

EVIDENCE OF MAGNETIC RECONNECTION ACROSS THE HELIOSPHERIC CURRENT SHEET

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Magnetic reconnection is a universal process that happens in space and astrophysical contexts. The formation of thin current sheets and magnetic reconnection drives much of the dynamics and plays a significant role in the creation of energetic particles and plasma heating in the atmosphere of the Sun and in the Earth's magnetosphere. This talk will review the observational evidence of magnetic reconnection across the heliospheric current sheet (HCS), a possible new location for magnetic reconnection processes. The implications of reconnection across the HCS with regards to solar wind structure and dynamics will be discussed.