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# Space weather applications using MHD

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## Outline

- Motivation
- 2.5D vs 3D models
- Self-consistent 2.5D break-out models
  - Symmetric shearing
    - Homologous CMEs
  - Asymmetric shearing & flux emergence
    - Parameter studies
    - Event studies: CME deflection
    - Event studies: sympathetic CMEs
- Euhforia: 3D heliospheric model
  - Data-driven solar wind model
  - CME model(s)
- Conclusions







### 'Space Weather'



### cf. USA NSWP

Strategic Plan:

"<u>Space Weather</u> refers to conditions on the sun and in the solar wind, magnetosphere, ionosphere, and thermosphere that can influence the performance and reliability of space-borne and ground-based technological systems and can endanger human life or health."





Courtesy: E. Daly

### Damage to satellites



"replacement value of ~\$B 170-230, and supporting a ~\$B 90/year industry"
once in 100 yr (200 yr?) 1859 super-storm:

"potential economic loss of
\$70 billion for lost
revenue (~\$44 billion) and
satellite replacement for
GEO satellites (~\$24 billion);

- 80 satellites (LEO, MEO, GEO) disabled;
- Failure of many of [GNSS] satellite systems"

\*Source: Forecasting the Impact of an 1859-calibre Superstorm on Satellite Resources: Odenwald, Green & Taylor, Advances in Space Research 2005



## Space Weather has important eff



# Focus: KEY ROLE of CMEs

- CMEs and solar flares are related; ~75% of flares are associated with CMEs: they are both the result of a large-scale restructuring of the magnetic field
- CMEs interact with the solar wind and drive shock waves
- These shock waves accelerate charged particles
- CMEs cause geomagnetic storms when they arrive at Earth
- CMEs pose radiation threat in the inner solar system





### Solar flares and CMEs

When a CME is ejected in the direction of the Earth, we see a so-called 'halo event' (about 10% of all the CMEs, more than 1 per week during solar maximum)



(halo) CMEs:

 $V_{cme} = 100 - 3000$  km/s, typ. 450 km/s Mass =  $10^{13} - 10^{16}$  g

Bulk kinetic energy =  $10^{27} - 10^{33}$  erg

(1st: OSO7 ('71) see Bruecker et al. '72)





### **CME mysteries**

Despite the plethora of CME observations, the **exact trigger mechanism remains unknown** 

Closed magnetic structures seem to play a key role in CME initiation



- Power source: energy stored in volumetric electric currents in the corona
- Mechanism: provided through the magnetic field by
  - o shearing motions / sunspot rotations
  - magnetic flux emergence/cancellation
- Cause of CMEs: still under debate, but we have good general idea loss of equilibrium or stability of the coronal magnetic field

Numerical simulation models are complementary to observations and required to get physical insight in this phenomenon!

## The background solar wind

- Continuous stream of high energetic particles flowing from the Sun.
- Finds its origin in the hot solar corona.
- Two different components:
  - 'FAST': V > 700 km/s (i.e. 2,5 million km/h), tenuous, almost uniform stream (from'coronal holes')
  - SLOW: 300 km/s (or > 1 million km/h), more dense and turbulent flow (from tips and edges of streamers)
- Near the Earth: < V >= 400km/s, < n >= 10cm<sup>-3</sup>
- Data from Ulysses, Helios, ACE, SOHO, Proba 2, Hinode, STEREO, SDO, etc.

### The background solar wind



Ulysses (1992) provided data on the velocity of the solar wind (red and blue lines). Solar images from SOHO (ESA/NASA)

# Solar wind simulations (2.5D)



Wind Model 1: Polytropic Wind

Colour: density (logscale), black lines: magnetic field lines, arrows: velocity



### Wind Model 2: MHD wind with extra heating/cooling source term:

$$Q = \rho q_0 e^{-\frac{(r-r_0)^2}{\sigma^2}} \left(T_0 - \gamma \frac{p}{\rho}\right)$$
(Groth et al. 2000)



### Wind Model 3:

Polytropic Wind with Alfvén waves

Has additional pressure gradient due to effect of Alfvén waves.



### Solar wind simulations (2.5D)



### 3D axi-symmetric wind



- used in combination with **3D CME** propagation models
- on structured grids
   → CPU demanding
- up to 30 R<sub>S</sub>
- up to 1 AU takes 10 days on 440 CPUs (without AMR)

#### Motivation 2.5D models:

- 1) ± Same evolution
- 2) Less CPU power/time
- 3) Same data fits at 1AU

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### 2.5D Flux-rope CME models



Initial setup with magnetized plasma blob, inverse polarity. (from Chané et al 2005)

Remark: ENLIL uses such a 'ballistic' model (in 3D but without magnetic field!)



