

United Nations Committee on Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPOUS)

Space Weather Expert Group

Thematic Priority 4: Developing an International Framework for
Space Weather Services (2018-30).

Hermann Opgenoorth

University of Umeå, Sweden

University of Leicester, UK

and ESF / ESSC

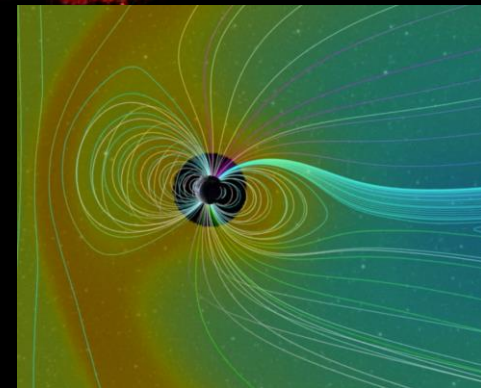
Thanks to Ian R. Mann

Chairman and Rapporteur UN COPOUS

Space Weather Expert Group

and Karel Schrijver, Chair of the

COSPAR-ILWS Space Weather Roadmap Team



Coronal Mass Ejection - CME :

Plasma imbedded in a bubble of coronal magnetic field

- Mass: $\sim 10^{14}$ kg, Density a few tens per cm^2
- Speed: a few hundred to several thousand km/s

...or comparable to

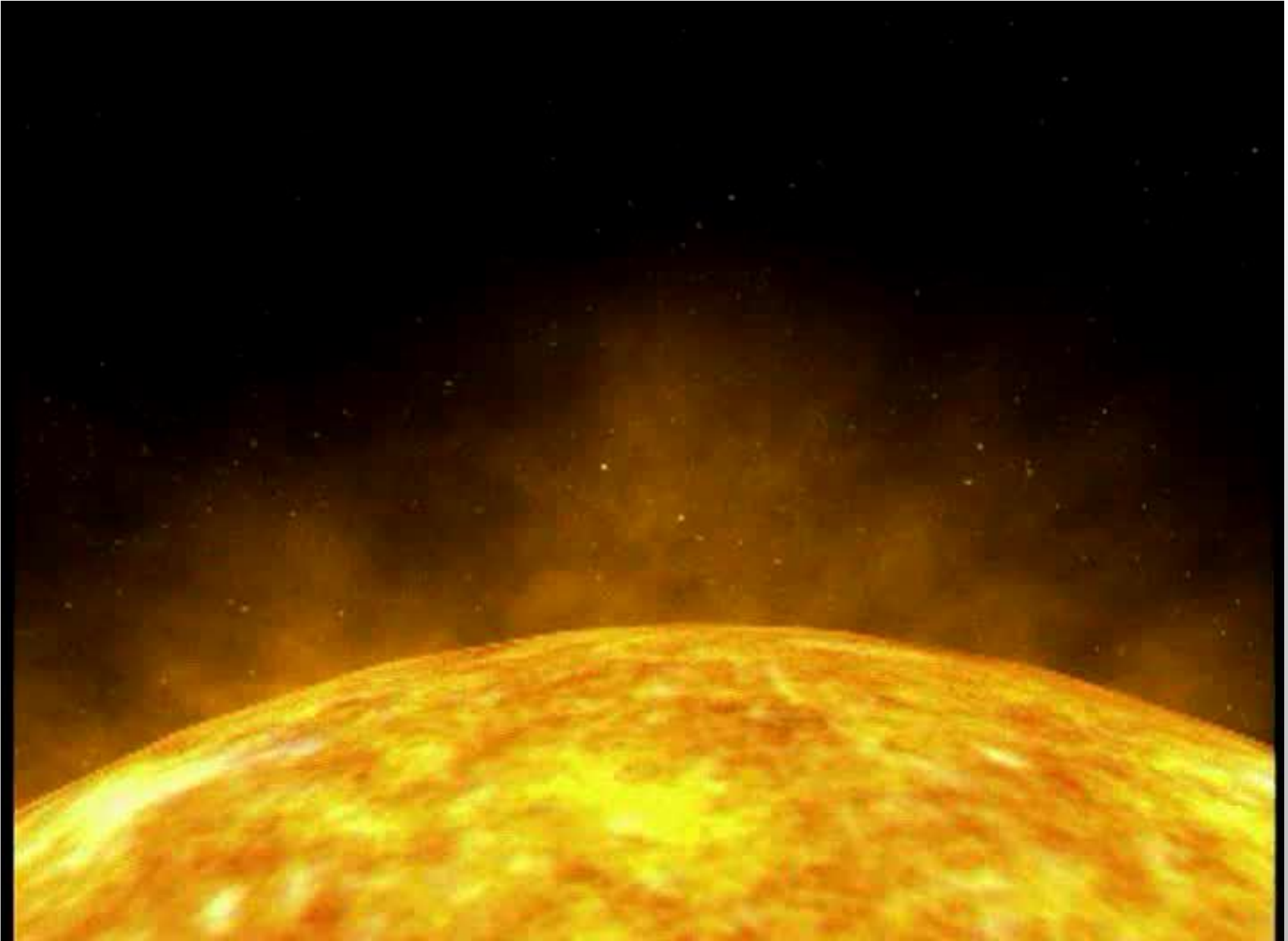
- Mass: ~ 1 Million Nimitz-class aircraft carriers
- Speed: 1- 10 Million km/h

...hitting Earth 1-3 days after eruption!

