

# Characterisation of hail storms using a multi-data approach

*Kathrin Wapler (DWD)*



## Objectives

What is the typical life cycle of hails storms?



Which signatures are visible in ...

... radar data?



... lightning data?

... satellite data?



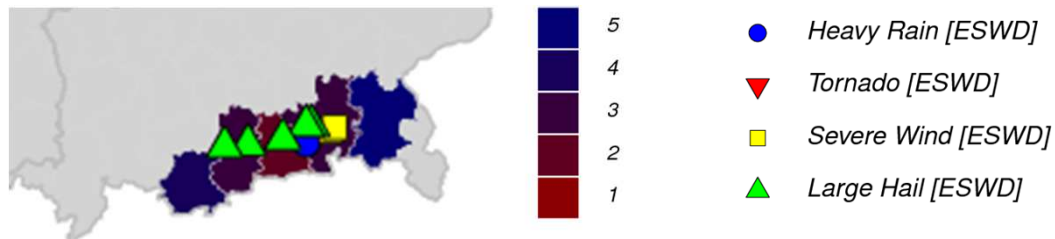


# Hail storm in Oberbayern: 22 June 2011

Deutscher Wetterdienst  
Wetter und Klima aus einer Hand

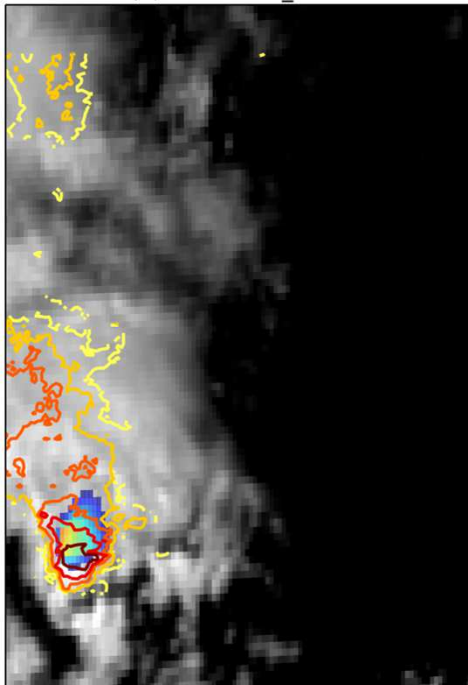


damage data from insurances (relative to reference time)

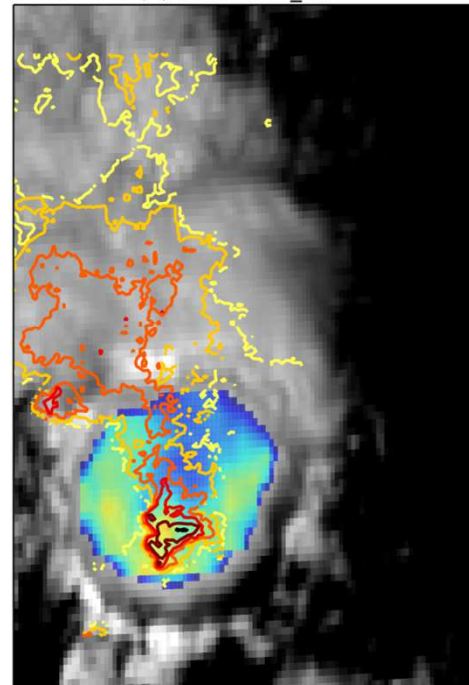


*cold U* signature indicates severe weather.

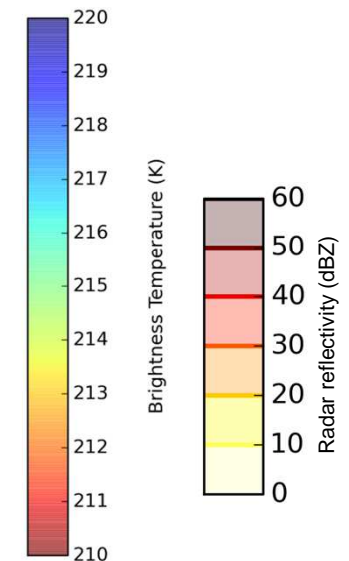
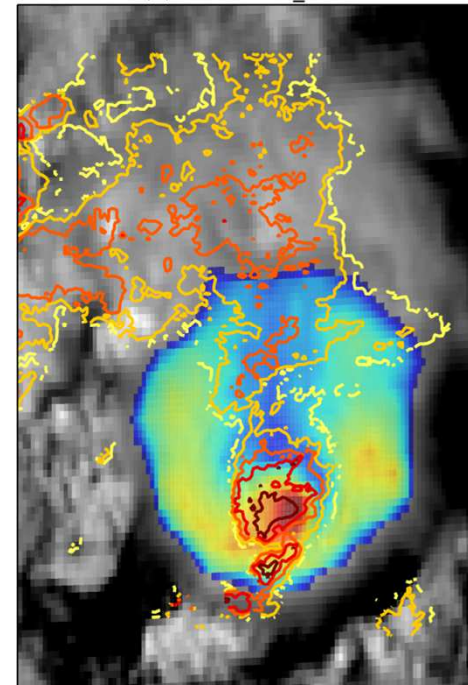
(a) 20110622\_1240



(b) 20110622\_1310



(c) 20110622\_1340

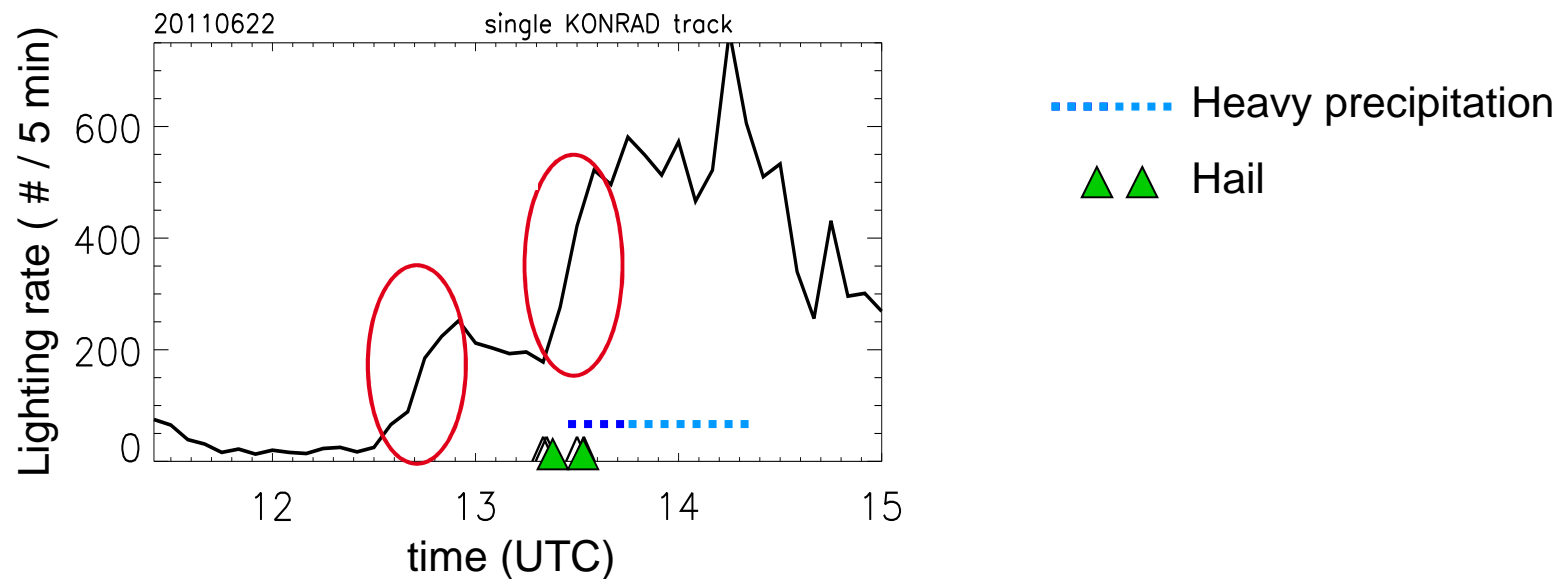


WAPLER, K., F. HARNISCH, T. PARDOWITZ, F. SENF, 2014: Characterisation and predictability of a frontal and weakly forced severe convective event – a multi-data approach. *Meteo. Zeitschrift*, 24 (4), 393-410.



# Hail storm in Oberbayern: 22 June 2011

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- two lightning jumps
- first lightning jump ~30 min prior to and second lightning jump during time of severe weather (hail and begin of heavy precipitation)

Use of lightning jumps in nowcasting may lead to improved warnings (longer lead time).



WAPLER, K., F. HARNISCH, T. PARDOWITZ, F. SENF, 2014: Characterisation and predictability of a frontal and weakly forced severe convective event – a multi-data approach. *Meteo. Zeitschrift*, 24 (4), 393-410.



