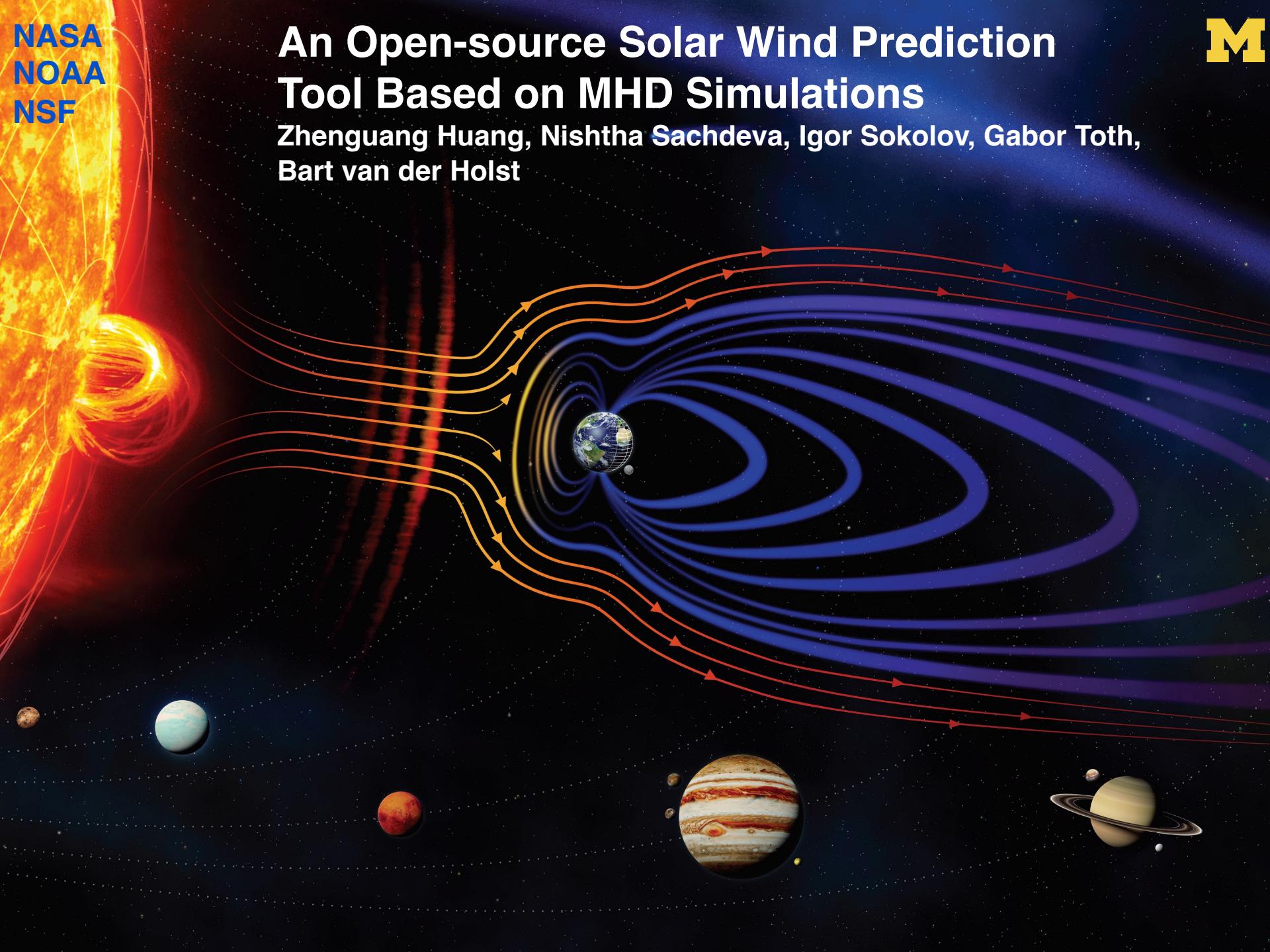


An Open-source Solar Wind Prediction Tool Based on MHD Simulations

Zhenguang Huang, Nishtha Sachdeva, Igor Sokolov, Gabor Toth,
Bart van der Holst



Real-time Solar Wind Predictions

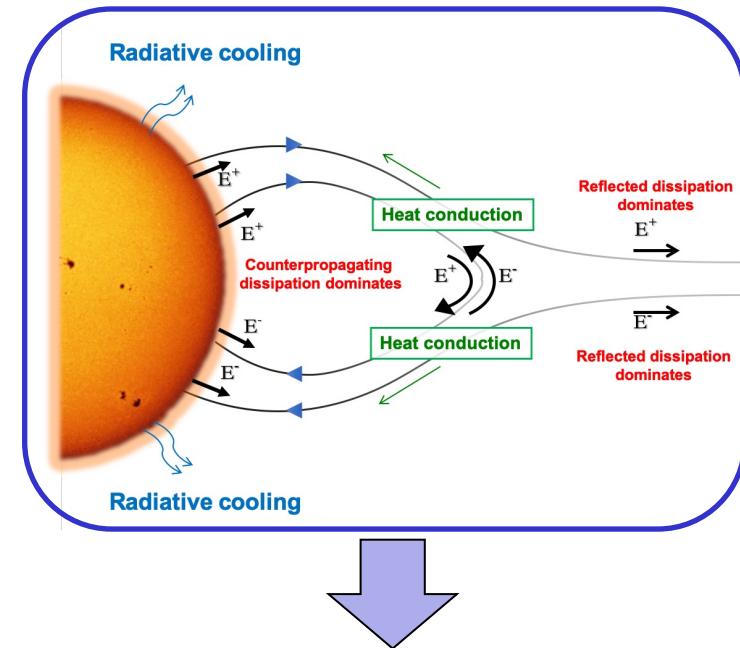
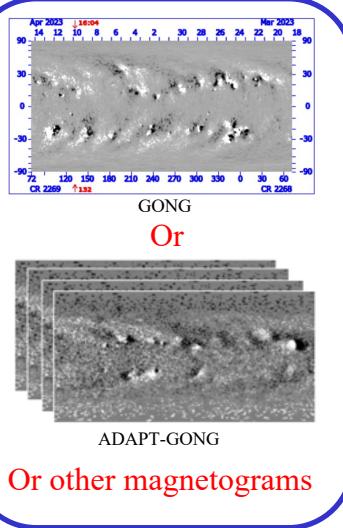
M One of the core components in space weather

- The solar wind density
- The solar wind speed
- The interplanetary magnetic field, especially the Bz component
- Provides the plasma conditions for drivers (Coronal Mass Ejections (CMEs), Solar energetic particles (SEPs), etc.) of space weather events

