

DC.7.09 – Public Education and Outreach for Observing Solar Eclipses and Transits



Jay Pasachoff

- The general public is often very interested in observing solar eclipses, with widespread attention from newspapers and other sources often available only days before the events. Recently, the 2012 eclipse's partial phases in Australia and the 2015 eclipse's partial phases throughout Europe as well as western Asia and northern Africa, were widely viewed. The 21 August 2017 eclipse, whose totality will sweep across the Continental United States from northwest to southeast, will have partial phases visible throughout the U.S., Canada, Mexico, Central America, and into South America.

- The 2019 and 2020 partial phases of total eclipses will be visible throughout South America, and partial phases from annular eclipses will be visible from other parts of the world. The 9 May 2016 transit of Mercury will be best visible from the Western Hemisphere, Europe, and Africa. Many myths and misunderstandings exist about the safety of observing partial phases, and it is our responsibility as astronomers and educators to transmit accurate information and to attempt the widest possible distribution of such information.

- The [Working Group on Public Education at Eclipses and Transits](#), formerly of Commission 46 on Education and Development and now of New Commission 11, tries to coordinate the distribution of information. In collaboration with the Solar Division's [Working Group on Solar Eclipses](#), their website at <http://eclipses.info> is a one-stop shop for accurate information on how to observe eclipses, why it is interesting to do so, where they will be visible (with links to online maps and weather statistics), and how encouraging students to observe eclipses can be inspirational for them, perhaps even leading them to realize that the Universe can be understood and therefore renewing the strength of their studies. Links to information about transits of Mercury and Venus are also included.

- Jay Pasachoff (USA), Chair
- Iraida Kim (Russia)
- Kiroki Kurokawa (Japan)
- Jagdev Singh (India)
- Vojtech Rusin (Slovakia)
- Zhongquan Qu (China)

- Fred Espenak (eclipse bulletins; EclipseWise.com)
- Jay Anderson (meteorology: eclipser.ca)
- Glenn Schneider (airborne observations)
- Michael Gill (moderator: Solar Eclipse Mailing List)
- Xavier Jubier (Google maps with eclipse paths; airborne expertise)
- Michael Zeiler (eclipse-maps.com)
- Bill Kramer (eclipse-chasers.com)
- Ralph Chou (prof. emeritus of optometry)

Working Group on Solar Eclipses

Reference Materials

- Eclipse Map Sites
 - 2014: October 23 Partial Eclipse in Western US/Canada, Pacific, and Siberia
 - 2015: March 20 Total Eclipse in Arctic, including Svalbard and Faroes; Partial Throughout Europe
 - 2015 Map with Partial-Eclipse Contours
 - 2016: March 9 Total Eclipse in Indonesia
 - 2016: September 1 Annular Eclipse in Africa
 - 2017: August 21 Total Eclipse in the U.S.
 - Jay Anderson's Weather Statistics for Future Eclipses
- Eclipse Web Sites
- Eye Safety & Solar Filters
- Publications
- Satellites and Observatories
- Shadow Bands and Sunspot Numbers
- Miscellaneous Links
- "The Eclipse" by James Fenimore Cooper



International Astronomical Union
Union Astronomique Internationale

Working Group on Solar Eclipses
of Division II

and

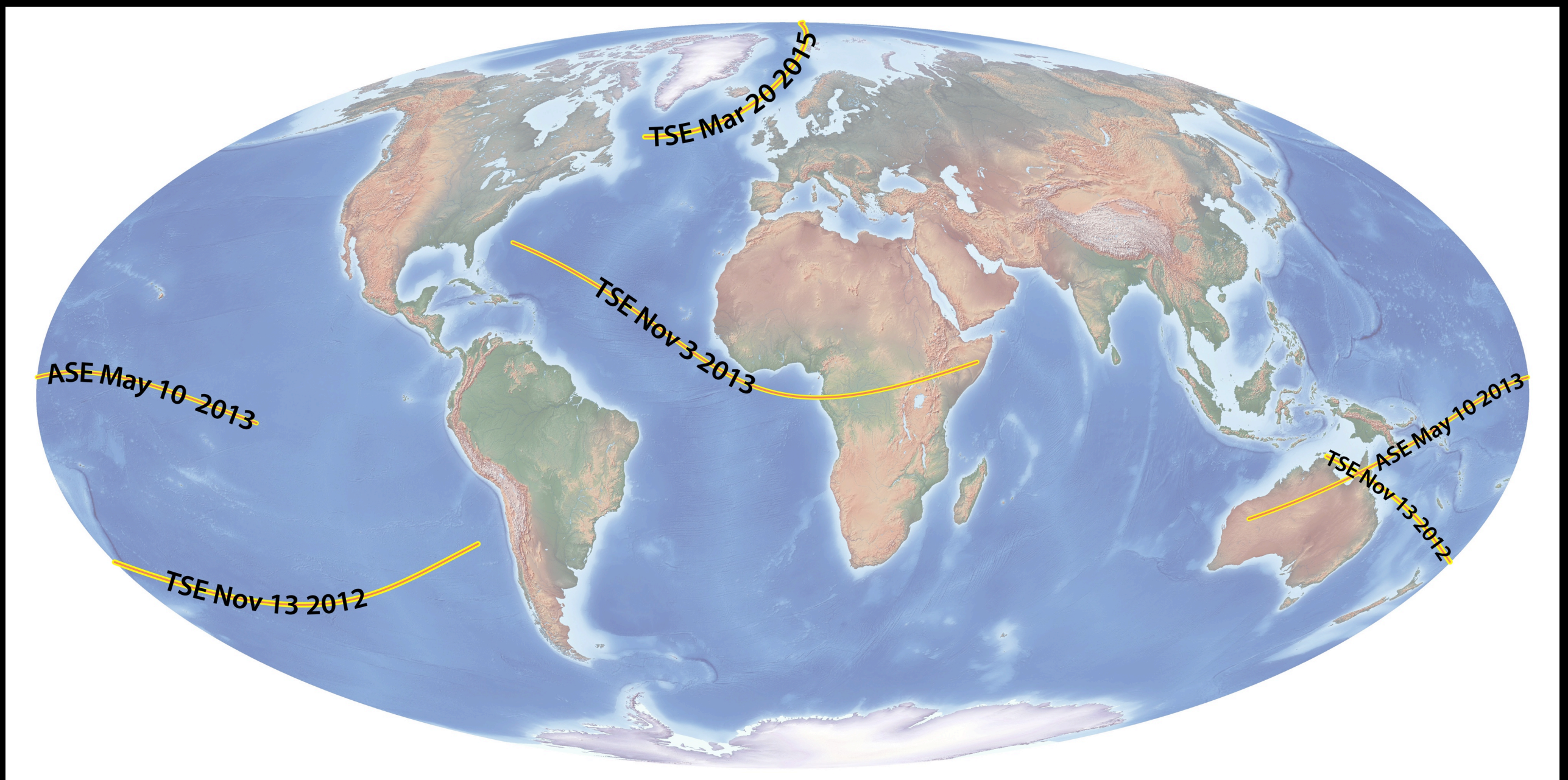
Program Group on Public Education
on the Occasions of Solar Eclipses
of Commission 46 on Education
and Development

**IAU Working Group on Eclipses
Members**

Eclipse Web Sites

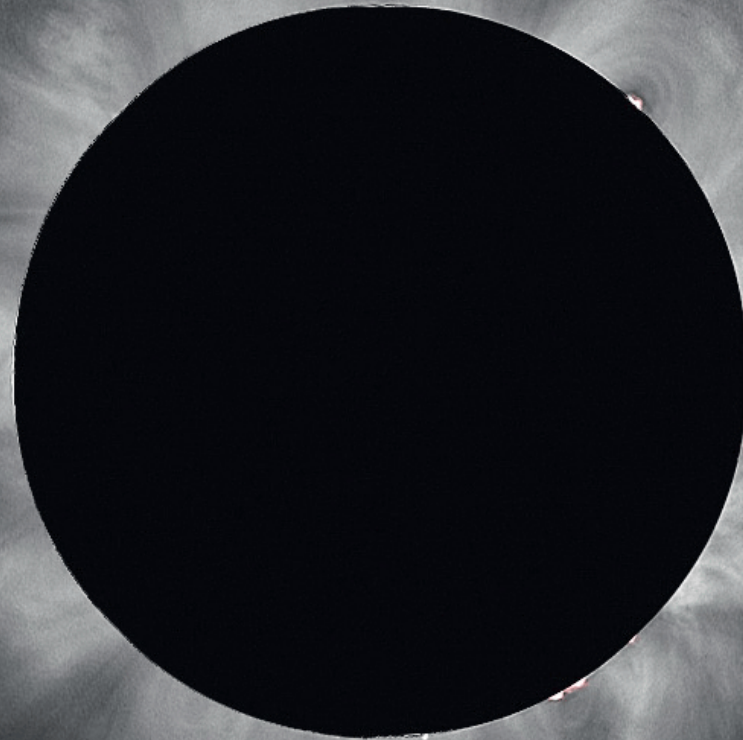
- Fred Espenak's NASA Eclipse Web Site
- Fred Espenak's NASA World Atlas of Solar Eclipse Paths
- Fred Espenak's NASA Solar Eclipses
- Fred Espenak's NASA Lunar Eclipses
- [Fred Espenak's NASA Eclipse Resources](#)
- Xavier Jubier's *Google Maps* Eclipse Maps
- Xavier Jubier's Interactive maps for upcoming solar eclipses
- Xavier Jubier's *Google Earth* KMZ files for eclipse tracks
- Xavier Jubier's 5MCSE "Five Millennium (–1999 to +3000) Canon of Solar Eclipses"
Using the 5MCSE link will get you to any eclipse type
- For TSE 2017 it will generate an URL such as
[http://xjubier.free.fr/en/site_pages/solar_eclipses/xSE_GoogleMap3.php?
Ecl=+20170821&Acc=2&Umb=1&Lmt=1&Mag=1](http://xjubier.free.fr/en/site_pages/solar_eclipses/xSE_GoogleMap3.php?Ecl=+20170821&Acc=2&Umb=1&Lmt=1&Mag=1)
- &Lmt=x (x set to 1 or 0) will display or not the penumbral limits, maximum on horizon
and rise/set curves
- &Mag=x (x set to 1 or 0) will display or not the equal magnitude curves
- &Max=x (x set to 1 or 0) will display or not the maximum eclipse curves
- Michael Zeiler: eclipse-maps.com
- Glenn Schneider's site
- The Cosmic Mirror: Daniel Fischer looks into the Universe
- Arnold Barmettler: Interactive Eclipse Maps 1900-2100
- Eclipse Chasers (Bill Kramer), with list of statistics
- Jay M. Pasachoff: Williams College Solar Eclipse Expeditions
- Miloslav Druckmüller: Eclipse Photography
- Stanford Solar Center
- Eclipse statistics and other links (Sheridan Williams)
- spaceweather.com
- Solar Monitor
- Lockheed master list of solar web sites
- Phil Harrington's eclipse home page
- The solar section of the Association of Lunar and Planetary observers (ALPOSS)
- Daily Big Bear solar observatory images
- Fred Espenak's Eclipse Page
- Bill Kramer's Eclipse Page
- Glenn Schneider's images

2012-2015



map by Michael Zeiler, eclipse-maps.com

Austr



November 13, 2012



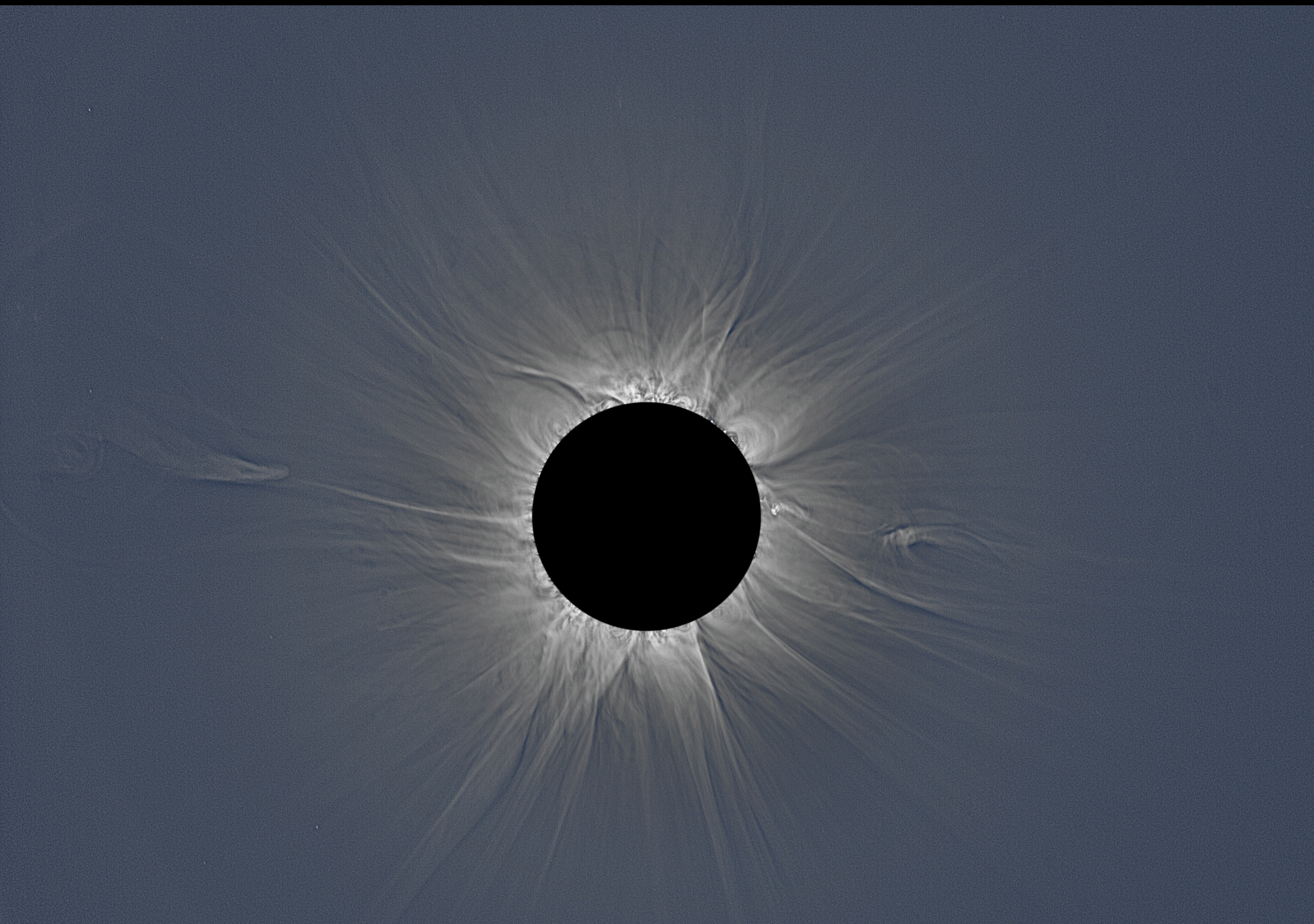
Taken with a Nikon D600 FX and a 400-mm Nikkor lens with a Thousand Oaks Optical filter from a site 70 km north of Tennant Creek, Northern Territories, Australia. Many more in the series are also available.

© 2013 Jay Pasachoff (solarcorona.com),
composed by Muzhou Lu

May 10, 2013

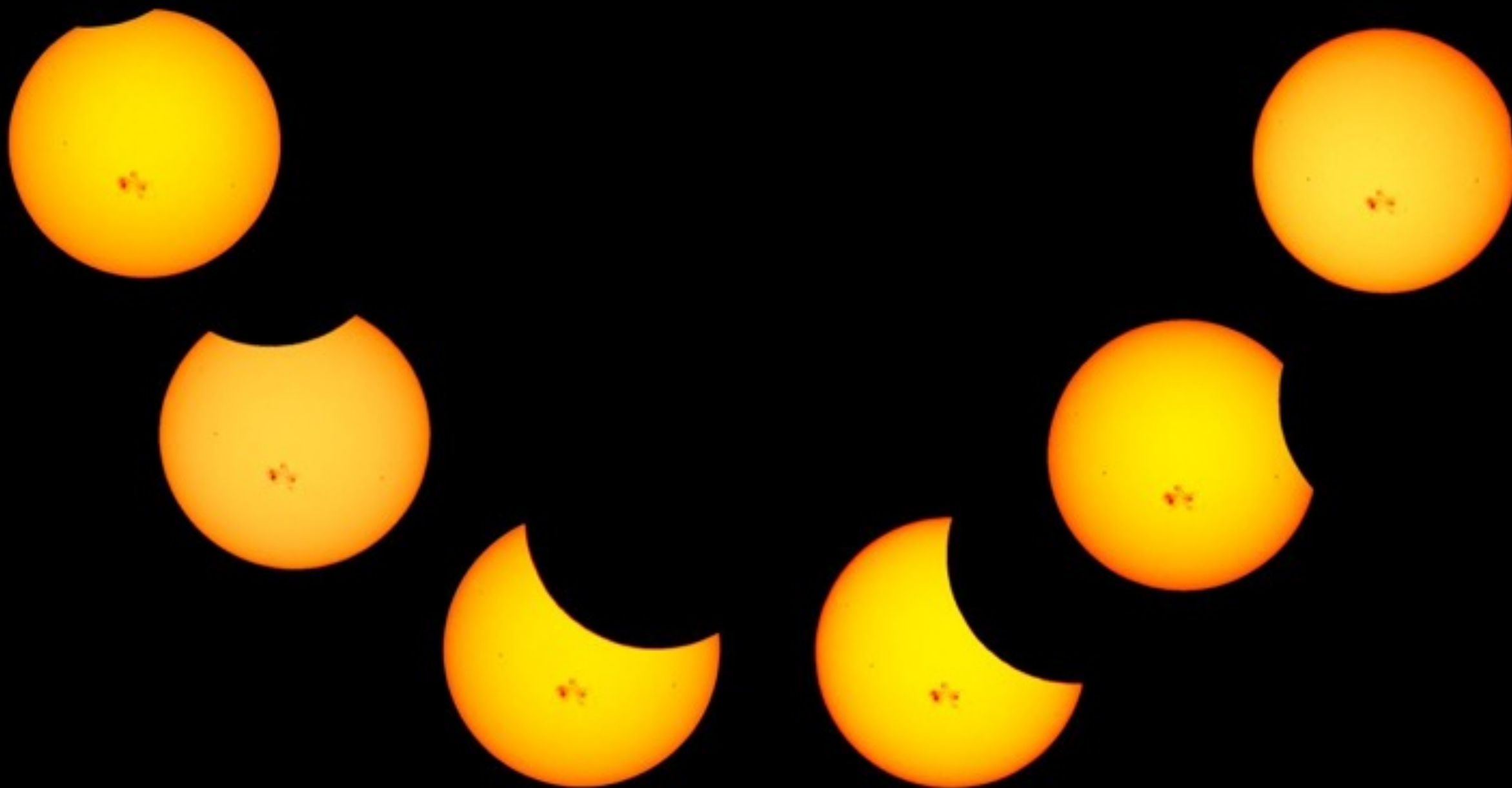
November 3, 2013





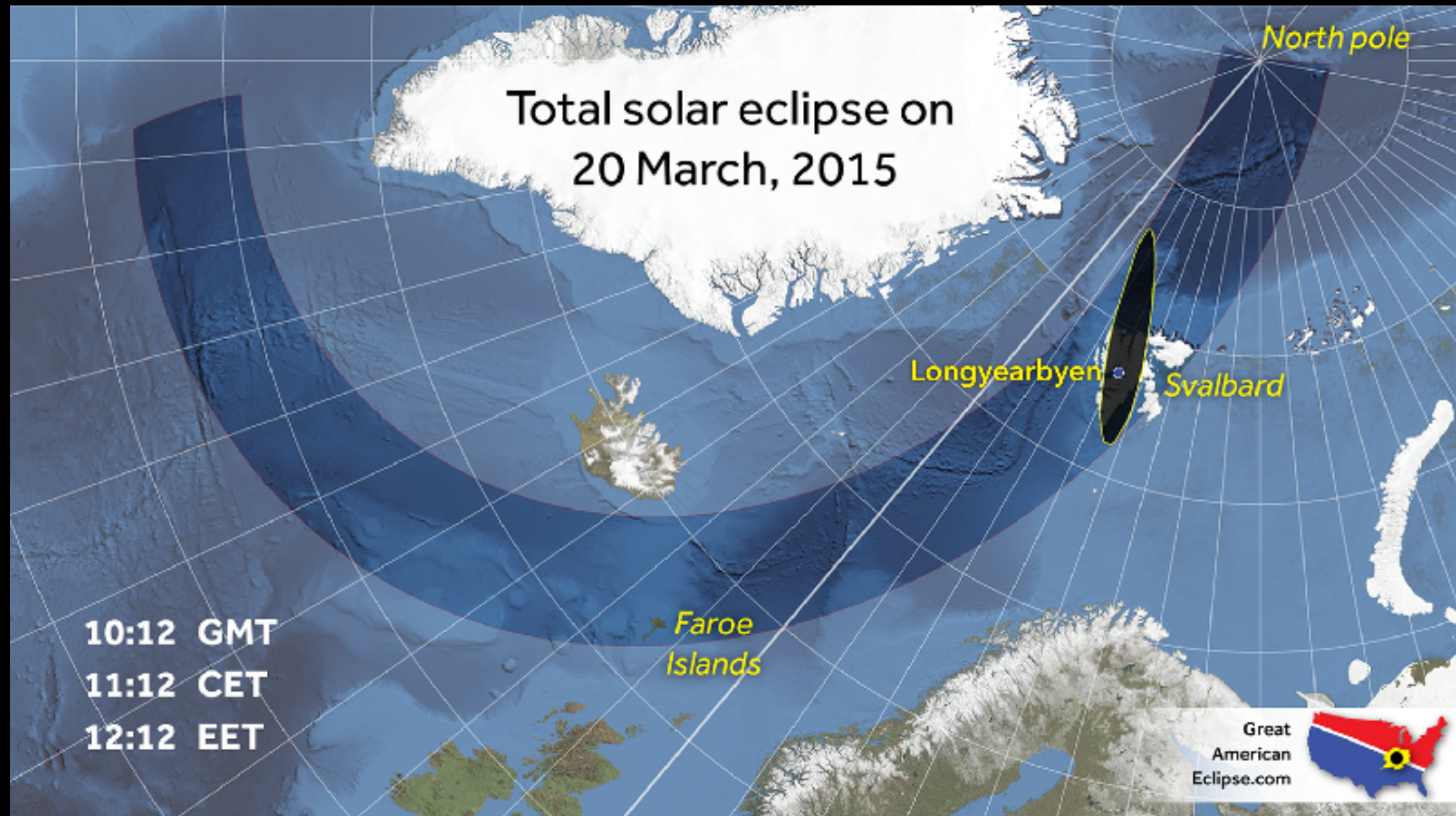


April 29, 2014, partial eclipse, from Albany, Western Australia



partial solar eclipse of October 23, 2014, viewed from
Sacramento Peak Observatory, Sunspot, New Mexico

