

Magnetic Evolution, Reconnection and Particle Acceleration in Solar Flares: Insights from RHESSI
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The Ramaty High Energy Solar Spectroscopic Imager (RHESSI) observes solar flares in X-rays and gamma rays at photon energies above a few keV. It observes radiation from the hottest flare plasma and from accelerated electrons and ions. Thus, it observes processes closely associated with the release of magnetic energy. I will review how RHESSI observations have advanced our understanding of magnetic evolution, reconnection, and particle acceleration in flares. I will also briefly address the importance of thorough diagnostics of ~10 – 50 MK plasma to understanding particle acceleration in flares.