Introduction to RadarScope

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How do Radars Work? (Dual-Pol)

- Sends out a signal in both horizontal and vertical directions
 - Understanding of the targets detected
- Different Types of radars can "see through" storms more effectively
- WIU radar is an X-Band
- EXPENSIVE

What is RadarScope

- The best radar app (for most people)
- Reliable, up to date SUPER RES data directly from NWS radars
- \$9.99 one-time purchase (mobile)
- \$29.99 one-time purchase (pc)
 - Subscriptions available \$9.99/year (Tier 1)
 - \$99.99/year (Tier 2)

Super-Res Reflectivity

- Highest Reflectivity offered
- dBZ
- Different tilts
 - 0.5
 - 0.8
 - 1.2
 - 1.7



Precipitation Depiction

- Differentiate between rain, snow, sleet
- Useful in winter
- See snow/rain line



Super-Res Velocity

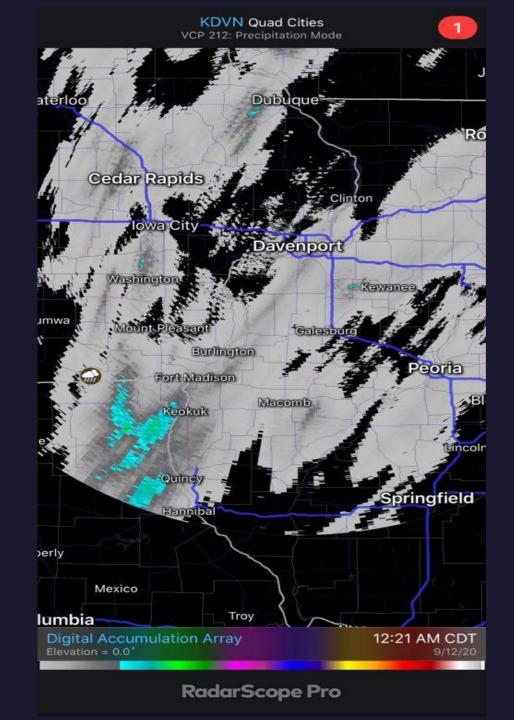
- Highest resolution velocity product available
- Sees directions of the wind
- Green = toward radar
- Red = away from radar
- Tight couplet typically means tornado



Photo by: Marc Weinberg

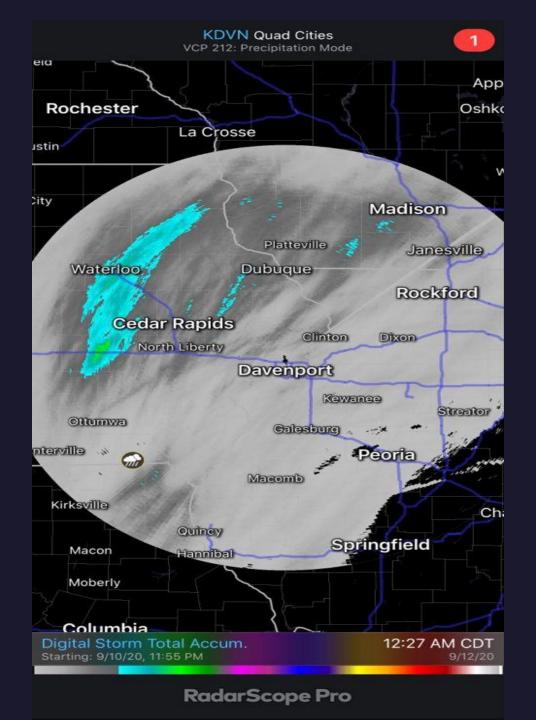
Digital Accumulation Array

- One-hour storm difference
- Dual polar product
- Updated once per scan



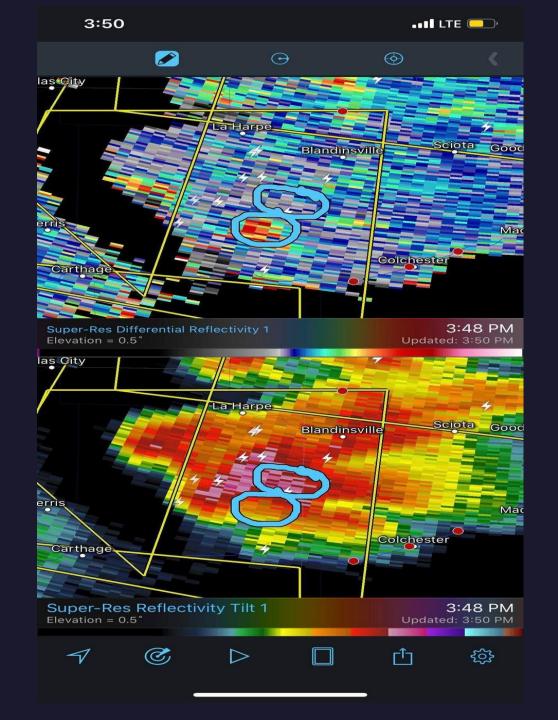
Digital Storm Total Accumulation

- Shows precip values per the event
- Does not update every scan
 - Typically 10-minute updates



