



Going Beyond MHD: Advances in Space Environment Modeling

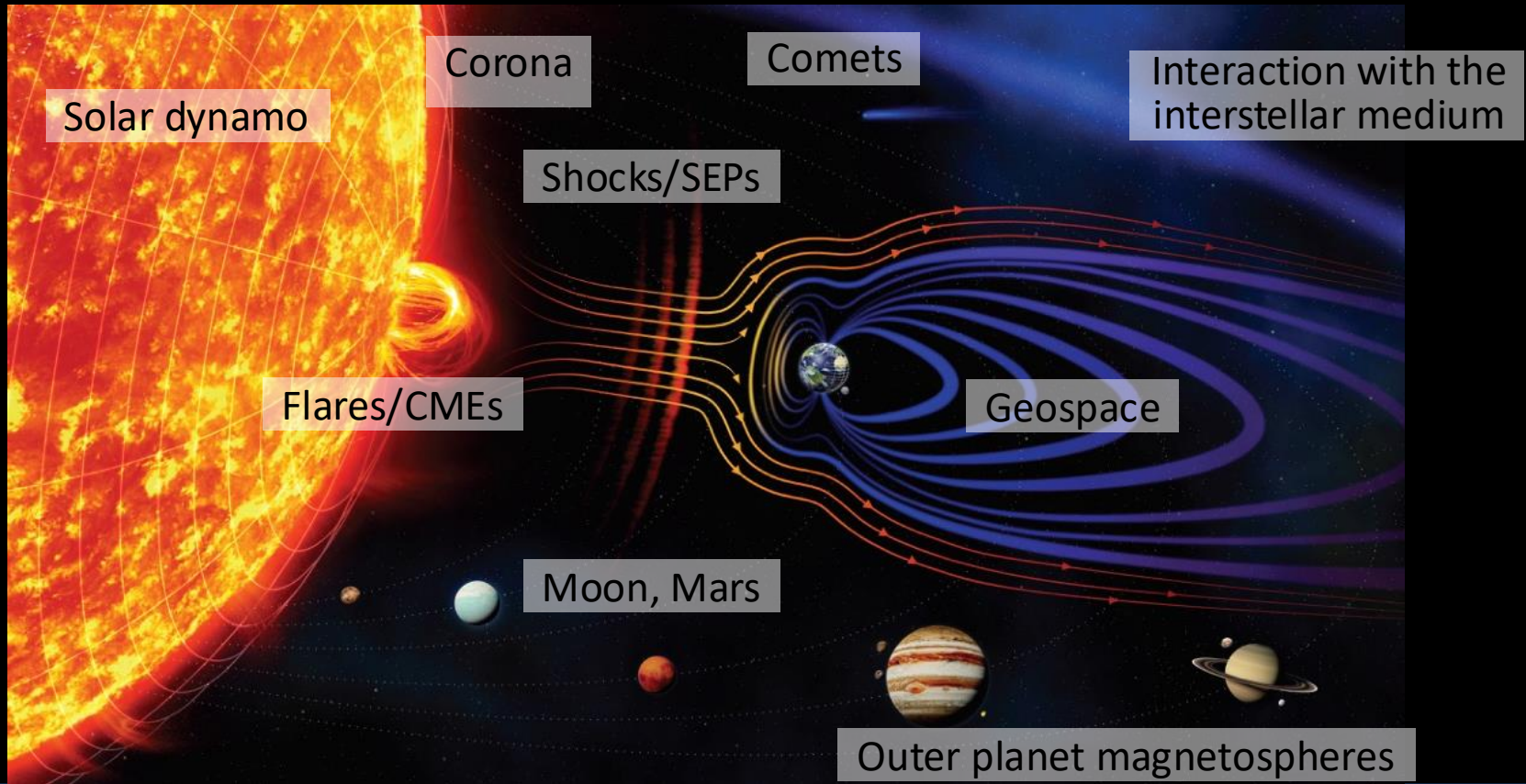
Tamas Gombosi
with

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+ Weihao Liu, Xianyu Liu, and Elizabeth Wraback

ISSS-15

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Space Environment in a Nutshell



Typical Space Weather Scale Ratios

	Chromosphere	Transition region	Solar wind (1AU)	Magnetosphere	Plasmasphere	Ionosphere
δ_e/λ_D	10^3	10^2	3×10^2	2×10^1	10^3	3×10^3
r_e/λ_D	10^4	10^3	3×10^2	4×10^2	10^0	10^1
δ_p/λ_D	3×10^4	3×10^3	10^4	7×10^2	3×10^4	10^5
r_p/λ_D	5×10^5	5×10^4	10^4	2×10^4	5×10^1	2×10^2
System size/ λ_D	10^{12}	10^8	10^{10}	10^7	10^5	10^9

PiC, Vlasov

Gyrokinetics

Hybrid

MHD, XMHD

Large-Scale Space Environment Models

Brief History

- Early 1980s: First 3D ideal MHD magnetosphere simulations (UCLA, NRL)
- Mid 1980s: I-M coupling via current closure in a height-integrated ionosphere (NRL)
- Late 1990s:
 - Massively parallel 3D AMR global MHD code for space plasmas with good scaling (Michigan)
 - First 3D global MHD model for the solar corona at SAIC (today PSI)
- Early 2000s:
 - ENLIL, a 3D solar wind model ($r > 0.1 \text{ AU}$) developed by Odstrčil
 - Coupling frameworks developed (SWMF/Michigan, CISM)
- Late 2000s:
 - Multifluid, anisotropic and Hall MHD (SWMF/Michigan, LFM)
- Mid-2010s:
 - MHD w. embedded PiC (UCLA/one-way coupling, Michigan/two-way coupling)
 - Integrated solar corona & SEP model (UNH w. PSI)
- Late 2010s:
 - 2D/3D hybrid magnetosphere model (VLASIATOR)
- Early 2020s:
 - MHD with adaptively embedded 2-way coupled PiC (SWMF/Michigan)

State of the Art (probably incomplete)

- Global Geospace Models
 - SWMF/Geospace (Michigan)
 - MAGE/GAMERA (under development)
 - OpenGGCM, GUMICS, VLASIATOR
- Physics-based 3D solar corona models ($1-20R_{\odot}$)
 - MAS/CORHEL (PSI)
 - Usmanov
 - SWMF/AWSoM (Michigan)
 - HelioCubed (UAH)
- Inner heliosphere models ($0.1-10 \text{ AU}$)
 - ENLIL
 - SWMF/AWSoM (Michigan)
 - CORHEL (PSI)
 - Usmanov
 - Euhforia (Leuven)
 - GAMERA-Helio
 - HelioCubed (UAH)
- Outer heliosphere models
 - SWMF/OH (Michigan)
 - MS-FLUKSS (UAH)
 - Moscow model
- Integrated solar wind – CME – SEP models
 - EMMREM (UAH w. PSI)
 - SWMF/AWSoM/PARMISAN (Michigan)
 - Euhforia-Paradise (Leuven)

Physics-Based Modeling Requirements

- Space environment is inherently multiphysics \Rightarrow adaptive physics is needed
- Simulation speed is important \Rightarrow need to forecast the future, not the past
- Space environment is inherently multiscale \Rightarrow from Debye length to the size of the heliosphere (mesoscale is just one element)
- Multiple timescales must be resolved \Rightarrow from plasma periods to solar cycles
- To meet these expectations the Space Weather Modeling Framework (SWMF) has been developed over the last quarter of century

Basic Physics: Single-Fluid Ideal MHD



Center for Space Environment Modeling
University of Michigan

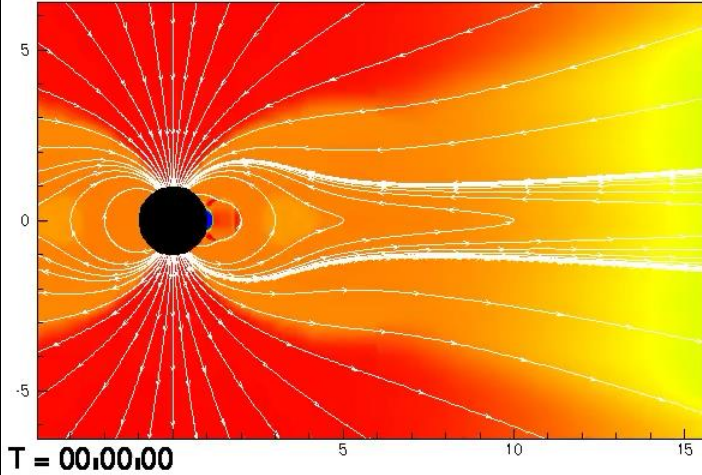
$$\partial_t \rho + (\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla) \rho + \rho (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u}) = 0$$

$$\rho \partial_t \mathbf{u} + \rho (\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{u} + \nabla p - \mathbf{j} \times \mathbf{B} = 0$$

$$\partial_t p + (\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla) p + \frac{5}{3} p (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u}) = 0$$

$$\partial_t \mathbf{B} - \nabla \times (\mathbf{u} \times \mathbf{B}) = \eta_{\text{in}} \nabla^2 \mathbf{B}$$

$$\mu_0 \mathbf{j} = \nabla \times \mathbf{B}$$



- Even though ideal MHD neglects all dissipation and diffusion processes, discretization ALWAYS introduces them into any numerical solution
- This is the reason for reconnection in ideal MHD codes
- This is a blessing and a curse!

XMHD (multifluid, Hall, anisotropic) I.

