Moving structures in ultraviolet bright points: observations from Solar Orbiter/EUI

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ABSTRACT

Context. Moving structures have been detected in coronal bright points and in a solar flare in active regions, which were bi-directional, symmetrical, simultaneous, and quasi-periodic (Ning & Guo 2014; Ning 2016; Li et al. 2016a). They could be regarded as observa-

Aims. We explored pairs of moving structures in fifteen ultraviolet bright points (UBPs), which were observed in the quiet Sun or

Methods. The UBPs were measured by the High Resolution (HRI) Telescopes of the Extreme Ultraviolet Imager (EUI) on board the Solar Orbiter (SolO) in two passbands, HRI_{EUV} 174 Å and HRI_{Lva} 1216 Å. The pairs of moving structures are identified in timedistance slices along curved slits of UBPs, and their quasi-periods are determined from the fast Fourier transform and wavelet analysis

Results. Moving structures observed in ten UBPs as starting from their bright cores and propagating toward two ends, are interpreted as diverging motions of bi-directional moving structures. These moving structures are also characterized by simultaneity and symmetry and in the case of seven UBPs they exhibit quasi-periodicity. Moving structures seen in another five UBPs as originating from double ends and moving closer, and merging together, are manifested as converging motions. A sympathetic UBP induced by the primary UBP is observed at the edge of a small active region, and their moving structures also show the converging motion. Conclusions. The diverging motions of bi-directional moving structures could be generated by outflows after magnetic reconnections. The converging motions of two moving structures might be caused by inflows through the magnetic reconnection, or might be

Key words. Sun: Corona — Sun: Chromosphere — Sun: UV radiation – Magnetic reconnection

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 1. Introduction

 Coronal bright points (CBP) are ubiquitous small-scale enhanced emissions in the lower corona over the Sun, which are a fundamental class of solar activities (see Madjarska 2019, for a recent review). They are easily observed in the ultraviolet/extreme-ultraviolet (UV/EUV) and so loop-shaped features that connect magnetic fields with opposite polarities in quiet-Sun or active regions, as well as in coronal holes (Harvey et al. 1993; Li & Ning 2012; Li et al. 2013; Zhang et al. 2012; Mou et al. 2016; Galsgaard et al. 2019). They have a length range of about 5-30 Mm (Golub et al. 1974; Habbal et al. 1990; Ueda et al. 2010; Mou et al. 2018). Their duration covers a wide range, varying from a few minutes to several hours or even longer (Golub et al. 1976; Habbal & Withbroe 1981; Harvey et al. 1993; Zhang et al. 2001). Their length sizes and durations are often related to the evolution of magnetic fields in the underlying photosphere (Golub et al. 1977; Yokoyama & Shibata 1995; Alexander et al. 2011). Quasiperiodic oscillations with periods from minutes to hours are also reported in CBPs (Tian et al. 2008; Samanta et al. 2015). CBPs can be found everywhere at the solar atmosphere and appear significantly to coincide with magnetic neutral lines, which

should play an important role for understanding the coronal heating (Priest et al. 1994; Shibata et al. 2007; Tian et al. 2007; Hosseini Rad et al. 2021).

Magnetic reconnection is a basic dynamical process of the energy release in solar eruptions, i.e., solar flares (Priest & Forbes 2002; Su et al. 2013), CBPs (Priest et al. 1994; Ning et al. 2020), transition region explosive events (Innes et al. 1997, 2015; Huang et al. 2019), plasma jets (Jiang et al. 2013; Tian et al. 2014; Tiwari et al. 2019; Shen 2021), blinkers (Chae et al. 2000; Subramanian et al. 2008), and UV/EUV bursts (Peter et al. 2014; Young et al. 2018; Tian et al. 2021), et cetera. Thus, the Sun could provide a broad range of sizes for the observational features of magnetic reconnection, such as: reconnection inflows and outflows of solar flares (Hara et al. 2011; Liu et al. 2013) and CBPs (Yokoyama & Shibata 1995; Ning & Guo 2014; Li et al. 2016a; Shokri et al. 2022) in solar active regions, bi-directional plasma jets of transition region explosive events (Innes et al. 1997; Huang et al. 2014; Li et al. 2018), the magnetic null point in CBPs (Sun et al. 2012; Zhang et al. 2012), and the flux rope in solar active regions (Cheng et al. 2013; Li et al. 2016b) or in coronal mass ejections (Lin et al. 2005; Cheng et al. 2020), et cetera. Those observational evidences are seen in multiple layers of solar atmosphere, such as the corona, the transition region, and the chromosphere, and benefit from imaging and spectroscopic observations with high-spatial or high-cadence resolutions (e.g., Peter et al. 2014; Tian et al. 2014; Tiwari et al. 2019; Yan et al. 2020; Chitta et al. 2021a).

