



# 1st Solar Orbiter Summer School

## "Towards a Deeper Understanding of the Sun and the Heliosphere with Solar Orbiter"

L'Aquila, September 22-25, 2014

## RPW: Measuring Solar Radio and Plasma Waves

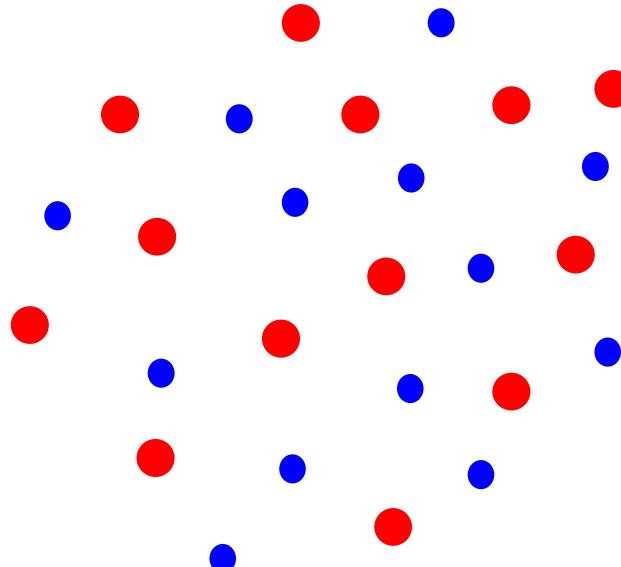
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# Outline

- Plasma waves versus Radio waves
- Plasma waves : what do we observed and understand ?
- Radio waves : what do we observed and understand ?
- « Extra » science : Dust measurements
- On the difficulty of measuring the DC/LF electric component of plasma waves
- RPW : a brief description

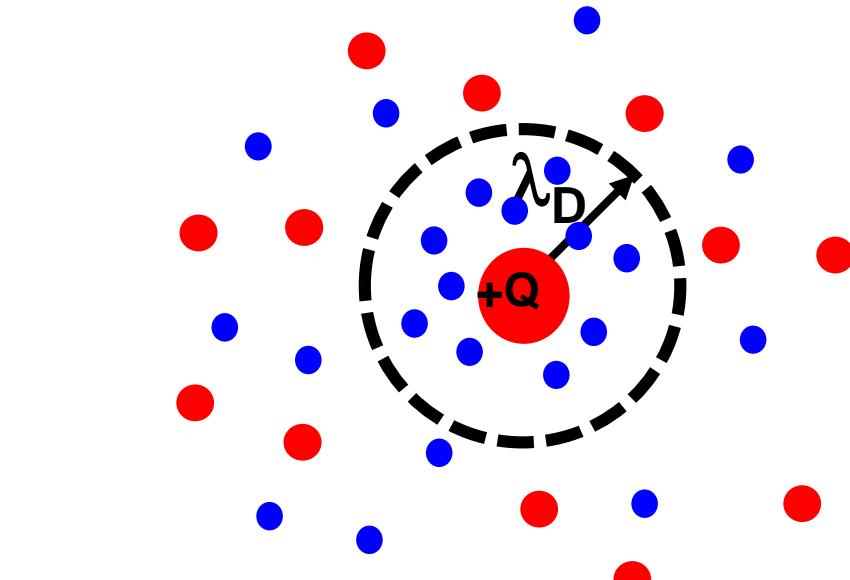
# Plasma waves versus radio waves

## Debye Screening



$$\lambda_D = \left( \frac{\epsilon_0 k_B T}{n e^2} \right)^{1/2}$$

$$\lambda_D \approx 69 \sqrt{T/n} \quad \text{in S.I. units}$$



$$\Phi(r) = \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r} e^{-r\sqrt{2}/\lambda_D}$$

- $\lambda_D \approx 10 \text{ m} @ 1 \text{ AU}$
- $\lambda_D \approx 5 \text{ m} @ 0.3 \text{ AU}$
- $\lambda_D \approx 1 \text{ m} @ 10 \text{ Rs}$



