

# **The Physics of Chromospheric Plasmas**

Coimbra Solar Physics Meeting – CSPM-2006

**October 9 - 13, 2006, Coimbra, Portugal**

This is the **First Announcement** of the Coimbra Solar Physics Meeting “The Physics of the Chromospheric Plasmas” (CSPM-2006) to be held at the University of Coimbra. We invite a wide scientific community to join us for discussing the state-of-art of the solar chromospheric research and related topics.

## **Objectives**

In 2006, the Astronomical Observatory of the University of Coimbra (Coimbra, Portugal) – Observatório Astronómico da Universidade de Coimbra (OAUC) - will celebrate the 80th anniversary of performing the first spectroheliographic observations in Coimbra. Full-disk spectroheliograms have been routinely taken in the Ca II K-line (K1 and K3) and in 1990 regular observations in the H $\alpha$  line have also started.

This anniversary is an excellent opportunity to organize an international solar physics meeting, jointly with a historical session commemorating the life and work of Prof. Francisco Costa Lobo (1864-1945) who installed the spectroheliograph in Coimbra in the 1920s. The instrument itself is a twin of the spectroheliograph operated at the Observatoire de Meudon. The Coimbra University itself (founded in 1290) is one of the oldest European universities. The meeting will take place on its campus just inside the Coimbra historical down-town and will also include an excursion to the Coimbra Observatory which is located at the city periphery.

The scientific meeting will cover various aspects of chromospheric plasmas which are particularly well observed in the above-mentioned H $\alpha$  and Ca II lines, but also in a variety of other lines including the UV and EUV spectral range. This will include the structure and dynamics of the chromosphere (cell interior, network, spicules etc.) as well as other features seen at the chromospheric level or having the properties of plasmas at chromospheric temperatures: sunspots chromosphere, plages, chromospheric flares, filaments etc. The relation of such plasmas to other atmospheric layers and/or processes will also be discussed, in particular using the UV and EUV data from SOHO (ESA/NASA) and other space telescopes.

A long-term (cyclic) evolution of the chromosphere and its activity, including solar irradiation variations and effects on space weather, will be included, in particular with respect to

long-term observations made in Coimbra. Finally, since this meeting is organised around the above-mentioned anniversary, a session devoted to new solar instruments capable of observing chromospheric plasmas will be held (including the space instrumentation).

The conference programme will contain the following sessions:

### **Historical Session**

**Session 1: Structure and dynamics of the solar chromosphere**

**Session 2: Active regions and sunspots**

**Session 3: Prominences and filaments**

**Session 4: Chromospheric flares**

**Session 5: Long-term variations**

**Session 6: New solar instrumentation**

### **Venue & Location**

The meeting will be organized in Coimbra, an old university town situated in the central region of Portugal, between Lisbon (200 km) and Porto (100 km) and about 35 km from the Atlantic coast at Figueira da Foz. It is easily reached from Lisbon and Porto, which both have international airports, by train (2h from Lisbon, 1h15m from Porto) or by bus. The A1 motorway from Lisbon to Porto passes close to Coimbra; there are also good road connections with Spain through Salamanca.

The meeting will take place at the University of Coimbra, in the auditorium "*Auditorio da Reitoria*".

## Preliminary Scientific Programme

Date	Morning (9h00-12h30)	Afternoon (14h30-18h00)	Evening
Sun, 8 Oct	Arrival	Arrival, <b>18h00-20h00</b> : Registration and welcome drink	Meeting of the SOC/LOC
Mon, 9 Oct	<b>Historical Session:</b> Coimbra spectroheliograph <b>Session 1:</b> Structure and dynamics of the solar chromosphere	<b>Session 1:</b> Structure and dynamics of the solar chromosphere	Welcome reception + opening ceremony of the historical exhibition
Tue, 10 Oct	<b>Session 1:</b> Structure and dynamics of the solar chromosphere <b>Excursion:</b> University's Patio <b>Poster session</b>	<b>Session 2:</b> Active regions and sunspots	
Wed, 11 Oct	<b>Session 3:</b> Prominences and filaments	<b>Excursions:</b> Spectroheliograph - Astronomical Observatory; Conimbriga – ruins of the ancient Roman town	
Thu, 12 Oct	<b>Session 4:</b> Chromospheric flares <b>Poster session</b>	<b>Session 4:</b> Chromospheric flares	Conference dinner
Fri, 13 Oct	<b>Session 5:</b> Long-term variations	<b>Session 6:</b> New solar instrumentation	Meeting of the SOC/LOC

