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# Image homogenization

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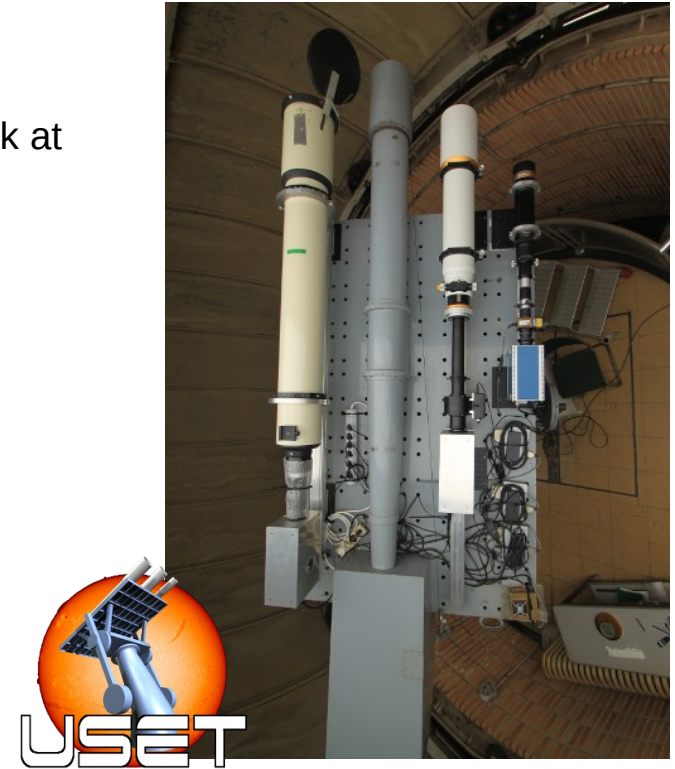


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Royal Observatory  
of Belgium

30 April 2019  
Solarnet (WP8) workshop

# Image homogenization : context

- Image standardization (USET pipeline)
  - Algorithms to standardize the geometry and intensity of the solar disk at USET
  - Some of them could be used for the image homogenization
  - General requirements:
    - Valid for the three wavelengths (white-light, H-alpha, Ca II K)
    - Robust for different observation conditions (low atmospheric transparency, bad seeing, image truncated, ..)
  - Status:
    - Limb fitting daily applied in the uset pipeline
    - Limb darkening currently developed
- Image homogenization between different stations
  - Algorithms to homogenize images taken at different station with the main aim to provide continuous, unified and high-quality observing sequence
  - Status: **to be developed**



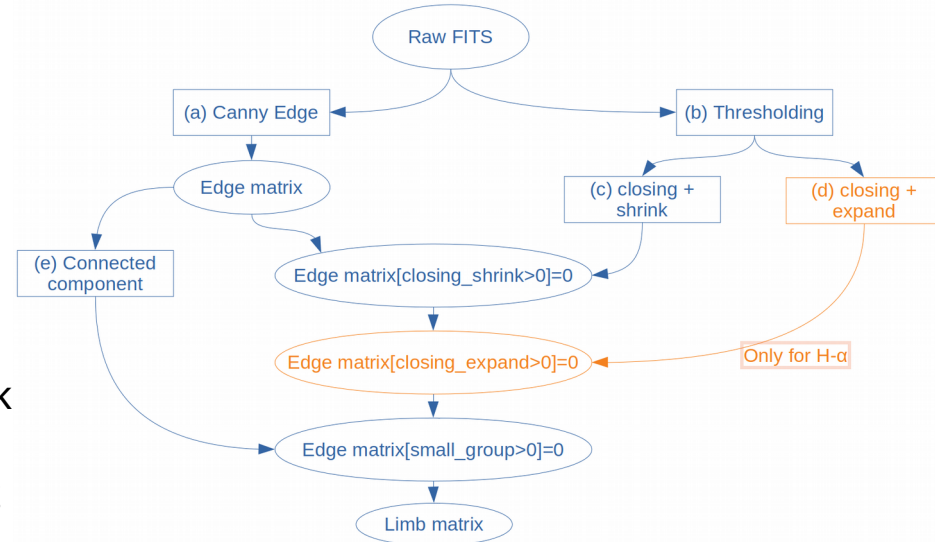
# Solar disk detection

## Goals

- Three wavelengths (H-alpha most difficult case due to prominences)
- Robust for different observation conditions

## Method

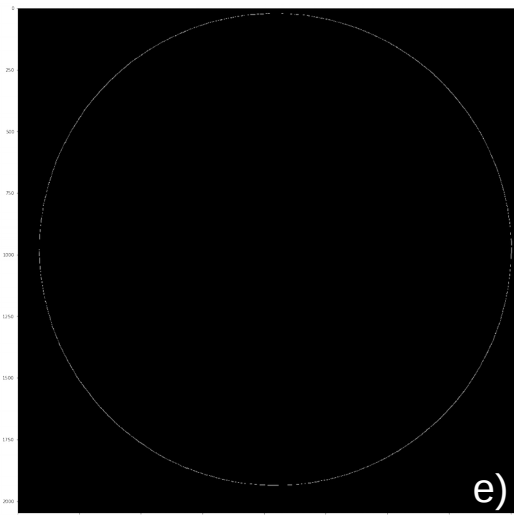
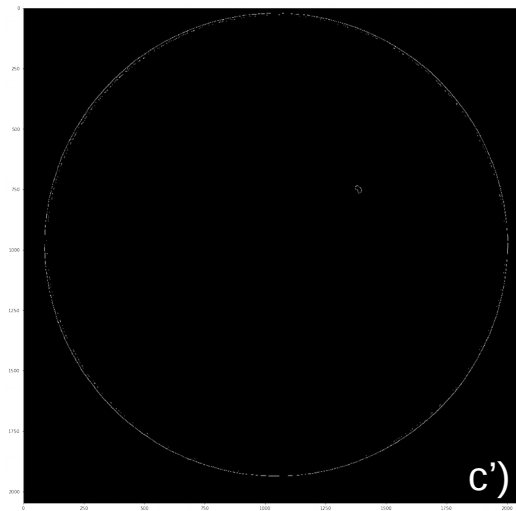
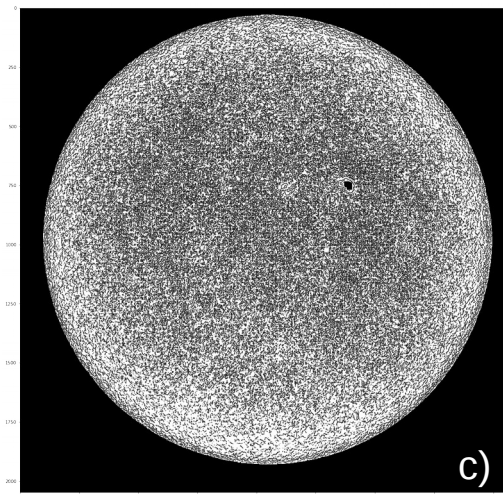
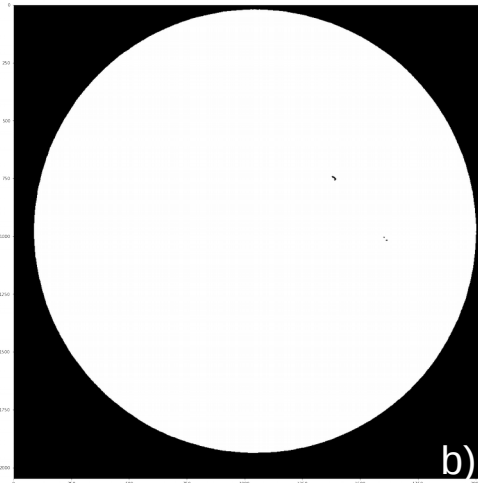
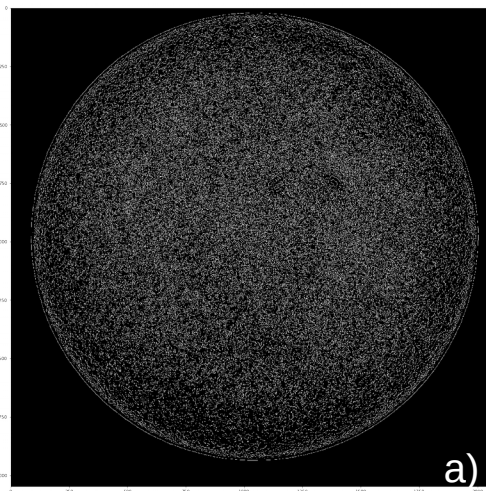
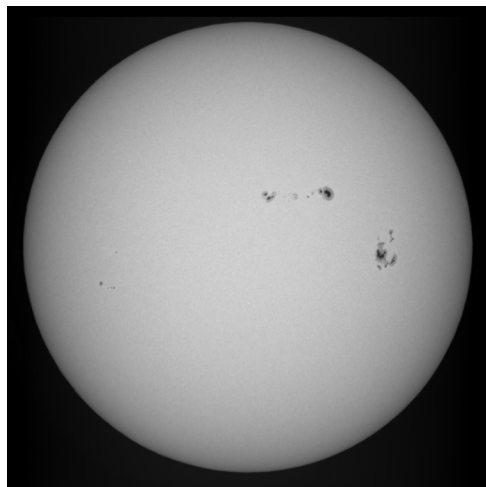
- Canny edge algorithm  
→ all edges detection (limb and solar features)
- Threshold mask  
→ solar disk detection (bright foreground on dark background)
- Shrinking of the threshold mask  
→ mask to remove all the edges inside the solar disk
- (H-alpha only) expanded mask  
→ mask to remove all the edges outside the solar disk
- Connected component  
→ remove remaining edges detected that are not part of the limb



