

# Building a Multi-Channel Hail Climatology in the GPM Domain

**Dr. Sarah D. Bang**

NASA Postdoctoral Program, Marshall Space Flight Center

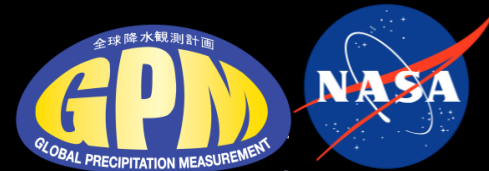
**Dr. Daniel J. Cecil**

NASA Marshall Space Flight Center

Huntsville, AL USA



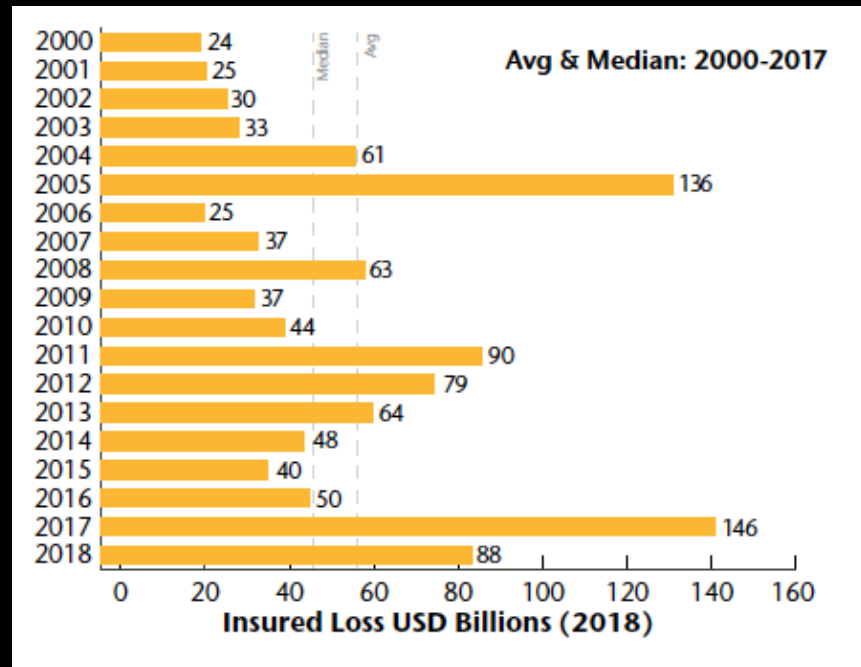
EGU General Assembly • Vienna, Austria



# Hail Damage and Threat

Annual insured losses due to severe weather average at \$66 Billion (€58Billion) since 2008

- (in the US) Hail accounts for ~70% of this loss



Aon, Weather, Climate, and Catastrophe Insight  
(2018 Annual Report)

# Observing Hail

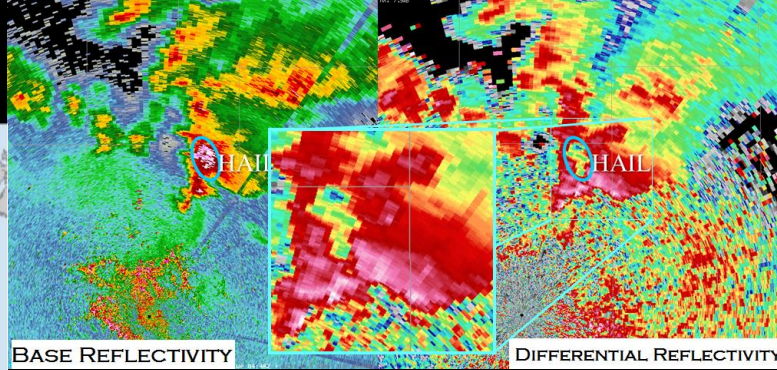
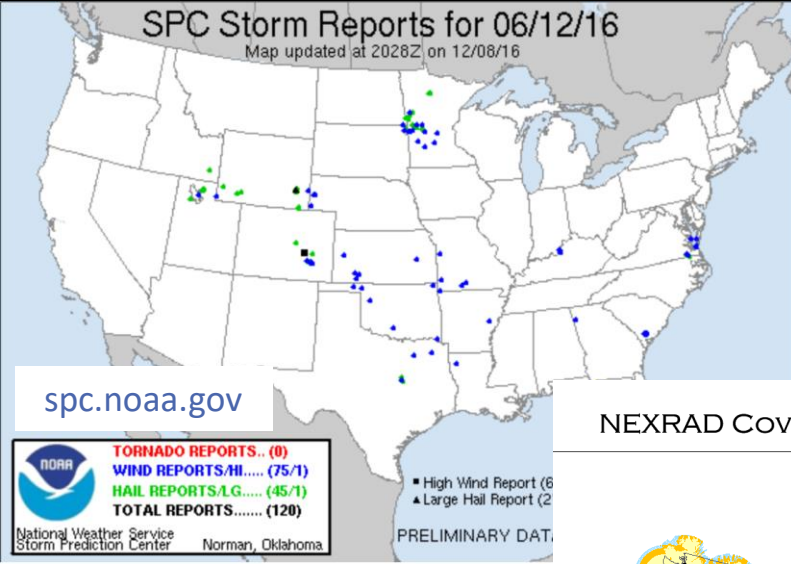
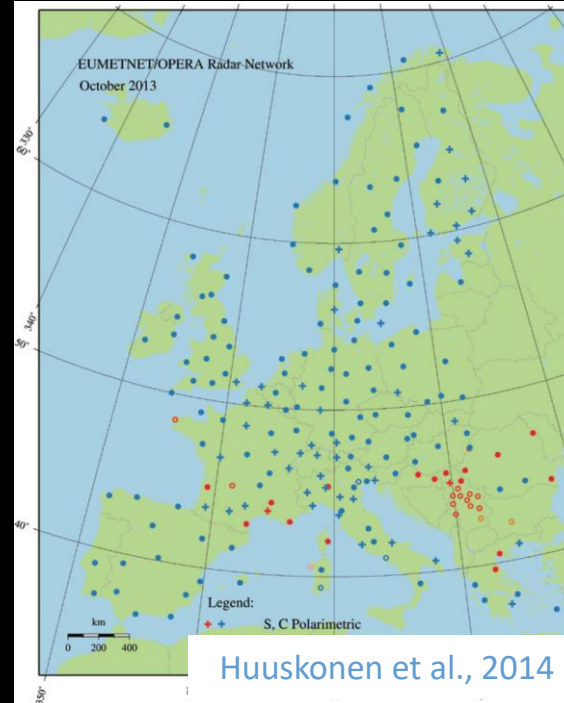
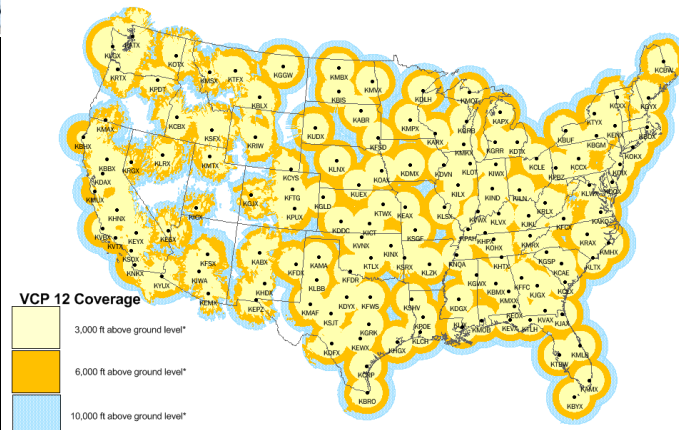


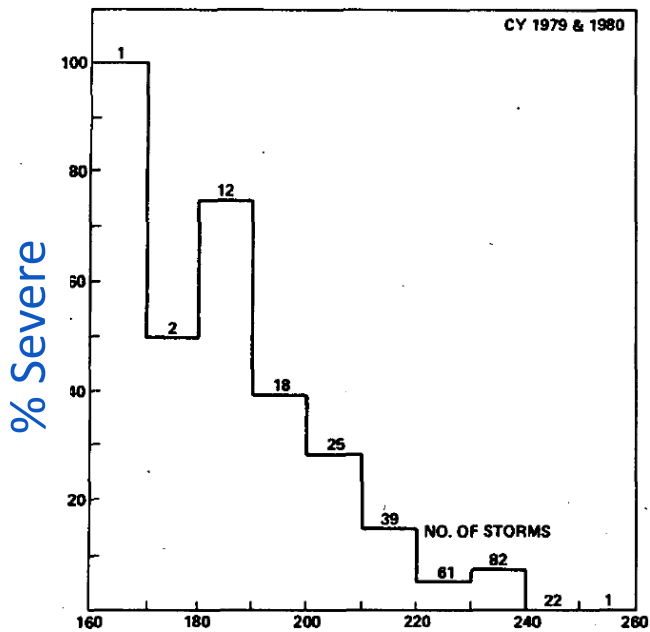
Image courtesy of  
NWS Birmingham  
and the Warning  
Decision Training  
Branch

## NEXRAD COVERAGE BELOW 10,000 FEET AGL



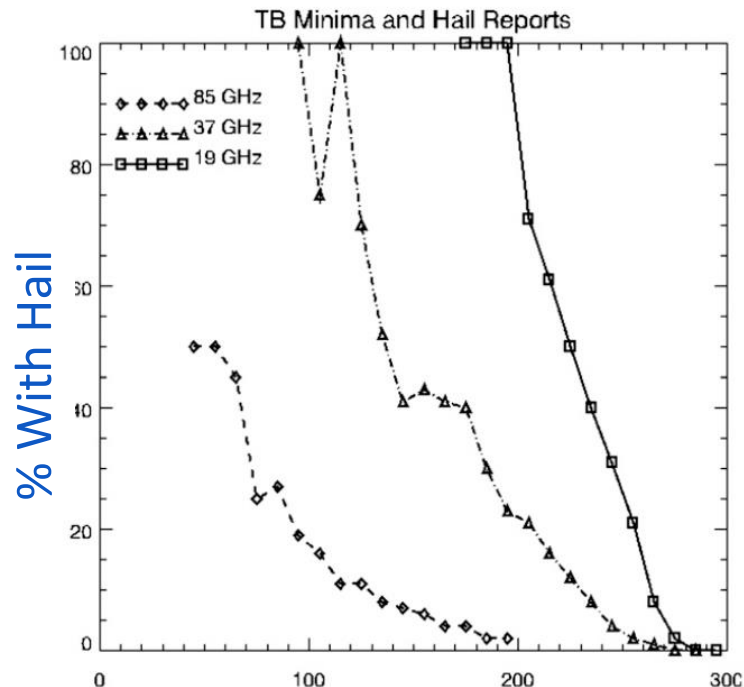
Huuskonen et al., 2014

# Observing Hail



Minimum 37 GHz  $T_b$

Spencer et al., 1987

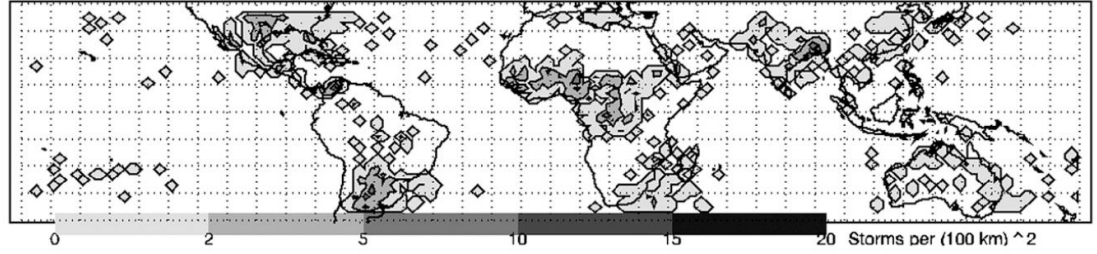


% With Hail

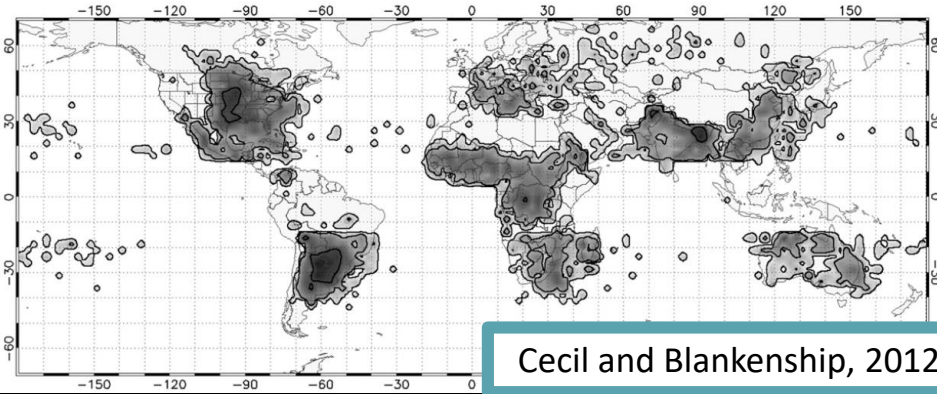
Minimum 37 GHz  $T_b$

Cecil, 2009

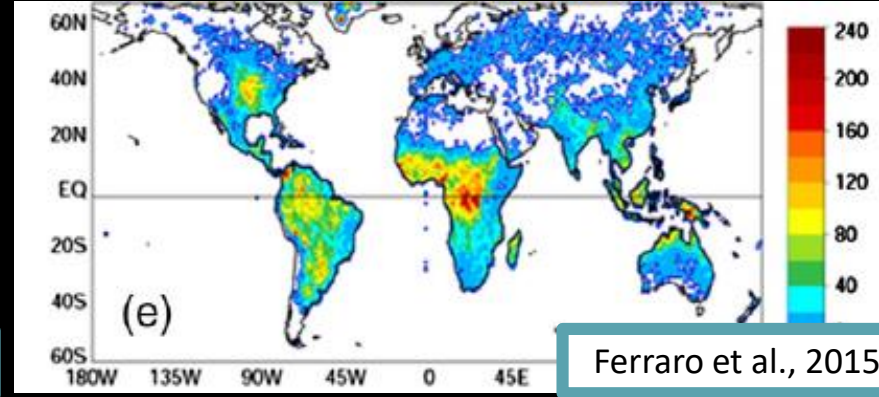
Top 0.01% Min 37 GHz PCT, <180 K, 1998-2007  
2x2 grid, Annual, 1-Hourly sampling assumed



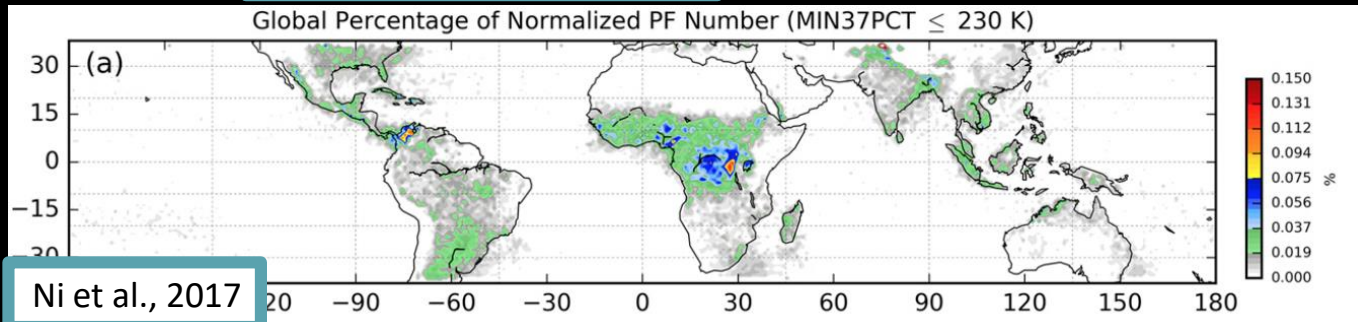
# Satellite-Based Hail Climatologies



Cecil and Blankenship, 2012

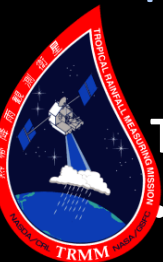
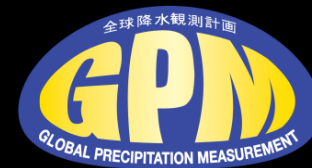


Ferraro et al., 2015



Ni et al., 2017

# NASA's TRMM & GPM Missions



## Tropical Rainfall Measuring Mission

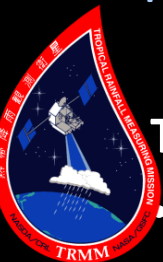
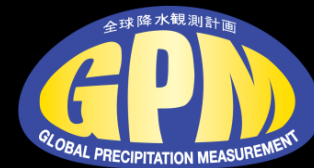
- TRMM Precipitation Radar (PR)
  - Ku-band (13.8 GHz)
- TRMM Microwave Imager (TMI)
  - 9-channels, 10-85 GHz

## Global Precipitation Measurement

- Dual-frequency Precipitation Radar (DPR)
  - Ka-/Ku-band (35.5/13.6 GHz)
- GPM Microwave Imager (GMI)
  - 13-channels 10-183 GHz

Hou et al., 2014

# NASA's TRMM & GPM Missions

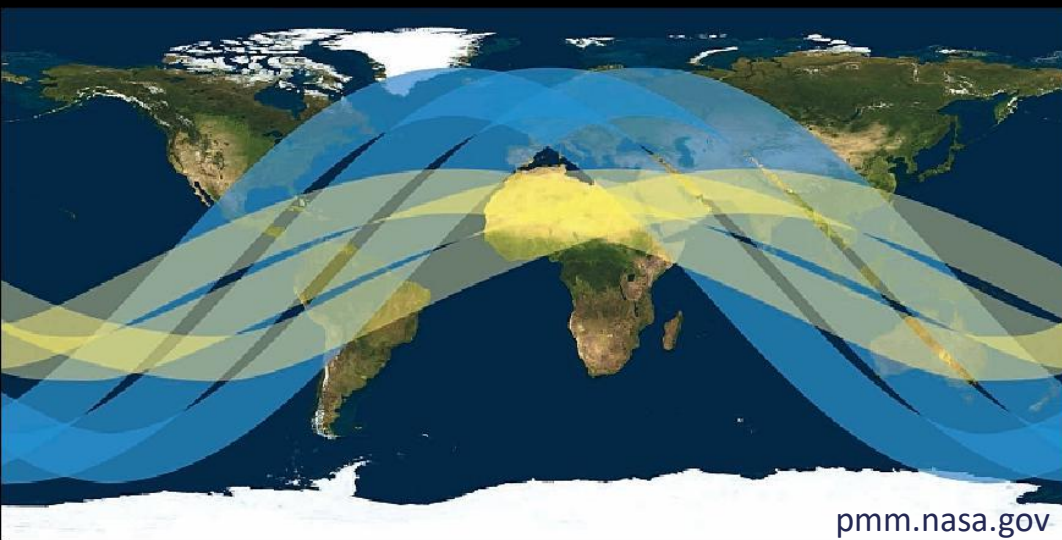


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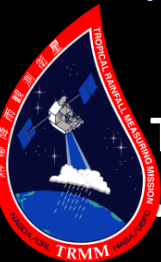
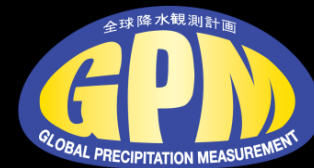
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Hou et al., 2014

