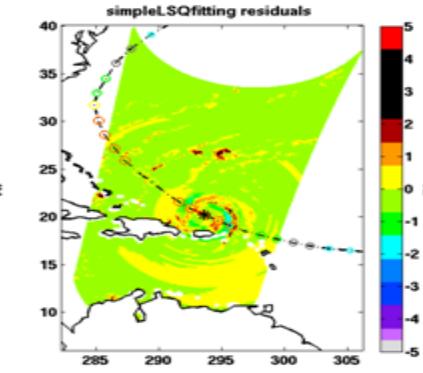
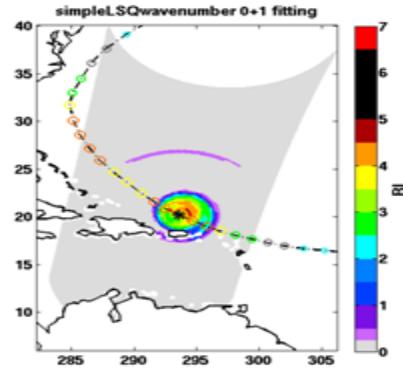
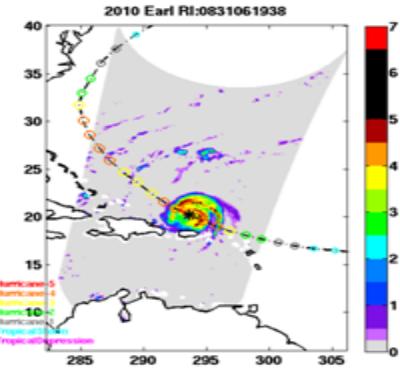
The Wave Number Analysis Tool using the Rain Index (multi-channel PMW index)

More details in the Rain Index can be found in Hristova-Veleva et al., JAMC, 2013

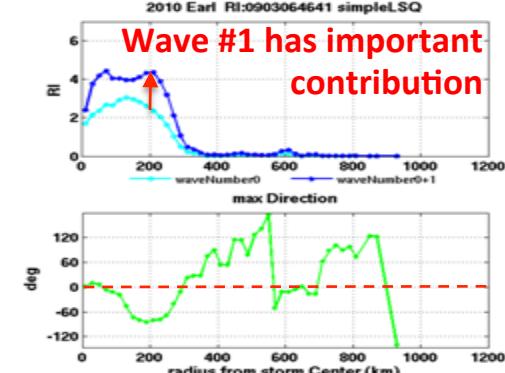
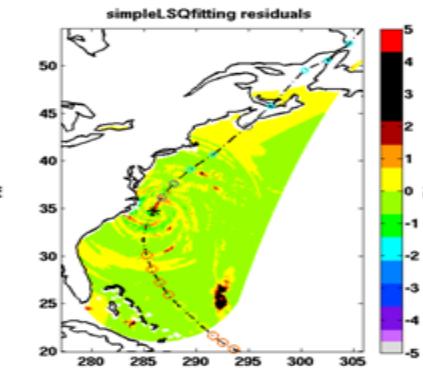
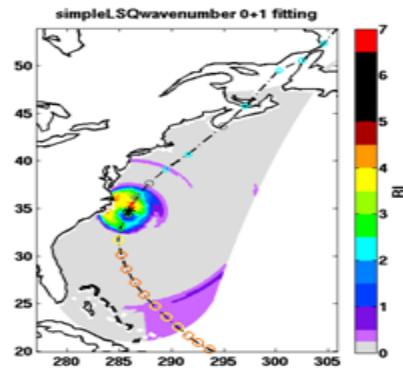
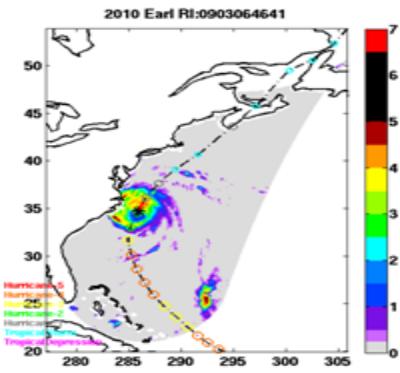
Developing



During RI



Mature





# Summary

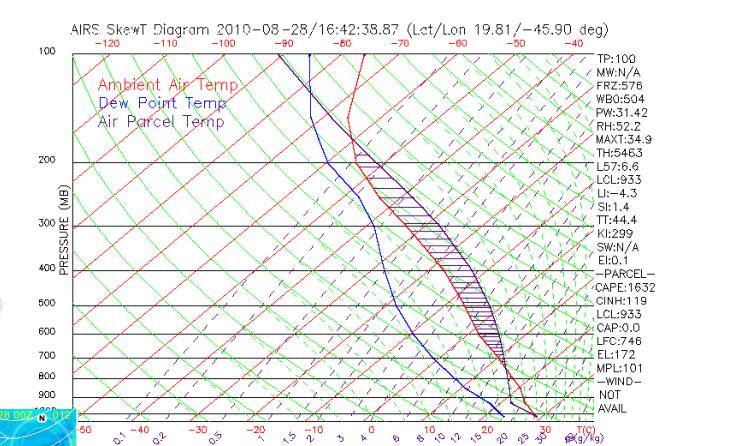
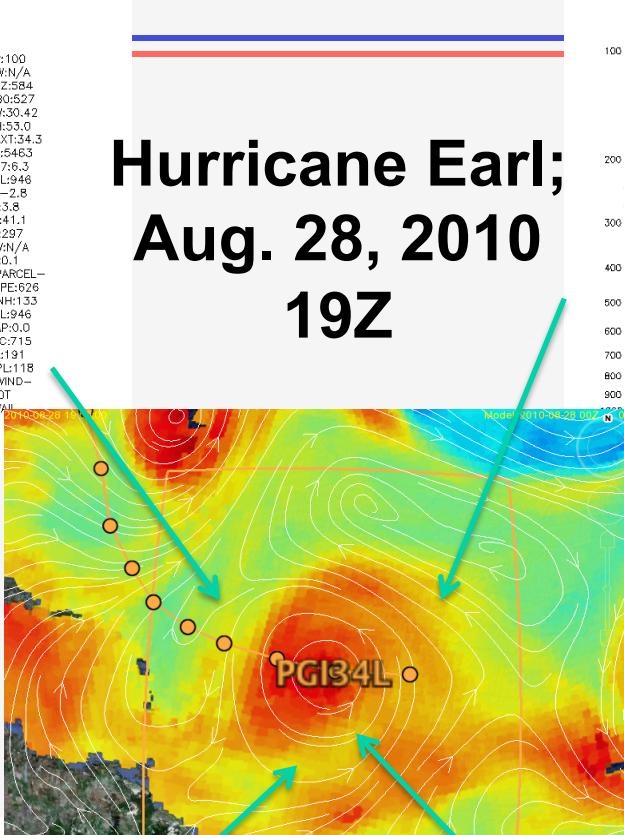
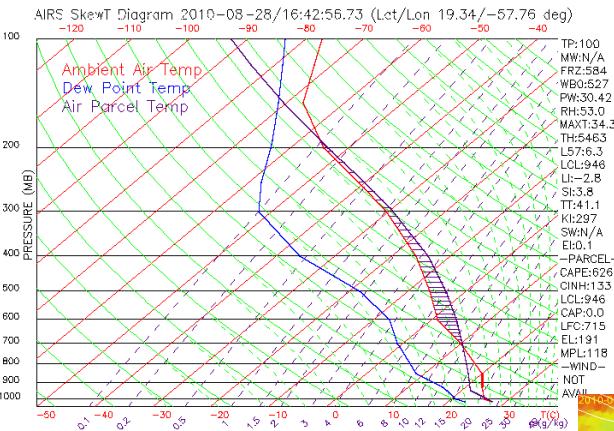
- To achieve the HFIP goals of improving the forecast accuracy of hurricane intensity, track and impact at landfall we first **need to understand whether the models properly reflect the physical processes and their interactions.**
- To address the need for improving the model physics, the 2013 annual HFIP meeting suggested that **all available observations (satellite, airborne, in-situ) should be used systematically and extensively to evaluate the model performance.**
- Furthermore, the participants highlighted **the need for developing new metrics and tools for evaluating the:**
  - **storm structure**
  - **the interaction between different physical processes** (multiparameter observations) **and**
  - **the evaluation of the multi-scale interactions** (feedback between the storm and its environment).
- **Such studies require the use of large amounts of satellite data, coming from diverse instruments in order to create robust statistics.** Due to the complexity of the remote sensing data and the volume of the respective model forecast this in-depth evaluation is usually limited to a number of case studies.
- **With the goal to facilitate model evaluation that goes beyond the comparison of "Best Track" metrics, we are working on providing fusion of models and observations by bringing them together into a common system and developing online analysis and visualization tools.**

A high-resolution satellite image of Earth's surface, showing swirling patterns of clouds and landmasses in shades of blue, green, and white. A large, distinct cyclone or hurricane is visible in the upper right quadrant.

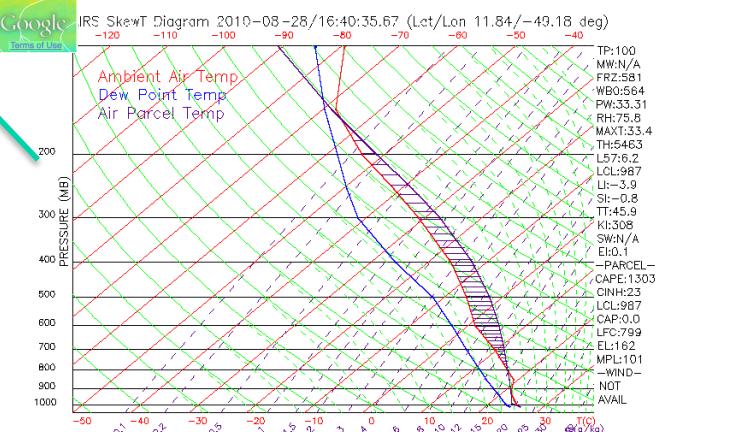
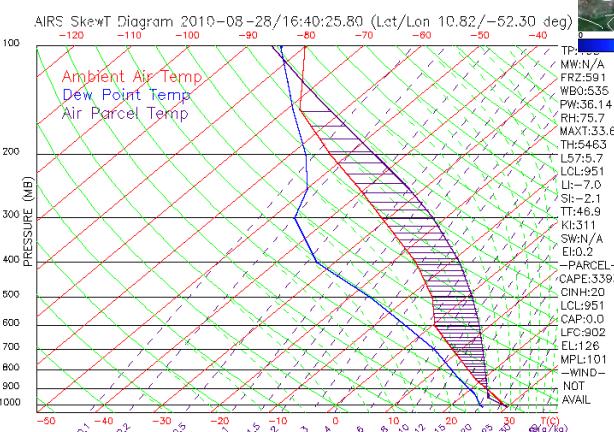
*Thank you !*