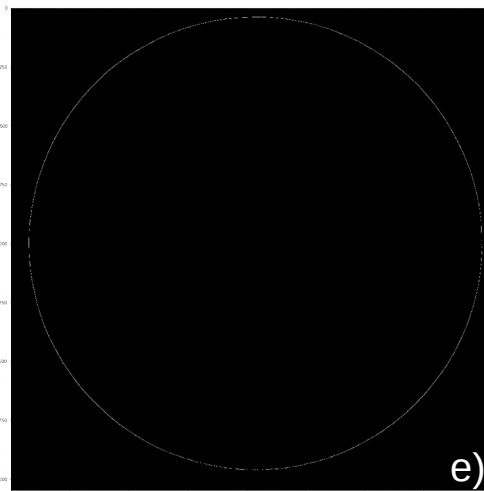
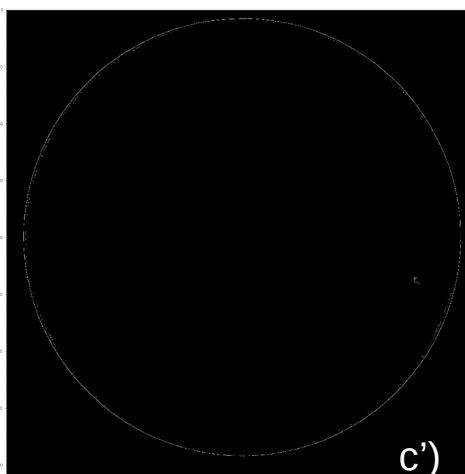
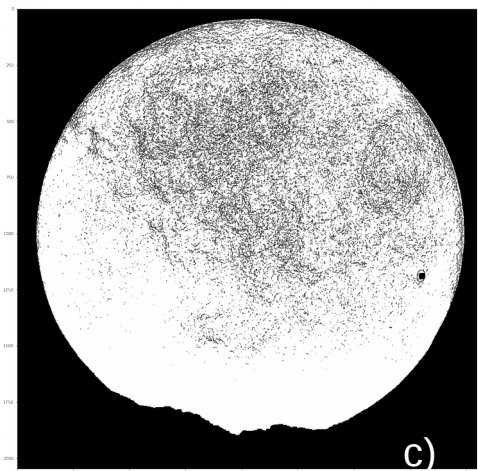
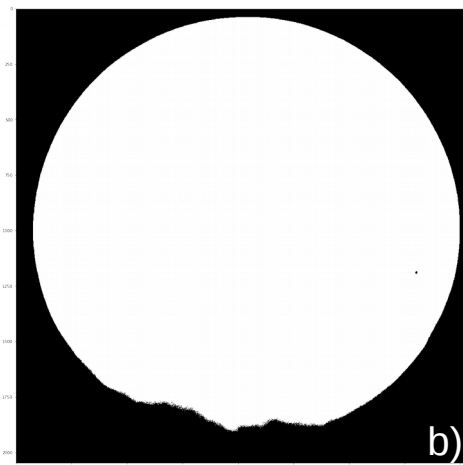
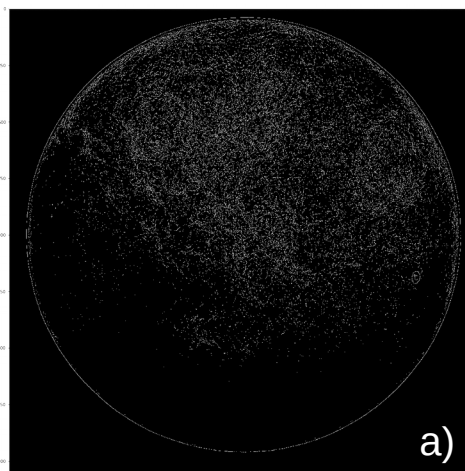
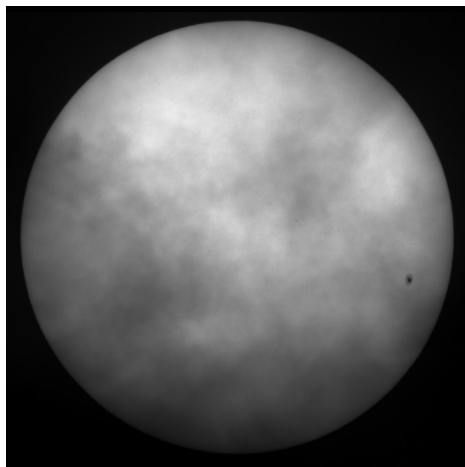
## Current status

