

# Low-Resolution STELab IPS 3D Reconstructions of the Whole Heliosphere Interval and Comparison with in-Ecliptic Solar Wind Measurements from STEREO and *Wind* Instrumentation

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**Abstract** We present initial 3D tomographic reconstructions of the inner heliosphere during the Whole Heliosphere Interval (WHI) – Carrington Rotation 2068 (CR2068) – using Solar-Terrestrial Environment Laboratory (STELab) Interplanetary Scintillation (IPS) observations. Such observations have been used for over a decade to visualise and investigate the structure of the solar wind and to study in detail its various features. These features include co-rotating structures as well as transient structures moving out from the Sun. We present global reconstructions of the structure of the inner heliosphere during this time, and compare density and radial velocity with multi-point *in situ* spacecraft measurements in the ecliptic; namely STEREO and *Wind* data, as the interplanetary medium passes over the spacecraft locations.

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STEREO Science Results at Solar Minimum

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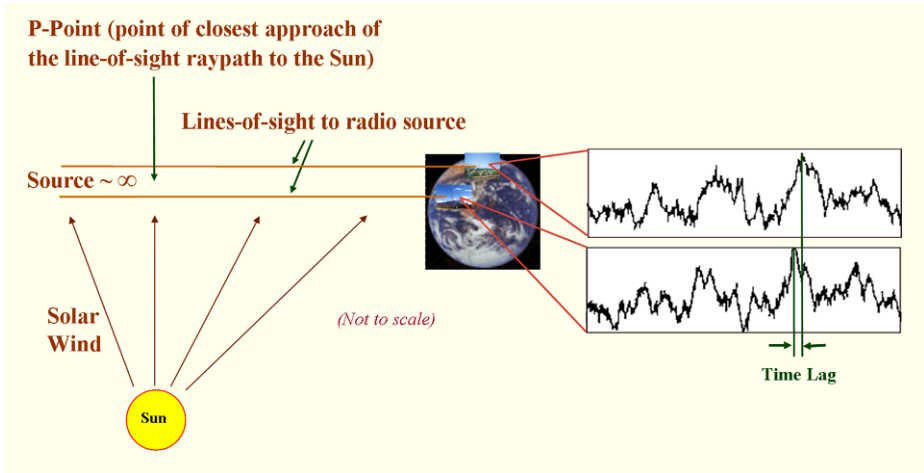
**Keywords** Solar wind · Inner heliosphere · IPS · STELab · STEREO · PLASTIC · *Wind* · SWE · WHI

## 1. Introduction

Interplanetary scintillation (IPS) has been used for inner-heliospheric observations of the solar wind since its discovery in the 1960s (*e.g.* Hewish, Scott, and Wills, 1964; Coles and Rickett, 1976; Kojima and Kakinuma, 1987; Manoharan and Ananthakrishnan, 1990; Breen *et al.*, 2002; Jones *et al.*, 2007). IPS arises from scattering by small-scale ( $\sim 150$  km) density inhomogeneities in the solar wind flowing approximately radially outward from the Sun and is seen as the rapid variation of a radio signal received at Earth from a distant compact naturally-occurring radio source. IPS observations allow the solar wind speed to be inferred over a wide range of heliocentric distances and also over all heliographic latitudes dependent upon source strength and observing frequency (*e.g.* Hewish, Scott, and Wills, 1964; Coles and Maagoe, 1972; Kojima *et al.*, 2004; Bisi *et al.*, 2007b). Using the scintillation level, converted to  $g$ -level as a proxy for density (see Equation (1) later), an underlying solar wind density can also be deduced over the same range from IPS observations (*e.g.* Jackson *et al.*, 1998 and references therein; Hick and Jackson, 2004; Jackson and Hick, 2005).

When multiple radio antennas/telescopes are used simultaneously to observe the same source in the sky, and the separation of the raypaths from antenna to source in the plane of the sky lies approximately along the radial direction from the Sun (*i.e.* along the assumed solar wind flow direction), a high degree of correlation may be observed between the scintillation patterns in the signal recorded at each of the observing sites (*e.g.* Armstrong and Coles, 1972). The time lag for which maximum cross-correlation occurs (taking into account ‘plane-of-sky’ assumptions) then provides an estimate of the outflow speed of the irregularities producing the scintillation (*e.g.* Breen *et al.*, 2006; Bisi *et al.*, 2006). More sophisticated methods fitting the observed auto- and cross-correlation spectra with the results from a weak-scattering model have also been adopted for IPS data analyses (*e.g.* Coles, 1996; Klingsmith, 1997; Bisi *et al.*, 2007a; Fallows, Breen, and Dorrian, 2008). In addition, as is done in this paper, the whole heliosphere can be reconstructed in three dimensions from IPS data using a tomographic model which combines many lines of sight to undo the line-of-sight (LOS) integration (see later). Figure 1 gives a schematic example of IPS signals being received using two radio antennas (taken from Bisi *et al.*, 2009a; adapted from Bisi *et al.*, 2004 in a similar form). This shows similar amplitude variations with a time lag as they pass across the sky from one antenna’s LOS to the other; they are later used to calculate an estimate of the outflow speed (radial velocity). IPS is most sensitive at the raypath’s point of closest approach to the Sun (P-Point), and to material flowing perpendicular (or close-to perpendicular) across the LOS.

The primary data discussed in this paper are observations made using the radio arrays of the Solar-Terrestrial Environment Laboratory (STELab) (Kojima and Kakinuma, 1987), University of Nagoya, Japan; the *Solar TERrestrial Relations Observatory* (STEREO) spacecraft pair (Kaiser, 2005; Kaiser *et al.*, 2008), and the *Wind* spacecraft (Ogilvie and Desch, 1997). For these latter, we have used data from the Plasma and Suprathermal Ion Composition (PLASTIC) instrumentation (Galvin *et al.*, 2008) aboard the STEREO spacecraft pair, and the Solar Wind Experiment (SWE) (Ogilvie *et al.*, 1995) aboard the *Wind* spacecraft. Section 2 briefly discusses the conversion to  $g$ -level from the scintillation level and the three-dimensional (3D) tomographic reconstruction method used in this paper. Section 3 describes the Whole Heliosphere Interval (WHI) observations in general. Section 4 describes the *in situ* measurements and the present comparison. We summarise and conclude in Section 5.