- Generalized Ohm's law:

$$\mathbf{E} = \underbrace{-\mathbf{u}_+ \times \mathbf{B}}_{\text{motional } \mathbf{E} \text{ field}} + \underbrace{\frac{\mathbf{j}}{en_e} \times \mathbf{B}}_{\text{Hall term}} - \underbrace{\frac{\nabla p_e}{en_e}}_{\text{ambipolar term}} + \underbrace{\sum_{t=\text{all}} \cancel{\bar{\nu}_{et} \frac{m_e}{e} (\mathbf{u}_t - \mathbf{u}_+)}}_{\text{resistive term}} - \underbrace{\frac{1/\sigma_0}{e^2 n_e} \mathbf{j}}_{\text{resistive term}}$$

- Electron equations (no ionization/recombination):

$$n_e = \sum_{s=\text{ions}} Z_s n_s$$

$$\mathbf{u}_+ = \sum_{s=\text{ions}} \frac{Z_s n_s}{n_e} \mathbf{u}_s \quad \text{charge averaged ion velocity}$$

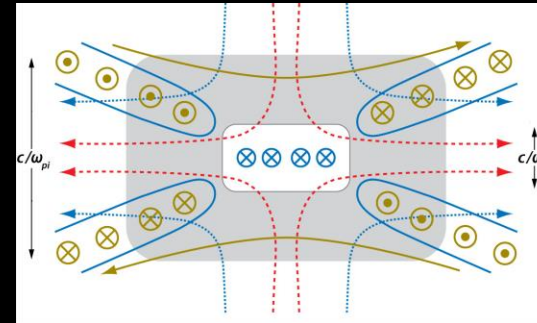
$$\mathbf{u}_e = \mathbf{u}_+ - \frac{1}{en_e} \mathbf{j} \quad \text{Hall velocity}$$

heat exchange

$$\partial_t p_e + (\mathbf{u}_e \cdot \nabla) p_e + \frac{5}{3} p_e (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u}_e) + \frac{2}{3} \nabla \cdot \mathbf{h}_e = \sum_{t=i/n} 2\bar{\nu}_{et} m_e n_e \left[\frac{k_B}{m_t} (T_t - T_e) + \frac{1}{3} (\mathbf{u}_t - \mathbf{u}_e)^2 \right]$$

heat conduction

frictional heating



XMHD (multifluid, Hall, anisotropic) II.

$$\partial_t \rho_s + (\mathbf{u}_s \cdot \nabla) \rho_s + \rho_s (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u}_s) = 0$$

ion fraction

ion drift E field

current dissipation

$$\partial_t (\rho_s \mathbf{u}_s) + \nabla \cdot \left[\rho_s \mathbf{u}_s \mathbf{u}_s + \left(p_{s\perp} + \frac{Z_s n_s}{n_e} p_{e\perp} \right) \mathbf{I} \right] - Z_s e n_s [(\mathbf{u}_s - \mathbf{u}_+) \times \mathbf{B} + \eta_e \mathbf{j}] =$$

$$- B \nabla_{\parallel} \left(\frac{p_{s\parallel} - p_{s\perp}}{B} \mathbf{b} \right) - \frac{Z_s n_s}{n_e} B \nabla_{\parallel} \left(\frac{p_{e\parallel} - p_{e\perp}}{B} \mathbf{b} \right) + \sum_{t=e/i/n} \bar{\nu}_{st} \rho_s (\mathbf{u}_t - \mathbf{u}_s)$$

adiabatic focusing

friction

$$\frac{\partial p_{s\parallel}}{\partial t} + (\mathbf{u}_s \cdot \nabla) p_{s\parallel} + p_{s\parallel} (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u}_s) + 2p_{s\parallel} \mathbf{b} \cdot \nabla_{\parallel} \mathbf{u}_s + \nabla_{\parallel} h_{s\parallel} = \frac{h_{s\parallel} - 3h_{s\perp}}{B} \nabla_{\parallel} B$$

adiabatic focusing

$$- \frac{2}{3} (p_{s\parallel} - p_{s\perp}) \sum_{t=e/i/n} \frac{m_s + m_t}{m_t} \bar{\nu}_{st} + \sum_{t=e/i/n} \bar{\nu}_{st} \frac{m_s n_s}{m_s + m_t} \left[2k_B (T_t - T_s) + \frac{1}{3} m_t (\mathbf{u}_t - \mathbf{u}_s)^2 + m_t (u_{t\parallel} - u_{s\parallel})^2 \right]$$

heat exchange

frictional heating

collisional isotropization

$$\frac{\partial p_{s\perp}}{\partial t} + (\mathbf{u}_s \cdot \nabla) p_{s\perp} + 2p_{s\perp} (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u}_s) - p_{s\perp} \mathbf{b} \cdot \nabla_{\parallel} \mathbf{u}_s + \nabla_{\parallel} h_{s\perp} = \frac{5h_{s\perp}}{2B} \nabla_{\parallel} B$$

adiabatic focusing

$$+ \frac{1}{3} (p_{s\parallel} - p_{s\perp}) \sum_{t=e/i/n} \frac{m_s + m_t}{m_t} \bar{\nu}_{st} + \sum_{t=e/i/n} \bar{\nu}_{st} \frac{m_s n_s}{m_s + m_t} \left[2k_B (T_t - T_s) + \frac{1}{3} m_t (\mathbf{u}_t - \mathbf{u}_s)^2 + \frac{1}{2} m_t (u_{t\perp} - u_{s\perp})^2 \right]$$

heat exchange

frictional heating

collisional isotropization

Coupled Alfvénic Turbulence in the Corona and the Solar Wind

- Electron-proton plasma
- Alfvénic turbulence wave energy densities

$$w_{\pm} = \frac{1}{2} \left[\frac{1}{2} \rho \langle \delta \mathbf{u} \cdot \delta \mathbf{u} \rangle + \frac{\langle \delta \mathbf{B} \cdot \delta \mathbf{B} \rangle}{2\mu_0} \right] + \sqrt{\frac{\rho}{\mu_0}} \langle \delta \mathbf{u} \cdot \delta \mathbf{B} \rangle; \quad w_D = \frac{1}{2} \rho \langle \delta \mathbf{u} \cdot \delta \mathbf{u} \rangle - \frac{\langle \delta \mathbf{B} \cdot \delta \mathbf{B} \rangle}{2\mu_0}$$

parallel/antiparallel
energy density

kinetic/magnetic
energy density difference

- Turbulence transport equations

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_t w_{\pm} + \nabla \cdot (\mathbf{u} w_{\pm} \pm \mathbf{V}_A w_{\pm}) + \frac{1}{2} w_{\pm} (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u}) + \frac{1}{2} (S \pm R) w_D &= -\Gamma_{\pm} w_{\pm} \\ \partial_t w_D + \nabla \cdot (w_D \mathbf{u}) + \frac{1}{2} w_D (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u}) + (S - R) w_+ + (S + R) w_- &= \frac{1}{2} (\Gamma_+ + \Gamma_-) w_D \end{aligned}$$

$$S = \frac{1}{2} \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} - \mathbf{b} \cdot (\mathbf{b} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{u}; \quad R = (\mathbf{b} \cdot \nabla) V_A; \quad \Gamma_{\pm} = \frac{2}{L_{\perp}} \sqrt{\frac{w_{\mp}}{\rho}}$$

- Correlation length scales with $B^{-1/2}$ in IH; it is more complicated in OH due to pickup ions

Acceleration and Heating of the Corona & Solar Wind

$$\partial_t(\rho \mathbf{u}) + \nabla \cdot \left(\rho \mathbf{u} \mathbf{u} - \frac{\mathbf{B} \mathbf{B}}{\mu_0} - w_D \mathbf{b} \mathbf{b} \right) + \nabla \cdot \left[p_i + p_e + \frac{B^2}{2\mu_0} + \frac{1}{2}(w_+ + w_- + w_D) \right] = 0$$

acceleration by wave pressure gradient

$$\frac{1}{\gamma_{i/e} - 1} [\partial_t p_{i/e} + \nabla \cdot (p_{i/e} \mathbf{u})] + p_{i/e} (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u}) = \kappa_{i/e} (\Gamma_+ w_+ + \Gamma_- w_-); \quad \kappa_i + \kappa_e = 1$$

wave heating dissipated wave energy partitioning

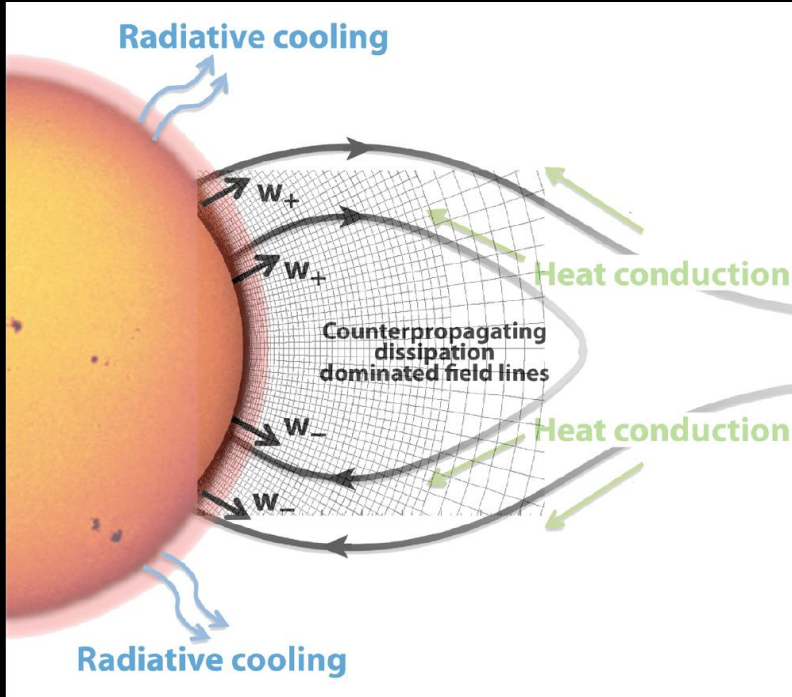
$$\partial_t \left(\frac{1}{2} \rho u^2 + \frac{1}{\gamma_i - 1} p_i + \frac{1}{\gamma_e - 1} p_e + \frac{B^2}{2\mu_0} + w_+ + w_- \right) + \nabla \cdot \left[\left(\frac{1}{2} \rho u^2 + \frac{B^2}{\mu_0} + \frac{\gamma_i}{\gamma_i - 1} p_i + \frac{\gamma_e}{\gamma_e - 1} p_e + w_+ + w_- \right) \mathbf{u} + \overline{\overline{P}}_A \cdot \mathbf{u} + (w_+ - w_-) \mathbf{V}_A - \frac{(\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{B})}{\mu_0} \mathbf{B} \right] = 0$$

wave heating

$$\overline{\overline{P}}_A = -w_D \mathbf{b} \mathbf{b} + \frac{1}{2} (w_+ + w_- + w_D) I = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} \rho \langle \delta \mathbf{u} \cdot \delta \mathbf{u} \rangle & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{2} \rho \langle \delta \mathbf{u} \cdot \delta \mathbf{u} \rangle & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{2\mu_0} \langle \delta \mathbf{B} \cdot \delta \mathbf{B} \rangle \end{bmatrix}$$

Maxwell stress tensor

The Alfvén-Wave Solar Atmosphere Model (AWSoM)



