Surface magnetic field-based írradíance models





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Why bother? To answer the most pressing questions raised in the media!



Measured total irradiance: sunspots



Importance of faculae





Influence of magnetic features in photosphere on energy flux

Sunspots: B in spot blocks energy transport. Blocked energy is distributed over CZ on convective time scale (≈month). Stored energy is released over 10⁵ years on thermal equilibrium time scale (Spruit 1982) → only weak bright rings around spots (Waldmeier 1938; Rast et al. 01)



Faculae: Faculae increase solar surface area (via Wilson depression) → enhanced emission. Excess flux taken from CZ on convective time scale (Spruit 1976; Deinzer et al. 1984)

MHD simulations: from quiet Sun to strong plage



Radiation MHD simulations of solar surface layers. Open lower boundary with fixed value of entropy for bottom inflow (i.e. assume irradiance changes in surface layers)

50 G

Vögler et al. 2005 6000x6000x1400 km box, 20km grid

200 G



400 G

MHD simulations: from quiet Sun to strong plage



Vertical cut through a sheet-like structure



- partial evacuation leads to a depression of the τ =1 level
- lateral heating from hot walls (Spruit 1976)
- Brightness enhancement of small structures

Radiation flux vectors & temperature



B₀=200 G: CLV of wavelength-integrated brightness





panels separately normalized

Facular brightening



Facula: narrow layer of hot material on side and top of adjacent granule

Dark lane: - cool & tenuous material in adjacent flux concentration

- cool & dense material above neighbouring granule





Keller et al. 2004)

From quiet Sun to strong plage

Photometric properties (normalized to case B₀=0)





Total emerging energy flux Mean disk center λ-integrated intensity Constant entropy of inflowing gas at the bottom

CLV of continuum intensity at 676.8 nm



Pore simulation: brightening near the limb

Pore appears brighter near limb due to Wilson depression: hot walls become visible, dark bottom is hidden







μ=0.3

μ=0.5

μ=0.7

SATIRE: Spectral And Total Irradiance REconstruction

Semi-empirical model with main assumption: B-field at solar surface causes TSI + SSI variations in UV,vis,IR

Components: Spots (contin. images), faculae + network (magnetograms), quiet Sun

Model atmospheres

1 free parameter



Filling Factors





$$\alpha_s = 1 \text{ (or } 0)$$

$$\alpha_q = 1 - \alpha_s \alpha_f$$



SATIRE TSI vs. PMOD composite



>90% of solar irradiance variations on time scales days to solar cycle caused by surface magnetism.

Caveat: There is a free parameter in the model



Wenzler et al. 2006, A&A

What about other TSI composites?

 3 composites available: PMOD (Fröhlich), ACRIM (Willson), IRMB (DeWitte et al.).

Differ in employed data sets + corrections: trends

SATIRE model gives best agreement with Fröhlich's TSI composite. Thus, if another composite, e.g. of Willson, were to be correct, then the secular trend present in that composite cannot be caused by surface magnetic fields.



Further Applications of SATIRE

 SATIRE also reproduces, spectral irradiance changes over time (Krivova et al. 06, 08; Unruh et al. 99, 08), and variation of spectral lines over solar cycle (Danilovic et al. 2008) with same value of free parameter!

Same model also reproduces the change from facular to spot dominated irradiance variations with increasing stellar activity (Knaack et al. 2008)





How strongly do different wavelengths contribute to TSI and TSI variations?



Irradiance butterfly diagram



Solar Irradiance Since 1610 Based on Magnetic Field Reconstruction

Model agrees with: obs. TSI, total & open magn. flux

→ estimates
 of secular rise
 in TSI since
 Maunder
 minimum
 ≈0.9-1.5 W/m²



Krivova et al. 2007

Outlook: Improve sunspot models

Incorporate new knowledge: sunspot intensity depends strongly on size (Mathew et al. 2007)



Outlook: improved treatment of faculae, improved magnetograms

Compute spectra from 3D radiation MHD simulations and use these to determine total and spectral irradiance

no free parameter needed anymore.



Employ lower noise magnetograms available from SOLIS and hopefully from SDO (allow also brightening from weaker fields to be included, in particular also near the limb).



Outlook: Irradiance over 11 kyr



Vieira et al. in preparation

- Use SN obtained from ¹⁴C data (cf. Usoskin et al. talk on wed) to reconstruct TSI over 11400 years
- Only cycle averages can be reconstructed with ¹⁴C data
- Make use of near-linear relationship betw. 10-year avges. of SN and of reconstructed TSI since Maunder minimum







What about other composites?

 3 composites available: PMOD (Fröhlich), ACRIM (Willson), IRMB (DeWitte).

Differ in employed data sets + corrections: trends



SATIRE UV irradiance vs. SUSUM

Reconstruction of spectral irradiance based on the same model as for total irradiance, with same value of free parameter!



Krivova and Solanki 2006 A&A

Spectral Irradiance: SATIRE vs. SUSIM

Relative difference between UV irradiance at activity max & min

Other models with more detailed radiative transfer have been and are being constructed by Haberreiter et al. 2005, Haberreiter 2006; Fontenla et al. 2004, 2006. They will eventually improve on these reconstructions.

> 100 Krivova and Solanki 2005

100,000



1000

Spectral Irradiance over Cycle



Stratospheric chemistry.

≈60% of TSI

solar cycle

change over a

Although UV

provides only

contribution to

a minor

Krivova and Solanki 2006 A&A

New tests of SATIRE II: Livingston's line observations



Solar cycle variation is absent

Danilovic et al. 2006

New tests of SATIRE II: Livingston's line observations



Significant solar cycle variation

Danilovic et al. 2006

Regimes of solar magnetoconvection



horizontal scale of convection decreases

convective energy transport decreases



G-band image: KIS/VTT, Tenerife

From quiet Sun to strong plage



Weak fields: exponential

Strong fields: Gaussian

 Efficiency of convective field intensification decreases for small B₀

3D view of a thin flux sheet



Face-on view

Quasi 2-dimensional above the surface
Loss of coherence beneath the surface

Facular brightening



(continuum image: SST, La Palma θ=60° λ=488nm)

Recent observations reveal: (Lites et al. 2004)

3D appearance of faculae extension up to 0.5" narrow dark lanes centerward of faculae

Irradiances from different layers

TSI: reference daily curve; monthly smoothed



Photospheric irradiance has both spot and facular contributions; chromospheric and coronal irradiance has mainly facular contribution

F10.7 cm: daily: 0.36 monthly: 0.73



/06

Contrast of magnetic features

Chromosphere (Ca II K)

Photosphere (λ ≈ 5251Å, contin)

Frazier (1971)



Influence of magnetic features in chromosphere

Photosphere: heat blocking & release at solar surface

Chromosphere: release of excess energy stored in field or channelled by field to higher layers (e.g. MHD wave dissipation, or in current sheets).

Sunspots: dark in photosph+lower chromo; neutral-bright in upper chromosphere + TR



Irradiance Modelling

Many models involving radiative proxies of B, e.g. Fröhlich & Lean 1998, Fligge et al. 1998, DeToma et al. 2004 (Mg c/w); Ermolli et al. 2003, Fontenla et al. 2004 (PSPT);
Preminger et al. 2002, 2005, 2006 (SFO, spots); Foster 2004, Jain & Hasan 2004 (Φ).

SATIRE model discussed here is based on magnetic field at solar surface. It has 1 free parameter.
Fligge et al. (2000); Krivova et al. (2003); Wenzler et al. (2004, 2005, 2006); Haberreiter et al. (2005); Unruh et al. (2006); Danilovic et al. (2006)