

# The Sun in Time: Activity and Environment

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*Living Reviews in Solar Physics*

ISSN 1614-4961

Accepted on 11 October 2007

Published on 20 December 2007

## Abstract

The Sun's magnetic activity has steadily declined during its main-sequence life. While the solar photospheric luminosity was about 30% lower 4.6 Gyr ago when the Sun arrived on the main sequence compared to present-day levels, its faster rotation generated enhanced magnetic activity; magnetic heating processes in the chromosphere, the transition region, and the corona induced ultraviolet, extreme-ultraviolet, and X-ray emission about 10, 100, and 1000 times, respectively, the present-day levels, as inferred from young solar-analog stars. Also, the production rate of accelerated, high-energy particles was orders of magnitude higher than in present-day solar flares, and a much stronger wind escaped from the Sun, permeating the entire solar system. The consequences of the enhanced radiation and particle fluxes from the young Sun were potentially severe for the evolution of solar-system planets and moons. Interactions of high-energy radiation and the solar wind with upper planetary atmospheres may have led to the escape of important amounts of atmospheric constituents. The present dry atmosphere of Venus and the thin atmosphere of Mars may be a product of early irradiation and heating by solar high-energy radiation. High levels of magnetic activity are also inferred for the pre-main sequence Sun. At those stages, interactions of high-energy radiation and particles with the circumsolar disk in which planets eventually formed were important. Traces left in meteorites by energetic particles and anomalous isotopic abundance ratios in meteoritic inclusions may provide evidence for a highly active pre-main sequence Sun. The present article reviews these various issues related to the magnetic activity of the young Sun and the consequent interactions with its environment. The emphasis is on the phenomenology related to the production of high-energy photons and particles. Apart from the activity on the young Sun, systematic trends applicable to the entire main-sequence life of a solar analog are discussed.

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Because a *Living Reviews* article can evolve over time, we recommend to cite the article as follows:

Manuel Güdel,  
“The Sun in Time: Activity and Environment”,  
*Living Rev. Solar Phys.*, 4, (2007), 3. [Online Article]: cited [<date>],  
<http://www.livingreviews.org/lrsp-2007-3>

The date given as <date> then uniquely identifies the version of the article you are referring to.

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## 1 Introduction

The study of the past of our Sun and its solar system has become an interdisciplinary effort between stellar astronomy, astrophysics of star and planet formation, astrochemistry, solar physics, geophysics, planetology, meteoritical science and several further disciplines. The interest in understanding the past evolution of our star is obvious; the Sun's radiative energy, the solar wind, and various forms of transient phenomena (e.g., shock waves, high-energy particle streams during flares) are key factors in the formation and evolution of the planets and eventually the biosphere on Earth.

The Sun is, like almost all cool stars, a “magnetic star” that produces magnetic fields through dynamo operation in the interior. These fields reach the surface where their presence is noticed in the form of sunspots. However, magnetic activity has much more far-reaching consequences: Solar magnetic fields control essentially the entire outer solar atmosphere, they heat coronal gas to millions of degrees, they produce flares whose by-products such as shock waves and high-energy particles travel through interplanetary space to eventually interact with planetary atmospheres; the solar wind is guided by open magnetic fields; this magnetized-wind complex forms a large bubble, an “astrosphere” in interstellar space containing the entire solar system and protecting it from a high dose of cosmic rays.

Was the Sun's magnetic activity different in its infancy when planets and their atmospheres formed, or when it was still surrounded by an accretion disk? Accumulated direct and indirect evidence indeed points to a much higher level of magnetic activity in the young Sun, in particular in its pre-main sequence (PMS) phase and the subsequent epoch of its settling on the main sequence (MS). Direct evidence includes meteoritic traces and isotopic anomalies that require much higher proton fluxes at early epochs at least partly from *within* the solar system (Section 6.5 below); indirect evidence comes from systematic comparisons of the contemporary Sun with solar analogs of younger age that unequivocally show a strong trend toward elevated activity at younger ages (Section 5 below). Interestingly, planetary atmospheres offer further clues to strongly elevated activity levels: Evidence for a warmer early climate on Mars or the extremely arid atmosphere of Venus – a sister planet of the water-rich Earth – call for explanations, and such explanations may be found in the elevated activity of the young Sun (see Section 7.2 below). The study of the early solar activity is the theme of the present review article.

The main goal of this article is therefore to demonstrate evidence for a much more active young Sun, and to study the consequences this might have had for the development of the solar environment, including the formation and evolution of planets. Our discussion will therefore take us through the following three major issues:

- The young Sun's more rapid rotation induced an internal magnetic dynamo that was much more efficient than the present-day Sun's. Consequently, stronger surface magnetic fields and/or higher surface magnetic filling factors should have induced enhanced “activity” in all its variations, from larger surface spots to a stronger, extended solar wind. If we can observationally probe the outer magnetic activity of the Sun, we obtain invaluable diagnostics for a deeper theoretical understanding of the internal dynamo.
- The solar output largely controls planetary atmospheres and their climates. While this is obviously true for the dominant optical and infrared emissions of a star like the Sun, the irradiation of planetary atmospheres by higher-energy ultraviolet and X-ray photons as well as interactions with high-energy particles and the solar wind leads to atmospheric alterations that have been recognized and numerically simulated only recently. The much higher magnetic activity of the young Sun and the resulting higher levels of ultraviolet, X-ray, and particle irradiation were therefore of prime importance for the early evolution of the planets.

The discovery of extrasolar planets in particular around Sun-like stars has also spurred interest in star-planet interactions, e.g., erosion of atmospheres or photochemical reactions, that profit from detailed studies in the solar system.

- Similarly, at still younger stages of a star's evolution, its environment is rich in molecular gas and dust, both in the form of a large envelope (in the youngest, protostellar phases of evolution) and a circumstellar gas and dust disk (including the T Tauri phase when planets were forming). Star-disk interactions are manifold, and their role is fundamental in various respects. The optical and ultraviolet radiation heats the disk and therefore primarily determines disk structure and the formation and evolution of planetary systems.

High-energy emission, in particular X-ray radiation, further heats and ionizes parts of the circumstellar disk. Even moderate disk ionization will lead to accretion instabilities if weak magnetic fields are present. Disk heating by X-rays may also produce extreme temperature gradients across the disk that drive complicated chemical networks relevant for the later processing of the disk material into forming planets and planetary atmospheres.

The focus of this review is therefore, on the one hand, on signatures of magnetic activity across the electromagnetic spectrum, representing physical processes in the photosphere, the chromosphere, and the thermal and non-thermal corona of a solar-like star. I will mostly use young solar-like stars to infer conditions that – by analogy – might have prevailed on the young Sun. On the other hand, I will also discuss traces that the elevated activity of the young Sun might have left behind in meteorites and in planetary atmospheres, thus collecting “in-situ” information about the distant past of our own solar system.

While this article focuses on the conditions on the young Sun and in the early solar system, it has proven convenient to study the solar evolution in time systematically from young to old, because a number of trends become evident that can be calibrated with the contemporaneous Sun. We thus not only learn about the young Sun, but we uncover the systematics that made it different from what it is today. This is the approach I adopt in the present work.

This article will not address issues on the formation and evolution of the Sun that are related to its internal constitution, with the exception of cursory reference to the magnetic dynamo that is, of course, at the origin of all solar magnetic activity. I will treat the PMS Sun in separate chapters for three related reasons: First, fundamental properties of the PMS Sun were largely different from those of the contemporaneous Sun (for example, its spectral type, or its photospheric effective temperature). Second, new features not present in the modern Sun become dominant key players related to activity and environment, among them accretion disks, accretion streams, star-disk magnetospheres, outflows, and jets. And third, the PMS behavior of the Sun cannot be assessed in detail judged from the present-day solar parameters; we can only discuss the range of potential evolutionary scenarios now observed in a wide sample of PMS stars (e.g., with respect to mass accretion rate, disk mass, disk dispersal time, rotation period, etc.).

Numerous review articles are available on subjects related to the present one. Without intention to be complete, I refer here in particular to the collection of papers edited by [Sonett \*et al.\* \(1991\)](#) and [Dupree and Benz \(2004\)](#), the *Cool Stars Workshop* series (the latest volume edited by [van Belle 2007](#)), and the *Protostars and Planets* series (in particular the latest volumes by [Mannings \*et al.\* 2000](#) and [Reipurth \*et al.\* 2007](#)). An early overview of solar variability (including that of its activity) can be found in [Newkirk Jr \(1980\)](#). [Walter and Barry \(1991\)](#) specifically reviewed knowledge of the long-term evolution of solar activity as known in the early nineties, in a similar spirit as the present review; numerous older references can be found in that work. For summaries of stellar X-ray and radio emission, I refer to [Güdel \(2004\)](#) and [Güdel \(2002\)](#), respectively. [Feigelson and Montmerle \(1999\)](#) and [Feigelson \*et al.\* \(2007\)](#) have summarized PMS aspects of magnetic activity. [Glassgold \*et al.\* \(2005\)](#) have reviewed the influence of the magnetic activity of the PMS Sun on its environment, in particular on its circumstellar disk where our planets were forming. [Wood \(2004\)](#)



has discussed evidence for winds emanating from solar-like stars, and Goswami and Vanhala (2000) have summarized findings related to radionuclides in meteorites and inferences for the young solar system; the most recent developments in this field have been reviewed by Wadhwa *et al.* (2007). Kulikov *et al.* (2007) and Lundin *et al.* (2007) have provided summaries on interactions between solar high-energy radiation and particles with planetary atmospheres, in particular those of Venus, Earth, and Mars.

## 2 What is a Solar-Like Star?

The present Sun is a G2 V star with a surface effective temperature of approximately 5780 K. Stellar evolution theory indicates, however, that the Sun has shifted in spectral type by several subclasses, becoming hotter by a few hundred degrees and becoming more luminous (the bolometric luminosity of the Sun in its zero-age main-sequence [ZAMS] phase amounted to only about 70% of the present-day output; [Siess \*et al.\* 2000](#)). In understanding the solar past, we must therefore also consider stars of mid-to-late spectral class G. On the other hand, alternative evolutionary scenarios have suggested continuous mass loss from the young Sun at a high rate that would require a somewhat *earlier* spectral classification of the young Sun ([Sackmann and Boothroyd, 2003](#)). In any case, magnetic activity in the outer stellar atmospheres is predominantly controlled by the depth of the stellar convection zone and stellar rotation, both of which also evolve during stellar evolution. For our understanding of magnetic activity, the precise spectral subclass is rather likely to play a minor role. When discussing “solar analogs”, I will therefore concentrate on stars mostly of early-to-mid-G spectral types but will occasionally also consider general information from outer atmospheres of somewhat lower-mass stars if available.

The situation is more complex for stars in their PMS stage. The Sun spent much of its PMS life as a mid-K (K5 IV) star when it moved down the Hayashi track. But again, the precise spectral subtype matters even less for magnetic activity in this stage, the more important key parameters being the age of the star (controlling its total luminosity, its radius, and the development and therefore the depth of the convection zone), the presence and dispersal of a circumstellar disk (controlling mass accretion and, via magnetic fields, the spin of the star), and the presence and strength of outflows (controlling, together with accretion, the final evolution of the stellar mass). A somewhat more generous definition of “pre-main sequence solar analogs” is clearly in order, given that the Sun’s history of rotation, accretion, the circumsolar disk, and the solar mass loss cannot be precisely assessed. Quite generally, I will take solar-like stars in the PMS phase to be, from the perspective of “magnetic activity”, stars with masses of roughly 0.5 – 1.5 solar masses, covering spectral classes from early G to late K/early M.

The expression “solar twin” ([Cayrel de Strobel and Bentolila, 1989](#)) is occasionally used. This term should be used solely in the context of a solar analog with an age close to the Sun’s, i.e., of order 4–6 Gyr, an age range in which the internal structure and the rotation period of a  $1 M_{\odot}$  (and therefore, its activity level) evolve only insignificantly. Efforts toward identifying real solar twins have been important in the context of putting our Sun into a wider stellar context; nearby solar analogs that are essentially indistinguishable from the Sun with regard to spectral type, effective temperature, gravity, luminosity, age, rotation, and magnetic activity ([Porto de Mello and da Silva, 1997](#)) prove that the Sun can be robustly used as an anchor to calibrate evolutionary trends – the Sun is not an exception but is representative of its age and mass, a conclusion also reached by [Gustafsson \(1998\)](#) from a rather general comparison of the Sun with sun-like stars.<sup>1</sup>

Table 1 gives a list of terms, symbols, and acronyms used throughout the text.

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<sup>1</sup>The star claimed to be “the closest ever solar twin” ([Porto de Mello and da Silva, 1997](#)), HR 6060, shows parameters nearly indistinguishable from solar values indeed:  $L/L_{\odot} = 1.05 \pm 0.02$ ; spectral type G2 Va (Sun: G2 V);  $B - V = 0.65$  (Sun: 0.648);  $U - B = 0.17$  (Sun: 0.178);  $T_{\text{eff}} = 5789$  K (Sun: 5777 K;  $\Delta T_{\text{eff}} = 12 \pm 30$  K);  $\log g = 4.49$  (Sun: 4.44;  $\Delta \log g = 0.05 \pm 0.12$ ), microturbulence velocity  $\xi = 1.54$  km s<sup>-1</sup> (Sun: 1.52 km s<sup>-1</sup>;  $\Delta \xi = [0.02 \pm 0.04]$  km s<sup>-1</sup>); element abundances solar within  $1\sigma$ , in particular  $[\text{Fe}/\text{H}] = 0.05 \pm 0.06$ ; Mount Wilson activity index  $\langle S \rangle = 0.174$  (Sun: 0.177 in 1980); rotational velocity  $v \sin i < 3.0$  km s<sup>-1</sup> (Sun:  $v = 2$  km s<sup>-1</sup>).

Table 1: *Symbols and units used throughout the text.*

Symbol, acronym	Explanation
$c$	Speed of light [ $\approx 3 \times 10^{10}$ cm s <sup>-1</sup> ]
$k$	Boltzmann's constant [ $\approx 1.38 \times 10^{-16}$ erg K <sup>-1</sup> ]
$G$	Gravitational constant [ $\approx 6.67 \times 10^{-8}$ dyn cm <sup>2</sup> g <sup>-2</sup> ]
$R_*$	Stellar radius [cm]
$R_\odot$	Solar radius [ $7 \times 10^{10}$ cm]
$M$	Stellar or planetary mass [g]
$M_\odot$	Solar mass [ $2 \times 10^{33}$ g]
$\dot{M}_w$	Mass loss rate (by wind) [ $M_\odot$ yr <sup>-1</sup> ]
$P$	Rotation period [d]
$\Omega$	Angular rotation frequency
$v_{\text{rot}}$	Equatorial rotation velocity [km s <sup>-1</sup> ]
$T$	Temperature, also coronal electron temperature [K]
$T_{\text{av}}$	Average coronal temperature [K]
$T_{\text{eff}}$	Effective temperature [K]
$T_{\text{exo}}$	Exospheric (planetary) temperature [K]
$B$	Magnetic field strength [G]
$f$	Surface filling factor
$L$	Coronal magnetic loop semi-length [cm]
$L_X$	X-ray luminosity [erg s <sup>-1</sup> ]
$L_{\text{bol}}$	Stellar bolometric luminosity [erg s <sup>-1</sup> ]
$F$	Flux (line- or band-integrated) [erg cm <sup>-2</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> ]
$Ro$	Rossby number
$t, t_6, t_9$	Stellar age, in Myr, in Gyr
$\omega_{\text{cycl}}$	Activity cycle frequency
ISM	Interstellar Medium
EM	Emission Measure
(ZA)MS	(Zero-Age) Main Sequence
PMS	Pre-Main Sequence
(C/W)TTS	(Classical/Weak-line) T Tauri Star
UV	Ultraviolet radiation
FUV	Far-Ultraviolet radiation
EUV	Extreme Ultraviolet radiation
XUV	Ultraviolet-to-X-ray radiation
IUE	<i>International Ultraviolet Explorer</i> (NASA, ESA, U.K.)
EUVE	<i>Extreme Ultraviolet Explorer</i> (NASA)
ROSAT	<i>Röntgensatellit</i> (German/U.K./NASA X-ray satellite)
VLA	<i>Very Large Array</i> radio telescope (U.S.A.)
MRI	Magneto-Rotational Instability
CAI	Calcium-Aluminum-rich Inclusion
(I)FIP	(Inverse) First Ionization Potential Effect

## 3 The Sun in Time

### 3.1 Goals of the “Sun in Time” project

Solar analogs with different ages and therefore activity levels play an important role in our understanding of the past magnetic evolution of the Sun. For stars with masses  $\lesssim 1.5 M_{\odot}$  and ages of at least a few 100 Myr, angular momentum loss by a stellar wind brakes rotation in such a way that it is nearly uniquely determined by the stellar age (Soderblom *et al.*, 1993). The only independent variable, the stellar age, then determines the rotation period and, through the internal magnetic dynamo, magnetic activity at all levels of the stellar atmosphere, probably including characteristics of the stellar wind (Wood *et al.*, 2002, 2005; Kulikov *et al.*, 2006). The study of a series of near-solar-mass stars back to ages close to the ZAMS age will therefore be sufficient to reconstruct the history of our Sun and the interaction of its magnetic activity with its environment. This is the goal of the observational “Sun in Time” program (see, e.g., Dorren and Guinan 1994b).

Specifically, the “Sun in Time” program was established to study the long-term magnetic evolution of the Sun during the entire MS lifetime. The primary aims of the program are, (1) to test dynamo models of the Sun in which rotation is the only significant variable parameter, and (2) to determine the spectral irradiance of the Sun over its MS lifetime. Key studies within the “Sun in Time” program comprise the following:

- the optical (photospheric) and UV “Sun in Time”, the latter studied with *IUE* (Messina and Guinan, 2002, 2003; Dorren and Guinan, 1994a), to characterize level and extent of surface magnetic activity;
- the FUV “Sun in Time” as studied with *FUSE* (Guinan *et al.*, 2003), to infer transition-region magnetic activity;
- the EUV “Sun in Time” as studied with *EUVE* (Ayres, 1997; Güdel *et al.*, 1997a; Audard *et al.*, 1999; Ribas *et al.*, 2005), to obtain information on coronal activity;
- the X-ray “Sun in Time” as studied by *ROSAT* and *ASCA* (Güdel *et al.*, 1997b, 1995c; Dorren *et al.*, 1995), to obtain full coverage in coronal temperatures and characterize flares;
- the X-ray “Sun in Time” as studied spectroscopically with *XMM-Newton* (Telleschi *et al.*, 2005), to study the thermal stratification and composition of coronae of solar analogs;
- spectral evolution of the XUV “Sun in Time” (Ribas *et al.*, 2005), to find systematics across the UV-to-X-ray range;
- the radio “Sun in Time” as studied with the VLA (Güdel *et al.*, 1994, 1995b,c, 1997b; Gaidos *et al.*, 2000; Güdel and Gaidos, 2001), to measure the production of non-thermal particles in magnetic coronae;
- magnetic cycles of the “Sun in Time” (Messina and Guinan, 2002), measured in the optical or in X-rays;
- differential rotation of the “Sun in Time” (Messina and Guinan, 2003) as seen in starspot measurements.

A summary of the instruments used for the observations and their wavelength (or energy) ranges covered is given in Table 2. Various project summaries can be found in Dorren and Guinan (1994b), Güdel *et al.* (1998b), Guinan and Ribas (2002), Guinan *et al.* (2002), and Güdel (2003).

Table 2: The “Sun in Time” project: Relevant observations.

Instrument	Wavelength range ( Å )	Energy range ( keV )	References <sup>a</sup>
<i>XMM-Newton</i> (CCDs)	0.83–83	0.15–15	1
<i>XMM-Newton</i> (gratings)	6.0–38.0	0.33–2.1	1
<i>ASCA</i> (CCDs)	1.2–31	0.4–10	2
<i>ROSAT</i> (PSPC)	5.2–124	0.1–2.4	2, 3, 4, 5
<i>EUVE</i> (gratings)	80–760 <sup>b</sup>	0.016–0.15	5, 6, 7, 8
<i>FUSE</i> (gratings)	920–1180		9
<i>HST</i> (gratings)	1150–1730		8
<i>IUE</i> (gratings)	1150–1950		10
UBVRI photometry	3500–8300		11, 12
<i>VLA</i> (continuum)	3.6 cm/8.4 GHz		2, 3, 13, 14, 15, 16

<sup>a</sup> References: 1 [Telleschi et al. \(2005\)](#); 2 [Güdel et al. \(1997b\)](#); 3 [Güdel et al. \(1995c\)](#); 4 [Dorren et al. \(1995\)](#); 5 [Ayres \(1997\)](#); 6 [Güdel et al. \(1997a\)](#); 7 [Audard et al. \(1999\)](#); 8 [Ribas et al. \(2005\)](#); 9 [Guinan et al. \(2003\)](#); 10 [Dorren and Guinan \(1994a\)](#); 11 [Messina and Guinan \(2002\)](#); 12 [Messina and Guinan \(2003\)](#); 13 [Güdel et al. \(1994\)](#); 14 [Güdel et al. \(1995b\)](#); 15 [Gaidos et al. \(2000\)](#); 16 [Güdel and Gaidos \(2001\)](#).

<sup>b</sup> Wavelengths longer than  $\approx 360$  Å are subject to strong interstellar absorption.

### 3.2 Overview of stellar sample

The program uses a homogeneous sample of single nearby G0–5 V MS stars (and one G2 IV subgiant) that all have known rotation periods and well-determined physical properties, including temperatures, luminosities, metal abundances and ages (Table 3). Observations cover spectral ranges from radio to X-rays (excluding the 360–920 Å range, which is a region of very strong absorption by the interstellar medium). The principal stellar sample is given in Table 3; the samples used for particular studies may vary somewhat, depending on the availability of appropriate observational data. The parameters collected in this table are from [Dorren and Guinan \(1994a\)](#), [Güdel et al. \(1997b\)](#), [Güdel et al. \(1998b\)](#), [Güdel and Gaidos \(2001\)](#), [Guinan and Ribas \(2002\)](#), [Ribas et al. \(2005\)](#), and [Telleschi et al. \(2005\)](#). Bolometric luminosities have been derived from absolute visual magnitudes,  $M_V$ , by applying standard bolometric corrections. I briefly summarize the magnetic-activity properties of a few important “Young Suns” that will be discussed extensively in this paper (further notes can be found in [Ribas et al. 2005](#)).

*EK Draconis* = *HD 129333* is an exemplary near-ZAMS solar analog, representing the very active young Sun at the time when planetary atmospheres first formed. EK Dra is a member of the Pleiades Moving Group at a distance of 34 pc. [König et al. \(2005\)](#) estimated an age of only 35 Myr, and a mass of  $(0.9–1.0) \pm 0.1 M_\odot$ . EK Dra’s optical and UV properties have been studied in detail by [Dorren and Guinan \(1994a\)](#). With a rotation period of 2.7 d, it reveals extreme magnetic activity, showing a photospheric spot coverage of 6% ([Dorren and Guinan 1994a](#), larger fractions were given by [König et al. 2005](#)), transition-region line fluxes 20–100 times larger than the Sun’s ([Dorren and Guinan, 1994a](#)), a very hot X-ray emitting corona with a luminosity  $\approx 1000$  times the present-day solar X-ray output ([Güdel et al., 1997b](#); [Telleschi et al., 2005](#)), and an extremely luminous non-thermal radio corona exceeding radio luminosities of strong solar flares by orders of magnitude ([Güdel et al., 1994, 1995c](#)). EK Dra shows rotational modulation from spots in the optical, and due to inhomogeneous coronal active regions also in the radio and X-ray regimes ([Güdel et al., 1995c](#)). It further shows strong evidence for a  $\approx 10$  yr activity cycle ([Dorren and](#)

Guinan, 1994a; Dorren *et al.*, 1995; Güdel, 2004; Järvinen *et al.*, 2005). Duquennoy and Mayor (1991) reported a low-mass (M-type) companion star, whose mass was found to be  $(0.5 \pm 0.1) M_{\odot}$ , and Metchev and Hillenbrand (2004) discussed evidence for another  $0.2 M_{\odot}$  companion although the latter has been questioned by König *et al.* (2005). Note that UV, EUV, X-ray, and radio emissions are likely to be dominated by the G star, given the low mass(es) of the companion(s).

$\zeta^1$  Cas B = HR 581 = HD 12230 is a somewhat mysterious solar analog in a binary system at a distance of 33.5 pc. It has not been revealed in the optical regime given the primary F0 V star's overwhelming light. But astrometric, X-ray and radio properties constrain it to be an early-to-mid G-type star, and its likely membership in the Pleiades Moving Group suggests a near-ZAMS age (Güdel *et al.*, 1995a, 1998a). It shows X-rays and radio emission at an even more extreme level than EK Dra, perhaps induced by the even faster rotation; the rotation period has been inferred from periodic X-ray modulation to be about 1 d (Güdel *et al.*, 1995a, 1998a; Telleschi *et al.*, 2005).

$\pi^1$  UMa = HD 72905 and  $\chi^1$  Ori = HD 39587: These are two members of the Ursa Major Stream (King *et al.*, 2003), with an estimated age of 300 Myr (Soderblom and Mayor, 1993). While  $\pi^1$  UMa is considered to be single,  $\chi^1$  Ori is orbited by an M-type companion with an orbital period of about 14 yr (Han and Gatewood, 2002) and a mass of  $0.15 M_{\odot}$  (König *et al.*, 2002), suggesting that most observational signatures of magnetic activity are dominated by the primary.

$\kappa^1$  Cet = HD 20630 is a Hyades-age solar analog. Its age is not well known but is indirectly inferred from its rotation period and its X-ray luminosity (Ribas *et al.*, 2005).

Table 3: The “Sun in Time” sample<sup>a</sup>.

Star	HD no.	Dist. (pc) <sup>b</sup>	Spectr. Type	$T_{\text{eff}}$ (K)	Mass ( $M_{\odot}$ )	Radius ( $R_{\odot}$ )	MV (m)	$L_{\text{bol}}$ ( $L_{\odot}$ )	$\log L_X$ (erg/s) <sup>c</sup>	$\log(L_X/L_{\text{bol}})$	$\log L_R^d$ (erg/Hz/s)	$P$ (d)	Age (Gyr)	Age indicator, Membership
47 Cas B	12230	33.5	G V	...	...	...	...	30.31	...	...	14.91	1.0?	0.1	Pleiades Moving Group
EK Dra	129333	33.9	G0 V	5870	1.06	0.91	4.96	29.93	-3.61	-3.61	14.18	2.75	0.1	Pleiades Moving Group
$\pi^1$ UMa	72905	14.3	G1 V	5850	1.03	0.96	4.87	29.10	-4.47	-4.47	<12.67	4.68	0.3	Ursa Major Stream
HN Peg	206860	18.4	G0 V	5970	1.06	0.99	4.68	29.12	-4.52	-4.52	...	4.86	0.3	Rotation-Age Relationship <sup>e</sup>
$\chi^1$ Ori	39587	8.7	G1 V	5890	1.01	1.02	4.71	28.99	-4.65	-4.65	...	5.08	0.3	Ursa Major Stream
BE Cet	1835	20.4	G2 V	5740	0.99	1.02	4.83	29.13	-4.46	-4.46	...	7.65	0.6	Hyades Moving Group
$\kappa^1$ Cet	20630	9.2	G5 V	5750	1.02	0.93	5.02	28.79	-4.73	-4.73	<12.42	9.2	0.75	Rotation-Age Relationship <sup>f</sup>
$\beta$ Com	114710	9.2	G0 V	6000	1.10	1.10	4.45	28.21	-5.52	-5.52	<12.53	12.4	1.6	Rotation-Age Relationship
15 Sge	190406	17.7	G5 V	5850	1.01	1.10	4.56	28.06	-5.64	-5.64	...	13.5	1.9	Rotation-Age Relationship
Sun	—	1 AU	G2 V	5777	1.00	1.00	4.83	27.30	-6.29	-6.29	...	25.4	4.6	Isotopic Dating on Earth
18 Sco	146233	14.0	G2 V	5785	1.01	1.03	4.77	1.08	...	...	...	23	4.9	Isochrones
$\alpha$ Cen A	128620	1.4	G2 V	5800 <sup>g</sup>	1.10 <sup>h</sup>	1.22 <sup>h</sup>	4.34	1.60	-6.67	-6.67	...	~30	5–6	Isochrones, Rotation
$\beta$ Hvi	2151	7.5	G2 IV	5774	1.10	1.92	3.43	3.70	-6.41	-6.41	...	~28	6.7	Isochrones <sup>i</sup>
16 Cyg A	186408	21.6	G1.5 V	5790	1.00	1.16	4.29	1.38	...	...	...	~35	8.5	Isochrones

<sup>a</sup> Parameters mostly collected from Dorren and Guinan (1994a), Güdel *et al.* (1997b), Güdel *et al.* (1998b), Güdel and Gaidos (2001), Guinan and Ribas (2002), Ribas *et al.* (2005), and Telleschi *et al.* (2005).

<sup>b</sup> Stellar distances are from the Hipparcos Catalogue (Perryman *et al.*, 1997)

<sup>c</sup>  $L_X$  refers to the 0.1–2.4 keV band as measured by ROSAT.

<sup>d</sup> For radio observations of further solar analogs, see Güdel *et al.* (1994) and Güdel and Gaidos (2001).

<sup>e</sup> Same rotation period as Ursa Major Stream G0V members.

<sup>f</sup> Possible member of the Hyades Moving Group.

<sup>g</sup> From Chmielewski *et al.* (1992).

<sup>h</sup> From Kervella *et al.* (2003) based on interferometric observations.

<sup>i</sup> Isochrone age from Dravins *et al.* (1998);  $L_X$  normalized to  $1 R_{\odot}$ .

## 4 The Solar Magnetic Field in Time

### 4.1 The young solar photosphere: Large, polar spots

Stellar photospheres provide the crucial interface between the region of magnetic field generation in the stellar interior and the extended outer magnetic fields in the corona and in interplanetary space. Distribution and size of photospheric magnetic features are thought to reflect the location of the magnetic dynamo in the stellar interior; the study of photospheres of young, active solar analogs is therefore important for a closer understanding of the dynamo operating under more extreme conditions, but it of course also gives the boundaries for the extended magnetic-field distribution in the overlying chromosphere, corona, and the stellar wind.

#### 4.1.1 Doppler imaging of young solar analogs

The most advanced (indirect) imaging technique to map magnetic structure in stellar photospheres is Doppler imaging that uses deformations in spectral-line profiles to map starspots (Vogt and Penrod, 1983).

Surface imaging using Doppler reconstruction methods or spot modeling has been performed for several young, active solar analogs. Figure 1 shows views of the three examples discussed below. The colors code for temperature (from <http://www.aip.de/groups/activity/DI/maps/>).

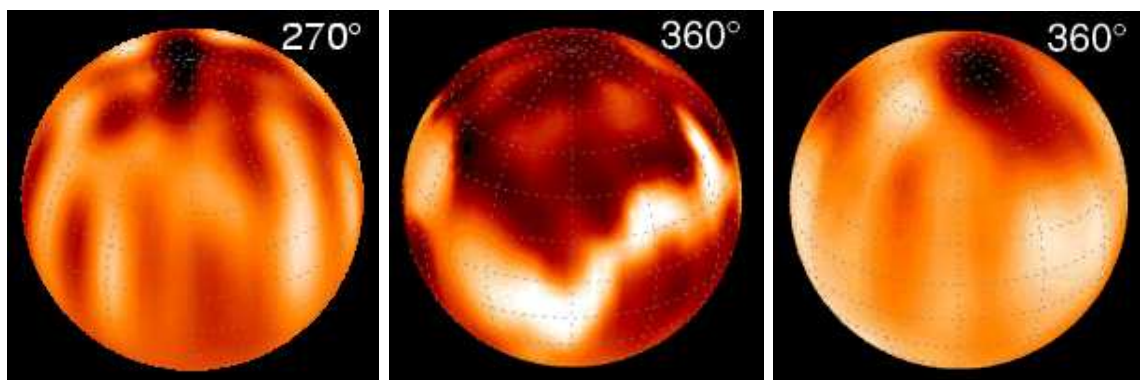


Figure 1: Three temperature maps of young, active solar analogs, derived from Doppler imaging. From left to right: HD 171488 ( $P = 1.34$  d; Strassmeier *et al.* 2003), HII 314 ( $P = 1.47$  d; Rice and Strassmeier 2001), and EK Dra ( $P = 2.7$  d; Strassmeier and Rice 1998) (see also <http://www.aip.de/groups/activity/DI/maps/>, reprinted with permission).

The photosphere of EK Dra has been extensively mapped using spot modeling (Järvinen *et al.*, 2005) and Doppler imaging techniques (Strassmeier and Rice, 1998). Doppler images show spots both close to the visible pole but also near the equator, the dominant feature being located at latitudes of 70–80 deg (Strassmeier and Rice, 1998). This is supported by radial-velocity variations (König *et al.*, 2005). The polar region of EK Dra is, however, less pronounced than in more active (binary) stars, perhaps indicating a trend toward lower-latitude spots for less active stars, as predicted by the Schüssler *et al.* (1996) theory of Coriolis-force driven magnetic flux tubes that converge to the pole for very rapid rotators (see below).

The Pleiades G dwarf HII 314 ( $P = 1.47$  d) has been Doppler-imaged by Rice and Strassmeier (2001). Again, high-latitude and polar spots are visible. The still younger, “infant Sun” HD 171488 = V889 Her ( $P = 1.34$  d, age = 30 Myr), a star in its last stage of evolution toward the ZAMS, shows very prominent polar spots and various high-latitude dark features (Strassmeier *et al.*, 2003).



Further Doppler maps have been presented for the early G-type ultra-fast rotators He 520 ( $P = 0.49$  d) and He 699 ( $P = 0.61$  d). Again, apart from the prominent polar spots, there is a definitive band of low-latitude ( $l \lesssim 30-40$  deg) spots on these stars as well (Barnes *et al.*, 1998).

Although these surface spot distributions vary significantly between young solar analogs, there is agreement with regard to high-latitude magnetic activity on all of them (Rice and Strassmeier, 2001; Strassmeier *et al.*, 2003).

The most recent Doppler technique uses spectropolarimetric observations of lines to apply *Zeeman–Doppler Imaging* (ZDI), which results in maps of radial, azimuthal, and meridional magnetic fields. Successful application to solar analog stars have been presented by Marsden *et al.* (2006) and Catala *et al.* (2007); excellent ZDI maps have also been derived for the somewhat cooler, young early-K star AB Dor (Donati *et al.*, 2003b), and put into context with coronal X-rays (Jardine *et al.*, 2002c; McIvor *et al.*, 2003; Hussain *et al.*, 2007). ZDI images (Figure 2) have shown non-solar magnetic features such as high-latitude “rings” of azimuthal (toroidal) field (Donati *et al.*, 2003b; Marsden *et al.*, 2006; Catala *et al.*, 2007), possibly suggesting that the responsible magnetic dynamo is located close to the surface (a “distributed dynamo”) rather than (only) near the tachocline where azimuthal fields are expected for  $\alpha\Omega$ -type dynamos. The field distribution and orientation also serves as an important diagnostic to study and explain spot lifetimes based on numerical studies (Işık *et al.*, 2007).

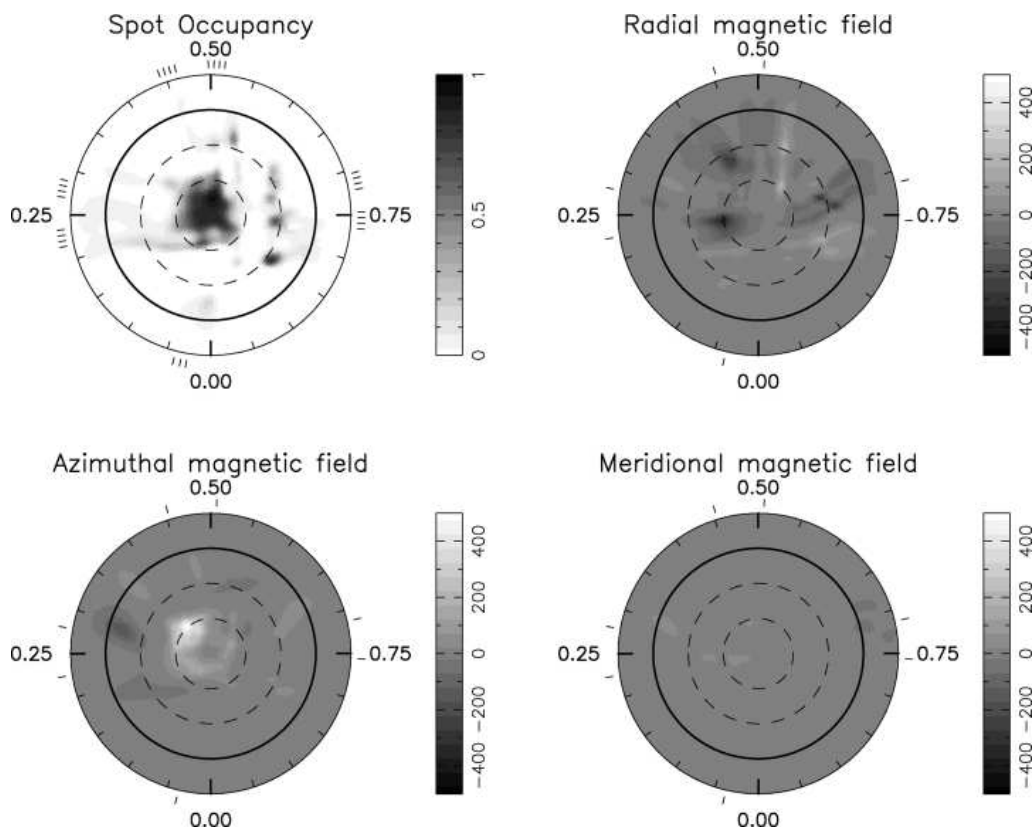


Figure 2: *Zeeman–Doppler images of the rapidly rotating early G dwarf HD 171488, showing, in polar projection, spot occupancy (upper left), the radial magnetic field (upper right), the azimuthal magnetic field (lower left – note the ring-like high-latitude feature), and the meridional magnetic field (lower right) (from Marsden *et al.* 2006, reprinted with permission of Blackwell Publishing).*

### 4.1.2 Polar spots

Why are there polar spots in magnetically active stars? Schüssler and Solanki (1992) and Schüssler *et al.* (1996) suggested that strong Coriolis forces act on magnetic flux bundles that rise from the dynamo region at the boundary between the radiative core and the convective envelope of the star. This force would deflect rising flux to higher altitudes although, given the size of the radiative core, the maximum latitude would probably be no more than about 60 degrees. A parameter study confirms these findings systematically, with flux emergence latitudes increasing with i) rotation rate, ii) decreasing stellar mass (i.e., smaller radiative core radii), and iii) decreasing age; a fraction of the flux tubes will, however, also erupt in near-equatorial regions (Granzer *et al.*, 2000). To produce truly polar spot regions, additional latitudinal transport of flux tubes is still required. A possibility is an additional pole-ward slip of a segment of a flux ring in the stellar interior after the eruption of flux at mid-latitudes in another segment of the same ring (Schüssler *et al.*, 1996).

