

AVAILABILITY OF THE PLANETARY GEOMAGNETIC INDICES Kp, ap, Ap, Cp AND C9

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Julius Bartels introduced in 1949 the planetary geomagnetic activity index Kp and the derived activity numbers ap, Ap, Cp and C9. These activity numbers were accepted by the IAGA as official measures to express the geomagnetic activity. The data series expand back to 1932. Kp and its derived numbers got a world wide usage in geomagnetic science. The 10 International Quietest and 5 Most Disturbed Days of every month are determined on the base of this index. The series of definitive indices is routinely updated twice a month on the web. A quick-look indices calculation runs automatically in order to meet the requests of a near real-time availability. The K numbers of the 13 Kp observatories are calculated on the basis of their minute values every 3 hours with a time delay of about 15 minutes. The Kp are calculated by means of the regular algorithm from these K numbers. The Kp, ap, Ap and Cp calculated this way are immediately provided on the web. The quick-look indices are replaced by the definitive numbers after their usual calculation every half month.

Planetary activity index, set of 13 reliable stations, near real-time availability

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