

# Global Lightning Mapping with the New Generation of the Geostationary Satellites

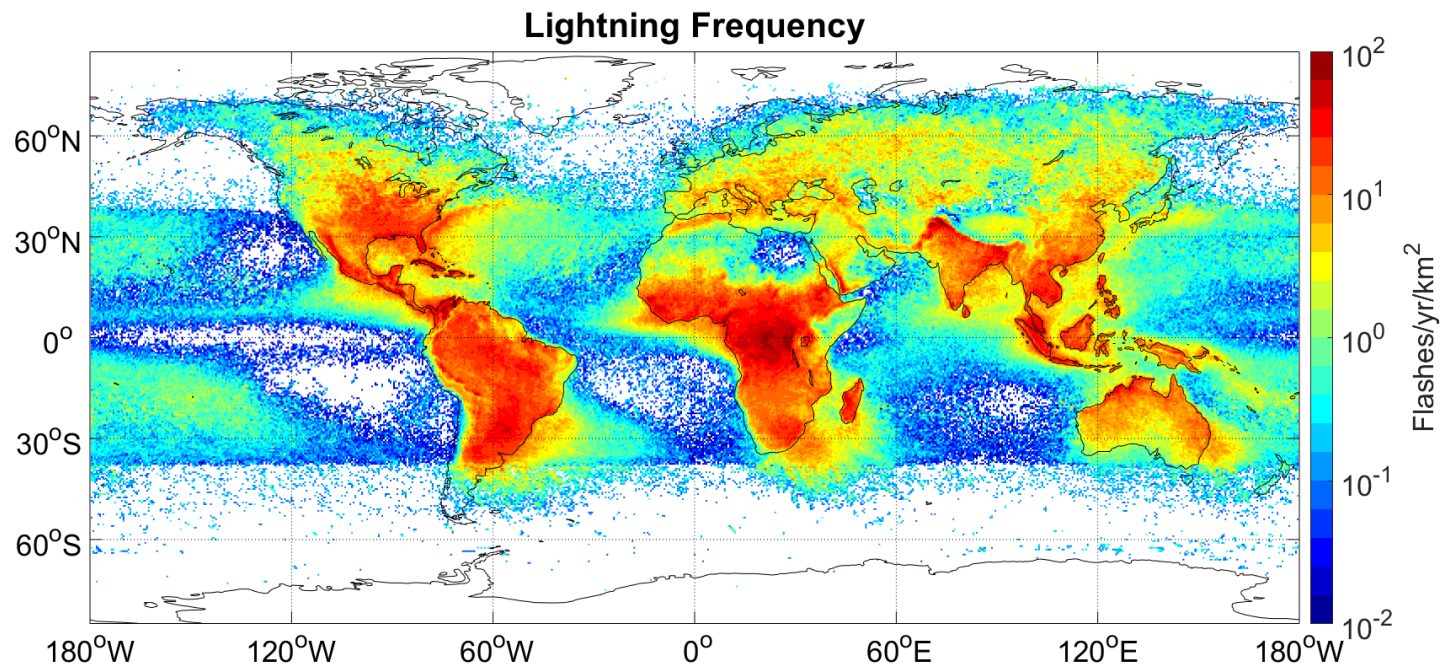
Daile Zhang<sup>1</sup>, Scott Rudlosky<sup>2,3,4</sup>, Steve Goodman<sup>3,4</sup>,  
Bartolomeo Viticchie<sup>5</sup>, Sven-Erik Enno<sup>5</sup>, Jochen Grandell<sup>5</sup>,  
Wenjuan Zhang<sup>6</sup>



1. University of North Dakota
2. NOAA NESDIS Geo Earth Observations Office
3. University of Maryland
4. Kent State University
5. EUMETSAT
6. Chinese Academy of Meteorological Sciences