Operational for USET

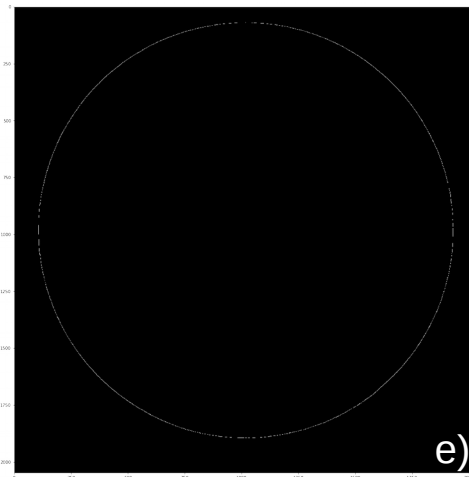
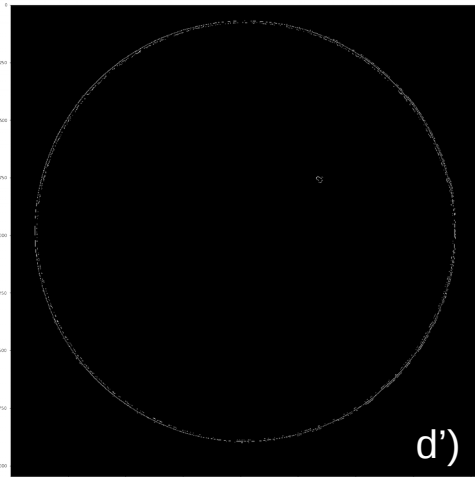
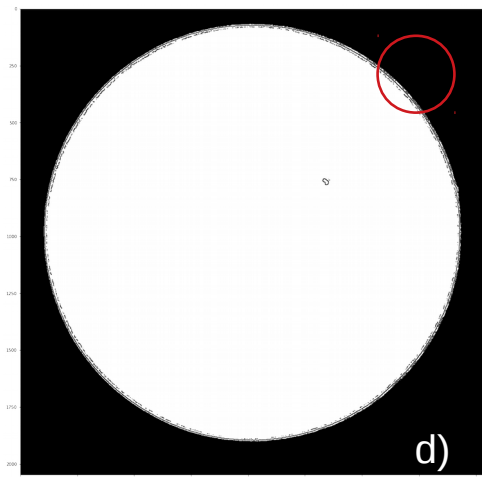
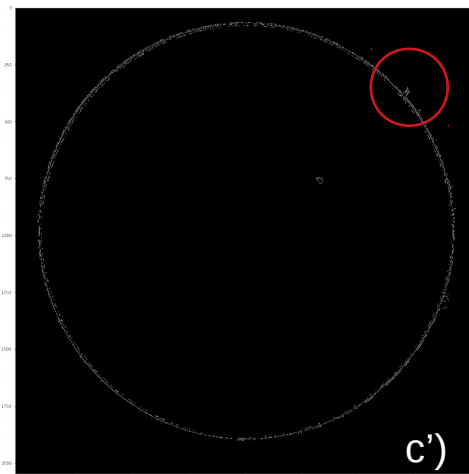
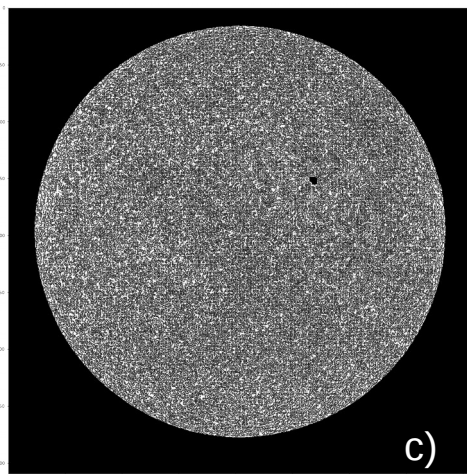
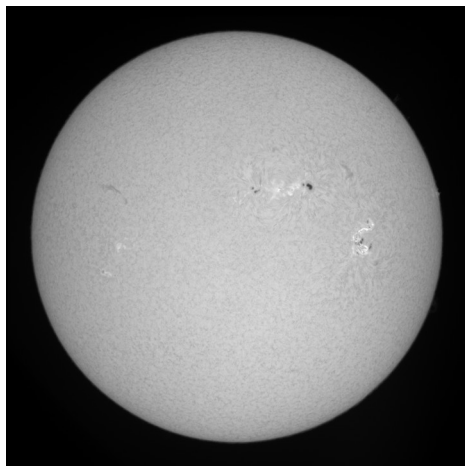
# Solar disk detection: illustration for white-light



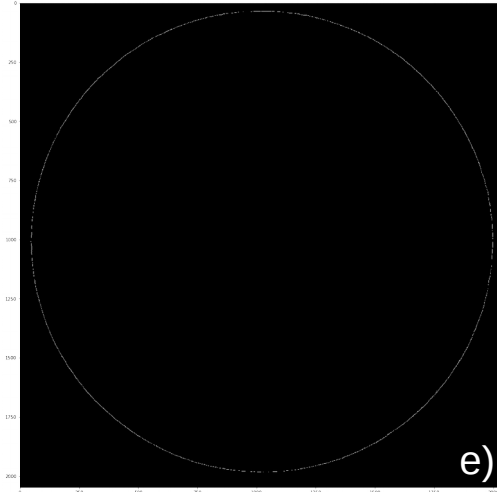
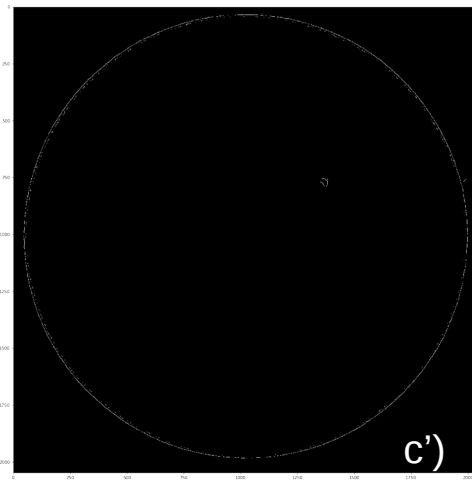
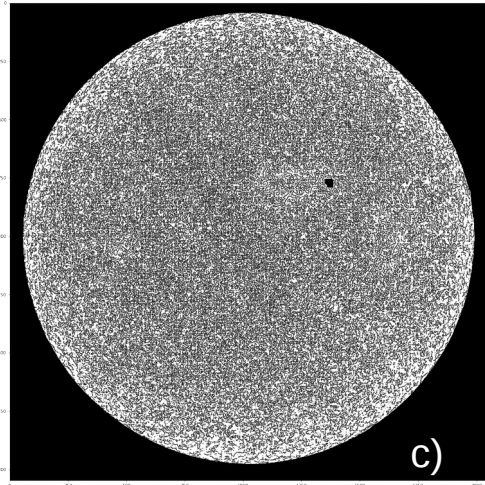
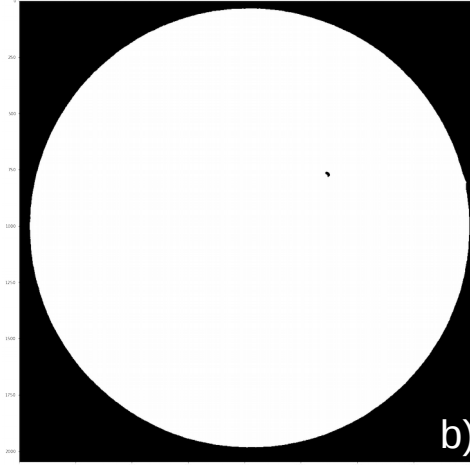
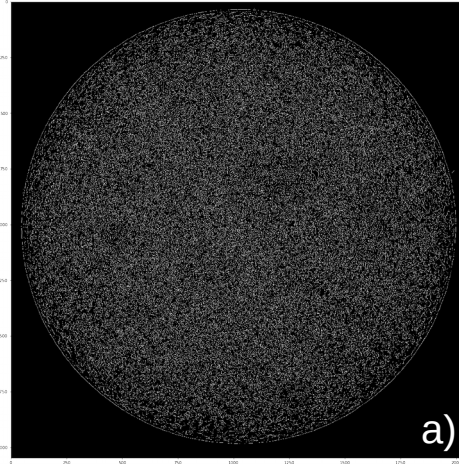
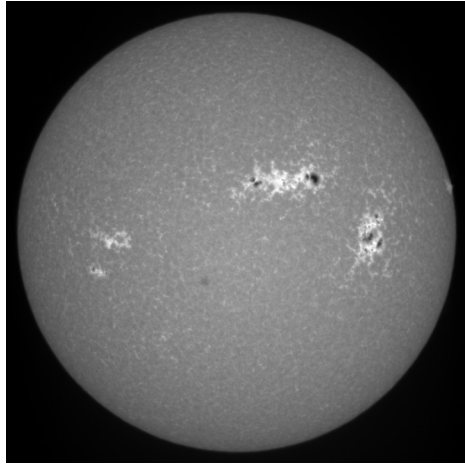
# Solar disk detection: illustration for white-light and **clouds**



