



# Multi-Wavelength Tomography of the Solar Corona: First Steps

D.G. Lloveras<sup>1</sup>, A.M. Vásquez<sup>1,2</sup>, Enrico Landi<sup>3</sup>, Richard A. Frazin<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *Instituto de Astronomía y Física del Espacio, CONICET-UBA, Argentina*

<sup>2</sup> *Departamento de Ciencia y Tecnología, UNTREF, Argentina*

<sup>3</sup> *Department of Climate and Space Sciences and Engineering, University of Michigan, USA*

Contact / dlloveras@iafe.uba.ar

**Resumen** / La tomografía solar rotacional (SRT, por sus siglas en inglés) es una técnica observacional de la corona solar que permite la reconstrucción de la distribución tri-dimensional (3D) global de algunos de sus parámetros fundamentales, como por ejemplo la densidad electrónica. Aplicada a imágenes de luz blanca, los resultados de densidad electrónica son de naturaleza absoluta, mientras que utilizando datos en extremo ultravioleta (EUV) los resultados dependen de la abundancia de hierro coronal. La tomografía basada en EUV es aplicada regularmente a datos obtenidos con STEREO/EUVI y SDO/AIA, cubriendo el rango de alturas heliocéntricas 1.02–1.25 R<sub>☉</sub>. Este rango solapa el del campo de visión del coronógrafo de luz blanca KCOR/HAO, que cubre el rango 1.05–3.0 R<sub>☉</sub>. En este trabajo presentamos los primeros resultados de comparar la reconstrucción de la densidad electrónica coronal utilizando los instrumentos mencionados previamente. Este es un primer paso hacia el desarrollo de una técnica de tomografía multi-longitud-de-onda (MWT, por sus siglas en inglés). Esta técnica tendrá por objetivo el reconstruir la distribución 3D de diversos parámetros coronales en forma simultánea, a través del análisis conjunto de resultados tomográficos basados en datos provistos por diversos instrumentos, incluyendo coronógrafos de luz blanca, telescopios EUV y coronógrafos de líneas de emisión coronal en el rango visible.

**Abstract** / Solar rotational tomography (SRT) is an observational technique of the solar corona that allows reconstruction of the global three-dimensional (3D) distribution of some of its fundamental physical parameters, such as electron density. Applied to white-light data, density results are of an absolute nature, while applied to extreme ultraviolet (EUV) data they scale with the iron abundance. EUV tomography is routinely applied to STEREO/EUVI and SDO/AIA data, covering the range of heliocentric heights 1.02–1.25 R<sub>☉</sub>. This range overlaps that of the field of view of the white light HAO/KCOR coronagraph, which covers the range 1.05–3.0 R<sub>☉</sub>. We present first results of comparing simultaneous tomographic reconstructions of the coronal electron density based on the aforementioned instruments. This is a first step towards implementation of a multi-wavelength tomography (MWT) technique. MWT will aim at simultaneously reconstructing the 3D distribution of different coronal parameters through joint analysis of tomographic results based on data provided by multiple instruments, including white-light coronagraphs, EUV telescopes and visible emission line coronagraphs.

**Keywords** / Sun: corona — Sun: fundamental parameters — Sun: UV radiation — Sun: abundances

## 1. Introduction

## 2. Data and Methodology

Carrington rotation (CR-) 2198 (2017, December 03 UT 14:37 through December 30 UT 22:25) was selected as target for analysis. This was a relatively quiet rotation in the declining activity phase of solar cycle (SC-) 24. Low latitudes were dominated by the equatorial streamer belt, high latitudes by polar coronal holes (CHs), and a complex of several ARs was located in the longitude range  $\approx 80^\circ - 200^\circ$ .

Figure 1 shows examples of coronal images of this rotation. The left panel shows a coronal EUV image taken by the SDO/AIA instrument in the 211 Å band. The right panel shows a coronal polarized brightness (pB) white light (WL) image. Both images were taken nearly-simultaneously, on 2017 December 03 UT 18:00-19:00, roughly the beginning of CR-2198. The longitude of the disk center in these images is  $\approx 0^\circ$ , so that ARs are not

seen here, and the image is dominated by the quiet sun streamer belt and the CHs.