Solar Dynamics Observatory
SDO NASA August 31, 2012

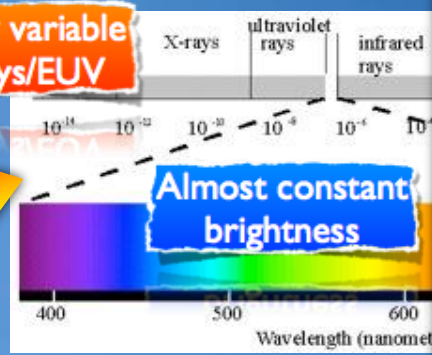
AIA 131 - 2012/08/31 - 19:00:20Z
AIA 193 - 2012/08/31 - 19:00:30Z
AIA 171 - 2012/08/31 - 19:00:35Z

CME-Earth Interaction



What the Sun sends our way

Highly variable
X-rays/EUV

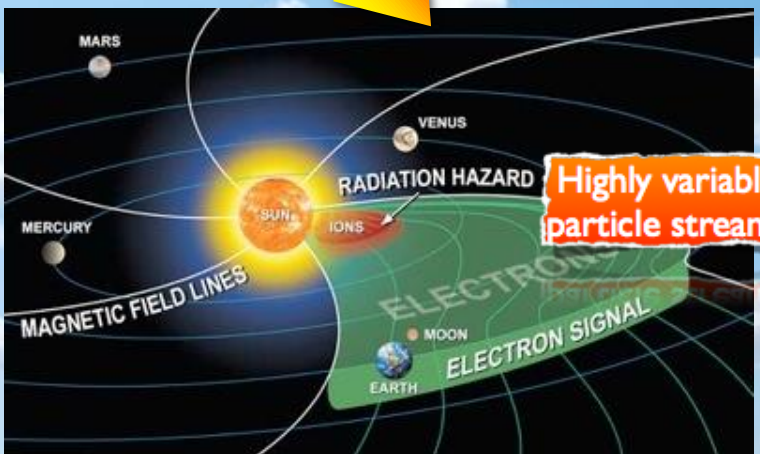


Almost constant
brightness

Light
(X-ray to radio)

Magnetized wind

Particle radiation



Highly variable
particle streams

Geomagnetic storms:
couple into power grids,
cause ionospheric
disturbances affecting
satellite-based navigation.

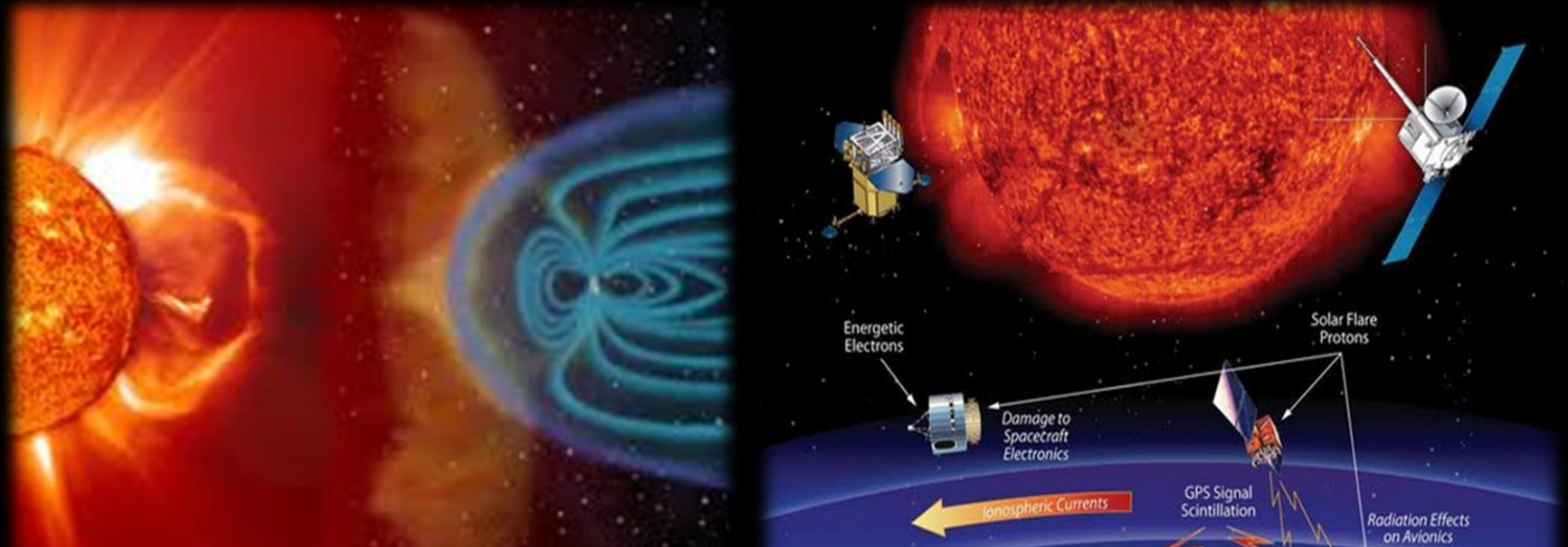


Radiation storms:
hazard to astronaut health
and satellite function;
affects high-latitude radio
comm.; position errors on
navigation.

Ionospheric storms:
Scintillations and GPS signal
loss, time stamp problems,
Radio blackouts.
Satellite drag affecting orbits
and re-entry.

Space Weather has a wide range of impacts on terrestrial and space-based infrastructure.

International co-ordination and collaboration is critical to understand and quantify impacts and for *future critical infrastructure protection*.



UN – Long-Term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities program resulted in approval of new space weather guidelines by COPUOS in 2016.



Space Weather Risks

- **High Likelihood of Extreme Event:** Comparatively high likelihood of extreme events (e.g., the 23 July 2012 event – Baker et al., 2013). According to Riley (2012) the probability of an extreme impact event happening in the next decade might be as high as ~12%.
- **High Impact:** Can have very high socio-economic impact on wide range of ground and space-based technological infrastructure (~ 10s B\$ to perhaps up to ~1-2 Trillion \$ - e.g., Baker et al., 2008).
- **Impacts span all Space Weather Activity Levels:** Even modest space weather can have significant impacts ! (e. g., Schrijver et al., 2014; Schrijver and Mitchell, 2013).
- **Impacts are Regional:** Different geographical regions are vulnerable to different space weather; these differences need to be understood.
- **New Science and Applications Research:** Advances in SWx efforts require both increased basic scientific understanding of the space weather processes as well as a better applied research of impacts and mitigation.

