

Diurnal Variability of Tropical Cyclone Tornadoes Strengthens with Increasing Distance from the Coast

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1: University of Oklahoma, 2: NOAA/OAR National Severe Storms Laboratory

3: Howard University, 4: NOAA/NWS Storm Prediction Center

36th AMS Conference on Hurricanes and Tropical Meteorology

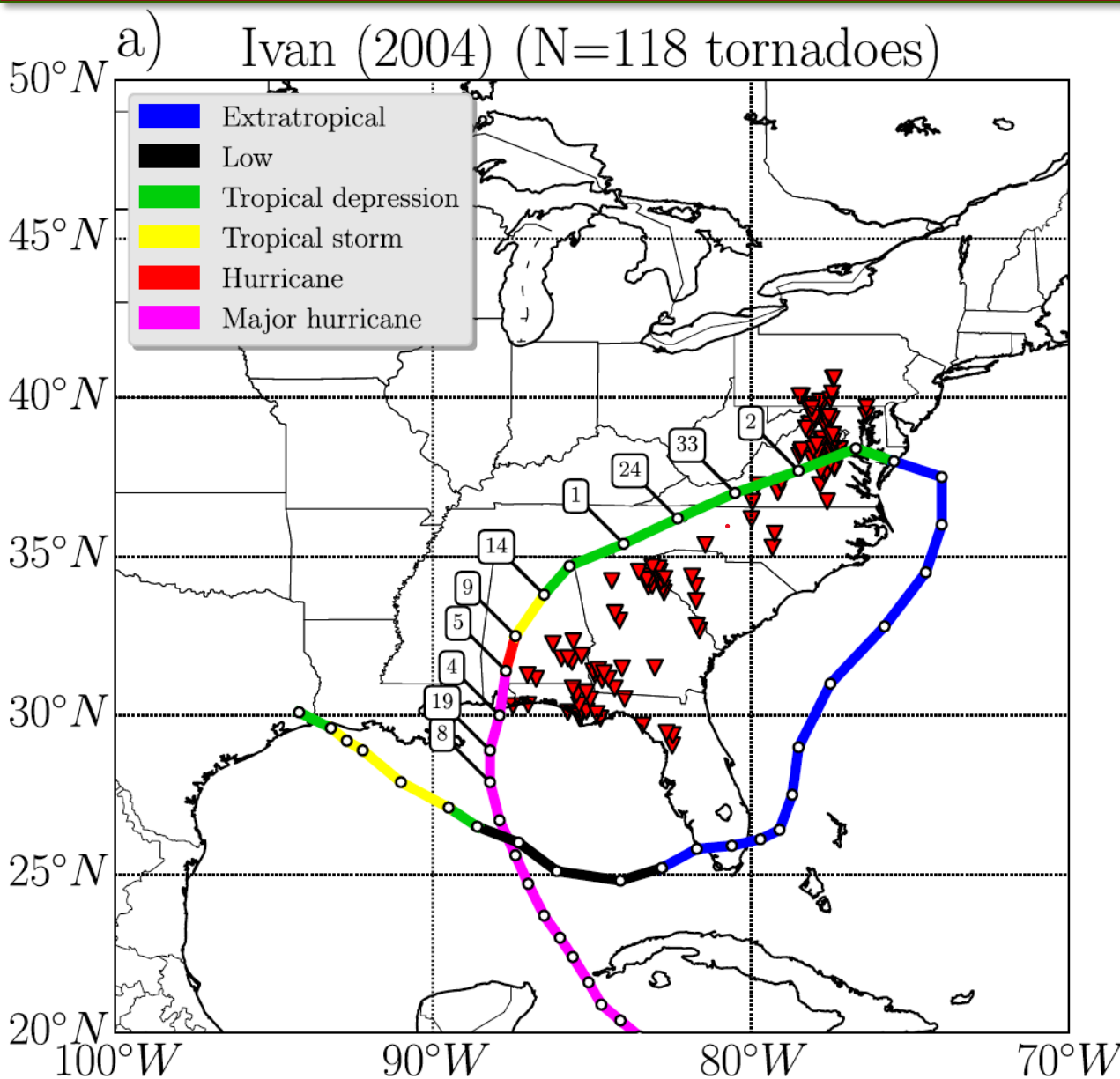
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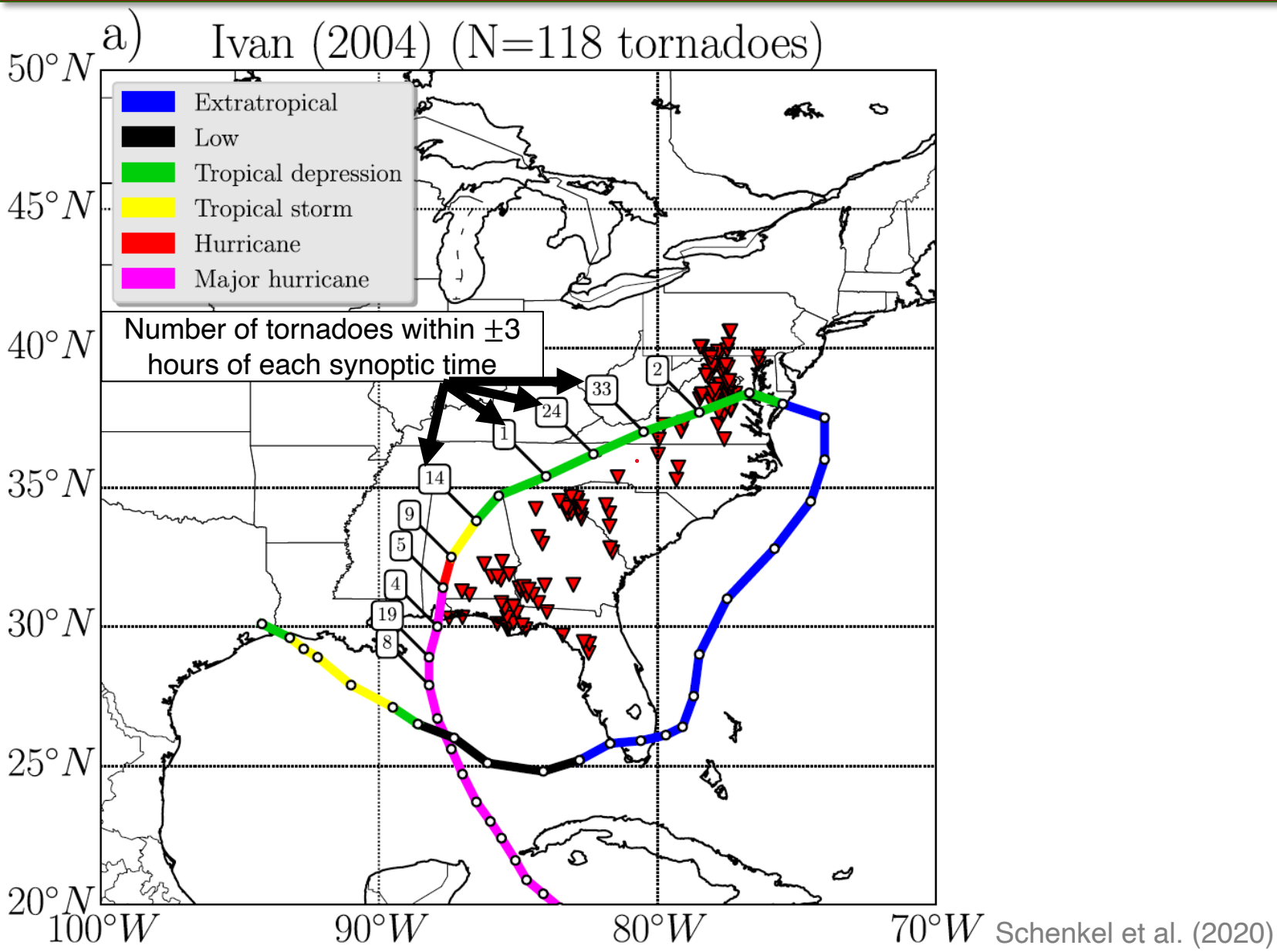
Funding from NSF AGS-2028151



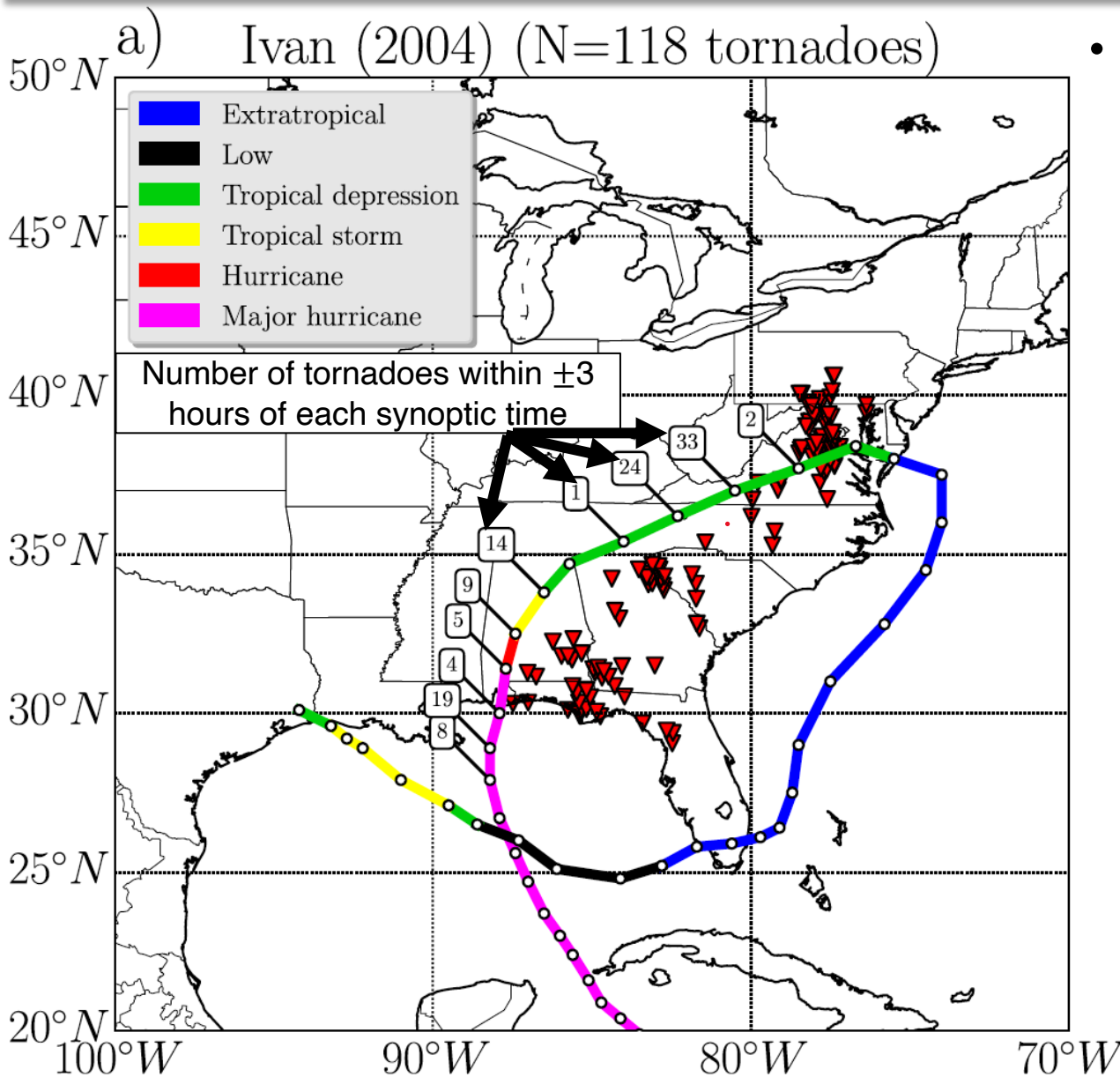
Example of Diurnal Variability in TC Tornadoes



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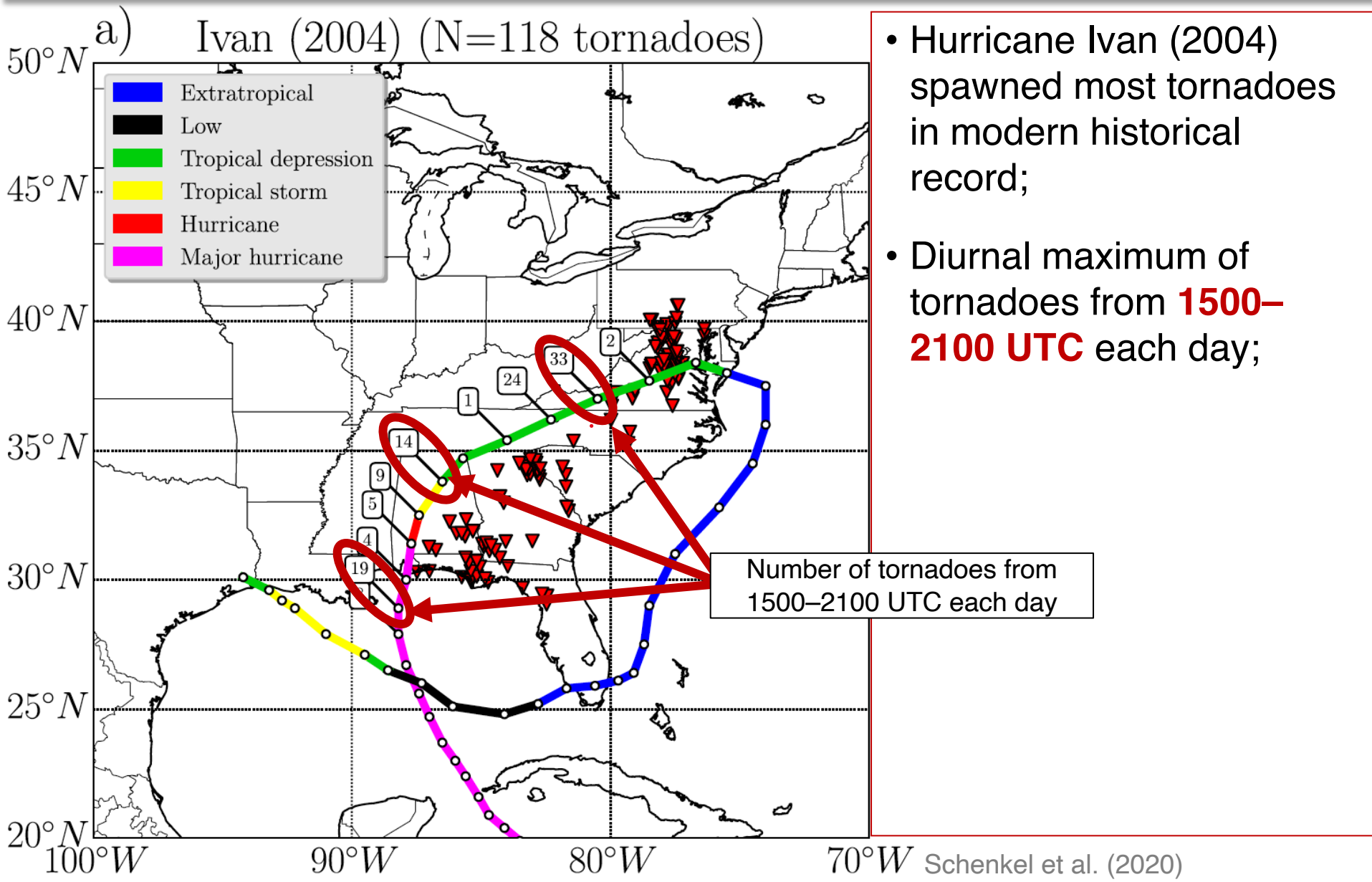


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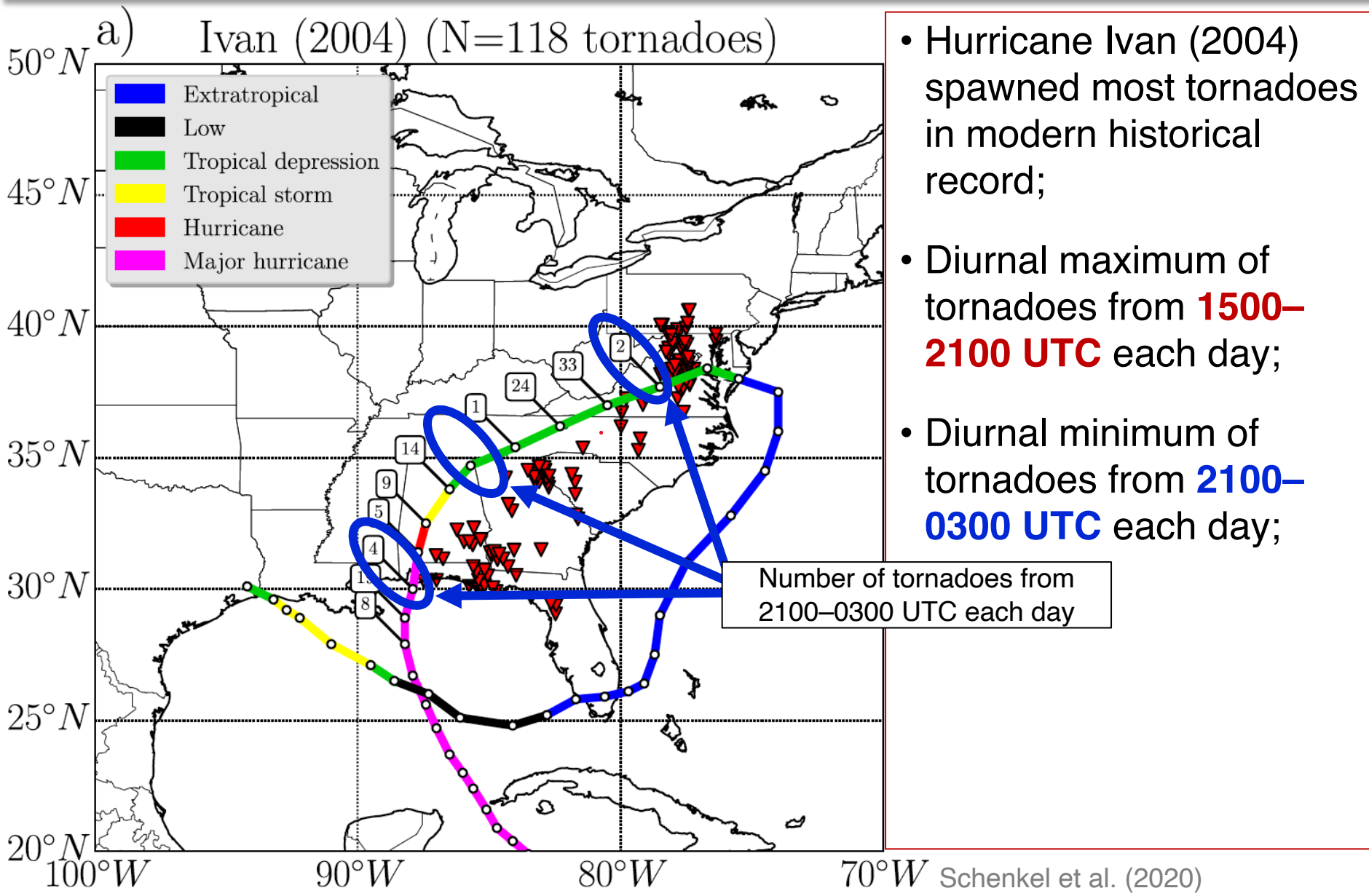


