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Interactive Comment

Interactive comment on "Radar and optical leonids" by N. Brosch et al.

Anonymous Referee #2

Received and published: 7 April 2004

The use of time coincidence alone for association of the radar and optical events is flawed. The number of chance coincidences is much higher than noted by the authors - poisson statistics alone show that one would expect as many (more in fact) chance coincidences than are found. There is little detail given to establish what the radar is seeing - is it body echoes, head echoes? What technique is used to establish heights - I am very sceptical of the high altitude claims based on radar alone and this extraordinary result needs to be backed by careful, critical examination of data - I see no evidence this has been done by the authors. The results may have significance, but the authors need to carefully establish the veracity of their data and more clearly explain in detail what they are doing; there are too many instances of numbers being dropped from nowhere (i.e. the ratio of the sky area covered by the optical and radar systems is given as 0.0203, but no detail is given regarding how this was measured, what assumptions are made etc.).

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Interactive Discussion

Discussion Paper

Interactive comment on Atmos. Chem. Phys. Discuss., 4, 1425, 2004.

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