Advancing space weather science to protect society's technological infrastructure: a COSPAR/ILWS roadmap

chaired by

Karel Schrijver

Lockheed Martin Adv. Techn. Lab, Palo Alto, CA

and

Kirsti Kauristie

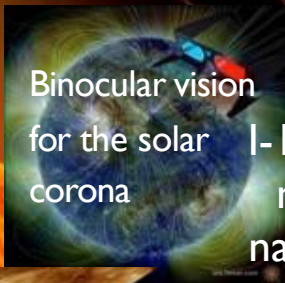
Finnish Meteorological Institute, Helsinki Finland

COSPAR site: <http://tinyurl.com/swxrm>

Advances in Space Research 55, 2745 (2015)

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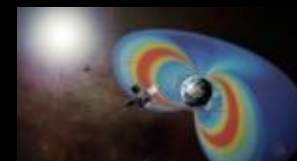
Deployment of new/additional instrumentation, to add to existing observational resources and to modeling capabilities to be developed in international collaboration



Binocular vision for the solar corona

I-1: Quantify active-region magnetic structure for nascent coronal ejections

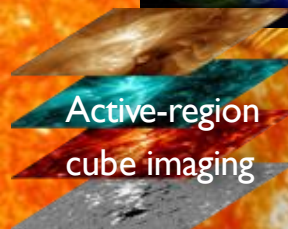
II: Data-driven dynamic radiation-belt models



Magnetotail-to-ionosphere probes

I-2: Solar wind-magnetosphere-ionosphere coupling inducing strong GICs

III: Solar energetic Particles in the Sun-Earth System

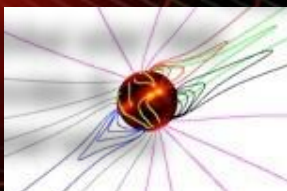
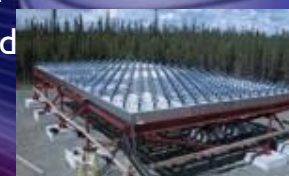


Active-region cube imaging



In-situ SEP measurements in inner heliosphere

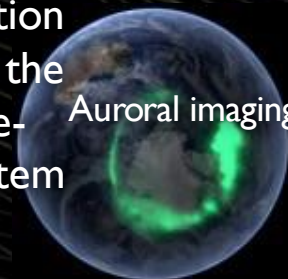
Coordinated ground-based networks.



Global solar field models & observations

I-3: Global corona to drive models for the solar-wind plasma and field

I-4: Quantification of the state of the magnetosphere-ionosphere system



Auroral imaging

artist's impression



Heritage of Space Weather in COPUOS

- Builds on work of Expert Group C (Space Weather) in the Long-Term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities (LTS) of the UN Committee on Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS). 2011- 2015.
- COPUOS has two Subcommittees: Scientific and Technical Subcommittee (STSC) and the Legal Subcommittee.
- STSC approved a regular Space Weather agenda item in 2013, following the ILWS 10th Anniversary workshop in Vienna
- New Space Weather Expert Group with Rapporteur Ian Mann, reporting to UN COPUOS under permanent agenda item since Feb. 2015 in Vienna.

Opportunity to define the activities of the Space Weather Expert Group to meet needs of international community for 2018-2030.



UN Space Weather Expert Group

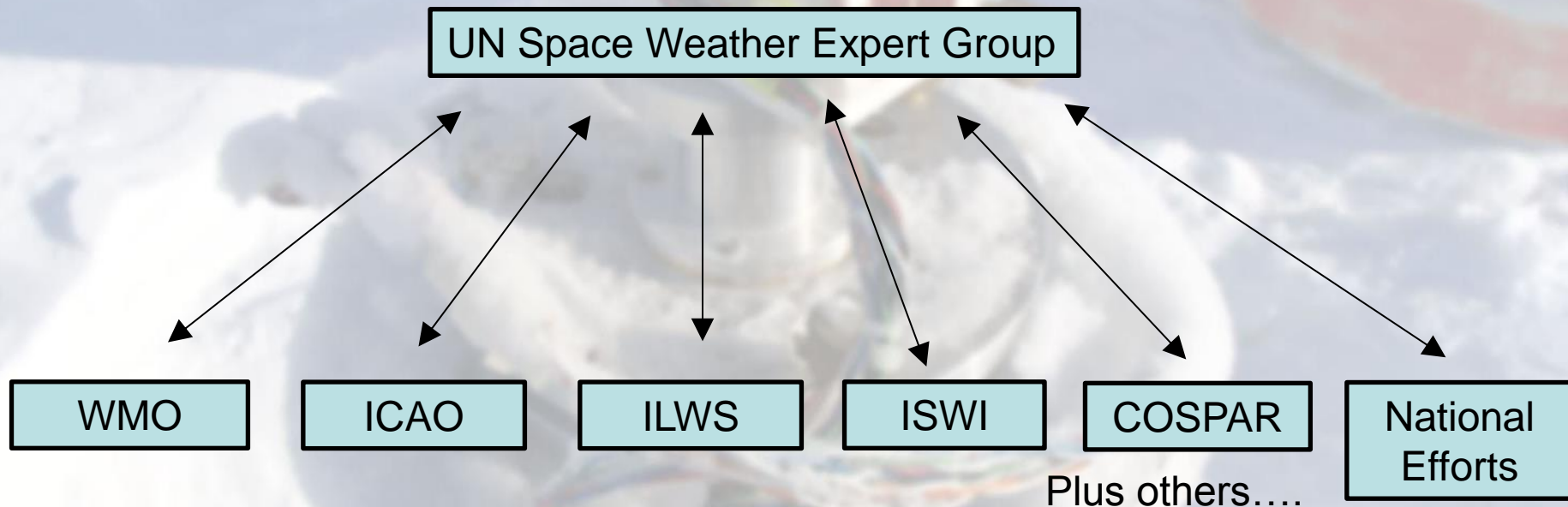
(UN COPUOS STSC)

- Mandate: promote awareness, provide guidance, and enable communication and cooperation in space weather related activities among Member States and related national and international organisations.
- Specific actions and definite outcomes: Ensure that any future work is complementary to other space weather coordination activities such as those within the WMO, ISES, COSPAR, ILWS, ICAO etc.