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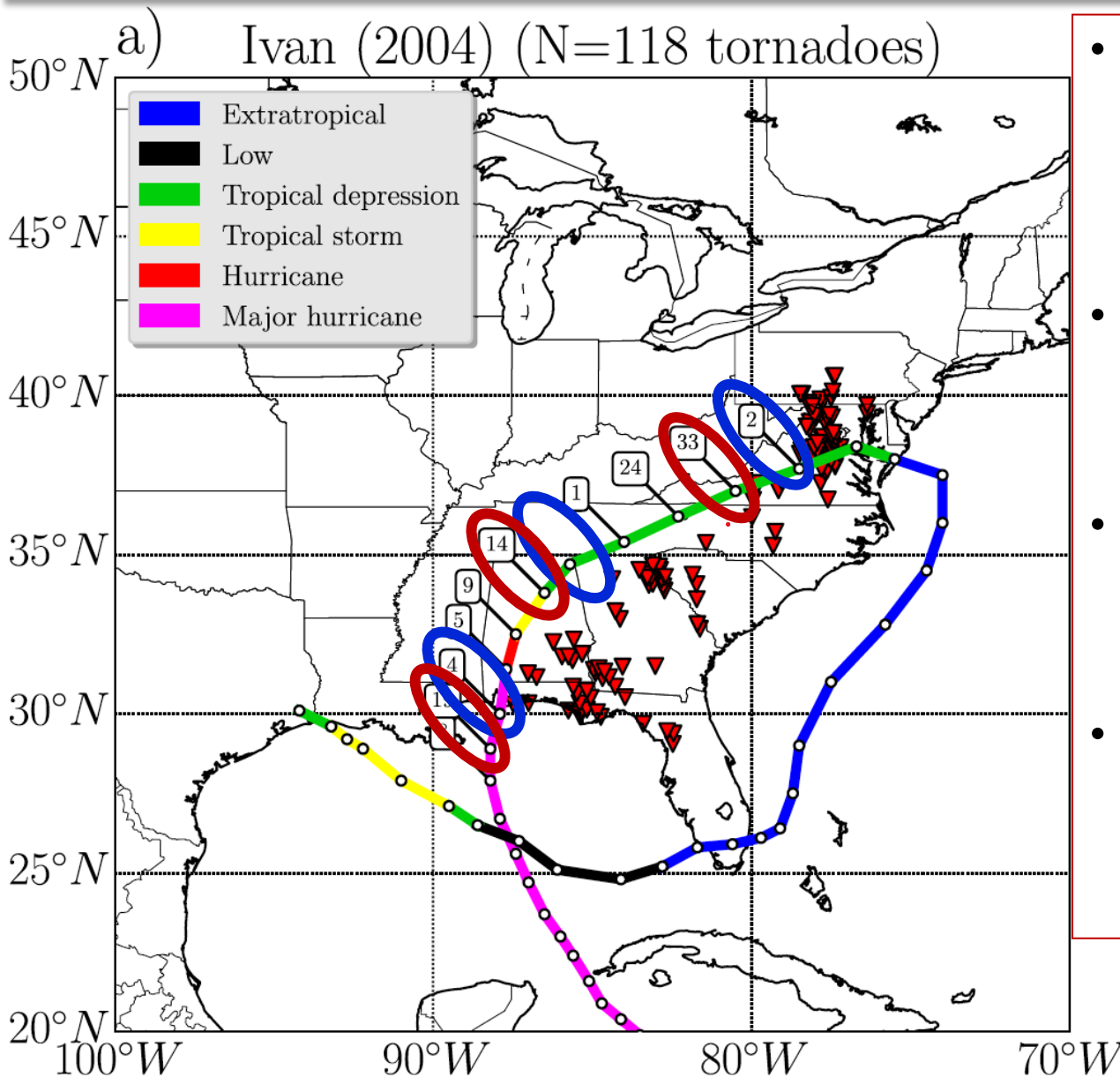
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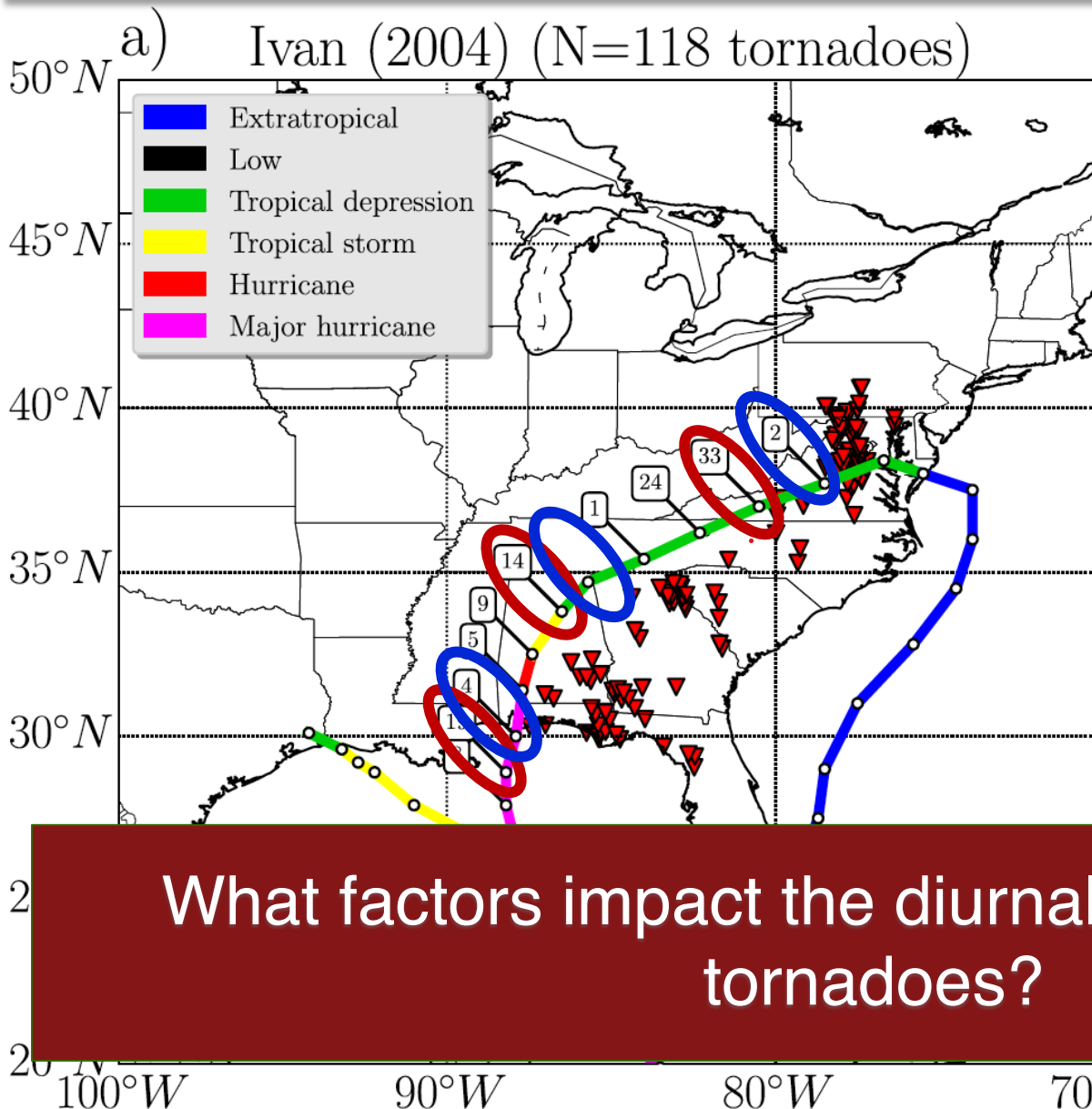


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- Diurnal maximum of tornadoes from **1500–2100 UTC** each day;
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- Large diurnal variability in tornadoes associated with Hurricane Ivan.

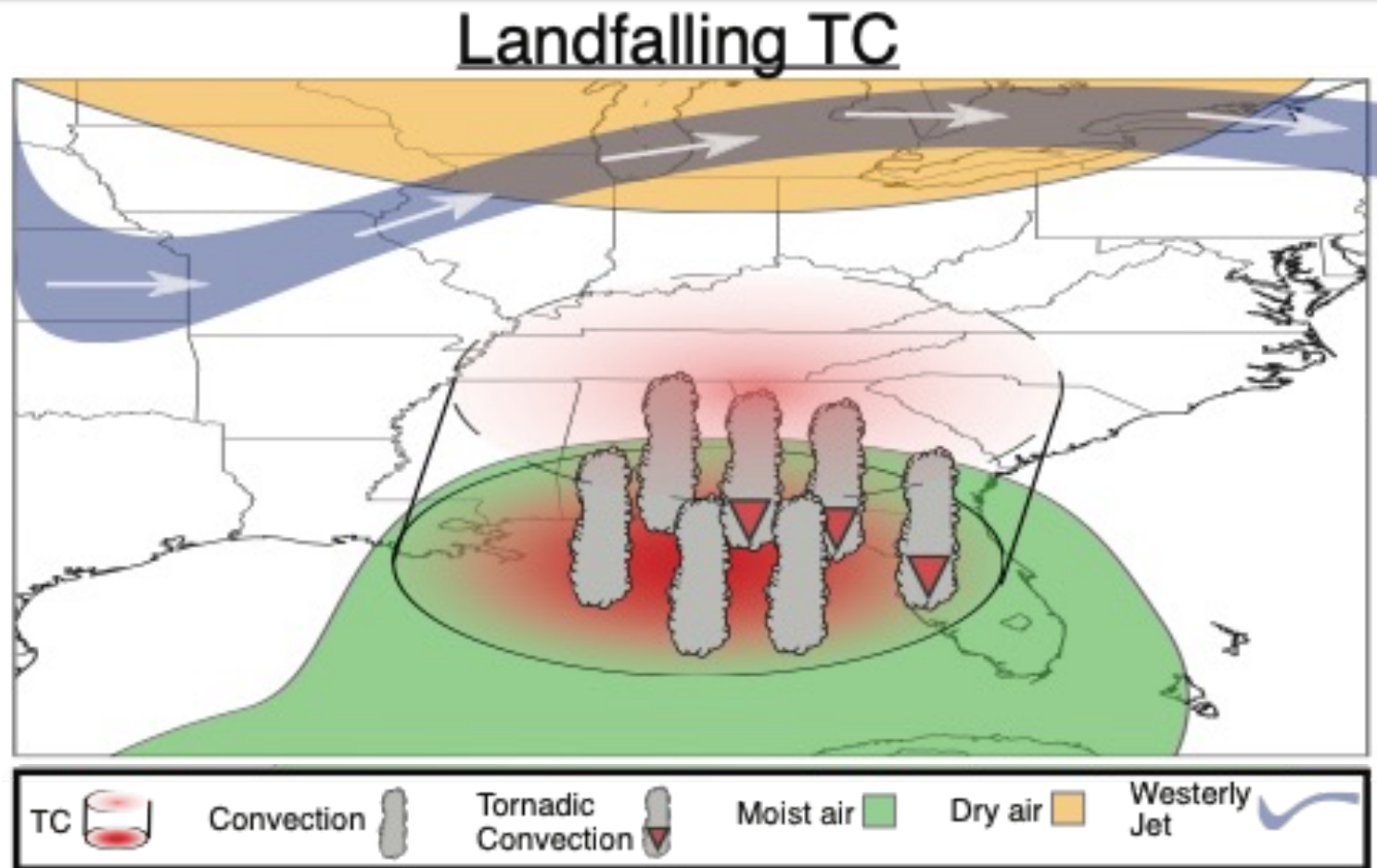
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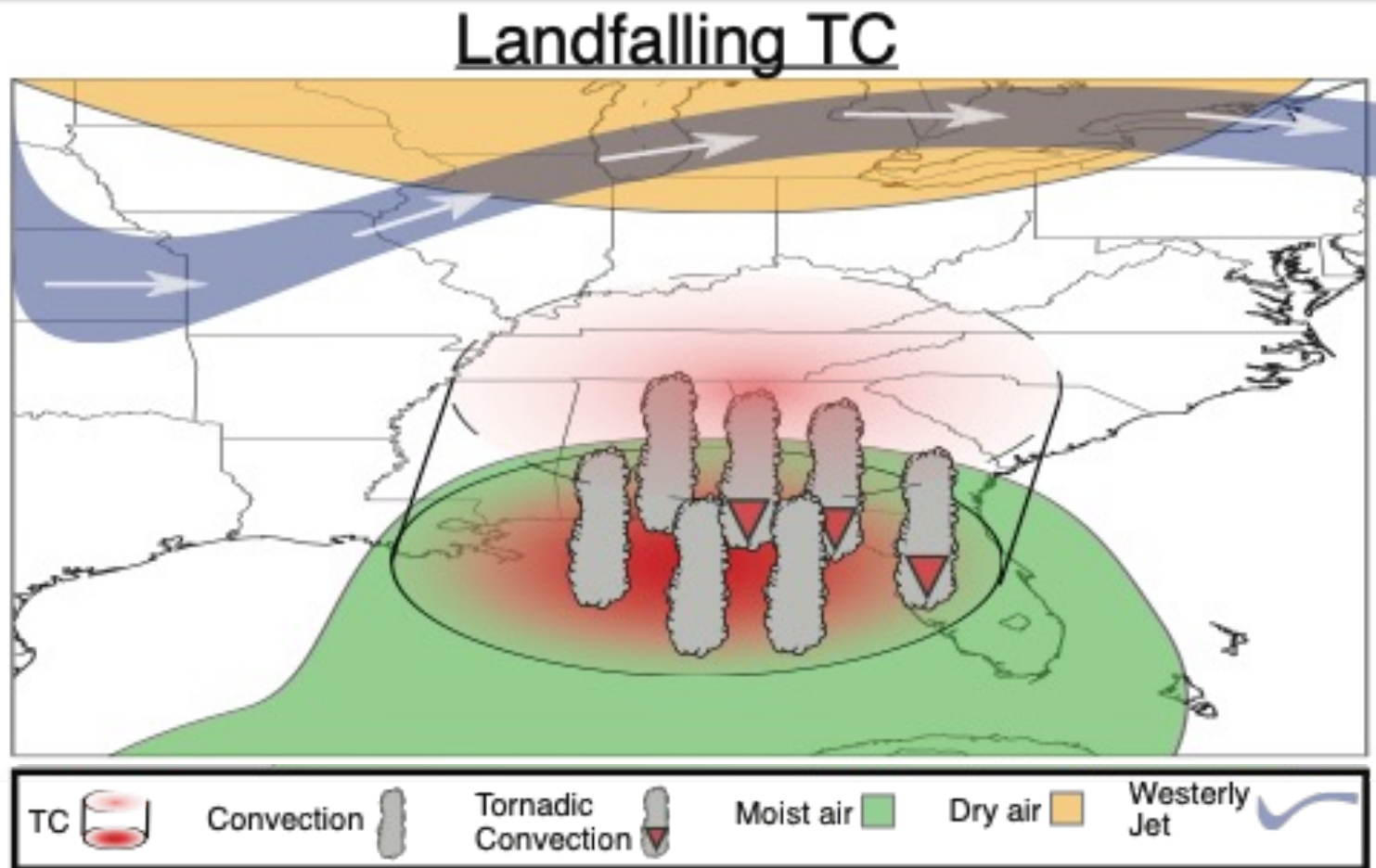
What factors impact the diurnal variability of TC tornadoes?

How Might Diurnal Variability of Tornadoes Change as TC Moves Inland?