# Hail storm near Main river: 20 June 2013

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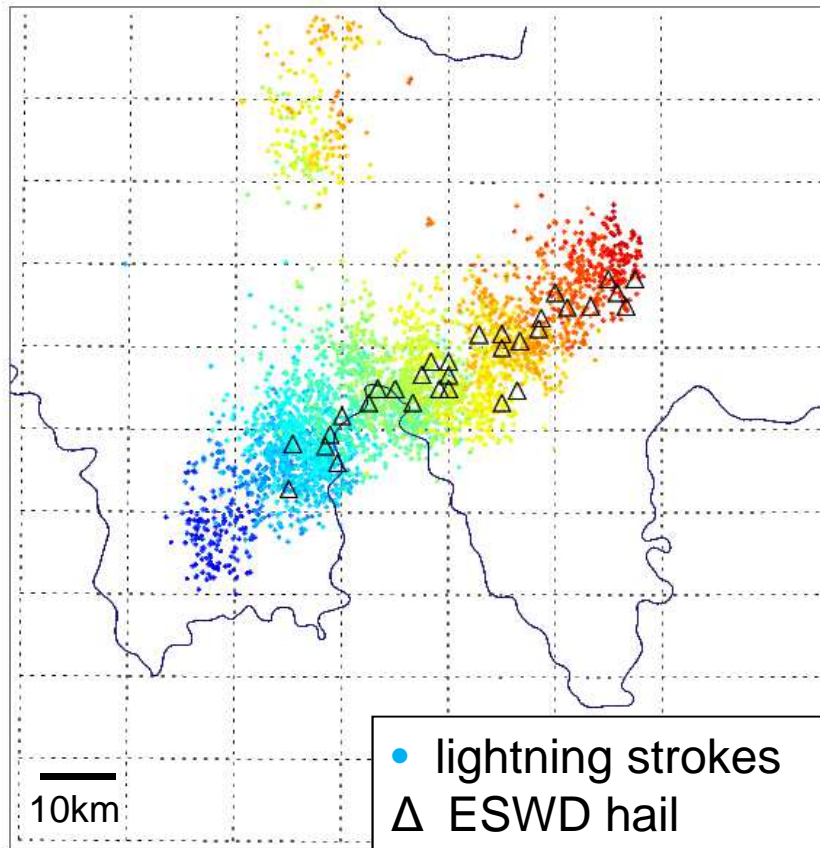
Deutscher Wetterdienst  
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# Hail storm near Main river: 20 June 2013

Deutscher Wetterdienst  
Wetter und Klima aus einer Hand



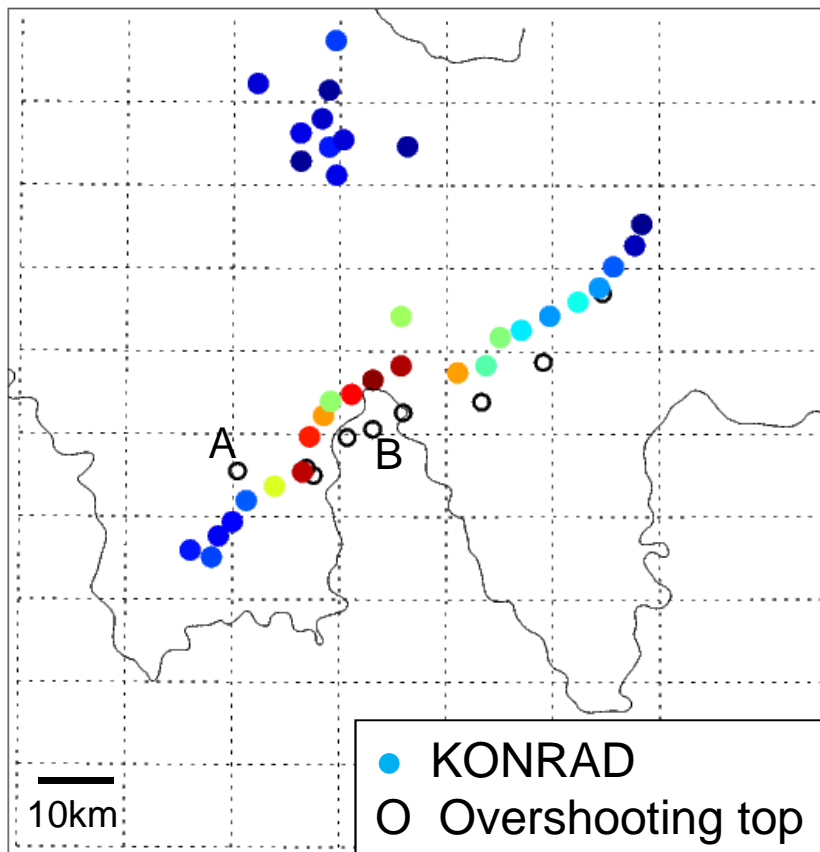
chronological sequence of lightning strokes



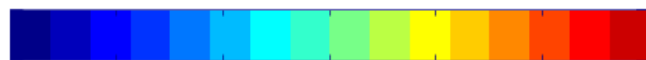


# Hail storm near Main river: 20 June 2013

Deutscher Wetterdienst  
Wetter und Klima aus einer Hand

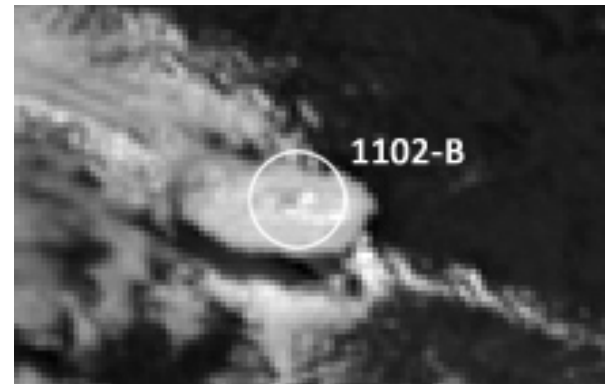


number of strokes (<15km)

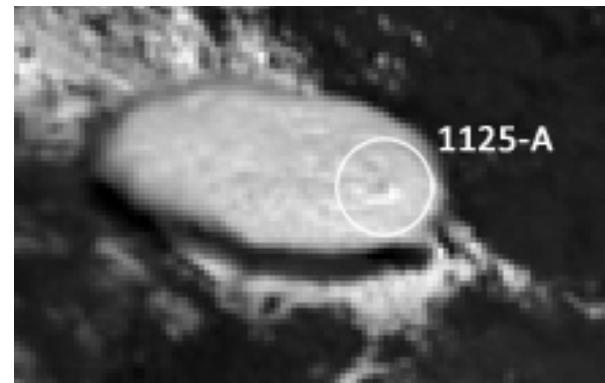


0 50 100 150 200 250 300

A



B



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overshooting top data kindly provided by  
Martin Setvák and Michaela Radová, CHMI

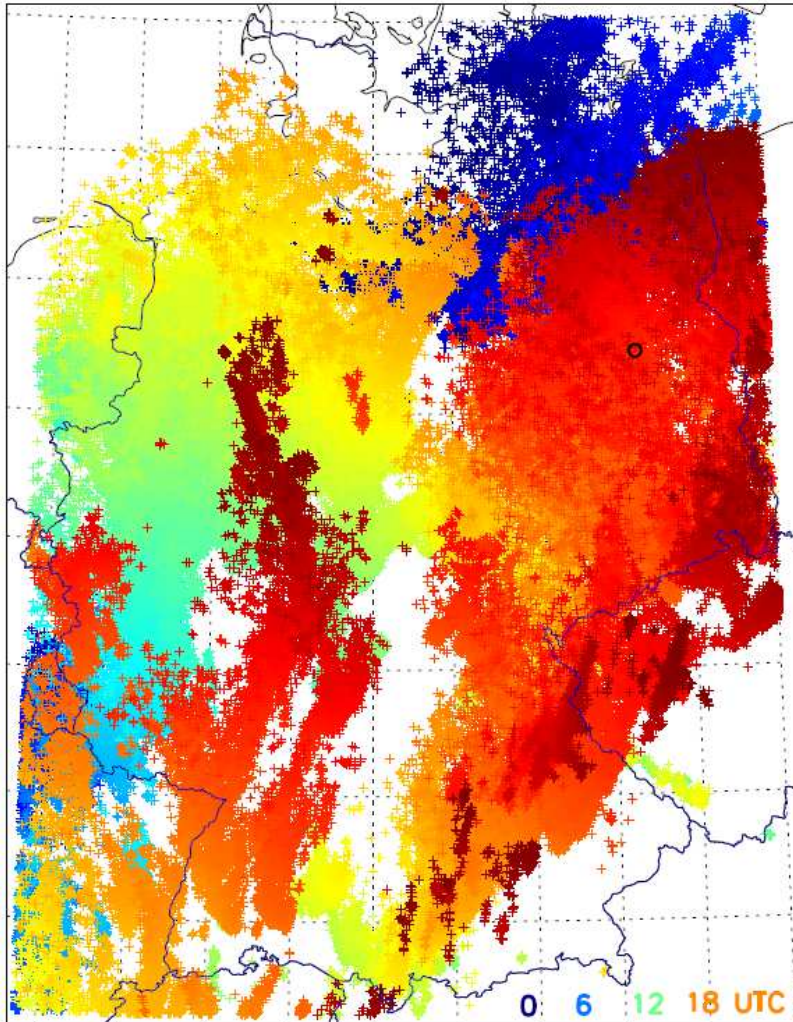
*Overshooting tops*  
indicate severe weather.



