

## Results of the IMO Video Meteor Network – June 2018

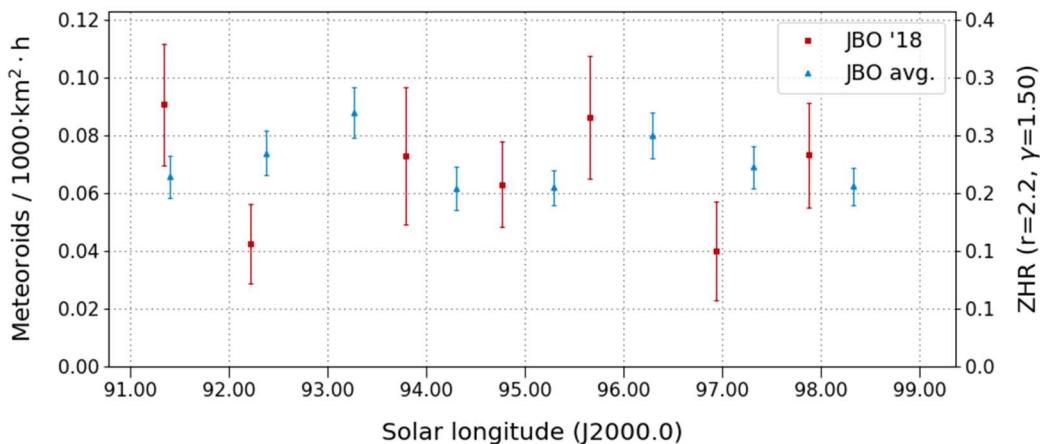
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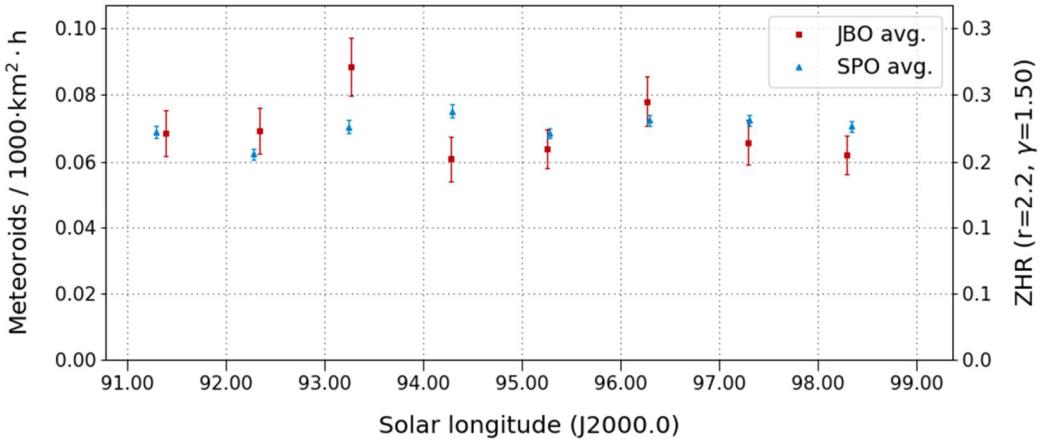
June 2018 presented a substandard yield to the IMO network video observers, which is not obvious from a glimpse at the result tables. We see a continuing tendency which started earlier this year: The typically dominating Portuguese observers had to live with twenty and sometimes clearly fewer observing nights, whereas observers in Germany and Poland collected well above twenty nights. Only our Italian team enjoyed as usual perfectly clear skies. Overall 47 of 76 video cameras recorded meteors in twenty or more observing nights. With 5,700 hours, the effective observing time fell 15% to 25% short of the outcome of the previous four years, and those 14,000 meteors marked a decrease of even 25% to 35%. Indeed, it's the worst June result since 2011 when the IMO network consisted of still less than fifty cameras.

Also, with respect to meteor showers, June has only little to offer. There are the daytime Arietids, which have been targeting by visual and video observers for several years, in order to normalize the hourly rates obtained from radar data with the ZHR and flux density in the optical domain. Due to the exceptionally short observing window, the data is even after 8 years still rudimentary. If we include all observing intervals starting at  $0^{\circ}$  radiant altitude, all IMO network cameras together have accumulated just  $17,500 \text{ km}^2$  and hour of effective collection area in 2,250 hours of effective observing time. That's about as much as two powerful video cameras collect in a single Geminid night. Given this, the reported number of 260 shower meteors is quite substantial. It yields a flux density of about 15 meteoroids per  $1,000 \text{ km}^2$  and hour corresponding to a ZHR in the upper two-digit range. Due to the exceptional circumstances the error bars are quite large, though. In particular we would need to find out, how big the sporadic pollution is in this case.

The yield of the June Bootids, the second meteor shower of June, is also negligible, but for a different reason. This shower presents only once in a few years significant outbursts (last time 2004), and otherwise it is below the detection threshold. Both in 2018 and in the long-term average 2011-2017 the flux density was below 0.1 meteoroids per  $1,000 \text{ km}^2$  and hour (figure 1), which should reflect the sporadic background. In fact, if we plot the long-term average June Bootid and sporadic profile (the latter one scaled down by a factor of 500), the profiles match almost perfectly (figure 2).



**Figure 1:** Flux density profile of the June Bootids in 2018 (red) and in the average of 2011-2017 (blue), derived from video data of the IMO Network.



**Figure 2:** Comparison of the activity profile of the June Bootids and sporadic meteors (downscaled by a factor of 500) in the average of the years 2011-2018.

But who has contributed which data set to this graph? The online FluxViewer does now not only provide a data table, but additional statistics on the contributing cameras and observers. Hence, we know that STG38 of Stefano Crivello provided most effective collection area for figure 1. The cameras of Rui Goncalves, Enrico Stomeo and Maurizio Eltri were equally successful data collectors for the June Bootids.

Unfortunately, the backlog of IMO network observing reports has recently significantly increased – now the deficit is almost one year. In order to let interested researcher not to wait too long, we have introduced a second database in FluxViewer. Beside the regular database, which contains complete and double-checked data up to the corresponding monthly report (currently: June 2018) the observers can upload their video data into the temporary database on their own. These data are more up-to-date (sometimes to the day), but incomplete and not double-checked. Via a checkbox in the meteorflux.org web interface the researcher can decide, which of the two data sets he would like to use.









