



A low-cost lightning electric field measurement device for tropical zone. A preliminary result.

Authors:

Leonardo Aguirre, Diego del Río , Camilo Younes.

Institutions:

Universidad Nacional de Colombia

Environmental Energy and Education Policy Research Group - E3P



UNIVERSIDAD
NACIONAL
DE COLOMBIA

Contents

I. Introduction

II. Instrumentation

III. Methodology

IV. Results

V. Conclusions

VI. Questions

I. Introduction

How expensive is a lightning location system?



<https://www.lapatria.com/manizales/temporada-de-lluvias-trae-tormentas-electricas-indicaron-expertos-2109>

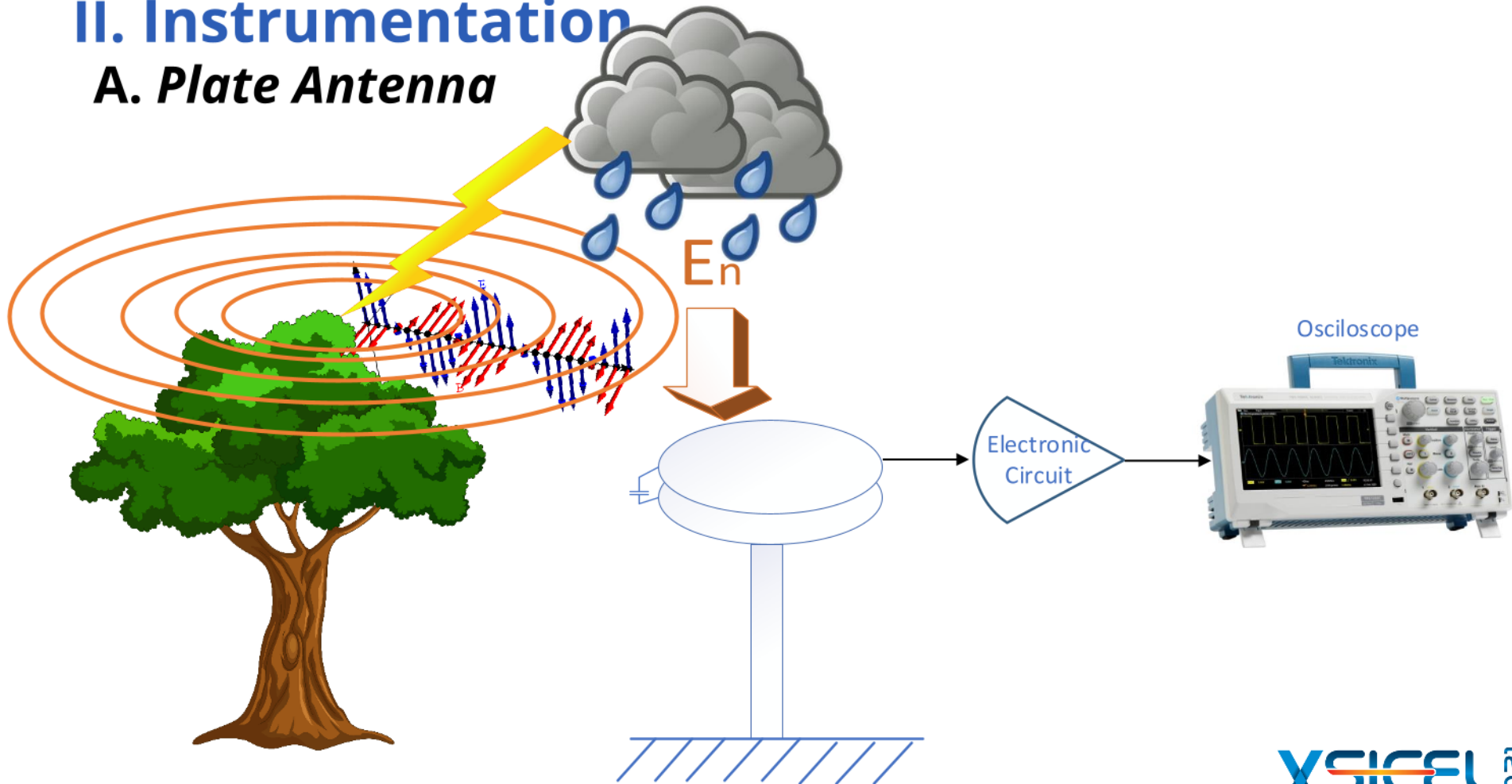
I. Introduction

How expensive is a lightning system?



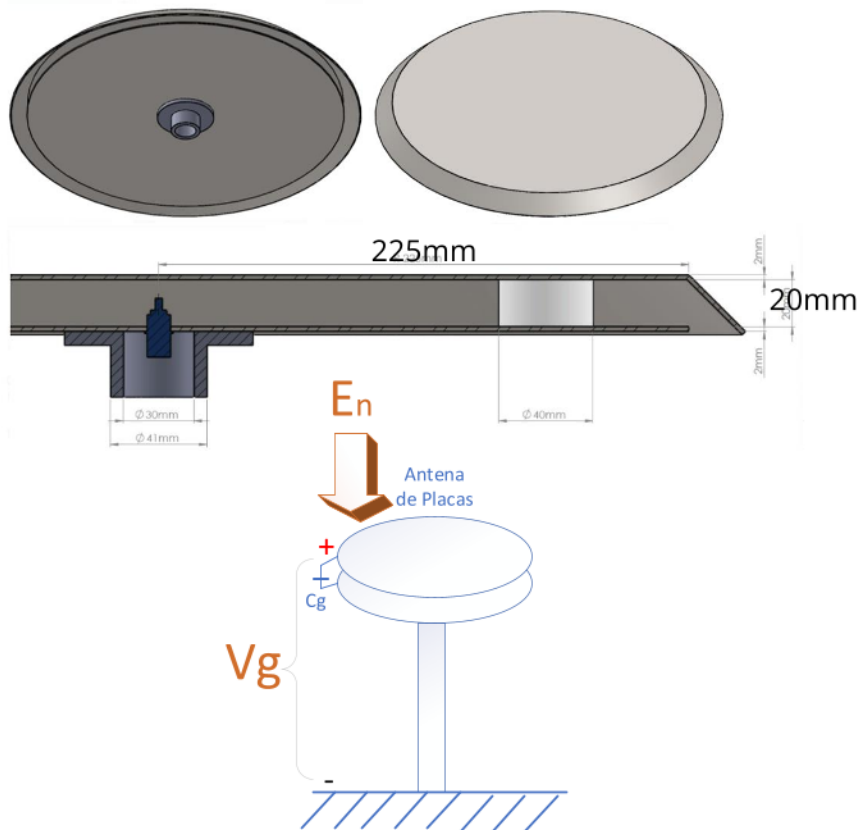
II. Instrumentation

A. Plate Antenna



II. Instrumentation

A. Plate Antenna



$$E_n = \frac{Q}{\epsilon_0 \epsilon_r S} \text{ [V/m]} \quad (4)$$

E: Electric field
 ϵ_0 : Absolute permittivity
 ϵ_r : Relative permittivity
 S: The surface area (45cm diameter)

