Radial Speed Evolution of Interplanetary Coronal Mass Ejections During Solar Cycle 23

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Abstract We report radial-speed evolution of interplanetary coronal mass ejections (ICMEs) detected by the Large Angle and Spectrometric Coronagraph onboard the Solar and heliospheric Observatory (SOHO/LASCO), interplanetary scintillation (IPS) at 327 MHz, and in-situ observations. We analyzed solar-wind disturbance factor (g-value) data derived from IPS observations during 1997–2009 covering nearly whole period of Solar Cycle 23. By comparing observations from SOHO/LASCO, IPS, and in situ, we identified 39 ICMEs that could be analyzed carefully. Here, we defined two speeds [$V_{SOHO}$ and $V_{bg}$], which are initial speed of the ICME and the speed of the background solar wind, respectively. Examination of these speeds yield the following results: i) Fast ICMEs (with $V_{SOHO} - V_{bg} > 500$ km s$^{-1}$) rapidly decelerate, moderate ICMEs (with 0 km s$^{-1} \leq V_{SOHO} - V_{bg} \leq 500$ km s$^{-1}$) show either gradually decelerating or uniform motion, and slow ICMEs (with $V_{SOHO} - V_{bg} < 0$ km s$^{-1}$) accelerate. The radial speeds converge on the speed of the background solar wind during their outward propagation. We subsequently find; ii) both the acceleration and deceleration are nearly complete by $0.79 \pm 0.04$ AU, and those are ended when the ICMEs reach a $489 \pm 21$ km s$^{-1}$. iii) For ICMEs with $V_{SOHO} - V_{bg} \geq 0$ km s$^{-1}$, i.e. fast and moderate ICMEs, a linear equation $a = -\gamma_1(V - V_{bg})$ with $\gamma_1 = 6.58 \pm 0.23 \times 10^{-6}$ s$^{-1}$ is more appropriate than a quadratic equation $a = -\gamma_2(V - V_{bg})|V - V_{bg}|$ to describe their kinematics, where $\gamma_1$ and $\gamma_2$ are coefficients, and $a$ and $V$ are the acceleration and ICME speed, respectively, because the $\chi^2$ for the linear equation satisfies the statistical significance level of 0.05, while the quadratic one does not. These results support the assumption that the radial motion of ICMEs is governed by a drag force due to interaction with the background solar wind. These findings also suggest that ICMEs propagating faster than the background solar wind are controlled mainly by the hydrodynamic Stokes drag.

Keywords: Coronal Mass Ejections · Initiation and propagation · Coronal Mass Ejections · Interplanetary · Plasma Physics · Radio Scintillation

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1. Introduction

Coronal mass ejections (CMEs) are transient events in which large amounts of plasma are ejected from the solar corona (e.g., Gosling et al., 1974). Interplanetary counterparts of CMEs are called interplanetary coronal mass ejections (ICMEs). Since ICMEs seriously affect the space environment around the Earth, understanding of their fundamental physics, e.g., generation, propagation, and interaction with the Earth’s magnetosphere, is very important for space-weather forecasting (e.g., Tsurutani et al., 1988; Gosling et al., 1990). In particular, the dynamics of ICME propagation is one of the key pieces of information for predicting geomagnetic storms.

Propagation of ICMEs has been studied by various methods. Earlier studies combining space-borne coronagraphs with in-situ observations revealed that ICME speeds significantly evolve between near-Sun and 1 AU. Schwenn (1983) reported the correlation between CMEs and interplanetary disturbances using the P78-1/Solwind coronagraph, the Helios-1 and -2 solar probes, and a ground-based Hα coronograph. He showed that fast CMEs associated with flares exhibit no acceleration into interplanetary space, while slow CMEs related to prominence eruptions accelerate. Lindsay et al. (1999) examined the relation between...
propagation speeds of CMEs observed by the Solwind coronagraph and Solar Maximum Mission coronagraph/polarimeter and those of the ICMEs observed by the Helios-1 and Pioneer Venus Orbiter for 31 CMEs and their associated ICMEs. They found a good correlation between the speeds of CMEs and those of ICMEs observed in interplanetary space between 0.7 and 1 AU. They also found that the speeds of most ICMEs range from 380 km s\(^{-1}\) to 600 km s\(^{-1}\), while CME speeds show a wider range of from \(\approx 10\) km s\(^{-1}\) to 1500 km s\(^{-1}\). These findings suggest that the ICME speeds tend to converge to an average solar-wind speed as they propagate through interplanetary space. Gopalswamy et al. (2000) determined an effective acceleration for 28 CMEs observed by the Large Angle and Spectrometric Coronagraph (LASCO; Brueckner et al., 1995) onboard the Solar and Heliospheric Observatory (SOHO) spacecraft between 1996 and 1998. On the assumption that the acceleration is constant, they found a very good anti-correlation between the accelerations and initial speeds of CMEs, and a critical speed of 405 km s\(^{-1}\); this value is close to the typical speed of the solar wind in the equatorial plane. Following this research, Gopalswamy et al. (2001) described an empirical model for predicting of arrival of the ICMEs at 1 AU; this model is based on their previous work (Gopalswamy et al., 2000) and its accuracy is improved by allowing for cessation of the interplanetary acceleration before 1 AU. They showed that the acceleration cessation distance is 0.76 AU, and this result agrees reasonably well with observations by SOHO, Advanced Composition Explorer (ACE; Stone et al., 1998), and other spacecraft at 1 AU.

We expect that the acceleration or deceleration of ICMEs is controlled by a drag force caused by interaction between ICMEs and the solar wind. Vršnak and Gopalswamy (2002) proposed an advanced model for the motion of ICMEs; this model considered the interaction with solar wind using a simple expression for the acceleration: \[ a = -\gamma_1(V - V_{bg}), \] where \(\gamma_1\), \(V\), and \(V_{bg}\) are the coefficient, ICME speed, and speed of the background solar wind, respectively. They also compared their model with a drag-acceleration model \[ a = -\gamma_2(V - V_{bg})|V - V_{bg}|, \] where \(\gamma_2\) is the coefficient for this equation; this expression is known as the aerodynamic drag force (e.g., Chen, 1996; Cargill, 2004). Both models have been tested by comparing with CME observations. Tappin (2006) studied the propagation of a CME that occurred on 5 April 2003 using observations by the SOHO/LASCO, the Solar Mass Ejection Imager on the Coriolis satellite, and the Ulysses spacecraft. Maloney and Gallagher (2010) derived the three-dimensional kinematics for three ICMEs detected between 2008 and 2009 using the Solar-Terrestrial Relations Observatory-A (STEREO-A) and -B spacecraft observations. Temmer et al. (2011) examined the influence of the solar wind on the propagation of some ICMEs using the STEREO-A and -B spacecraft. Although the propagation of ICMEs has been studied by many investigators, their dynamics is still not well understood. This is mainly due to the lack of observational data about ICMEs between 0.1 and 1 AU. Almost all ICME observations are currently limited to the near-Earth area in the equatorial plane.

Remote sensing using radio waves is a suitable method for collecting global data on ICMEs. For example, Reiner, Kaiser, and Bougeret (2007) derived kinematical parameters for 42 ICME/shocks from measurements of type-II radio emission. Woo (1988) studied the shock propagation using Doppler-scintillation
measurements of radio waves emitted from planetary spacecraft, and showed
the speed profiles of shocks between 0.05 and 0.93 AU. In addition to these
measurements, interplanetary scintillation (IPS) is a type of remote sensing. IPS
is a phenomenon where signals from a point-like radio source, such as quasars
and active galactic nuclei, fluctuate due to density irregularities in the solar wind (Hewish, Scott, and Wills, 1964). IPS observations allow us to probe the
inner heliosphere using many radio sources, and this is a useful means to study
the global structure and propagation dynamics of ICMEs in the solar wind (e.g.
Gapper et al., 1982; Tappin, Hewish, and Gapper, 1983; Watanabe and Kakinuma,
1986; Tokumaru et al., 2000b, 2003; Manoharan et al., 2000; Jackson and Hick,
2002; Bisi et al., 2010; Jackson et al., 2011; Manoharan, 2010; see also Watanabe and Schwenn, 1989). For the kinematics of interplanetary disturbances, Vlasov (1992) reported
that the radial dependence of speed can be represented by a power-law function
$V \approx R^{-\alpha}$ with $\alpha$ in the range $0.25 < \alpha < 1$ from analysis of all-sky scintil-
lation indices maps. Manoharan (2000) examined radial evolution of 30 CMEs
observed by SOHO/LASCO, ACE, and the Ooty radio-telescope between 1998
and 2004. He showed that most CMEs tend to attain the speed of the ambient
flow at 1 AU and also reported a power-law form of radial-speed evolution for
these events.

