

**V All-Russian Conference**  
**Turbulence, atmospheric and climate dynamics**

**On the Electrical and Electromagnetic Properties of  
Windblown Sand Flows Under Moderate Wind Conditions**  
**Об электрических и электромагнитных свойствах ветропесчаного  
потока в условиях умеренных ветров**

Presented by:  
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G.<sup>2</sup>, I. V. Dokuchaev<sup>2</sup>, Lyash A. N.<sup>2</sup>, Dubov A. E.<sup>2</sup>, Kartasheva A. A.<sup>2</sup>, Zakharov A.V.<sup>2</sup>.

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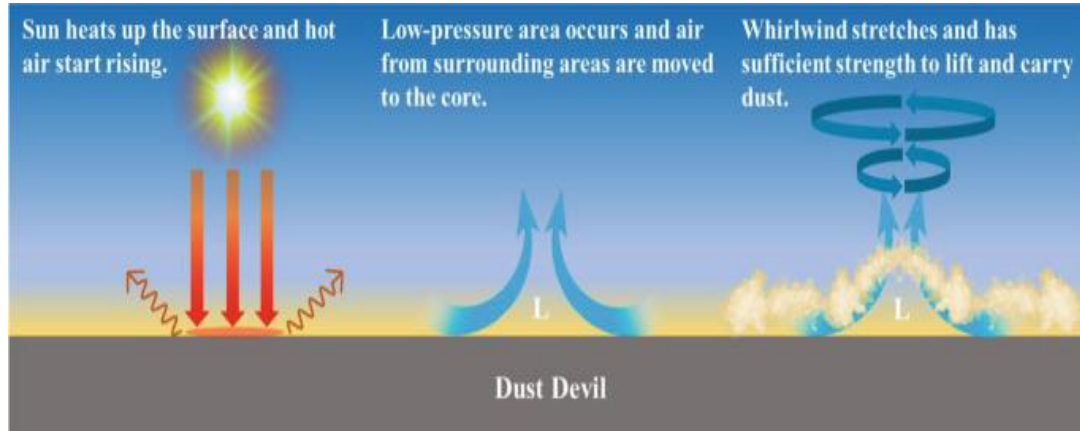
## Research Objectives

- Investigate the electric and electromagnetic properties of windblown sand flows under moderate wind conditions.
- Examine the processes of dust particle electrification and the generation of electromagnetic bursts.
- Identify the correlations between meteorological parameters (e.g., wind speed, temperature, humidity) and the observed electromagnetic activity (EMA).

## Significance:

- **Understanding Dust Electrification:** Provides insights into the mechanisms driving charge accumulation in arid environments, influencing local and global atmospheric dynamics.
- **Planetary Science Implications:** Enhances understanding of dust-related phenomena on Mars, such as dust devils and their role in electric field generation.
- **Environmental Applications:** Helps model dust storm behavior on Earth, contributing to climate studies and improving prediction of dust-related weather events.
- **Technological Relevance:** Advances methodologies for measuring and analyzing high-frequency electromagnetic signals in extreme environments.

## Dust particles levitation

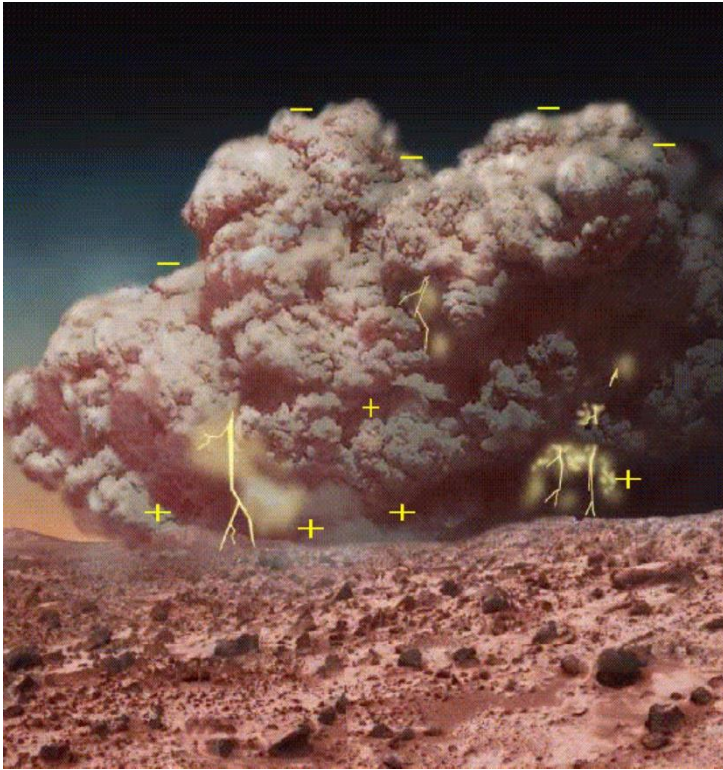


Stretched color version of a movie of a huge “dust lifting” event taken by the Navigation Camera (Navcam) on sol 117. Images are 14 seconds apart.

Credit: NASA/Caltech-JPL/SS



## Dust storms on Mars



An artist's impression of an electrified dust devil at Mars (from Farrell et al. [2004](#))



Mars without a dust storm in June 2001 (on left) and with a global dust storm in July 2001 (on right), as seen by Mars Global Surveyor  
<https://www.nasa.gov/feature/storm-chasers-on-mars-searching-for-dusty-secrets>



MRO: <https://mars.nasa.gov/resources/5307/the-serpent-dust-devil-of-mars/>

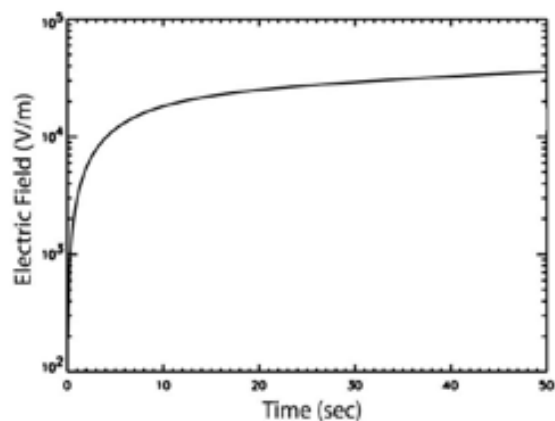


Fig. 1. The evolution of the electric field strength  $E$  in a dust storm at a wind speed of 7 m/s (Farrell et al., 2006).

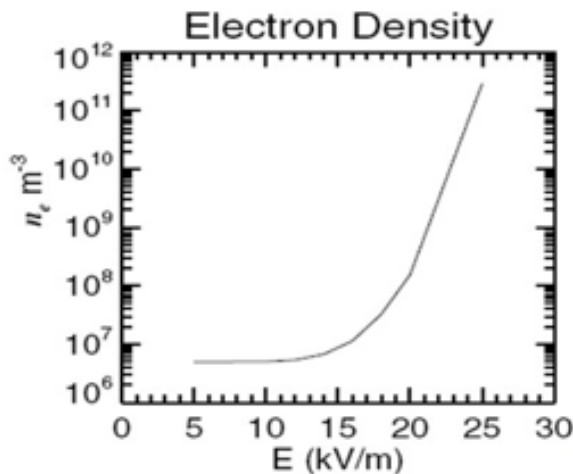


Fig.2. Electron concentration near the surface of Mars as a function of electric field magnitude during a dust storm (Delory et al., 2006)

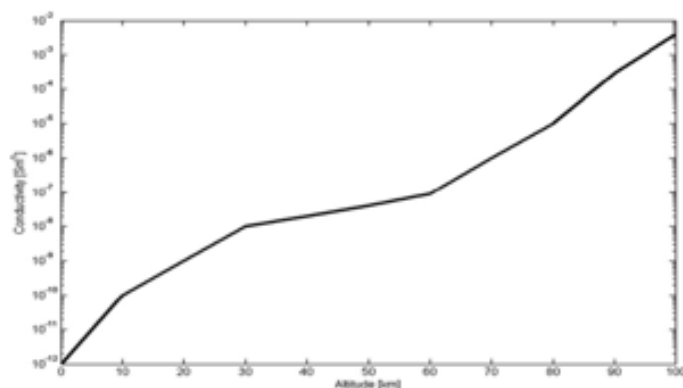


Fig .3. Conductivity profile of the martian atmosphere  $10^{-12}$  and  $10^{-7}$  S/ m.  
Credit: F. Simões et al. / Icarus 194 (2008) 30–41

## Dust Particle Motion During Dust Storms

To determine whether electrostatic discharge takes place in the low Martian atmosphere during dust storms it is necessary to know the number of collisions between dust particles moving under wind action and then to calculate the electric field induced by the charge density to check if the breakdown voltage could be reached.

