

Heliospheric Current Sheet

Two views of the Heliosphere: Left: seen from above the Sun's North Pole; the Equator is in the plane of the Figure. Right: a meridional cut from pole to pole with the Equatorial plane perpendicular to the cut in the middle of the Figure.

The magnetic field, **B**, is a box near the outer limit of the heliosphere is in the equatorial plane, thus shows as **red** arrows on the left and **red** arrowheads and tails on the right

The electric current, **J**, of the HCS in the same box is perpendicular to the magnetic field, thus shows as **blue** arrows on the right and **blue** arrowheads and tail on the left.

An observer at the **green** dot will see the magnetic field carried by her by the solar wind, changing sign every 1-2 weeks and the current will then switch direction too, alternating between pointing North and pointing South.