Alternatively, Schrijver and Title (2001) explored migration of surface magnetic fields toward the poles in a model developed by Schrijver (2001). Here, magnetic bipoles are injected randomly. These flux concentrations migrate pole-ward in a meridional flow and are subject to differential rotation. The bipoles can interact, i.e., fragment, merge, or cancel. The magnetic cycle is simulated by periodically varying the injection latitudes. Schrijver and Title (2001) simulated a star with a bipole injection rate 30 times higher than the present-day Sun, corresponding to a solar analog with a rotation period of 6 d, i.e., an age of a few 100 Myr. The differential rotation profile was assumed to be identical to the present-day Sun's, and so was the length of the activity cycle (11 yr). In the present-day Sun, the pole-ward migration of the trailing flux in a bipole cancels with existing high-latitude flux of opposite polarity relatively rapidly. In the simulations of the active star, however, the magnetic concentrations contain more flux, resulting in slower diffusion and a longer lifetime before cancellation. The result of these simulations is that, first, there are strong magnetic features accumulating in the polar regions, and second, nested magnetic rings of opposite polarity form around the pole (Figure 3). These are suggestive sites of chromospheric and coronal interactions, perhaps leading to strong coronal heating and flares in these polar regions. As described above, ZDI images indeed provide evidence for high-latitude “rings” of azimuthal (toroidal) field (e.g., Marsden *et al.* 2006, Figure 2).

Observationally, the picture is more complicated. In contrast to these simulations and also in contrast to the solar picture, Doppler images of very active, young stars (Figure 1) show intermingling of opposite polarities in longitude also at high latitudes (Mackay *et al.*, 2004). Such features can indeed be reproduced if the latitudes of flux emergence are shifted poleward, to 50–70 degrees, and the meridional flow be made faster (Mackay *et al.*, 2004; Holzwarth *et al.*, 2006). The first modification is of course suggested from the Schüssler *et al.* (1996) theory.

The structure of polar spots (unipolar, multiple bi-polar regions, or nested rings of different polarity) is indeed also very important for the large-scale coronal field; unipolar magnetic spots suggest the presence of more polar open-field lines, therefore concentrating strong coronal X-ray emission to more equatorial regions, but also reducing the efficiency of angular momentum removal by the magnetized wind due to the smaller lever arm compared to equatorial winds (McIvor *et al.*, 2003).

## 4.2 Coronal structure of the young Sun

Stellar magnetic fields are anchored in the photospheres, but they can unfold into large, interacting, complicated structures in the solar corona and may reach out into the surrounding “interplanetary” space. Mapping the true 3-D structure of outer stellar atmospheres has therefore been an important goal of stellar coronal physics, but a challenging one. Apart from the complications in inferring the 3-D structure of an optically thin gas that is not spatially resolved by present-day telescopes, the emitting regions (e.g., in X-rays) may not be identical to what we would like to map as “magnetic

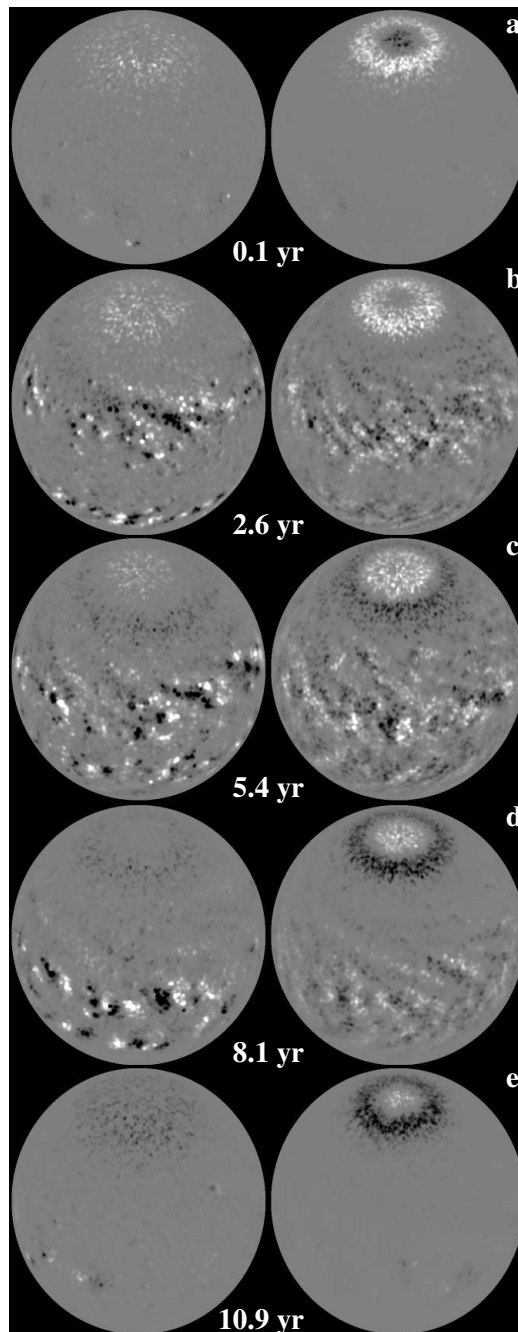


Figure 3: *Simulations of surface magnetic fields for a star like the Sun (left) and an active star with a bipole emergence rate 30 times higher (right). Various snapshots during the activity cycle are shown (from top to bottom). Note the concentration of magnetic flux in rings of opposite polarity around the pole of the active star (from Schrijver and Title, 2001, reproduced by permission of AAS).*

structure”; further, strong variability in coronal regions on short time scales may make “imaging” challenging. Methods to infer coronal structure include:

1. reconstruction of magnetic features from light curves that are rotationally modulated (at radio or X-ray wavelengths);
2. eclipse image reconstruction for eclipsing binaries (radio and X-rays);
3. theoretical models of magnetic loops, using measurable quantities such as emission measures and temperatures as input (X-rays); specific models have been developed for flaring magnetic loops;
4. implications for coronal structure based on electron density measurements in X-ray spectra;
5. direct imaging using interferometric techniques at radio wavelengths.

Most of these methods are applicable to various types of stars, but results are overall ambiguous. I will not review all aspects of stellar coronal structure (see Güdel, 2004) but concentrate on results that have been obtained – at least in part – specifically for young solar analogs.

#### 4.2.1 Magnetic loop models and active regions

In the simplest approach, let us assume that the observed X-ray luminosity  $L_X$  is produced by an ensemble of identical magnetic coronal loops with characteristic half-length  $L$ , surface filling factor  $f$ , and an apex temperature  $T$  used for the entire loop; then, on using the Rosner–Tucker–Vaiana (RTV, Rosner *et al.* 1978) loop scaling law and identifying  $L_X = \epsilon V$  where  $\epsilon$  is the volumetric heating rate (in  $\text{erg cm}^{-3} \text{ s}^{-1}$ ), we obtain

$$L \approx 6 \times 10^{16} \left( \frac{R_*}{R_\odot} \right)^2 \frac{f}{L_X} T^{3.5} \quad [\text{cm}]. \quad (1)$$

This relation can only hold if  $L$  is smaller than the pressure scale height. Based on this expression, the luminous, hot plasma component in magnetically active stars seems to invariably require either very large, moderate-pressure loops with a large filling factor, or solar-sized high-pressure compact loops with a very small ( $< 1\%$ ) filling factor (Giampapa *et al.*, 1985; Stern *et al.*, 1986; Schrijver *et al.*, 1989; Giampapa *et al.*, 1996; Güdel *et al.*, 1997b; Preibisch, 1997; Sciortino *et al.*, 1999).

Schrijver *et al.* (1984) modeled  $T$  and the emission measure, EM ( $= n_e n_H V$ , where  $n_e$  and  $n_H$  are the electron and hydrogen number densities, and  $V$  is the volume) of a sample of coronal sources based on RTV loop models and found several trends: i) inactive MS stars such as the Sun are covered to a large fraction by large-scale, cool (2 MK) loops of modest size ( $0.1 R_*$ ); ii) moderately active dwarfs are dominated by very compact, high-density, hot ( $\approx 20$  MK) loops that require high heating rates (up to 20 times more than for solar compact active region loops); iii) the most active stars may additionally form rather extended loops with heights similar to  $R_*$ .

Similar studies of loop models varied in their results, although for magnetically active stars, most authors reported results that require hot, compact, high-pressure loops (up to several  $100 \text{ dyn cm}^{-2}$ ), somewhat reminiscent of flaring loops (Stern *et al.*, 1986; Giampapa *et al.*, 1996; Maggio and Peres, 1997; Ventura *et al.*, 1998; Sciortino *et al.*, 1999). The hypothesis that the hottest plasma in magnetically active stellar coronae does not form in static loops but in flaring active regions will be encountered again – see Section 5.8.

If the Sun were entirely covered with active regions, the X-ray luminosity would amount to only  $\approx (2-3) \times 10^{29} \text{ erg s}^{-1}$  (Vaiana and Rosner, 1978; Wood *et al.*, 1994), short of  $L_X$  of the most active solar analogs by one order of magnitude. But the X-ray emission measure distributions

of such active stars show excessive amounts of plasma around 10–20 MK (Güdel *et al.*, 1997b), which incidentally is the typical range of solar flare temperatures. This again led to the suggestion that the high- $T$  emission measure is in fact due to the superposition of a multitude of temporally unresolved flares (see Section 5.8).

#### 4.2.2 Inferences from coronal density measurements

Comprehensive surveys of stellar coronal electron density ( $n_e$ ) measurements based on X-ray spectroscopic line-flux ratios were presented by Ness *et al.* (2004) and Testa *et al.* (2004), including a sample of active solar analogs. These studies concluded that the surface filling factor (derived from the emission measure, the measured  $n_e$ , and a realistic coronal scale height) of magnetic loops containing cool X-ray emitting material increases from inactive to moderately active stars but then “saturates” at levels of about ten percent. In the most active stars, hot coronal loops are added, with a sharply increasing filling factor, thus probably filling the volume left between the cooler coronal magnetic loops. Observations of rotational modulation in very active solar analogs suggests, however, that the coronal volume filling remains significantly below 100% (see Section 4.2.3 below).

#### 4.2.3 Inferences from rotational modulation

Inhomogeneous coronae may reveal signatures in light curves as the star rotates, although success of this method has been moderate given that coronal features evolve on time scales shorter than one rotation (e.g., owing to flares). Two young, near-ZAMS solar analogs have shown clear signatures of X-ray rotational modulation (EK Dra, Güdel *et al.* 1995c, and 47 Cas B, Güdel *et al.* 1995a), pointing to a filling factor below unity. This is unexpected because such stars are in the empirical X-ray saturation regime that has often been suggested to be due to complete filling of the surface with X-ray bright coronal magnetic loops (see Section 5.5 below). EK Dra also showed evidence for radio rotational modulation. The depth and length of the modulation (Figure 4a) constrains the X-ray coronal height, and also the electron densities to  $n_e > 4 \times 10^{10} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ , in agreement with spectroscopic measurements (Ness *et al.*, 2004). This leads to the conclusion that much of the emitting material is concentrated in large “active regions”.

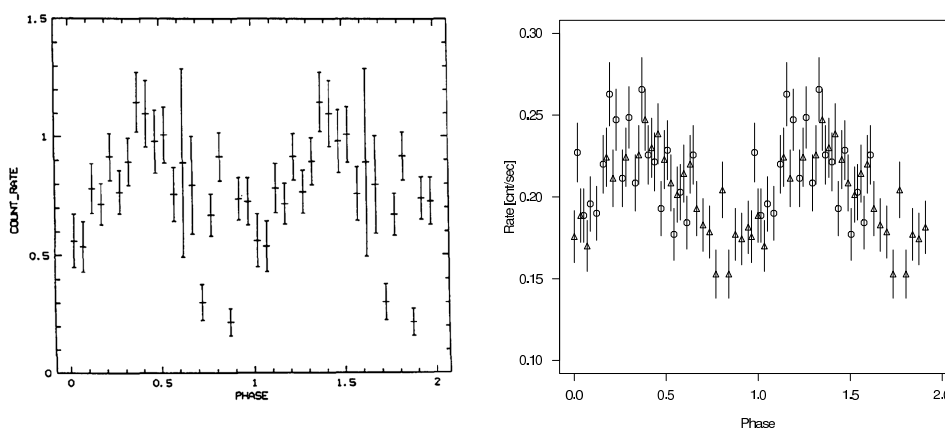


Figure 4: Two examples of X-ray rotational modulation in young, active solar analogs: Left (a): EK Dra (Güdel *et al.*, 1995c); right (b): the supersaturated young solar analog VXR45 (Marino *et al.*, 2003a). Both light curves are phase-folded (reprinted with permission).

Because the X-ray luminosity in very rapidly rotating, “supersaturated” stars (Section 5.5.1) is below the empirical maximum, rotational modulation would give important structural information on the state of such coronae. A deep modulation in the young solar analog VXR45 (Figure 4b) suggests that extreme activity in these stars is again *not* due to complete coverage of the surface with active regions (Marino *et al.* 2003a).

#### 4.2.4 Inferences from eclipses

Most binary systems that produce coronal eclipses are close binaries and the components are therefore in no ways similar to the young Sun. A remarkable exception is the relatively wide binary  $\alpha$  CrB. Its X-ray active, young (age of few 100 Myr) solar analog of spectral type G5 V is totally eclipsed once every 17 days by the optical primary, an A0 V star that is perfectly X-ray dark. Other parameters are ideal as well, such as the non-central eclipse, the eclipse time-scale of a few hours, and the relatively slow rotation period of the secondary. Eclipse observations obtained by *ROSAT* (Schmitt and Kürster, 1993) and by *XMM-Newton* (Güdel *et al.*, 2003a) were used to reconstruct projected 2-D images of the X-ray structure. They consistently reveal patches of active regions across the face of the G star; not much material is found significantly beyond its limb (Figure 5). The structures tend to be of modest size ( $\approx 5 \times 10^9$  cm), with large, X-ray faint areas in between, although the star’s luminosity exceeds that of the active Sun by a factor of  $\approx 30$ . These observations imply moderately high densities in the emitting active regions, and both studies mentioned above yielded average electron densities in the brightest active regions of a few  $10^{10}$  cm $^{-3}$ . The picture of active coronae consisting of features similar to solar active regions thus seems to hold also for intermediately active, young solar analogs.

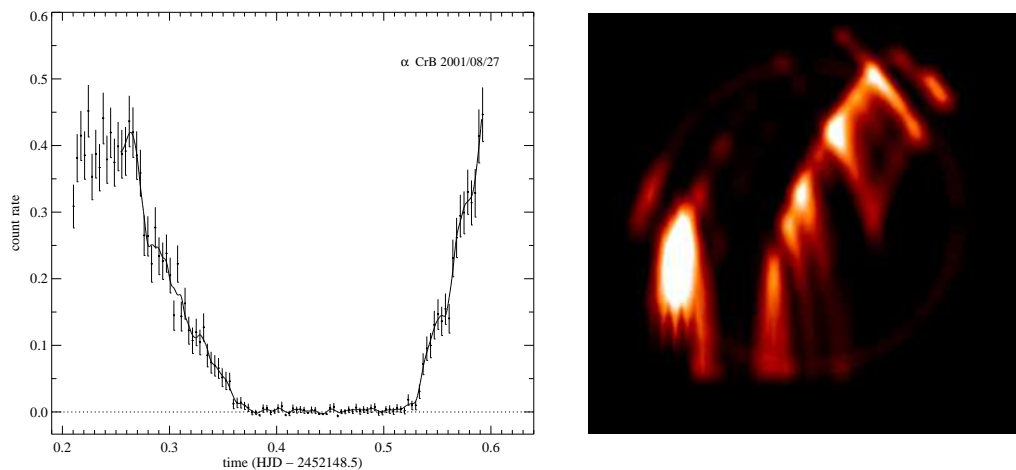


Figure 5: *Light curve and image reconstruction of the A+G binary  $\alpha$  CrB. The left panel shows the light curve from observations with XMM-Newton, the right panel illustrates the reconstructed X-ray brightness distribution on the G star. The axes are such that the larger, eclipsing A-type star moves from left to right parallel to the x-axis, i.e., the polar axis of the orbit is parallel to the y axis. The diameter of the star (outlined by a faint circle) is 0.9 solar diameters or  $1.25 \times 10^{11}$  cm, corresponding to  $\approx 365$   $\mu$ arcsec at a distance of 22.9 pc (after Güdel *et al.*, 2003a, © Springer Verlag, reprinted with permission).*

#### 4.2.5 Photospheric-field extrapolation to the corona

Information on coronal structure can also be derived indirectly from surface Zeeman–Doppler images as developed for and applied to the stellar case by *Jardine et al. (2002a)*, *Jardine et al. (2002b)*, *Hussain et al. (2002)*, and *Hussain et al. (2007)* and further references therein. *Jardine et al. (2002a)* and *Jardine et al. (2002b)* explored potential field extrapolation, while *Hussain et al. (2002)* extended the models to include some form of currents in force-free fields.

Such models also require specification of the base thermal pressure of the plasma with respect to the local magnetic pressure, and some cutoff of the corona at locations where the thermal pressure might open up the coronal field lines. They can successfully recover, at least qualitatively, the total X-ray emission measure, the average electron density, and the low level of rotational modulation observed on very active, young stars such as AB Dor. The X-ray rotational modulation is to a large extent suppressed by the highly complex coronal structure, involving both very large magnetic features and more compact loops anchored predominantly at polar latitudes.

*Schrijver and Aschwanden (2002)* used the model of surface magnetic-field development devised by *Schrijver (2001)* and *Schrijver and Title (2001)* (Section 4.1 above) to extrapolate surface magnetic fields into the corona, assuming a potential-field approach. The resulting magnetic structure is illustrated in Figure 6 for a solar-activity star, and two examples with a 10fold and a 30fold magnetic injection rate (the latter corresponding to a solar analog with an age of a few 100 Myr). Near cycle minimum, the coronae of the active stars are dominated by a large-scale dipolar field although the low-activity example also shows compact active regions, more so than the active stars. At activity maximum, the active stars show magnetic-field arcades between the polar rings of opposite polarity, weakening the contribution from the global dipole components. Not all of these loops will be X-ray bright, however; the loop brightness depends on its heating rate, which in turn depends on the mode of coronal heating of a given magnetic loop (see *Schrijver and Aschwanden 2002* for further details).

#### 4.2.6 Summary on coronal structure

Despite numerous, complementary approaches to the study of coronal structure, the results appear to be inconclusive. Compact active regions are inferred from (and required by) the presence of rotational modulation, and field extrapolation and numerical models suggest compact regions as well. Extended, global fields are more difficult to infer, and this is the consequence of two observational biases rather than implying the absence of such structures. First, most observational methods (e.g., X-ray eclipse and rotational modulation) are insensitive to large structures. Second, the pressure scale height of typical coronal plasma is less than one stellar radius for solar analogs. The  $n_{e2}$  dependence of X-ray emission will therefore bias X-ray loop detection toward low heights. There is, nevertheless, evidence for large-scale magnetic fields on young, active stars, from two directions: surface field extrapolation based on observed spot features or based on numerical models of flux transport (Section 4.2.5) imply the presence of structures resembling global dipole components; and spatially resolved radio observations of active stars indeed do show very extended magnetic structures (predominantly above the polar regions; *Benz et al. 1998*; *Mutel et al. 1998*), although such evidence has not yet been demonstrated for young solar analogs. In summary, then, observational evidence and model simulations point to the presence of both compact active regions and extended magnetic structures in the young Sun. The relative proportions are likely to relate to the distribution of magnetic field on the stellar surface, as in the models presented by *Schrijver and Aschwanden (2002)*.

There is clear evidence that the surface magnetic filling factor increases with increasing activity (and decreasing rotation period), both from observations (e.g., *Montesinos and Jordan, 1993*) and theoretical and modeling studies (*Montesinos and Jordan, 1993*; *Fawzy et al., 2002*); in contrast, the photospheric magnetic field strength is thought to be primarily restricted by pressure equilibrium

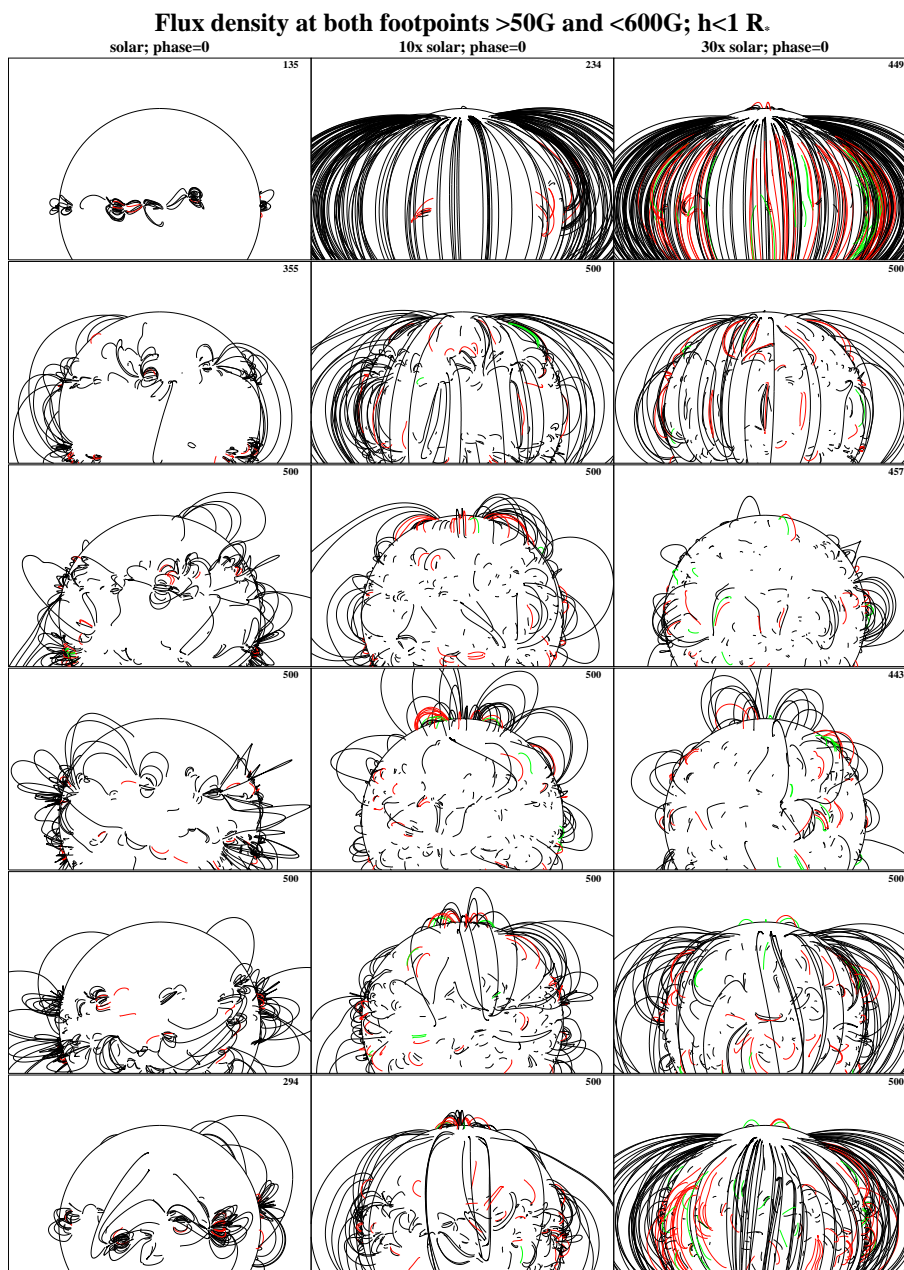


Figure 6: Magnetic-field geometry of a corona of a solar analog. From left to right: present solar activity, 10fold higher activity, 30fold higher activity. The panels from top to bottom show configurations at different phases of the activity cycle (0.00 = minimum, 0.16, 0.33, 0.49  $\approx$  maximum, 0.65, and 0.82, respectively). Only field lines with chromospheric footpoint field strengths between 50 G and 600 G are shown. Red and green curves show loops for which the expansion between 10,000 and 30,000 km is less than a factor of 4 and 2, respectively (from Schrijver and Aschwanden, 2002, reproduced by permission of AAS).



with respect to the ambient gas pressure, i.e., the field strength is primarily dependent on spectral type, although a weak activity dependence is also present (e.g., [Montesinos and Jordan, 1993](#)). The higher filling factors lead to less expansion of photospheric/chromospheric flux tubes because the tubes merge with adjacent tubes ([Cuntz \*et al.\*, 1999](#)). Therefore, toward more active stars, coronal magnetic fields interact progressively more frequently due to their denser packing. A higher rate of large flares is a consequence. Since flares enhance the electron density along with the temperature, stars with a higher activity level should reveal a predominance of hotter structures ([Güdel \*et al.\*, 1997b](#)). Such a trend is observationally well supported; as further described in Section 5.5.2 below, coronae at higher activity levels are systematically hotter.

### 4.3 Activity cycles in the young Sun

Records of sunspot numbers back over several hundred years show a near-cyclic modulation that has turned out to be a central challenge for dynamo theories. The activity period between two successive spot maxima is approximately 11 years; because the magnetic polarity reverses after one period, the full magnetic cycle amounts to 22 yr. Activity cycles corresponding to the 11 yr solar cycle have been found on many cool stars, mostly as a result of the Mount Wilson HK project ([Baliunas \*et al.\*, 1995](#)) that has collected a continuous data stream of the chromospheric Ca II H & K line flux diagnostic for many stars over several decades. A subset of stars appear to lack such cycles, however, and very active stars tend to exhibit an irregular rather than a cyclic mode of variability ([Hempelmann \*et al.\*, 1996](#)). An alternative method for finding activity cycles on magnetically active stars is the identification of cycles in the starspot coverage.

#### 4.3.1 Starspot cycles of solar analogs

[Messina and Guinan \(2002\)](#) specifically studied starspot cycles of stars from the “Sun in Time” program. Activity cycles are found in all of them, with periods ranging from 2.1 yr to 13.1 yr. A comparison with the more comprehensive survey and the theoretical interpretations presented by [Saar and Brandenburg \(1999\)](#) confirms the presence of two or three branches: i) inactive solar analogs show cycles about 100 times longer than the rotation period,  $P$ ; ii) active stars reveal cycles 200–600 times longer than  $P$ ; iii) and “super-active” stars show cycles about 4 order of magnitude longer than  $P$  (Figure 7a). Among G-type stars, only EK Dra appears to be compatible with the third class ([Messina and Guinan 2002](#)).

The brightness amplitude increases with increasing inverse Rossby number (i.e., increasing rotation rate for constant turnover time), indicating that spots produce progressively more modulation toward higher activity levels (Figure 7b). A plateau is suggested for the most active stars, indicating a saturation effect when spots cover a large fraction of the stellar surface ([Messina and Guinan, 2002](#)).

The standard near-ZAMS solar analog, EK Dra, has been an important target for cycle studies. [Dorren and Guinan \(1994a\)](#) and [Dorren and Guinan \(1994b\)](#) showed that its long-term photometric variations by  $\approx 0.07$  mag are consistent with a period of about 12 yr. Variations compatible with this time scale are also found in Ca II HK, Mg II h and k, and the ultraviolet C IV, C II, and He II fluxes ([Dorren and Guinan, 1994a](#)), and in X-rays (see Section 4.3.2 below). The spot periodicity has been confirmed by [Messina and Guinan \(2002\)](#) although their best estimate for the period is  $9.2 \pm 0.4$  yr (Figure 8). The star is optically faintest when chromospheric and transition-region activity is highest. On top of this cyclic behavior, there is a long-term trend in the optical light, namely a decline of the blue light by  $0.0017 \pm 0.0004$  mag yr<sup>-1</sup> for an investigated time span of 35 yr ([Fröhlich \*et al.\* 2002](#); see also [Messina and Guinan 2003](#) and [Järvinen \*et al.\* 2005](#)). Further, two active longitudes shift in phase in concert with the activity cycles ([Järvinen \*et al.\*, 2005](#)). The dominant spot concentration switches between the two preferred longitudes with a “flip-flop” cycle

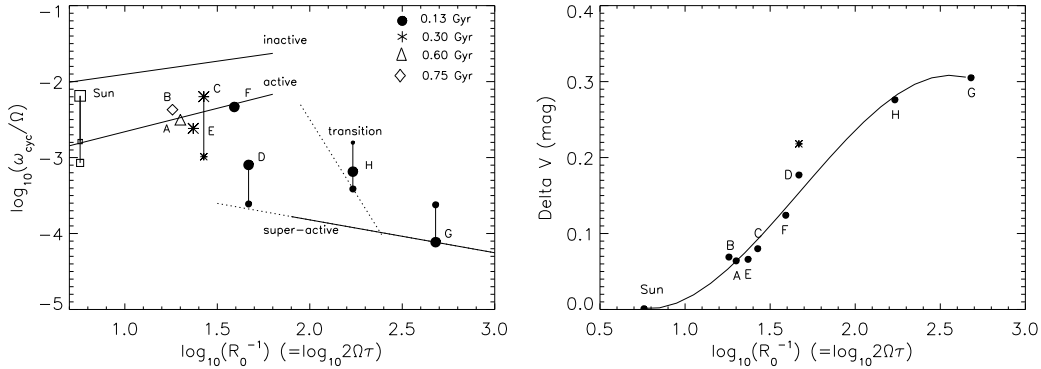


Figure 7: Left (a): Ratio between activity-cycle frequency and rotation frequency plotted vs. the inverse Rossby number, mostly for solar analogs. Three theoretical branches (“inactive”, “active”, and “super-active”) are shown by solid lines. Key to the labels: A = BE Cet, B =  $\kappa^1$  Cet, C =  $\pi^1$  UMa, D = EK Dra, E = HN Peg, F = DX Leo (K0 V), G = AB Dor (K0 V), H = LQ Hya (K2 V) (from Messina and Guinan 2002). Right (b): Amplitude of V-band variability as a function of the inverse Rossby number. The labels are as for the left panel (from Messina and Guinan 2002, reprinted with permission).

of about 4–4.5 yr. These features suggest the coexistence of axisymmetric and non-axisymmetric dynamo modes (Berdugina *et al.*, 2002).

Messina and Guinan (2003) have studied photometric periods from spot modulations, arguing that – as in the solar case – the varying dominant latitudes of the spots should induce a periodic variation of the rotation period in phase with the activity cycle, because of differential rotation. These correlated period variations are indeed present in solar analogs (Messina and Guinan, 2003), although two patterns are seen: either, the period decreases as the cycle proceeds (solar behavior), or it increases (anti-solar behavior). The former effect is due to spot migration toward the equator where the surface rotation is faster. The second effect could be due to pole-ward acceleration of rotation at higher latitudes where active stars predominantly show spots, while the individual spots may still migrate toward the equator. Messina and Guinan (2003), however, suggest that high-latitude spots migrate toward the (slower-rotating) pole, which induces an anti-solar behavior

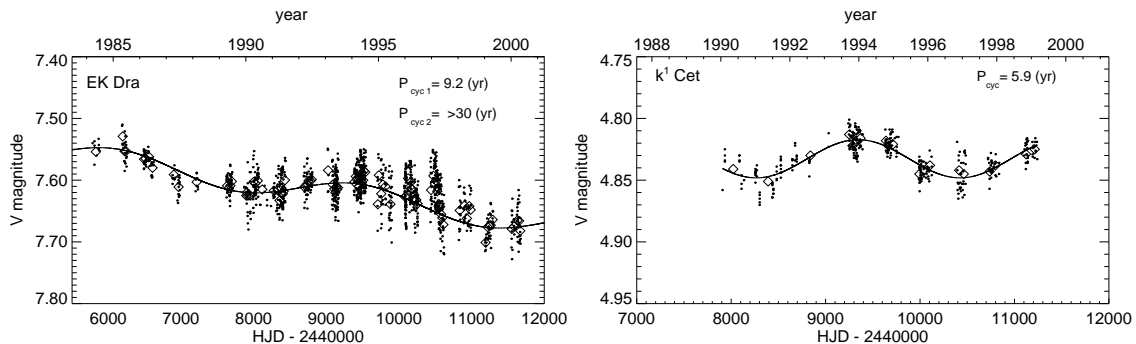


Figure 8: V band photometric time series and sinusoidal (plus long-term trend) fits for EK Dra (left, a) and  $\kappa^1$  Cet (right, b) (from Messina and Guinan, 2002, reprinted with permission).

in particular for stars with small inclination angles. This model is preferred because correlations involving the fractional variation in the rotation period show the same behavior for the two subclasses. Support for the model comes from simulations of magnetic-field migration toward the poles in very active stars, as performed by Schrijver and Title (2001) (Section 4.1.2). Specifically, Messina and Guinan (2003) have found a power-law relation between the rotation-period variation,  $\Delta P$ , and the average rotation period,  $P$ , of the form (see Figure 9a)

$$\Delta P \propto P^{1.42 \pm 0.5}. \quad (2)$$

Further, a tight correlation is found between differential rotation, parameterized by  $\Delta\Omega/\Omega$ , and the activity cycle frequency,  $\omega_{\text{cycl}}$ ,

$$\omega_{\text{cycl}} \propto e^{(-0.055 \pm 0.004)\Delta\Omega/\Omega}, \quad (3)$$

suggesting that  $\Delta\Omega/\Omega$  is a key parameter controlling the duration of the activity cycle (see Figure 9b).

Differential rotation has also been measured on other very active stars (e.g., Donati *et al.* 2003a), among them a solar-like post-T Tauri star (Donati *et al.*, 2000), in particular based on Doppler imaging techniques (Section 4.1.1). Differential rotation was found to be solar-like in these examples, although time-variable, which may hint at dynamo processes that periodically convert magnetic into kinetic energy and vice versa (Donati *et al.*, 2003a).

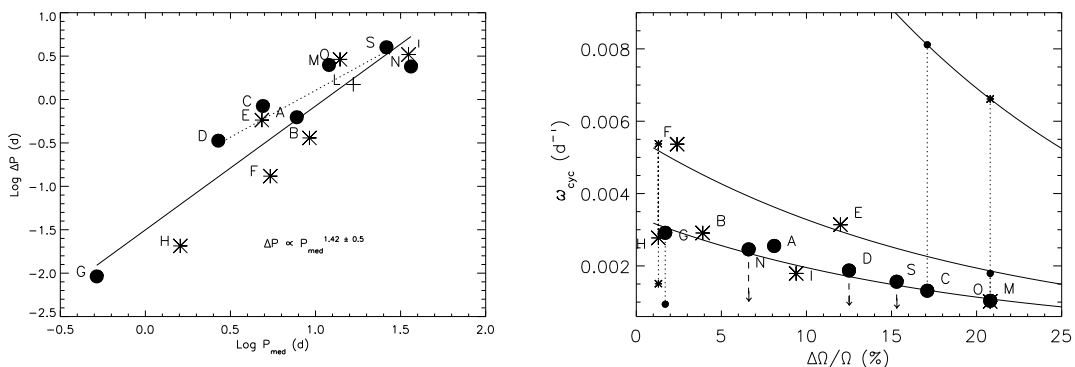


Figure 9: Left (a): Rotation period variation as a function of the mean rotation period, for a sample of young solar analogs. The solid line is a power-law fit to the entire sample also containing early K stars, while the dotted line is a fit to the G-star sample only. Key to the labels: A = BE Cet, B =  $\kappa^1$  Cet, C =  $\pi^1$  UMa, D = EK Dra, E = HN Peg, F = DX Leo (K0 V), G = AB Dor (K0 V), H = LQ Hya (K2 V), I = 107 Psc (K1 V), L = 61 UMa (G8 V), M =  $\beta$  Com, N = HD 160346 (K3 V), O = 15 Sge, S = Sun (from Messina and Guinan, 2003). Right (b): The activity cycle frequency is shown as a function of the relative surface differential rotation amplitude,  $\Delta\Omega/\Omega$ . Vertical dotted lines connect multiple cycles. Three different branches are indicated by the solid curves (from Messina and Guinan, 2003, reprinted with permission).

#### 4.3.2 X-ray cycles of solar analogs

Given the much stronger variability in the outer, coronal layers of a stellar atmosphere, an activity cycle may be more easily identified in the X-ray or radio domains. However, such cycles have eluded

detection until recently because no appropriate program had been carried out for sufficiently long periods. A few notable examples have now been reported from X-ray monitoring.

First tentative evidence for an X-ray cycle came from the young solar analog EK Dra that was monitored between 1990 and 2000 using *ROSAT*, *ASCA*, and *XMM-Newton*. Initial results were presented in Dorren *et al.* (1995), a more complete time series has been published by Güdel (2004). There is a suggestive anti-correlation between X-ray flux and photospheric brightness (the star is optically brightest at its activity minimum), although the total X-ray luminosity varies by no more than a factor of  $\approx 2-3$ .

Other reports refer to inactive solar analogs and K-type stars. Hempelmann *et al.* (2003) and Hempelmann *et al.* (2006) have reported a correlation between X-ray luminosity and the Ca H & K S index for the two K-type stars 61 Cyg A and B. Both show chromospheric modulations on time scales of about 10 years, one being regular and the other irregular. A gradual X-ray modulation was also seen during a time span 2.5 years in the G2 V star HD 81809, although there seems to be a phase shift by about 1 year with respect to the Ca cycle (Favata *et al.*, 2004).

Additional information on potential coronal activity cycles has been collected from multiple observations of young open clusters and star-forming regions. Generally, such samples indicate that magnetically active, solar-like stars mostly lack well-expressed X-ray cycles unless their cycle-induced variability is no more than a factor of  $\approx 2$  (Gagné and Caillault, 1994; Gagne *et al.*, 1995a,b; Stern *et al.*, 1994, 1995; Micela *et al.*, 1996; Sciortino *et al.*, 1998; Grosso *et al.*, 2000; Marino *et al.*, 2002, 2003b).

## 5 Solar Radiation and Wind in Time

The Sun’s magnetic activity has steadily declined throughout its MS lifetime. This is a direct consequence of the declining dynamo as a star spins down by losing angular momentum through its magnetized wind. The distinguishing property of magnetic activity in the context of stellar radiation is excess emission beyond the photospheric thermal spectrum. Because magnetic activity expresses itself by releasing energy, the most relevant radiation signatures of magnetic activity are at wavelengths shorter than the dominant optical light, i.e., at UV wavelengths (emission from active regions in the chromosphere and the transition region), at far-ultraviolet wavelengths (from the transition region), and the extreme-ultraviolet and X-ray ranges (from coronal active regions). Apart from electromagnetic radiation, particles are accelerated as a consequence of magnetic energy release. These particles are either measured in-situ in the solar system, or can be indirectly inferred from non-thermal radio emission. The solar wind of course is another particle stream that requires acceleration related to open magnetic fields.

The present section summarizes our knowledge of these various photon and particle losses from the “Sun in Time”, contrasting the young Sun’s behavior with the contemporaneous Sun by describing the long-term *evolution* of the radiation and wind signatures. High-energy emission may have been much more important in heating and ionizing planetary atmospheres or, at still earlier stages, circumstellar accretion disks. To understand the young Sun’s influence on its environment, the spectral output in lines and the continuum must be observed for solar analogs with different rotation periods (corresponding to different magnetic activity levels) across the ultraviolet-to-X-ray range. This “Sun in Time” program, introduced in Section 3, has been conducted during the past decade by various groups (e.g., Dorren and Guinan 1994a; Dorren *et al.* 1995; Güdel *et al.* 1994, 1995b, 1997b; Ayres 1997; Gaidos *et al.* 2000; Guinan *et al.* 2003; Ribas *et al.* 2005; Telleschi *et al.* 2005).