March 20, 2015, eclipse



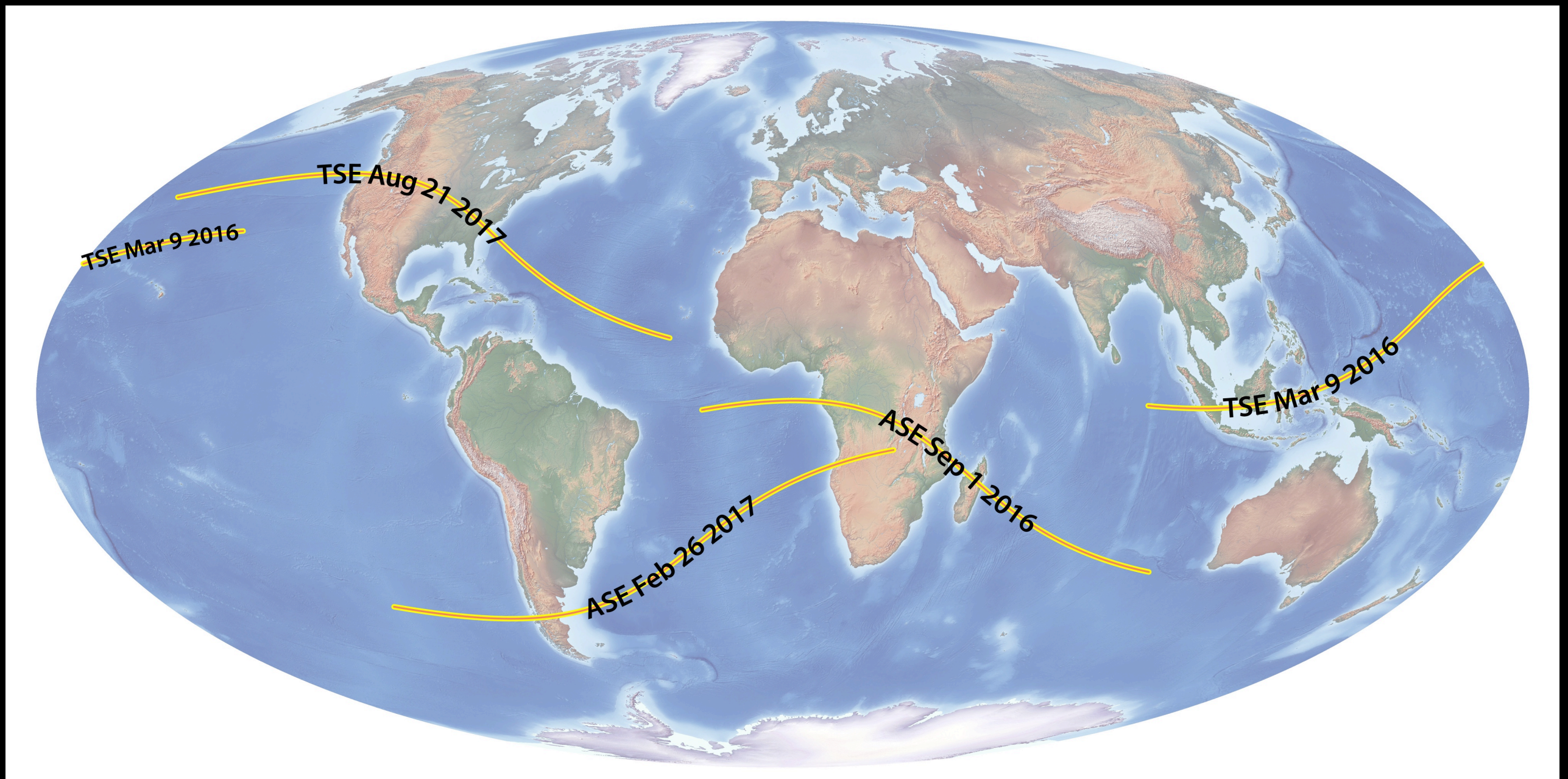
Map by Michael Zeiler

We were supported by a grant from the Committee for Research and Exploration of the National Geographic Society, with additional support from Williams College.



Fisheye image by Michael Zeiler

2015-2018



map by Michael Zeiler, eclipse-maps.com

Total solar eclipse of August 21, 2017

Eclipse magnitude is the maximum fraction of the Sun's diameter occulted by the Moon

Times given are for the moment of the local greatest eclipse

18:00 UT = 11 a.m. PDT = 12 p.m. MDT = 1 p.m. CDT = 2 p.m. EDT

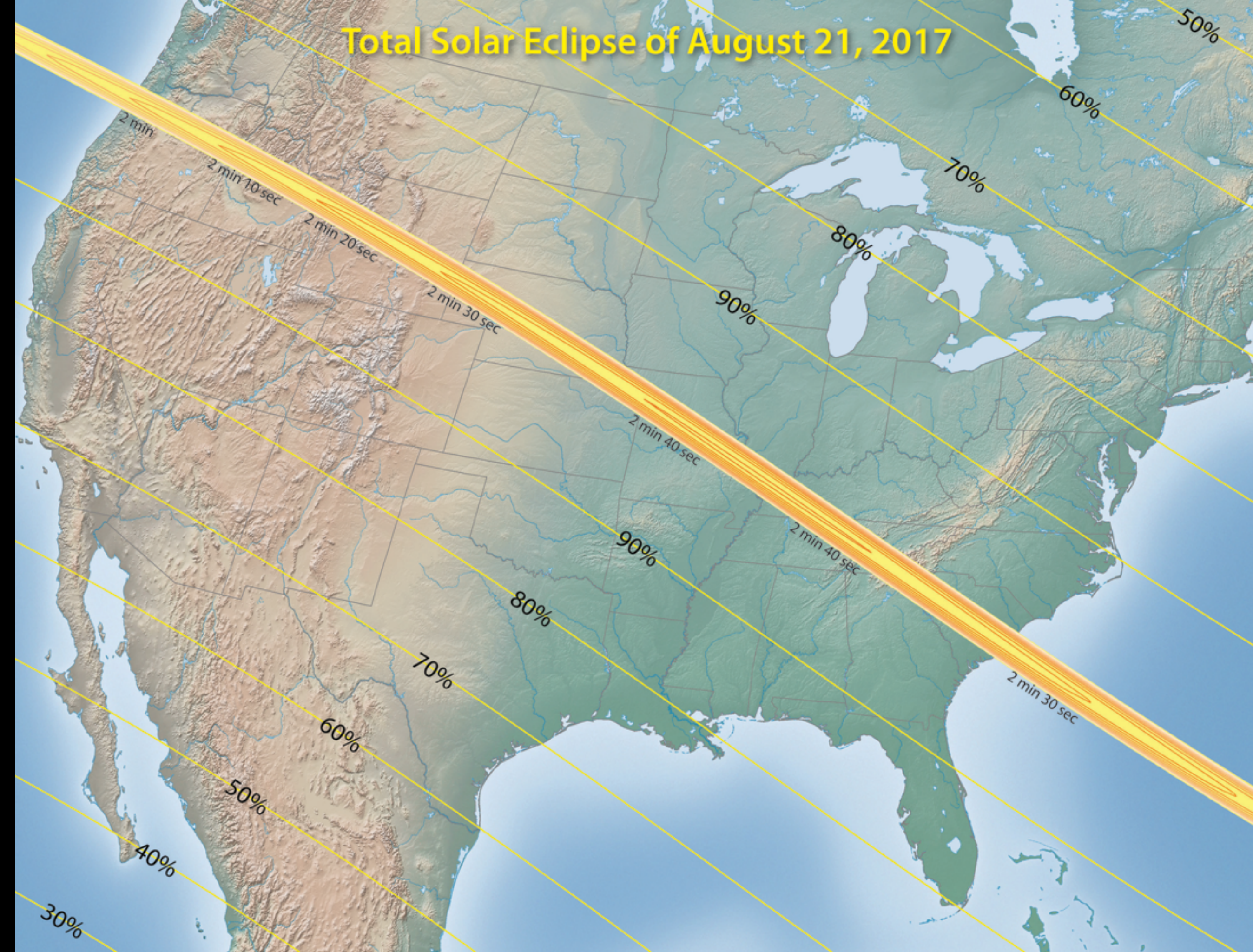
Map by Michael Zeiler, January 2015

Calculations by Xavier Jubier, xjubier.free.fr

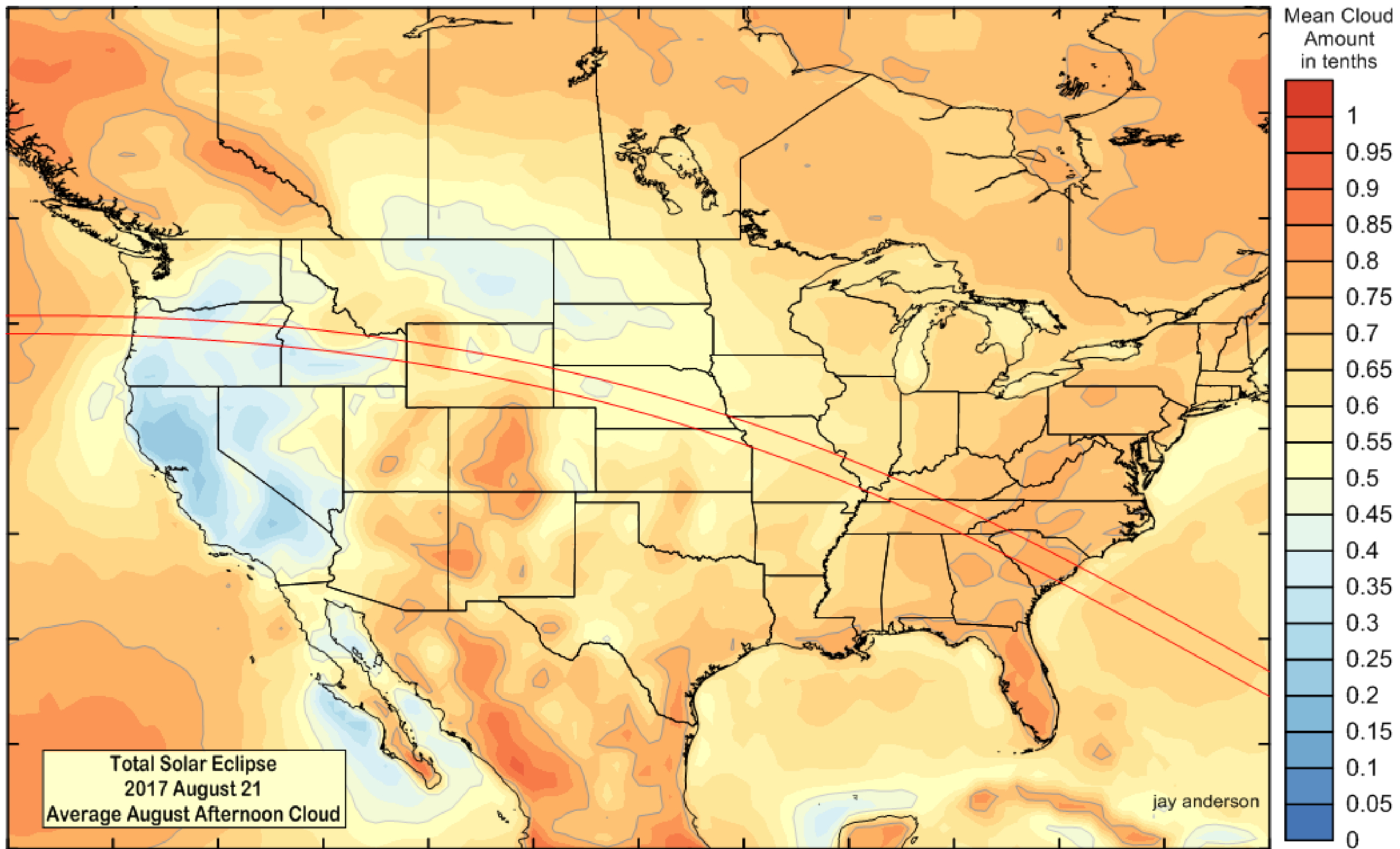
Predictions by Fred Espenak, eclipsewise.com