Schenkel et al. (2021)

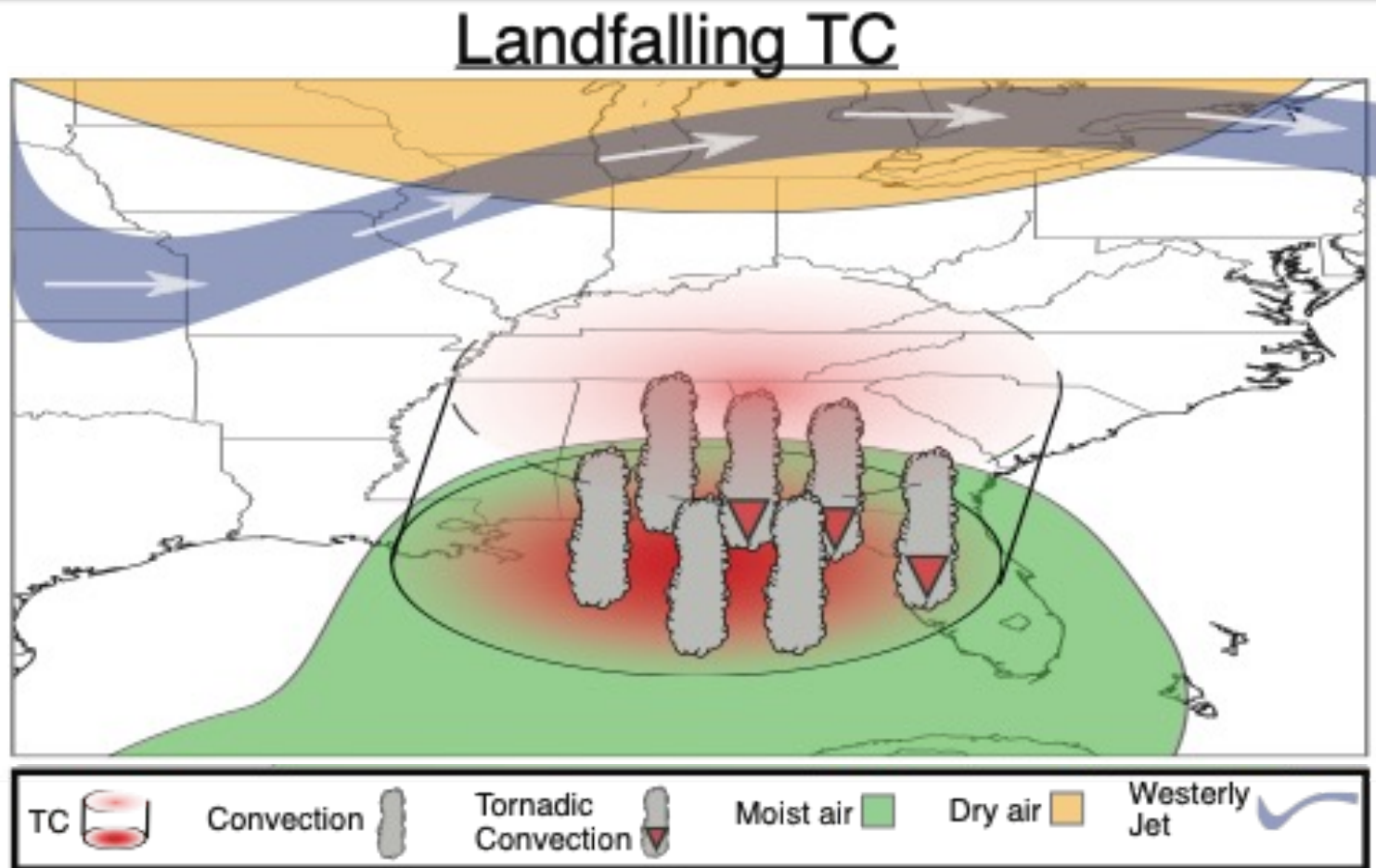
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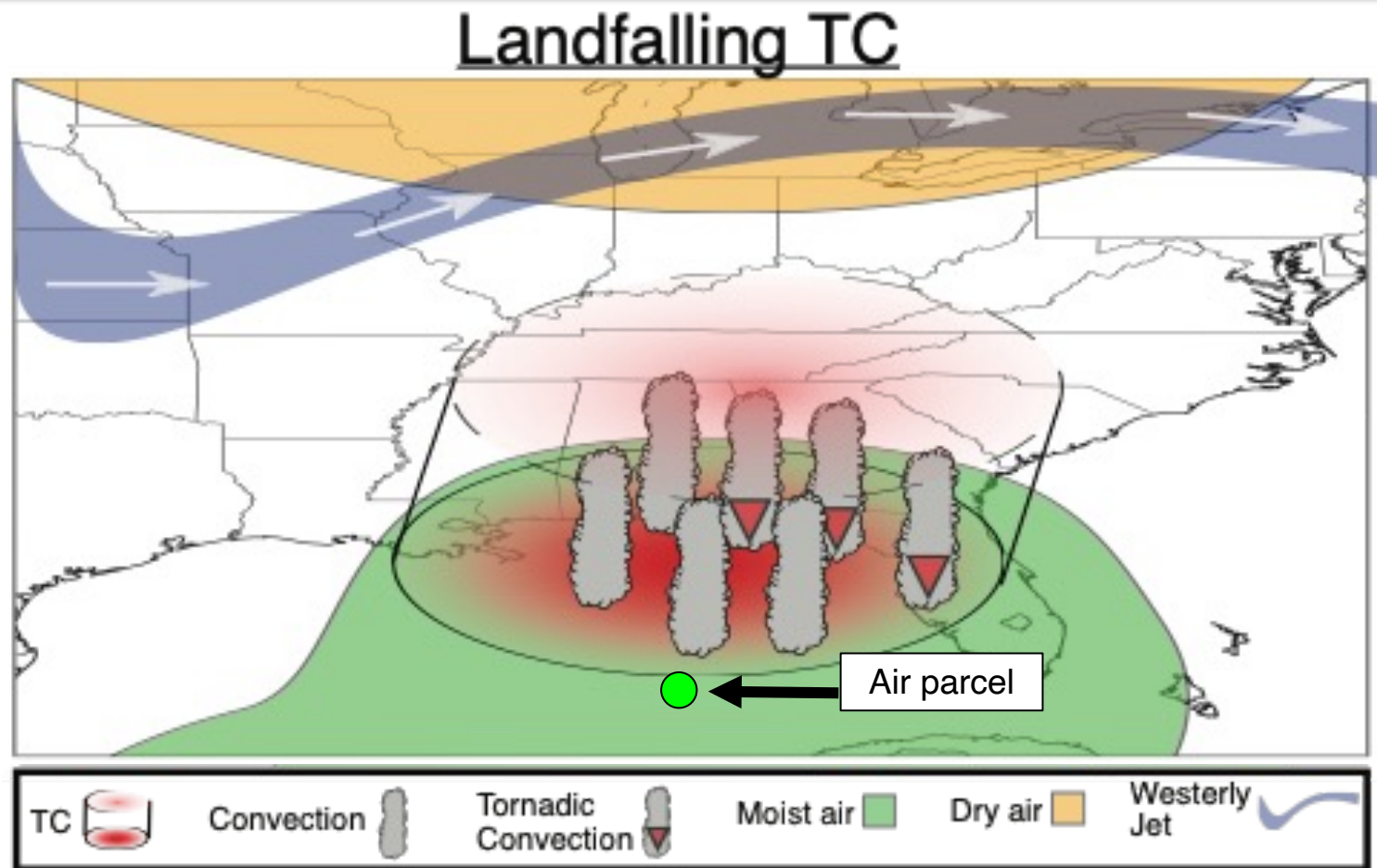


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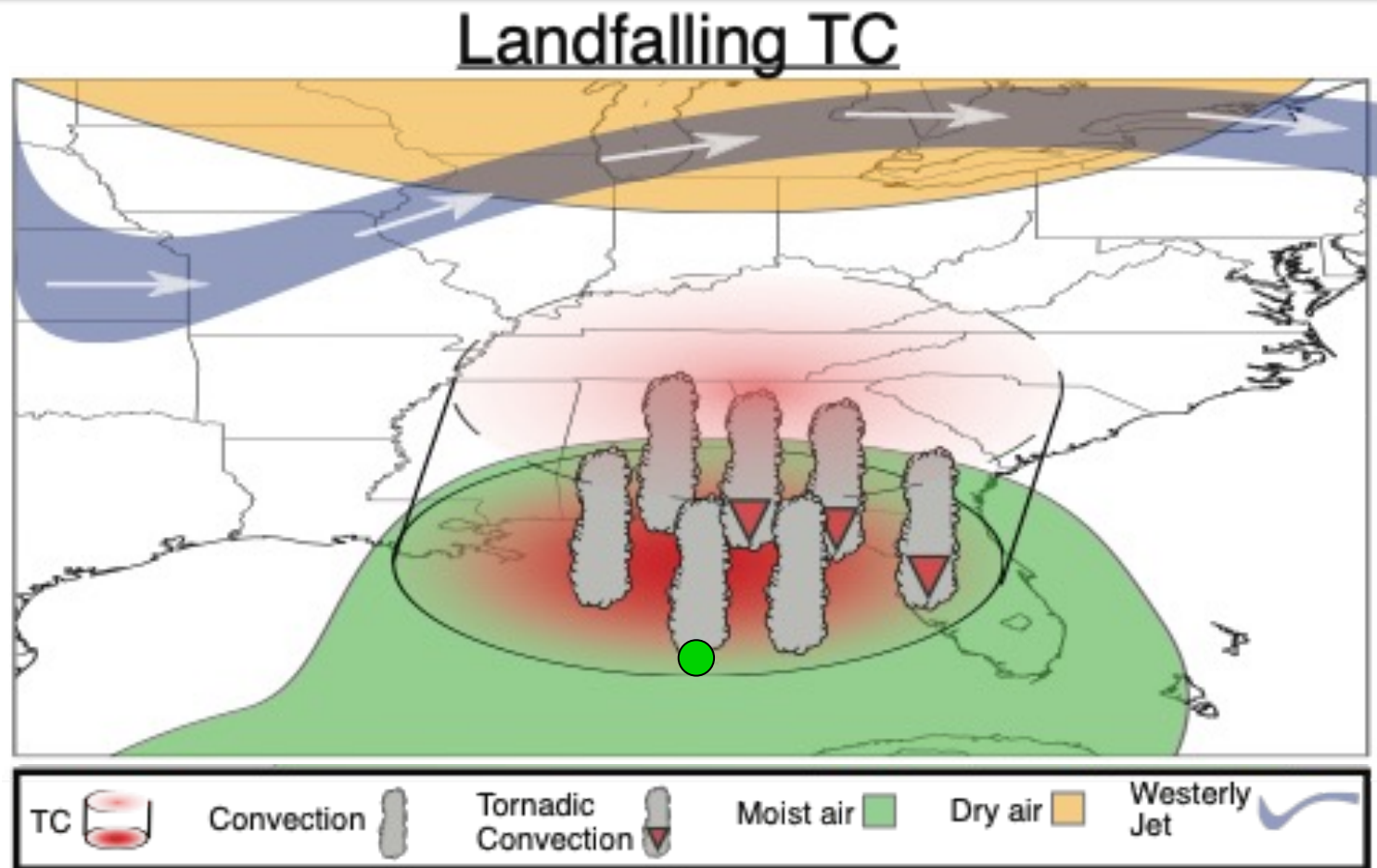


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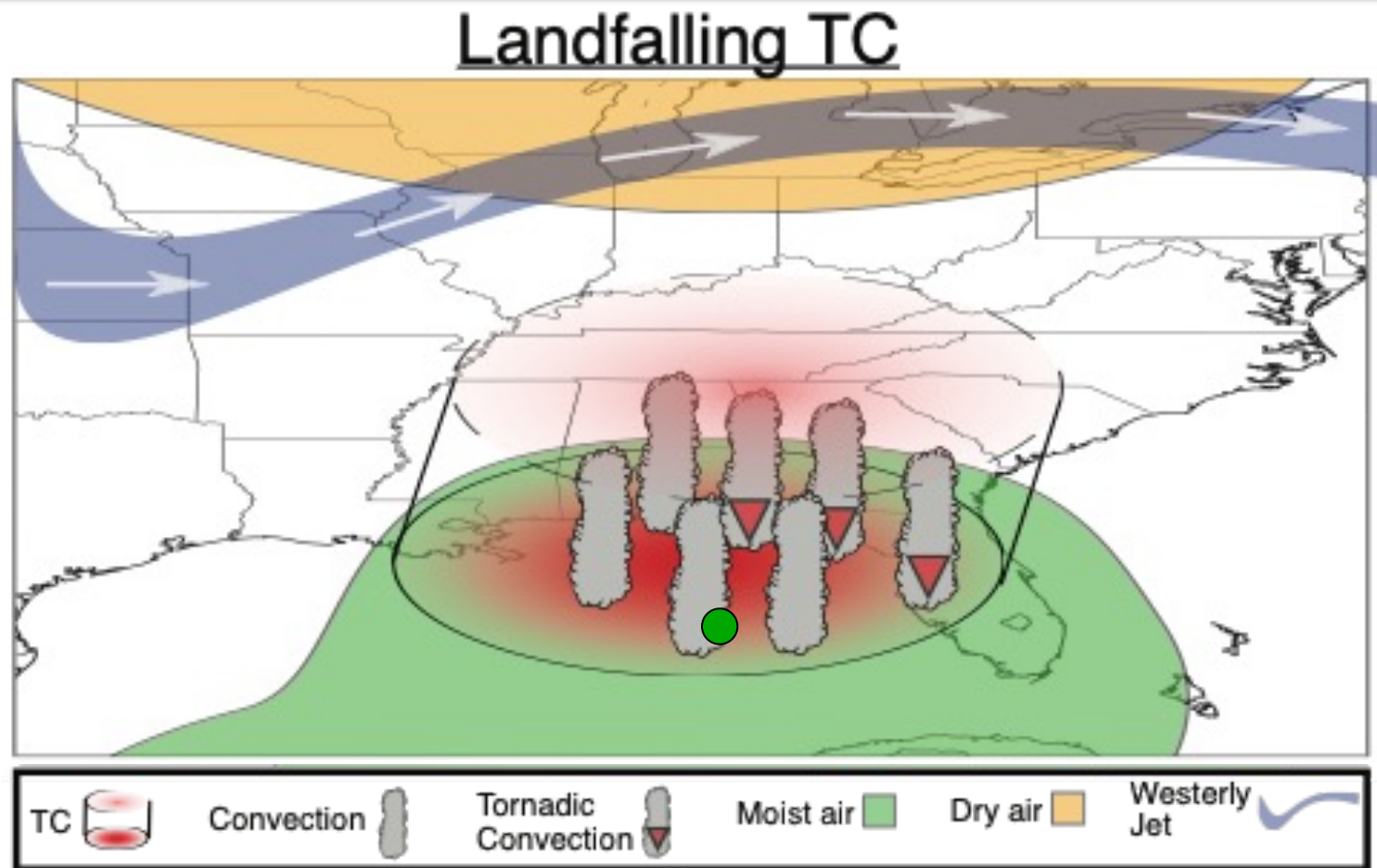


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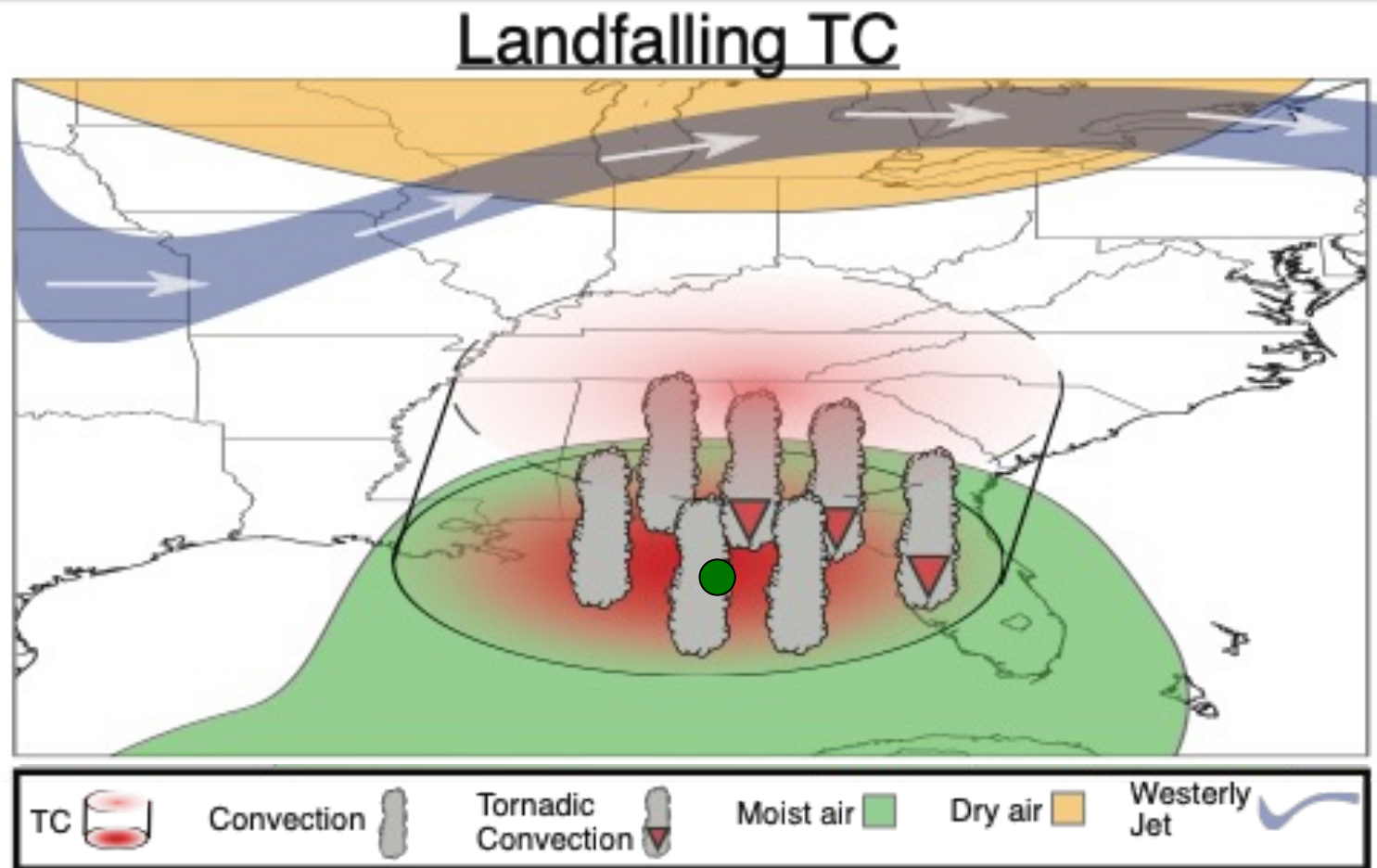
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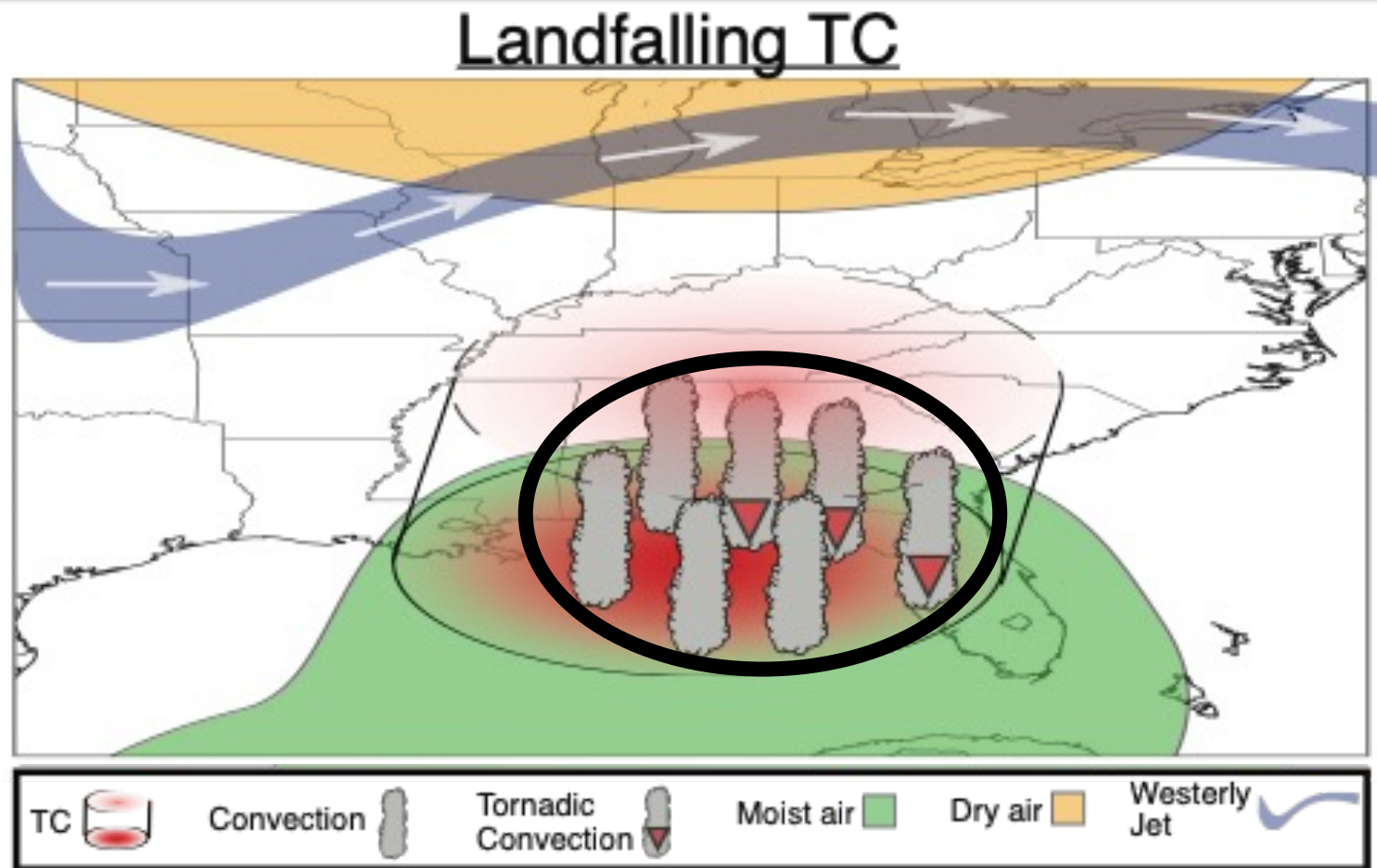
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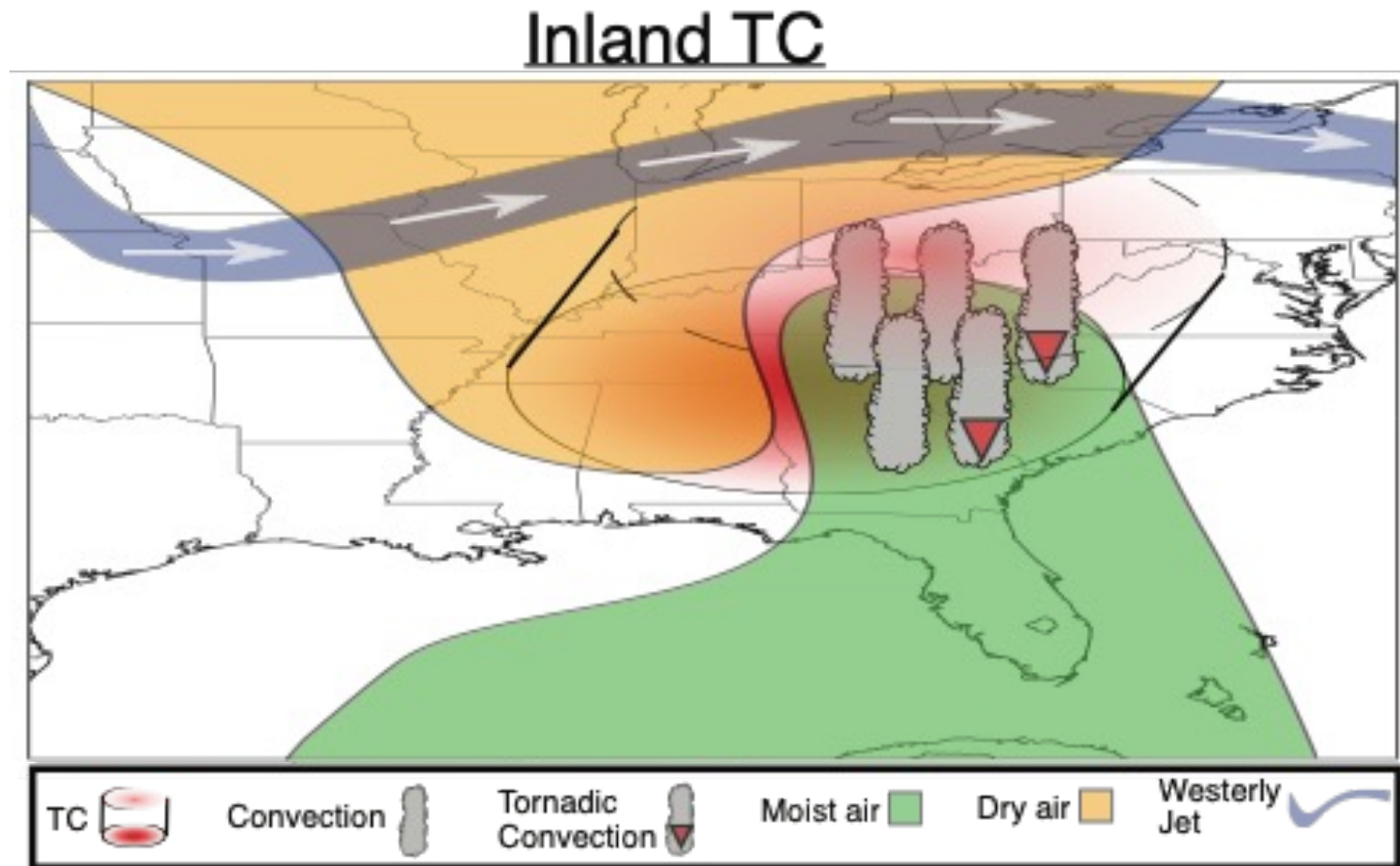


