



British
Geological
Survey



MONTHLY MAGNETIC BULLETIN

Hartland Observatory

September 2022



Hartland Observatory magnetic data

1. Introduction

Hartland Observatory is one of three geomagnetic observatories in the UK operated and maintained by the British Geological Survey (BGS).

This bulletin is published to provide rapid access to the provisional geomagnetic observatory results. The information is freely available for personal, academic, educational and non-commercial research or use. Magnetic observatory data are presented as a series of plots of one-minute, hourly and daily values, followed by tabulations of monthly values, reports of rapid variations and geomagnetic activity indices. The operation of the observatory and presentation of data are described in the rest of this section.

Enquiries about the data should be addressed to:

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Email: enquiries@bgs.ac.uk
Internet: geomag.bgs.ac.uk

2. Position

The observatory is situated on the NW boundary of the village of Hartland in North Devon. The observatory co-ordinates are:

Geographic: 50° 59'42.0"N 355° 30'57.6"E
Geomagnetic: 53° 34'40.8"N 079° 45'54.0"E
Height above mean sea level: 95 m

The geographical coordinates are measured by a handheld GPS device, which uses WGS84 as the reference coordinate system. The height above MSL is determined from the best available contour maps. The geomagnetic co-ordinates are approximations, calculated using the 13th generation International Geomagnetic Reference Field (IGRF) at epoch 2021.5. On-line access to models (including IGRF), charts and navigational data are available at geomag.bgs.ac.uk/data_service/models_compass/home

3. The observatory operation

3.1 GDAS

The observatory operates under the control of the Geomagnetic Data Acquisition System (GDAS), which was developed by BGS staff, installed in 2002, and became fully operational in January 2003. The data acquisition software, running on QNX operated computers, controls the data logging and the communications.

There are two sets of sensors used for making magnetic measurements. A tri-axial linear-core fluxgate magnetometer, manufactured by the Danish Meteorological Institute, is used to measure the variations in the horizontal (H) and vertical (Z) components of the field. The third sensor is oriented perpendicular to these, and measures variations, which are proportional to the changes in declination (D). Measurements are made at a rate of 1 Hz.

In addition to the fluxgate sensors there is a proton precession magnetometer (PPM) making measurements of the absolute total field intensity (F) at a rate of 0.1Hz.

The raw unfiltered data are retrieved automatically via Internet connections to the BGS office in Edinburgh in near real-time. The fluxgate data are filtered to produce one-minute values using a 61-point cosine filter and the total field intensity samples are filtered using a 7-point cosine filter. The one-minute values provide input for various data products, available on-line at geomag.bgs.ac.uk/data_service/home

3.2 Back-up systems

There are two other fully independent identical systems, GDAS 2 and GDAS 3, operating at the observatory. The data from these are also processed in near real-time and used for quality control purposes. They are also used to fill any gaps or replace any corrupt values in the primary system, GDAS 1.

3.3 Absolute observations

The GDAS fluxgate magnetometers accurately measure variations in the components of the geomagnetic field, but not the absolute magnitudes. Two sets of absolute measurements of the field are made manually once per week. A fluxgate sensor mounted on a theodolite is used to determine D and inclination (I); the GDAS PPM measurements, with a site difference correction applied, are used for F . The absolute observations are used in conjunction with the GDAS variometer measurements to produce a continuous record of the absolute values of the geomagnetic field elements as if they had been measured at the observatory reference pillar.

4. Observatory results

The data presented in the bulletin are in the form of plots and tabulations described in the following sections.

4.1 Absolute observations

The absolute observation measurements made during the month are tabulated. Also included are the corresponding baseline values, which are the differences between the absolute measurements and the variometer measurements of D , H and Z (in the sense absolute-variometer). These are also plotted (markers) along with the derived preliminary daily baseline values (line) throughout the year. Daily mean differences between the measured absolute F and the F computed from the baseline corrected H and Z values are plotted in the fourth panel (in the sense measured-derived). The bottom panel shows the daily mean temperature in the fluxgate chamber.

4.2 Summary magnetograms

Small-scale magnetograms are plotted which allow the month's data to be viewed at a glance. They are plotted 16 days to a page and show the one-minute variations in D , H and Z . The scales are shown on the right-hand side of the page. On disturbed days the scales are multiplied by a factor, which is indicated above the panel for that day. The variations are centred on the monthly mean value, shown on the left side of the page.

4.3 Magnetograms

The daily magnetograms are plotted using one-minute values of D , H and Z from the fluxgate sensors, with any gaps filled using back-up data. The magnetograms are plotted to a variable scale; scale bars are shown to the right of each plot. The absolute level (the monthly mean value) is indicated on the left side of the plots.

4.4 Hourly mean value plots

Hourly mean values of D , H and Z for the past 12 months are plotted in 27-day segments corresponding to the Bartels solar rotation number. Magnetic disturbances associated with active regions and/or coronal holes on the Sun may recur after 27 days: the same is true for geomagnetically quiet intervals. Plotting the data in this way highlights this recurrence. Diurnal variations are also clear in these plots and the amplitude changes throughout the year highlight the seasonal changes. Longer term secular variation is also illustrated.

Full lists of the UK observatory hourly mean values from 1983 to the present day are available at geomag.bgs.ac.uk/data_service/data/obs_data/hourly_means

4.5 Daily and monthly mean values

Daily mean values of D , H , Z and F are plotted throughout the year. In addition, a table of monthly mean values of all the geomagnetic elements is provided. These values depend on accurate specification of the fluxgate sensor baselines. It is anticipated that these provisional values will not be altered by more than a few nT or tenths of arcminutes before being made definitive at the end of the year.

4.6 Rapid variations

Charged particles stream from the Sun in the solar wind. The solar wind interacts with the geomagnetic field to create a cavity, the magnetosphere, in which the field is confined. When a region of enhanced velocity and/or density in the solar wind arrives at the dayside boundary of the magnetosphere (at about 10 earth radii) the boundary is pushed towards the Earth. Currents set up on the boundary of the magnetosphere can cause an abrupt change in the geomagnetic field measured on the ground and this is recorded on observatory magnetograms as a sudden impulse (si). If, following an si , there is a change in the rhythm of activity, the si is termed a storm sudden commencement (ssc). A classical magnetic storm exhibiting initial, main and recovery phases (shown by, for instance, the Dst ring current index) can often occur after a ssc , in which case the start of the storm is taken as the time of the ssc .

Solar flares, seen at optical wavelengths as a sudden brightening of a small region of the Sun's surface, are also responsible for increased X-ray emissions. These X-rays cause increased ionisation in the ionosphere, which leads to absorption of short-wave radio signals. A solar flare effect (sfe), or "crochet", may be observed on a magnetogram during geomagnetically quiet times. It is a relatively short-term change (tens of minutes) to the normal diurnal variation and can vary in size (tens of nT) depending on local time (LT), geomagnetic latitude and solar zenith angle.

4.7 Local geomagnetic activity indices

The Observatory K index. This summarises geomagnetic activity at an observatory by assigning a code, an integer in the range 0 to 9, to each 3-hour Universal Time (UT) interval. The index for each 3-hour UT interval is determined from the maximum range in H or D

(scaled in nT), with allowance made for the regular (undisturbed) diurnal variation. The conversion from range to an index value is made using a quasi-logarithmic scale, with the scale values dependent on the geomagnetic latitude of the observatory. The lower bounds (in nT) for the classification of each period at Hartland are:

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
0	5	10	20	40	70	120	200	330	500

The *K* index retains the LT and seasonal dependence of activity associated with the position of the observatory. The 3-hourly *K* indices for the month are tabulated and also plotted as a histogram. All UK observatory *K* indices are available at geomag.bgs.ac.uk/data_service/data/magnetic_indices/k_indices

4.8 Global geomagnetic activity indices

The aa index. A number of 3-hour geomagnetic indices are computed by combining *K* indices from networks of observatories to characterise global activity levels and to eliminate LT and seasonal effects. The simplest of these is the *aa* index, computed using the *K* indices from two approximately antipodal observatories: Hartland in the UK and Canberra in Australia. The *aa* index is calculated from linearisations of the Hartland and Canberra *K* indices, and has units of nT. The 3-hourly *aa* indices are tabulated along with the daily mean value of *aa* (denoted *Aa*), the mean values of *aa* for the intervals 00-12UT (*Aa_{am}*) and 12-24UT (*Aa_{pm}*) and the monthly mean value. The 3-hourly *aa* indices for the month are also plotted as a histogram.

Although the *aa* index is based on data from only two observatories, provided averages over 12 hours or longer are used, the index is strongly correlated with the *ap* and *am* indices, which are derived using data from more extensive observatory networks.

The *aa* indices listed in this bulletin are available at geomag.bgs.ac.uk/data_service/data/magnetic_indices/aaindex as well as the full data set from 1868.

Definitive *aa* are published by the International Service for Geomagnetic Indices, EOST, 5 rue René Descartes, 67084 Strasbourg Cedex, France.

5. Conditions of use

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Reproduction of any part of this bulletin should be accompanied by the statement: 'Reproduced with the permission of the British Geological Survey ©UKRI. All rights Reserved'. Publications making use of the data should include an acknowledgment statement of the form: 'The results presented in this paper rely on the data collected at Hartland magnetic observatory, operated by the British Geological Survey.'

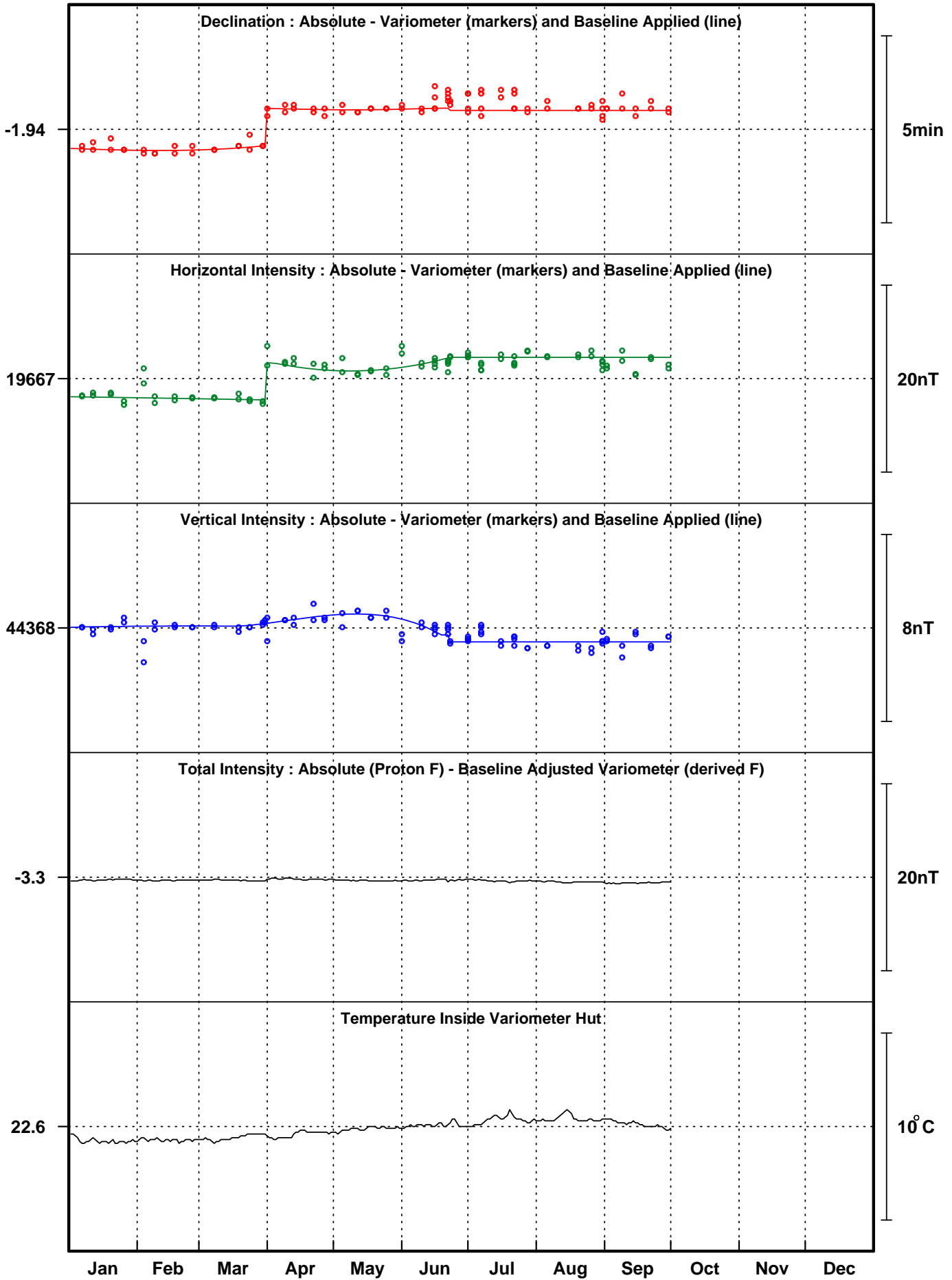
Commercial users can contact the geomagnetism team for information on the range of applications and services offered. Full contact details are available at geomag.bgs.ac.uk/contactus/staff

Hartland Observatory

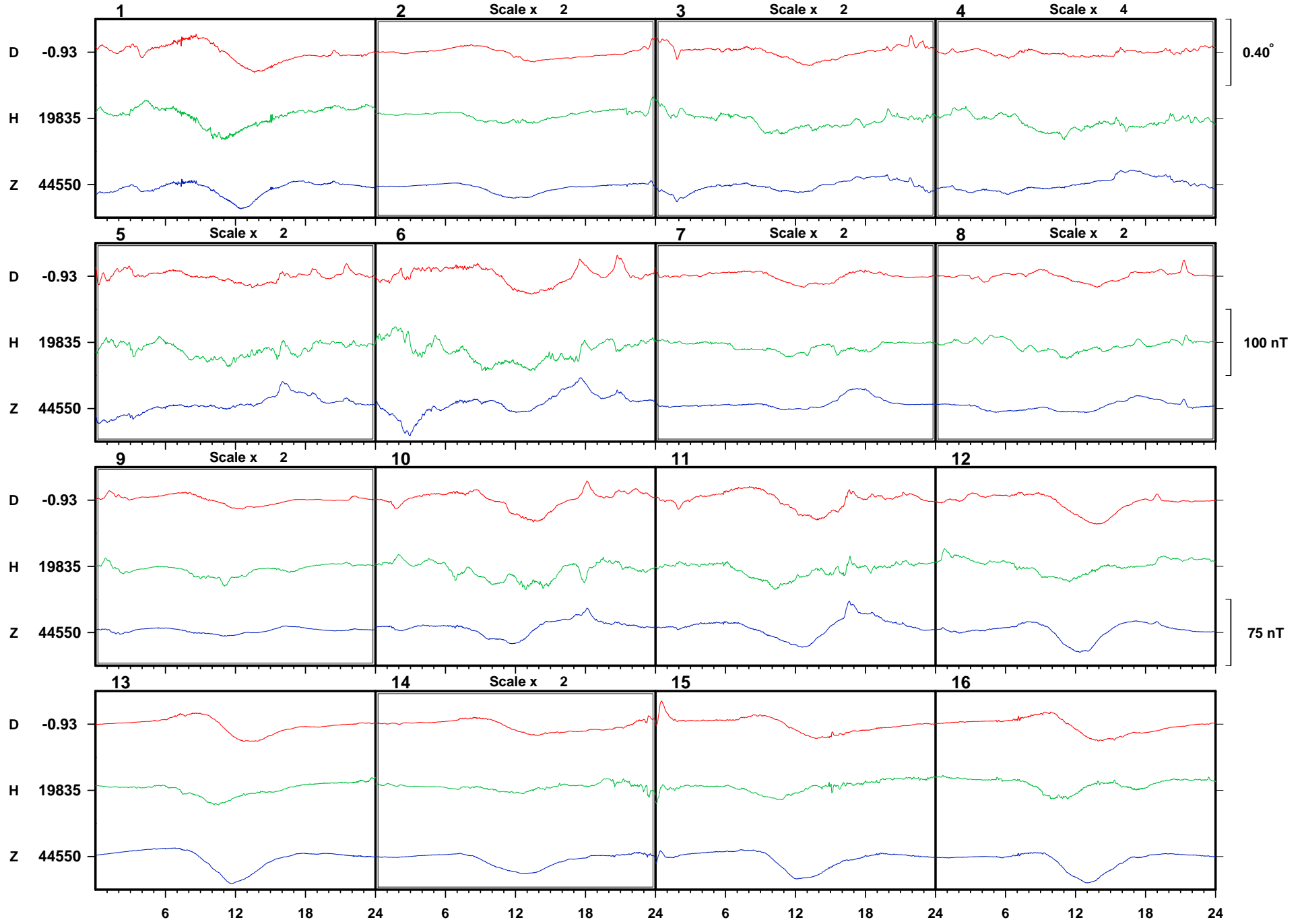
Absolute observations

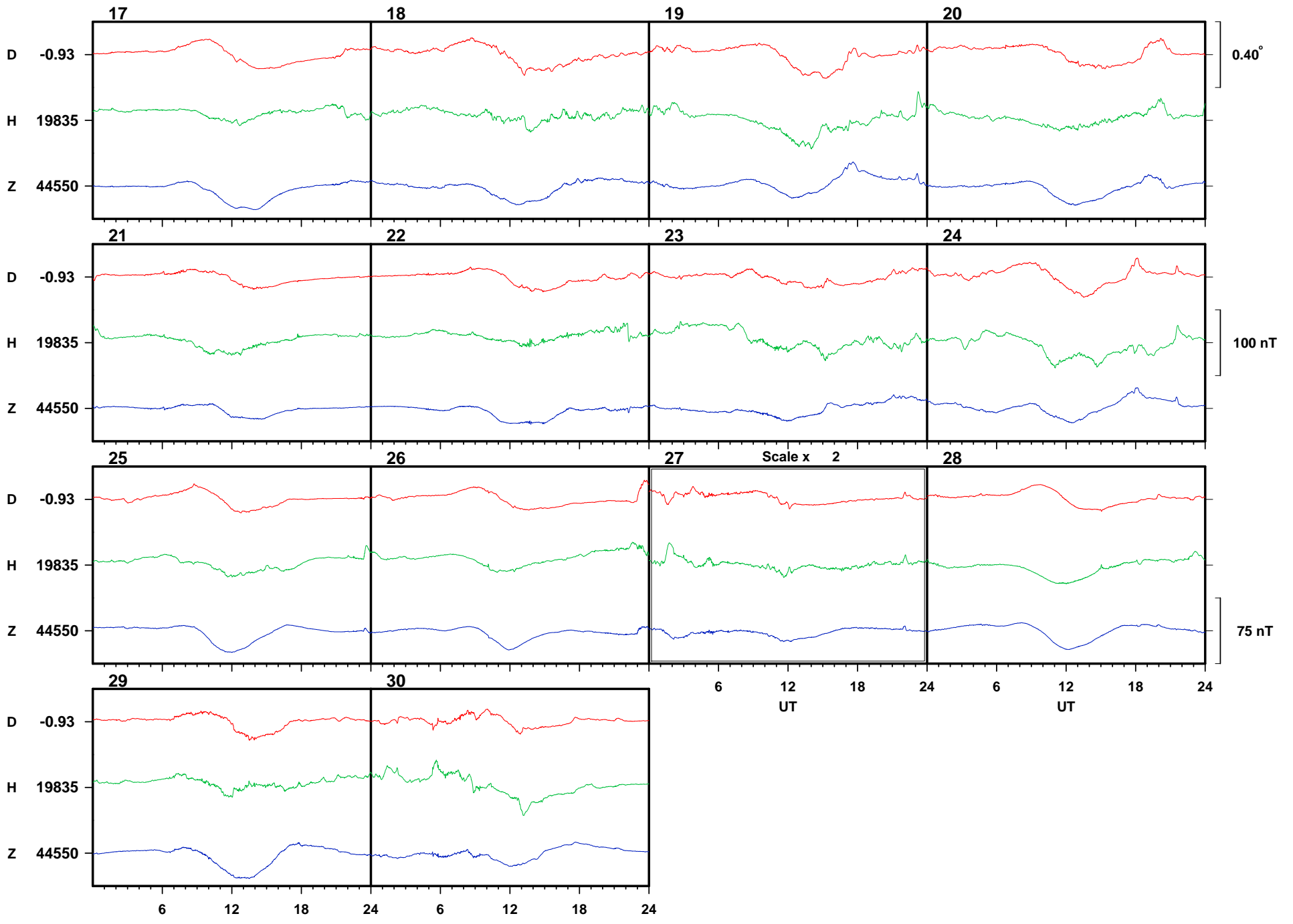
Date	Day Number	Declination			Inclination		Total field		Horizontal intensity		Vertical intensity		Observer
		Time (UT)	Absolute (°)	Baseline (°)	Time (UT)	Absolute (°)	Site difference (nT)	Absolute corrected (nT)	Absolute (nT)	Baseline (nT)	Absolute (nT)	Baseline (nT)	
01-Sep-22	244	07:44	-0.8456	-1.0933	07:54	65.9973	3.6	48770.7	19838.9	19810.2	44553.3	44367.9	BC
01-Sep-22	244	08:02	-0.8433	-1.0933	08:12	66.0017	3.6	48770.0	19835.2	19810.5	44554.2	44367.8	BC
08-Sep-22	251	10:01	-0.9008	-1.0867	10:11	66.0247	3.6	48752.3	19810.1	19811.0	44546.0	44367.6	BC
08-Sep-22	251	10:17	-0.9211	-1.0933	10:25	66.0293	3.6	48747.4	19804.6	19812.1	44543.1	44367.1	BC
14-Sep-22	257	07:18	-0.8634	-1.0967	07:27	65.9946	3.6	48775.0	19842.8	19809.5	44556.3	44368.2	BC
14-Sep-22	257	07:33	-0.8638	-1.0933	07:41	65.9946	3.6	48773.7	19842.3	19809.6	44555.1	44368.1	BC
21-Sep-22	264	07:31	-0.9013	-1.0900	07:38	65.9992	3.6	48771.2	19837.7	19811.2	44554.4	44367.6	BC
21-Sep-22	264	07:45	-0.8893	-1.0933	07:53	65.9967	3.6	48771.6	19839.8	19811.4	44553.9	44367.5	BC
29-Sep-22	272	09:18	-0.8692	-1.0933	09:26	65.9890	3.6	48770.3	19845.2	19810.2	44550.0	44368.0	BC
29-Sep-22	272	09:32	-0.8737	-1.0950	09:40	65.9926	3.6	48767.2	19841.2	19810.6	44548.5	44368.0	BC