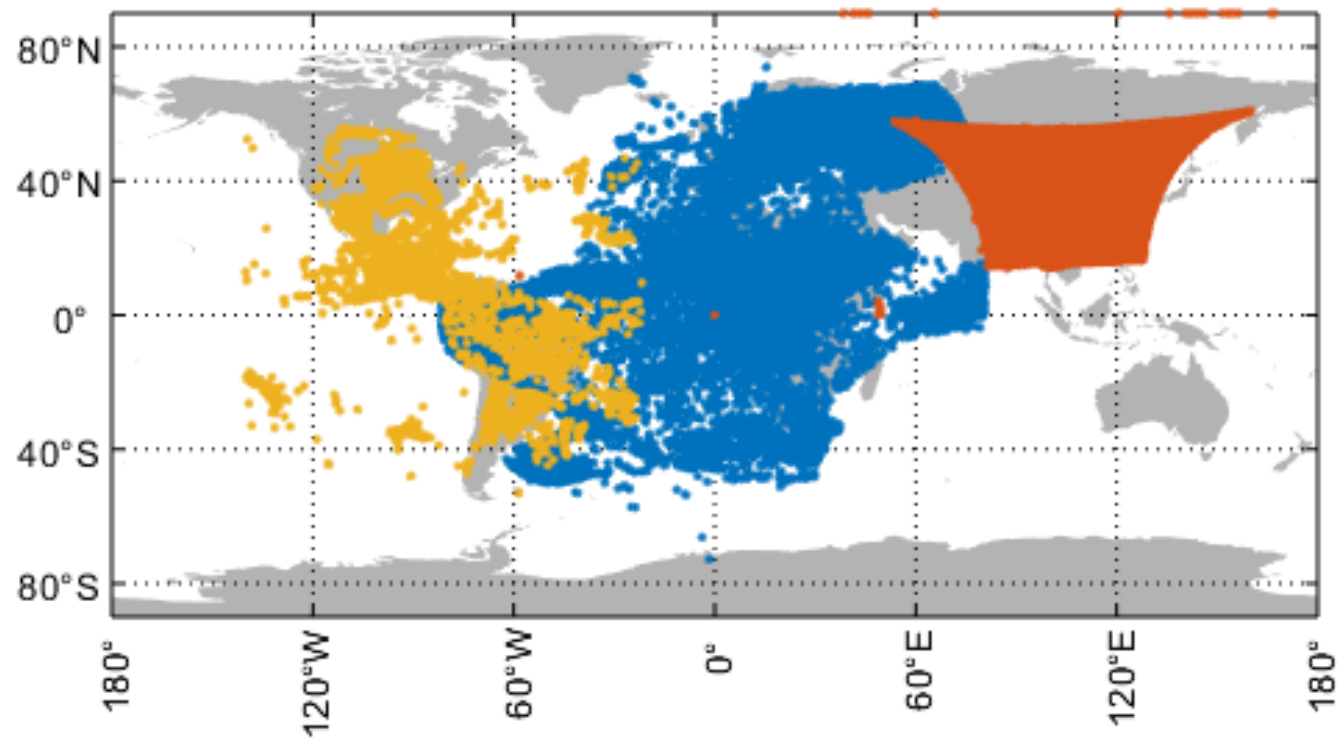


# Global Lightning Activity from LEO



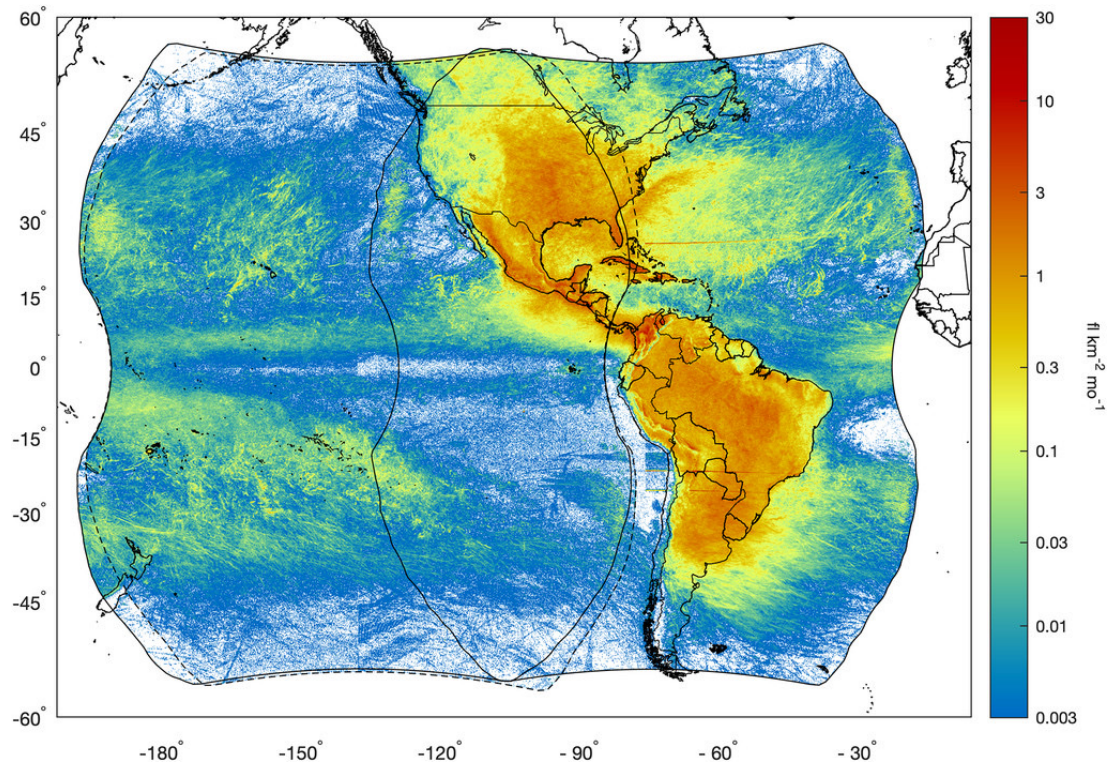
TRMM Lightning Imaging Sensor (LIS) + Optical Transient Detector (OTD)

# Global Lightning Activity from GEO



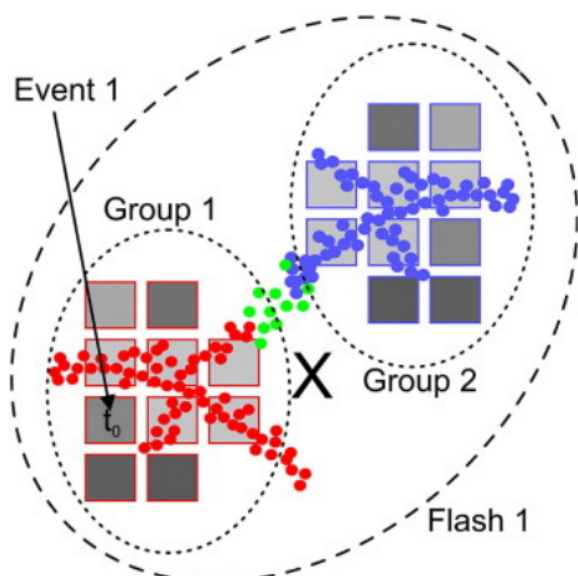
# Geostationary Lightning Mappers (GLMs)