In the Solar Orbiter (SolO; Müller et al. 2020) era, using High Resolutions (HRI) Telescopes of the Extreme Ultraviolet Imager (EUI; Rochus et al. 2020), three groups of small-scale brightening events in the quiet Sun are reported. One group is named as 'campfire' (Berghmans et al. 2021; Mandal et al. 2021; Zhukov et al. 2021), it could be driven by the component reconnection, e.g., loops reconnecting at coronal heights (Chen et al. 2021; Panesar et al. 2021). The second one is 'microjet', which is mostly likely produced by the low height reconnection with small-scale chromospheric fields. Moreover, its energy is roughly equal to the energy released from the predicted nanoflare theory (Hou et al. 2021). The third one is called as 'fast repeating jet', it shows bi-directions or uni-direction at a very short time scale of about 20 s (Chitta et al. 2021b). Those three groups of brightening events are all associated with the reconnection model and reveal the similar transient nature. They are regarded as the observational signatures of small-scale magnetic reconnection in the quiet-Sun region.

The classical 2-D reconnection model (Sturrock & Coppi 1964) suggested that bi-directional outflows via magnetic reconnection could be produced simultaneously, and their emissions along propagation paths may be seen in the EUV and optical wavelengths, while the reconnection flows were regarded as inflows or outflows. Based on this idea, Ning & Guo (2014) investigated several pairs of moving structures originating from the brightness core of a CBP, and they were found to be characterized by bi-directions, symmetry, simultaneity, and quasiperiodicity. Li et al. (2016a) further found that a small pair of positive and negative magnetic fields moved gradually closer to each other during bi-directional moving structures in another CBP. Therefore, those bi-directional moving structures were attributed to observational outflows after magnetic reconnections. Similar bi-directional moving structures were also found in a C-class flare (Ning 2016) and in a small-scale loop system (Ning et al. 2020), confirming that they were results of the small-scale magnetic reconnection. Zhang & Ji (2013) studied moving structures between a primary CBP and its sympathetic CBPs. The moving structures were found to be propagate upward along large loop-like paths, and they were regarded as the signature of chromosphere evaporation after magnetic reconnection. It should be pointed out that all above CBPs/flares were observed inside active regions on the Sun.

CBPs are a very specific class of events characterized by hot plasma emissions and by a typical topology of the photospheric magnetic field, such as the small-scale and new-emergence magnetic field that often has opposite polarities (Golub et al. 1976; Priest et al. 1994; Alexander et al. 2011; Li & Ning 2012). In this study, the novel SolO/EUI data obtained during cruise phase is used to investigate bi-directional moving structures in quiet and active regions. We only have images at EUI 174 Å and 1216 Å, but without images at higher temperatures or photospheric magnetic field maps. Therefore, the studied features cannot be identified as CBPs but are simply named as UV bright points (UBPs). They most likely also sit at the larger sizes, longer lifetimes end of the campfires' distribution (e.g., Berghmans et al. 2021). This article is organized as follows: Section 2 describes the observation, and Section 3 presents our main results, Section 4 summaries the conclusion and gives some discussions.

The observational data was captured by two HRI telescopes of SolO/EUI, and the observed passbands are centered at 174 Å and 1216 Å, respectively. The first telescope named 'HRI_{EUV}' is dominated by two emission lines of Fe IX and Fe X in the lower corona, which has a formation temperature of about 1 MK. The second one labeled 'HRI_{Ly α}' is dominated by the Ly α emission of neutral hydrogen line in the upper chromosphere (Berghmans et al. 2021; Chen et al. 2021). The data studied here were obtained on 19 November 2020 over about 3 hours. They are divided into three sets, i.e., from 12:00 UT to 12:39 UT (o), from 13:00 UT to 13:39 UT (*) and from 14:00 UT to 14:39 UT (\$), and each acquired at a time cadence of 15 s. At the time of observations, SolO was located at 121.1° west in solar longitude from the Earth-Sun line. Thus, it looked at a different side of the Sun, which it is not observable with telescopes in Earth orbit, i.e., the Solar Dynamics Observatory (SDO). The distance between SolO and the Sun was about 0.92 AU, thus the pixel scale was about 328 km pixel⁻¹ for HRI_{EUV} images, and it was about 686 km pixel⁻¹ for HRI_{Ly $\alpha}$} images as these were binned 2×2 aboard.