I will start with the solar wind that is responsible for the declining solar spin rate, which in turn controls the dynamo; the latter leads to surface activity, and hence to radiation that is again changing on evolutionary time scales. I will discuss consequences of the elevated high-energy output of the young Sun in the subsequent chapters.

### 5.1 The solar wind in time

Stellar magnetic winds are a crucial consequence of “stellar activity” but their detection in solar analogs is very difficult. Although the wind formation and acceleration mechanisms are still not conclusively understood in the Sun, it is clear that magnetic fields play a major role, be it for acceleration of the wind, for its heating, or for guiding the wind at least out to the Alfvén radius. A close relation between wind and magnetic corona is obvious (Parker, 1958), the former being related to open magnetic field lines and the latter predominantly to closed magnetic structures.

The best – albeit indirect – proof of the presence of magnetized winds is the spin-down of convective stars on the main sequence as such a wind carries away angular momentum from the star. I will discuss this in Section 5.2.

Direct measurement of ionized winds from solar-like stars has not yet succeeded; potential detection methods include the measurement of thermal radio emission from the winds (Lim and White, 1996; Gaidos *et al.*, 2000), and signatures of charge exchange in X-ray spectra (Wargelin and Drake, 2001). Lim and White (1996) and van den Oord and Doyle (1997) gave upper limits to the mass-loss rates of  $\dot{M}_w \approx 10^{-12} M_\odot \text{ yr}^{-1}$  for “solar-like” winds with  $T \approx 1$  MK emanating from M-type dwarfs. Gaidos *et al.* (2000) derived upper limits to  $\dot{M}$  for three young solar analogs ( $\pi^1$  UMa,  $\kappa^1$  Cet, and  $\beta$  Com), finding  $\dot{M}_w \lesssim (4-5) \times 10^{-11} M_\odot \text{ yr}^{-1}$ .

The most promising approach to date is an indirect method making use of Ly $\alpha$  absorption in so-called “astrospheres”; the latter are suggested to be a consequence of interactions between

stellar winds and the interstellar medium (ISM). This subject has been extensively reviewed in the *Living Reviews in Solar Physics* article by Wood (2004); I will therefore only briefly summarize the essential results.

Solar/stellar winds collide with the interstellar medium, forming, with increasing distance from the star, a termination shock (where the wind is shocked to subsonic speeds), a heliosphere (separating the plasma flows from the star and the ISM), and the bow shock (where the ISM is shocked to subsonic speeds). The heliosphere is permeated by interstellar HI with  $T \approx (2-4) \times 10^4$  K (Wood *et al.*, 2002). Much of this gas is piled up between the heliosphere and the bow shock, forming the so-called “hydrogen wall” that can be detected as an absorption signature in the Ly $\alpha$  line. The excess absorption from the Sun’s own hydrogen wall is, due to the deceleration of the ISM relative to the star, redshifted, while that of other astrospheres is blueshifted.

The measurable absorption depths are compared with results from hydrodynamic model calculations (Wood *et al.*, 2002, 2005). The important point is that the amount of astrospheric absorption should scale with the wind ram pressure,  $P_w \propto \dot{M}_w V_w$ , where  $V_w$  is the (unknown) wind velocity (Wood and Linsky, 1998). The latter is usually assumed to be the same as the solar wind speed. From this,  $\dot{M}_w$  is derived.

The Sun’s hydrogen wall was detected in ultraviolet spectra by Linsky and Wood (1996), and an equivalent astrosphere around  $\alpha$  Cen A and B was interpreted by Gayley *et al.* (1997). Further important wind mass loss measurements based on this method have been presented by Wood *et al.* (2002) (and references therein) and Wood *et al.* (2005). A systematic study of all derived mass-loss rates shows that  $\dot{M}_w$  per unit stellar surface correlates with the stellar X-ray surface flux,

$$\dot{M}_w \propto F_X^{1.34 \pm 0.18} \quad (4)$$

(an equivalent relation therefore holds between  $\dot{M}_w$  and  $L_X$ ); using the activity-age relation (Section 5.5.1), one finds

$$\dot{M}_w \propto t^{-2.33 \pm 0.55} \quad (5)$$

(Wood *et al.*, 2005). These two laws indicate that stellar-wind mass loss is – in principle – a genuine activity indicator, the mass-loss being higher in young, magnetically active stars. Extrapolating the above law up to the X-ray saturation limit ( $F_X \approx 2 \times 10^7$  erg cm $^{-2}$  s $^{-1}$ ) would suggest  $\dot{M}_w$  (or  $\dot{M}_w$ ) of the youngest solar analogs to be about a thousand times higher than the present-day solar mass loss ( $\dot{M}_\odot \approx 2 \times 10^{-14} M_\odot$  yr $^{-1}$ ; e.g., Feldman *et al.* 1977). However, this power-law relation breaks down for the most active stars with  $F_X \gtrsim 8 \times 10^5$  erg cm $^{-2}$  s $^{-1}$  (Wood *et al.* 2005, Figure 10). Stars at this limit show  $\dot{M}_w$  about 100 times the present solar value, while  $\dot{M}_w$  drops toward higher activity levels to about 10 times the solar value. The reason for this breakdown between X-ray activity and wind-mass loss may be related to the appearance of high-latitude active regions (spots) in the most active stars (Section 4.1.2); if the magnetic field becomes more akin to a global dipole, then wind escape may be inhibited in such stars (Wood *et al.*, 2005).

## 5.2 The solar spin in time

Stellar magnetic activity is fundamentally determined by the stellar rotation period, as I will further discuss in, e.g., Section 5.5.1. Because the magnetized stellar winds transport angular momentum away from the star, a MS solar analog spins down with age. The rate of change of angular momentum is related to the mass loss rate, the spin rate, and the Alfvén radius,  $R_A$ . One finds

$$\frac{\dot{\Omega}}{\Omega} \propto \frac{\dot{M}}{M} \left( \frac{R_A}{R_\odot} \right)^m, \quad (6)$$

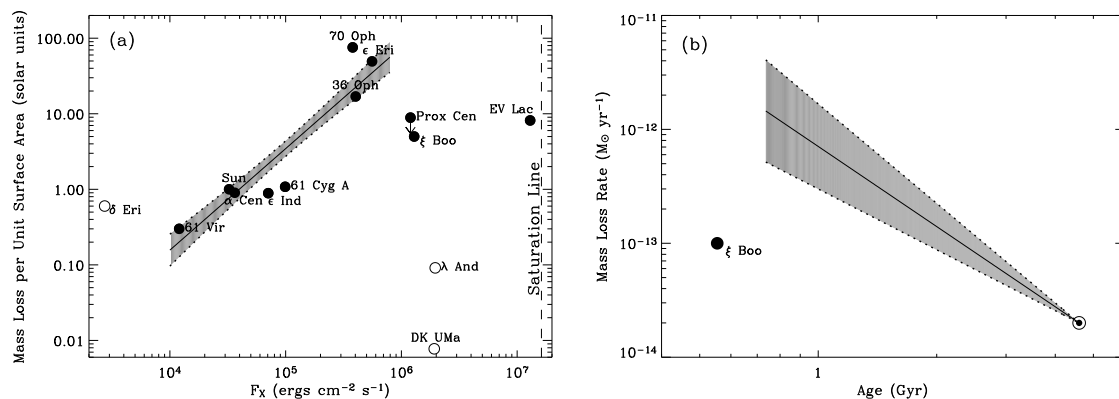


Figure 10: *Left (a): Mass-loss rates per unit surface area vs. stellar X-ray surface fluxes. MS stars are shown by filled circles. The trend for inactive stars (shaded area) is not followed by more active stars. – Right (b): Inferred mass-loss history of the Sun. Again, the trend shown for inactive stars (shaded area) breaks down for the most active stars (from Wood et al., 2005, reprinted with permission of AAS).*

where  $m$  is between 0 and 1 depending on the magnetic field geometry (Weber and Davis, 1967; Mestel, 1984; Stępień, 1988). One further has to couple the average surface magnetic field strength,  $B_0$ , with  $\Omega$ . This relation is essentially determined by the magnetic dynamo but can reasonably be parameterized as  $B_0 \propto \Omega^p$  with  $p$  probably being 1 or 2 (Mestel, 1984). The approximately observed  $\Omega \propto t^{-1/2}$  law (“Skumanich law”, Skumanich 1972, see below) is recovered for a thermal wind with  $p = 1$  (Mestel, 1984), i.e., a linear dependence between average surface magnetic field strength and rotation rate. For another detailed study of this problem, see Stępień (1988).

Empirically, for solar analogs one finds

$$P = 0.21t_6^{0.57} \text{ [d]} \quad (7)$$

(Dorren et al., 1994), where  $t_6$  is the age in Myr after arrival on the ZAMS. Equivalently, for the rotational (equatorial) velocity and for the rotation rate (for constant  $R$ ),

$$\Omega \propto v \propto t_6^{-0.6 \pm 0.1} \text{ [d]} \quad (8)$$

(Ayres, 1997) – see Figure 11. These equations imply a decrease in rotation period from ZAMS age to the end of the MS life of a solar analog by a factor of about 20.

At ages of approximately 100 Myr or younger, the stellar rotation period is not a function of age but of the PMS history such as the history of circumstellar-disk dispersal (e.g., Soderblom et al. 1993, see Figure 11). Once the inner disk disappears, the lack of magnetic locking via star-disk magnetic fields and the contraction of the star toward the MS will spin-up the star and thus determine the initial rotation period on the ZAMS. For example, the rotation periods of G-type stars in the Pleiades and the  $\alpha$  Per clusters still scatter considerably, ranging from less than a day (the so-called ultra-fast rotators) to many days (Soderblom et al., 1993; Stauffer et al., 1994; Randich et al., 1996), while they (and therefore the stellar X-ray luminosities, see Section 5.5) have converged to a nearly unique value at the age of the UMa Moving Group (300 Myr) or the Hyades (600–700 Myr; see Soderblom et al. 1993; Stern et al. 1995).

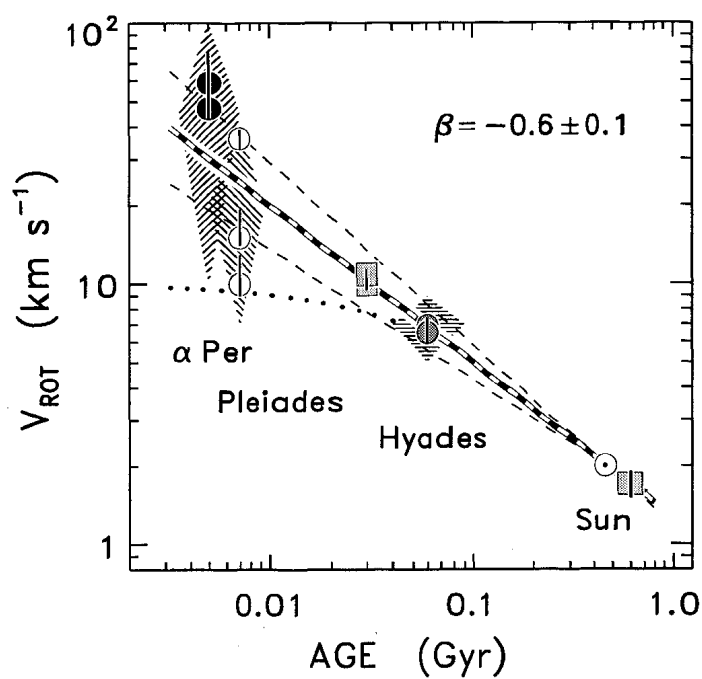


Figure 11: Relation between rotational velocity,  $v$ , and age for solar analogs. The diamond-shaped areas show the large scatter of  $v$  in young clusters, before rotational convergence has been attained (from Ayres, 1997, reprinted with permission).



### 5.3 The ultraviolet Sun in time

Ultraviolet excess emission from late-type stars originates in magnetic chromospheric and transition-zone regions that have been heated to temperatures of order  $10^4$ – $10^5$  K. Magnetic activity thus makes the UV spectra rich in diagnostics (see Figure 12; from Ribas *et al.* 2005). Dorren and Guinan (1994a) and Ayres (1997) have studied the evolution of ultraviolet (UV) line fluxes in detail, based on spectral measurements obtained by *IUE*. Ribas *et al.* (2005) extended these investigations to the “Sun in Time” sample and included spectral information from *HST*. The bulk of the UV flux in the region shortward of 1700 Å is in emission lines while the continuum is negligible. Emission lines include those of O I  $\lambda$ 1304, C II  $\lambda$ 1335, Si IV  $\lambda$ 1400, C IV  $\lambda$ 1550, He II  $\lambda$ 1640, and C I  $\lambda$ 1657.

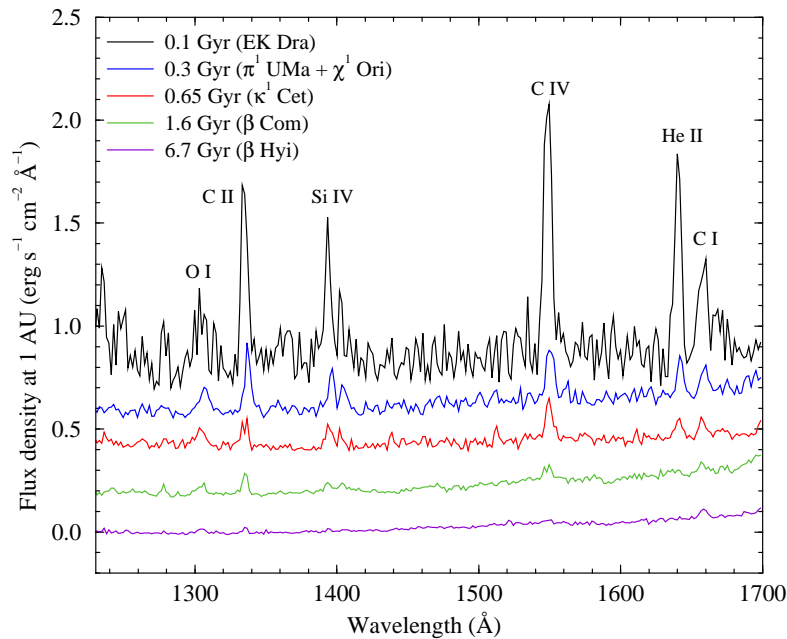


Figure 12: Extracts of UV spectra of solar analogs with different ages. All spectral fluxes have been transformed to irradiances at 1 AU from the star. The spectra have been shifted along the ordinate, by multiples of  $0.2 \text{ erg s}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ \AA}^{-1}$  (from Ribas *et al.*, 2005, reproduced by permission of AAS).

Dorren *et al.* (1994) studied the activity-rotation relationship for Mg II and C IV for solar analogs in the “Sun in Time” sample. They found (I also include their X-ray result for comparison, to be discussed further in Section 5.5.1 below)

$$L_{\text{Mg II}} = (9.1 \pm 0.2) \times 10^{29} P^{-0.76 \pm 0.096} [\text{erg s}^{-1}], \quad (9)$$

$$L_{\text{C IV}} = (1.2 \pm 0.4) \times 10^{29} P^{-1.6 \pm 0.15} [\text{erg s}^{-1}], \quad (10)$$

$$L_{\text{X}} = (9.1 \pm 4.7) \times 10^{30} P^{-2.5 \pm 0.23} [\text{erg s}^{-1}]. \quad (11)$$

Emission from hotter regions is more strongly dependent on rotation. Because  $P$  decreases with age, harder emission decays more rapidly than softer emission. I will return to this point in more detail in Section 5.6.

## 5.4 The far-ultraviolet Sun in time

Guinan *et al.* (2003) have used the *FUSE* satellite to probe the transition regions of the “Sun in Time” stars by measuring fluxes of key lines in the 920–1180 Å region. An example is shown in Figure 13. The individual flux measurements have been given by Ribas *et al.* (2005) and are listed below in Table 4 as irradiances for a distance of 1 AU. Measurements pertaining to the intermediately active Sun are also given (see Ribas *et al.*, 2005, for references).

These line fluxes have been used to construct surface flux-rotation relations for solar analogs (Guinan *et al.*, 2003). For essentially the entire rotation range of MS solar analogs, the line fluxes follow power-law relations,  $F \propto P^{-\alpha}$ , with  $\alpha \approx 1.8$ . This power-law decay is steeper than for chromospheric lines (Section 5.3), but shallower than for coronal fluxes or luminosities (recalling that the stellar radii are all close to  $1 R_{\odot}$  and hence the luminosities are proportional to the surface fluxes).

A very important FUV contribution comes from the H I  $\lambda 1216$  Ly $\alpha$  line (Ribas *et al.*, 2005). This holds true throughout the entire MS lifetime of a solar analog although the relative contribution of this line with respect to higher-energy emission increases with age (see Table 4).

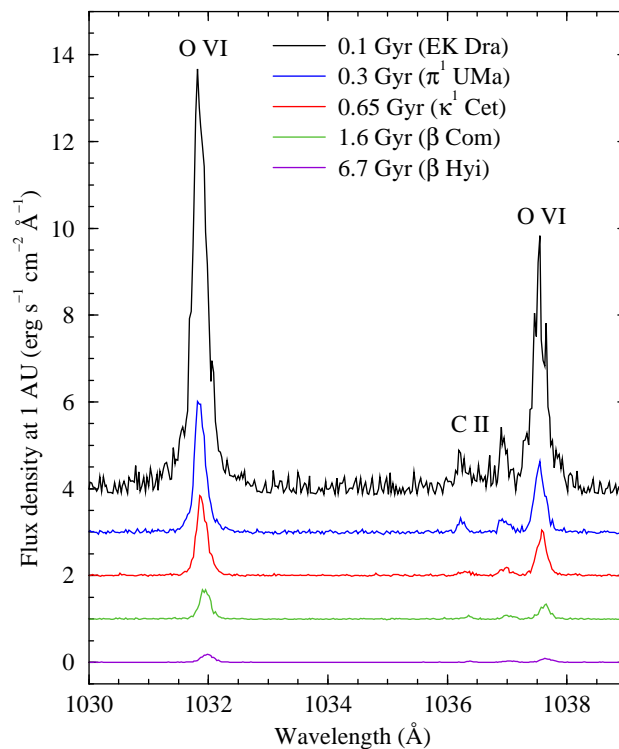


Figure 13: Extracts of FUV spectra of solar analogs with different ages. The region of the O VI doublet is shown. All spectral fluxes have been transformed to irradiances at 1 AU from the star. The spectra have been shifted along the ordinate, by multiples of  $1 \text{ erg s}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ \AA}^{-1}$  (from Ribas *et al.*, 2005, reproduced by permission of AAS).

## 5.5 The extreme-ultraviolet and X-ray Sun in time

The present-day Sun's corona can be characterized by its total radiative output (mostly in the soft-X-ray regime) of a few times  $10^{26}$  erg s<sup>-1</sup> at minimum activity level to a few times  $10^{27}$  erg s<sup>-1</sup> at maximum activity level outside very strong flares; its electron temperature of about 1–5 MK, depending on the magnetic coronal structure under consideration; and its filling factor. The latter is difficult to define as a large variety of (partly expanding) structures confined by closed or open magnetic fields define the magnetic corona. Suffice it to say that the strongest magnetic active regions are confined the volumes closely attached to photospheric sunspot complexes, and the latter cover less than 1% of the solar surface even at activity maximum. Clearly, the solar corona is far from being filled by luminous active regions.

### 5.5.1 The solar X-ray corona in time

Although coronae radiate across the electromagnetic spectrum, the dominant losses occur in the soft-X-ray range; the radio regime provides complementary diagnostics on non-thermal processes. I concentrate on these two aspects (see Section 5.7 for details on radio emission).

The total X-ray output of a stellar corona depends on the available magnetic energy and is therefore a consequence of the dynamo operation. Younger and more rapidly rotating stars are more X-ray luminous; as is the case for UV and FUV radiation, the X-ray output decreases as the star ages and its rotation period increases. For solar analogs, the decay law is,

$$L_X \approx (3 \pm 1) \times 10^{28} t_9^{-1.5 \pm 0.3} \quad [\text{erg s}^{-1}], \quad (12)$$

(where  $t_9$  is the stellar age in Gyr) as derived from small but well-characterized samples (Maggio *et al.*, 1987; Güdel *et al.*, 1997b). This decay law holds for MS stars back in time as long as

- Equation 12 predicts a luminosity at or below saturation for a solar analog, i.e.,  $L_X/L_{\text{bol}} \lesssim 10^{-3}$ , or  $L_X \lesssim 4 \times 10^{30}$  erg s<sup>-1</sup>;
- the rotation period is a function of age for a star of given mass.

The second condition is fulfilled only for ages higher than (at least) 100 Myr (Soderblom *et al.* 1993, see Section 5.2). Consequently, the X-ray luminosity of a solar analog is nearly only a function of rotation period for stars older than  $\approx 100$ –200 Myr, and this dependence is given by

$$L_X = 10^{31.05 \pm 0.12} P^{-2.64 \pm 0.12} \quad [\text{erg s}^{-1}] \quad (13)$$

as derived from a sample of nearby solar analogs (Güdel *et al.* 1997b; see Figure 14; a very similar decay law is found from measurements conducted with broadband spectrometers on board *XMM-Newton*:  $L_X \propto 4.04 \times 10^{30} P^{-2.03 \pm 0.35}$  [erg s<sup>-1</sup>], see Telleschi *et al.* 2005). The rotation-activity law (Equation 13) is confirmed by broader studies, also with regard to Rossby number  $Ro$  that is defined as the ratio between the two time scales of rotation and convection driving the dynamo ( $Ro = P/\tau_c$ , where  $\tau_c$  is the convective turnover time; Noyes *et al.* 1984; Mangeney and Praderie 1984). All studies find roughly  $L_X/L_{\text{bol}} \propto P^{-2}$  for late-type stars (e.g., Randich 2000). Also, other activity indicators such as the surface X-ray flux follow an equivalent law.

Alternatively, the X-ray output roughly scales with the square of the equatorial velocity,

$$L_X \approx 10^{27} (v \sin i)^2 \quad [\text{erg s}^{-1}] \quad (14)$$

(Pallavicini *et al.*, 1981; Ayres and Linsky, 1980; Maggio *et al.*, 1987; Wood *et al.*, 1994). *The X-ray output is an excellent indicator of dynamo activity. The coronal output is strongly determined by parameters that control the magnetic dynamo.*

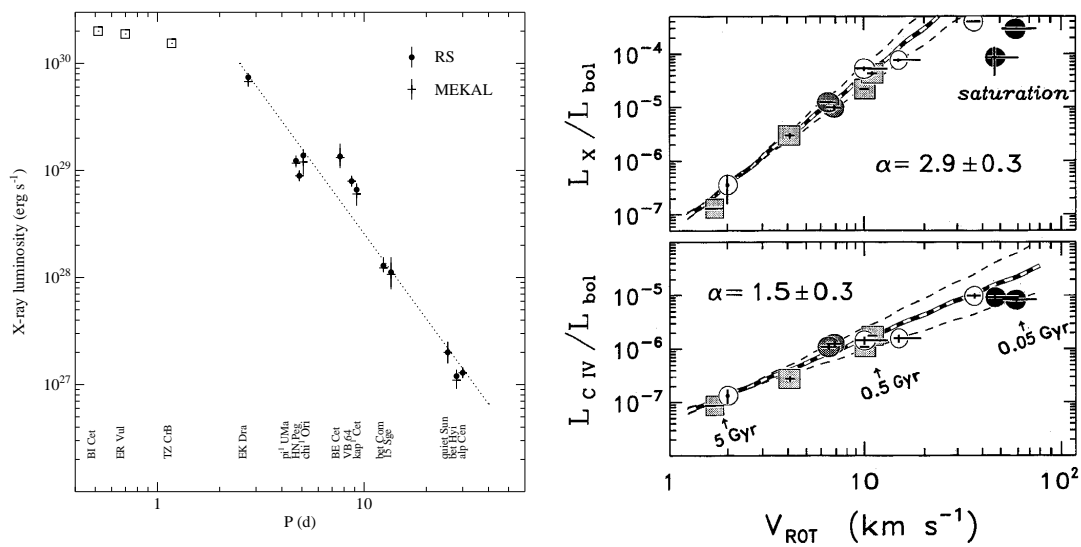


Figure 14: *Left: X-ray luminosity of solar analogs (from the “Sun in Time” sample), and power-law fit (slope =  $-2.6$ ). The three objects marked with open squares are close binaries consisting of two early-G solar analogs that rotate synchronously with their orbit motion. These latter stars are in the saturation regime (“RS” and “MEKAL” refer to two different atomic line codes used for the spectral interpretation; from Güdel et al. 1997b, reproduced by permission of AAS). Right: Normalized X-ray and C IV luminosities as a function of rotational velocity for solar analogs. Luminosities of the fastest rotators do not follow the regression laws because of saturation (from Ayres, 1997, reprinted with permission).*

For the most active stars,  $L_X$  is somewhat suppressed, for reasons that are not well understood. The stars are in a “super-saturated” regime (Randich *et al.* 1996, see discussion in Güdel 2004).

The overall rotation and activity history of a solar analog star from ZAMS to the terminal stages of its MS life thus proceeds roughly as follows:

- A star enters on the MS as a fast rotator although the rotation period is not unique, depending on the previous star-disk interaction history. The star thus typically begins its MS life in the saturation regime where  $L_X \approx (2-4) \times 10^{33} \text{ erg s}^{-1}$ . Although it spins down as a consequence of its magnetic-wind mass loss, there is little evolution of the X-ray (and UV, FUV, EUV) output.
- At an age of around 20–200 Myr, the rotation period has decreased sufficiently so that the star’s corona drops out of the saturation regime (e.g., Patten and Simon 1996; James and Jeffries 1997, and Section 17.5.2 in Güdel 2004). For a G star, saturation holds as long as  $P < 1.5-2 \text{ d}$ .
- Convergence of rotation periods has been achieved at ages of a few 100 Myr, and by that time a solar analog shows  $P \approx 4-5 \text{ d}$  and  $L_X \approx 10^{29} \text{ erg s}^{-1}$ , i.e., less than 10% of the saturation value.
- From then on, the luminosity decay law holds, because the rotation period is a function of age and increases monotonically. This decay law has been observationally tested until the terminal stages of the MS life of a solar analog.

### 5.5.2 The coronal temperature in time

The non-flaring corona of the contemporary Sun shows temperatures of a few MK. Active regions tend to be hotter than the quiet corona, and consequently, the average coronal temperature during the Sun’s activity maximum is higher than at minimum. Peres *et al.* (2000) have studied the full-disk solar coronal emission measure distribution to find peak temperatures of  $\approx 1 \text{ MK}$  and  $\approx 2 \text{ MK}$  during minimum and maximum, respectively. The corresponding X-ray luminosities amount to  $L_X \approx 3 \times 10^{26} \text{ erg s}^{-1}$  and  $L_X \approx 5 \times 10^{27} \text{ erg s}^{-1}$ , respectively. These solar observations suggest that regions of higher magnetic activity, but also episodes of higher overall magnetic activity, not only produce higher-luminosity plasma but also higher temperatures. Does this reflect in coronae of stars with widely varying activity levels?

The spectral evolution of the X-ray and EUV (coronal) Sun in time is illustrated in Figures 15, 16, and 17. These figures of course support the trend of decreasing flux with increasing age as described in Section 5.5.1, but they reveal other important features:

These spectral features clearly suggest higher temperatures in more active, younger solar analogs.

- In Figure 15, the EUV spectrum shows prominent lines of highly ionized Fe (Fe XXII, XXIII) in the young EK Dra but these lines rapidly disappear in older stars, where lines of Fe XV and Fe XVI predominate. This is a signature of hotter overall temperatures in the younger, more active solar analogs.
- In Figure 16, the X-ray spectra of the youngest, most active solar analogs (47 Cas, EK Dra), again reveal strong lines from highly ionized Fe and also a prominent Ne X line (at 12.1 Å); these lines are formed by plasma with temperatures of order 10 MK. In contrast, in the least active star shown ( $\beta$  Com), lines of Fe XVII, Ne IX, and O VII dominate. These lines are formed at temperatures of 2–5 MK.

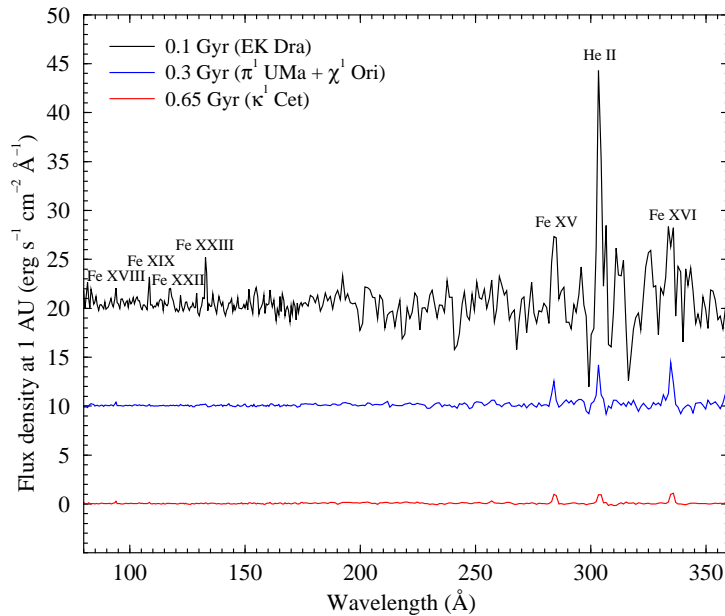


Figure 15: Extracts of the EUV spectra of solar analogs with different ages. All spectral fluxes have been transformed to irradiances at 1 AU from the star. The spectra have been shifted along the ordinate, by multiples of  $10 \text{ erg cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1} \text{ \AA}^{-1}$  (from Ribas *et al.*, 2005, reproduced by permission of AAS).

- Both Figure 16 and 17 show a more prominent continuum in more active stars. Continuum is predominantly formed by bremsstrahlung and is therefore a sensitive temperature indicator.

From full spectral interpretation, a tight correlation has indeed been found between the characteristic coronal temperature and the normalized coronal luminosity  $L_X/L_{\text{bol}}$ : *Stars at higher activity levels support hotter coronae* (Vaiana, 1983; Schrijver *et al.*, 1984; Stern *et al.*, 1986; Schmitt *et al.*, 1990; Dempsey *et al.*, 1993; Maggio *et al.*, 1994; Gagne *et al.*, 1995a; Schmitt *et al.*, 1995; Hünsch *et al.*, 1996; Güdel *et al.*, 1997b; Preibisch, 1997; Schmitt, 1997; Singh *et al.*, 1999).

Figure 18 shows the correlation between average (emission-measure weighted) coronal temperature and the total X-ray luminosity for solar analogs, including solar maximum and minimum values (the latter from Peres *et al.*, 2000). Numerically, the correlation for the stellar sample reads

$$L_X = 1.61 \times 10^{26} T_{\text{av}}^{4.05 \pm 0.25} [\text{erg s}^{-1}], \quad (15)$$

where  $T_{\text{av}}$  is in MK, and  $L_X$  has been determined in the 0.1–10 keV band (Telleschi *et al.* 2005, and similar results in Güdel *et al.* 1997b for the *ROSAT* energy band). Such relations continue to hold into the PMS domain where exceedingly hot coronae with temperatures up to  $\approx 100$  MK are found (Imanishi *et al.*, 2001).

The trend seen in coronal X-ray emission is similar to the trends described previously for the UV, FUV, and X-ray bands (Sections 5.3, 5.4, and 5.5.1): *The emission from stars at higher activity levels is harder, implying that harder emission decays more rapidly in the course of stellar evolution.*

Three classes of models have been proposed to explain this correlation:

- As stellar activity increases, the corona becomes progressively more dominated by hotter and denser features, for example active regions as opposed to quiet areas or coronal holes.

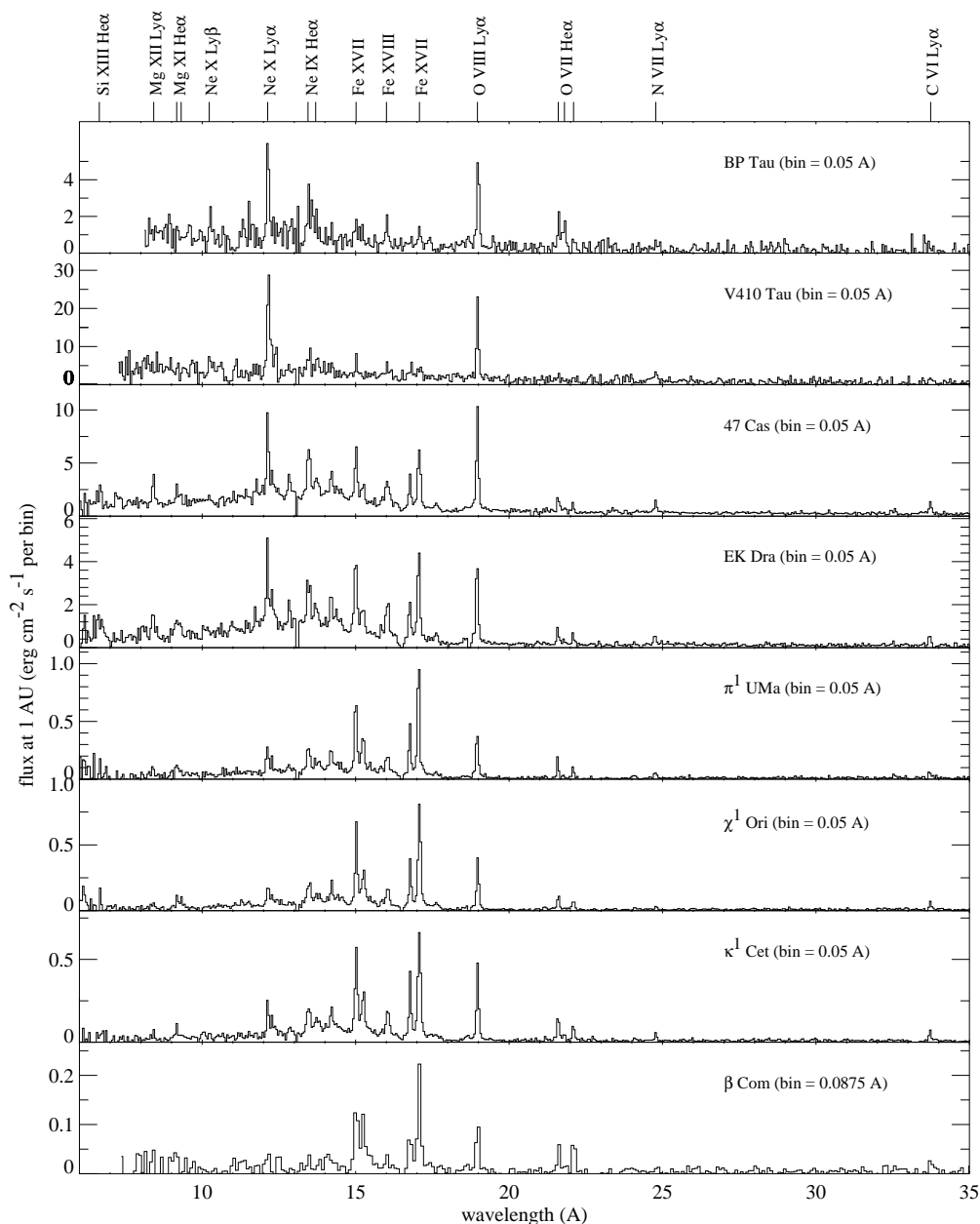


Figure 16: Fluxed high-resolution X-ray spectra of solar analogs with different ages, obtained with the RGS instruments on board XMM-Newton. The topmost two spectra are from K-type T Tauri stars (BP Tau is a classical T Tauri star, V410 Tau a weak-line T Tauri star), while the other spectra are from MS solar analogs. Fluxes are given at a distance of 1 AU from the star, in  $\text{erg cm}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$  per bin, where the bin width is given in parentheses after the star's name in each panel (usually  $0.05 \text{ \AA}$  except for  $\beta \text{ Com}$  where a bin width of  $0.0875 \text{ \AA}$  has been used). Note the anomalously strong O VII (and also Ne IX) lines in the CTTS BP Tau, indicating an excessive amount of cool plasma (the “soft excess”; adapted from Telleschi et al. 2005 and Telleschi et al. 2007b).

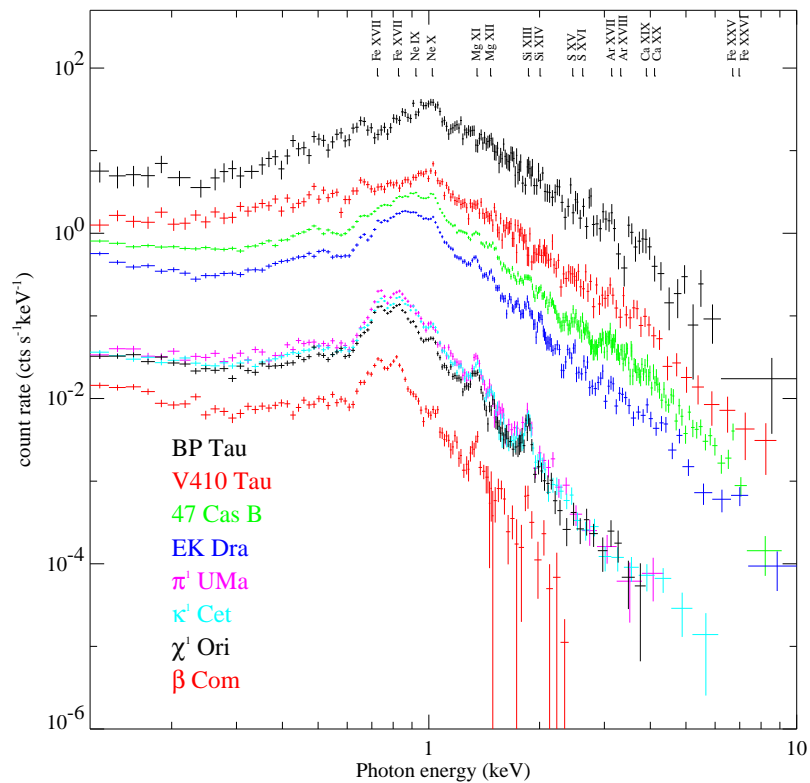


Figure 17: *Low-resolution CCD X-ray spectra of solar analogs with different ages, obtained with the EPIC MOS instrument on board XMM-Newton. The topmost two spectra are from K-type T Tauri stars (BP Tau is a CTTS, V410 Tau a WTTS), while the other spectra are from MS solar analogs. The sequence of the spectra from top to bottom is reflected in the lower left panel, and also by the colors of the spectra used for the stellar names. Count rate spectra have been normalized to the distance of 47 Cas (33.56 pc); the spectrum of BP Tau has been shifted upward by an additional factor of 30 for clarity (adapted from [Telleschi et al. 2005](#) and [Telleschi et al. 2007b](#)).*



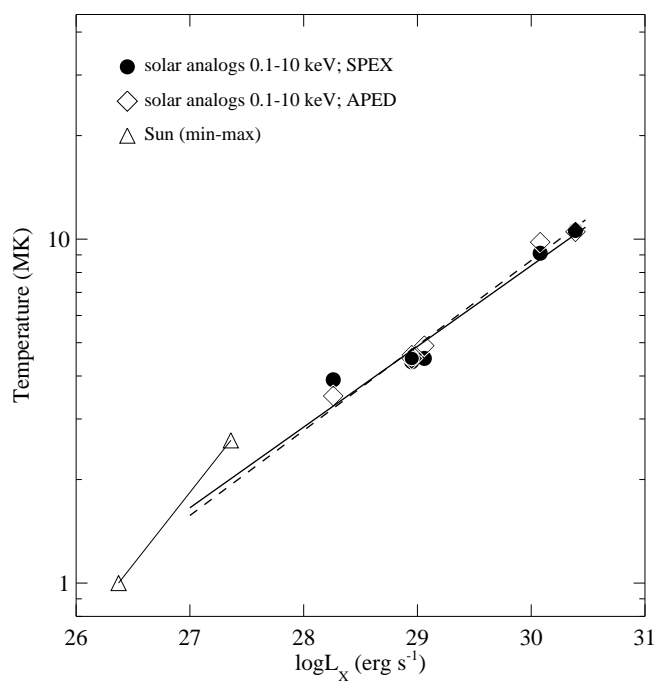


Figure 18: Mean coronal temperature of solar analogs as a function of the X-ray luminosity. The dashed and solid lines are the regression fits to results based on different atomic data. The triangles mark the range of the solar corona between activity minimum and maximum (figure from *Telleschi et al., 2005*, reproduced by permission of AAS).

