Geophysical Research Abstracts Vol. 19, EGU2017-12124, 2017 EGU General Assembly 2017 © Author(s) 2017. CC Attribution 3.0 License.



Quiet time enhancements over Africa

Nicola Orford (1,2), Zama Katamzi (1,2), and Dalia Buresova (3)

(1) South African National Space Agency, Space Science, Hermanus, South Africa (norford@sansa.org.za), (2) Rhodes University, Grahamstown, South Africa, (3) Institute of Atmospheric Physics, ASCR, Aeronomy, Czech Republic

F2 layer disturbances unrelated to geomagnetic disturbances are known as quiet time enhancements (QTEs). As the QTE phenomenon has not been studied over African latitudes, we explore the occurrence of QTEs over this region in order to expand our knowledge on the behaviour of the ionosphere. Data from several GPS stations in the southern midlatitude and equatorial regions, during solar minimum (2009) and near solar maximum (2013), was examined for possible trends in variation with solar cycle, season and latitude as well as time of QTE commencement. We then investigate the implications of our observations on possible atmospheric mechanisms causing the occurrence of QTEs.