Summary provided by  
Stephanie Wingo, NASA MSFC

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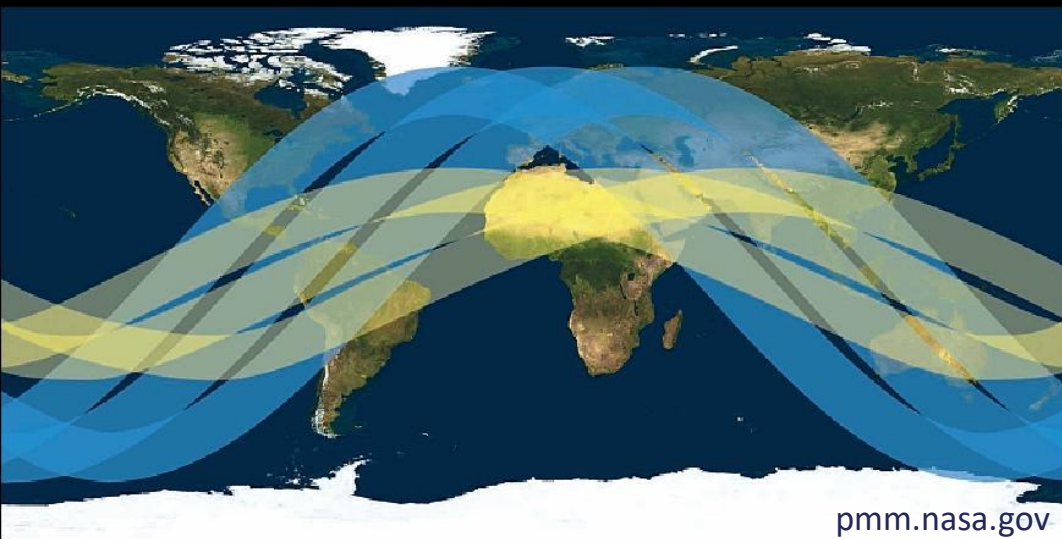
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## Global Precipitation Measurement

- Dual-frequency Precipitation Radar (DPR)
  - Ka-/Ku-band (35.5/13.6 GHz)
- GPM Microwave Imager (GMI)
  - 13-channels 10-183 GHz
- Constellation Partners:
  - JAXA, NOAA, DOD, EUMETSAT, CNES, ISRO
  - Cross-calibrate passive microwave observations
- <4 hourly global resolution?

Hou et al., 2014



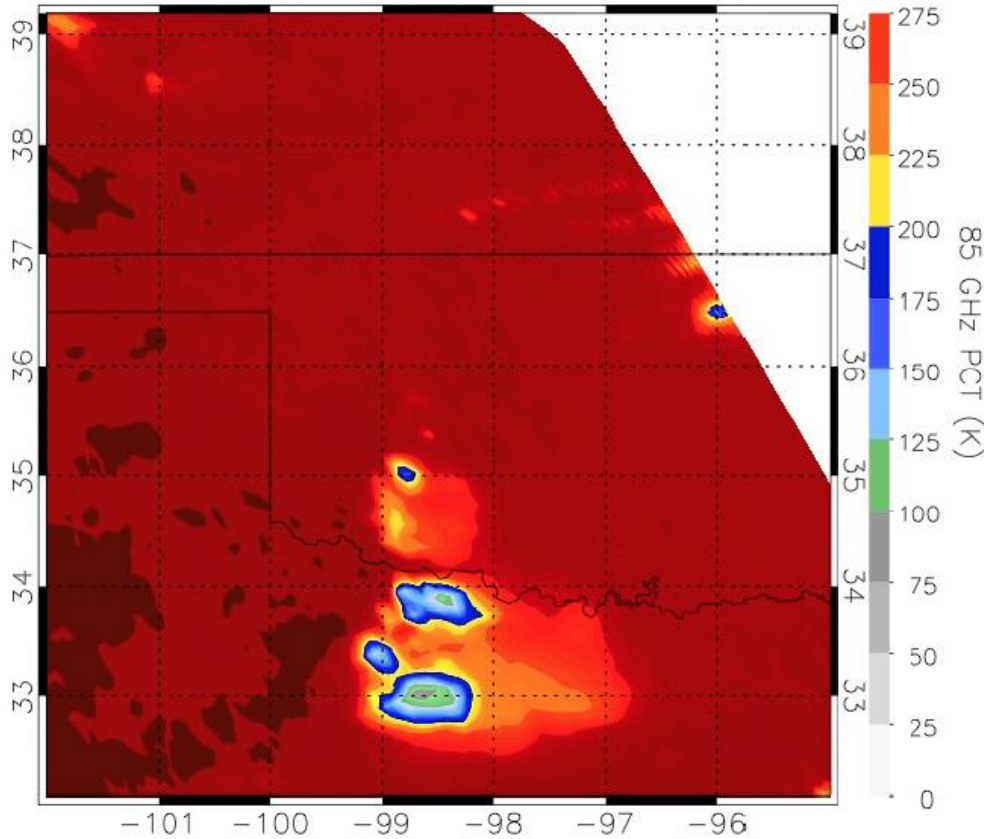
Summary provided by  
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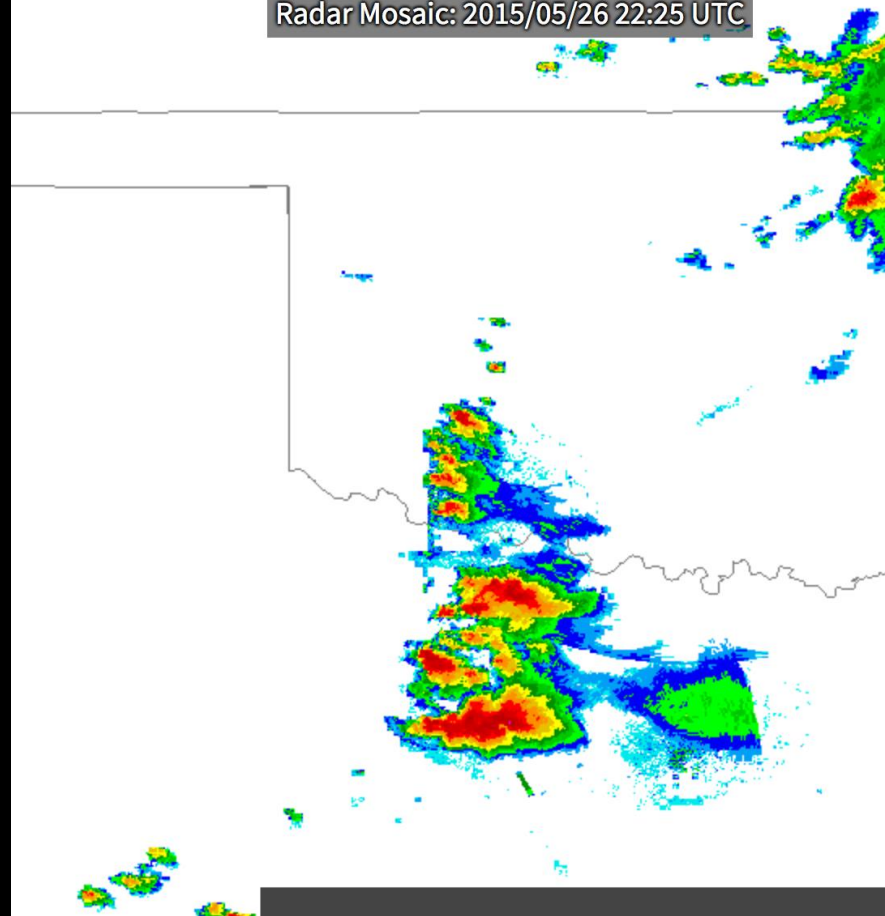
# TRMM PCTFs

GPM 85 GHz Brightness Temperature  
222405 UTC

-101 -100 -99 -98 -97 -96



Radar Mosaic: 2015/05/26 22:25 UTC



Vienna, Austria

 **NOAA** National Centers for  
Environmental Information

NCEI Map Application - Version 2.2.0 [December 2018]  
Radar Data Map

# 37GHz Minimum $T_b$ (PCT) and Hail

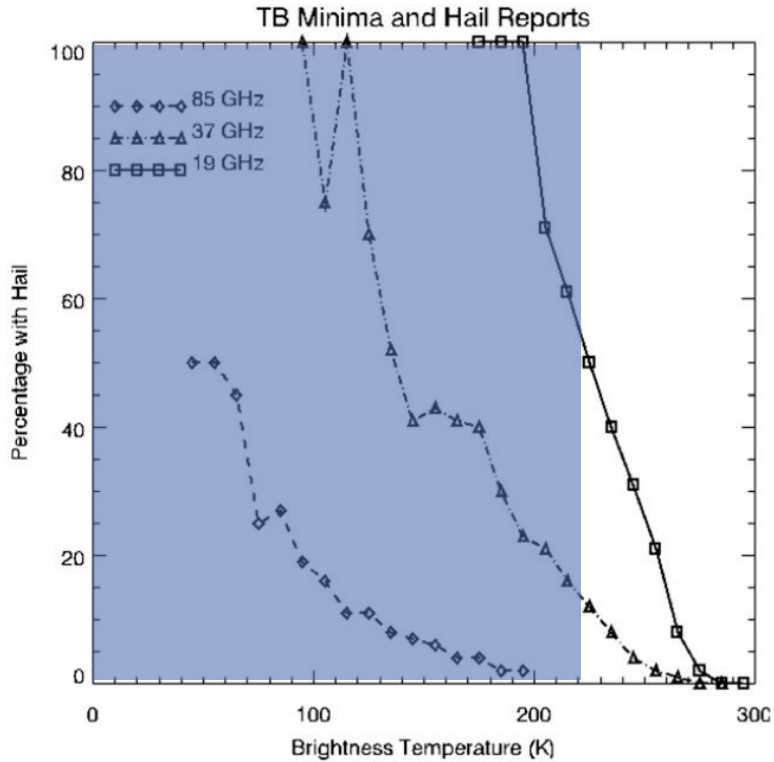


FIG. 2. Percentage of brightness temperature local minima associated with hail reports.

# 37GHz Minimum $T_b$ (PCT) and Hail

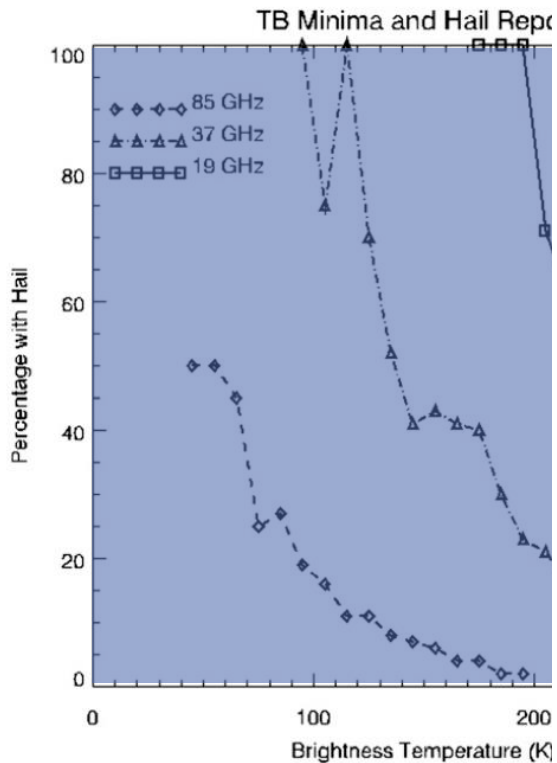
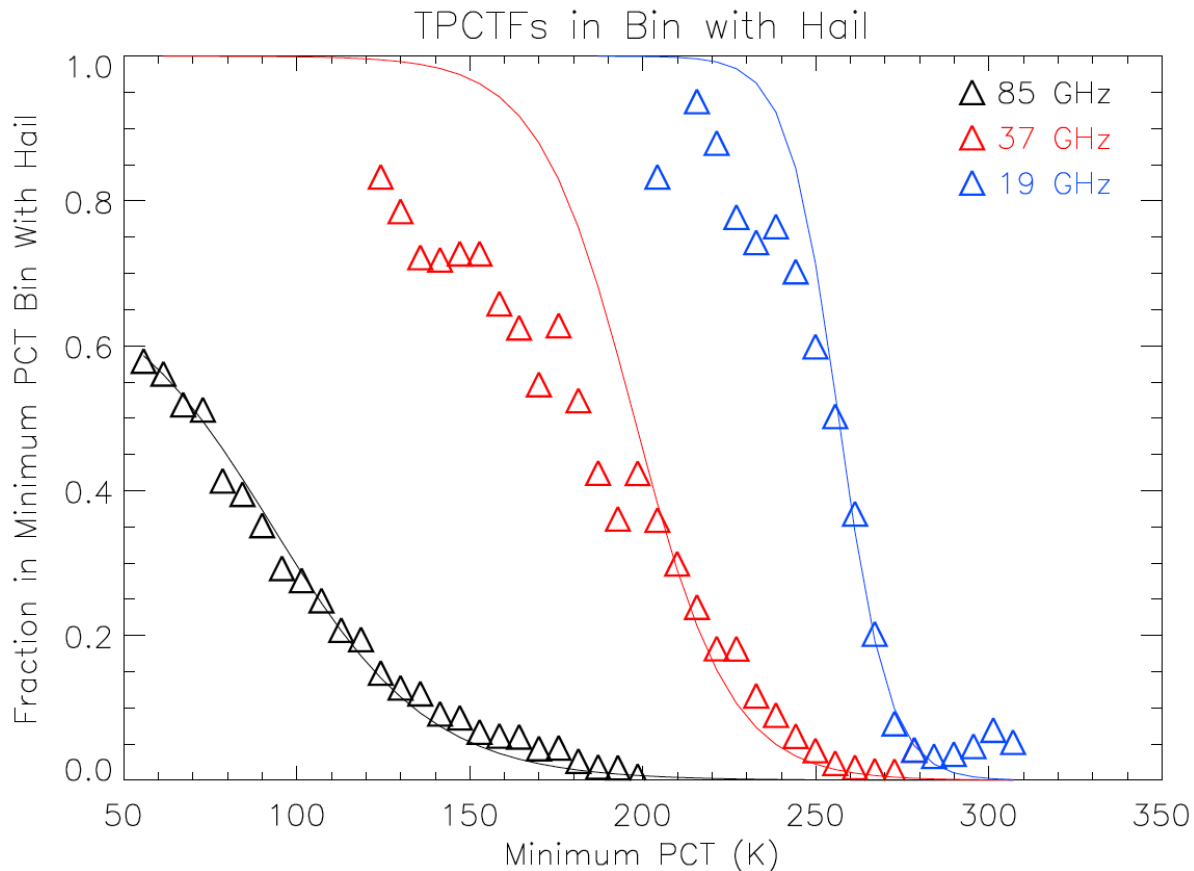
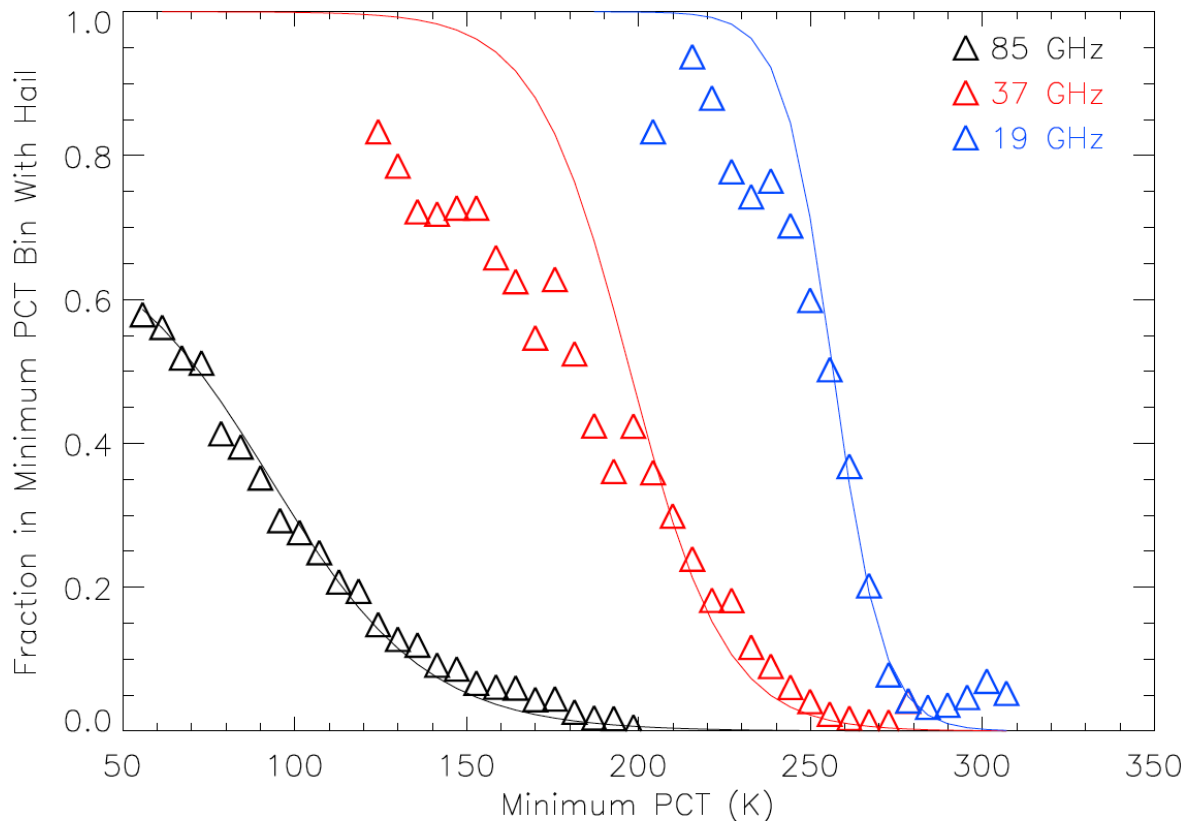