M Models used to predict the solar wind

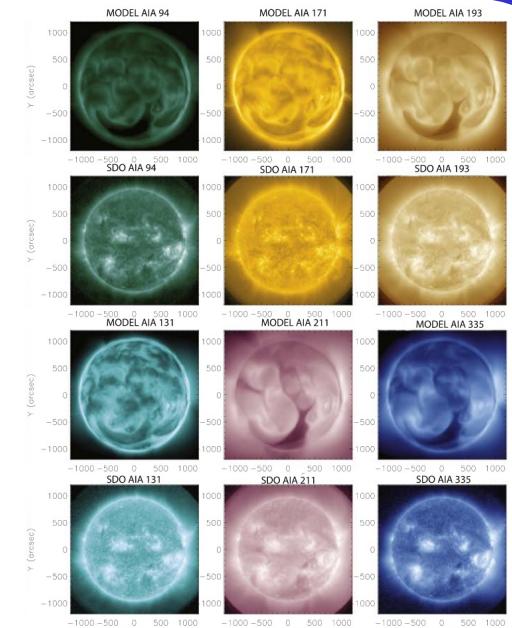
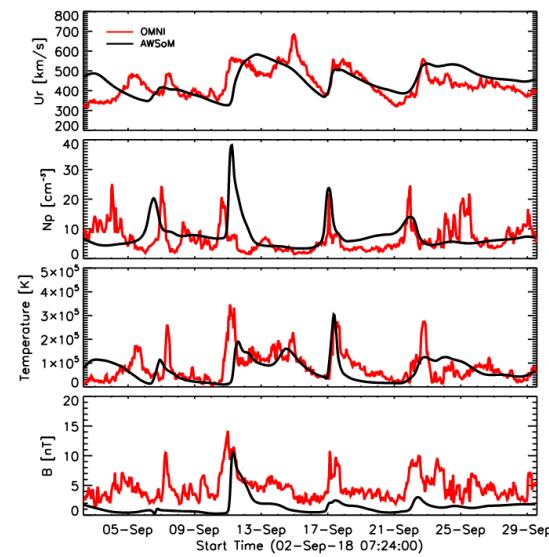
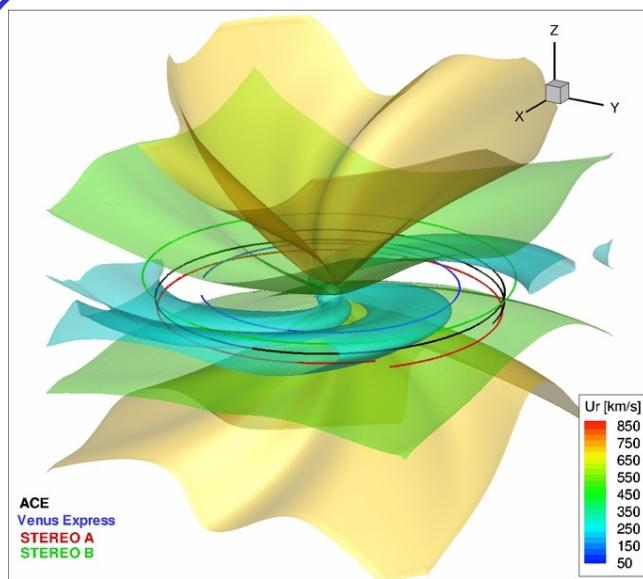
- Empirical, semi-empirical or AI/ML models:
 - The Wang-Sheeley-Arge (WSA) model
 - Many others
- Fully first-principles based models:
 - AWSOM (Alfven-Wave driven Solar atmosphere Model) within the Space Weather Modeling Framework (SWMF)
 - The MHD-Around-a-Sphere (MAS) model
 - Many others

AWSoM as a Whitebox



Parameters:

