

South England Downbursts

Part 1:

23 October 2022

Ken Pryor

NOAA/NESDIS/STAR

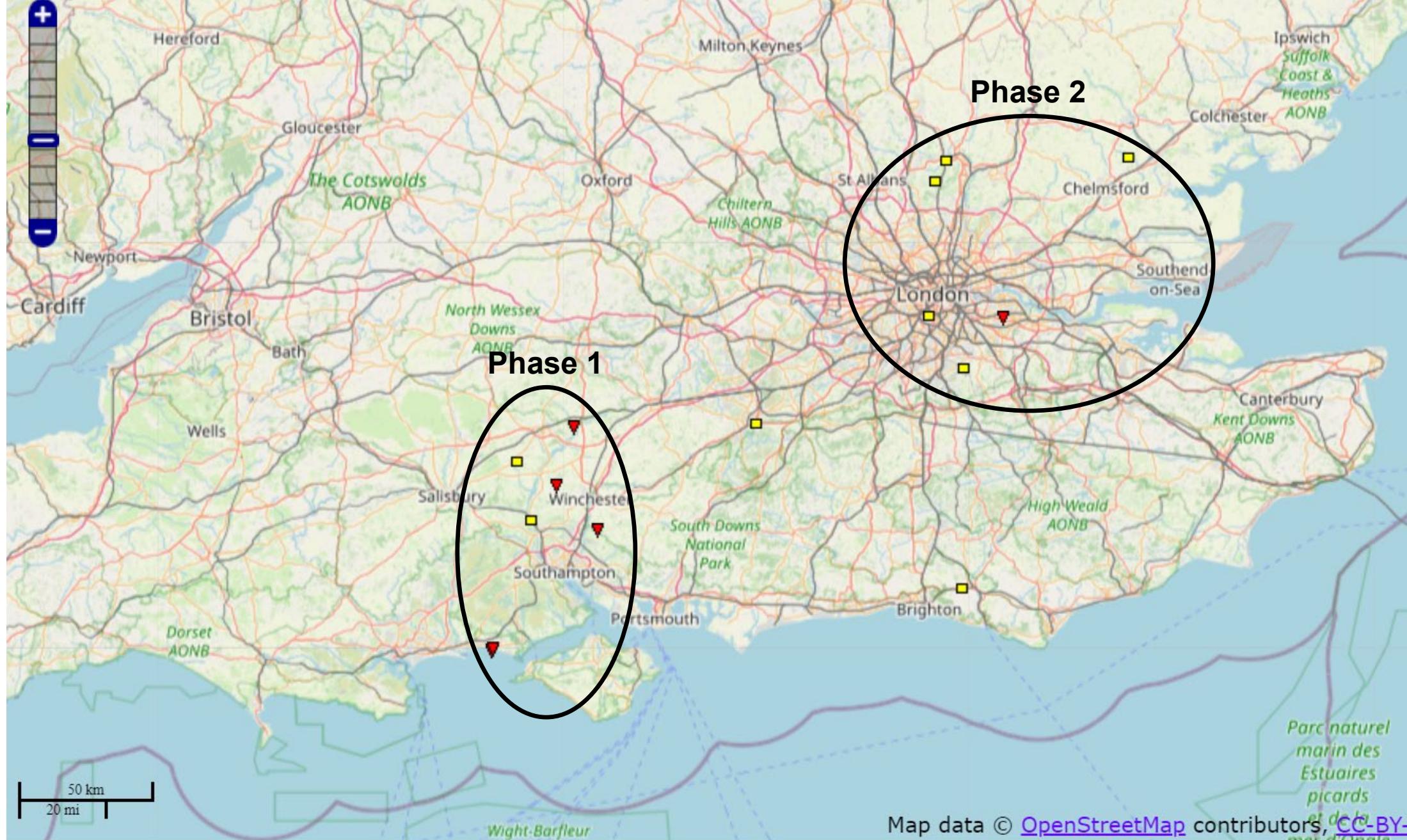
With contributions from

David Smart, TORRO/UCL Hazard Centre

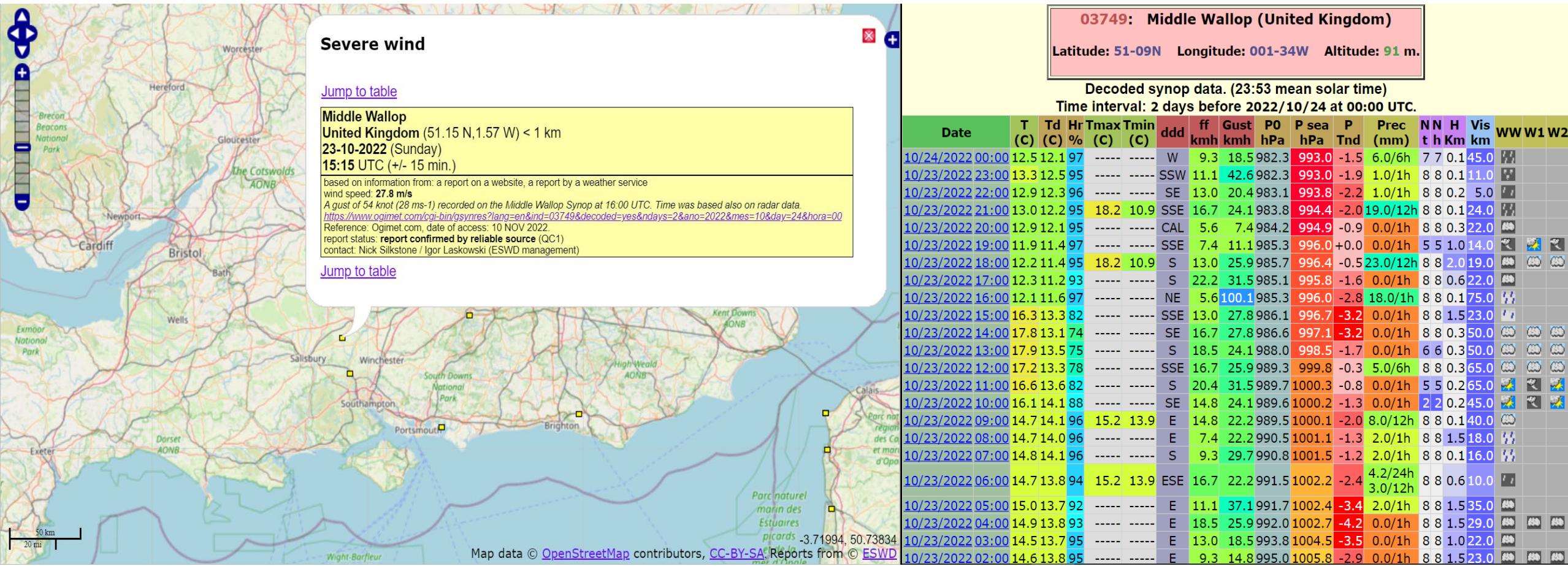
Matthew Clark, UK Met Office

David Flack, UK Met Office

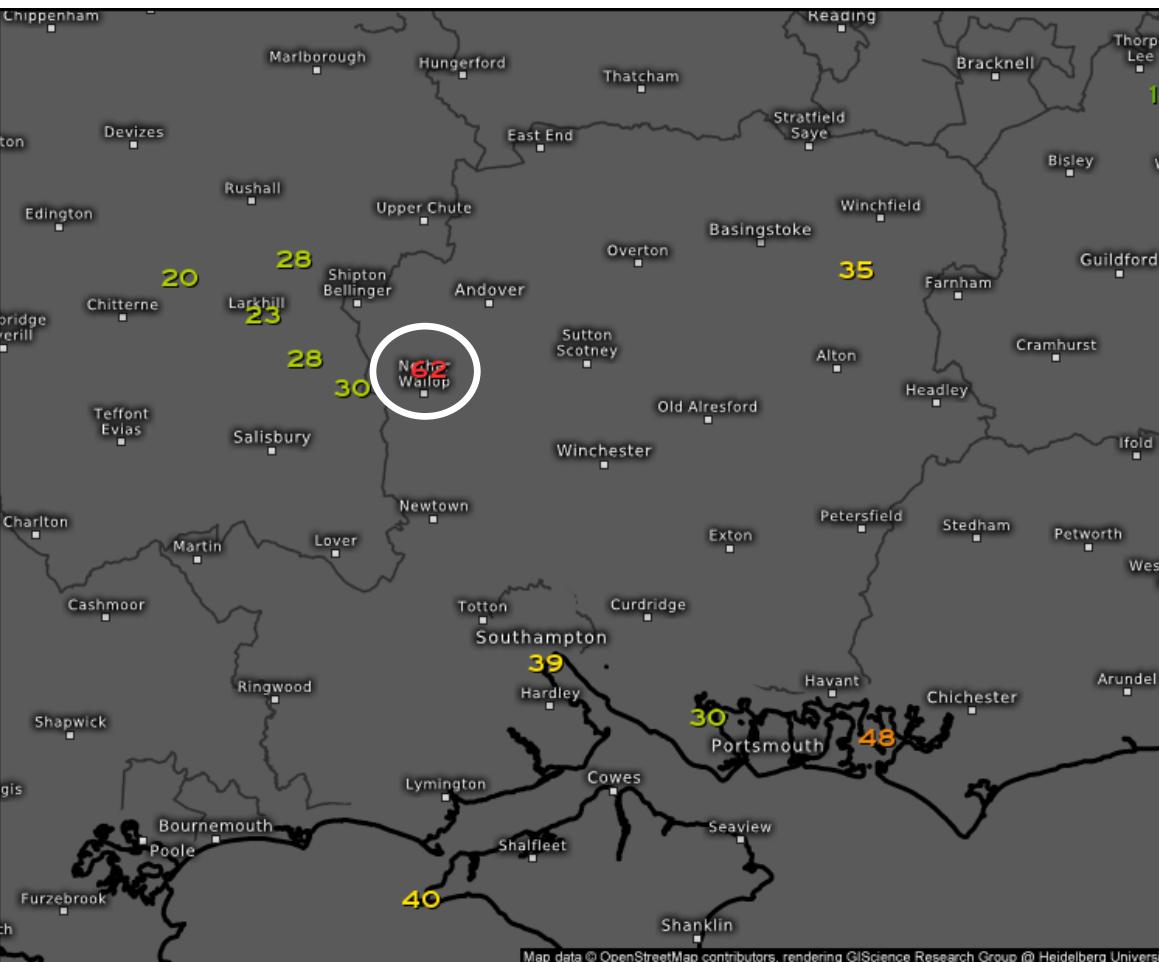
Simon Culling, TORRO



Downburst Wind Observation



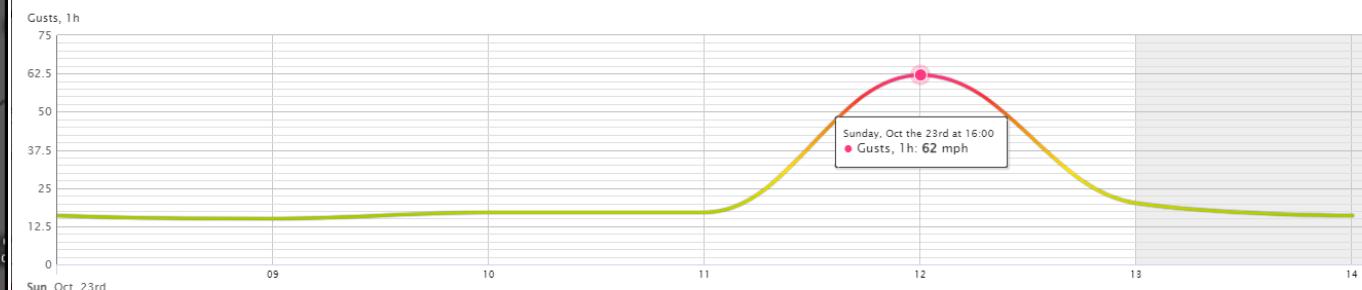
Downburst Wind Observation



16mph

Reported at 18:00

last 6 12 24 48 72 hours



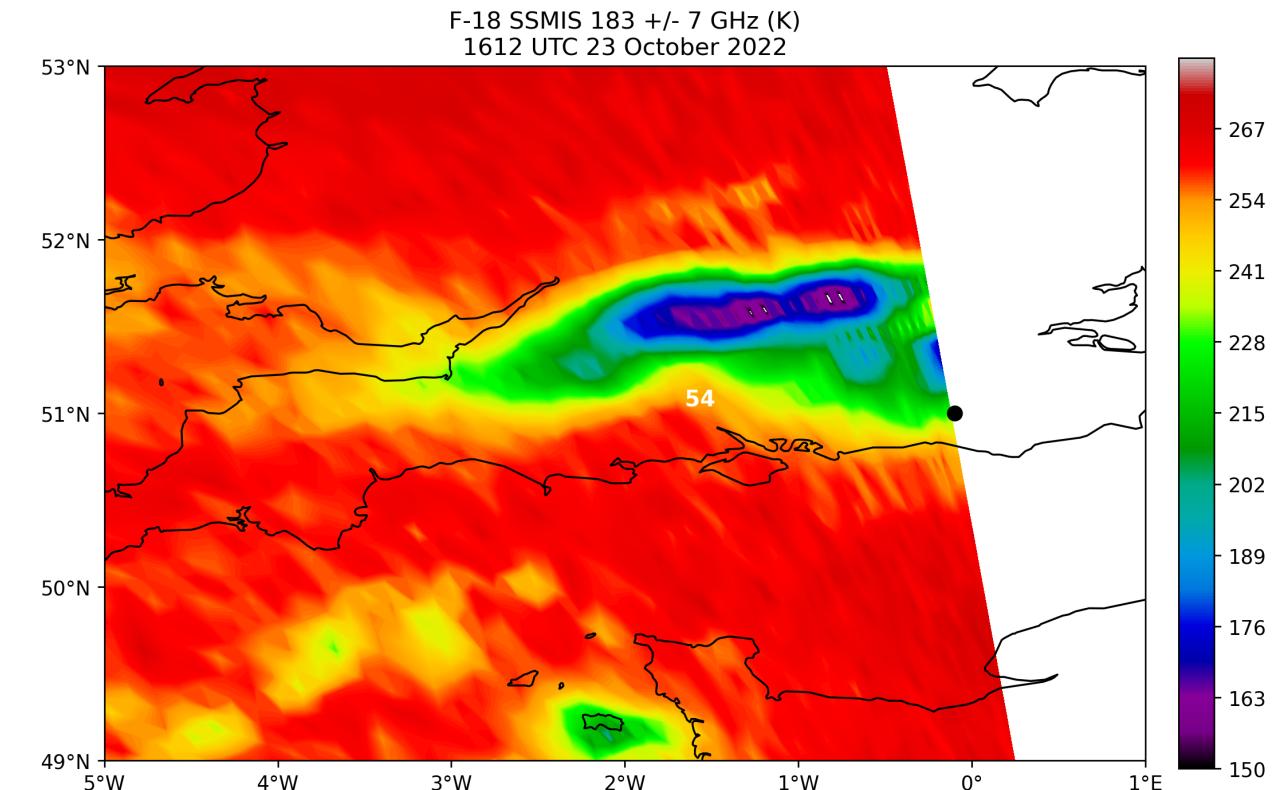
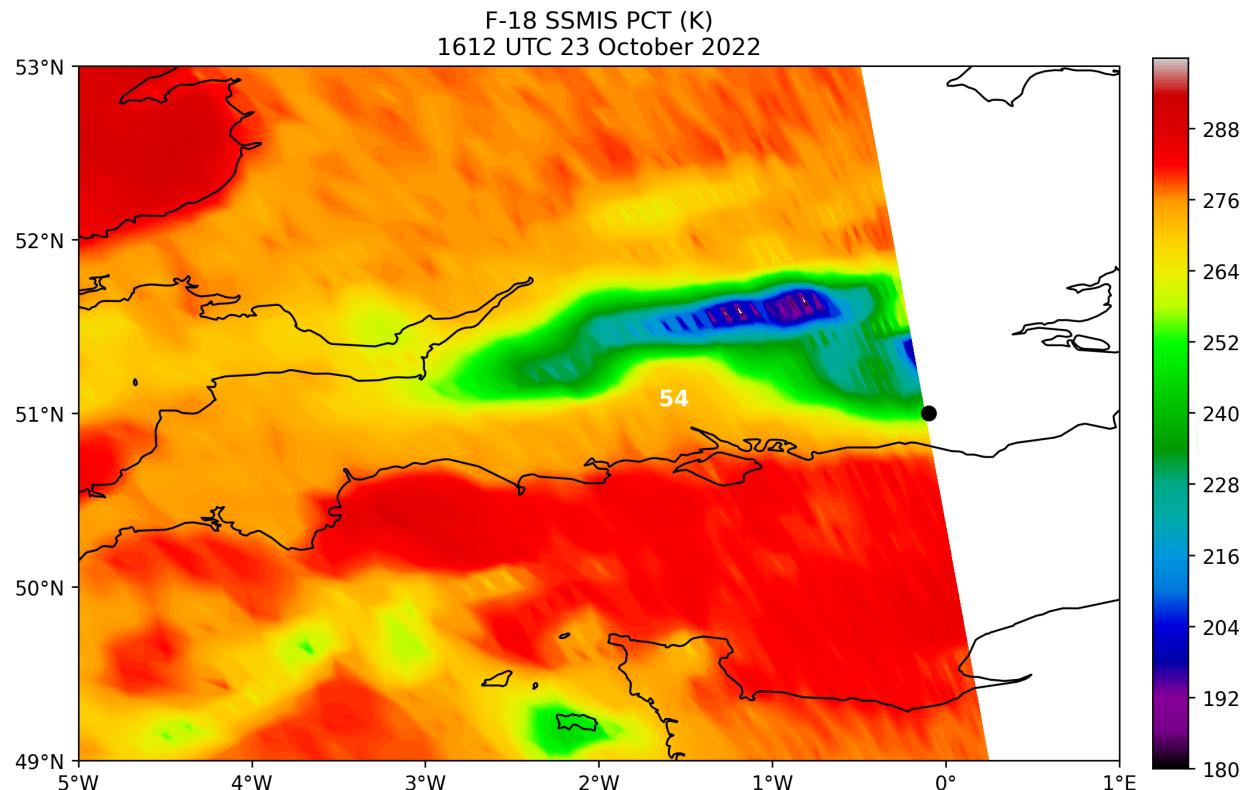
Gusts, 11

Time	Reading
23-10-2022, 18:00	16mph
23-10-2022, 17:00	20mph
23-10-2022, 16:00	62mph
23-10-2022, 15:00	17mph

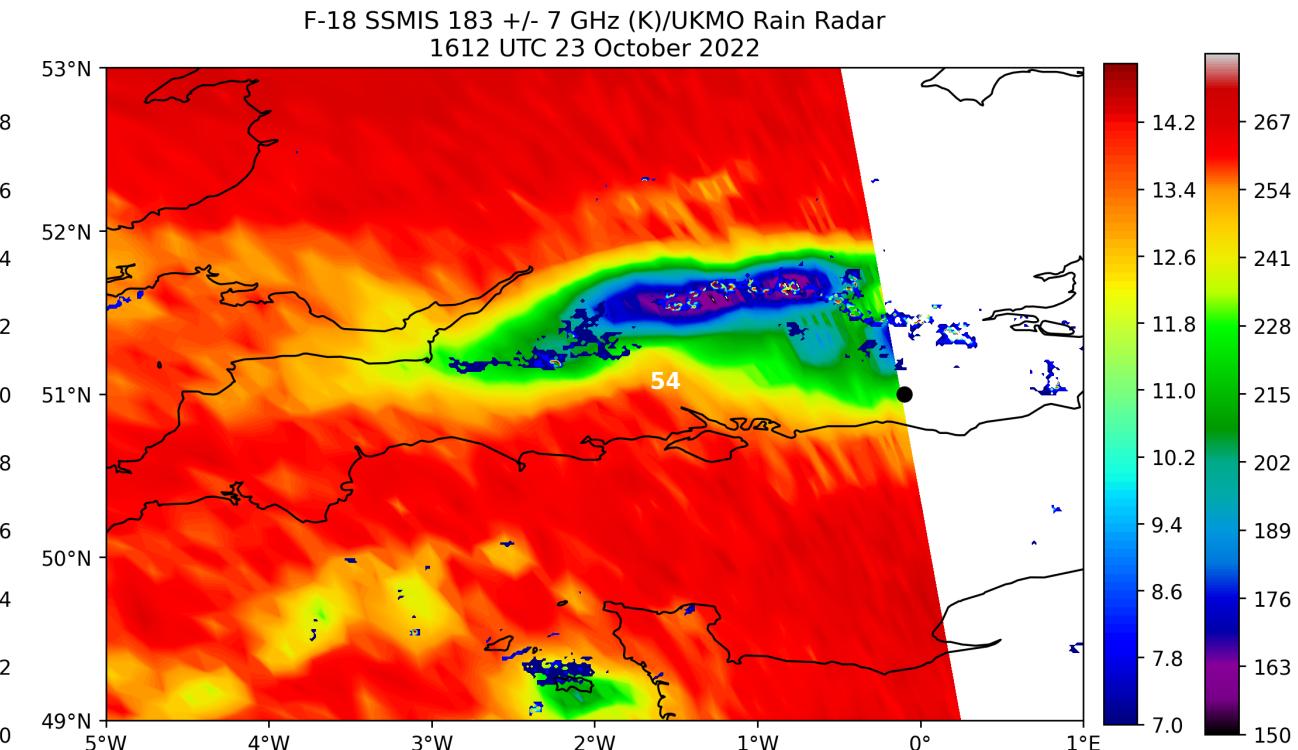
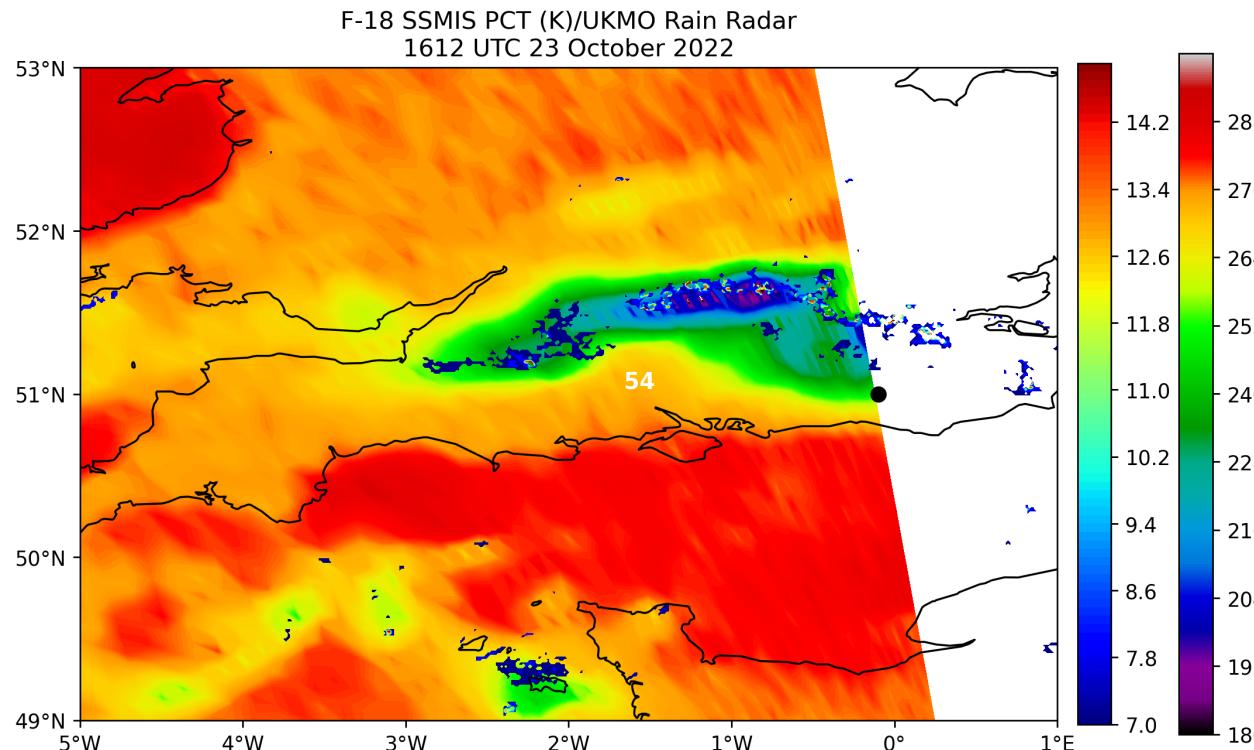
Gusts, 1h (mph)



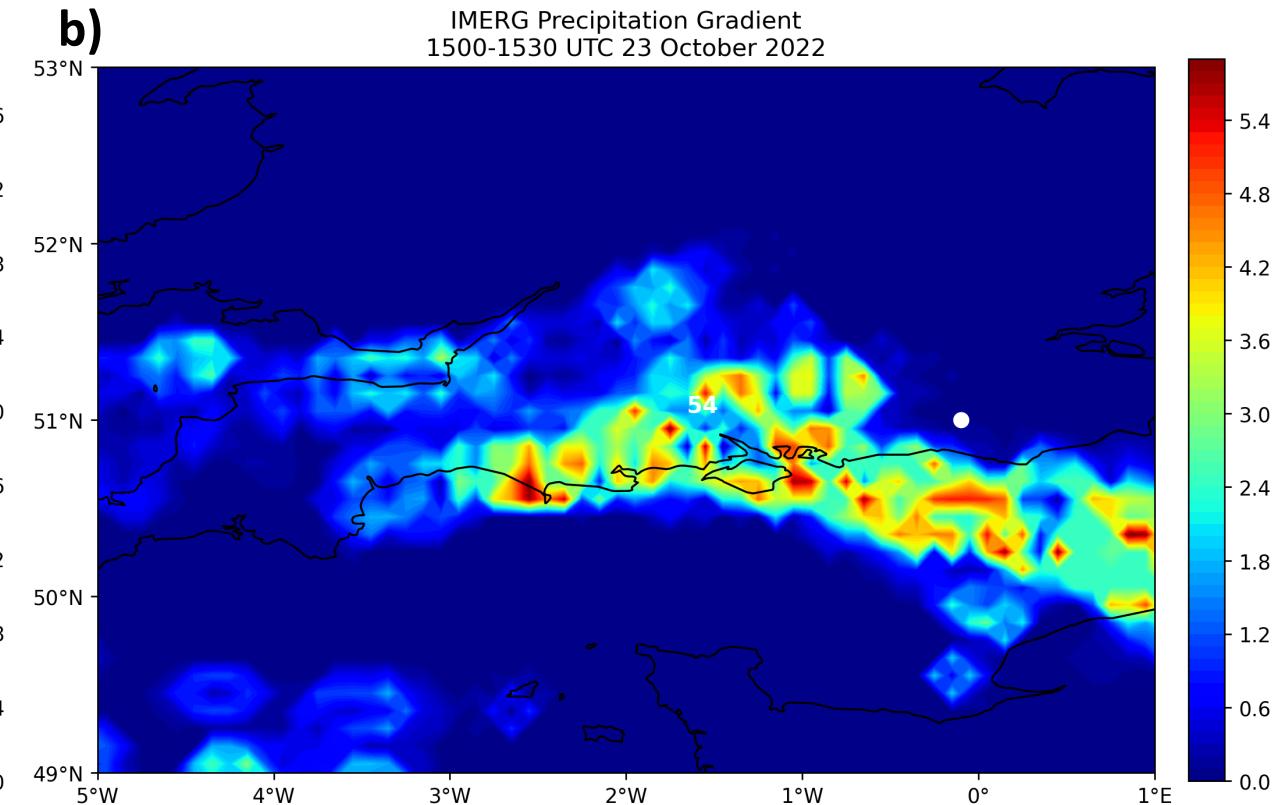
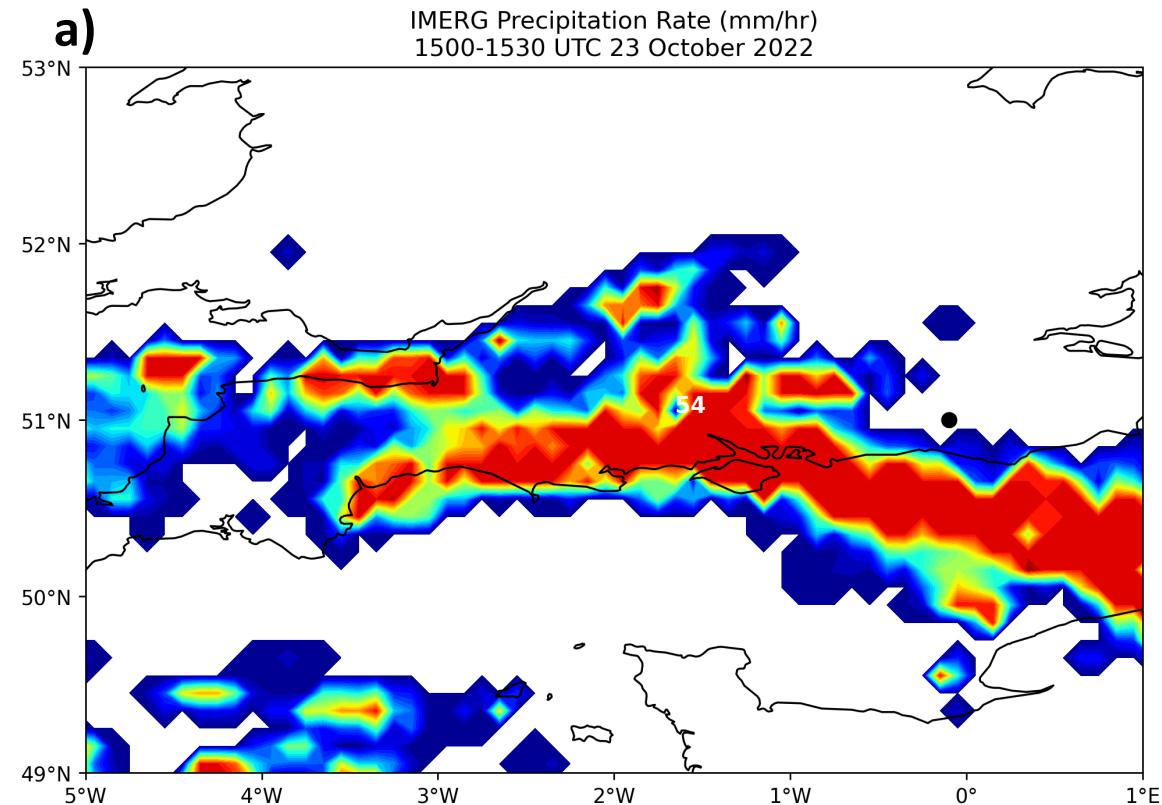
SSMIS Product Comparison



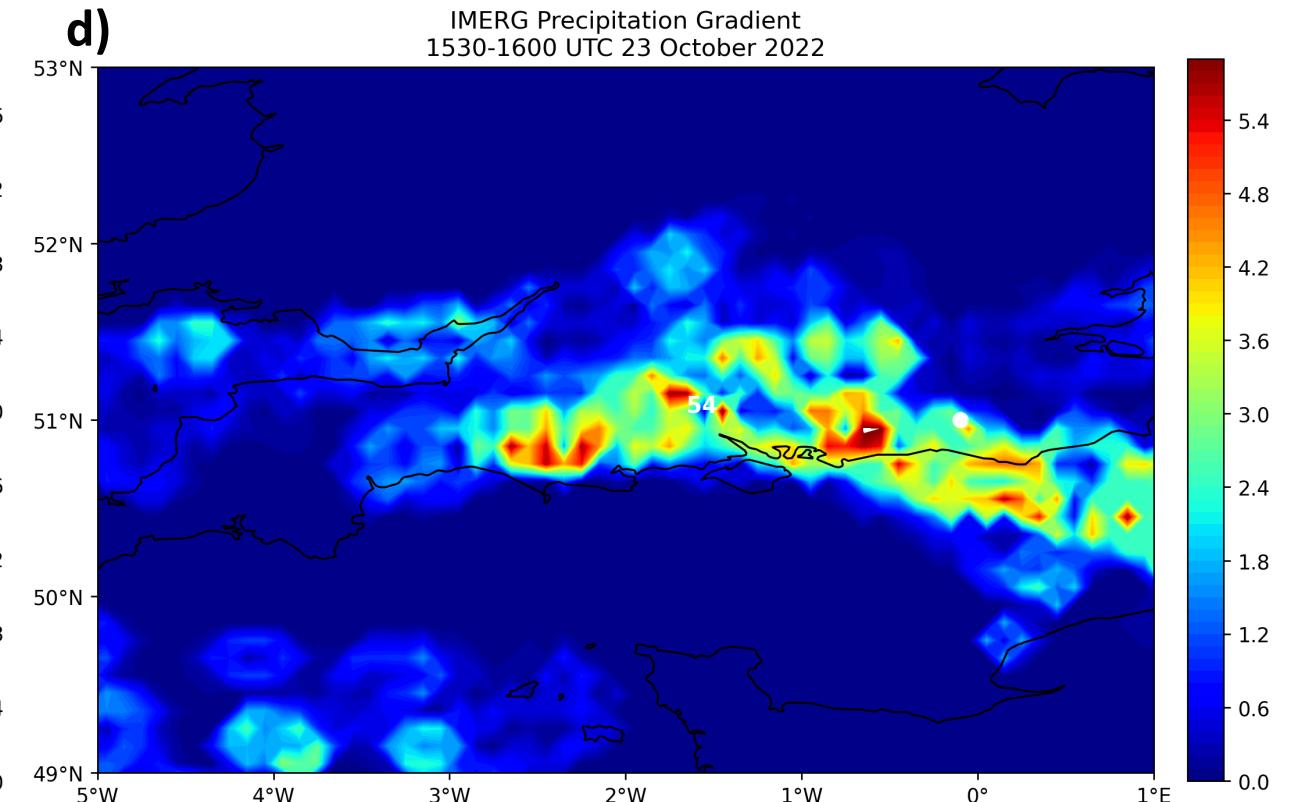
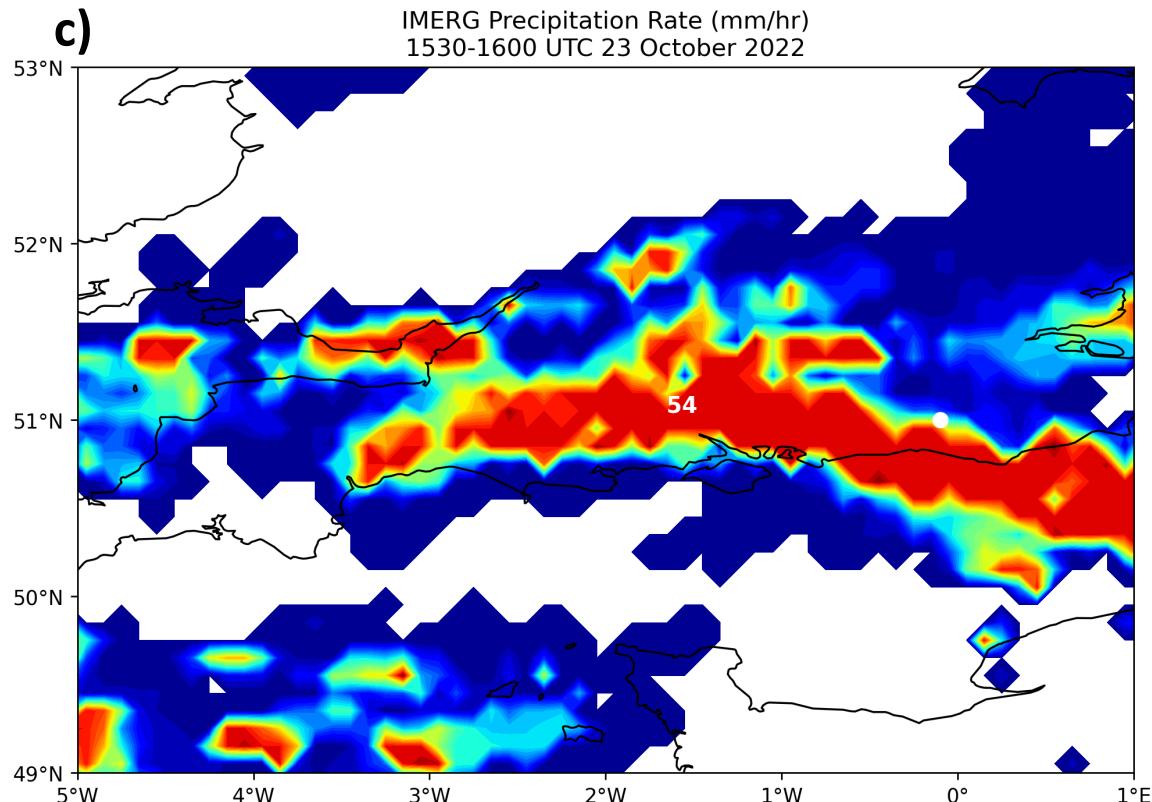
MW-Radar Comparison