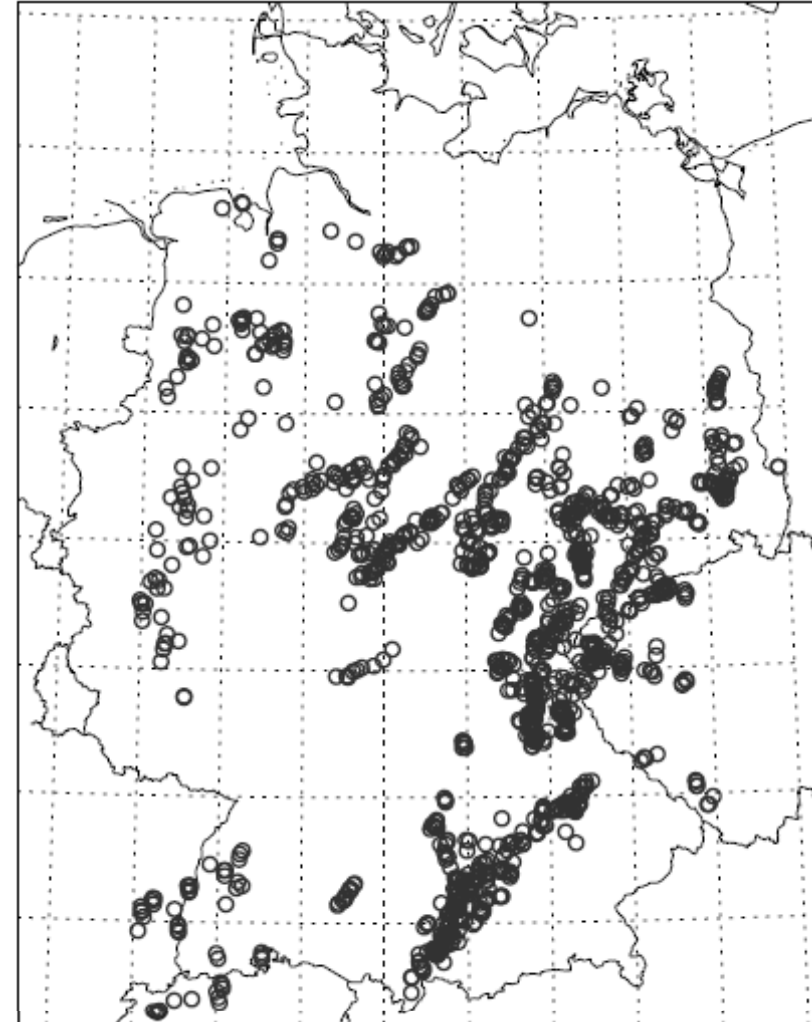


# Hail storms in central Europe: 20 June 2013

Deutscher Wetterdienst  
Wetter und Klima aus einer Hand



Lightning strokes measured by LINET  
(colour indicates the time)



overshooting tops  
(data provided by M. Setvak, M. Radova, CHMI)



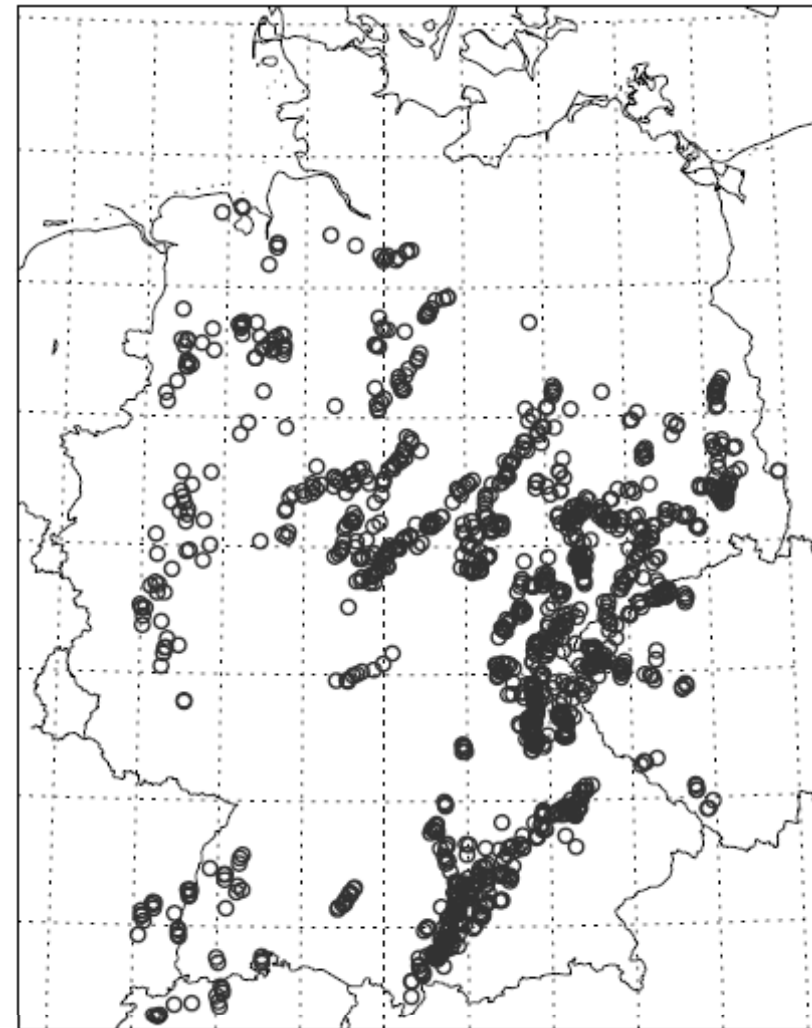


# Hail storms in central Europe: 20 June 2013

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ESWD reports  
(figure: [www.eswd.eu](http://www.eswd.eu))



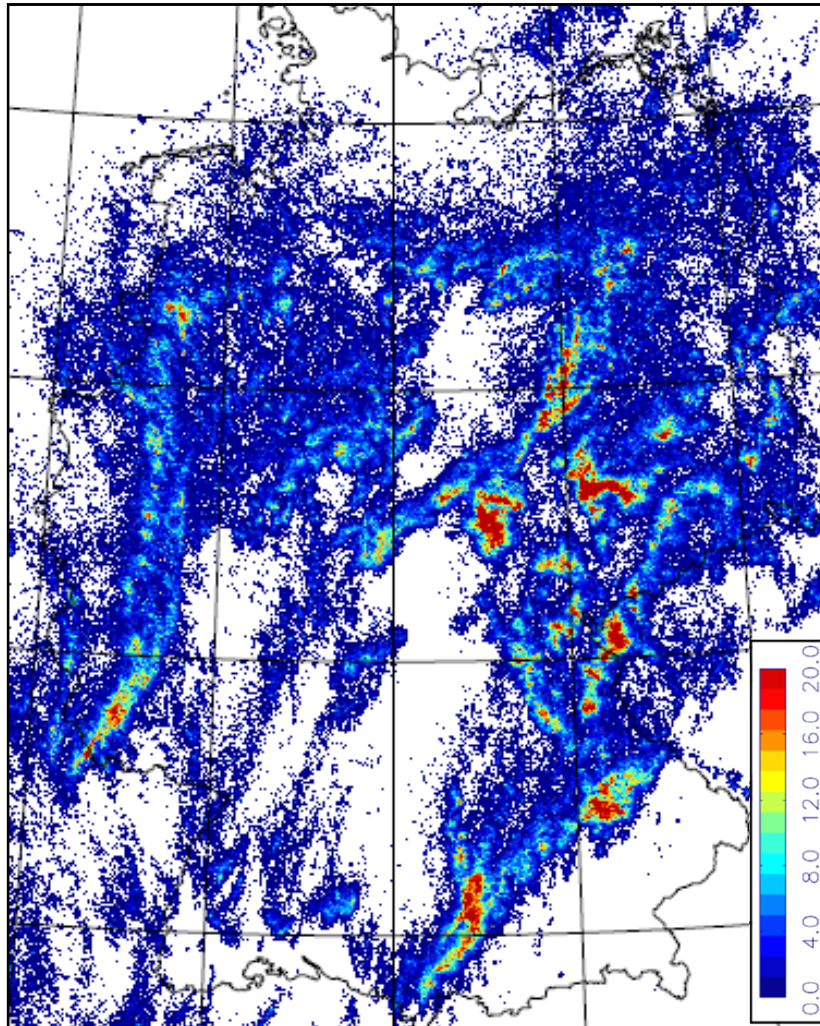
overshooting tops  
(data provided by M. Setvak, M. Radova, CHMI)



