

SPACE WEATHER INTRODUCTORY COURSE



Collaboration of



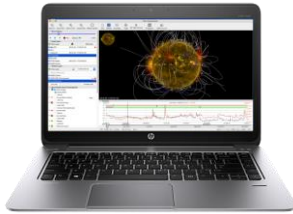
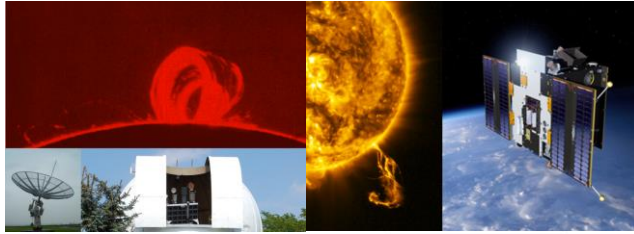
Solar-Terrestrial Centre of Excellence



Koninklijke luchtmacht



Koninklijk Nederlands
Meteorologisch Instituut
Ministerie van Infrastructuur en Milieu



Sensors & measurements

Jan Janssens, Dr Christophe Marqué



H-alpha picture: https://www.windows2universe.org/spaceweather/ESF_loop.html (NSO/Sacramento Peak)



Contents



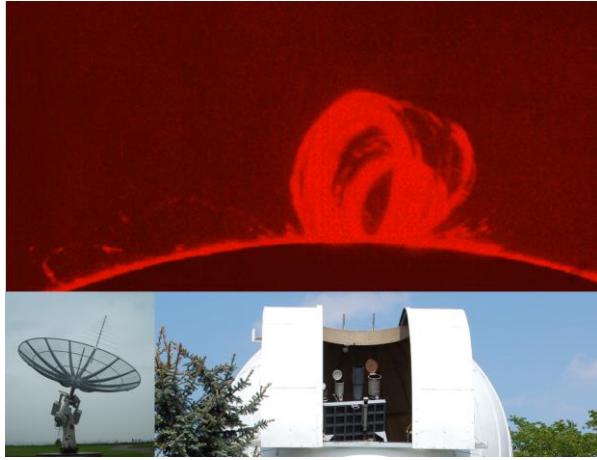
- **Groundbased sensors**

- Visible light
- Radio domain
 - Humain
- Magnetosphere-Ionosphere
- Geomagnetism
- Neutron monitors
 - Dourbes

- **Spacebased sensors**

- GOES
- SDO
- PROBA2
- SOHO
- ACE
- DSCOVR
- STEREO





Groundbased sensors

Jan Janssens, Dr Christophe Marqué



H-alpha picture: https://www.windows2universe.org/spaceweather/ESF_loop.html (NSO/Sacramento Peak)



Visible light

- GONG Network
 - White Light (WL)
 - H-alpha ($H\alpha$)
 - Magnetogram
- SILSO
 - Sunspot number (Sn)
 - USET
 - WL, $H\alpha$, CaIIK
 - 250 obs. days / year
- Catania
- NOAA / SOON

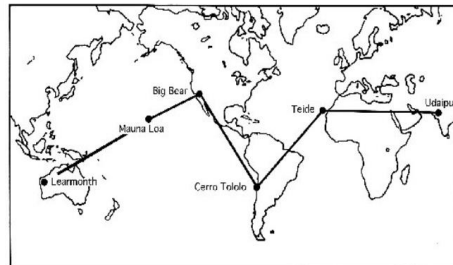
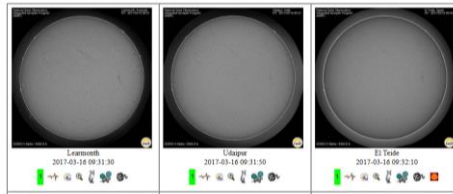
Global Oscillation Network Group

H Alpha Network Monitor



Views: Main All Metrics Archive Dashboard History

Main View



GONG: Global Oscillation Network Group (<http://gong.nso.edu/>)

<https://gong2.nso.edu/products/mainView/table.php?configFile=configs/mainView.cfg>

Originally developed to study solar oscillations

6 observing stations worldwide observing the Sun 24/7

The six sites comprising the GONG Network are:

The Big Bear Solar Observatory in California, USA.

The High Altitude Observatory at Mauna Loa in Hawaii, USA.

The Learmonth Solar Observatory in Western Australia.

The Udaipur Solar Observatory in India.

The Observatorio del Teide in the Canary Islands.

The Cerro Tololo Interamerican Observatory in Chile.

Links

H-alpha: <https://gong2.nso.edu/products/tableView/table.php?configFile=configs/hAlpha.cfg>

White Light:

<https://gong2.nso.edu/products/tableView/table.php?configFile=configs/averageIntensity10min.cfg>

Magnetogram:

<https://gong2.nso.edu/products/tableView/table.php?configFile=configs/averageMagnetogram10min.cfg>



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The image shows two screenshots of solar observation websites. The top screenshot is the SILSO (Sunspot Index and Long-term Solar Observations) website. It features a navigation menu with links to Home, Data, Products, Analyses, FAQ & NEWS, Observers, and Contact. The main content area displays a 'Sunspot number series: latest update' graph showing the international sunspot number from 2000 to 2022. The graph includes data for the current year (2022) and forecasts. A 'Latest Sunspot Bulletin' section is also visible. The bottom screenshot is the USET (Uccle Solar Equatorial Table) website. It has a navigation menu with links to Image Gallery, Movies, and Technical Data. The main content area shows 'Latest images' for White-light, Latest Drawing, H-alpha, and Ca-IIK, each with a corresponding solar image and a timestamp.

Links

SILSO: <https://www.sidc.be/silso/> (Sunspot Index and Long-term Solar Observations)

USET: <https://www.sidc.be/uset/> (Uccle Solar Equatorial Table)

Catania: <http://web.ct.astro.it/sun/draw.jpg>

Catania and NOAA data are used as input for SIDC SWx forecasting

From the solar event listing at <ftp://ftp.swpc.noaa.gov/pub/indices/events/README>

Obs - The reporting observatory.

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Events from GOES satellites data show the SWPC Primary or Secondary GOES spacecraft for the observatory, e.g. G12

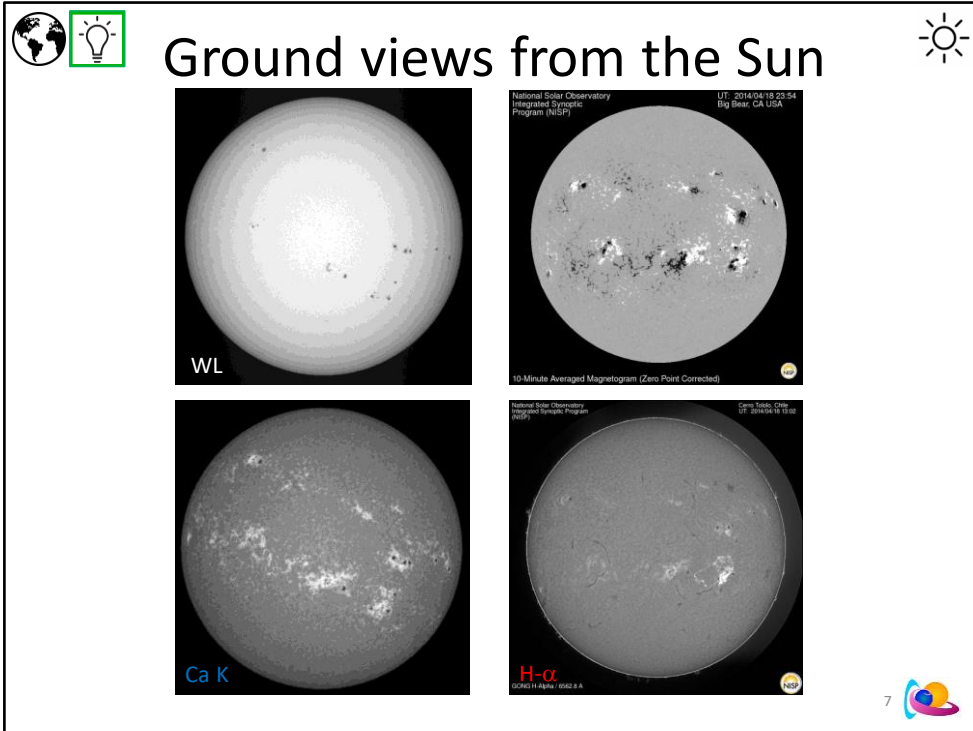
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The SOON observatories are operated by detachments of AFWA's 2nd Weather Group at the following sites: RAAF Learmonth, Western Australia, Australia

Holloman AFB, New Mexico, USA

San Vito dei Normanni Air Station, San Vito dei Normanni, Italy (contractor-run site)

Telescopes at Palehua, Hawaii and Ramey Air Force Base, Puerto Rico have been shut down.



Links

USET: <https://www.sidc.be/uset/> (Uccle Solar Equatorial Table)
 NSO GONG Magnetograms: <https://gong2.nso.edu/products/tableView/table.php?configFile=configs/averageMagnetogram10min.cfg>
 NSO GONG H-alpha: <https://gong2.nso.edu/products/tableView/table.php?configFile=configs/hAlpha.cfg>

Top left: USET: white light (rotated)
 Top right: GONG: magnetogram
 Bottom right: GONG: H-alpha (Hydrogen alpha ; 656.3 nm)
 Bottom left: USET: Ca K (Calcium K ; 393.4 nm) – (rotated)

White Light: sunspots
 Magnetogram: magnetic properties of sunspot groups and whole disk
 H-alpha: filaments/prominences, flares
 Ca K: plages (solar radiation)

NOAA/SWPC glossary at <https://www.swpc.noaa.gov/content/space-weather-glossary>

Sunspot: An area seen as a dark spot, in contrast with its surroundings, on the photosphere of the Sun. Sunspots are concentrations of magnetic flux, typically occurring in bipolar clusters or groups. They appear dark because they are cooler than the surrounding photosphere. Larger and darker sunspots sometimes are surrounded (completely or partially) by penumbrae. The dark centers are umbrae. The smallest, immature spots are sometimes called pores.

Filaments/Prominences: A mass of gas suspended over the chromosphere by magnetic fields and seen as dark ribbons threaded over the solar disk. A filament on the limb of the Sun seen in emission against the dark sky is called a prominence.

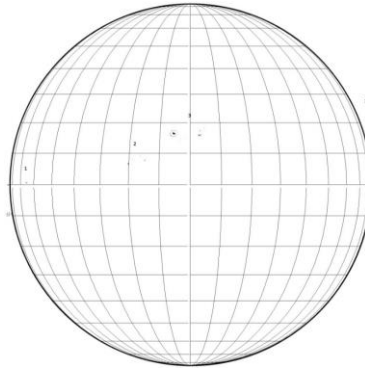
Plages: A brighter, hotter patch in the Sun's chromosphere, visible in H-alpha light and the calcium K line. Plages are the chromospheric equivalent of faculae on the photosphere, as can be seen when an active region is near the limb. Faculae have a strong influence on the solar constant, and the more readily detectable (because chromospheric) plage areas traditionally are used to monitor this influence.

Also good explanations at NASA/MSFC: <https://solarscience.msfc.nasa.gov/feature2.shtml> and at <https://astronomyconnect.com/forums/articles/7-observing-the-sun-in-ca-k-ca-h-and-other-narrow-bandwidths.38/>



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INAF - CATANIA OSSERVATORIO ASTRONOMICCO
SUNSPOT OBSERVATIONS (S1)

| Year | Month | Day | Hour | min | S | W | B | U |
|------|-------|-----|------|-----|----|----|----|----|
| 2017 | 01 | 01 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 |
| 2017 | 01 | 02 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 |
| 2017 | 01 | 03 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 |
| 2017 | 01 | 04 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 |
| 2017 | 01 | 05 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 |
| 2017 | 01 | 06 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 |
| 2017 | 01 | 07 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 |
| 2017 | 01 | 08 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 |
| 2017 | 01 | 09 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 |
| 2017 | 01 | 10 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 |
| 2017 | 01 | 11 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 |
| 2017 | 01 | 12 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 |
| 2017 | 01 | 13 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 |
| 2017 | 01 | 14 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 |
| 2017 | 01 | 15 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 |
| 2017 | 01 | 16 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 |
| 2017 | 01 | 17 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 |
| 2017 | 01 | 18 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 |
| 2017 | 01 | 19 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 |
| 2017 | 01 | 20 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 |
| 2017 | 01 | 21 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 |
| 2017 | 01 | 22 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 |
| 2017 | 01 | 23 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 |
| 2017 | 01 | 24 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 |
| 2017 | 01 | 25 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 |
| 2017 | 01 | 26 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 |
| 2017 | 01 | 27 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 |
| 2017 | 01 | 28 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 |
| 2017 | 01 | 29 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 |

| Catania info (Last update: 2017-Jan-24) | | | | | NOAA info (Last update: 2017-Jan-24) | | | | | Probabilities for | | | | |
|---|------|-------|--------|-----------|--------------------------------------|--------|------------|-----------|-----------|-------------------|---------|---------|---------|--------|
| Number | area | mspot | Zurich | Longitude | Latitude | Number | Macintosh | Mag. type | Longitude | Latitude | C flare | M flare | X flare | Proton |
| 79 | 1 | 2 | A | 66.0 | 7.0 | 2626 | H α | Alpha | 43.0 | 0.0 | [...] | [...] | [...] | [...] |
| 80 | 3 | 7 | C | 16.0 | 6.0 | 2627 | Dal | Beta | 12.0 | 6.0 | [...] | [...] | [...] | [...] |
| 81 | 19 | 14 | D | -2.0 | 12.0 | 2628 | Dis | Beta | -7.0 | 12.0 | [...] | [...] | [...] | [...] |



Links




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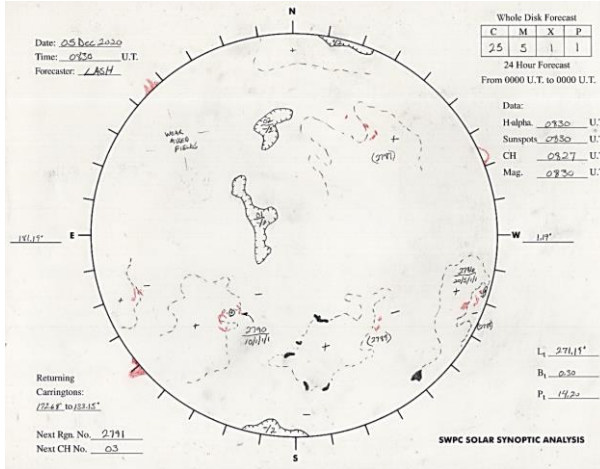
Catania solar observations: <http://ssa.oact.inaf.it/oact/index.html>

Catania and NOAA data are used as input for SIDC SWx forecasting

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- NOAA / SOON
 - National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
 - Solar Observing Optical Network



Date: 05 Dec 2020
Time: 0750 U.T.
Forecaster: LASH

Whole Disk Forecast

| C | M | X | P |
|----|---|---|---|
| 25 | 5 | 1 | 1 |


24 Hour Forecast
From 0000 U.T. to 0000 U.T.

Date: _____ U.T.
H-alpha: 0730 U.T.
Sunspots: 0730 U.T.
CH: 0927 U.T.
Mag: 0930 U.T.

