

FINE STRUCTURE AND DYNAMICS OF THE SOLAR CORONA

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Radio occultation measurements using the radio signals of interplanetary spacecraft have revealed a corona that is permeated by a hierarchy of raylike structures extending from the large-scale structures of plumes and streamers down to scales as small as 1 km at the Sun. The knowledge and understanding of the corona obtained from radio occultation measurements is advancing rapidly. Additional results now include: (1) the first observational evidence confirming what has previously only been inferred from modeling — that streamers observed in white-light measurements are the manifestation of the heliospheric current sheet, and (2) details on how the spatial structure of the corona evolves and extends into interplanetary space. The purpose of this talk is to provide an overview of the latest results, and their relationship to white-light coronagraph and in situ plasma measurements.