

FP7 Project – HELCATS – WP 6

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WP6: Initialising advanced numerical models based on the kinetic properties of STEREO/HI CMEs and CIRs

The primary goal of WP6 is to transform the catalogues of CMEs and CIRs observed by HI, accomplished in WP2/3 and WP5, into more advanced catalogues of simulation results of CIRs and CMEs. This advanced database will provide to the space community a set of simulation results optimised by assimilating direct images of the solar wind into ENLIL simulations. The delivery of these advanced catalogues will enhance forefront research on the ‘background’ solar wind (fast and slow solar wind) and on the spatial and temporal evolution of CIRs and CME shocks, and will provide unique material to study and interpret particle radiation measurements in the inner heliosphere. This resource will also be useful to assess the potential role of HI images for space-weather predictions and to prepare future missions (e.g. ESA’s Solar Orbiter).

WP2
CME catalogue

WP3
CME FM

WP5
CIR catalogue

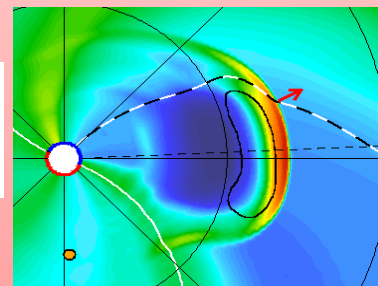
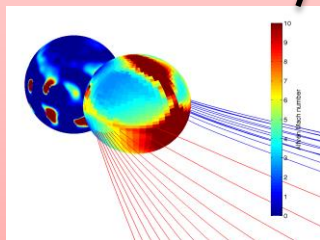
Geometry
Kinematics
of HD CMEs

Calibration of
background
wind



Initialisation
Technique:
WSA, HD/PFSS

Simulations of
HD CMEs + background wind



WP6

T6.1 - Assimilating HI images to model the background solar wind [Months: 7-36] UPS

D6.1: J-maps derived from HI images and movies will be compared with synthetic J-maps and movies of CIRs derived from numerical simulations of the background solar wind (ENLIL). We will divide events in two classes: Class 1 for which a good correspondence is immediately obtained between simulated and observed height-time maps and Class 2 for which J-maps differ significantly. We will compare how well ENLIL predicts the in-situ measurements of CIRs for these two classes of events separately. We will then modify the coronal input of ENLIL of the second class of events until synthetic and observed J-maps are in good agreement. [month 24] (WIP).

T6.2 - Assessing the use of HI to initialize ENLIL [Months: 7-36]

UPS

D6.2 : A catalogue of the most accurate set of simulations of the background solar wind will then be established. This catalogue will be very useful for further simulations or for scientific users to obtain a more accurate estimate of the magnetic connectivity of spacecraft with solar events. [month 24]

T6.3 - Continual assimilation of HI data in ENLIL and comparison with standard implementation techniques

D6.3 : The results of WP3 and 4 will provide the central axis, volume and speed of CMEs between 10 and 20 solar radii (range of inner boundary for ENLIL). These CMEs will then be injected as hydrodynamic spheres into the most accurate simulations of the background solar wind derived from WP6.1. The arrival time of the leading edge of the CMEs and the properties of the potential shocks driven ahead of them will be compared with in-situ measurements (exploiting the results of WP4.2). A catalogue of these optimised ENLIL simulations of CMEs and their shocks will then be stored for the ecliptic plane. This advanced catalogue will help studies of the origin of solar energetic particle events. [month 36]

D6.4 : In Task 6.2, the CME properties are specified once at the inner boundary. The CME position, volume and speed can be updated every 40 minutes for HI-1 and 2 hours for HI-2. Medium resolution ENLIL simulations will be re-launched at every time step such that the CME position and speed remains in agreement with HI images. The results of this set of assimilated simulations will be compared with results of Task 5.2 and in-situ measurements; we will determine whether a continual assimilation of HI images provides a better forecast of CME arrival times at 1 AU. [month 36]

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Steps to follow:

June-September 2015:

- Initialise ENLIL with HD CMEs based on HELCATS WP2 catalogue: already operational
- Integrate results in propagation tool and compare real and synthetic J-maps.
- Validation of HD/PFSS coronal model on one year of data (14 Carrington rotations) via Carrington maps

October-December 2015:

- Initialisation of ENLIL using the HD/PFSS model on 14 rotations
- Validation of background solar wind on one year of data (14 Carrington rotations) via Jmaps maps (comparison real/synthetic in propagation tool).

January-Apr 2015:

- Initialisation of ENLIL combining better background initialisation + HD CMEs.
- Validation of new solar wind/ CME simulations (14 Carrington rotations) via Jmaps maps (comparison real/synthetic in propagation tool).