Returning Carringtons: 1248 to 1315
Next Rgn. No. 2711
Next CH No. 05

SWPC SOLAR SYNOPSIS ANALYSIS

I₁ 2711
B₁ 030
P₁ 1420

9 

From the solar event listing at <ftp://ftp.swpc.noaa.gov/pub/indices/events/README>

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Telescopes at Palehua, Hawaii and Ramey Air Force Base, Puerto Rico have been shut down.

ISOON: <https://nso.edu/telescopes/legacy-telescopes/>

The planned **Improved Solar Observing Optical Network (ISOON)** was intended to replace the current SOON network. As of 2012, ISOON only exists at a single pilot site on Kirtland Air Force Base. *Images will be available when the telescope is working again.*

Giersch et al. (2018) - Reanalysis of Solar Observing Optical Network Sunspot Areas

<https://ui.adsabs.harvard.edu/abs/2018SoPh..293..138G/abstract>

SOON began operations in the mid-1970s with four sites (Holloman, New Mexico, USA; Ramey, Puerto Rico; Learmonth, Western Australia; and Palehua, Hawaii, USA) operating by 1980. In 1987, San Vito, Italy, became operational. ... In 1996, the Palehua SOON equipment was returned to the National Solar Observatory at Sacramento Peak, New Mexico, to be used in the development of the Improved Solar Observing Optical Network (ISOON). However, **ISOON** (<https://nso.edu/telescopes/legacy-telescopes/>) **has never been deployed**. The Ramey site was closed in 2002. Thus, currently, there are only three SOON sites operating.

K-cor: <https://www2.hao.ucar.edu/mlso>

Provides coronagraphic imagery. Large data gaps, limited time coverage during the day.

:Issued: 2014 Apr 17 1325 UTC
 :Product: documentation at <http://www.sidc.be/products/tot>
 #-----#
 # DAILY BULLETIN ON SOLAR AND GEOMAGNETIC ACTIVITY from the SIDC #
 #-----#
 SIDC URSIGRAM 40417
 SIDC SOLAR BULLETIN 17 Apr 2014, 1304UT



SIDC FORECAST (valid from 1230UT, 17 Apr 2014 until 19 Apr 2014)
 SOLAR FLARES : Active (M-class flares expected, probability >=50%)
 GEOMAGNETISM : Quiet (A<20 and K<4)
 SOLAR PROTONS : Quiet

Catania & NOAA regions

PREDICTIONS FOR 17 Apr 2014 10CM FLUX: 180 / AP: 013
 PREDICTIONS FOR 18 Apr 2014 10CM FLUX: 184 / AP: 007
 PREDICTIONS FOR 19 Apr 2014 10CM FLUX: 188 / AP: 005

COMMENT: Eleven sunspot groups were reported by NOAA today. NOAA ARs 2035, 2036, and 2037 (Catania numbers 24, 25, and 26 respectively), maintain the beta-gamma configuration of the photospheric magnetic field. The strongest flare of the past 24 hours was the M1.0 flare peaking at 19:59 UT yesterday in the NOAA AR 2035 (Catania number 24). The flare was associated with an EIT wave and a weak coronal dimming, but the associated CME was narrow and is not expected to arrive at the Earth.

We expect further flaring activity on the C-level, especially in the NOAA ARs 2035 and 2037 (Catania numbers 24 and 26 respectively) as well as in the NOAA AR 2042 (no Catania number yet) that yesterday appeared from behind the east solar limb, with a good chance for an M-class event.

Since yesterday evening the Earth is situated inside a solar wind structure with an elevated interplanetary magnetic field magnitude (occasionally up to 10 nT). It may be a weak ICME or the compression region on the flank of an ICME that missed the Earth. The solar origin of this structure is not clear. The north-south magnetic field component Bz was not strong, so no significant geomagnetic disturbance resulted (K index stayed below 4). Currently the solar wind speed is around 380 km/s and the IMF magnitude is around 8 nT.

We expect quiet to unsettled (K index up to 3) geomagnetic conditions, with active geomagnetic conditions (K = 4) possible, but unlikely.

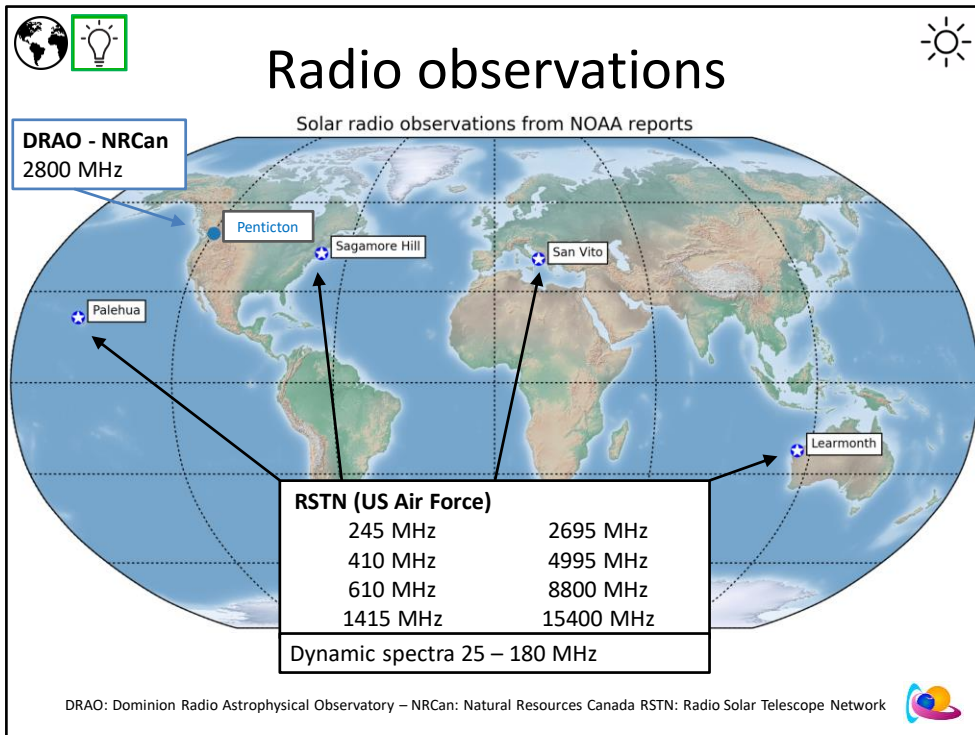
TODAY'S ESTIMATED ISN : 145, BASED ON 17 STATIONS
 99999

SOLAR INDICES FOR 16 Apr 2014
 WHOLE NUMBER CATANIA : ///
 10CM SOLAR FLUX : 184
 AK CHAMBON LA FORET : 012
 AK WINGST : 004

Sunspot numbers

ESTIMATED AP : 004
 ESTIMATED ISN : 139, BASED ON 29 STATIONS.

NOTICEABLE EVENTS SUMMARY
 DAY BEGIN MAX END LOC XRAY OP 10CM Catania/NOAA RADIO_BURST_TYPES
 16 1954 1959 2004 S14E09 M1.0 1N 24/2035 II/2
 END



The flux at 2800 MHz (10.7 cm) is measured since 1946-1947 in Canada. First in Ottawa, then in 1962 in Algonquin Radio observatory, 250 km away from Ottawa, and since 1990 in Pentiction. This is the longest time series reflecting the solar activity besides the Sunspot Index (to which it highly correlates). More info in : K. F. Tapping, "The 10.7 cm solar radio flux (F10.7)", Space Weather, 11, 394, 2013

DRAO: Dominion Radio Astrophysical Observatory
(<https://nrc.canada.ca/en/research-development/nrc-facilities/dominion-radio-astrophysical-observatory-research-facility>)

The Radio Solar Telescope Network (RSTN) started its operation during the 1970s and is operated by the US Air Force. It consists of an ensemble of flux monitoring instruments and a set of radio spectrometers. Data are not available in real time, but reports of events are provided through NOAA. Data become available for scientists several months (or years!) afterwards.

Radio flux expressed in solar flux units, with $1 \text{ sfu} = 10^{-22} \text{ W m}^{-2} \text{ Hz}^{-1}$



Radio burst magnitudes

Typ. Quiet Sun values [SFU]

| Frequency | Solar min. | Solar max. (Z=200) |
|-----------|------------|-----------------------|
| 245 MHz | 10 | 15 |
| 410 MHz | 25 | 35 |
| 610 MHz | 30 | 45 |
| 1415 MHz | 50 | 100 |
| 2695 MHz | 70 | 200 |
| 2800 MHz | 70 | 200 |
| 4995 MHz | 100 | 200 |
| 8800 MHz | 220 | 290 |
| 15400 MHz | 580 | 650 |

1 sfu = 1 solar flux unit = $10^{-22} \text{ W}\cdot\text{m}^{-2}\cdot\text{Hz}^{-1}$



The left table reports typical values observed for the quiet Sun during minimum and maximum conditions. There can be lower and higher values but this is just to give an idea.

Values from the tables to the Right are derived from the paper by Nita et al. 2002. This gives in how many days on average a burst of a certain magnitude happens in each band. If we take a finer frequency band definition, the numbers can be different.

Nita et al., 2002

The Peak Flux Distribution of Solar Radio Bursts

<https://ui.adsabs.harvard.edu/abs/2002ApJ...570..423N/abstract>

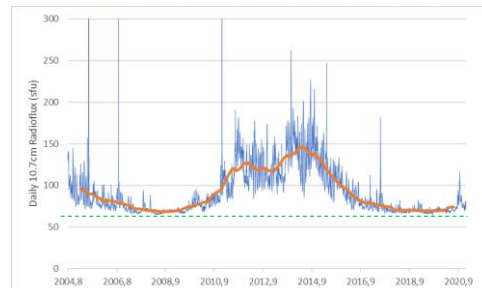
Daily radio fluxes (other wavelengths) at <ftp://ftp.swpc.noaa.gov/pub/lists/radio/rad.txt>

Solar flux unit: - 1 sfu = $10^{-22} \text{ W m}^{-2} \text{ Hz}^{-1}$



Penticton

- Flux measurement at 2800 MHz (10.7 cm), 100 MHz bandwidth
- 3 times per day
- “official” value for the day is the one of 20:00 UT (local noon)
- Accuracy:
 - < 100 sfu: 1 sfu
 - > 100 sfu: 1% of flux
- Uncorrected for solar flares
- R-, S-, Q-component



Information from: K. F. Tapping, “The 10.7 cm solar radio flux (F10.7)”, *Space Weather*, 11, 394, 2013
<https://ui.adsabs.harvard.edu/abs/2013SpWea..11..394T/abstract>

Daily 10.7cm solar radio fluxes from Penticton at <https://www.spaceweather.ca/forecast-prevision/solar-solaire/solarflux/sx-en.php>

Daily radio fluxes (other wavelengths) at <ftp://ftp.swpc.noaa.gov/pub/lists/radio/rad.txt>

The Humain solar radio observatory efforts to develop 10.7cm radio flux measurements were halted after it became clear there was too much interference from Military instruments.
<https://www.sidc.be/humain/index.php>

From Tapping (2013):

[7] The early measurements of solar centimetric emissions were made using relatively small antennas, having beams subtending solid angles larger than that subtended by the solar disk, so no determinations of the distribution of emission could be made on any routine basis. These spatially integrated emissions were categorized on the basis of their characteristic timescale of variation into three identifiable components: a rapidly varying or R component, comprising emissions varying over timescales in the second-minute range, perhaps as long as an hour. Slower variations were lumped into a slowly varying or S component. Extrapolation to zero activity suggested an underlying constant, base level, which became called the quiet sun, or Q component. The terms R and Q have fallen out of use, and these components are now known, respectively, as bursts and the quiet sun background emission. The slowly varying component originates primarily in active regions; its intensity is a measure of the overall level of solar magnetic activity and has a broad spectral peak at about 10 cm wavelength. The F10.7 values comprise contributions from the S component and the quiet sun background, and sometimes from radio bursts.

Dudok de Wit et al. (2014) - Synoptic radio observations as proxies for upper atmosphere modelling
https://www.swsc-journal.org/articles/swsc/full_html/2014/01/swsc130037/swsc130037.html

Solar photons in UV wavelengths (typically between 1 and 300 nm) are the primary heat source of the terrestrial upper atmosphere, which expands and contracts in response to solar activity. Continuous measurements of the Solar Spectral Irradiance (SSI) at these wavelengths really started in 2003 only, with the launch of the SORCE satellite. The paucity of observations, the short lifetime of the instruments and their difficult long-term calibration have turned the making of continuous SSI records into a major challenge. In contrast, most users of solar inputs, such as atmosphere and climate modellers, require long, uninterrupted and well-calibrated records. For that reason, many still prefer solar proxies as alternatives to the true SSI. Foremost among these proxies is the solar radio flux at 10.7 cm, also known as the F10.7 index, which reproduces most of the variability of the UV band and has been continuously measured since 1947.

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:Product: documentation at <http://www.sidc.be/products/tot>
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SOLAR INDICES FOR 16 Apr 2014

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10CM SOLAR FLUX : 184

AK CHAMBON LA FORET : 012
AK WINGST : 004
ESTIMATED AP : 004
ESTIMATED ISN : 139, BASED ON 29 STATIONS.

NOTICEABLE EVENTS SUMMARY

| DAY | BEGIN | MAX | END | LOC | XRAY | OP | 10CM Catania/NOAA | RADIO_BURST_TYPES |
|-----|-------|------|------|--------|------|----|-------------------|-------------------|
| 16 | 1954 | 1959 | 2004 | S14E09 | M1.0 | 1N | 24/2035 | II/2 |

END



10.7cm Radio flux



Humain: Solar instruments

- 6-m dish
- Automated operations, Sun tracking ~7h30 – 16h00 UT
- VHF antenna (piggy back)
- UHF antenna at focus

- VHF antenna (45 – 450 MHz)
 - Callisto receiver
 - ARCAS receiver
- UHF antenna (275 – 1495 MHz)
 - HSRS receiver

Data available in near realtime
<https://www.sidc.be/humain/home>



- VHF: Very High Frequency (30-300 MHz)
- UHF: Ultra High Frequency (300-3000 MHz)
- Callisto: Compound Astronomical Low cost Low frequency Instrument for Spectroscopy and Transportable Observatory
- ARCAS: Augmented Resolution Callisto Spectrometer
- HSRS: Humain Solar Radio Spectrograph

15

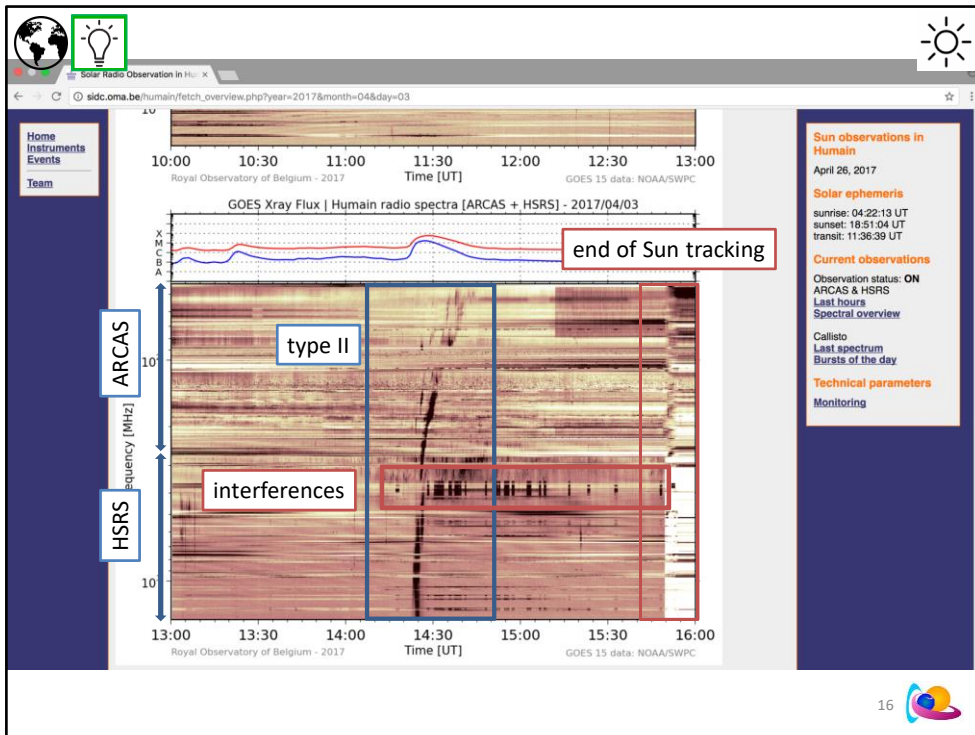
The ARCAS and HSRS receivers are based on commercial Software Defined Radio receivers. The RF signal is digitized and all operations needed to create the dynamic spectrum is made by programming on a control PC. The development of ARCAS and HSRS was made at ROB.

