

# SOHO

...

Solar and Heliospheric Observatory

# Basic Facts



launched 2 December 1995

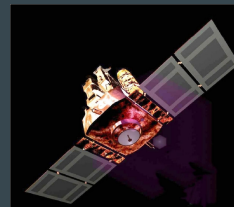
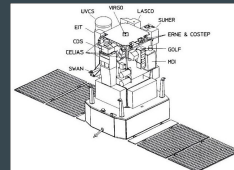
Initial lifetime: 2y, observing the Sun for 25 years

ESA and NASA collaboration



spacecraft built in Europe,  
equipped with 12 instruments

Costs a 100 mil Eur



# Objectives

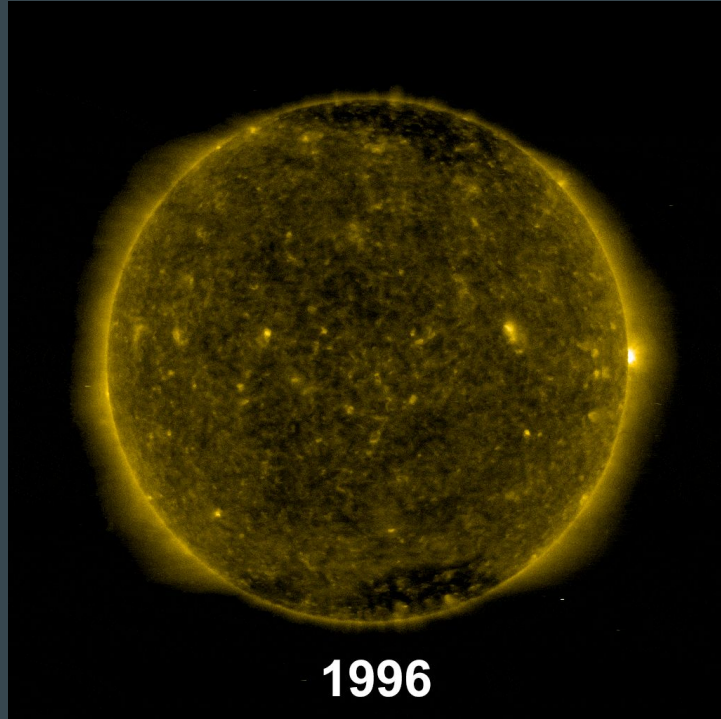
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**What is the structure and dynamics of the solar interior?**

**Why does the solar corona exist and how is it heated to the extremely high temperature of about 1 000 000°C?**

**Where is the solar wind produced and how is it accelerated?**

# Designed to study...



- the internal structure of the Sun
- its extensive outer atmosphere and the origin of the solar wind
- the stream of highly ionized gas that blows continuously outward through the Solar System

# SOHO IN NUMBERS



**4 000**  
comets



**15**  
years on  
ground stations

**30 000**  
coronal mass  
ejections

**0**  
gyros



**2.4 million**  
command blocks sent



**25**  
years

**2**  
solar cycles

**20 million**  
images



**300**  
PhD theses



**6 000**  
papers published

**50 TB**

data in SOHO archive



# Onboarded Instruments

Coronal Diagnostic Spectrometer (CDS)

Charge, Element, and Isotope Analysis System (CELIAS)

Comprehensive Suprathermal and Energetic Particle Analyzer (COSTEP)

Extreme ultraviolet Imaging Telescope (EIT)

Energetic and Relativistic Nuclei and Electron experiment (ERNE)

Global Oscillations at Low Frequencies (GOLF)

Large Angle and Spectrometric Coronagraph (LASCO)

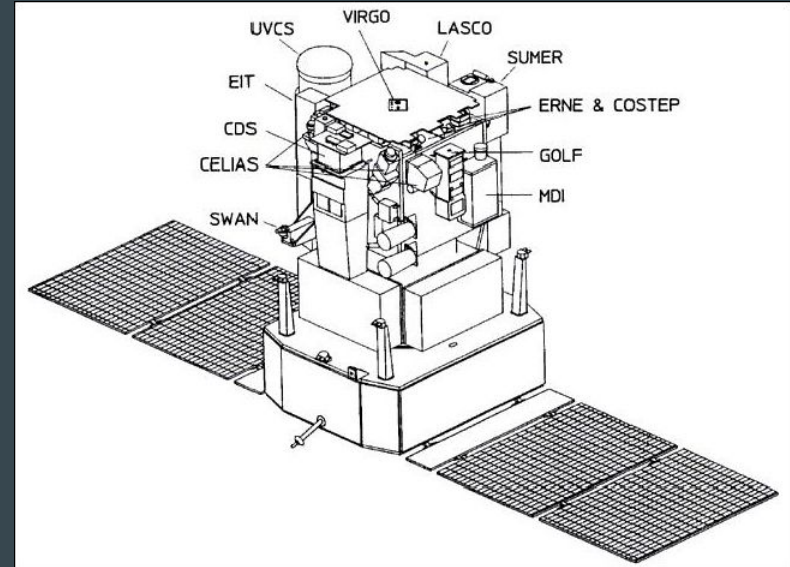
Michelson Doppler Imager/Solar Oscillations Investigation (MDI/SOI)

Solar Ultraviolet Measurements of Emitted Radiation (SUMER)

Solar Wind Anisotropies (SWAN)

UltraViolet Coronagraph Spectrometer (UVCS)

Variability of Solar Irradiance and Gravity Oscillations (VIRGO)

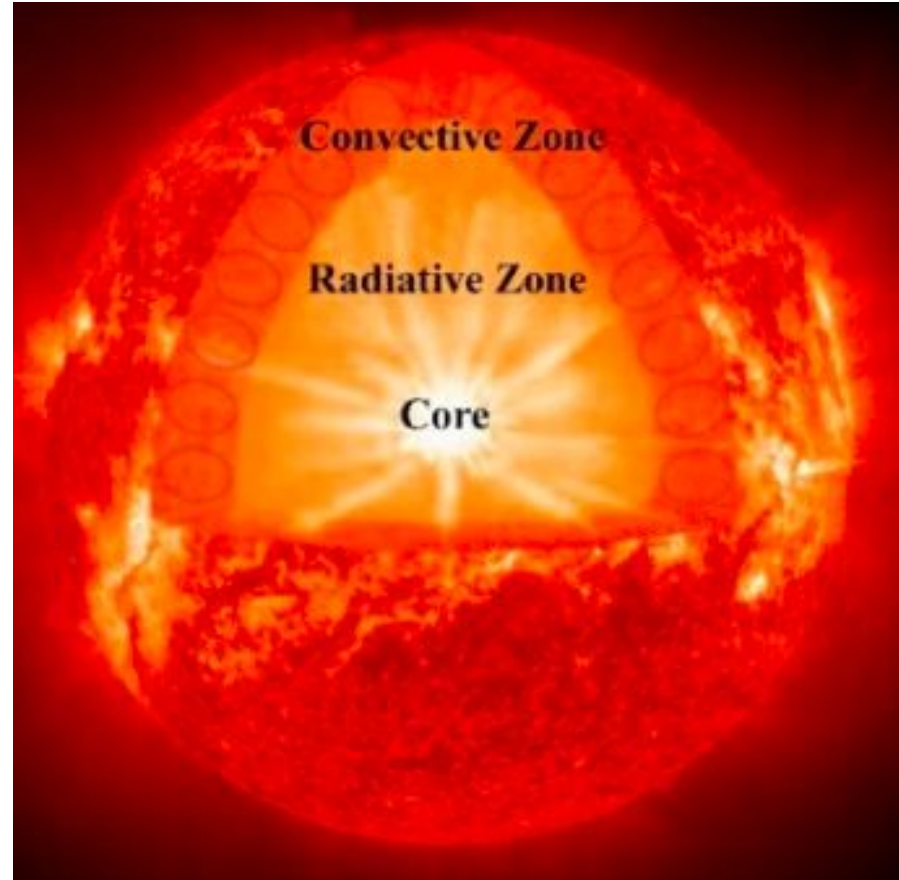


Dimensions: 4.3×2.7×3.7m (9.5m with solar arrays deployed)

