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What Questions Do You Have?

How far can I work using meteor scatter?

Even though I have copied meteor scatter (both calls) from over 1700 miles it is really rare. Most operators feel there is a barrier around 1200 miles. My best completed qso on six meters is 1289 miles. By the way, short contacts around 500 miles are just a difficult as the 1200 - 1400 miles range.

Which band is best for meteor scatter?

With no doubt, six meters being the best and the 432 band being the worst. However, there is much more activity on the two meter band.

Do I need a receive preamplifier?

Yes, but not absolutely necessary. Even an external preamplifier helps if located in the shack. I have used the TS680 and IC746 with FSK441 and both rigs were greatly improved with a preamp.

Why is there more activity on two meters vs. six meters?

I believe this is true because there are fewer band opening on two vs. six. However, there are many days out of the year that six in quiet and operators should use FSK441 and JT43 if they want to make qso's.

Do I have to wait for a meteor shower to operate?

No, contacts can be made any day of the year on random meteors. During major showers, SSB or CW might be even be a better modes vs. WSJT.

How much power do I need?

With six meters 10 to 150 watts is adequate. I run 100 watts and have never heard a station I couldn't work. No doubt, the more the better.

Do I need any special antenna?

No, a single yagi antenna will do just fine. I have even worked stations using a 75 meter fullwave loop.

Is elevation control necessary?

No, only if your planing to point at the moon.

How do I ID my station using these modes?

The simplest method is to just pick-up the microphone every 10 minutes and give a quick ID or there is a provision for adding a wave file. (See the help text)

I need an Elmer, who can help?

I wold recommend going to the Ping Jockey page and ask for help.