Solar EUV Observations from the NOAA GOES 13 Satellite

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A new solar EUV irradiance sensor was launched on the NOAA GOES 13 satellite in May 2006. This sensor is intended to provide solar EUV irradiance data for use in models of the upper atmosphere, thermosphere, and ionosphere. The sensor underwent a six month test period before it the satellite was put into storage mode. Data taken during this six month period will be presented and compared with other EUV observations. Sensor performance and response will be described. Analysis of some of the sensor design characteristics will also be presented. Once the GOES 13 satellite is brought out of storage and into operations, the EUV sensor will become the first of many operational solar EUV sensors making continuous observations of the solar EUV irradiance. In general, the GOES 13 EUV sensor appears to be performing quite well and should provide excellent solar EUV data for years to come.