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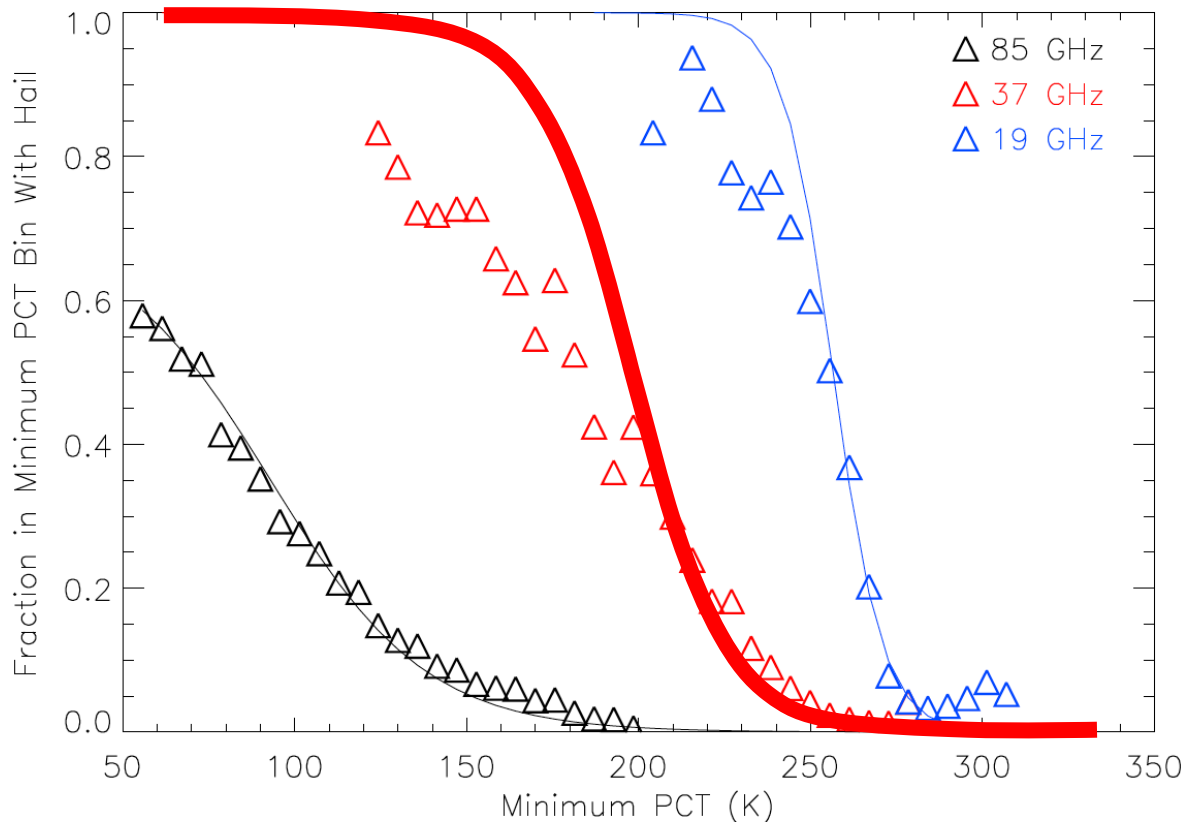
# 37GHz Minimum $T_b$ and Hail

TPCTFs in Bin with Hail



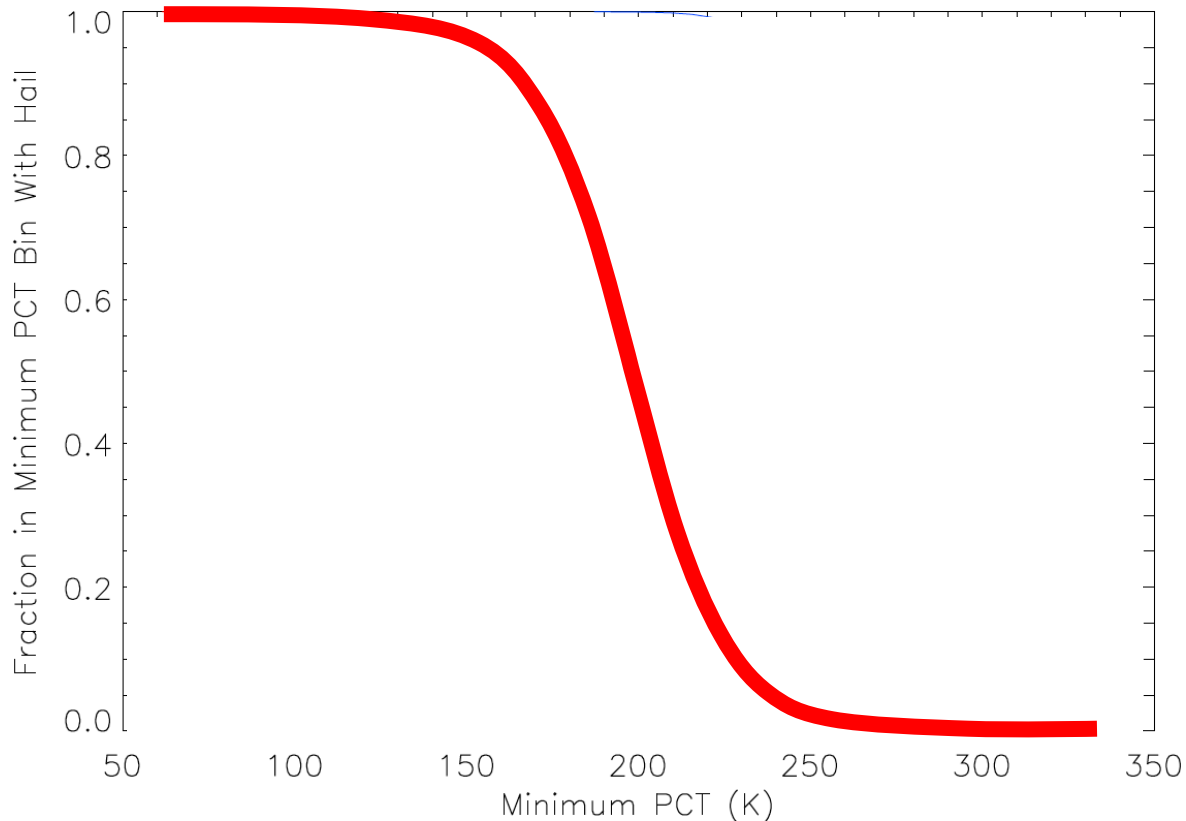
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TPCTFs in Bin with Hail



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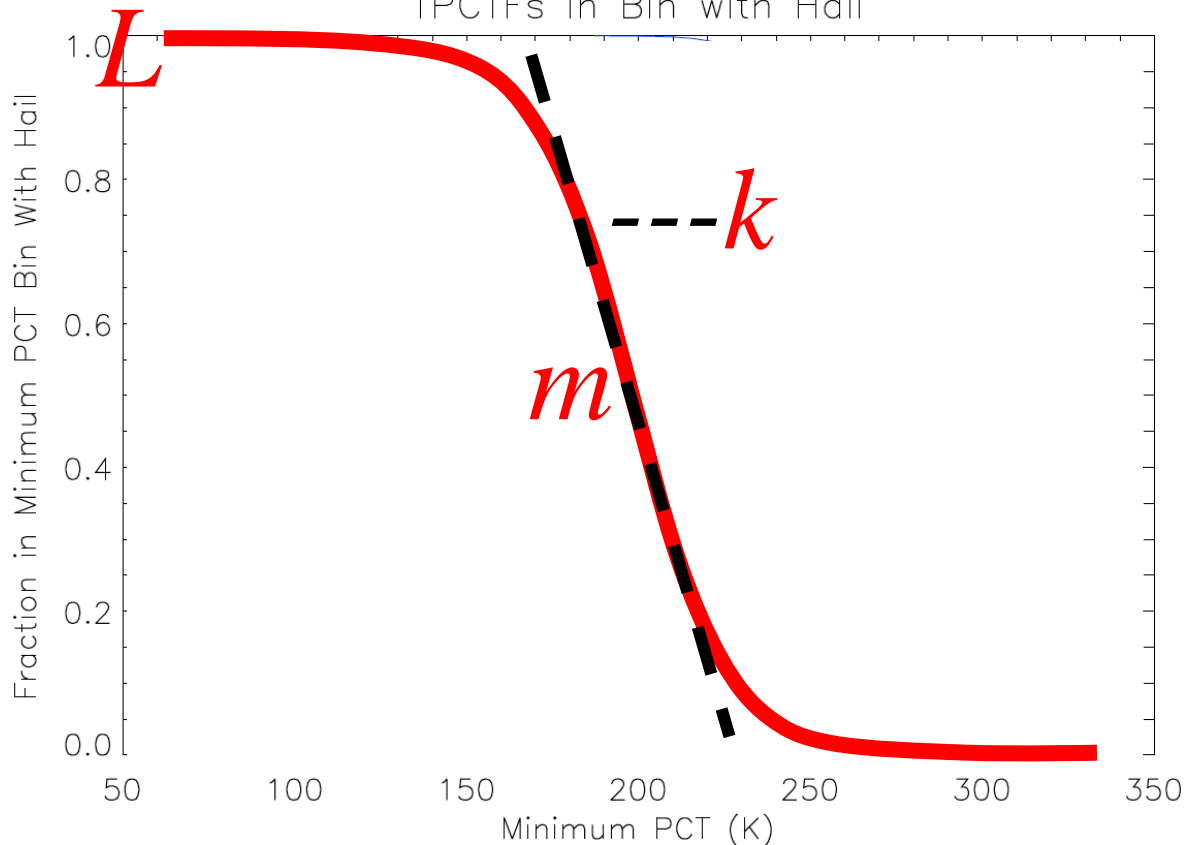
TPCTFs in Bin with Hail



$$f(x) = \frac{L}{1 + e^{-k(x-m)}}$$

# 37GHz Minimum $T_b$ and Hail

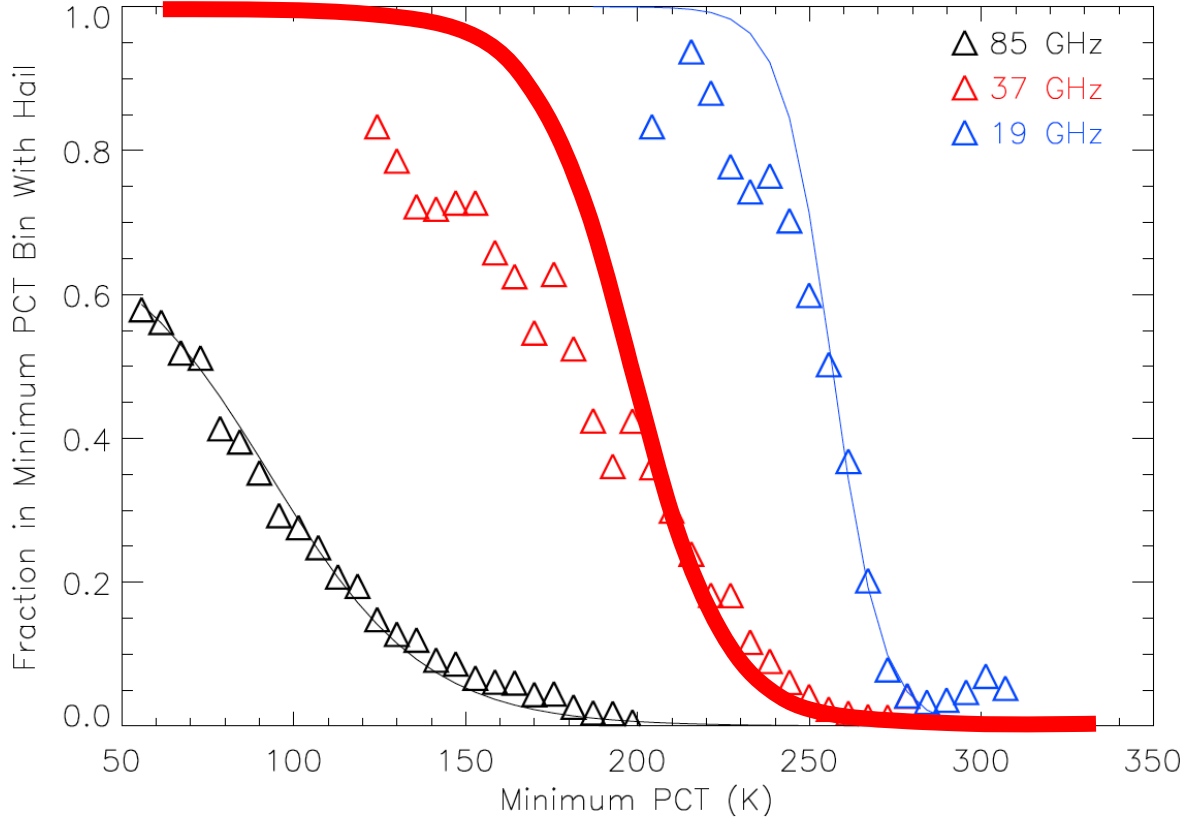
TPCTFs in Bin with Hail



$$f(x) = \frac{L}{1 + e^{-k(x-m)}}$$

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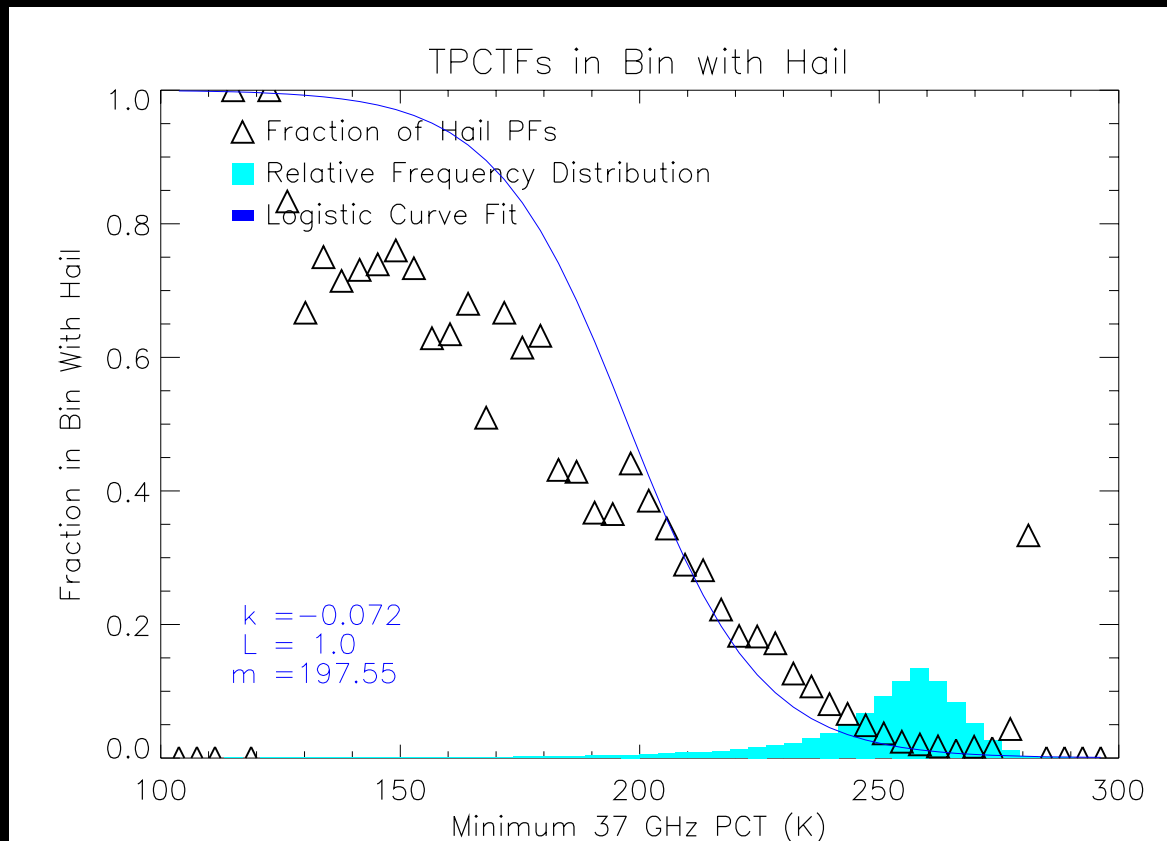
TPCTFs in Bin with Hail