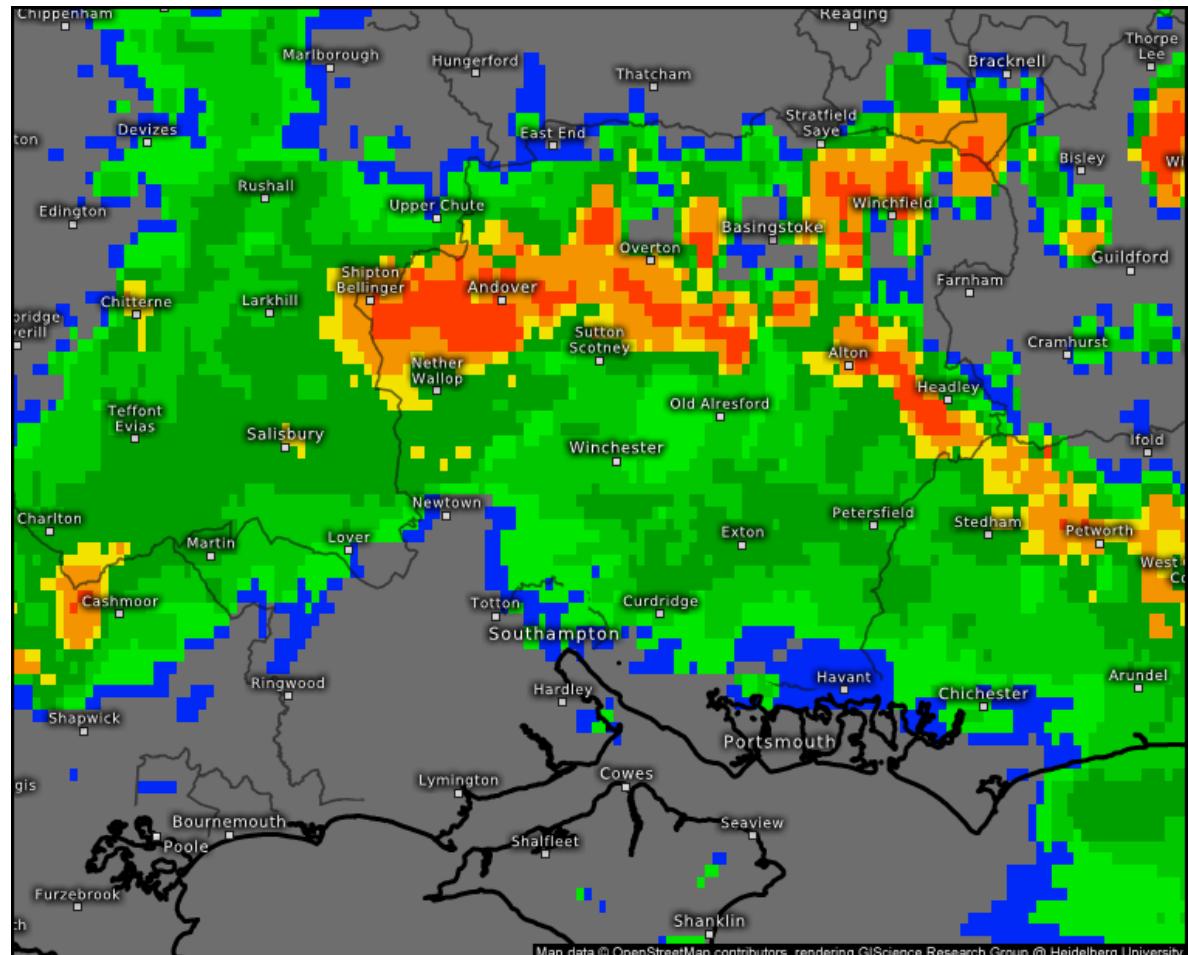
IMERG Image Analysis: 1500 UTC



IMERG Image Analysis: 1530 UTC

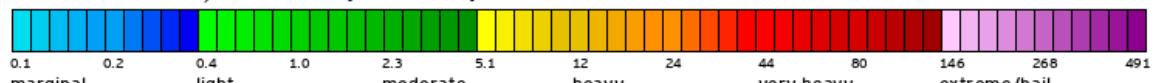


Radar Summary

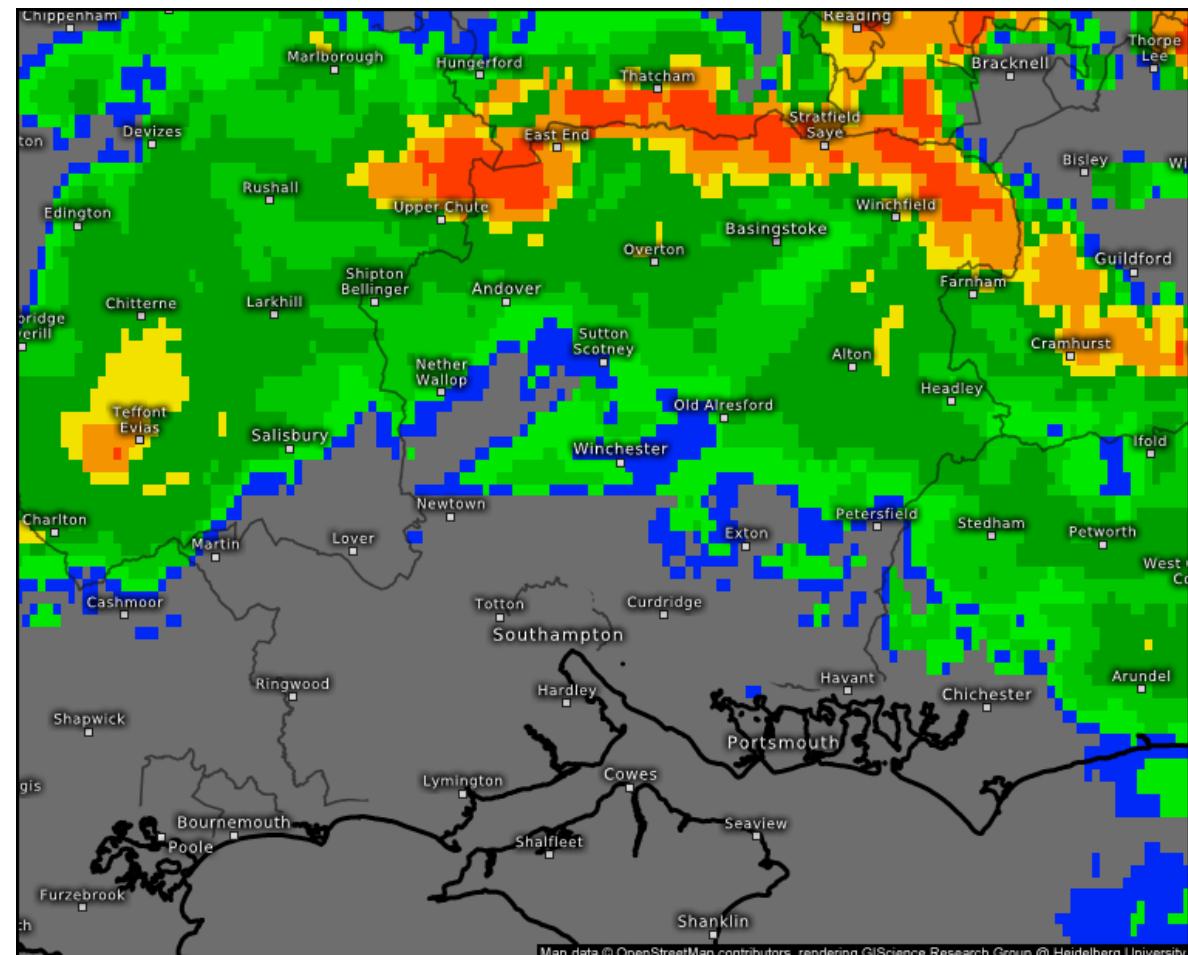


Radar UK, 1.2km (mm/h)

Sun 23-10-2022, 16:30 BST

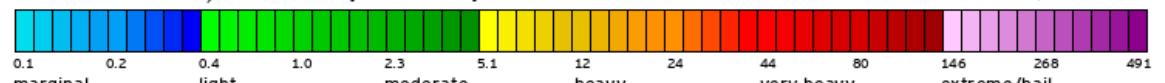


Hampshire



Radar UK, 1.2km (mm/h)

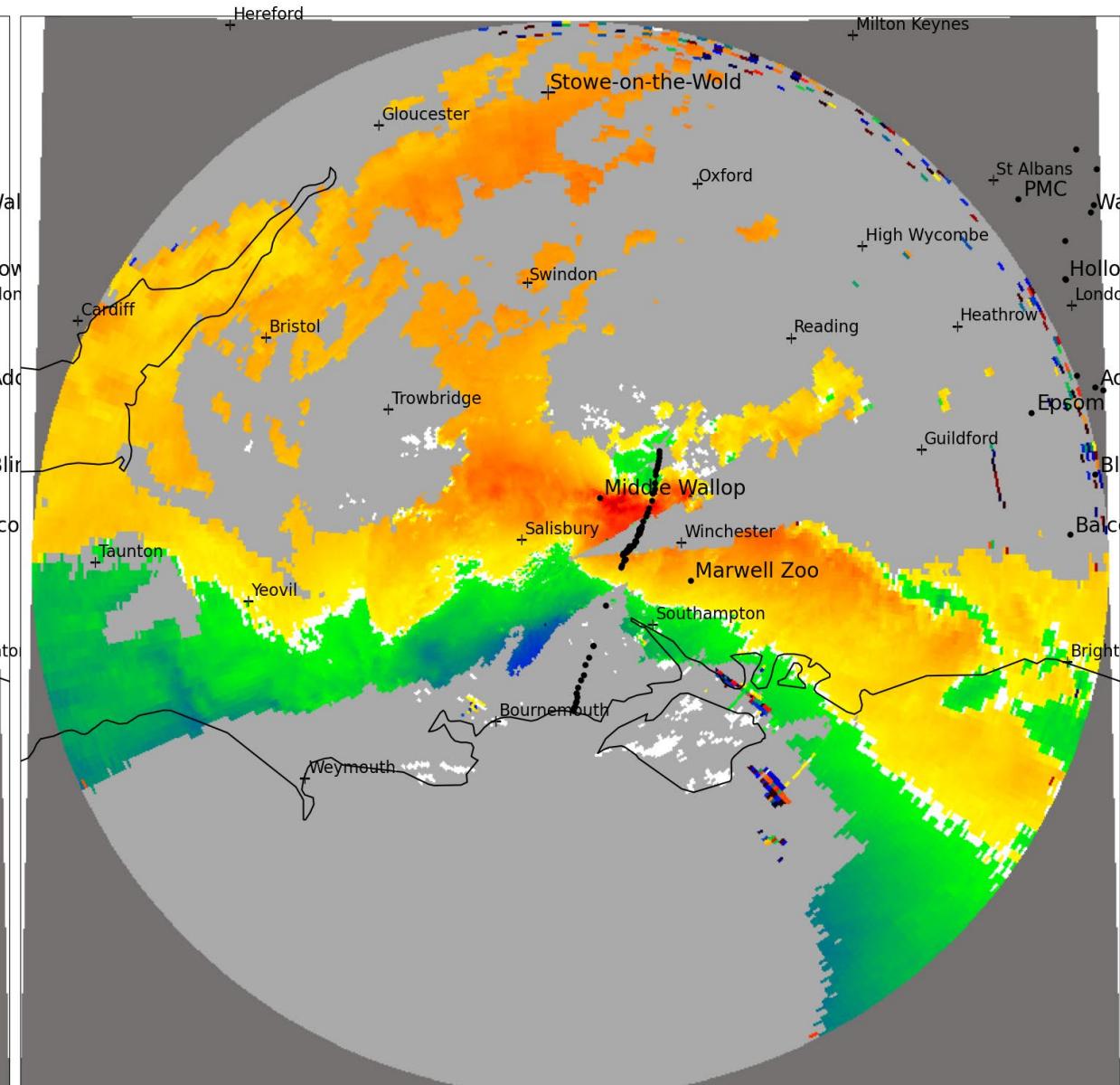
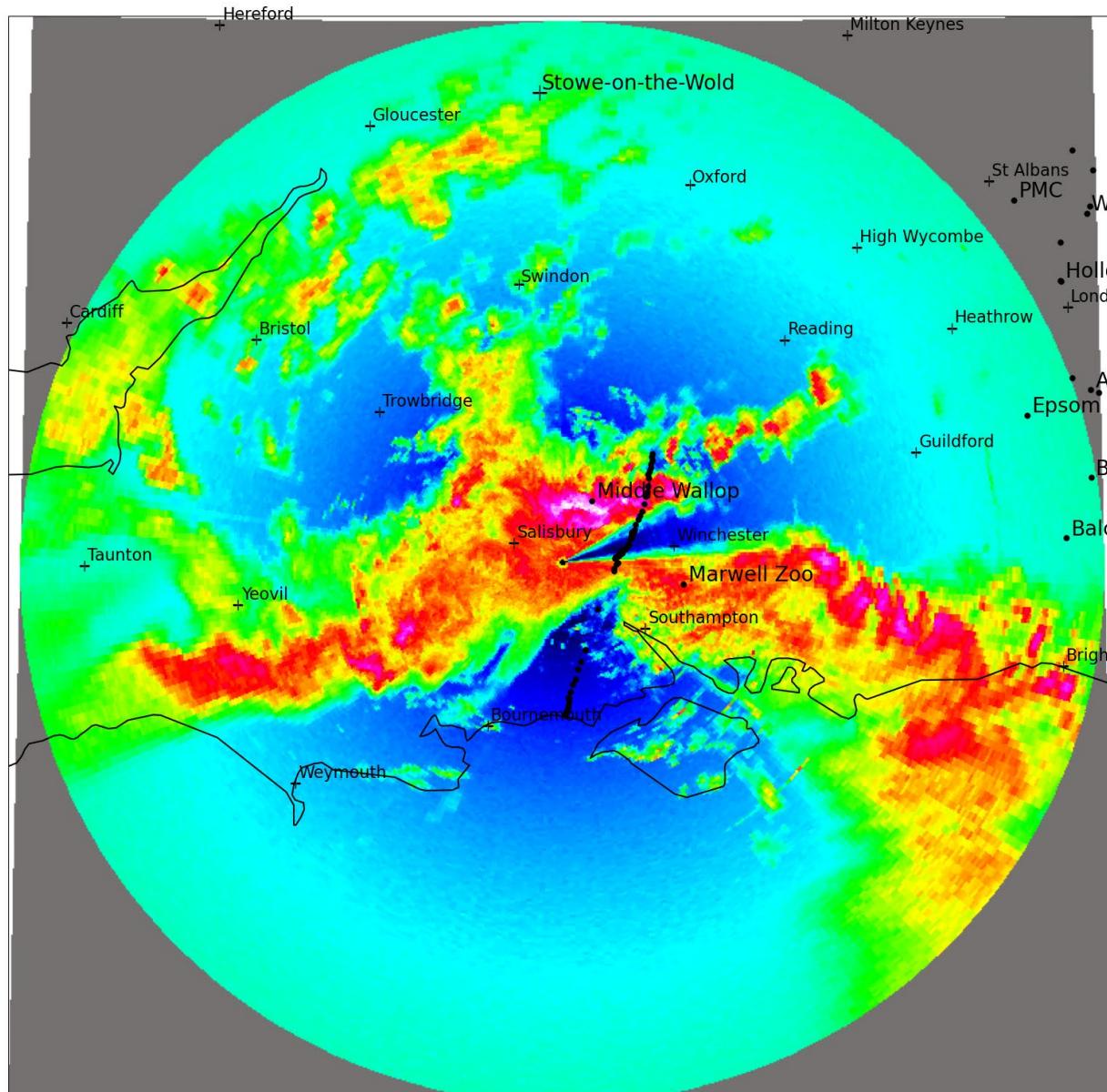
Sun 23-10-2022, 16:45 BST



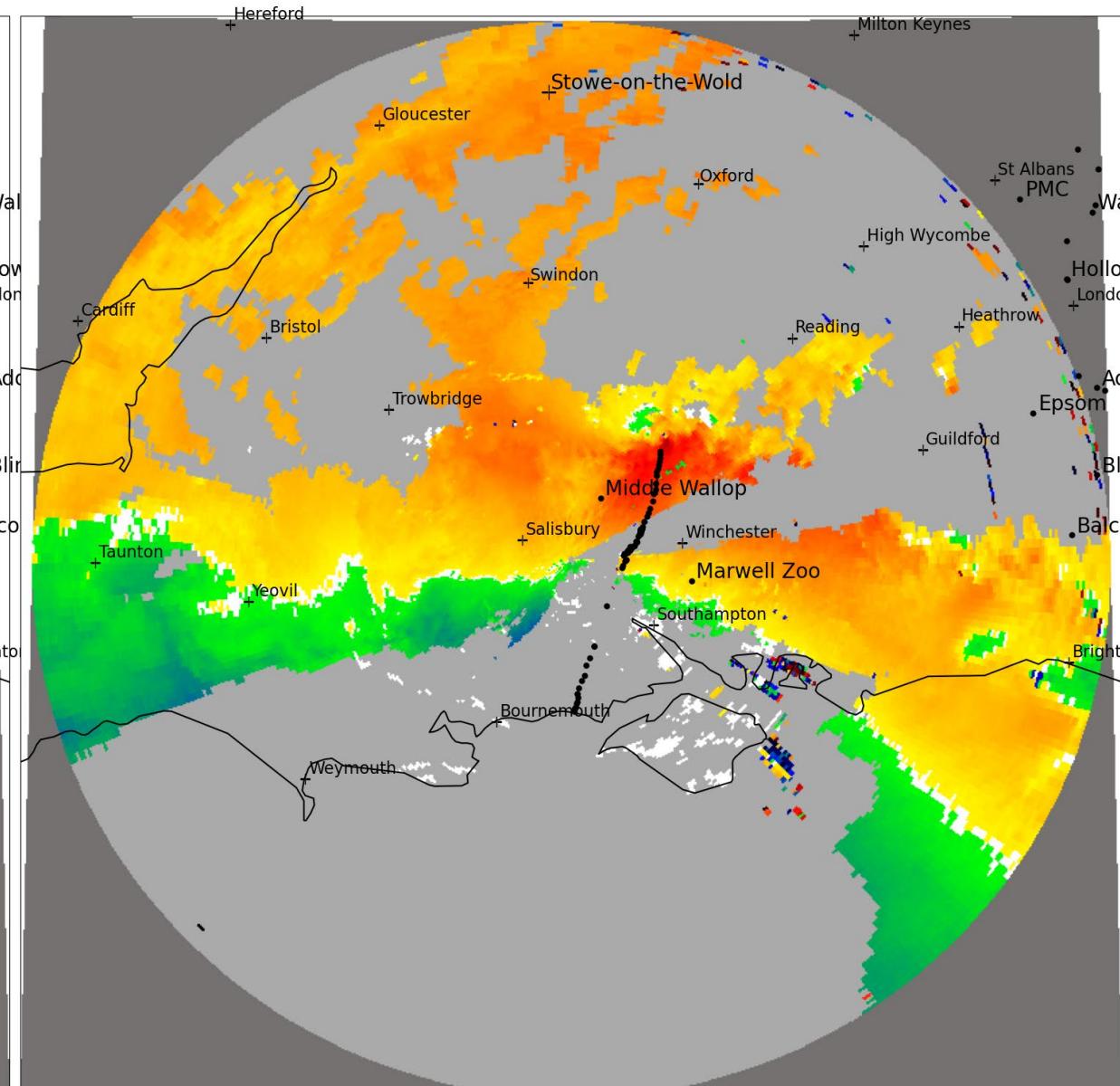
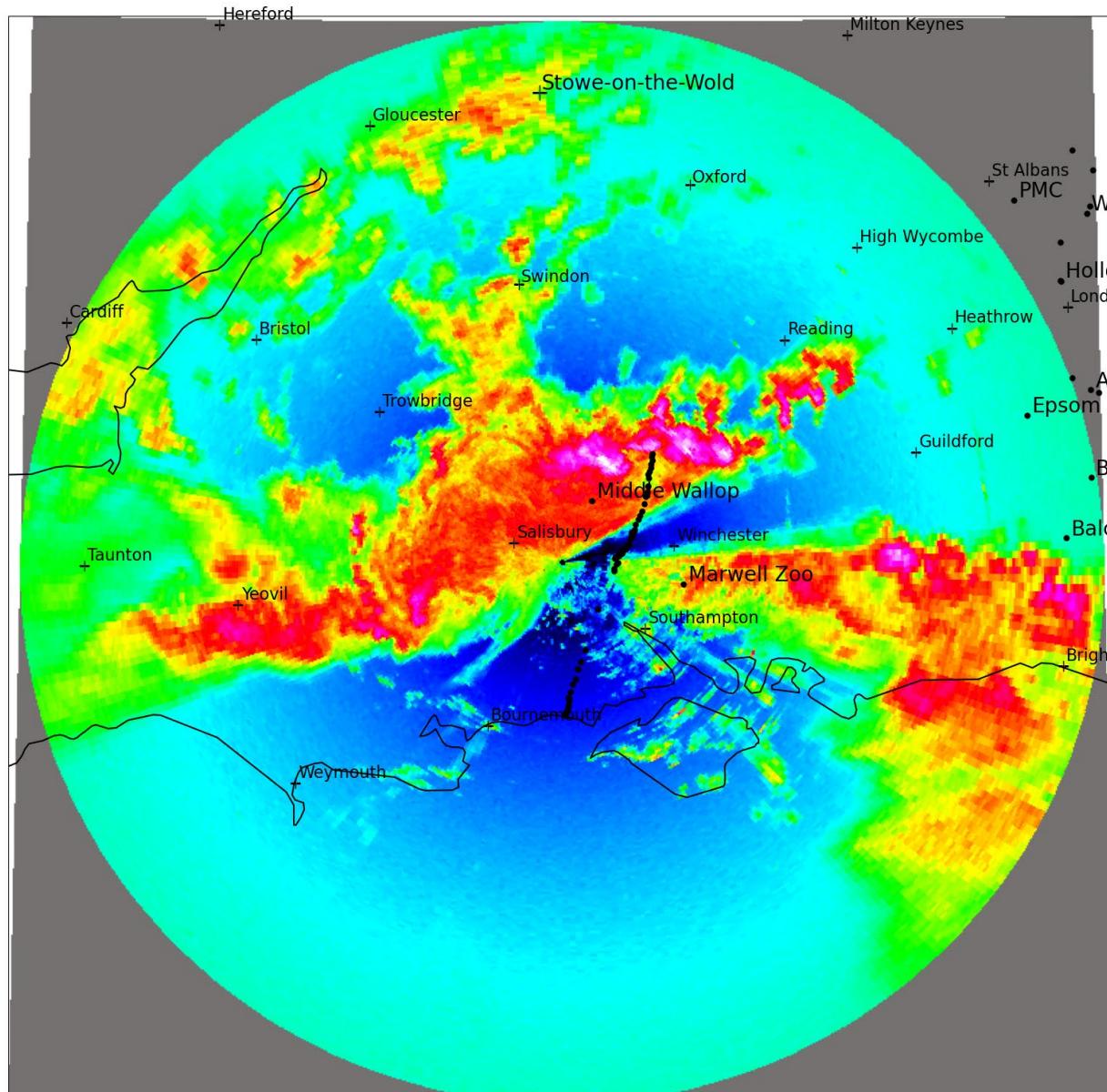
Hamshire

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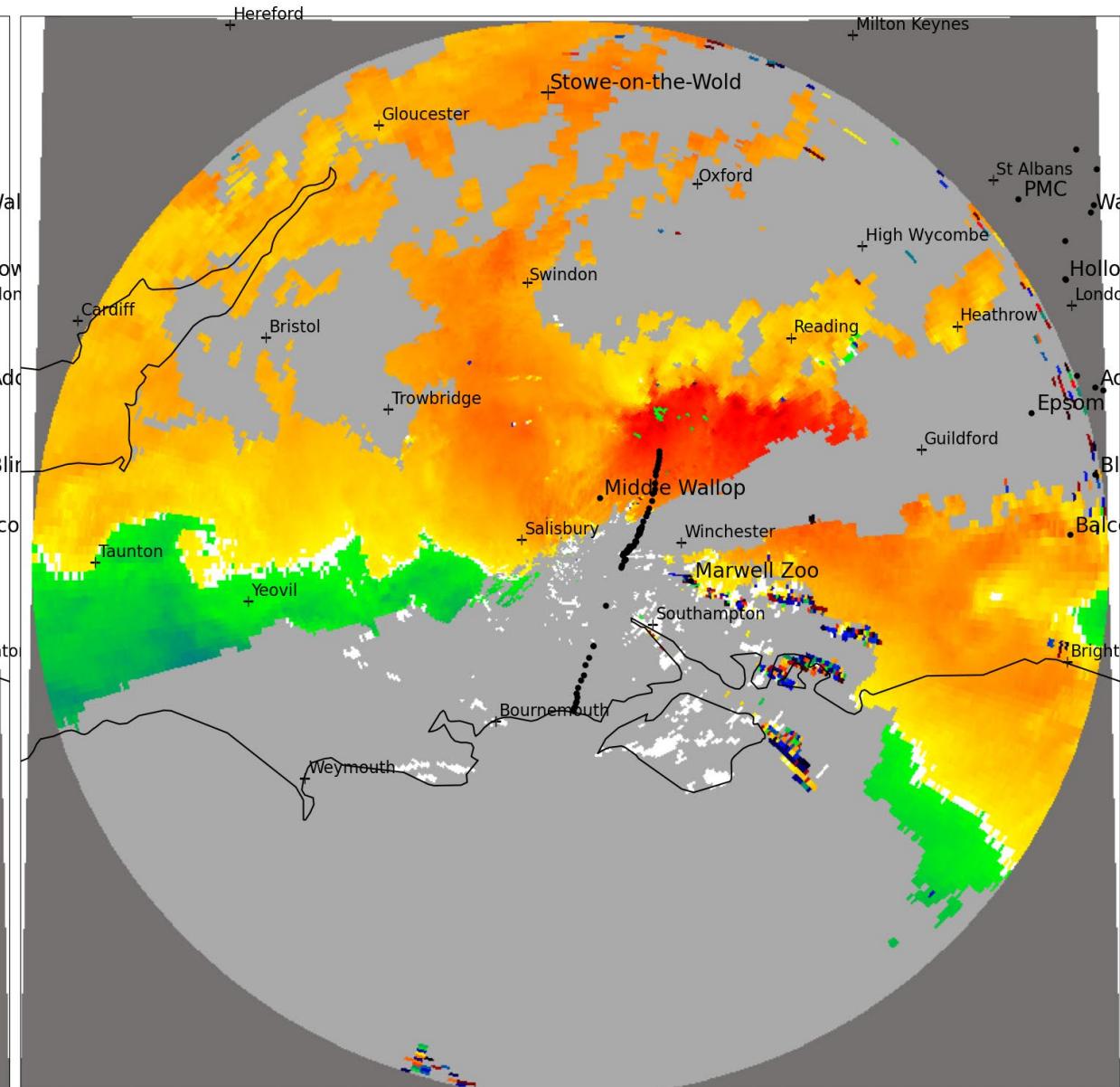
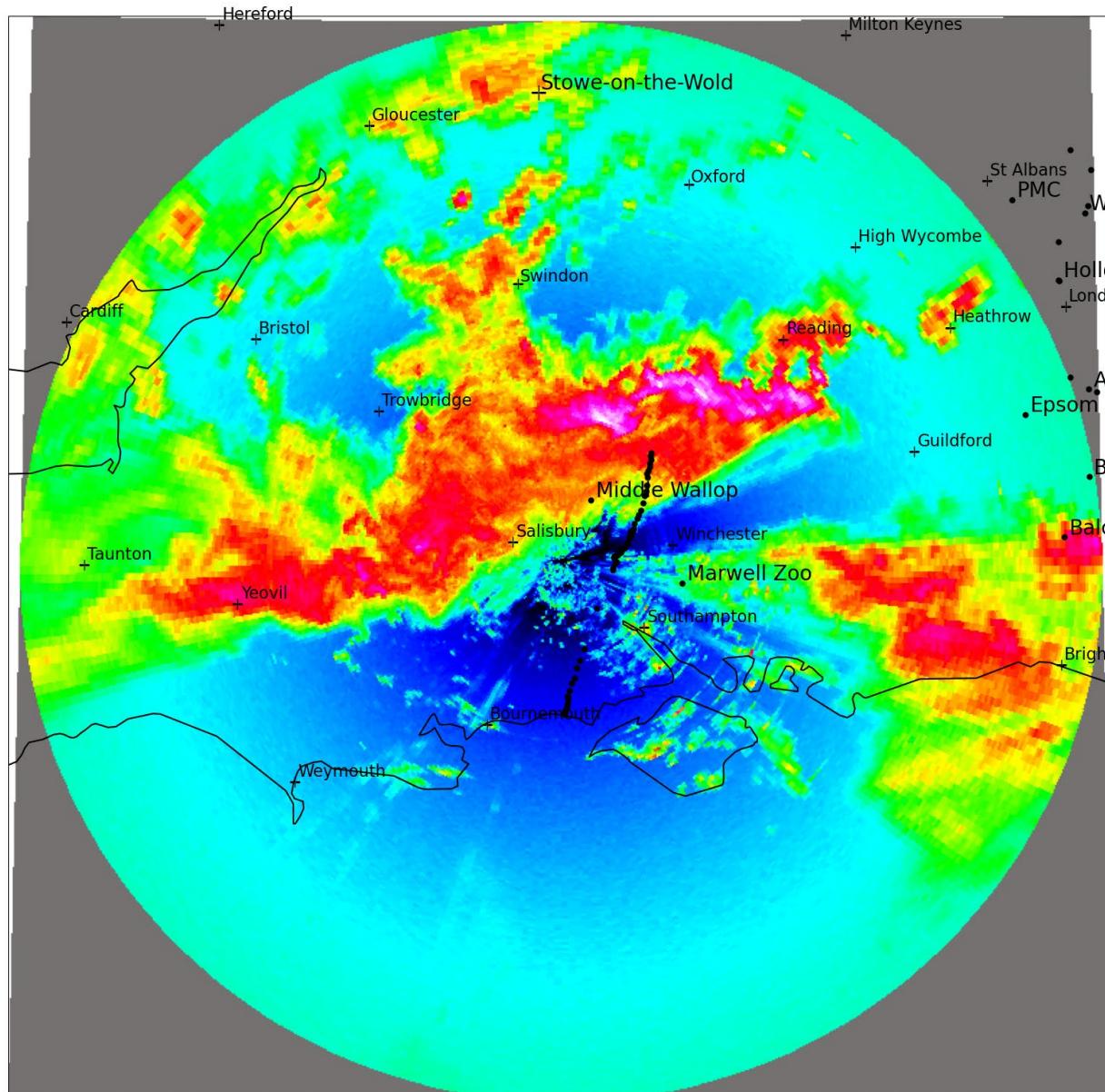
1521 UTC