We take advantage of IPS observation to determine the ICME speed and
acceleration. In the current study, we analyze the solar-wind disturbance factor
($g$-value) derived from IPS observations during 1997–2009 covering nearly the
whole of Solar Cycle 23 and make a list of disturbance event days in the period.
We define an “ICME” as a series of events including a near-Sun CME, an inter-
planetary disturbance, and a near-Earth ICME in this study. By comparing our
list with that of CME/ICME pairs, we identify many events that are detected
at three locations between the Sun and the Earth’s orbit, i.e., near-Sun, inter-
planetary space, and near-Earth, and derive their radial speed profiles. We then
analyze the relationship between the acceleration and speed difference for the
ICMEs. The outline of this article is as follows: Section 2 describes the IPS obser-
vation made with the 327 MHz radio-telescope system of the Solar-Terrestrial
Environment Laboratory (STEL), Nagoya University. Section 3 describes the
criteria for ICME identification and the method for estimating ICME speeds
and accelerations between the corona and 1 AU. Section 4 provides the radial-
speed profiles of ICMEs and the analyses of the propagation properties. Section 5
discusses the results, while Section 6 summarizes the main conclusions of our
study.

2. STEL IPS Observation

STEL IPS observations have been carried out regularly since the early 1980s us-
using multiple ground-based radio-telescope stations operated at 327 MHz (Kojima and Kakinuma,
1990; Asai et al., 1995). The IPS observations at 327 MHz allow us to determine
the solar-wind condition between 0.2 and 1 AU with a cadence of 24 hours. In
our observations, nearly 30 radio sources within a solar elongation of 60° are
observed daily between April and December. The IPS observations on a given
day are made when each radio source traverses the local meridian.
Figure 1. (a) White-light difference image for the halo CME on 11 July 2000 from the SOHO/LASCO-C2 coronagraph (cdaw.gsfc.nasa.gov/CME_list/index.html), and (b) g-map obtained from our IPS observations on 12 July 2000. The g-map center corresponds to the location of the Sun, and concentric circles indicate radial distances of 0.3 AU, 0.6 AU, and 0.9 AU. Colored open solid circles indicate the locations of the closest point to the Sun (the P-point) on the LOS for the radio sources in the sky plane. The center of the colored circle indicates the heliocentric distance of the P-point on the LOS, and color and diameter represent the g-value level for each source. We use four bins of $g < 1.0$ (black), $1.0 < g < 1.5$ (green), $1.5 < g < 2.0$ (blue), and $g > 2.0$ (red) for the g-map. A group of P-points with red or blue circles indicates a disturbance related to the 11 July 2000 CME.

The solar-wind speed and disturbance factor, the so-called “g-value” (Gapper et al., 1982), are derived from IPS observations. A g-value is calculated for each source using the following equation:

$$g = \frac{\Delta S}{\Delta S_m(\varepsilon)}.$$  \hspace{1cm} (1)

where $\Delta S$ and $\Delta S_m(\varepsilon)$ are the observed fluctuation level of radio signals and their yearly mean, respectively. $\Delta S_m(\varepsilon)$ varies with the solar elongation angle $[\varepsilon]$ for a line-of-sight (LOS) from an observed radio source to a telescope. When a radio signal is weakly scattered, the g-value is given by the following equation (Tokumaru et al., 2003, 2006):

$$g^2 = \frac{1}{K} \int_0^\infty dz \{\Delta N_e\}^2 \omega(z),$$  \hspace{1cm} (2)

here, $z$ is the distance along a LOS, $N_e$ is the fluctuation level of solar-wind (electron) density, $K$ is the normalization factor based on the mean density fluctuation of the background solar wind, and $\omega(z)$ is the IPS weighting function (Young, 1971). We note that $\Delta N_e$ is nearly proportional to the solar-wind density [$N_e$]; $\Delta N_e \propto N_e$ (Coles et al., 1978), and the weak-scattering condition holds for $R > 0.2$ AU, where $R$ is the radial distance from the Sun.

A g-value represents the relative level of density fluctuation integrated along a LOS. For quiet solar-wind conditions, the g-value is around unity. With dense plasma or high turbulence as an ICME passes across a LOS, the g-value becomes greater than unity because of the $\Delta N_e$ ($\propto N_e$) increase. In contrast, a g-value...
less than unity indicates a rarefaction of the solar wind. Hence, detecting an abrupt increase in $g$-value is a useful means to detect an ICME.

The location of the LOS for a radio source exhibiting a $g$-value enhancement in the sky plane indicates a turbulent region is present. A sky-map of enhanced $g$-values for the sources observed in a day is called a “$g$-map” (Hewish and Bravo, 1986). This map provides information on the spatial distribution of ICMEs. Figure 1 shows an example of a $g$-map for a CME event. A white-light difference image of a CME observed by the SOHO/LASCO-C2 coronagraph is shown in the left-hand panel of Figure 1. As shown here, a bright balloon-like structure was observed on the northeast limb on 11 July 2000. This event was reported as an asymmetric halo CME in the SOHO/LASCO CME Catalog (Yashiro et al., 2004; Gopalswamy et al., 2009; available at cdaw.gsfc.nasa.gov/CME_list/).

The right-hand panel of Figure 1 is a $g$-map derived from our IPS observation on 12 July 2000. The center of the map corresponds to the location of the Sun, and the horizontal and vertical axes are parallel to the East–West and North–South directions, respectively. The concentric circles indicate the radial distances to the closest approach of the LOS of 0.3 AU, 0.6 AU, and 0.9 AU. The radial distance $r_{IPS}$ for each LOS is given by $r_{IPS} = r_E \sin \varepsilon$, where $r_E$ is the distance between the Sun and the Earth, i.e. 1 AU and $\varepsilon$ is the solar elongation angle for the LOS. This calculation is based on the approximation that a large fraction of IPS is given by the wave scattering at the closest point to the Sun (the P-point) on a LOS (Hewish, Scott, and Wills, 1964). Since ten LOSs between 0.4 and 0.7 AU in the eastern hemisphere (left-hand side of $g$-map) exhibit high $g$-values, a group of them is considered as the interplanetary counterpart of the 11 July 2000 CME event. This CME was also detected by in-situ observation at 1 AU on 13 July 2000 and reported as a near-Earth ICME (Richardson and Cane, 2010). In this way, a $g$-map can visualize an ICME between 0.2 and 1 AU. The $g$-value data have been available from our IPS observation since 1997 (Tokumaru et al., 2000a). To find the $g$-value enhancements due to ICMEs from the $g$-value data obtained between 1997 and 2009, we define criteria for the ICME identifications as mentioned in the next section.

3. Method

3.1. ICME Identification

First, we define disturbance days due to an ICME in the IPS data. In this determination, we consider a threshold $g$-value and the number of sources exhibiting the threshold or beyond. The average $\langle a_g \rangle$ and standard deviation $\sigma_g$ for the $g$-values obtained by STEL IPS observations between 1997 and 2009 are 1.07 and 0.47, respectively. From these, we regard a $g$-value for a disturbed condition on a given day to be $a_g + \sigma_g$ or more, and we decide to use 1.5 as this threshold. We also define an “observation day” as a day on which 15 or more sources are observed by our radio-telescope system; this minimum number is equal to half the mean number of sources observed in a day. In an observation day, when five or more sources showed a disturbed condition, we judge that a disturbance had occurred.
Combining the above criteria, we define an “IPS disturbance event day” (IDED) as a day on which \( g \geq 1.5 \) sources numbered five or more on an observation day. Using this definition, we find 656 IDEDs in our period of research. From these, we eliminate periods with four or more consecutive IDEDs because they are likely related to co-rotating stream interaction regions (Gapper et al., 1982). However, we do not eliminate two periods including the 2000 Bastille Day (illustrated in Figure 1) and 2003 Halloween events from among the IDEDs above, because consecutive disturbances in them are caused by successive CMEs (e.g., Andrews, 2001; Gopalswamy et al., 2005). As a result, 159 out of 656 IDEDs are excluded, and the remaining 497 IDEDs are listed as candidates for ICME events.

Next, we examine the relationship between CME/ICME pairs and selected IDEDs. In this examination, we use the list of near-Earth ICMEs and associated CMEs compiled by Richardson and Cane (2010). This includes 322 ICMEs associated with a halo or a partial halo or normal CMEs during Solar Cycle 23; here, “normal” means that the exterior of CME is neither a halo nor a partial halo. In the above study, CMEs were observed by the SOHO/LASCO coronagraphs, and ICMEs were detected by in-situ observation using spacecraft such as ACE and the Interplanetary Monitoring Platform-8 (IMP-8). We compare the list of IDEDs with that of ICMEs using the assumption that an ICME caused the IDED. When an IDED is between the appearance date of an associated CME and the detection date of a near-Earth ICME, we assume that the IDED was related to the ICME.

Using the above method, we find 66 IDEDs from our list that were probably related to ICMEs. However, we also find that 16 IDEDs of the 66 had multiple associated CMEs. For these 16 events, we identify the optimal one-to-one correspondence by comparing positions for LOS exhibiting high \( g \)-values in a \( g \)-map with the direction of the associated CME eruption in the LASCO field-of-view (FOV).

