

Title of Article: How a warming climate may make winter tornadoes stronger

Link: <https://www.sciencenews.org/article/tornado-climate-warming-winter-stronger>

1. Short Summary:

The author claims that, due to the effects of climate change, warmer temperatures during the winter time can create stronger tornadoes. The author then proceeds to cite another article, displaying how the tornado season has shifted into later months than usual. Atmospheric scientists, such as Jeff Trapp and Kevin Reed have discovered, through a weather simulation, that temperature fluctuations due to climate change simulated a strong tornado with a 15% increase in wind speeds. This could also result in tornadoes traveling farther distances. There are, however, drawbacks to this experiment since there are many factors the simulation has to include. This can cause the data of the simulation to be too vague.

2. Definitions:

- Tornado: Created from warm air currents being trapped under strong cool air currents. Creates a funnel-like vortex of strong wind. Tornadoes occur at a much smaller scale than hurricanes.
- Tornado Season within the U.S.: Tornadoes most commonly occur between the months March - June in the U.S.. However, Tornadoes can occur at any time of the year if given the right conditions.

3. Class Relation/Connection:

The United States lies about 30 degrees North of the equator. In relation to Hadley cells, the U.S. is within the downdraft of wind due to the higher amount of pressure the area receives. Wind moves from high to low pressure and the U.S. contains certain high and low pressure points along its continent. This then results in higher wind speed, creating the 'Tornado Season', for the U.S. due to its many pressure fluctuations (which is also influenced by the altitude of the U.S. at certain areas: e.g. The Appalachians and The Rocky Mountains).