



Research on Lightning Nowcasting and Warning System and Its Application

Wen Yao

Chinese Academy of Meteorological Sciences Beijing, China

yaowen@cma.cn

2016.07

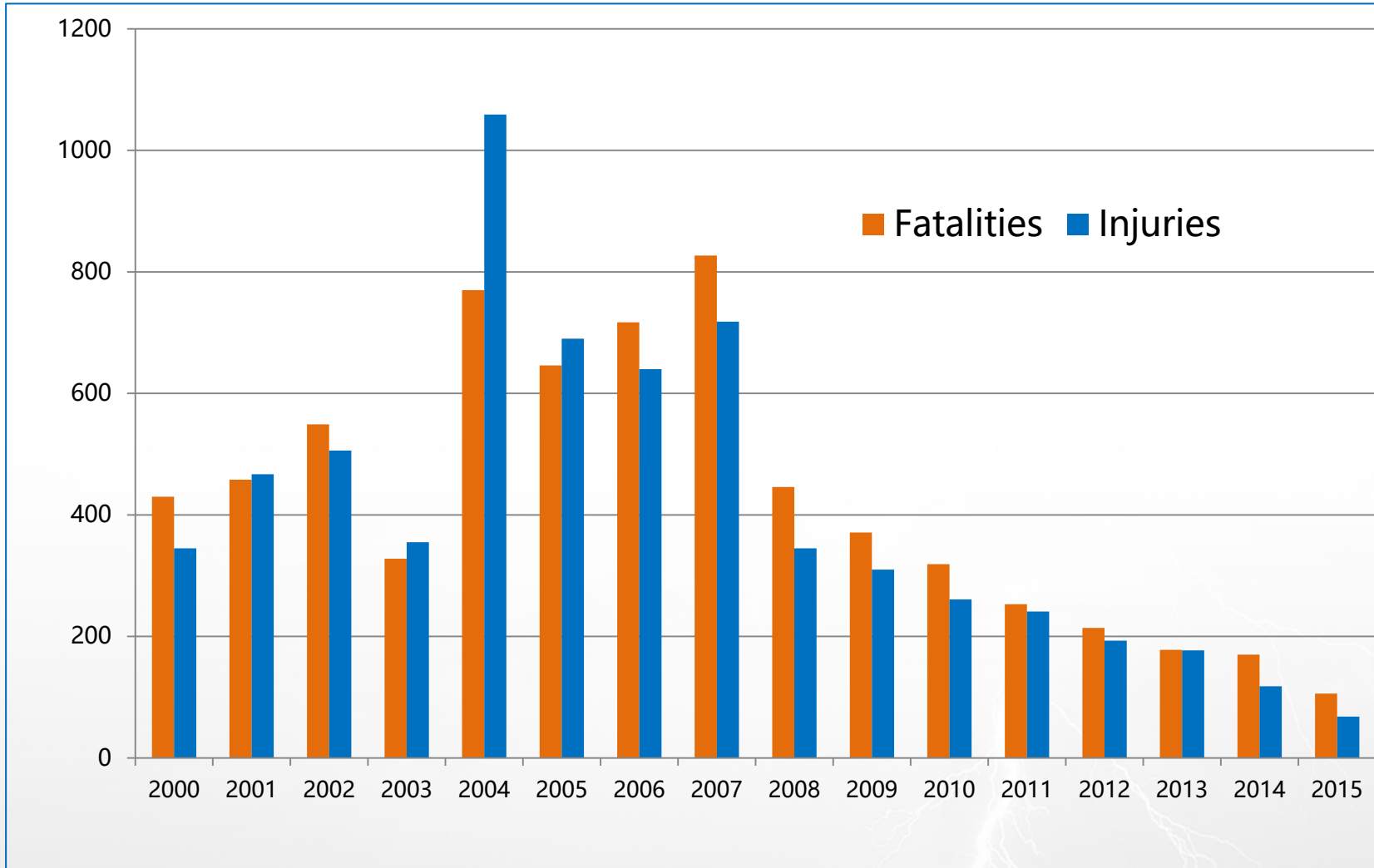
CONTENTS

- 1 **Lightning Hazards •**
- 2 **System Introduction •**
- 3 **System Application •**
- 4 **Future Work •**

Lightning hazards



Lightning hazards



About 1000 people, on average, have been dead or injured by lightning strikes every year in China.



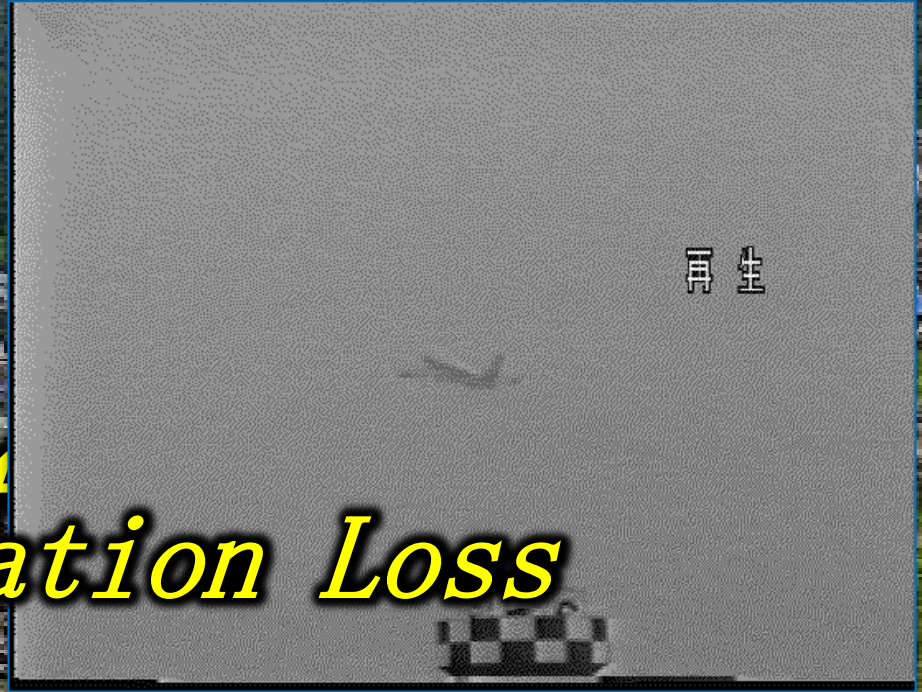
*Lightning-attributed
Forest fire*

A photograph of an industrial site, likely an oil depot, following a major explosion. The scene is filled with thick, dark smoke rising from the ground. In the foreground, there are several large, cylindrical storage tanks, some of which appear to be damaged or partially obscured by the smoke. A red structure, possibly a fire truck or a piece of industrial equipment, is visible on the right side of the frame. The overall atmosphere is one of chaos and destruction.

Oil depot Explosion



Power failures



再生

Aviation Loss

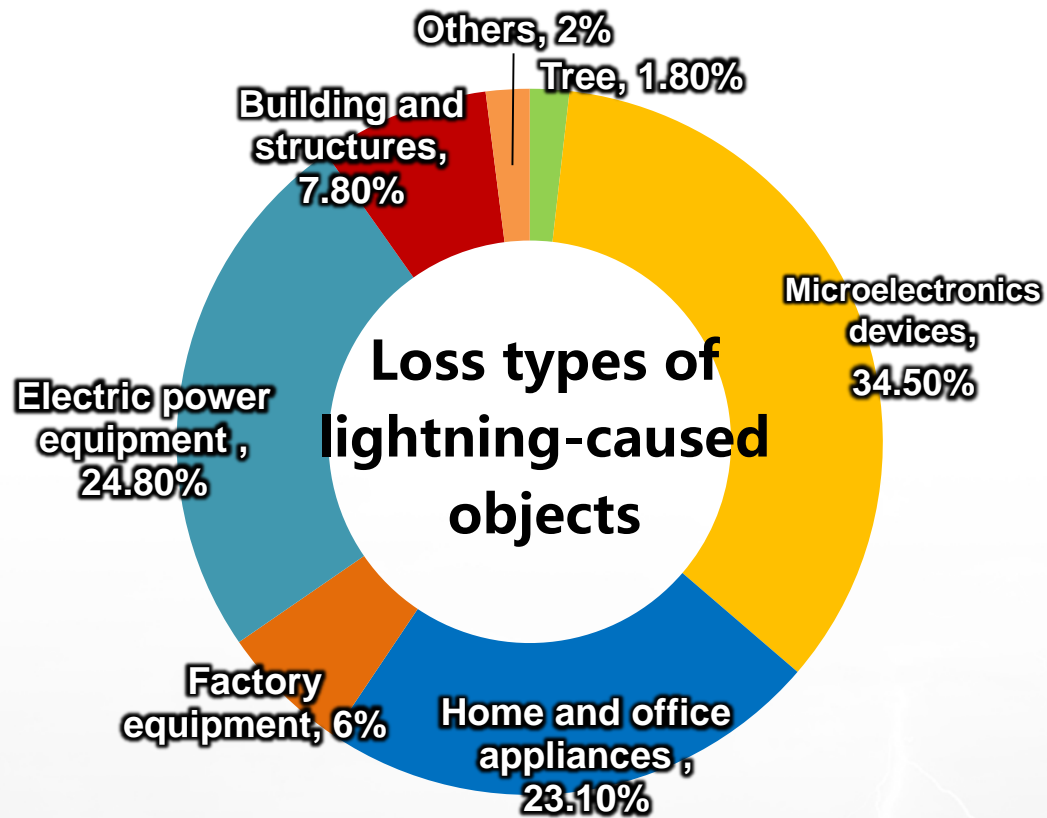


中新社湖北分社图片



飞机遭雷击

Lightning hazards



IEC : Lightning is a great public hazard of the electronic age.

