

Coronal Seismology

ASTR 598

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Spring 2016

Magnetohydrodynamics (MHD)

Theory

Equations of ideal MHD

mass continuity equation $\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\rho \mathbf{V}) = 0$

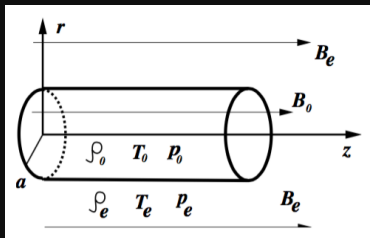
equation of motion $\rho \frac{d\mathbf{V}}{dt} = -\nabla P - \frac{1}{\mu_0} \mathbf{B} \times (\nabla \times \mathbf{B})$

energy equation $\frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{P}{\rho^\gamma} \right) = 0$

induction equation $\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t} = \nabla \times (\mathbf{V} \times \mathbf{B})$

Magnetohydrodynamics (MHD)

Theory



Model

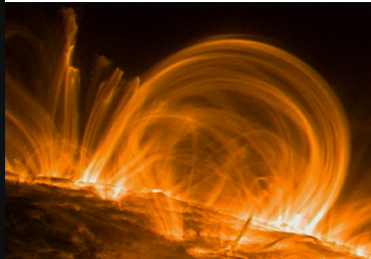
- Straight cylindrical flux tube in uniform magnetic field.
- $\xi(x) = \xi(r)e^{i(kz+m\phi)}$
- Characteristic wave speeds are determined by ρ , T , P , and \vec{B}

Sound speed

- $$C_s \propto \sqrt{\frac{P}{\rho}} \propto \sqrt{T}$$

Alfvén speed

- $$V_A \propto \frac{B}{\sqrt{\rho}}$$



MHD modes

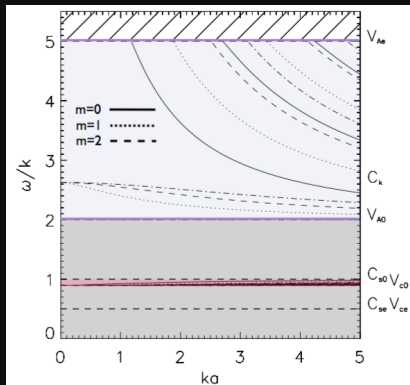
Main categories

- Magnetoacoustic
 - Fast
 - Slow
- Alfvén

Research Topics

1. Kink oscillations
2. Sausage oscillations
3. Acoustic oscillations
4. Propagating acoustic waves
5. Propagating fast waves
6. Torsional (Alfvén) modes

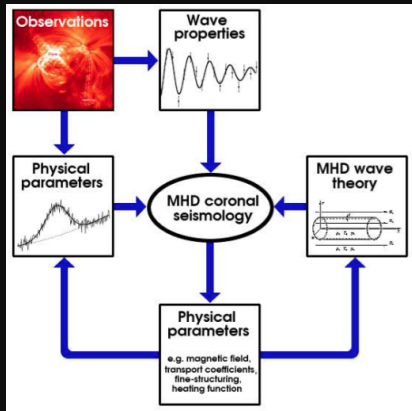
Dispersion diagram



$$C_k = \sqrt{\frac{2}{1 + \rho_e/\rho_o}}$$

Coronal seismology

Technique and motivation



Elusive coronal properties

- magnetic field strength, \vec{B}
- density, ρ
- Alfvén velocity, V_A

Motivation

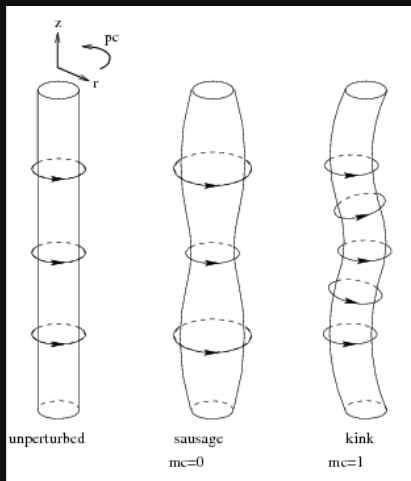
- Coronal heating
- Space weather prediction