The dust particles are considered as spherical with a radius  $r_p$ , mass  $m_p$ , velocity  $V_p$ , and charge  $q_p$ . **Particle movement is given by Newton's equation:**

$$m_p \frac{dv_p}{dt} = F_F + F_G + F_d$$

Where  $F_F$  is the force due to the electromagnetic field,  $F_G$  is the force of gravity, and  $F_d$  is the drag force due to the viscosity:

## Electrification Mechanism

The space time variation of the quasi-electrostatic field is given by:

$$\mathbf{E} = -\nabla\varphi$$

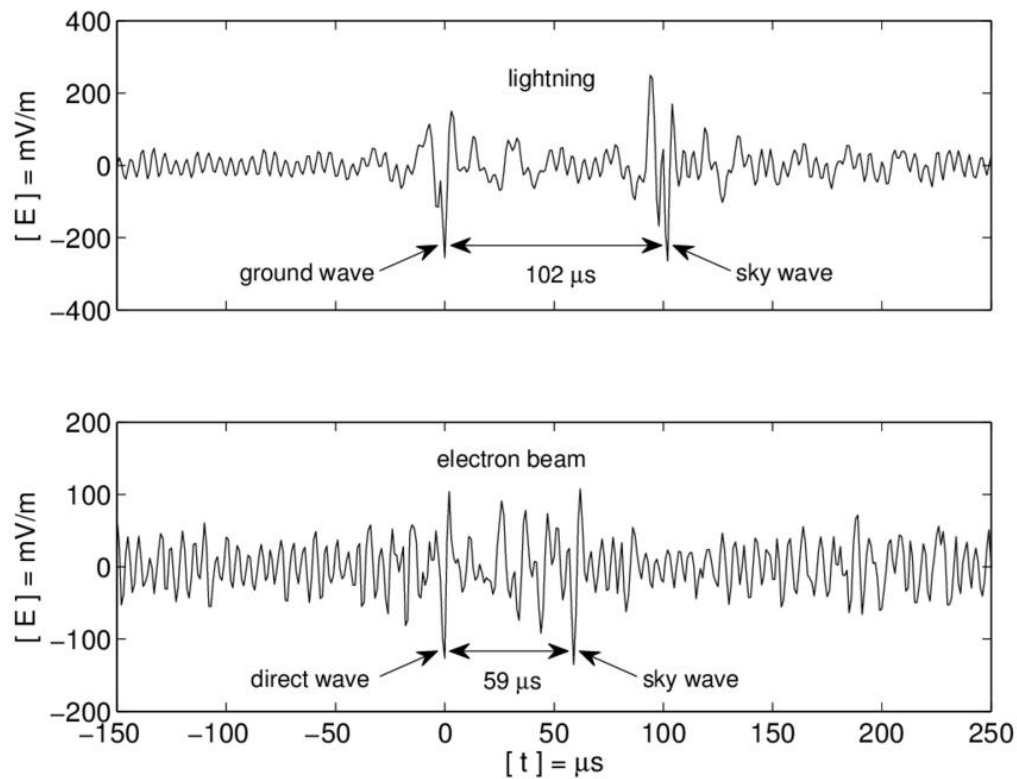
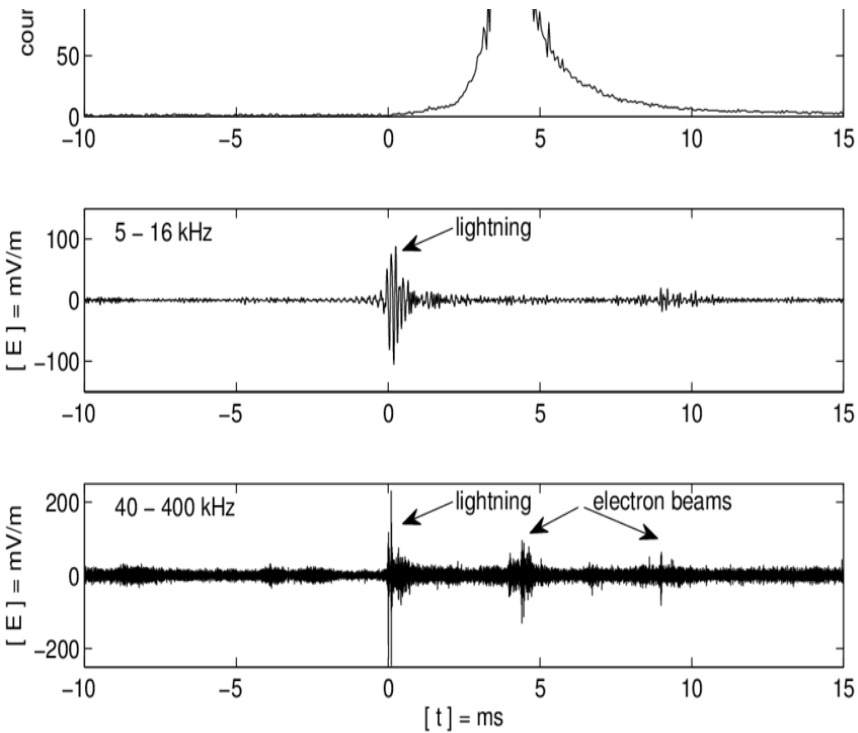
Where  $\varphi$  is the electrostatic potential. The potential  $\varphi$  and the charge density  $\rho$  are related by the continuity equation:

$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} - \nabla[\sigma \nabla \varphi] = 0$$

And Poisson's equation:

$$\nabla^2 \varphi = -(\rho + \rho_s)/\epsilon_0$$



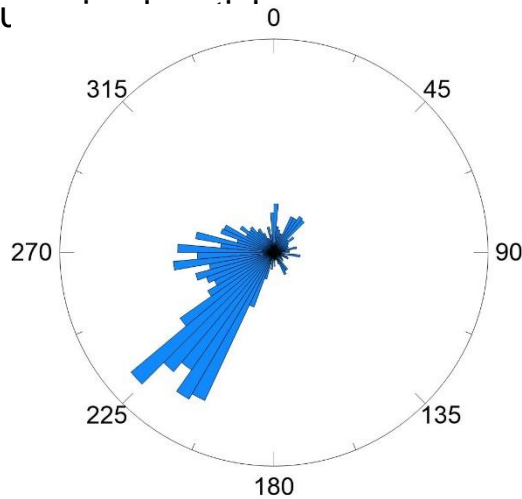




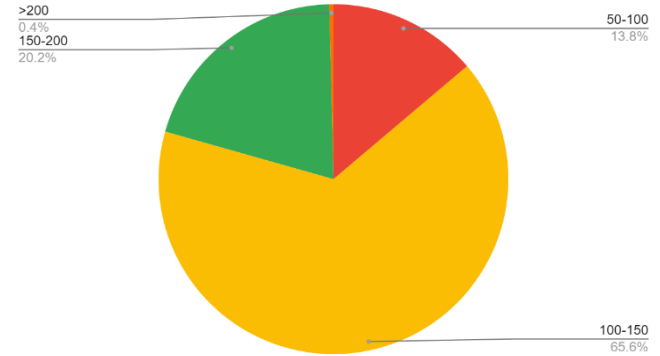


## Dust Particle Size and Wind Charecterstics

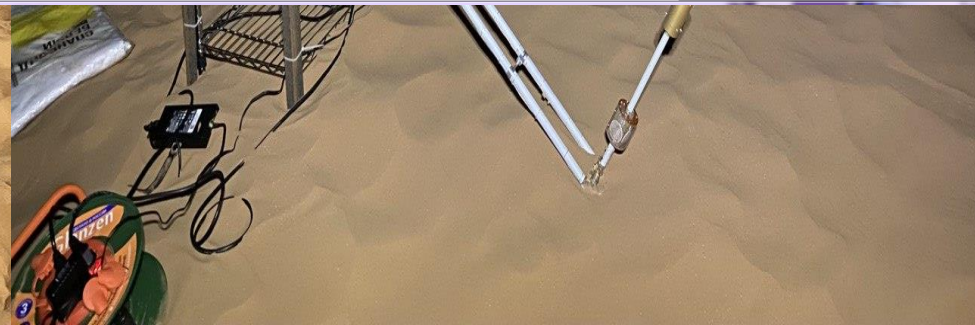
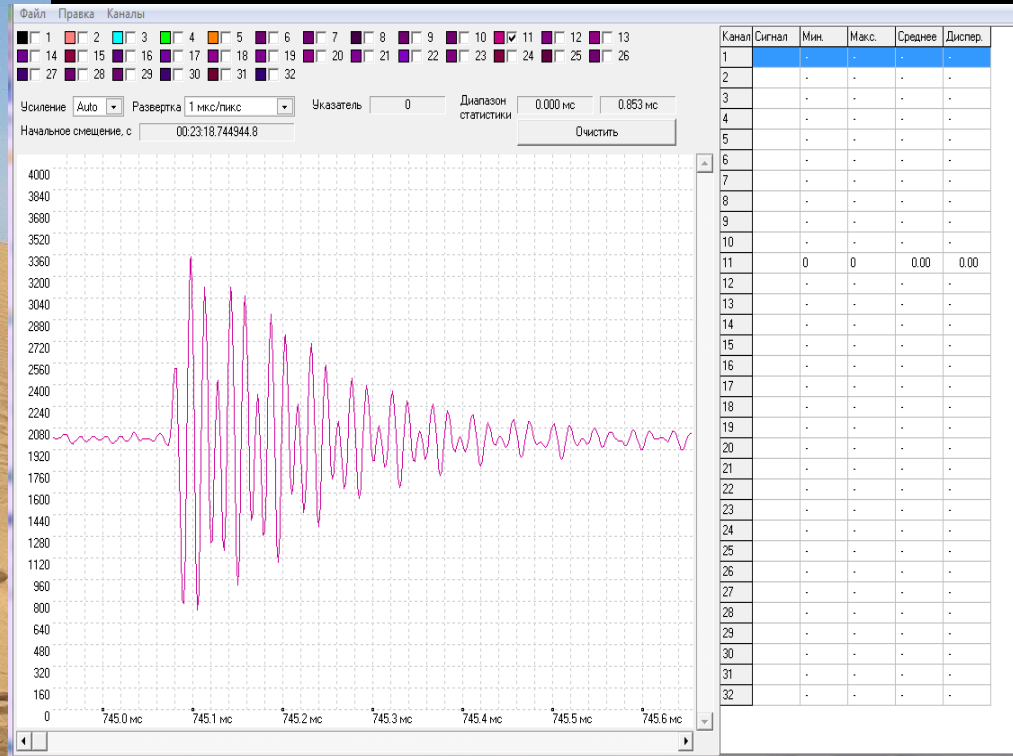
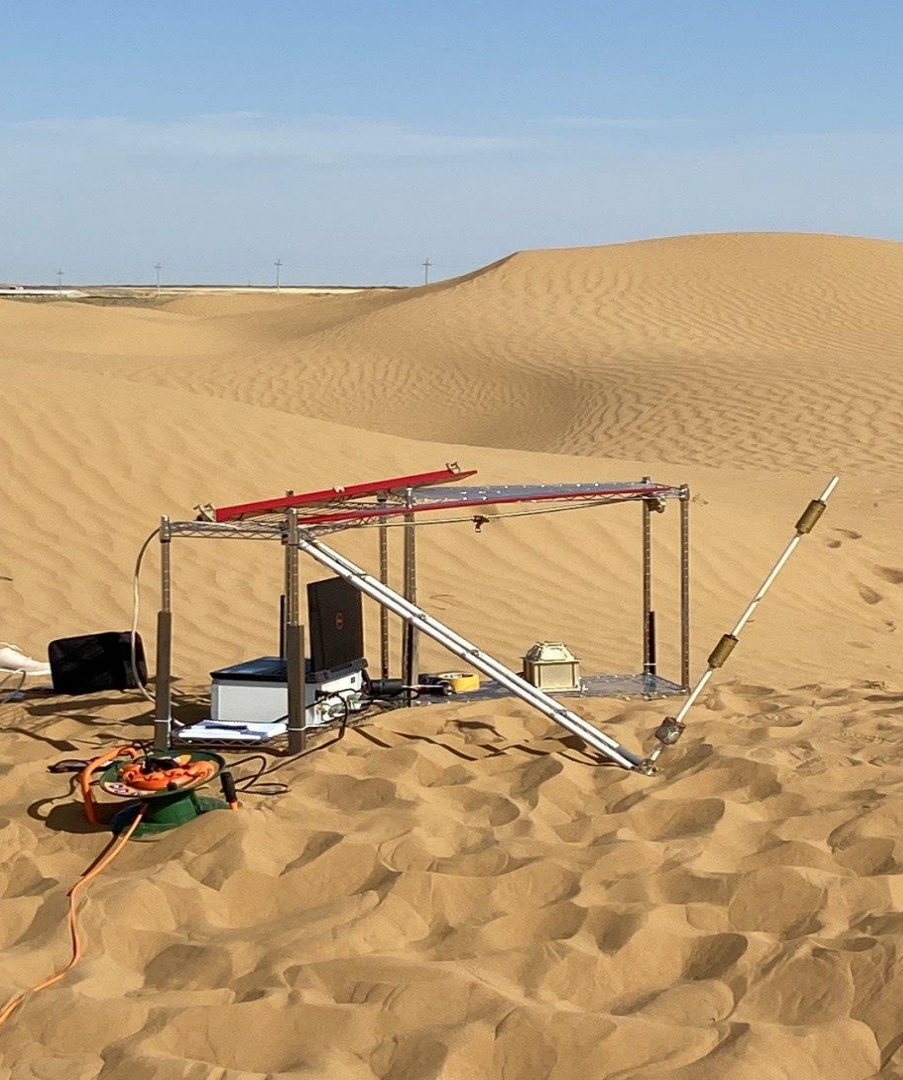
The collected dust particles in the Kalmykian desert were predominantly in the 100–150  $\mu\text{m}$  size range, with some additional presence in the 50–100  $\mu\text{m}$  and 150–200  $\mu\text{m}$  ranges. Particles below 50  $\mu\text{m}$  and above 200  $\mu\text{m}$  were almost absent in the sample, indicating that the local atmospheric and environmental conditions favor the mobilization and suspension of medi



weight (g) vs. Size ( $\mu\text{m}$ )



Wind direction mainly was south-east.  
Wind speeds: 2-4 m/s on average,  
peaking at 5–6 m/s during the evening.



