Current Sheets in the Sun's Corona

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Current sheets are thought to play an important role in the Sun's atmosphere, especially in solar flares and in coronal heating events. They may form either in response to motions of the magnetic footpoints in the solar surface or following a loss of equilibrium. The way in which such sheets form and dissipate in two dimensions has been studied in detail and now the emphasis is on trying to understand what happens in three dimensions and how the magnetic field lines reconnect. A summary of recent developments will be given.