$$V_g = - \int_0^d E_n \cdot dx = \frac{Q \cdot d}{\epsilon_0 \epsilon_r S} \quad (5)$$

$$V_g = E_n \cdot d \text{ [V]}$$

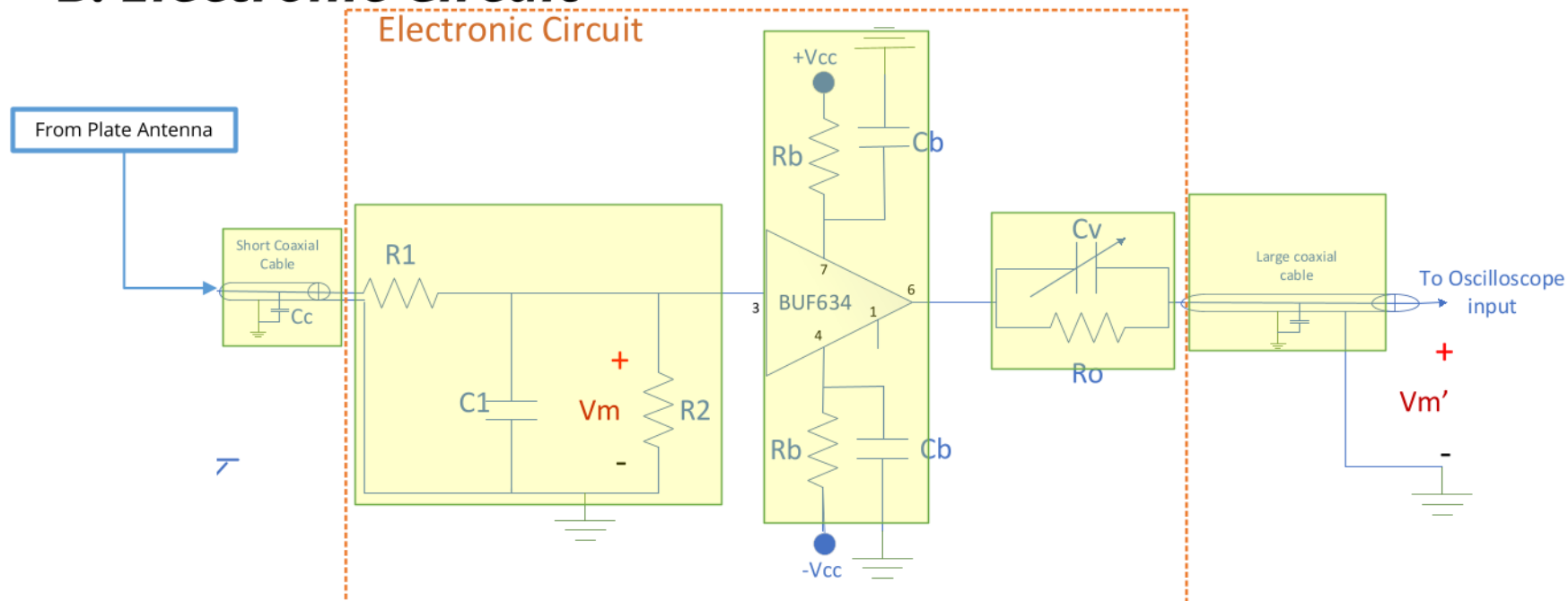
Vg: Voltage between the plate and ground
 d: Gap between the plates (2cm)

$$C = \frac{\epsilon A}{d} \text{ [F]} \quad (9)$$

C: Capacitance=70.4pF

II. Instrumentation

B. *Electronic Circuit*



Tested integrated circuits

Integrated Circuit	BUF602	BUF634	OP633	LT1815	LMH6559	OPA354
Bandwidth	1000MHz	210 MHz	260Mhz	220MHz	1750MHz	1000MHz
R _{in}	1M	180M	1.5M	5M	200k	1.00E+13
R _{out}	1.4	7	5	0.2	1.2	0.05
Max Vs+	12	18	12	5	5	5.5
Min Vs-	-12	-18	-12	-5	-5	-2.5

II. Instrumentation

B. Electronic Circuit

Using the Thevenin equivalent circuit analysis, a relation between V_m y V_g can be obtained by:

$$\frac{V_m}{V_g} = \frac{sC_g R_2}{1 + s(R_1 + R_2) \cdot (C_g + C_c) + sF_1} \quad (10)$$

