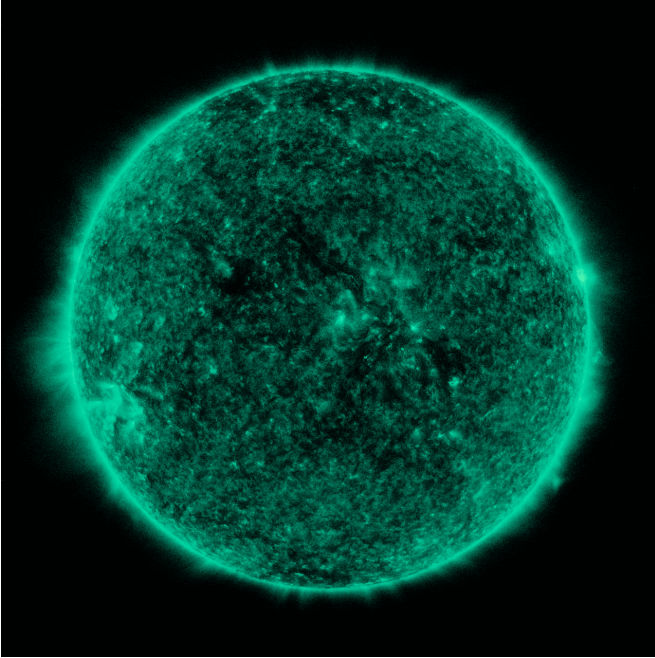


Image: NASA's SDO spots a lunar transit

23 October 2017



Credit: NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center/SDO/Joy Ng

On Oct. 19, 2017, the Moon photobombed NASA's Solar Dynamics Observatory, or SDO, when it crossed the spacecraft's view of the Sun, treating us to these shadowy images. The lunar transit lasted about 45 minutes, between 3:41 and 4:25 p.m. EDT, with the Moon covering about 26 percent of the Sun at the peak of its journey. The Moon's shadow obstructs SDO's otherwise constant view of the Sun, and the shadow's edge is sharp and distinct, since the Moon has no atmosphere which would distort sunlight.

SDO captured these images in a wavelength of [extreme ultraviolet light](#) that shows solar material heated to more than 10 million degrees Fahrenheit. This kind of light is invisible to human eyes, but colorized here in green.

Provided by NASA

APA citation: Image: NASA's SDO spots a lunar transit (2017, October 23) retrieved 8 May 2021 from <https://phys.org/news/2017-10-image-nasa-sdo-lunar-transit.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.