# Results

# Star's Convection Zone

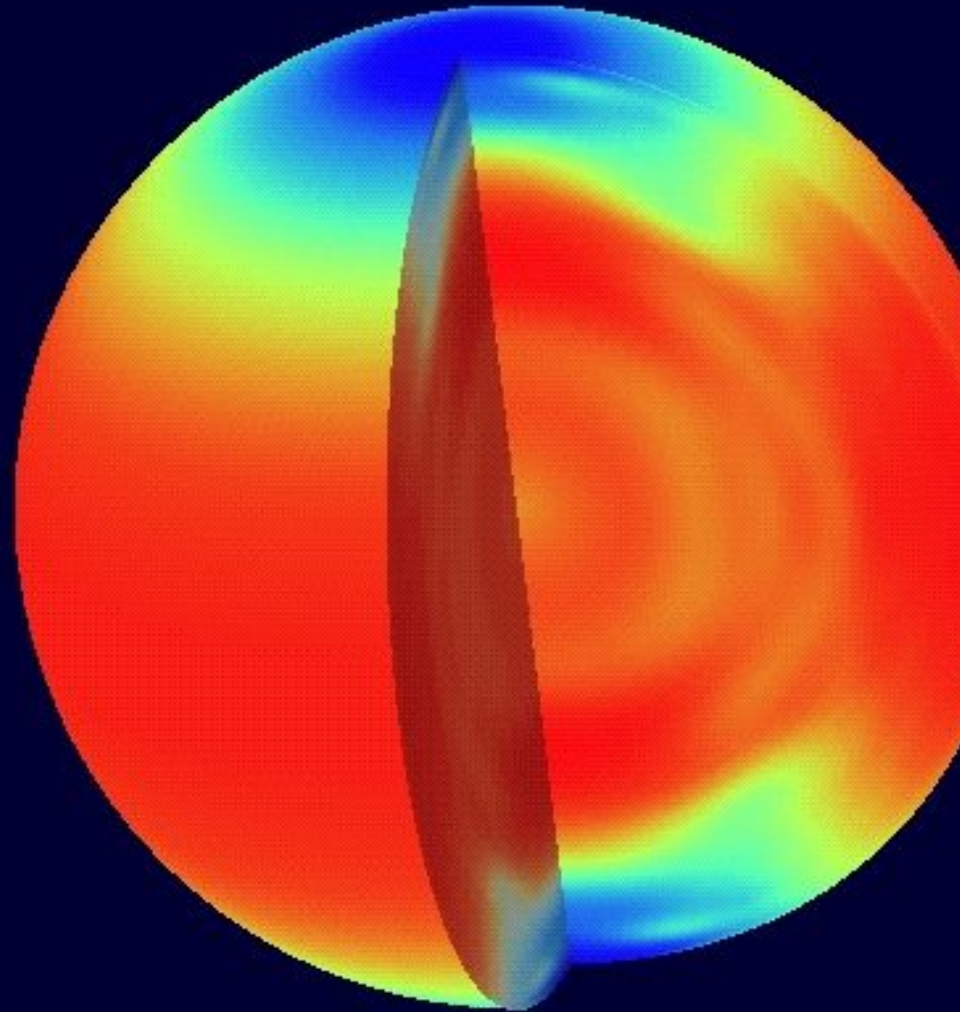
Revealing the first images ever of a star's convection zone (its turbulent outer shell) and of the structure of sunspots below the surface