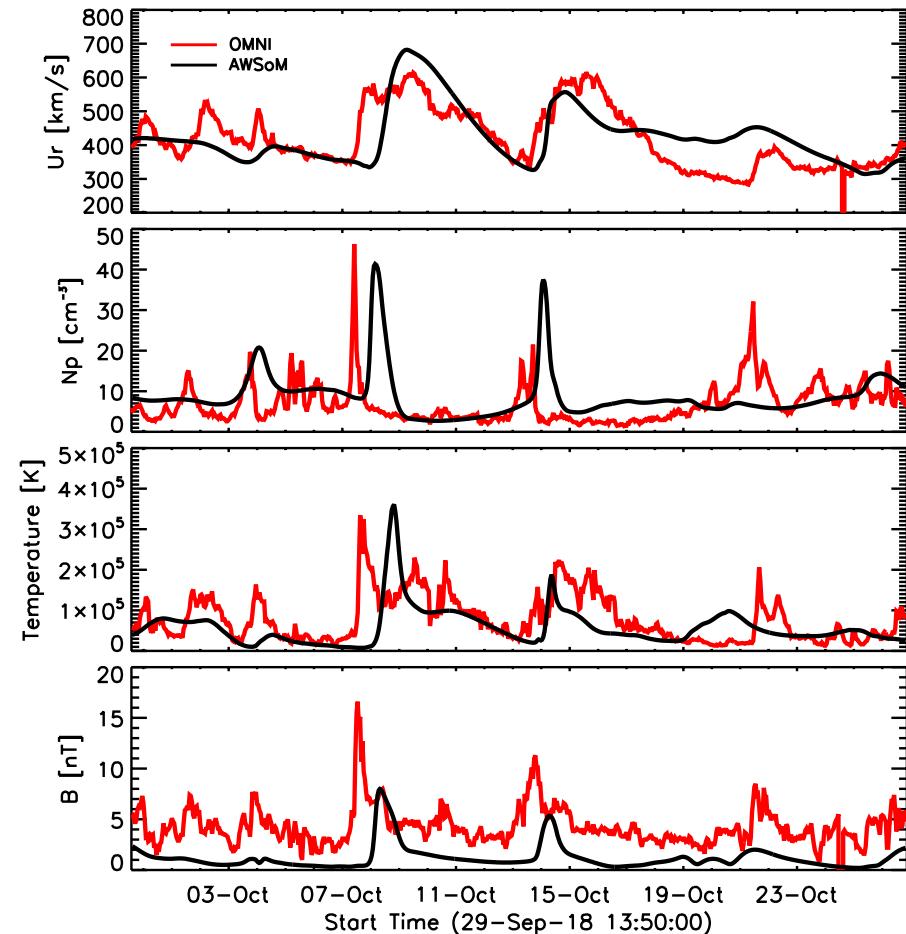
- Observations: density, temperature, Poynting flux, etc.
- Physical process: correlation length, amplitude and exponent of the stochastic heating profile, etc.



