

# NERC MST Radar Facility dataset conditions of use

Data from the instruments at the NERC MST Radar Facility at Aberystwyth are freely available subject to the following conditions:

## DATA PROTECTION ACT

For the purposes of tracking data usage and of improving the service, user and project details submitted to the NERC MST Radar Facility will be made available to the Natural Environment Research Council (NERC) and its delegated authorities. The latter include the staff of the British Atmospheric Data Centre (BADC) and members of the NERC Atmospheric Radar Facilities Steering Committee (NARFSC). The details of publications making use of data from the Facility will be made publicly available. As described below, current projects may be alluded to in the Facility's annual report to NERC, which is publicly available.

## PURPOSE OF USE

The data are only to be used for *bona fide* academic research or educational purposes. People requiring the data for commercial purposes should contact the NERC MST Radar Facility Project Scientist directly.

## OWNERSHIP AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The data remain the property of the appropriate funding body and may NOT be sold or otherwise passed on to a third party. Where the data are used in a presentation or publication, an acknowledgement MUST be given:

In the case of data from the MST Radar, the surface meteorological sensors, the surface wind sensors, or the ceilometer, a sentence should be given along the lines of - *"The MST Radar Facility at Aberystwyth is funded by the UK Natural Environment Research Council and the data are provided through the British Atmospheric Data Centre"*

In the case of data from the Met Office's boundary-layer wind-profiler or GPS water-vapour receiver, a sentence should be given along the lines of - *"Data from the boundary-layer wind-profiler/GPS water-vapour receiver are provided courtesy of the Met Office through the British Atmospheric Data Centre."*

In the case of data from the RAL cloud radar, a sentence should be given along the lines of - *"Data from the cloud radar are provided courtesy of the Rutherford Appleton Laboratory Millimetre-Wave Technology Group through the British Atmospheric Data Centre."*

## NON-UK DATA USERS

The remit of NERC is to fund and to manage scientific research and training within the UK. Although NERC is happy for non-UK users to make use of data from the MST Radar Facility, it only expects the Facility's staff to provide them with limited support. Moreover, in order for NERC to gain the appropriate credit for supporting science, it is necessary for publications making use of data from the Facility to include a UK-based author. Non-UK data users who do not have a direct collaboration with a UK-based scientist are therefore obliged to include the Facility's Project Scientist as a co-author on any publications.

## SUPPORTING SCIENTIFIC CASE (SSC)

In order to ensure continued funding of the Facility, it is important to demonstrate to the NERC that there is a sufficient demand for the data products and that the scientific research, for which they are being used, is of a high quality. For this reason, as soon as a new user applies for access to the dataset through the BADC, they will be contacted by the NERC MST Radar Facility Project Scientist; they will be requested to submit a Supporting Scientific Case (SSC) which describes how they intend to make use of the data and full access will only be granted once this has been returned. The level of detail required in the SSC will depend on the intended use of the data.

## ANNUAL PROJECT UPDATES

In addition to providing an SSC at the beginning of their projects, users are obliged to supply a project update at the end of each financial year. This description does not need to be very long (a paragraph might suffice) or very detailed. However, it should provide sufficient information to allow members of the NARFSC to appreciate how data from the Facility have been used over the preceding financial year (April - March). The emphasis here is on results and achievements, as opposed to the hopes and intentions outlined in the SSC. Text written for another purpose - e.g. the abstract of a recent paper or presentation - may be submitted if it fulfils the criteria outlined above. Projects may be alluded to in the "Science Highlights" section of the Facility's Annual Report to NERC, which is publicly available, although users will not be identified by name. When the Facility's Project Scientist contacts users (at some point between January and March each year) to request this information, they will also be required to supply details of the following:

- Publications:** including those appearing in books, newspapers, magazines, newsletters, websites, Masters and PhD theses, conference proceedings, and refereed journals. These details will be made publicly available through the Facility's website.
- Presentations:** including those given at conferences, seminars and colloquia.