CONTENTS

1 **Lightning Hazards •**

2 **System Introduction •**

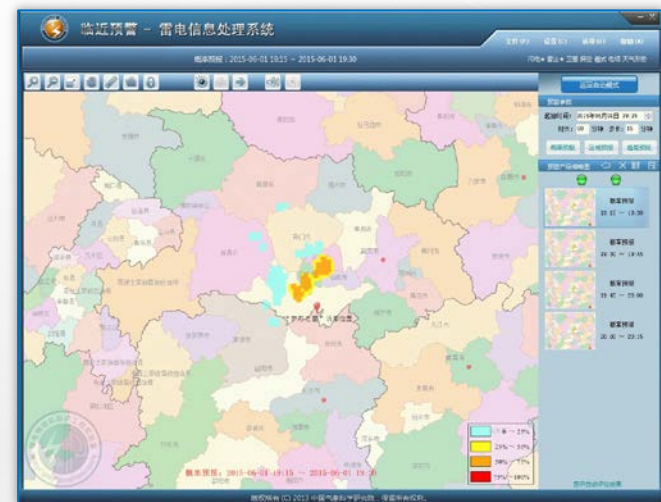
3 **System Application •**

4 **Future Work •**

System Introduction

The Lightning Nowcasting and Warning System (CAMS_LNWS) was developed by Chinese Academy of Meteorological Sciences (CAMS). The system proposed a lightning characteristic diagnose and nowcasting scheme in typical regions, and adopted a multi-data, multi-parameter and multi-algorithm lightning nowcasting method.

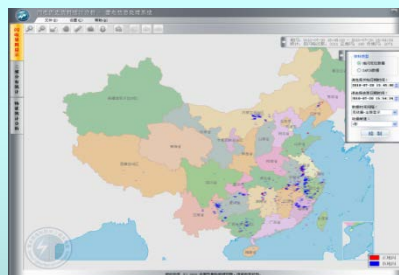
The CAMS_LNWS work 24 hours every day and renew the warning products every 15 minutes automatically, which can realize 0-1 hours , 1×1 km of lightning forecasting.



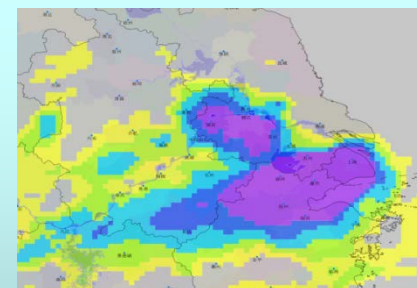
System Introduction

Method

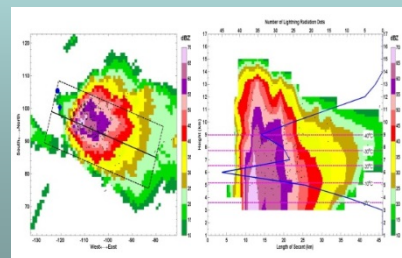
- Analyze the lightning activity in different areas of China
- Obtain the relationship of the lightning frequency and location with the radar, satellite and other observations during a thunderstorm
- Establish the diagnostic indicators of lightning forecasting



analysis of lightning space-time distribution characteristics



analysis of lightning between and satellite data



analysis of lightning between and Radar Data

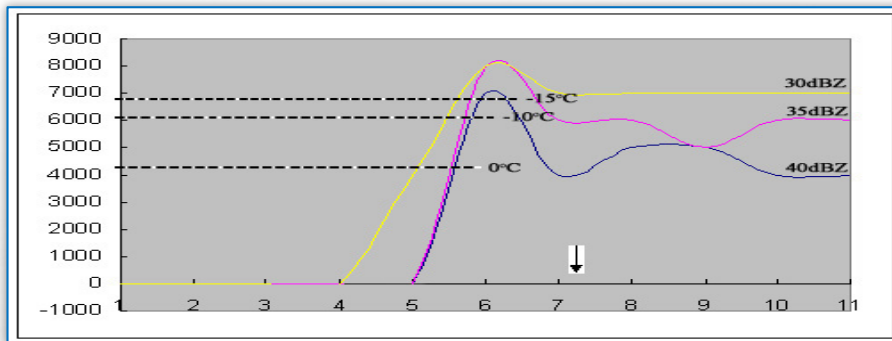
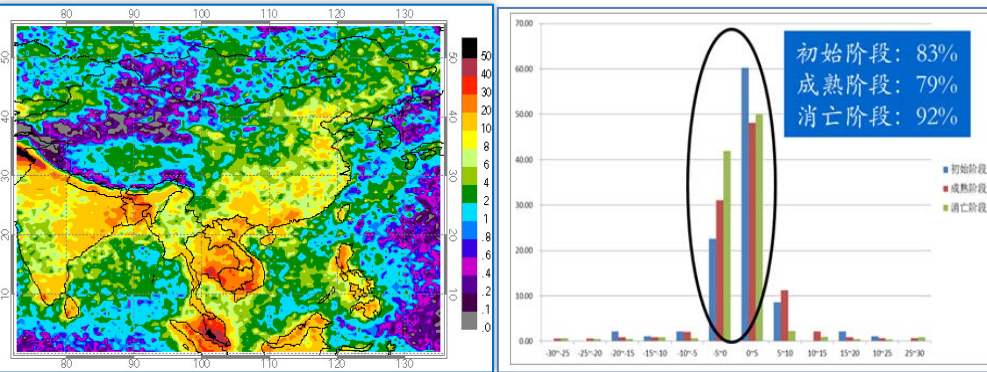


analysis of lightning between and Surface Electric Field Data

Characteristics of lightning activity at different stages. (Lightning Initiation, development, Ending)



System Introduction



Diagnostic Indicators

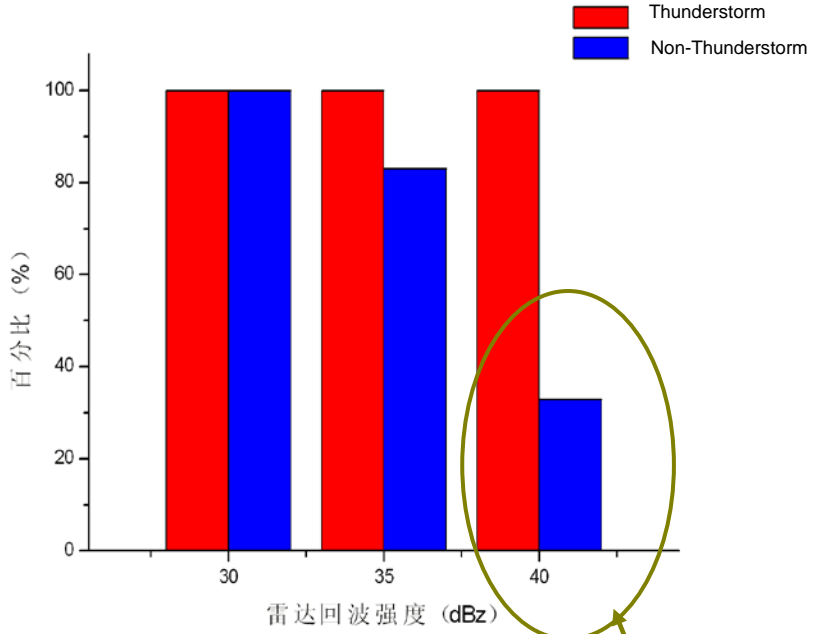
- Height of Radar strong echoes
- Maximum thickness of 35dBZ
- Proportion of radar strong echoes
- Distribution of vertical velocity
- Horizontal gradient of composite reflectivity
- Maximum reflectivity within 14km around first stroke of stratiform CG
- Echo volume per flash
- Volume per frequency
- Black-Body Temperature(TBB) of satellite
- Electromagnetic signal threshold
- ...

