



ILLINOIS STATE  
WATER SURVEY

PRAIRIE RESEARCH INSTITUTE

# Ontario Winter Lake-effect Systems OWLeS



University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

# Agenda – Monday, 24 June

8:45-9:00

Opening Comments

9:00-2:15

Scientific Objectives

Long-Fetch Lake-effect Systems

Bart

Jeff Frame and Scott

Kevin

Karen and Josh

Short-Fetch Lake-effect Systems

Dave

Rich, George and Todd

Neil and Nick

Alexei

Influences of Topography – Jim and Justin

Numerical Modeling – Bob

2:15-3:15

Flight Tracks – Bart, Jeff French, Brett

3:30-3:45

Rawinsonde Intercomparison – Junhong

3:45-4:45

Surface Facility Siting – Jim, Rich



# Agenda – Tuesday, 25 June

- 8:30-9:30      Operational Decision-making – Dave, Bart, Jim
- 9:30-10:30     Operations Center - Scott
- 10:45-11:45    Daily Schedule and Communications – Dave, Bart, Jim
- 1:15-2:15      Data Collection, Availability, Management – Steve, Greg
- 2:15-3:15      Positions, Responsibilities, Date Scheduling – Scott, Neil
- 3:30-4:30      Project Safety  
                    DOWS – Karen, Josh  
                    King Air – Jeff French  
                    Sounding Sites – Rich, Dave, Scott, Jim, Neil  
                    Snow Obs – Scott, Josh
- 4:30-5:00      Action Items, Wrap-up