**Figure 1** Figure showing the basic principles of multi-site (in this case two) interplanetary scintillation (IPS) through the simultaneous observation of a single radio source (taken from Bisi *et al.* (2009a); adapted from Bisi *et al.* (2004), in a similar form). The signal received from a distant, compact source has a variation in amplitude which is directly related to turbulence in the material crossing the LOS, and can thus be related to variations in density. Figure outline originally courtesy of R.A. Fallows (Aberystwyth University).

## 2. Calculations and Methods Employed in this Paper

The 3D velocity reconstructions are based directly on the IPS velocity observations; for 3D density reconstructions the  $g$ -level provides a proxy for density. This requires a “conversion” from IPS scintillation level, expressed as  $g$ -level, to density. The resulting reconstructions are of an inner-heliosphere region typically ranging from 15 solar radii ( $R_{\odot}$ ) out to approximately 3 astronomical units (AU).

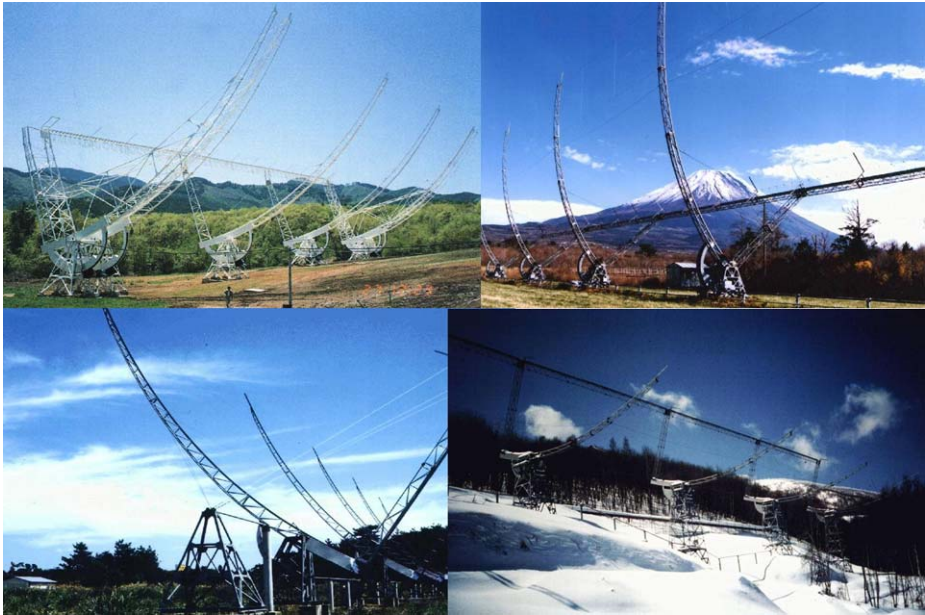
### 2.1. Calculation of $g$ -Level and Proxy for Density

Scintillation-level measurements have been obtained using the STELab IPS-dedicated radio antenna at Kiso from 1997 to the present, and more recently (from mid-2002) from the Fuji antenna (see Jackson and Hick, 2005; Bisi *et al.*, 2009b, and references therein). The new Toyokawa site when fully operational should extend the STELab system to observe many more radio sources per day. Another STELab antenna is located at Sugadaira. The original four STELab antennas are pictured in Figure 2. STELab currently typically observes 20 to more than 40 astronomical radio sources per day.

The disturbance factor, or  $g$ -level,  $g$ , is defined by Equation (1):

$$g = m / \langle m \rangle. \quad (1)$$

Here,  $m$  is the observed scintillation level, and  $\langle m \rangle$  is the mean level of scintillation for the source at the elongation at the time of observation. Scintillation-level measurements from STELab are available for each astronomical radio source as an intensity variation of signal strength (resulting from small-scale variations in density,  $\Delta N_e$ ). These data are automatically edited to remove any obvious interference.



**Figure 2** The STELab antennas: Kiso (top left), Fuji (top right), Toyokawa – old antenna (bottom left), and Sugadaira (bottom right) (see [http://stesun5.stelab.nagoya-u.ac.jp/uhf\\_ant-e.html](http://stesun5.stelab.nagoya-u.ac.jp/uhf_ant-e.html)).

Since density values along the LOS are not known *a priori*, the  $g$ -level proxy for density is related to small-scale density variations by Equation (2). The small-scale density variations are assumed to have a power law dependence on heliospheric density and heliocentric distance;

$$\Delta N_e = A_c R^{\text{PWR}} N_e^{\text{PWN}}. \quad (2)$$

Here,  $A_c$  is a proportionality constant,  $R$  is the radial distance from the Sun, PWR is the power of the radial falloff, and PWN is the power of the density.  $A_c$ , PWR, and PWN are determined using best-fit comparisons with *in situ* data at 1 AU.

Further discussion of determining  $g$ -level and density can be found in Jackson *et al.* (1998, 2003, and references therein). In addition, this and the real-time calculation used for space-weather forecasting at <http://ips.ucsd.edu/> can be found in Hick and Jackson (2004, and references therein).

## 2.2. The 3D Reconstruction Method

The 3D tomographic reconstruction uses perspective views of solar co-rotating plasma (Jackson *et al.*, 1998) and of outward-flowing solar wind (Jackson and Hick, 2005) crossing the IPS observing lines of sight from Earth to the radio source. Both radial velocity and density are obtained through the use of a kinematic solar wind model. IPS data are then fitted iteratively to refine this model over 18 iterations to be sure of convergence to a final best-fit solution.

We then compare the resulting reconstructions with hourly-averaged *in situ* measurements from both the *Wind/SWE* and *STEREO/PLASTIC* instruments. Previous comparisons have been with data from the *Advanced Composition Explorer – Solar Wind Electron*,

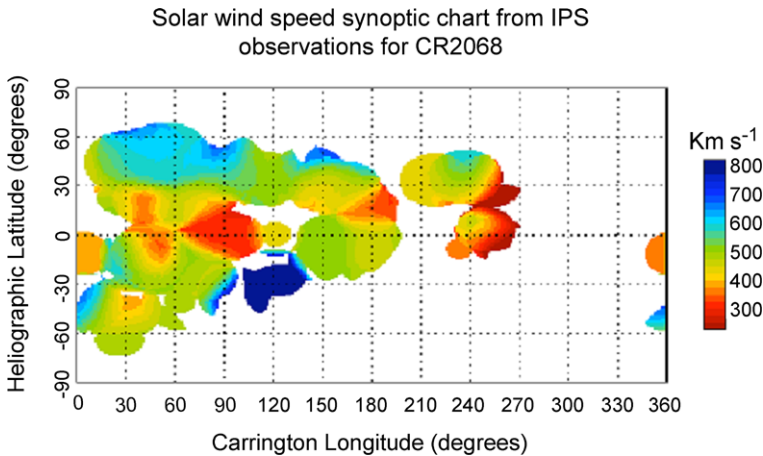
Proton and Alpha Monitor (ACE/SWEPAM) (Stone *et al.*, 1998; McComas *et al.*, 1998); the Ulysses spacecraft (Wenzel *et al.*, 1992); and finally with “ram” pressure measurements inferred from the Mars Global Surveyor magnetometer (Crider *et al.*, 2003) in orbit around Mars with IPS observations made between 1999 and 2004 (Jackson *et al.*, 2007). Jackson and Hick (2005) describe the time-dependent 3D tomographic technique used here (first introduced in 2000).