AWSoM Results for Solar Minimum and Maximum

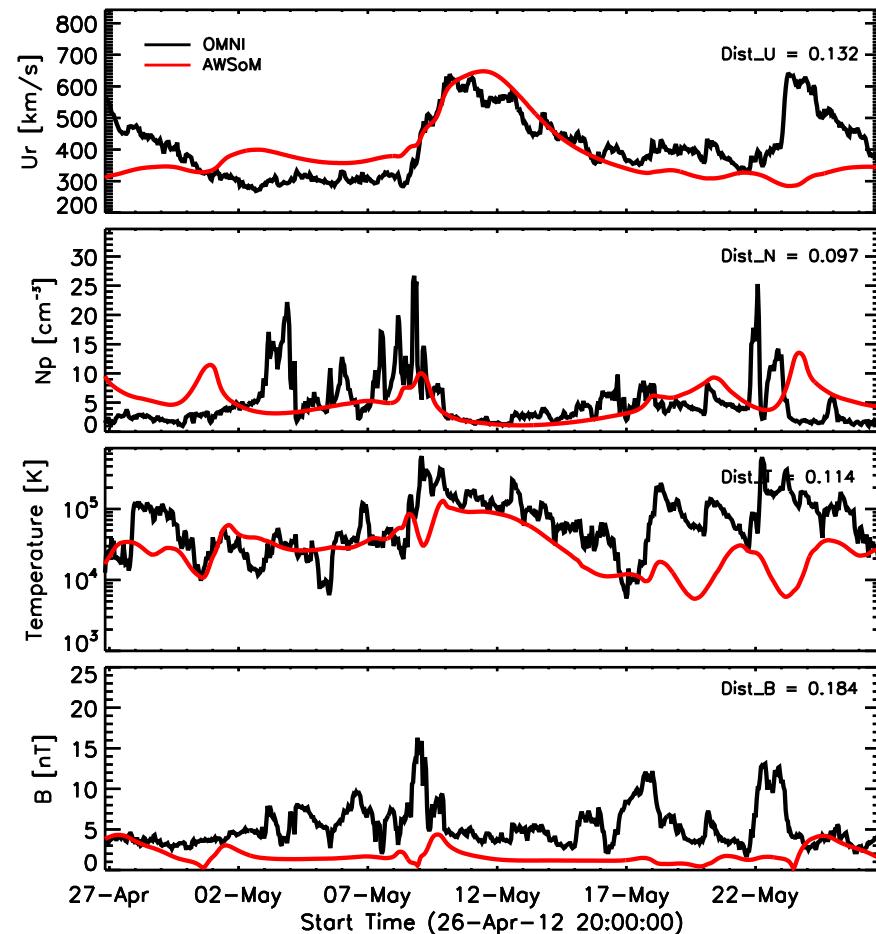
Solar minimum: CR2209

The Poynting flux parameter
is set to $1.0 \text{ MWm}^{-2}\text{T}^{-1}$