### 2.5D vs 3D CME simulations



"Magnetized plasma blob" model, Jacobs et al. (2007)

# comparison 2.5D CME simulations vs 3D:

• 3D CME: 
$$\rho_{\rm cme} = 10$$
  
(=1.13  $\times 10^{16}$  g),  
 $v_{\rm cme} = \pm 1000$  km/s

- 2.5D 1: same mass as 3D CME
- 2.5D 2: same  $ho_{
  m cme}$  as 3D CME
- 2.5D 3: same momentum as 3D CME (when same width) ⇒ evolution ≈ 3D CME evolution



### 2.5D vs 3D CME simulations



comparison 2.5D simulations vs 3D:

- same  $ho_{\mathsf{CME}}$  as 3D CME
- same mass as 3D CME
- same momentum as 3D CME (when same width)

 $\Rightarrow$  evolution  $\approx$  3D evol.

### 2.5D simulations fitting ACE data



Comparison between the in situ data obtained by the ACE spacecraft (red curves) and our best fitting simulation (blue curves).

Best fit (with new wind model) for the April 4, 2000 Event.

Chané et al. (2006)

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### Numerical tool: MPI-AMRVAC

# Based on VAC (Toth, 1994), further developed at CmPA, KU Leuven since 2006-2007 (by van der Holst and others)

Any-D, block-grid-adaptive, massively parallel code for hydro to MHD multi-physics simulations, Newtonian to Relativistic regimes: fully open source development [gitorious.org, http://homes.esat.kuleuven.be/~keppens]



### **Different CME models: structures**



Flux rope (left) and sheared arcade (right) magnetic topologies adopted by most CME models. Representative field lines are shown. *Courtesy: Klimchuk (2000)* 



# Different CME models: structures **UX-Rope** Sheaked - Arcaete 1.5E-03 9.5E-04 6.2E-04

Amari et al. (2000, 2003); Antiochos et al. (1999); Forbes & Isenberg (1991); Gibson & Low (1998); Kliem et al. (2004); Lin et al. (2001); Linker et al. (2001); Lynch et al. (2005); Manchester et al. (2003, 2004); Moore et al. (2001); Sturrock et al. (2001); Titov & Démoulin (1999); Tokman & Bellan (2002); and Roussev et al. (2003, 2004, 2007).



Courtesy: I. Roussev



Simple spring analogue to the solar corona. The three states represent the magnetic field when it is unstressed (potential), stressed (current-carrying), and erupted (also current-carrying). *Courtesy: Klimchuk (2000)* 





Tether release model analogue. The spring is held in a compressed state by rope tethers. The tethers are slowly released, one by one, until the remaining tethers break from the additional strain. The spring explosively uncoils. *Courtesy: Klimchuk (2000)* 



Tether straining model analogue. The bottom of the spring is slowly raised on a moveable platform while its top is held fixed by rope tethers attached to the ground. The strain on the tethers builds to the breaking point, and the spring explosively uncoils. *Courtesy: Klimchuk (2000)* 

# CME modeling (2.5D)

### 'breakout' CME, initial situation:



van der Holst et al. ApJ (2007)



# CME modeling (2.5D)

### 'breakout' CME, evolution:



#### van der Holst et al. ApJ (2007)

# CME modeling (2.5D), symmetric driving

Mixed triggering (Zuccarello et al., Ap.J. 2009)



## CME modeling (2.5D), 2.5D parameter study

#### Soenen et al. AA (2009)



homologous CMEs Left: initial magnetic field configuration. Right: shear velocity as a function of latitude



# CME modeling (2.5D), parameter study

#### Soenen et al. AA (2009)



### homologous CMEs

Snapshots for narrow shearing region: similar to van der Holst et al.(2007)



# CME modeling (2.5D), parameter study



### homologous CMEs

1) a weak overlying field; 2) two expanding side arcades that envelope and protect; 3) expanding central arcade due to **larger shearing region**.



# Asymmetric driving (2.5D)

(Devriese et al., MSc thesis 2011) (Zuccarello et al., PhD thesis 2012)

Left: The radial velocity profile of the background solar wind. Right: zoom of the left figure, showing the coronal magnetic field topology.