## Influence of Humidity

### •Key Findings:

- Number of electromagnetic bursts increased as **humidity decreased** from **30% to 20%** during the day.
- Noticeable emission activity begins when humidity falls below **40–50%** [1].

### •Insights from Literature:

- Aerosol electrification is enhanced in low-humidity conditions [2].
- Wet particles reduce charge accumulation [3].

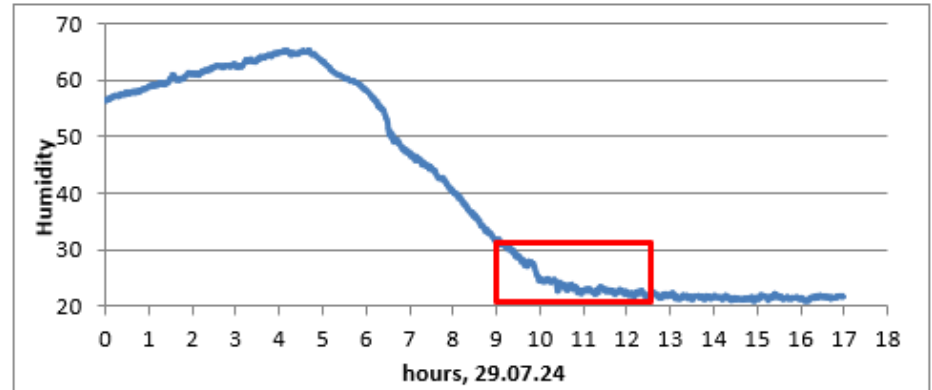
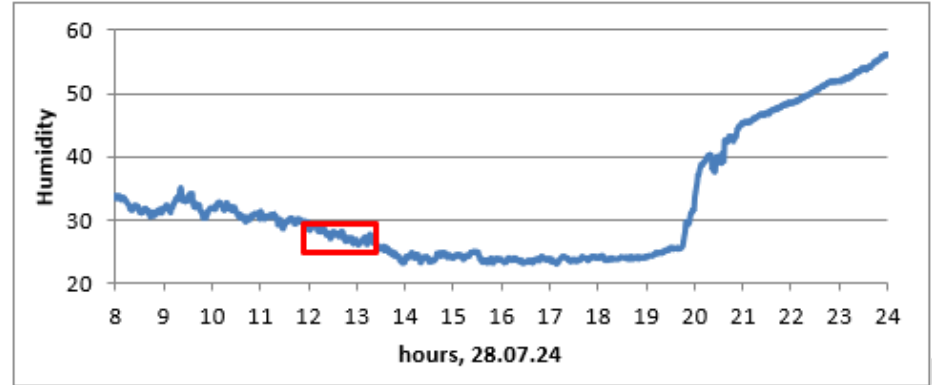


Fig 10. The relationship of the amplification of the number of electromagnetic bursts with the range of relative humidity values. The area with more than 12 electromagnetic bursts is highlighted in red.

[1] Golitsyn G. S. et al., 2003

[2] Смирнов В.В., 2010

[3] Petrova G.G. et al, 2021; Петрова Г.Г., 2023

# Correlation with Meteorological Parameters

## •Parameters Studied:

- Temperature (T).
- Wind speed (U).
- Vertical wind speed ( $U_z$ ).
- Electric field strength (Ed).
- Difference in electric field (dE) between 5 m and 0.5 m.
- Piezo electric sensors (PZT).
- Electro-Magnetic Analyzer (EMA).

## •Findings:

- Bursts align with **wind gusts** and **vertical wind changes**.
- Discharge events increase after **spikes in electric field strength**.

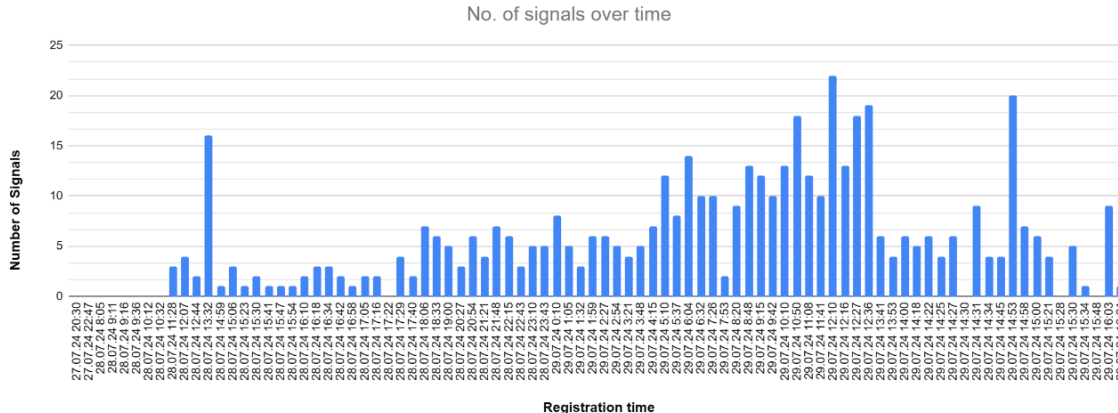


Fig. 11. Number of electromagnet signals registered over 28 and 29 of Jul 2024.

# Observations Over Time

## •Time Intervals Compared:

- **Morning (8:00–11:00):** Moderate bursts, steady rise in wind speed and temperature.
- **Afternoon (11:00–14:00):** Stronger bursts correlated with higher winds and lower humidity.

## •Key Observation:

- Afternoon conditions (higher temperatures, stronger winds, and lower humidity) amplify discharge activity.

28.07 11:00-14:00

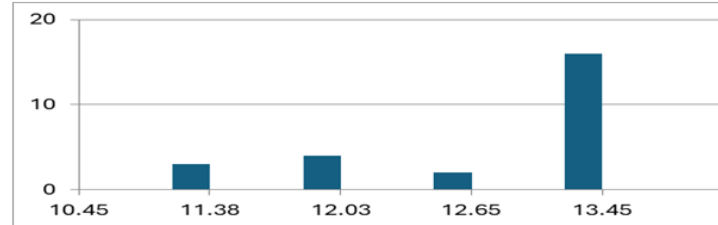


Fig. 1. The number of electromagnetic bursts.

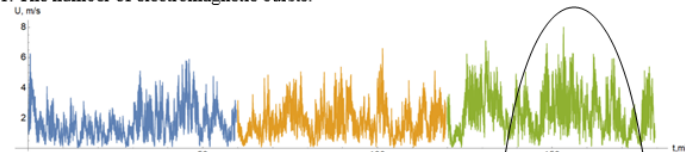


Fig. 2. Change in wind speed, frequency 20 Hz.

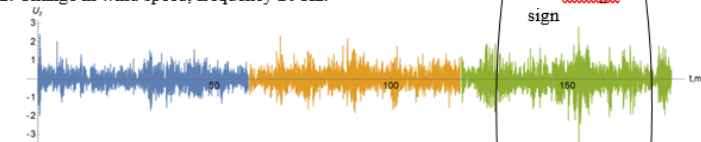


Fig. 3. Vertical components of wind speed



Fig. 4. Change in the magnitude of the electric field strength at two heights (0.4 and 5 m)

