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# Morphology of great Geomagnetic Storms recorded at Alibag during 1905–1945: Part I-The Storm-Time Disturbance Variation, Dst

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ABSTRACT. Following Sugiura and Chapman, a study of the morphology of 74 great geomagnetic storms, recorded at Alibag during 1905 to 1945, is made. The  $D_{st}$  variation in H, D and Z for the average storm is derived.  $D_{st}(H)$  is very similar to that obtained by Moos for Colaba for the period 1872–1904. The results for Alibag fit in with those for other latitudes obtained by Sugiura and Chapman. The  $D_{st}$  field is found to be almost entirely confined to the geomagnetic meridian plane.

### 1. Introduction

The geomagnetic field now and then experiences violent changes for a period of time extending to several days. These violent disturbances have been called geomagnetic storms and are broadly classified into two types. One type is characterized by a sudden onset; the field value (in the horizontal component) in low and moderate latitudes sharply increases and remains above the quiet day value for a few hours. A rapid decrease in the field value then sets in, reaching a maximum in about 10 to 20 hours from the onset of the storm, after which the depressed field gradually recovers to its normal level in the course of a few days. The other type begins gradually; its different phases are not well marked; its intensity of disturbance is usually much less compared with that of the sudden-commencement type, while its duration is very often much more prolonged. The disturbance effects and the time-variation of such effects associated with each storm are so varied that no two storms of either type are alike. Any average characteristics attributable to each type of storm can only be arrived at by a statistical study of the features of a large number of storms.

Moos (1910) undertook a statistical study of geomagnetic storms registered at the

Colaba (Bombay) Observatory during the period 1872 to 1904. He derived the average character of sudden commencement storms as well as all storms in the element H, for the first 24 hours after the commencement of the storm and also (for all storms) the trend for the second day of storm. He found that the trends were alike whether only sudden commencement storms or all storms of large intensity were considered. He arrived at the average characteristics of the sudden commencement storms, viz., (1) a small initial rise, (2) a large rapid fall which attained its lowest value, indicating the maximum effect of the disturbance from about 10 to 11 hours after the commencement of a storm, and (3) a slow and laboured rise back to normal conditions. He observed the same features for all storms of large intensity. Moos also derived the mean local-time disturbance variation in H by arranging the first 24-hourly values from the commencement of the S. C. storms as well as all storms for the same period (1872-1904) according to local time.

A detailed study of the morphology of geomagnetic storms in the elements H, D and Z was carried out by Chapman (1918, 1927 and 1952). Using data from a number of observatories he derived average features of the disturbance variation reckoned

according to storm-time (time from the commencement of the storm), denoted by  $D_{st}$ , the disturbance daily variation, SD, reckoned according to local time, and the local-time disturbance variation, DS, which is localtime disturbance variation for shorter intervals of storm-time than a day.

Sugiura and Chapman (1956, 1957, 1958) have made a thorough investigation of the morphology of geomagnetic storms of the sudden commencement type, using the hourly values of H, D and Z from as many as 26 observatories distributed from geomagnetic latitude 80°N to 48°S. The geomagnetic storms selected by them were 346 in all, which were grouped into weak storms (136), moderate storms (136) and great storms (74). For each intensity group the mean  $D_{st}$ , SDand DS were derived for different mean geomagnetic latitudes.

In the case of great storms Sugiura and Chapman (1958) grouped the observatories (13 in all) according to geomagnetic latitude in the following way— (1) 80° (Godhavn), (2) 65° (Tromso, Sodankyla and Lerwick), (3) 58° (Sitka, Eskadalemuir, Lovo and Rude Skov), (4) 52° (De Bilt, Greenwich, Val Joyeux, Cheltenham), (5) 42° (Ebro, Tucson), (6) 28° (Porto Rico, Kakioka), (7) 21° (Honolulu, Zikawei) and (8) —1° (Huancayo). For no latitudinal grouping of observatories complete data for all the 74 great storms were available to them.