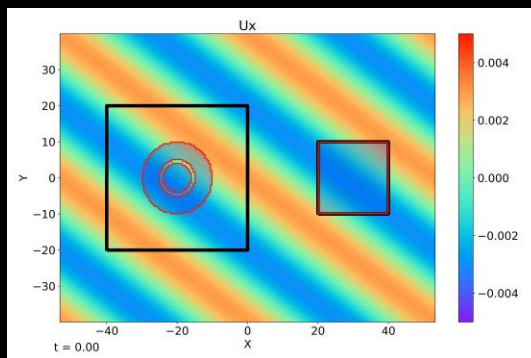
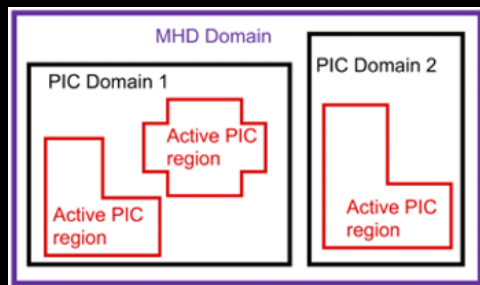
- Heat conduction:
 - Spitzer ($r < 5R_s$)
 - Hollweg ($r > 5R_s$)
- Radiative cooling from CHIANTI
- Wave pressure gradient accelerates and heats
- Two (T_i, T_e) or three ($T_{i\parallel}, T_{i\perp}, T_e$) temperatures
- Turbulent energy transport along field lines

van der Holst+ 2014, doi: [10.1088/0004-637X/782/2/81](https://doi.org/10.1088/0004-637X/782/2/81)

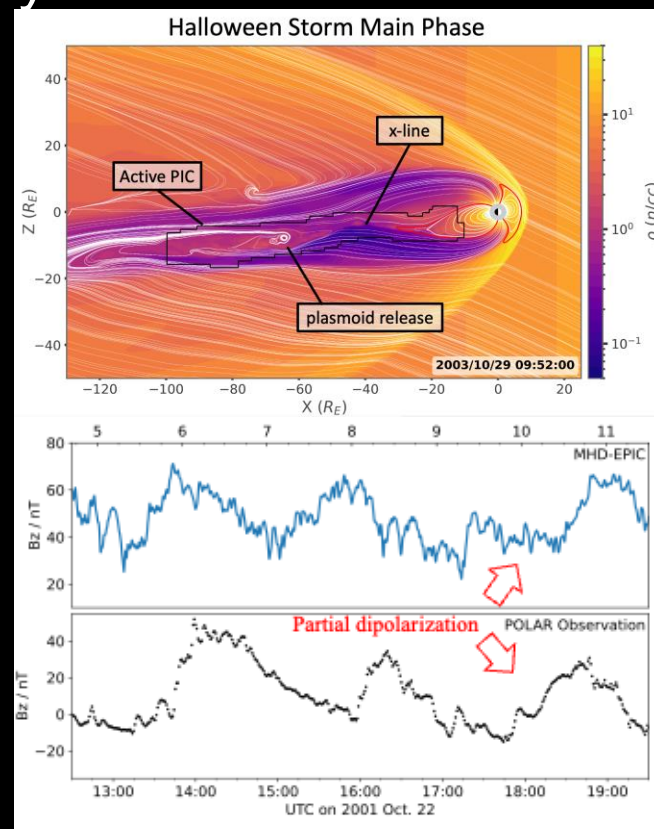
Sokolov+ 2021, doi: [10.3847/1538-4357/abc000](https://doi.org/10.3847/1538-4357/abc000)

Multiple Scales: XMHD with Adaptively Embedded PiC

- BATSRUS calculates physics criteria of reconnection from MHD quantities
- Use these criteria to find the reconnection sites
- Apply geometric criteria to restrict active PIC domain
- Expand active PIC grid around the reconnection sites
- Pass the information to PiC to adapt its grid



- PIC domains are black squares
- Active PIC regions are shadowed areas, enclosed by red lines



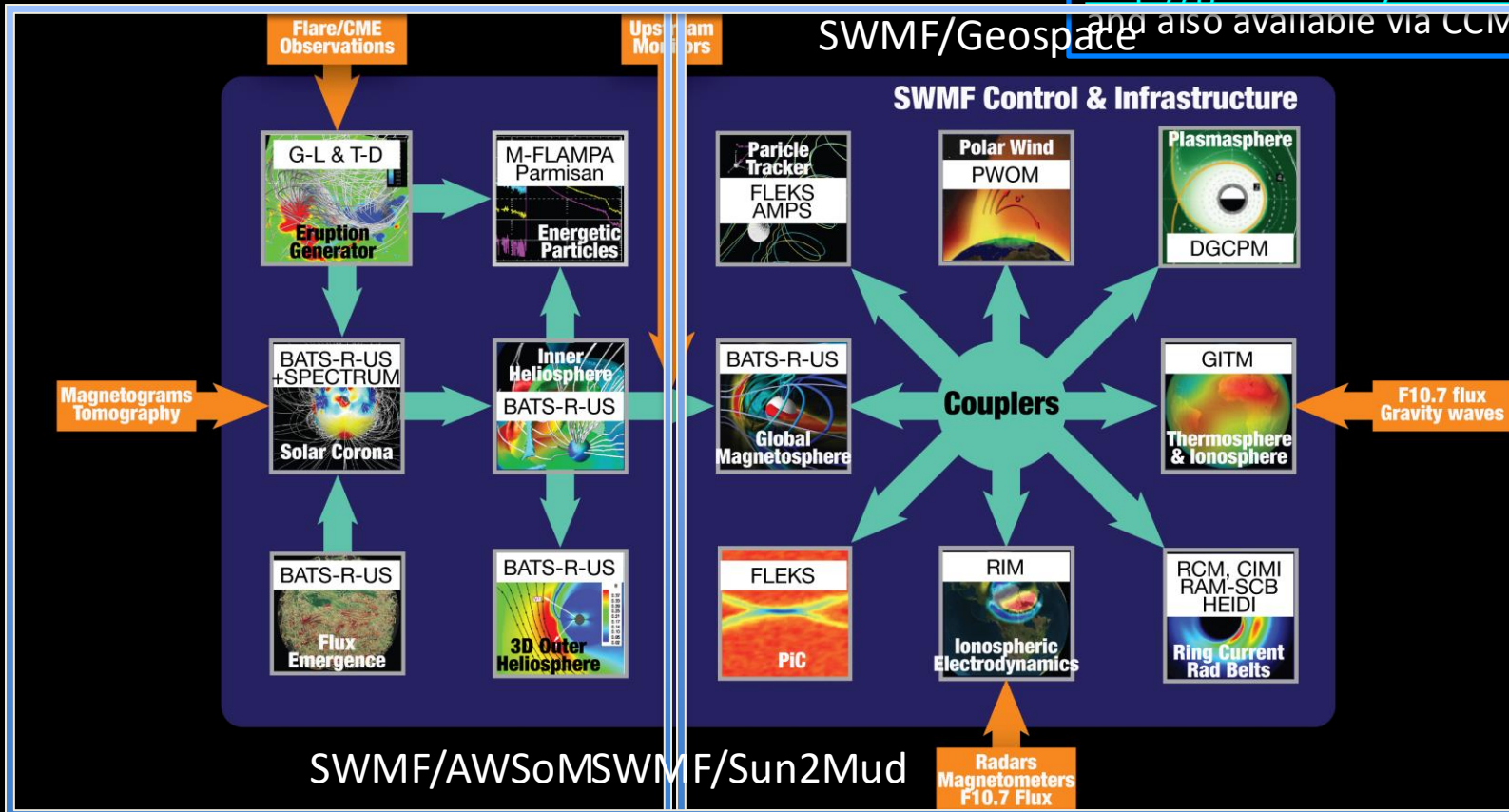
Wang et al, GRL 2022

SWMF in 2024

SWMF is open-source at <http://github.com/SWMFsoftware>

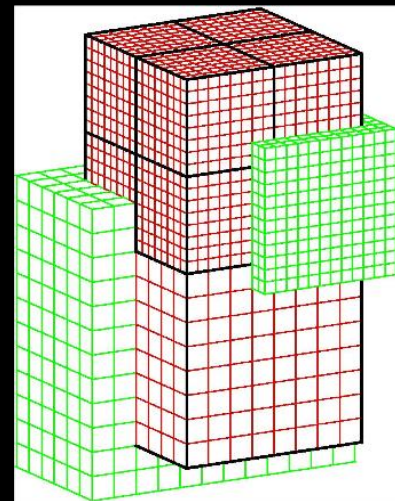
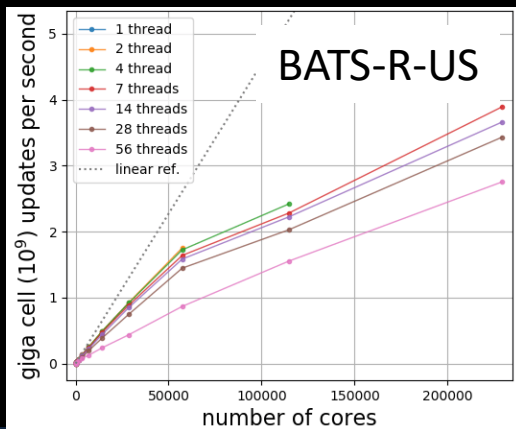
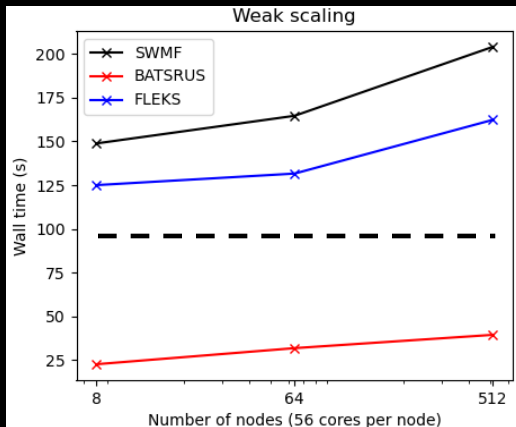
and also available via CCIMC

