

## *Special Topic*

### **Plasma Instabilities in the Ionospheric E-region**

In the long tradition of workshops at the Max-Planck-Institut für Aeronomie (MPAe) in Katlenburg-Lindau, Germany, the topic of ionospheric plasma instabilities and irregularities plays a special role. After the workshop “Irregularities in the High Latitude Ionosphere”, held in September 1984 (Radio Sci. Vol. 20, No 4, 1985), it was again time to invite the scientific community to present and discuss the progress in this field.

We decided to concentrate on the ionospheric E-region this time, but without any geographic limitation. Presentations on experimental as well as theoretical aspects were solicited. The workshop took place from 24–26 October 1995 at the MPAe, and was attended by over 40 colleagues from 12 different countries.

The following collection of articles gives an overview of the variety of aspects covered at the workshop: neutral atmospheric effects (Gurevich; Schlegel and

Gurevich), new theoretical approaches (Iranpour *et al.*, Volosevich and Galperin), simulation results (Oppenheim), and new experimental findings (Haldoupis *et al.*, Hussey *et al.*, Bourdillon *et al.*, Karashtin *et al.*). A booklet containing short versions of every contribution presented at the workshop is available from Kristian Schlegel upon request.

Last but not least, we would like to express our thanks to Prof. Tor Hagfors, then acting Director of the MPAe for his support, and to Karin Peschke for her outstanding contribution to the workshop organization.

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