



## Report on the "L5 in Tandem with L1: Future Space-Weather Missions Workshop" – Steps Toward a L5 Operational SWx Mission

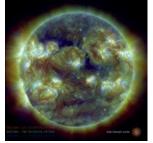
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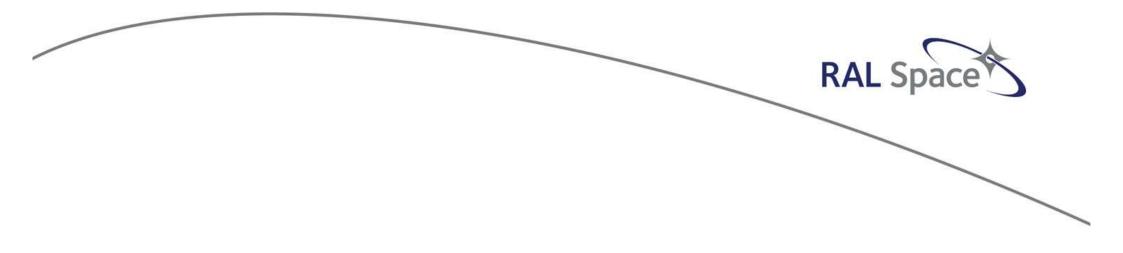
(ESA, Germany)





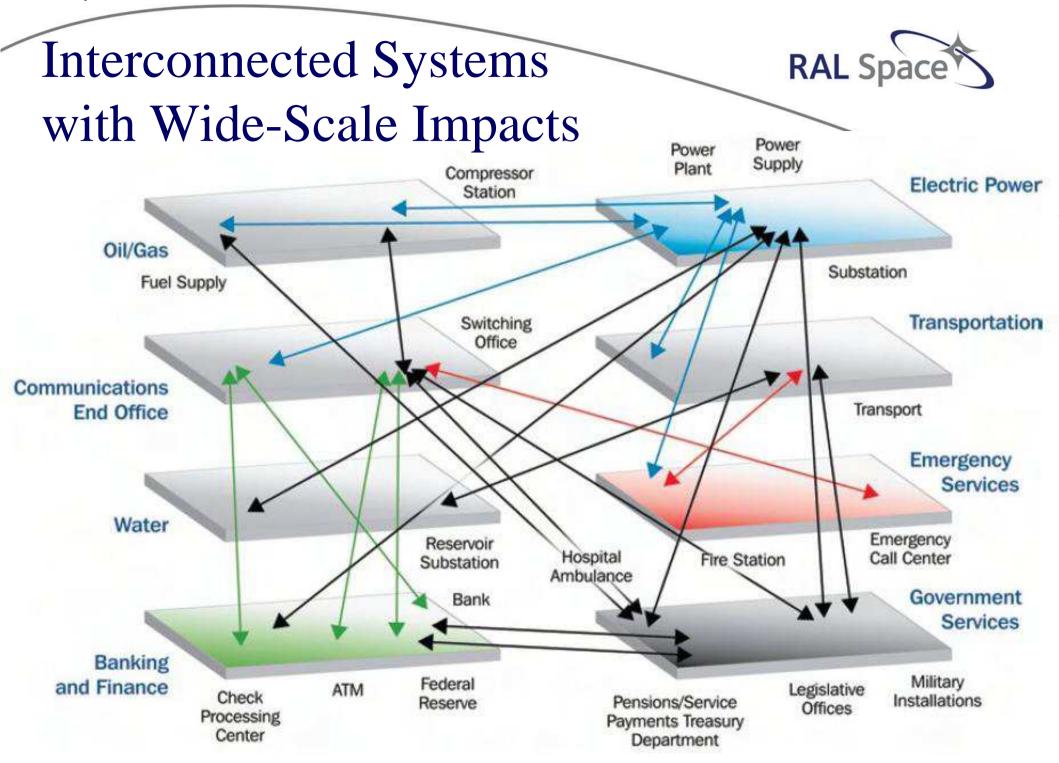






Part 1:

# Why we want dedicated spaceweather operations from L5 in tandem with L1.



#### Assessing the Risk

- UK's National Risk Register (NRR – 2015 edition) – other risks.
- Severe space weather has been on the UK's NRR since 2011.
- This, along with other additional risks, were brought to the government's attention following the problems caused by the Iceland volcano 'Eyjafjallajökull' ash clouds in 2010.
- Not just the UK government!
- UKSA funded a socio-economic study on space-weather impacts (IPSP) reporting to government.

