II. SYNOPTIC CHARTS OF SOLAR MAGNETIC FIELDS

Mount Wilson Observatory

These synoptic charts are constructed from the digital data of the daily magnetograms obtained at the 150-foot Tower Telescope at Mount Wilson. The spectrum line employed is 525.02 nm, Fe I. The magnetograph at the Tower Telescope measures only the longitudinal component of the Zeeman effect. The aperture is a square of either 12.5 or 20.0 arc-seconds on a side and the whole sun is covered in each magnetogram. The digital image is built up over an interval of either 50 minutes for the small aperture or 30 minutes for the larger aperture by scanning the solar image over the spectrograph entrance slit houstopheroditically.

The synoptic chart is built up using all observations available for each point of the solar surface during a specified Carrington Rotation.

The point position is based on its Carrington coordinates at the time of central meridian passage. Observations taken when the point is not on the central meridian are corrected for differential rotation to obtain the position which corresponds to that at central meridian passage. The measurement shown is the weighted average of all these observations using a weight function which is the cosine of the central meridian distance. The color coding of the resulting average fields is linear in blue and red with the blue saturated for fields larger than 20 gauss and the red saturating for fields more negative than −20 gauss.

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