Hartland 2022



Hartland September 2022





Hartland

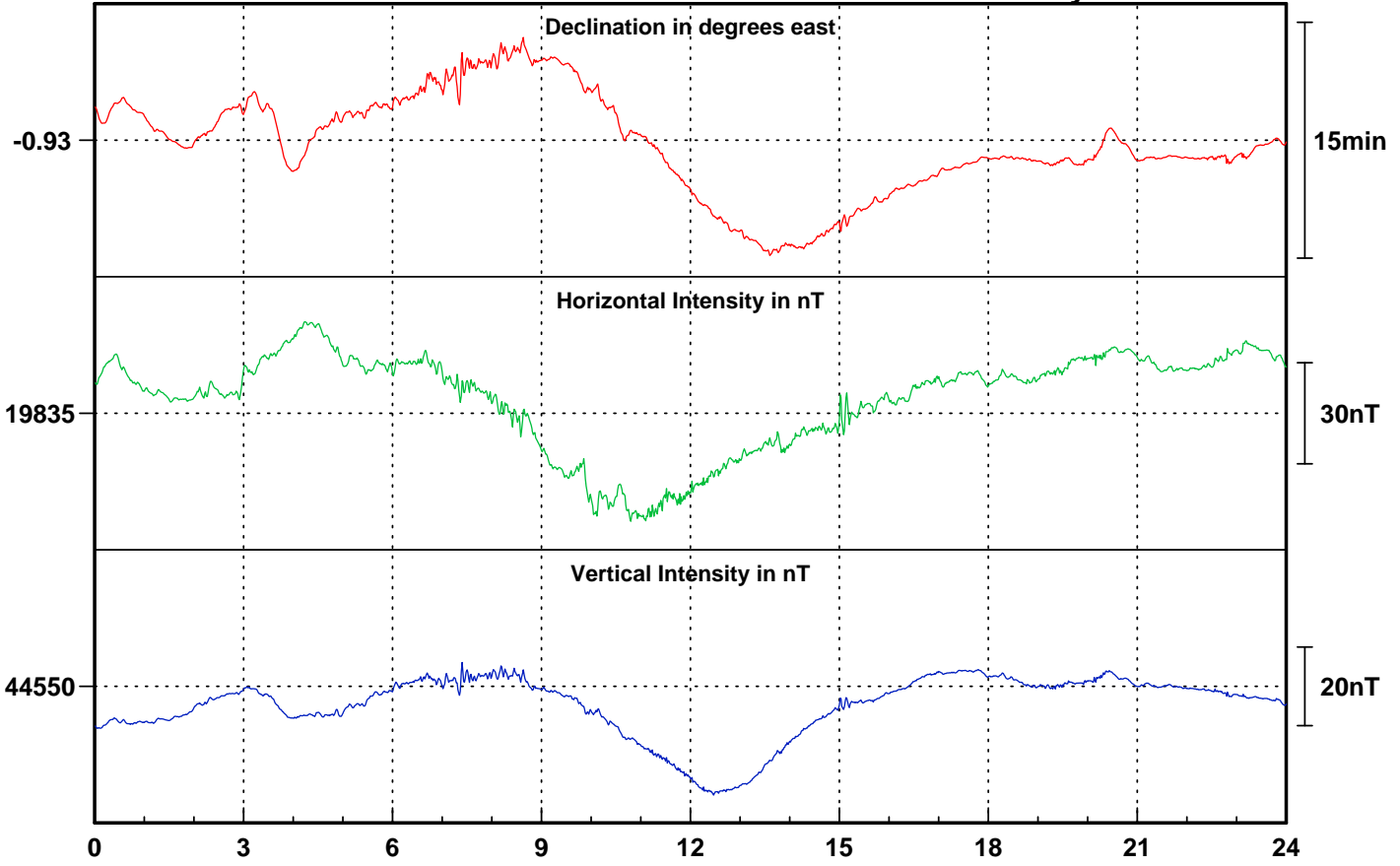
September

2022

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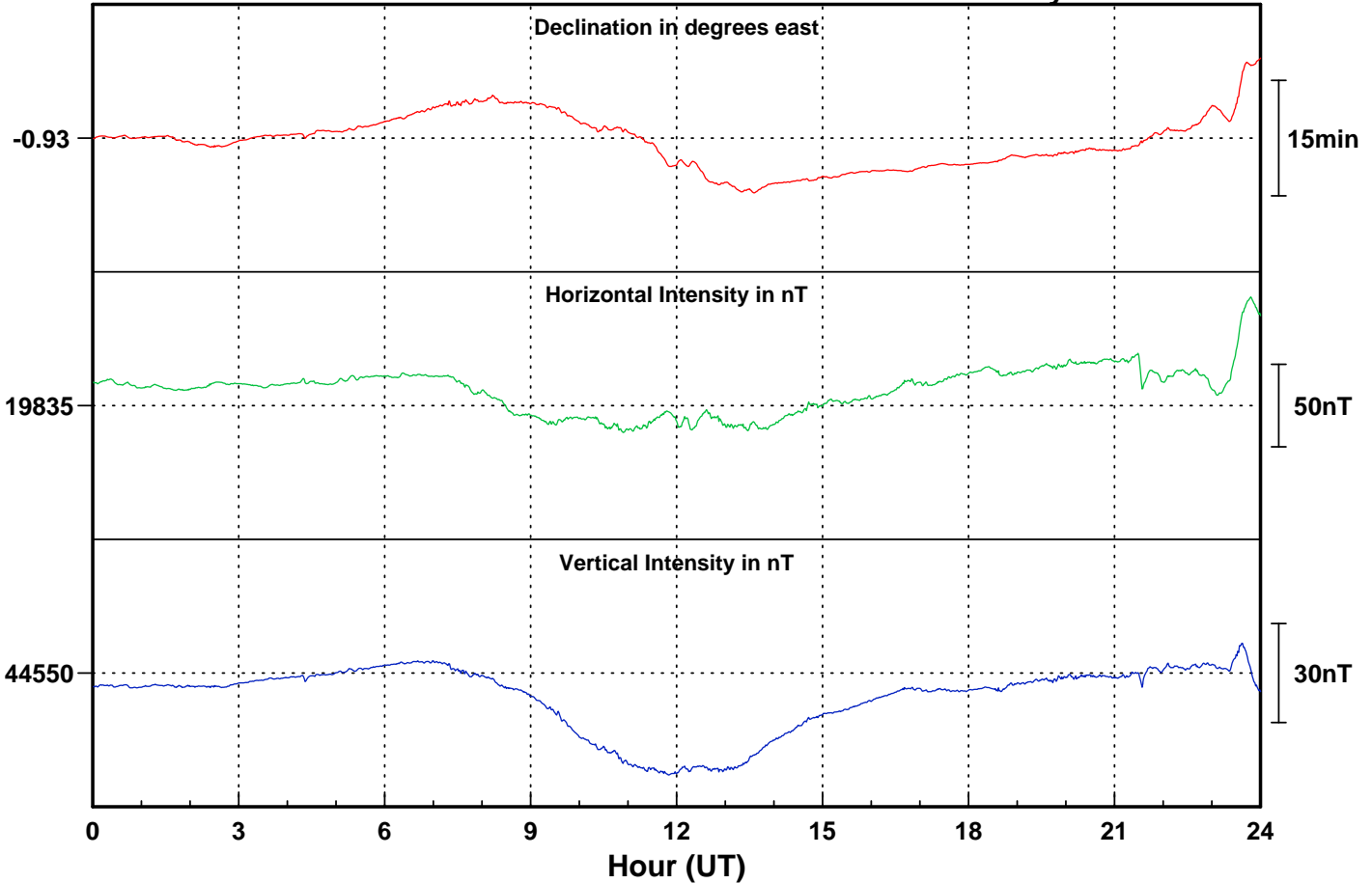
Hartland

Day number: 244



Date: 02-09-2022

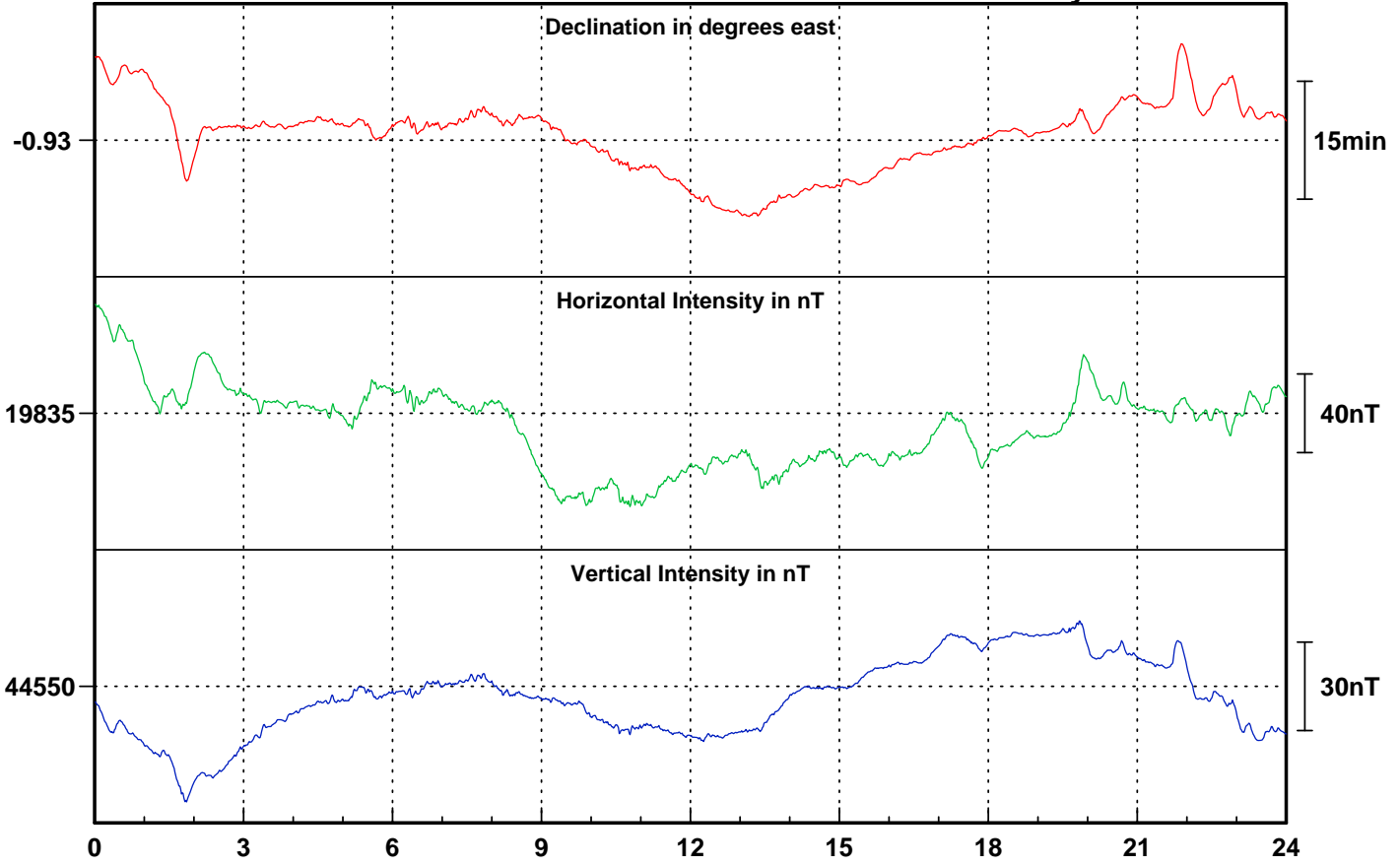
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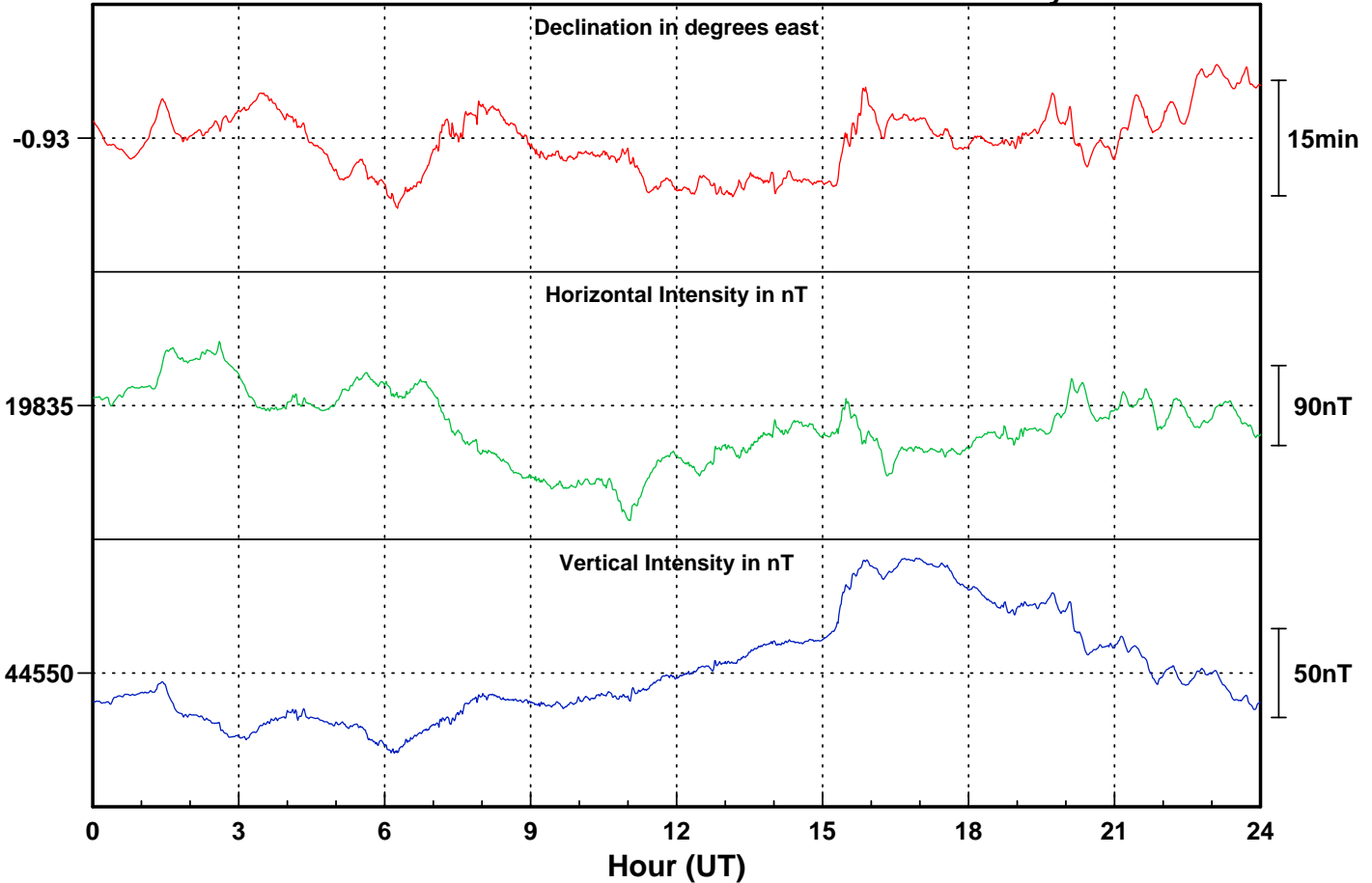
Hartland