# The thermodynamics from AIRS

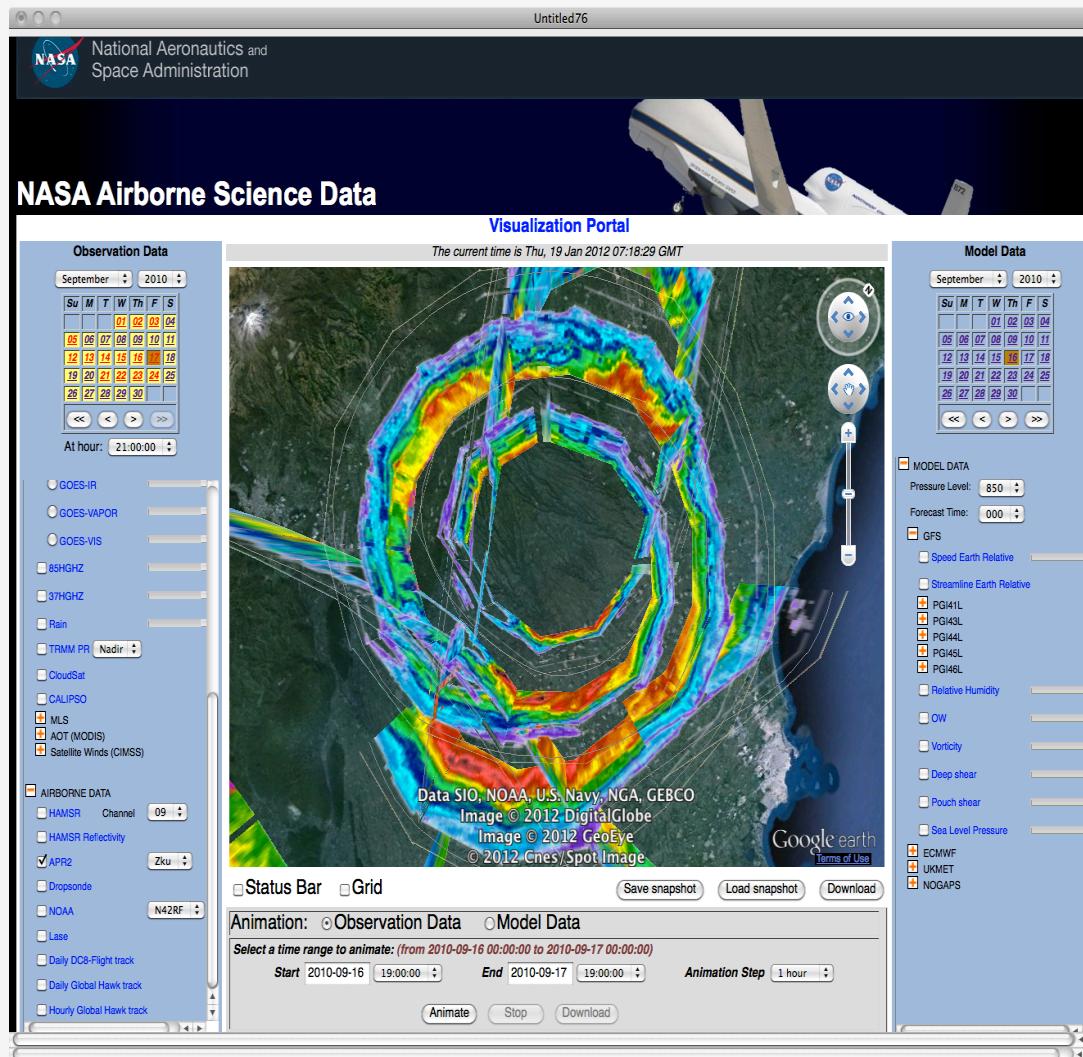


1. TPW from AMSU
2. Soundings from AIRS
3. Pouch-relative flow from ECMWF





# 17<sup>th</sup> September 2010, 21Z

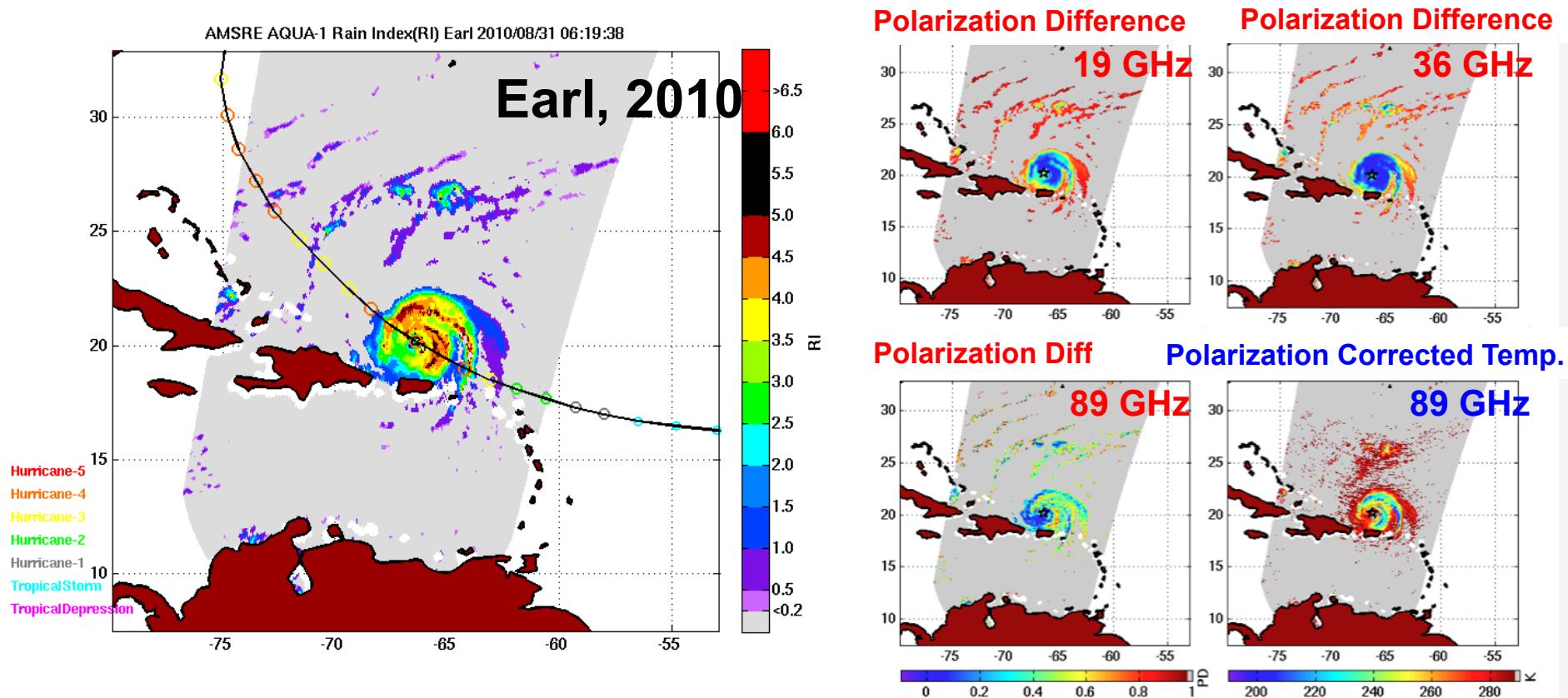


# The Rain Indicator – a multi-channel depiction of the storm structure

Hristova-Veleva et al., 2013: "Revealing the Winds Under the Rain. Part I. Passive Microwave Rain Retrievals Using a New, Observations-Based, Parameterization of Sub-Satellite Rain Variability and Intensity: Algorithm Description", 2013, JAMC 52, 2828–2848

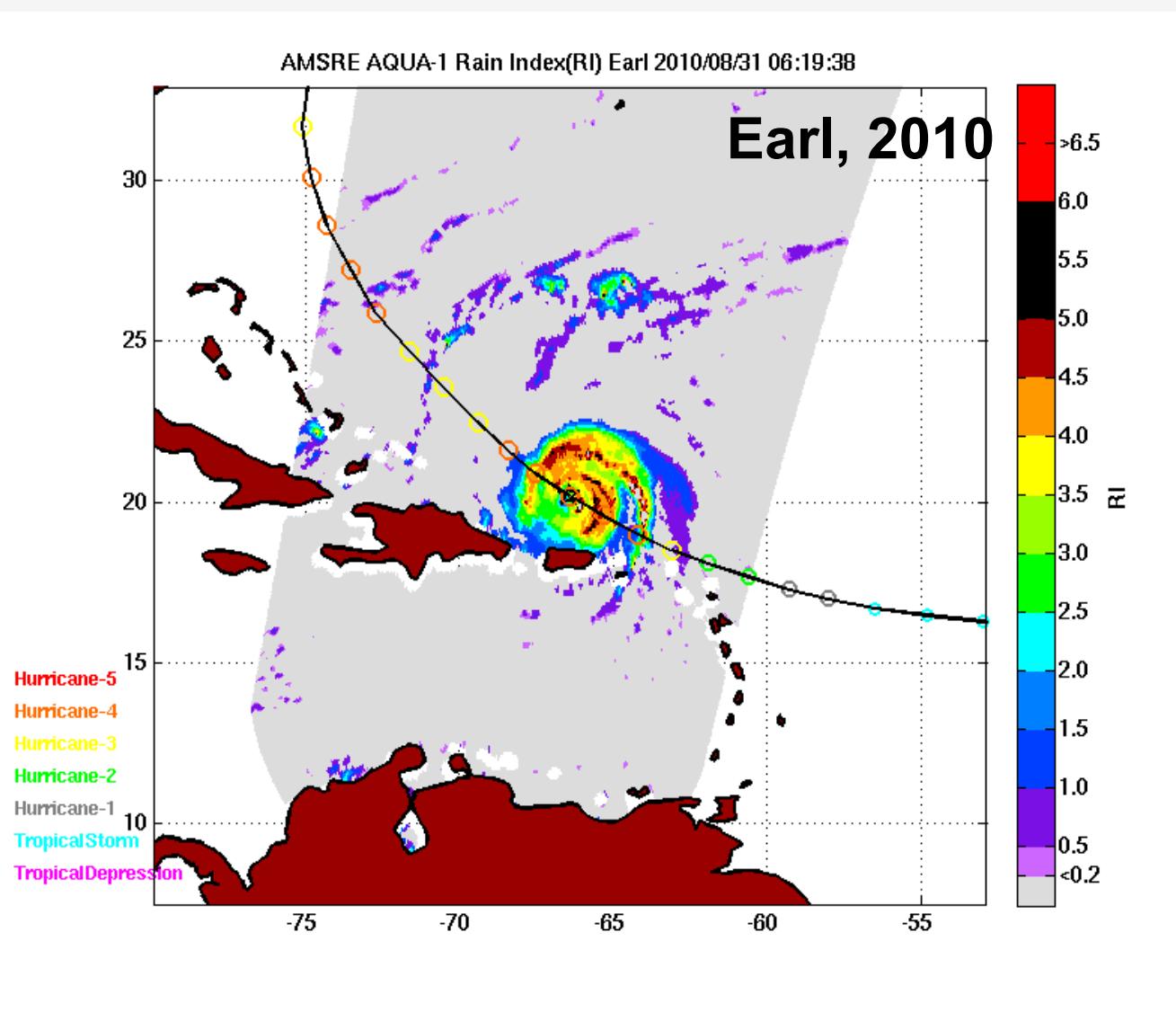
Microwave signals at the top of the atmosphere can be classified into two categories:

- **emission signal** - dominant at lower frequencies; **warming**; **better for light rain**. *Strong emission in the atmosphere reduces the polarization difference (PD) in the ocean surface radiation. Hence, PD is representative of the atmospheric emission.*
  - **scattering signal** -dominant at higher frequencies; **cooling**; **better for heavy rain**; PCT
- Hence, both signals have to be incorporated to cover the entire rainfall spectrum.



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## Advantages of Using the Rain Indicator over single passive microwave channels

- combines the emission and scattering signals from the **multi-channel information** to present a cohesive depiction of the rain and the **graupel above**, covering the precipitation spectrum
- Uses polarization difference. Hence, it is **less affected by calibration accuracy**.

# Storm structure Tool:

## Storm Size and Asymmetry

### The Wave Number Analysis Tool using the Rain Index (GPM over Cristobal)

NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory  
California Institute of Technology

#### HURRICANE AND SEVERE STORM SENTINEL [hs3]

2014-08-27 06:00:00

Hurricanes:

Karina (08/10-08/28, 1)

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
03	04	05	06	07	08	09
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Ending at hour: 06:00:00

STORM TRACK

- BEST TRACK
- POUCH TRACK

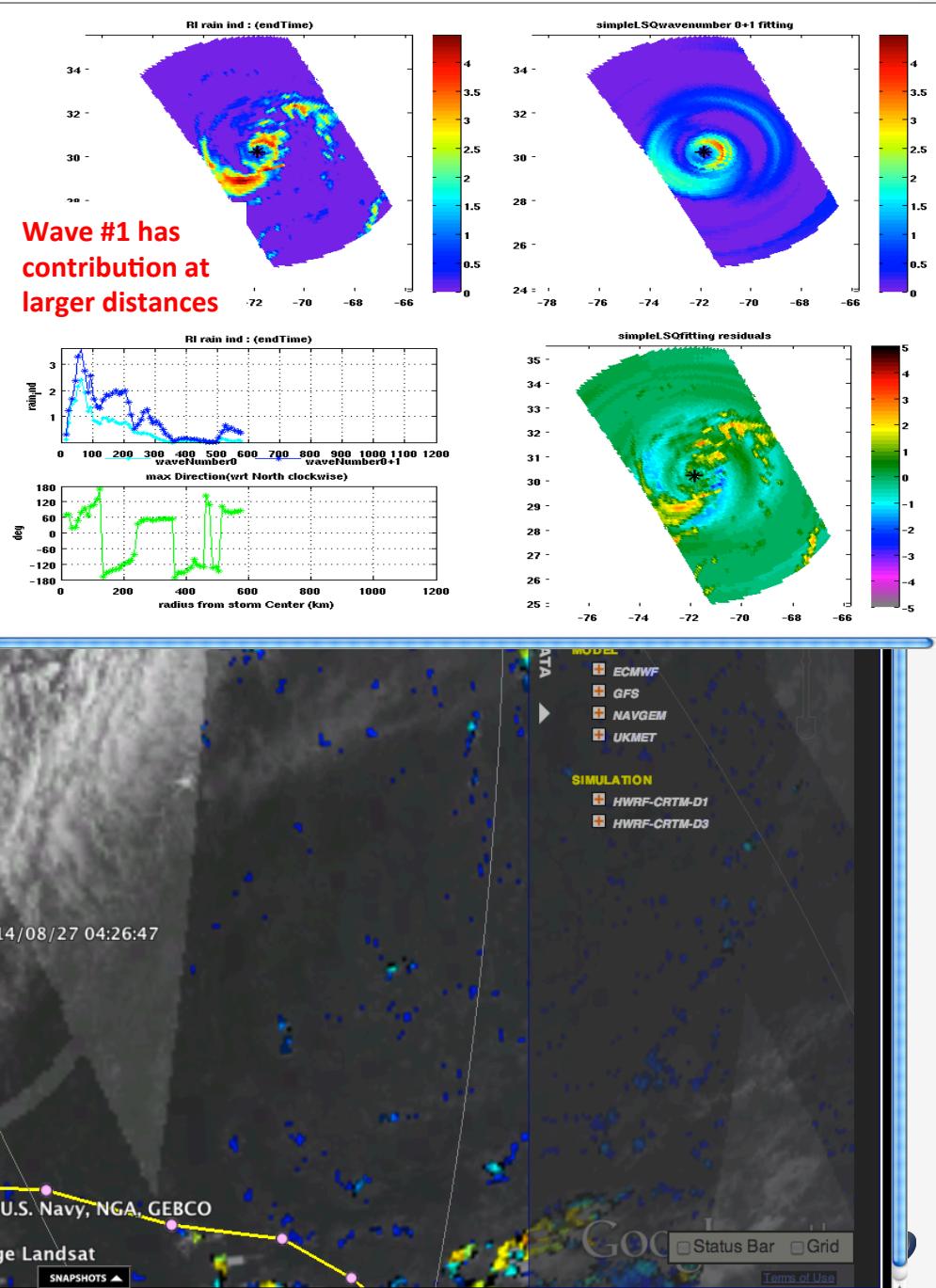
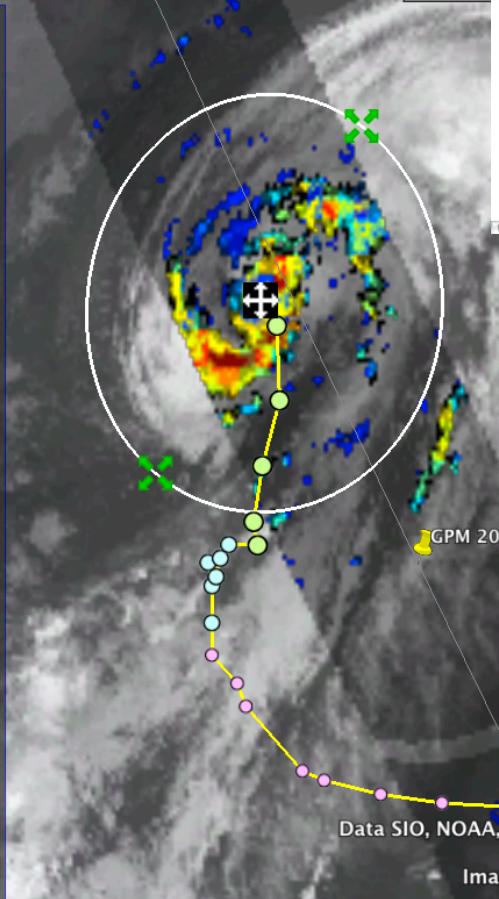
SATELLITE DATA

