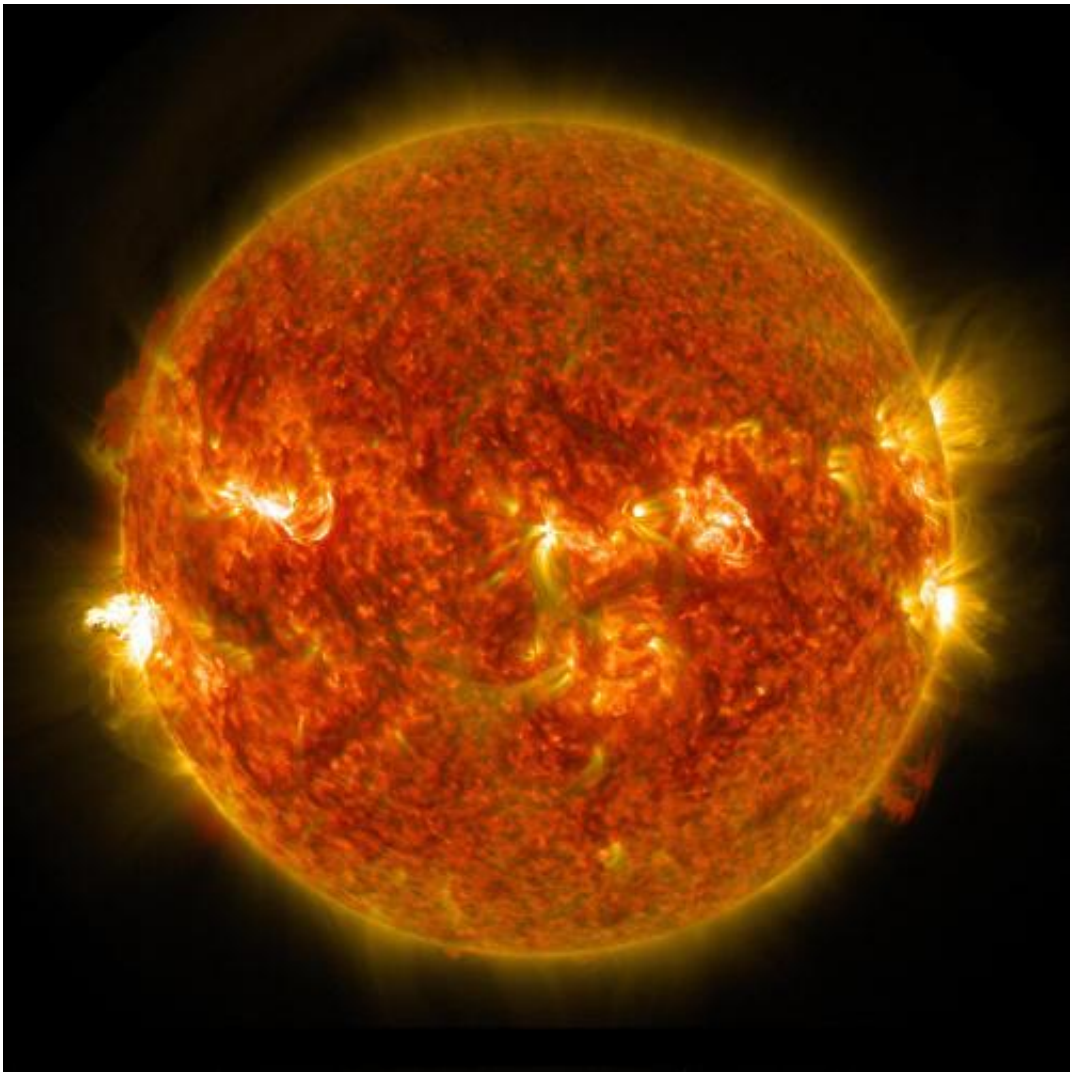
Solar Dynamics Observatory captures images of a late summer flare

August 27 2014



Credit: NASA/SDO

On Aug. 24, 2014, the sun emitted a mid-level solar flare, peaking at 8:16 a.m. EDT.

NASA's Solar Dynamics Observatory captured images of the flare, which erupted on the left side of the sun.

Solar flares are powerful bursts of radiation.

Harmful radiation from a flare cannot pass through Earth's atmosphere to physically affect humans on the ground, however—when intense enough—they can disturb the atmosphere in the layer where GPS and communications signals travel.

This flare is classified as an M5 flare. M-class flares are ten times less powerful than the most intense flares, called X-class flares.

Provided by NASA

Citation: Solar Dynamics Observatory captures images of a late summer flare (2014, August 27) retrieved 26 April 2024 from https://phys.org/news/2014-08-solar-dynamics-observatory-captures-images.html

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.