### Helioseismology Overview and Solar Orbiter



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Solar Orbiter Science Activity Plan Meeting #4 Göttingen, October 27, 2016



## Why Studying the Sun?

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#### Because it is there!

The Sun is the only star which is close enough, that we can study it with high resolution

**?Paradigm for astrophysics** 

**Surface temperature:** 5800 K (melting point of iron: 1811 K)

#### Granulation

Size of one granule: 1000 km Life time: ca. 10 min

#### **Sunspots**

Size: several 10'000 km Life time: days to weeks





# Theoretical Knowledge about the Solar Interior

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What is the structure of the Sun?

Theory of the internal structure of the stars is based on the fundamental principles of physics:

Energy conservation, Mass conservation, Momentum conservation

Pressure and gravity are in balance; hydrostatic equilibrium the Sun is stable

A theoretical model of the Sun can be built on these physical laws.

Is there a possibility to "look inside" the Sun?





# Oscillations in the Sun and the Stars

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#### The Sun and the stars exhibit resonance oscillations!

#### **Excitation Mechanism:**

Small perturbations of the equilibrium lead to oscillations

### Origin:

Granulation (turbulences) that generate sound waves, i.e. pressure perturbations







# Oscillations in the Sun and the Stars

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The superposition of sound waves lead to interferences: amplifications or annihilations.

! Sun and stars act as resonators

? Fundamental mode and higher harmonics are possible





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Perturbation of hydrostatic equilibrium results in eigenmodes

The "sounds" of a spherically symmetric Sun (theory, small cutout)



Roth, 2004, SuW 8, 24

#### Each mode is 2I+1-fold degenerate



### **Experimental Proof**

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2.0

Measuring Doppler shifts of spectral lines



Franz-Ludwig Deubner, 1974



### Seismology of the Sun

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Different waves propagate through different areas inside the Sun Waves are refracted due to increasing sound speed ? Information from different depths

#### Seismology of the Sun is possible

"Helioseismology"

Concluding from its sounds about the internal structure of an instrument

#### **Preconditions:**

 Precise measurements of frequencies in order to separate waves

? long and uninterrupted measurements

Frequency resolution:

$$\Delta \nu = \frac{1}{T}$$



(Roth, 2004, SuW 8, 24)



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GONG

Global Oscillation Network Group ground-based network since 1995 1 Megapixel CCD Dopplergrams of the Sun – Rotation removed





SOHO Solar Heliosphe

Solar Heliospheric Observatory 1996 – 2010 with high duty cycle 1 Megapixel CCD





SDO Solar Dynam

Solar Dynamics Observatory solar oscillations in high resolution since 2010 16 Megapixel CCD (8xFullHD)



### From SoHO/MDI to SDO/HMI

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- Since 2010, SDO/HMI with higher resolution (4kx4k CCD, angular resolution < 1.5", 45s cadence)</li>
- Ongoing improvement of accurate determination of helioseismic observables, mode parameters (e.g. Korzennik et al. 2013, Reiter et al. 2015, Larson & Schou 2015,...)

Supergranulation (Williams et al. 2015)







Roth, 2004, SuW 8, 24





Difference between theoretical model on the Sun's internal structure and helioseismology: **approximately 3%** 

(Kosovichev et al., 1997, Solar Phys.170, 43)

(Christensen-Dalsgaard et al., 1985, Nature 315, 378) Antia & Chitre, 1995, Astrophys. J. 442, 434)







### The Solar Neutrino Problem

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- *Fusion reactions are taking place in the solar core*
- Released neutrinos (v<sub>e</sub>) could be detected on Earth.
- Problem: Less neutrinos are detected than predicted by theory of internal structure of the Sun (1/3 – 1/2).