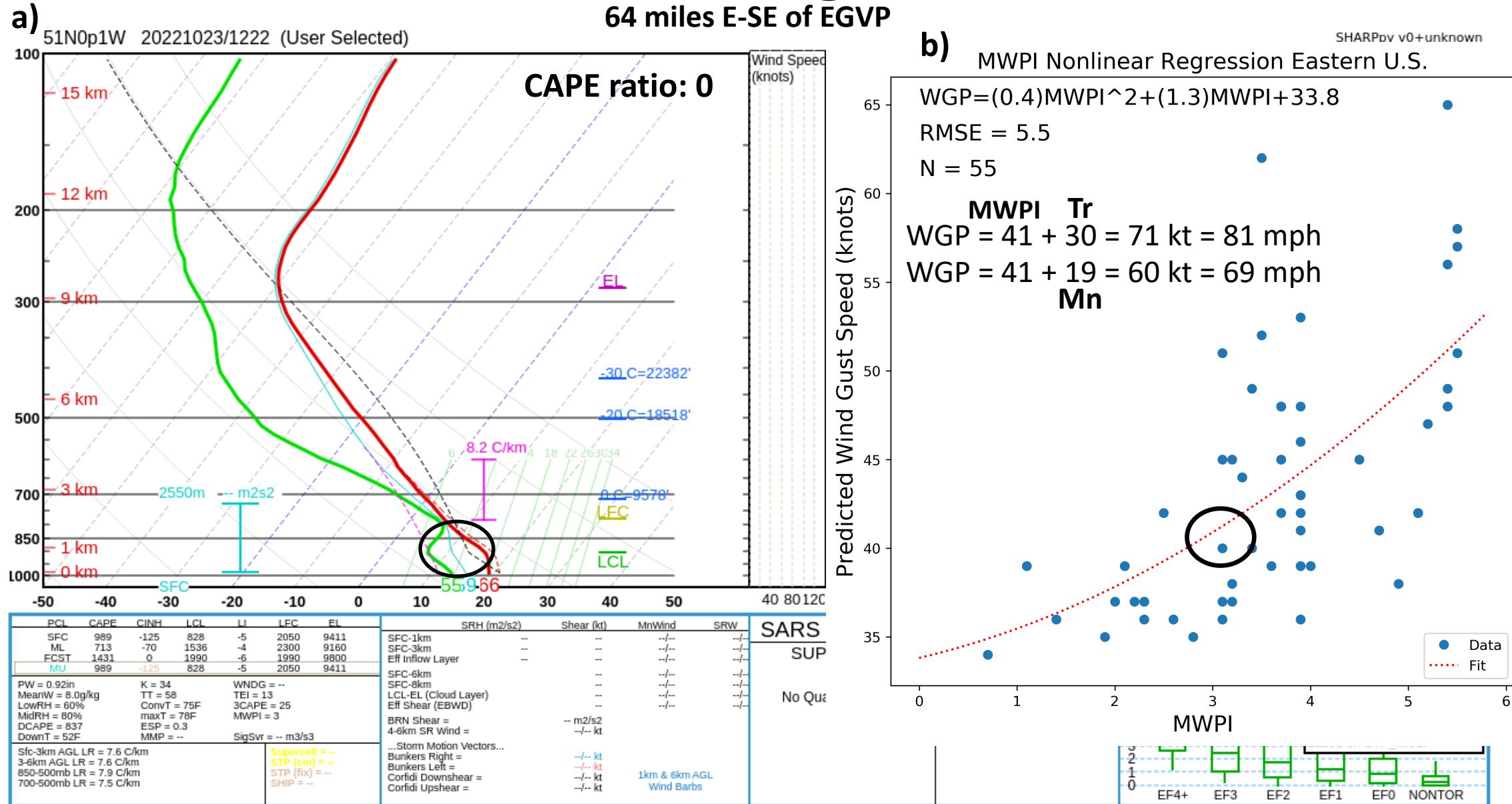
1531 UTC



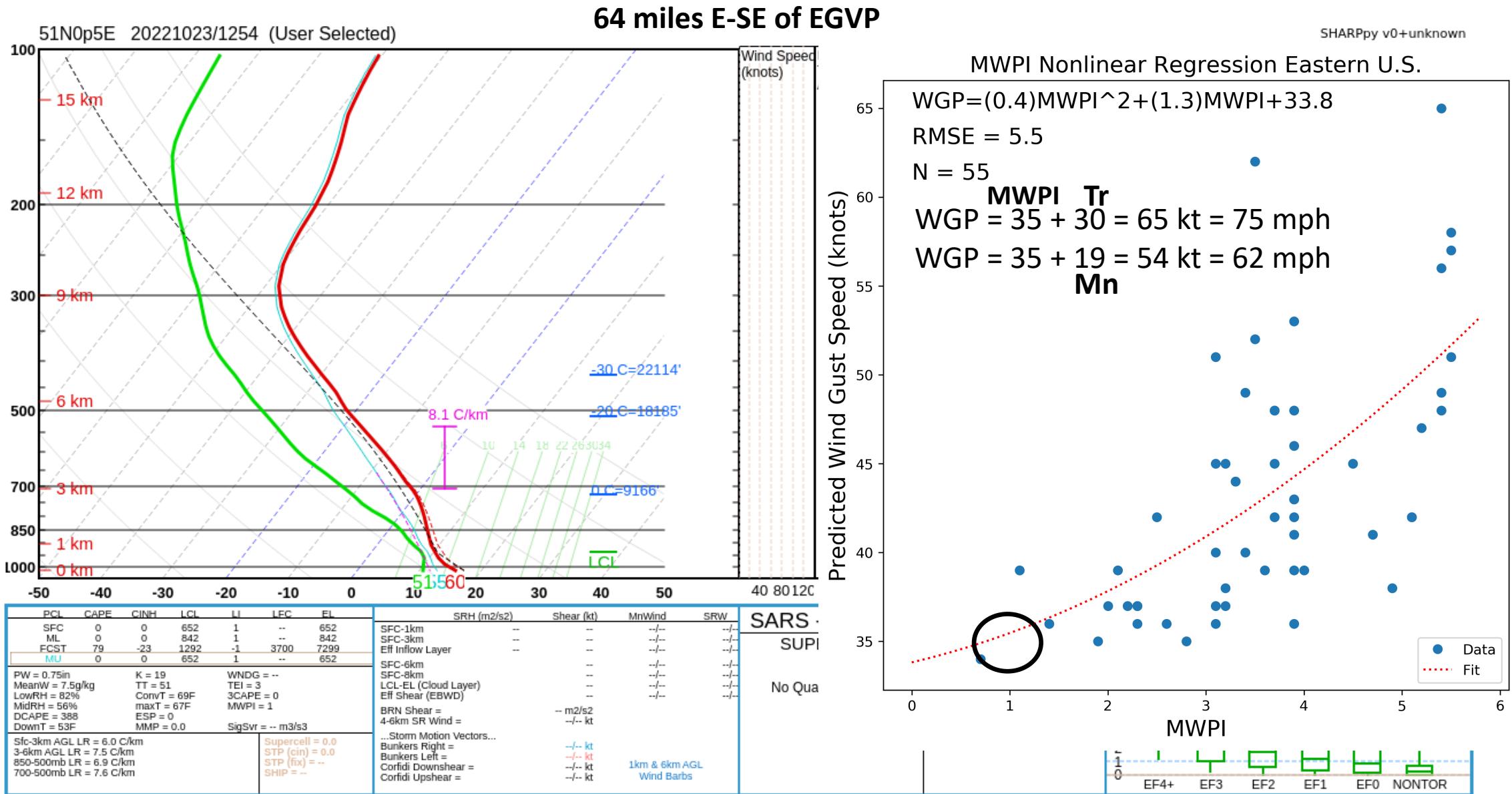
1541 UTC



NUCAPS Sounding: Sussex, UK

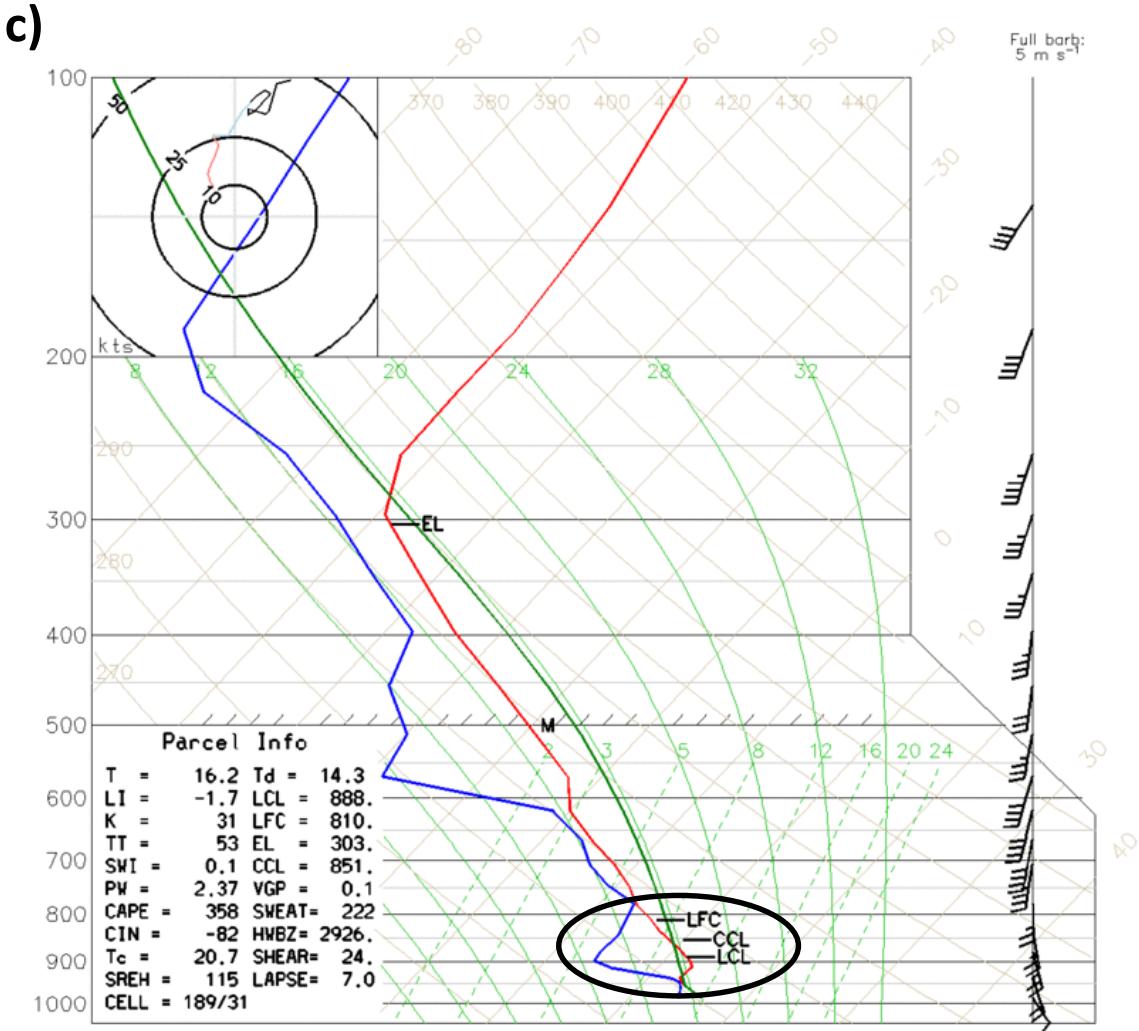


AIRS Sounding: Sussex, UK

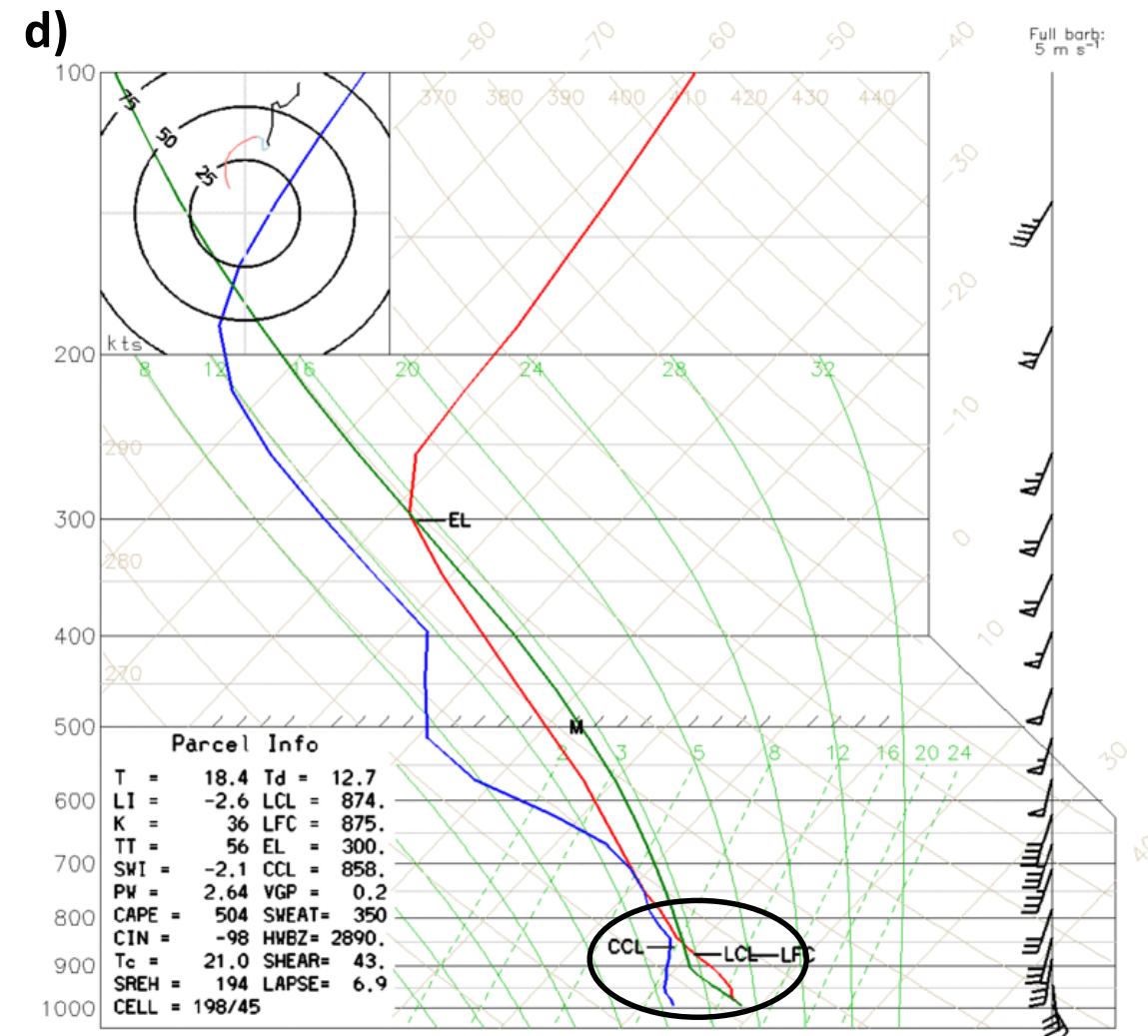


WRF Model-derived Sounding Comparison

Dataset: WRF_D01 RIP: GFSOP_0.25pt_SportSST_uk Init: 0600 UTC Sun 23 Oct 22
Fcst: 8.00 h Valid: 1400 UTC Sun 23 Oct 22 (1400 LST Sun 23 Oct 22)
Chilbolton Obs 51.15N -1.44W



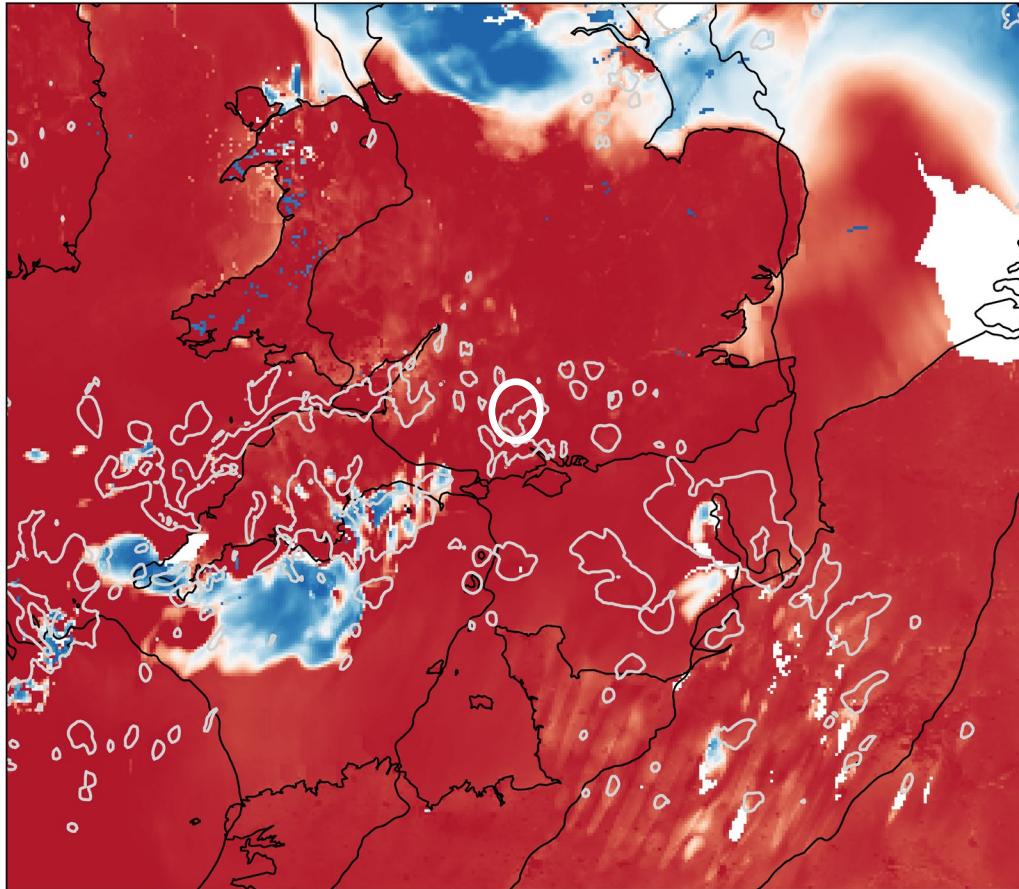
Init: 0600 UTC Sun 23 Oct 22
Fcst: 8.00 h Valid: 1400 UTC Sun 23 Oct 22 (1400 LST Sun 23 Oct 22)



Elevated convection diagnostic: CAPE Ratio

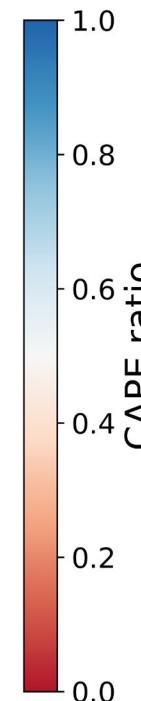
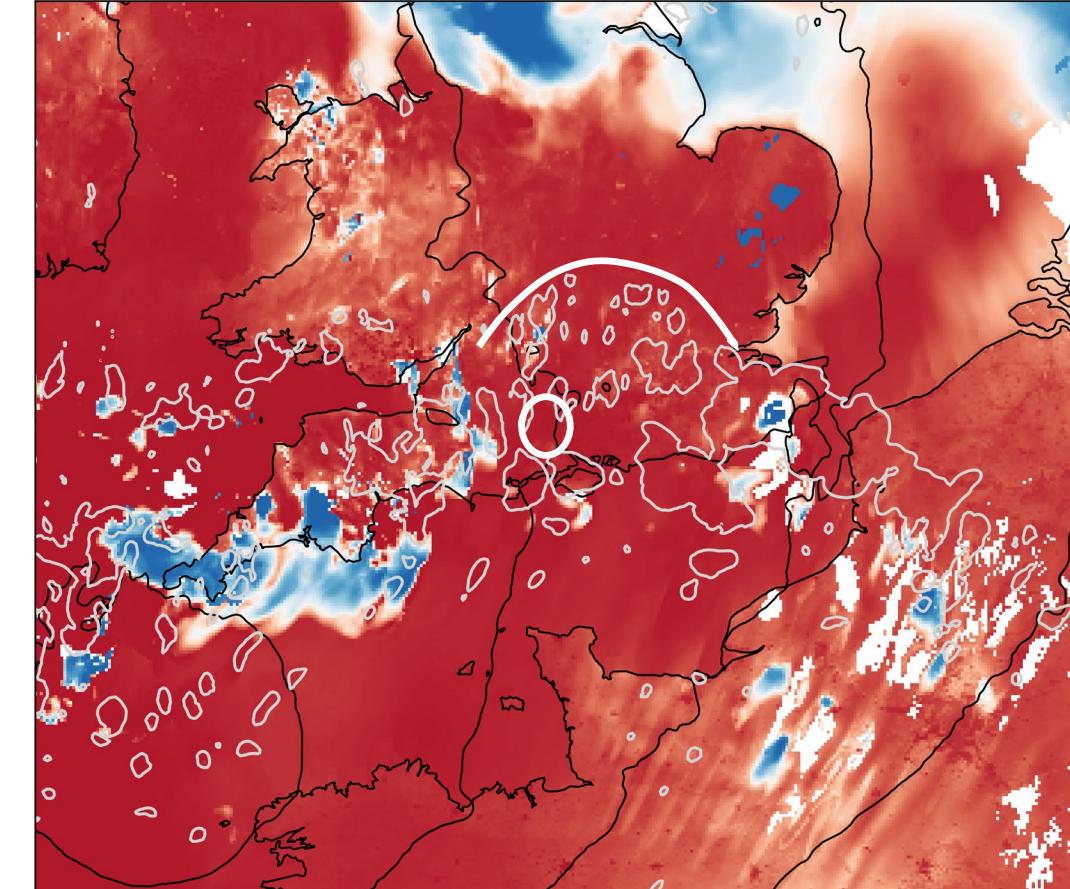
a)

1500 UTC 23 October 2022 (T+12)



b)

1600 UTC 23 October 2022 (T+13)





Microburst Potential Index

Init: 2022-10-23_06:00:00

Valid: 2022102312

Microburst Potential Index

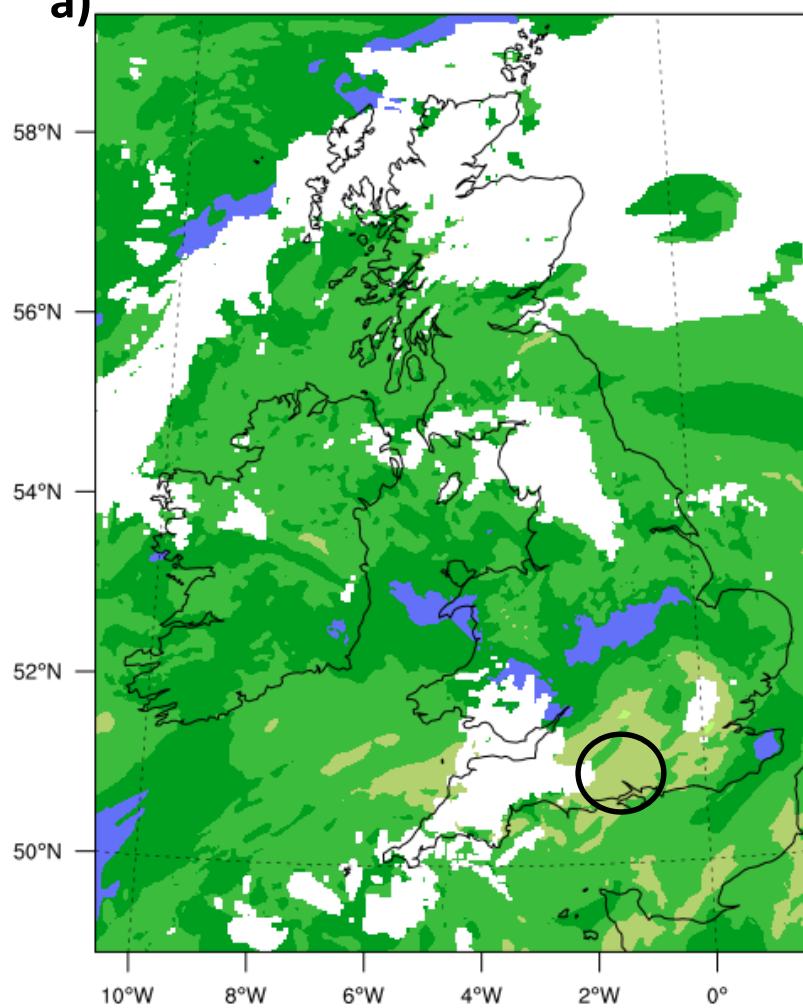
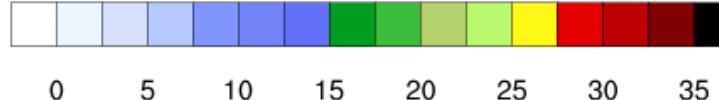
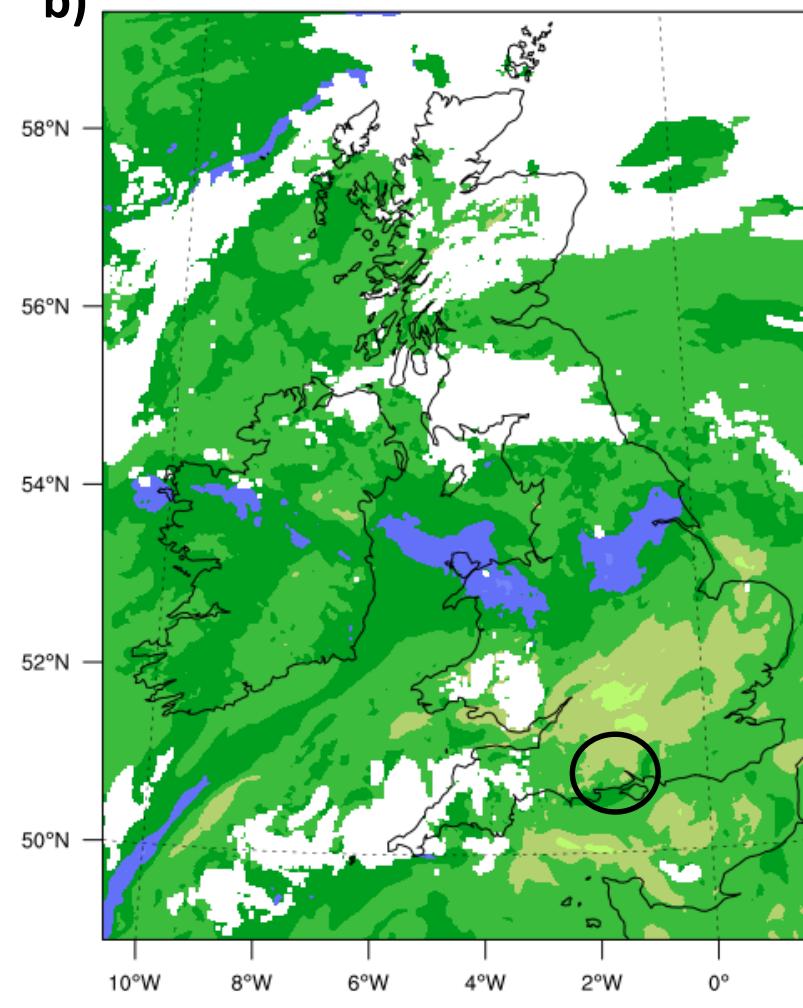
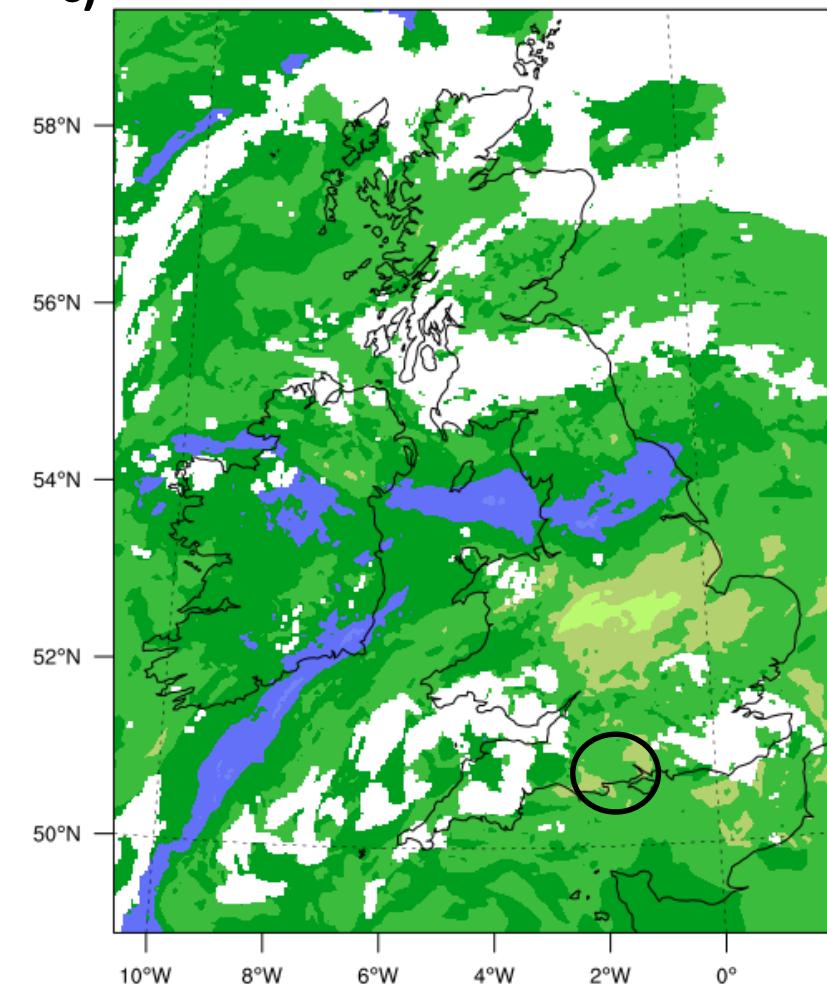
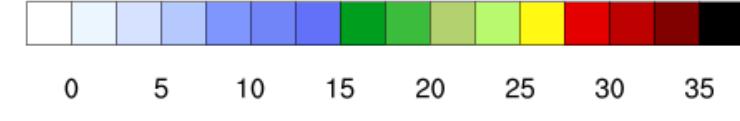
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Valid: 2022102314

Microburst Potential Index

Init: 2022-10-23_06:00:00

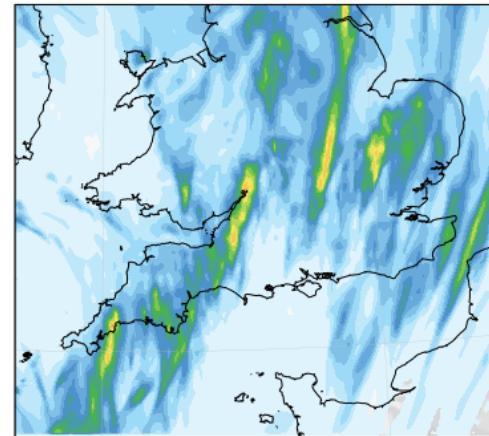
Valid: 2022102316

1222 UTC NUCAPS MWPI Max Gust = 21.1 ms⁻¹**a)** MWPI Max Gust (ms⁻¹)MWPI Max Gust (ms⁻¹)**b)** MWPI Max Gust (ms⁻¹)MWPI Max Gust (ms⁻¹)**c)** MWPI Max Gust (ms⁻¹)MWPI Max Gust (ms⁻¹)

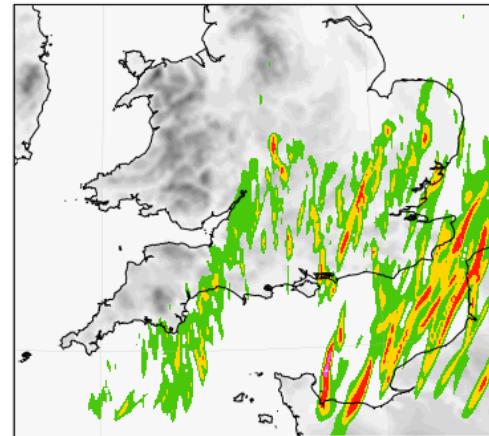


uk3 D02 Diag: ppn

Init: 2022102306 UTC VT:12h



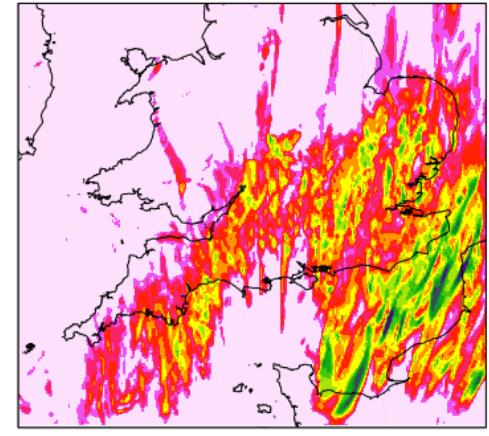
Acc. Total PPN (mm)



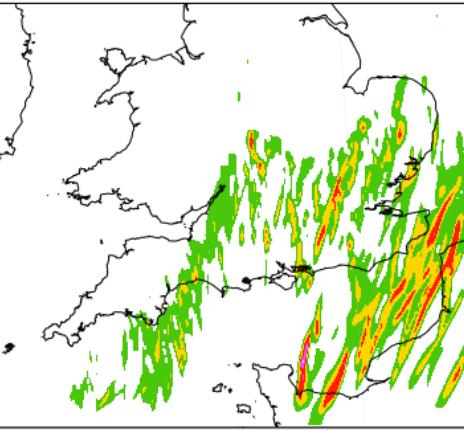
Max Updraft Velocity (m s^{-1})

uk3 D02 Diag: conv

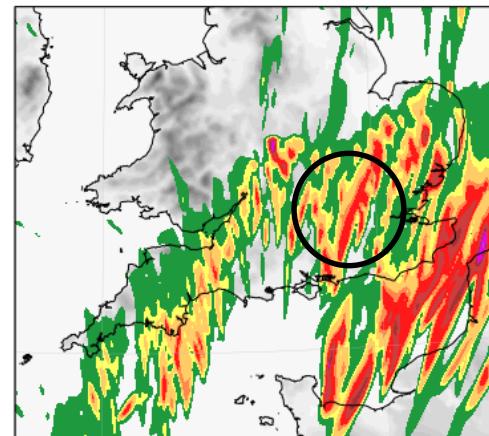
Init: 2022102306 UTC VT:12h



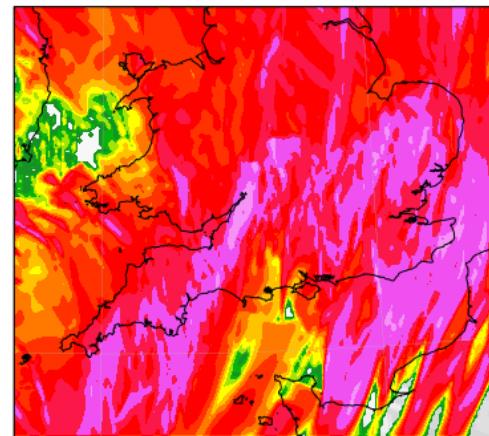
Max Downdraught Velocity (m s^{-1})



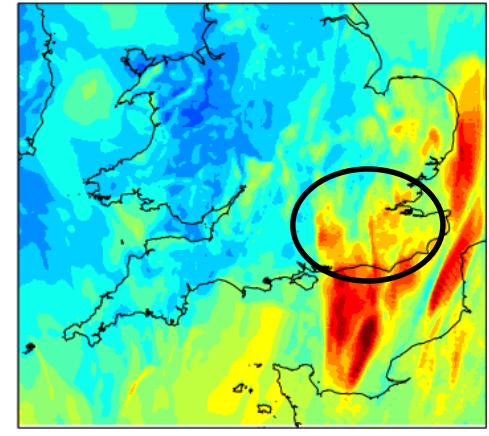
Max Updraught Velocity (m s^{-1})



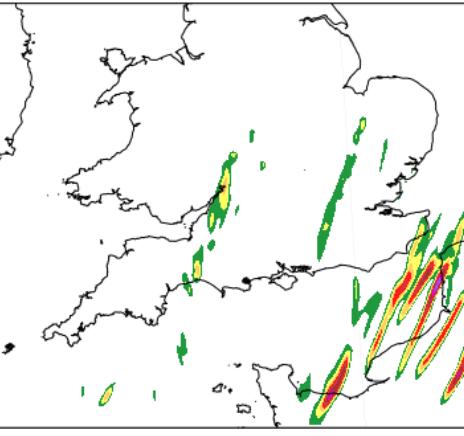
Max Col. Integrated Graupel (kg m^{-2})