Solar maximum: CR2152

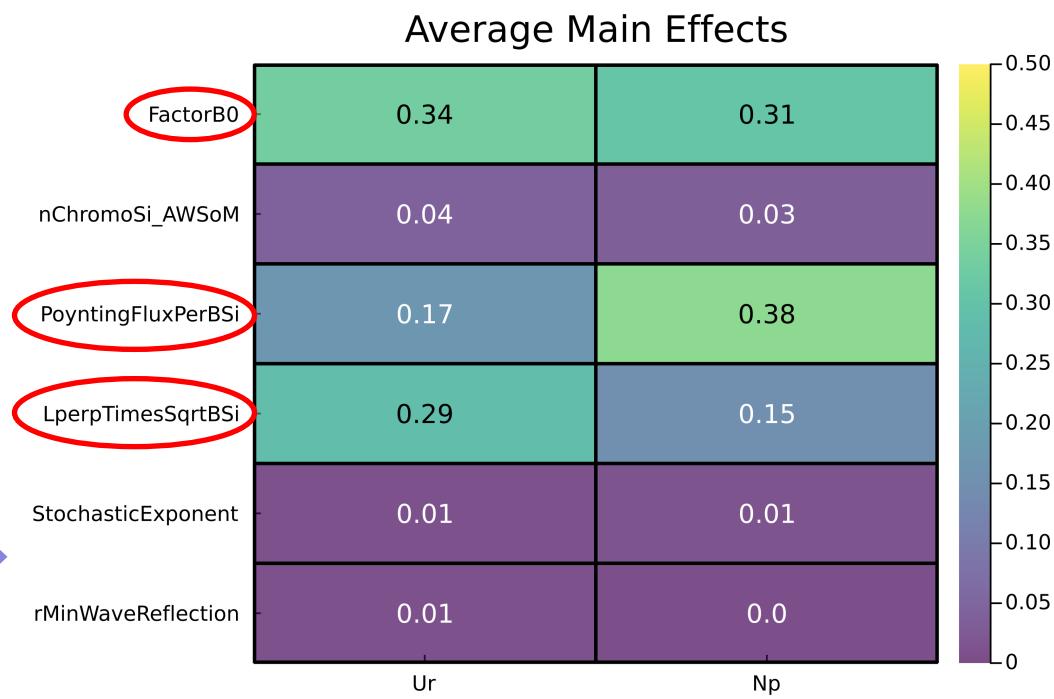
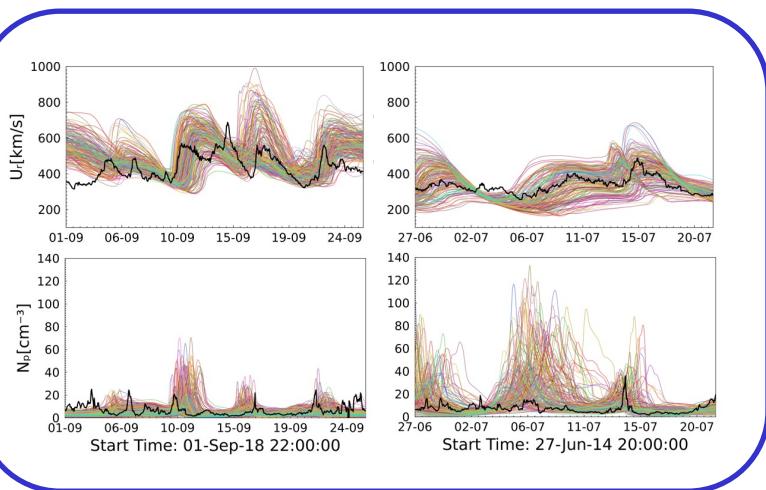
The Poynting flux parameter is
set to $0.5 \text{ MWm}^{-2}\text{T}^{-1}$