# Solar disk detection: illustration for H-alpha



# Solar disk detection: illustration for Ca II K



# Limb darkening

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## Goals

- Three wavelengths
- Robust for different observation conditions

## Method

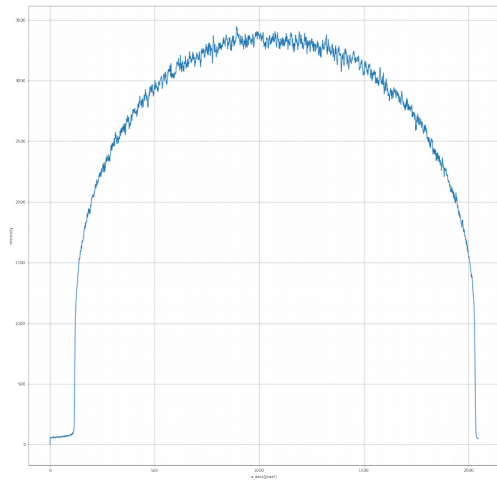
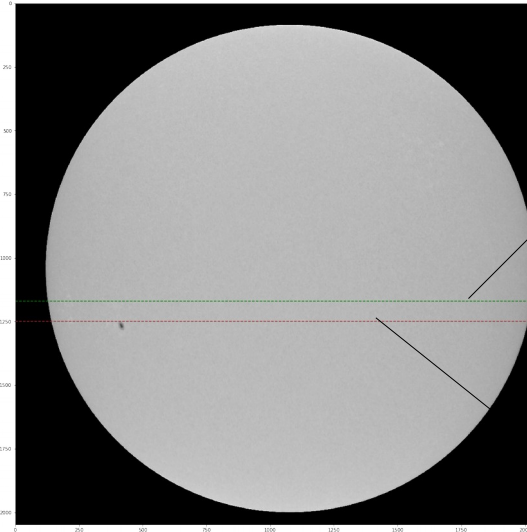
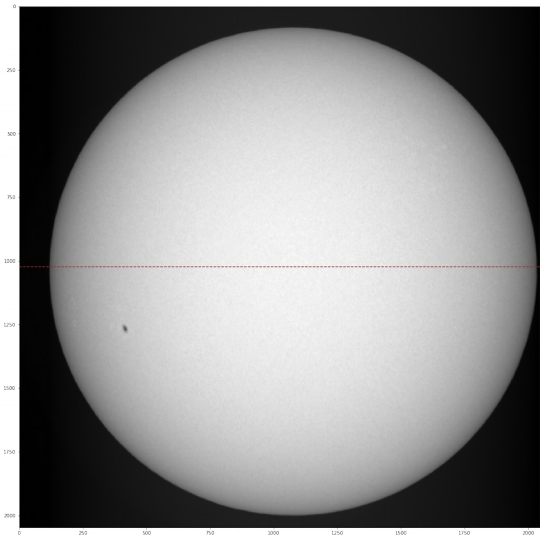
- a) Cartesian to polar transformation
  - rectangular grid where the columns contain samples at fixed radius and row at fixed angles
- b) Polynomial fit intensity versus the radius
  - mask of the radial background
- c) Divide the original image by the mask of the radial background

## Current status

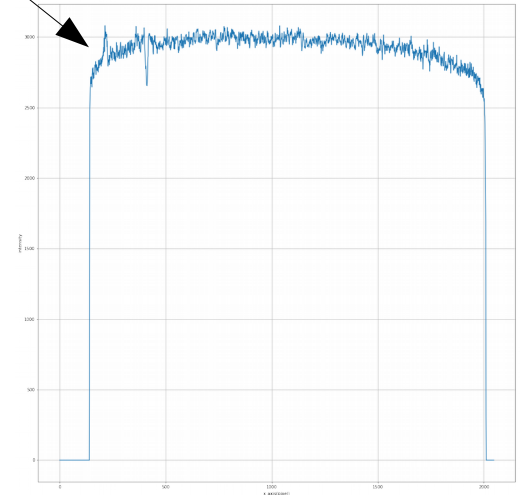
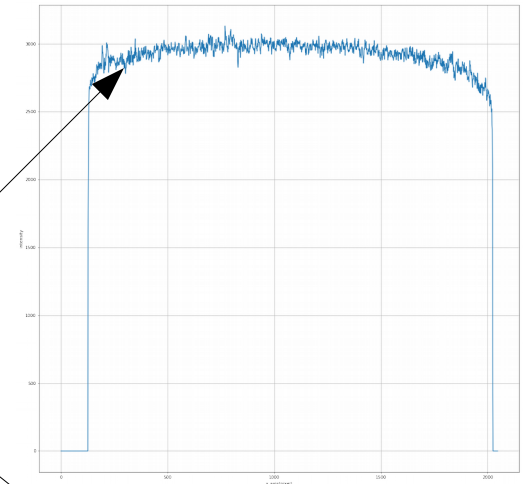
- The general idea works well for the three wavelengths with good atmospheric transparency
- Test on more statistics (quiet/active sun, different observation conditions)
- Working on cases with non radial variations (i.e. clouds) → could be useful for image homogenization



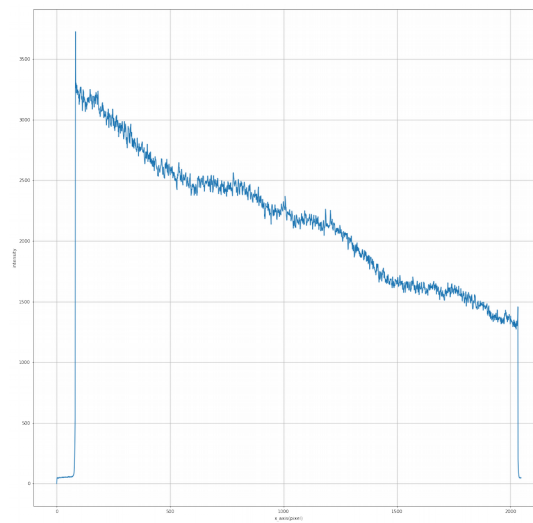
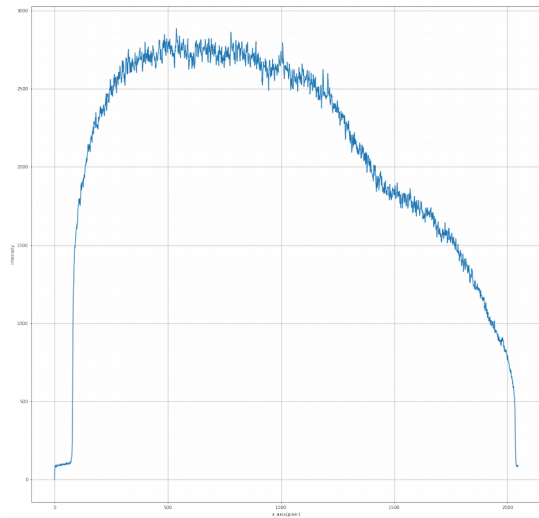
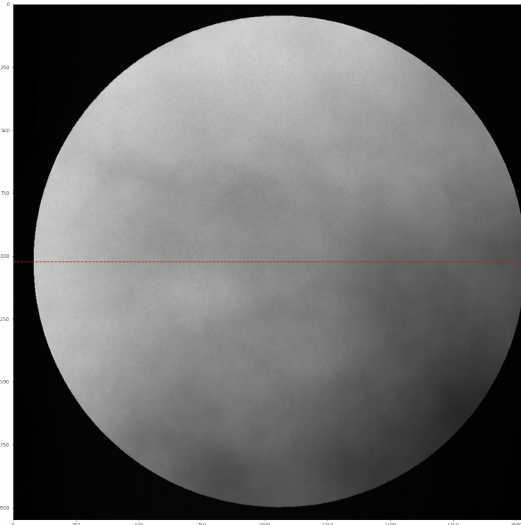
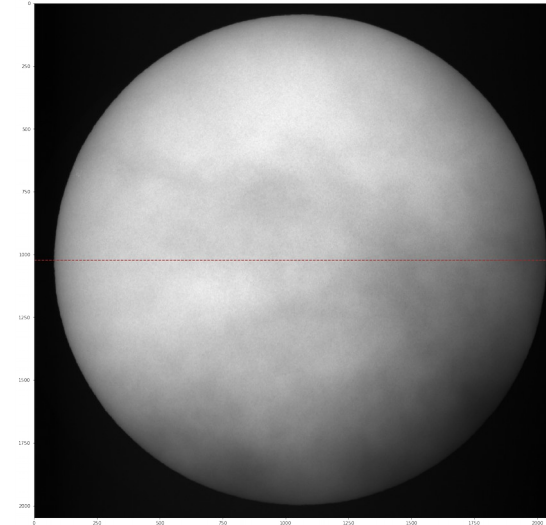
# Limb darkening: Illustration for white-light