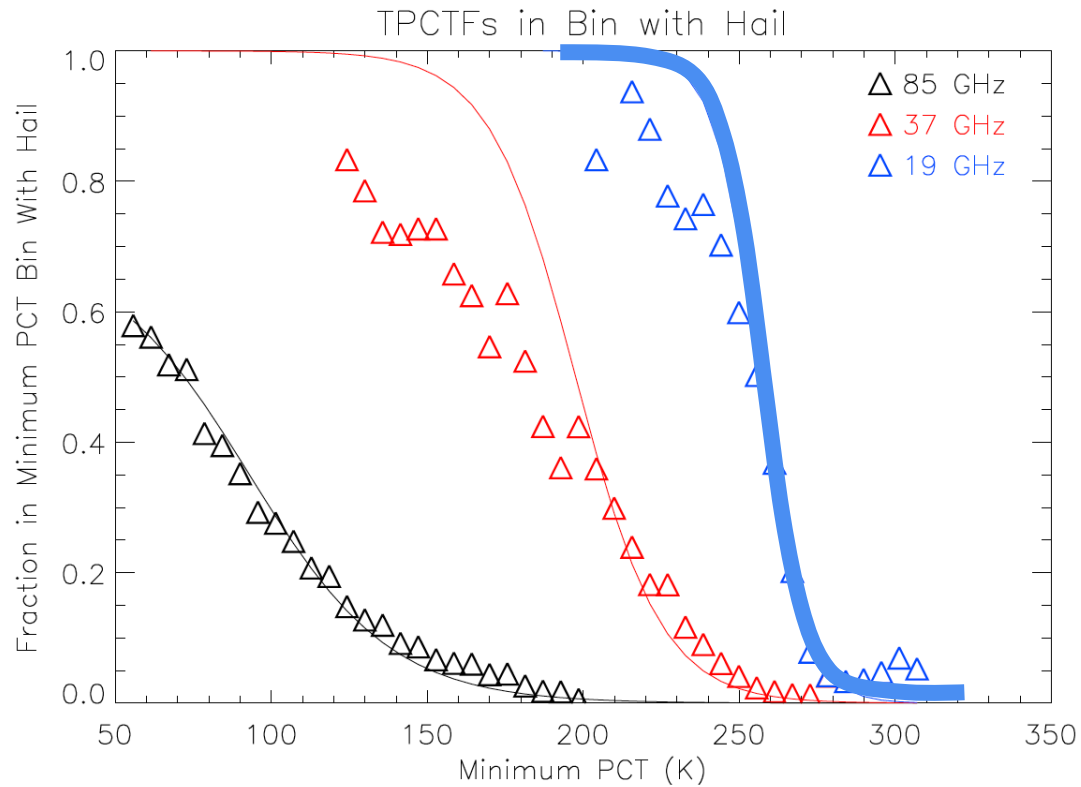
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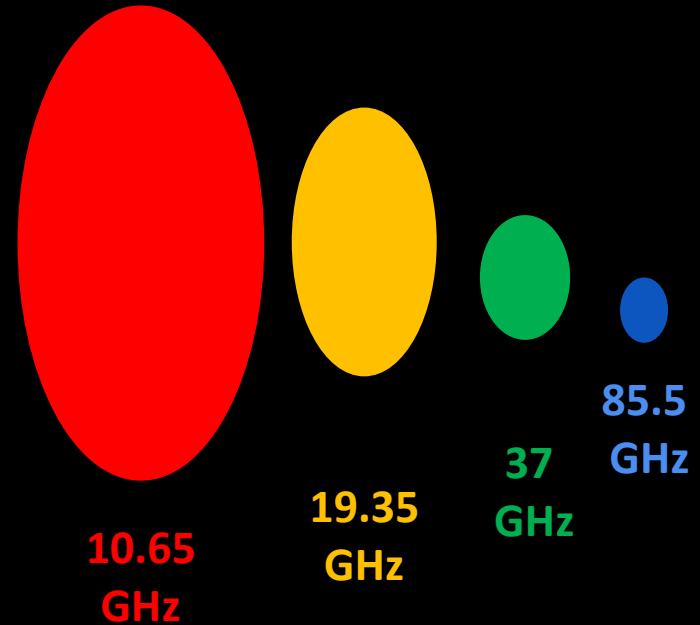
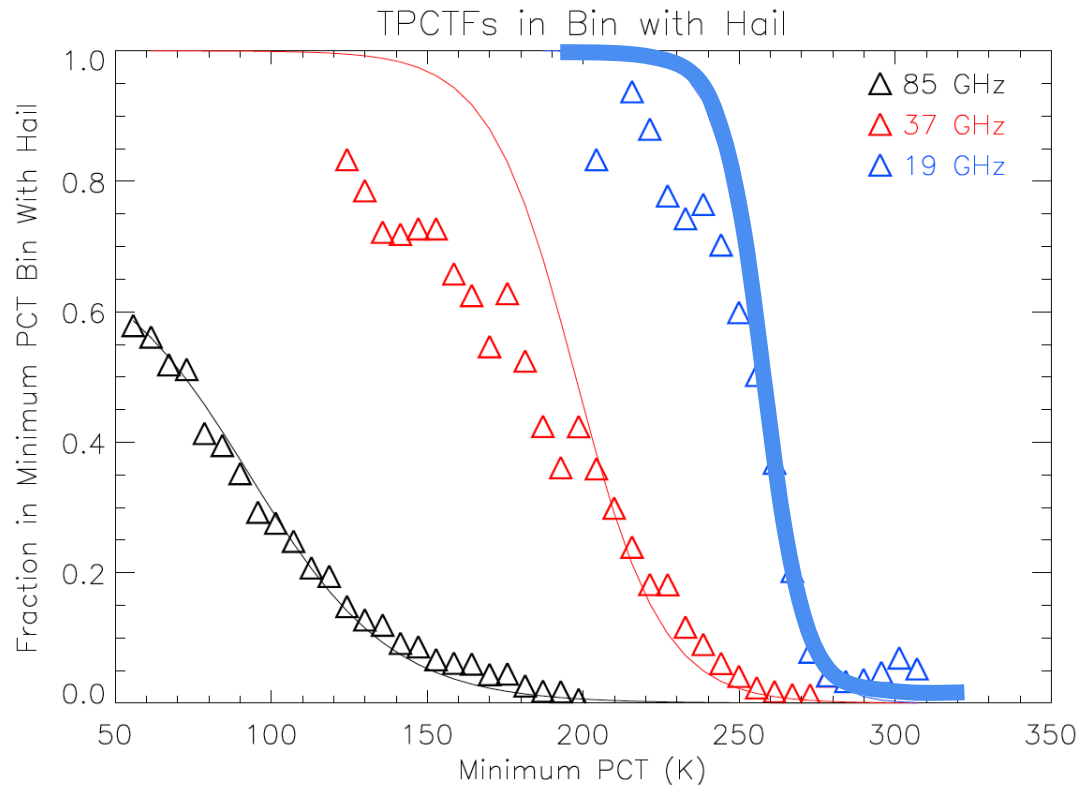
# Probability of Hail with Minimum 37 GHz PCT



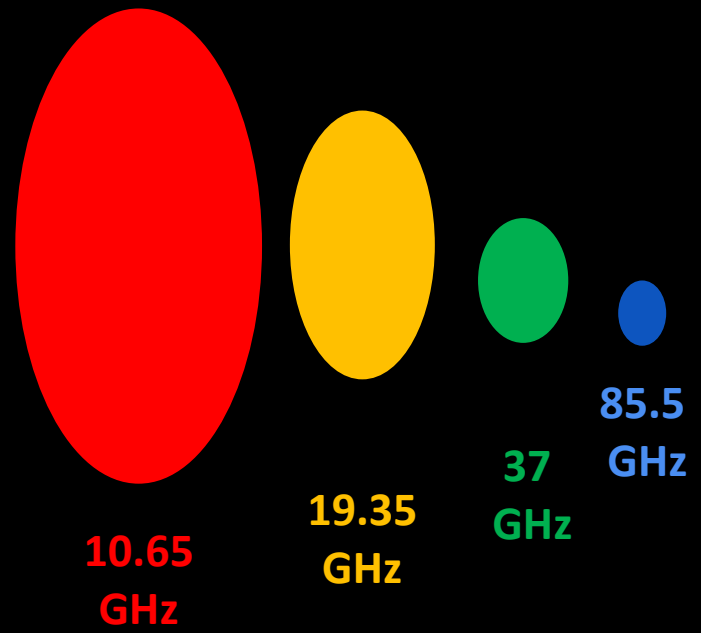
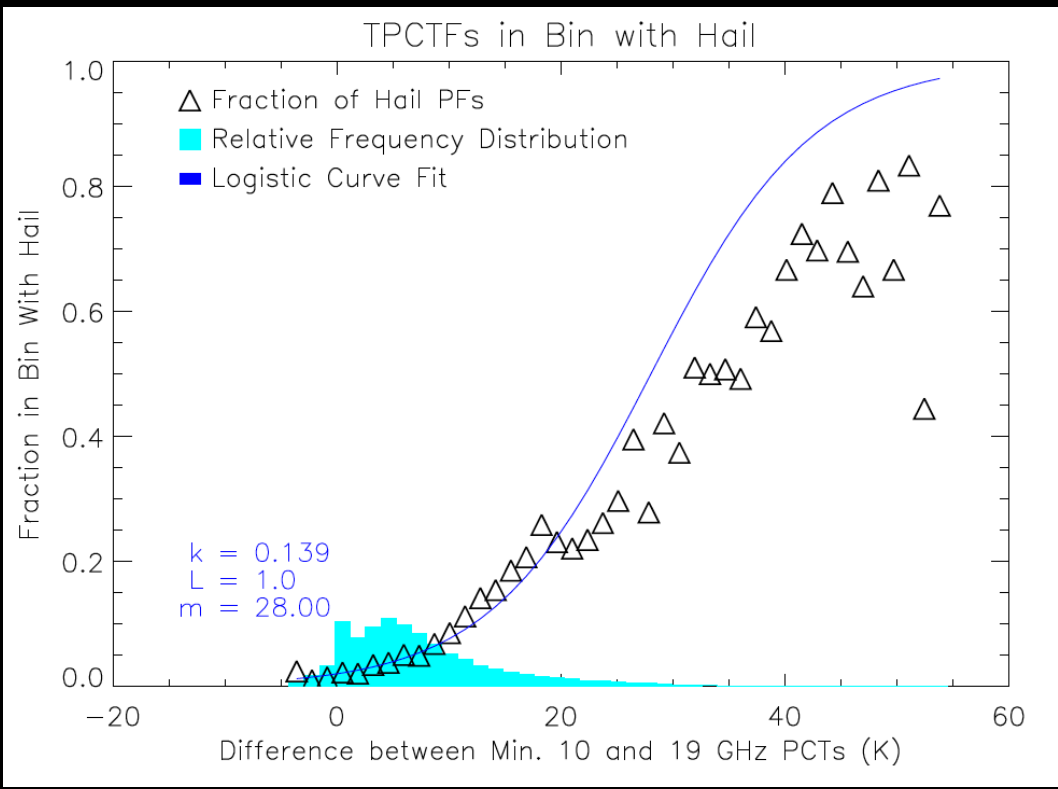
# 19GHz Minimum $T_b$ and Hail



# 19GHz Minimum $T_b$ and Hail



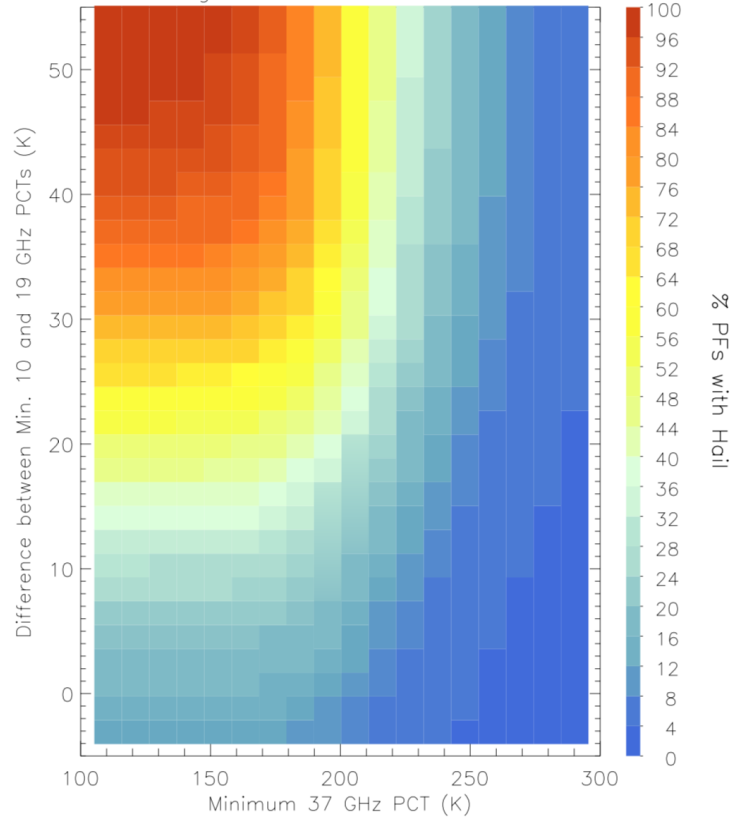
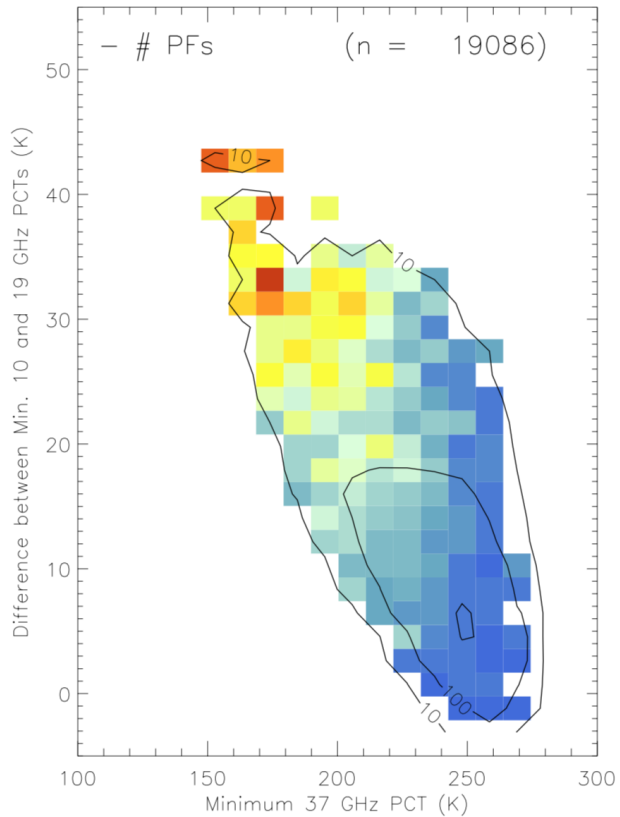
# Probability of Hail with 10 - 19 GHz Difference



# Two Dimensions of Hail Probability

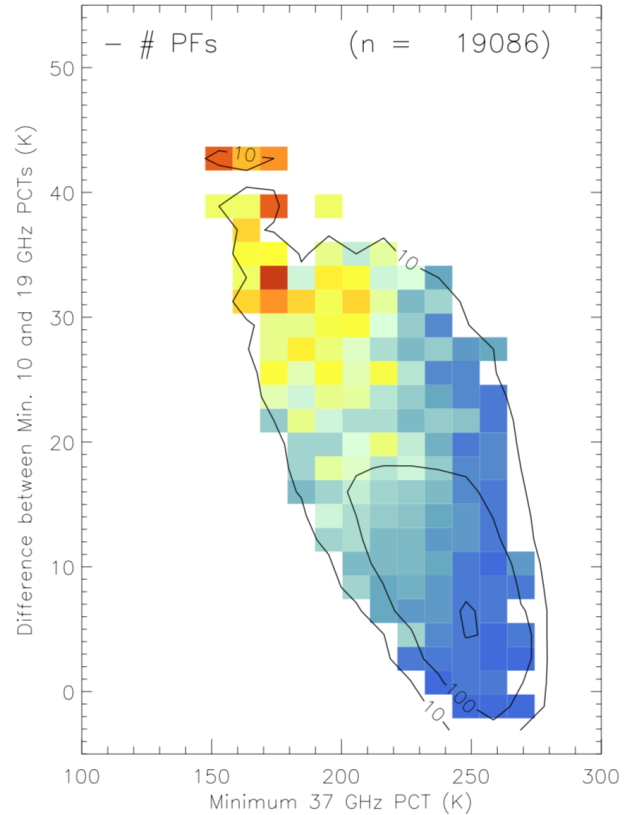
Percent of USA TPCTPFs with Hail

Full Regression on All Available Bins

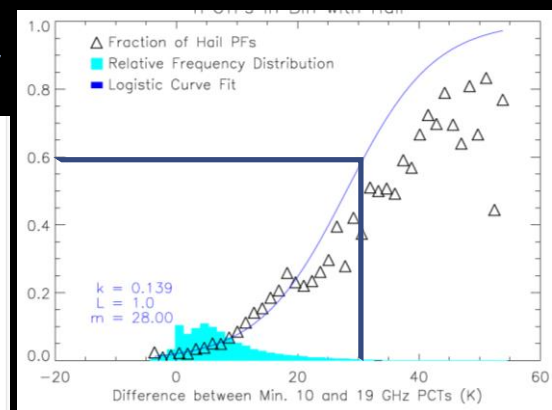
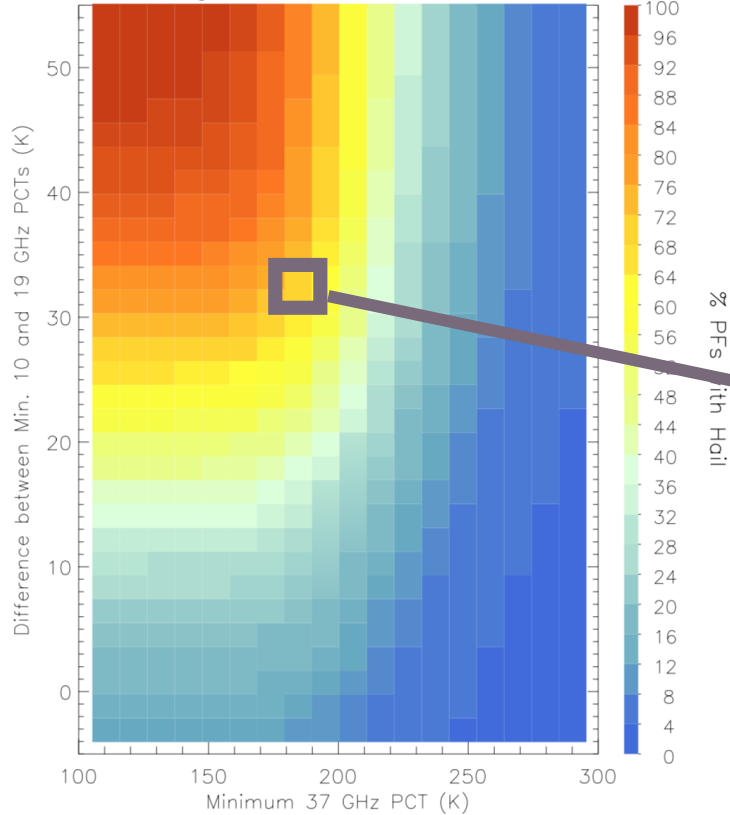


