

The Relationship Between Solar Surface Magnetic Field and Coronal Soft X-Ray Filter Images

Sierra Garza^{1,2,3}

Mentors: Dr. Chris Moore³ and Dr. Kathy Reeves³

Harvard-Smithsonian Solar REU

August 8, 2018

¹ California State Polytechnic University, Pomona

² Riverside City College

³ Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics

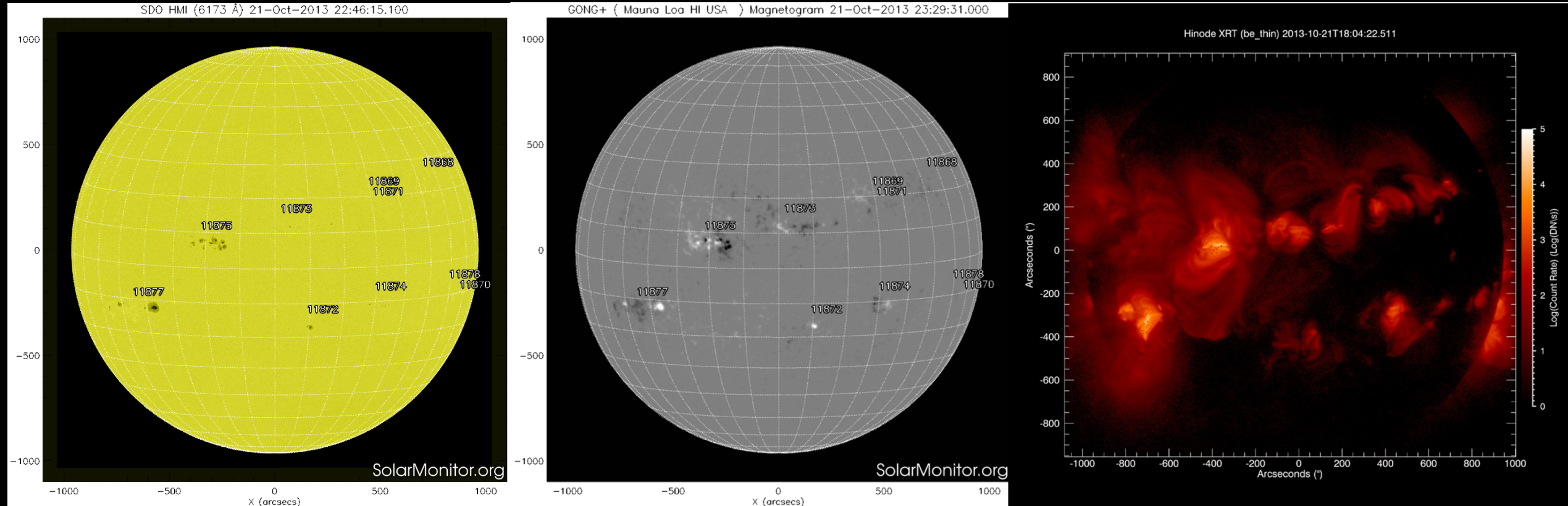
Sunspots \leftrightarrow Active Regions

Slide courtesy
of Chris Moore

Visible Light

Magnetic Field (line-of-sight)

X-rays

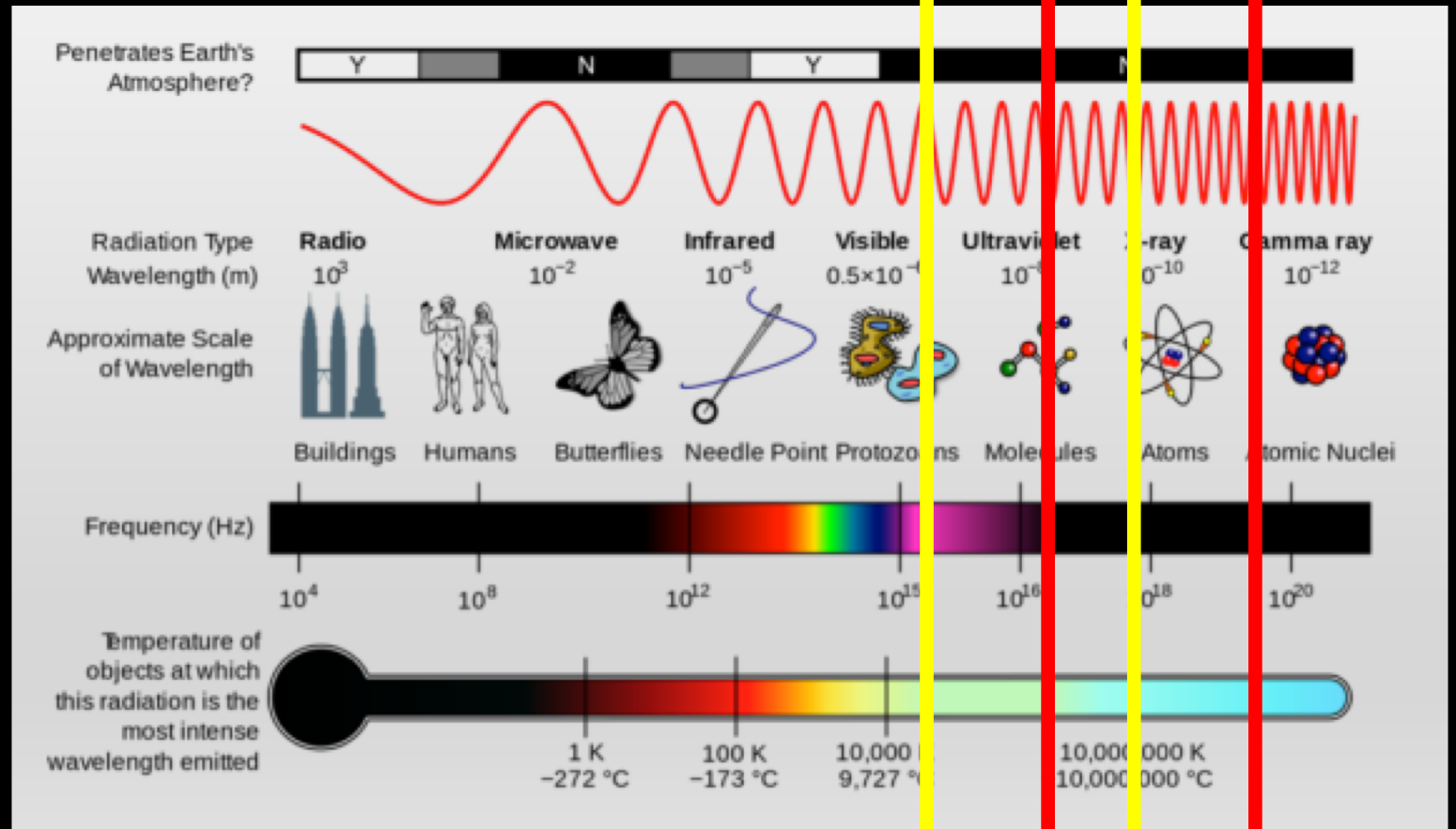


Hot plasma ($\sim 10^6$ K) \rightarrow Confined by Magnetic Fields \rightarrow Cools via X-rays + EUV
(heating sources in debate) (enhances local density) (particle collisions/interactions)

