

Sunspots Worksheet



Below is a photograph of the Sun taken on January 10, 2014, by an instrument aboard the Solar Dynamics Observatory spacecraft, which has been observing the Sun since 2010.

Please count the number of sunspots and sunspot groups you can see on this image and calculate the sunspot number (SSN) using the following formula:

$$\text{SSN} = (10 \times \# \text{ of groups}) + \# \text{ of individual spots}$$

(If there are sunspots within groups, note that you will, in a sense, be counting them twice. That's OK.)

How many groups of sunspots do you see? _____

How many individual spots do you see (count all)? _____

Use the formula to calculate the SSN:

