

## Waiting Time Distribution (WTD) Analysis

**WTD:** The distribution of time intervals or separations between discrete events.

Exponential



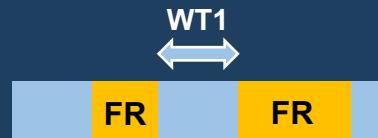
Pure Poisson  
Process

Power Law



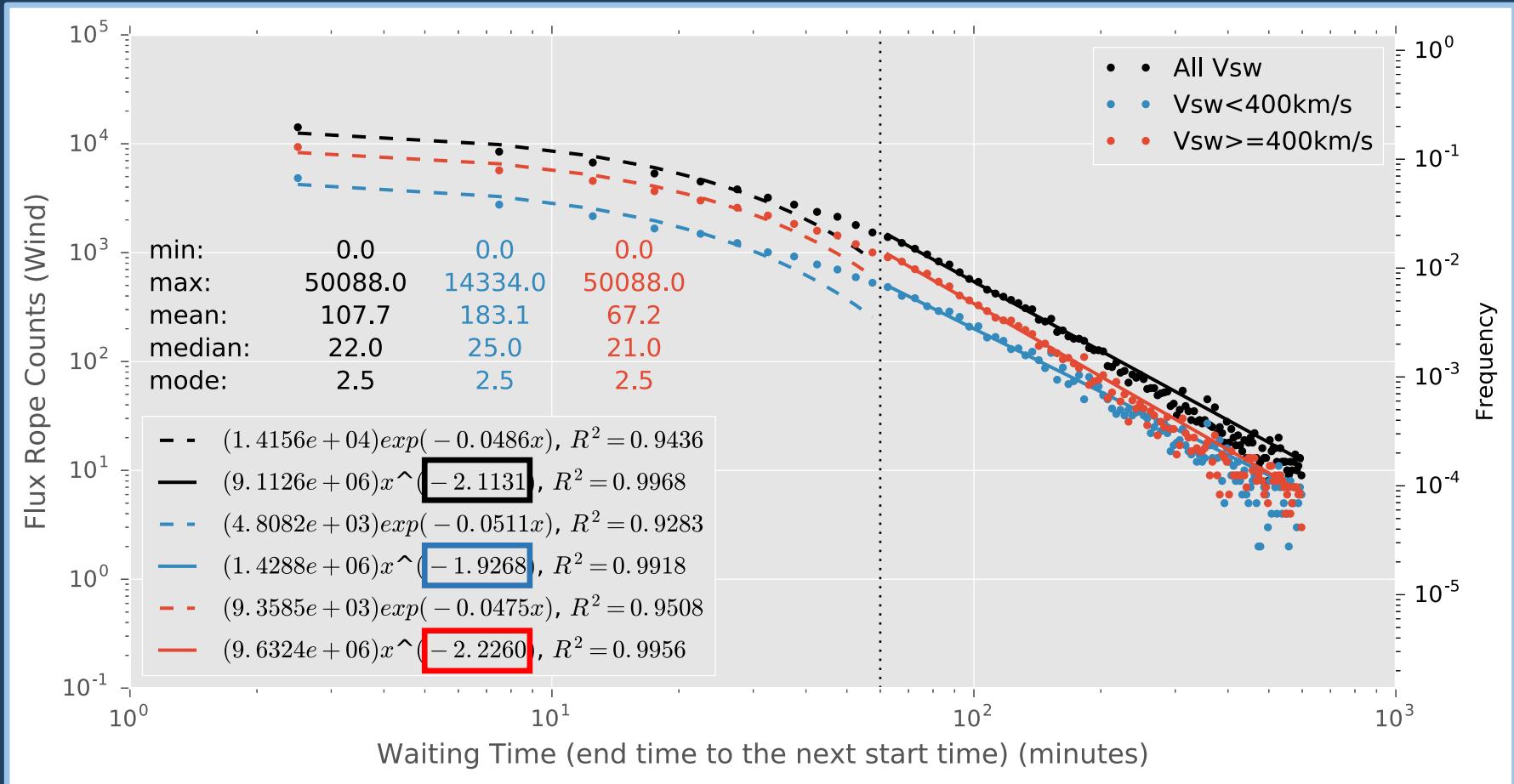
Intermittency  
Clustering

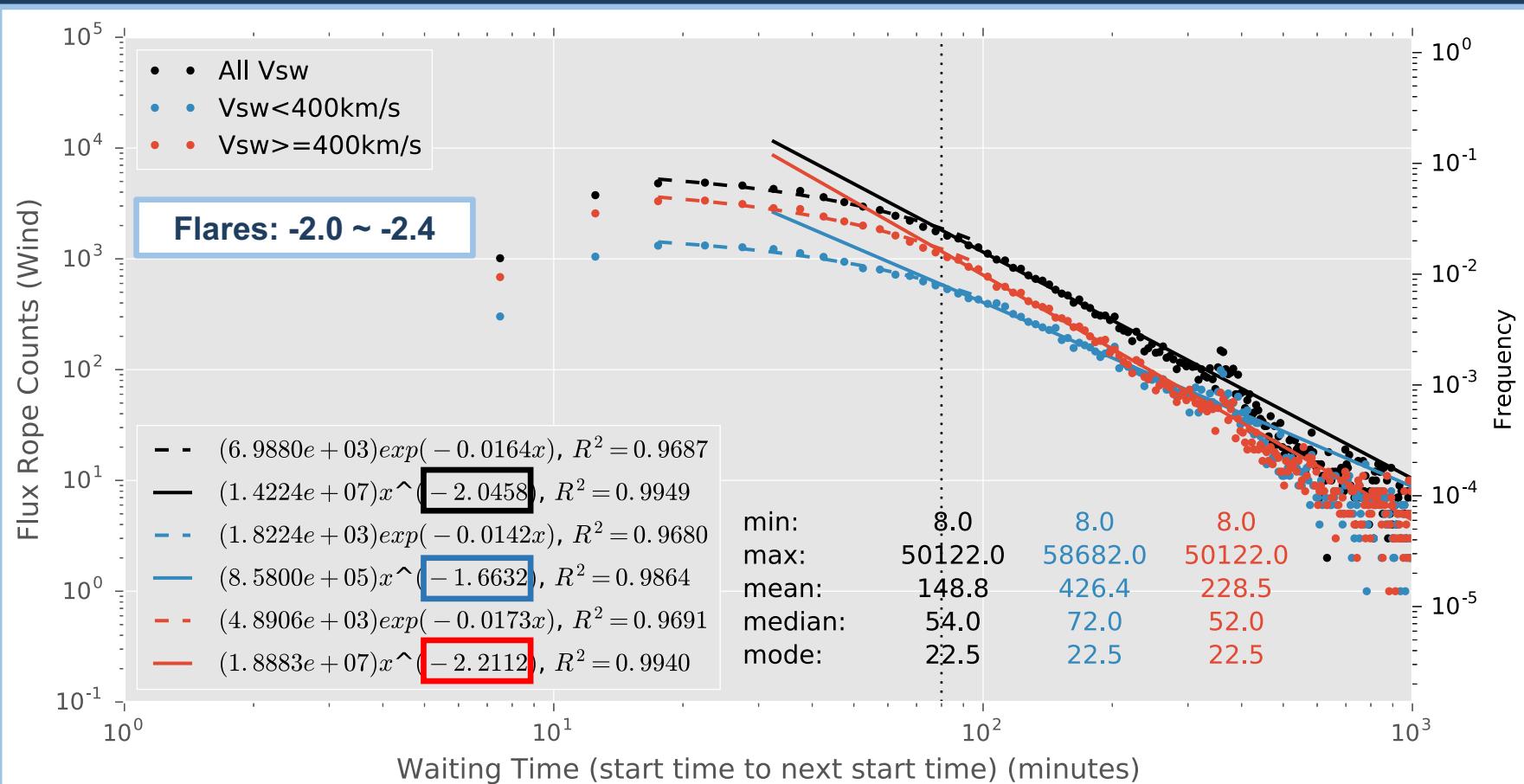
**Waiting time of 1<sup>st</sup> kind:** End time of one flux rope to the start time of the next one.

