

# SWCX Contribution to the Soft X-Ray Background Using X-LEAP Data

Zeyang Pan

National Astronomical Observatory, CAS (NAOC)

zypan@bao.ac.cn

Collaborators: Zhijie Qu, Joel Bregman, Jifeng Liu

1. **MW Hot Gas and SWCX in Soft X-Ray Background**
2. **Complex Nature of SWCX Emission**
3. **The *XMM-Newton* Line Emission Analysis Program (X-LEAP)**
4. **SWCX Variations in Dataset and Correlations to SW Ion Data Measured by ACE**
5. **An Empirical Model Estimating SWCX Emissions (Before 2012)**

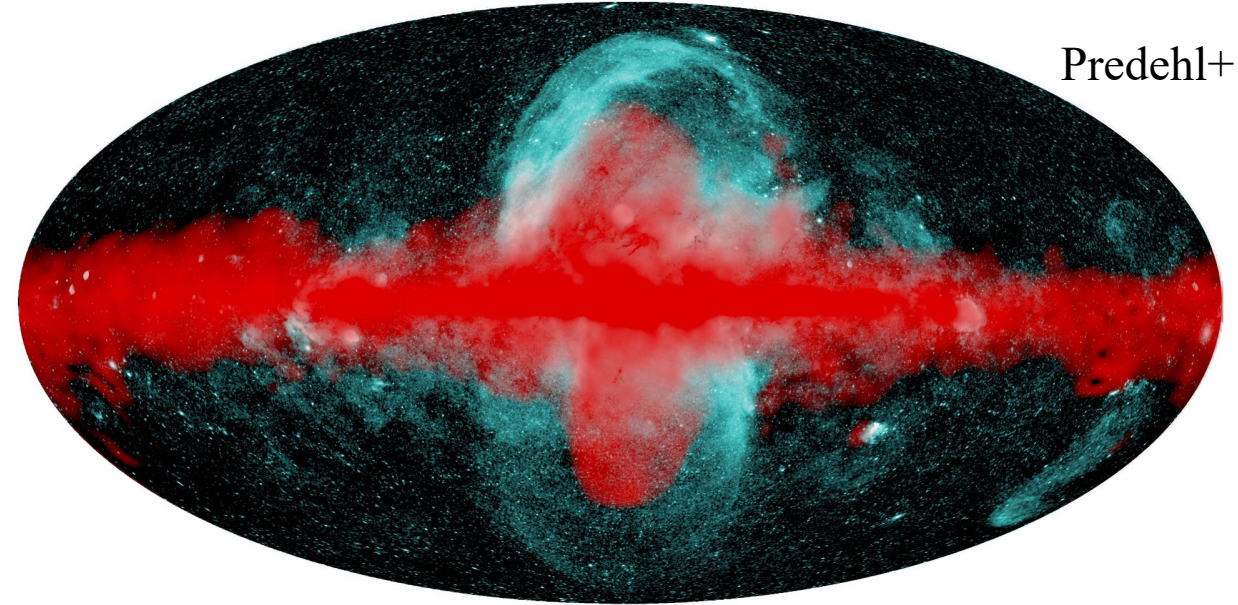
# 1. MW Hot Gas and SWCX in Soft X-ray Background

eROSITA All-Sky Survey (0.6 – 1.0 keV)

Predehl+ 20

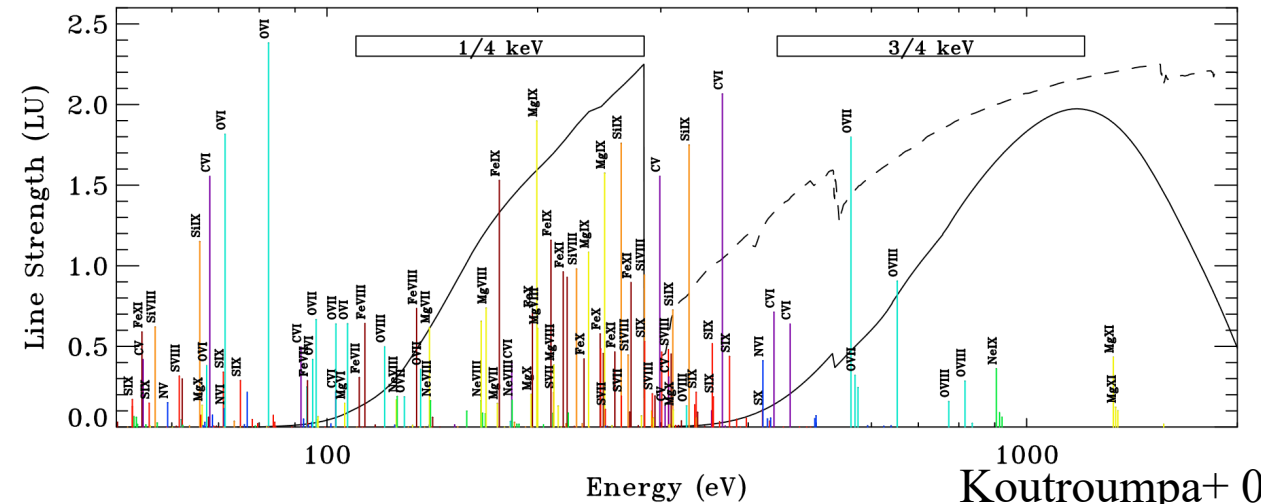
## MW Hot Gas ( $T > 10^6$ K) Emission:

- **Thermal Emission:** continuum (Bremsstrahlung)
- **Line Emissions:** O VII, O VIII, and Fe-L lines (0.56, 0.65, 0.7-1.0 keV; collisional ionization)
- **Coverage:** whole sky; faint



## SWCX Emission:

- **Highly-Charged Ions:** O7+, O8+, and Fe+;
- **Line Emissions:** O VII, O VIII, and Fe-L lines (SWCX)
- **Coverage:** Whole sky
- **Nature:** Complicated



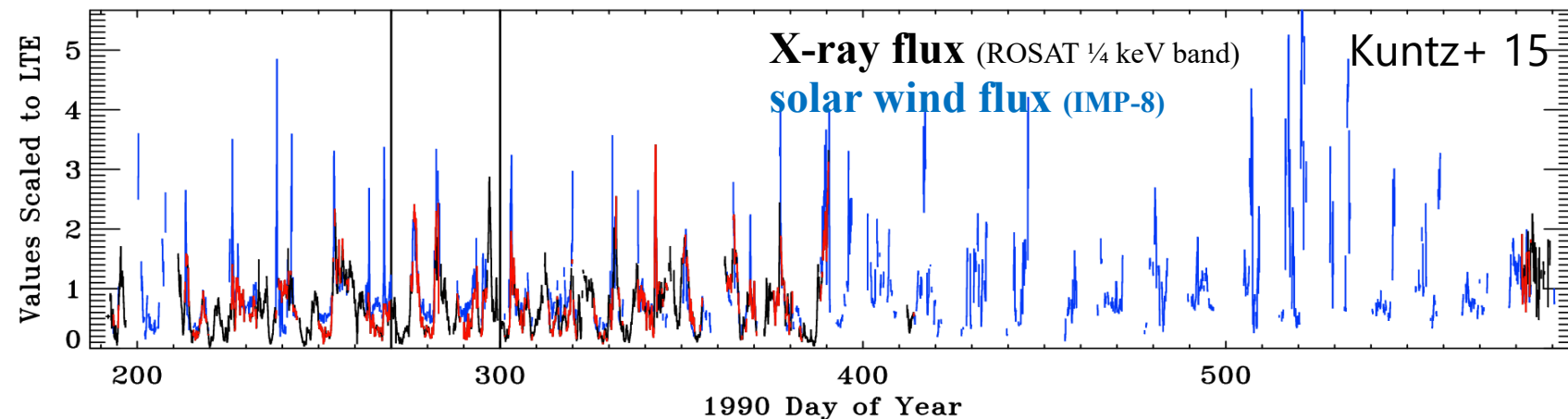
Koutroumpa+ 09b

## 2. Complex nature in SWCX emission — Regions & Variations

### Magnetospheric SWCX

#### Region: Earth's Exosphere (H & He)

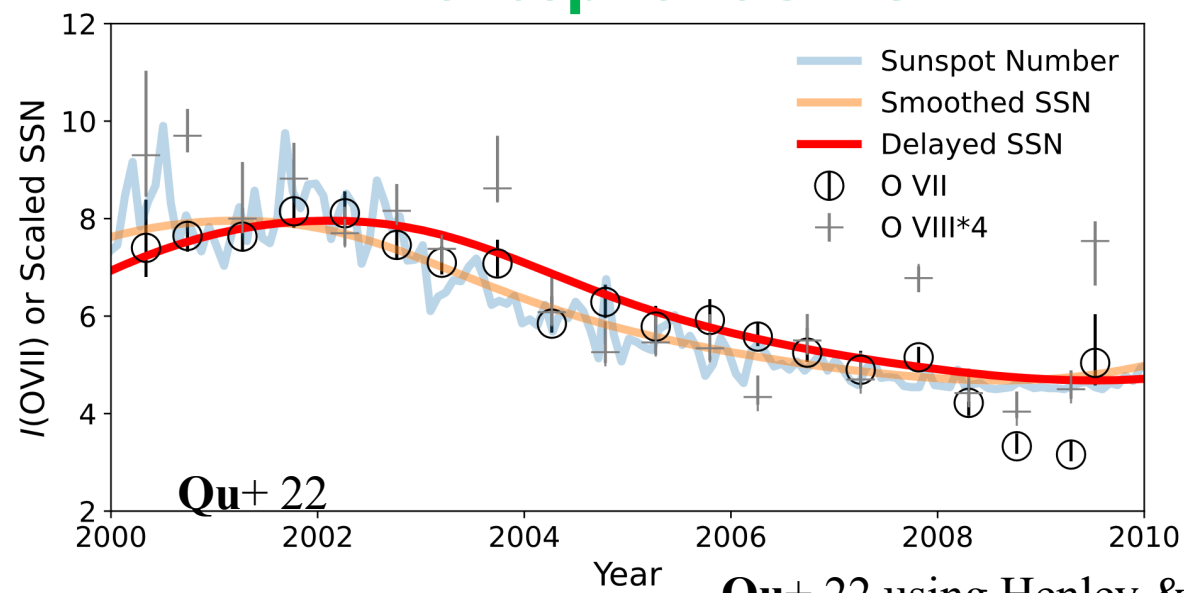
- **Variability:** Varies over days; sensitive to SW flux (e.g., Cravens 97; Freyberg 98)



#### Region: Within the Heliopause (Neutral ISM)

- **Variability:** Varies over years with lower amplitude; latitude-dependence expected;