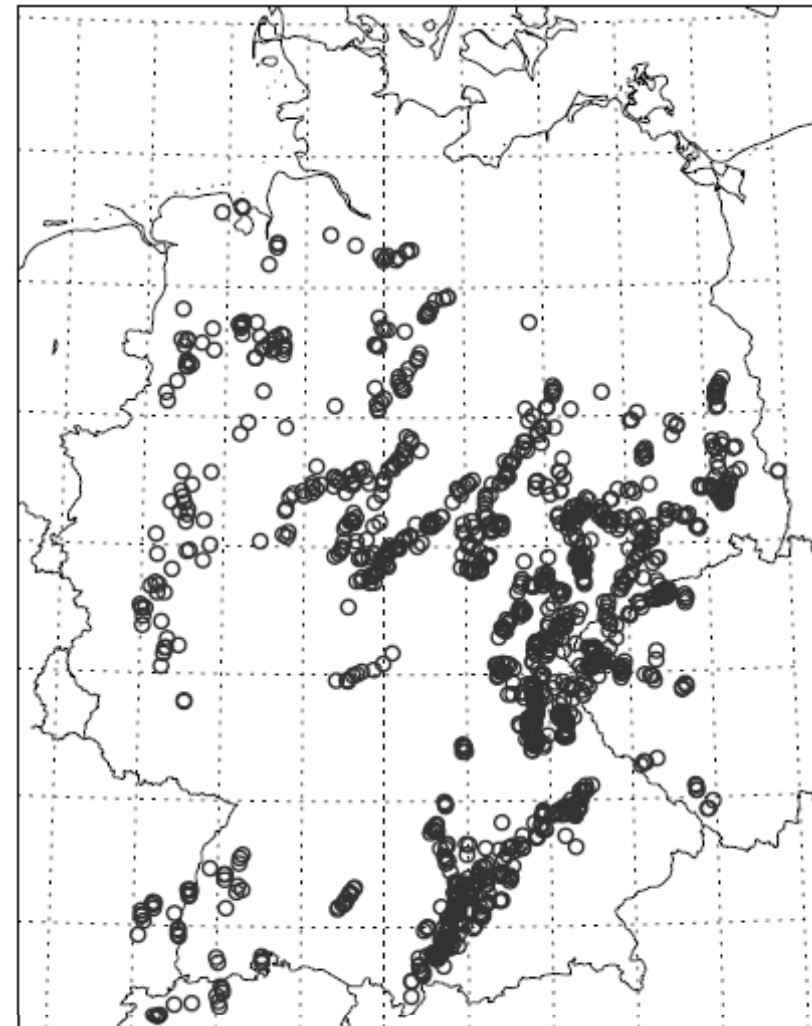


# Hail storms in central Europe: 20 June 2013

Deutscher Wetterdienst  
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Lightning stroke density (1 / km<sup>2</sup> / day)



overshooting tops  
(data provided by M. Setvak, M. Radova, CHMI)





# Hail storm in Allgäu: 03 May 2013

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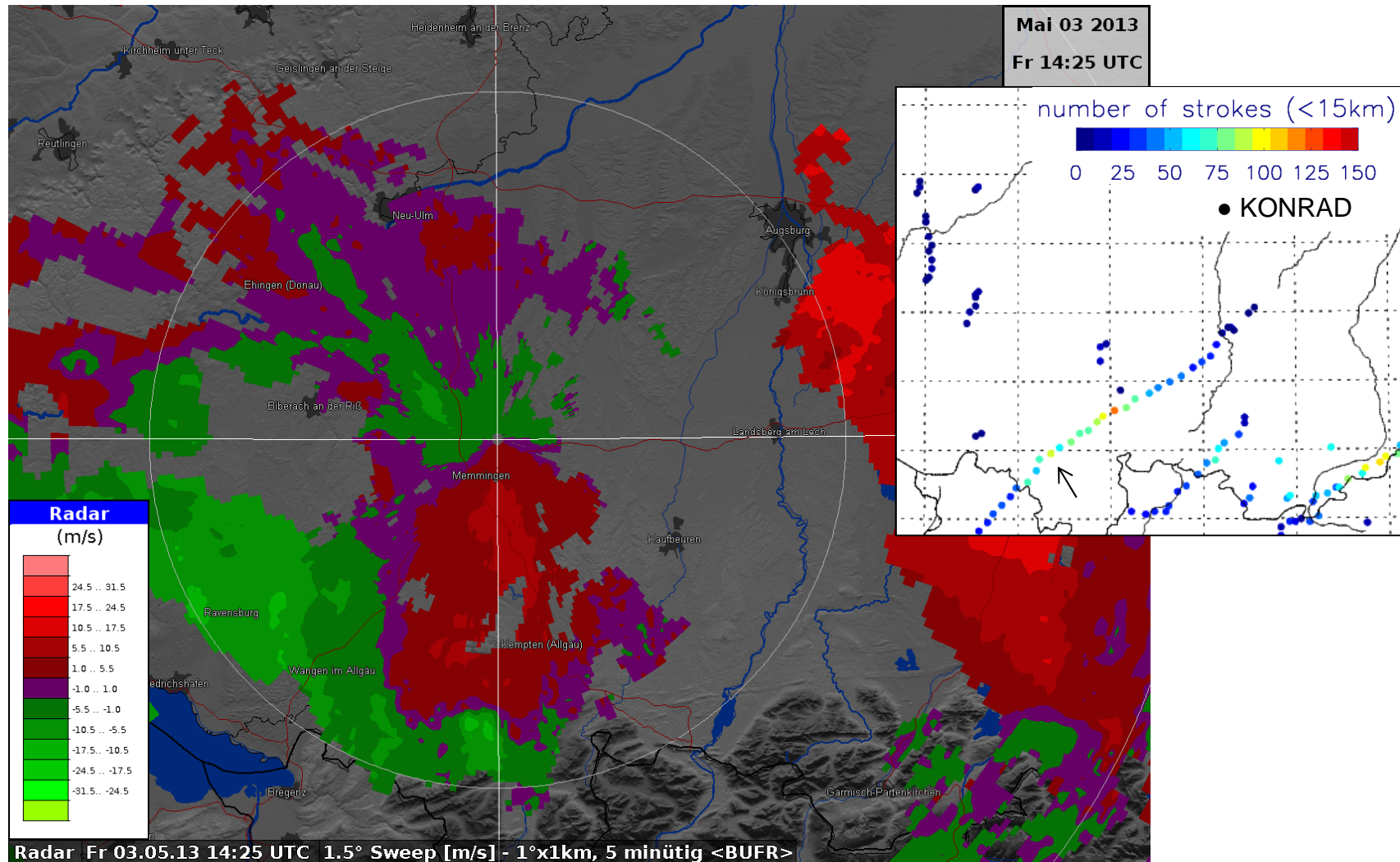
Deutscher Wetterdienst  
Wetter und Klima aus einer Hand





# Hail storm in Allgäu: 03 May 2013

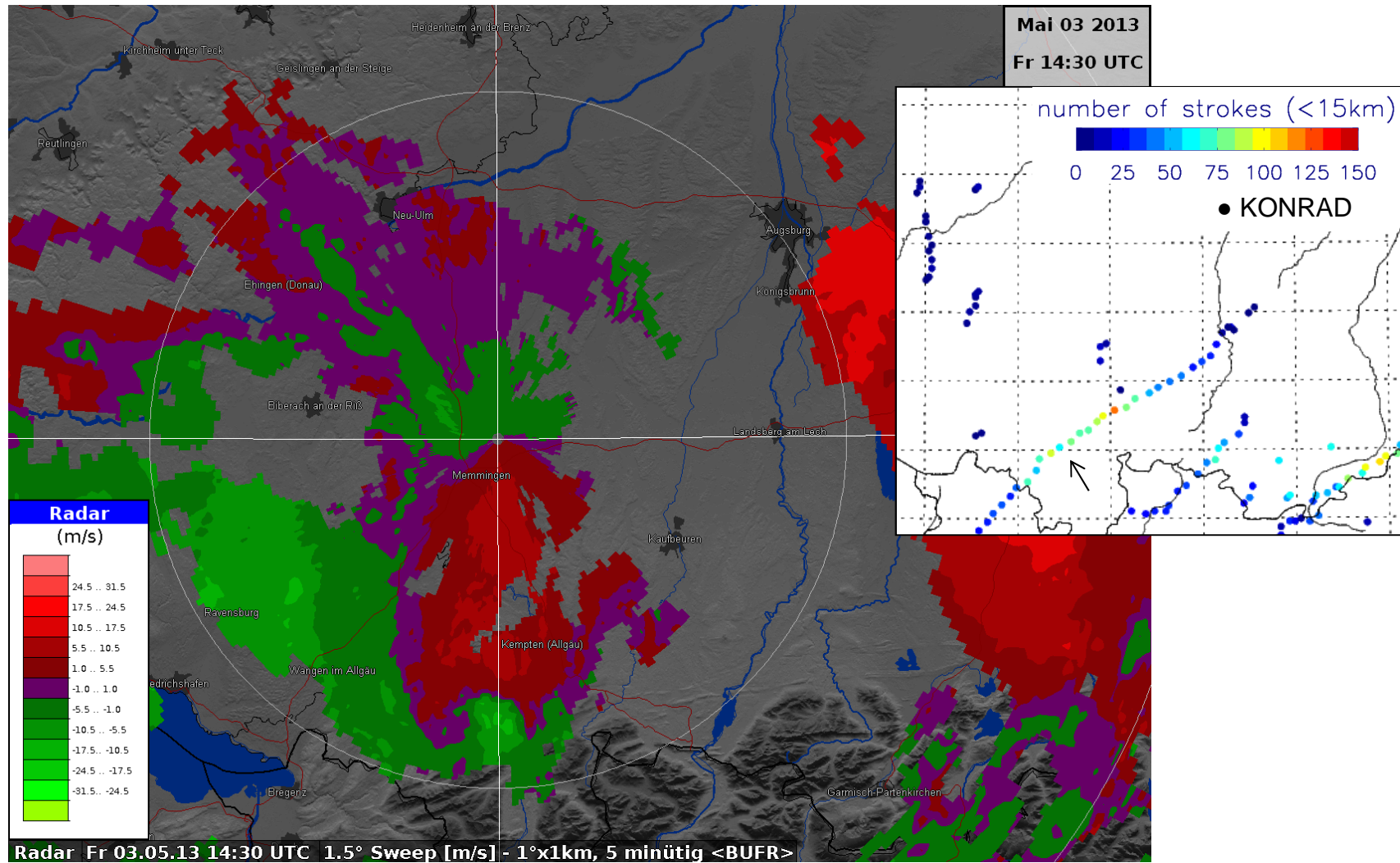
Deutscher Wetterdienst  
Wetter und Klima aus einer Hand





