

Detection of TGFs in an enhanced configuration and link with meteorological information

Alessandro Ursi – INAF-IAPS, Roma

M. Marisaldi, M. Tavani, P. Sanò, D. Casella, S. Dietrich

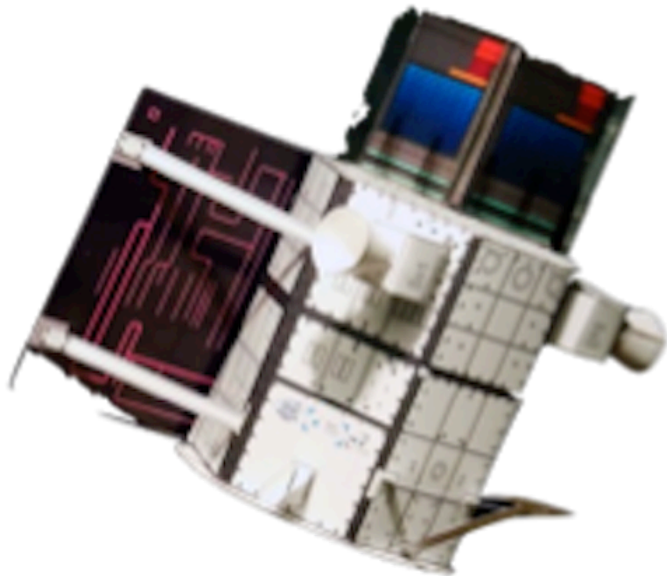
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AGILE: the satellite

AGILE
2007



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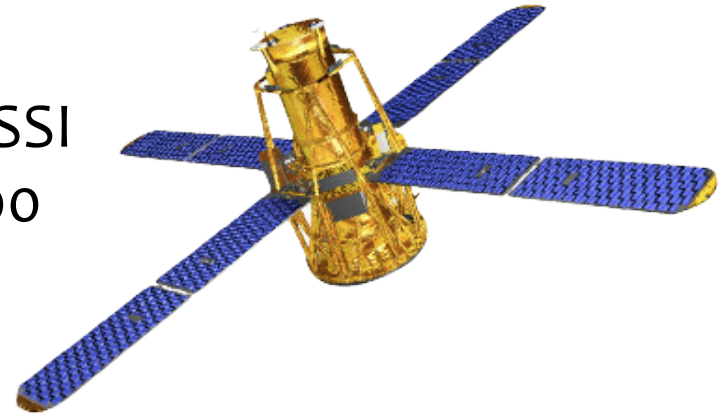
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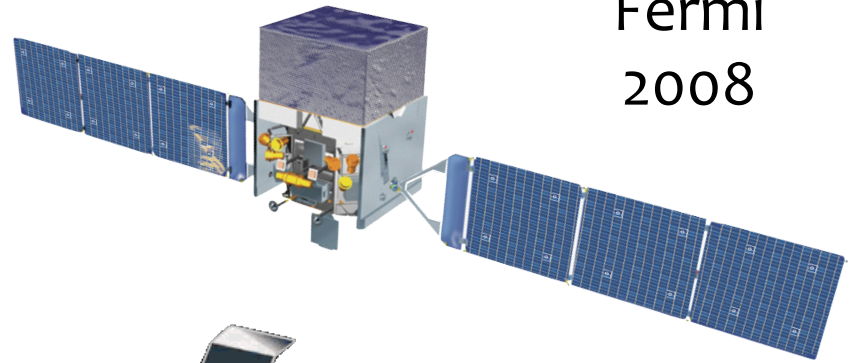
AGILE: the satellite

AGILE
2007

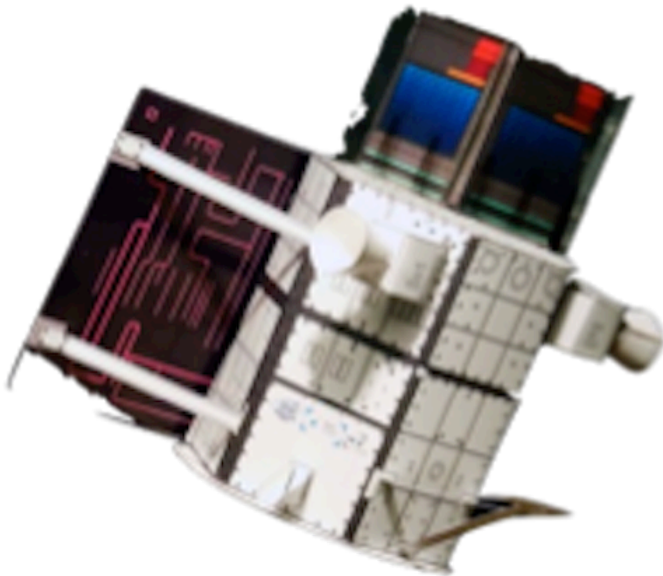
RHESSI
2000



Fermi
2008



BATSE/CGRO
1990 – 2000
R.I.P.



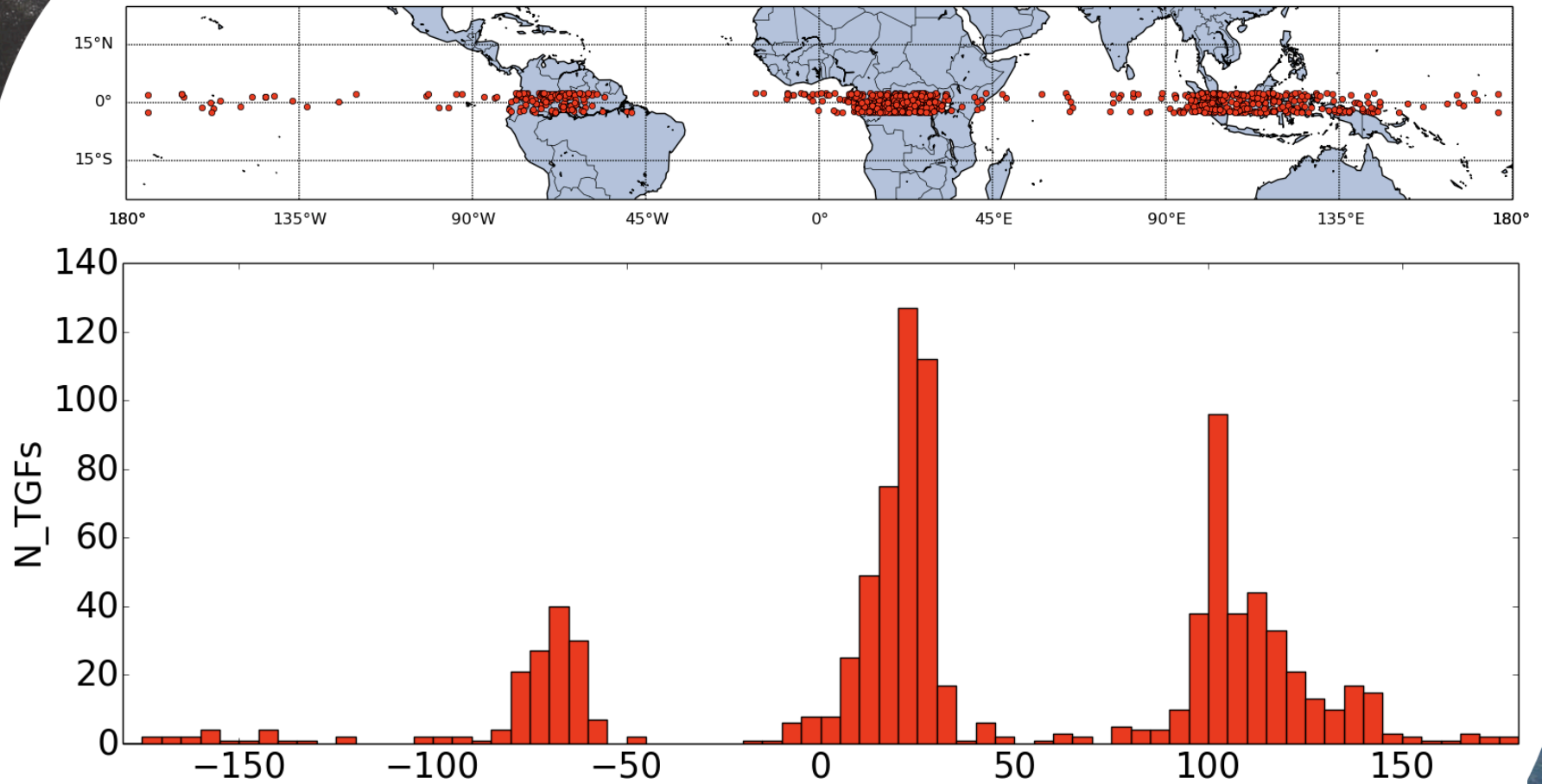
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AGILE: the TGF sample

> 1000 TGFs



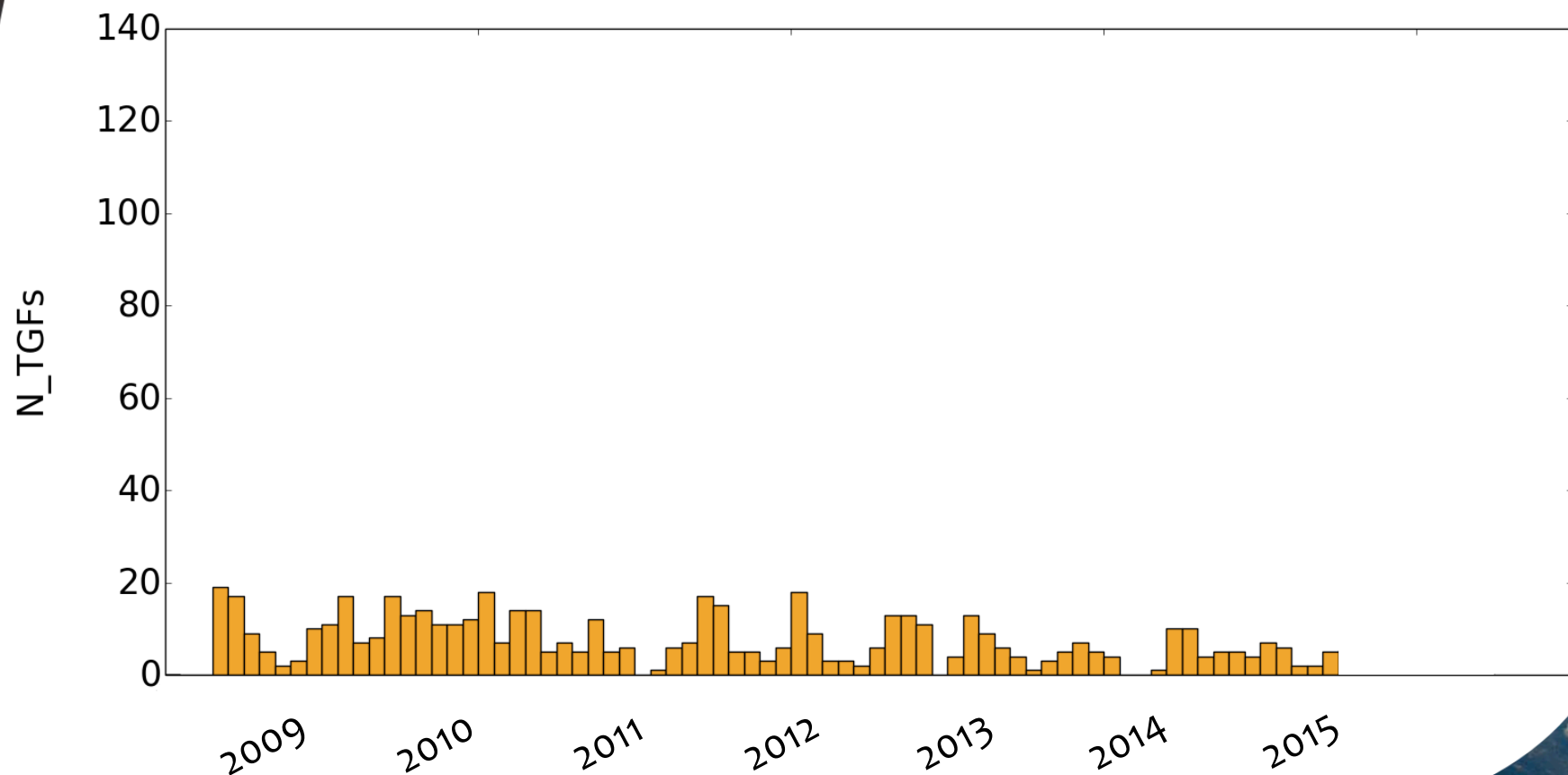
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AGILE: the enhanced configuration