- Contribution to limb darkening highly suppressed
- Try more iterations to remove the remaining radial variation

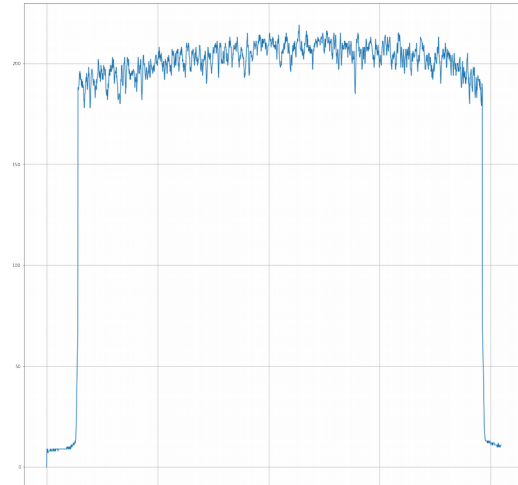
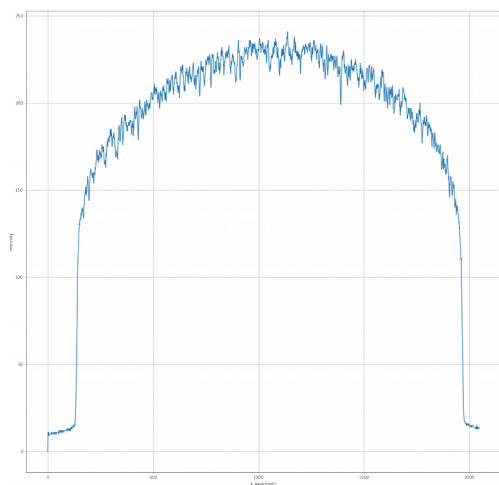
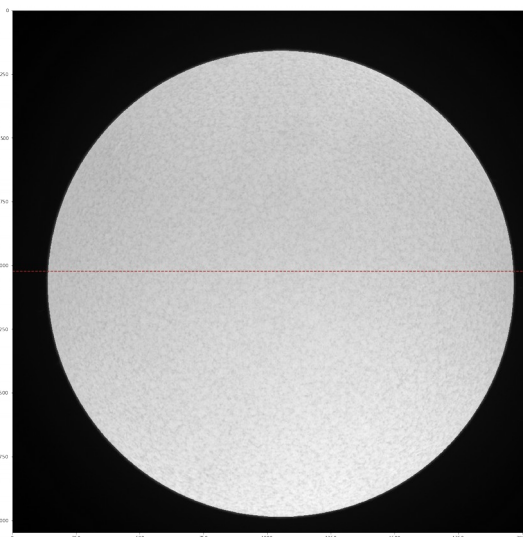
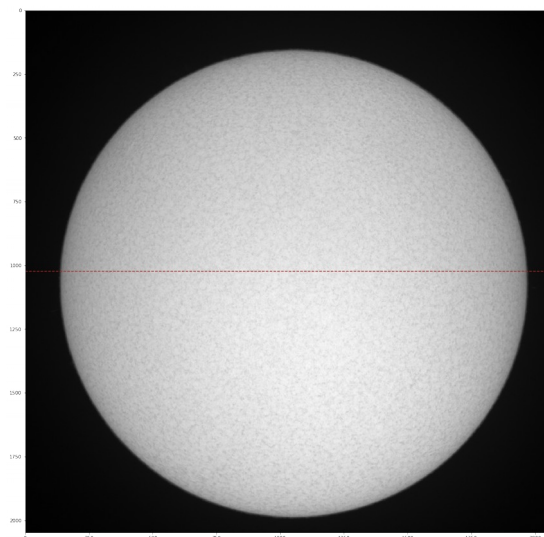


# Limb darkening: Illustration for white light and **clouds**



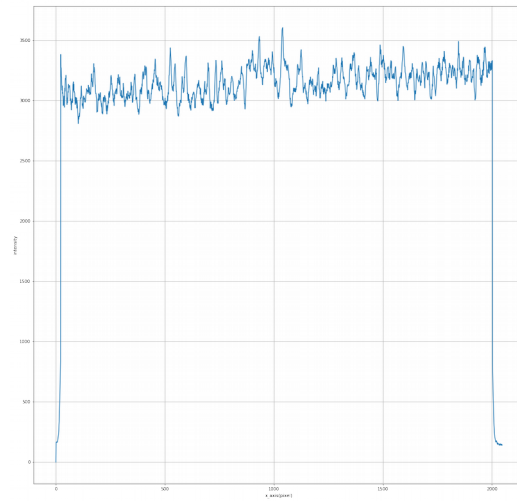
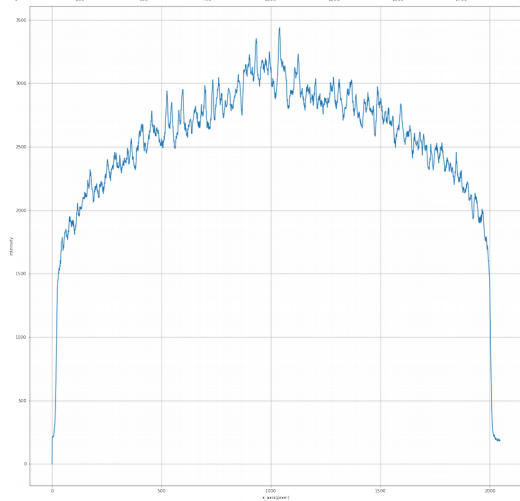
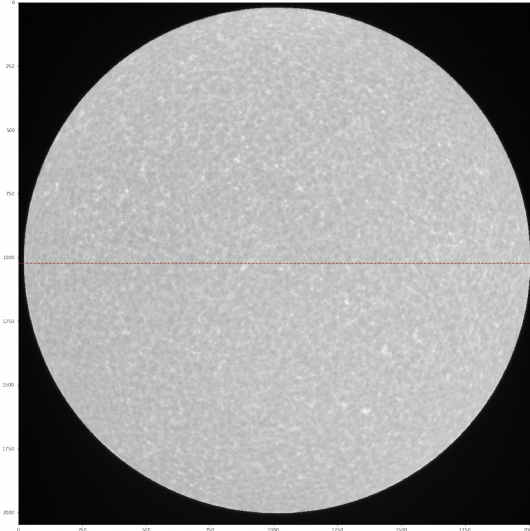
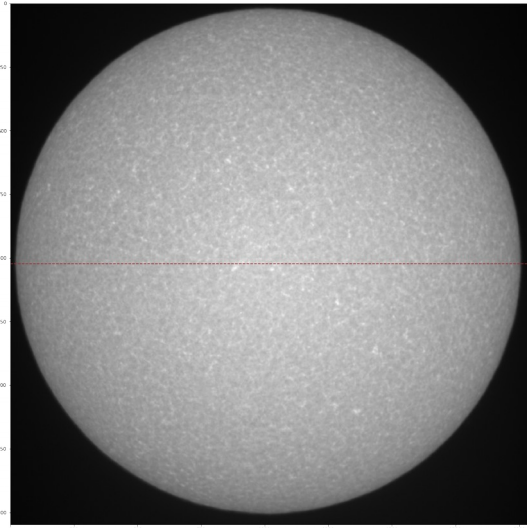
- What remains after the limb darkening removal is essentially the intensity variation due to the clouds
- Currently working on method to decrease this contribution (bilinear fit of the intensity variation, high-pass filter, ..)