Callisto stands for: Compound Astronomical Low cost Low frequency Instrument for Spectroscopy and Transportable Observatory

ARCAS stands for Augmented Resolution Callisto Spectrometer -
<https://www.stce.be/news/369/welcome.html>

HSRS stands for HUMAIN Solar Radio Spectrograph - <https://www.stce.be/news/326/welcome.html>

Real-time Humain radio spectra at https://www.sidc.be/humain/ah_last_hours



See also the news item at <https://www.stce.be/news/384/welcome.html> for this event.

<https://www.cv.nrao.edu/~sransom/web/Ch1.html>

The Earth's ionosphere prevents ground-based observations at frequencies below 10 MHz (wavelengths higher than 30 m).

Back-ups for Radio spectra:

E-Callisto: <https://www.e-callisto.org/Data/data.html>

Learmonth: <https://www.sws.bom.gov.au/Solar/3/2/1>

:Issued: 2014 Apr 17 1325 UTC
 :Product: documentation at <http://www.sidc.be/products/tot>
 #-----#
 # DAILY BULLETIN ON SOLAR AND GEOMAGNETIC ACTIVITY from the SIDC #
 #-----#
 SIDC URSIGRAM 40417
 SIDC SOLAR BULLETIN 17 Apr 2014, 1304UT



SIDC FORECAST (valid from 1230UT, 17 Apr 2014 until 19 Apr 2014)
 SOLAR FLARES : Active (M-class flares expected, probability >=50%)
 GEOMAGNETISM : Quiet (A<20 and K<4)
 SOLAR PROTONS : Quiet

PREDICTIONS FOR 17 Apr 2014 10CM FLUX: 180 / AP: 013
 PREDICTIONS FOR 18 Apr 2014 10CM FLUX: 184 / AP: 007
 PREDICTIONS FOR 19 Apr 2014 10CM FLUX: 188 / AP: 005

COMMENT: Eleven sunspot groups were reported by NOAA today. NOAA ARs 2035,2036, and 2037 (Catania numbers 24, 25, and 26 respectively) maintain the beta-gamma configuration of the photospheric magnetic field. The strongest flare of the past 24 hours was the M1.0 flare peaking at 19:59 UT yesterday in the NOAA AR 2035 (Catania number 24). The flare was associated with an EIT wave and a weak coronal dimming, but the associated CME was narrow and is not expected to arrive at the Earth.
 We expect further flaring activity on the C-level, especially in the NOAA ARs 2035 and 2037 (Catania numbers 24 and 26 respectively) as well as in the NOAA AR 2042 (no Catania number yet) that yesterday appeared from behind the east solar limb, with a good chance for an M-class event.

Since yesterday evening the Earth is situated inside a solar wind structure with an elevated interplanetary magnetic field magnitude (occasionally up to 10 nT). It may be a weak ICME or the compression region on the flank of an ICME that missed the Earth. The solar origin of this structure is not clear. The north-south magnetic field component Bz was not strong, so no significant geomagnetic disturbance resulted (K index stayed below 4). Currently the solar wind speed is around 380 km/s and the IMF magnitude is around 8 nT.
 We expect quiet to unsettled (K index up to 3) geomagnetic conditions, with active geomagnetic conditions (K = 4) possible, but unlikely.

TODAY'S ESTIMATED ISN : 145, BASED ON 17 STATIONS.
 99999

SOLAR INDICES FOR 16 Apr 2014
 WOLF NUMBER CATANIA : ///
 10CM SOLAR FLUX : 184
 AK CHAMBON LA FORET : 012
 AK WINGST : 004
 ESTIMATED AP : 004
 ESTIMATED ISN : 139, BASED ON 29 STATIONS.

Radio bursts

| NOTICEABLE EVENTS SUMMARY | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|-------|------|------|--------|------|----|------|--------------|-------------------|--|
| DAY | BEGIN | MAX | END | LOC | XRAY | OP | 10CM | Catania/NOAA | RADIO_BURST_TYPES | |
| 16 | 1954 | 1959 | 2004 | S14E09 | M1.0 | 1N | | 24/2035 | II/2 | |
| END | | | | | | | | | | |



Magnetosphere - Ionosphere

Magnetosphere

- Magnetometers
- Neutron monitors
- ...

⇒ Magnetosphere

⇒ SWx effects



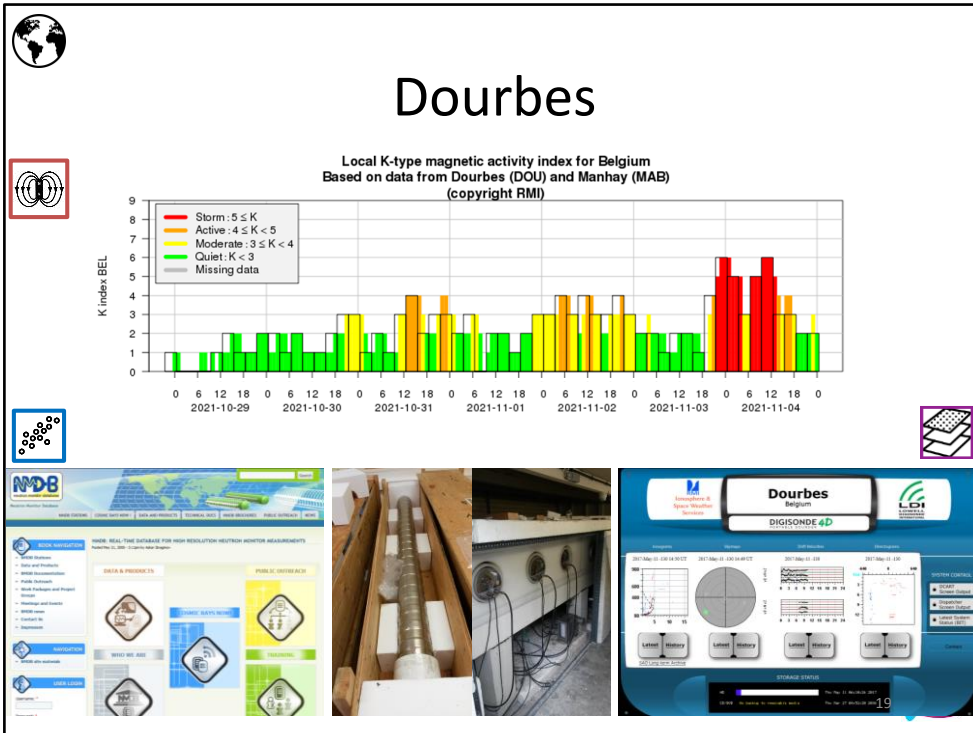
Ionosphere

- Ionospheric sounders
- Riometers
- ...

⇒ SWx effects – Aviation

⇒ Ionosphere





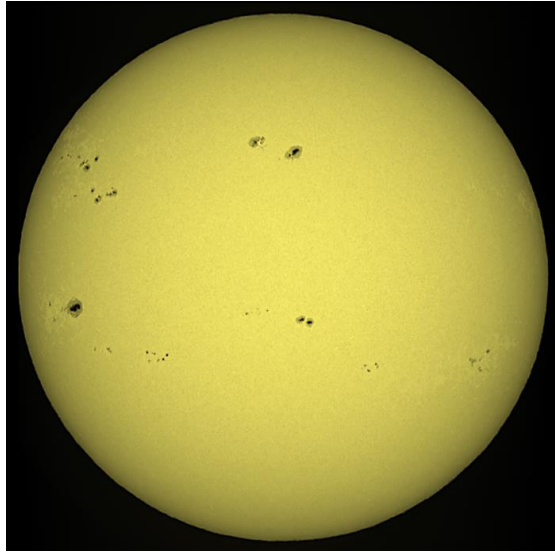
Dourbes:

Geomagnetism: http://ionosphere.meteo.be/geomagnetism/K_BEL/

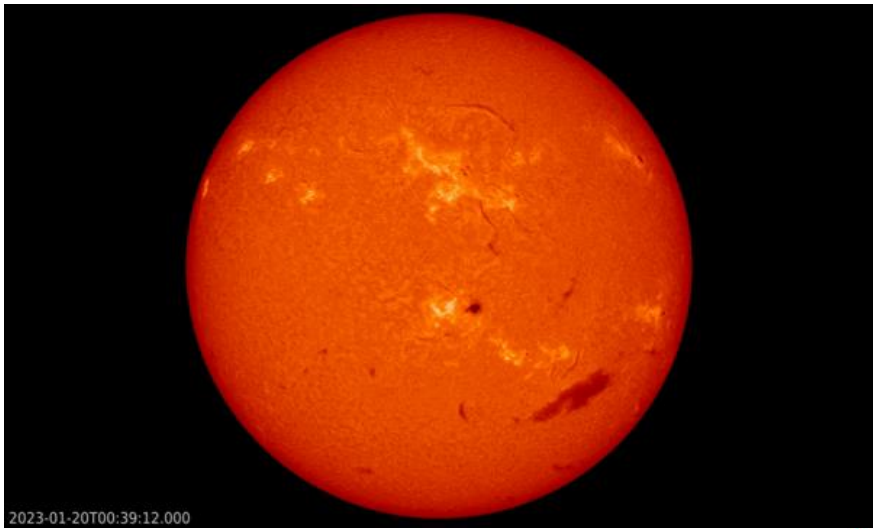
Neutron monitor: <http://neutronmonitor.meteo.be/>

Ionosphere: <https://digisonde.oma.be/>

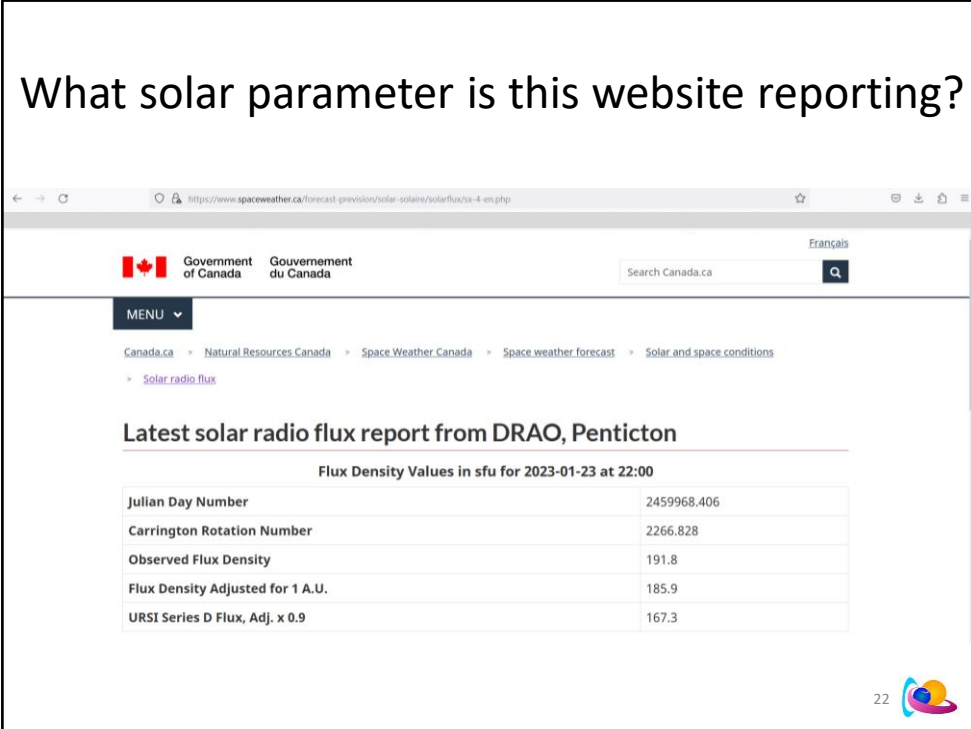
What are we looking at?



What are we looking at?



What solar parameter is this website reporting?



The screenshot shows the website <https://www.spaceweather.ca/forecast-previous/solar-solaire/solarflux/sx-4-en.php>. The page is titled "Latest solar radio flux report from DRAO, Penticton" and displays "Flux Density Values in sfu for 2023-01-23 at 22:00". The data is presented in a table with the following values:

| Flux Density Values in sfu for 2023-01-23 at 22:00 | |
|--|-------------|
| Julian Day Number | 2459968.406 |
| Carrington Rotation Number | 2266.828 |
| Observed Flux Density | 191.8 |
| Flux Density Adjusted for 1 A.U. | 185.9 |
| URSI Series D Flux, Adj. x 0.9 | 167.3 |

About the solar flux data: <https://spaceweather.gc.ca/forecast-previous/solar-solaire/solarflux/sx-3-en.php>

The observed value is the number measured by the solar radio telescope. This is modulated by two quantities: the level of solar activity and the changing distance between the Earth and Sun. Since it is a measure of the emissions due to solar activity hitting the Earth, this is the quantity to use when terrestrial phenomena are being studied.

When the Sun is being studied, the annual modulation of the 10.7cm Solar Flux by the changing distance between the Earth and Sun is undesirable. However, one byproduct of the ephemeris calculations needed for the solar flux monitors to properly acquire and track the Sun is the distance between the Sun and the Earth. We therefore produce an additional quantity, corrected for variations in the Earth-Sun distance, and given for the average distance. This is called the Adjusted value.

Absolute measurements of flux density are quite difficult, and in the early years of solar radio astronomy, considerable effort around the world went into making absolute measurements of the solar flux density at a number of different frequencies. An attempt was then made to fit all these various data to a spectrum. Each set of measurements was then given a scaling factor that would move them right onto the fitted spectrum. For the 10.7cm Solar Flux a scaling factor of 0.9 was estimated. In the light of later work, this work should possibly be redone. However, we also give in the database the Series D Flux, which is the adjusted value multiplied by 0.9.