# Influence of Upwind Lakes On Lake-effect Systems

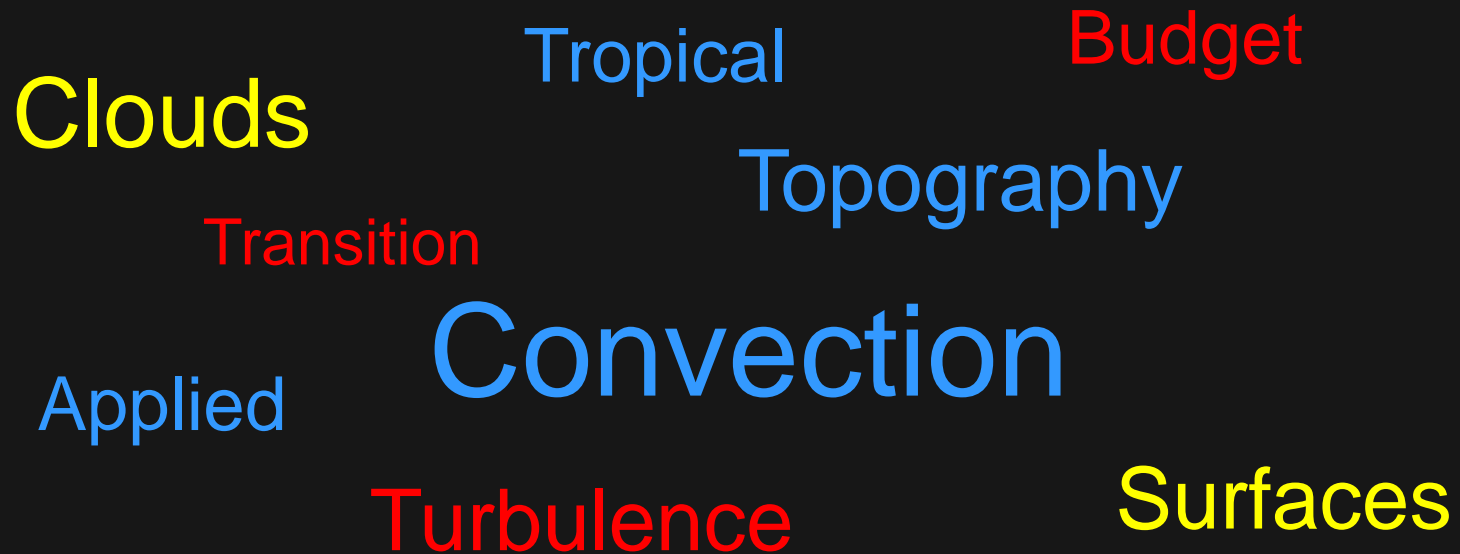
## *Justifications*

- ***Outstanding Fundamental Scientific Problem***



# Lake-effect Boundary Layers

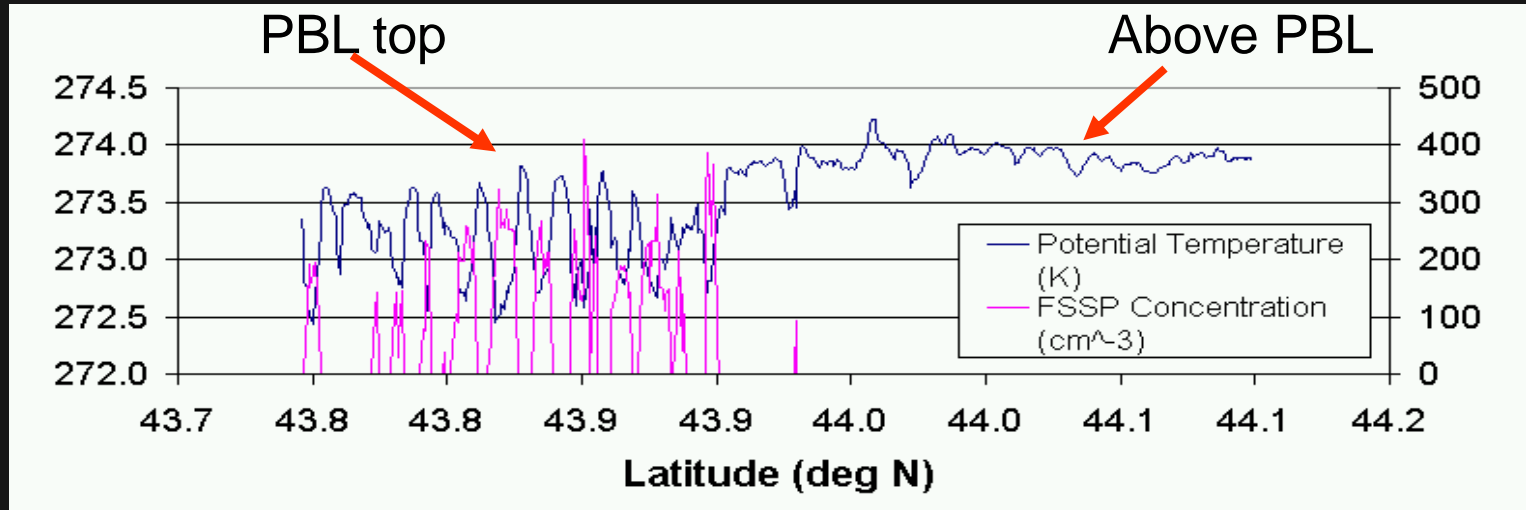
Articles Published by AMS (1 yr): 221 with PBL in abstract ( $\approx 10\%$ )



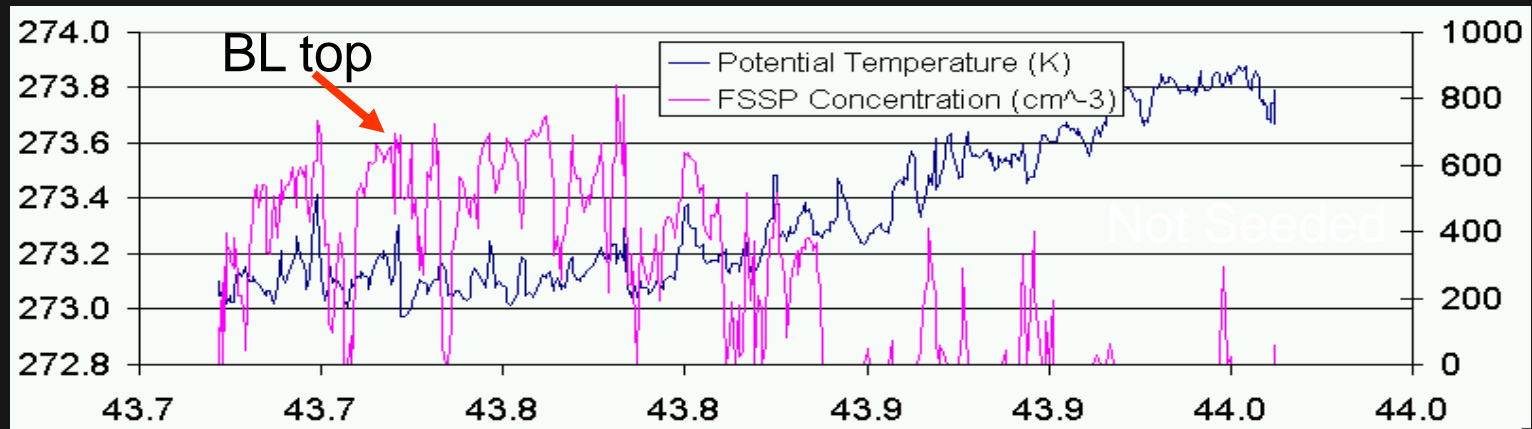
“Enhanced” Case  
5 Dec 1997

# Aircraft observations of Potential Temperature, Clouds

Flight Leg:  
**AB2**



EF2



Adapted from Figure 12 in Schroeder, J. J., D.A.R. Kristovich, and M. R. Hjelmfelt, 2006: Boundary layer and microphysical influences of natural cloud seeding on a lake-effect snowstorm. *Mon. Wea. Rev.*, 134, 1842-1858.