The 3D reconstructions for the STELab data used here have latitude and longitude digital resolution of  $20^\circ \times 20^\circ$ . The one-day time cadence has 6-hour interpolated increments, to yield output four times a day for the modelled structure of the inner heliosphere.

The accuracy of this model is now well confirmed both in the low-resolution form used in this paper and in higher-resolution forms such as for IPS data from the Ootacamund (Ooty) Radio Telescope (ORT) (*e.g.* Bisi *et al.*, 2009b) or white-light observations from the Solar Mass Ejection Imager (SMEI) (*e.g.* Jackson *et al.*, 2006, 2008; Bisi *et al.*, 2008). The output of these tomographic reconstructions have successfully provided a “source surface” input into the ENLIL 3D magnetohydrodynamic (MHD) numerical model (*e.g.* Odstrcil and Pizzo, 2002) which when propagated out through the interplanetary medium, also compares well with *in situ* measurements (*e.g.* Bisi *et al.*, 2008).

### 3. Observations

WHI covers Carrington rotation 2068 (CR2068) and runs through the period 20 March 2008 to 16 April 2008 at the Earth (which approximately includes the *Wind* spacecraft orbiting the Sun–Earth  $L_1$  point). Since Carrington longitude is measured as viewed from Earth for each rotation, the dates for CR2068 for spacecraft outside of the Sun–Earth line will differ since the  $0^\circ$  longitude line will pass under them at different times. For STEREO-A (ahead) the dates are 21 March 2008 to 18 April 2008, and for STEREO-B (behind) they are 18 March 2008 to 14 April 2008. Due to the 2008 STELab observing season running from April/May through November/December each year, the antennas were not operational until 3 April 2008 (approximately half-way through the WHI time interval), these then unfortunately suffered severe mechanical failures shortly after the WHI time period on 22 April 2008. Figure 3 shows the directly-observed synoptic Sun coverage of velocity using IPS, as determined by projecting a Gaussian-weighted circle of  $10^\circ$  from the LOS P-Point to the source-surface map using timing from that point to the surface corresponding to the IPS velocity observation. Coverage is incomplete. The number of velocity observations exceeds that of scintillation-level (*g*-level) observations due to hardware difficulties at STELab. The bulk of the observations used to reconstruct the latter half of CR2068 (WHI) – as discussed in this paper – came from lines of sight that predominantly map back to the later portion of this Carrington rotation since there were no IPS observations which took place during CR2067 and very few during CR2069. Figure 4 shows plots of the lines of sight projected to the source surface for all the data used in the 3D reconstructions, both *g*-level (top) and velocity (bottom) sources (see Jackson and Hick, 2005 for another example). As can be seen in the figure, the velocity coverage is far greater over the two Carrington rotations used for the tomography (CR2067.50 to CR2069.50) than that of *g*-level coverage, particularly at the beginning of the time interval. The lack of projected lines of sight in early CR2068 results in data gaps. This is particularly noticeable to the west of the Sun–Earth line. In addition, there is little coverage in either CR2067 or CR2069. These plots show the greater number of velocity observations used in the 3D reconstructions as compared with those of *g*-level. Figure 5 shows the weighted sum of LOS crossings after projection onto the source surface



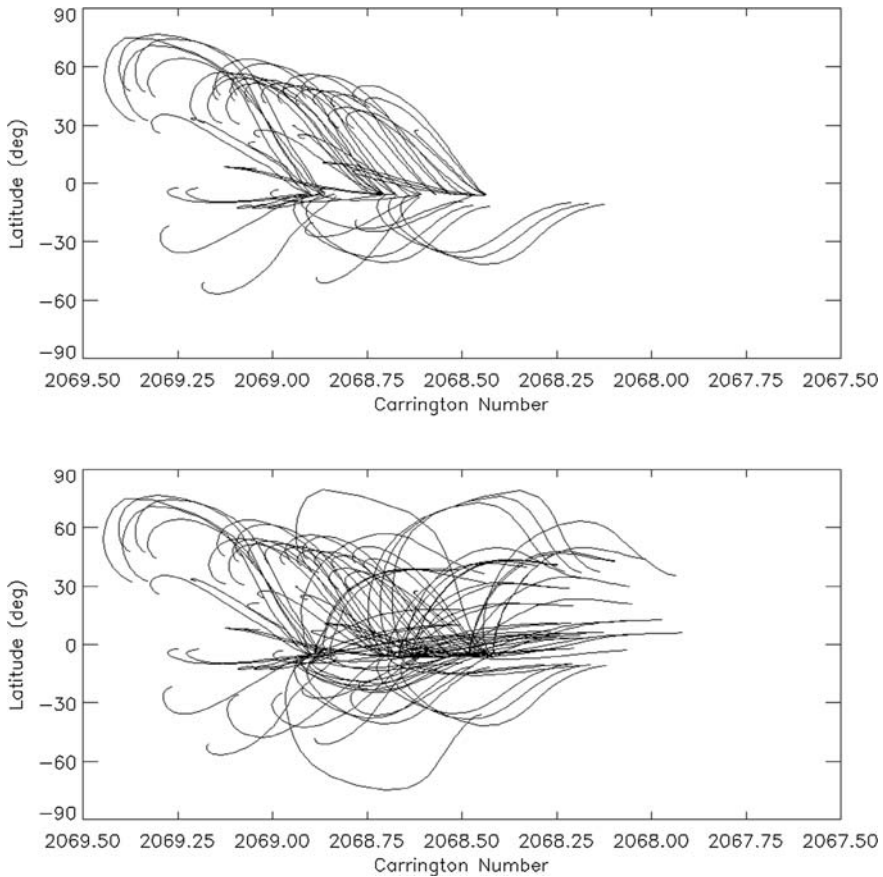
**Figure 3** The direct IPS synoptic Sun coverage for resulting velocity structure as made by the STELab IPS arrays during WHI. Velocity for each position is assumed to remain constant and radial. The velocity observations are mapped back to the source surface using the P-Point approximation as the location along the LOS. A  $10^\circ$  spread function (in the form of a Gaussian) is then used for both longitude and latitude to blend neighbouring IPS observations onto the Carrington source-surface map.