### Heliospheric SWCX



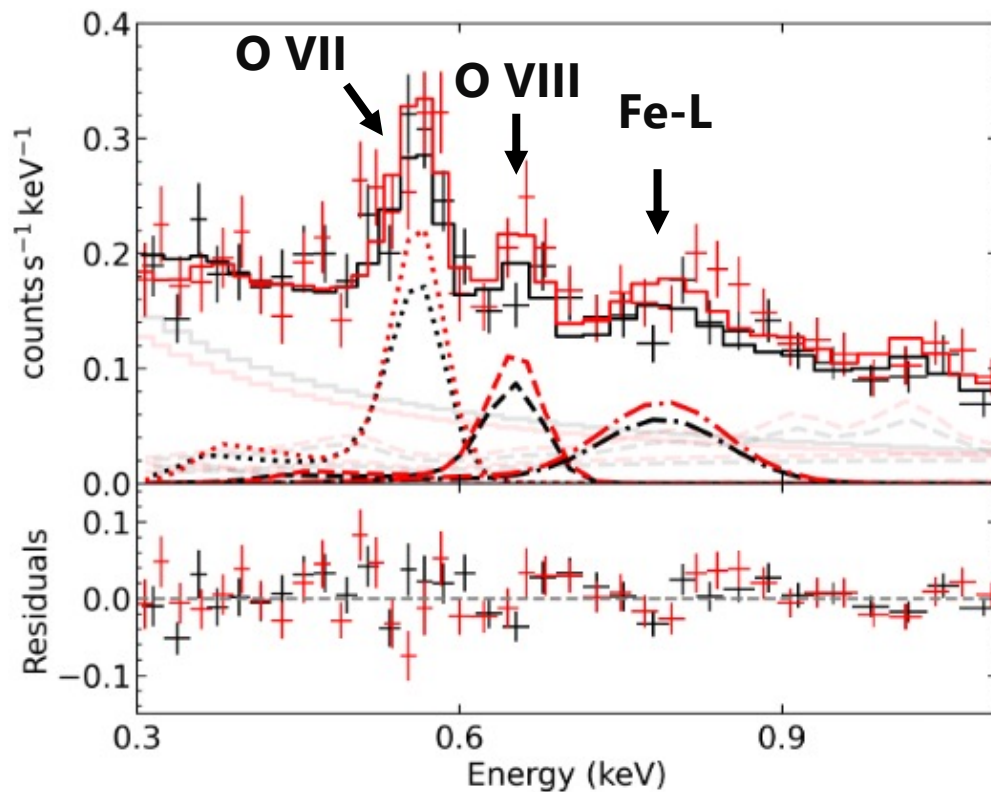
### 3. The XMM-Newton Line Emission Analysis Program (X-LEAP)

**Need:** Requires extensive, long-term line emission data in soft X-rays

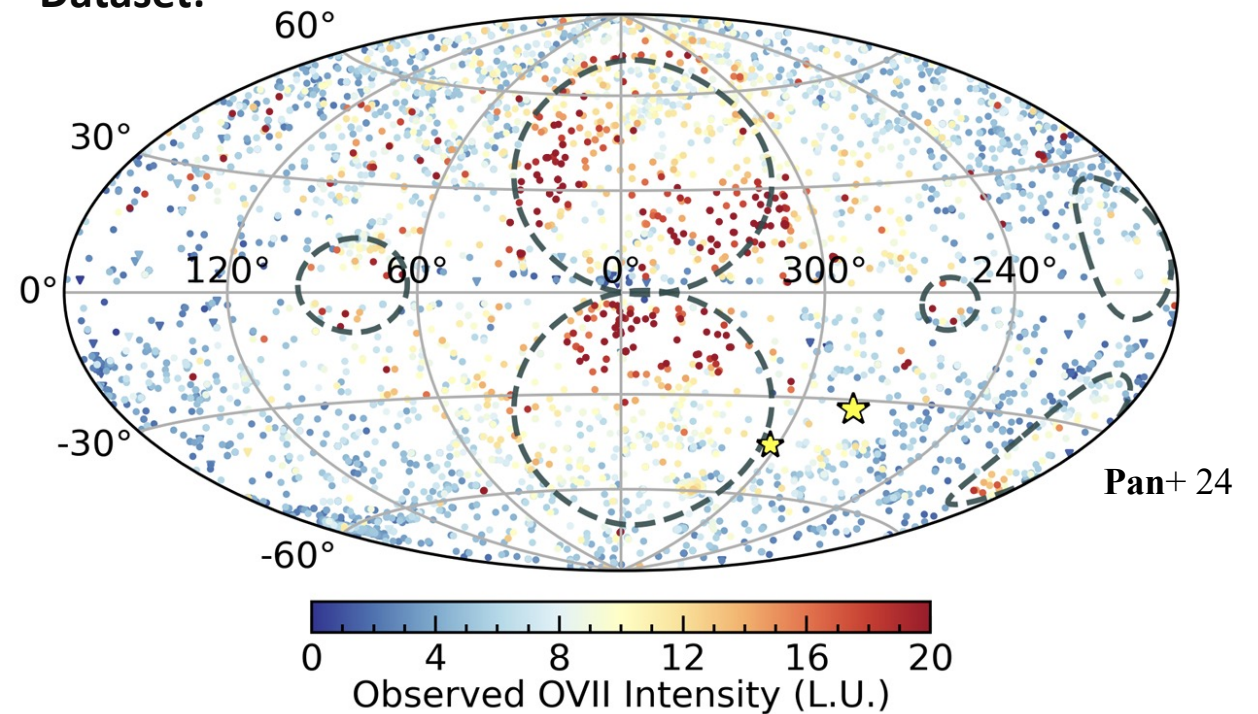
**Opportunity – MOS/XMM-NEWTON:** 1. > 22 years; 2. deep observations with large FOV.

**Goal:** To study variations in SWCX & the MW hot gas emission, using all usable MOS/XMM images

**Method:**

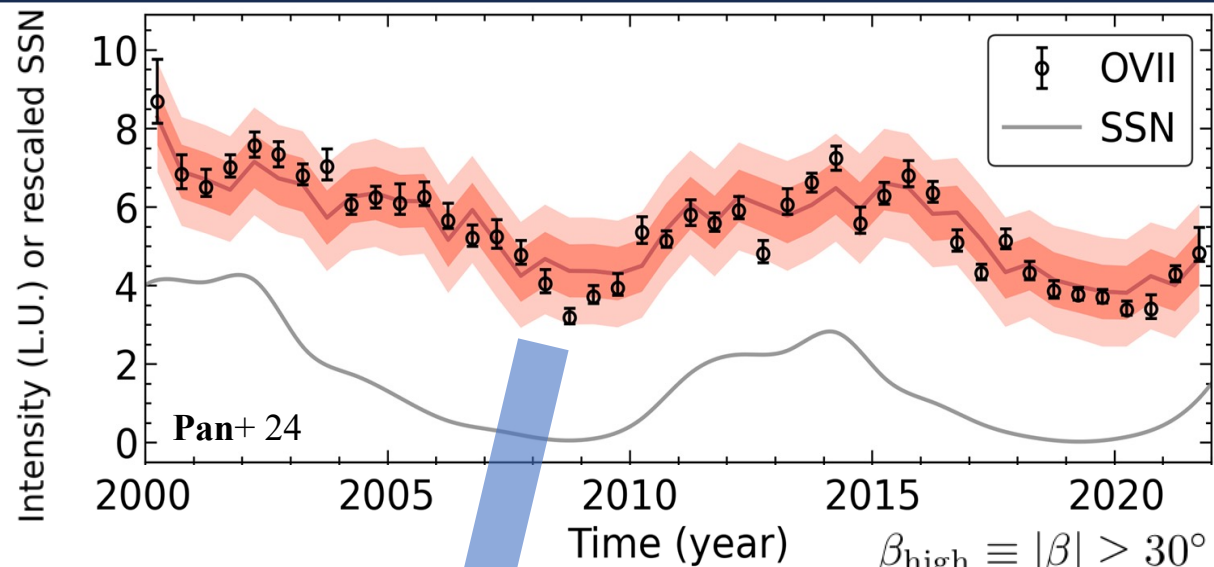


**Dataset:**

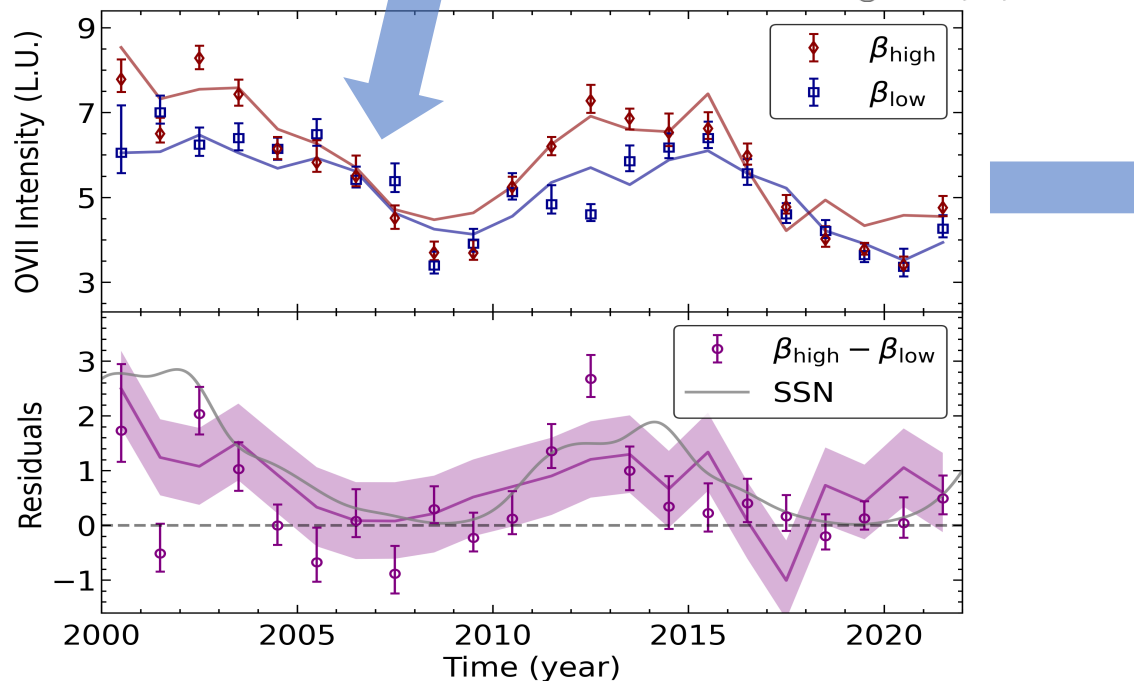


- 5470 measurements (~3% sky)
- Largest & machine-readable (X-LEAP I)
- Long exposure (~ 20 ks) & Low contaminations