At the end of this selection, we identify 50 CMEs and their associated ICMEs that were detected by the SOHO/LASCO, IPS, and in-situ observations. For these, we estimate radial speeds and accelerations in interplanetary space using the method described in the next subsection.

### 3.2. Estimations of ICME Radial Speeds and Accelerations

The ICME radial speeds and accelerations are estimated in two interplanetary regions, i.e. the region between SOHO and IPS observations (the SOHO–IPS region, from 0.1 to \( \approx 0.6 \) AU) and that between IPS and in-situ observations (the IPS–Earth region, from \( \approx 0.6 \) to 1 AU). In these estimations, we assume that locations of LOS for disturbed sources in a \( g \)-map give the location of the ICME.

First, we calculate radial speeds at reference distances for each ICME. For each radio source of \( g \geq 1.5 \) in a \( g \)-map, distances \([r_1 \text{ and } r_2]\) and radial speeds \([v_1 \text{ and } v_2]\) are derived from the following equations:

\[
\begin{align*}
r_1 &= \frac{r_S + r_{IPS}}{2}, \\
v_1 &= \frac{v_{IPS} - v_S}{t_{IPS} - T_{SOHO}} \quad \text{(for the SOHO–IPS region),}
\end{align*}
\]
and
\[ r_2 = \frac{r_{IPS} + r_E}{2}, \quad v_2 = \frac{r_E - r_{IPS}}{T_{Earth} - t_{IPS}} \] (for the IPS–Earth region), \hspace{1cm} (4)
respectively. Here, \( r_S \) is the minimum radius of SOHO/LASCO-C2 FOV, i.e. 0.009 AU, \( r_{IPS} \) is the radial distance of P-point on the LOS, \( r_E \) is the distance between the Sun and the Earth, i.e. 1 AU, \( T_{SOHO} \) is the appearance time of CME in the SOHO/LASCO-C2 FOV, \( t_{IPS} \) is the observation time for a \( g \geq 1.5 \) source, and \( T_{Earth} \) is the onset time of near-Earth ICME by in-situ observation. Using these values, the average reference distances \([R_1 \text{ and } R_2]\) and the average radial speeds \([V_1 \text{ and } V_2]\) for the ICME are found for values of \( r_1, r_2, v_1, \) and \( v_2 \) for all \( g \geq 1.5 \) sources, respectively on a given day.

Next, we calculate accelerations using the values above. In these calculations, we use the approximation that the accelerations are constant within each region. The average accelerations, i.e. \( a_1 \) and \( a_2 \), for ICMEs were given by
\[
a_1 = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^{n} \frac{v_{IPS,k} - V_{SOHO}}{t_{IPS,k} - T_{SOHO}} \] (for the SOHO–IPS region), \hspace{1cm} (5)
and
\[
a_2 = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^{n} \frac{V_{Earth} - v_{IPS,k}}{T_{Earth} - t_{IPS,k}} \] (for the IPS–Earth region), \hspace{1cm} (6)
respectively. Here,
\[ v_{IPS,k} = \frac{v_{1,k} + v_{2,k}}{2}, \] (7)
\( t_{IPS,k} \) is the observation time for each \( g \geq 1.5 \) source, \( n \) is the number of \( g \geq 1.5 \) sources, and \( V_{SOHO} \) and \( V_{Earth} \) are the radial speed of the CME and of the near-Earth ICME, respectively. For the value of \( V_{SOHO} \) in the halo or the partial halo CMEs, we use
\[ V_{SOHO} = 1.20 \times V_{POS}, \] (8)
where \( V_{POS} \) is the speed measured in the sky plane by the SOHO/LASCO, because the coronagraph measurement for them tends to underestimate the radial speed (Michalek, Gopalswamy, and Yashiro, 2003), while we use \( V_{SOHO} = V_{POS} \) for the normal ones. In this study, we use the linear speeds reported in the SOHO/LASCO CME Catalog (cdaw.gsfc.nasa.gov/CME_list/index.html) for those of \( V_{POS} \) with a 0.08 AU reference distance corresponding to half the LASCO FOV value. Those are derived from the bright leading edges of CME (Yashiro et al., 2004), while the associated shocks show a faint structure ahead of them (Ontiveros and Vourlidas, 2009), and then indicate the speeds of CME itself in the sky plane (Vourlidas et al., 2012). For values of \( V_{Earth} \), we use the average ICME speeds listed by Richardson and Cane (2010). We note that the values of \( V_{SOHO} \) and \( V_{Earth} \) represent an average in the near-Sun and near-Earth regions, respectively, and \( V_1, V_2, a_1, \) and \( a_2 \) are averages in the interplanetary
space. The ICME speeds in the near-Earth region are measured when the spacecraft passes through them. Thus, those are equivalent to the plasma flow speed on the trajectory of the spacecraft during the passage of an ICME, indicated by the enhancement of the charge state and the rotation of magnetic-field direction (Richardson and Cane, 2010). The speed of the solar wind measured by in-situ observations is sometimes highly variable during the passage of an ICME. However, the majority of ICMEs listed by them have only < 100 km s\(^{-1}\) difference between the peak and average speeds. Hence, we consider it justified that the average flow speed can be used as the propagation speed of ICMEs.

3.3. Classification of ICMEs

Here, we introduce \( V_{IPS} \) which is given as the average value of \( v_{IPS} \) for each ICME; the \( v_{IPS} \) is derived from Equation 7. In addition, we also introduce \( V_{bg} \) as the speed of the background solar wind. To determine the value of \( V_{bg} \) as the average background wind speed between \( T_{SOHO} \) and \( T_{Earth} \) for each ICME, we used plasma data obtained by space-borne instruments including Solar Wind Electron, Proton, and Alpha Monitor onboard ACE (ACE/SWEPAM: McComas et al., 1998), Solar Wind Experiment on Wind (Wind/SWE: Ogilvie et al., 1995), Massachusetts Institute of Technology Faraday cup experiment on IMP-8 (IMP-8/MIT: Bellomo and Mavretic, 1978), and the Comprehensive Plasma Instrumentation on GEOTAIL (GEOTAIL/CPI: Frank et al., 1994); these are determined from the NASA/GSFC OMNI dataset through OMNIWeb Plus (omniweb.gsfc.nasa.gov/).

Using the values of \( V_{SOHO} \), \( V_{IPS} \), and \( V_{bg} \), we classify the 50 ICMEs into three types: fast \( (V_{SOHO} - V_{bg} > 500 \text{ km s}^{-1}) \), moderate \( (0 \text{ km s}^{-1} \leq V_{SOHO} - V_{bg} \leq 500 \text{ km s}^{-1}) \), and slow \( (V_{SOHO} - V_{bg} < 0 \text{ km s}^{-1}) \). In our results, the numbers of fast, moderate, and slow ICMEs are 19, 25, and 6, respectively. Here, we eliminate 5 of the 19 fast ICMEs and a moderate ICME because they show an extreme zigzag profile of propagation speeds, \( i.e. V_1 - V_2 > 1000 \text{ km s}^{-1} \). The value of \( V_1 - V_2 > 1000 \text{ km s}^{-1} \) implies that the ICME has a strange acceleration, and then shows an unrealistic propagation. We also eliminate 4 of the 24 moderate ICMEs and one of the six slow ones because they exhibit the unusual values of \( V_{IPS} \) of \( V_{IPS} - V_{bg} > 500 \text{ km s}^{-1} \) and \( V_{IPS} - V_{bg} > 100 \text{ km s}^{-1} \), respectively. The values of \( V_{IPS} - V_{bg} > 500 \text{ km s}^{-1} \) for moderate and \( V_{IPS} - V_{bg} > 100 \text{ km s}^{-1} \) for slow ICMEs imply that the ICME has a strange acceleration since \( V_{IPS} \) is larger than \( V_{SOHO} \) and \( V_{Earth} \), and an unrealistic ICME propagation that indicates a higher speed in the region beyond coronagraph distances, and less at 1 AU.

Finally, we obtain physical properties for 39 ICMEs which consist of 14 fast, 20 moderate, and five slow ones.