It may be noticed that the interval between the 7th and 8th groups of observatories is  $22^{\circ}$  geomagnetic latitude, which is rather a big gap for a study involving latitudinal variation in the morphology of geomagnetic storms, especially for the low latitude region. This gap can be filled by the inclusion of an observatory with a geomagnetic latitude of about 10°. The Alibag Observatory (geomagnetic latitude 9°.5) suited this very well and this study was undertaken for the group of storms classified as great by Sugiura and Chapman, using Alibag data for H, D and Zfor the period 1905 to 1945 (Alibag started functioning from October 1904). Examination of the records of Alibag showed that data for all the 74 storms classified as great were available in the H and Z components and for 73 storms in the D component. The list comprising the 74 S. C. storms classified as great by Sugiura and Chapman is given in Table 1.

In this paper only the results of mean storm-time variation  $(D_{st})$  in the elements H, D and Z for great storms are given and discussed. Results of local time disturbance variations SD and DS will be given in a separate paper.

#### 2. Method of Analysis

The method followed in the derivation of the mean  $D_{st}$  is entirely that of Sugiura and Chapman (1956). In brief the method is as follows. For any storm  $S_n$  the four prestorm hourly values of H, D and Z and the first seventy two hourly values after the storm commencement are included in the analysis. The tabulated hourly values of the elements H, D and Z for Alibag are mean values for intervals of sixty minutes centred at fullhours GMT. The hourly values are considered as representing the values at exact full hours GMT. The full-hour closest to the time of commencement of storm is the  $0^h$  storms time. The four pre-storm hours are labelled  $-4^{h}$ ,  $-3^{h}$ ,  $-2^{h}$  and  $-1^{h}$  storm time and the hours after the commencement are labelled differences of the hourly values are formed starting from the " $-1^h$  which is actually taken as the zero level throughout the analysis. The series of hour-to-hour differences so formed for storms  $S_n$ , say for the element H, are  $H_{n(-4)} \longrightarrow H_{n(-3)}, H_{n(-3)} \longrightarrow H_{n(-2)},$  $H_{n\,71} \longrightarrow H_{n\,70}$ , where the subscripts to  $H_n$  refer to storm time. These hour-tohour differences correspond respectively to  $-4^{h}$ ,  $-3^{h}$ ,  $-2^{h}$ ,  $-1^{h}$ ,  $0^{h}$ ,  $1^{h}$ ,  $2^{h}$ , hour-to-hour differences of the mean hourly values of the element H for the five international quiet-days of the month

## MORPHOLOGY OF GEOMAGNETIC STORMS AT ALIBAG

## TABLE 1

Serial No.	Year	Month	Date of S.C.	Time of S.C. (GMT)	Serial No.	Year	Month	Date of S.C.	Time of S.C. (GMT)
1	1905	Nov	15	15.3	38	1929	Feb	26	19.4
2	1906	Dec	21	21.5	39		Mar	11	$13 \cdot 9$
3	1907	Feb	9	$14 \cdot 2$	40		Mar	15	8.5
4	1908	Sep	11	$7 \cdot 9$	41		Dec	3	12.1
5		Sep	28	$9 \cdot 2$	42	1930	Sep	18	8.8
6	1909	May	14	4.9	43		Dec	3	1.1
7		May	18	$5 \cdot 1$	44	1933	Sep	8	$21 \cdot 4$
8		Sep	25	$8 \cdot 5$	45	1936	Jun	18	9.7
9		Sep	30	$4 \cdot 0$	46		Nov	28	23.6
10	1915	Jun	16	$13 \cdot 0$	47		Dec	27	3.2
11		Nov	5	$14 \cdot 6$	48	1937	Apr	24	12.0
12	1916	Aug	26	19.7	49		May	4	$16 \cdot 9$
13	1917	*Jan	4	$5 \cdot 0$	50		Jun	4	14.4
14		Aug	9	$4 \cdot 2$	51		Aug	1	$21 \cdot 8$
15		Dec	16	$9 \cdot 2$	52		Aug	22	3.1
16	1918	Mar	17	$21 \cdot 2$	53		Sep	30	13.8
17		Jan	9	$23 \cdot 1$	54		Oct	7	5.3
18	1919	May	1	$22 \cdot 9$	55	1938	Jan	16	22.6
19		Aug	11	$7 \cdot 0$	56		Jan	25	$11 \cdot 9$
20		Oct	1	$16 \cdot 2$	57		Mar	21	22.7
21	1920	Mar	4	11.6	58		Apr	16	5.8
22		Mar	22	$9 \cdot 2$	59		May	11	$15 \cdot 9$
23	1921	May	19	$20 \cdot 1$	60		Sep	13	18.6
24	1926	Jan	26	$16 \cdot 3$	61		Oct	7	$6 \cdot 2$
25		Feb	23	16.4	62	1939	Feb	24	17.1
26		Apr	14	14.1	63		Apr	17	$1 \cdot 9$
27		Jun	1	$11 \cdot 2$	64		Aug	12	$1 \cdot 7$
28		Oct	13	19.4	65		Aug	22	0.7
29	1927	$\mathbf{Apr}$	13	$23 \cdot 8$	66		Oct	13	2.1
30		Jul	21	$21 \cdot 0$	67	1940	Mar	29	$16 \cdot 1$
31		Aug	20	6.6	68		Nov	12	7.1
32		Oct	22	$6 \cdot 7$	69	1941	Mar	1	$3 \cdot 9$
33	1928	May	27	$14 \cdot 8$	70		Jul	4	3.7
34		Jul	7	$23 \cdot 5$	71		Sep	18	4*2
35		Sep	7	$13 \cdot 8$	72		Oct	31	3.2
36		Oct	18	$7 \cdot 4$	73		Dec	1	6.0
37	1929	Feb	16	$23 \cdot 1$	74	1945	Dec	13	$12 \cdot 7$