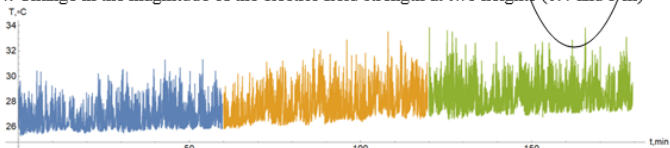


Fig. 5. Temperature change, frequency 20 Hz



29.07 08:00-11:00

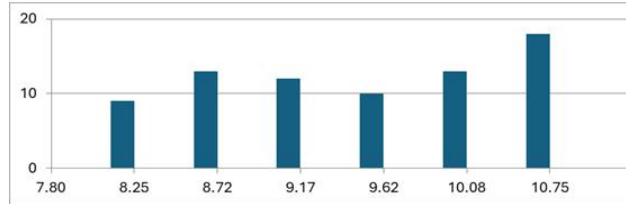


Fig. 1. The number of electromagnetic bursts

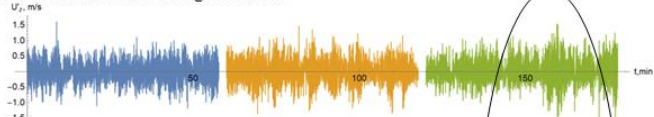


Fig. 2. Change in wind speed, frequency 20 Hz

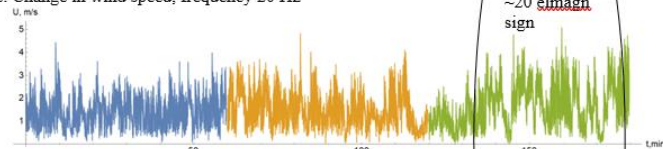


Fig. 3. Vertical components of wind speed

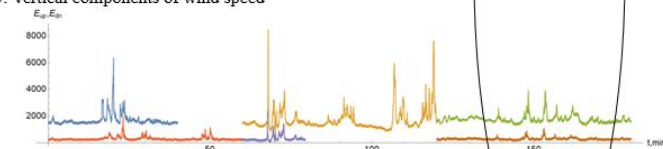


Fig. 4. The change in the magnitude of the electric field strength at two heights (0.4 and 5 m)

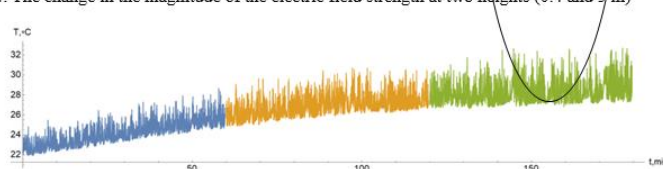


Fig. 5. Temperature change, frequency 20 Hz

29.07 11:00-14:00

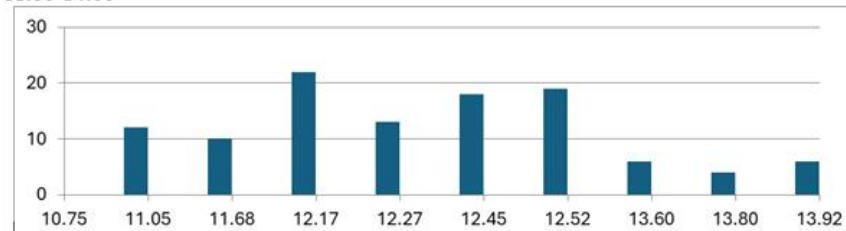


Fig. 1. Number of electromagnetic bursts on 29.07 in the time interval 11:00-14:00

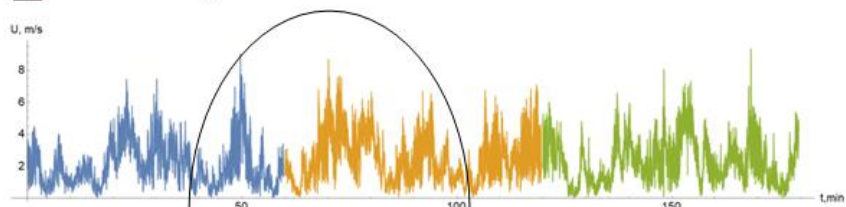


Fig. 2. Wind speed change, frequency 20 Hz

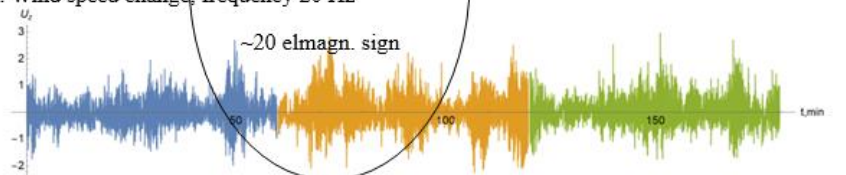


Fig. 3. Vertical components of wind speed

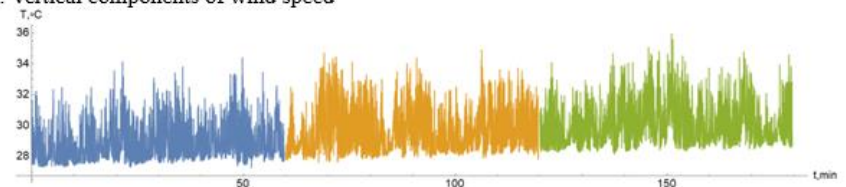


Fig. 4. Temperature change, frequency 20 Hz

# Electromagnetic Signal Characteristics

**Frequency Range:** 330–430 kHz.

**Amplitude range  $V_{pp}$ :** 255 and 300 mV.

**Time period:** of 3.3-4  $\mu$ s

## An Example of a Primary Signal:

Duration: 3.27  $\mu$ s

Amplitude: 293.4 mV

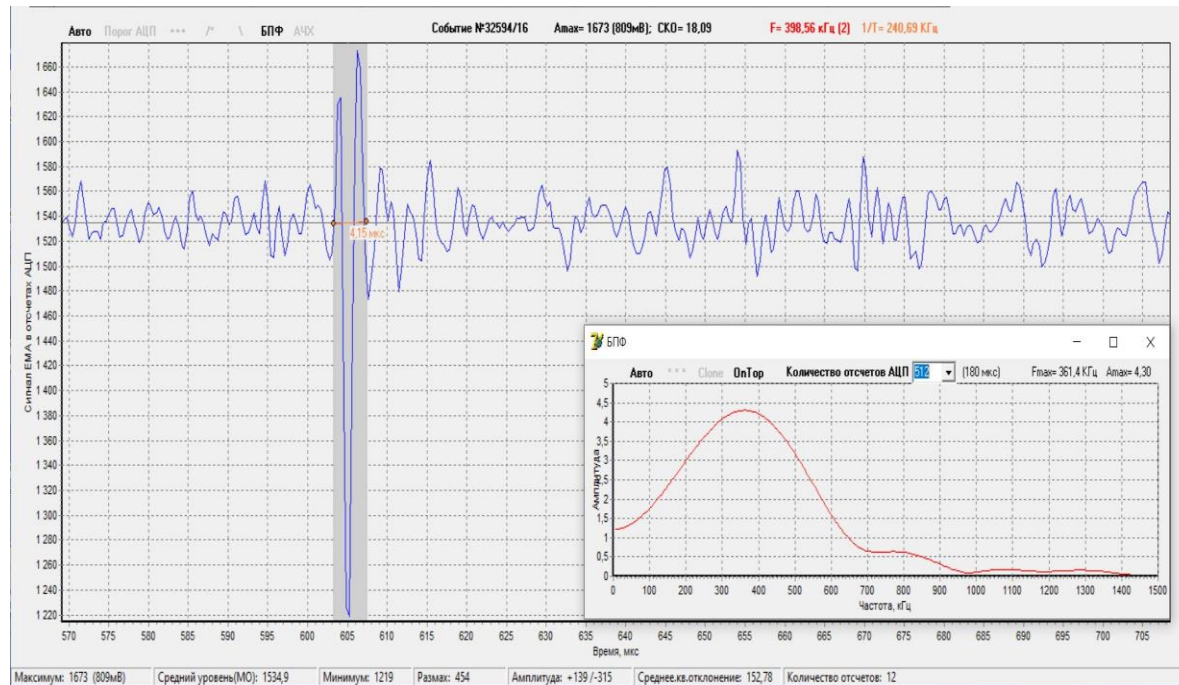
Standard deviation: 221.14 mV

Indicates moderate signal variability.