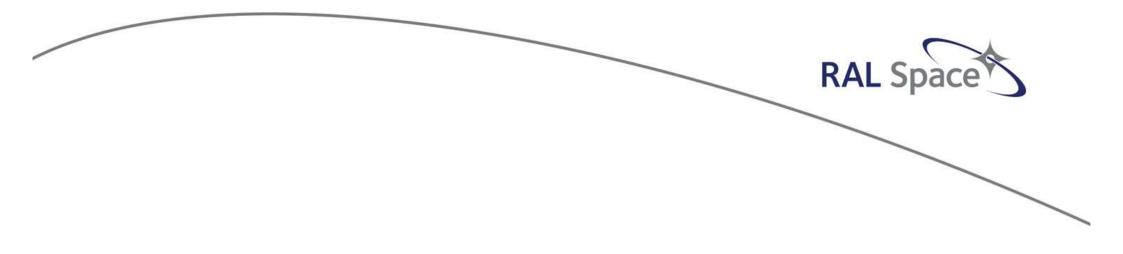


Relative likelihood of occurring in the next five years

#### **Current Capabilities**



- State-of-the-art heliospheric capability is still not sufficient for space-weather forecasting for critical infrastructures.
- With the exception of the recently-launched DSCOVR spacecraft (11 February 2015) and the GOES geostationary satellites (~40-year programme), all space-weather observations and measurements, including the key model drivers, are from aging science instrumentation aboard science missions that are many years beyond their intended lifetimes.
- For continuity, it is essential that key near-Earth instrumentation be replaced ASAP (this seems to mean NOAA's SWFO at  $L_1$  following events of this week) and for enhanced forecasting capabilities, *i.e.* at least a second viewpoint/position is essential (off the Sun-Earth line  $L_5$ )...



Part 2:

# Outline of the "L5 in Tandem with L1: Future Space-Weather Missions Workshop".

### The Workshop (1)



- An interactive and active workshop from start to finish.
- L5 in Tandem with L1: Future Space-Weather Missions Workshop.
- Held at the Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (BEIS) conference centre in central London.
- Supported by the UK Government Office for Science (GO Science), Met Office, and STFC.
- Organised by STFC, Met Office, and NOAA SWPC.
- SOC Members from STFC, Met Office, NOAA SWPC, Predictive Science, Inc., and ESA.
- Website (agenda/abstracts/talks/photos/*etc*...): <u>https://goo.gl/X1BZxd</u> or <u>https://www.ukssdc.ac.uk/meetings/L5InTandemWithL1/</u>.
- Closing panel on the final day was broadcast live on social media and is also available at the website.

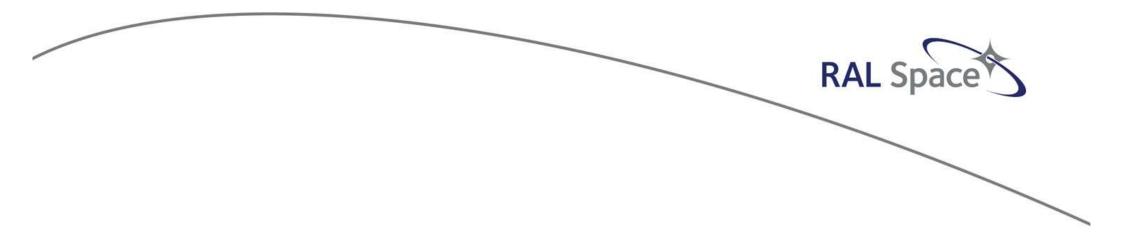


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## The Workshop (2)



- Covered many key areas needed for  $L_5$  and  $L_1$  together:
  - Socio-Economic cases for space-weather mitigation;
  - International space-weather mission developments;
  - Forecaster requirements, compromises, and cross-agency issues;
  - Ground-based instrumentation/data in support of  $L_5/L_1$  missions;
  - Ground-segment requirements and considerations;
  - Modelling capability and gaps;
  - Instrumentation covering all aspects of remote-sensing and *in-situ* space-based capabilities/observations/measurements;
  - Mission options, payloads, priorities, and benefits; and
  - How  $L_1$  and  $L_5$  operational missions can complement each other and maximise the overall benefit to the international communities.