List of great storms for the period 1905 to 1945

\* Record for D (Declination) was lost

 $3\overline{5}$ 

in which the storm  $S_n$  occurred are formed. Twentyfour such differences are obtained which may be labelled  $S_{qn\,24} - S_{qn\,23}$ ,  $S_{qn1} - S_{qn0}$ ,  $S_{qn2} - S_{qn1}$  ....  $S_{qn23} - S_{qn22}$ , where the subscripts to  $S_{qn}$  refer to hours GMT. These hour-tohour differences correspond respectively to difference, say  $S_{qn3} - S_{qn2}$  correspond to the same GMT hour as the hour-to-hour difference  $H_{n0} - H_{n(-1)}$  (which is the difference corresponding to  $0^h$  storm time). The 24 differences consecutive  $S_{qn3} - S_{qn2}$ ,  $S_{qn4} - S_{qn3}$ ,  $S_{qn5} - S_{qn4}$ , ....  $S_{qn24} - S_{qn23}$ ,  $S_{qn1} - S_{qn0}$ ,  $S_{qn2} - S_{qn1}$ are subtracted respectively from the 24 hour-to-hour differences of the first day of storm, viz.,  $H_{n0} - H_{n (-1)}$ ,  $H_{n1} - H_{n0}$ ,  $H_{n2} - H_{n1}, \ldots H_{n23} - H_{n22}$ to give the residuals  $d_{n0}$ ,  $d_{n1}$ ,  $d_{n2}$ , ...,  $d_{n23}$ , corresponding to  $0^h$ ,  $1^h$ , ..... $23^h$  storm time. Similarly the same sequences of hour-tohour differences of  $S_{qn}$  values are subtracted from the hour-to-hour differences of stormtime hourly values for the 2nd and 3rd 24 hours of storm to give the residuals  $d_{n24}$ ,  $d_{n25}$  ,  $d_{n26}$  ....  $d_{n47}$  and  $d_{n48}$  ,  $d_{n49}$ ,  $d_{n50}$ , ...,  $d_{n71}$  corres-time. The series of residuals represent hour-to-hour differences of disturbance effects, freed from the quiet-day values. In addition, the residuals  $d_n$  (-4),  $d_n$  (-3) and  $d_{n(-2)}$  [ $d_{n(-1)}$  being equal to zero] corresponding to  $-4^{h}$ ,  $-3^{h}$ ,  $-2^{h}$  and  $-1^{h}$  storm time are also obtained for storm  $S_n$  by subtracting  $S_{qn23} - S_{qn24}$ ,  $S_{qn0} - S_{qn24}$  $S_{qn1}$  and  $S_{qn1} - S_{qn2}$  from the storm time hour-to-hour differences  $H_{n(-4)} - H_{n(-3)}$ ,  $H_{n(-3)} - H_{n(-2)}$ , and  $H_{n(-2)} - H_{n(-1)}$ . Thus for the storm  $S_n$  we finally have the sequence of residuals  $d_{n(-4)}$ ,  $d_{n(-3)}$ ,  $d_{n(-2)}$ , 0,  $d_{n0}$ ,  $d_{n1}$  ....  $d_{n71}$  corresponding to  $-4^h \dots 0^h \dots .71^h$  storm time. For the N storms there will be N such sequences for each of the elements H, D and Z. The mean storm time residuals of the form