Correlation Observations:

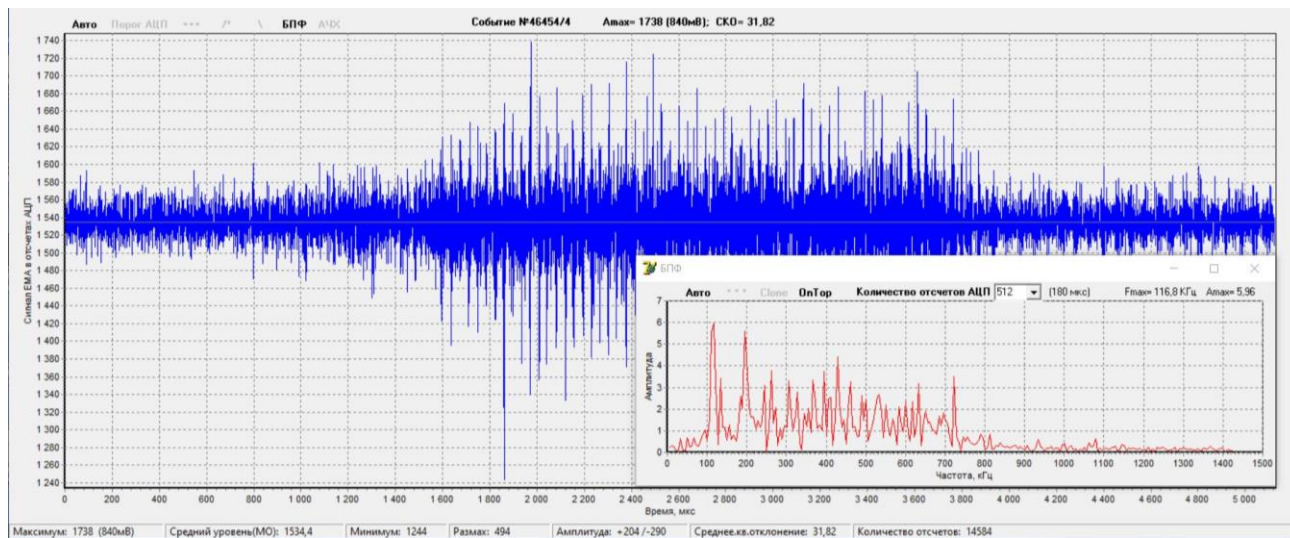
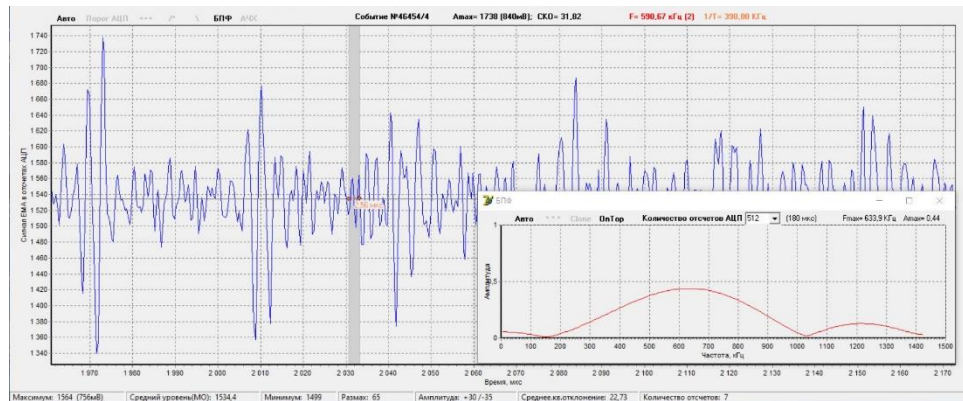
Electromagnetic bursts align with:

- Solar radiation intensity.
- Wind speed increases.
- Electric field strength fluctuations.



## An Example of a complex Signal:

- Frequency Range: 300–600 kHz
- Amplitude (Vpp): 60–150 mV



## Comparison between the signals

### 1. Frequency Range

- **Main Signals:** Exhibit a narrower frequency range (330–430 kHz), with an average period of 3.3-4  $\mu$ s suggesting a more irregular or transient source with varying discharge intensities.
- **Complex Signals:** Have a broader frequency range (300–600 kHz), indicating a highly regular, consistent discharge process.

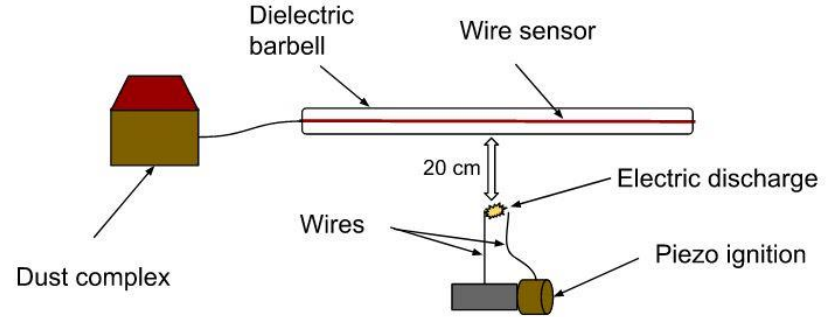
### 2. Amplitude and RMS Values

- **Main Signals:** With a peak-to-peak amplitude of 250–300 mV and an RMS of 180–200 mV, these signals show high energy levels and effective discharge power, suggesting a more variable discharge intensity.
- **Complex Signals:** Display lower peak-to-peak amplitudes (60–150 mV) with an RMS range closer to 60–100 mV, reflecting an irregular or transient source.

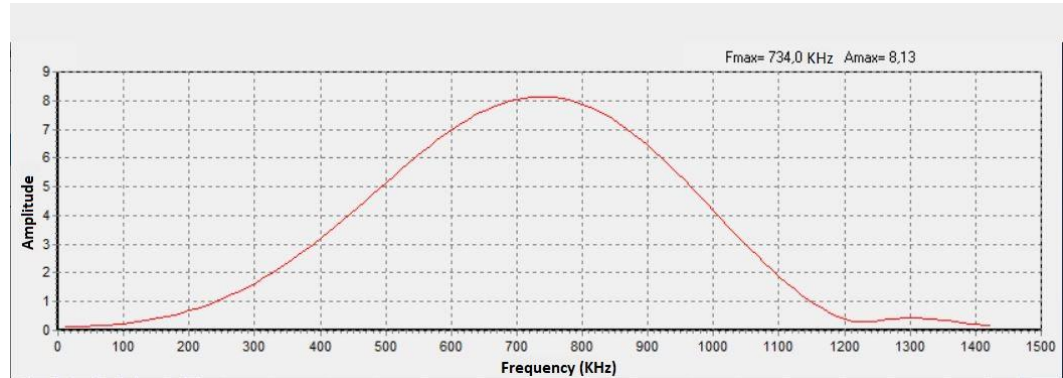
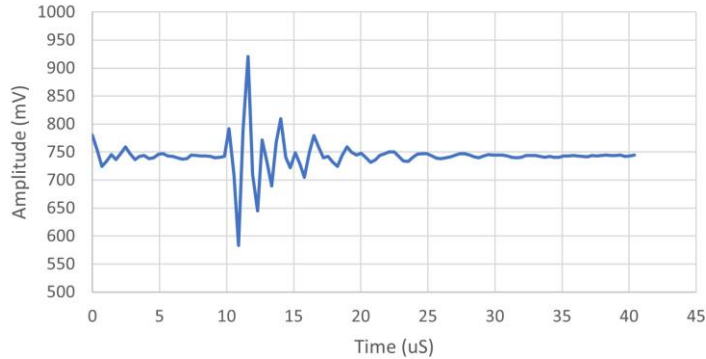
### 3. Waveform Stability and Standard Deviation

