ON A CORONAL BLOWOUT JET: THE FIRST OBSERVATION OF A SIMULTANEOUSLY PRODUCED BUBBLE-LIKE CME AND A JET-LIKE CME IN A SOLAR EVENT

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ABSTRACT

The coronal blowout jet is a peculiar category among various jet phenomena, in which the sheared base arch, often carrying a small filament, experiences a miniature version of blowout eruption that produces large-scale coronal mass ejection (CME). In this paper, we report such a coronal blowout jet with high-resolution multi-wavelength and multi-angle observations taken from Solar Dynamics Observatory, Solar Terrestrial Relations Observatory, and Big Bear Solar Observatory. For the first time, we find that simultaneous bubble-like and jet-like CMEs were dynamically related to the blowout jet that showed cool and hot components next to each other. Our observational results indicate that (1) the cool component resulted from the eruption of the filament contained within the jet’s base arch, and it further caused the bubble-like CME; (2) the jet-like CME was associated with the hot component, which was the outward moving heated plasma generated by the reconnection of the base arch and its ambient open field lines. On the other hand, bifurcation of the jet’s cool component was also observed, which resulted from the uncoupling of the erupting filament’s two legs that were highly twisted at the very beginning. Based on these results, we propose a model to interpret the coronal blowout jet, in which the external reconnection not only produces the jet-like CME, but also leads to the rising of the filament. Subsequently, internal reconnection starts underneath the rising filament and thereby causes the bubble-like CME.

Key words: Sun: activity – Sun: coronal mass ejections (CMEs) – Sun: filaments, prominences – Sun: flares – Sun: magnetic topology

Online-only material: animations

1. INTRODUCTION

There are many kinds of jet phenomena in the solar atmosphere, such as Hα surges, EUV jets, X-ray jets, EUV macrospicules, and Hα macrospicules. They often have a linear or slightly bent structure, and are usually associated with microflares at the base. A standard interpretation for these phenomena of different scales is that a small bipolar emerging flux interacts with its surrounding large-scale, opposite-polarity, unipolar open fields, and the subsequent magnetic reconnection between them generates the straight outward heated plasma flow guided by the open field lines (Shibata et al. 1992). In this scenario, the reconnected closed fields are observed as a small bright point (microflare) close to the jet base. Despite the differences among various jet-like eruptions such as temperature, velocity, and scale, we refer to all of them as coronal jets for convenience in this paper, due to the similar nature of their physical mechanism.

Coronal jets are usually associated with flux emergence and cancellation (e.g., Chae et al. 1999; Liu & Kurokawa 2004), and magnetic reconnection is necessary for the production of a coronal jet (Rachmeler et al. 2010). In a few cases, coronal jets, as well as small-scale explosive events (e.g., Curdt & Tian 2011), exhibit obvious unwinding motions around the main axis (e.g., Alexander & Fletcher 1999; Patsourakos et al. 2008; Liu et al. 2009a; Shen et al. 2011b). Such unwinding motions suggest that magnetic helicity stored in the closed bipolar emerging flux is transferred to the outer corona. In addition, many coronal jets show simultaneous cool and hot components next to each other, which are thought to be different plasma flows along different field lines, and are dynamically connected to each other (Canfield et al. 1996; Chae et al. 1999). Other studies have shown that coronal jets could result in coronal mass ejections (CMEs; Liu et al. 2005b; Liu 2008; Wang et al. 1998; Wang & Sheeley 2002), supply mass to form, or lead to the eruption of, a large-scale filament (Liu et al. 2005a; Guo et al. 2010), and interact with other coronal magnetic structures, and thus lead to a sympathetic CME pair (Jiang et al. 2008). In addition, by using observations from the Solar Dynamics Observatory (SDO), Tian et al. (2011) suggested that the ubiquitous jet-like outflow in the solar corona is an important possible mass source for the solar wind. In terms of theory, two-dimensional and three-dimensional numerical simulations have been performed and successfully reproduced many important observable characteristics of the coronal jets (Shibata & Uchida 1986; Yokoyama & Shibata 1995, 1996; Miyagoshi & Yokoyama 2003, 2004; Moreno-Insertis et al. 2008; Archontis et al. 2010; Pariat et al. 2010).

