



UNIVERSITY OF CRETE
DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS



QCN

CRETE CENTER FOR
QUANTUM COMPLEXITY
AND NANOTECHNOLOGY

ΓΕΝΙΚΟ ΣΕΜΙΝΑΡΙΟ ΤΜΗΜΑΤΟΣ ΦΥΣΙΚΗΣ

PHYSICS COLLOQUIUM

Thursday, 30 April 2015

17:00 -18:00

3rd Floor Seminar Room

“The Sun, sunspots, and Earth's climate”

Dr. Henk Spruit

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Abstract

The Sun's radiative output (measured at Earth as 'Total Solar Irradiance') has been measured from space since several decades. Variations related to the sunspot cycle are detected, but their direct effect on Earth's surface temperature is too small to influence climate. This has raised extensive and controversial discussions about possible indirect effects that could enhance climate response. In addition, could the Sun itself be varying on climate-relevant time scales (longer than decades)? An overview of these questions is presented from the solar physicist's perspective.