- **Main Signals:** The standard deviation of 180–206 mV, close to the RMS, indicate higher variability in discharge strength, suggesting a more chaotic source like random environmental discharges.
- **Complex Signals:** The standard deviations for these signals (93.25 mV and 22.73 mV) indicates a stable waveform with regular oscillations, characteristic of a consistent discharge

## Experimental discharges

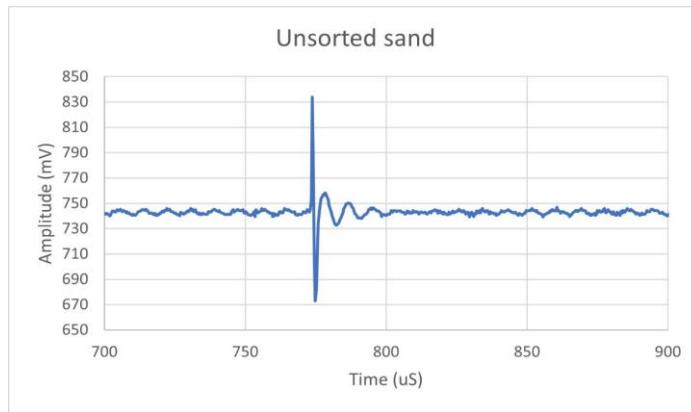
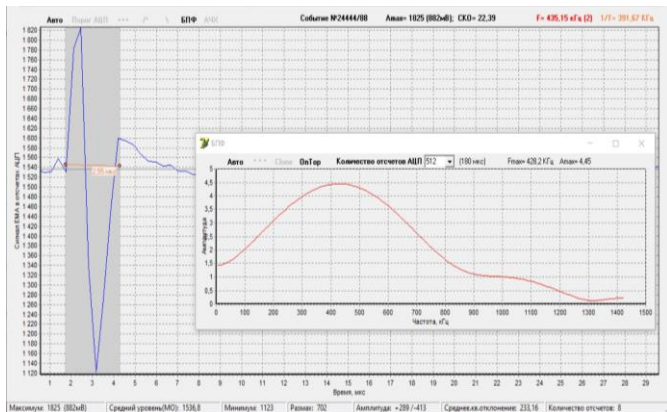
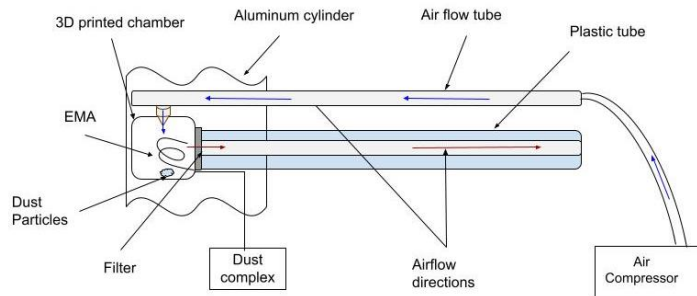


signal by Piezo Ignition



Fourier transformation spectrum of the Piezo Ignition signal

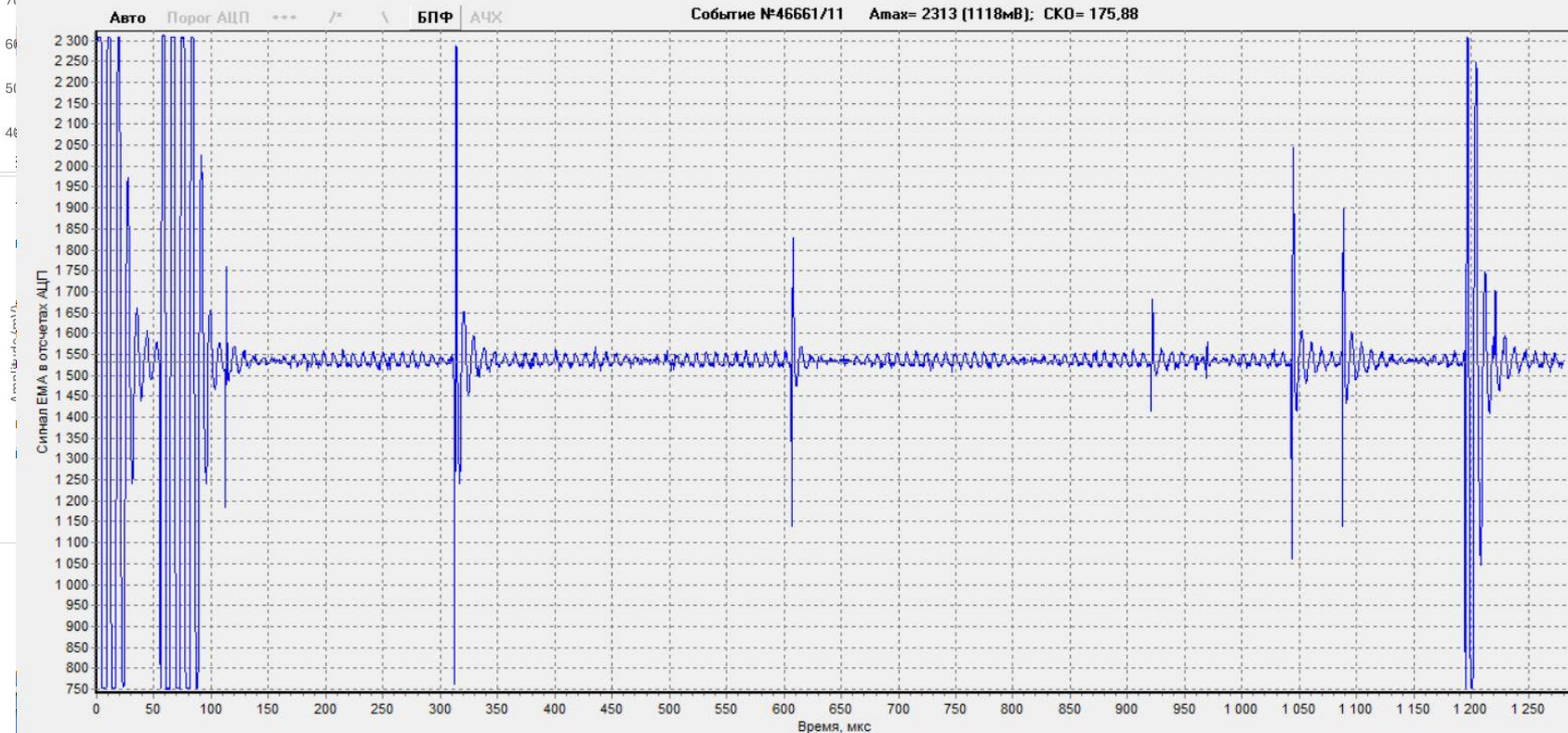




События ЕМА (37)

№	Номер события	Режим работы	Длительность записи	Период записи	Предусиление	Усиление	Порог АЦП	Время/включение ЕМА	Время ПК	Бортовое время
11	46661/11	3 /запись по порогу/	1280 мкс	1 сек	20 дБ	32 дБ	752 мВ	01:62:11 / 279	02:11:33	01.01.2000, 02:11:29
12	46661/12	3 /запись по порогу/	1280 мкс	1 сек	20 дБ	32 дБ	752 мВ	01:62:11 / 279	02:11:33	01.01.2000, 02:11:30
13	46661/13	3 /запись по порогу/	1280 мкс	1 сек	20 дБ	32 дБ	752 мВ	01:62:11 / 279	02:11:34	01.01.2000, 02:11:31

Событие №46661/11 Атаж= 2313 (1118мВ); СКО= 175,88



Максимум: 2313 (1118мВ)

