

Meteor radar observations at Mohe, China

*Libo Liu¹, Huixin Liu², Yiding Chen¹, Huijun Le¹, Yang-yi Sun²

1. Key Laboratory of Earth and Planetary Physics, Institute of Geology and Geophysics, Chinese Academy of Sciences,
2. Department of Earth and Planetary Science, Kyushu University

In this talk, we report the observations of the VHF all-sky meteor radar operated at Mohe (53.5 °N, 122.3° E), China, since August 2011. The kinetic temperature profiles retrieved from the observations of Sounding of the Atmosphere using Broadband Emission Radiometry (SABER) onboard the Thermosphere, Ionosphere, Mesosphere, Energetics, and Dynamics (TIMED) satellite are processed to provide the temperature (T_{SABER}) and temperature gradient (dT/dh) at 90 km height. Based on the SABER temperature profile data an empirical dT/dh model is developed for the Mohe latitude. First, a semiannual variation is dominated in the peak height of the height distribution of meteor echoes and there is an annual variation in the half width of the height distribution of meteor echoes. Secondly, we derive the temperatures from the meteor decay times (T_{meteor}) and the Mohe dT/dh model gives prior information of temperature gradients. Thirdly, the full-width of half maximum (FWHM) of the meteor height profiles is calculated and further used to deduce the temperatures (T_{FWHM}) based on the strong linear relationship between FWHM and T_{SABER} . The temperatures at 90 km deduced from the decay times (T_{meteor}) and from the meteor height distributions (T_{FWHM}) at Mohe are validated/calibrated with T_{SABER} . The temperatures present a considerable annual variation, being maximum in winter and minimum in summer. Harmonic analyses reveal that the temperatures have an annual variation consistent with T_{SABER} . Our work suggests that the FWHM has a good performance in routine estimation of the temperatures.

Acknowledgments

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