4. Results

4.1. Properties and Speed profiles of the 39 ICMEs

The properties of the 39 ICMEs identified from our analysis are listed in Tables 1 and 2 which including \( T_{IPS} \), \( R_0 \), \( \alpha \), \( \beta \), and \( V_{Tr} \) in addition to \( T_{SOHO} \), \( V_{POS} \).
$V_{\text{SOHO}}, R_1, V_1, a_1, R_2, V_2, a_2, T_{\text{Earth}}, V_{\text{Earth}},$ and $V_{\text{bg}}$ above. Here, $T_{\text{IPS}}$ and $R_0$ are the mean time and the average radial distance for an ICME detected by IPS observations; those are given as the averages of $t_{\text{IPS}}$ and of $r_{\text{IPS}}$ for the $g \geq 1.5$ sources, respectively. The $\alpha$ and $\beta$ are the index and coefficient for a power-law form of the radial speed evolution described as

$$V = \beta R^\alpha,$$  

where $R$ is the heliocentric distance. $V_{\text{Tr}}$ is the transit speed:

$$V_{\text{Tr}} = \frac{r_{\text{E}}}{T_{\text{Earth}} - T_{\text{SOHO}}}. \quad (10)$$

This is equivalent to the average speed of ICMEs between the Sun and the Earth. In addition, we plot all of the speed profiles in order to show radial speed evolutions of ICMEs in Figure 2. Here, data points for each ICME are connected by solid lines instead of fitting in Equation (9). As shown here, ICME propagation speeds in the near-Sun region exhibit a wide range from 90 km s$^{-1}$ to $\approx 2100$ km s$^{-1}$, while those in the near-Earth region range from 310 km s$^{-1}$ to 790 km s$^{-1}$. Moreover, the range of ICME propagation speeds in interplanetary space decreases with increasing distance. In addition, speeds of the background solar wind also show a relatively narrow span from 286 km s$^{-1}$ to 662 km s$^{-1}$. 
Table 1. Properties derived from SOHO/LASCO observations and those in the SOHO–IPS region derived from IPS observations for 39 CMEs during 1997 – 2009.

| No. | Date [ddmmmyy] | Time [hhmm] | \( V_{POS} \) [km s\(^{-1}\)] | \( V_{SOHO} \) [km s\(^{-1}\)] | Type | Date [ddmmmyy] | Time [hhmm] | \( R_0 \) [AU] | \( R_1 \) [AU] | \( V_i \) [km s\(^{-1}\)] | \( a_i \) [m s\(^{-2}\)] |
|-----|----------------|-------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----|----------------|-------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| 1   | 07 Feb 2010    | 0354        | 421             | 505             | FH  | 01 Feb 2010    | 0117        | 0.81           | 0.20           | 0.45           | 0.10           | 359            | 92             | 0.44           | 0.56           |
| 2   | 03 Apr 2010    | 1033        | 668             | 802             | FH  | 04 Apr 2010    | 0043        | 0.81           | 0.16           | 0.44           | 0.08           | 1030           | 236            | 0.77           | 1.56           |
| 3   | 08 Apr 2010    | 0131        | 227             | 272             | PH  | 11 Apr 2010    | 0240        | 0.67           | 0.22           | 0.37           | 0.11           | 374            | 122            | 0.90           | 0.84           |
| 4   | 24 May 2010    | 1406        | 427             | 512             | FH  | 26 May 2010    | 0251        | 0.63           | 0.19           | 0.35           | 0.09           | 466            | 135            | 0.51           | 0.53           |
| 5   | 01 Aug 2010    | 1342        | 850             | 1020            | FH  | 03 Aug 2010    | 0356        | 0.77           | 0.21           | 0.43           | 0.11           | 563            | 160            | 1.70           | 1.67           |
| 6   | 12 Nov 2010    | 0836        | 482             | 578             | PH  | 15 Nov 2010    | 0201        | 0.80           | 0.16           | 0.44           | 0.08           | 501            | 105            | 0.56           | 0.65           |
| 7   | 15 Feb 2011    | 0224        | 669             | 803             | FH  | 17 Feb 2011    | 0307        | 0.73           | 0.17           | 0.41           | 0.08           | 615            | 135            | 1.49           | 0.87           |
| 8   | 28 Jul 1999    | 0906        | 462             | 554             | FH  | 30 Jul 1999    | 0438        | 0.60           | 0.12           | 0.34           | 0.06           | 557            | 97             | 0.37           | 0.43           |
| 9   | 17 Aug 1999    | 1331        | 776             | 931             | FH  | 19 Aug 1999    | 0403        | 0.60           | 0.14           | 0.34           | 0.07           | 635            | 138            | 3.04           | 0.67           |
| 10  | 21 May 2000    | 0726        | 629             | 755             | PH  | 23 May 2000    | 0311        | 0.50           | 0.07           | 0.29           | 0.03           | 469            | 60             | 1.31           | 0.29           |
| 11  | 31 May 2000    | 0806        | 391             | 469             | FH  | 03 Jun 2000    | 0417        | 0.52           | 0.18           | 0.30           | 0.09           | 312            | 105            | 0.32           | 0.37           |
| 12  | 07 Jul 2000    | 1026        | 453             | 544             | FH  | 09 Jul 2000    | 0345        | 0.57           | 0.20           | 0.33           | 0.10           | 559            | 180            | 0.49           | 0.80           |
| 13  | 11 Jul 2000    | 1327        | 1078            | 1294            | FH  | 12 Jul 2000    | 0459        | 0.56           | 0.17           | 0.32           | 0.09           | 1446           | 373            | 5.27           | 3.60           |
| 14  | 17 Jul 2000    | 0854        | 788             | 788             | NM  | 19 Jul 2000    | 0421        | 0.59           | 0.10           | 0.34           | 0.05           | 557            | 78             | 0.65           | 0.56           |
| 15  | 06 Aug 2000    | 1830        | 233             | 280             | PH  | 09 Aug 2000    | 0503        | 0.62           | 0.14           | 0.35           | 0.07           | 432            | 95             | 0.68           | 0.40           |
| 16  | 09 Aug 2000    | 1630        | 702             | 842             | FH  | 11 Aug 2000    | 0446        | 0.54           | 0.12           | 0.31           | 0.06           | 600            | 123            | 1.12           | 0.78           |
| 17  | 29 Aug 2000    | 1830        | 769             | 921             | PH  | 01 Sep 2000    | 0106        | 0.70           | 0.06           | 0.39           | 0.03           | 530            | 57             | 2.65           | 0.19           |
| 18  | 08 Nov 2000    | 2306        | 1738            | 2086            | PH  | 10 Nov 2000    | 0017        | 0.64           | 0.16           | 0.36           | 0.08           | 1053           | 283            | 14.60          | 1.88           |
| 19  | 11 Apr 2001    | 1331        | 1103            | 1324            | FH  | 12 Apr 2001    | 0334        | 0.44           | 0.20           | 0.26           | 0.10           | 1239           | 477            | 6.38           | 4.77           |
| 20  | 14 Aug 2001    | 1601        | 618             | 742             | FH  | 16 Aug 2001    | 0341        | 0.44           | 0.08           | 0.26           | 0.04           | 507            | 97             | 1.57           | 0.45           |
| No. | Date       | Time   | \( V_{\text{POS}} \) | \( V_{\text{SOHO}} \) | Type | PA [deg] |
|-----|------------|--------|----------------------|----------------------|------|---------|
| 21  | 25 Aug 2001 | 1650   | 1433                 | 1720                 | FH   | −99     |
| 22  | 29 Sep 2001 | 1654   | 1433                 | 1720                 | FH   | −99     |
| 23  | 22 Oct 2001 | 1626   | 1198                 | 1618                 | NM   | 131     |
| 24  | 15 Oct 2001 | 1526   | 1198                 | 1618                 | FM   | −99     |
| 25  | 17 Nov 2001 | 0530   | 1379                 | 1655                 | FH   | −99     |
| 26  | 29 Nov 2001 | 1207   | 562                  | 674                  | PH   | 13      |
| 28  | 29 May 2002 | 1154   | 1366                 | 1639                 | FH   | −99     |
| 29  | 15 Jul 2003 | 0154   | 875                  | 1050                 | PH   | 99      |
| 30  | 10 Aug 2003 | 0154   | 875                  | 1050                 | PH   | 99      |
| 31  | 22 Jul 2004 | 0731   | 700                  | 840                  | PH   | 66      |
| 32  | 13 Aug 2004 | 0731   | 700                  | 840                  | PH   | 66      |
| 33  | 13 Aug 2005 | 0731   | 700                  | 840                  | PH   | 66      |
| 34  | 26 Aug 2005 | 1506   | 586                  | 703                  | FH   | −99     |
| 35  | 26 Aug 2006 | 2126   | 420                  | 504                  | PH   | 144     |
| 36  | 07 Jul 2005 | 1706   | 683                  | 820                  | FH   | −99     |
| 37  | 05 Aug 2005 | 0854   | 494                  | 593                  | FH   | 23      |
| 38  | 26 Aug 2006 | 2057   | 786                  | 943                  | PH   | 164     |
| 39  | 12 Sep 2006 | 1030   | 91                   | 91                   | NM   | 89      |
| 40  | 29 Aug 2009 | 0930   | 139                  | 139                  | NM   | 258     |