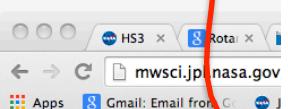
- AIRS
- AOT (MODIS)
- Geostationary
- Microwave Rain Signature

- 10H GHz
- 10V GHz
- 19H GHz
- 19V GHz
- 37COLOR
- 37H GHz
- 37V GHz
- 85H GHz
- 85V GHz

Rain Indicator

- TPW
- Rain Indicator





HURRICANE AND SEVERE WEATHER

2014-09-14 00:00:00

Ending at hour: 01:00:00

STORM TRACK

BEST TRACK

POUCH TRACK

SATELLITE DATA

AIRS

AOT (MODIS)

Geostationary

IR

IR 2 Day Animation

IRCOLOR

VAPOR

VIS

Microwave Rain Signature

10H GHz

10V GHz

19H GHz

19V GHz

37COLOR

37H GHz

37V GHz

85H GHz

85V GHz

Rain Indicator

TPW

TRMM

WIND

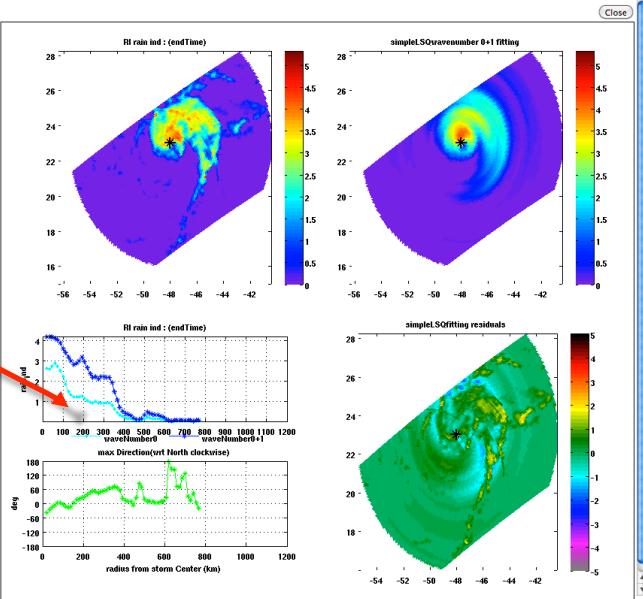
ASCAT SPEED

ASCAT VECTOR

SST

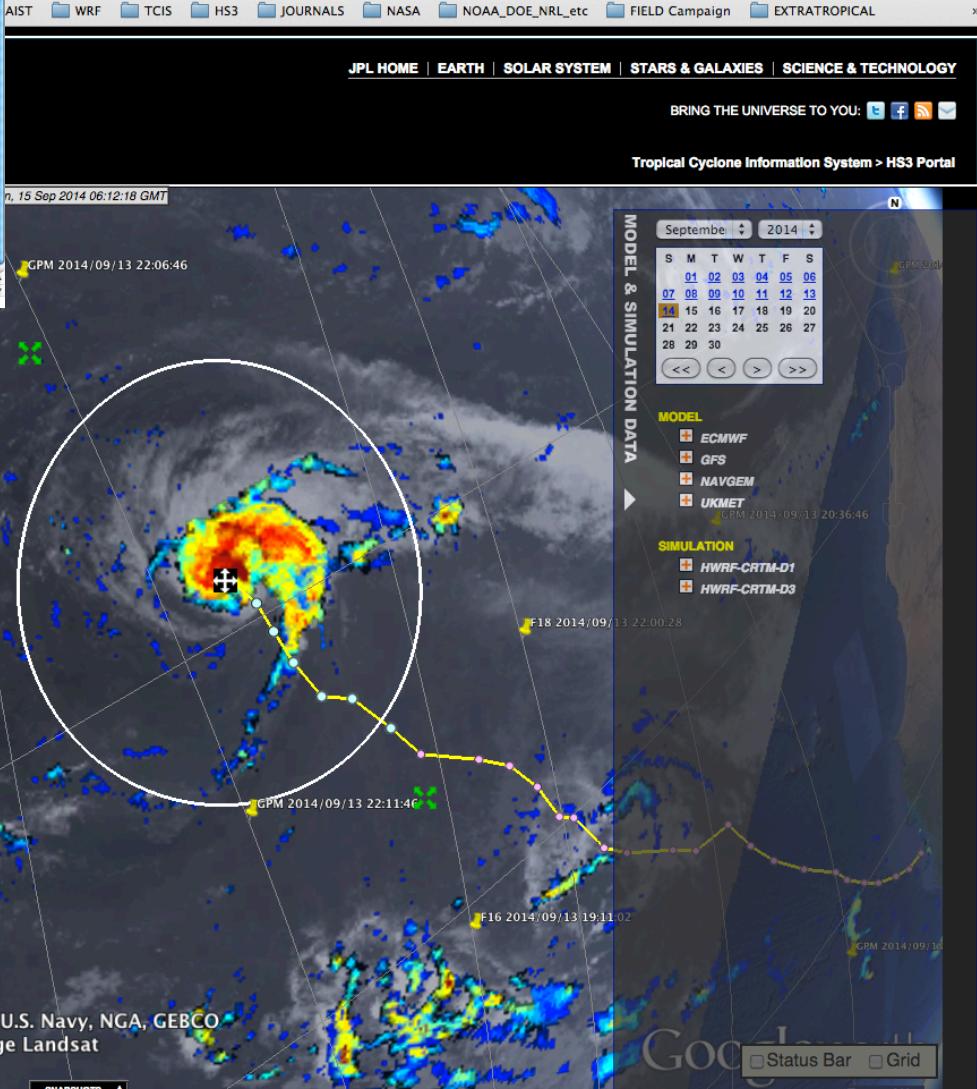
GEOPM-BN1701410

Rain Indicator



September 14, 2014 - Edouard  
Geostationary IR - 01Z

Multi-channel PMW Rain Index





## HURRICANE AND SEVERE WEATHER

2014-09-15 00:00:00

### Hurricanes:

Select a hurricane: E15 2014

S	M	T	W	F	S
01	02	03	04	05	06
07	08	09	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30

Ending at hour: 01:00:00

### SATELLITE DATA

- AOT (MODIS)
- Geostationary
- IR
- IRCOLOR
- VAPOR
- VIS

### Microwave Rain Signature

- 10H GHz
- 10V GHz
- 19H GHz
- 19V GHz
- 37H GHz
- 37V GHz
- 85H GHz
- 85V GHz
- Rain Indicator

ANALYSIS TOOL ▾

Tool: Wave Number Analysis

Dataset 1: RI\_MULTI

Bin Size (km): 20

Reference Direction: North

Output:  png  kml  text

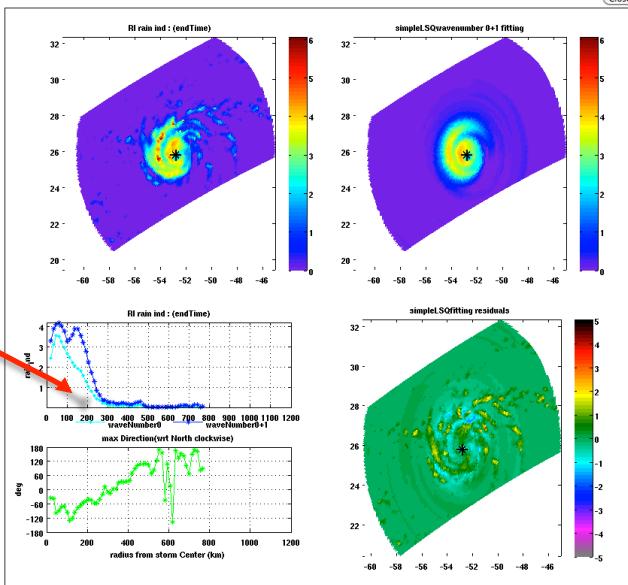
Lower left: N/A, N/A  
Upper right: N/A, N/A

