
Mauna Loa Solar Observatory Observer's Log

Fri May 29 16:57:45 GMT 2026

Year:26 Doy:149

Observer: mcotter

Weather COMMENT BY mcotter: Fri May 29 16:59:27 GMT 2026

MLO Current Weather

Timestamp (UTC): 2026-05-29 16:53:00

Temperature : 47.43 deg F

Dew Point : 5.49 deg F

Pressure : 679.01 mbar

Wind Speed : 10.96 mph

Wind Direction : 257.2 deg

Skies: Skies are clear but hazy on the horizon. The inversion layer is a dark blue gray in color and located just below the peak of Haleakala.

The sky appears a bit bright at this time.

____end____

GENERAL COMMENT BY mcotter: Fri May 29 16:59:35 GMT 2026

Opened windows upstairs

____end____

GENERAL COMMENT BY mcotter: Fri May 29 16:59:42 GMT 2026

Dome open

____end____

BY mcotter: Fri May 29 17:02:10 GMT 2026

Computer issues:

The aspect ratio and relative monitor screen locations are off for the Wahoo 2 computer . I will troubleshoot after I have gotten Kcor on sky and observing.

____end____

** KCOR PROBLEM REPORTED BY mcotter ** : Fri May 29 17:07:14 GMT 2026

Kcor:

The Kcor computer when started stated that the Labview program had a problem when shutting down. A GUI came up stating that there were outstanding files that could be recovered. I selected "Recover" then the GUI shut down.

____end____

Fri May 29 17:10:54 GMT 2026 Kcor Focus/alignment program exited

KCOR COMMENT BY mcotter: Fri May 29 17:16:35 GMT 2026

Kcor:

The Kcor instrument is now observing.

Aerosols were quite prevalent during the Focus routine and the sky appears bright.

____end____

KCOR COMMENT BY mcotter: Fri May 29 17:17:09 GMT 2026

Polarization checked good.

____end____

Weather COMMENT BY mcotter: Fri May 29 17:21:11 GMT 2026

A small cloud has moved into the viewing area from the south. It appears there are a few more clouds coming in from the south over the Maunaloa summit.

____end____

KCOR COMMENT BY mcotter: Fri May 29 17:21:58 GMT 2026

Kcor:

The Kcor instrument has been paused due to some clouds moving into the viewing area from the south.

____end____

KCOR COMMENT BY mcotter: Fri May 29 17:24:43 GMT 2026

Kcor:

The cloud that was in the viewing area was short lived and has passed out of the viewing area.

Kcor is again observing.

____end____

** KCOR PROBLEM REPORTED BY mcotter ** : Fri May 29 17:38:16 GMT 2026

Kcor:

The Kcor NRGF images appear slightly blurry. When the Focus routine ran it set the focus at 133.056. This approximately -1.5 increments from where we historically have set the focus position. As mentioned previously, heavy aerosols were observed during the Automatic Focus Routine which may account for the lower focus value. I am going to re-run the focus routine to see if I can improve the instrument focus.

____end____

Weather COMMENT BY mcotter: Fri May 29 17:43:15 GMT 2026

Skies: A scattered layer of Orographic clouds have moved into the viewing area from the south, coming up over the Maunaloa summit. The clouds are quite broken up and trail off sporadically across the southern sky.

____end____

KCOR COMMENT BY mcotter: Fri May 29 17:44:22 GMT 2026

Kcor:

I did not have a chance to re-run the focus routine at this time due to clouds moving into the viewing area from the south.

____end____

** GENERAL PROBLEM REPORTED BY mcotter ** : Fri May 29 17:55:19 GMT 2026

Wahoo 2 Computer:

I was able to correct the positioning error for the Wahoo 2 computer display monitors. Monitor One is located on the bottom left monitor in our workstation display array and Monitor 2 is now located directly above Monitor 1.

The aspect ratio is still off on Monitor 1 (but certainly usable) as the system does not provide options for changing the aspect ratio or sizing to suitable settings for this display (perhaps different drivers are required).

Monitor 2 has the correct aspect ratio and sizing.

