# Search and candidates of TGF in SPI experiment of INTEGRAL observatory

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## Main properties of TGF

- <u>TGF are generated in upper atmosphere at atmospheric breakdown on runaway</u> <u>electrons and accompanied by thunderstorm activity (A.V. Gurevich et al., Phys.</u> <u>Lett., A 165, 463, 1992).</u>
- Short duration (less than millisecond)
- Hard spectrum, up to 45 MeV
- 30% of TGF registered by GBM/Fermi and 10% of TGF registered by RHESSI are identified with lightning
- Lower limit of global TGF frequency is 50 / day from RHESSI observations (D. Smith et al., v307, p1085, 2005)

#### Some problems of TGF registration

- Low significance (a few dozens of photons per event)
- Distortion of energetic spectrum and fluence of TGF due to dead time losses and pile-up effect
- Two-thirds of events are not identified with lightning
- Electron and positron beams can be registered from TGF in addition to photons (M. Briggs et al., Geophys. Res. Lett., 38, L02, 808, 2011)

#### **INTEGRAL Observatory**



#### Features of INTEGRAL observatory

Highly elliptical orbit (150 000 km in apogee) Full Earth in the field of view Absence of dead time losses and pile-up effect

#### Gamma-Spectrometer SPI/INTEGRAL

Consists of 19 Ge detectors Energy range - [20-8000] keV Spectral resolution - 2.5 keV (1.3 MeV) Field of view at zero sensitivity - 30°

## Searching TGF in SPI / INTEGRAL data

- Several observations of the Earth were performed by INTEGRAL observatory in 2006 and 2012 with total duration of 500 ks. Aim of observations is Cosmic X-ray Background (CXB) measurement by the Earth occultation technique.
- Algorithm selects events consisting of more than 9 counts on 1 ms time scale in energy range [20 - 650, 2000 - 8000] keV.
- 604 events were selected:
  - fluctuations
  - interactions of detectors with charged particles
  - TGF candidates
- In JEM-X and IBIS/ISGRI data search for confirmation of TGF candidates was done. Search for confirmation in WWLLN data is planned

#### Interactions with charged particles (I)





#### Interactions with charged particles (II)



### Interactions with charged particles (II)



### Interactions with charged particles (III)

m 70Ge+n > 71<sub>m</sub> Ge (half-life ~ 20.4 ms) > 71Ge +  $\gamma$  two-step transition 175+23=198 keV. 72Ge+n > 73<sub>m</sub>Ge (half life ~ 0.5 s )> 72Ge +  $\gamma$  53.4 keV 72Ge+n > 73 Ge > 72Ge +  $\gamma$  two-step transition 53.4+13.3=66.7 keV





### Interactions with charged particles (III)



#### **TGF** candidates



### **Upper limits of TGF intensity**

- SPI Trigger threshold in GBM units 2.25\*10<sup>5</sup> counts
- SPI Trigger threshold 9 counts / ms
- SPI Sensitivity 4\*10<sup>-7</sup> erg/(cm<sup>2</sup> ms)



Counts

#### Main results

- Data analysis of Earth observations made by INTEGRAL observatory in 2006 and 2012 was done
- More than 600 events were found on 1 ms time scale
- Most of the events are interactions of detectors with charged particles
- 28 TGF candidates were selected
- SPI sensitivity to TGF-like events is 4\*10<sup>-7</sup> erg/cm<sup>2</sup>
- Upper limit of TGF intensity was calculated using SPI data

# Thank you for your attention!