Prepare AWSOM for Real-time Operations

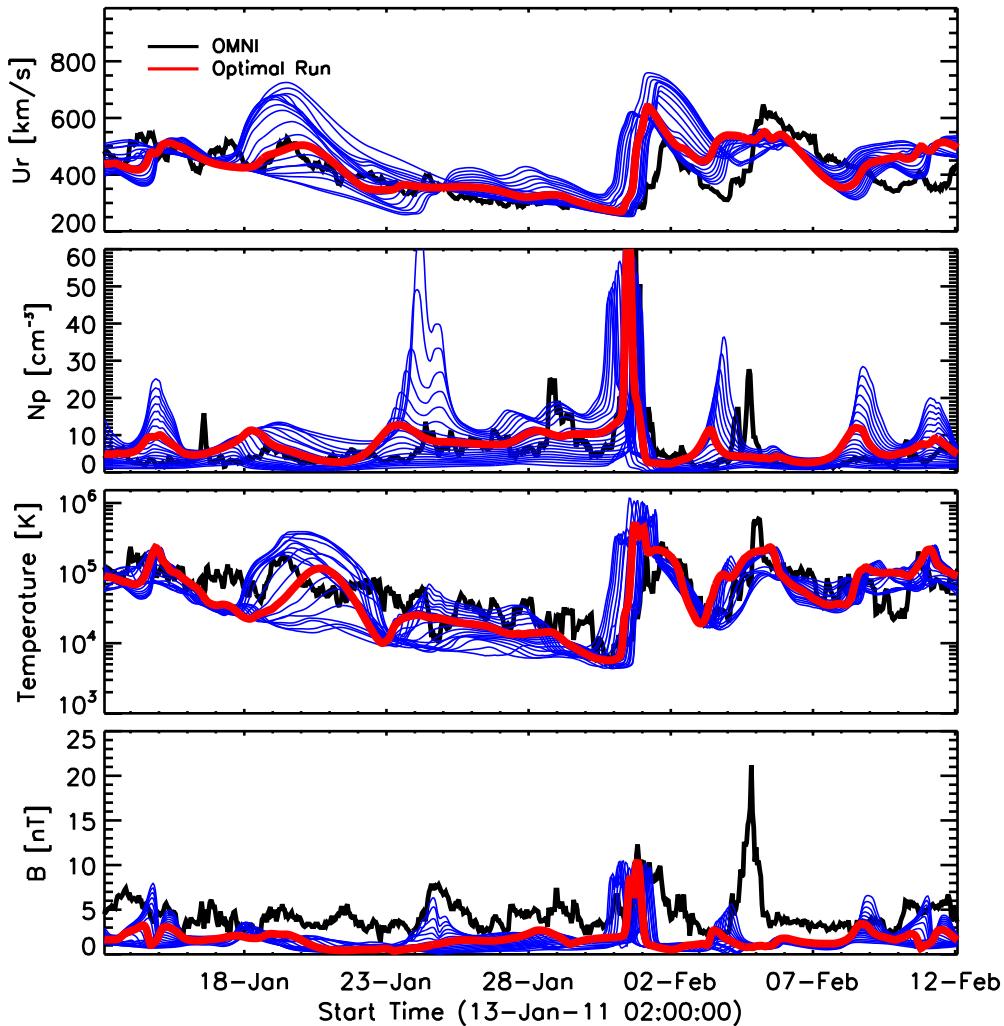
M Considerations:

- Need to run faster than real-time
- Real-time observational inputs (magnetograms)
- How to prescribe the values of the parameters?