of all the IPS data used for this reconstruction. The greater the number of weighted LOS crossings, the higher the confidence in the reconstructions; thus, these plots provide confidence levels for the reconstruction in both  $g$ -level (top) and velocity (bottom) projected onto the source surface. These plots again show that more information contributes to reconstruct the velocity than the density, especially to the west of the Sun–Earth line at the beginning of this time interval. However, from the observations which did take place, the inner heliosphere was successfully reconstructed (at least near the ecliptic plane) at the low digital spatial resolutions and temporal cadence using the time-dependent 3D tomography (Figures 6 and 7). Here, the density and velocity both have the same 3D-reconstructed resolutions.

Two main features can be observed; the first appears to be a co-rotating interaction region (CIR), and the second a coronal mass ejection (CME). These respectively can be seen in ecliptic-cut extractions from the 3D tomography in both velocity and density in Figures 6 and 7. These figures cover a period of three or four days centred on 03:00 UT for each day. In all cases, the view covers the ecliptic plane viewed from the north out to a distance of 1.5 AU from the Sun. Gaps and white areas in the ecliptic cuts are places where there were insufficient data to fully reconstruct the inner heliosphere. There is also an inner-exclusion zone outside of which the 3D reconstructions form. STELab observations take place at a frequency of 327 MHz and extend outward from  $11.5^\circ$  elongation (or approximately from  $45 R_\odot$  for P-Point distance from the Sun).

Figure 6 shows a CIR-like structure over a period of three days from 4 April 2008 to 6 April 2008. There is higher density material with slow-to-intermediate velocities out at the front of the co-rotating feature, followed by lower-density higher-speed material flowing out behind. The high-speed stream can also be seen to be rotating (anti-clockwise) throughout the three days shown here. On the first day, 4 April 2008, both the Earth (and hence the *Wind* spacecraft orbiting the Sun–Earth  $L_1$  point) and the STEREO-A spacecraft are immersed

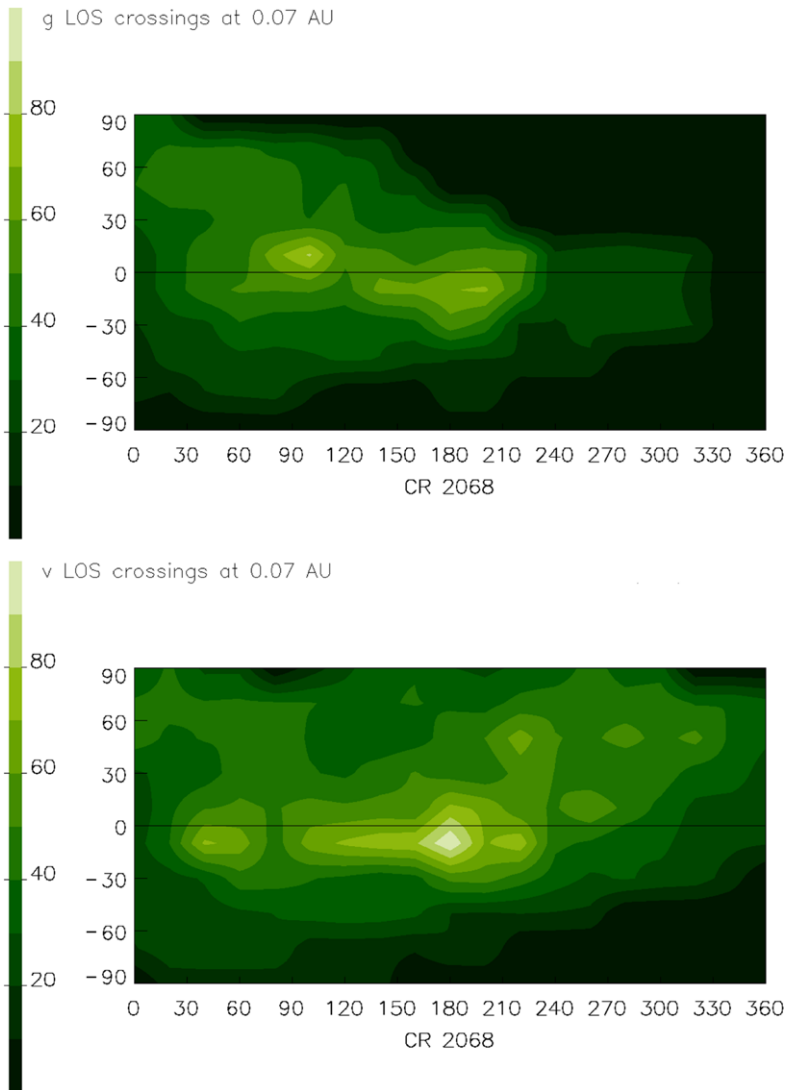




**Figure 4** The STELab IPS lines of sight used by the 3D tomography from scintillation level (top) and velocity (bottom) observations mapped back to  $15 R_{\odot}$  which is the source surface (lower boundary) in the 3D tomography. As can be seen, the velocity coverage is far greater over the two Carrington rotations used for the tomography (CR2067.50 to CR2069.50) than that of g-level coverage; thus resulting in some gaps in the density 3D reconstructions as seen in Figure 6.

in the higher-density material and slower wind speed, while the STEREO-B spacecraft is starting to be immersed in higher-speed flow but at a lowered density. By 24-hours later on 5 April 2008, an even lower-density region is approaching the STEREO-B spacecraft with an increased flow speed now seen at all three locations increasing in its magnitude from the STEREO-A spacecraft to Earth, and again from Earth to the STEREO-B spacecraft; the slower stream has now rotated around to the west of the Sun–Earth line a little more. There was also a weak drop in the *Dst* index (disturbance storm time index) seen on 5 April 2008 signifying a weak geo-effective storm created by the CIR. By the final day shown here, 6 April 2008, all three locations have a lowered density while the higher-speed flow is still rotating around and beginning to engulf the Earth as well as the STEREO-B spacecraft.