Part 3:

## Key points from the workshop.



#### High-Level Key Points

- Opened by the BEIS Department Chief Scientific Advisor.
- Increasing convergence of views both on  $L_5$  rather than  $L_4$  and also on the payloads that are really required (and their observational/measurement requirements and specifications).
- Still insufficient scientific evidence to support the full benefits for  $L_5$ :
  - Much work still to be published which has been discussed and presented at meetings, but perhaps a formalisation of much of this work (*i.e.* peer-reviewed papers) is needed ASAP!
- Investment in Europe requires economic evidence for an  $L_5$  mission, and current socio-economic studies are pointing in the right direction.
- Breadth of the participation (*i.e.* policy makers, government-related people, scientists, users, engineers, modellers, *etc...*) demonstrated the importance and need for an  $L_5$  space-weather operational mission.

#### Modelling Needs

- Huge enthusiasm from the modellers for working with both  $L_5$  and  $L_1$  data sources...
- CCMC/I-SWAT L<sub>5</sub>-L<sub>1</sub> Challenge preparing for future space-weather data and modelling capabilities...
  - This was a modelling outcome in general from modelling sessions.

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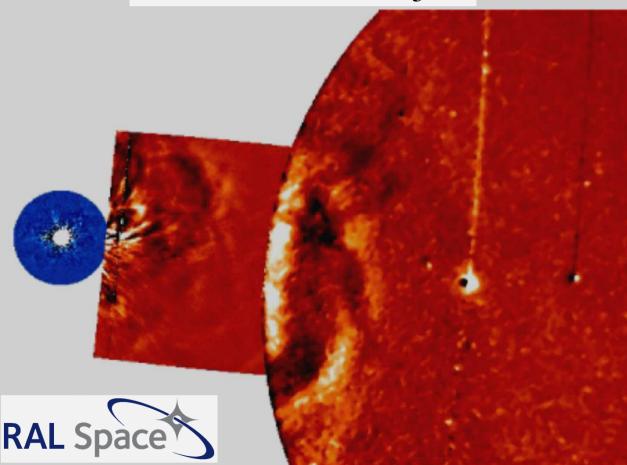
#### Some Other Ideas Discussed...

- Magnetographs at both  $L_5$  and  $L_1$  reduce calibration issues if both instruments are identical, and strong links to improved modelling.
- The importance in recognising that space-weather data also provide context for the human forecasters to make judgement calls that add value to the outputs of the various models that are used in forecasting.
- New instrumentation ideas and data downlink techniques that could form instruments of opportunity from other sources: EUV burst downlinks, polarising HIs, extra energy ranges from EP instruments...
- Real enthusiasm still for science from an operational mission linking back to the previous L<sub>5</sub> workshop in London in 2015 and also links to the science-based L<sub>5</sub> Consortium Meeting in Göttingen, Germany, 17-20 October 2017: <u>https://cdaw.gsfc.nasa.gov/meetings/2017\_L5C/</u>.
- Heliospheric imaging from L<sub>5</sub>: full imaging of the Sun-Earth line...

# The Ability to Visually Track from Sun to Earth: White-/Visible-Light Heliospheric Imaging

Earthdirected CME – 06 March 2012 as imaged in Thomson -Scattered sunlight (courtesy J.A. Davies).

A "view" from  $L_5...$ 







#### Workshop 'Wedding' Dinner – Homework...(1)

- The workshop dinner was a working dinner there was some surprise homework assigned; bit of the shock to some participants...
  - There was a challenge set for consolidating spacecraft instrumentation and their performance/characteristics.
- This is despite the fact people thought they were attending a 'Wedding' Dinner or even a "Spa" event [typo on the signage]...