Instruments used:

- Hinode/XRT (X-Ray)
 - Be-Thin
 - Al-Mesh
 - Al-Poly
- SDO/AIA (EUV)
 - 94Å
 - FeXVIII
- SDO/HMI
 - Line-of-sight (los)
- MinXSS cubesat
 - X123 (spectrometer)

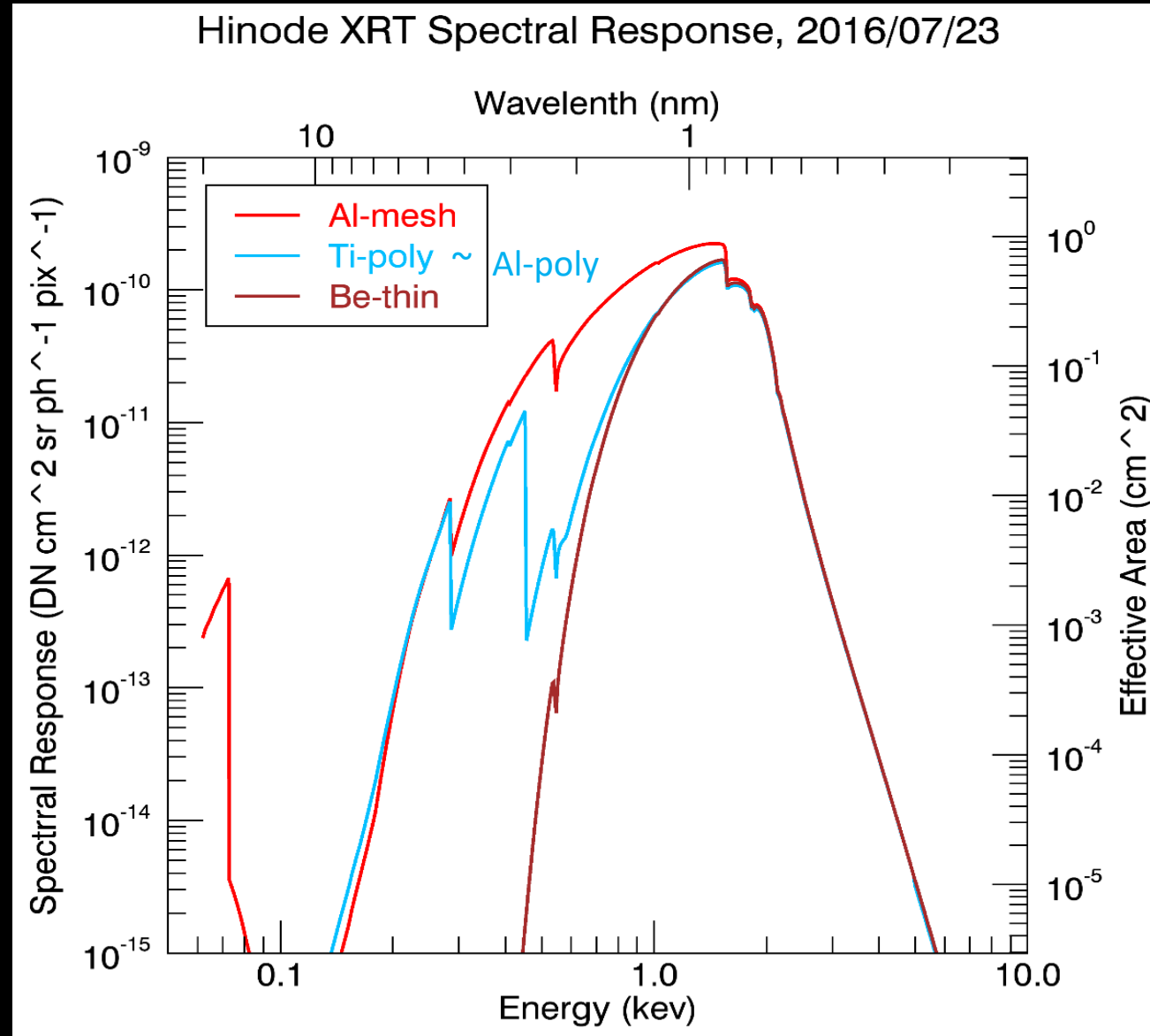
Electromagnetic Spectrum



Hinode / XRT Filters

Slide courtesy
of Chris Moore

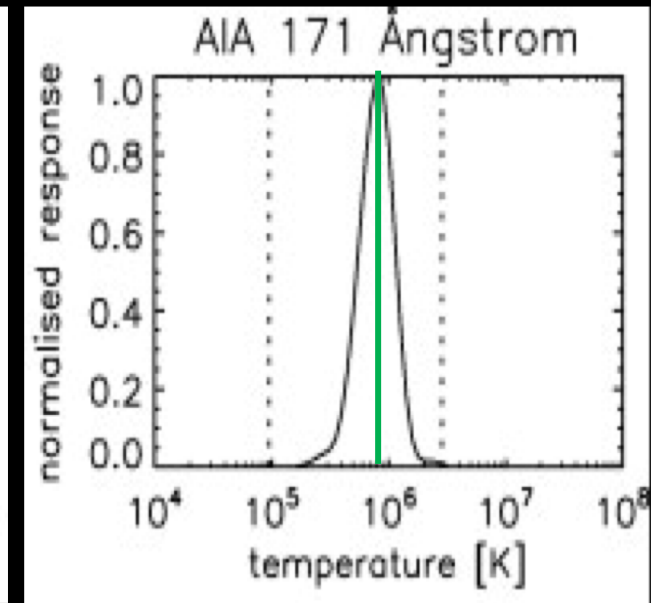
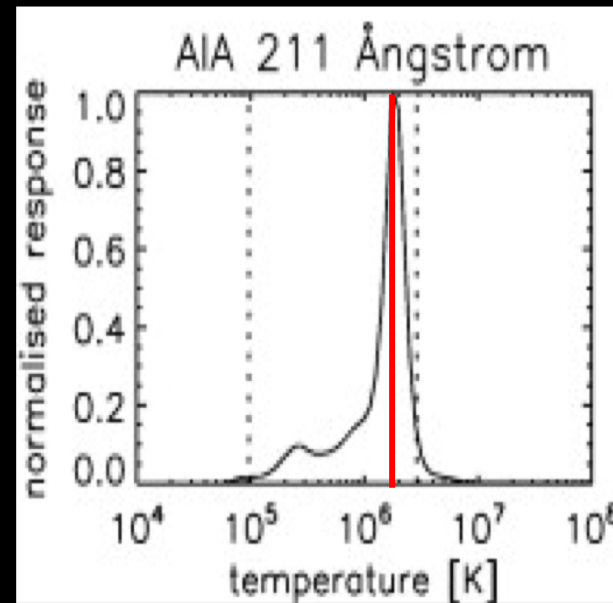
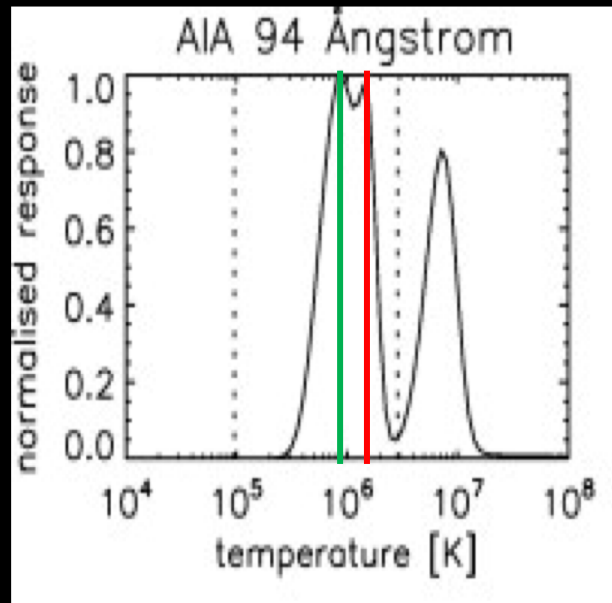
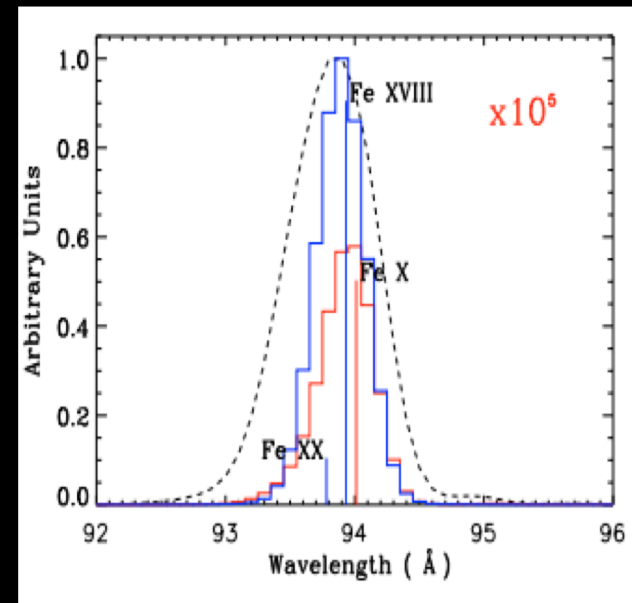
- Al-Mesh
- Al-Poly
- Be-Thin