Fig. 1. Snapshots in HRI_{EUV} (a) and HRI_{Lva} (b) passbands measured by SolO/EUI. Fifteen UBPs are marked by numbers, while cyan circles (\circ), red stars (\star) and magenta diamonds (\diamond) outline their locations in three data sets, respectively.

We analyze the Level 2 (L2) data from the EUI Data Release 3.0^1 , which are distributed by the EUI team. We perform a cross correlation to co-align HRI_{EUV} and HRI_{Lya} images, as shown in Figure 1. Fifteen UBPs are selected to investigate their kinetic behaviors, as indicated by numbers. It can be seen that most of these UBPs are located in the quiet-Sun region, while only three of them are situated inside (BP8 and BP10) or periphery of (BP3) a small active region (AR). Panel (a) shows that two UBPs (BP8 and BP10) appear almost in the same position but at different times, suggesting that they are homologous UBPs. It appears that all these UBPs are located at the boundary

¹ https://doi.org/10.24414/k1xz-ae04



Fig. 2. Time sequence images with a small FOV of about 24 Mm \times 24 Mm in HRI_{EUV} (top 12 panels) and HRI_{Lya} (middle 12 panels) passbands, and running difference images (bottom 12 panels) in the HRI_{EUV} passband. The green contours represent the HRI_{EUV} emission at the level of 1000 DN s⁻¹. Two cyan curves mark the curved slits along the UBP, and the green symbol of '*' indicate the zero of y-axis in Figure 3. The magenta arrows outline moving structures.

of chromospheric network as seen in the $Ly\alpha$ image, as shown in Figure 1 (b). This is also a general characteristic of campfires (see Berghmans et al. 2021). We wanted to state that EUI images are easily saturated for the large-scale phenomenon, i.e., coronal loops. Here, we investigate the small-scale UBPs, and there are only a few saturated pixels, which has little impact on our results.

3. Results

3.1. Diverging motions of bi-directional moving structures

The identified UBPs show loop-like shapes, which are similar to the profile of CBPs in previous findings (e.g., Zhang & Ji 2013; Ning & Guo 2014; Li et al. 2016a). As an example, we

plot time sequence images of one UBP (labeled 'BP1') in the quiet-Sun region to display its evolution, as shown in Figure 2. The top 12 panels show intensity images in HRI_{EUV} 174 Å from 13:10:00 UT to 13:12:45 UT. It can be seen that some bright structures appear in these EUV 174 Å images. They begin with a bright patch, and then they are almost simultaneously expanding outward to two ends, for instance, they reveal a diverging motion. The bright structures expand along not a straight but a curved path, implying the loop-like shape. The middle 12 panels are intensity images in HRI_{Lya} 1216 Å during nearly the same time interval. There are also some bright structures in these Lya 1216 Å images, which are underlying the UBP identified in EUV 174 Å, as indicated by the green contour. These bright



Fig. 3. Time-distance slices for the BP1 derived from SolO/EUI image series in the HRI_{EUV} passband (a) and its derivative. (b), as well as the HRI_{Lya} passband (c), respectively. The green line indicates the UBP core, and the cyan and magenta lines outline the boundaries of the integrated flux in Figure 4. The cyan and magenta arrows indicate bi-directional moving structures.

structures in Ly α 1216 Å seem to expand slowly too. The bottom 12 panels draw running difference images in HRI_{EUV} 174 Å. In which, we can see that a bright structure is separated into white and dark kernels, and the white kernel is always followed by a dark one. Moreover, they are simultaneously moving toward two ends, as shown by the magenta arrows, which is consistent with the expanding bright emission in intensity images. Therefore, we regarded them as moving structures (cf. Ning & Guo 2014; Li et al. 2016a; Ning et al. 2020).