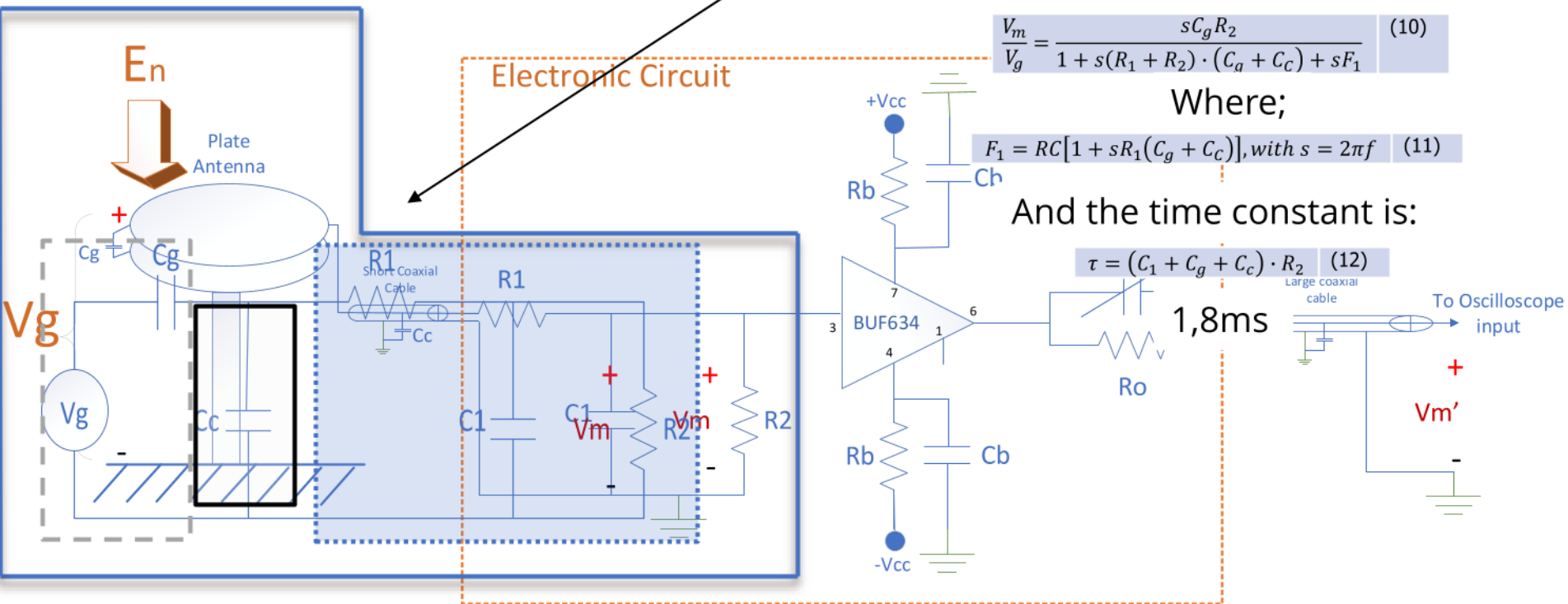
Where;

$$F_1 = RC[1 + sR_1(C_g + C_c)], \text{ with } s = 2\pi f \quad (11)$$

And the time constant is:

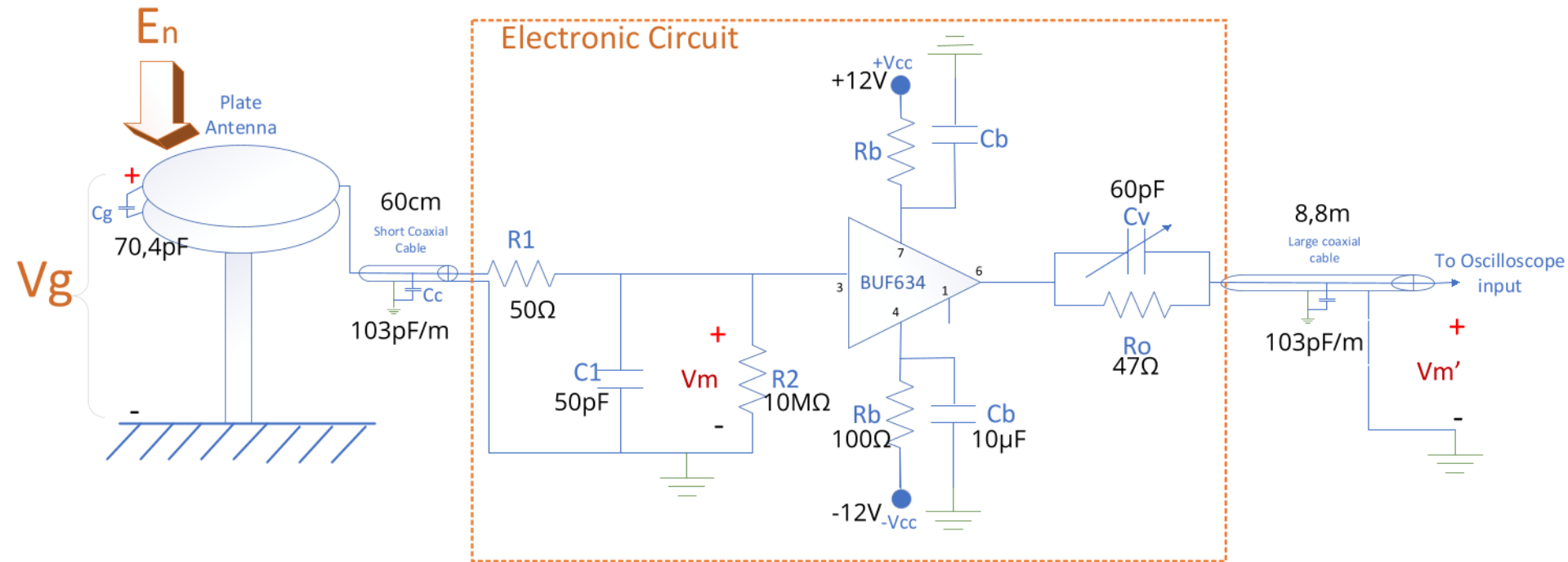
$$\tau = (C_1 + C_g + C_c) \cdot R_2 \quad (12)$$