~ 10 TGFs / month



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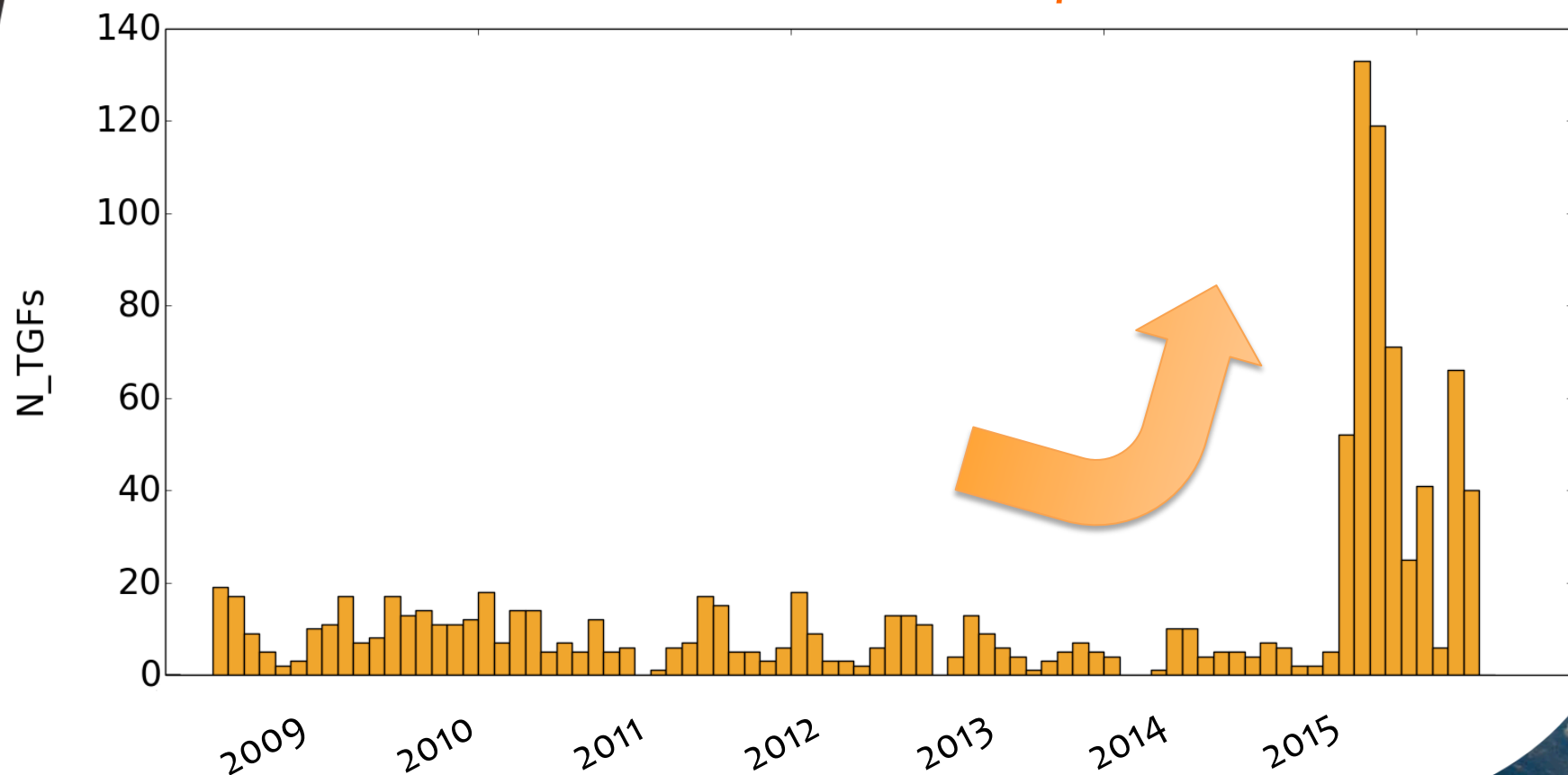
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AGILE: the enhanced configuration

~~~ 10 TGFs / month~~

~ 100 TGFs / month



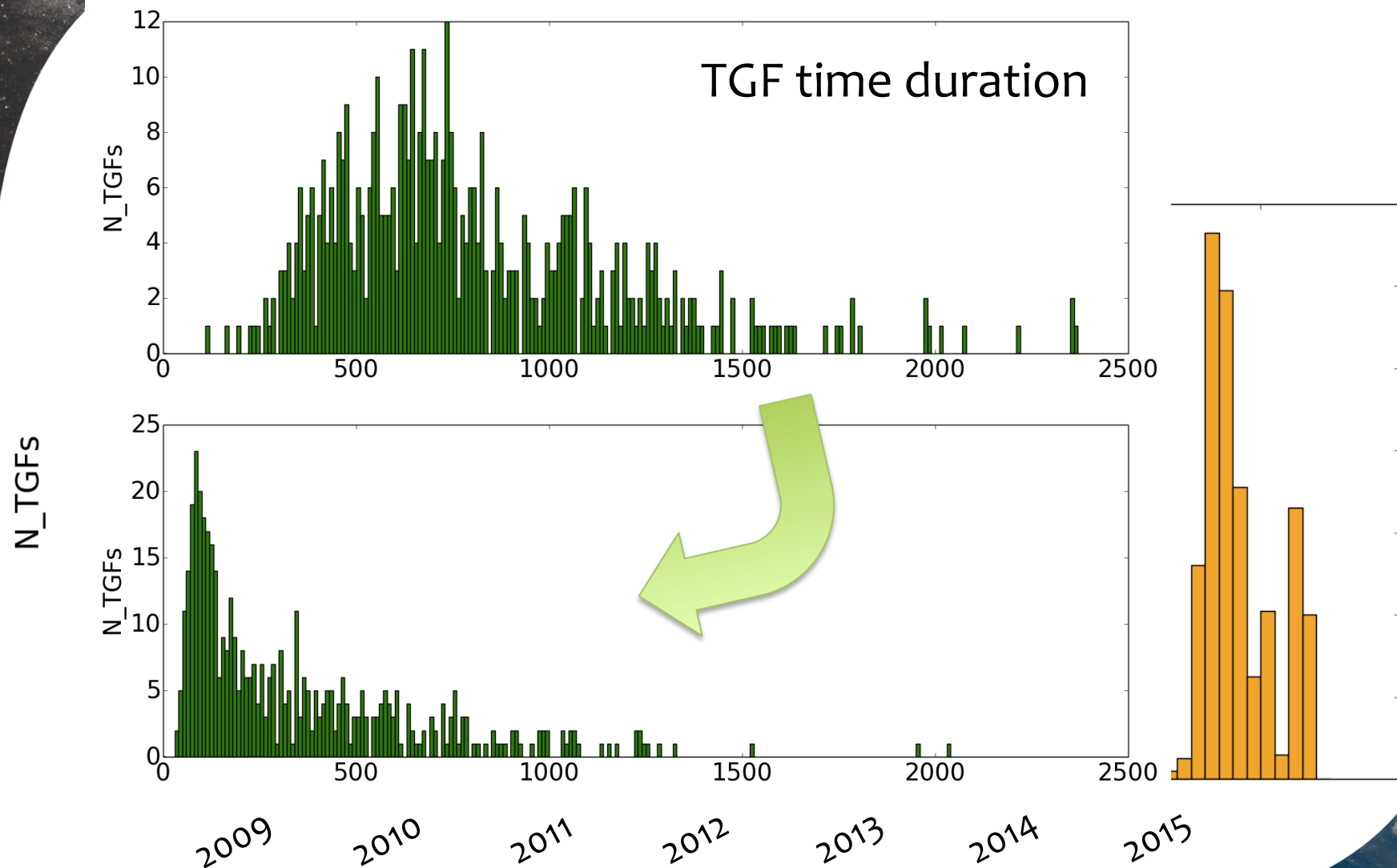
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# AGILE: the enhanced configuration

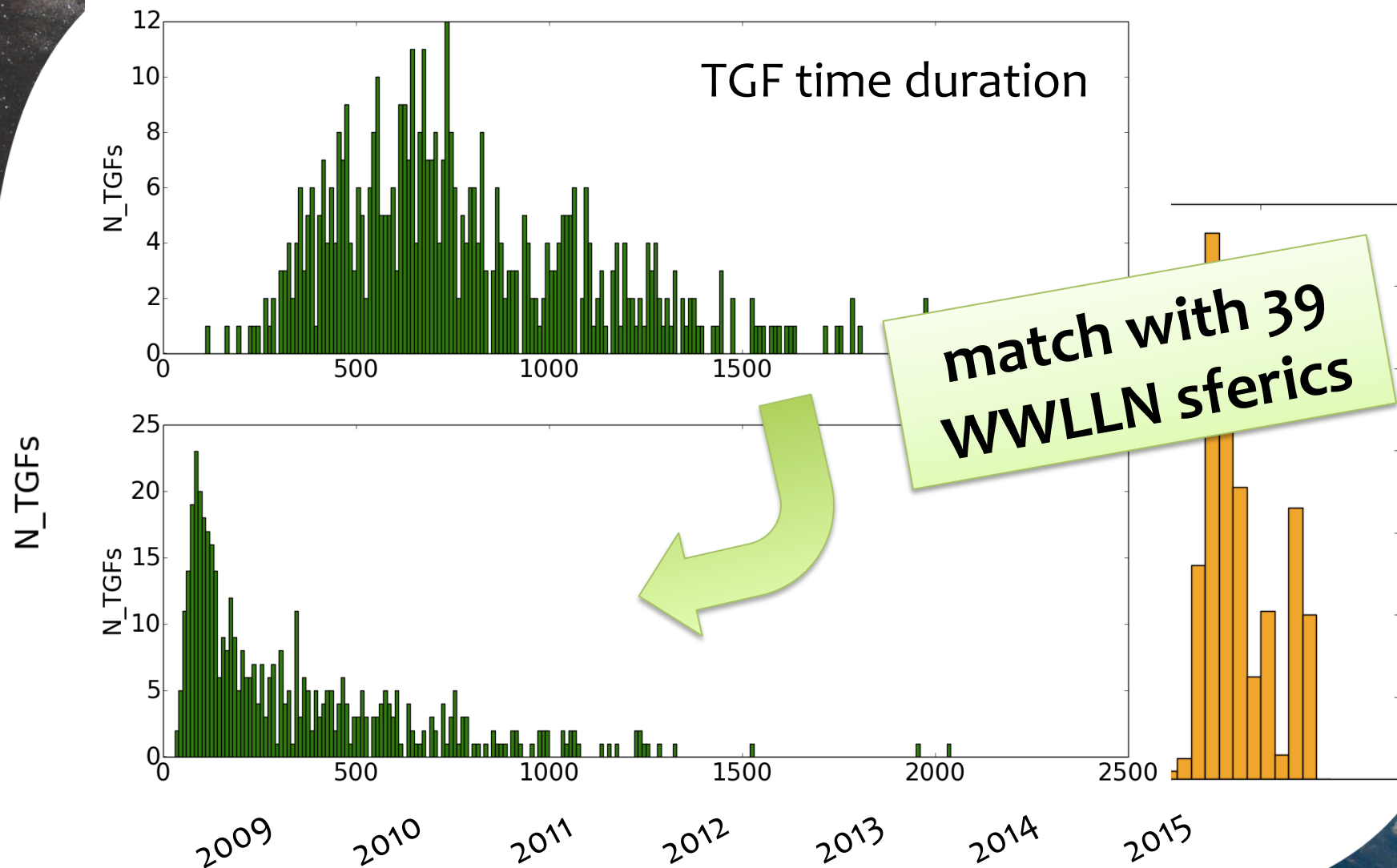


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# AGILE: the enhanced configuration



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# AGILE: the meteo pipeline

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# AGILE: the meteo pipeline

TGFs detected  
by AGILE

# AGILE: the meteo pipeline

TGFs detected  
by AGILE

+

# AGILE: the meteo pipeline

TGFs detected  
by AGILE

+

information  
by meteo satellites

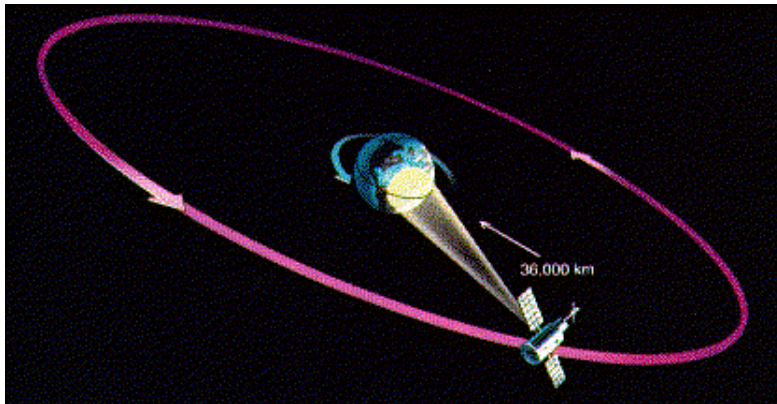


# AGILE: the meteo pipeline

TGFs detected  
by AGILE

+

information  
by meteo satellites



geostationary satellites

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Detection of TGFs in an enhanced configuration and link with meteorological information

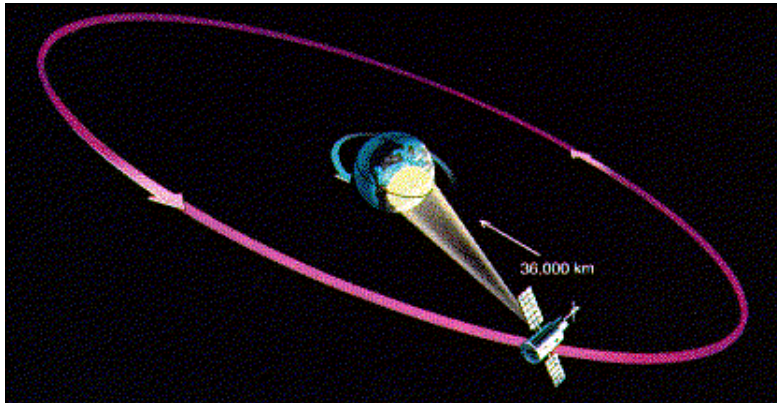
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# AGILE: the meteo pipeline

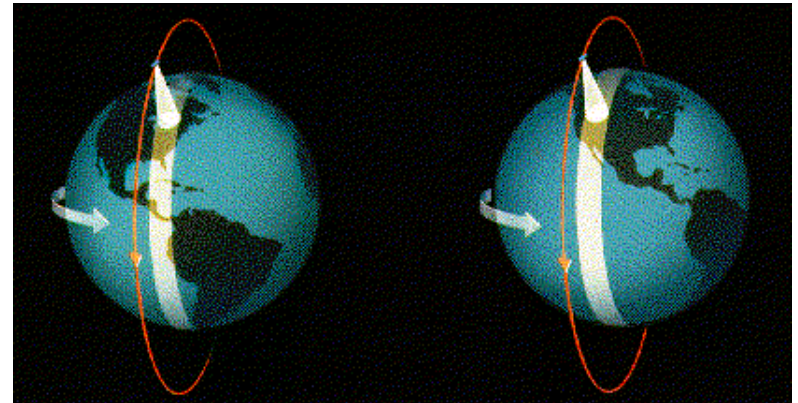
TGFs detected  
by AGILE

+

information  
by meteo satellites



geostationary satellites



low earth orbit satellites

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Detection of TGFs in an enhanced configuration and link with meteorological information

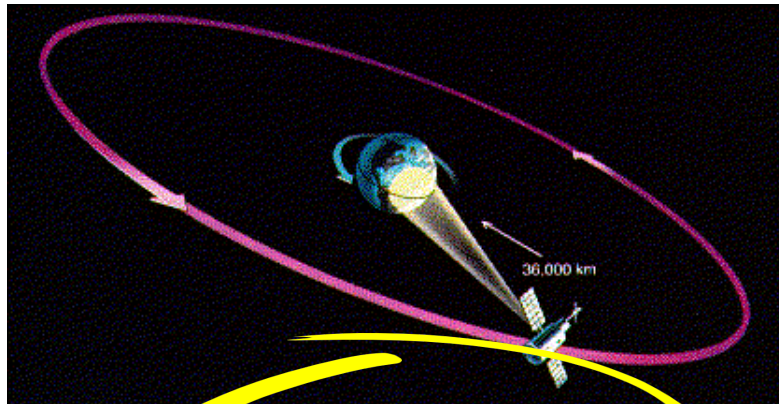
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# AGILE: the meteo pipeline

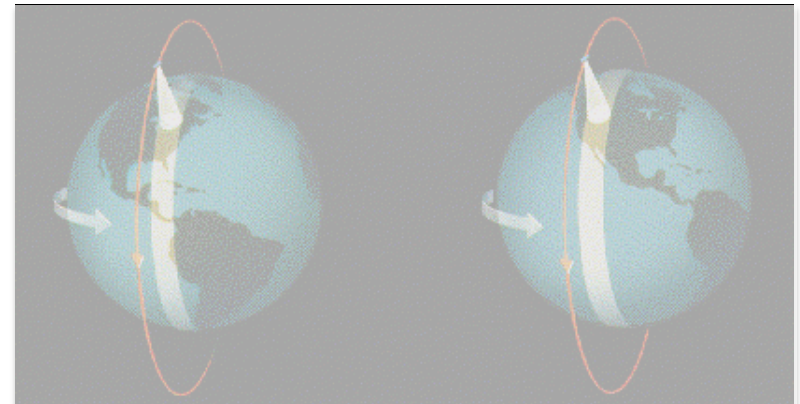
TGFs detected  
by AGILE

+

information  
by meteo satellites



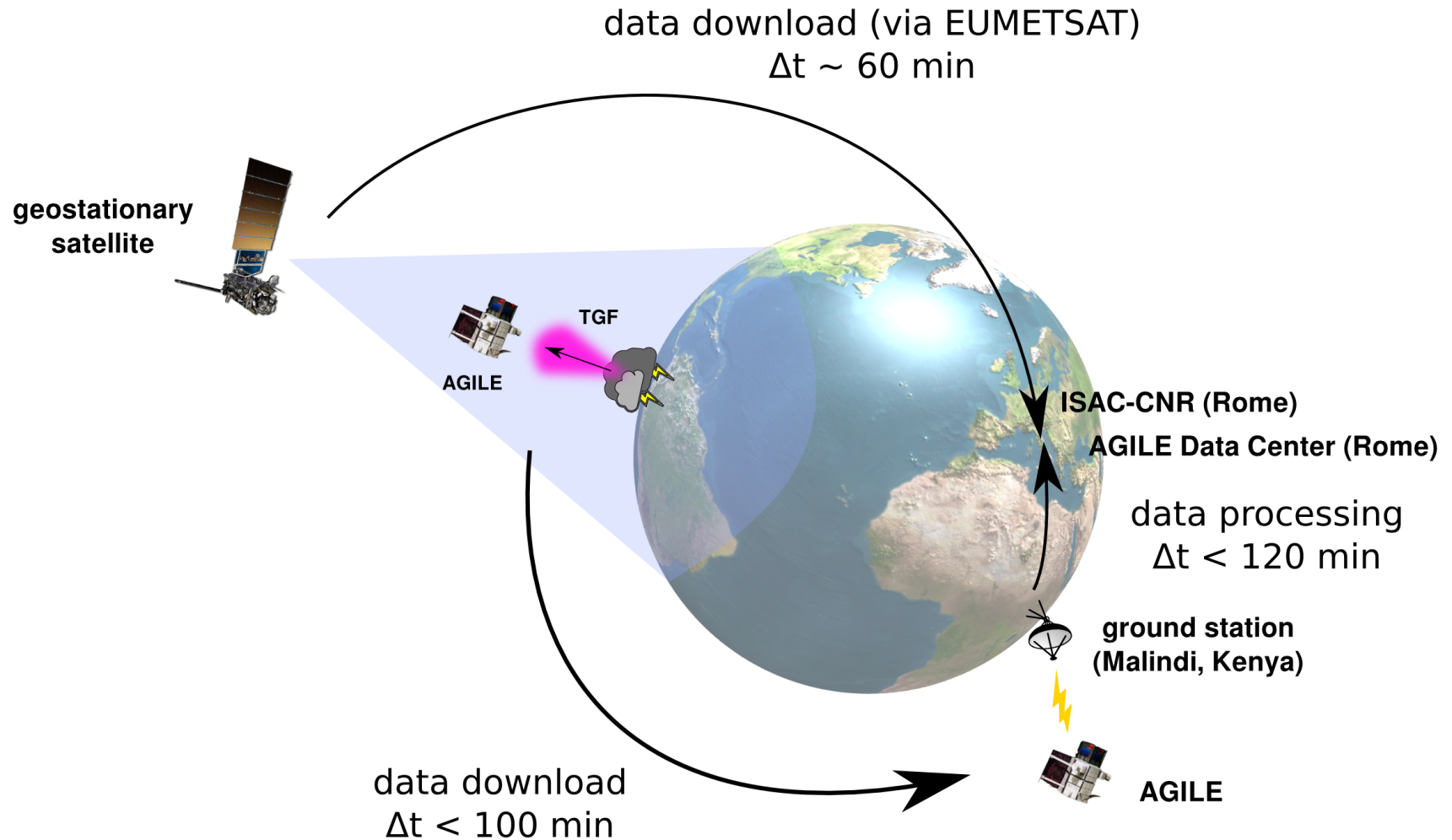
geostationary satellites



low earth orbit satellites



# AGILE: the meteo pipeline



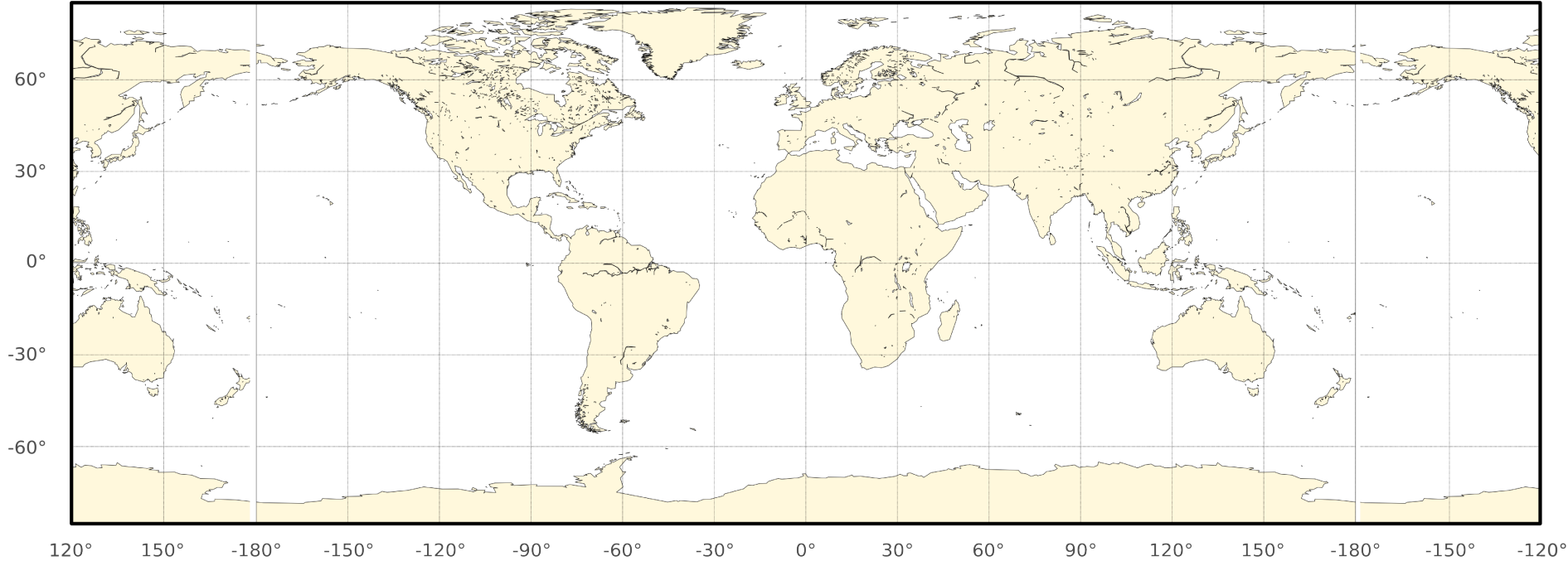
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# AGILE: the meteo pipeline

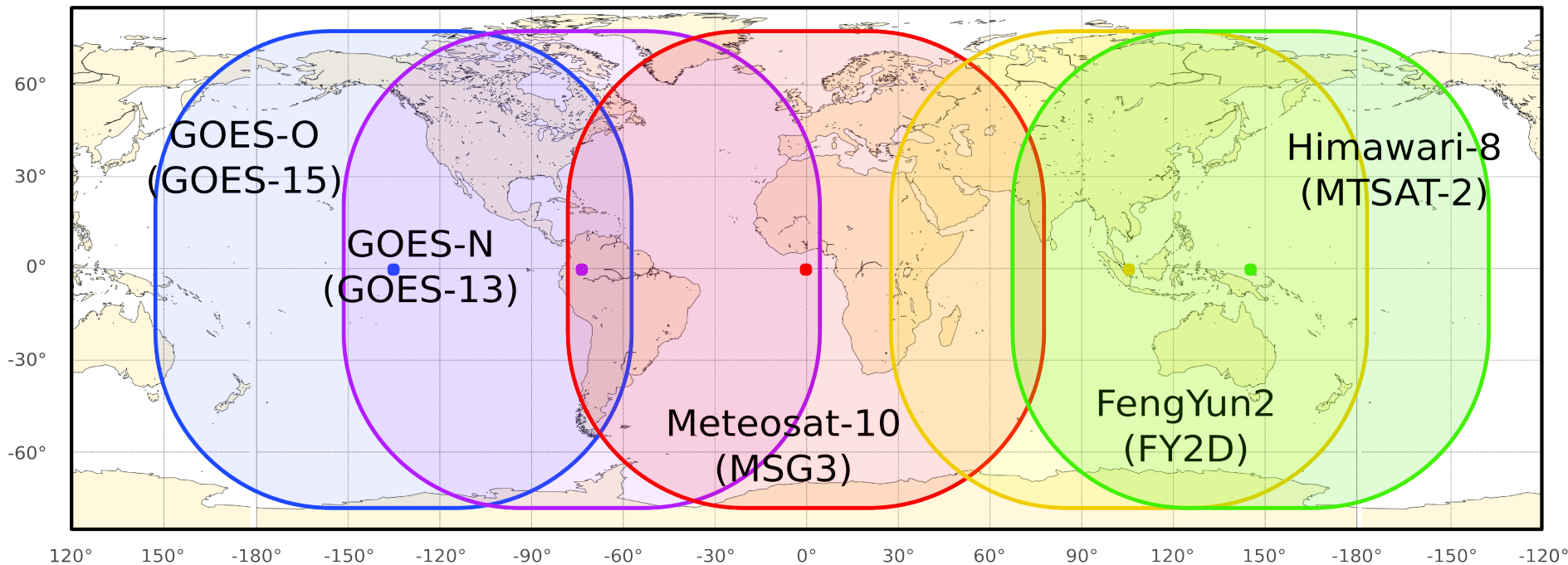


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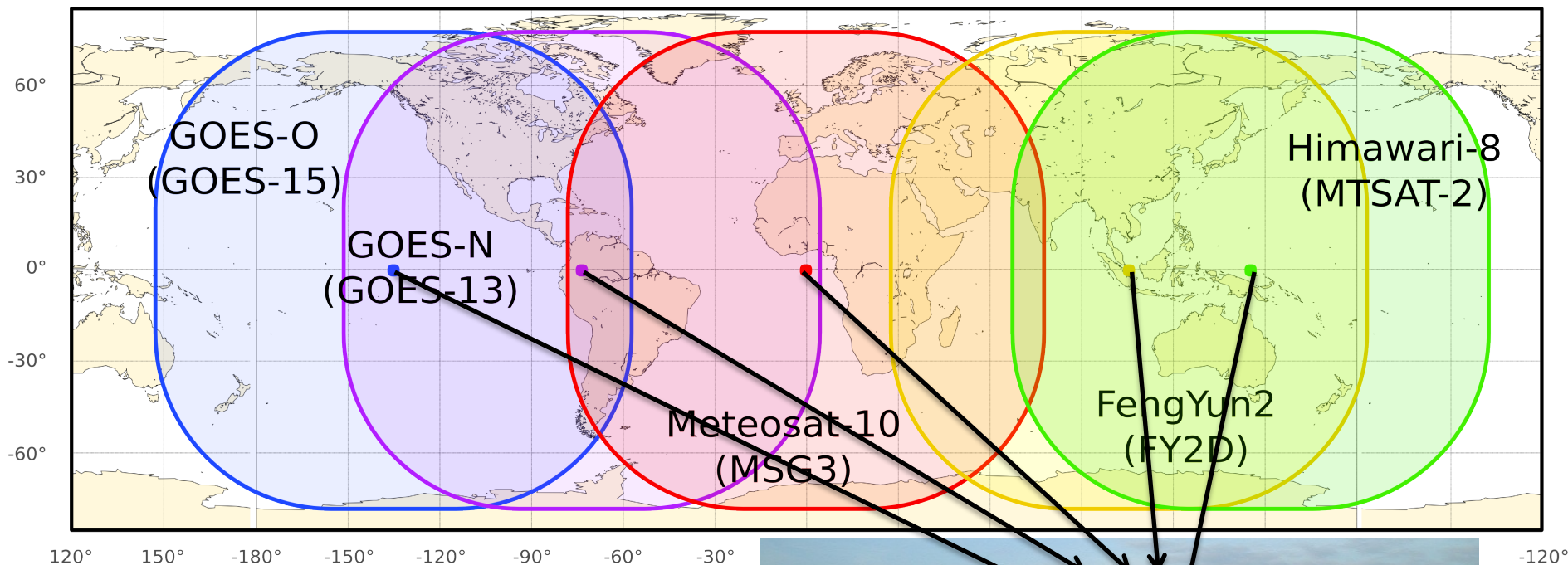
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# AGILE: the meteo pipeline



# AGILE: the meteo pipeline



ISAC-CNR, Rome  
**1 week buffer**

Detection of TGFs in ar



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ro Ursi  
information

# AGILE: the meteo pipeline

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# AGILE: the meteo pipeline

## TGF ID

12/04/2015

12:11:44

(23.74°, -2.01°)

$E_{\text{max}} = 6.70 \text{ MeV}$

# AGILE: the meteo pipeline

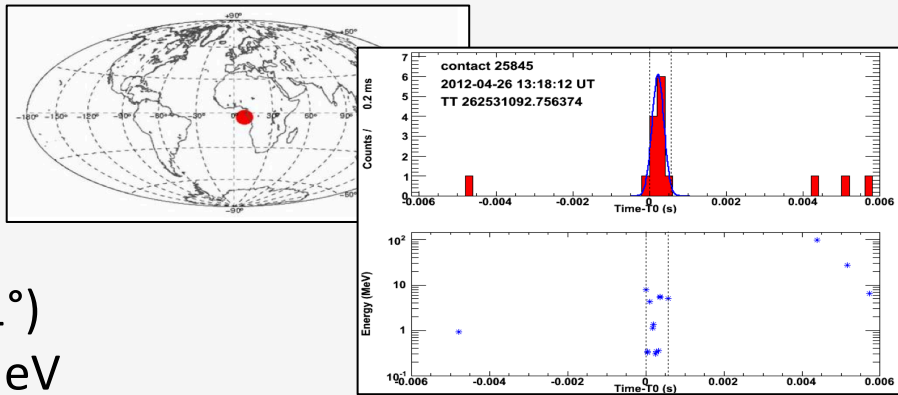
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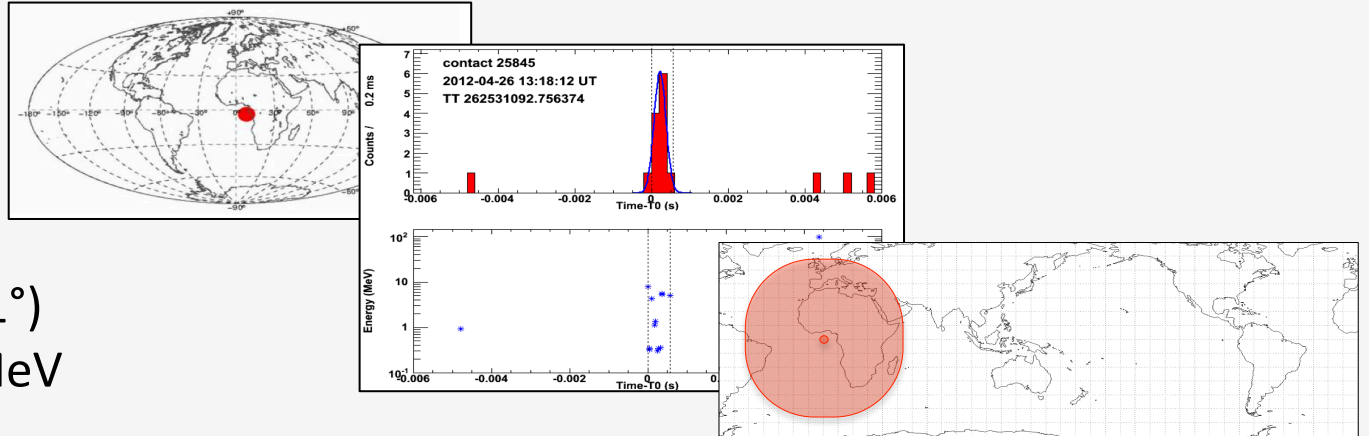
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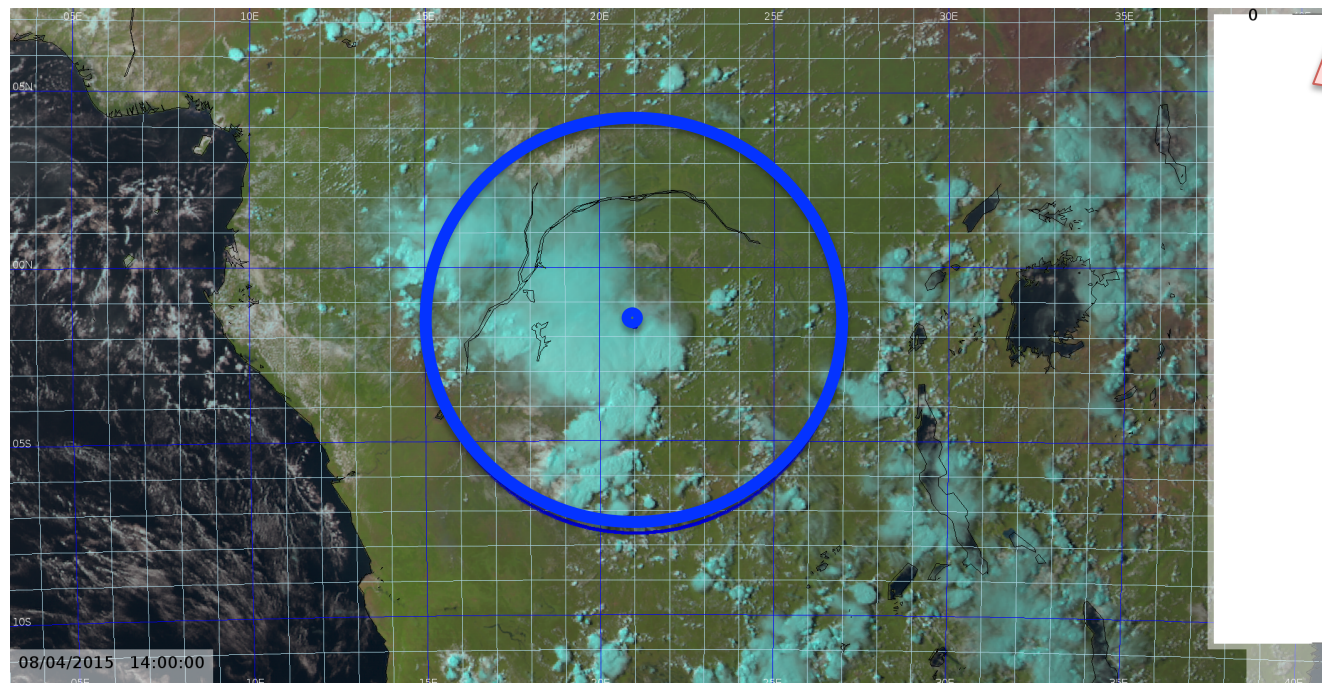
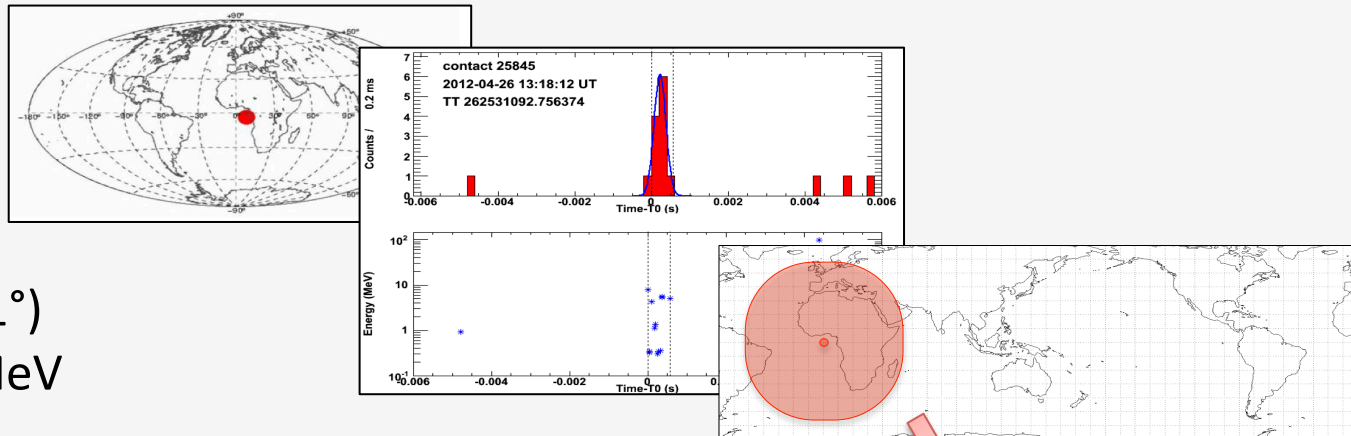
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$E_{\max} = 6.70 \text{ MeV}$



VIS  
channels

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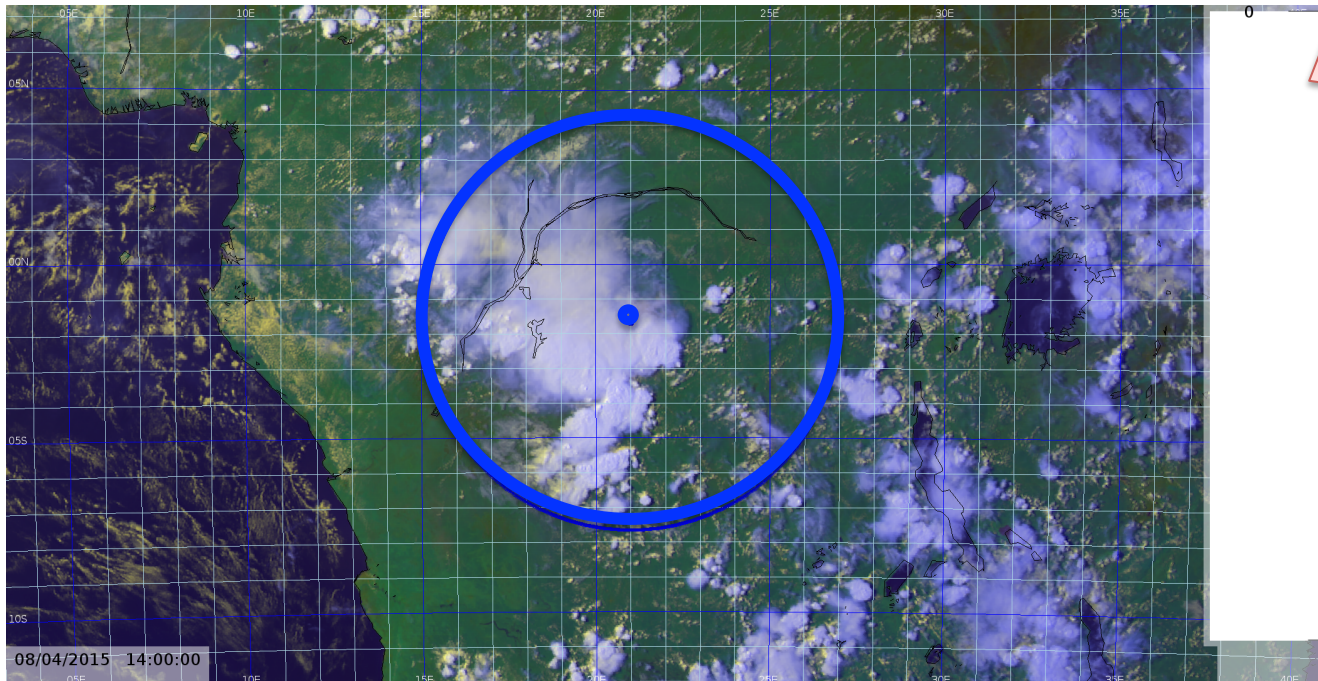
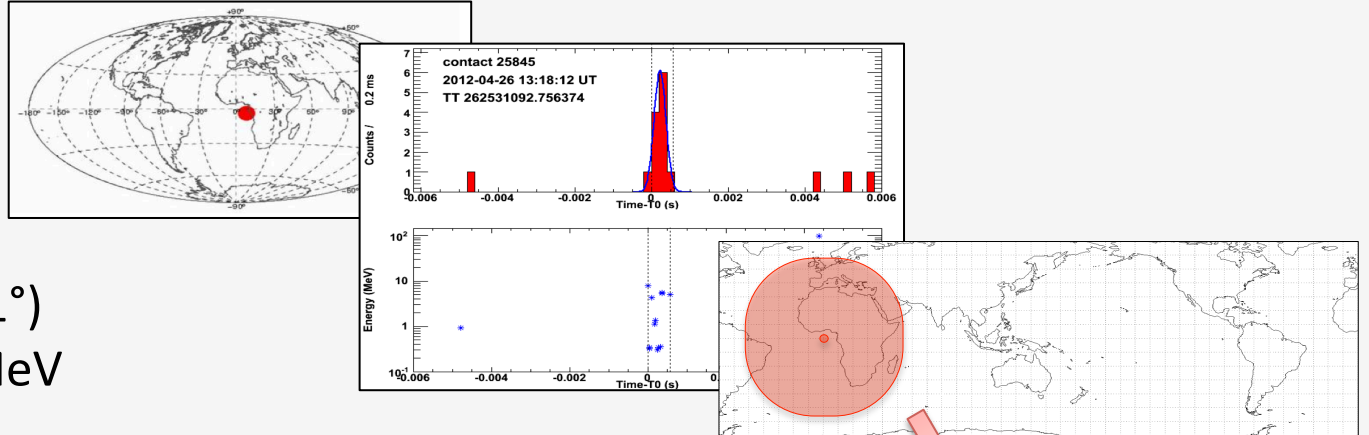
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12/04/2015

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VIS  
channels

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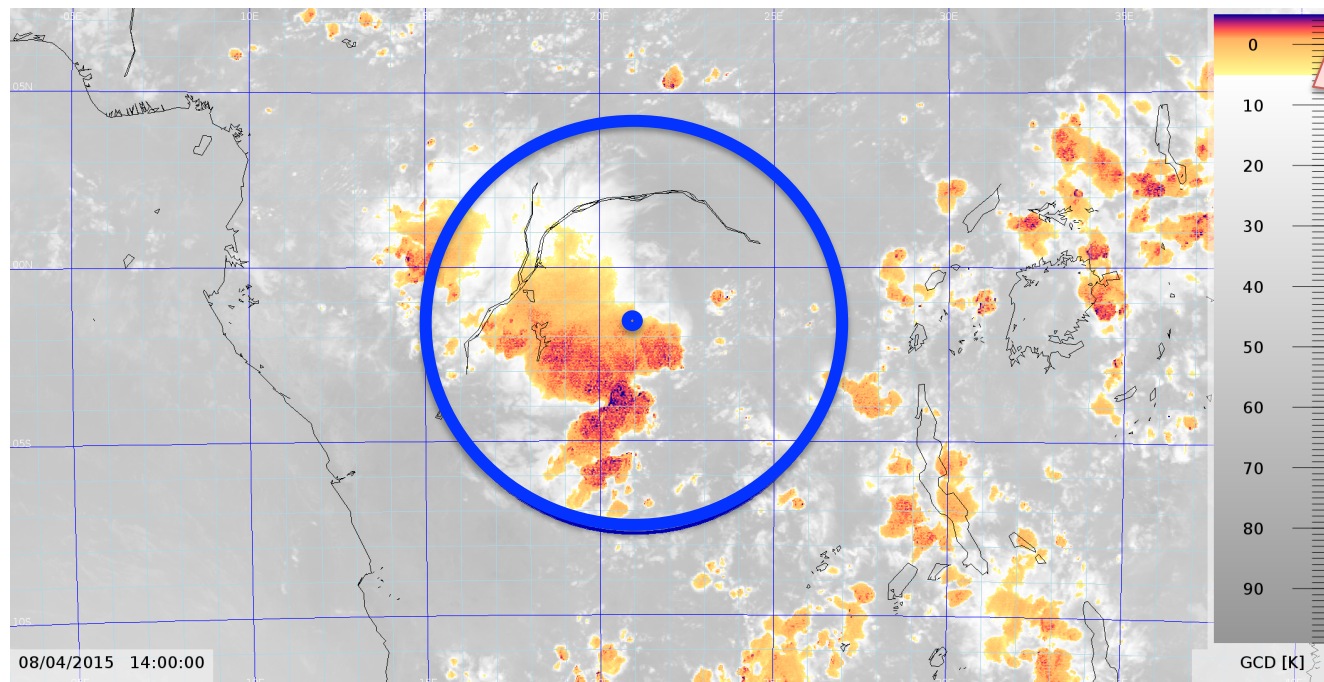
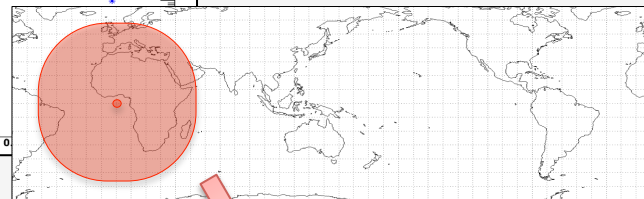
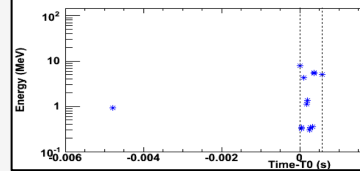
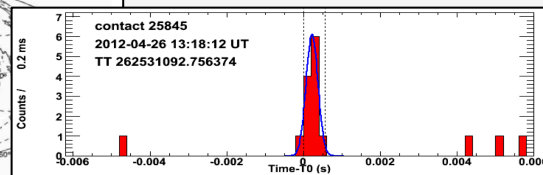
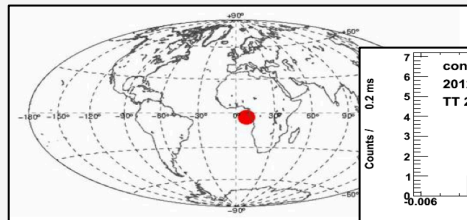
**TGF ID**

12/04/2015

12:11:44

(23.74°, -2.01°)

$E_{\max} = 6.70 \text{ MeV}$



GCD  
algorithm

$$T_{\text{IR}} - T_{\text{WV}}$$

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# AGILE: the meteo pipeline

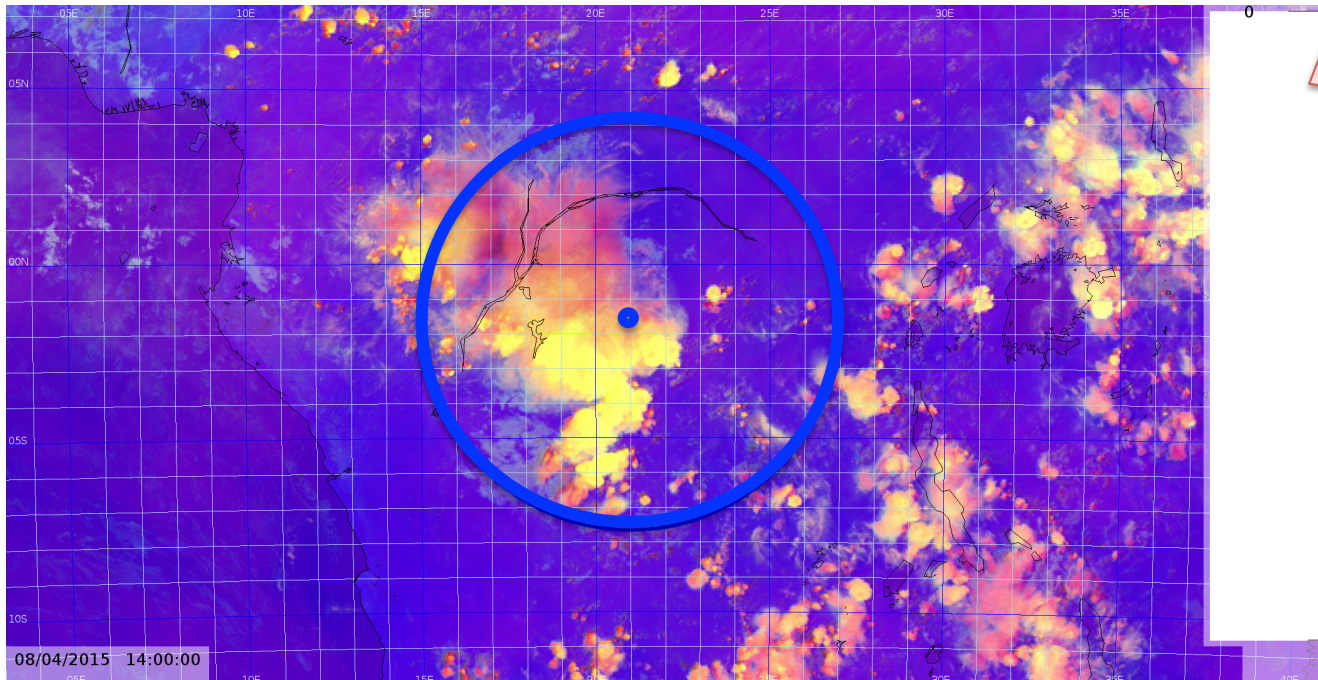
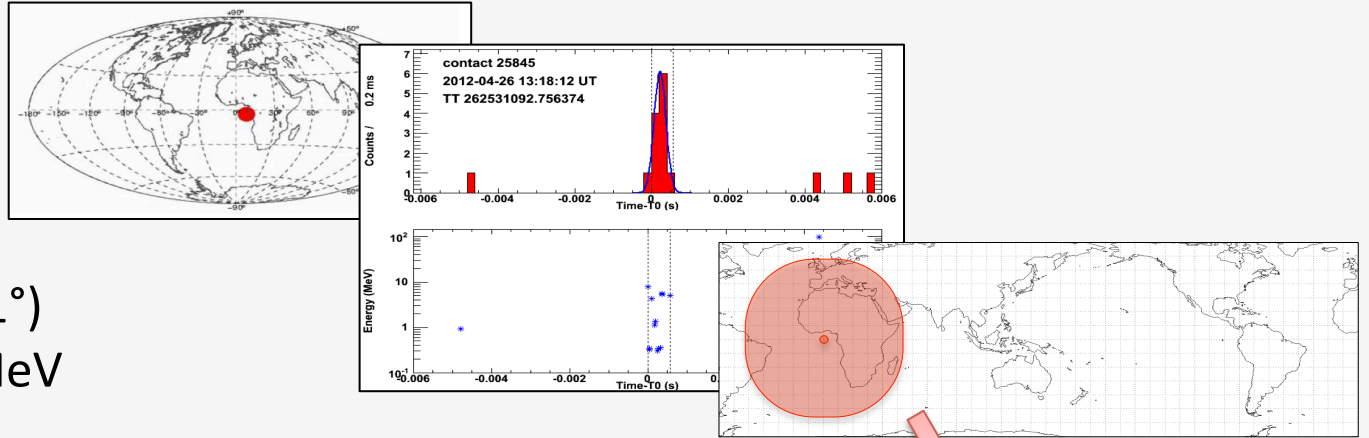
## TGF ID

12/04/2015

12:11:44