Day number: 246



Date: 04-09-2022

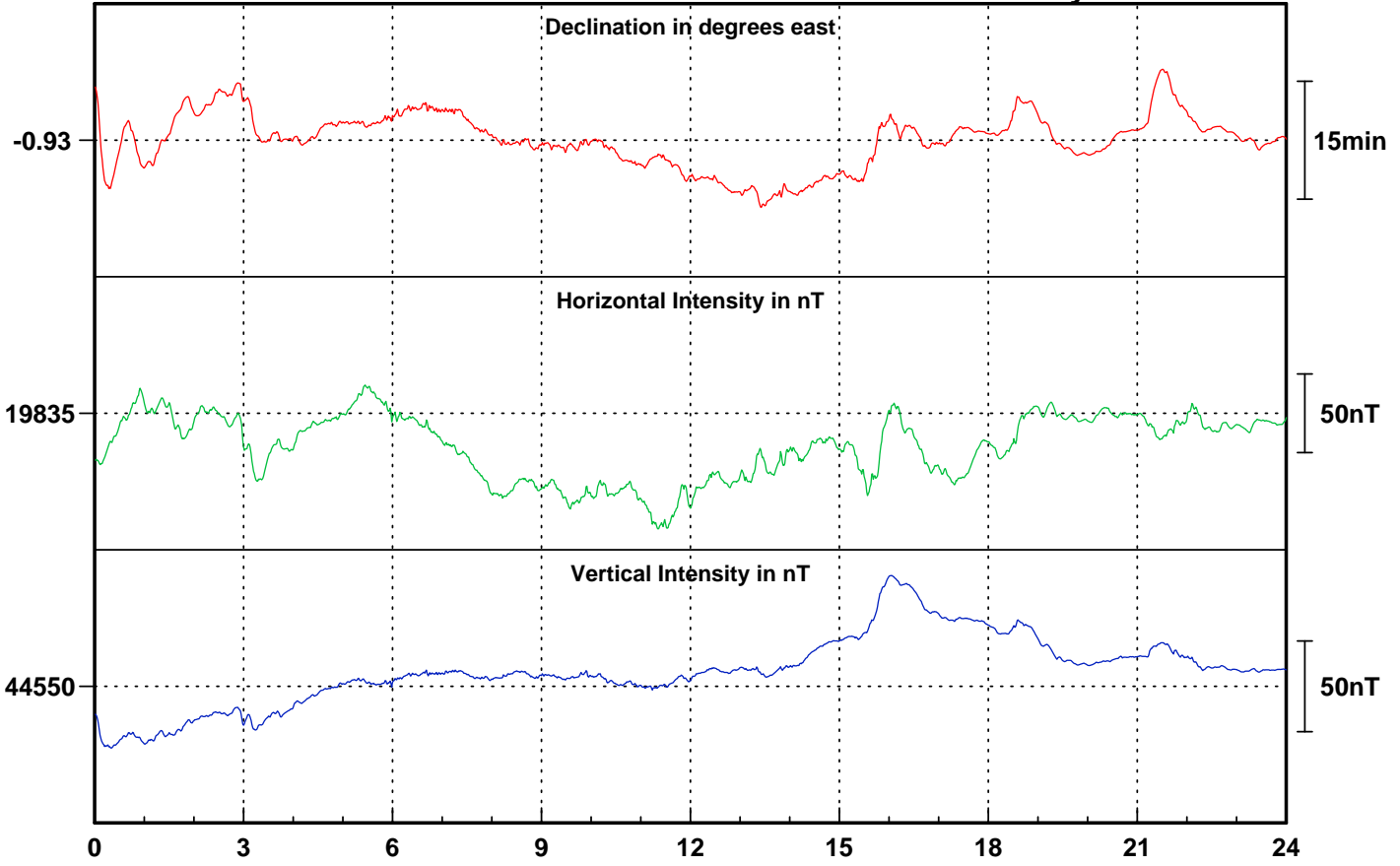
Day number: 247



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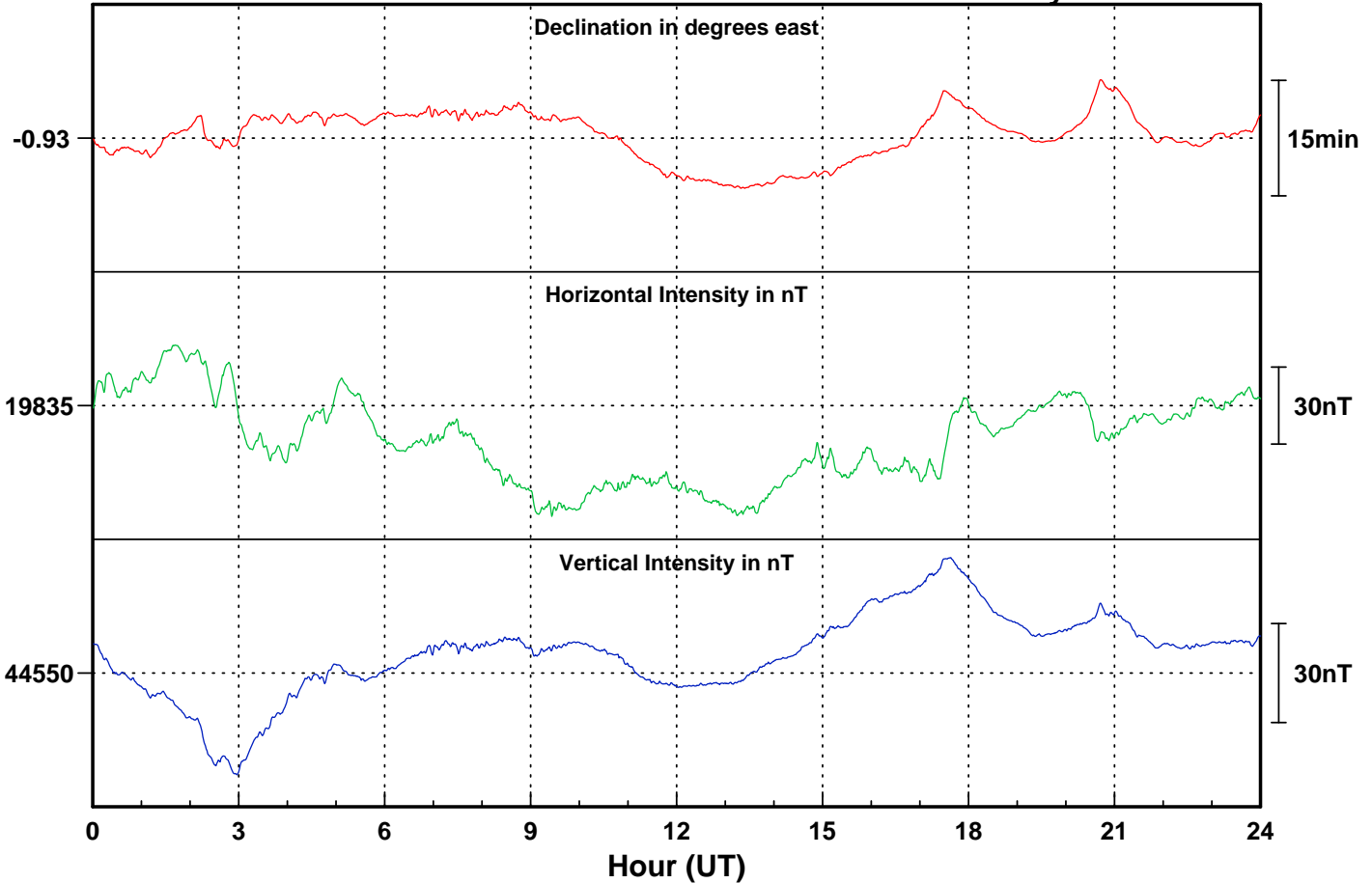
Hartland

Day number: 248



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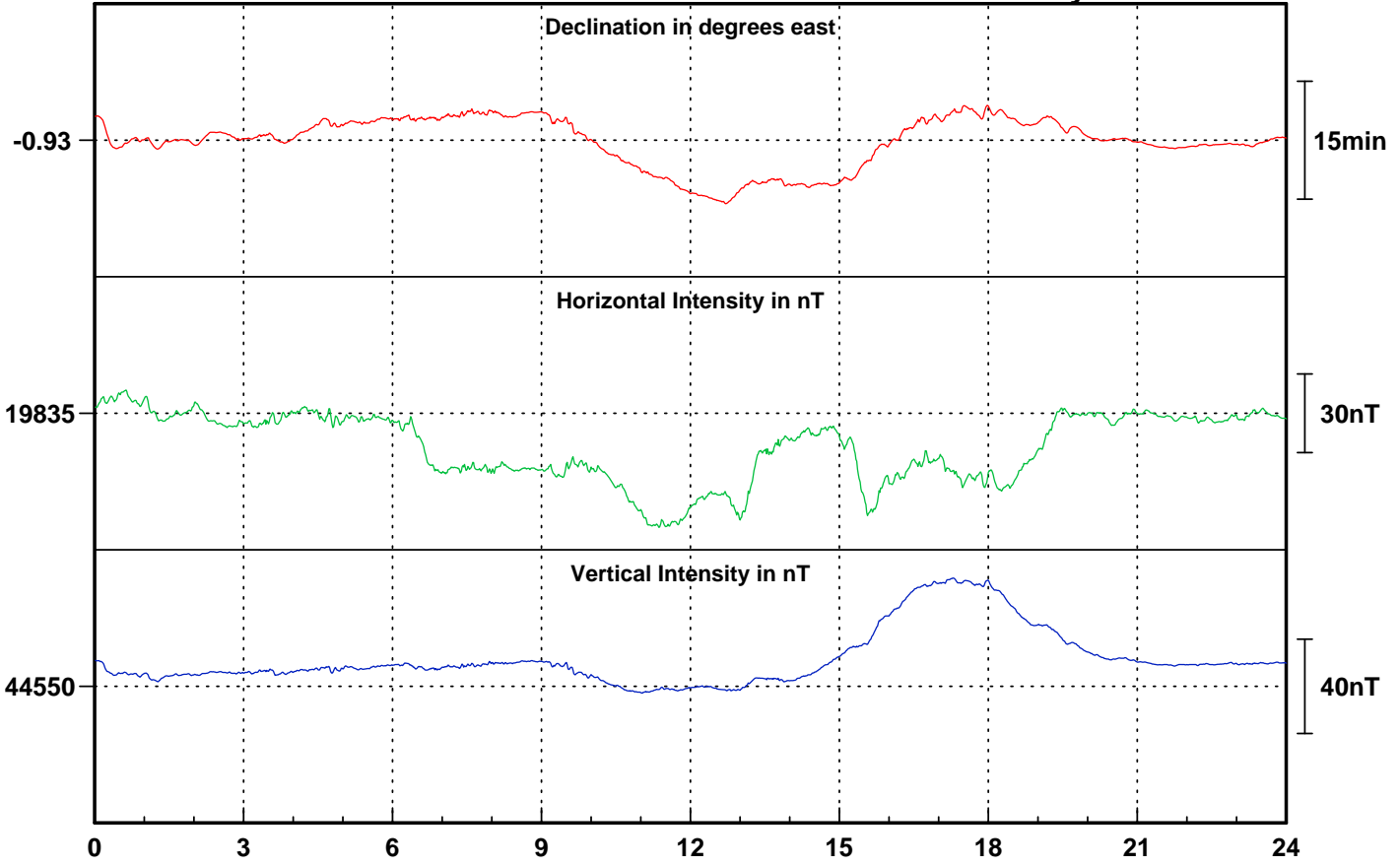
Day number: 249