But: Helioseismology confirmed the theoretically expected core temperature of the Sun □ Solar model is correct

Solution by Particle Physics: Neutrino Oscillations





### One Possibility to "look inside": Neutrino Detection





Image of the Sun recorded by the Super-Kamiokande-Detector in "neutrino light"

Exposure time: 540 days

1 Pixel corresponds to 1 degree on the sky

# Proof of nuclear reactions in the solar core:

Neutrinos are an almost direct measurement (8 min delay)
Visible light is delayed by
10 Mio years



### Fly in the Ointment: Revised Abundances

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| Element  | Anders &<br>Grevesse (1989) | Asplund<br>et al. (2009) | Difference   |
|----------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------|
| Carbon   | 8.56+/-0.06                 | 8.42+/-0.05              | <b>-2</b> 8% |
| Nitrogen | 8.05+/-0.04                 | 7.83+/-0.05              | -40%         |
| Oxygen   | 8.93+/-0.03                 | 8.70+/-0.05              | -41%         |

Note: logarithmic scale with H defined to have 12.00



**Result: Greater disagreement between solar model and seismic results** 



### 3D Modelling of Turbulent Convection

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3D simulations of a full convection zone a 1.47 M<sub>a</sub> star

• Difference in sound speed between simulation and 1D stellar model shows functional behavior

•*Clear similarity to the difference between helioseismic measurements and 1D model of the Sun* 

(Kitiashvili et al. 2016)





- Ring Diagrams & Fourier-Hankel Decomposition
  - Local analysis of oscillatory power
- *Time–Distance Helioseimology & Holography* 
  - Analysis of travelling waves



## Ring Diagrams

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Power of oscillations as determined from the whole visible solar surface



2D power spectrum of small patch of solar surface Horizontal section through power spectrum give rings. Flows advect modes:

? Rings are ellipses (direction dependent eigenmode perturbations)



### Time-Distance Helioseismology

Observation of oscillation signal at two locations on the Sun



Calculation of the Cross Correlation of the observed signals as function of travel-distance and time lag: T

$$C(\tau, \Delta) = \int_{0}^{T} \psi(0, t) \psi(\Delta, t + \tau) dt$$



Travel time of incoming and outgoing wave average: sound speed difference: flows

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### Farside Imaging

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Acoustic holography was developed by Lindsey and Braun (1990)

Waves from the backside appear on the frontside of the Sun

**In turn:** Waves from the frontside can reach to a point on the backside

Difference between incoming and outgoing amplitudes

and

the travel time shift between the waves results in

Acoustic image of the solar farside

(courtesy D. Braun & C. Lindsey)



### Current Research: The Active Sun

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#### (SOHO/LASCO)



Enormeous eruptions on the Sun accelerate material into space.

#### Solar activity affects:

e.g., climate, satellites, space flights, technological systems on Earth



### Sunspot Cycle

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Number of sunspots varies within ~11 years



Solar Minimum





#### How does the solar dynamo work?



### Large-scale Flows: Differential Rotation & Meridional

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#### The Sun rotates differentially:

Equator rotates faster than the polar regions



#### The Sun has a meridional flow:

On the surface the flow is poleward v 1⁄4 15 m/s

Surface flow must sink inward at poles and return to the equator at some depth



### The Solar Dynamo

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Flows inside the Sun are important for solar dynamo action:

A possible solar/stellar dynamo

- At cycle minimum: a dipolar field threads through a shallow layer below the surface.
- Differential rotation shears out this dipolar field to produce a strong toroidal field (first at the mid–latitudes then progressively lower latitudes).
- Around solar maximum: Buoyant fields erupt through the photosphere forming, e.g. sunspots and active regions
- The meridional flow away from the mid-latitudes gives reconnection at the poles and equator.

The Sun's internal rotation and meridional flow need to be measured



(Babcock, 1961; and later developments)



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Equation of motion for sound waves:

Flow induces advection of the sound wave:

$$\mathcal{L}oldsymbol{\xi}_k = -
ho_0 \omega_k^2 oldsymbol{\xi}_k$$

 $\mathcal{L}_1 oldsymbol{\xi}_k = -2\mathrm{i}\omega_k 
ho_0 (\mathbf{u}\cdot
abla) oldsymbol{\xi}_k$ 



**! Perturbation of wave eigenfunction and eigenfrequency** 



### Global Diagnostics for Different Flow Geometries

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### Analysis of Eigenfunction Perturbations

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#### New:

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Toroidal & Poloidal flows to be measured by measuring eigenfunction perturbations



Long-term North-South average derived from 12 years of SoHO/MDI observations of "frequency splittings" (Howe 2009):