- Onboard GOES-East satellite since 2016 and West satellite since 2018
- Spatial resolution: 8-14 km
- Temporal resolution: 2 ms
- Band: 777.4 nm



Rudlosky and Virts, 2021

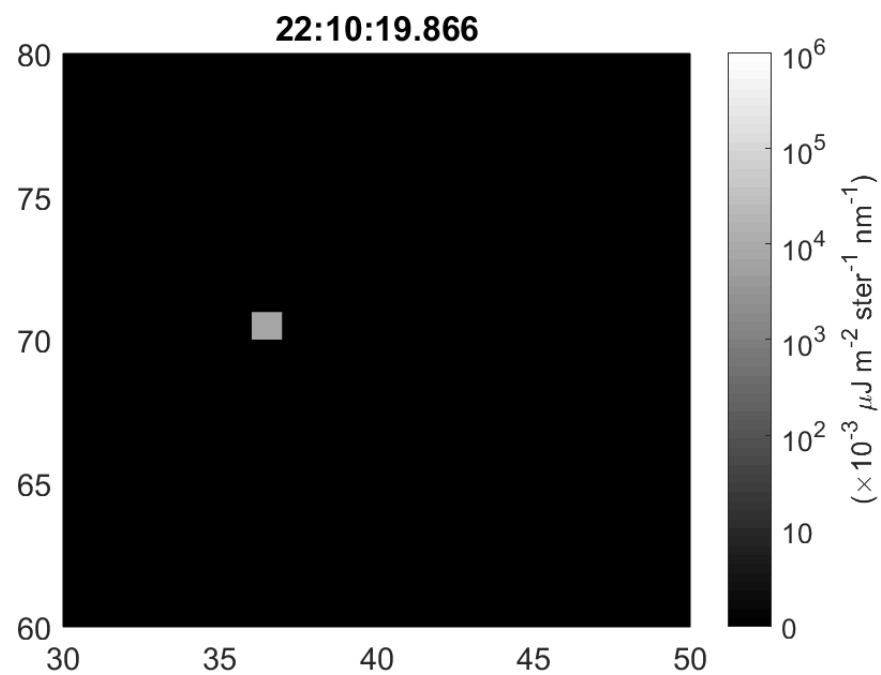
# Satellite Data Products



Goodman et al., 2013

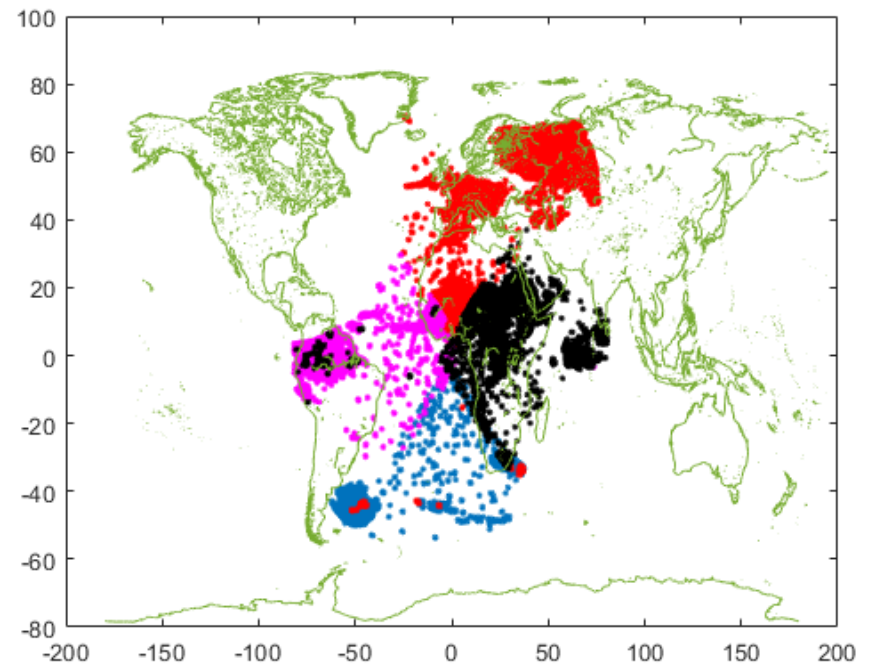
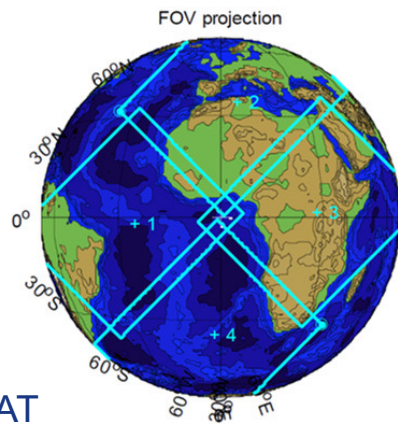
Event (lit-up pixel), Group, Flash