Date: 07-09-2022

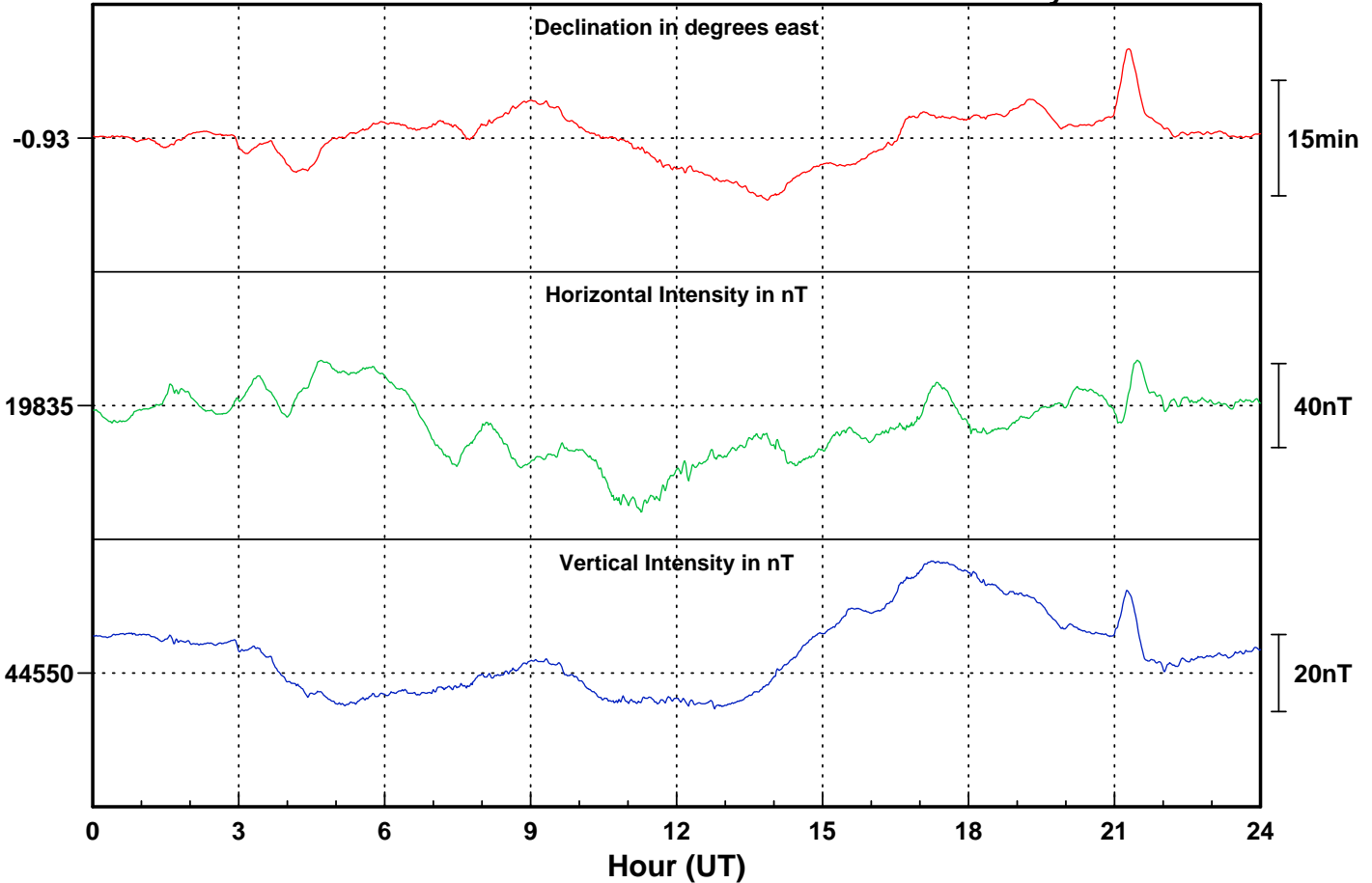
Hartland

Day number: 250



Date: 08-09-2022

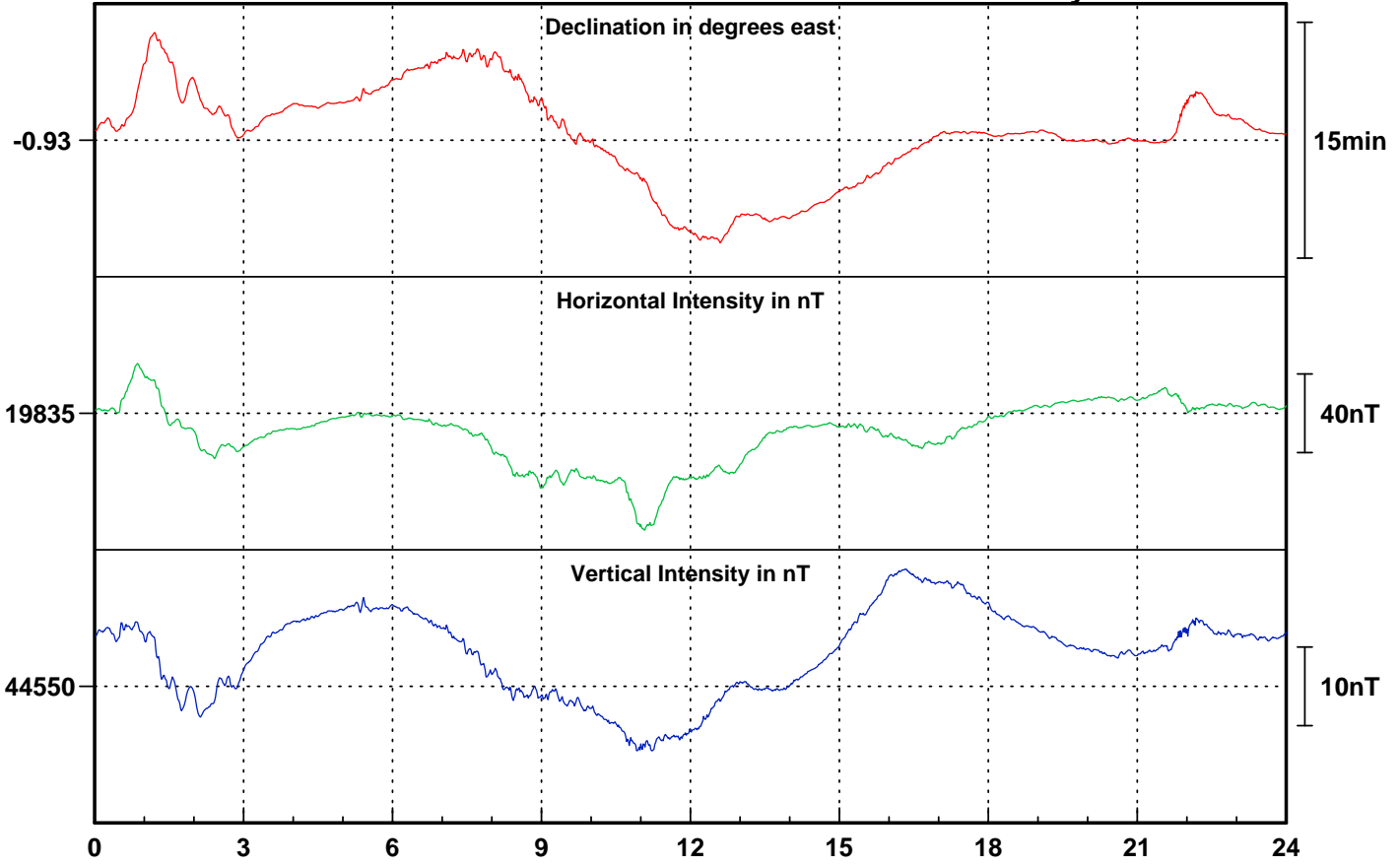
Day number: 251



Date: 09-09-2022

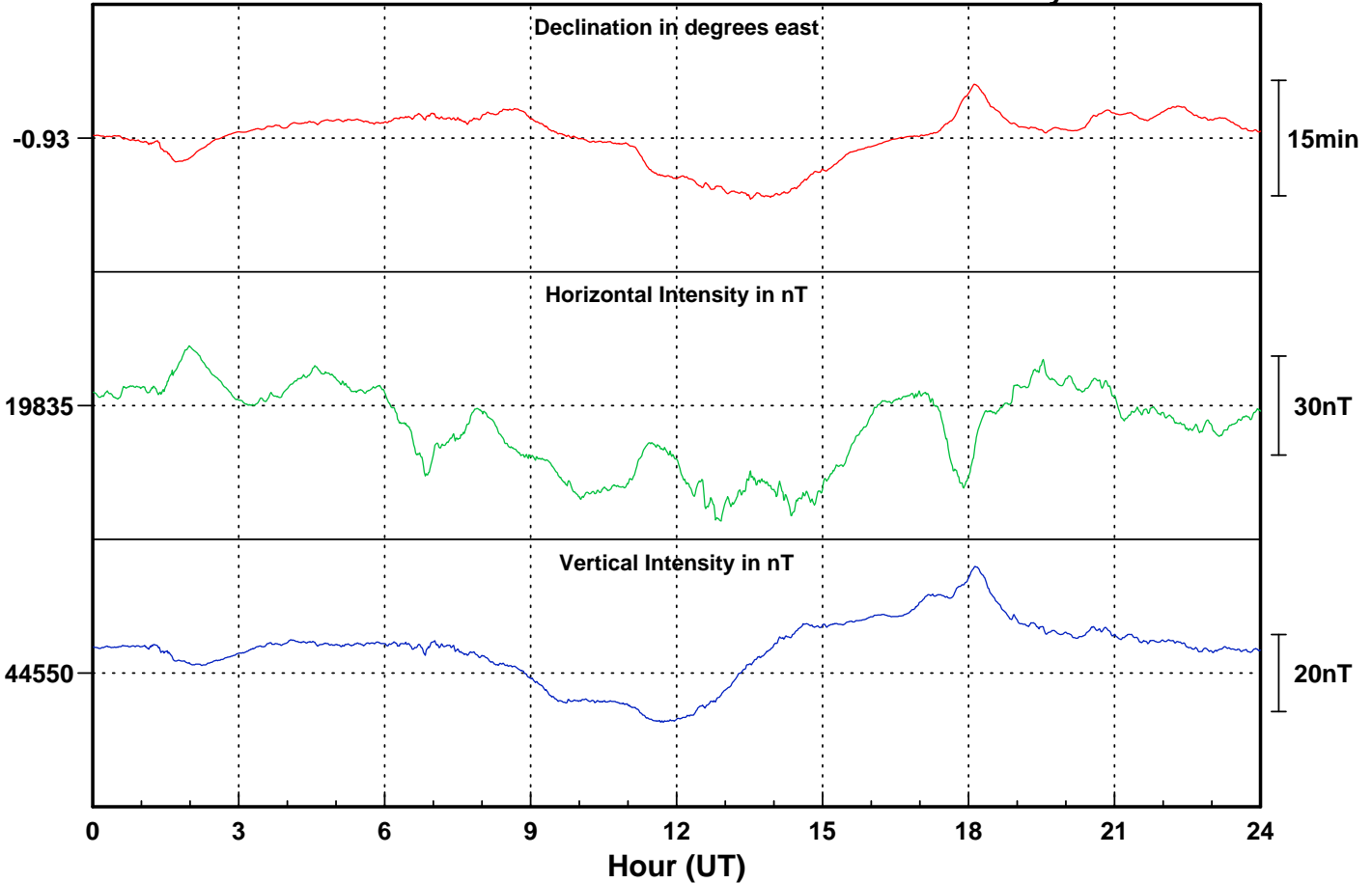
Hartland

Day number: 252



Date: 10-09-2022

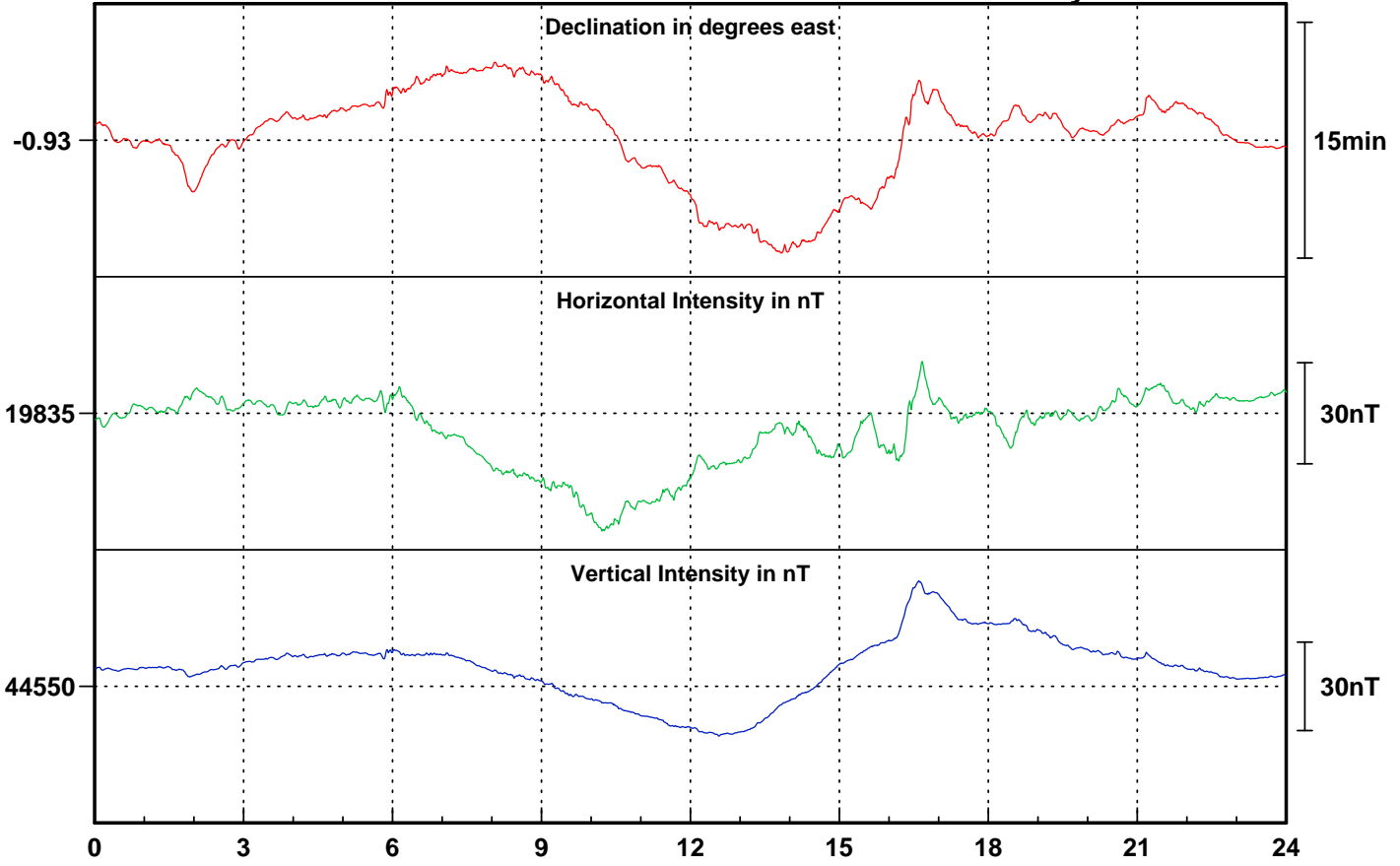
Day number: 253



Date: 11-09-2022

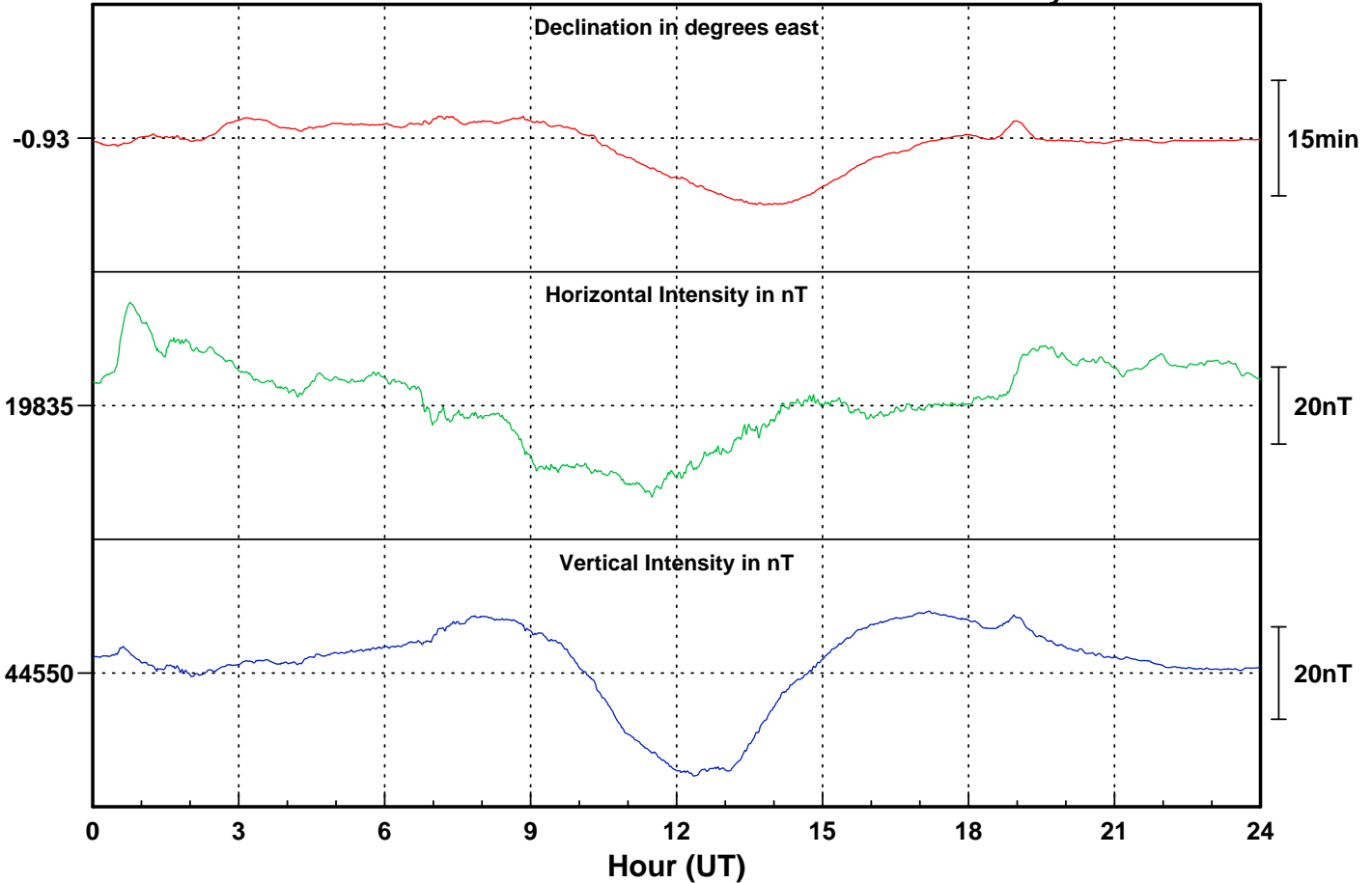
Hartland

Day number: 254



Date: 12-09-2022

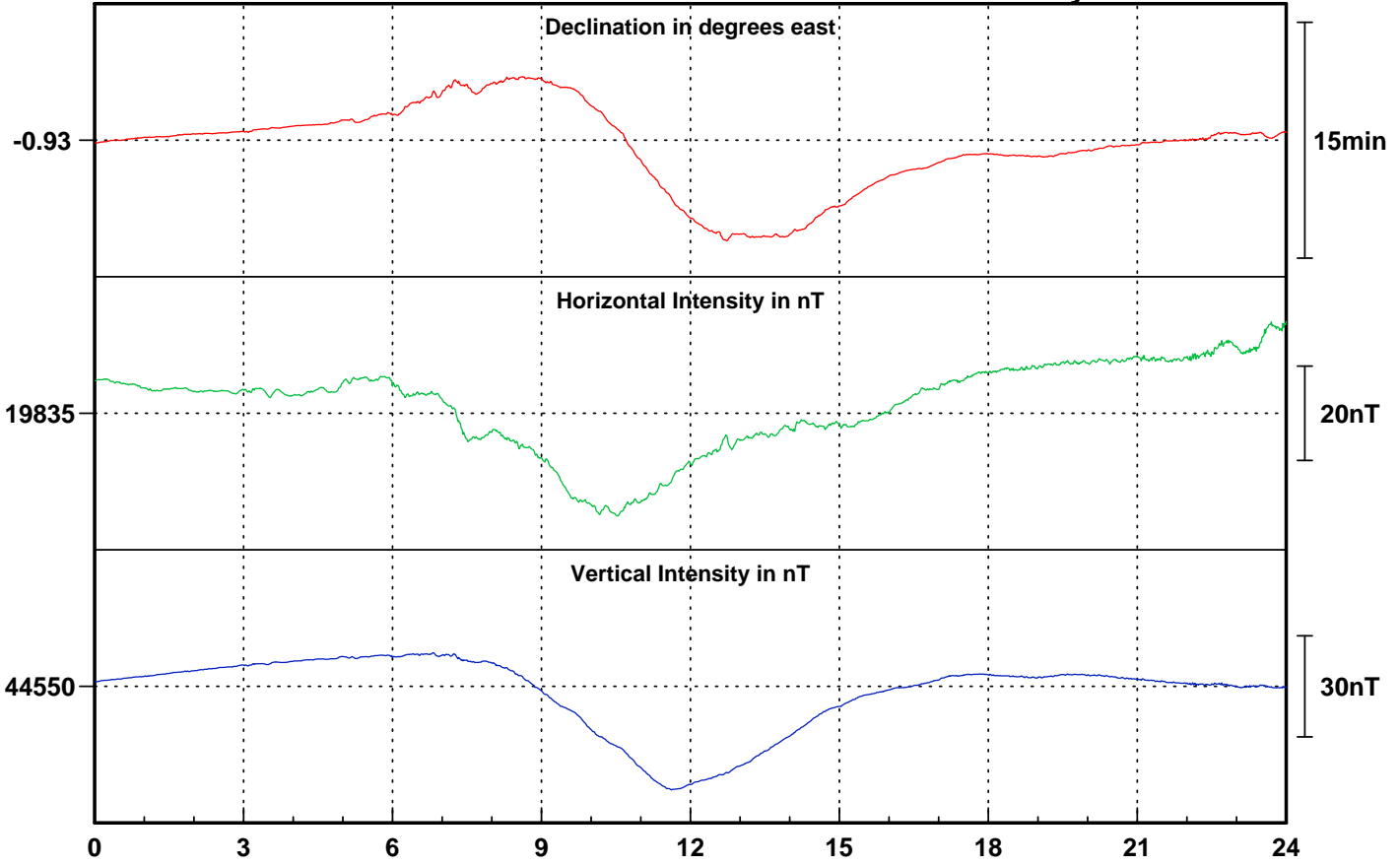
Day number: 255



Date: 13-09-2022

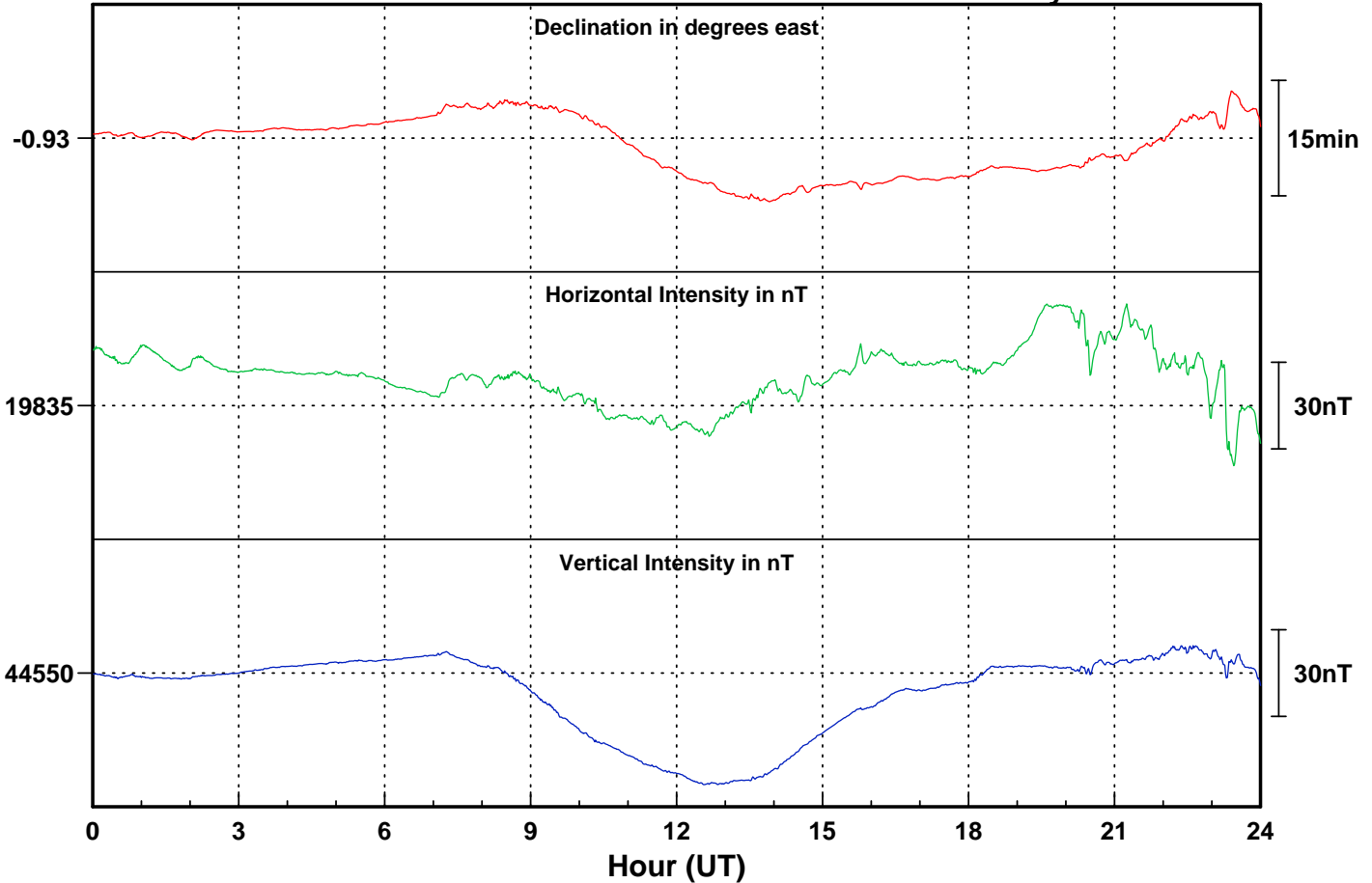
Hartland

Day number: 256



Date: 14-09-2022

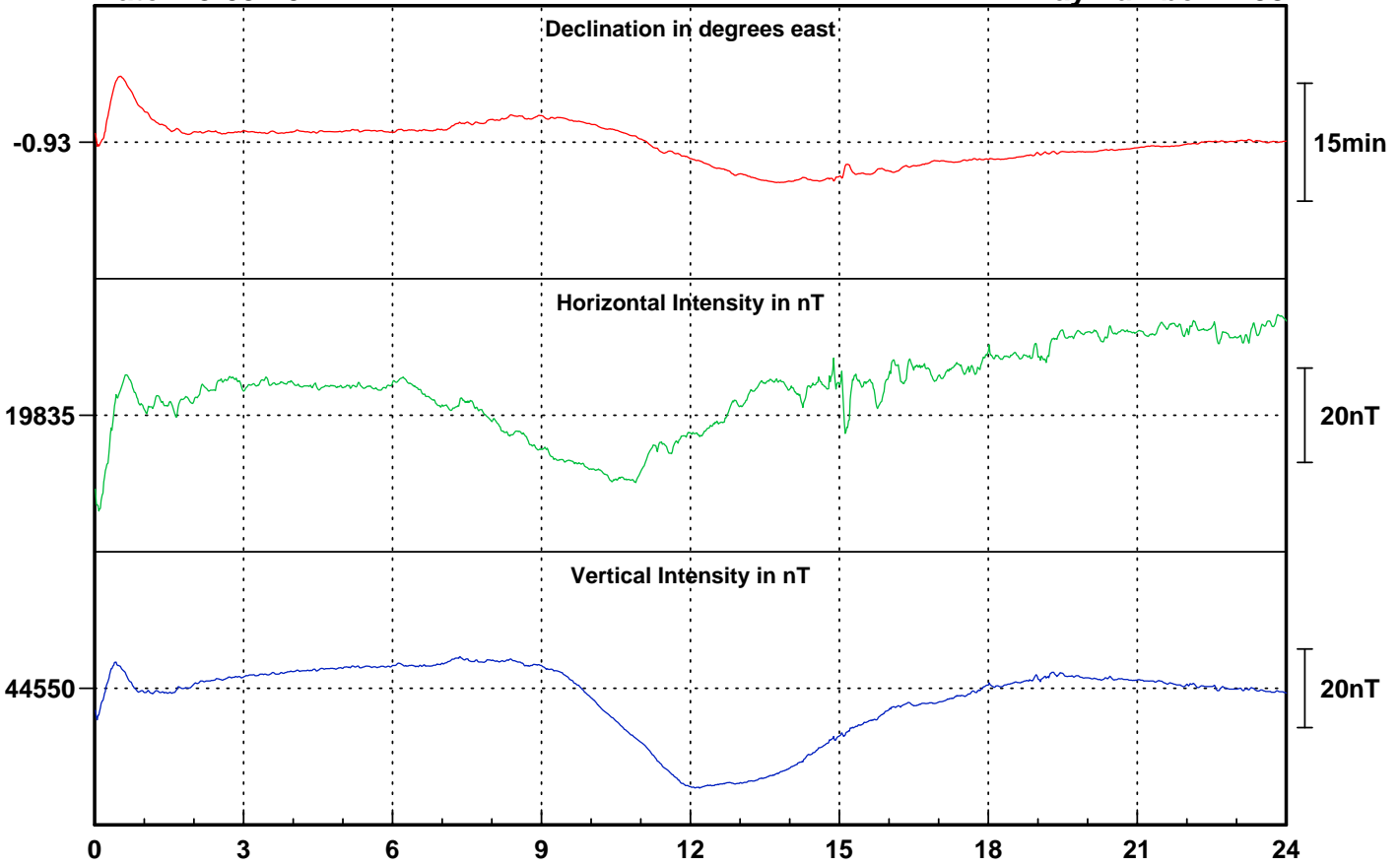
Day number: 257



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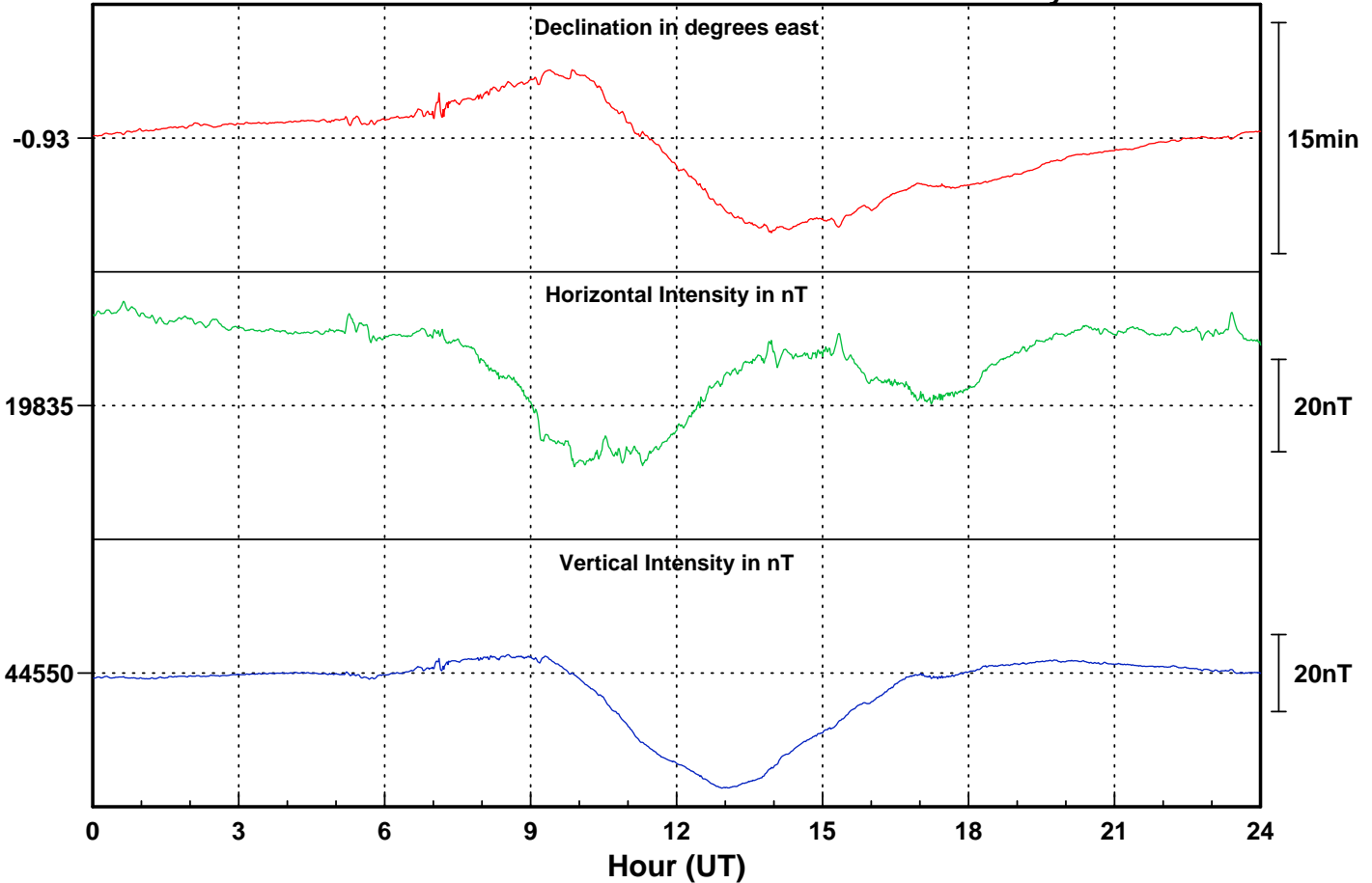
Hartland