Active International Space Weather Efforts

UN has political role to both **promote** and **coordinate!**



With new understanding of both increased likelihood and potential severity of impacts of space weather, international coordination will become essential.



Potential Prioritisation of Space Weather in UN COPUOS for 2018-30

- UN COPUOS defined 7 Thematic Priorities for 2018-2030.
- Space Weather is considered as Thematic Priority 4: Developing an International Framework for Space Weather Services.
(TP-4 report available for download from UN).
- All 7 Thematic Priorities were discussed at the June 2018 COPUOS meeting during UNISPACE+50.

EG will develop a strategy over next three years



Potential COPUOS SWx Foci (2018-30)

- **WHEN:** *Important to know when to act.*
 - **International Space Weather Warning Network?**
- **WHAT:** *Important to know what to do.*
 - Promote **socio-economic and risk impact studies** in member states.
 - Promote the engagement of **Critical Infrastructure Protection Administrations** in Member States.
 - Promote the definition of **actionable operational responses**.
 - Improve modeling and R2O – SWx action teams ISWAT under UN/COSPAR MOU
- **HOW:** *Define appropriate mechanism/administration to meet space weather needs in UN context.*
 - EG is suggesting a potential **International Meeting/Workshop on Space Weather in 2019** to kick-off of the post-2018 Space Weather actions.
 - Need to define future administration in UN context – proposal to form an **International Coordination Group on Space Weather (ICGSW)** in 2020.
- **SCIENCE:** New science research needs to be prioritized at UN Member State and international agency level. Plan to achieve this through UN promotion and the COSPAR Panel on SWx and community-based I-SWAT activities

UN COPUOS has political influence for **communication** and **coordination** with and between Member States - **implementation** expected to be delivered by other entities (WMO, COSPAR,..., and regional and national space weather actions etc).



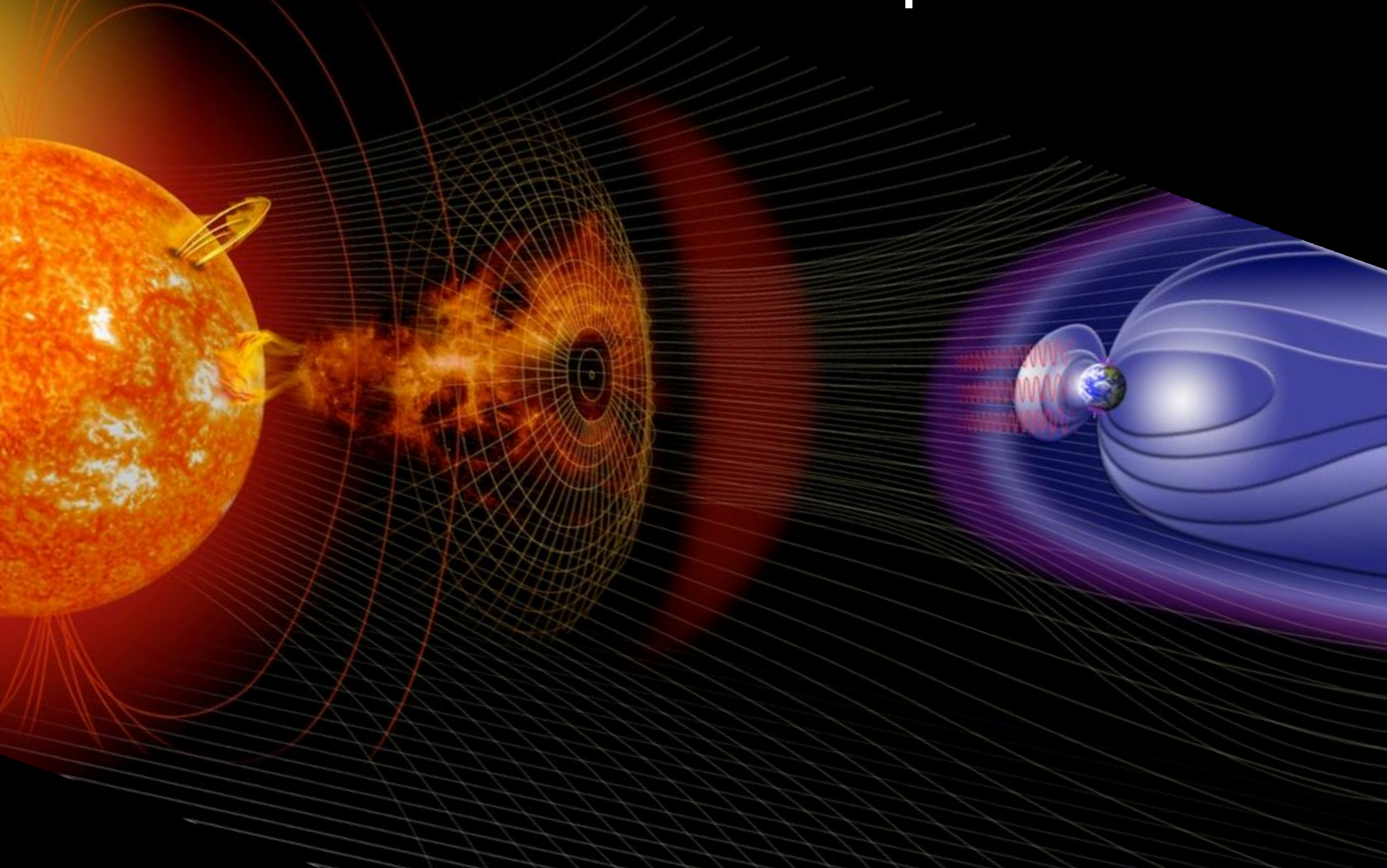
Future UN Foci for 2018-30

- Space Weather Expert Group via TP-4 proposes the formation of potential new ***“International Coordination Group for Space Weather” (ICGSW)***.
- By incorporating formal membership of appropriate space weather stakeholder organisations the ICGSW can provide a forum to effectively promote improved international communication and collaboration,.
- If approved, the ICGSW could replace the UN Space Weather Expert Group with appropriately modified Terms of Reference and Mandate.