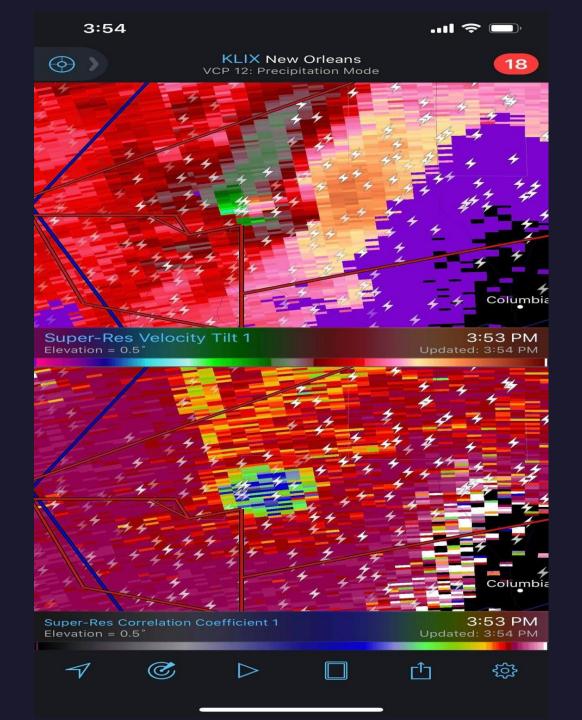
Super-Res Differential Reflectivity

- Uses the dual pol technology to differentiate between vertical and horizontal particles
- Hail and inflow are the most useful properties



Super-Res Correlation Coefficient

- Can detect different sizes of particles being reflected to the radar site
- Most common is the tornadic debris signature
- This will give a "radar confirmed tornado"



Hydrometer Classification

- Can determine possible precip type
- 11 possible choices (but more)
 - Clutter, ice crystals, dry snow, wet snow, light rain, heavy rain, big drops, graupel, hail/rain, large hail, giant hail