Below the surface: Extended area of fast rotation Depth: ca. 200.000 km Width: ca. 500.000 km

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Red areas move faster than the blue areas by approximately 2000 km/h

#### Indication for solid body rotation in the core

Shear layer at the bottom of the convection zone is important for generation of toroidal magnetic field

#### Higher latitudes & deep interior?



### Solar Rotation & Zonal Flows – Temporal Evolution

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#### **Torsional oscillations**

- •Temporal variations around mean rotation - equator/poleward propagating branches
- •1% of mean rotation
- •Extends to the bottom of the convection zone
- (e.g. Vorontsov et al. 2002)
- Precursor for upcoming surface activity? (Howe et al. 2011, 2013, Komm et al. 2014)
- 60 40 (zHn) 20 atitude  $\Omega/2\pi$ 0 -20 -1 -40-2 -602000 2005 2010 Date (years)  $r=0.95R_{SUN}$ 60 2 40 Ω/2π (nHz) 1 20 latitude 0 -20 -40 -2 -60 2010 2000 2005 Date (years) Solar minimum "Onset" of activity (surface)

Flow residuals + unsigned magnetic field (Howe et al. 2013)

 $r=0.99R_{SUN}$ 

Connection to merdional flow?



### Differential Rotation from Eigenfunction Perturbations

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$$\Omega(r, heta)r\sin heta = -\sum_s w_s(r)\partial_ heta Y^0_s( heta,\phi)$$



- Sensitive to antisymmetric rotation rate component ("frequency splittings" are not!)
- Interesting for zonal flow studies in depth

(Schad & Roth., in prep.)



### The Solar Meridional Flow

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#### Magnetic butterfly diagram



- Essential element of flux transport dynamo models (Wang & Sheeley 1991, Choudhuri et al. 1995, Dikpati & Schüssler 1999,...)
- Location & amplitude of return flow determines timing and strength of solar activity cycle (Hathaway et al. 2003, Dikpati et al. 2004,...)
- Where is the return flow?
- Measurement of the flow profile in depth helps to constrain models/simulations of dynamo & convection zone (Dikpati et al. 2006, Miesch et al. 2012,...)



### Meridional flow measurements from tracking of supergranules

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- Hathaway 2012: •MDI 60d in1996,1997
- •assuming supergranules anchored in a depth equal to their width
- > Shallow poleward flow weak return flow below 50Mm (~0.93R)





![](_page_33_Picture_0.jpeg)

### Time-Distance Helioseismology of Meridional Flow

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- Finding: travel times suspiciously large increase with "depth"
- Dependency on observation quantity
- Systematic effect mimics a radial outflow from center toward limb
- Effect much stronger than signal (flow ~1s)!
- Origin unknown

Currently: Empirical correction

#### **Possible Explanation**

Baldner & Schou (2012): Effect partly due to interaction of waves with asymmetric, convective motions near surface + formation height variation

![](_page_33_Figure_11.jpeg)

### Mode eigenfunction perturbation analysis - results

![](_page_34_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_34_Figure_2.jpeg)

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> 50 20 0.8 0.8 40 0.6 15 0.6 30 0.4 0.4 20 10 0.2 0.2 10 5 [s/m] [m/s] Ŕ ĥ 0 0 0 0 -0.2 -10 -0.2 -20 -0.4 -0.4 -5 -30 -0.6 -0.6 -10 -40 -0.8 -0.8 -50 -15 -1 0.5 1 0.5 1 0 0 r/R r/R (Schad et al. 2013)

#### Woodard et al. 2013:

-Early HMI data, 500d -Fitting of cross-spectra,

model incorporates rotation and meridional flow

-Suspicious increase of horizontal peak velocities V below 0.9R

Authors assume systematic effect distorting the phase of mode eigenfunction

Schad, Timmer, Roth: 2013: -MDI data 2004-2010 -s=1,...,8 -Shown is a composite of even s

Complex flow pattern in latitude & depth dominated by s=2 (20 – 125 Mm depth) and s=8 (13 – 188 Mm depth) component

![](_page_35_Picture_0.jpeg)

# Comparison with local helioseismology measurements

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![](_page_35_Figure_3.jpeg)