$$\frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^{N} d_{nh}$$

(where  $h = -4, -3, \ldots, 0, \ldots, 71$ ) are then computed, which give the mean storm-time disturbance variation,  $D_{st}$ , on an hour-to-hour difference basis. The actual storm time hourly disturbance inequalities are obtained by cumulatively summing the mean residuals

$$\frac{I}{N} = \sum_{n=1}^{N} d_{nh}$$

from  $-1^h$  storm time (where the residual is zero) backwards upto  $-4^{h}$  storm time and forwards up to  $71^{h}$  storm time. In this way we obtain the  $D_{st}$  (H, D, Z) for the four prestorm hours and the first three storm days, the variation being reckoned from the level of  $-1^h$  storm time. In arranging the storms according to storm-time and arriving at a mean  $D_{st}$  variation, the type of disturbance that varies according to local time is averaged out, provided the number of storms is fairly large and the commencement times of these storms are distributed fairly evenly from 0 to 24 hours of the day. In the case of Alibag the number of storms is 74 for the elements H and Z and 73 for D and their commencement times in local time are evenly distributed from  $0^h$  to  $23^h$  of the day, as may be seen from Table 1.

In freeing the  $S_q$  values from the stormtime hourly values it is supposed that  $S_q$ values are invariably present on storm days also, and therefore  $S_q$  hourly values uncorrected for non-cyclic change are used for eliminating the quiet-day component.

The mean storm-time variation  $D_{st}$  (D) which is in minutes of arc is converted to the magnetic-east force component in  $\gamma$  by multiplying the values in minutes of arc by  $H_m$  tanl', where  $H_m$  is the mean value of Hfor the years in which the storms occurred.  $D_{st}$  (D) in  $\gamma$  is positive when it is easterly and negative when westerly.  $D_{st}$  (H) is the magnetic north component of the storm time disturbance force variation in  $\gamma$ . It is positive when directed in the magnetic-north direction and negative when directed in the magneticsouth direction.  $D_{st}$  (Z) is the vertical component of storm time disturbance force variation



Fig. 1. Mean storm-time disturbance variations  $D_{st}$  ( $H_{gm}$ ),  $D_{st}$  (D),  $D_{st}$  ( $E_{gm}$ ) and  $D_{st}$  (Z) for 74 great storms recorded at Alibeg during 1905 to 1945. The  $D_{st}$  (H) for the first 24 hr. storm time, as derived by Moos for Colaba (Bombay), for the period 1872 to 1904 is shown in the lower-most diagram

in  $\gamma$ , positive when directed downwards and negative when directed upwards.

In this analysis the components of the storm-time disturbance variation in the geomagnetic-east direction and in the geomagnetic-north direction are also derived as was done by Sugiura and Chapman. For this purpose the angle  $(\psi - D)$  between the magnetic and geomagnetic meridians at Alibag, based on the mean value of declination D at Alibag for the years in which the storm occurred, is determined. For the period under consideration mean D for Alibag is  $+0^{\circ} 1 \cdot 4'$  and  $\psi$ , the angle between the geomagnetic

and geographic meridians is  $-7^{\circ}10'$ . Thus  $(\psi - D)$  works out to be  $-7^{\circ}11 \cdot 4'$  which indicates that the geomagnetic meridian is  $7^{\circ}11 \cdot 4'$  to the west of the magnetic meridian. Using this value the  $D_{st}$  (H) and  $D_{st}$  (D) are split up to give the geomagnetic north and east components,  $D_{st}$  ( $H_{gm}$ ) and  $D_{st}$  ( $E_{gm}$ ).