## 3. Results

## 4. Conclusions and future efforts

- $E_{\text{EUV}} \propto \langle N_e^2 \rangle = f \langle N_e \rangle^2$ , where filling factor is defined as  $f \equiv \langle N_e^2 \rangle / \langle N_e \rangle^2$
- $E_{\text{WL}} \propto \langle N_e \rangle$
- Then:  $\langle N_e \rangle_{\text{WL}} / \langle N_e \rangle_{\text{EUV}} \propto \sqrt{f}$
- If differences in the results are solely attributed to filling factor:  
 $f \sim 2$  in subpolar open region, and  $f \sim 4$  in quiet sun closed region.
- Note that:  $\sigma_{N_e}^2 \equiv \text{Var} N_e = \langle N_e^2 \rangle - \langle N_e \rangle^2 = \langle N_e \rangle^2 (f - 1)$
- So that:  $\sigma_{N_e} / \langle N_e \rangle = \sqrt{f - 1}$ .
- With this interpretation, where  $f$  is larger (quiet sun

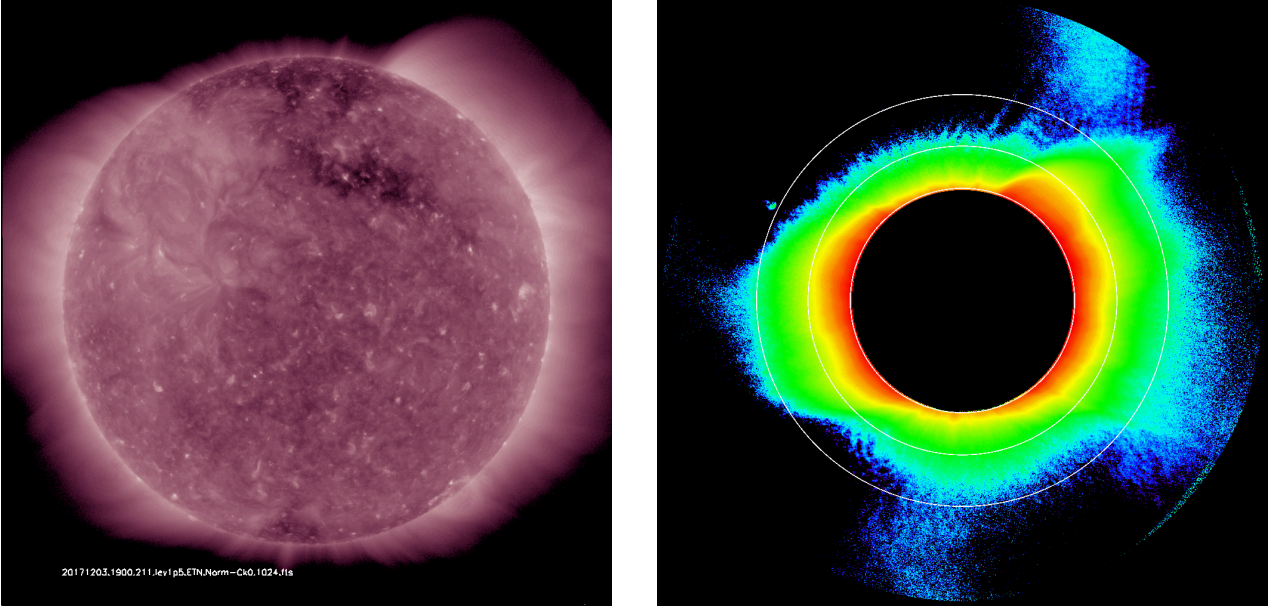


Figure 1: Example of images used for tomographic reconstruction of the coronal electron density of CR-2198 (see text), both corresponding to 2017 December 03 UT 18:00-19:00. Left panel: SDO/AIA coronal EUV image in the 211 Å band. Right panel: HAO/KCOR coronal pB image, with white rings indicating heliocentric heights 1.09, 1.50, and 2.0  $R_{\odot}$ .

closed region) the electron density probability distribution has larger variance.

