

**P**• **H**•**E**•**B**•**U**•**S** 

**PROBING OF HERMEAN EXOSPHERE BY ULTRAVIOLET SPECTROSCOPY** 



## PHEBUS observations of the He 58.4 nm emission during BepiColombo's first Mercury Flyby

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#### □PHEBUS/EUV detector operations

- □BepiC Mercury SB#1 overview
- Instrument calibration @ He 58.4 nm
  - Solar Fluxes & Excitation Rates
  - Mariner 10 & PHEBUS calibration based on Interplanetary He

Results & Discussion



#### PHEBUS EUV detector













### Calibration @ He 58.4 nm

#### Based on IP He data & model:

-Model developed to fit the EUVE & SOHO/UVCS IP He data (Lallement et al., 2004). -Compatible with an interstellar nHe = 0.02 cm<sup>-3</sup>, the SOHO/CDS solar fluxes and derived excitation rate at 1 AU.

-Mariner 10/UVS data: 4 roll observations ('73 -'74)

-BepiC/PHEBUS data: 14 pointed observations (2021)







- $g = F(\lambda_0) \sigma_{\lambda}$
- $\sigma_{\lambda} = 8.34 \ 10^{-16} \ cm^2$  Å
- $F(\lambda_0)$  solar flux at the center of the line ( cm<sup>-2</sup> s<sup>-1</sup> Å<sup>-1</sup>):
  - from SOHO/CDS total solar flux data from 1997 to 2001 (McMullin et al. 2004)
  - Assuming a line FWHM = 0.136 Å (SOHO/SUMER no cycle dependence observed)
- Used by the ISSI Bern helium team (Lallement et al. 2004)







# Total flux for 1973, from extrapolated MgII and F10.7 data scaled to SOHO/CDS





## Mariner 10/UVS Excitation Rates







## Mariner 10/UVS calibration







## Mariner 10/UVS calibration







### PHEBUS Excitation Rates





From SOHO/CDS total fluxes



## PHEBUS calibration



Calibration Factor (@58.4 nm) = 1.2 cts /s /RayleighEffective Area @ 58.4 nm (HV=3400 V) =  $0.012 \text{ cm}^2$ 





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### He exospheric profile

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- Mariner 10/UVS found 25 30 R at 500 km (given small uncertainty of calibration)
- □ PHEBUS finds 3 R at 500 km (± 0.5 R)
- □ We find a factor of 8-10 between PHEBUS and Mariner 10/UVS.
- Excitation rates, and calibration based on IP He for the two instruments are consistent
- Variability seems real, to be confirmed with future PHEBUS observations
- □ Analysis and comparison with exospheric models is ongoing