SWMF/Geospace



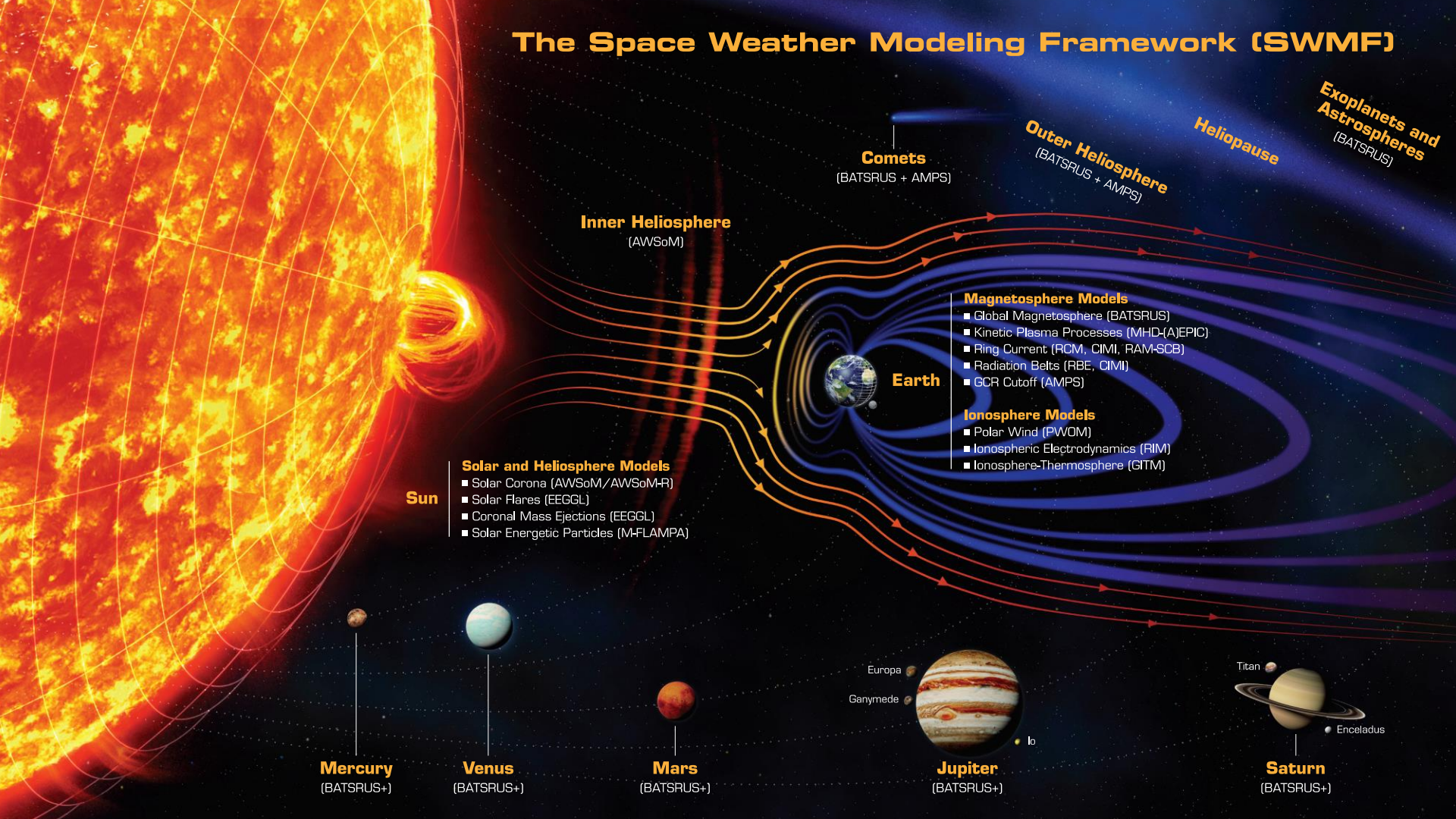
2024 SWMF/BATS-R-US Code Summary

- Source code (active = tested): **1.3M lines**
 - 692K lines of Fortran with MPI + OpenMP parallelization
 - 330K lines of C++
 - 246K lines of scripts, makefiles and XML descriptions
 - 26K lines of wrappers and couplers
- SWMF runs on **Unix/Linux/OSX/WSL** systems with **Fortran 2008, C++, Perl, Python** compilers/interpreters and optional **MPI, OpenMP, OpenACC, AMREX, HYPRE, HDF5** libraries.
- The SWMF can run on a laptop or on tens of thousands of processors.
- Extensive user manual with up-to-date documentation of input parameters.
- Fully automated nightly testing with several machine/compiler combinations. These tests provide working examples for applications.



Block AMR

The Space Weather Modeling Framework (SWMF)



Sun

Solar and Heliosphere Models

- Solar Corona (AWSoM/AWSoM-R)
- Solar Flares (EEGGL)
- Coronal Mass Ejections (EEGGL)
- Solar Energetic Particles (M-FLAMPA)

Inner Heliosphere

(AWSoM)

Comets

(BATSURS + AMPS)

Outer Heliosphere

(BATSURS + AMPS)

Heliopause

Exoplanets and Astrospheres

(BATSURS)

Magnetosphere Models

- Global Magnetosphere (BATSURS)
- Kinetic Plasma Processes (MHD-A/EPIC)
- Ring Current (RCM, CMI, RAM-SCB)
- Radiation Belts (RBE, CMI)
- GCR Cutoff (AMPS)

Ionosphere Models

- Polar Wind (PWOM)
- Ionospheric Electrodynamics (RIM)
- Ionosphere-Thermosphere (GITM)

Earth

Mercury

(BATSURS+)

Venus

(BATSURS+)

Mars

(BATSURS+)

Jupiter

(BATSURS+)

Saturn

(BATSURS+)

Europa

Ganymede

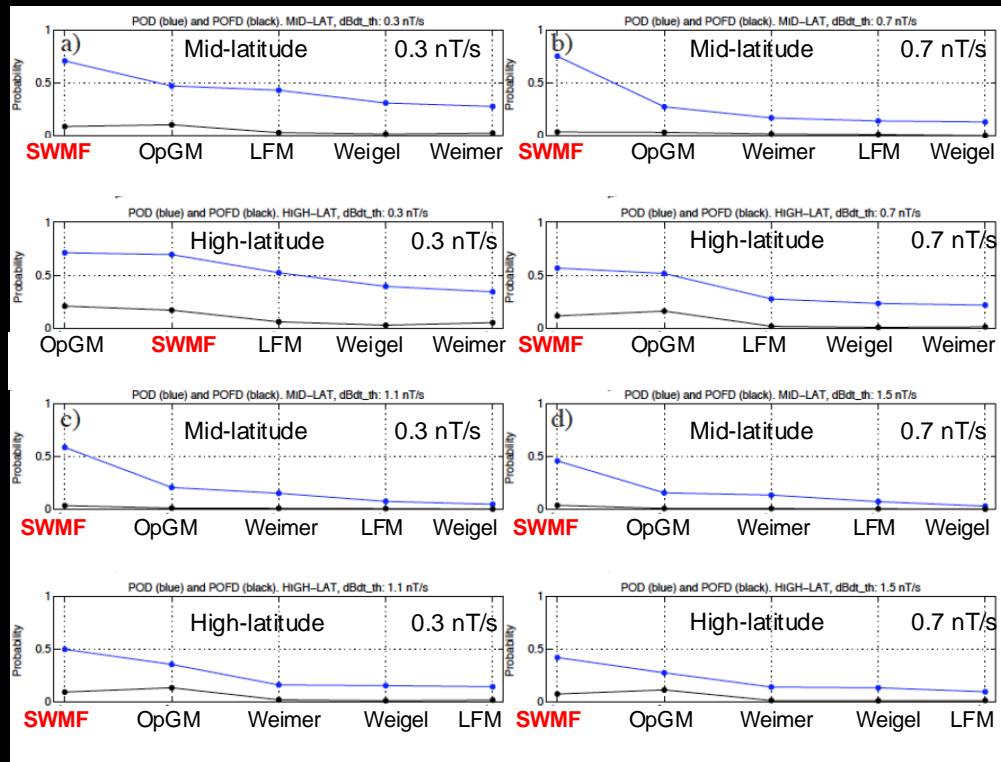
Io

Titan

Enceladus

SWMF in Operational Use: SWMF/Geospace

- **January 2012:**
 - On behalf of NOAA/SWPC, the CCMC starts evaluation of Geospace prediction models to determine which model or models should begin transition to operations
 - Focus is on identifying models that can predict regional geomagnetic activity with useful skill scores
- **November 2013:**
 - Based on the results of two CCMC reports (one on dB/dt and the other on Regional K), as well as information learned throughout this process from numerous meetings and forums and one-on-one discussions with modelers and the CCMC, NOAA/SWPC decides to transition the University of Michigan's Space Weather Modeling Framework (SWMF) to operations

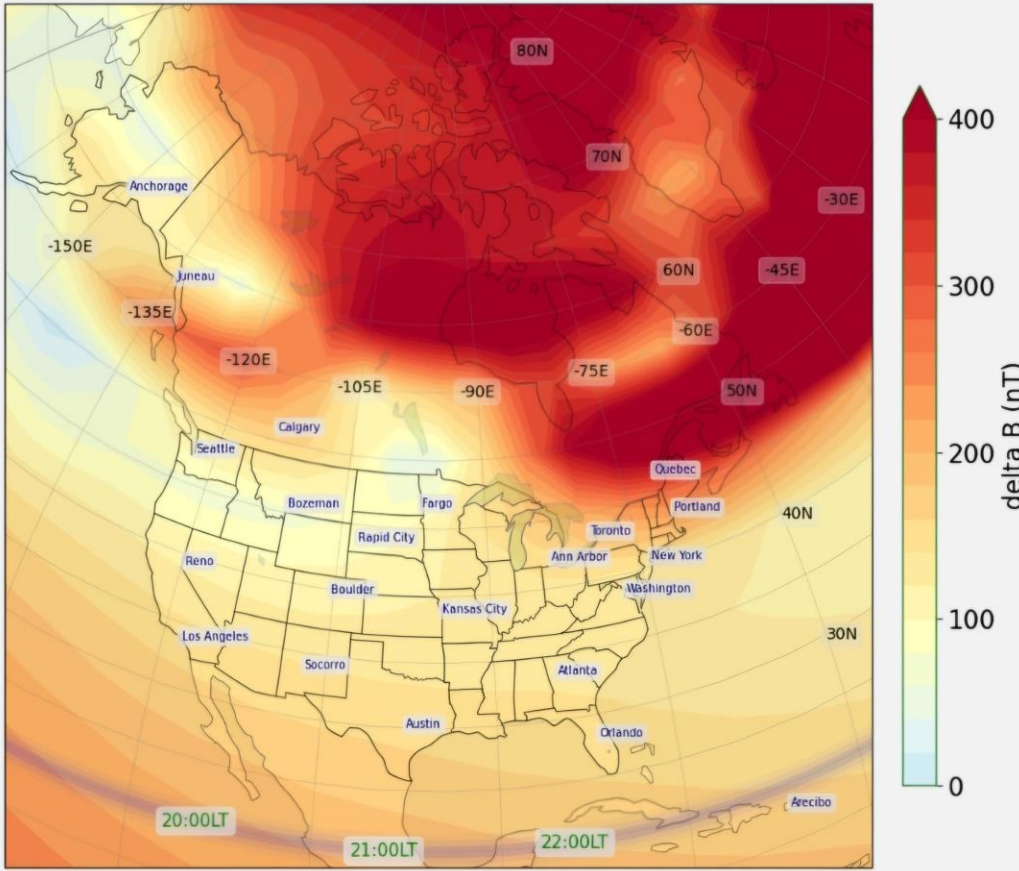
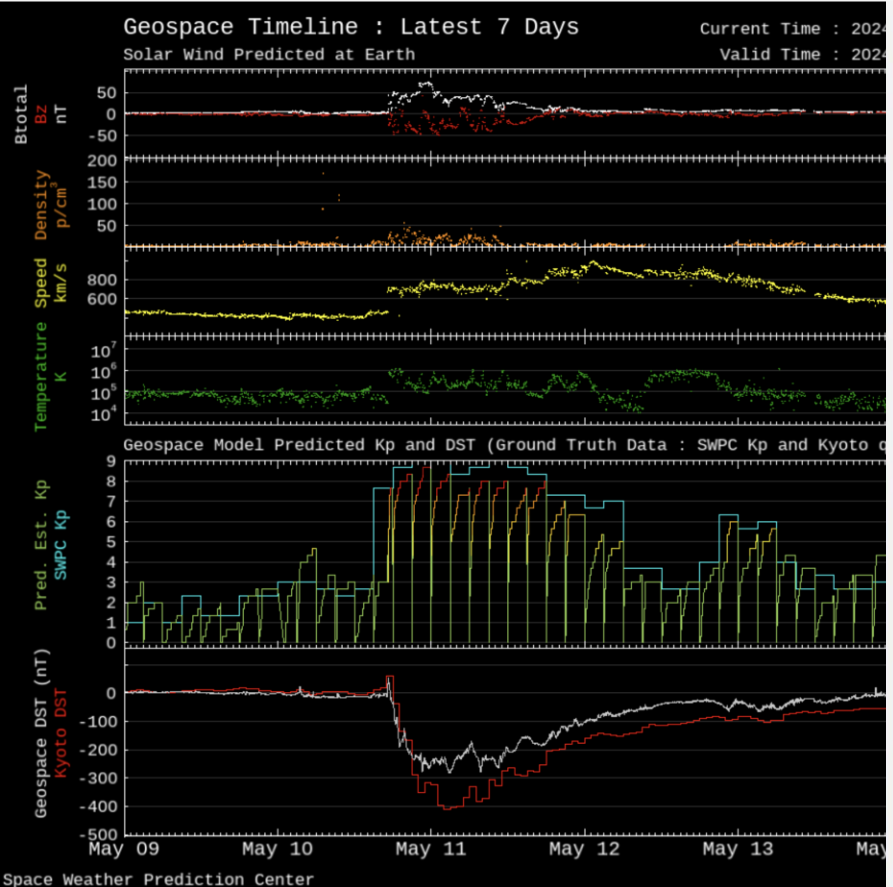