- The ideal MHD equations are solved in spherical coordinates and assuming axial symmetry.
- The coronal magnetic field consists out of a triple arcade structure centered around the equator, and embedded in a large-scale dipole field.

#### The CME model

• CME initiated by applying an additional azimuthal flow on the inner boundary, i.e. shearing the magnetic foot points.

$$V_{\varphi} = \begin{cases} V_0 \left[ (\lambda - \lambda_0)^2 - \Delta \lambda^2 \right]^2 \sin(\lambda - \lambda_0) \sin\left(\pi \frac{t - t_0}{\Delta t}\right) & \text{if } |\lambda - \lambda_0| < \Delta \lambda \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

#### in the **northern** arcade: $\lambda = \pi/2 - \theta$ $\lambda_0 = 26^{\circ}$ $\Delta \lambda = 8.5^{\circ}$ $\Delta t = 24h$ $v_{\varphi}^{max} = 16.95 \text{kms}^{-1}$



Deflection of CME towards equator (cf. observations, plots of  $J_{\omega}$  and  $\rho_{rel}$ )



IP CME evolution: erosion & deformation (cf. observations, *plots of*  $\rho_{rel}$  &  $V_R$ )





Radial variation of 3 MHD wave velocities and the velocity of the front of the CME with respect to the background wind (cyan line).

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**Evolution of** density, radial velocity, temperature and magnetic field for a satellite in the equatorial plane (blue line), and above the equator 15° (green line) and 30° (red line) measured at 1 AU.

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Evolution of magnetic field components for a satellite in the equatorial plane (blue line), and above the equator 15° (green line) and 30° (red line) measured at 1 AU.

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## Case Study: CME deflection (1/2)



- > We impose localized shearing motions along the polarity inversion line of the AR.
- > The X-point is shifted northwards and interchange reconnection sets in.
- The southern arcade starts to rise and the prominence is formed.
- Southern arcade flux is transferred partially to central arcade and partially to open field.
- > Reconnection at X-point results in a pressure imbalance  $\rightarrow$  northward shift of the CME.
- The newly formed open flux of the southern coronal hole reconnects with the flux of the central arcade definitely separating the flux rope from its formation location and the flux rope gets absorbed in the northern helmet streamer.


# Case Study: CME deflection (2/2)

#### Zuccarello et al. ApJ (2012)



- As a consequence of the expansion, an increase in the relative density is observed at the leading edge of the expanding loops system, while a density depletion is observed behind it.
- An increase in the relative density in the central arcade due to reconnection corresponding to the loop brightening observed in EUV images.

#### **Three-part structure**



- When the flux rope is propagating within the COR1 FOV, the high-density core as well as the three-part structure are clearly visible.
- An increase in the relative density in the X-point is visible both in the observations and simulations.

# **Energetics**



## **Radial & Latitudinal Evolution**



- Time zero is 20:00 UT on 2009 September 21, i.e. the time at which the CME was at 2.25R<sub>0</sub>.
- $\succ$  It takes about 6 hrs to reach an altitude of 4R<sub>0</sub>.
- The CME is deflected by ~20° within the first 2.25R<sub>0</sub> and by ~16° within the COR1 FOV.



# Case Study: sympathetic CMEs (1/3)

Two CMEs from the same location, suggesting they are homologous CMEs



The first and second eruptions as seen by the COR1 and COR2 coronagraphs and the EUVI telescope onboard STEREO B; UT times are provided in each panel. Images shown here are running differences: typical cadences during the above observational period were 5 min and 15 min for COR1 and COR2, resp.

Zuccarello et al., 2012 Bemporad et al., 2012



# Case Study: sympathetic CMEs (2/3)

... but detailed analysis learns they have two different initiation mechanisms:



# 4 snapshots of relative density

CME1: flux rope eruption (no helmet streamer detachment in this case)

CME2: triggered by the rearrangement of the overlying field

Zuccarello et al., 2012 Bemporad et al., 2012



# Case Study: sympathetic CMEs (3/3)

The magnetic flux of CME2 is partially transferred to CME1



4 selected snapshots of the evolution of the relative density (relative to the steady-state background solar wind density) as both simulated CMEs are ploughing through the COR1 and COR2 FOVs

Zuccarello et al., 2012 Bemporad et al., 2012

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# Linking MHD and particle simulations SPACECAS