(23.74°, -2.01°)

$E_{\max} = 6.70 \text{ MeV}$



severe  
storm  
RGB

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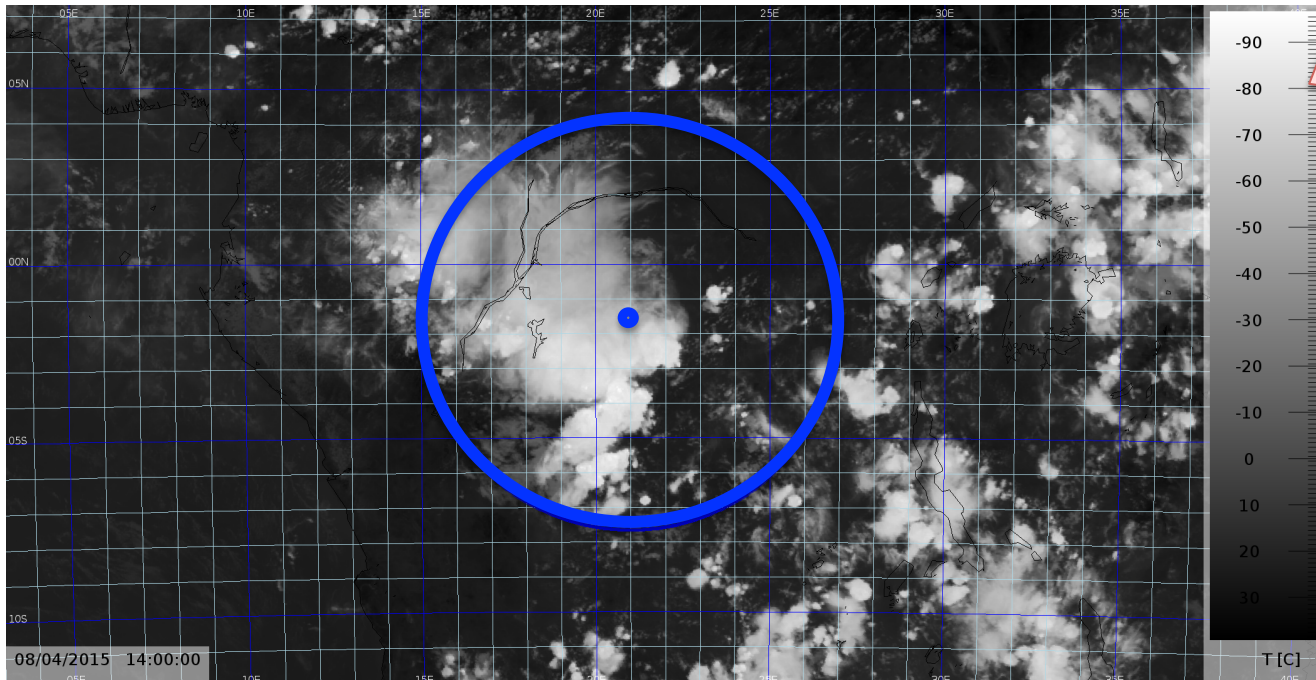
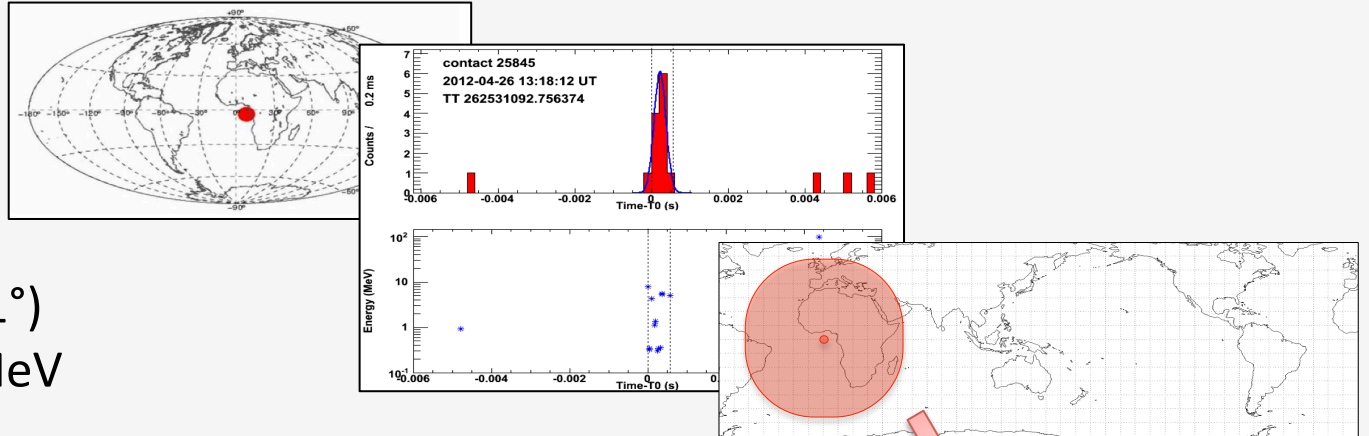
## TGF ID

12/04/2015

12:11:44

(23.74°, -2.01°)

$E_{\max} = 6.70 \text{ MeV}$



IR  
10.8  $\mu\text{m}$

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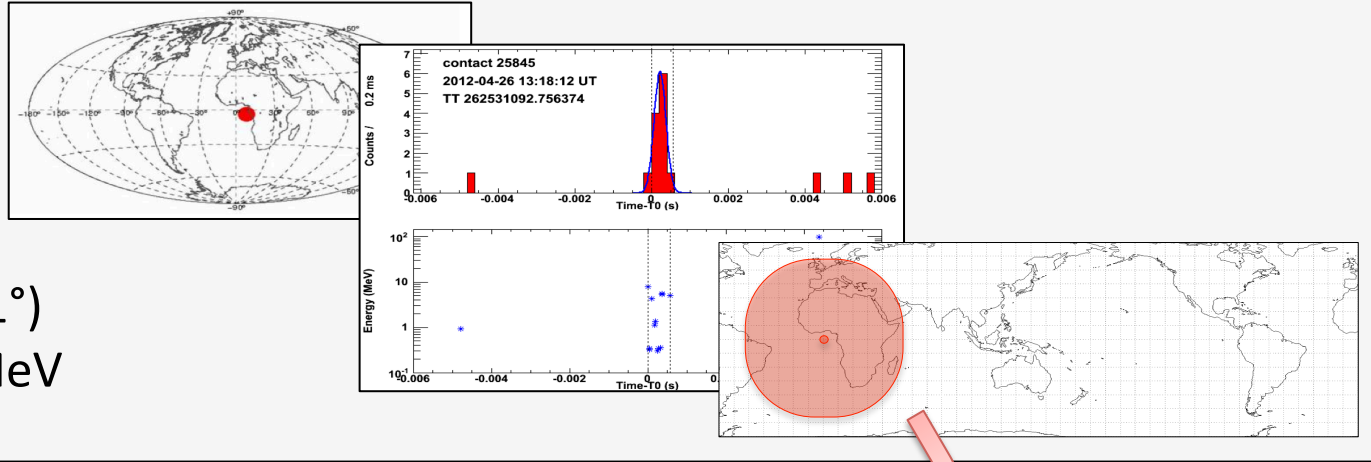
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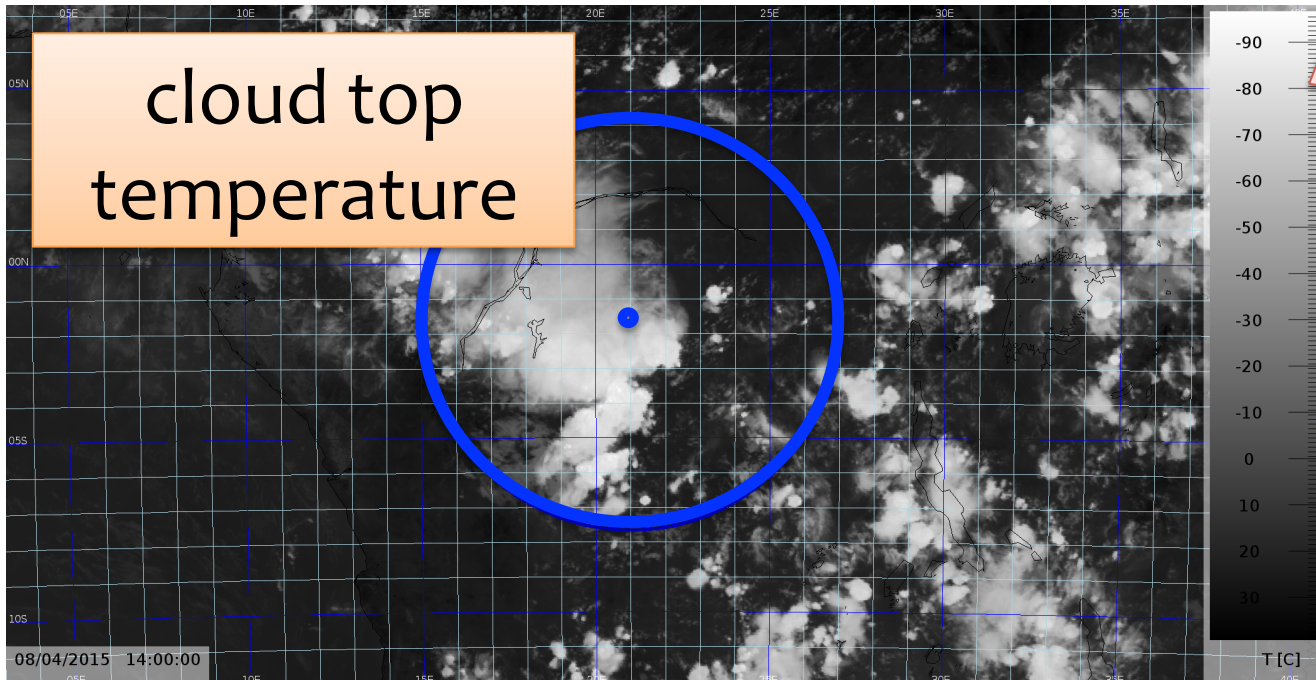
12:11:44

(23.74°, -2.01°)

$E_{\max} = 6.70 \text{ MeV}$



cloud top  
temperature



IR  
10.8  $\mu\text{m}$

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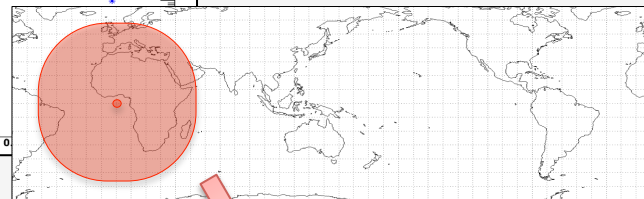
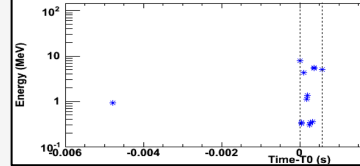
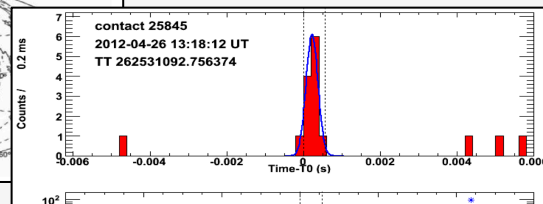
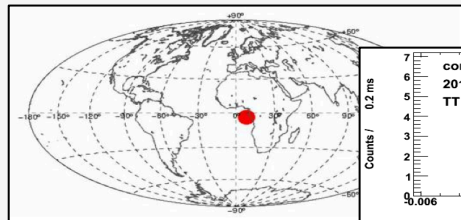
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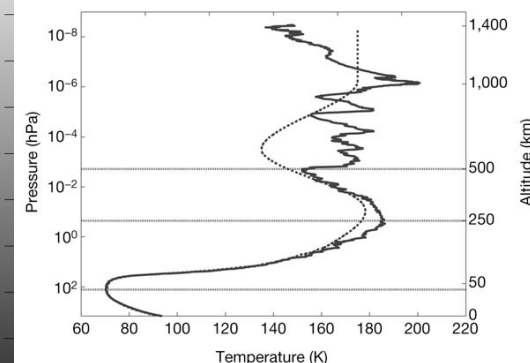
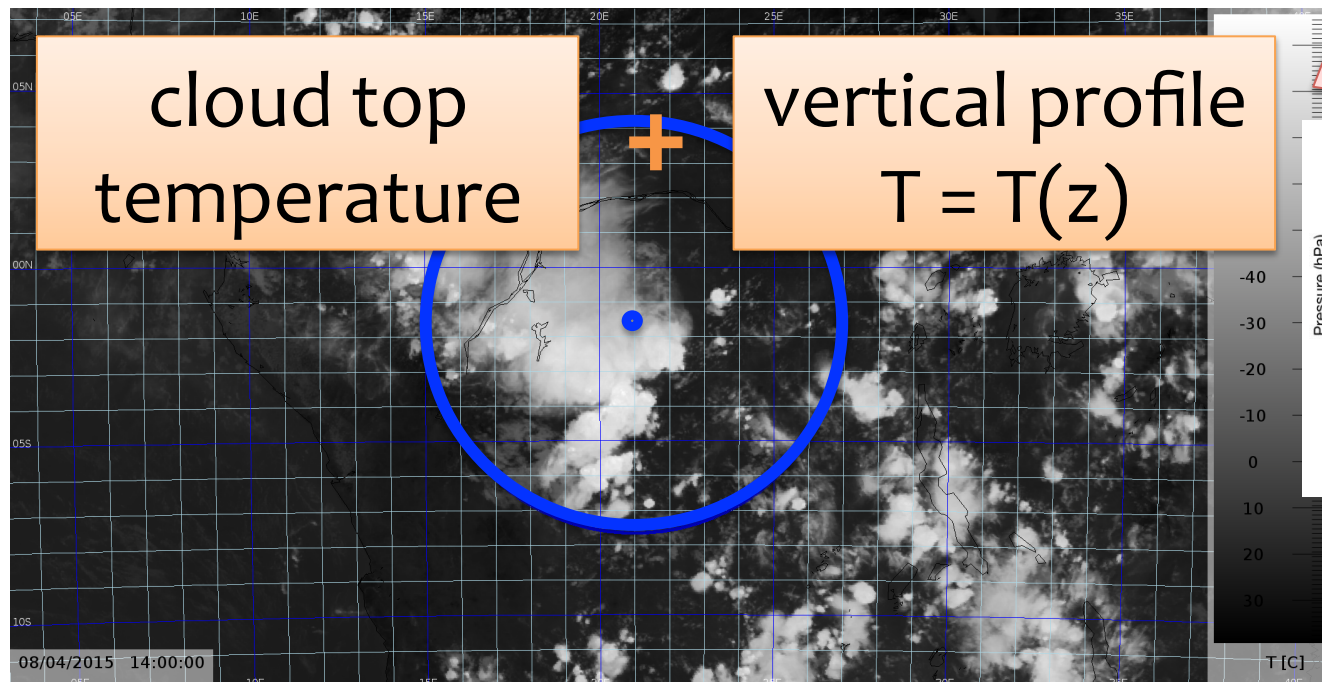
(23.74°, -2.01°)

$E_{\max} = 6.70 \text{ MeV}$



cloud top  
temperature

vertical profile  
 $T = T(z)$



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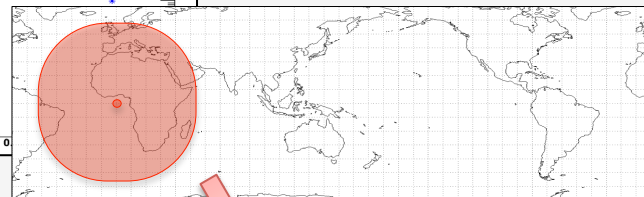
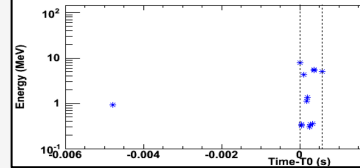
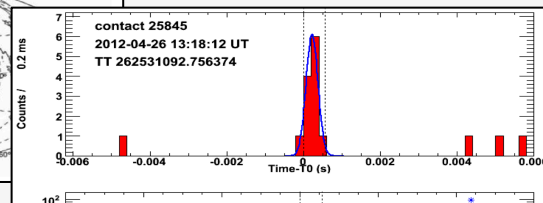
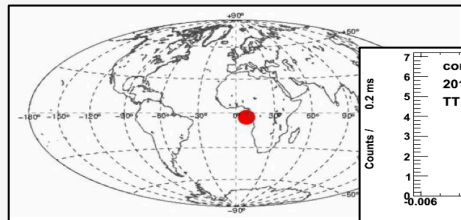
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12:11:44

(23.74°, -2.01°)

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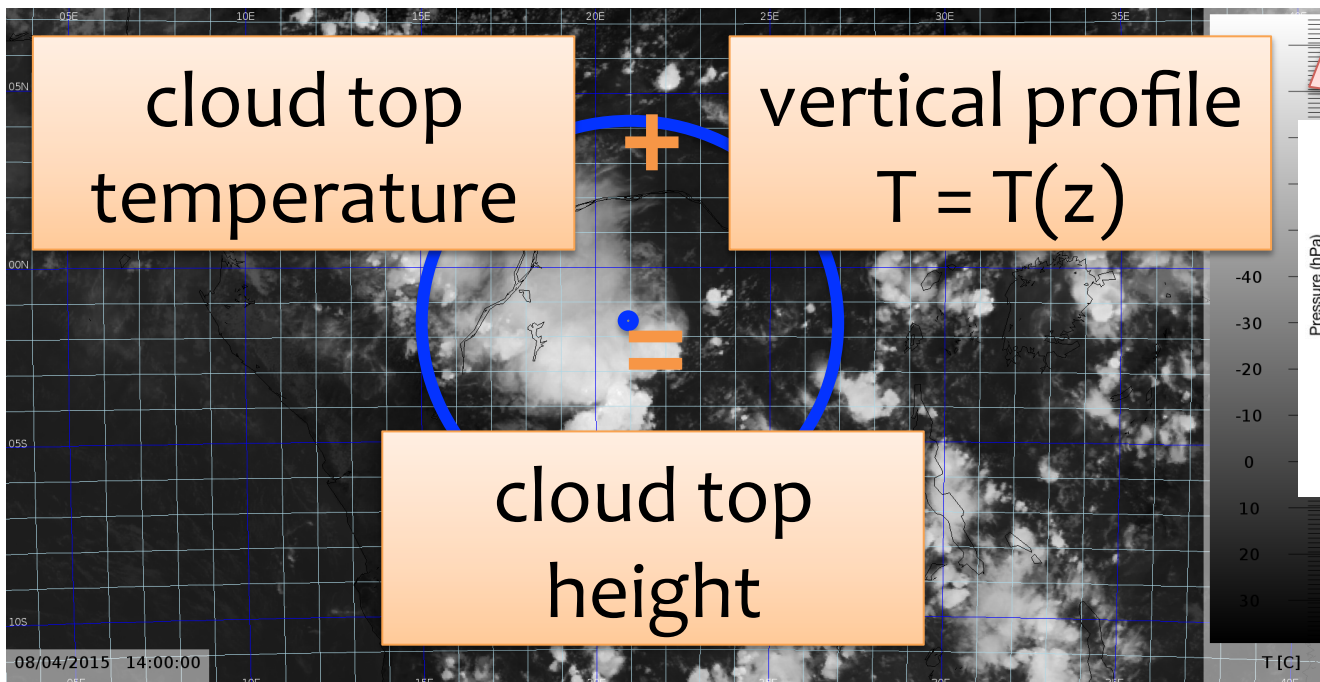
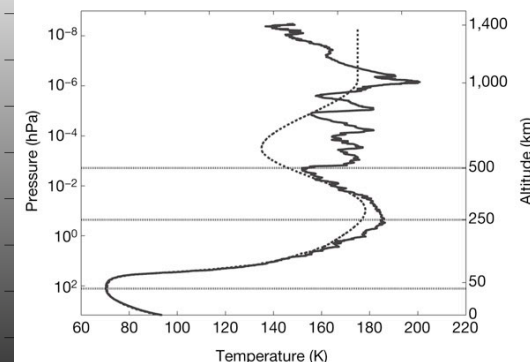
cloud top  
temperature

+

vertical profile  
 $T = T(z)$

=

cloud top  
height



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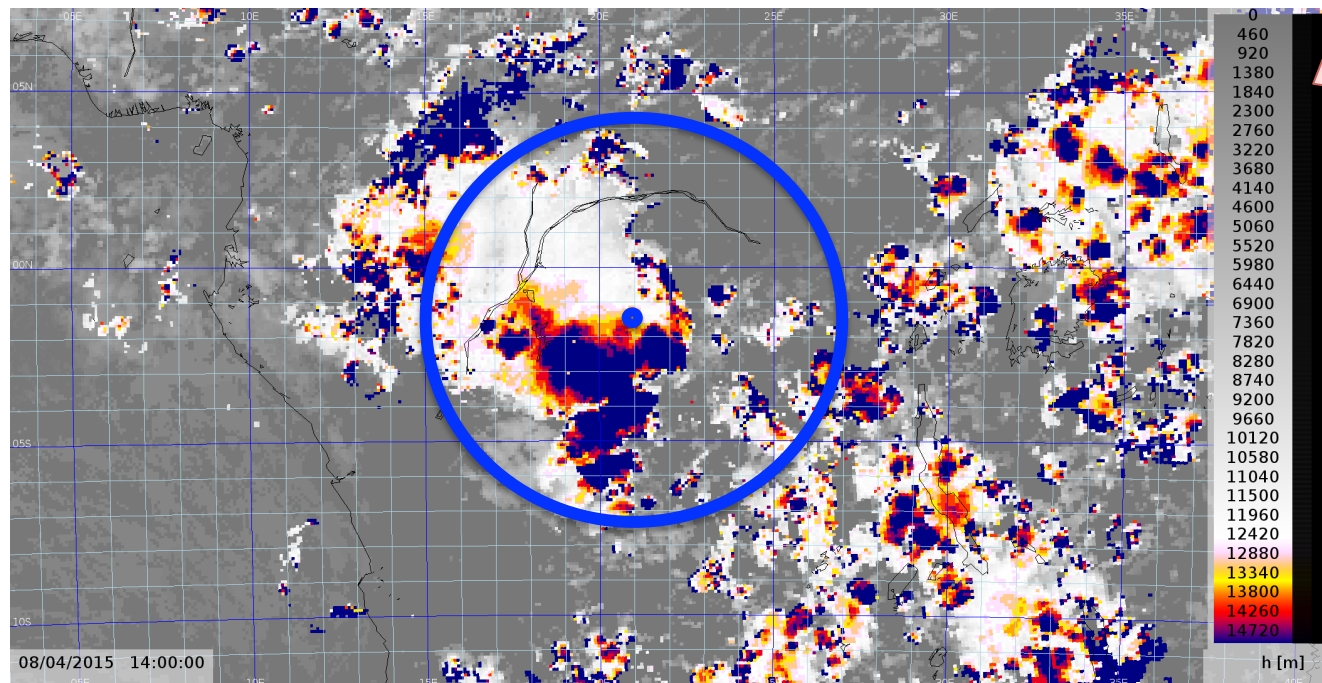
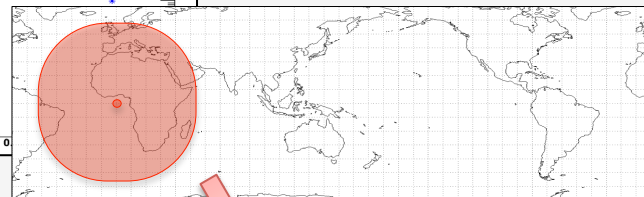
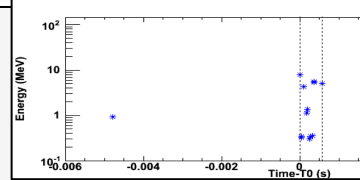
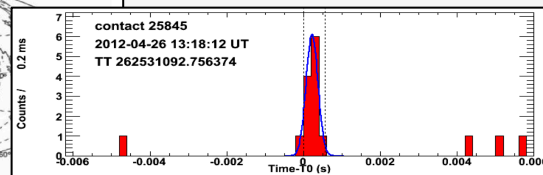
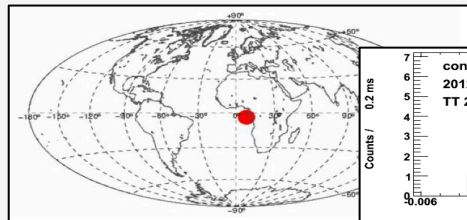
## TGF ID

12/04/2015

12:11:44

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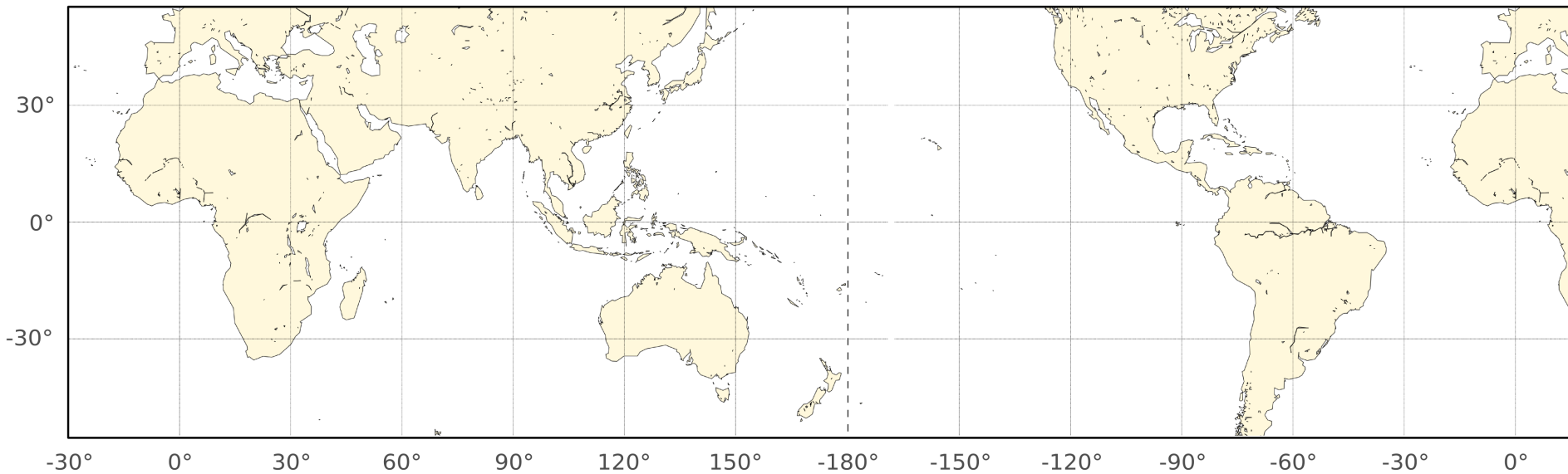
cloud top  
height  
(MSG3)

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# AGILE: the quasi-equatorial orbit



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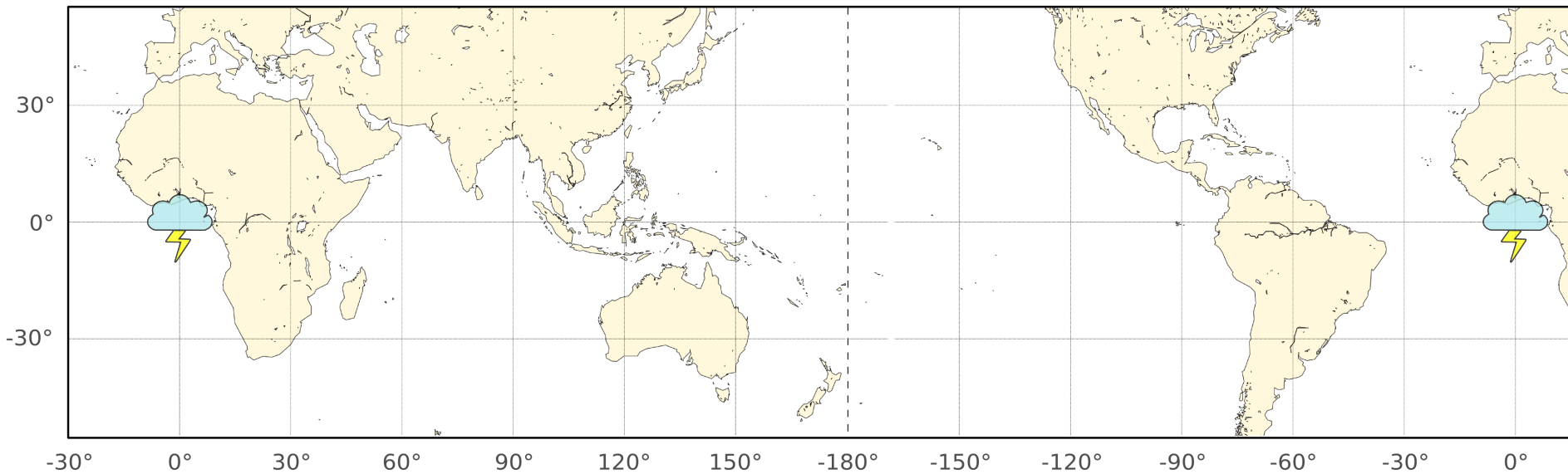
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# AGILE: the quasi-equatorial orbit



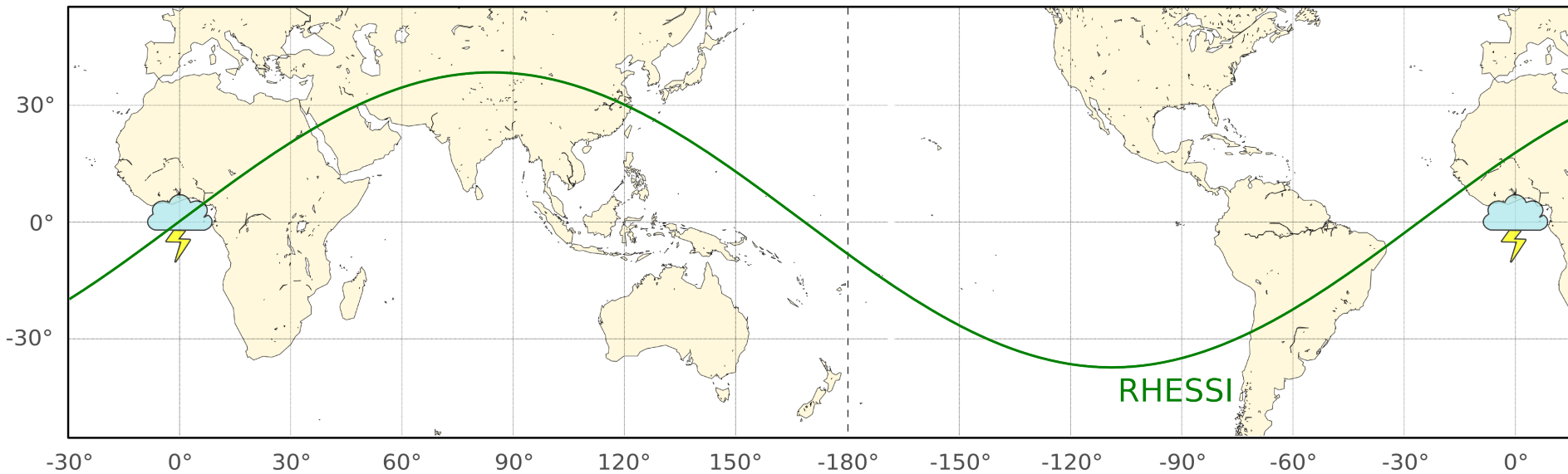
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# AGILE: the quasi-equatorial orbit

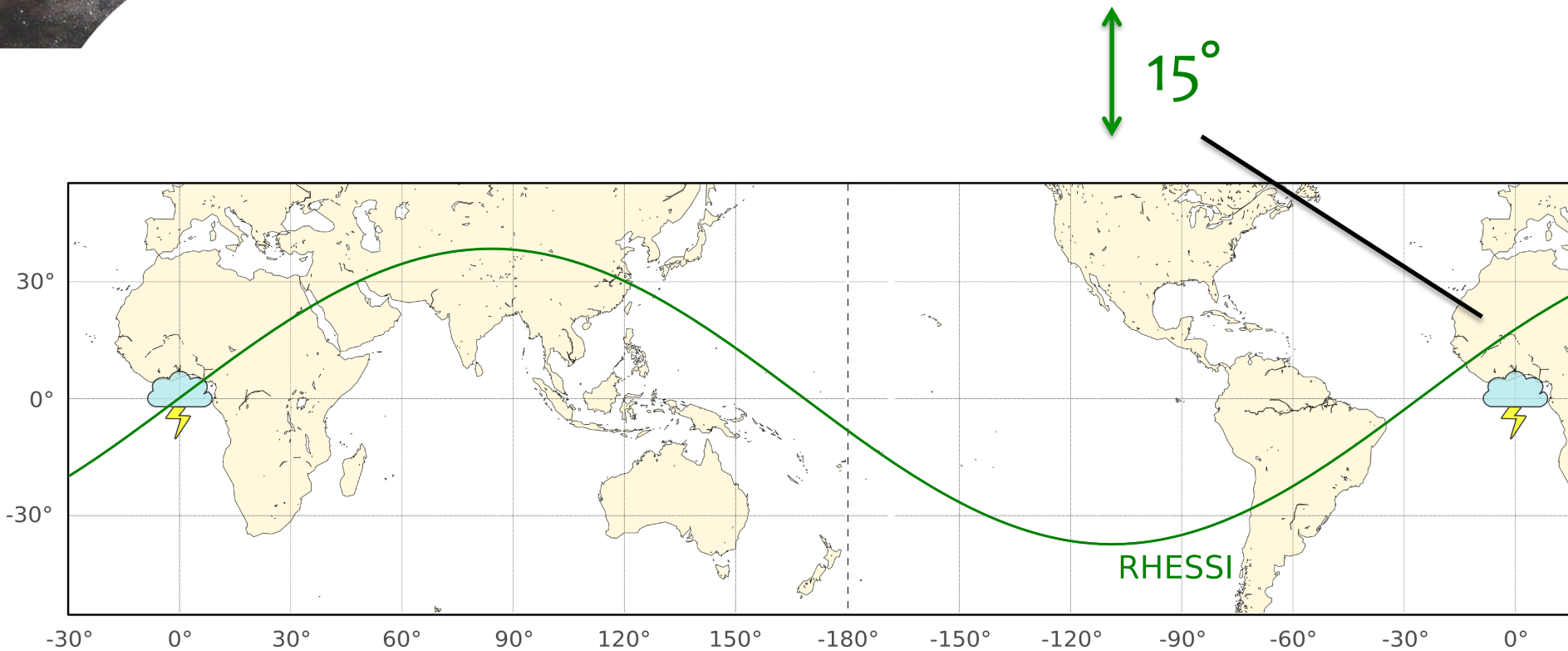


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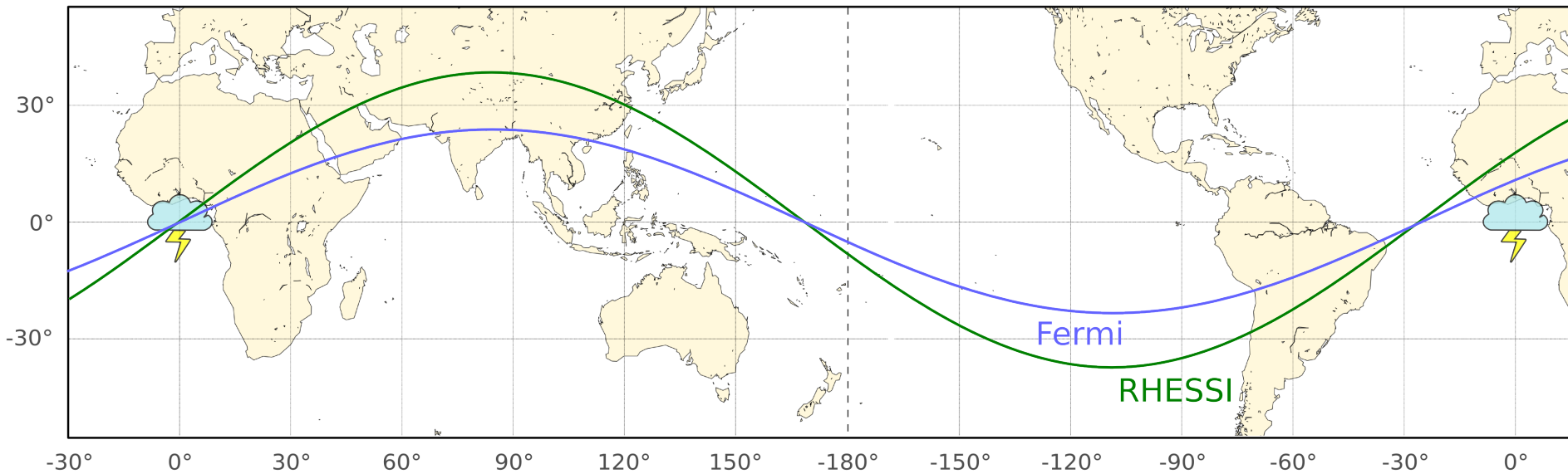


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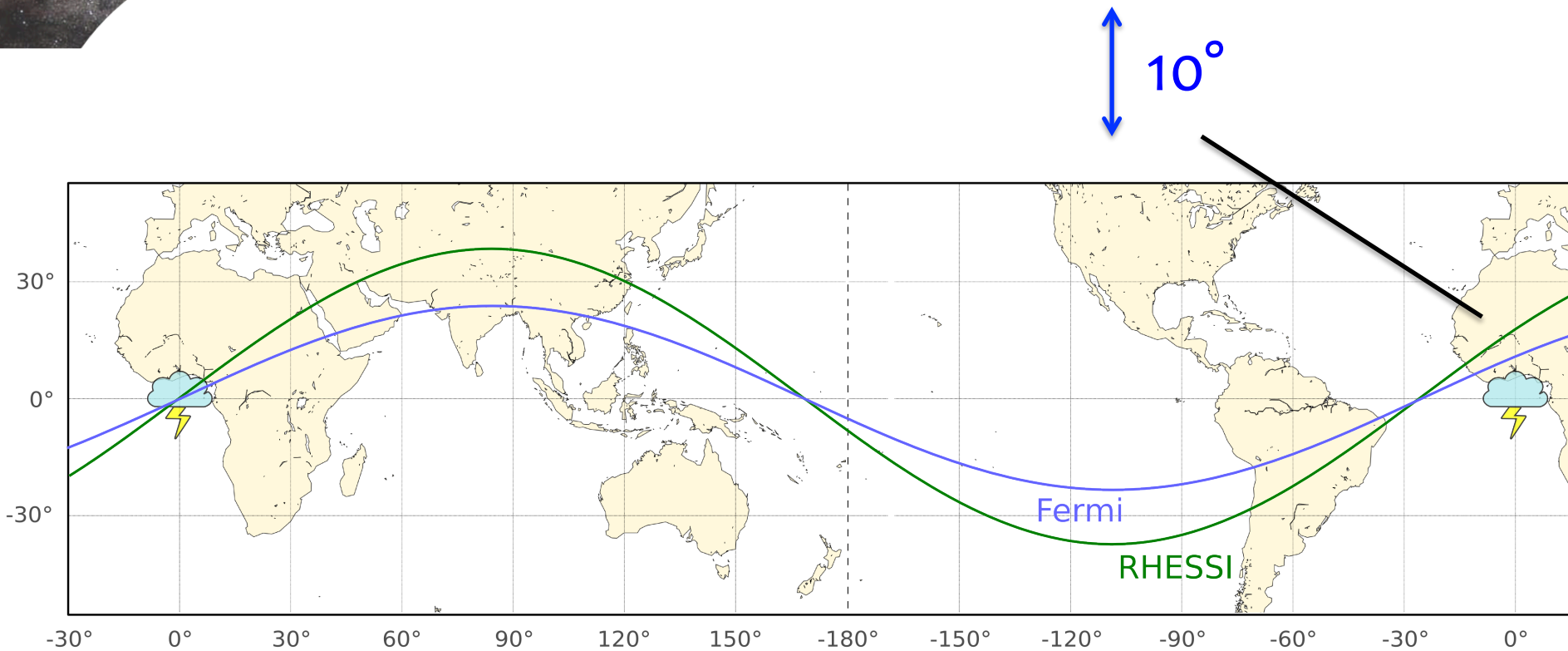
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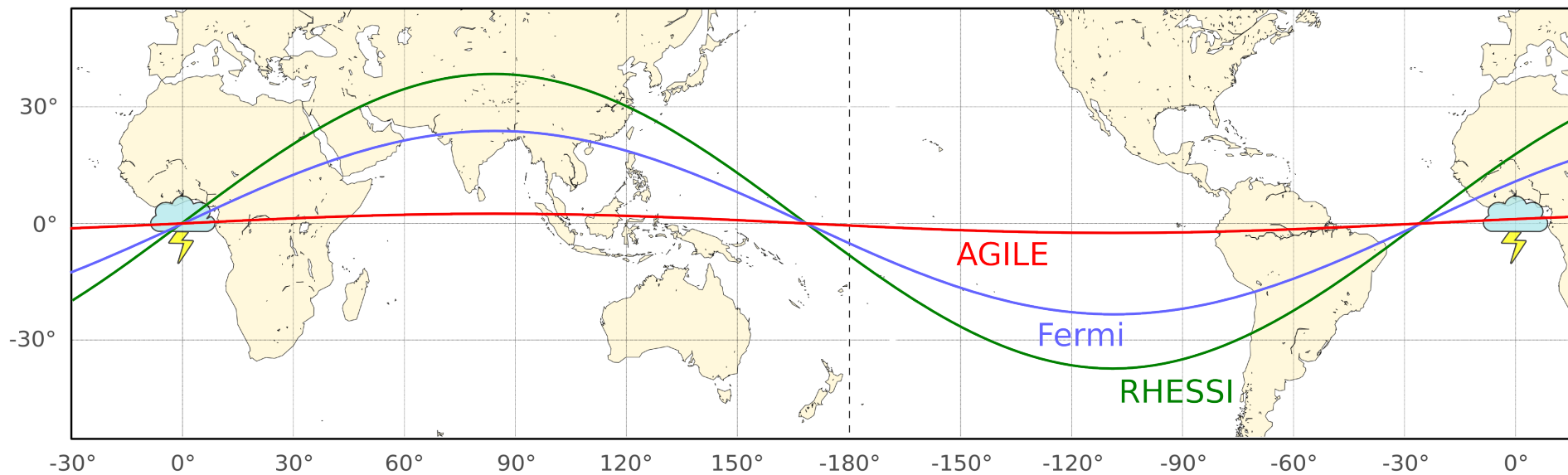


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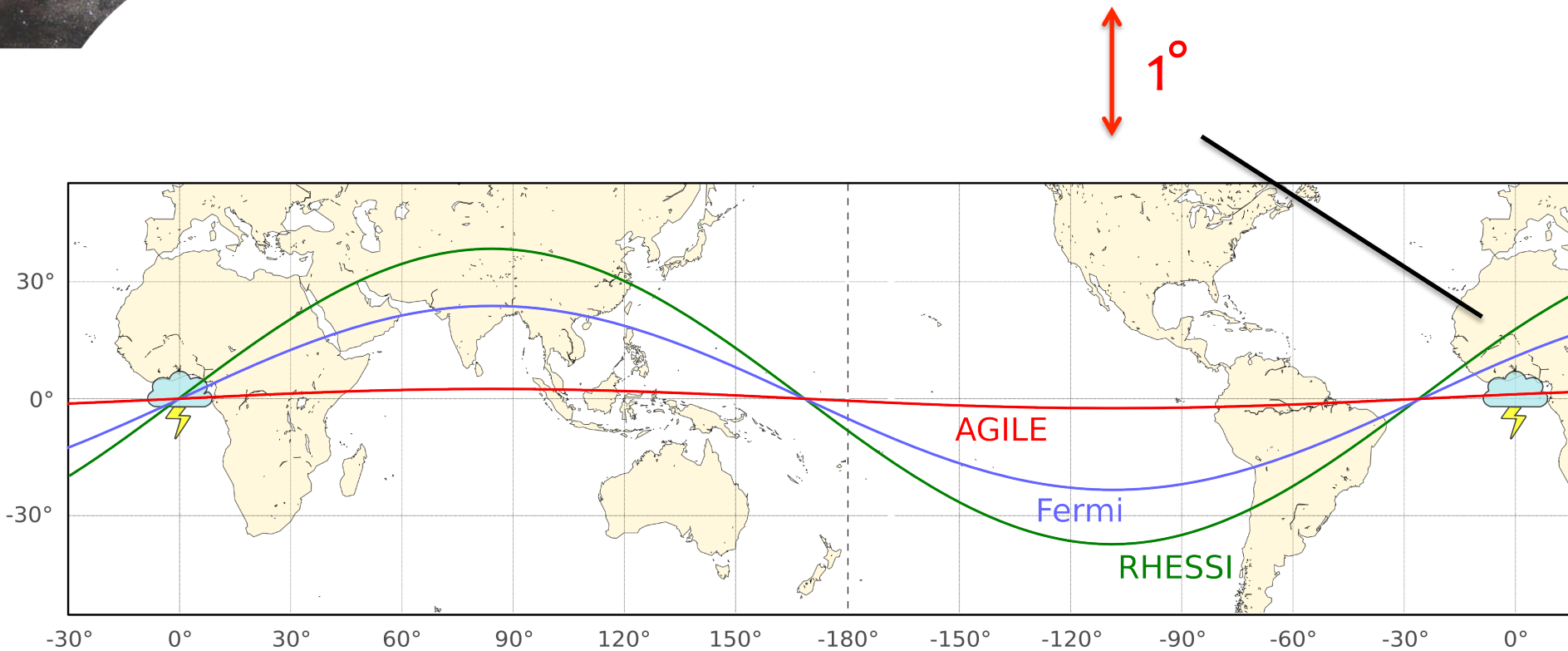


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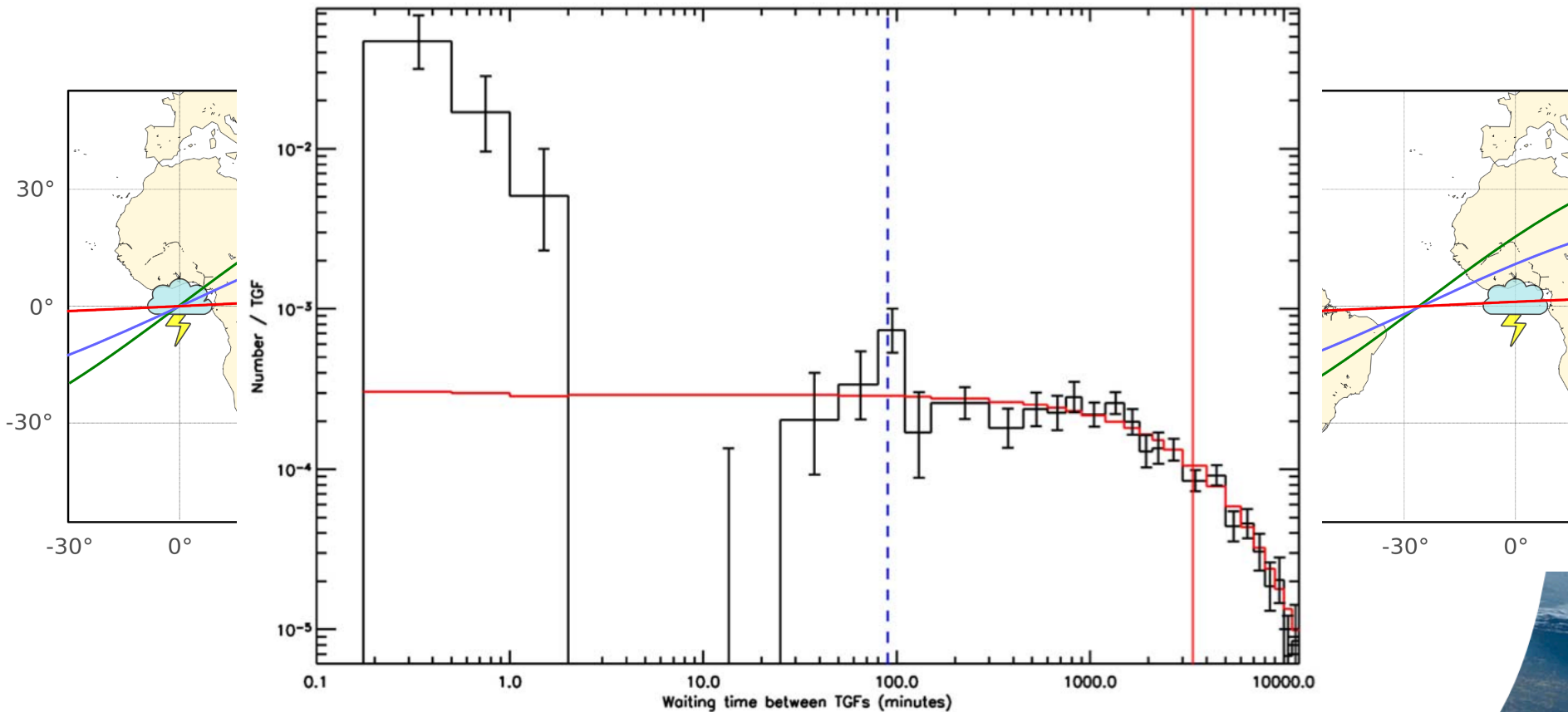
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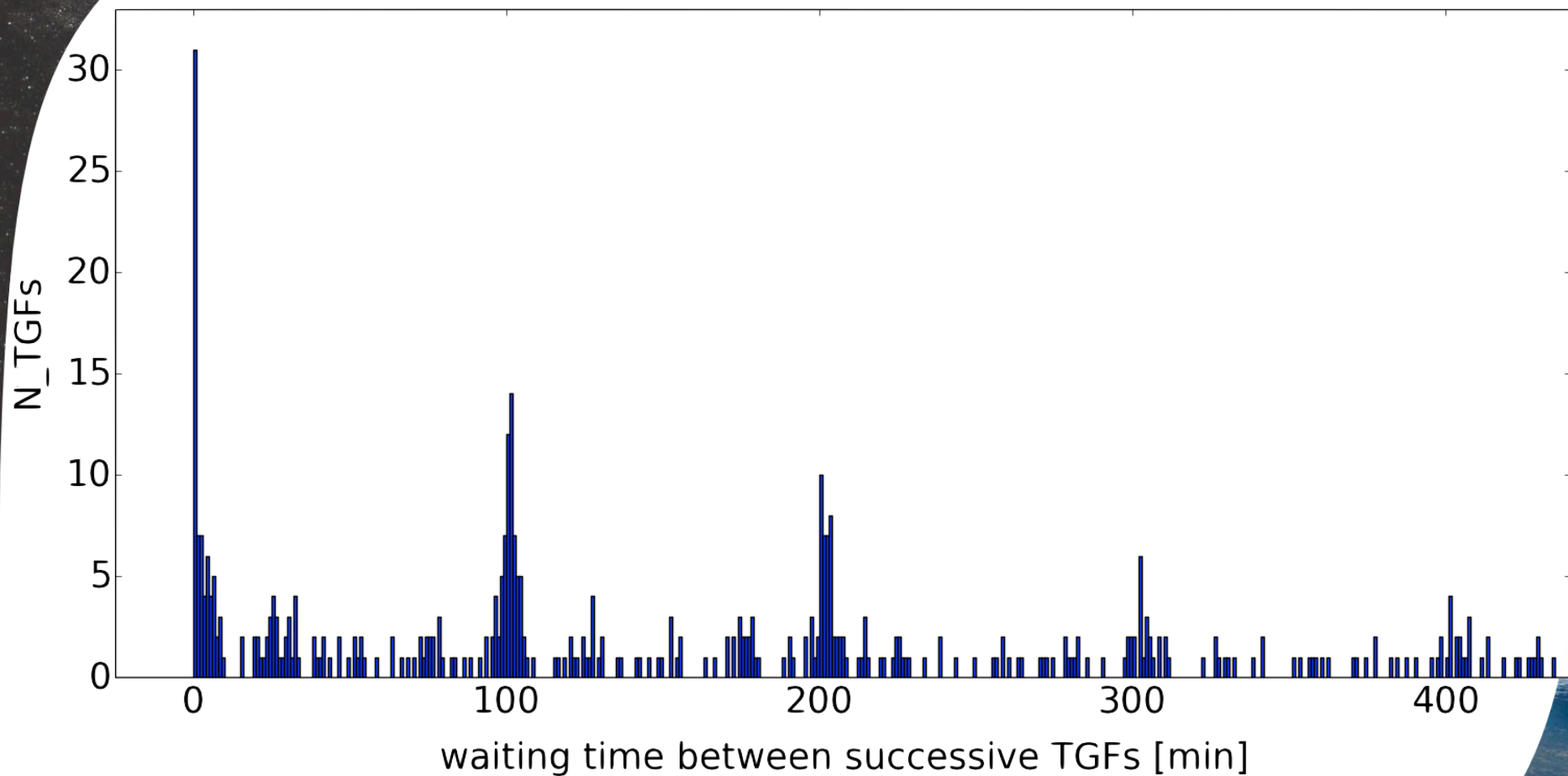


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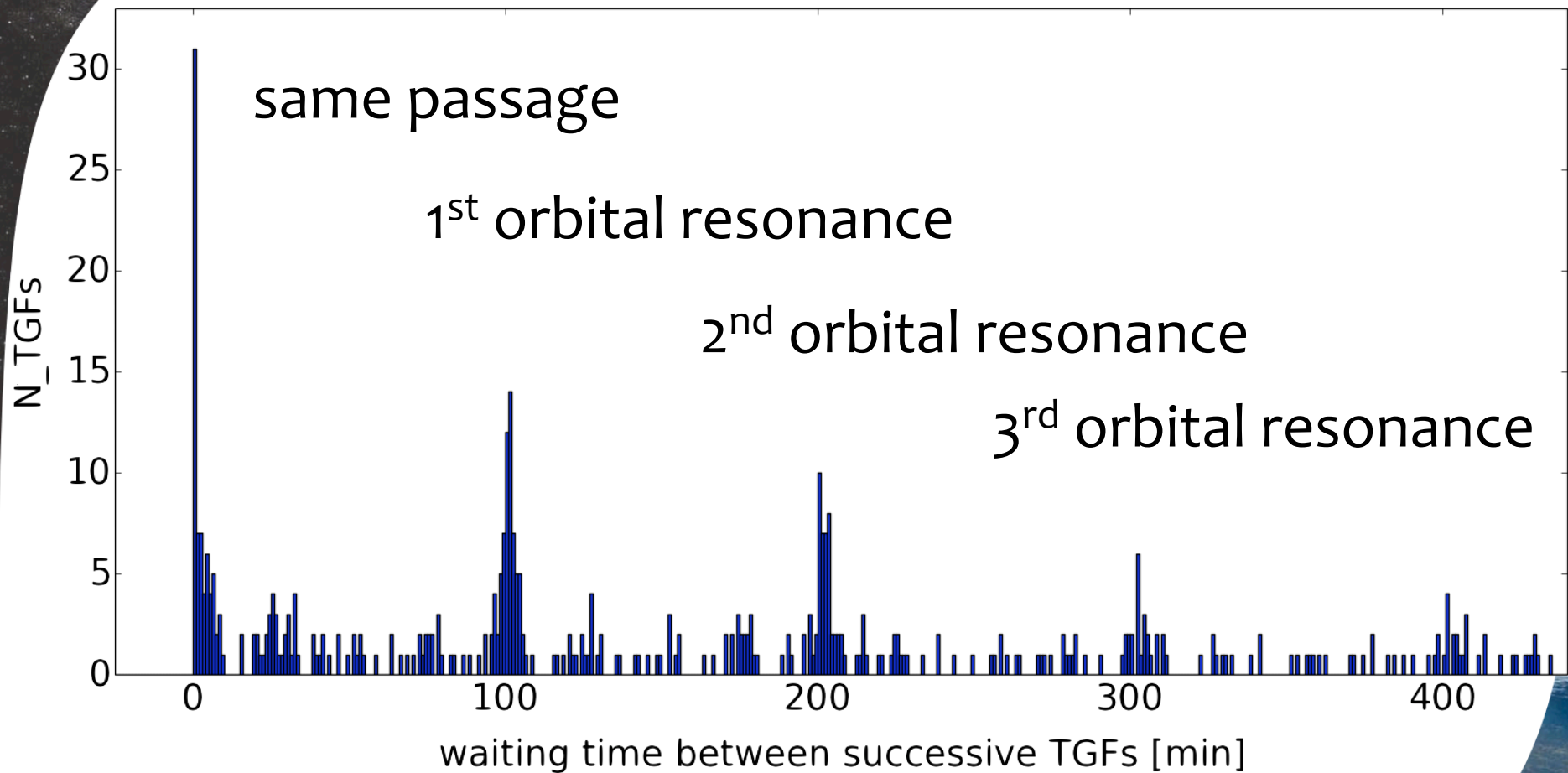


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Detection of TGFs in an enhanced configuration and link with meteorological information

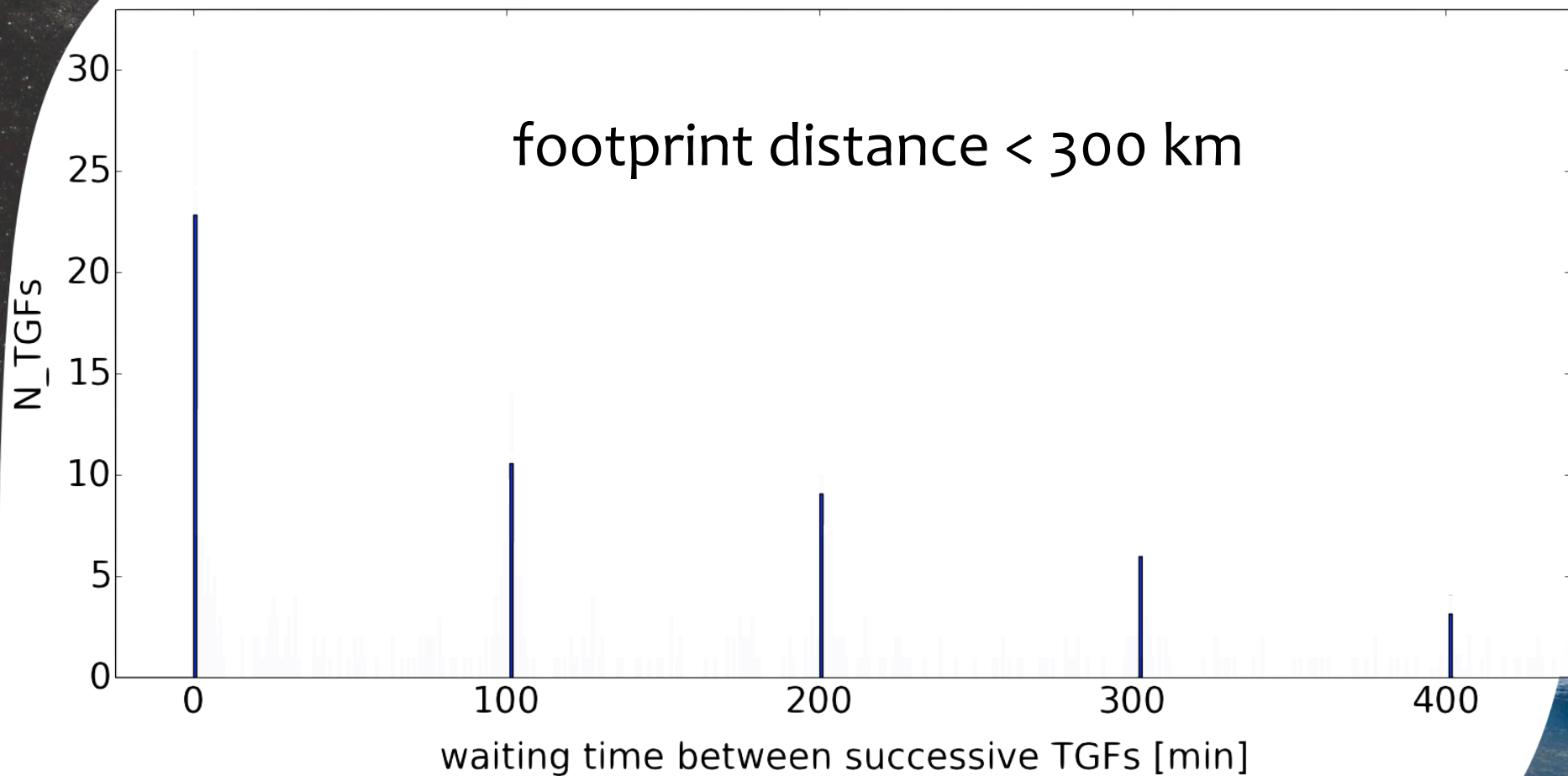
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# AGILE: the quasi-equatorial orbit

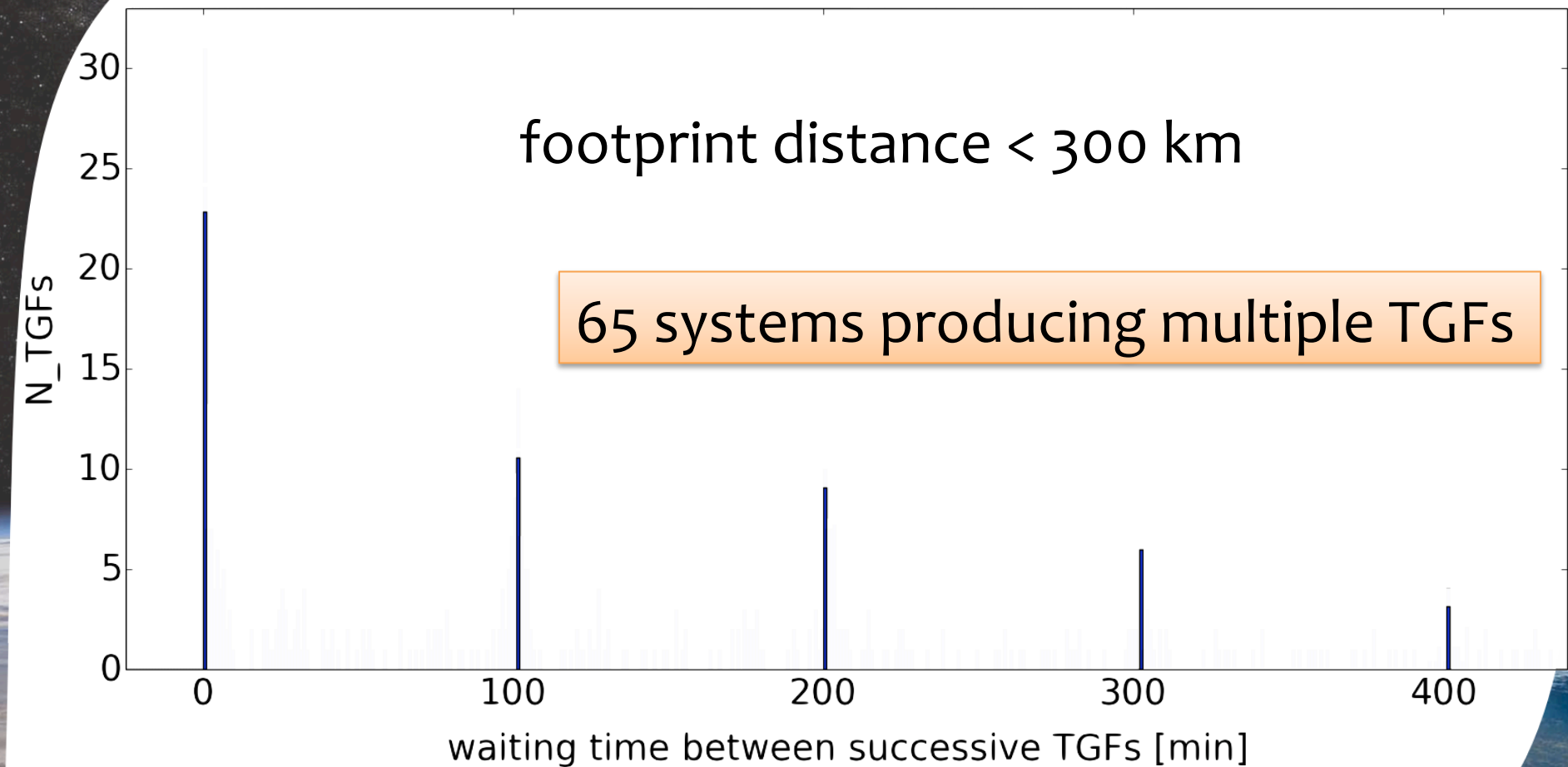




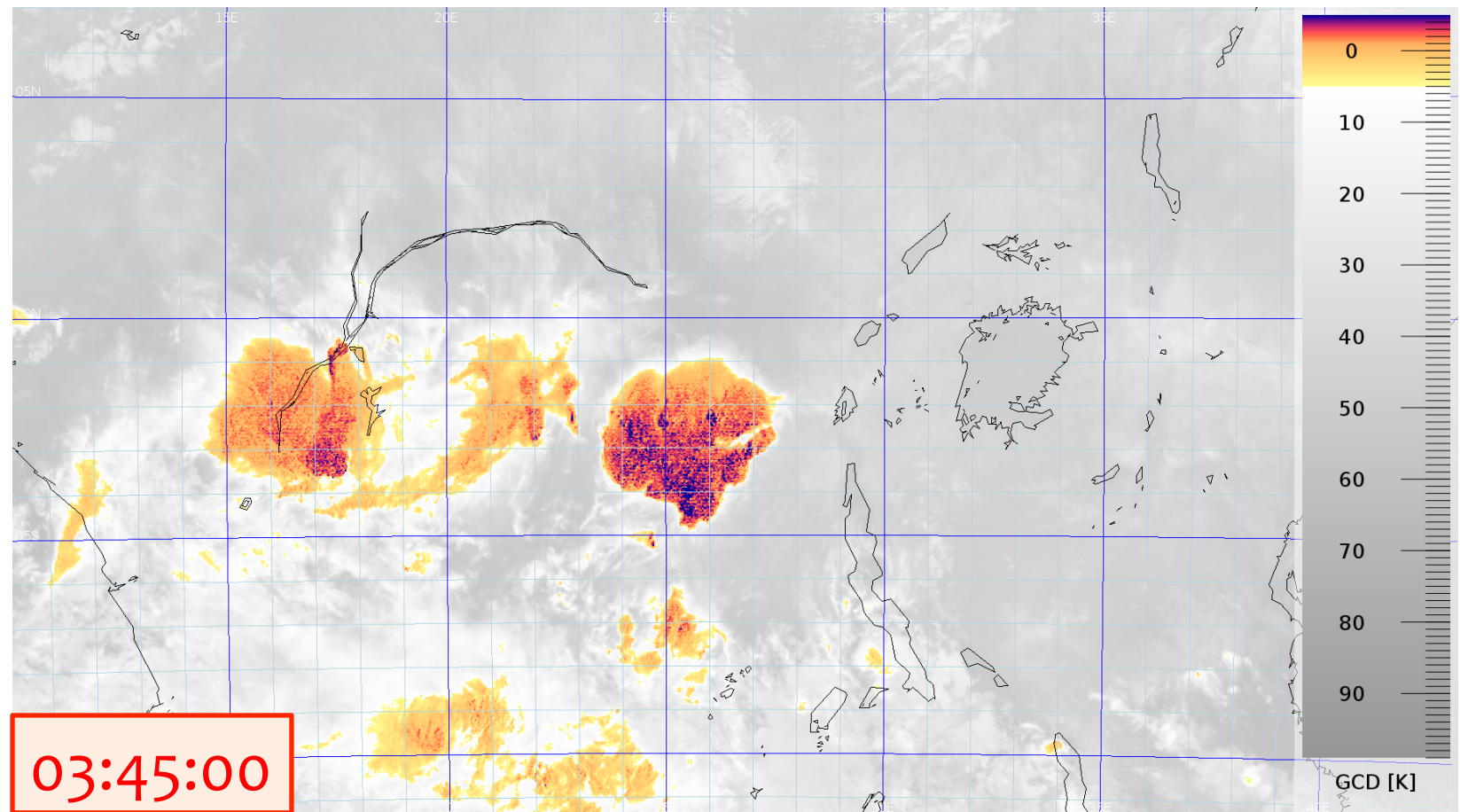
# AGILE: the quasi-equatorial orbit



# AGILE: the quasi-equatorial orbit



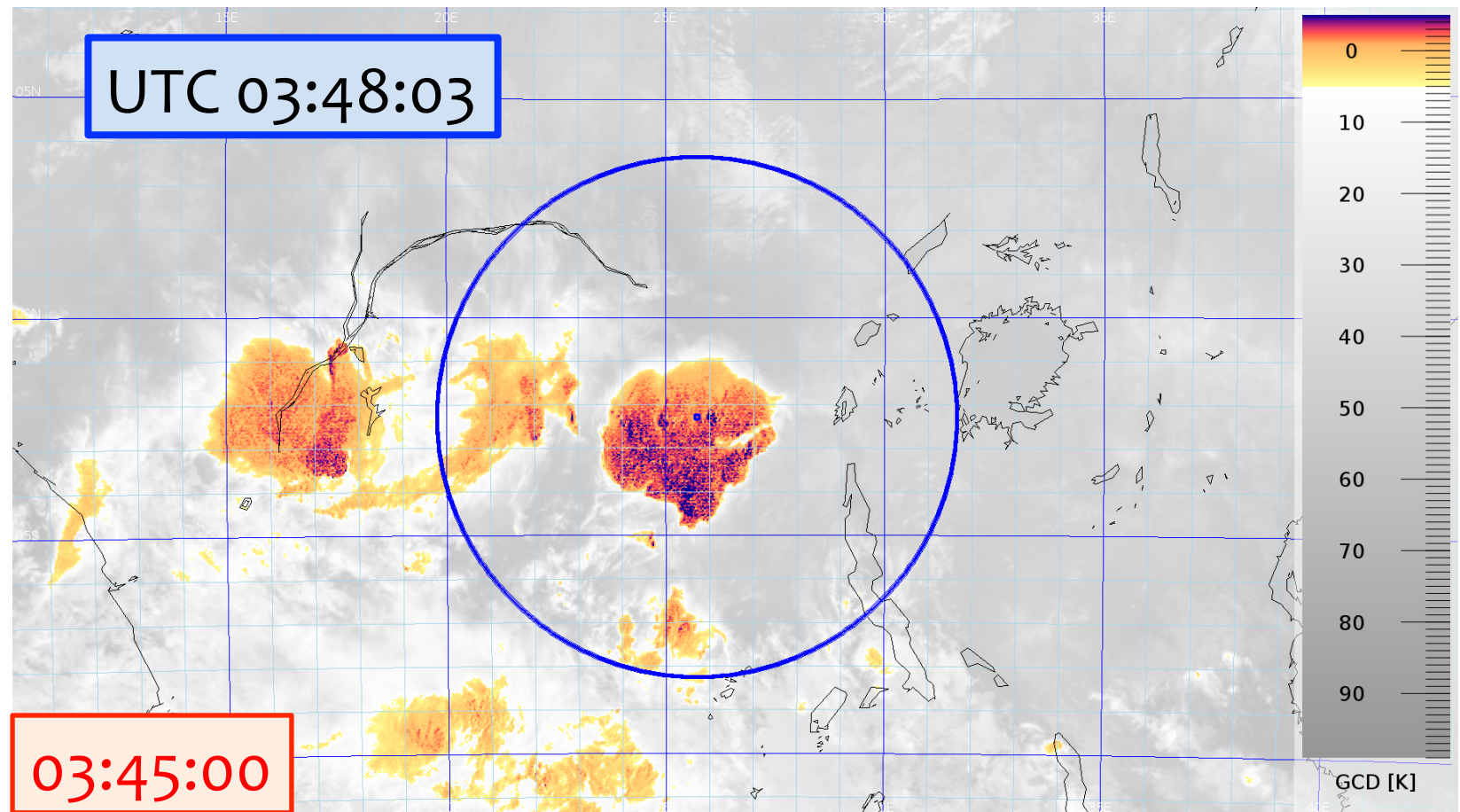
# Successive TGFs



EXAMPLE 1: 26/02/2013



# Successive TGFs



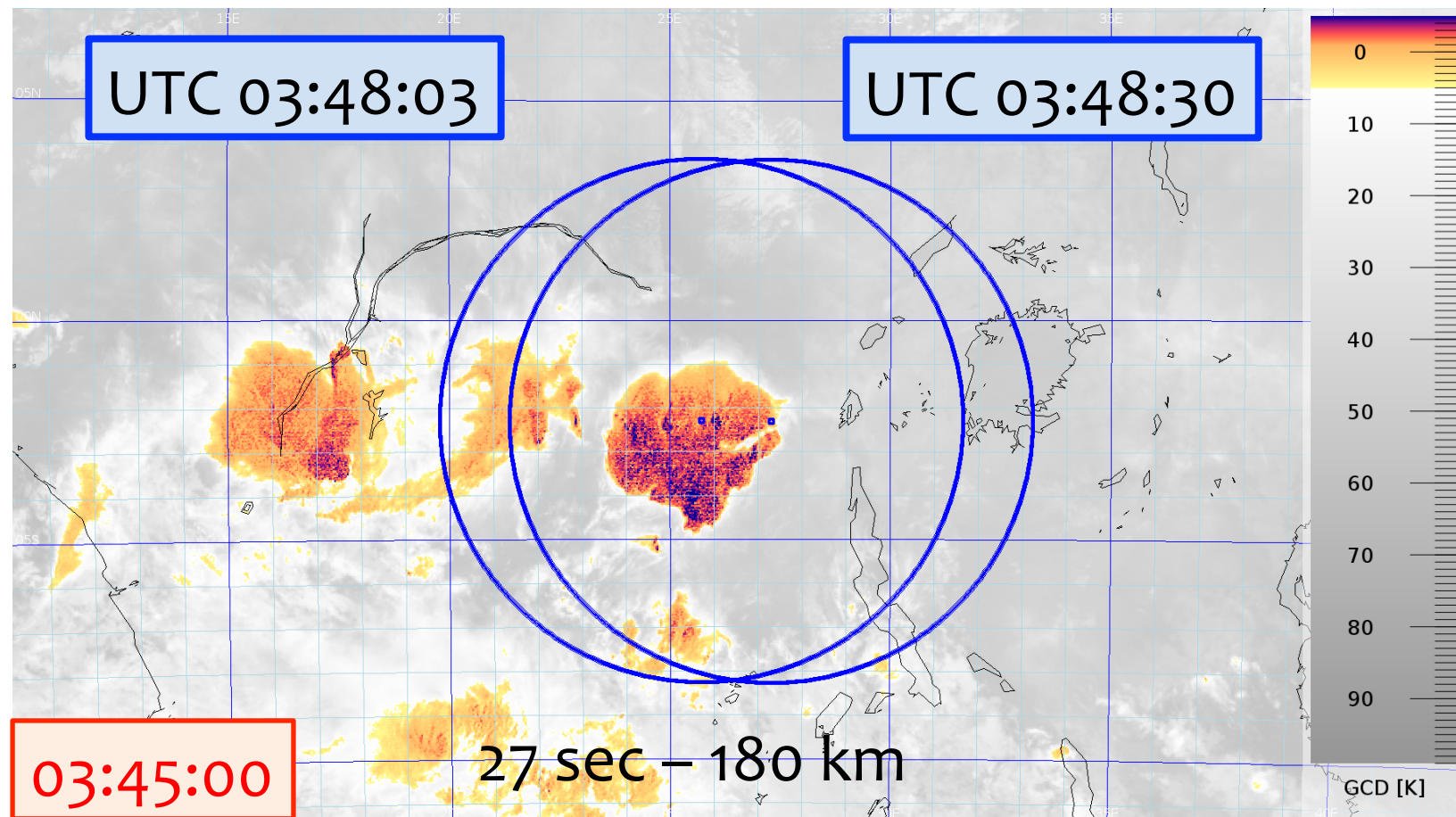
EXAMPLE 1: 26/02/2013

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# Successive TGFs



EXAMPLE 1: 26/02/2013

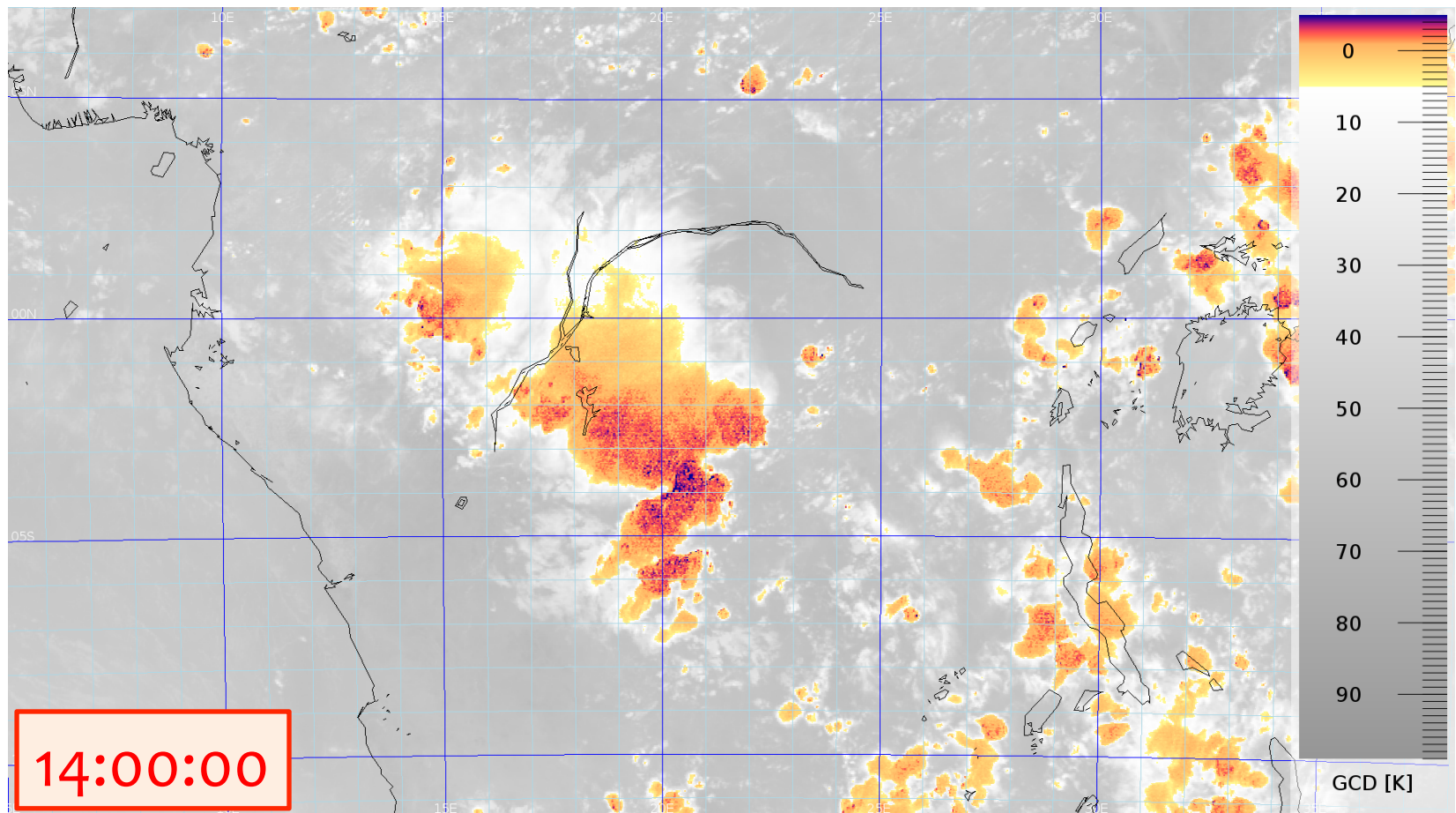