Radius: 800 km

Center: 18.615 -45.737

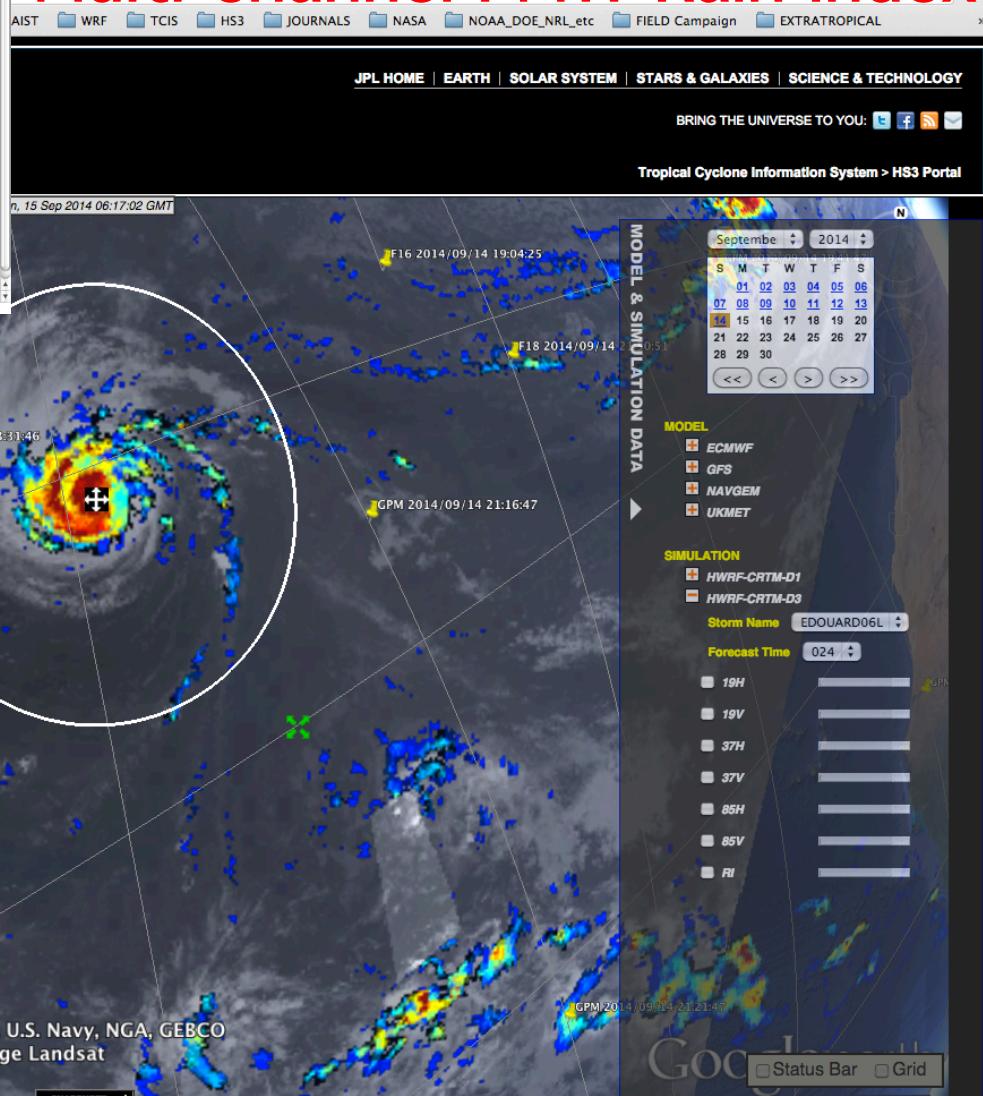
Point At: N/A N/A

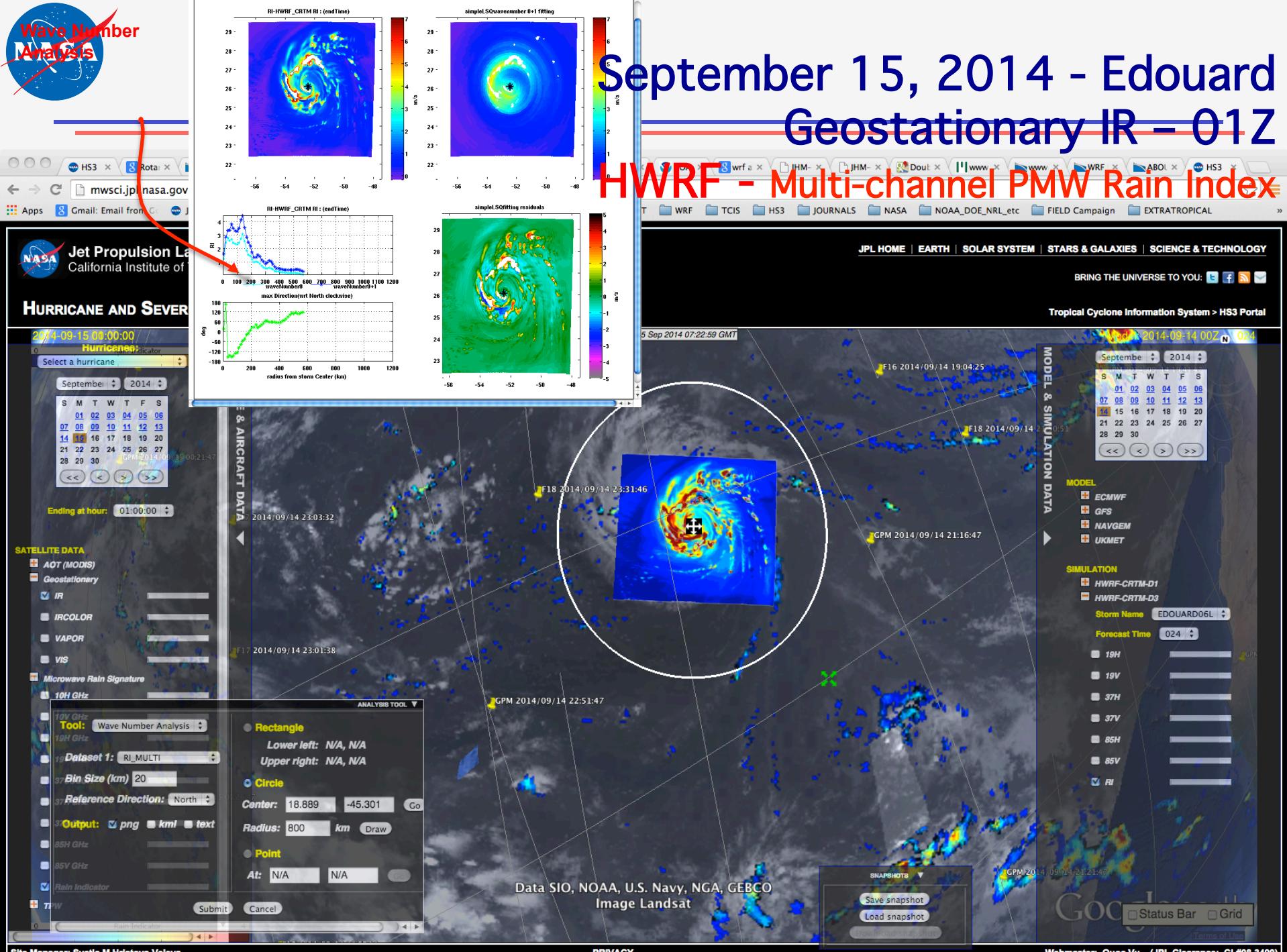
Submit Cancel



# September 15, 2014 - Edouard Geostationary IR - 01Z

## Multi-channel PMW Rain Index

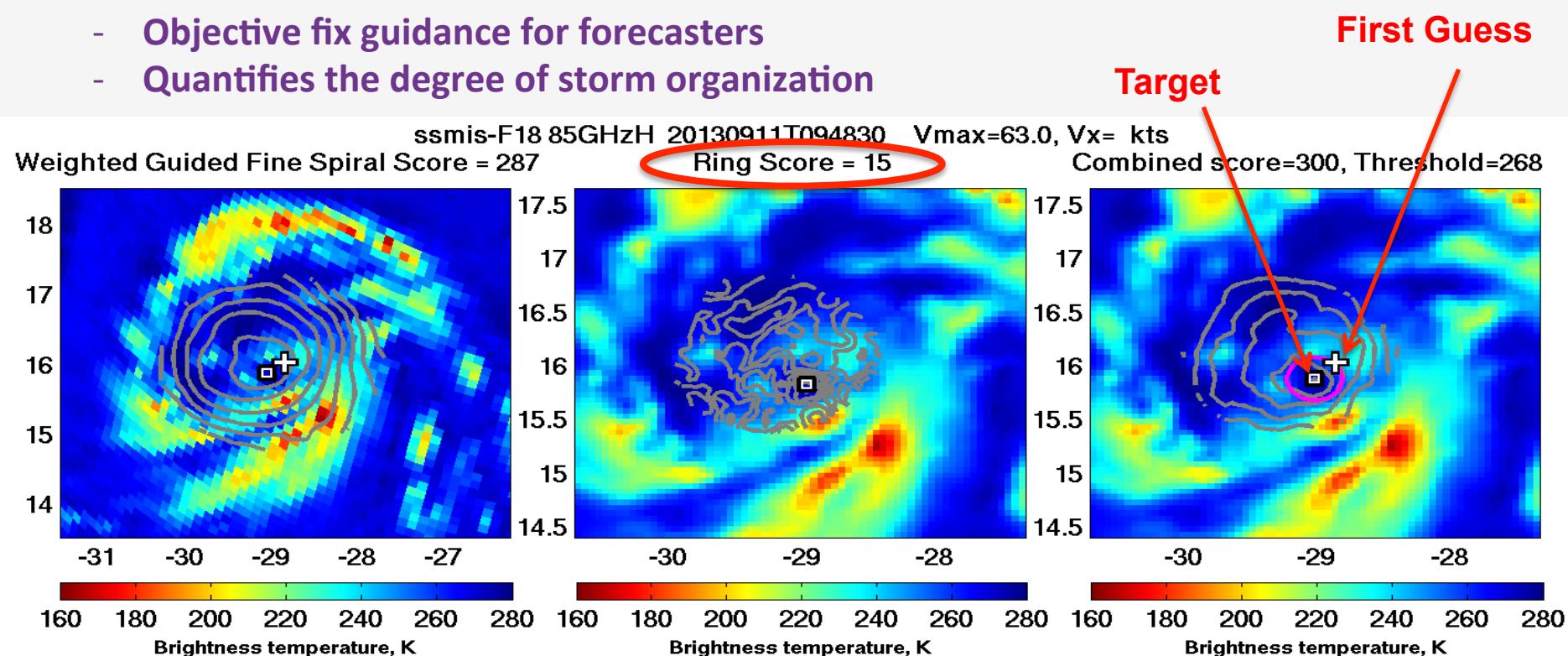




# Storm structure Tool: Degree of Organization

## The Automated Rotational Center Hurricane Eye Retrieval (ARCHER)

- Developed by CIMSS/NRL (Wimmers & Velden, 2010)
- We have license to run it and have done some off-line analysis, using the original version
- Coming online soon, with the latest version
- Provides:
  - Objective fix guidance for forecasters
  - Quantifies the degree of storm organization



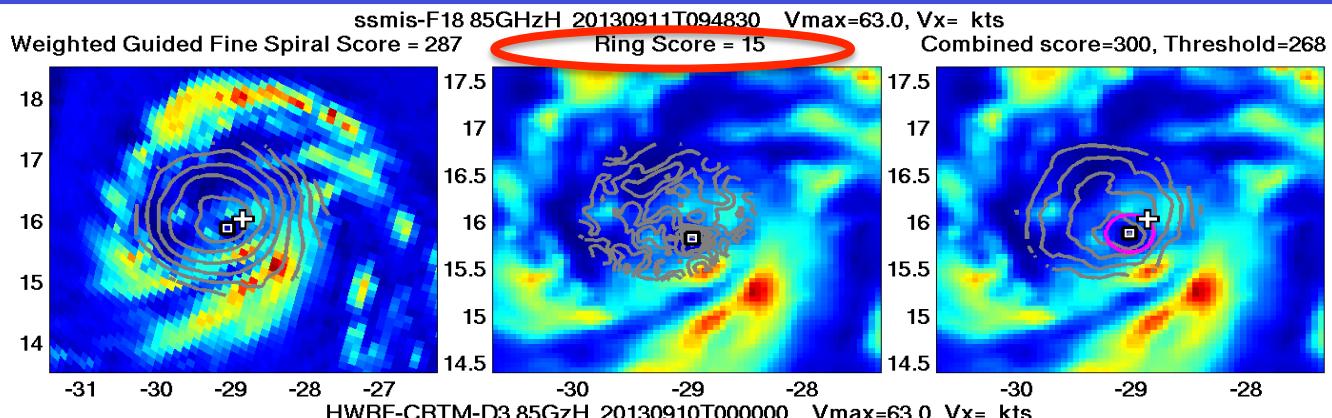
Additional information can be found in Wimmers, A. and C. Velden, 2010: Objectively Determining the Rotational Center of Tropical Cyclones in Passive Microwave Satellite Imagery, *J. Appl. Meteor.*, 49, 2010.



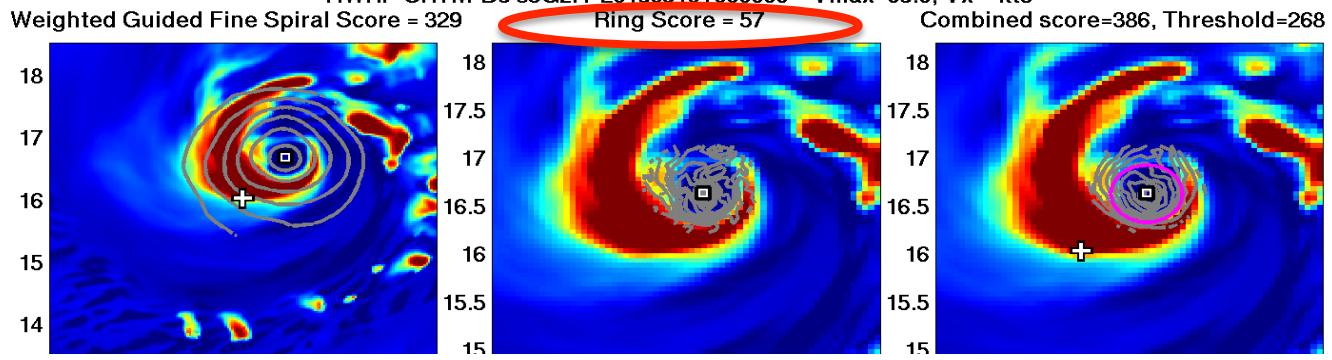
# Storm structure Tool: Degree of Organization