- $v$  must be compared to both  $V_{thi} \approx \sqrt{k_B T/m_i}$  and  $V_{the} \approx \sqrt{k_B T/m_e}$
- If  $v < V_{thi} < V_{the}$  then both electrons and ions have time « to participate » to the screening of  $+Q$
- If  $V_{thi} < v < V_{the}$  then only the electrons have time « to participate » to the screening of  $+Q$
- If  $V_{thi} < V_{the} < v$  then there is no screening of  $+Q$

### Timescale for screening ?

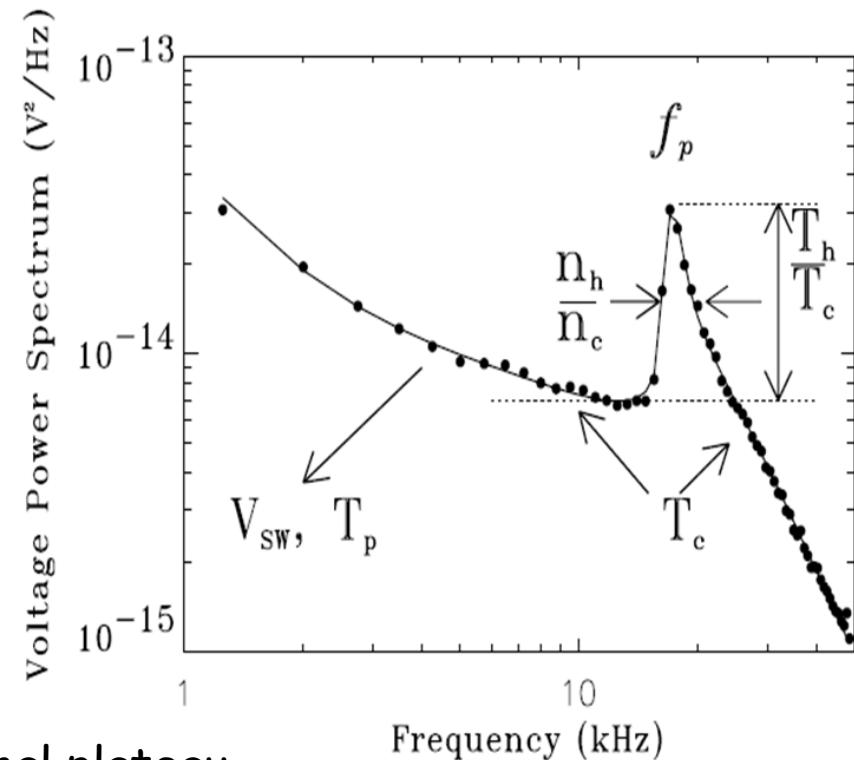
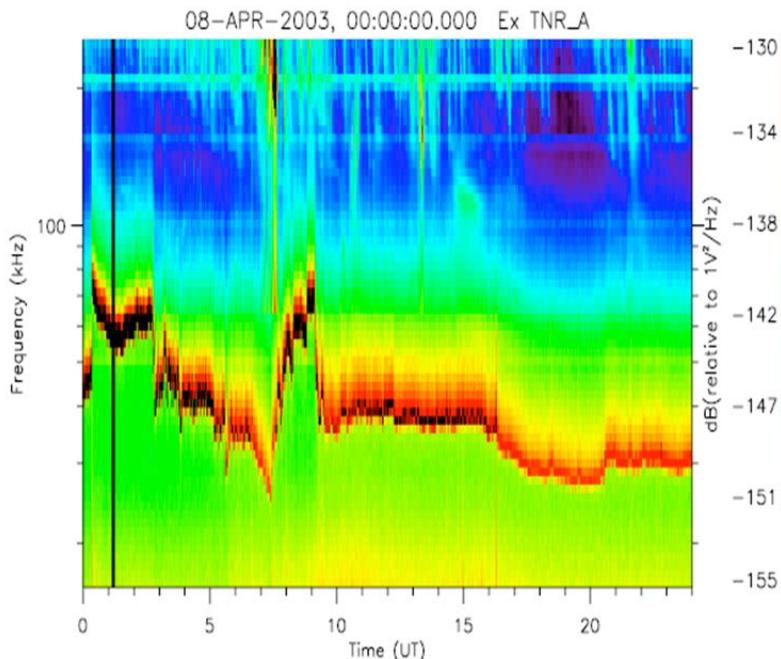
- Let's put suddenly a charge  $+Q$  in a plasma at equilibrium
- The electrons, which move faster, will need a time  $\tau$  to travel a distance  $\lambda_D$  at the most probable speed  $V_{the}$