Day number: 258



Date: 16-09-2022

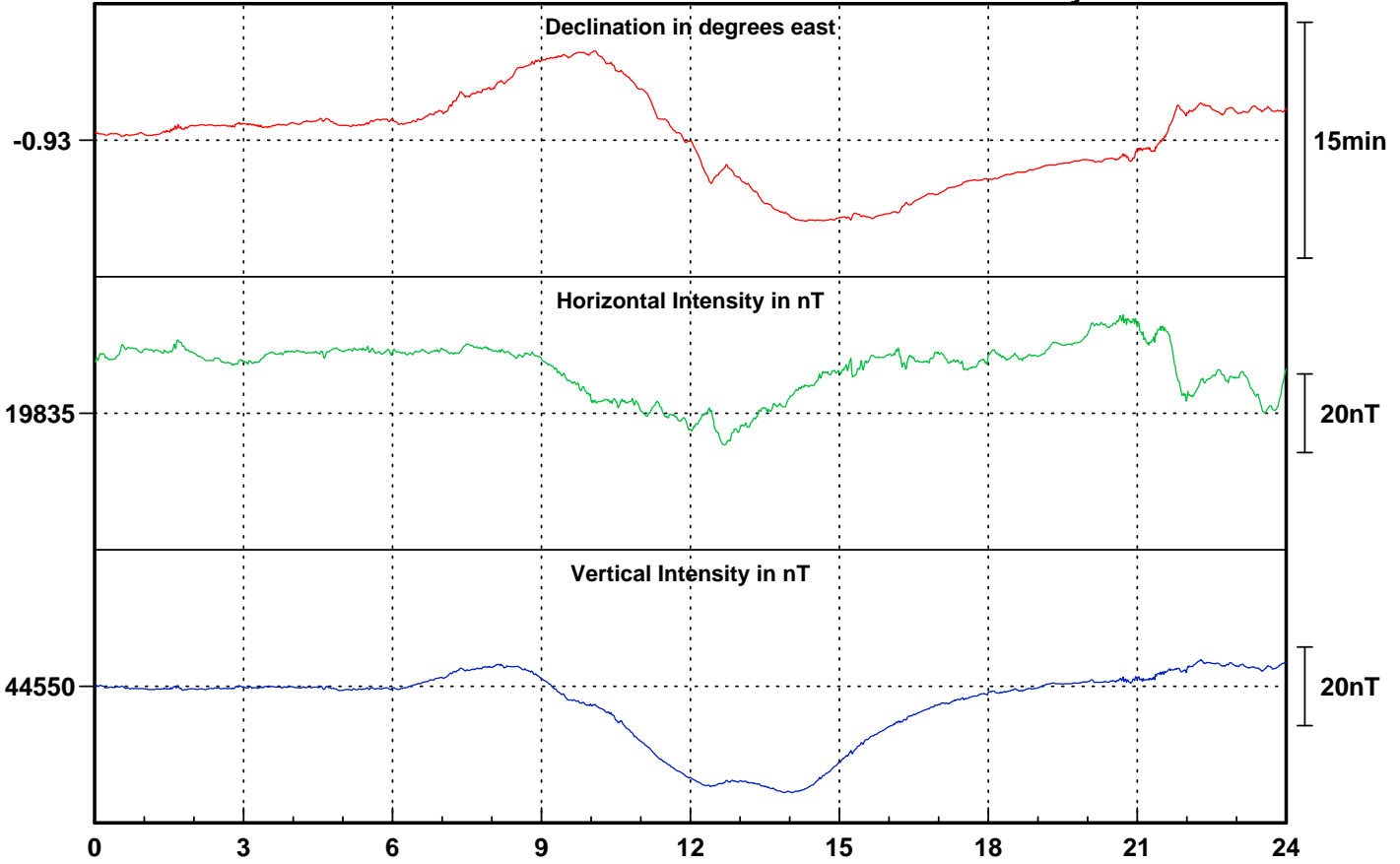
Day number: 259



Date: 17-09-2022

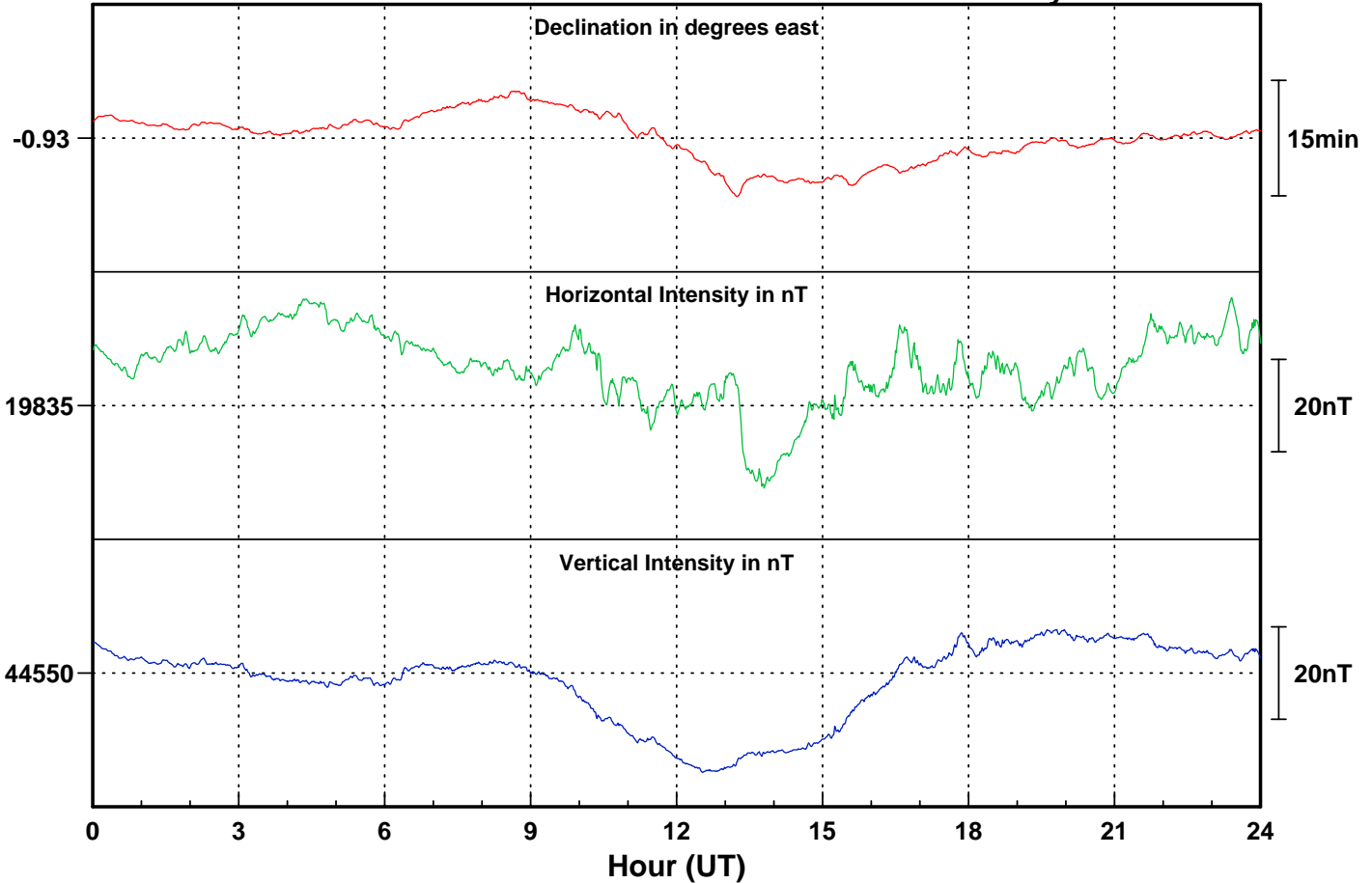
Hartland

Day number: 260



Date: 18-09-2022

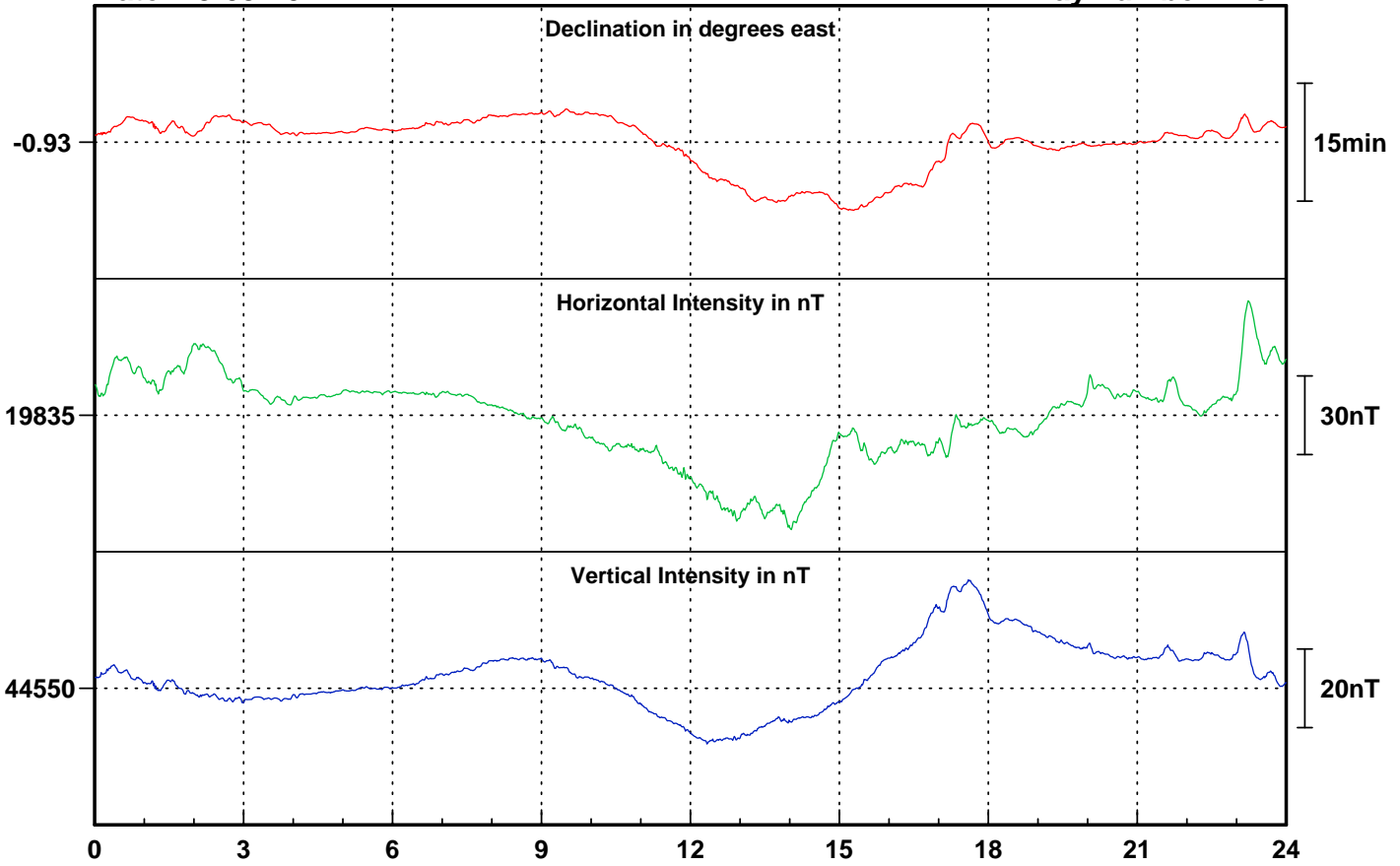
Day number: 261



Date: 19-09-2022

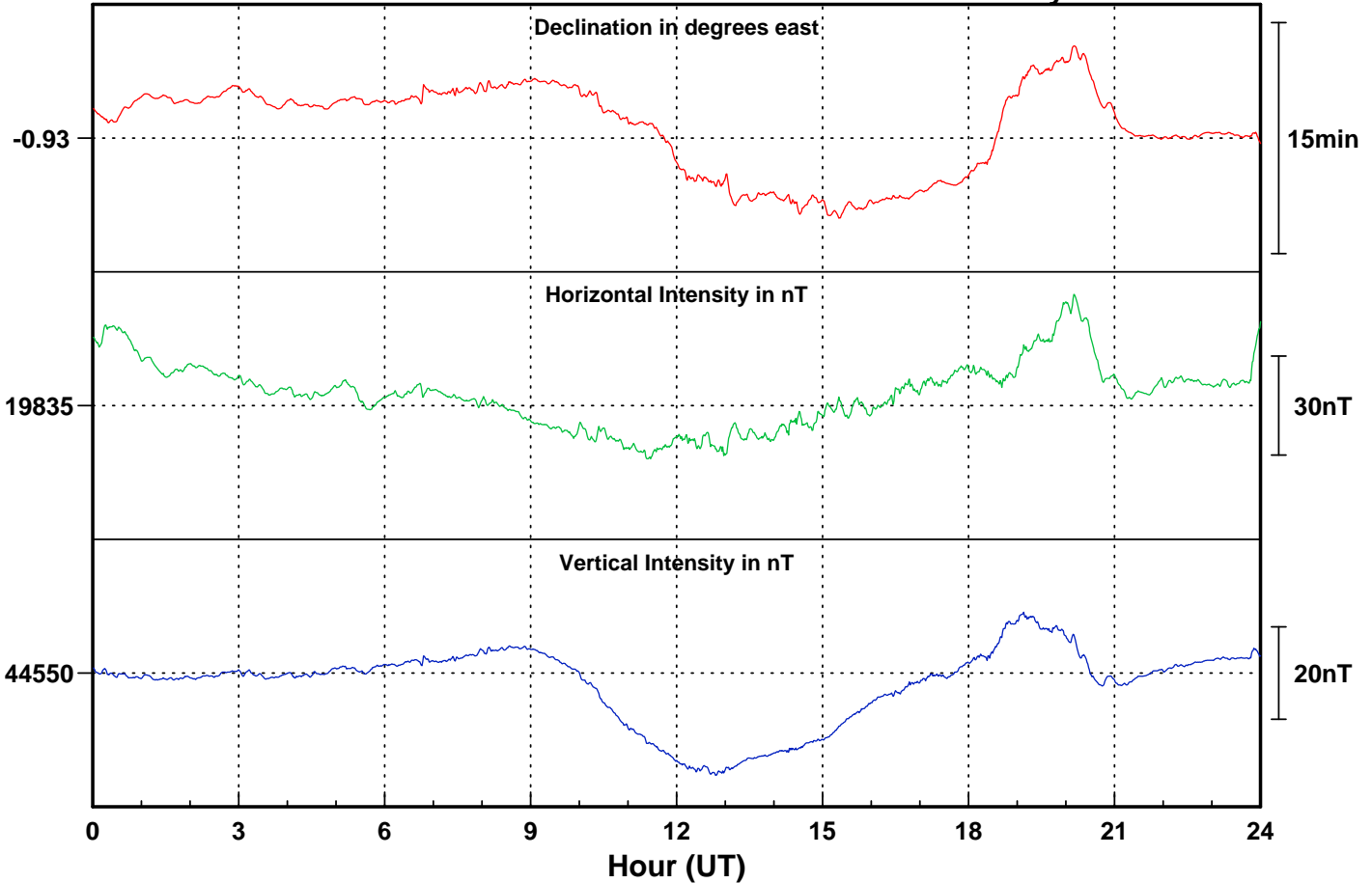
Hartland

Day number: 262



Date: 20-09-2022

Day number: 263

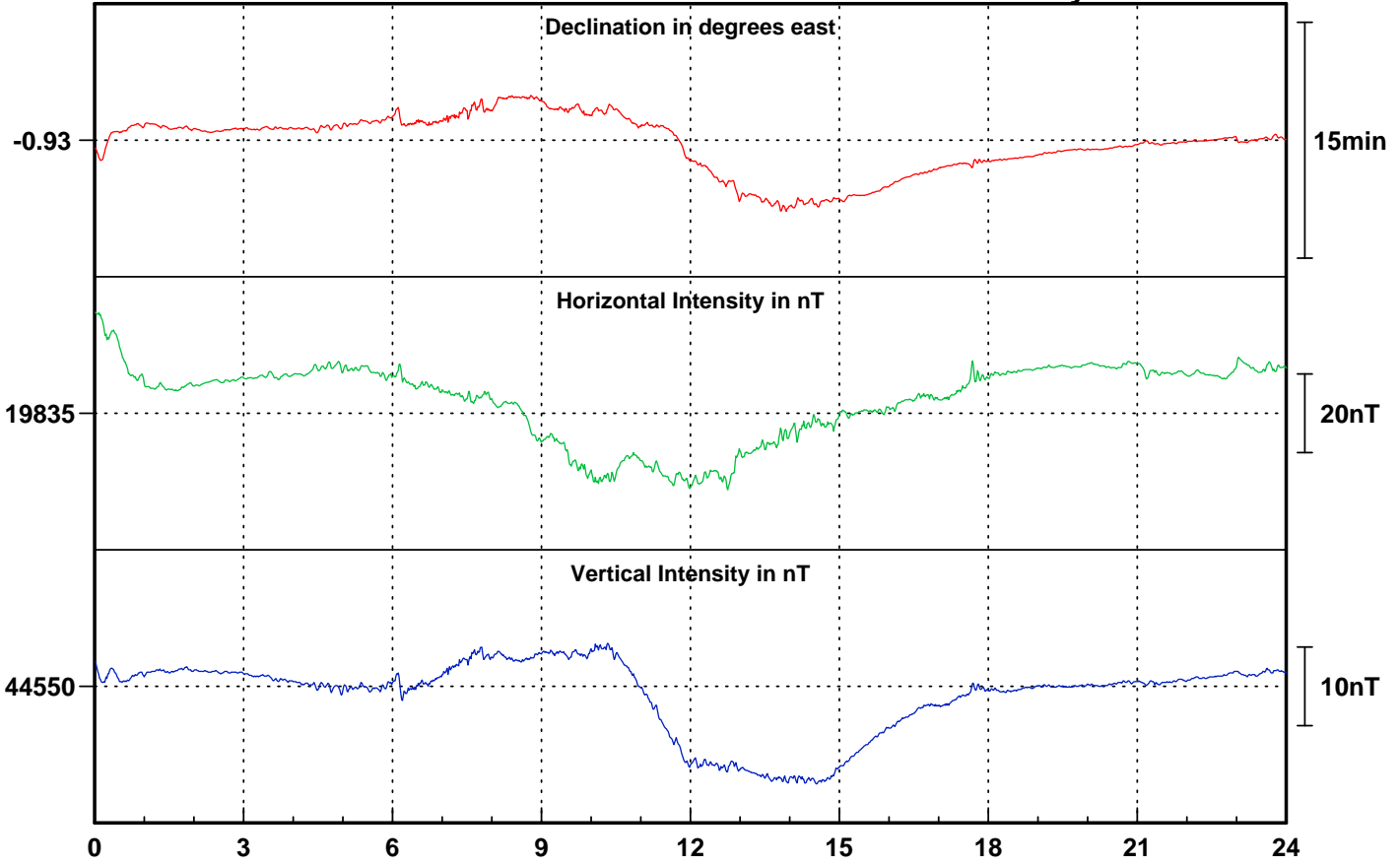


Hour (UT)