____end____

Fri May 29 18:04:45 GMT 2026 Kcor Focus/alignment program exited

Weather BY mcotter: Fri May 29 18:09:00 GMT 2026

Skies: The clouds are still present in the sky but they have blown to the northeast and have moved out of the viewing area.

____end____

KCOR COMMENT BY mcotter: Fri May 29 18:10:44 GMT 2026

Kcor:

Kcor is again observing.

I re-ran the Focus routine and manually set the focus to 134.55.

Polarization checked good.

____end____

Weather COMMENT BY mcotter: Fri May 29 18:21:54 GMT 2026

MLO Current Weather

Timestamp (UTC): 2026-05-29 18:14:00

Temperature : 53.06 deg F

Dew Point : 0.59 deg F

Pressure : 679.53 mbar

Wind Speed : 8.28 mph

Wind Direction : 300.3 deg

Skies: The sky appears bright but clear. There is a steady stream of Altocumulus clouds coming up over the Maunaloa summit from the southwest, but so far they are blowing more to the northeast direction and the Sun has risen enough to be out of their path.

____end____

Weather COMMENT BY mcotter: Fri May 29 18:52:10 GMT 2026

MLO Current Weather

Timestamp (UTC): 2026-05-29 18:44:00

Temperature : 53.71 deg F

Dew Point : 8.46 deg F

Pressure : 679.84 mbar

Wind Speed : 10.74 mph

Wind Direction : 289.1 deg

Skies: A steady stream of Altocumulus clouds are coming in from the southwest blowing toward the northeast, but so far they are making their way past our observing area without encroaching into our field of view, though the sky is starting to get brighter.

____end____

Weather COMMENT BY mcotter: Fri May 29 19:15:37 GMT 2026

MLSO Current Weather

Skies: Patches of Altocumulus clouds are now encroaching into the viewing area. The cloud structure is quite broken up so this should be only be a short observing pause, as long as conditions persists.

____end____

KCOR COMMENT BY mcotter: Fri May 29 19:16:22 GMT 2026

Kcor:

The Kcor instrument is now paused due to clouds in the viewing area.

____end____

KCOR BY mcotter: Fri May 29 19:29:51 GMT 2026

Kcor:

The Kcor instrument is again paused due to clouds entering the viewing area.

____end____

Weather COMMENT BY mcotter: Fri May 29 19:32:08 GMT 2026

MLSO Current Weather:

Skies: A large front of Altocumulus clouds have now entered the viewing area from the east-southeast. The front began gradually but it is now getting much heavier in coverage.

____end____

KCOR COMMENT BY KCOR: Fri May 29 19:52:35 GMT 2026

KCOR file transfer report

KCor created 397 .bin files

392 .fts files

NOTICE ? 5 .bin file(s) with no matching .fts:

20260529_172013_kcor.bin

20260529_173841_kcor.bin

20260529_191306_kcor.bin

20260529_191900_kcor.bin

20260529_192816_kcor.bin

Remote site is complete ? no rsync required.

____end____

KCOR COMMENT BY mcotter: Fri May 29 19:59:18 GMT 2026

Kcor Stopped:

The Kcor instrument and computer has been stopped. The clouds are continuing to stream across the sky from the east-southeast. The power input is fluctuating on the input as the clouds pass and the load is surpassing the incoming power more than not.

I have left the SGS computer on and the spar in open loop in the event the sky does clear up soon.

____end____

Weather COMMENT BY mcotter: Fri May 29 20:51:32 GMT 2026

MLO Current Weather

Timestamp (UTC): 2026-05-29 20:44:00

Temperature : 55.44 deg F

Dew Point : 31.13 deg F

Pressure : 679.89 mbar

Wind Speed : 10.74 mph

Wind Direction : 334.1 deg

Skies: Clouds continue to persist and cross the sky in the viewing area from southwest to northeast.

____end____

Weather COMMENT BY mcotter: Fri May 29 21:08:38 GMT 2026

MLSO Current Weather

Timestamp (UTC): 2026-05-29 21:05:00

Temperature : 54.55 deg F
Dew Point : 32.23 deg F
Pressure : 679.94 mbar
Wind Speed : 10.74 mph
Wind Direction : 323.0 deg

Skies: The sky has cleared up a bit and there now is a break in the clouds.