Concerns:

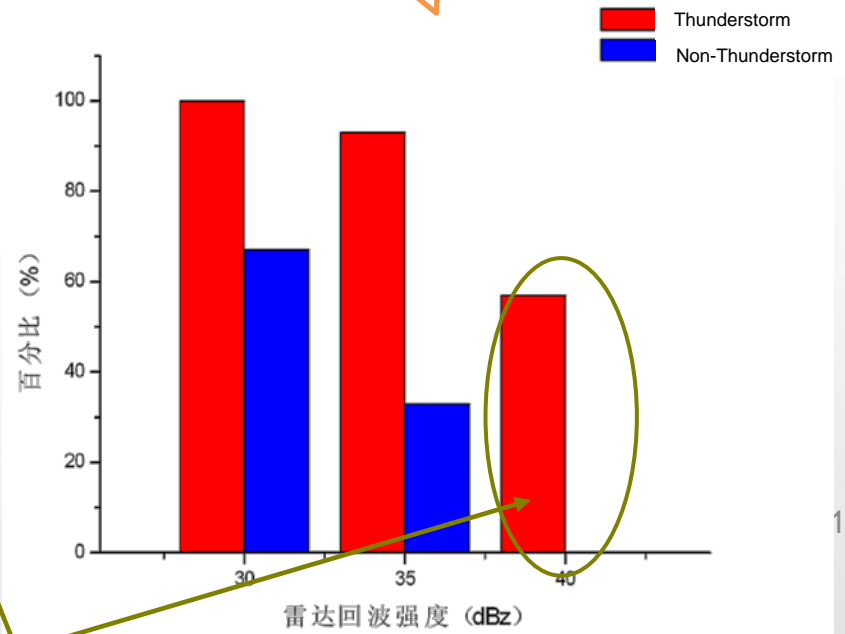
- Lightning Initiation
- Lightning Ending
- Stratiform Regions Lightning

Key Method

➤ Lightning Initiation- Echo top height of 40dBz \geq -10°C stratification height



Echo top heights of 30 35 40dBz and -10°C stratification height in different isolated cells

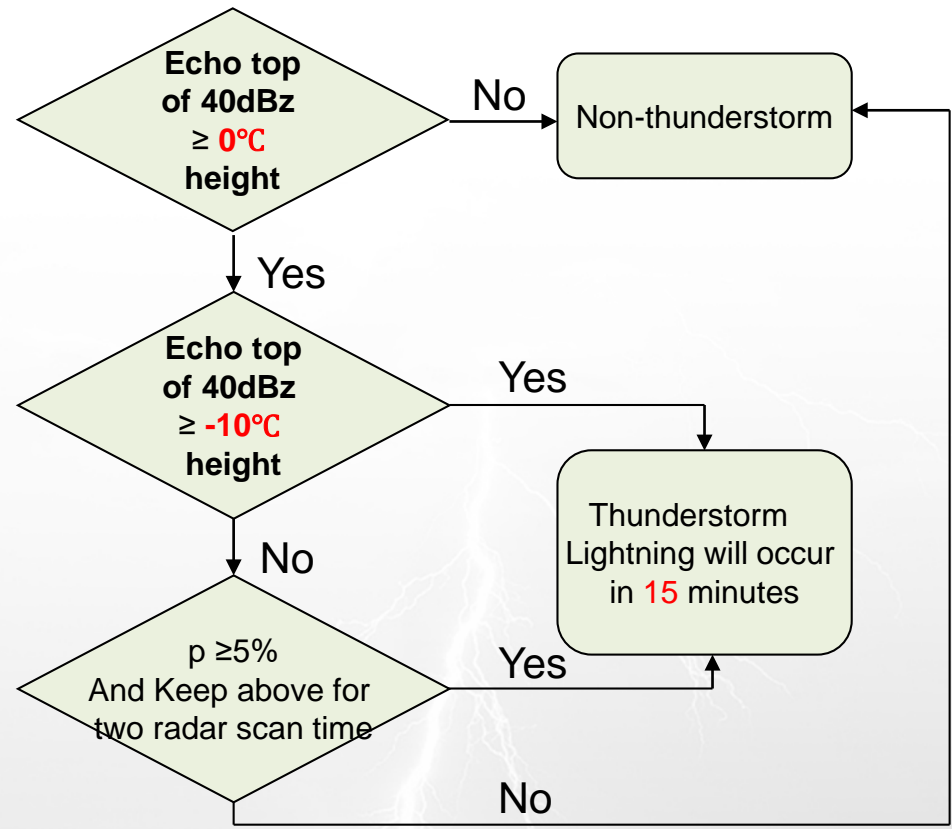
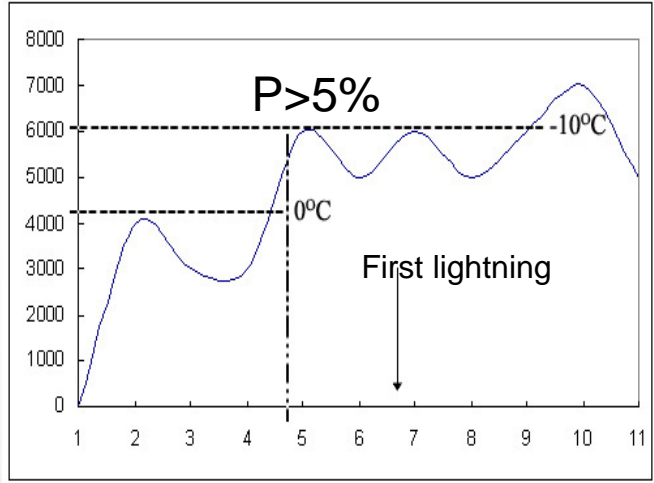


Echo top heights of 30、35 40dBz and 0°C stratification height in different isolated cells

Key Method

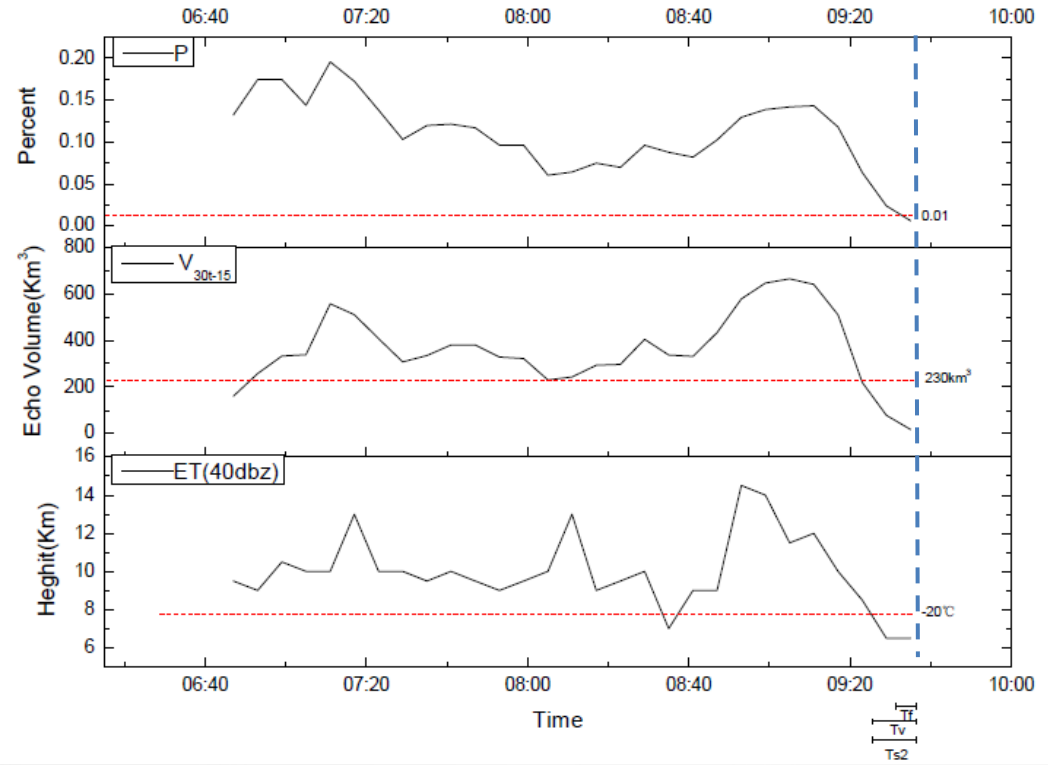
➤ **Lightning Initiation-** P value should be used for subsidiary discrimination

$$P = \frac{\text{Volume (Reflectivity } \geq 40\text{dBz and Height } \geq 0^\circ\text{C height)}}{\text{Volume (Reflectivity } \geq 25\text{dBz and Height } \geq 0^\circ\text{C height)}} \times 100\%$$