Coronal seismology

1. Observe disturbances
2. Measure properties
3. Identify the wave or mode
4. Extract coronal parameters

Fast standing oscillations

Kinks vs. Sausages



Period

- $P = \frac{2\ell}{V_{ph}} \quad (\lambda = 2\ell)$

Kink

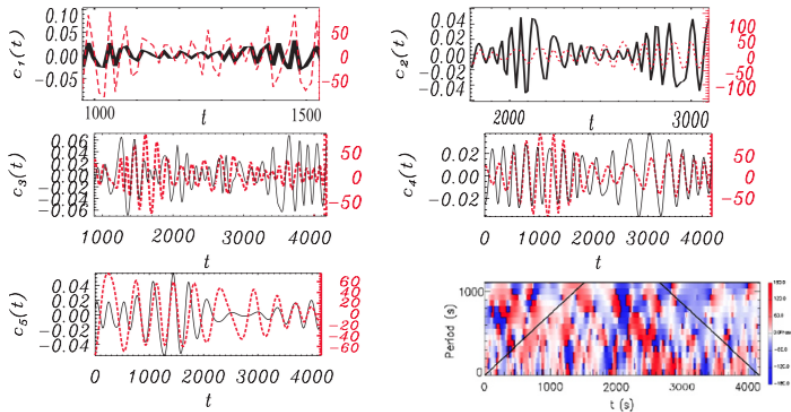
- loop spatial displacement
- Asymmetric
- No intensity change

Sausage

- No loop spatial displacement
- Symmetric
- Intensity change
→ density change

“Observations of sausage modes in magnetic pores”

Morton et al. 2011



- Periods ~ 30 –450 sec
- Possibly driven by 5-min acoustic oscillations.

Acoustic waves

A. K. Srivastava and B. N. Dwivedi

Observed

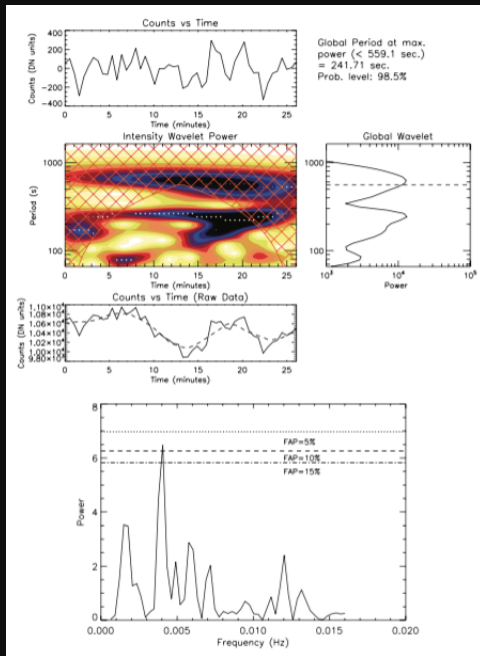
- Time series of a bright point (BP) in solar atmosphere

Measured Periods

- He II 256 Å; $P \sim 263$ s
- Fe XII 195 Å
- Fe XV 284 Å; $P \sim 241$ s

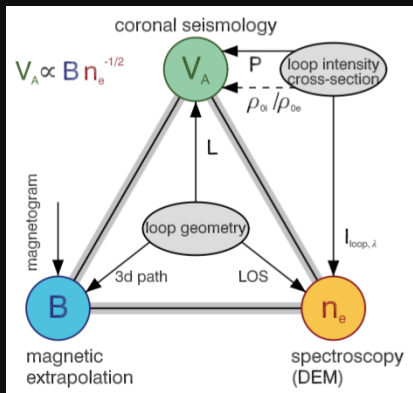
Identified

- Acoustic oscillations leaking into the inner corona



Alfvén waves

Verwichte et al.



Objective

- Determine Alfvén speed in two ways:
 1. Coronal seismology
 2. Magnetic extrapolation and spectral methods

Observed

- Two transversely oscillating flares triggered by flare
- AIA/SDO 171 Å

Important Properties

From papers, reviews, etc.

	period	decay time	velocity
kink osc	2-20 m	quickly	value
sausage osc	30 s – 7 m	value	value
acoustic osc	7-31 m	5-30 m	200 km s ⁻¹
acoustic waves	140-420 s (2-7 m)	value	35-165 km s ⁻¹
fast waves	value	value	>150 km s ⁻¹
torsional modes	10 m	long	1000 km s ⁻¹