1,8ms



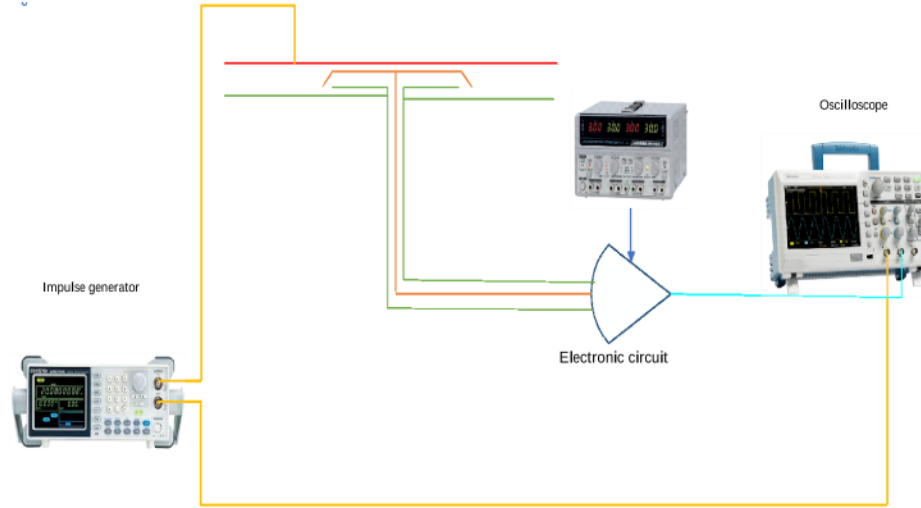
II. Instrumentation

B. *Electronic Circuit*



II. Instrumentation

C. Calibration



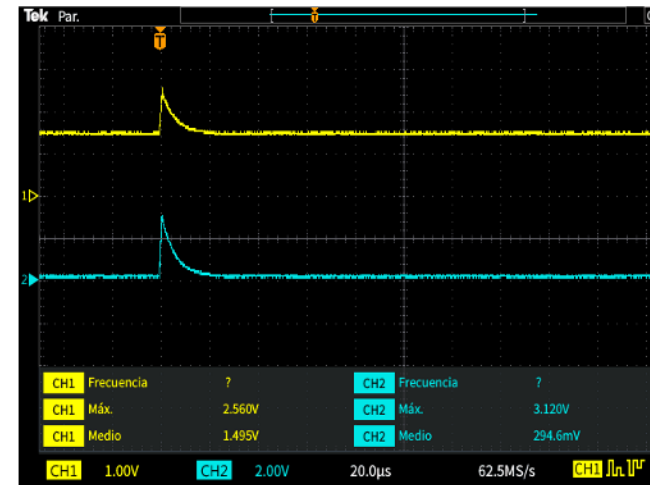
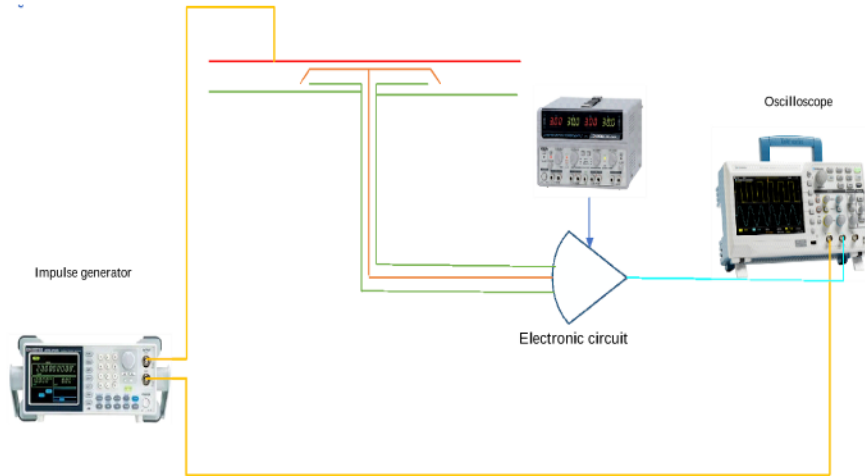
Schematic of calibration system