Key Method

➤ Lightning Ending



$$\text{Volume}_{30-15} / \text{Volume}_{18} < 1\%$$

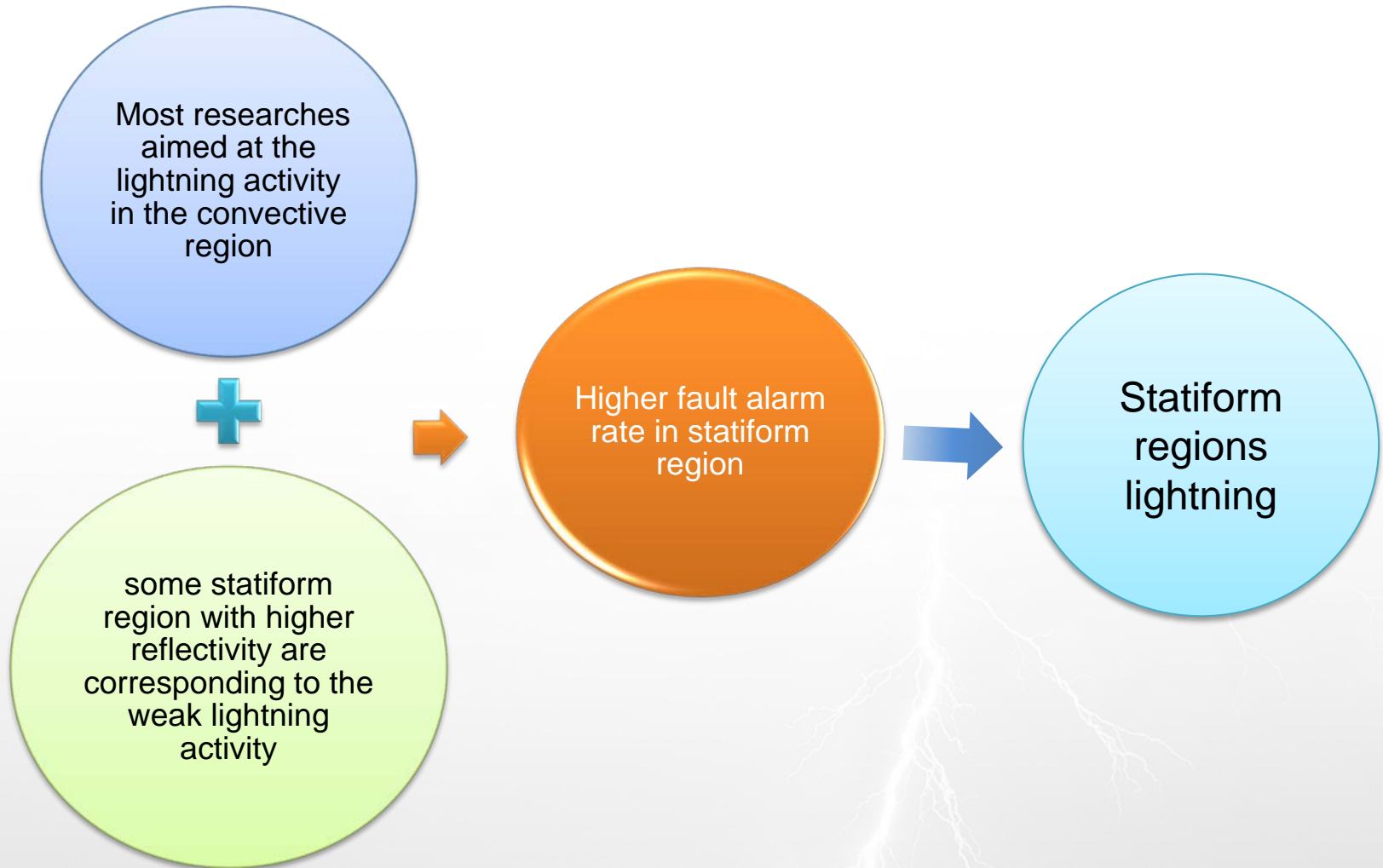
Volume₃₀₋₁₅ (Reflectivity ≥30dBz and Height ≥ -15 °C height) < 230km³

③ Echo top height of 40dBz < -20°C height

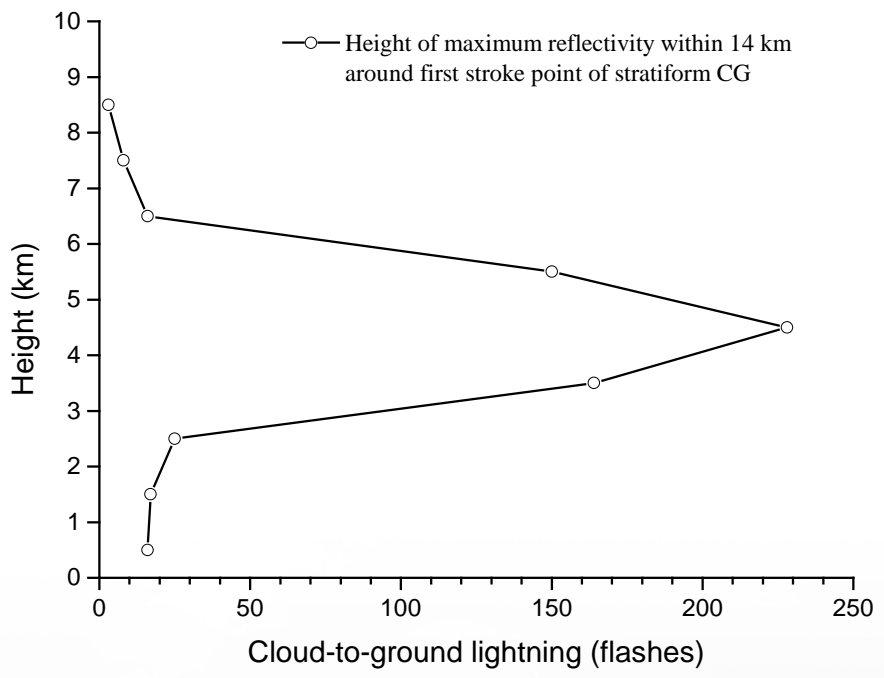
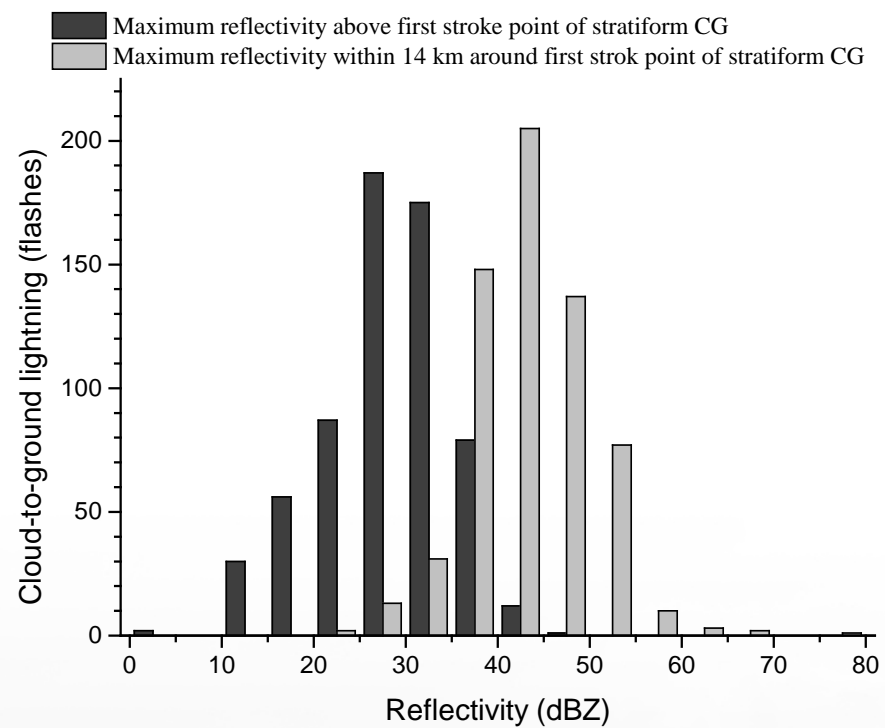
We can combine the conditions of , , to forecast lightning ending.