- Ring-diagram analysis by Komm et al. 2005 (0.6 – 16 Mm) agrees with deep meridional flow measurements
- Small-scale component reaches down to the base of CZ (200Mm)

(Schad, Timmer, Roth, 2013)

![](_page_36_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_37_Picture_0.jpeg)

### Consequences of Helioseismic Results on Dynamo Models

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 $0.84\Omega_0$ 

(Nandy, 2004)

CCW

CW

 $\Omega_0$ 

- Helioseismic results with multiple cells (depth, latitude) have inspired new dynamo simulations (e.g. Hazra et al. 2014, Belucz et al., 2015)
- Multiple cells produce solar-like dynamos given there is an equatorward flow near BCZ (Jouve et al. 2007, Hazra et al. 2014, Choudhuri 2015, Passos et al. 2016)
- HD convection simulations Sun at transition from single to multiple meridional flow cells with anti-solar (poles faster) to solar rotation (poles slower) profile (e.g., Featherstone et al., 2015)

![](_page_37_Figure_6.jpeg)

![](_page_37_Figure_7.jpeg)

![](_page_38_Picture_0.jpeg)

### Convection

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- Participates in redistribution of angular momentum
  ? differential rotation
- Generation & amplification/weakening of magnetic fields
- Observations near surface
  - Granulation ø~1000 km, lifetime ~10 min
  - Supergranulation ø~35,000 km, lifetime ~24 h
- Theoretical insights:

sophisticated 3D simulations, e.g., Stein & Nordlund 1998, Rempel et al. 2009, Brun et al. 2004, Miesch et al. 2008,...

 Probing the deep convection is a challenge for helioseismology (low SNR, averaging effects)

#### **Open Questions:**

- How reliable are simulations?
- Energy spectrum, maximum velocity amplitudes, spatial profile?

![](_page_38_Picture_14.jpeg)

(Stein & Nordlund 1998)

![](_page_38_Figure_16.jpeg)

## **Convective Kinetic Energy Spectrum**

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Upper bounds for longitudinal velocities  $v_{k}$  (kinetic energy  $E_{k}$ )

#### •Hanasoge et al. 2012:

Time-distance analysis,

#### Miesch et al 2012:

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theoretical lower limit (scaling arguments); at r=0.95 R ampltiude  $\geq$  30m/s needed to sustain mean flows

#### •Miesch et al. 2009:

3D simulation

#### •Roudier et al 2012:

Granulation tracking

#### Time-distance result is orders of magnitude below theory & simulations!

Current modeling of large-scale convection in the Sun is incomplete (Hanasoge 2016)?

![](_page_39_Figure_13.jpeg)

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## **Convective Kinetic Energy Spectrum**

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![](_page_40_Figure_3.jpeg)

#### Greer et al. 2015:

- improved ring-diagram analysis method, inversion up to 30 Mm depth (0.96R)
- •Convective flow > 120 m/s
- •Ring-diagram inversion in agreement with simulations!
- •TD result affected by averaging effects?

![](_page_40_Figure_9.jpeg)

![](_page_41_Picture_0.jpeg)

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Former helioseismic results of subsurface structure of sunspots are incorrect

Reason: strong interaction of seismic waves with magnetic field

#### New approach:

Forward modelling and comparison with observations

![](_page_41_Figure_7.jpeg)

Model sunspot

Helioseismic observations

Vertical cut

![](_page_41_Figure_11.jpeg)

(Cameron, Gizon, Duvall, 2008)

![](_page_42_Picture_0.jpeg)

### Ring-Diagramm-Analysis vs. Time-Distance-Helioseismology: Structure of a Sunspot

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#### Comparison of helioseismic methods and theoretical models

closely (Cameron et al., 2009)

![](_page_42_Figure_4.jpeg)

(Gizon et al., 2009

![](_page_43_Picture_0.jpeg)

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Good agreement for both methods in measuring flows: moat flow, outflow in supergranulation, ...

![](_page_43_Figure_4.jpeg)

(Moradi et al., 2009)

![](_page_44_Picture_0.jpeg)

### Origin of Activity: Rise of Magnetic Flux

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Comparing simulations and helioseismic observations will greatly improve our understanding of the dynamo.