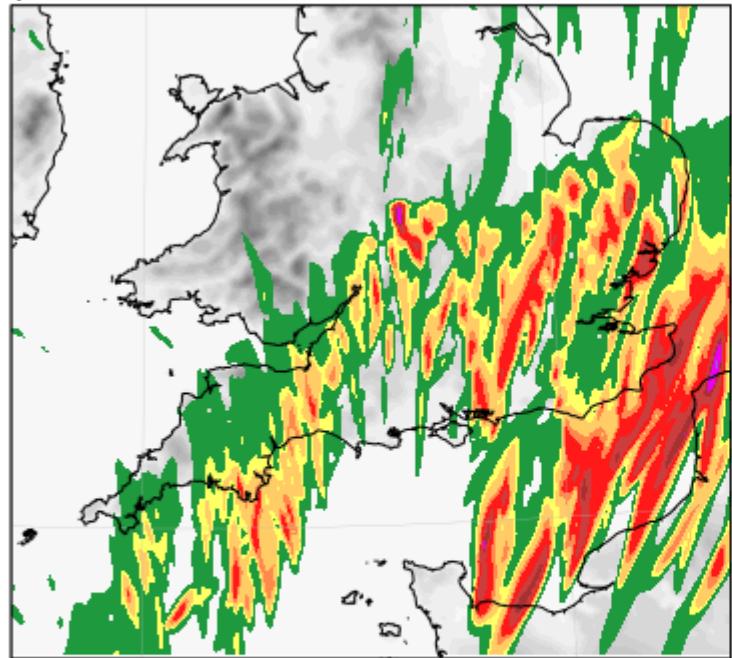
Max Der. Radar Reflectivity (dBZ)



Max Turbulent Gust (ms^{-1})



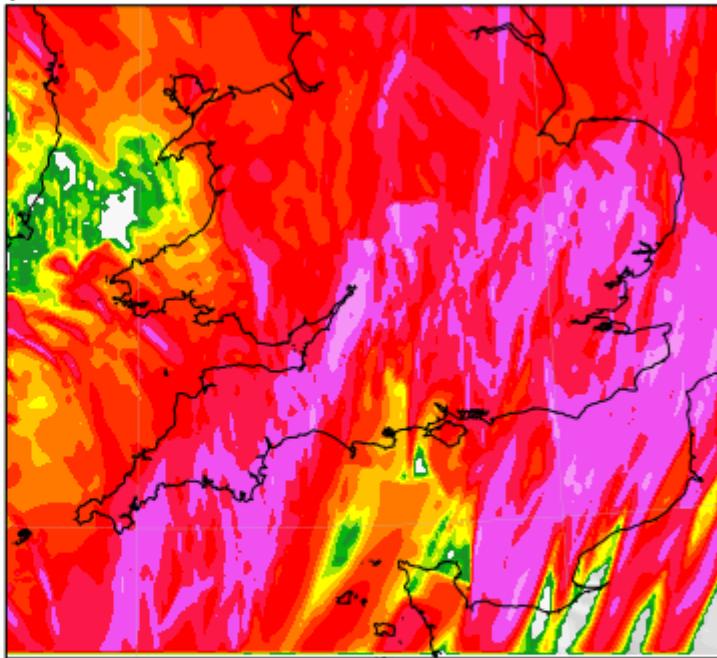
Max Updraught Helicity ($\text{m}^2 \text{s}^{-2}$)

a)

Max= 28.71

Max Col. Integrated Graupel (kg m^{-2})

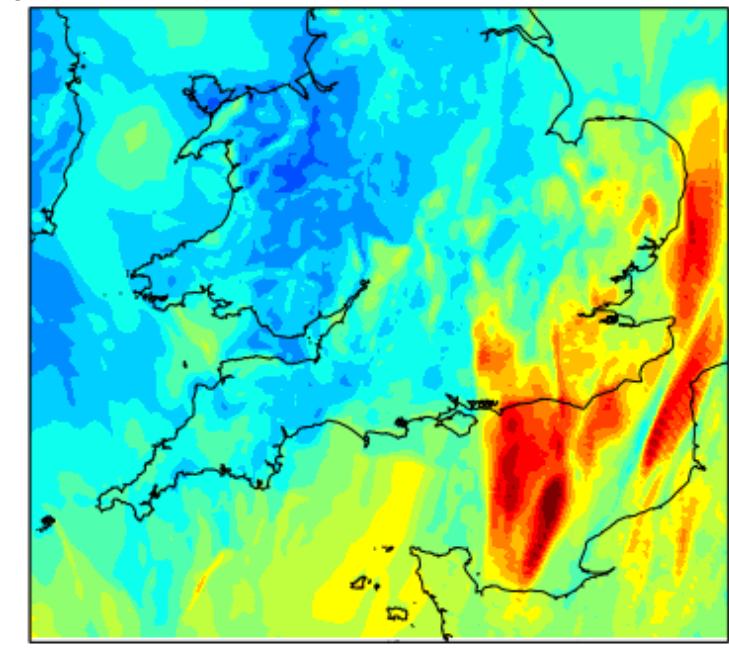
2 6 10 14 18 22 26

b)

Max= 54.05

Max Der. Radar Reflectivity (dBZ)

0 10 20 30 40 50

c)

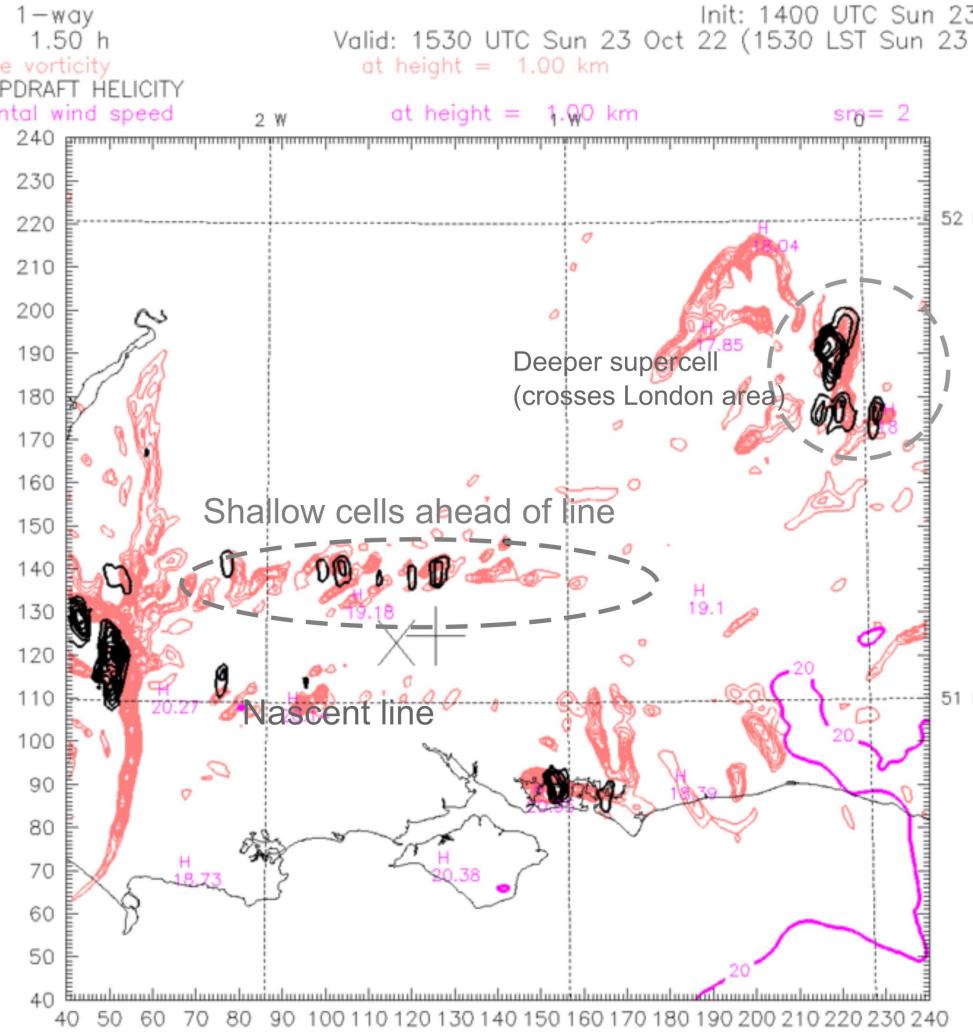
Max=42.7

Max Turbulent Gust (ms^{-1})

0 5 10 15 20 25 30 35

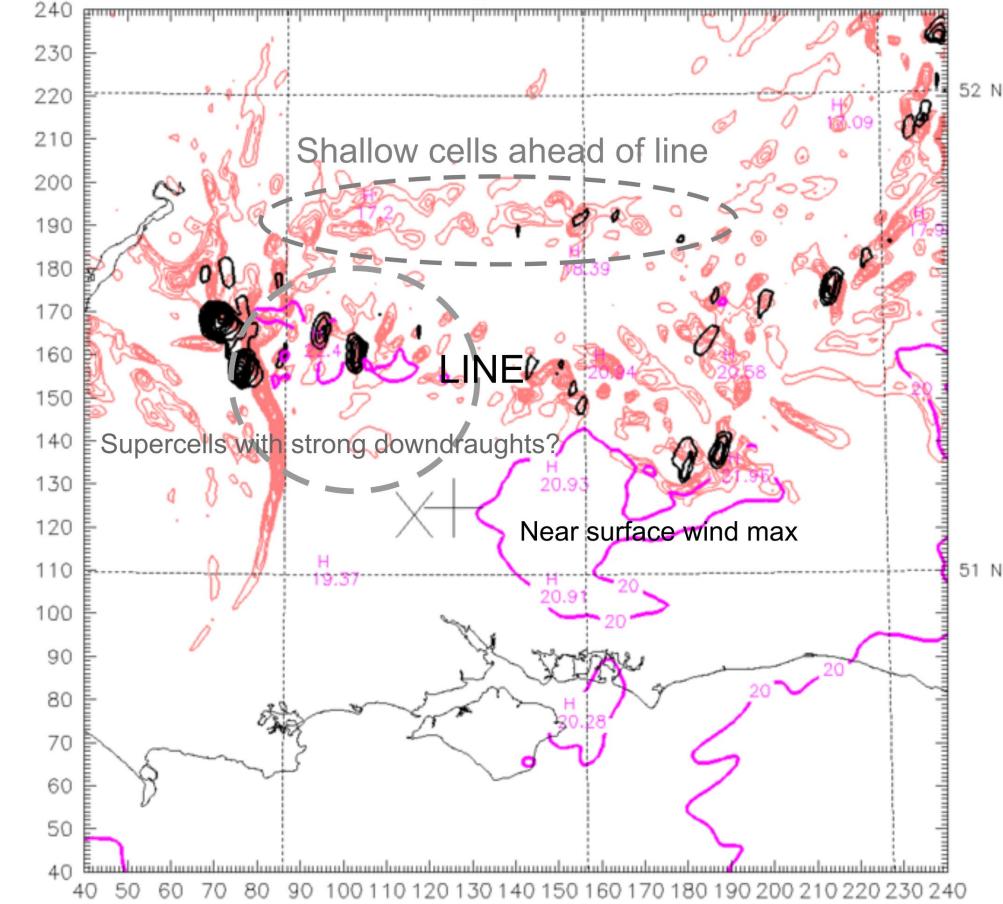
1km WRF Simulations: UKCS 1-way

UKCS1 1-way
Fcst: 1.50 h
Relative vorticity
MAX UPDRAFT HELICITY
Horizontal wind speed



Model Info: V4.2 CU: No Cu MP: Morrison PBL: ACM SF: Noah LSM 1.0 km 47 levels 10 sec

Init: 1400 UTC Sun 23 Oct 22 FCst: 2.42 h
Valid: 1625 UTC Sun 23 Oct 22 (1625 LST Sun 23 Oct 22)
at height = 1.00 km

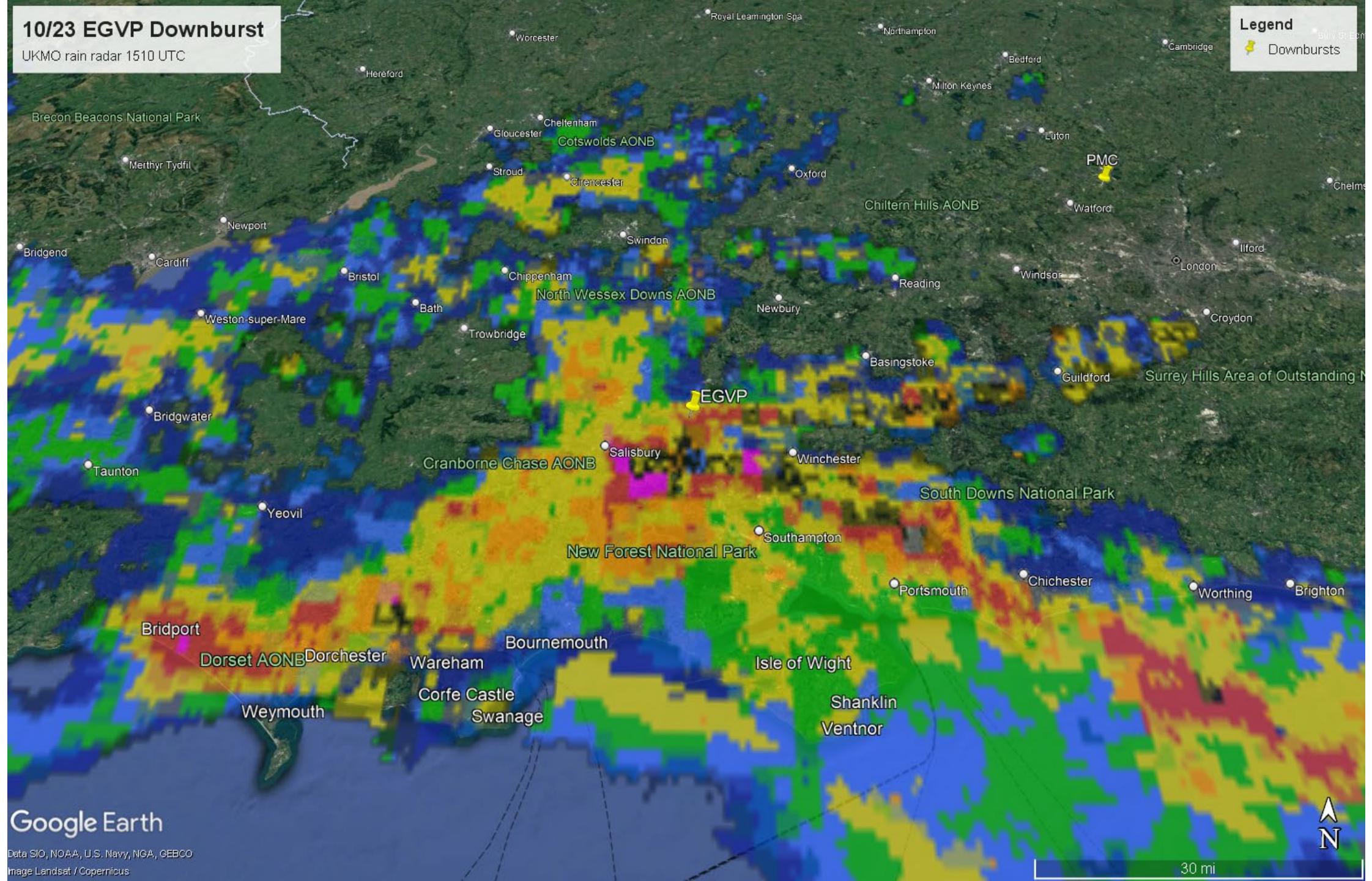


Model Info: V4.2 CU: No Cu MP: Morrison PBL: ACM SF: Noah LSM 1.0 km 47 levels 10 sec

10/23 EGVP Downburst

UKMO rain radar 1510 UTC

Legend
Billy B. Econ
Downbursts



Google Earth

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

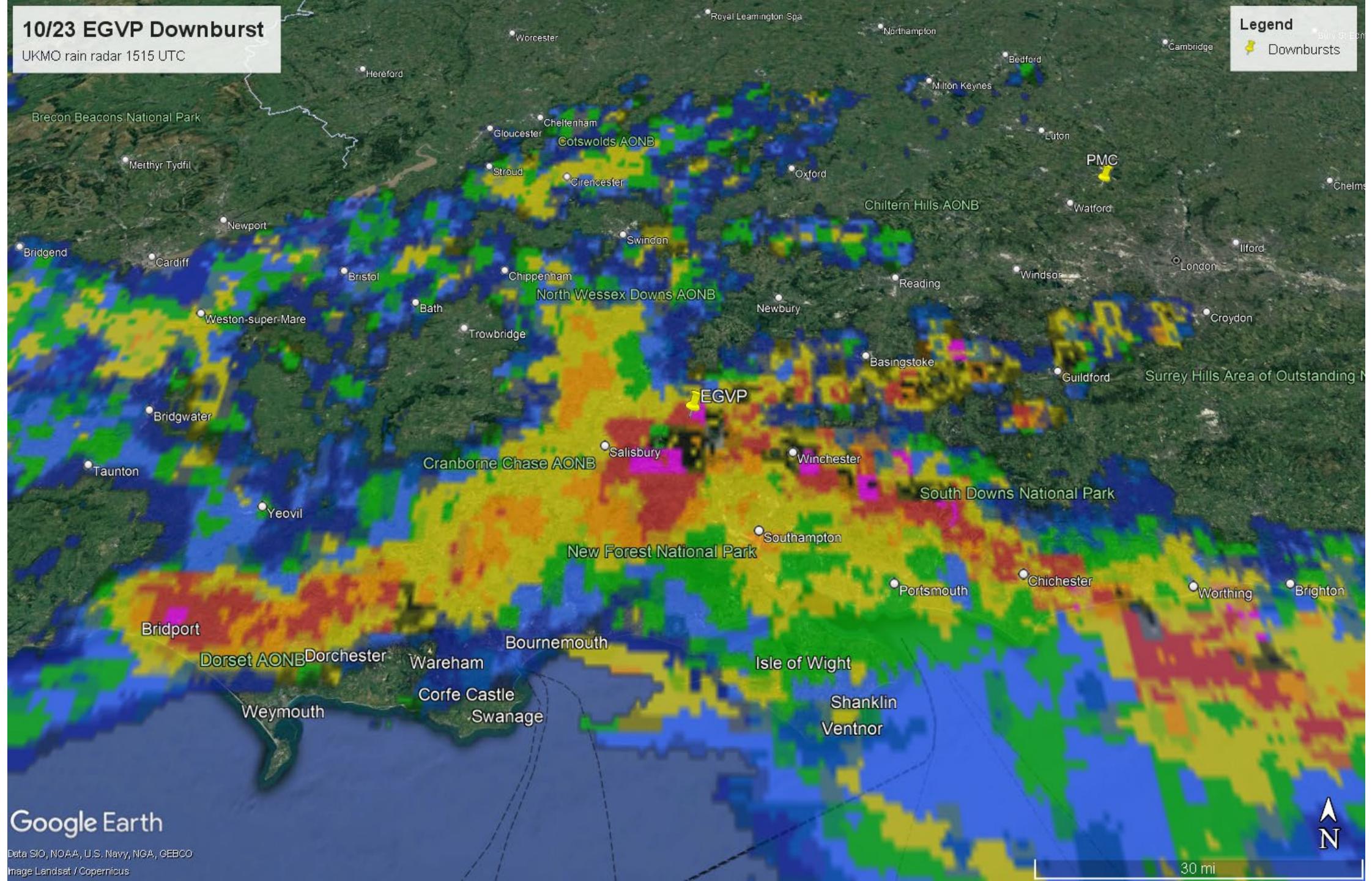
Image Landsat / Copernicus

30 mi

10/23 EGVP Downburst

UKMO rain radar 1515 UTC

Legend
Billy B. Econ
Downbursts



Google Earth

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

Image Landsat / Copernicus

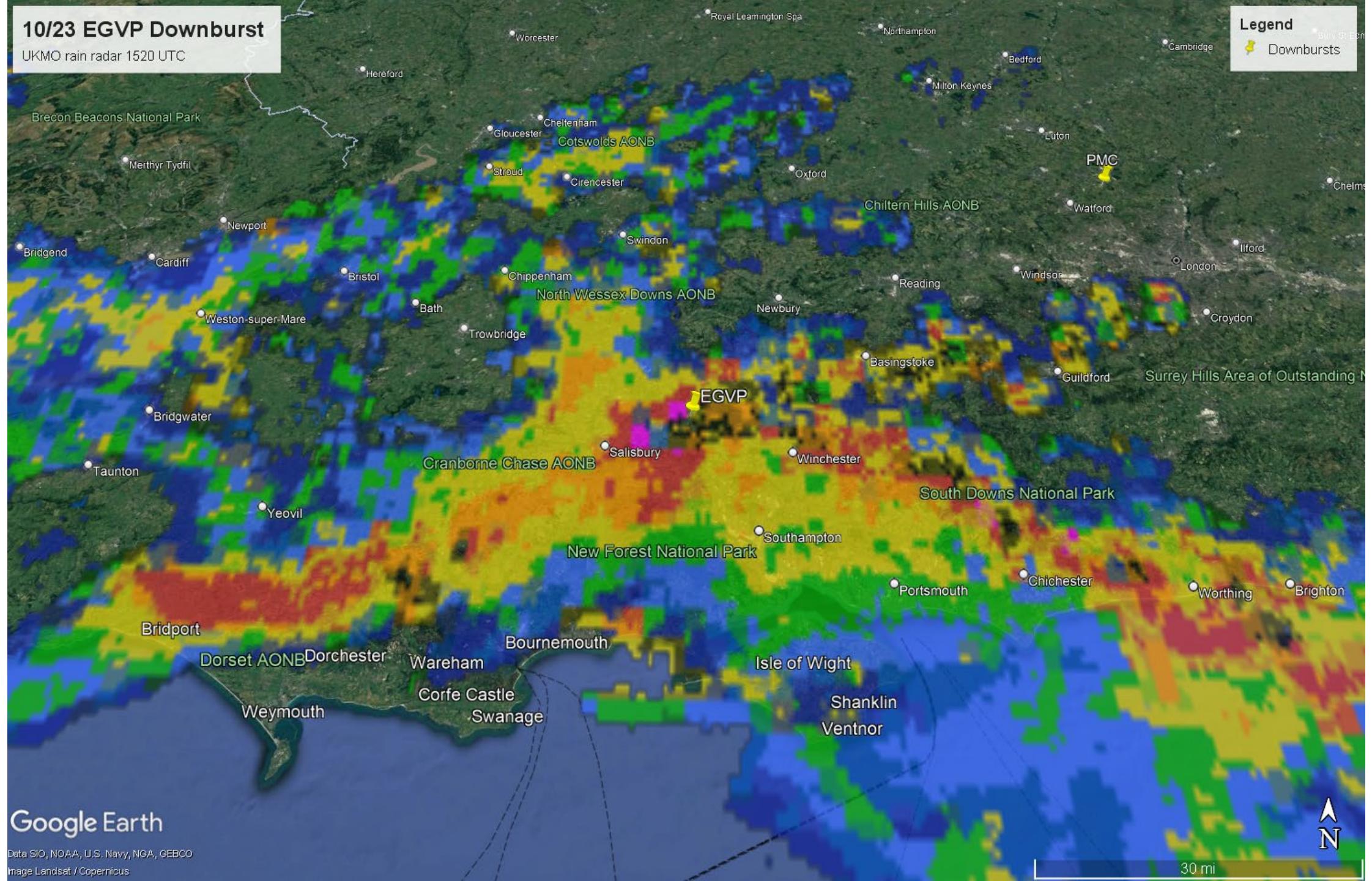
N

30 mi

10/23 EGVP Downburst

UKMO rain radar 1520 UTC

Legend
Billy B. Econ
Downbursts



Google Earth

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

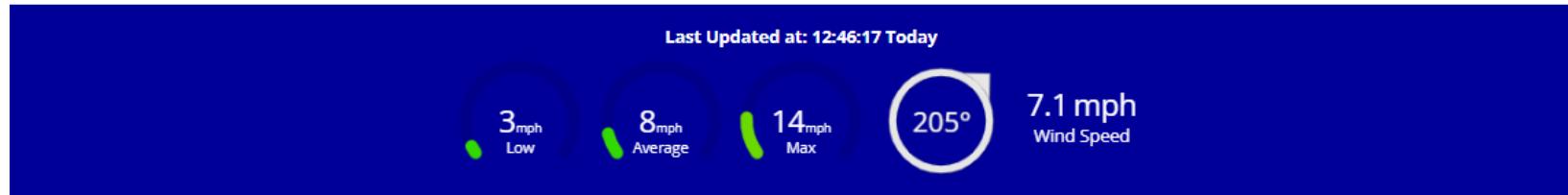
Image Landsat / Copernicus

30 mi

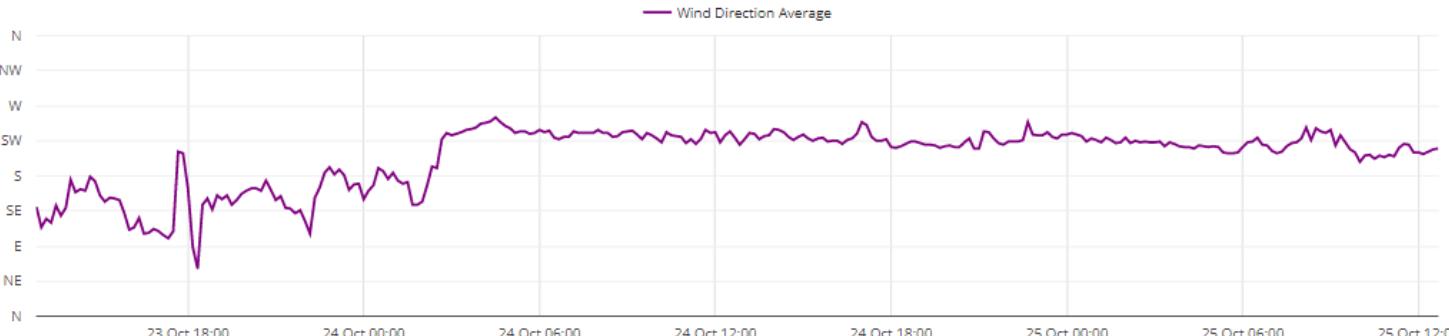
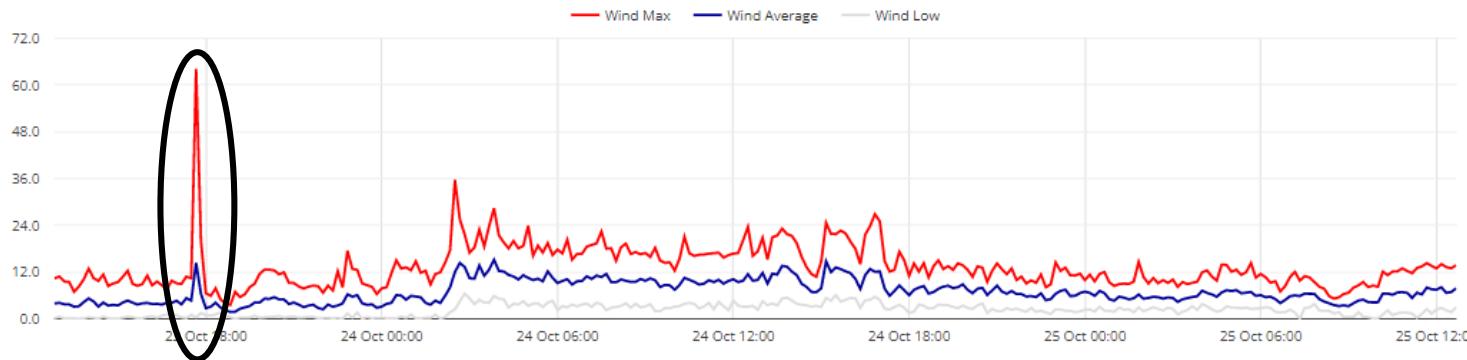
Downburst Wind Observation

PHOENIX MODEL CLUB

Data: Gill Instruments Windsonic (Option 1) Wind Sensor
Location: London Colney



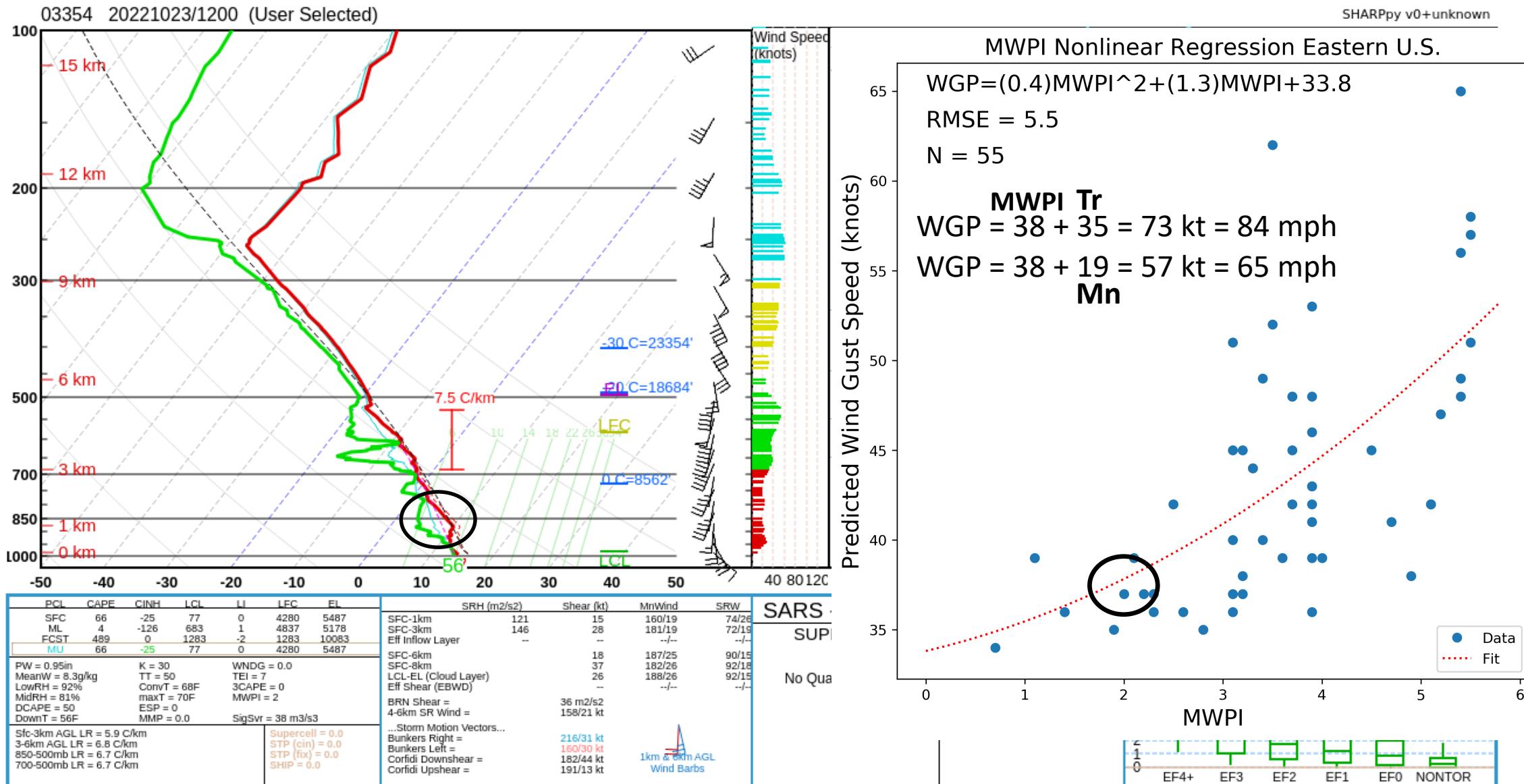
Last 48 hours ▾



<https://www.torro.org.uk/IPS/index.php?/topic/14022-20221023-wind-damage-hertford/>
Courtesy of Simon Culling, TORRO and WeatherFile