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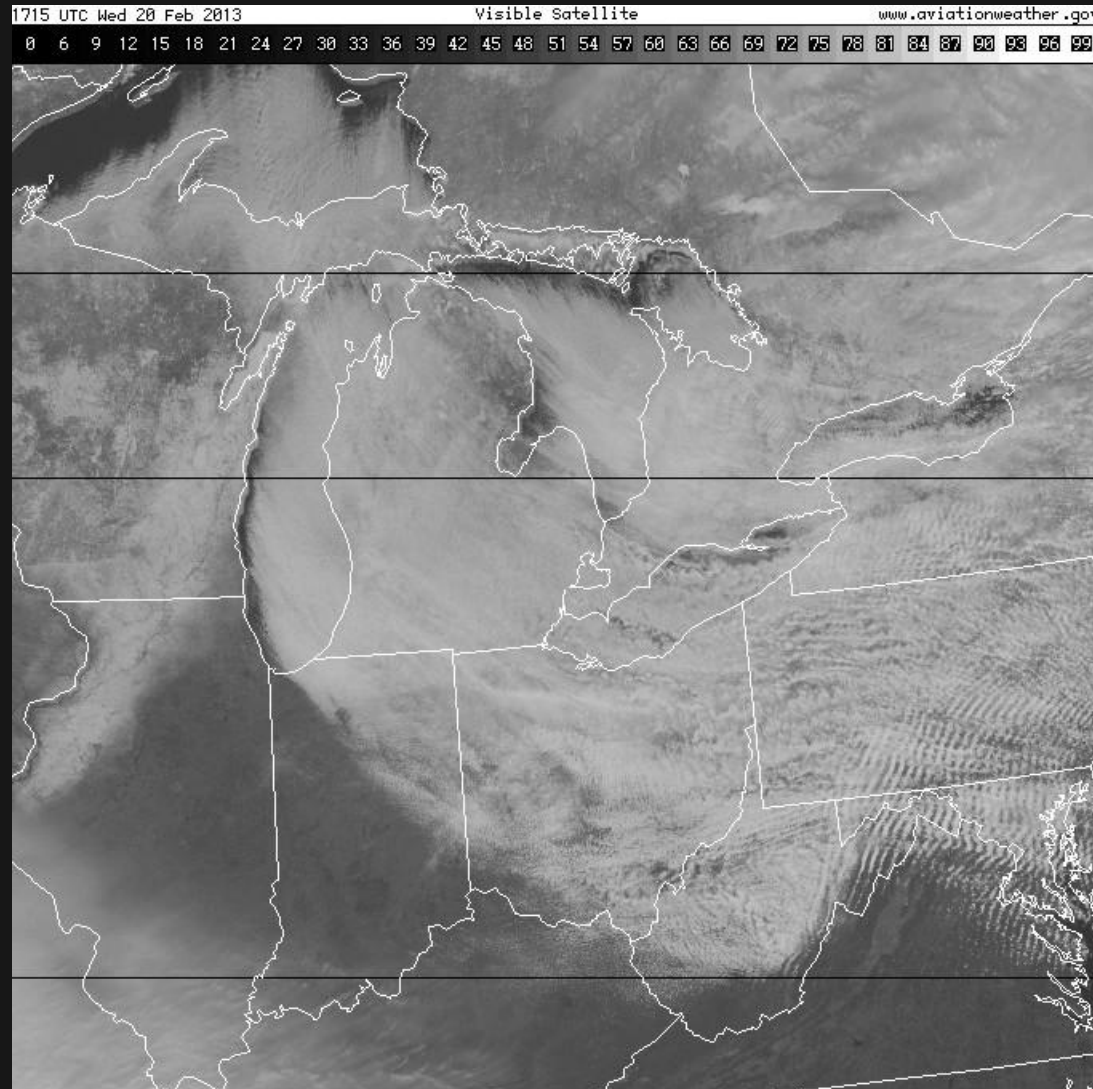
## *Justifications*

- *Outstanding Fundamental Scientific Problem*
- *Known influence on LE intensity (downwind lake), but limited observational data available*



