

A REVIEW OF THE SOUTH AMERICAN TLE PRODUCING CONVECTIVE SYSTEMS OBSERVED UP TO DATE

FERNANDA T SÃO SABBAS¹, Carlos A Morales Rodriguez², Rosmeri P Rocha², Rodrigo R Azambuja³

1. Aeronomy Division, Instituto Nacional de Pesquisas Espaciais – INPE, São Jose dos Campos, SP, Brazil
2. Institute of Astronomy, Geophysics and Atmospheric Sciences – IAG, University of São Paulo, São Paulo, SP, Brazil
3. Southern Regional Center of Space Research, Instituto Nacional de Pesquisas Espaciais – INPE, Santa Maria, RS, Brazil

Since 2002, five different field campaigns have been performed in Brazil to make TLE observations. The first campaign was in 2002/2003, and the others occurred once a year starting in 2005. More than 700 events, mainly sprites, have been recorded over South American thunderstorms so far. This paper will review the results of these campaigns, focusing on the characteristics of the 2005, 2006 and 2008 TLE generating convective systems. A cloud top temperature analysis based on GOES IR imagery was performed for all thunderstorms, some of their convective characteristics and possible relationship with thunderstorm electrification and TLE generation will be discussed. The meteorological scenario under which these systems developed will also be presented.

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F T São Sabbas, Aeronomy Division, National Institute for Space Research – INPE, São Jose dos Campos, SP, Brazil, 12227-010, phone:+55-12-3945-7154 fax: +55-12-3945-6990, email1: saosabbas@dae.inpe.br, email2: fernandasaosabbas@gmail.com