Key Method

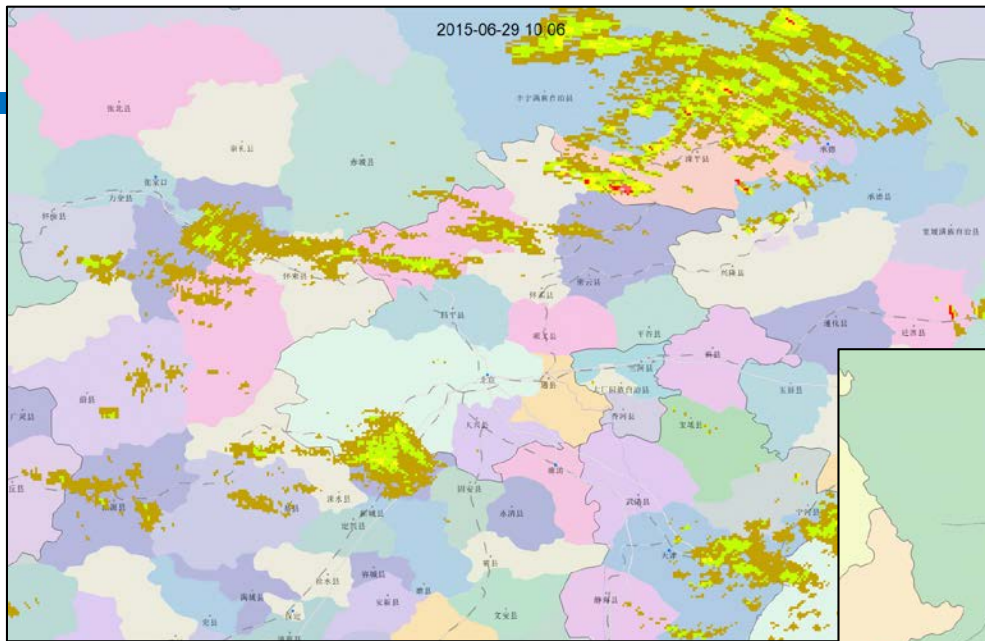
➤ Stratiform regions Lightning



Key Method

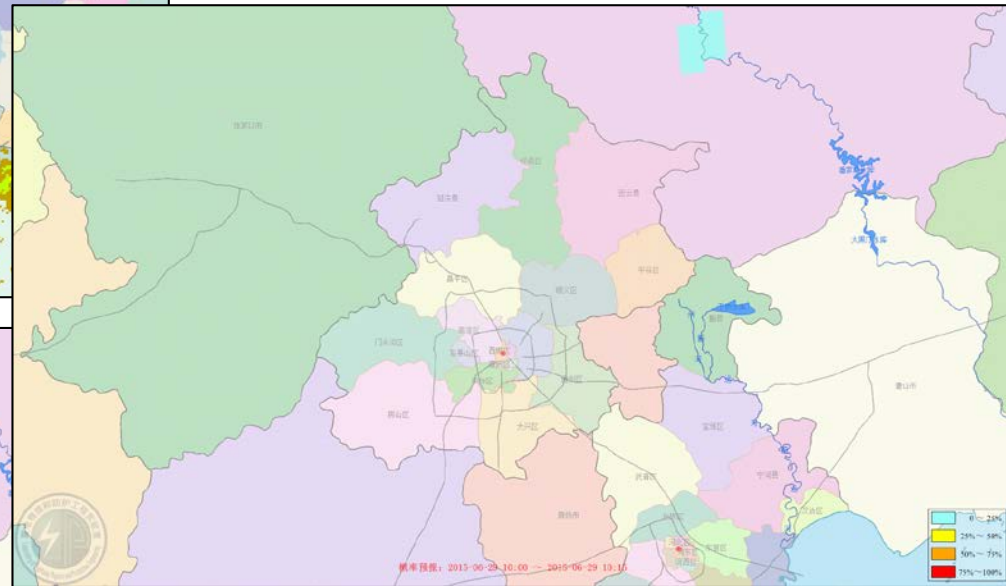


Analyze the Height and maximum reflectivity of stratiform CGs strike the ground at or near the edge of a region, and refer to the distinguish method of stratiform and convective region proposed by Steiner et al. (1995), and later improved by Biggerstaff and Listemaa, zhong, Xiao et al (2007), We adopt identify algorithm to forecast the lightning activity in the stratiform and convective regions.