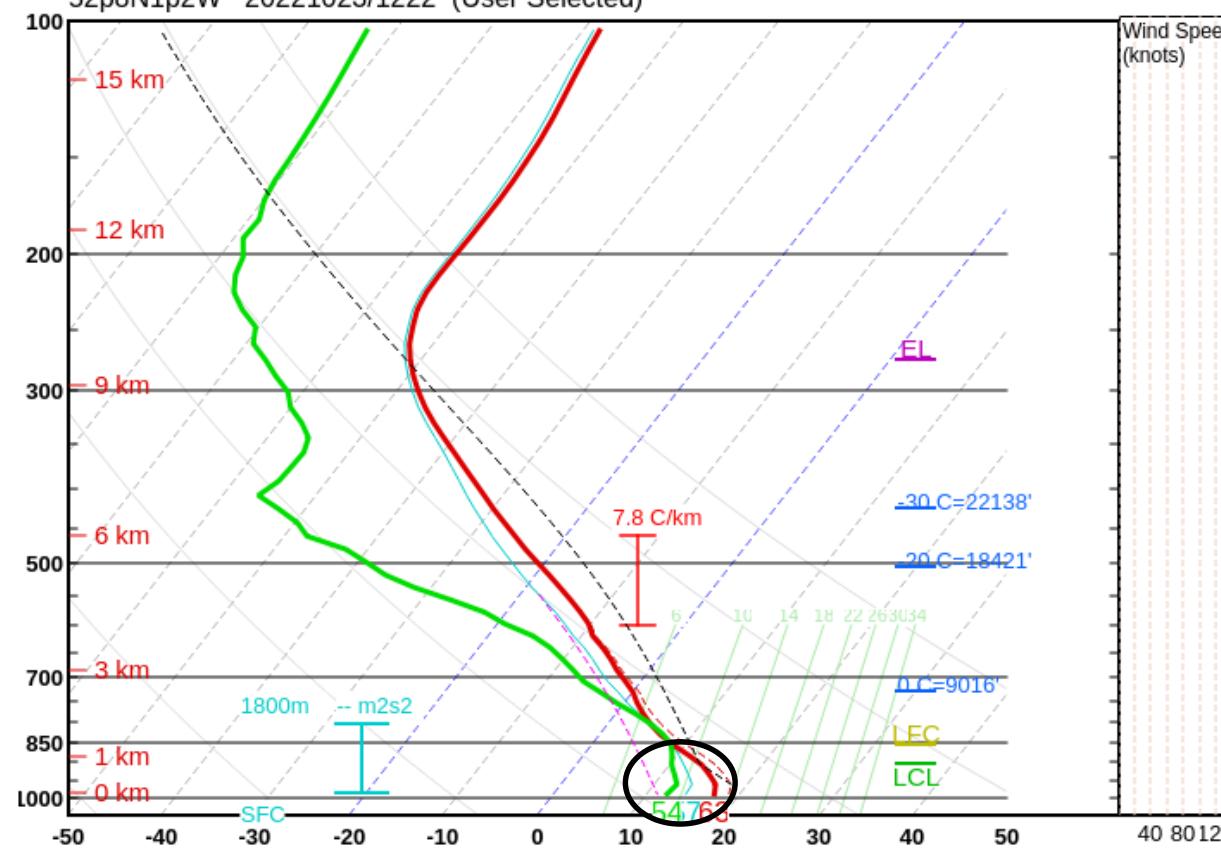
RAOB Sounding: Nottingham, UK

91 miles N-NW of PMC



NUCAPS Sounding: Loughborough, Leicestershire, UK

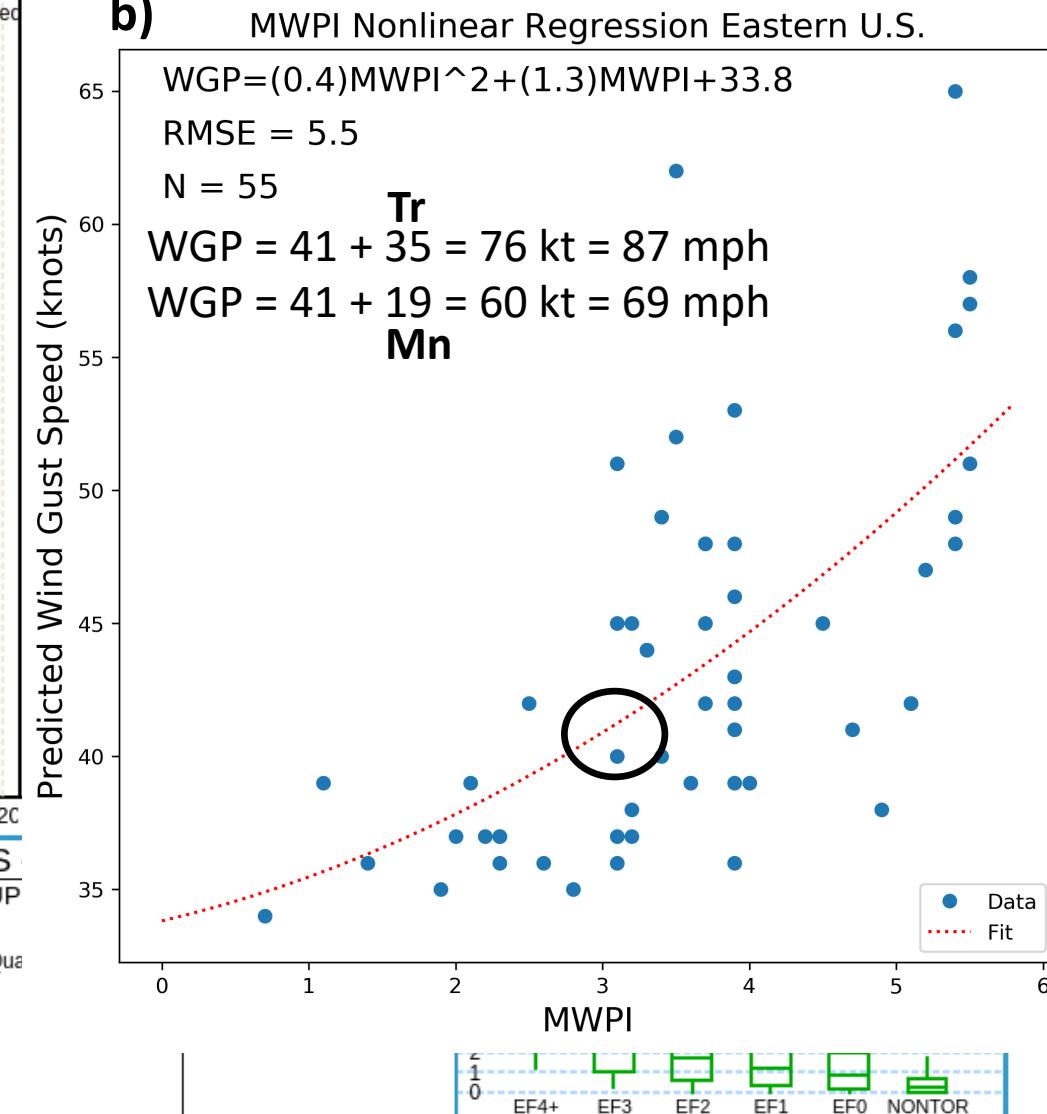
a) 52p8N1p2W 20221023/1222 (User Selected)



84 miles NW of PMC

SHARPpy v0+unknown

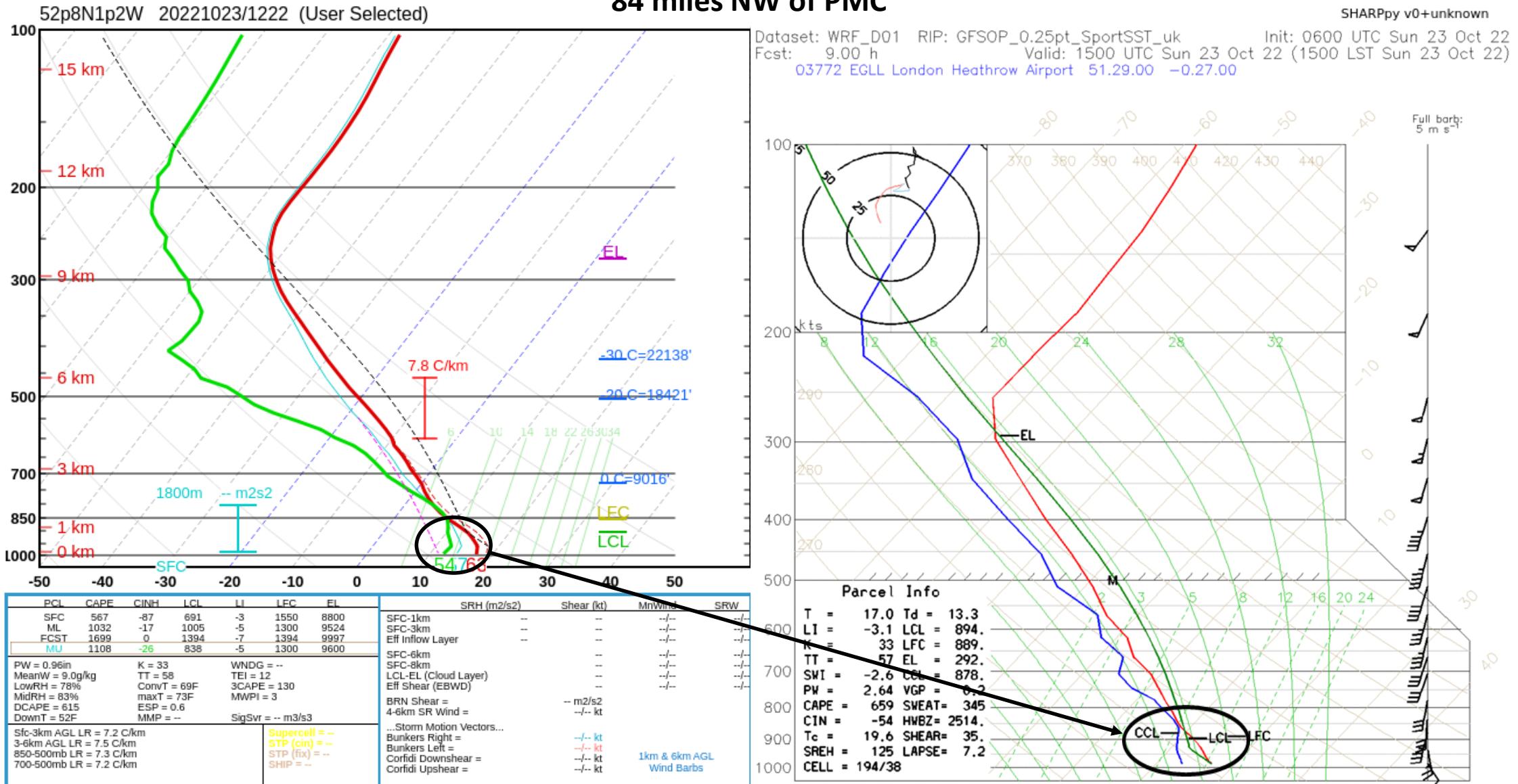
b)



NUCAPS Sounding:

Loughborough, Leicestershire, UK

84 miles NW of PMC



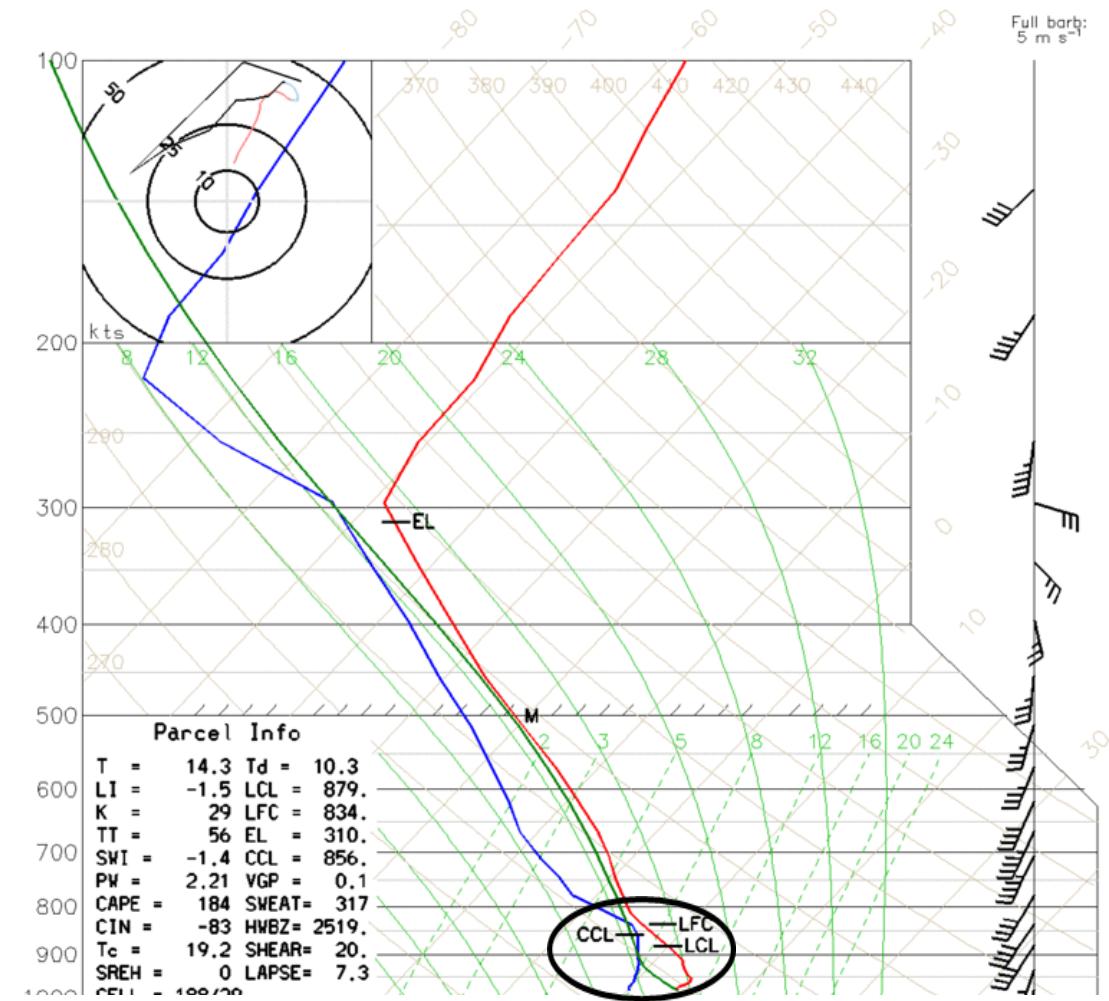
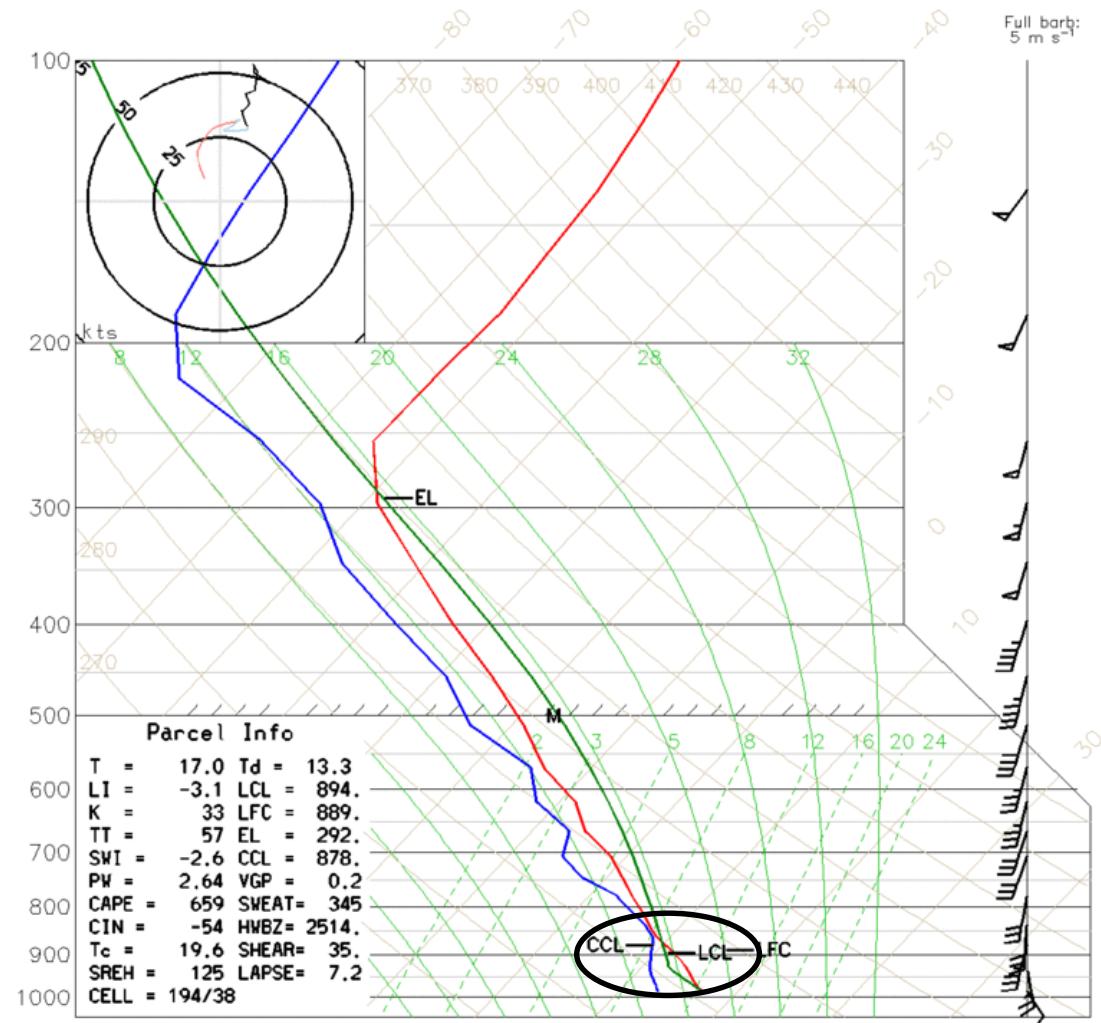
WRF Model-derived Sounding Comparison

Courtesy of David Smart, TORRO/UCL Hazard Centre

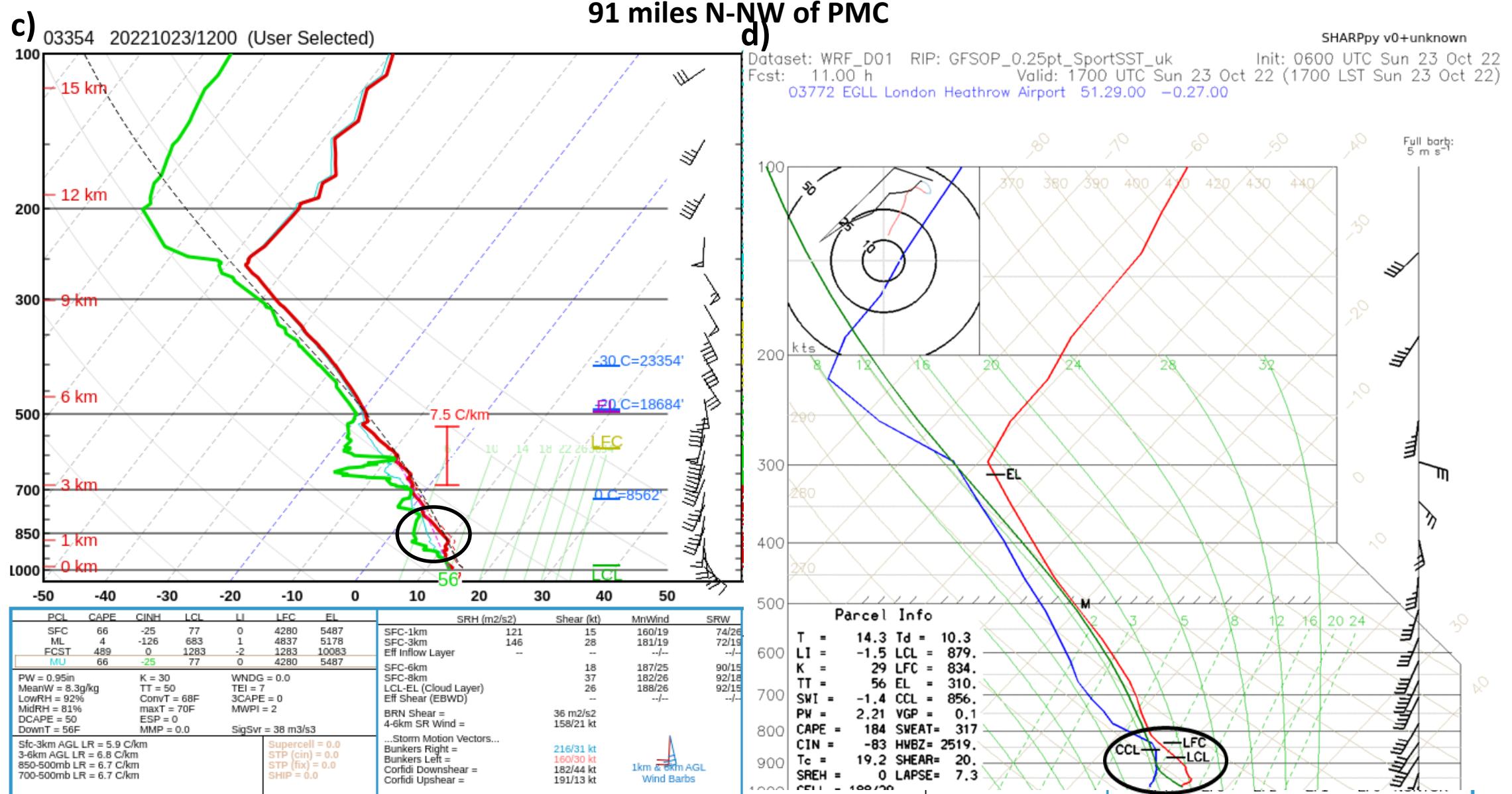
Dataset: WRF_D01 RIP: GFSOP_0.25pt_SportSST_uk
Fcst: 9.00 h Valid: 1500 UTC Sun 23 Oct 22 (1500 LST Sun 23 Oct 22)
03772 EGLL London Heathrow Airport 51.2900 -0.2700

Init: 0600 UTC Sun 23 Oct 22 Dataset: WRF_D01 RIP: GFSOP_0.25pt_SportSST_uk
Fcst: 11.00 h Valid: 1700 UTC Sun 23 Oct 22 (1700 LST Sun 23 Oct 22)
03772 EGLL London Heathrow Airport 51.2900 -0.2700

Init: 0600 UTC Sun 23 Oct 22 Dataset: WRF_D01 RIP: GFSOP_0.25pt_SportSST_uk
Fcst: 11.00 h Valid: 1700 UTC Sun 23 Oct 22 (1700 LST Sun 23 Oct 22)
03772 EGLL London Heathrow Airport 51.2900 -0.2700



RAOB Sounding: Nottingham, UK



Microburst Potential Index

Init: 2022-10-23_06:00:00

Valid: 2022102312

Microburst Potential Index

Init: 2022-10-23_06:00:00

Valid: 2022102314

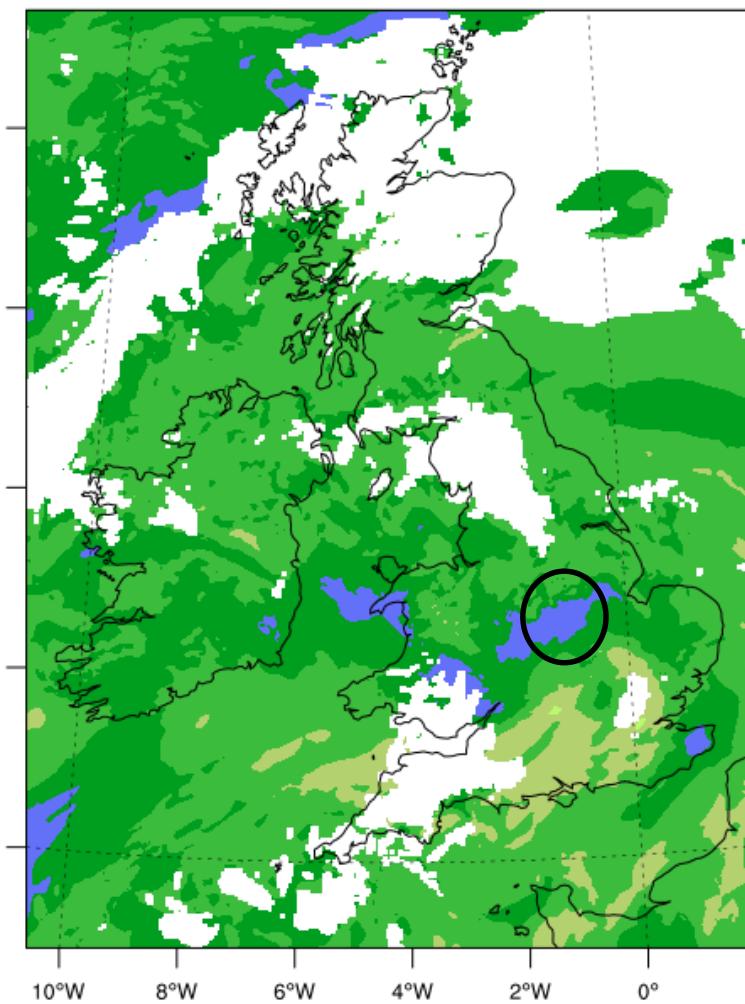
Microburst Potential Index

Init: 2022-10-23_06:00:00

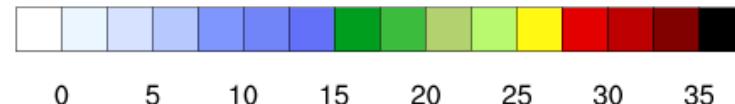
Valid: 2022102316

1222 UTC NUCAPS MWPI Max Gust = 21.1 ms⁻¹

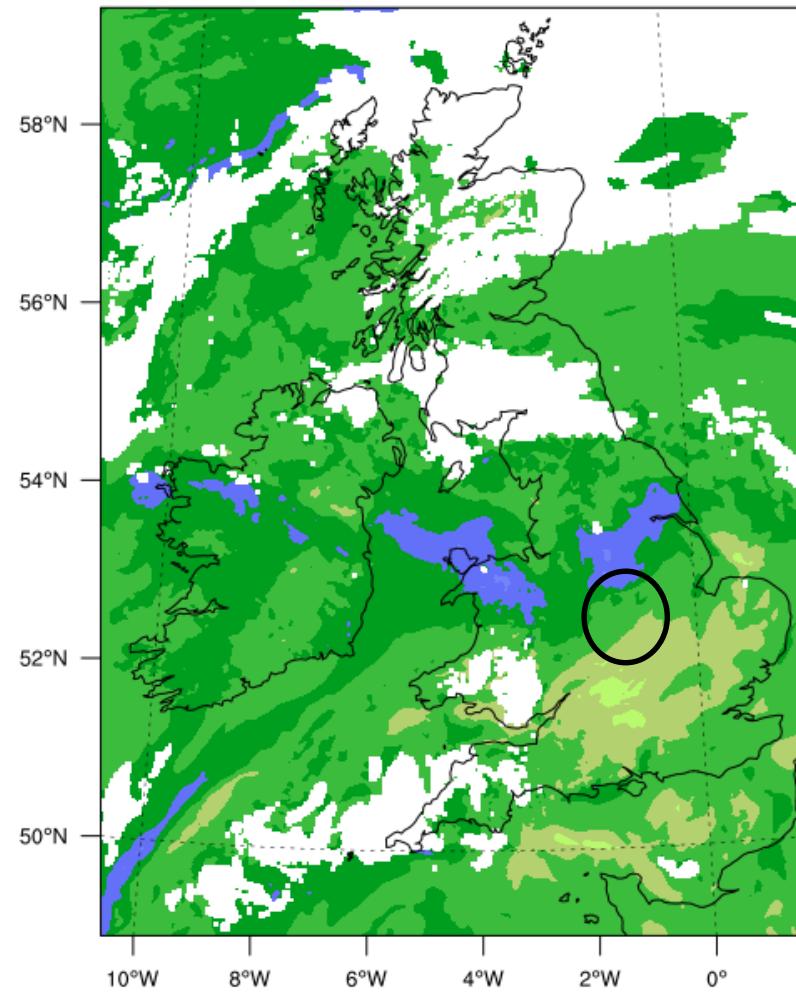
MWPI Max Gust (ms⁻¹)



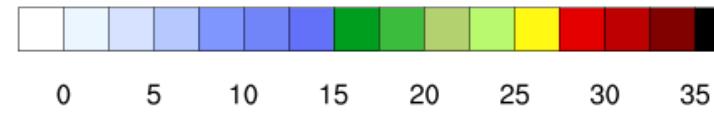
MWPI Max Gust (ms⁻¹)



MWPI Max Gust (ms⁻¹)

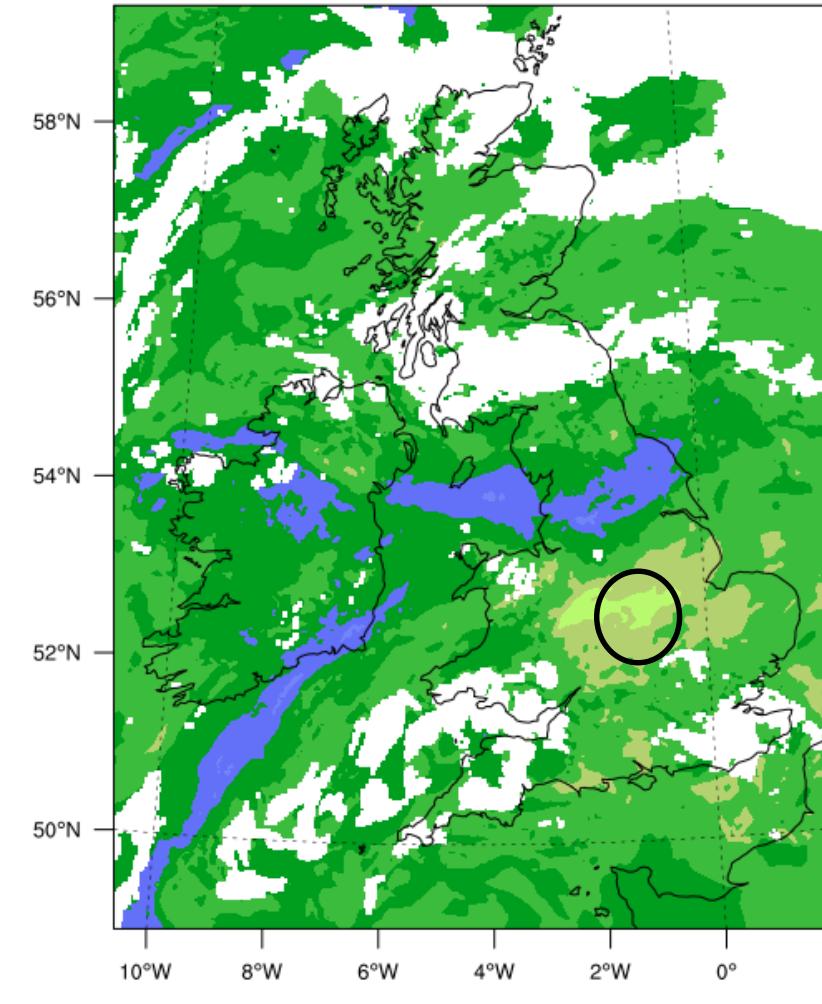


MWPI Max Gust (ms⁻¹)



Courtesy of David Smart, TORRO/UCL Hazard Centre

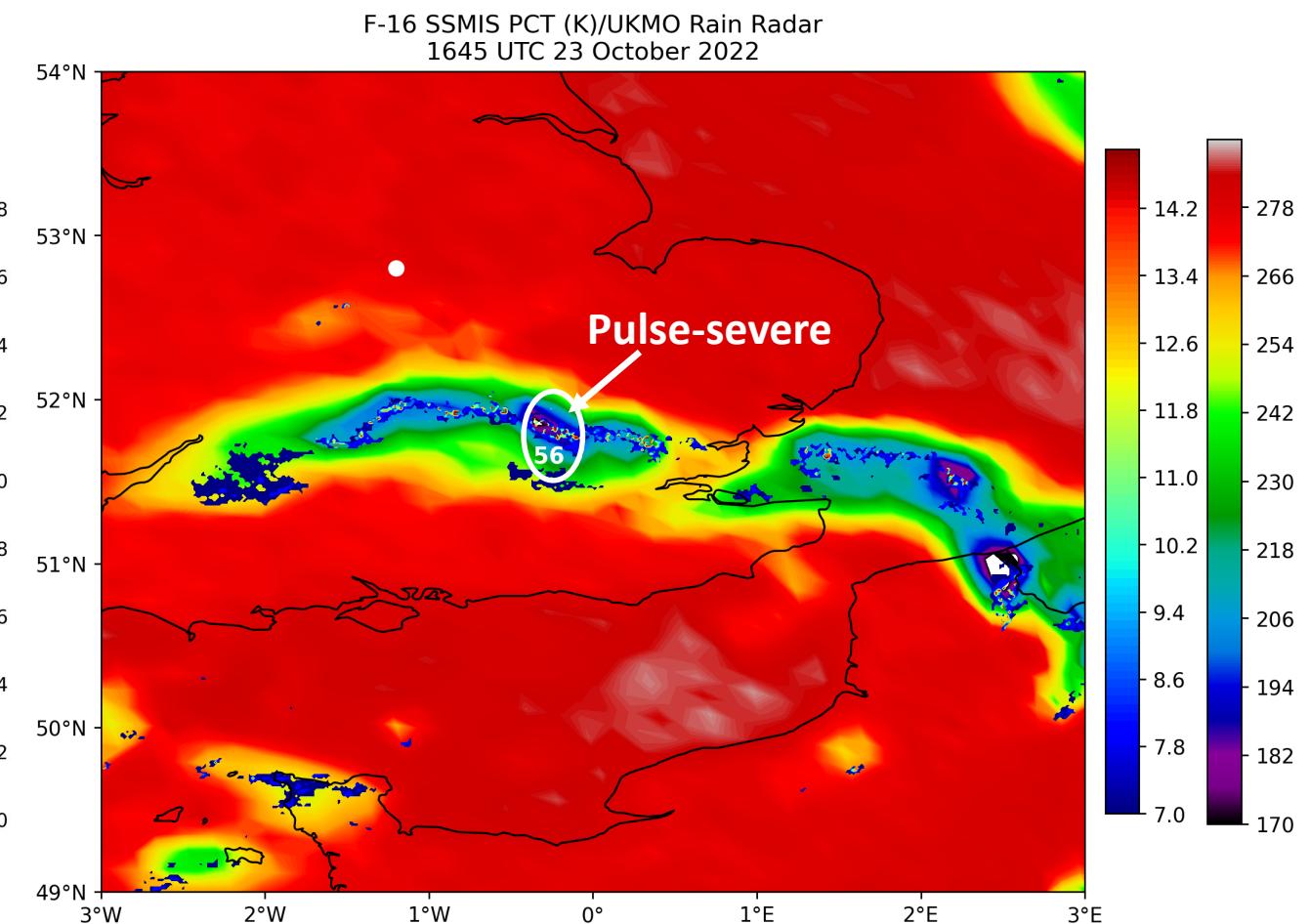
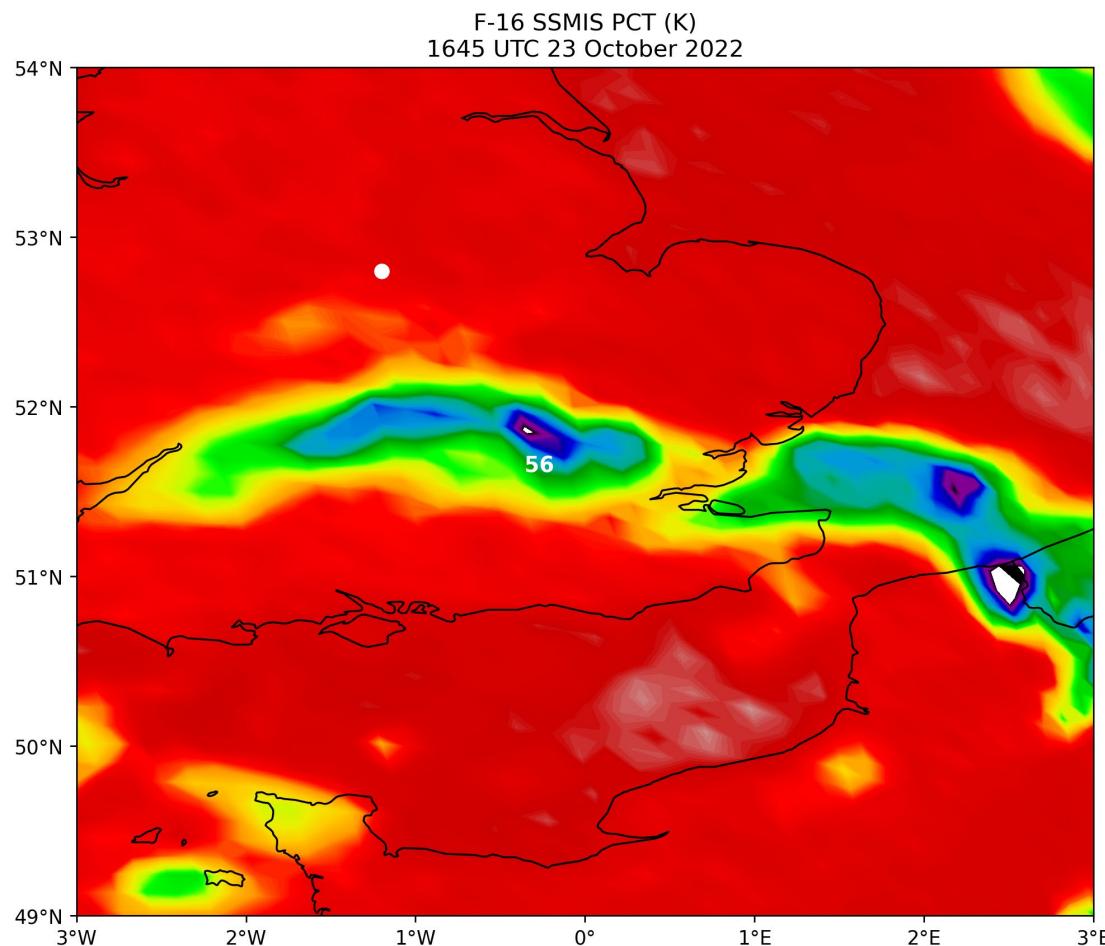
MWPI Max Gust (ms⁻¹)