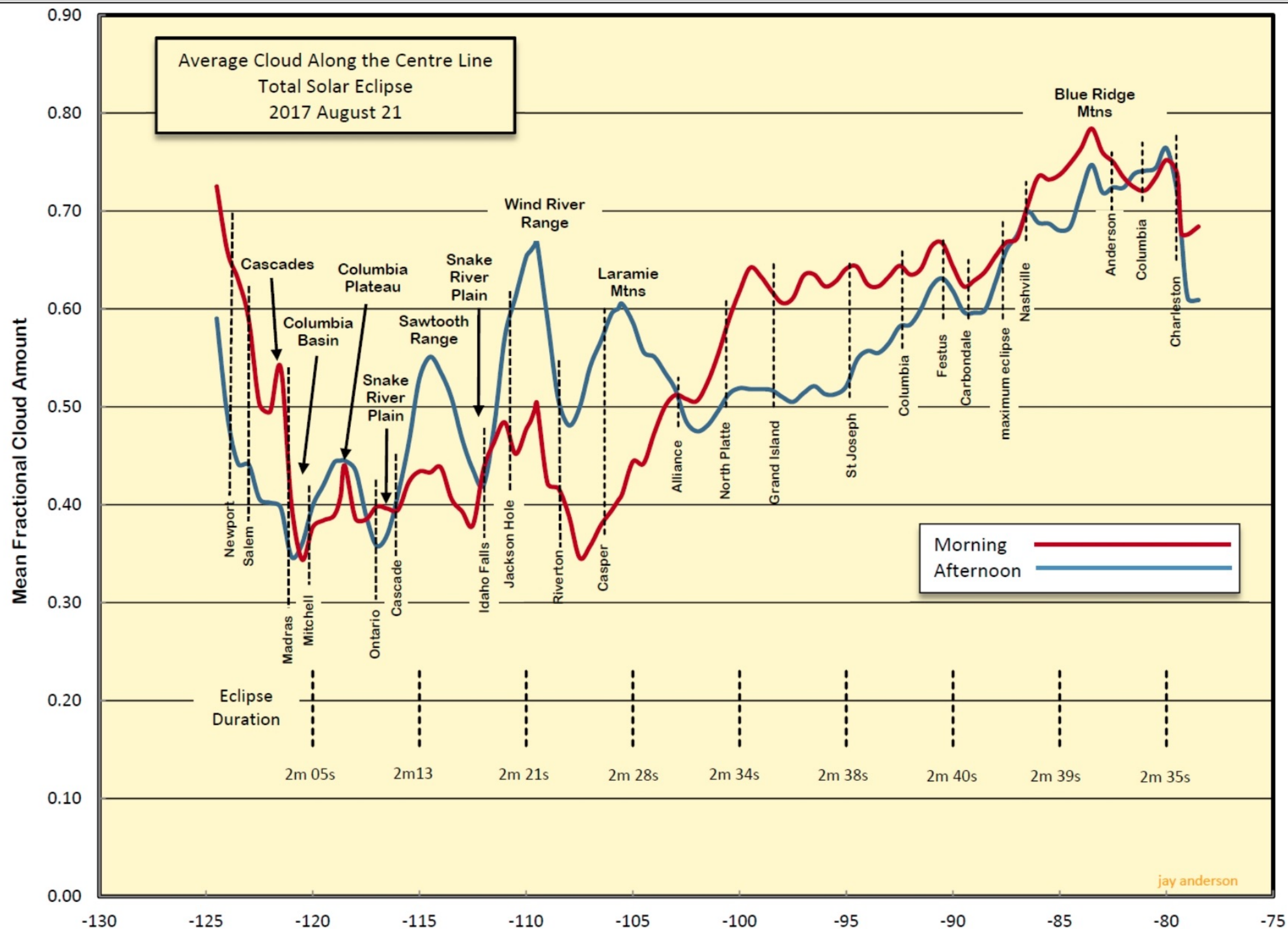


Total Solar Eclipse of August 21, 2017

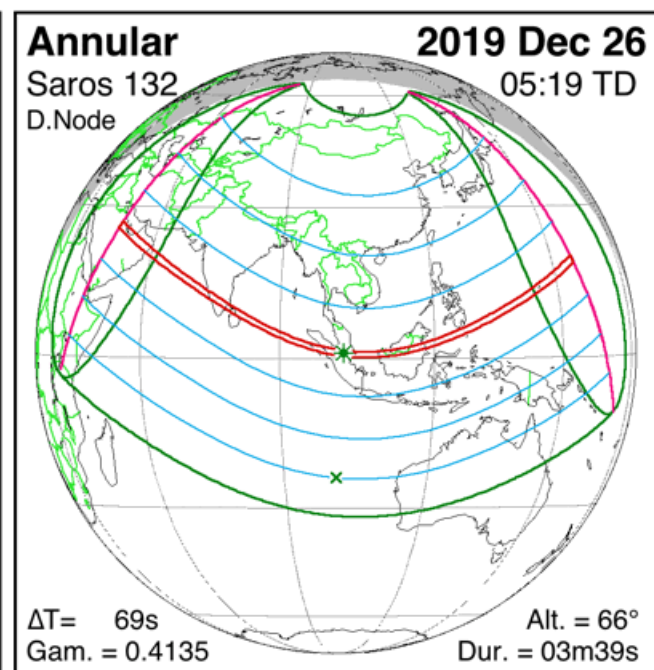
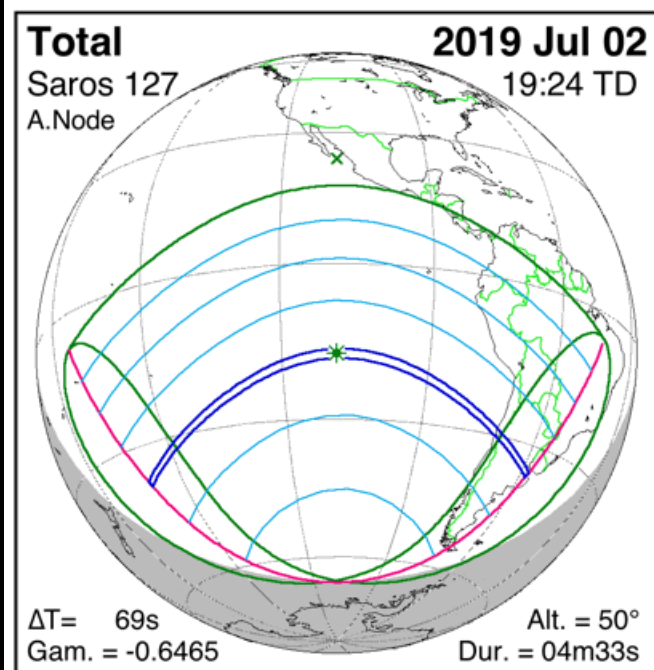
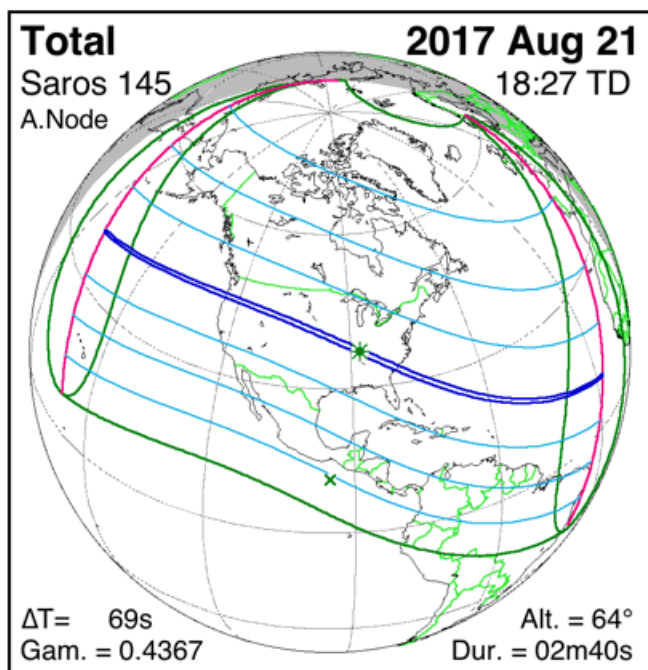
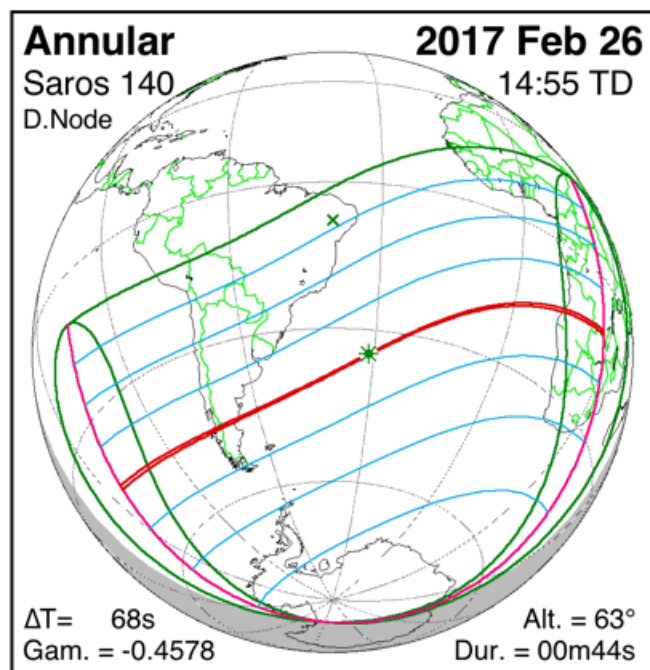
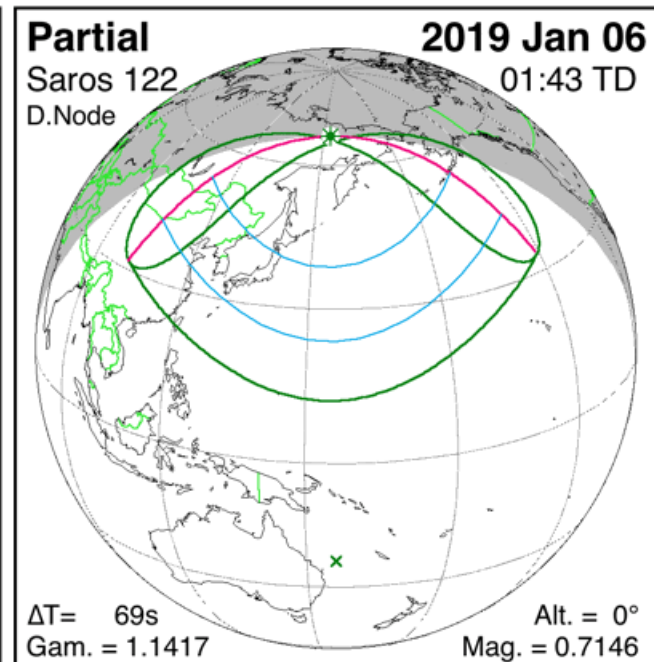
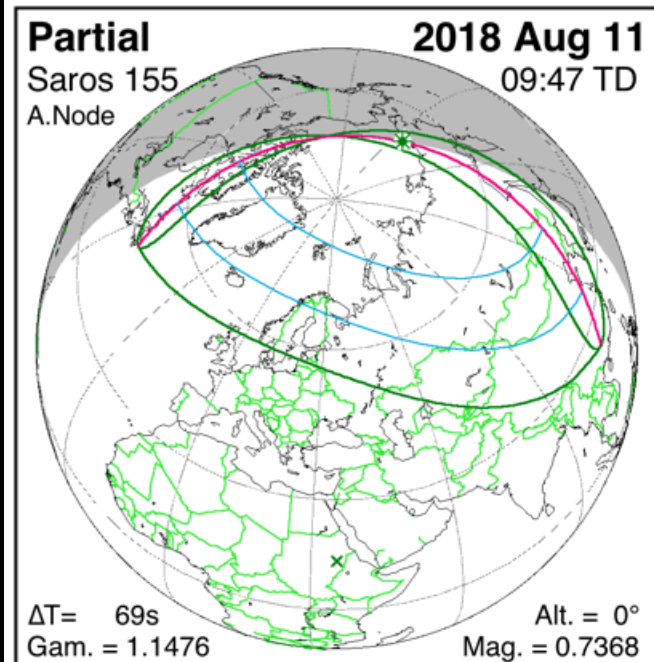
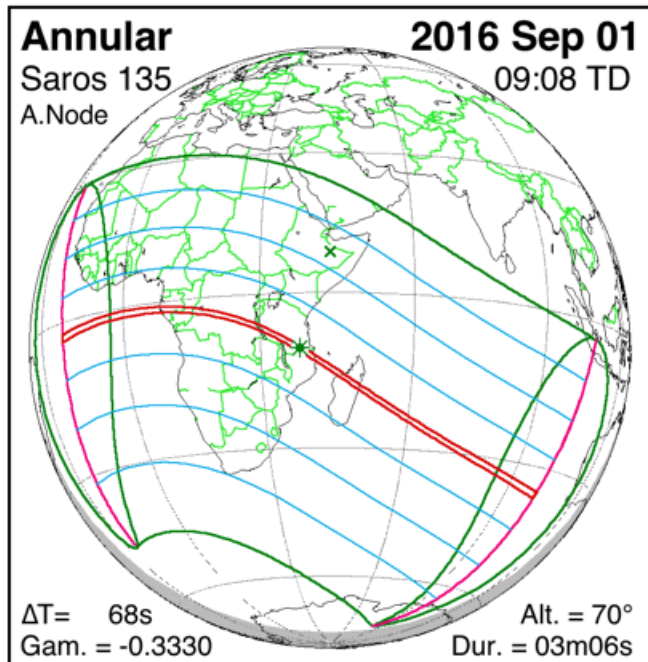
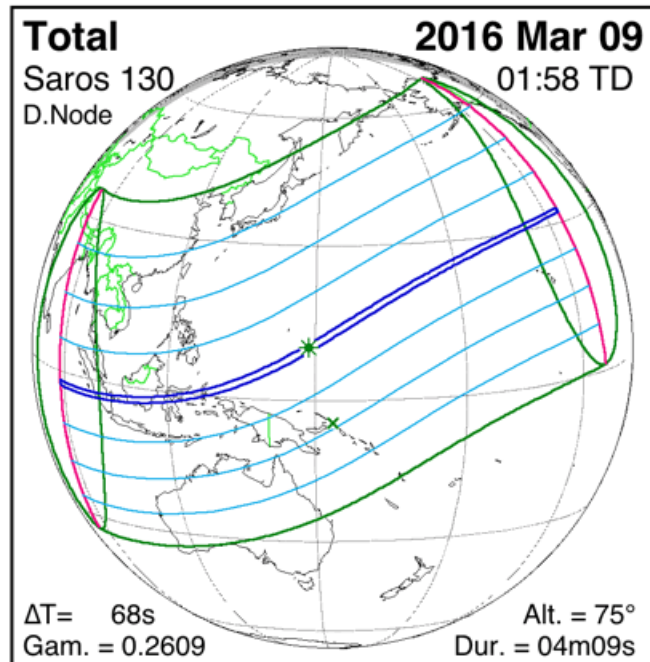
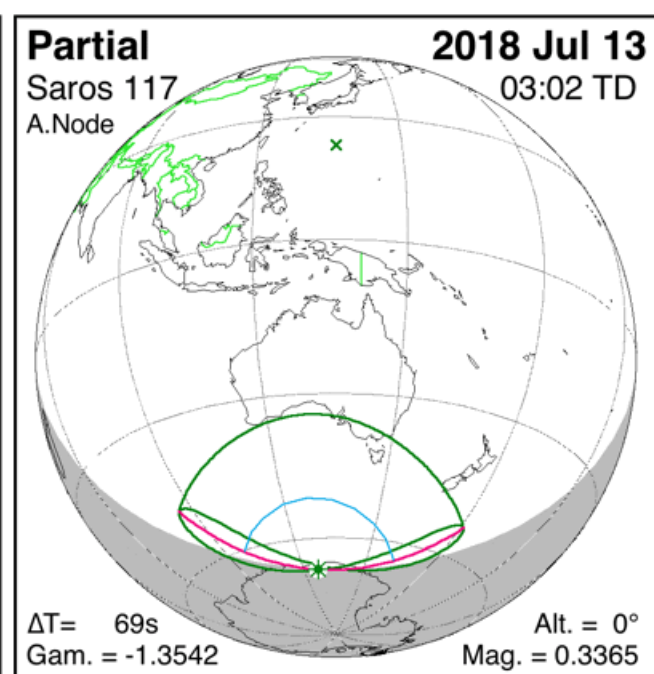
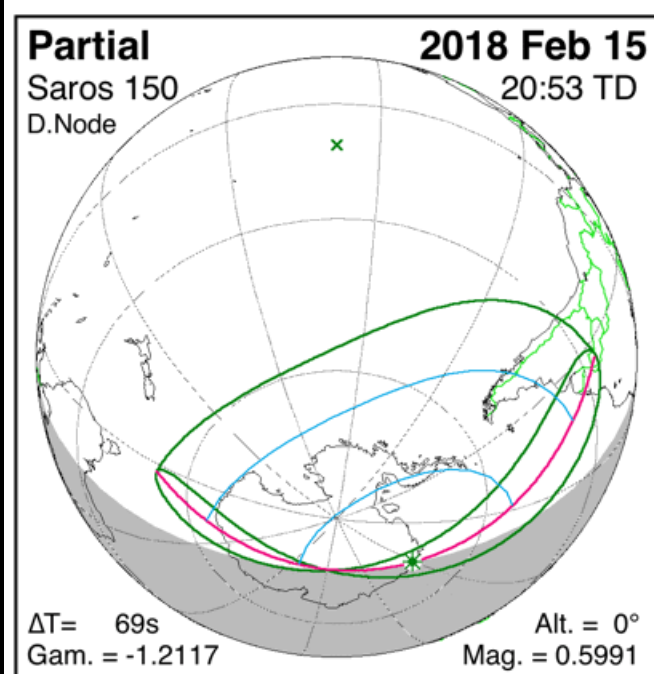
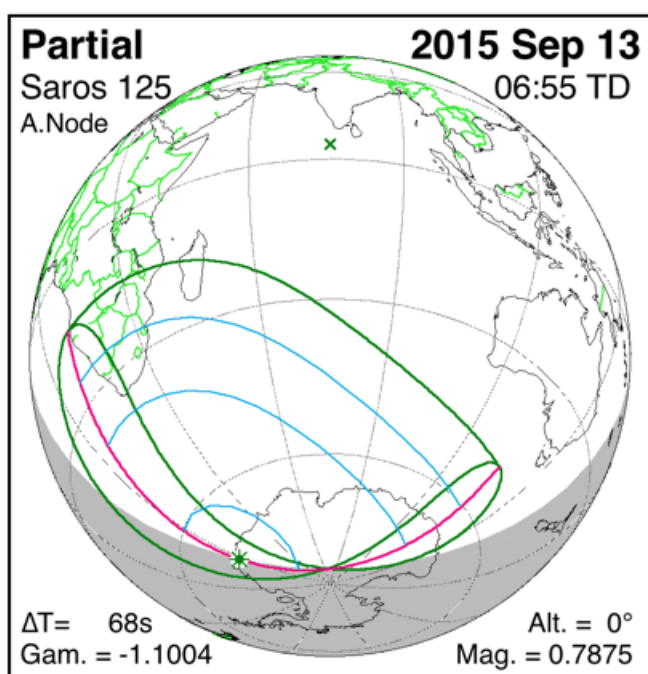
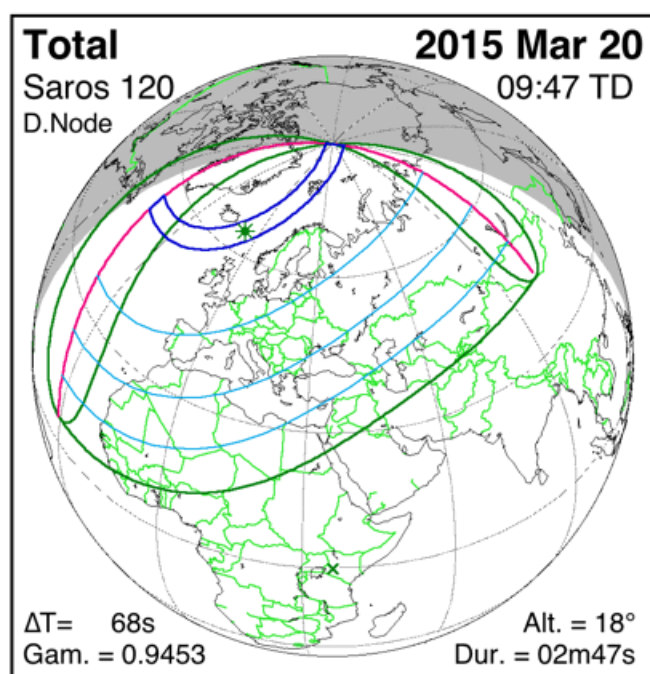


2017





Graph 1: Average morning and afternoon cloud cover along the eclipse centreline extracted from 20 years of satellite imagery. The location of cities and towns along the track are indicated by dashed vertical lines above their names. Prominent topographical features are named above the graphs. Source: Patmos-X: CIMMS/ SSEC.



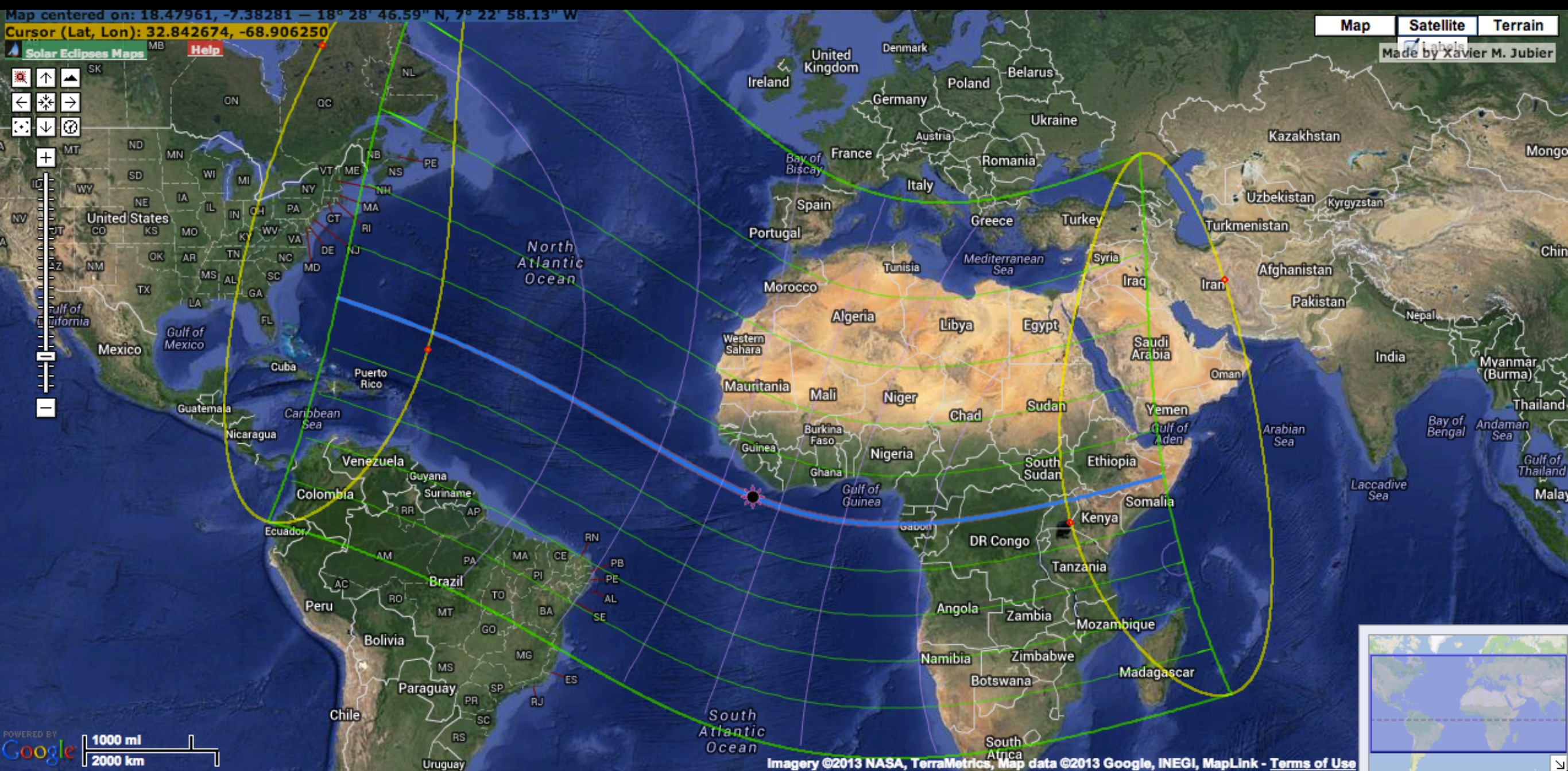


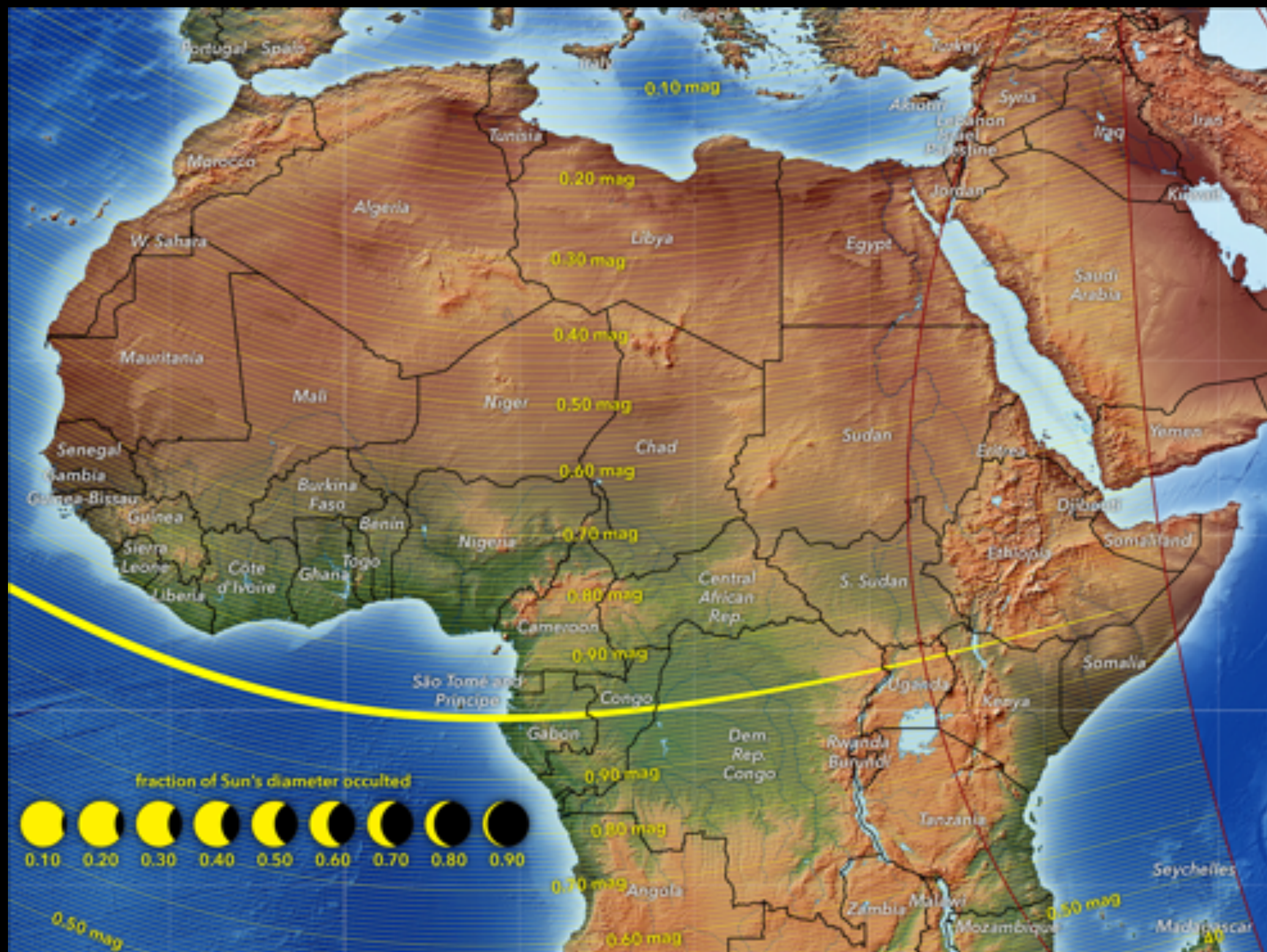
- Dr. Don Bienfang of the Brigham Hospital in Boston recently issued a statement (aetnahealth) that includes the incorrect information "No phase of a solar eclipse, even the total eclipse phase, is safe to watch without filters or projection techniques" and I will send him your references. From his signature, he is "Chief of Neuro-Ophthalmology Harvard Medical School, Brigham and Women's Hospital. Associate Prof HMS." We would like him to withdraw the phrase "even the total eclipse phase," which is clearly incorrect.