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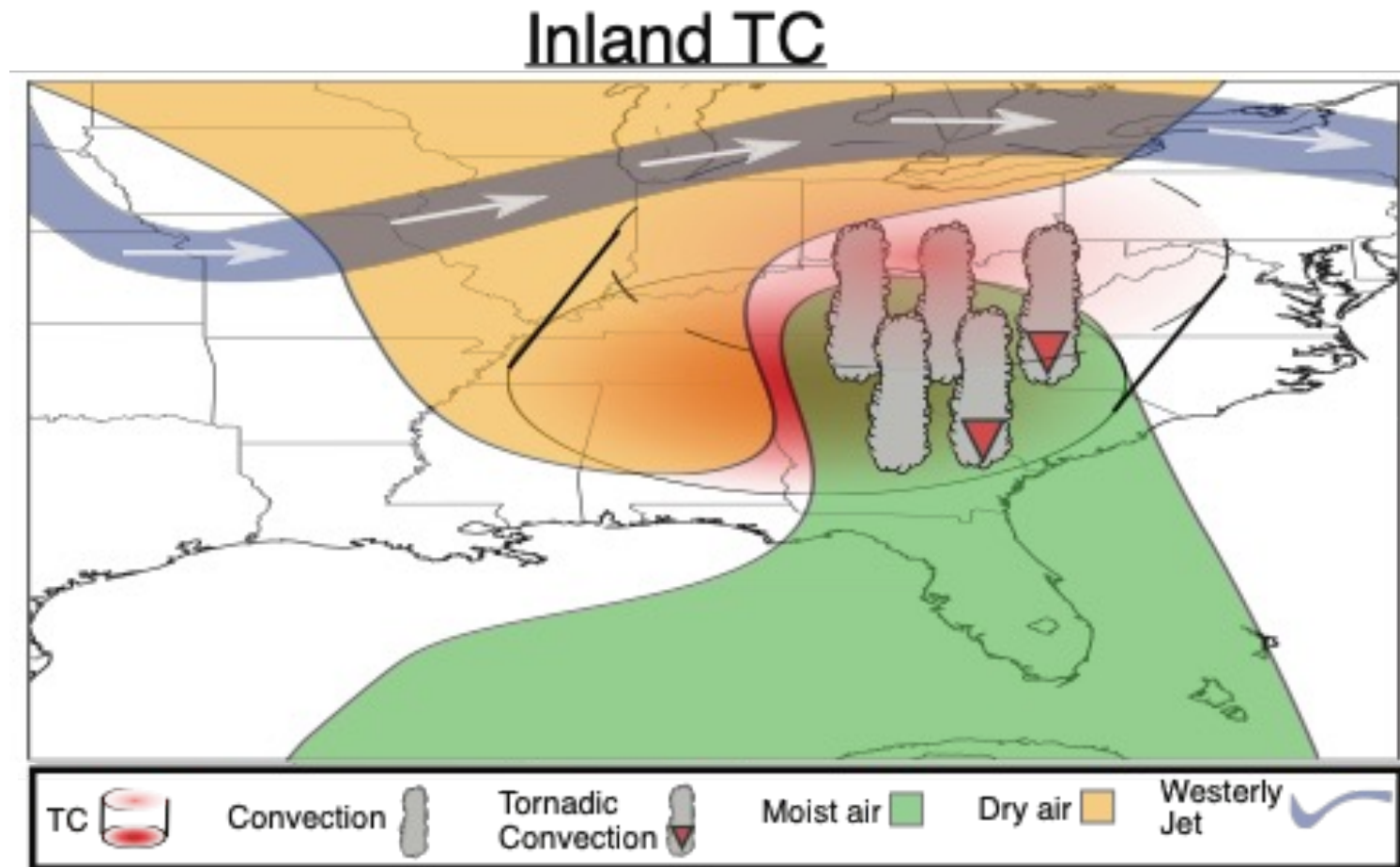
1. Strong impact of ocean-to-land changes in friction;
2. Parcels moisten from sea surface fluxes upon being entrained into TC;
3. Extensive TC convection and cloud cover reduces surface heating.