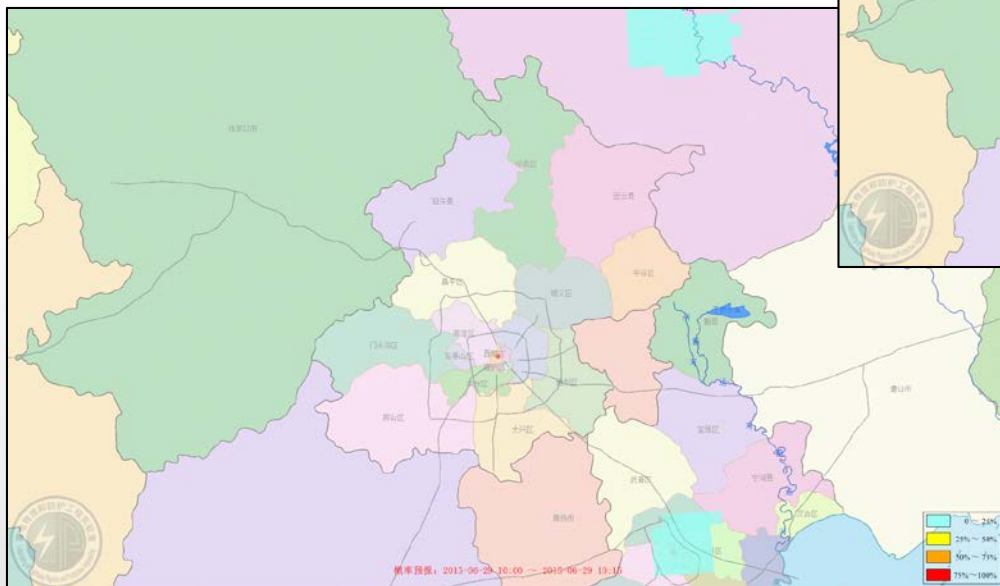


10:00-15:00 Jun 29,2015

Observation

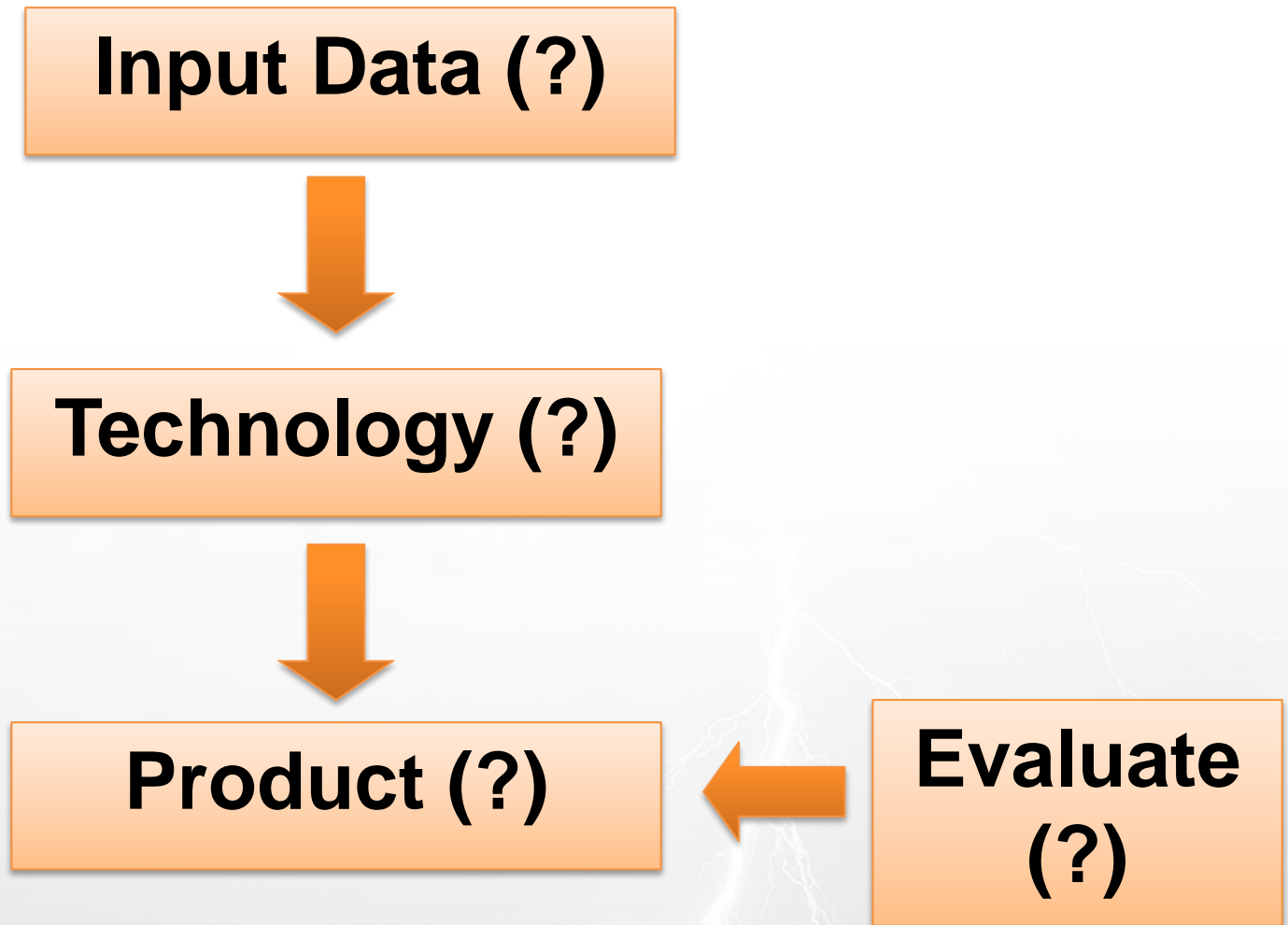


After using the identify method



Before using the identify method

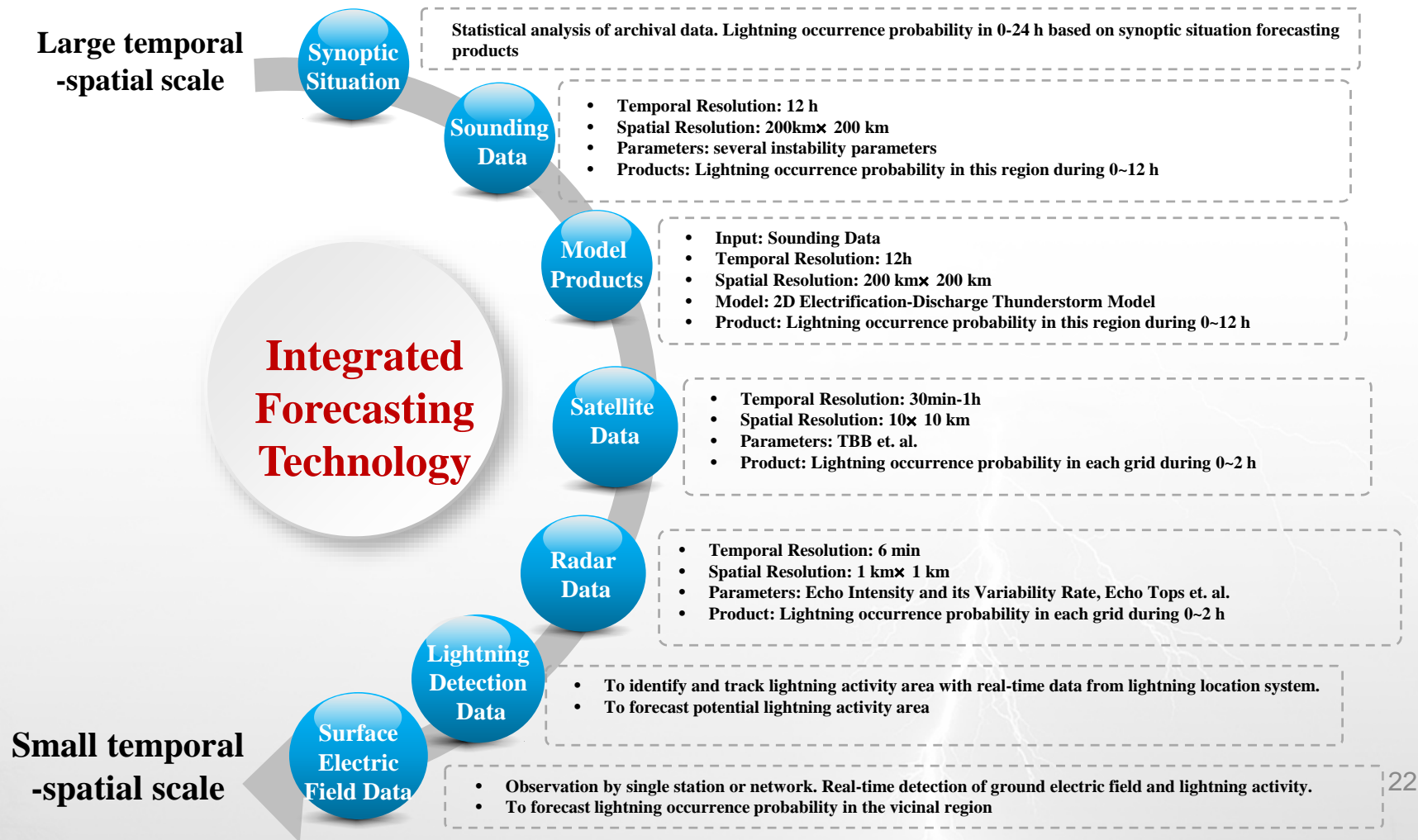
Design Scheme



Technology

Input Data

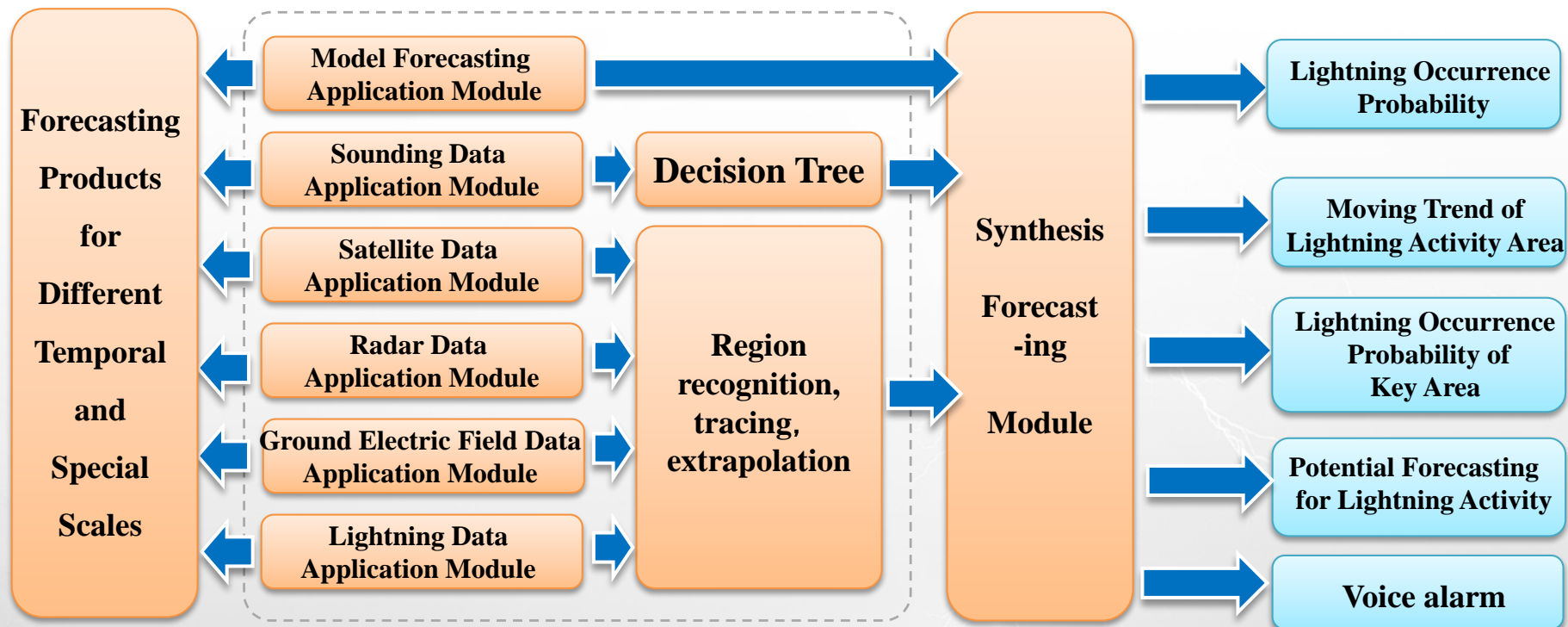
Multi-source observation data: sounding data, satellite, radar, lightning, surface electric field data and so on. (from large temporal spatial scale to small temporal spatial scale)



Technology

Technology

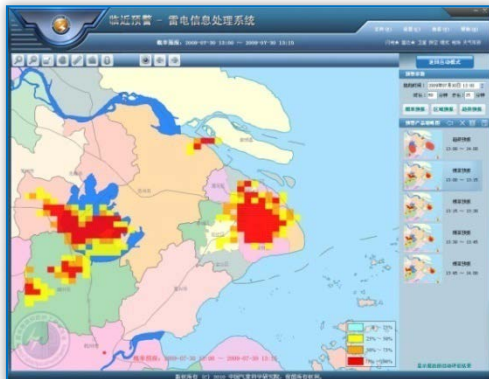
- ◆ The system was designed in **framework and modularization**.
- ◆ Based on algorithm of **area identification, tracing and extrapolation algorithm** and **decision trees algorithm**
- ◆ Considering **different data situation**, the system can not only use **single data application module** to produce forecasting result for different temporal and special scales, but also **synthesis different application module** to generate products through weight combination method.