Date: 21-09-2022

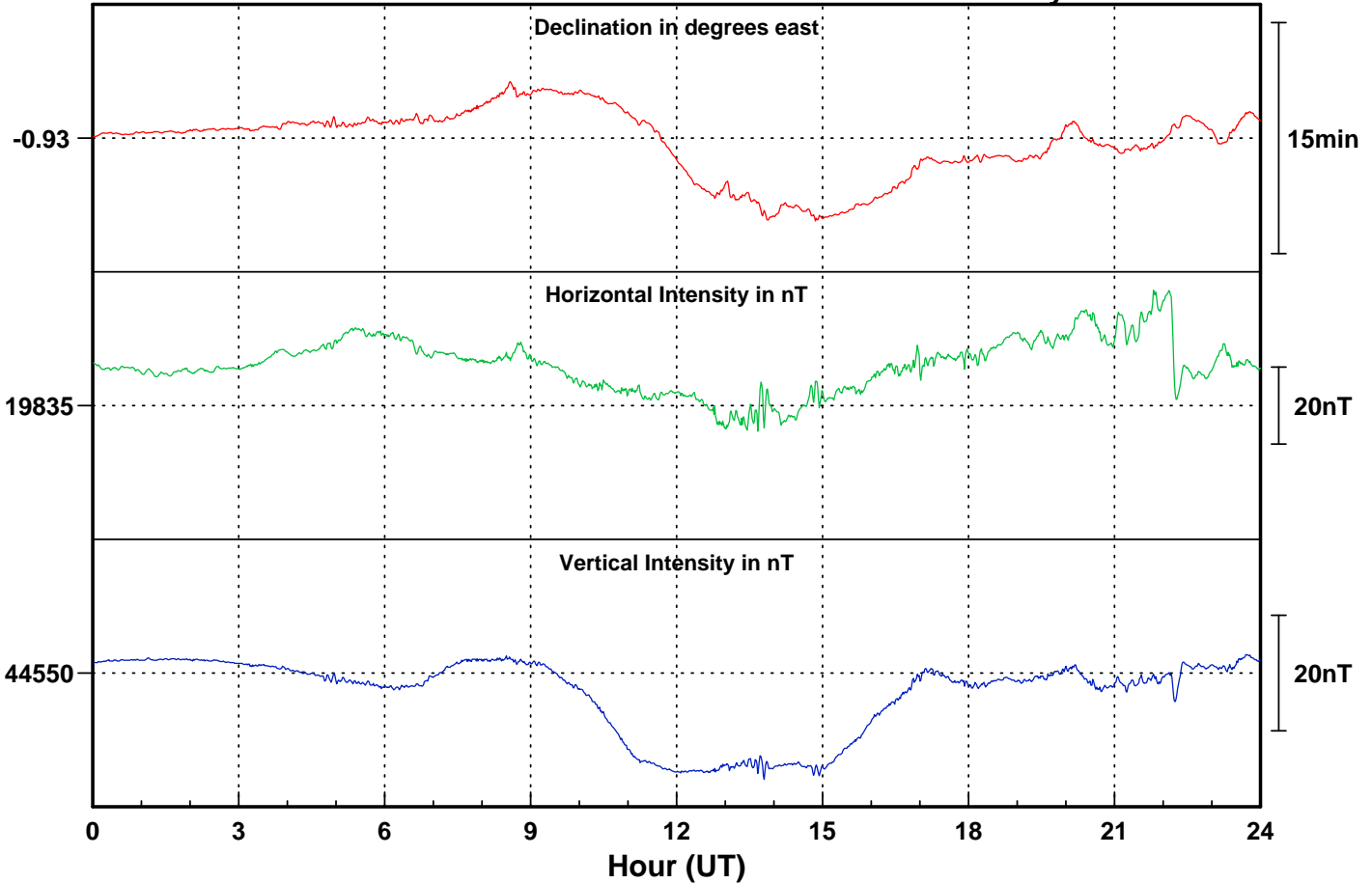
Hartland

Day number: 264



Date: 22-09-2022

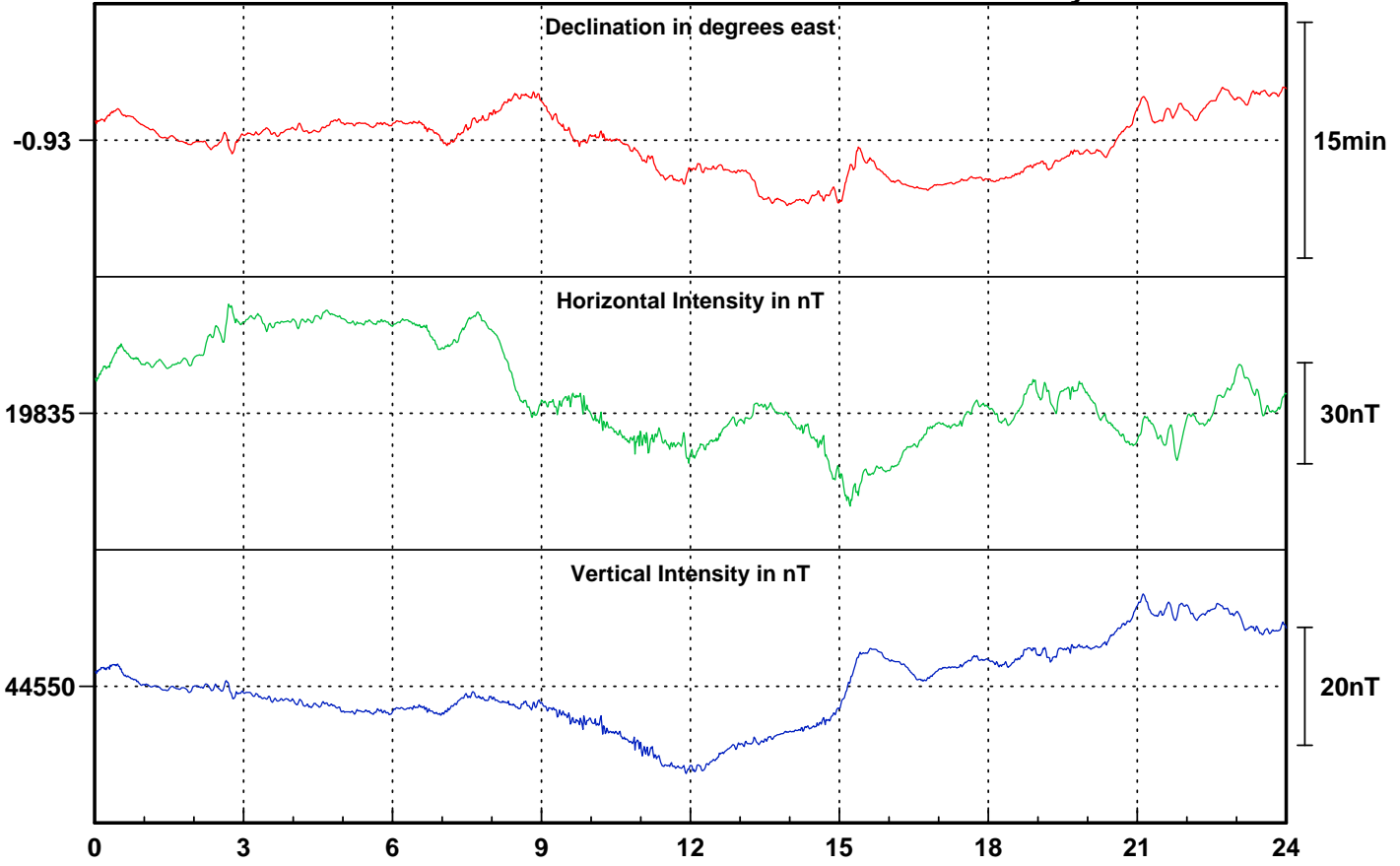
Day number: 265



Date: 23-09-2022

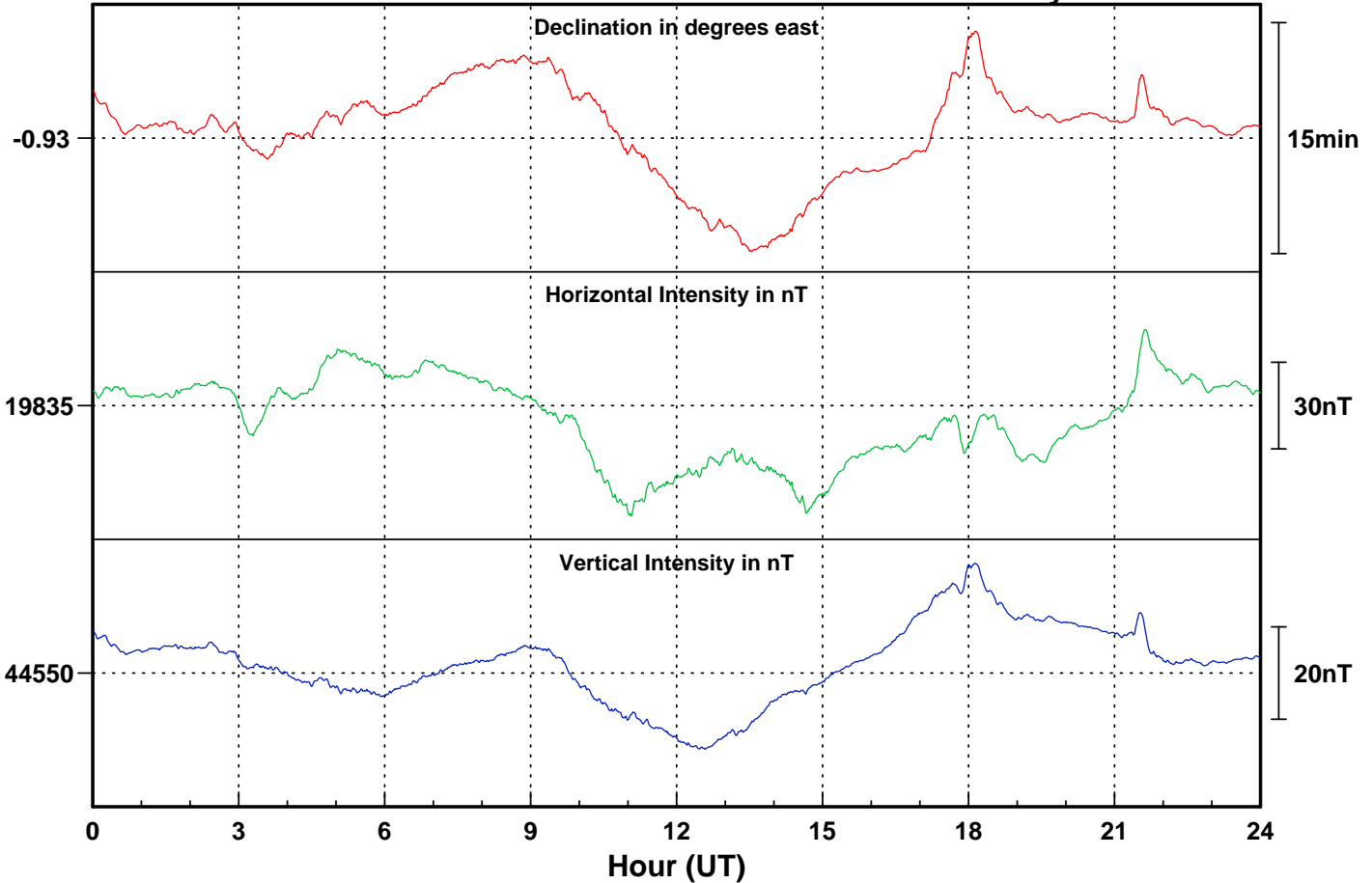
Hartland

Day number: 266



Date: 24-09-2022

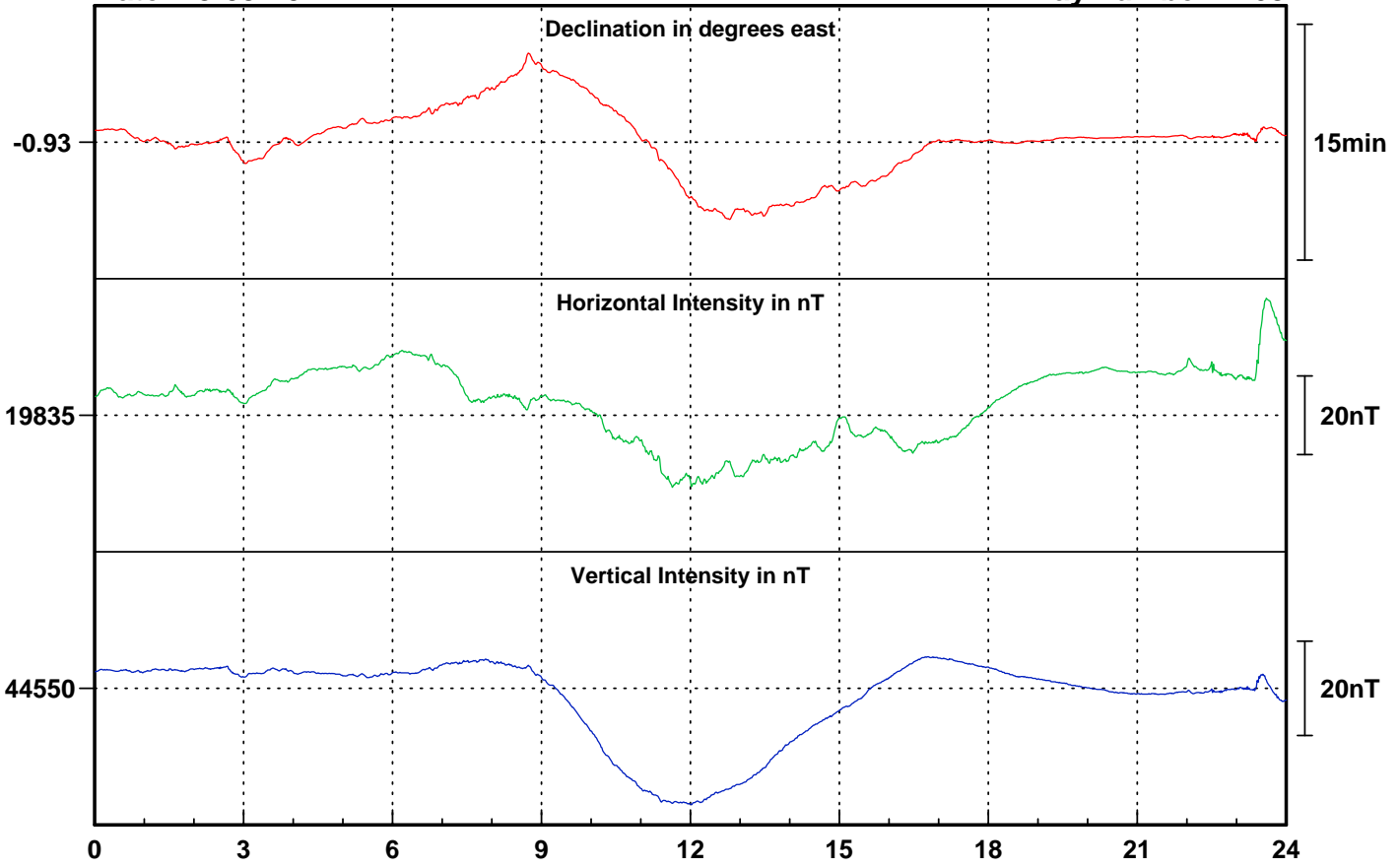
Day number: 267



Date: 25-09-2022

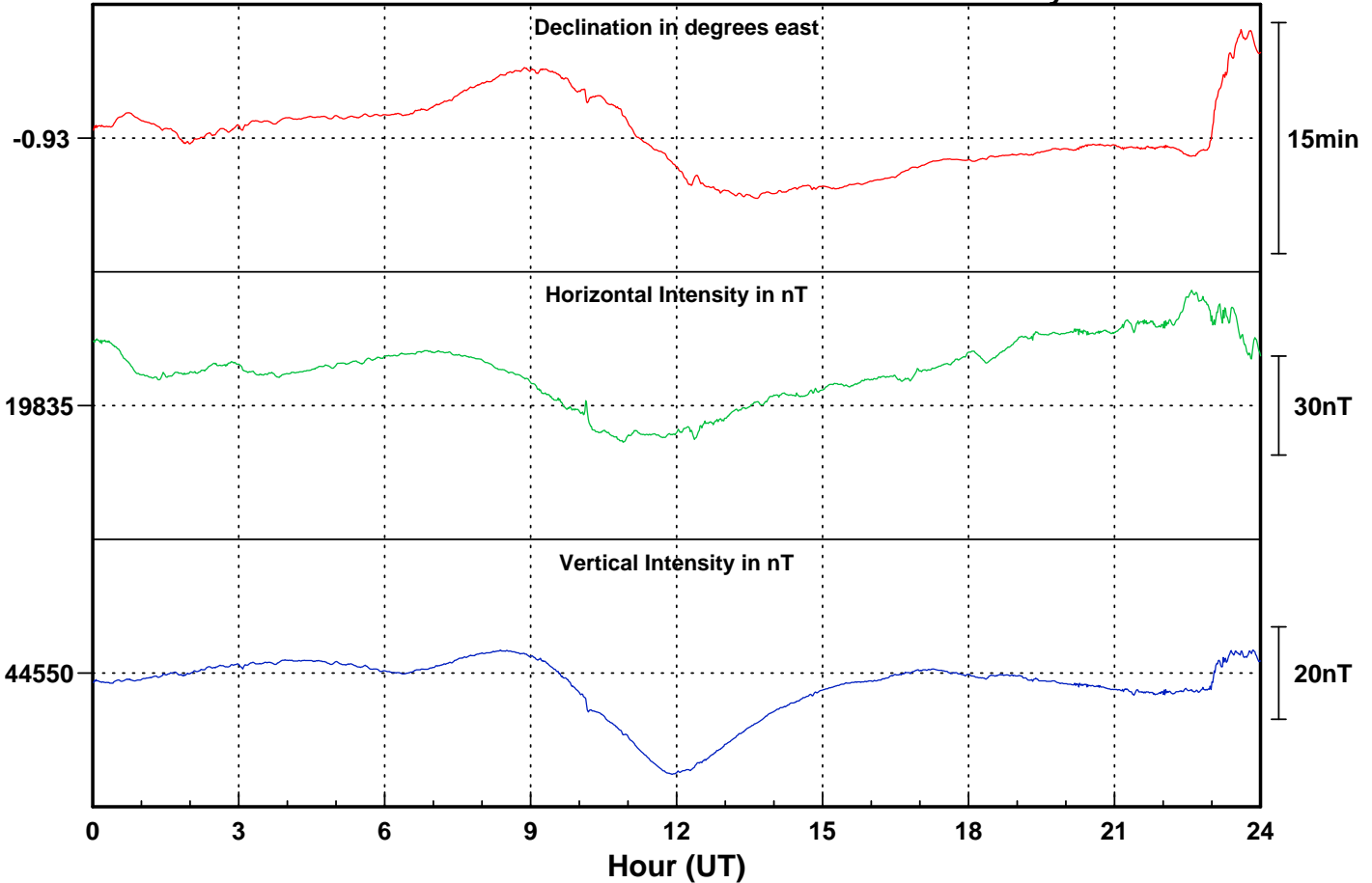
Hartland

Day number: 268



Date: 26-09-2022

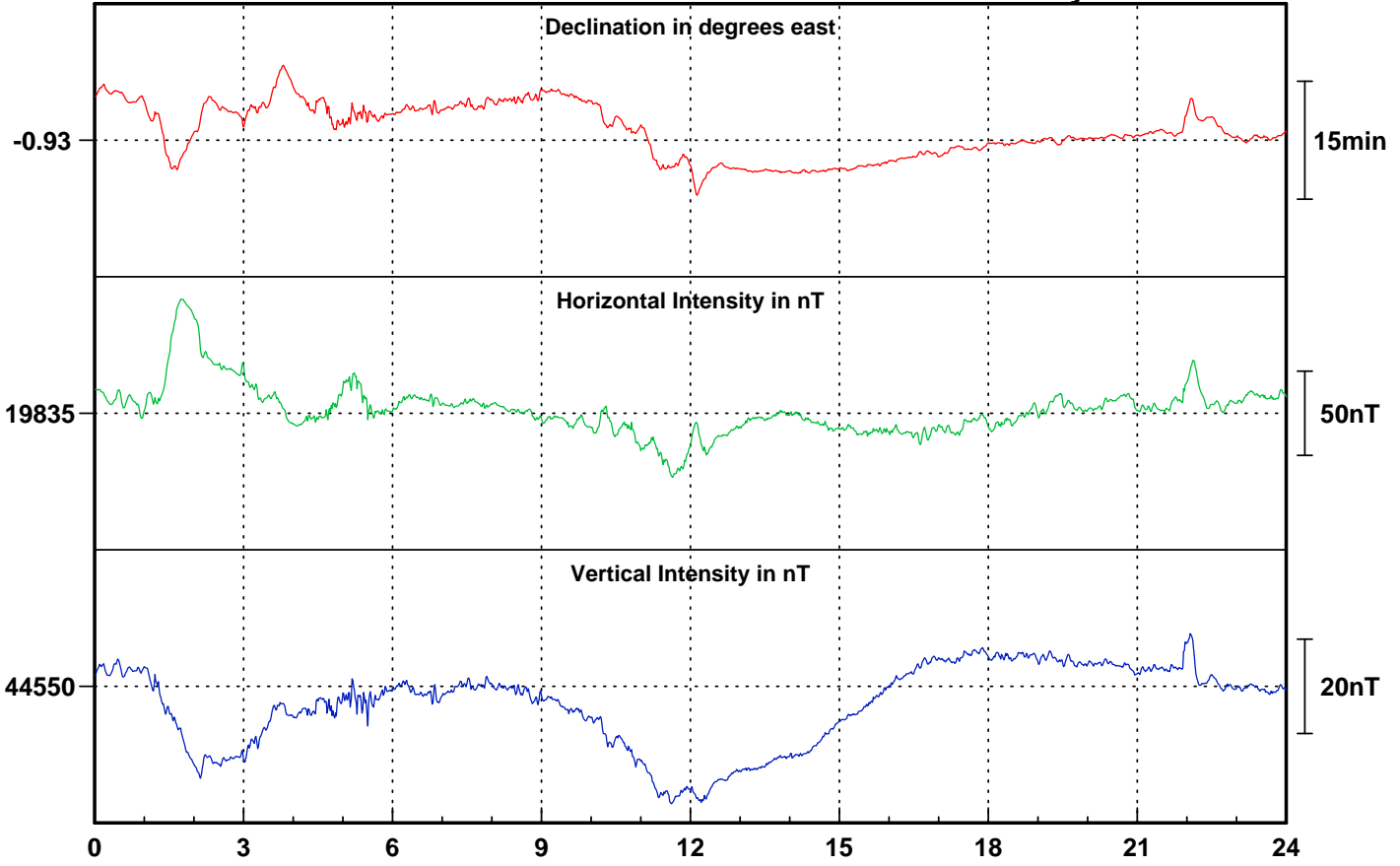
Day number: 269



Date: 27-09-2022

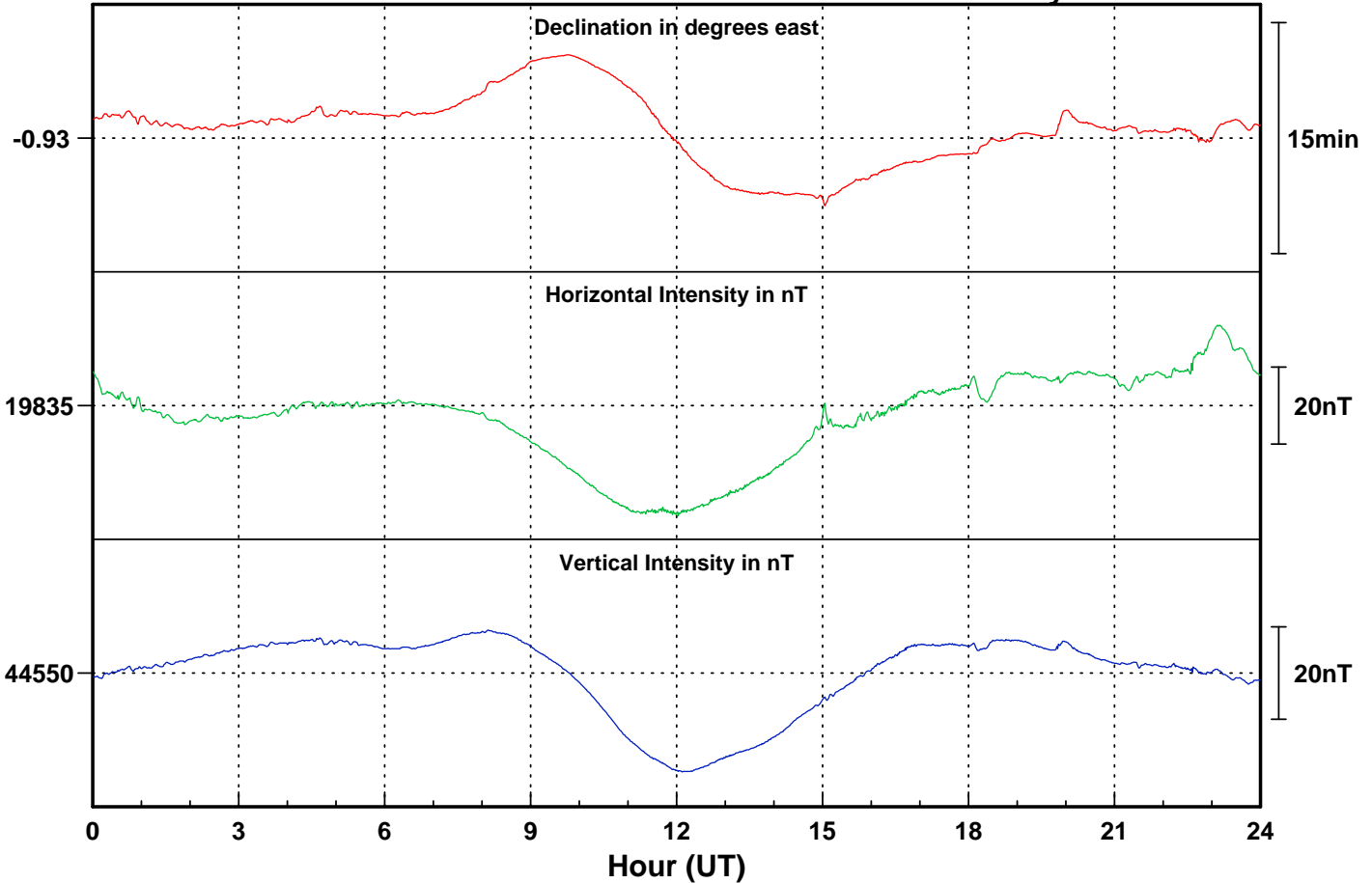
Hartland

Day number: 270



Date: 28-09-2022

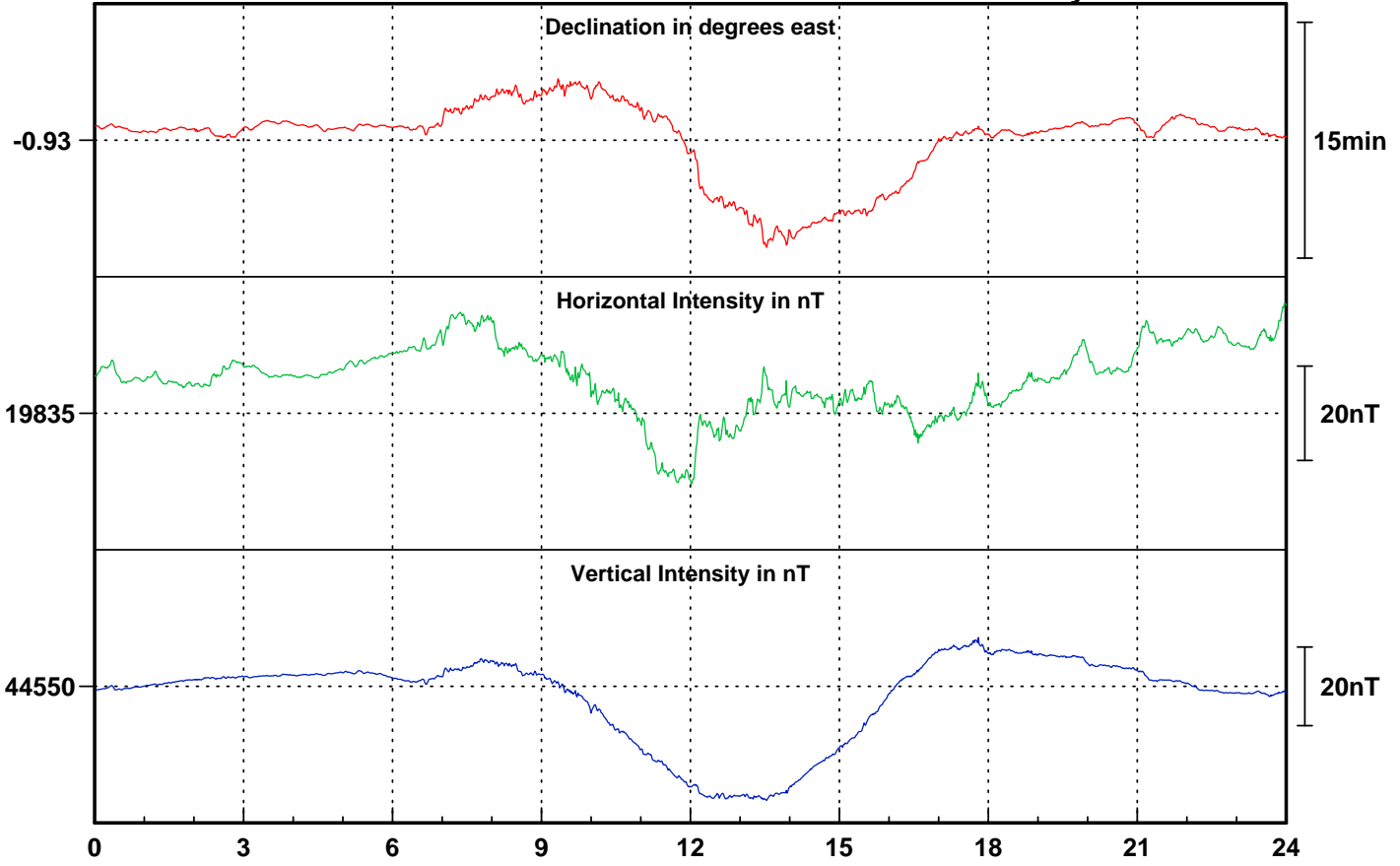
Day number: 271



Date: 29-09-2022

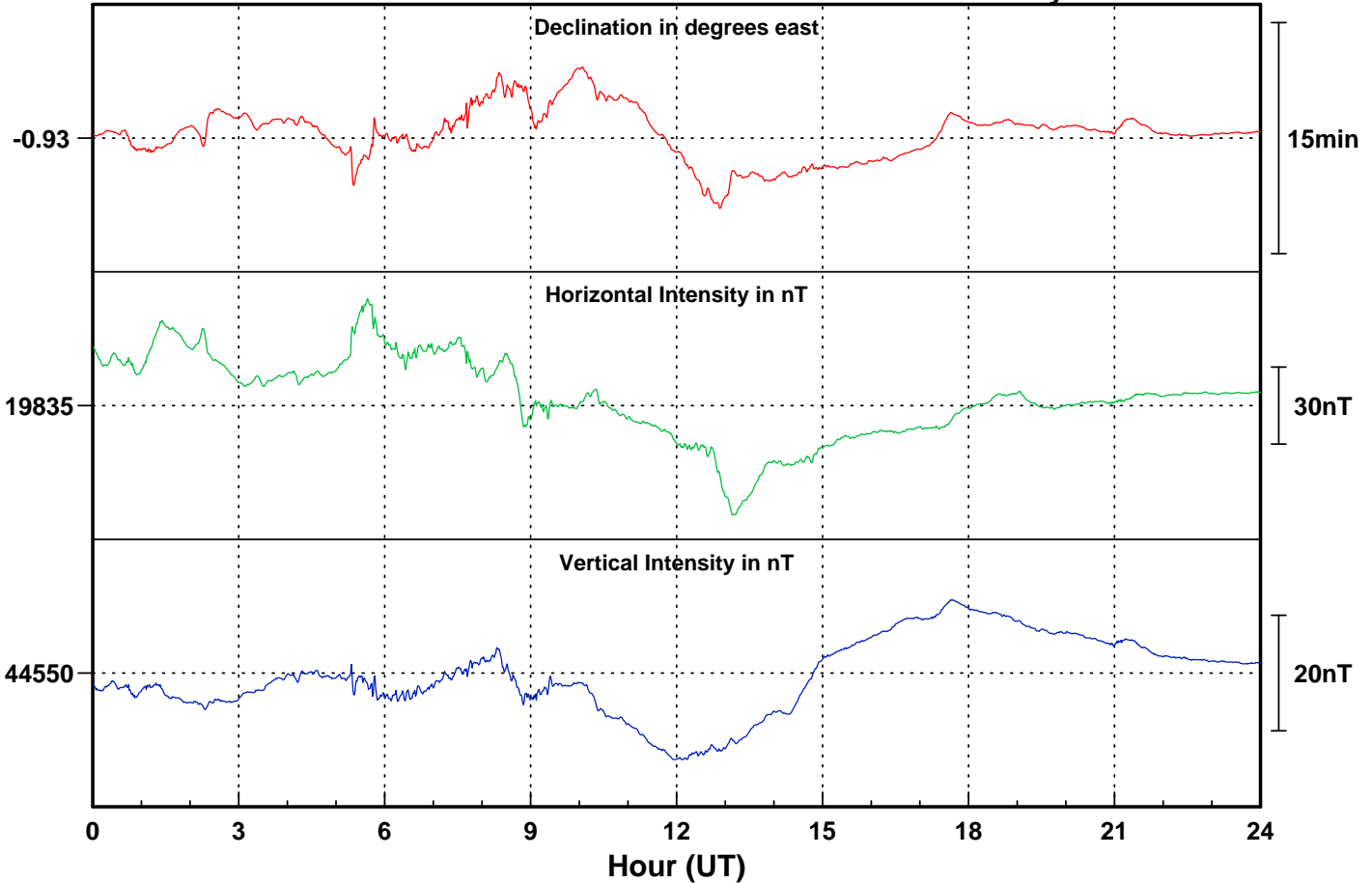
Hartland

Day number: 272

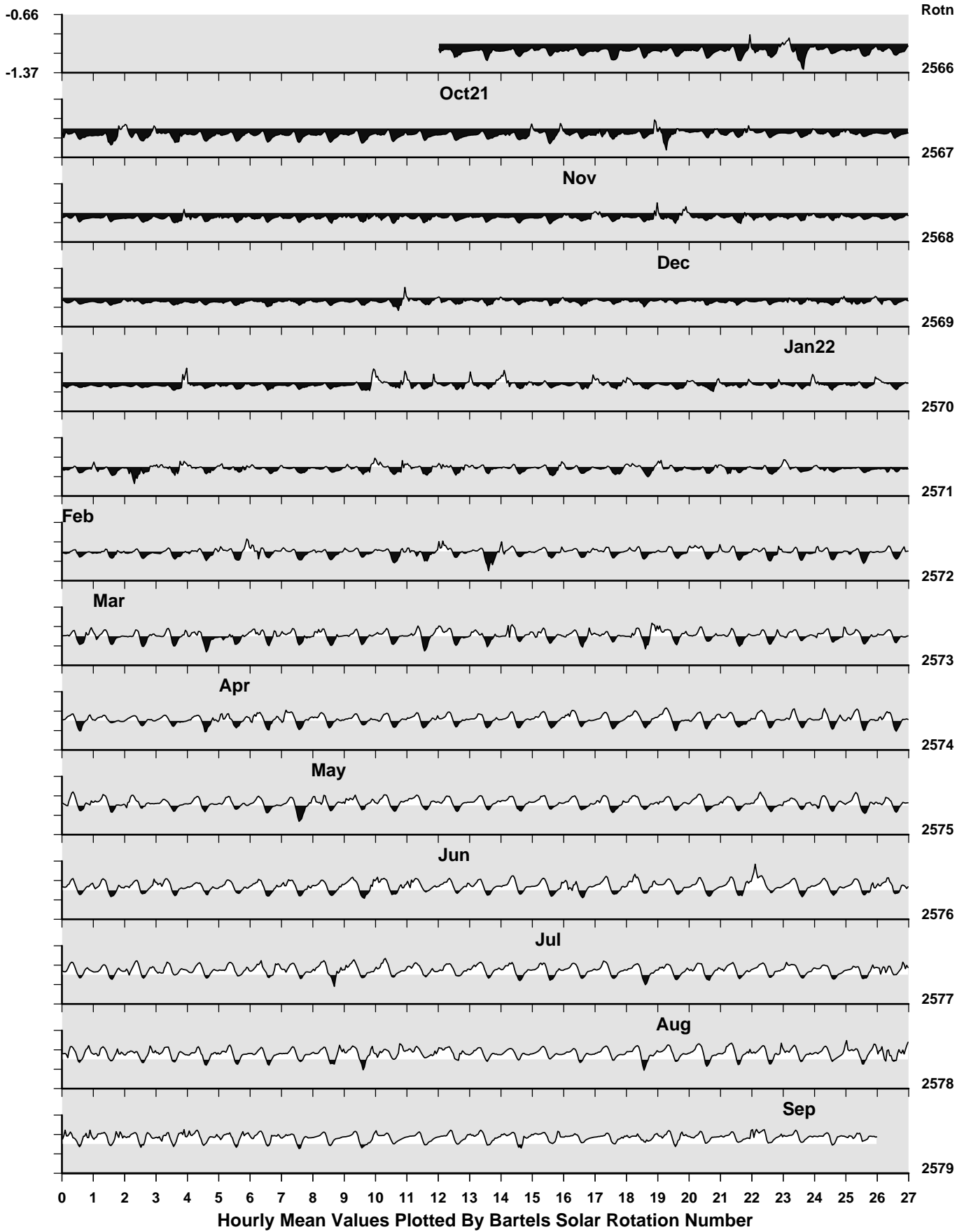


Date: 30-09-2022

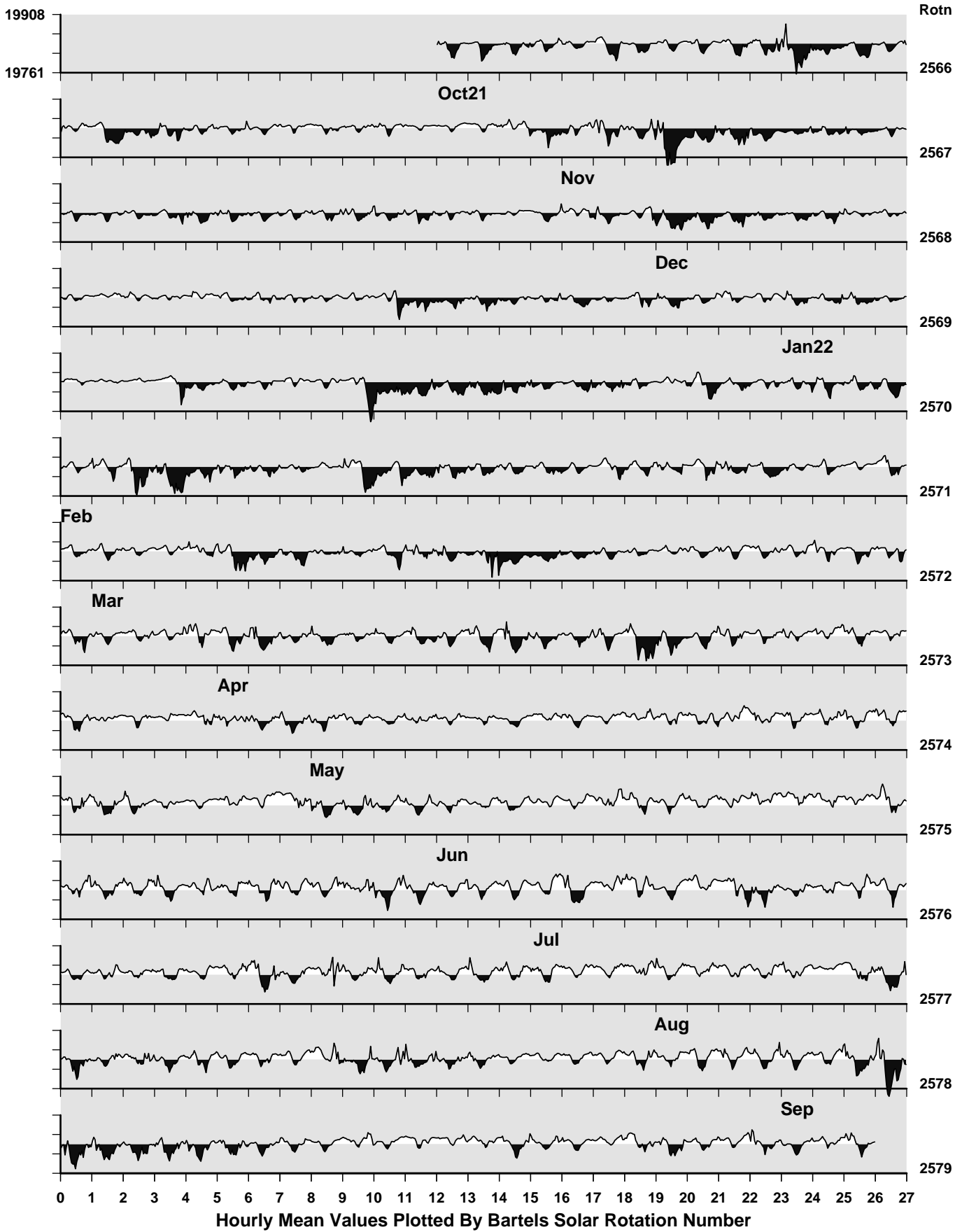
Day number: 273



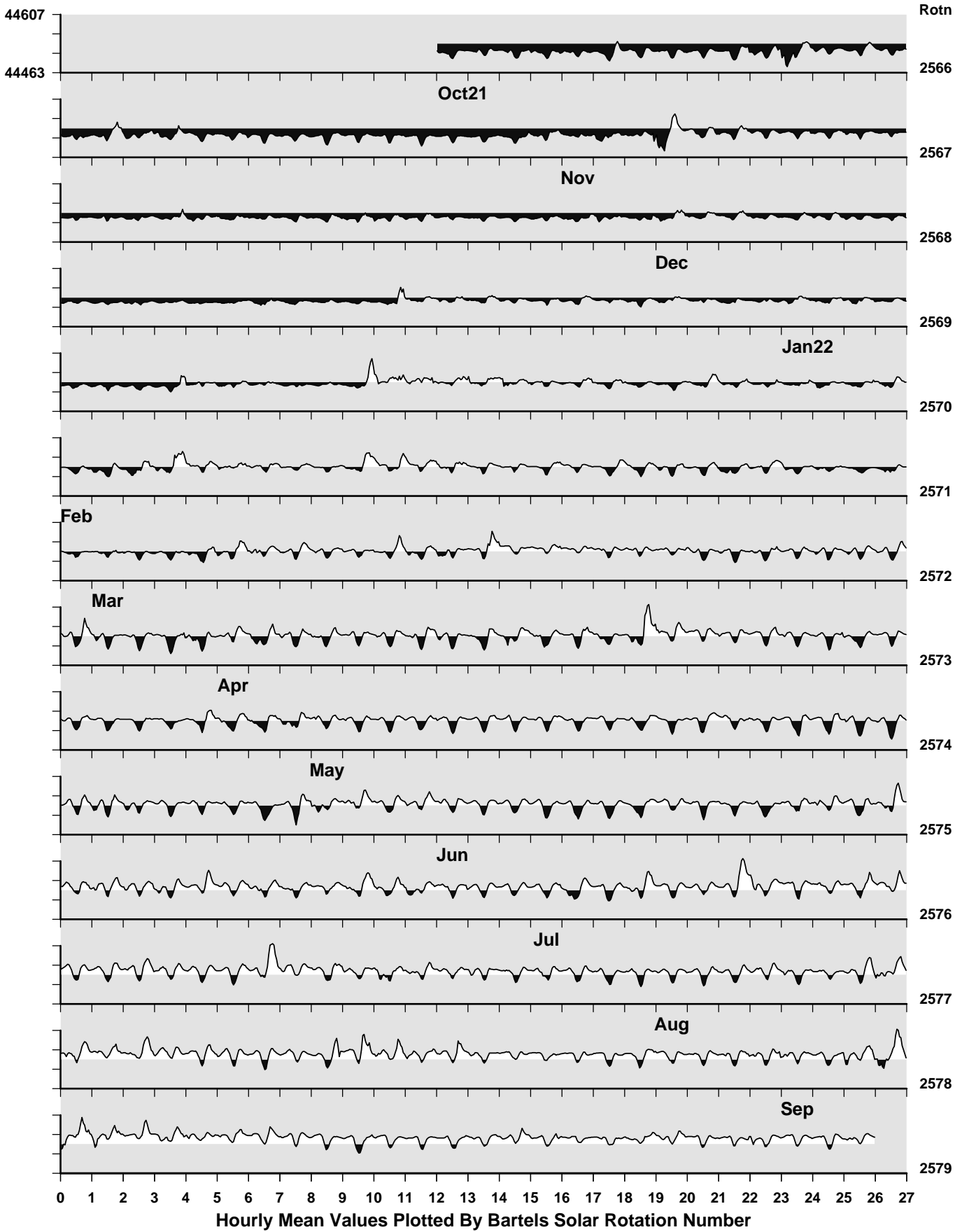
Hartland Observatory: Declination (degrees)



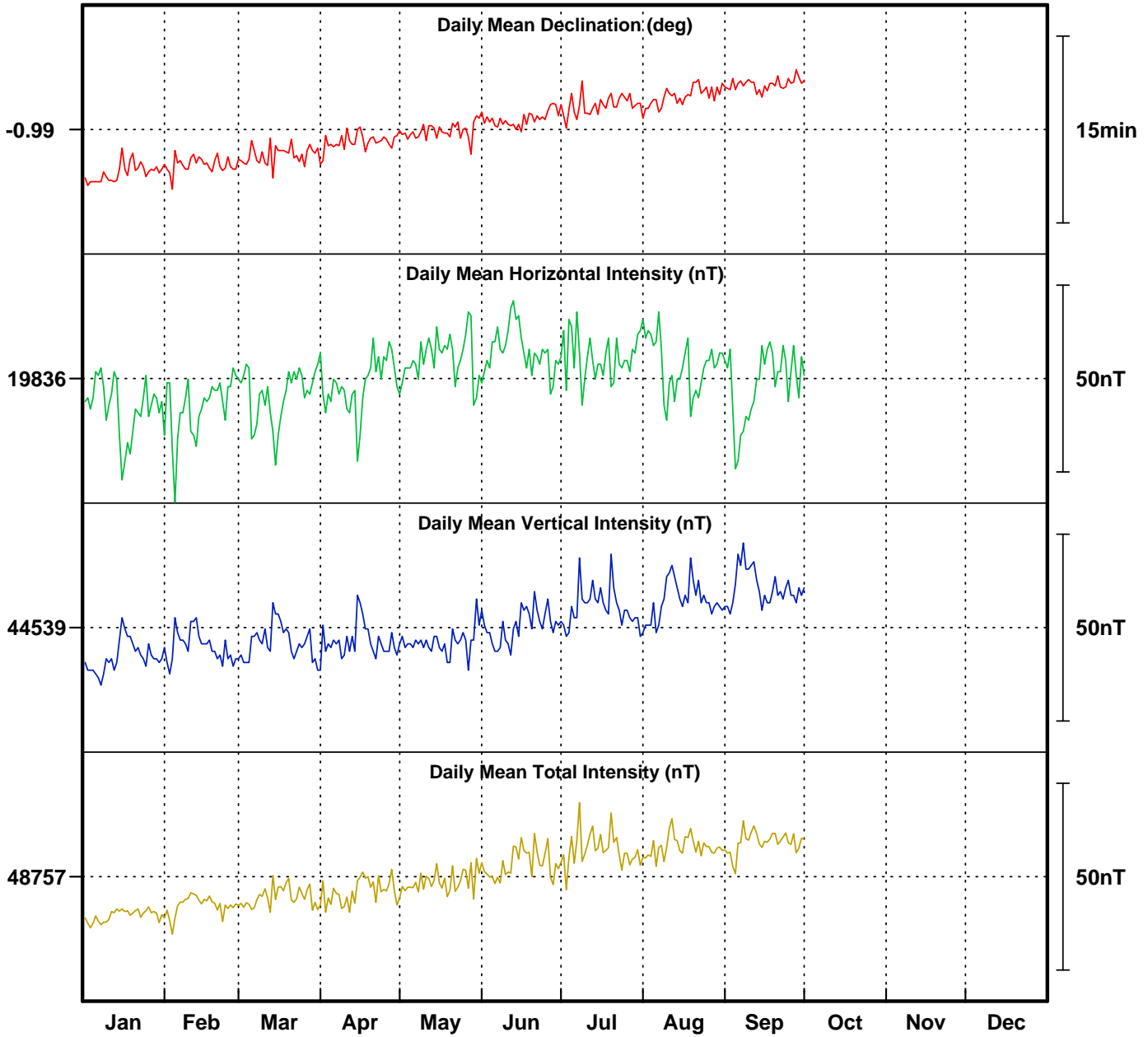
Hartland Observatory: Horizontal Intensity (nT)



Hartland Observatory: Vertical Intensity (nT)



Hartland Observatory 2022



Hartland rapid variations

SIs and SSCs

Date	Time (UT)	Type	Quality	H (nT)	D (min)	Z (nT)
02/09/2022	21:28	SSC	A	-21.6	0.61	-4.4
04/09/2022	15:17	SSC	A	39.4	6.41	21.7
20/09/2022	06:43	SSC*	B	-4.1	1.25	2.1

Notes:

An asterisk (*) indicates that the principal impulse was preceded by a smaller reversed impulse.

The quality of the event is classified as follows:

- A = very distinct
- B = fair, ordinary, but unmistakable
- C = doubtful

The amplitudes given are for the first chief movement of the event.

SFEs

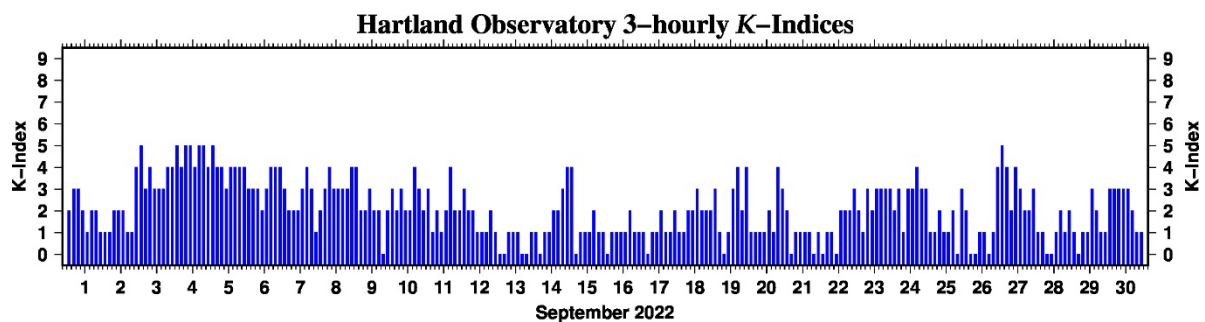
Date	Start	Universal Time Maximum	End	H (nT)	D (min)	Z (nT)
None						

Note:

The amplitudes given are for the first chief movement of the event.