$$\tau \approx \left( \frac{\epsilon_0 m_e}{n e^2} \right)^{1/2} \equiv \frac{1}{\omega_p}$$

$\omega_p = 2\pi F_p$  is the angular plasma frequency

- $F_p = 9\sqrt{n}$  in S.I. units
- $F_p \approx 20$  kHz @ 1 AU
- $F_p \approx 60$  kHz @ 0.3 AU
- $F_p \approx 0.5$  MHz @ 10 Rs

# Electron Density and Temperature from Quasi-Thermal Noise Spectroscopy

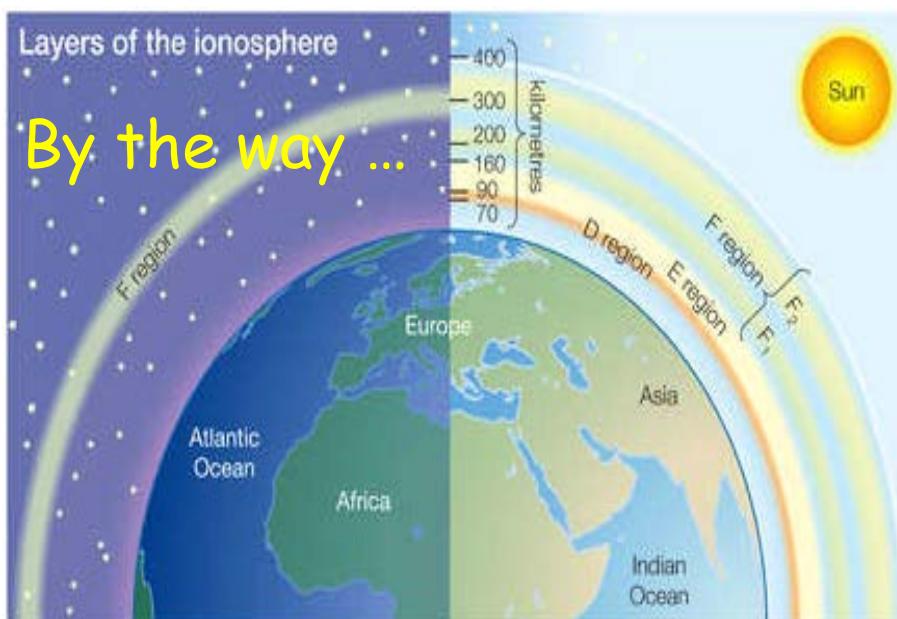


## Antenna geometry and size matter

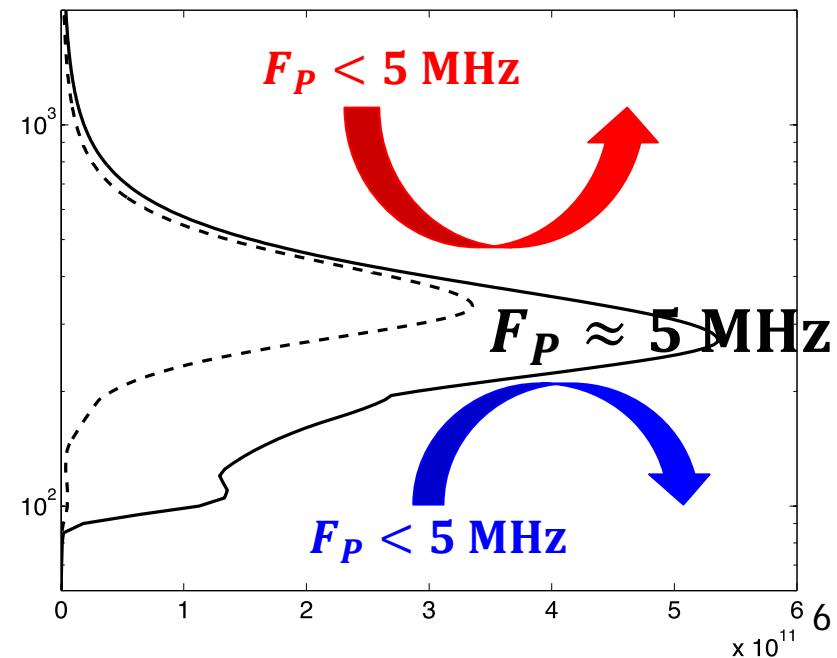
- $e^-$  passing closer than  $\lambda_D$   $\rightarrow F < F_p \rightarrow$  thermal plateau
- $e^-$  passing further than  $\lambda_D$   $\rightarrow$  Langmuir waves @  $F < F_p$   
Power  $\propto (F_p/F)^3$
- In practice  $L/\lambda_D \geq 1$  is needed : satisfied at perihelion and in dense SW