Research

AIA/SDO

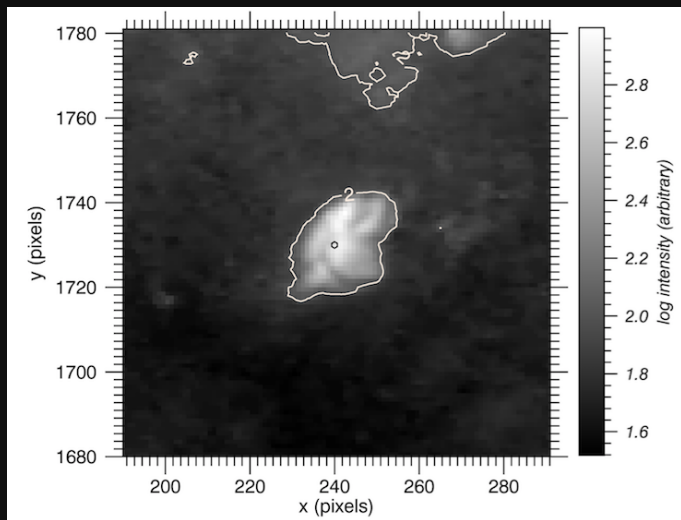
Fe XII, XXIV

193 Å



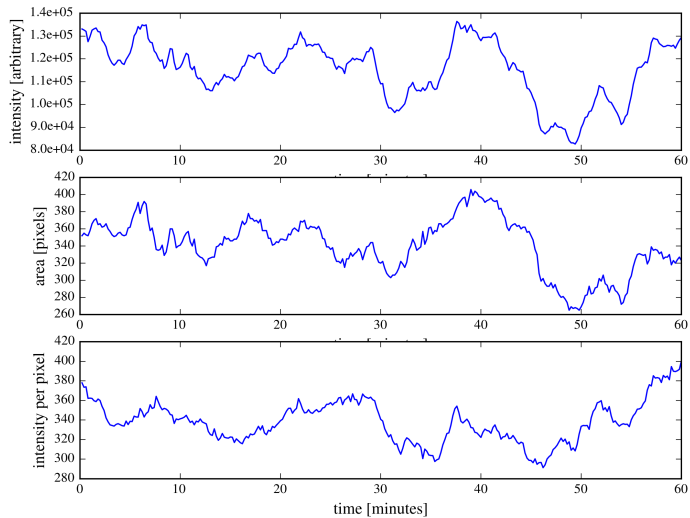
Research

Bright point (BP)



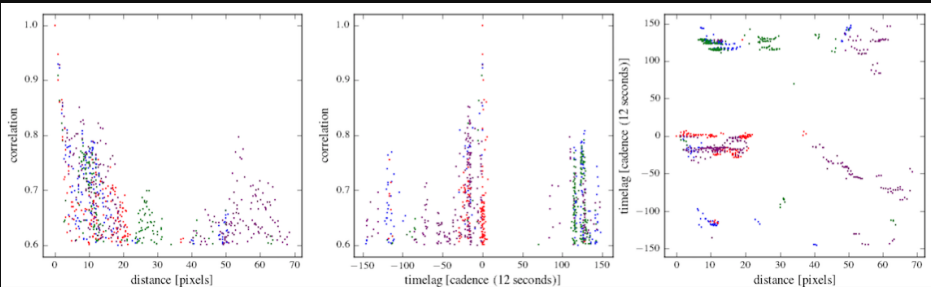
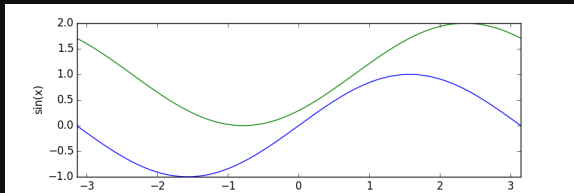
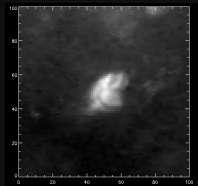
Research

Light curves



Research

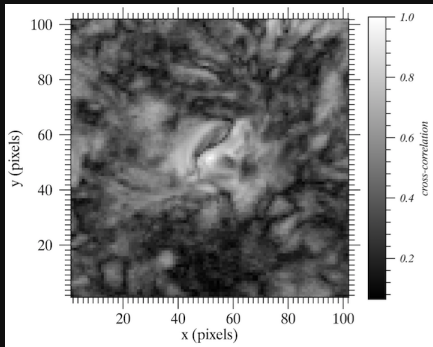
Cross-correlations



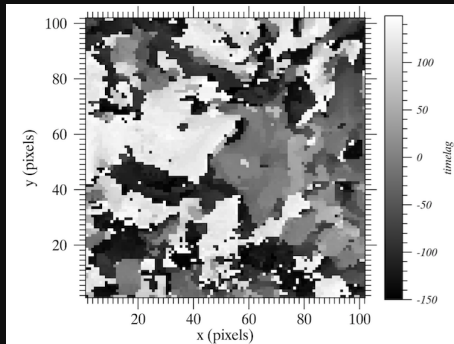
Research

Cross-correlation & timelag images

Cross-correlation



Timelag



2 pixels \sim 1 arcsec \sim 700 km

Other questions and future work

Other questions

- What is the excitation mechanism for the observed disturbances?
- How are they damped, and what determines the timescales?

My future work

- Download data in other wavelengths (i.e. coronal heights).
- Download data from other instruments, e.g. the Extreme Ultraviolet Variability Experiment (EVE) on SDO.
- Characterize other bright points in coronal hole, quiet sun, and active regions.

Acknowledgements

Advisor: James McAteer

Extra slides here