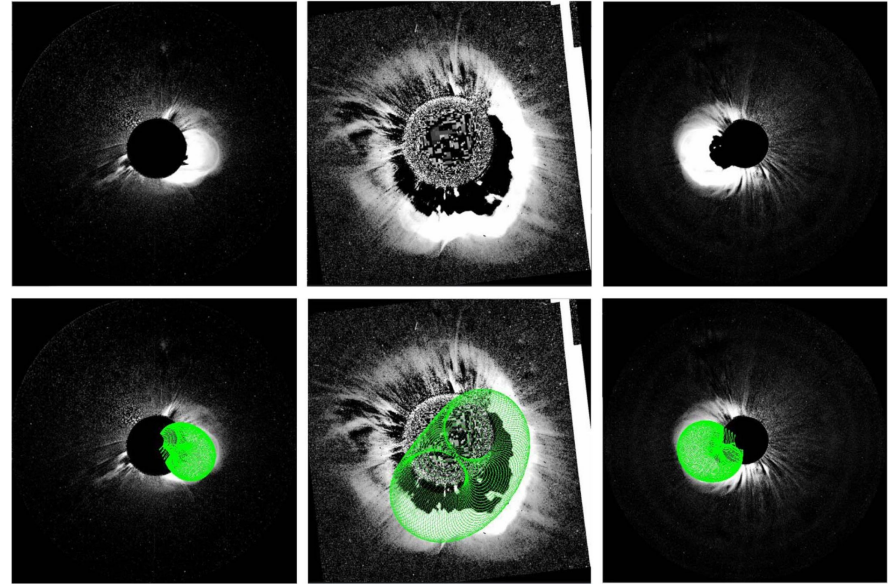
# Precise Solar Interior

Providing the most detailed and precise measurements of the temperature structure, the interior rotation, and gas flows in the solar interior