# Two Dimensions of Hail Probability

Percent of USA TPCTPFs with Hail



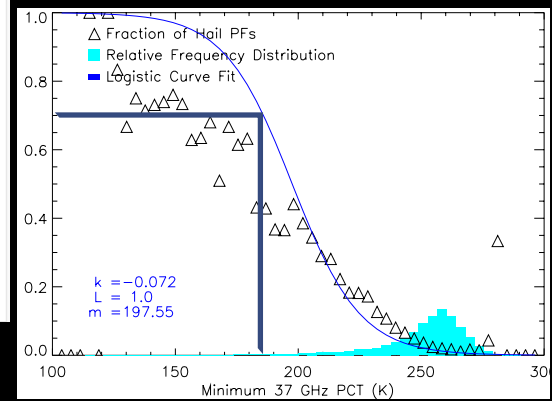
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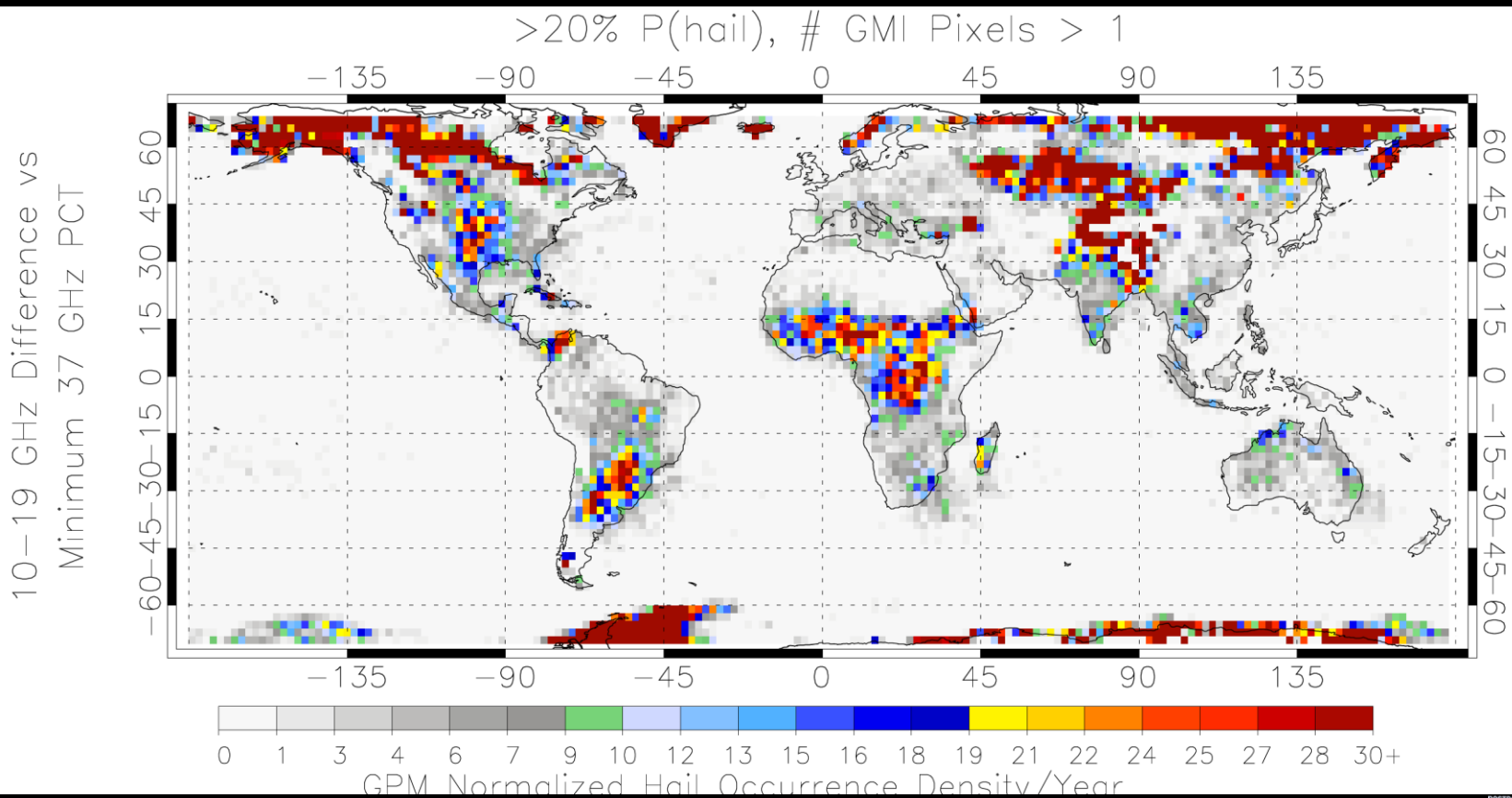
$P_{\text{hail}}(10-19) = 0.6$

$P_{\text{hail}}(\text{Min } 37) = 0.7$

$\sqrt{(0.6 \cdot 0.7)} = P_{\text{hail}} = 0.648$

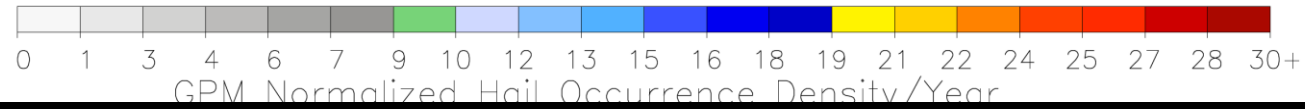
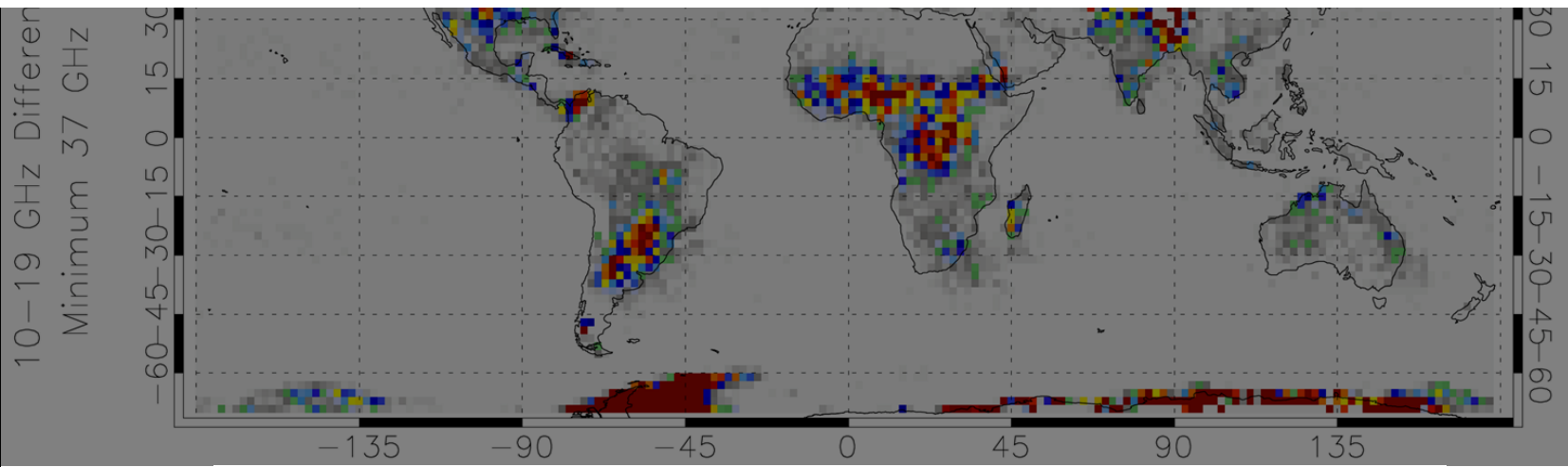
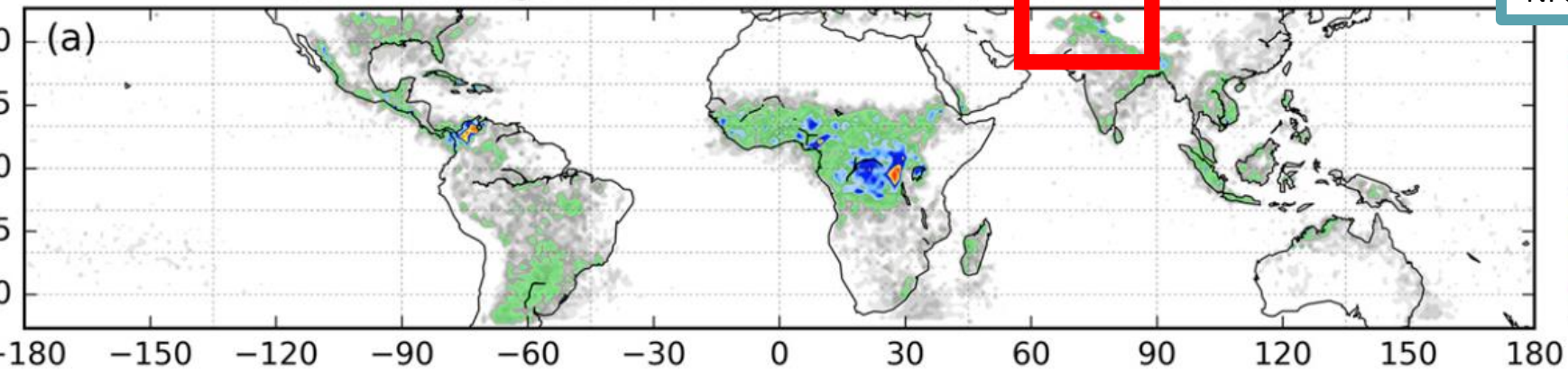


# GPM Hail Climatology, Minimum 37 GHz PCT



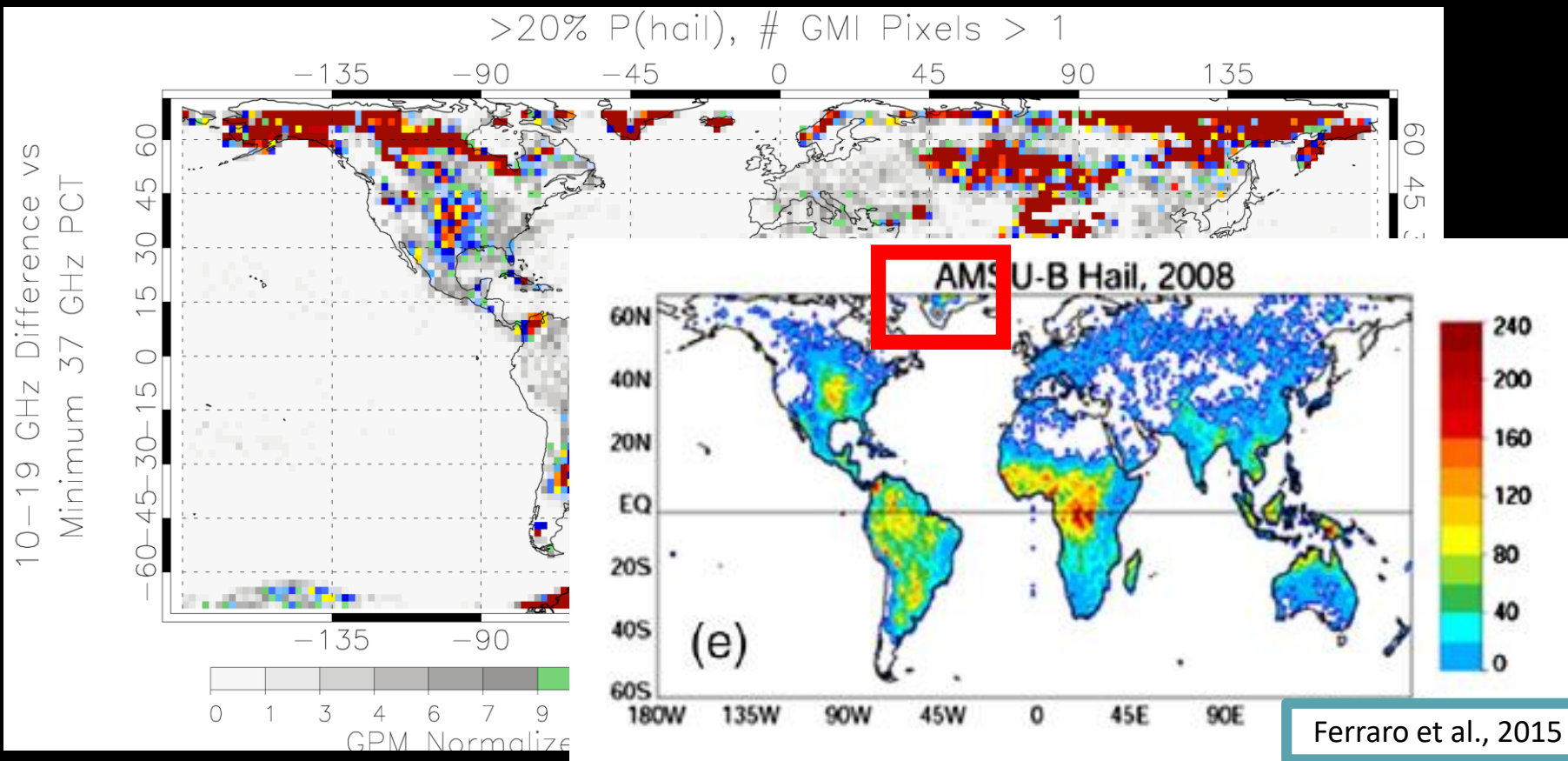
# Global Percentage of Normalized PF Number ( $\text{MIN}_{37\text{PCT}} \leq 230 \text{ K}$ )

