

SECCHI Status

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KUDOS TO THE STEREO TEAM FOR THE EXCELLENT MISSION



Current Status

- All 10 telescopes are working extremely well and the commissioning/early calibration is virtually complete, although the calibration data need to be processed and incorporated into the software/headers
- SECCHI Issues that are being worked:
 - Optimum compression versus photometric and spatial resolution and therefore the optimum synoptic program
- We have recently greatly improved (>2X) the compression algorithm for the HI images that required a patch to the flight SW
- Software Status: 1 Full SW Upload, 1 partial no known bugs remaining
- 2 Watch Dog Timer Resets on SECCHI-A (6 wks); cause unknown, but the 750 data sheet states that it is known to generate spurious resets



Operations

- Stepped Roll April 17
- Campaign May 4-1
- We should be in a standard synoptic program very soon
- We use SSR1 for the synoptic program. This is the same on both spacecraft. SSR1 stops when it fills. An issue came up recently having to do with the maximum time between contacts and we have asked for a readjustment of the allocation of the relative size of the SECCHI partitions on SSR1 and SSR2
- We put observations of increased cadence into SSR2, which is operated on a recirculating buffer. The recirculation can be stopped either by the SECCHI schedule or by an on-board CME detection algorithm
- Special observation sequences will be entertained and the TM would probably go to SSR2
- We are scheduling about 7500 images/day. It takes us about 10 secs to5 process an image so this is the maximum number that can be taken in a day.



Accessing the SECCHI Images

- Image Files
 - The archived image files are FITS files in Level 0.5. This is the same strategy as for SOHO/LASCO, in which no image interpolations are done, but the images are oriented so that the top of the image is "roughly" ecliptic north
 - Web sites at NRL, SSC, VSO, France/MEDOC have all the data others have partial sets
 - Web Based Query Tools are available to select the image files need to know the dates.
 - IDL routines (SECCHI_PREP, etc) enable the IDL user to access the images stored locally (See next slide)
- Choosing the data interval
 - Synoptic Maps
 - Solar Weather Browser
 - Festival



Using SECCHI Data

• SECCHI_PREP, XSECCHI_PREP

- All of the SECCHI image data are converted to physical units using SECCHI_PREP in the command line version or XSECCHI_PREP in the GUI version
- Functions
 - Reads Image and Header
 - Trims Image
 - Buffers Subfield Images
 - Calibrates Images (different for each telescope type)
 - Updates Header
 - Returns to Memory and/or Writes Image Files
 - FITS, PNG, and JPG
- Default call: IDL> secchi_prep, files, image, header
 - Where 'files' is a list of file names to be read in and calibrated



SYNOPTIC & CARRINGTON MAPS

- Constructed from scans at a constant radius as a function of time
 - 20 radii from solar disk to 200 Rsun
 - Both spacecraft
- 2 Types of Intensity Maps
 - Synoptic: Time increases left to right
 - Carrington Map: Time increases right to left
- Quickly identify CMEs, Quiet Periods, Active Periods, Streamers, etc



Example of Synoptic Map

LASCO C2, 3 Rsun, Jan-Feb 2004



Browsing Data Using Maps



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Browsing Data Using Maps



SOLAR WEATHER BROWSER

- Developed at Royal Observatory of Belgium
- Consists of two processes:
 - Server process currently running at ROB and NRL
 - Client process that must be set up on your machine
 - Download from http://sidc.be/SWB
- Many Data sets
 - SOHO: EIT, LASCO, MDI
 - STEREO: EUVI, COR1, COR2
 - Ground based observations : cm, Hα, white light, magnetograms, Nancay radioheliograph
 - Overlays: Heliogrid, NOAA AR, Catania sunspot, CACTUS detection, solarsoft events
 - Future Datasets: XRT, SWAP, SDO



Sample Display: EIT & CACTus CME



Sample Display: EIT, Grid & NOAA Region

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Festival

- Developed by Institut d'Astrophysique Spatial, Orsay France
- Allows the user to select images from SOHO, STEREO-A or STEREO-B and to put them together in the right relationship to each other
- Available through SOLARSOFT
- Calls the SECCHI_PREP Routines



Selection GUI

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Visualisation GUIs

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STEREO A visu GUI



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HI Instrument Status

 The HI instruments are performing superbly 	
 HI CEB and other electronics performance entirely nominal 	
 Thermal performance nominal 	
 All temperatures within operating temperature limits 	
 CCDs operating at ~ -80°C; dark charge negligible, high tolerance against radiation damage effects 	
 No new issues or problems since launch 	
 Calibrations of flat fields, pointing offsets, etc proceeding well 	
 Imaging performance consistent with pre-launch determinations 	
 HI-2B PSF worse than HI-2A, but no impact on Level-1 science 	
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Synoptic Program	HI-1	HI-2
Exposure Time	24 sec	50 sec
Exposure Cadence	30 sec	60 sec
Number of Images in Summed Sequence	50	99
Duration of Exposure Sequence	25 min	99 min
Summed Sequence Cadence	40 min	2 hr
Observing Duty Cycle	50%	67%



SECCHI HI-1 First Light Ahead STEREO Spacecraft





SECCHI HI-2 First Light Ahead STEREO Spacecraft



Image of Moon from SECCHI/HI-2 During STEREO-A Flyby 12/15/2006







Comet McNaught Movie HI-1





Comet McNaught in HI2

Andromeda in upper left



HI-2B Comet McNaught Receding



HI 1A: 2007 Feb 1-15



Streamer relocates to a higher latitude



Venus and optical system ghost

artifact

Mercury

HI-1A Desmeared





Putting All the A-Telescopes Together

4R ≈ 1°





COR2, HI-1, HI-2: 9 Feb 2007 Running Differences



SECCHI @

COR2, HI-1, HI-2: 9 Feb 2007 Running Differences & Additional Filtering



SECCHI @



- For the first time we will be able to observe from the Sun to the orbit of Earth
- SECCHI is ready to join SWAVES, IMPACT & PLASTIC to fulfill the mission objectives and to make major advances in our understanding of CMEs – their initiation, propagation and related effects