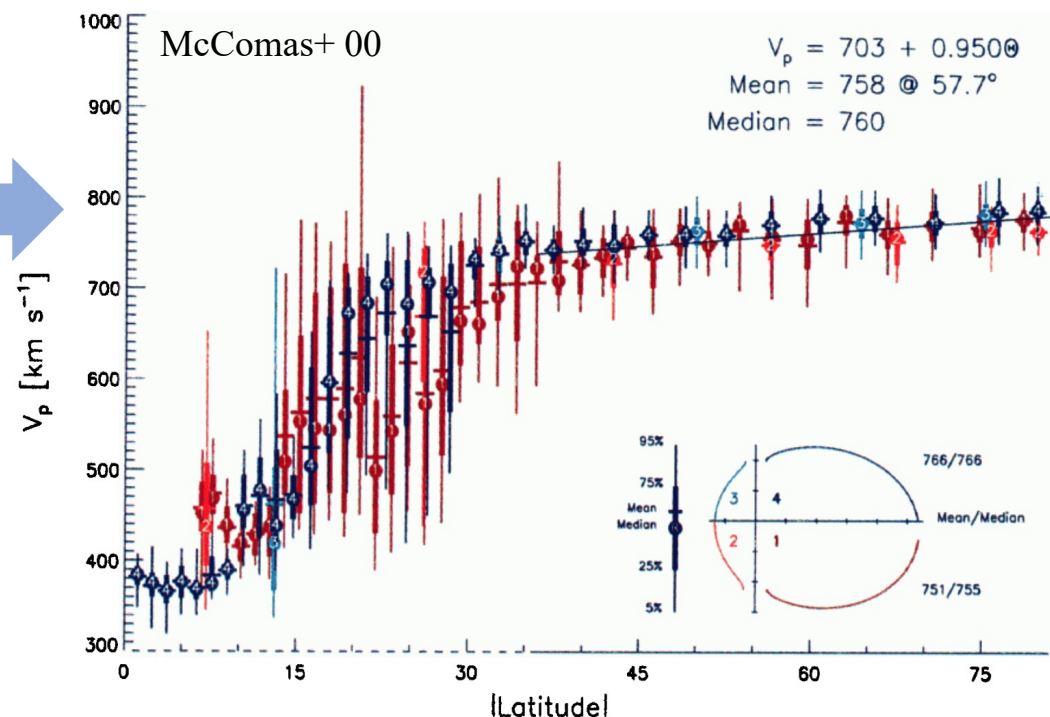
# 4.1. Long-Term & Spatial Variations Seen in X-LEAP data



- **Highly correlates with solar activity**
- **Contributes ~30% to the observed intensity in average**
- **Includes both  $I_{\text{helio, SWCX}}$  and  $I_{\text{mag, SWCX}}$**



- **O VII intensities are higher at high latitudes**



- **Varying solar wind properties at different latitudes**

## 4.2.0. SWCX Emission Intensity

The X-ray flux in a given spectral line:

$$I_{\text{SWCX}} = \frac{1}{4\pi} \int_0^s n_M(s) n_{X^{q+}}(s) V(s) \sigma_{M, X^{q+}}(V) Y_{X^{q+}, j}(V) ds \quad (\text{Cravens+ 97})$$



$$I_{\text{SWCX}} \propto \int_0^s n_M(s) n_{X^{q+}}(s) V(s) ds$$



Assume constant neutral gas density:

$$I_{\text{O VII, SWCX}} \propto n_{\text{O}^{7+}} v_{\text{O}^{7+}} (\text{O}^{7+} \text{ flux}) \text{ at where the CX happens}$$

mag: exosphere

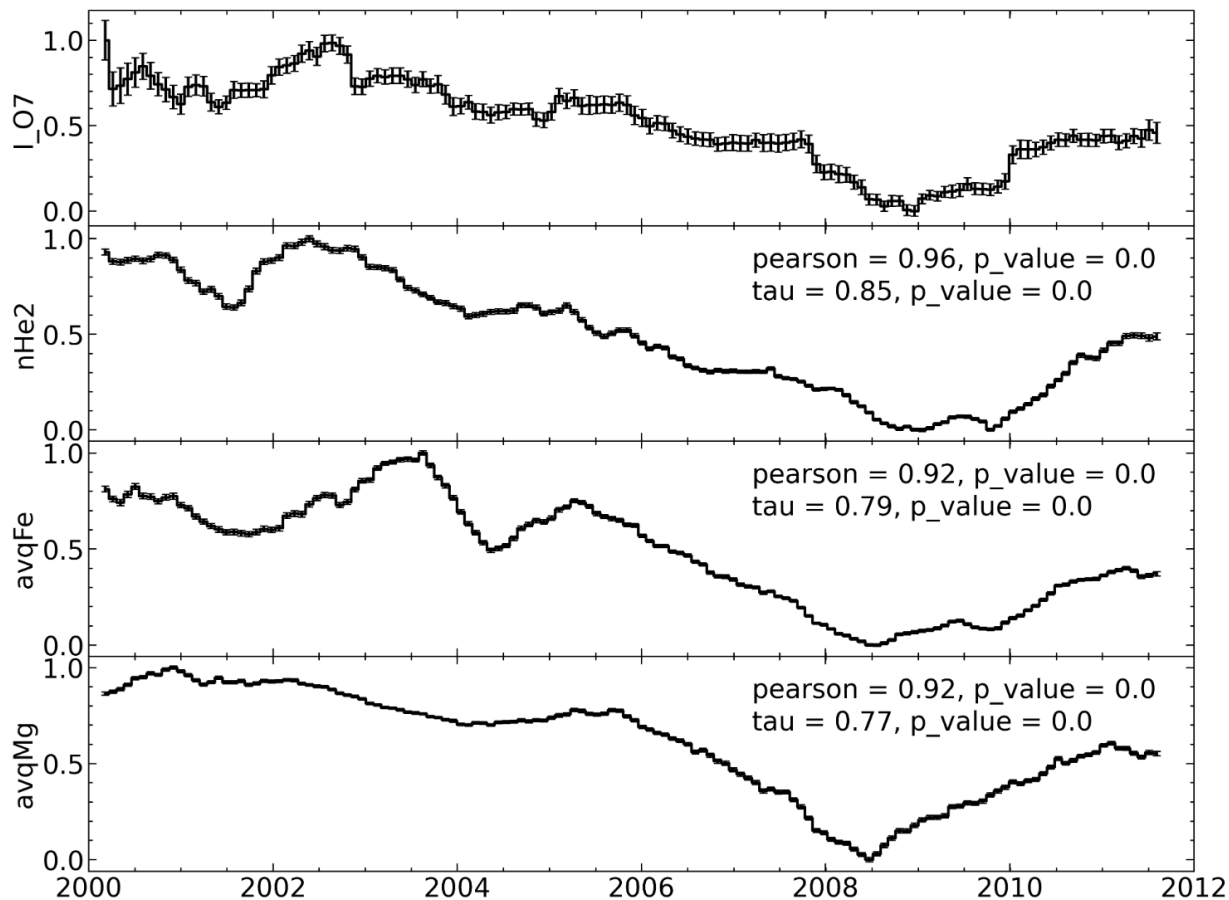
helio: within heliopause

**SWICS/ACE:**

- Measures SW ion properties at L1 (e.g.  $v\text{H}^+$ ,  $n\text{H}^+$ ,  $\text{HetoO}$ ,  $v\text{C}5^+$ , etc.)
- delay time ( $\tau$ ):  $\sim 1$  h to exosphere;  $> 1$  year to heliopause
- Less reliable ion data after 2012, except  $\text{H}^+$  measurements

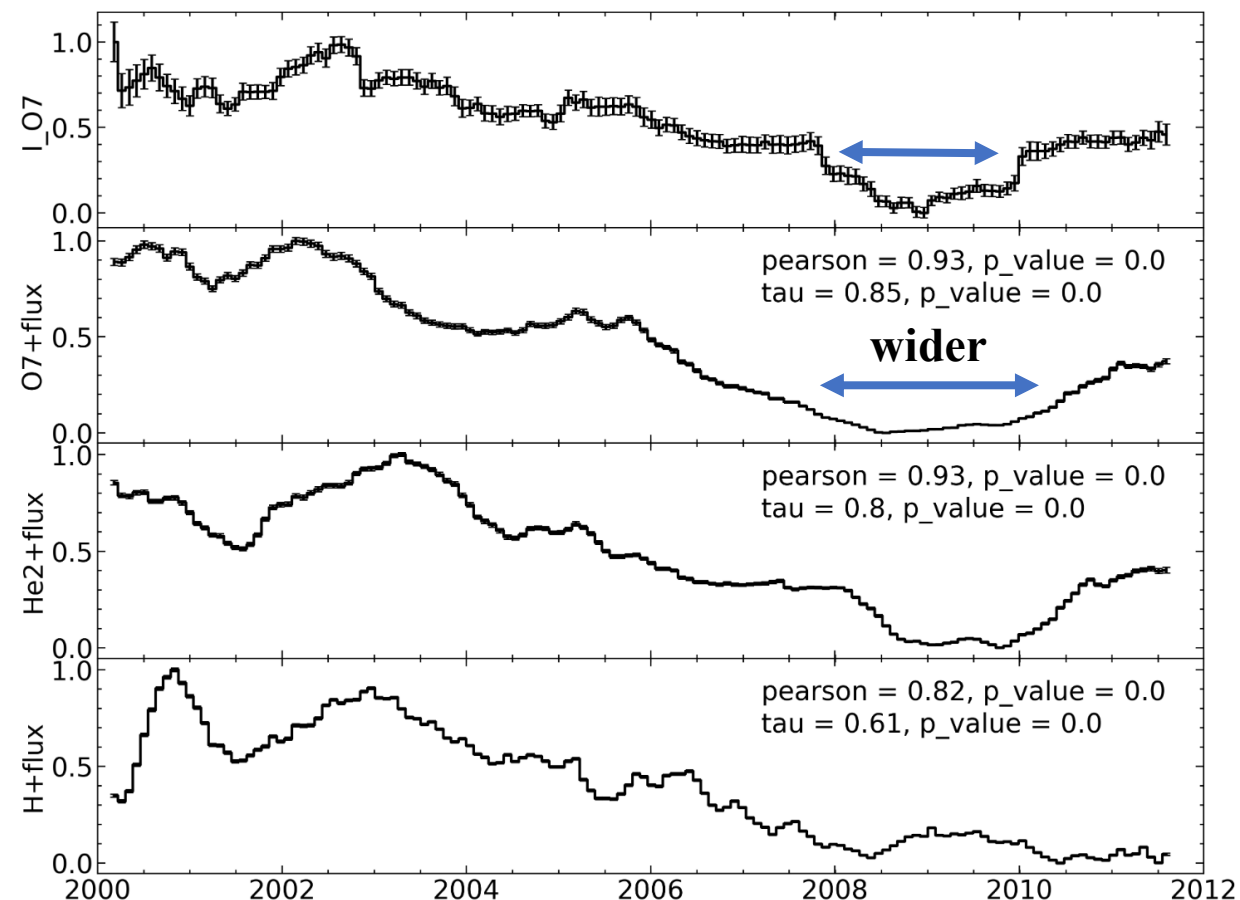
## 4.2. Correlations between Long-term SWCX and SW ion data