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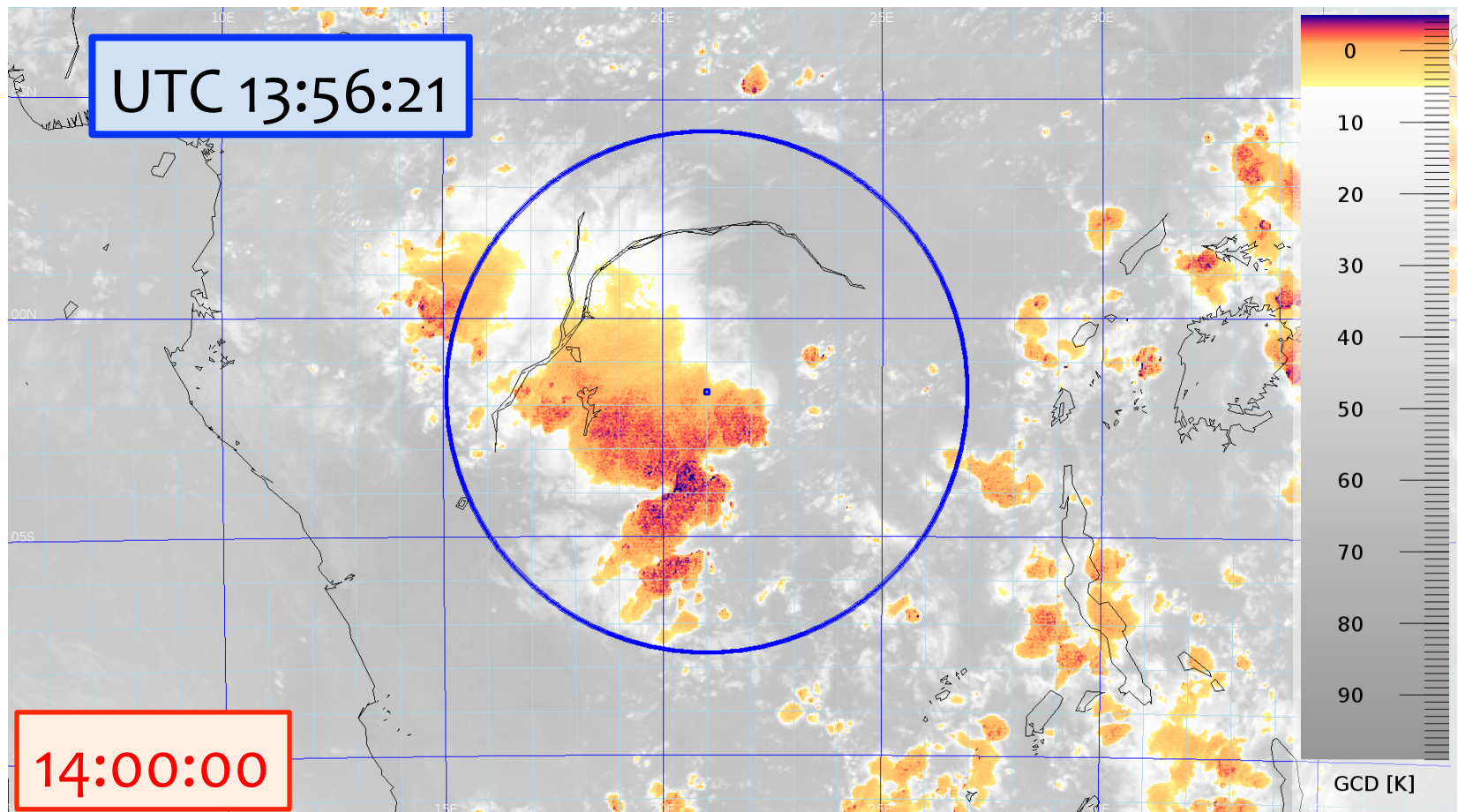
# Successive TGFs



EXAMPLE 2: 08/04/2015



# Successive TGFs



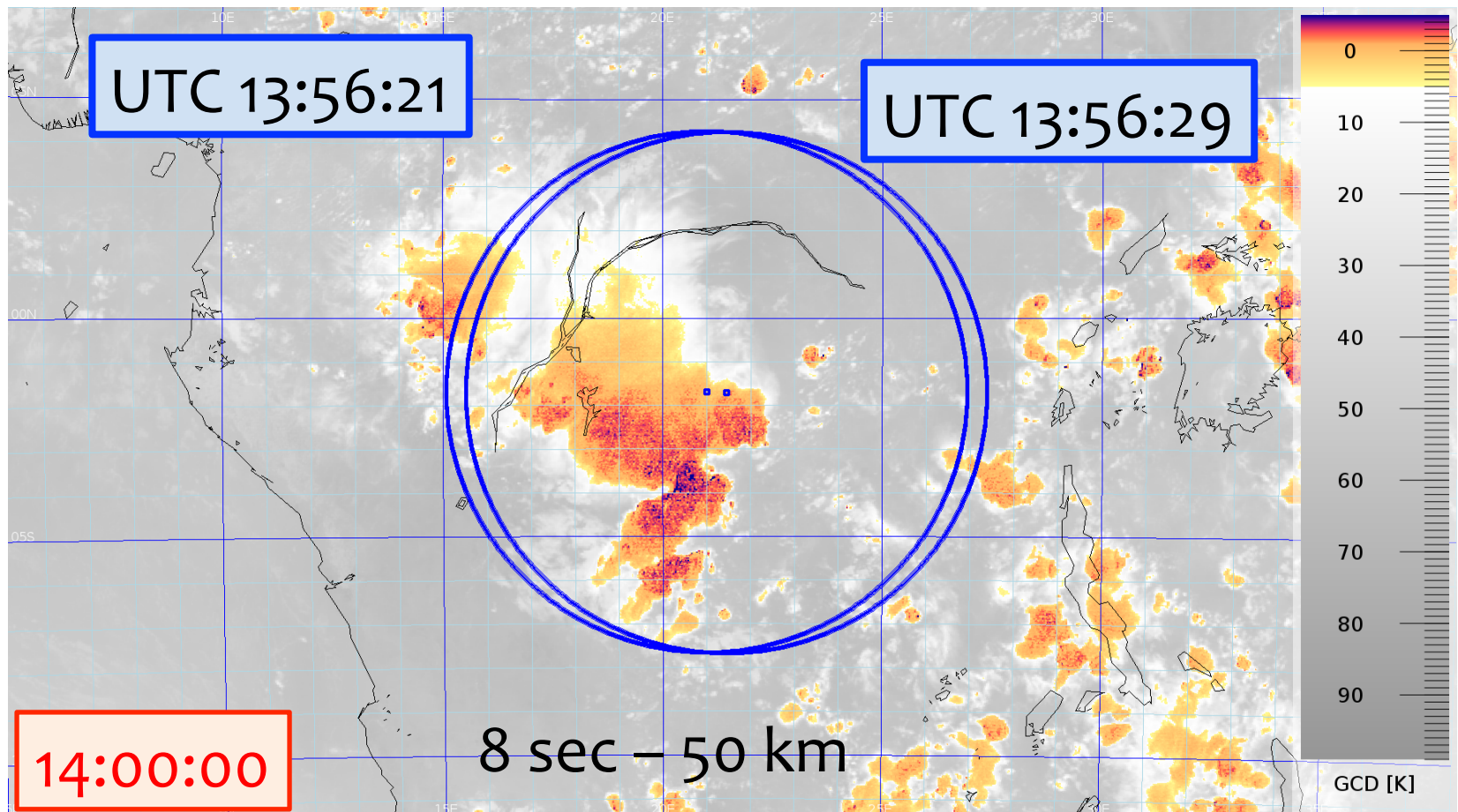
EXAMPLE 2: 08/04/2015

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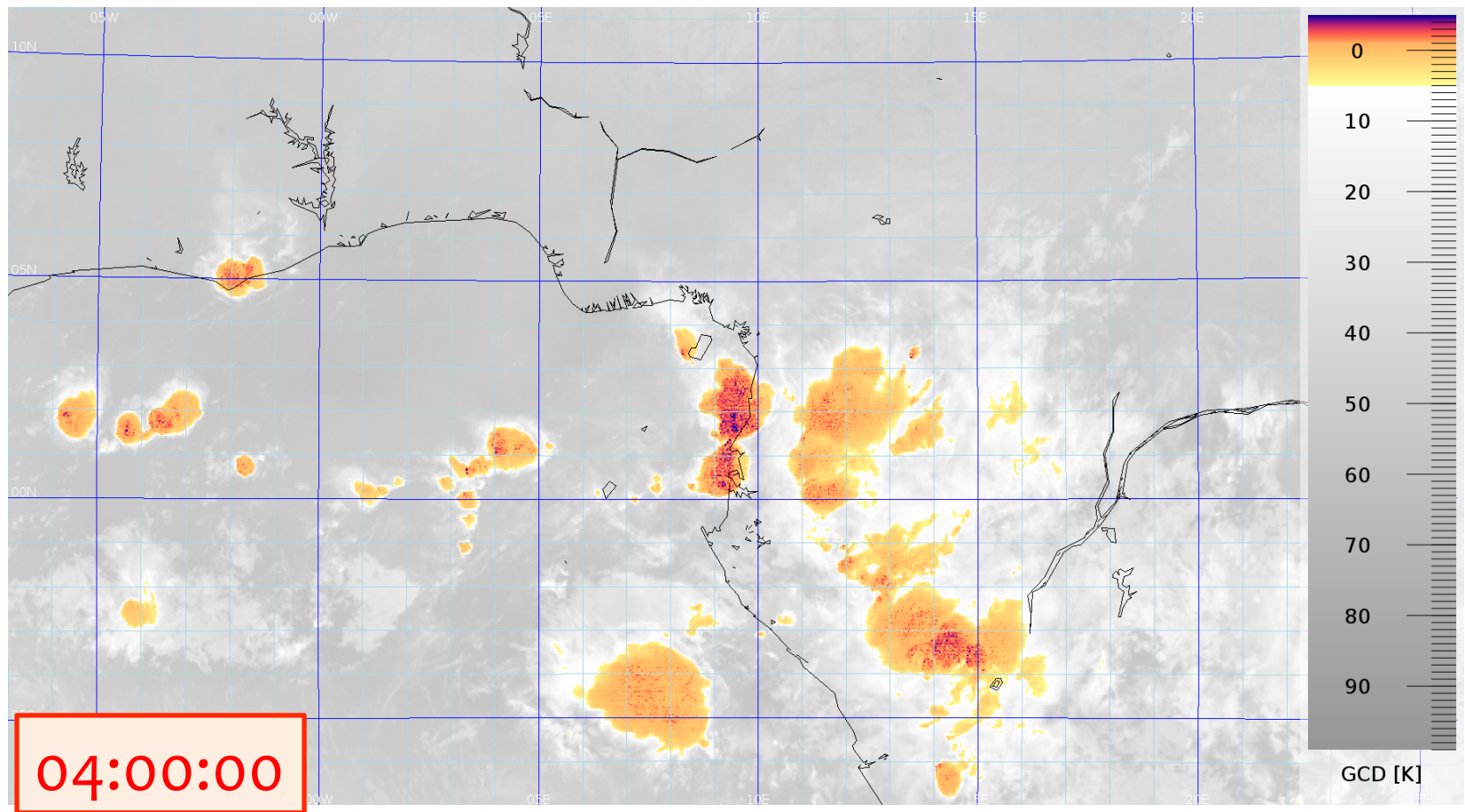
# Successive TGFs



EXAMPLE 2: 08/04/2015



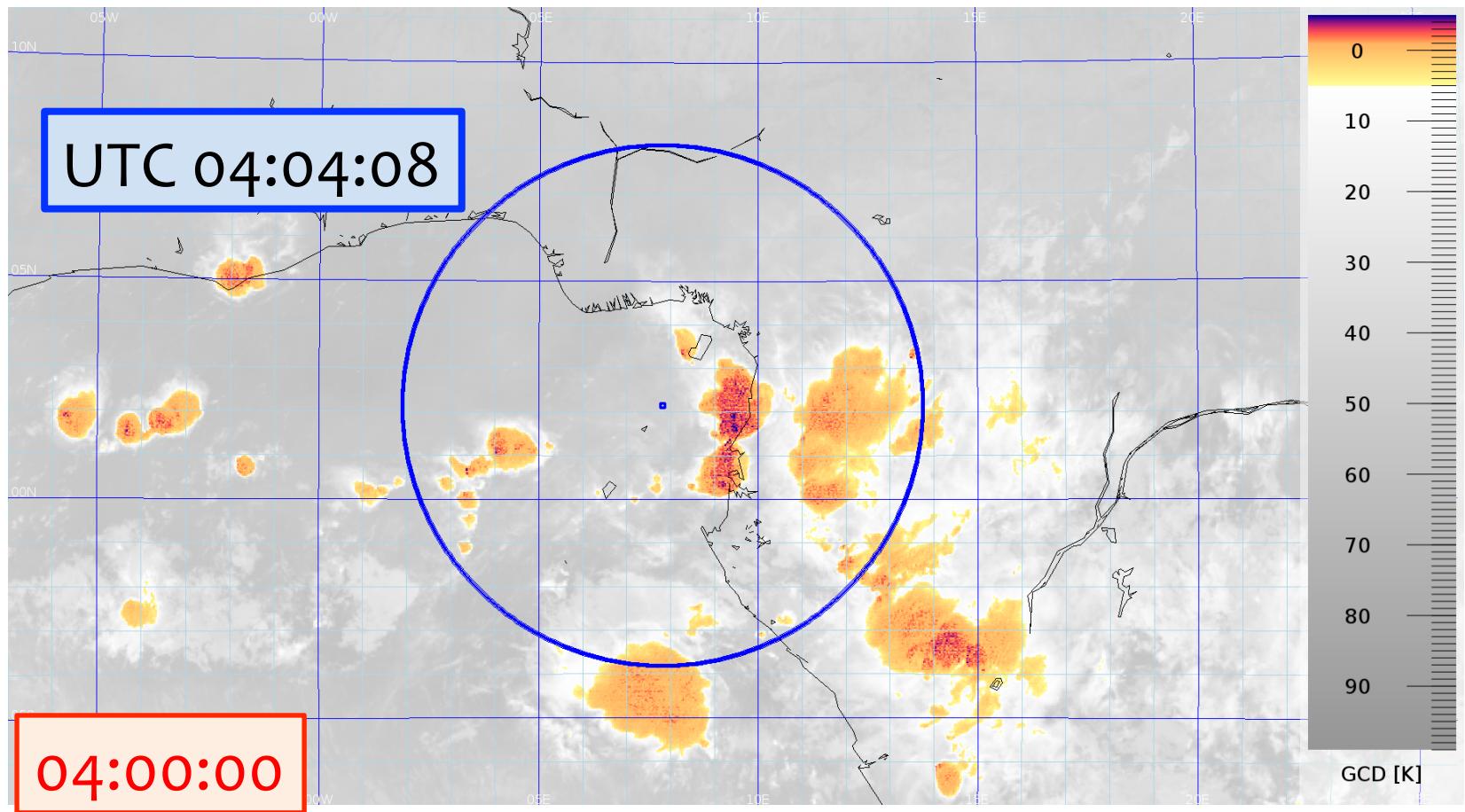
# Successive TGFs



EXAMPLE 3: 15/04/2015

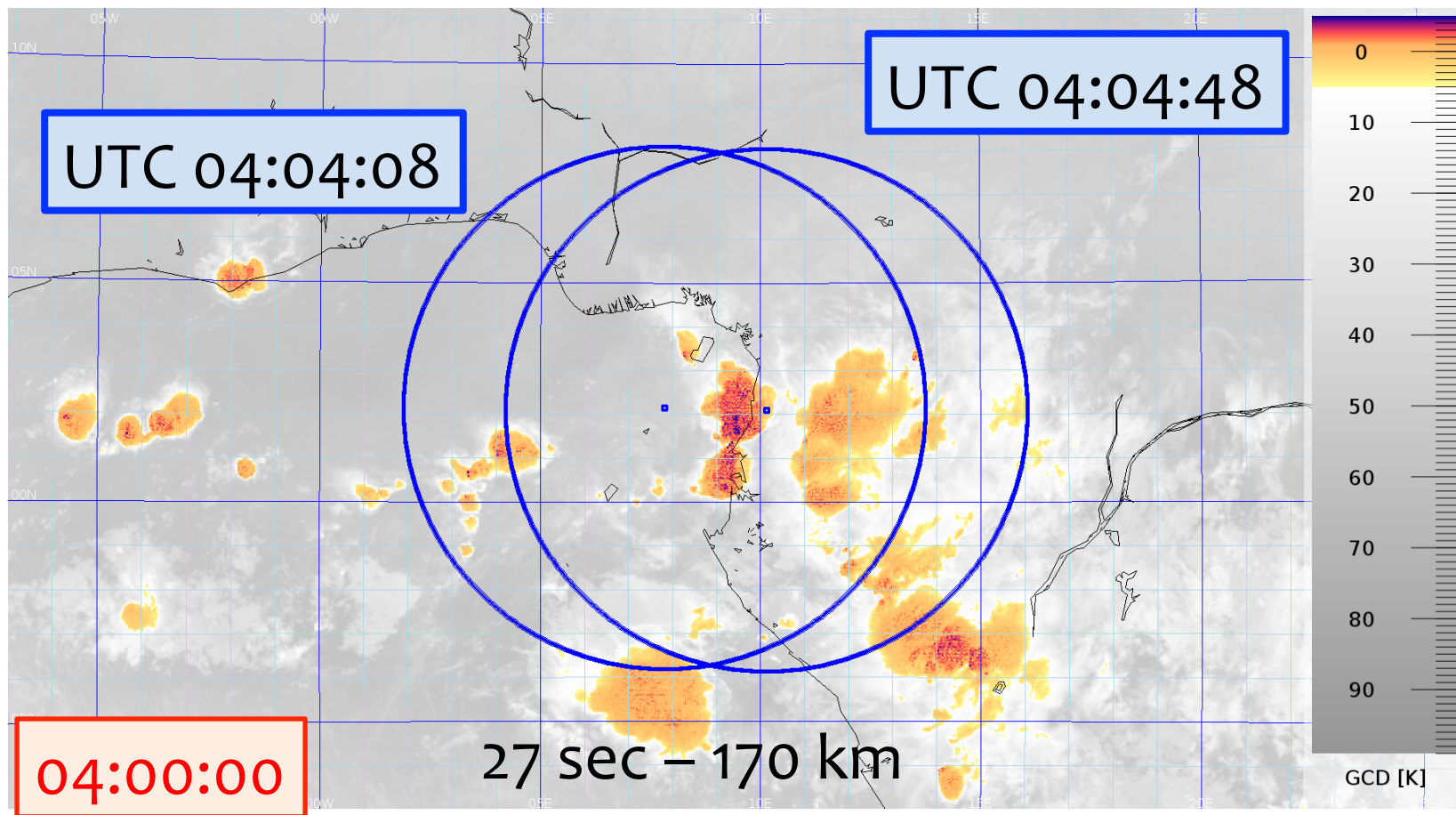


# Successive TGFs



EXAMPLE 3: 15/04/2015

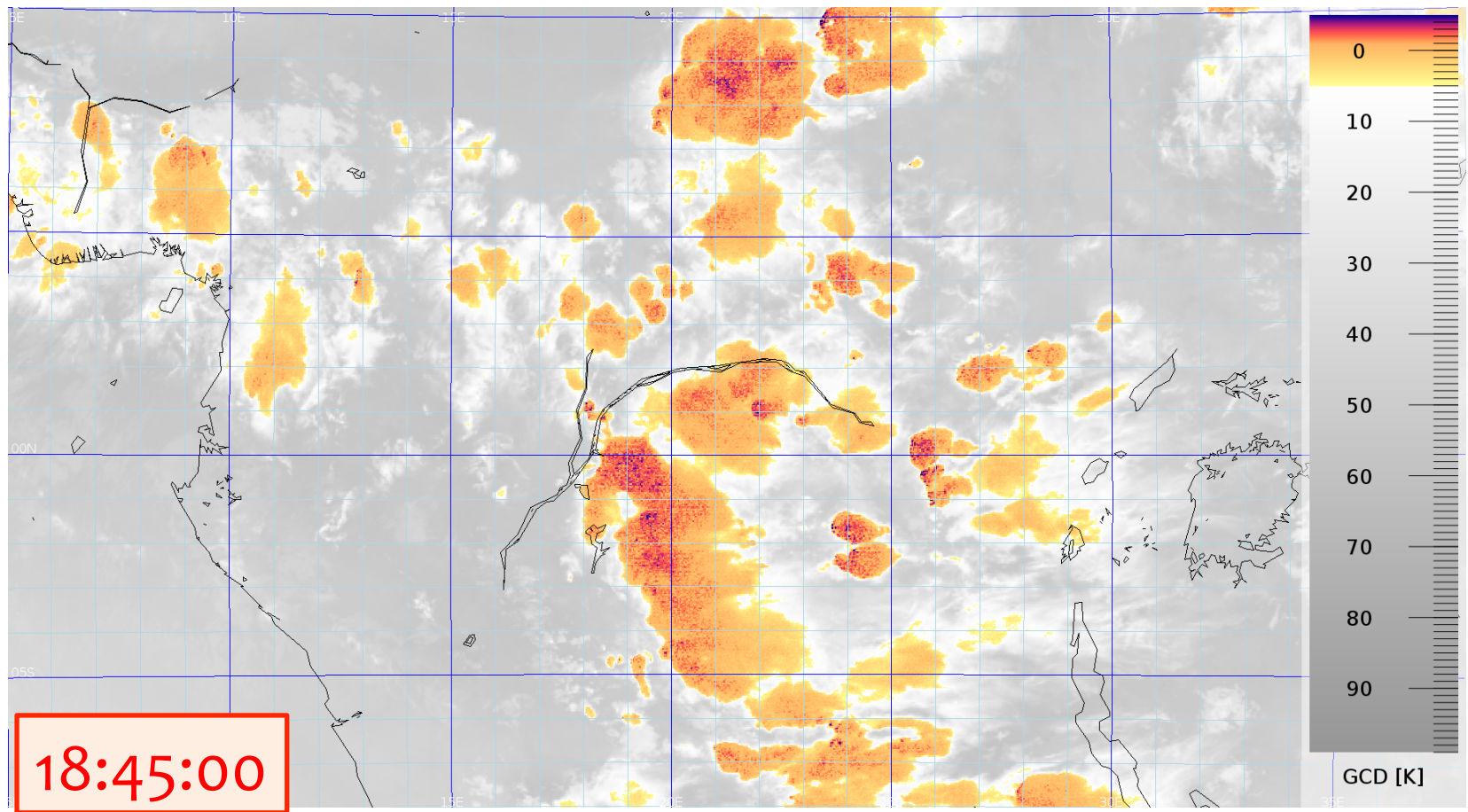
# Successive TGFs



EXAMPLE 3: 15/04/2015



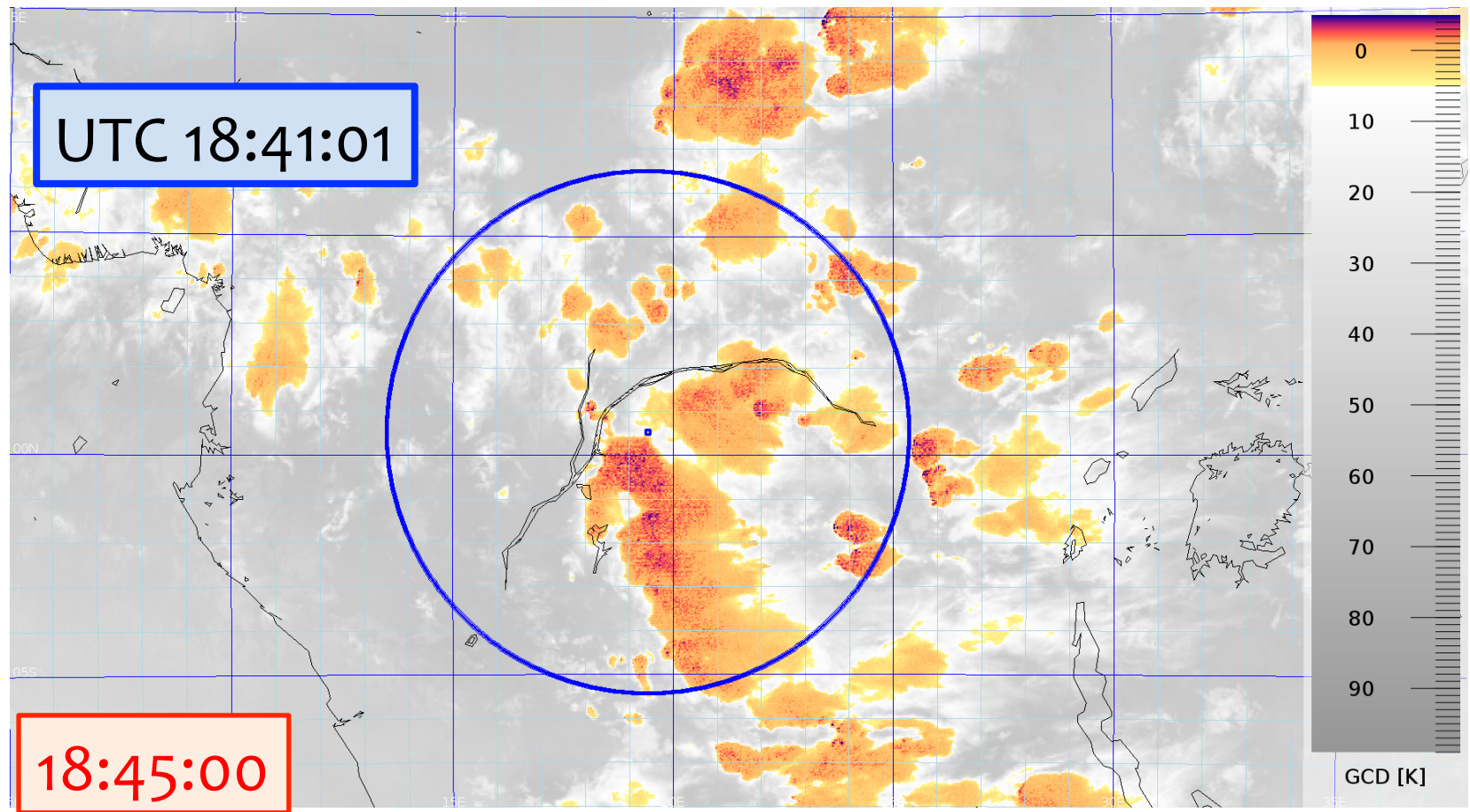
# Successive TGFs



EXAMPLE 4: 29/09/2015



# Successive TGFs



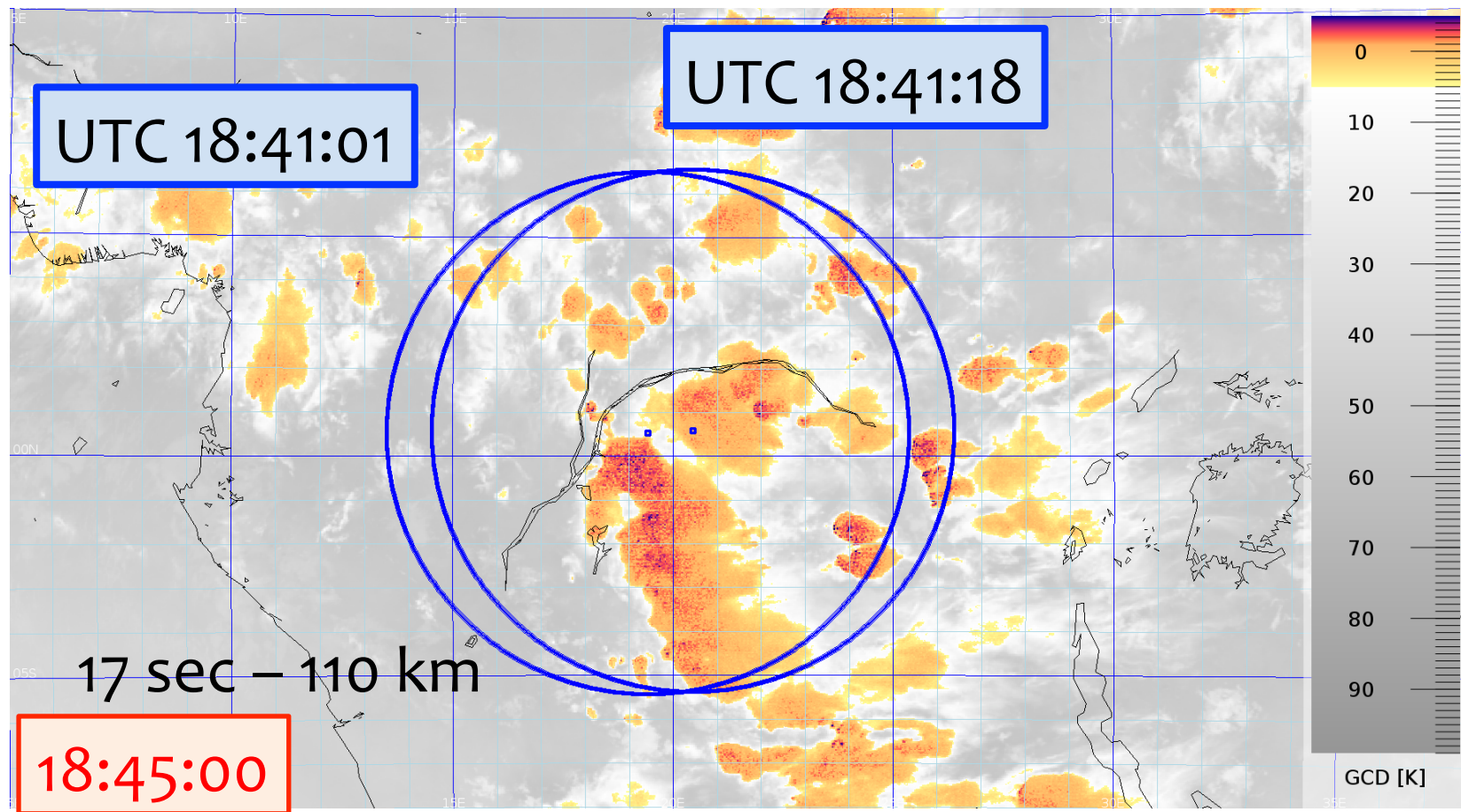
EXAMPLE 4: 29/09/2015

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# Successive TGFs



EXAMPLE 4: 29/09/2015

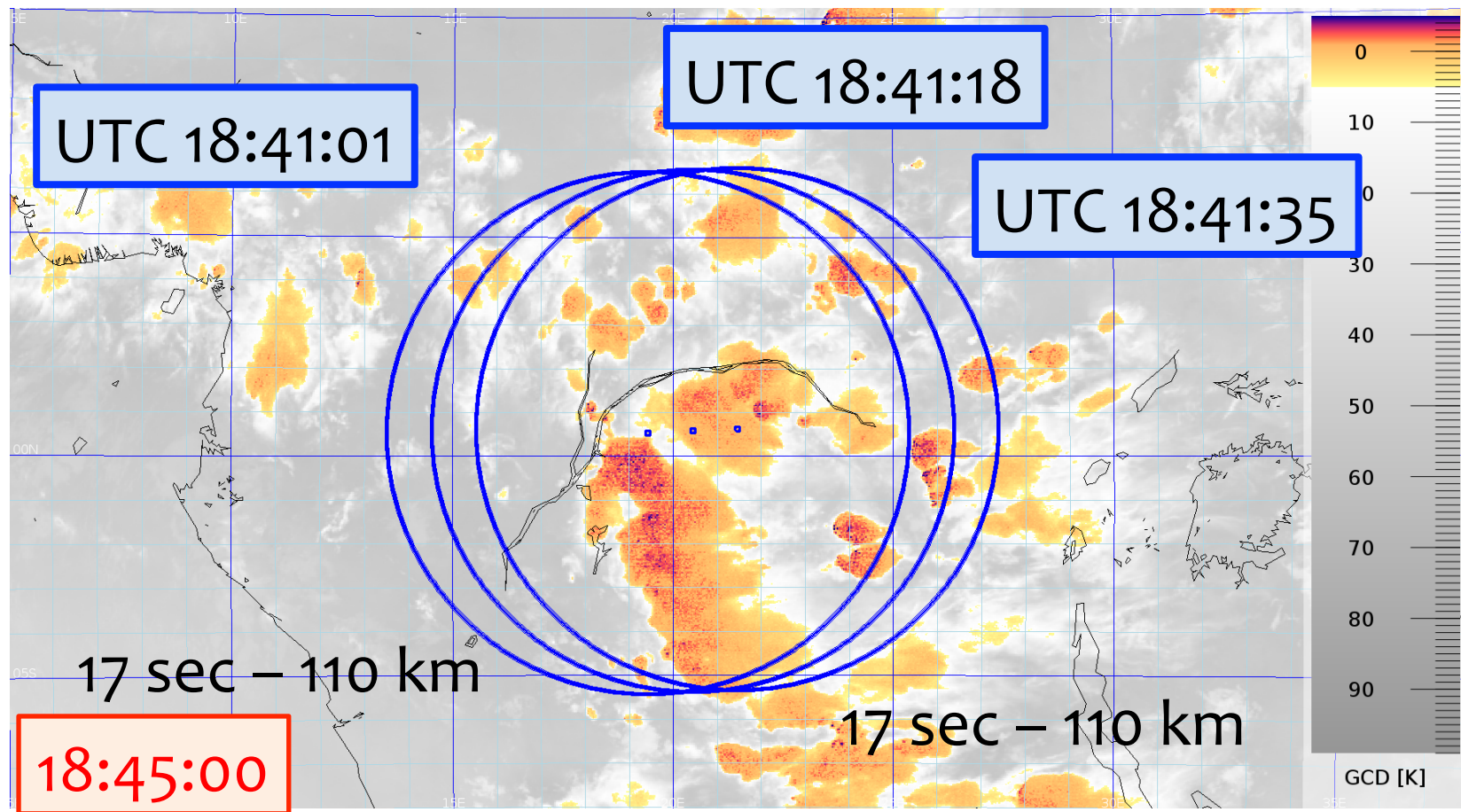
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AGILE on the wave, 14th AGILE Workshop - June 21st 2016



# Successive TGFs



EXAMPLE 4: 29/09/2015

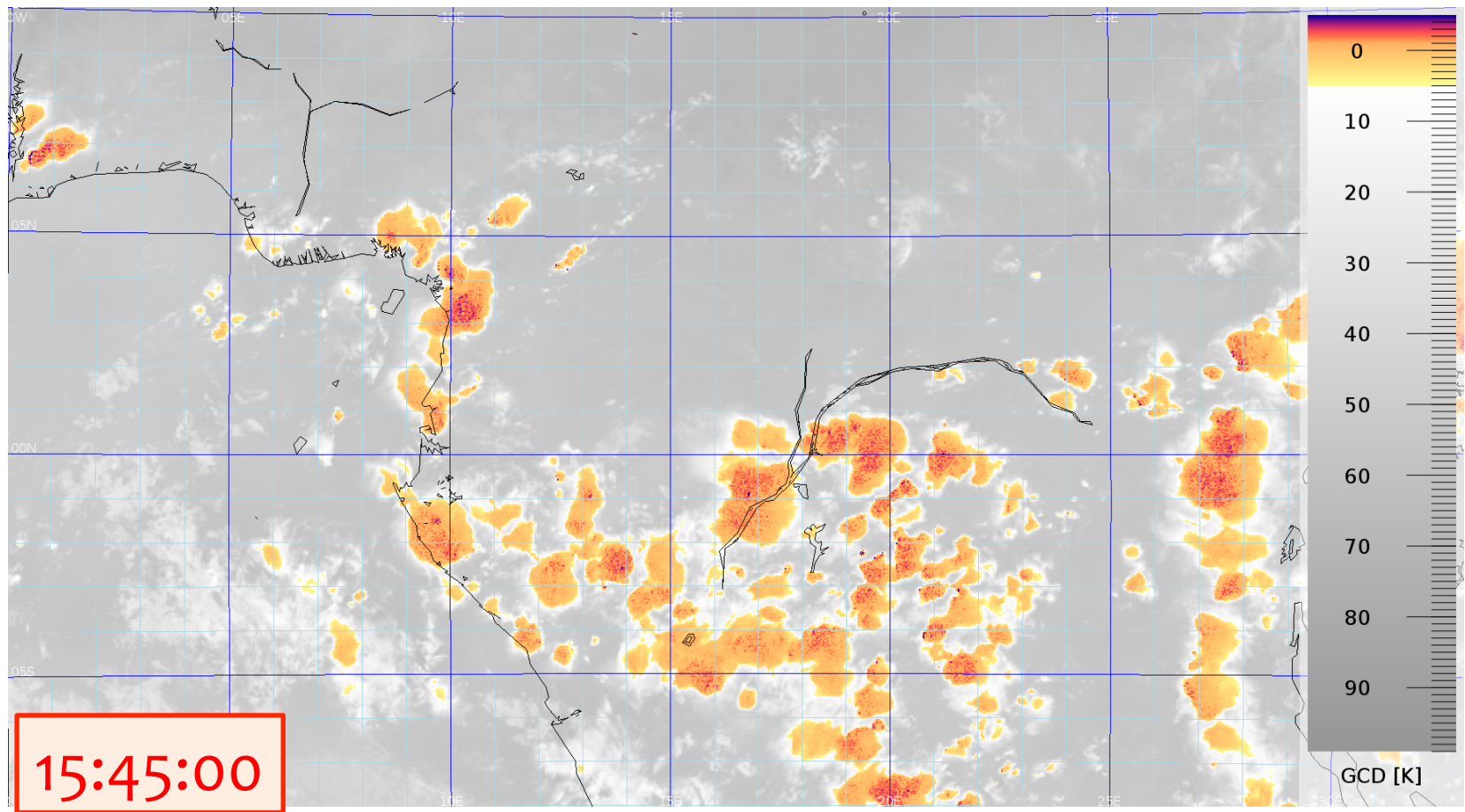
Alessandro Ursi

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# Successive TGFs



EXAMPLE 5: 19/04/2015

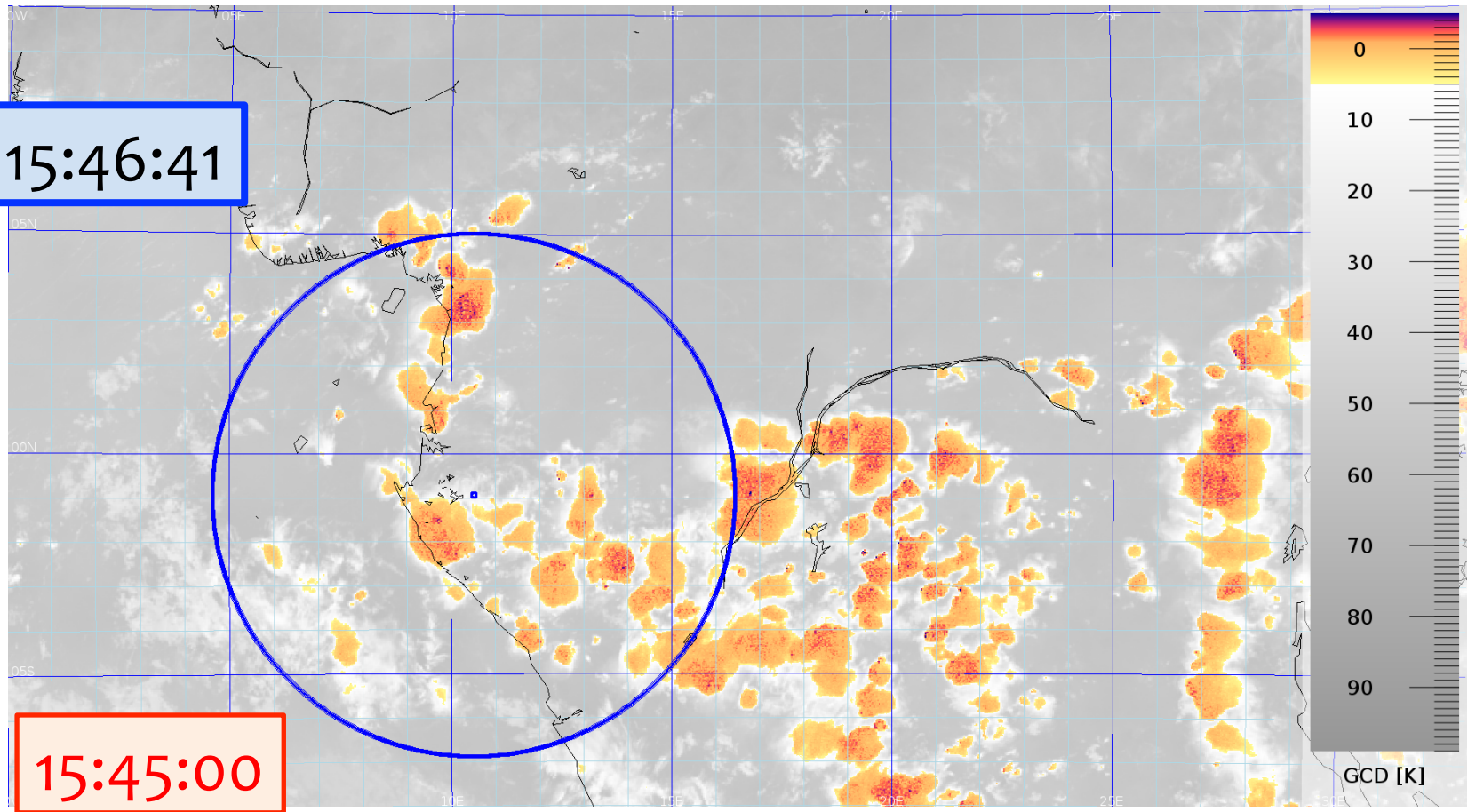
Alessandro Ursi

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# Successive TGFs

UTC 15:46:41



EXAMPLE 5: 19/04/2015

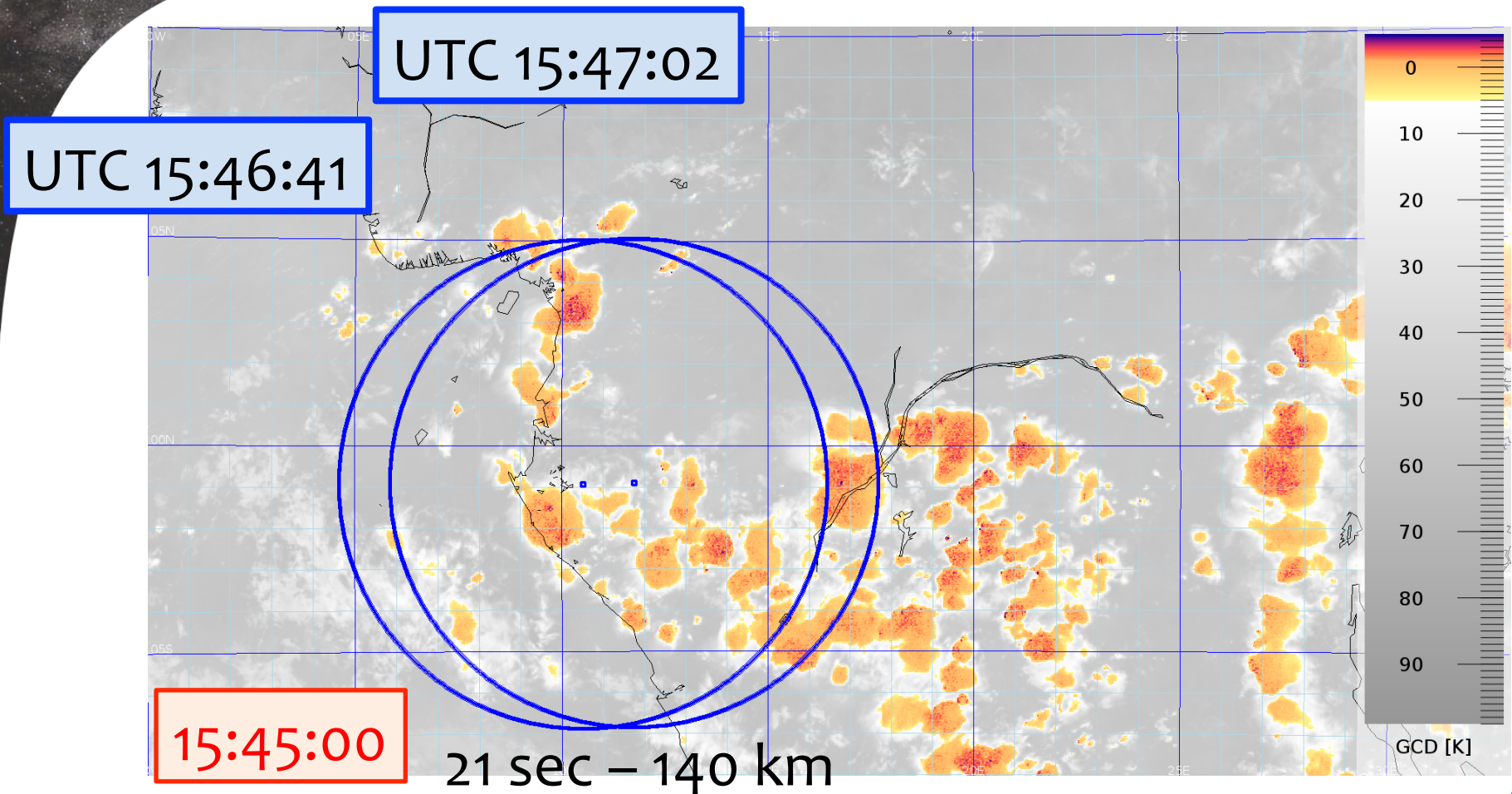
Alessandro Ursi

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# Successive TGFs



EXAMPLE 5: 19/04/2015

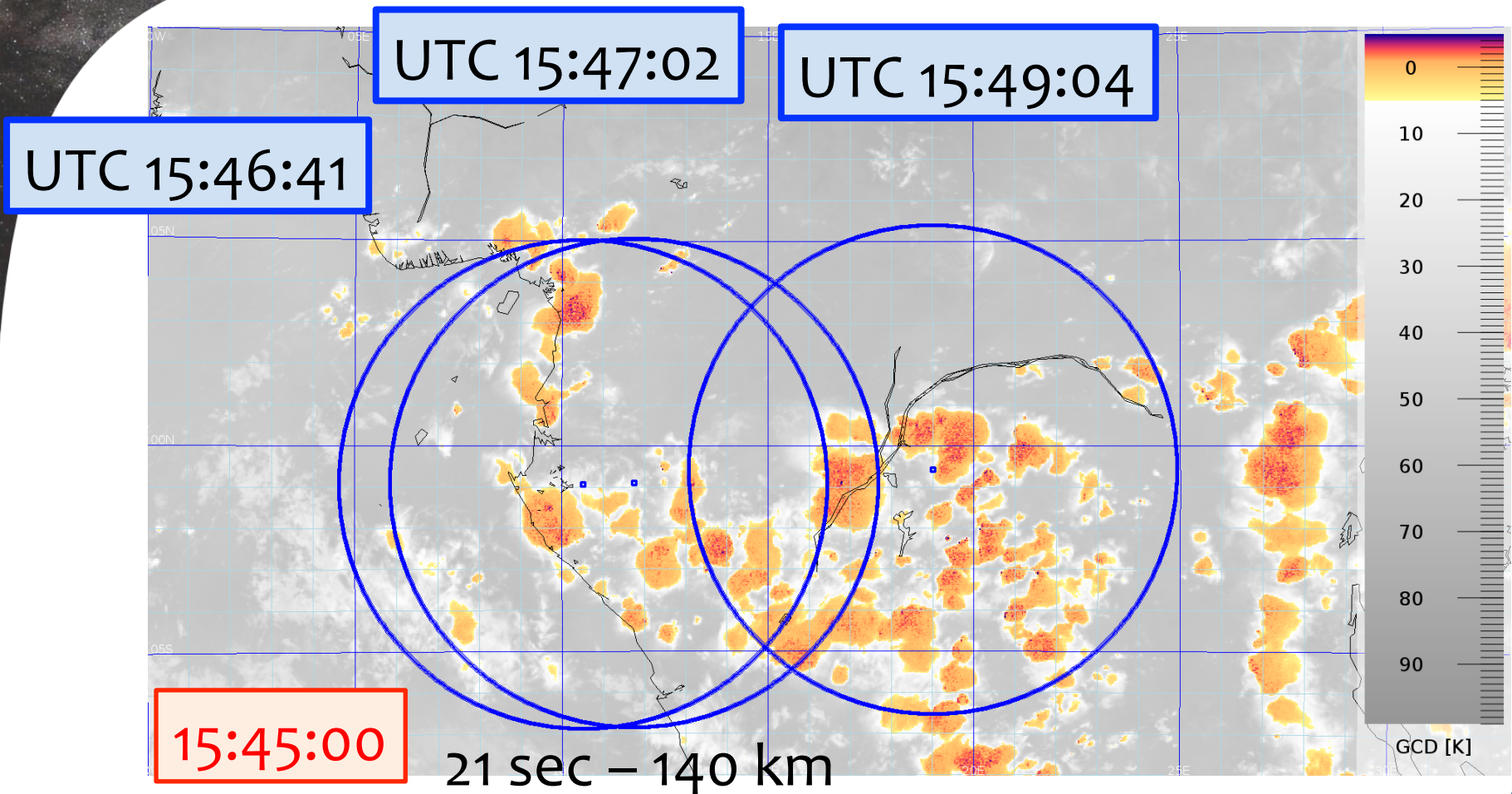
Alessandro Ursi

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# Successive TGFs



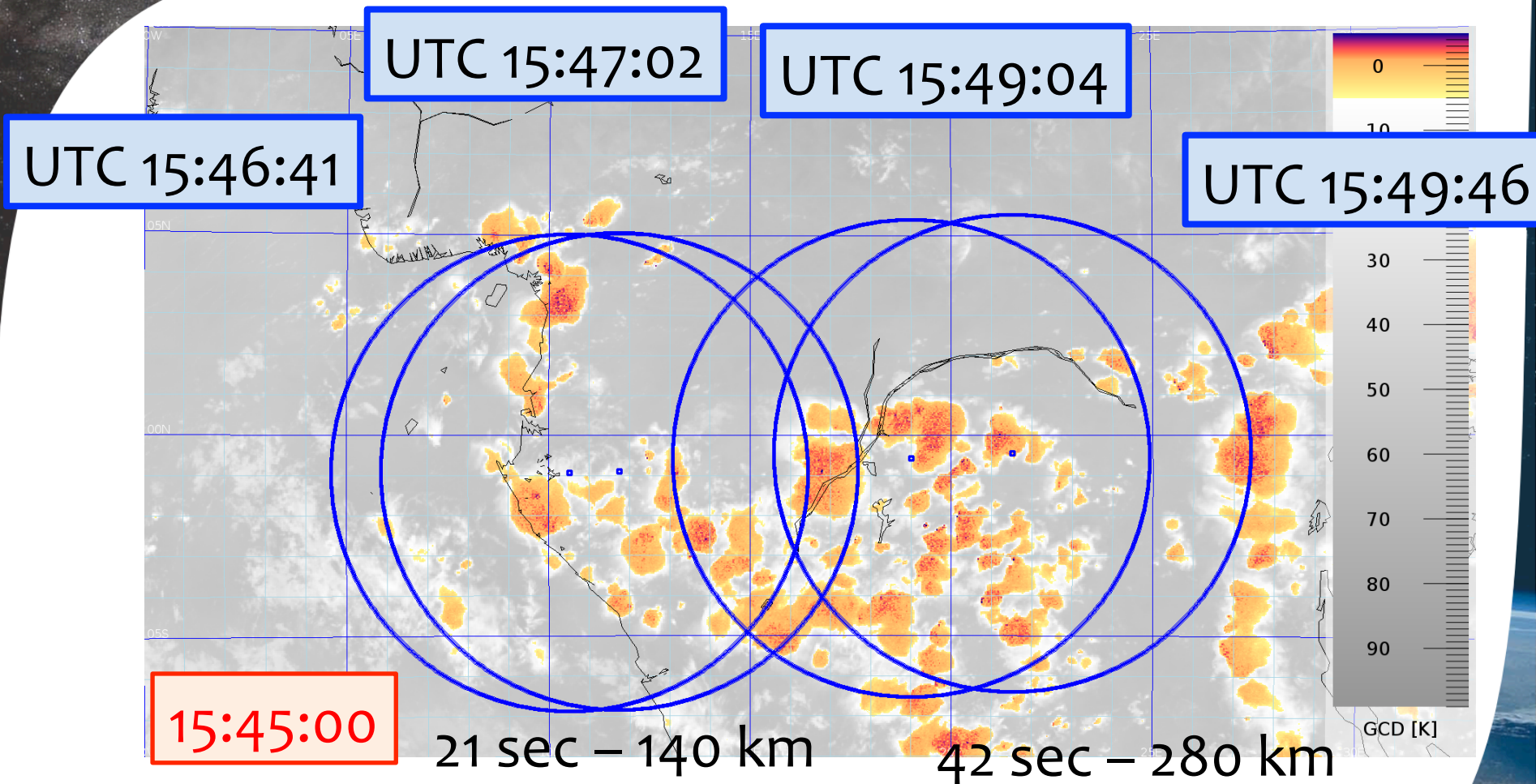
EXAMPLE 5: 19/04/2015

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# Successive TGFs



EXAMPLE 5: 19/04/2015

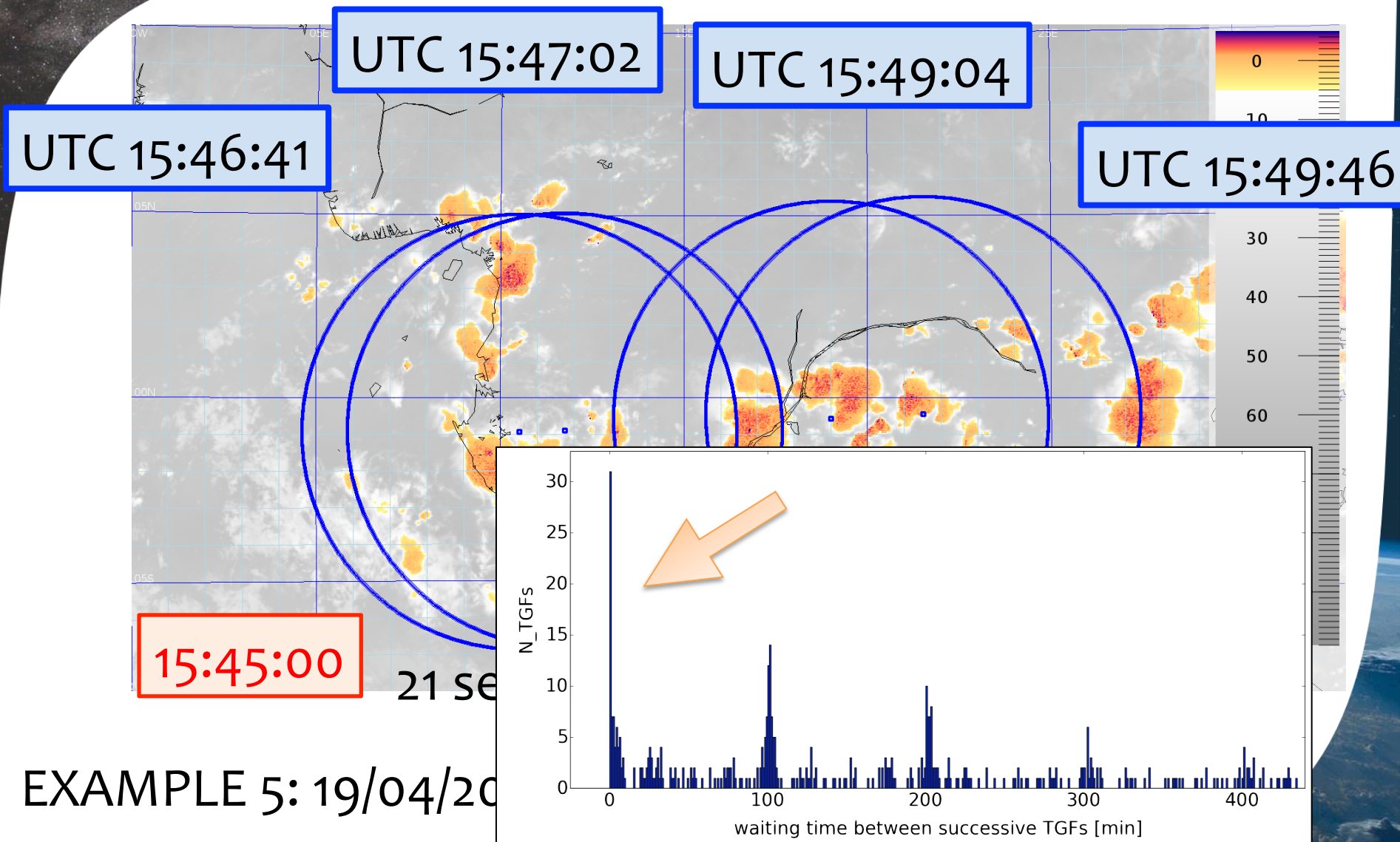
Alessandro Ursi

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# Successive TGFs



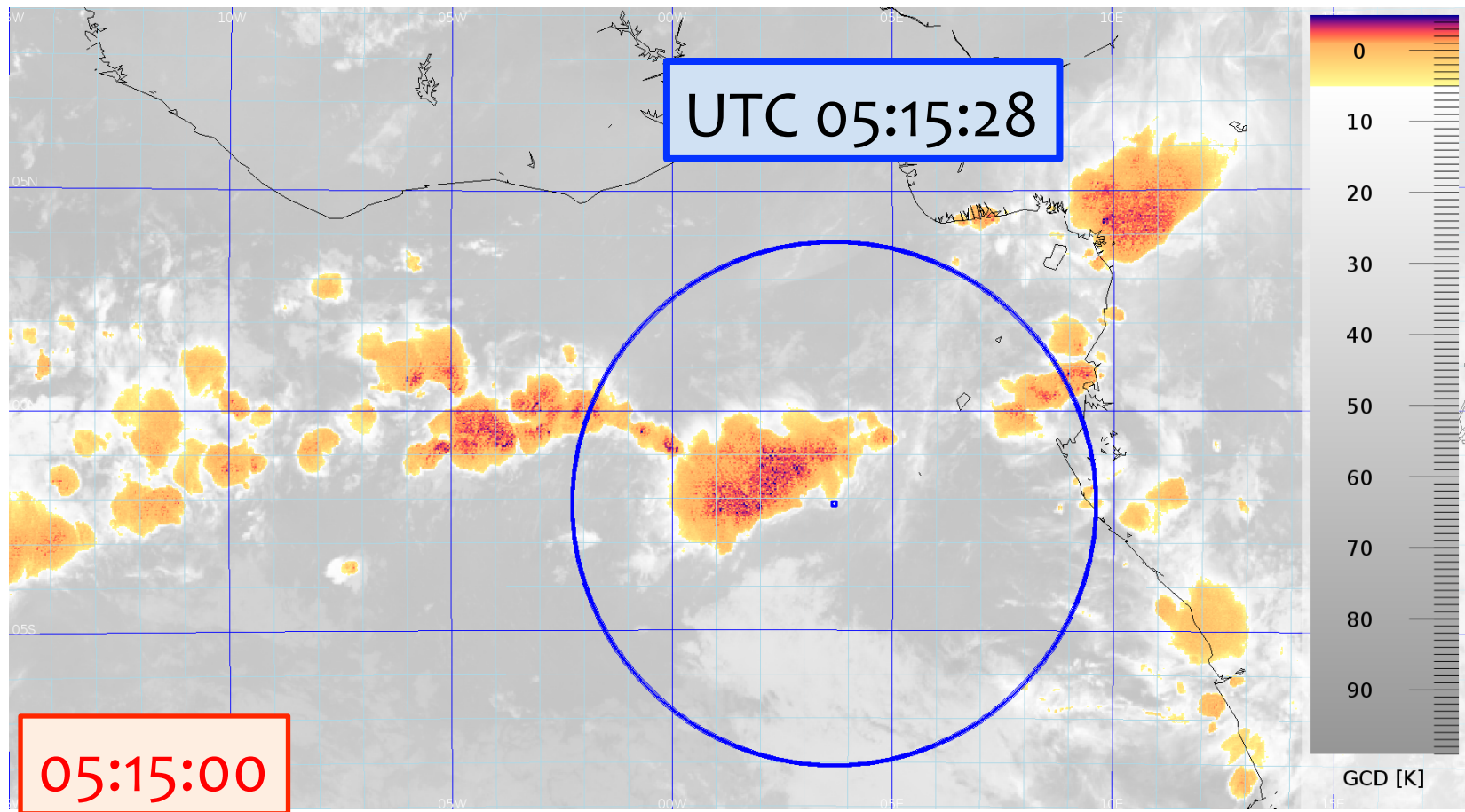
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# Successive TGFs



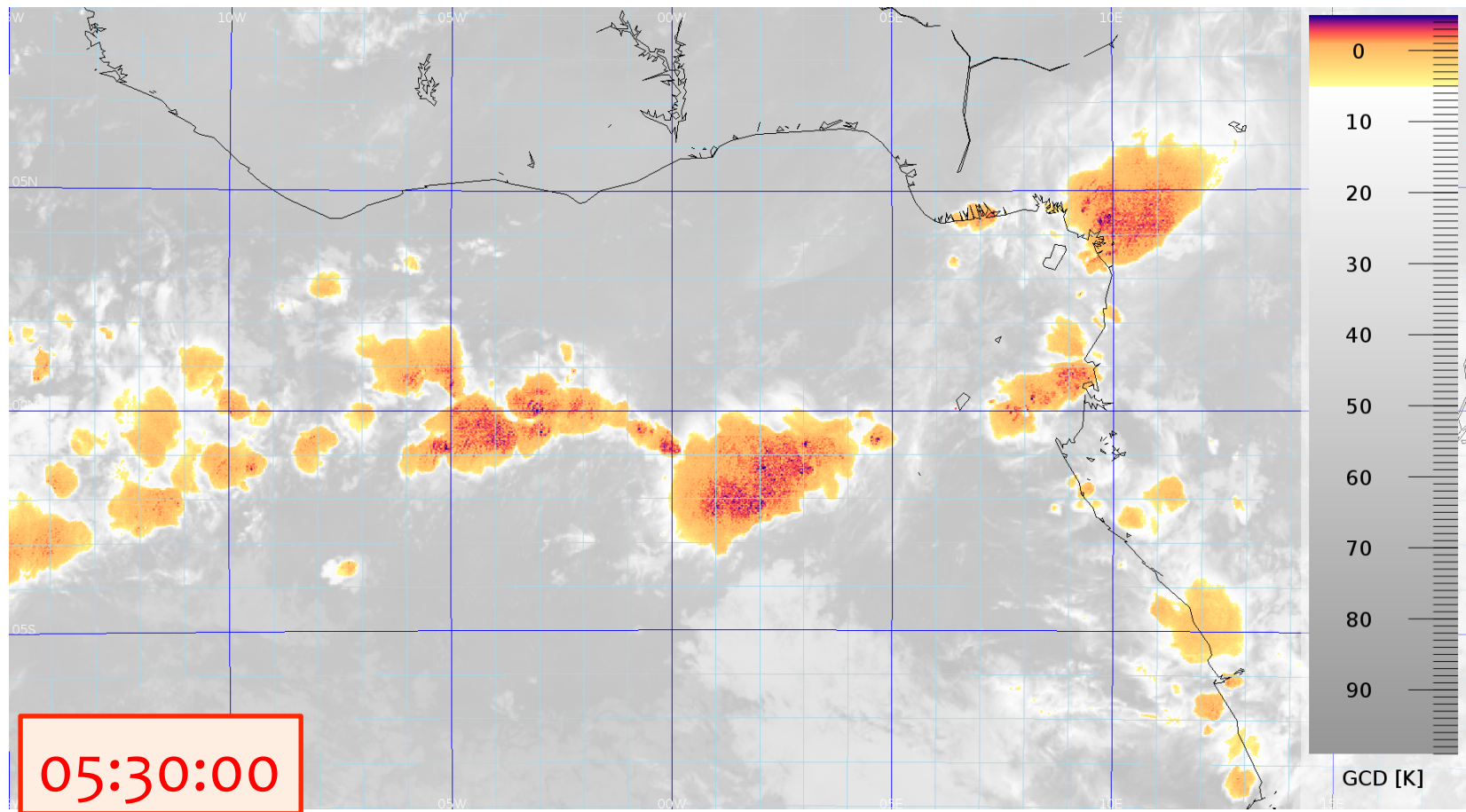
EXAMPLE 6: 24/03/2015

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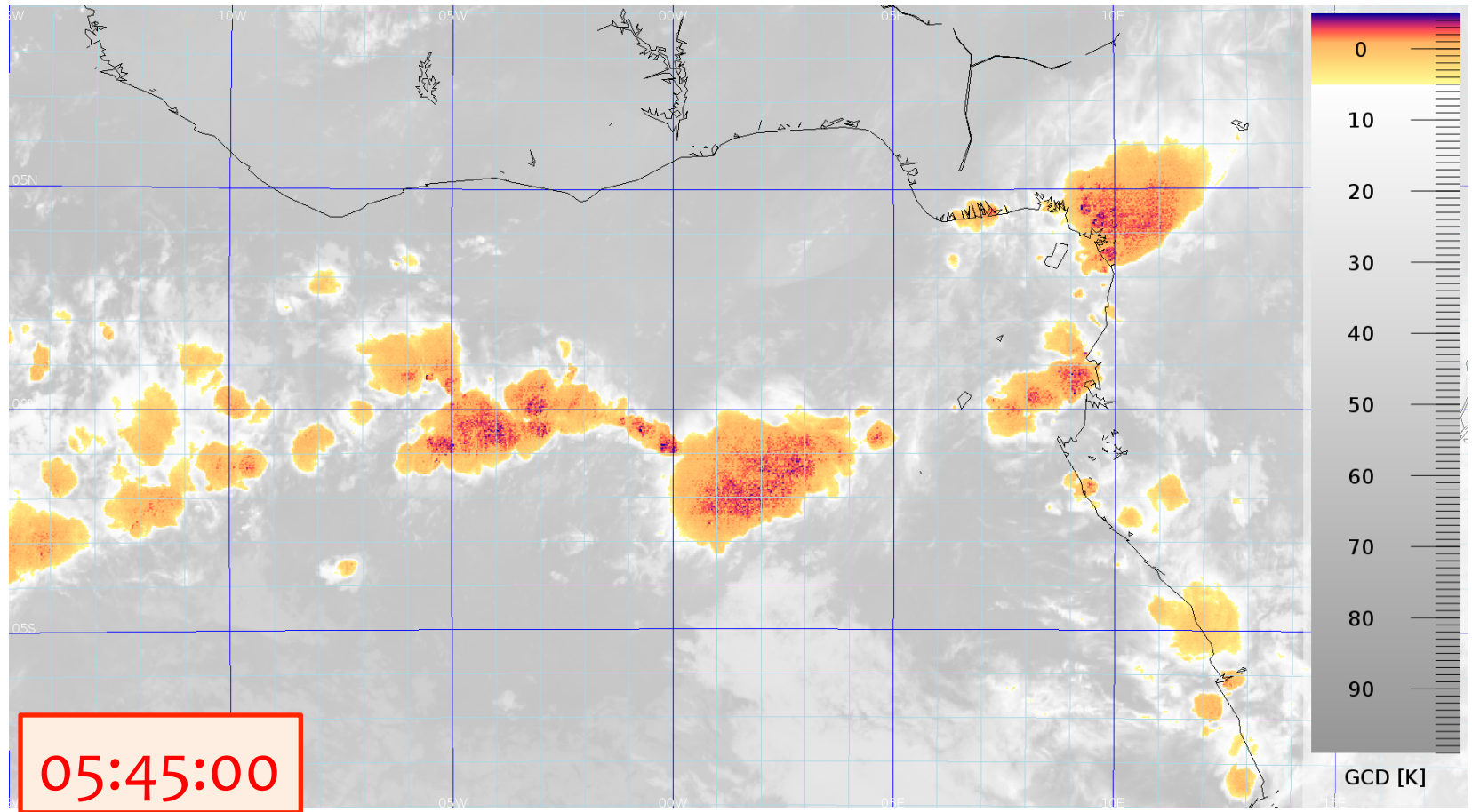
# Successive TGFs



EXAMPLE 6: 24/03/2015



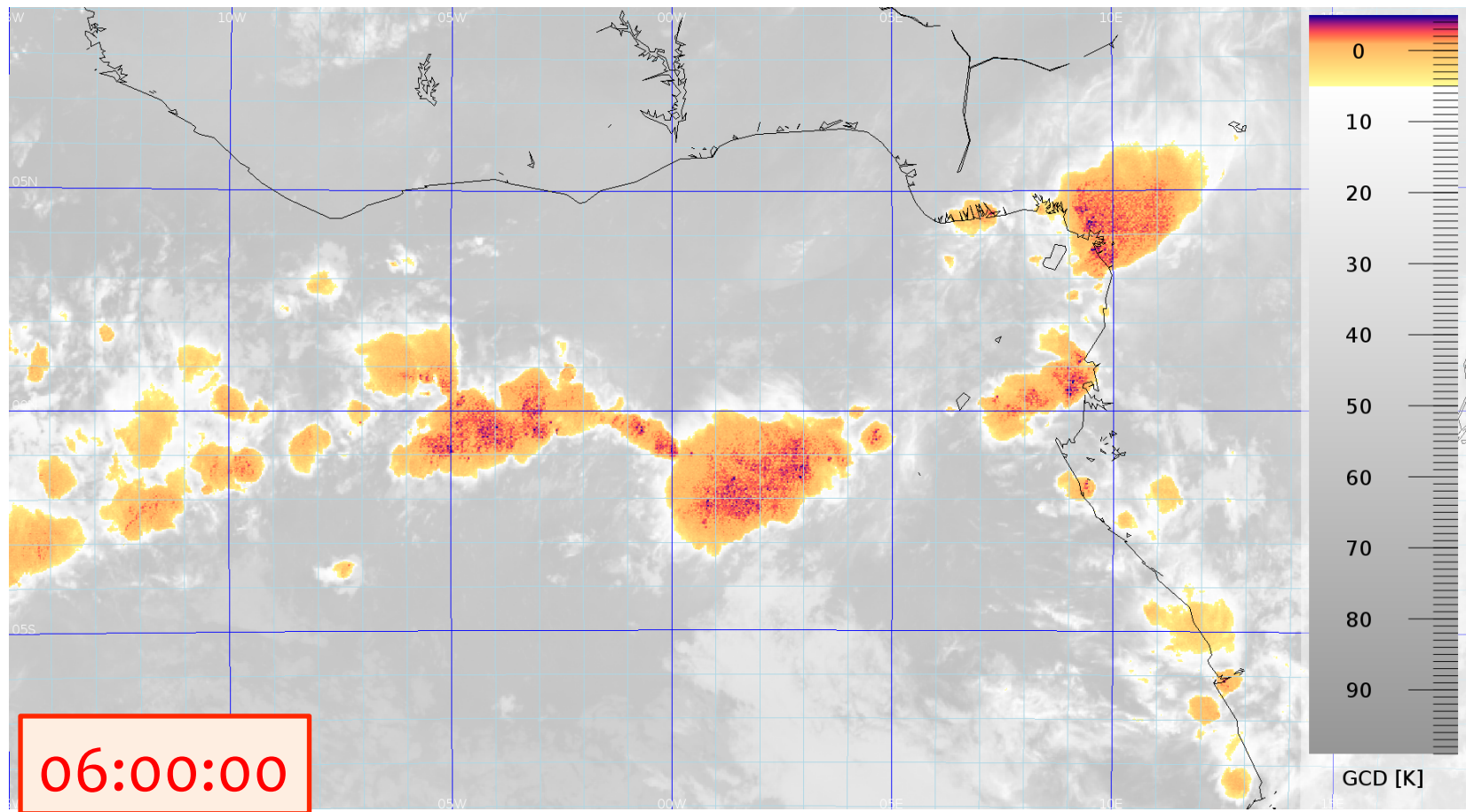
# Successive TGFs



EXAMPLE 6: 24/03/2015



# Successive TGFs



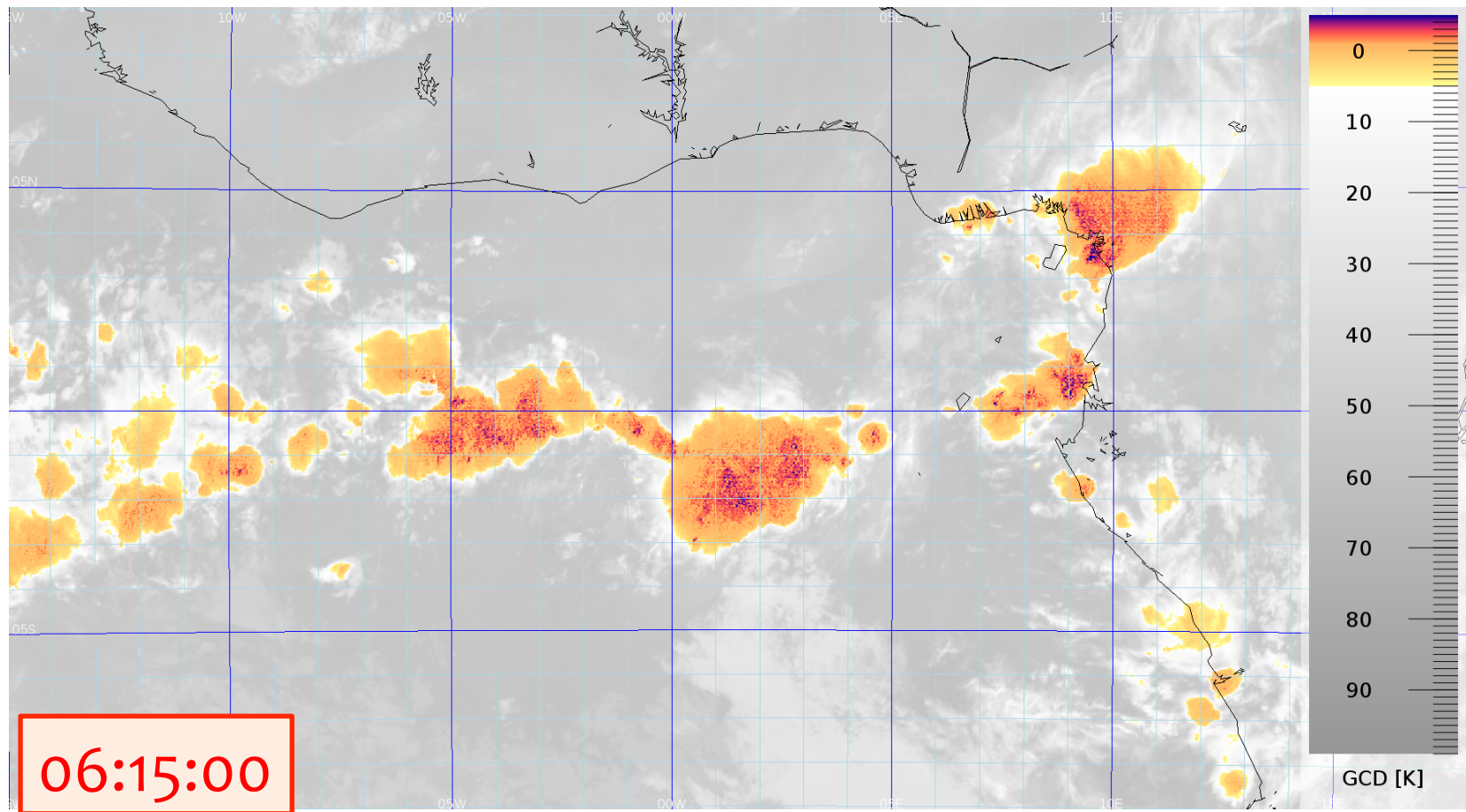
EXAMPLE 6: 24/03/2015

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# Successive TGFs



EXAMPLE 6: 24/03/2015

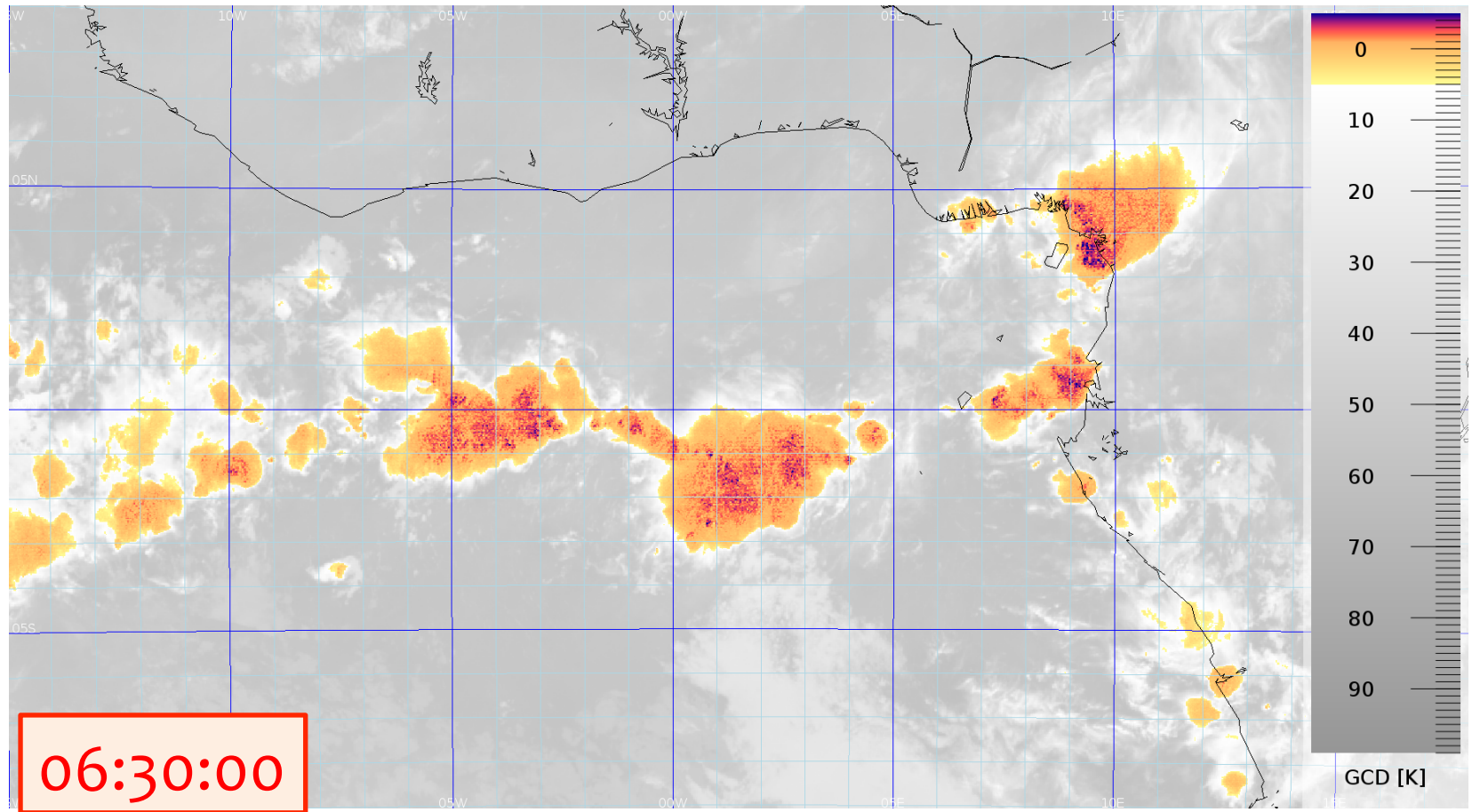
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# Successive TGFs



EXAMPLE 6: 24/03/2015

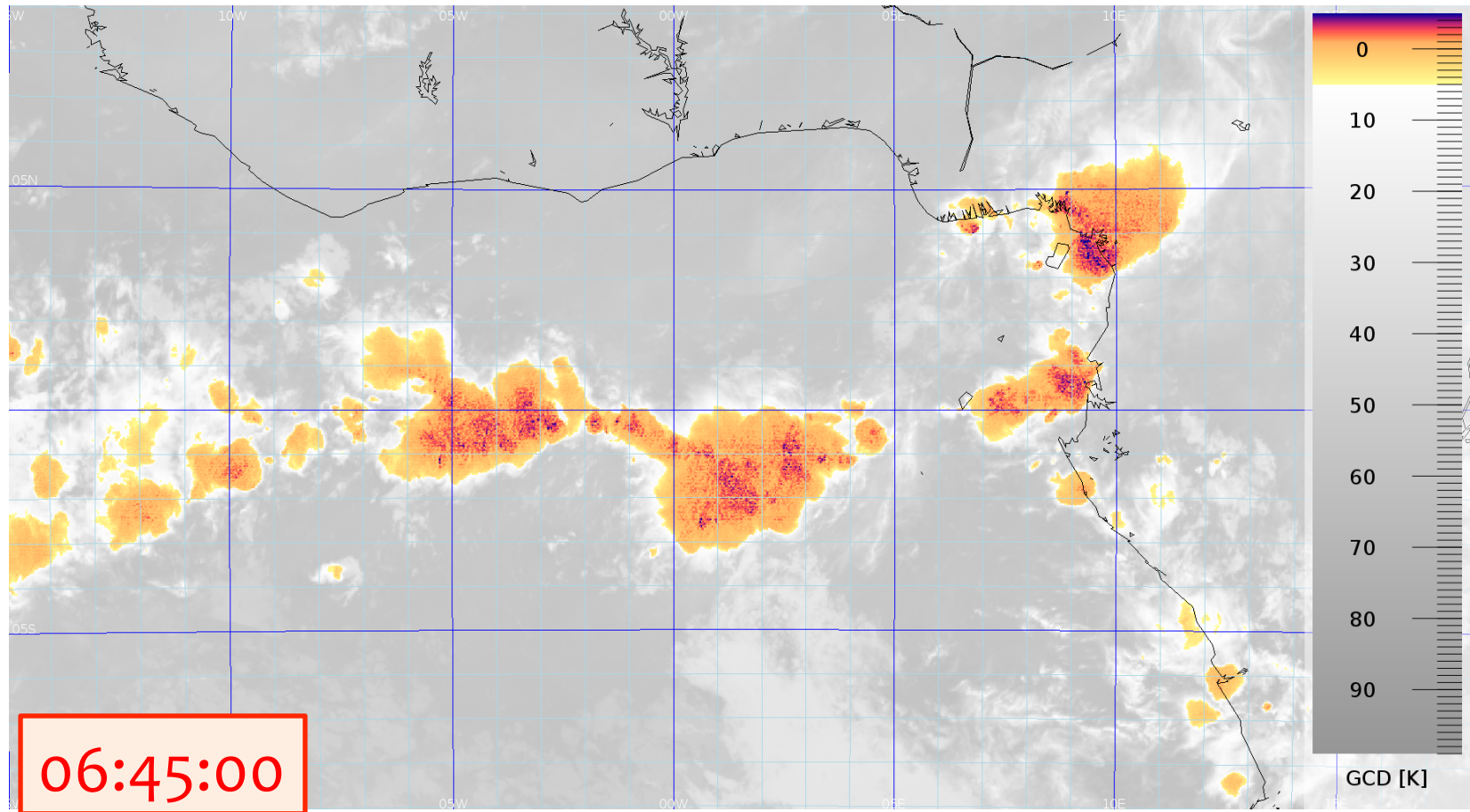
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# Successive TGFs



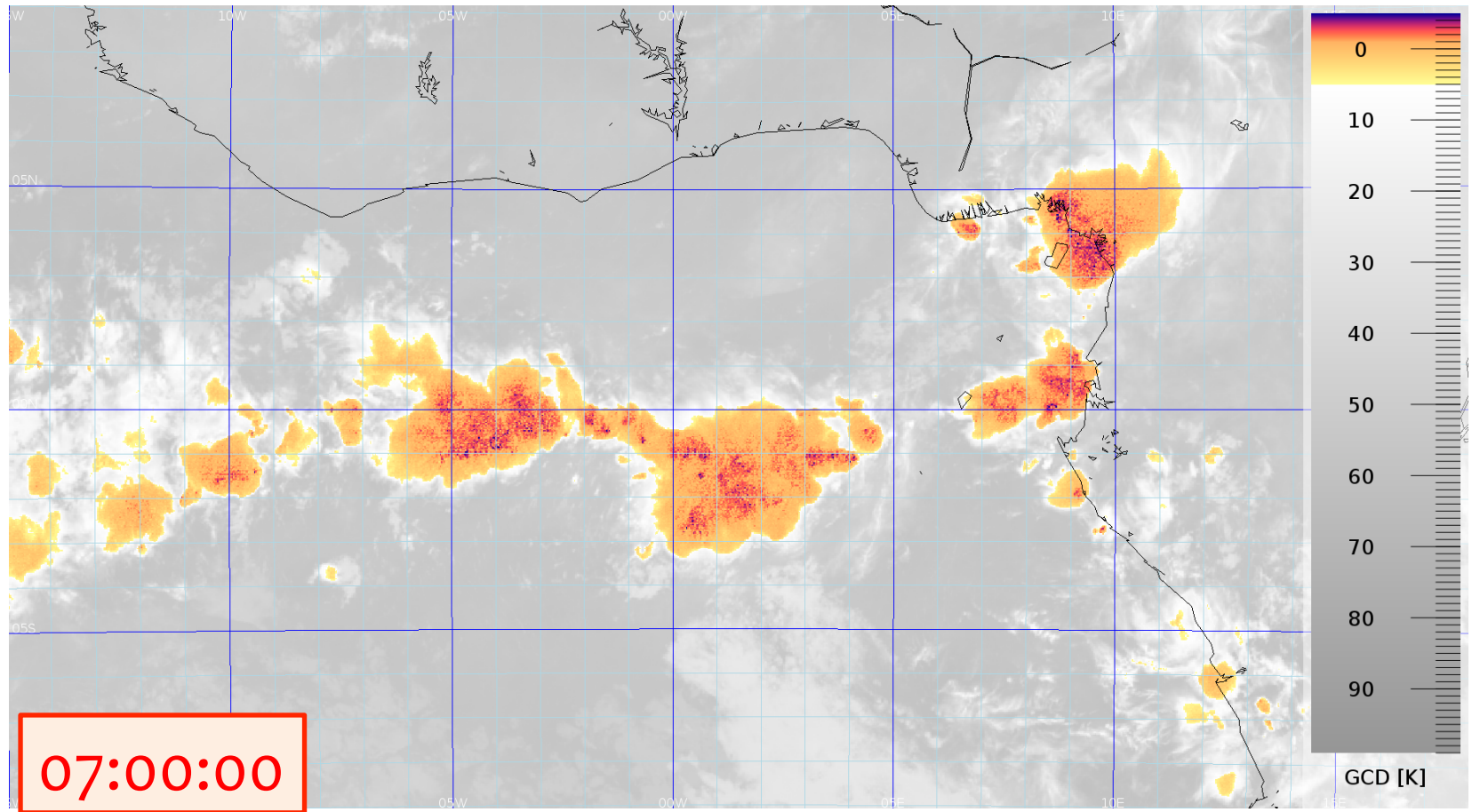
EXAMPLE 6: 24/03/2015

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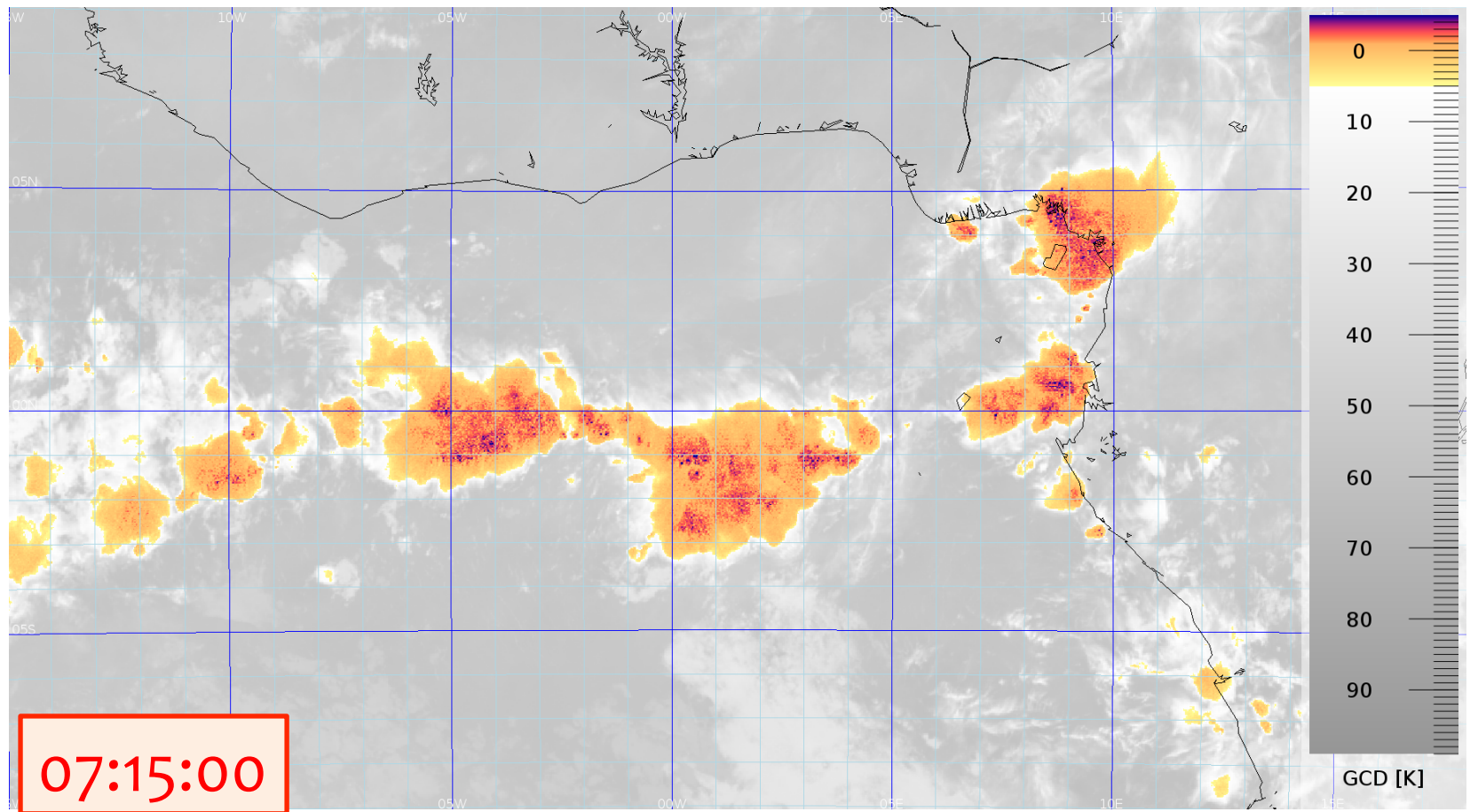
# Successive TGFs



EXAMPLE 6: 24/03/2015



# Successive TGFs



EXAMPLE 6: 24/03/2015

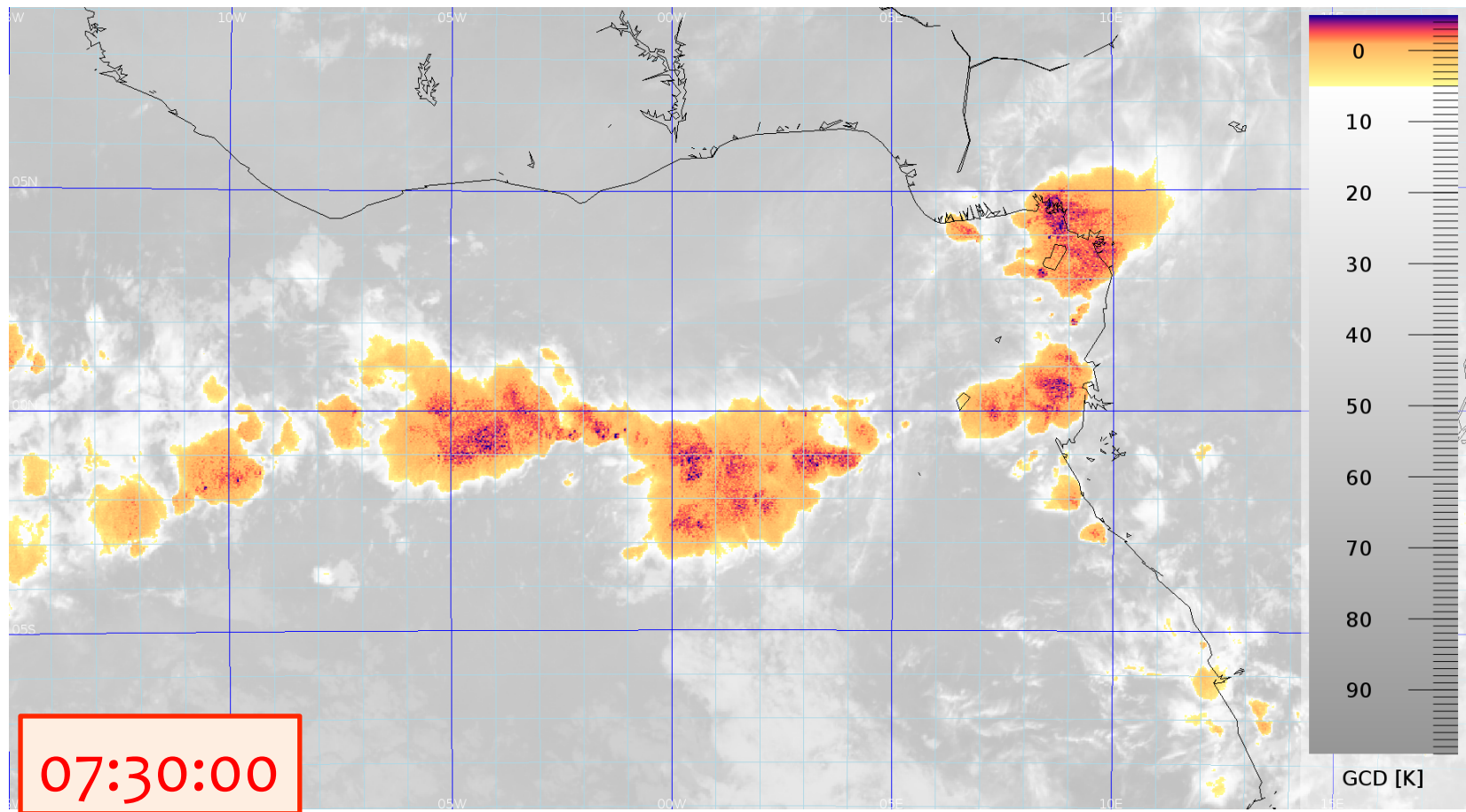
Alessandro Ursi

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# Successive TGFs



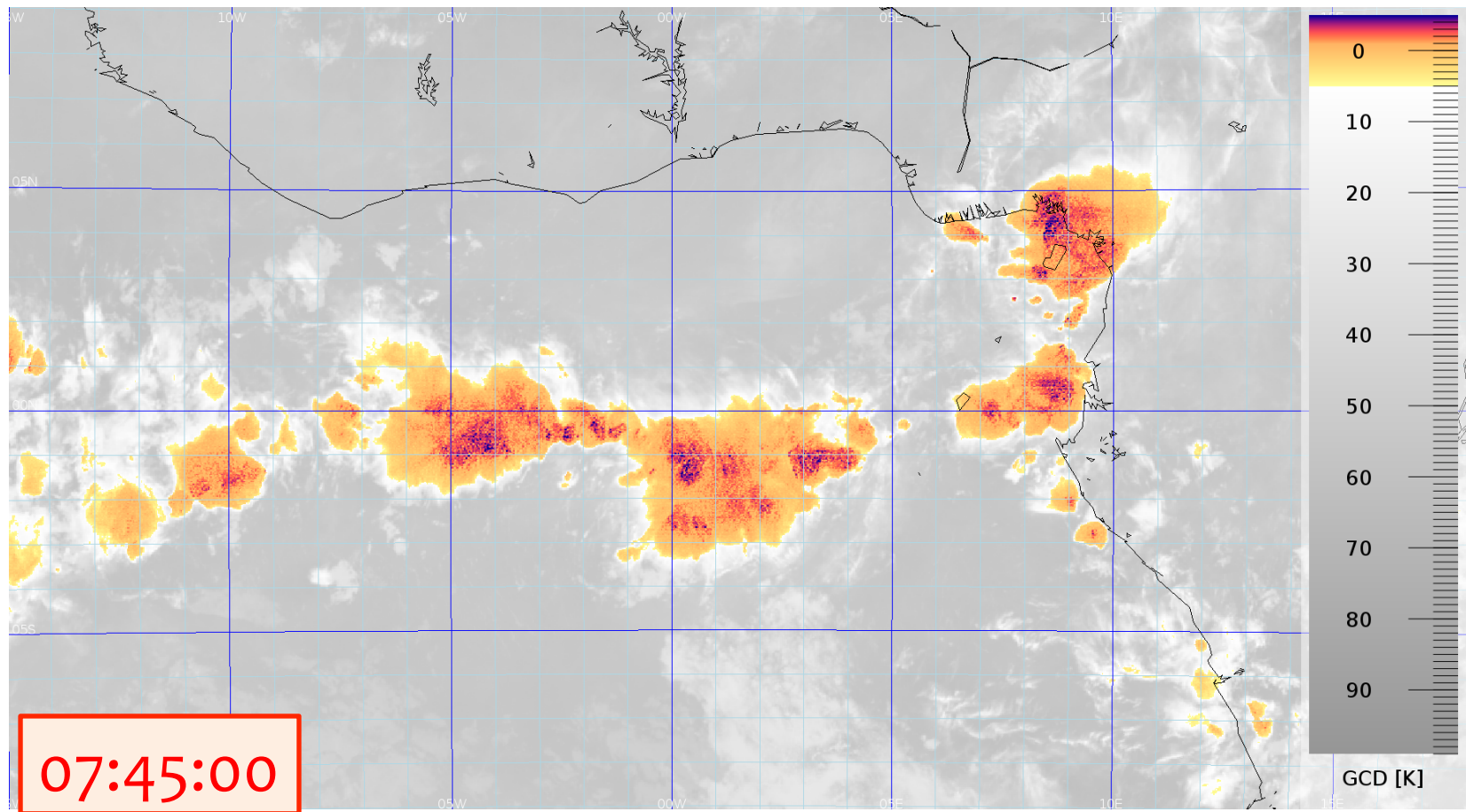
EXAMPLE 6: 24/03/2015

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# Successive TGFs



EXAMPLE 6: 24/03/2015

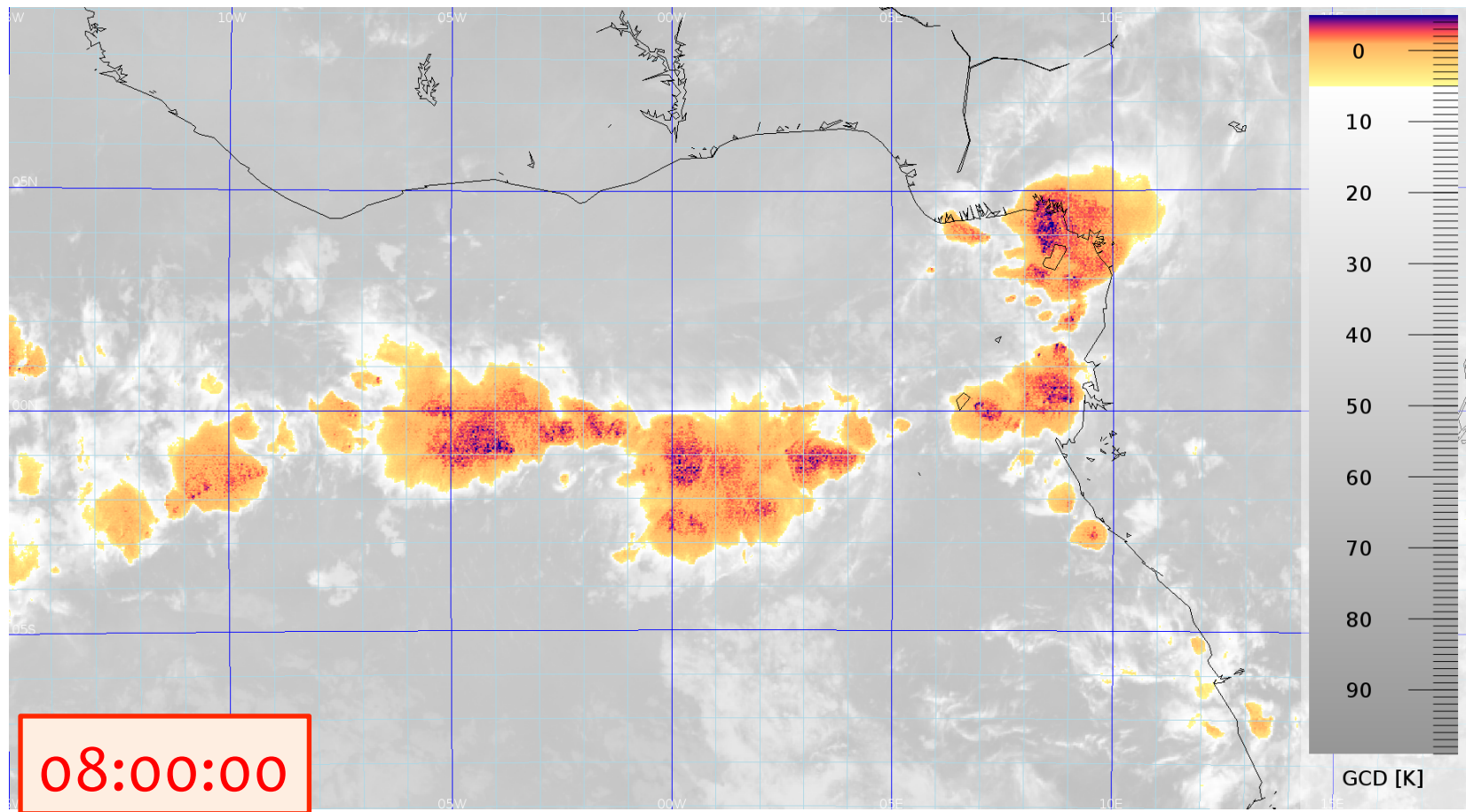
Alessandro Ursi

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# Successive TGFs



EXAMPLE 6: 24/03/2015

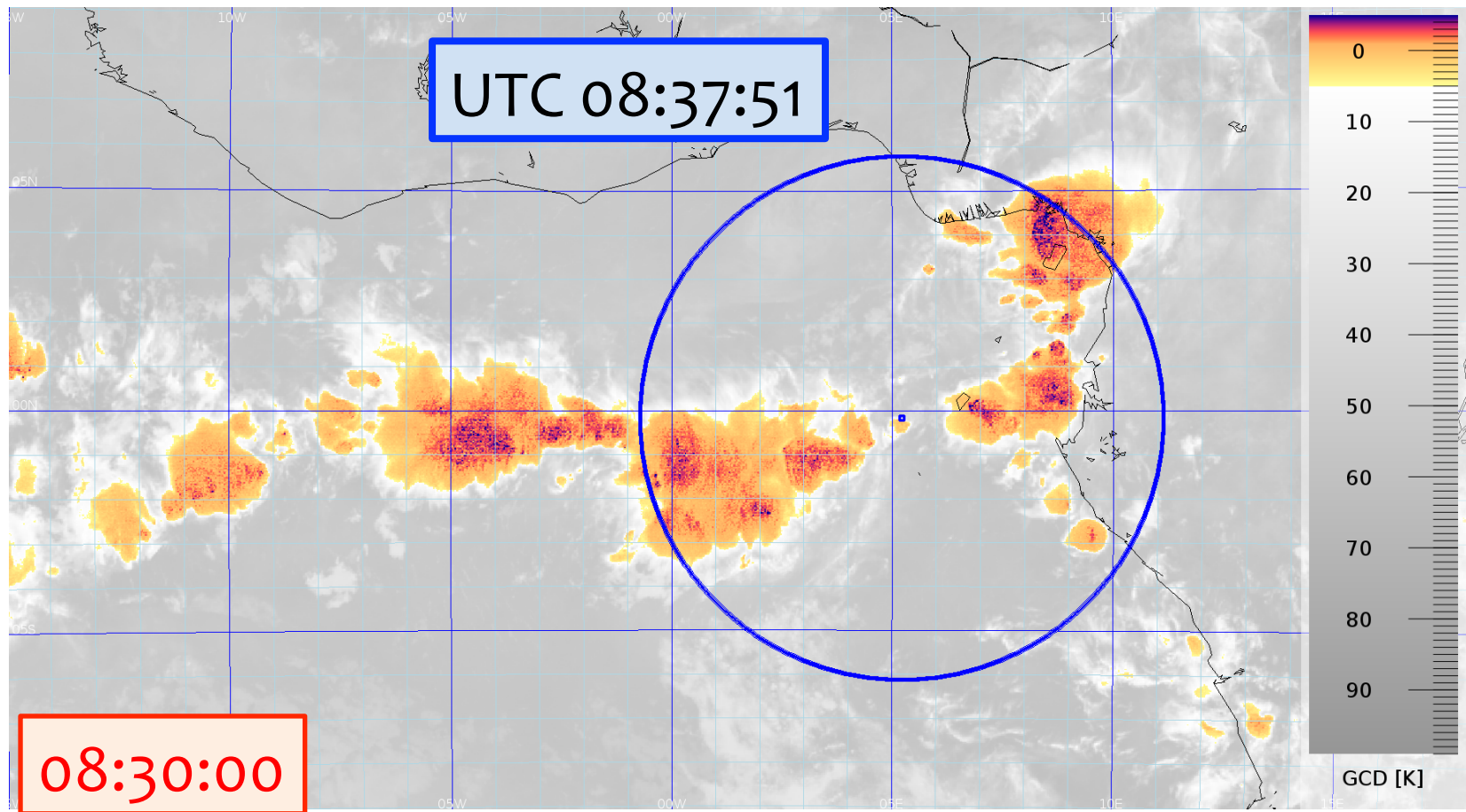
Alessandro Ursi

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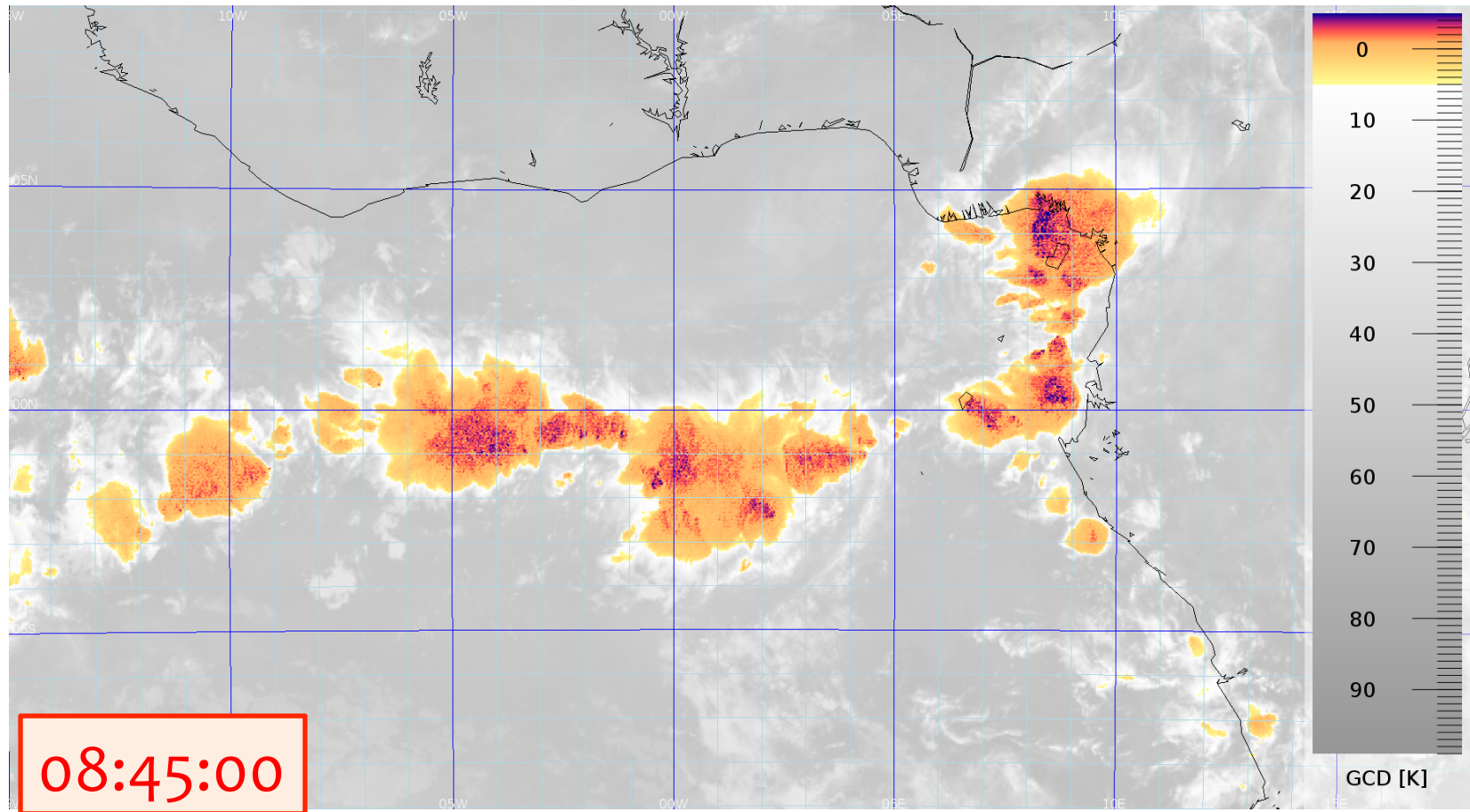


# Successive TGFs



EXAMPLE 6: 24/03/2015

# Successive TGFs



EXAMPLE 6: 24/03/2015

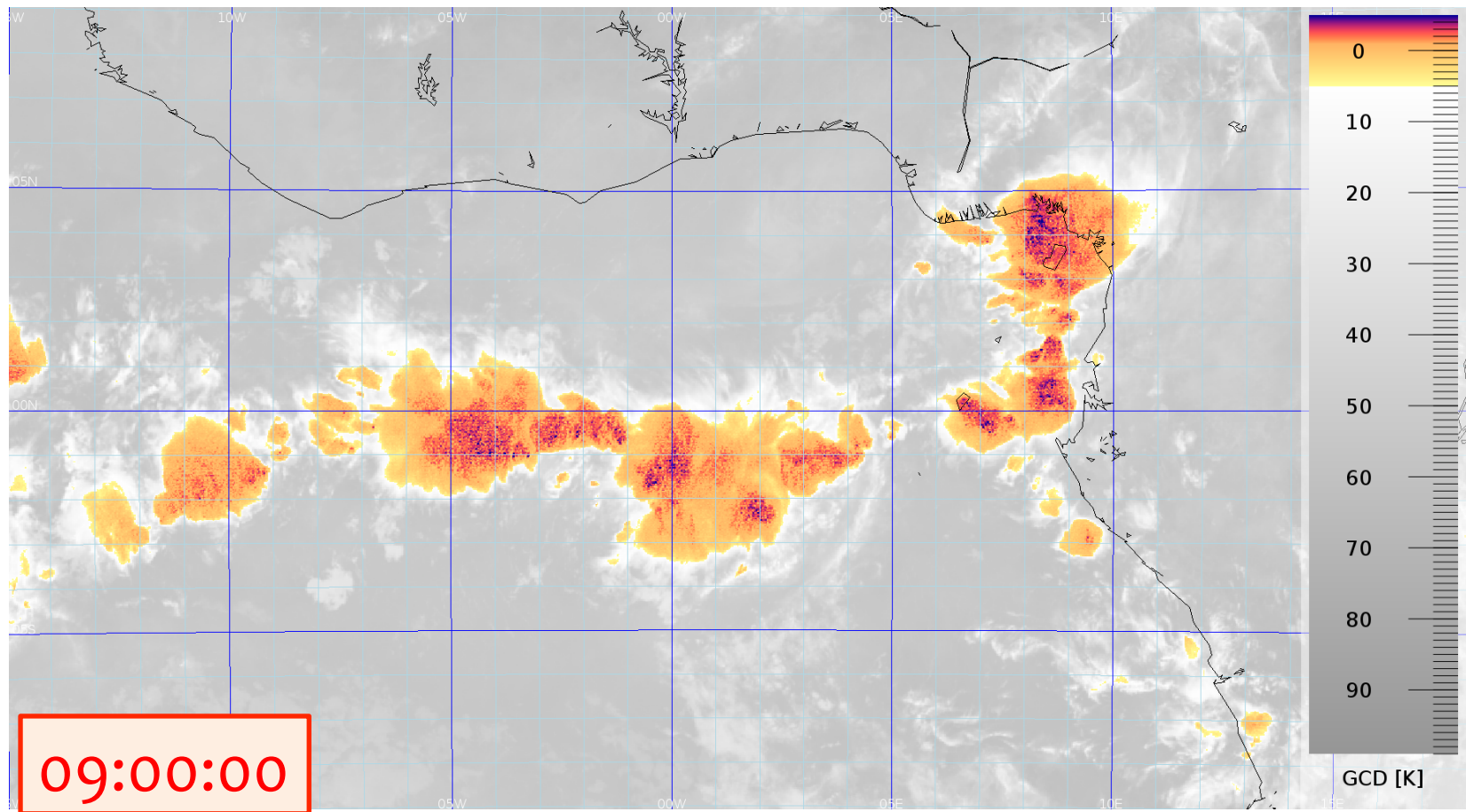
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# Successive TGFs



EXAMPLE 6: 24/03/2015

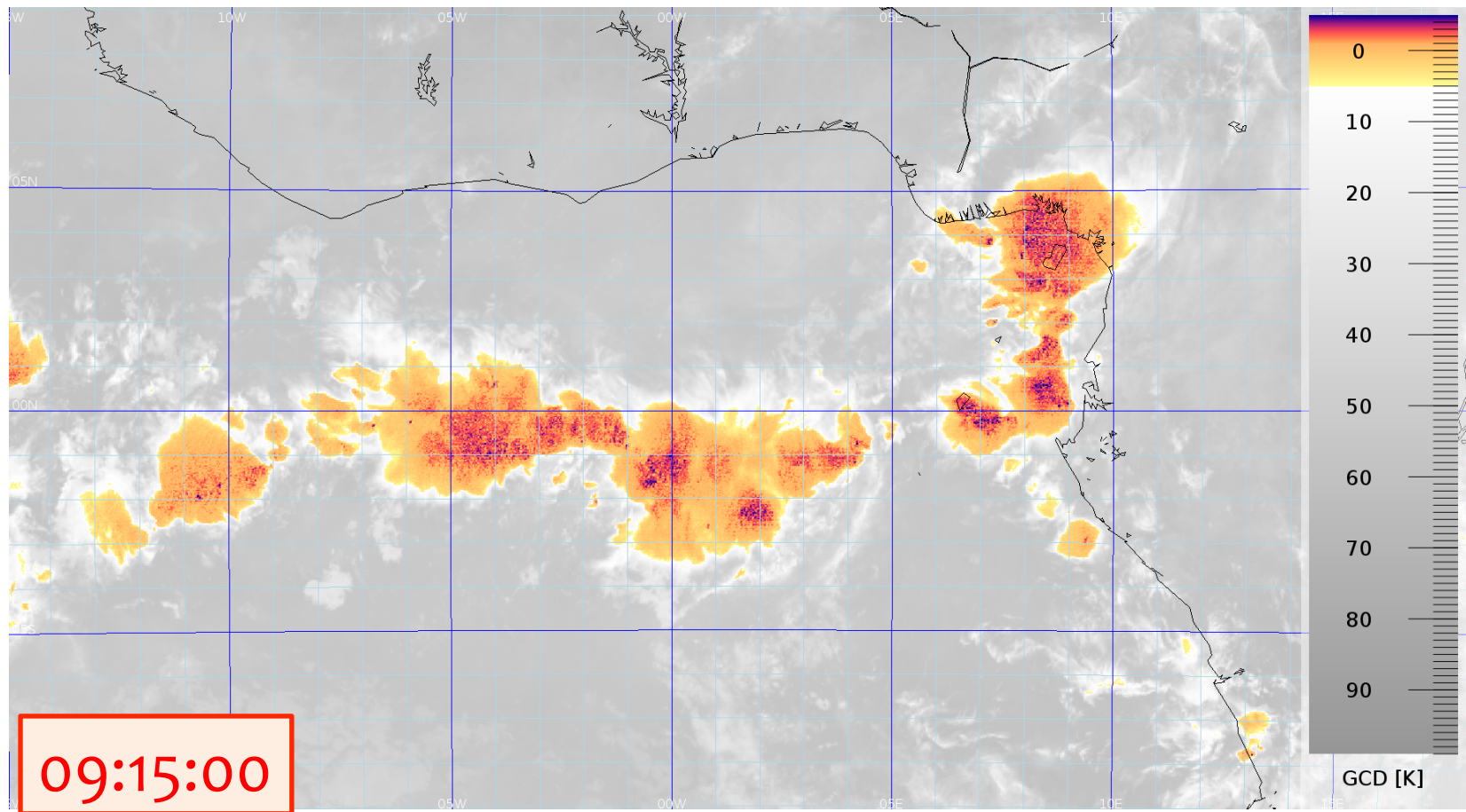