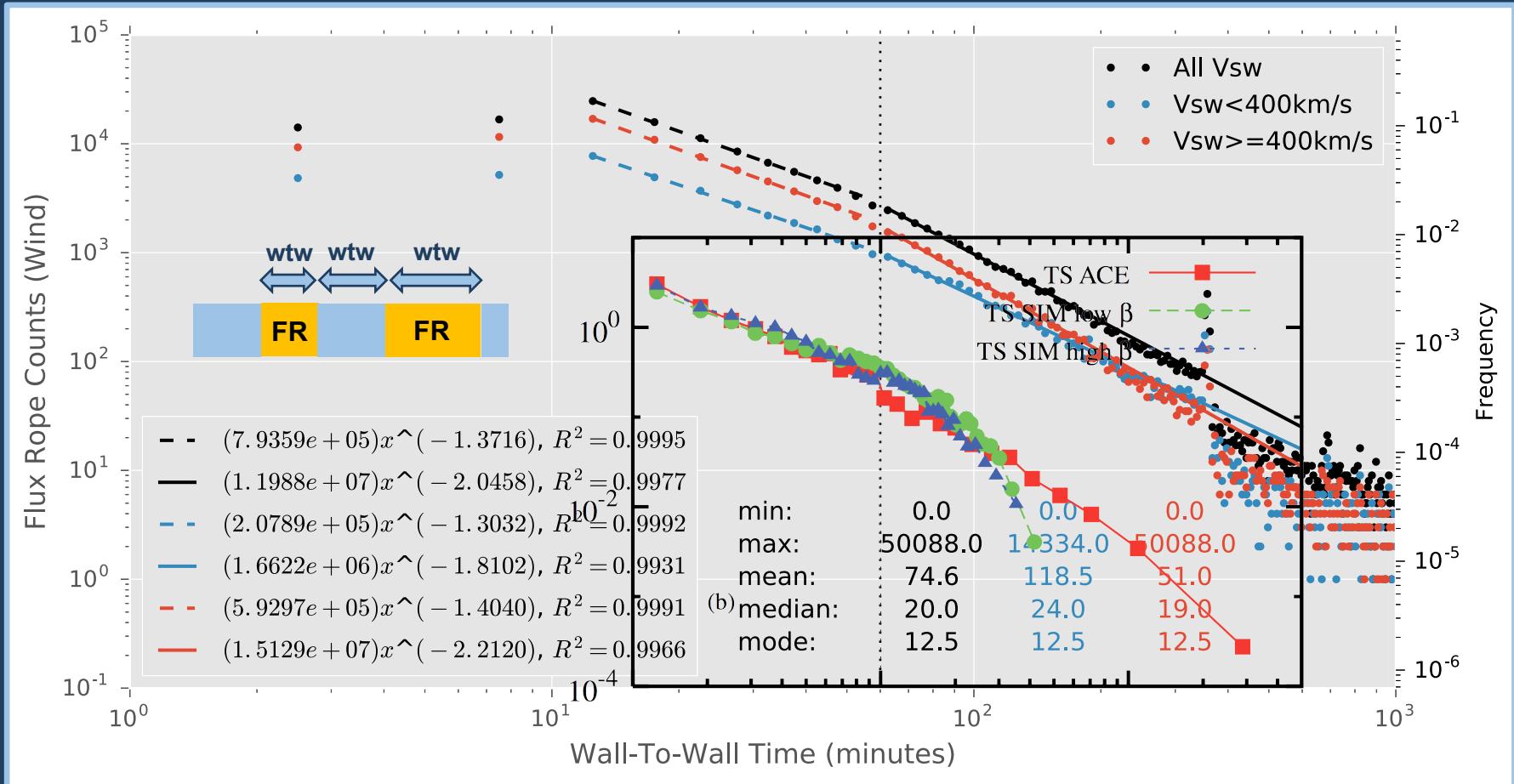


**Waiting time of 2<sup>nd</sup> kind:** Start time of one flux rope to the start