SWMF/Geospace Operational Forecast: 2024 Mothers Day Event

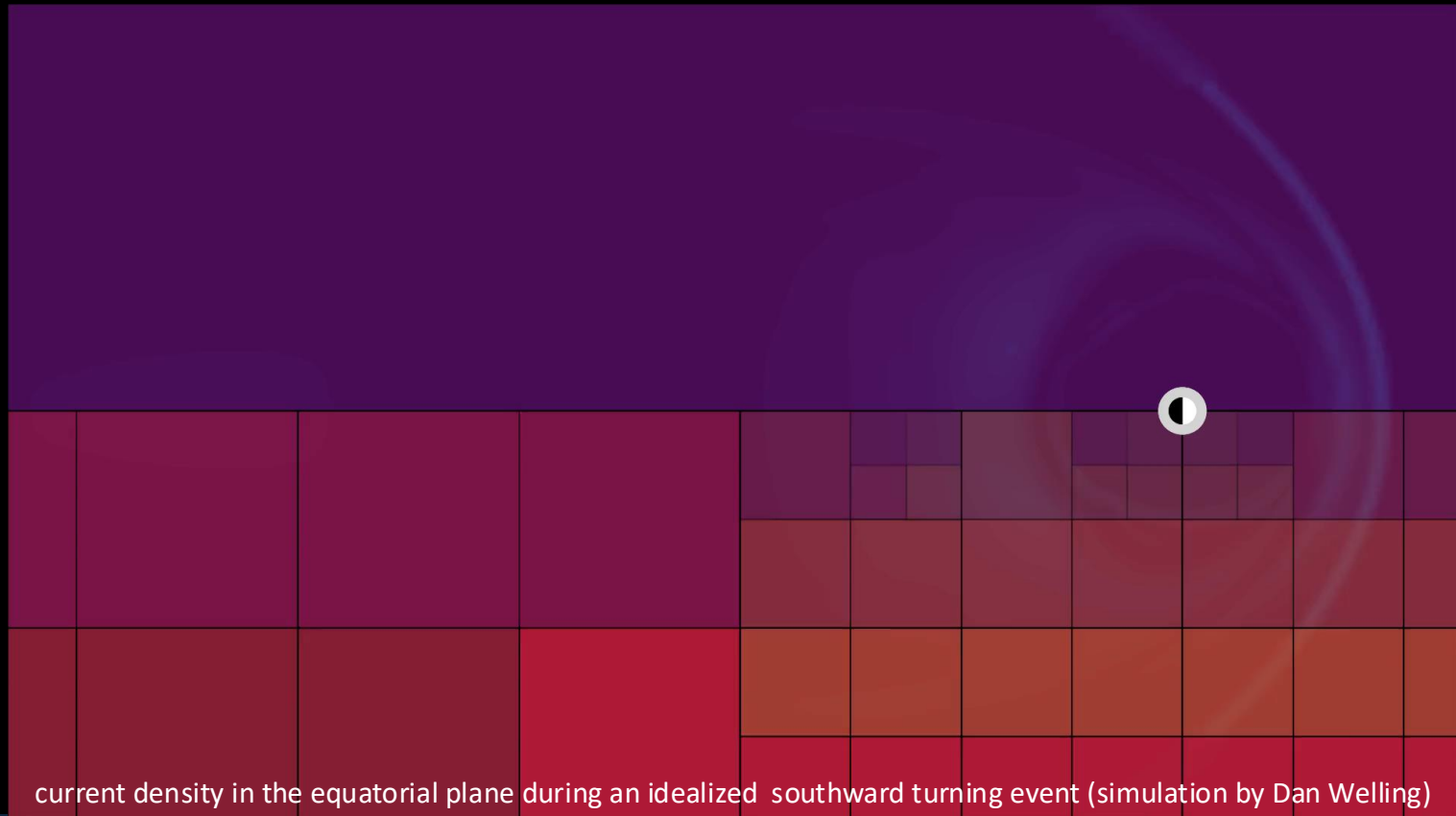
GEOSPACE GEOMAGNETIC ACTIVITY PLOT

2024-05-11 03:37 UTC

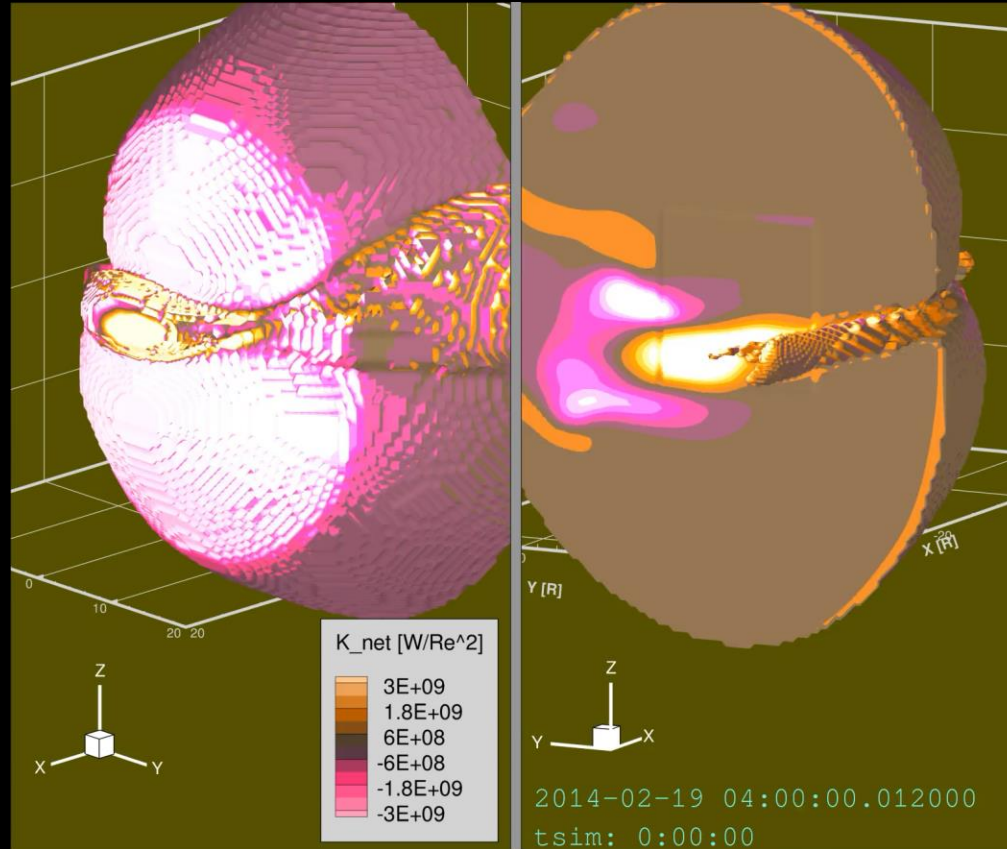
delta B [nT]



