

THE ANALYSIS OF THE UNDERESTIMATED EVENTS

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EXTENDED ABSTRACT. The aim of this paper is an analysis of individual strong X-ray flares, which may not be predicted successfully by applying the sunspot group flare activity characteristics for preceding day.

We introduce the notations f_s and f_h for maximum values of solar X-ray flux in range 1 - 8 Å and 0.5 - 4 Å, respectively. F_s and F_h are sums of f_s and f_h values for individual flares observed in sunspot group on a given day.

We make the following assumptions: first we suppose that F_h is a good predictor for strong X-ray flares occurring the next day, and secondly, that the precursor (e.g. the increase of the f_h value for faint solar flares) occurs in a time interval shorter than 24 hours before the event. As a consequence some number of strong X-ray flares may not be predicted properly for next day.

We have examined the flare activity process of a given sunspot group, during the time interval of 30 hours, before the onset of each from 100 X-ray considered flares (class $\geq M1$). Our examination was limited to the strong flares, which occurred in sunspot groups of types D, E, F, observed in 1980.

We introduce the index h in the form as follows:

$$h = \frac{[f_h]_6}{[f_s]_6}$$

where f_h is the sum of f_h values, and $[f_h]_6$ is the sum of f_s values both, obtained for six-hour time intervals in sunspot group. For each analysed flare the zero time corresponds to flare maximum. The values of index h have been calculated in the nine consecutive six-hour time intervals. These intervals were slid back every three hours up to 30 hours.

We assumed that the values of index h increase frequently during time interval shorter than 24 hours before the strong X-ray flare.

It is important to know whether this effect is statistically significant.

To check this question we investigate additionally the set of 308 solar flares classes as $\leq C4$. The flare set was chosen as previously, for sunspot groups D, E, F but now in these groups the flares $\leq C5$ did not occur neither the given nor the next day. That means that we take into consideration the sunspot groups with very low flare activity. The mean value of index h is now equal to:

$$\langle h \rangle = \frac{\sum_{308} fh}{\sum_{308} fs} = 0.038$$

As a critical value we set $h_c = 0.04$, and so we assume that the given strong ($\geq M1$) flare is announced if during six-hour intervals the values h were in excess of the critical value.

The bulk of hundred investigated X-ray flares (88) were announced in time interval shorter than 24 hours before their appearance.

So, we may conclude that when for a given class of X-ray flares the flux (0.5 - 4 Å) is strongly enhanced we can expect stronger flare activity.

The result will be published in more detailed form probably in Solar Physics.