| Disturbance | IPS | SOHO–IPS region |
|-------------|-----|-----------------|
| Date       | Time | R₀ [AU] | R₁ [AU] | V₁ [km s⁻¹] | a₁ [m s⁻²] |
| [ddmmmyy]  | [hhmm] | Aver. | Aver. | σ | Aver. | Aver. | σ | Aver. | σ |
| 21         | 27 Aug 2001 | 0337 | 0.11 | 0.11 | 0.06 | 758 | 122 | −7.85 | 0.85 |
| 22         | 29 Sep 2001 | 0220 | 0.13 | 0.13 | 0.06 | 1334 | 359 | −2.72 | 2.84 |
| 23         | 25 Oct 2001 | 0116 | 0.20 | 0.20 | 0.10 | 425 | 171 | −1.14 | 0.58 |
| 24         | 27 Oct 2001 | 0137 | 0.09 | 0.09 | 0.04 | 617 | 136 | −6.94 | 0.55 |
| 25         | 18 Nov 2001 | 0229 | 0.08 | 0.08 | 0.04 | 991 | 222 | −12.23 | 1.45 |
| 26         | 31 Jul 2002 | 0212 | 0.10 | 0.10 | 0.05 | 519 | 117 | −1.52 | 0.47 |
| 27         | 07 Sep 2002 | 0503 | 0.19 | 0.19 | 0.10 | 733 | 192 | −10.98 | 1.13 |
| 28         | 29 May 2003 | 0210 | 0.15 | 0.15 | 0.07 | 838 | 275 | −8.72 | 2.05 |
| 29         | 15 Jun 2003 | 0311 | 0.10 | 0.10 | 0.06 | 1038 | 194 | −4.30 | 1.10 |
| 30         | 17 Aug 2003 | 0409 | 0.12 | 0.12 | 0.06 | 497 | 106 | 0.62 | 0.63 |
| 31         | 23 Jul 2004 | 0406 | 0.12 | 0.12 | 0.06 | 1228 | 158 | 0.06 | 1.28 |
| 32         | 13 Sep 2004 | 0405 | 0.11 | 0.11 | 0.05 | 741 | 138 | −9.40 | 0.84 |
| 33         | 28 May 2005 | 0334 | 0.16 | 0.16 | 0.08 | 738 | 161 | −1.38 | 0.75 |
| 34         | 29 May 2005 | 0522 | 0.08 | 0.08 | 0.04 | 513 | 49 | −0.57 | 0.18 |
| 35         | 09 Jul 2005 | 0347 | 0.12 | 0.12 | 0.06 | 549 | 132 | −1.44 | 0.74 |
| 36         | 07 Aug 2005 | 0547 | 0.13 | 0.13 | 0.07 | 632 | 115 | −0.78 | 0.48 |
| 37         | 28 Aug 2006 | 0425 | 0.19 | 0.19 | 0.09 | 736 | 250 | −3.83 | 1.17 |
| 38         | 14 Sep 2006 | 0449 | 0.10 | 0.10 | 0.05 | 556 | 96 | 2.04 | 0.34 |
| 39         | 01 Jan 2009 | 0148 | 0.18 | 0.18 | 0.09 | 353 | 116 | 0.72 | 0.32 |

Column: (1) Event number; (2) – (3) Appearance date [ddmmmyy] and time [hhmm] of an ICME–associated CME observed by SOHO/LASCO; (4) Speed in the sky plane measured by SOHO/LASCO with 0.08 AU of reference distance; (5) Radial speed estimated using \( V_{\text{SOHO}} = 1.20 \times V_{\text{POS}} \); (6) Type of CME [FH, PH, and NM mean Full Halo, Partial Halo, and Normal CME, respectively]; (7) Position angle measured from solar North in degrees (counter-clockwise); [99 means Full Halo]; (8) – (9) Observation date [ddmmmyy] and mean time [hhmm] of IPS disturbance event day; (10) – (11) Average and standard errors for the distance of observed disturbance \( R_0 \); (12) – (13) Average and standard error for the reference distance \( R_1 \) (in the SOHO–IPS region); (14) – (15) Average and standard error for the speed \( V_1 \) (in the SOHO–IPS region); (16) – (17) Average and standard error for acceleration \( a_1 \) (in the SOHO–IPS region).
Table 2. Properties in the IPS–Earth region derived from IPS observations, detection dates, times, and speeds obtained by in-situ observations at 1 AU, fitting parameters and speeds of the background solar wind for 39 ICMEs during 1997–2009.

| No. | IPS in situ Parameters for power-law equation | Background wind | Date | Time | V_{Earth} | Index | Coefficient | Date | Time | V_{Earth} | Index | Coefficient |
|-----|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------|------|------|-----------|--------|-------------|------|------|-----------|--------|-------------|
|     | IPS–Earth region                              |                 |      |      |           | α      | β           |      |      |           | α      | β           |
|     | R_{2} [AU]                                   | V_{2} [km s^{-1}] | a_{2} [m s^{-2}] | | | | | | | | | | |
|     | Aver. σ                                      | Aver. σ         | Aver. σ | Aver. σ | Aver. σ | | Aver. σ | Aver. σ | | Aver. σ | Aver. σ | |
| 1   | 0.81 0.07                                    | 401 153         | −0.35 0.56 | 10 Dec 1997 | 1800 | 350 | −0.102 | 366.9 | 401 | 354 | 24 |
| 2   | 0.75 0.11                                    | 809 335         | −1.95 2.06 | 02 May 1998 | 0500 | 520 | −0.374 | 547.2 | 602 | 369 | 47 |
| 3   | 0.80 0.05                                    | 391 105         | −0.20 0.45 | 07 Nov 1998 | 2200 | 450 | −0.167 | 426.9 | 482 | 385 | 27 |
| 4   | 0.78 0.08                                    | 399 145         | −0.82 0.83 | 09 Nov 1998 | 0100 | 450 | −0.478 | 411.5 | 544 | 385 | 27 |
| 5   | 0.78 0.08                                    | 495 165         | −0.49 0.73 | 16 Apr 1999 | 1800 | 410 | 0.094  | 465.0 | 480 | 398 | 15 |
| 6   | 0.81 0.05                                    | 361 101         | 0.85 0.48  | 27 Jun 1999 | 2200 | 670 | 0.340  | 483.9 | 516 | 306 | 31 |
| 7   | 0.72 0.04                                    | 587 80          | −0.33 0.47 | 30 Jul 1999 | 2000 | 620 | 0.111  | 658.4 | 654 | 377 | 43 |
| 8   | 0.80 0.06                                    | 436 112         | −0.12 0.49 | 31 Jul 1999 | 1900 | 480 | 0.080  | 466.9 | 507 | 545 | 22 |
| 9   | 0.80 0.07                                    | 385 134         | −0.32 0.60 | 20 Aug 1999 | 2300 | 460 | 0.325  | 416.8 | 510 | 635 | 67 |
| 10  | 0.75 0.03                                    | 630 78          | −0.17 0.38 | 24 May 2000 | 1200 | 530 | −0.088 | 530.8 | 542 | 579 | 7  |
| 11  | 0.76 0.09                                    | 470 173         | 0.53 0.60  | 04 Jun 2000 | 2200 | 470 | 0.022  | 433.4 | 378 | 462 | 55 |
| 12  | 0.79 0.10                                    | 381 177         | −0.18 0.71 | 11 Jul 2000 | 0200 | 440 | 0.120  | 423.0 | 474 | 371 | 13 |
| 13  | 0.78 0.09                                    | 566 199         | −3.46 1.75 | 13 Jul 2000 | 1300 | 610 | 0.347  | 638.2 | 874 | 500 | 24 |
| 14  | 0.80 0.05                                    | 816 170         | −2.12 1.18 | 20 Jul 2000 | 0100 | 530 | −0.079 | 611.8 | 648 | 574 | 43 |
| 15  | 0.81 0.07                                    | 414 149         | 0.06 0.62  | 10 Aug 2000 | 1900 | 430 | 0.165  | 447.8 | 430 | 412 | 36 |
| 16  | 0.77 0.06                                    | 793 186         | −1.33 1.17 | 12 Aug 2000 | 0500 | 580 | −0.090 | 634.9 | 686 | 412 | 36 |
| 17  | 0.85 0.03                                    | 276 59          | 0.11 0.23  | 02 Sep 2000 | 2200 | 420 | −0.398 | 340.2 | 417 | 529 | 47 |
| 18  | 0.82 0.08                                    | 473 218         | 0.25 1.49  | 11 Nov 2000 | 0800 | 790 | −0.492 | 600.6 | 730 | 650 | 184 |
| 19  | 0.72 0.10                                    | 782 253         | −2.69 2.28 | 13 Apr 2001 | 0900 | 730 | −0.253 | 753.9 | 955 | 537 | 26 |
| 20  | 0.72 0.04                                    | 573 85          | −0.27 0.40 | 17 Aug 2001 | 2000 | 500 | −0.125 | 502.2 | 546 | 395 | 43 |
Table 2.
(Continued from the previous page)