## Scientific Organizing Committee

**M. Carlsson** (Institute of Theoretical Astrophysics, Oslo, Norway)  
**W. Curdt** (Max Planck Institute for Solar System Research, Katlenburg-Lindau, Germany)  
**C. Denker** (Big Bear Solar Observatory, Big Bear City, CA, USA)  
**I. Dorotovič** (OAU, Coimbra, Portugal; Slovak Central Observatory, Hurbanovo, Slovakia)  
**L. Fletcher** (University of Glasgow, Glasgow, Scotland, United Kingdom)  
**P. Heinzel** (Astronomical Institute, Ondrejov, Czech Republic) - **Chair**  
**R. Rutten** (Utrecht University, Utrecht, Netherlands)  
**B. Schmieder** (Observatoire de Meudon, Meudon, France)  
**J. Trujillo-Bueno** (Instituto de Astrofísica de Canarias, La Laguna, Tenerife, Spain)  
**G. Tsiropoula** (National Observatory of Athens, Athens, Greece)  
**H. Uitenbroek** (NSO Sacramento Peak Observatory, New Mexico, USA)  
**J. C. Vial** (Institut d'Astrophysique Spatiale, Orsay, France)

## Local Organizing Committee (OAU Coimbra)

**S. Batista** (GAUC, ESRI Portugal, S. A.),  
**I. Dorotovič** (OAU, GAUC, UNINOVA),  
**J. Fernandes** (OAU, GAUC) – **Chair**,  
**A. Garcia** (OAU, GAUC).

To contact the LOC: [cspm2006@mat.uc.pt](mailto:cspm2006@mat.uc.pt)

## Deadlines

- **22 January** - First Announcement, web-site opens
- **1 February** - Abstract submission opens
  - Registration opens
- **31 May** - Closing date for abstract submission I. **\*\*SHIFTED\*\***  
(for those who are going to apply for travel support)
  - Closing date for travel support applications **\*\*SHIFTED\*\***
- **15 June** - Closing date for abstract submission II. **\*\*NEW\*\***  
(for those who do not apply for travel support)
- **30 June** - Closing date for early registration
  - Information on travel supports **\*\*SHIFTED\*\***
  - Information on selected papers **\*\*SHIFTED\*\***
  - Second Announcement (Programme Finalised) **\*\*SHIFTED\*\***
- **31 August** - Closing date for hotel reservation
  - Final Announcement
- **8 October** - Arrival, registration
- **9 October** - Meeting starts
- **13 October** - Meeting ends

## Financial Support

Limited support will be available with the priority to young participants and invited speakers.

## Proceedings

The proceedings of the Coimbra Solar Physics Meeting 2006 „The Physics of Chromospheric Plasmas“ will be published in the ASP (Astronomical Society of the Pacific) Conference Series [<http://www.astrosociety.org/pubs/cs/confseries.html>].

There will be further information in the Second Announcement.

## Accommodation Facilities

The LOC is in contact with some hotels which offer special rates for the participants of the conference. Special rate offers are only valid until August 31, 2006. To reserve a room please contact the hotels directly and indicate the name of the Meeting (Coimbra Solar Physics Meeting - The Physics of Chromospheric Plasmas).

## **Visa Applications**

Those who need visa (participants and/or accompanying persons) to enter Portugal have to contact a Portuguese Embassy well in advance. If you need a letter of invitation, please indicate this in the Registration Form.

### ***Important websites:***

CSPM-2006: <http://www.mat.uc.pt/~cspm2006/>

Coimbra University: <http://www.uc.pt/english/>

Coimbra Observatory: <http://www.mat.uc.pt/~obsv/obsv/>