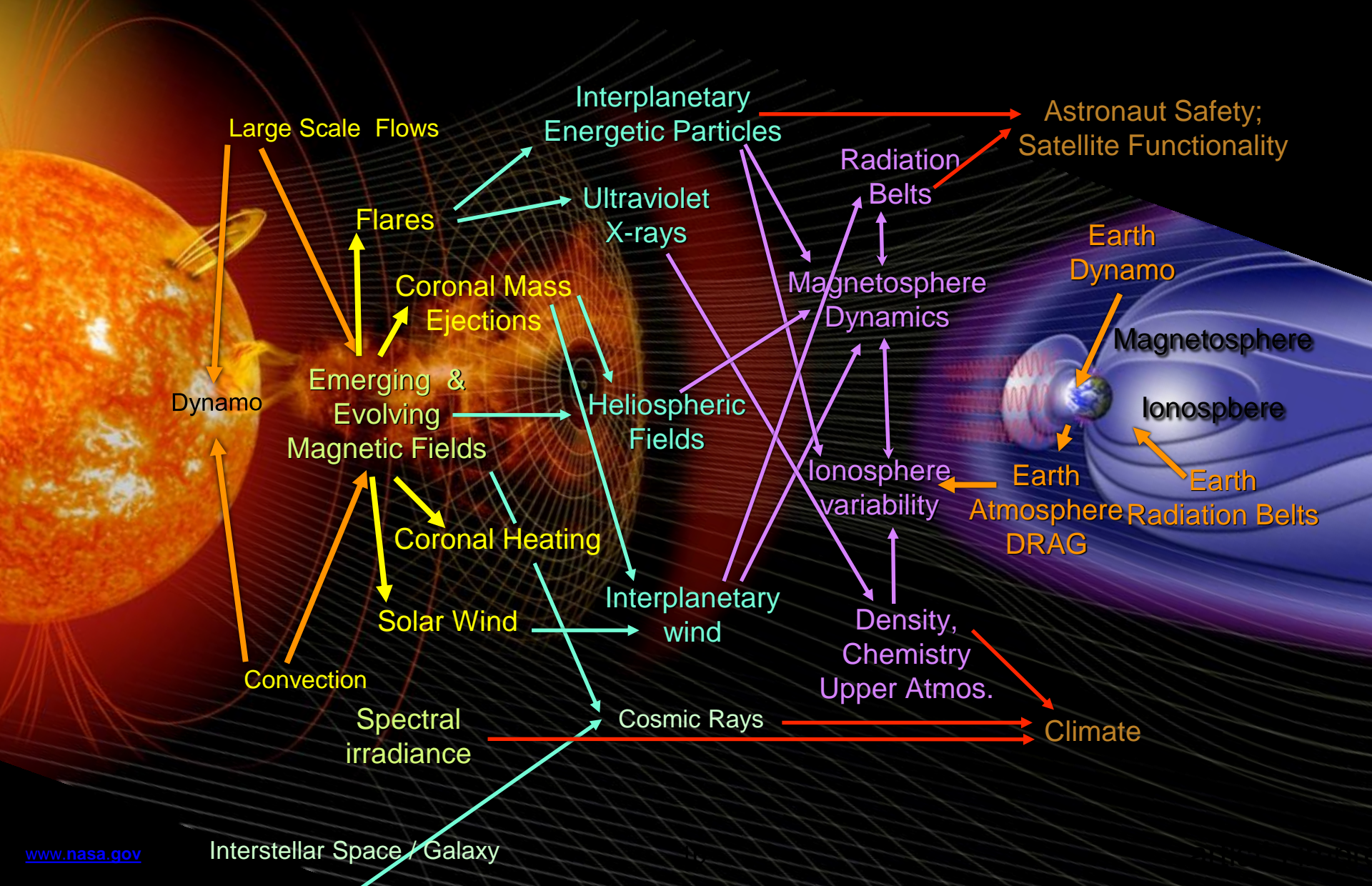
....see also publication: “Mann et al., *“International Collaboration Within the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space: Framework for International Space Weather Services (2018–2030)”* **J. Space Weather**, 2018”.

UN COPUOS has political influence for **communication** and **coordination** with and between Member States - **implementation** expected to be delivered by other entities (WMO, COSPAR,..., and regional and national space weather actions etc).

all looks so nice and simple – but...



Sun-Earth Space : a complex system of coupled processes and phenomena



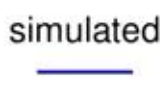
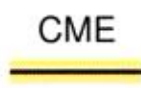
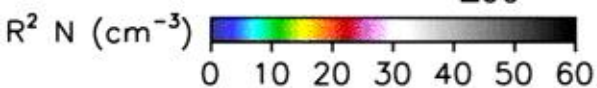
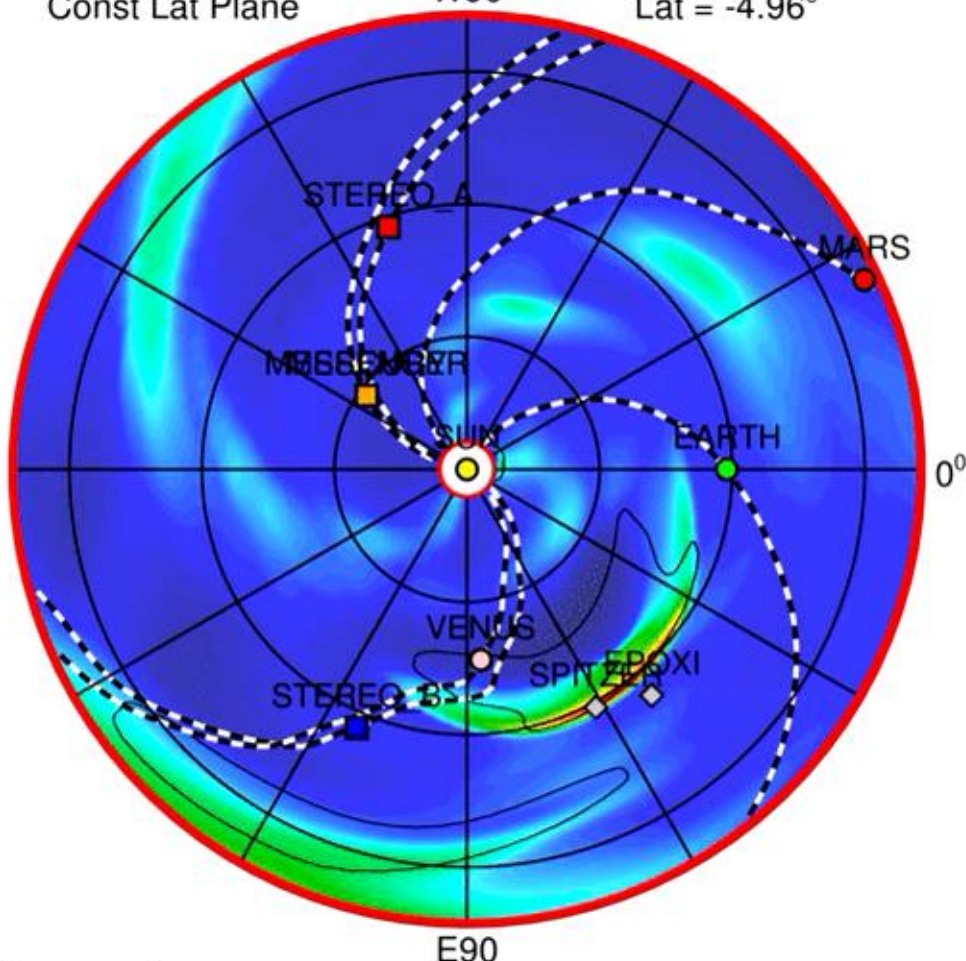
MHD Model of CME Propagation in Solar Wind