Exercise: 10.7cm Radio Flux

- It is 7 January 2014, and the solar cycle (SC24) is in its period of maximum solar activity. The 10.7cm radio flux at 18UT is reported to be 592.4 sfu. This is:
 - A typical value for the radio flux during SC max
 - A radio flux value affected by a strong solar flare



Contents



- **Groundbased sensors**

- Visible light
- Radio domain
 - Humain
- Magnetosphere-Ionosphere
- Geomagnetism
- Neutron monitors
 - Dourbes

- **Spacebased sensors**

- GOES
- SDO
- PROBA2
- SOHO
- ACE
- DSCOVR
- STEREO





Spacebased sensors

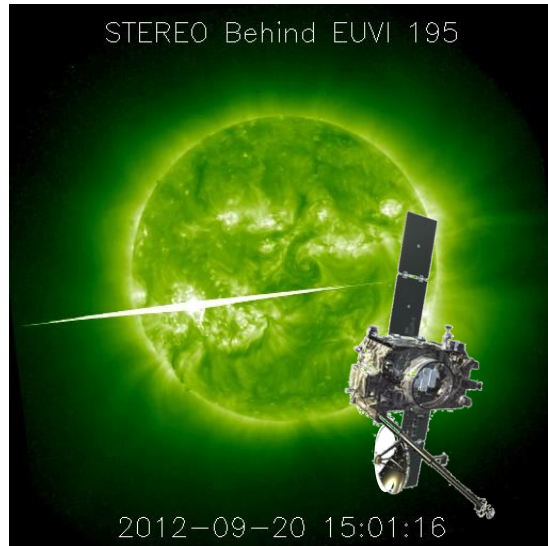
Jan Janssens

PROBA2 and picture of the Sun

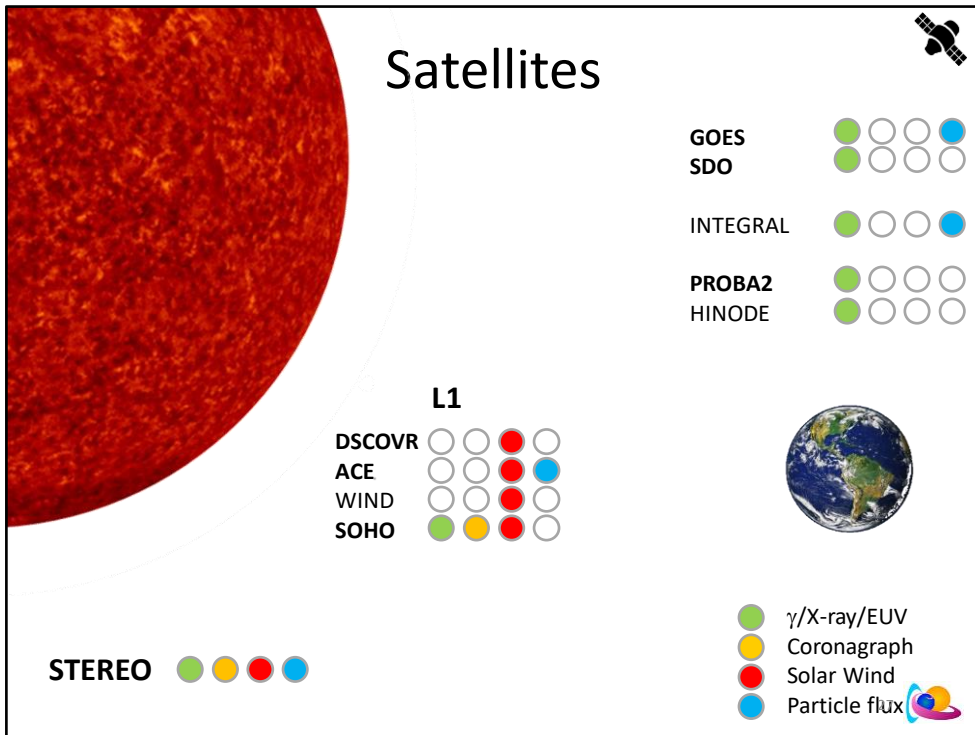


Why do we need SWx satellites?

- EUV and X-ray (solar atmosphere)
 - Flares & Coronal holes
- Coronagraphs
- Solar wind (in-situ)
- Solar farside
 - 20 September 2012
 - 23 July 2012
 - ...
- Radio
 - Triangulation
 - Low frequencies
- Science
- White light (24hrs)
- ...



More on the 20 September 2012 flare at <https://www.stce.be/news/263/welcome.html>



Lagrangian points: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lagrangian_point

Earth orbits: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_orbits#Altitude_classifications_for_geocentric_orbits

* GEO: GOES, SDO (inclined)

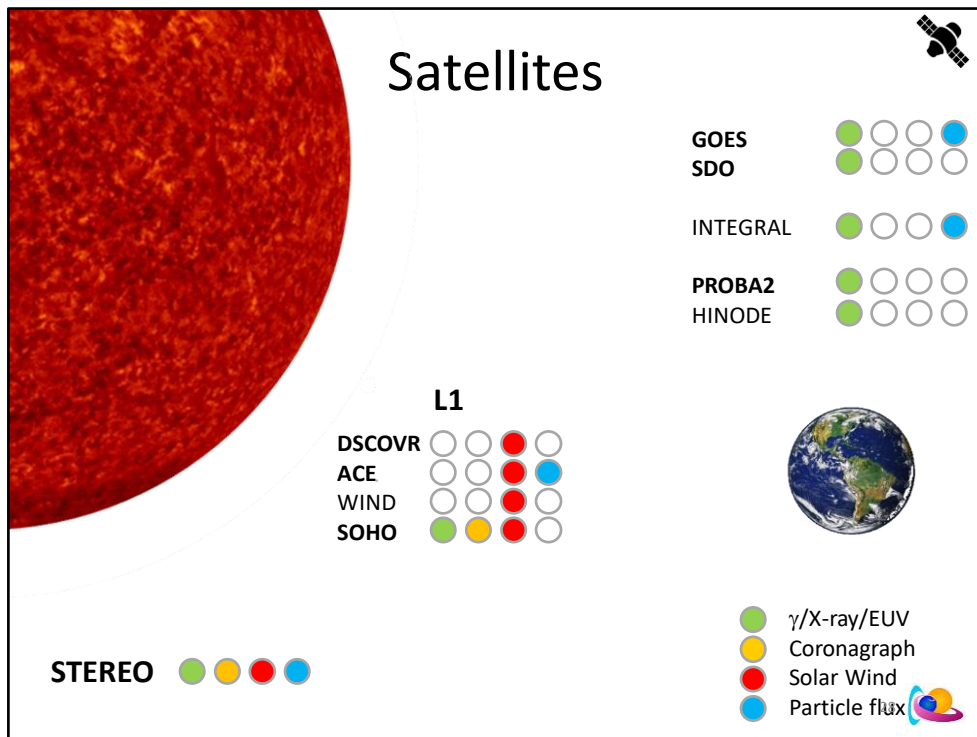
Advantages and disadvantages of SDO in GEO at <https://sdo.gsfc.nasa.gov/mission/project.php>

Orbit

The rapid cadence and continuous coverage required for SDO observations led to placing the satellite into an inclined geosynchronous orbit. This allows for a nearly-continuous, high-data-rate, contact with a single, dedicated, ground station.

Nearly continuous observations of the Sun can be obtained from other orbits, such as low Earth orbit (LEO). If SDO were placed into an LEO it would be necessary to store large volumes of scientific data onboard until a downlink opportunity. The large data rate of SDO, along with the difficulties in managing a large on-board storage system, resulted in a requirement of continuous contact.

The disadvantages of this orbit include higher launch and orbit acquisition costs (relative to LEO) and eclipse (Earth shadow) seasons twice annually, During these 2-3 week eclipse periods, SDO will experience a daily interruption of solar observations. There will also be three lunar shadow events each year from this orbit. This orbit is located on the outer reaches of the Earth's radiation belt where the radiation dose can be quite high. Additional shielding was added to the instruments and electronics to reduce the problems caused by exposure to radiation. Because this is a Space Weather effect, SDO is affected by the very processes it is designed to study!



Lagrangian points: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lagrangian_point

Earth orbits: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_orbits#Altitude_classifications_for_geocentric_orbits

* M/HEO: **INTEGRAL** (INTErnational Gamma-Ray Astrophysics Laboratory)

<https://space-env.esa.int/srem-data-plotting/>

SREM: Standard Radiation Environment Monitor

Integral is the last remaining operational radiation monitor.

* LEO: PROBA2, HINODE, RHESSI, FERMI

Hinode: <http://hinode.nao.ac.jp/gallery/latest/>

XRT: X-Ray Telescope ; Also at <https://www.solarmonitor.org/>

RHESSI: Reuven Ramaty High Energy Solar Spectroscopic Imager

<https://hesperia.gsfc.nasa.gov/rhessi3/> (retired)

PROBA2: PProject for Onboard Autonomy

<https://proba2.sidc.be/index.php>

FERMI: Fermi Gamma-ray Space Telescope

<http://www.astronomerstelegram.org/?read=10720>, <https://www.nasa.gov/content/fermi-gamma-ray-space-telescope>, https://hesperia.gsfc.nasa.gov/fermi_solar/ (detections of solar gamma ray bursts) ;

See e.g. <https://www.stce.be/news/610/welcome.html>

* L1: First Lagrangian point

DSCOVR, ACE, SOHO

Wind: <https://pwg.gsfc.nasa.gov/windnrt/>




* Solar orbit

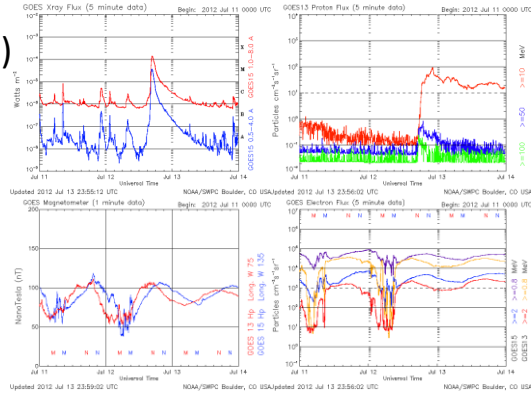
STEREO



GOES

Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellite

-  • X-ray flux
 - X-ray Sensor (XRS)
-  • Proton flux
-  • Magnetic field
- Electron flux
- Imagery



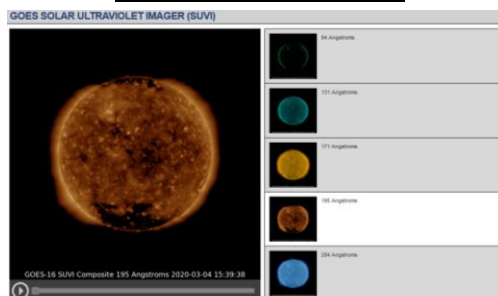
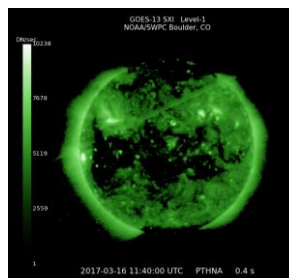
X-ray flux: <https://www.swpc.noaa.gov/products/goes-x-ray-flux>
 More info at https://www.ngdc.noaa.gov/stp/satellite/goes/doc/GOES_XRS_readme.pdf
Proton flux: <https://www.swpc.noaa.gov/products/goes-proton-flux>
Magnetic field: <https://www.swpc.noaa.gov/products/goes-magnetometer>
Electron flux: <https://www.swpc.noaa.gov/products/goes-electron-flux>



GOES

Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellite

- X-ray flux
- Proton flux
- Magnetic field
- Electron flux
- Imagery
 - GOES-12-15
 - X-ray: SXI
 - Solar X-ray Imager
 - Discontinued
 - GOES-16-17
 - EUV: SUVI
 - Solar Ultraviolet Imager
 - Operational



Imagery (X-ray): SXI: <https://www.swpc.noaa.gov/products/goes-solar-x-ray-imager-sxi> (discontinued)

SXI: Solar X-ray Imager

SUVI: <https://www.swpc.noaa.gov/products/goes-solar-ultraviolet-imager-suvi>

GOES-16/SUVI has been operationally checked out.

SUVI and 4 other instruments onboard GOES-16 have been put in safe mode as of 20 December 2017.

Entering operation in December 2019, becoming primary solar imager on 9 December 2019.



<https://www.swpc.noaa.gov/news/noaanesdis-has-extended-operational-period-both-goes-1415-02-march-2020>

<https://www.swpc.noaa.gov/products/goes-solar-ultraviolet-imager-suvi>

<https://www.nesdis.noaa.gov/GOES-R-Series-Satellites>


Imagery (SUVI): <https://www.goes-r.gov/spacesegment/suvi.html>

Solar UltraViolet Imager

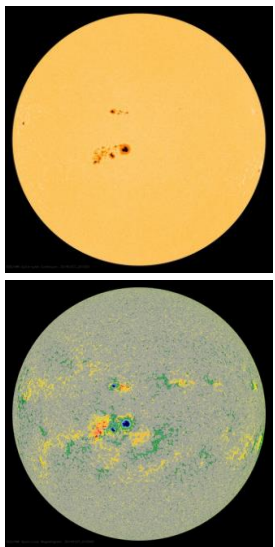
SDO

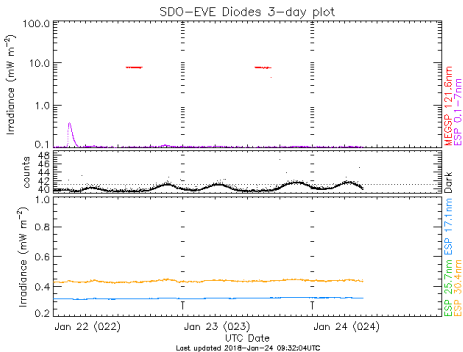
Solar Dynamics Observatory



< HMI

- Helioseismic and Magnetic Imager
- « White light » and Magnetograms






SDO-EVE Diodes 3-day plot

EVE ^

- Extreme ultraviolet Variability Experiment
- Scaled to GOES x-ray measurements



ESP: EUV SpectroPhotometer

MEGS: multiple EUV grating spectrograph (-A no longer operational)

SAM: Solar Aspect Monitor (no longer operational)

The EVE proxy for x-ray flux is at http://lasp.colorado.edu/eve/data_access/sdo-goes-eve-flare-watch/index.html



B9.5 flare on 22 January 2018

http://lasp.colorado.edu/eve/data_access/

Crotser et al. (2004): SDO-EVE multiple EUV grating spectrograph (MEGS) optical design


<https://ui.adsabs.harvard.edu/abs/2004SPIE.5563..182C/abstract>

The NASA Solar Dynamics Observatory (SDO), scheduled for launch in 2008, incorporates a suite of instruments including the EUV Variability Experiment (EVE). The EVE instrument package contains grating spectrographs used to measure the solar extreme ultraviolet (EUV) irradiance from 0.1 to 105 nm. The Multiple EUV Grating Spectrograph (MEGS) channels use concave reflection gratings to image solar spectra onto CCDs that are operated at -100°C. MEGS provides 0.1nm spectral resolution between 5-105nm every 10 seconds with an absolute accuracy of better than 25% over the SDO 5-year mission. MEGS-A utilizes a unique grazing-incidence, off-Rowland circle (RC) design to minimize angle of incidence at the detector while meeting high resolution requirements. MEGS-B utilizes a double-pass, cross-dispersed double-Rowland circle design. MEGS-P, a Ly- α monitor, will provide a proxy model calibration in the 60-105 nm range. Finally, the Solar Aspect Monitor (SAM) channel will provide continual pointing information for EVE as well as low-resolution X-ray images of the sun. In-flight calibrations for MEGS will be provided by the on-board EUV Spectrophotometer (ESP) in the 0.1-7nm and 17-37nm ranges, as well as from annual under-flight rocket experiments. We present the methodology used to develop the MEGS optical design.

