

Re: Does electrostatic charge keep a cloud up?

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 - *Date:* Sat, 11 Aug 2007 21:11:23 +0200
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"Falk Tannhäuser" <tannhauser86549spam@xxxxxxxx> 3rote
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Szczepan Bialek schrieb:

Anyway cloud must discharge the voltage before fall down as rain.

Really? One can regularly observe rain, both convective or stratiform, falling down without any previous lightning.

The discharge phenomenon occurs not always with sparks. In the wet air it is very fast without the sparks. Nature use sparks (lightning) in the extremal conditions only.

Anyway, since cloud and ground are oppositely charged (otherwise you would not get discharges in the form of C-G lightning),

The ground and clouds are both negatively charged (exces of electrons). Different is the voltage.

the electrostatic force would **attract** cloud droplets towards the ground, so they would fall faster **before** the discharge.

The electrostatic force repulse cloud droplets towards the sky.

However, this force is several orders of magnitude weaker than the force exercised by gravitation and air currents.

It depends from the chrge and the altitude
S*

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