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Flux canceling in 3D MHD simulations

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 $\label{eq:thm:processes} The processes involved in the disappearance of magnetic flux between regions of opposite polarity on the solar surface are studied with realistic 3D MHD simulations. `Retraction' below the surface driven by magnetic forces is found to be a very effective mechanism of flux canceling of opposite polarities . The speed at which flux disappears increases strongly with initial mean flux density. In agreement with existing inferences from observations we suggest that this is a key process of flux disappearance within active complexes.$

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