# Lake-effect Snow System

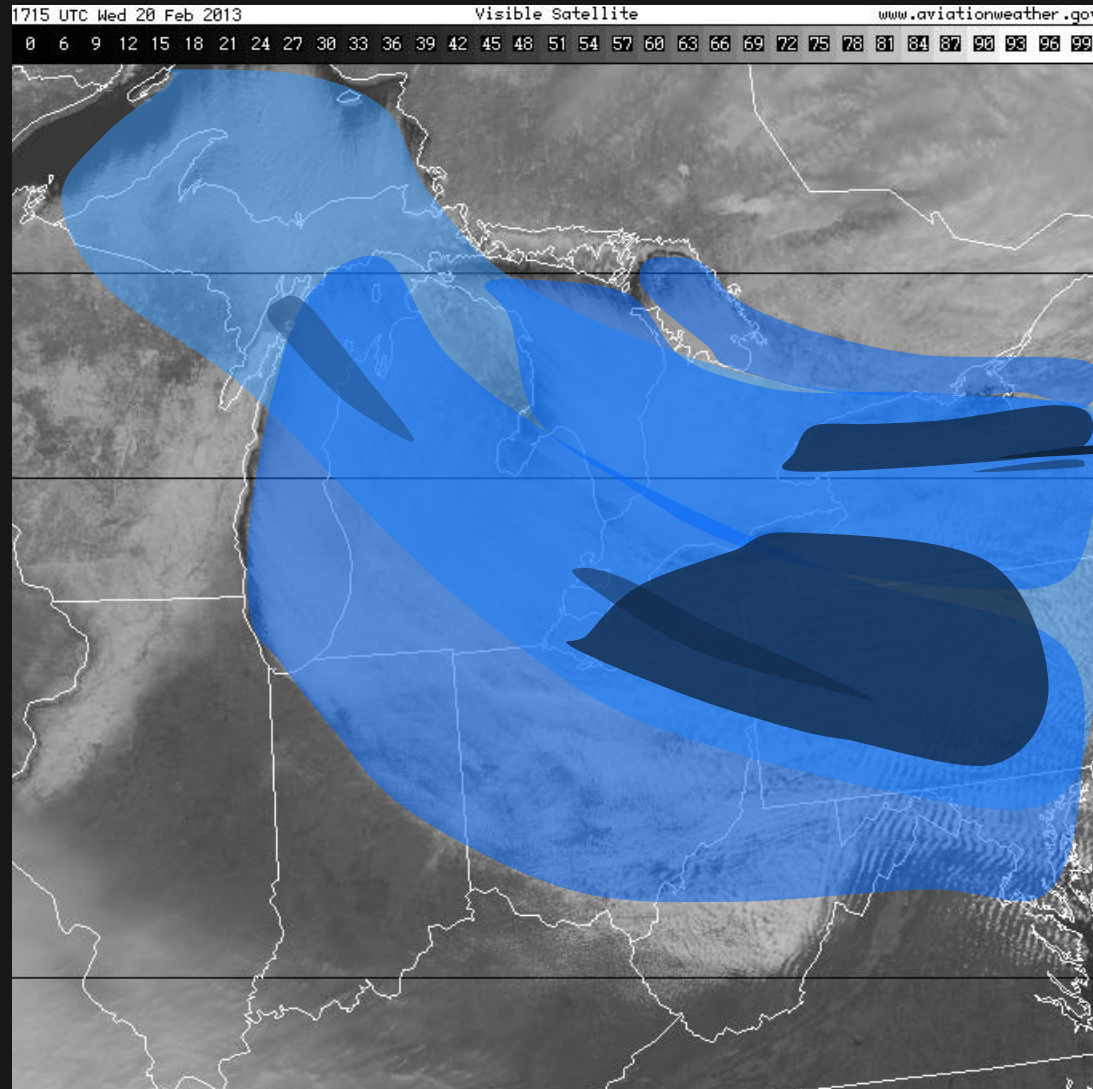
## Atmospheric Convective Boundary Layers





# Lake-effect Snow System

## Atmospheric Convective Boundary Layers



# Lake-to-Lake Lake-effect Cloud Bands



Rodriguez, Y., D.A.R. Kristovich, and M.R. Hjelmfelt, 2007: Lake-to-lake cloud bands: Frequencies and Locations. *Mon. Wea. Rev.*, 135, 4202-4213.