## The Automated Rotational Center Hurricane Eye Retrieval (ARCHER)

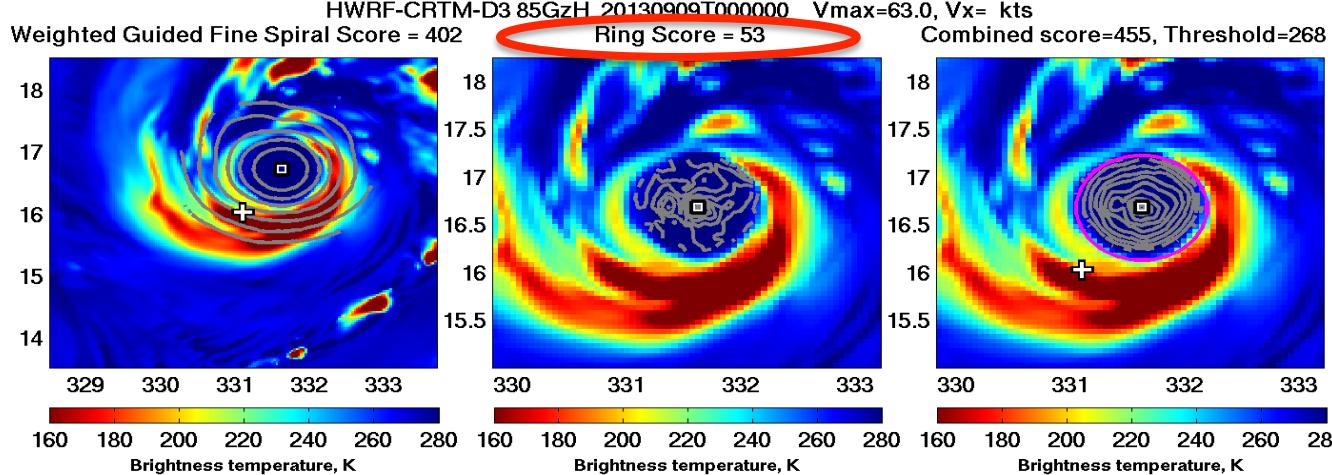
OBSERVED



36h forecast



60h forecast

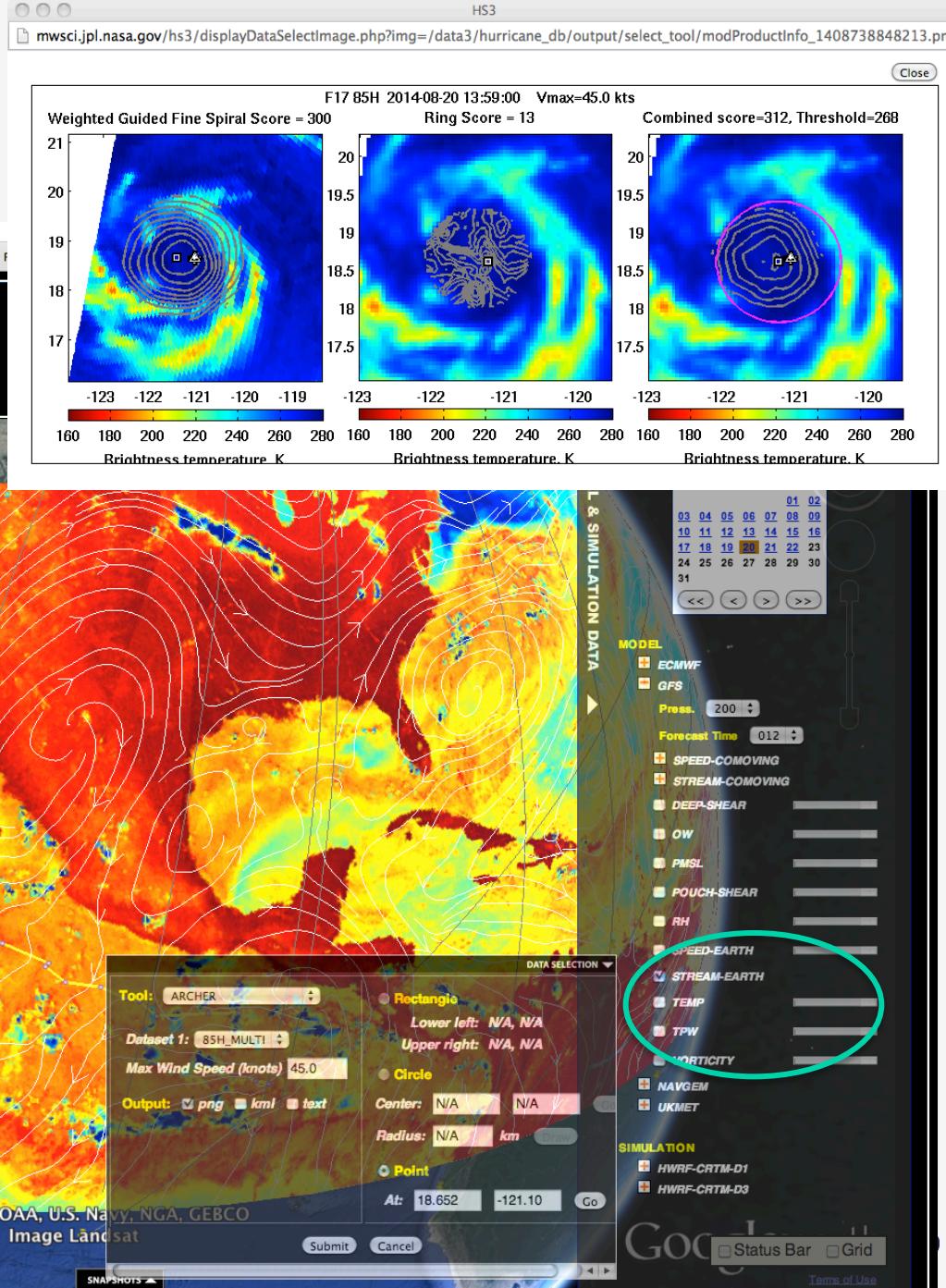
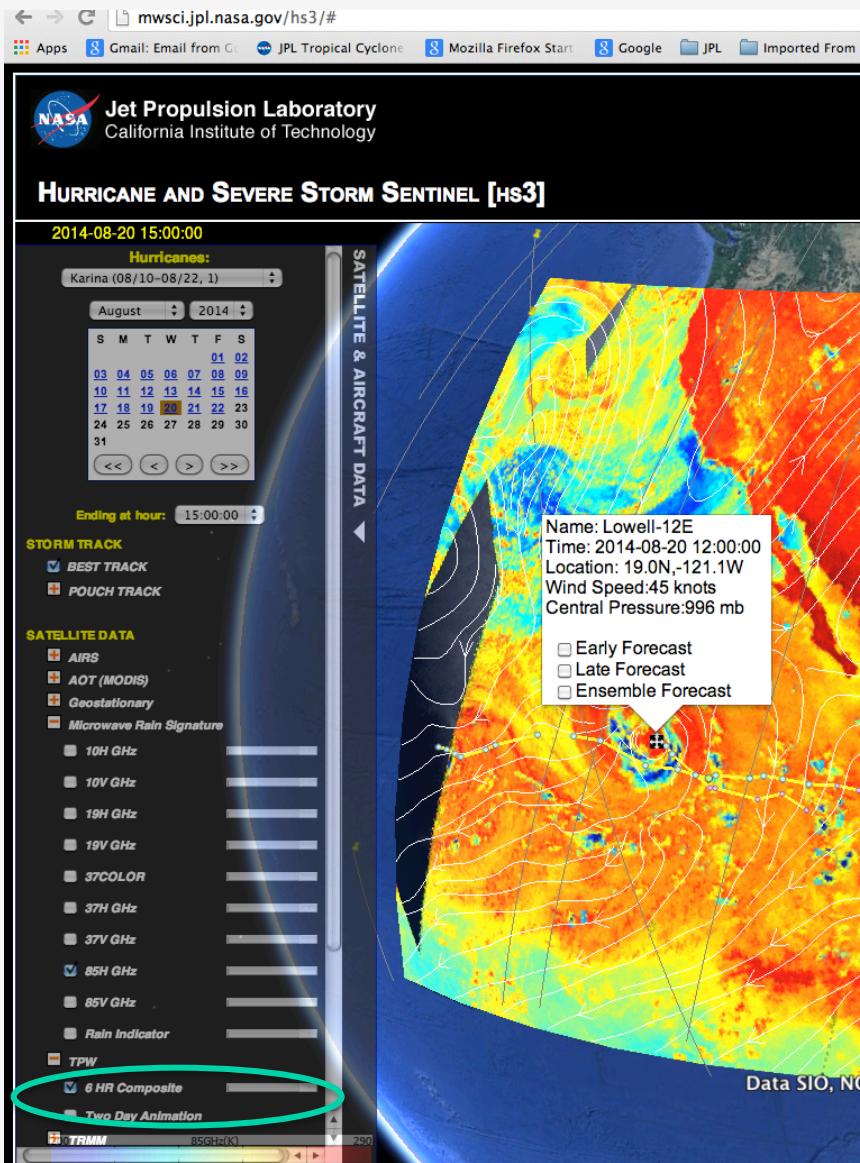


- ARCHER scores suggest the model forecasts over-predicted the structure in this case.

- This conclusion is in agreement with the model-predicted intensity parameters:

- Observed:
  - Vmax = 65kts
  - MSLP = 989 mb
- 36h forecast
  - Vmax = 72 kts
  - MSLP = 977mb
- 60h forecast
  - Vmax = 83 kts
  - MSLP = 971mb

# Storm structure Tool: Degree of organization ARCHER (EP hurricane Lowell)





# The JPL TCIS – Tropical Cyclone Information System

<http://tropicalcyclone.jpl.nasa.gov>

## Tropical Cyclone Data Archive

- **Satellite depiction of hurricanes over the globe**
- 12-year record (1999-2010)
- offers both data and imagery, making it a unique source to support:
  - hurricane research
  - forecast improvement
  - algorithm development
  - instrument design

Welcome to the JPL Tropical Cyclone Information System

The JPL Tropical Cyclone Information System (TCIS) was developed to support hurricane research. It has two components: a 12-year global archive of multi-satellite hurricane observations and, what was a near real-time portal, that supported the 2010 NASA Genesis and Rapid Intensification Processes (GRIP) hurricane field campaign. Together, data and visualizations from the near-real time system and data archive can be used to study hurricane process, validate and improve models, and assist in developing new algorithms and data assimilation techniques. Below you will find links to various portals where you can view different types of data.

## HS3 – Interactive NRT Atlantic portal

- **Integrates model forecasts with satellite and airborne observations from a variety of instruments and platforms, allowing for easy model/observations comparisons.**
- **Allows interrogation of a large number of atmospheric and ocean variables to better understand the large-scale and storm-scale processes associated with hurricane genesis, track and intensity changes.**
- **Very rich information source during the analysis stages of the field campaigns.**

**Tropical Cyclone Data Archive**

The TCIS Data Archive is a comprehensive tropical cyclone database of multi-parameter satellite observations pertaining to the thermodynamic and microphysical structure of the storms, the air-sea interaction processes and the larger-scale environment. Currently, it contains satellite depictions of hurricanes over the globe from 1999-2010. Users are able to browse through hurricane seasons and ocean basins to find specific storms of interest. The portal is designed to facilitate the finding of coincident observations from multiple instruments, and it provides fast access to pre-subsetted data and plots, making this a unique tool for hurricane research. Additionally, data files can be directly accessed through our [FTP site](#).

**HS3 Data Portal**

This near real-time interactive portal was developed to support the multi-year Hurricane and Severe Storm Sentinel (HS3) aircraft campaign. HS3 is a five year mission with a three year airborne component (2012-2014). The campaign's main goal is to investigate the processes that underlie hurricane formation and intensity change in the Atlantic Ocean basin. This portal allows users to analyze and compare observation data and model forecasts in the North Atlantic basin from July to November of each year of the campaign.



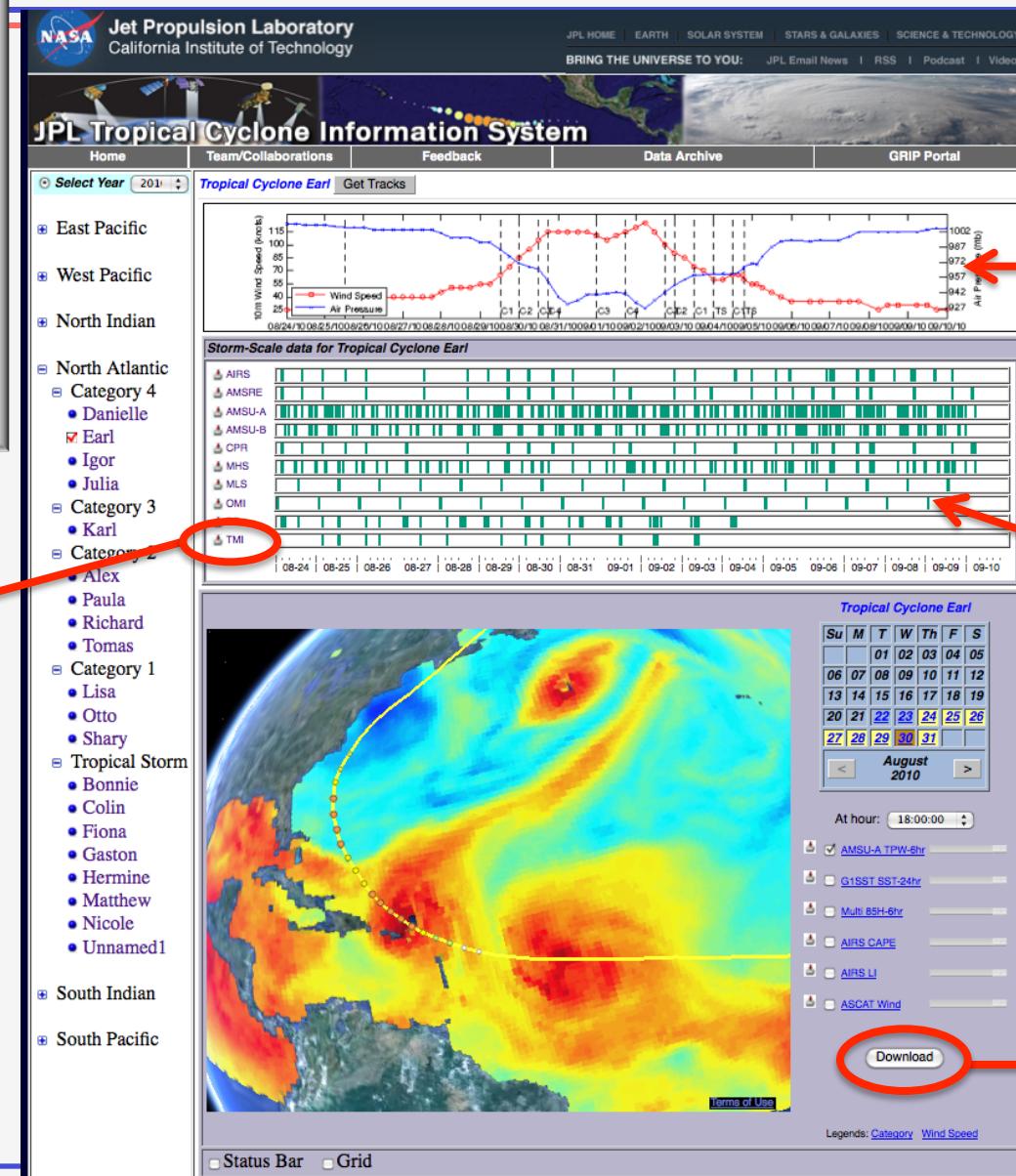
# The 12-year Global Data Archive

- A wide variety of data types
- Organized by year, basin, storm - no need to search!
- DATA and imagery
- Large-scale and storm scale
  - Large-scale (over the ocean basins; +2 days on either side)
    - SST (Sea Surface Temperature)
    - Scatterometer winds (ASCAT)
    - TPW (Total Precipitable Water) from AMSU
    - Thermodynamic atmospheric structure from AIRS
  - Storm scale
    - 2000 x 2000km regions centered on the “Best Track” that was interpolated to the time of the satellite observation
    - Geostationary IR: GOES, MTSAT, FY2, Meteosat, MSG (HURSAT Version 5)
    - Multi-frequency brightness temperatures from TRMM-TMI, AMSR-E, SSMI
    - full set of radar observations from TRMM-PR and CloudSAT
    - QuikSCAT and OSCAT surface winds – new JPL product (Stiles et al., 2013)
- MLS, OMI

- Satellite depictions of hurricanes over the globe
- 12-year record (1999-2010)
- Offers both data and imagery, making it a unique source to support hurricane research.

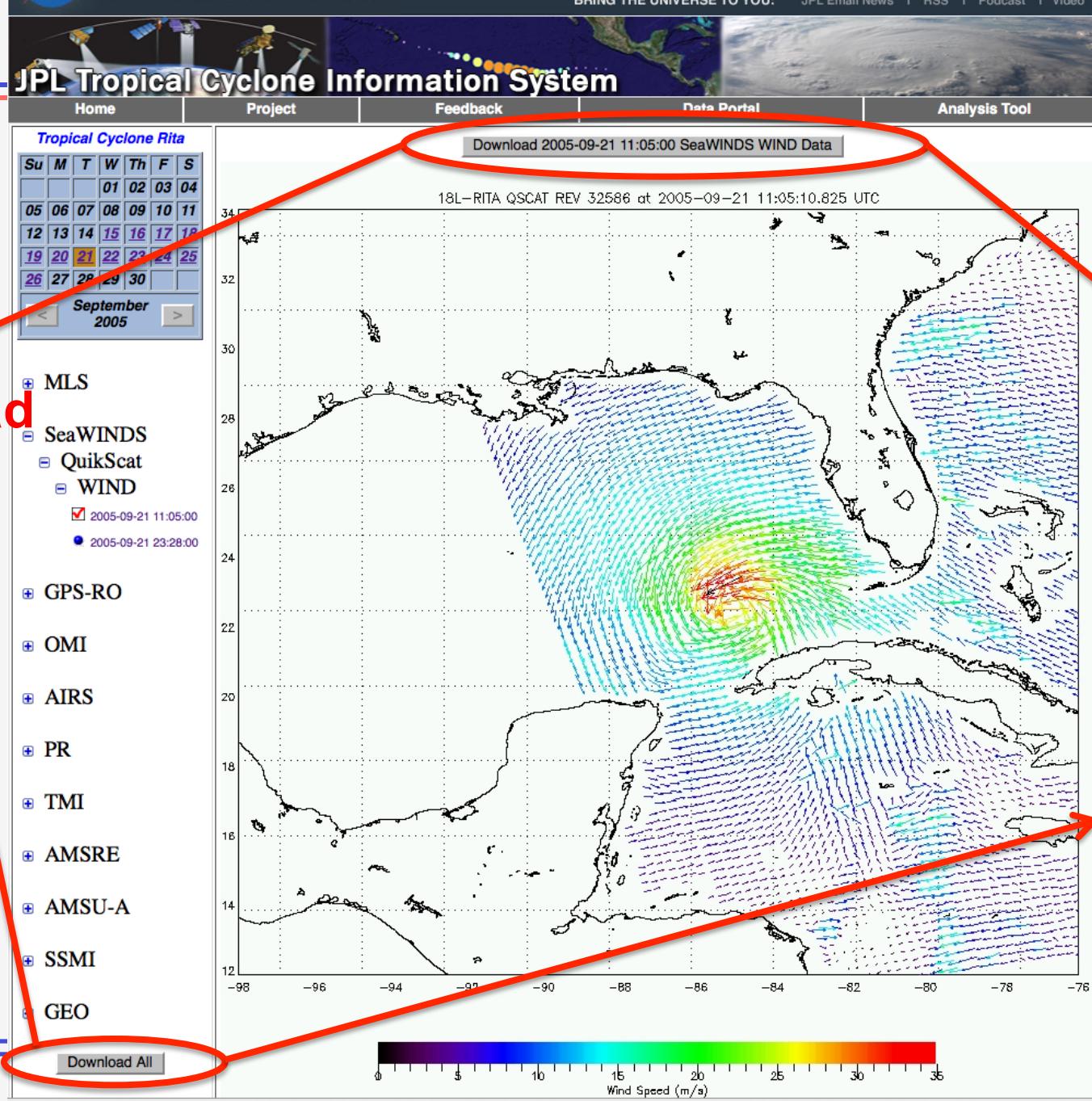
# JPL TCIS – The Tropical Cyclone Data Archive