On the other hand, statistical research on coronal jets has been documented in many studies (e.g., Shimojo et al. 1996; Wang et al. 1998; Yamauchi et al. 2004; Liu 2008; Nisticò et al. 2009; Moore et al. 2010). Liu (2008) classified the coronal jets in the chromosphere into three types: jet-like type, diffuse type, and closed loop type. The first two types were found to associate with large-scale CMEs, while the last type was not. Therefore, he suggested that the difference in magnetic field configurations in the lower corona determined the later evolution process of the coronal jets. Yamauchi et al. (2004) found that about half of their jet samples had the form of a small erupting loop that appeared similar to the eruption of a mini-filament. Furthermore, Nisticò (2009) found a few coronal jets characterized by a small loop that elongated from the solar surface and resembled the
large-scale CMEs but on a much smaller scale. Very recently, by examining many coronal jets in polar coronal holes using soft X-ray observations from Hinode satellite (Kosugi et al. 2007), Moore et al. (2010) found that there is a dichotomy of the coronal jets, namely, the standard coronal jets and the blowout coronal jets. According to their classification, about two-thirds of coronal jets belong to the standard jets, and about one-third are the blowout jets. The most distinctive feature of the blowout jets is that the base arch, which is assumed to be sheared and twisted and often carries a small filament within it, can experience a miniature version of blowout eruption that is usually evidenced in large-scale CME eruptions (e.g., Sterling & Moore 2004; Shen et al. 2011c). Furthermore, Sterling et al. (2010) identified that the chromospheric spicules are the counterparts of coronal blowout jets. By using the SDO high-resolution observations, a detailed analysis of a corona jet that underwent a standard-to-blowout transition has been reported by Liu et al. (2011), in which an erupting blob preceded by a loop was considered to be the front-core structure of a bubble-like CME during its initiation stage on the disk observation. The authors thus speculated that the base arch of the jet underwent a miniature version of the CME process. This study implied that bubble-like CME associated with the blowout eruption of the jet’s base arch might be observed in the outer corona. However, it is a pity that the CME in Liu et al. (2011) was not detected by any available coronagraph in space or on the ground. Numerical simulations of the blowout of the twisted jet core field by the breakout reconnection with ambient fields were also conducted (Pariat et al. 2009; Rachmeler et al. 2010). Up to the present, there is still no direct observational report on CMEs that is associated with the coronal blowout jets, even though Moore et al. (2010) have pointed out that the dichotomy of coronal jets might also be observed in the outer corona.

In this paper, for the first time, we present a coronal blowout jet that was associated with simultaneous bubble-like and jet-like CMEs observed by the inner coronagraph (COR1; Thompson et al. 2003) on board the Solar Terrestrial Relations Observatory-Ahead (STEREO; Kaiser et al. 2008). The ejection occurred on 2011 July 22 close to the NOAA Active Region 11252 (N25W48). By using high temporal and spatial multi-wavelength and multi-angle observations taken by SDO, STEREO, and the Big Bear Solar Observatory (BBSO), we can study the dynamics and evolutionary process in detail, and try to find a few new clues to understanding the physics of the coronal blowout jets. Instruments and data sets are described in Section 2, results are presented in Section 3, interpretation and discussions are given in Section 4, and conclusions are summarized in Section 5.

2. INSTRUMENTS AND DATA SETS

The full-disk Hα center images were obtained from the BBSO, New Jersey Institute of Technology, USA. The Hα observations have a cadence of 1 minute and a pixel width of 1′′. The SDO/Atmospheric Imaging Assembly (AIA; Lemen et al. 2011) has high cadences of up to 12 s and short exposures of 0.1–2 s. It captures images of the Sun’s atmosphere out to 1.3 R⊙, with a pixel width of 0′′6 in seven EUV and three UV–visible wavelength bands. SDO/Heliospheric and Magnetic Imager (HMI; Schou et al. 2010) provides full-disk line-of-sight magnetograms at a 45 s cadence with a precision of 10 G, and the pixel width is the same with AIA. While SDO observes the Sun from the Earth’s viewpoint, the STEREO-Ahead observes the Sun from the western side from another angle. On 2011 July 22, the separation angle of STEREO-Ahead and SDO was about 99°. The full-disk 195 Å and 304 Å images taken by the Extreme Ultraviolet Imager (EUVI; Wuelsr et al. 2004) of the Sun Earth Connection Coronal and Heliospheric Investigation (SECCHI; Howard et al. 2008) on board STEREO-Ahead are used in this paper. The 195 (304) Å images have a cadence of 2.5 (10) minutes and a pixel width of 1′′6. The COR1 on board STEREO-Ahead provides images at a 5 minute cadence, and the field of view (FOV) is from 1.4 to 4 R⊙. The Hα images are aligned with the SDO images using the sunspot of Active Region 11259 that was close to the disk center on 2011 July 22. In addition, all the images used in this paper are differentially rotated to a reference time (16:00:00 UT). North is up and east is to the left.

3. RESULTS

The blowout jet occurred on 2011 July 22, close to the NOAA AR11252 (N25W48), and no significant soft X-ray flare was recorded by GOES during the ejection time interval. However, some small-scale energy releasing signatures could be detected from the observations. An overview of the event before the ejection is displayed in Figure 1. Panel (a) is an HMI magnetogram showing the magnetic configuration of the region where the jet would occur. The east black box indicates the bipolar magnetic region in which flux emergences and cancellations were observed to be associated with the subsequent blowout jet. The polarities are labeled p1 and n1. Two filaments, labeled “F1” and “F2,” could be seen clearly on the BBSO Hα center and AIA 304 Å images. On the STEREO-Ahead images, the orientation of F1 was changed from the east–west to the southwest due to the different viewpoints of SDO and STEREO-Ahead (compare panels (b) and (h)). Meanwhile, F2 resembled a thin curving thread on the western side of F1. The contours of the HMI light-of-sight magnetogram at 16:00:41 UT were overlaid on the BBSO Hα and the AIA 304 Å images, of which white (black) represents the positive (negative) flux. It clearly shows that the two filaments were located on two different neutral lines. Obviously, the region of interest was dominated by the positive flux and mainly characterized by unipolar open fields (indicated by the jointed arrows in panel (e)). It is reasonable to imagine that there must have been some closed loops connecting the opposite polarities and restricting the ability of the filaments to erupt, even though they were ambiguous on the EUV images. In the following, we will analyze the blowout jet involving the eruption of F1 in detail.

Figure 2 shows the evolutionary process of the blowout jet on the Hα center, AIA 304 Å and 193 Å time sequence images. The outer profile of F1 detected from the Hα image at 16:13:38 UT is overlaid on the HMI line-of-sight magnetogram, and the relevant small bipolar magnetic region was magnified and inserted in the same panel (panel (a)). At around 16:13 UT, a conspicuous bright patch appeared around the interface of p1 and n1, and it could be identified at the chromospheric and EUV lines (indicated by the short vertical white arrows in Figure 2). It is interesting that the appearance of the bright patch on the AIA 304 Å (or Hα) images was earlier than that on the AIA 193 Å images. This suggests that the bright patch may result from a small-scale reconnection event in the lower atmosphere. About four minutes later, F1 began to rise slowly, and the region surrounding F1 was ignited entirely around 16:24 UT, except the southwest side, which suggested that the field lines striding F1 were pushing up and thereby reconnecting with the surrounding open fields. In addition, the rising F1 showed obvious untwisting
Figure 1. HMI line-of-sight magnetogram (a), BBSO Hα center (b), AIA 304 Å (c), AIA 211 Å (d), AIA 171 Å (e), AIA 193 Å (f), STEREO-Ahead 304 Å (g), and 195 Å (h) images show the event before the eruptions. The contours of the HMI image at 16:00:41 UT are overlaid on panels (b) and (c). The contour levels are ±20, ±50, ±100, and ±200 G, with white (black) for positive (negative) polarity. The jointed arrows in panel (e) point to some representative coronal loops. The two small filaments are labeled by F1 and F2, respectively. The FOV is 100″ × 100″ for each panel.

Figure 2. Time sequences of BBSO Hα center (b1)–(b5), AIA 304 Å (c1)–(c6), and AIA 193 Å (d1)–(d6) images show the blowout jet and the associated filament at the base. Panel (a) is an HMI line-of-sight magnetogram just prior to the initiation of the jet, and the white contour is the profile of F1. The inserted image in panel (a) is the magnified magnetic region of the small rectangle region. The vertical short arrows indicate the bright patch before the ejection, while the two white arrows in panel (d5) point to the hot and cool components of the ejecting jet. The FOV for each frame is 110″ × 180″.