2012-01-19T00:00

Const Lat Plane

W90

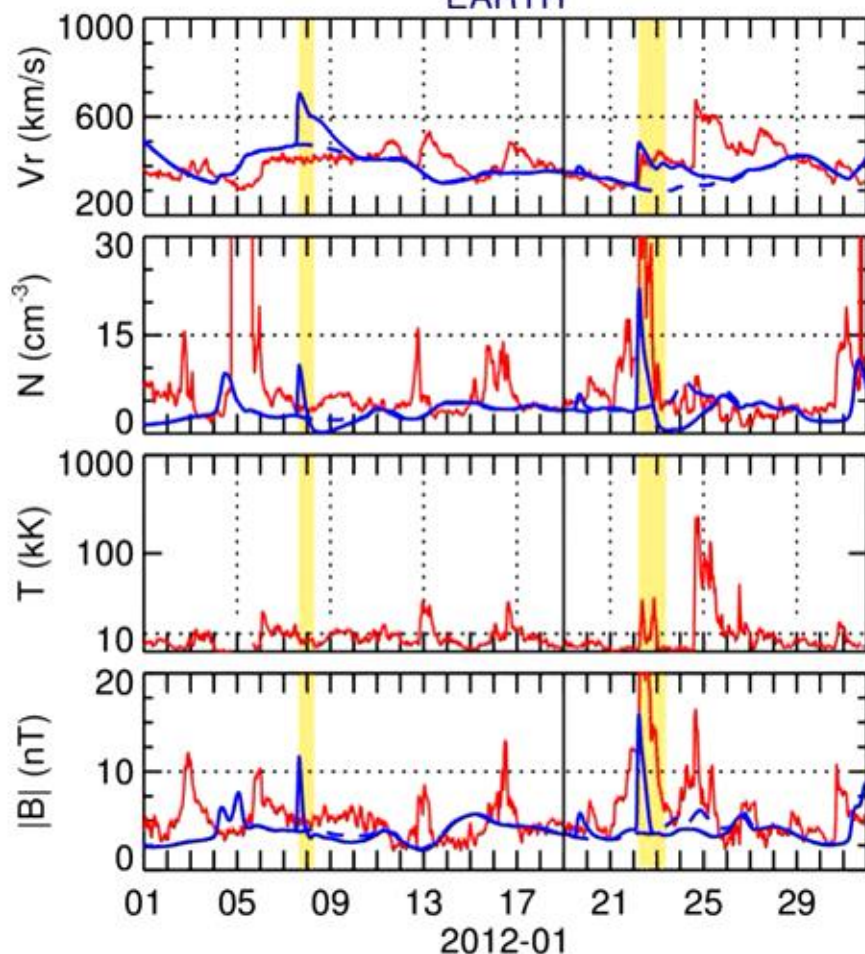
Lat = -4.96°



ENLIL-lowres + GONG-WSA-Cone

2012-01-01T00 +18.00 days

EARTH



NASA+NSF/PCSWM: HELIO WEATHER

DOUBLE CME DOES NOT REALLY MERGE EN ROUTE TO EARTH => NON-MHD

COSPAR PSW: See Space Weather as a “Shooting Target”

Research, Observations, Modeling, and consequent Assessment & Dissemination are Critical for Improving Operational Services

RESEARCH

Major Efforts are still required for Enabling Research to improve space weather

SERVICES



R2O-O2R

Connecting Research with Operational Services interactively

An iterative coordination between Research and Operational Organizations is required

Target for Improved Space Weather Resilience



Mitigating the effects of extreme space weather
by international coordination and collaboration



Contacts:

Please provide any discussion and feedback items directly to the Members of the Expert Group - or by email to