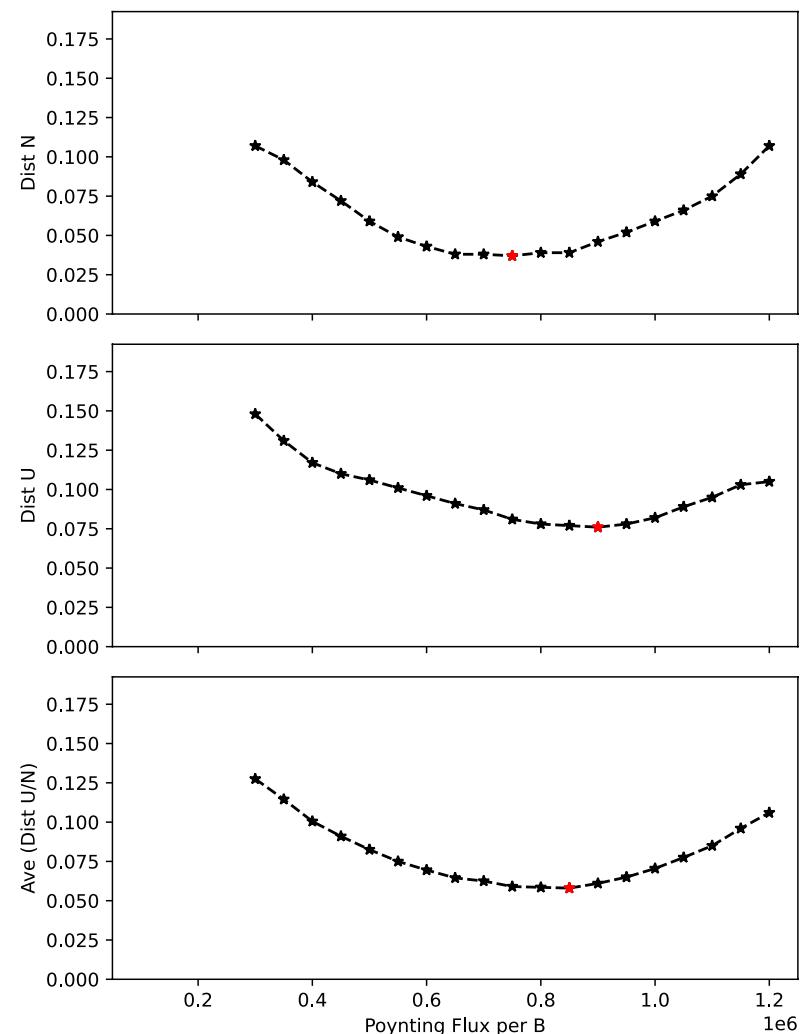


The Poynting Flux Parameter of AWSOM

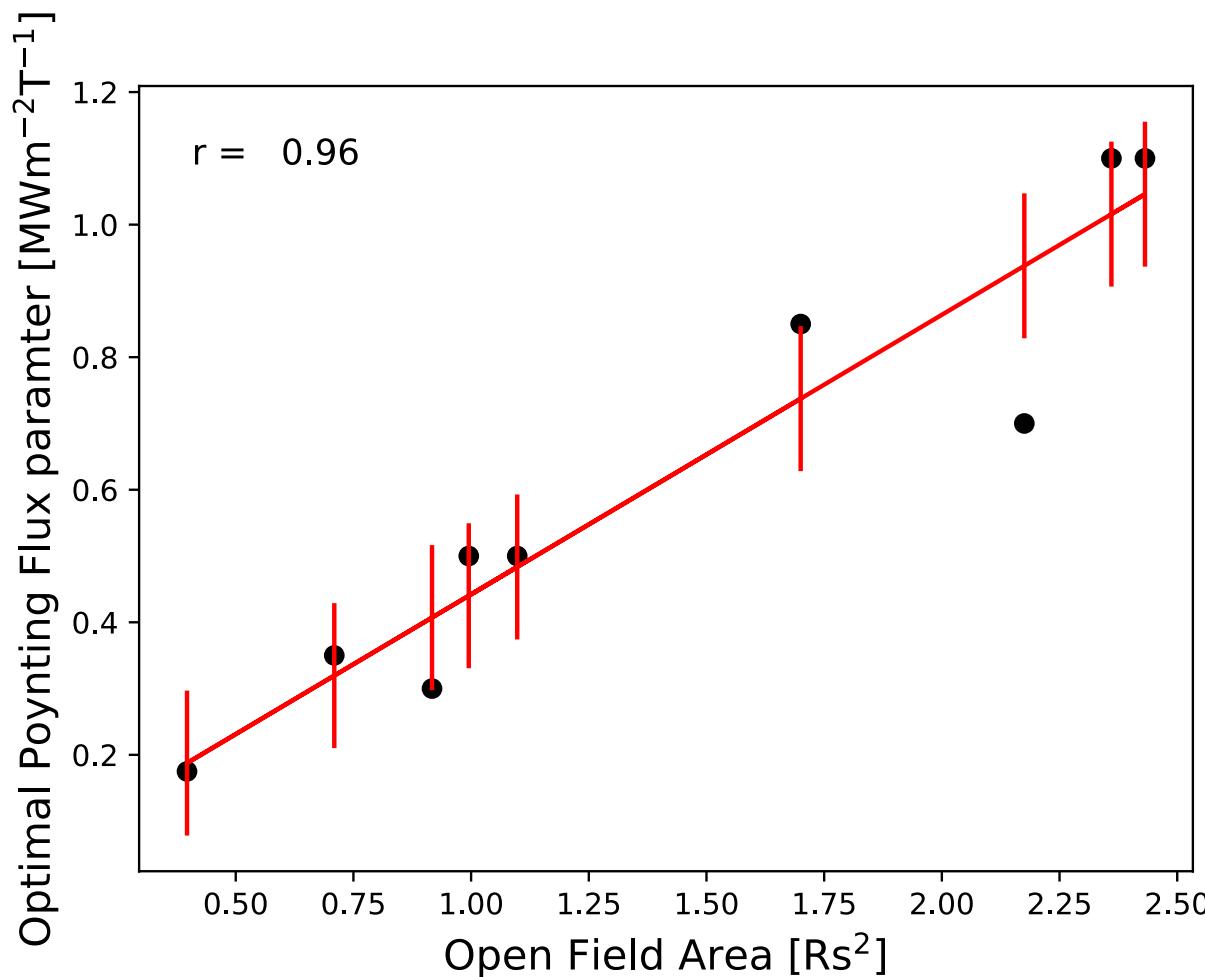
Simulated solar wind (in blue)
with different values of the
Poynting flux parameters



The distance values between
the simulated and observed
solar wind



Empirical Formula for the Poynting Flux Parameter



Empirical formula between the optimal value of the Poynting flux parameter and the area of the open field regions:

$$P = 0.42 \cdot A + 0.02 \pm 0.11$$

Summary & Future Directions

- AWSoM is a first-principles based model and fully validated in solar minimum and maximum
- Used the Variance-based sensitivity analysis (Sobol indices) to determine what parameters are important
- Determined an empirical formula for the Poynting flux parameter
- Work in progress:
 - More parameters and/or magnetograms
 - Transition the results to CCMC
 - RL6 verification in a near real-time environment
 - Build an open-source solar wind prediction tool