(An animation of this figure is available in the online journal.)
motions during the rising period. At around 16:27 UT, the jet could be distinguished, and the two flare ribbons were also obvious on either side of the original site of F1. It is interesting that the jet showed simultaneous hot and cool components next to each other during the developing stage. The two components of the blowout jet could be observed not only at EUV wavelength bands but also at the Hα center. By carefully comparing the jet at different wavelength bands, we find that the two components were co-spatial and held a similar evolutionary pace (see the fifth column of Figure 2). After 16:38 UT, the hot component disappeared and the jet appeared as a dark and collimating feature composed of many thin dark threads, and the post-eruptive loops were conspicuous next to the footpoint of the jet body. The disappearance of the hot component was possibly because of its cooling at the time. In addition, by looking at the time-elapse movie of various wavelength bands (video1.mpg; available in the online version of the journal), we find that the cool component directly evolved from the erupting F1, while the hot component resulted from the outward moving heated plasma, which was generated by the reconnection between the loops astride F1 and its ambient opposite-polarity open field lines. We note that the eruption of F1 resembled the evolutionary process of a large-scale filament eruption that is often closely associated with large-scale CME. Furthermore, lateral motions of the jet body and unwinding motions around the main axis of the jet were also observed, which manifested the release of the magnetic helicity stored in the sheared core field, as in the unwinding polar jet presented by Shen et al. (2011b). The unwinding direction was counterclockwise when looking from above along the jet axis. The apparent speed of the jet top in the plane of the sky was about 235 km s\(^{-1}\), which was obtained by tracing the front of the jet on the successive AIA 304 Å images.

The positive and negative magnetic fluxes of the box region shown in Figure 2(a), and the light curves of the same region (also the region of the bright patch) at various wavelength bands are measured from successive observations. The results are shown in Figure 3. We divide the changing of the fluxes into two stages, namely 16:06–16:16 UT (before the ejection), and 16:16–16:30 UT (during the ejection). For the first stage, the positive flux decreased at the beginning (16:09 UT), but then increased quickly to a higher value. On the other hand, the negative flux first showed a rapid phase of increase during the period of decrease for the positive flux, but then the increased flux was reduced to the initial level (16:09–16:12 UT). Finally, the negative flux also increased to a higher value. Such changing flux patterns suggest that the emerging of the negative flux and the cancellation between the opposite polarities had occurred alternately. The cancellation can also be observed on the HMI light-of-sight successive images. In the meantime, all the light curves of the same region at various wavelength bands showed a moderate increase during the first stage, which indicated the appearance of the bright patch observed on the chromospheric and EUV images. It is important to note that the start time of this increase is the same as that of the negative flux’s increase, which indicated that the bright patch possibly resulted from the cancellation of the positive flux and emerging negative flux. In addition, the increase of the chromospheric 304 Å line (He ii; log \(T = 4.7\)), which images the upper chromosphere of the Sun, was slightly earlier than that of the other coronal EUV lines. Since the magnetic cancellations on the photosphere are often thought to be the manifestation of the magnetic reconnection in the lower atmosphere (Chae et al. 1998, 1999), we suggest that the altitude of the site of reconnection that was related to the cancellation discussed above was under the transition region, or the upper chromosphere. For the second stage, the positive flux showed a roughly linear decrease, while the negative flux first decreased, but then increased to a higher level. This changing flux pattern indicated that the impulsive cancellation between the opposite polarities occurred during the ejection of the blowout jet. In addition, the light curves showed a violent increase during this period.