- Bienfang, Don C., M.D. <DBIENFANG@partners.org>
- 7/14/14
- to Jay
- Wow, all this about an eclipse! A gentle approach and wording goes a long way. In any case I will attend to this ASAP if for no other reason than.

- Bienfang, Don C.,M.D. <DBIENFANG@partners.org>
- Attachments7/21/14
- to Jay
- I have touched this up a bit. My original article was based on the assumption that the high energy UV light of the sun was refracted by the atmosphere of the moon and thus could reach the eye unnoticed..

Nov 3, 2013







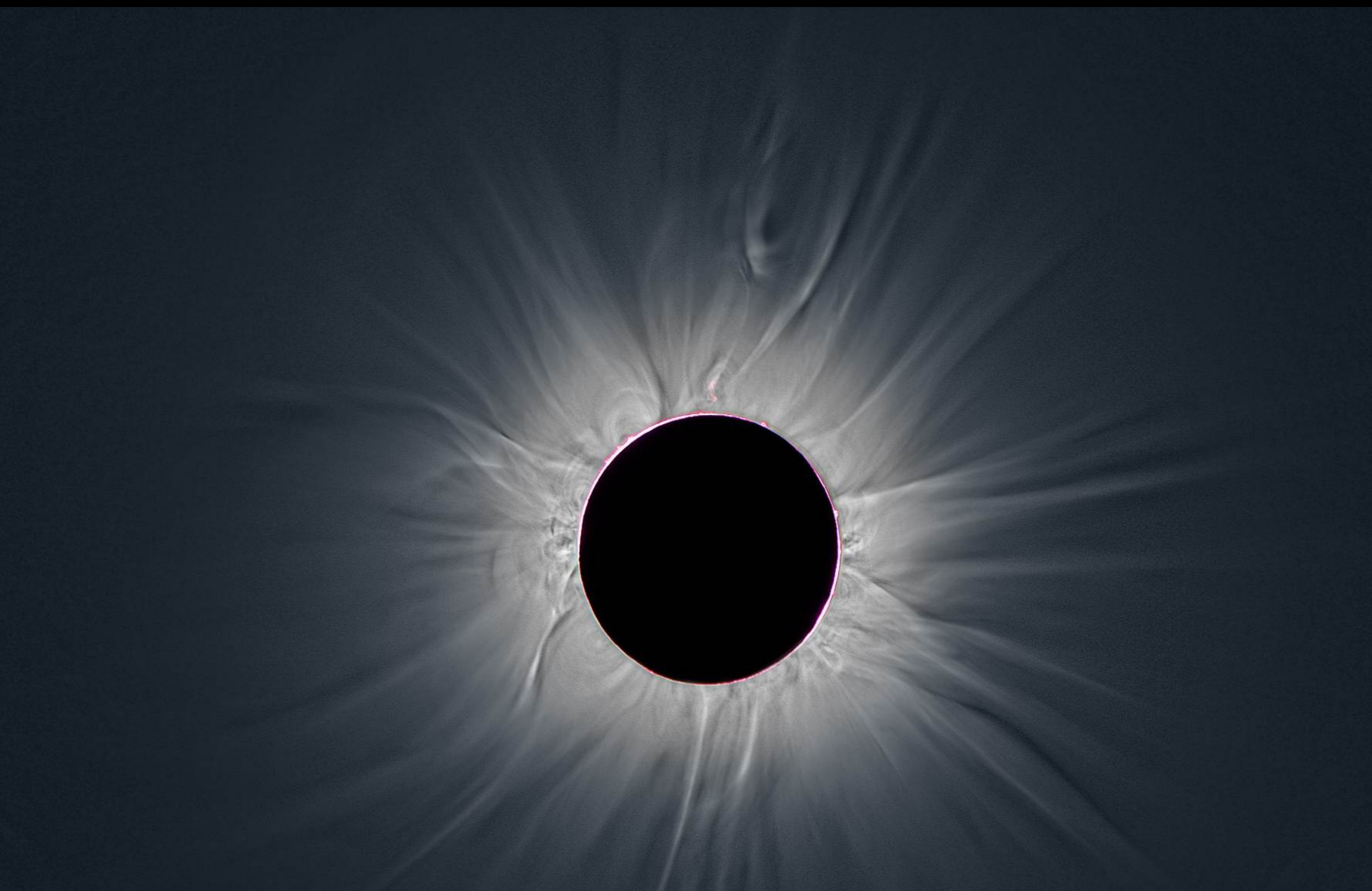


alongside La Lopé National Park, Gabon



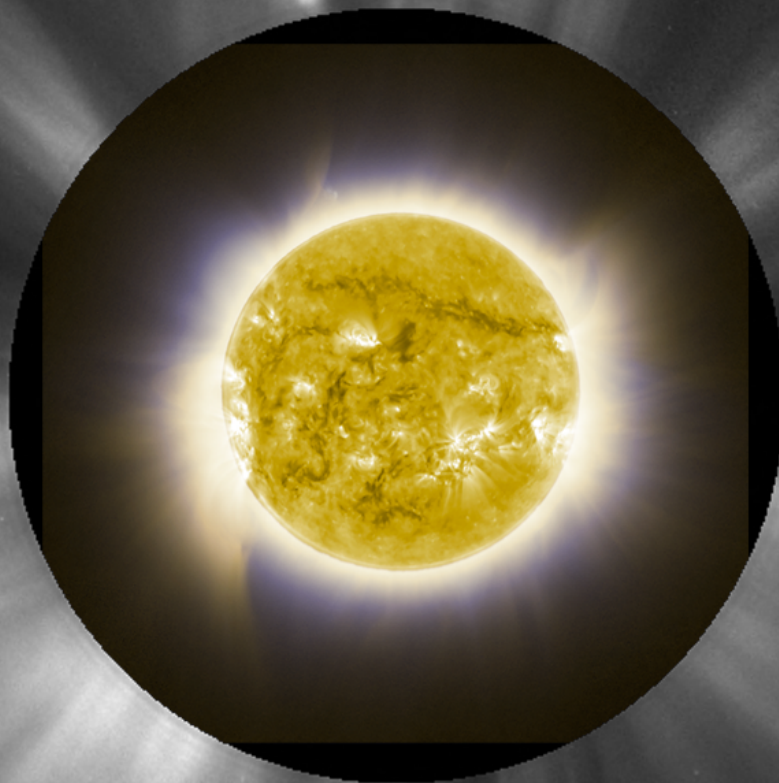


3 November 2013, Gabon

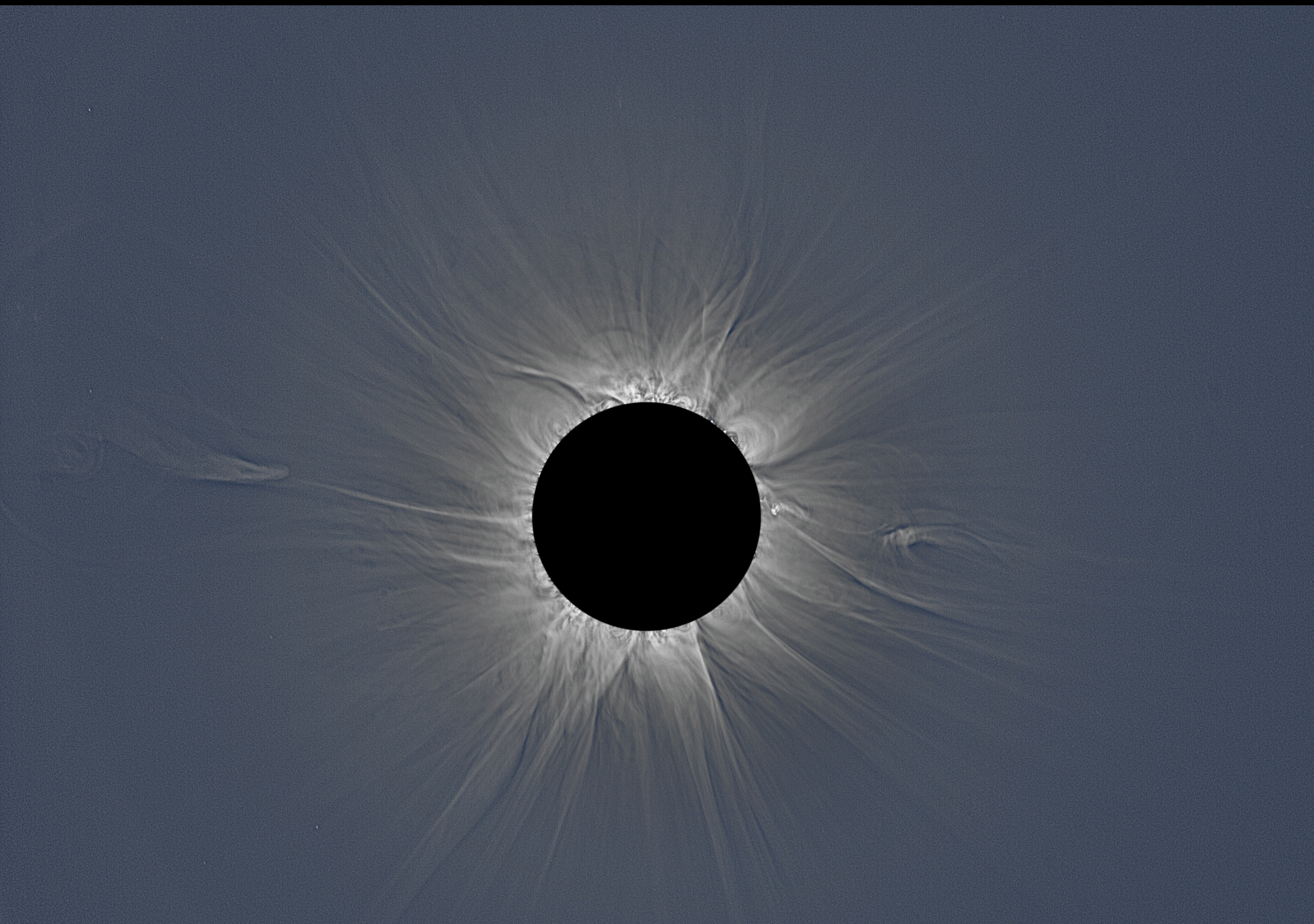


Williams College Eclipse Expedition; combination by Paul Gaintatzis from images by Allen Davis and Jay Pasachoff

Inner: SWAP
Middle: ground-based
Outer: LASCO



NASA's Astronomy Picture
of the Day for November 11



Williams College Expedition: Jay Pasachoff, Allen Davis '14, Vojtech Rusin, processing by Miloslav Druckmüller

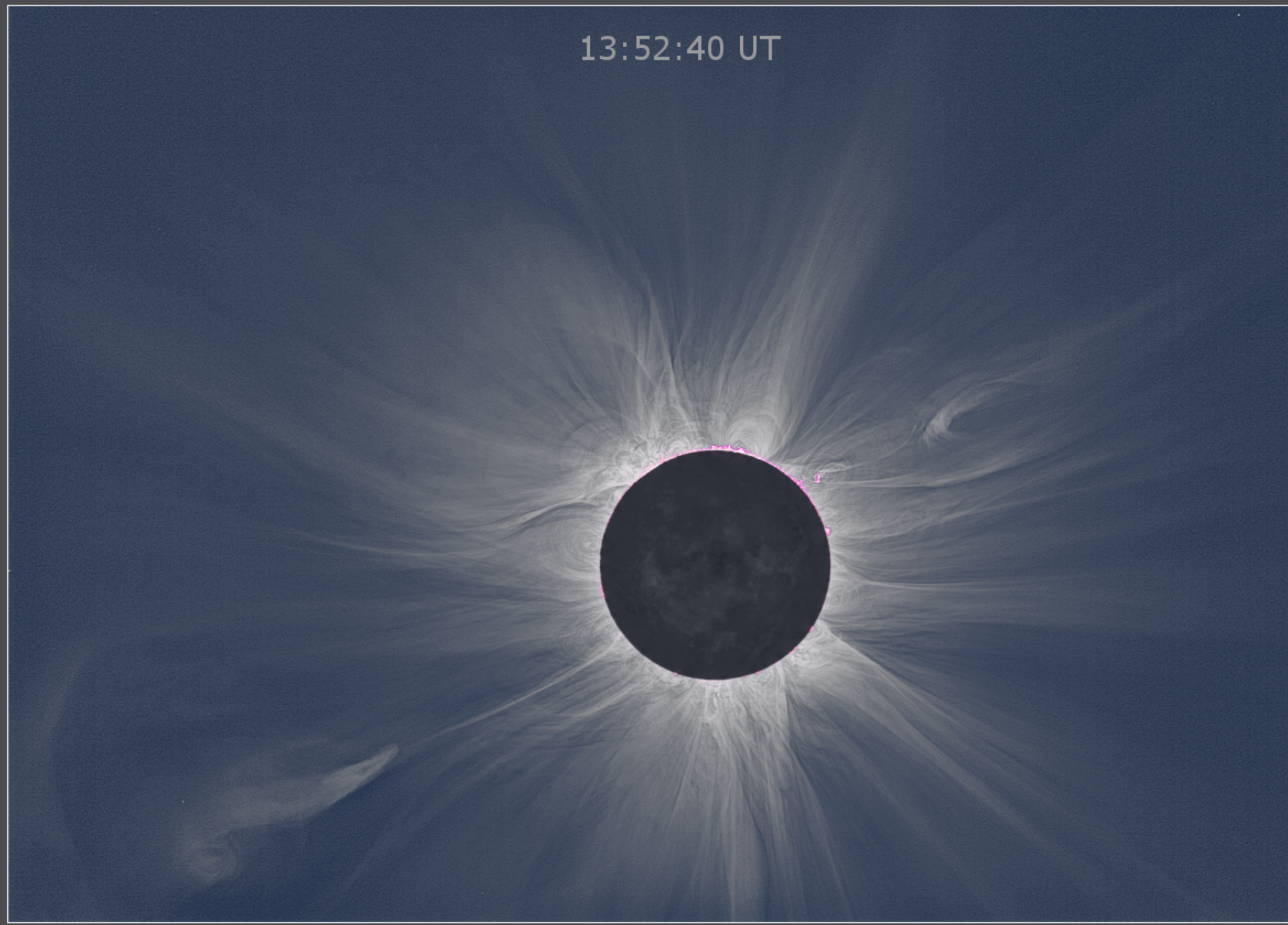
2013 Eclipse GIFs

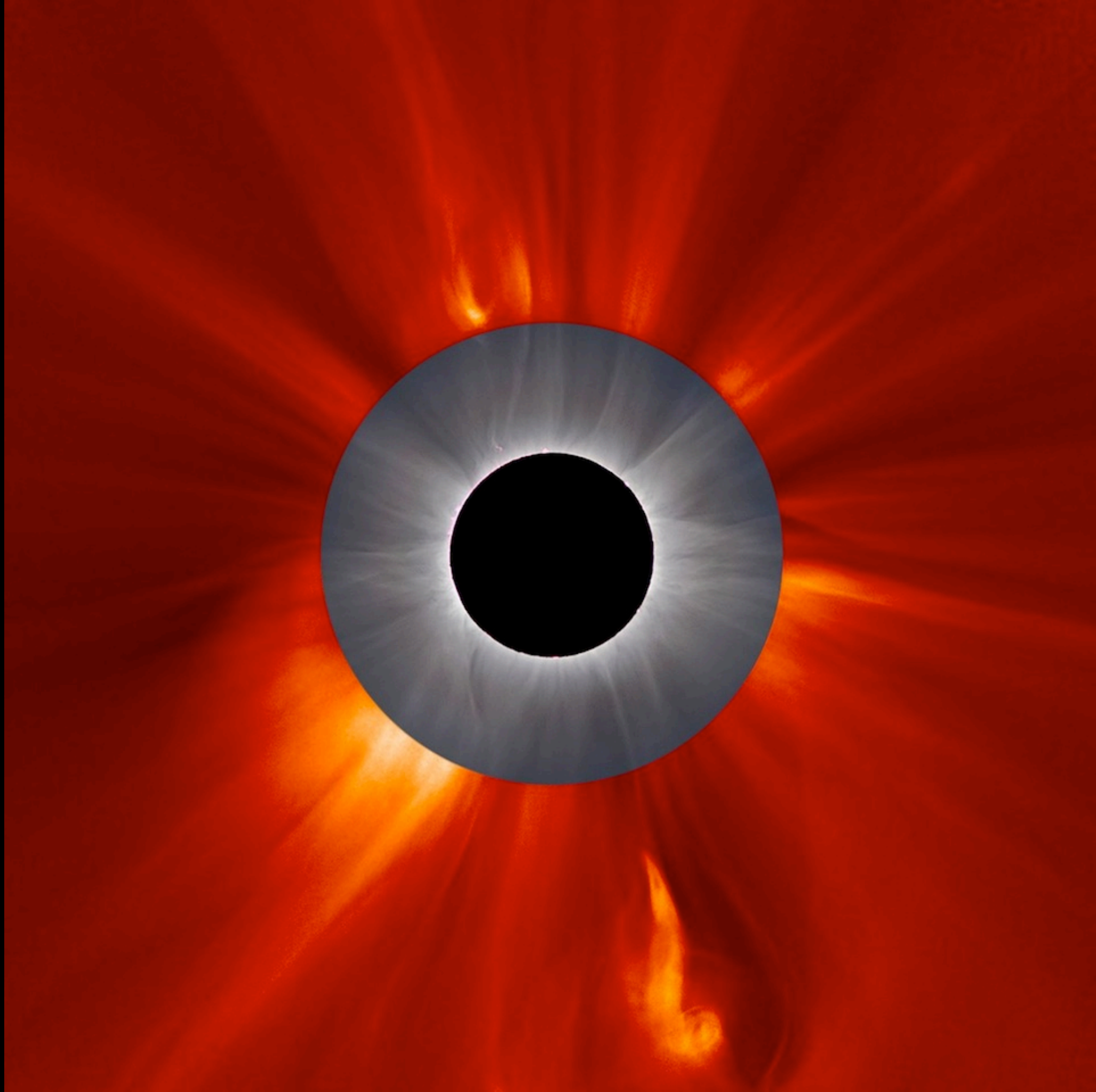
assembled by Tina Seeger '16

2

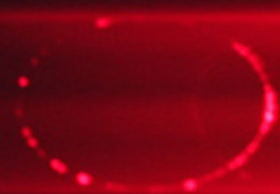
- Druckmüller: Gabon (Constantinos Emmanouilidis), Gabon (Jay Pasachoff, Allen Davis, Vojtech Rusin), Uganda (Petr Horálek – Úpice Observatory, Jan Sládeček), Kenya (Pavel Štarha, Kristián Molnár, Shadia Habbal)
- UTC: 13:52:40, 13:55:44, 14:22:18, 14:24:46