At this time, high-speed streams were originating in equatorial coronal holes. These could be seen faintly in coronagraph observations and Sun-surface synoptic maps which is where the CIR-type feature may have originated.



**Figure 5** The summed STELab IPS LOS crossings from *g*-level (top) and velocity (bottom) observations (in each  $20^\circ \times 20^\circ$  reconstructed bin) mapped back to the source surface. Those portions of these maps having the largest number of LOS crossings have the highest confidence level. As is seen here, when compared with the *g*-level plot, the velocity confidence is greater near the sub-Earth latitude (the ecliptic) and more extensive to the west (larger longitudes, in the earlier parts of CR2068). The source-surface LOS crossings for each time-reconstructed Carrington map are normalised per day crossings and for the Gaussian temporal and spatial filters. Approximately 20 days of observations are used to make the Carrington plots shown here. In the tomography at STELab resolutions, the standard deviations of the Gaussian filters are respectively 0.65 day and  $14^\circ$ ; see Jackson *et al.* (2003) for further details.

Figure 7 shows a transient feature, possibly two; one with increased density already extended beyond 1 AU west of the Sun–Earth line (which could also be part of a co-rotating region), and another density increase not yet at 1 AU heading roughly along the Sun–Earth



line and finally merging with the first feature out to the west. Several weak CMEs observed by the Large Angle Spectroscopic COronagraph (LASCO) occurred between 7 April 2008 and 11 April 2008 at position angles allowing for the first enhanced density above, but no halo-type CME that could account for the second. A west-limb CME that was seen by *SOlar and Heliospheric Observatory* (SOHO), *Hinode*, and STEREO from active region (AR) 10989 on 9 April 2008 at 10:26:05 UT (first appearance in LASCO C2 – taken from the SOHO/LASCO CDAW CME catalogue at [http://cdaw.gsfc.nasa.gov/CME\\_list/](http://cdaw.gsfc.nasa.gov/CME_list/)) is the likely candidate for these west-limb interplanetary reconstructions seen in the ecliptic cuts between 12 April 2008 and 13 April 2008. Figure 7 shows ecliptic cuts for 12 April 2008, 13 April 2008, 14 April 2008, and 15 April 2008 all centred at 03:00 UT as in Figure 6. Higher-resolution tomography with data from other IPS sources or SMEI could likely better distinguish where these transient features originated.

Velocity structure is somewhat more complex than density structure for these solar-minimum conditions. Regions of increased and decreased velocities inside of 1 AU bear some correlation with weak events seen in LASCO; also some equatorial extensions of coronal holes still exist throughout this Carrington rotation.

#### 4. Comparison with *In Situ* Measurements

The 3D reconstructions permit extraction of a time series for both velocity and density values at any given location within the reconstructed volume. Figures 8, 9, and 10 are summaries of the portion of CR2068 for which there were STELab observations; these show reconstruction comparisons with *in situ* measurements from *Wind* and STEREO (A and B) spacecraft respectively for both parameters. The *in situ* data have been re-averaged to a one-day cadence commensurate with that of the 3D STELab tomographic reconstruction digital cadence used here.

For a co-rotating structure, since STEREO-B lags behind STEREO-A in the Sun's rotational direction, features sweep over STEREO-B first, then pass the *Wind* spacecraft and the Earth, and finally pass STEREO-A. For a transient structure, the order in which features arrive at various spacecraft or the Earth depends on the orientation and launch direction of the particular transient.

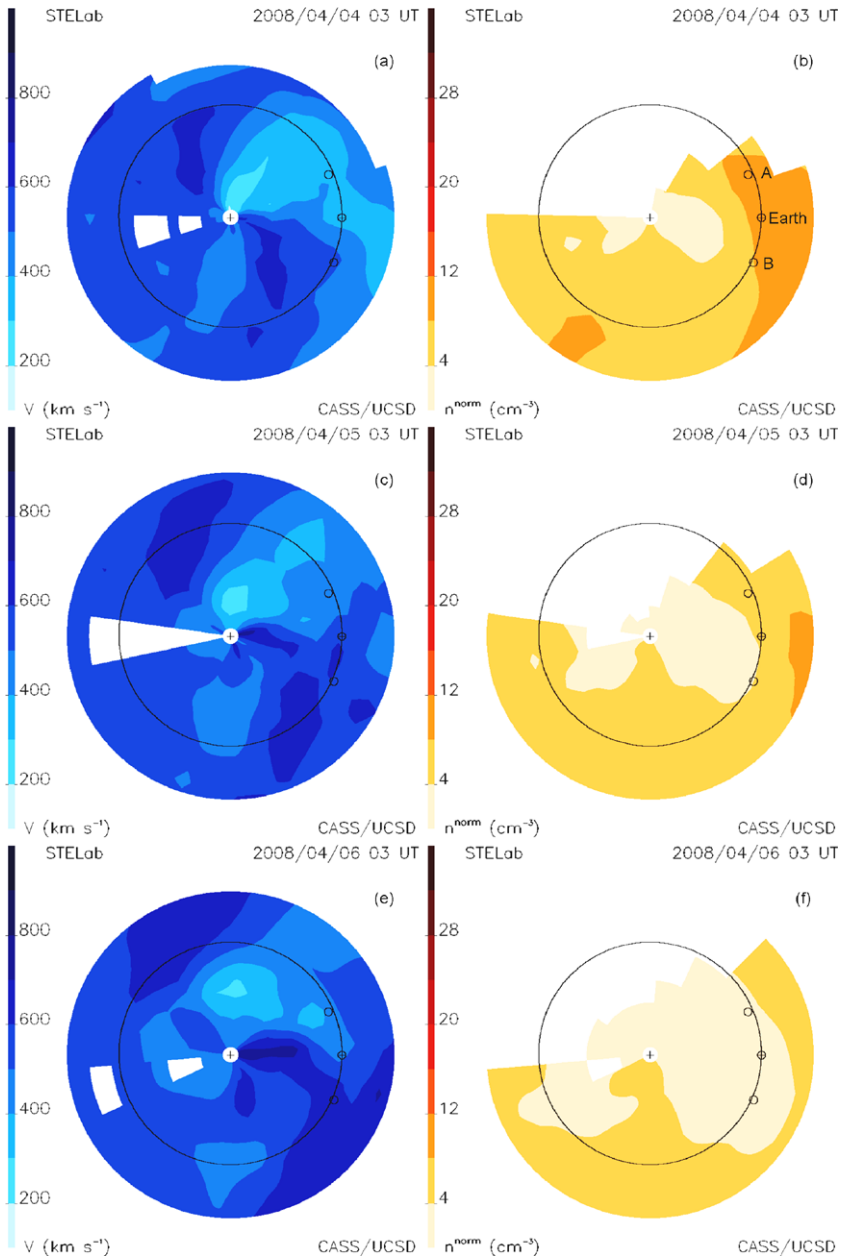
##### 4.1. Comparison with *Wind/SWE In Situ* Measurements

A preliminary comparison with ACE Level-0 data and *Wind in situ* measurements is given by Bisi *et al.* (2009b). In this paper, looking at only the *Wind/SWE* data, we see that both the velocity and density *in situ* measurements compare well with the 3D tomography-extracted values and result in good correlations for both parameters.

