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DYNAMIC TEMPERATURE STRUCTURE OF THE CORONA

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The solar corona is heated to million degrees and information about the temperature structure is a key to understand the heating mechanisms. Although it is not easy to measure, the temperature looks to be remarkably steady in the solar corona and in active regions outside of transient events, like flares. On the other hand, there is strong evidence of multi-thermal structures, out of equilibrium for most of the time. Is there a way to obtain a coherent scenario? The secret might be in the fine structuring of the corona, and SDO is providing new and important information on this issue.