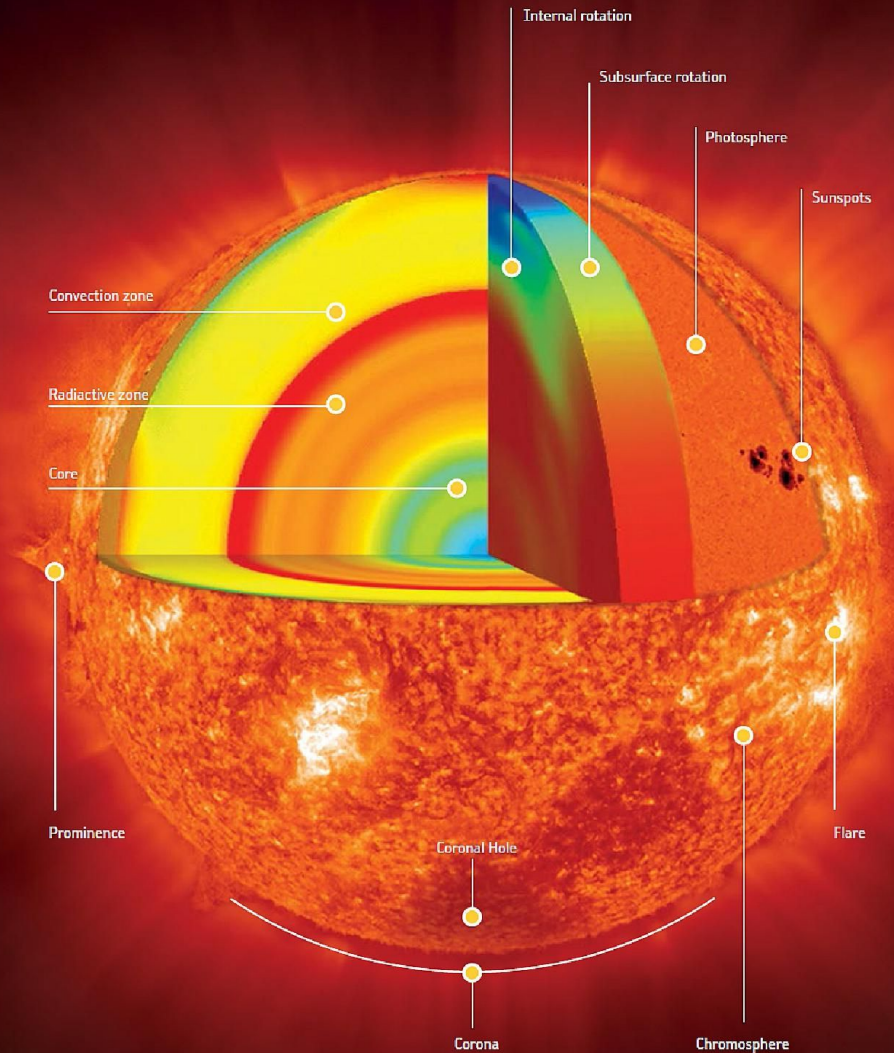
# Solar Wind Acceleration

Measuring the acceleration of the slow and fast solar wind



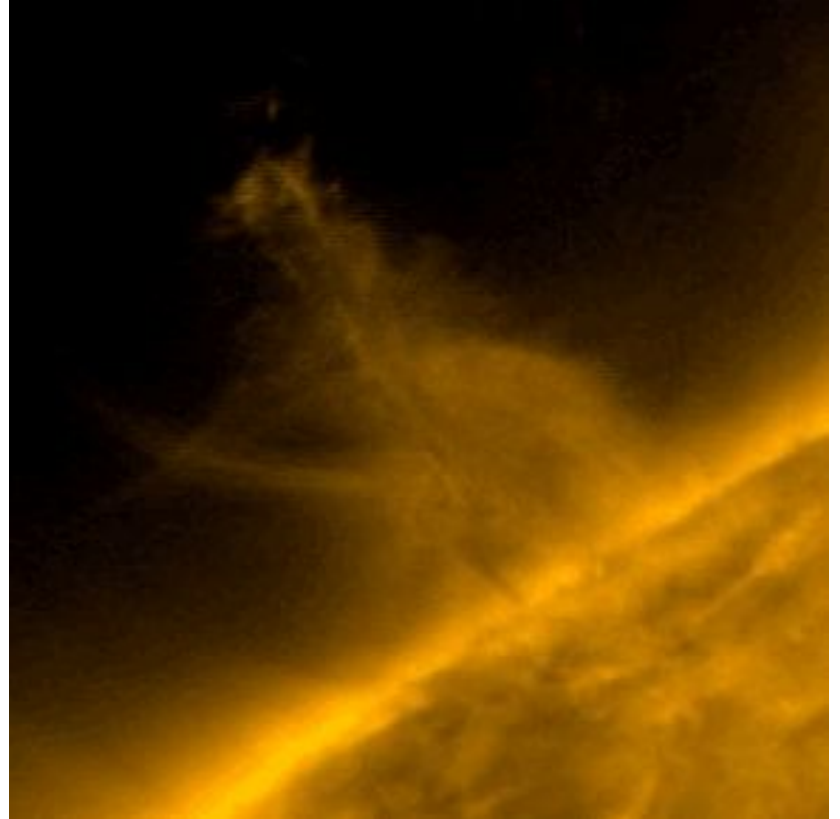
# Magnetically “Open” Regions

Identifying the source regions and  
acceleration mechanism of the  
fast solar wind in the magnetically  
“open” regions at the Sun’s poles