smoothed  $I_{O VII}$  & ACE parameters



➤ Most linearly correlated to He2+ number density

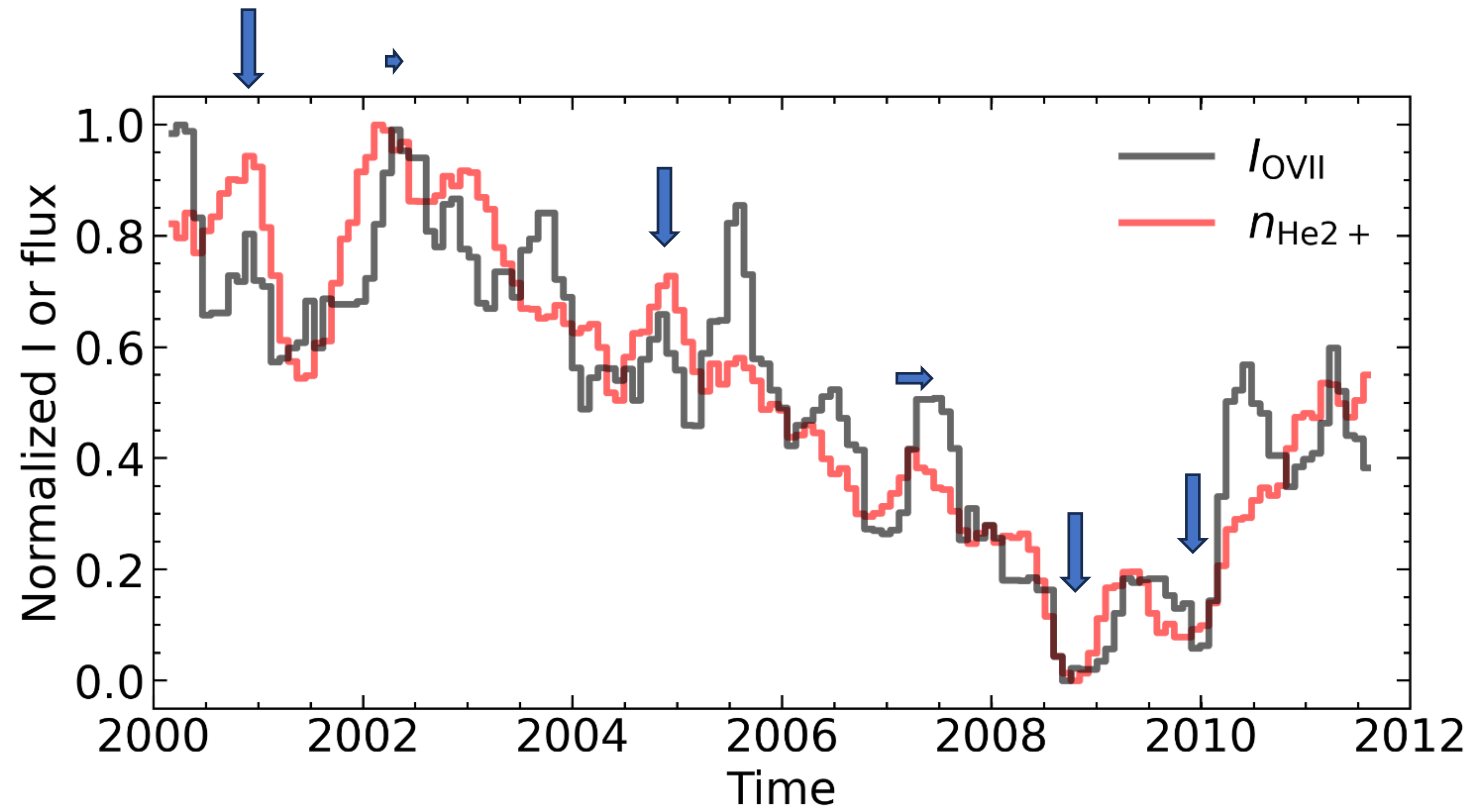
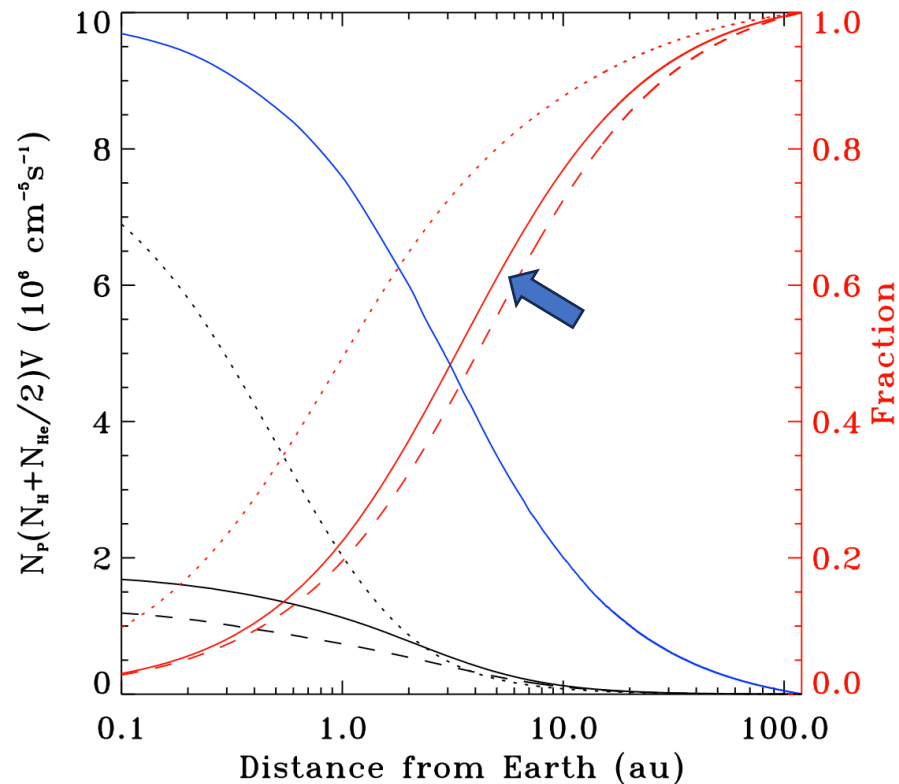
smoothed  $I_{O VII}$  & ACE ion flux



➤  $n_{He2+}$  shows stronger correlation than O7+ flux

## 4.2. Correlations between Long-term SWCX and SW ion data

Kuntz 19 (D. Koutroumpa model)

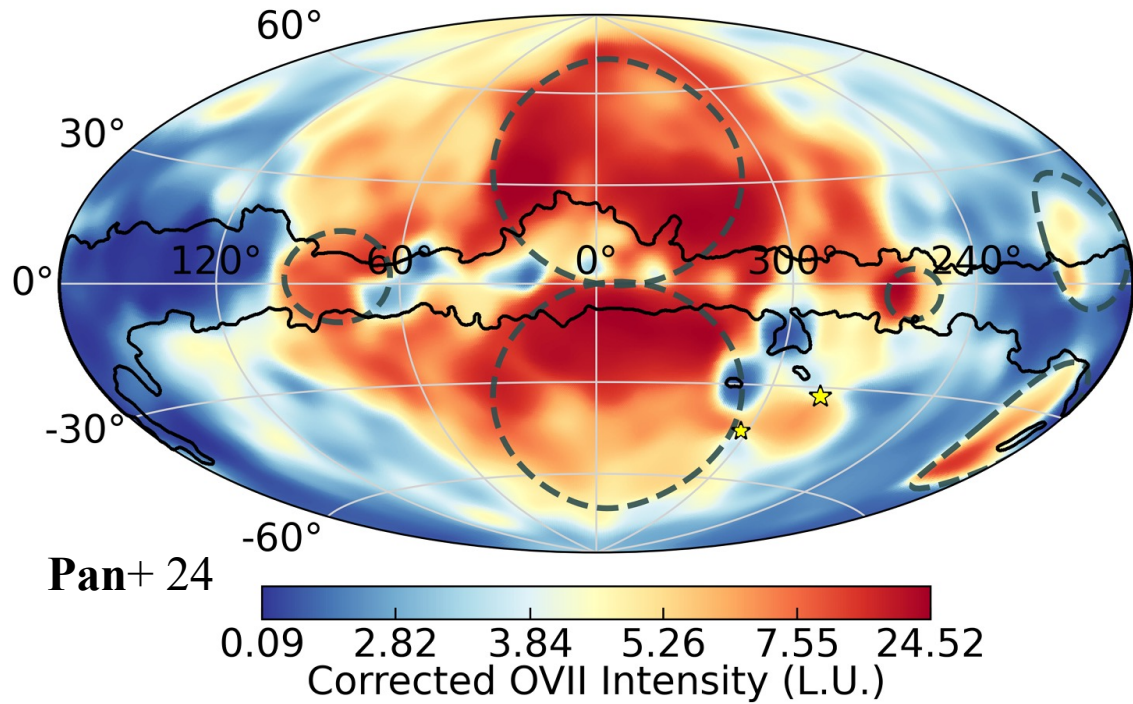


- Cumulative fraction of SWCX emission (red)
- ~80% SWCX <20 au; delay time < 3 months

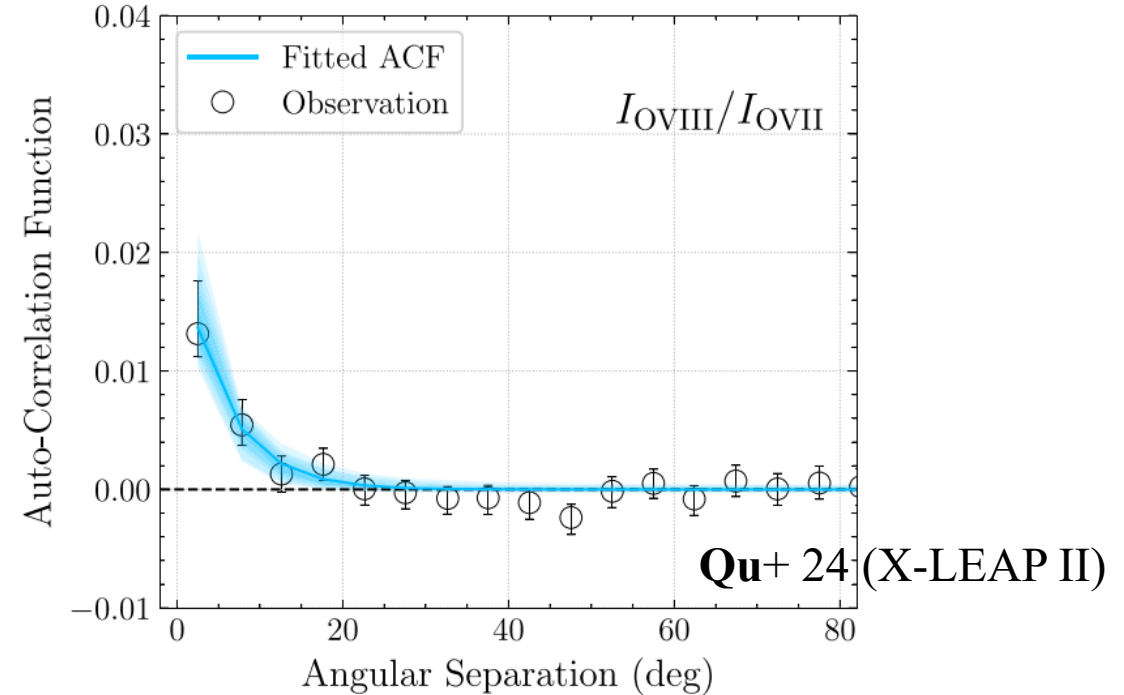
- No obvious time-delay between X-ray and ACE data



## 4.3.0. Seeing Short-Term Variations after Minimizing MW Contribution



- **MW hot gas emission**
- $I_{\text{obs. O VII}}$  vs. **O7+flux** ( $t - 1$  h) ?