Indices of geomagnetic activity

Day	K- INDICES FOR THREE-HOUR INTERVAL							
	00-03	03-06	06-09	09-12	12-15	15-18	18-21	21-24
1	2	3	3	2	1	2	2	1
2	1	1	2	2	2	1	1	4
3	5	3	4	3	3	3	4	4
4	5	4	5	5	4	5	5	4
5	5	4	4	3	4	4	4	4
6	3	3	3	2	3	4	4	4
7	3	2	2	2	3	4	3	1
8	2	3	4	3	3	3	3	4
9	4	2	2	3	2	2	0	2
10	3	2	3	2	2	4	3	2
11	3	1	2	1	2	4	2	2
12	3	2	2	1	1	1	2	1
13	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	1
14	1	0	1	1	2	2	3	4
15	4	0	1	1	1	2	1	1
16	0	1	1	1	1	2	1	1
17	1	0	1	1	2	1	1	2
18	1	1	2	2	3	2	2	2
19	3	1	0	1	3	4	2	4
20	1	1	1	1	2	1	4	3
21	2	0	1	1	1	1	0	1
22	0	1	1	0	2	2	2	3
23	2	1	3	2	3	3	3	3
24	2	3	1	3	3	4	3	3
25	1	1	2	1	1	2	0	3
26	2	0	0	1	1	0	1	4
27	5	4	2	4	3	2	2	3
28	1	1	0	0	1	2	1	2
29	1	0	1	1	3	2	1	1
30	3	3	3	3	3	2	1	1

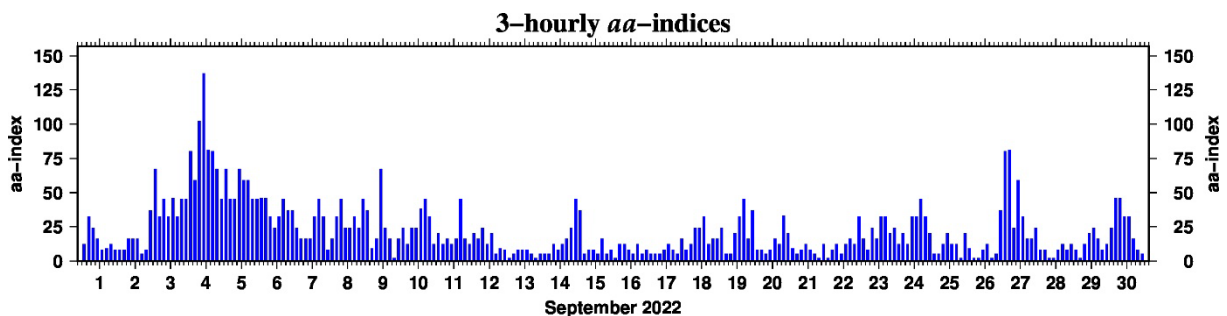


The aa Index

Date	Day	3-hourly aa-indices								Aa _{am}	Aa _{pm}	Aa
01/09/2022	244	12	32	24	16	8	9	12	8	21	9.2	15.1
02/09/2022	245	8	8	16	16	16	5	8	37	11.9	16.6	14.3
03/09/2022	246	67	32	45	32	46	32	45	45	44.1	42.2	43.1
04/09/2022	247	80	59	102	137	81	80	67	45	94.5	68.2	81.3
05/09/2022	248	67	45	45	67	59	59	45	45	56.2	52.2	54.2
06/09/2022	249	46	46	32	24	32	45	37	37	36.9	38	37.5
07/09/2022	250	24	16	16	16	32	45	32	8	18.1	29.4	23.7
08/09/2022	251	16	32	45	24	24	32	24	45	29.4	31.4	30.4
09/09/2022	252	37	9	16	67	24	16	2	16	32.5	14.7	23.6
10/09/2022	253	24	12	24	24	38	45	32	12	21	31.8	26.4
11/09/2022	254	20	12	16	12	16	45	16	12	15	22.4	18.7
12/09/2022	255	20	16	24	12	20	5	9	8	18	10.6	14.3
13/09/2022	256	2	5	8	8	8	5	2	5	5.8	5.1	5.5
14/09/2022	257	5	5	12	8	12	16	24	45	7.5	24.3	15.9
15/09/2022	258	37	5	8	8	5	16	5	8	14.5	8.5	11.5
16/09/2022	259	2	12	12	8	5	12	5	8	8.6	7.5	8
17/09/2022	260	5	5	5	8	12	8	5	16	5.8	10.2	8
18/09/2022	261	8	12	24	24	32	12	16	16	17.1	19	18.1
19/09/2022	262	24	5	5	20	32	45	16	37	13.6	32.7	23.2