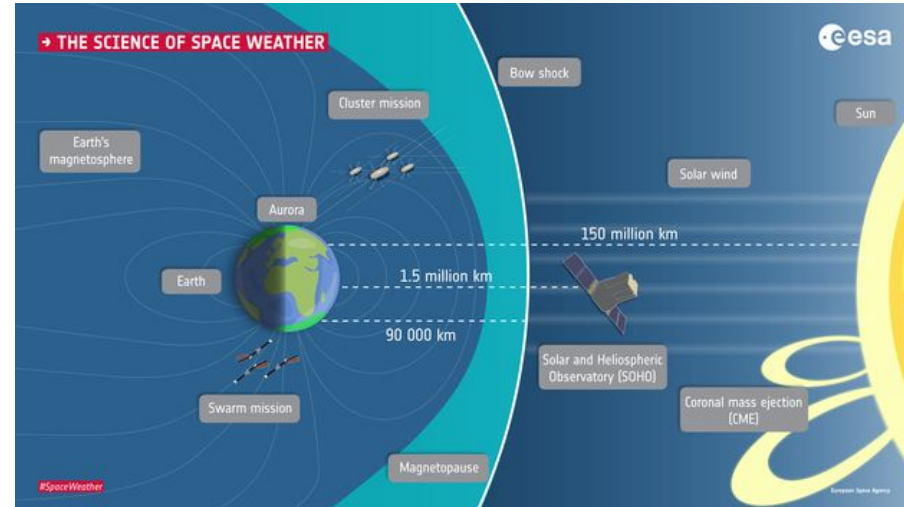
# Solar Tornadoes

Discovering new dynamic solar phenomena such as coronal waves and solar tornadoes



# Space Weather Forecast

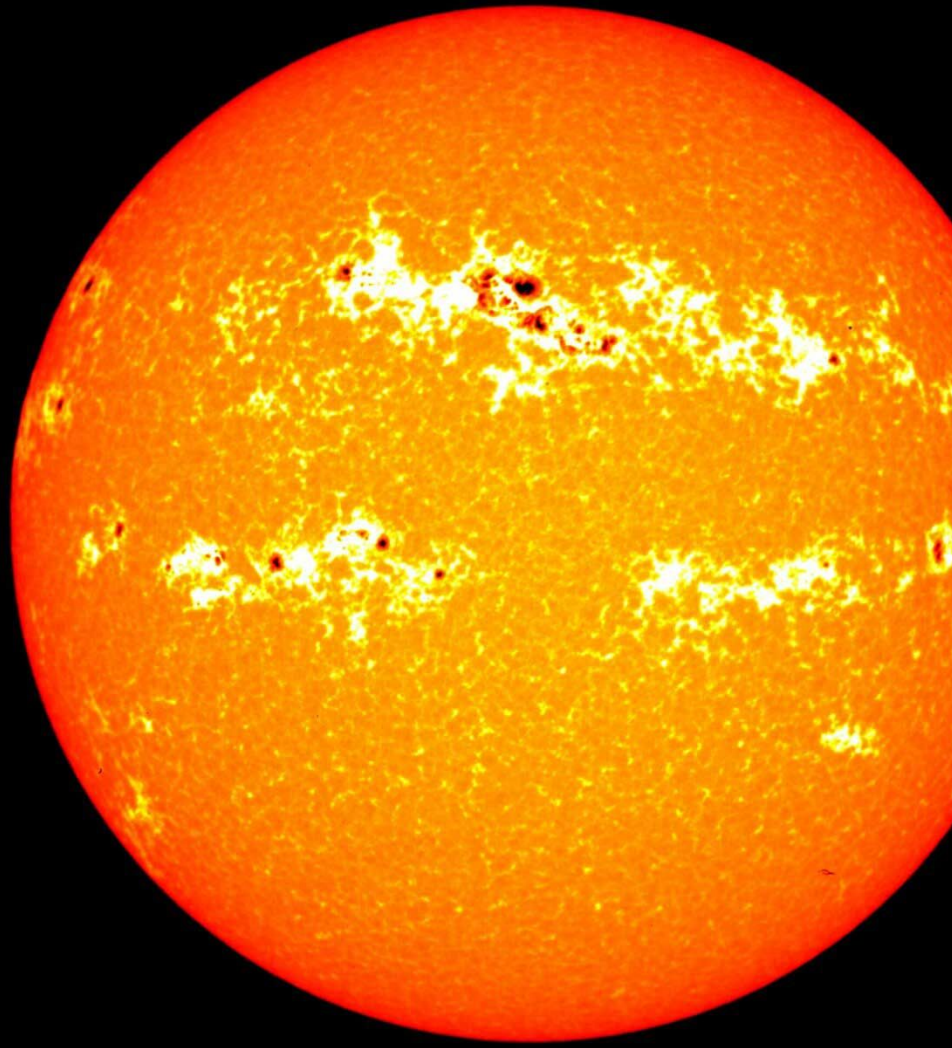
Revolutionizing our ability to forecast space weather, by giving up to three days notice of Earth-directed disturbances, and playing a lead role in the early warning system for space weather





