Recognition of Severe Weather by means of VLF/LF Lightning Detection

Hans D. Betz

University of Munich, Department of Physics, 85748 Garching, Germany

A number of different experimental techniques are available for detection of severe weather. This contribution investigates the potential of lightning location networks for remote sensing of thunderstorms, with special emphasis on early recognition of extreme weather, utilizing the system LINET in Europe. Several examples for storms in Continental Europe and in the Mediterranean are shown where heavy precipitation and other extreme conditions were reported. Possibilities for nowcasting are presented which demonstrate the usefulness of lightning data.