Long-term Solar Variability Based on the TSI-Measurement Record

Greg Kopp CU/LASP & MPI/MPS

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- Coupled Model Intercomparison Project (CMIP6) TSI inputs show a large modern-era downward trend compared to CMIP5
 - May affect global-climate-model sensitivity to solar forcing







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SORCE/TIM TSI Record







SORCE/TIM TSI Record – 2 Months



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SORCE/TIM TSI Record – 2 Weeks



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SORCE/TIM TSI Record – 1 Day



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SORCE/TIM TSI Record – 2 Orbits



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Timescales of TSI Variability

 Minutes 	0.01%
• Days	<0.3%
 Solar Cycle 	0.1%
 Century 	???
 Evolutionary (MS) 	10 ⁻¹⁰ / vr





Current TSI-Measurement Record



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- Larger intrinsic degradation likely also has larger correctionuncertainties
 - Level 1 VIRGO data demonstrate level of variations of individual channels



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Level 1 Data (all 4 channels)

Solar Variability Based on TSI Record



Level 2 Data (VIRGO)





ACRIM3 degradation fitted by 6th order polynomial

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Current TSI-Measurement Record



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"Early Increase" Corrections Applied



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Diffraction & Scatter Erroneously Increase Signal

All instruments except the TIM put primary aperture close to the cavity



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Comparisons to Sunspots Indicate Differences



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Data Should Likely Be Corrected for Early Increase



- How stable are composites?
 - Depends on the data upon which they are based





ACRIM Annual Signal of ~200 ppm



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Instrument Data Comparisons Can Indicate Artifacts



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Instrument Data Comparisons Can Indicate Artifacts



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VIRGO Stability

~10 ppm/yr claimed



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Recent VIRGO Data Indicate Stability Uncertainties



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Issues with Existing Composites

- Binary (and biased) selection of instrument data used
 - Discontinuities at boundaries
- Uncertain corrections applied to data records
- Normalizations incorrect
- Lack uncertainties







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Comparisons of Models and Composites

- Long-term solar trends differ
 - Differences have significant effects for climate researchers and resulting sensitivities to solar vs. anthropogenic forcing
 - Solar-irradiance community needs to specify and validate stabilityuncertainties in measurements and models







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New TSI Composite Being Created

- Uses all available instrument data
 - Scale-wise weightings
- Uses an unbiased statistical approach
- Normalized to most accurate instruments
- Has time-dependent uncertainties

Confidential manuscript submitted to Geophysical Research Letters

Methodology to create a new Total Solar Irradiance record: Making a composite out of multiple data records

Thierry Dudok de Wit¹, Greg Kopp^{2,0}, Claus Fröhlich⁴, and Micha Schöll^{1,5}

LPC2E, CNRS and University of Orl6ans, France ⁷Laboratory for Atmospheric and Space Physics, University of Colocado, Boulder, CO, USA [Max-Planck-Institut filt Space Physics, University of Colocado, Boulder, CO, USA ⁹Dialeawaldstrasse 30, Davos Wolfgang, Switzerland ⁹Physicalisch Meteorologisches Observatorium Davos and World Radiation Center, Davos Dorf, Switzerland



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Needed TSI Composite Refinements

- Agree on amount of "early increase" correction (if any) to apply
- Estimate initial uncertainties
- Update regularly



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Measurement Differences Show 1/f Power Scaling

Dispersion is not indicative of linear trends or of white noise



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TIM Comparisons



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Solar Variability Based on TSI Record



0.1

-0.

-0.2

200

-200

-400

600

-800

600

400

200

200

-400

200

-200

-400

-600

Jan

2017

D

n

ffset (ppm)

0

D

2

Variations

0

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• The last few decades...

– …when we should have been doing the best!



NRLTSI underestimates solar cycle (minor concern for climate)

SATIRE has large downward trend (more major concern)

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• The last few decades...

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New Sunspot-Number Reconstruction(s)

- Community reanalysis of sunspot-number records lead to new series
 - Clette & Lefèvre, "The New Sunspot Number: Assembling All Corrections," Solar Physics, 291, 2016







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New Sunspot-Group-Number Reconstruction(s)

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Sensitivity of TSI Models to Sunspot Record(s)

 Kopp, G., Krivova, N., Lean, J., and Wu, C.J., "The Impact of the Revised Sunspot Record on Solar Irradiance Reconstructions," *Solar Physics*, 2016, doi: 10.1007/s11207-016-0853-x









Improvements. And What Needs Improving

- Have improved TSI-record accuracy and understanding of artifacts
 Older TSI instrument-data are not as good as assumed by users; newer better
- TSI composite improved with reduced biases and better instrument-transition overlaps
 - Methodology demonstrated, but final composite needs refining
- Models are getting more sophisticated
 - But large downward trend of SATIRE relative to measurements and NRLTSI in recent decades is concerning
- CMIP6 clarity on models used and arithmetic mean

• The sunspot-number reconstruction may make this all irrelevant...



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