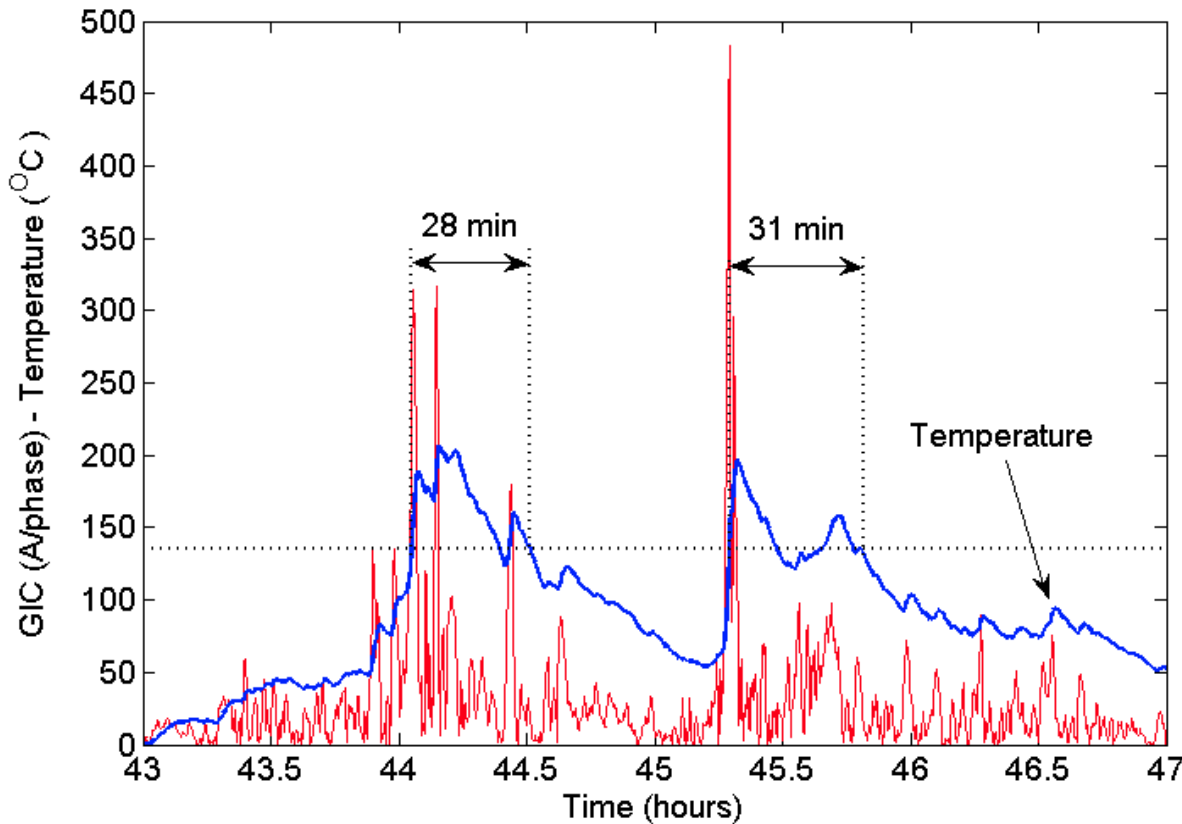
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etc.

michael ericsson : **visuals**



Space Weather Damage



“The Beauty
and the Beast”

Internal
Damage due
to one storm



Sample tie plate temperature calculation for a transformer exposed to multiple events of Geomagnetically Induced Currents (GICs) during a magnetic storm.

Blue trace is incremental temperature and
Red trace is the magnitude of the GIC/phase.

From NERC report

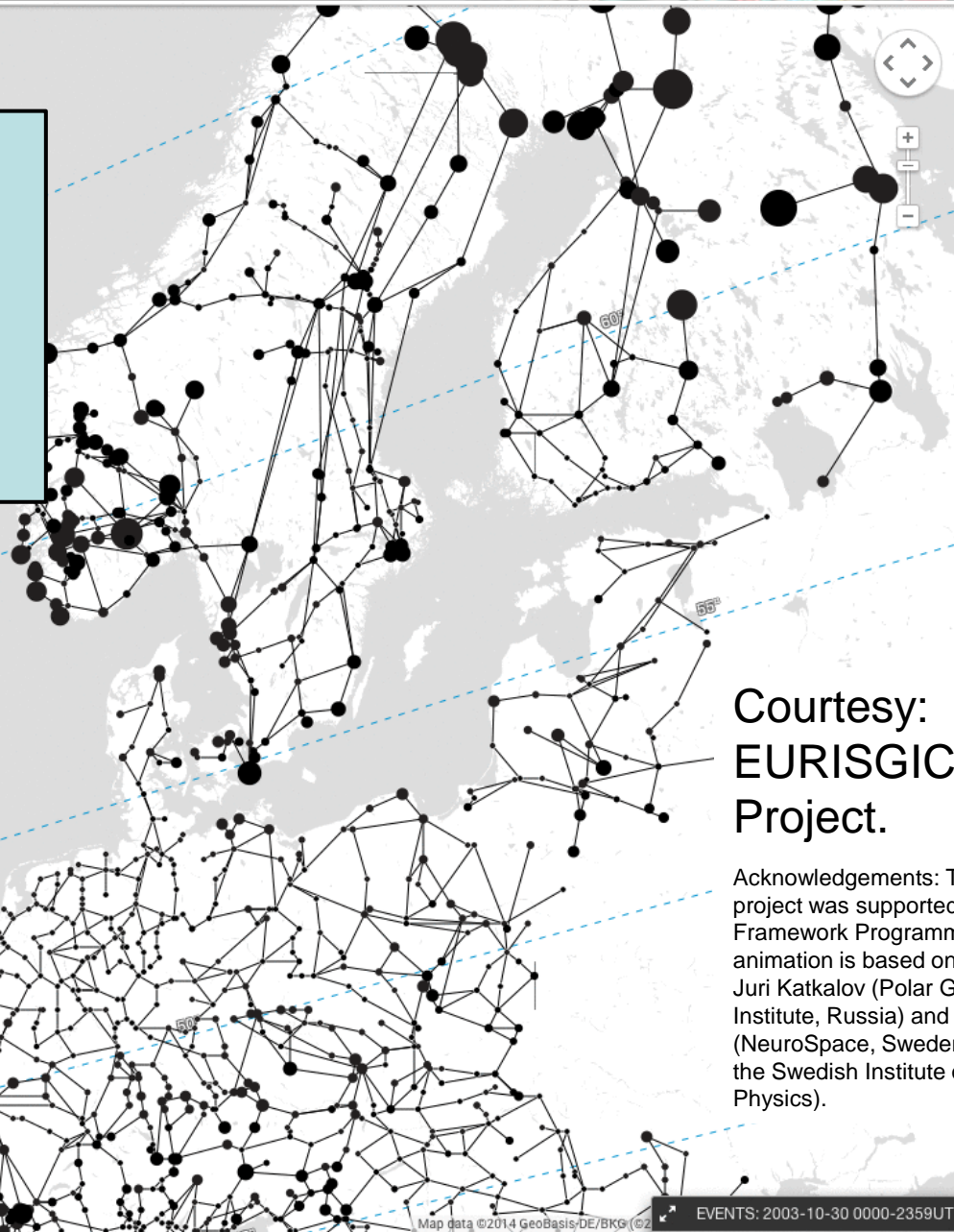
2003-10-30 19:52 UT



Global infrastructure and economies are connected regionally and globally.