A LIS Flash Example with 25 Groups



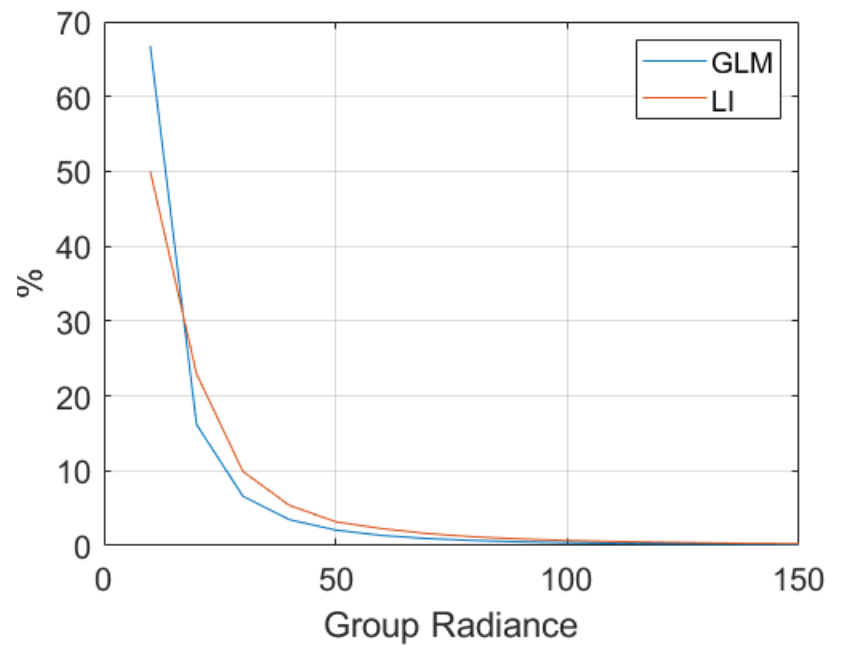
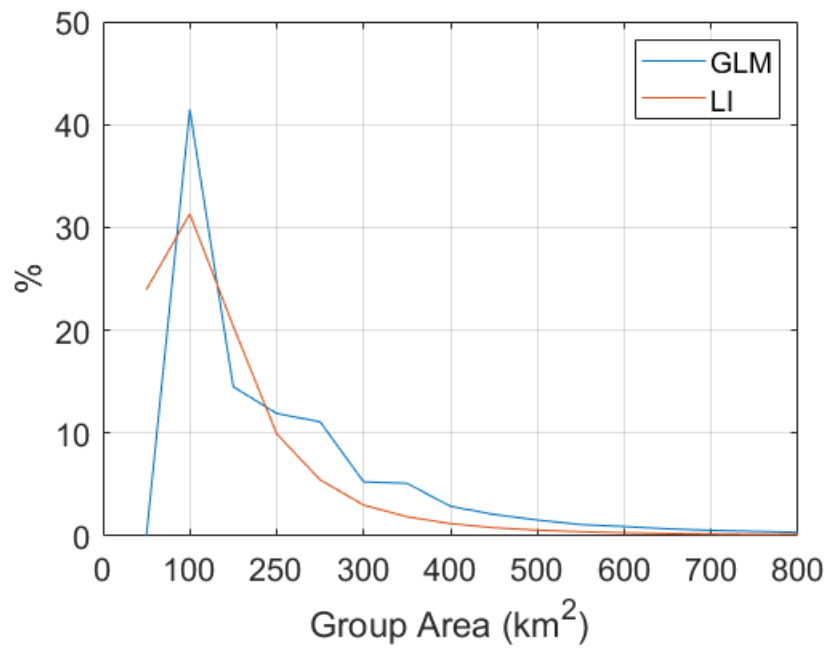
# Lightning Imager (LI)

- Onboard MTG satellites
- 4 optical cameras
- Spatial resolution: 4.5-7 km
- Temporal resolution: 1 ms
- Band: 777.4 nm



Courtesy of EUMETSAT

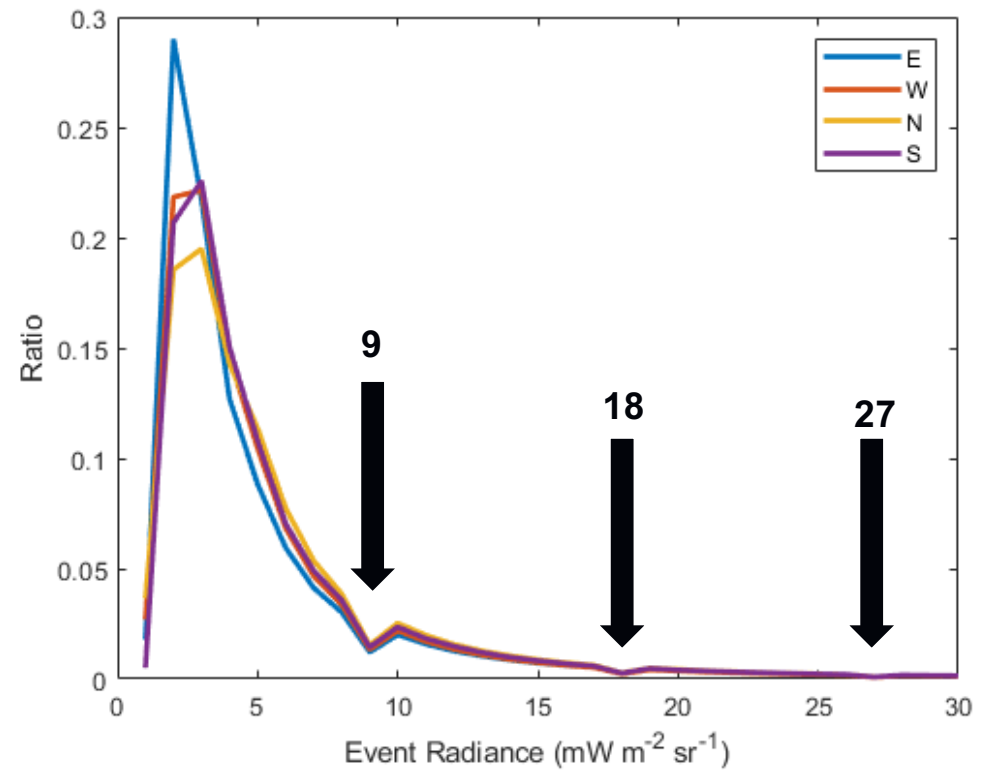
# Group Comparison



# Event Radiance Dips

There are 3 dips in the event radiance histograms. All four cameras had the exact same dips at 9, 18, and 27  $\text{mW m}^{-2} \text{sr}^{-1}$ .