# Limb darkening: Illustration for H-alpha



- Contribution to limb darkening highly suppressed
- Try more iterations to remove the remaining radial variation
- Presence of non radial contribution

# Limb darkening: Illustration for Ca II k



- Contribution to limb darkening highly suppressed

# Image homogenization: general ideas

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Each station has specific set-up:

- Optical : f/D, optical aberration
- Filters : Bandpass and bandwidth
- Imaging : CCD size, noise
- Atmospheric : Transparency, seeing

Algorithms to homogenize images taken at **different station** with the main aim to provide continuous, unified and **high-quality observing sequence**

Evolved products:

- Flare/event detection
- Solar feature detection (filament, etc..) and their statistical properties
- high cadence movies
- synoptic maps

# Image homogenization: general ideas

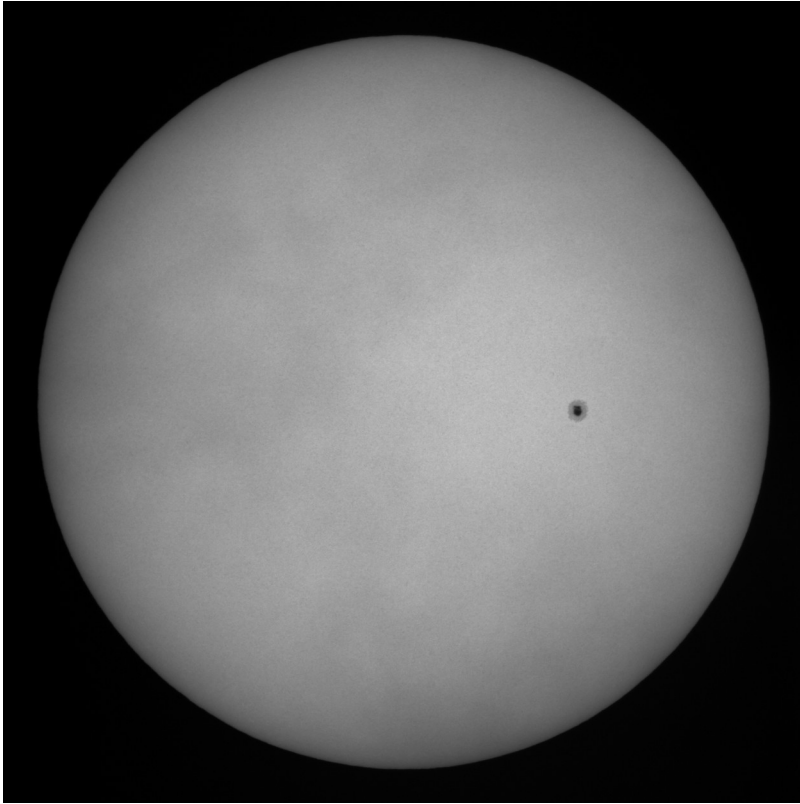
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- First step: systematic exploration of images from different stations (ex USET & KSO)
  - identification of the main sources of inhomogeneity
- Joint campaigning involving different stations, and concentrating on one varying parameter at a time
  - Isolate the inhomogeneity
  - Model it and develop a dedicated correction