Ni et al., 2017

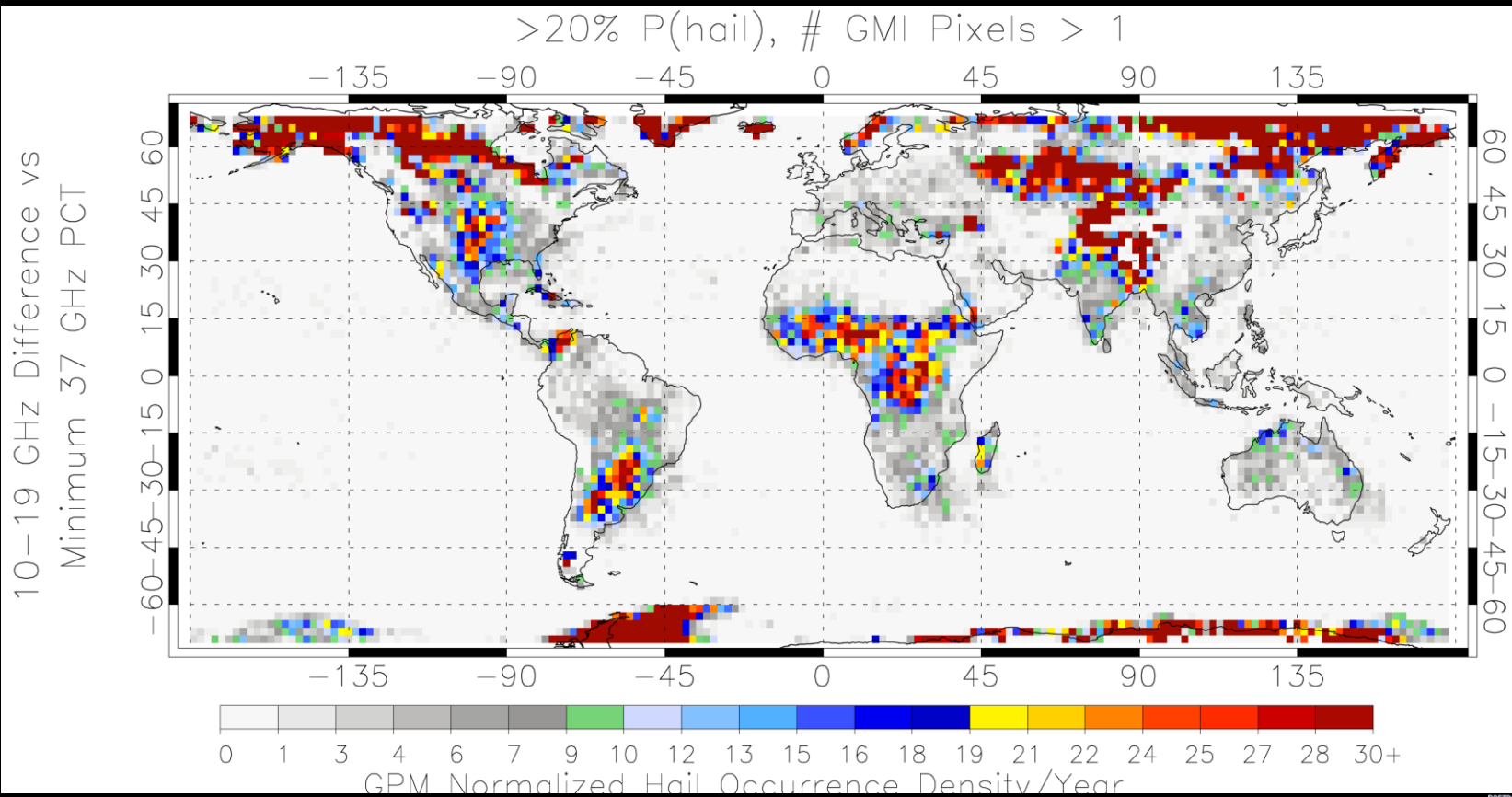




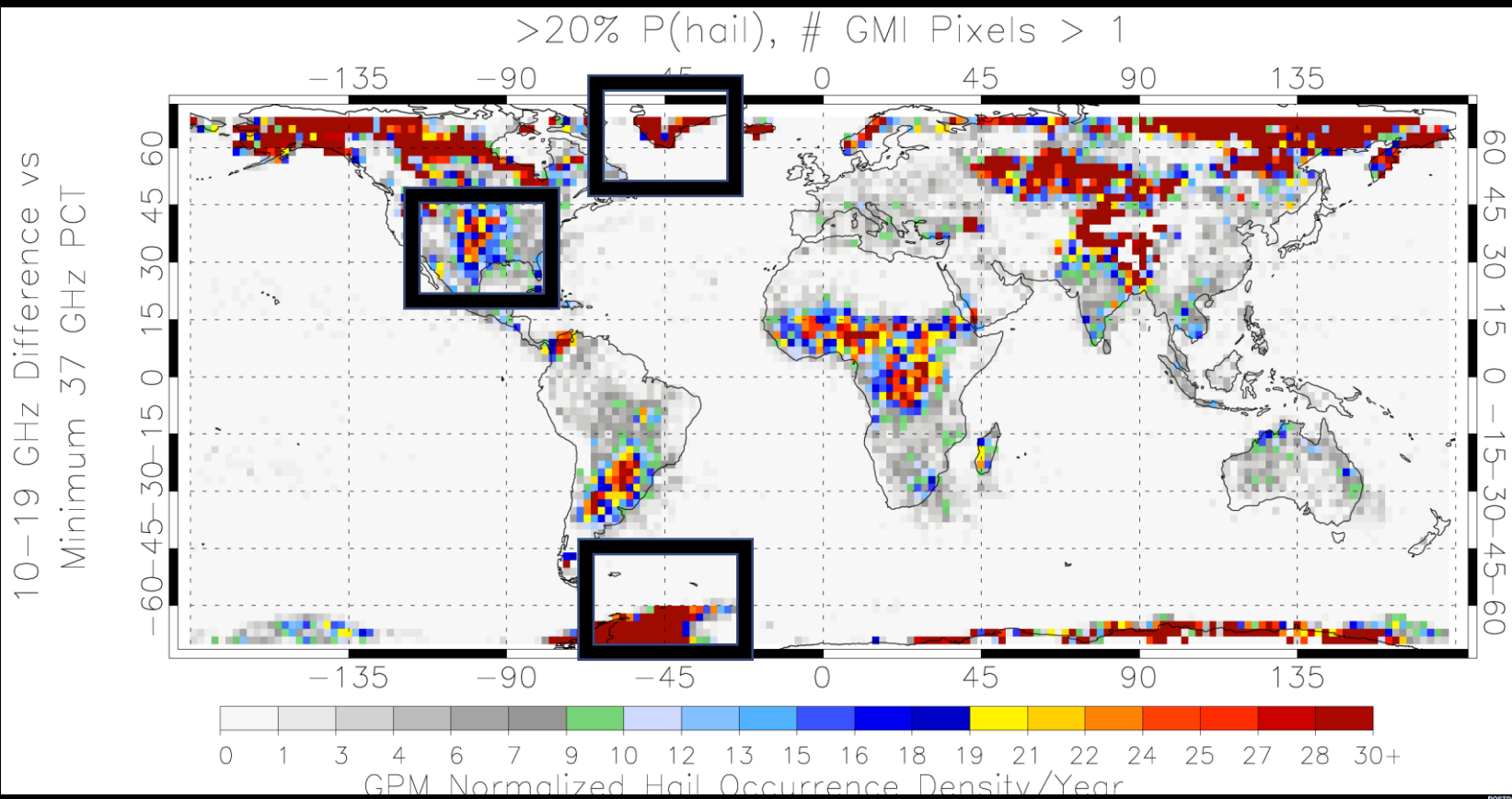
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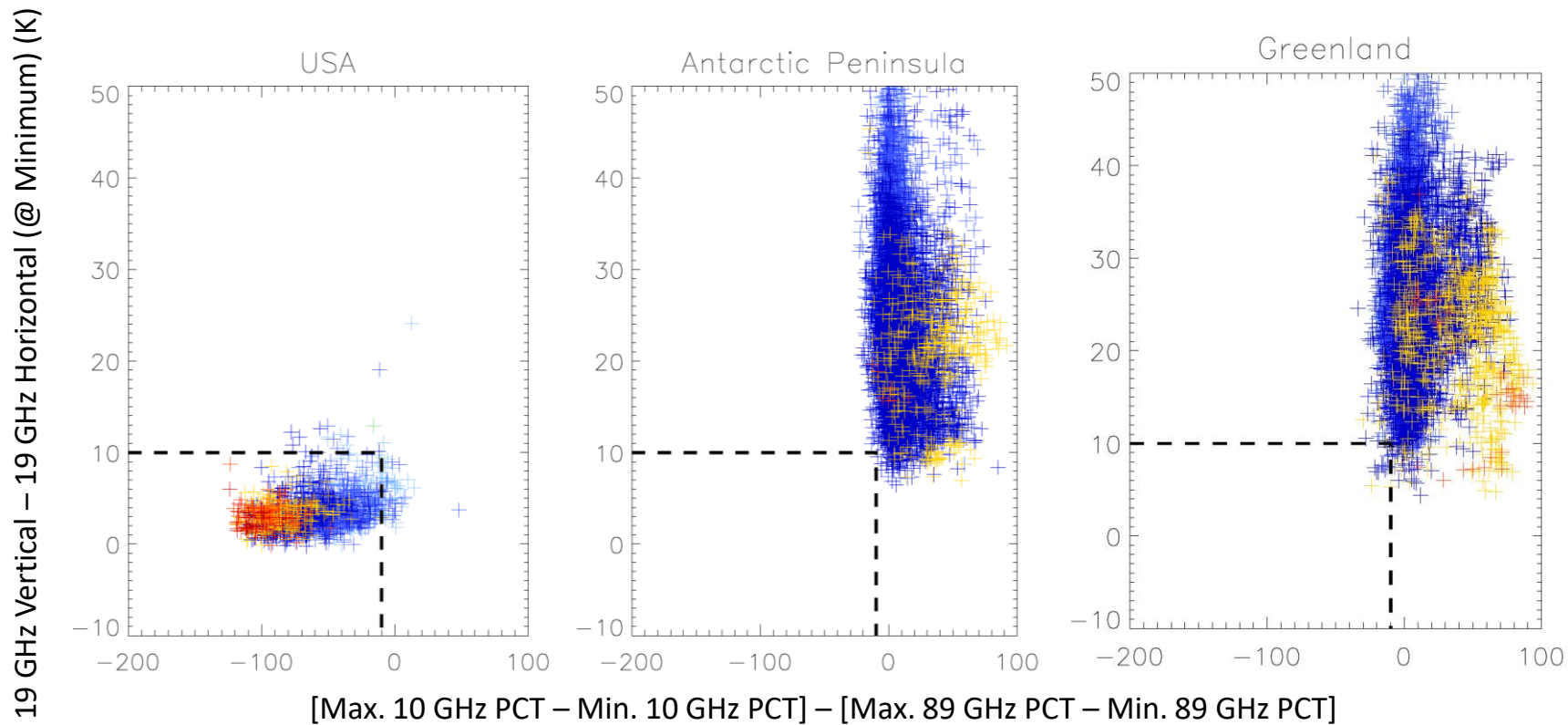
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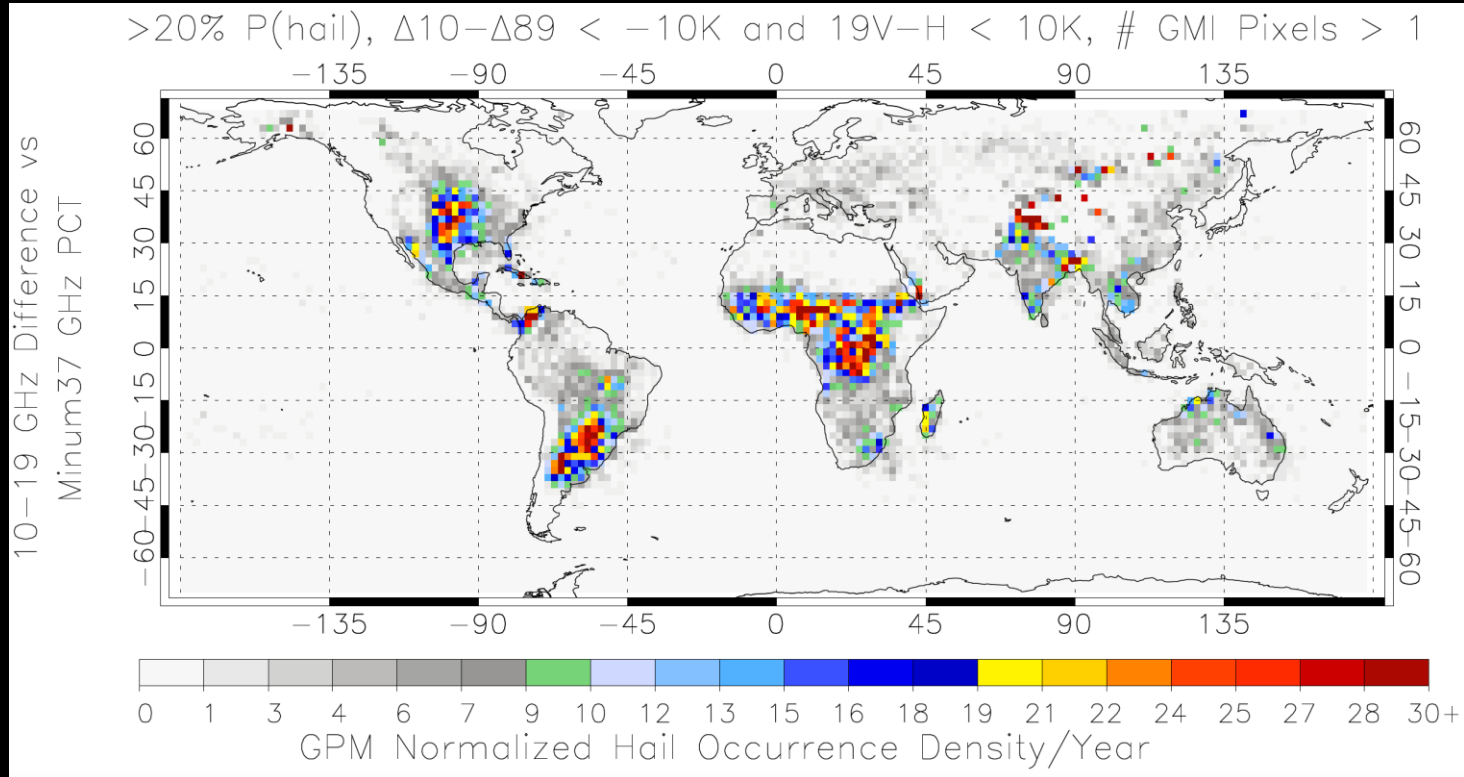
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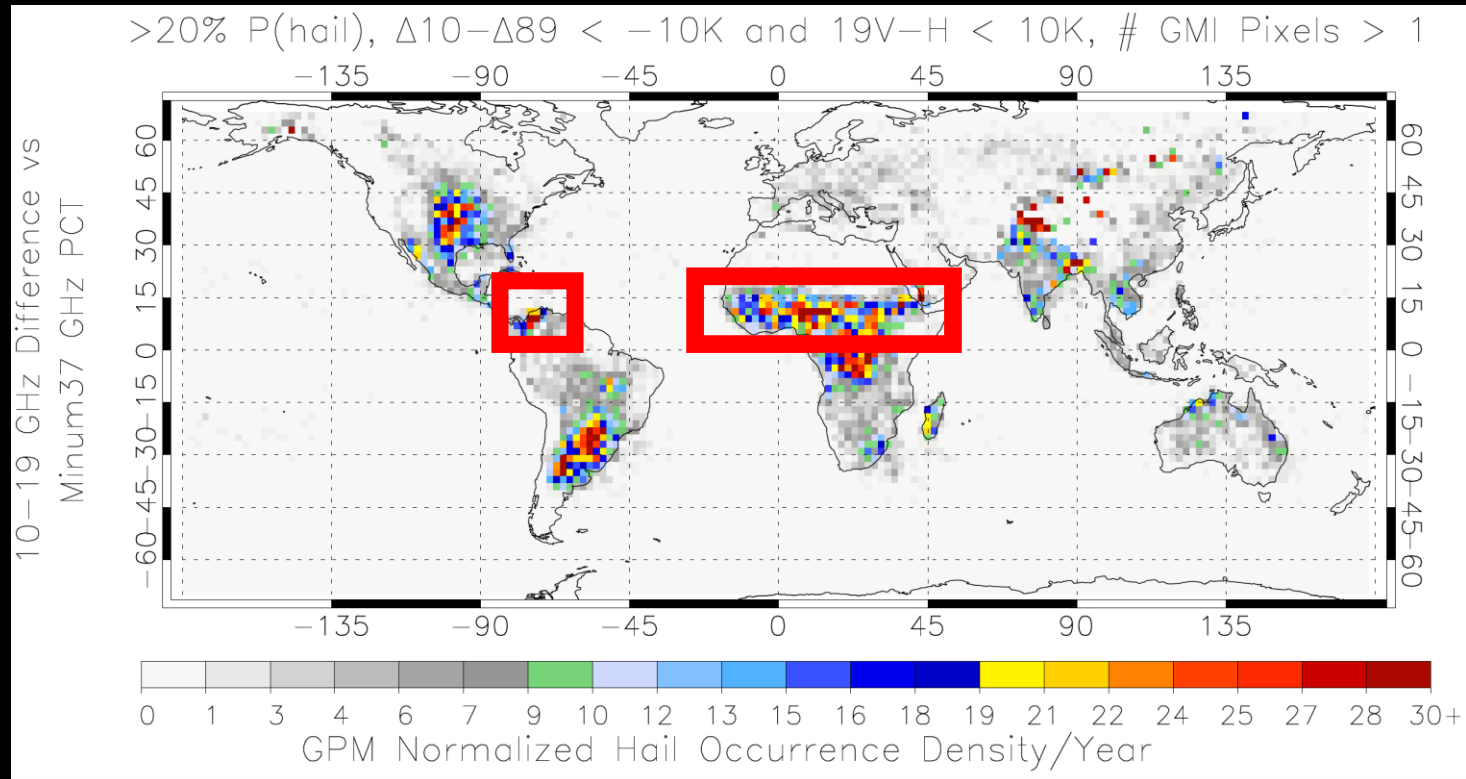
# Snow/Ice Filter



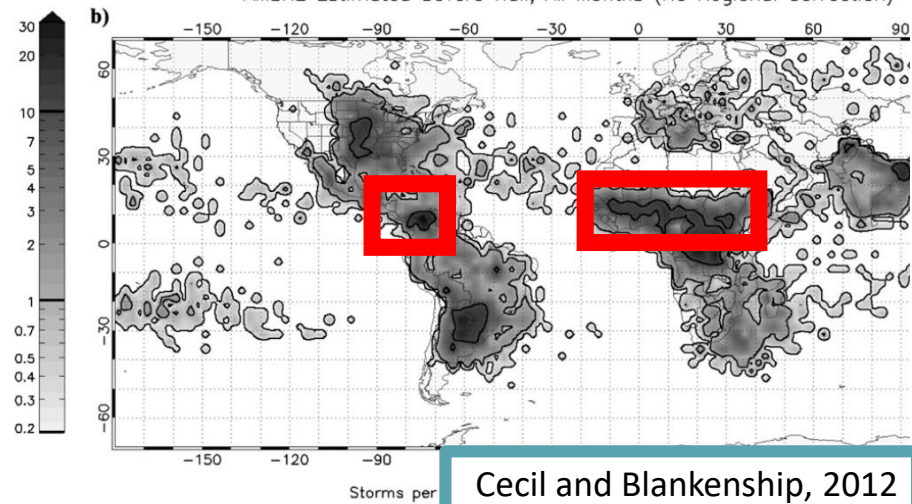
# GPM Hail Climatology, Minimum 37 GHz PCT + Snow/Ice Filter



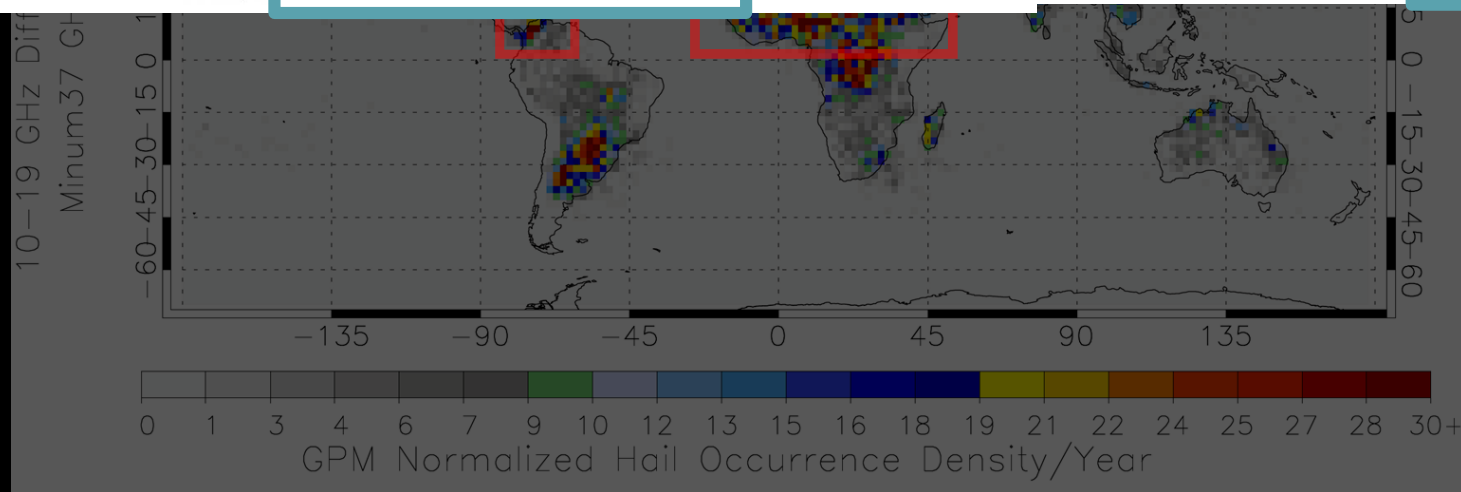
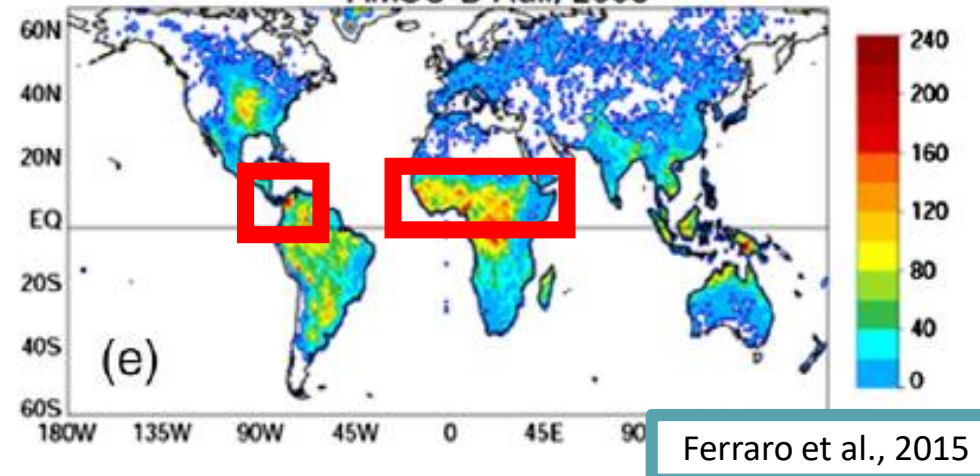
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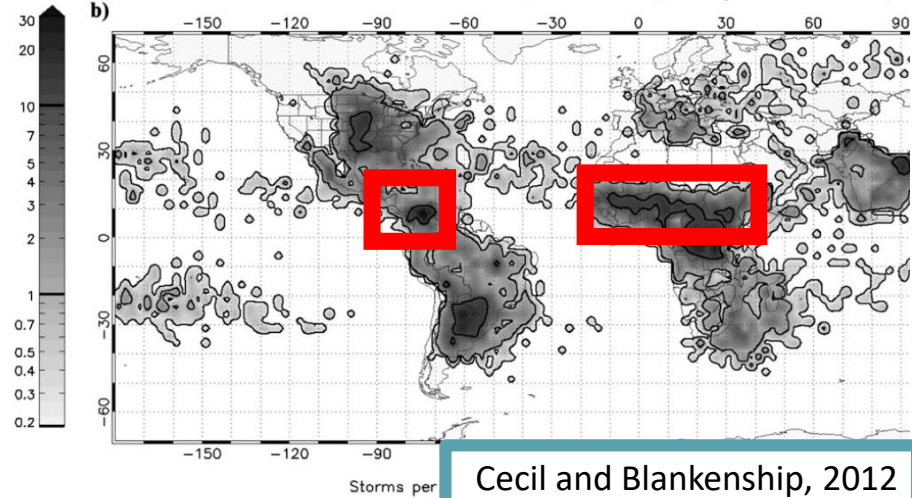
AMSRE Estimated Severe Hail, All Months (No Regional Correction)