Consequently, the average stellar X-ray spectrum indicates more hot plasma (Schrijver *et al.*, 1984; Maggio *et al.*, 1994; Güdel *et al.*, 1997b; Preibisch, 1997; Orlando *et al.*, 2000; Peres *et al.*, 2000).

- Increased magnetic activity leads to more numerous interactions between adjacent magnetic field structures at the *chromospheric* level (Cuntz *et al.*, 1999) and therefore at the coronal level, owing to higher magnetic filling factors in the photosphere (Section 4.2.6). The heating efficiency thus increases. Specifically, a higher rate of large flares is expected. Flares produce hot, dense plasma and therefore increase both the X-ray luminosity and the average coronal temperature of a star (Güdel *et al.*, 1997b).
- Jordan *et al.* (1987) and Jordan and Montesinos (1991) described an emission measure (EM)- $T$  relation based on arguments of a minimum energy loss configuration of the corona, assuming a fixed ratio between radiative losses and the coronal conductive loss. A relation including the stellar gravity  $g$  was suggested, of the form

$$EM \propto T^3 g, \quad (16)$$

which fits to a sample of observations with  $T$  taken from single- $T$  fits to stellar coronal spectra. Equation (16) holds because coronal heating directly relates to the production rate of magnetic fields, and the magnetic pressure is assumed to scale with the thermal coronal pressure.

## 5.6 Putting it all together: The XUV Sun in time

The above subsections provide the input for a comprehensive model of the spectral evolution of the “Sun in Time” in the wavelength band that is relevant for ionization of and chemical reactions in planetary atmospheres and circumstellar disks, namely the 1–1700 Å ( $\approx$  0.007–10 keV) FUV/EUV/X-ray (“XUV”) range. The results are summarized in Tables 4 and 5 compiled using data from Ribas *et al.* (2005) (for the UV-EUV range) and Telleschi *et al.* (2005) (for the X-ray range). The table also contains data referring to the classical T Tauri star TW Hya, to be discussed in Section 6, and solar data (see Ribas *et al.* 2005 for references).<sup>2</sup> The line fluxes given in Table 4 are normalized to a distance of 1 AU and have also been normalized to the radius our Sun had at the age of the respective star. Note that the Ly $\alpha$  line fluxes were corrected for interstellar H I and D I absorption, i.e., they represent the pure stellar contribution.

Ribas *et al.* (2005) constructed band-integrated irradiances for the spectral ranges 1–20 Å (X-rays), 20–100 Å (soft X-rays and EUV), 100–360 Å (EUV), and 920–1180 Å (FUV). For the wavelength range of 1180–1700 Å, only line fluxes are provided because of increasing contributions from the photospheric continuum.

All integrated irradiances correlate tightly with the stellar rotation period or age, suggesting a rapid decay of activity at all atmospheric levels in concert. The relations are excellently represented by power laws, as illustrated in Figure 19a. The power-law fits to the fluxes of the form

$$F = \alpha t_g^\beta \quad (17)$$

<sup>2</sup>The line fluxes of O VIII, O VII, N VII, and C VI were determined from a model spectrum synthesized in the XSPEC software (Arnaud, 1996) using the vepc model (Smith *et al.*, 2001). The model is based on an isothermal plasma with a temperature of 2 MK normalized such that the 0.1–10 keV luminosity is  $2 \times 10^{27}$  erg s<sup>-1</sup>. The low-FIP element abundances were set to values four times higher than standard photospheric abundances, while the high-FIP element abundances were photospheric; the S abundance was set to an intermediate value of  $2 \times$  the photospheric value.

( $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  being constants) are given in Table 5. Note that the inaccessible spectral range of 360–920 Å (strongly absorbed by interstellar gas) has been interpolated between adjacent spectral ranges, assuming a decay law with  $\beta = -1$ .

Table 4: Integrated fluxes (in units of  $\text{erg cm}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ ) of strong emission features normalized to a distance of 1 AU and the radius of a one solar mass star. UV and EUV fluxes of  $\pi^1$  UMa and  $\chi^1$  Ori have been averaged. Data for solar analogs are from Telleschi et al. (2005) and Ribas et al. (2005), and for TW Hya from Herczeg et al. (2002), Herczeg et al. (2004), Kastner et al. (2002), and Stelzer and Schmitt (2004); the radius of TW Hya is  $1R_{\odot}$  and its distance is 56 pc, see Herczeg et al. (2004). Fluxes of TW Hya have not been corrected for (small) photoabsorption and extinction.

$\lambda$ (Å)	Ion	$\log T_{\text{max}}$	0.01 Gyr TW Hya	47 Cas	0.1 Gyr EK Dra	$\pi^1$ UMa	0.3 Gyr $\chi^1$ Ori	0.65 Gyr $\kappa^1$ Cet	1.6 Gyr $\beta$ Com	4.56 Gyr Sun	6.7 Gyr $\beta$ Hyi
1.85	Fe XXV	7.84	—	2.57±0.63	1.29±0.45	—	—	—	—	—	—
4.72	S XVI	7.41	—	1.87±0.29	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10.62	Fe XXIV	7.27	<1.4	2.52±2.10	1.70±1.06	—	—	—	—	—	—
6.18	Si XIV	7.21	1.2±0.8	4.62±0.87	2.00±0.38	—	—	—	—	—	—
5.04	S XV	7.18	—	3.72±0.67	1.08±0.20	—	—	—	—	—	—
11.74	Fe XXIII	7.18	<1.7	5.50±0.72	3.48±0.45	—	—	—	—	—	—
12.29	Fe XXI	7.04	—	6.72±1.43	4.20±0.94	0.39±0.12	0.21±0.07	0.33±0.05	—	—	—
6.65	Si XIII	7.01	2.3±1.1	7.33±2.65	3.32±0.44	0.21±0.04	0.14±0.02	0.19±0.03	0.02±0.00	—	—
8.42	Mg XII	7.01	0.9±0.6	8.70±0.48	3.46±0.51	0.11±0.03	0.07±0.02	0.19±0.03	0.01±0.01	—	—
12.83	Fe XX	6.98	<5.1	8.73±0.03	4.59±0.96	0.27±0.06	0.14±0.06	0.24±0.05	—	—	—
13.52	Fe XIX	6.92	—	8.32±1.41	3.64±1.08	0.46±0.07	0.18±0.09	0.22±0.07	0.02±0.02	—	—
14.20	Fe XVIII	6.84	1.6±1.3	10.52±0.67	6.57±0.50	0.65±0.09	0.54±0.04	0.57±0.04	0.04±0.02	—	—
9.17	Mg XI	6.81	—	11.30±0.40	5.32±0.43	0.41±0.04	0.30±0.02	0.45±0.03	0.04±0.01	—	—
12.13	Ne X	6.76	16.1±1.7	17.69±1.25	5.30±0.69	—	—	—	—	—	—
15.01	Fe XVII	6.72	<31.6	16.89±0.69	12.02±0.52	1.96±0.09	1.62±0.05	1.50±0.06	0.21±0.02	—	—
16.78	Fe XVII	6.71	2.4±1.6	7.86±0.66	4.78±0.48	0.99±0.09	0.78±0.06	0.86±0.05	0.12±0.02	—	—
13.45	Ne IX	6.59	24.1±2.3	10.08±1.51	2.78±1.15	0.25±0.13	0.32±0.08	0.36±0.10	—	—	—
13.70	Ne IX	6.59	6.8±1.7	—	—	0.16±0.06	0.19±0.04	0.24±0.04	—	—	—
18.97	O VIII	6.48	42.4±3.9	23.03±0.63	9.25±0.36	1.05±0.05	0.89±0.03	1.02±0.29	0.15±0.01	0.029	—
335	Fe XVI	6.35	—	—	36.6	—	9.7	2.6	—	—	—
361	Fe XVI	6.35	—	—	15.7	—	6.6	1.6	—	0.016	—
21.60	O VII	6.33	21.3±2.6	3.53±0.74	1.44±0.42	0.38±0.05	0.28±0.04	0.37±0.05	0.07±0.02	0.063	—
22.10	O VII	6.32	0.5±0.7	1.55±0.37	1.25±0.37	0.27±0.05	0.20±0.04	0.22±0.04	0.08±0.02	0.041	—
24.77	N VII	6.32	12.6±2.4	2.45±0.33	1.03±0.17	0.07±0.03	0.05±0.01	0.09±0.02	0.01±0.01	0.009	—
284	Fe XV	6.30	—	—	22.0	—	5.0	2.4	—	0.025	—
284	Fe XV	6.30	—	—	22.0	—	5.0	2.4	—	0.025	—
33.73	C VI	6.13	6.1±1.1	2.01±0.27	0.96±0.16	0.08±0.03	0.09±0.02	0.12±0.02	0.03±0.01	0.016	—

Table 4 – Continued

$\lambda$ (Å)	Line	$\log T_{\max}$	0.01 Gyr TW Hya	47 Cas	0.1 Gyr EK Dra	$\pi^1$ UMa	0.3 Gyr $\chi^1$ Ori	0.65 Gyr $\kappa^1$ Cet	1.6 Gyr $\beta$ Com	4.56 Gyr Sun	6.7 Gyr $\beta$ Hyi
610&625	MgX	6.08	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	0.028	–
1032	O VI	5.42	41.3	–	3.1	0.75	0.43	0.16	–	0.050	0.048
1038	O VI	5.42	20.0	–	1.5	0.38	0.21	0.074	–	0.025	0.022
630	O V	5.26	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	0.037	–
789	O IV	5.05	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	0.017	–
1550	C IV	5.00	378.0	–	9.1	2.21	1.02	0.40	–	0.146	0.082
834	O II	4.80	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	0.015	–
304	He II	4.75	–	–	44.3	8.3	2.3	–	–	0.260	–
1640	He II	4.75	180.0	–	6.0	0.99	0.56	–	–	0.040	–
1400	Si IV	4.75	14.6	–	4.3	1.59	0.77	0.28	–	0.083	0.097
977	C III	4.68	58.6	–	5.0	1.22	0.59	0.30	–	0.150	0.124
1176	C III	4.68	55.9	–	3.4	0.73	0.37	0.15	–	0.053	0.046
1206	Si III	4.40	–	–	–	1.12	0.75	–	–	0.095	–
584	He I	4.25	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	0.032	–
1335	C II	4.25	45.2	–	4.7	1.52	0.95	0.36	–	0.188	0.155
1304	O I	3.85	126.4	–	4.3	1.18	0.60	0.45	–	0.143	0.163
1657	C I	3.85	29.2	–	4.1	0.97	0.78	0.47	–	0.202	0.210
1026	H I	3.84	–	–	–	3.1	0.80	–	–	0.098	–
1216	H I	3.84	$\approx 16,000$	–	–	42.2	29.3	–	–	6.19	–

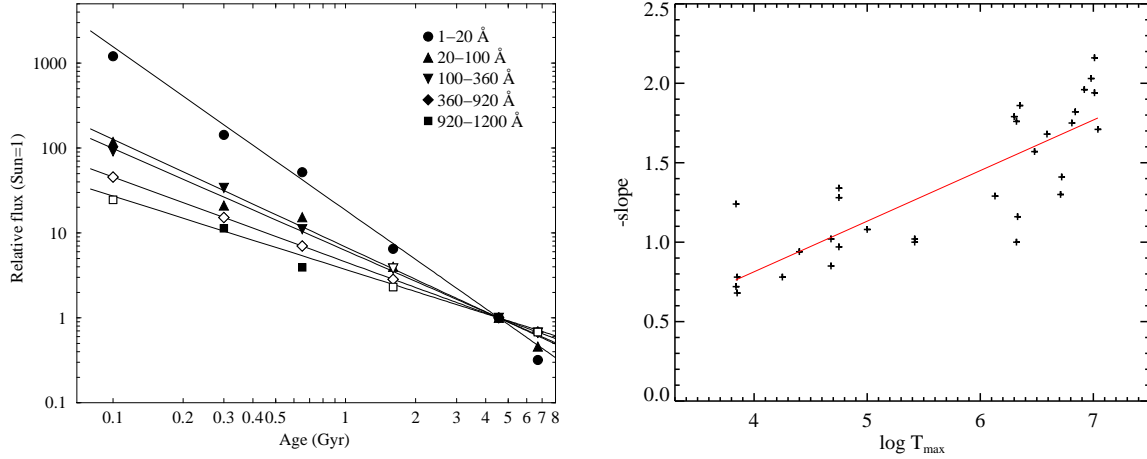


Figure 19: *Left (a): Power-law decays in time for various spectral ranges, normalized to the present-day solar flux. Note that the hardest emission decays fastest (from Ribas et al., 2005, reproduced by permission of AAS). Right (b): Flux decay slope (given as its absolute value) as a function of formation temperature of the respective line; each cross marks one emission line reported in Table 5.*

The power laws steepen monotonically with decreasing wavelength, i.e., with increasing temperature (or roughly, height) of the atmospheric layer. The steepest decay is seen in the luminosity of the hot corona, with  $F \propto t_9^{-1.92}$ , while for the ultraviolet transition-region spectrum,  $F \propto t_9^{-0.85}$ . These power-laws are compared in Figure 19a after normalization to the present-day solar fluxes. For individual lines, the steepness of the decay,  $\beta$  in Equation 17, is compared in Figure 19b for a wide range of line formation temperatures. A fit to  $\beta$  as a function of formation temperature gives

$$-\beta = -0.46 + 0.32 \log T_{\max}. \quad (18)$$

Although the photospheric bolometric luminosity of the Sun has steadily increased during its MS life, starting at a level approximately 30% lower than today, the magnetically induced radiation from the outer atmosphere has steeply decayed during the same time, by factor of  $\approx 1500 - 2000$  for coronal X-ray emission and a factor of  $\approx 25$  for the FUV spectral region. The total XUV emission decayed by a factor of  $\approx 100$ . A summary of the enhancement factors at various stages of the solar past compared to the contemporaneous Sun is given in Table 6. Given the ionizing power of some of this radiation and the importance of UV radiation for line excitation, this emission must have had profound consequences for the environment of the young Sun, most notably circumstellar disks and planetary atmospheres. This will be discussed in Section 6.5 and 7.2. As an example, (see Ribas et al., 2005), for EK Dra, the luminosity of the C III  $\lambda 977$  line alone exceeds the entire integrated luminosity of the present-day Sun below 1200  $\lambda$ .

This “softening” of the spectral irradiance in time is illustrated in Figure 20 where the entire spectral irradiance from 1 – 3500 Å (except the strongly absorbed EUV range) is shown for various solar analogs. While the UV flux varies moderately and mostly due to emission lines (Figure 21), the EUV and X-ray level drops dramatically along the MS evolution.

An alternative illustration is provided by the luminosity-luminosity diagram in Figure 22 in which the relation between normalized coronal X-ray and transition-region UV emission is shown for solar-like stars. The two emissions follow a power-law with a slope of 1.9, indicating that toward higher activity levels, X-rays increase more rapidly than UV fluxes (Ayres, 1997).

Table 5: Parameters of the power-law fits to the measured integrated fluxes and individual line fluxes from MS solar analogs<sup>a</sup> (data from *Telleschi et al. 2005* and *Ribas et al. 2005*). The parameters  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are defined in Equation 17.

$\lambda$ (interval) ( $\text{\AA}$ )		$\alpha$	$\beta$
[1–20]		2.40	-1.92
[20–100]		4.45	-1.27
[100–360]		13.5	-1.20
[360–920]		4.56	(-1.0)
[920–1180]		2.53	-0.85
[1–360]+[920–1180]		24.8	-1.27
[1–1180]		29.7	-1.23

$\lambda$ ( $\text{\AA}$ )	Ion	$T_{\text{max}}$	$\beta$
12.29	Fe XXI	7.04	-1.77
6.65	Si XIII	7.01	-1.91
8.42	Mg XII	7.01	-2.14
12.83	Fe XX	6.98	-2.09
13.52	Fe XIX	6.92	-1.94
14.20	Fe XVIII	6.84	-1.80
9.17	Mg XI	6.81	-1.80
15.01	Fe XVII	6.72	-1.44
16.78	Fe XVII	6.71	-1.33
13.45	Ne IX	6.59	-1.73
18.97	O VIII	6.48	-1.58
361	Fe XVI	6.35	-1.86
21.60	O VII	6.33	-1.18
22.10	O VII	6.32	-1.01
24.77	N VII	6.32	-1.74
284	Fe XV	6.30	-1.79
33.73	C VI	6.13	-1.35
1032	O VI	5.42	-1.00
1038	O VI	5.42	-1.02
1550	C IV	5.00	-1.08
304	He II	4.75	-1.34
1640	He II	4.75	-1.28
1400	Si IV	4.75	-0.97
977	C III	4.68	-0.85
1176	C III	4.68	-1.02
1206	Si III	4.40	-0.94
1335	C II	4.25	-0.78
1304	O I	3.85	-0.78
1657	C I	3.85	-0.68
1026	H I	3.84	-1.24
1216	H I	3.84	-0.72

<sup>a</sup> Relationship of the form: Flux =  $\alpha t_9^\beta$ .

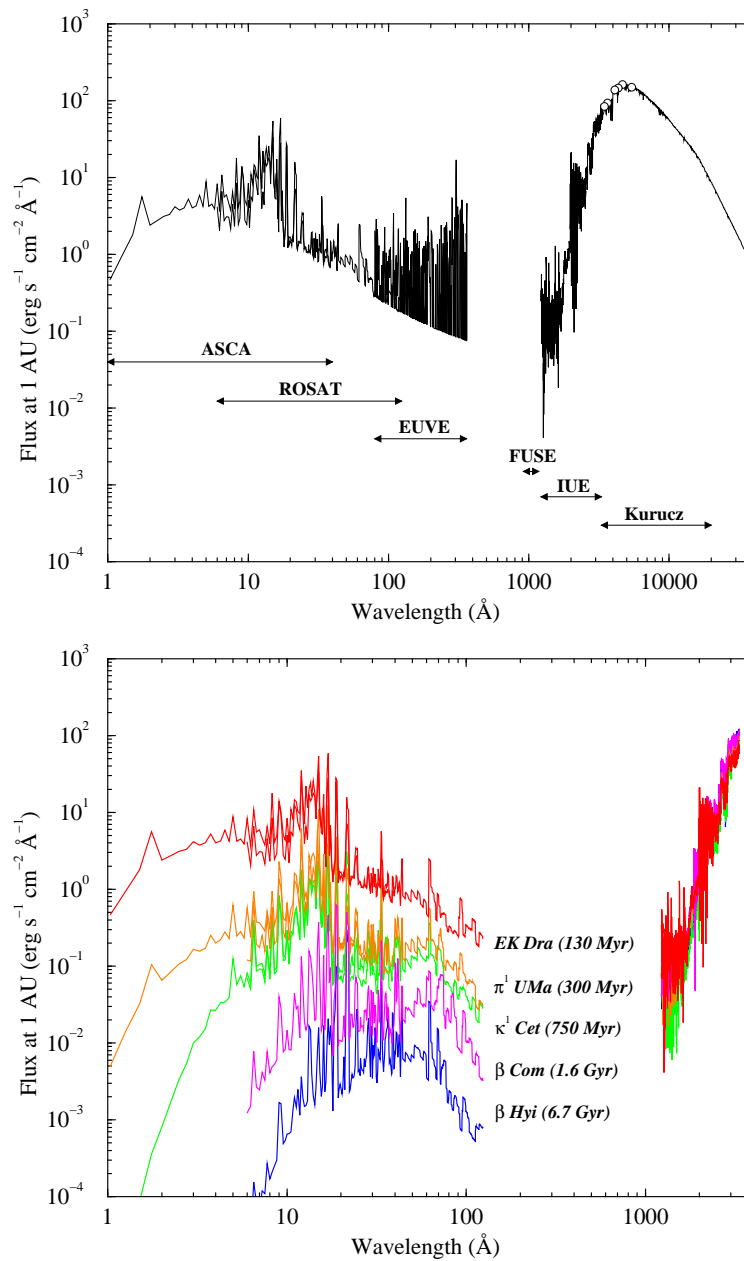


Figure 20: *Top: Spectral irradiance of EK Dra for a distance of 1 AU. The various instruments used for the reconstruction are marked. Bottom: Irradiances at 1 AU from solar analogs with different ages (from Guinan and Ribas, 2002, reprinted with permission of ASP).*



Table 6: *Enhancement factors of X-ray/EUV/XUV/FUV fluxes in solar history<sup>a</sup>.*

Solar age (Gyr)	Time before present (Gyr)	Enhancement in		
		X-Rays (1–20 Å)	Soft-X (20–100 Å) EUV (100–360 Å) XUV (1–1180 Å)	FUV (920–1180 Å)
0.1	4.5	1600 <sup>b</sup>	100	25
0.2	4.4	400	50	14
0.7	3.9	40	10	5
1.1	3.5	15	6	3
1.9	2.7	5	3	2
2.6	2.0	3	2	1.6
3.2	1.4	2	1.5	1.4
4.6	0	1	1	1

<sup>a</sup> normalized to ZAMS age of 4.6 Gyr before present

<sup>b</sup> large scatter possible due to unknown initial rotation period of Sun

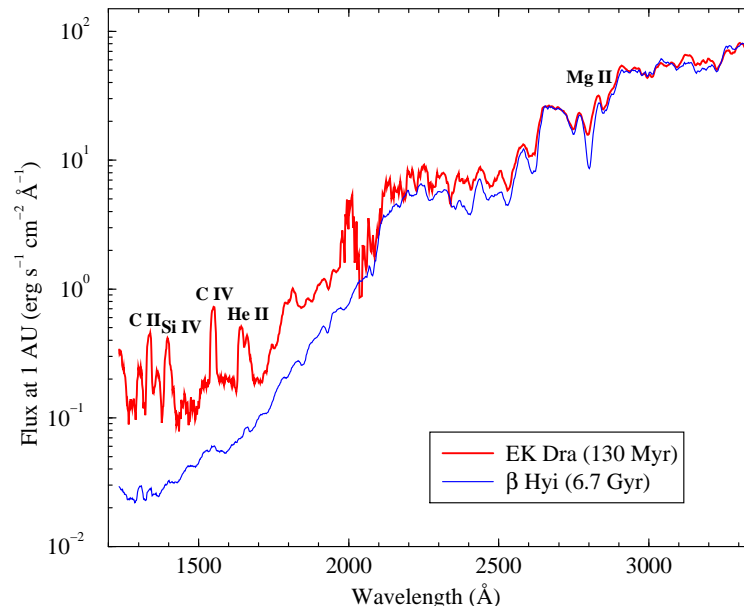


Figure 21: *UV irradiances of EK Dra (upper spectrum) and the very old solar analog,  $\beta$  Hvi (lower spectrum). Note progressively higher flux levels in EK Dra toward shorter wavelengths (from Guinan and Ribas, 2002, reprinted with permission of ASP).*

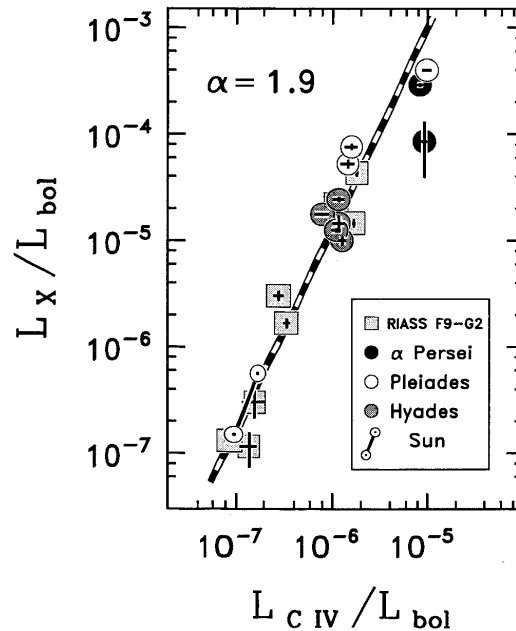


Figure 22: *Correlation between normalized coronal X-ray and transition-region (CIV) UV emission for solar-like field and cluster stars (from the ROSAT/IUE All Sky Survey [RIASS], see Ayres 1997, reprinted with permission).*

## 5.7 The radio Sun in time

Magnetically active stars are sources of vigorous radio emission, which is mostly due to gyroemission from accelerated electrons that are trapped in coronal magnetic fields. Radio emission thus provides diagnostics for coronal magnetic fields and at the same time for high-energy electron populations.

### 5.7.1 Overview

Solar radio emission is a mixture of various kinds of radiation, some of which are thermal while others are of non-thermal origin. The total solar radio emission is strongly variable and is dominated by different radiation types at different times.

*Thermal* radiation dominates as long as no strong flares are occurring. Three principal types of thermal radiation are observed (e.g., Gary and Hurford, 1994):

1. Thermal bremsstrahlung from chromospheric layers is seen across the solar disk. The emission is dominated by contributions from the optically thick layer. The brightness temperature is of order  $10^4$  K, depending somewhat on wavelength.
2. Above active regions with strong magnetic fields, gyroresonance (cyclotron) emission at low harmonics of the gyrofrequency is often observed. The dominant contributions come from the highest harmonic that is optically thick. This radiation is patchy and covers only a small fraction of the solar disk. Gyroresonance emission may also be accompanied by bremsstrahlung that originates from optically thick layers with coronal temperatures.
3. Some faint, optically thin coronal bremsstrahlung can also be seen from coronal loops that are filled with hot plasma.

The third contribution is usually rather weak; the non-flaring solar radio emission is dominated by the first and second contributions. Although variable, the average radio luminosity at 3.6 cm wavelength from these contributions is  $\log L_R \approx 10.80 - 11.15$  [ $\text{erg s}^{-1} \text{Hz}^{-1}$ ] (Drake *et al.*, 1993). The picture changes entirely during solar flares, when two new contributions dominate the solar radio output:

4. Various forms of non-thermal emission from coherent radiation processes such as electron cyclotron masers or plasma radiation mechanisms are signatures of unstable, non-thermal electron populations. The emission is often (but not exclusively) narrow-band and occurs in short bursts (from milliseconds to a few seconds). More persistent coherent emission is occasionally seen.
5. Gyrosynchrotron radiation originates from non-thermal electron populations that are trapped in magnetic fields. This emission shows a broad spectrum with optically thick and thin components, with a turnover from the former to the latter in the 1–10 GHz range. Gyrosynchrotron emission is a direct tracer of accelerated particle populations.

### 5.7.2 Observational results

The discovery of solar analogs in radio waves (Güdel *et al.*, 1994) was motivated by a correlation between radio and X-ray luminosities that holds for M-type MS stars, but also extends to RS CVn-type binaries and seems to hold similarly for solar flares (Güdel and Benz, 1993; Benz and Güdel, 1994). The following systematics apply:

- The radio emission of detected solar analogs follows the same radio vs. X-ray luminosity relation as found for active M dwarfs.
- Only stars with “hard” X-ray spectra, i.e., X-ray emission from very hot coronal plasma (10 MK and more), are non-thermal radio sources.
- The detected solar analogs that are not components of spun-up binaries are therefore young ( $\lesssim$  a few 100 Myr), magnetically active stars.

Figure 23 shows a summary of normalized radio luminosities of solar analogs with different rotation periods. Like X-ray emission, the radio output decays with increasing rotation period (i.e., decreasing magnetic activity), although the decay is much steeper. The radio decay is reminiscent of the very steep decay of the harder portion of soft X-ray emission which is also an excellent tracer of magnetic activity. The steep decline of non-thermal radio emission therefore extends the trend observed above (Section 5.6): Radio emission originates from the most energetic electrons in the stellar atmosphere.

Figure 24 shows the radio luminosity as a function of the average coronal temperature of solar analogs; only radio upper limits are available for the intermediately active coronae with temperatures  $T_{\text{av}} \approx 3 - 5$  MK; a regression fit to the points including the upper limits therefore provides a lower limit to the slope:

$$L_R \approx 1.69 \times 10^9 T_{\text{av}}^{5.29 \pm 0.74} \quad [\text{erg s}^{-1} \text{Hz}^{-1}] \quad (19)$$

(based on the APEC emission line code; Telleschi *et al.* 2005). This empirical relation shows again, and explicitly, that strong non-thermal radio emission develops only in very active stars with hot coronae. Because non-thermal electrons need to be replenished on short time scales, presumably in flare-like processes, a model in which the very hot plasma component is formed by the same flares is suggestive. Alternatively, non-thermal electron distributions may be accelerated continuously out of a Maxwellian distribution into a runaway tail by electric fields (Holman, 1986),

a concept also proposed to operate in solar flares (Holman and Benka, 1992). Such mechanisms of course work best if very hot plasmas are present.

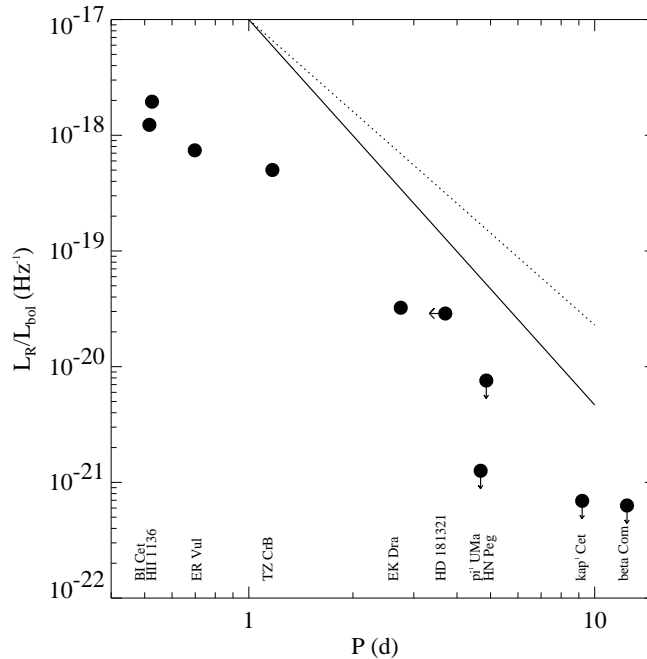


Figure 23: Relation between  $L_R/L_{bol}$  and the stellar rotation period. Note upper limits for slow rotators. The dotted line illustrates the slope of the X-ray decay law as a function of  $P$  (Equation 13), while the solid line shows the slope of the most rapidly decaying, “hot” X-ray lines (slopes from Table 5 and using Equation 7; adapted from Güdel and Gaidos 2001).

Other types of radio emission are too faint to be detected from solar analogs. Signatures for thermal gyroresonance emission have been found in an M dwarf (Güdel and Benz, 1989), and Drake *et al.* (1993) reported evidence for non-flaring radio emission probably related to chromospheric bremsstrahlung and some active-region gyroresonance emission in the nearby F-type subgiant Procyon; more systematic observations of solar analogs during all phases of their MS life will require more sensitive radio telescopes than hitherto available.

## 5.8 Coronal flares in time

### 5.8.1 Flare energy distributions and coronal heating

Magnetic flares in the solar and stellar atmospheres heat plasma explosively to  $\gtrsim 10$  MK on time scales of minutes. Large amounts of emission measure are produced, presumably by bringing up heated material from the chromospheric layers, thus increasing the density in coronal regions of magnetic loops. It has been suggested that much, if not all, of the hot coronal plasma has been heated (and evaporated) by flares that may be too small and too frequent to be detected individually. This hypothesis is known as the “microflare” or “nanoflare” hypothesis in solar physics (Parker, 1988). There is observational evidence that numerous small-scale flare events occur in the solar corona at any time (e.g., Lin *et al.*, 1984). Hard-X-ray studies have shown that they are distributed in energy according to a power law,

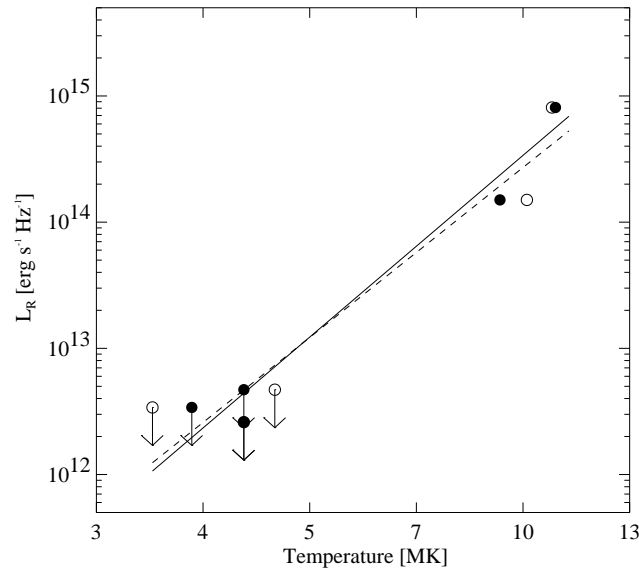


Figure 24: Relation between non-thermal radio emission and average coronal temperature (from *Telleschi et al., 2005*, reproduced by permission of AAS). Open and filled circles refer to different atomic emission line codes used for the temperature determination.

$$\frac{dN}{dE} = kE^{-\alpha}, \quad (20)$$

where  $dN$  is the number of flares per unit time with a total energy in the interval  $[E, E+dE]$ , and  $k$  is a constant. If  $\alpha \geq 2$ , then the energy integration (for a given time interval,  $\int_{E_{\min}}^{E_{\max}} E[dN/dE]dE$ ) diverges for  $E_{\min} \rightarrow 0$ , that is, if the power law is extrapolated to small flare energies, a lower cut-off is required for the power-law distribution; arbitrary energy release powers are possible depending on the value of  $E_{\min}$ . From solar studies,  $\alpha \approx 1.6-1.8$  for ordinary solar flares (*Crosby et al., 1993*), but some recent studies of low-level flaring suggest  $\alpha = 2.0-2.6$  (*Krucker and Benz, 1998*; *Parnell and Jupp, 2000*).

### 5.8.2 Phenomenological evidence

There is abundant evidence that flare-like processes are important in magnetically active stars:

- A linear correlation between the time-averaged power from optical flares and the low-level, “quiescent” X-ray luminosity suggests that flares are important contributors to the overall stellar coronal heating (*Doyle and Butler, 1985*; *Skumanich, 1985*; *Whitehouse, 1985*).
- Over the entire solar magnetic cycle, the monthly average soft X-ray luminosity scales in detail and linearly with the rate of detected H $\alpha$  flares (*Pearce et al., 1992*).
- In analogy, the stellar “quiescent” X-ray luminosity correlates approximately linearly with the rate of X-ray flares (above a given lower energy threshold; *Audard et al. 2000*).
- The “quiescent” X-ray luminosity of magnetically active stars correlates linearly with the contemporaneous (non-flaring) radio gyrosynchrotron emission. The latter requires accelerated electrons, for which flares are an obvious source (*Güdel and Benz, 1993*).

- This latter correlation holds similarly for many solar and stellar flares (Benz and Güdel, 1994).
- The ratio between energy losses in coronal X-rays and in the chromospheric Mg II lines is the same in flares and in quiescence (Haisch *et al.*, 1990).
- The ratio between energy losses in coronal X-rays and in the chromospheric UV emission measured in broad filter bands is the same in flares and in quiescence (Mitra-Kraev *et al.*, 2005).
- A tight correlation exists between  $L_X$  and  $H\gamma$  luminosity that it the same for flares and for quiescence (Mathioudakis and Doyle, 1990).
- Many observations have shown continuous low-level variability in the stellar X-ray output, with time scales reminiscent of coronal flares (Audard *et al.* 2003a; see Figure 25 for the X-ray light curve of EK Dra). In particular, a strong temporal correlation between  $H\gamma$  flare flux and simultaneous low-level X-ray flux in dMe stars suggests that a large number of flare-like events are always present (Butler *et al.*, 1986). Up to 50% of the X-ray output in PMS stars may be due to relatively strong flares (Montmerle *et al.*, 1983), which has become particularly evident in recent observations of the Orion region (Feigelson *et al.*, 2002b; Wolk *et al.*, 2005).

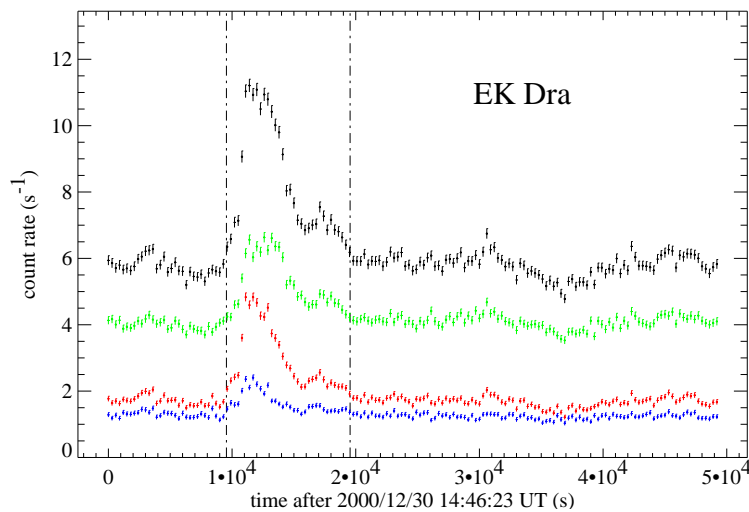


Figure 25: X-ray light curve of the young (ZAMS) solar analog EK Dra, obtained with XMM-Newton. The curves refer to the total 0.2–10 keV photon energy range (black), the soft band (0.2–1 keV; green), the hard band (>1 keV; red), and the ratio of hard/soft (blue; from Telleschi *et al.* 2005, reproduced by permission of AAS).

### 5.8.3 Stellar flare energy distributions

Motivated by the above phenomenology, several studies have addressed flare distributions in stellar coronae. Earlier work by Collura *et al.* (1988) and Pallavicini *et al.* (1990) indicated power laws with  $\alpha < 2$  although the sensitivities used in those observations were quite limited, and flares from different stars at different distances were lumped together. This also holds for a study by Osten and Brown (1999) for RS CVn-type binaries.

