

Observations by ASIM of Terrestrial Gamma-ray Flashes accompanied by Elves

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I. Bjørge-Engeland¹, N. Østgaard¹, A. Mezentsev¹, C. A. Skeie¹, D. Sarria¹, J. Lapierre², A. Lindanger¹, T. Neubert³, M. Marisaldi^{1,4}, N. Lehtinen¹, O. Chanrion³, K. Ullaland¹, S. Yang¹, G. Genov¹, F. Christiansen³, V. Reglero⁵

¹Birkeland Centre for Space Science, Department of Physics and Technology, University of Bergen, Norway
²Earth Networks, Germantown, MD, USA
³National Space Institute, Technical University of Denmark, Kongens Lyngby, Denmark
⁴INAF-OAS Bologna, Italy
⁵Image Processing Laboratory, University of Valencia, Spain











Data and objectives

- Atmosphere-Space Interactions Monitor (ASIM)
 - Modular X- and Gamma-ray Sensor (MXGS)
 - Modular Multispectral Imaging Array (MMIA)
 - Photometers: 337, UV and 777.4 nm
 - 777.4 nm is dominated by emissions from the lightning leader

Objectives

- Find simultaneous detections of TGFs and Elves
- What information can be obtained about the associated lightning discharges?



Credit: ESA



Finding simultaneous detections of TGFs and Elves

- Search for UV pulses
- UV pulse peak before 337 and 777 nm peaks \rightarrow Elve







ASIM TGFs with Elves

- 17 observations of TGFs accompanied by Elves
- Short TGF durations
- Associated with very high peak current lightning
- Geographical distribution
 - 11 oceanic
 - 5 coastal
 - 1 over land





Peak currents from a large sample of GLD360 sferics





Peak current vs. TGF duration

- Peak currents associated with other ASIM TGFs
- Consistency check between the TGF detection and the candidate sferic locations
- Sample 1: Most reliable TGF-sferic matches



Summary

- 17 TGF-Elve pairs
- Short TGF durations
- Events are associated with very high peak current lightning
- The peak currents are high compared to both lightning and TGFs in general
- Short duration TGFs tend to be associated with high peak current lightning



