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Oceanography and Atmospheric Sci. Meteorology

The Initiation of Lightning and the Growth of Electric Fields in Thunderstorms

Authors: [John Latham](#); [UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER INST OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY \(UNITED KINGDOM\) DEPT OF PHYSICS](#)

Abstract: Further research into the glaciation of convective **clouds** of-the type that produce lightning has revealed that the early stages of ice formation can be detected by measurement of the supercooled droplet radius - a result which also has climatological implications. Further laboratory experiments have shown that the most effective methods of lightning initiation are likely to involve supercooled raindrops, with threshold fields around 300kV/m. A new model of thunder**cloud** electrification and lightning **production** has been developed, from which it is possible to deduce the sensitivity of lightning frequency to meteorological and **cloud** microphysical parameters. Lightning, Ice, Corona, Electric field.

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