# Hail storm in Allgäu: 03 May 2013

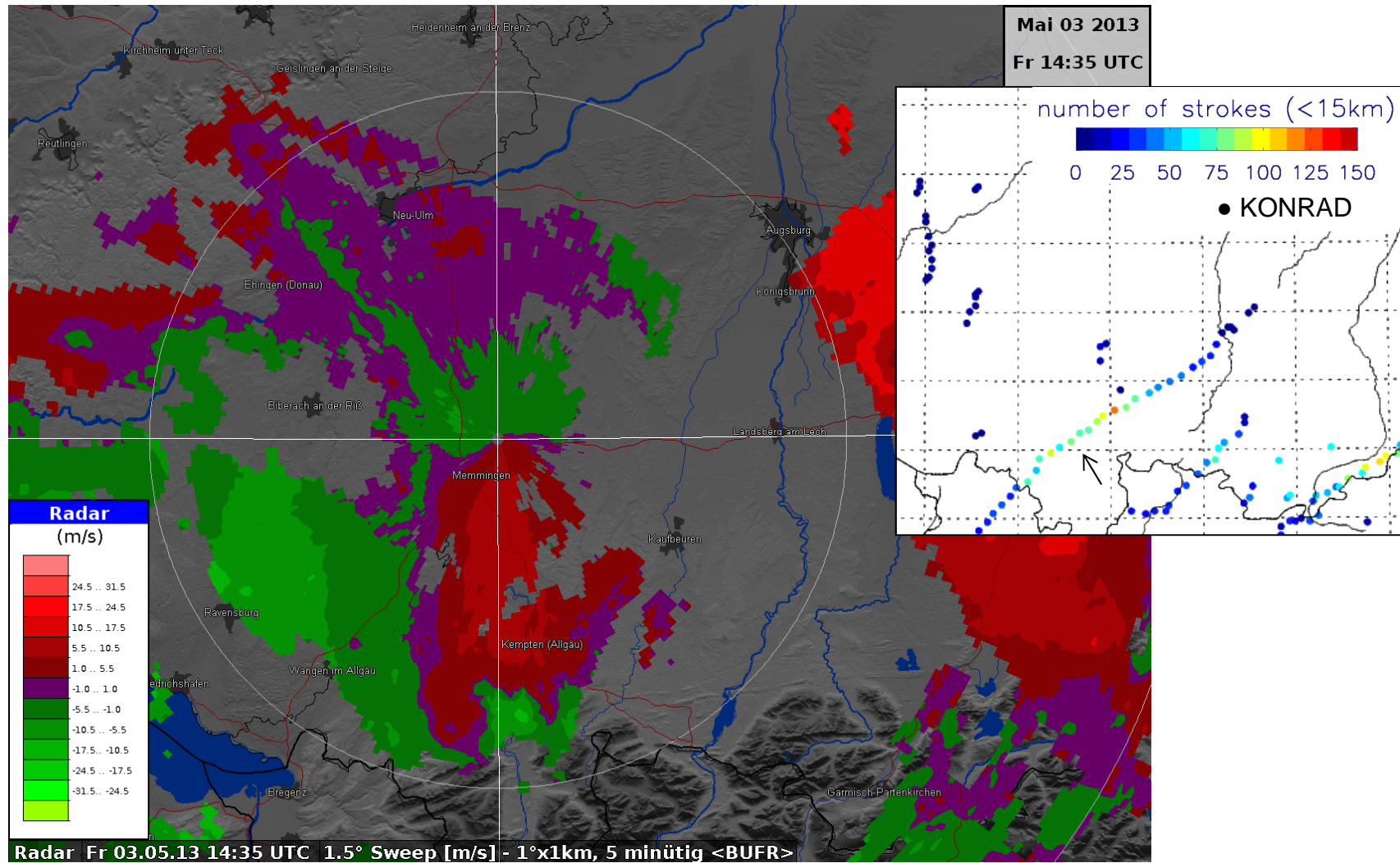
Deutscher Wetterdienst  
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# Hail storm in Allgäu: 03 May 2013