time of the next one.

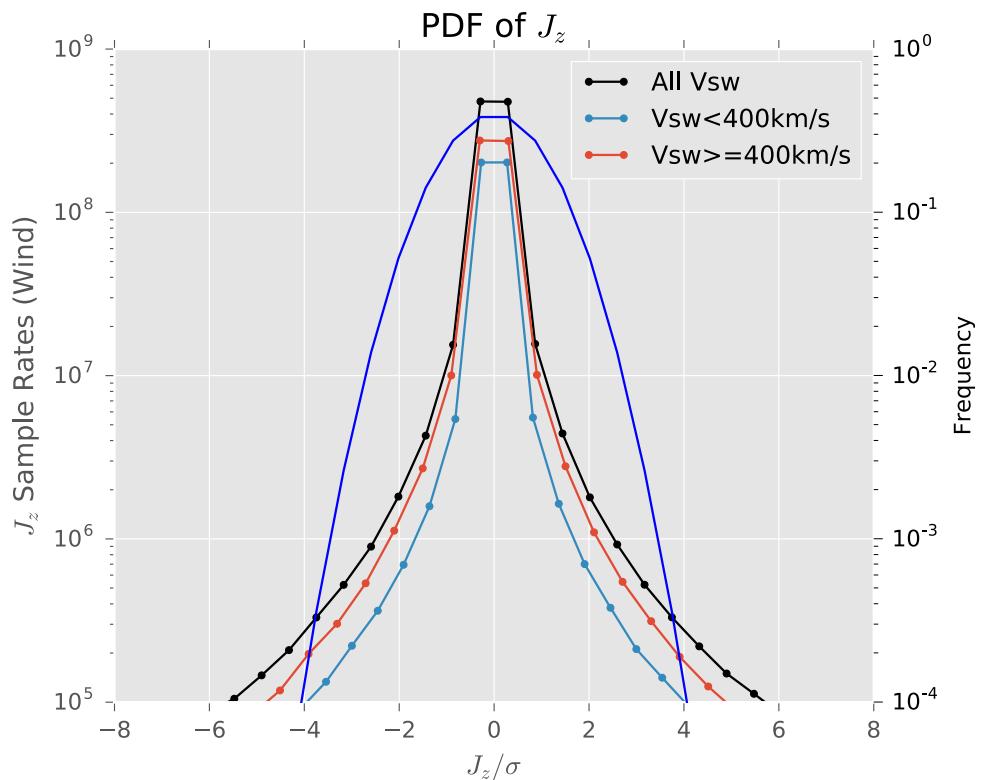




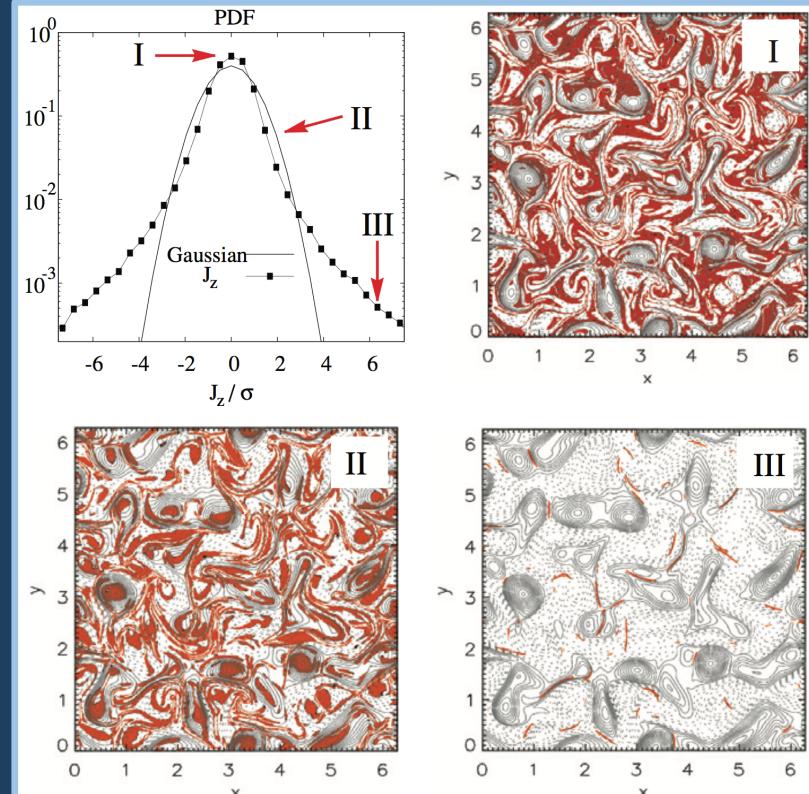