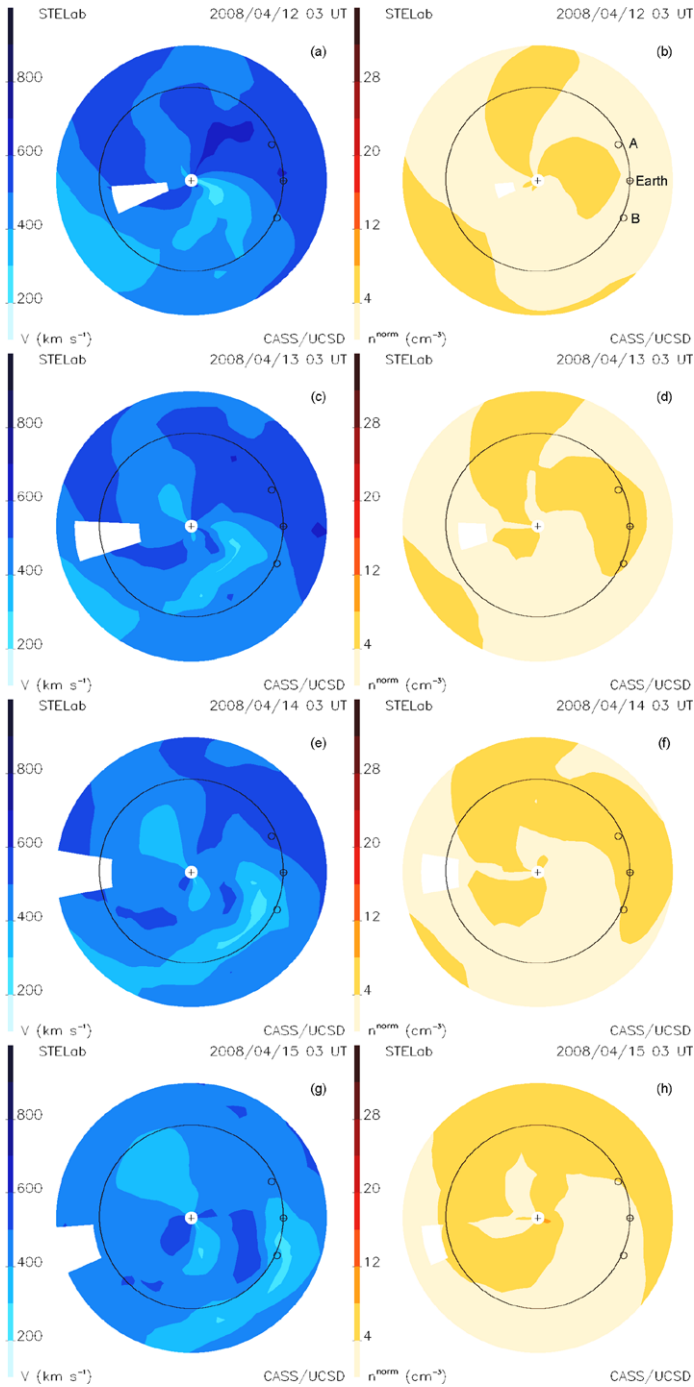
An earlier peak in density around 4 April 2008 is reproduced well by the tomography. A weaker transient-associated peak later around 13 April 2008 is shown in the tomography that is observed as a small *in situ* density enhancement in *Wind/SWE* data.

##### 4.2. Comparison with STEREO/PLASTIC

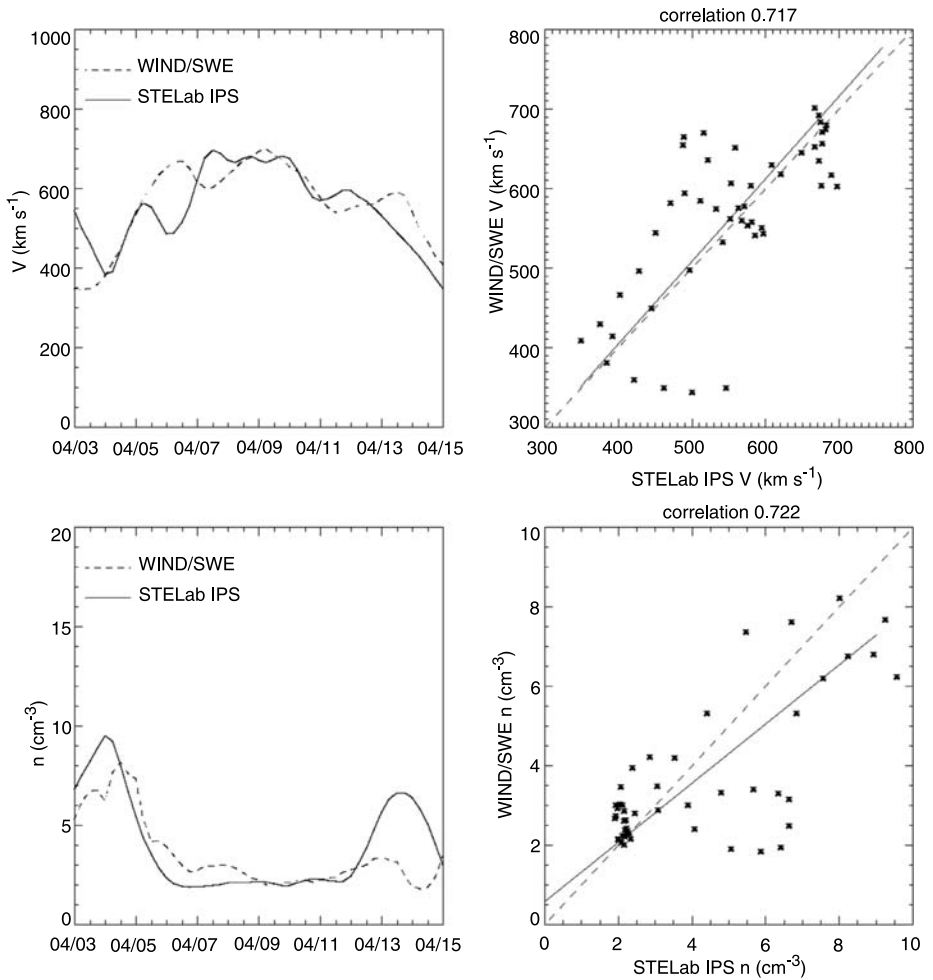
Figures 9 and 10 respectively compare *in situ* measurements with time-series extractions from the 3D tomography for STEREO-A and STEREO-B. In Figures 9 and 10, velocity measurements at each spacecraft are similar to those extracted from the tomography and give very good correlation for both STEREO-A and STEREO-B, respectively. Again, the correlation is good for STEREO-B density comparison, but the density measured by STEREO-A



