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Artificial lighting characterizes the nighttime environment of much of the Earth. The image here, taken by astronauts aboard the International Space Station (ISS), is looking east across Italy (with the ISS solar panels at the right, and the airglow line clearly showing). (Credit: image number ISS041-E-90188; Italy at night, panorama. ISS Crew Earth Observations Facility and the Earth Science and Remote Sensing Unit, NASA Johnson Space Center; http://eol.jsc.nasa.gov.)