### 3. Results and Discussion

The mean storm-time disturbance variations  $D_{st}$  ( $H_{gm}$ ),  $D_{st}$  ( $E_{gm}$ ) and  $D_{st}$  (Z) for Alibag, for the period 1905 to 1945, for great storms, are shown in Fig. 1. The magnetic east component  $D_{st}$  (D) is also shown in Fig. 1. The storm-time disturbance variation. for the first 24 hours after the commencement of S. C. storms, as obtained by Moos (1910) for Colaba (Bombay), for the period 1872 to 1904, is also plotted in Fig. 1, for comparison. The magnetic-north component,  $D_{st}$  (H), is not significantly different from  $D_{st}$  ( $H_{am}$ ) and is, therefore, not shown separately. The exact storm-time hourly inequalities of  $D_{st}$  (D, Z,  $H_{gm}$ ,  $E_{gm}$ ), for the four prestorm hours and the three storm days are given as an appendix to the paper. In Figs. 2, 3 and 4 respectively are shown  $D_{st}$  ( $H_{gm}$ ),  $D_{st}$  ( $E_{gm}$ ) and  $D_{st}$  (Z) for Alibag together with those for other geomagnetic latitudes as derived by Sugiura and Champan (1958). For the first 12 hours of storm time, hourly inequalities of  $D_{st}$  ( $H_{gm}, E_{gm}, Z$ ) have been shown and, therefore, only mean inequalities for periods of 12 or 24 hours storm-time are shown.

It is at once seen that for Alibag  $D_{st}$  ( $E_{gm}$ ) or  $D_{st}$  (D) and  $D_{st}$  (Z) are insignificant compared with  $D_{st}$  ( $H_{gm}$ ), which is in conformity with observations at similar latitudes as may be noticed in Figs. 2, 3 and 4. The mean  $D_{st}$  ( $H_{gm}$ ) is positive only for about 1.5 hours after which it dips sharply below the zero level to attain a minimum in about 11 hours from the commencement. For Alibag the minimum  $D_{st}$  ( $H_{gm}$ ) is rather broad, for, after small fluctuations, a second minimum of about the same value as at 11<sup>h</sup> storm-time, is attained at 22<sup>h</sup> storm-time. The maximum value of  $D_{st}$  ( $H_{gm}$ ) is +16  $\gamma$  and the minimum





Fig. 3.  $D_{st}$  variations in the geomagnetic-east component  $E_{gm}$  at different geomagnetic latitudes for the average great storm

The variations for all the latitudes except for  $10^{\circ}$  (Alibag) have been reproduced from the analysis by Sugiura and Chapman (1958)



Fig. 4.  $D_{st}$  variations in the vertical force, Z, at different geomagnetic latitudes for the average great storm. The variations for all the latitudes except for 10° (Alibag) have been reproduced from the analysis by Suglura and Chapman (1958)

value -106y. The quantitative characteristics of the mean  $D_{st}$  ( $H_{am}$ ) for Alibag are given in Table 2 together with results for other latitudes. Though Alibag is midway between the observatory groups 7 (mean Lat.  $+21^{\circ}$ ) and 8 (Lat.  $-1^{\circ}$ ) its  $\hat{D}_{st}$  ( $H_{qm}$ ) characteristics are closer to those of the group 7, but a transition is definitely indicated. There is a clear tendency for the amplitude of depression in Hor the range in  $D_{st}$  ( $H_{am}$ ) to steadily increase from about the geomagnetic latitude of 52° to the geomagnetic equator, with a fairly conspicuous maximum at the geomagnetic equator. This is in conformity with Vestine's (1963) finding of a bulge of increased disturbance amplitude in  $H_{am}$  (of about 3  $\gamma$ ) from  $+20^{\circ}$  to  $-20^{\circ}$  geomagnetic latitude with a maximum at the geomagnetic equator, which he arrives at by studying the distribution, according to geomagnetic latitude, of the difference in disturbed day values and quiet day values (5 days for each month) for the period 1922-1933. He attributes the effect to possible refraction of hydromagnetic waves, in the region of the geomagnetic equator or to ring currents established. at distances from the earth comparable with the lateral extent of the enhanced effects noticed. The same causes may also be contemplated for the large amplitude of  $D_{st}$  $(H_{am})$  noticed in the region of the geomagnetic equator.