Resolving Mesoscale Features with AMR

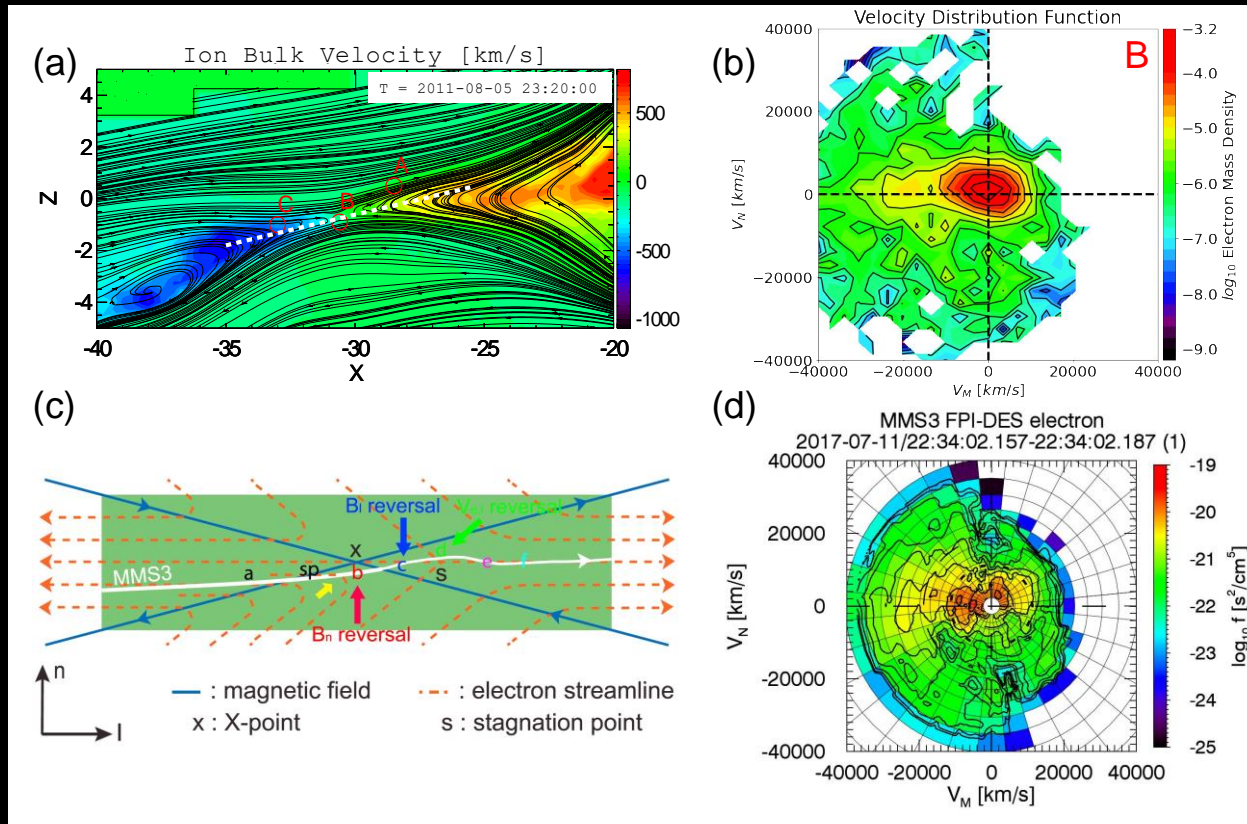


Energy Flow in the Magnetosphere



(simulation by Austin Brenner)

Resolving Electron Scale Features with MHD-EPIC

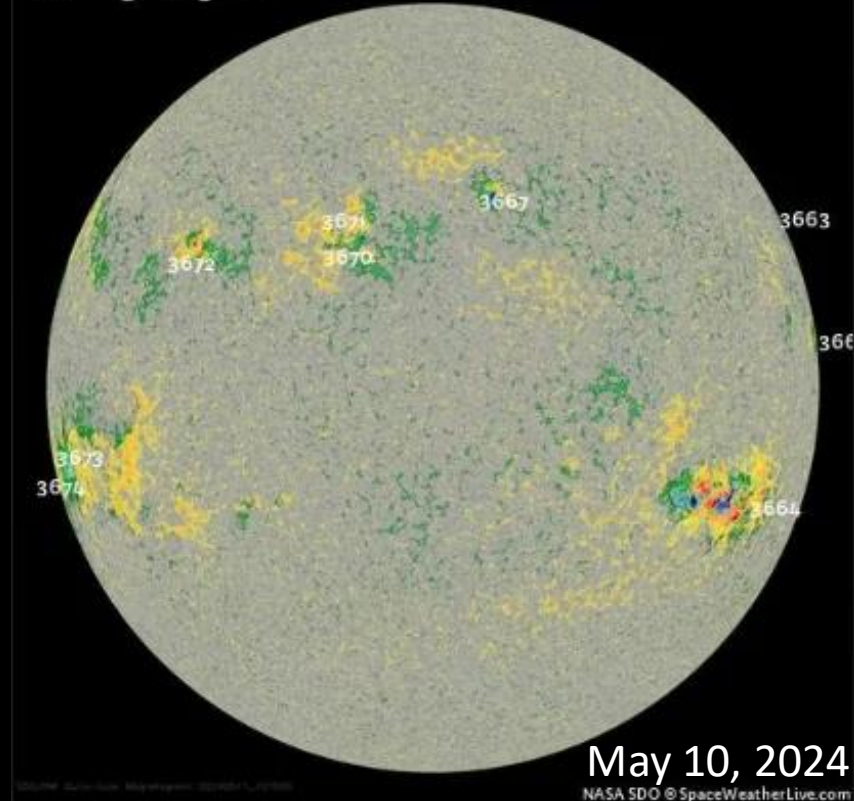


Wang et al., JGR, 2022

Simulating the Background Corona and Solar Wind

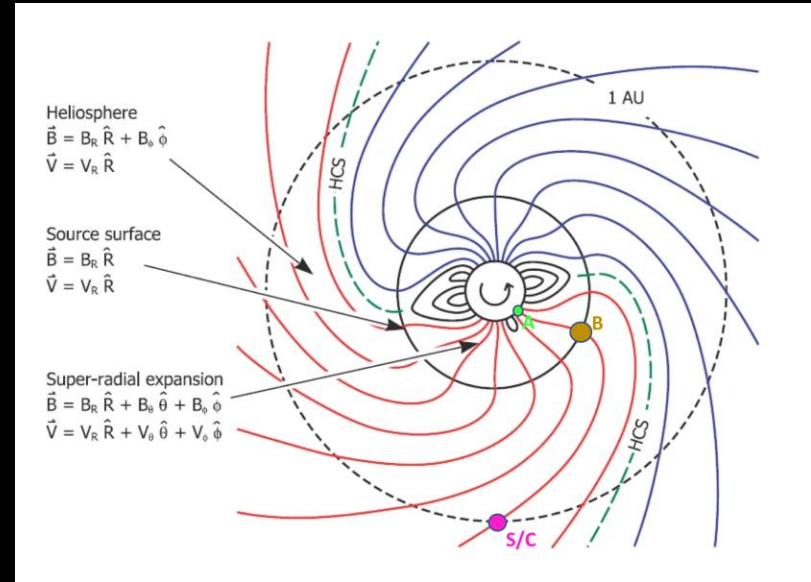
- In the chromosphere the solar plasma transitions from high β (gas dominated) to low β (magnetic field dominated) regime
- In the narrow ($>10^2$ km) transition region heat conduction from the corona is balanced by radiative cooling
- There is growing consensus that Alfvénic turbulence is primarily responsible for accelerating and heating the solar wind
- Data driven corona/solar wind models use photospheric magnetic field measurements to derive boundary conditions in the low transition region
- The new generation of models (will) use time evolving vector magnetic field maps
- A big unknown is the connection between the photospheric and transition region magnetic fields

HMI Magnetogram



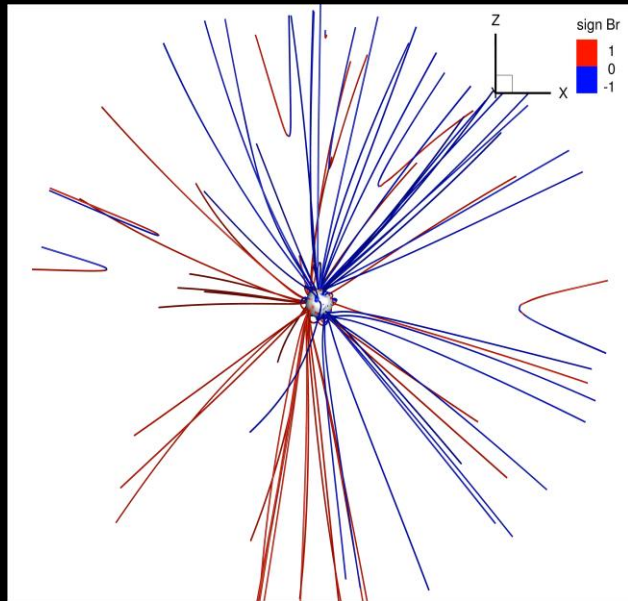
Solar Wind and Magnetic Connectivity

- Magnetic connectivity in the heliosphere is a critical information for
 - Identifying solar wind source regions on the Sun
 - interpreting energetic particle observations in the heliosphere
- In (near-)ideal MHD, IMF field lines and plasma streamlines are parallel/antiparallel beyond the Alfvén point
- In numerical simulations
 - unavoidable numerical reconnection for field lines near the HCR lead to false connectivity (v-shaped IMF)...

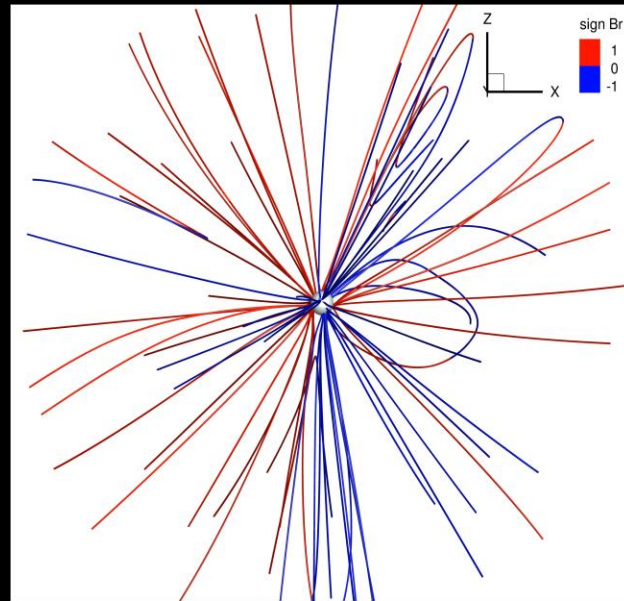


Owens, M.J. and Forsyth, R.J., *Living Rev. Sol. Phys.* **10**, 5 (2013).
<https://doi.org/10.12942/lrsp-2013-5>