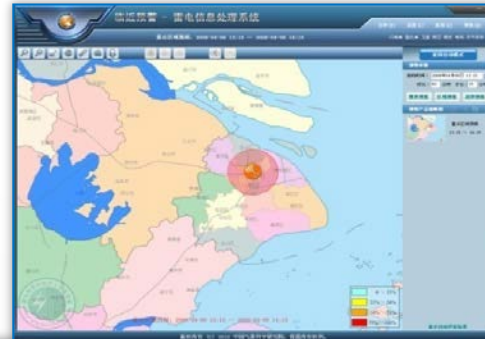
Technology

Product

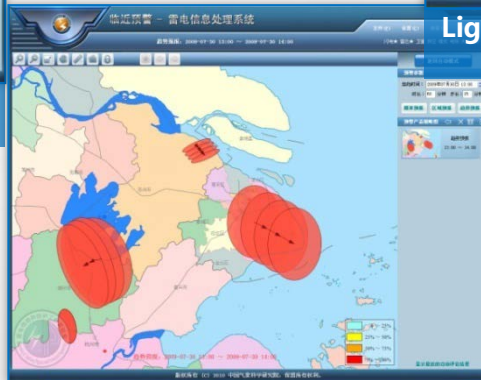
In order to meet the different needs of public meteorological service and special meteorological service, three kinds of Lightning nowcasting and warning products were showed. In order to make an objective assessment of result, we also evaluate the accuracy of the warning products by Probability of Detection (POD), Fault Alarm Rate (FAR) and Threat Score (Ts).



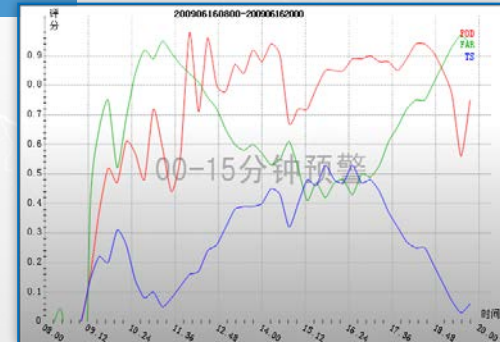
Lightning Occurrence Probability



Lightning Occurrence Probability of Key Area



Moving Trend of Lightning Activity Area



Evaluation of products in real time

CONTENTS

1 **Lightning Hazards •**

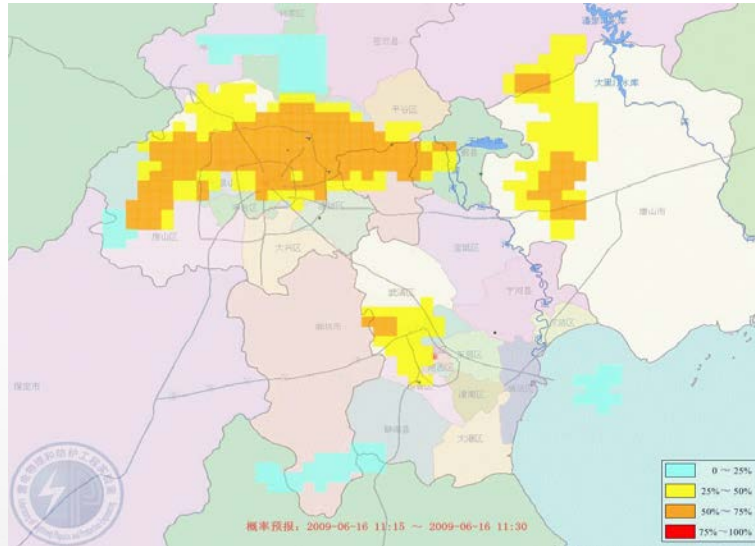
2 **System Introduction •**

3 **System Application •**

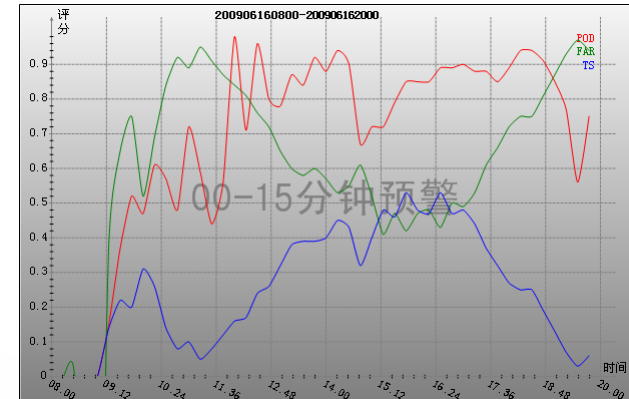
4 **Future Work •**

CAMS_LNWS Application

Tianjin: 11:00-20:00, June 16, 2009 . Severe weather hit Tianjin, with thunder storms, heavy rainfall and strong winds.



Forecast results in 15minutes intervals



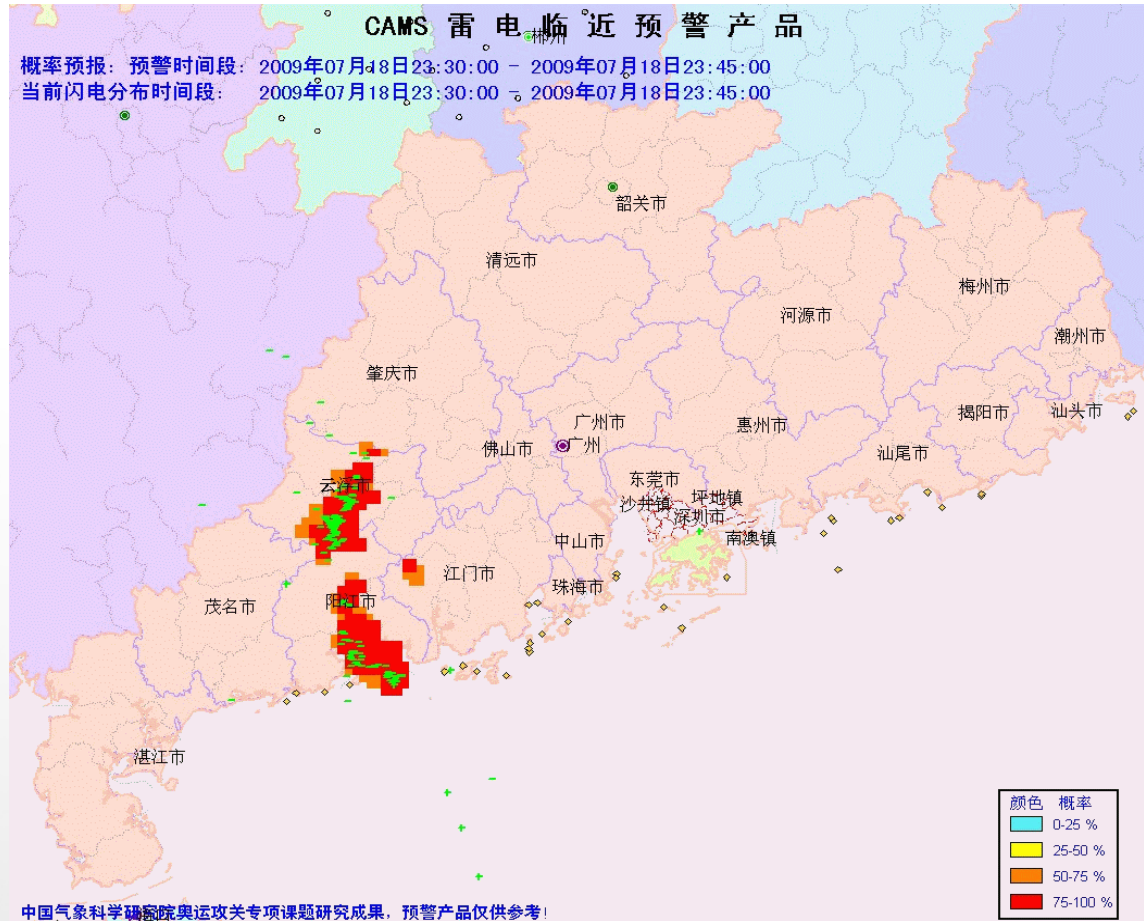
	Mean value	Sample number
POD	0.81	36
FAR	0.67	
TS	0.31	

