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The impact of the non-inductive manner of charging on the early stage electrical structure in thunderstorms

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Numerical simulations have been performed to test the impact of the parameterization for non-inductive electrification on the charge distribution in thunderclouds. Some empirical equations for the non-inductive charge transfer (i.e. new parameterization of Takahashi's (1978) data, equation for the charge sign reversal line, obtained during the new laboratory experiments in UMIST (2003)) were put in a numerical model to determine the electrical structure of three different thunderclouds. Results show that in some clouds the use of different parameterizations lead to a completely different structure of thunderclouds, which is in accordance with some previous studies (Mansell et al., 2005).