<http://tropicalcyclone.jpl.nasa.gov>



Earl, 2010  
Download  
all data  
from  
this  
Instrumen  
t  
(TMI)

Timeline  
View and  
download  
Storm-  
scale  
data  
  
Download  
Selected  
large-  
scale  
data from





**JPL Tropical Cyclone Information System**

Home Project Feedback Data Portal Analysis Tool

Tropical Cyclone Rita

Download 2005-09-22 14:42:00 PR MaxZ-PIA-RR-RT Data

TRMM MaxZ on 09/22/05 at 14:42

At this time

Download NetCDF

All data on this day

MLS  
SeaWINDS  
GPS-RO  
OMI  
AIRS  
PR  
TRMM  
MaxZ-PIA-RR-RT  
2005-09-22 08:10:00  
2005-09-22 14:42:00

TMI  
AMSRE  
AMSU-A  
SSMI  
GEO

Download All

0.00 10.00 15.00 20.00 25.00 30.00 35.00 40.00 50.00 60.00 100.00 100.00  
MaxZ [dB]; Max = 45.69

TRMM PR\_Attn\_2A21 on 09/22/05 at 14:42



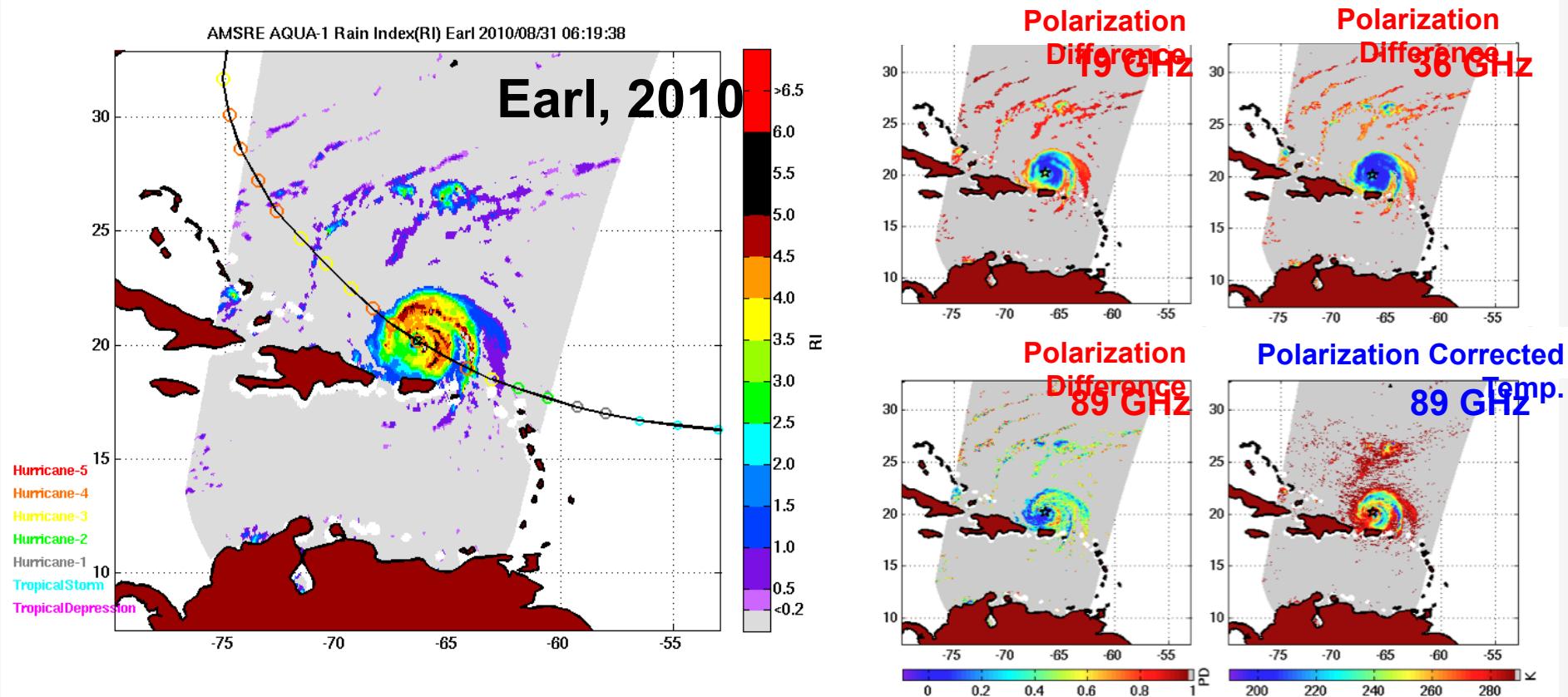
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Microwave signals at the top of the atmosphere can be classified into two categories:

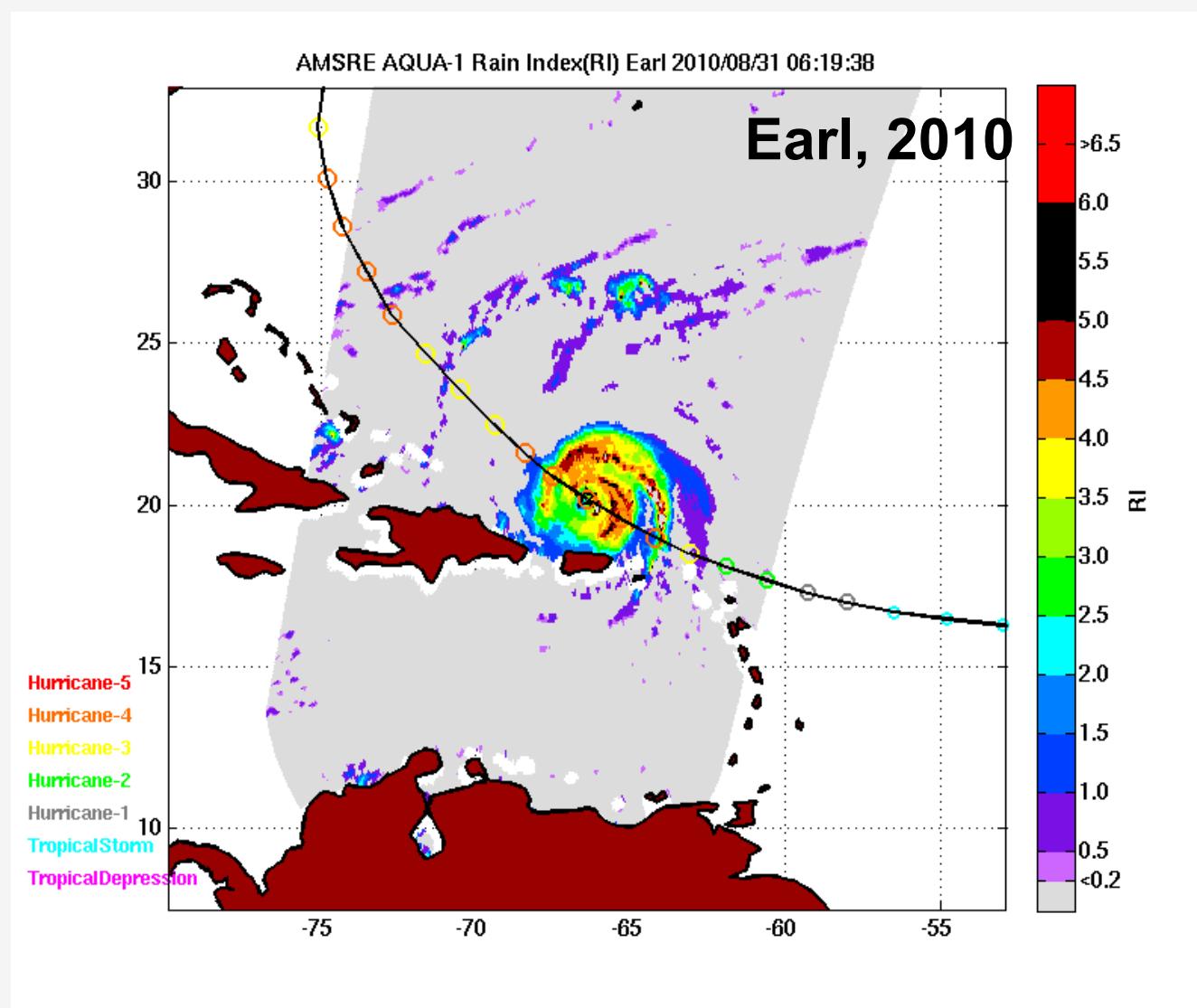
- **emission signal** - dominant at lower frequencies; **warming**; **better for light rain**. *Strong emission in the atmosphere reduces the polarization difference (PD) in the ocean surface radiation. Hence, PD is representative of the atmospheric emission.*
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• Hence, both signals have to be incorporated to cover the entire rainfall spectrum.



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## Advantages of Using the Rain Indicator over single passive microwave channels

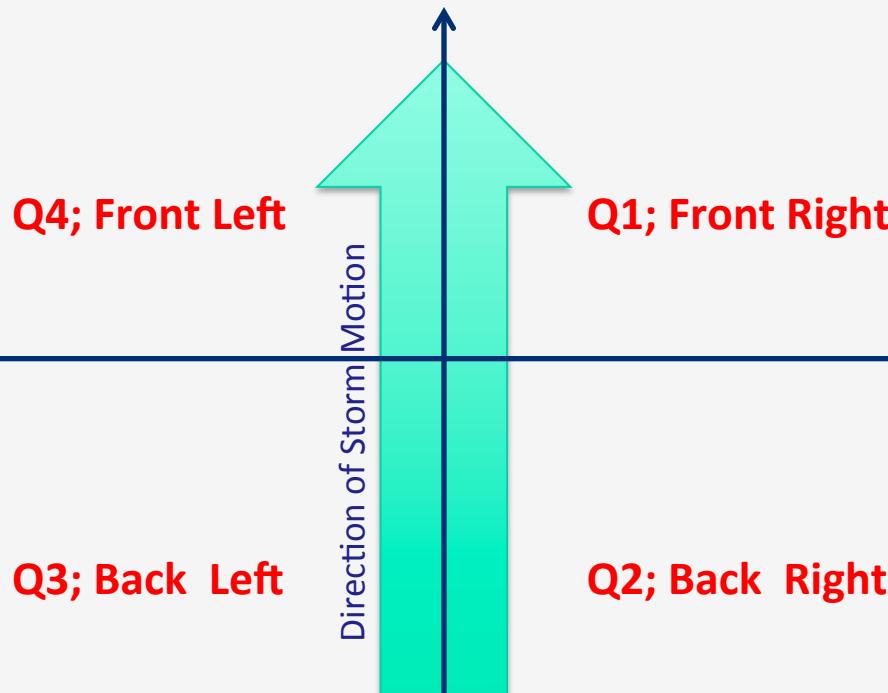
- combines the emission and scattering signals from the **multi-channel information** to present a **cohesive depiction of the rain and the graupel above**, covering the precipitation spectrum
- Uses polarization difference. Hence, it is **less affected by calibration accuracy**.

# Asymmetry and Evolution

## Statistics from observations ; North Atlantic Hurricanes

Parameter as a function of:

- Quadrant with respect to storm motion



**Created composites  
following similar  
approaches:**

*Lonfat, M., F.D. Marks, and S.S.Chen, 2004: "Precipitation Distribution in Tropical Cyclones using the Tropical Rainfall Measuring Mission (TRMM) microwave imager : A Global Perspective" MWR 132(7)*

*Rogers et al., 2012 : "Multiscale analysis of mature tropical cyclone structure from airborne Doppler composites," MWR, 140 (1)*