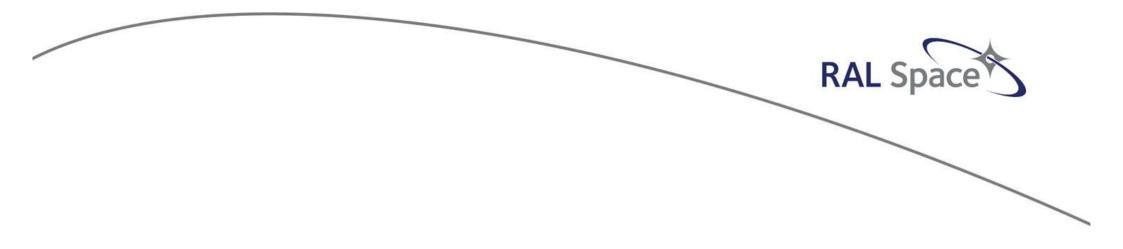
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# Workshop 'Wedding' Dinner



#### - Homework...(2)

<b>Platform</b> $\rightarrow$	L	1	L5		
Instrumentation ↓	US	UK / ESA	ESA	UK	<b>US</b> (5)
Coronagraph	M N/R (4)	М	М	М	М
Heliospheric Imager(s)	N/R M (1,4) E (3,5,6,10*)	E M (1) N/R (2) O (6)	М	М	М
Magnetograph (including white- light imager)	E M (1,4,9) Not necessary at L1 (10)	M N/R (4) E (5) Not necessary at L1 (10)	M N/R (4) E (5)	M E (5)	Μ
EUV Instrumentation	N/R	N/R	E M (1) N/R (5)	O N/R (5) E (6)	N/R
Magnetometer	М	М	М	М	E/M
Bulk Plasma	М	М	М	М	E/M
Energetic Particles	E M (9,10)	M E (5)	M E (5)	Е М (9,10)	М
X-ray Flux Monitor	N/R E (3)	М Е (1,10)	M N/R (5)	E N/R (5)	М



Part 4:

## **Summary and where next?**

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#### Summary



- Part 1: Space weather is very complex with realworld impacts, it comes in multiple strands; the most deleterious impacts caused by CME-driven geomagnetic storms, but the recent solar cycle has seen many HSS-/SIR-related storms.
- Part 2: Very successful and interactive workshop (huge level of interest for active participation) with productive presentations, discussions, and Working Group summaries. Strong social media presence (#L1L5Together). Plans going forward (see next slide).
- Part 3: It is clear that the UK still want a leading role in a dedicated L<sub>5</sub> operational space-weather mission (the UK are the largest contributor to the ESA SSA Programme Period 3, ~€12M of which is just for L<sub>5</sub>). There is a strong will of participants to see an increase in the payload of the L<sub>1</sub> mission and also for modellers and instrument developers to work together on tools, software, and instrument capabilities across both spacecraft. Strong support from ground-based space-weather capability to support future L<sub>5</sub>/L<sub>1</sub> space-weather missions.

#### Where next?



- Already, many participants and interested parties

   have asked when the next workshop will be and how and
   where can things be done to aid in ensuring a UK/European-led
   L<sub>5</sub> space-weather mission goes ahead in a timely manner.
- Active interactions across Europe involving the preparations of the ESA SSA Period 3 ITTs where the Lagrange Mission(s) (LGR) have now formed a formal part of SSA alongside SWE, SST, and NEO.
- $L_1$  is still the priority, but final NOAA confirmation of SWFO going ahead will bring  $L_5$  as a certainty going forward almost there...
- Formal Q1/Q2 ITTs for Period 3 have been released for the mission, remote-sensing instrumentation, and *in-situ* instrumentation, and consortia are already forming up to bid for these large projects in preparation for a future  $L_5$  mission.
- SWE modelling calls to prepare for data from a  $L_5$  mission.
- There is a lot going on now in Europe watch this space...