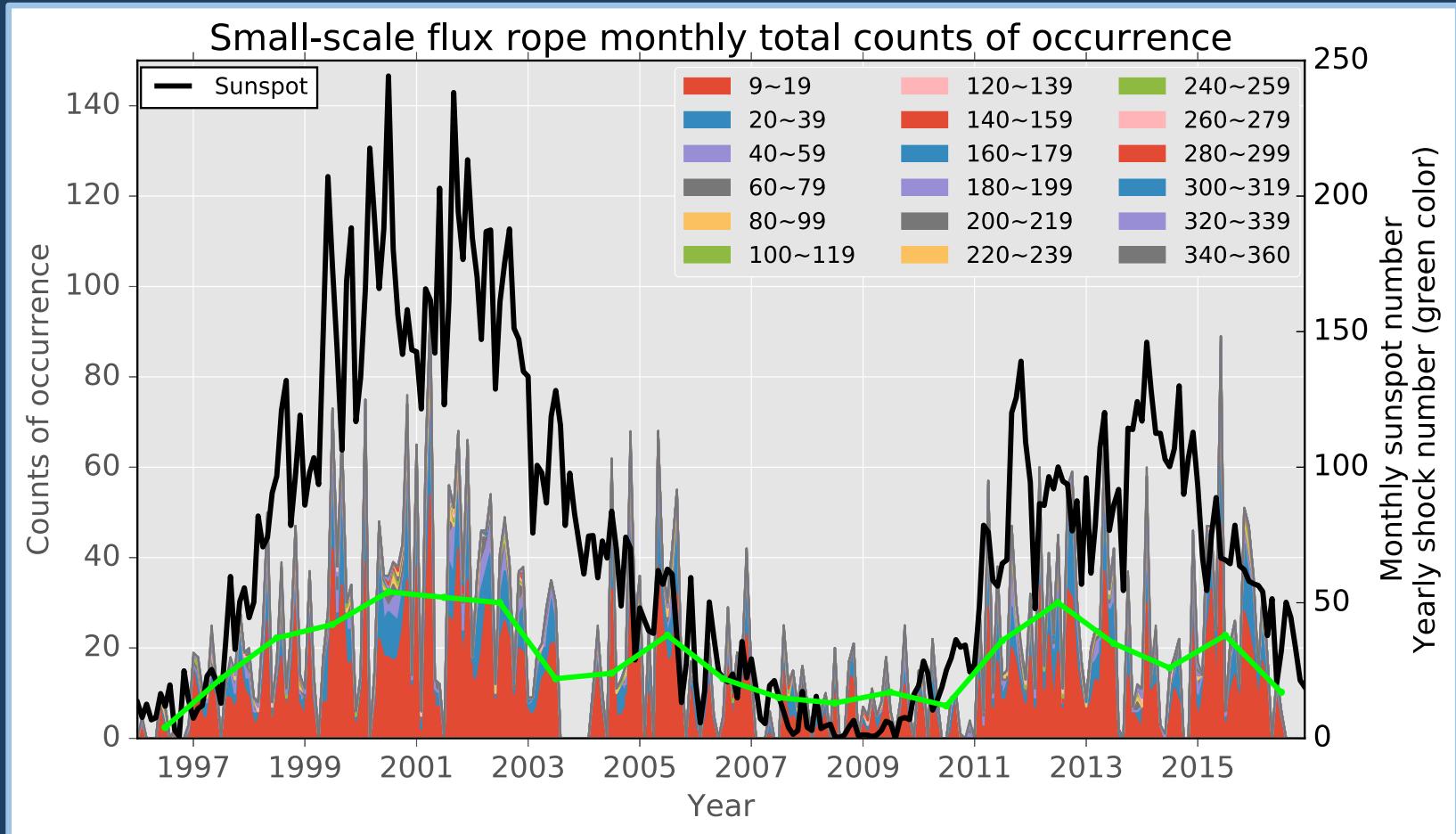


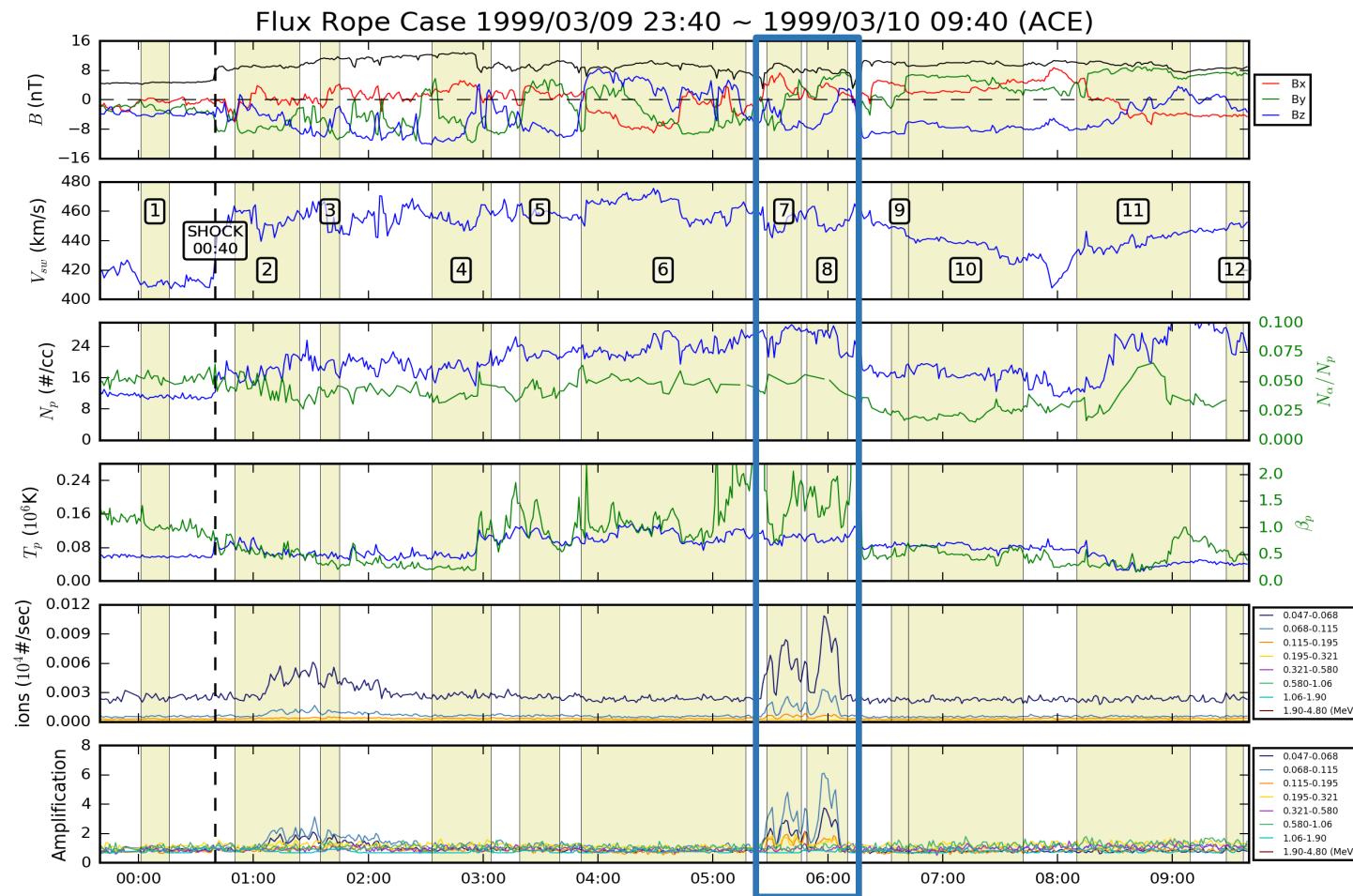
## Current Density $J_z$ Derived From Our Database