13:52:40 UT





FLASH SPECTRUM VISUAL SPECTROGRAPH 3001/mm 13:56:04UT



Ha FeX
6563Å 6374Å



HeI
5876Å

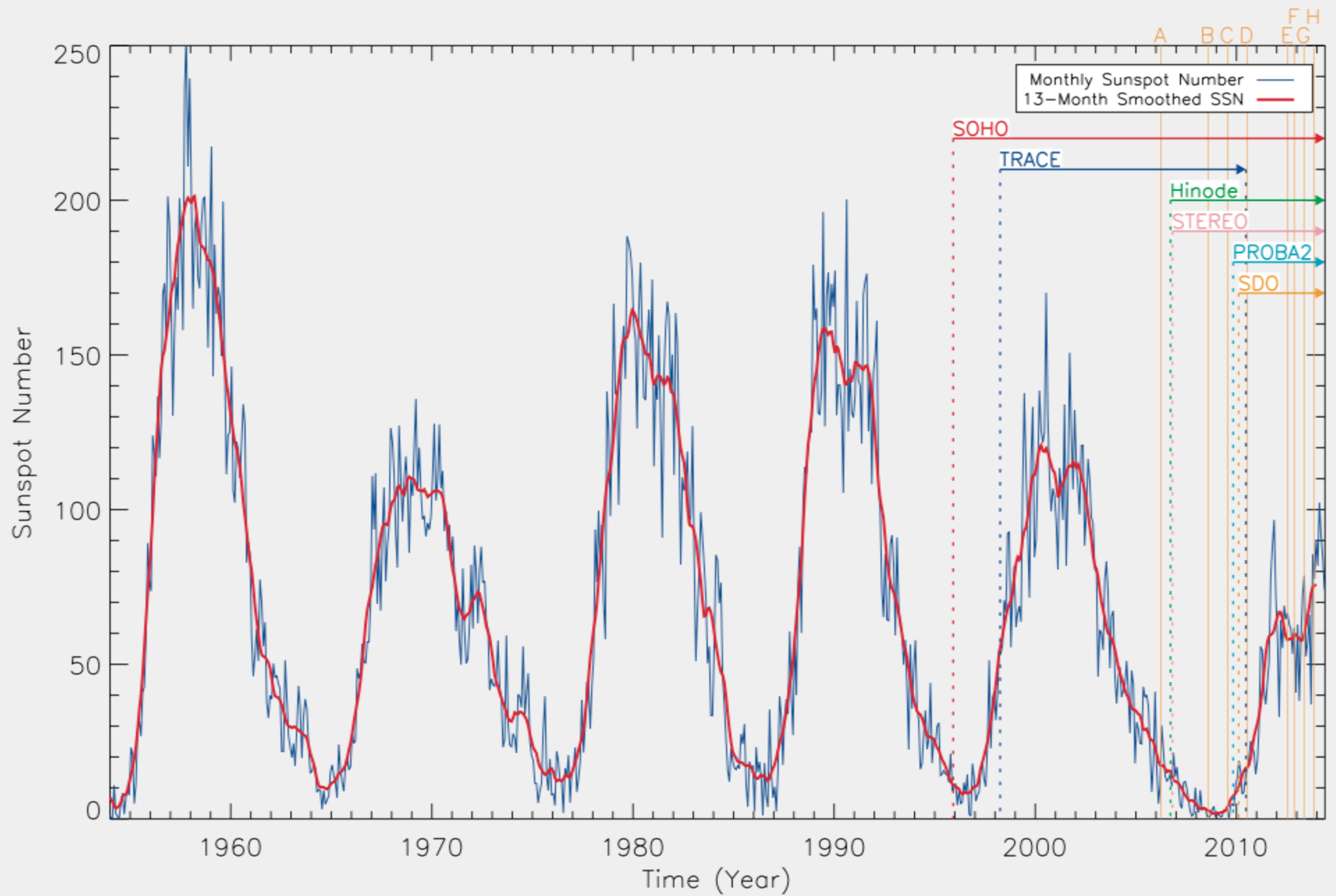


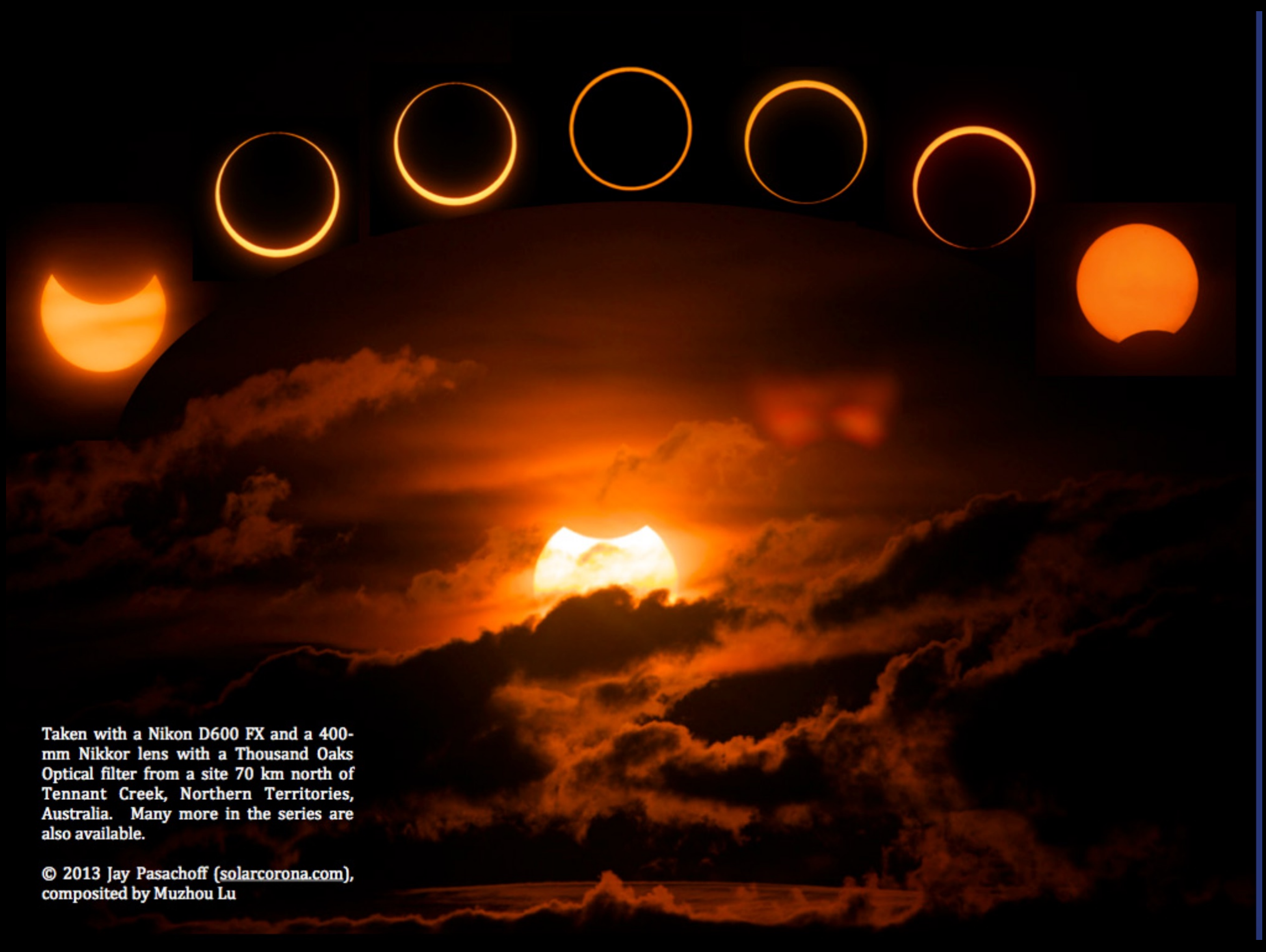
FeXIV
5303Å



Hβ
4861Å

Aris Voulgaris, Aristotle U. Thessaloniki





Taken with a Nikon D600 FX and a 400-mm Nikkor lens with a Thousand Oaks Optical filter from a site 70 km north of Tennant Creek, Northern Territories, Australia. Many more in the series are also available.

© 2013 Jay Pasachoff (solarcorona.com),
composed by Muzhou Lu

Map centered on: -54.26522, 123.04688 - 54° 15' 54.81" S, 123° 02' 48.75" E

Cursor (Lat, Lon): -54.26522, 123.04688


Solar Eclipses Maps Ethiopia Help



Map Satellite Terrain

Made by Xavier M. Jubier

34° 44' 29.80" S <=> -34.74161°
151° 10' 18.75" E <=> 151.17188° (partial solar eclipse) [Help](#)

Obscuration : ???  Magnitude at maximum : 0.54153
Moon/Sun size ratio : 0.98364

Event (ΔT=68.6s)	Date	Time (UT)	Alt	Azi	P	V
Start of partial eclipse (C1) :	2014/04/29	06:11:39.7	+11.4°	296.7°	234°	08.5
Maximum eclipse :	2014/04/29	07:13:52.0*	-00.4°	287.4°	172°	10.5
End of partial eclipse (C4) :	2014/04/29	08:10:05.2*	-11.6°	279.6°	109°	12.5

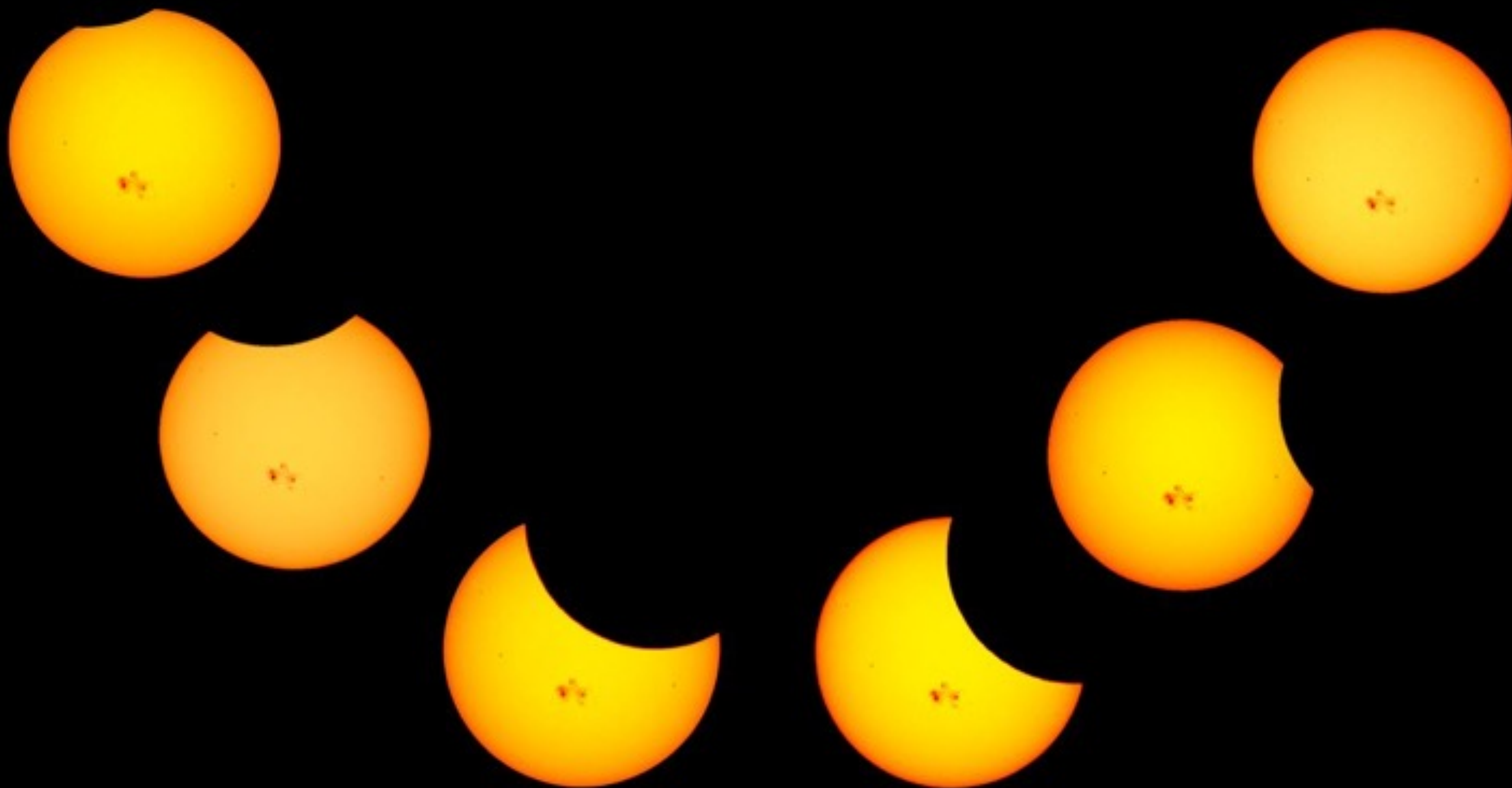
Southern Ocean

ANTARCTICA



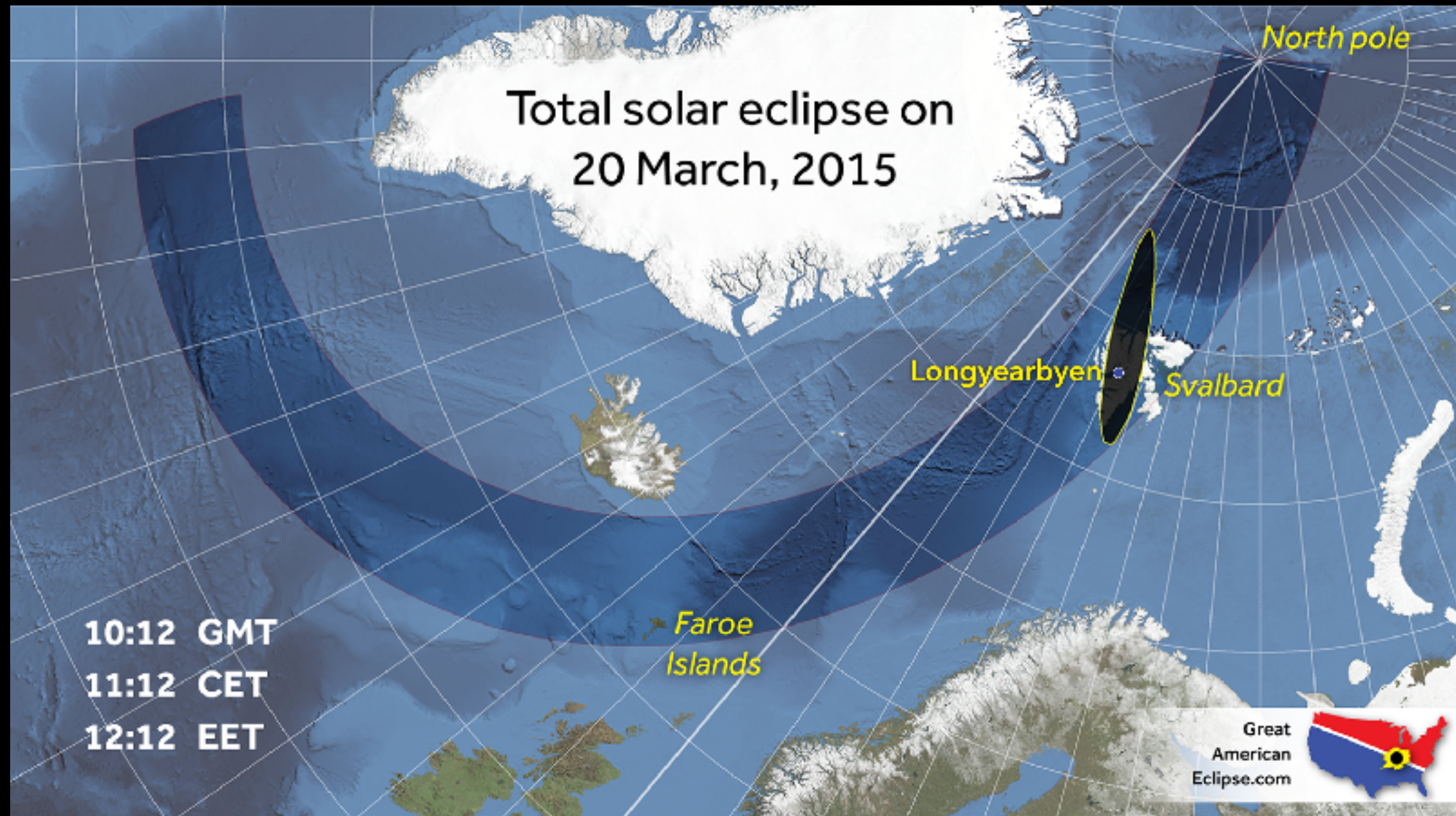


29 April 2014 partial eclipse, from Albany, Western Australia



partial solar eclipse of 23 October 2014, viewed from
Sacramento Peak Observatory, Sunspot, New Mexico

March 20, 2015, eclipse



Map by Michael Zeiler

We were supported by a grant from the Committee for Research and Exploration of the National Geographic Society, with additional support from Williams College.



Ikke rør isbjørnen
Do not touch the polar bear
Det er forbudt å gå på bagasjebåndet
Walking on belt is prohibited
Området er kameraovervåket
The area has camera surveillance