AMSU-B Hail, 2008

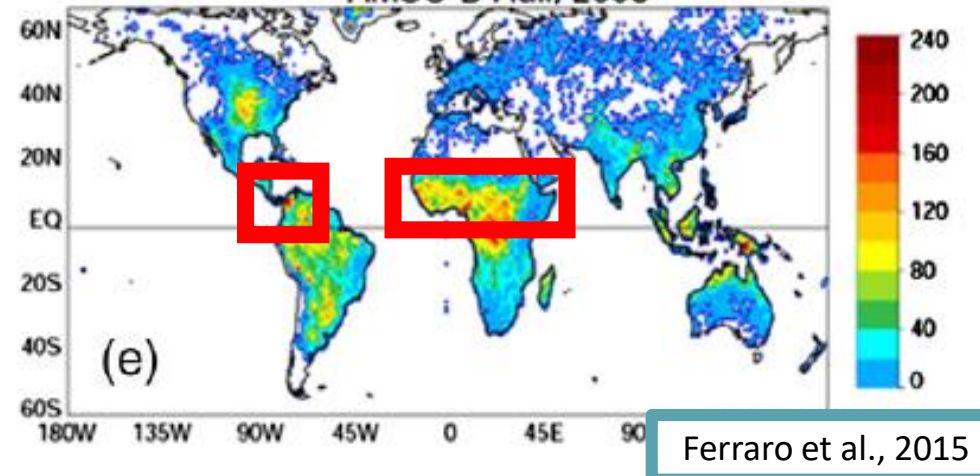


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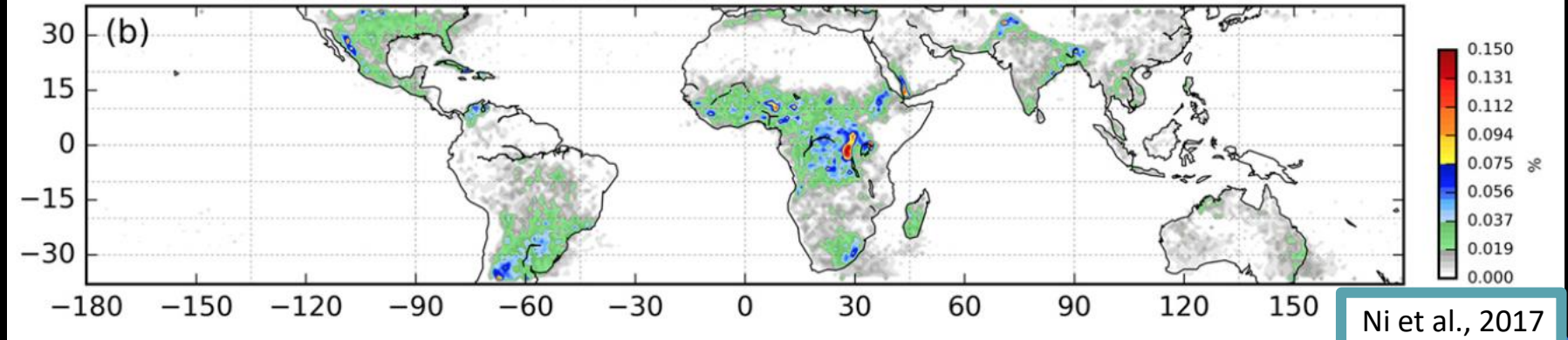
Cecil and Blankenship, 2012

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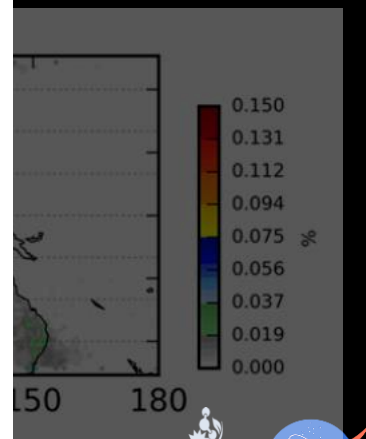
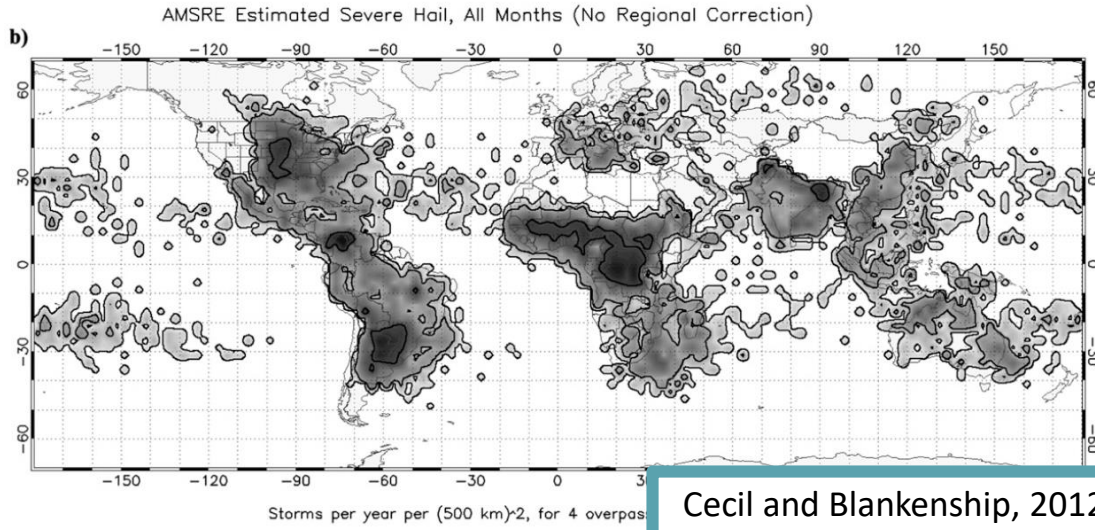
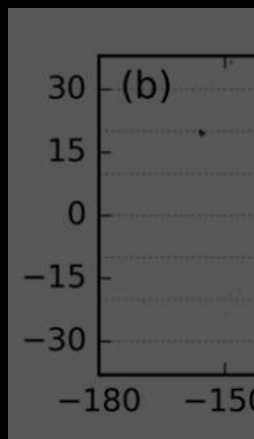
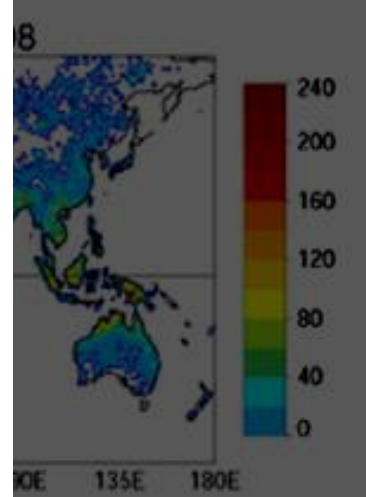
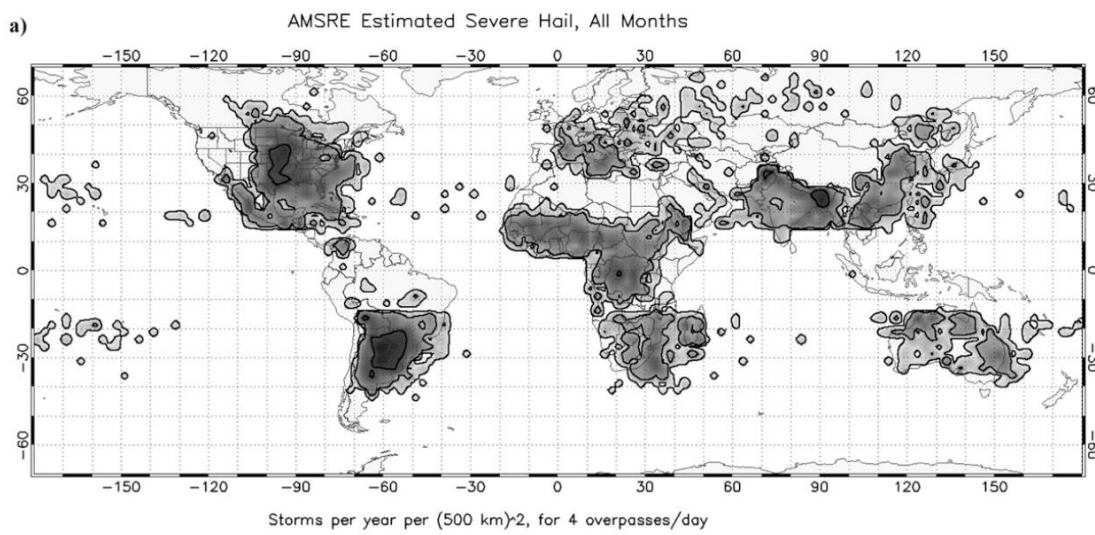
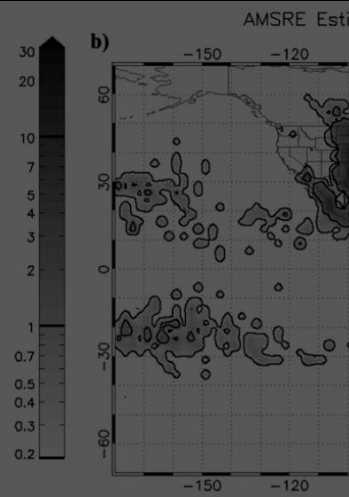
Ferraro et al., 2015

Global Percentage of Normalized PF Number (44 dBZ Echo Top T ≤ -22 °C)



Ni et al., 2017





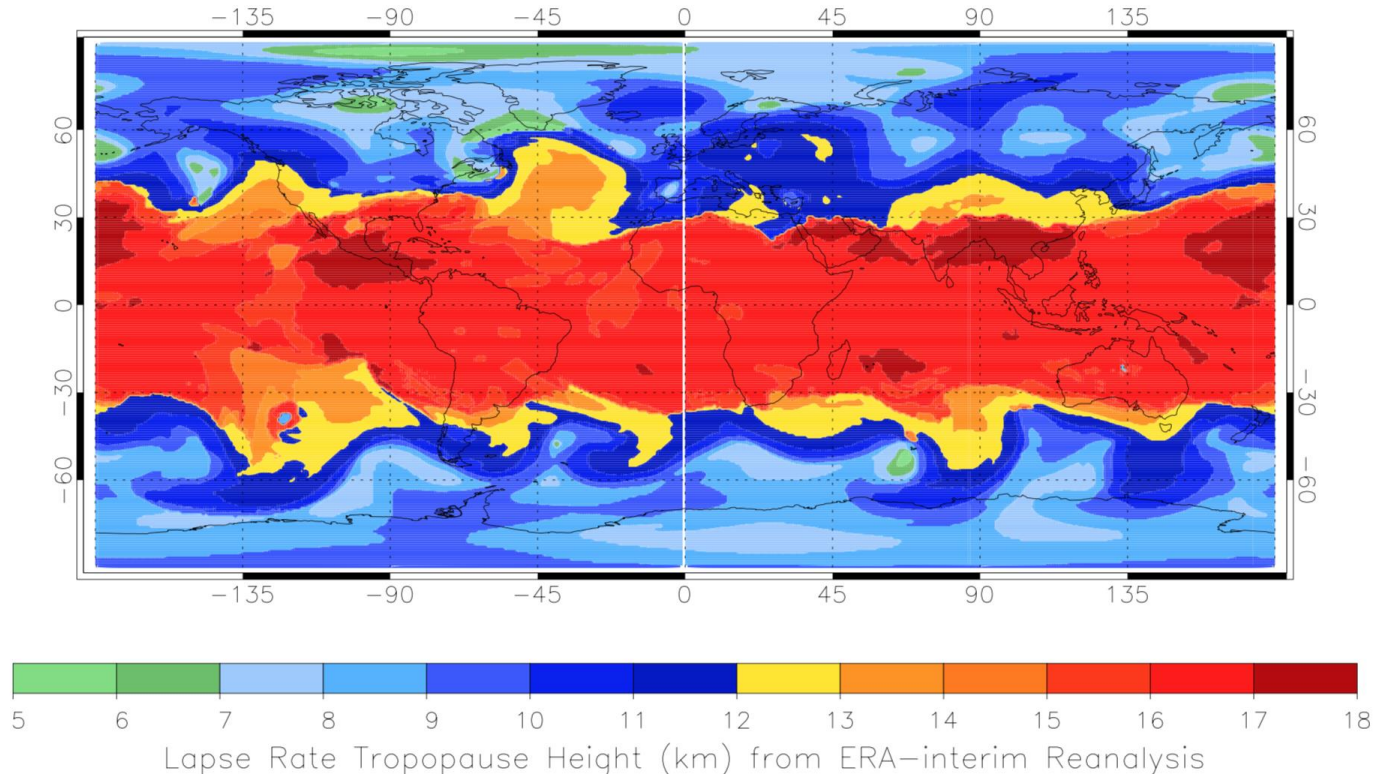
9 April 2019

Cecil and Blankenship, 2012



# Normalizing by Tropopause Height

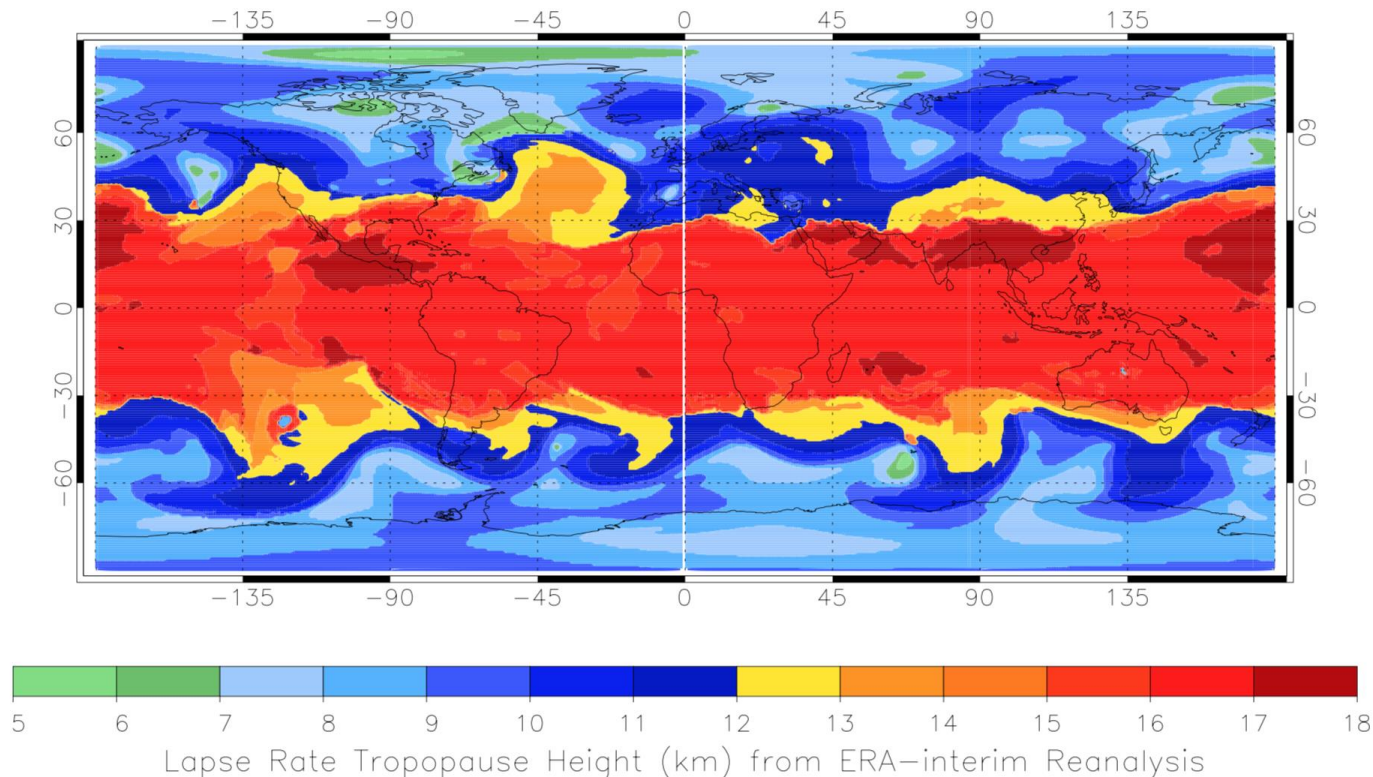
Lapse Rate Tropopause Heights on 20180409 at 12 UTC



LRT calculation  
performed by Nana  
Liu at Texas A&M  
Corpus Christi,  
see Liu and Liu, 2018

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Lapse Rate Tropopause Heights on 20180409 at 12 UTC