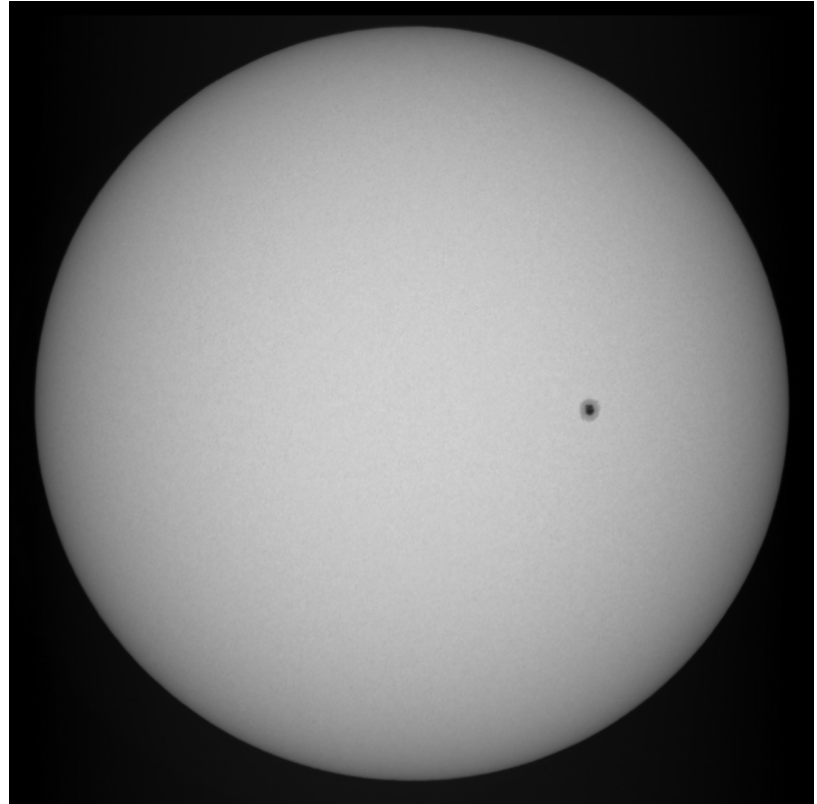
# Image comparison: White-light

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KSO 20190415 08:34:24



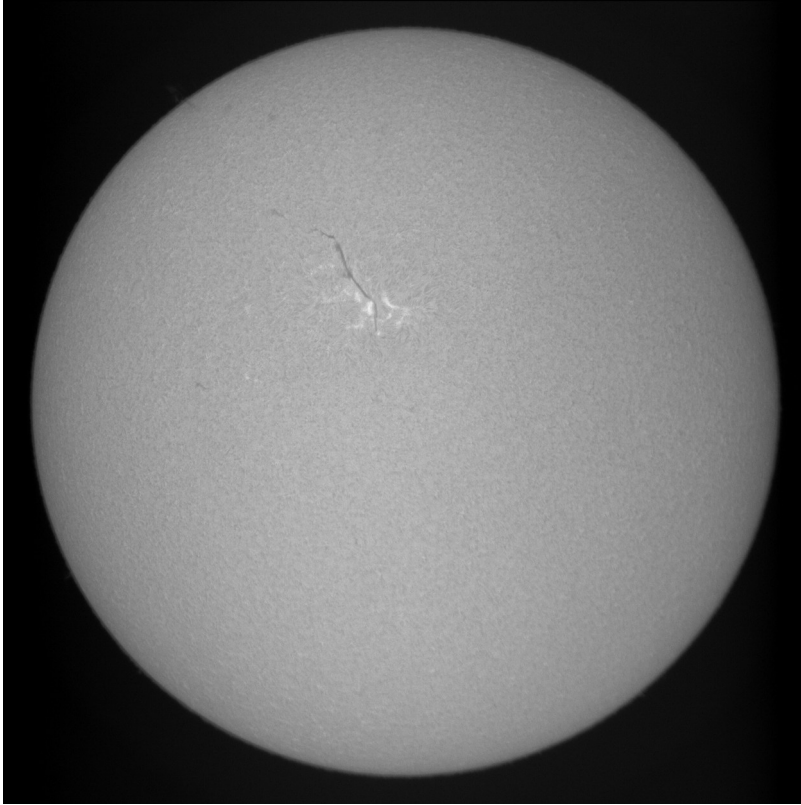
USET 20190415 08:15:00



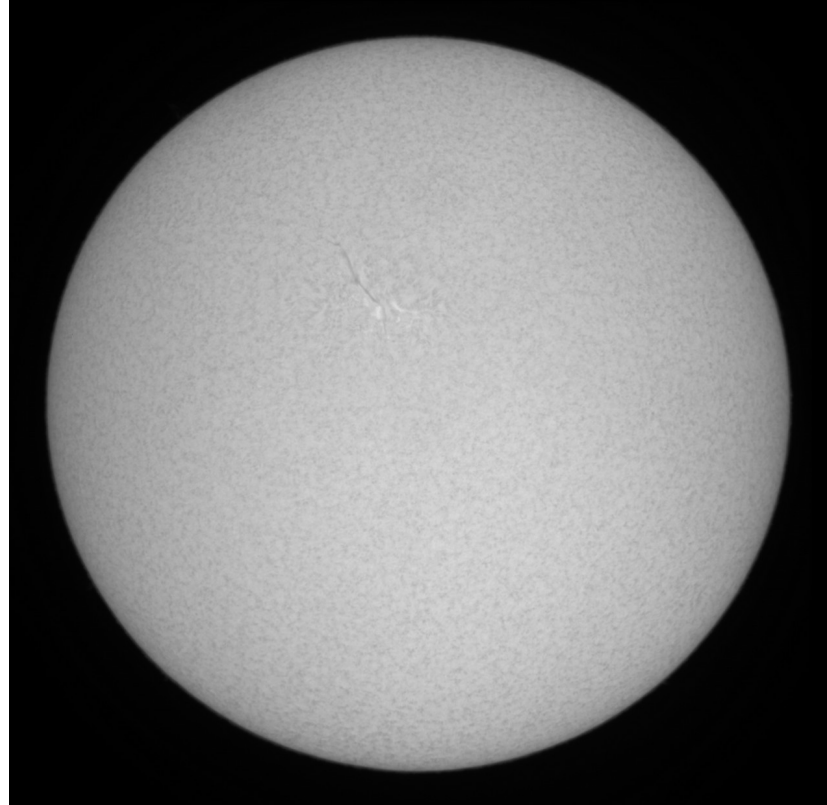
- Disk size different → geometrical transformation
- Check the co-alignment
- Observing condition different (presence of clouds) → atmosphere transparency correction

# Image comparison: H-alpha

KSO 20190219 10:24:39



USET 20190219 10:24:40

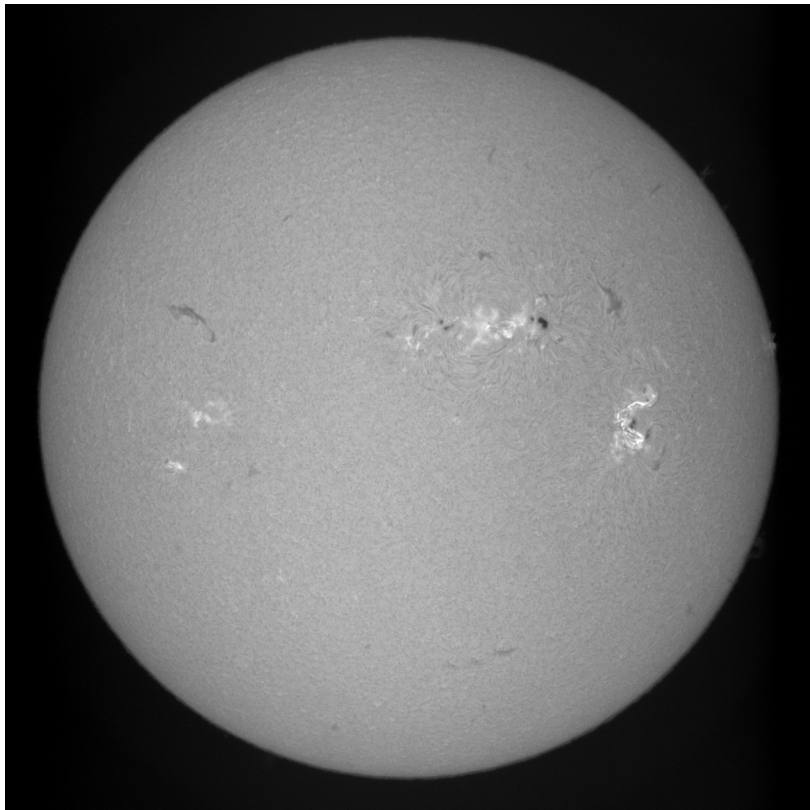


- Disk size different → geometrical transformation
- Filament more contrasted on KSO image and surface structure different → different band-pass/bandwidth ?