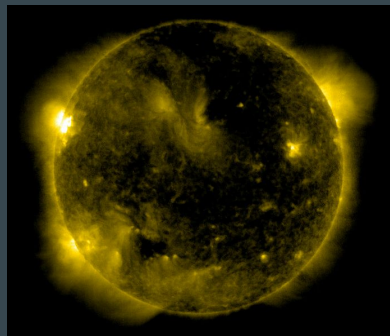
# Solar Irradiance

Monitoring the total solar irradiance (the 'solar constant') as well as variations in the extreme ultra violet flux, both of which are important to understand the impact of solar variability on Earth's climate.

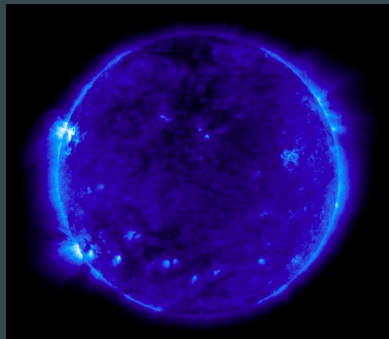


# SOHO Webcam <[link](#)> / As of 22-Aug-2021

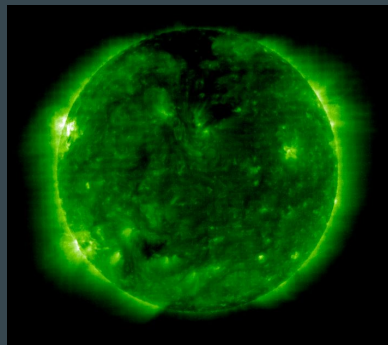
EIT 284



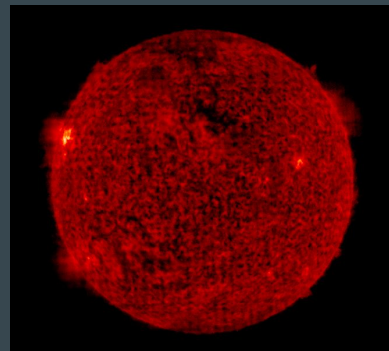
EIT 171



EIT 195



EIT 304



# Data Processing

SunPy contains sample images from many instruments, including EIT at 195 Angstrom.



## Imports

```
sunpy, sunpy.map,  
sunpy.data.sample, Fido,  
attrs
```

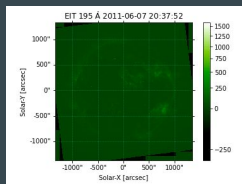
```
matplotlib.pyplot
```

```
from astropy.units import  
AA
```



## Data Mapping

```
eit =  
sunpy.map.Map(sunpy.data.samp  
le.EIT_195_IMAGE)  
  
eit.peek()
```



## Data Load

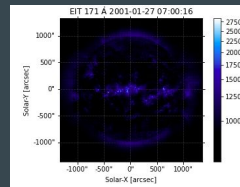
```
qr = Fido.search(  
a.Time(datetime(2001, 1, 1),  
datetime(2010, 12, 31)),  
a.Instrument.eit,  
a.Wavelength(171 * AA) )
```

```
files = Fido.fetch(qr[:, 100:101])
```



## Visualization

```
img = sunpy.map.Map(files)  
  
img.peek().
```





# Links

- <https://esamultimedia.esa.int/docs/science/soho/index.html>
- <https://www.geocam.ru/en/online/soho-eit-171/>
- [https://space.skyrocket.de/doc\\_sdat/soho.htm](https://space.skyrocket.de/doc_sdat/soho.htm)