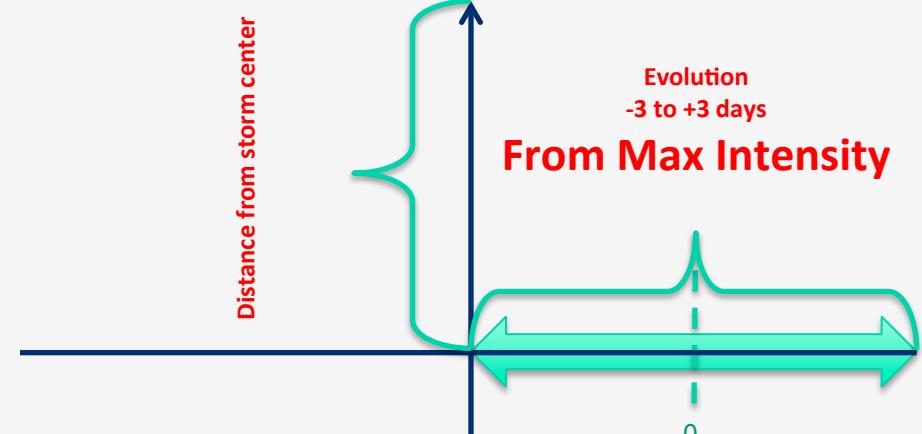
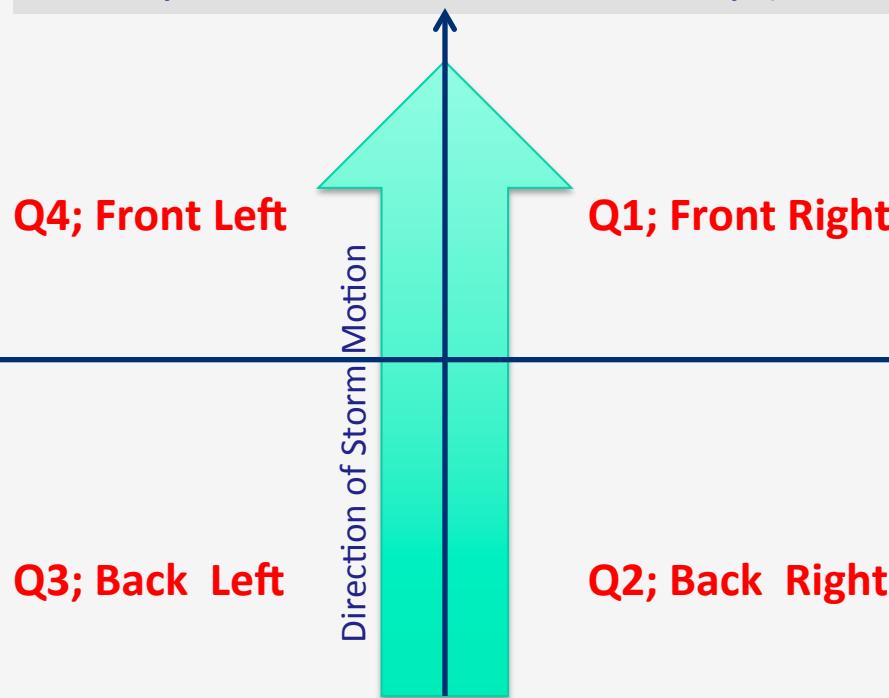
*Wu, L, H. Su, R. G. Fovell, B. Wang, J. T. Shen, B. H. Kahn, S. M. Hristova-Veleva, B. H. Lambrigtsen, E. J. Fetzer, J. H. Jiang, 2012: "Relationship of Environmental Relative Humidity with Tropical Cyclone Intensity and Intensification Rate over North Atlantic", Geophys. Res. Lett., 39, L20809, doi: 10.1029/2012GL053546.*

# Asymmetry and Evolution

## Statistics from observations ; North Atlantic Hurricanes

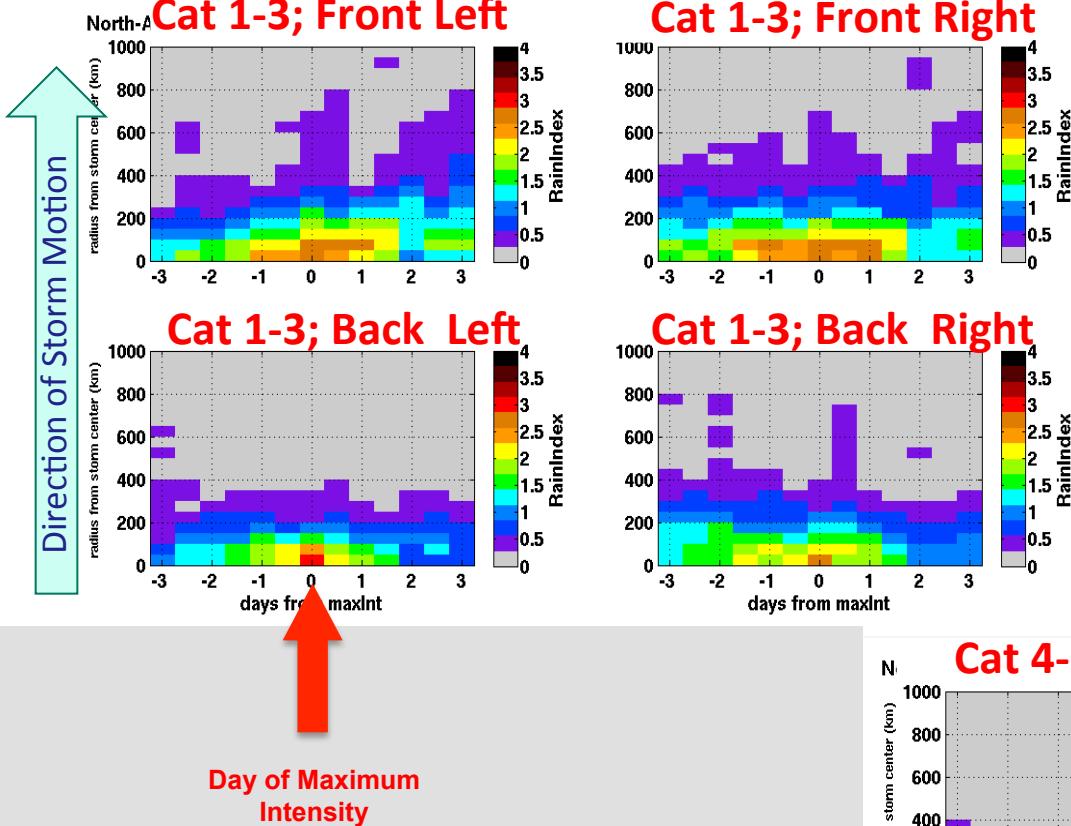
Parameter as a function of:

- Quadrant with respect to storm motion
- distance from storm center (y-axis)
- days from maximum intensity (x-axis)





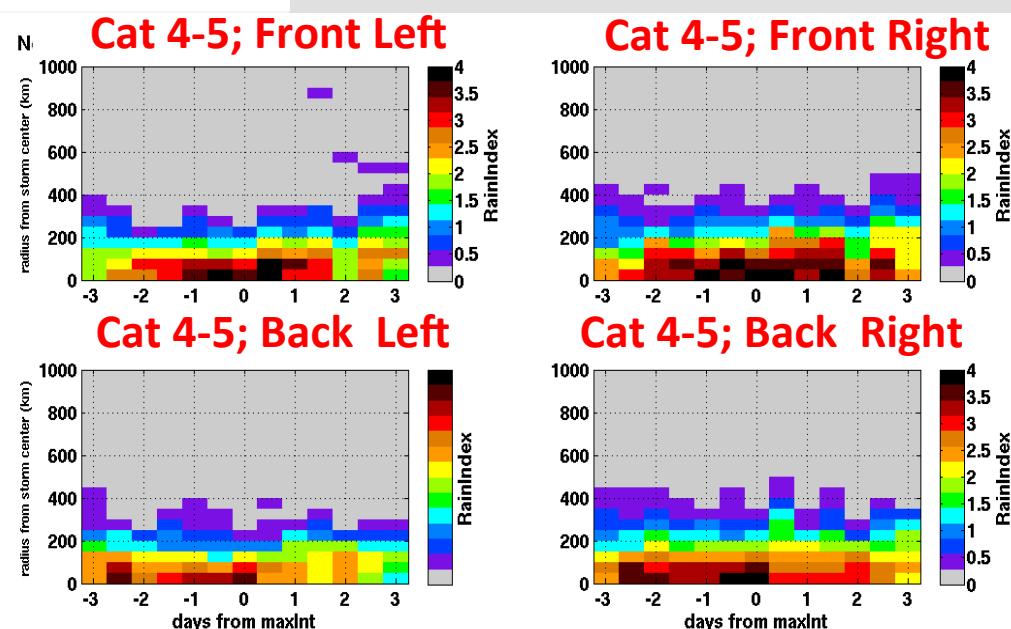
# 9-year statistics from AMSR-E observations North Atlantic Hurricanes; 2002-2011



Evolution of asymmetry  
Azimuthal/Range Distributions of  
**Rain Index**

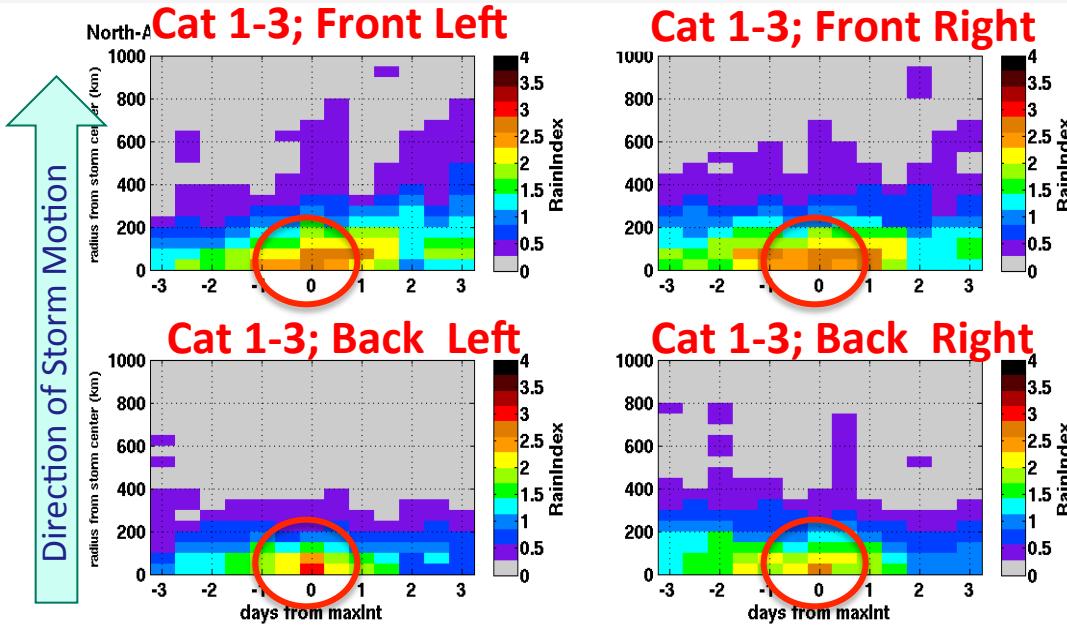
Cat1: 31 cases  
Cat2: 9 cases  
Cat3: 12 cases  
cases  
Cat4: 18 cases  
Cat5: 7 cases

Total Cat1-3 = 52





# 9-year statistics from AMSR-E observations North Atlantic Hurricanes; 2002-2011



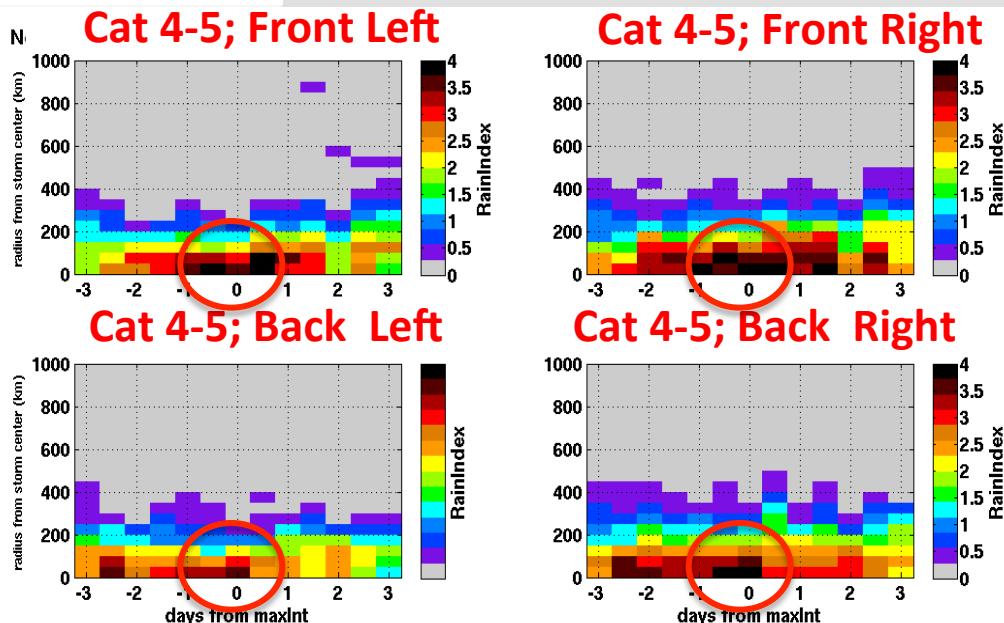
Cat 1-3 have rain fields that are **larger, weaker and less symmetric** in:

- Space
  - More intense precipitation is in the **front 2 quadrants**

Evolution of asymmetry  
Azimuthal/Range Distributions of  
**Rain Index**

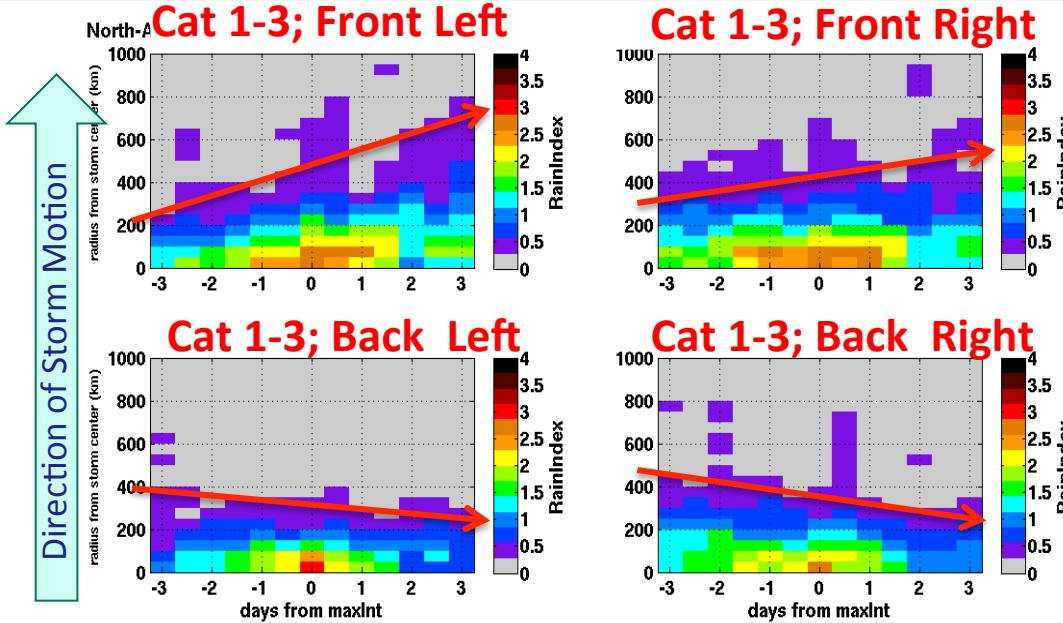
**Cat1: 31 cases**  
**Cat2: 9 cases**  
**Cat3: 12 cases**  
**Cat4: 18 cases**  
**Cat5: 7 cases**