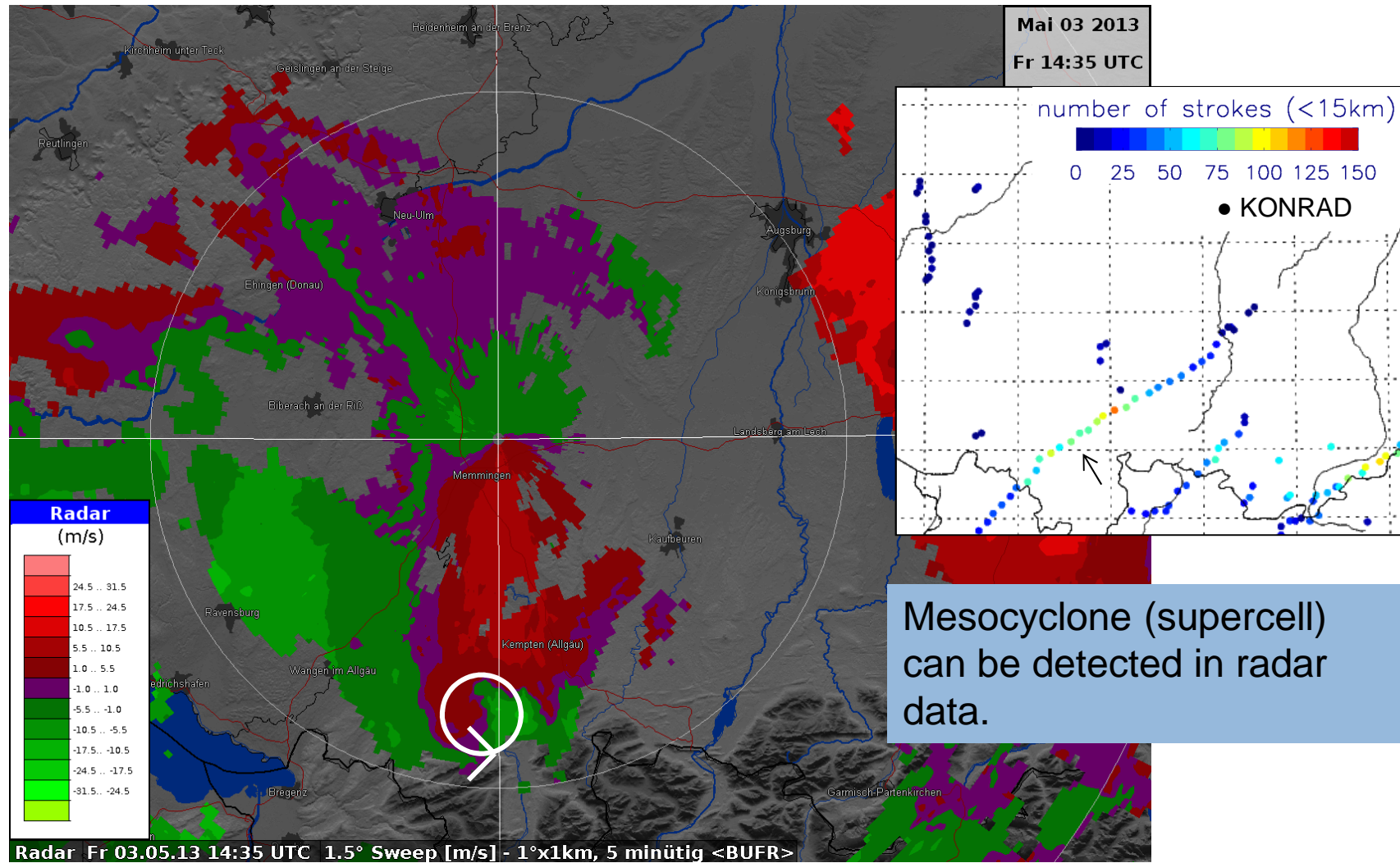
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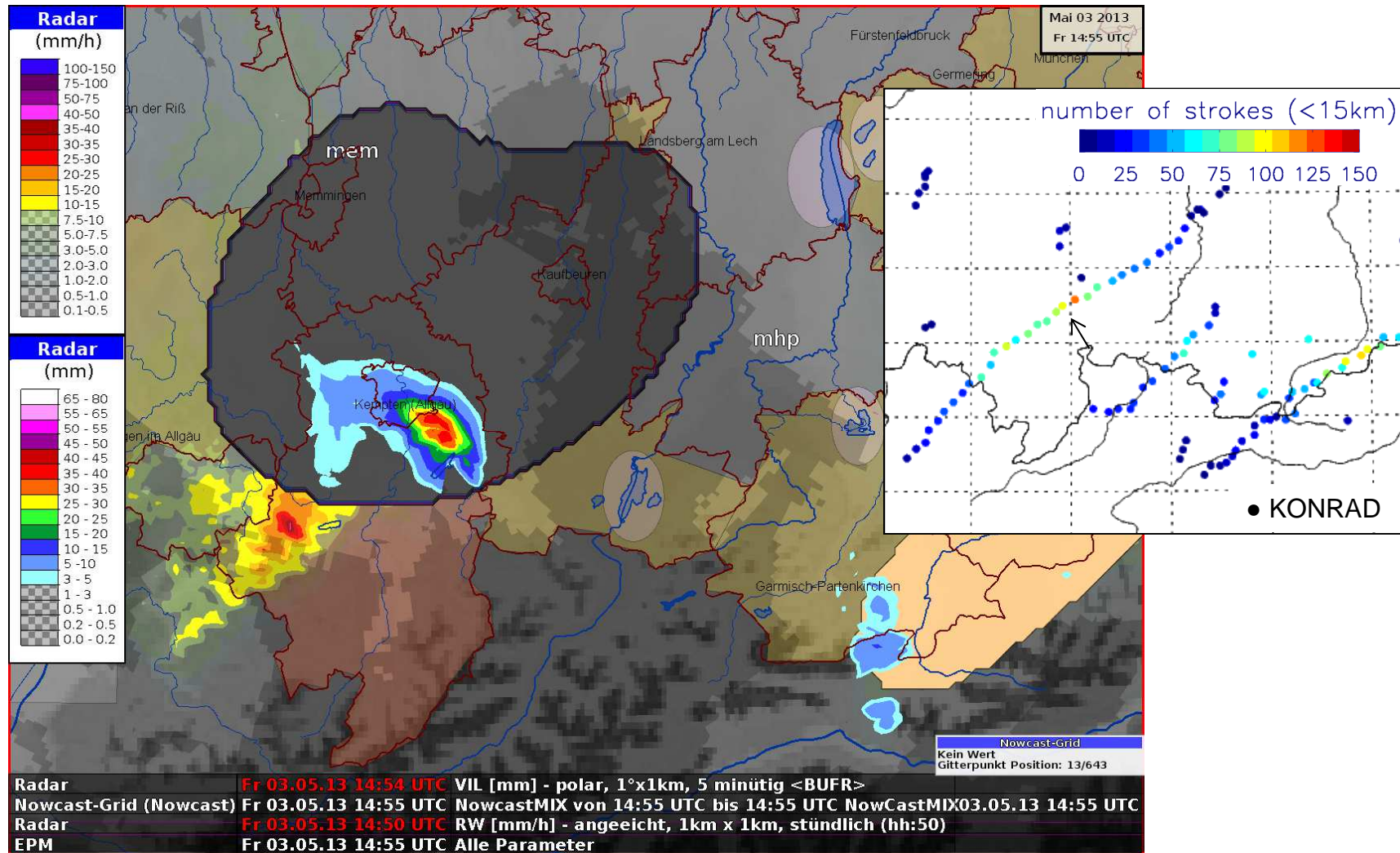
Deutscher Wetterdienst  
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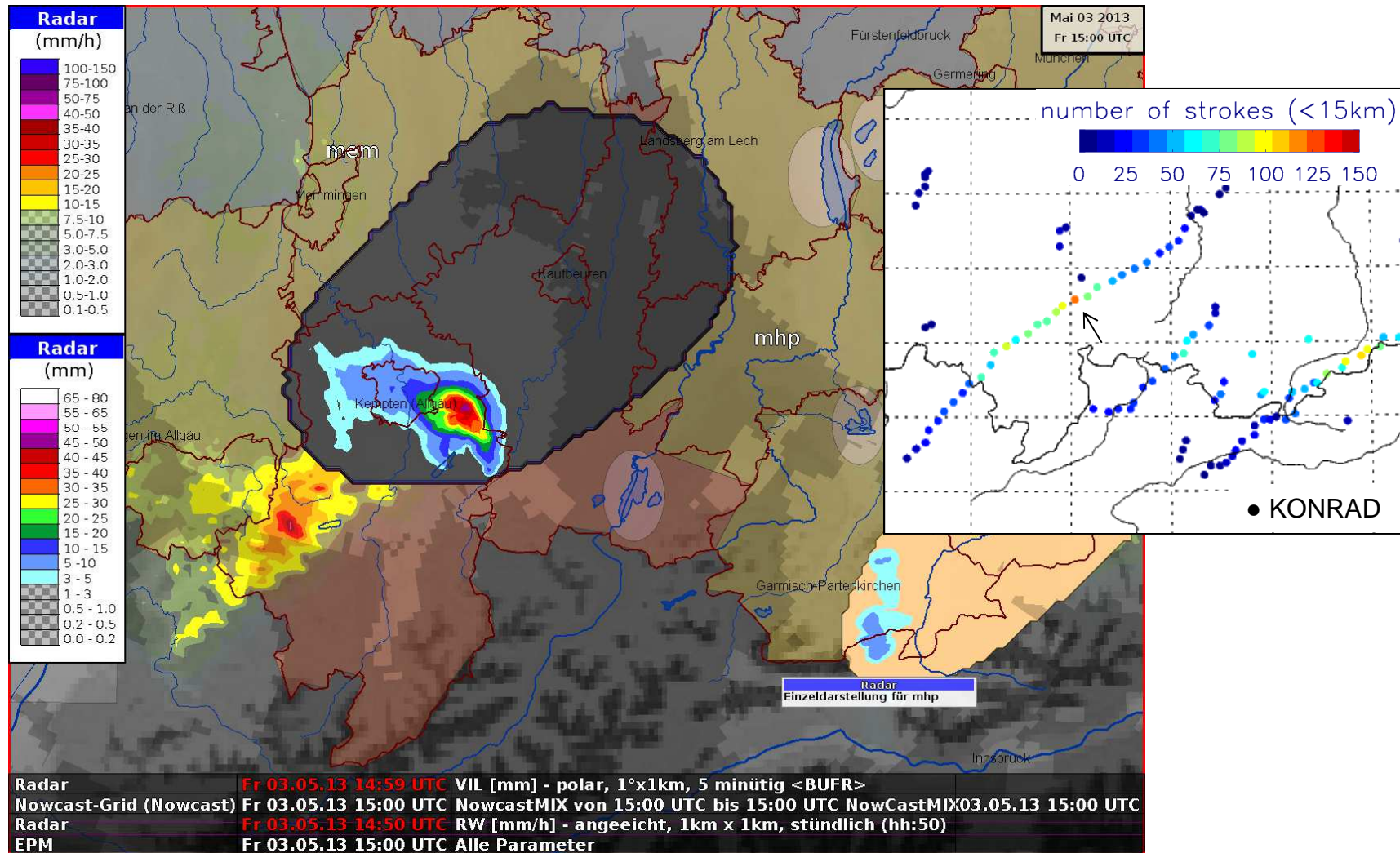
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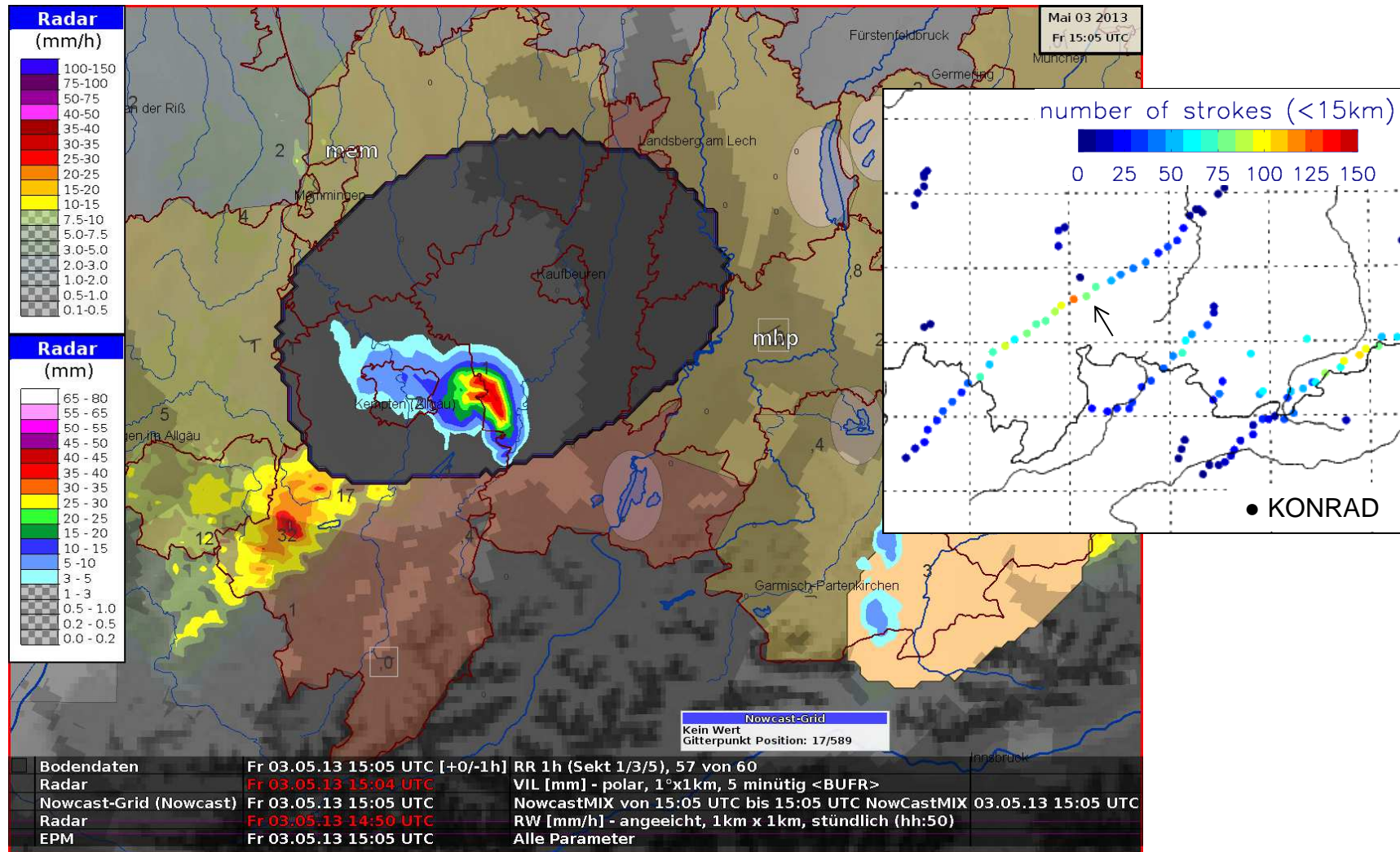
Deutscher Wetterdienst  
