

PHYSICAL LINK BETWEEN CMEs AND MAGNETIC CLOUDS:  
THE COMBINE BENEFIT OF THE STEREO MISSION AND MAGNETIC  
HELICITY CONSERVATION

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## Why magnetic helicity ?

- Intrinsic property of the physical process  
e.g. Inverse MHD cascade, build up of twisted flux rope
- Conserved quantity  
⇒ track the magnetic flux from its formation to the heliosphere

## Magnetic flux travel

Heliosphere (1 AU)	$10^{-8}$ T	( $10^{-4}$ G)	expansion, relaxation (MC)
Corona (low)	$10^{-2}$ T	( $10^2$ G)	accumulation, instability
Photosphere	$10^{-1}$ T	( $10^3$ G)	expansion, relaxation
Convective zone			transport
Tachocline	10 T	( $10^5$ G)	dynamo, Parker instability

# Magnetic helicity: main features

- Definition of the **relative** magnetic helicity

$$H_r = \int_V \vec{A} \cdot \vec{B} dV - \int_V \vec{A}_0 \cdot \vec{B}_0 dV$$

with:

$$\vec{B} = \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{A},$$

and,  $\vec{B}_0$ : potential magnetic field.

- $H_r$  is **gauge-invariant** ( $\vec{A} \rightarrow \vec{A} + \vec{\nabla}\Phi$ )  
(Berger & Field 1984, Finn & Antonsen 1985)

- **Conservation** of  $H_r$

$$\left| \frac{\Delta H_r}{H_r} \right| \leq \sqrt{\frac{\Delta t}{\tau_d}}$$

with:

$\Delta t$  = evolution time

$\tau_d = L^2/\eta$  (diffusion time)

(Berger 1984)

- **Hemispherical rules** ( $H_r < 0$  in the northern hemisphere)  
(Seehafer 1990, Pevtsov et al. 1995, Bothmer & Rust 1997)
- **Accumulation of  $H_r$**  in the corona  $\implies$  CMEs  
(Rust 1994, Low 1996)

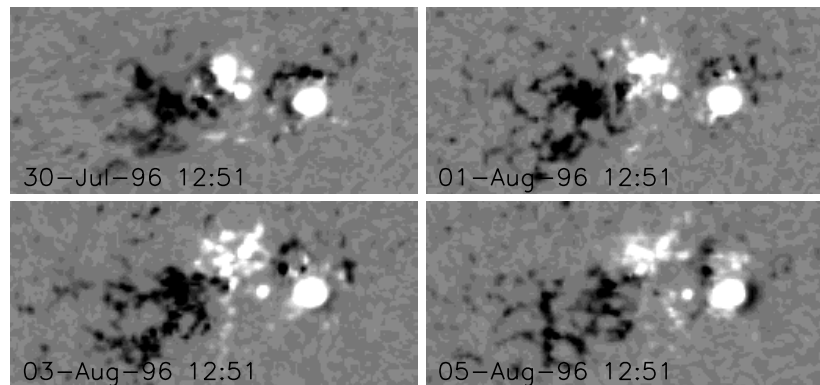
# Input of helicity in ARs

\* Magnetic helicity input at the photosphere:

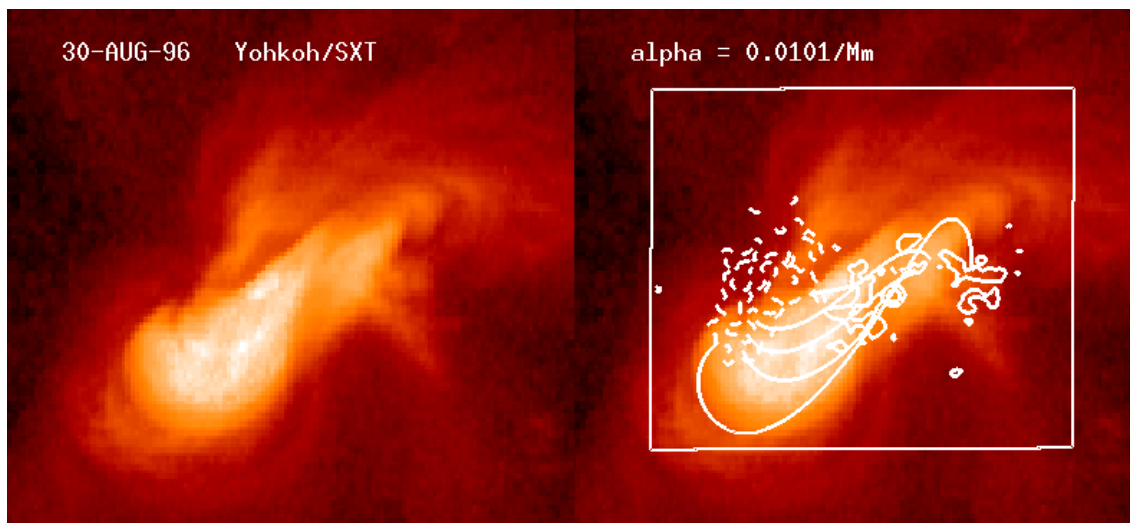
$$\frac{dH_r}{dt} = \begin{array}{l} \text{helicity flux} \\ +2 \int_S (\vec{A}_0 \cdot \vec{B})(\vec{v} \cdot d\vec{S}) \quad \text{emergence} \\ -2 \int_S (\vec{A}_0 \cdot \vec{v})(\vec{B} \cdot d\vec{S}) \quad \text{differential rotation} \\ + \quad \text{shearing motions} \end{array}$$