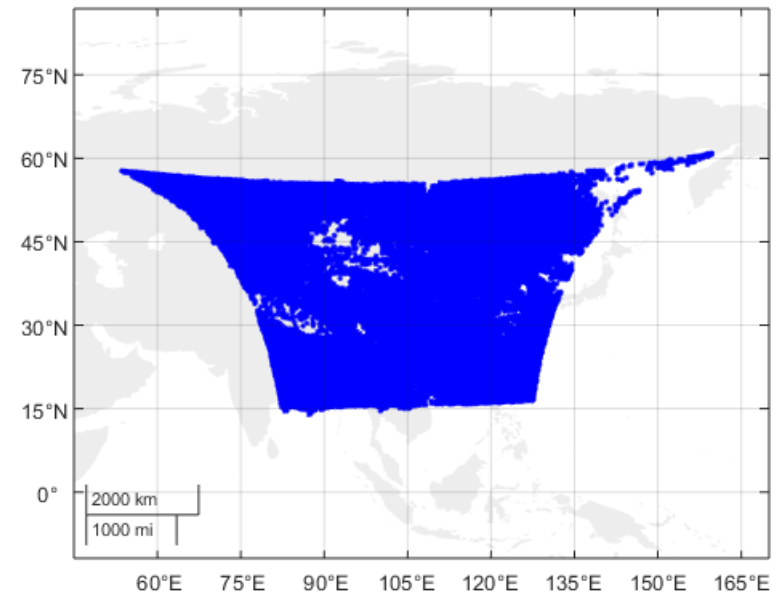
## Histogram of Event Radiance





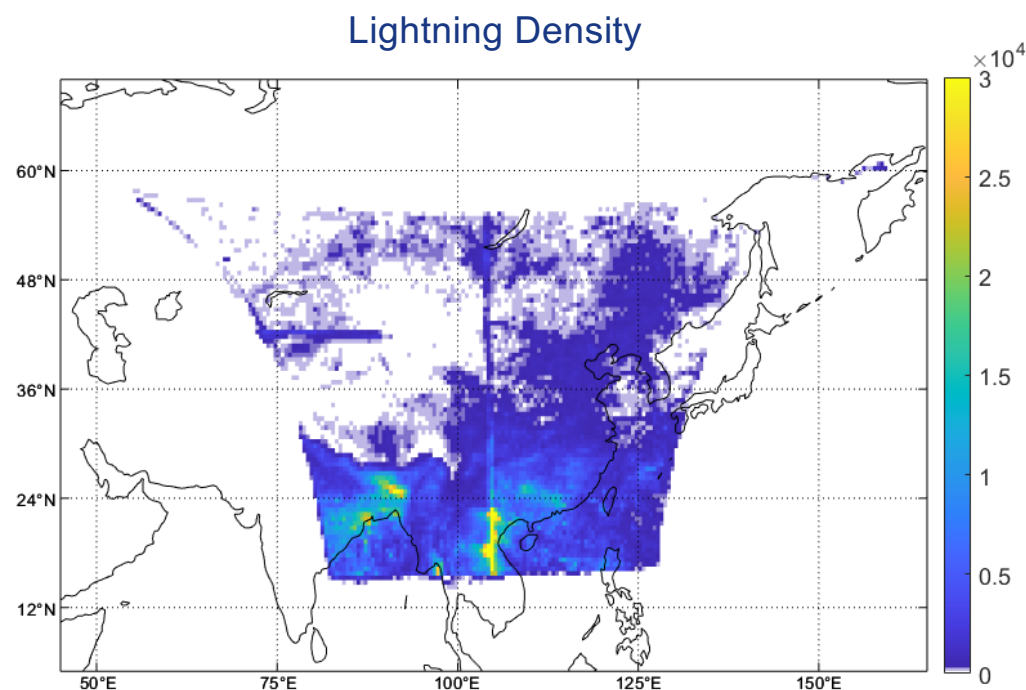
## Lightning Mapping Imager (LMI)

- Onboard the FY-4A satellite since 2018
- An enhanced LMI will be launched onboard the FY-4C in 2025
- Spatial resolution: 7.8 km
- Temporal resolution: 2 ms
- Northern hemisphere during Mar. – Sep. and southern hemisphere during Oct. – Feb.