Combining a Sun-to-Earth MHD simulation of the propagation of a CMEdriven shock and a simulation of the transport of particles along the interplanetary magnetic field (IMF) line connecting the shock front and the observer (cf. SOLPENCO)





# **2D CME Modelling**



Example: December 13, 2006 event

Black: model, Red: in-situ observations at 1 AU





t = 25.0 hMagnetic field line 1) 200 1100 passing through the 150observer is traced 1000 900 100The location where the 2) 800 adial velocity [km/s] field line connecting to 50700 the shock is located 600  $\cap$ = cobpoint 500 -50The parameters of the 3) 400 shock (e.g. shock -100300 normal) at the cobpoint 200 are computed. These -150parameters as a function 100 -200of time are then fed to the -200 -150-1000 -50 $R_{\odot}$ particle simulation



# SPACECAST MHD model of the December 13, 2006 event

Pomoell et al. (2014)



#### SPACECAST MHD model of the December 13, 2006 event

Top: Evolution of the injection rate of shockaccelerated protons at the cobpoint, Q, for a subset of modelled energy channels for the 2006 December 13 SEP event.

The bottom panel displays the evolution of the VR parameter.

Pomoell et al. (2014)



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#### Heliosperic CME evolution model

Data-driven solar wind with super posted CME evolution (cf. ENLIL)



# Solar wind modeling

Taking coronal model as lower boundary condition



- Potential field source surface (PFSS) model (e.g. Wang & Sheeley; DeRosa & Schrijver,..)
- CORHEL/MAS model (Linker et al.)
- SWMF/S.C.-IH (van der Holst et al.)
- Nonlinear force-free field (NLFFF) models (Yeates & MacKay; Tadesse, Wiegelmann, et al.)
- AMR-CESE-MHD model (Feng et al. 2012)



# Solar wind modeling

Taking coronal model as lower boundary condition



# Solar wind modeling

Taking coronal model as lower boundary condition



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#### **Coronal model**

**AIM:** Produce plasma condition at r = 0.1 AU as input to MHD model

**INPUT:** GONG synoptic LOS magnetograms (updated every hour)

#### **METHOD:**

- **PFSS field extrapolation** using hybrid FFT (in azimuthal direction) and second order finite differences (in meridional plane)
- Current sheet model (Schatten) beyond the source surface
- Determination of CHs, distance to nearest CH, FT expansion factor etc., from the PFSS+CS model, i.e. various applications of field line tracing
- Based on parameters determined from the PFSS+CS model, use semi-empirical formulas for the solar wind speed at r = 5 R<sub>Sun</sub>
- Translate the speed at r = 5 R<sub>sun</sub> to 0.1 AU, other plasma variables set according to semi-empirical considerations

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#### Heliosphere model with CMEs

**AIM:** Compute time dependent evolution of MHD variables from 0.1 AU to 1 AU and beyond (up to a few AU)

**INPUT:** Plasma properties at 0.1 AU from coronal model, cone model CME parameters from fits to observations

#### **METHOD:**

- Second order finite volume MHD scheme
- Python matplotlib / Vislt for visualization



# Very first test Euhforia



3D visualization of **MHD relaxation** in low resolution (same as ENLIL) 0.1 AU - 1 AU

Color = radial velocity (initially extended) Arrows = magnetic field (initially radial)



#### **Comparison with WSA** Plot in WSA style (http://legacy-www.swpc.noaa.gov/ws/gong\_all1.html



eated 2015 May 16 1825 UTC

# More conventional view for 2nd relaxation (at double resolution)



More conventional movie of MHD relaxation (ENLIL style, but twice ENLIL resolution)



#### Ballistic CME test (same background wind)



Superposition of a cone CME, introduced with a time-dependent BC at 0.1AU



# **Operational mode test**

# CME event list					
# Time of CME at 21.5Rs	Lat [deg]	Lon [deg]	Width/2 [deg]	Speed [km/s]	flags
2012-12-19T01:00:00	-9.0	-60.0	45.0	8.500e+02	1
2014-12-17T04:28:00	-3.0	-34.0	17.0	1103.0	1
2014-12-17T08:39:00	30.0	5.0	29.0	603.0	1
2014-12-19T01:12:00	-9.0	-20.0	45.0	885.0	1
2014-12-19T02:28:00	-7.0	-90.0	14.0	544.0	1
2014-12-19T21:48:00	6.0	-83.0	22.0	337.0	1
2014-12-20T04:09:00	-43.0	23.0	25.0	964.0	1
2015-04-17T10:00:00	-9.0	-22.0	45.0	8.000e+02	1
2015-04-19T05:00:00	-19.2	22.0	50.0	9.000e+02	1