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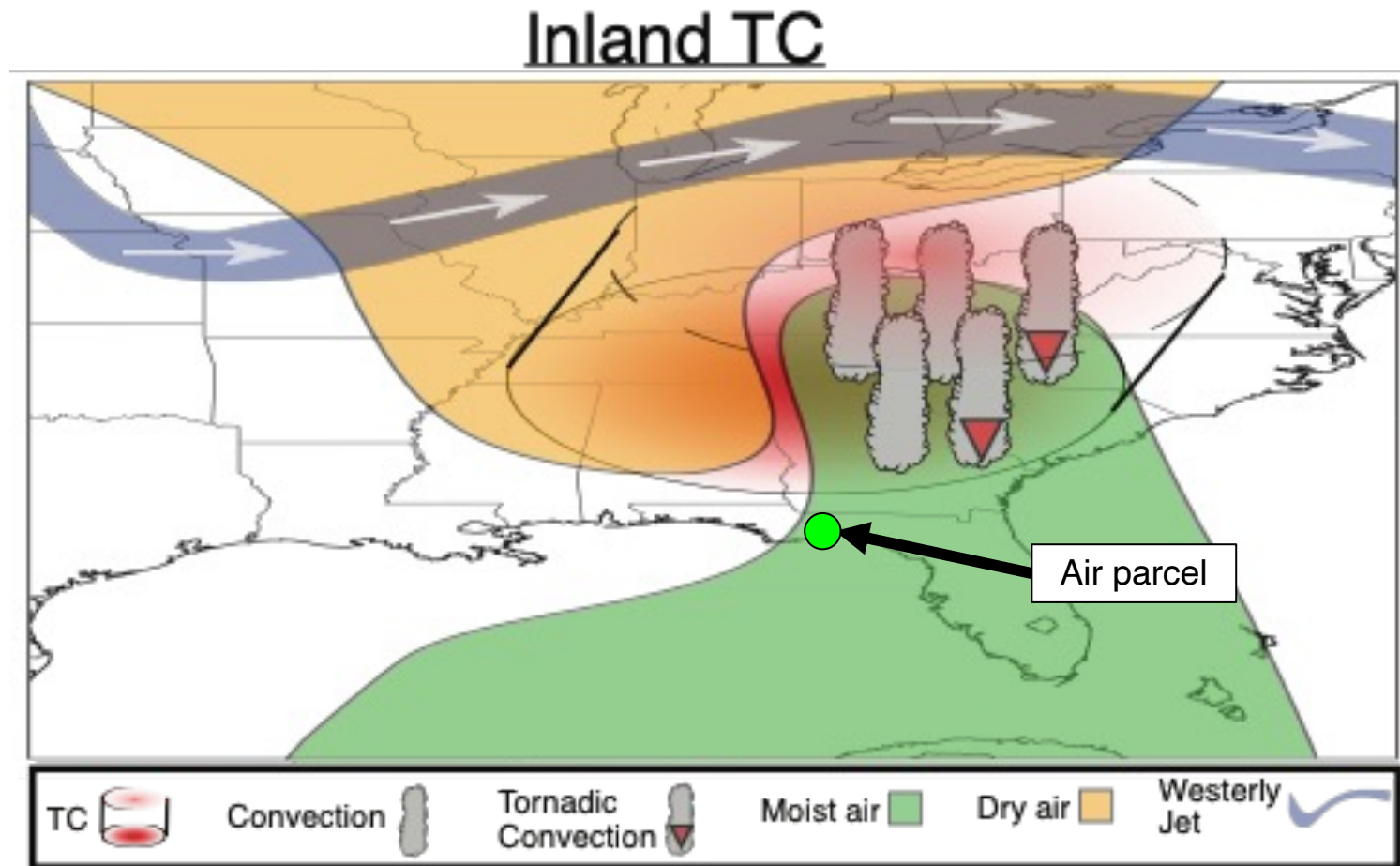
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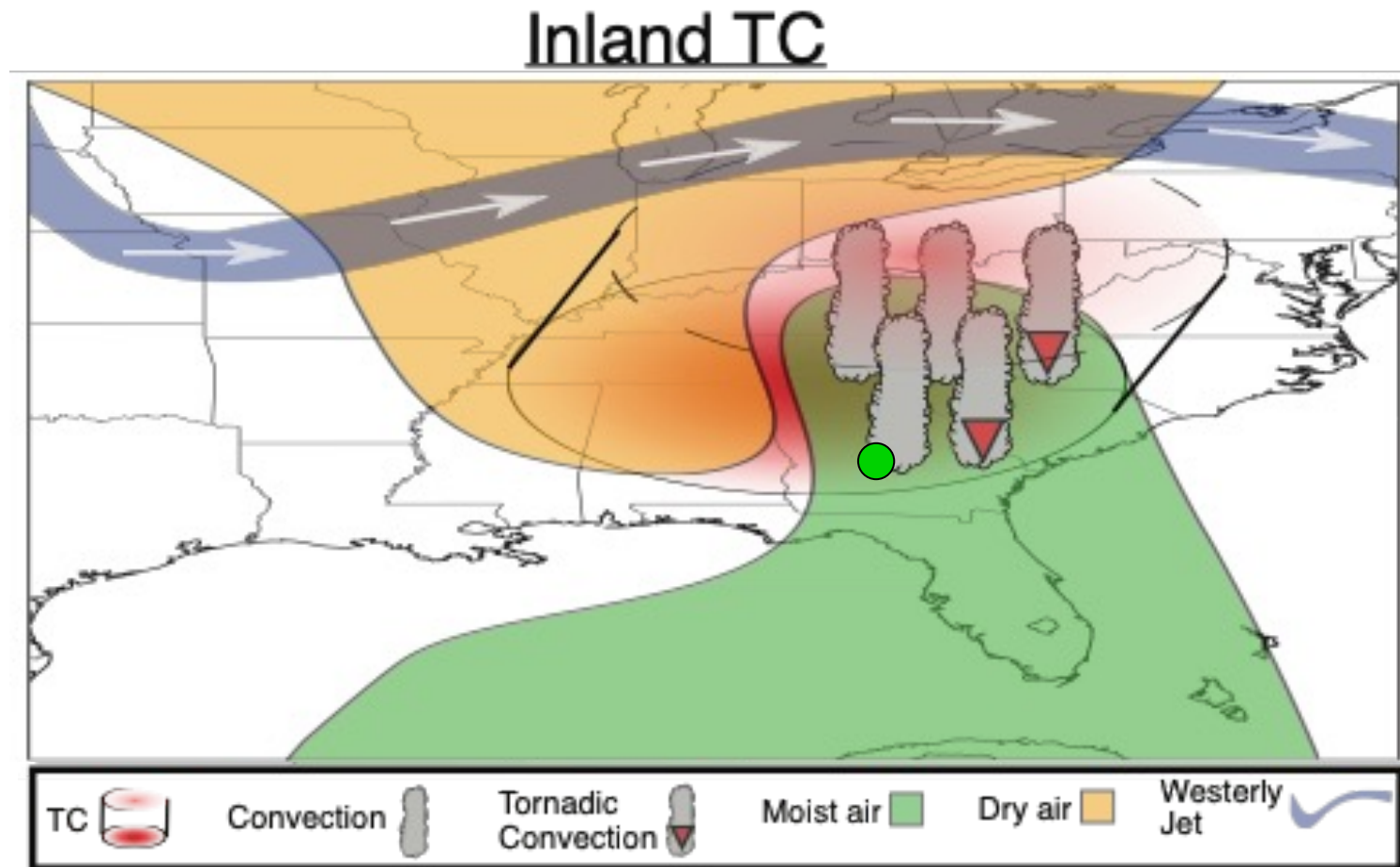
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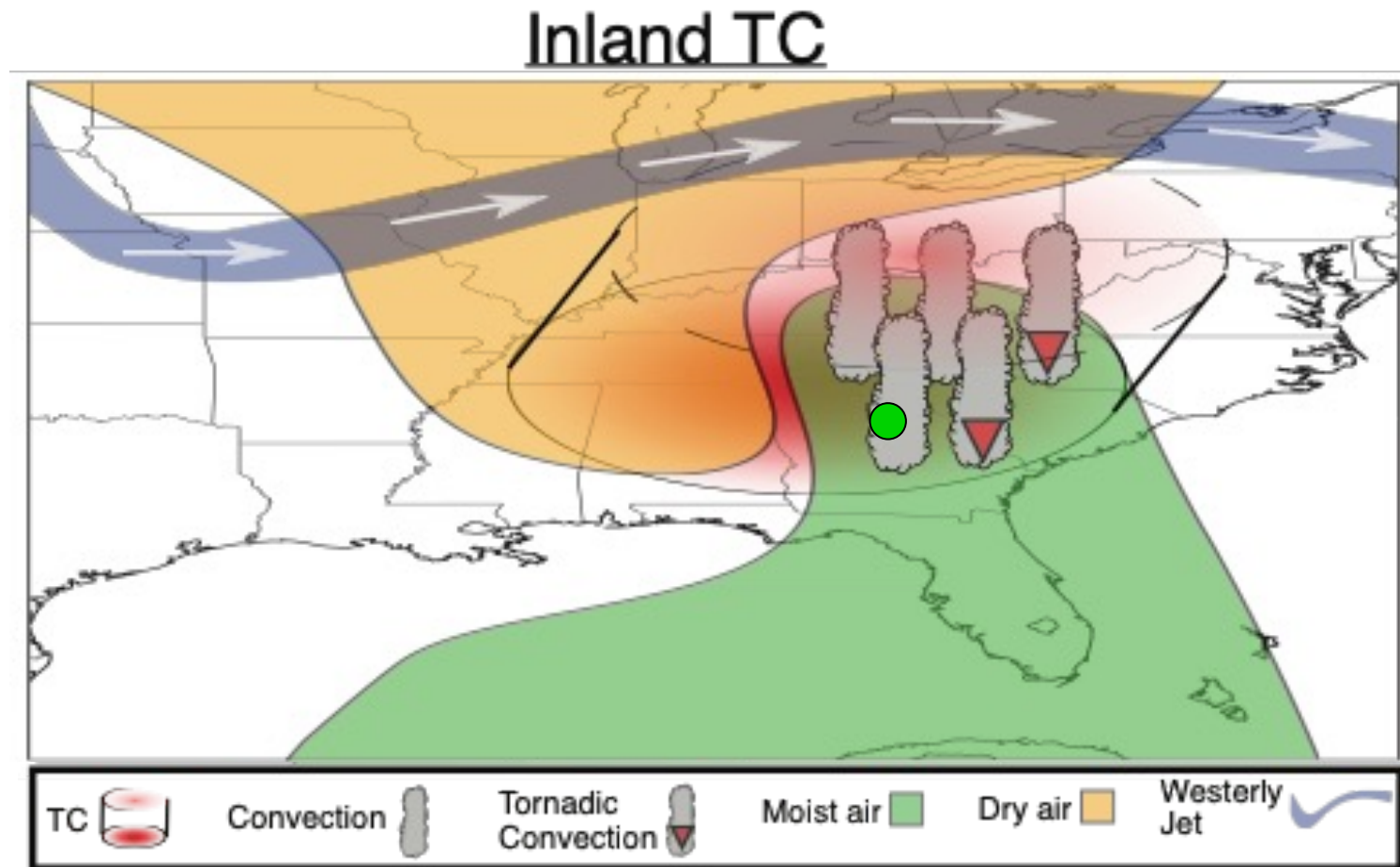
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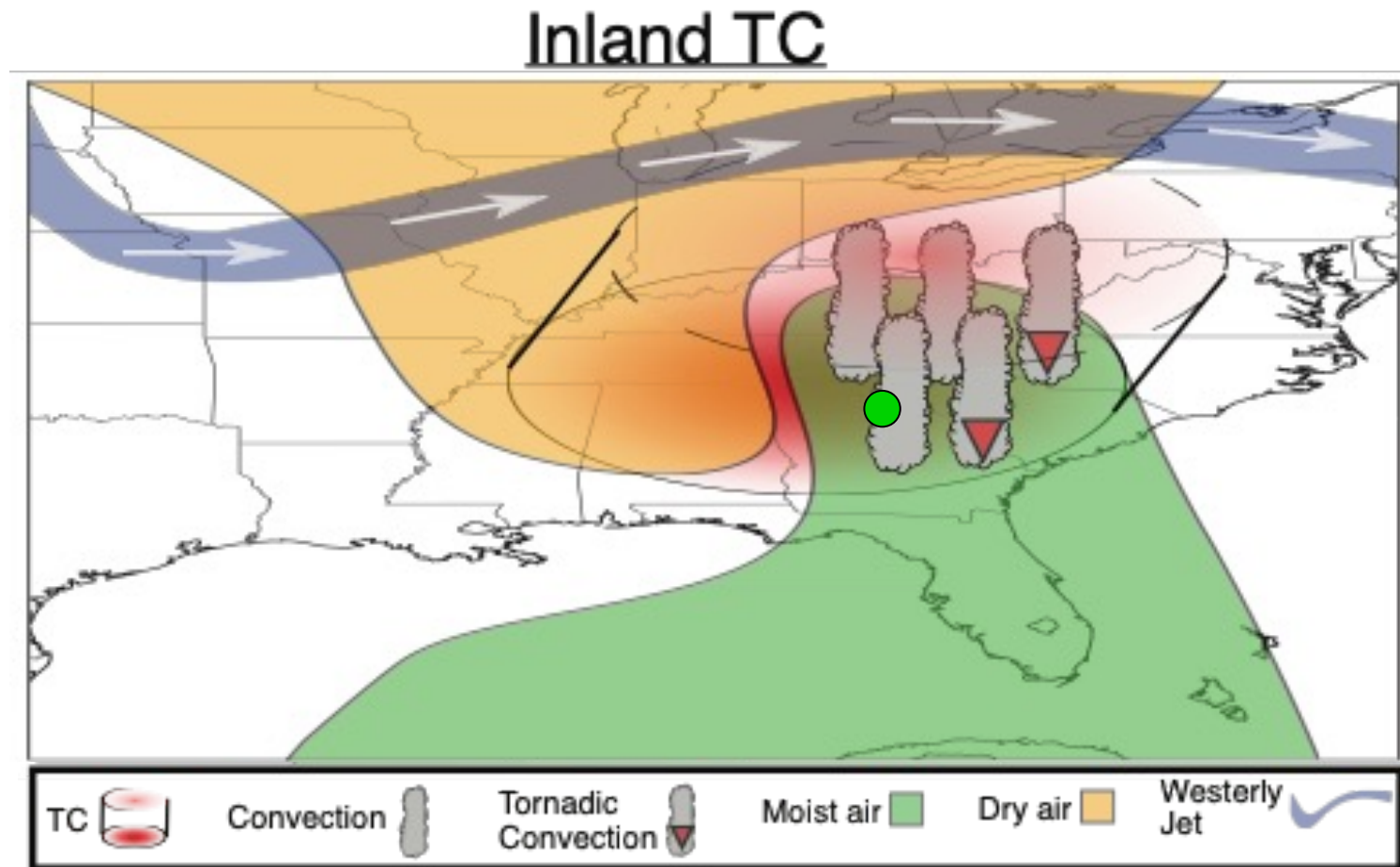
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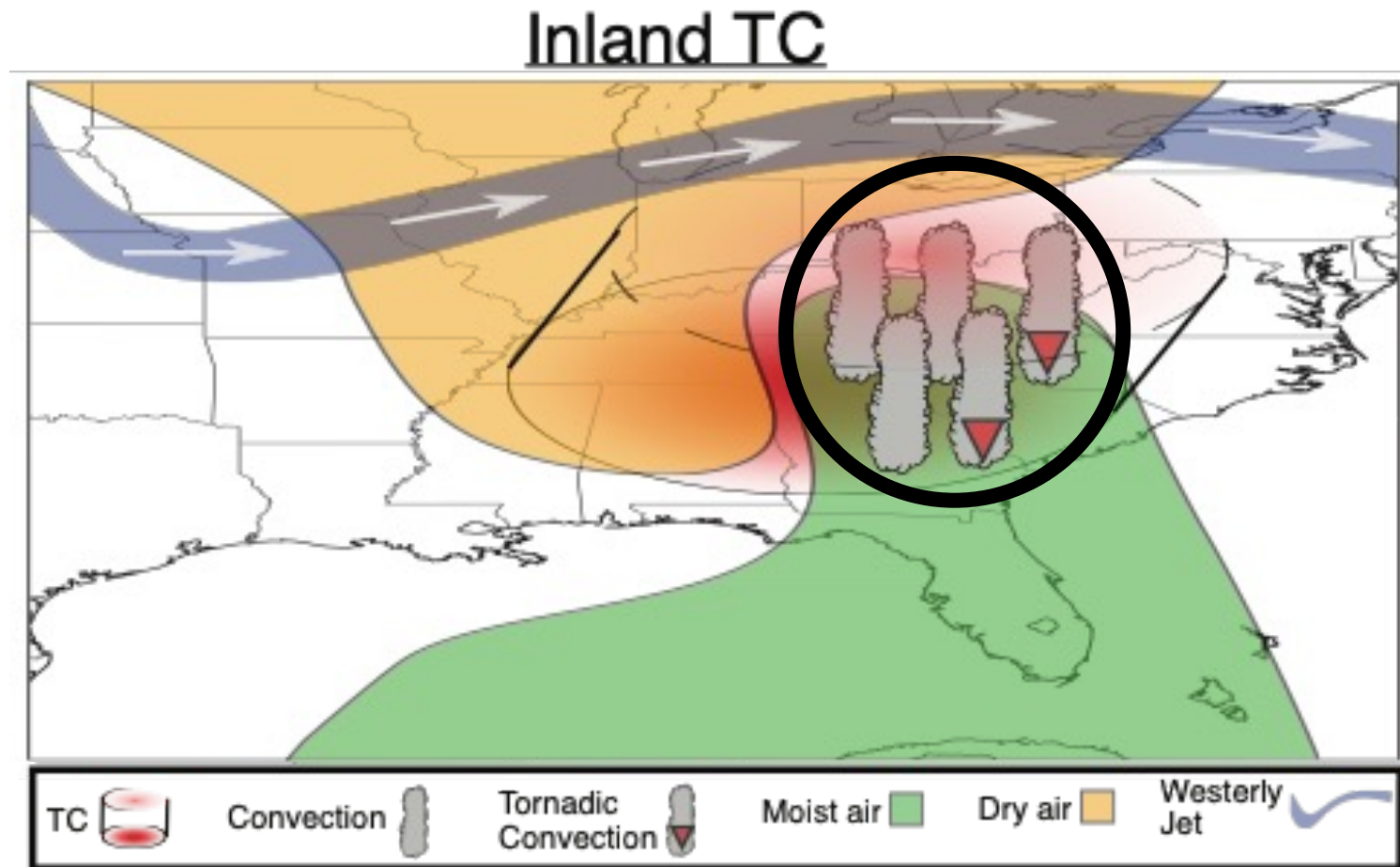
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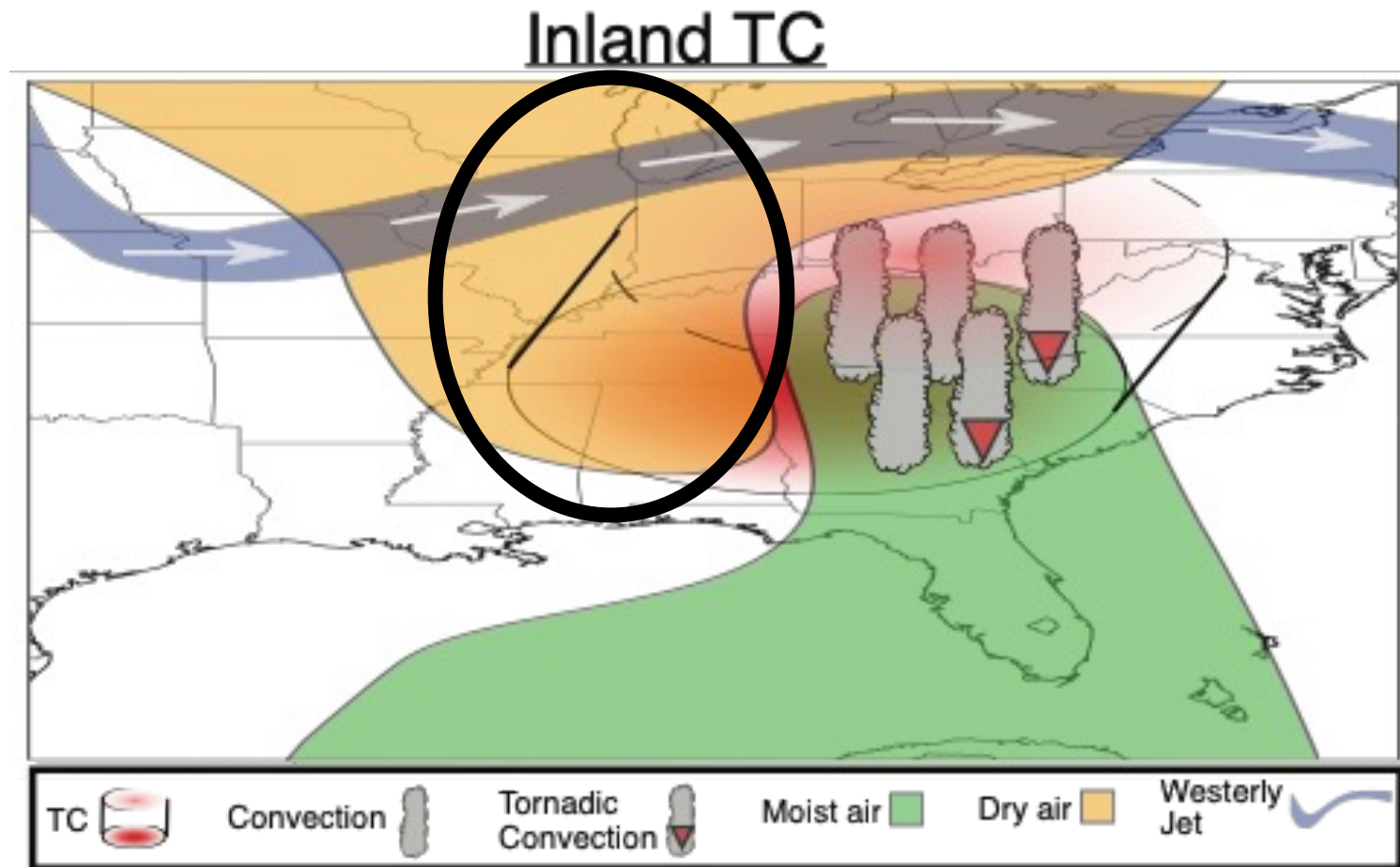
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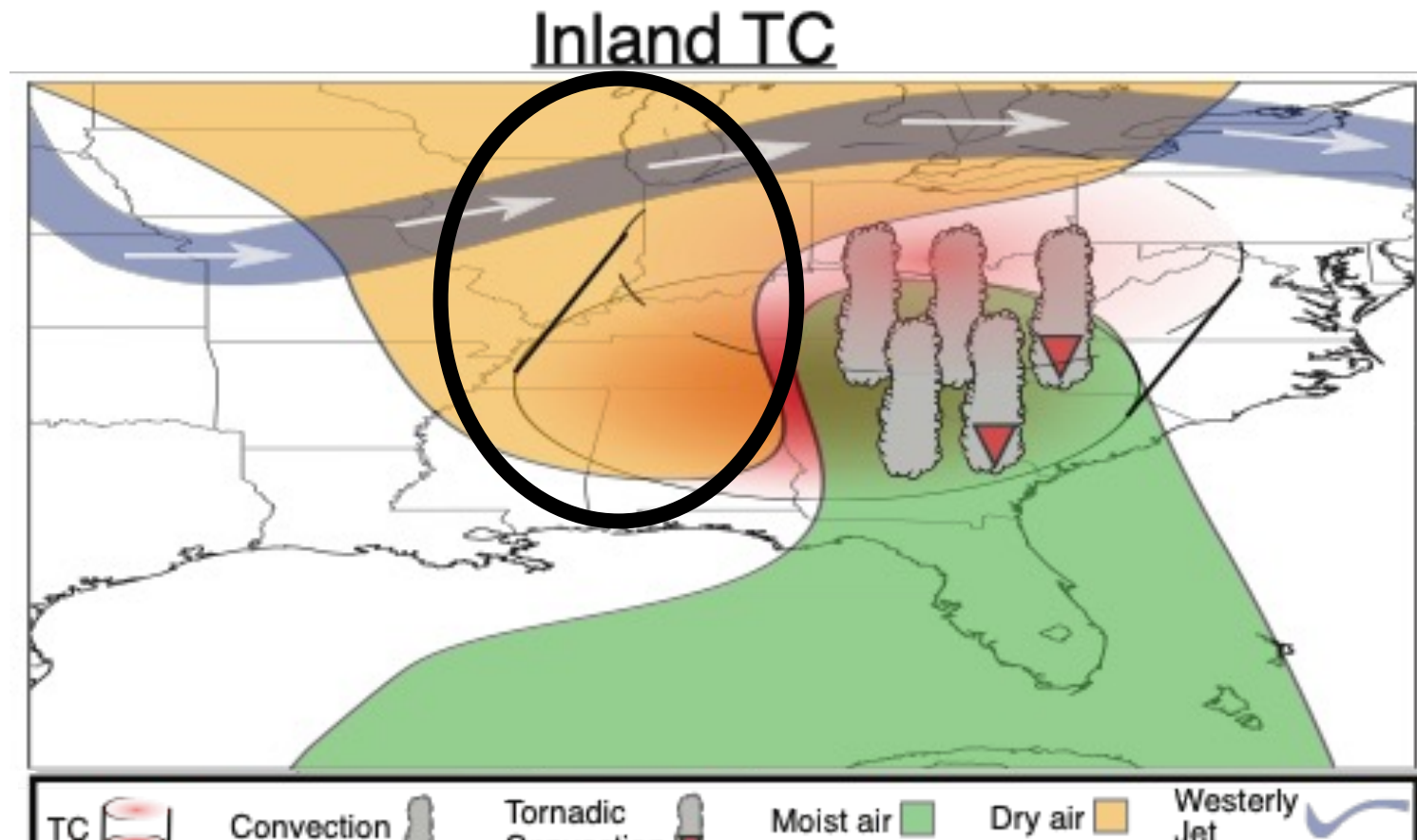
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 3. Entrainment of drier continental air decreasing cloud cover.

How Might Diurnal Variability of Tornadoes Change as TC Moves Inland?



How does the diurnal variability of tornadoes change as TCs move inland?

5. Entrainment of drier continental air reduces cloud cover.

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- **TC tornado environments:** Examined composite differences in median temperature, dewpoint, and mixed-layer CAPE;
 - NOAA Integrated Global Radiosonde Archive version 2 and NSSL sondes within 75–750 km of TC center from 1995–2020 (N=5786 sondes, 259 TCs; Durre et al. 2006; Fernández-Cabán et al. 2019).