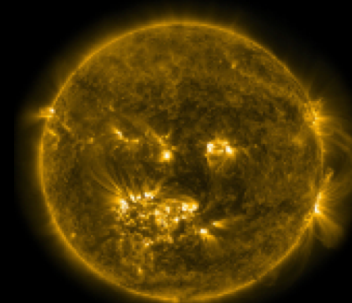
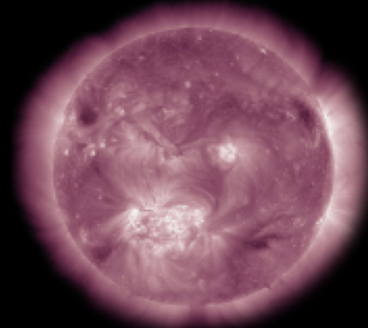
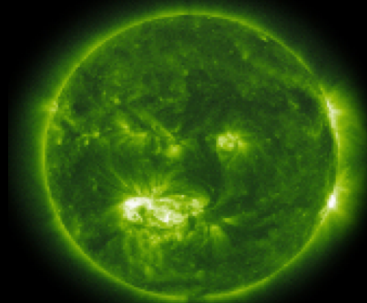
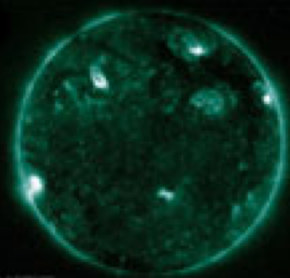
SDO / AIA passbands

- 94Å
- Fe XVIII

$$\text{Fe XVIII} = I_{94\text{\AA}} - aI_{211\text{\AA}} - bI_{171\text{\AA}}$$



O'Dwyer et al

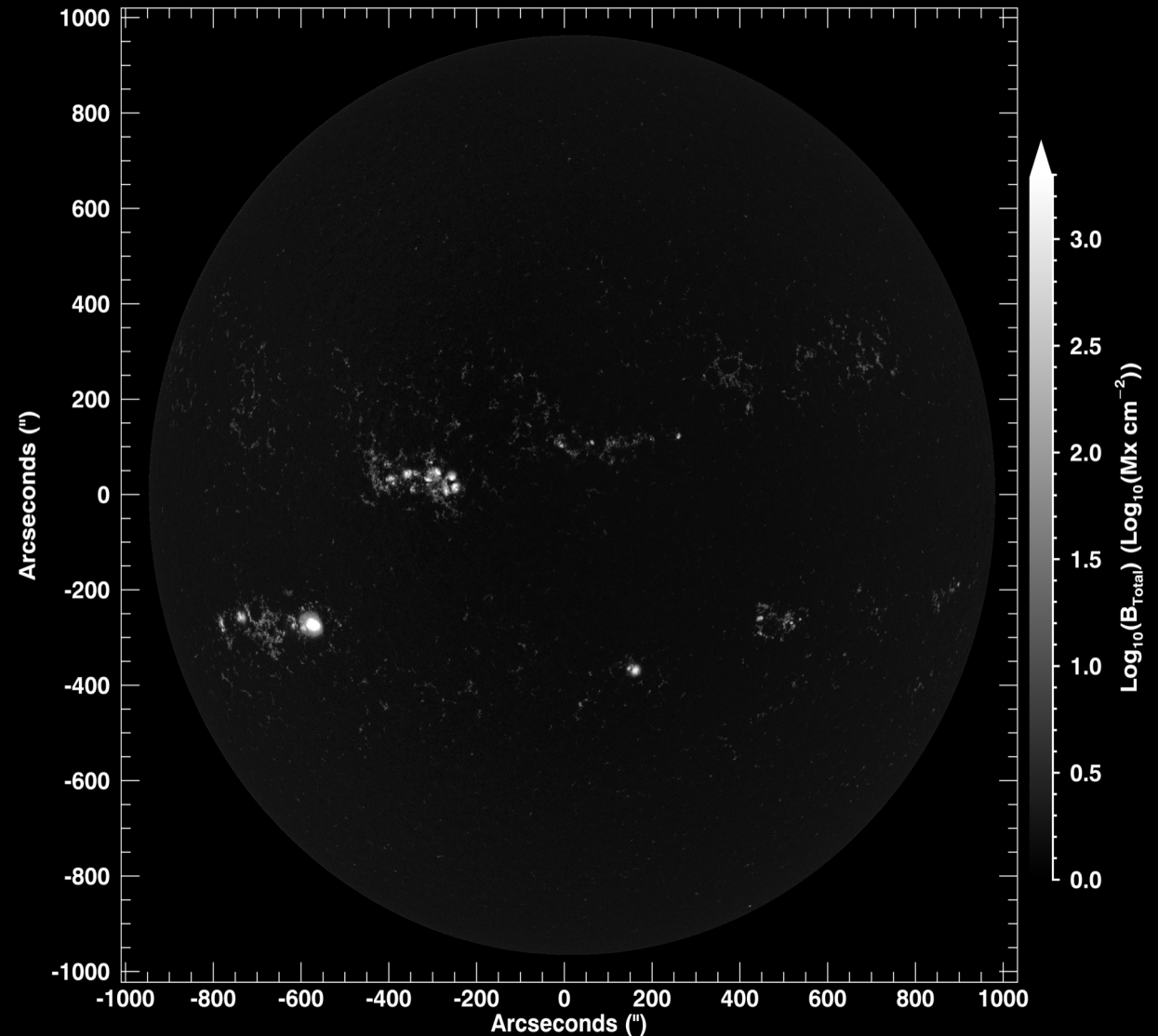


What type of relationship do we expect?