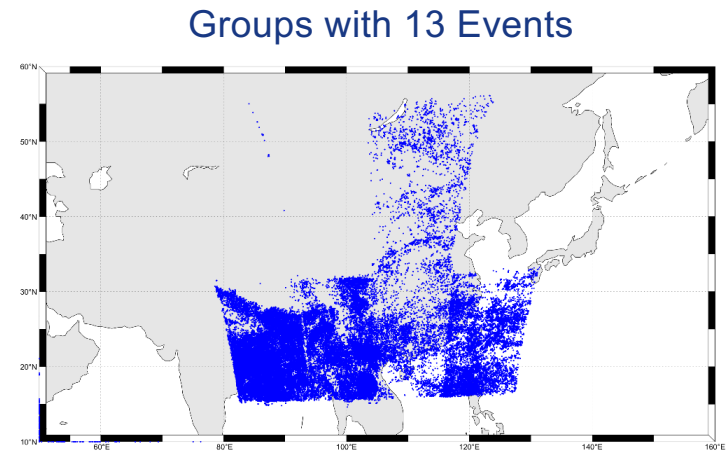
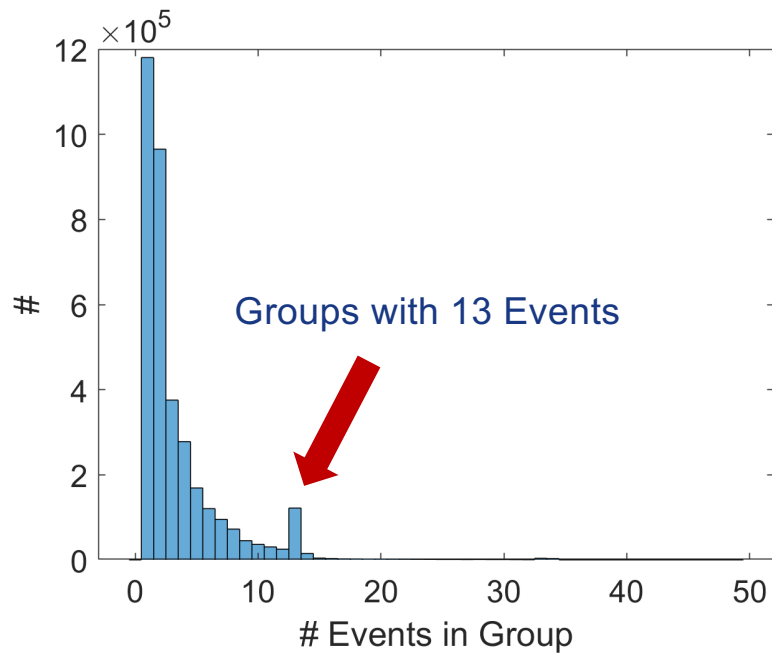


## Limitations of LMI L2 Data

- Flashes need to be recalculated.
- Footprint data are incorrect as they neglect pixel size, shape, and angles, etc, merely counting events without context/reference.
- Not fully calibrated and evaluated, and need further data cleaning.
- Additional filter applied in 2020 resulted in significantly reduced data post-2020.