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- Categorized tornadoes and radiosondes based upon terciles of TC tornado distance from the coast (e.g., Schenkel et al. 2021):

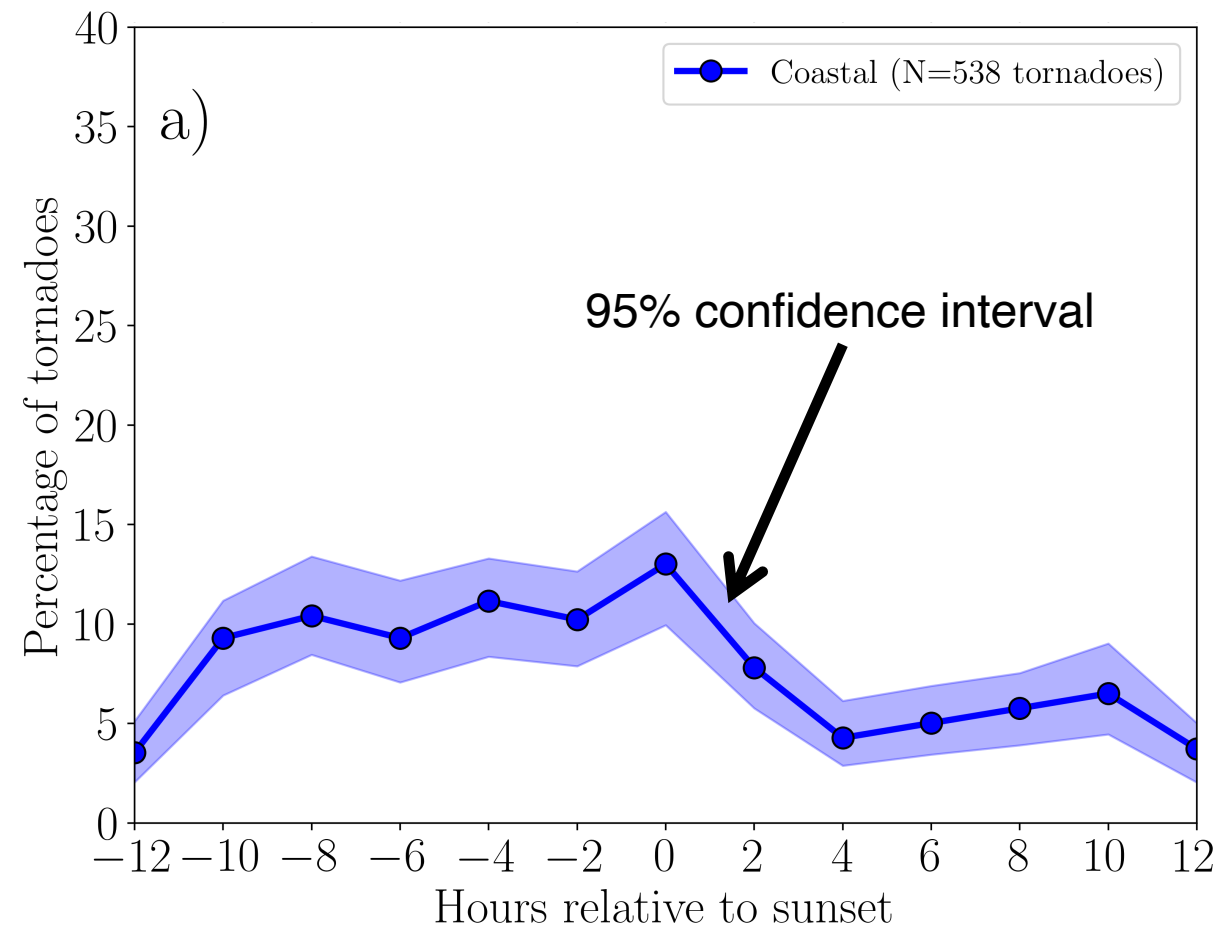
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 1. **Coastal** tornadoes: <21 km from coast (N=538)
 2. **Transition** tornadoes: 21–121 km from coast (N=537)
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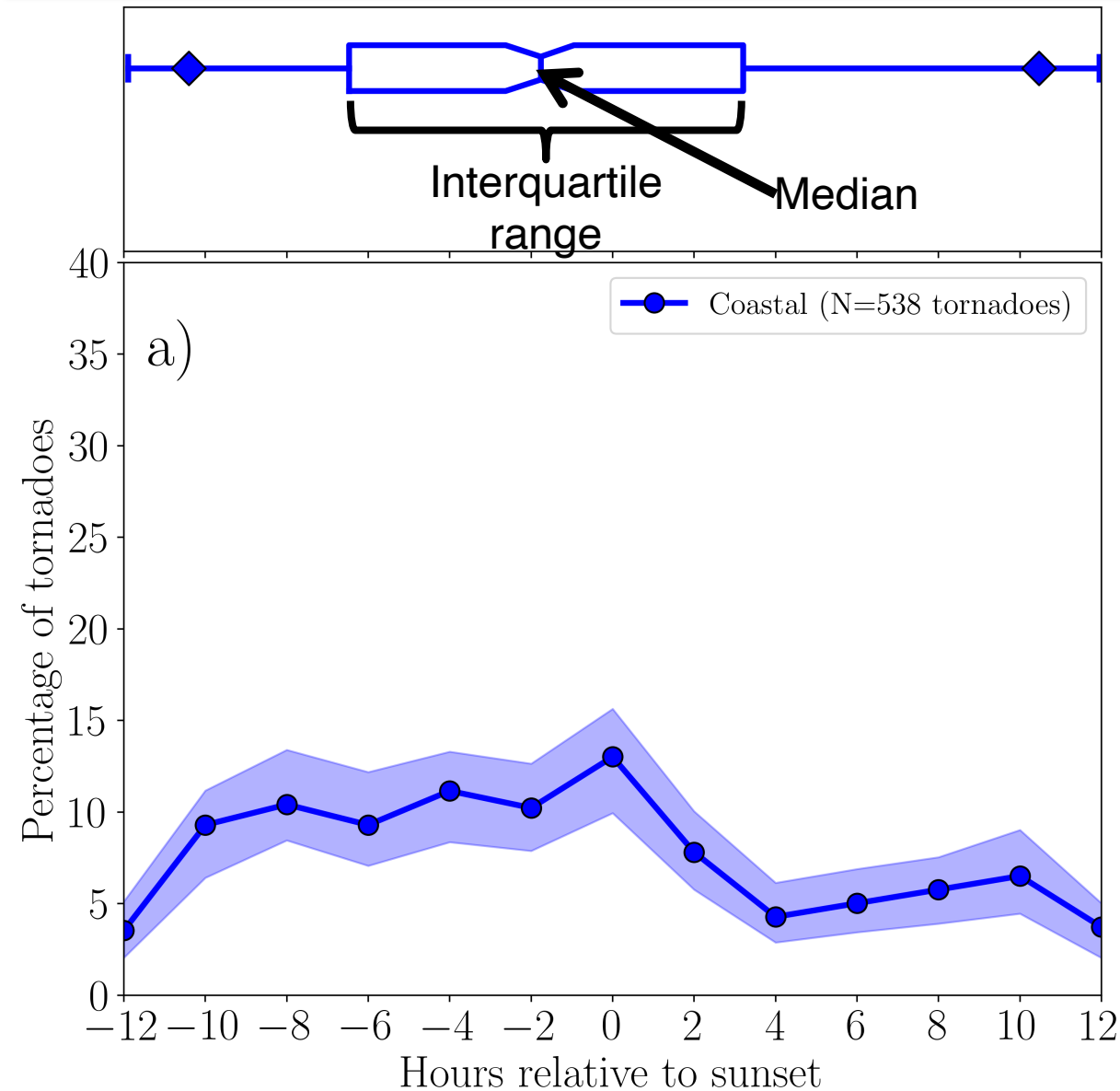
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- Analyze changes in the timing of tornadoes along with their convective-scale environments for inland, transition, and coastal regimes **relative to local sunset**.

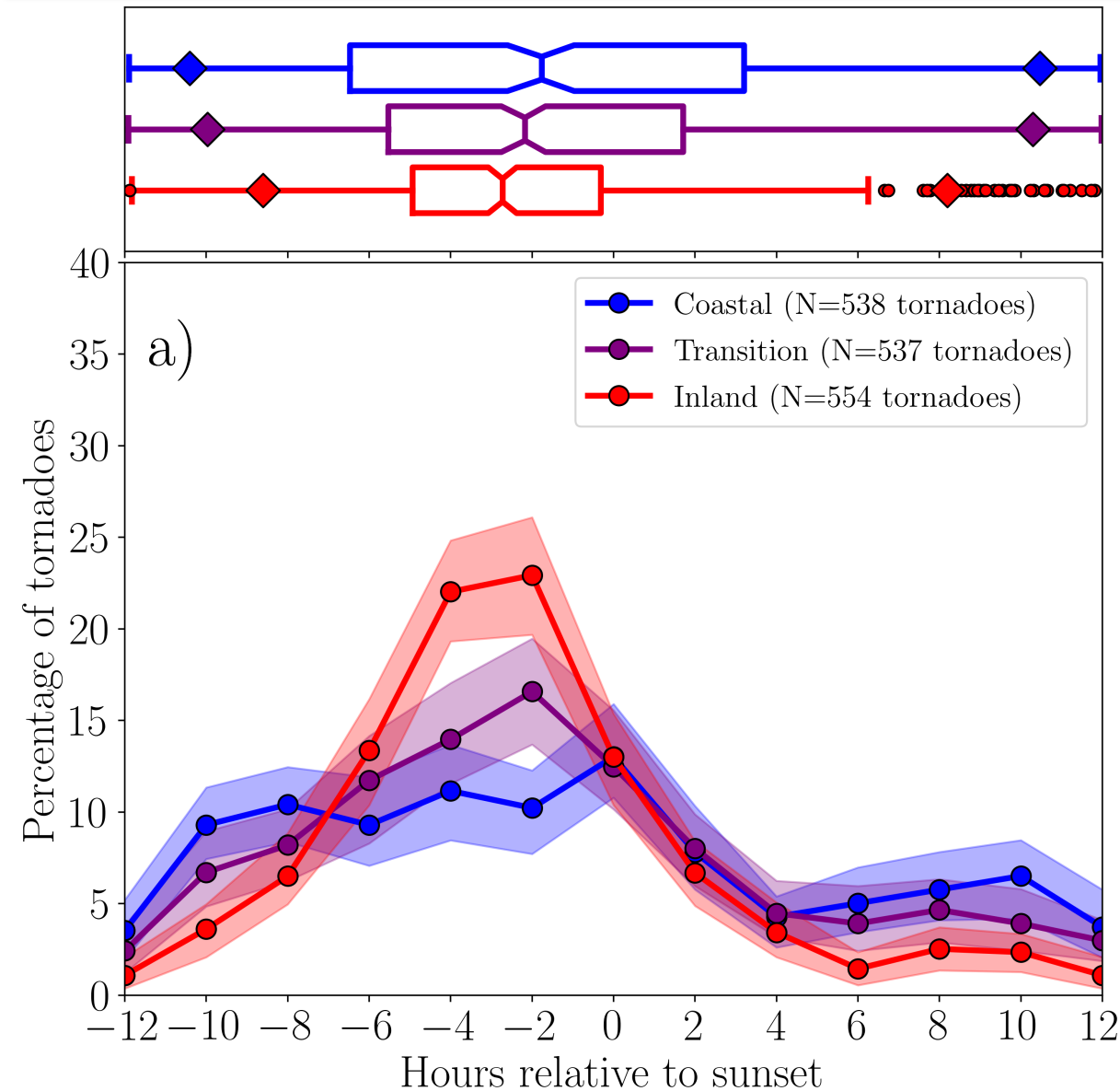
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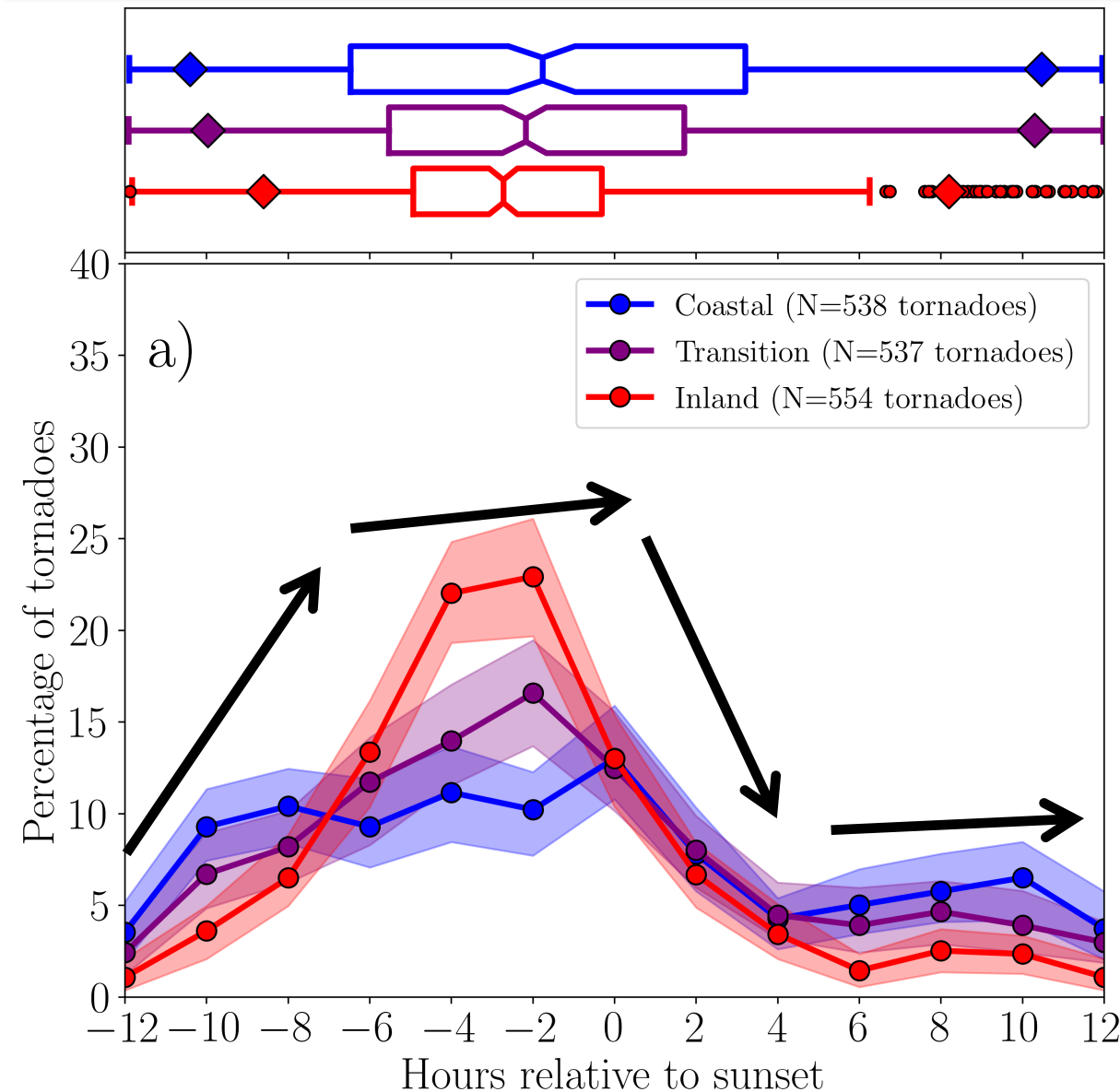
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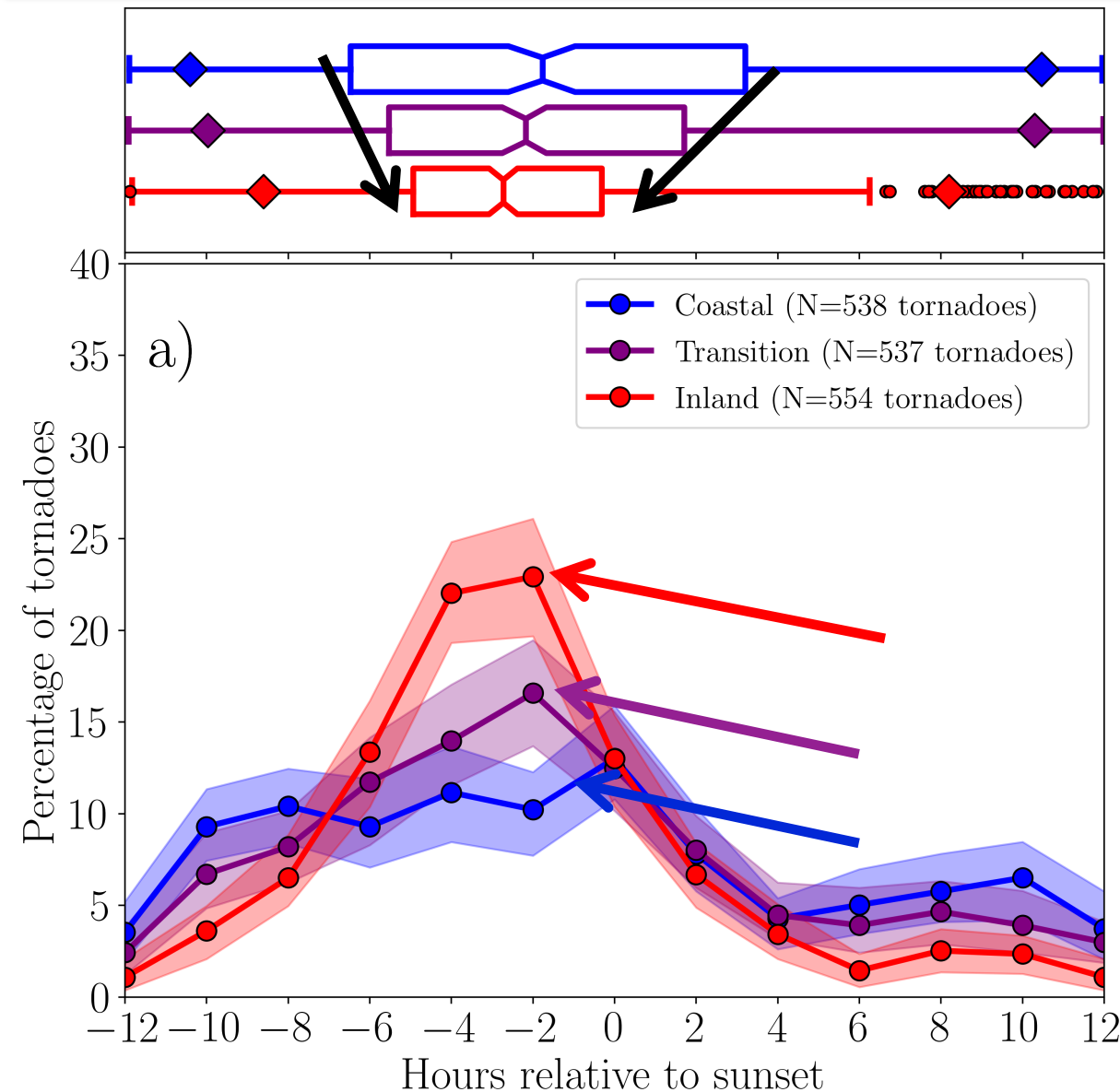