To avoid bias with regard to detection limits at lower energies, new methods have been devised by Audard *et al.* (1999), Audard *et al.* (2000), Kashyap *et al.* (2002), Güdel *et al.* (2003b), and Arzner and Güdel (2004), the latter three using Monte Carlo forward methods and analytical inversion. Work by Wolk *et al.* (2005), Arzner *et al.* (2007), and Stelzer *et al.* (2007) has extended flare statistics into the PMS domain.

Most of these recent studies converge to  $\alpha \approx 2.0\text{--}2.5$  (Figure 26), indicating a potentially crucial role of flares in coronal heating if the power-law flare energy distribution extends by about 1–2 orders of magnitude below the actual detection limit in the light curves. The X-ray coronae of active stars would be an entirely hydrodynamic phenomenon rather than an ensemble of hydrostatic loops.

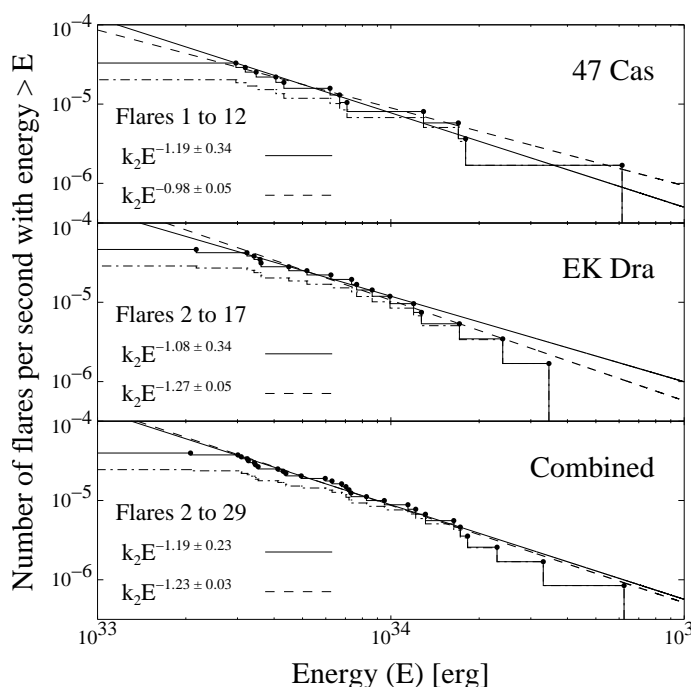


Figure 26: Cumulative flare rate distributions in energy for 47 Cas, EK Dra, and both combined. The indices of power-law fits to the cumulative distributions are smaller than those of the differential distributions by one,  $\alpha - 1$ . The distributions plotted as solid histograms have been corrected for flare overlap. Also shown are power-law fits to the corrected distributions (solid lines; see Audard *et al.* 1999 for more details; reproduced by permission of AAS).

#### 5.8.4 Stochastic flares and coronal observations

This mechanism has been studied specifically for young solar analogs by Güdel *et al.* (1997b), Güdel (1997), Audard *et al.* (1999), and Telleschi *et al.* (2005), in particular with regard to synthetic light curves and emission measure distributions.

Güdel *et al.* (1997b) found that the *time-averaged* emission measure distribution of solar flares adds a characteristic, separate emission measure component at high temperatures ( $> 10$  MK); numerical simulations support this picture (Güdel, 1997), and corresponding hot emission measure components are indeed also identified in active solar analogs from X-ray spectroscopic observations. If a full distribution of flares contributes, including small flares with lower temperature, then the

entire observed X-ray emission measure could be formed by the continually heating and cooling plasma in flares. The predicted steep low- $T$  slope (up to  $\approx 4$ ) of an emission measure distribution induced by stochastic flaring compares very favorably with observations of active stars (Güdel *et al.*, 2003b). This holds true specifically for solar analogs for which  $\alpha = 2.2 - 2.8$  is implied from the emission measure slopes (Telleschi *et al.*, 2005).

Audard *et al.* (1999) and Audard *et al.* (2000) derived the flare energy distribution of young solar analogs (Figure 26, where the cumulative distributions are plotted, with a power-law index that is shallower by one unit) and studied consequences for the thermal structure of the active coronae. They speculated that the higher temperatures in active coronae are due to a larger rate of (larger) flares, although they left undecided whether there is a larger rate of reheating events of the same coronal structures or whether a higher number of active regions produce the higher flare rate.

### 5.8.5 Summary: The importance of stochastic flares

The above overview suggests that the young solar corona may have been strongly driven by flares erupting as a consequence of magnetic instabilities. There is no conclusive proof that stochastic flares dominate coronal heating although there is clear evidence that active stellar coronae are continuously variable on time scales similar to flare events, and there is ample circumstantial albeit indirect evidence supporting this model, as described above. There are important implications from flare-heating coronal models:

- The corona can no longer be treated as an ensemble of static magnetic loops. Scaling laws often used to assess “coronal structure” are meaningless.
- Solar flares are often accompanied by coronal mass ejections, contributing to the overall mass loss rate. A high rate of coronal flaring may contribute significantly to an enhanced mass loss in the young Sun (see Section 5.1 and Section 7.1.2).
- Solar flares accelerate electrons and ions to high energies, both within closed magnetic structures (evident by synchrotron emission from mildly relativistic electrons or non-thermal hard X-rays and gamma-rays from collisions in chromospheric gas) and along open field lines toward interplanetary space (measured in situ as “solar energetic particles”). Copious coronal flares in young solar analogs will eject large numbers of energetic particles that are important for non-thermal interactions with planetary atmospheres (Section 7.2.3) and for the irradiation of circumstellar disks and meteoritic material, potentially producing (some of the) well-known isotopic anomalies.

## 5.9 The solar coronal composition in time

From a naive point of view, the coronal and solar-wind material is expected to show the same overall composition as that of the underlying star and, in particular, its photosphere from where the material has been brought up. However, measurements of the composition of the solar corona and the solar wind have revealed what is commonly known as the “First Ionization Potential (FIP) Effect”; this abundance anomaly results in elements with a FIP below  $\approx 10$  eV (e.g., Si, Mg, Ca, Fe) being enriched by factor of a few with respect to hydrogen when compared to the photospheric mixture, while elements with a higher FIP (e.g., C, N, O, Ne, Ar) show the photospheric composition. The solar measurements have been summarized comprehensively in the extensive work by Meyer (1985a,b) and Feldman (1992). The same FIP effect is in fact also present in solar energetic particles and – unexpectedly – in cosmic rays.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>3</sup>Meyer normalized the abundances such that the low-FIP element abundances were photospheric and the high-FIP abundances depleted, whereas the present-day view is that high-FIP elements are at photospheric levels, see



A discussion of the solar FIP effect is not within the scope of this review, nor are the various physical models that have been proposed for more than two decades. I refer the interested reader to the presentations by Hénoux (1995), Jordan *et al.* (1998), Drake *et al.* (1995), and Laming *et al.* (1995), and also the series of papers in *Space Science Reviews*, vol. 85 (pp. 283–418, 1998). In short, a fractionation process, probably involving electric and/or magnetic fields or pressure gradients, occurs at chromospheric levels where low-FIP elements are predominantly ionized and high-FIP elements are predominantly neutral. Because ions and neutrals are affected differently by electric and magnetic fields, acceleration or drift of elements with different FIP may occur at different speed or with different efficiency. The FIP effect varies considerably in strength between various types of coronal structure; see, e.g., Jordan *et al.* (1998). Although it is also expressed in full-disk solar spectral data, it is confined to coronal heights where  $T \gtrsim 1$  MK, while material at lower temperatures shows the photospheric composition (Laming *et al.*, 1995).

Why are abundance anomalies interesting for the study of the young Sun? The study of solar analogs at different ages has, in fact, shown systematics in the coronal composition that a successful, future model for the generation and heating of stellar coronae must explain. I briefly review the various findings.

### 5.9.1 Abundances in stellar coronae

Although detailed studies of coronal composition require high-resolution X-ray spectra, anomalies in the coronal composition of magnetically active stars have been recognized already in the early days of X-ray astronomy. Most notably, a significant deficiency of coronal Fe, by factors of a few when compared to the solar composition, has been noted (e.g., Swank *et al.* 1981; White *et al.* 1994). There are two caveats with regard to early abundance measurements: i) low-resolution X-ray spectroscopy does not isolate individual spectral lines of any element with the exception of Fe, which produces a line system at 6.7 keV that can be measured by low-resolution (e.g., CCD-type) detectors. This line, however, forms at very high temperatures (formation temperature  $\approx 60$ –70 MK), and knowledge of the thermal structure at those high temperatures is required if the element abundances are to be trusted; ii) more severely, for most stars no reliable photospheric abundances are known (again, the exception is mostly Fe). Because the photospheric composition of stars may significantly differ from the solar photosphere, any coronal abundance anomaly in stars should really be defined with respect to the underlying photosphere. In any case, before the advent of spectroscopy with *XMM-Newton* and *Chandra*, a sufficient body of data clearly showed that the most active stars reveal strong depletion of most heavy elements, with little FIP-related systematics (Singh *et al.*, 1999).

Early observations of the extremely active subgiant HR 1099 (Brinkman *et al.*, 2001) and the MS K-type ZAMS star AB Dor (Güdel *et al.*, 2001) with the *XMM-Newton* Reflection Grating Spectrometer uncovered a new, systematic FIP-related bias in magnetically active stars: In contrast to the solar case, *low-FIP abundances are systematically depleted with respect to high-FIP elements*, a trend now known as the “inverse FIP effect” (IFIP). The ratio between the abundances of Ne (highest FIP) and Fe (low FIP) is therefore unusually large, of order 10 in the most extreme cases (when compared to the solar photospheric mixture). This pattern has been confirmed for many further active stars (e.g., Drake *et al.* 2001; Huenemoerder *et al.* 2001, 2003 etc). Only highly active stars show the IFIP pattern. Toward intermediately active stars, the effect weakens, until eventually flat abundance distributions are recovered (Audard *et al.*, 2003b).

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Feldman (1992).

### 5.9.2 The composition of the young solar corona

Solar analogs provide the best basis for a systematic study of abundance trends because they directly link to the solar case. Fortunately, many well-studied solar analogs with different ages and activity levels are available for study in the solar vicinity. Again, the “Sun in Time” sample is outstanding in that the photospheric mix has been well documented, often for several elements apart from Fe. The principal result is that all of them show photospheric abundances close to solar (see summary table in [Telleschi \*et al.\* 2005](#)). The only independent parameter for this sample with regard to coronal abundance anomalies is therefore again the *activity level* or, equivalently, *age*.

The sample shows a clear systematic development from an inverse FIP effect in the youngest examples (with underabundances of Fe and Si) to a marked FIP effect in objects at ages of about 300 Myr and older (see [Figure 27](#)). As long as the IFIP pattern is present, all abundances appear to be sub-solar, but the Fe/H abundance ratio gradually rises with decreasing coronal activity. The abundance pattern reverts to a normal, solar-type FIP anomaly for stars at activity levels of  $\log L_X/L_{\text{bol}} \lesssim -4$  ([Telleschi \*et al.\*, 2005](#)). Unexpectedly, this transition also seems to coincide with i) the transition from coronae with a prominent hot ( $T \gtrsim 10$  MK) component to cooler coronae, and ii) with the transition from prominent non-thermal radio emission to the absence thereof ([Telleschi \*et al.\*, 2005](#)).

### 5.9.3 The Ne/O abundance ratio: Subject to evolution?

[Figure 28](#) shows an anomaly for the O/Ne ratio which is found at values of 0.3–0.7 times the solar ratio, apparently *regardless of the stellar activity level*. Because both O and Ne are high-FIP elements, their abundance ratio *could* reflect the photospheric ratio. But then, the Sun’s composition would be anomalous.

The tabulations of several solar element abundances have recently been revised ([Asplund \*et al.\*, 2005b](#)), resulting in significant discrepancies between solar models and helioseismological results (see [Antia and Basu, 2005](#), and references therein) *unless* further solar abundances were also different. A Ne abundance higher by a factor of at least 2.5 than hitherto assumed would be needed. Therefore, [Telleschi \*et al.\* \(2005\)](#) were the first to point out that the systematically non-solar O/Ne abundance ratio (by a similar factor) calls for a revision of the solar Ne abundance tabulation which at the same time would solve the solar helioseismology problem. This was further elaborated by [Drake and Testa \(2005\)](#) who suggested a factor of 2.7 upward revision of the adopted solar Ne abundance.

Two directions should be taken to verify this suggestion. First, further coronal abundances of low-activity solar-analog stars should be derived. So far, agreement with solar values has in fact been reported for  $\alpha$  Cen A ([Raassen \*et al.\*, 2003](#)), Procyon ([Raassen \*et al.\*, 2002](#)), and for  $\beta$  Com, the latter with large error bars, however ([Telleschi \*et al.\*, 2005](#)). There seems to be a trend toward higher O/Ne ratios in [Figure 28](#) indeed. New results for  $\alpha$  Cen have been reported by [Liefke and Schmitt \(2006\)](#), placing the Ne/O abundance ratio significantly lower than values for active stars, albeit not as low as the presently accepted solar photospheric value. Second, verification of the solar Ne/O ratio is needed. Although Ne cannot be measured directly in the photosphere, the Ne/O ratio can be derived from coronal measurements the same way as done for stellar observations. Recent analysis of solar active region X-ray spectra and of EUV spectra from transition-region levels ([Schmelz \*et al.\*, 2005](#); [Young, 2005](#)) both report the standard Ne/O abundance ratios, rejecting an upward correction of Ne. The issue should therefore be considered to be open for the time being. A FIP-related, i.e., “evolutionary” enrichment of Ne in active corona remains a viable possibility ([Asplund \*et al.\*, 2005a](#)).

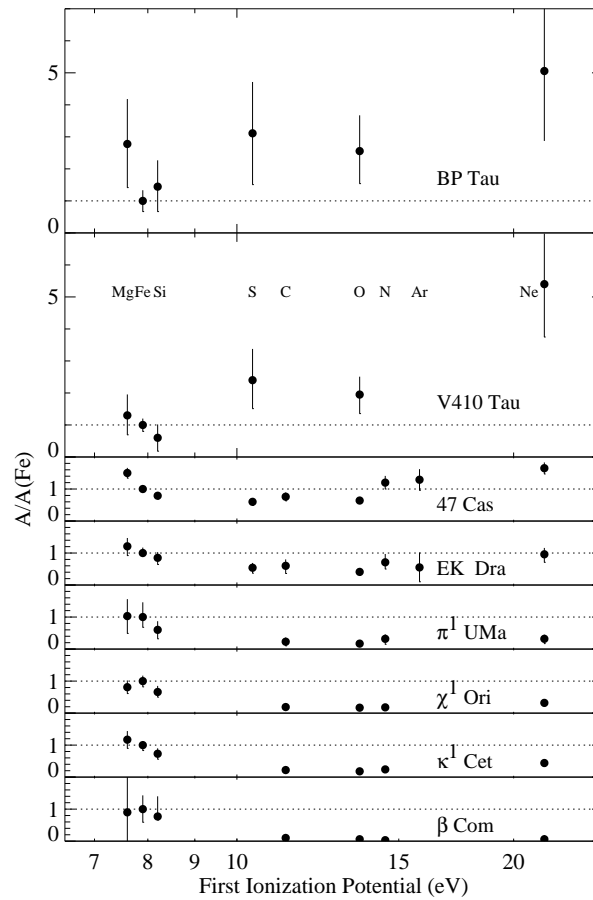


Figure 27: *Coronal element abundances normalized to the Fe abundance, with respect to the solar photospheric mixture as a function of FIP; the total X-ray luminosities are, from top to bottom:  $\log L_X = 30.06$  (BP Tau),  $30.66$  (V410 Tau),  $30.39$  (47 Cas B),  $30.08$  (EK Dra),  $29.06$  ( $\pi^1$  UMa),  $28.95$  ( $\chi^1$  Ori),  $28.95$  ( $\kappa^1$  Cet),  $28.26$  ( $\beta$  Com) (after *Telleschi et al., 2005, 2007b*).*

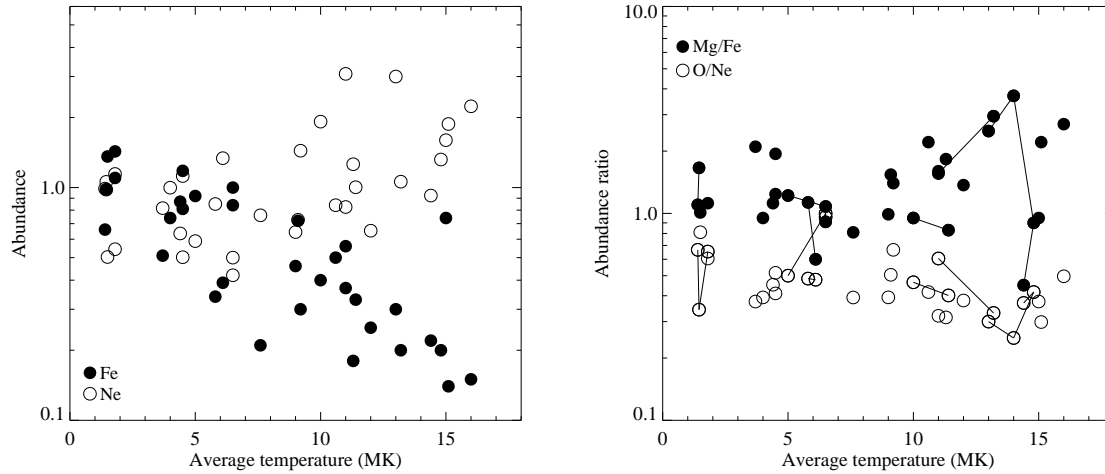


Figure 28: *Coronal abundances of Fe (low FIP) and Ne (high FIP – left plot), and ratios of Mg/Fe (low FIP) and O/Ne (high FIP – right plot) for various stars, shown as a function of the average coronal temperature (from Güdel, 2004, © Springer Verlag, reprinted with permission).*

## 5.10 Summary: The young, active Sun

Although the MS Sun started as a ZAMS star with a bolometric luminosity that was significantly lower than today – by about 30% – a very different picture must be drawn from high-energy observations of solar analogs, including UV, FUV, EUV, X-ray, and non-thermal radio emissions. All signatures of magnetic activity, among them dark starspots, chromospheric and transition-region line emission, coronal X-rays, and radio gyrosynchrotron emission in young solar analogs point to levels of magnetic activity orders of magnitude above the present solar level. The present-day Sun in fact resides at the lowest levels a solar-like star can attain – near the end of its MS life, as a spun-down star.

Short-wavelength radiation and non-thermal radio emission show power-law decays during the solar evolution that steepen toward higher energies of the underlying electron population. In parallel, the rotation rate of the Sun also decayed, again in a power-law fashion. Rotation is indeed thought to be the ultimate driver of these decay laws, as it is one of the two fundamental ingredients of the magnetic dynamo, the other being convection which does not strongly change during the Sun’s main-sequence life.

The solar wind is another expression of magnetic activity. The mass loss induced by the wind also decays according to a power-law although this does not seem to hold for the youngest and most active examples which show a suppressed wind.

The high level of magnetic activity in the young Sun must have been a pivotal ingredient in shaping the solar environment, in particular planetary atmospheres. The most extreme expressions of magnetic activity, magnetic flares that appear to be dominating contributors to high-energy photon and particle production in young solar analogs, need to be accounted for in planetary atmospheric modeling. I will discuss some of these aspects in Section 7.

## 6 Further Back in Time: The Pre-Main Sequence Sun

### 6.1 Where was the cradle of the Sun?

The present-day galactic environment is in no ways related anymore to the place where the Sun was born. The contemporaneous Sun is obviously not a member of a bound cluster. There has consequently been some speculation regarding the environment in which the Sun formed. The large-scale solar environment controls interactions with the outflowing solar wind and is therefore relevant for the influx of cosmic rays into the inner solar system.

During the past  $10^6$  years, the Sun has moved from the very hot ( $\approx 10^6$  K) low-density “local bubble” environment into the cooler and denser ( $\approx 6900$  K,  $n(\text{H}^0 + \text{H}^+) \approx 0.3 \text{ cm}^{-3}$ ) “local interstellar cloud” (Frisch, 2000; Frisch and Slavin, 2005, 2006). The pressure characteristics of these two environments are similar, so that the radii of the heliosphere would have been similar (120–130 AU; Frisch 2000). However, the heliospheric structure would shrink to ten percent of its present size if the Sun encountered molecular clouds, and such encounters are likely to have occurred several times in the past (Frisch, 2000).

Moving back in time, the evidence becomes indirect. The best “memory” of the earliest episodes of the Sun’s life is contained in meteorites (Section 6.6). The presence of live  $^{60}\text{Fe}$  in the early solar system (see Section 6.6) inferred from meteoritic trace elements (Tachibana and Huss, 2003) cannot be explained by local processes (such as stellar flares, see Section 6.6) but is thought to require supernova explosions (Meyer and Clayton, 2000). The local environment of the forming solar system was therefore likely reminiscent of a high-mass star-forming region like the Orion region; the young Sun and its circumstellar disk may have resided in a H II region for a considerable amount of time (Hester *et al.*, 2004); the intense ultraviolet radiation field from massive stars might have contributed to the evaporation of the molecular environment of the Sun (so-called proplyds in the Orion Nebula, O’Dell 2001, or “evaporating gaseous globules” [EGGs], Hester *et al.* 1996). These structures contain protostars that can be detected in X-rays (Kastner *et al.*, 2005; Linsky *et al.*, 2007), i.e., deterioration of the environment is due both to the larger-scale “interstellar” environment and the stellar magnetic activity itself.

### 6.2 New features in the pre-main sequence Sun

#### 6.2.1 Evolutionary stages: Overview

Modern theory of star formation together with results from comprehensive observing programs have converged to a picture in which a forming low-mass star evolves through various stages with progressive clearing of a contracting circumstellar envelope. In its “class 0” stage (according to the mm/infrared classification scheme), the majority of the future mass of the star still resides in the contracting molecular envelope. “Class I” protostars have essentially accreted their final mass while still being deeply embedded in a dust and gas envelope and surrounded by a thick circumstellar disk. Jets and outflows may be driven by these optically invisible “infrared stars”. Once the envelope is dispersed, the stars enter their “Classical T Tauri” stage (CTTS, usually belonging to infrared class II with an IR excess) with excess  $\text{H}\alpha$  line emission if they are still surrounded by a massive circumstellar disk; the latter results in an infrared excess. “Weak-line T Tauri” stars (also “naked T Tauri stars”, Walter 1986; usually with class III characteristics, i.e., essentially showing a photospheric spectrum) have lost most of their disk and are dominated by photospheric light (Walter *et al.*, 1988).

### 6.2.2 New features: Accretion, disks, and jets

Moving back in time from the MS into the PMS era of solar evolution, we encounter changes in the Sun’s internal structure and in fundamental stellar parameters such as radius and  $T_{\text{eff}}$ . The typical “T Tauri” Sun at an age of 0.5–3 Myr was bolometrically 1–4 times more luminous and 1.7–3.6 times larger in radius, while its surface  $T_{\text{eff}} \approx 4260$  K, corresponding to a K5 star (after [Siess \*et al.\*, 2000](#)). The interior of T Tauri stars evolving on the Hayashi track is entirely convective. The operation of an  $\alpha\Omega$  dynamo should not be possible, yet very high levels of magnetic activity are clearly observed on T Tauri stars. Alternative dynamos such as convective dynamos may be in operation. “Solar analogy” no longer holds collectively for all stellar parameters, except (roughly) for stellar mass. Also, there is a complex stellar environment, including an accretion disk, outflows and jets, and probably a large-scale stellar magnetosphere that interacts with these structures ([Camenzind 1990](#); [Königl 1991](#); [Collier Cameron and Campbell 1993](#); [Shu \*et al.\* 1994](#); [Figure 29](#)). Magnetic interactions between the star and its environment are important in the following contexts:

- Star-disk magnetic fields may form large magnetospheres that lead to star-disk locking and disk-controlled spin rates of the star. Generally, disk-surrounded CTTS rotate relatively slowly, probably due to disk locking, with  $P = 5–10$  d, compared to only a few days for diskless, non-accreting WTTS ([Bouvier \*et al.\*, 1993](#)); if a rotation-induced magnetic dynamo is at work in CTTS, then it may be dampened compared to dynamos in freely (and rapidly) rotating diskless WTTS.
- Non-synchronized rotation may be possible in particular in very young systems in spite of magnetic fields connecting the star with the inner border of the disk. The different rotation rates produce shear in the star-disk magnetic fields, eventually leading to field lines winding up around the star and reconnecting, releasing energy and plasmoids that stream out along large-scale magnetic fields ([Hayashi \*et al.\*, 1996](#); [Montmerle \*et al.\*, 2000](#)). This may be a viable model for the production of protostellar jets.
- Star-disk magnetic fields are thought to define the basic route of material accreting from the disk to the star ([Uchida and Shibata, 1984](#); [Camenzind, 1990](#); [Königl, 1991](#)). This star-disk magnetospheric complex ([Figure 29](#)) is in the center of present-day studies of PMS magnetic “activity” as it links the accretion process to stellar magnetic fields and probably to outflows and jets. Although the details of the magnetic interface between the star and the circumstellar disk are far from being understood, the physics of mass-loading of the magnetic field lines is being addressed in detail based on theoretical (e.g., [Shu \*et al.\*, 1994](#); [Ferreira and Zanni, 2007](#)) and numerical investigations (e.g., [Romanova \*et al.\*, 2006](#)). Magnetically funneled material forms “hot spots” on the stellar surface that can be observed as an ultraviolet excess (e.g., [Calvet and Gullbring, 1998](#)).

### 6.2.3 New emission properties: Solar-like or not?

Given the similarity between WTTS and active, ZAMS stars, “activity” in WTTS as seen in spots, chromospheric and transition-region lines, and X-ray emission has conventionally been attributed to solar-like magnetic activity. Non-thermal gyrosynchrotron radio emission in WTTS suggests processes similar to those observed in active MS stars and subgiant binaries, processes that are thought to be related to electron acceleration in coronal flares ([White \*et al.\*, 1992a,b](#); [Güdel, 2002](#)). As for CTTS, strong optical and ultraviolet emission lines were initially assumed to give evidence for extremely active chromospheres and transition regions ([Joy 1945](#); [Herbig and Soderblom 1980](#), see review by [Bertout 1989](#)). Flares and “flashes” (e.g., [Ambartsumian and Mirzoyan, 1982](#)) also suggest analogy with magnetic flaring in more evolved stars and the Sun. Arguments in favor of

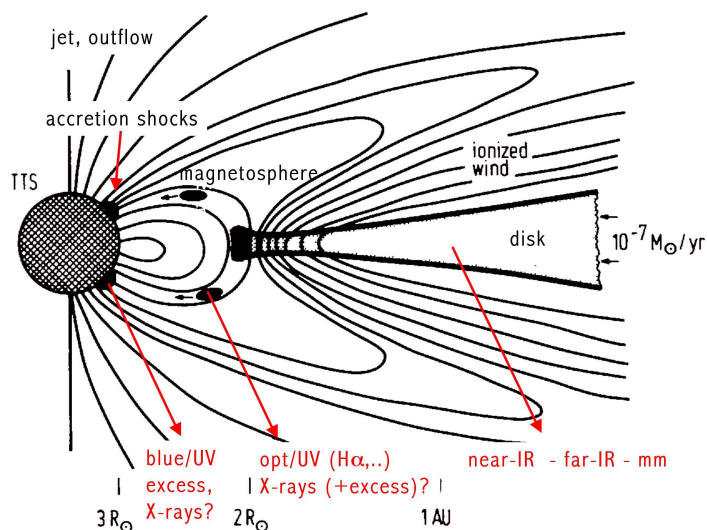


Figure 29: Sketch of the environment of a classical T Tauri star or a protostar, showing the star, the circumstellar disk, magnetic field lines, and closed star-disk magnetic field structures that funnel material from the disk to the star (adapted from *Camenzind, 1990*, © Wiley-VCH Verlag, reproduced with permission).

solar-like magnetic coronal activity in *all* TTS include i) dominant, typical electron temperatures of order  $10^7$  K that require magnetic confinement, and ii) the presence of flares (*Feigelson and Decamp, 1981; Feigelson and Kriss, 1981, 1989; Walter and Kuhi, 1984; Walter et al., 1988*).

However, the solar analogy seems to break down in the optical/UV range where strong flux excesses are recorded; these excesses are uncorrelated with X-rays (*Bouvier, 1990*) but seem to relate to the accretion process (Section 6.3.2). A similar excess recently discovered in soft X-rays may be related to both coronal magnetic fields and accretion (*Güdel and Telleschi 2007*, see Section 6.3.4). Also, thermal radio emission observed in CTTS, probably due to optically thick winds but also due to bipolar jets, reaches beyond the solar analogy (*Cohen et al., 1982; Bieging et al., 1984*). Clearly, emission across the electromagnetic spectrum needs to be understood in the context of the new features around accreting stars, and in particular the related magnetic fields, summarized in Section 6.2.2.

A summary of the present view of activity and other properties of PMS stars from the earliest stages to the arrival on the MS is given in Figure 30 (from *Feigelson and Montmerle, 1999*).

## 6.3 The T Tauri Sun

### 6.3.1 The magnetic field of the T Tauri Sun

Surface magnetic fields have been successfully measured on “solar-analog” T Tauri stars, using Zeeman broadening (*Johns-Krull et al., 1999; Valenti and Johns-Krull, 2004; Johns-Krull, 2007a*). For example, BP Tau (a  $0.65 M_{\odot}$  CTTS) maintains a mean magnetic field strength ( $\sum Bf$ ) of  $2.6 \pm 0.3$  kG, i.e., the equivalent of sunspots for  $f = 1$ . Such field strengths exceed the equipartition value of T Tauri photospheres ( $\approx 1$  kG, *Johns-Krull et al. 1999; Johns-Krull 2007a*), which may be a consequence of near-total surface filling (*Solanki, 1994; Johns-Krull, 2007a*). T Tauri photospheres are therefore dominated by magnetic pressure rather than thermal pressure, in contrast to MS stars and the Sun but similar to stellar coronae in general. The average surface magnetic fields of

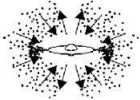
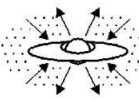
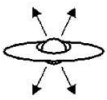
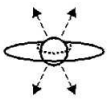

PROPERTIES	<i>Infalling Protostar</i>	<i>Evolved Protostar</i>	<i>Classical T Tauri Star</i>	<i>Weak-lined T Tauri Star</i>	<i>Main Sequence Star</i>
SKETCH					
AGE (YEARS)	$10^4$	$10^5$	$10^6 - 10^7$	$10^6 - 10^7$	$> 10^7$
mm/INFRARED CLASS	Class 0	Class I	Class II	Class III	(Class III)
DISK	Yes	Thick	Thick	Thin or Non-existent	Possible Planetary System
X-RAY	?	Yes	Strong	Strong	Weak
THERMAL RADIO	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
NON-THERMAL RADIO	No	Yes	No ?	Yes	Yes

Figure 30: Summary of properties of PMS objects, in comparison with MS stars (from *Feigelson and Montmerle, 1999*, © 1999 by Annual Reviews, reprinted with permission).



CTTS also exceed a prediction from X-rays, based on a correlation between X-ray luminosity and photospheric magnetic flux valid for MS stars and the Sun (Pevtsov *et al.*, 2003). Upper limits of the net polarization of photospheric lines suggest that the photospheric magnetic fields form predominantly in small-scale structures, although a dipole may dominate at large distances (Johns-Krull *et al.*, 1999; Valenti and Johns-Krull, 2004; Johns-Krull, 2007a). Large dipole components are also suggested from observations of spots concentrated at the poles of T Tauri stars, similar to active MS solar analogs (e.g., Joncour *et al.*, 1994; Hatzes, 1995; Rice and Strassmeier, 1996). In any case, the observed fields should be strong enough to truncate circumstellar disks indeed (Johns-Krull *et al.*, 1999; Johns-Krull, 2007a), even if rather complex (non-dipolar) surface magnetic field distributions are assumed (Gregory *et al.*, 2006).

Zeeman–Doppler Imaging techniques have successfully been applied to extremely active solar analogs in the PMS phase. A particularly clear case was presented by Donati *et al.* (2000), finding solar-like differential rotation on a post-T Tauri star (see also Section 4.3.1). More recently, Donati *et al.* (2007) have reconstructed a rather complex, large-scale magnetic topology on the CTTS V2129 Oph; they found a relatively weak dipole but stronger octupolar fields that are tilted against the rotation axis, with strong near-polar spots. The accretion footpoints are also found to be located at high latitudes. An attempt was made at extrapolating the fields to the inner rim of the disk, showing that some field lines should successfully accrete toward the observed hot spots.

At coronal levels, X-ray rotational modulation provides information on the large-scale distribution of stellar magnetic fields. Rotational modulation is widespread among extremely active T Tauri stars (Flaccomio *et al.*, 2005). Some 10% of the studied stars in the Orion X-ray sample show such evidence, suggesting that: i) the X-ray emitting active regions are not homogeneously distributed on the surface, i.e., despite the X-ray saturation level reached by these stars, the surface cannot be filled with X-ray-bright magnetic loops; ii) the X-ray emitting regions responsible for the rotational modulation are directly associated with the surface and cannot extend much beyond  $R_*$  (Flaccomio *et al.*, 2005). A comparison of the modulation depth with the Sun’s modulation in fact shows that the longitudinal inhomogeneities are similar (Flaccomio *et al.*, 2005).

### 6.3.2 The ultraviolet T Tauri Sun

A defining property of (accreting) classical T Tauri stars is their strong line emission of, e.g., H $\alpha$  or Ca II H & K. These strong lines were initially thought to be evidence of massive chromospheres similar to those seen on the Sun or in cool stars (see review by Bertout 1989), and the discovery of strong UV lines such as those of Si II, Si IV, and C IV – equivalent to “transition region” lines in the Sun formed above  $10^4$  K – supported this picture.

However, when compared with MS stars, including chromospherically very active examples, UV line and continuum emission is up to  $10^2$ – $10^4$  times stronger in CTTS (see example of TW Hya in Table 4; Canuto *et al.* 1982, 1983; Bouvier 1990; Valenti *et al.* 2000), regardless of the photospheric effective temperature or the stellar rotation period but correlated with the mass accretion rates derived from optical continuum data (Bouvier 1990; Johns-Krull *et al.* 2000; Figure 32a below). Further, UV or H $\alpha$  line surface fluxes of CTTS show, in contrast to more evolved stars, no correlation with coronal X-rays, the latter being in the range of RS CVn-type active binary systems or very active MS stars but the UV/H $\alpha$  lines showing a wide range of excess flux (Bouvier, 1990).

Coronal and “chromospheric/transition region” fluxes are thus not correlated in CTTS, contrasting strongly with MS and subgiant stars for which a sharp correlation is taken as evidence for a common physical heating mechanism (operating in related magnetic fields; Section 5.6, Figure 22). An additional mechanism must be responsible for the optical/UV line flux excess. Apart from the line excess fluxes, there is also a strong blue continuum excess that leads to “veiling” in the optical spectrum, i.e., a filling-in of absorption lines by continuum emission; this emission is also not compatible with chromospheric radiation. The most obvious property common only to CTTS

among the stars considered above is accretion; downfalling material could provide the energy to generate the optical/UV excess (Bertout *et al.*, 1988; Basri and Bertout, 1989).

Nearly free-falling gas can be heated to maximum temperatures

$$T_s = 8.6 \times 10^5 \text{ K} \left( \frac{M}{0.5 M_\odot} \right) \left( \frac{R}{2 R_\odot} \right)^{-1} \quad (21)$$

in shocks forming at the bottom of magnetic accretion funnels (Calvet and Gullbring, 1998). UV and optical line emission could thus provide diagnostics for the accretion velocity, the mass accretion rate, and possibly the surface filling factor of accretion funnels.

The present consensus, based on such concepts as well as line profile properties and correlations with the mass accretion rate, is that the UV excess emission originates from material heated in accretion shocks (e.g., Calvet and Gullbring, 1998; Gullbring *et al.*, 1998). Some of the emission lines (e.g., H $\alpha$ , Ca II) may also form in the accretion funnels themselves, or in stellar winds (Ardila *et al.*, 2002).

### 6.3.3 The X-ray T Tauri Sun in time

Feigelson *et al.* (2002b), Wolk *et al.* (2005), and Telleschi *et al.* (2007b) presented X-ray studies of near-solar-mass stars (stars in the ranges of  $0.7 M_\odot \leq M \leq 1.4 M_\odot$  and  $0.9 M_\odot \leq M \leq 1.2 M_\odot$ , respectively, in the former two studies of the Orion Nebula cluster, and wider in the latter study of the Taurus star-forming region). The sample ages typically comprise the  $\log t = 5.5\text{--}7$  range and contain both disk-surrounded and disk-less T Tauri stars. The median X-ray luminosity in the Orion sample is found at  $\log L_X = 30.25$ , i.e., three orders of magnitude above the average solar X-ray output, but there is evidence for a slow decay with age,  $\log L_X \propto t^{-1.1}$  (Feigelson *et al.*, 2002b; Wolk *et al.*, 2005). A shallower decay was reported by Preibisch and Feigelson (2005) for the same stellar cluster, with an exponent between  $-0.2$  and  $-0.5$ , but when considering normalized  $L_X/L_{\text{bol}}$  or average surface X-ray flux, then both Feigelson *et al.*'s and Preibisch & Feigelson's studies indicate that the  $L_X$  decay law is roughly compatible with full saturation (i.e.,  $L_X/L_{\text{bol}} \approx 10^{-3}$ ) as the star descends the Hayashi track and its bolometric luminosity is decreasing (Feigelson *et al.*, 2002b). Telleschi *et al.* (2007b) used the Taurus sample over a wider mass range but removed the strong  $L_X$  versus mass correlation in order to normalize the X-ray evolutionary behavior to a solar-mass star. The slope of the  $L_X$  vs. age correlation is fully compatible with the Orion results, with a power-law index of  $-0.36 \pm 0.11$  although the correlation is dominated by scatter from other sources, and its significance is marginal.

The evolutionary  $L_X$  decay is thus *qualitatively* different from that in MS stars: it is due to stellar contraction (and perhaps a change in the internal dynamo while the star transforms from a fully convective to a convective-radiative interior); in contrast, the decay of  $L_X$  in MS stars is due to stellar spin-down while the stellar structure and size remain nearly constant. Figure 31 shows the long-term evolution of the median X-ray output from PMS stages to the end of the MS evolution, for G-type stars with ages  $> 10$  Myr and K-type stars with ages  $< 10$  Myr (because the predecessors of MS G stars are PMS K stars; data from Güdel 2004). The slight trend toward decreasing  $L_X$  at ages  $< 10$  Myr follows approximately  $L_X \propto t^{-0.3}$ , in agreement with the individual trends for the Orion and the Taurus samples, albeit the scatter is large. No “onset” of activity can be seen back to ages  $< 1$  Myr.