Space weather impacts are inter-connected.

Need to understand impacts for critical infrastructure protection.



Courtesy:
EURISGIC
Project.

Acknowledgements: The EURISGIC project was supported by EU's 7th Framework Programme. The animation is based on the work by Juri Katkalov (Polar Geophysical Institute, Russia) and Magnus Wik (NeuroSpace, Sweden) (both now at the Swedish Institute of Space Physics).

S: Space weather origins at the Sun

H: Propagation of transient through evolving ambient

G: Coupled magnetosphere ionosphere-atmosphere

Impacts and primary user groups

Input to heliosphere and geospace

input to geospace

response to solar drivers

S1: Long-term solar variability.

H1: Evolving ambient heliosphere.

G1: Geomagnetic environment.

S2: Solar magnetic field & heating. Evolving magnetized solar wind and spectral irradiance.

H2. CME structure, evolution and propagation through heliosphere.

G3a: Atmosphere variability.

S3: Solar eruptions:
(a) flares and enhanced electromagnetic emissions;
(b) high energy particle fluxes;
(c) CMEs

H3. SEP and GCR in heliosphere.

G2b: Ionosphere variability.

G3: Near-Earth radiation and plasma environment

Climate

Electric power systems, GICs

Satellite/debris drag

*Navigation
Communication*

(Aero)space assets functions

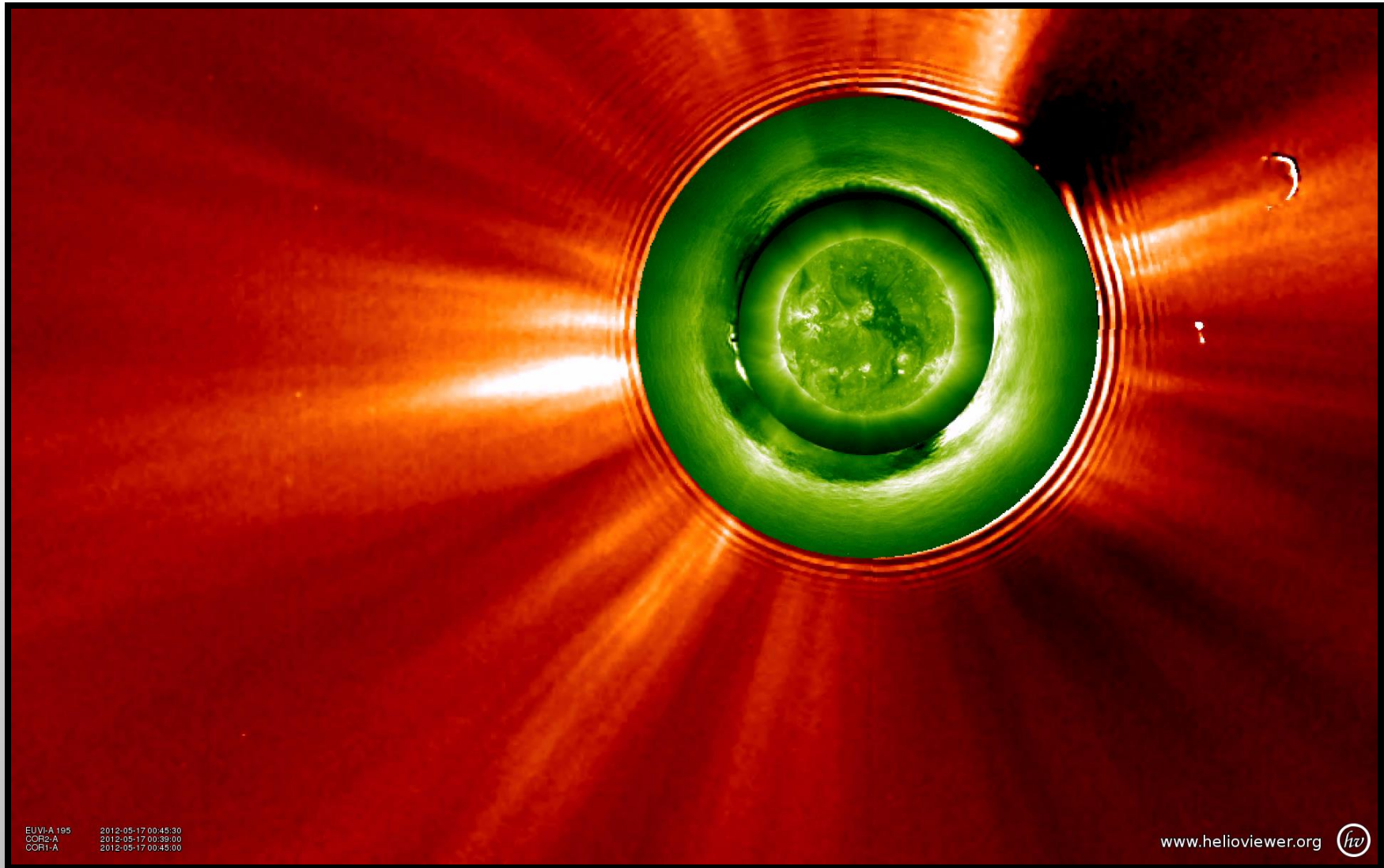
Human exploration

SS: Space weather in solar system and beyond.

Overarching Activities:

TE: Testing and Evaluation IA: Information Architecture EO: Education &

Outreach



STEREO A observations of CME/eruptive flare of 17 May 2012