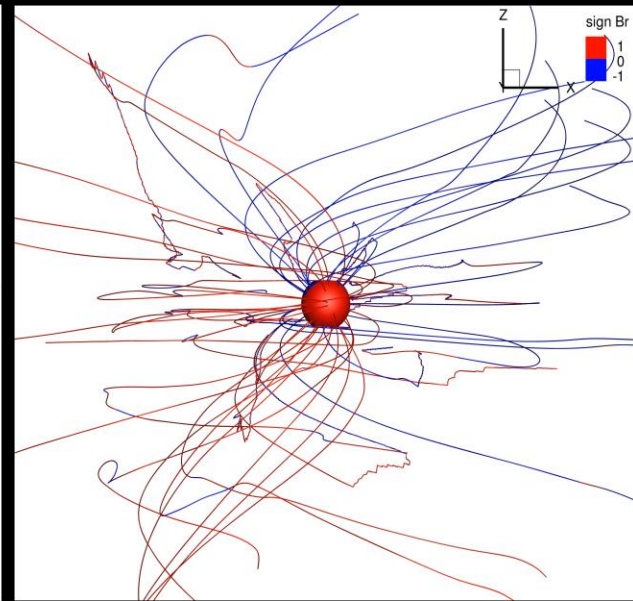
IMF Lines Reconnect Near Current Sheets



AWSOM



MAS

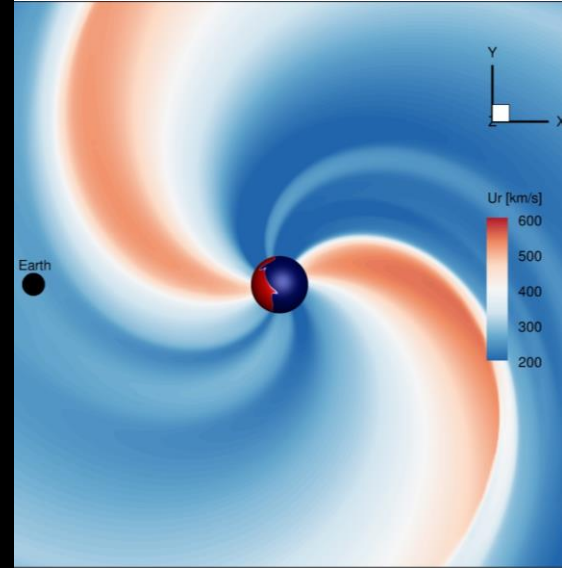
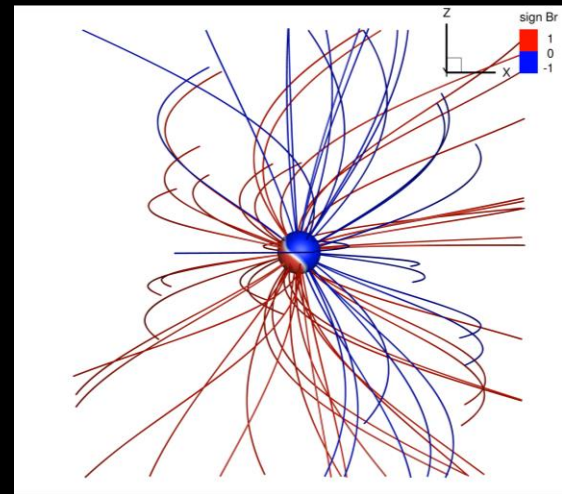


ENLIL

Stream-Aligned MHD

Sokolov et al. (2022), ApJ, 926, 102,
doi: [10.3847/15384357/ac400f](https://doi.org/10.3847/15384357/ac400f)

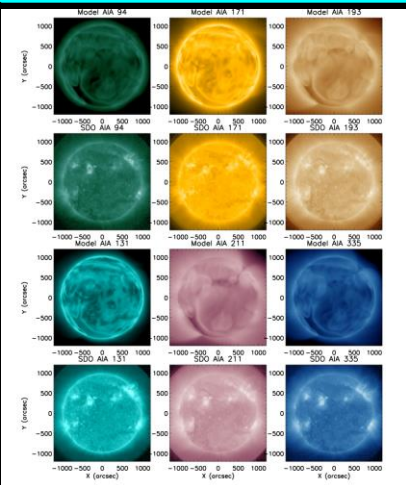
- In the free streaming solar wind we expect the \mathbf{u} and \mathbf{B} vectors to be parallel everywhere: $\mathbf{B} = \alpha(\mathbf{t}, \mathbf{r}) \mathbf{u}$
- $\alpha(\mathbf{t}, \mathbf{r})$ is a scalar function
- Obviously, $\mathbf{E} = -\mathbf{u} \times \mathbf{B} \equiv 0$
- It can be shown that $\partial_t \alpha = -\nabla \cdot (\alpha \mathbf{u})$
- Aligning force: $\alpha \partial_t \mathbf{u} = -\nabla \cdot (\alpha \mathbf{u})$. As steady-state is approached, $\alpha \partial_t \mathbf{u} \rightarrow 0$
- Add the aligning force to the induction and momentum equations:
$$\partial_t \mathbf{B} + \nabla \cdot (\mathbf{u} \mathbf{B} - \mathbf{B} \mathbf{u}) = -\mathbf{u} (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B}) + \alpha \partial_t \mathbf{u}$$
$$\partial_t \mathbf{u} + (\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{u} + \frac{\nabla P}{\rho} = \frac{\alpha}{\mu_0 \rho} [\nabla \times (\alpha \mathbf{u})] \times \mathbf{u}$$
$$\partial_t \left(\frac{\rho u^2}{2} + \frac{P}{\gamma - 1} \right) + \nabla \cdot \left[\left(\frac{\rho u^2}{2} + \frac{\gamma P}{\gamma - 1} \right) \mathbf{u} \right] = 0$$
- Aligning force is \perp to the velocity and it does not affect the kinetic energy, hence, does not exchange energy between the field and plasma
- This model is valid for steady-state in the corotating frame



Background Corona/Solar Wind Simulations

Sachdeva et al. 2023, ApJ
doi: [10.3847/1538-4357/acda87](https://doi.org/10.3847/1538-4357/acda87)

CR 2107 (ascending phase)



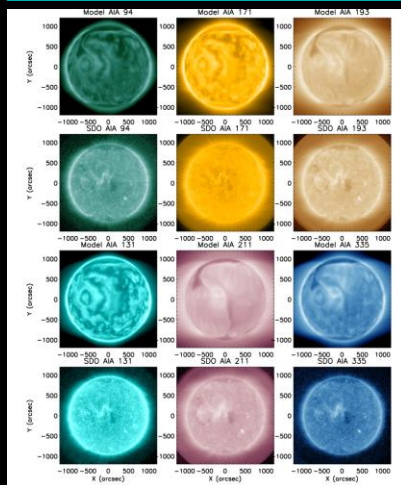
AWSOM

SDO/AIA

AWSOM

SDO/AIA

CR 2123 (solar max)



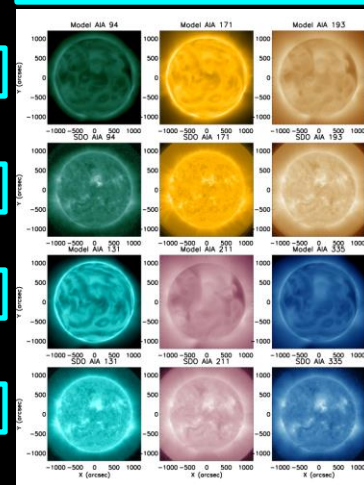
AWSOM

SDO/AIA

AWSOM

SDO/AIA

CR 2219 (solar min)

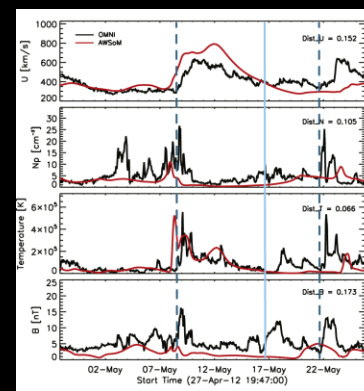
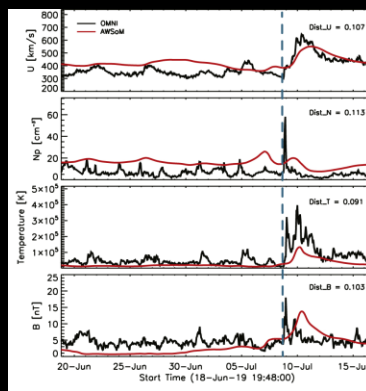
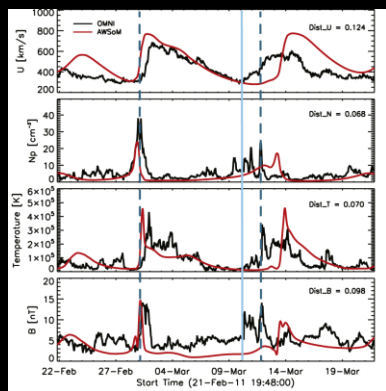


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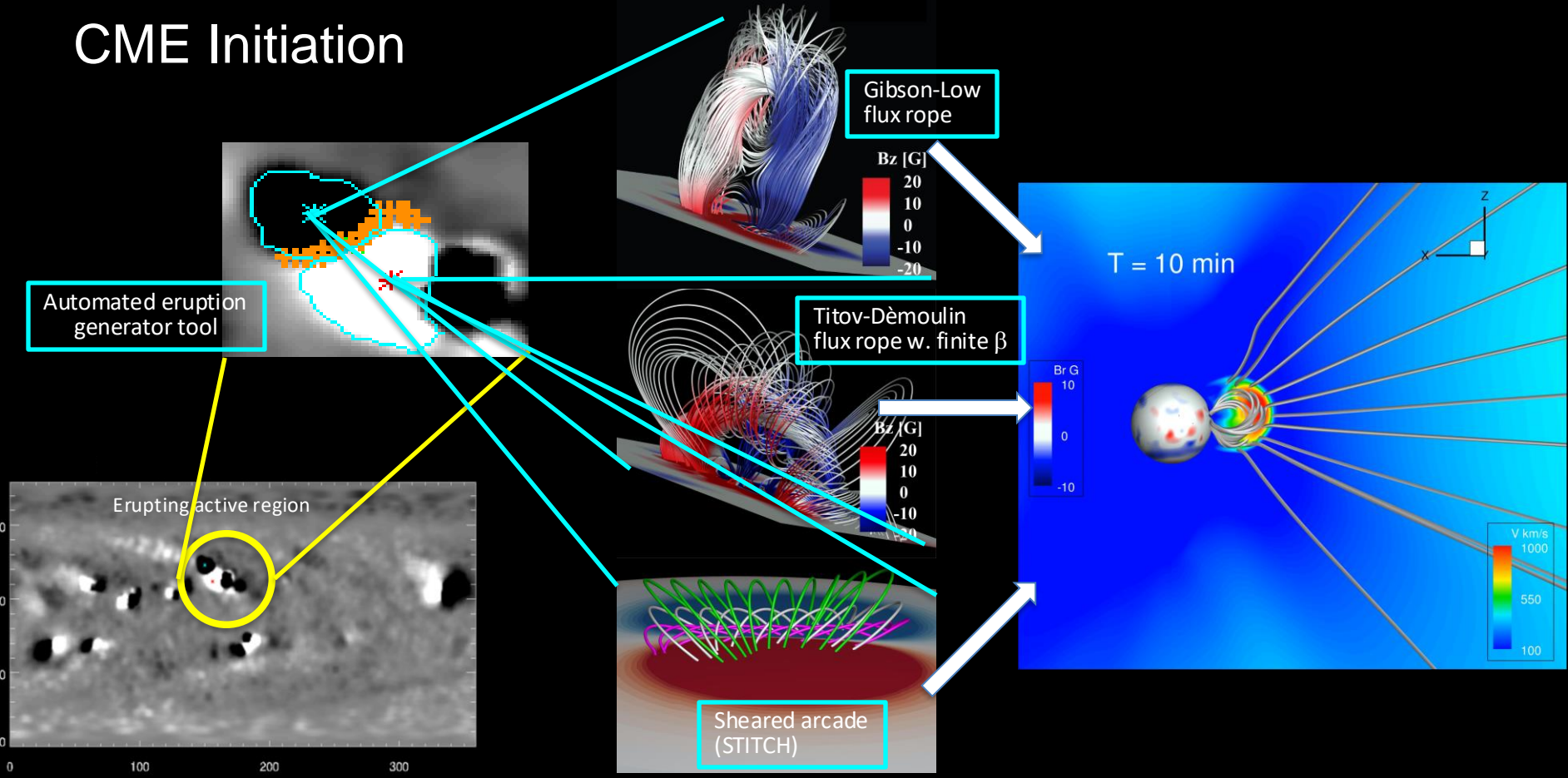
SDO/AIA