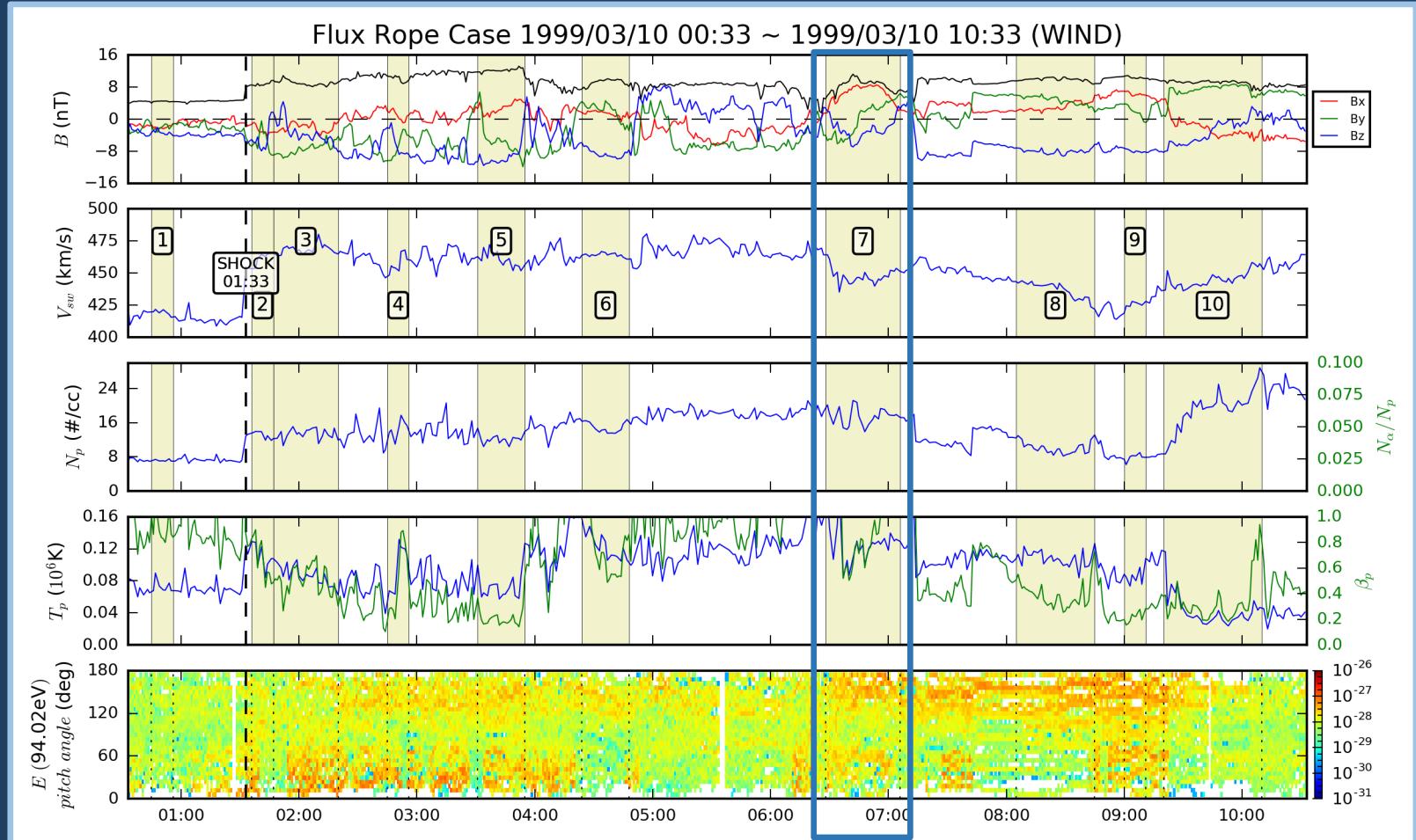


## MHD Simulation (Greco et al., 2009)

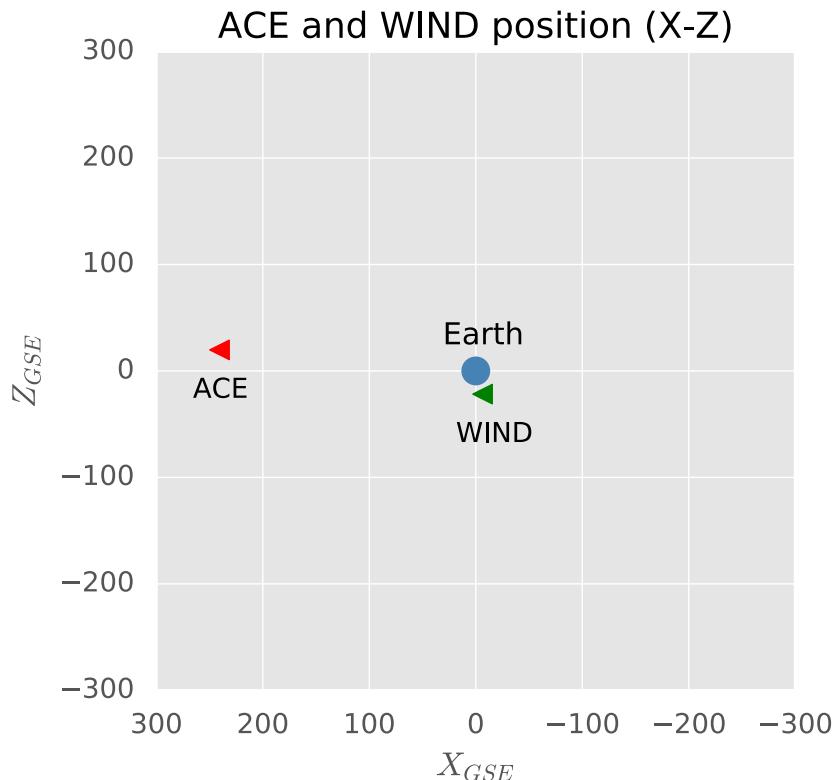
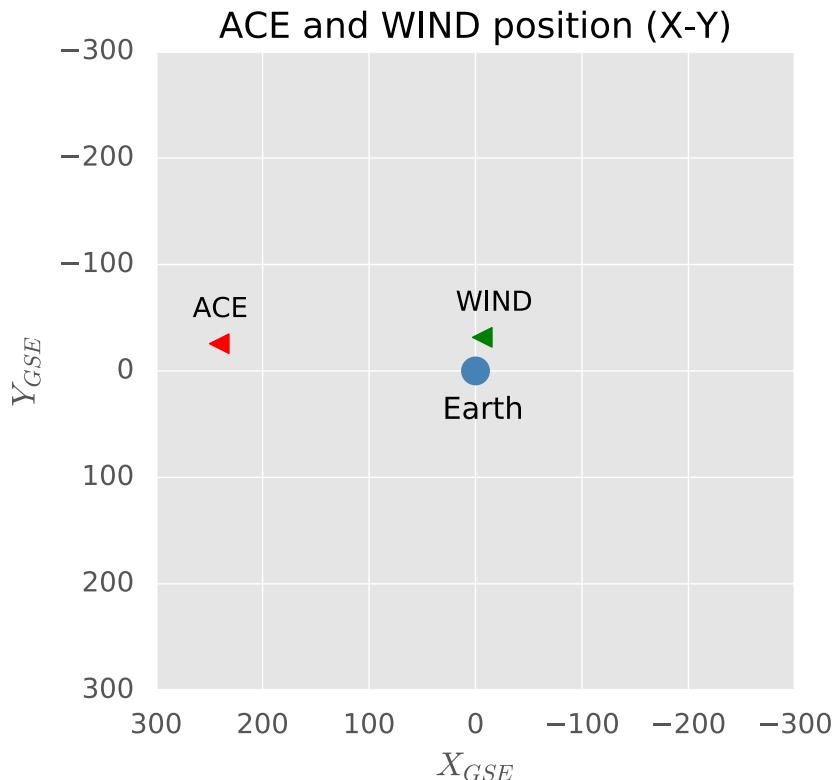






