
Mauna Loa Solar Observatory Observer's Log

Thu Feb 4 17:41:40 GMT 1999

Year: 99 Doy: 035

Observer: koon

WEATHER COMMENT: Thu Feb 4 17:43:11 GMT 1999

Clear sky, wind=10 mph from the SE, temp=30 F, still very icy outside with some snow drifts too.

Thu Feb 4 17:45:08 GMT 1999 CHIP Startup--Initializing new tape

Thu Feb 4 17:49:58 GMT 1999 MKIII Start Patrol

Thu Feb 4 17:50:19 GMT 1999 CHIP CHIP Start Patrol

COMMENT: Thu Feb 4 17:52:47 GMT 1999

There was so much ice and clouds yesterday that I didn't come up, it was a little too exciting of a drive and I wasn't sure if it would melt off enough to be able to make those downhill-to-corner sections when I wanted to leave.

It was a little less icy today but still several miles of constant black ice, but the sun was out and it should melt it by the time I want to leave MLSO. The visiting NASA guys called Judy and she called me to let me know that they got stuck in the ice somewhere behind me this morning, probably at the corner-to-uphill section that can be a terror when going in the other direction, they are driving a Toyota 4-Runner 4WD.

1999 CHIP End Bias

Thu Feb 4 18:04:03 GMT 1999 CHIP Water

LOW-L PROBLEM: Thu Feb 4 18:12:21 GMT 1999

Was crashed with DOS screen visible and L00577 popped out of drive #0 and the instrument head was stowed. I removed L00577, moved L00578 from Drive #1 to #0 and installed L00579 in drive #1. Cycled PC power and typed lowl to restart.

MLSO PROBLEM: Thu Feb 4 18:18:05 GMT 1999

Network connection to HAO is down.

PSPT PROBLEM: Thu Feb 4 18:20:44 GMT 1999

Stalled, "Running axis 0 to home..." message on screen. PSPT was pointing to the West. Exited and tried Run again.

LOW-L COMMENT: Thu Feb 4 18:35:57 GMT 1999

I forgot that we have to enter the date and time manually before starting the lowl program, or at least check them. So I stopped obs and set those and restarted.

Thu Feb 4 18:41:42 GMT 1999 MKIII Start Cal

MLSO PROBLEM: Thu Feb 4 19:01:26 GMT 1999

I can't connect to the hao computer via POP server PC access or via using the gate, and thanks to "security" measures we can't access any other computer over there, and to top it off now it appears our old standby backup route of using the modem doesn't work either, I just keep getting a busy signal. Leonard mentioned several times over several months something about HAO dropping some 800 number dial-in modem lines, the line

we use wasn't mentioned but I think it was eliminated. Now when you combine all of that with the fact that we aren't allowed to get our email sent to us here you have a big annoying waste of time. I have no way of checking my email, this is very inefficient, it's bad enough to have to go through all the contortions normally necessary to check and print and send mail and other types of files, is all this "security" really needed? Eric said the network was down yesterday too.

PSPT PROBLEM : Thu Feb 4 19:15:22 GMT 1999

Still trying to get this to work. I tried to "exit" to get the telescope pointed back to home position. It appears from the PC screen that axis 0 was being pointed and the readout was way beyond the -500 is was supposed to point to, but the telescope was stalled pointing a little East of straight up. Rebooted the PC and tried using Run again.

PSPT PROBLEM : Thu Feb 4 19:25:11 GMT 1999

OK its working now. Axis 0 is apparently the RA axis. Rebooting the PC was the fix for this one.

Thu Feb 4 20:01:46 GMT 1999	CHIP	Gain
Thu Feb 4 20:06:19 GMT 1999	CHIP	End Gain
Thu Feb 4 20:06:46 GMT 1999	CHIP	Bias
Thu Feb 4 20:07:39 GMT 1999	CHIP	End Bias
Thu Feb 4 20:07:50 GMT 1999	CHIP	Water

MLSO PROBLEM : Thu Feb 4 20:08:10 GMT 1999

I'm able to get mail via POP with the PC now, but can't login to my account using the gate at HAO.

MLSO PROBLEM : Thu Feb 4 20:32:31 GMT 1999

The new UPS is giving some problem now. There is a message on the LCD display, I will try to figure it out and hopefully I can figure it out and fix the problem here.

Thu Feb 4 21:02:47 GMT 1999	CHIP	Bias
Thu Feb 4 21:03:37 GMT 1999	CHIP	End Bias
Thu Feb 4 21:03:47 GMT 1999	CHIP	Water
Thu Feb 4 21:04:26 GMT 1999	CHIP	End Water

MLSO PROBLEM : Thu Feb 4 21:31:33 GMT 1999

I fixed the UPS problem. A possible sticking relay sent the UPS into Bypass Mode during its regular battery test sequence, that disabled battery backup and Menu operation. I called APC and explained it to them and they explained the secret procedure for resetting the Electronics Unit so the error message went away and the UPS switched back to UPS mode. After resetting it the Online mode (normal setting) worked fine. So hopefully this won't recur, but if it does we can call them and refer to the case ID number that I recorded in the APC manual along with other notes in the troubleshooting section.