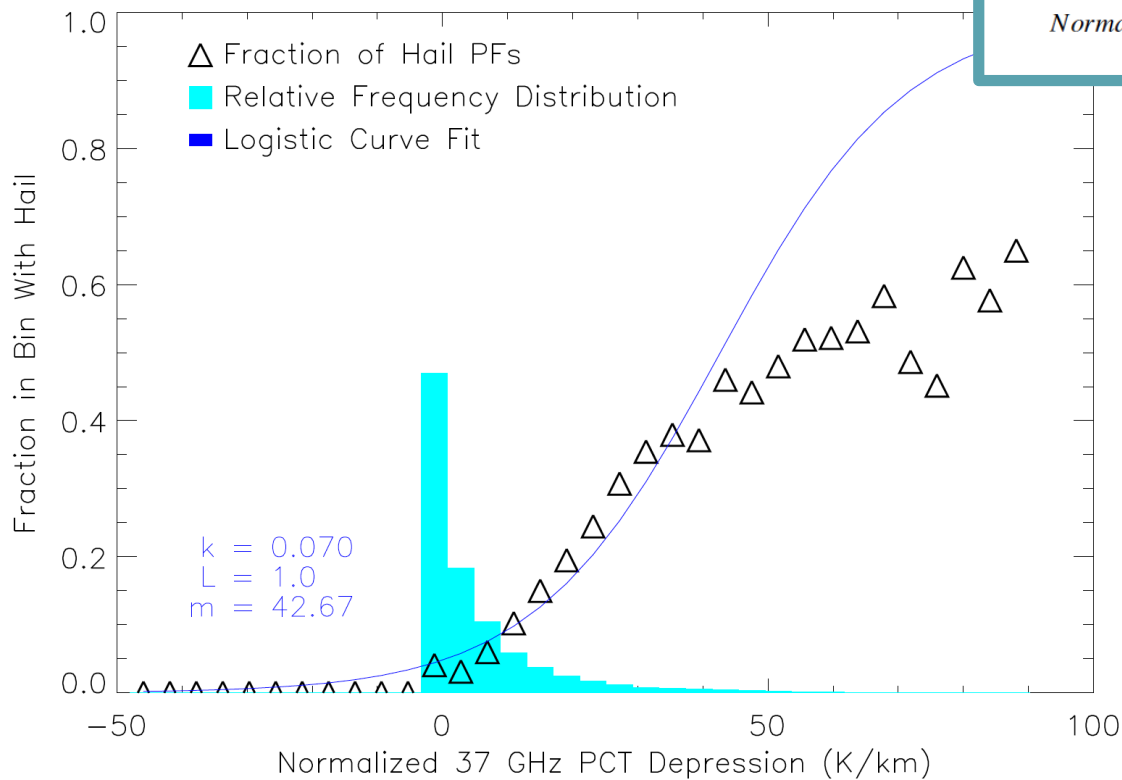
LRT calculation  
performed by Nana  
Liu at Texas A&M  
Corpus Christi,  
see Liu and Liu, 2018

9 April 2019

$$\text{Normalized 37 GHz PCT Depression} = \frac{\text{MAX37PCT} - \text{MIN37PCT}}{(1 + \text{LRT} - \overline{\text{LRT}}_{\text{USA}})}$$

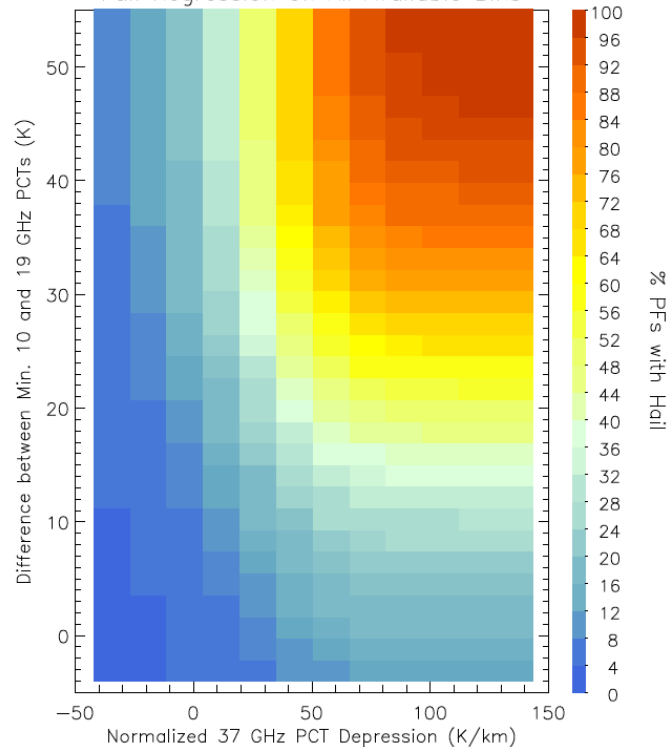
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TPCTFs in Bin with Hail

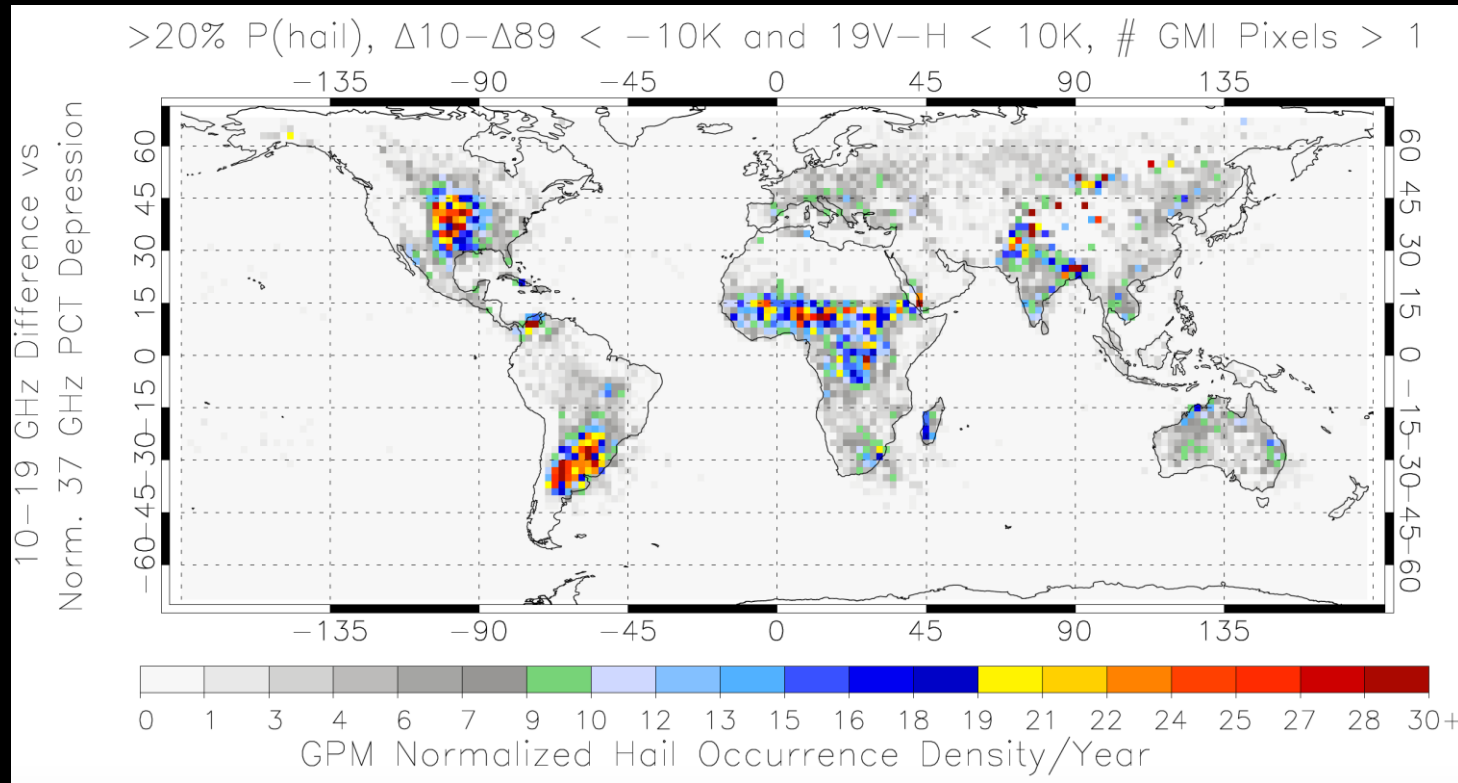


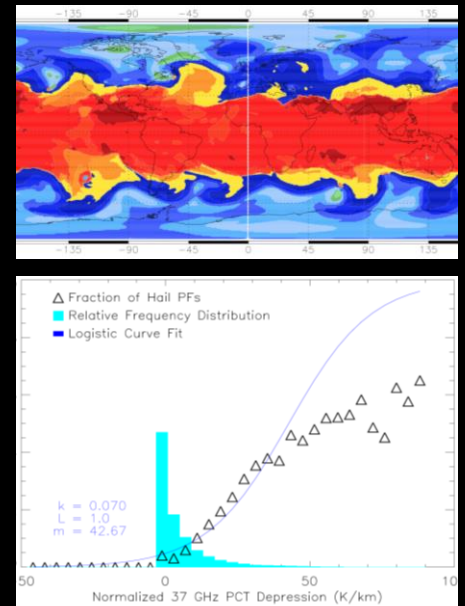
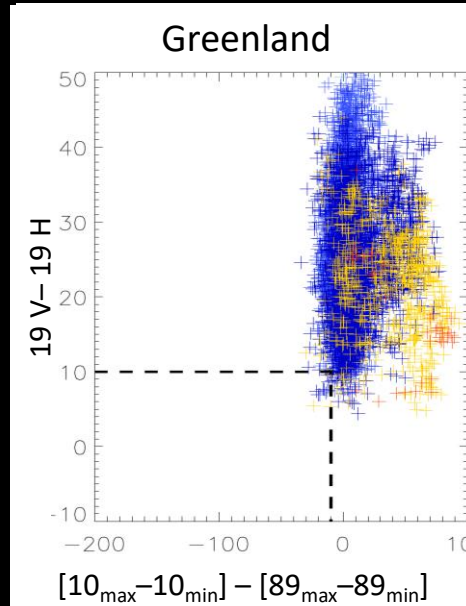
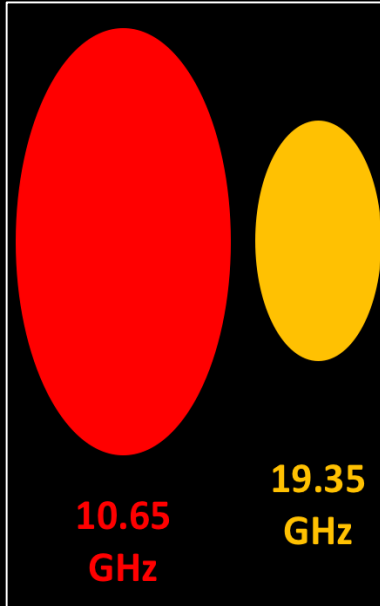
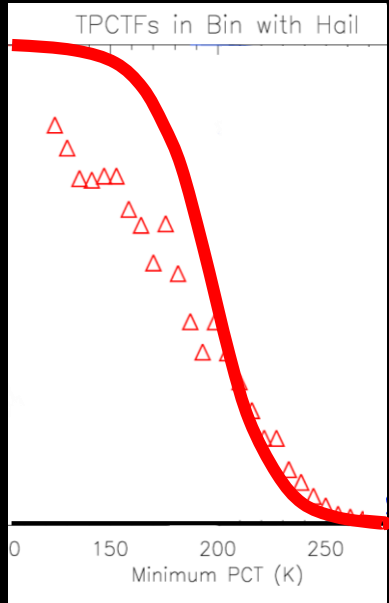
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Full Regression on All Available Bins



# GPM Hail Climatology, Normalized 37 GHz PCT Depression + Snow/Ice Filter





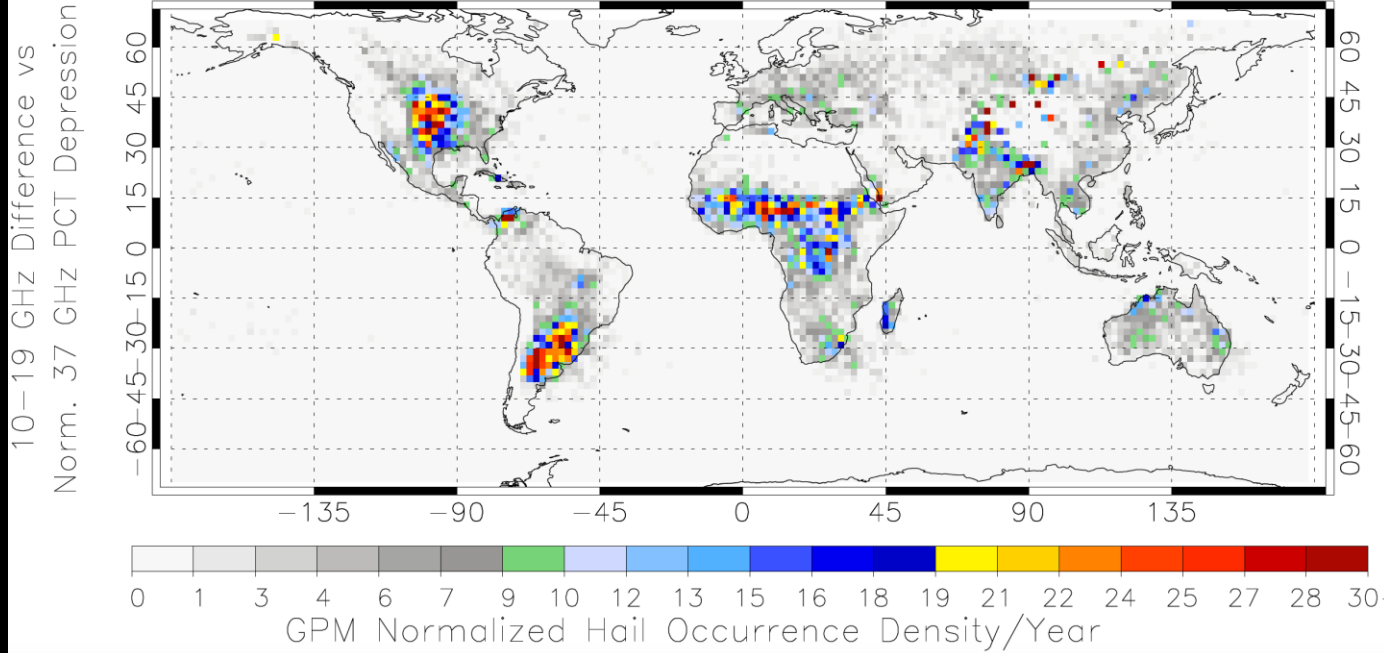
We fit logistic curves to the probability of hail for given TRMM/GPM microwave quantities, instead of assuming a threshold brightness temperature

We create a new microwave variable, leveraging the minimum 19 GHz PCT (relative to a background state captured by the 10 GHz PCT)

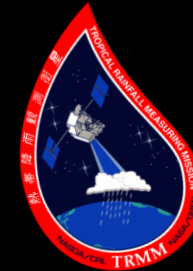
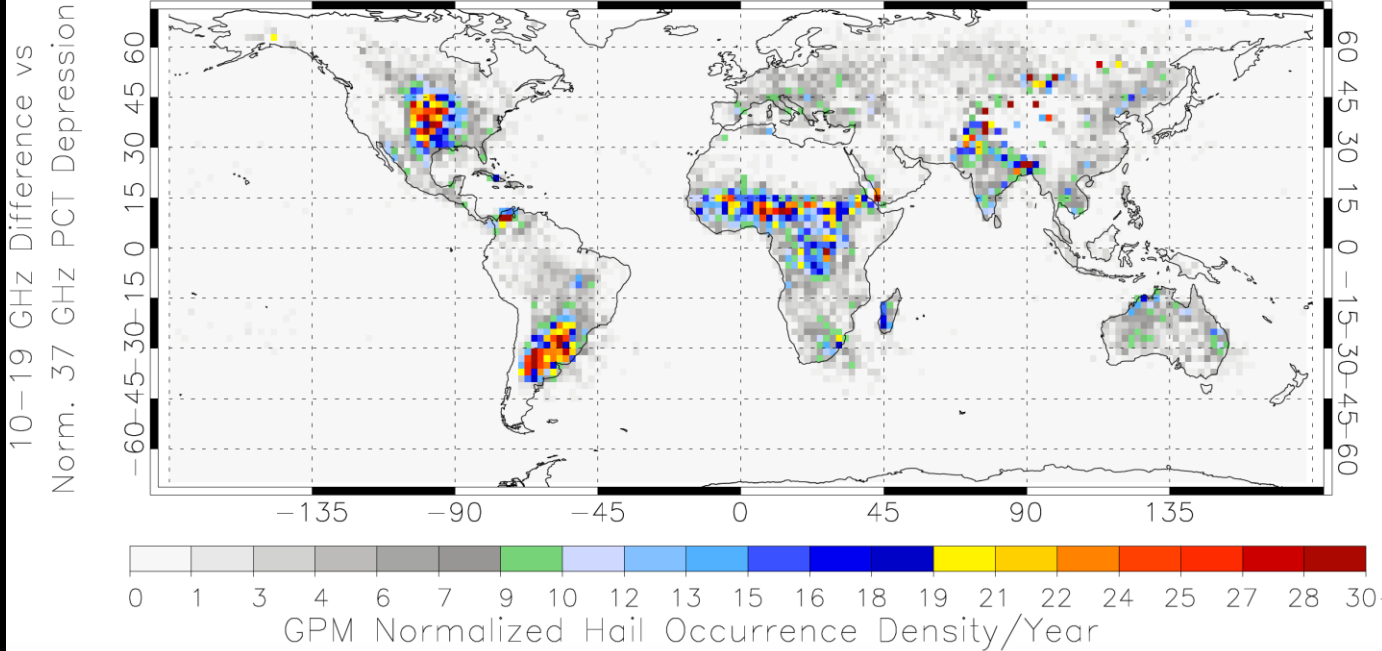
We propose a new microwave-based filter to remove features we suspect are over snowy and icy regimes, by leveraging the 19 GHz V-H difference and the difference between the 10-89 GHz PCT depressions.

We estimate hail probability using not only 10-19 GHz PCT difference, but also we normalize the 37 GHz PCT Depression by the height of the troposphere.

$>20\%$  P(hail),  $\Delta 10-\Delta 89 < -10\text{K}$  and  $19\text{V}-\text{H} < 10\text{K}$ , # GMI Pixels  $> 1$



$>20\%$  P(hail),  $\Delta 10-19 \text{ GHz} < -10\text{K}$  and  $19\text{V}-\text{H} < 10\text{K}$ , # GMI Pixels  $> 1$



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# Thank You!



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