





solar orbiter

Energetic Particle Measurements with Solar Orbiter

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Outline

- Solar Orbiter (SO) Mission
- Energetic Particle Detector (EPD) Suite on SO
- Questions that will be addressed by SO/EPD:
 - Acceleration
 - Seed Particle
 - Transport
- SO-SIS instrument and data products
 EPD data

Solar Orbiter Mission



- A joint ESA-NASA mission to be launched in February 2020
- The spacecraft will take a unique combination of measurements: *in situ* measurements will be used alongside remote sensing close to the Sun to relate these measurements back to their source regions and structures on the Sun's surface.
- Solar Orbiter will set about answering four top-level science questions:
 - What drives the solar wind and where does the coronal magnetic field originate from?
 - How do solar transients drive heliospheric variability?
 - How do solar eruptions produce energetic particle radiation that fills the heliosphere?
 - How does the solar dynamo work and drive connections between the Sun and the heliosphere?

Müller et al. (2013)

Mission Design



Figure 2 *Solar Orbiter's* trajectory viewed from above the ecliptic (January 2017 launch). The gravity assist maneuvers (GAM) at Earth (E) and Venus (V) are indicated, along with the orbits of these two planets.

- NASA-provided launcher
- First perihelion is reached
 1.5 years after launch
- Operating orbit has a 168 days period
- Resonant orbit with Venus
- Minimum perihelion at 0.28 AU
- 7 years nominal mission at 25° inclination

Mission phases (Feb 2020 launch)



- **CP** Cruise Phase
 - From 97 days after launch until the planetary fly-by that puts the spacecraft into the NMP orbit.
 - Short: 561 days
- NMP Nominal Mission Phase.
 - for Feb 2020 launch, this starts in Nov 2021



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ESA UNCLASSIFIED - For Official Use

European Space Agency

Solar Orbiter Spacecraft

10 instrument suite: 4 in-situ; 6 remote



Solar Orbiter: Energetic Particle Science Question

esa

ESA/SRE(2011)14 July 2011

Solar Orbiter

Exploring the Sun-heliosphere connection



Definition Study Report

How do solar eruptions produce energetic particle radiation that fills the heliosphere?

1) Acceleration

2) Injection/Seed population

time?

3) Transport lead population

European Space Agency



1. Shock Acceleration



Evidence for Shock Acceleration



Mewaldt et al. 2005



Old Picture:



But it does not solve all problems!



What is being accelerated?

Solar Wind & SEP have different composition



Mewaldt et al. 2001



Mason et al., 2004

Ne

He

³He in Gradual SEP Events

³He abundance in ~50% of large SEP events >> solar wind value of ~5x10⁻⁴



³He During Quiet-times







Figure 2. Time variation of the fraction of time when ³He from impulsive SEP events is observed at 1 AU in any of the four energy intervals analyzed. The dashed curve is the smoothed result from our previous study [2] study. The solid curve is the smoothed result from the present study. The points indicate values obtained for individual Bartels rotations.

Figure 2. Average percentage of time that ³He was detected at ACE during each 6-month period from the start of 1998 through mid-2013. All four of the energy intervals illustrated in Fig. 1 were used in identifying times when ³He was present.

Widenbeck et al., ICRC, 2005

Wiedenbeck et al., AIP CP, 2014

The mystery of huge heavy ion (Fe) variations in intensity



Suprathermal Flux and Solar Wind Number Density

Peak intensities in shock events vary over a range of ~10⁴

- not explained by CME speed
- not explained by shock acceleration models
- not explained by solar wind number density which does not change nearly as much
 Many researchers have suggested important role of suprathermal seed population

Mason et al., AIP CP781, 2005





Need Solar Orbiter, PSP to disentangle transport effects from injection effects.

Wibberenz & Cane, 2006

Transport effects

- Common energy organizes better than velocity
 - Maybe rigidity is better



Mason et al. 2012



Red: Ulysses (see above) How does the Sun fill the heliosphere with energetic particles?

1.94

-71.0

135.1

1111111

Note how the decay phases are all

This indicates that a large 'reservoir' of energetic particles that fills the heliosphere is being depleted at the same rate everywhere.

Why does it empty in lockstep? Measurements close to Sun!

McKibben et al., 2003

Outstanding Question



Suprathermal Flux and Solar Wind Number Density

Acceleration (various processes)





Transport (which smears out signatures)

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EPD is a suite of four sensors that measures suprathermal to high-energy particles:

- STEP (Suprathermal Electrons and Proton)
- EPT (Electron-Proton Telescope)
- SIS (Suprathermal Ion Spectrograph)
- HET (High-Energy Telescope)







SupraThermal Electron and Proton (STEP)

- S/C mounted
 - STEP will measure $e^{\text{-}}$ [0.002-0.1MeV] and $p^{\text{+}}$ [0.003-0.1MeV]
- Instrument Heritage:
 - STEP has heritage of STEREO/STE









particle trajectories in B=0.1T, protons at 4000eV in red, at 100keV in green, electrons at 100keV in blue



Electron Proton Telescope (EPT)

Measures electrons and protons .