$$F_{Xray} \propto \iint |\vec{B}_{los}| d\vec{A}$$

SDO HMI (field) 2013-10-21 19:58:15 UT

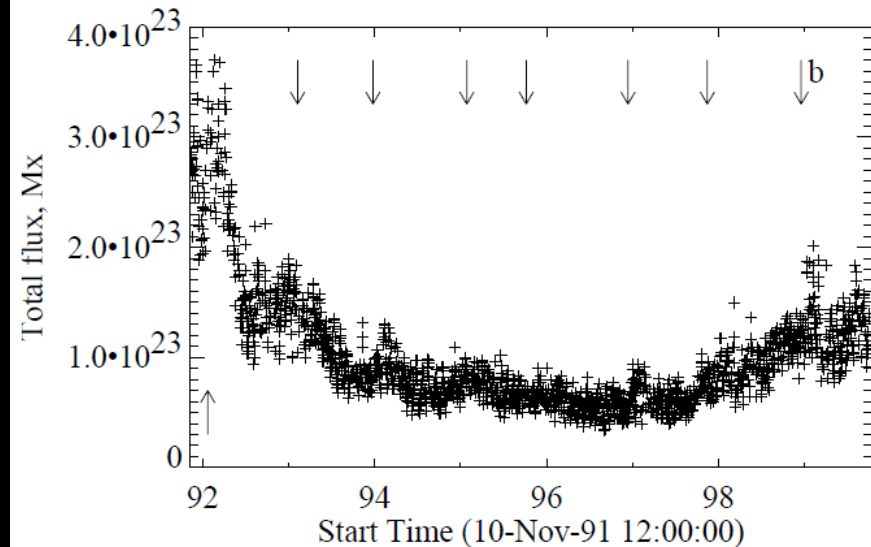
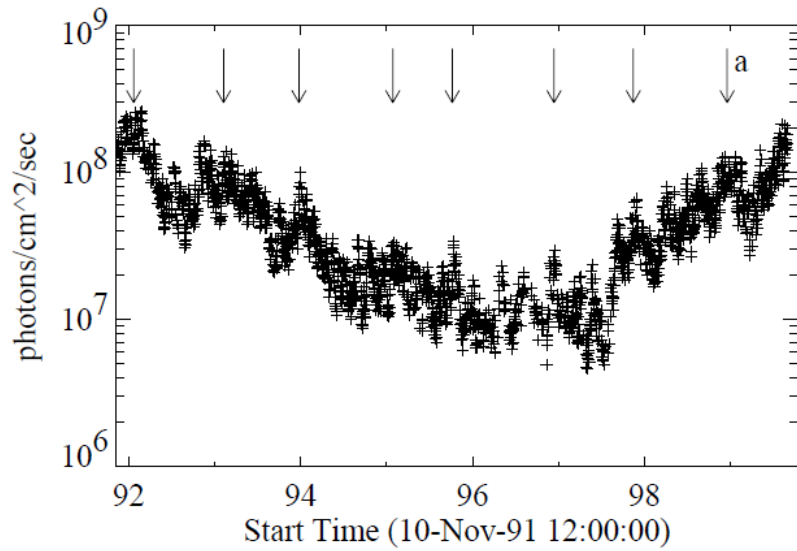
Images courtesy
of Chris Moore



Previous Studies: X-ray Flux vs. Magnetic Flux

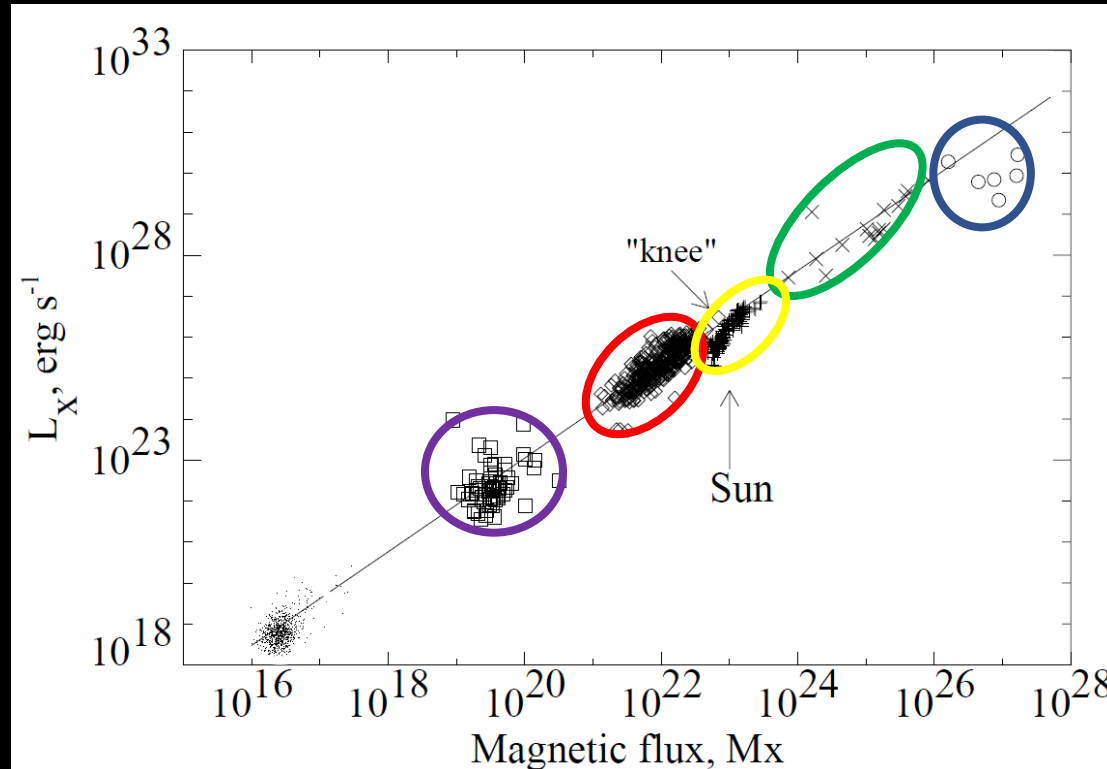
Slide courtesy of Chris Moore

Solar Disk Average



- X-ray images - Yohkoh
- Magnetic Flux – Big Bear
- Temperatures – filter ratios