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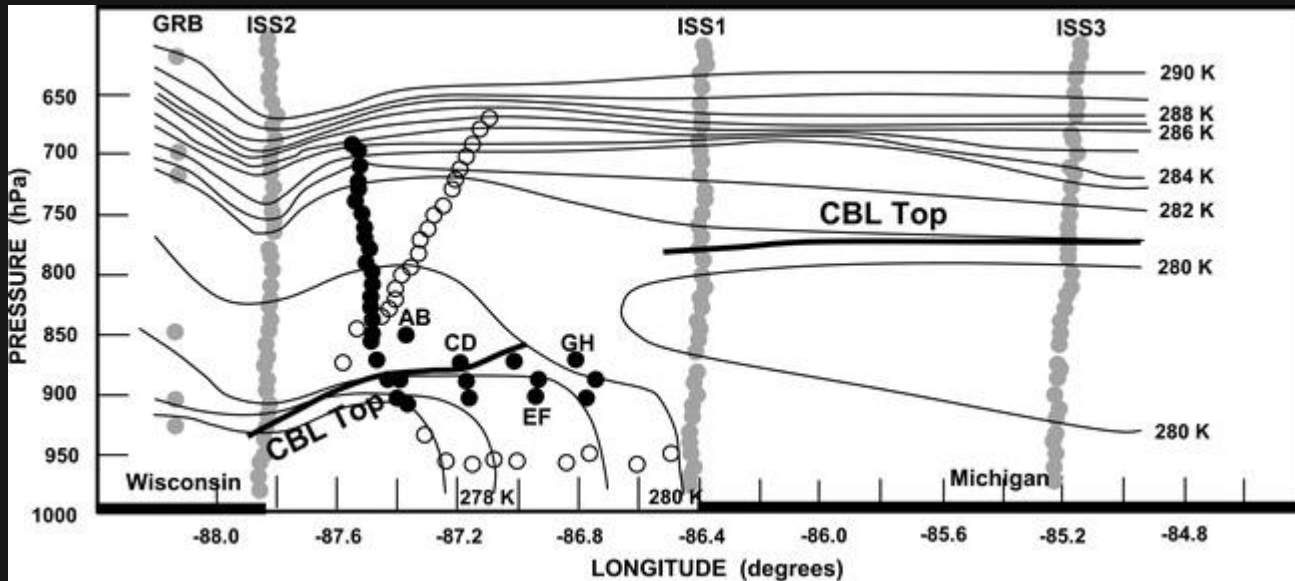
## *Justifications*

- *Outstanding Fundamental Scientific Problem*
- *Known influence on LE intensity (downwind lake), but limited observational data available*
- *Relative importance of mechanisms unknown*
  - *Reduce upwind stability*
  - *Retained circulations*
  - *Natural Cloud Seeding with snow*



# Spatial Evolution of Lake-effect Snow

5 Dec 1997



SLOW  
Growth

FAST  
Growth

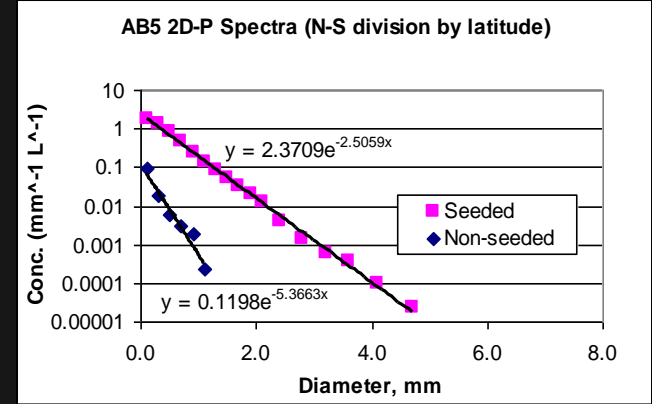
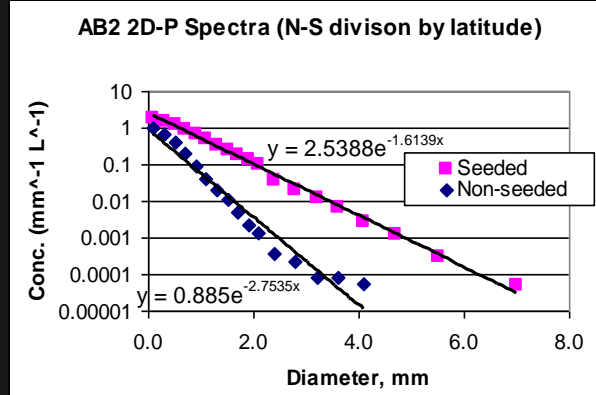
VERY SLOW  
Growth