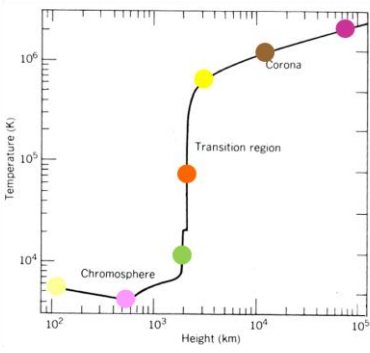



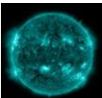
SDO

Solar Dynamics Observatory




- AIA
 - Atmospheric Imaging Assembly
 - EUV imagery in 9 filters
 - Some filters peak at multiple temperatures
 - AIA 4500 no longer in use

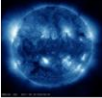




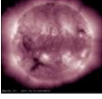
131Å



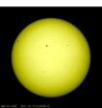
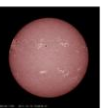
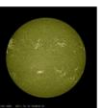
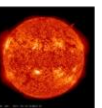
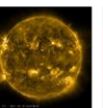
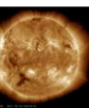
094Å



335Å



211Å

4500Å


1700Å

1600Å

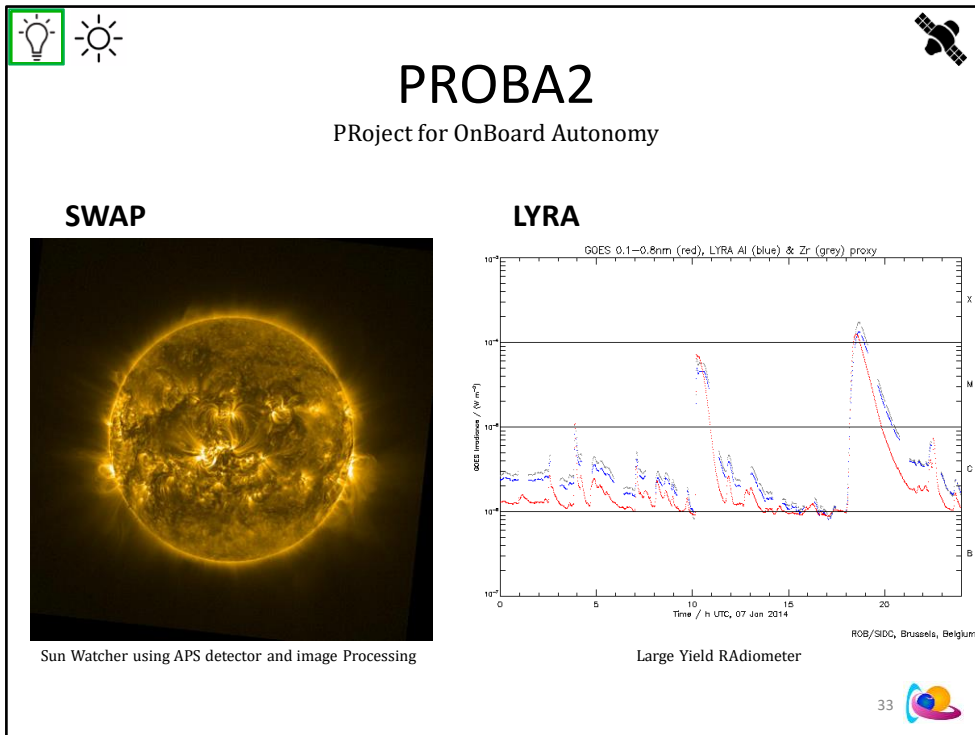
304Å

171Å

193Å

32 

More info at <http://aia.lmsal.com/public/instrument.htm>



Data and imagery at <https://proba2.sidc.be/ssa>

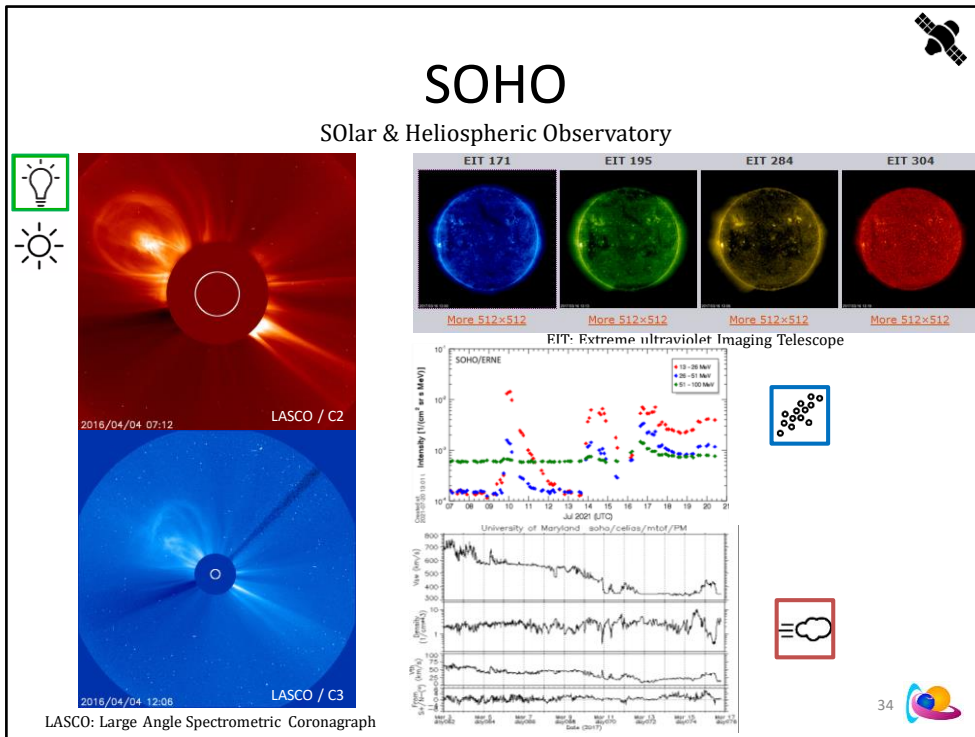
From P2SC: <https://proba2.sidc.be/about/sciencePayload>

LYRA (Large Yield Radiometer, formerly LYman alpha Radiometer) is an ultraviolet irradiance radiometer that observes the Sun in four passbands, chosen for their relevance to solar physics, aeronomy and space weather. This instrument can also detect flares and analyze the atmospheric composition of the Earth.

LYRA is composed of three units, each of them constituted of the same four channels:

- the 120-123 nm Lyman- α channel,
- the 190-222 nm Herzberg continuum channel,
- the Aluminium filter channel (17-80 nm + a contribution below 5 nm), including the strong He II at 30.4 nm
- the Zirconium filter channel (6-20 nm + a contribution below 2 nm), rejecting He II.

SWAP (Sun Watcher using Active Pixel System detector and Image Processing) is a small EUV telescope that images the solar corona with a bandpass around 17.4 nm, corresponding to a temperature of 1 million degrees, with a cadence of 1 image per 1-2 minutes, and field of view (FOV) of 54 arcmin.. SWAP continues the systematic CME watch program of EIT at an improved cadence and monitors events in the lower solar corona that might be relevant for space weather.



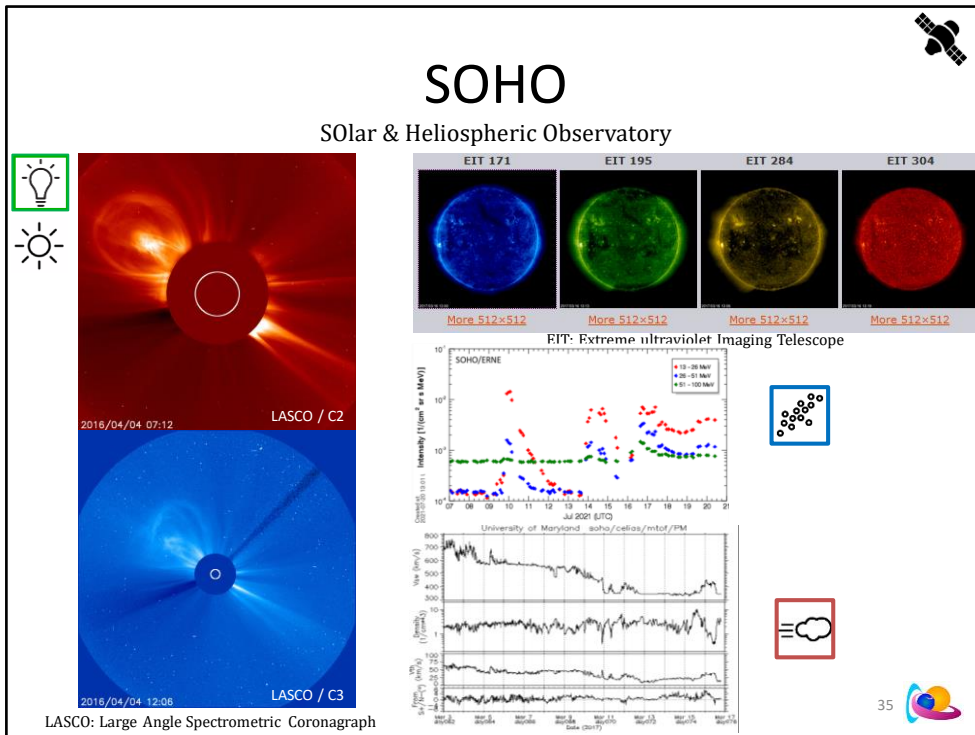
SOHO: Solar and Heliospheric Observatory
 Launched on 2 December 1995 and still observing from the L1 point!

EIT and coronagraphic imagery at <https://sohowww.nascom.nasa.gov/data/realtime-images.html>
 The passbands and related temperatures are similar to SDO/AIA, with the 28.4 nm filter corresponding to 2 million degrees.

Solar wind data (and shocks) at <https://space.umd.edu/pm/>

- EIT: Extreme ultraviolet Imaging Telescope
- CELIAS: Charge, Element, and Isotope Analysis System
- MTOF: Mass Tome-of-Flight sensor
- ERNE: Energetic and Relativistic Nuclei and Electron (https://srl.utu.fi/erne_data/)
- LASCO: Large Angle and Spectrometric Coronagraph
- <http://star.mpae.gwdg.de/>
- C2 (1.5-6 solar radii)
- C3 (outer: 3-32 solar radii)

The C1 (inner: 1.1-3 solar radii) is no longer operational following SOHO's summer holidays in 1998:
<https://lasco-www.nrl.navy.mil/index.php?p=content/intro>
 LASCO comprises of three telescopes (C1, C2 and C3), each of which looks at an increasingly large area surrounding the Sun. For the first year-and-a-half of the SOHO mission, all three instruments worked perfectly. However, in 1998 SOHO was accidentally "lost" in space after it received a bad command. The entire spacecraft lost power and essentially froze solid for several weeks. Eventually -- miraculously! -- the SOHO team were able to relocate the spacecraft, regain control and slowly power-up and thaw out the instruments. Sadly, the LASCO C1 camera was lost as a result of this but the rest of spacecraft came through almost completely unscathed! Eighteen years later -- and over twenty years since launch -- LASCO C2 and C3 (and most of the rest of SOHO!) continue to work extremely well, sending back images and data on a daily basis.

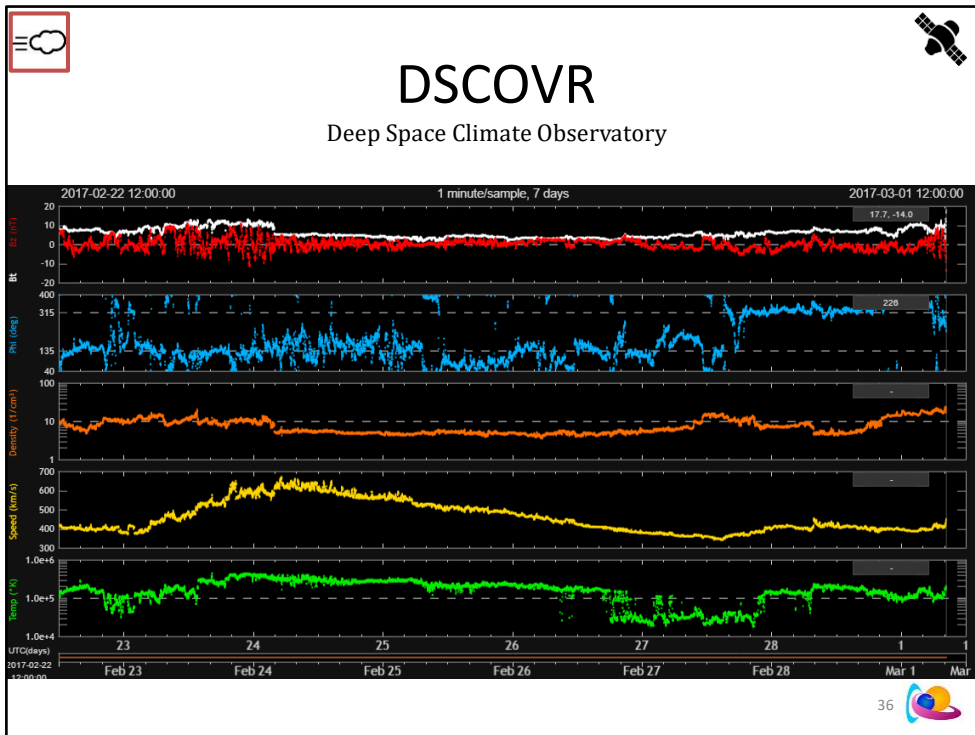


The weak CMEs/structures become better visible in difference imagery (one image subtracted from the other). Movies for the last 4 days can be found at <https://sohowww.nascom.nasa.gov/data/realtime/mpeg/> (resp. LASCO C2 combo and LASCO C3 combo).

SOHO/LASCO is also a notorious comet chaser, discovering its 3000th comet on 14 September 2015, and its 4000th on 15 June 2020: <https://soho.nascom.nasa.gov/pickoftheweek/old/17jun2020/>

SOHO has/had many other instruments, amongst which was the famous MDI (Michelson Doppler Imager) which made images of the Sun in “white light” as well as magnetograms. This program was terminated in 2011 as it was superseded by SDO/HMI. It was exceptionally switched on again for the Mercury transit 2016 (<https://soho.nascom.nasa.gov/pickoftheweek/old/09may2016/>). The MDI archives are at <http://soi.stanford.edu/>

Descriptions of the other instruments can be found at <https://sohowww.nascom.nasa.gov/about/instruments.html>



DSCOVR: Deep Space Climate Observatory

<https://www.nesdis.noaa.gov/content/dscovr-deep-space-climate-observatory>

Solar wind data are available at <https://www.swpc.noaa.gov/products/real-time-solar-wind>

From NOAA/SWPC: Real-Time Solar Wind (RTSW) data refers to data from any spacecraft located upwind of Earth, typically orbiting the L1 Lagrange point, that is being tracked by the Real-Time Solar Wind Network of tracking stations. The NOAA DSCOVR satellite became the operational RTSW spacecraft on July 27, 2016 at 1600UT (noon EDT, 10am MDT).

SWPC maintains the ability to instantaneously switch the spacecraft that provides the RTSW data. During times of outages in DSCOVR data or problems with the data, this page may instead display the data from the NASA/ACE spacecraft.