From the STEREO-Ahead viewpoint, the blowout jet showed different, intriguing characteristics. The results are shown on the 304 Å direct and 195 Å difference images in Figure 4. Characteristics such as the bright patch close to the jet base before the jet’s initiation, simultaneous cool and hot components next to each other, and the two flare ribbons could also be identified. Due to the projection effect from different viewpoints, the hot component of the jet on the STEREO-Ahead images was located on the western side of the cool component, which was opposite to the location that was observed on the SDO (see panel (b3)). An intriguing characteristic of the blowout jet on the STEREO-Ahead images was the bifurcation of the jet body when it was propagating out. This phenomenon caused the jet to appear to be composed of two separate branches of plasma flows (see panels (a5) and (a6)). On the basis of the spatial relationship between the cool and the hot components of the jet, we conjecture that the jet on the STEREO-Ahead 304 Å images was possibly just the cool component, which resulted from the
erupting F1. In addition, by checking the evolutionary process of the jet on the STEREO and SDO successive observations, we identified that the bifurcation of the jet body resulted from the uncoupling motions of the F1’s two legs that were highly twisted at the very beginning. The bifurcation of the jet body was not observed on the SDO images, which was possibly due to the projection effect from different viewpoints, since the two legs of F1 were likely overlapping when seen from the SDO viewpoint.

It is striking that simultaneous bubble-like and jet-like CMEs were observed to be associated with the blowout jet in the FOV of the COR1 ahead. The CMEs are displayed in Figure 5. The jet-like CME first reached the FOV of the COR1 at around 16:45 UT and was then followed by the bubble-like CME on the eastern side of the jet-like CME. Since the bubble-like CME was very faint on the COR1 images, we use a dashed white curve to mark the bright front of the bubble-like CME, while the jet-like CME was indicated by the long white arrow. In addition, a time-lapse movie (video2.mpg) can be found in the online version of the journal, from which one can resolve the two simultaneous CMEs easily. For the bubble-like CME, it showed a typical three-part structure, with a bright core preceded by a dark cavity and a bright front. The bright core, which often represents the erupting filament in large-scale CME eruptions, was located near the western edge of the bright CME front rather than at the center as usual. However, it was consistent with the direction of the blowout jet’s cool component that has been identified as the erupting F1 (see panel (c) of Figure 5). The close temporal and spatial relationship between the bubble-like CME and the erupting F1 suggested that this bubble-like CME was directly caused by the eruption of F1 via a similar mechanism.
in larger filament-CME eruptions, even though the eruption of F1 was involved in the coronal blowout jet. For the jet-like CME, its direction was in agreement with the hot component of the blowout jet. So, we propose that this jet-like CME observed, (c) the new current sheet beneath F1, and (d) the internal reconnection and the production of the bubble-like CME. The dashed lines indicate the current sheets, and the thick lines represent the reconnected field lines. The reconnection sites are labeled by the "X" symbols.

Figure 6. Schematic demonstrating the coronal blowout jet and the associated simultaneous CMEs: (a) The initial magnetic configuration, (b) the external reconnection and the generation of the hot component of the jet that causes the jet-like CME observed, (c) the new current sheet beneath F1, and (d) the internal reconnection and the production of the bubble-like CME. The dashed lines indicate the current sheets, and the thick lines represent the reconnected field lines. The reconnection sites are labeled by the "X" symbols.

4. INTERPRETATION AND DISCUSSION

Based on our analysis results, we interpret the physical mechanism of the coronal blowout jet, and the associated bubble-like and the jet-like CMEs recorded by the COR1 on board STEREO-Ahead, with a two-dimensional schematic at four critical moments (Figure 6). In the schematic, only a few representative field lines are drawn. The primary magnetic configuration is shown in panel (a), in which a closed loop system connecting n1 and P (the positive polarity on the northern of n1) is close to a bundle of unipolar open field lines, and a current sheet between them can be expected (the dashed line). It should be noted that the closed loop system is assumed to be sheared, within which is the small filament (F1). In our observation, the bright patch before the initiation of the jet was close to the jet base, and it could be observed simultaneously at chromospheric and EUV lines. It was closely related with the flux cancellation observed on the HMI line-of-sight magnetograms, and we interpret these phenomena as the manifestation of the reconnection in the lower atmosphere on the photosphere. Panel (b) shows the external reconnection between the closed field and the open field lines. The reconnection will yield three main observable effects: the brightening below the reconnection site, the upward hot component of the jet, and the rising of F1 and its overlying closed fields. The first observable effect is the manifestation of the downward closed, heated reconnected loops, which are expected to be observed as a microflare at chromospheric and coronal EUV lines, and flux cancellation on magnetograms. The outward-moving, heated plasma is expected to be observed as a bright jet on the disk observations or a jet-like CME in the outer corona. The external reconnection continuously removes the field lines that are restricting F1’s ability to erupt and thereby reduces the confining capacity of these fields. Thus, F1 will rise shortly after the start of the reconnection. On the other hand, a new current sheet will form between the two legs of the confining field lines underneath F1 during this rising period (dashed line in panel (c)). When the new formed current sheet gets thin enough, the internal reconnection will start and thus lead to the eruption of F1, two flare ribbons on either side of the original site of F1, and a bubble-like CME observed in the outer corona (panel (d)).