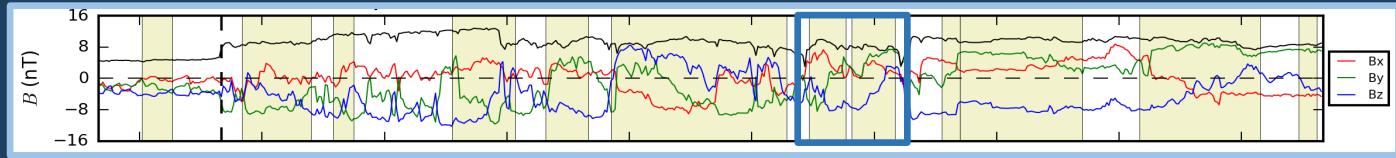


1999-03-10 05:48 UT (ACE) 1999-03-10 05:50 UT (WIND)

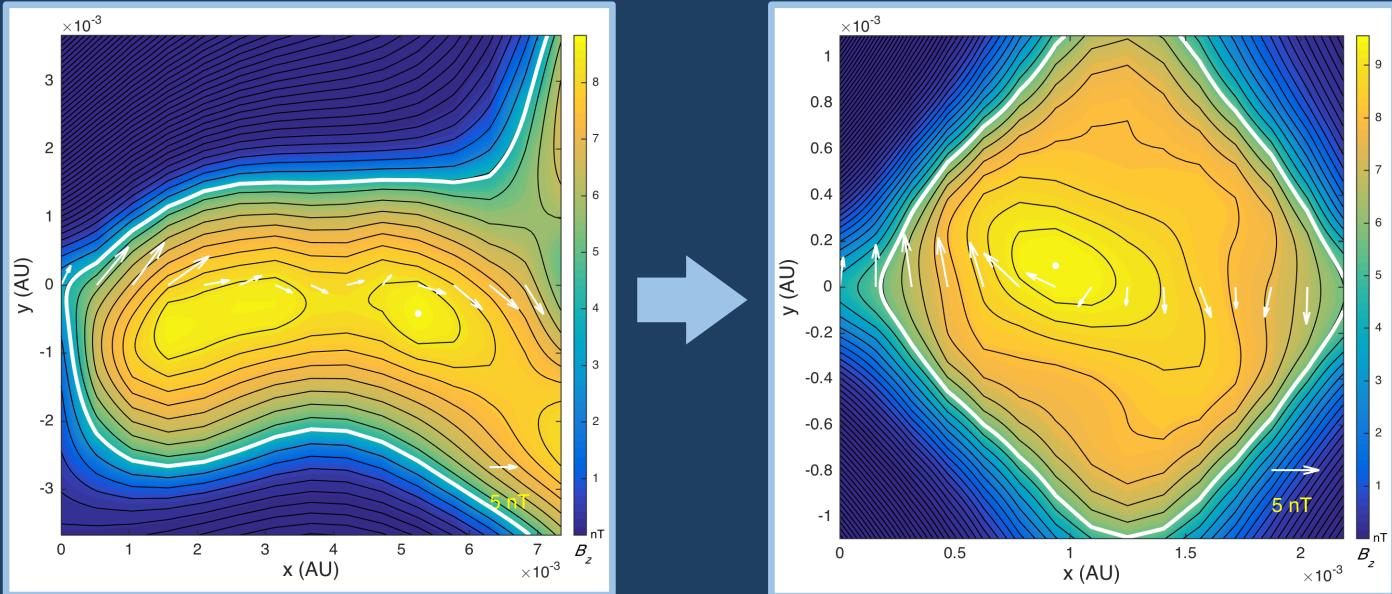
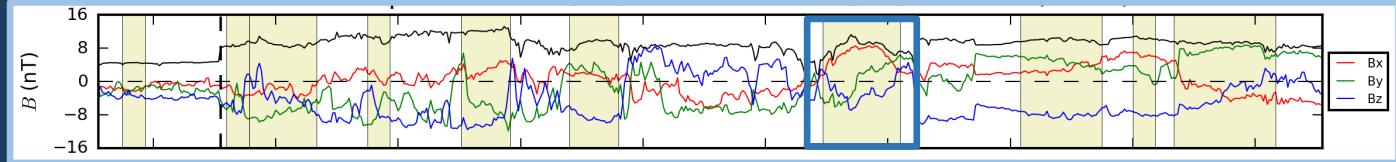