on-site testing

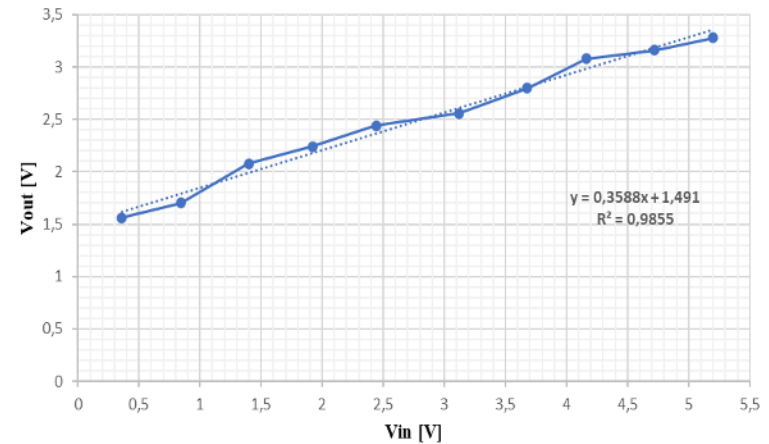
II. Instrumentation

C. Calibration



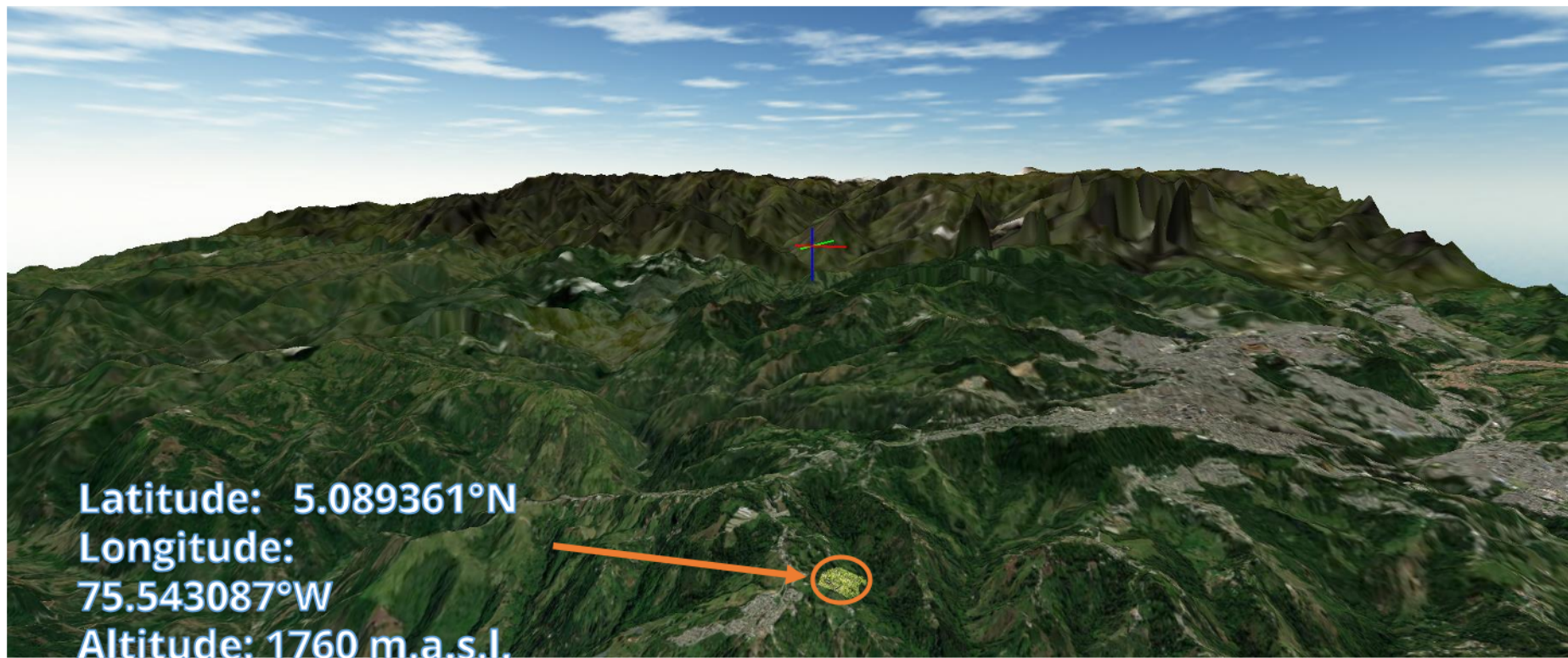
V_{out} signal

V_{in} signal



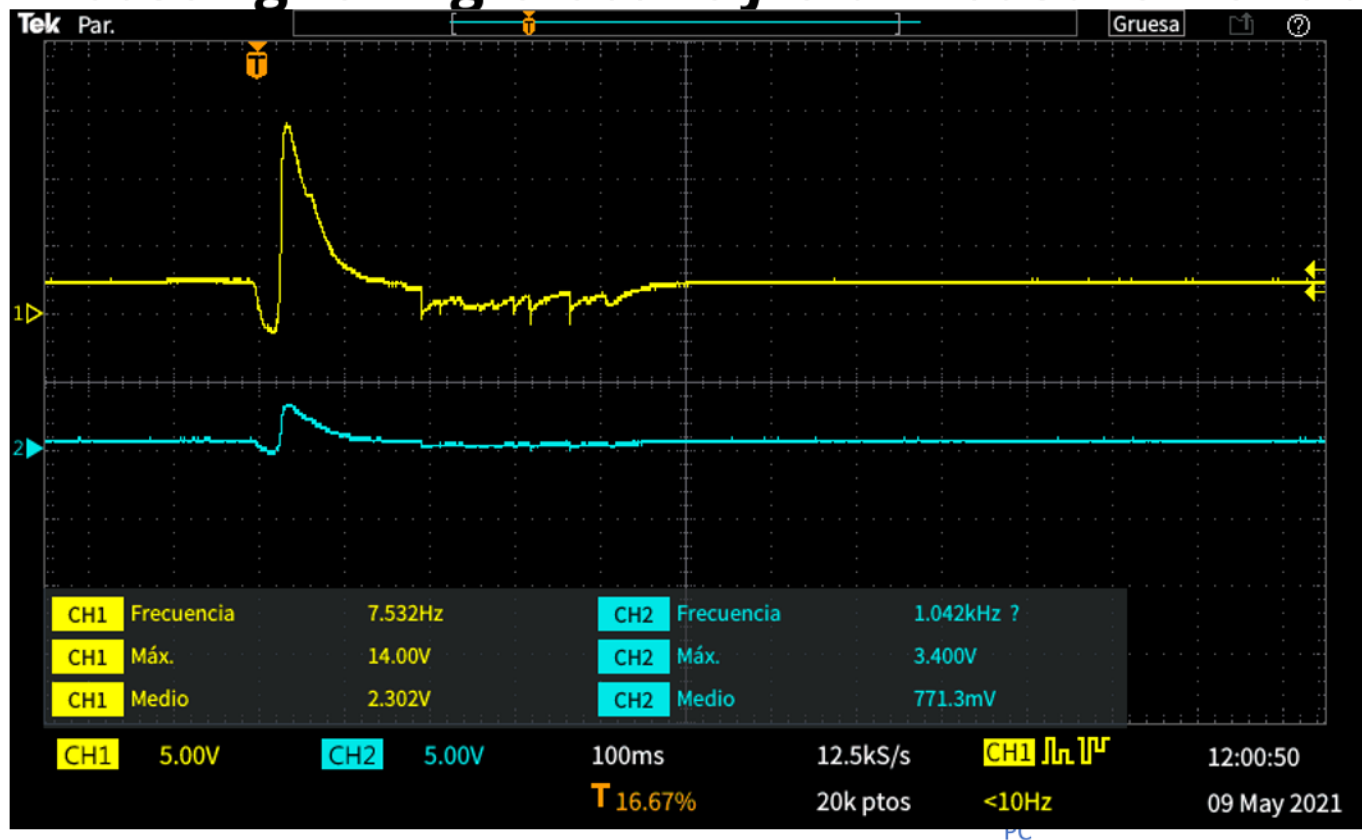
III. Methodology

A. Location



III. Methodology

B. Low-cost lightning electric field measurement device

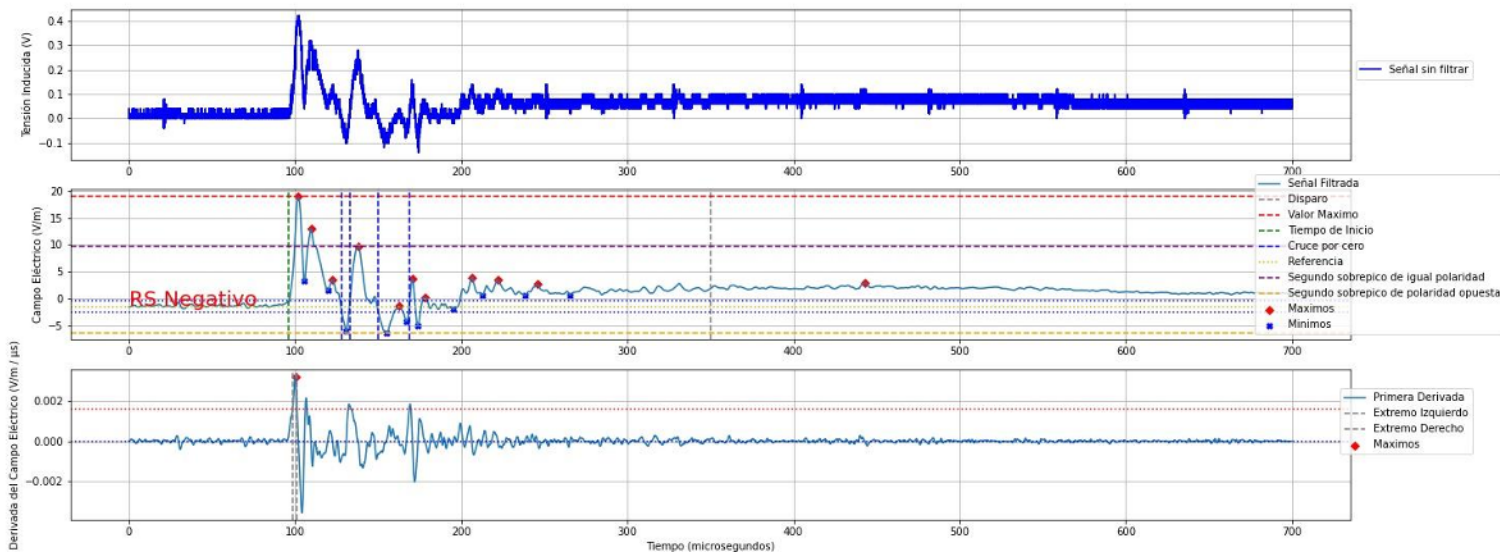


IV. Results