The mean  $D_{st}(H)$ , which is practically the same as  $D_{st}$  ( $H_{gm}$ ) is very similar in all its phases to that derived by Moos (1910) for Colaba (Bombay) from 113 S.C. storms for the period 1872 to 1904. In both cases the maximum and minimum  $D_{st}$  (H) are attained at about the same time after the commencement. The range in  $D_{st}(H)$  obtained in this analysis is 122  $\gamma$  while the range from the analysis of Moos is 113 y. In his analysis, Moos had included all principal S.C. storms, irrespective of their intensity, whereas the present analysis is for great storms only. It is perhaps on this account that the range in  $D_{st}(H)$  obtained by Moos is slightly less.

	Mean geomagnetic latitude of observatory group											
	680°	$65^{\circ}$	$58^{\circ}$	52°	42°	$28^{\circ}$	$21^{\circ}$	10°	-1°			
Max. $D_{st}$ ( $H_{gm}$ ) in the initial phase (in $\gamma$ )			19	17	20	12	15	16	29			
Approx, storm-time at which $H_{gm}$ crosses to pre-storm level (in hours)			$1 \cdot 0$	$2 \cdot 0$	1.8	1.5	$1 \cdot 2$	$1 \cdot 3$	$1 \cdot 5$			
Minimum $D_{st}$ $(H_{gm})$ $(in \gamma)$	-48	-62	-58	-52	76		-102	-106				

 TABLE 2

 Maximum  $D_{st}$  ( $H_{gm}$ ) in the initial phase, the approximate storm-time at which  $H_{gm}$  crosses its pre-storm level and values of minimum  $D_{st}(H_{gm})$  at different latitudes for the average great storm

The values given in the table, except for the geomagnetic latitude of  $10^{\circ}$  (Alibag) are from the results of Sugiura and Chapman (1958)

The  $D_{st}(Z)$  for Alibag is negative (directed upwards) when  $D_{st}$  ( $H_{gm}$ ) is positive (directed northwards) and is positive (directed downwards) when the latter is negative (directed southwards). But the growth and decay of  $D_{st}(Z)$  and  $D_{st}(H_{qm})$  are not in phase. The maximum  $D_{st}$  (Z) is attained 7 to 8 hours after  $D_{st}$  ( $H_{gm}$ ) reaches its minimum (first minimum) and the recovery phase of the former commences about 12 hours later than the latter. The maximum  $D_{st}(Z)$  is  $+10\gamma$ attained at about  $32^{h}$  storm time and the minimum is  $-2\gamma$  attained at  $2^h$  storm time. In almost all respects  $D_{st}(Z)$  for Alibag agrees closely with that for observatory group 7 (mean Lat.  $+21^{\circ}$ ).

The mean  $D_{st}(D)$ , expressed as magnetic easterly force in gammas  $(10^{-5} \text{ cgs})$ —Fig. 1 is easterly when  $D_{st}$  (*H*) or  $D_{st}$  ( $H_{gm}$ ) is negative (southerly) and westerly when the latter is positive (northerly). The minimum  $D_{st}(D)$  attained is  $-3\gamma$  at  $0^h$  storm time and the maximum is  $+16\gamma$  attained at about  $9^h$ storm time. The maximum phase is very broad lasting for several hours. The recovery sets in gradually from about 21 hours storm time.

What is of particular significance in the east-west component of disturbance variation is the fact that the magnitude of  $D_{st}$  $(E_{gm})$  is negligible throughout the entire period of 3 storm days, being only a few

gammas in value (Fig. 1). This feature for Alibag is in agreement with the findings of Sugiura and Chapman (1958) for the low and moderate latitudes, which may be noticed in Fig. 4. An important conclusion which follows from this finding is that the  $D_{st}$  field for the low and moderate latitudes is almost entirely confined to the geomagnetic meridian plane. In other words the orientation of the ring current, that is responsible for the main phase of the geomagnetic storm, is in a geomagnetic east-west direction. This is in a way to be expected since the longitudinal drift of the charged particles, that constitute the ring current, is in a direction perpendicular to both the field-line and its gradient and since at distances of several earth radii, where the ring current is formed, the geomagnetic field distribution conforms to the centred dipole model. Vestine (1963) also finds the geomagnetic easterly component of disturbance (disturbed days minus quite days) for the period 1922-1933, to be almost zero for low and moderate geomagnetic latitudes, which should be the case if the ring current is due to radiation trapped in the geomagnetic field.