In order to study the moving structures in detail, we plot time-distance slices along curved slits. The slits are outlined along a curved shape with two cyan lines in Figure 2. A constant width of about 4 Mm is used, so that the bulk of this UBP brightness can be covered as much as possibly during its whole lifetime. Next, intensities between two cyan curves are integrated at every observed time. Then, the time-distance slice is obtained in HRI_{EUV} 174 Å, as shown in Figure 3 (a), the zero of y-axis is indicated by the green symbol of '*' in Figure 2. As can be seen, it becomes bright at roughly 13:09:00 UT, it expands and significantly enhances nearly simultaneously towards two opposite directions. It gradually disappears at about 13:16:00 UT. Thus the UBP lasts for ~7 minutes, and the simultaneous brightenings could be regarded as bi-directional moving structures from the UBP bright core, as marked by the green line. The UBP size is estimated by the maximal length of the bright emission along the y-axis, which is ~8.5 Mm. Panel (b) shows the time-distance slice derived from their running difference images. The moving structures are identified as oblique streaks, as labeled by the cyan and magenta arrows. In our observation, the moving structures are separated into white streaks followed by dark ones, which are consistent with the diverging motion of the white and dark kernels in running difference images. Their projected speeds are estimated to be about 46–55 km s⁻¹, which are roughly equal. The moving structures always appear simultaneously, symmetrically and in pairs, as indicated by the green line and bi-directional arrows. In panel (c), we present the time-distance slice in HRI_{Lya} 1216 Å, which shows a weak smooth brightness distribution during the UBP lifetime. We do not find similar moving structures, most likely due to the lower spatial resolution of the HRI_{Lya} images.



Fig. 4. Wavelet analysis results for the BP1. Top: Normalized light curves (black) integrated between two lines (such as between green and cyan lines for a, between green and magenta lines for b) in Figure 3 (a), and slow-varying components (green). Middle: Rapidly-varying components. Bottom: Morlet wavelet spectra of the rapidly-varying components in panels (c) and (d), a significance level of 99% is outlined by the magenta line.

The bi-directional moving structures appear to be intermittent and periodic. Thus, we perform a Morlet wavelet analysis (Torrence & Compo 1998), as shown in Figure 4. Panels (a) & (b) plot normalized light curves (black) integrated over two arbitrary symmetrical locations, as indicated by the green and cyan (or magenta) lines in Figure 3 (a). In order to decompose the slow- (green) and fast- varying components from the raw light curve, a Fast Fourier Transform (FFT) technique is applied (Ning 2017; Li et al. 2021). In this case, a cutoff threshold of 200 s is used, since the lifetime is only 7 minutes. Generally, the quasiperiodicity refers to at least three successive peaks in the observed light curve (see, Nakariakov et al. 2019; Zimovets et al. 2021, for reviews), as there is no reason to discuss the quasiperiodicity when only 1 or 2 emission peaks are detected, which might be just a coincidence. Therefore, only the quasi-period less than 200 s is considered. In panels (c) and (d), we draw the fast-varying components, and they clearly show three successive peaks during ~13:09-13:15 UT, suggesting a quasi-period of \sim 120 s. The quasi-periods are confirmed by the Morlet wavelet power spectra in panels (e) and (f). They both show an enhanced wavelet power during almost the same time. The bulk of two power spectra are centered at about 120 s, suggesting a dominant period of ~ 120 s.

The Morlet wavelet analysis is performed for the fast-varying component, which strongly depends on the cutoff threshold and



Fig. 5. Fourier power spectra of the raw light curves. The cyan line shows the best-fit result, and the magenta line represents the confidence level at 99%. The vertical dashed line mark the cutoff threshold of 200 s.

might result into an artificial signal (Kupriyanova et al. 2010; Auchère et al. 2016). To unambiguously conclude on the quasiperiodicity, we further plot the Fourier power spectrum of the raw light curve with the Lomb-Scargle periodogram (Scargle 1982), as shown in Figure 5. Similar to previous findings (Vaughan 2005; Kolotkov et al. 2018; Li et al. 2020; Li 2022), the Fourier power spectrum is dominated by a power law at the long-period range and a flat spectrum at the short-period end, as outlined by the cyan line. A peak at about 120 s is seen to exceed the 99% significance level, as indicated by the magenta arrow and line. Moreover, the 120 s-peak is far from the cutoff threshold, as marked by the vertical line. Those results demonstrate that the 120-s periodicity is not artificial. The similar quasi-period confirms that the bi-directional moving structures are symmetrical. In a word, the moving structures detected in this UBP (BP1) are characterized by bi-directions, simultaneity, symmetry, and quasi-periodicity, similarly to what observed with the moving structures seen in CBPs (cf., Ning & Guo 2014; Li et al. 2016a). The diverging motions of bi-directional moving structures are also observed in other eight UBPs, as listed in Appendix A and table 1.