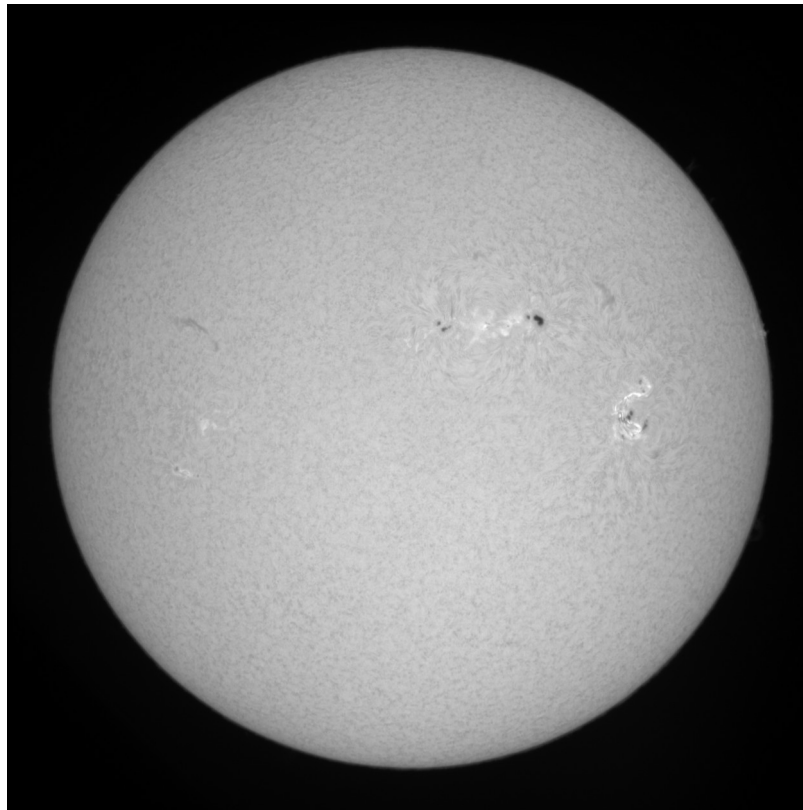


# Image comparison: H-alpha

KSO 20170906 08:22:55



USET 20170906 08:12:17

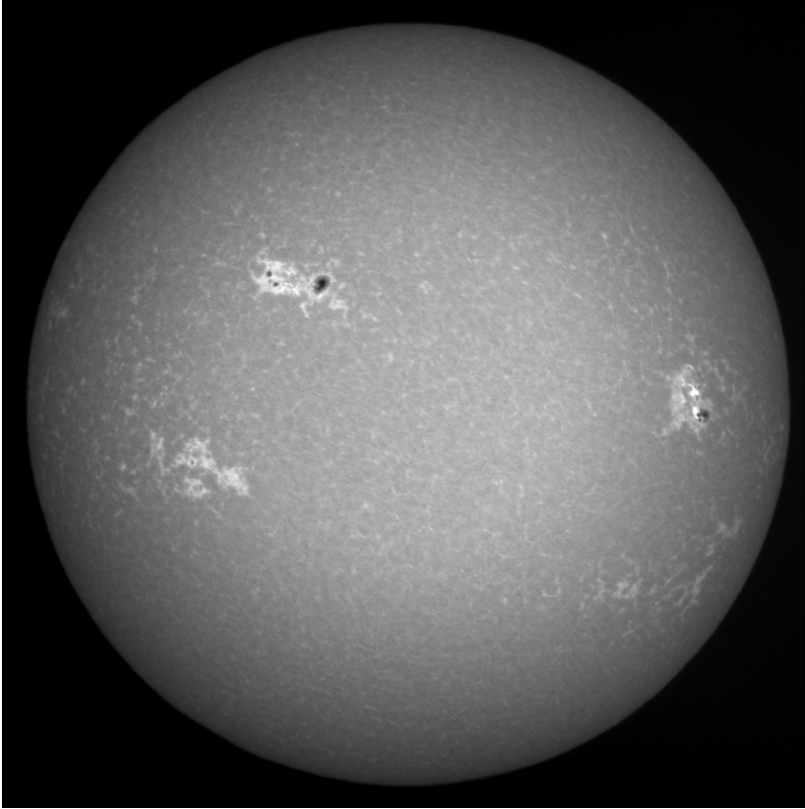


- Disk size different → geometrical transformation
- Filament more contrasted on KSO image and surface structure different → different band-pass/bandwidth ?

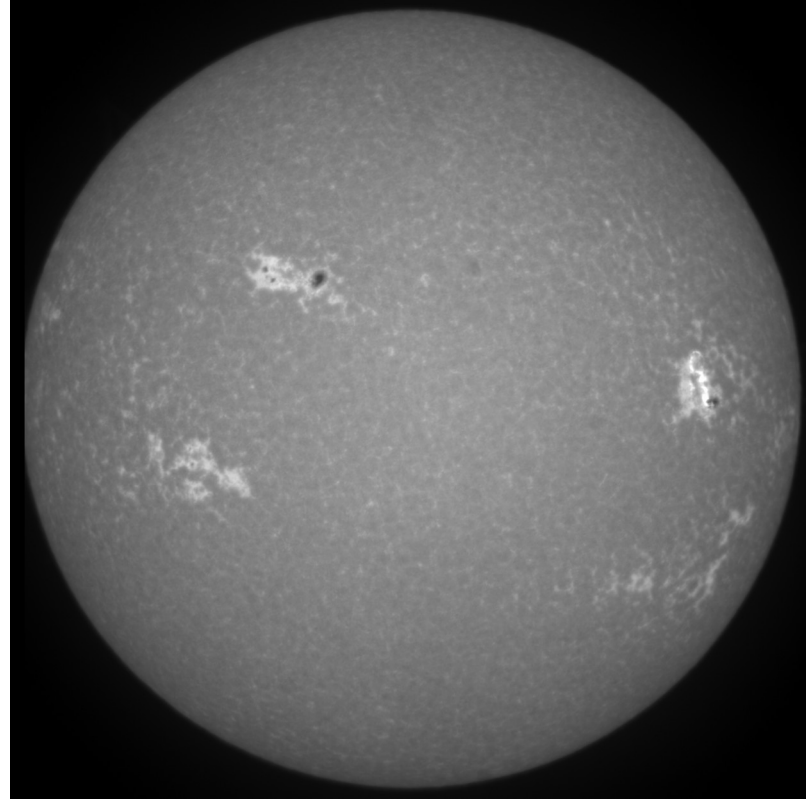
# Image comparison: Ca II K

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KSO 20160128 11:57:40



USET 20170128 12:00:17

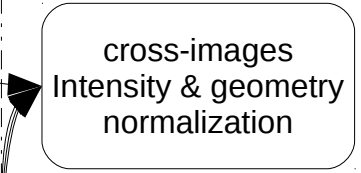
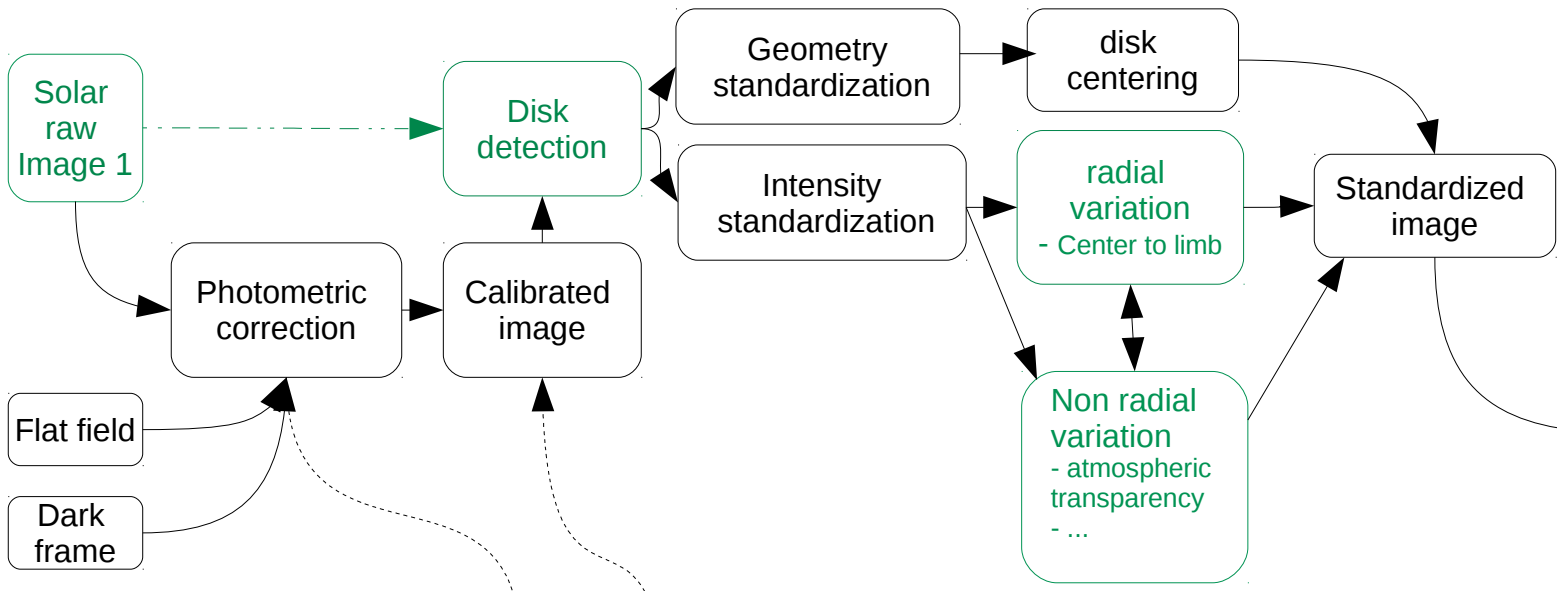


- Disk size different → geometrical transformation
- Observing condition different → atmosphere transparency correction

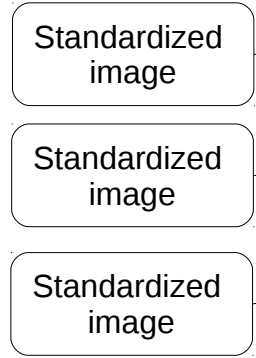
Back-up slides

# Individual treatment - standardization methods (USET pipeline)

# Collective treatment from different station - homogenization methods



# Collective treatment (from one station)



# Determination of the solar disk center

## Goals

- Three wavelengths
- Robust for different observation conditions

## Method

- a) First guess of the center position
- b) Centroid search

## Current status

- Operational for USET