The two DSCOVR instruments for which data are available:

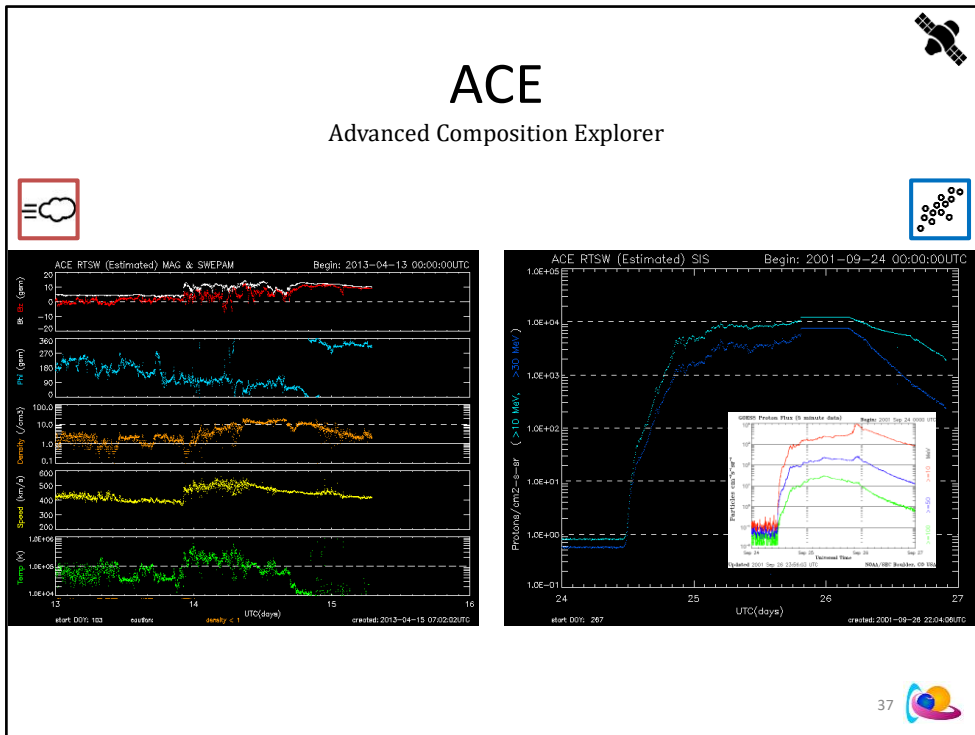
Faraday Cup (FC) of the Harvard Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory

Magnetometer (MAG) of the University of NASA Goddard Space Flight Center

Note that DSCOVR is vulnerable to GCR, which introduces spurious measurement readings from time to time. The correctness of the values can be checked against the ACE data. More on this issue at <http://www.nature.com/news/cosmic-rays-may-threaten-space-weather-satellite-1.20880>

DSCOVR was in safe mode from 27 June 2019 till 02 March 2020 due to a technical glitch.

<https://www.nesdis.noaa.gov/content/noaas-dscovr-satellite-operating-again>



ACE: Advanced Composition Explorer (launched 25 August 1997)
<http://www.srl.caltech.edu/ACE/>

All data at NOAA/SWPC: <https://www.swpc.noaa.gov/products/ace-real-time-solar-wind>

EPAM: Electron Proton Alpha Monitor

- measurements of low-energy electrons and protons

SWEPAM: Solar Wind Electron Proton Alpha Monitor

- measurements of solar wind density, speed and temperature

MAG: Magnetometer instrument



- Measurements of solar wind magnetic field

SIS: Solar Isotope Spectrometer

- Measurements of high-energy protons (>10 MeV, > 30 MeV)


ACE measurements of e.g. solar wind speed are sometimes unreliable in case of strong proton events, which is annoying when a CME arrives.

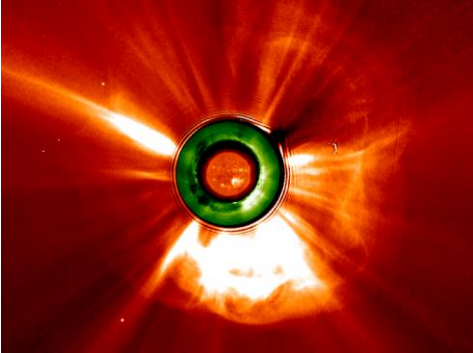
As of 27 July 2016, ACE is superseded by the DSCOVR satellite, and as such there's no longer a 24hr data coverage anymore.

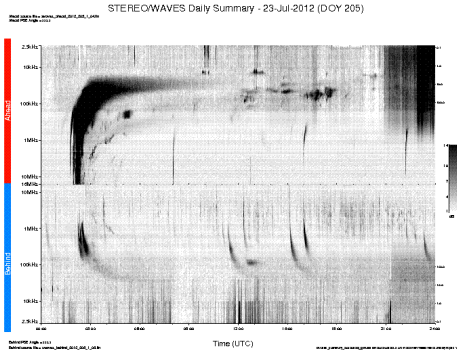
STEREO

Solar-TERrestrial Relations Observatory






EUVI: Solar EUV imager
COR: Coronagraphs
HI: Heliospheric Imagers



STEREO WAVES Daily Summary - 23-Jul-2012 (DOY 205)

WAVES: radio observations



STEREO: Solar-Terrestrial Relations Observatory - SSC: STEREO Science Centre

All data and info are at https://stereo-ssc.nascom.nasa.gov/beacon/beacon_secchi.shtml

Twin spacecraft in sun orbit, one ahead (ST-A) of Earth in its orbit, the other trailing behind (ST-B). They were launched on 25 October 2006.

Contact with ST-B was lost on 1 October 2014 during a test. Re-establishing contact will be tried again in June 2017.

Both spacecraft have passed the anti-solar point in 2015, heading back to earth, but now ST-A is trailing the earth (not re-labelled).

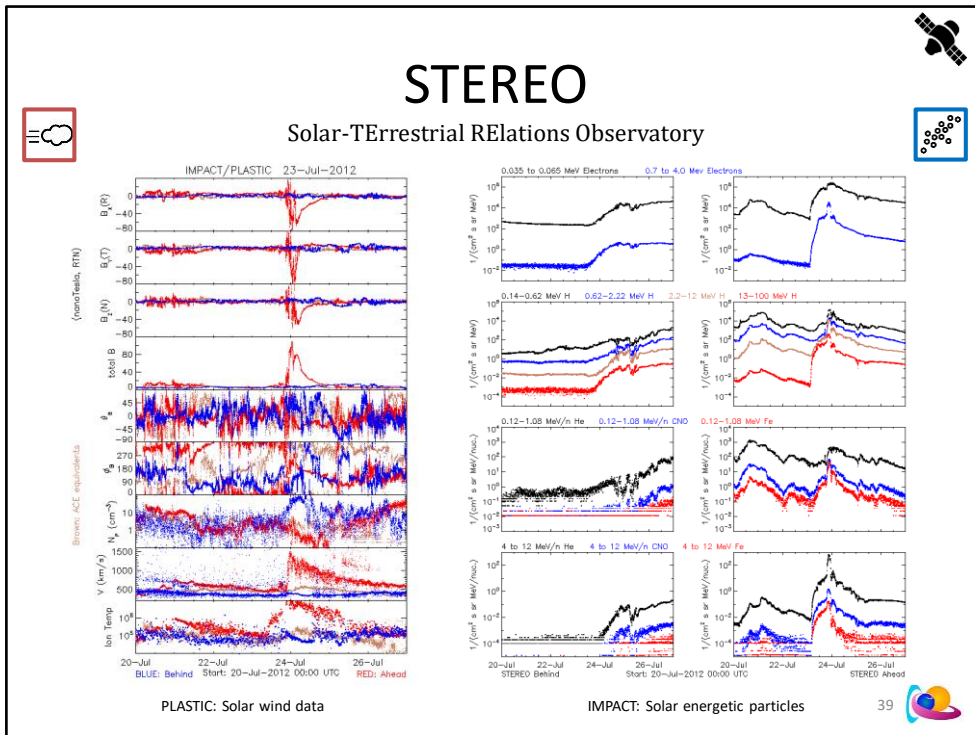
Spacecraft will be close to earth again somewhere in 2023.

The main SWx advantages of the STEREO mission are

- A stereoscopic view of the Sun and CMEs, allowing e.g. a much better determination of the speed and direction of a CME.
- A direct view on the Sun's farside and its solar activity.
- Knowing 1-2 weeks in advance on the strength of CH HSS or active sunspot groups that may rotate over the east limb as seen from earth.

There are 4 main instrument packages:

- SECCHI: Sun Earth Connection Coronal and Heliospheric Investigation
 - EUVI: extreme ultraviolet imager (4 passbands: 171, 195, 284, 304 Angstrom or 17.1, 19.5, 28.4, 30.4 nm)
 - COR1/2: white-light coronagraphs (inner: 1.3 to 4 solar radii/outer: 2-15 solar radii)
 - HI1/2: heliospheric imagers
- PLASTIC: PLAsma and SupraThermal Ion Composition
 - Specifically interesting for proton and SEP events
- IMPACT: In-situ Measurements of Particles and CME Transients
 - Solar wind measurements
- SWAVES: STEREO Waves instrument
 - Track radiobursts from the Sun



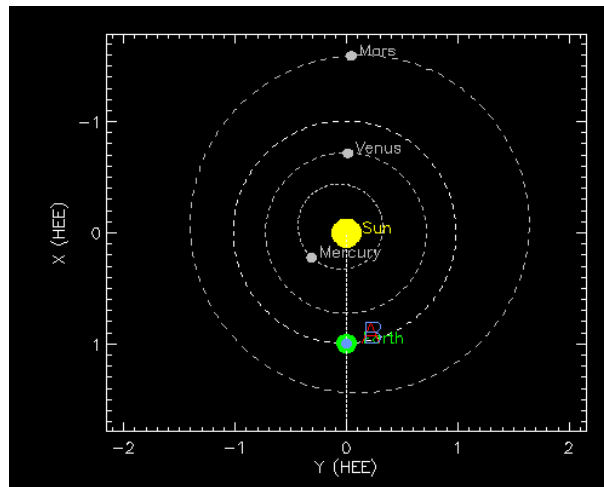
The example is from the Carrington-like event from 23 July 2012 (Sun's farside), showing:
Previous slide

- The EUVI304, COR1 and COR2 shortly after the maximum of the flare (but before the start of the proton event);
- The Type II and III radiobursts associated to the event (SWAVES)

This slide:

- The solar wind data from from PLASTIC/IMPACT for 7 days centered on 23 July 2012. Notice the strength of the event as observed by ST-A, and the lack of impact as observed by ST-B which was at the other side of the Sun
- The SEP data from the IMPACT instrument for 7 days centered on 23 July 2012. Notice the obvious differences between a well-connected (ST-A) and a poorly connected (ST-B) observer (much later, gradual and weaker with ST-B).

STEREO orbit (2006-2022)



https://stereo-ssc.nascom.nasa.gov/cgi-bin/make_where_gif

Exercise: Space-based instruments

- You want to have a clear EUV view of a solar flare that was visible on the Sun. Which instrument(s) would you use?
 - SOHO / LASCO C2
 - STEREO / Waves
 - SDO / AIA 193
 - GOES / XRS

Exercise: Space-based instruments

- Which satellites have instruments to make observations of the solar energetic particles?
 - PROBA2
 - SDO
 - STEREO
 - GOES

:Issued: 2014 Apr 17 1325 UTC
 :Product: documentation at <http://www.sidc.be/products/tot>
 #-----#
 # DAILY BULLETIN ON SOLAR AND GEOMAGNETIC ACTIVITY from the SIDC #
 #-----#
 SIDC URSIGRAM 40417
 SIDC SOLAR BULLETIN 17 Apr 2014, 1304UT
 SIDC FORECAST (valid from 1230UT, 17 Apr 2014 until 19 Apr 2014)
 SOLAR FLARES : Active (M-class flares expected, probability >=50%)
 GEOMAGNETISM : Quiet (A<20 and K<4)
 SOLAR PROTONS : Quiet



PREDICTIONS FOR 17 Apr 2014 10CM FLUX: 180 / AP: 013
 PREDICTIONS FOR 18 Apr 2014 10CM FLUX: 184 / AP: 007
 PREDICTIONS FOR 19 Apr 2014 10CM FLUX: 188 / AP: 005

COMMENT: Eleven sunspot groups were reported by NOAA today. NOAA ARs 2035,2036, and 2037 (Catania numbers 24, 25, and 26 respectively) maintain the beta-gamma configuration of the photospheric magnetic field. The strongest flare of the past 24 hours was the M1.0 flare peaking at 19:59 UT yesterday in the NOAA AR 2035 (Catania number 24). The flare was associated with an EIT wave and a weak coronal dimming, but the associated CME was narrow and is not expected to arrive at the Earth.
 We expect further flaring activity on the C-level, especially in the NOAA ARs 2035 and 2037 (Catania numbers 24 and 26 respectively) as well as in the NOAA AR 2042 (no Catania number yet) that yesterday appeared from behind the east solar limb, with a good chance for an M-class event.
 Since yesterday evening the Earth is situated inside a solar wind structure with an elevated interplanetary magnetic field magnitude (occasionally up to 10 nT). It may be a weak ICME or the compression region on the flank of an ICME that missed the Earth. The solar origin of this structure is not clear. The north-south magnetic field component Bz was not strong, so no significant geomagnetic disturbance resulted (K index stayed below 4). Currently the solar wind speed is around 380 km/s and the IMF magnitude is around 8 mT.
 We expect quiet to unsettled (K index up to 3) geomagnetic conditions, with active geomagnetic conditions (K = 4) possible, but unlikely.

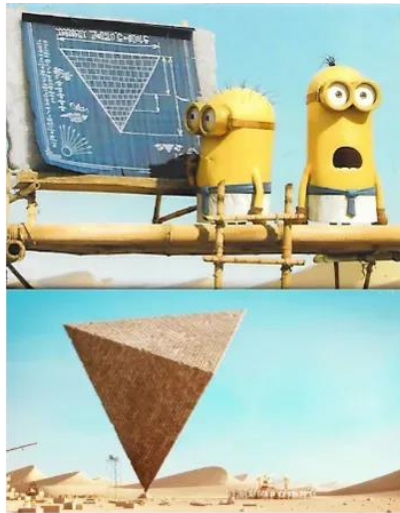
TODAY'S ESTIMATED ISN : 145, BASED ON 17 STATIONS.
 99999

SOLAR INDICES FOR 16 Apr 2014
 WOLF NUMBER CATANIA : ///
 10CM SOLAR FLUX : 184
 AK CHAMBON LA FORET : 012
 AK WINGST : 004
 ESTIMATED AP : 004
 ESTIMATED ISN : 139, BASED ON 29 STATIONS.