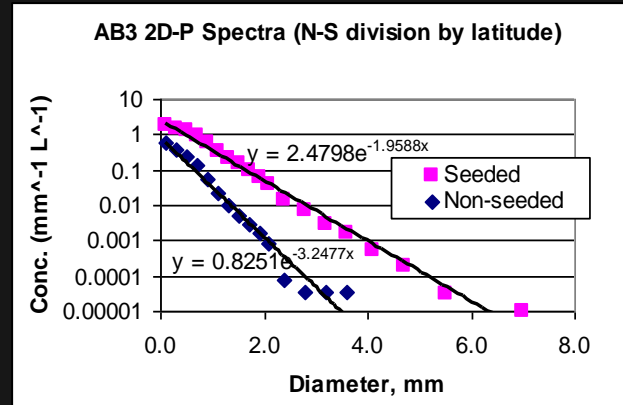
# North vs. South Spectra Comparison

“Enhanced” Case  
5 Dec 1997

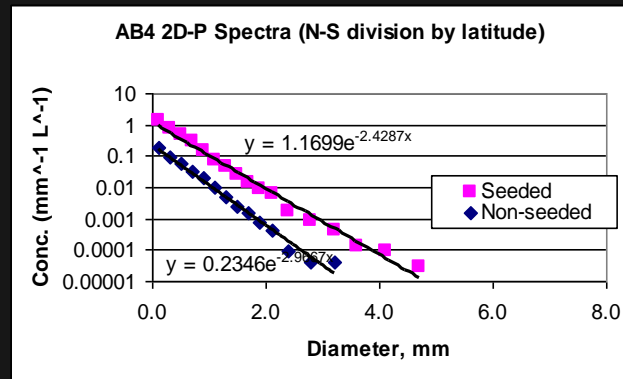
820  
m



700 m



650 m



Altitude  
↑  
above  
lake

Adapted from Figure 11 in Schroeder, J. J., D.A.R. Kristovich, and M. R. Hjelmfelt, 2006: Boundary layer and microphysical influences of natural cloud seeding on a lake-effect snowstorm. Mon. Wea. Rev., 134, 1842-1858.

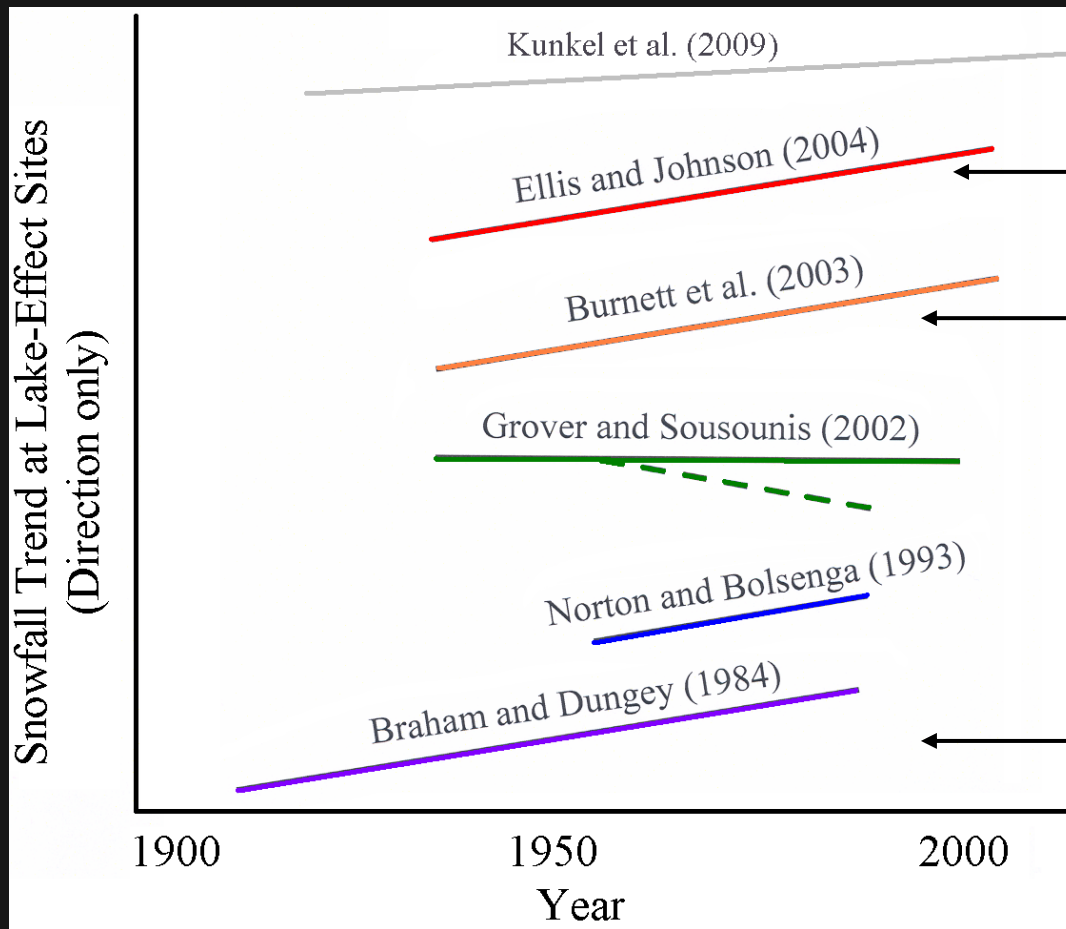
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  - *Natural Cloud Seeding with snow*
- ***Potential Climate Implications***



# Lake-Effect Snowfall Trends



Decreased average air temperatures through 1980s

Increased lake surface temperatures, decreased average ice pack on eastern lakes (more heat & moisture fluxes off the lakes)

Decreased average air temperatures through 1980s

Adapted from Kristovich, D. A. R., 2009: Climate Sensitivity of Great Lakes – Generated Weather Systems. In *Climatology, Variability, and Change in the Midwest*, S. C. Pryor, Editor. Indiana University Press, 236-250.