- RPW should measure  $n_e$  &  $T_e$  with accuracies respectively of a few % and 10 %

**2 Maxwellians:**  
**cold :  $n_c, T_c$**   
**hot :  $n_h, T_h$**

- Waves with  $F < F_{Pi} < F_{Pe}$  are « seen » by both ions and electrons. They are screened and do not propagate
- Waves with  $F_{Pi} < F < F_{Pe}$  are not « seen » by ions but are still screened by the electrons
- Waves with  $F_{Pi} < F_{Pe} < F$  are not seen by the plasma and propagate freely

Plasma  
WavesRadio  
Waves

By the way ...



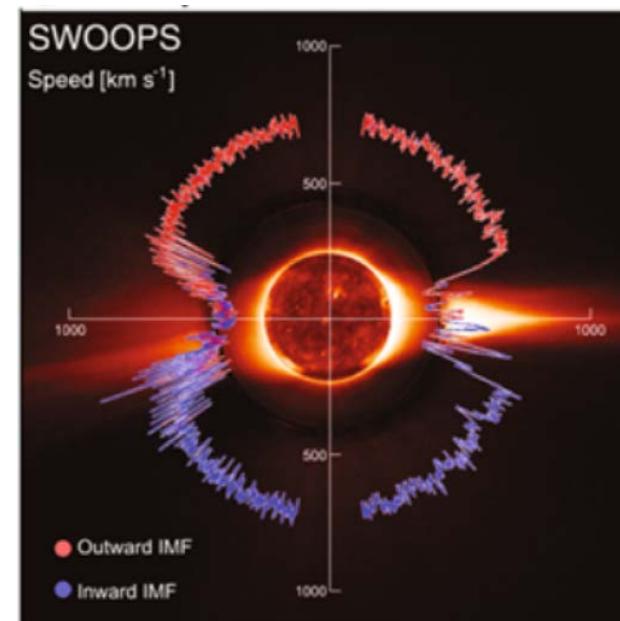
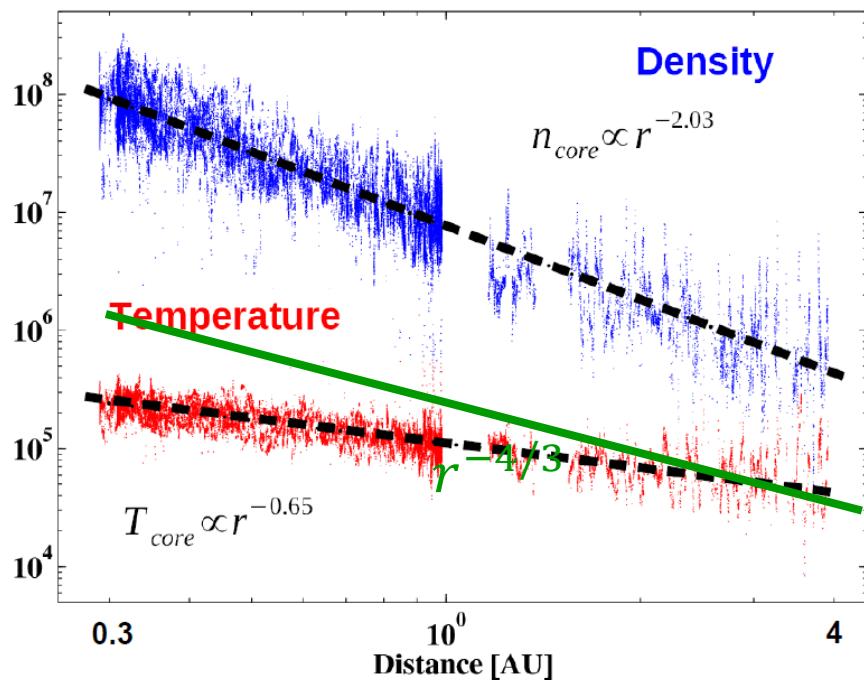
- There is a Magnetic Field Magnetic in the Solar Wind which imposes new time and length scales (gyro-radii and -frequencies)
- Full zoo of waves (see a good Plasma Physics textbooks)