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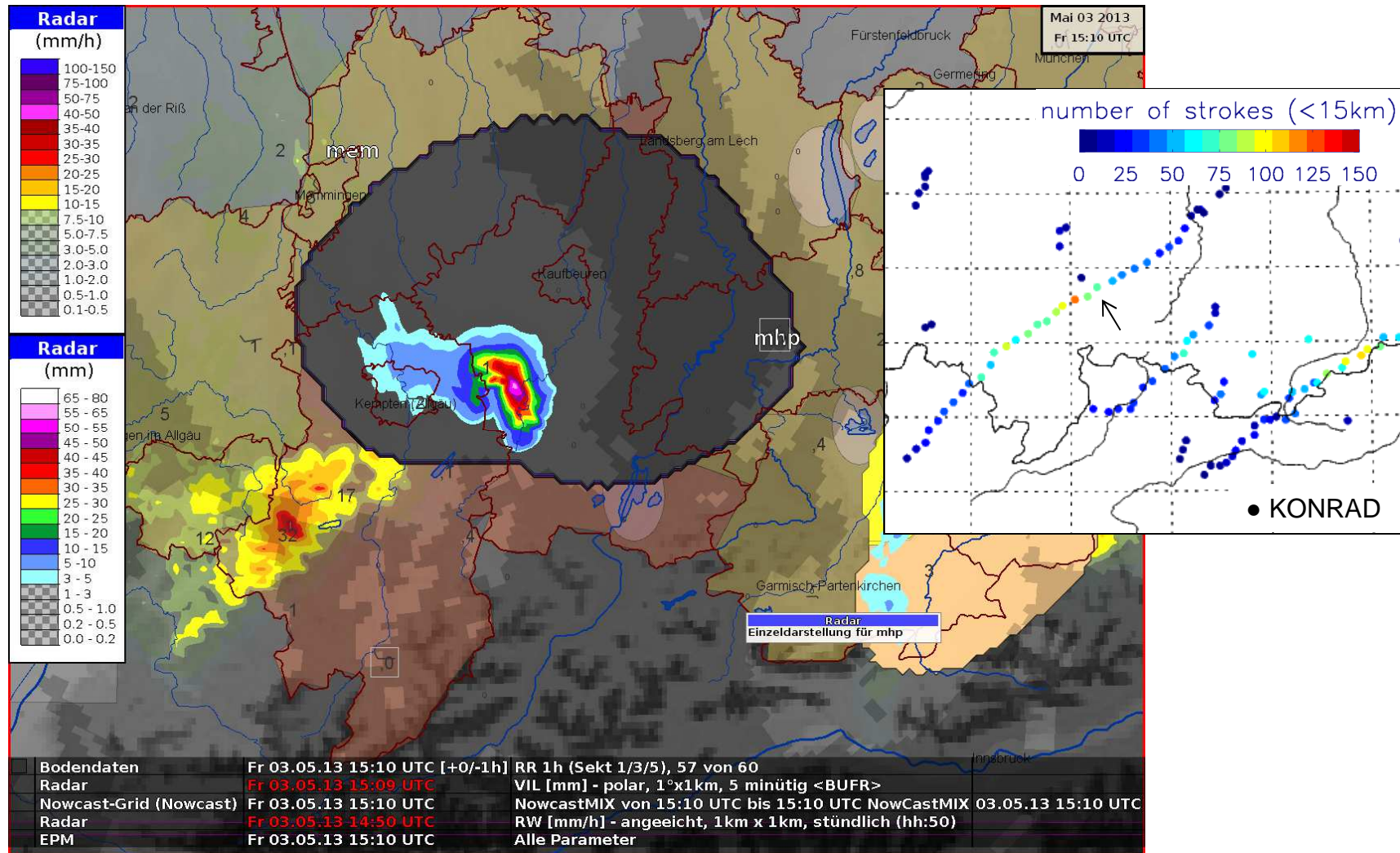
Deutscher Wetterdienst  
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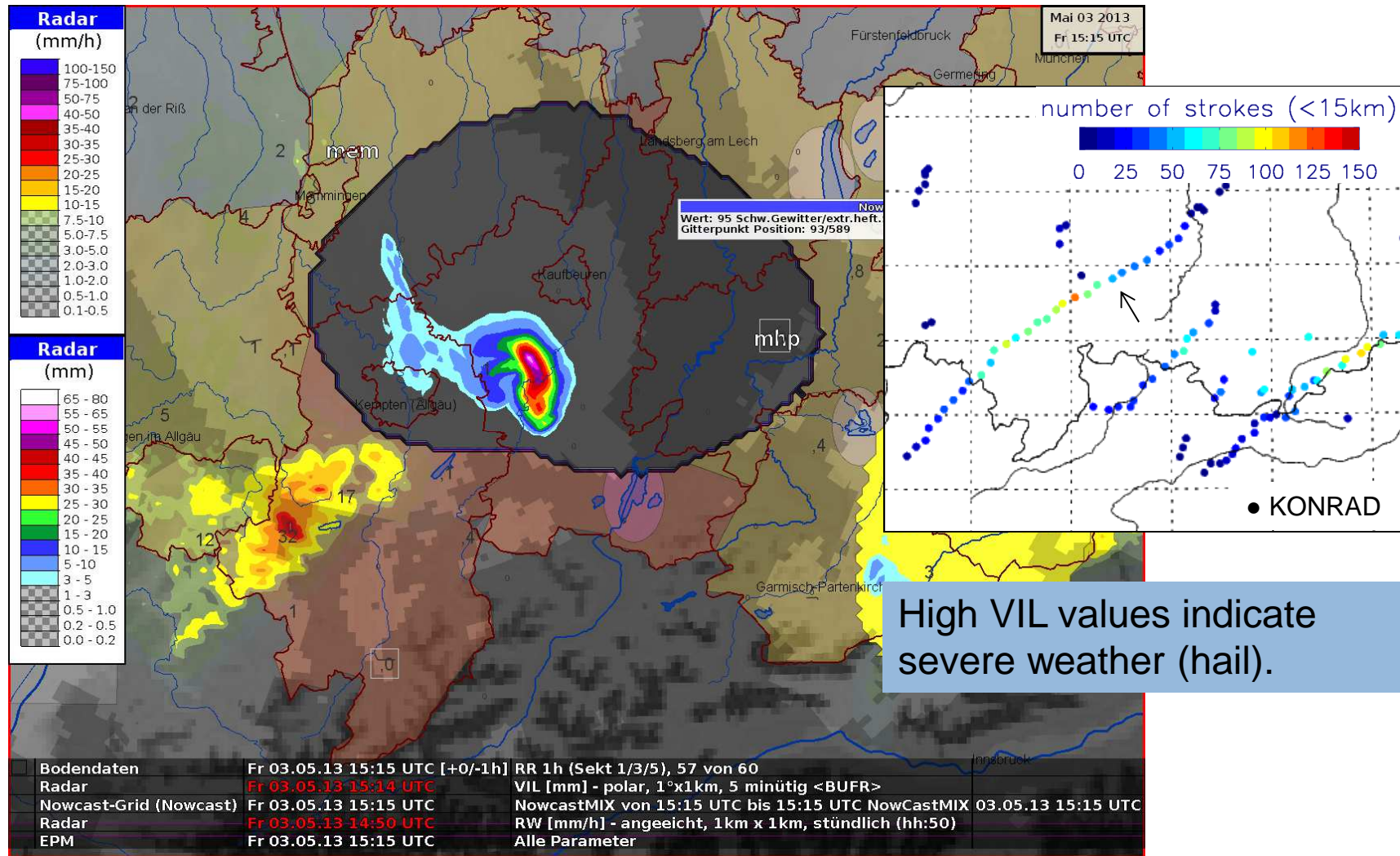
Deutscher Wetterdienst  
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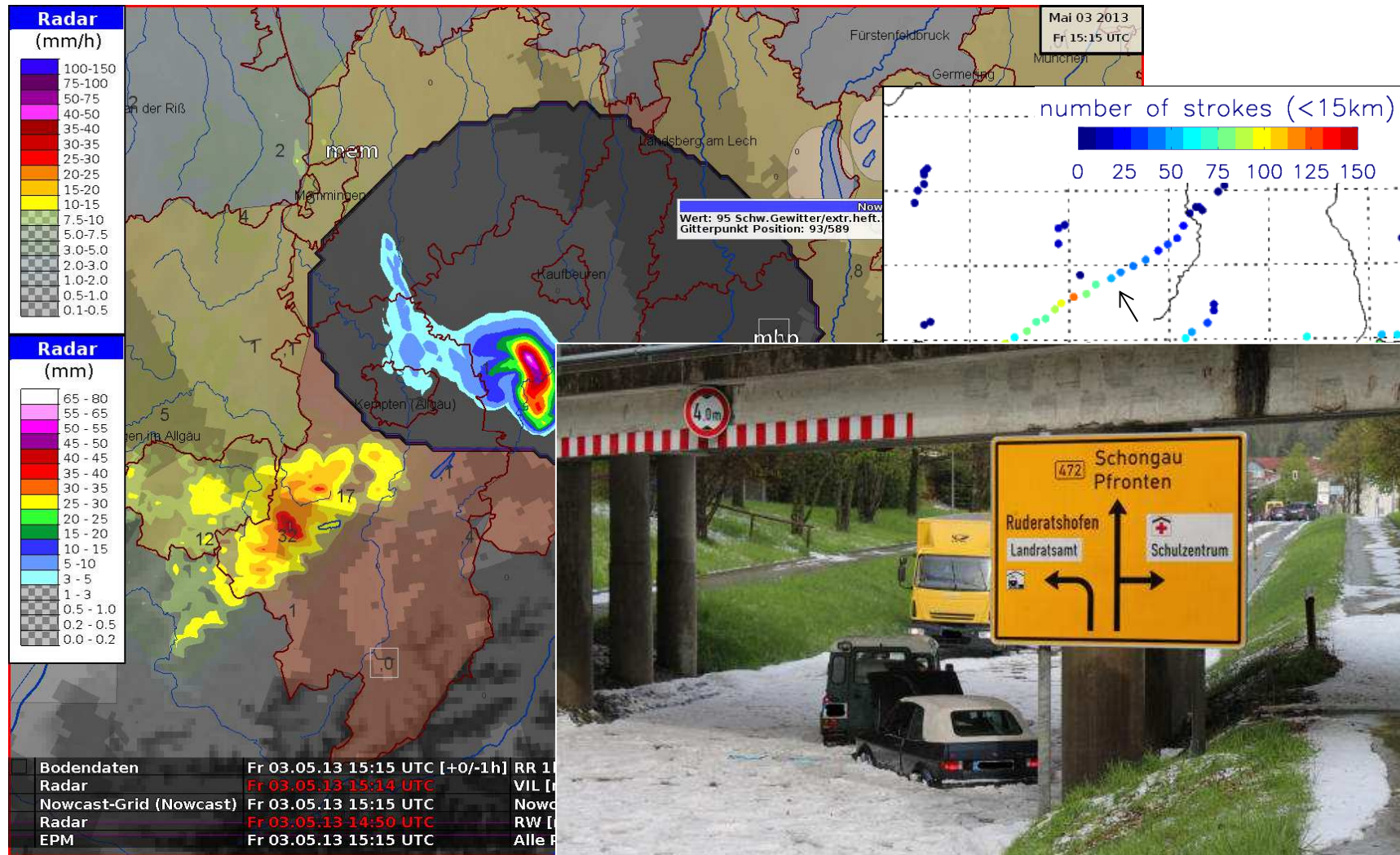
Deutscher Wetterdienst  
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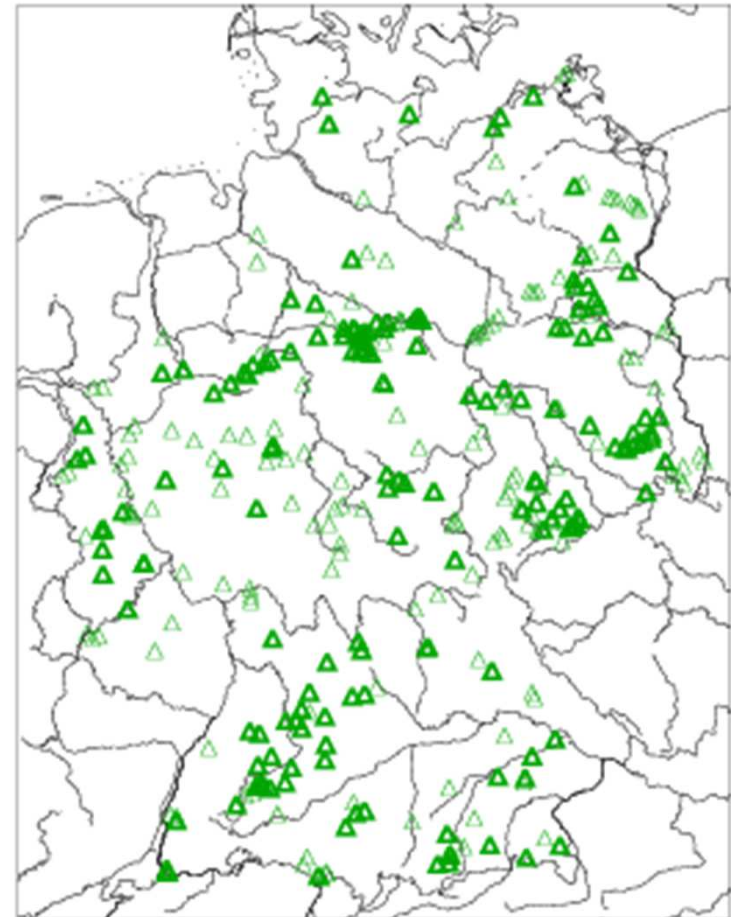