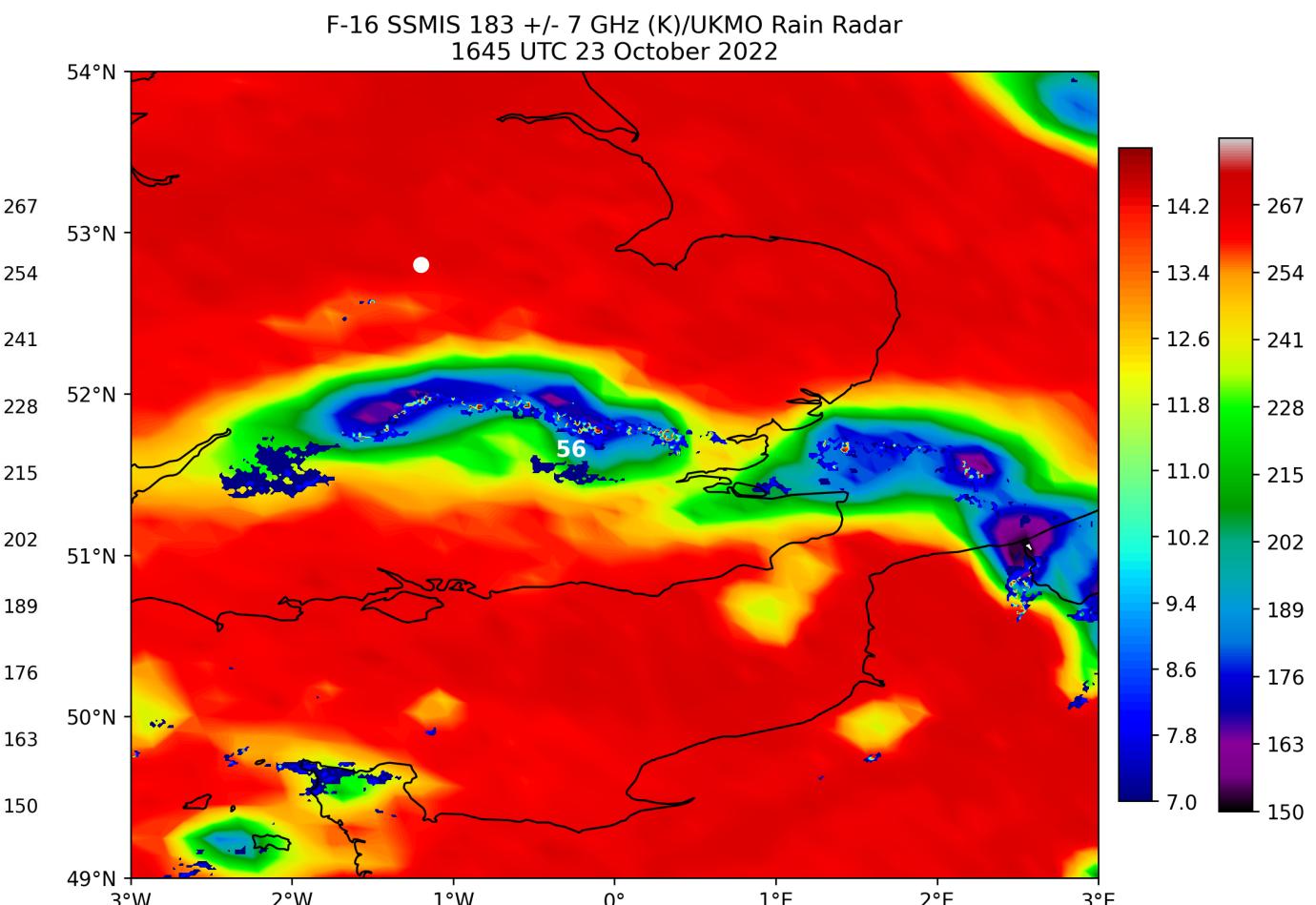
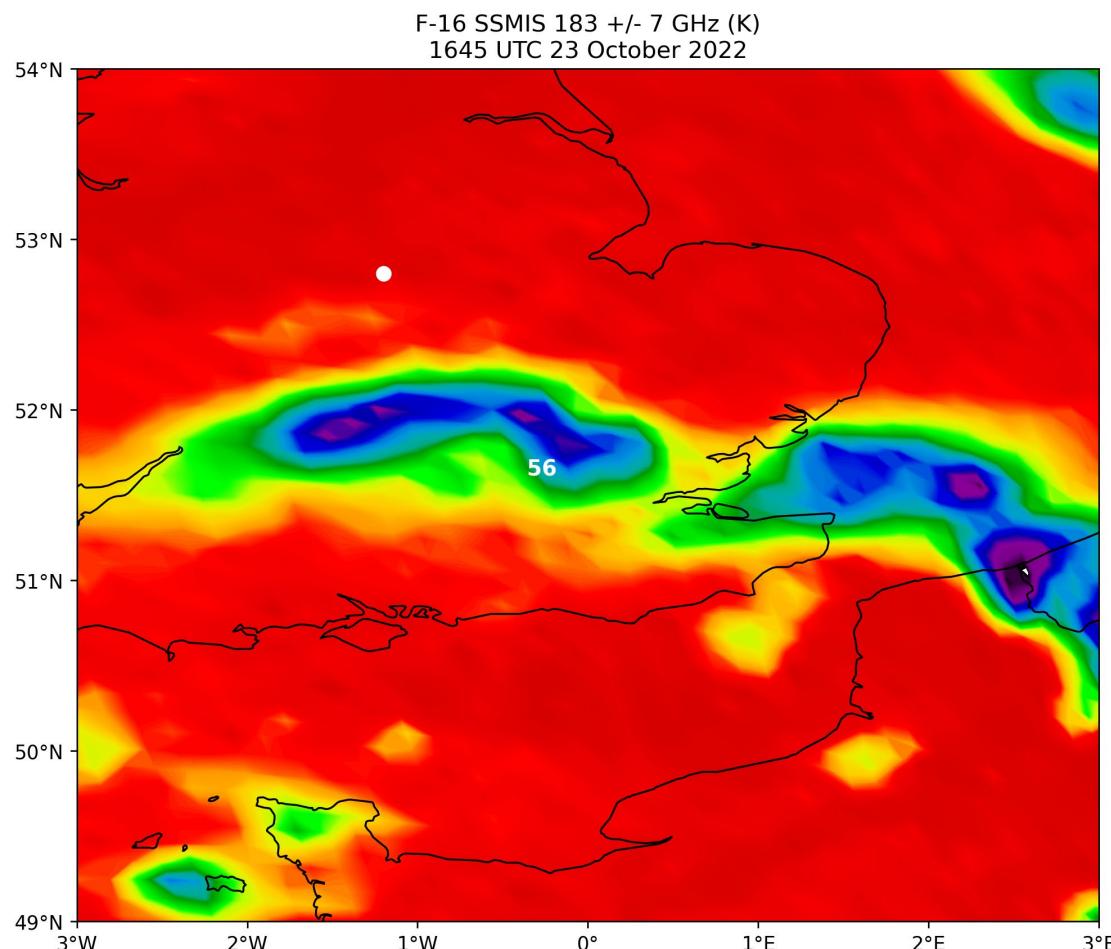
MWPI Max Gust (ms⁻¹)



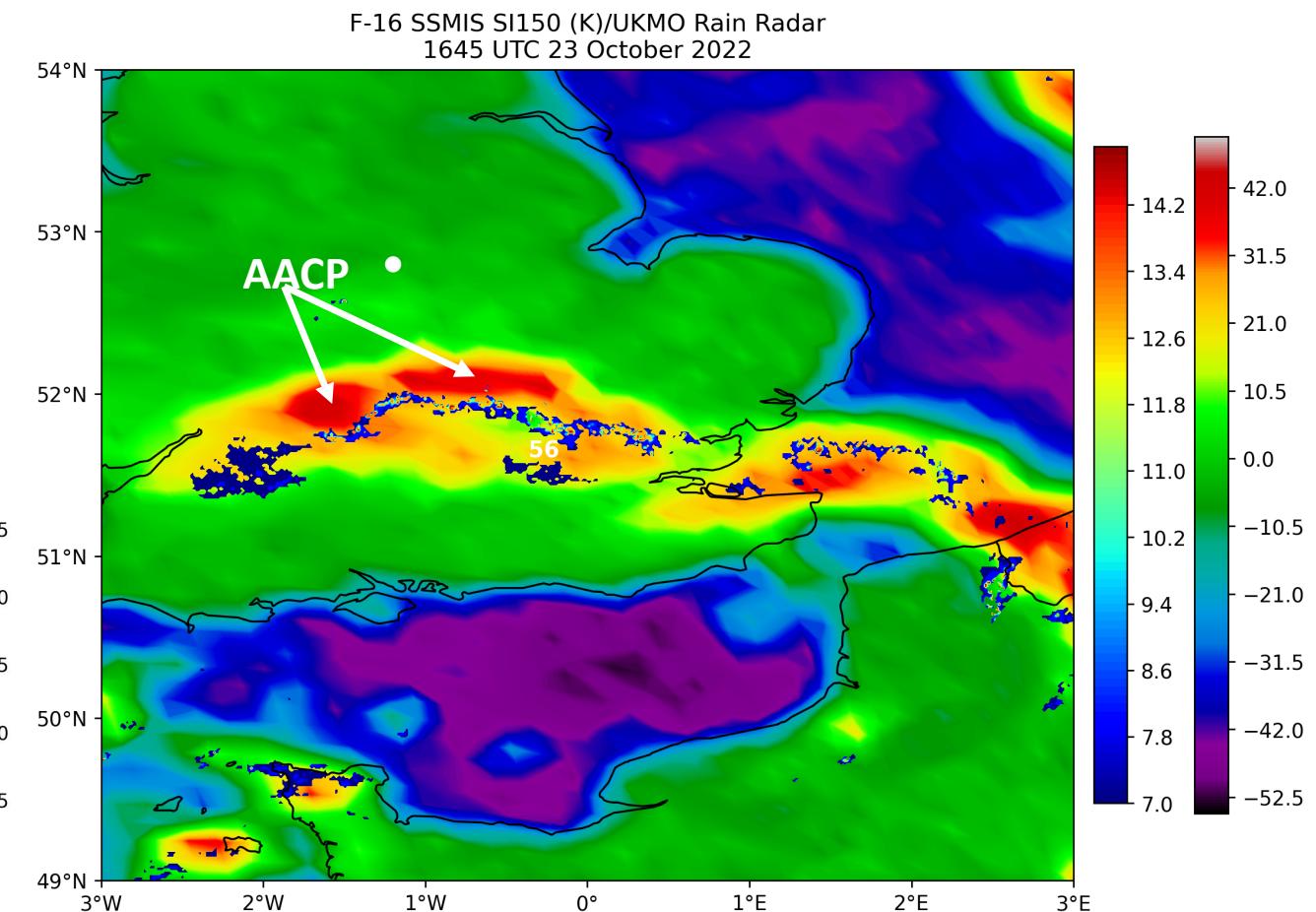
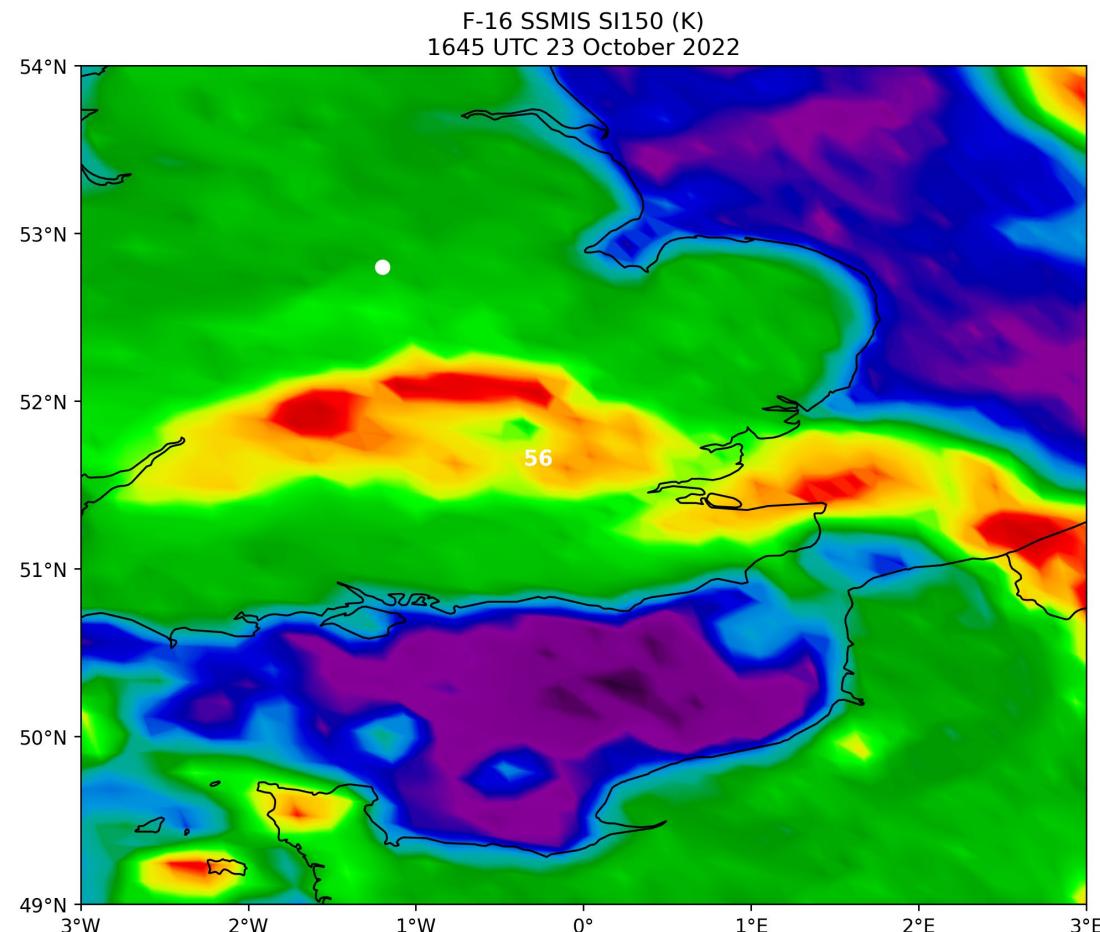
SSMIS-Radar Product Comparison



SSMIS-Radar Product Comparison

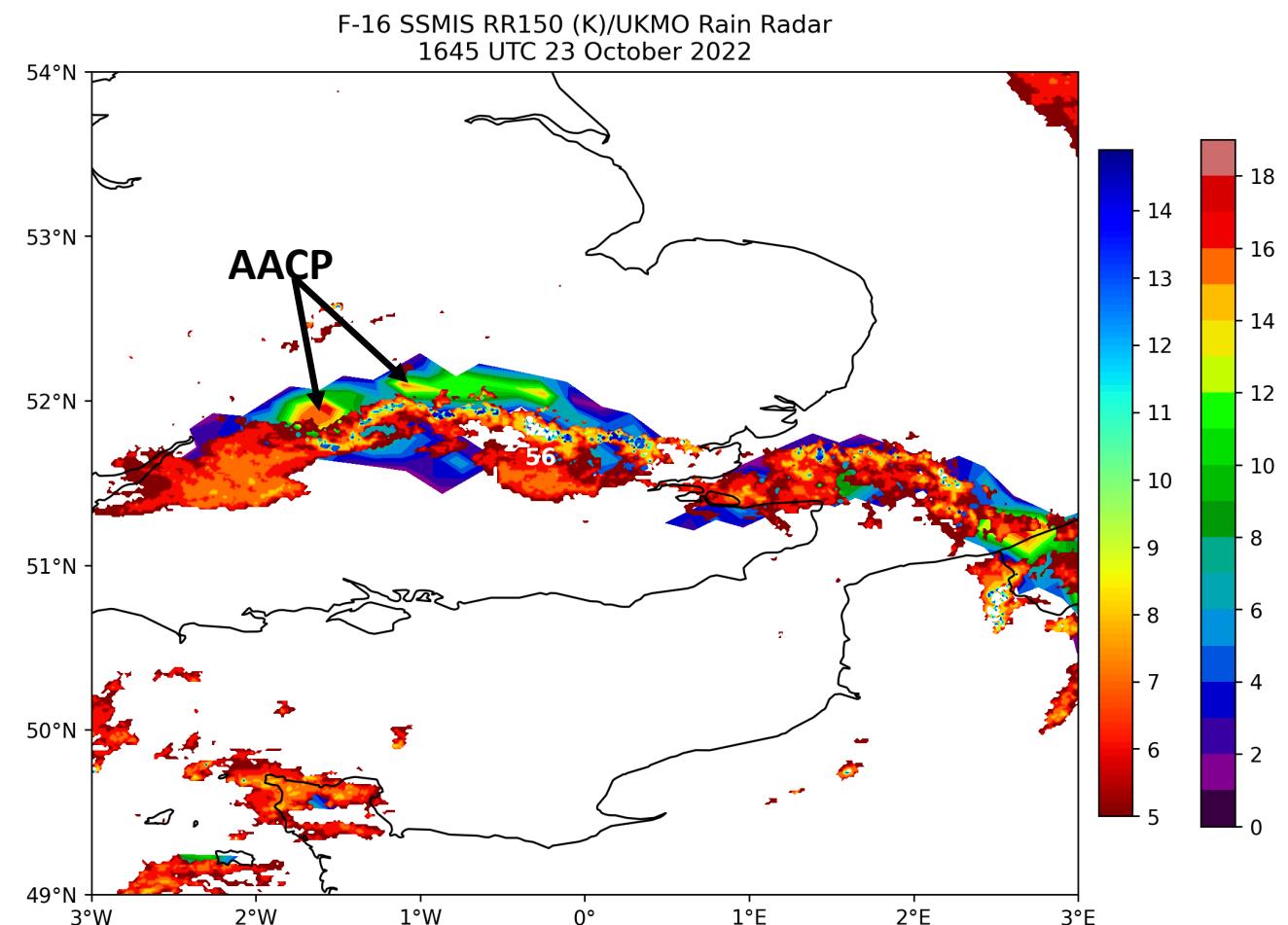
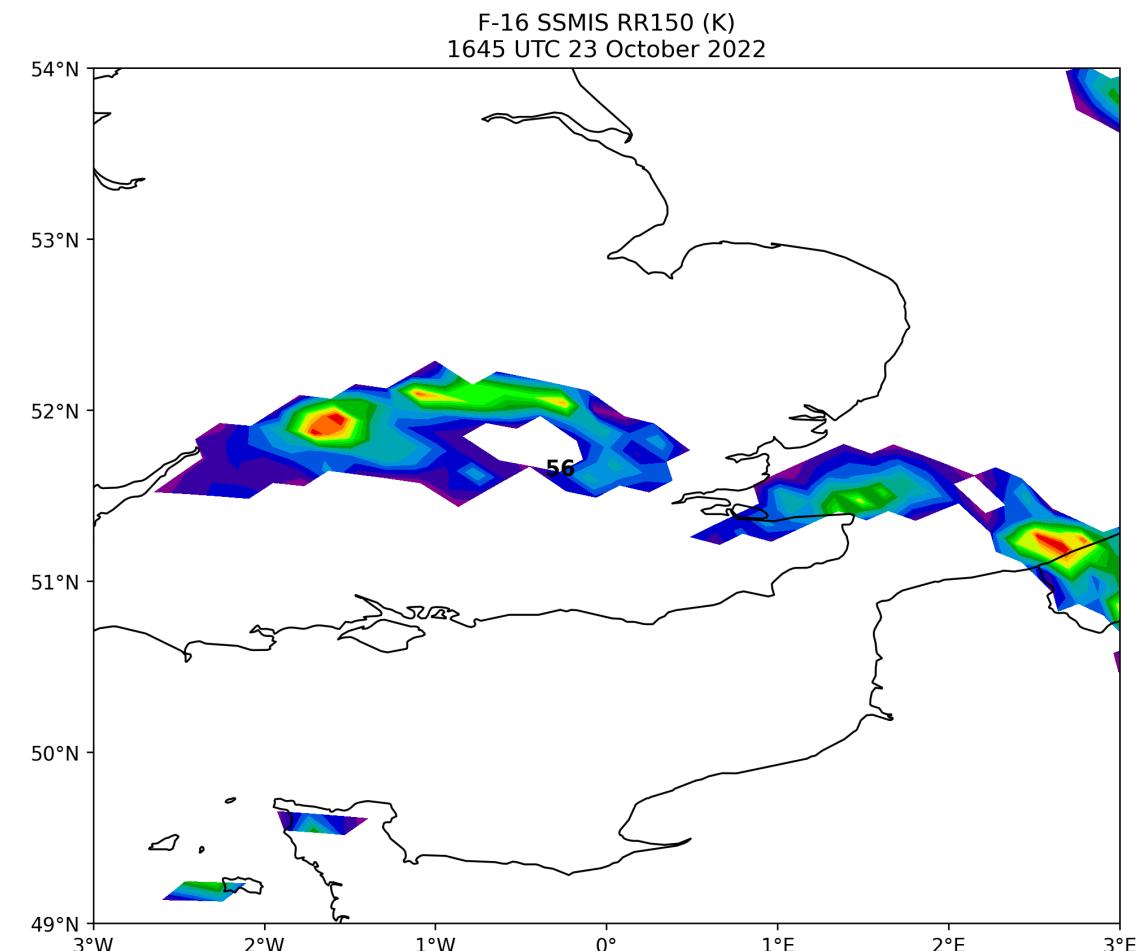


SSMIS-Radar Product Comparison



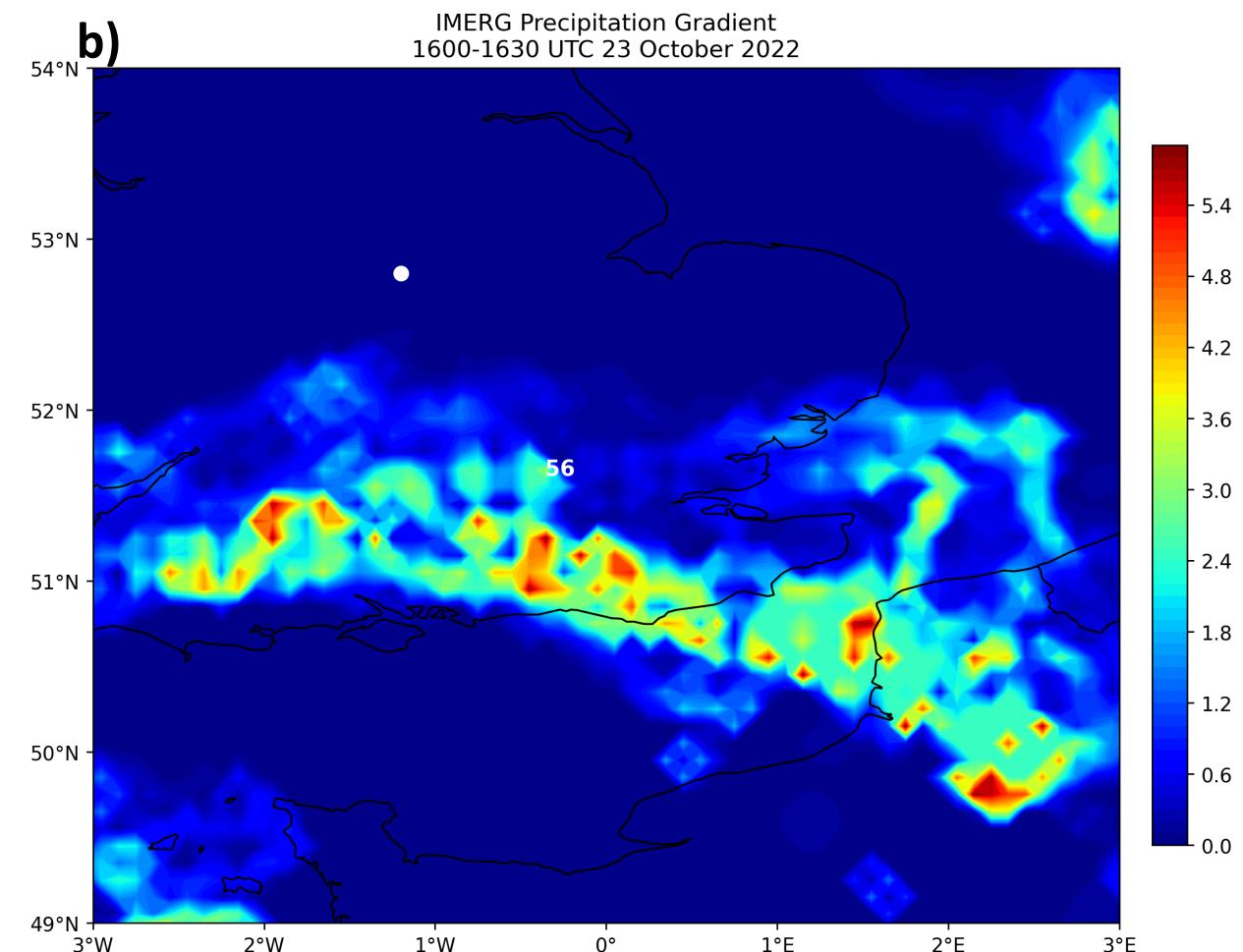
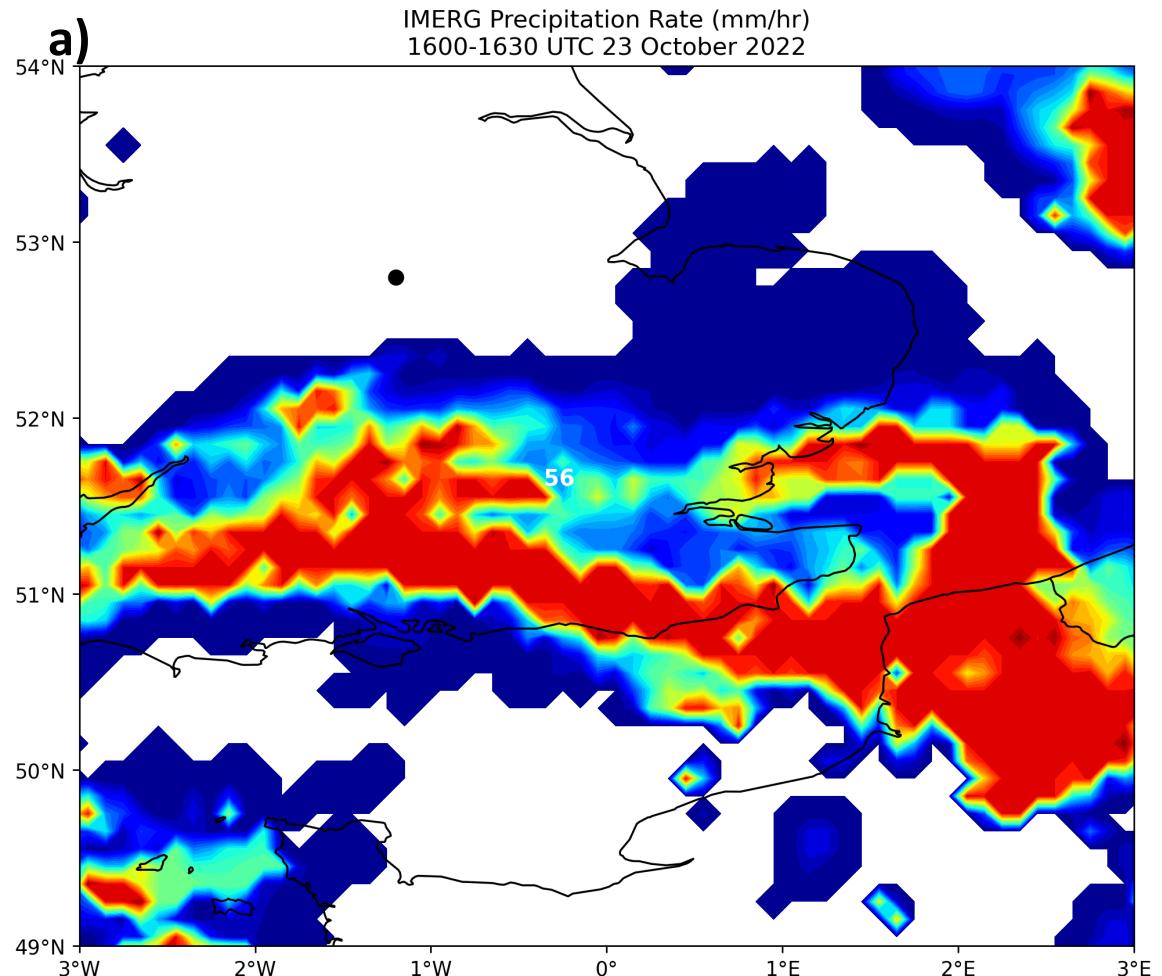
AACP: Above-anvil cirrus plume

SSMIS-Radar Product Comparison

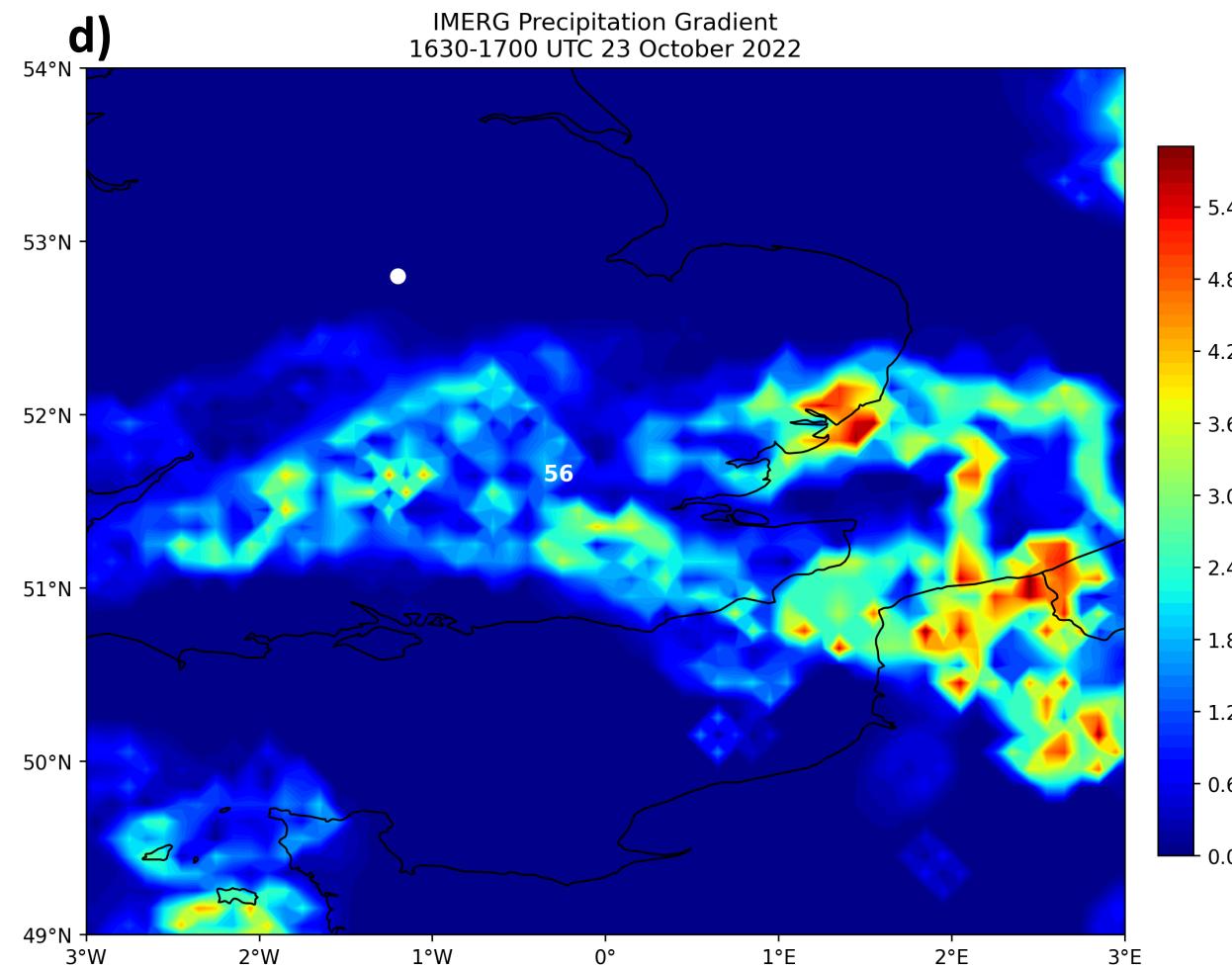
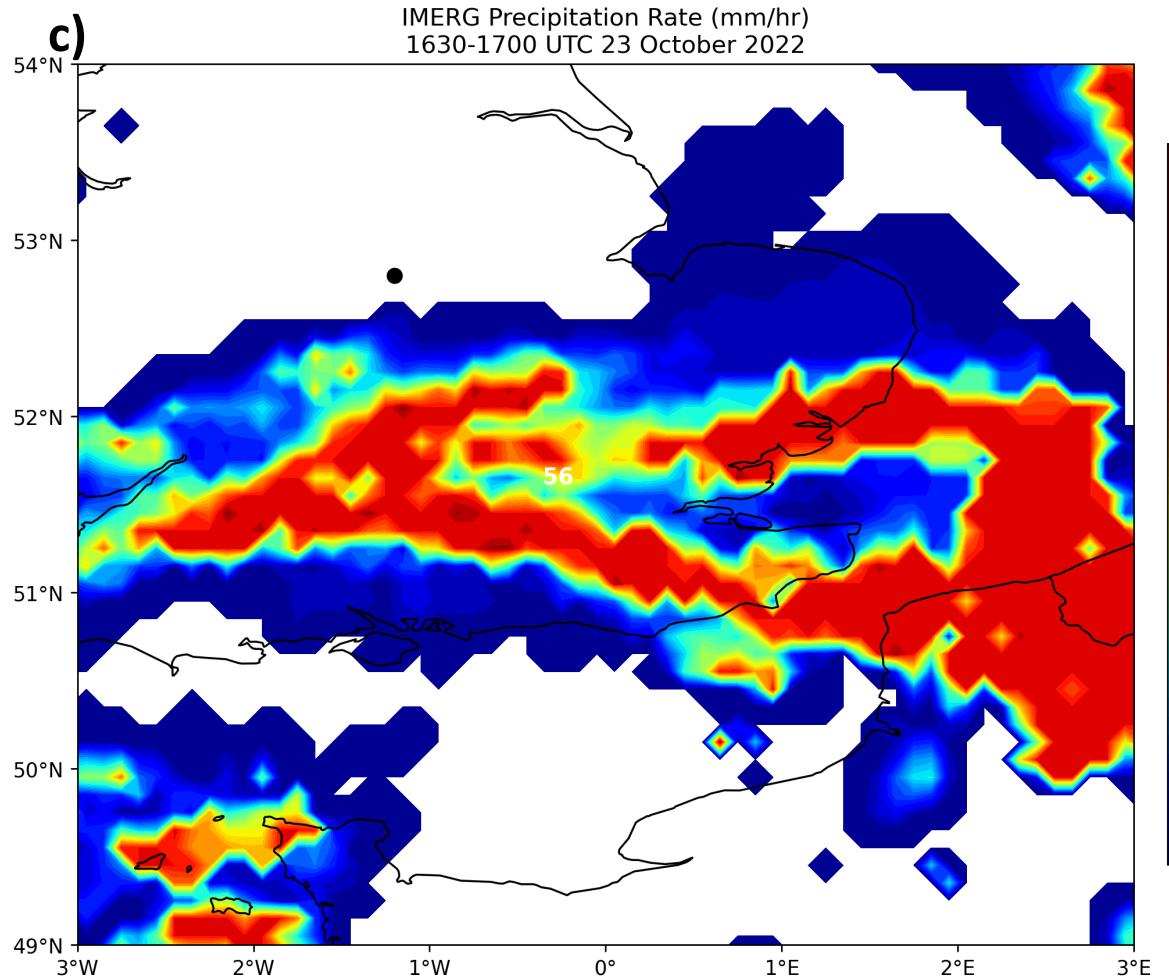