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# Successive TGFs



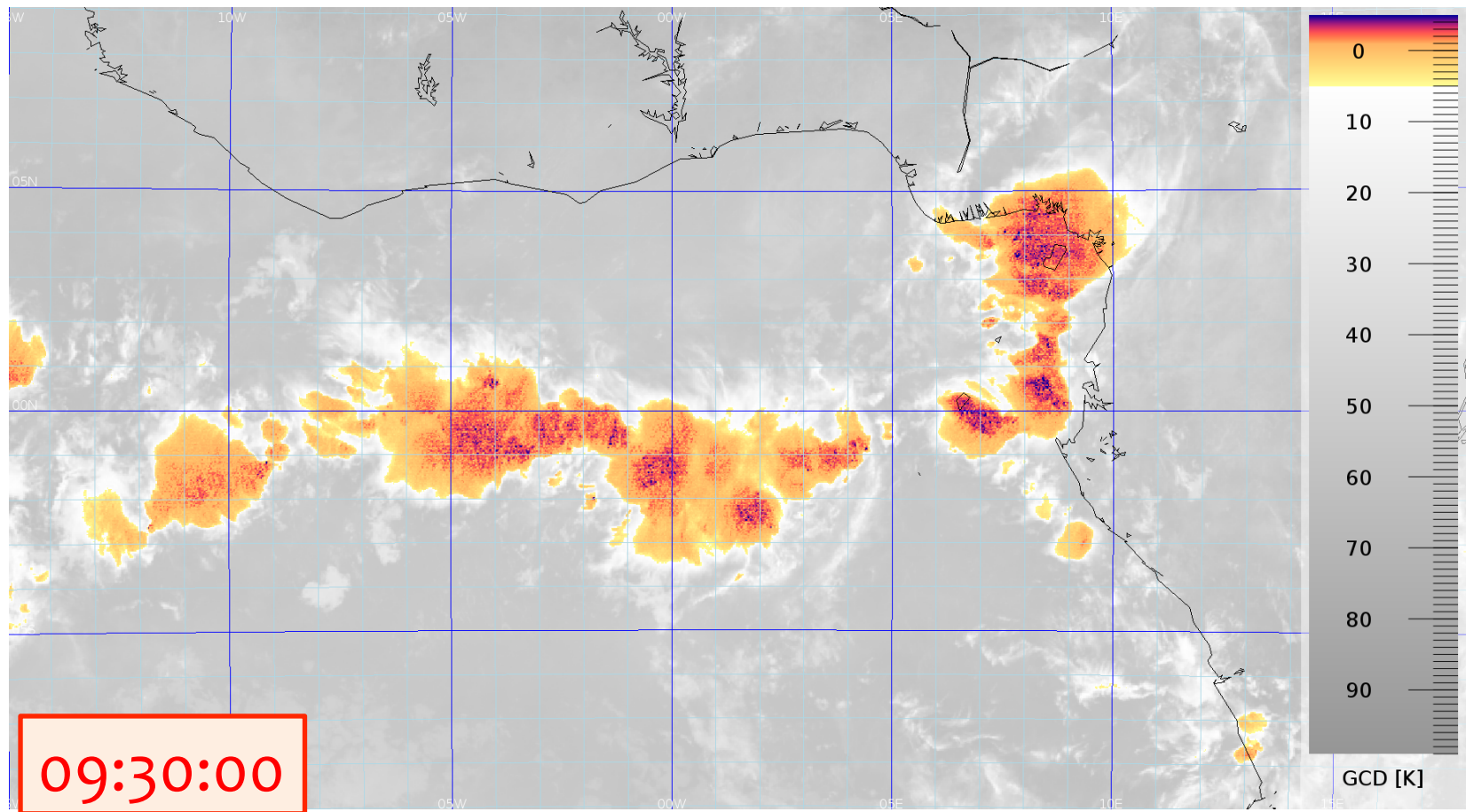
EXAMPLE 6: 24/03/2015

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# Successive TGFs



EXAMPLE 6: 24/03/2015

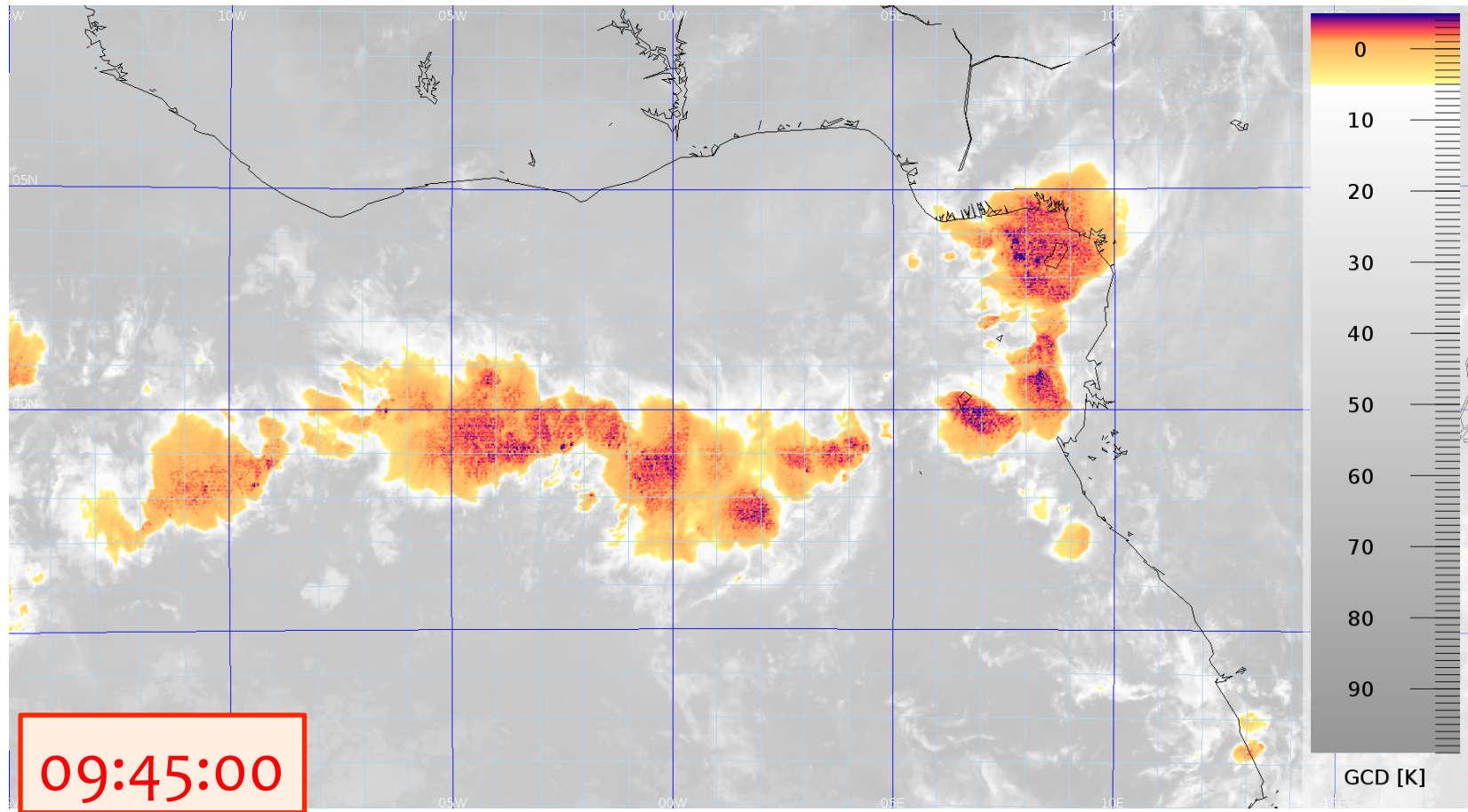
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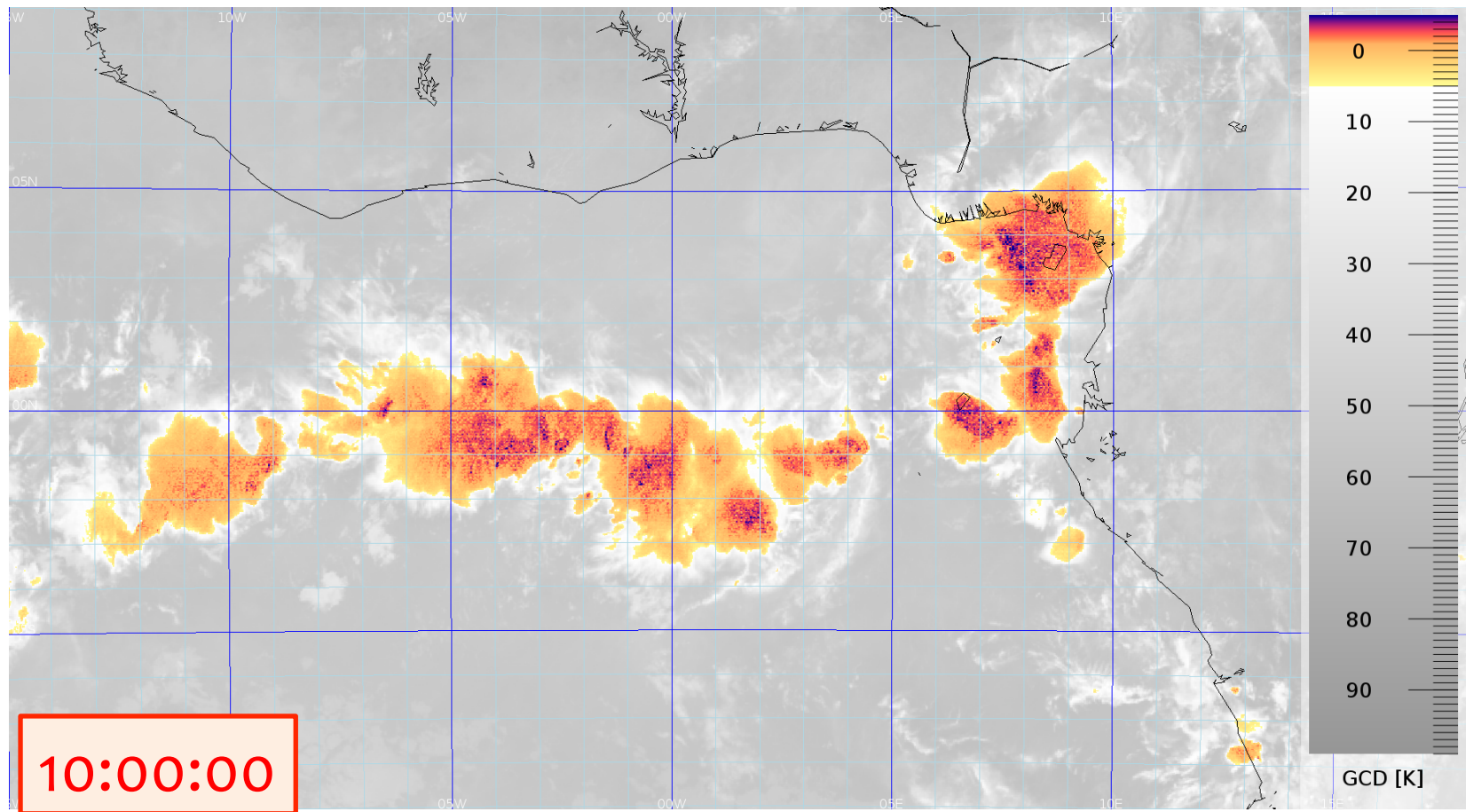
# Successive TGFs



EXAMPLE 6: 24/03/2015



# Successive TGFs



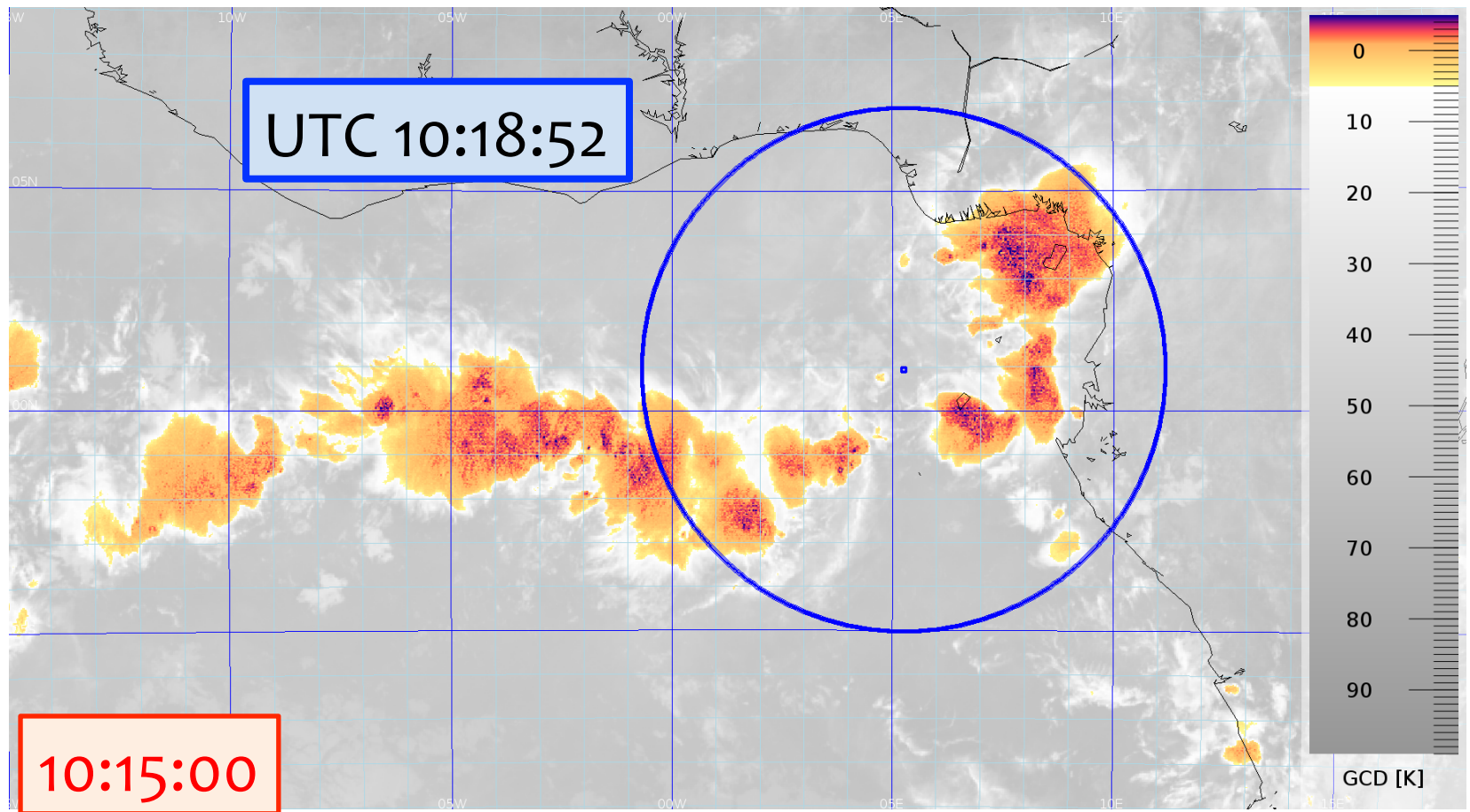
EXAMPLE 6: 24/03/2015

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# Successive TGFs



EXAMPLE 6: 24/03/2015

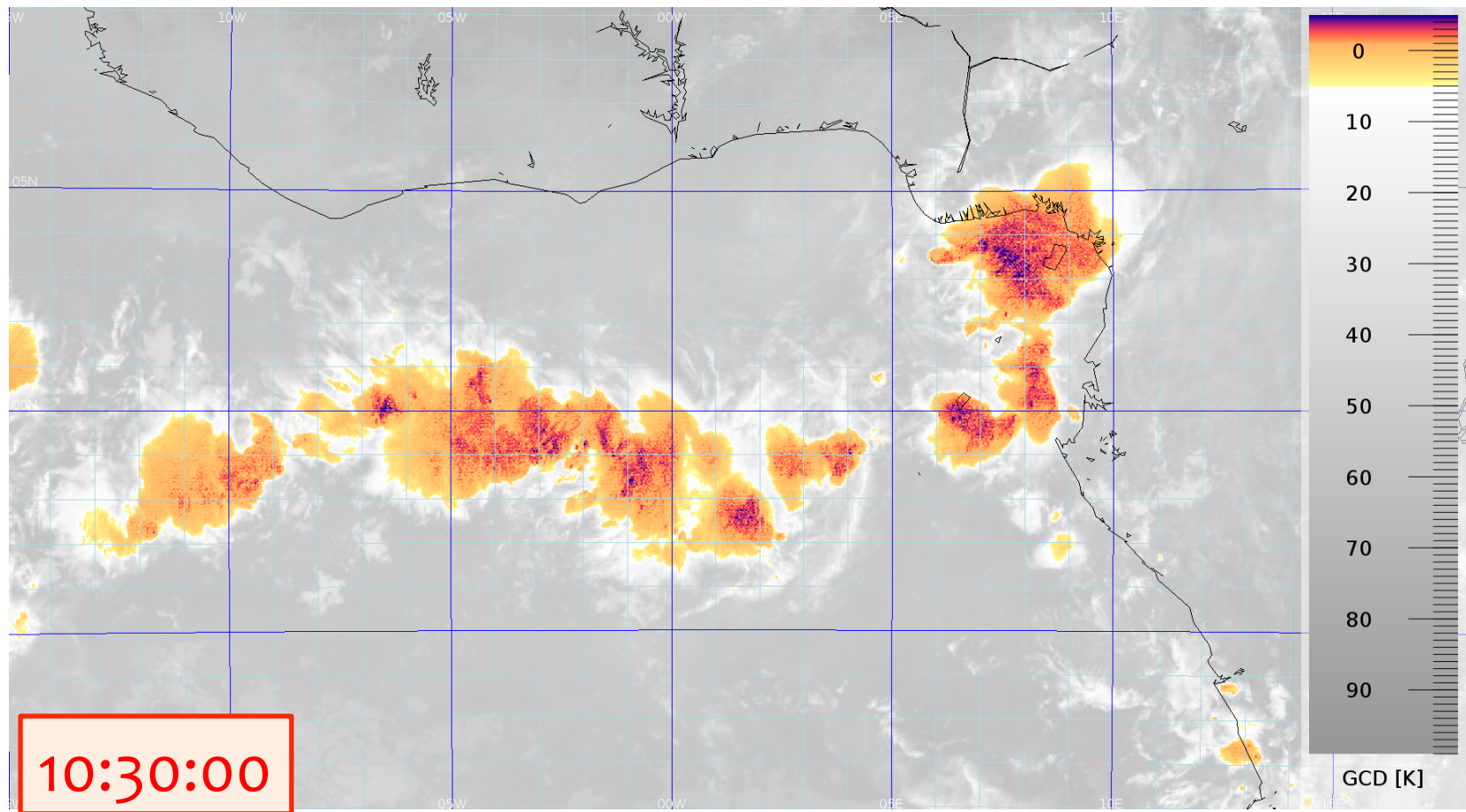
Alessandro Ursi

Detection of TGFs in an enhanced configuration and link with meteorological information

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# Successive TGFs



EXAMPLE 6: 24/03/2015

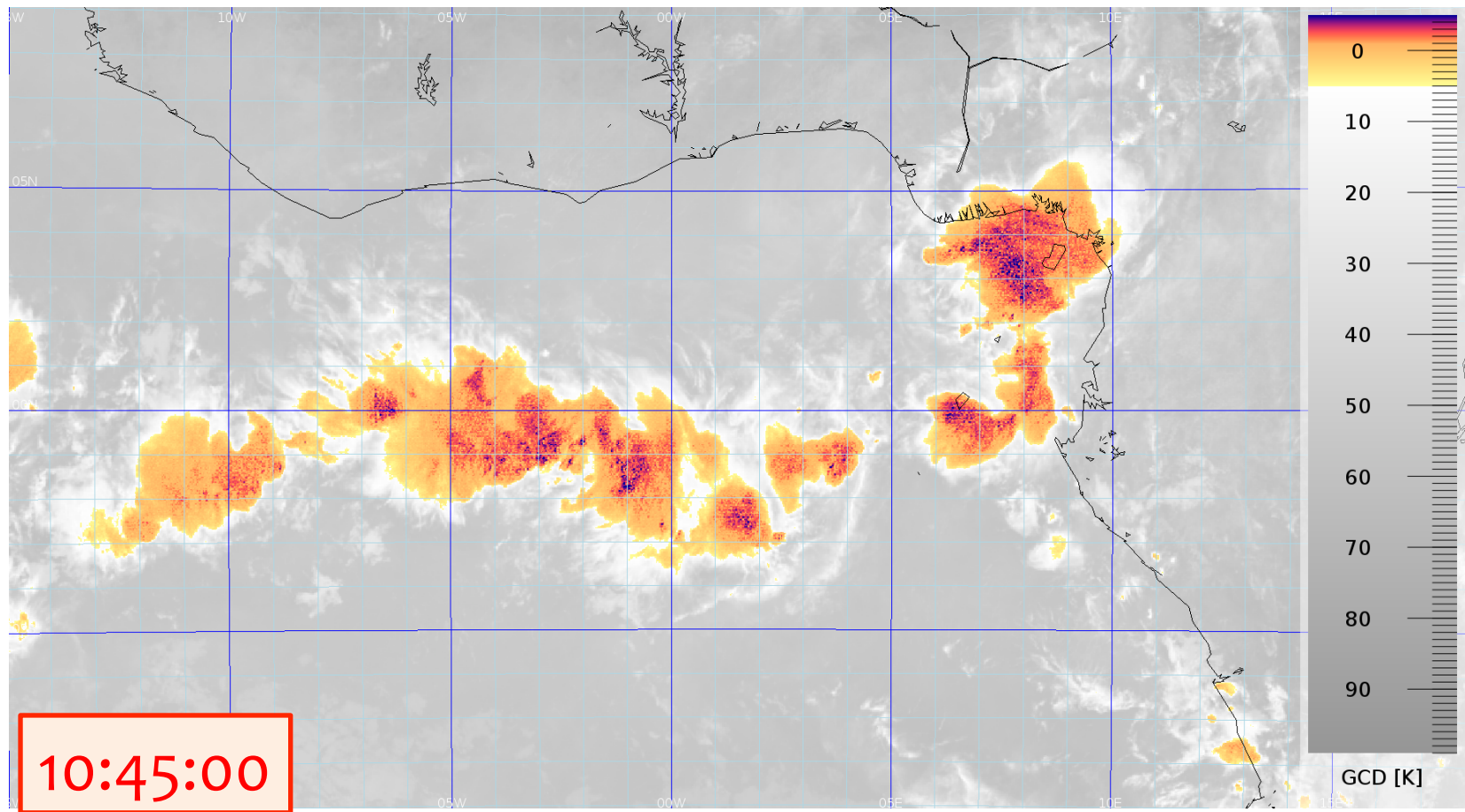
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# Successive TGFs



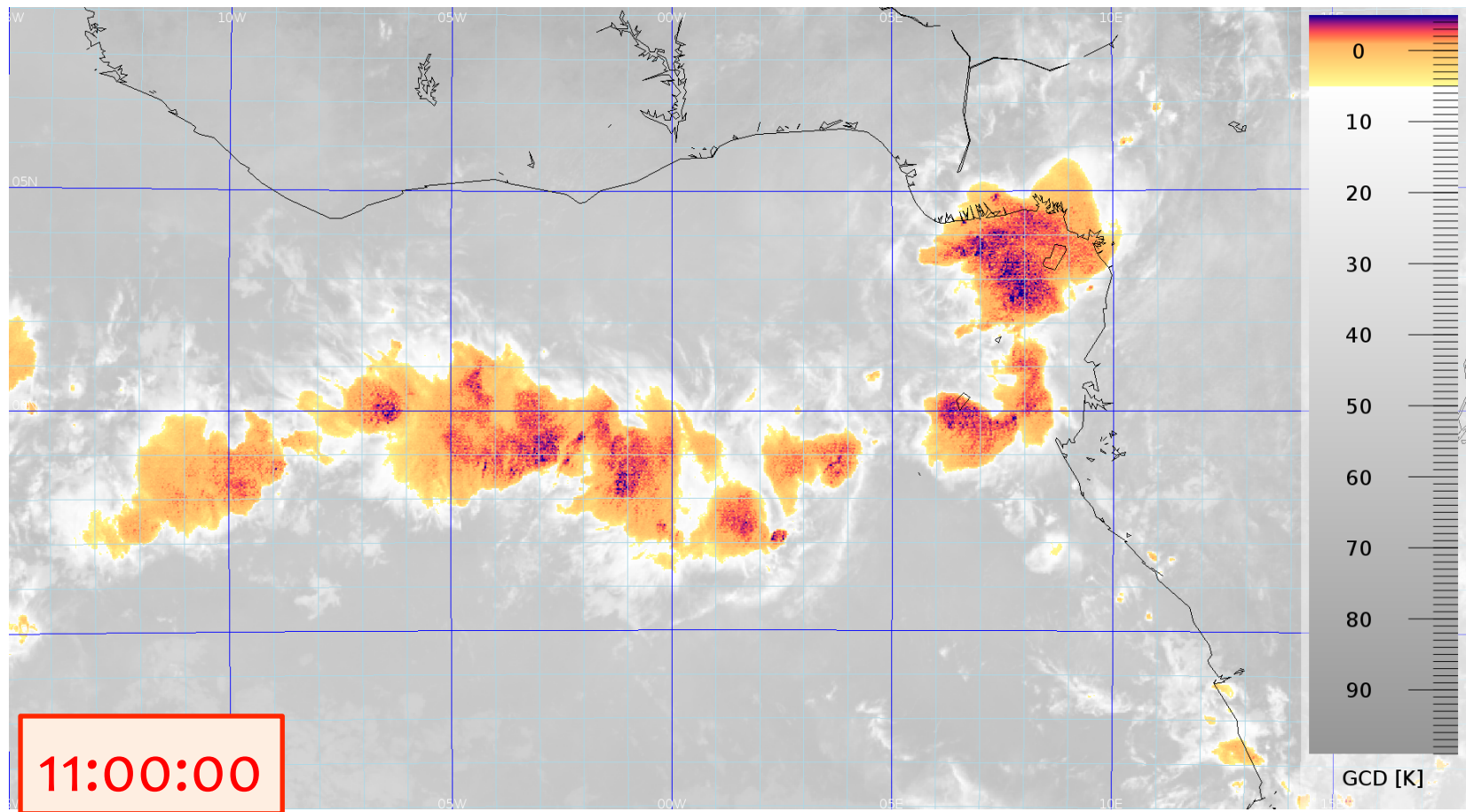
EXAMPLE 6: 24/03/2015

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Detection of TGFs in an enhanced configuration and link with meteorological information

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# Successive TGFs



EXAMPLE 6: 24/03/2015

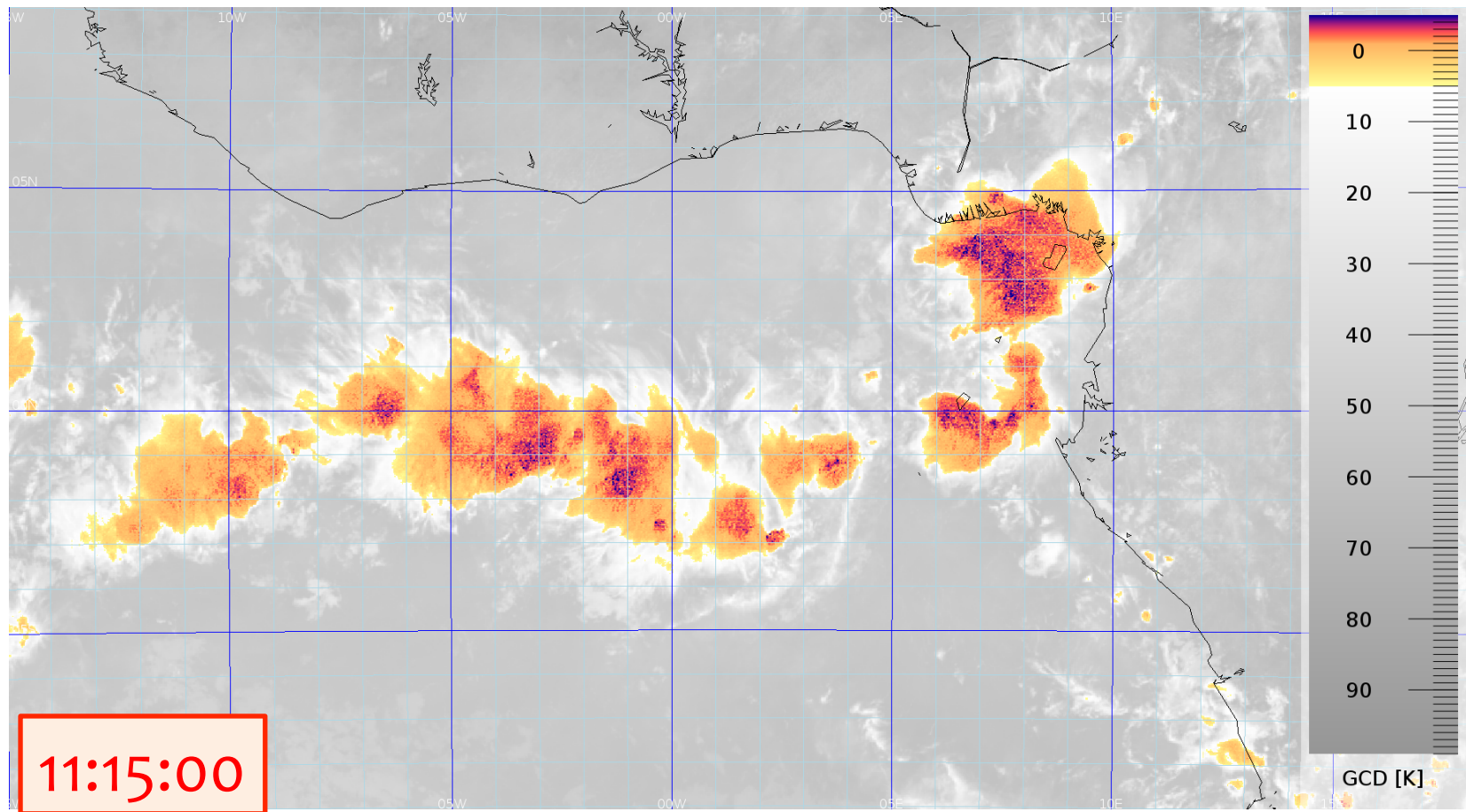
Alessandro Ursi

Detection of TGFs in an enhanced configuration and link with meteorological information

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# Successive TGFs



EXAMPLE 6: 24/03/2015

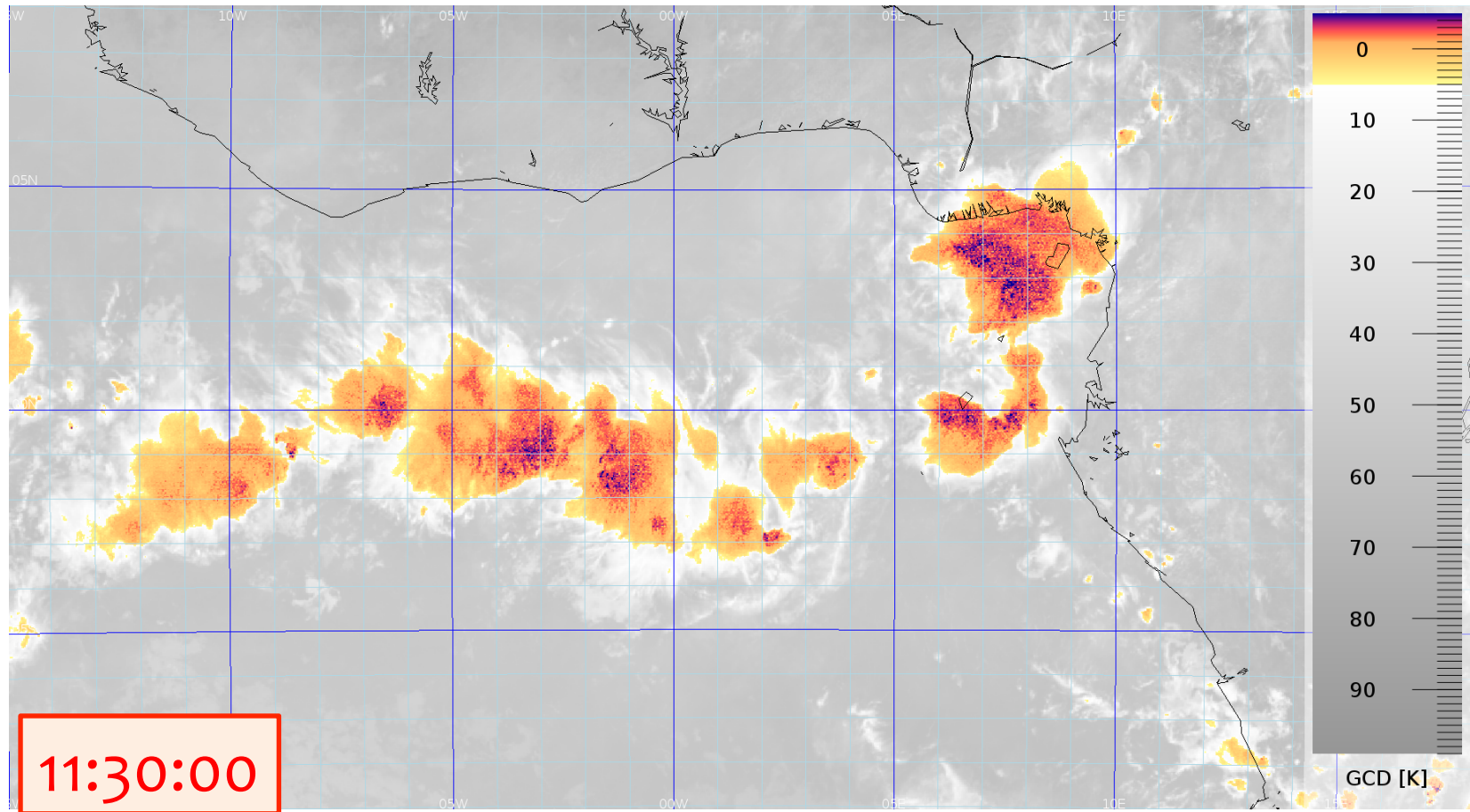
Alessandro Ursi

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# Successive TGFs



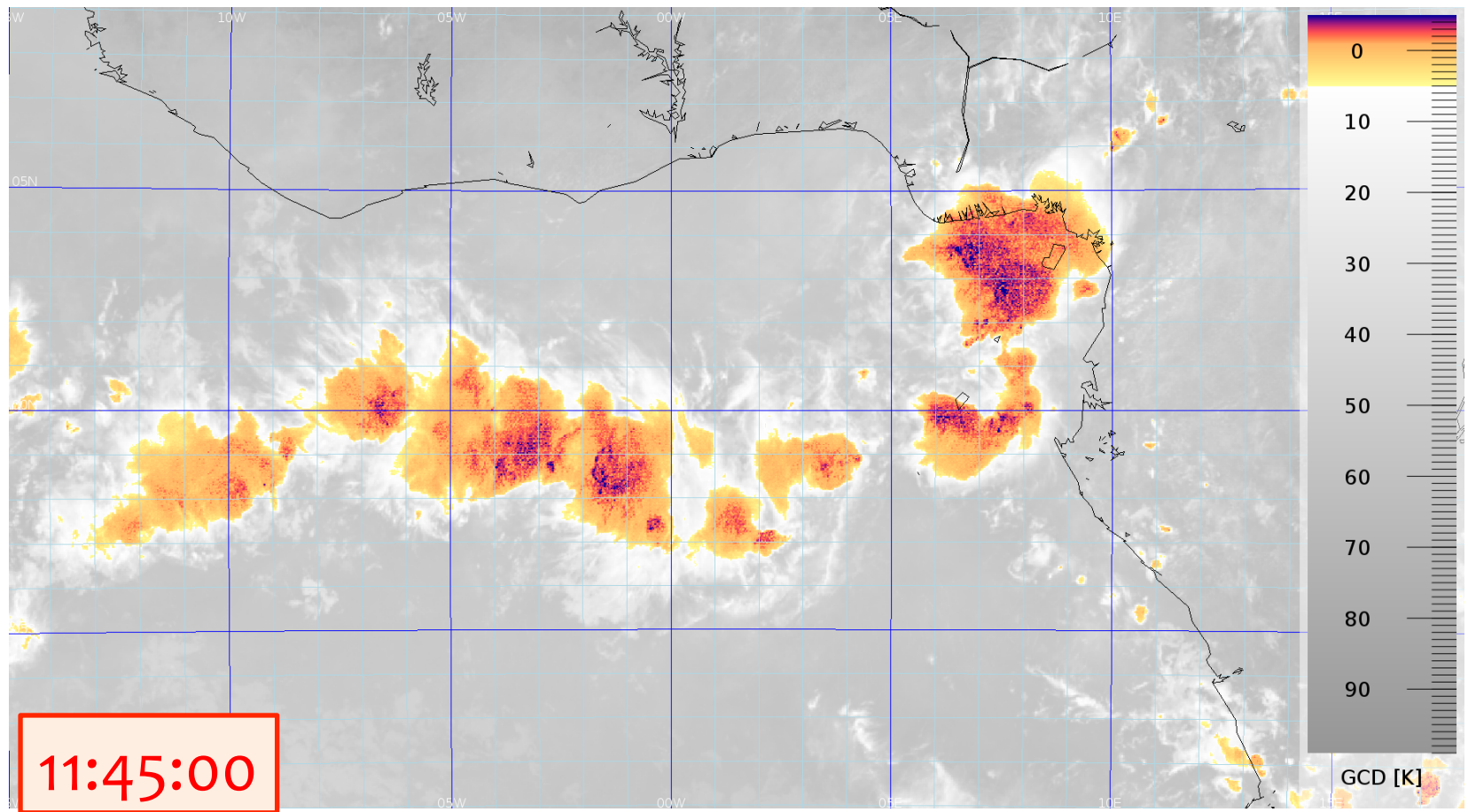
EXAMPLE 6: 24/03/2015

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# Successive TGFs



EXAMPLE 6: 24/03/2015

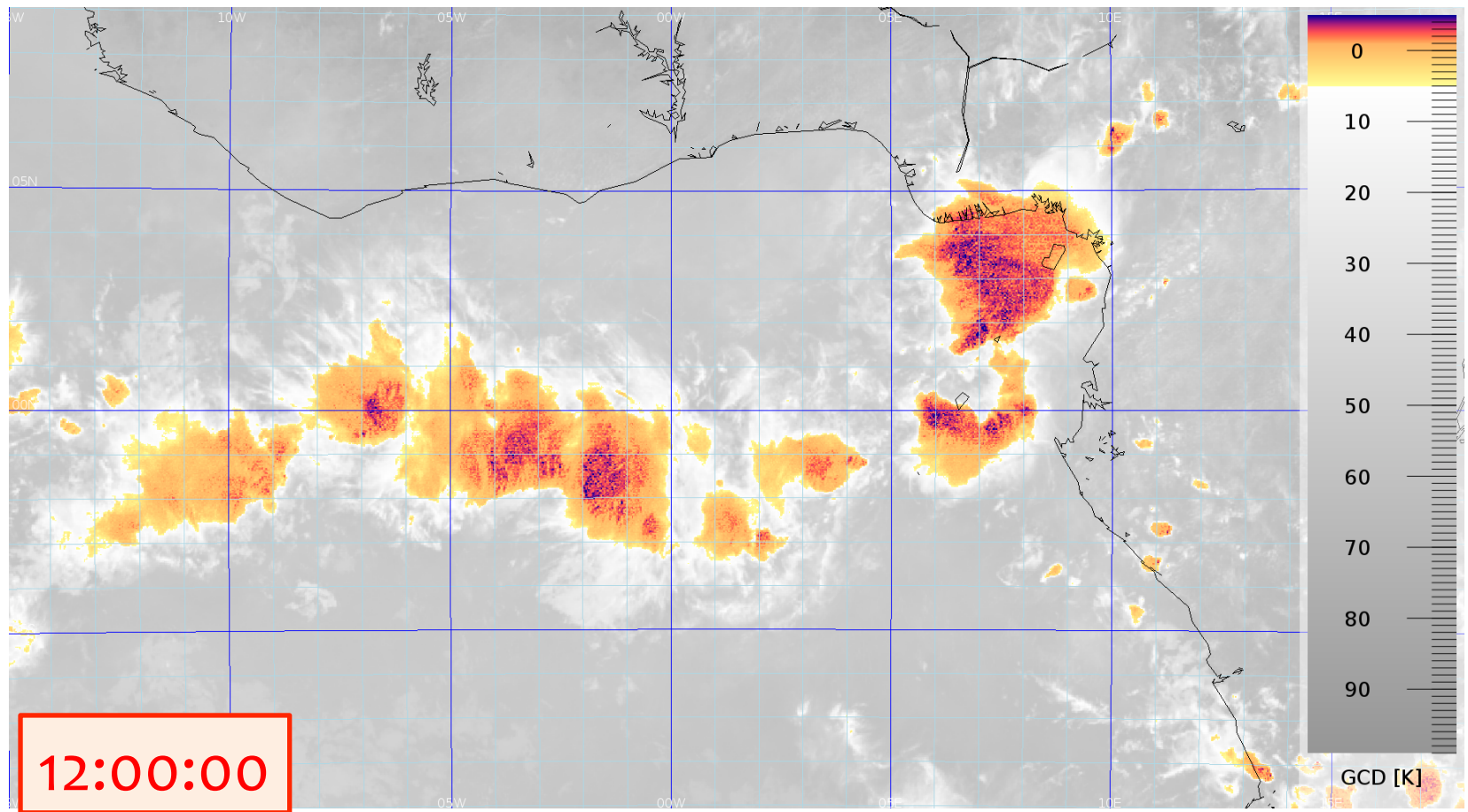
Alessandro Ursi

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# Successive TGFs



EXAMPLE 6: 24/03/2015

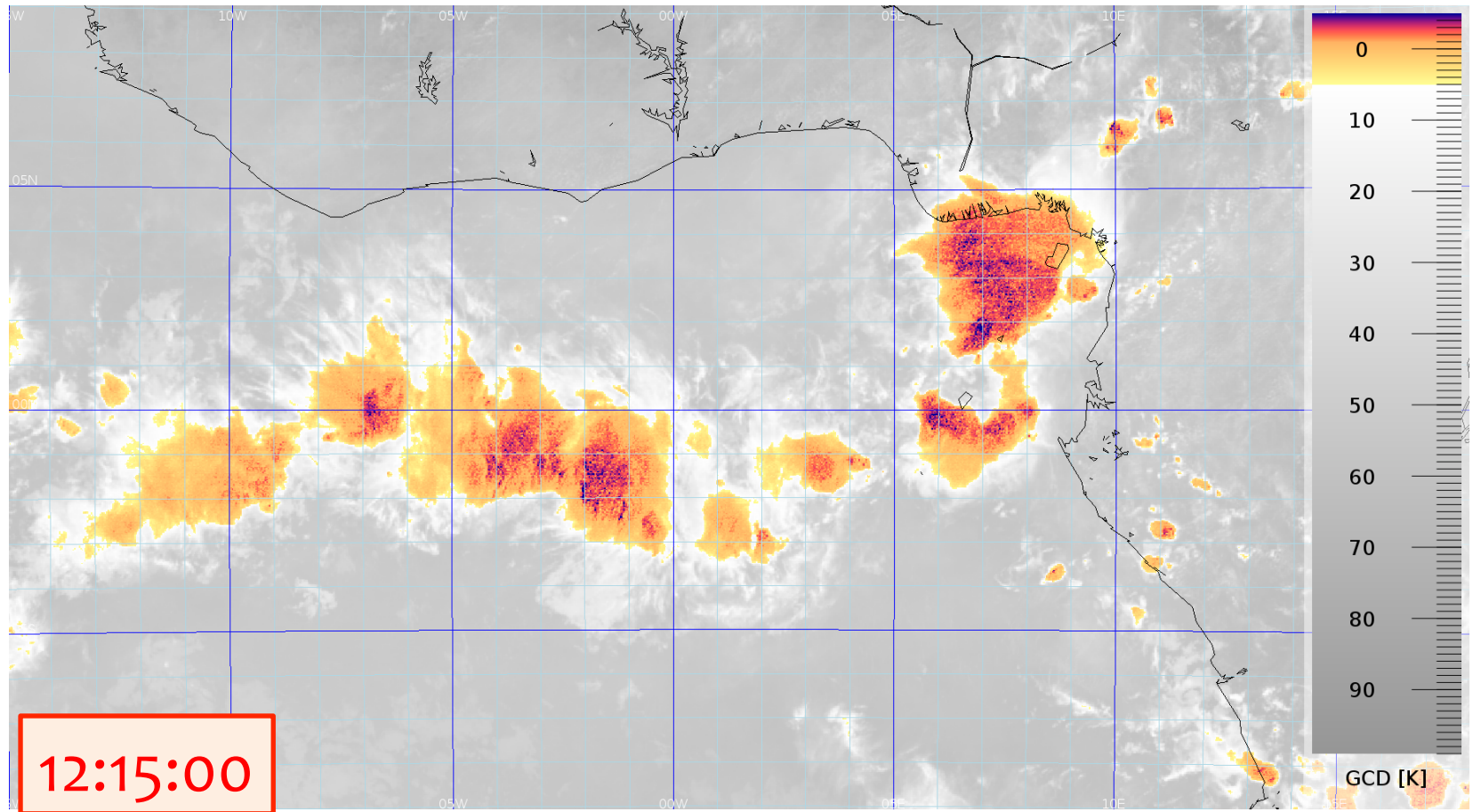
Alessandro Ursi

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# Successive TGFs



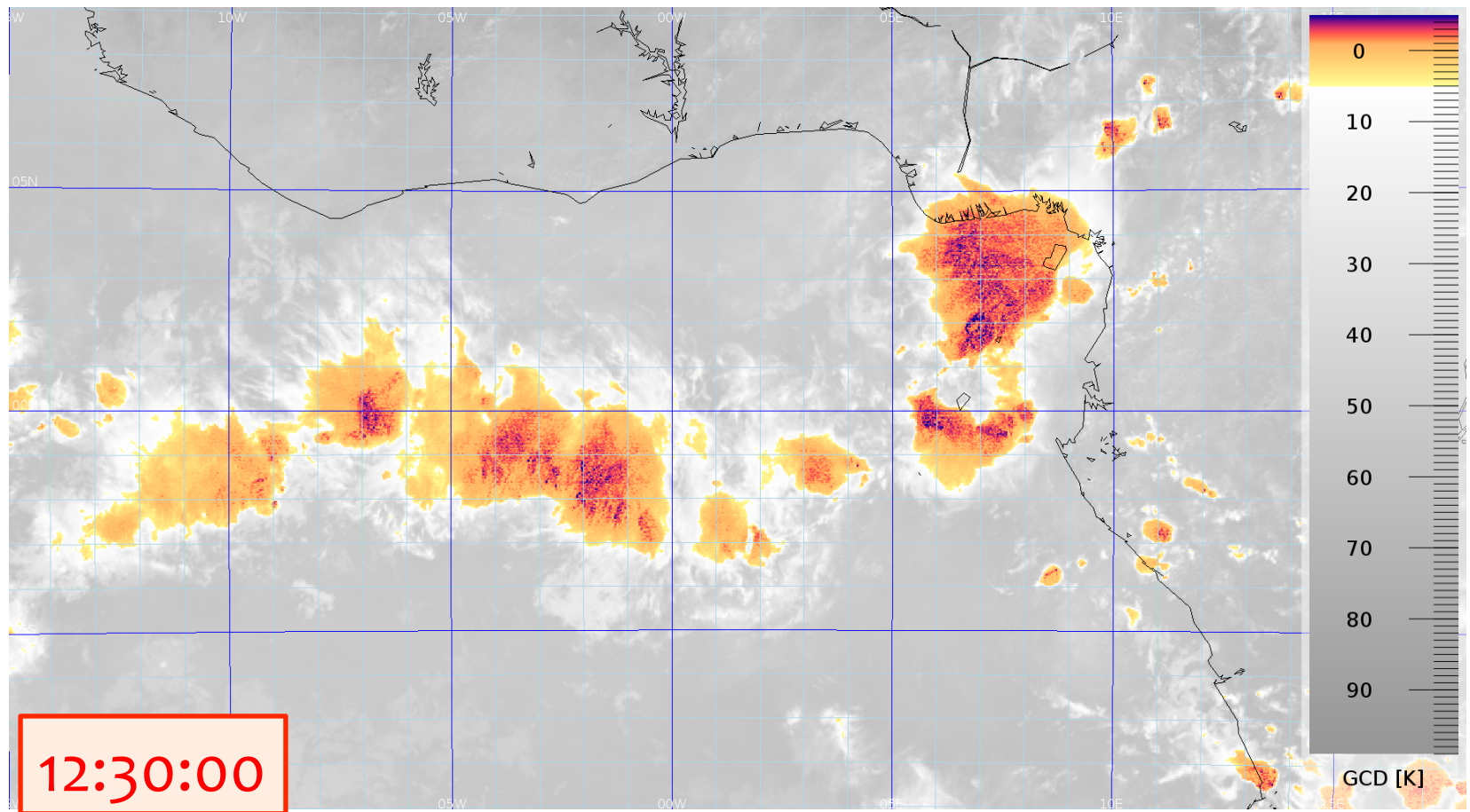
EXAMPLE 6: 24/03/2015

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# Successive TGFs



EXAMPLE 6: 24/03/2015

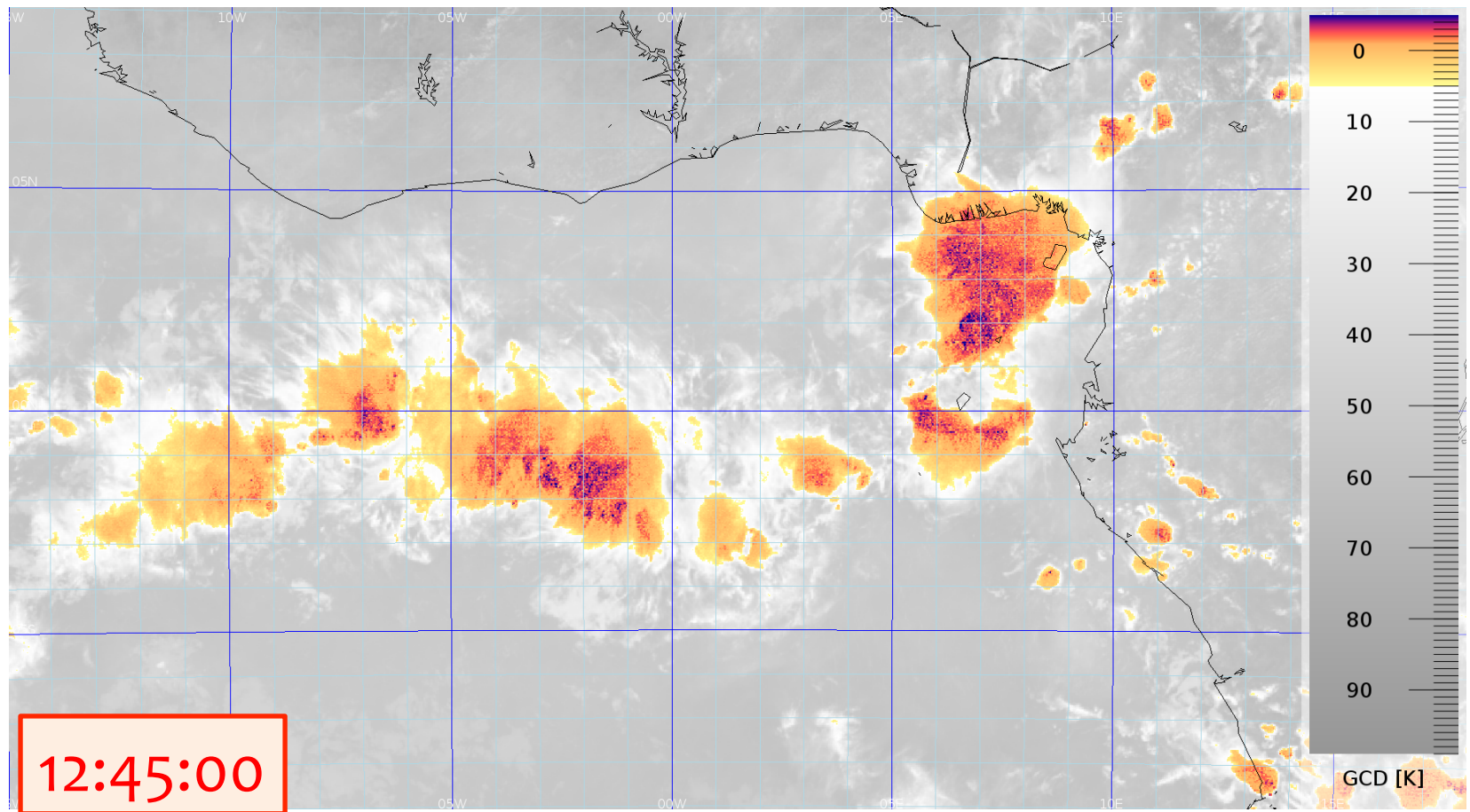
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Detection of TGFs in an enhanced configuration and link with meteorological information

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# Successive TGFs



EXAMPLE 6: 24/03/2015

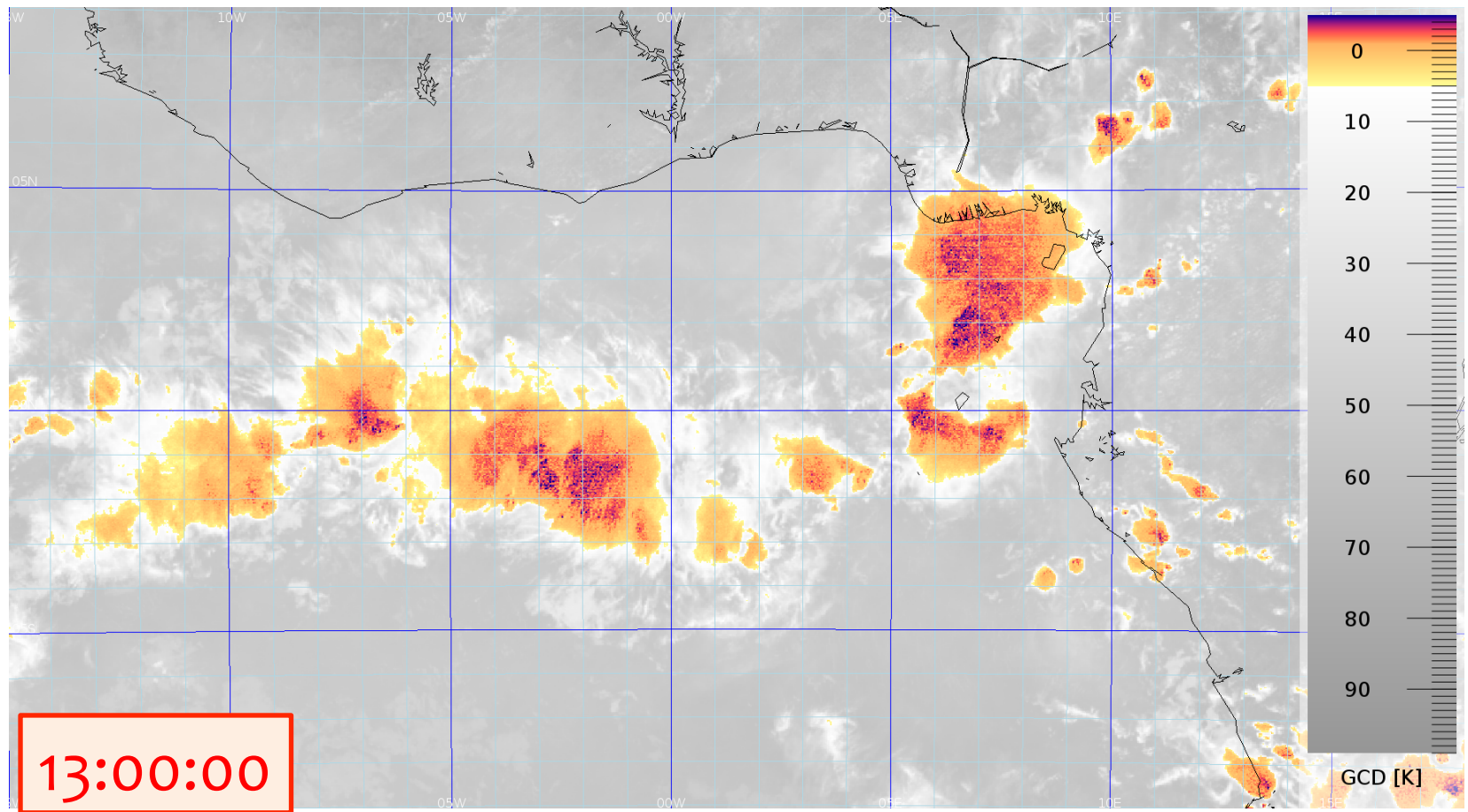
Alessandro Ursi

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# Successive TGFs



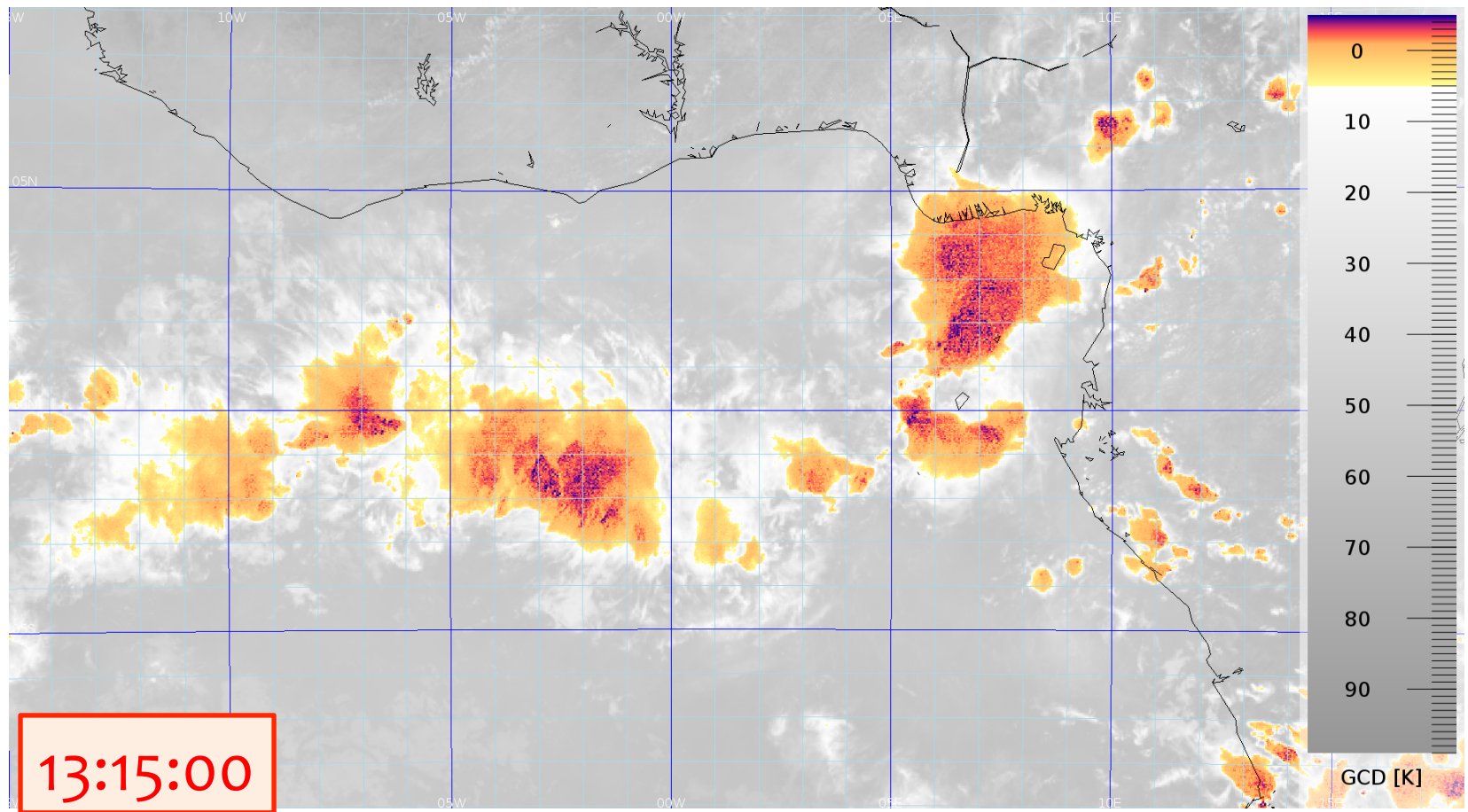
EXAMPLE 6: 24/03/2015

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# Successive TGFs



EXAMPLE 6: 24/03/2015

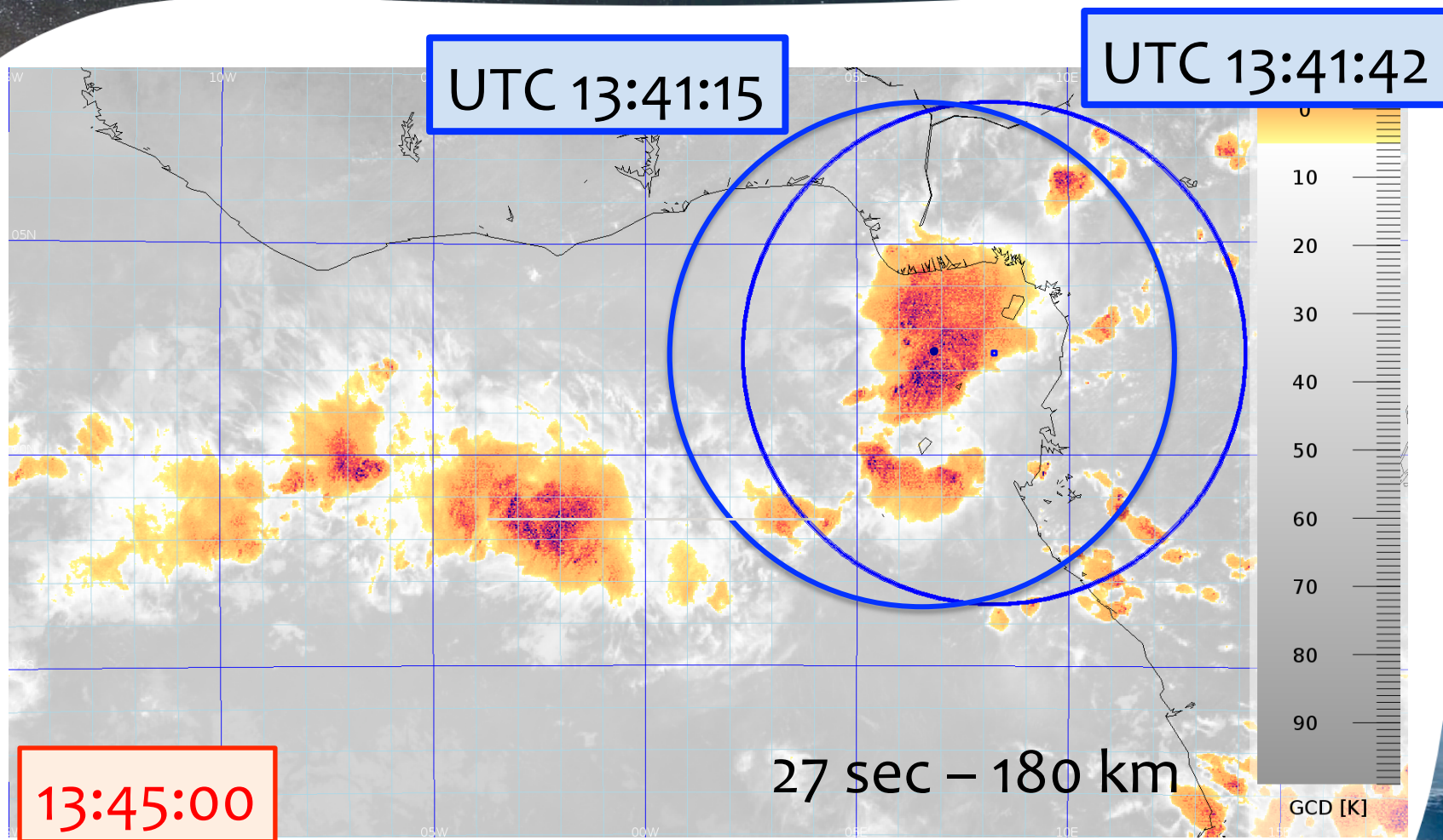
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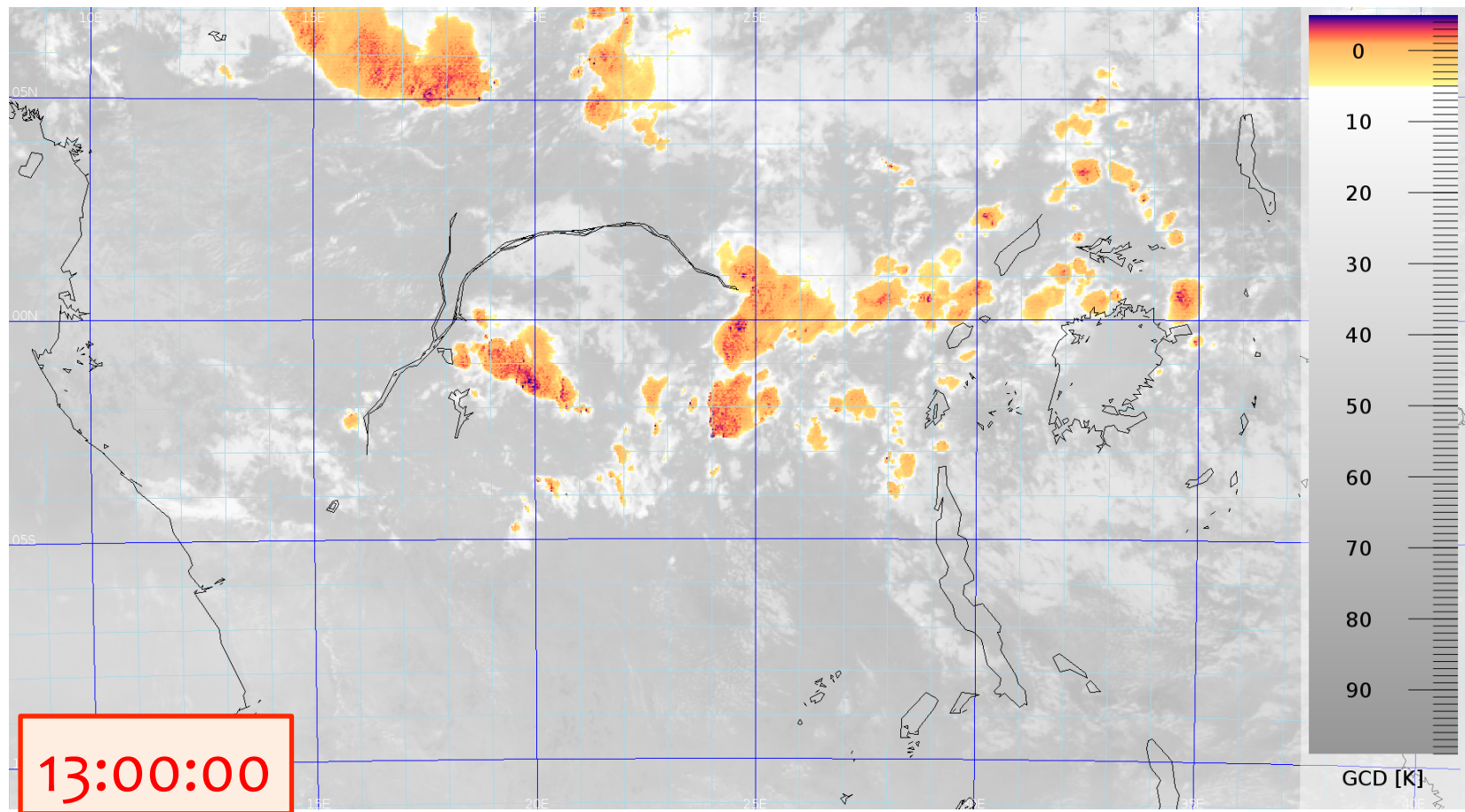
# Successive TGFs



EXAMPLE 6: 24/03/2015



# Successive TGFs



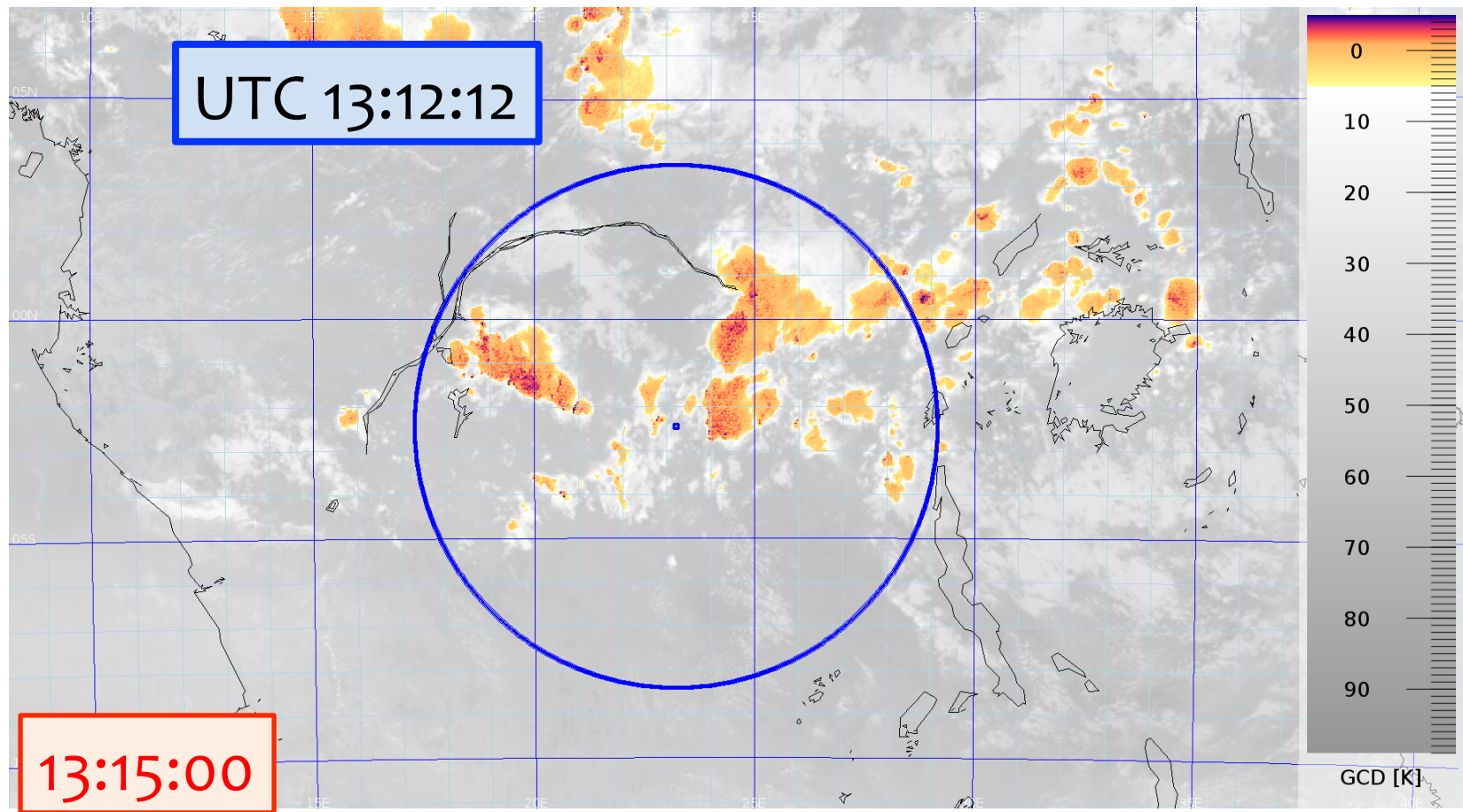
EXAMPLE 8: 25/05/2015

Alessandro Ursi

Detection of TGFs in an enhanced configuration and link with meteorological information

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# Successive TGFs



EXAMPLE 8: 25/05/2015

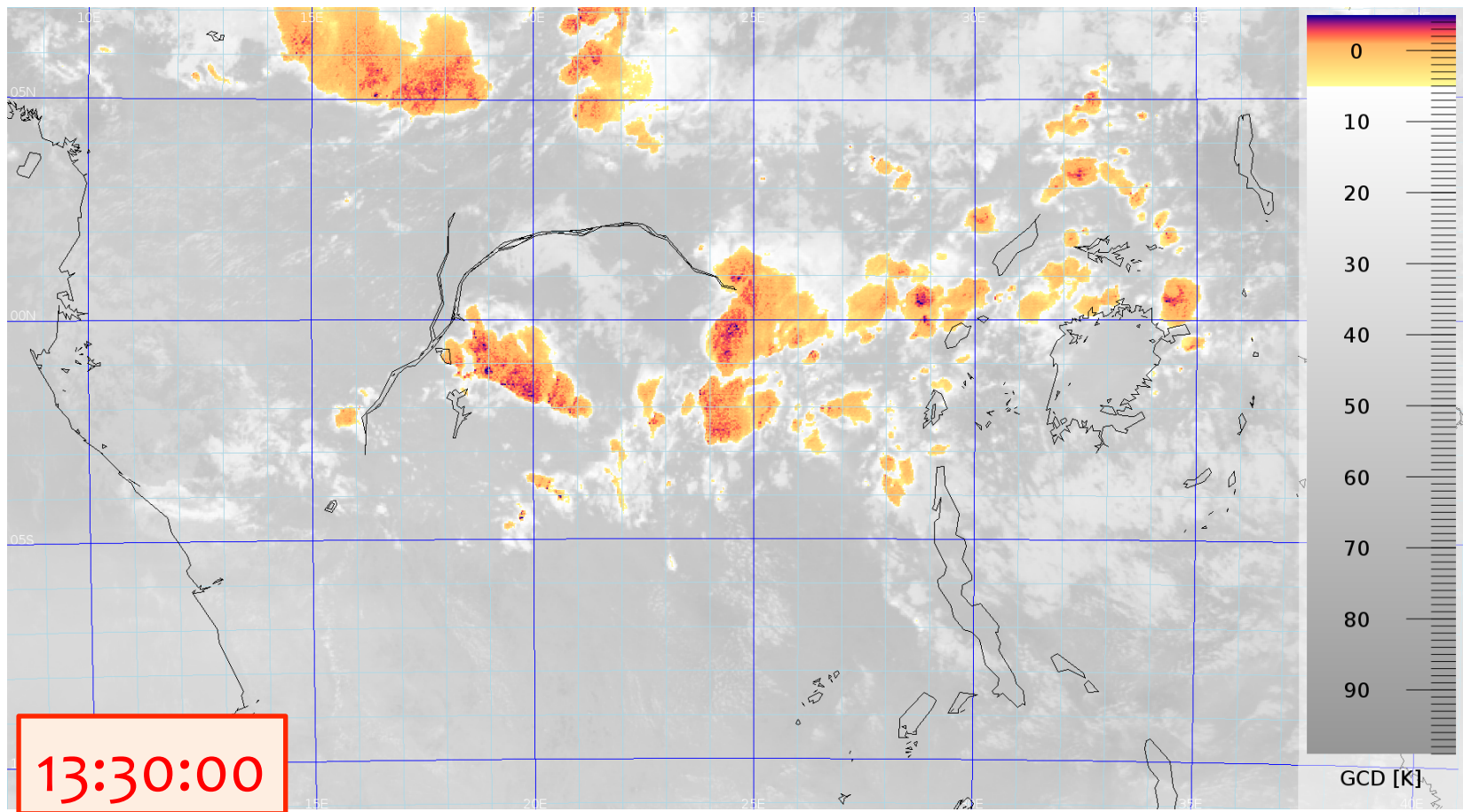
Alessandro Ursi

Detection of TGFs in an enhanced configuration and link with meteorological information

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# Successive TGFs



EXAMPLE 8: 25/05/2015

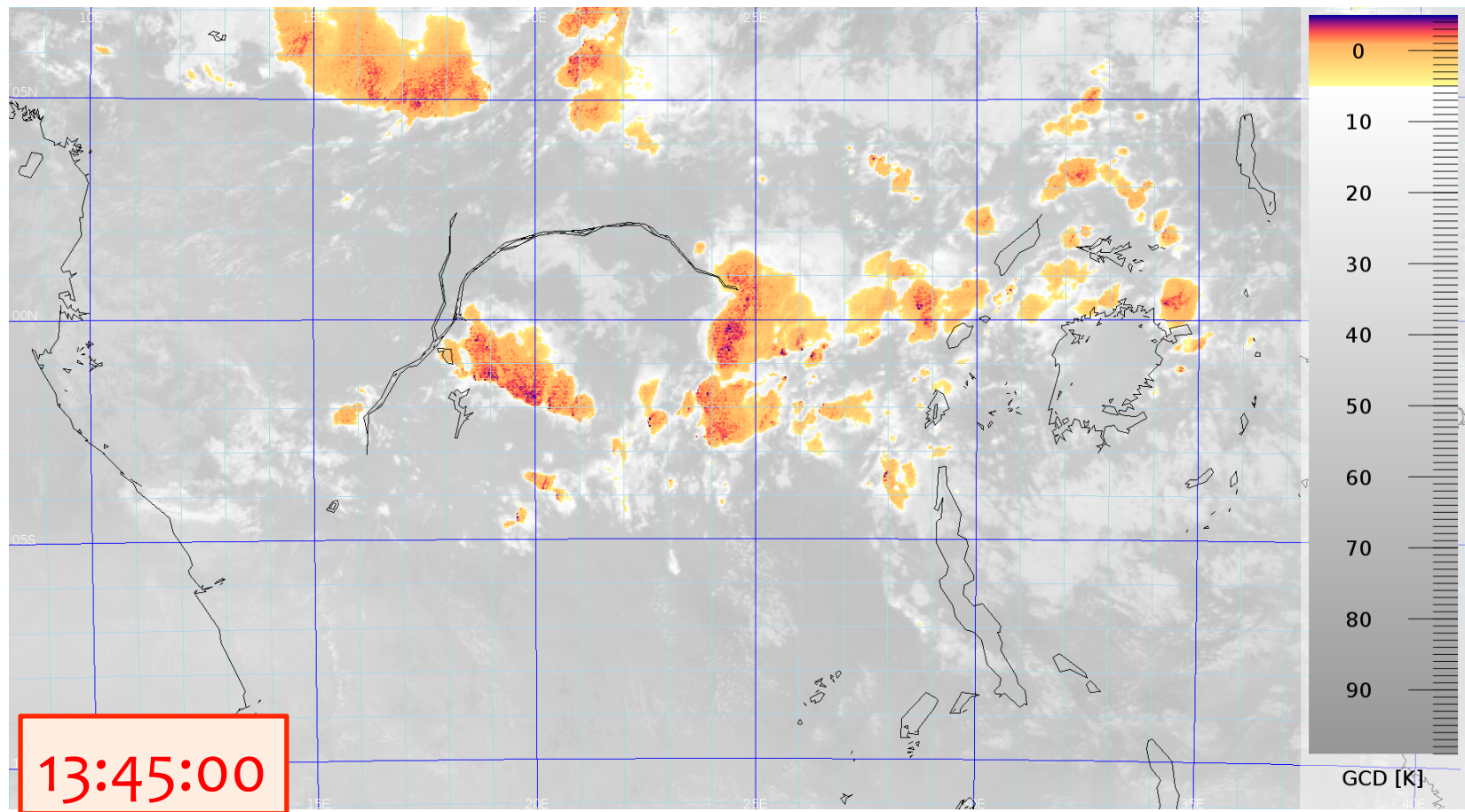
Alessandro Ursi

Detection of TGFs in an enhanced configuration and link with meteorological information

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# Successive TGFs



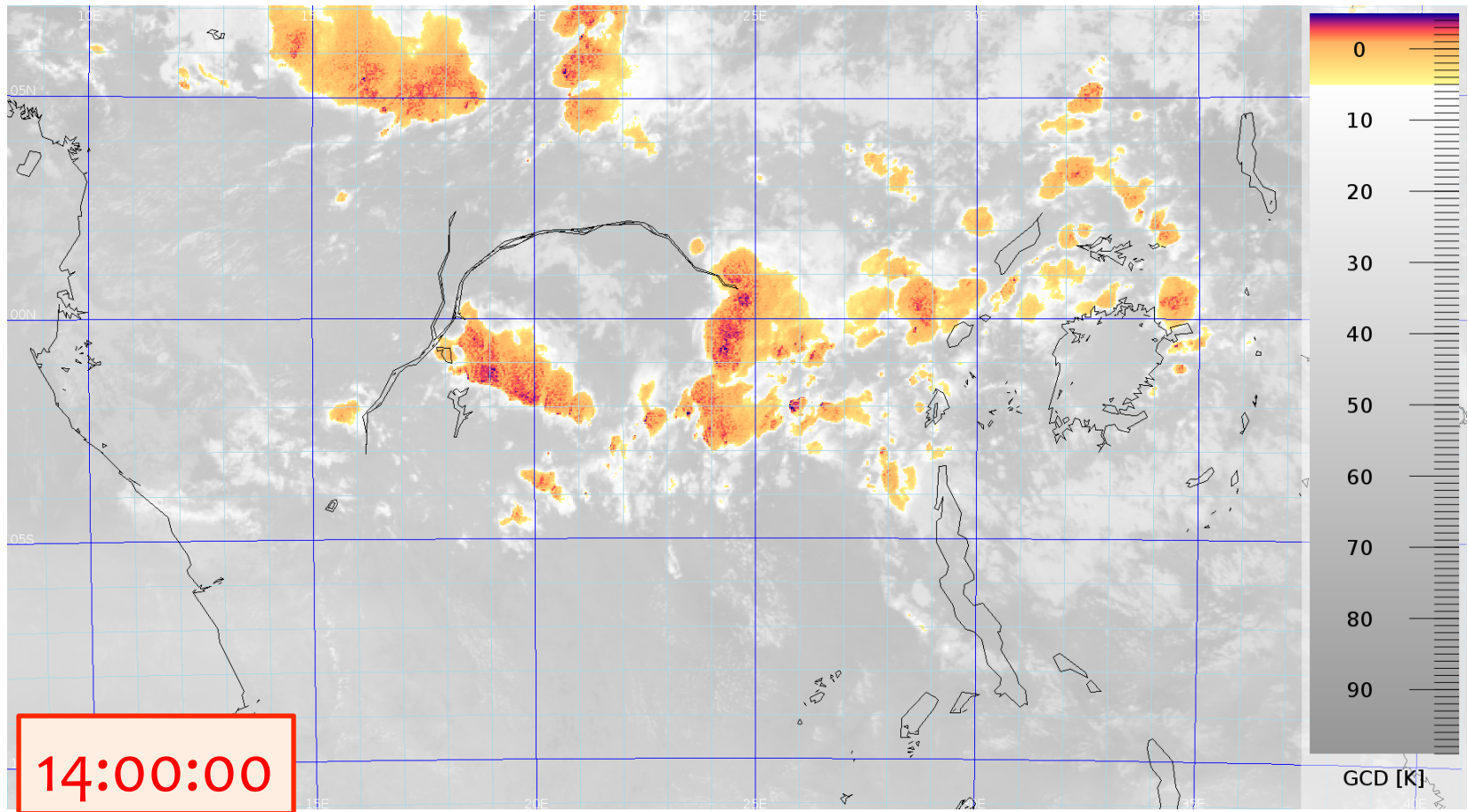
EXAMPLE 8: 25/05/2015

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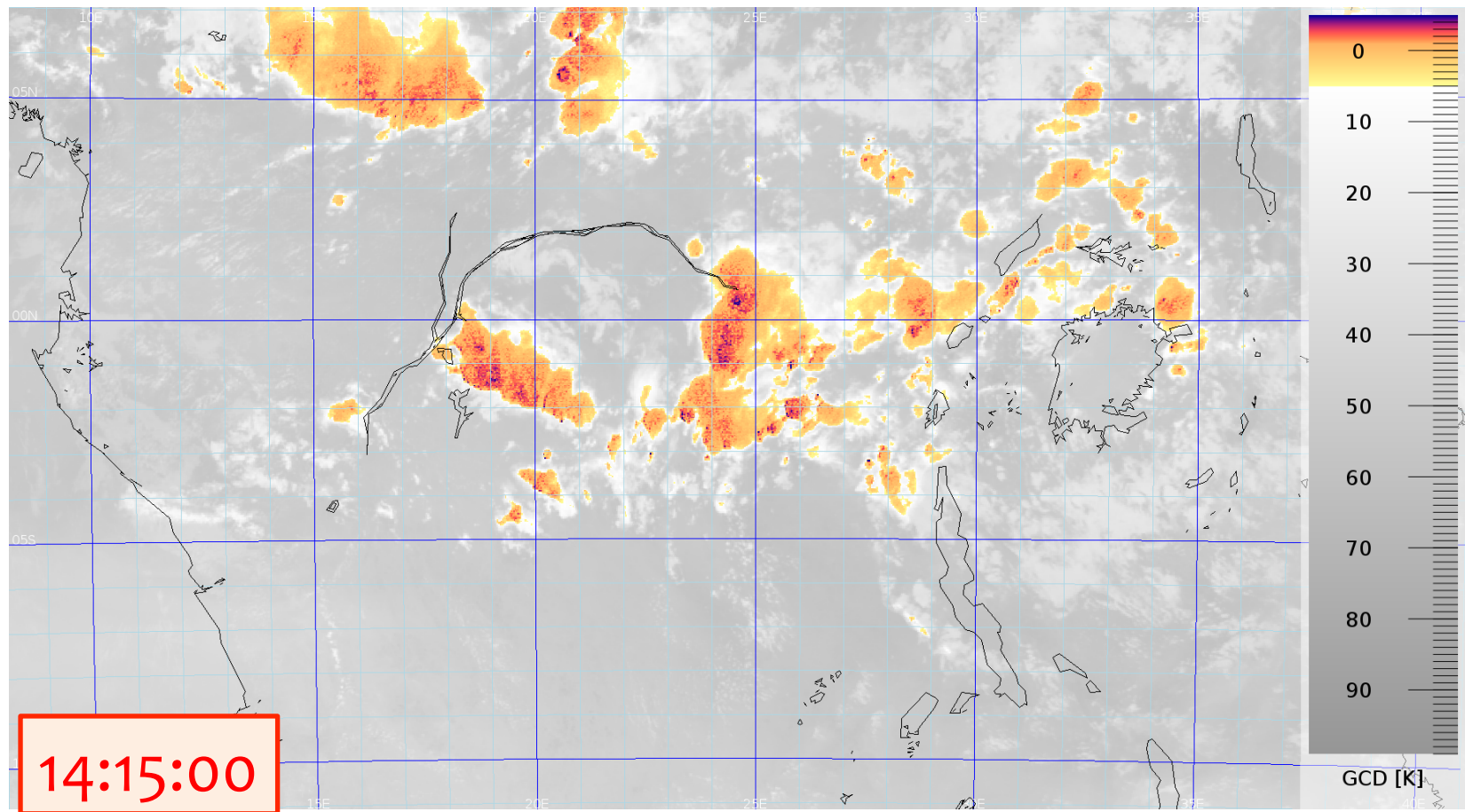