Evaluation results

Case of Tianjin

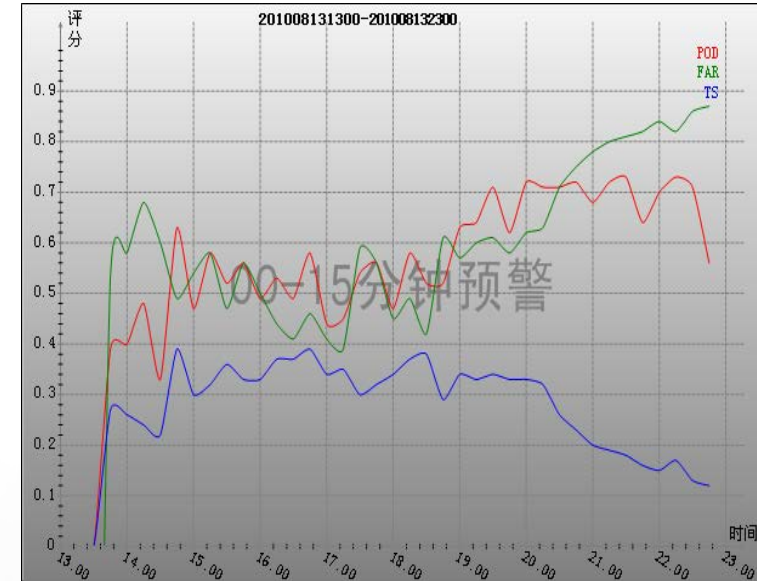
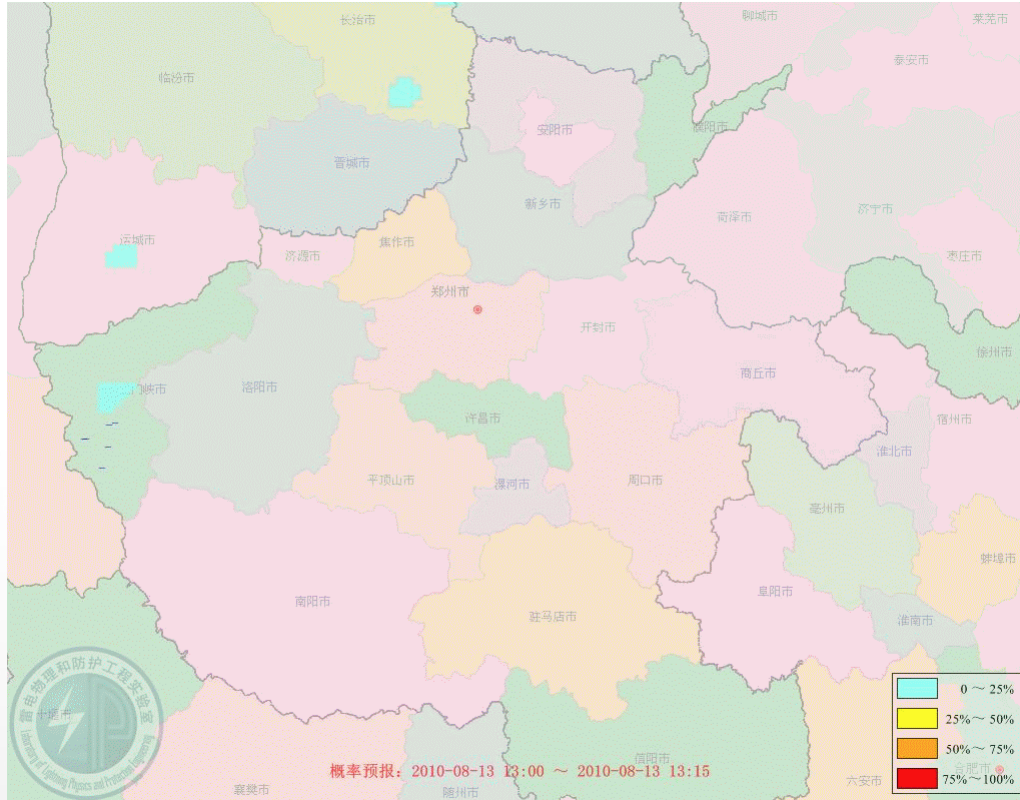
CAMS_LNWS Application

Guangdong: 16:00-23:45, July 18, 2009.



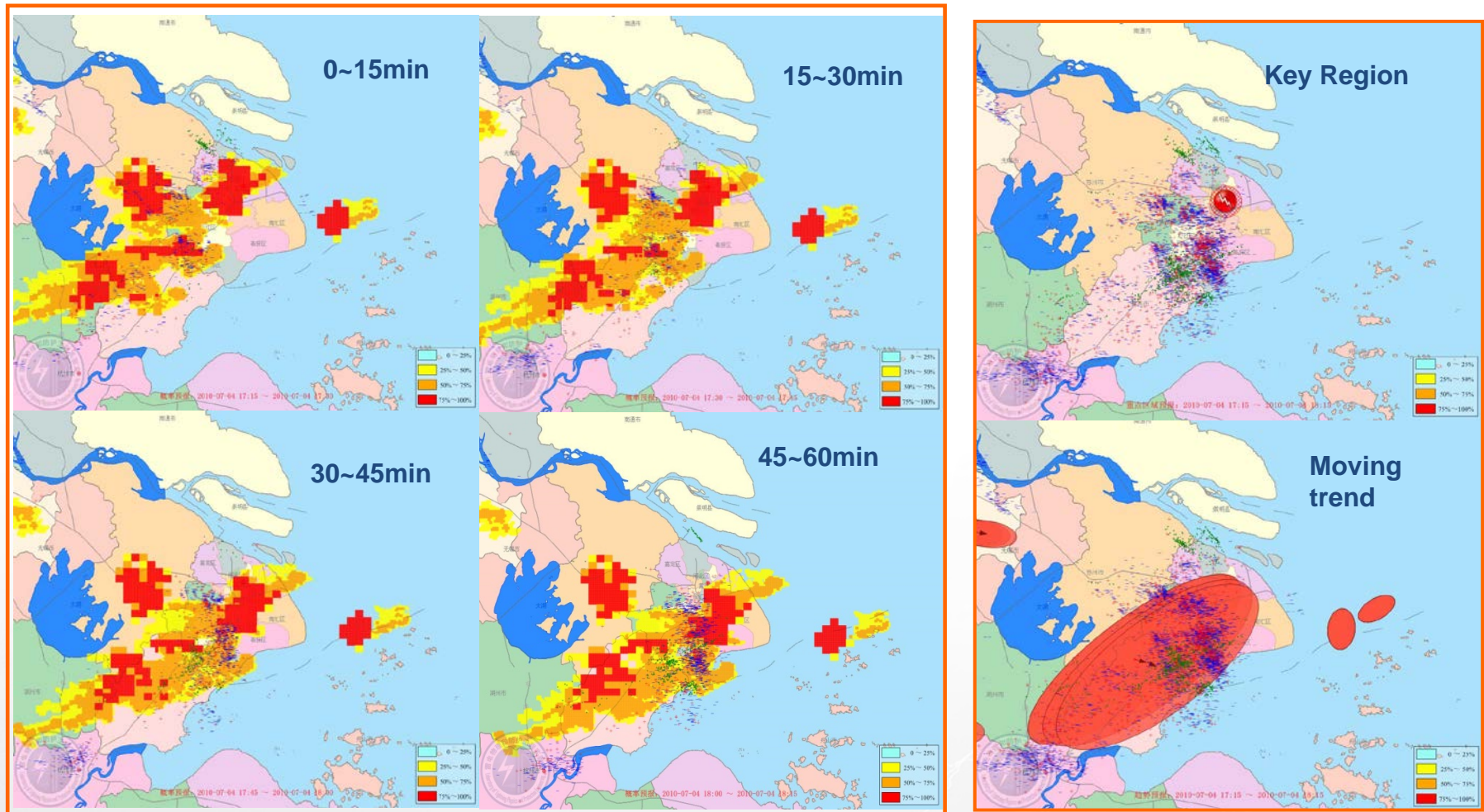
Case of Guangdong in Southern China

CAMS_LNWS Application



Case of Henan in central of China

CAMS_LNWS Application



Case of Shanghai during the World Expo2010.

CAMS_LNWS Application

Public services

- Lightning nowcasting and warning products

Special service

- forestry
- Electric power
- Tourism
- Telecom
-



Application for public meteorological service



Application in forestry department



Application in electric power department

CONTENTS

1 **Lightning Hazards •**

2 **System Introduction •**

3 **System Application •**

4 **Future Work •**

0~2h lightning nowcasting

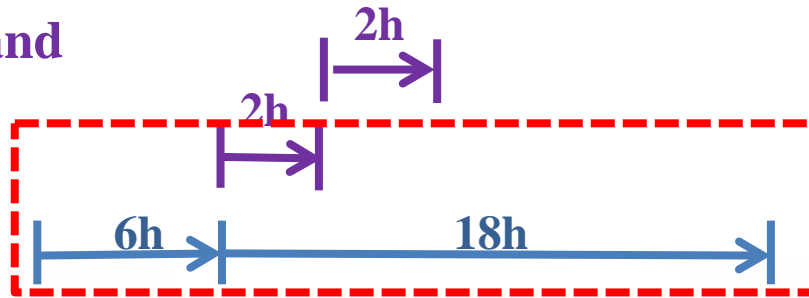
Regional lightning nowcasting index and algorithm should be improved further to decrease FAR.

0 6h lightning short-term forecast

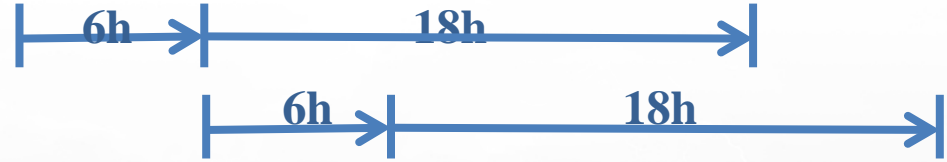
Developing the coupling of charge-discharge model of thunderclouds with meso-scale model to develop a 0~6 hour numerical forecasting method.

Future Work

Lightning nowcasting and warning system



Lightning numerical Prediction system



Lightning potential forecasting system





Thank you!