

Comments for the Panel on Policy Perspectives

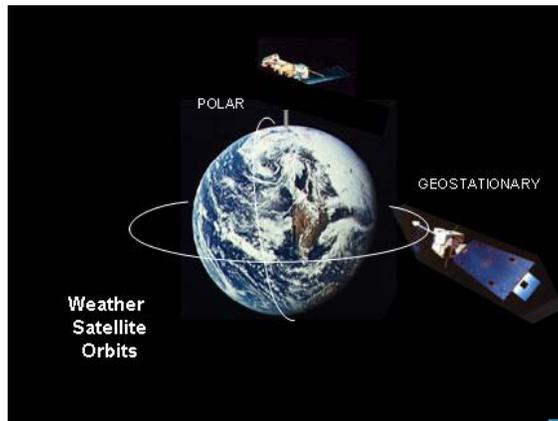
L. A. Fisk, University of Michigan

Two Main Points:

Concerns over the impact of space weather performs a service in that it reminds us how dependent we have become as a society on our assets in space.

We are not proceeding rapidly enough to develop the scientific underpinnings required to develop reliable forecasts of space weather events.

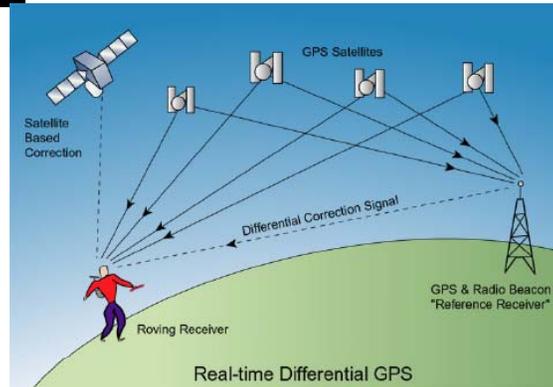
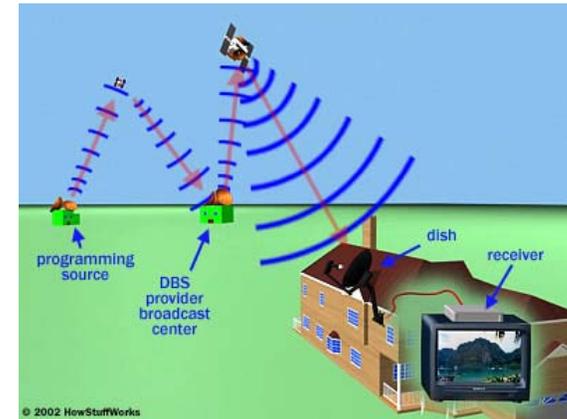
Space has become part of underlying infrastructure of our civilization.



Weather satellites

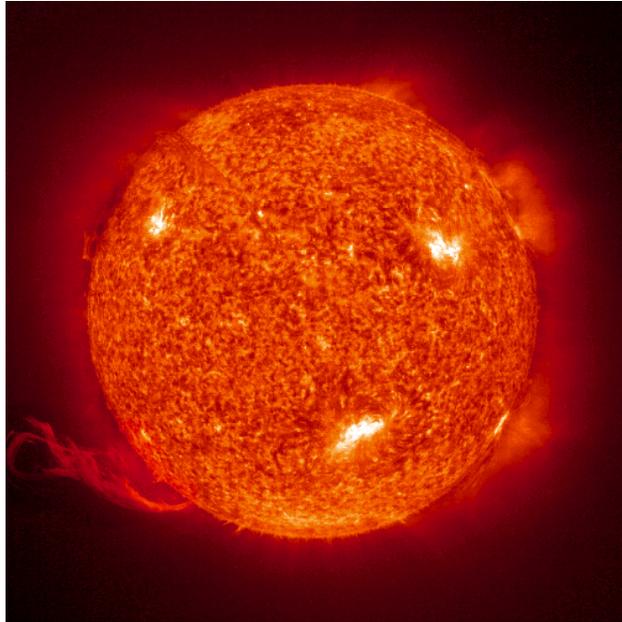
Direct broadcast

GPS

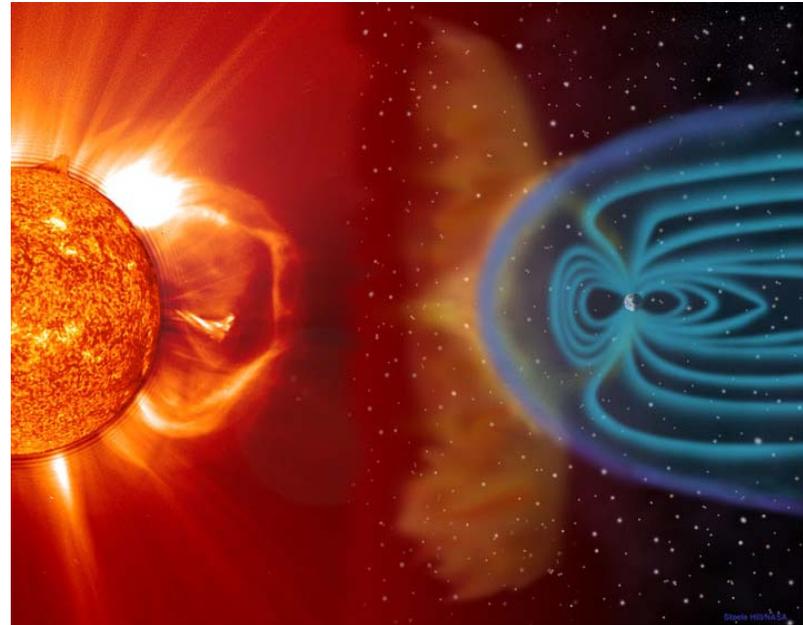


When considering the impact of space on society, we need to look no further than the global interconnections that have developed in the last few decades, and the stabilizing influence they have had.

We are not proceeding rapidly enough to develop the scientific underpinnings for our ability to predict space weather.



The solar atmosphere expands supersonically to carve out a region of space known as the heliosphere.



Coronal Mass Ejections and the energetic particles they accelerate impact Earth and disturb geospace.