# ASSOCIATION WITH SHOCKS

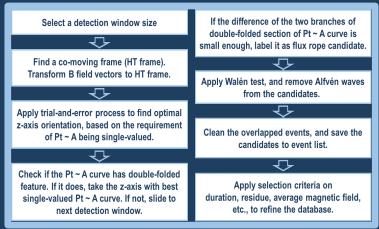
ACE



Wind

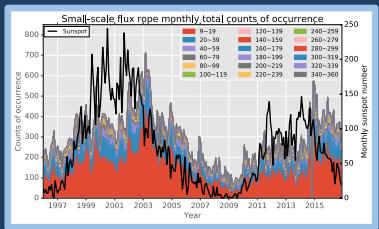


## What We Did

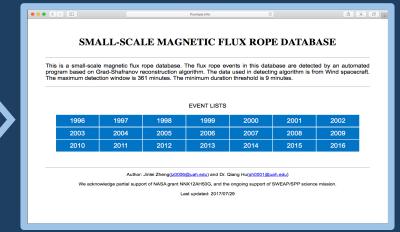


**A New Automated Small-Scale FRs Detection Algorithm.**

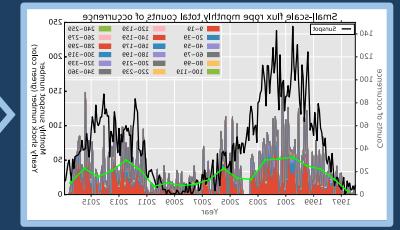
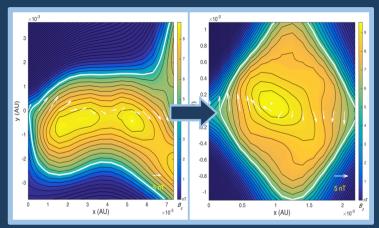
**An Online Database with Large Number of Small-Scale FRs.**



**Statistical Analysis on Small-Scale FRs in Our Database.**



**Statistical Analysis on Small-Scale FRs Downstream of Shocks.**



**Case Studies on Small-Scale FRs Merging and Particle Acceleration.**

## What We Found

Solar Origin

versus

Created Locally

Align along the Parker spiral

Agreement with Greco et al.

Occurrence Rate Has Solar Cycle Dependency

Flux Ropes Under Different  $V_{sw}$  Show Different Statistical Properties

Accumulation of flux ropes near HCSs

Both the Duration and Scale-size Distributions Obey the Power Law

WTD Can Be Fitted By Exponential and Power Law Functions

Flux Ropes Interaction Regions Coincide with the Peak of Enhanced Ions Flux

## Future Work

Extend Duration  
to 7 ~ 12 Hours

Apply to ACE,  
Ulysses, Parker  
Solar Probe, etc.

Particle  
Acceleration

Geoeffectiveness

## Publications

**Zheng, Jinlei** & Hu, Qiang & Chen, Yu & le Roux, Jakobus. (2017). Automated Detection of Small-scale Magnetic Flux Ropes and Their Association with Shocks. *Journal of Physics: Conference Series*. 900. 012024. 10.1088/1742-6596/900/1/012024.

**Zheng, Jinlei** and Hu, Qiang. Observations and analysis of small-scale magnetic flux ropes in the solar wind. *Journal of Physics: Conference Series*, 767(1):012028, 2016.

**Zheng, Jinlei** & Hu, Q & Mckenzie, J & Webb, G. (2014). Hydromagnetic Waves in a Compressed Dipole Field via Field-Aligned Klein-Gordon Equations. *Annales Geophysicae*. 34.10.5194/angeo-34-473-2016.

## To be submitted

**Zheng, Jinlei** and Hu, Qiang and Lulu Zhao. Building a Small-scale Magnetic Flux Rope Database via the Grad-Shafranov Reconstruction Technique. *To be submitted to JGR*.

**Zheng, Jinlei** and Hu, Qiang. Observational evidence of self-generation of small-scale magnetic flux ropes from intermittent solar wind turbulence. *To be submitted to ApJL*.

# Thank you all for attending!

## Acknowledgement

**NASA grants NNX12AH50G, NNX14AF41G;  
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SAO Subcontract No. SV4-84017.**

**ACE Science Center for ACE spacecraft data.  
NASA CDAWeb for Wind spacecraft data.  
The University of Helsinki for interplanetary shock list.  
Leif Svalgaard's IMF sector boundary list for HCSs data.  
Royal Observatory of Belgium for the sunspot data.**

# 1 Numerical Solution of GS Equation

Use Taylor expansion [Hau and Sonnerup,1999],

$$A(x, y \pm \Delta y) \approx A(x, y) + \left(\frac{\partial A}{\partial y}\right)_{x,y}(\pm \Delta y) + \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\partial^2 A}{\partial y^2}\right)_{x,y}(\pm \Delta y^2), \quad (1)$$

From GS Equation, we have,

$$\frac{\partial^2 A}{\partial y^2} = -\frac{\partial^2 A}{\partial x^2} - \mu_0 \frac{d}{dA} (p + B_z^2/2\mu_0), \quad (2)$$

Use Taylor expansion on  $B_x$  ( $\partial A / \partial y = B_x$ ),

$$B_x(x, y \pm \Delta y) \approx B_x(x, y) + \left(\frac{\partial^2 A}{\partial y^2}\right)_{x,y}(\pm \Delta y^2), \quad (3)$$

Now all three terms on RHS of the first equation are known.

## 2 The de Hoffmann-Teller (HT) Frame

The de Hoffmann-Teller (HT) frame is a frame of reference in which all three components of the electric field vanish, i.e.,

$$\mathbf{E} = 0, \quad (4)$$

GS method requires the magnetohydrostatic condition, i.e.,

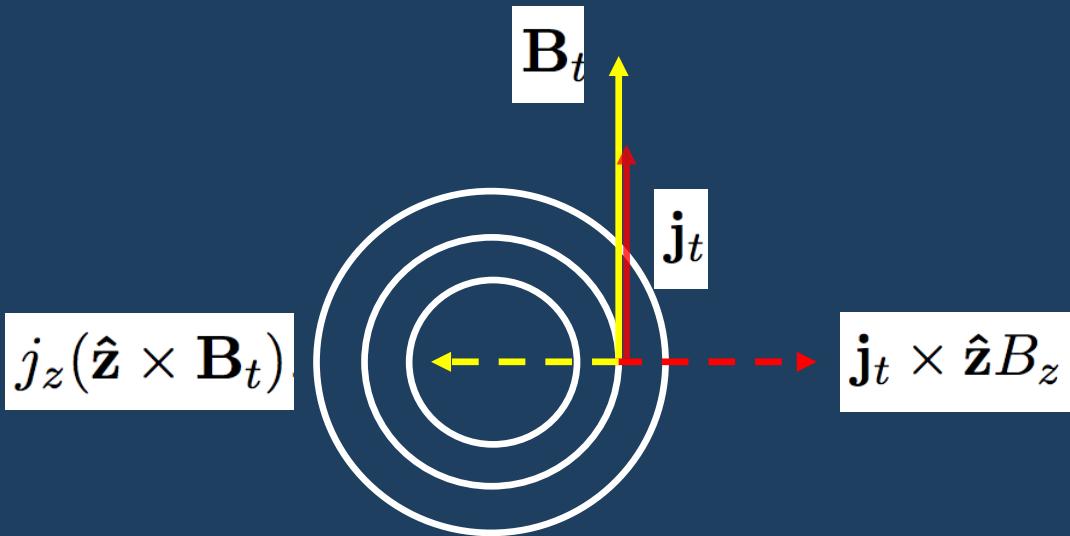
$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t} = 0, \quad (5)$$