- **MW emission  $< 2^\circ$  are considered negligible** (Kaaret+ 20; Qu+ 24)

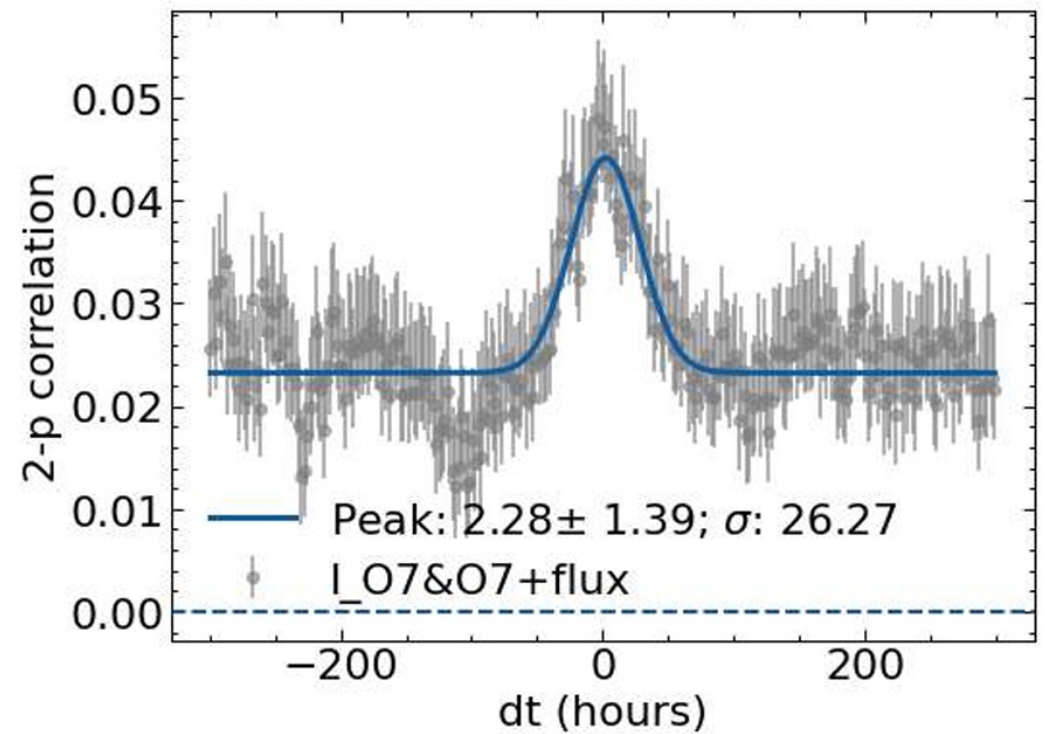
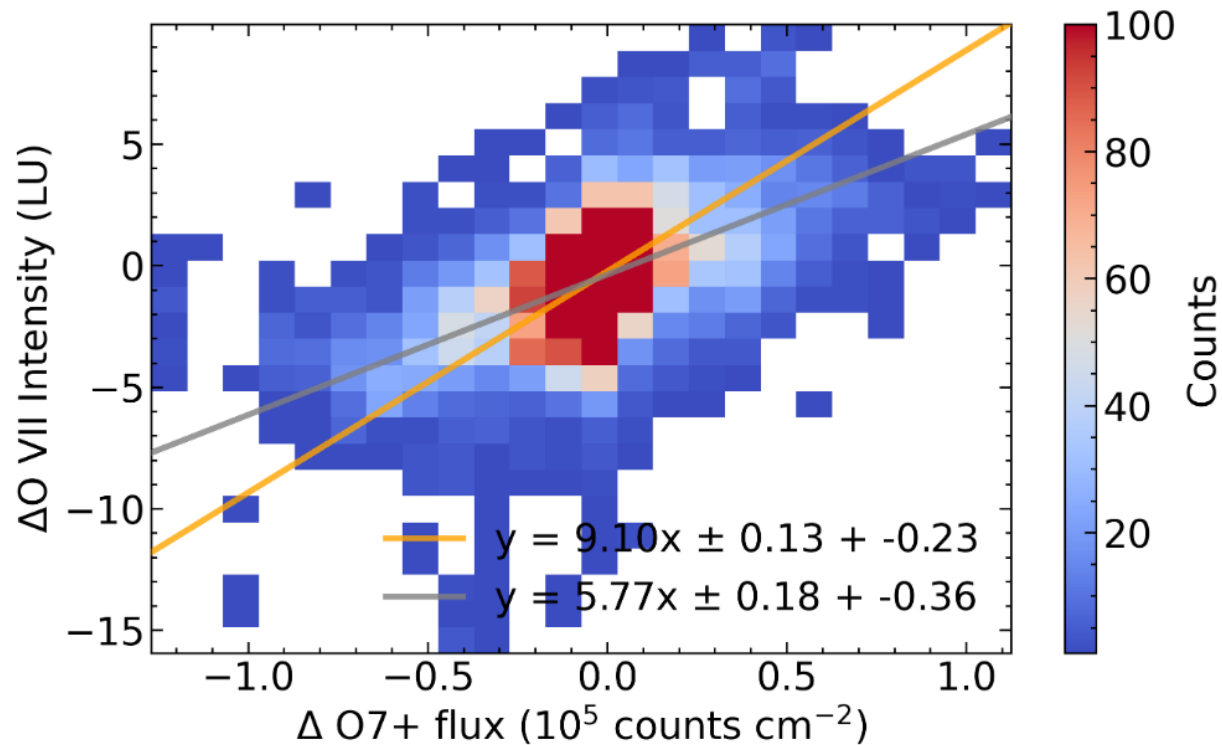
### Remove MW emission:

- **Intensity differences in observational pairs  $< 2^\circ$**

$$\Delta I_{\text{obs, O VII}}(t_1, t_2) \begin{cases} A * \Delta \text{Flux}(t_1 - \tau_{\text{mag}}; t_2 - \tau_{\text{mag}}) & \text{differences in mag} \\ \text{SWCX} \\ B * \Delta \text{smoothed Flux}(t_1 - \tau_{\text{helio}}; t_2 - \tau_{\text{helio}}) & \text{differences in helio SWCX} \end{cases}$$

## 4.3. Short-Term Variation Seen in X-LEAP data

$$\Delta I_{\text{obs, O VII}}(t_1, t_2) \begin{cases} A * \Delta \text{Flux}(t_1 - 1 \text{ h}; t_2 - 1 \text{ h}) & \text{differences in mag SWCX} \\ B * \Delta \text{smoothed Flux}(t_1 - \tau_{\text{helio}}; t_2 - \tau_{\text{helio}}) & \text{differences in helio SWCX} \end{cases}$$



- Linear correlation between X-ray and O7+ flux differences
- Residuals

- delay time  $\sim 2$  hours from CCF; expected  $> 1$ h
- 2h interval?

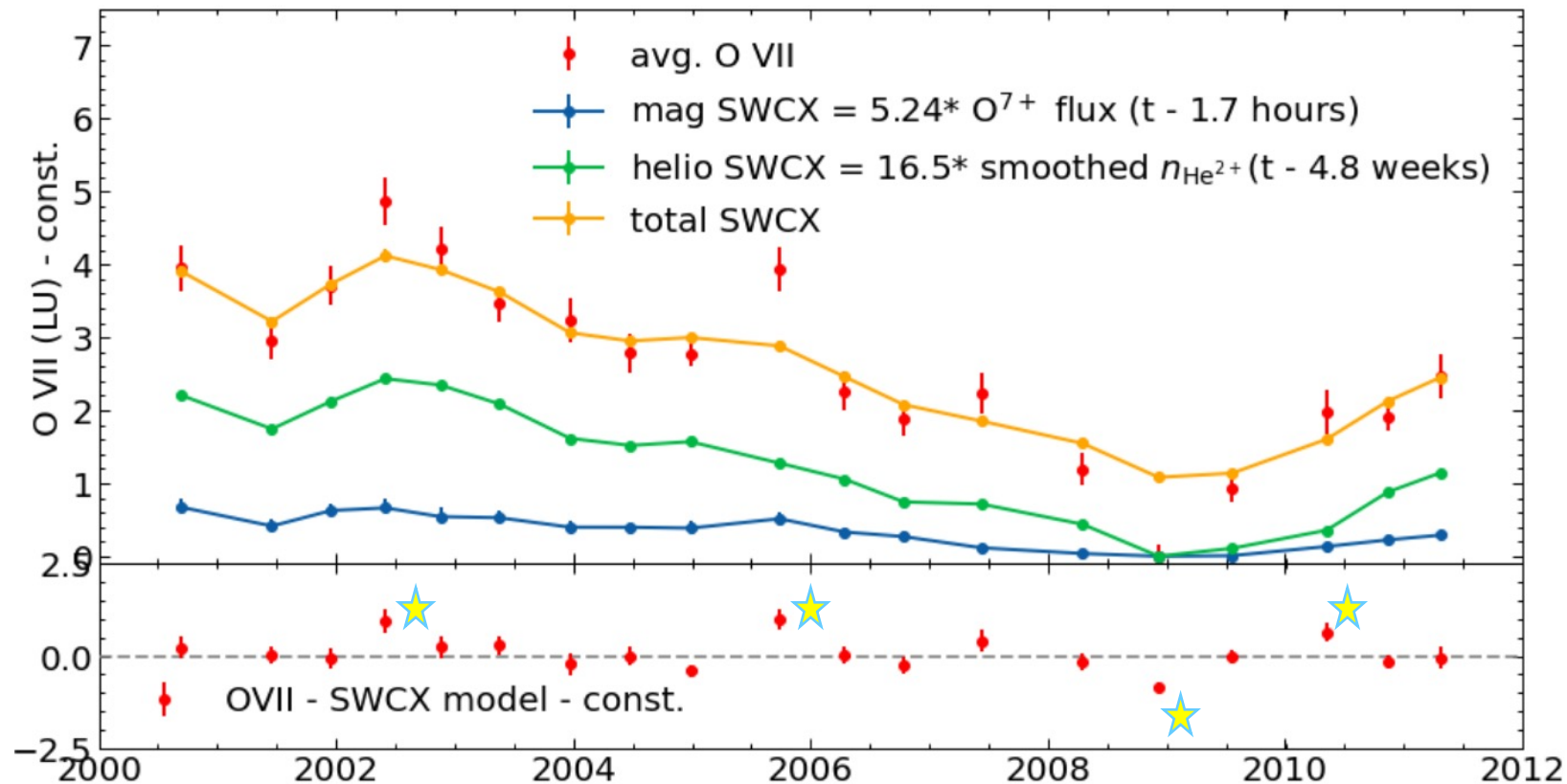
## 5. An Empirical Model to Estimate SWCX Emissions (Before 2012)