In summary, the age evolution of the X-ray output is modest in PMS stars, the bulk of the X-ray output being determined by other stellar properties. There are at least four such parameters that have been discussed in the recent literature: bolometric luminosity, mass, rotation, and mass accretion rate. I briefly summarize these parameter dependencies in turn:

- Similar to young MS stars, CTTS and WTTS straddle the empirical X-ray saturation limit, i.e.,  $L_X \approx 10^{-3.5} L_{\text{bol}}$  (e.g., Preibisch *et al.*, 2005; Telleschi *et al.*, 2007b), pointing to a

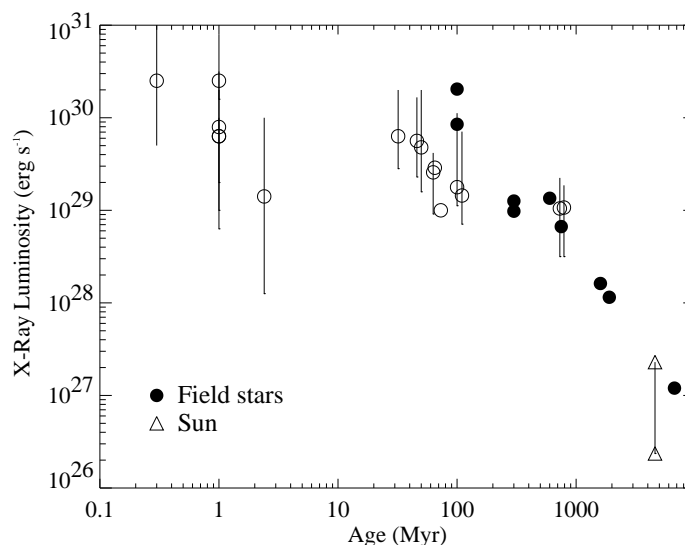


Figure 31: Evolution of the X-ray luminosity of a near-solar mass star. A sample of field stars from the “Sun in Time” program is shown by filled circles. Open circles show the median  $L_X$  for G-type stars in open clusters for ages  $>10$  Myr, and for K-type stars in open clusters and star-forming regions for ages  $<10$  Myr. The error bars show the approximate  $1\sigma$  scatter in the samples (adapted from Güdel, 2004, original data from references given therein; © Springer Verlag, reprinted with permission).

dynamo process somehow related to the dynamo in MS stars. The long-term evolution of  $L_{\text{bol}}$  may then be the principal parameter for the long-term evolution of  $L_X$ .

- In contrast to MS stars, PMS stars show a correlation between  $L_X$  and mass (e.g., Feigelson *et al.*, 1993; Preibisch *et al.*, 2005; Telleschi *et al.*, 2007b). However, if one restricts the MS sample to saturated, young stars, then they follow such a relation as well, owing to the well-known mass- $L_{\text{bol}}$  relation on the MS,  $L_{\text{bol}} \propto M^3$ . Conversely, the flatter  $L_{\text{bol}}-M$  relation for a given PMS isochrone combined with the saturation law yields an  $L_X$  vs. mass correlation that is compatible with the observed relation (Telleschi *et al.*, 2007b), i.e., the two relations are interdependent.
- Rotation is one of the main drivers of the magnetic dynamo and therefore of magnetic activity in MS stars. The near-saturation state of most PMS stars, however, suggests that rotation cannot be a key parameter. This is borne out by explicit correlation studies of the Orion (Preibisch *et al.*, 2005) and the Taurus (Briggs *et al.*, 2007) samples of T Tauri stars that show little in the way of a correlation as seen in MS stars. On the contrary, some apparent trends in this direction are the result of population bias (Briggs *et al.*, 2007). The absence of a decrease in the  $L_X/L_{\text{bol}}$  ratio up to rotation periods of at least 10 d (in contrast to MS stars) can be explained by the convective turnover time in PMS stars being much larger, yielding smaller Rossby numbers for a given rotation period and therefore saturation up to longer rotation periods (Preibisch *et al.*, 2005; Briggs *et al.*, 2007).
- Accretion could influence  $L_X$  either by generating X-rays itself, or by suppressing coronal X-ray production. Empirically,  $L_X$  is correlated with the mass accretion rate  $\dot{M}$  but this is not a physical correlation for the following reason. Muzerolle *et al.* (2003), Muzerolle

*et al.* (2005), and Calvet *et al.* (2004) described a relation between  $\dot{M}$  and the stellar mass  $M$ , approximately reading  $\dot{M} \propto M^2$ . Because  $L_X$  correlates with  $L_{\text{bol}}$  and therefore, for a typical age isochrone, with mass,  $L_X$  must correlate with  $\dot{M}$ . Telleschi *et al.* (2007b) removed this trend from the Taurus sample. Although the two parameters still do not seem to be fully independent, a clear correlation cannot be established. Accretion does seem to influence magnetic energy output in more subtle ways, however, to be discussed in the Section 6.3.4.

### 6.3.4 Coronal excesses and deficits induced by activity?

If the photoelectric absorption by the accreting gas is small, then the softest X-ray range may reveal the high-temperature tail of the shock emission measure thought to be responsible for the UV excesses (Section 6.3.2). Telleschi *et al.* (2007b) and Güdel *et al.* (2007b) identified an excess in the O VII/O VIII Ly $\alpha$  flux (or luminosity) ratio in CTTS when compared with WTTS or MS stars, the so-called X-ray *soft excess* of CTTS (Figure 32b). In the most extreme case of the CTTS T Tau, the excess O VII flux is such that this line triplet, formed at only  $\approx 2$  MK, is the strongest in the soft X-ray spectrum (see Figure 33; Güdel and Telleschi 2007).

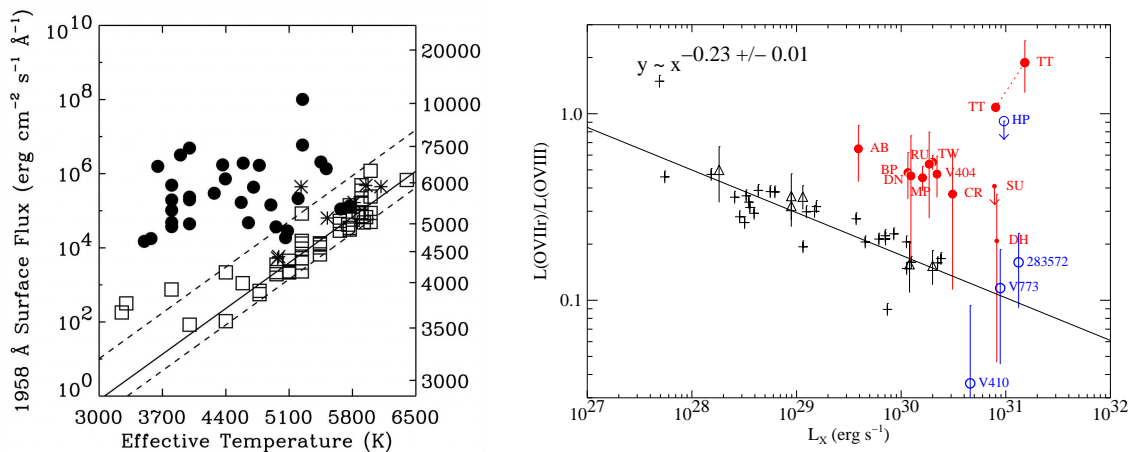


Figure 32: Left (a): The ultraviolet excess of CTTS. The figure shows the mean continuum surface flux at  $\approx 1958$  Å vs. the stellar effective temperature. CTTS are shown by the solid circles, naked (diskless) TTS by asterisks, and MS stars by squares. The solid lines define a fit to the MS stars, the dashed lines giving the lower and upper bounds (from Johns-Krull *et al.*, 2000, reproduced by permission of AAS). Right (b): The X-ray soft excess in CTTS. The figure shows the ratio between O VII  $r$  and O VIII Ly $\alpha$  luminosities (each in units of erg s<sup>-1</sup>) vs.  $L_X$ . Labels give initial letters of stellar names. Crosses mark MS stars (from Ness *et al.*, 2004), triangles solar analogs (from Telleschi *et al.*, 2005), filled (red) circles CTTS, and open (blue) circles WTTS. Two solutions (high- and low-absorption) are given for T Tau, connected by a dotted line. The solid line is a power-law fit to the MS stars with  $L_X > 10^{27}$  erg s<sup>-1</sup> (from Güdel and Telleschi, 2007, reprinted with permission).

Interestingly, however, the X-ray soft excess in CTTS is comparatively moderate, the  $L(\text{O VII } r)/L(\text{O VIII})$  line flux ratio being enhanced by factors of typically  $\approx 3$ –4 times that of equivalent MS stars or WTTS (Figure 32). Furthermore, the excess X-ray line fluxes do not seem to be correlated with the UV line excesses but are correlated with the overall stellar coronal activity level traced, for example, by the O VIII Ly $\alpha$  line flux (Güdel and Telleschi, 2007). It appears that the X-ray soft excess depends on the level of magnetic (“coronal”) activity although it is, at the

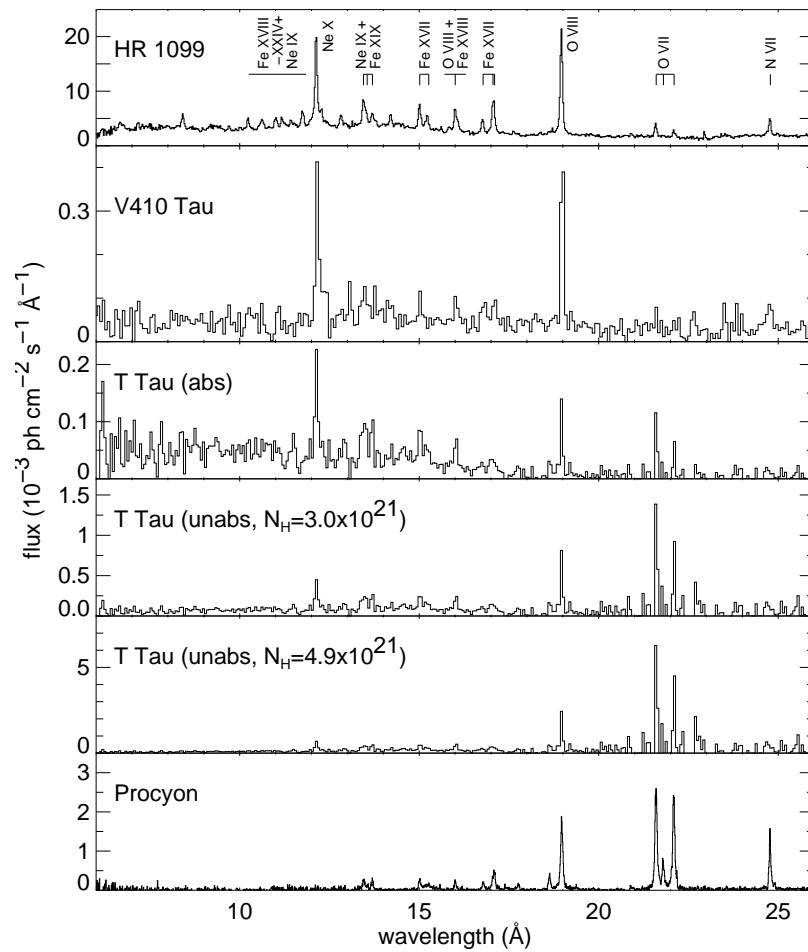


Figure 33: Comparison of fluxed X-ray photon spectra of (from top to bottom, all from XMM-Newton RGS) the active binary HR 1099, the WTTS V410 Tau, the CTTS T Tau, the T Tau spectrum modeled after removal of absorption (two versions, using  $N_{\text{H}} = 3 \times 10^{21} \text{ cm}^{-2}$  and  $4.9 \times 10^{21} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ , respectively), and the inactive MS star Procyon. The bins are equidistant in wavelength (from top to bottom, the bin widths are, respectively, 0.025 Å, 0.070 Å, 0.058 Å, 0.058 Å, 0.058 Å, and 0.010 Å; from Güdel and Telleschi 2007, reprinted with permission).

same time, related to the presence of accretion. The two dependencies may point to an interaction between accretion and magnetic activity at “coronal” heights.

The shock interpretation of the softest X-rays and the X-ray soft excess is appealing, but remains controversial until a larger sample of CTTS with various accretion properties has been interpreted. In particular, given the appreciable accretion rates, high shock densities of order  $10^{12} - 10^{14} \text{ cm}^{-3}$  are expected, as first indeed reported from density-sensitive line diagnostics of O VII and Ne IX in the CTTS TW Hya, forming at only a few MK (Kastner *et al.*, 2002; Stelzer and Schmitt, 2004). However, some accreting PMS stars show much lower densities, such as AB Aur (Telleschi *et al.*, 2007b) and T Tau (Güdel *et al.*, 2007b); the same discrepancy between expected and observed densities has also been reported from ultraviolet density diagnostics (Johns-Krull *et al.*, 2000).

In stark contrast to the X-ray soft excess and the UV excess described above, it is now well established that CTTS show a moderate *suppression* of 0.1 – 10 keV soft X-ray emission, typically by a factor of  $\approx 2$  when compared with WTTS of similar properties (Strom and Strom, 1994; Damiani *et al.*, 1995; Neuhäuser *et al.*, 1995; Stelzer and Neuhäuser, 2001; Flaccomio *et al.*, 2003; Preibisch *et al.*, 2005; Telleschi *et al.*, 2007a). Although selection/detection bias or different photoelectric absorption has been quoted to be responsible for these differences (see Güdel 2004 and references therein), the luminosity deficit in CTTS is now thought to be real; it appears that accretion suppresses coronal heating in a fraction of the coronal volume (Preibisch *et al.*, 2005), or at least leads to larger amounts of cooler plasma, which is perhaps the same plasma inferred from the X-ray soft excess (Telleschi *et al.*, 2007b; Güdel and Telleschi, 2007). Alternatively, the presence of a circumstellar disk could strip the outer parts of the stellar corona, thus reducing  $L_X$  (Jardine *et al.*, 2006).

### 6.3.5 X-ray flaring of the T Tauri Sun

A high level of near-continuous flaring is found in PMS solar-mass stars. As much as half of the emitted X-ray energy, if not more, may be due to strong flares (Montmerle *et al.*, 1983), and many TTS are nearly continuously variable probably also owing to flares (Mamajek *et al.*, 2000; Feigelson *et al.*, 2002a; Preibisch and Zinnecker, 2002; Skinner *et al.*, 2003). Examples with extreme luminosities and temperatures up to 100 MK have been reported (e.g., Preibisch *et al.*, 1995; Skinner *et al.*, 1997; Tsuboi *et al.*, 1998, 2000; Imanishi *et al.*, 2002). The most extreme flares are found on CTTS and protostars, a possible hint at star-disk magnetic interactions during flares. Wolk *et al.* (2005) studied frequency and properties of flares in the Orion Nebula cluster, concluding that the median peak luminosity of their sample was  $\log L_X = 30.97$ , with extremely hard spectra at peak time. The median electron temperature was found at 7 keV. An analogous study has been presented by Stelzer *et al.* (2007) for T Tauri stars in the Taurus Molecular Cloud. The extreme flaring recorded on these PMS stars may have an important bearing on coronal heating (see Section 5.8) and on the alteration of solids in the young stellar environment (see Section 6.6).

### 6.3.6 The radio T Tauri Sun in time

Early VLA surveys quickly reported strong radio emission from both CTTS and WTTS. Somewhat unexpectedly, however, radio emission comes in two principal flavors. The early, pioneering studies by Cohen *et al.* (1982), Bieging *et al.* (1984), Cohen and Bieging (1986), Schwartz *et al.* (1984), and Schwartz *et al.* (1986) recognized thermal wind-type emission with rising spectra and in cases large angular sizes for several CTTS. This radio emission can then be used to estimate mass loss rates; these are found to range up to  $\lesssim 10^{-7} M_\odot \text{ yr}^{-1}$  (André *et al.*, 1987). The partly enormous kinetic wind energy derived under the assumption of a uniform spherical wind suggests anisotropic outflows while structural changes in the radio sources indicate variable outflows, probably along jet-like features; at shorter radio wavelength, dust emission from the disk becomes apparent as well (Cohen

and Biegging, 1986; Rodríguez *et al.*, 1992, 1994; Wilner *et al.*, 1996). The thermal radio emission tells us nothing about the presence or absence of stellar magnetic fields. As described earlier, CTTS do show many signatures of magnetic activity, but whatever the possible accompanying radio emission, it seems to be absorbed by the circumstellar ionized wind.

The situation is different in WTTS in which the presence of huge flares (Feigelson and Montmerle, 1985; Stine *et al.*, 1988; Stine and O’Neal, 1998), longer-term variability, and falling spectra clearly point to non-thermal gyrosynchrotron emission (Biegging *et al.*, 1984; Kutner *et al.*, 1986; Biegging and Cohen, 1989; White *et al.*, 1992a; Felli *et al.*, 1993; Phillips *et al.*, 1996) analogous to radio emission observed in more evolved active stars. Conclusive radio evidence for the presence of solar-like magnetic fields in WTTS came with the detection of weak circular polarization during flares but also in quiescence (White *et al.*, 1992b; André *et al.*, 1992; Skinner, 1993). Extremely energetic particles radiating synchrotron emission may be involved, giving rise to linear polarization in flares on the WTT star HD 283447 (Phillips *et al.*, 1996). VLBI observations showing large ( $\sim 10 R_*$ ) magnetospheric structures with brightness temperatures up to  $T_b \approx 10^9$  K fully support the non-thermal picture (Phillips *et al.*, 1991).

As a WTT star ages, its radio emission drops rapidly on time scales of a few million years from luminosities as high as  $10^{18}$  erg s<sup>-1</sup> Hz<sup>-1</sup> to values around or below  $10^{15}$  erg s<sup>-1</sup> Hz<sup>-1</sup> at ages beyond 10 Myr. Young age of a star is thus favorable to strong radio emission (O’Neal *et al.*, 1990; White *et al.*, 1992a; Chiang *et al.*, 1996), whereas toward the subsequent ZAMS stage it is only the very rapid rotators that keep producing radio emission at the  $10^{15}$  erg s<sup>-1</sup> Hz<sup>-1</sup> level (Carkner *et al.*, 1997; Magazzù *et al.*, 1999; Mamajek *et al.*, 1999).

### 6.3.7 The composition of the T Tauri Sun’s corona

Initial studies of a few accreting T Tau stars, in particular the old ( $\approx 10$  Myr) TW Hya, have shown an abundance pattern in the X-ray source similar to the IFIP effect although the Ne/Fe abundance ratio is unusually high, of order 10 with respect to the solar photospheric ratio, and the N/O and N/Fe ratios are enhanced by a factor of  $\approx 3$ .

These anomalous abundance ratios have been suggested (Stelzer and Schmitt, 2004; Drake and Testa, 2005) to reflect depletion of Fe and O in the accretion disk where almost all elements condense into grains except for N (Savage and Sembach, 1996; Charnley, 1997) and Ne (Frisch and Slavin, 2003) that remain in the gas phase which is accreted onto the star. If accretion occurs predominantly from the gas phase in the higher layers of the disk while the grains grow and/or settle at the disk midplane, then the observed abundance anomaly may be a consequence.

Larger systematics have made this picture less clear, however. Several CTTS and WTTS have revealed large Ne/Fe ratios ( $\approx 4$  or higher), much larger than in MS active solar analogs (Kastner *et al.*, 2004; Argiroffi *et al.*, 2005, 2007; Telleschi *et al.*, 2005, 2007b; Günther *et al.*, 2006) but similar to RS CVn binaries (Audard *et al.*, 2003b). In contrast, the CTTS SU Aur reveals a low Ne/Fe abundance ratio of order unity (Robrade and Schmitt, 2006; Telleschi *et al.*, 2007b), similar to some other massive CTTS (Telleschi *et al.*, 2007b).

Partial clarification of the systematics has been presented by Telleschi *et al.* (2007b) (see also Güdel *et al.*, 2007b) who found that

- the abundance trends, and in particular the Ne/Fe abundance ratios, do not depend on the accretion status but seem to depend on spectral type or surface  $T_{\text{eff}}$ , the later-type stars showing a stronger IFIP effect (larger Ne/Fe abundance ratios); see Figure 34.
- the same trend is also seen in disk-less ZAMS stars.

Anomalously high Ne/O abundance ratios remain, however, for TW Hya (Stelzer and Schmitt, 2004) and V4046 Sgr (Günther *et al.*, 2006) when compared to the typical level seen in magnetically

active stars, including PMS objects. The initial idea proposed by Drake *et al.* (2005) was that the selective removal of some elements from the accretion streams should occur only in old accretion disks such as that of TW Hya where coagulation of dust to larger bodies is ongoing, whereas younger T Tauri stars still accrete the entire gas and dust phase of the inner disk. However, the old CTTS MP Mus does not show any anomaly in the Ne/O abundance ratio (Argiroffi *et al.*, 2007). Larger samples are needed for clarification.

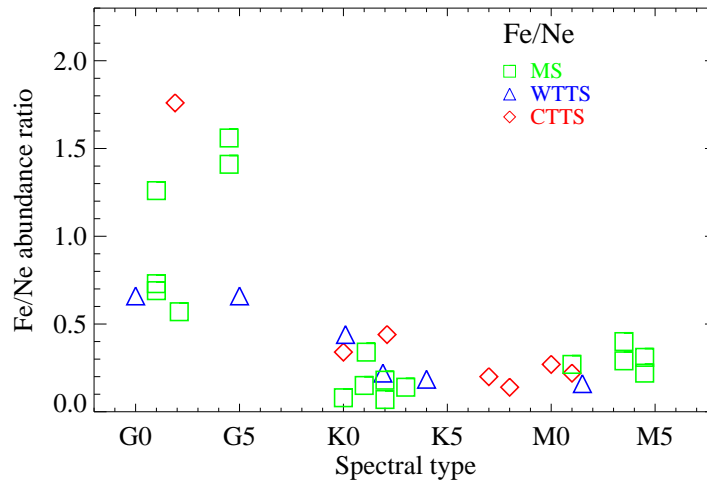


Figure 34: The coronal Fe/Ne abundance ratio (with respect to the solar photospheric mixture) in the X-ray sources of various PMS stars and very active MS stars as a function of spectral class. Symbols mark different types of stars: squares: active MS stars; triangles: WTTS; diamonds: CTTS. For details and references, see Telleschi *et al.* (2007b) and Güdel *et al.* (2007b).

## 6.4 The protostellar Sun

### 6.4.1 Magnetic activity in the protostellar Sun

The protostellar Sun was deeply embedded in its molecular cloud envelope. Direct optical observation of protostars is precluded by high extinction; the best access to these objects is through infrared and X-ray observations, the former, however, picking up much of the emission from dust in the disk and the envelope. Recent efforts have succeeded in obtaining *photospheric* spectra of Class I protostars from light scattered off the bipolar cavities carved by the outflows (White and Hillenbrand, 2004). Somewhat perplexingly, the analysis of the Taurus sample of embedded objects reveals very little statistical difference between Class I and CTTS objects in Taurus, for example with respect to rotation rates, accretion rates, bolometric luminosities, spectral classes, and disk masses, providing evidence that this sample is co-eval with the CTTS sample; the embedded objects seem to be those with the longest envelope dispersal time, while they are all past their main accretion phase (White and Hillenbrand, 2004).

Magnetic field measurements are commensurately challenging. Johns-Krull (2007b) recently succeeded in obtaining near-infrared diagnostics to measure the photospheric magnetic field on a class I protostar. He reports a field strength of 3.6 kG, making this the highest mean surface field so far detected on any young stellar object.

Direct evidence for magnetic activity is seen in X-rays. Strong X-ray activity is found in considerable numbers of “Class I” protostars thanks to *Chandra*’s and *XMM-Newton*’s hard-band



sensitivity (see, e.g., Imanishi *et al.*, 2001; Preibisch and Zinnecker, 2001, 2002; Preibisch, 2003b; Getman *et al.*, 2002; Güdel *et al.*, 2007a). Their measured characteristic temperatures are very high, of order 20–40 MK (Tsujimoto *et al.*, 2002; Imanishi *et al.*, 2001). Some of these values may, however, be biased by strongly absorbed (“missing”) softer components in particular in spectra with limited signal-to-noise ratios. It is correspondingly difficult to characterize the  $L_X$  values in traditional soft X-ray bands for comparison with more evolved stars.

#### 6.4.2 Magnetic flaring of the protostellar Sun

Strong X-ray flaring is a characteristic of protostellar solar analogs. Many of these events are extremely large, with total soft X-ray energies of up to  $\approx 10^{37}$  erg (Koyama *et al.*, 1996; Kamata *et al.*, 1997; Grosso *et al.*, 1997; Ozawa *et al.*, 1999; Imanishi *et al.*, 2001; Preibisch, 2003a; Imanishi *et al.*, 2003). Such flares realistically require large volumes, in fact to an extent that star-disk magnetic fields become a possibility for the flaring region (Grosso *et al.* 1997 for YLW 15 in  $\rho$  Oph), with important consequences for the irradiation of the stellar environment by high-energy photons and particles (see Section 6.5).

#### 6.4.3 Radio emission from the protostellar Sun

At radio wavelengths, genuine, embedded class I protostars have most often been detected as thermal sources, and this emission is predominantly due to collimated thermal winds or jets. These jets are probably ionized by neutral winds that collide with the ambient medium at distances of around 10 AU and that are aligned with molecular outflows (e.g., Bieging and Cohen 1985; Snell *et al.* 1985; Brown 1987; Curiel *et al.* 1989; Rodríguez *et al.* 1989, 2003; Anglada 1995; Anglada *et al.* 1998). Ionized circumstellar material and winds easily become optically thick and therefore occult any non-thermal, magnetic emission from close to the star. However, the discovery of polarization in T Tau(S) (Phillips *et al.*, 1993; Smith *et al.*, 2003), in IRS 5 (Feigelson *et al.*, 1998), in protostellar jet sources (Yusef-Zadeh *et al.*, 1990) and the jet outflows themselves (Curiel *et al.*, 1993; Hughes, 1997; Ray *et al.*, 1997), as well as variability and negative spectral indices in T Tau(S) (Skinner and Brown, 1994) provided definitive evidence for magnetic fields and particle acceleration around these class I objects.

### 6.5 The pre-main sequence Sun’s environment in time

The molecular and dust environment of the very young (PMS) Sun was affected in several ways by ultraviolet radiation, high-energy radiation and high-energy particle streams emitted by the Sun. These often neglected effects have recently attracted considerable attention. Although they apply to the environment of any forming star that is magnetically active, they have been considered in particular for solar-like stars and specifically for the young Sun itself because of various traces that may be observable in the solid bodies of the present solar system. I give a brief overview of the themes in so far as they may relate to the past solar activity.

#### 6.5.1 Circumstellar disk ionization

In terms of physical processes, ionization of the disk is important for the operation of the magneto-centrifugal instability (MRI; Balbus and Hawley 1991) thought to be the main driver of accretion in young stellar objects. Although cosmic rays have long been suspected to be an effective disk ionization source (Gammie, 1996), the high-level, hard coronal emission and frequent stellar flares may be more effective ionizing sources (Glassgold *et al.*, 1997; Feigelson *et al.*, 2002b). This is even more so as young solar analogs in the T Tau stage drive very strong winds that are very likely

magnetized; such winds effectively shield the inner disk from cosmic rays, as does the present-day solar wind, at least for cosmic rays with energies  $< 100$  MeV.

The distance to which stellar X-ray ionization dominates over that produced by galactic cosmic rays can be estimated to be (Glassgold *et al.*, 1997; Montmerle, 2001)

$$D \approx 0.02 \text{ pc} \left( \left[ \frac{E}{1 \text{ keV}} \right]^{-2.485} \frac{L_X}{10^{29} \text{ erg s}^{-1}} \left[ \frac{\zeta}{10^{-17} \text{ s}^{-1}} \right]^{-1} J_0 \right)^{1/2}, \quad (22)$$

where  $E$  is the photon energy in the range of 1–20 keV (for other energies, the first term in the parentheses must be generalized to  $\sigma(kT_X)/\sigma(1 \text{ keV})$ ),  $\zeta$  is the cosmic ray ionization rate, and  $J_0$  is an attenuation factor ( $J_0 \approx 0.13$  for optical depth of unity for a 1 keV photon). The values given in the parentheses are characteristic for our situation, with the cosmic-ray ionization rate referring to a UV shielded molecular core. Stellar X-ray ionization therefore dominates cosmic ray ionization out to about 1000 AU, i.e., across most of the radius of a typical circumstellar disk. Taking into account frequent, strong flares, significant portions of molecular cores may predominantly be ionized by the central star rather than by cosmic rays.

Glassgold *et al.* (1997) and Igea and Glassgold (1999) modeled ionization and heating of circumstellar disks by stellar coronal X-ray sources. The incoming X-ray photons are subject to Compton scattering and photoelectric absorption as they propagate through the disk. X-ray photons may interact with molecules or atoms by ejecting a fast (primary) photoelectron. This photoelectron collisionally produces on average 27 secondary electrons and ions (for a photon energy of 1 keV). Harder photons on average penetrate deeper and thus ionize layers of the disk closer to the equatorial plane, while softer X-rays ionize closer to the disk surface. The disk ionization fraction is then determined when an equilibrium between ionization and recombination has been reached. Electron fractions of  $10^{-15} - 10^{-10}$  are obtained at vertical disk column densities of  $N_H = 10^{27} - 10^{21} \text{ cm}^{-2}$  (as measured from infinity) for distances of 0.1–10 AU from the central star. The precise results depend somewhat on the hardness of the X-ray spectrum (a modest  $L_X = 10^{29} \text{ erg s}^{-1}$  has been assumed).

The important points here are: 1) that the ionization fraction at the top of the disk is orders of magnitude higher than the ionization fraction that would result from standard cosmic-ray irradiation, and 2) that at vertical column densities of  $N_H = 10^{24} - 10^{25} \text{ cm}^{-2}$  and less, the disk is sufficiently ionized to become unstable against MRI. The disk surface will thus couple to the magnetic field and accrete to the star. In contrast, the deeper layers remain decoupled and therefore “quiescent”, at least within 5 AU (Figure 35, Igea and Glassgold 1999). These are the likely sites of planet formation (Glassgold *et al.*, 1997). Modifications of these calculations by introducing trace heavy metals and diffusion have been discussed by Fromang *et al.* (2002) and Igner and Nelson (2006).

Disk irradiation and photoionization by stellar UV photons is further responsible for photoevaporation of gaseous disks (Hollenbach *et al.*, 1994; Clarke *et al.*, 2001; Alexander *et al.*, 2006a,b), and therefore the long-term accretion history of the star-disk system. Additional X-ray irradiation is, however, of secondary importance only (Alexander *et al.*, 2004).

### 6.5.2 Circumstellar disk heating

Apart from disk ionization, X-ray irradiation also leads to disk heating (Igea and Glassgold, 1999; Glassgold *et al.*, 2004). While dust disks are heated by the central star’s optical and UV light to a few 100 K at distances up to a few AU, the gas component may thermally decouple in particular in the upper layers where the density is small. A model calculation based on accretion viscosity heating combined with X-ray heating due to the central star shows that the upper layers of the gaseous disk ( $N_H \lesssim 10^{21} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ ) can be heated up to  $\approx 5000$  K (Figure 36). This holds even for

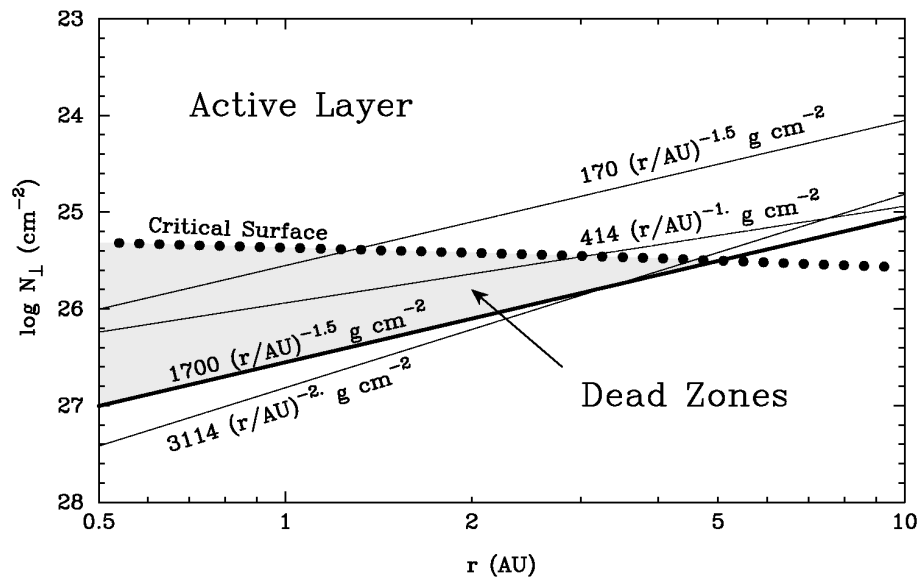


Figure 35: *Consequences of X-ray irradiation of a circumstellar disk, shown in the  $r$  vs.  $N_{\perp}$  (vertical gas column density) plane. The critical surface (filled circles) separates regions that are coupled to the magnetic field based on a sufficiently high ionization fraction (above) from deeper regions that are uncoupled (below). The various solid lines define the disk midplanes for specific disk models, the bold line characterizing the minimum solar nebula (from *Igea and Glassgold, 1999*, reproduced by permission of AAS).*

low viscous heating efficiency where the X-ray heating contribution entirely dominates (Glassgold *et al.*, 2004). At the same time, the strong temperature gradients in the temperature inversion region lead to the production of large amounts of “warm” CO. Similar calculations by Gorti and Hollenbach (2004) support the above picture of X-rays dominating gas heating at the disk surface.

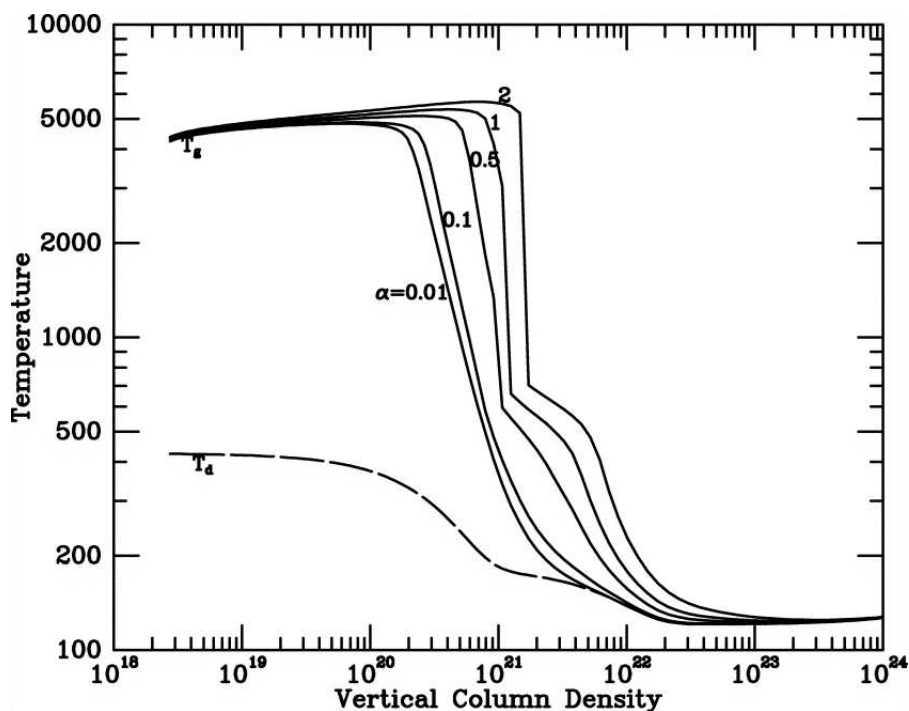


Figure 36: Gas and dust temperatures of a circumstellar disk as a function of vertical column density. Different solid lines give the gas temperature for various viscous-heating rates. The leftmost curve is predominantly due to X-ray heating, in the rightmost curve, viscous heating is important. The dashed line gives the dust temperature from a standard dust-disk model (figure from Glassgold *et al.*, 2004, reproduced by permission of AAS).

### 6.5.3 Observational evidence of disk irradiation

The elevated ultraviolet and X-ray activity level of young low-mass stars leads to significant irradiation of circumstellar accretion disks. Interactions between high-energy photons and disk matter is evident from X-ray photoabsorption in star-disk systems seen edge-on, but also from reprocessed starlight: Spatially unresolved FUV fluorescence lines of H<sub>2</sub> have been detected from several CTTS (Brown *et al.*, 1981; Valenti *et al.*, 2000; Ardila *et al.*, 2002; Herczeg *et al.*, 2002, 2006), but usually not from WTTS (Valenti *et al.*, 2000); this emission is reprocessed stellar Ly $\alpha$  emission most intensely radiated from the accretion spots. At least in cases where the line radial velocities are coincident with stellar radial velocities, an origin of the fluorescence in a hydrogenic surface layer of the inner accretion disk at temperatures of 2000–3500 K is likely (Herczeg *et al.*, 2002, 2004) although significantly blueshifted H<sub>2</sub> emission points to outflow-related fluorescence in some systems (Brown *et al.*, 1981; Ardila *et al.*, 2002; Walter *et al.*, 2003; Saucedo *et al.*, 2003; Herczeg *et al.*, 2006). Fluorescent emission is also generated by reprocessing of X-ray photons; X-ray fluorescence is seen in particular in the 6.4 keV line of cold iron (Imanishi *et al.*, 2001; Tsujimoto *et al.*, 2005; Favata *et al.*, 2005).

Simple energy considerations are revealing: [Herczeg \*et al.\* \(2004\)](#) estimate the rate of energy deposited in the environment of the CTTS TW Hya as a result of Ly $\alpha$  photoexcitation and subsequent far-ultraviolet fluorescence of H<sub>2</sub> to be  $1.4 \times 10^{29}$  erg s<sup>-1</sup>. The total soft X-ray luminosity of  $\approx 1.4 \times 10^{30}$  erg s<sup>-1</sup> will at least partially heat the disk surface layer further ([Igea and Glassgold, 1999](#)).

Warm H<sub>2</sub> has also been detected through infrared 2.12  $\mu$ m ro-vibrational emission from several T Tauri stars ([Weintraub \*et al.\*, 2000](#); [Bary \*et al.\*, 2003](#)). This emission is thought to be excited by collisions between H<sub>2</sub> molecules and X-ray induced non-thermal electrons, or by an UV radiation field. High temperatures, of order 1000–2000 K, are required, but such temperatures are predicted from disk irradiation by X-rays out to several AU ([Glassgold \*et al.\*, 2004](#)), or by UV radiation from the central star out to  $\approx 10$  AU *if* the star shows an UV excess ([Nomura and Millar, 2005](#)).

[Glassgold \*et al.\* \(2007\)](#) proposed forbidden [Ne II and Ne III] infrared line emission at 12.81  $\mu$ m and 15.55  $\mu$ m, respectively, to be indicative of X-ray irradiation. The high first ionization potential of Ne (21.6 eV) indeed requires Ly continuum or X-ray photons for ionization (or cosmic rays, which are unlikely to be abundant in the inner disk region). The transitions are collisionally excited in warm gas, requiring temperatures of a few 1000 K, attained in disk surface layers out to about 20 AU for X-ray irradiated disks ([Glassgold \*et al.\*, 2004](#)). The [Ne II] 12.81  $\mu$ m transition has indeed been detected in several CTTS ([Pascucci \*et al.\*, 2007](#); [Lahuis \*et al.\*, 2007](#); [Ratzka \*et al.\*, 2007](#)).

