

Twelve years' of mesospheric observations from Aberystwyth

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The Aberystwyth MST radar has been making a single vertical beam observation of the mesosphere approximately once every 5 minutes since April 2005. The radar is sufficiently far north (52.4° N) for Mesosphere Summer Echoes (MSEs) to be observed frequently during June and July of each year. These have consequently been the focus of research interest. This presentation will instead focus on the radar returns observed during the rest of the year. These tend to be weaker, of narrower vertical extent, and of shorter duration than MSEs and to occur at lower altitudes. They are also less-frequently occurring, although there is considerable inter-annual variability. They occur more frequently between the months of August and December than between January and May. Nevertheless, there are occasional non-summer echoes that do not fit into this pattern. These data have not been presented at any previous MST Radar Workshops.