# Influence of Upwind Lakes On Lake-effect Systems

## *Outstanding Questions*

- *How do multiple internal boundary layers develop and interact as an air mass progresses over multiple mesoscale stretches of open water and intervening land?*
- *What role does the variation in these multiple internal boundary layers have on the circulation patterns, longevity, and intensity of LeS?*
- *How are PBL circulations and LE intensity affected by coastal transitions?*

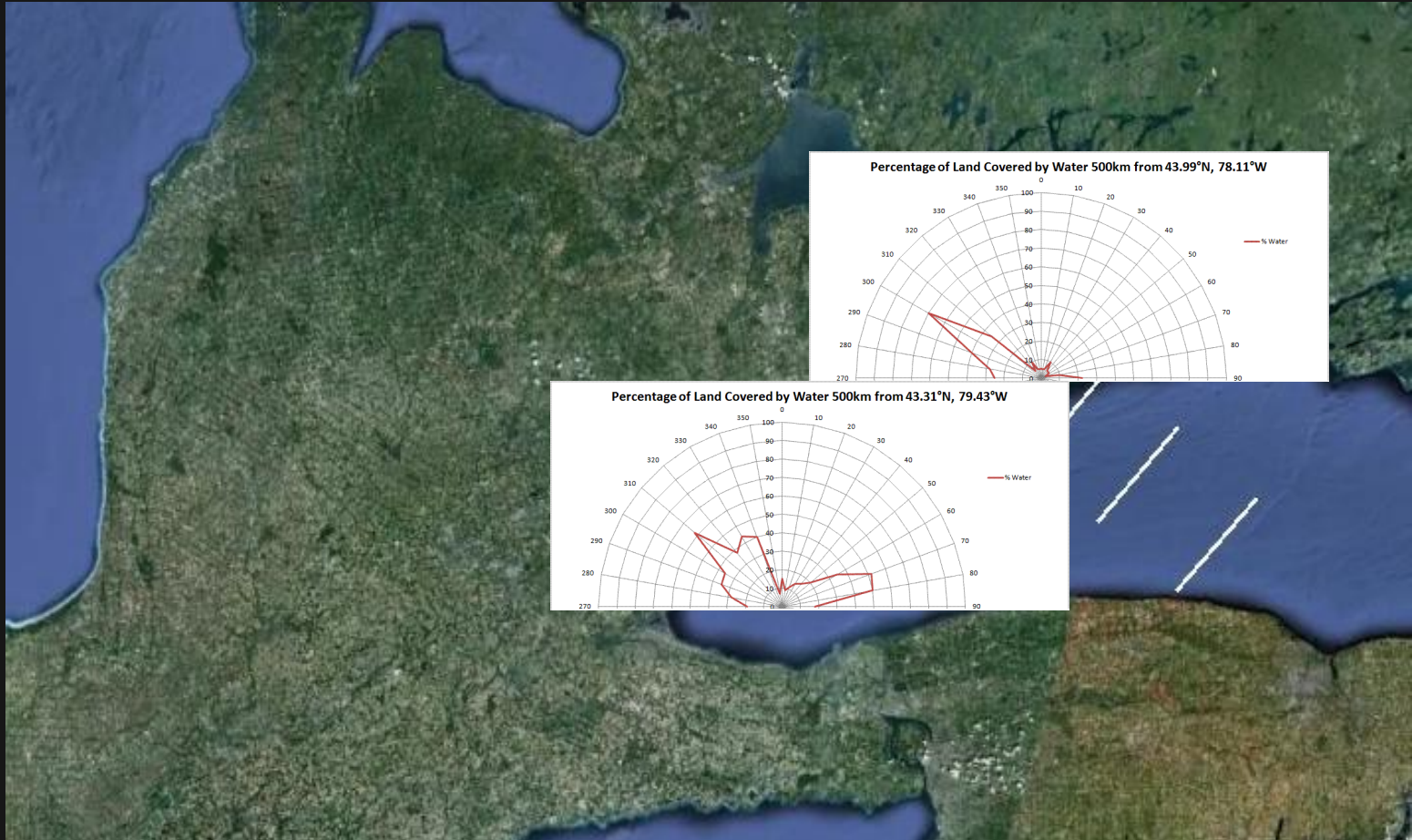




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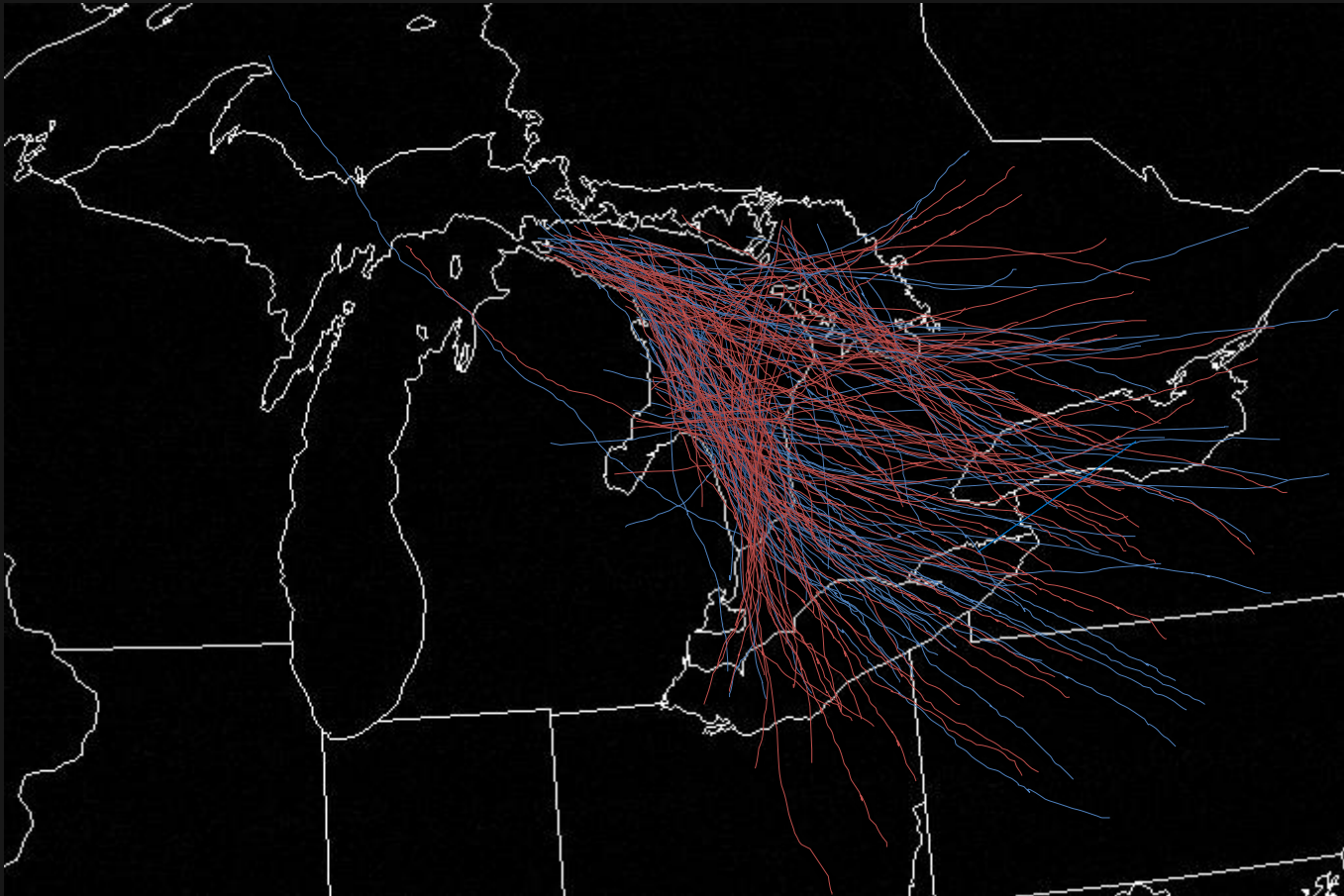


# Influence of Upwind Lakes On Lake-effect Systems



# Influence of Upwind Lakes On Lake-effect Systems

2004-2013; December & January  
Visible Satellite Imagery





# Influence of Upwind Lakes On Lake-effect Systems

2004-2013; December & January  
Visible Satellite Imagery





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# OWLeS Decision-Making

Limited Resources; Obligation to Give All Projects Opportunity to Collect Needed Data

- 75 KA flight hours (21 flights, as few as 10 IOPs)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Hours of DOW operations
- \_\_\_\_\_ Rawinsondes
- \_\_\_\_\_ MUPS
- \_\_\_\_\_ MIPS
- \_\_\_\_\_ Snow Gages

How split up among the projects?



# OWLeS Decision-Making

In case of a conflict, who has the last word?

Steering Committee?

Ops Director?

Boxing Ring?

<b>Date</b>	<b>Ops Director</b>	<b>Facilities Coordinator</b>	<b>Lead Forecasters</b>
Dates 1	Ops Director 1	Facilities Coord 1	Forecaster 1
Dates 2	Ops Director 2	Facilities Coord 2	Forecaster 2
Dates 3	Ops Director 3	Facilities Coord 3	Forecaster 3

Backup Director, Coordinator, Forecaster?





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# OWLeS Daily Schedule & Communications

## Day 1

Evening Weather Update  
(if needed)

Information  
On Decision  
Available



Daily Weather  
Briefing

## Day 2 OWLeS IOP

Weather  
Update

Soundings,  
Other Facilities

UWKA Flight



Operations  
Reports Due

Flight  
Debrief



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# OWLeS Project Safety