- Strong CME on 19/12/2014 at  $1:12AM \rightarrow$  simulate this one!
- Actually 6 CMEs (2 earlier and 3 later, the last one also strong)
- Use magnetogram of 19/12/2014 at 1:00AM (from GONG), and
  - calculate PFSS and relax for 10 days  $\rightarrow$  04-14/12/2014
  - Inject the CME (and the CMEs before it)  $\rightarrow$  14-19/12/2014

- Predict the evolution of the CME(s)  $\rightarrow$  starting from 19/12/2014, 1:12 AM
- → Three phases are identified in next movie (normally only last two will be shown)



# Three phases of simulation: $V_r$



- calculate PFSS and relax for 10 days
- Inject the CME (and the CMEs before it)
- Predict the evolution of the CME(s)

 $\rightarrow$  04-14/12/2014

→ 14-19/12/2014

→ from 19/12/2014, 1:12 AM

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# **Euhforia: current status**

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#### **Current status**

- Code installed and results reproduced at ROB → being integrated in forecast procedures
- Validation (comparison with ENLIL) ongoing
  - Same color table as ENLIL implemented (for easy comparison)
- Synthetic ACE data & plots at 1 AU now implemented



#### Improved plotting: radial velocity V<sub>r</sub>



#### Improved plotting: numer density n



# **CME evolution mysteries**

 CMEs evolve considerably during their long journey from the Sun to the Earth and this evolution may significantly affect their ability to be geo-effective



- we urgently need to improve significantly our ability to estimate the magnetic structure of CMEs
  - pursue a data-driven approach in order to model the complex time-dependent coronal dynamics
  - will enable more reliable CME evolution simulations, including rotation and deflection in corona (in both longitude and latitude) and the heliospheric effects of erosion (through MR), deformation (due to interaction with the ambient SW)
  - and enable to distinguish the CME core (IP magnetic cloud) from the shock wave it induces

#### New ultra-high resolution results: SW



#### Back ground wind with 5 AMR levels



#### Scaled (zoomed) movie of density (with grid)





# New ultra-high resolution results: CME



2D color plot of the density at 30h when the CME is ejected with an initial velocity of 1000 km/s.

AMR has been applied on the whole grid (5 levels) according to the gradient of the density.



100

80

# New ultra-high resolution results



#### Scaled (zoomed) movie of density (with grid)





2D color plot of the density at 25h when the CME is ejected with an initial velocity of 1000 km/s.

#### **Fine tuning:**

AMR still 5 levels but limited to part of the grid, only shock and IP MC are AMR resolved, i.e. no AMR close to Sun


### New ultra-high resolution results



#### New ultra-high resolution results





#### New ultra-high resolution results





## **Euhforia: current status**

'European heliospheric forecasting information asset'

#### **Current status**

- CMEs added via BCs at 0.1 AU, testing
  - ENLIL "Ballistic" model (pressure/density pulse, **no magnetic field**)
  - Magnetized CME models tested (with AMR)

#### Next steps

- Calibrate the solar wind
- Historic test cases to compare with data and ENLIL
- Install magnetized (flux-rope) CMEs
- Improve coronal model (magnetofrictional magnetic field)
- Replace WSA part by 1D turbulence-based model along a field line
- Update MHD part to MPI-AMRVAC
- Couple to SEP model and to GUMICS-4



#### Conclusions

- CMEs play a key role in Space weather
- CME simulations reveal the secrets of the Sun, supplementary to observations!
- urgent need to model the magnetic structure of CMEs
  - Need more reliable CME evolution simulations, including rotation and deflection in corona (in both longitude and latitude) and the heliospheric effects of erosion (through MR), deformation (due to interaction with the ambient SW)
  - Need to distinguish the CME core (IP magnetic cloud) from the shock wave it induces



### Conclusions

#### There is still a lot of missing/neglected physics:

- Photosphere is not in force-free state, and so pressure gradients and cross-field currents may be important.
- We lack detailed theory of magnetic reconnection in 3-D; most models invoke MR, often caused by numerical diffusion.
- Multi-fluid & partial ionization effects: low temperatures in the low atmosphere pose the question of the (resistive) effects of partial ionization (ambipolar diffusion + Hall term in generalized Ohm's law, multi-fluid effects)



### Thank you very much!



# **Questions?**



