Atmos. Meas. Tech. Discuss.,
doi:10.5194/amt-2019-288-RC1, 2019

Atmospheric Measurement Techniques Discussions

Interactive comment on "Monitoring the differential reflectivity and receiver calibration for the German polarimetric weather radar network" *by* Michael Frech and John Hubbert

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Received and published: 26 September 2019

on lines 22 and 23, the authors describe the engineering calibration method as "untenable" for NEXRAD, the US Doppler network based on the WSR-88D. This does not accurately represent the current situation. The US program relies solely on the aforementioned engineering methods, combined with solar scans, to set the calibration point for differential reflectivity. The calibration state is then monitored using external targets, rain, snow, and Bragg scatter, along with solar interference's or sunspikes. These methods assess the state of calibration but do not correct it. Radars that are assessed to be beyond acceptable limits are addressed on a case by case basis.

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Discussion paper

At this time, in any given month, approximately 70 percent of the network sites are assessed to be within acceptable limits of + or - 0.2 dB, with many of them performing better. It is possible the sites that are found to be outside these limits are subject to the temperature dependencies documented in this paper.

Recommend the authors change the term "untenable" to "challenging".

Overall, this an excellent paper and it addresses critically important results.

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