| No. | IPS \(R_2\) [AU] | IPS–Earth region \(V_2\) [km s\(^{-1}\)] | in situ \(a_2\) [m s\(^{-2}\)] | Parameter for power-law equation | Background wind \(V_{bg}\) [km s\(^{-1}\)] |
|-----|------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|
|     | Date Time        | \(V_{Earth}\) [km s\(^{-1}\)] | \(\alpha\) | \(\beta\) | \(V_T\) [km s\(^{-1}\)] | \(V_{bg}\) [km s\(^{-1}\)] |
| 21  | 28 Aug 2001 0000 | 490                             | –0.441          | 545.6  | 752 110  | 21     |
| 22  | 01 Oct 2001 0800 | 490                             | –0.397          | 467.5  | 584 513  | 33     |
| 23  | 27 Oct 2001 0300 | 420                             | –0.175          | 379.7  | 397 393  | 32     |
| 24  | 29 Oct 2001 2200 | 360                             | –0.569          | 306.2  | 405 393  | 32     |
| 25  | 19 Nov 2001 2200 | 430                             | –0.553          | 435.4  | 644 399  | 20     |
| 26  | 02 Aug 2002 0600 | 460                             | –0.175          | 424.9  | 462 428  | 34     |
| 27  | 08 Sep 2002 0400 | 470                             | –0.562          | 482.9  | 703 400  | 22     |
| 28  | 30 May 2003 0200 | 600                             | –0.344          | 649.3  | 844 662  | 32     |
| 29  | 17 Jun 2003 1000 | 480                             | –0.434          | 410.4  | 518 520  | 44     |
| 30  | 18 Aug 2003 0100 | 450                             | 0.068           | 543.0  | 540 534  | 55     |
| 31  | 24 Jul 2004 1400 | 560                             | –0.220          | 583.3  | 762 450  | 61     |
| 32  | 14 Sep 2004 1500 | 550                             | –0.417          | 516.0  | 666 286  | 37     |
| 33  | 30 May 2005 0100 | 460                             | –0.254          | 411.0  | 507 342  | 56     |
| 34  | 31 May 2005 0400 | 460                             | –0.141          | 370.6  | 405 342  | 56     |
| 35  | 10 Jul 2005 1000 | 430                             | –0.166          | 516.8  | 640 332  | 11     |
| 36  | 09 Aug 2005 0000 | 480                             | –0.175          | 410.9  | 477 537  | 82     |
| 37  | 30 Aug 2006 2000 | 400                             | –0.429          | 348.5  | 437 511  | 83     |
| 38  | 17 Sep 2008 0400 | 400                             | 0.486           | 425.8  | 366 406  | 107    |
| 39  | 04 Jun 2009 0200 | 310                             | 0.276           | 327.7  | 304 327  | 26     |

Column: (1) Event number (identical with column (1) in Table 1); (2)–(3) Average and standard error for the reference distance \(R_2\) (in the IPS–Earth region); (4)–(5) Average and standard error for the speed \(V_2\) (in the IPS–Earth region); (6)–(7) Average and standard error for the acceleration \(a_2\) (in the IPS–Earth region); (8)–(9) Detection date [ddmm] and time [hhmm] of a near-Earth ICME by in-situ observation at 1 AU; (10) Near-Earth ICME speed measured by in-situ observation at 1 AU; (11)–(12) Index \(\alpha\) and coefficient \(\beta\) for a power-law form of radial speed evolution; (13) 1 AU transit speed \(V_{Tr}\) derived from the CME appearance and the ICME detection; (14)–(15) Average and standard deviation for the speed of the background wind \(V_{bg}\) measured by spacecraft including ACE, Wind, IMP-8, and GEOTAIL.
4.2. Fast, Moderate, and Slow ICMEs, and Their Accelerations

For the fast, moderate, and slow ICMEs, we show representative examples of speed profiles in Figures 3, 4, and 5 respectively. These are plotted using the values of $V_{SOHO}$, $R_1$, $V_1$, $R_2$, $V_2$, $V_{Earth}$, and $V_{bg}$. Figure 3 shows a speed profile for a fast ICME observed as a halo by SOHO/LASCO on 5 November 1998, a subsequent disturbance from the IPS observations on 7 November 1998, and the event detected at 1 AU by in-situ observations on 9 November 1998 (see No. 4 in Tables 1 and 2). These data show that the ICME speed rapidly decreases to the value of $V_{bg}$ with an increase in radial distance; the initial speed $V_{SOHO}$ value is 1342 km s$^{-1}$, while $V_{bg} = 385$ km s$^{-1}$ for this ICME. This speed profile is well fit by a power-law function; the fitting-line has a value of $\alpha = -0.478$ from Equation (9).

Figure 4 shows the speed profile for a moderate ICME; this ICME was observed as a normal event (neither a halo nor a partial halo) by SOHO/LASCO on 17 July 2000, on 19 July 2000 in IPS, and detected by in-situ observations on 20 July 2000 (see No. 14 in Tables 1 and 2). As shown here, for this ICME, the 788 km s$^{-1}$ initial speed gradually decreases to $V_{bg} = 574$ km s$^{-1}$ with an increase in radial distance; we have a value of $\alpha = -0.079$.

Figure 5 exhibits a speed profile for a slow ICME observed as a normal event by SOHO/LASCO on 29 May 2009, on 1 June 2009 by IPS observations, and detected by in-situ observations on 4 June 2009 (see No. 39 in Tables 1 and 2). For this event, we confirm that $V_{SOHO} = 139$ km s$^{-1}$, and that the propagation
Figure 3. Speed profile for the ICME event between 5 and 9 November 1998. This is an example of a fast ICME. In this event, IPS disturbance event day is 7 November 1998. Open circle, square, and triangle denote measurements of ICME speed from SOHO/LASCO, IPS, and in-situ observations, respectively. An open diamond indicates the speed of the background solar wind measured by in-situ observations, and the dashed line represents the power-law fit to the data using Equation (9). Horizontal and vertical error bars are also plotted using $\sigma$ values (standard error) for the reference distances $R_1$ and $R_2$ and those for the speeds $V_1$, $V_2$, and $V_{bg}$.

speed increases to $V_{bg} = 327 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ with radial distance. This ICME shows acceleration, and the fit has a value of $\alpha = 0.276$.

Figure 6 shows the average radial acceleration for groups of fast, moderate, and slow ICMEs; the average acceleration in the two regions $a_1$ and $a_2$ are calculated first using Equations (5) and (6) for each ICME, and each is subsequently averaged for respective groups. For all of them, the mean values of $R_1$ and $R_2$ with the standard errors are $0.33 \pm 0.04$ and $0.79 \pm 0.04$ AU, respectively. From this figure, we confirm that the acceleration levels vary toward zero with an increase in distance, and this trend is conspicuous for the group of fast ICMEs. We also confirm that the group of moderate ICMEs shows little acceleration.

4.3. Critical Speed for Zero Acceleration

If ICMEs accelerate or decelerate by interaction with the solar wind, we expect that the acceleration will become zero when the propagation speed of ICMEs reaches the speed of the background solar wind. Therefore, it is important to know the ICME propagation speed in this situation in order to verify our expectations. Here, we call this speed “the critical speed for zero acceleration”. In Figures 7 and 8 we give information on this critical speed for zero acceleration in two ways. In Figure 7 we show the relationship between initial ICME speeds $V_{SOHO}$ and indices $\alpha$. The $\alpha$ indicates the type of ICME motion, i.e. acceleration ($\alpha > 0$), uniform ($\alpha = 0$), and deceleration ($\alpha < 0$). As shown
Figure 4. Speed profile for the ICME event between 17 and 20 July 2000. This is an example of a moderate ICME. In this event, IPS disturbance event day is 19 July 2000. Open circle, square, and triangle denote measurements of ICME speed from SOHO/LASCO, IPS, and \textit{in-situ} observations, respectively. An open diamond indicates the speed of the background solar wind measured by \textit{in-situ} observations, and a dashed line represents the power-law fit to the data using Equation (9).

Figure 5. Speed profile for the ICME event between 29 May and 4 June 2009. This is an example of a slow ICME. In this event, IPS disturbance event day is 1 June 2009. Open circle, square, and triangle denote measurements of ICME speed from SOHO/LASCO, IPS, and \textit{in-situ} observations, respectively. An open diamond indicates the speed of the background solar wind measured by \textit{in-situ} observations, and a dashed line represents the power-law fit to the data using Equation (9).
Figure 6. Average radial evolution of acceleration for the fast ($V_{\text{SOHO}} - V_{\text{bg}} > 500 \text{ km s}^{-1}$), moderate ($0 \text{ km s}^{-1} \leq V_{\text{SOHO}} - V_{\text{bg}} \leq 500 \text{ km s}^{-1}$), and slow ($V_{\text{SOHO}} - V_{\text{bg}} < 0 \text{ km s}^{-1}$) ICMEs in this study. Average accelerations are derived from Equations (5) and (6) with reference distances $R_1$ and $R_2$ for each ICME. Open circle, square, and triangle symbols indicate data points that consist of $[R_1, a_1]$ and $[R_2, a_2]$ averaged for 14 fast, 20 moderate, and 5 slow ICMEs, respectively. Pairs of symbols are connected by solid lines.