Mag SWCX

Helio SWCX

MW

$$I_{\text{obs, O VII}}(t) = A * \text{O}^{7+}(t - \tau_{\text{mag}}) + B * n_{\text{He}^{2+}}(t - \tau_{\text{helio}}; \sigma = 6 \text{ m}) + \text{Const.}$$



➤ An estimation of the SWCX strength at certain  $t$

Future Improvements:

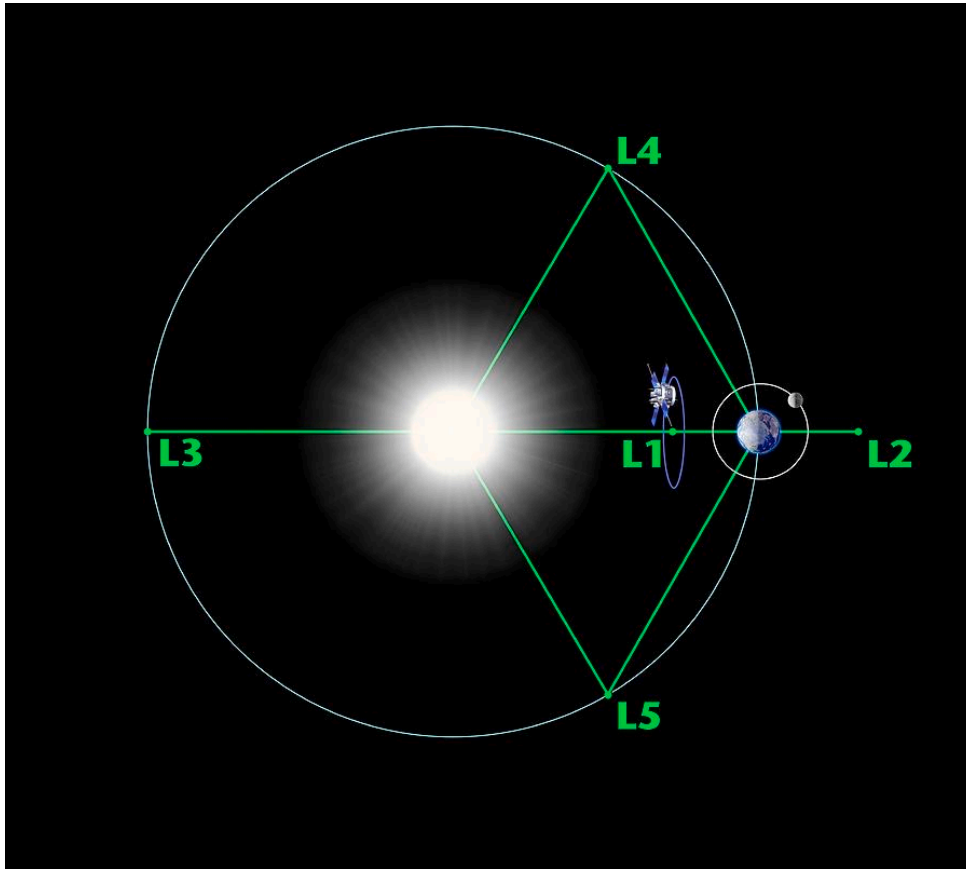
➤ Spatial variations (SW ion and neutral gas distributions across latitudes)

➤  $\sigma_{H, \text{O}^{7+}}(V)$

Thank you 😊

# Supplementary Materials

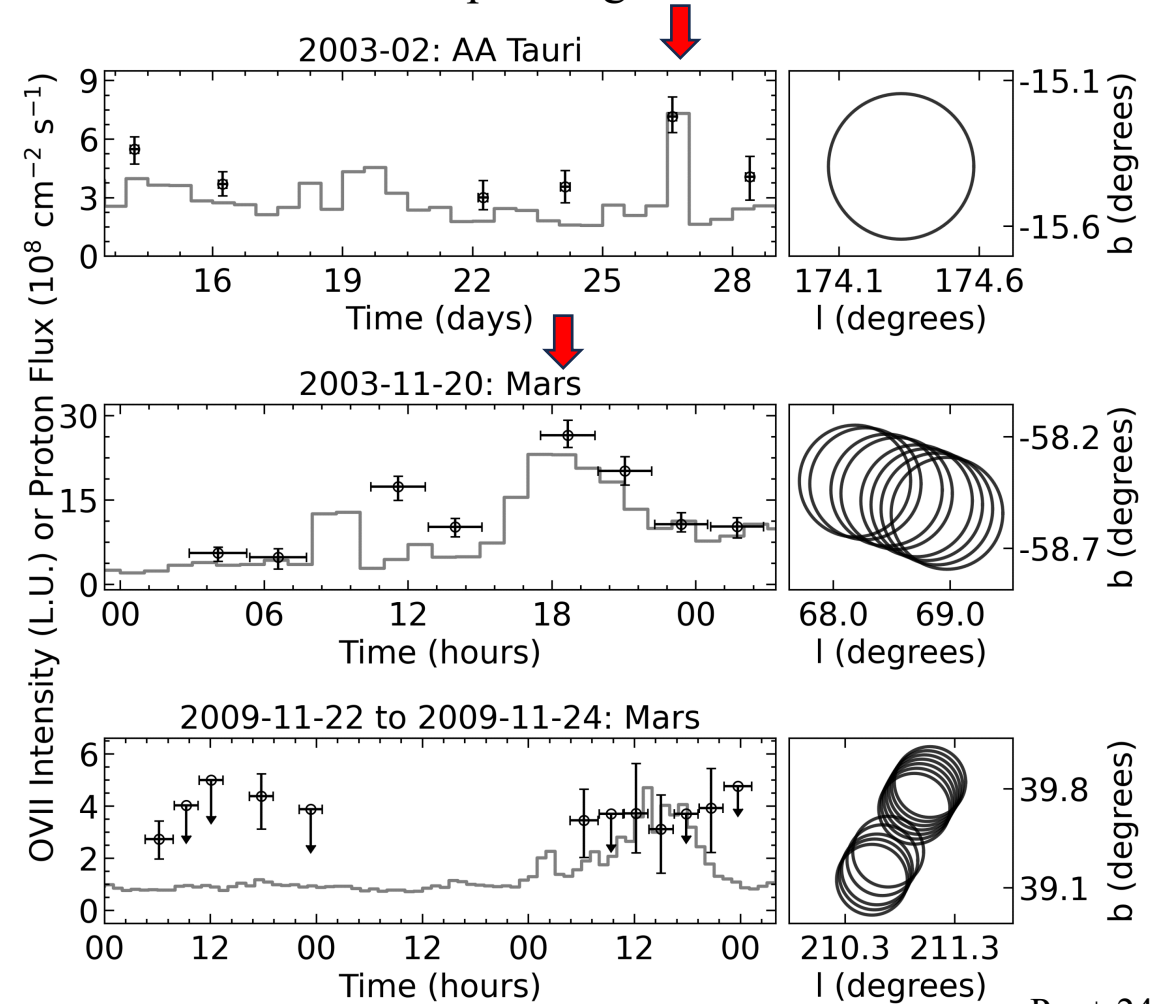
## SWICS/ACE



### SWICS:

- Installed on ACE satellite
- Measures SW ion properties at L1 (e.g. H<sup>+</sup> flux)

## Observation sets pointing at same directions



Pan+ 24

- O VII line intensity increases with proton flux
- Evidence of short-term variations due to  $I_{\text{mag, SWCX}}$

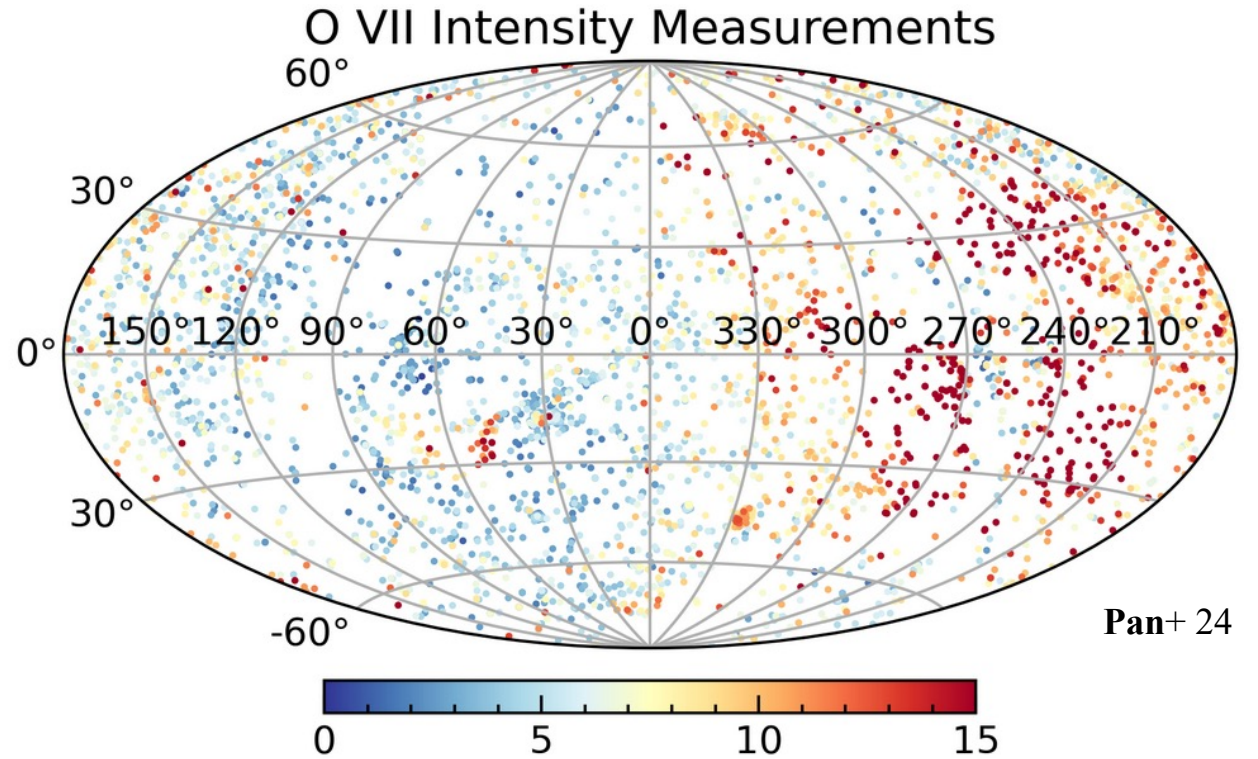
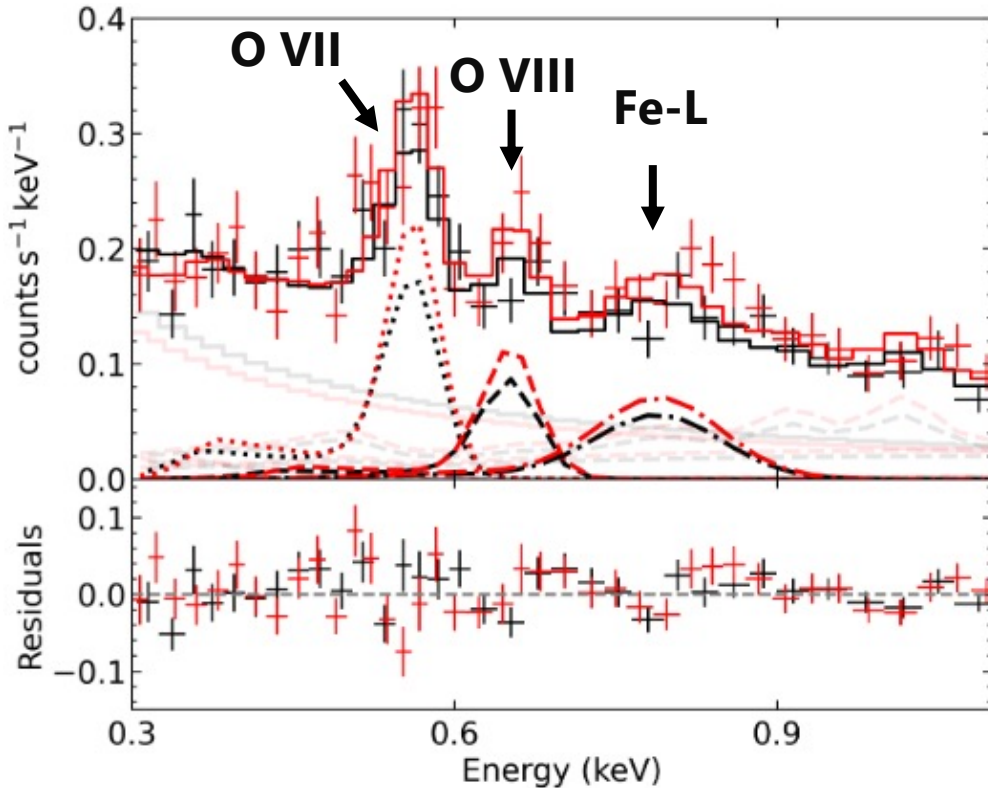
# ≡. The XMM-Newton Line Emission Analysis Program (X-LEAP)