It should be noted that the schematic model presented here is just a combination of the standard jet model (e.g., Shibata et al. 1992) and the classical flux-rope-eruption model (e.g., Lin & Forbes 2000). The primary mechanism is similar to the so-called magnetic-breakout model (Antiochos et al. 1999; Shen et al. 2011c), where the external reconnection transfers flux that tends to hold down the sheared low-lying field to the lateral flux systems, and thereby allows the sheared core field to erupt explosively outward. The model can also be viewed as an extension of the model of the first-type blowout jet proposed by Moore et al. (2010). In our blowout jet model, many observable characteristics, which involve a filament eruption within the base arch, can be explained naturally, especially the simultaneous bubble-like and jet-like CMEs. The blowout jet presented in this paper and the associated model suggests that different kinds of large-scale solar activities can occur simultaneously and integrate into one solar eruption event, even though they arise via different physical mechanisms.

The bifurcation of the jet body on the STEREO 304 Å images indicated that it resulted from the untwisting motions of the erupting filament’s two legs that were twisted at the very beginning. Such bifurcation phenomenon of coronal jets has also been reported previously by Alexander & Fletcher (1999); they interpreted it as a dynamic response to the rapid transport of twist along the field, or the development of an instability as the jet propagates out. Our observational results are basically in agreement with their first explanation. On the other hand, the traditional concept of the corona jets is possibly just the hot component of the jet observed in the present case (Shibata et al. 1992). The analysis results indicate that the cool component was, in fact, the erupting filament, which is a new concept in relation to the jet phenomena.

In previous studies, Chae et al. (1999) found hot and cool ejections on Hz images; the cool jet-like feature on Hz images was co-spatial and simultaneous with the EUV coronal jets, but the hot Hz ejection was not. We conjecture that the fact that the hot ejection would not be observed at EUV wavelength bands was probably due to the lower cadence of the observations used, since the hot ejecta might have cooled down when the imager captured the next image. In other studies (e.g., Alexander & Fletcher 1999; Jiang et al. 2007), the cool and hot components were also observed, and the appearance of the cool components was found to delay the hot components by several minutes. The authors explained that such a delay might be caused by the cooling of the earlier, hotter jet material. Thanks to the excellent observations taken by SDO, STEREO, and BBSO, we
Figure 7. Time sequences of BBSO Hα center (b1)–(b5), AIA 304 Å (c1)–(c6), and AIA 193 Å (d1)–(d6) images show the eruption of F2. Panel (a) is a line-of-sight magnetogram overlaid by the spine of F2 (white curve), which is detected from the Hα image at 16:40:20 UT. The magnetic region of p2 and n2 (shown in Figure 1(a)) is magnified and inserted in the same image. The vertical short arrows point to the bright patch, while the horizontal arrows indicate the erupting F2. The FOV is 70″ × 95″ for all panels.

(An animation of this figure is available in the online journal.)

can successfully distinguish the progenitors of the simultaneous cool and hot components of the coronal blowout jet in the present event, in which the cool component evolved from the filament contained within the jet’s base arch, while the hot component was the outward-moving, heated plasma generated by the reconnection between the closed fields that confined the filament and their ambient open field lines. In our model (Figure 6), there will be simultaneous bubble-like and jet-like CMEs associated with the coronal blowout jets. Observationally, such bubble-like CMEs are usually so weak that some authors cannot find them (e.g., Moore et al. 2010; Liu et al. 2011). In any case, similar observational studies relying on high-resolution multi-wavelength and multi-angle observation in a wide range of temperatures are desirable for the future.

