Solar Activity During Grand Minima: Open Flux Variation and State of the Heliosphere.



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Open Flux and Signatures of Variation

Importance of Open Flux.

- Forms the Interplanetary Magnetic Field (IMF).
- IMF/Open Flux modulates Cosmic Ray hits.



Banasziewicz et al. 1999.



1423-1985 raw data ¹⁰Be increases and end of MM

7-25yr bandwidth filter. Magnetic cycles/Open Flux variation existed throughout the MM.

(Stuiver 1989,1998; Miyahara et al. 2004, 2007 Castagnoli and Lal 1980, Masarik and Beer 1999).

Present Day Understanding: Observations

• Ulysses : Magnitude of radial IMF component independent of heliocentric latitude (Balogh et al. 1995, Smith and Balogh 2003, Suess and Smith 1996).

 $\Phi_{open} = 4\pi r_e^2 |B_{re}| / 2$

• IMF data shows that the open flux has varied for last 3.5 cycle (Lockwood 2002).



Smaller variation of open flux ~ factor of 2 less for cycle 23 & 20.

Horizontal/Vertical lines – Ulysses passes.

Open Flux out of phase with cycle (1-2 yr).

Theoretical Models



Alternative model: Fisk and Schwadron 2001, Fisk 2005, Gilbert et al (2007).

Magnitude Variation Model

• Lockwood et al. (1999) - compute open flux from aa-index using a physics based model.



Matches IMF variation (blue line)

Factor of 2 increase during 20th Century (35% increase since 1963, IMF data).

Down turn since 1987.

- Solanki et al. (2000, 2002)- use semi-emperical model to consider the rate of change of open flux. Equation contained two terms
 - 1) Sunspot number (input).
 - 2) linear decay rate

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}\boldsymbol{\Phi}_{\mathrm{o}}}{\mathrm{d}t} = \gamma E - \frac{\boldsymbol{\Phi}_{\mathrm{o}}}{\tau_{\mathrm{o}}}$$

Determined a good fit to IMF data since 1963 ($\tau_0 \sim 3.6$ yr)..

Model predicts why during longer/shorter cycles the open flux decays/increases.

PFSS Extrapolation: Two Views

• Wang and Sheeley (1995, 2000, 2002) use PFSS models to deduce the open flux from Br synoptic magnetograms.

1971-1976, 1995-1998 : MWO 1976-1995 : WSO

To match observed data a strong latitude dependent correction factor (from MWO) needs to be applied $(4.5 - 2.5 \sin^2 \lambda)$.

 Riley (2007) has questioned the use of the MWO correction factor to WSO data (constant correction factor 1.85 Svalgaard 2006).

Explains open flux by:

- Variable background from potential field
- ICME contribution.



Solar Cycle Simulations

• Wang et al. (2000) and Mackay et al. (2002) - single bipole + PFSS.



Non-potential Models

• Mackay and van Ballegooijen (2006) : open flux through nlfff simulations.



Open flux (red) evolves by interchange reconnection. Multiple enhancements due to flux rope ejections.

• Full Sun simulations for 6-months driven by observations (see Yeates et al. 2008).



- open flux for nlfff higher than for potential
- significant variations due insertion of new bipoles and flux rope ejections.
 (for more details see poster).

Maunder Minimum Scenario

- The majority of papers consider the Sun's surface flux and open flux from the end of the Maunder minimum to present day.
- Wang and Sheeley (2003) consider the MM.



• Consistent with results of Scherer & Fichtner (2004): predict a factor of 4 decrease in heliospheric field using dynamic multi-fluid model of global heliosphere.

Summary

- Observations of the behaviour of the Sun's open flux over last 3 cycles
- Observations and model show that open flux is variable with large variations over long periods of time.
- Wide variety of models constructed to consider the origin and variation of the Sun's open flux magnitude models/spatial distribution

Issues to resolve – potential/non-potential models

During the Maunder Minima magnetic cycles existed at reduced levels

 models predict a factor of 4-7 decrease in open flux.