
Mauna Loa Solar Observatory Observer's Log

Fri May 15 16:45:56 GMT 2026
Year:26 Doy:135
Observer: mcotter
Weather COMMENT BY mcotter: Fri May 15 16:50:50 GMT 2026
MLO Current Weather
Timestamp (UTC): 2026-05-15 16:41:00
Temperature   : 43.75 deg F
Dew Point   : -4.31 deg F
Pressure   : 677.65 mbar
Wind Speed   : 2.91 mph
Wind Direction : 171.8 deg

Skies: Heavily overcast in the Saddle Valley with dense fog up the 7,500' elevation lev
el. A dark blue gray inversion layer visible on the horizon above 10,000'. Overhead the
 sky is covered with Cirrus, Cirrostratus and Altocumulus clouds.
___end___
GENERAL COMMENT BY mcotter: Fri May 15 16:52:06 GMT 2026
Dome closed:

At this time no observations are possible so the Dome will remain closed and the instru
ment idle.
___end___
Weather COMMENT BY mcotter: Fri May 15 17:34:52 GMT 2026
MLO Current Weather
Timestamp (UTC): 2026-05-15 17:32:00
Temperature   : 48.88 deg F
Dew Point   : 12.11 deg F
Pressure   : 678.25 mbar
Wind Speed   : 3.58 mph
Wind Direction : 348.3 deg

Skies: The overhead skies have cleared up a bit.
___end___
KCOR COMMENT BY mcotter: Fri May 15 17:36:16 GMT 2026
Kcor:

The sky overhead has cleared a bit so I am going to start the Kcor computer and attempt
 to get the instrument on sky, if the sky is not too bright.
___end___
Fri May 15 17:52:01 GMT 2026 Kcor Focus/alignment program exited
Fri May 15 18:11:07 GMT 2026 Kcor Focus/alignment program exited
GENERAL COMMENT BY mcotter: Fri May 15 18:19:13 GMT 2026
Opened windows upstairs
___end___
GENERAL COMMENT BY mcotter: Fri May 15 18:19:18 GMT 2026
Dome open
___end___
KCOR BY mcotter: Fri May 15 19:17:23 GMT 2026
Kcor:

The Kcor Instrument has been started. The Focus Routine ran as normal but when starting
 the Observing program the screen came up with five sets of Synoptic images (ten total)
 rather than the normal four sets (eight total) that I have typically saw in the past.
I thought the program may have been corrupted. I stopped the Observing code and exited
the program. I also shut down the MC4U program as it had flickered a few times while it
 was on the desktop and I was uncertain if there had been a glitch to the program when
opening. I restarted the MC4U program and the Focus Routine, then ran the focus again.
Next I restarted the Observing program as normal. Again the Observing screen shows five
 sets of synoptic images (ten total). The top four sets looked good and when I put the
polarizer into the beam the images looked correct (Mid, Bright Dark, Mid). I am letting
 the instrument continue to observe, as the images that I normally look at look good an
d correct. The very bottom set of images looked odd to me, so I took a screen shot of t
he desktop and put it into a shared Google Doc and texted Ben to see if he knew what wa

s going on with the Synoptic images and Observing code. Ben called me back and explaine
d to me that this was a feature that he was working on (not yet completed) that would g
ive the observing operator a new tool and visual reference to ensure that the polarizat
ion was in the correct position. There was no issue with the observing when I first sta
rted the Observing program, but only that I had not yet been informed of the new featur
e in the GUI.

The new bottom set of Synoptic images is set up to look like a Level 0 display. If ther
e is an issue with the polarizer position at any time the bottom images will show this
error in a 15 second cadence. If the polarizer is an odd number of steps off the images
 will have the appearance of a "Flower like" pattern with four petals around the occult
er. If the polarizer is an even number of steps off the images will have an over satura
ted reverse exposure appearance.
___end___
KCOR COMMENT BY mcotter: Fri May 15 19:19:22 GMT 2026
Kcor:

The Kcor Instrument is observing with no problems. The sky has cleared up nicely and th
e images look good.
___end___
Weather COMMENT BY mcotter: Fri May 15 19:49:06 GMT 2026
MLO Current Weather
Timestamp (UTC): 2026-05-15 19:41:00
Temperature   : 51.24 deg F
Dew Point   : 29.64 deg F
Pressure   : 679.23 mbar
Wind Speed   : 6.04 mph
Wind Direction : 303.6 deg

Skies: Clouds have increase quite a bit in the Saddle Valley and are making their way u
p the northern slope of Maunaloa. Also Orthographic clouds are forming to the west and
moving up the western slope. Additionally, Clouds have crested the top of the mountain
to the south-southeast and are moving toward the observatory.
___end___
Fri May 15 20:16:21 GMT 2026 KCOR Start Calibration script: c:\kcor\mlso-calibration22d
eg-20171025.ini
Fri May 15 20:31:32 GMT 2026 KCOR End Calibration Script
Weather COMMENT BY mcotter: Fri May 15 21:03:46 GMT 2026
MLO Current Weather
Timestamp (UTC): 2026-05-15 20:59:00
Temperature   : 50.2 deg F
Dew Point   : 33.56 deg F
Pressure   : 679.57 mbar
Wind Speed   : 6.71 mph
Wind Direction : 5.6 deg

Skies: Clouds have moved into the observing area and are now covering the sky.
___end___
KCOR BY mcotter: Fri May 15 21:05:07 GMT 2026
Kcor Stopped:

Due to overcast sky conditions the instrument has been stopped.
___end___
GENERAL COMMENT BY mcotter: Fri May 15 21:12:45 GMT 2026
Dome closed.

Windows closed.
___end___
KCOR COMMENT BY KCOR: Fri May 15 21:15:42 GMT 2026
KCOR file transfer report
KCor created 692 .bin files
690 .fts files
  NOTICE ? 2 .bin file(s) with no matching .fts:
    20260515_175831_kcor.bin
    20260515_210054_kcor.bin
  Remote site is complete ? no rsync required.

___end___
GENERAL COMMENT BY mcotter: Fri May 15 22:39:51 GMT 2026
End Of Day:

The morning started off with overcast skies, but cleared within an hour or so. We were able to observe for a couple of hours before skies became overcast again.

Short day of observing but good day.
___end___
Logger COMMENT BY mcotter: Fri May 15 22:39:56 GMT 2026
Log closed
ONSITE STAFF: mcotter
___end___