movie by Rob Lucas



movie by Aykut Ak

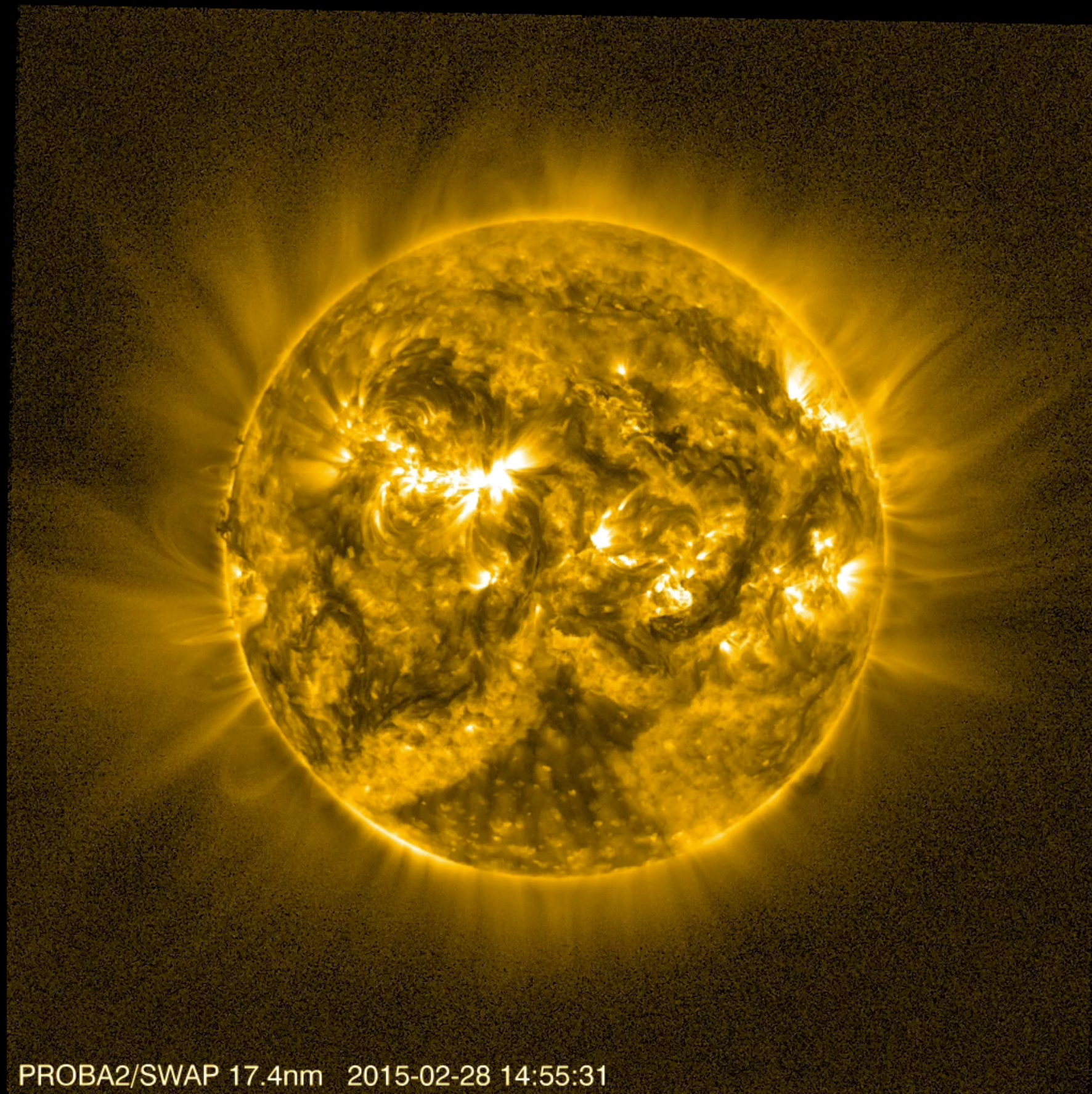




PROBA2/SWAP 174 Å 2015-03-20 08:25:15



Courtesy of Daniel B. Seaton '01, ROB



Courtesy of Daniel B. Seaton '01, Royal Observatory of Belgium













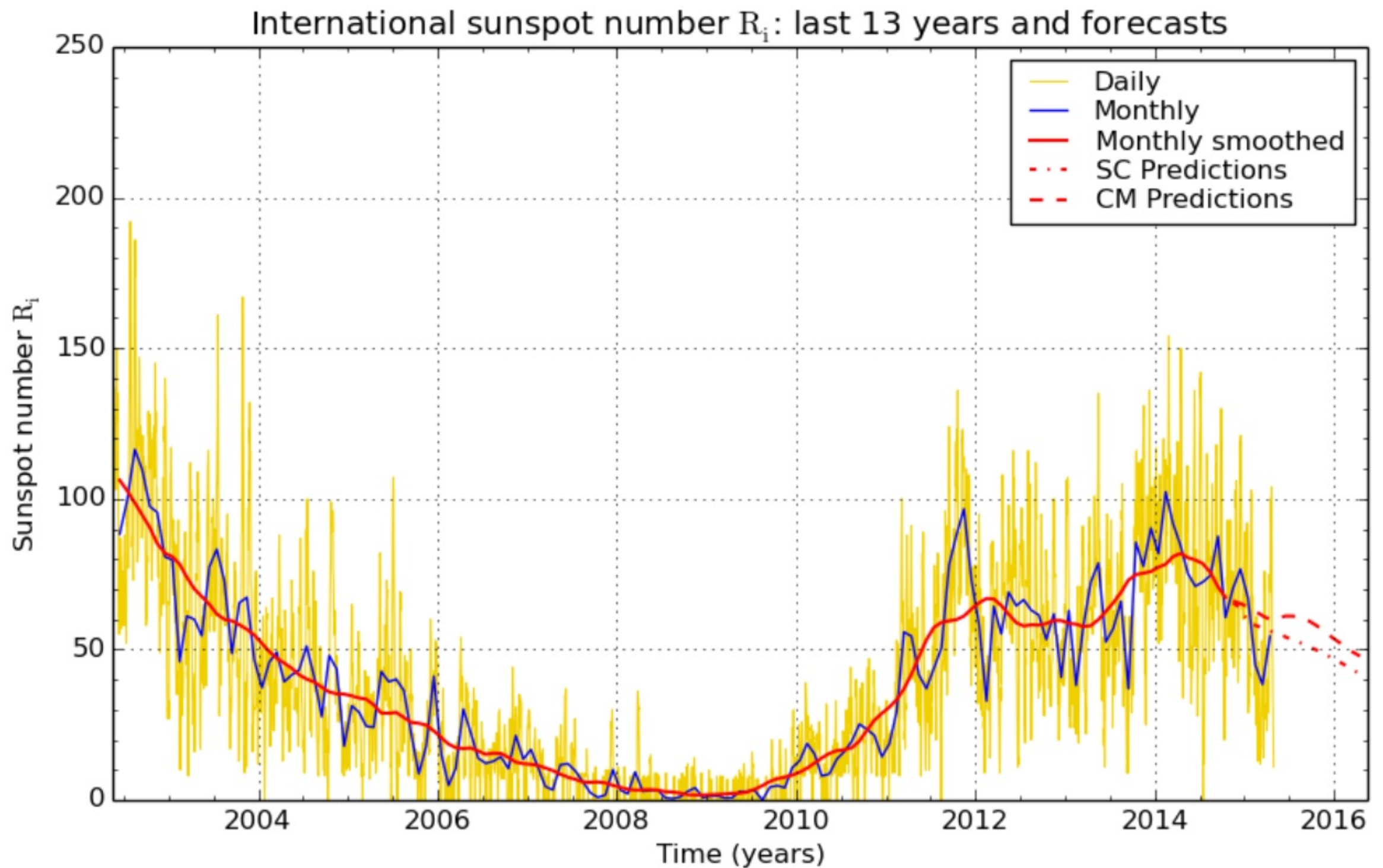


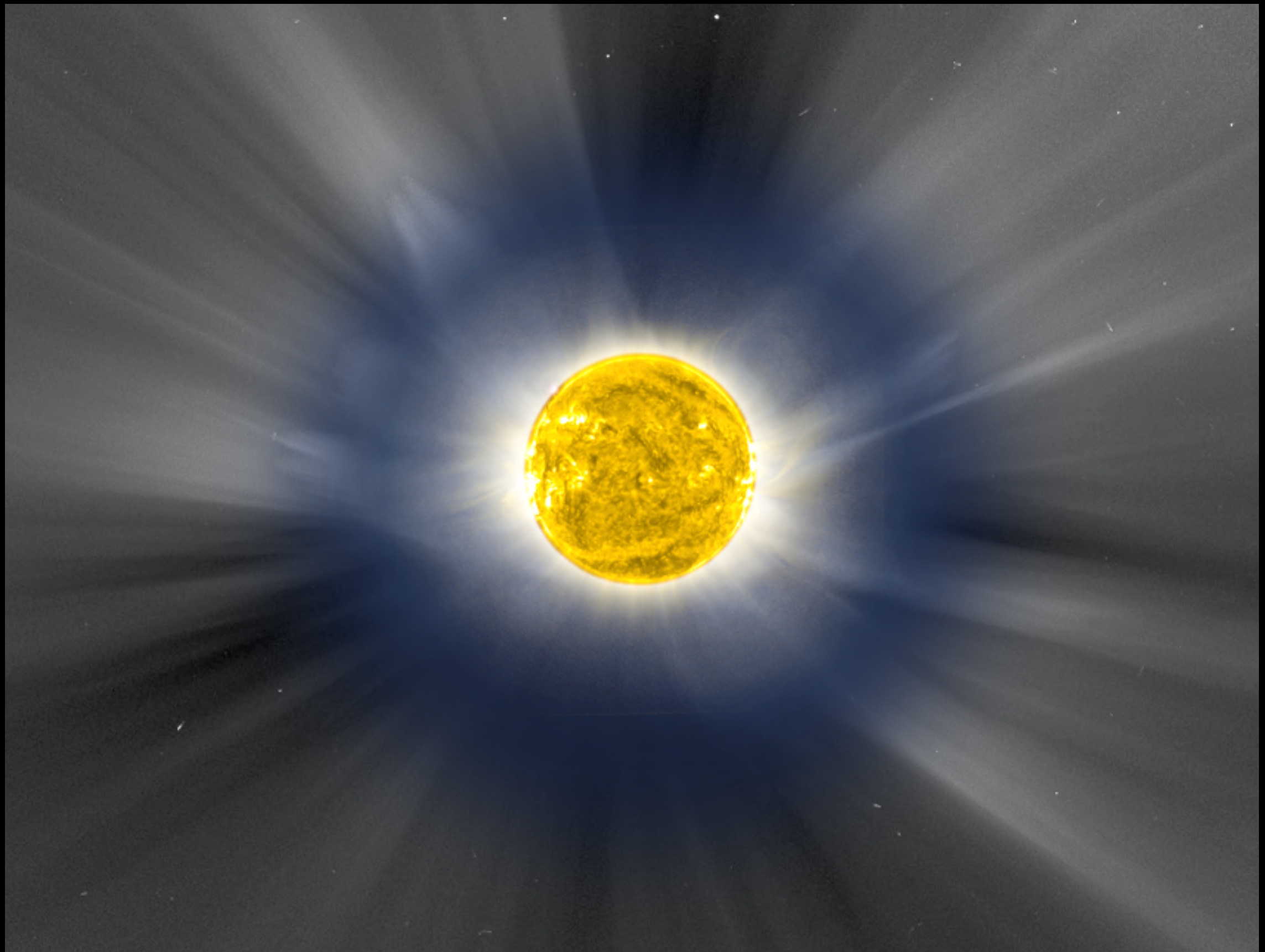




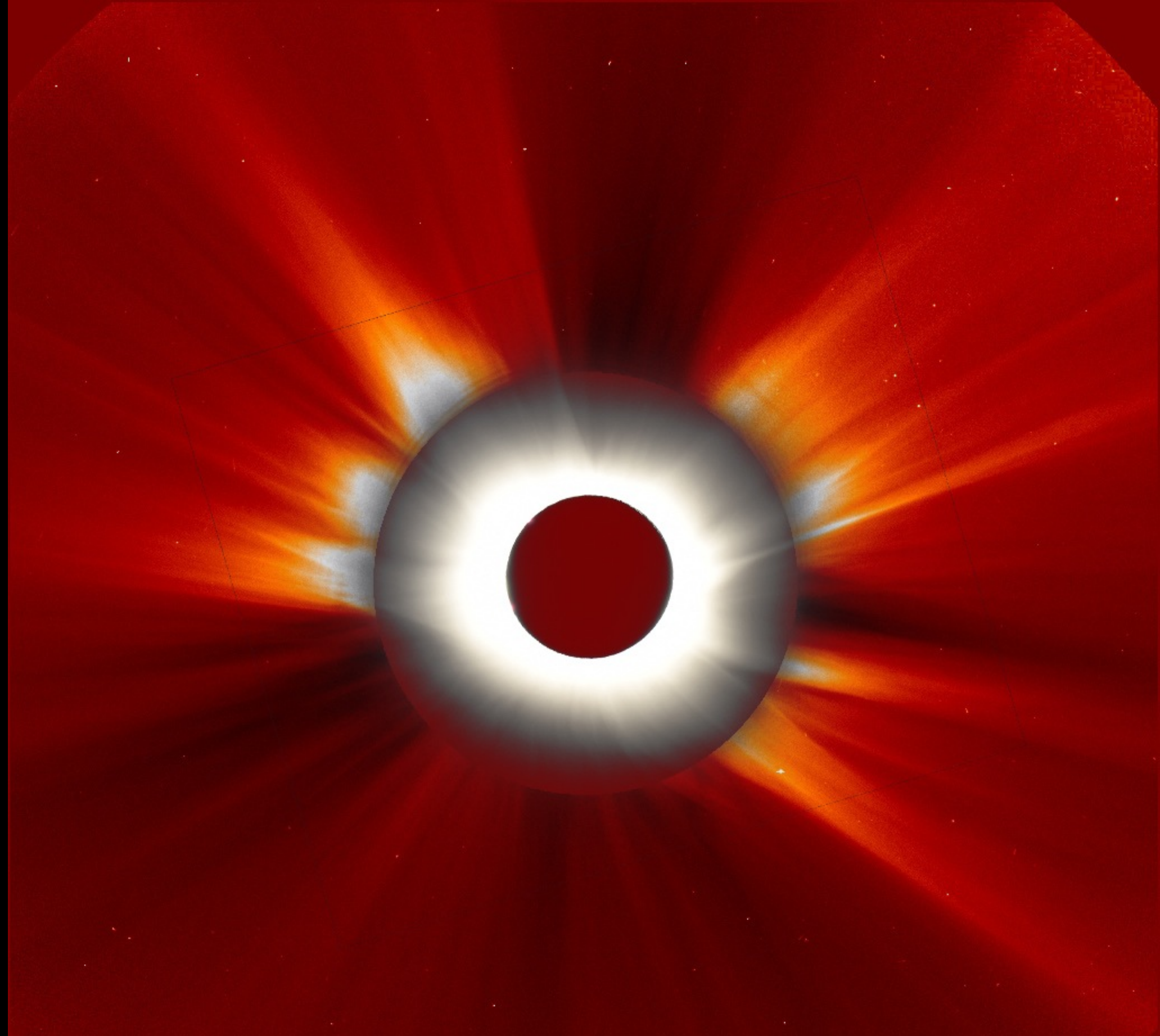


composite image by Jay Pasachoff and Ron Dantowitz





Jay Pasachoff, Allison Carter, Wendy Carlos, and Dan Seaton

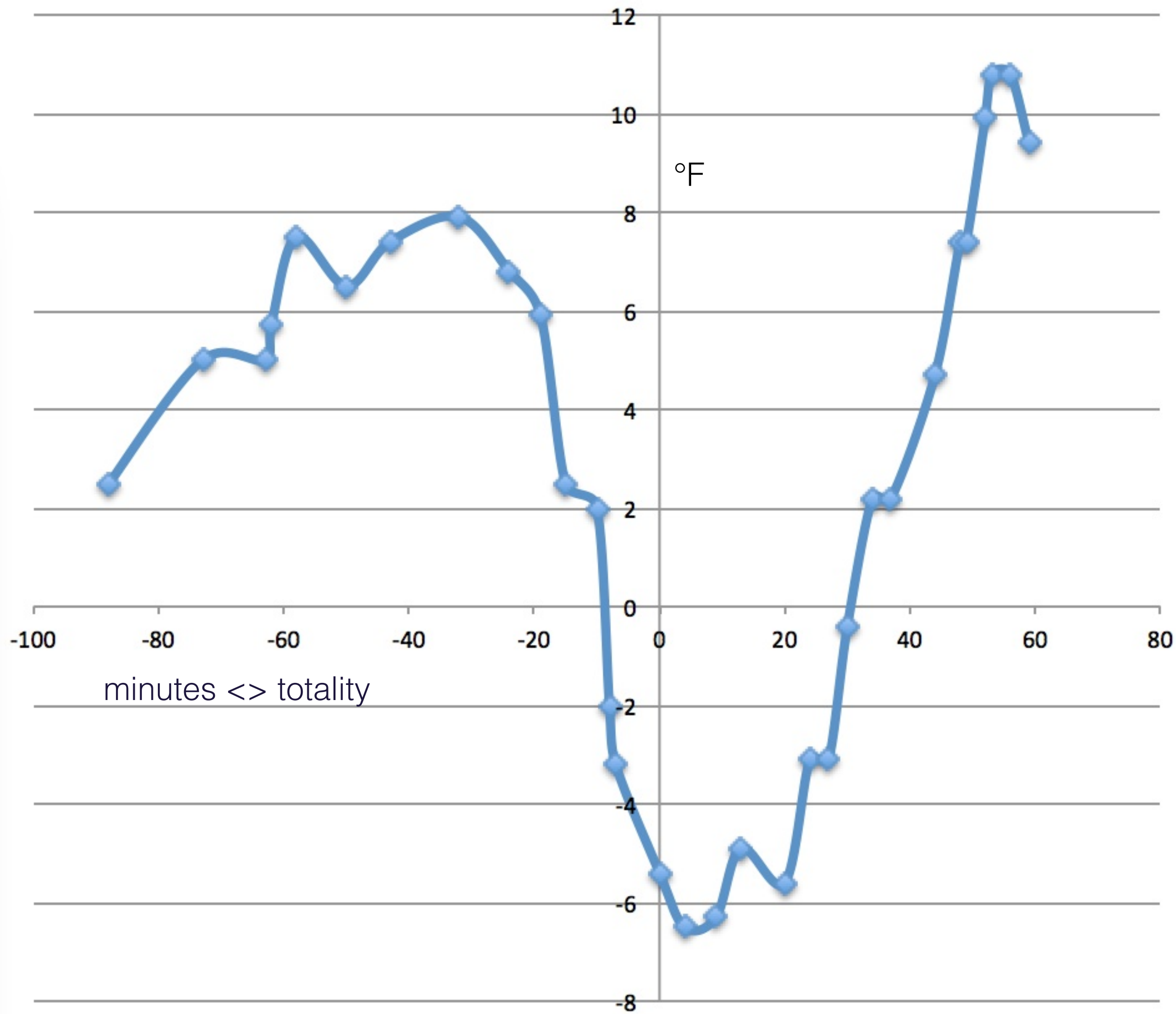


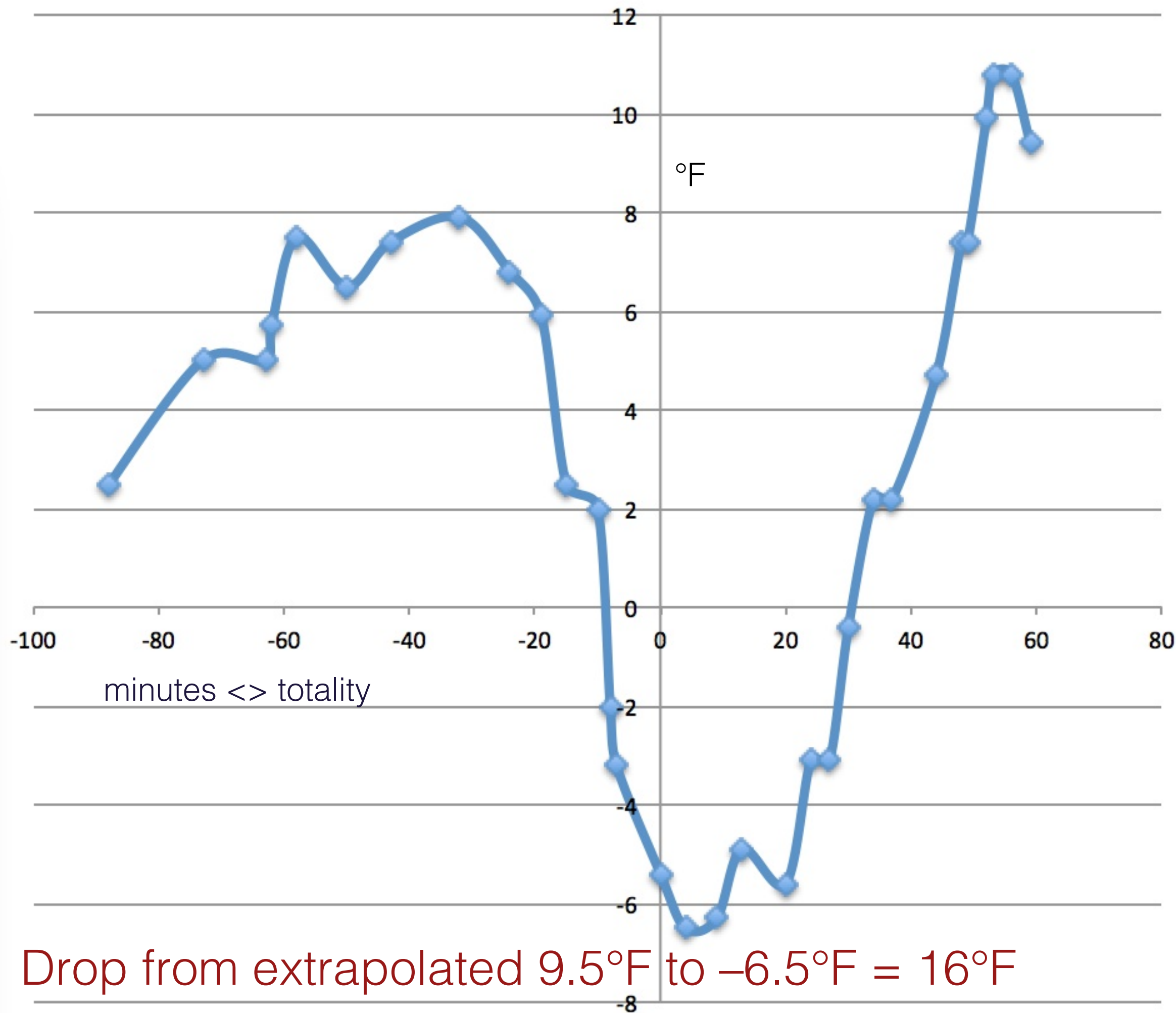
Jay Pasachoff, Allison Carter, and Vojtech Rusin/NASA and NRL

2015/03/20 11:12



Fisheye image by Michael Zeiler







Eclipse in the Arctic

Total Solar Eclipse 20 March near Longyearbyen, Svalbard

Terry Cuttle

- movie by CJay McIntire





Glenn Schneider (U. Arizona) and Geoff Sims (U. New South Wales)

















- *We were supported by a grant from the Committee for Research and Exploration of the National Geographic Society, with additional support from Williams College.*

- *Our team included*

- Jay Pasachoff/Naomi Pasachoff

- Allison Carter '16

- Vojtech Rusin

- Ron Dantowitz

- Aris Voulgaris

- John Seiradakis

- Michael Zeiler

- Michael Kentrianakis

- Edw. Ginsberg

- Rob Lucas/Helen Robinson

- *And we are coordinating for data display and reduction, and accessing space results, with*

- Dan Seaton '01 (SWAP)

- Pavlos Gaintatzis

- Wendy Carlos

- Alphonse Sterling

Total solar eclipse of August 21, 2017

Eclipse magnitude is the maximum fraction of the Sun's diameter occulted by the Moon

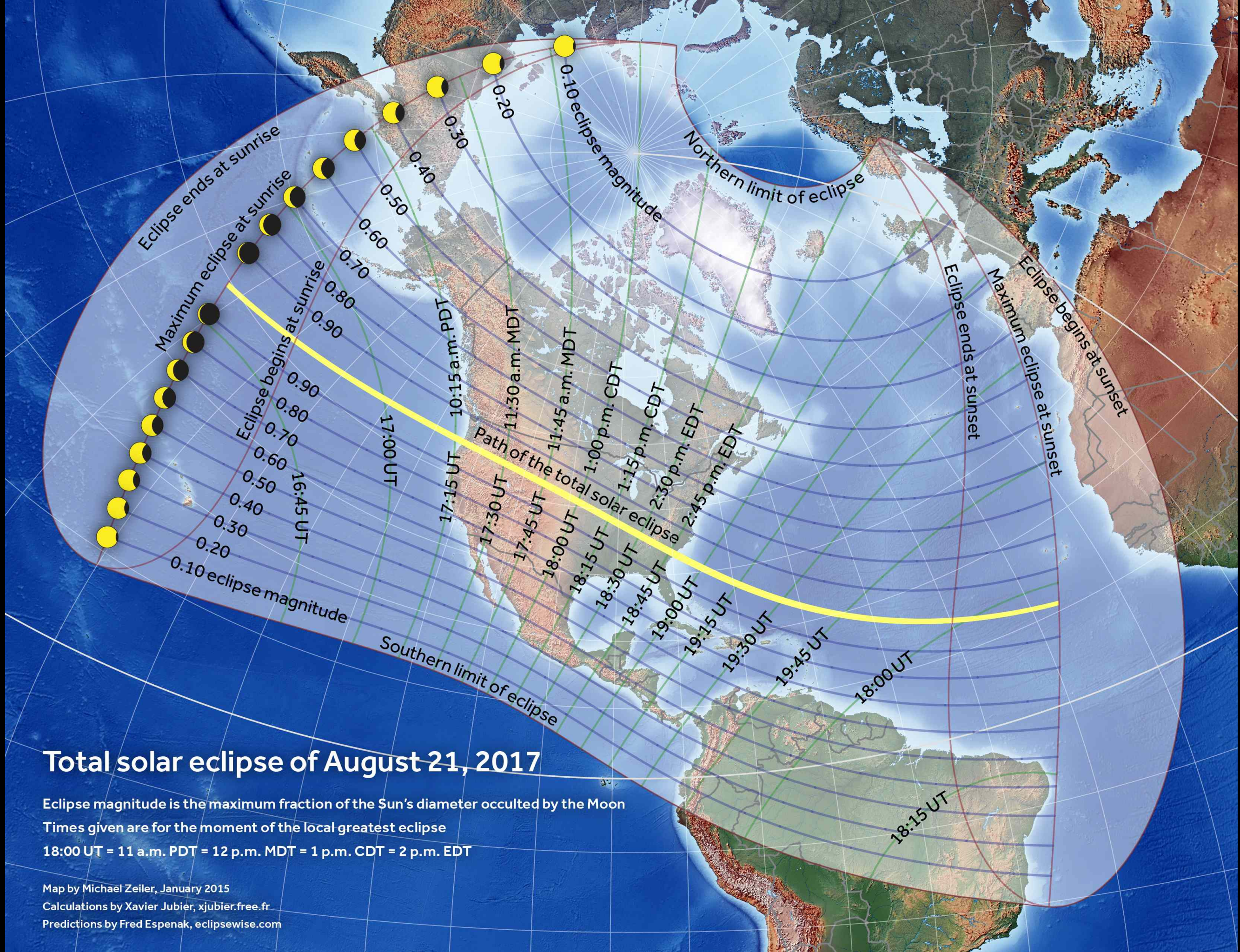
Times given are for the moment of the local greatest eclipse