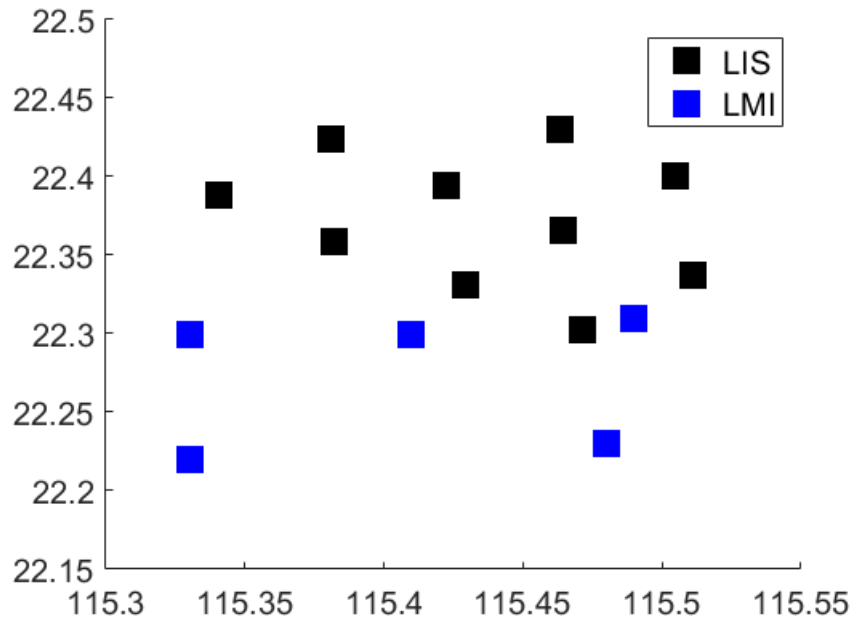


# Subarray Issue

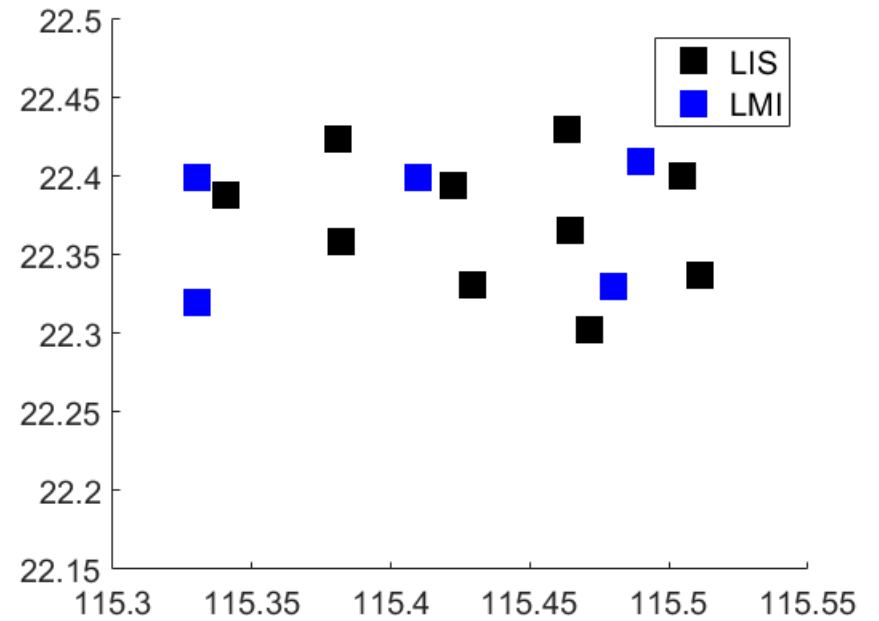


# Parallax Correction

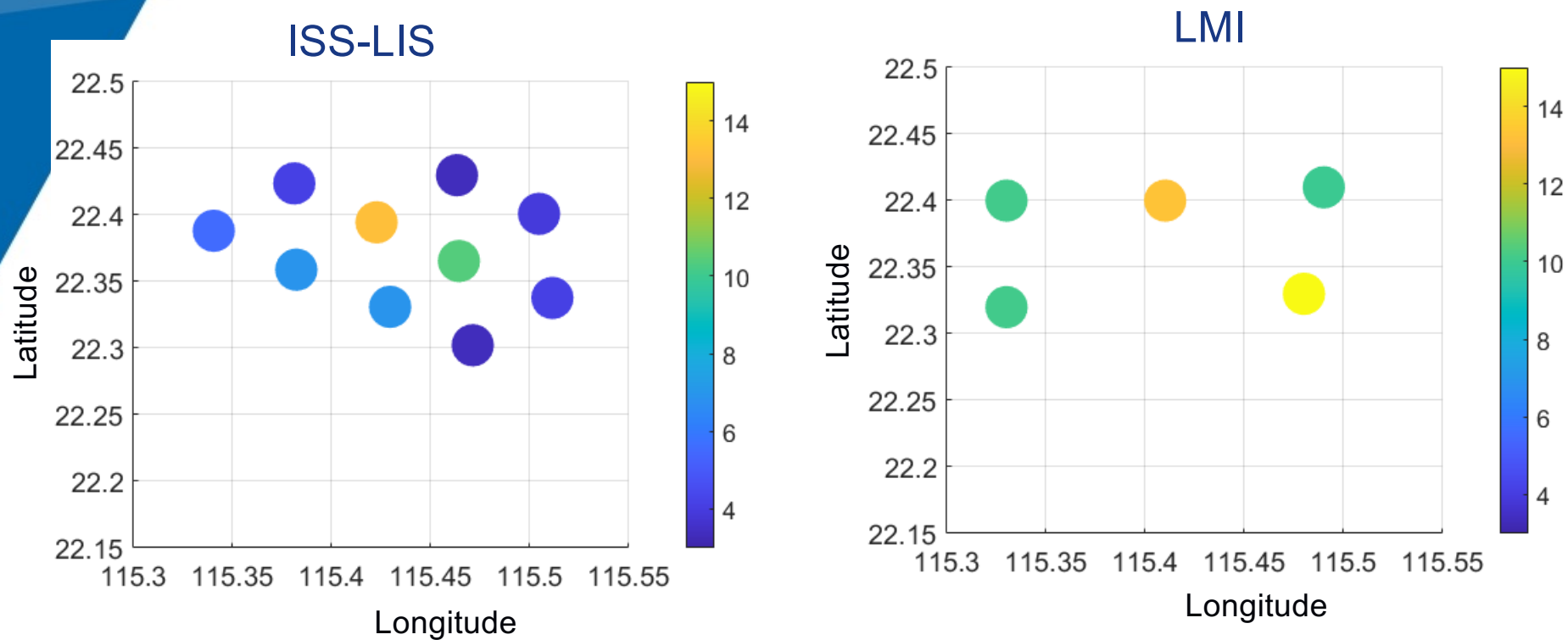
Uncorrected



Corrected

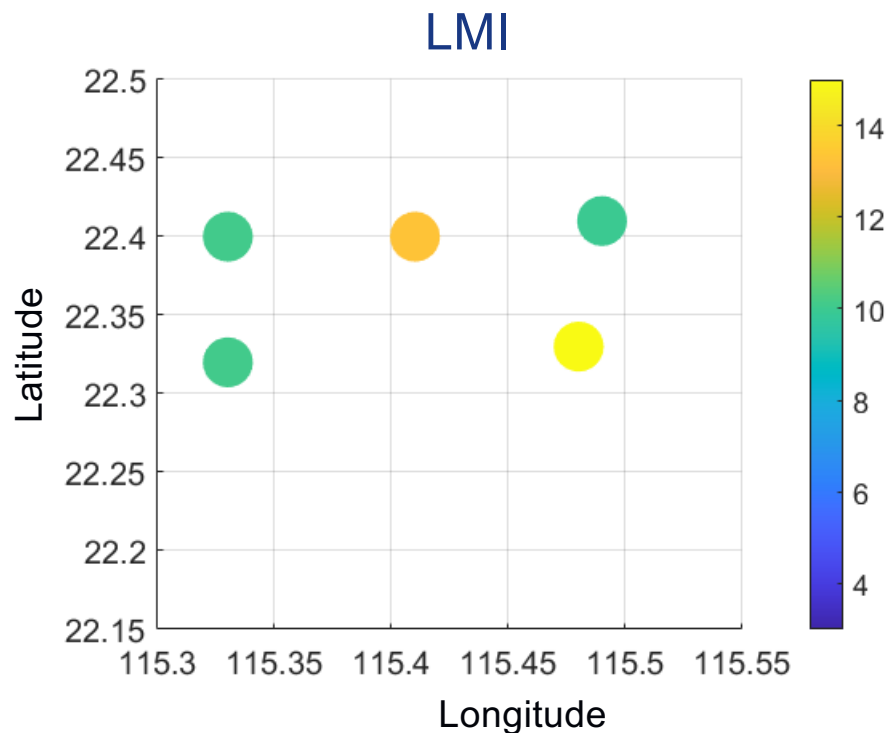
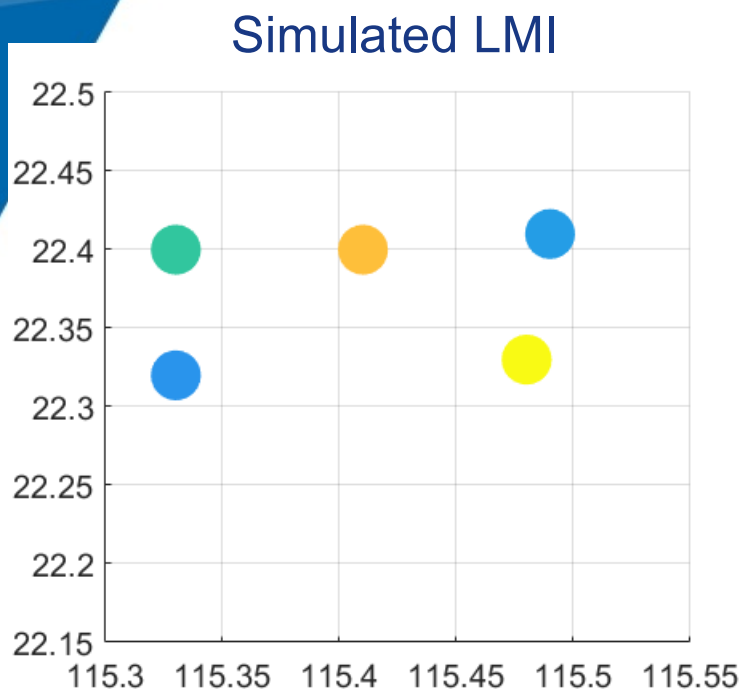


# Intercomparison with ISS-LIS



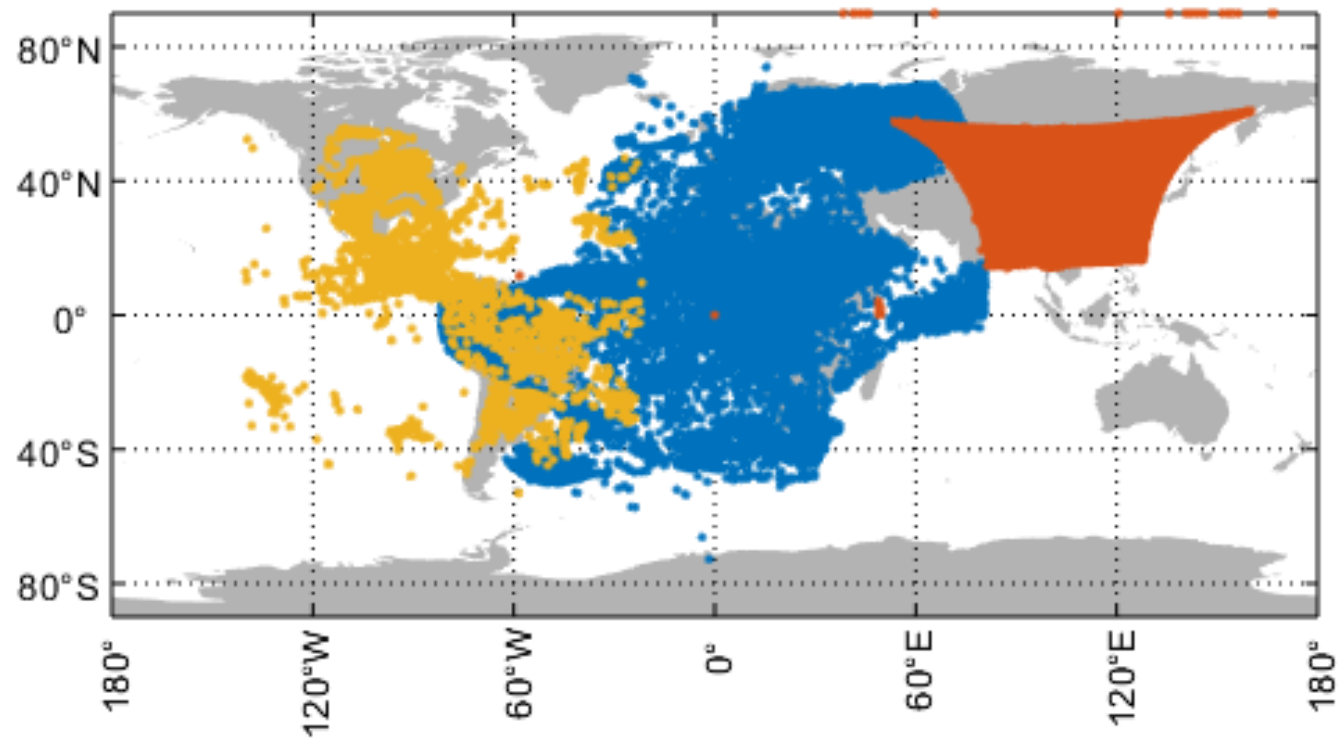
Event (pixel) radiances reported by LMI is similar to ISS-LIS.

## Intercomparison with ISS-LIS (cont.)



Simulated LMI (radiance and distance weighted) is similar to LMI observation.

# Global Lightning Activity from GEO



# Thank you!



[daile.zhang@und.edu](mailto:daile.zhang@und.edu)