



the Large-Yield Radiometer onboard PROBA2

Long-term irradiance observation and short-term flare prediction with LYRA on PROBA2

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LYRA: description, spectral response, data
 Long-term development, short-term forecast
 Results, future perspectives

PROBA2: PRoject for On-Board Autonomy

- ESA microsatellite in Sun-synchronous orbit, 725 km altitude
- Built in Belgium, commanded from ROB, launched 02 Nov 2009
- 17 technological experiments, 4 innovative instruments, for inorbit demonstration (combined technology and science mission)
- LYRA and SWAP have been observing the Sun in EUV, continuously since Jan 2010





LYRA: the Large-Yield RAdiometer

- 3 instrument units (redundancy)
- 4 spectral channels per head
- 3 types of detectors,
 Silicon + 2 types of
 diamond detectors (MSM, PIN):
 - radiation resistant
 - insensitive to visible light compared to Si detectors
 - High cadence up to 100 Hz



LYRA design





- Royal Observatory of Belgium (Brussels, B)
 Principal Investigator, overall design, onboard software specification,
 - science operations
- PMOD/WRC (Davos, CH)
 - Lead Co-Investigator, overall design and manufacturing
- Centre Spatial de Liège (B)
 - Lead institute, project management, filters
- IMOMEC (Hasselt, B)
 - Diamond detectors
- Max-Planck-Institut für Sonnensystemforschung (Lindau, D) calibration
- science Co-Is: BISA (Brussels, B), LPC2E (Orléans, F)...

SWAP and LYRA spectral intervals for solar flares, space weather, and aeronomy



LYRA channel 1: the H I 121.6 nm Lyman-alpha line (120-123 nm) LYRA channel 2: the 200-220 nm Herzberg continuum range (now 190-222 nm) LYRA channel 3: the 17-80 nm Aluminium filter range incl the He II 30.4 nm line (+ <5nm X-ray) LYRA channel 4: the 6-20 nm Zirconium filter range with highest solar variablility (+ <2nm X-ray) SWAP: the range around 17.4 nm including coronal lines like Fe IX and Fe X

LYRA spectral response



LYRA data product: 3day quicklook





LYRA data product: flare list



LYRA data product: GOES vs. LYRA proxies



ROB/SIDC, Brussels, Belgium



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LYRA data product: Long-term solar levels



Keywords: spectral range (vis., EUV, SXR), temp. range (quiet corona: 1-2 MK, AR: ~4 MK, flares: higher), cycle max vs. 27-day var.



Daily level, variance, flare size



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Significant daily minimum, without flares or instrumental artefacts





"Level"

100 values (*) closest around LYRA ch2-4 selected from 1300 observations =>

estimated distribution of flare strengths

Same for LYRA ch2-3, GOES, DSSN =>

forecast based on 400 values



"Variance"

100 values (*) closest around LYRA ch2-4 selected from 1300 observations =>

estimated distribution of flare strengths

Same for LYRA ch2-3, GOES, DSSN

=>
forecast based on
400 values





"Level" – daily forecast



"Variance" – daily forecast





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Forecast method "Level"

Test Aug 2013 – Jul 2014

Method changes slower than "Var"

Median leads to underestimation during high activity

Probabilities reflect situation better than simply median



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Forecast method "Variance"

Test Aug 2013 -Jul 2014

Method follows closer than "Lev"

Median leads to underestimation during high activity

Probabilities reflect situation better than simply median



Forecast verification measures (I)

| Root mean square | Skill score | | |
|---|---|---|--|
| Level | = 0.60 [orders of magnitude] | 0.03 | |
| Level Day-1 | = 0.62 | -0.03 | |
| Variance | = 0.48 | 0.38 | |
| Variance Day-1 | = 0.57 | 0.13 | |
| Persistence | = 0.61 | 0.00 | |
| constant C1.5 | = 0.84 | -0.90 | |
| Skill score definition | n | | |
| 1 – MSE / MSE(r | ef) | | |
| ref = Persistence model | | | |
| 0: as useful as reference model | | | |
| <0: worse than re | eference model | | |
| 1: perfect forecas | st | | |
| | Root mean squared Level Level Day-1 Variance Variance Day-1 Persistence constant C1.5 Skill score definition 1 – MSE / MSE(reformation) ref = Persistence 0: as useful as reformations 1: perfect forecase | Root mean squared error (RMSE) Level = 0.60 [orders of magnitude] Level Day-1 = 0.62 Variance = 0.48 Variance Day-1 = 0.57 Persistence = 0.61 constant C1.5 = 0.84 Skill score definition 1 - MSE / MSE(ref) ref = Persistence model 0: as useful as reference model <.0: worse than reference model 1: perfect forecast | |

Forecast verification measures (II)

Contingency table (for binary events: either – or)

| | | Observation | |
|----------|---|-------------|-----------------------|
| | | Y | Ν |
| Forecast | Y | a (hit) | b (false alarm) |
| | Ν | c (miss) | d (correct rejection) |
| | | | |

| Example: Persistence | 268 | 19 |
|--------------------------|-----|----|
| forecasting flare > C1.0 | 20 | 27 |

Skill score definition

- Example: True Skill Statistic
- TSS = (ad bc) / ((a+c)*(b+d))
- 0: no skill; useless like constant or random forecast
- <0: even worse
- 1: perfect forecast

Forecast verification measures (III)

| Forecasting flare > C1.0 | Skill score |
|---|----------------------------|
| TSS(Level) | = 0.44 |
| TSS(Variance) | = 0.72 |
| TSS(Persistence) | = 0.52 |
| Forecasting flare > M1.0 | Skill score |
| | |
| TSS(Level) | = 0.00 |
| TSS(Level)TSS(Variance) | = 0.00 = 0.00 |
| TSS(Level)TSS(Variance)TSS(Persistence) | = 0.00 = 0.00 = 0.34 |

Forecast verification measures (IV)





Forecast verification measures (V)





Questions for the future

- Second activity peak of cycle 24 does it change the statistics?
- How can the methods be improved?
- Can the two methods be integrated?
- Which forecasting parameter is the most reliable?
- Can the parameters be weighted accordingly?
- Are space weather forecasters interested?
- [I heard that most methods have difficulties with rare events like M- and X-flares]



Please visit

- http://solwww.oma.be/users/dammasch/flares/FlareProbability.html
- http://solwww.oma.be/users/dammasch/flares/FlareProbabilityVar.html
- and of course the official PROBA2 website
- http://proba2.oma.be/

Thank you for your interest !