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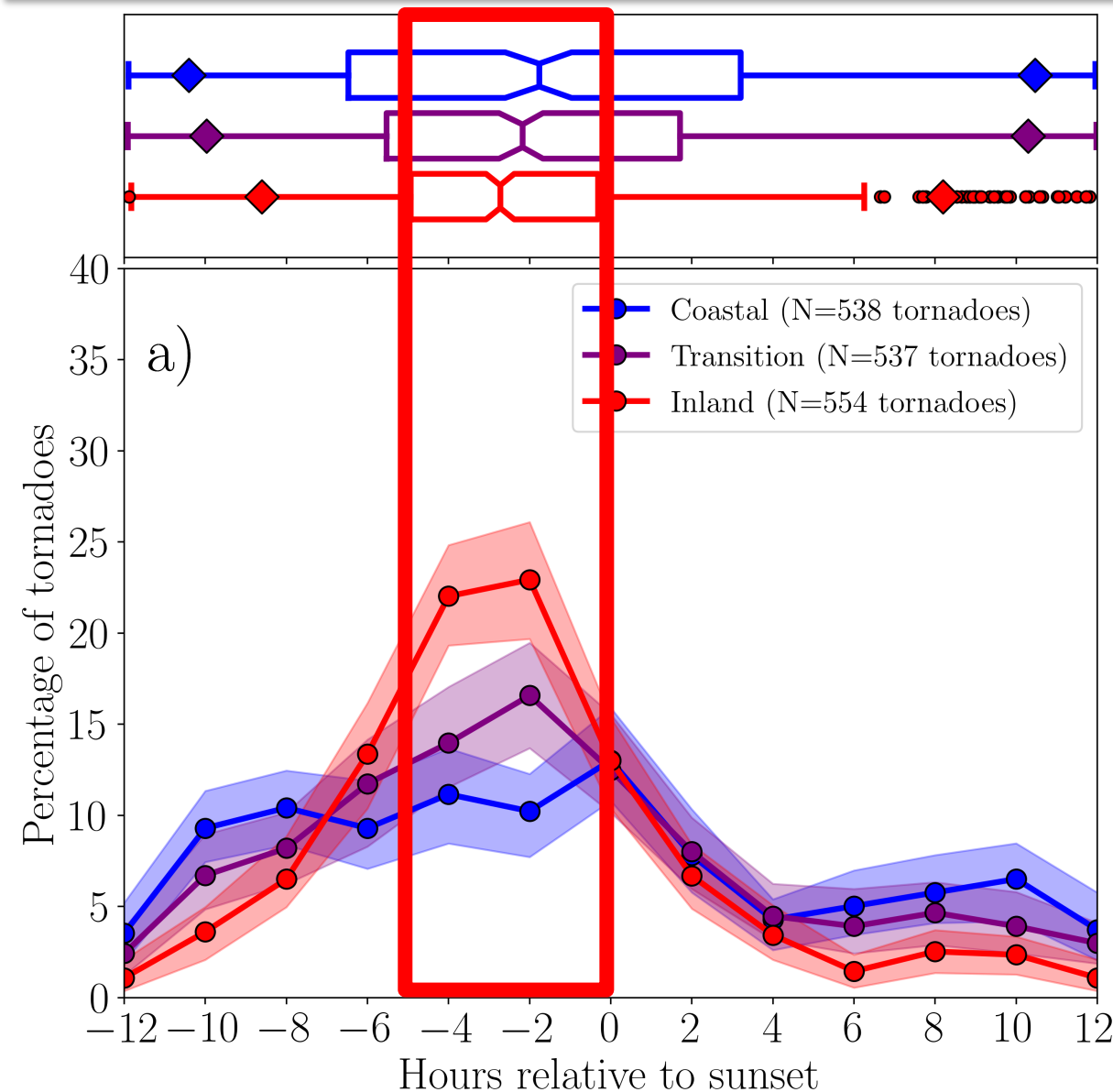
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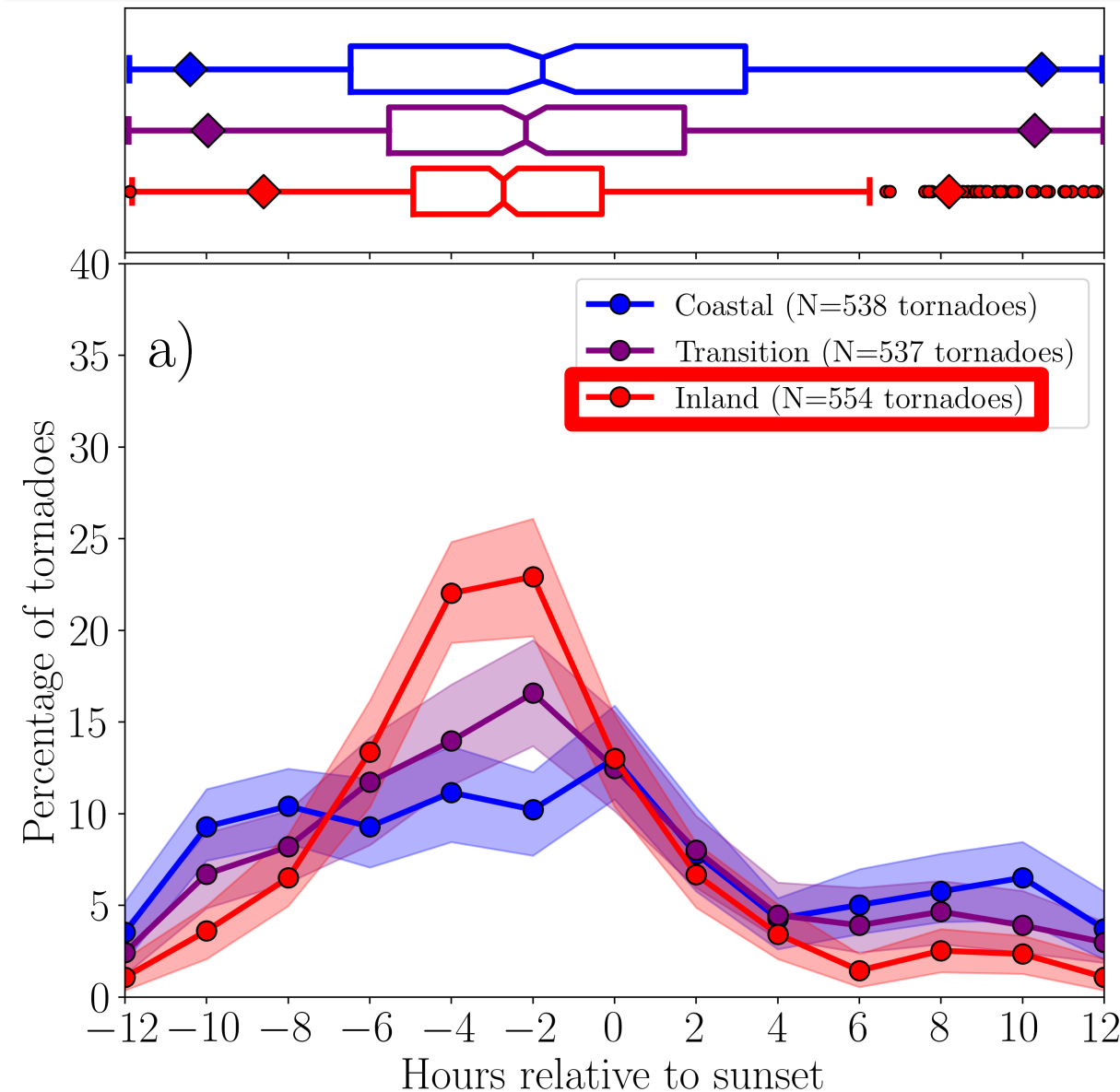
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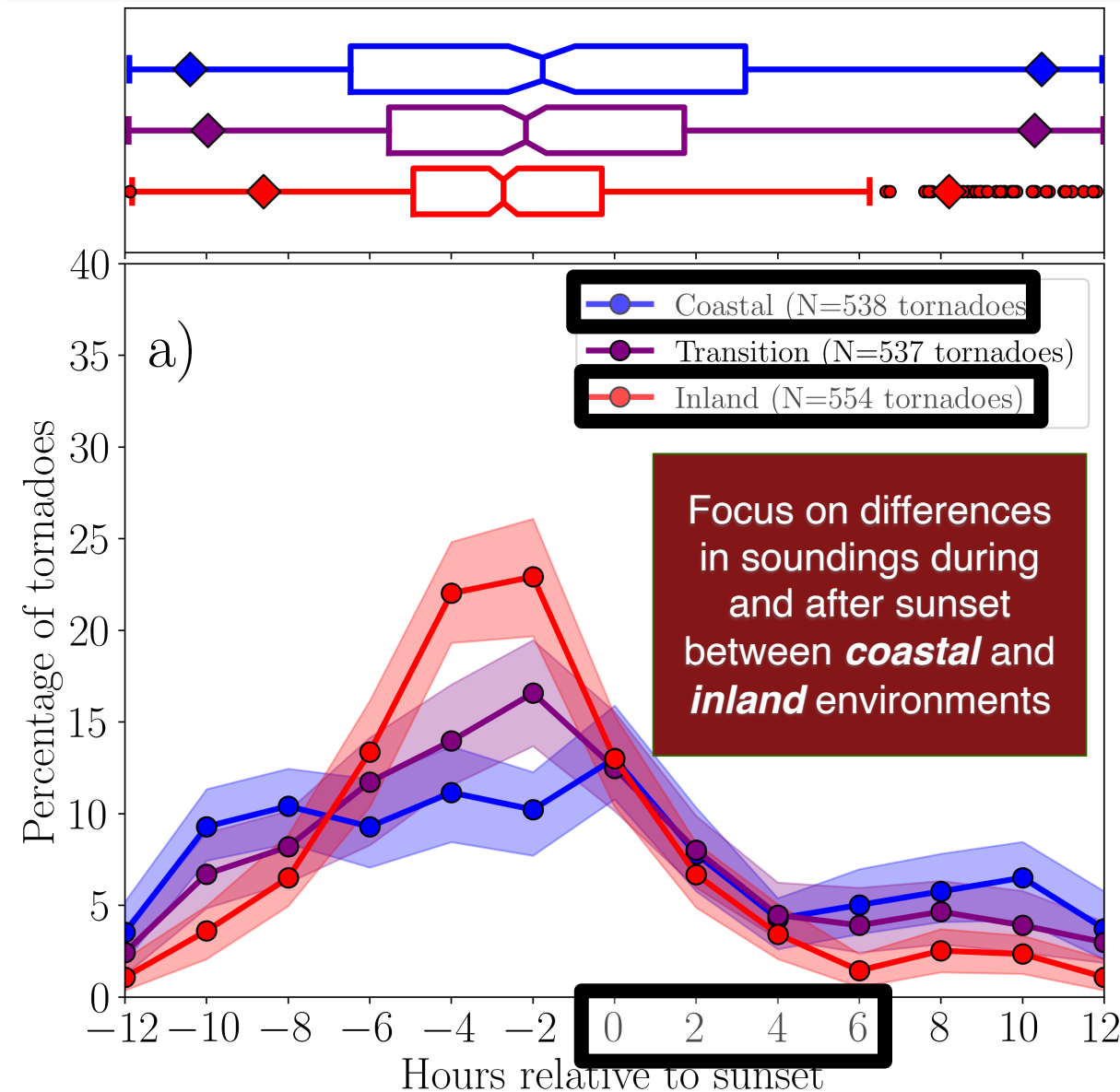
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- Inland tornadoes concentrated in ~5 hours before sunset;

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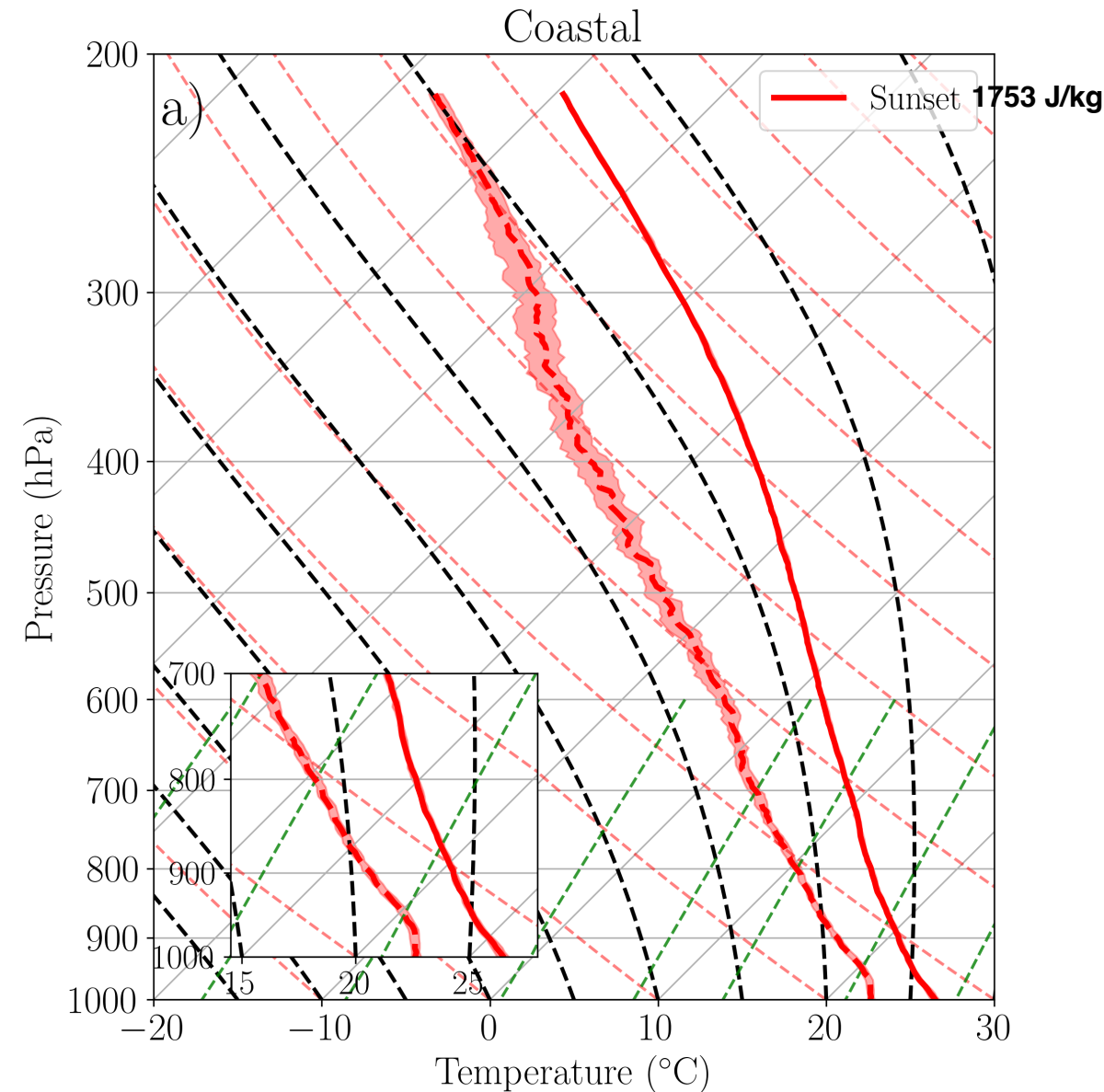
- Inland tornadoes associated with significantly weaker and more strongly sheared TCs compared to other regimes;

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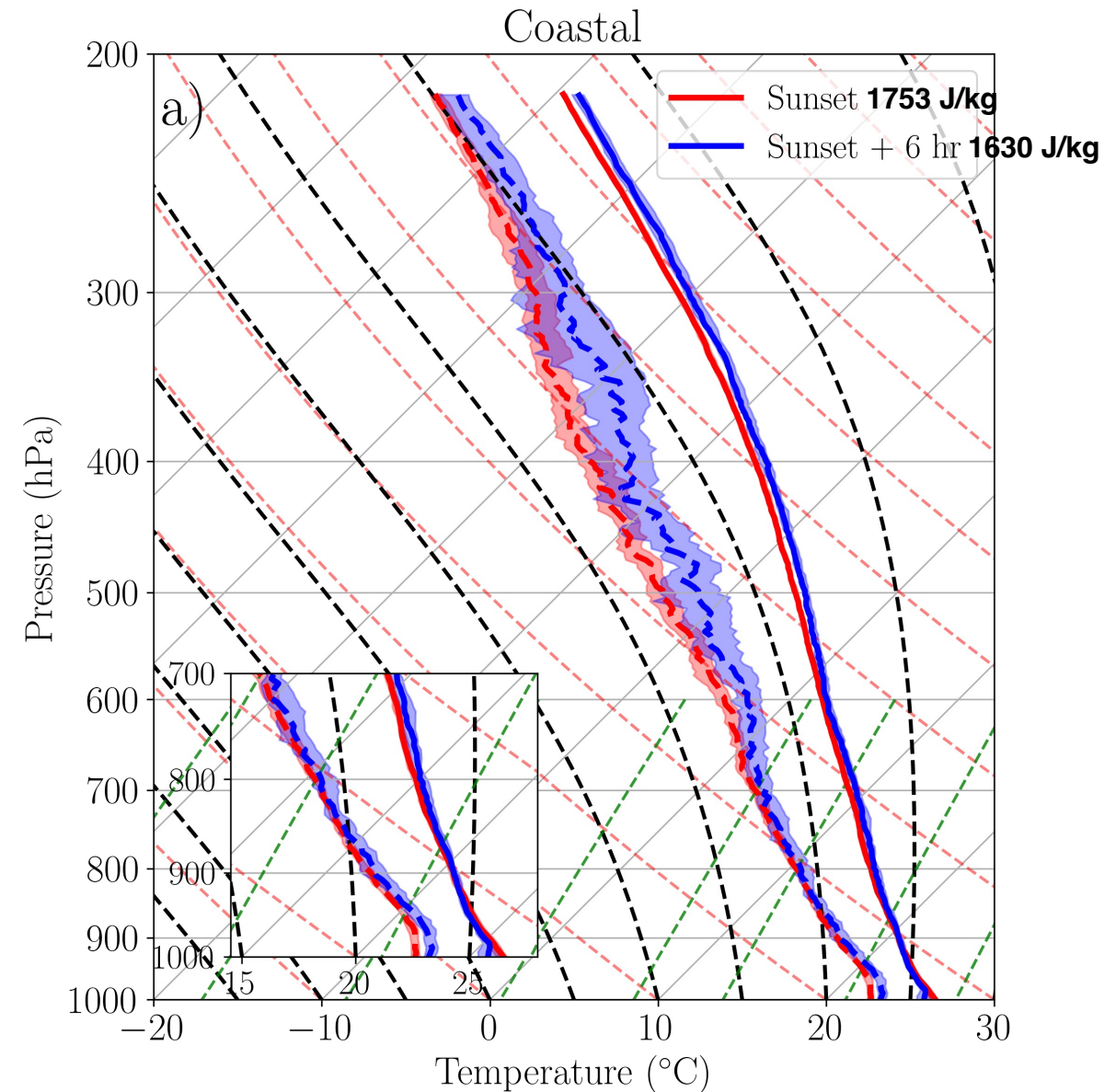


- Inland tornadoes associated with significantly weaker and more strongly sheared TCs compared to other regimes;
- Do convective-scale environments in TCs show similar diurnal variability?