Need: requires extensive, long-term soft X-ray line emission data

XMM-NEWTON X-ray Telescope: 1. deep observations with large FOV; 2. > 22 years

Goal: To study the short/long-term & spatial variations in SWCX using all usable MOS images

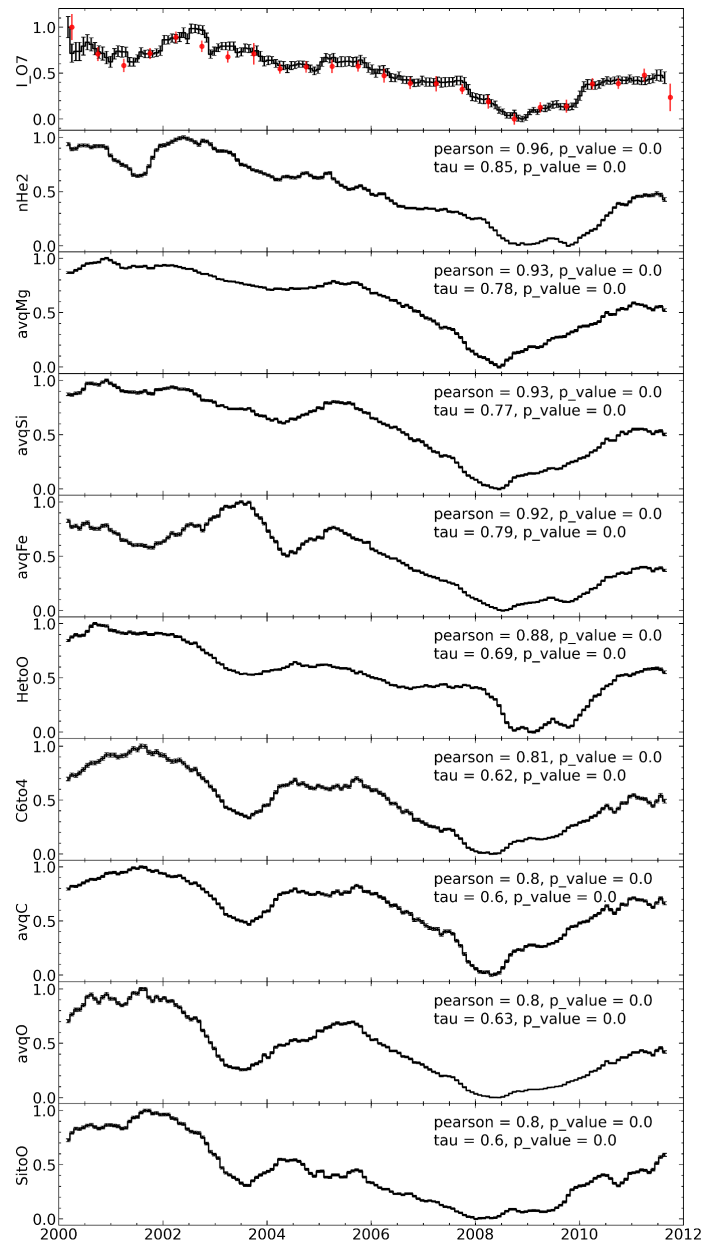
Method:



Pan+ 24

- 5418 measurements (~3% sky)
- Long exposure (~ 20 ks) & Low contaminations
- Machine-readable

# Supplementary Materials



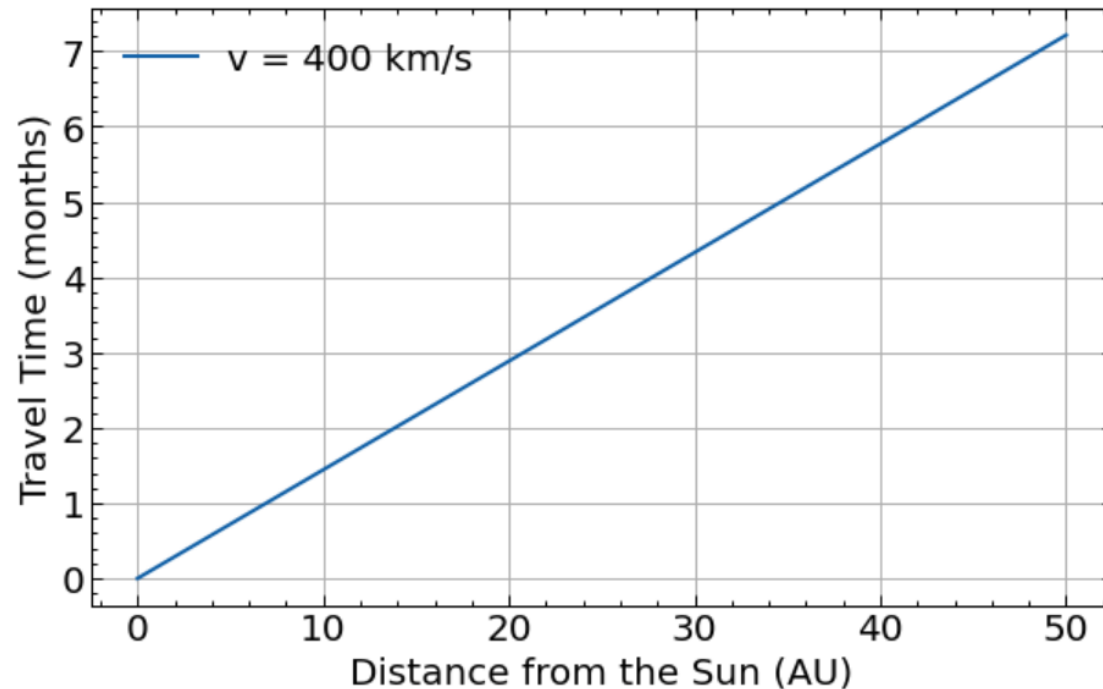
# Supplementary Materials

## ACE SWICS 1.1 Data

12 min	1-hour	2-hour	1-day
vH+ (aux)	Year	Year	Year
nH+ (aux)	DOY fraction	DOY fraction	DOY fraction
vthH+ (aux)	nHe2+	nHe2+	nHe2+
He+ dist func (G.G. - main channel)	vHe2+	vHe2+	vHe2+
	vthHe2+	vthHe2+	vthHe2+
	vC5+	vC5+	vC5+
	vthC5+	vthC5+	vthC5+
	vO6+	vO6+	vO6+
	vthO6+	vthO6+	vthO6+
	vFe10+	vFe10+	vFe10+
	vthFe10+	vthFe10+	vthFe10+
	C6/C4	C6/C4	C6/C4
	C6/C5	C6/C5	C6/C5
	O7/O6	O7/O6	O7/O6
		He(2)/O(5-8)	He(2)/O(5-8)
		C(4-6)/O(5-8)	C(4-6)/O(5-8)
			N(5-6)/O(5-8)
		Ne(8-9)/O(5-8)	Ne(8-9)/O(5-8)
		Mg(6-12)/O(5-8)	Mg(6-12)/O(5-8)
		Si(6-12)/O(5-8)	Si(6-12)/O(5-8)
			S(6-14)/O(5-8)
	Fe(6-20)/O(5-8)	Fe(6-20)/O(5-8)	Fe(6-20)/O(5-8)
	<Q>C(4-6)	<Q>C(4-6)	<Q>C(4-6)
	<Q>O(5-8)	<Q>O(5-8)	<Q>O(5-8)
	<Q>Mg(6-12)	<Q>Mg(6-12)	<Q>Mg(6-12)
	<Q>Si(6-12)	<Q>Si(6-12)	<Q>Si(6-12)

$$F_{O^{7+}} = n_{He} v_{He} \frac{n_O}{n_{He}} \frac{n_{O^{7+}}}{n_O}$$

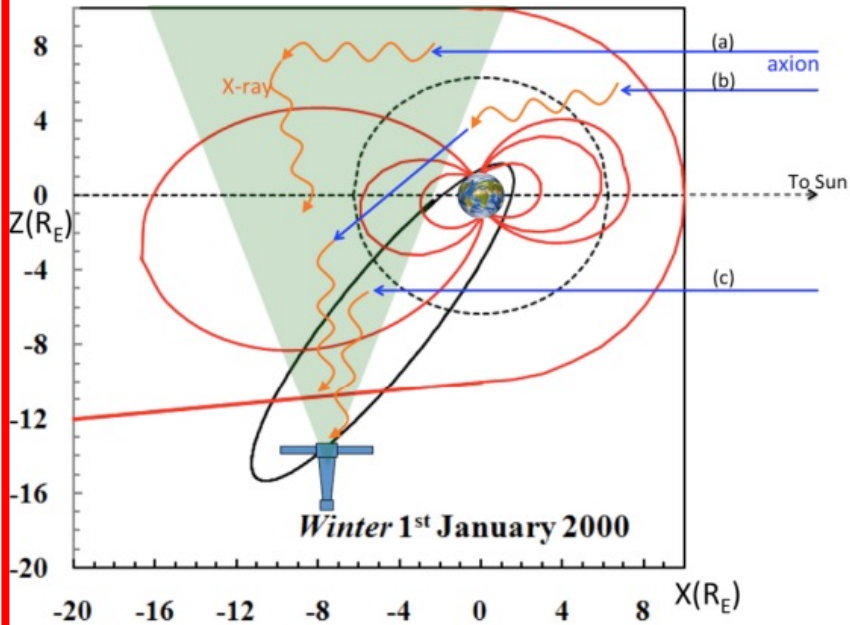
smoothed  $f(t, \sigma = 6 \text{ m}) = \text{np.median}(f[t - \sigma, t + \sigma])$



