

The annual average of the diurnal UT variation of the Dst index for 1971

Keisuke Mera[1], Toyohisa Kamei[2], Masahisa Sugiura[3]

[1] Earth and Planetary Sci., Kyoto Univ., [2] WDC-C2 Geomag., Kyoto Univ., [3] Res. Inst. of Sci. & Tech., Tokai Univ.

The Dst index, representing a measure for the intensity of magnetic storms, has been derived from the horizontal component, H, of the magnetic field at four geomagnetic observatories: Kakioka, Hermanus, San Juan, and Honolulu. The index had been derived at NASA up to 1984; since 1985 the index has been produced at the World Data Center C2 for Geomagnetism, Kyoto. J. Takalo and K. Mursula [2001] pointed out that the annual average of the diurnal UT variation of Dst for 1971 shows an abnormal feature when compared with those found for the neighboring years. We have recomputed the Dst index for 1971 and for the neighboring years by the method currently used by us, and formed the annual averages of the diurnal UT variations for these years. The results of this exercise showed no abnormality in the annual average diurnal UT variation for 1971. We conclude that some unintended error or errors had crept into the computation of the Dst index previously issued for 1971. We intend to replace the previously issued 1971 Dst index by a new set of Dst values.