

## **FLARING G STARS IN THE KEPLER FIELD: A DEEPER PHYSICAL UNDERSTANDING**

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GO40034

We have found G stars - both on the main sequence and evolved - in the Kepler data releases that exhibit dramatic flares, with energies of as much as 100,000 times those seen in the largest solar flares. These flaring stars are worth examining in much greater detail, both to understand better the physics of flaring, and to understand why these particular stars exhibit this extraordinary behavior and what that may mean for the nearby environments of these stars (and perhaps for the Sun). If they are, in fact, the youngest stars in the Kepler sample, then these flares are putting energies into their surrounding environments at a critical phase in planet formation. However, we believe for several reasons that these stars are not simply the youngest stars in the Kepler sample and are likely to be older stars. If that is true then we are witnessing solar-type stars exhibit behavior not ever seen before, and there are important implications. This proposal has been written to ensure continued observation of the flaring stars, to ensure access to those data, and to obtain one-minute cadence observations of a subset of the flaring stars in order to derive precise physical parameters for these extraordinary objects and to better study the flares themselves. That can then permit gaining a fuller understanding of the context of the extraordinary flaring behavior.