**Total Cat1-3 = 52**





# 9-year statistics from AMSR-E observations North Atlantic Hurricanes; 2002-2011



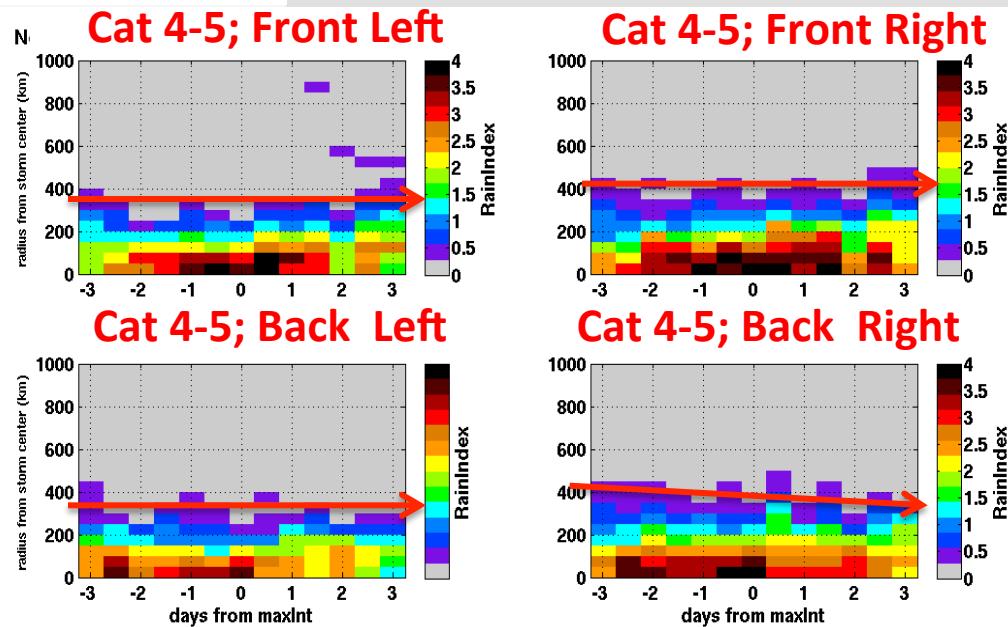
Cat 1-3 have rain fields that are **larger, weaker and less symmetric** in:

- **Space**
  - More intense precipitation is in the **front** 2 quadrants
- **Time**
  - Tendency for radial expansion of precipitation after the peak of the storm. Only in the **front** 2 quadrants.
  - Increase in asymmetry

Evolution of asymmetry  
Azimuthal/Range Distributions of  
**Rain Index**

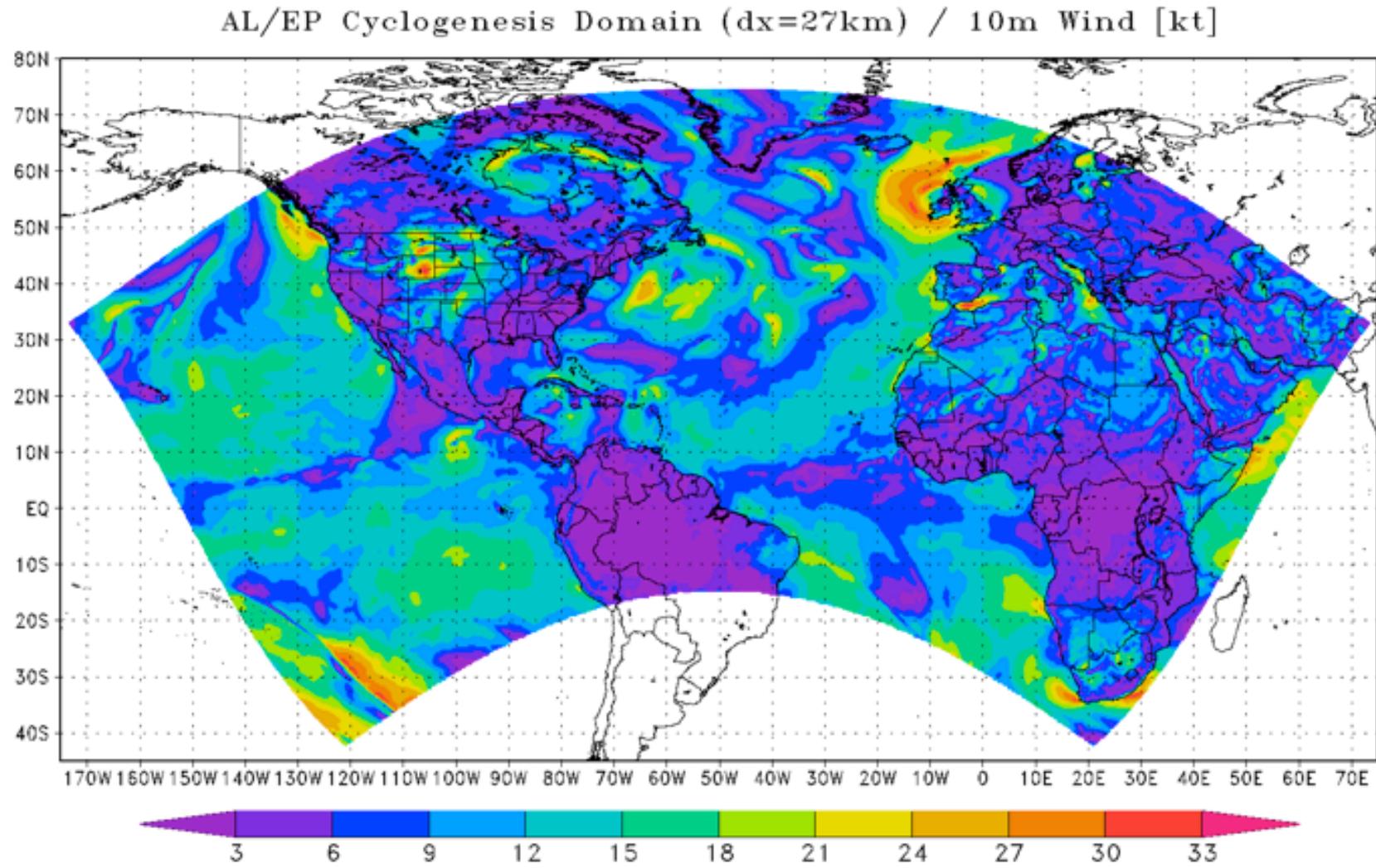
**Cat1: 31 cases**  
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**Total Cat1-3 = 52**



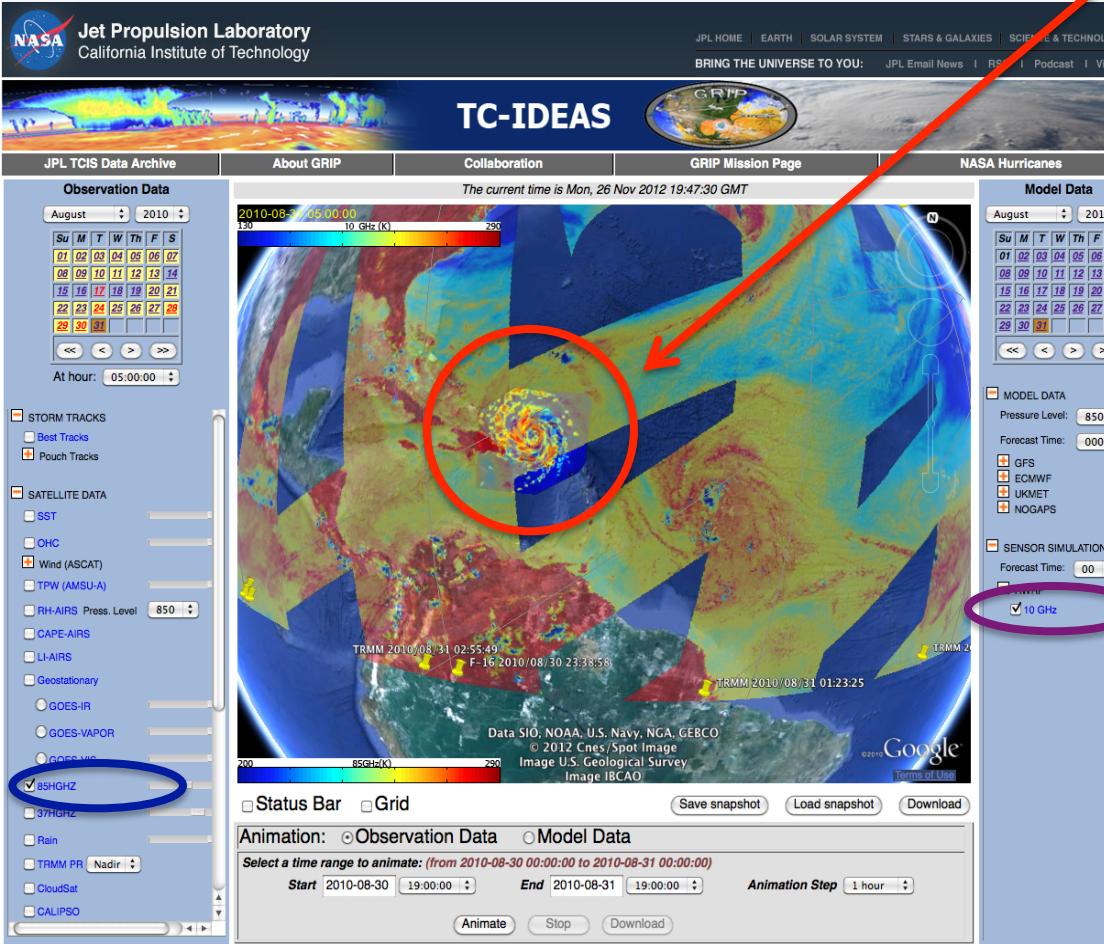


# Basin-scale HWRF – coming up!





# Now: Developing analysis tools for model validation



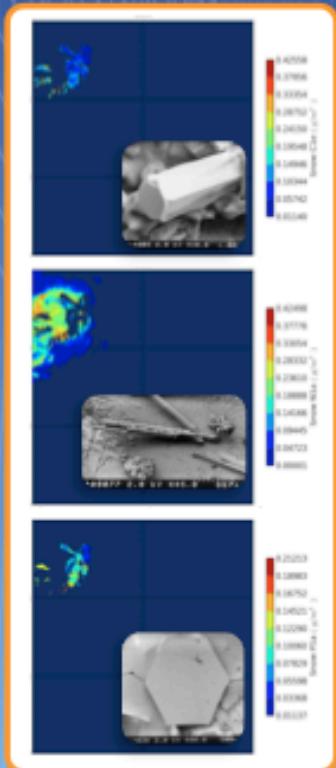
- **Interactively select region**
- **Gather data from observed and synthetic brightness temperatures**
- **Statistical comparisons**
  - Storm-relative coordinates
  - EOFs, CFADs, PDFs
  - Azimuthal averages = $f(r)$
- **Storm Structure**
  - Object classification
  - Metrics for model/obs classification
- **ARCHER**
- **Wave Number Analysis**
- **Visualization of analysis**



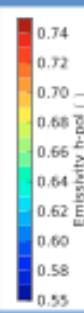
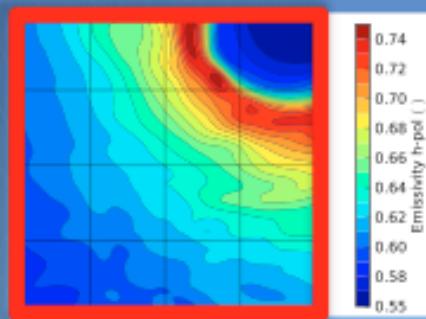
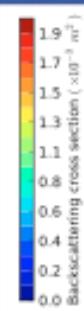
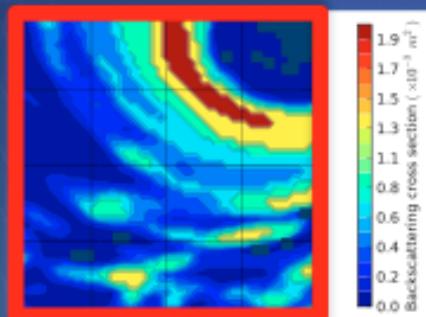
# NEOS<sup>3</sup> : example of the 3 stages

High modularity is *exploited* by enabling the user to pick options via a web interface

Mixing ratio by particle types

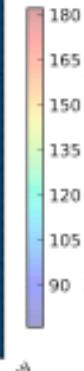
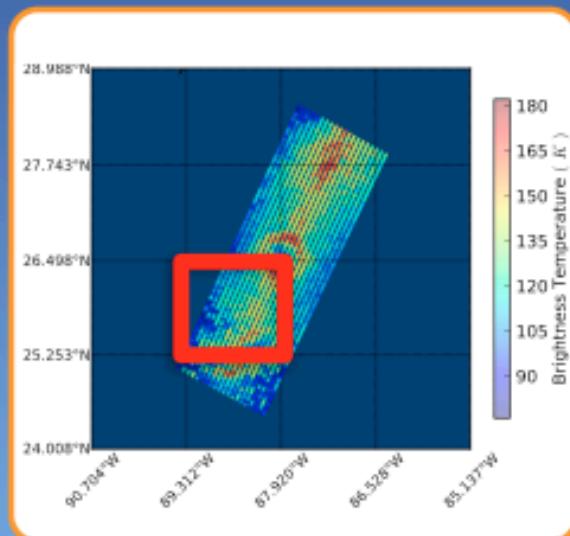


Atmospheric scattering



Surface scattering

Brightness Temperature



IRM

Geophysics

SEAM

Electromagnetics

ISM

Propagation & Instruments

# *Focus on the model – including the operational HWRF model forecast*

## 2. Integration of TCIS and NEOS<sup>3</sup>

### a) New IRM module: HWRF reader

- Despite the name, the output format of HWRF is significantly different from that of all the other WRF-family.
  - Some of the quantities are reported in non-standard units (not a significant problem).
  - The sampling grid is not a regular 3-D sampling (a more time-consuming problem).
  - The module is completed and tested

### b) Full simulations of HWRF

- First full simulations with HWRF input have been obtained, some passed QC some did not. Bug fixes and upgrades are in progress.