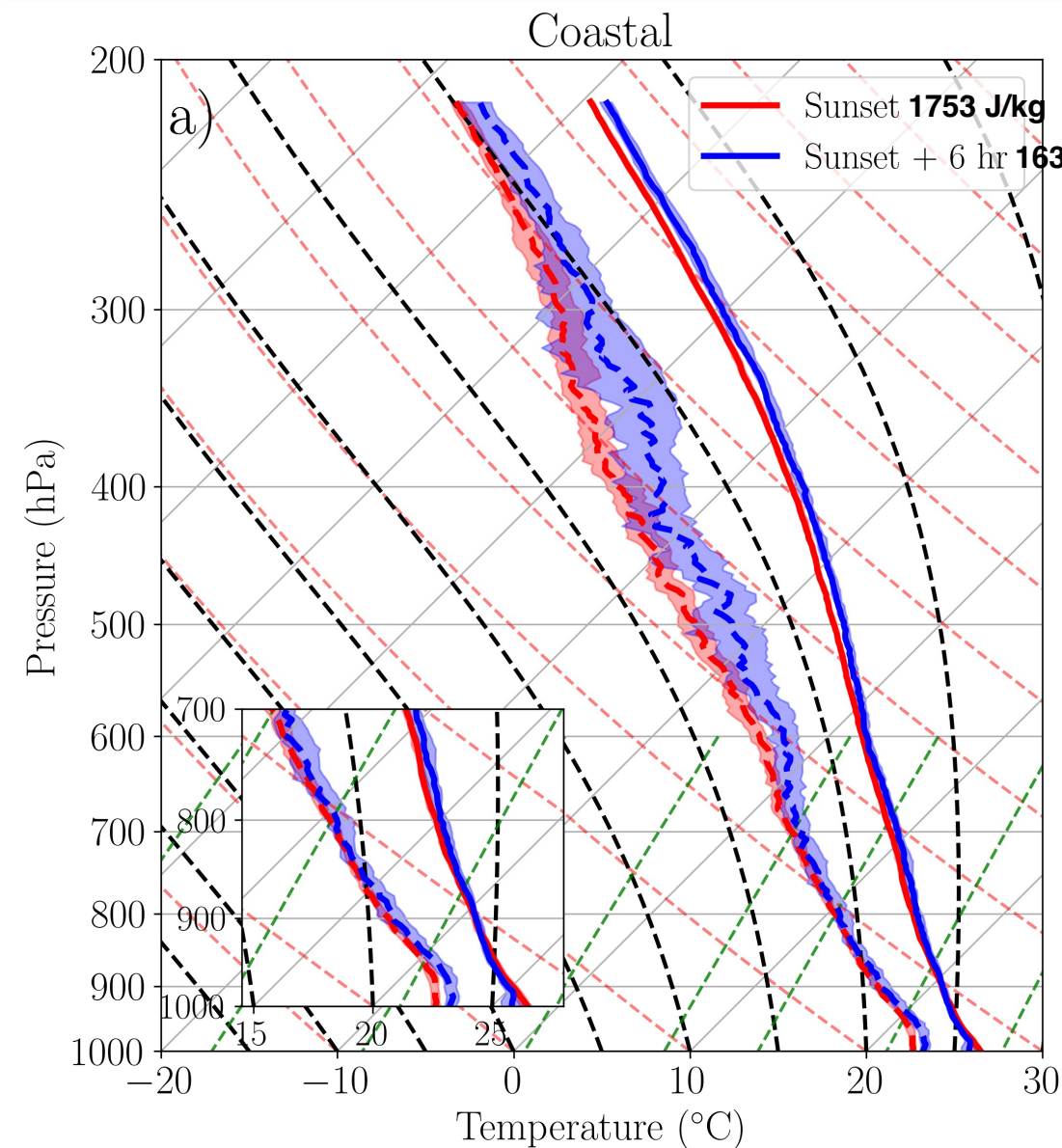
Diurnal Variability of Soundings Versus Coastal Distance



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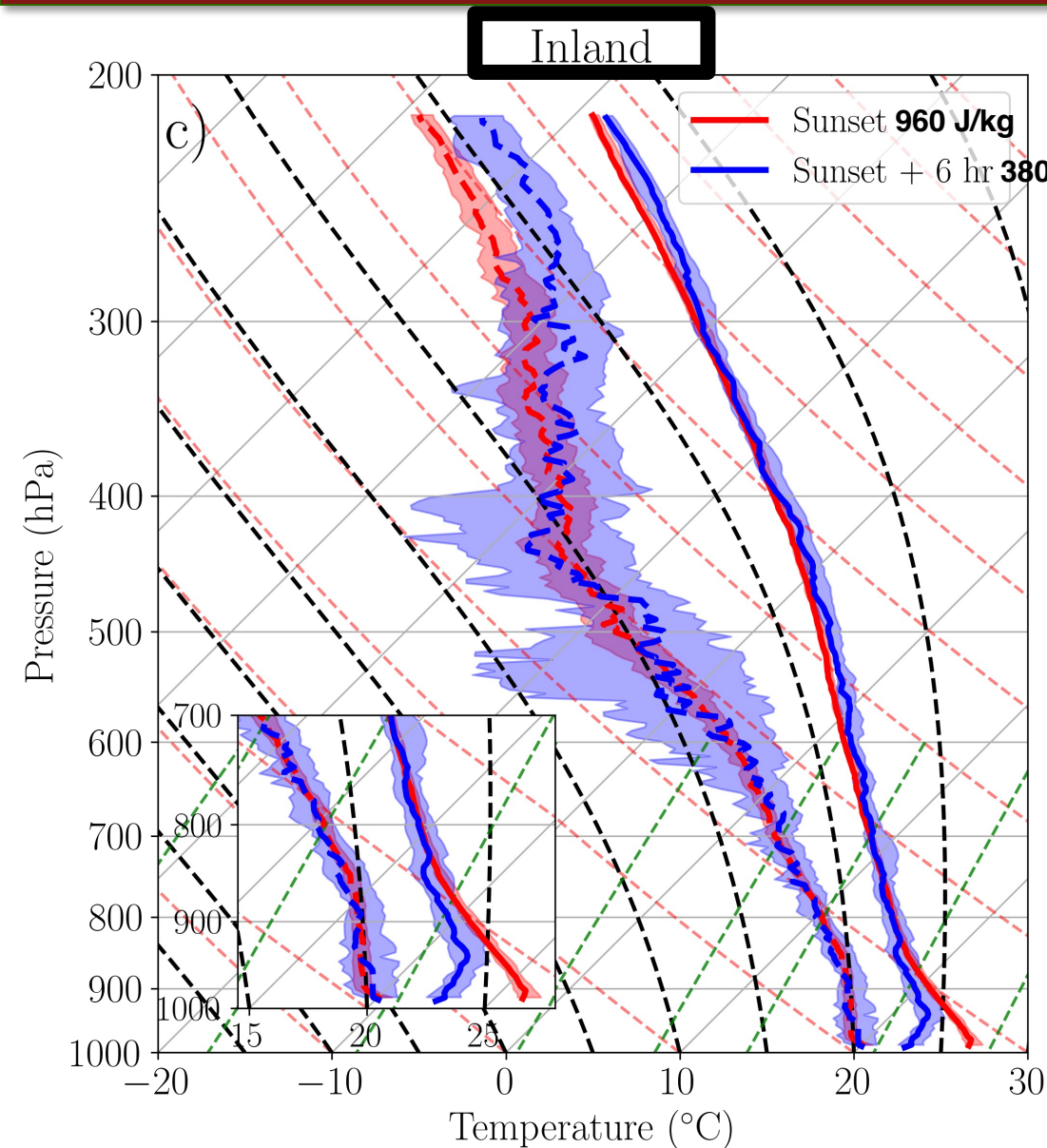


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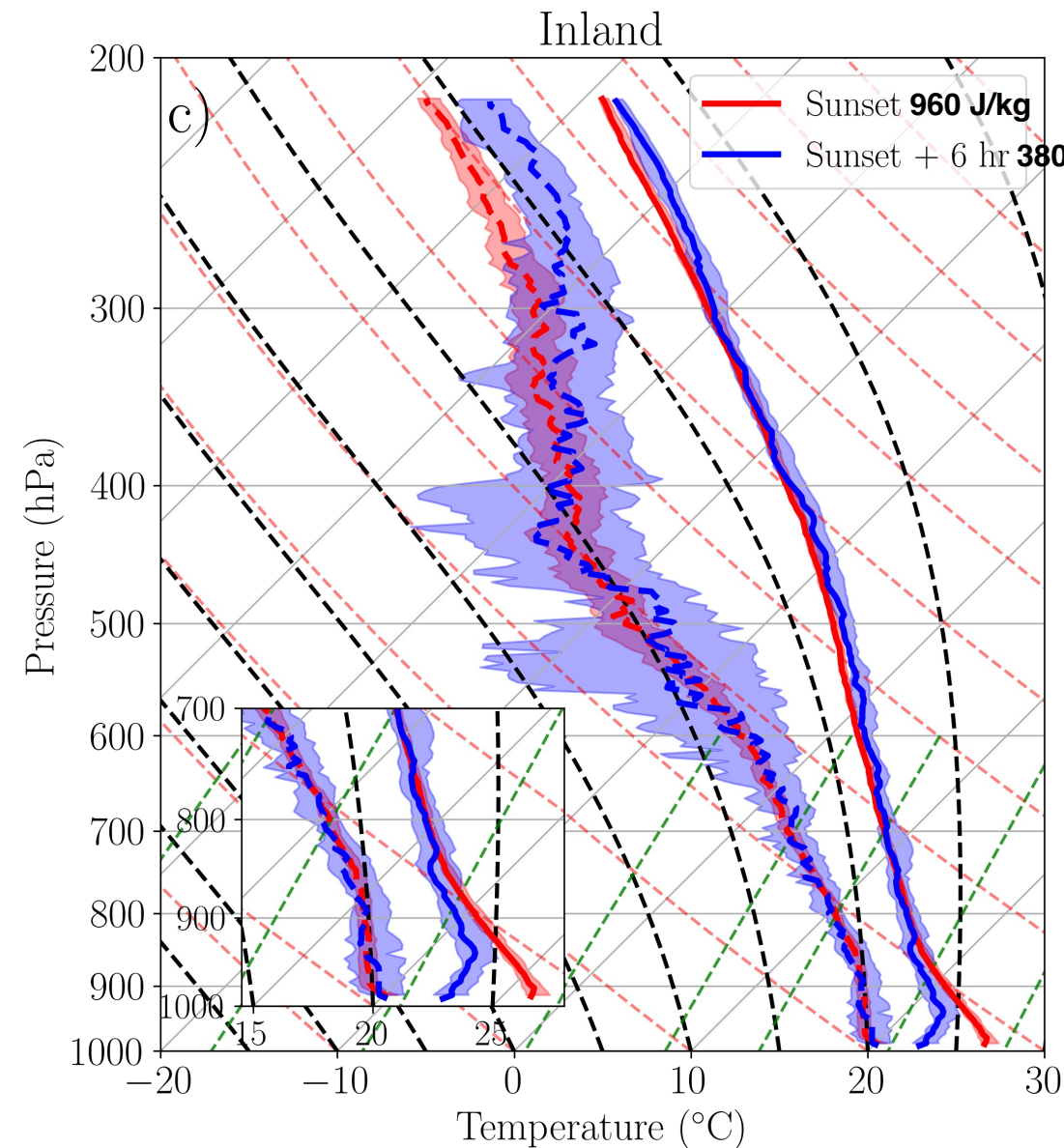
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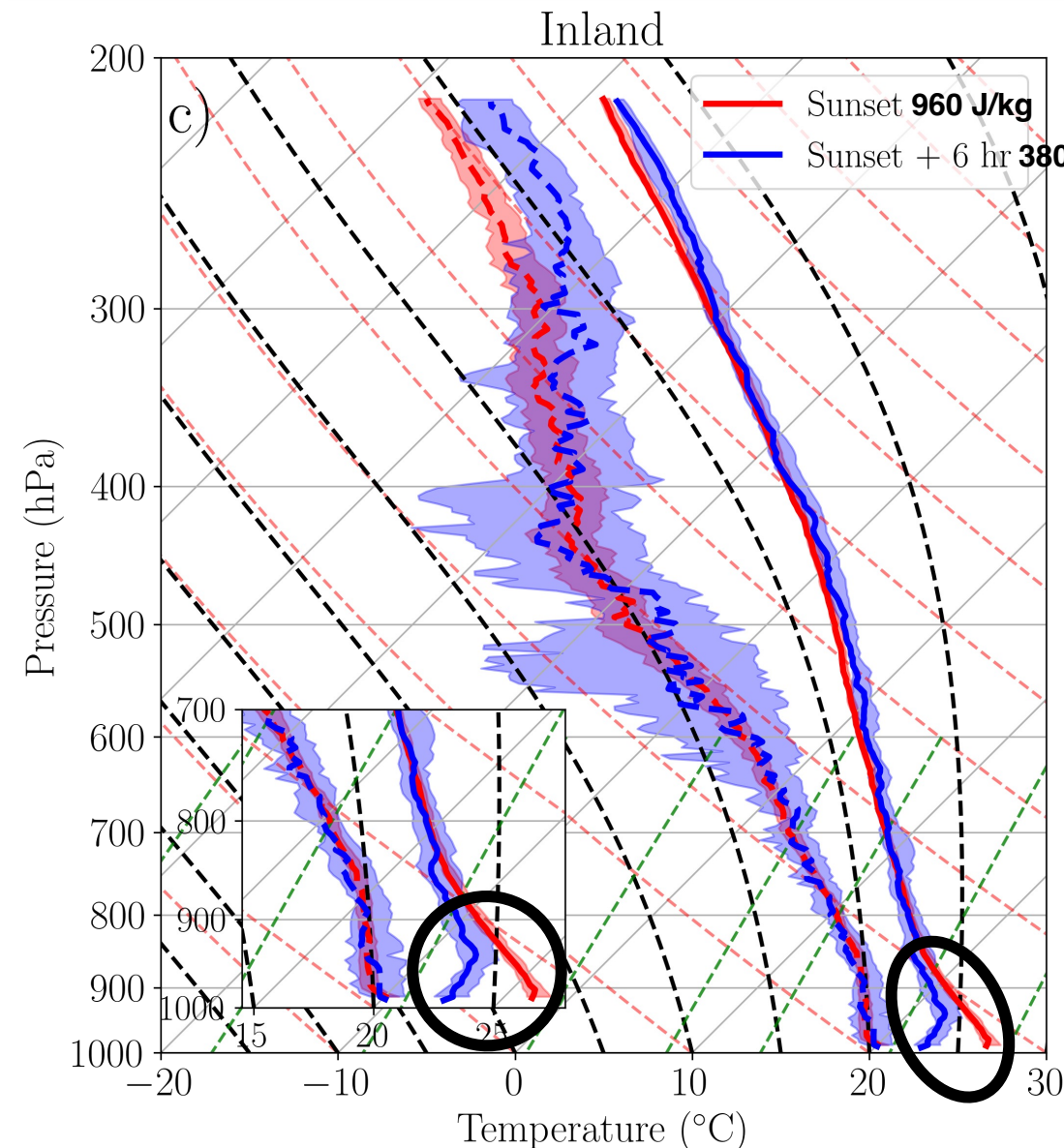
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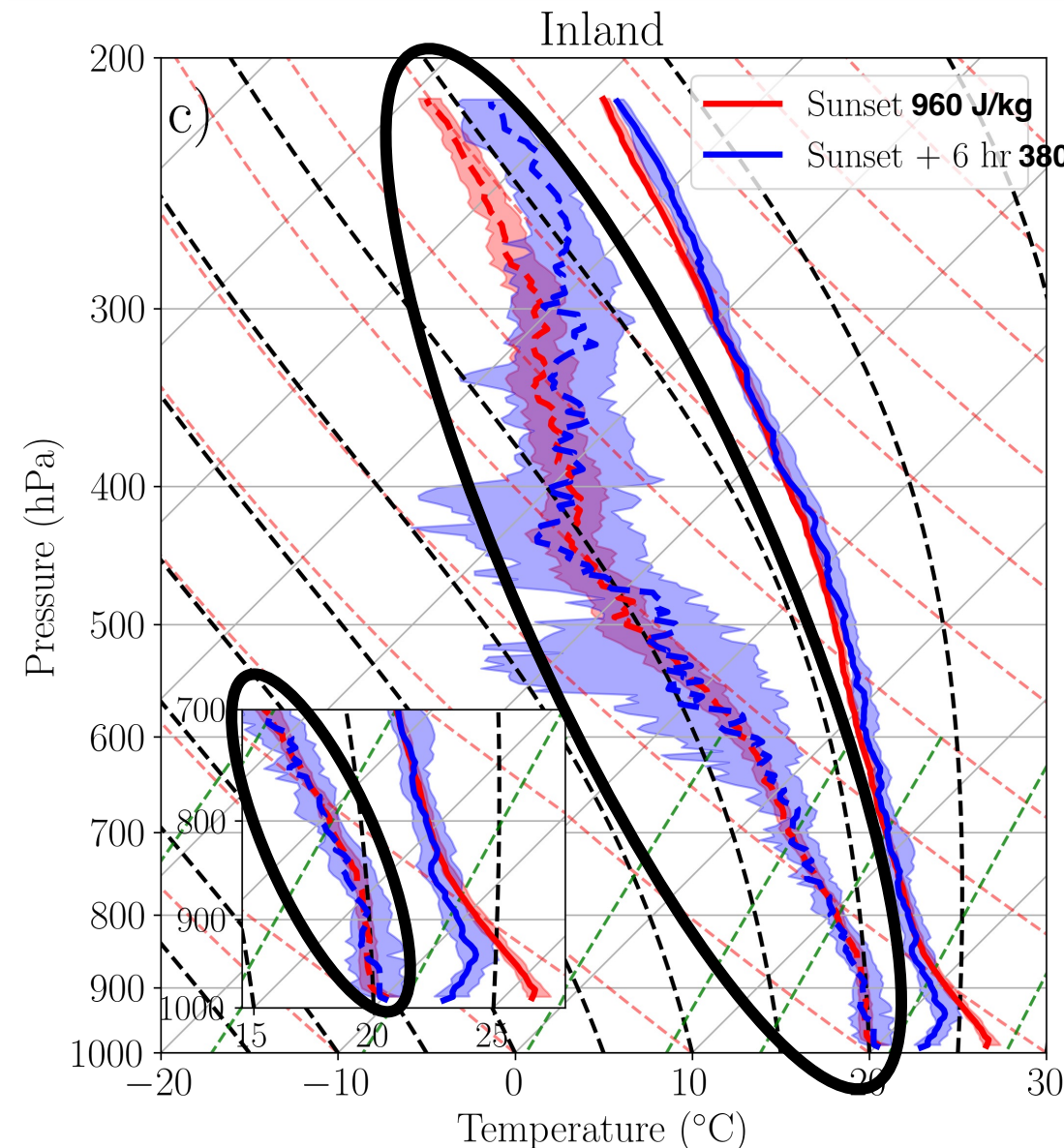
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- Compared to coastal environments, inland environments characterized by:
 1. Stronger diurnal variability with development of nocturnal near-surface temperature inversion;
 2. Reduced tropospheric moisture.

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- Our study suggests:
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 2. Drier troposphere with stronger diurnal variability in inland environments compared to coastal environments.
- Which processes are key to creating stronger diurnal variability in inland environments?