Table 3. Mean values of coefficients $k_1$, $k_2$, and $k_3$ for the best-fit quadratic curve $\alpha = k_1 + k_2 V_{\text{SOHO}} + k_3 V^2_{\text{SOHO}}$ and the critical speed for zero acceleration $V_{c1}$, and their standard errors, which were derived from the relationship between $V_{\text{SOHO}}$ and $\alpha$.

| k_1     | k_2     | k_3      | V_{c1} [km s^{-1}] |
|---------|---------|----------|--------------------|
| Mean    | 4.31 $\times 10^{-1}$ | -1.06 $\times 10^{-3}$ | 3.04 $\times 10^{-7}$ | 471 |
| Standard error | 5.58 $\times 10^{-2}$ | 1.16 $\times 10^{-4}$ | 5.22 $\times 10^{-8}$ | 19 |

Here, $\alpha$ ranges from 0.486 to -0.596 with an increase in $V_{\text{SOHO}}$. Table 3 gives the mean values of the critical speed for zero acceleration $V_{c1}$, coefficients $k_1$, $k_2$, and $k_3$ for the best-fit curve, and their standard errors. Figure 8 shows the relationship between ICME speeds [$V_{\text{SOHO}}$ and $V_{\text{IPS}}$] and accelerations [$a_1$ and $a_2$]. Table 4 presents the mean values of the critical speed for zero acceleration $V_{c2}$ slope, and intercept for the best-fit line and their standard errors, which are estimated using the FITXY.pro from the IDL Astronomy User’s Library ([idlastro.gsfc.nasa.gov/homepage.html]). From the above examinations, we find $V_{c1} = 471 \pm 19$ km s$^{-1}$ and $V_{c2} = 480 \pm 21$ km s$^{-1}$ as the critical speed for zero acceleration.
Figure 7. Relationship between estimated initial speeds \( V_{\text{SOHO}} \) and indices \( \alpha \) for Equation (9) for the 39 ICMEs in this study. Solid and dotted lines show the best-fit quadratic curve \( \alpha = k_1 + k_2 V_{\text{SOHO}} + k_3 V_{\text{SOHO}}^2 \) and the \( \alpha = 0 \) line. The intersection point of these lines is indicated by an arrow, and corresponds to the critical speed for zero acceleration \( V_{c1} \), which is \( 471 \pm 19 \) km s\(^{-1}\).

Figure 8. Relationship between propagation speeds and accelerations for the 39 ICMEs in this study. Accelerations are derived from Equations (5) and (6), while values of \( V_{\text{SOHO}} \) and \( V_{\text{IPS}} \) are used for the propagation speeds. Open circle and square symbols denote data points, which are \( [V_{\text{SOHO}}, a_1] \) for the SOHO–IPS region and \( [V_{\text{IPS}}, a_2] \) for the IPS–Earth region, respectively. Dash-dotted and dotted lines show the best-fit line and zero acceleration line, respectively. The arrow indicates the critical speed for zero acceleration \( V_{c2} \), which is \( 480 \pm 21 \) km s\(^{-1}\).
Table 4. Mean values of slope and intercept for the best-fit line and the critical speed for zero acceleration \( V_{c2} \) and their standard errors, which were derived from the relationship between speeds and accelerations of ICMEs.

|                  | Slope \( \text{[s}^{-1}] \) | Intercept \( \text{[m} \text{s}^{-2}] \) | \( V_{c2} \) [km s\(^{-1}\)] |
|------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Mean             | \(-7.38 \times 10^{-6}\)   | 3.54                               | 480                           |
| Standard error   | \(2.03 \times 10^{-7}\)    | \(1.24 \times 10^{-1}\)           | 21                            |

Table 5. Coefficients \( \gamma_1 \) and \( \gamma_2 \), correlation coefficient \( \text{[CC]} \), and reduced \( \chi^2 \) for the linear and quadratic equations.

| Equation        | Mean          | Standard error | CC  | \( \chi^2 \) |
|-----------------|---------------|----------------|-----|-------------|
| \( \gamma_1 \) [s\(^{-1}\)] | \(6.58 \times 10^{-6}\) | \(2.34 \times 10^{-7}\) | \(-0.93\) | 1.26 |
| Linear          |               |                |     |             |
| \( \gamma_2 \) [m\(^{-1}\)] | \(6.10 \times 10^{-12}\) | \(2.25 \times 10^{-13}\) | \(-0.90\) | 2.90 |
| Quadratic       |               |                |     |             |

4.4. Relationship Between Acceleration and Difference in Speed

We investigated how the ICME acceleration relates to the difference in speed between it and the background solar wind. In this investigation, we attempted to show which is more suitable to describe the relationship between acceleration and difference in speed: \( a = -\gamma_1(V - V_{bg}) \) or \( a = -\gamma_2(V - V_{bg})|V - V_{bg}| \); these expressions were introduced and also tested in the earlier study by Vršnak and Gopalswamy (2002). Here, \( a \), \( V \), and \( V_{bg} \) denote the acceleration, ICME speed, and speed of the background solar wind, respectively. Although it was assumed that the coefficients \( \gamma_1 \) and \( \gamma_2 \) decrease with the heliocentric distance in the earlier study, for this analysis we assume that the values of coefficients are constants because we want as few variables as possible to describe the relationship. We also assume that the speed of the background solar wind \( V_{bg} \) is constant for heliocentric distances ranging from \( \approx 0.1 \) to \( 1 \) AU. This assumption has been verified approximately between 0.3 and 1 AU by Neugebauer (1975) and Schwenn et al. (1981). In Figure 9, the top panel shows the relationship between \( a \) and \((V - V_{bg})\), and the bottom panel that between \( a \) and \((V - V_{bg})|V - V_{bg}| \) for ICMEs with \( (V_{SOHO} - V_{bg}) \geq 0 \) km s\(^{-1}\), i.e. the fast and moderate ICMEs. Table 5 exhibits the values of \( \gamma_1 \) and \( \gamma_2 \), correlation coefficients, and reduced \( \chi^2 \) derived from this analysis. It is noted that the \( \gamma_1 \), \( \gamma_2 \), and \( \chi^2 \) are calculated using the FITEXY.pro. Although we also examined the slow ICMEs in the same way, we did not obtain a conclusive result. We discuss interpretations of these results in the next section.
Figure 9. Relationships between (a) acceleration $[a]$ and speed difference $[V - V_{bg}]$, and (b) between $a$ and $(V - V_{bg})|V - V_{bg}|$, for 34 of the fast and moderate ICMEs (i.e. $V_{SOHO} - V_{bg} \geq 0$ km s$^{-1}$) in this study. Open circle and square symbols denote data points that consist of values of $(V_{SOHO} - V_{bg})$ and $a_1$ or $(V_{SOHO} - V_{bg})|V_{SOHO} - V_{bg}|$ and $a_1$ for the SOHO–IPS region and those in which consist of values of $(V_{IPS} - V_{bg})$ and $a_2$ or $(V_{IPS} - V_{bg})|V_{IPS} - V_{bg}|$ and $a_2$ for the IPS–Earth region, respectively. In each panel, the dash–dotted curve denotes the best-fit line shown as a curve because of the logarithmic $x$-axis scale.
5. Discussion

From Figures 2, 3, and 4, we confirm that fast and moderate ICMEs are rapidly and gradually decelerating during their outward propagation, respectively, while slow ICMEs are accelerating, and consequently all attain speeds close to those of the background solar wind. As shown in Figure 5, the distribution of ICME propagation speeds in the near-Sun region is wider than in the near-Earth region for all of the ICMEs identified in this study. This is consistent with the earlier study by Lindsay et al. (1999). We also confirm that the distribution of ICME propagation speed in the near-Earth region is similar to that of the background solar-wind speed at 1 AU. We interpret these results as indicating that ICMEs accelerate or decelerate by interaction with the solar wind; the magnitude of the propelling or retarding force acting upon ICMEs depends on the difference between ICMEs and the solar wind. Thus, ICMEs attain final speeds close to the solar-wind speed as they move outward from the Sun. Figure 5 also shows the radial evolution of ICME propagation speeds between 0.08 and 1 AU. We show that ICME speeds reach their final value at 0.79 ± 0.04 AU or at a solar distance slightly less than 1 AU. In addition, we confirm from Figure 6 that the acceleration at 0.79 ± 0.04 AU is much lower than at 0.33 ± 0.04 AU; this is the clearest for the group of fast ICMEs. From this, we thus conclude that most of the ICME acceleration or deceleration ends by 0.79 ± 0.04 AU. This is consistent with an earlier result obtained by Gopalswamy et al. (2001).