# Successive TGFs



EXAMPLE 8: 25/05/2015



# Successive TGFs



EXAMPLE 8: 25/05/2015

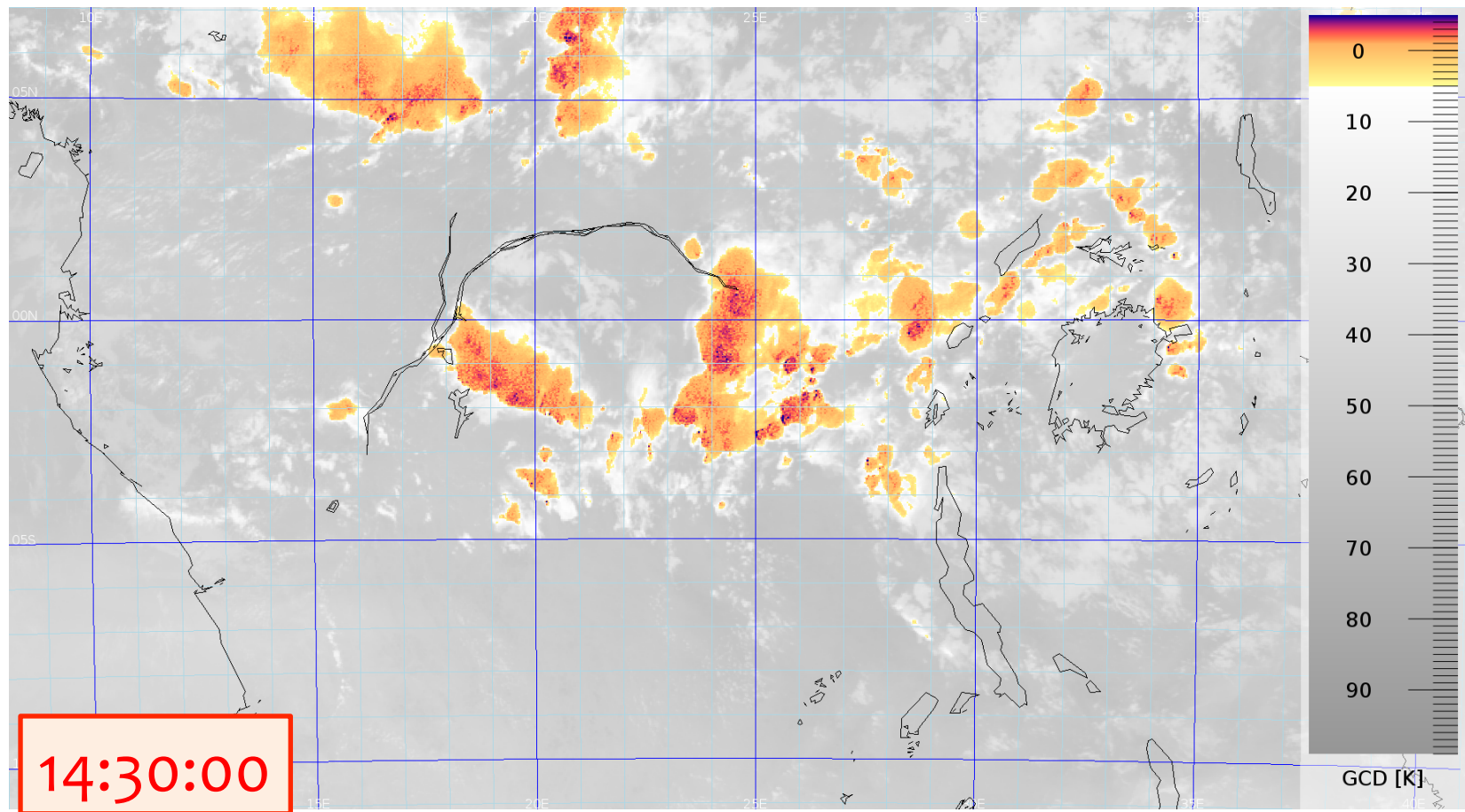
Alessandro Ursi

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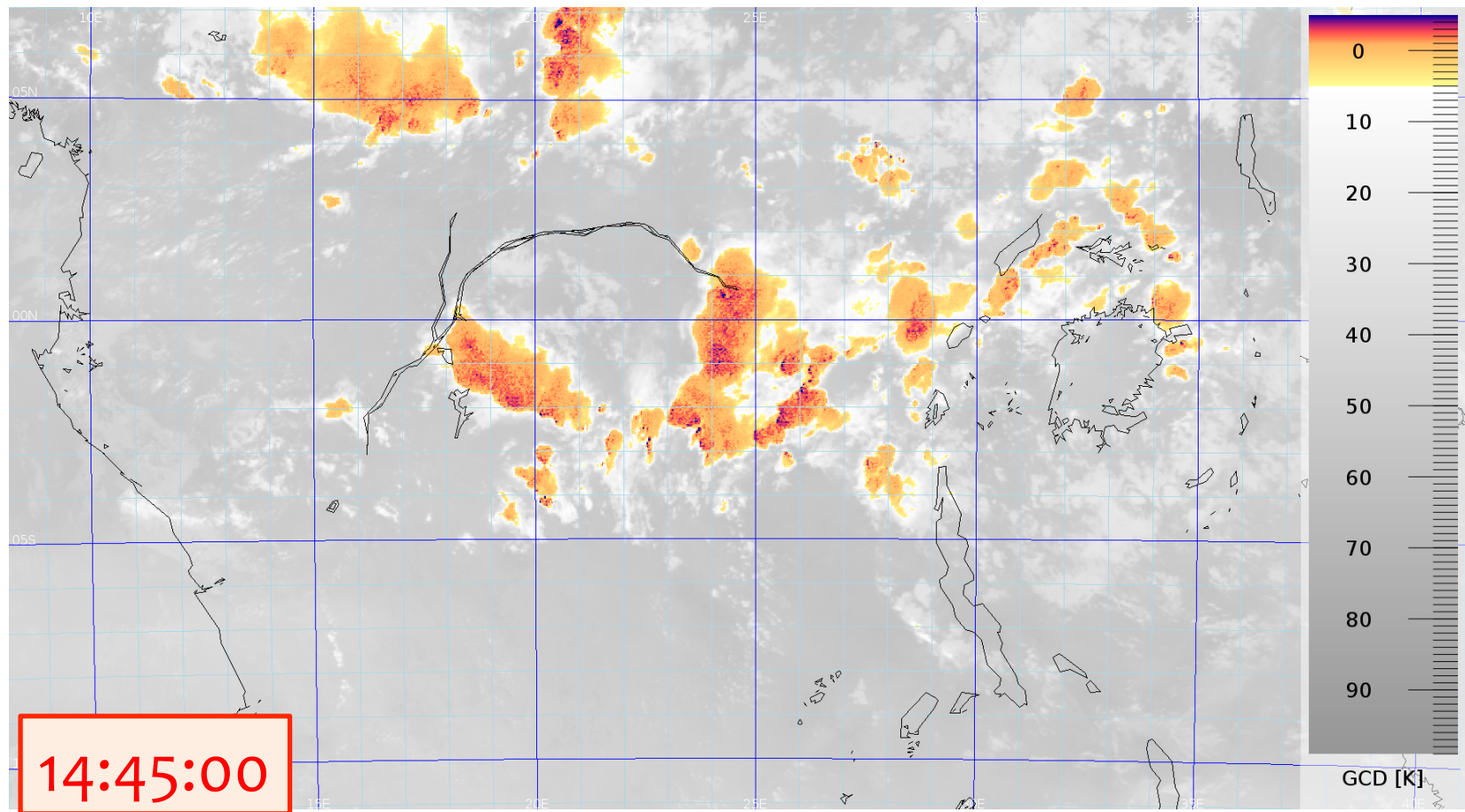


# Successive TGFs



EXAMPLE 8: 25/05/2015

# Successive TGFs



EXAMPLE 8: 25/05/2015

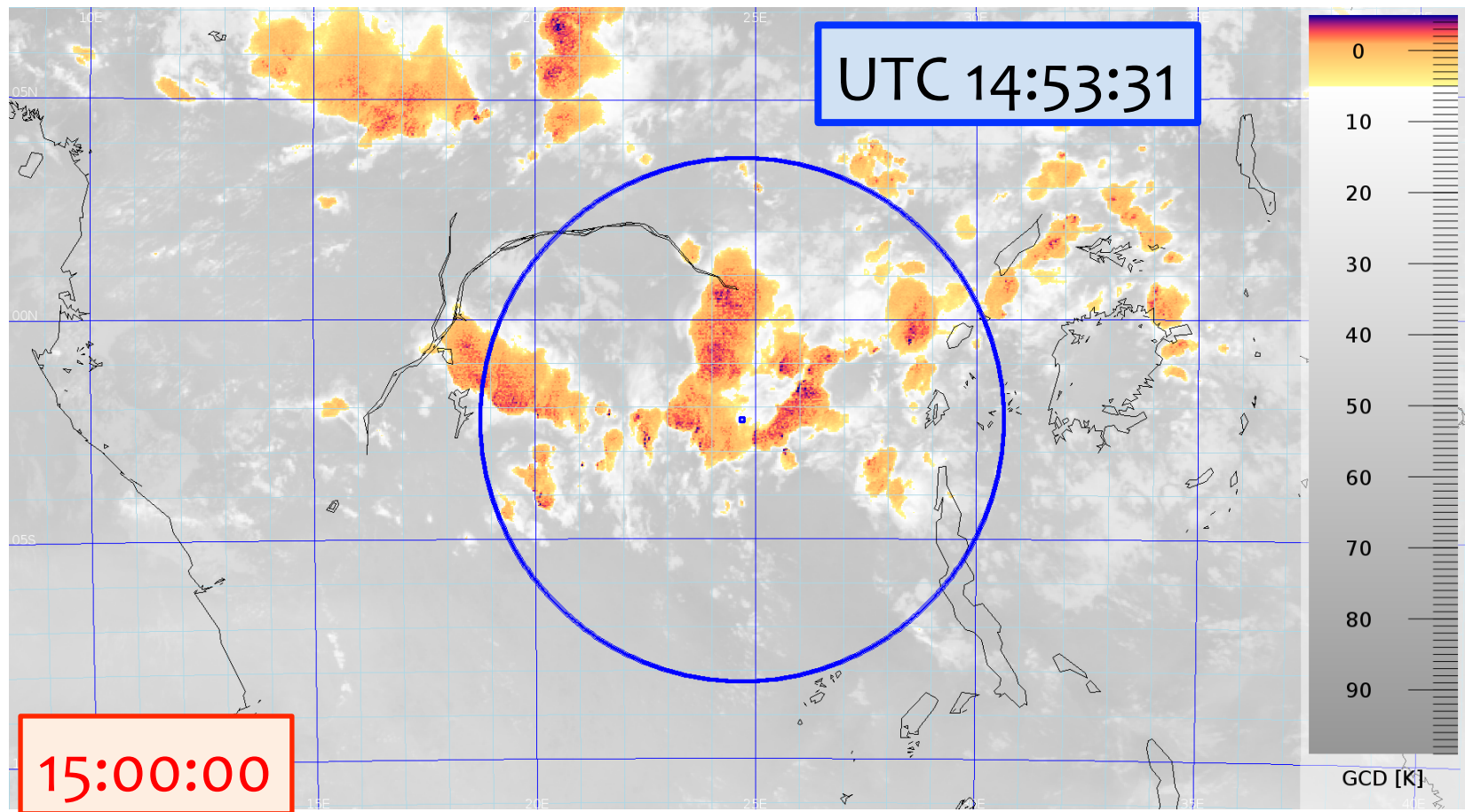
Alessandro Ursi

Detection of TGFs in an enhanced configuration and link with meteorological information

AGILE on the wave, 14th AGILE Workshop - June 21st 2016



# Successive TGFs



EXAMPLE 8: 25/05/2015

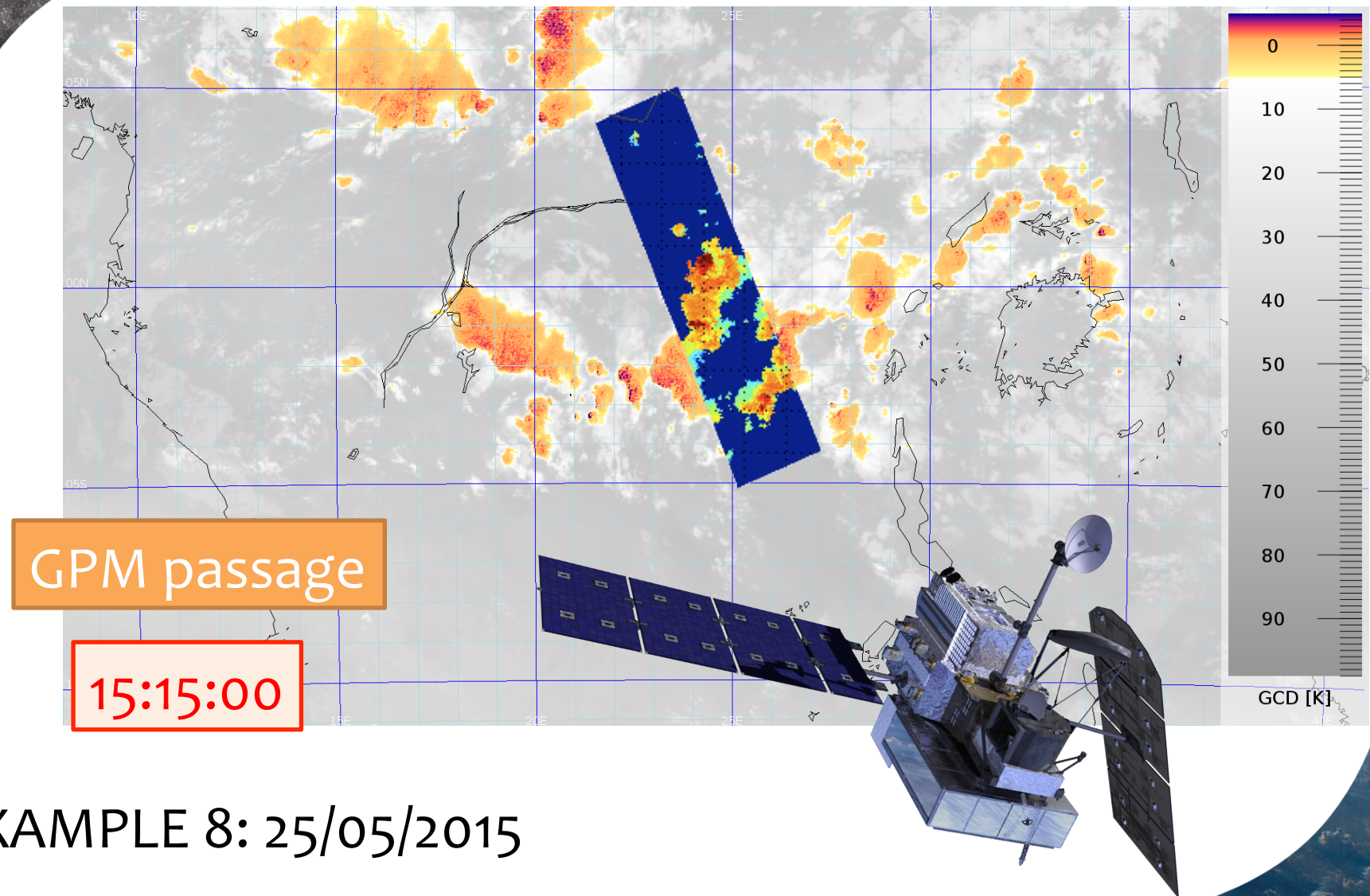
Alessandro Ursi

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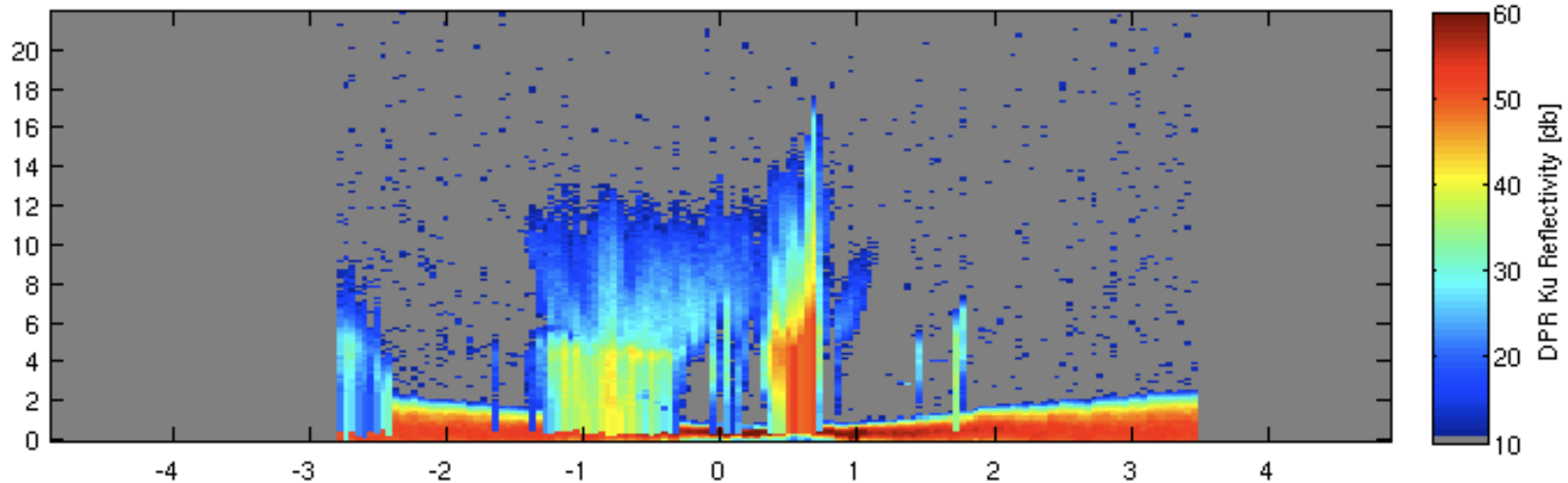
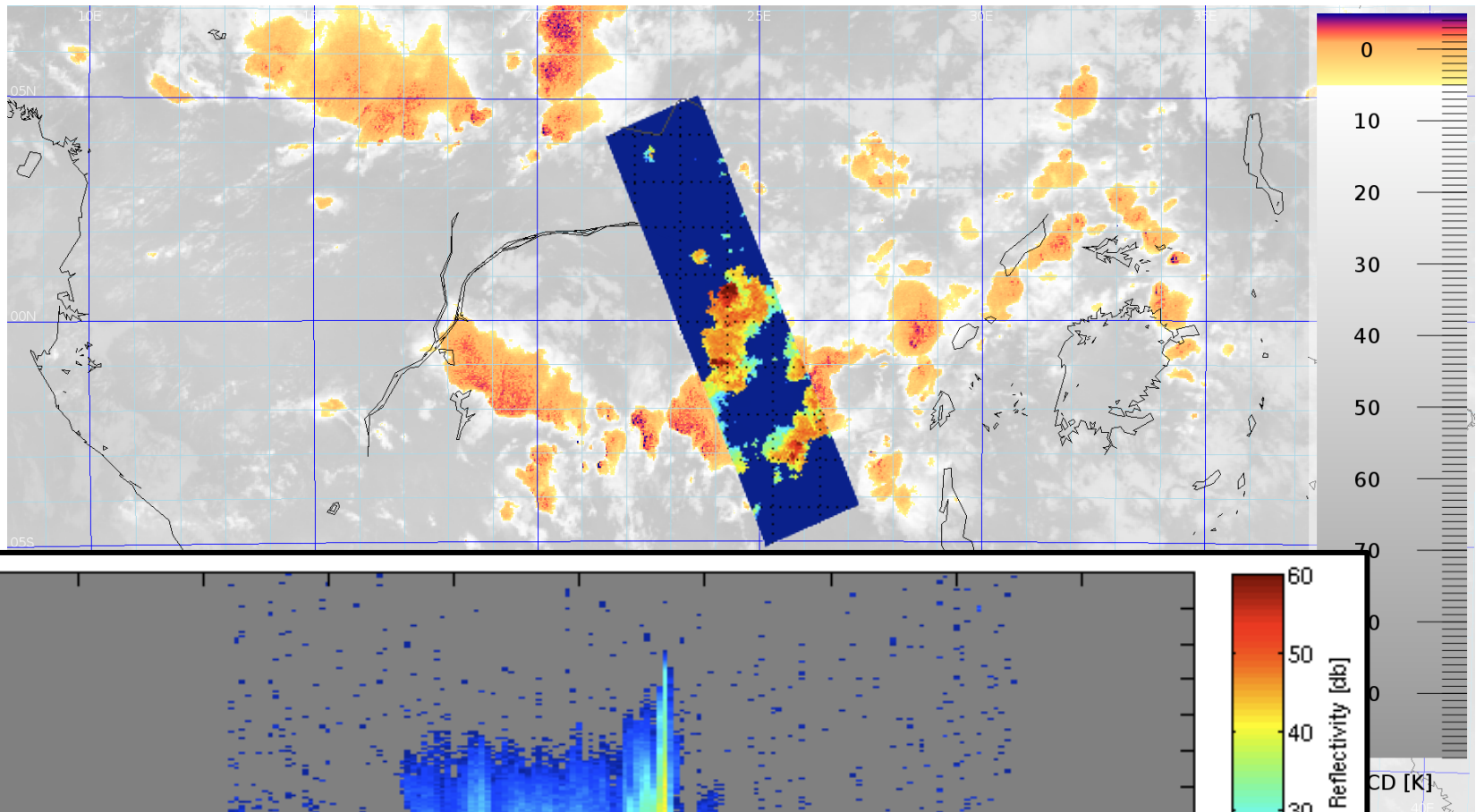


# Successive TGFs



EXAMPLE 8: 25/05/2015

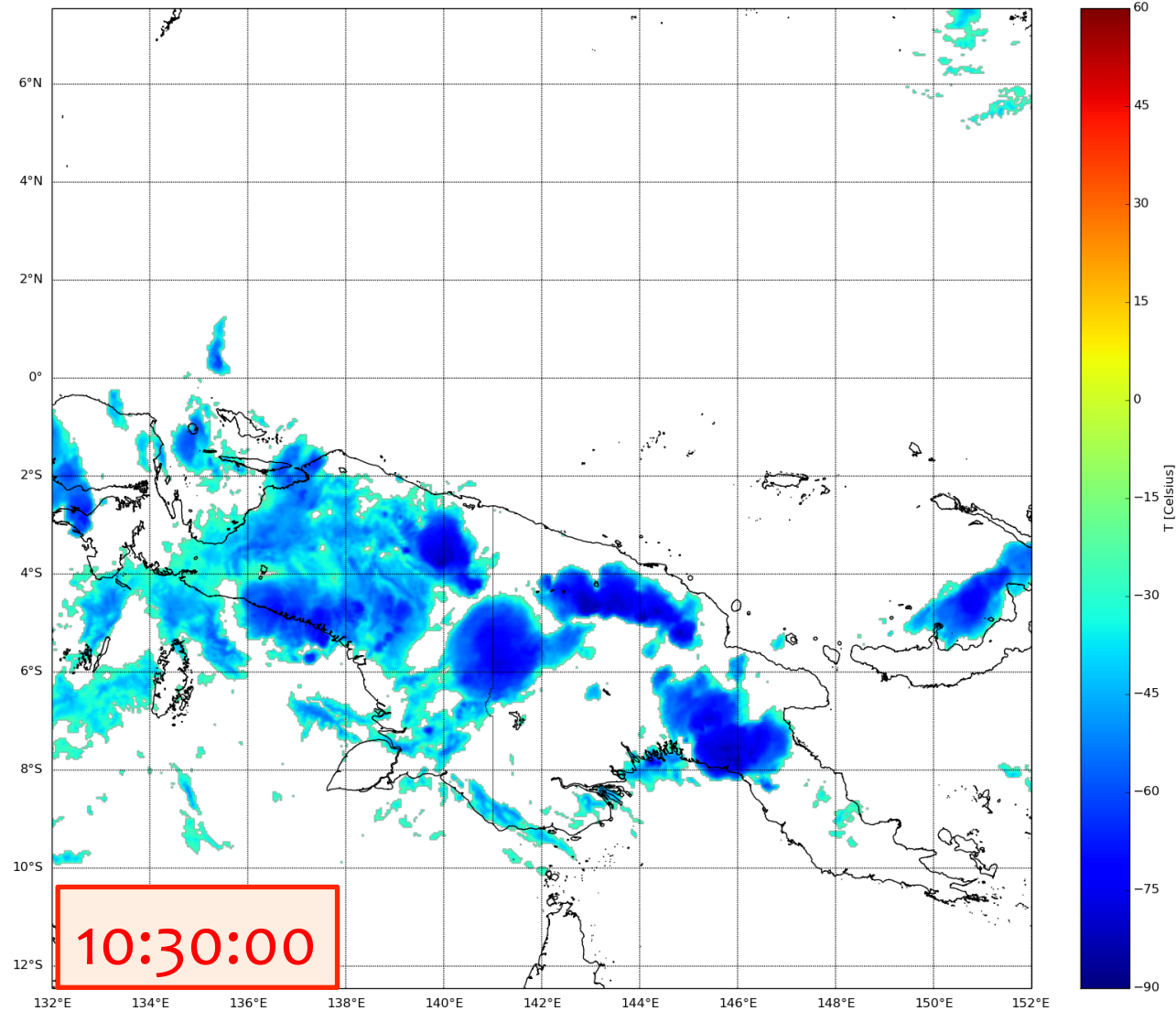
# Successive TGFs



Alessandro Ursi  
Detection of TGFs in an enhanced configuration and link with meteorological information  
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# Successive TGFs



EXAMPLE 9  
25/05/2015

Alessandro Ursi

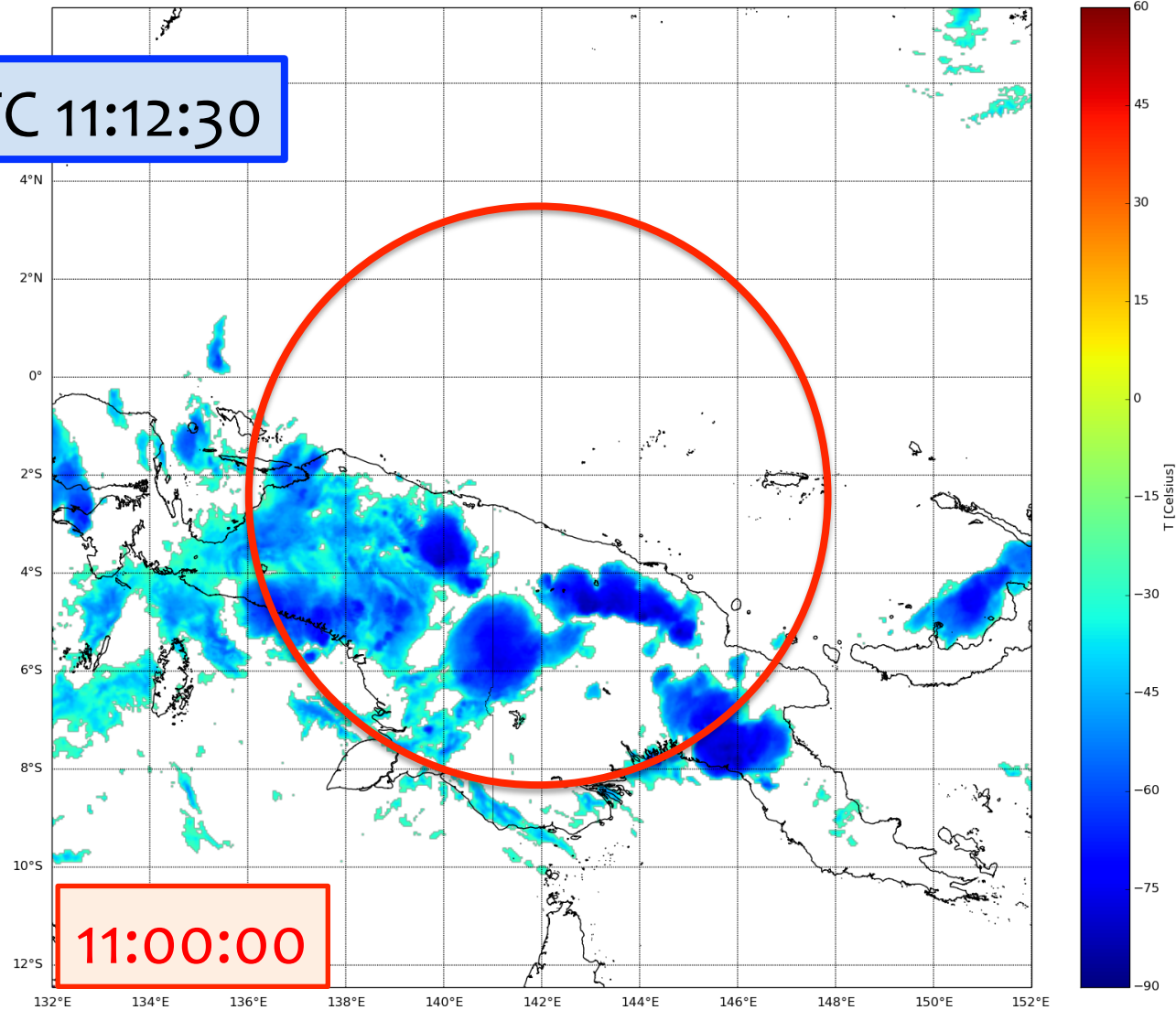
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# Successive TGFs

UTC 11:12:30



EXAMPLE 9  
25/05/2015

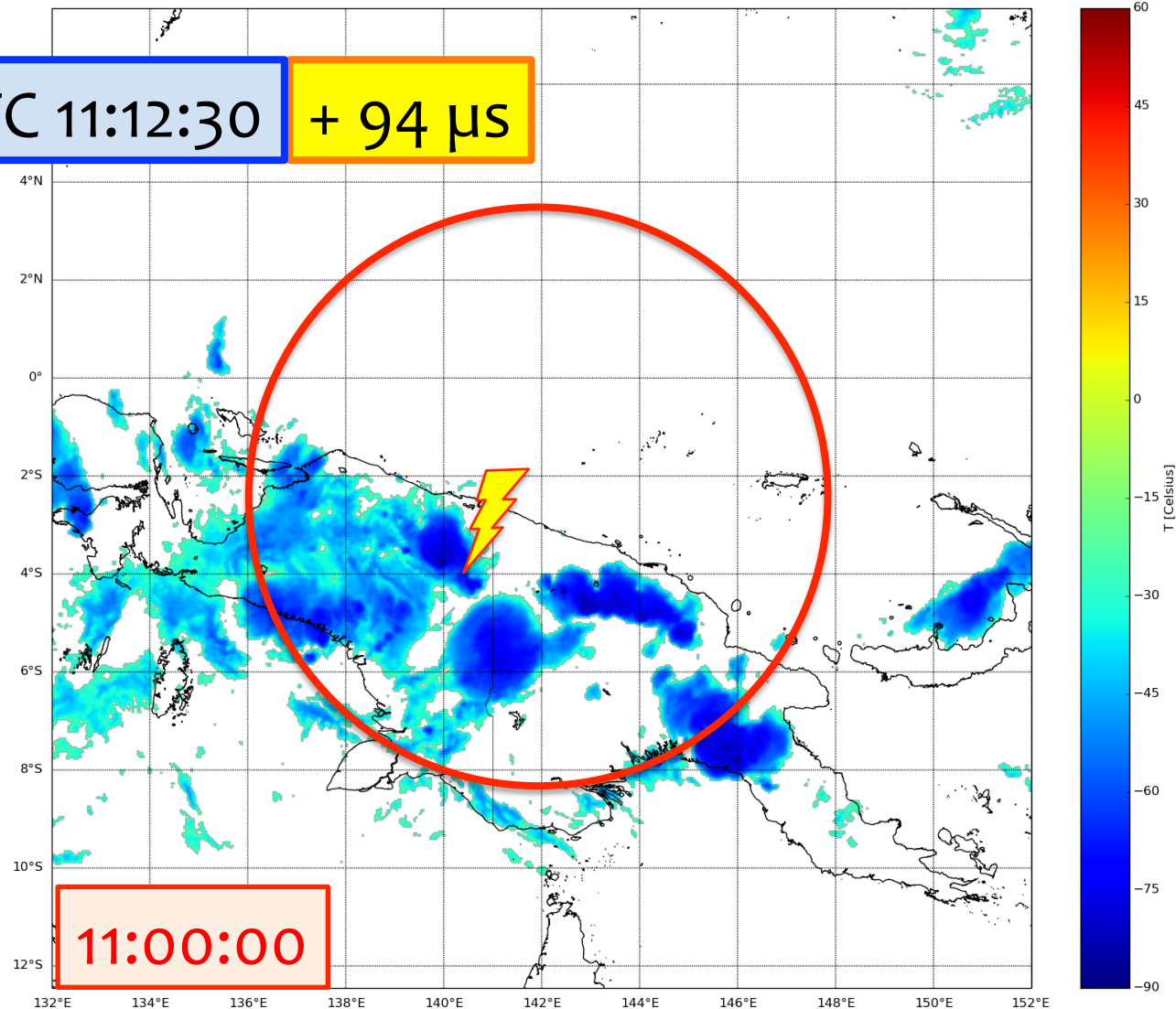
Alessandro Ursi

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# Successive TGFs

UTC 11:12:30 + 94  $\mu$ s



EXAMPLE 9  
25/05/2015

Alessandro Ursi

Detection of TGFs in an enhanced configuration and link with meteorological information

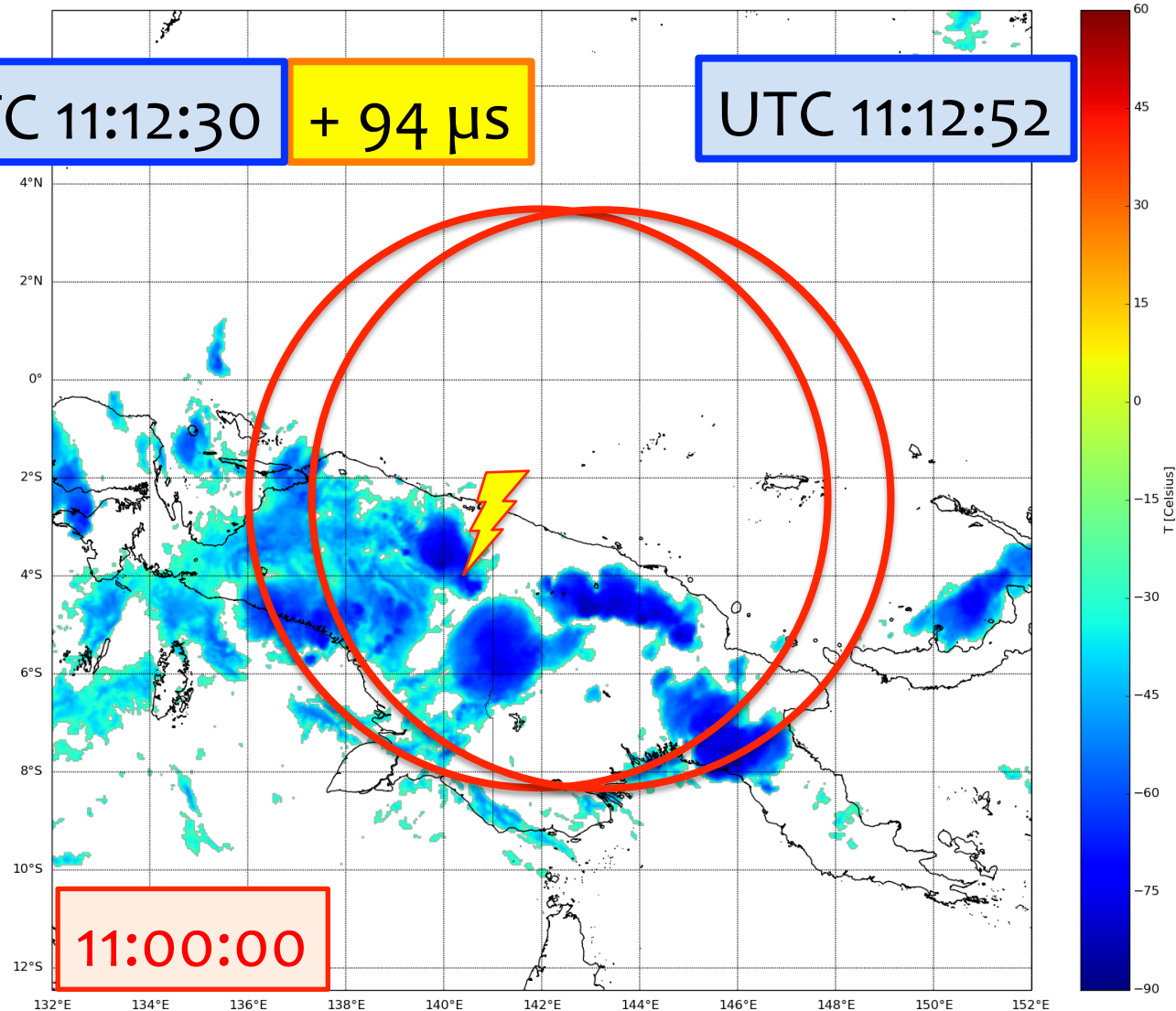
AGILE on the wave, 14th AGILE Workshop - June 21st 2016

# Successive TGFs

UTC 11:12:30

+ 94  $\mu$ s

UTC 11:12:52



EXAMPLE 9  
25/05/2015

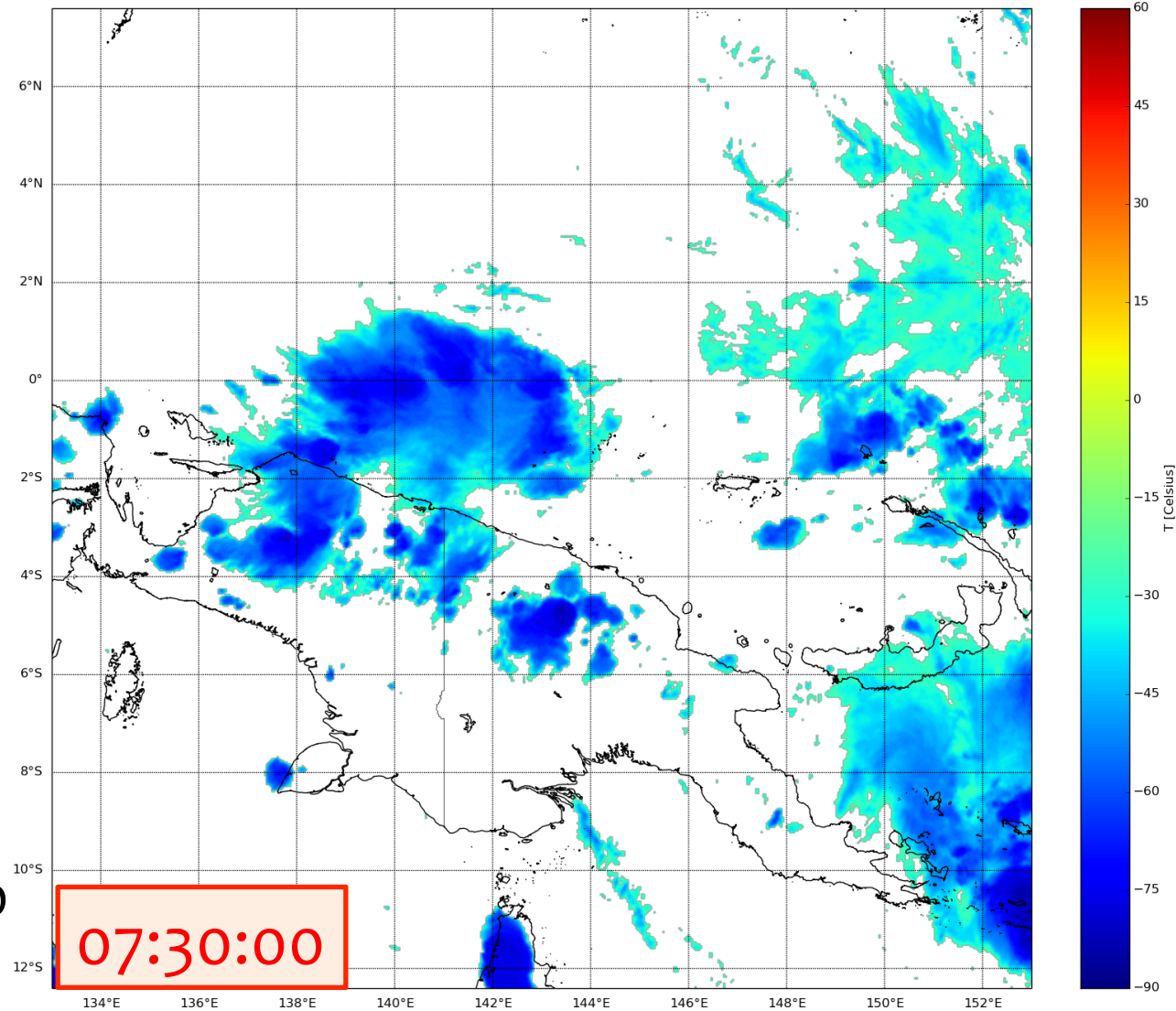
Alessandro Ursi

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# Successive TGFs



EXAMPLE 10  
07/04/2015

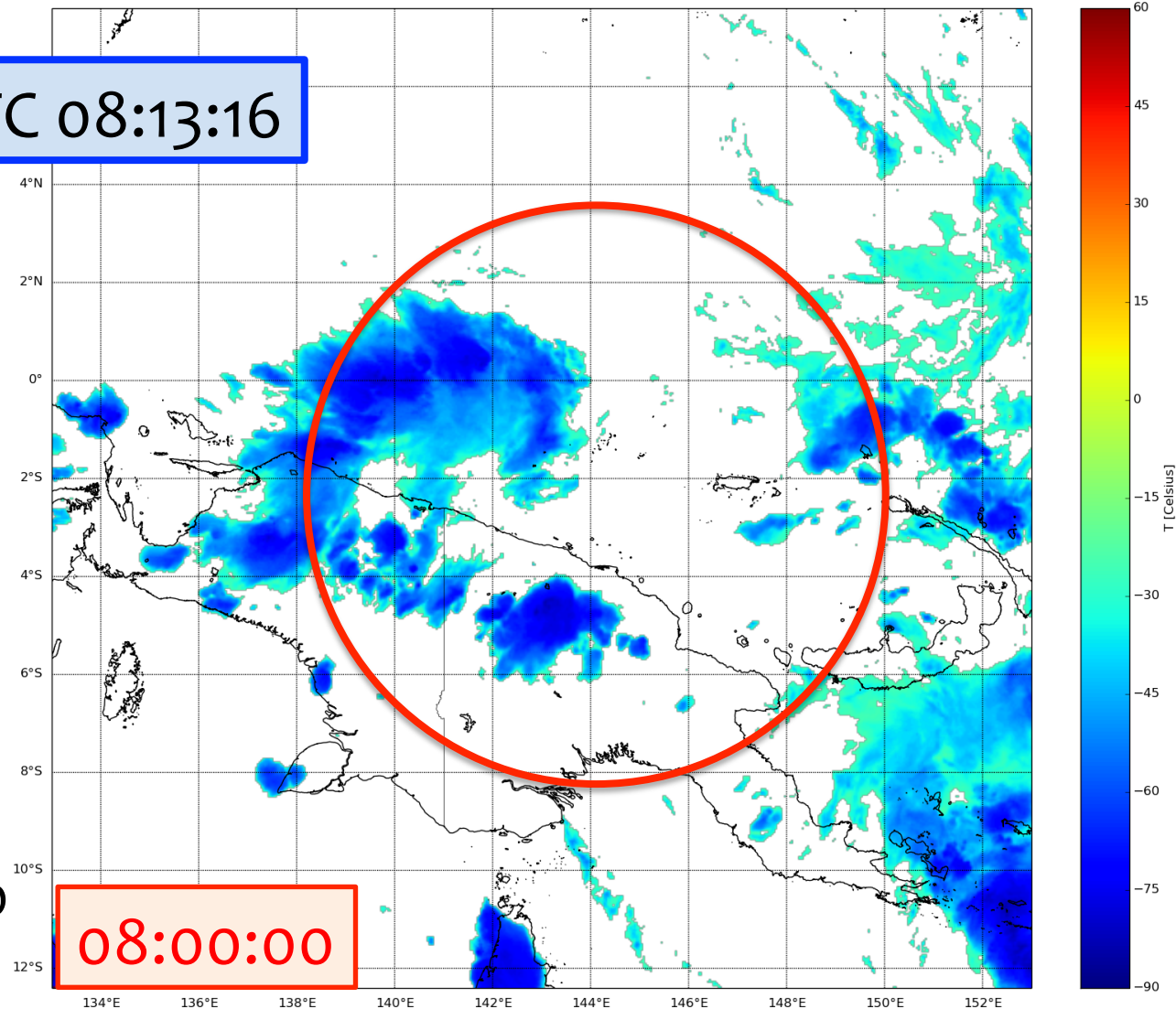
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# Successive TGFs

UTC 08:13:16



EXAMPLE 10  
07/04/2015

08:00:00

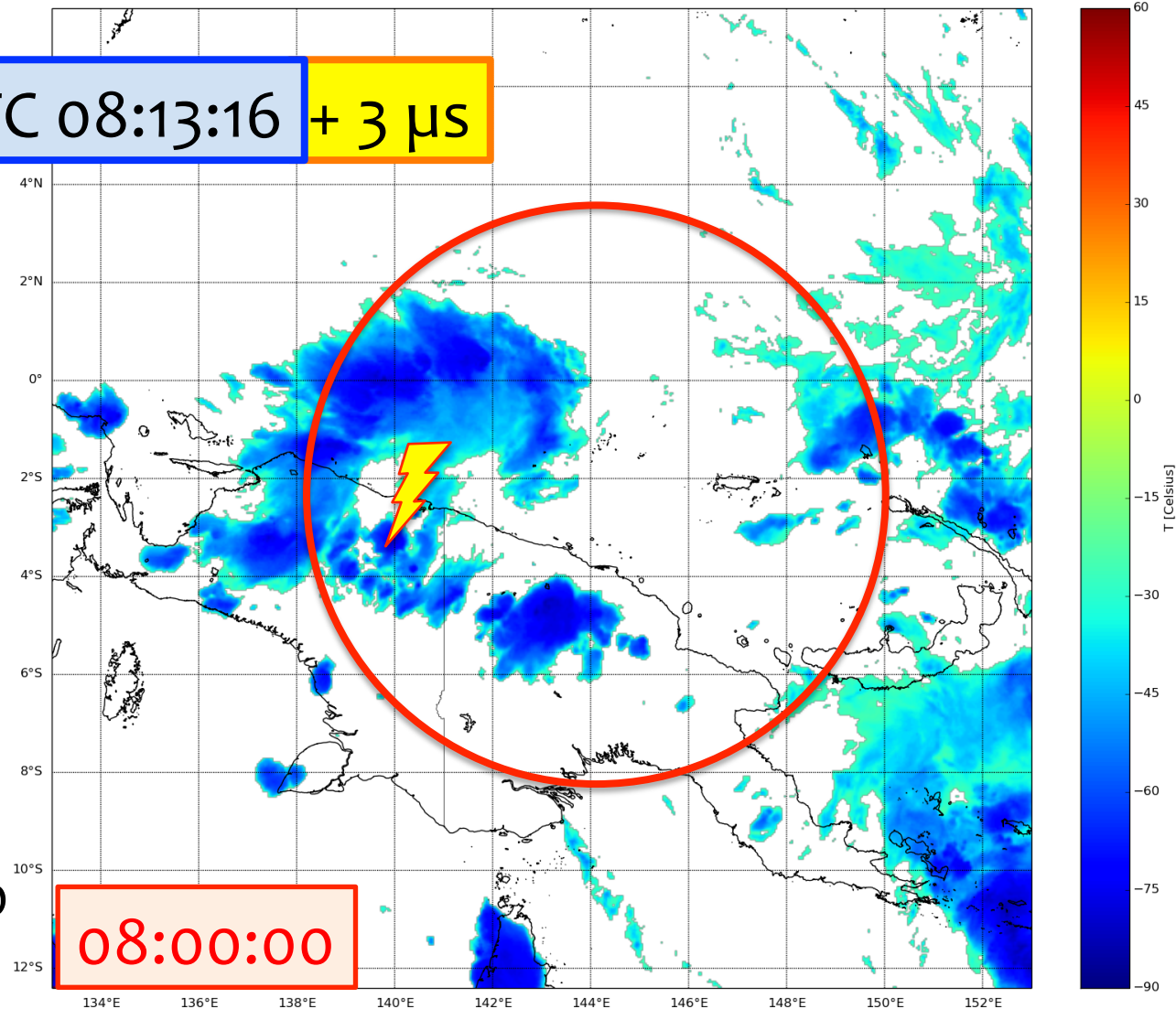
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# Successive TGFs

UTC 08:13:16 + 3  $\mu$ s



EXAMPLE 10  
07/04/2015

08:00:00

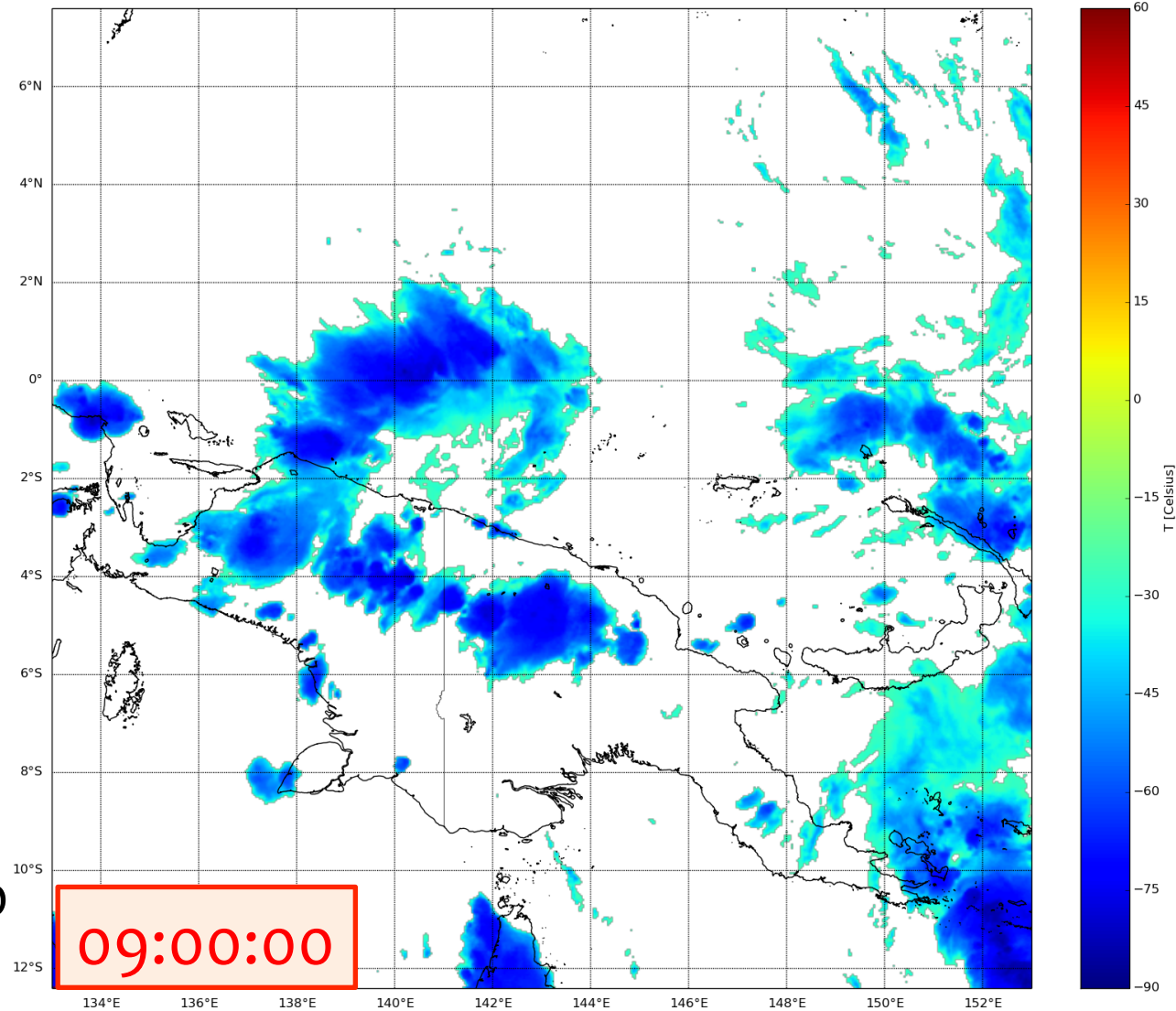
Alessandro Ursi

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# Successive TGFs



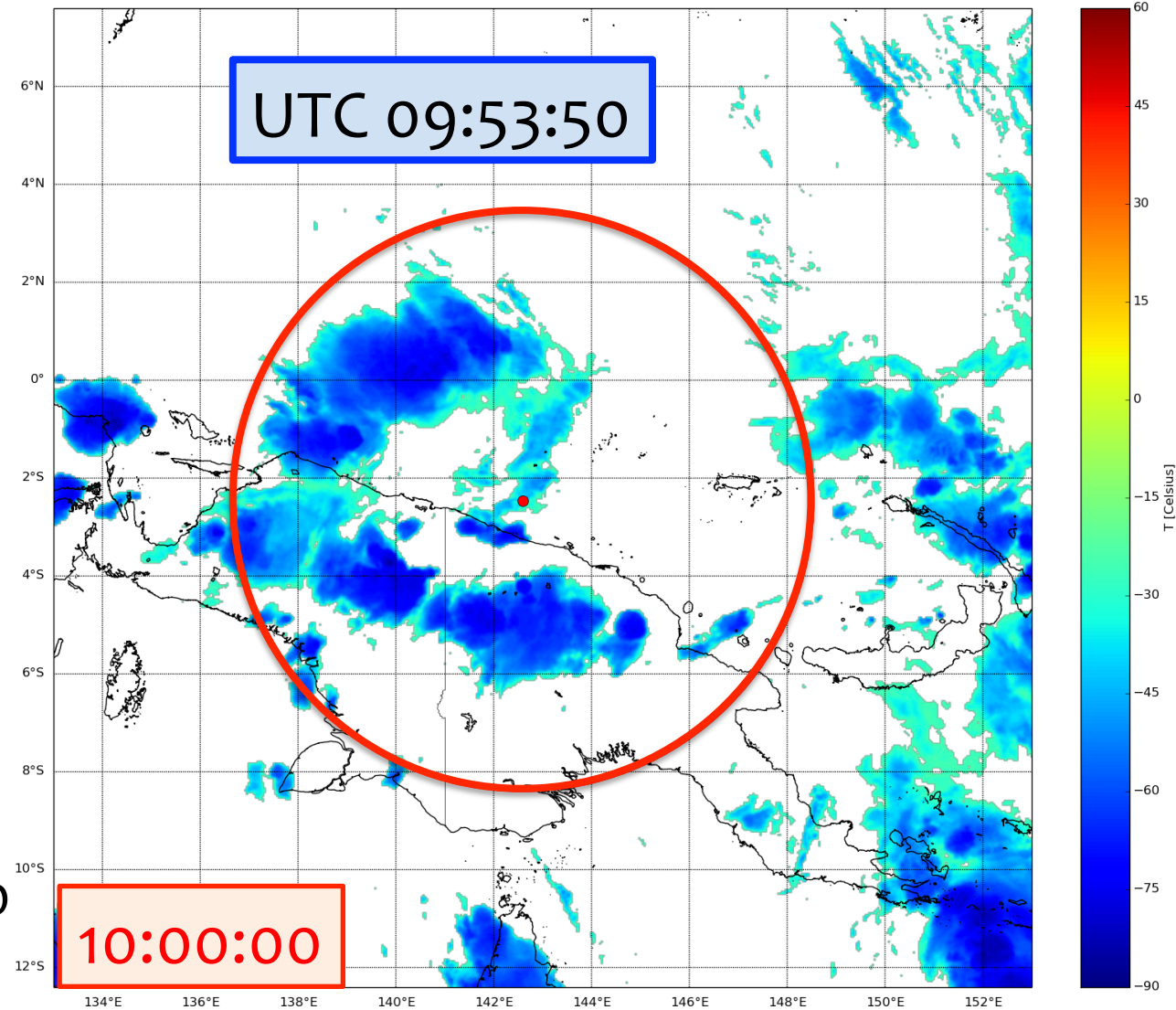
EXAMPLE 10  
07/04/2015

Alessandro Ursi

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# Successive TGFs



EXAMPLE 10  
07/04/2015

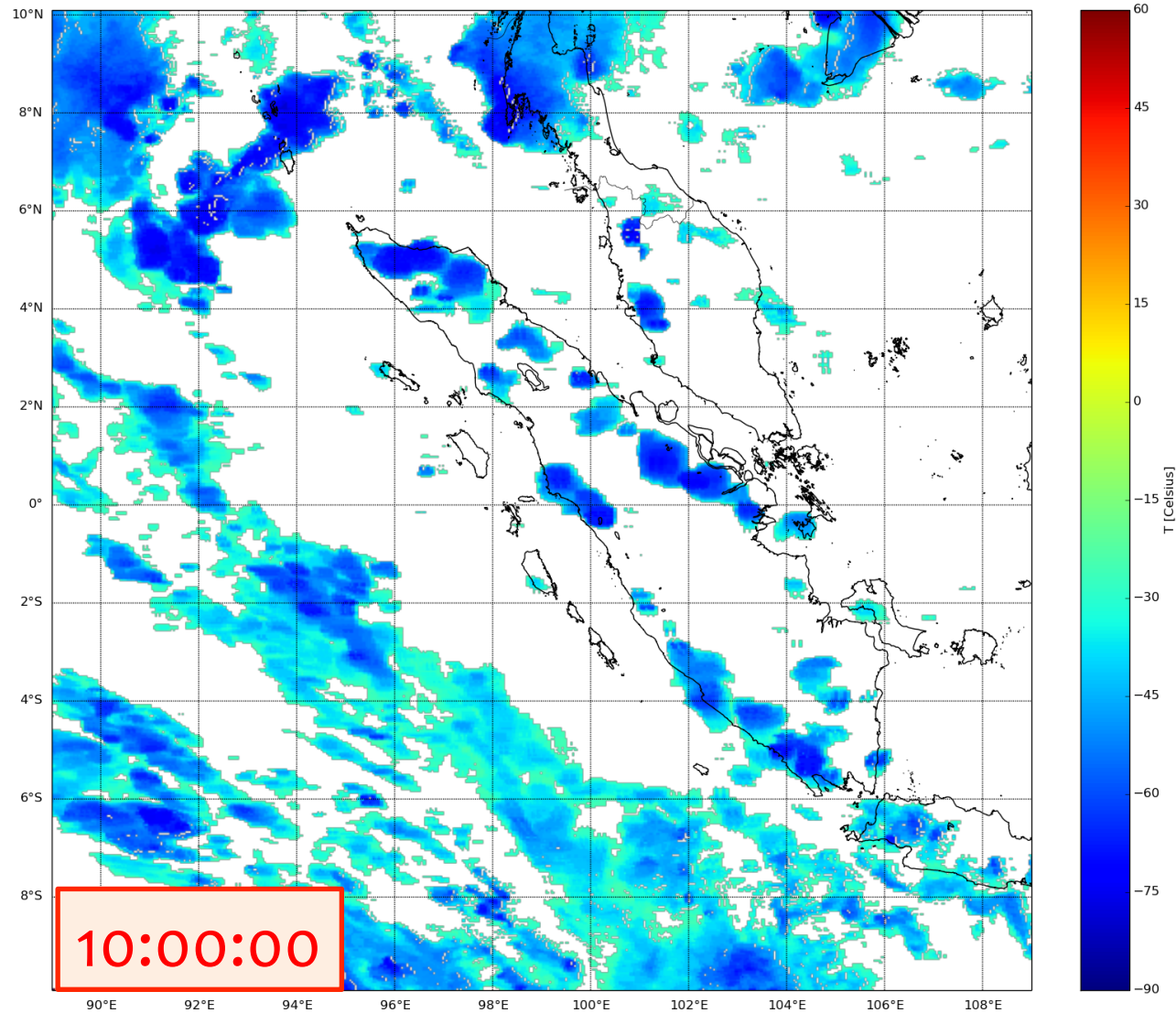
Alessandro Ursi

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# Successive TGFs



EXAMPLE 11  
13/04/2015

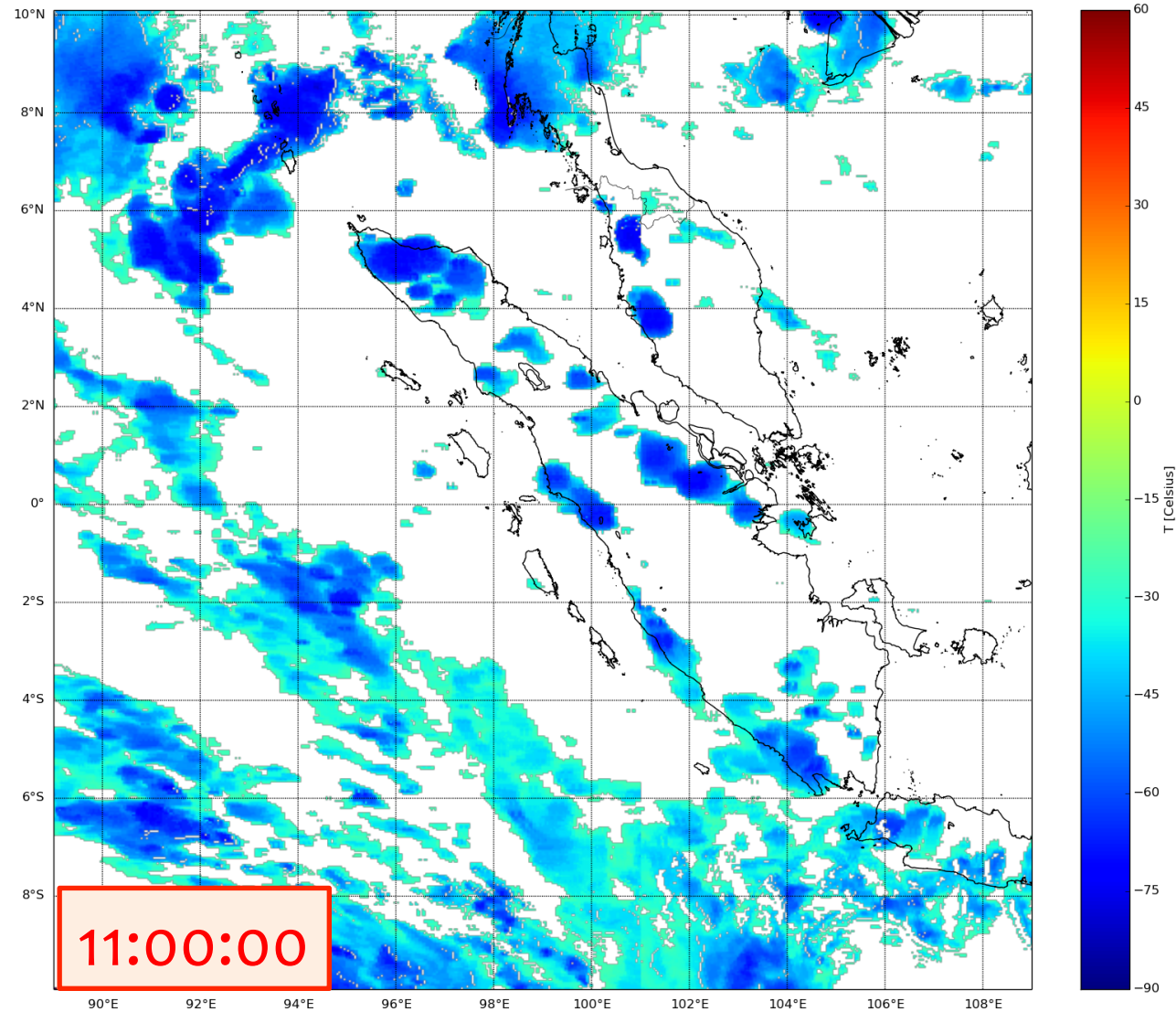
Alessandro Ursi

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# Successive TGFs



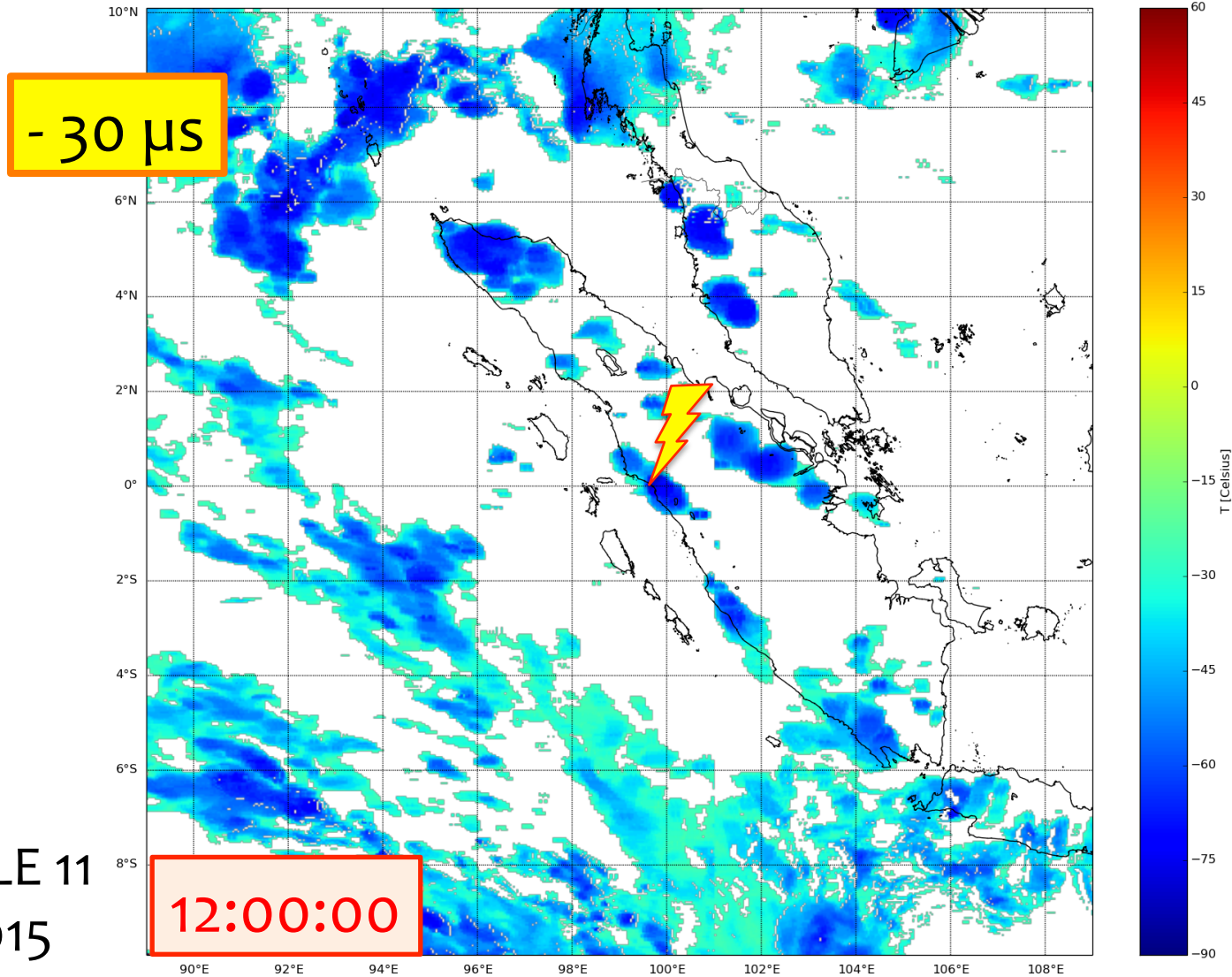
EXAMPLE 11  
13/04/2015

Alessandro Ursi

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# Successive TGFs



EXAMPLE 11  
13/04/2015

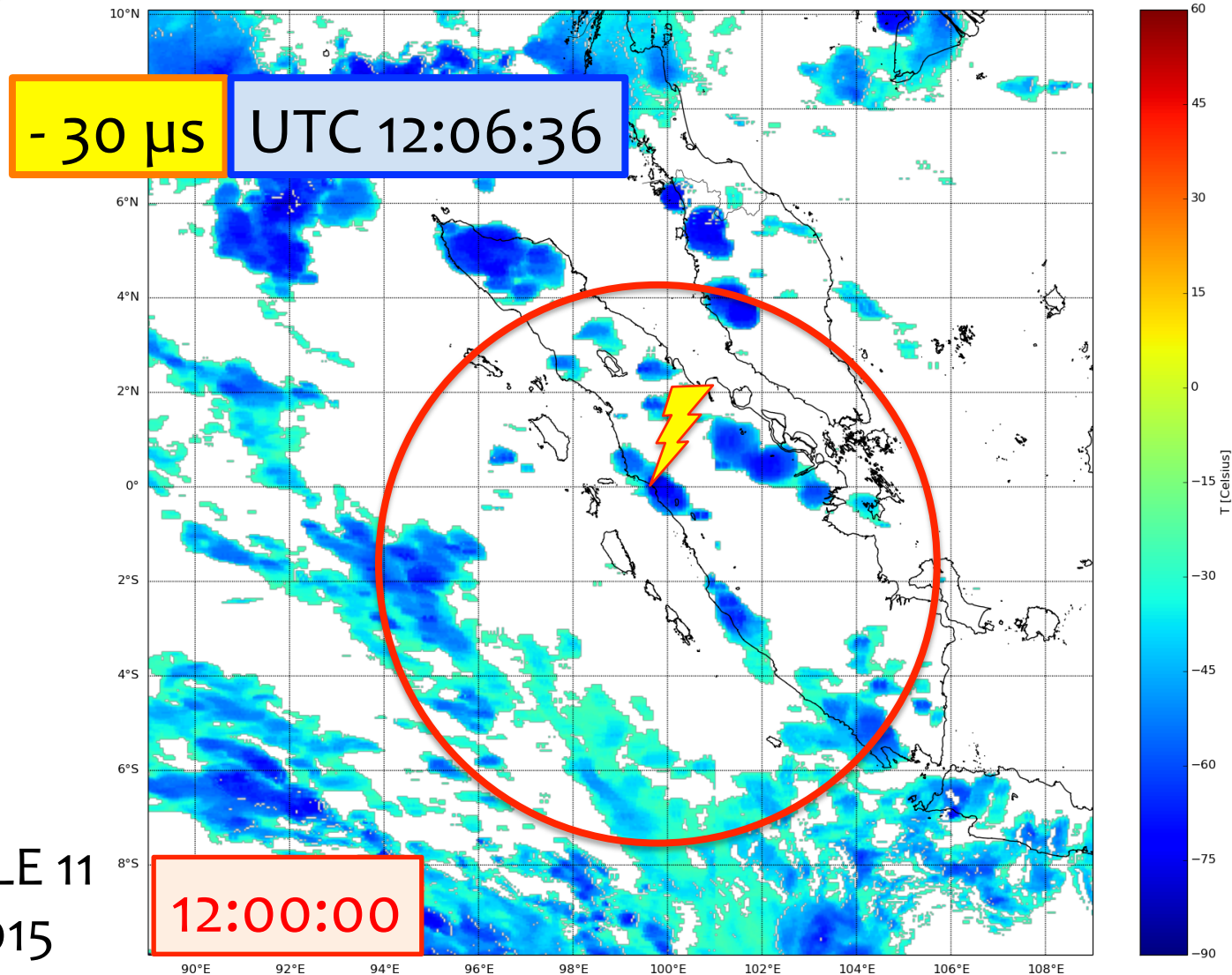
Alessandro Ursi

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# Successive TGFs



EXAMPLE 11  
13/04/2015

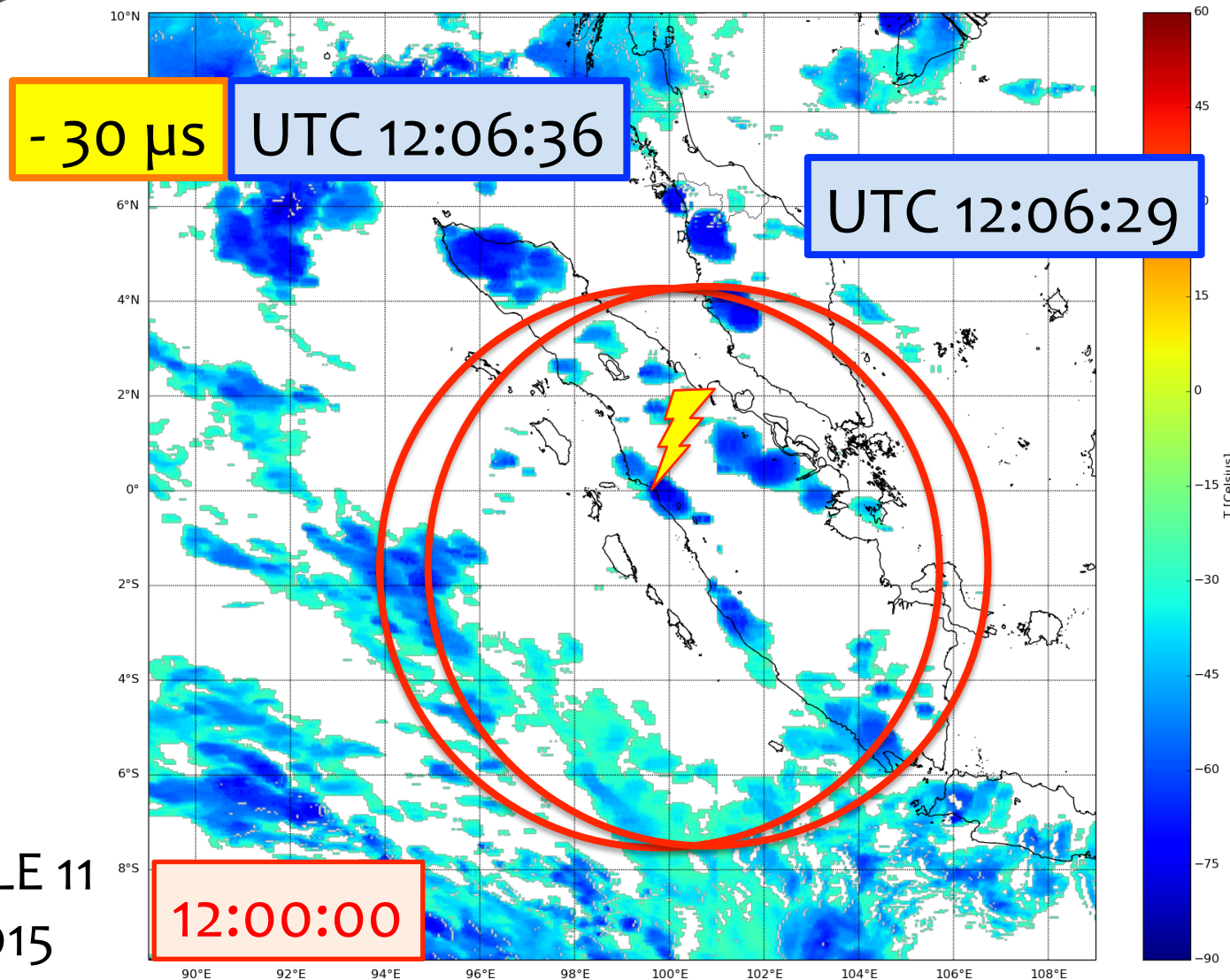
Alessandro Ursi

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# Successive TGFs



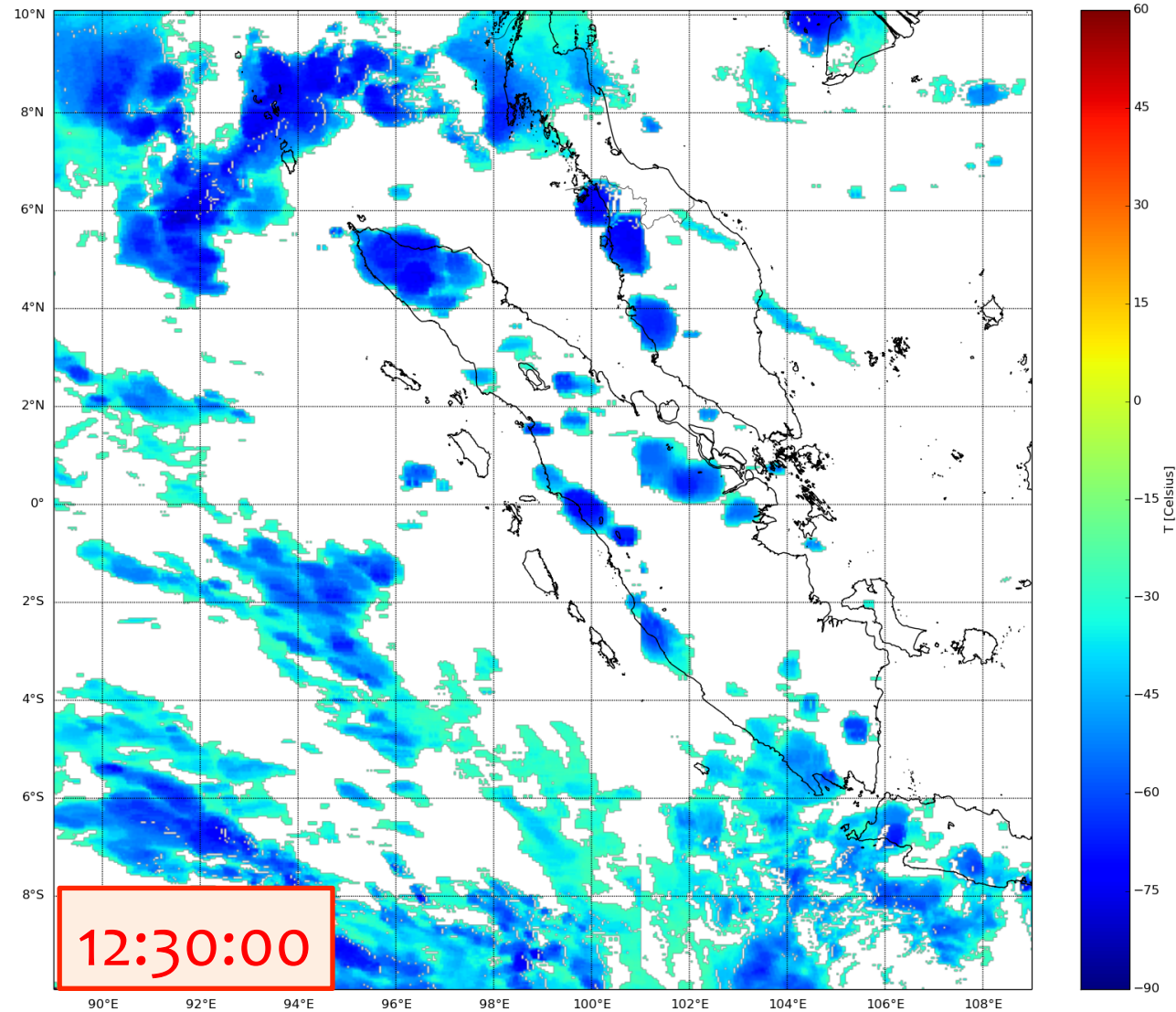
EXAMPLE 11  
13/04/2015

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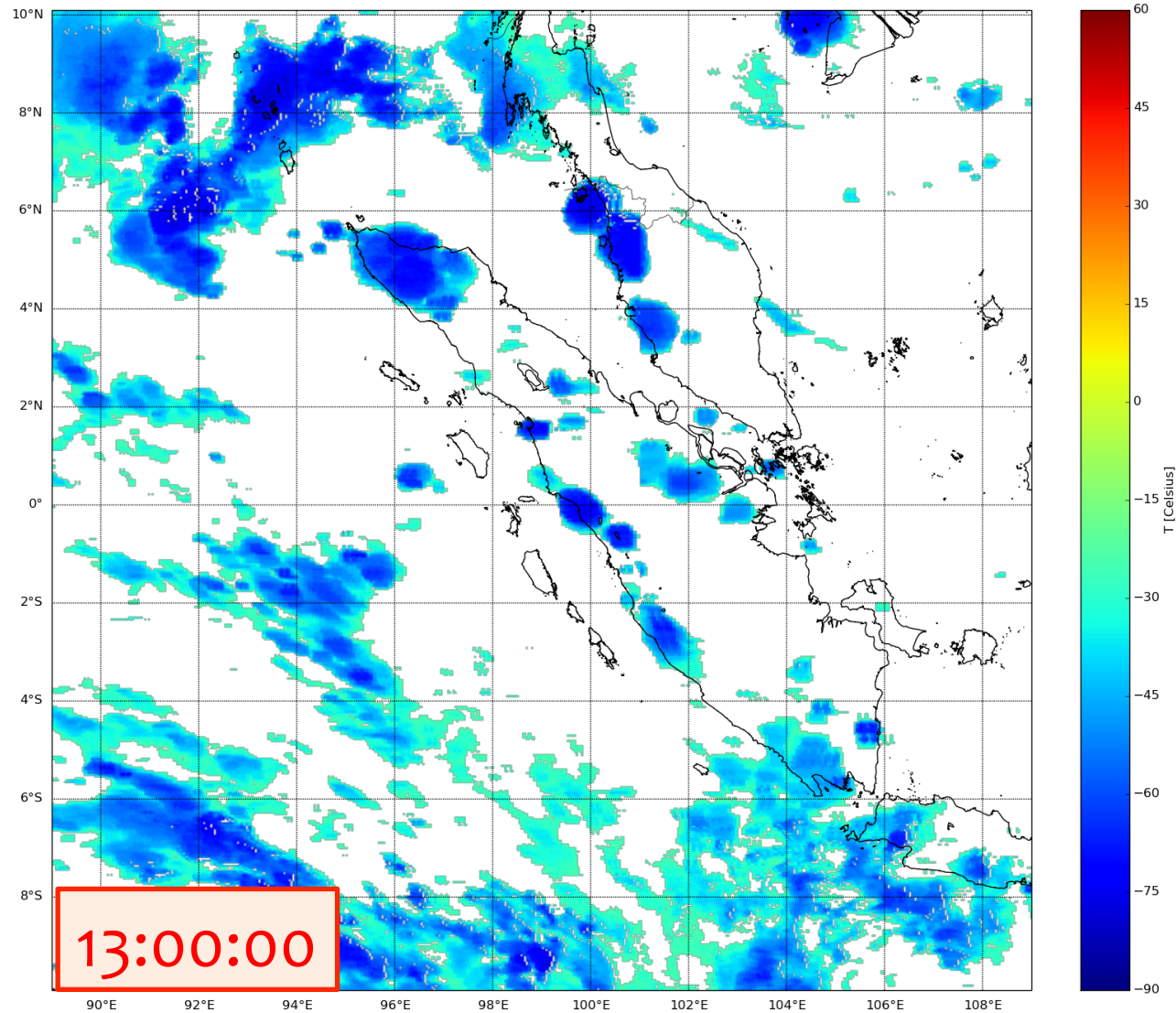
# Successive TGFs



EXAMPLE 11  
13/04/2015



# Successive TGFs



EXAMPLE 11  
13/04/2015

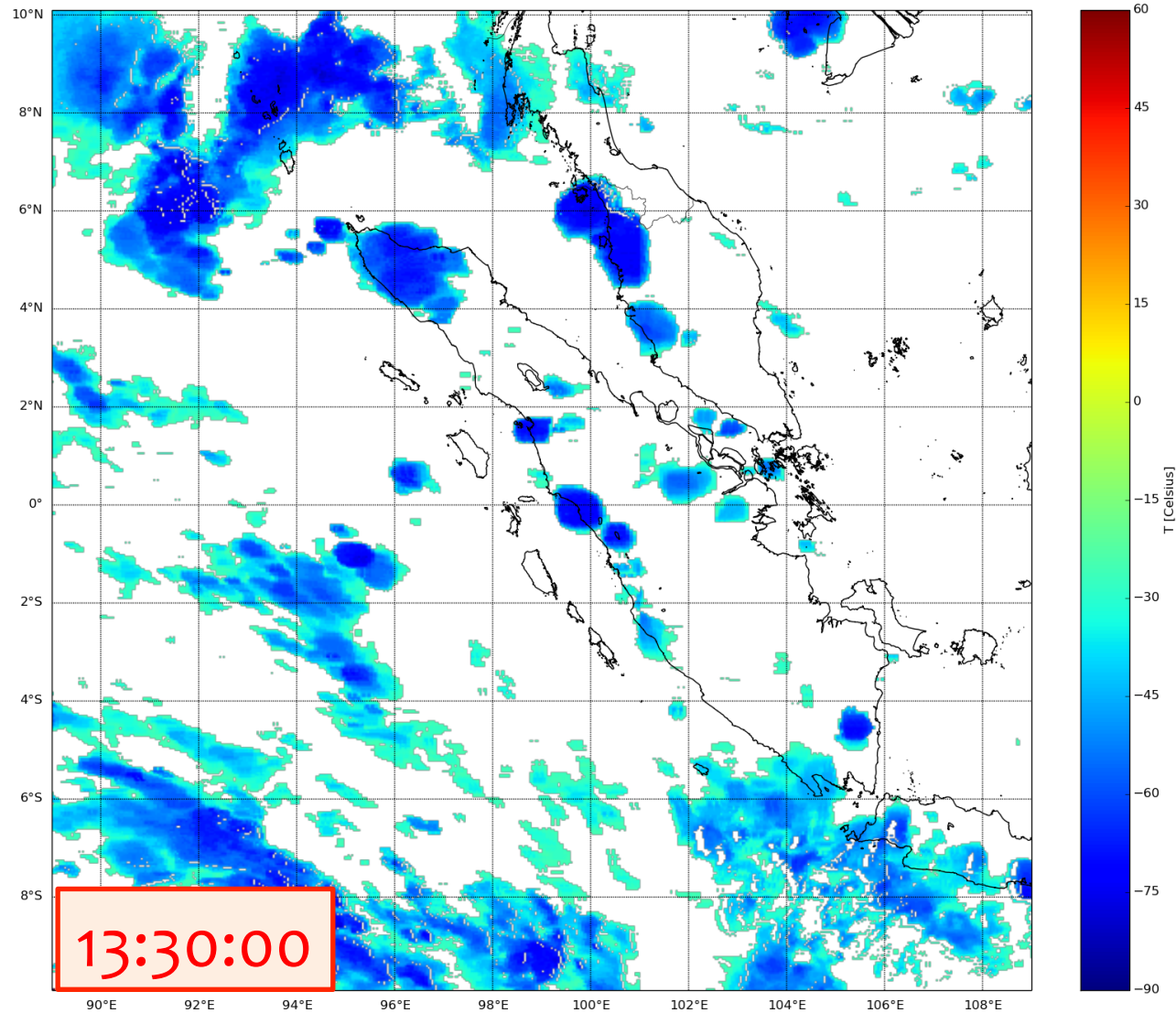
Alessandro Ursi

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# Successive TGFs



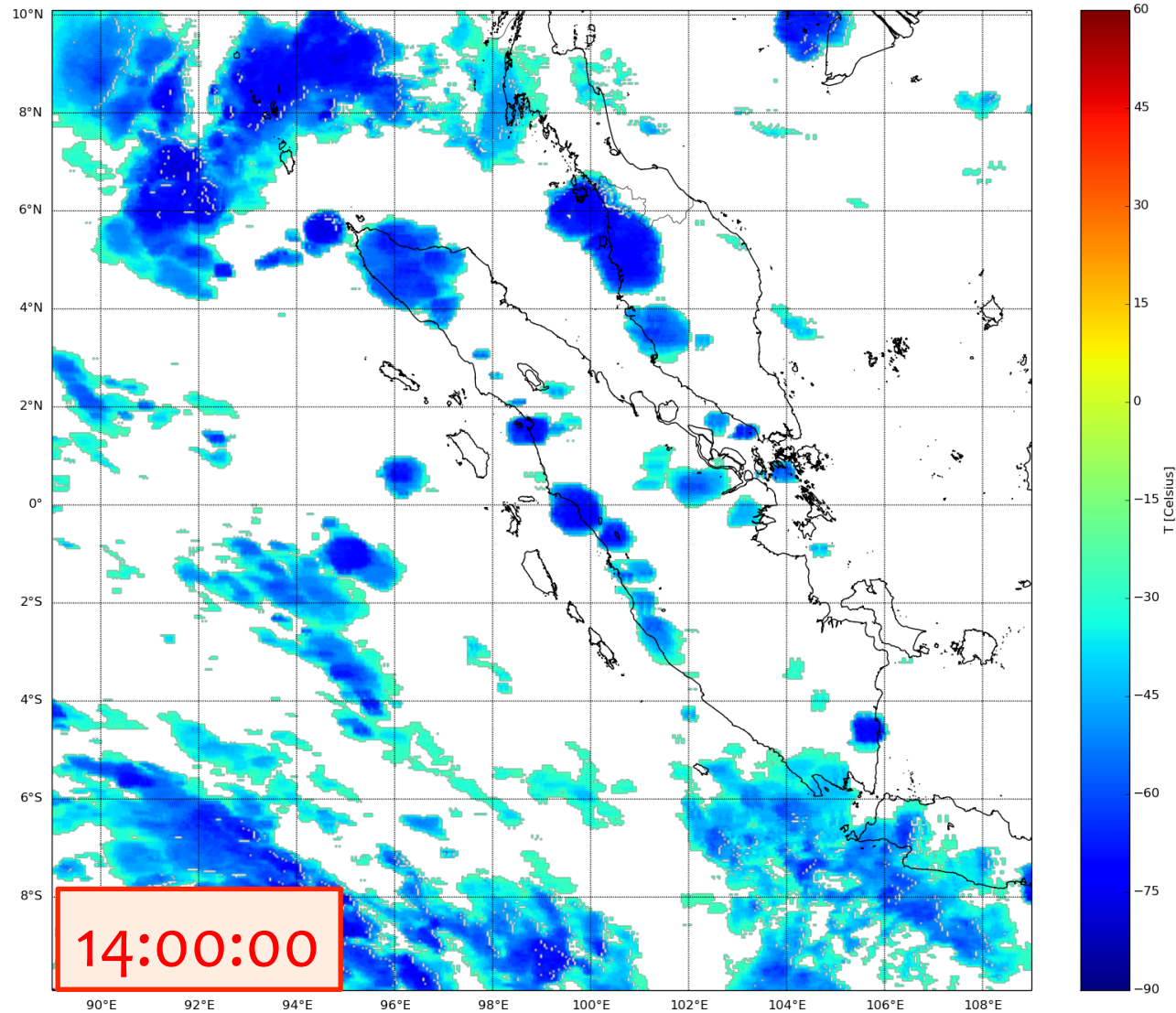
EXAMPLE 11  
13/04/2015

Alessandro Ursi

Detection of TGFs in an enhanced configuration and link with meteorological information

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# Successive TGFs



