A decade of low frequency (30-120) solar radio observations with the Gauribidanur radioheliograph (GRH)

GRH (75 MHz) and YOHKOH image (13 April 1997)



SOHO-LASCO C2 image



The radio astronomy observing facilities of our institute are housed mainly at the Gauribidanur radio observatory of the Raman Research Institute. The radio astronomy group,

- K. R. Subramanian
- M. S. SundaraRajan
- E. Ebenezer
- C. Kathiravan
- S. Faseehana
- myself and the supporting staff at Gauribidanur

of our institute maintains different low frequency radio telescopes from there.

The flag ship amongst them is the Gauribidanur radioheliograph or GRH as it is often referred to, commissioned about a decade ago.



T-shaped interferometer array

Frequency range : 30 – 150 MHz

Observing time : ~ 4 – 9 UT

Angular resolution : 3' x 7'

Temporal resolution : 4 images/sec

East – West arm

GAURIBIDANUR RADIOHELIOGRAPH

South arm



An introspection (?).

Why the Gauribidanur radioheliograph was set-up?

What are the scientific goals that were set?

What have been achieved till date?



Composite of SOHO-LASCO C2 and SOHO-EIT image of a CME

Electron density / plasma frequency variation in the solar corona with radial distance



Pre-event signatures and characteristics of CMEs in the low corona



Kinematics of CMEs in the low corona

GRH images (109 MHz) at different epochs



SOHO-LASCO C2 image (05:54 UT)





ARC MIN

Gauribidanur and GMRT observations – I (4 June 2005)



GMRT observations at 151 MHz

Gauribidanur and GMRT observations – II (12 December 2005)



SOHO-LASCO C2 image

GMRT observations at 151 MHz

The road ahead (for GRH)



The missing elements

I. Information on coronal magnetic field

Requirement:

Facility for observing polarised radio emission from the solar corona in the same frequency band as GRH

Polarisation measurement array at Gauribidanur

- One-dimensional array of 32 antennas in the E-W direction
- Configured as 4 groups of 8 antennas each
- Orientation of the groups are 0, 45, 90 & 135 degrees
- Time resolution = 100 ms





Gauribidanur and SOHO-EIT 195 A observations (25 July 2006)





The missing elements (contd.)

II. Information on spectral nature, emission mechanism

Requirement:

A radio spectrometer capable of observing in the same frequency band as GRH, and all the way up to the ionospheric cut-off

The new antenna system for radio spectral observations







Back end instrumentation

- Spectrum analyser model E4411 B from Agilent Technologies.
- The software for observations was developed in LABVIEW 7.1 using a National Instruments GPIB card as the interface.
- Fully automated observations No need for an observer to sit in front of the instrument and start the observations at the required time
- Start and stop frequency is fully tunable to the desired range
- Band masking/rejection option
- File name for the observed data is automatically selected from the date/time information in the computer

Raw data



- 1. Frequency range : 19 120 MHz
- 2. Frequency resolution : 250 kHz
- 3. Sweep time : 100 ms
- 4. Dwell time at single frequency : 250 ns
- 5. Instantaneous bandwidth : 100 kHz

Low frequency radio spectral observations from Gauribidanur observatory – 2007/04/10









Gauribidanur and SOHO-LASCO C2 observations (10 April 2007)