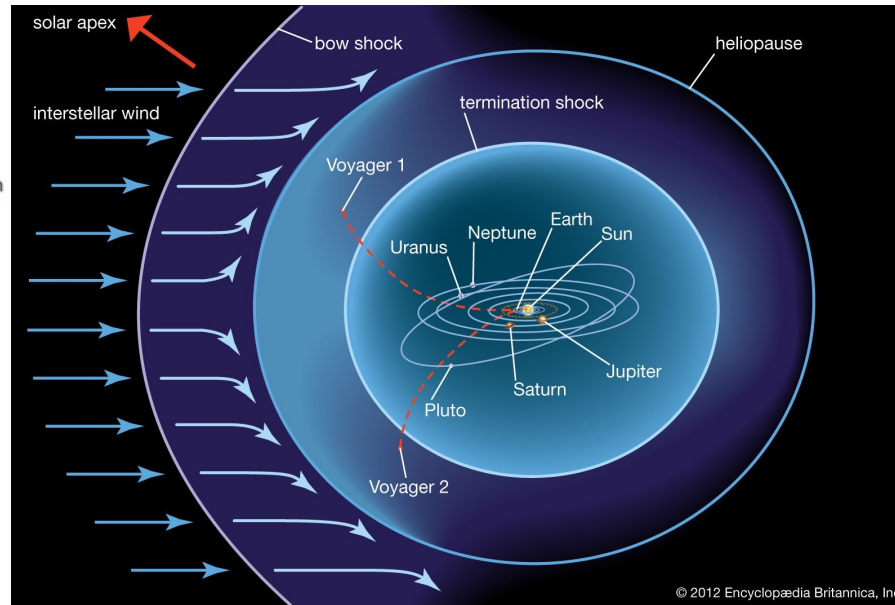


# Supplementary Materials

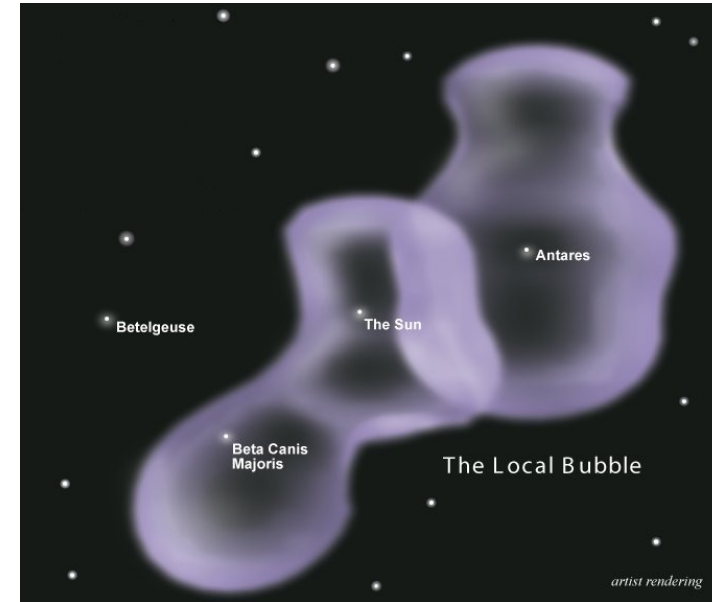
## Earth's Outer Atmosphere ( $I_{\text{mag}}$ )



## Heliosphere ( $I_{\text{helio}}$ )

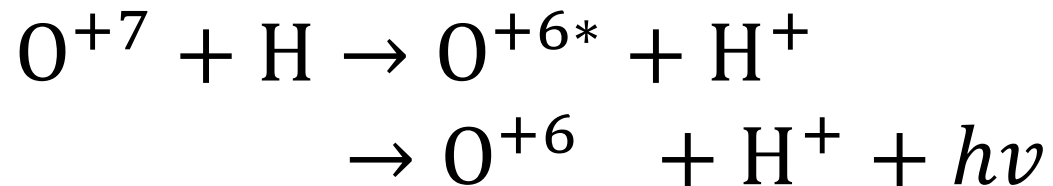


## Local Hot Bubble ( $I_{\text{LHB}}$ )



Solar wind ions can capture electrons from neutral atoms, producing X-ray photons (**SWCX**).


e.g.



$$T \sim 10^6 \text{ K}$$

$$n_e = 4 \times 10^{-3} \text{ cm}^{-3}$$

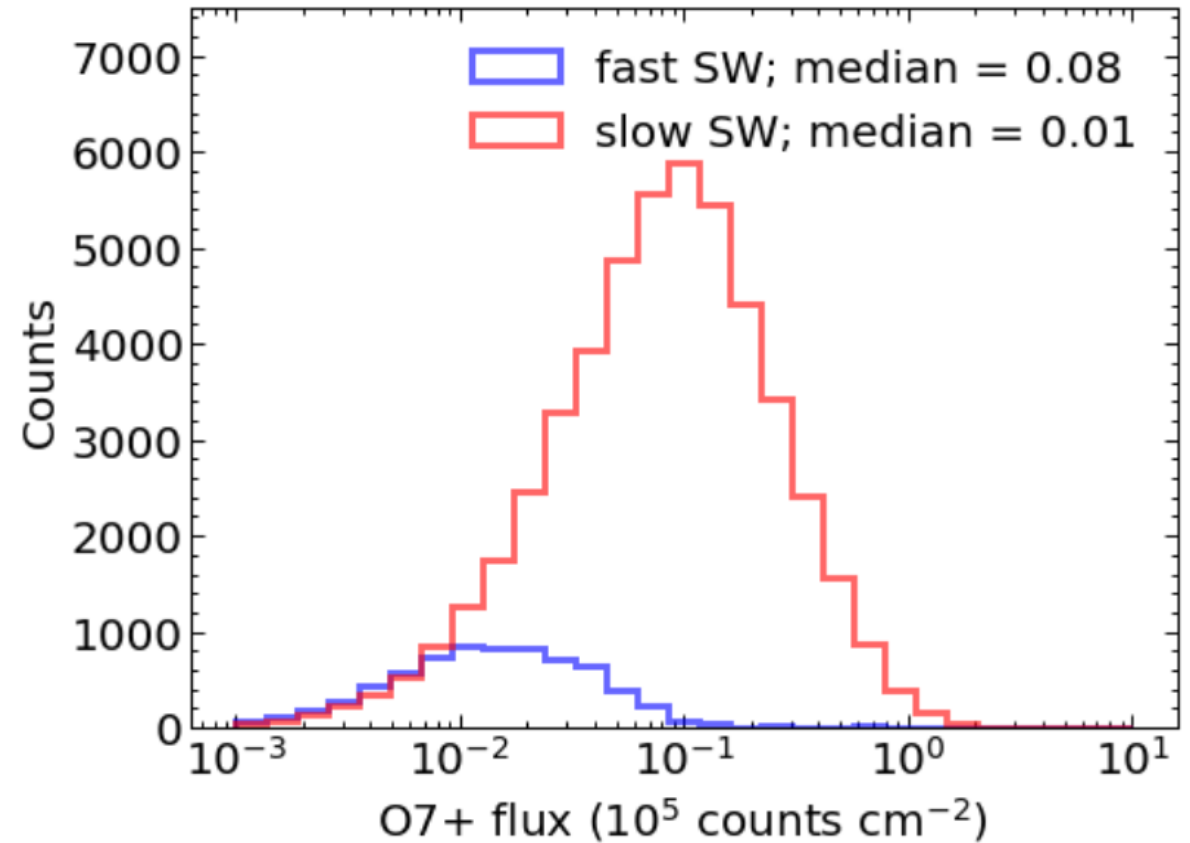
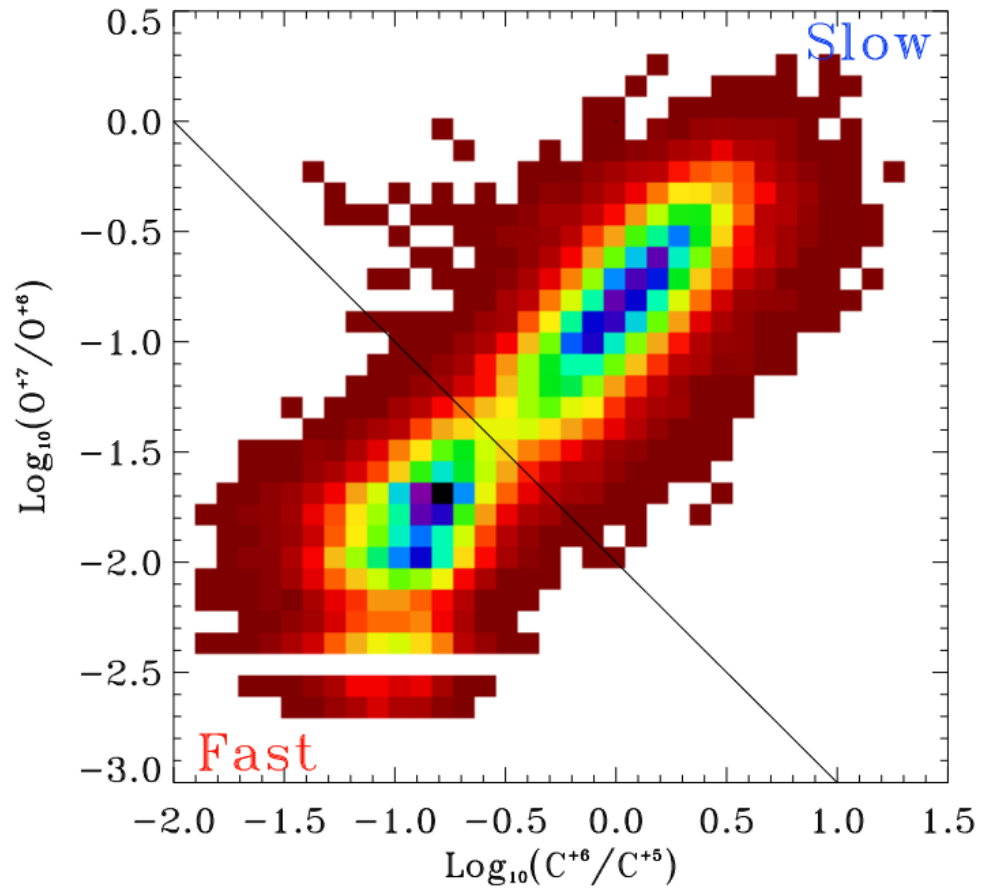
(e.g., Liu+ 16; Yeung+ 23)

Collisional excitation  
 Recombination

# Supplementary Materials

Ulysses Spacecraft (1990-2009)

SWICS/Ulysses



Kuntz 2019