**Figure 6** Figure displaying ecliptic cuts through the 3D tomography looking down from north of the ecliptic in both velocity (a), (c), and (e), and density (b), (d), and (f). A period of three days is shown here centred on 03:00 UT for each of the days and the days are marked from 4 April 2008 through 6 April 2008. The Sun is at the centre marked with a + and an ellipse maps out the Earth's orbital path in the ecliptic, the  $\oplus$  as the Earth, and two small circles representing the two STEREO spacecraft (which are labelled accordingly in the top-right image); one out ahead of the Earth (STEREO-A) and one lagging behind the Earth (STEREO-B). The Earth's orbital direction here is in the anti-clockwise direction. White space signifies gaps in the 3D reconstruction due to insufficient data points to successfully complete the inner heliosphere in the 3D volume. Since the numbers of velocity observations are more numerous during this time, the density ecliptic cuts have more gaps to the west of the Sun–Earth line, *i.e.* in the vicinity of the STEREO-A spacecraft.



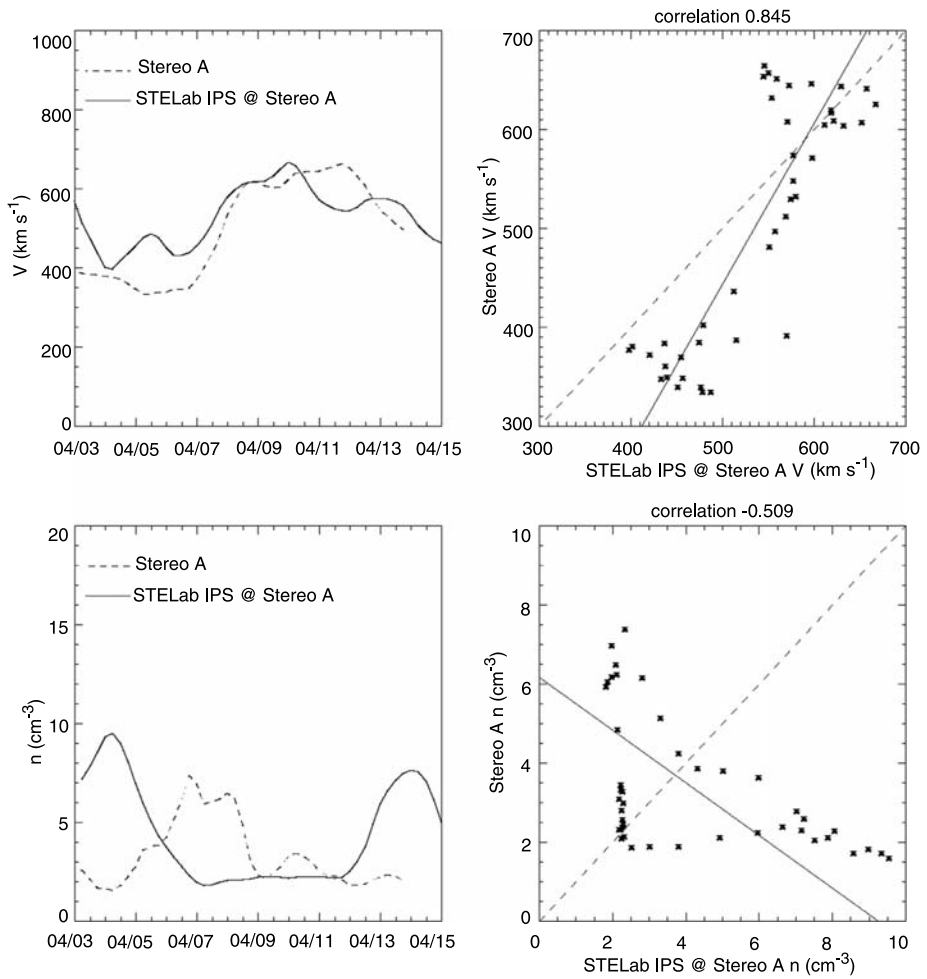
**Figure 7** Figure displaying ecliptic cuts through the 3D tomography as in Figure 6 in both velocity (a), (c), (e), and (g), and density (b), (d), (f), and (h). A period of four days is shown here centred on 03:00 UT for each of the days with the dates marked from 12 April 2008 through 15 April 2008. Other aspects of the figure are as in Figure 6 and the features are explained in the text.



**Figure 8** The left plots compare 3D reconstructed solar wind velocity (top) and density (bottom) at the *Wind* spacecraft (solid line), and those measured by *Wind*/SWE (dashed line). *Wind*/SWE data are originally hourly-averaged data that have been further averaged over a period of a day to match that of the IPS reconstruction. On the right are plots of the correlation of the two data sets; for each case the dashed lines represent a 100% correlation and the solid lines represent the best fit of the correlation.

and extracted from the tomography at its location does not have a positive correlation. We do not know exactly why this is, given that at both other spacecraft locations (*Wind* and STEREO-B) the density compares well, but clearly the density peak does not appear to be manifest from STEREO-B to *Wind* to STEREO-A as one might expect for a co-rotating dense structure.