20/09/2022	263	8	8	5	8	16	12	33	20	7.1	20.2	13.7
21/09/2022	264	9	5	8	12	8	5	2	12	8.5	6.8	7.7
22/09/2022	265	2	8	12	5	12	16	12	32	6.9	18	12.4
23/09/2022	266	16	8	24	16	32	32	20	24	16	27	21.5
24/09/2022	267	12	20	12	32	32	45	32	20	19	32.4	25.7
25/09/2022	268	5	5	12	20	12	12	2	20	10.6	11.6	11.1
26/09/2022	269	9	2	2	8	12	2	5	37	5.5	14.2	9.8
27/09/2022	270	80	81	24	59	32	16	16	24	61	22.1	41.5
28/09/2022	271	8	8	2	2	8	12	8	12	5.1	9.9	7.5
29/09/2022	272	8	2	12	20	24	16	8	12	10.6	15	12.8
30/09/2022	273	24	46	46	32	32	16	8	5	36.9	15.3	26.1
Monthly Mean Value											22.1	

Notes

- i. The units of the aa index are nT.
- ii. The 3-hour aa values are rounded to the nearest integer. Where aa = *.5, aa is rounded down.
- iii. Daily values (Aa_{am}, Aa_{pm} and Aa) are computed from aa values of original resolution.
- iv. The monthly mean value is computed from the daily mean values, Aa.
- v. Definitive aa indices are derived and published by the International Service for Geomagnetic Indices.



Monthly mean values for Hartland Observatory 2022

Month	<i>D</i>	<i>H</i>	<i>I</i>	<i>X</i>	<i>Y</i>	<i>Z</i>	<i>F</i>
January	-1° 3.0′	19828 nT	65° 59.9′	19825 nT	-363 nT	44532 nT	48746 nT
February	-1° 2.3′	19829 nT	65° 59.9′	19826 nT	-359 nT	44534 nT	48749 nT
March	-1° 1.6′	19832 nT	65° 59.8′	19829 nT	-355 nT	44535 nT	48751 nT
April	-1° 0.4′	19834 nT	65° 59.6′	19831 nT	-349 nT	44536 nT	48753 nT
May	-0° 59.6′	19842 nT	65° 59.2′	19839 nT	-344 nT	44536 nT	48756 nT
June	-0° 58.6′	19844 nT	65° 59.1′	19841 nT	-338 nT	44540 nT	48760 nT
July	-0° 57.6′	19842 nT	65° 59.4′	19839 nT	-332 nT	44545 nT	48764 nT
August	-0° 56.8′	19839 nT	65° 59.6′	19837 nT	-328 nT	44547 nT	48765 nT
September	-0° 55.9′	19835 nT	66° 0.0′	19832 nT	-322 nT	44550 nT	48766 nT

Note:

i. The values shown here are provisional.