3.2. Converging motions between the moving structures

In this case, we investigated a UBP (labeled 'BP2') showing converging motions between a pair of moving structures, as shown in Figure 6. Different from the 'BP1', it firstly brightens at about 12:13:45 UT at two separated positions, which might be regarded as the two footpoints of a loop structure (cf., Mandal et al. 2021). Then they gradually move to their center position such as the loop top along a curved path between 12:14:00–12:14:45 UT. They finally merge together and exhibit a loop-like elongated shape, i.e., at about 12:14:45 UT. The mov-



Fig. 6. Time sequence images with a small FOV of about 17 Mm ×17 Mm in the HRI_{EUV} (top 12 panels) passband, and their running difference images (bottom 12 panels). The green contours represent the HRI_{EUV} emission at the level of 900 DN s⁻¹. Two cyan curves mark curved slits along the UBP, and the green symbol of '*' indicate the zero of y-axis in Figure 7. The yellow arrows indicate moving structures.

ing structures can be clearly seen in the running difference images, which are shown by pairs of white and dark kernels, as indicated by the yellow arrows.

Figure 7 presents time-distance slices in HRI_{EUV} 174 Å (a) and its running difference images (b), as well as in $HRI_{Ly\alpha}$ 1216 Å (c). This UBP begins to brighten at two different locations, i.e., two footpoints. The maximum distance between the two footpoints is taken as the size of this UBP, which is about 5.5 Mm. Then, the brightenings at the two locations move closer and then merge into a single source at their center position, which may be regarded as the converging motion of bi-directional moving structures. The converging motions repeated twice from about 12:13:15 UT to 12:16:45 UT, and its lifetime is roughly equal to 3.5 minutes. The overplotted light curves in panel (a) are integrated over from the short green and cyan/mengta lines in the left panel. They both show double peaks, and appear almost simultaneously. However, it is not necessary to discuss the quasi-periodicity when there are only two peaks. Thus, we did not perform the wavelet analysis. In panel (b), moving structures are identified as oblique streaks,



Fig. 7. Time-distance slices for the BP2 made from SolO/EUI image series in the HRI_{EUV} passband (a) and their derivative (gradient along the time axis) (b). The cyan and magenta arrows indicate the converging motion of two moving structures.

they appear in pairs and show the converging motion, as indicated by the cyan and magenta arrows. Their average speeds are estimated to be about 50/72 km s⁻¹. Panel (c) reveals a weak brightness distribution in Ly α 1216 Å, suggesting the UBP has a HRI_{Ly α} counterpart. The converging motions of moving structures are also detected in other four UBPs, which are located in the quiet-Sun region, see detailed in Appendix B and table 1.

3.3. Sympathetic BP induced by the primary UBP

Here, the bi-directional moving structures are observed in the primary UBP (BP3), and the converging motion can be seen between the primary UBP and its sympathetic bright point (SBP). Figure 8 presents time sequence images, showing the temporal evolution of the UBP (labeled 'BP3'). The top 12 panels give intensity images in HRI_{EUV} 174 Å. Similar to the BP1, the primary UBP starts with a bright patch, and it expands toward two opposite directions along a curved path. Then, a remote brightening appear at about 14:07:00 UT, and it is linked to the primary UBP with a large loop-like structure, which could be regarded as the SBP (cf., Zhang & Ji 2013). After that, a portion of the primary UBP and the SBP move closely along the large looplike path, showing a converging motion. The moving structures can be clearly seen in running difference images, as shown in the bottom 12 panels. They are divided into white and dark kernels, as indicated by the magenta (diverging motions) and yellow (converging motions) arrows.