EXAMPLE 11  
13/04/2015

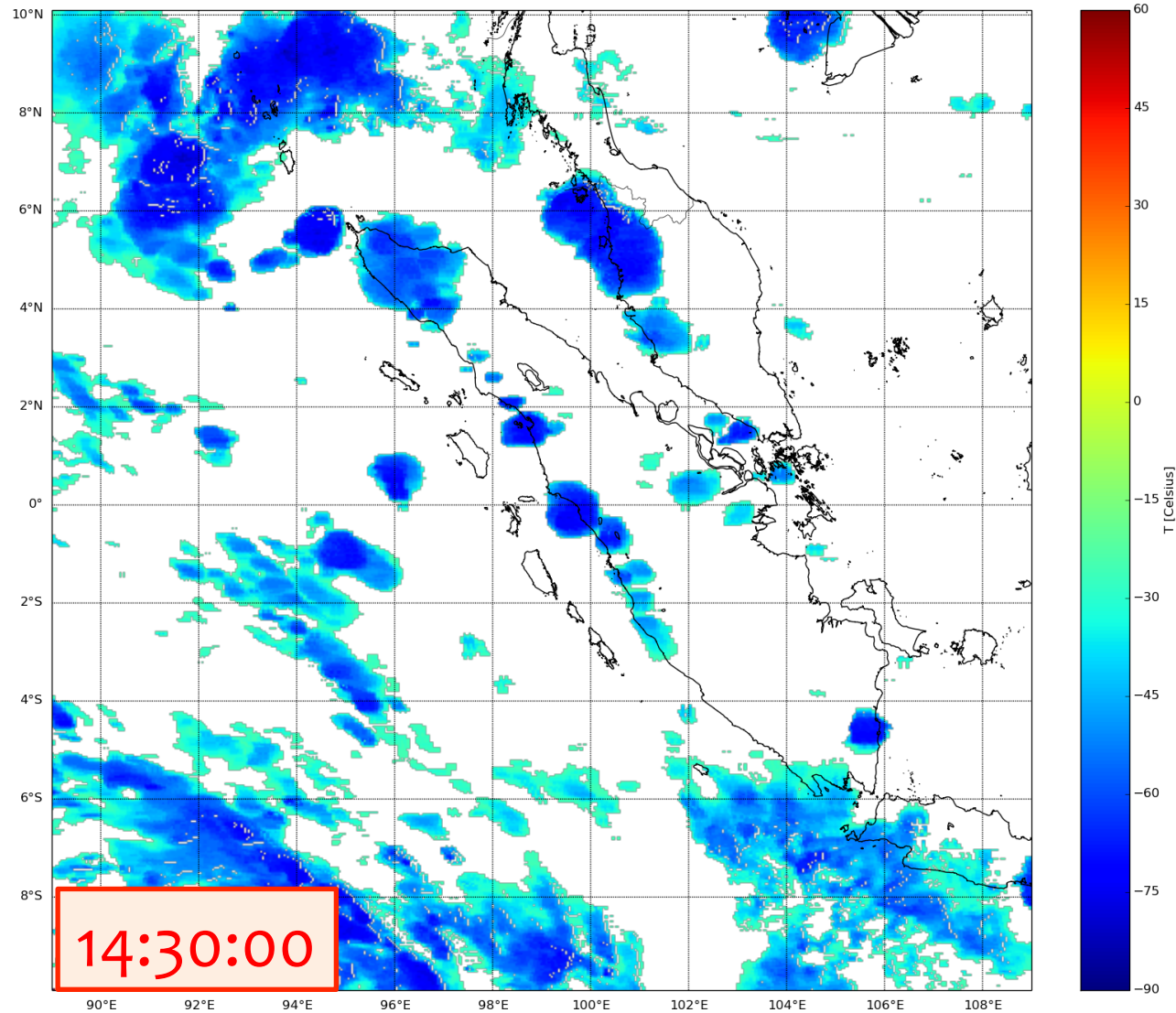
Alessandro Ursi

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# Successive TGFs



EXAMPLE 11  
13/04/2015

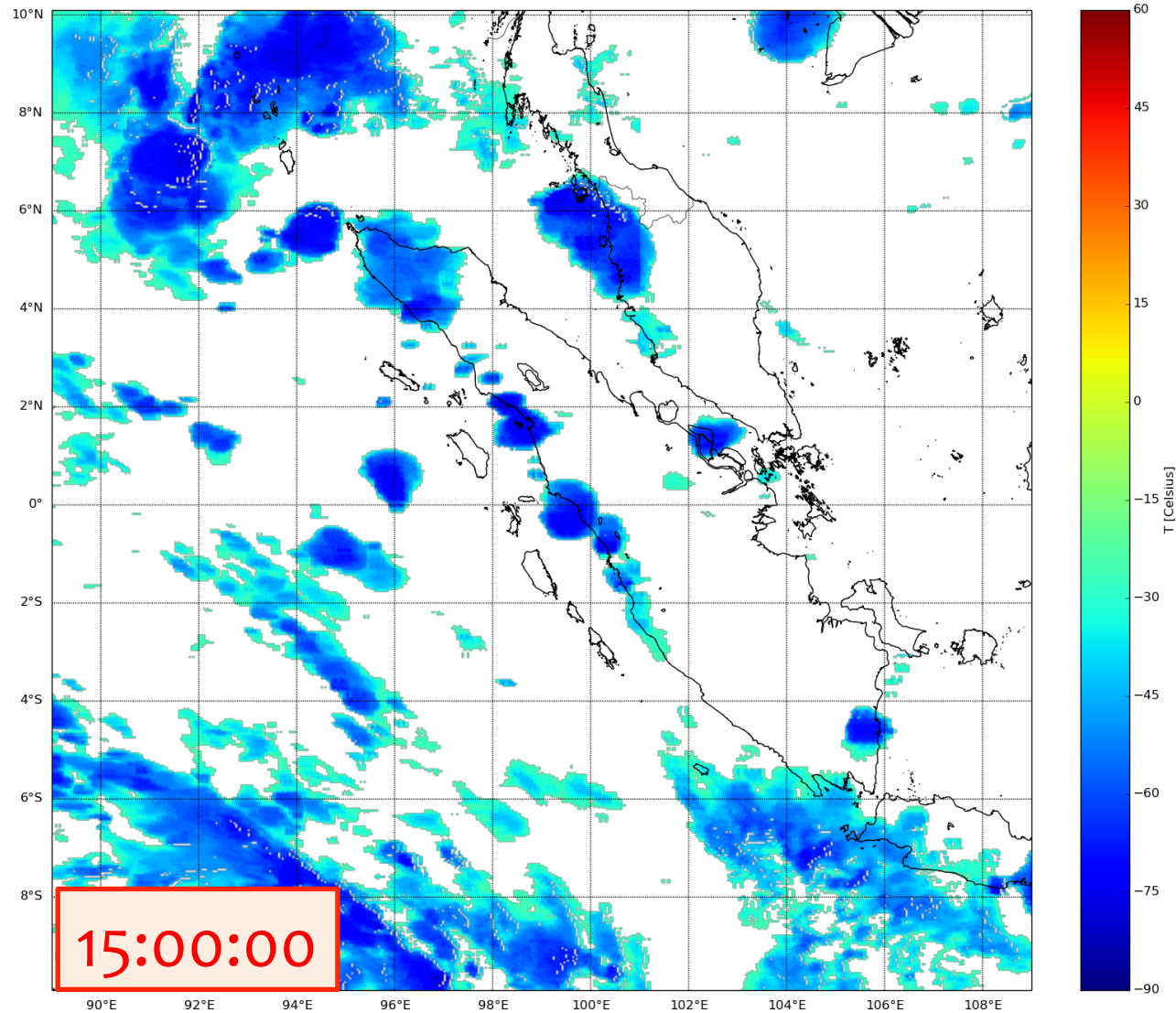
Alessandro Ursi

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# Successive TGFs



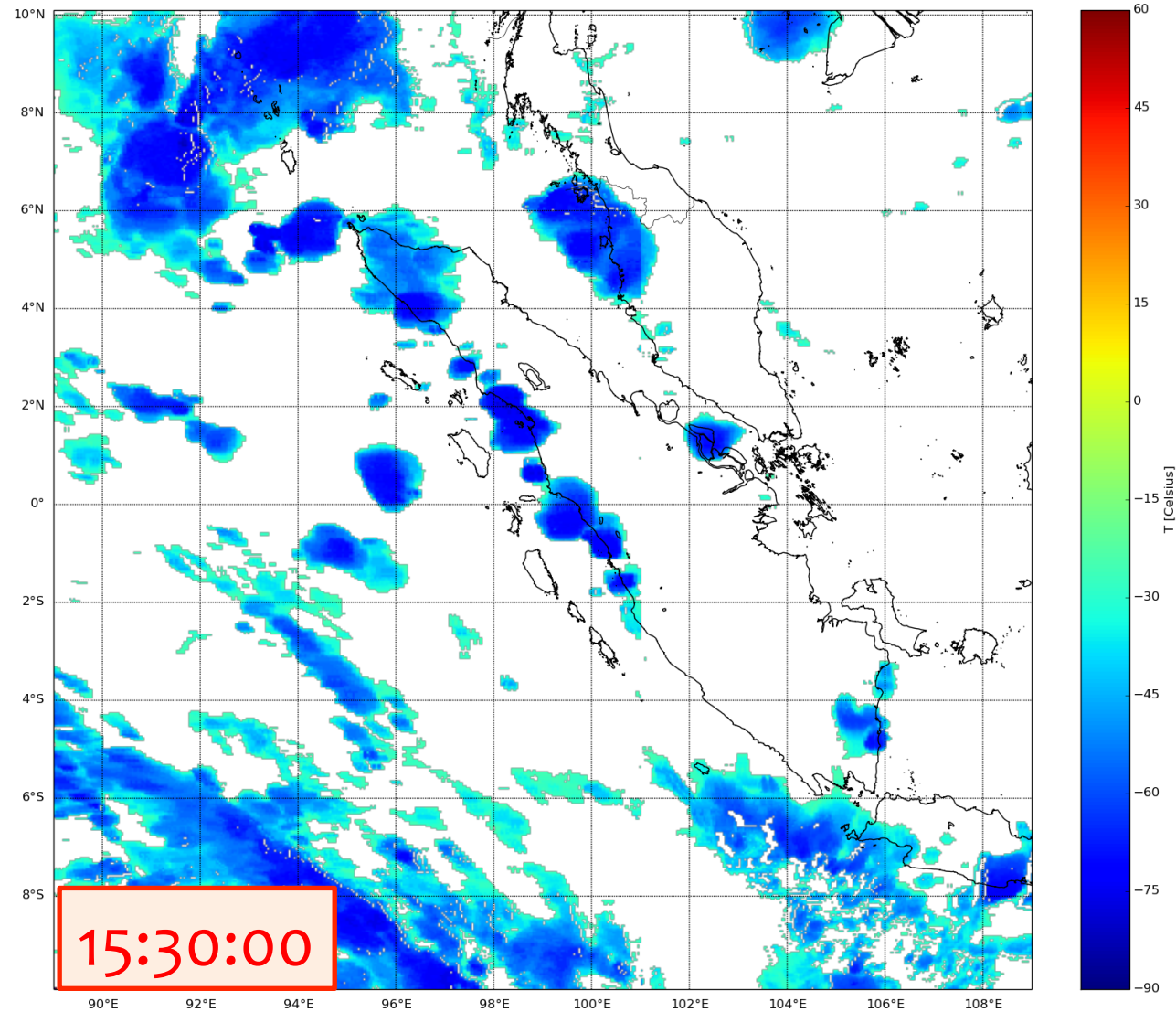
EXAMPLE 11  
13/04/2015

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# Successive TGFs



EXAMPLE 11  
13/04/2015

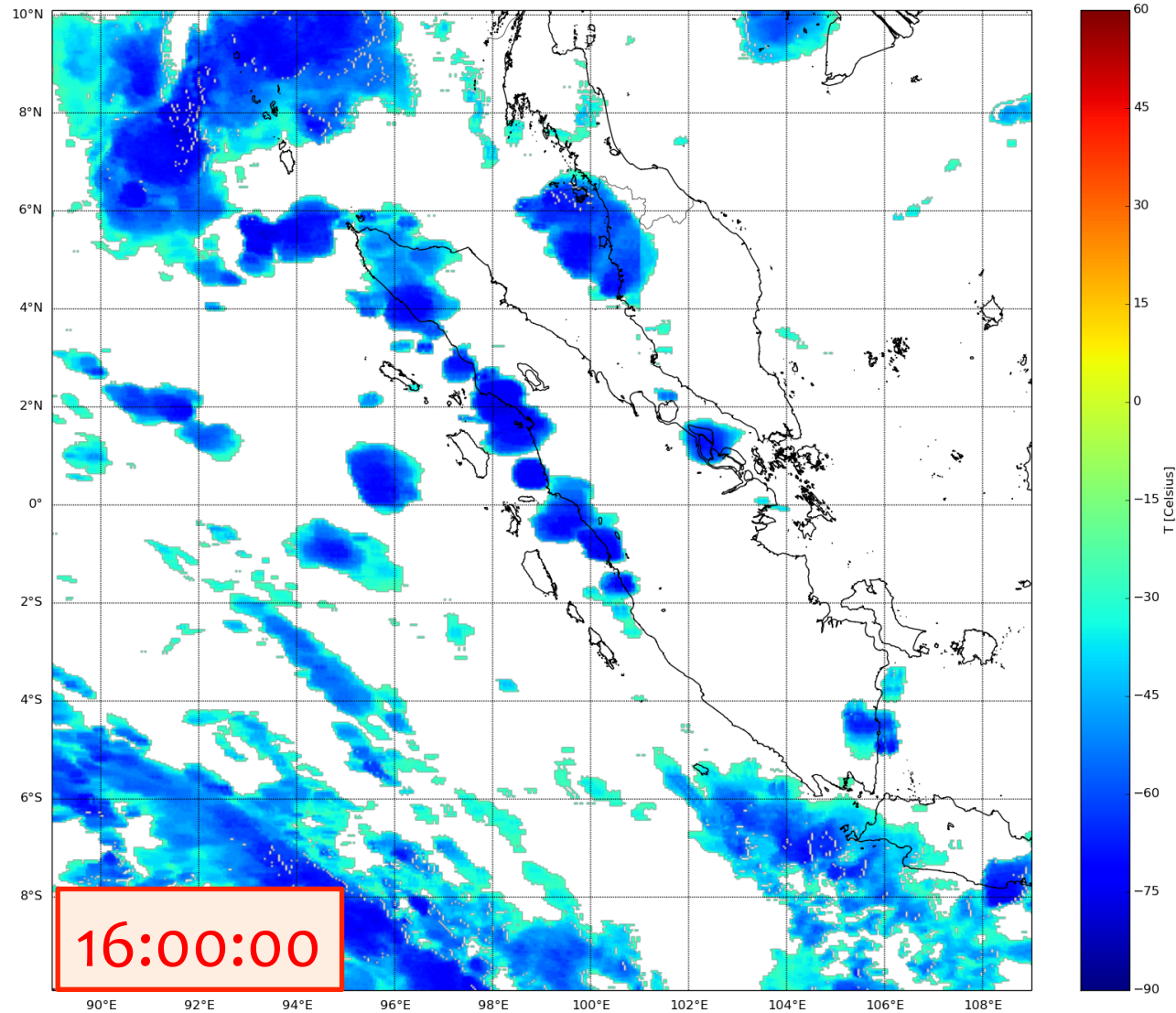
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# Successive TGFs



EXAMPLE 11  
13/04/2015

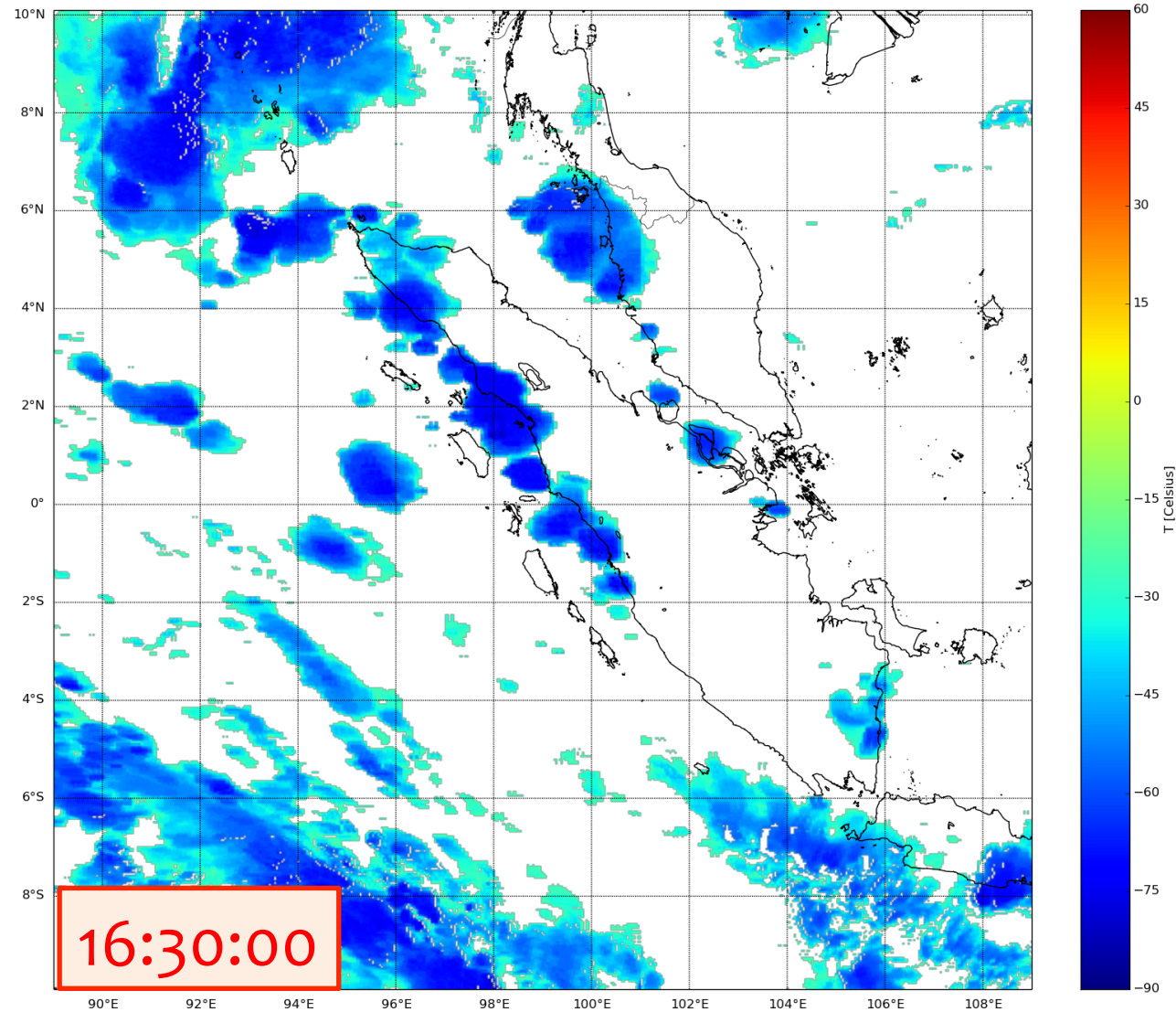
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# Successive TGFs



EXAMPLE 11  
13/04/2015

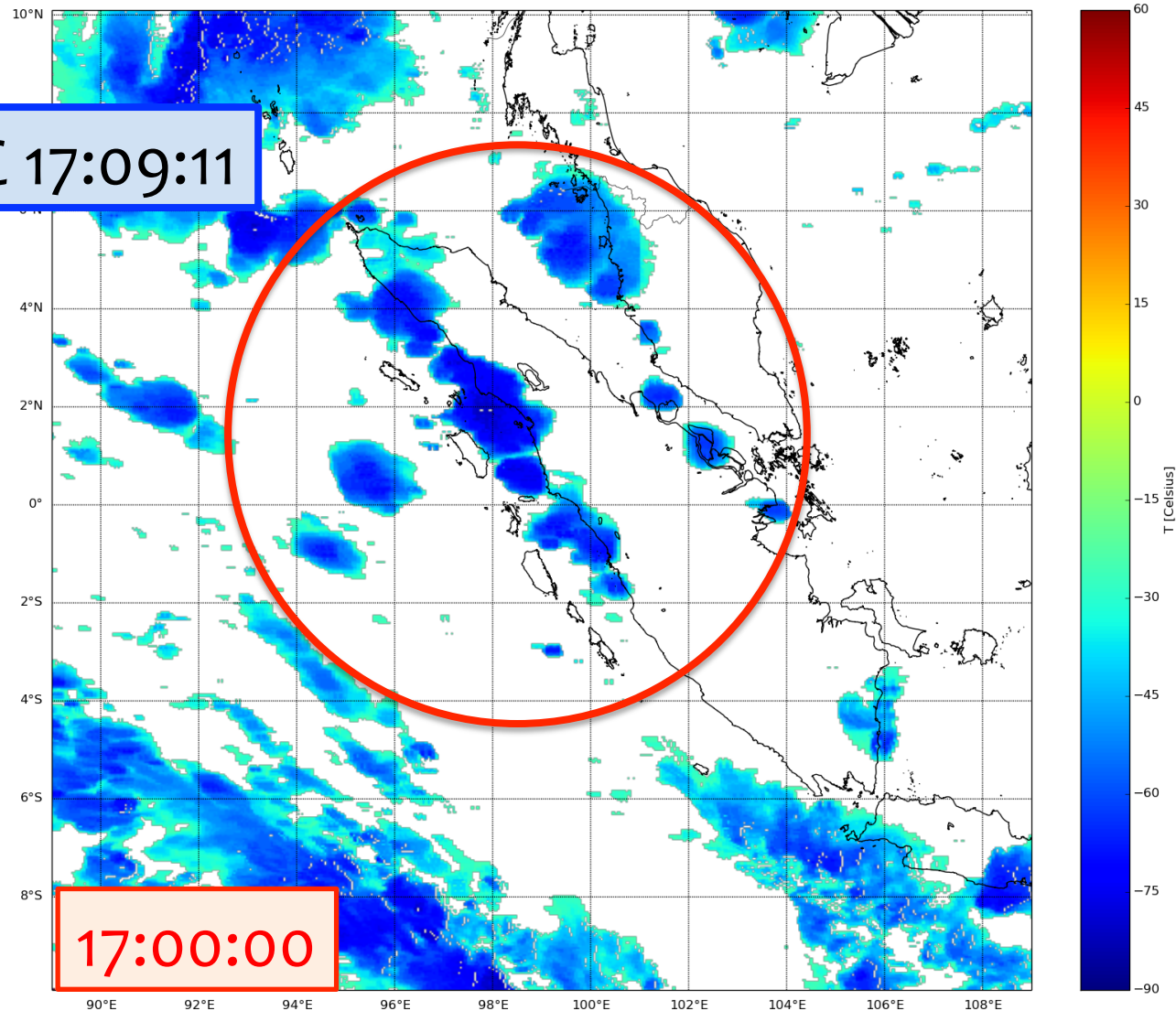
Alessandro Ursi

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# Successive TGFs

UTC 17:09:11



EXAMPLE 11  
13/04/2015

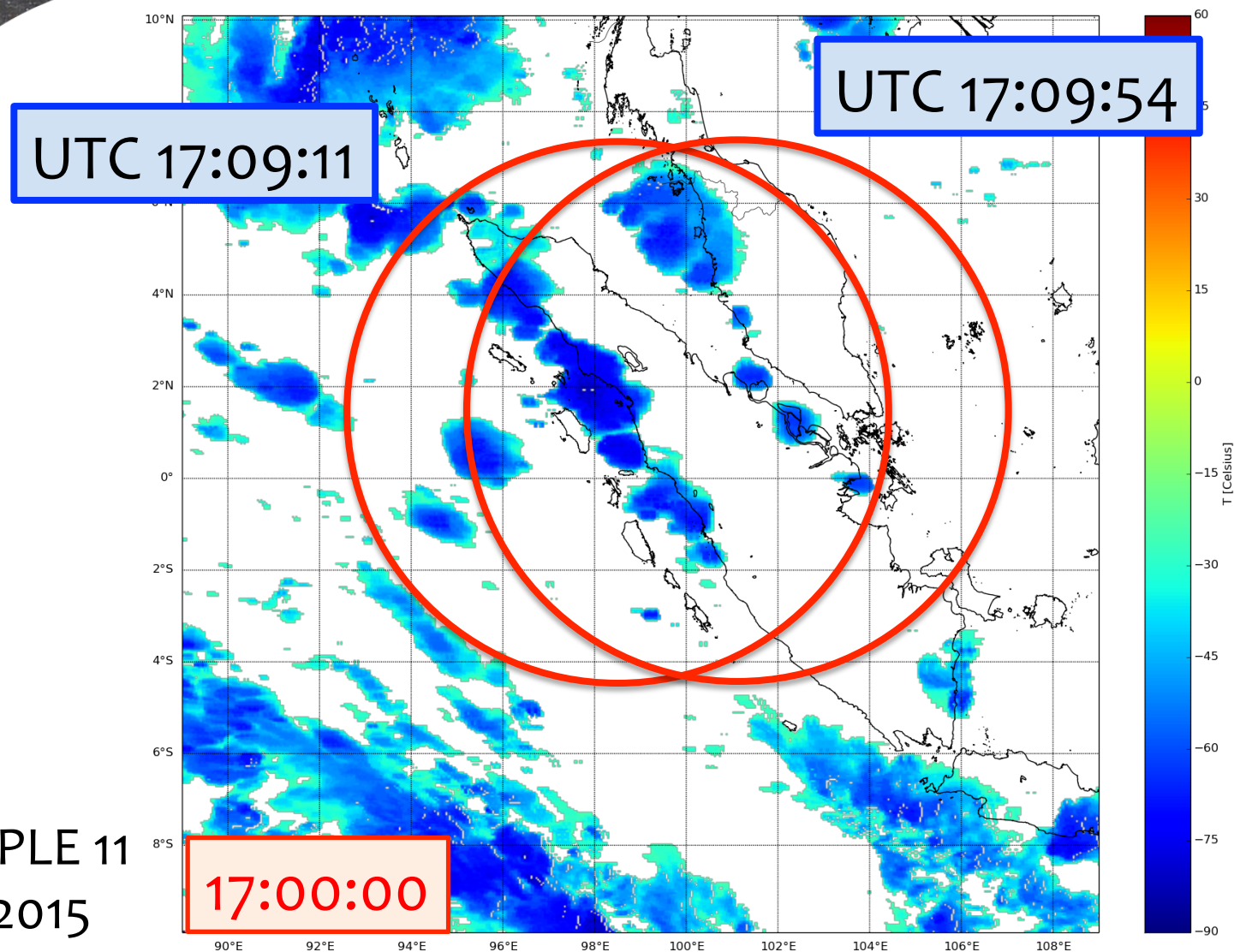
Alessandro Ursi

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# Successive TGFs



EXAMPLE 11  
13/04/2015

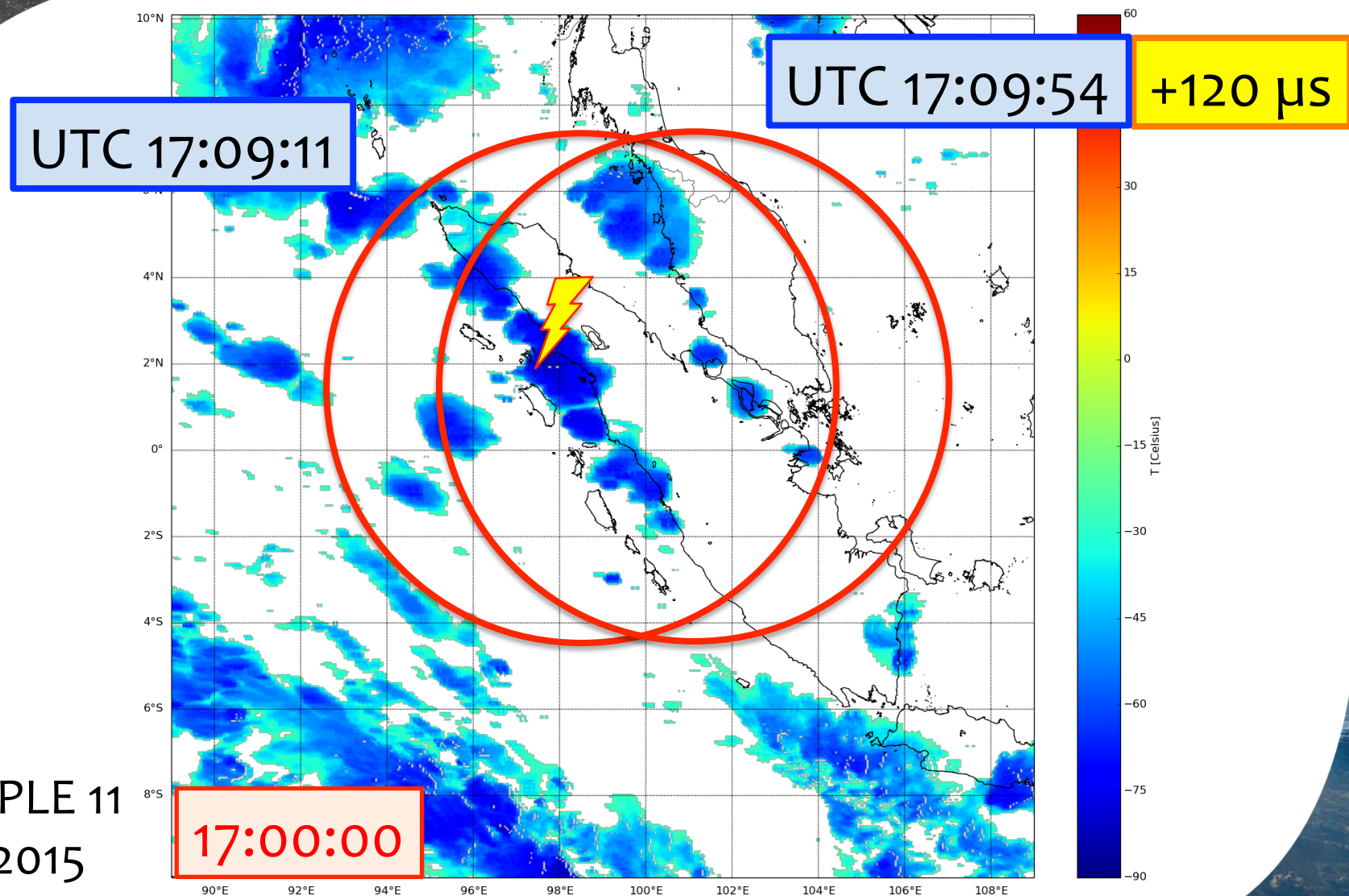
Alessandro Ursi

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# Successive TGFs



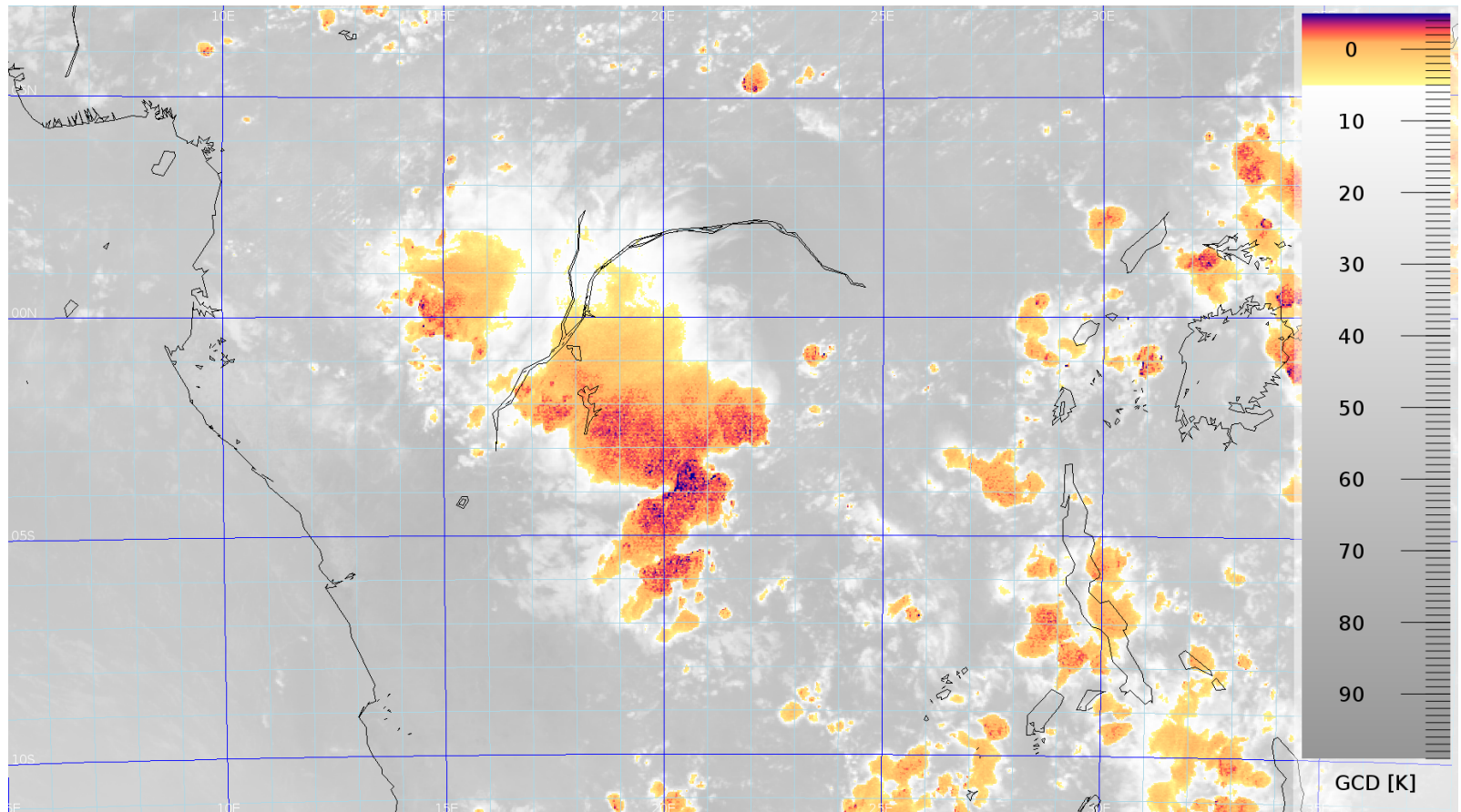
EXAMPLE 11  
13/04/2015

Alessandro Ursi

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# Successive TGFs



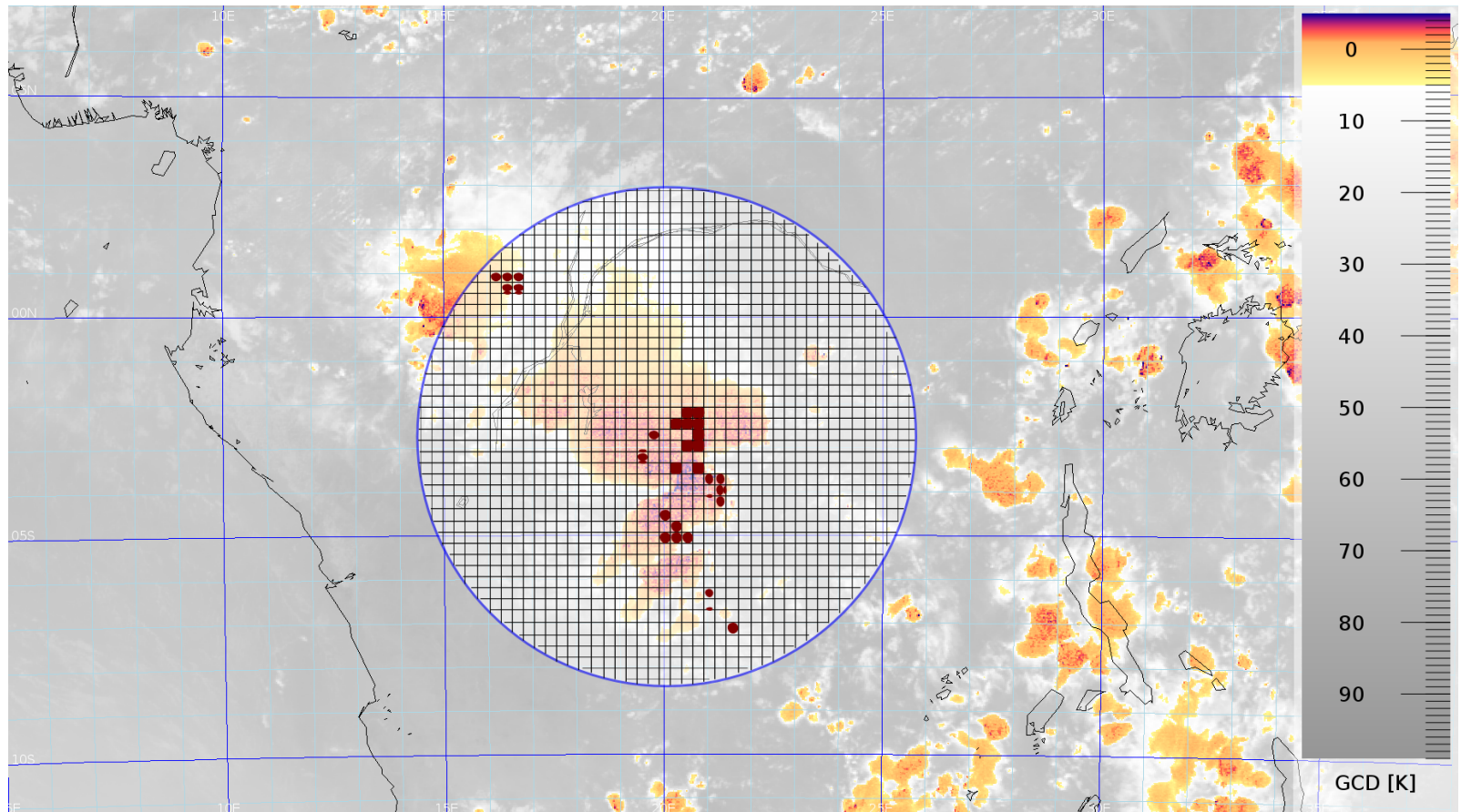
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# Successive TGFs



$N_{\text{pixels}}$  satisfying the GCD

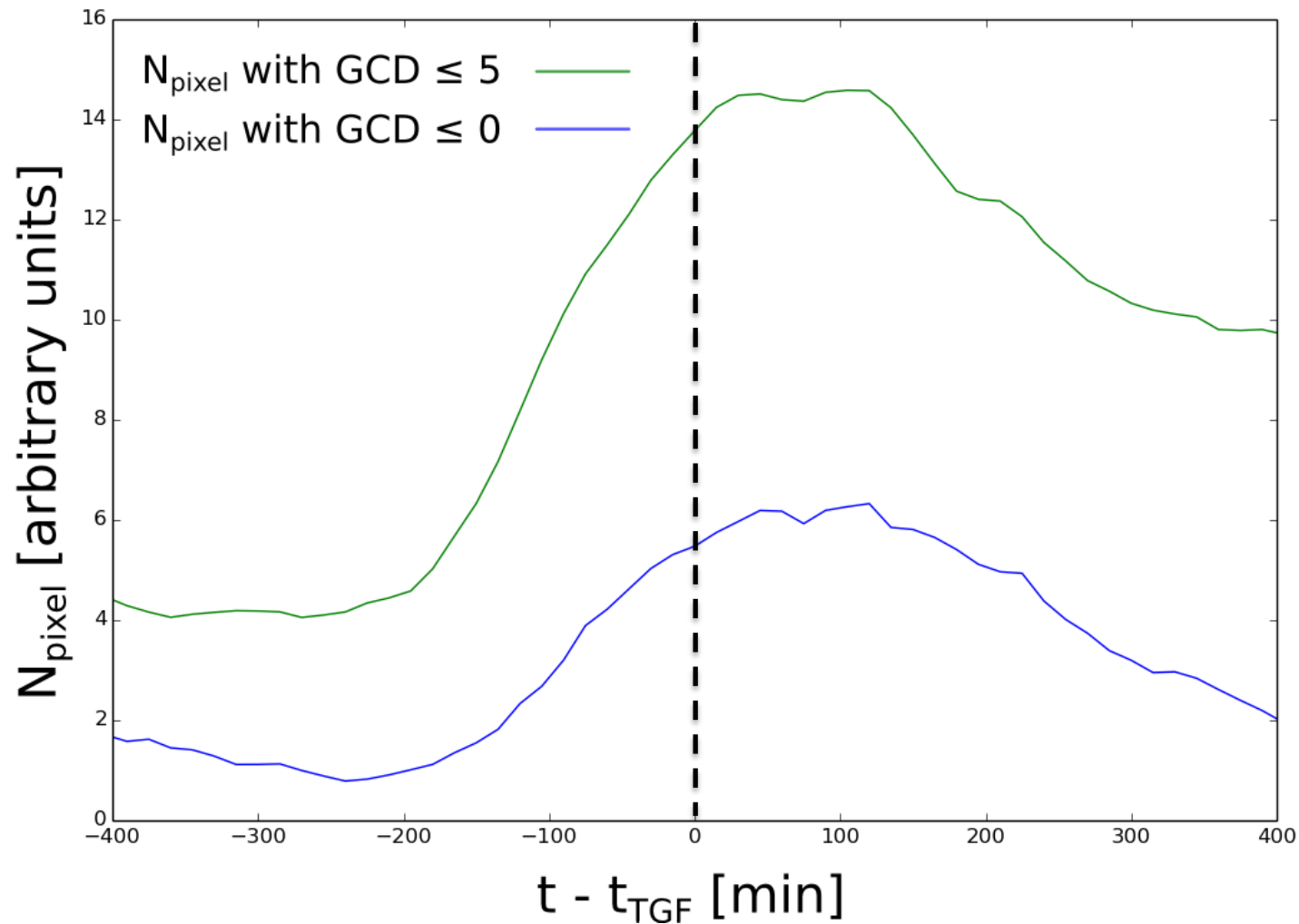
Alessandro Ursi

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# Successive TGFs



Alessandro Ursi

Detection of TGFs in an enhanced configuration and link with meteorological information

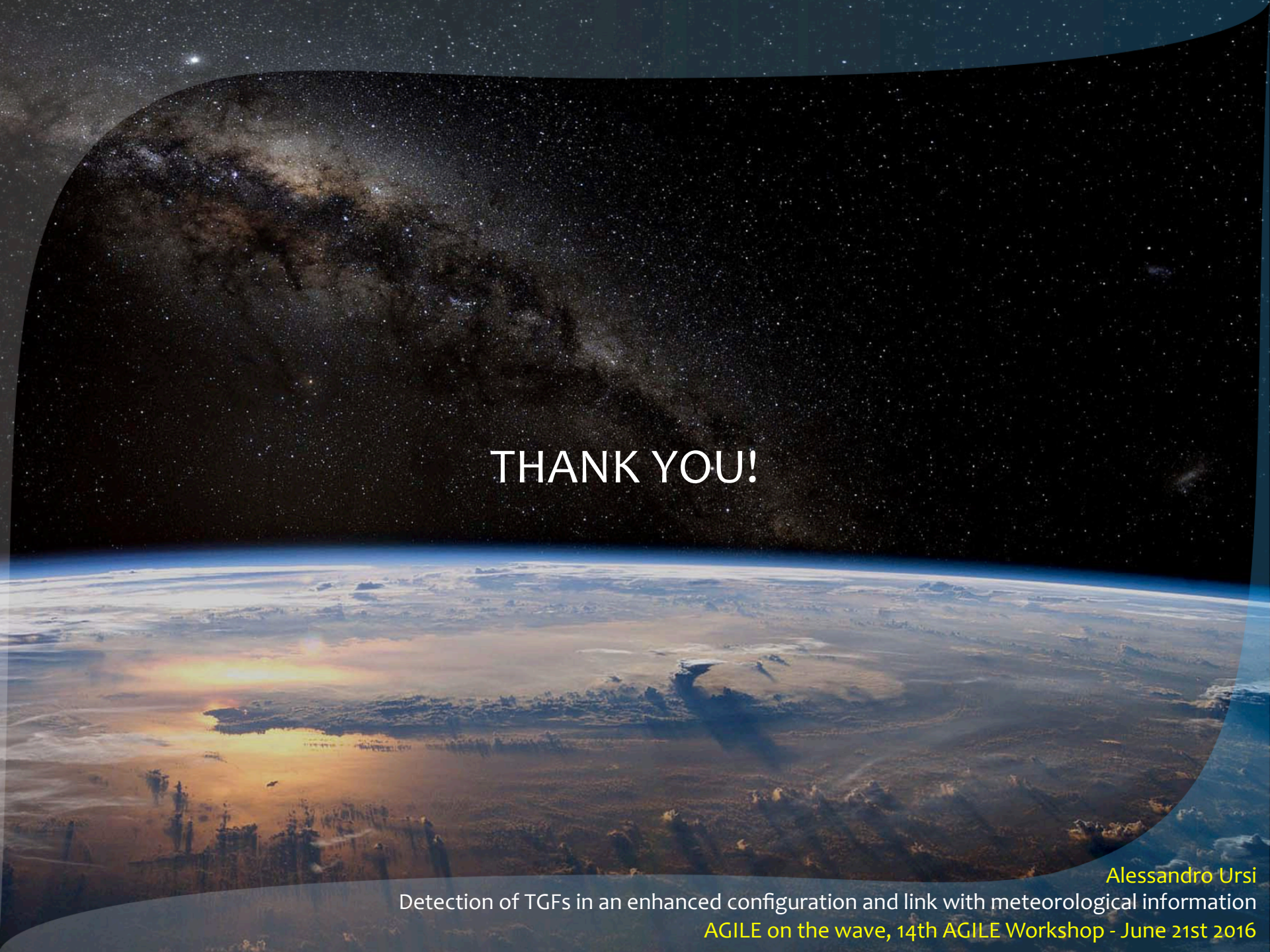
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AGILE still goes on...

- MORE EVENTS
- MORE SFERICS
- MORE STATISTICS

- *Detection of multiple TGFs from thunderstorms* [Ursi et al., 2016, in preparation]
- *A real-time pipeline to link meteorological information to AGILE TGFs* [Ursi et al., 2016, in preparation]



The background of the slide is a composite image. The upper half shows a view of the Milky Way galaxy, with its dense band of stars and dust stretching across the dark sky. The lower half shows a view of Earth from space, with the blue atmosphere and white clouds visible against the blackness of space. The text "THANK YOU!" is centered in the middle of the image.

THANK YOU!

Alessandro Ursi

Detection of TGFs in an enhanced configuration and link with meteorological information

AGILE on the wave, 14th AGILE Workshop - June 21st 2016





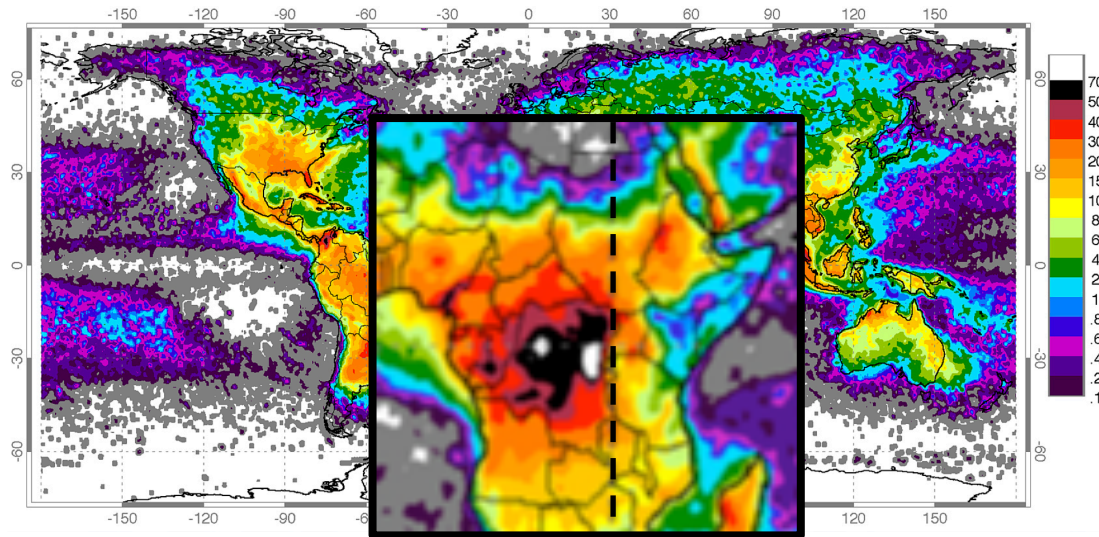
**Backup slides**



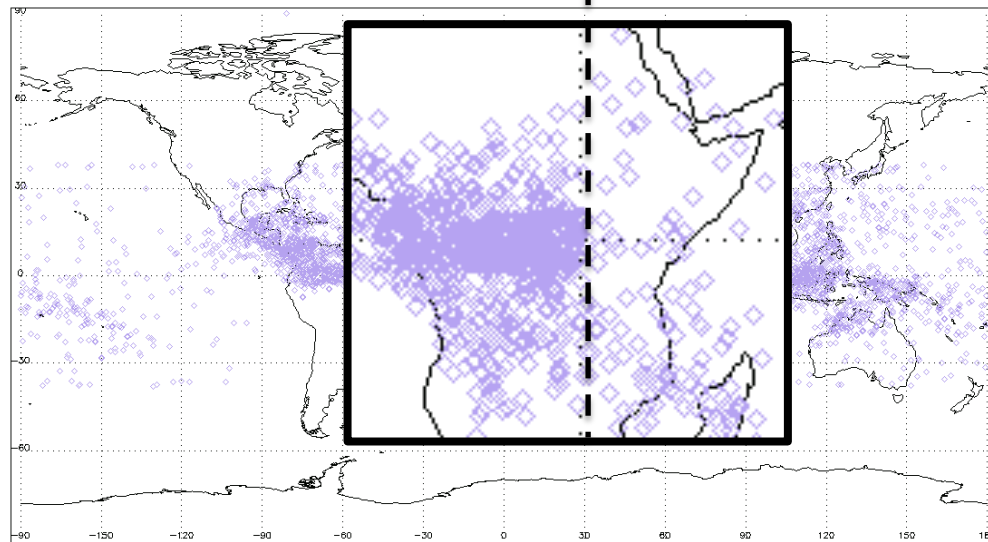
# Terrestrial events – Terrestrial Gamma-ray Flashes (TGFs)

## Association with lightning (1)

Geographical  
distribution  
of lightning  
strokes



All TGFs



# Terrestrial events – Terrestrial Gamma-ray Flashes (TGFs)

## Association with lightning (2)



**detector**

Radio atmospherics (sferics)

Hz ÷ 10 kHz

many matches for  
RHESSI/Fermi TGFs

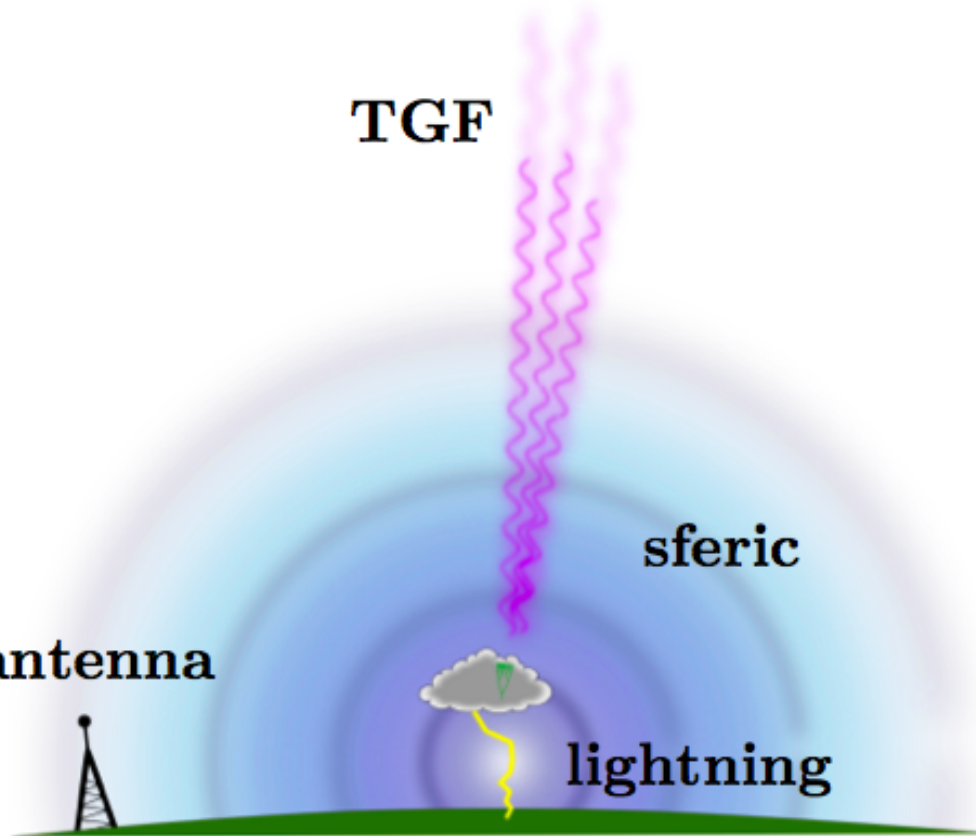
congiunzione

**TGF**

**sferic**

**antenna**

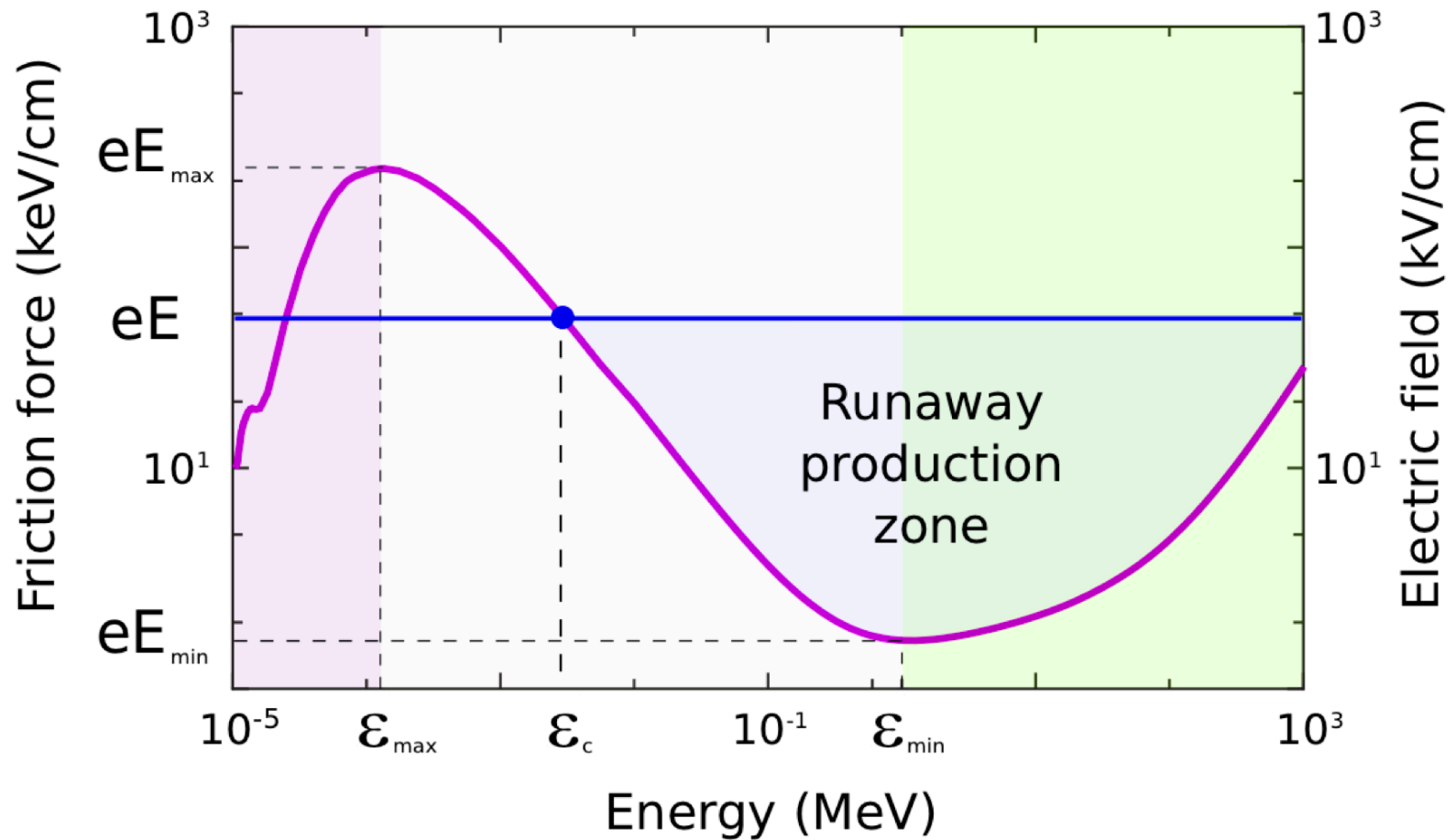
**lightning**





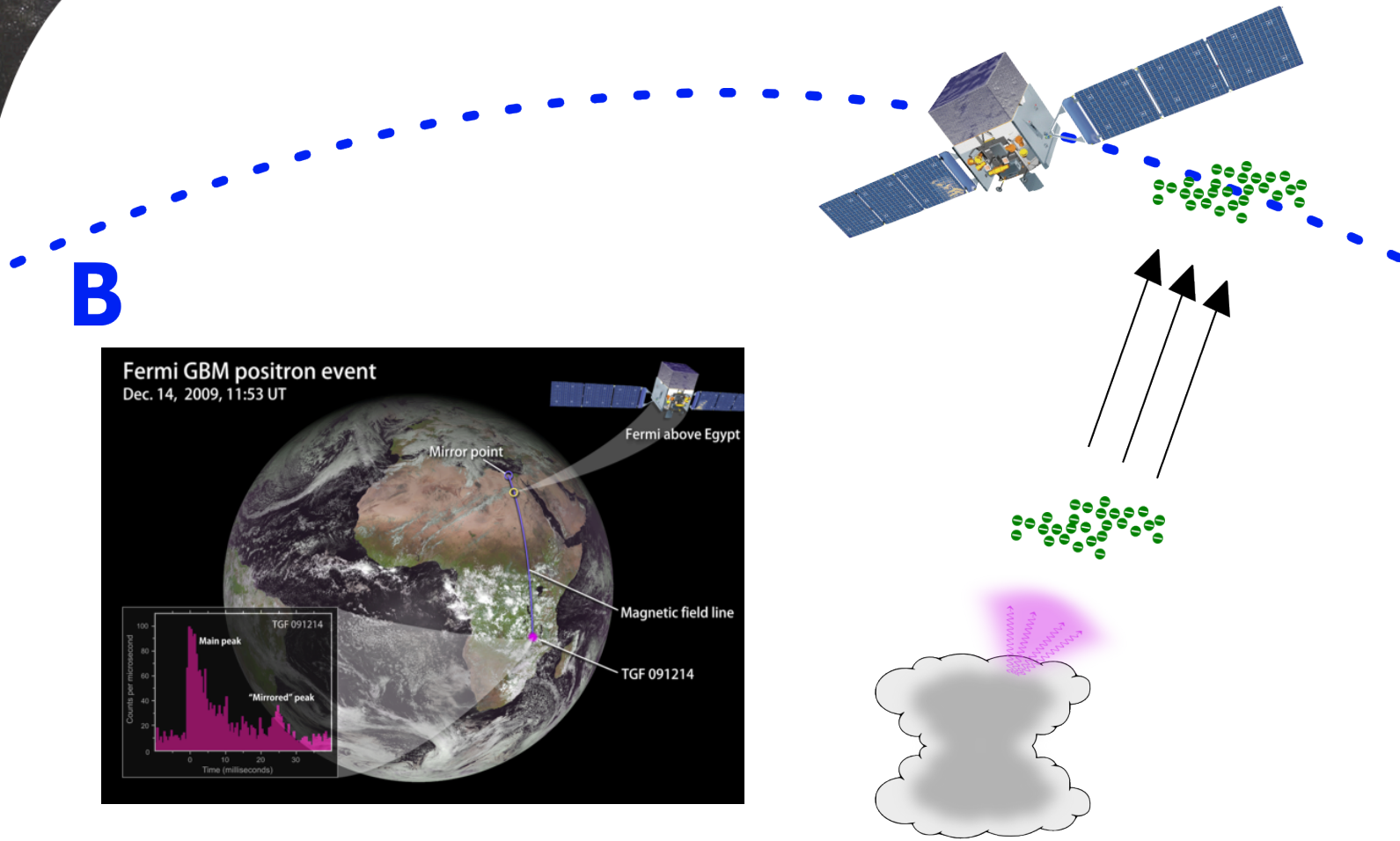
# Terrestrial events – Terrestrial Gamma-ray Flashes (TGFs)

## How does RREA work?



# Terrestrial events – Terrestrial Gamma-ray Flashes (TGFs)

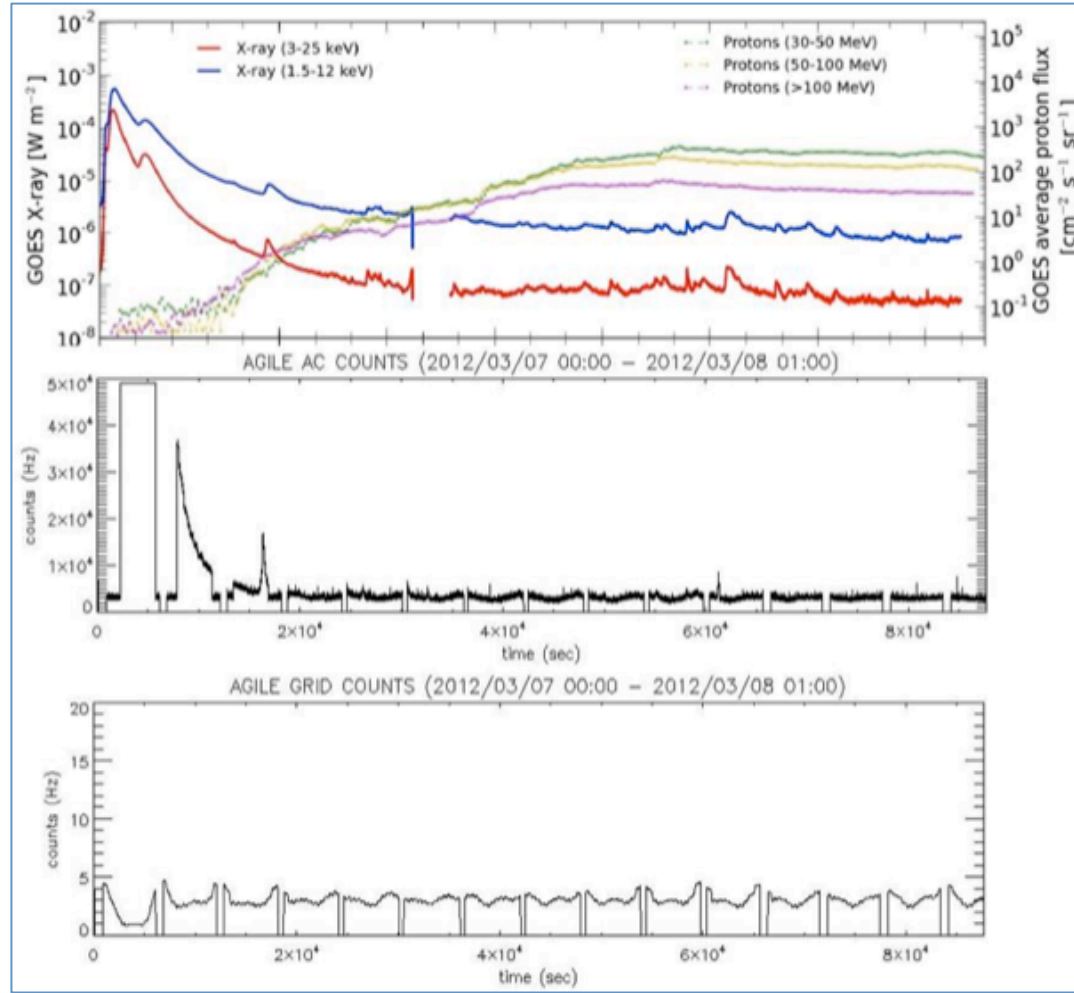
## Electron TGFs or Terrestrial Electron Beams (TEBs)



# Terrestrial events – Terrestrial Gamma-ray Flashes (TGFs)

## Solar flare March 7<sup>th</sup> 2012

X-rays and  
particles by GOES



X-rays by  
AGILE AC

Particles by  
AGILE GRID



# Terrestrial events – Terrestrial Gamma-ray Flashes (TGFs)

## Radiation doses

TGF radiation dose  $\sim 0.1$  Sv/ms