____end____

Fri May 29 21:21:09 GMT 2026 Kcor Focus/alignment program exited

KCOR BY mcotter: Fri May 29 21:27:11 GMT 2026

Kcor:

The Kcor instrument is now back on sky and observing.

During the Focus Routine there were a lot of aerosols visible in the focus images. I manually set the focus position to 134.58, as I believe this provides for a better focused and well defined NRGF image.

____end____

Weather COMMENT BY mcotter: Fri May 29 21:31:43 GMT 2026

MLSO Current Weather

Skies: There are a few sporadic clouds making their way through the viewing area.

____end____

KCOR COMMENT BY mcotter: Fri May 29 21:35:43 GMT 2026

Kcor:

There are a few scattered clouds making their way across the viewing area. Unfortunately they are increasing in numbers and I am going to need to pause the instrument.

____end____

Weather COMMENT BY mcotter: Fri May 29 21:43:06 GMT 2026

MLSO Current Weather

Skies: The sky overhead in the viewing area is increasing in cloud coverage and Orographic clouds are now forming over the observatory. The sky appears very bright.

____end____

KCOR COMMENT BY mcotter: Fri May 29 21:44:38 GMT 2026

Kcor:

Though the sky does appear bright I have been able to start observing again and the synoptic images look good.

____end____

Weather COMMENT BY mcotter: Fri May 29 22:03:23 GMT 2026

MLSO Current Weather

Timestamp (UTC): 2026-05-29 21:59:00

Skies: Lots of clouds coming up from the Saddle Valley and up the western slope of Maunaloa.

____end____

KCOR COMMENT BY mcotter: Fri May 29 22:06:25 GMT 2026

Kcor:

I am trying to dodge the clouds as much as possible to keep the observing going, but it is getting more and more difficult to dodge them successfully.

Kcor continues to observe for now.

____end____

KCOR COMMENT BY mcotter: Fri May 29 22:14:22 GMT 2026

Kcor:

The Kcor instrument is now pause due to clouds in the viewing area.

____end____

Weather COMMENT BY mcotter: Fri May 29 22:16:01 GMT 2026

MLSO Current Weather

Timestamp (UTC): 2026-05-29 22:11:00

Skies: Orographic clouds have quickly moved up from the Saddle Valley and from the west and are now completely covering the sky over the observatory.

___end___

KCOR COMMENT BY mcotter: Fri May 29 22:23:46 GMT 2026

Kcor:

The Kcor instrument is again observing.

___end___

KCOR COMMENT BY mcotter: Fri May 29 22:25:24 GMT 2026

Kcor:

The kcor instrument has been stopped due to the sky being entirely too bright to observe at this time.

___end___

KCOR COMMENT BY mcotter: Fri May 29 22:35:20 GMT 2026

Kcor:

I attempted to start observing with Kcor but the sky remains much too bright to observe at this time.

___end___

Weather COMMENT BY mcotter: Fri May 29 23:13:34 GMT 2026

MLO Current Weather

Timestamp (UTC): 2026-05-29 23:11:00

Temperature : 53.74 deg F

Dew Point : 42.43 deg F

Pressure : 679.56 mbar

Wind Speed : 8.5 mph

Wind Direction : 323.9 deg

Skies: The sky is now completely overcast.

___end___

GENERAL COMMENT BY mcotter: Fri May 29 23:13:55 GMT 2026

Dome and windows closed.

___end___

GENERAL COMMENT BY mcotter: Fri May 29 23:17:15 GMT 2026

End Of Day:

The day started out promising but early in the morning clouds had come into the viewing area and observations were paused. Later in the morning there was a break in the cloud coverage, so observations were able to continue but after a short while clouds reappeared and observations were on and off until finally the sky became overcast.

___end___

Logger COMMENT BY mcotter: Fri May 29 23:17:20 GMT 2026

Log closed

ONSITE STAFF: mcotter

___end___