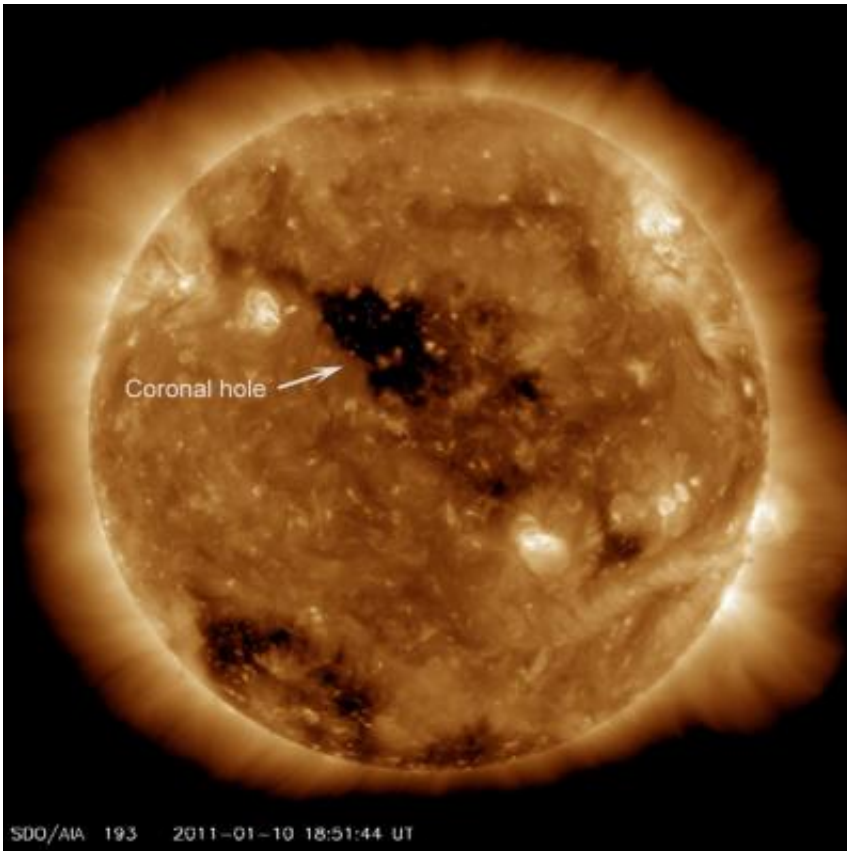


Image: Holes in the Sun's corona

January 12 2011



Credit: NASA/SDO/AIA

This Solar Dynamics Observatory image of the Sun taken on January 10 in extreme ultraviolet light captures a dark coronal hole just about at sun center.

Coronal holes are areas of the Sun's surface that are the source of open

[magnetic field lines](#) that head way out into space.

They are also the source regions of the fast solar wind, which is characterized by a relatively steady speed of approximately 800 km/s (about 1.8 million mph).

As the [sun](#) continues to rotate, the high speed solar wind particles blowing from this hole will likely reach [Earth](#) in a few days and may spark some auroral activity.

The timelapse video below shows the coronal hole moving into full view.

Provided by JPL/NASA

Citation: Image: Holes in the Sun's corona (2011, January 12) retrieved 20 April 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2011-01-image-holes-sun-corona.html>

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