

A STUDY OF LIGHTNING IN SRI LANKA

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Research has been conducted using two types of Lightning Flash Counters known as the V 03 and V 04. The counting pattern of these two counters as a thunderstorm approaches shows a typical characteristic. This pattern has been interpreted. On the basis of this interpretation it has been possible to reduce that the ratio of intra — cloud flashes to cloud to ground flashes in the vicinity of Colombo is at least as high as ten (10). Also there appear to be about 2000 cloud to ground flashes annually within a radius of 15 km from Colombo. Maximum Lightning activity in Sri Lanka appears to occur west of the central hill area of the country.

A good picture of the diurnal and monthly variations of Lightning activity over the island has been obtained.

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