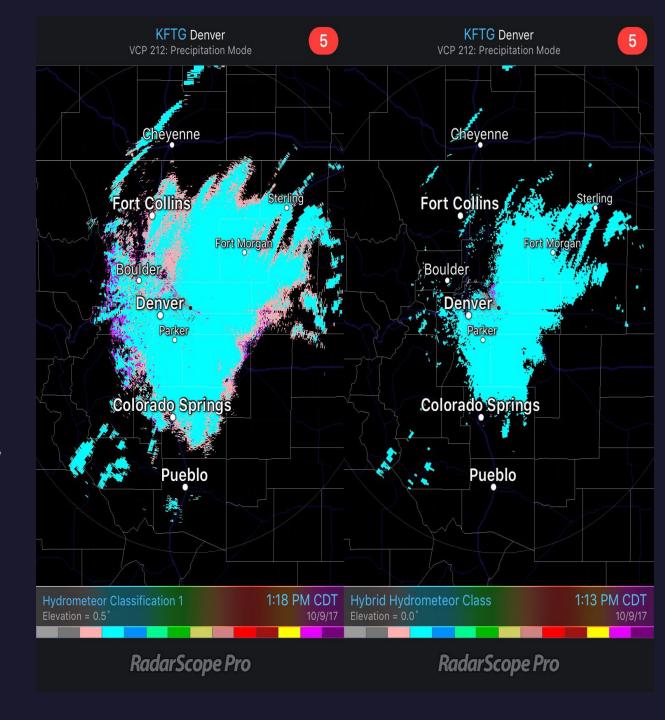


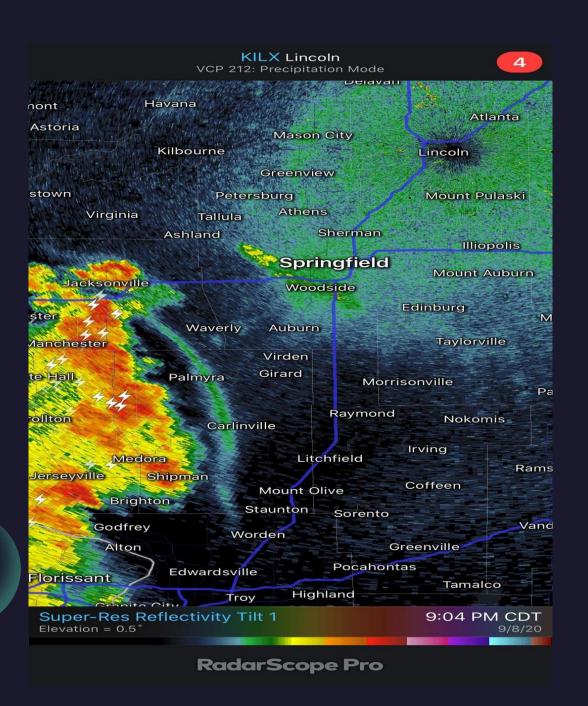
Photo By: David Moran

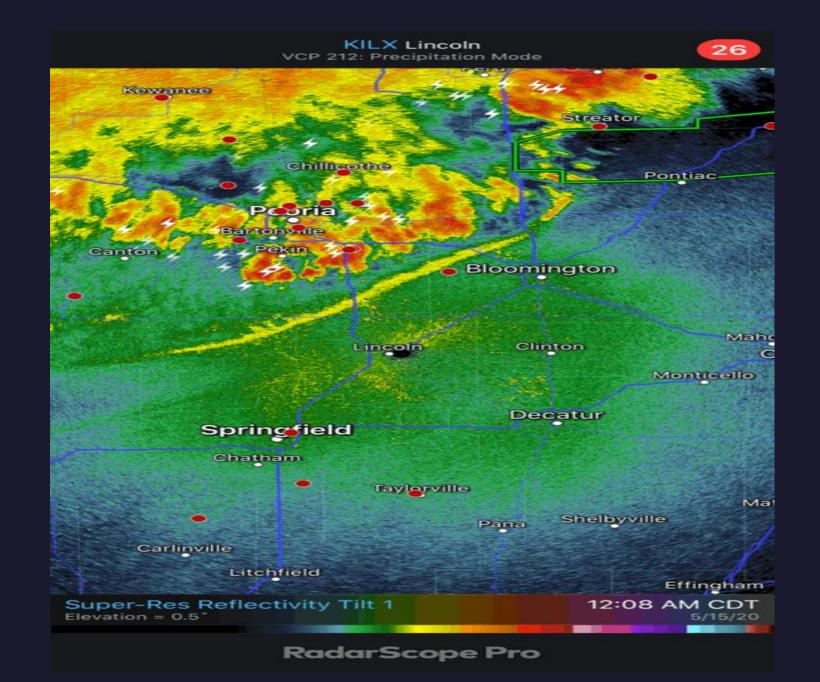
Enhanced Echo Tops

- Gives values of the tops of clouds
- Useful to see how strong a storm can be
- >50kft typically means good things are going to happen
- Know your beam height!!



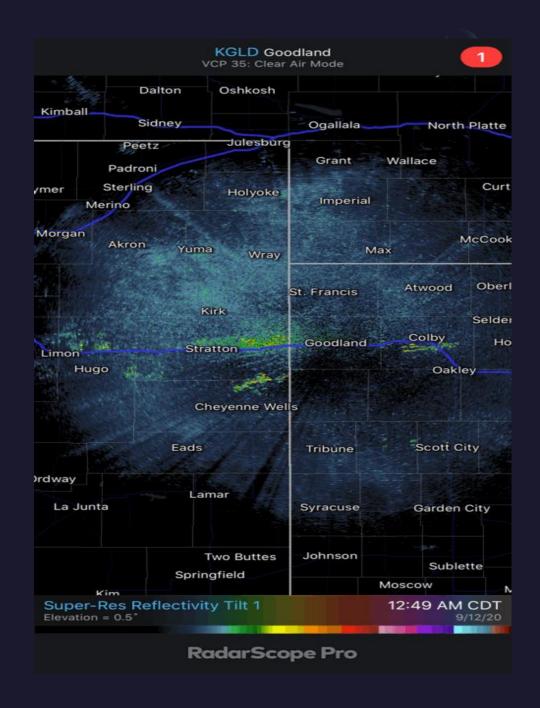
"Gust fronts" or "Outflow Boundaries"





Wind Farm Effect

- Stationary objects (wind turbines)
- Create their own weather
- Nothing we can do
- NWS not happy



Sources

- Intro Picture: https://www.amazon.com/Weather-Decision-Technologies-Inc-RadarScope/dp/80094IHG8S
- Velocity: https://twitter.com/MarcWeinbergWX/status/1249448299301679107/photo/2
- Hydrometer: hydrometeor-classification