

Planetary Observation Archive Project

10 December 2022

Planets image Archive team, ALPO-J

Summary

Our project welcomes and applies your observational image data.

Time should be indicated in UT (universal time).

Necessary data such as time, location, name of observer, telescope, camera, filter, physical parameter and etc. should be indicated in the margin of images as rasterized characters.

We are all waiting for your successful planet images.

Introduction

The Association of Lunar and Planetary Observers of Japan (hereafter referred to as ALPO-J) accepts reports on observation results that contribute to scientific research on the planets. Reports deemed appropriate will be posted on the ALPO-J website.

The reporters can be of any nationality, member or non-member. Reported digital images, drawings, strip sketches, maps, drift charts, etc. are saved chronologically according to target and quickly published on the website.

The data is open to the public on the premise that it will be used not only by ALPO-J but also by amateur and professional researchers around the world for scientific research and educational purposes.

Our Web Site has earned a worldwide reputation for contributing to the rapid disclosure of information.

Our policy regarding acceptance and disclosure of observation results is as follows. We welcome reports from those who agree with the purpose.

*Role Assignee of ALPO-J

Chairperson: Isshi Tabe

Staffs

Jupiter Section Leader: Kuniaki Horikawa

Mars Section Leader: Makoto Adachi

Web page Supervisor men: Hiroaki Akutsu and S. Yoneyama

Web page Staff (Jupiter section): S. Suzuki and S. Yoneyama

Web page Staff (Other than Jupiter): S. Yoneyama

Liaison with reporters outside Japan: M. Nagase

***Limited to planetary observation data by the reporter.**

About images of satellites, we will limit the purpose to physical observation of surface features. Images intended to record satellites position are not accepted.

*Although the copyright of the report data belongs to the reporter, individual data posted on the website may be used for research and educational purposes, or for non-profit and sensible purposes, unless there is a clear indication that "unauthorized use is prohibited."

Reporting guidelines

1. Basic regulation

Posting regulations are almost the same as those of reporting sites around the world, PVOL, BAA, SAF, ALPO-US, etc., so it is possible to report in common.

Registration or other procedures aren't required to post on our site.

E-mail address for posting: alpo-obs"at-mark"alpo-j.sakura.ne.jp ("at-mark" ="@")

2. About images of the planets

JPG or PNG (8 bit recommended) is acceptable. *Also, please use one of the formats.*

Images from special rare formats are not accepted.

There are no restrictions on the size of the image, but it is recommended that the diameter of the planet is 800 pixels or less.

Larger image files may be uploaded resized in order to save the server space.

It may help to display the image appropriately on PC monitor.

It is highly recommended summarize multiple images into one image file.

One email report is recommended for one planet in one day only.

Also, it is recommended to include the "Planet Date (yymmdd) _ Name of observer" in the reported file name. If there are multiple reported images on the same observation date, please add a serial number.

For example: "mars_220911_My name_01.jpg " is very useful for research and analysis. Please avoid including both two or more other image formats in one report.

A JPG compression ratio of 85% or higher is recommended.

Video clips will be accepted by special cases such as impact flash or equivalent phenomena. If you made a special report of the sequence in a video clip, we accept only GIF animation.

It is up to each observer how to set the north and south of the image, but the east and west should be set horizontally.

Images that have undergone over enhancement or excessive noise reduction that will detect nonexistent features are not desirable.

3. Data

The data that should be rasterized and written in the image is as follows.

3-1 Essential

Indicating both the name of the observer and observational time are essential needs.

The images with no name and time can NOT be accepted.

About the other information attached to each observational report as below, including whether or not to include it, is left to the individual judgment of the observer.

3-2 Name of observer

The name of the observer is the most important data. Please be sure to include your legal name.

3-3 Location

It is necessary to describe the observation site. Knowing the country name, city name, and time difference will increase the chances of correcting a mistyped time. A location is the place where you observed, not your own postal address.

3-4 Time

Please write the observation time in Universal Time (UT) in YYYY-MM-DD.

The creation time of the video file written by the PC at the time of observation may not be appropriate as the observation time.

As long as you're using "Fire Capture", the middle time of capture will automatically appear. The time of the file that serves as the starting point of the stack is appropriate. For images generated from videos that are less than 1 minute long, the file generation time can be substituted.

3-5 telescope and camera

Please enter information such as the specifications of the astronomical telescope and manufacturer and model of imaging camera used for observation, as well as the composed focal length and magnification method.

3-6 meteorological condition

Please describe sky transparency, seeing, and other noteworthy items as observation conditions.

3-7 filter

Please describe the filter (band) used for observation. For bandpass filters, it is desirable that the center wavelength and full width at half maximum FWHM are stated. You can also substitute the manufacturer name and model number.

4. Physical Parameters

The following are planet specific physical parameters. Data can be obtained from Win-JUPOS.

For Mars, enter the Central Meridian Longitude, ecliptic longitude (Ls), De and Ds, phase angle, and apparent diameter.

For Jupiter, enter the Center Meridian Longitude of the illuminated disk of system 1, 2, and 3. Win-JUPOS displays the Center Meridian Longitude of the illuminated disk.

For Saturn, enter the Center Meridian Longitudes of systems 1, 2, and 3. The IAU doesn't define System2, but you can easily get the value from Win-JUPOS. Physical parameters of the planet, such as illuminated fraction (k) or phase angle(i), latitude of subsolar point (Ds), latitude directly below the Earth (De), solar elongation, etc., may be useful for research if data are provided.

Enjoy your observation. Looking forward to reports from around the world.