## References

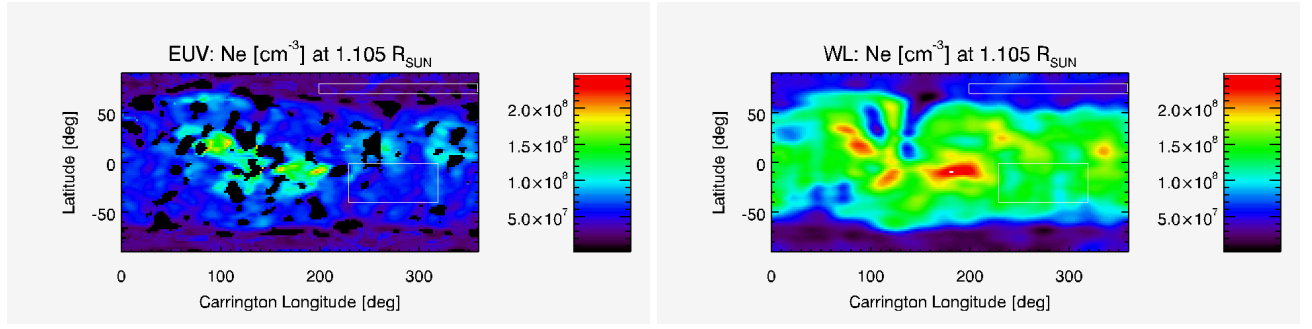


Figure 2: Example of results of the tomographic reconstruction of the electron density of the solar corona for CR-2198. Carrington maps of the reconstructed electron density are shown at heliocentric height  $r = 1.105 R_{\odot}$ . Left panel: reconstruction based on EUV data. Right panel: reconstruction based on WL data. The white boxes indicate two ranges of longitudes and latitudes selected for quantitative comparison. The region in the Southern hemisphere is a high-density quiet Sun region within the equatorial streamer belt during this rotation. The region in the Northern hemisphere is a lower density region at subpolar latitudes in the northern CH.

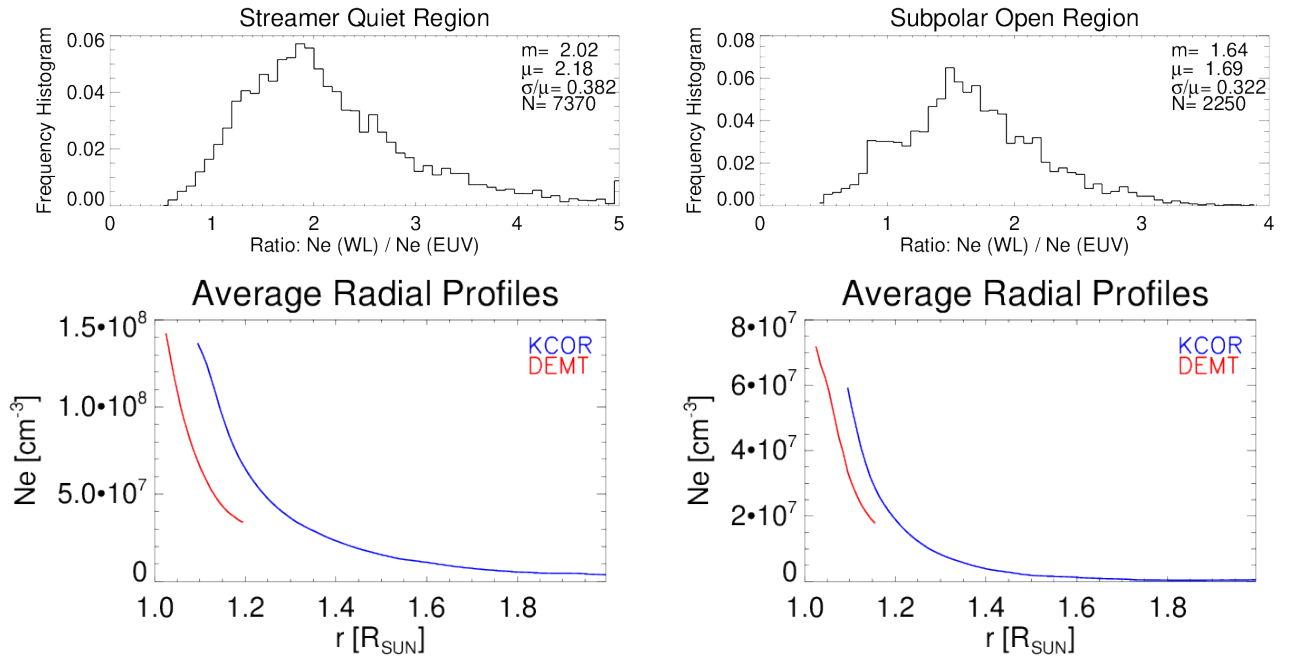


Figure 3: Quantitative comparison between the results of the two tomographic reconstructions of the coronal electron density of CR-2198. Results are shown here for the two selected regions indicated in Figure 2. Left panels show the results in the quiet sun region of the southern hemisphere within the streamer belt, and right panels show the results in the subpolar open region within the northern CH. For each region, the top panel shows the frequency histogram of the ratio of the electron density value obtained in each computational voxel from WL and EUV tomographies. For each region, the bottom panels show the average radial profile of the electron density based on the EUV (red) and WL (blue) tomographies.