As a further consequence, specific chemical reactions may be induced. For example, Ly $\alpha$  itself can dissociate molecules like H<sub>2</sub> and H<sub>2</sub>O and can ionize Si and C ([Herczeg \*et al.\*, 2004](#)). Ly $\alpha$  radiation photodissociates HCN (but not CN), which leads to an enhancement of CN relative to HCN ([Bergin \*et al.\*, 2003](#)).

## 6.6 The T Tauri Sun's activity and meteoritics

The presence of chondrules and isotopic anomalies in chondritic meteorites has posed one of the most outstanding problems in our understanding of the young solar system. *Chondrules* are millimeter-sized spheres of igneous rock embedded in the meteoritic matrix; their content and structure suggests that they were heated to melting temperatures ( $\approx 2000$  K) of solid iron-magnesium silicates for only an hour or less. They must have cooled in an ambient magnetic field of  $\approx 10$  G ([Shu \*et al.\*, 2001](#)). *Calcium-aluminum-rich inclusions (CAIs)* are structures in meteorites that vary in shape; they may derive from melt or partial melts. CAIs contain evidence for short-lived radionuclides in the young solar system, in particular of <sup>26</sup>Al, <sup>41</sup>Ca, <sup>53</sup>Mn, and <sup>60</sup>Fe with half-lives of 1.1, 0.15, 5.3, and 2.2 Myr, respectively ([Lee \*et al.\*, 1998](#); [Gounelle \*et al.\*, 2001](#)).

Conventionally, it has been assumed that these short-lived isotopes were injected by external stellar nucleosynthetic events (ejecta from AGB stars, Wolf-Rayet stars, supernova explosions) that at the same time triggered the collapse of the parent molecular cloud, to form the solar system. The fundamental problem with external seeds is the short time required between the formation and injection of live radionuclides and their incorporation into solid CAI structures; this time span should not exceed 10<sup>5</sup> yr ([Lee \*et al.\*, 1998](#)), i.e., the trigger for the formation of the solar system must have been extremely fast. Observations of galactic star-formation regions show star-forming molecular cloud cores to be rarely within the immediate environment of Wolf-Rayet wind bubbles or supernova shells ([Lee \*et al.\*, 1998](#)); the association of asymptotic giant branch stars with star-forming regions is also very small, making injection of <sup>60</sup>Fe into the solar system from such a star improbable ([Kastner and Myers, 1994](#)). Also, the assembly of CAIs and chondrules into planetesimals takes much longer, of order 5 Myr ([Lee \*et al.\*, 1998](#)).

These problems can be removed if the short-lived radionuclides were formed locally, namely by bombardment with “cosmic rays” ejected by stellar flares ([Lee \*et al.\*, 1998](#)). While this alternative for the production of the radionuclides is not unanimously accepted or may not be responsible for

*all* isotopic anomalies in meteorites (e.g., Goswami *et al.*, 2001; Wadhwa *et al.*, 2007), I discuss only this hypothesis here as it is directly related to the (undisputed) high activity level of the young Sun in its T Tauri stage.

There is indeed substantial evidence for an active early Sun not only from inferences from active, young solar analogs (Section 5), but also from large enrichments of spallation-produced  $^{21}\text{Ne}$  and  $^{38}\text{Ar}$  in “irradiated” meteorite grains (i.e., grains that show radiation damage trails from solar-flare Fe-group nuclei), compared to “non-irradiated” grains (Caffee *et al.* 1987; a summary of further, earlier, albeit ambiguous evidence can be found in Newkirk Jr 1980). Galactic cosmic-ray irradiation would require exposure times in excess of  $10^8$  yr for some of these grains, incompatible with other features of the meteorites (Caffee *et al.*, 1987). Alternatively, energetic solar flare protons could be responsible, but the present-day level would again be insufficient to explain the anomaly. Caffee *et al.* (1987) concluded that an elevated particle flux, related to the enhanced magnetic activity of the young Sun, naturally explains the meteoritic spallation-produced  $^{21}\text{Ne}$  enrichment. A flux several orders of magnitude in excess of present-day values and a harder energy spectrum would be required.

Energetic protons required for the generation of radionuclides could be generated in various places in the extended stellar magnetosphere. In the “*x*-wind” model proposed by Shu *et al.* (1997, 2001), magnetic reconnection flares occur at the inner border of the accretion disk where closed stellar magnetic fields and open disk fields converge. Flares would flash-melt protochondrules, and the *x*-wind would eject them to larger solar distances. Radionuclides would be synthesized by flare proton bombardment.

Alternatively, the elevated activity of the central star itself may be sufficient to produce the required proton flux at planetary distances. Feigelson *et al.* (2002b) estimated the proton flux at 1 AU of a solar analog in its T Tauri phase, from a statistical X-ray study of T Tauri stars in the Orion Nebula Cluster. They found that frequent flares on T Tauri stars are  $10^{1.5}$  times more luminous than the largest solar flares (or  $10^4$  times more than solar flares that occur with a daily frequency). These same flares occur at a rate about  $10^{2.5}$  higher than the rate of the largest solar flares. As solar proton fluxes scale non-linearly with the solar X-ray luminosity, Feigelson *et al.* (2002b) estimated a proton flux about  $10^5$  times higher than at present (i.e.,  $10^7$  protons  $\text{cm}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$  at 1 AU). Given the high flare rate, this flux was probably present almost continuously.

Regardless of the location of the proton acceleration (flaring) source, I now summarize the relevant results for various radionuclides. For example,  $^{41}\text{Ca}$  is predominantly produced through



where  $^{41}\text{Sc}$  electron-captures to  $^{41}\text{Ca}$  (Lee *et al.*, 1998). Note that the abundance ratio for  $^{42}\text{Ca}/^{40}\text{Ca}$  is  $6.7 \times 10^{-3}$  (Lee *et al.*, 1998, and references therein). Summing all three production channels, an isotopic ratio  $^{41}\text{Ca}/^{40}\text{Ca}$  as inferred from CAIs requires a proton flux of  $5 \times 10^3 - 10^4$  times the present-day value during an irradiation time scale of  $5 \times 10^5 - 10^6$  yr (Goswami *et al.*, 2001). This approximately matches the observational implications from T Tauri flares by Feigelson *et al.* (2002b).

Similar considerations for  $^{26}\text{Al}$  lead to an underproduction by a factor of 20 under the same conditions (Lee *et al.*, 1998). Goswami *et al.* (2001) require a proton flux  $10^5$  times as strong as the present flux at 1 AU to explain the inferred  $^{26}\text{Al}$  abundance in the forming CAIs, and irradiation times of about 1 Myr; this is in excellent agreement with the observational inferences made by Feigelson *et al.* (2002b). However,  $^3\text{He}$  bombardment of  $^{24}\text{Mg}$  may efficiently produce  $^{26}\text{Al}$  as well.  $^3\text{He}$  is preferentially accelerated in solar *impulsive* (as opposed to gradual) flares (see discussion

in Lee *et al.* 1998 and references therein). The problem then arises that  $^{41}\text{Ca}$  is overproduced by two orders of magnitude through reactions involving  $^3\text{He}$ . Shu *et al.* (1997, 2001) therefore proposed that CAIs consisting of refractory, Ca-Al-rich material are surrounded by thick mantles of less refractory, Mg-rich material.  $^3\text{He}$  nuclei would therefore be stopped in the outer mantle where  $^{26}\text{Al}$  is produced from  $^{24}\text{Mg}$ , while the  $^{40}\text{Ca}$ -rich interior remains less affected, i.e.,  $^{41}\text{Ca}$  production is suppressed. Canonical isotopic ratios can then indeed be derived for most of the species of interest (Gounelle *et al.*, 2001).

The most promising support for local irradiation by solar (or possibly, trapped cosmic ray) protons has been the discovery of  $^{10}\text{Be}$  (McKeegan *et al.* 2000; half-life of 1.5 Myr) and possibly also the extremely short-lived  $^7\text{Be}$  (Chaussidon *et al.* 2006; half-life of 53 d). The  $^{10}\text{Be}$  isotope could be entirely produced by solar protons and  $^4\text{He}$  nuclei at asteroidal distances (Gounelle *et al.*, 2001; Marhas and Goswami, 2004) while it is destroyed in the alternative nucleosynthetic production sources such as massive stars or supernova explosions. If the presence of  $^7\text{Be}$  in young meteorites can be confirmed, then its short half-life precludes an origin outside the solar system altogether and requires a local irradiation source.

Despite the successful modeling of radionuclide anomalies in early CAIs, at least the case of  $^{60}\text{Fe}$  remains unsolved in this context. It is difficult to synthesize by cosmic-ray reactions; the production rate falls short of rates inferred from observations by two orders of magnitude (Lee *et al.*, 1998; Goswami *et al.*, 2001) and requires stellar nucleosynthesis or, most likely, a supernova event (Meyer and Clayton, 2000).

Although the formation of radionuclides in early meteorites is under debate (Goswami *et al.*, 2001) and may require several different production mechanisms (Wadhwa *et al.* 2007; for example, to explain the simultaneous presence of the  $^{60}\text{Fe}$  and the  $^{10}\text{Be}$  isotopes), the above models are at least promising in explaining some nuclear processing of solar-system material without external irradiation source but with sources whose presence cannot be disputed, namely high-energy particle populations that are a direct consequence of the magnetic activity of the young Sun. Isotopic anomalies in meteorites have opened a window to the violent environment of the young solar system.

## 6.7 Summary: The violent pre-main sequence Sun

Both the T Tauri and the protostellar Sun were extremely magnetically active, as far as we can tell from observations of contemporaneous objects at these stages. There is no definitive evidence for a turn-on of magnetic activity (for a contrasting view, see Linsky *et al.*, 2007), but the stellar environment (gas and dust disks and envelopes) makes observations challenging. On the other hand, perhaps the most interesting aspect of magnetic activity in this phase is indeed its influence on the environment itself. High X-ray and UV fluxes produced both by magnetic activity and magnetically funneled accretion flows onto the star heat and ionize the circumstellar disk, thus controlling mechanisms as diverse as gas-disk photoevaporation, accretion through the magnetorotational instability, and chemical networks across the disk. Strong flaring and observations of non-thermal gyrosynchrotron emission in T Tauri and protostars further indicate the presence of strongly elevated particle fluxes in the pre-main sequence Sun's environment. The impact on solid-state matter forming in the circumstellar disk may be visible to the present day, in the form of daughter products of short-lived radioactive isotopes formed by proton impact. The study of the young Sun's environment under the aspect of magnetic activity of the central star is still in its early stage and rapidly developing.

## 7 The Solar System in Time: Solar Activity and Planetary Atmospheres

### 7.1 The Faint Young Sun Paradox: Greenhouse or deep freeze?

Standard solar models imply that the Sun's bolometric luminosity has monotonically increased during the past 4.6 Gyr. At its ZAMS stage ( $t = -4.6$  Gyr), the solar luminosity was only 70–75% its present-day level. In the absence of an atmosphere, the Earth's surface equilibrium temperature would then have amounted to 355 K (Sagan and Chyba, 1997). Assuming an albedo and an atmospheric composition equal to values of the present-day Earth, the mean surface temperature would have been below the freezing point of seawater until  $\approx 2$  Gyr ago (Sagan and Mullen, 1972). The increase of the surface temperature in the presence of an atmosphere is due to the greenhouse effect, i.e., the property of the atmospheric mixture to be transparent to incoming optical and near-infrared light but to absorb mid-infrared emission that has been re-emitted from the surface. The present-day atmosphere of the Earth rises the surface temperature by only 33 K compared to the atmosphere-free equilibrium value (Sagan and Mullen 1972; Kasting and Catling 2003, see Figure 37).

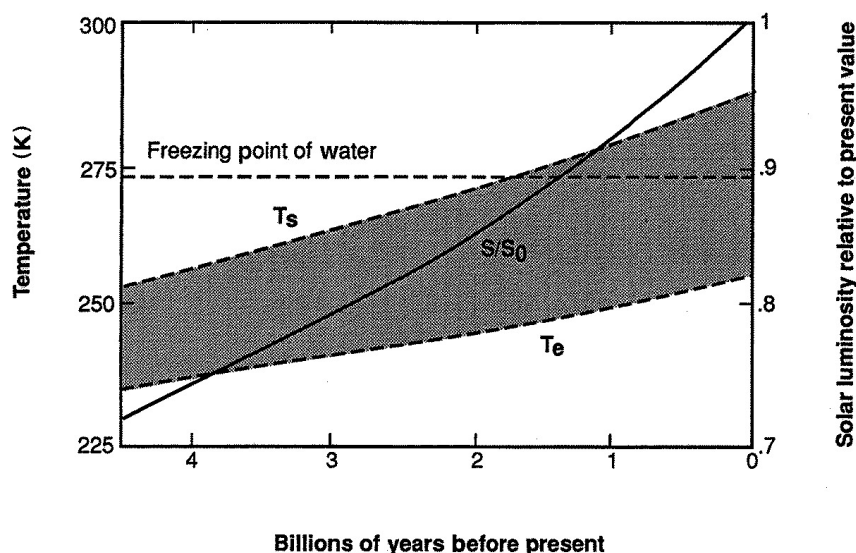


Figure 37: Illustration of the greenhouse and the Faint Young Sun Paradox for the Earth. The solid line indicates the solar luminosity relative to the present value (right y axis); the lower dashed curve is the effective radiating temperature of the Earth (i.e., its surface being treated as a blackbody radiator); the upper dashed curve shows the calculated, mean global surface temperature affected by the greenhouse ( $\text{CO}_2$  mixing ratio and relative humidity have been kept fixed; from Kasting and Catling 2003, © 2003 by Annual Reviews, reprinted with permission).

On the other hand, there is clear geologic evidence for a warm climate in the early Earth's history, with average temperatures perhaps even significantly above present-day values (Kasting and Toon 1989; Kasting 1989; Karhu and Epstein 1986, see also summary of further evidence in Sackmann and Boothroyd 2003). Sedimentary rocks (Bowring *et al.*, 1989) and indirect evidence of microbial life in rock dated to 3.8 Gyr ago (Mojzsis *et al.* 1996; see also summaries by Nisbet 2000 and Nisbet and Sleep 2001) clearly suggest the presence of liquid water (see also Kasting and Toon, 1989).



There is similar geological evidence for a warmer young Mars, as seen in particular in extensive channels formed by massive streams of liquid water. But again, the mean Martian surface temperature is too low for the presence of liquid water, and the less intense photospheric light from the younger Sun would obviously have aggravated this problem.

The apparent contradiction between implications from the standard solar model and the geologic evidence for a warm early climate on the Earth and Mars is known as the “Faint Young Sun Paradox” (Kasting and Toon, 1989; Kasting and Grinspoon, 1991). This problem has been addressed along two major lines of argumentation of which one (assuming a higher mass loss rate for the young Sun) indirectly relates to the magnetic activity of the young Sun; the other (arguing with greenhouse gases) may be related in as of yet unknown ways to magnetic activity as well (via atmospheric chemistry, see Section 7.2.1), although other processes in no ways related to solar magnetic fields may be relevant. After reviewing these two approaches, I will discuss model calculations that specifically address the influence of magnetic activity on planetary atmospheres (Section 7.2).

### 7.1.1 The relevance of greenhouse gases

Today’s modest greenhouse effect is due to atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> and H<sub>2</sub>O (see, e.g., Kasting and Toon, 1989, for a summary). A stronger greenhouse could have been effective in a different atmosphere of the young Earth:

1) A higher content of atmospheric gaseous CO<sub>2</sub> might increase the greenhouse effect (Owen *et al.*, 1979; Cess *et al.*, 1980) as in the present-day atmosphere of Venus, but a 100fold increase compared to present-day levels would be required (Kasting and Toon, 1989); such levels of CO<sub>2</sub> are plausible because the carbonate-silicate geochemical cycle (which binds CO<sub>2</sub> dissolved in rainwater to silicate minerals in the soil) operates in such a way that removal of atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> increases with increasing temperature, thus inducing a negative feedback loop between CO<sub>2</sub> greenhouse warming and CO<sub>2</sub> removal (Kasting and Toon, 1989). However, the absence of siderite in old soils argues against the required high levels of CO<sub>2</sub> (Rye *et al.*, 1995). For Mars, high levels of CO<sub>2</sub> in a higher-pressure atmosphere would condense in clouds. The resulting increased global albedo would in fact lead to a net cooling (Kasting, 1991). Although the same clouds may also back-scatter radiation and therefore support the greenhouse (Forget and Pierrehumbert, 1997), experiments suggest that this mechanism is too small to rise the temperatures above the freezing point (Glandorf *et al.*, 2002).

2) Greenhouse gases such as NH<sub>3</sub> (Sagan and Mullen, 1972) and CH<sub>4</sub> (Sagan and Chyba, 1997) could have been present in appreciable amounts in the young atmospheres, in analogy to the present-day atmosphere of Titan. However, NH<sub>3</sub> dissociates rapidly due to solar UV radiation (Kuhn and Atreya 1979; see also Owen *et al.* 1979). While CH<sub>4</sub> is subject to UV dissociation as well, its lifetime is much longer, and biological activity could regenerate it at sufficiently high levels (Pavlov *et al.*, 2000). Moreover, its photolysis may produce a high-altitude haze of organic solids that shields ammonia sufficiently from UV dissociation (Sagan and Chyba, 1997).

How the changes in the atmospheres came about is not entirely clear but may partly be related to the past solar activity (apart from, e.g., weathering, plate tectonics, volcanism, and biological activity). Although enhanced levels of solar EUV and X-ray emission will not directly alter the lower planetary atmospheres but only affect the higher thermosphere (where this radiation is absorbed) and the exosphere (see Section 7.2 below), the complex chemistry induced by photoionization, photodissociation, and heating through enhanced high-energy irradiation may be a key factor in determining what greenhouse gases were available in the young planetary atmospheres, as speculated by Ribas *et al.* (2005). For example, enhanced photodissociation may have influenced the abundances of ammonia and methane. Also, photochemistry and subsequent production of UV-shielding O<sub>3</sub> (Canuto *et al.*, 1982, 1983) was important for the formation and evolution

of life, and life itself eventually altered the composition of the young terrestrial atmosphere very significantly.

### 7.1.2 A bright young Sun?

A more radical remedy of the Faint Young Sun Paradox would be a Sun that was in fact not faint, i.e., did not follow the standard solar model calculations (see [Sackmann and Boothroyd, 2003](#), for a discussion on controversies related to possible greenhouse effects, or their need, in the early atmospheres of Earth and Mars). Such would be possible if the ZAMS Sun had been more massive, having lost its mass in a wind at rates considerably higher than the present-day solar wind. The latter results in a mass loss of  $(2-3) \times 10^{-14} M_{\odot} \text{ yr}^{-1}$  ([Wood, 2004](#), and references therein), and the radiative losses of energy transformed in thermonuclear reactions amount to about 3 times this rate. If the Sun had been subject to these present-day losses for its entire lifetime, its ZAMS mass would have been only 0.05% higher than the present-day value ([Minton and Malhotra, 2007](#)). This would change the young Sun's bolometric luminosity negligibly (recall the mass-luminosity relation for MS stars, which requires approximately  $L_{\text{bol}} \propto M^3$ ; based on [Siess et al. 2000](#) ZAMS calculations for low-mass stars).

Higher wind mass-loss rates would be an interesting alternative ([Graedel et al., 1991](#)). [Willson et al. \(1987\)](#) hypothesized that intermediate-mass stars may lose appreciable amounts of mass during their MS life, in particular in the pulsation-instability strip; early G-type stars would then be descendants of A-type stars. [Hobbs et al. \(1989\)](#) concluded that a wind mass loss of  $0.041 M_{\odot}$  since the Sun's arrival on the ZAMS would suffice to explain the low Li values observed in the present-day photosphere (because Li would be diluted when the wind-driving surface layer is progressively mixed with Li-free material entering from lower, hotter layers; see also [Schramm et al. 1990](#); note, however, that there are other, and more important, processes that deplete Li, see [Sackmann and Boothroyd 2003](#)). A higher mass loss rate for the young Sun is in fact supported by meteoritic and lunar evidence, suggesting that 2.5–3.5 Gyr ago (solar age of 1–2 Gyr), the wind mass loss was on average 10 times higher than at present ([Geiss and Bochsler, 1991](#)). This would, however, result in a solar mass still only  $\approx 0.1\%$  higher at  $t = -3$  Gyr than now ([Sackmann and Boothroyd, 2003](#)). To simultaneously fulfill the requirement of liquid water on young Mars, the initial solar mass would have to be  $\gtrsim 1.03 M_{\odot}$  ([Sackmann and Boothroyd, 2003](#)).

[Gaidos et al. \(2000\)](#) used radio observations of three solar analogs at ages of a few 100 Myr to set upper limits to their present mass-loss rate. Because the spin rates of solar analogs reveal a power-law decay in time,  $\Omega \propto t^{-0.6}$  (Equation 8, also [Skumanich 1972](#) who gave an exponent of  $-0.5$ ), [Gaidos et al. \(2000\)](#) argued for a power-law decay of the mass-loss rate as well (Equation 6), which, together with the radio upper limits, results in a maximum cumulative mass loss of 6% of the solar mass during the past 4 Gyr. This is close to the suggested mass losses to dilute Li ([Hobbs et al. 1989](#), but note other Li depletion processes), is in agreement with the minimum loss of 3% required to explain liquid water on Mars ([Sackmann and Boothroyd, 2003](#)), and is also slightly lower than the upper limit of 7% of  $M_{\odot}$  to avoid runaway greenhouse on Earth ([Whitmire et al., 1995](#); [Kasting, 1988](#)) (the runaway greenhouse would evaporate the entire water ocean so that all water would be present in the atmosphere as steam; photodissociation and rapid loss of hydrogen by hydrodynamic escape [see Section 7.2.3 below] would lead to a dry planet – analogous to present-day Venus; see [Ingersoll 1969](#)).

Corresponding models have been computed by, among others, [Boothroyd et al. \(1991\)](#), [Guzik and Cox \(1995\)](#), and [Sackmann and Boothroyd \(2003\)](#). The upper limit for the ZAMS Sun allowed by the Li depletion purely due to wind-mass loss was found to be  $1.1 M_{\odot}$  ([Boothroyd et al., 1991](#); [Guzik and Cox, 1995](#)). Helioseismology constraints are compatible with model calculations starting with ZAMS solar masses up to  $(1.07-1.10) M_{\odot}$  ([Boothroyd et al., 1991](#); [Guzik and Cox, 1995](#)) but the consequent enhanced mass loss should be confined to the earliest  $\approx 200$  Myr of the

Sun’s life on the MS, implying loss rates as high as  $5 \times 10^{-10} M_{\odot} \text{ yr}^{-1}$  (Guzik and Cox, 1995). Somewhat depending on the precise mass-loss law, the solar flux starts at values up to 7% higher than the present-day value (corresponding to mass-loss rates of  $\approx 10^{-11} - 10^{-10} M_{\odot} \text{ yr}^{-1}$  at ZAMS age) to drop to a minimum no less than 80% after 1–2 Gyr, and to increase again in agreement with the evolution of the standard solar model (Figure 38). The highest acceptable initial solar mass is  $1.07 M_{\odot}$  to ensure that the young Earth would not lose its water via a greenhouse effect, photodissociation and subsequent loss of hydrogen into space (Sackmann and Boothroyd 2003; see also Section 7.2 below).

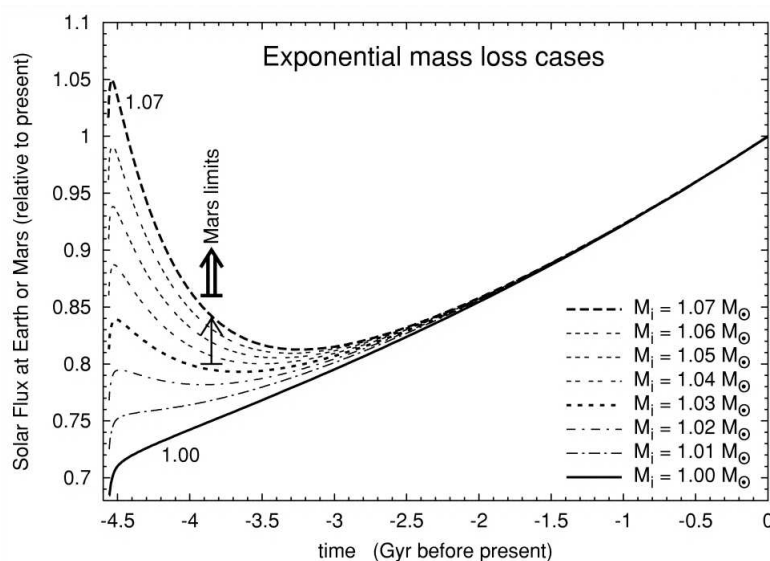


Figure 38: Solar flux in time relative to present, for a Sun that was subject to strong mass loss in its past. Different curves show calculations for different initial masses and corresponding mass-loss rates such that the present-day values are obtained. The mass-loss rate declines exponentially in time; the flux increase at later times is due to the luminosity increase of the Sun for nearly constant mass. The double arrow indicates the lower limit for the presence of liquid water on early Mars, the thin arrow an (unrealistic) extreme lower limit (from Sackmann and Boothroyd, 2003, reproduced by permission of AAS).

However, the indirect inferences for the mass-loss rates of the young Sun derived by Wood *et al.* (2002) and Wood *et al.* (2005) (see Section 5.1) would again not support a significantly brighter ZAMS Sun. Using the power-law mass-loss decay relation of Wood *et al.* (2002) back to ZAMS, a total mass-loss of about  $0.01 M_{\odot}$  would result (Sackmann and Boothroyd, 2003), with an uncertainty of a factor of a few. Most of the mass loss would occur in the first few 100 Myr. The suppressed mass loss at early times, however (Wood *et al.*, 2005), suggests that no more than  $0.003 M_{\odot}$  could be lost during the Sun’s MS life (Minton and Malhotra, 2007).

In summary, the main problem with the “bright young Sun” model remains the disagreement between climatic requirements for the young-Sun mass (i.e., a ZAMS solar mass of  $[1.03 - 1.07] M_{\odot}$ ) and the indirectly measured mass-loss rates (Minton and Malhotra, 2007) that tend to be too small (Wood *et al.* 2005, i.e., resulting in a ZAMS mass of no more than  $1.01 M_{\odot}$ ), although radio upper limits (Gaidos *et al.*, 2000) are still compatible with the required mass-loss rates.

### 7.1.3 Cosmic rays and a stronger solar wind

Shaviv (2003) suggested a link between the cosmic ray flux and average global temperatures on Earth. Although a physical basis and an accepted proof are still missing, there is suggestive evidence that elevated cosmic-ray fluxes have a cooling effect on the Earth's atmosphere. In this picture, cosmic rays ionize tropospheric layers, and charged ion clusters lead to condensation nuclei that eventually form clouds. Low-lying clouds have a cooling effect (Shaviv, 2003).

Given that wind of the young Sun was stronger (Section 5.1), the cosmic-ray flux reaching the inner solar system was suppressed compared to present-day fluxes. Cloud formation would thus be suppressed, leading to a warmer climate. Model calculations (also including effects due to variable star-formation rate in the solar vicinity on the cosmic-ray generation, a more rapid rotation of the Earth, and a smaller land mass) suggest that about 2/3 of the temperature reduction associated with the fainter young Sun can be compensated.

## 7.2 The Sun's activity in the young solar system

Stellar magnetic activity strongly influences planetary surfaces and atmospheres in at least two ways:

- The solar wind and high-energy particle streams interact with ions and neutrals in the upper planetary atmospheres, but also with the solid surfaces in the absence of atmospheres. Electron impact ionization, charge exchange, and other processes lead to important alterations of atmospheric or surface materials and to their erosion (e.g., Chassefière and Leblanc, 2004; Kulikov *et al.*, 2007).
- High-energy (XUV) radiation affects planetary atmospheres through ionization, heating, dissociation and recombination and induced chemistry (e.g., Canuto *et al.*, 1982). Hard radiation also interacts with solid surfaces.

The evolution of planetary surfaces and atmospheres can therefore be understood only in the context of the evolution of the enhanced high-energy solar particle and photon fluxes. For this reason, the past, much higher solar XUV and particle fluxes are crucial elements in our understanding of planet evolution, in particular questions on evaporation of their atmospheres and the loss of water reservoirs. After a short summary of relevant physical effects, I address key issues related to solar-system planets and Saturn's moon Titan, and conclude with aspects related to "hot Jupiters" around solar analogs.

The evolution of the Earth's atmosphere is sketched in Figure 39. It indicates a large water reservoir at the earliest times, part of which is thought to have subsequently escaped from Earth (see also Section 7.2.6 below). Note also the rapid increase of biologically produced O<sub>2</sub> starting around 2.2 Gyr before present.

### 7.2.1 Planetary atmospheric chemistry induced by high-energy radiation

The young Sun's elevated ultraviolet flux had considerable impact on the photochemistry of planetary atmospheres. Ayres (1997) estimated the photoionization rates based on the evolution of ionizing flux of solar analogs. He concluded that photorates scale approximately as  $t^{-1}$ , implying rates that were nearly 100 times stronger at a solar age of 100 Myr than at present (Figure 40).

UV radiation initiated the photochemical processes leading to the formation of O<sub>2</sub> and O<sub>3</sub> in the prebiotic terrestrial atmosphere (Canuto *et al.*, 1982). Ozone absorbs strongly in the 200–300 nm band and therefore protects life from lethal doses of UV radiation.

UV radiation produces oxygen by photolysis of water and CO<sub>2</sub>:

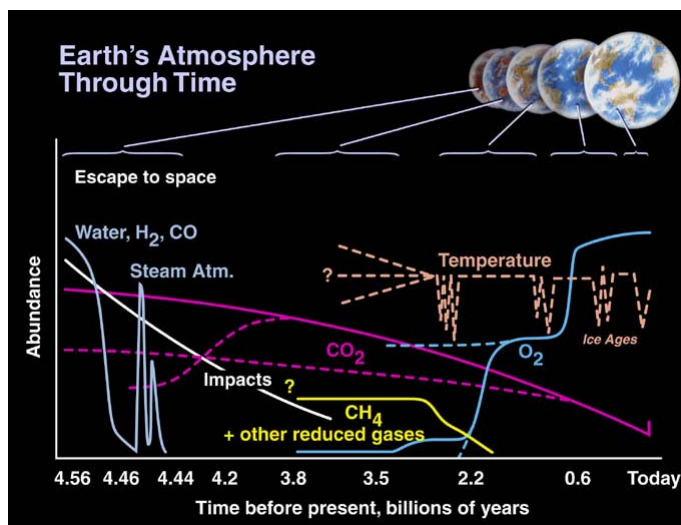


Figure 39: Evolution of the constituents of the Earth's atmosphere in time (adapted from [http://science.nasa.gov/headlines/y2002/10jan\\_exo-atmospheres.htm?list161037](http://science.nasa.gov/headlines/y2002/10jan_exo-atmospheres.htm?list161037), after D. Des Marais and K.J. Zahnle).

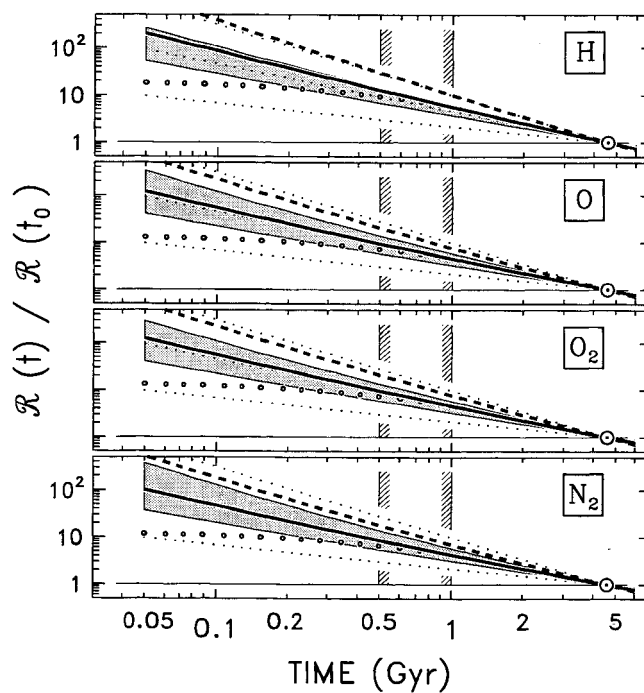
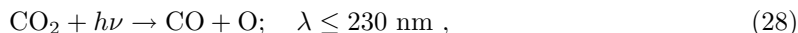
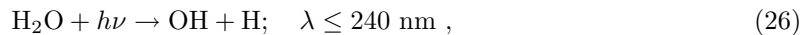
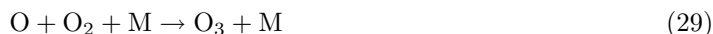


Figure 40: Photoionization rates for H, O, O<sub>2</sub>, and N<sub>2</sub> for different ages of the Sun, derived from the level of ionizing flux of solar analogs. The thick solid lines give the best estimates, the shaded areas give the allowed ranges based on uncertainties in the rotation-activity relationship (from Ayres, 1997, reprinted with permission).



after which  $\text{O}_2$  is formed (Canuto *et al.*, 1982). The atomic H can escape into space (see Section 7.2.3 below). Ozone is formed through



(M stands for other molecules; there are also several reactions that destroy  $\text{O}_2$  and  $\text{O}_3$ ; see Canuto *et al.* 1982). Atmospheric chemical models subject to enhanced UV irradiation show that the surface mixing ratio of  $\text{O}_2$  increases by a factor of  $10^4$ – $10^6$  above the standard pre-biotic value of  $10^{-15}$  due to enhanced levels of solar UV radiation (corresponding to 1–300 times the present-day Sun).

The UV irradiation of the young Earth was particularly strong during the Sun’s T Tauri phase, up to factors of  $10^3$  above the present solar values. The potential influence on planet formation and the subsequent generation of planetary atmospheres should therefore have been very significant at those epochs – if any of the planetary atmospheres were indeed forming at such early times already. The UV irradiation could increase the total column of  $\text{O}_3$  by 1–3 orders of magnitude (Canuto *et al.*, 1983), thus shielding incoming solar UV radiation efficiently and protecting early forms of life.

## 7.2.2 High-energy radiation and the planetary biospheres in habitable zones

Ionizing radiation is of crucial importance also for the evolution of life. While high doses are lethal for life, modest doses are important drivers of genetic mutations and therefore biological evolution. Although at present most high-energy radiation is absorbed in the high atmosphere of the Earth, significant effects may be found in thinner atmospheres (e.g., Mars) or in the environment of the young Sun where the irradiation by XUV photons was hundreds of times stronger. Smith *et al.* (2004) have computed the propagation of ionizing radiation through model atmospheres of terrestrial-like planets.

The incident spectra are those of supernovae explosions, gamma-ray bursts and, relevant for us, coronal X-ray flares that occurred at a much higher rate and up to much higher total energies in the young Sun compared to the present (Telleschi *et al.*, 2005; Audard *et al.*, 2000). Monte Carlo methods were used to calculate the transfer of incident X-ray and gamma-ray photons via Compton scattering and photoabsorption. The incident high-energy photons ionize molecules, thereby creating primary electrons, which collide further to produce secondary photoelectrons. These excite molecules and create aurora-like emission. A single incident photon can cause ionization of tens of thousands of molecules. For a neutral gas, most of the secondary-electron energy, however, goes into molecule excitation rather than ionization (different from ionized gas; Smith *et al.* 2004).

Strong re-radiation of the energy will occur in the  $\text{N}_2$  bands in the UV region (Smith *et al.*, 2004), and at this point, the composition of the atmosphere becomes relevant as a variety of opacity sources and Rayleigh scattering will redistribute the radiation. Smith *et al.* (2004) studied in particular “habitable” atmospheres, requiring column densities of at least  $30$ – $100 \text{ g cm}^{-2}$  for Earth-like planet (the Earth atmosphere’s column density is  $1024 \text{ g cm}^{-2}$ ). Their principal results can be summarized as follows:

- While the direct transmission of stellar flare X-ray photons to a planetary surface is negligible, in a thin atmosphere with column density of  $30$ – $100 \text{ g cm}^{-2}$ , pure atmospheric Rayleigh

scattering (appropriate for a young terrestrial atmosphere) would transmit  $\approx 10\%$  of the incident energy flux as UV radiation; about 1–3% are transmitted as UV photons if only a terrestrial-like  $\text{O}_3/\text{O}_2$  molecular absorption screen is present.

- In denser, Earth-like atmospheres ( $\gtrsim 100 \text{ g cm}^{-2}$ ), direct transmission of X-ray photons is essentially zero, but still of order  $2 \times 10^{-3}$  of the incident flux reaches the surface as UV radiation even in the presence of an  $\text{O}_3/\text{O}_2$  shield. In a pure Rayleigh-scattering atmosphere (important for the young Earth), the transmission is of order 5%.

Even planets with thick atmospheres that shield evolving life from direct ionizing radiation will shower their surfaces with UV radiation owing to stochastic flares occurring on the host star. The present-day Sun produces about one flare every 100 yr with a transmitted UV surface flux equal to or larger than the continuous solar UV flux in the 200–320 nm band (Smith *et al.*, 2004). Whether the UV irradiation effect is of prime importance for a planet around a young solar-like star is not clear, but it appears to be important for planets orbiting lower-mass M dwarf flare stars (Smith *et al.*, 2004).

### 7.2.3 Planetary atmospheric loss and high-energy radiation and particles

Various mechanisms induced by solar magnetic activity can lead to *escape* of planetary atmospheric species, both neutrals and ions. The principal losses strongly depend on the magnetic activity of the host star. *Thermal escape* processes relate to a Maxwellian particle distribution and are consequently determined by the temperature of the respective atmospheric layer, and therefore by its heating rate. Thermal escape is predominantly controlled by photon *irradiation* from the host star. *Non-thermal* escape is due to other processes in which energization and escape are related to microscopic non-thermal processes (e.g., particle acceleration; Lundin and Barabash 2004; Lundin *et al.* 2007). Key factors are high-energy particle streams from the central star, i.e., the solar/stellar winds, and the magnetic environment of the planet itself.

The heating of planetary upper atmospheres and the generation of ionospheres is primarily due to the solar XUV radiation. The *thermosphere* is the layer in which most of this radiation is absorbed and is transformed to heat, leading to a positive (upward) temperature gradient. In the *exosphere*, the mean free path of atmospheric species is large, so that collisions are negligible. The lighter species may escape from this layer into space if their thermal velocity exceeds the gravitational escape velocity. The base of the exosphere, the *exobase*, is located at the height where the mean free path is equal to the local scale height,  $H = kT_{\text{exo}}/mg$ , where  $k$  is the Boltzmann constant,  $T_{\text{exo}}$  is the exobase temperature,  $m$  is the mass of the main atmospheric species, and  $g$  is the gravitational acceleration (Kulikov *et al.*, 2007).

Let us define the thermal escape parameter

$$X = \frac{GMm}{kT_{\text{exo}}r} \quad (30)$$

as the ratio between the potential energy of a particle and the thermal energy  $kT_{\text{exo}}$ , where  $M$  is the planet’s mass,  $m$  is the particle mass (in the following: mostly atomic hydrogen),  $r$  is the planetocentric distance, and  $T_{\text{exo}}$  is the exospheric temperature. Let us now assume a Maxwellian distribution for a given species. If  $X > 1.5$ , e.g. for low temperatures, only the particles in the tail of the Maxwellian have kinetic energies sufficient for escape. The particle loss through a spherical surface at radius  $r$  is given by the Jeans formula (“Jeans escape”, e.g., Jeans 1925; Öpik 1963; Kulikov *et al.* 2006),

$$F = 4\pi r^2 \left( \frac{v_0}{2\pi^{1/2}} \right) n_{\text{exo}} (1 + X) e^{-X}. \quad (31)$$

Here,  $v_0 = (2kT_{\text{exo}}/m)^{1/2}$  is the most probable velocity of the particle (see, e.g., Chassefière and Leblanc, 2004; Kulikov *et al.*, 2006).