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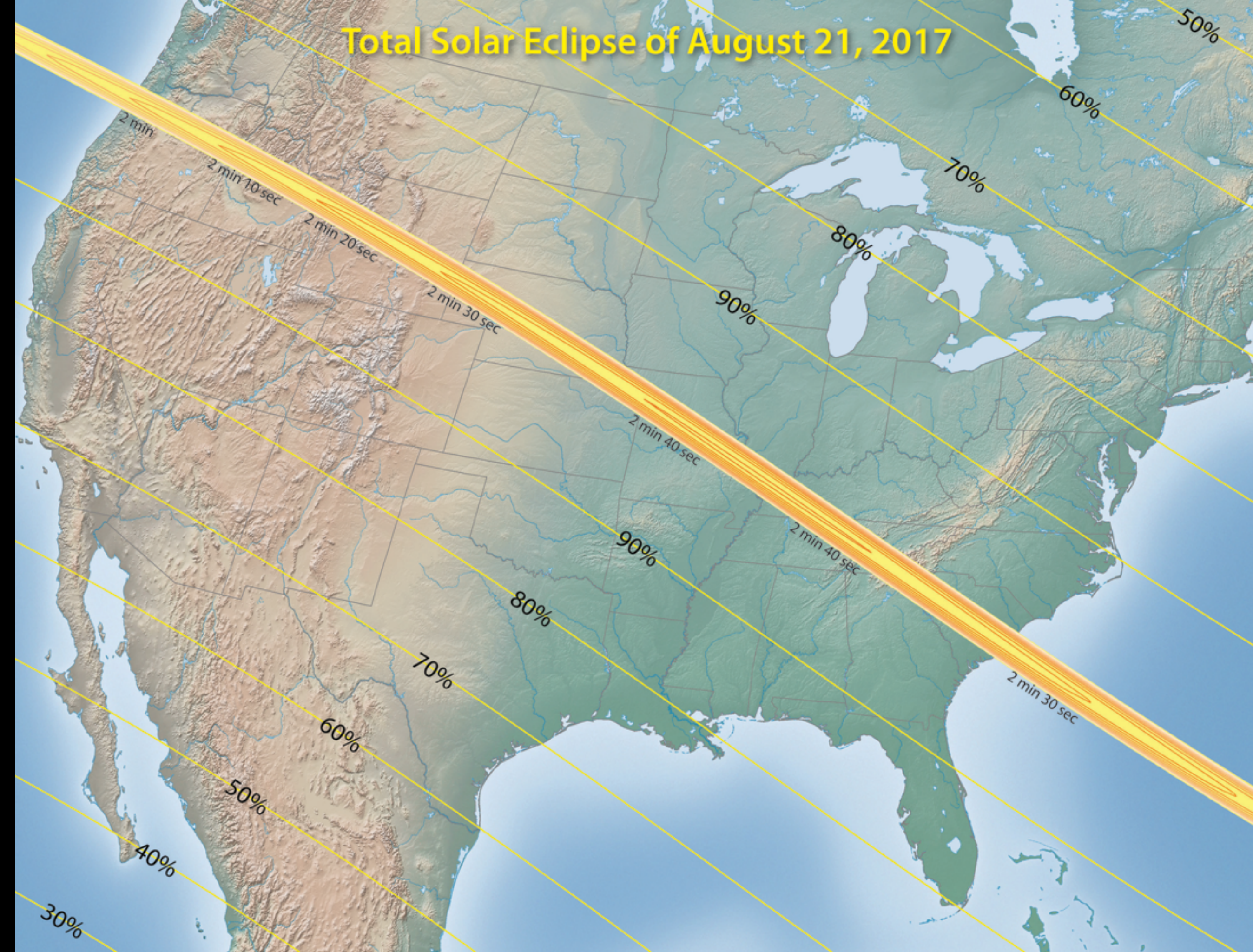
Map by Michael Zeiler, January 2015

Calculations by Xavier Jubier, xjubier.free.fr

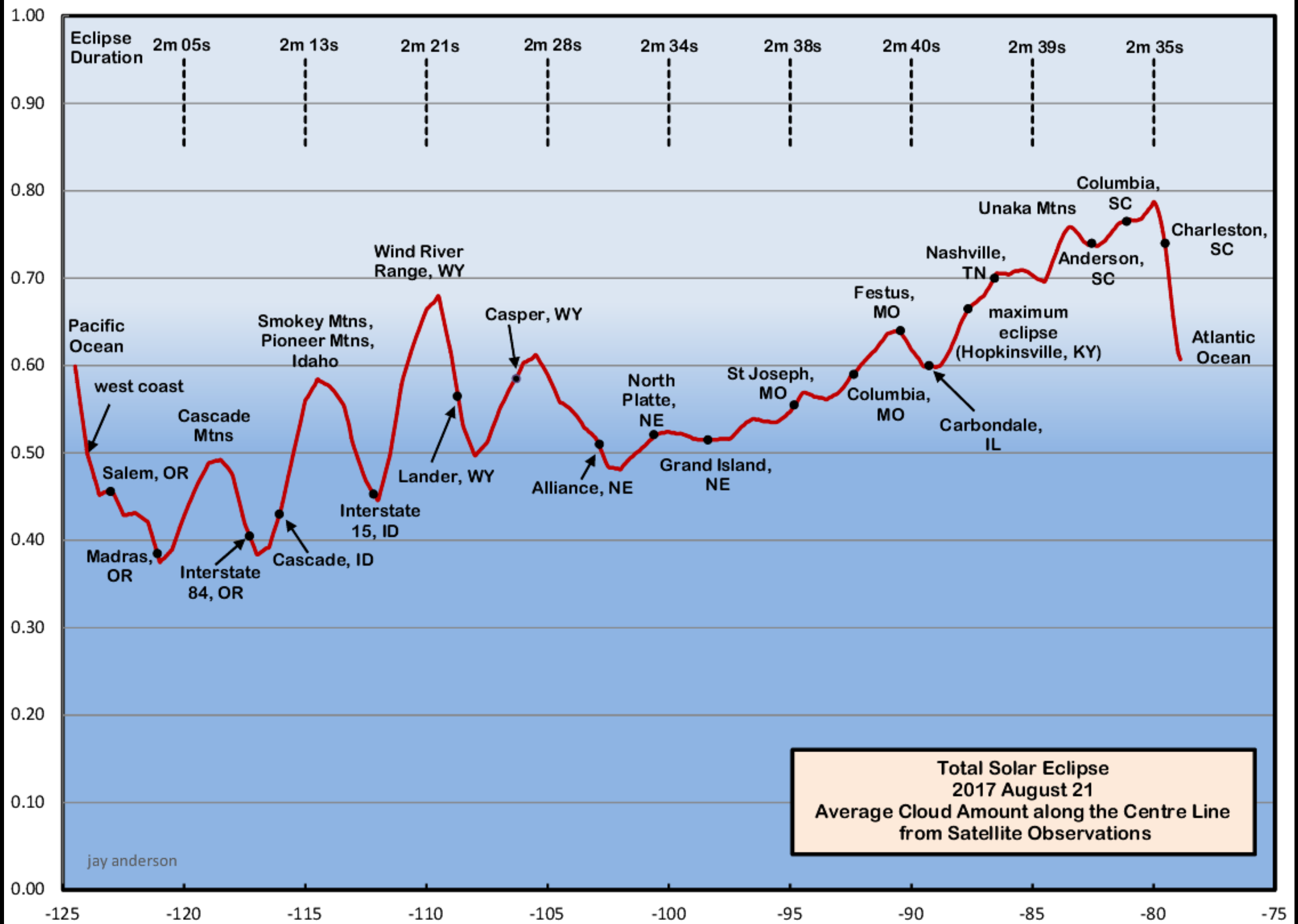
Predictions by Fred Espenak, eclipsewise.com



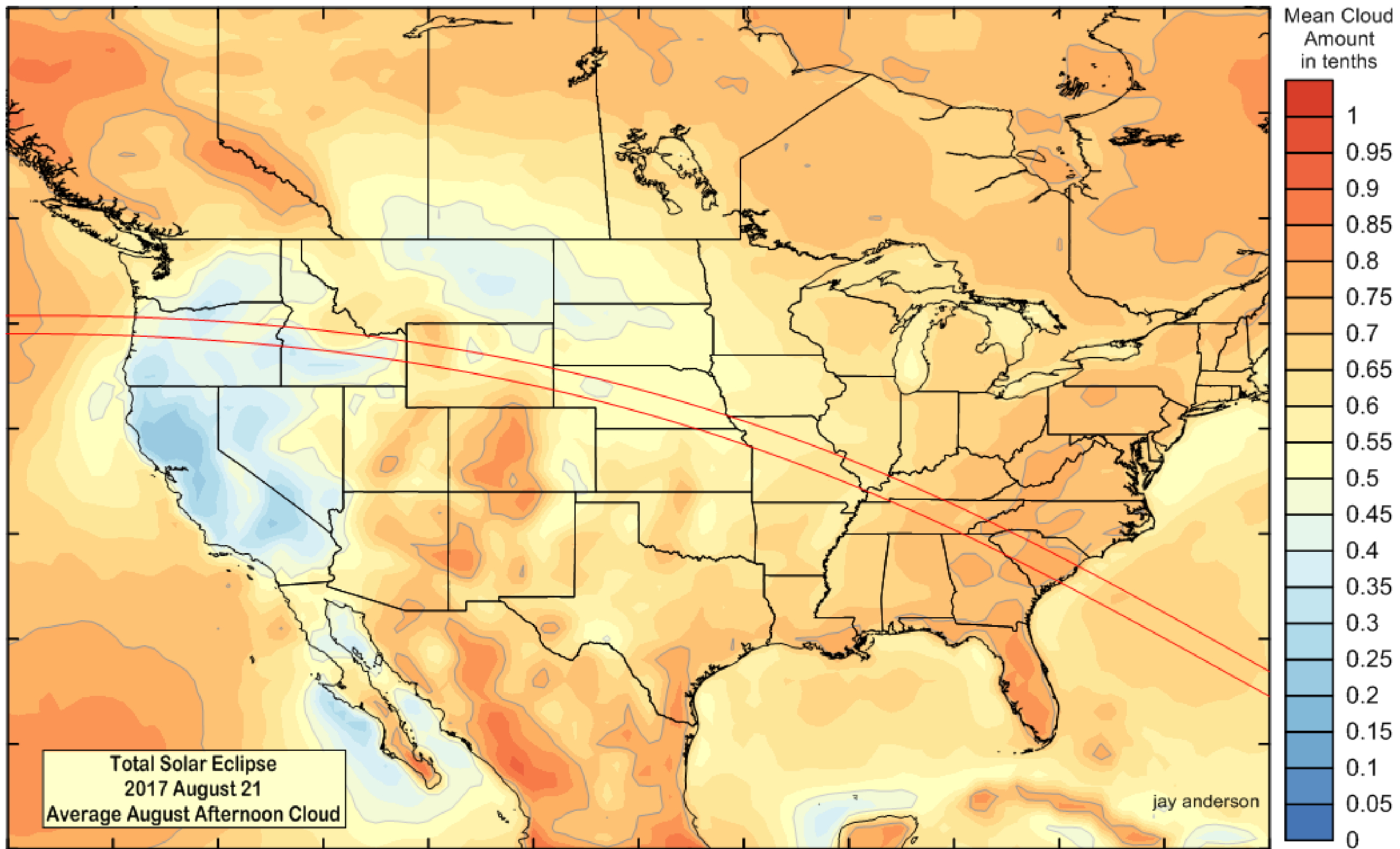
Total Solar Eclipse of August 21, 2017

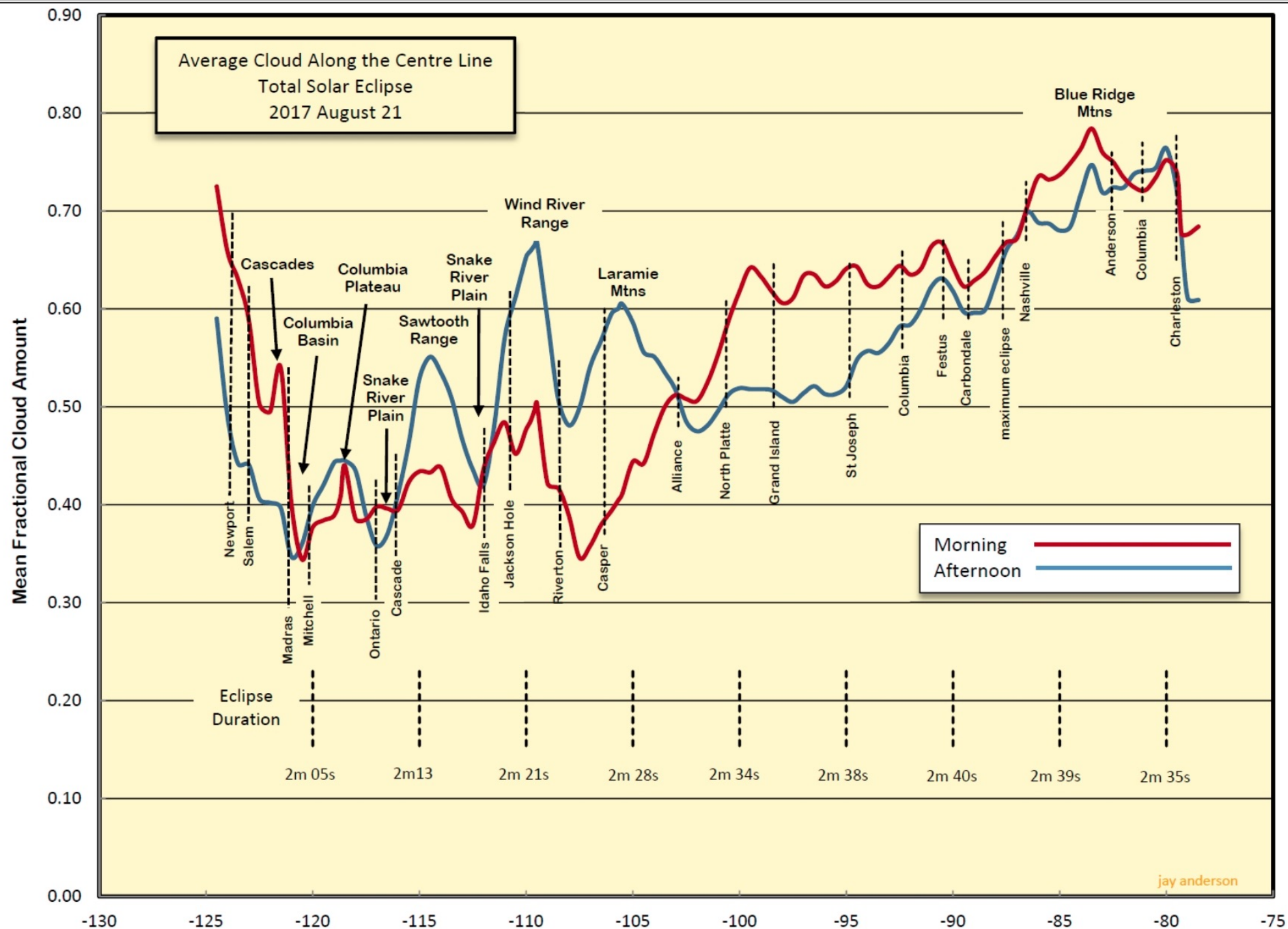


2017



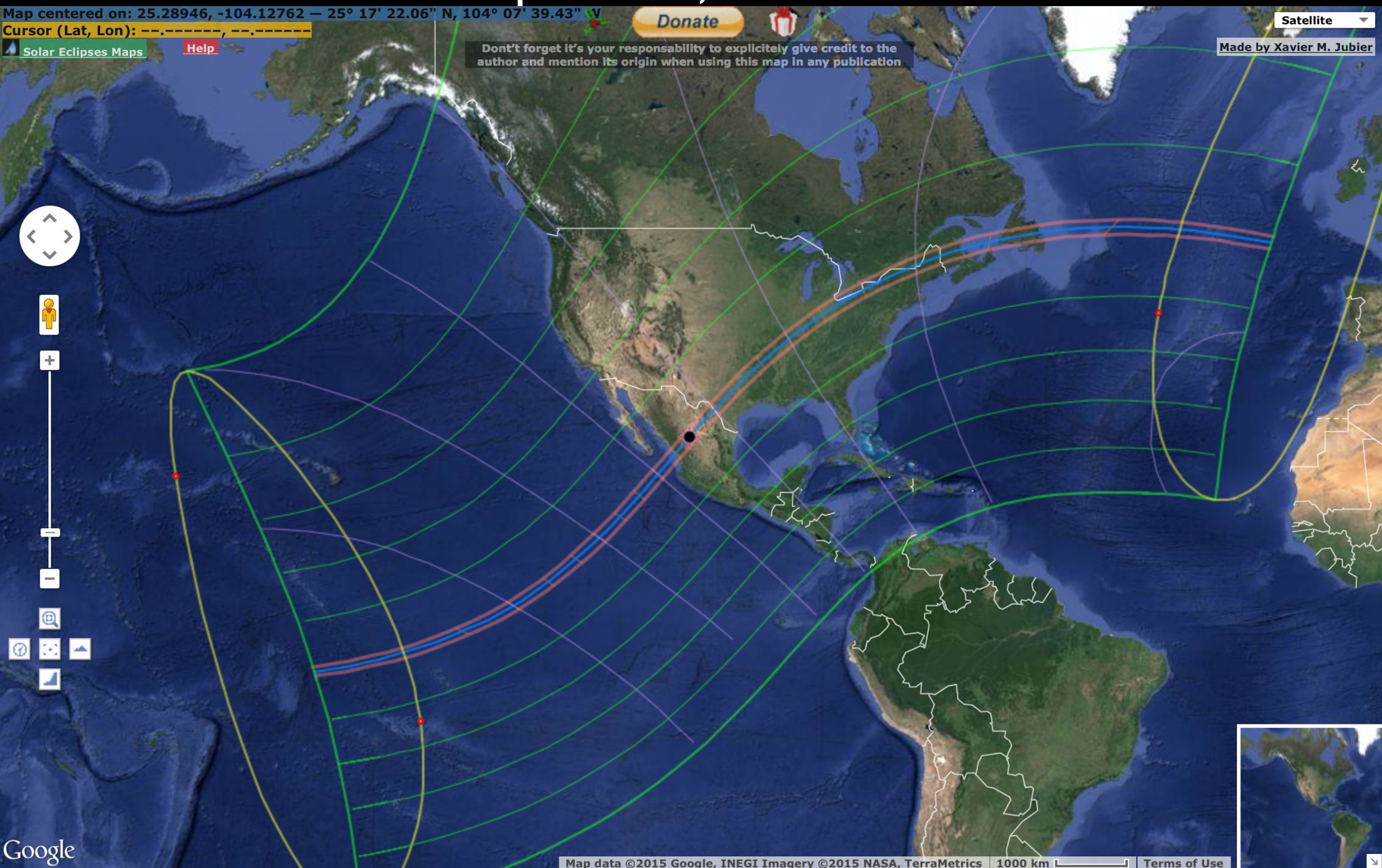
2017





Graph 1: Average morning and afternoon cloud cover along the eclipse centreline extracted from 20 years of satellite imagery. The location of cities and towns along the track are indicated by dashed vertical lines above their names. Prominent topographical features are named above the graphs. Source: Patmos-X: CIMMS/ SSEC.

