

National Astronomical Observatory of Japan (NAOJ)

Division of Solar and Plasma Astrophysics

Division of Radio Astronomy

Solar Observatory

Nobeyama Solar Radio Observatory

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- X-Ray Telescope
- EUV Imaging Spectrometer

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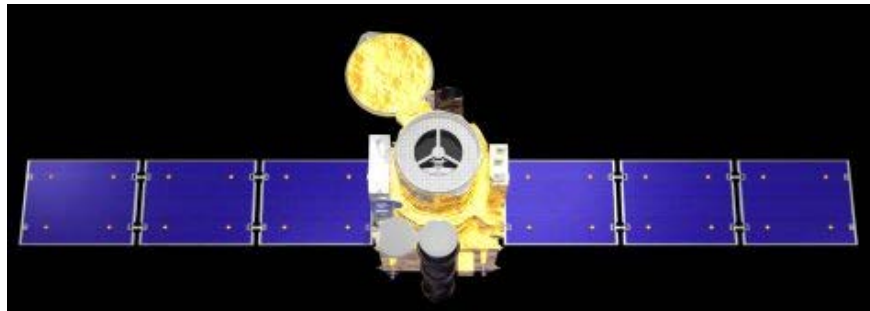
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On orbit since 22 September 2006 (Y+2548 )

The *Hinode* (Solar-B) is a highly sophisticated observational satellite equipped with three advanced solar telescopes. It was launched on 22 September 2006 UT (23 September in Japan time). Its [solar optical telescope \(SOT\)](#) has an unprecedented 0.2 arcsec resolution for the observation of solar magnetic fields. It would resolve a feature with the size of 50cm, if it observed the Earth. The [X-ray telescope \(XRT\)](#) has a resolution of three times as high as *Yohkoh*, and the [EUV imaging spectrometer \(EIS\)](#) has sensitivity ten times as high as the ESA *SOHO* instrument. These X-ray and EUV telescopes would reveal the heating mechanism and dynamics of the active solar corona.

With this suite of telescopes, we can address the following key questions in solar physics : Why does a hot corona exist above the cool atmosphere? What drives explosive events such as solar flares? What creates the Sun's magnetic fields?

The *Hinode* Science Center at NAOJ plays a lead role in instrument design and development, mission operation and data analysis with the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA), and promotes international collaboration with the US and European partners.

- [Institute of Space and Astronautical Science, Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency \(ISAS/JAXA\)](#)
- [National Aeronautics and Space Administration \(NASA\)](#)
- [Science and Technology Facilities Council \(STFC\)](#)
- [European Space Agency \(ESA\)](#)



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