all-in-one



## Mesocyclone statistic

- April to September 2012, 2013 and 2014
- ESWD hail events with QC1 or QC2
- 286 **hail events** on 75 days:  
48% associated with mesocyclone detected  
in radar data (within 10 km and 10 min)



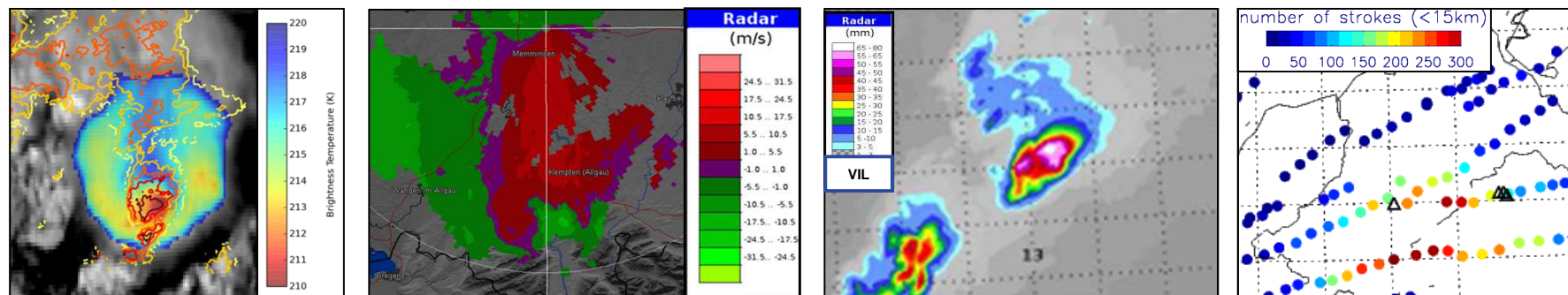
ESWD hail reports 2012-2014  
**with/without** mesocyclone





## Case studies and statistical analyses

- Satellite signatures like *cold U* and *overshooting tops* indicate severe weather.
- Half of all hail events associated with mesocyclone.
- Hail cells have high values of VIL, VIL density and echotop.
- Hail cells have high lightning densities, lightning jumps precede many hail events.



## Interested in more information?

Wapler, K., et al. (2016): Mesocyclones in Central Europe as seen by Radar. *Atmos. Research*, 168, 112-120.

Wapler, K., et al. (2014): Characterisation and predictability of a frontal and a weakly forced severe convective event – a multi-data approach. *Meteo. Zeitschrift*, 24 (4), 393-410.



First Announcement:

# 2<sup>nd</sup> European Nowcasting Conference

3 - 5 May 2017

Offenbach, Germany



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Wetter und Klima aus einer Hand



<http://www.dwd.de/enc2017>



## 2<sup>nd</sup> European Nowcasting Conference

3 - 5 May 2017

Offenbach, Germany



Topics include:

- Nowcasting techniques and systems
- Observation and NWP
- Verification and societal impacts
- Application and user support

The conference is organised in the frame of EUMETNET (European Meteorological Network) which includes the project ASIST dedicated to nowcasting.

The scientific program will feature keynote addresses as well as contributed presentations and offer room for discussions.

<http://www.dwd.de/enc2017>