- EPT will measure e⁻ [0.02-0.7 MeV], p⁺ [0.02-7 MeV] _
- Four view directions (in and out of orbital plane) with _ two units
- EPT and HET sensors share the same Electronic Box
- Instrument Heritage: •
 - EPT has direct heritage from STEREO/SEPT _









04:00

Time (UT)

High-Energy Telecope (HET)

- Measures e- [0.3-20MeV], p+ [10-100MeV] and ions [50-200MeV/nuc **Z-dependent]
 - Two view directions (in and out of orbital plane) with two units
 - EPT and HET sensors share the same Electronics Box
- Instrument Heritage:
 - HET has heritage from the MSL/RAD instrument













Integrated Control Unit (ICU) 1 Universidad de Alcalá

- Provides a single point of connection between the S/C and all the EPD sensors
 - Power I/F
 - Data I/F
 - Cold redundant configuration
- Heritage
 - ICU has heritage from SOHO/COSTEP CDPU







ICU prototype



LVPS prototype



Suprathermal Ion Spectrograph (SIS)



- SIS is a Time-of-Flight by Energy high-resolution ion mass spectrometer
- Two identical telescopes measure the ion mass and energy
- Same measurement technique as was used on ACE/ULEIS







SIS-Flight Model



- SIS Flight Model
- FM met and exceeded all the L1 requirements: ٠
 - Energy resolution (<5%) •
 - Energy range (0.05 10 MeV/nuc) •
 - Mass resolution (*m/dm* > 50) •
 - Etc. •





SIS Data Products

- Energy Range
 - 50 keV/nuc 10 MeV/nuc
- Three science data products
 - Matrix rates for 12 major elements

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20

- (H, 3He, 4He, C, N, etc)
- Pulsed Height Analyzer Events
- Helium Histogram *New*
- Time Cadences
 - Nominal 30 s
 - Burst 3 s
 - Quick look 30 minutes
- Two look directions *New*
 - Sunward 30° off the deck; Anti-sunward 20° off the deck
 - Each has an iris mechanism to control _ aperture from 100% to 1%



SIS Matrix Rate Box

100 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 - Energy box number Fe Са Atomic Mass (AMU) 10 3He ==== SSD threshold 0.01 0.1 100 10 1 Incident Energy (MeV/nucleon)

SIS_A_and_B_rate_boxes

Energy box #	Elo Incident energy (MeV/nucleon)	Ehi Incident energy (MeV/nucleon)	Eaverage (MeV/nucleon)
0	0.0141	0.0200	0.0171
1	0.0200	0.0283	0.0241
2	0.0283	0.0400	0.0341
3	0.0400	0.0566	0.0613
4	0.0566	0.0800	0.0683
5	0.0800	0.1131	0.0966
6	0.1131	0.1600	0.1366
7	0.1600	0.2263	0.1931
8	0.2263	0.3200	0.2731
9	0.3200	0.4525	0.3863
10	0.4525	0.6400	0.5463
11	0.6400	0.9051	0.7725
12	0.9051	1.2800	1.0925
13	1.2800	1.8102	1.5451
14	1.8102	2.5600	2.1851
15	2.5600	3.6204	3.0902
16	3.6204	5.1200	4.3702
17	5.1200	7.2408	6.1804
18	7.2408	10.2400	8.7404
19	10.2400	14.4815	12.3608
20	14.4815	20.4800	17.4807

Helium Mass Histogram





- Since the PHA telemetry is limited, this limits the timing resolution for ³He/⁴He ratio measurements.
- To help avoid this, He mass histograms are formed in the instrument allowing analysis of all the PHA events, not just the telemetered ones.
- The He mass histogram is:
 - mass range 2.0 6.0 AMU;
 - energy range 0.5 2.0 MeV/nuc

Launch: February 9 (10), 2020









Einc (MeV/nuc)

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SIS He histogram

24 hour sum over Weak CIR

Most ions are near 0.5 MeV/nucleon

m/sigma-m = 3.959/0.0424 = 93.4 consistent With prelaunch Values and science Requirement (poor statistics)



Level 3 products are Higher level data, such As plots

These will be developed by the EPD team in the Future

Example of plot from ACE/ULEIS posted at ACE Science Center – 4 day plots for entire Mission

Shows impulsive, CME Related events during Period of high solar Activity

Similar plot planned For SO/EPD/SIS

ACE/ULEIS

Created-Wed Apr 29 08:33:33 2020 Top: 0.2

Created-Mon Apr 27 12:16:18 2020

SIS-sunward/

anti-sun ratio

10.0

ratio

0.1

436 events

Counts/bin

210 events

Counts/

U

117

⁴He

³Не

0

Fe

Fe

Ca

Si Mg Ne

Ñ

⁴He

³He

0.0225

0.100 5

1.00

i 10.0

26

(MeV/nuc)

Ene



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Top: 0.23–0.32 MeV/n. Intensity; Middle: Energy range = 0.4–10 MeV/n.; Bottom: Mass Range = 10–70 AMU Top panel: yellow shading indicates approximate period of instrument saturation Bottom panel: approx door position (upper = sunward): none = 100%, blue = 26%, orange = 6%, red = 1%, black = 0%

SO/SIS





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-"fog

-2



1 AU vs Solar Orbiter CIR intensities



intensithy (particles/s cm2 sr MeV/nuc)



PSP CIR He spectra

Cohen et al, ApJ. V246, 2020.

Figure 5. Time-integrated helium spectra (from the average of LETA and LETB He spectra) for all seven events. A line corresponding to an $E^{-4.5}$ power law is shown for reference.

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Solar Orbiter Current Status

- The mission just transitioned from Commissioning to Cruise Phrase operation
- All in-situ instruments will be taking continuous measurement
- Remote Checkout Windows
 - June 2020
 - Feb, Mar, Sep 2021
- Venus Gravity Assist #1
 - Dec 2020
- Go Solar Orbiter !







JOHNS HOPKINS APPLIED PHYSICS LABORATORY