Figure 9 presents time-distance slices derived from the curved slits, as outlined by two cyan lines in Figure 8. The pri-



Fig. 8. Similar to Figure 6, but with the analysis performed for the BP3 with a FOV of about 38 Mm \times 38 Mm, The contour level is set as 1000 DN s⁻¹.

mary UBP can be seen from about 14:01:00 UT to 14:09:00 UT in the intensity slice (panel a), which lasts for about 8.0 minutes. The maximal length of the bright emission is estimated to be about 11.2 Mm. Notice that only the size and lifetime of the primary UBP is considered here, because the SBP is much weaker than the primary UBP. The projected speeds are estimated from oblique streaks in the running difference slice, as shown in panel (b). At first, the projected speeds are estimated to be about 77-85 km s⁻¹, which are roughly equal. However, they are a little different when the SBP appears, such as 114 km s⁻ and 143 km s⁻¹. Similarly, the apparent speeds for converging motions are also different, which are 136 km s⁻¹ and 42 km s⁻¹. The speed from the primary UBP (red arrow) is much faster than that from the SBP (blue arrow). Moreover, the evolution of the primary UBP and its SBP could be seen in Ly α 1216 Å, as shown in Figure 9 (c), implying that they have $HRI_{Lv\alpha}$ counterparts.

To look closely the quasi-periodicity, the Morlet wavelet analysis method is applied to the primary UBP, as shown in Figure 10. Panels (a) and (b) plots normalized light curves integrated over two nearly symmetrical regions. They both show several subpeaks, which could be regarded as quasi-periodic pulsations. Then, the raw light curves are decomposed into slow-(green) and fast- (panels c & d) varying components by using the FFT technique. Panels (e) and (f) present wavelet power



Fig. 9. Similar to Figure 7, but with the analysis is performed for the BP3.



Fig. 10. Similar to Figure 4, but with the Morlet wavelet analysis is performed for the BP3.

spectra of fast-varying components, and they both show a broad range of periods but centered at about 80 s. This implies that bi-directional moving structures in the primary UBP are intermittent and quasi-periodic.

3.4. Chromospheric responses of UBPs

Figure 11 shows $Ly\alpha$ images with a zoomed FOV of about 150 Mm × 150 Mm at three instances of time during the UBPs labeled as BP1–BP3. It can be seen that these three $Ly\alpha$ images exhibit chromospheric network structures, and three UBPs

Table 1. Observational parameters of the analyzed UBPs.

| UBPs | Size | Duration | Period | Region | Motion |
|------|-------|-----------|--------|--------|------------|
| | (Mm) | (minutes) | (s) | | |
| 01 | ~8.5 | ~7.0 | 120 | quiet | diverging |
| 02 | ~5.5 | ~3.5 | _ | quiet | converging |
| 03 | ~11.2 | ~8.0 | 80 | AR | diverging |
| 04 | ~7.3 | ~8.5 | 130 | quiet | diverging |
| 05 | ~6.8 | ~6.5 | 85 | quiet | diverging |
| 06 | ~4.1 | ~5.0 | 70 | quiet | diverging |
| 07 | ~4.6 | ~4.0 | _ | quiet | diverging |
| 08 | ~31.5 | ~12.0 | 120 | AR | diverging |
| 09 | ~2.8 | ~3.0 | _ | quiet | diverging |
| 10 | ~26.3 | ~10 | 75 | AR | diverging |
| 11 | ~9.2 | ~3.0 | - | quiet | diverging |
| 12 | ~4.6 | ~4.5 | - | quiet | converging |
| 13 | ~5.1 | ~6.0 | _ | quiet | converging |
| 14 | ~5.7 | ~4.0 | - | quiet | converging |
| 15 | ~6.8 | ~3.5 | _ | quiet | converging |

are located on network boundaries, as outlined by the green diamonds. That is, when the UBP flash occurs in the HRI_{EUV} passband, the Ly α emission in the chromosphere is also enhanced, for instance, showing the Ly α transient brightening. Similarly to what seen in Ly α images of these three UBPs, other twelve UBPs are found to have Ly α brightenings, and they appear to locate at the location of network boundaries, as shown in Figures A.2 and B.2.



Fig. 11. Snapshots with a zoomed FOV of about 150 Mm × 150 Mm in HRI_{Lya} 1216 Å. The green diamonds mark the locations of three UBPs, respectively. The cyan tick indicates a spacing of 30 Mm on the Sun

4. Conclusion and Discussion

Based on high-spatial resolution data sets measured by SolO/EUI in passbands of HRI_{EUV} and $HRI_{Ly\alpha}$, we explore moving structures in fifteen UBPs both in the quiet-Sun region and in the AR. Two classes of moving structures are found: (I) Diverging motions of bi-directional moving structures are observed in ten UBPs; (II) Converging motions between double moving structures are seen in five UBPs. Besides, we found a SBP that is induced by the primary UBP, and the converging motion along a large loop-like structure is found between their moving structures. The moving structures observed in UBPs seem to be similar to the propagating brightenings reported by Mandal et al. (2021). However, the merger-type event of propagating brightenings started at one footpoint and moved toward another footpoint, and their repeated plasma ejections showed the uni-directional motion (see Mandal et al. 2021). Our UBPs exhibit bi-directional movements originated from a bright core and propagate toward two ends, the converging motions begin simultaneously at two footpoints and moved toward the loop-top region. We do not find the reflected motion. This is mainly because that the EUI data used by Mandal et al. (2021) has nearly a factor of two higher spatial-resolutions and three higher cadences.