AACP: Above-anvil cirrus plume

IMERG Image Analysis: 1600 UTC



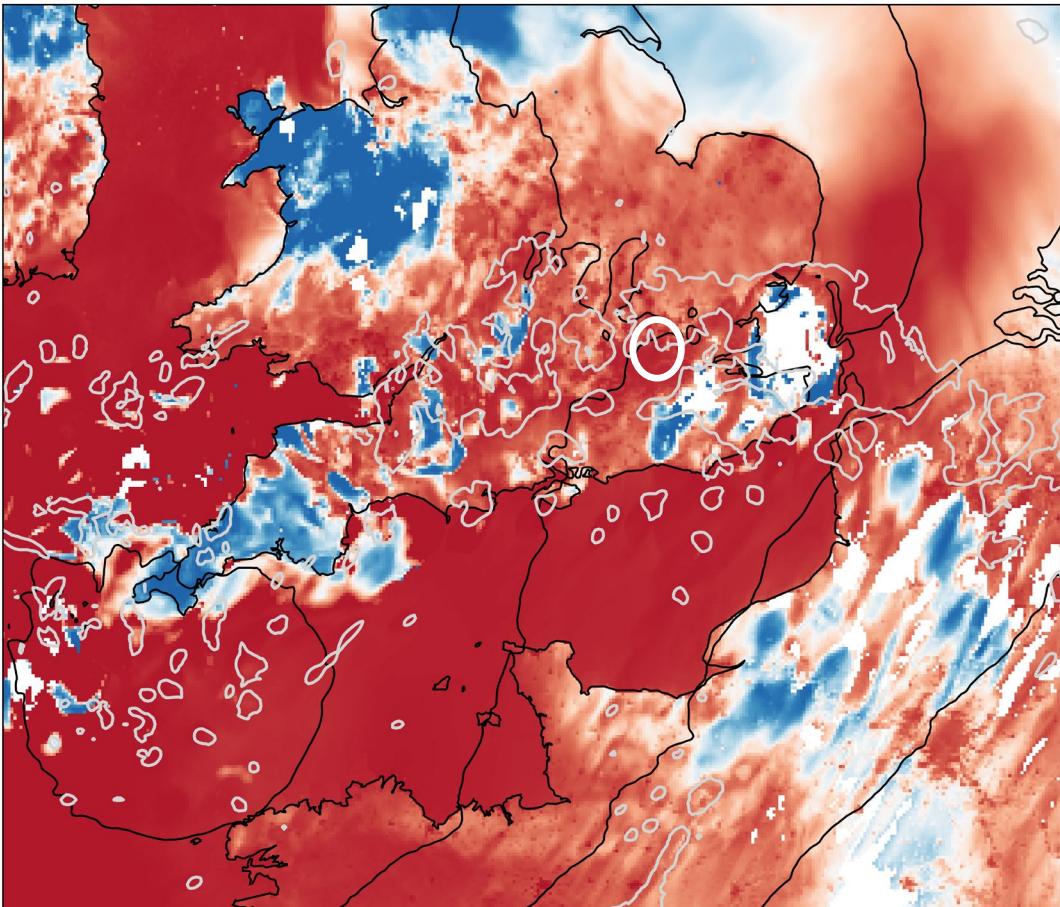
IMERG Image Analysis: 1630 UTC



Elevated convection diagnostic: CAPE Ratio

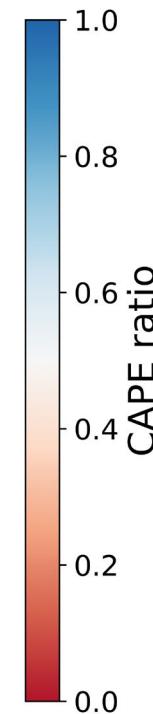
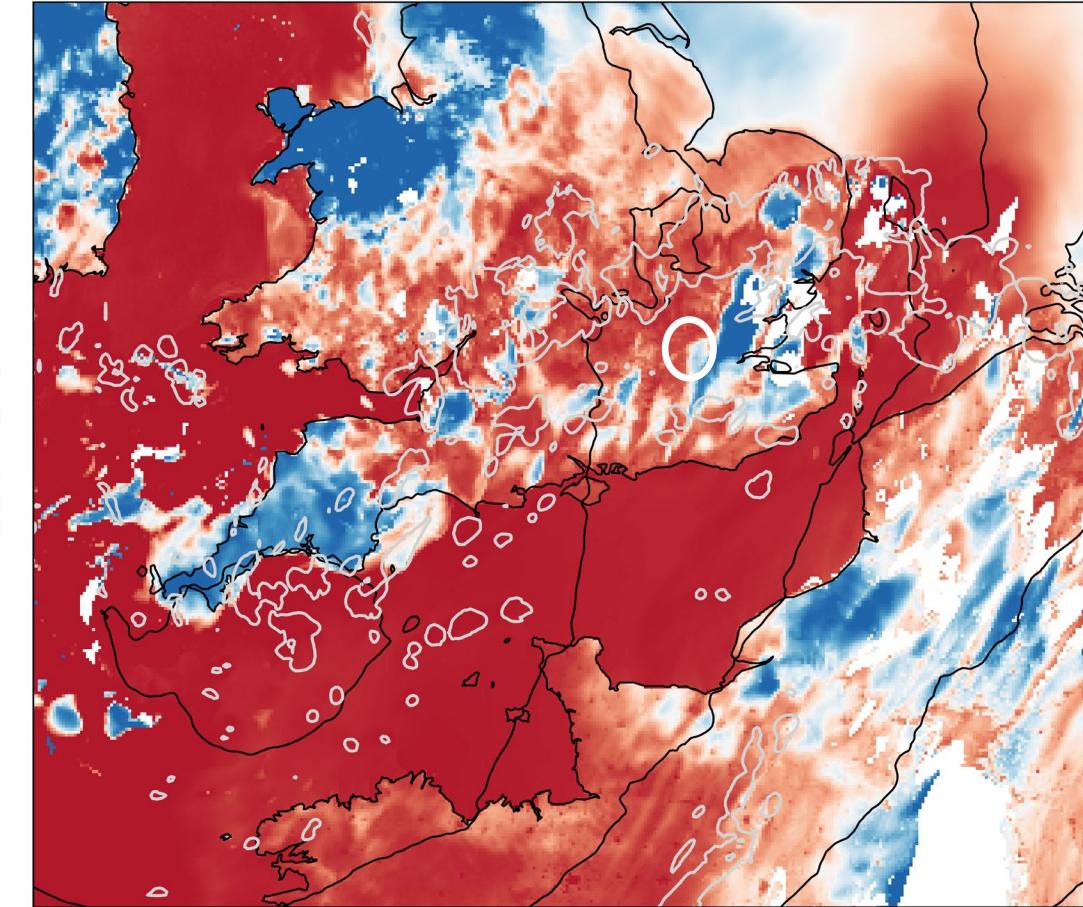
a)

1700 UTC 23 October 2022 (T+14)



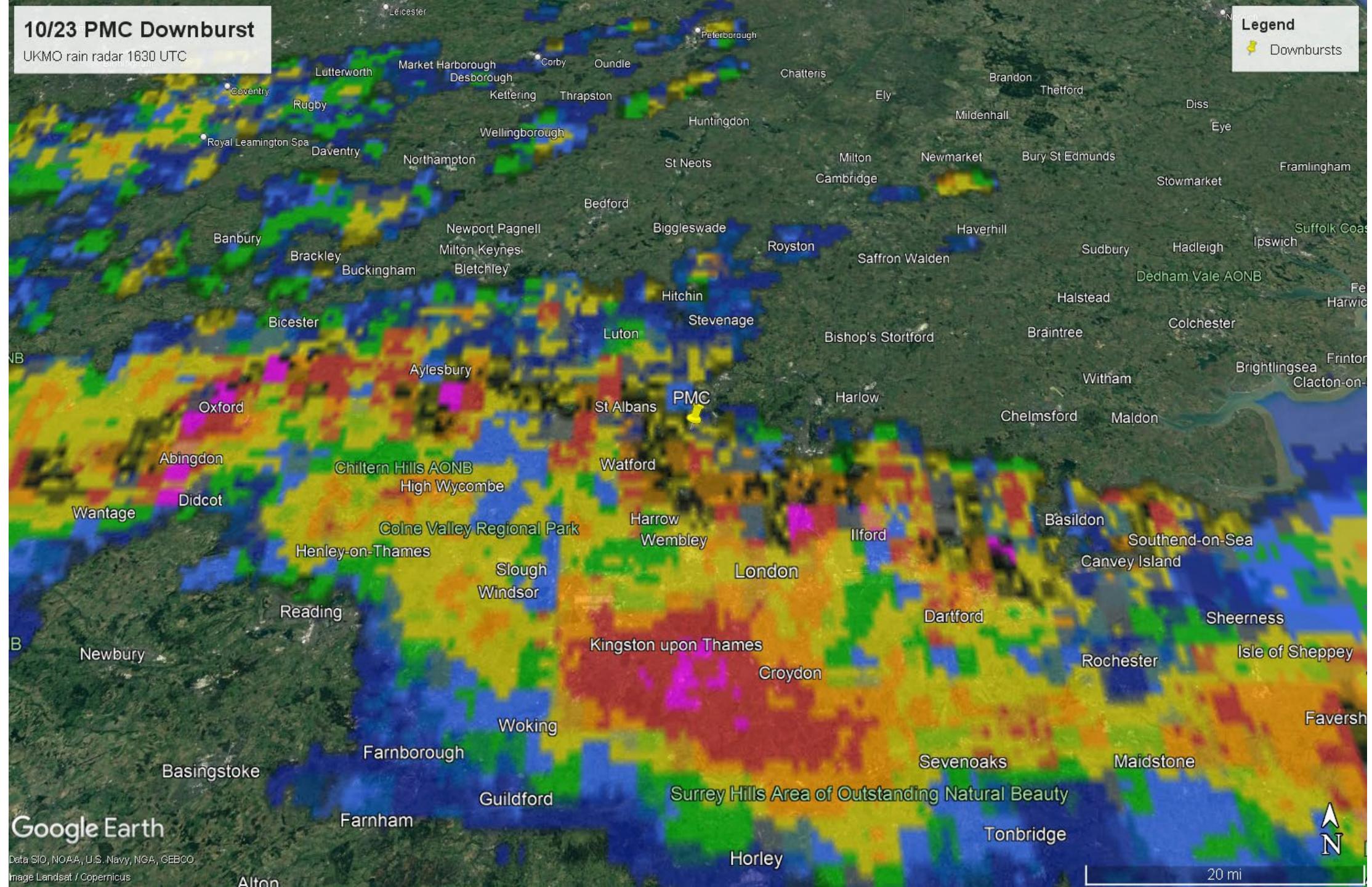
b)

1800 UTC 23 October 2022 (T+15)



10/23 PMC Downburst

UKMO rain radar 1630 UTC

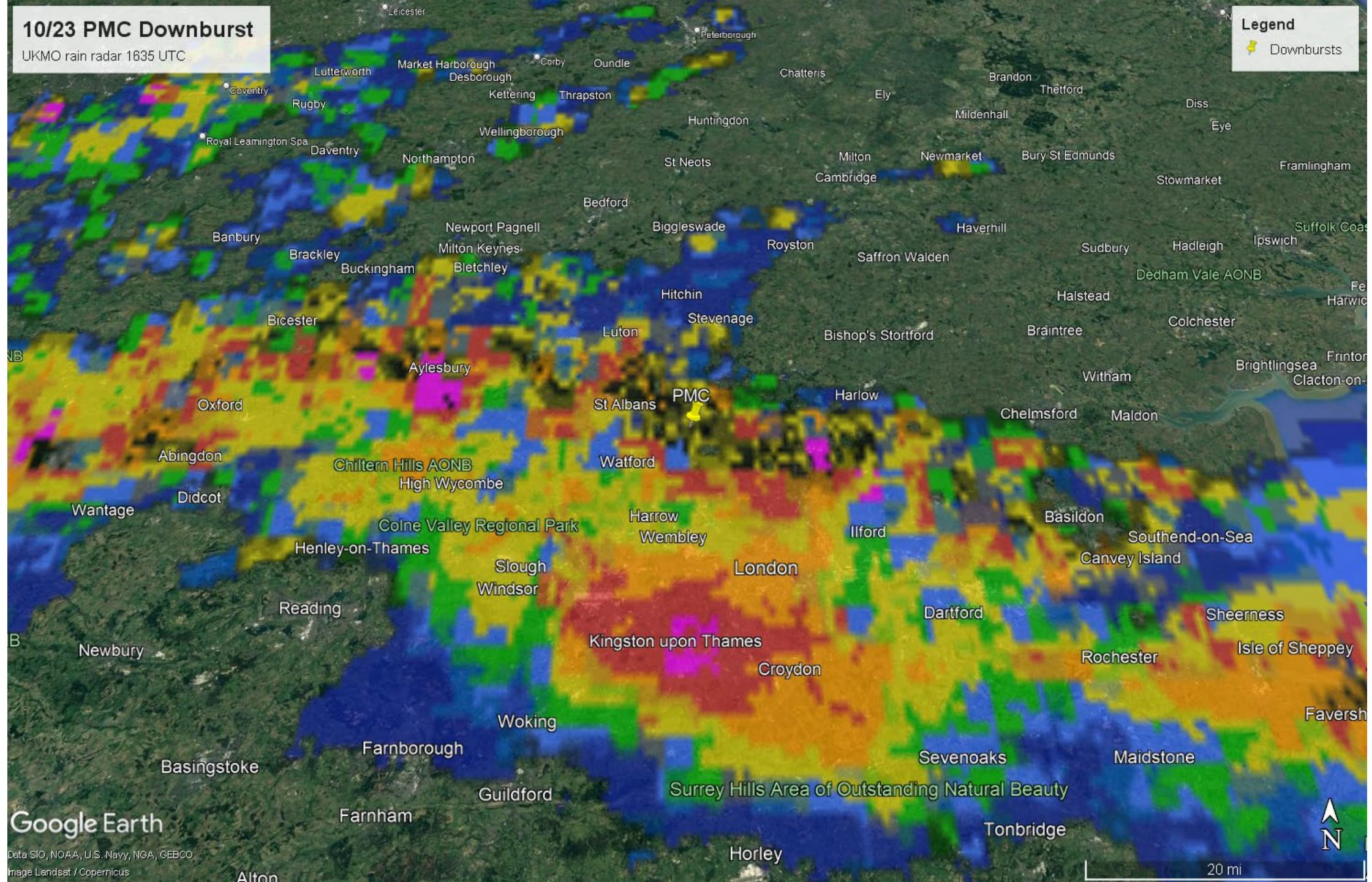


10/23 PMC Downburst

UKMO rain radar 1635 UTC

Legend

Downbursts



Google Earth

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

Image Landsat / Copernicus

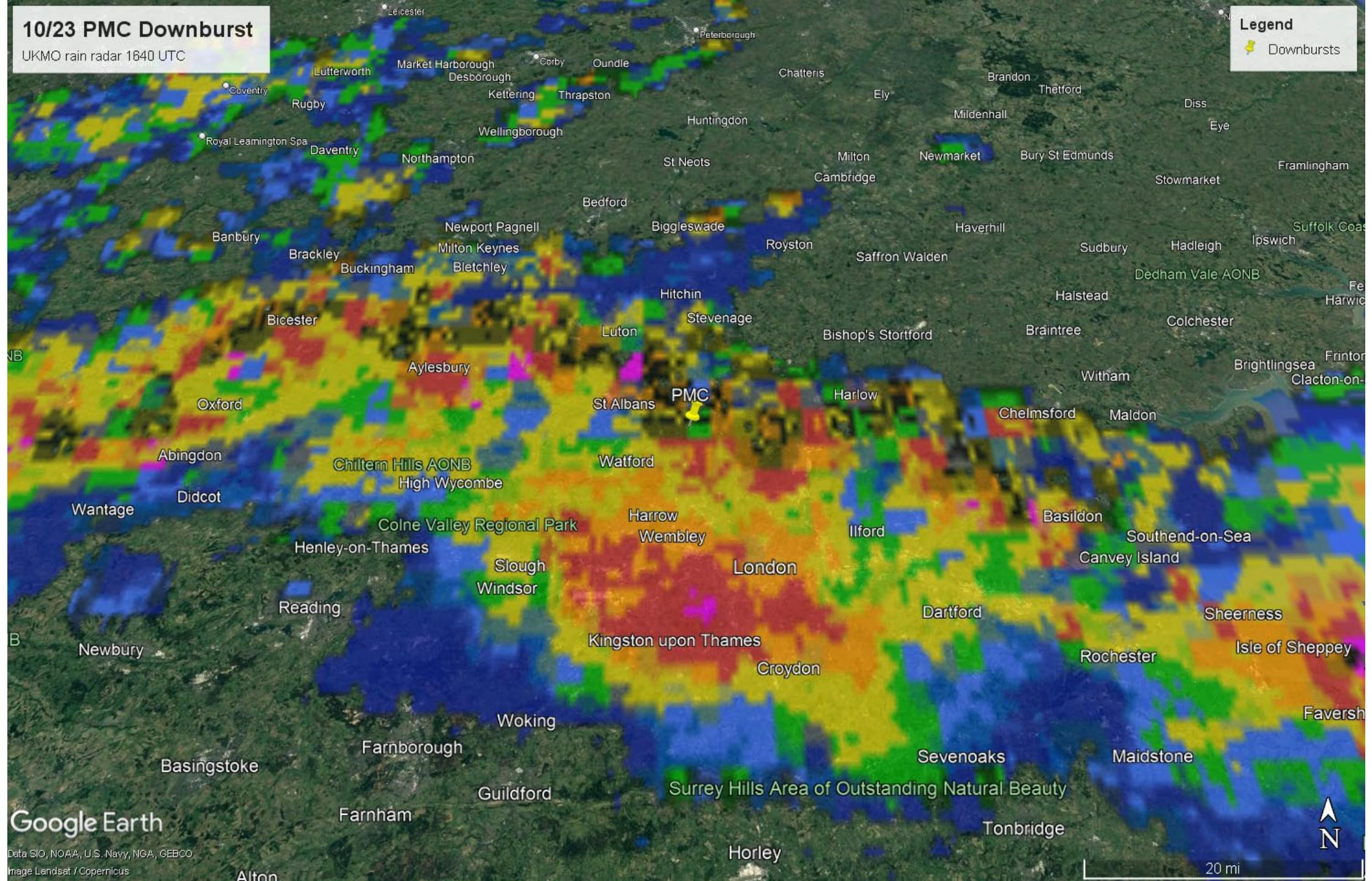
N
20 mi

10/23 PMC Downburst

UKMO rain radar 1640 UTC

Legend

Downbursts



Google Earth

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

Image Landsat / Copernicus

N

20 mi

Surrey Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

Horley

Maidstone

Tonbridge

Sevenoaks

Guildford

Farnborough

Farnham

Basingstoke

Newbury

Alton

Reading

Colne Valley Regional Park

Henley-on-Thames

Slough

Windsor

Harrow

Wembley

London

Kingston upon Thames

Croydon

Dartford

Rochester

Isle of Sheppey

Faversham

Southend-on-Sea

Canvey Island

Sheerness

Wantage

Didcot

Oxford

Chiltern Hills AONB

High Wycombe

Abingdon

Henley-on-Thames

Watford

Ilford

Basildon

Southend-on-Sea

Canvey Island

Sheerness

Isle of Sheppey

Banbury

Brackley

Buckingham

Milton Keynes

Bletchley

Bicester

Aylesbury

Luton

Stevenage

Bishop's Stortford

Harlow

Chelmsford

Maldon

Witham

Halstead

Braintree

Colchester

Hadleigh

Ipswich

Dedham Vale AONB

Fe

Harwich

Frinton

Brightlingsea

Clacton-on-

St Albans

PMc

Watford

Ilford

Basildon

Southend-on-Sea

Canvey Island

Sheerness

Isle of Sheppey

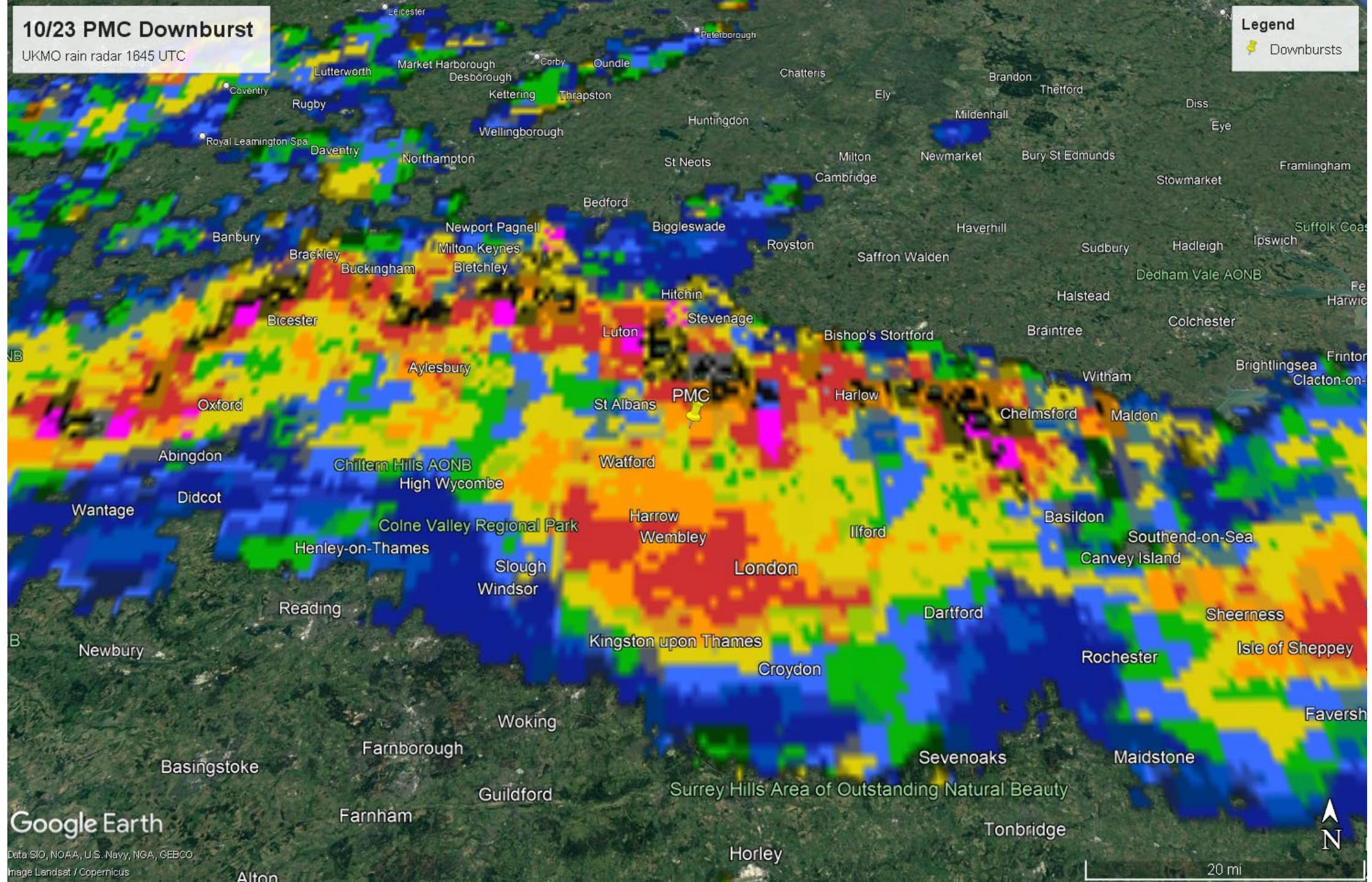
Faversham

N

20 mi

10/23 PMC Downburst

UKMO rain radar 1645 UTC



10/23 PMC Downburst

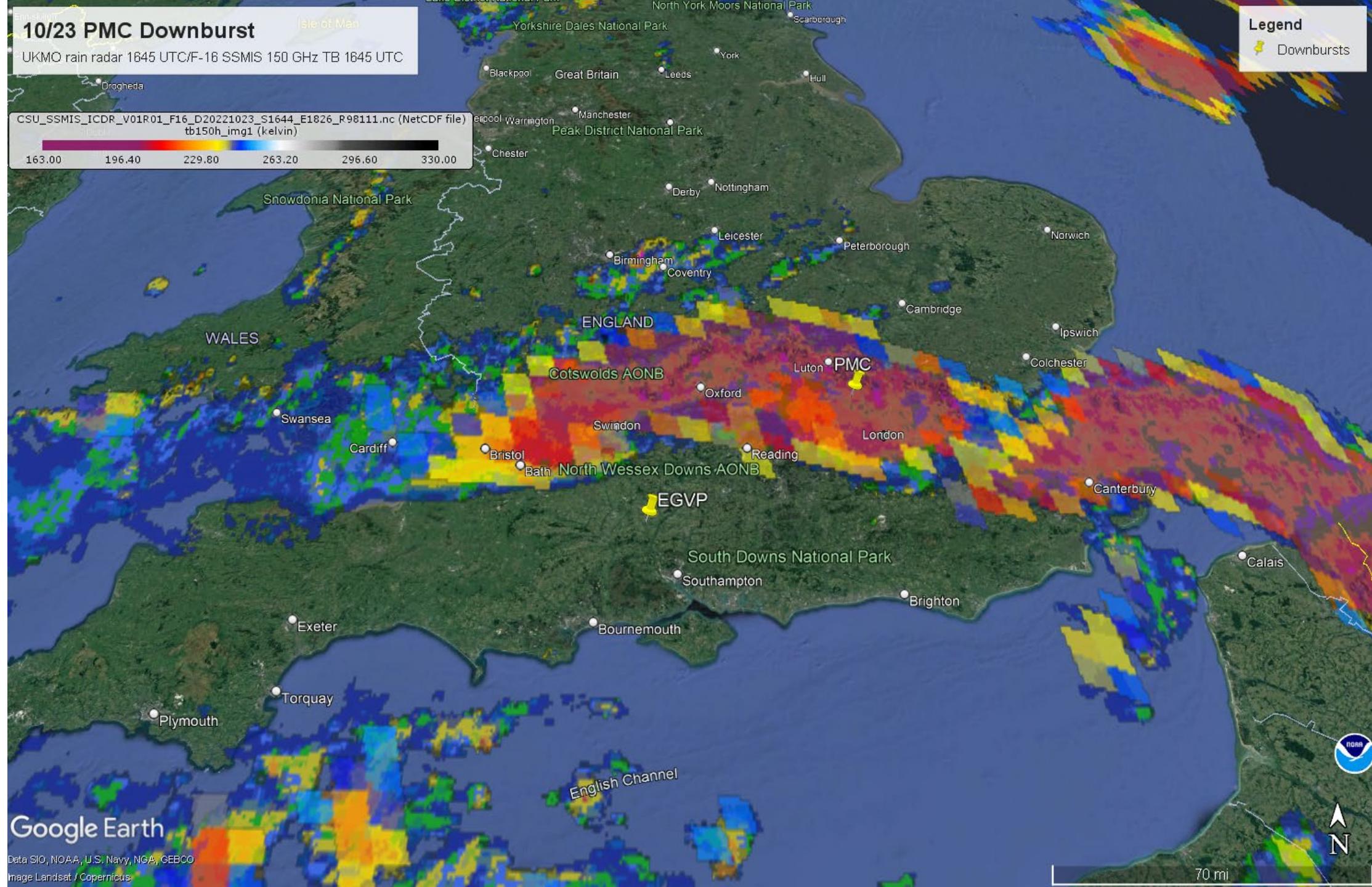
UKMO rain radar 1645 UTC/F-16 SSMIS 150 GHz TB 1645 UTC

CSU_SSMIS_ICDR_V01R01_F16_D20221023_S1644_E1826_R98111.nc (NetCDF file)
tb150h_img1 (kelvin)

163.00 196.40 229.80 263.20 296.60 330.00

Legend

Downbursts



Google Earth

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

Image Landsat / Copernicus

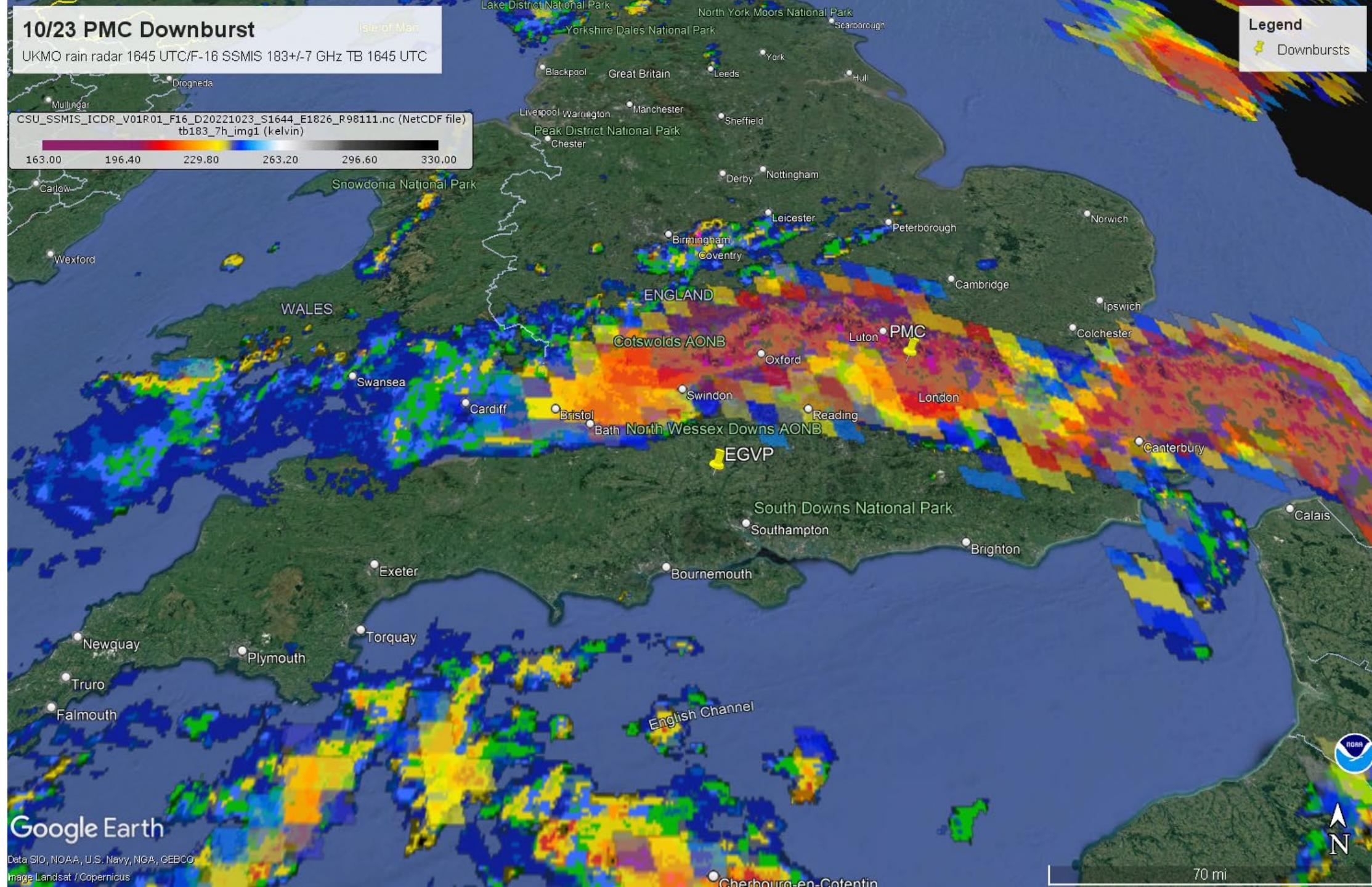
70 mi

10/23 PMC Downburst

UKMO rain radar 1845 UTC/F-16 SSMIS 183+/- 7 GHz TB 1845 UTC

Legend

Downbursts



Summary

- During the afternoon of 23 October 2022, a quasi-linear convective system (QLCS) developed and intensified over the English Channel, and tracked north-northeastward into southern England, producing widespread damaging downburst winds.
- The most intense downbursts of the event occurred at:
 - Middle Wallop Airport, Hampshire (55 miles SW of London), with a wind gust of 54 kt (62 mph) recorded between 1500 and 1600 UTC and generated by a prominent bowing segment of the QLCS.
 - London Colney, Hertfordshire, with a wind gust of 56 kt (64 mph) recorded at 1640 UTC and generated by a pulse-severe cell east of the bowing segment of the QLCS.
- In general, the early afternoon (1222 UTC) NOAA-20 NUCAPS sounding qualitatively indicated the strongest signal for severe thunderstorm and downburst occurrence over southern England:
 - Resolved a shallow elevated mixed-layer that was detected by the closest downstream RAOB sounding at Nottingham.
 - Indicated larger lower-middle tropospheric temperature lapse rates and CAPE than the adjacent AIRS sounding.
 - NUCAPS surface temperature (66°F/18°C) matched exactly the temperature recorded at Herstmonceux, the closest observing station to the retrieval.

