



Session Magnetosphere and Geomagnetism.

Presentation type: Oral () Poster(x) No preference ()

Ensemble forecasts of geomagnetic indexes

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Abstract

Solar activity can affect the dynamics of the Earth's magnetosphere and ionosphere, in what is called “the sun - solar wind - magnetosphere - ionosphere interaction [1]. In particular, during a geomagnetic storm the ring current of the Earth's magnetosphere can produce large perturbations of the horizontal component of the magnetic field observed at the ground at low latitudes. These variations are usually quantified using the storm weather disturbance index (Dst) that estimates the intensity of the ring current and is used to monitor the severity of the storm. In this work we propose and study an ensemble of linear evolution models of Dst, properly weighted through a “skill measure”, driven by solar wind variables [2] as a convenient and flexible strategy to model and forecast the behavior of Dst and its uncertainty over time. In order to improve the forecast it is necessary to know if this “skill measure ” is an indicator of the behavior of a particular storm, that is why we propose a genetic algorithm method that allows to predict Dst in a short time. The data is taken from the OMNI dataset.

Acknowledgment: We thank the support of ANID/Fondecyt Project 1190703. Additionally, the professors Jose Rogan and Max Ramirez thank the support of ANID/Fondecyt Project 1190662

References:

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