

Lightning and the Gravitational Capacitor **(Auroras and Gravitationally Powered Fluorescent Lights)**

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Abstract. Since a gravitational field is essentially just a weak electric field, it will be discussed how thunderclouds are acting like capacitors by siphoning aether from the radial gravitational inflow. It will further be suggested that auroras are gravitationally powered fluorescent lights which operate on the gaseous discharge principle when the magnetic field is at an optimum angle.

Vitreously Charged Thunderclouds

I. There has never been a satisfactory explanation regarding where the accumulated electric charge on thunderclouds comes from. As in the case of the electrophorous device and the Van de Graaff generator, we are left with no choice but to conclude that it must come from the infinite supply of inflowing vitreous fluid which we experience as gravity. See ‘Vitreous Electricity and Centrifugal Potential Energy’ at,

<http://www.wbabin.net/science/tombe25.pdf>

It was shown in section **III** of ‘Gravitational Induction and the Gyroscopic Force’ at,

<http://www.wbabin.net/science/tombe5.pdf>

that the gravitational field is a special weak case of the more general electric field. A thundercloud will therefore act like a large capacitor and absorb vitreous electricity from the gravitational field until it is saturated with vitreous charge. This process will continue until the vitreous fluid bursts out and flows to Earth in the form of bolts of lightning that look like the distributaries of a large river.

Lightning is therefore concentrated gravity that has been collected, stored, and then released all at once. The thundercloud is therefore a dam with a large capacity for vitreous fluid (aether).

The Broken Magnetic Field around a Bolt of Lightning

II. A bolt of lightning does not form a closed electric circuit and so it would appear that Ampère's Circuital Law will not apply. Nevertheless, a magnetic field does indeed surround lightning. This opens up the question of whether or not there must then exist a break in the solenoidal magnetic field pattern that surrounds the lightning.

In actual fact there is no break. It was discussed in 'Gravity Reversal and Atomic Bonding' at,

<http://www.wbabin.net/science/tombe6.pdf>

how the linear polarization lines spreading out between two static bodies must be aligned such that the rotation axes of the electron-positron dipoles form solenoidal rings around a line connecting the two bodies. These solenoidal lines do not actually constitute magnetic field lines because the linear polarization effect has undermined any tendency for the vorticity to increase beyond the nominal value. Nevertheless they demonstrate that solenoidal lines based on the rotation axes of the electron-positron dipoles do not absolutely have to have a closed circulating electric current.

When the lightning flows from a thundercloud to the Earth, solenoidal magnetic lines of force will form rings around the lightning. These solenoidal rings will extend indefinitely around and beyond both the cloud and the Earth, but they will quickly reduce to a nominal value of vorticity that doesn't constitute a magnetic field.

Auroras and Gravitationally Powered Lights

III. Auroras are another large scale luminous phenomenon that has so far defied any explanation. We know that they occur at a certain distance from the magnetic poles. We can see them at night time when they are out of the direct reach of sunlight. They are clearly self luminous and they exhibit a pattern of large scale fluid motion.

We are therefore observing some kind of fluorescent gaseous discharge phenomenon similar to that which takes place in a fluorescent light. The only large scale hydrodynamical phenomenon in the region is the gravitational inflow of the vitreous fluid (aether) which we know constitutes a weak electric field. We are therefore left to conclude that auroras are gravitationally powered fluorescent lights that operate at maximum efficiency when the gravitational field and the magnetic field are mutually aligned at an optimum angle.