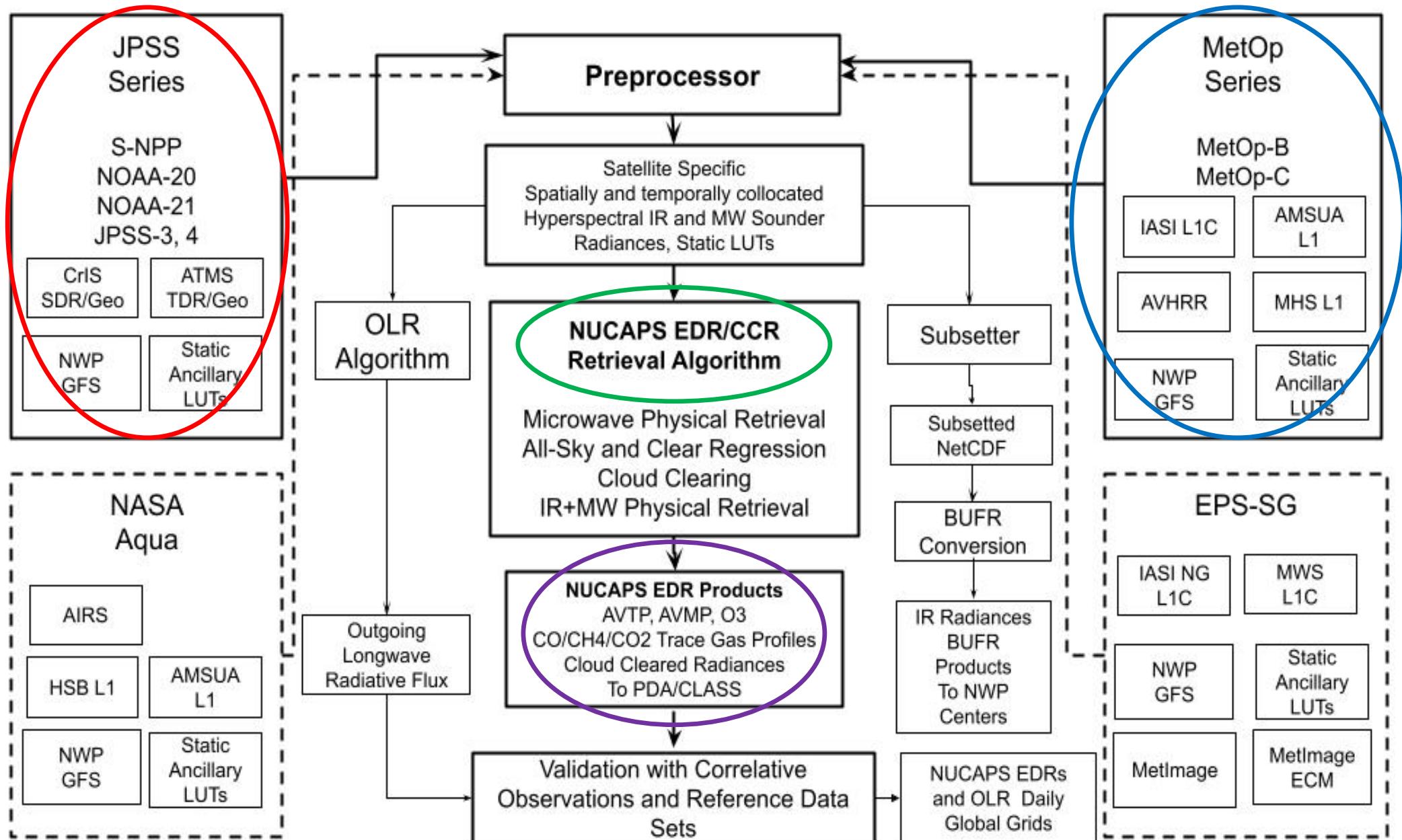
Summary

- Mapped SSMIS imagery with UKMO rain radar overlays and a mid-day NUCAPS sounding profile over Leicestershire, (~90 miles NW of London), provided the strongest signal for severe downburst winds in the pre-storm environment over the Midlands.
- Close agreement between the boundary layer structure ("inverted-V") as resolved by the NUCAPS soundings and WRF profiles and the MWPI gust potential as calculated from NUCAPS and the WRF model.
- Strong relationship between high rain rates as indicated by UKMO radar and the very low MW brightness temperatures (BTs) apparent in both the consecutive F-18 and F-16 overpasses.
- Low BTs also correspond well with the high integrated graupel values (slide 11), suggesting that intense downdrafts and resulting downbursts were forced by ice precipitation loading and melting, as well as unsaturated air entrainment into the mixed-phase precipitation core.

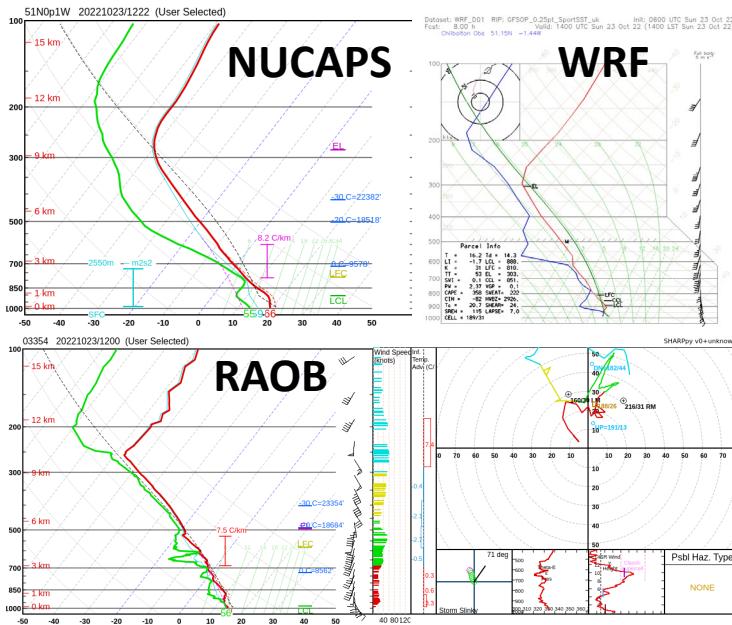
Supplemental Slides/Figures

Figure 2.

NUCAPS Enterprise Algorithm

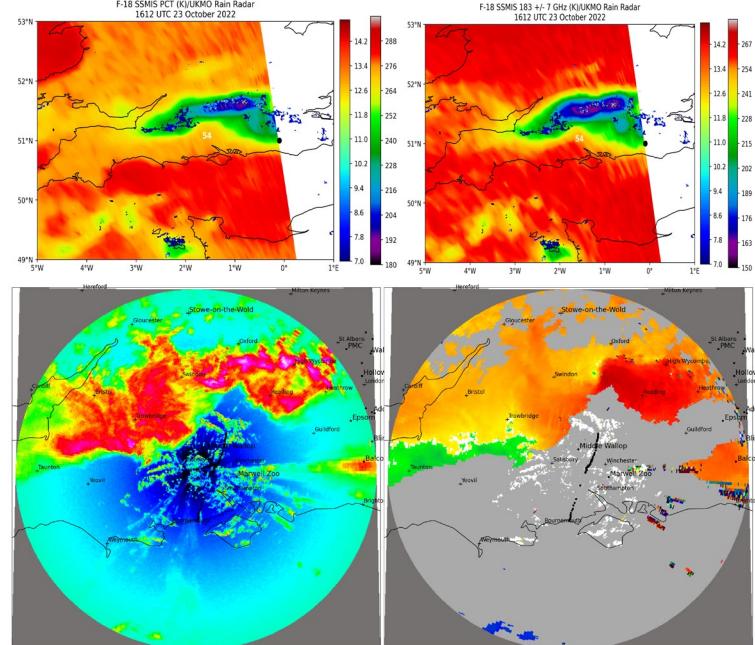


Thermodynamic Profiles



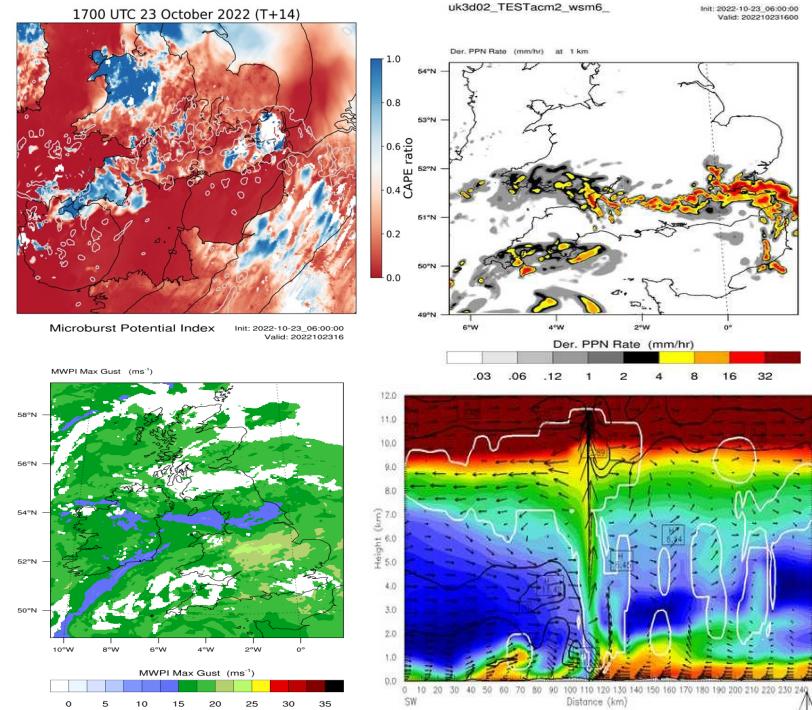
Thermodynamic patterns in pre-convective and storm environments: moisture stratification and convective instability.

Satellite/Radar Imagery



Microscale physical properties of downburst-producing convective storms: Storm morphology, precipitation vertical structure, type and intensity.

NWP Model Graphical Output



Simulation and analysis of dynamic properties: morphology, vertical structure, precipitation intensity, stability parameter evaluation.

Figure 3.

F

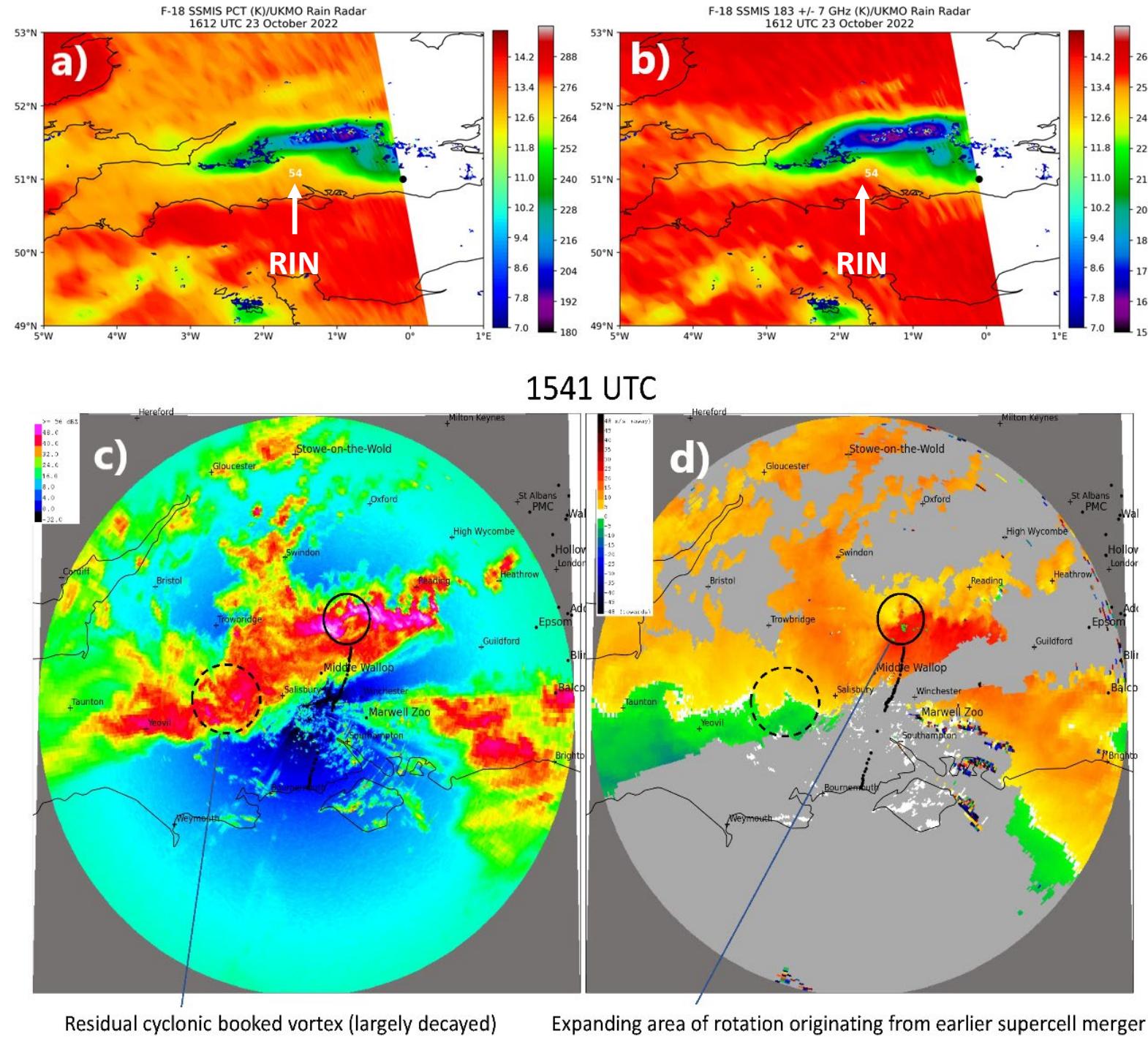
Figure 6.

Figure 8.

Figure 8.

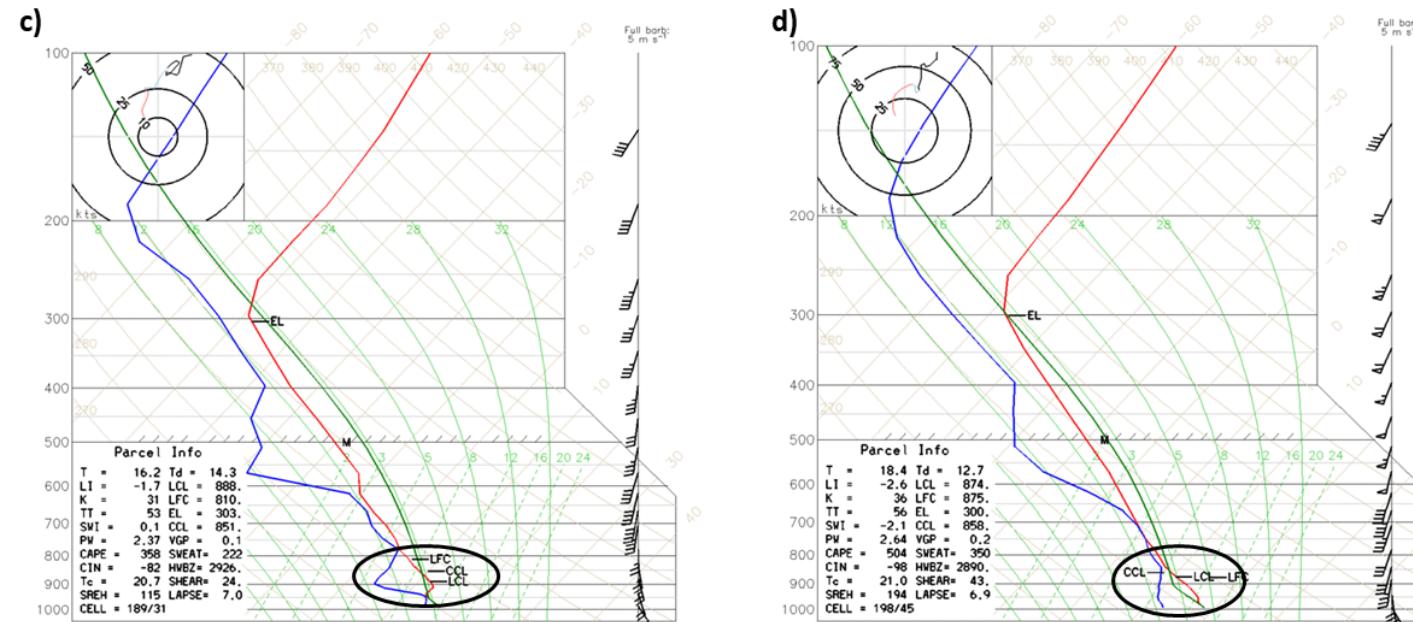
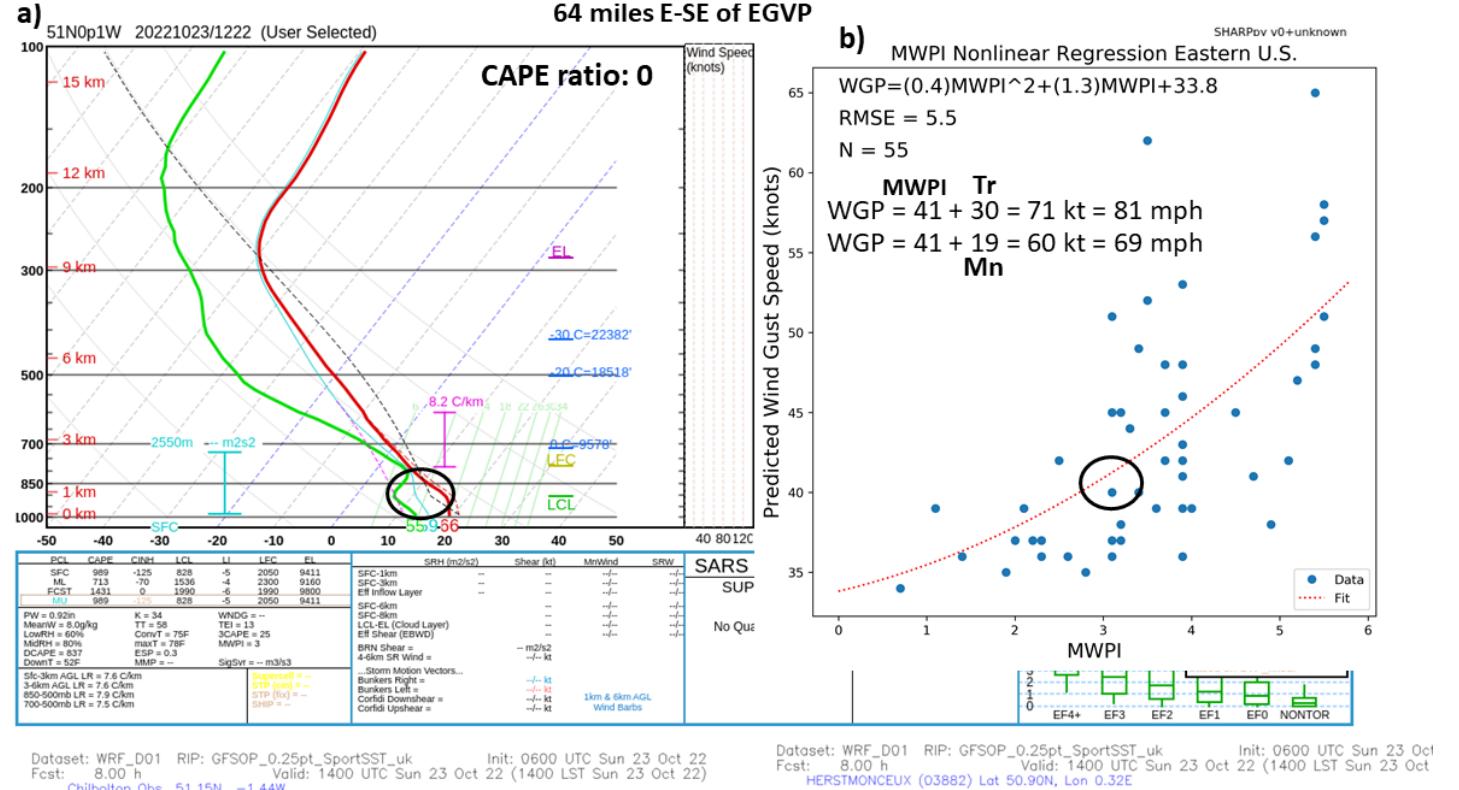
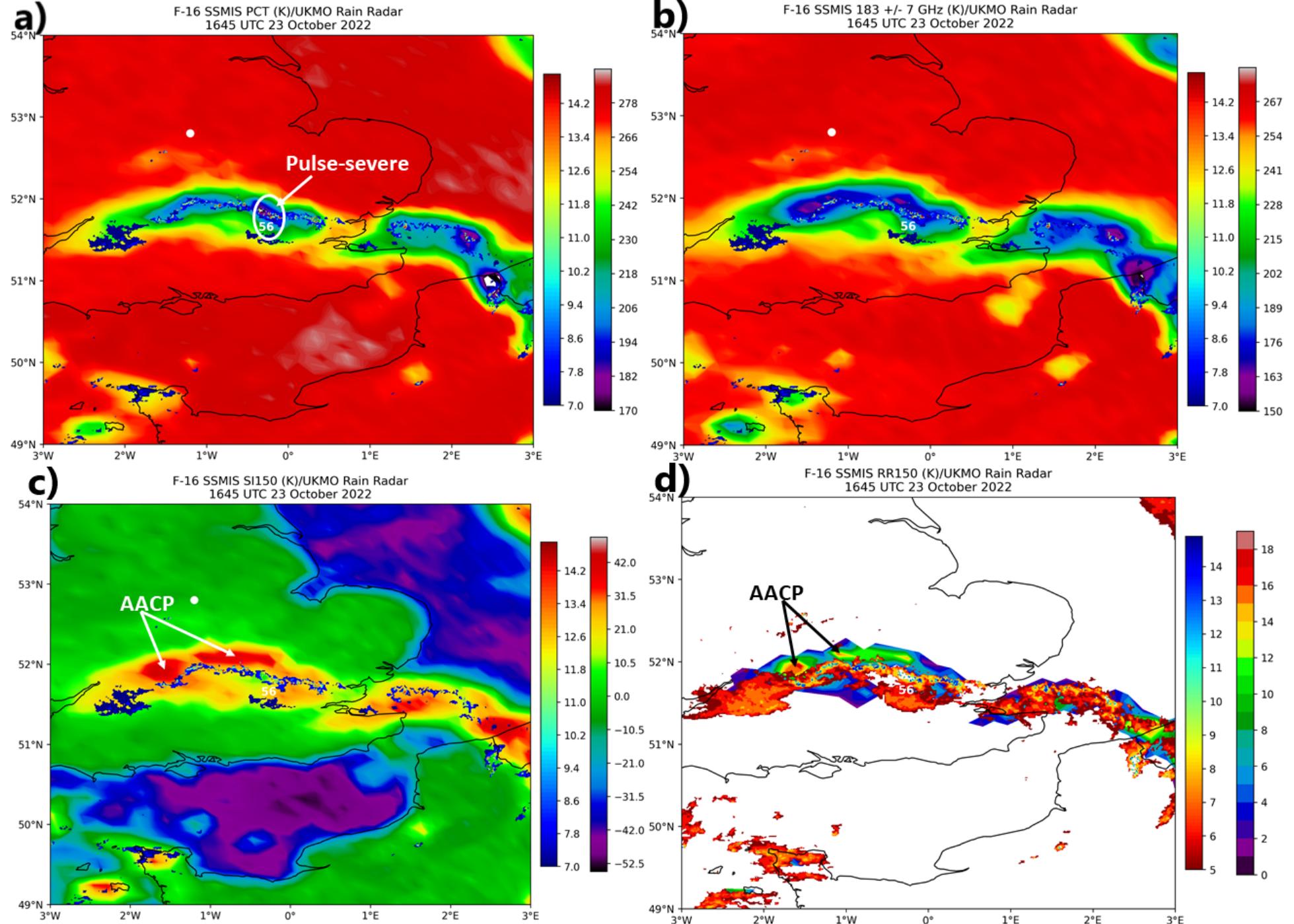
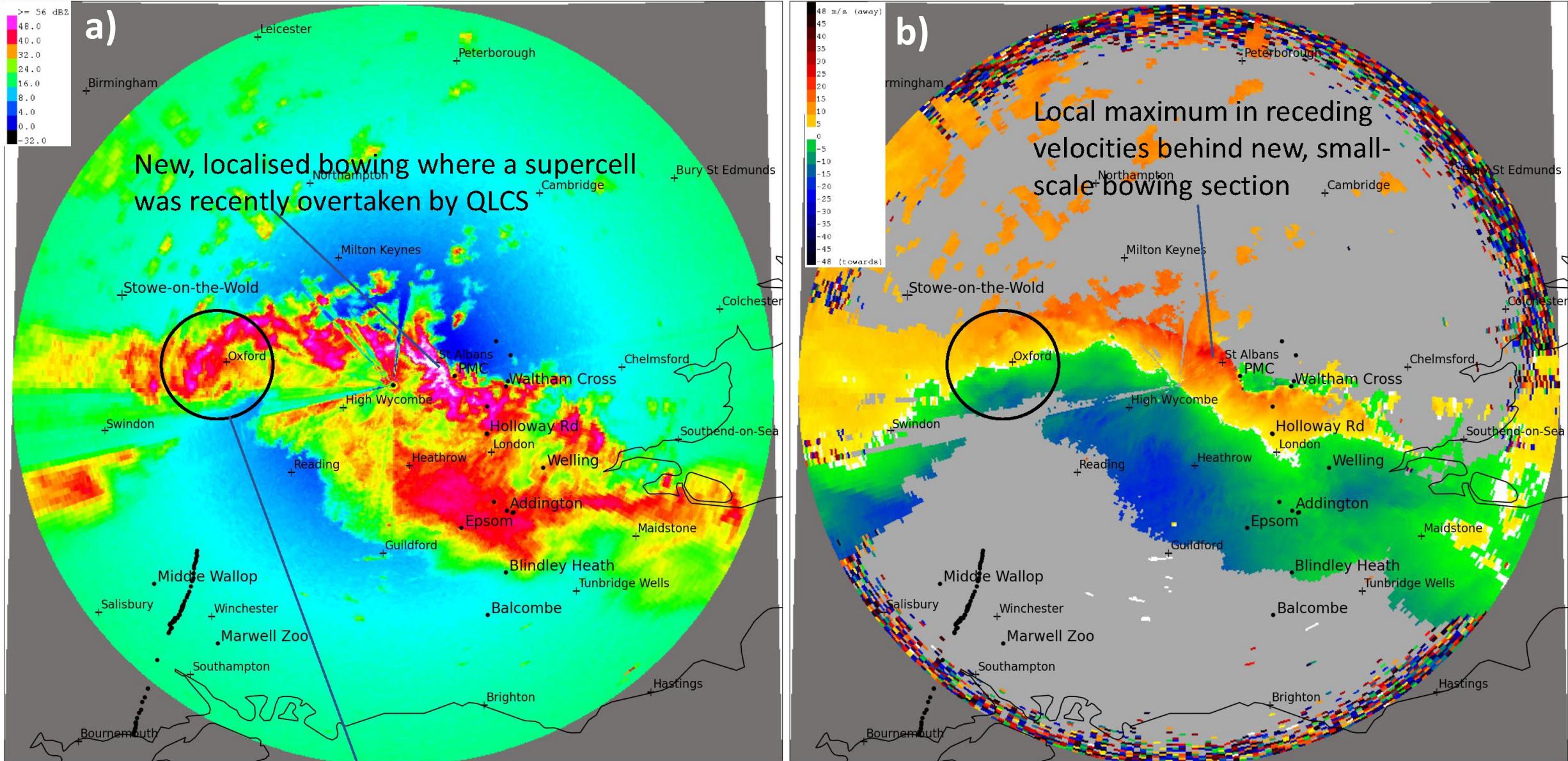


Figure 11.



1631 UTC



Cyclonic book-end vortex, expanding and now weakening

1701 UTC

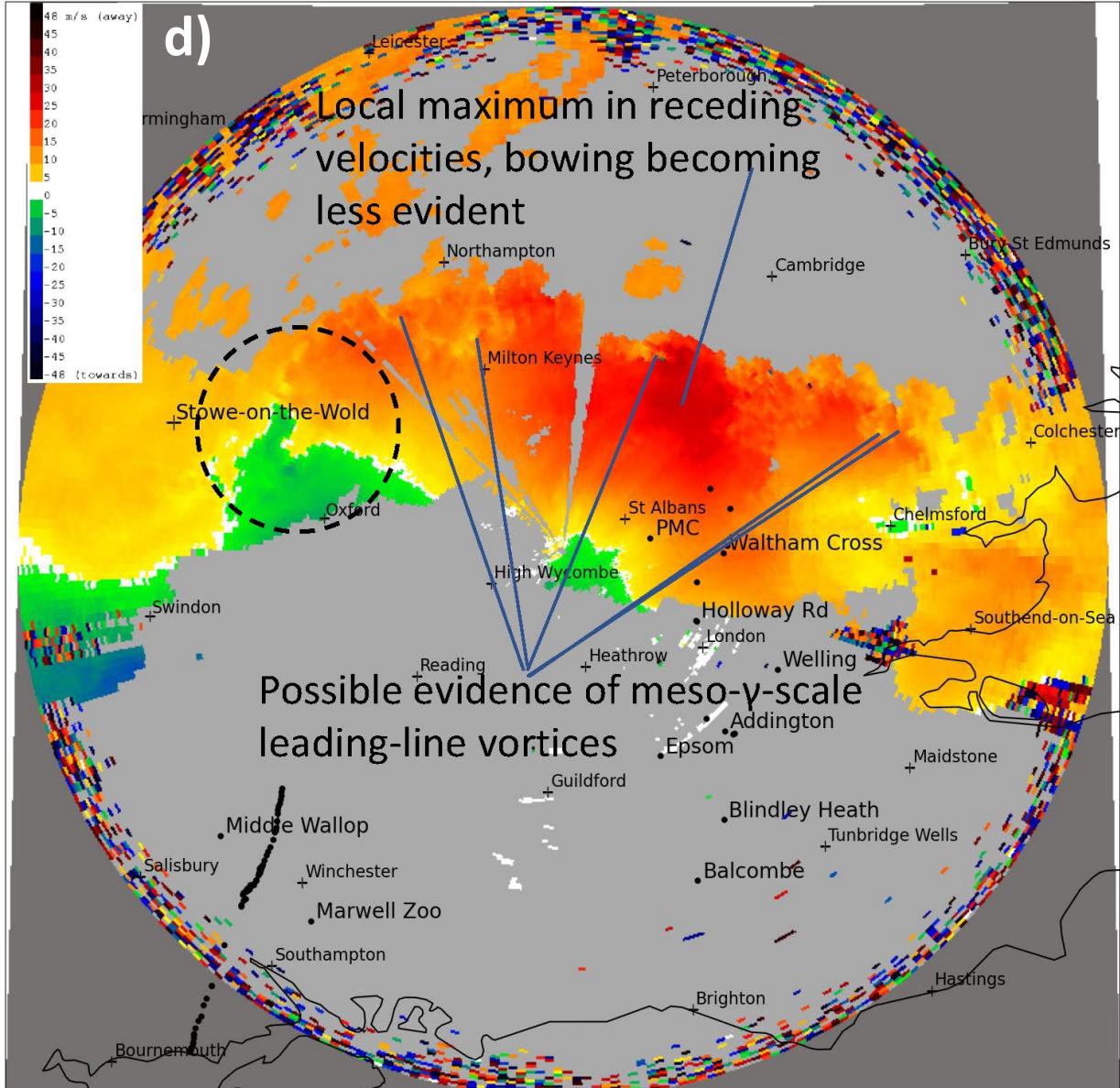
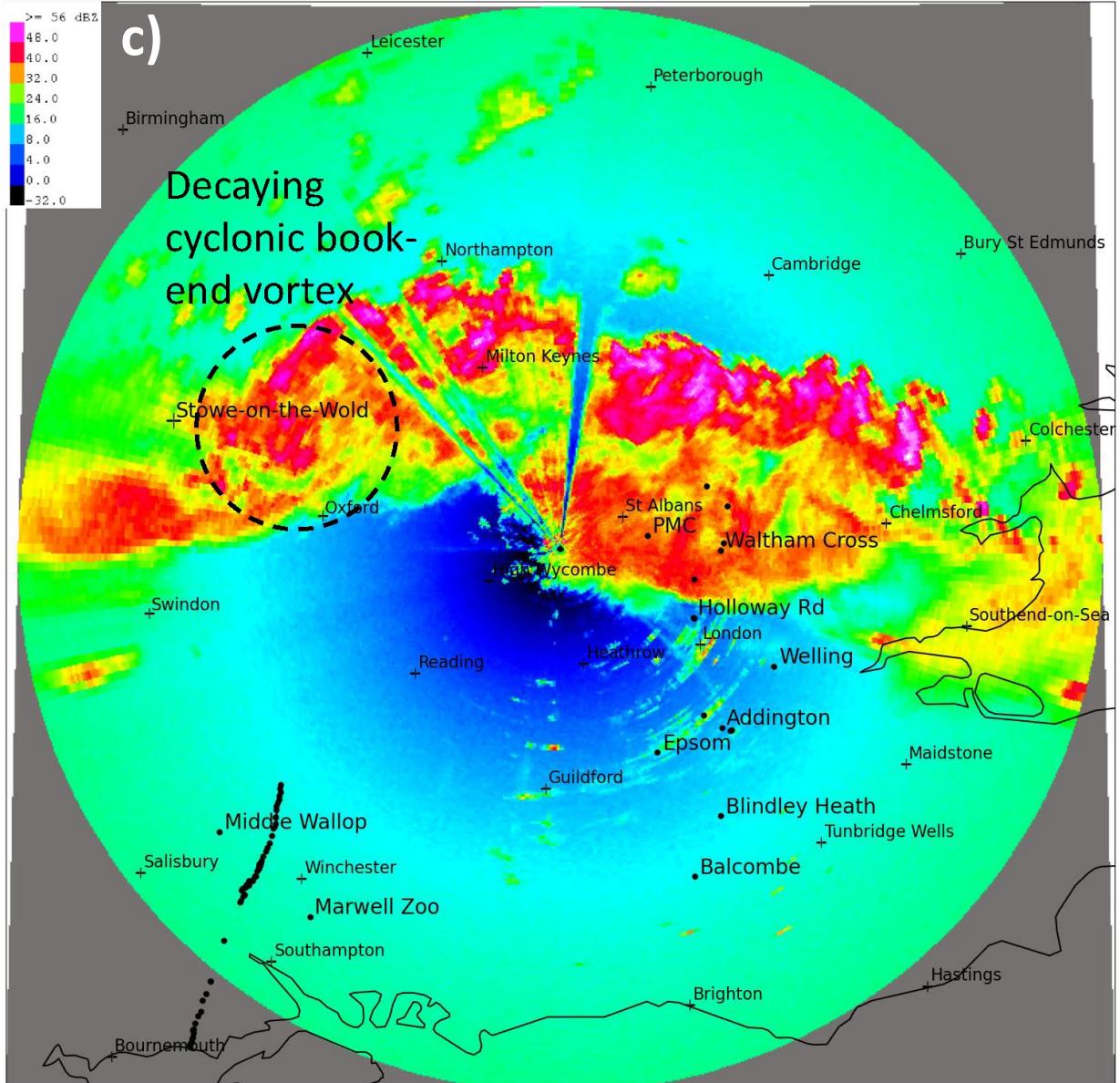


Figure 16.