(note: can select  $\vec{A}_0 \cdot d\vec{S} = 0$ )

\* Evolution of  $B_{||}$ : from SoHO/MDI in AR 7978



\* Coronal helicity: from SXT/Yohkoh and lfff extrapolation



# Input of helicity in two ARs

\* Long-term evolution of two ARs:

- AR 7978: **6** rotations

- AR 8100: **5** rotations      poster: Green et al.

with: Yohkoh/SXT, SoHO/MDI

\* For the two ARs:

**Both** differential rotation & shearing motions

- **do NOT** bring enough magnetic helicity in the corona  
(up to a factor 10)

- could be of **opposite sign** as  $\Delta H_{\text{corona}}$

$\Rightarrow$  importance of **emergence & torsional Alfvén waves**

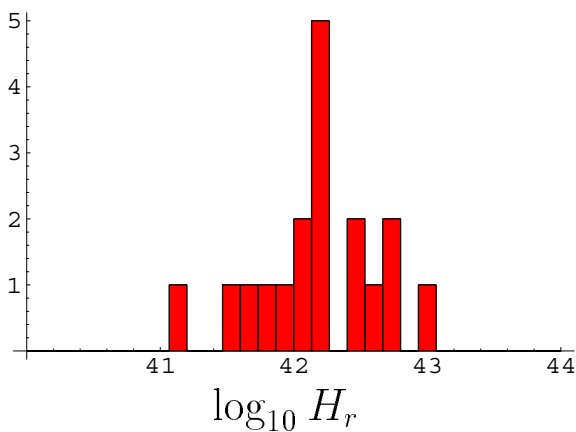
(Démoulin et al. 2002, Green et al. 2002)

# Ejection of magnetic helicity

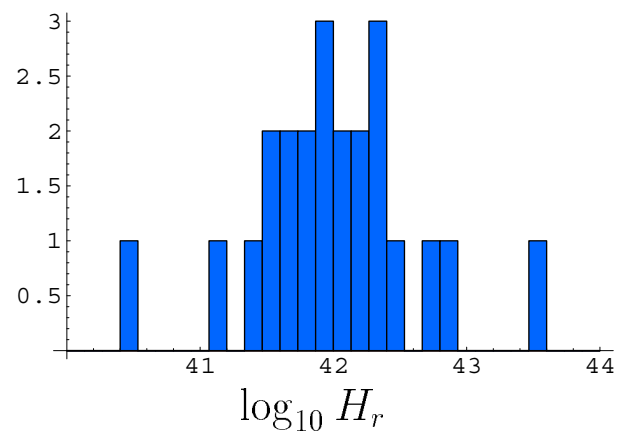
\* How to estimate the magnetic helicity ejected ?

- identification of **all CMEs** launched from an **AR**  
with: SoHO/(EIT,LASCO)
- no  $\vec{B}$  measurement in CMEs  
 $\implies$  assume:  $\langle H_{CME} \rangle = \langle H_{MC} \rangle$
- **In situ measurement** of  $\vec{B}$  in MCs  
+ **model** (lfff)  $\rightarrow H_{MC}$

\* Magnetic helicity in magnetic clouds



deduced from: [Lepping et al. 1990](#)  
18 MCs



[Zhao et al. 2001](#)  
23 MCs

assume a MC length = 0.5 AU

$$\implies \langle H_{MC} \rangle \approx 2 \cdot 10^{42} \text{ Mx}^2$$

# Ejection of helicity from two ARs

\* Long-term evolution of two ARs:

- AR 7978: 6 rotations

- AR 8100: 5 rotations poster: Green et al.

with: Yohkoh/SXT, SoHO/(MDI,EIT,LASCO)

\* Magnetic helicity ejected:

AR	$N_{\text{CME}}$ observed	$N_{\text{CME}}$ corrected	$H_{MC}$ (CME obs.)	$H_{MC}$ (CME cor.)	$H_{\text{diff.rot.}}$
7978	26	31	52.	62.	8.
8100	19	41	38.	82.	-7.

(in unit of  $10^{42} \text{ Mx}^2$  )

Note: assume  $L_{MC} = 0.5 \text{ AU}$  (only !)

$\Rightarrow$  differential rotation do **NOT** bring enough magnetic helicity !

(Démoulin et al. 2002, Green et al. 2002)

Result  $\neq$  DeVore (2000)

difference: sensitivity & duty cycle of the SMM / SoHO coronagraphs

# Input of STEREO

- Photosphere: Input of magnetic helicity by:
  - differential rotation
  - shearing motions
  - emergence  $\implies \vec{B}$ : ASP, THEMIS, SOLAR B
  
- Corona:
  - Determine **3D** magnetic configurations: EUVI/SECCHI  
(+ magnetograph)
  - “loop organisation”  $\implies$  coronal magnetic helicity
  
- Heliosphere:
  - local measurements of  $\vec{B}$  with magnetometer: MAG/IMPACT  
+ MC model  $\implies$  MC magnetic helicity
  - “lucky case”: detection by STEREO #1 & #2 of the same MC  
 $\implies$  differences in the local properties
  
- Link Corona-Heliosphere:
  - **associate a given MC to a CME:**  
coronagraphs + heliosphere imager of SECCHI
  - **combine global and local measurements**  
with the constraint of magnetic helicity conservation

is a CME the result of coronal helicity build up ?