Solar Features



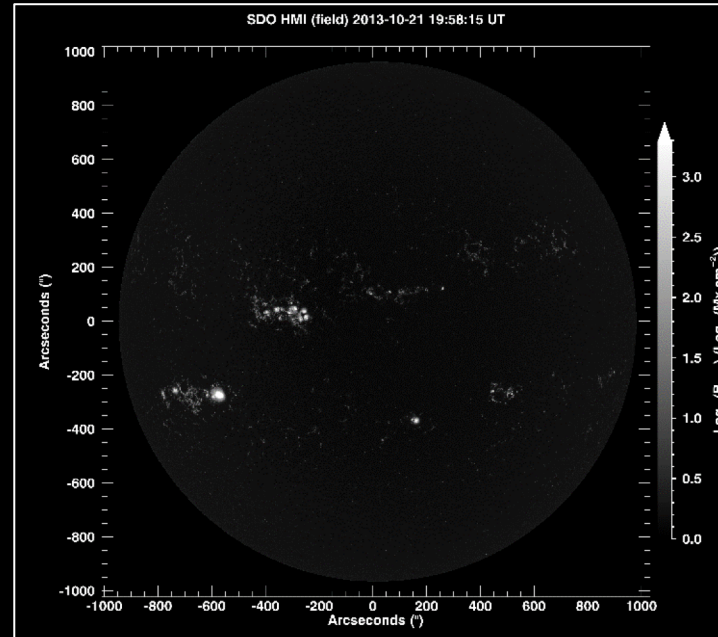
- T Tauri Stars
- G, K, M Dwarfs
- Disk Average
- Active Regions
- Bright Points
- Quiet Sun

PEVTSOV & ACTON THE ASTROPHYSICAL JOURNAL, 554:416–423, 2001 June 10

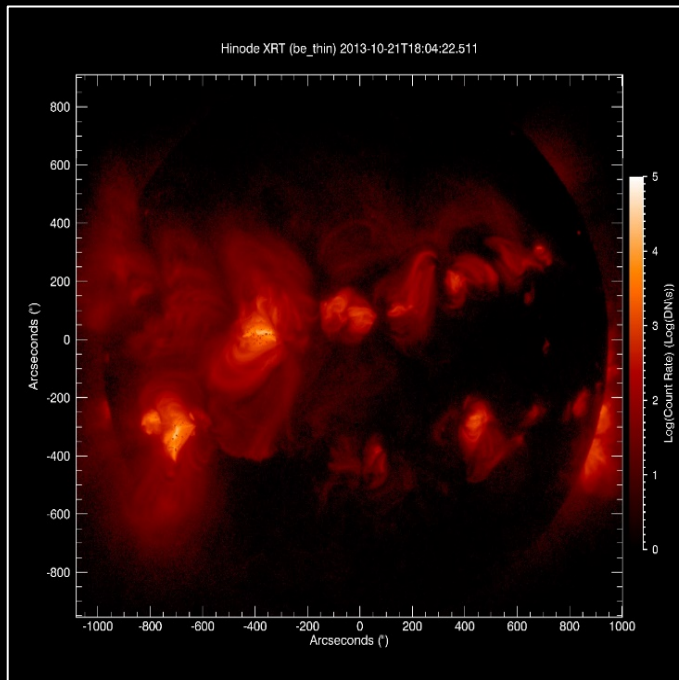
PEVTSOV ET AL. THE ASTROPHYSICAL JOURNAL, 598:1387–1391, 2003 December 1

Our Research: *Spectral* X-ray Flux \leftrightarrow Unsigned Magnetic Flux

Magnetograms

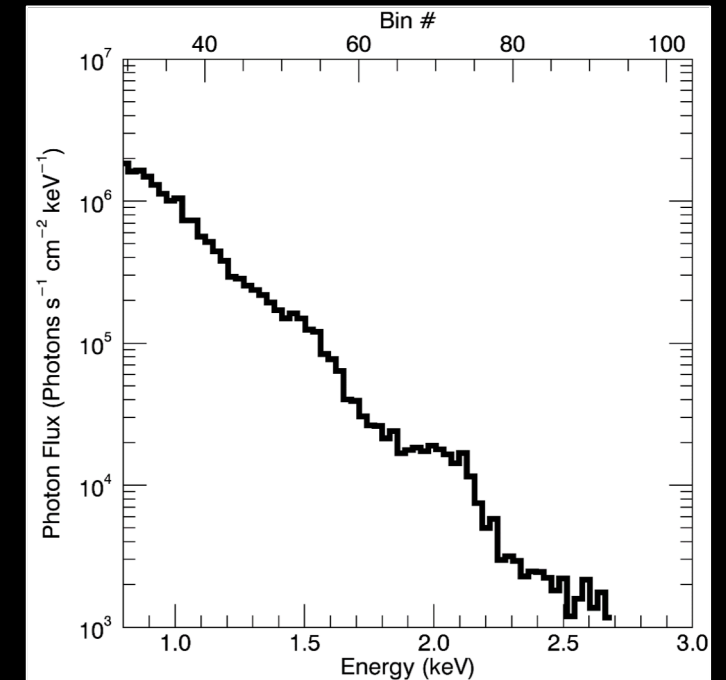


X-ray Images



$$F_{Xray} \propto \iint \|\vec{B}\| dA$$

X-ray Spectra



Slide courtesy
of Chris Moore

Challenges with Programming

IDL →

```
;nested for loop to extract the specified date of observation
for t = 0, N_XRT_COMPOSITE_STRUCTURE_DN_RATE_Filter - 1 do begin
  ;filter
  date_month = strmid(XRT_COMPOSITE_STRUCTURE_DN_RATE_Filter[t].INDEX_NORM.DATE_OBS, 5, 2)
  date_day = strmid(XRT_COMPOSITE_STRUCTURE_DN_RATE_Filter[t].INDEX_NORM.DATE_OBS, 8, 2)
  date_year = strmid(XRT_COMPOSITE_STRUCTURE_DN_RATE_Filter[t].INDEX_NORM.DATE_OBS, 0, 4)
  date_hour = strmid(XRT_COMPOSITE_STRUCTURE_DN_RATE_Filter[t].INDEX_NORM.DATE_OBS, 11, 2)
  date_minute = strmid(XRT_COMPOSITE_STRUCTURE_DN_RATE_Filter[t].INDEX_NORM.DATE_OBS, 14, 2)
  date_second = strmid(XRT_COMPOSITE_STRUCTURE_DN_RATE_Filter[t].INDEX_NORM.DATE_OBS, 17, 2)
  XRT_COMPOSITE_STRUCTURE_all_Filter_JD_OBSERVATION_DATE[t] = julday(date_month, date_day, date_year, date_hour,
endfor ;end on nested for loop
```