Using higher-cadence observations from SolO/EUI, several groups of small-scale UV brightenings have been reported in the quiet-Sun region, i.e., campfires (Berghmans et al. 2021), microjets (Hou et al. 2021), and fast repeating jets (Chitta et al. 2021b), et cetera. Campfires appear as transient UV brightenings, whereas they do not reveal apparently localized Ly α brightenings. Their length sizes are smaller than 4 Mm and their lifetimes are shorter than 200 s (Berghmans et al. 2021; Chen et al. 2021). Microjets are identified as collimated structures with bright emissions at footpoints and extended outward spires, some of them show pronounced signatures in the HRI_{Lv α} passband. They have the maximum length scale of 7.7 Mm, an average duration of 4.6 minutes, and a projected speed of 62 km s⁻¹ (Hou et al. 2021). Fast repeating jets show intermittent jet activities on a very short timescale with uni-direction or bi-directions, while their propagating speeds can be as fast as about 150 km s⁻¹ (Chitta et al. 2021b). All those UV brightenings are transient in nature, and they are proposed to be generated by the small-scale magnetic reconnection and could contribute to the coronal heating, particularly in the quiet Sun (e.g., Chen et al. 2021; Panesar et al. 2021; Zhukov et al. 2021). In this study, UBPs seem to have larger sizes for longer lifetimes, and more than 1/3 of them have duration below 240 s (Table 1). Campfires found by Berghmans et al. (2021) are limited by their short duration, and there are certainly many events with duration longer than 200 s. Thus, UBPs and campfires most likely share the similar magnetic origin, e.g., small-scale reconnection at coronal heights (Chen et al. 2021; Panesar et al. 2021). Our observations extend the distribution of small UV bright events, such as, UBPs, campfires, etc. The length size and lifetime are roughly equal to that observed in microjets, but the microjet often shows the collimated outflow along an open magnetic field line (Hou et al. 2021). The bi-directional moving structures of UBPs are mostly confined in the closed magnetic loops, which are similar to fast repeating jets reported by Chitta et al. (2021b). However, those fast repeating jets have very short lifetimes and quick speeds, mainly due to the much higher temporal resolution of EUI data. Our UBPs reveal bi-directional moving structures, whether they are divergence or convergence. They all show obviously signatures in Ly α 1216 Å images and appear to locate on network boundaries, suggesting that they have responses both in the corona and chromosphere.

Bi-directional moving structures originated from the bright core have been investigated in two CBPs and a C-class flare at multiple wavelengths (Ning & Guo 2014; Ning 2016; Li et al. 2016a). They are characterized by bi-directions, simultaneity, symmetry, and quasi-periodicity. Their apparent speeds are estimated to be about 200–300 km s⁻¹. Both the two CBPs and the C-class flare were seen in big ARs. In our observation, three UBPs are detected inside (BP8 and BP10) or closely to (BP3) a small AR. Thus, their length sizes, lifetimes and average apparent speeds are larger than those seven UBPs in the quiet-Sun region, as shown in table 1. However, the fastest speed is only about 140 km s⁻¹, which is still smaller than previous findings in AR CBPs (e.g., Ning & Guo 2014; Li et al. 2016a). This is might because that the AR in our case is small. The apparent speeds of seven UBPs in the quiet-Sun region are estimated to $\sim 33-85$ km s⁻¹, which are roughly equal to the projected speeds observed in microjets (Hou et al. 2021) and propagating brightenings (Mandal et al. 2021), implying their common origin. Previous observations suggest that these bidirectional moving structures could be regarded as outflows after the magnetic reconnection (Ning & Guo 2014; Li et al. 2016a; Tiwari et al. 2019; Ning et al. 2020), this is consistent with bidirectional plasma flows on a short timescale in fast repeating jets (Chitta et al. 2021b). We notice that three UBPs (BP2, BP7, and BP9) do not reveal quasi-periodicity, largely due to their short lifetime and lower cadence in our data. We will check the periodicity with high-cadence HRI_{EUV} images in future (e.g., Chitta et al. 2021b; Mandal et al. 2021).

