lonospheric scintillation characteristics from 2010 to 2013 at different longitudes at about 15°S in Australia

*Zheng Wang ^{1,2}, Huixin Liu²

1. National Space Science Center, Chinese Academy of Sciences, China., 2. Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences, School of Science, Kyushu University, Japan

lonospheric scintillation shows great regional characteristics. In this paper, we studied the GPS amplitude scintillations (S₄ larger than 0.2) from 2010 to 2013 at station Darwin (12.45°S, 130.95°E), Weipa (12.63° S, 141.88°E) and Willis Island (16.29°S, 149.97°E) in Australia, to show the variations of the scintillation characteristics among these three stations with similar latitude but different longitudes. The results show that: The occurrences of scintillation during sunset hours ($O_{sunset'}$ LT 18:00-24:00) are similar to those beyond the sunset hours (O_{other} , LT 0:00-18:00) at all stations, but they have different seasonal variations: at Darwin the O_{sunset} is high in around June and December, but the O_{other} is high in around April and September, so they have great difference; at Weipa the O_{sunset} is high in around April and October, and the O_{other} is high in around April and September, always has one month difference with the O_{sunset}; at Willis Island the O_{sunset} is high in around January and November in 2012 but high in April and December in 2013, and the O_{other} has similar variation trend with O_{sunset}. Scintillations are stronger from 2010 to 2012 than in 2013 at Darwin and Weipa, but reverse at Willis Island. Comparing the different stations, only the seasonal variation trends of O_{other} at Darwin and at Weipa are similar. We also compare our statistics with gravity wave measurement by GOCE satellite (Gravity Field and Stead-state Ocean Circulation Explore). The scintillation O_{sunset} don't show obvious association with gravity wave activities, while the O_{other} seem to have reverse trends to those of gravity wave activities at the three stations.

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