
Mauna Loa Solar Observatory Observer's Log

Thu Dec 17 17:20:39 GMT 2020

Year: 20 Doy: 352

Observer: mlso

WEATHER COMMENT: mcotter: Thu Dec 17 17:26:14 GMT 2020

Temp: 36.6f, Humidity: 66%, Pressure: 28.73in, Wind: 7mph from 148deg, Skies: Clear skies overhead but very heavy cloud coverage on eastern horizon. Inversion layer visible on horizon at level of Maunakea or above. Very slippery roads this morning. Roads covered in ice and frost from 10,000' level and above. Layer of frost covering NOAA facility.

____end____

GENERAL COMMENT BY mcotter: Thu Dec 17 17:36:30 GMT 2020

Opened windows upstairs

____end____

GENERAL COMMENT BY mcotter: Thu Dec 17 17:36:37 GMT 2020

PM Blew off Kcor 01

____end____

GENERAL COMMENT BY mcotter: Thu Dec 17 17:37:32 GMT 2020

The Sun is coming up over the thick cloud coverage that is on the eastern horizon.

____end____

GENERAL COMMENT BY mcotter: Thu Dec 17 18:07:03 GMT 2020

Running Focus routine but the sky is very bright. Artifacts are visible in the Focus routine image. I have tried twice more blowing off Kcor 01 but the artifacts are still present. I am holding off on running Kcor at this time because the sky is too bright.

____end____

WEATHER COMMENT: mcotter: Thu Dec 17 18:08:27 GMT 2020

Temp: 39.5f, Humidity: 72%, Pressure: 28.752in, Wind: 6mph from 151deg, Skies: Cirrus clouds are forming on the southern and south eastern horizon.

____end____

Thu Dec 17 18:09:29 GMT 2020 Kcor Focus/alignment program exited

Thu Dec 17 18:33:02 GMT 2020 Kcor Focus/alignment program exited

GENERAL COMMENT BY mcotter: Thu Dec 17 18:37:47 GMT 2020

Sky is still a bit bright but Kcor is running. I put the Polarizer in the beam and images are fine: Mid, Bright, Dark, Mid.

____end____

WEATHER COMMENT: mcotter: Thu Dec 17 18:41:06 GMT 2020

Temp: 43.1f, Humidity: 62%, Pressure: 28.754in, Wind: 3mph from 107deg, Skies: Cirrus clouds are forming to the west and northwest.

____end____

Thu Dec 17 19:23:11 GMT 2020 Kcor Focus/alignment program exited

GENERAL COMMENT BY mcotter: Thu Dec 17 19:27:48 GMT 2020

Kcor image showed the background sky darkening after observing for a while. I shut down Kcor and re-ran the Focus routine. A very good parabola was finally obtained after several attempts. Kcor running.

____end____

GENERAL COMMENT BY mcotter: Thu Dec 17 19:28:29 GMT 2020

Checked Polarization and it checked good: Mid, Bright, Dark, Mid.

____end____

GENERAL COMMENT BY mcotter: Thu Dec 17 20:24:09 GMT 2020

High altitude Cirrocumulus and Cirrostratus clouds increasing and approaching from the east and forming to the south and over the observatory. Pausing Kcor at this time.

____end____

Thu Dec 17 20:29:04 GMT 2020 Kcor Focus/alignment program exited

Thu Dec 17 20:45:58 GMT 2020 Kcor Focus/alignment program exited

GENERAL COMMENT BY mcotter: Thu Dec 17 20:55:58 GMT 2020

Clouds are staying in the viewing area, but after a few attempts I am able to restart the Focus routine and get a good parabola. Kcor again running.

____end____

GENERAL COMMENT BY mcotter: Thu Dec 17 21:12:51 GMT 2020

Clouds again have formed and are obstructing viewing. Kcor is stopped for now.

____end____

Thu Dec 17 21:18:38 GMT 2020 Kcor Focus/alignment program exited

GPS COMMENT by MLSO: Thu Dec 17 21:45:11 GMT 2020

Successfully logged in to system

Good disk mount

GPS software running

Last 5 GPS data files are:

/mnt/usb/dataoutiq_2020_347_2338.bin 2147483647

/mnt/usb/dataoutiq_2020_348_2338.bin 2147483647

/mnt/usb/dataoutiq_2020_349_2338.bin 2147483647

/mnt/usb/dataoutiq_2020_350_2338.bin 2147483647

/mnt/usb/dataoutiq_2020_351_2338.bin 2147483647

Disk usage: /dev/sda1 916.9G 284.2G 586.1G 33% /mnt/usb

____end____

GENERAL COMMENT BY mcotter: Thu Dec 17 21:55:28 GMT 2020

I was able to restart Kcor and run for a while but clouds are again forming over the observatory and obstructing viewing. Orthographic clouds are forming on the northwest and western slope of Maunaloa and are rapidly moving into view and covering the summit. Kcor again stopped.

____end____

GENERAL COMMENT BY mcotter: Thu Dec 17 22:20:22 GMT 2020

Summit is mostly cloud covered. I have closed the dome shutter doors and windows.

____end____

GENERAL COMMENT BY mcotter: Fri Dec 18 02:08:51 GMT 2020

Clouds obscured viewing in late morning. Fog, rain and sleet was sporadic from late morning through the afternoon.

____end____

ONSITE STAFF: mcotter