In this study, we also find bi-directional moving structures from two-end sources to their center region along loop-like paths in five UBPs, i.e., converging motions between two moving structures. The classical 2-D reconnection model suggests that both bi-directional inflows and outflows are generated by the magnetic reconnection (Sturrock & Coppi 1964; Priest et al. 1994; Li 2019; Peter et al. 2019). Therefore, the converging motions could be considered as bi-directional inflows. Moreover, a SBP induced by the primary UBP (BP3) is seen at the periphery of a small AR, and they are moving closely along a large-scale loop path, merging together in the loop-top source. Such converging motion between a primary CBP and its SBP is regarded as the signature of chromosphere evaporation (see, Zhang & Ji 2013). Therefore, the converging motions between two moving structures might also be explained as upflows driven by the chromosphere evaporation. However, we cannot conclude the nature of their mechanism, because the lack of other observations, such as magnetic fields, HXR sources, and spectral lines. And it is impossible to determine the location of the footpoints and loop top, which is based solely on the shape and movement of UBPs (see aslo, Mandal et al. 2021). For a more reliable conclusion, joint observations with other remote sensing instruments with high resolutions are required, for instance, the Polarimetric and Helioseismic Imager (Solanki et al. 2020), the Spectrometer/Telescope for Imaging X-rays (Krucker et al. 2020), and the Spectral Imaging of the Coronal Environment (Spice Consortium et al. 2020) on board SolO.

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Appendix A: Diverging motions of Bi-directional moving structures

distance slices for these UBPs derived from the EUV 174 Å intensity and their running difference images, respectively. The projected speeds are also labeled.





Fig. A.1. Snapshots with a small FOV in the HRI_{EUV} passband. The FOV is about 14 Mm × 14 Mm for the BP4–BP7, BP9, and BP11, while the FOV is about 28 Mm × 28 Mm for BP8 and BP10. Two cyan lines outline the curved slits, and the green '*' indicates the start point. The green diamonds mark UBP locations. The magenta tick indicates a space of 5 Mm on the Sun.

Fig. A.2. Snapshots with a zoomed FOV of about 150 Mm \times 150 Mm in the HRI_{Lya} passband for the BP4–BP11. The green diamonds mark UBP locations as shown in Figure A.1. The cyan tick indicates a space of 30 Mm on the Sun

In this section, we show eight UBPs that clearly exhibit bidirectional moving structures originated from a bright core and propagated toward two ends. Figures A.1 and A.2 plot snapshots of the BP4–BP11 in passbands of HRI_{EUV} and $HRI_{Ly\alpha}$, respectively. Two cyan curves outline the slit positions, while the green diamonds mark UBP locations. Figures A.3 and A.4 draw time-

Appendix B: Converging motions between two moving structures

In this section, we show four UBPs that clearly exhibit converging motions from two-end locations to their center regions. Figures B.1 and B.2 plot snapshots of the BP12–BP15 in passbands of HRI_{EUV} and HRI_{Lya}, respectively. Two cyan curves outline Dong Li.: Moving structures in ultraviolet bright points



Fig. A.3. Time-distance slices for the BP4–BP11 in the HRI_{EUV} passband.



Fig. B.1. Snapshots with a same FOV of about 14 Mm \times 14 Mm for the BP12–BP15 in the HRI_{EUV} passband. Two cyan curves outline slit positions, and the green '*' indicates the start point. The magenta tick indicates a space of 5 Mm on the Sun.



Fig. A.4. Derivative of time-distance slices in Figure A.3. The color arrows indicate moving structures.

slit positions, and the green diamonds mark UBP locations. Figure B.3 plots time-distance slices for these UBPs derived from the EUV 174 intensity and their running difference images, respectively. The apparent speeds are also shown.



Fig. B.2. Snapshots with a zoomed FOV of about 150 Mm \times 150 Mm in the HRI_{Lya} passband for the BP12–BP15. The green diamonds mark UBP locations as shown in Figure B.1. The cyan tick indicates a space of 30 Mm on the Sun



Fig. B.3. Time-distance slices for the BP12–BP15 in the HRI_{EUV} passband (left) and their gradients along the time axis (right). The color arrows indicate converging motions.