Satellites and instruments

NOTICEABLE EVENTS SUMMARY
 DAY BEGIN MAX END LOC XRAY OP 10CM Catania/NOAA RADIO_BURST_TYPES
 16 1954 1959 2004 S14E09 M1.0 1N 24/2035 II/2
 END

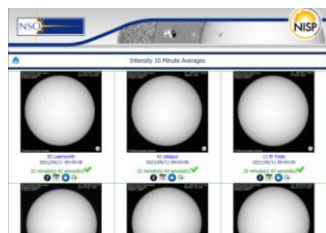
Reversed engineering



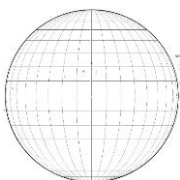
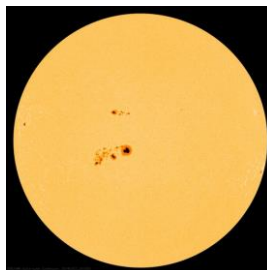


White light solar imagery

Ground-based 



Space-based 



GONG: Global Oscillation Network Group
USET: Uccle Solar Equatorial Table
Catania Astrophysical Observatory
SDO: Solar Dynamics Observatory
HMI: Helioseismic and Magnetic Imager

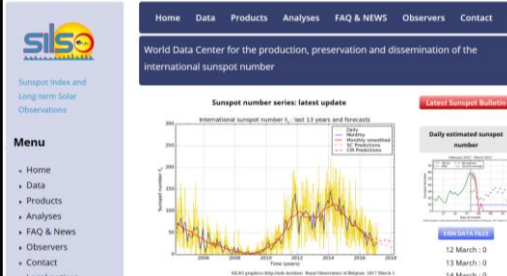




Sunspot number

Ground-based 

Space-based 



The screenshot shows the SILSO website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links: Home, Data, Products, Analyses, FAQ & NEWS, Observers, and Contact. Below this is a header stating: "World Data Center for the production, preservation and dissemination of the international sunspot number".

On the left side, there is a sidebar with the SILSO logo and the text "Sunspot Index and Long-term Solar Observations". Below the logo is a "Menu" section with the following items: Home, Data, Products, Analyses, FAQ & News, Observers, and Contact.

The main content area features two primary charts:

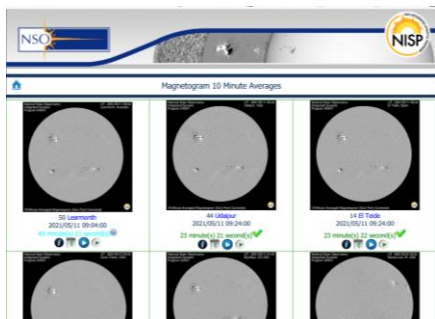
- Sunspot number series: latest update**: A line graph titled "International sunspot number S_i , last 13 years and forecasts". The y-axis is labeled "Sunspot number" and ranges from 0 to 200. The x-axis is labeled "Time (years)" and ranges from 2008 to 2024. The graph shows a clear 11-year solar cycle with peaks around 2012 and 2017, and troughs around 2009 and 2014. A legend indicates data from "SDO" (red), "NOAA" (blue), "NOAA-OMI" (green), "NOAA-SDO" (purple), and "NOAA-SDO" (orange).
- Latest Sunspot Bulletin**: A smaller chart titled "Daily estimated sunspot number" showing data from 12 March to 14 March. It includes a "LINK DATA FILES" button with dates: 12 March : 0, 13 March : 0, and 14 March : 0.

SILSO: Sunspot Index and Long-term Solar Observations

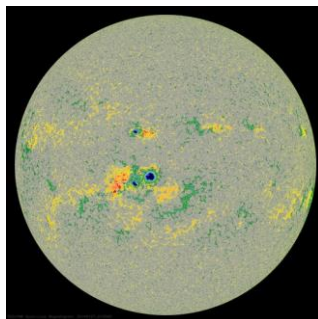


Solar magnetograms

Ground-based 



Space-based 



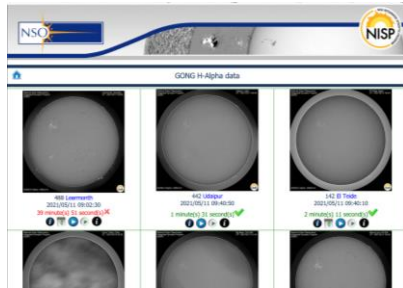
GONG: Global Oscillation Network Group
SDO: Solar Dynamics Observatory
HMI: Helioseismic and Magnetic Imager



H-alpha solar images

Ground-based 

Space-based 



GONG: Global Oscillation Network Group
USET: Uccle Solar Equatorial Table
Kanzelhöhe Observatory

49



Kanzelhöhe: <http://cesar.kso.ac.at/>



Solar radio flux

Ground-based 

Space-based 



```

[Source]: Solar Radio Data          Year_04.txt
[Format]: 0000 UTC 10 May 2011
# Prepared by the R.S. Dept. of Science, NRC.  Space Weather Prediction Unit
# Please send comments and suggestions to SWU@NaturalResources.gov
# Website: SWU@NRC.ca
# Missing Data: -1
#
# Daily Solar Radio Flux Values - Reported once an hour
#
# Flag: 0=Normal, 1=Low, 2=High, 3=Quiet, 4=Storm, 5=Quiet, 6=Storm
#
# Flag: 0000 UTC 10 May 2011 1100 UTC 1200 UTC 1300 UTC 1400 UTC 1500 UTC 1600 UTC 1700 UTC 1800 UTC 1900 UTC 2000 UTC 2100 UTC 2200 UTC
2011 May 4
0000 15 16 11 -1 -1 -1 -1
0100 14 16 11 -1 -1 -1 -1
0200 14 16 11 -1 -1 -1 -1
0300 14 16 11 -1 -1 -1 -1
0400 14 16 11 -1 -1 -1 -1
0500 14 16 11 -1 -1 -1 -1
0600 14 16 11 -1 -1 -1 -1
0700 14 16 11 -1 -1 -1 -1
0800 14 16 11 -1 -1 -1 -1
0900 14 16 11 -1 -1 -1 -1
1000 14 16 11 -1 -1 -1 -1
1100 14 16 11 -1 -1 -1 -1
1200 14 16 11 -1 -1 -1 -1
1300 14 16 11 -1 -1 -1 -1
1400 14 16 11 -1 -1 -1 -1
1500 14 16 11 -1 -1 -1 -1
1600 14 16 11 -1 -1 -1 -1
1700 14 16 11 -1 -1 -1 -1
1800 14 16 11 -1 -1 -1 -1
1900 14 16 11 -1 -1 -1 -1
2000 14 16 11 -1 -1 -1 -1
2100 14 16 11 -1 -1 -1 -1
2200 14 16 11 -1 -1 -1 -1
2011 May 5
0000 14 16 11 -1 -1 -1 -1
0100 14 16 11 -1 -1 -1 -1
0200 14 16 11 -1 -1 -1 -1
0300 14 16 11 -1 -1 -1 -1
0400 14 16 11 -1 -1 -1 -1
0500 14 16 11 -1 -1 -1 -1
0600 14 16 11 -1 -1 -1 -1
0700 14 16 11 -1 -1 -1 -1
0800 14 16 11 -1 -1 -1 -1
0900 14 16 11 -1 -1 -1 -1
1000 14 16 11 -1 -1 -1 -1
1100 14 16 11 -1 -1 -1 -1
1200 14 16 11 -1 -1 -1 -1
1300 14 16 11 -1 -1 -1 -1
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1700 14 16 11 -1 -1 -1 -1
1800 14 16 11 -1 -1 -1 -1
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2100 14 16 11 -1 -1 -1 -1
2200 14 16 11 -1 -1 -1 -1

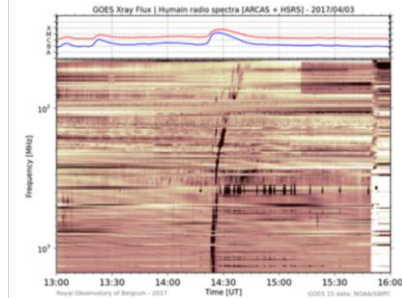
```

DRAO: Dominion Radio Astrophysical Observatory
NRCa: Natural Resources Canada
RSTN: Radio Solar Telescope Network

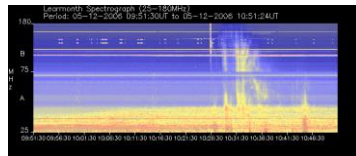
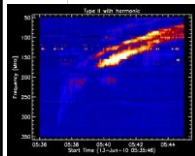
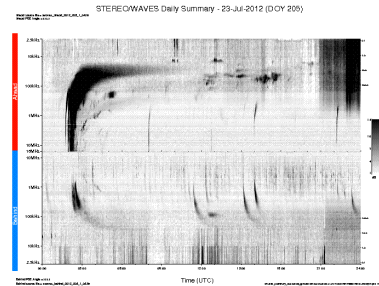


Solar radio spectra

Ground-based



Space-based



Human Radioastronomy Station
 eCallisto
 Learmonth
 STEREO: Solar-Terrestrial Relations Observatory

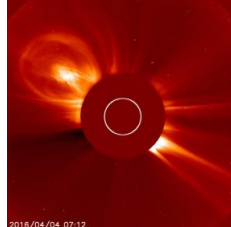


e-Callisto extended Compact Astronomical Low-cost Low-frequency Instrument for Spectroscopy and Transportable Observatory



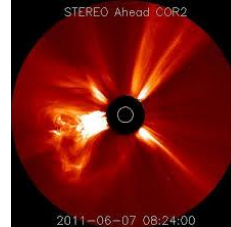
Solar coronagraphic imagery

Ground-based 🌐

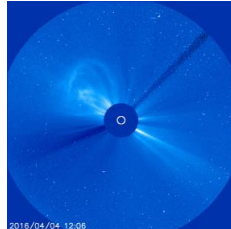


2016/04/04 07:12

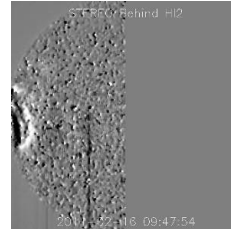
Space-based 🛰️



2011-06-07 08:24:00



2016/04/04 12:06



2011-06-07 09:47:54

SOHO: SOlar & Heliospheric Observatory
LASCO: Large Angle Spectrometric Coronagraph
STEREO: Solar-TErrestrial RELations Observatory
COR: Coronagraph
HI: Heliospheric Imager



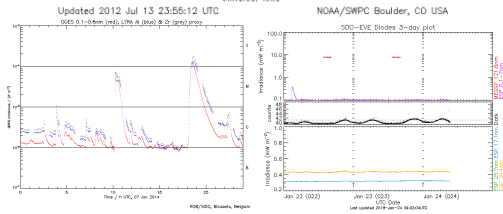
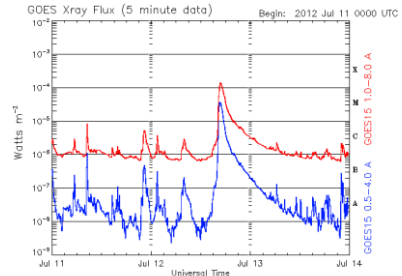


Solar X-ray flux and proxies

Ground-based 

Space-based 

GOES: Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellite
XRS: X-Ray Sensor
SDO: Solar Dynamics Observatory
EVE: Extreme ultraviolet Variability Experiment
PROBA2: Project for OnBoard Autonomy
LYRA: Large Yield Radiometer



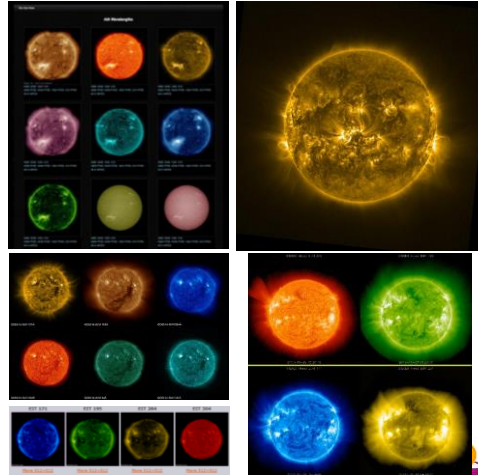


Solar EUV imagery

Ground-based 🌐

Space-based 🛰️

- GOES: Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellite
- SUVI: Solar Ultraviolet Imager
- SDO: Solar Dynamics Observatory
- AIA: Atmospheric Imaging Assembly
- PROBA2: PProject for OnBoard Autonomy
- SWAP: Sun Watcher using APS detector and image Processing
- SOHO: SOlar & Heliospheric Observatory
- EIT: Extreme ultraviolet Imaging Telescope
- STEREO: Solar-TERrestrial Relations Observatory
- EUVI: Extreme UltraViolet Imager

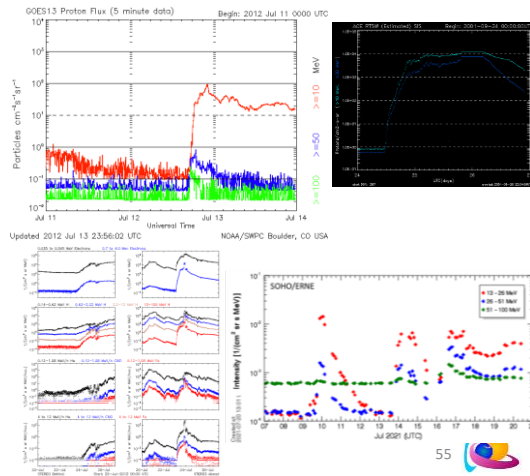




Solar proton flux

Ground-based 

Space-based 



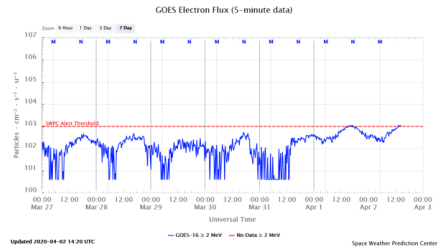
GOES: Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellite
ACE: Advanced Composition Explorer
STEREO: Solar-Terrestrial Relations Observatory
SOHO: Solar and Heliospheric Observatory



≥ 2 MeV electron flux

Ground-based 

Space-based 



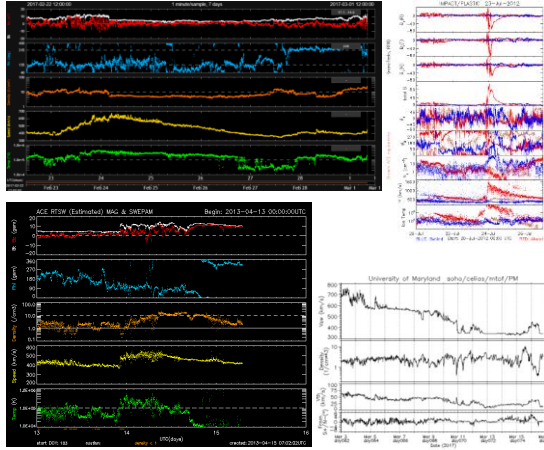
GOES: Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellite



Solar wind

Ground-based 

Space-based 



SOHO: Solar & Heliospheric Observatory
DSCOVR: Deep Space Climate Observatory
ACE: Advanced Composition Explorer
STEREO: Solar-Terrestrial Relations Observatory

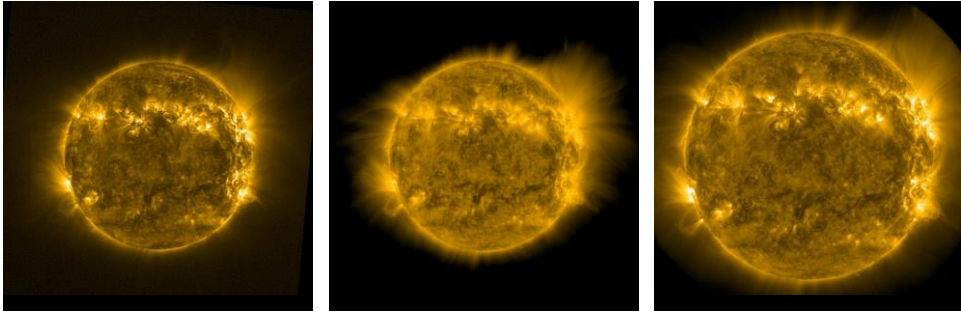


Exercises

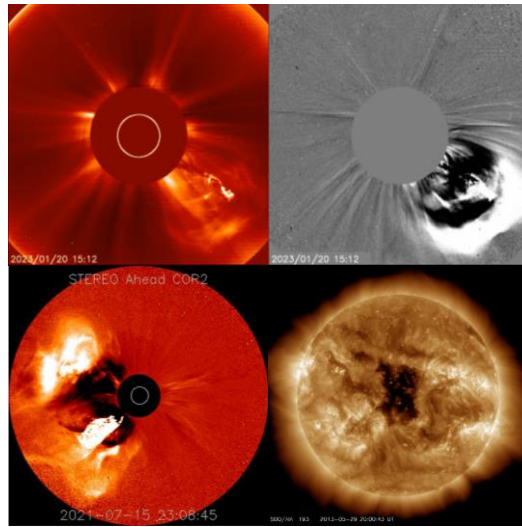


What are we looking at? Images, graphs, and tools.

