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Reconstructions of solar irradiance variations

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Variations in solar total irradiance and in its spectral distribution are deemed to affect Earth's climate. However, records of their direct measurements only go back to 1978 and thus do not allow a reliable estimate of the magnitude of the solar forcing. This calls for a reconstruction of solar spectral irradiance for as long a period as possible. We discuss currently available reconstructions of solar irradiance on time scales longer than a day.