$$\begin{aligned} N_{\text{part}} (1 \text{ ms, few km}^2) \\ \sim \\ 10^3 \cdot N_{\text{CR}} (1 \text{ ms, whole Earth}) \end{aligned}$$

### Radiation doses:

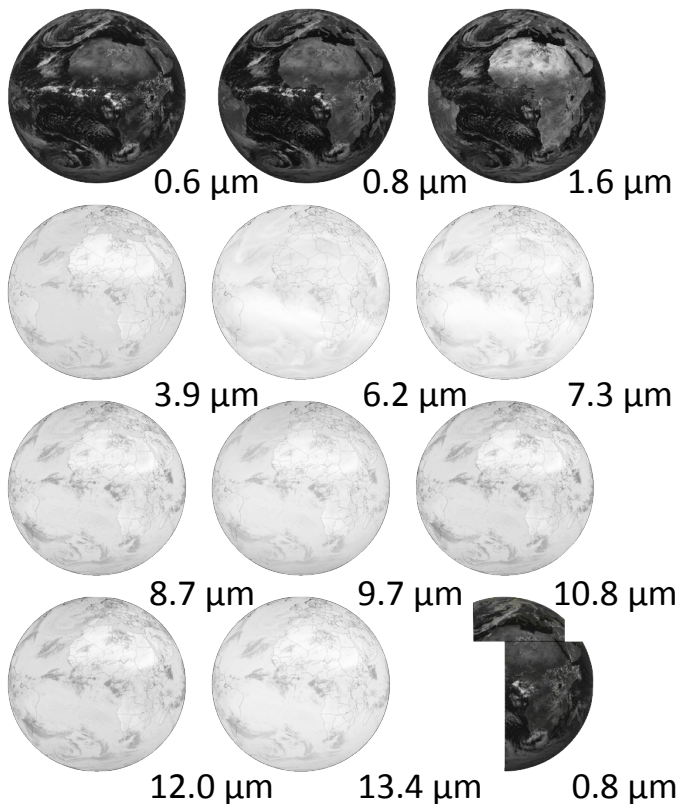
- nature  $\sim 2$  mSv/year
- RX  $< 1$  mSv
- TAC  $< 8$  mSv
- PET  $< 20$  mSv
- radiotherapy  $\sim$  Sv



- injuries on aircraft passengers [Dwyer, 2013]
- damages on on-board electronics [Tavani et al., 2013]

# Terrestrial events – Terrestrial Gamma-ray Flashes (TGFs)

## A real time pipeline to link meteorological data to TGFs detected by the AGILE satellite



- Meteosat Second Generation (MSG)
- geostationary satellites
- 12 energy channels:
  - 3 VIS ch. + 8 IR ch. with 3 km res.
  - 1 VIS ch. with 1 km res.
- Earth full-disc scan every 15'

**Global Convective Diagnostics (GCD)** algorithm is used to identify convective cells:

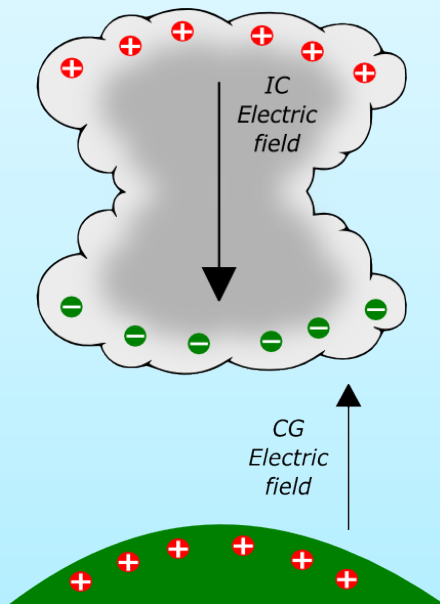
deep convection is present

$$\text{if } \text{GCD} = T_b^{\text{IR}} - T_b^{\text{WV}} \leq 1 \text{ K}$$

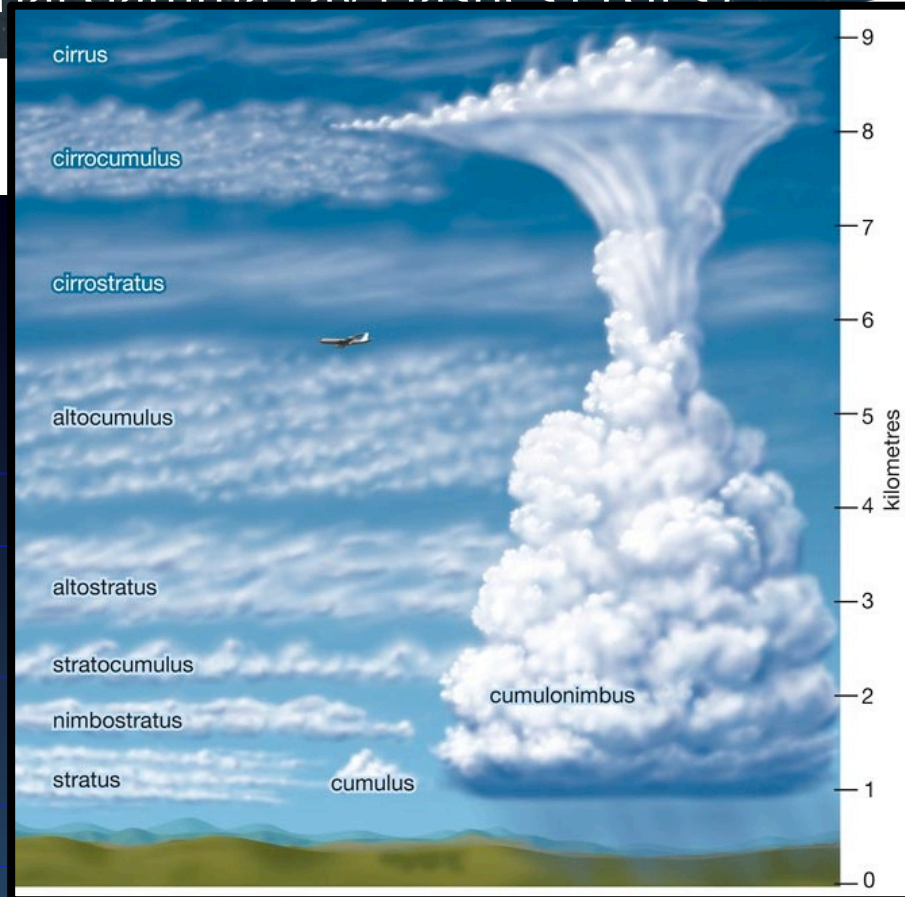
# Terrestrial events – Terrestrial Gamma-ray Flashes (TGFs)

## THUNDERCLOUD

- high cloud (cumulonimbus)  
→ charge separation



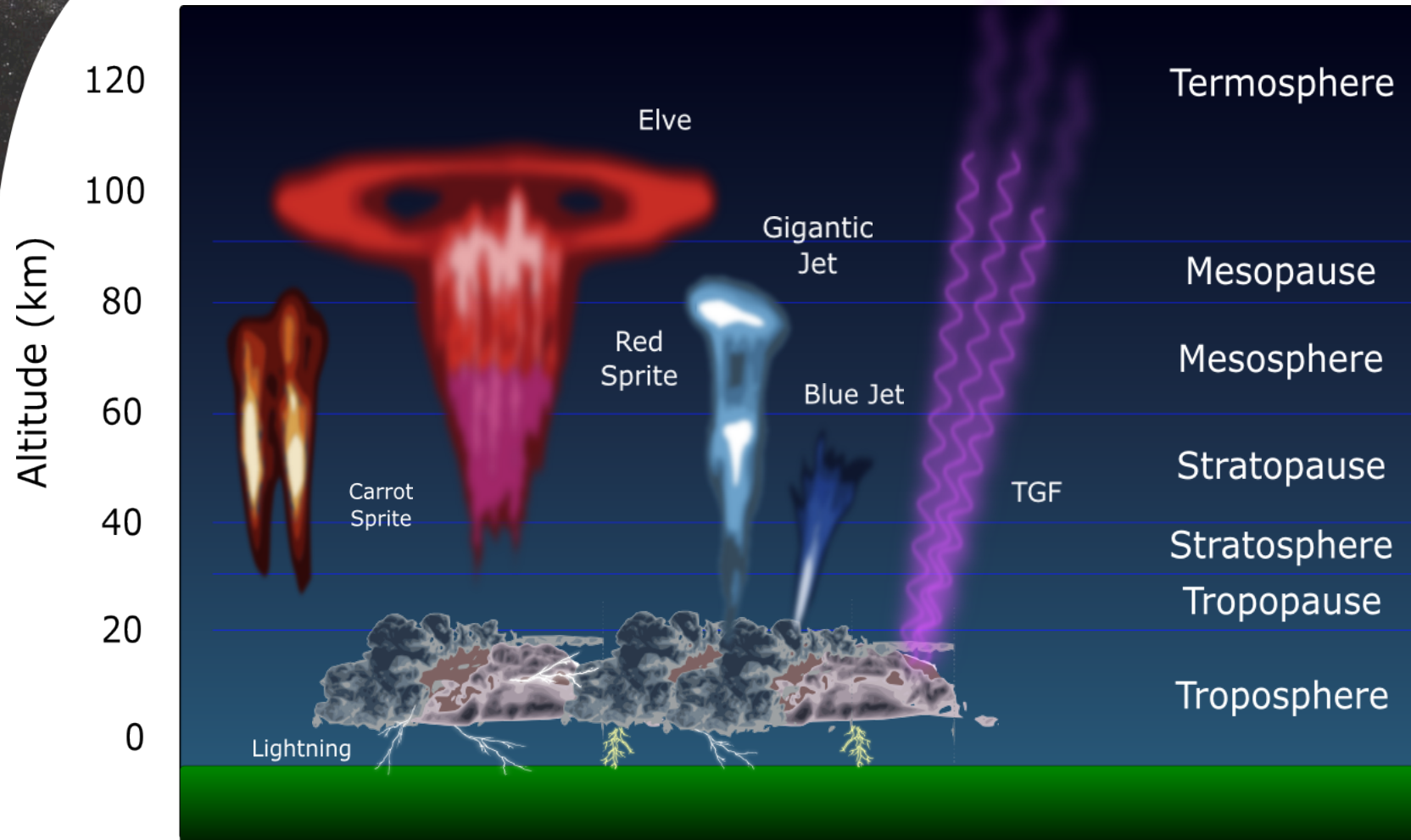
Altitude (km)



Troposphere



# Terrestrial events – Terrestrial Gamma-ray Flashes (TGFs)



# Terrestrial events – Terrestrial Gamma-ray Flashes (TGFs)

## Main characteristics

- $\Delta t = \text{hundreds of ns}$
- $h_{\text{prod}} = 10 - 100 \text{ km}$
- $E = \text{few MeV}$
- associated with lightning
- rad. dose  $< 1 \text{ mSv}$
- detected by satellites

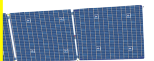
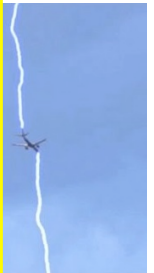
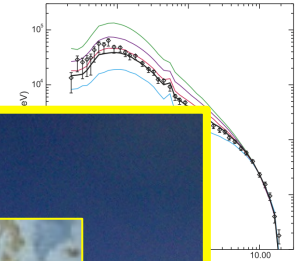
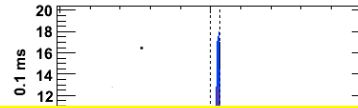
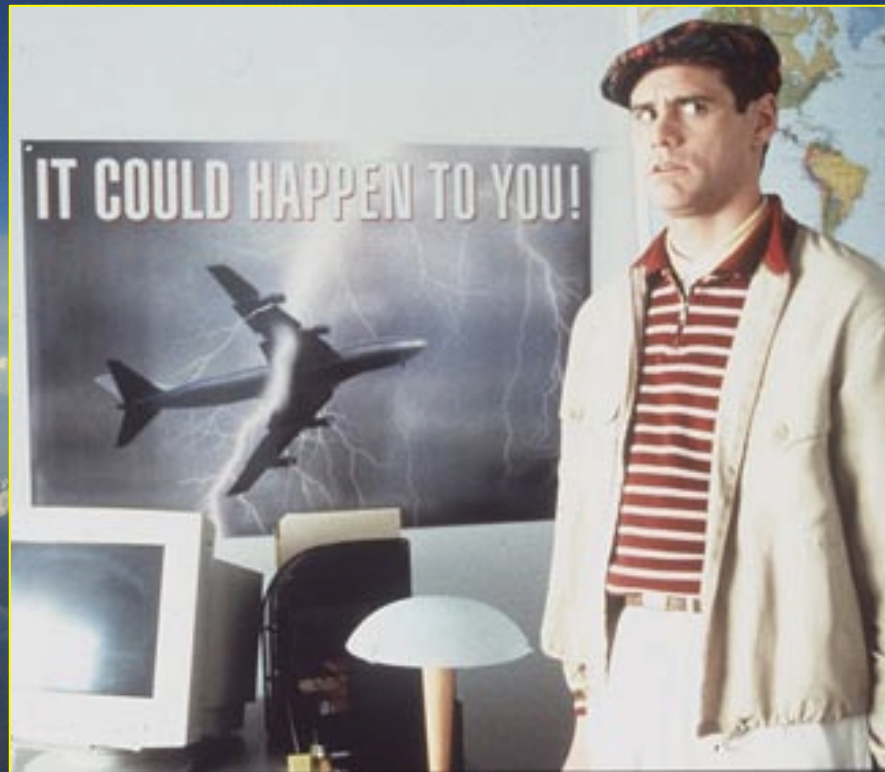
BAT

RHESSI

AGILE

Fermi

Bepi



# Terrestrial events – Terrestrial Gamma-ray Flashes (TGFs)

## AGILE as a TGF detector

2009: from pointing to spinning mode → observation of the Earth

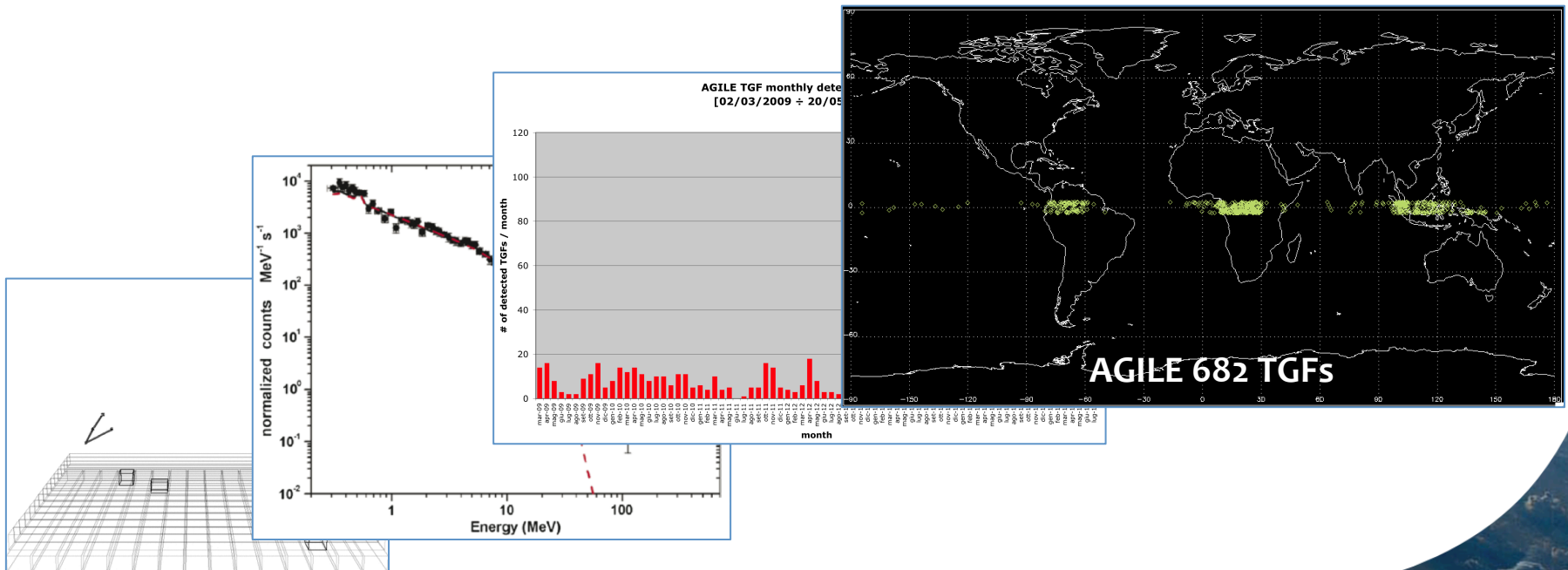
2010: detection of TGFs up to 40 MeV [Marisaldi et al., 2010a]

2011: TGF first imaging (accuracy  $\sim 5^\circ \div 10^\circ$ ) with the ST [Marisaldi et al., 2010b]

2011: detection of TGFs up to 100 MeV [Tavani et al., 2011]

2014: AGILE MCAL on line catalog (<http://www.asdc.asi.it/mcaltgfcats/>)

2015: AC disabled → improvement in TGF detection (multiple TGFs)

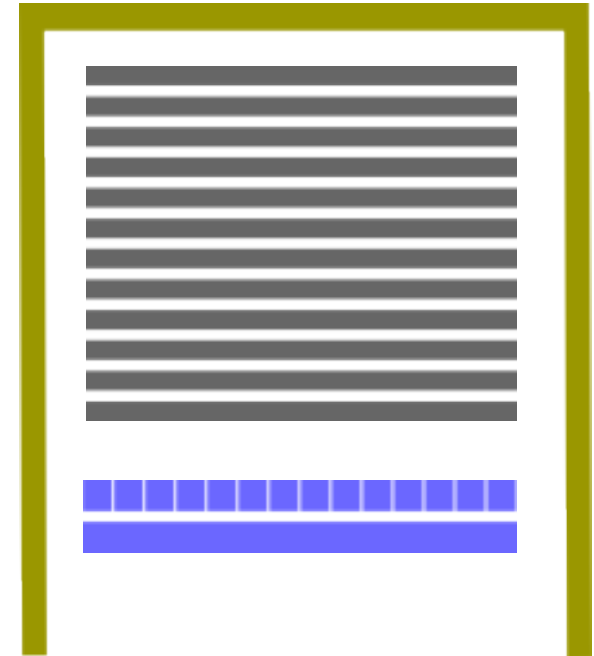




# AGILE: the detector

- **Gamma-Ray Imaging Detector (GRID)**

- MiniCALorimeter (MCAL):
  - 350 keV ÷ 100 MeV
  - 30 CsI(Tl) bars + photodiode readout
  - time resol. = 2  $\mu$ s ( $\gamma$ -by- $\gamma$ )  
 $\leq$  300  $\mu$ s (trigger)
- Silicon Tracker (ST):
  - 30 MeV ÷ 50 GeV
  - 10 W foils + 12 Si trays
  - imaging capabilities
- AntiCoincidence (AC):
  - plastic scintillators + PMT
  - preliminary direction



- **Super AGILE (SA)**

# AGILE: the meteo pipeline

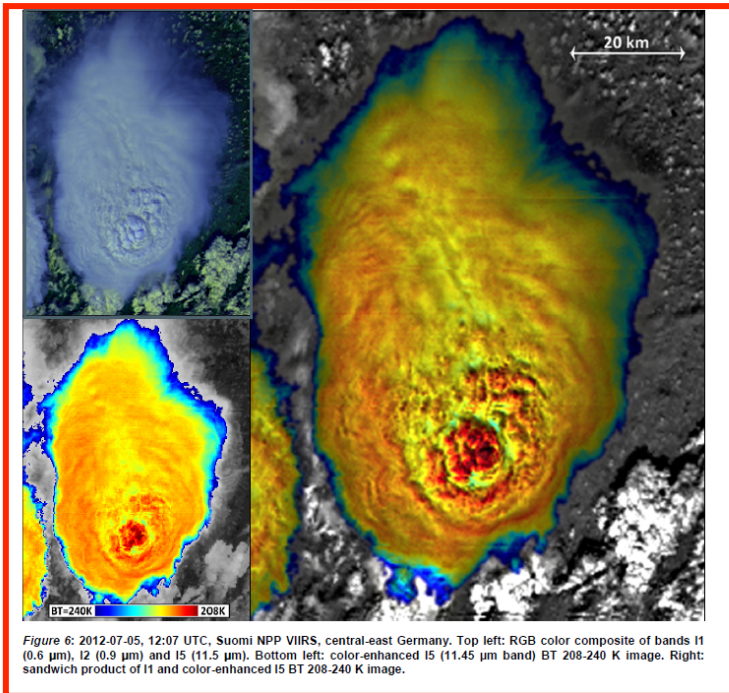
A real time pipeline to link meteorological data  
to TGFs detected by the AGILE satellite

TGFs detected  
by AGILE

General idea

+

information  
by meteo satellites



**Global Convective Diagnostics (GCD)**  
algorithm is used to identify convective  
cells:

deep convection is present  
if  $GCD = T_b^{IR} - T_b^{WV} \leq 1 \text{ K}$

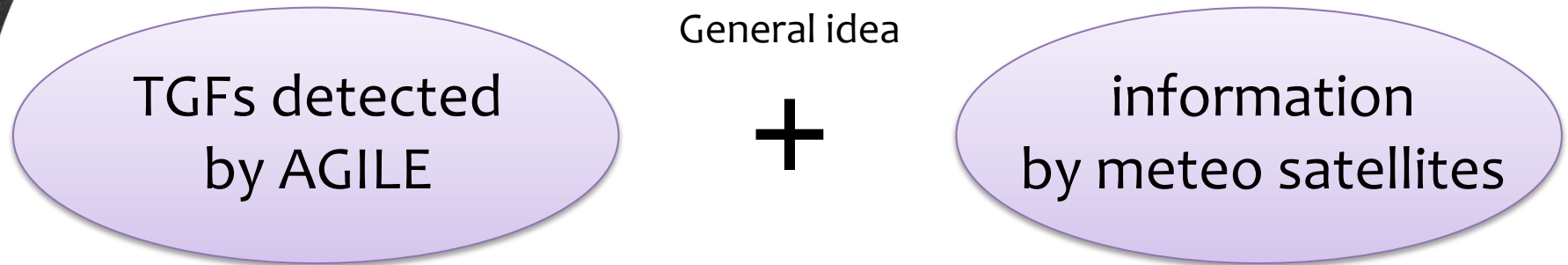
Alessandro Ursi

Detection of TGFs in an enhanced configuration and link with meteorological information

AGILE on the wave, 14th AGILE Workshop - June 21st 2016

# AGILE: the meteo pipeline

**A real time pipeline to link meteorological data  
to TGFs detected by the AGILE satellite**



Why?

- 1) check whether convection is really present within the TGF production region
- 2) perform for the first time a follow-up of the TGF-producing thundercloud
- 3) understand whether just a specific class of thunderstorms produce TGFs
- 4) provide a real time (= fast-as-possible) service to alert aircraft networks