If the mean thermal energy of the particles ( $3kT_{\text{exo}}/2$ ) exceeds the gravitational energy, i.e., for  $X < 1.5$  or analogously for temperatures  $T_{\text{exo}} > 2GMm/3kr$  or  $kT \gtrsim mv_{\text{esc}}^2/2$ , the exosphere becomes unstable and hydrostatic equilibrium does not apply. The top of the atmosphere “blows off”, i.e., moves radially away from the planet with a velocity near its thermal velocity. To produce sufficiently high temperatures, a high level of EUV irradiation is required. The incoming EUV energy is then no longer converted into thermal energy but directly into kinetic energy. “Hydrodynamic escape” calculations are required (Öpik, 1963; Hunten, 1973; Watson *et al.*, 1981).

The most important heating and cooling processes in the upper atmosphere of the Earth are, following Kulikov *et al.* (2007) and references therein,

- heating of the thermosphere due to photoionization of CO<sub>2</sub>, N<sub>2</sub>, O<sub>2</sub>, and O by solar XUV irradiation,
- heating due to photodissociation of O<sub>2</sub> and O<sub>3</sub> by solar UV irradiation,
- chemical heating in exothermic binary and 3-body reactions,
- molecular heat conduction in neutral gas,
- cooling by infrared emission in the ro-vibrational bands of CO<sub>2</sub>, NO, O<sub>3</sub>, OH, NO<sup>+</sup>, <sup>14</sup>N<sup>15</sup>N, CO, O<sub>2</sub>, and others,
- heating and cooling by contraction and expansion of thermosphere,
- turbulent energy dissipation and heat conduction.

Models of XUV heating of the present-day Earth’s thermosphere predict an average exospheric temperature of  $\approx 1000$  K (Kulikov *et al.*, 2007, and references therein), in agreement with measurements. For Venus,  $T_{\text{exo}} = 270$  K (Kulikov *et al.*, 2006, 2007) where the low value is due to efficient cooling by CO<sub>2</sub>. And for Mars,  $T_{\text{exo}} = 220 - 240$  K (Kulikov *et al.*, 2007).

*Non-thermal processes* are also relevant in outer planetary atmospheres. There are several main types of non-thermal escape processes (Chassefière and Leblanc, 2004; Lundin *et al.*, 2007):

- *Dissociative recombination* (photochemical escape): After UV photoionization, ions recombine by forming *energetic* neutrals that may escape. Dissociative recombination of ionospheric molecular ions and photodissociation of molecular neutrals are sources of suprathermal H, C, N, O, and CO in the exosphere of (present) Venus (Kulikov *et al.*, 2007, and references therein). These atoms are eventually thermalized through collisions, or are lost if they reach the exobase with energies exceeding the escape energy.
- *Ion pick-up escape*: Ions are produced by photo-ionization, electron impact, or charge exchange and are dragged along by the magnetic field; a fraction of the particles escape in the solar wind.
- *Ionospheric outflow*: Ionospheric matter is accelerated away by the electric field in the solar wind.
- *Ion sputtering*: A fraction of the ions produced by photo-ionization, electron impact, or charge exchange re-impact the neutral atmosphere (owing to their large gyroradii) and eject neutral particles. This process is particularly important in the absence of a strong planetary magnetic field.

I now discuss results from applications to solar-system bodies and extrasolar planets.



#### 7.2.4 Mercury: Erosion of atmosphere and mantle?

Mercury stands out among solar-system planets by showing the largest average density, and its core is large compared to other terrestrial planets (60% of its radius). It is possible that strong winds and enhanced XUV irradiation from the young Sun removed much of the early atmosphere and the outer mantle of Mercury (Tehrany *et al.*, 2002; Ribas *et al.*, 2005). It is thus possible that Mercury started as a planet similar in size to Earth but has lost its mantle as a consequence of interactions with the young, active Sun.

#### 7.2.5 Venus: Where has the water gone?

The atmosphere of Venus is extremely dry when compared to the terrestrial atmosphere (a total water content of  $2 \times 10^{19}$  g or 0.0014% of the terrestrial ocean, vs.  $1.39 \times 10^{24}$  g on Earth, Kasting and Pollack 1983). The similar masses of Venus and Earth and their formation at similar locations in the solar nebula would suggest that both started with similar water reservoirs (Kasting and Pollack, 1983). The Venus atmosphere also reveals a surprisingly high deuterium-to-hydrogen (D/H) abundance ratio of  $(1.6 \pm 0.2) \times 10^{-2}$  or 100 times the terrestrial value of  $1.56 \times 10^{-4}$  (Donahue *et al.*, 1982; Kasting and Pollack, 1983). These observations have motivated a basic model in which water was abundantly available on the primitive Venus. Any water oceans would evaporate, inducing a “runaway greenhouse” in which water vapor would become the major constituent of the atmosphere (Ingersoll, 1969). This vapor was then photodissociated in the upper atmosphere by enhanced solar EUV irradiation (Kasting and Pollack, 1983), followed by the escape of hydrogen (but not deuterium) into space (Watson *et al.*, 1981; Kasting and Pollack, 1983). Oxygen either (partly) followed the same route or (partly) reacted with reduced atmospheric gases or minerals in the crust (Kasting *et al.*, 1984). Judged from the D/H abundance ratio, at least 0.3% of a terrestrial ocean should have been outgassed (Donahue *et al.*, 1982). I summarize some of the results and problems discussed in the literature as far as they refer to solar activity and its much higher level in the early Sun.

Detailed atmospheric models have been calculated by, e.g., Watson *et al.* (1981), Kasting and Pollack (1983), Kasting *et al.* (1984), Kasting (1988), Chassefière (1996b), and Kulikov *et al.* (2006). These models solve the equations of continuity and diffusion (e.g., constrained to the vertical direction in 1-D approaches) for a number of species, hydrostatic and heat balance equations, and equations of vibrational kinetics for radiating molecules. They include irradiation by solar XUV and UV and their long-term evolution (see Kulikov *et al.*, 2007, for a review).

Kulikov *et al.* (2006) and Kulikov *et al.* (2007) presented results for Venus, assuming no atmospheric (in particular, hydrogenic) loss, i.e., the upper atmospheres are *not* hydrogen-rich and not humid (Figure 41). For present-day solar XUV irradiation, the calculated exospheric temperature is 270 K, in good agreement with measurements. However, increasing the XUV flux to levels of the young Sun, i.e., a 100fold EUV flux, thermospheric temperatures up to  $\approx 8200$  K are reached 4.5 Gyr ago, if the CO<sub>2</sub> content is the same as today (96%). Higher temperatures are obtained for lower CO<sub>2</sub> content.

The blow-off limit in the exobase is reached at 4000 K, permitting hydrogenic blow-off during the first 250 Myr after the Sun’s arrival on the ZAMS. Detailed hydrodynamic computations by Chassefière (1996b) show high Jeans escape flux even for present-day solar XUV irradiation for a Venus-like planet with a hydrogen atmosphere.

The question on water on the young Venus then concentrates on the availability of water vapor in the young Venus’ upper atmosphere, that can photodissociate so that H escapes. The critical solar flux leading to complete evaporation of a water ocean (a “runaway greenhouse”, Ingersoll 1969) is  $\approx 1.4 S_{\text{sun}}$  nearly independently of the amount of cooling CO<sub>2</sub> in the atmosphere (Kasting, 1988), where  $S_{\text{sun}} = 1360 \text{ Wm}^{-2}$  is the present-day solar constant. This critical flux is just about the flux

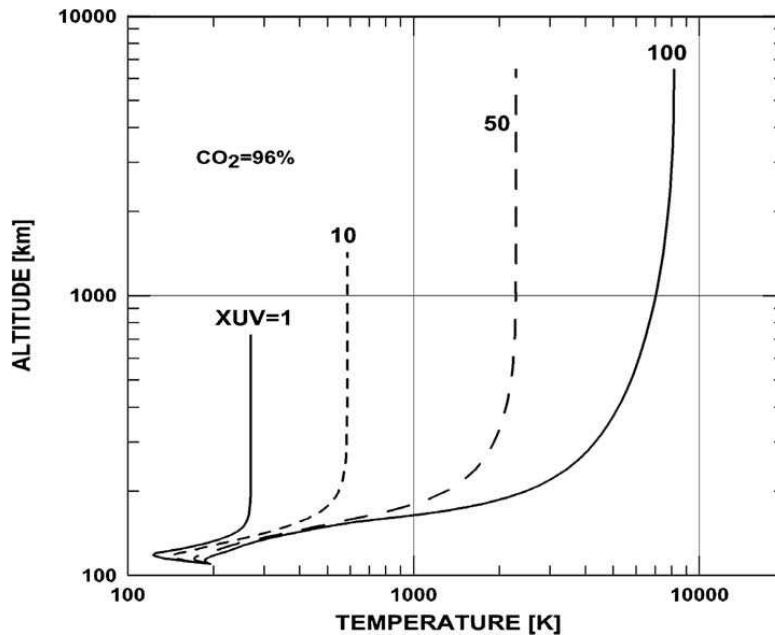


Figure 41: Modeled temperature profiles for Venus for various solar XUV levels: 1 = present-day, 10 times (3.8 Gyr ago), 50 times (4.33 Gyr ago), and 100 times (4.5 Gyr ago) present levels, based on a 96% CO<sub>2</sub> thermosphere (from Kulikov *et al.*, 2007, © Springer Verlag, reprinted with permission.).

expected from the young Sun at the orbit of Venus (and is about 70% of the present-day value at the same solar distance).

These model calculations suggest that the amount of water in the present terrestrial ocean could have escaped from Venus in only 50 Myr if the H<sub>2</sub>O mass fraction (mass mixing ratio) was at least 0.46, and the XUV flux was 70–100 times the present values (Kulikov *et al.*, 2007).

The remaining problem then is to explain the extremely low oxygen content in the present-day atmosphere of Venus (Chassefière, 1996a). In a strong hydrodynamic escape process on young Venus, heavier gases such as O may be dragged with H (Zahnle and Kasting, 1986; Zahnle *et al.*, 1990) although Chassefière (1996a) concluded that such loss was modest. Ion pick-up by the solar wind and ionospheric erosion by Kelvin–Helmholtz instabilities may be the dominant O<sup>+</sup> loss mechanism in the present atmosphere of Venus (Lammer *et al.*, 2006; Chassefière, 1997). The denser, young solar wind (Wood *et al.*, 2002) could in fact easily remove the expected amount of O<sup>+</sup> from a massive water ocean (Chassefière, 1997; Kulikov *et al.*, 2006). The equivalent of one terrestrial ocean could be removed in only 10 Myr if the solar wind had been 10<sup>3</sup>–10<sup>4</sup> times stronger than today, i.e., the escape would be “instantaneous” compared with outgassing time scales (Chassefière, 1997) although it is doubtful whether the young solar wind was indeed as strong as required for such massive losses (Wood *et al.* 2005, see Section 5.1).

### 7.2.6 Earth: A CO<sub>2</sub> atmosphere and magnetic protection

There is evidence for early hydrodynamic escape from the Earth’s atmosphere. Compared to Venus, the lighter noble gases Ne and Ar are depleted in the Earth’s atmosphere with respect to the heavier Kr and Xe; the isotopic composition of the noble gases points in the same direction (Zahnle and Kasting, 1986; Zahnle *et al.*, 1990; Chassefière and Leblanc, 2004, and references

therein).

The Kulikov *et al.* (2007) model of the terrestrial atmosphere shows that a ten-fold increase of the XUV flux, corresponding to the Sun  $> 3.8$  Gyr ago, leads to exobase temperatures of  $> 10,000$  K, which would imply escape rates not only for H but also for H<sub>2</sub>, He, N, O, or C. The hydrogenic blow-off temperature is only about 5000 K. As a consequence of dissociation of H<sub>2</sub>O, large amounts of water would thus have been lost unless there was a significantly higher CO<sub>2</sub> content in the early atmosphere, because CO<sub>2</sub> is efficiently cooling the upper atmosphere by radiation in the 15  $\mu\text{m}$  band (Kulikov *et al.*, 2007). Given the high early solar XUV flux, the atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> content in the young Earth's atmosphere may have been at similar levels as in the atmospheres of the present-day Venus and Mars ( $\approx 95\%$ ; Kulikov *et al.* 2007). Its reduction and consequently, the rise of  $T_{\text{exo}}$ , due to weathering onto the surface and the seafloor during the first 500 Myr was accompanied by a rapid decay of the solar EUV irradiation so that  $T_{\text{exo}}$  was kept below blow-off conditions.

An important factor of the young Earth's atmosphere is the relatively strong (as compared to Venus or evolved Mars) terrestrial magnetosphere that protects the atmosphere from solar-wind pickup erosion. An early on-set of the dynamo was therefore essential to protect the atmosphere and the large water reservoir of the Earth (Kulikov *et al.*, 2007; Lundin *et al.*, 2007).

### 7.2.7 Mars: Once warmer and wetter?

There is substantial evidence for a warmer and wetter climate on ancient Mars (Carr, 1986). The presence of valley networks in the highlands as well as some crater morphology require the presence of liquid water (e.g., Craddock and Maxwell 1993). Using Mars Global Surveyor images and altimeter data, Carr and Head (2003) estimated the depth of a primitive Martian ocean at 150 m (over the whole planet). Judged from the near-absence of valleys in the younger northern areas, liquid water disappeared suddenly 3.5–4 Gyr ago (Chassefière and Leblanc, 2004). Temperatures above 0° C and a massive atmosphere were required at earlier epochs, with a substantial content of greenhouse gases (Chassefière and Leblanc, 2004).

Massive atmospheric loss is relatively easy to explain, given Mars' low surface gravity and the absence of a global magnetic field protecting the atmosphere from the solar wind after about 700 Myr of the planet's formation (Acuña *et al.*, 1998). Intense erosion by direct interaction between solar wind and the extended atmosphere is thus possible although significant suppression of non-thermal escape by the magnetic field would be possible during the first 200–300 Myr (Hutchins *et al.*, 1997; Kulikov *et al.*, 2007). In present-day Mars, hydrogen is predominantly lost through thermal escape (five times more efficiently than by non-thermal escape), while loss of oxygen to space requires non-thermal processes (Lammer *et al.*, 2003a).

Like for other planets, the thermal escape of the young atmosphere of Mars depended strongly on the solar EUV irradiation, and non-thermal escape processes would also have depended on the ancient solar wind strength. Blow-off conditions are reached for an exospheric temperature  $T_{\text{exo}} \gtrsim 1000$  K (Lammer *et al.*, 2003a). This requires an EUV flux  $\approx 100$  times the present solar value (Kulikov *et al.* 2007, see Figure 42), i.e., blow-off may apply to the earliest times of the solar evolution, namely the first few 100 Myr after the Sun's arrival on the ZAMS (when a strong solar wind would perhaps provide additional support, Chassefière 1996b, 1997; Chassefière and Leblanc 2004). For solar conditions 2.5 Gyr and 3.5 Gyr ago, Lammer *et al.* (2003a) concluded that the exospheric temperature was only  $T_{\text{exo}} = 350$  K and 600 K, respectively (with a 3 times and 6 times higher solar EUV flux, respectively), insufficient for blow-off unless a significantly lower CO<sub>2</sub> mixing ratio applied (Kulikov *et al.*, 2007), although Jeans escape and non-thermal escape of H remained operational.

Calculations show that in contrast to the situation on Venus and Earth, a considerable fraction of O (from the dissociated H<sub>2</sub>O molecules) may have been dragged off by the escaping H in

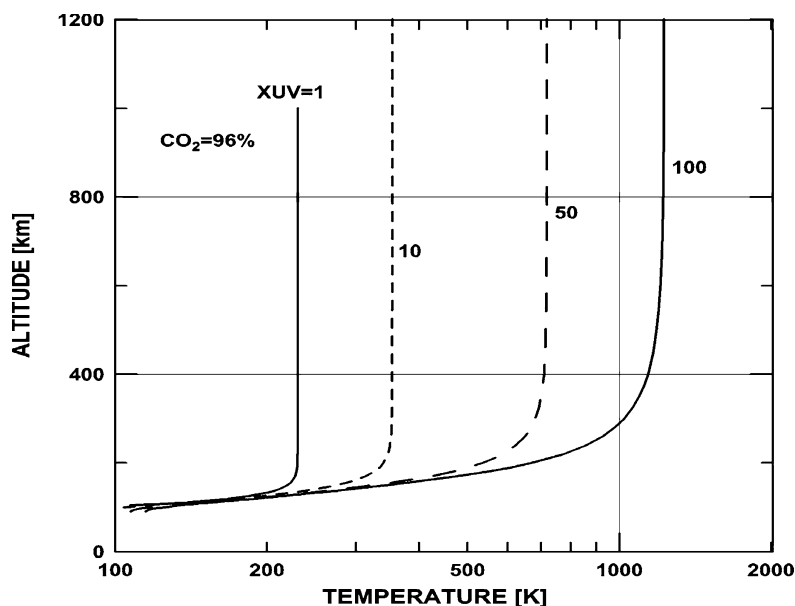


Figure 42: Modeled temperature profiles for Mars for various solar XUV levels: 1 = present-day, 10 times (3.8 Gyr ago), 50 times (4.33 Gyr ago), and 100 times (4.5 Gyr ago) present levels, based on a 96% CO<sub>2</sub> thermosphere (from Kulikov *et al.*, 2007, © Springer Verlag, reprinted with permission).

the very young Mars (4–4.6 Gyr ago; Chassefière 1996a). Non-thermal escape processes (of O) alone may explain the loss of a 12–15 m Martian ocean during the past 3.5 Gyr (Lammer *et al.* 2003a; Chassefière and Leblanc 2004, and further references therein converging to similar numbers). Lammer *et al.* (2003a) and Chassefière and Leblanc (2004) summarized escape rates for three different epochs (present, 2.5 Gyr and 3.5 Gyr ago) to find that oxygen loss to space in the early epochs is predominantly due to sputtering (and also ion pick-up; see also Luhmann *et al.* 1992; Jakosky *et al.* 1994), in contrast to the present-day situation. During the last 2 Gyr, however, O escape was not sufficient to balance H escape from dissociated water, implying that oxygen must have reacted efficiently with surface material.

### 7.2.8 Venus, Earth, Mars: Similar start, different results?

Even if Venus, Earth, and Mars might all have started with dense, CO<sub>2</sub> rich atmospheres and a large reservoir of water, the outcome of atmospheric evolution shows three very different planets: a very arid Venus with its dense, greenhouse-effective hot CO<sub>2</sub> atmosphere; a water-rich Earth with a biologically transformed, intermediate-density atmosphere; and a cold Mars with frozen water reservoirs and a greenhouse-ineffective CO<sub>2</sub> atmosphere. Key factors that led to the variations between the present-day planets are, among others: the close distance of Venus to the Sun, potentially allowing for a runaway greenhouse leading to the complete escape of water into space; the Earth’s magnetic field that protected the atmosphere from erosion by the early and stronger solar wind, together with the biological activity unfolding on young Earth; and the low surface gravity of Mars coupled with the absence of a magnetic field that led, except during the initial few 100 Myr, to more efficient erosion of the early atmosphere. Further factors such as continents (allowing for a carbonate-silicate geochemical cycle and thus the removal of CO<sub>2</sub>, see Section 7.1.1), plate tectonics (allowing for release of CO<sub>2</sub>, see Kasting and Toon 1989), or volcanic activity may matter as

well. Nevertheless, in all cases, the level of XUV emission and the strength of the solar wind in the early solar system were of prime importance. Figure 43 shows a sketch of the different evolutionary paths of the atmospheres of Venus, Earth, and Mars considering the long-term evolution of the Sun's XUV radiation and the solar-wind strength (from Kulikov *et al.* 2007; see also Lundin *et al.* 2007).

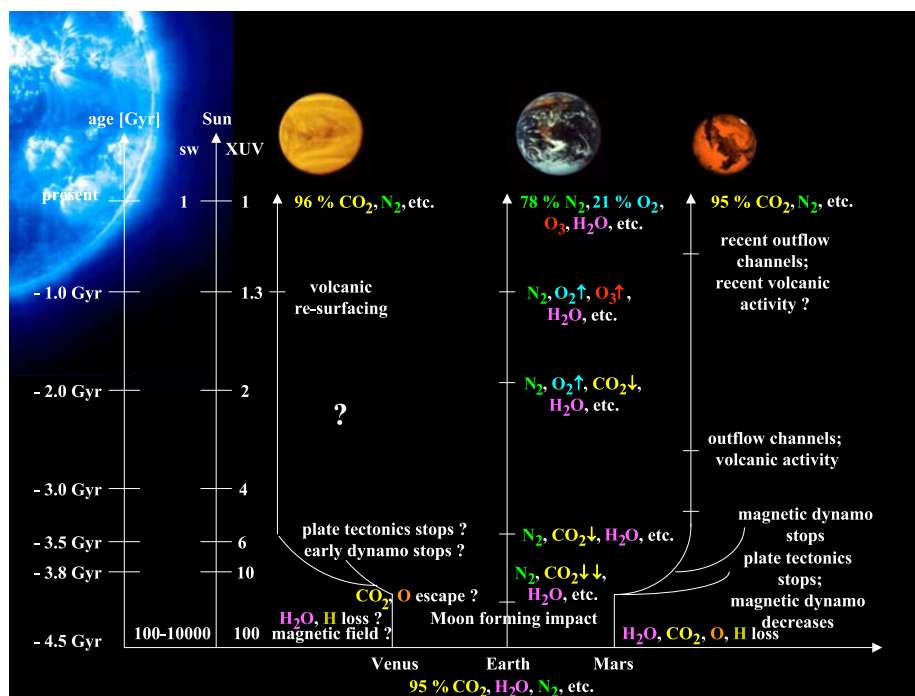


Figure 43: Comparison of evolutionary paths of Venus, Earth, and Mars, accounting for the influence of solar XUV and particle radiation (from Kulikov *et al.*, 2007, © Springer Verlag, reprinted with permission).

### 7.2.9 Titan: Early atmospheric blow-off?

The same atmospheric methodology as described for Venus and Mars can be applied to other solar-system atmospheres. There is a particularly interesting isotopic anomaly in the atmosphere of Titan, namely a <sup>15</sup>N enrichment with respect to <sup>14</sup>N by a factor of 3.9–4.5 (Penz *et al.*, 2005, and references therein). Non-thermal escape processes alone cannot account for the enrichment unless an unrealistically strong solar wind is assumed for the first 500 Myr after the origin of the solar system (Lammer *et al.*, 2000; Penz *et al.*, 2005).

It is important to note that present-day Titan's orbit resides entirely within Saturn's magnetosphere, i.e., its atmosphere is protected from the solar wind. Because the latter has decayed during the Sun's evolution (Section 5.1), Titan spent most of its time outside Saturn's magnetosphere at ages of about 100 Myr, and still more than half of the time at an age of 1 Gyr; its atmosphere was therefore subject to direct solar-wind interactions. Nevertheless, sputtering and ion pick-up are not sufficient to explain the anomalous <sup>15</sup>N/<sup>14</sup>N ratio (Penz *et al.*, 2005).

Thermal escape is an alternative. The present exospheric temperature is in the range of  $T_{\text{exo}} \approx 150\text{--}180\text{ K}$ , while for blow-off,  $T_{\text{exo}} > 8040\text{ K}$  is required (see Penz *et al.*, 2005, and references therein). Scaling the present  $T_{\text{exo}}$  by using the XUV flux decay law derived for solar analogs

(Section 5.6), one finds blow-off conditions for Titan during the first 200 Myr. Only 50 Myr would in fact suffice to remove 30 Titan atmospheres, needed to explain the anomalous  $^{15}\text{N}/^{14}\text{N}$  isotopic ratio (Penz *et al.* 2005; see also Lunine *et al.* 1999).

### 7.2.10 Hot Jupiters: Mass evolution by evaporation?

The discovery of extrasolar, Jupiter-class planets very close to their parent stars (Mayor and Queloz, 1995) immediately brought up the question on the stability of such objects. Gaseous planets close to a solar-like star will efficiently evaporate. However, as discussed above, it is not the radiative effective temperature,  $T_{\text{eff}}$ , that is relevant for evaporation, but rather the exospheric temperature,  $T_{\text{exo}}$ , which is determined by the stellar XUV flux, and is therefore a consequence of stellar activity.

A “Hot Jupiter” orbiting a star like the present-day Sun at a distance of 0.04 AU is, with regard to solar XUV irradiation, an analog to a Jupiter-like planet in orbit around the ZAMS Sun at a distance of 1.3 AU. The analogy does not hold for the stellar wind, and there may also be a substantial effect due to synchronous (i.e., slow) rotation of hot Jupiters (Grießmeier *et al.*, 2004).

Lammer *et al.* (2003b) derived the escape rate of a hydrogen atmosphere of a Jupiter-like exoplanet based on exospheric XUV absorption and heating. They used the time-dependent XUV fluxes from the “Sun in Time” program (Section 5.6). Although for Jupiter in its 5.2 AU orbit around the present-day Sun, XUV heating leads to  $T_{\text{exo}} \approx 140$  K only, a close-in hydrogen-rich Jupiter at distances  $< 0.3$  AU may suffer blow-off temperatures  $T_{\text{exo}} > 2 \times 10^4$  K. The XUV-absorbing atmospheric layer (the “exobase”) expands to several planetary radii, which has been directly confirmed by a planetary transit observation (Vidal-Madjar *et al.*, 2003). The initial calculations by Lammer *et al.* (2003b) led to very high mass-loss rates, initially criticized by Yelle (2004) who derived 20 times smaller escape rates by also including atmospheric chemistry in their calculations; in particular, they considered thermospheric cooling by  $\text{H}_3^+$  and the lowering of the solar energy deposition rate by ionization of H to  $\text{H}^+$ , which either escapes, or recombines by emitting a photon, which escapes as well. In this case, the escape rate will not be large enough to substantially affect the planetary evolution. This was substantially confirmed by new calculations performed by the previous group (see Penz *et al.*, 2007) who considered Roche-lobe effects to the hydrodynamic loss, and used realistic heating efficiencies (rather than an energy-limited, 100% efficiency assumption) and IR cooling terms for HD 209458b, a Jupiter-sized planet in orbit around an old, inactive solar analog. The temperatures at  $1.5 R_{\text{planet}}$  then reach 6000–10,000 K (Figure 44) which, however, leads to blow-off thanks to gravitational effects by the Roche lobe. Loss rates of  $7 \times 10^{10}$  g s $^{-1}$  are obtained, in agreement with calculations by Yelle (2004) and Yelle (2006). Extrapolated to young MS ages of the host star (applying elevated XUV irradiation, i.e., a factor of 100 at an age of 0.1 Gyr, see Table 6), the loss rate may exceed  $10^{12}$  g s $^{-1}$ , leading to an integrated mass loss of 1–3.4% of the present mass over the entire MS life time of the host star, a fraction that is not leading to substantial alterations in the planet. However, higher evaporation fractions are possible for planets orbiting closer to the host star.

In summary, hot Jupiters around young solar analogs should be in a state of extensive atmospheric loss for four reasons. The first three, close distance, high XUV flux, and strong wind of the host star have been discussed above. The fourth is the lack of a strong planetary dynamo owing to the slow, synchronous rotation of the planet. This prevents the planet from building up an extensive magnetosphere that protects the upper atmospheric layers from erosion by the solar wind. In fact, during the first 500 Myr, the magnetosphere may not protect the atmospheres of hot Jupiters even if tidal locking were ignored (Grießmeier *et al.*, 2004). The “hot Jupiter” would therefore interact with the solar/stellar wind in a similar way as present-day Venus. Such interactions are even further enhanced by collisions with coronal mass ejections (CMEs). Given that these were probably much more frequent in the young Sun, significant effects are expected for planets at larger distances. Khodachenko *et al.* (2007) found that in order to prevent atmospheric erosion down to

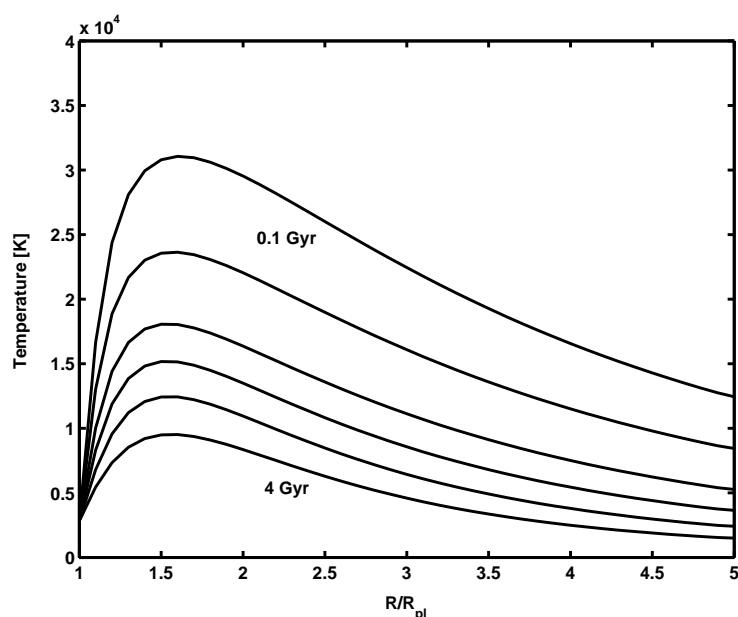


Figure 44: *Temperature profile through the atmosphere of the “hot Jupiter” HD 209458b in a 0.046 AU orbit around its solar-analog host star, for different XUV radiation levels corresponding to ages of 4, 2, 1, 0.5, 0.2, and 0.1 Gyr (from Penz et al., 2007, reprinted with permission).*

the planetary core, a sufficiently strong planetary magnetic field must be present to deflect CME plasma at stand-off distances of at least  $1.3 R_{\text{planet}}$  for hot Jupiters like HD 209458b. The very existence of numerous Jupiter-mass planets very close to their host stars may indicate that the planets are able to retain substantial magnetic moments (Khodachenko et al., 2007).

### 7.3 Summary: The high-energy young solar system

The young, ZAMS Sun was fainter than the present-day Sun in optical light by about 30%, and the consequent lowered irradiance of solar-system planets poses serious problems as the Earth should have been in deep freeze if its atmosphere was not fundamentally different from today’s; however, for both the Earth and Mars, there is evidence for a mild climate in the early days of the Sun’s main-sequence life. But the optical and infrared radiation is not the only, and perhaps not even the key player. Ultraviolet radiation affects the chemistry of the upper atmospheres, and EUV and X-ray radiation is absorbed in the upper layers, ionizing and heating the atmospheric gas. Subsequent thermal or non-thermal processes, notably also interactions with the solar wind, led to escape of atmospheric constituents. Irradiation by UV, EUV, and X-ray photons as well as the solar wind were tens to hundreds of times stronger in the early solar system and should have played a key role in affecting and modifying young planetary atmospheres. Most notably, the loss of water, for example on Venus, is an inevitable product of photodissociation and various loss mechanisms, in particular for the light hydrogen. It may be the Earth’s strong magnetic field that protected it sufficiently from suffering a similar fate as either Venus or Mars.

## 8 Summary and Conclusions

Only a few decades ago, the past of our Sun since its arrival on the ZAMS was gauged essentially by its modest bolometric luminosity. Stellar evolution calculations have consistently shown that the young (ZAMS) Sun was in fact *fainter* than the present-day Sun, albeit by only about 30% or so. Small as this difference is, it was at least sufficient to recognize a fundamental problem that might have arisen in the young solar system (Sagan and Mullen, 1972): Both Earth and Mars should have been in deep freeze, perhaps being covered by glaciers all over, not permitting water to flow and shape the Earth's and Mars' surface and to eventually serve as the medium in which life formed.

About 3 decades ago, satellites such as *IUE* and *Einstein* opened the window to stellar ultraviolet and X-ray sources, entirely changing our view of stellar evolution in particular in the context of magnetic fields and the “activity” they induce. Young stars seen in open clusters and in star-forming regions are not feeble UV and X-ray sources only growing up to the mature solar level. On the contrary, almost every young (ZAMS, PMS) solar analog dwarfs the present-day magnetically induced radiative output of the Sun *by orders of magnitude*. A common X-ray luminosity level of a ZAMS Sun is 1000 times the present solar level. The same holds true for the production of high-energy particles as seen by their radio emission. The contemporaneous Sun does not get close to a young star's radio output even during the strongest flares. While observationally more challenging, evidence for winds has been found for solar analogs, and the picture is the same: The present-day Sun occupies a place at the low end of the range of stellar winds, as it does with respect to X-ray, ultraviolet, and radio emission.

The total energy output in the magnetically induced radiation (mostly in coronal soft X-rays and in chromospheric/transition region ultraviolet) from the most active, young solar analogs is still relatively small, amounting to about 1% of the bolometric energy loss of the Sun (Ribas *et al.*, 2005). So, why should we worry?

The real power of magnetically induced radiation is not in its total luminosity but in the ability of individual photons (and high-energy particles) to affect the stellar environment. Ultraviolet and X-ray photons are, in contrast to optical photons, strongly absorbed at large heights in planetary atmospheres. They ionize and heat these layers, leading to complex chains of reactions including chemical networks producing, for example, O<sub>2</sub> and O<sub>3</sub> that shield the surface from any lethal dose of ultraviolet light; and they heat the thermosphere and exosphere, leading to escape of light elements in possibly significant numbers.

The impact may have been enormous. It is quite possible that Venus, the Earth, and Mars started as similar bodies in the young solar system, but the present-day differences between them could hardly be larger: the extremely arid, dense, and greenhouse-heated atmosphere of Venus, the biologically active surface of the Earth, and the cold but water-bearing Mars may owe much of their present state to the action of an extremely magnetically active young Sun – through its magnetically induced high-energy emission rather than the optical and infrared emission. Similar things may apply to other solar-system bodies and also to extrasolar planets. Once high levels of short-wavelength radiation from young stars had been reported from observations, its potential role in transforming young planetary atmospheres was rapidly recognized (e.g., Sekiya *et al.* 1980; Zahnle and Walker 1982; Canuto *et al.* 1982, 1983; Kasting and Pollack 1983).

The magnetic, solar wind may have been responsible for the fate of solar-system bodies as well. It is an important factor in non-thermal escape processes occurring in upper planetary atmospheres, but it might even have had some indirect influence on the lower atmospheres by removing mass from the young Sun. If the young Sun were indeed slightly more massive and therefore more luminous, the “Faint Young Sun Paradox” may disappear. This solution is currently not preferred given estimates for young solar winds that would fall short of the required mass-loss rates by orders of magnitude. However, the picture of the past solar wind is still not very complete. A direct



detection of any wind of a solar analog (e.g., through its radio emission) has yet to be reported.

Magnetic activity was perhaps even more fundamentally important in the PMS Sun when the latter was surrounded by a circumstellar disk in which planets formed. Not only are magnetic fields crucial for guiding accretion flows onto the star and perhaps lock the stellar rotation to the orbit period of the disk; the magnetically induced radiation is also important in ionizing and partly heating the upper layers of the accretion disk, thus driving accretion toward the stars and chemical networks across the disk. Further, high-energy particles produced by gigantic stellar flares may have left their traces in meteoritic material, providing a direct window to past conditions in the young, forming solar system.

The big picture of the young Sun's activity and its influence on the solar-system environment is, in many ways, rather incomplete and at places controversial. What could be classified as solid knowledge, and where is more research investment needed?

While even the answer to this question may not be unanimous among various researchers, the following is probably safe to say, as far as “established facts” and “issues open to speculation” are concerned:

- Judged from all observational evidence, the young Sun was much more magnetically active, due to its higher rotation rate. We are not precisely sure what the maximum activity level (and correspondingly, the shortest rotation period) of the young Sun was, but a rotation period about ten times shorter than at present and consequently elevated high-energy (X-ray) losses of order 100 times the present level are likely, at least as long as we consider the Sun to follow typical trends rather than being a maverick. Higher activity levels are possible but difficult to prove from statistical stellar studies.
- Direct interactions between contemporaneous “solar activity” and upper planetary atmospheres are well established and can be studied in-situ in present-day atmospheres (e.g., [Lammer \*et al.\*, 2003a](#)). The detailed mechanisms having occurred in the young solar system are still subject to some speculation as several ingredients are difficult to know: What was the composition of the initial atmospheres, was there plate tectonics, were there continents, how much water was present on the early planets, how much CO<sub>2</sub> was in the atmospheres? In what ways did early life alter the chemical composition of the Earth's atmosphere? Was there a magnetic field strong enough to shield the atmospheres from the strong solar wind? Regardless of these partly open questions, sophisticated models are available that make predictions that can be tested. In particular, these models include the higher activity level of the young Sun and can successfully explain the loss of water from Venus and the loss of a dense atmosphere from Mars.
- The magnetic activity of the young, PMS Sun was undoubtedly affecting the complex, molecular environment of the forming solar system through ionization, heating, nuclear reactions, and induced chemistry. Such mechanisms are beginning to be studied and modeled in detail in other stellar systems. A precise assessment is difficult for the young Sun as we have little information on its actual UV, X-ray and particle output at those phases, but again, indirect evidence may shed light on these issues. The presence of chondrules, CAIs with their isotopic anomalies as well as traces of irradiation damage in meteoritic material (by nuclei ejected from the Sun) may at least partly be due to elevated activity of the young Sun, although alternative theories need to be tested.

The young solar system was a place permeated by short-wavelength radiation, high-energy particles, and an intense wind. Interactions with solar-system bodies and the initial circumsolar disk were of fundamental importance much more so than in the relatively quiescent present-day solar system. The basic driver of all these mechanisms was the enhanced solar magnetic field.

Solar magnetic activity is by no means a phenomenon localized in the immediate surrounding of the Sun itself; it has been of relevance in shaping the entire solar system and the individual bodies back to the earliest times of its evolution.

## 9 Acknowledgements

It is a pleasure to thank Sami Solanki and the editorial board of *Living Reviews in Solar Physics* for inviting me to write the present review article, and the editorial staff of *Living Reviews* for their professional help and their patience when unforeseen events took over. I am much indebted to my two referees, Jeffrey L. Linsky and Thierry Montmerle, whose thorough and critical reviews of this paper have improved both content and presentation. Special thanks go to Helmut Lammer, Yuri Kulikov, and Thomas Penz for providing me their new manuscripts before publication. Discussions with Tom Ayres and Helmut Lammer have stimulated inclusion of issues that I would otherwise have failed to mention. I thank the following colleagues for giving me permission to reproduce their original figures: Marc Audard, Tom Ayres, Max Camenzind, Alfred Glassgold, Christopher Johns-Krull, Eric Feigelson, James Kasting, Yuri Kulikov, Helmut Lammer, Antonietta Marino, Stephen Marsden, Sergio Messina, Thomas Penz, Ignasi Ribas, I.-Juliana Sackmann, Carolus Schrijver, Klaus Strassmeier, Alessandra Telleschi, and Brian Wood.

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