In de Hoffmann-Teller (HT) frame, since  $\mathbf{E} = 0$ , according to Faraday's law, we have

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t} = -\nabla \times \mathbf{E} = 0, \quad (6)$$

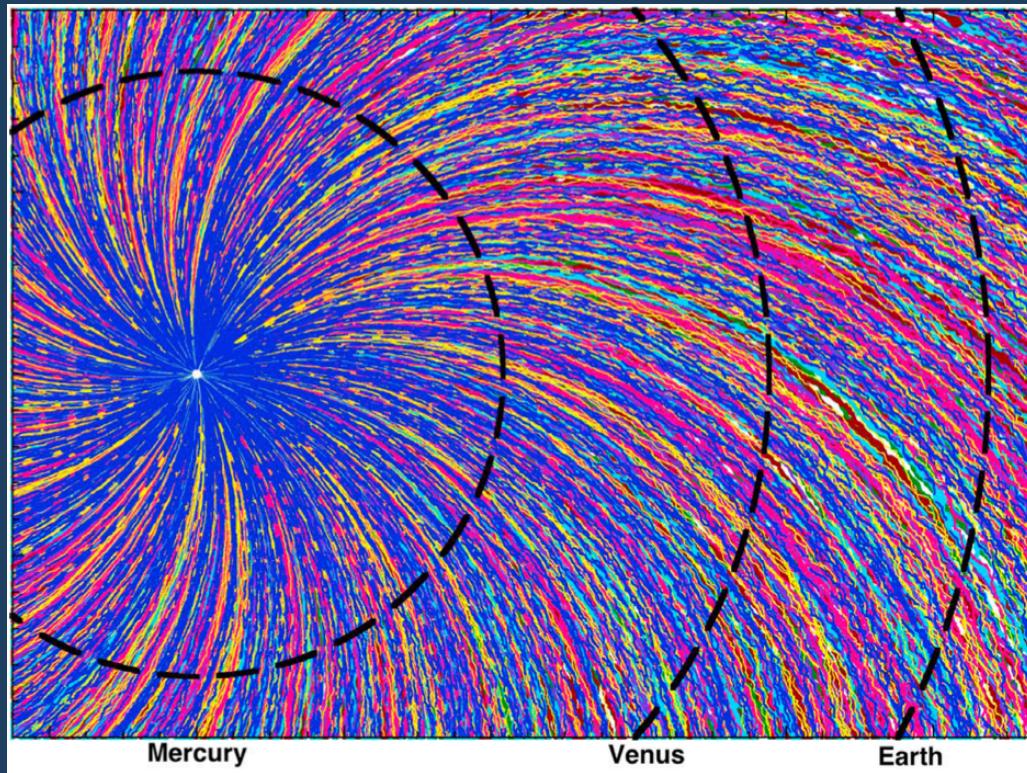
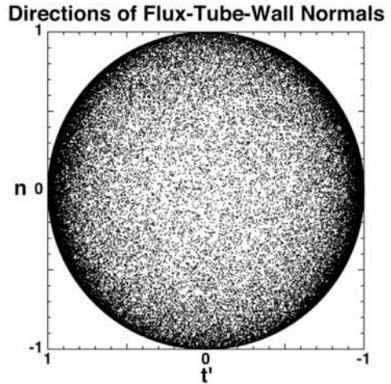
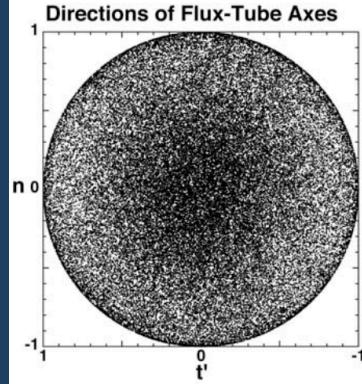
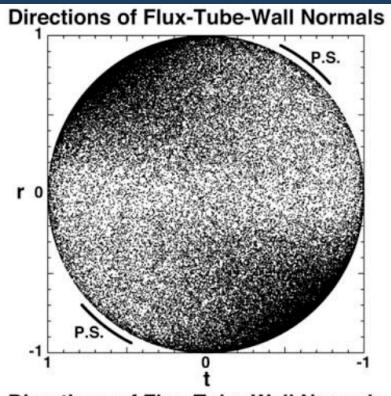
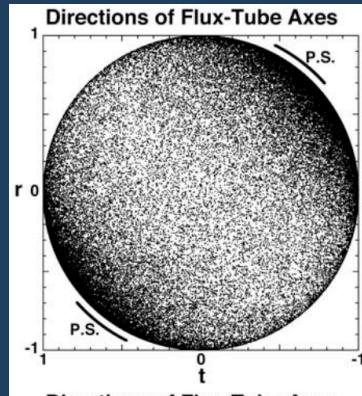
Note that,  $\mathbf{E} = 0$  is a stricter condition than  $\nabla \times \mathbf{E} = 0$ .

## Force Balance



$$\begin{aligned}\nabla p = \mathbf{j} \times \mathbf{B} &= (\mathbf{j}_t + j_z \hat{\mathbf{z}}) \times (\mathbf{B}_t + B_z \hat{\mathbf{z}}) \\ &= \mathbf{j}_t \times \hat{\mathbf{z}} B_z + j_z (\hat{\mathbf{z}} \times \mathbf{B}_t).\end{aligned}$$

➤ Axial Orientations of Small-scale Magnetic Flux Ropes.



[Borovsky et al. 2008, 2010]