

Title: A confidence index for the forecasting of the meteor showers

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Abstract:

Since the work of McNaught & Asher (1999) the forecasting of the meteor showers are made possible with several degrees of confidence. When the shower is caused by an isolated well identified trail ejected by a well known comet from which the orbit is well known, the results are amazingly accurate in terms of timing. The level of the shower is still today a challenge and is partly linked to our ignorance of the activity of the comets in the past. The forecasting of meteor showers is less accurate for poorly known comets, or previously unobserved encounter between a planet and a specific trail. In this work, an index is created to provide astronomers with an idea of how the forecasting were performed and as a consequence, how confident one can be regarding the results.