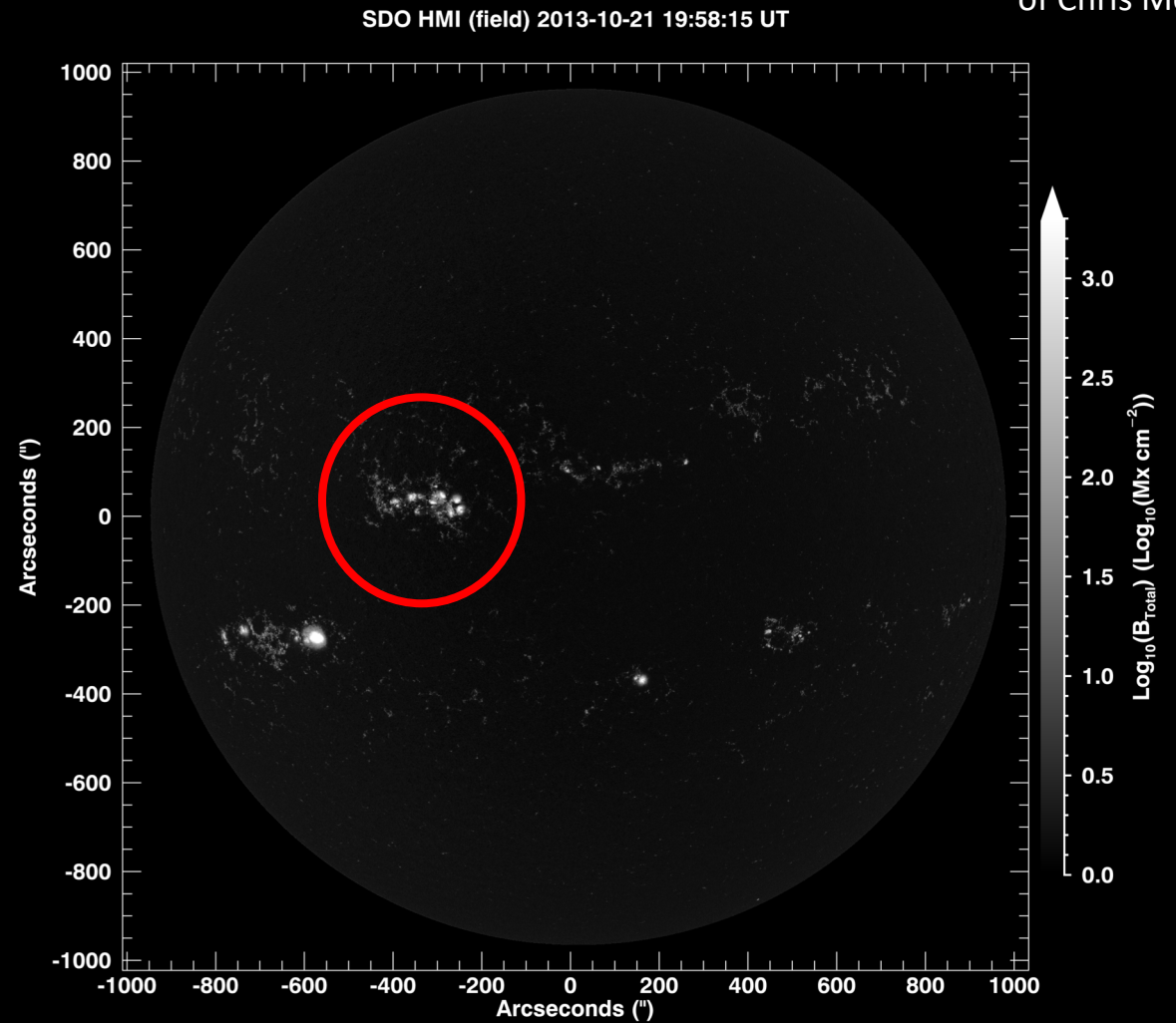
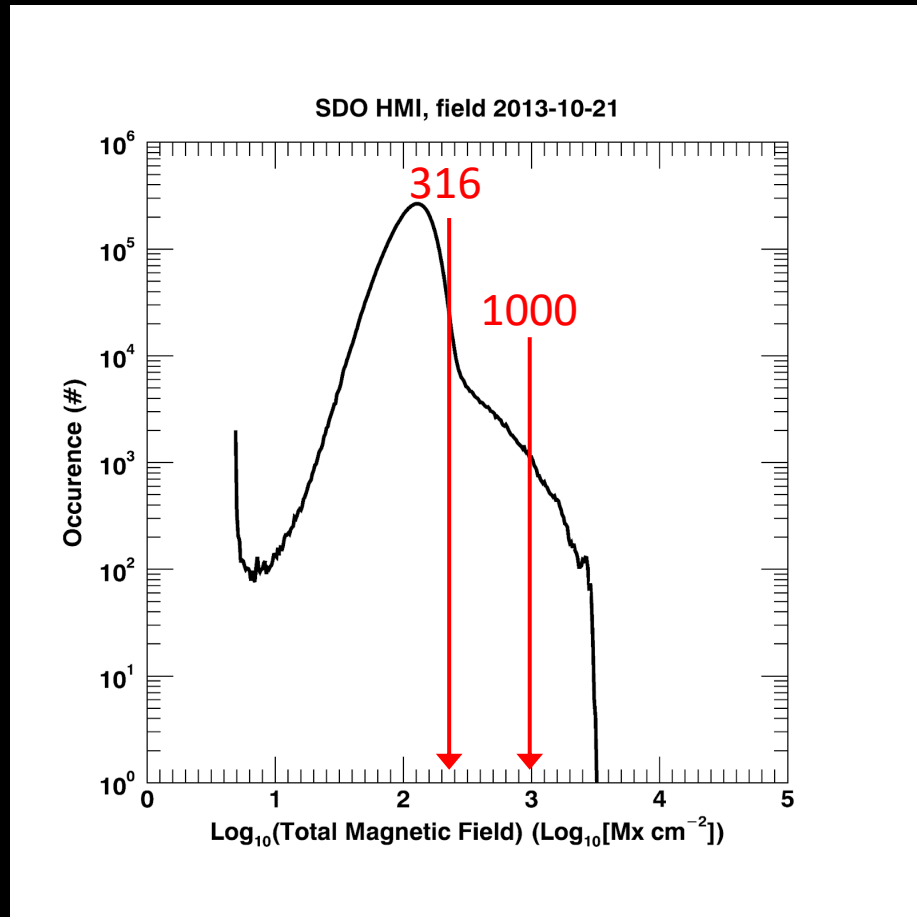
Python →

```
# Al_Mesh extract Obs Dates and Format to Year-Month-Day
Al_Mesh_timerange = []
for t in range(N_XRT_Al_Mesh_Filter):
    Al_Mesh_timerange.append(XRT_Al_Mesh_Filter[t]['INDEX_NORM']['DATE_OBS'][0].decode("utf-8"))

Al_Mesh_daterange = []
for t in range(N_XRT_Al_Mesh_Filter):
    Al_Mesh_datesubstring = Al_Mesh_timerange[t][0:10]
    Al_Mesh_datetimes = [datetime.strptime(Al_Mesh_datesubstring, "%Y-%m-%d")]
    Al_Mesh_daterange.append(Al_Mesh_datetimes)
```