Rise of magnetic flux rope 300.0d

#### Emergence through the surface

![](_page_44_Picture_6.jpeg)

(Cheung et al. 2008) t = 30 min

![](_page_45_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_46_Picture_0.jpeg)

### **Emergence of Magnetic Flux**

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- Anomalies appear at the surface 1-2 days after their detection

  Important for Space Weather applications?
  - Average emergence speed: 0.6 and 0.3 km/s for the strongest and weakest analyzed events respectively.
  - Detected sub-surface structures are mostly circular with a typical size of 30–50 Mm
    - Limitation: horizontal wavelength is ~35 Mm at 3.5 mHz
- Question:
  - What causes the travel time perturbation of up to 12s?
  - Signal should be small (105 emerging active regions studied by Schunker et al. 2016)
  - Why not seen by Braun et al. 2012?

Results reported by Braun with helioseismic holography 03:00 UT **26 Oct 2003** 

![](_page_46_Figure_12.jpeg)

![](_page_47_Picture_0.jpeg)

### **Open Question in Helioseismology**

- Functioning of the solar dynamo
  - Structure of the tachocline
  - Sub-surface shear layer
- Structure and temporal evolution of large-scale flows on the whole Sun
  - Differential rotation & meridional Flows
  - Giant Cells
- *Sub-surface structure and evolution of active regions* 
  - Currently the holy grail
- Deep Solar Interior
  - Rotation & magnetic field in the solar core

![](_page_48_Picture_0.jpeg)

### Solar Orbiter - Expectations

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- End of 24th and start of 25th cycle to be covered by helioseismic observations
  - Changes in the internal dynamics between cylces
- Seeing backside and higher latitudes
  - Improvement in combined helioseismic data (back+front)
  - Large- and small-scale flow patterns at poles
- Probing of the deep solar interior
  - Improvement of meridional flow measurements
  - Systematic changes in the tachocline region?
  - Surprises in the deep interior?

#### Magnetoseismology / Atmospheric Seismology

- Sunspot seismology
- Prediction of appearance of active regions
- Space weather applications

![](_page_48_Picture_16.jpeg)

![](_page_48_Figure_17.jpeg)

![](_page_49_Picture_1.jpeg)

### Central Science Goal: How does the Sun create and control the heliosphere?

- •How and where do the solar wind plasma and magnetic field originate in the corona?
- •How do solar transients drive heliospheric variability?
- •*How do solar eruptions produce the energetic particle radiation that fills the heliosphere?*
- •How does the solar dynamo work and drive the connections between the Sun and the heliosphere?

![](_page_50_Picture_0.jpeg)

Combination of remote-sensing and in-situ measurements

Field Package: Radio and Plasma Waves Instrument (RPW) & Magnetometer (MAG).

Particle Package: Energetic Particle Detector (EPD) & Solar Wind Plasma Analyzer (SWA).

Solar remote sensing instrumentation: Polarimetric and Helioseismic Imager (PHI) Extreme Ultraviolet Imager (EUI) Multi Element Telescope for Imaging and Spectroscopy (METIS), Solar Orbiter Heliospheric Imager (SoloHI) Spectral Imaging of the Coronal Environment (SPICE) Spectrometer/Telescope for Imaging X-Rays (STIX).

![](_page_51_Picture_0.jpeg)

# Helioseismology Objectives

Solar Orbiter –

# **4.1** How is magnetic flux transported to and re-processed at high solar latitudes?

- Study the detailed solar surface flow patterns in the polar regions, including coronal hole boundaries.
- Study the subtle cancellation effects that lead to the reversal of the dominant polarity at the poles
- Explore the transport processes of magnetic flux from the activity belts towards the poles and the interaction of this flux with the already present polar magnetic field.
- Study the influence of cancellations at all heights in the atmosphere.

### 4.2 What are the properties of the magnetic field at high solar latitudes?

- Probability density function (PDF) of solar high-latitude magnetic field structures.
- Basic properties of solar high-latitude magnetic field structures.
- Probe the structure in deep layers of the Sun.