AWSOM

SDO/AIA



CME Initiation



M-FLAMPA: Lagrangian Multiple IMF-Line Tracker

- Extract IMF lines from any MHD snapshot of the heliosphere

$$\{x, y, z\}_{new} = \{x, y, z\}_{old} + \Delta s \frac{\mathbf{B}(\{x, y, z\}_{old})}{B(\{x, y, z\}_{old})}$$

- In an inertial frame, field lines and stream-lines are the same (except for reconnection)

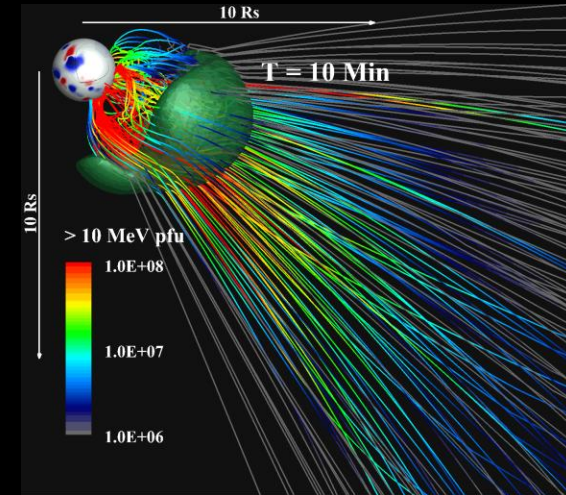
$$\{x, y, z\}_{new} = \{x, y, z\}_{old} + \Delta t \frac{\mathbf{u}(\{x, y, z\}_{old})}{u(\{x, y, z\}_{old})}$$

- Once a field line is extracted its time evolution can be obtained

$$\{x, y, z\}_{new} = \{x, y, z\}_{old} + \Delta t \mathbf{u}(\{x, y, z\}_{old})$$

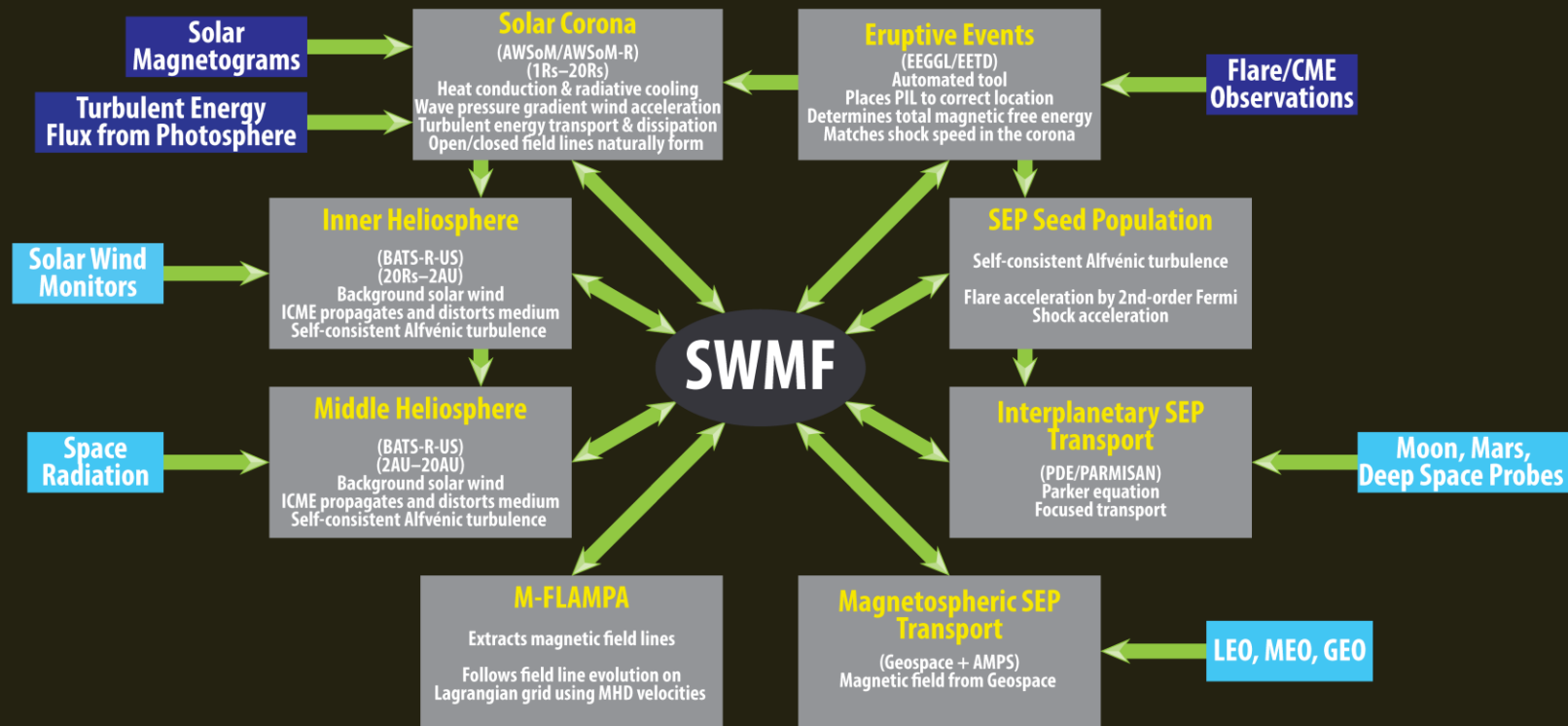
Sokolov et al. (2004), ApJ, doi: [10.1086/426812](https://doi.org/10.1086/426812)

Borovikov et al. (2018), ApJ, doi: [10.3847/1538-4357/aad68d](https://doi.org/10.3847/1538-4357/aad68d)

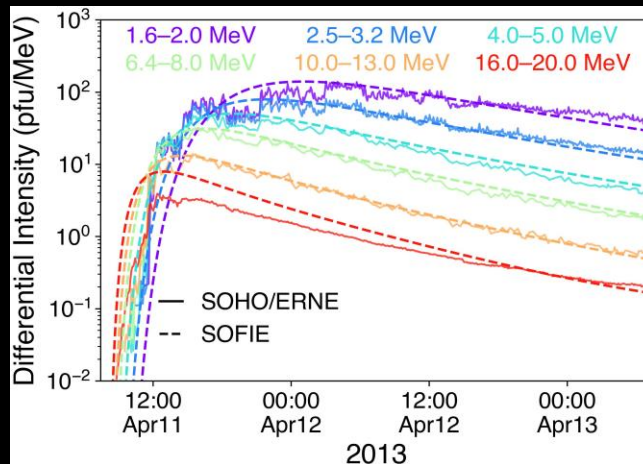
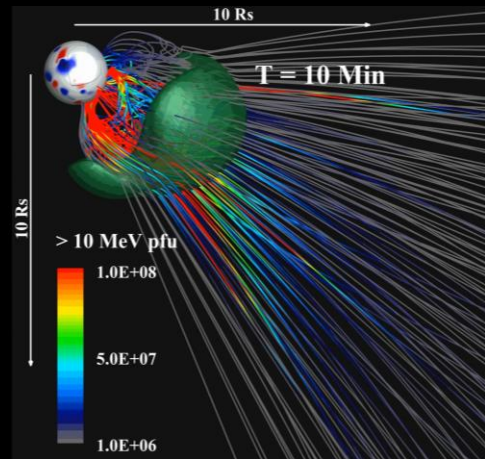
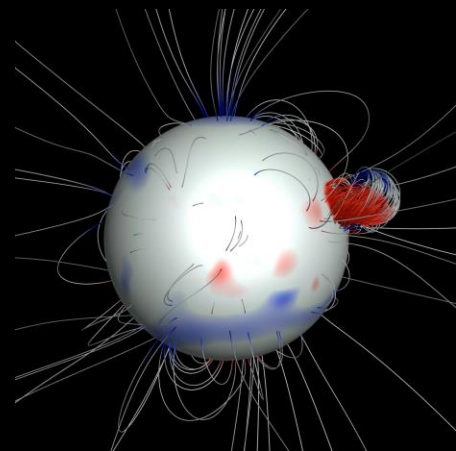
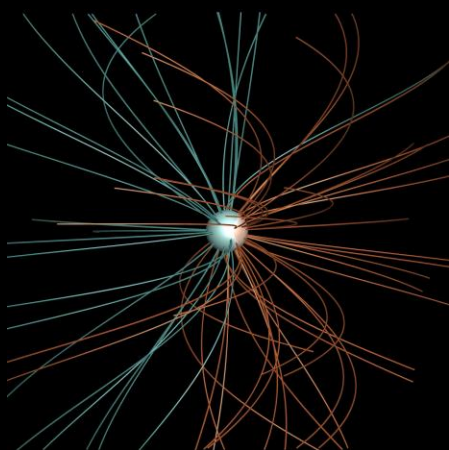
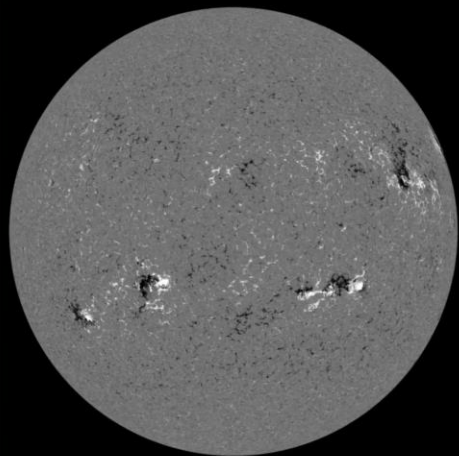


SEP Simulations: AWSoM + M-FLAMPA + PARMISAN

SOFIE: SOLar-wind with Field-lines and Energetic-particles



SOFIE: Integrated Solar Wind + CME + SEP Simulation Tool



Summary

- ✓ Space environment is inherently multiphysics \Rightarrow adaptive physics is needed
- ✓ Simulation speed is important \Rightarrow need to forecast the future, not the past
- ✓ Space environment is inherently multiscale \Rightarrow from Debye length to the size of the heliosphere (mesoscale is just one element)
- ✓ Multiple timescales must be resolved \Rightarrow from plasma periods to solar cycles
- ✓ SWMF achieved all these objectives