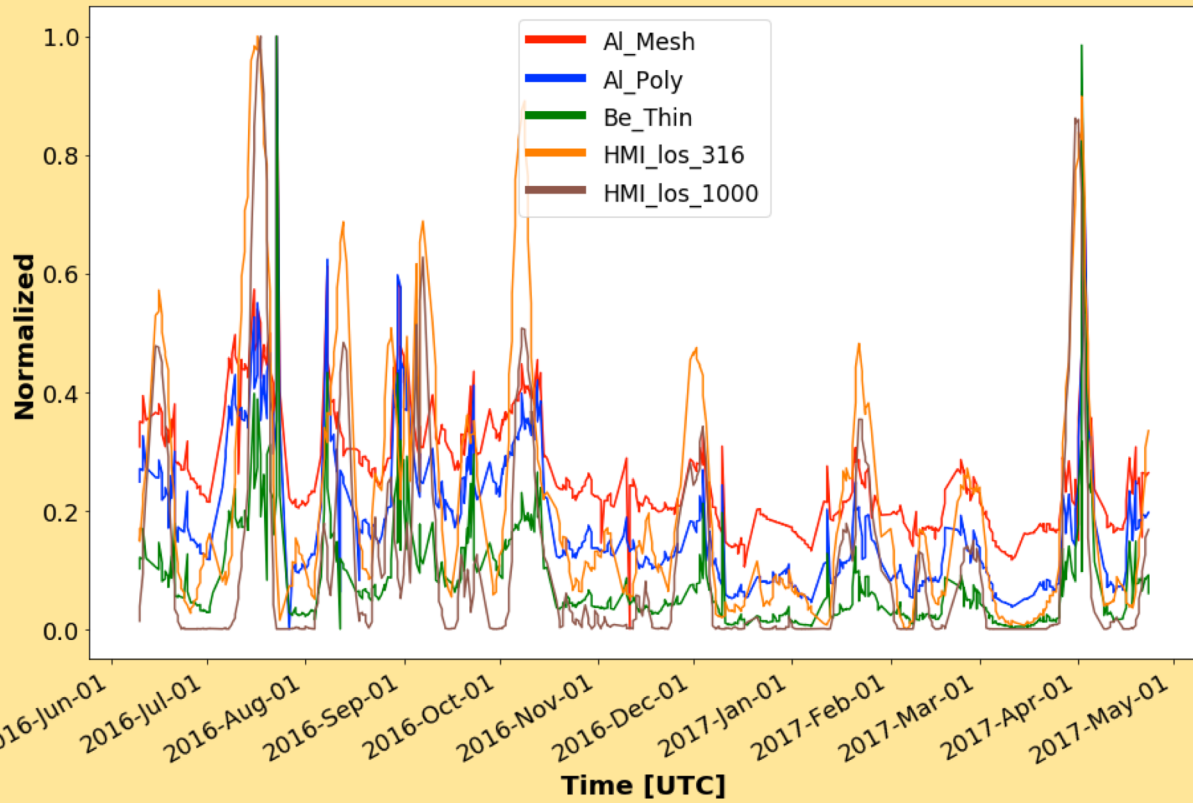

Thresholding HMI_los values above 316/1000 G

Images courtesy
of Chris Moore

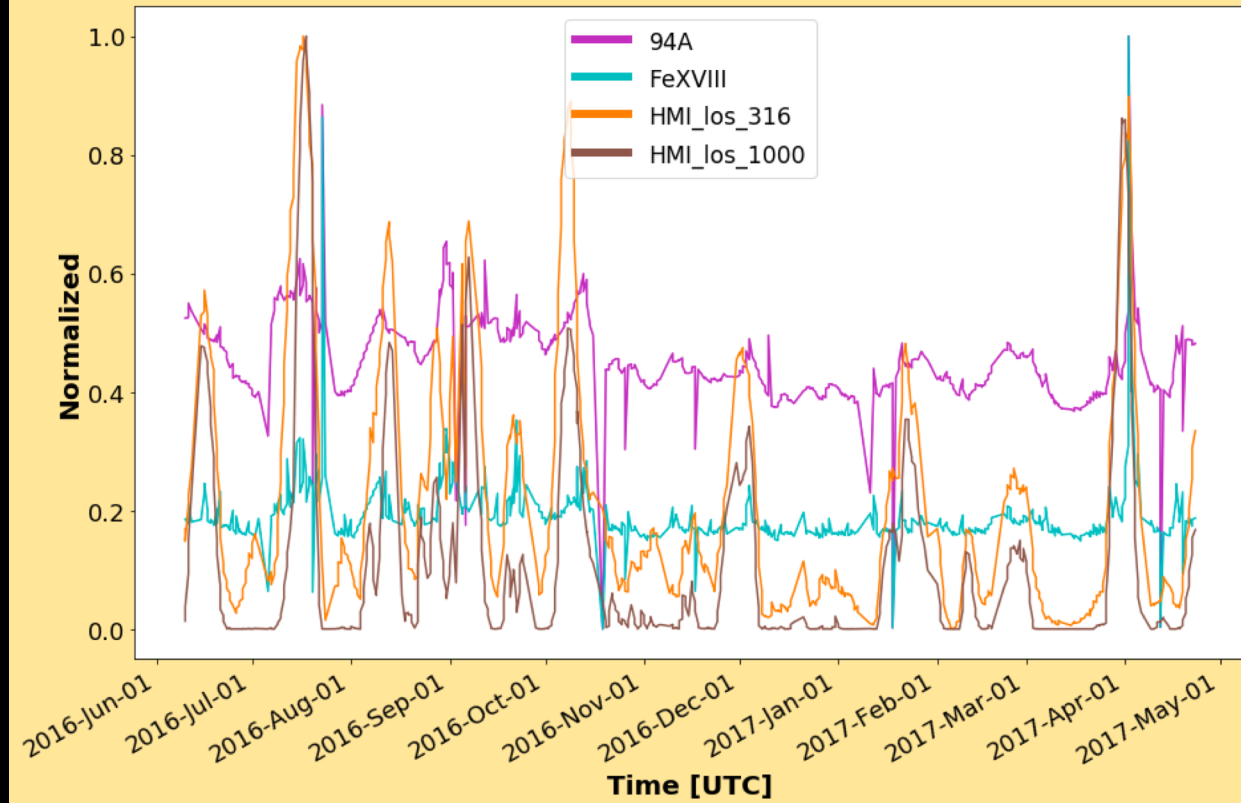


Time Series Plots

HMI_los 316,1000 G and XRT filters

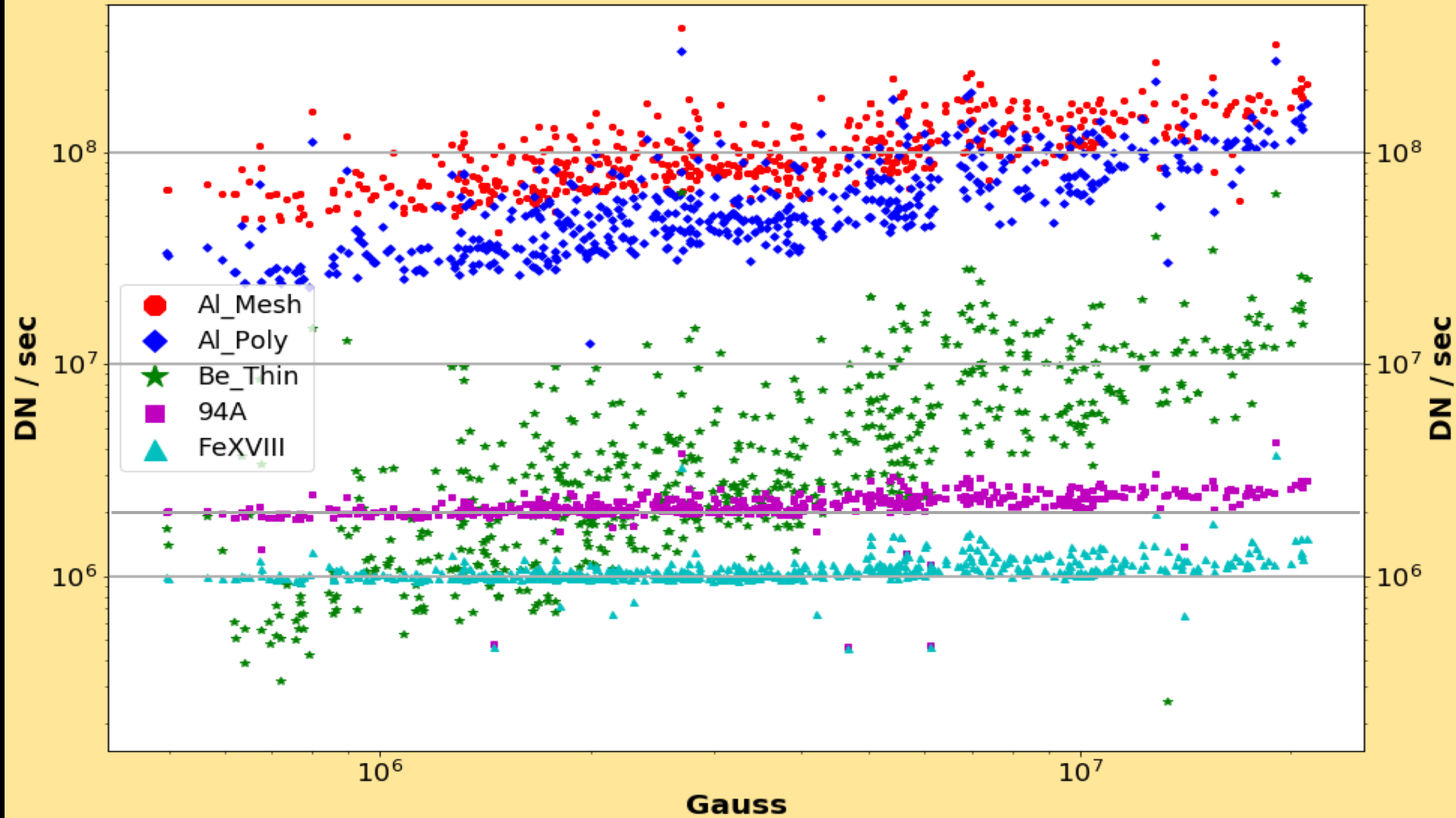


HMI_los 316,1000 G and AIA filters



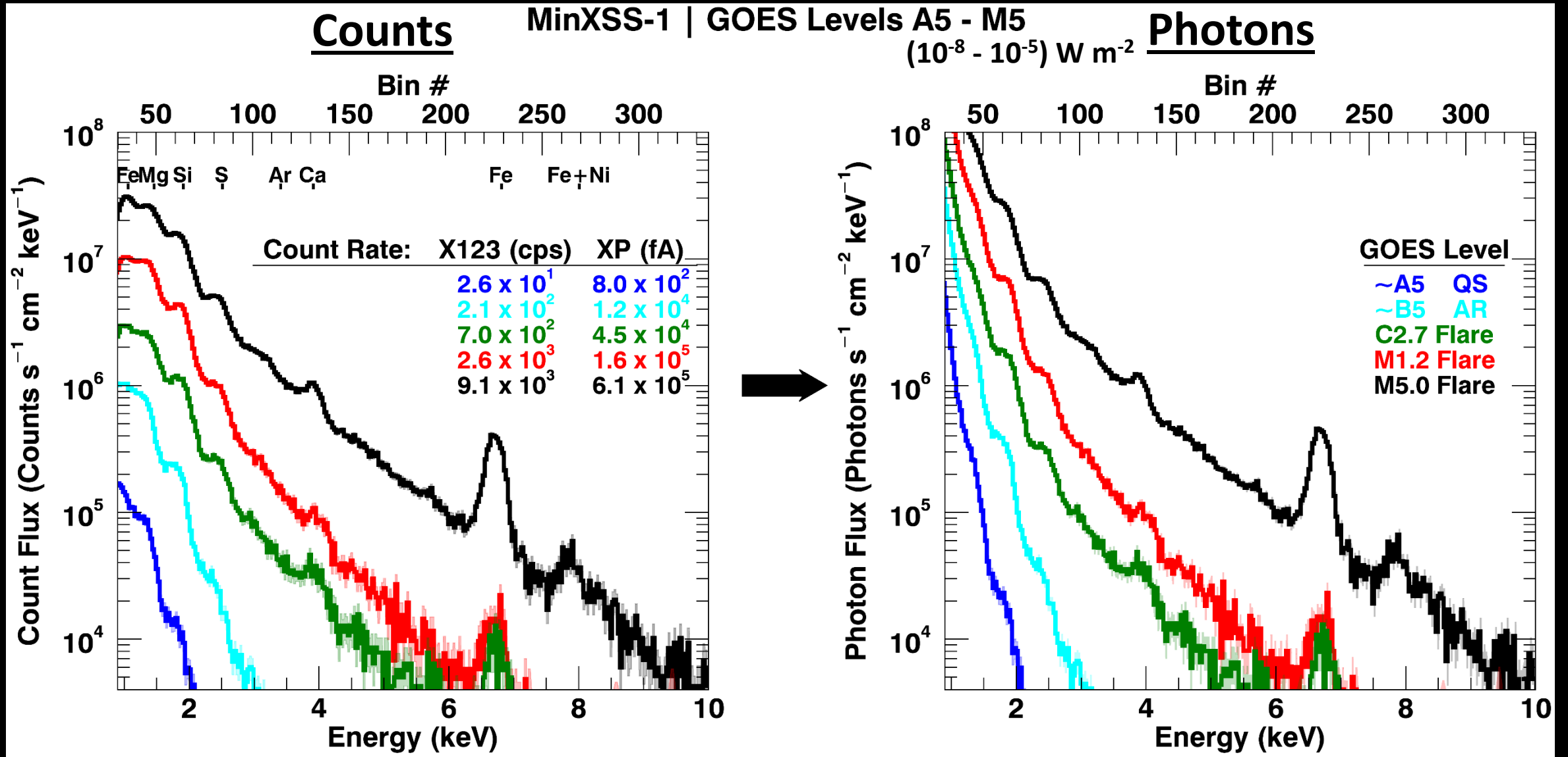
Scatter Plot

HMI_los 316 G vs XRT and AIA filters



What is next?

Slide courtesy
of Chris Moore



Summary

- We were able to verify the connection of unsigned magnetic field to coronal soft x-ray flux

$$F_{Xray} \propto |\vec{B}_{los}|$$

- Identified a strong correlation between the XRT filters and magnetic field
- AIA 94A and Fe XVIII emission may not be as strongly correlated to magnetic field
- Spatial (HMI and XRT) and Spectral (MinXSS) information can help understand connection to plasma temperature and elemental abundance

Acknowledgements!

- Special thanks to: Ken Wiley, Nick Murphy, Henry “Trae” Winter, Marcus Dupont, Nishu Karna, Samaiyah Farid, Amanda Bacon, John Waczak, and Austin Czyzewski



- This work is supported by the NSF-REU Solar Physics program at SAO, grant number AGS-1560313.
- The MinXSS-1 CubeSat mission is supported by NASA Grant NNX14AN84G.