Thu Feb 4 22:01:49 GMT 1999	CHIP	Bias
Thu Feb 4 22:02:45 GMT 1999	CHIP	End Bias
Thu Feb 4 22:03:00 GMT 1999	CHIP	Water

MLSO PROBLEM : Thu Feb 4 22:03:26 GMT 1999

It also seems possible that the voltage regulation was set to be too sensitive and so a relay was getting overworked trying to switch back and

forth between battery and grid power. So I lowered the voltage regulation sensitivity to see if we get less of those sudden and noisy buzzing episodes that immediately preceded this problem. The battery test has been set to happen every 14 days but that buzzing seems to be more often. That noise is enough to get the adrenalin pumping if you are close to the UPS when it happens, but now maybe it'll happen less often.

PSPT PROBLEM : Thu Feb 4 22:18:28 GMT 1999

Experiencing the late morning Quadcell problem again, I still haven't received any replies to my questions about this, they are in the log for last Saturday, DOY 030. So, once again it appears something strange happens late in the morning regarding the Quadcell and the camera exposures. First the QCsum values appears very low, last time it looked like they remained low even when I pointed to the sun but this time it appeared different. The program would stall due to lack of sufficient light on the Quadcell as given by the QCsum value. I opened the side cover and checked the Quadcell (QC) stage, it wasn't at any limits. The image of the sun wasn't centered on optics, it was off in declination, I checked the declination limit and it wasn't at the limit. I pushed the telescope until the light was centered on the optics then went into control and saw that the QCsum was up to about 2500 which is good, and the screen said it was activating the Active Mirror, the Active Mirror LED was lit (it wasn't before I pushed the telescope). Then the program progressed a little but said the exposure was too low at about 100, I don't understand what this means, does it mean the exposure value that was calculated was too low or does it mean that when it tried an exposure of 100 the image was too dark? Anyway it sat there for a while repeating that low exposure message and I figured it was stalled again so I started this log entry, but at about 2225 ut I heard the dome move and it became apparent that the program had progressed. I closed the side cover and let it do its thing. So I guess the band-aid solution for this will be to try to point the telescope to the sun manually when the QCsum values start looking strangely low, at least until we can understand what the software messages mean and why the QC doesn't have the sun centered on it in the late mornings.

Thu Feb 4 23:00:48 GMT 1999 CHIP Bias
Thu Feb 4 23:01:47 GMT 1999 CHIP End Bias
Thu Feb 4 23:01:57 GMT 1999 CHIP Water
Thu Feb 4 23:02:39 GMT 1999 CHIP End Water
WEATHER COMMENT: Thu Feb 4 23:04:51 GMT 1999
Clouds have started to pass over.
Thu Feb 4 23:07:17 GMT 1999 MKIII End Patrol
Thu Feb 4 23:11:26 GMT 1999 CHIP CHIP End Patrol
Thu Feb 4 23:17:26 GMT 1999 CHIP ending tape
COMMENT: Thu Feb 4 23:45:29 GMT 1999

TAPES:

MKIV: 99035
CHIP: C00774
LOWL: L00578 in drive #0
PICS: Down for repairs

Thu Feb 4 23:46:48 GMT 1999
MkIII

17_50.rawmk3	19_05.rawmk3	20_10.rawmk3	21_14.rawmk3	22_19.rawmk3
17_53.rawmk3	19_08.rawmk3	20_13.rawmk3	21_17.rawmk3	22_22.rawmk3
17_56.rawmk3	19_11.rawmk3	20_16.rawmk3	21_20.rawmk3	22_25.rawmk3
17_59.rawmk3	19_15.rawmk3	20_19.rawmk3	21_24.rawmk3	22_28.rawmk3
18_03.rawmk3	19_18.rawmk3	20_22.rawmk3	21_27.rawmk3	22_31.rawmk3
18_06.rawmk3	19_21.rawmk3	20_26.rawmk3	21_30.rawmk3	22_35.rawmk3
18_09.rawmk3	19_24.rawmk3	20_29.rawmk3	21_33.rawmk3	22_38.rawmk3
18_12.rawmk3	19_28.rawmk3	20_32.rawmk3	21_37.rawmk3	22_41.rawmk3
18_16.rawmk3	19_31.rawmk3	20_35.rawmk3	21_40.rawmk3	22_44.rawmk3
18_19.rawmk3	19_34.rawmk3	20_39.rawmk3	21_43.rawmk3	22_48.rawmk3
18_22.rawmk3	19_37.rawmk3	20_42.rawmk3	21_46.rawmk3	22_51.rawmk3
18_25.rawmk3	19_40.rawmk3	20_45.rawmk3	21_49.rawmk3	22_54.rawmk3
18_28.rawmk3	19_44.rawmk3	20_48.rawmk3	21_53.rawmk3	22_57.rawmk3
18_32.rawmk3	19_47.rawmk3	20_51.rawmk3	21_56.rawmk3	23_00.rawmk3
18_35.rawmk3	19_50.rawmk3	20_55.rawmk3	21_59.rawmk3	23_04.rawmk3
18_38.rawmk3	19_53.rawmk3	20_58.rawmk3	22_02.rawmk3	c18_41.rawmk3
18_45.rawmk3	19_57.rawmk3	21_01.rawmk3	22_06.rawmk3	c18_48.rawmk3
18_51.rawmk3	20_00.rawmk3	21_04.rawmk3	22_09.rawmk3	c18_55.rawmk3
18_58.rawmk3	20_03.rawmk3	21_08.rawmk3	22_12.rawmk3	
19_02.rawmk3	20_06.rawmk3	21_11.rawmk3	22_15.rawmk3	