5. CONCLUSION

Combining the analysis of high-temporal and high-spatial-resolution multi-wavelength observations from two different viewpoints, we present a coronal blowout jet and a mini-filament eruption to learn their trigger mechanism. To our knowledge, this is the first report in which simultaneous bubble-like and jet-like CMEs were dynamically related to one coronal blowout jet. Our main analysis results are summarized as follows: (1) A bright patch at various lines slightly preceding the corresponding flux cancellation on the photosphere was observed at a location that was close to the footpoint of the blowout jet. The start of the brightening occurred a few minutes before the initiation of the blowout jet, and the light curves further showed that the brightening at the chromospheric line was slightly earlier than that at the coronal EUV lines. We interpret these phenomena as manifestations of the external reconnection of the blowout jet in the lower atmosphere. The reconnection site was possibly under the transition region, or the upper chromosphere. (2) The blowout jet showed simultaneous hot and cool components next to each other, and they could be observed in a wide temperature range. The hot component was identified as the outward-moving, heated plasma generated by the external reconnection, while the cool component was the erupting filament that was contained within the sheared base arch. (3) From the STEREO-Ahead viewpoint, the jet experienced a bifurcation process as it propagating out. This phenomenon resulted from the untwisting motions of the erupting filament. The two bifurcated branches were identified as the erupting filament’s two legs, which were tightly twisted at the very beginning. (4) A simultaneous bubble-like CME, involving a three-part structure, and a jet-like CME were evidenced in the FOV of the COR1 ahead. We find that the bubble-like CME was associated with the eruption of the filament contained within the base arch (also the cool component of the jet), while the jet-like CME was the extension of the hot component of the coronal blowout jet in the outer corona. To determine whether or not such simultaneous bubble-like and jet-like CMEs associated with one coronal blowout jet is a common phenomenon, similar observational studies of coronal blowout jets are desirable for the future.
Following the blowout jet presented herein, an inverse S-shaped mini-filament (F2) erupted on the jet’s western side at about 16:50 UT. No obvious observable feature could relate to the two successive eruptions. The detailed eruption process is shown in Figure 7. Similar to Figure 2, the magnetic region analogous to the initiation of the other type of coronal blowout jets (Wang et al. 2000; Ren et al. 2008; Hong et al. 2011). Occurrences, and to be accompanied by flare-like brightenings, post-eruptions usually take the shape of coronal jets. They were found events are possibly, in fact, mini-filament eruptions. The result might imply that the bright patch possibly resulted from the tether-cutting reconnection of the legs of the field lines that were confining F2 (Moore et al. 2001). Subsequently, F2 started to erupt violently as a corona jet (see the horizontal white arrows in Figure 7), and unwinding motions were also observed. The unwinding direction was the same as with the blowout jet, which was in agreement with the so-called hemispheric helicity rule, which states that patterns of negative helicity occur predominantly in the northern solar hemisphere, and those of positive helicity in the south (Seeafero 1990). The apparent speed of the eruption of F2 in the plane of the sky was about 48 km s\(^{-1}\).

It should be noted that this mini-filament eruption was analogous to the initiation of the other type of coronal blowout jets proposed by Moore et al. (2010), in which the sheared core field starts erupting on its own before any external breakout reconnection. Here F2 did erupt first on its own because of the possible reconnection underneath it, but no specific evidence for the external reconnection could be identified from the multi-wavelength observations. In addition, the magnetic environments surrounding F2 were also unfavorable for the external reconnection to occur. This event suggests that many jet-like solar explosive events are, in fact, mini-filament eruptions.

Previous studies have shown that many mini-filament eruptions usually take the shape of coronal jets. They were found to associate with cancellations and reversals of opposite fluxes, and to be accompanied by flare-like brightenings, post-eruptive flare loops, coronal dimmings, and mini-CMEs (e.g., Wang et al. 2000; Ren et al. 2008; Hong et al. 2011). Occasionally, they were observed to fail to escape the Sun (e.g., Liu et al. 2009b; Shen et al. 2011a). In our case, no CME could be found that was associated with the mini-filament eruption, which was possibly due to the low eruption speed of the filament. Here, we appeal for more attention to be paid to distinguishing whether a large number of jet-like eruptive solar events are coronal jets or filament eruptions, which rests upon high temporal and high spatial resolution multi-wavelength observations.

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