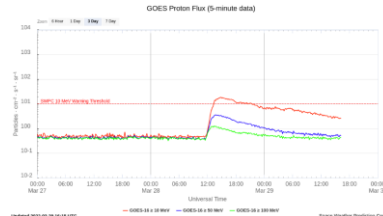
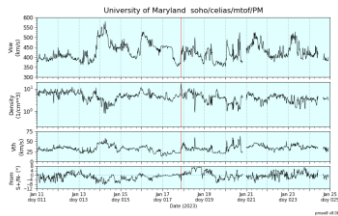
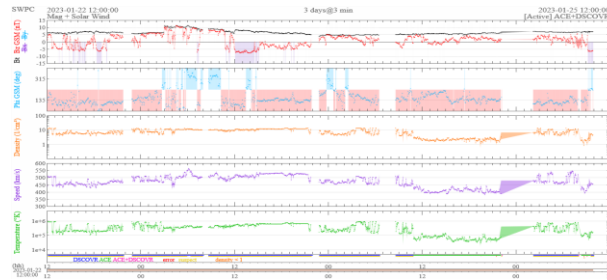
What are we looking at?
Which is the SDO image?



Which is not a coronagraphic image?



Which of the following graphs is not related to solar wind data?



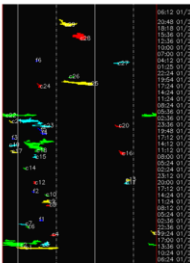
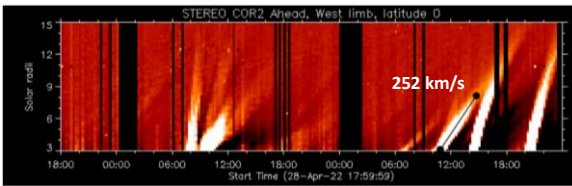
Which of the following tools is not used for CME analysis?

CACTUS 2.5.0
A software package for 'Computer Aided CME Tracking'

CMEs detected by Cactus

```

[Name]: Med Sun 25 07:31:52 2023
[Project]: Cactus catalogue (Data//file: dm/extract)
[Instrument]: LASCO Detector: c3 & Instrument: LASCO Detector: c3
[Threshold]: 0.30 | Factor: 2 | Wavelength: CME width:
#
First c1: 2023/04/23 00:00:07.717 23923407.41s
Last c1: 2023/04/23 06:12:07.408 23923706.41s
First c2: 2023/04/23 01:42:07.444 23713404.41s
Last c2: 2023/04/24 20:00:07.404 23713404.41s
#
# Output: Detected coronae with the following characteristics:
#
# CME: CME number
# Filo: Filo number. Filos are suspicious detections, their color in the detectionmap is dark blue
# AB: onset time, earliest indication of lift-off
# dB: duration of lift-off (hours)
# PA: principal angle, counter-clockwise from North (degrees)
# AA: angular width (degrees)
# V: median velocity (km/s)
# dv: variation (1 sigma) of velocity over the width of the CME
# sdev: lowest velocity detected within the CME
# hmax: highest velocity detected within the CME
# halo?: 11 of 64096, 111 of 640388, 19 of 640176, indicating potential halo/partial halo CME
#
# CME | ID | PA | dB | dv | sdev | hmax | halo?
#-----|---|---|---|---|---|---|---
0023(2023/04/24 21:13) 01 | 208 | 041 | 0070 | 0803 | 0738 | 0023 |
0023(2023/04/24 04:12) 01 | 043 | 006 | 0031 | 0053 | 0161 | 0023 |
0023(2023/04/24 04:12) 01 | 336 | 004 | 0070 | 0053 | 0271 | 0023 |
0023(2023/04/24 04:12) 01 | 043 | 006 | 0031 | 0053 | 0161 | 0023 |
0023(2023/04/23 19:24) 02 | 339 | 072 | 0061 | 0044 | 0444 | 0437 |
0023(2023/04/23 19:24) 02 | 338 | 070 | 0071 | 0061 | 0131 | 0437 |
    
```

Forecasting the Arrival of ICMEs: The Drag-Based Model

Basic Data | Advanced DMV | Documentation

CME date-of-date: [2023-04-23 07:31:52] [OK] [Cancel] [Help]

CME date-of-time (UTC): [06:12:07.408] [OK] [Cancel] [Help]

R_0 - starting radial distance of CME (R₀): [20] [OK] [Cancel] [Help]

v_0 - speed of CME at R₀ (km/s): [1000] [OK] [Cancel] [Help]


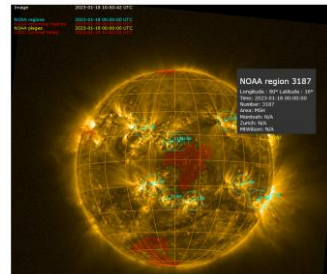
Γ - drag parameter (10⁻⁷ km⁻¹): [0.2] [OK] [Cancel] [Help]

ω - asymptotic solar wind speed (km/s): [400] [OK] [Cancel] [Help]

Range: target heliographic distance (AU): [1] [OK] [Cancel] [Help]

[Calculate] [Report]

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Exercises



Identify the ground-based stations, satellites, sensors, tools,... in the following URSIgrams (Comment)

URSIgram 1

```
:Issued: 2020 Feb 27 1230 UTC
:Product: documentation at http://www.sidc.be/products/tot
#-----#
# DAILY BULLETIN ON SOLAR AND GEOMAGNETIC ACTIVITY from the SIDC #
#-----#
SIDC URSIGRAM 00227
SIDC SOLAR BULLETIN 27 Feb 2020, 1230UT
SIDC FORECAST (valid from 1230UT, 27 Feb 2020 until 29 Feb 2020)
SOLAR FLARES : Quiet conditions (<50% probability of C-class flares)
GEOMAGNETISM : Quiet (A<20 and K<4)
SOLAR PROTONS : Quiet
PREDICTIONS FOR 27 Feb 2020 10CM FLUX: 071 / AP: 010
PREDICTIONS FOR 28 Feb 2020 10CM FLUX: 071 / AP: 006
PREDICTIONS FOR 29 Feb 2020 10CM FLUX: 071 / AP: 004
COMMENT: Solar activity was at very low levels. The Sun is still spotless, but this may change
as two small active regions at resp. latitudes S10 and N25 are about to rotate over the east limb
as seen in SDO/AIA and STEREO-A/EUVI imagery. No earth-directed coronal mass ejections (CMEs) have
been observed in available coronagraphic imagery. The greater than 10 MeV proton flux was at
nominal values. Some small and patchy equatorial coronal holes (CHs) are present on the solar disk.

Solar activity is expected to remain at very low levels.

Solar wind conditions were at background levels. Solar wind speed varied steadily between 330 and
370 km/s (ACE). Bz undulated between -5 and +5 nT. The direction of the interplanetary magnetic
field (phi angle) was variable. Geomagnetic conditions were at quiet levels, with an unsettled
episode (09-12UT) recorded at Dourbes.

Geomagnetic activity is expected to remain mostly at quiet levels, with an isolated unsettled
interval remaining possible.
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URSIgram 2

:Issued: 2018 Oct 13 1230 UTC

:Product: documentation at <http://www.sidc.be/products/tot>

DAILY BULLETIN ON SOLAR AND GEOMAGNETIC ACTIVITY from the SIDC

SIDC URSIGRAM 81013

SIDC SOLAR BULLETIN 13 Oct 2018, 1230UT

SIDC FORECAST (valid from 1230UT, 13 Oct 2018 until 15 Oct 2018)

SOLAR FLARES : Quiet conditions (<50% probability of C-class flares)

GEOMAGNETISM : Minor storm expected (A>=30 or K=5)

SOLAR PROTONS : Quiet

PREDICTIONS FOR 13 Oct 2018 10CM FLUX: 072 / AP: 006

PREDICTIONS FOR 14 Oct 2018 10CM FLUX: 072 / AP: 029

PREDICTIONS FOR 15 Oct 2018 10CM FLUX: 072 / AP: 021

COMMENT: Beta region NOAA AR 2724 near the East limb has produced a B2.1 flare peaking at 01:50UT on October 12, associated with a Type II radio burst observed at Learmonth, and a B7.1 flare peaking at 14:08 UT, associated with a Type II radio burst registered in Humain. The chance for a C flare in the next 24 hours is estimated at 35%.

No Earth-directed Coronal Mass Ejections (CMEs) were observed in available coronagraphic imagery.

The greater than 10 MeV proton flux was at nominal levels in the past 24 hours, and is expected to stay at nominal levels in the next 24 hours.

Solar wind speed near Earth as registered by DSCOVR decreased from about 400 to 340 km/s about in the past 24 hours. The Interplanetary Magnetic Field (IMF) was predominantly directed away from the Sun and its magnitude varied between about 1 and 8 nT. Bz was never below -5 nT. A high speed stream from a negative polarity equatorial coronal hole is expected to arrive at Earth near the start of October 14, enhancing the solar wind conditions.

Quiet geomagnetic conditions (K Dourbes between 1 and 2; NOAA Kp between 1 and 3) were registered in the past 24 hours. Quiet to unsettled levels (K Dourbes < 4) are expected on October 13. Active geomagnetic levels (K Dourbes = 4) are possible on October 14 and 15 due to the expected arrival of a high speed stream from a negative polarity equatorial coronal hole, with a chance for minor storm (K Dourbes = 5) intervals.

65



URSIgram 3

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:Issued: 2017 May 24 1310 UTC
:Product: documentation at http://www.sidc.be/products/tot
#-----#
# DAILY BULLETIN ON SOLAR AND GEOMAGNETIC ACTIVITY from the SIDC #
#-----#
SIDC URSIGRAM 70524
SIDC SOLAR BULLETIN 24 May 2017, 1310UT
SIDC FORECAST (valid from 1230UT, 24 May 2017 until 26 May 2017)
SOLAR FLARES : Quiet conditions (<50% probability of C-class flares)
GEOMAGNETISM : Active conditions expected (A>=20 or K=4)
SOLAR PROTONS : Quiet
PREDICTIONS FOR 24 May 2017 10CM FLUX: 076 / AP: 004
PREDICTIONS FOR 25 May 2017 10CM FLUX: 075 / AP: 007
PREDICTIONS FOR 26 May 2017 10CM FLUX: 076 / AP: 013
COMMENT: Over the past 24 hours solar activity has been very low. There has been one B4.4 flare
peaking at 14:21 UT on 23-May-2017, coming from NOAA Active Region (AR) 2660 (McIntosh class:Bxo;
Mag.Type:Beta). There are three more decaying NOAA AR on the visible side of the solar disk. Solar
activity is expected to remain low over the next 24 hours with a probability of C-class flares.

A slow partial halo CME, with projected speed of about 192 km/s and angular width of about 122
degrees, was detected at 05:24 UT by CACTUS on 23-May-2017. The PROBA2/SWAP images analysis indicates
strong dimming near solar disk centre as the source of the CME. WSA-ENLIL model predicts the arrival
of CME at Earth around noon on 26-May-2017.

The total electron flux for electrons with energies above 2 MeV reached high levels. The total proton
flux for protons with energies above 10 MeV remained at background level. The greater than 2 MeV
electron flux is expected to reach high levels today and tomorrow (25-May-2017) in response to
elevated solar wind speeds.

The solar wind speed decreased from about 520 km/s to values around 470 km/s during last 24 hours.
The total interplanetary magnetic field (IMF) strength, as recorded by the DSCOVR satellite, was
around 4 nT. Bz fluctuated between -3 and +3 nT being mostly negative. Geomagnetic conditions were
ranged K Dourbes between 1 and 3; NOAA Kp between 1 and 2. The geomagnetic field is expected to be
quiet today and tomorrow. Unsettled to active conditions are expected, with a minor storm possibility
after noon 26-May-2017 due to the arrival of the 23-May-2017 CME.
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URSIgram 4

:Issued: 2017 Oct 21 1236 UTC
:Product: documentation at <http://www.sidc.be/products/tot>
#-----#
DAILY BULLETIN ON SOLAR AND GEOMAGNETIC ACTIVITY from the SIDC #
#-----#

SIDC URSIGRAM 71021

SIDC SOLAR BULLETIN 21 Oct 2017, 1236UT

SIDC FORECAST (valid from 1230UT, 21 Oct 2017 until 23 Oct 2017)

SOLAR FLARES : C-class flares expected, (probability >=50%)

GEOMAGNETISM : Active conditions expected (A>=20 or K=4)

SOLAR PROTONS : Quiet

PREDICTIONS FOR 21 Oct 2017 10CM FLUX: 077 / AP: 017

PREDICTIONS FOR 22 Oct 2017 10CM FLUX: 077 / AP: 007

PREDICTIONS FOR 23 Oct 2017 10CM FLUX: 077 / AP: 007

COMMENT: From the East limb, returning NOAA region 2682 produced a long duration M1.1 flare peaking at 23:28 UT on October 20. An associated dimming was detected by Solar Demon, and an associated Type II radio burst was observed by Palehua at 23:35 UT with a corresponding speed of 344 km/s. SOHO LASCO C2 and C3 and STEREO COR2 A have observed an associated bright CME, first seen in LASCO C2 at 00:00 UT on October 21, from the northeast to the southeast. Analysis of COR2 A jplots revealed a plane of sky speed of about 385 km/s, yielding a full speed of 770 km/s. Due to the position of the source, this CME will not be geoeffective. C flares are likely in the next 24 hours (70% probability), with a chance for an M flare (30% probability).

No Earth-directed Coronal Mass Ejections (CMEs) were observed in available coronagraphic imagery.

The greater than 10 MeV proton flux was at nominal levels.

A small, fast forward shock in the solar wind occurred at 5:16 UT on October 21. Solar wind speed registered by DSCOVR jumped from about 340 to 365 km/s, while the magnitude of the Interplanetary Magnetic Field (IMF) jumped from about 4 to 6 nT. Current solar wind speed is about 360 km/s and current IMF magnitude is about 8.5 nT. The IMF was directed away from the Sun until it started pointing towards the Sun around 7:40 UT on October 21. Quiet to unsettled conditions (K Dourbes between 1 and 3; NOAA Kp between 1 and 2) were registered in the past 24 hours. There is a chance for active geomagnetic levels (K Dourbes = 4) on October 21. Quiet to unsettled geomagnetic levels (K Dourbes < 4) are expected on October 22 and 23.



Summary

- Both ground- and space-based data and imagery are used in SWx
 - Depends on the SWx user community and the purpose
 - Tools
- Multiple stations are a must
 - Back-up, cross-check & continuous monitoring
 - Reversed engineering
- Exercises