Средний уровень(МО): 1531,3

Минимум: 751

Размах: 1562

Амплитуда: +782 /-780

Среднее кв.отклонение: 175,88

Количество отсчетов: 3648

Бортовое время

01.2000, 01:34:35

01.2000, 01:34:35

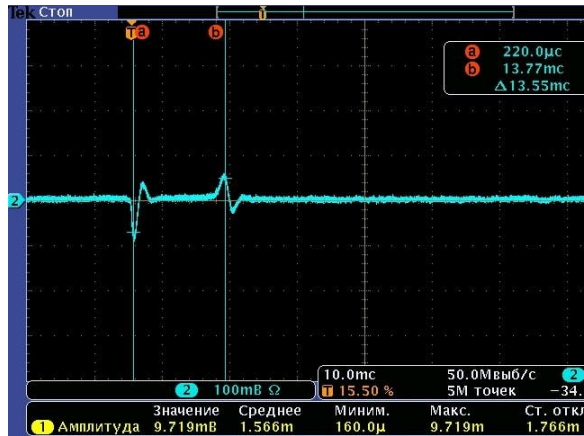
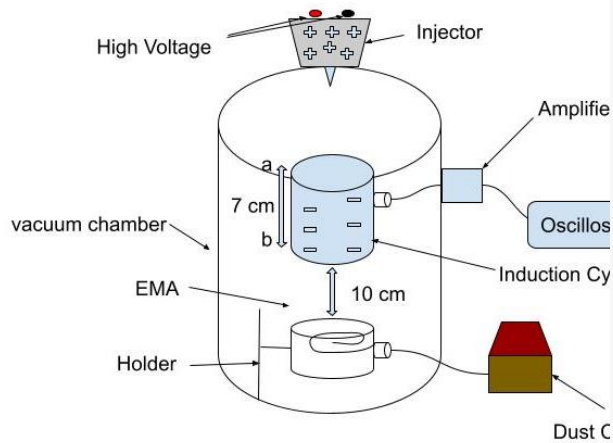
01.2000, 01:34:36

1/1 - 201.67 KHz

1400 1500

27 28 29

Четок: 8



Registered signals of charged particles on oscilloscope at different velocities - (A) 5,2

## ORIGINAL RESEARCH article

Front. Astron. Space Sci., 06 May 2024

Sec. Space Physics

Volume 11 - 2024 |

<https://doi.org/10.3389/fspas.2024.1347048>

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# Experimental modeling of atmospheric discharge phenomena and charged dust particle interactions



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# Conclusion

## Key Findings:

- Dust particle electrification and electromagnetic activity are significantly influenced by wind speed, temperature, and humidity levels.
- Lower humidity (< 30%) enhances discharge intensity, correlating with increased electromagnetic bursts.
- Electromagnetic signals (300–350 kHz) align with fluctuations in the electric field strength, particularly during wind gusts and vertical air movements.

## Implications:

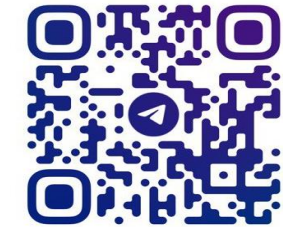
- Provides valuable insights into the mechanisms of dust electrification and discharge, essential for understanding atmospheric processes in arid regions.
- Advances our understanding of dust dynamics on Mars, with applications in planetary science and exploration.
- Supports the development of predictive models for dust storm behavior and their environmental impacts on Earth.

## Future Work:

- Expand research to explore the effects of additional meteorological parameters.
- Conduct controlled experiments to validate field observations and refine theoretical models of dust electrification and electromagnetic discharge.



**Thanks for attention!**

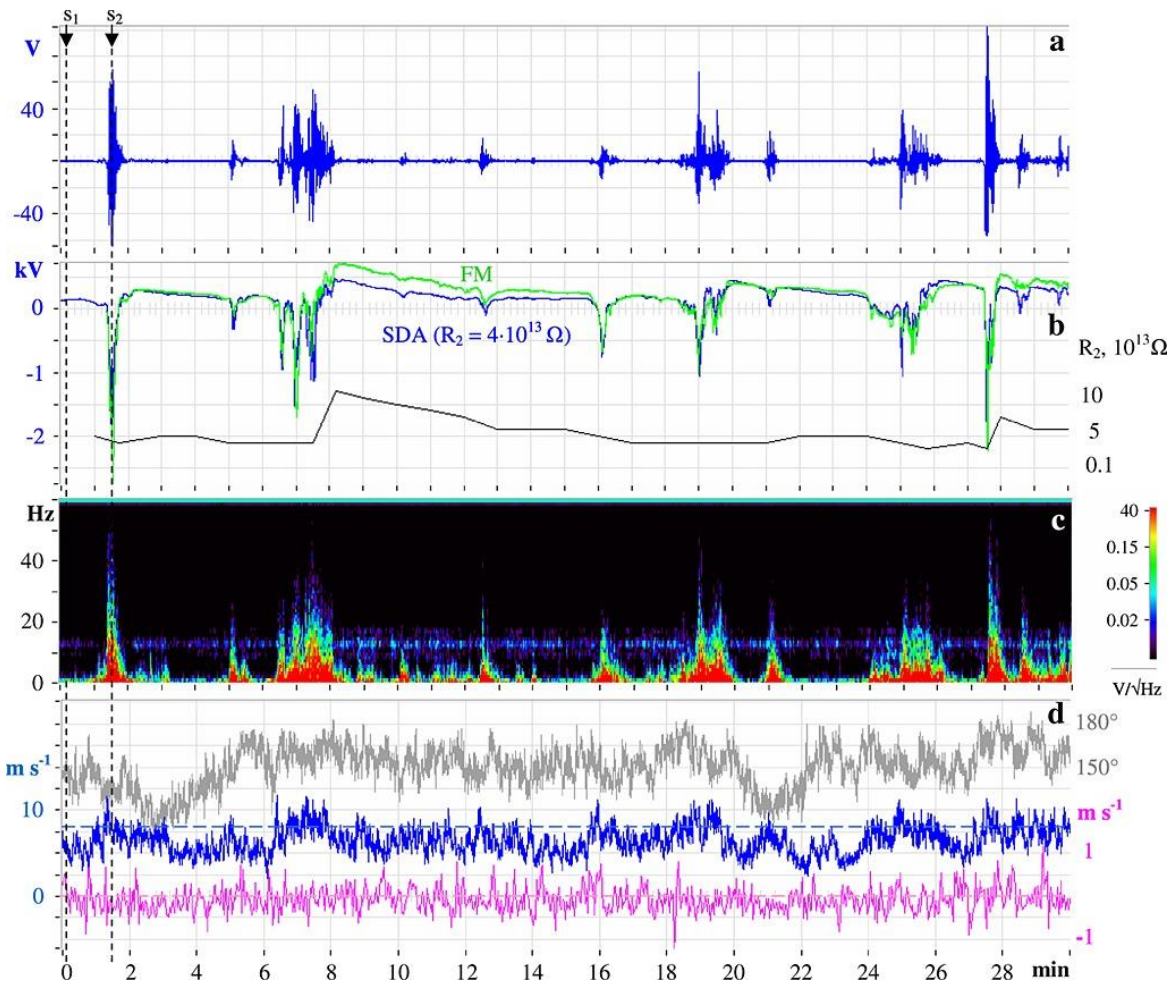


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- (a) Electric potential measured by the Short Dipole Antenna (SDA) electrode.
- (b) Electric potential deduced from the electric field observed by the FM sensors at 6 and 55 cm (green line) and from the SDA measurements under the assumption that  $R_2 = 4 \cdot 10^{13} \Omega$  (blue line). The coupling resistance deduced from the best fit of the FM and SDA, is shown by the black line.
- (c) Spectrogram of low frequency emissions measured by the SDA electrode.
- (d) Wind direction (grey), total horizontal wind velocity (blue), and 2 s averaged vertical wind velocity (magenta). Upward/downward wind velocity corresponds to the positive/negative values.