#### 4. Conclusion

The mean  $D_{st}$  field, at Alibag, of 74 sudden commencement great storms for the period 1905 to 1945, fits in very well with the latitudinal distribution of such fields observed by Sugiura and Chapman (1958). This analysis has served its purpose of filling the large gap in latitude between the 7th group  $(+21^{\circ})$ geomagnetic lat.) and the 8th group (--1° geomagnetic lat.) of observatories in the analysis by Sugiura and Chapman, while, at the same time, arriving at average characteristics of great S.C. storms for Alibag. The average characteristics for Alibag are about the same as for Colaba (Bombay), arrived at by Moos (1910) for the period 1872-1904. The main features observed are : (1)  $D_{st}$  ( $H_{gm}$ ) is the most prominent component of the  $D_{st}$ field for low and moderate latitudes, (2) the range in  $D_{st}$  ( $H_{gm}$ ) tends to increase towards the magnetic equator and (3) almost the entire  $D_{st}$  field is confined to the geomagnetic meridian plane.

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## APPENDIX

Storm time	$D_{st}$ $(H_{gm})$ in $\gamma$			$D_{st}$ (D) in $\gamma$			$D_{st}$ ( $E_{gm}$ ) in $\gamma$			$D_{st}(Z)$ in $\gamma$		
(hrs)	ls	2nd	3rd	lst	2nd	3rd	Îst	2nd	3rd	lst	2nd	3rd
-4	+ 1			0			0			0		
3	0			0			0			0		
-2	0			0			0			0		
1	0			0			0			0		
0	+ 16	-102	55	- 3	+13	+9	1	$^{+1}$	+2	- 2	+ 9	+7
1	+ 12	- 98	54	1	+13	+8	+1	+1	+1	_ 1	+10	+6
2	— 16	- 94	55		$\pm 12$	+8	1	+1	+1	- 2	+ 9	+5
3	- 40	- 92	55	- 5		+8	0	-1	+1	0	+ 9	+5
4	- 57	- 90	55	9	+10	+8	+1	-2	+1	+ 2	+ 9	+5
5	<u>⊷</u> 70	84	52	+13	+ 9	+7	+4	-2	+1	+4	+ 9	+5
6	- 77	<u> </u>	-51	+13	$\pm 10$	+7	+4	1	+1	+ 4	+10	+4
7	- 87	- 84	-49	$\pm 15$	+ 9	+8	+5	-1	+2	+5	+10	+5
8	- 98	- 84		+15	+10	+8	+3	1	+2	+ 4	+10	+5
9		- 81	—õ1	-16	+11	-9	+3	+1	+3	+4	+10	+4
10	-105	- 79	51	+15	$\pm 11$	+9	+2	+1	+3	+ 4	+11	+4
11	-106	- 74	51	+14	+12	+9	+1	+3	+2	+ 5	+10	+4
12	-103	- 71	51	$\pm 15$	+11	+7	+2	+2	+1	+ 5	+ 9	+3
13	-103	- 70	-49	+15	$\pm 10$	$\pm 7$	+2	+1	+1	+ 6	+ 9	+3
14	-105	- 65	49	+15	+ 9	+7	+2	$^{+1}$	+1	+ 8	+ 9	+3
15	-103	- 62	-47	+15	+ 9	+7	+2	+1	+1	+ 8	+ 9	+3
16	- 99	_ 61	46	+15	+ 9	+6	+2	+1	0	9	+ 9	+3
17	- 97	62		+15	+ 8	+6	+3	+1	0	+ 9	+ 9	+3
18	-101	— 62		+15	+7	+6	+2	0	0	+ 8	+ 8	+3
19	- 97	61	46	+15	+8	+6	+3	0	0	+10	+7	+3
20	-103	- 61	-47	+16	+ 9	+5	+3	+1	1	+10	+ 7	+3
21		- 60	-46	+14	+ 9	+5	+1	+1	1	+ 9	+7	+3
22	-105	58		+15	+ 8	+5	- + 1	+1	0	+10	+ 6	+2
23	-105	57	46	+13	+ 8	+5	0	+1	0	+ 9	+7	+1

Hourly values in gammas of the different  ${\it Dst}$  components for the 74 great storms (Table 1) recorded at Alibag during 1905 to 1945

2