

Paleomagnetism and global plate kinematics: reliability assessments and promising possibilities to augment the database

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Abstract: It has long been recognized that combining paleomagnetic results from different continents increases the reliability and the usefulness of the resulting apparent polar wander path (APWP). The more continental elements that can be included in a merged compilation, the better the outcome, with as desirable end member a truly global APWP (GAPWaP). Given the increasing density of paleopoles used for building a GAPWaP, we find that commensurately we can be more strict regarding reliability criteria. In this talk, I will address ways of increasing the reliability of the ages of the paleomagnetic data, especially where it concerns hitherto undated and undatable remagnetizations.