#### 4.3 Are there separate dynamo processes acting in the Sun?

4.4 How are coronal and heliospheric phenomena related to the solar

*dynamo?* ? What observables to expect from Solar Orbiter?

![](_page_52_Picture_0.jpeg)

### Very Simple Considerations: Artificial Data

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Optimal case observation of the full Sun

![](_page_52_Figure_4.jpeg)

(Wave simulation data provided by Hartlep, Univ. Stanford)

![](_page_53_Picture_0.jpeg)

### Artificial Data

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• Current Situation: front-side view only

![](_page_53_Figure_4.jpeg)

![](_page_54_Picture_0.jpeg)

### Artificial Data

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• Front-side data + Solar Orbiter Data (in ecliptic)

![](_page_54_Figure_4.jpeg)

![](_page_55_Picture_0.jpeg)

### Global Helioseismology

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![](_page_55_Figure_3.jpeg)

![](_page_56_Picture_0.jpeg)

• Optimal case – observation of the full Sun (for 2 days)

![](_page_56_Figure_4.jpeg)

![](_page_57_Picture_0.jpeg)

• Front-side view only (for 2 days) - leakage effect: side lobes!

![](_page_57_Figure_4.jpeg)

![](_page_58_Picture_0.jpeg)

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- Front-side + Solar Orbiter data (for 2 days)
   side lobes reduced
  - D helioseismology possible

![](_page_58_Figure_5.jpeg)

![](_page_59_Picture_0.jpeg)

### Local Helioseismology

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![](_page_59_Figure_3.jpeg)

![](_page_60_Picture_0.jpeg)

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• Optimal case – observation of the full Sun (for 2 days)

![](_page_60_Figure_4.jpeg)

![](_page_61_Picture_0.jpeg)

Front-side view only (for 2 days)
 – only small distances can be used for seismology

![](_page_61_Figure_4.jpeg)

![](_page_62_Picture_0.jpeg)

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Front-side + Solar Orbiter data (for 2 days)

 signal improves at all angular distances
 promise for stereoscopic helioseismology

![](_page_62_Figure_4.jpeg)

![](_page_63_Picture_0.jpeg)

### Meridional Flow Measurements with Front and Backside Data

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# *Tests with simulation data from Hartlep, Univ. Stanford):*

Inversions for a meridional flow (artificially high amplitude) for the three observational setups

**Red line**: true input flow **Asteriks with error bars**: helioseismic results

With smaller observation area measurements in the deeper layers get worse.

Agreement between inversion and actual flow is good down to ~30Mm.

Deep measurements improve with backside view. Disagreement worst ~50-80 Mm due to missing side views

![](_page_63_Figure_9.jpeg)

![](_page_63_Figure_10.jpeg)

(Roth et al. 2016)

![](_page_64_Picture_0.jpeg)

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- Löptien et al., 2014
- Power spectrum of 6 hours of data

![](_page_64_Figure_5.jpeg)

![](_page_65_Picture_0.jpeg)

# What can be done with Solar Orbiter?

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Global Helioseismology of structure and flows needs long time series (example GONG: 36 days) Achievable only by combining Solar Orbiter data from different observing periods?

Solar Orbiter can contribute to mode physics, e.g. vertical to horizontal displacement ratio (stereoscopy)

- Meridional flow measurements in the deep interior needs years of data; even if front and back are combined
- Deep Convection long time series required (years)
- Subsurface layers with local techniques: near-surface flows (low and high latitudes) & active regions Requires only days of data

Talk by Björn Löptien

![](_page_66_Picture_0.jpeg)

### Summary

- In the past:
  - Helioseismology has revealed important insights on solar structure, rotation, and their variations
- Presently:
  - The origins of solar activity in the subsurface layers and the processes involved in the dynamo action are under study
- Prospects for Solar Orbiter:
  - The vantage point, the new instrument and new techniques promise in principle probing the Sun in a unique way

#### • Points for Reviewing and Discussion:

- Instrument properties
  - (e.g. infer leakage matrix)
- Telemetry & science windows to tailor seismic techniques
- Sophisticated data modeling (noise estimates)
- Instrumentation on the ground for, e.g., observing the front-side at the same time

![](_page_67_Picture_0.jpeg)