# THE RUNAWAY BREAKDOWN (RB) PARTICLES SPECTRA OBTAINED BEFORE AND AFTER THE LIGHTNING STROKE

2016 TGEs occurs at prolonged (3-10 min) negative electrostatic field; lightning abruptly terminates TGE; largest TGEs occurred when there is no nearby lightnings.



MAKET Experimental hall (electron lost by ionization ~ 20 MeV in the construction matter)





# 1-minute count rate of 5 cm thick, 60 cm thick scintillators and vertical traversing particles.



# Particle fluxes come from nearvertical direction



# 19 September 2009: Energy release spectrum of TGE gamma rays (Emax ~ 30 MeV)



## 19 September 2009: Energy release spectrum of TGE electrons (Emax ~ 25 MeV)



4 October 2014: insert 1-sec time series of count rate of 3 cm thick plastic scintillator (blue), near surface electric field (black) and temperature and dew point used for the spread calculation (red). Spread = 1.3-1.1; Cloud height ~25 m, electron energy losses ~ 5 MeV.



## TGE gamma ray diff. energy spectra on 4 October 2014 Maximal gamma ray energy 25 MeV, cloud height ~25 m



### Differential Energy spectra of RB electrons. Emax ~ 20 MeV, declined after lightning; Maximal energy of electrons on the entrance from cloud 20+20+5 = 45MeV





March 4 - 5, 2016; Time (UT)



#### Energy spectra of the TGE particles (gamma rays with small contamination of high-energy electrons) measured with Nal spectrometers



#### Nal network N 5, energy threshold 3-4 MeV; Spread at particle peak equals -0.6 - (0.8) = 0.2; Cloud base heigth – 122 m \* 0.2 ~ 25 m











Electric field from SKL EFM-100: 100 ms surge from 59:51.92 (-9.7 kV/m) until 59:52.02 (38.7 kV/m); MAKET and SKL FDAQ at 59:51.75. Particle flux observed –SKL STAND1 3 cm thick scintillator. Lightning stroke occurred at 11:59:51.82 (detected by EMI)



Electric field from GAMMA EFM-100: 50 ms surge from 59:51.94 (-35 kV/m) until 59:51.99 (35 kV/m); MAKET and SKL FDAQ trigger coincides at 59:51:75. Particle flux observed – GAMMA STAND1 1 cm thick scintillator: decline during rearrangement of electric field after lightning.





40 ns time series captured by digital oscilloscope located in the SKL experimental hall on Aragats. April 14, 2017 11:59:52 Fast electric field and NaI detector N3. Note 4 bipolar pulses in NaI outputs coinciding with fast bipolar pulses after trigger in fast forms !



## "Particle" burst detected by Nal crystal – EMI!



# Typical shape of the signal from particle detected by the Nal detector



## Picoscope N3 MAKET April 14, 2017 11:59:52 Ch A - One sec 3 cm; Ch B – One sec 1 cm Again EMIs in plastic scintillators!



Four pulses with similar shape. Zoom of first pulse is shown in next slide

## Picoscope N3 MAKET April 14, 2017 11:59:52 Ch A - One sec 3 cm; Ch B – One sec 1 cm















Intensity (m<sup>2</sup>. mim· MeV) -1



04 June 2016 ASNT det.#1

# June 16, 2016: Height of the cloud 100-120 m



# Nal 1 and 2















1

10 10<sup>2</sup> Energy release (MeV)

## 16 June, 20-second energy release spectra in 60 cm thick plastic scintillator before the lightning occurred at 10:02:11; the enhancement of count rate in the 22 ADC channels (1.62- 15.9 MeV) to be compared with CR MSE (red); lightning at 10:02:11

Code of ADC	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Energy(MeV)	1.6	1.8	2.0	2.2	2.4	2.6	2.9	3.2	3.5	3.8	4.2
CR background	952.0	1112.0	735.0	892.0	1013.0	941.0	867.0	808.0	754.0	708.0	664.0
CR variance	30.9	33.3	27.1	29.9	31.8	30.7	29.4	28.4	27.5	26.6	25.8
10:02:04 -10:02:23	161.2	175.0	85.4	196.3	227.6	239.0	212.7	122.0	144.4	161.6	152.8
10:02:24 -10:02:43	90.2	14.0	121.4	47.3	18.6	50.0	75.7	99.0	15.4	19.6	38.8
10:02:44 -10:03:03	-5.8	81.0	43.4	45.3	-50.4	5.0	-1.3	20.0	-20.6	-0.4	14.8
Code of ADC	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Energy(MeV)	6.2	6.8	7.4	8.2	0.9	10.0	10.9	12.0	13.2	14.5	15.9
CR background	526.6	510.9	492.3	479.7	474.1	462.1	455.0	449.3	446.2	435.7	429.9
CR variance	22.9	22.6	22.2	21.9	21.8	21.5	21.3	21.2	21.1	20.9	20.7
10:02:04 -10:02:23	80.4	114.1	83.7	36.3	29.9	35.9	33.0	57.7	27.8	18.3	39.1
10:02:24 -10:02:43	12.4	-6.9	52.7	3.3	-1.1	38.9	0.0	1.7	23.8	31.3	26.1
10:02:44 -10:03:03	-9.6	3.1	12.7	-16.7	19.9	-1.1	7.0	-0.3	15.8	33.3	6.1



Intensity (m<sup>2,</sup> mim<sup>,</sup> MeV)<sup>,</sup>











#### Dynamics of TGE on March 4, note the symmetry of start and decay!









Intensity of TGE should be inversely proportional to cloud height and proportional to electrostatic field (a proxy of field in the cloud); however we need electromagnetic cascade simulations in the electrified atmosphere for firm inference!



# **RB/TGE and MOS processes in** thunderclouds

- TGE started with gamma ray flux having exponential energy spectrum up to 4 MeV;
- In few minutes the RB process started just above the detectors and maximal energy of gamma rays/electrons can reach tens of MeV;
- After lightning and rearranging of intracloud electric field the high energy part of spectra (RB) vanished very fast, however low energy gamma ray (below 4 MeV) still can come from distances above 1 km;
- Rather few highest energy gamma rays (up to 100 MeV) form the "tails" of TGE due to enhanced probability of the bremsstrahlung process of high energy electrons (100-300 MeV) in the strong electric field.
- Thundercloud is full of radiations the RB process started and ended in several places and keep low energy gamma ray flux sustainable at least in a part of cloud for a limited time.