

Global morphology of F3-layer by Intercosmos-19 topside sounding data

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The appearance of additional ionization layer (or F3-layer) is one of specific features of equatorial ionosphere. In spite of significant amount of observations (basically at near-equatorial stations of vertical sounding) and relatively clear physical mechanism of F3 formation, the morphology of this phenomenon is not well established yet. Here we have re-analyzed INTERCOSMOS-19 ionosounder database to study global F3-layer behavior during solar activity maximum (1979-1981).