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Statistical study of the footpoint motion during solar flares

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In some standard theoretical models of solar flares, the propagation of the reconnection process will lead to expansion of the footpoints of high temperature which are caused by particle heating effect. Observations of the Reuven Ramaty High-energy Solar Spectroscopic Imager (RHEESI) provide us with the opportunity to compare this theoretical expectation with experimental data. Following previous work by Krucker et al. (2003) and Asai et al. (2004), a min-survey of the RHEISS data in combination with the H_alpha images and the SOHO/MDI measurements has been carried out to follow the morphological changes and dynamics of the hard X-ray footpoint emission.