April 8, 2024



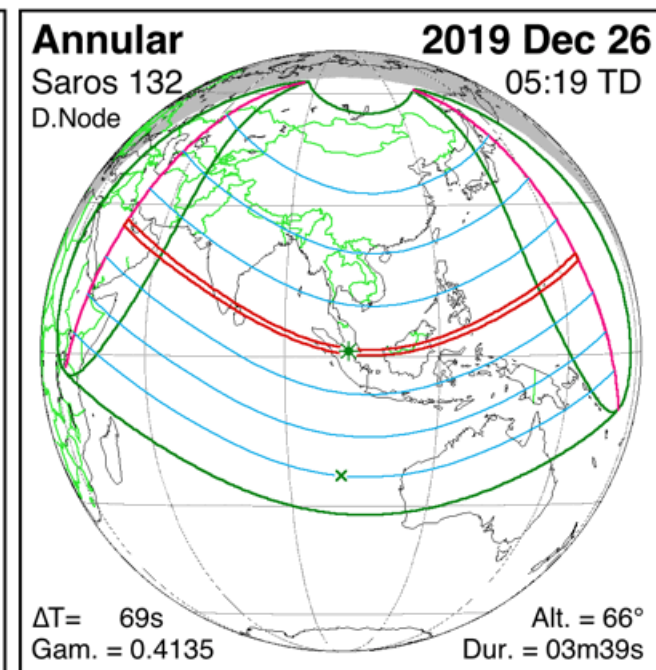
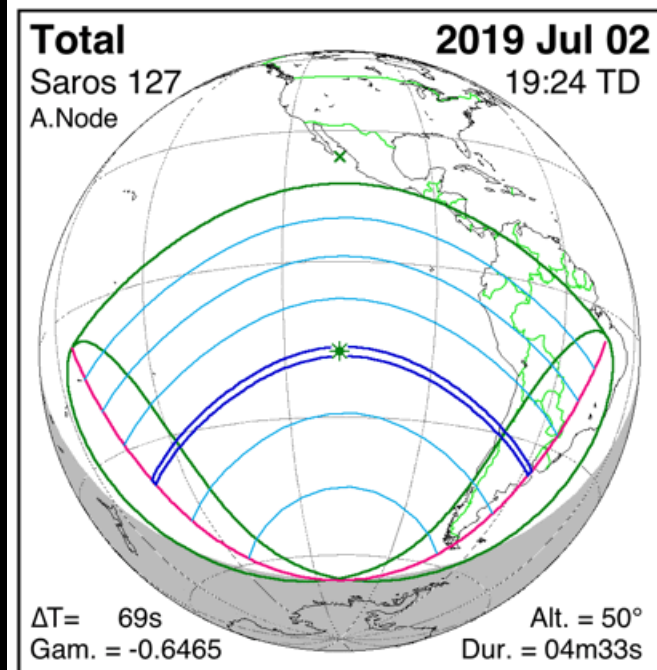
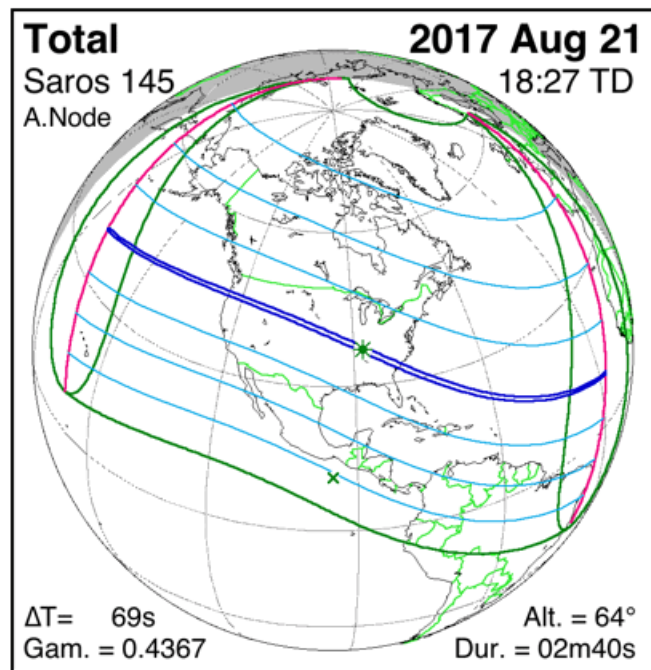
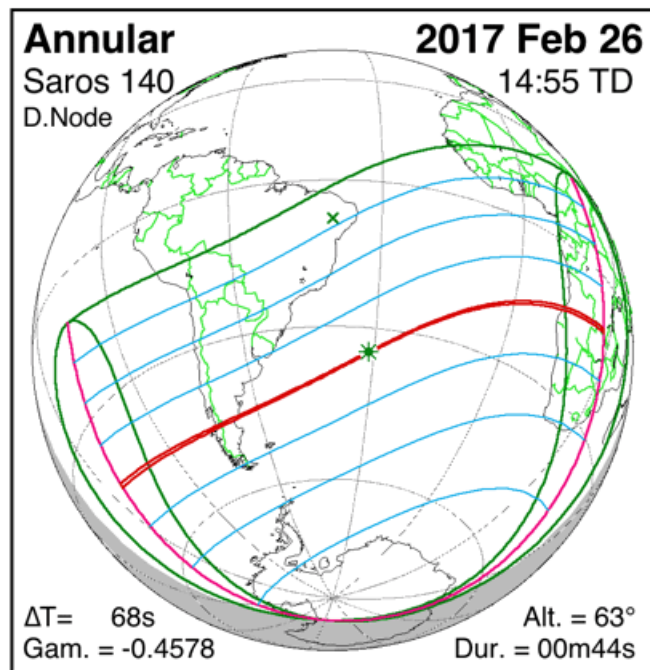
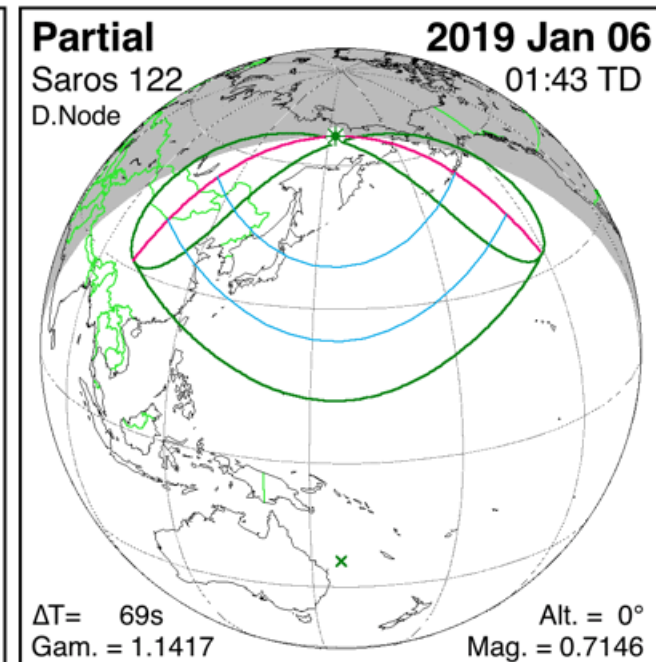
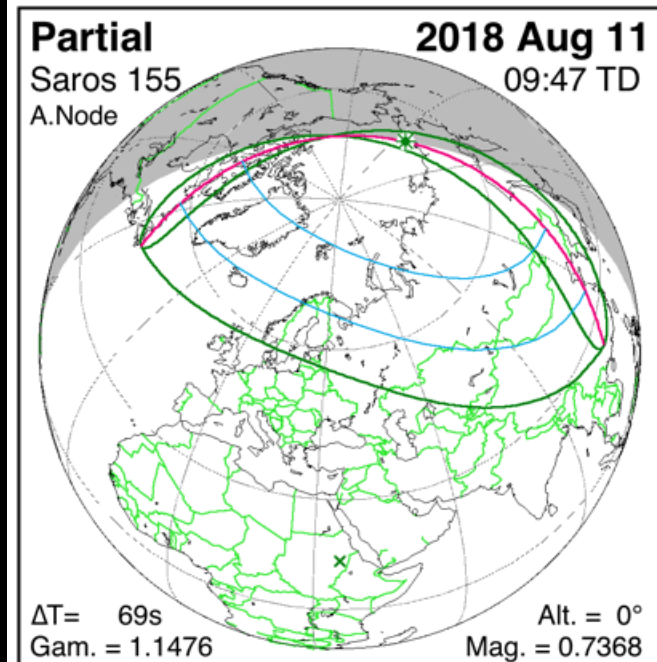
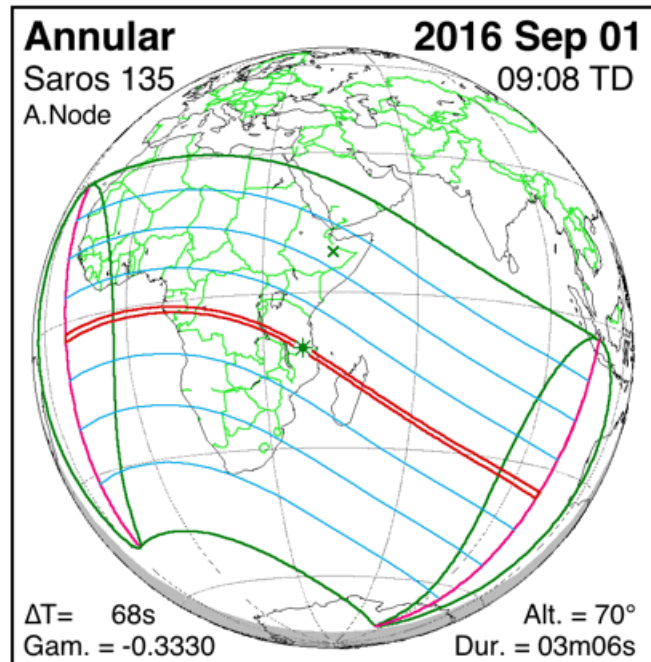
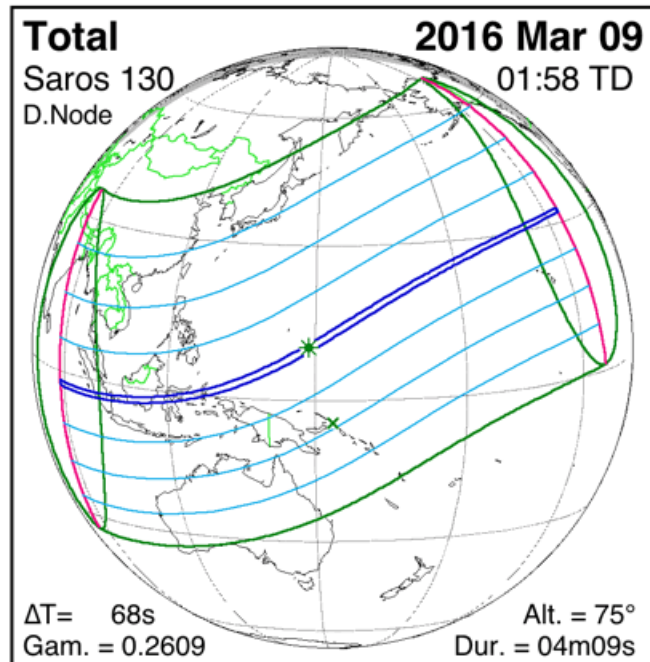
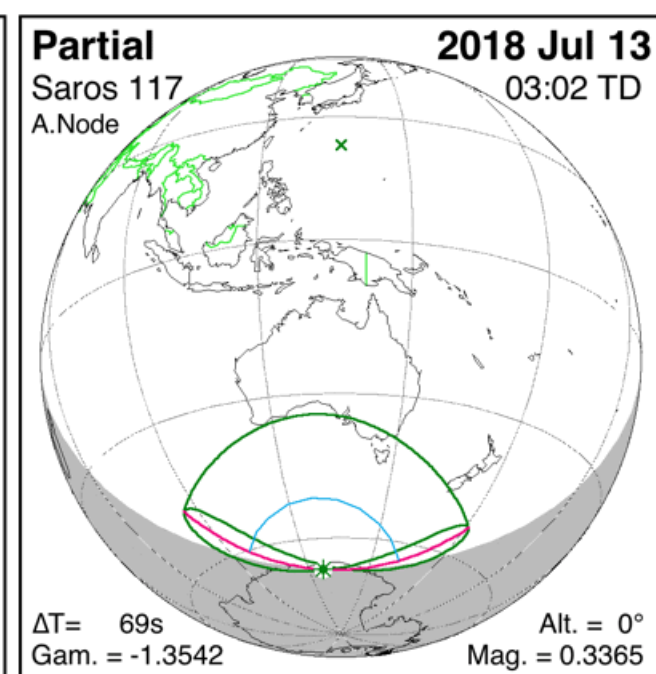
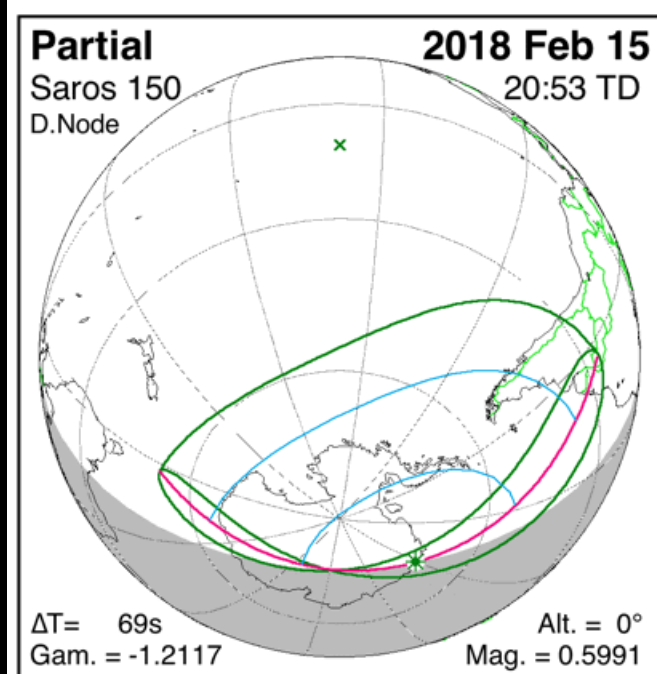
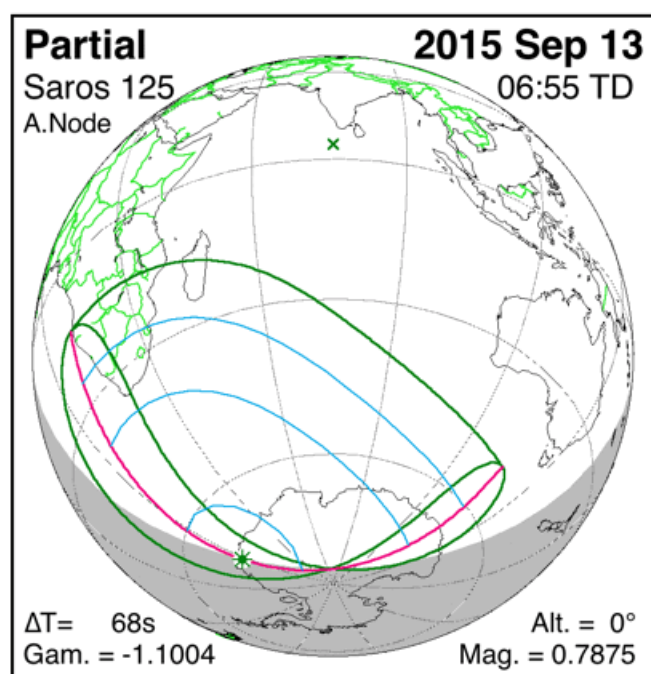
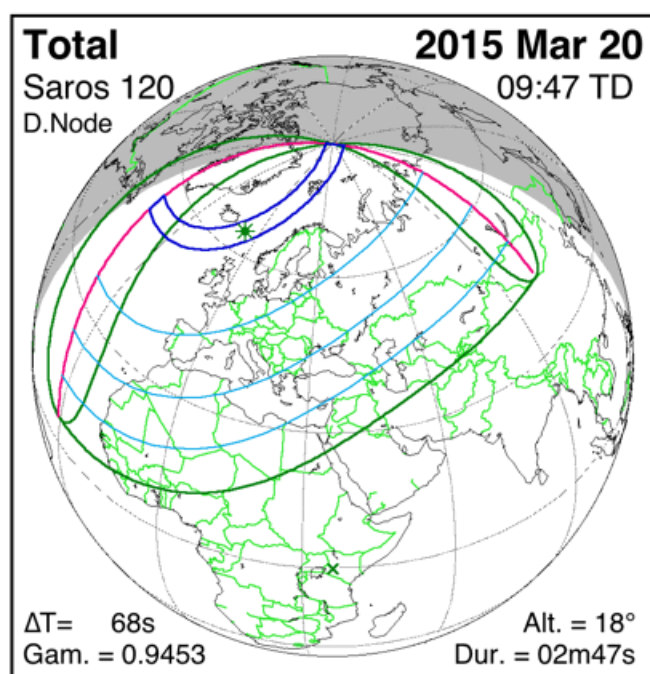
Total solar eclipse of April 8, 2024

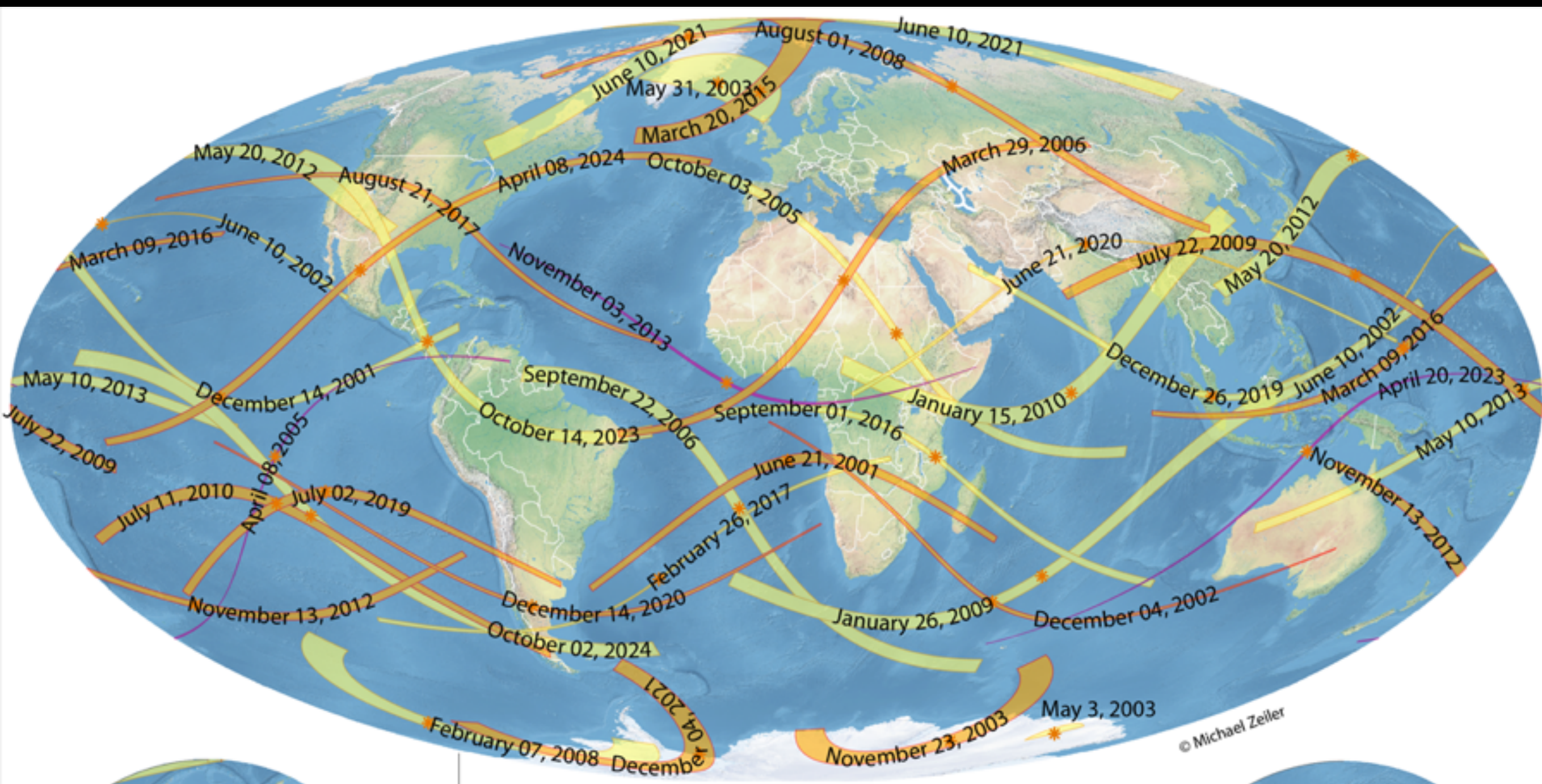
Northern limit of total eclipse

Central line of total eclipse





Southern limit of total eclipse







Solar eclipses from 2001 to 2025

-  Path of total solar eclipse
-  Path of annular solar eclipse
-  Path of hybrid solar eclipse
-  Point of greatest eclipse