Simunac *et al.* (2008) note that there are some CIRs during this interval where the estimated time of arrival from one STEREO spacecraft to the other (under the assumption of radial flow) is not consistent with actual arrival times. This discrepancy could result from potential changes in the solar wind speed/make-up or motion (or changes) of the coronal hole on the solar surface responsible for generating the CIR feature.



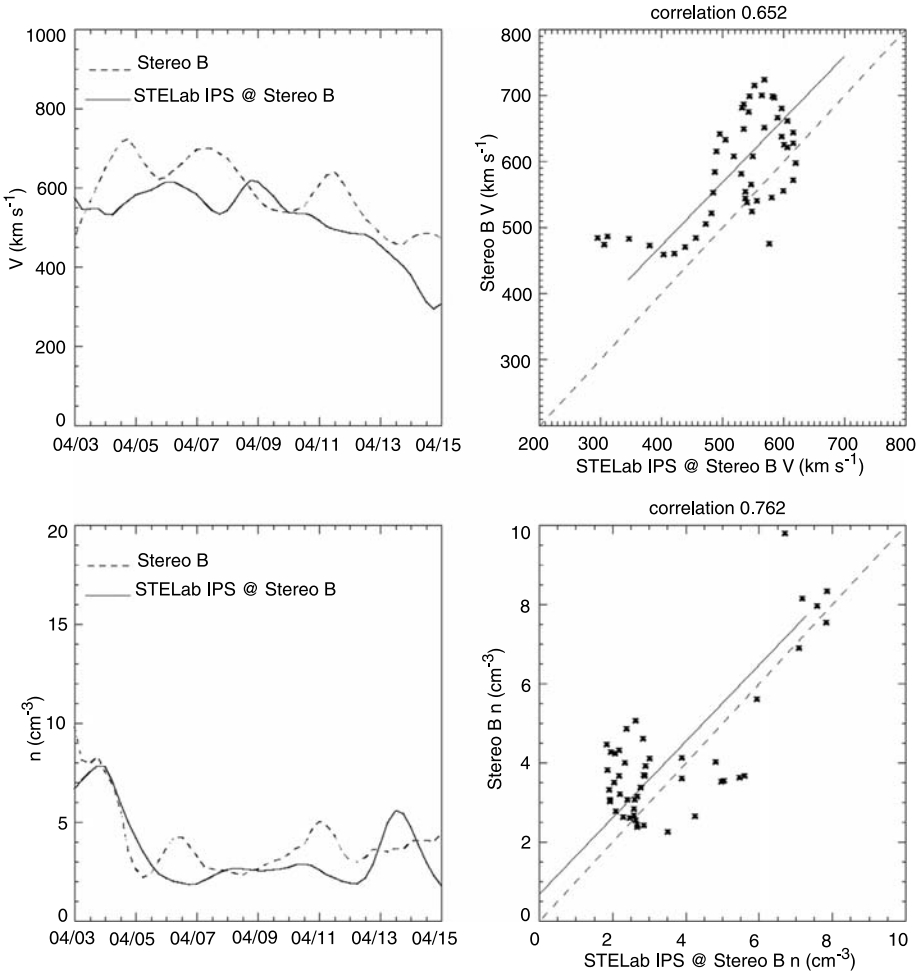
**Figure 9** Plots as in Figure 8 but for STEREO-A/PLASTIC and 3D reconstruction at its location.

### 5. Discussion and Summary

WHI is a time of relatively quiet solar activity toward the end of solar cycle 23 and the start of solar cycle 24. Several weak CMEs were seen by LASCO (reported on the CDAW CME catalogue) and at least four CIRs were reported in more-detailed analyses of STEREO/PLASTIC *in situ* data by Simunac *et al.* (2008).

The low-resolution 3D-reconstructed heliosphere with STELab IPS velocity data, from a central part of the WHI period (around 4 April 2008), shows what appears to be a co-rotating region passing across the Sun–Earth  $L_1$  point (and crossing STEREO-B first and STEREO-A later).

Some transient-type structure is observed later in this interval and this possibly interacts with these co-rotating features; this and the apparent non-co-rotation of density at the beginning warrants further investigation when higher-resolution tomography using data from Ooty or SMEI become available (see later). We expect that the 3D digital resolution of



**Figure 10** Plots as in Figure 9 but for STEREO-B/PLASTIC and 3D reconstruction at its location.

$20^\circ \times 20^\circ$  latitude–longitude centres with a one-day time cadence does not always adequately represent all the solar wind changes (especially in longitude) present during WHI at individual *in situ* locations and may be the reason for the STEREO-A density discrepancies. In particular, it is relatively clear that the coverage of the heliosphere by different lines of sight plays an important role in its reconstruction and to accurately reproduce the velocity/density profiles near the Earth (or at other locations in the inner heliosphere) as observed by the various spacecraft.

Time-series extraction from the reconstruction of radial velocity and density compare well for STEREO and *Wind* data, but not well for the aforementioned density discrepancies with STEREO-A/PLASTIC density. It should also be noted that STEREO-A/PLASTIC suffered a data outage beginning late on 13 April 2008 that lasted to the end of the WHI time interval.

Even so, good 3D reconstructions at three locations in the ecliptic have been achieved in velocity and two in density (the not-so-good comparison in density with STEREO-A to the



west is likely due to the insufficient  $g$ -level observation coverage to the west of the Sun–Earth line early in the observing interval as detailed in Section 3). The resulting comparisons with STEREO-A, *Wind*, and STEREO-B are overall reasonable. Five out of the six sets of time-series comparisons correlate well and only the one density comparison with STEREO-A does not. This suggests that the 3D reconstructions work well both at the Earth and moving away from it along its orbit as the STEREO *in situ* measurements become more distant from Earth. The STEREO spacecraft continue to move away from Earth at approximately  $22^\circ$  per year which will lead to further opportunities to evaluate the performance of these 3D reconstructions in the ecliptic with a greater spacecraft spacing and a future set of improved spatial and temporal coverage from STELab IPS observations.

These successful comparisons of the 3D reconstructions with multi-point in-ecliptic *in situ* measurements add to the previous successful comparisons at Earth, Mars, and with the *Ulysses* spacecraft. Hence, the tomography used here is increasingly shown to be a useful and powerful tool for investigating solar wind structure in the inner heliosphere.

Further details on other IPS analyses of WHI (and increased-resolution tomography) such as those using Ooty IPS data will be discussed in a future article (in preparation). Studies are also planned using IPS observations from the European Incoherent SCATter radar (EISCAT) during WHI and white light from SMEI.

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