A. Negatives return Strokes

Señal de Campo Electrico Radiado por Rayo No. 23: 23_MAN_27092020_185453_CE

Distance: 25,7km



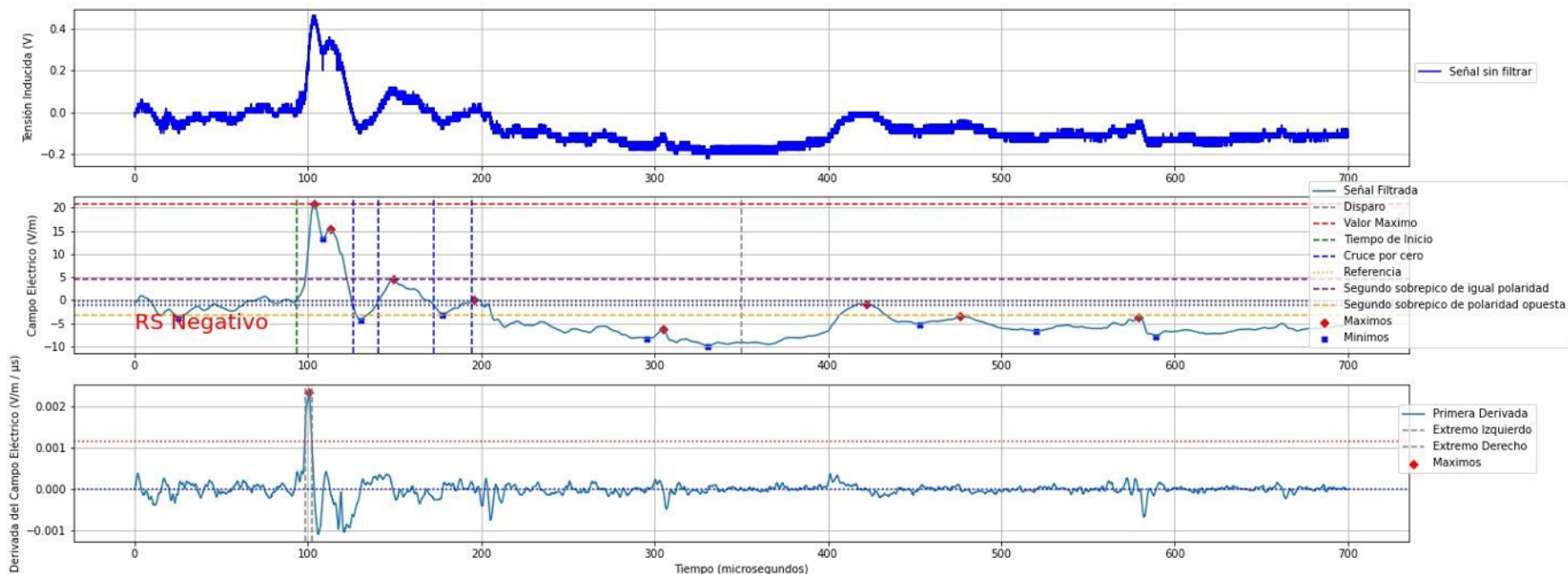
Fecha	Hora	Latitud	Longitud	Corriente (kA)	Altitud (km)	Tipo	Error(km)
27/09/2020	18:54:52.937	5.1118	-75.801	-13.8	0	1	0.348
27/09/2020	18:54:53.001	5.0978	-75.7754	-19.7	0	1	0.228
27/09/2020	18:54:53.037	5.1153	-75.7925	-10.1	0	1	0.24