We expect that the critical speed of zero acceleration will be close to that of the background solar-wind speed on the basis of the above. We derive two different critical speeds of $V_{c1} = 471 \pm 19$ km s$^{-1}$ and of $V_{c2} = 480 \pm 21$ km s$^{-1}$ from the observational data. Although there is agreement between them, both are somewhat higher than the $\approx 380$ km s$^{-1}$ reported to be the threshold speed by Manoharan (2006) and the 405 km s$^{-1}$ reported by Gopalswamy et al. (2001). We suggest that this discrepancy is caused by the difference in our analysis methods and also the time interval chosen for the analysis. Because the properties of the background solar wind (e.g. speed and density) vary with the change in solar activity, we consider this discrepancy to be minor, and we note that both critical speeds in our result are within the typical speed of the solar wind: $V_{bg} = 445 \pm 95$ km s$^{-1}$ from our sample. Here, we adopt the speed of 480 km s$^{-1}$ as the critical speed for zero acceleration as a mean that is derived from the relationship between propagation speeds and accelerations without the assumption of a power-law form for the motion of the ICME.

Vlasov (1992) and Manoharan (2006) point out that the radial evolution of ICME speeds can be represented by a power-law function. A power-law speed evolution also applies to the ICMEs identified in this study as shown in Figures 2, 3, and 4. As indicated by Figure 6, the value of $\alpha$ varies from 0.499 (acceleration) to −0.596 (strongly deceleration) as ICME speeds increase. This result is consistent with that exhibited in Figure 5.

The relationship between acceleration and speed-difference for ICMEs is usually expressed by either of the following: a linear equation $a = -\gamma_1 (V - V_{bg})$ or a quadratic equation $a = -\gamma_2 (V - V_{bg}) |V - V_{bg}|$. As shown in Figure 7, these equations are evaluated using the acceleration and speed-difference data.
derived from our observations. From this and Table 5, we find that the reduced $\chi^2$ for the former relationship is smaller than for the latter. The assessment of the significance level shows that $\chi^2 = 1.26$ for the linear equation is smaller than the reduced $\chi^2$ corresponding to the probability of 0.05 with 66 degrees of freedom, while $\chi^2 = 2.90$ for the quadratic one is larger. We therefore conclude that the linear equation is more suitable than the quadratic one to describe the kinematics of ICMEs with $(V_{\text{SOHO}} - V_{\text{bg}}) \geq 0$ km s$^{-1}$. From the viewpoint of fluid dynamics, a linear equation suggests that the hydrodynamic Stokes drag force is operating, while the quadratic equation suggests the aerodynamic drag force. [Maloney and Gallagher (2010)] found that the acceleration of a fast ICME showed a linear dependence on the speed difference, while that of a slow ICME showed a quadratic dependence. Our conclusion is consistent with their finding only for the fast and moderate ICMEs. We could not verify their result for the slow ICMEs because we lack sufficient observational data for the slow ICMEs in our sample. We expect to make a more detailed examination for the motion of slow ICMEs in a future study.

We also obtained the mean value of $6.58 \times 10^{-6}$ s$^{-1}$ for the coefficient $\gamma_1$ in our analysis. Substituting our value of $\gamma_1$ in our linear equation, we obtain the following simple expression:

$$ a = -6.58 \times 10^{-6}(V - V_{\text{bg}}), $$

where $a$, $V$, and $V_{\text{bg}}$ are the acceleration, ICME propagating speed, and speed of the background solar wind, respectively, as a useful way to determine the dynamics of ICMEs.

Last, we discuss why the linear equation with a constant $\gamma_1$ can explain the observational result. Our IPS radio-telescope system observes fluctuations of radio signals. These fluctuations are proportional to the solar-wind (electron) density $[N_e]$. Therefore, low-density ICMEs may not be detected by our system. Moreover, we used a threshold $g$-value more severe than that used by [Manoharan (2006)] or [Gapper et al. (1982)] for identification of ICMEs. Hence, it is conceivable that almost all detected ICMEs are high-density events in this study. In addition, from a theoretical study, [Cargill (2004)] indicated that with dense ICMEs, the factor $\gamma$ and $C_D$ (the dimensionless drag coefficient) become approximately constant for aerodynamic drag deceleration; here, $\gamma C_D = \gamma_2$ in our notation. From this, we surmise that a constant value of $\gamma C_D$ indicates that both interplanetary-space conditions and the properties of dense ICMEs are unchanged in the range from the Sun to the Earth. Therefore, $\gamma_1$ must also become approximately constant over the same range from the Sun to the Earth. Thus, to recapitulate, the events detected using our IPS radio-telescope system give results for dense ICMEs, and the dynamics of these are well explained by a linear equation with $\gamma_1 = \text{constant}$.

6. Summary and Conclusions

We investigate radial evolution of propagation speed for 39 ICMEs detected by SOHO/LASCO, IPS at 327 MHz, and in-situ observations during 1997–
2009 covering nearly all of Solar Cycle 23. In this study, we first analyze $g$-values obtained by STEL IPS observations in the above period, and find 497 IPS disturbance event days (IDEDs) as candidates for ICME events. Next, we compare the list of these IDEDs with that of CME/ICME pairs observed by SOHO/LASCO and in-situ observations, and finally we are left with 50 ICMEs; those ICMEs that traveled from the Sun to the Earth, and were detected at three locations between the Sun and the Earth’s orbit, i.e. near-Sun, interplanetary space, and near-Earth. For these ICMEs, we determine reference distances and derive the propagation speeds and accelerations in the SOHO–IPS and IPS–Earth regions. Our examinations yield the following results.

i) Fast ICMEs (with $V_{\text{SOHO}} - V_{\text{bg}} > 500 \text{ km s}^{-1}$) rapidly decelerate, moderate ICMEs (with $0 \text{ km s}^{-1} \leq V_{\text{SOHO}} - V_{\text{bg}} \leq 500 \text{ km s}^{-1}$) show either gradually deceleration or uniform motion, while slow ICMEs (with $V_{\text{SOHO}} - V_{\text{bg}} < 0 \text{ km s}^{-1}$) accelerate, where $V_{\text{SOHO}}$ and $V_{\text{bg}}$ are the initial speed of ICME and the speed of the background solar wind, respectively. Consequently, radial speeds converge to the speed of the background solar wind during their outward propagation. Thus, the distribution of ICME propagation speeds in the near-Earth region is narrower than in the near-Sun region, as shown in Figure 5. This is consistent with the earlier study by Lindsay et al. (1999).

ii) Both the ICME accelerations and the decelerations are nearly complete by $0.79 \pm 0.04 \text{ AU}$. This is consistent with an earlier result obtained by Gopalswamy et al. (2001). Both critical speeds (where the speed of ICME acceleration becomes zero) derived from our analysis, i.e. $471 \pm 19 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ and $480 \pm 21 \text{ km s}^{-1}$, are somewhat higher than the values reported by Manoharan (2006) and Gopalswamy et al. (2000). However, this discrepancy is most likely explained because our analysis methods and data collection periods are different. Both critical speeds in our result do not differ much from the typical speed of the solar wind, and we adopt the mean value of $480 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ as the critical speed for zero acceleration. This is close to the speed of the background solar wind, $V_{\text{bg}} = 445 \pm 95 \text{ km s}^{-1}$, during this period of study.

iii) For ICMEs with $(V_{\text{SOHO}} - V_{\text{bg}}) \geq 0 \text{ km s}^{-1}$, a linear equation $a = -\gamma_1(V - V_{\text{bg}})$ with $\gamma_1 = 6.58 \pm 0.23 \times 10^{-6} \text{ s}^{-1}$ is more appropriate than a quadratic equation $a = -\gamma_2(V - V_{\text{bg}})|V - V_{\text{bg}}|$ to describe their kinematics, where $\gamma_1$ and $\gamma_2$ are coefficients, $a$, $V$, and $V_{\text{bg}}$ are the acceleration and propagation speed of ICMEs, and the speed of the background solar wind, respectively, because the reduced $\chi^2$ for the linear equation satisfies the statistical significance level at 0.05, while the quadratic one does not.

These results support our assumption that ICMEs are accelerated or decelerated by a drag force caused by an interaction with the solar wind; the magnitude of the drag force acting upon ICMEs depends on the difference in speed, and, thus, ICMEs attain final speeds close to the solar-wind speed when the force becomes zero. In particular, our result iii) suggests that ICMEs propagating faster than the background solar wind are controlled mainly by the hydrodynamic Stokes drag force. Moreover, our result iii) confirms the finding by Maloney and Gallagher (2010) only for the fast and moderate ICMEs that we measure. From the characteristics of the IPS observations and the result of
Cargill (2004), we conclude that the ICMEs detected by the IPS observations in this study are probably high-density events. A combination of the space-borne coronagraph, ground-based IPS, and satellite in-situ observations serves to detect many ICMEs between the Sun and the Earth, and is a useful means to study their kinematics.

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