IV. Results

Distance: 114,3km

A. Negatives return Strokes

Señal de Campo Electrico Radiado por Rayo No. 51: 51_MAN_27092020_190409_CE

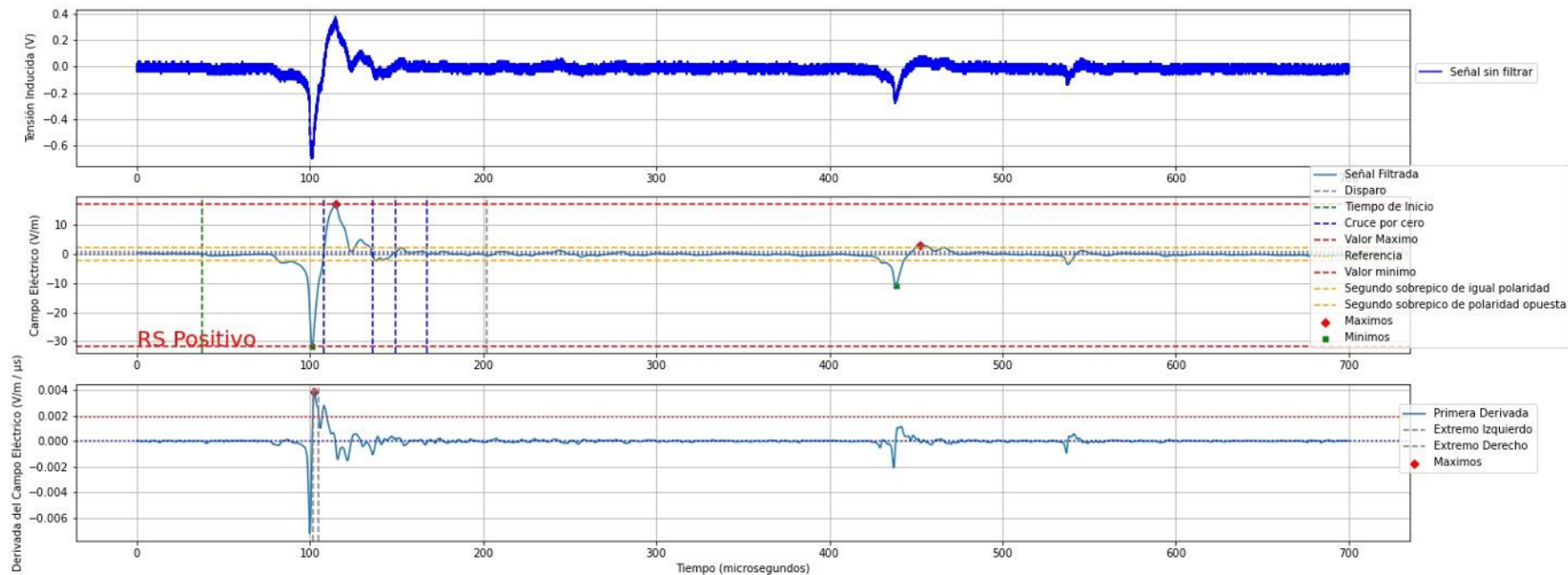


IV. Results

B. Positives return Strokes

Distance: 42,35km

Señal de Campo Electrico Radiado por Rayo No. 518: 518_MAN_28102020_124450_CE

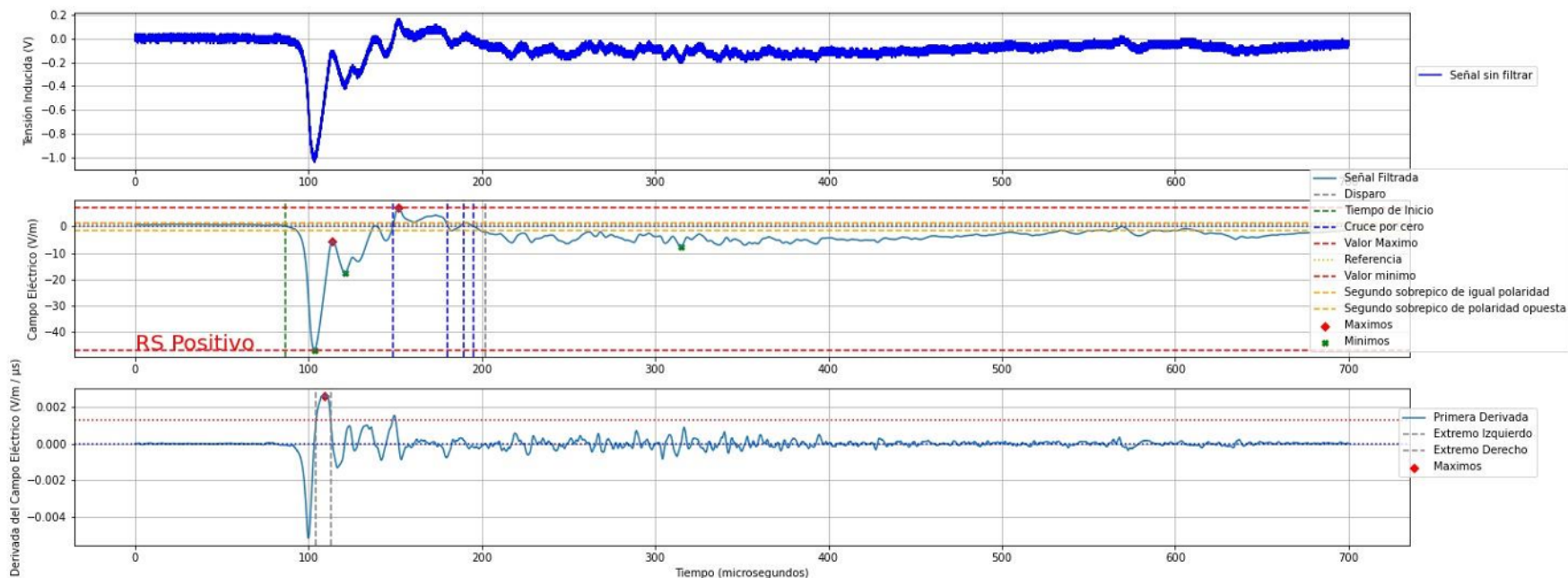


IV. Results

B. Positives return Strokes

Distance: 64,87km

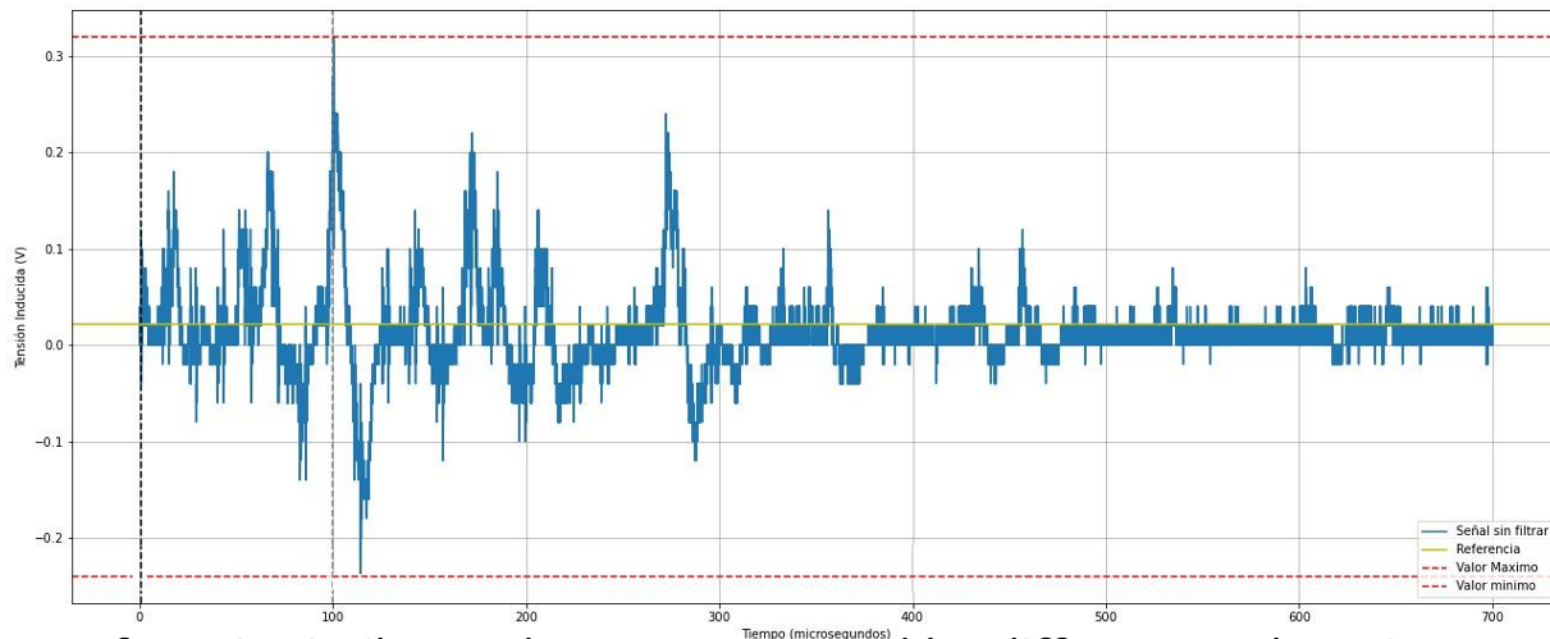
Señal de Campo Electrico Radiado por Rayo No. 556: 556_MAN_28102020_131211_CE



IV. Results

B. Preliminary breakdown in return Strokes

Señal de Campo Electrico Radiado por Rayo No. 4: 4_MAN_27092020_180253_CE

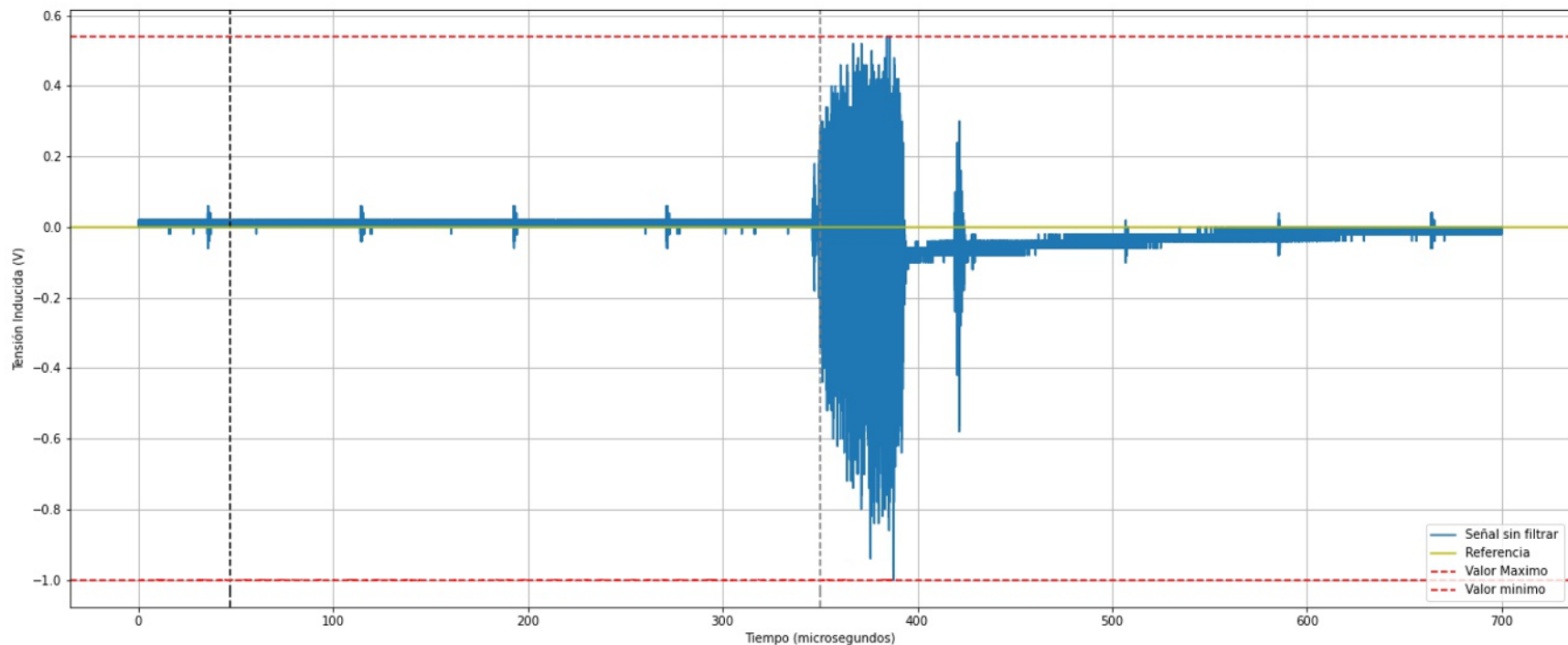


The waveform is similar to the ones reported by different authors in other locations around the world.

IV. Results

B. Preliminary breakdown in return Strokes

Señal de Campo Electrico Radiado por Rayo No. 184: 184_MAN_27092020_210124_CE



V. Conclusions

1. In this article, the adaptation and updating of an electronic circuit commonly used by different authors from the national and international, scientific community was presented.
2. This system will make it possible to characterize and to compare the temporal and magnitude parameters of the electric fields radiated by lightning in the tropical zone.
3. The results show that the device is able to record signals that allow for the identification of specific stages of the lightning formation and return stroke process.

V. Questions?