EM character	oscillating species	conditions	dispersion relation	name
electrostatic	electrons	$\vec{B}_0 = 0$ or $\vec{k} \parallel \vec{B}_0$	$\omega^2 = \omega_p^2 + 3k^2 v_{th}^2$	plasma oscillation (or Langmuir wave)
		$\vec{k} \perp \vec{B}_0$	$\omega^2 = \omega_p^2 + \omega_c^2 = \omega_h^2$	upper hybrid oscillation
	ions	$\vec{B}_0 = 0$ or $\vec{k} \parallel \vec{B}_0$	$\omega^2 = k^2 v_s^2 = k^2 \frac{\gamma_e K T_e + \gamma_i K T_i}{M}$	ion acoustic wave
		$\vec{k} \perp \vec{B}_0$ (nearly)	$\omega^2 = \Omega_c^2 + k^2 v_s^2$	electrostatic ion cyclotron wave
		$\vec{k} \perp \vec{B}_0$ (exactly)	$\omega^2 = [(\Omega_c \omega_c)^{-1} + \omega_i^{-2}]^{-1}$	lower hybrid oscillation
electromagnetic	electrons	$\vec{B}_0 = 0$	$\omega^2 = \omega_p^2 + k^2 c^2$	light wave
		$\vec{k} \perp \vec{B}_0, \vec{E}_1 \parallel \vec{B}_0$	$\frac{c^2 k^2}{\omega^2} = 1 - \frac{\omega_p^2}{\omega^2}$	O wave
		$\vec{k} \perp \vec{B}_0, \vec{E}_1 \perp \vec{B}_0$	$\frac{c^2 k^2}{\omega^2} = 1 - \frac{\omega_p^2}{\omega^2} \frac{\omega^2 - \omega_p^2}{\omega^2 - \omega_h^2}$	X wave
		$\vec{k} \parallel \vec{B}_0$ (right circ. pol.)	$\frac{c^2 k^2}{\omega^2} = 1 - \frac{\omega_p^2 / \omega^2}{1 - (\omega_c / \omega)}$	R wave (whistler mode)
		$\vec{k} \parallel \vec{B}_0$ (left circ. pol.)	$\frac{c^2 k^2}{\omega^2} = 1 - \frac{\omega_p^2 / \omega^2}{1 + (\omega_c / \omega)}$	L wave
	ions	$\vec{B}_0 = 0$		none
		$\vec{k} \parallel \vec{B}_0$	$\omega^2 = k^2 v_A^2$	Alfvén wave
		$\vec{k} \perp \vec{B}_0$	$\frac{\omega^2}{k^2} = c^2 \frac{v_s^2 + v_A^2}{c^2 + v_A^2}$	magnetosonic wave

# In-situ Plasma waves : what do we observed and understand ?

Waves are believed to both heat & accelerate the Solar Wind

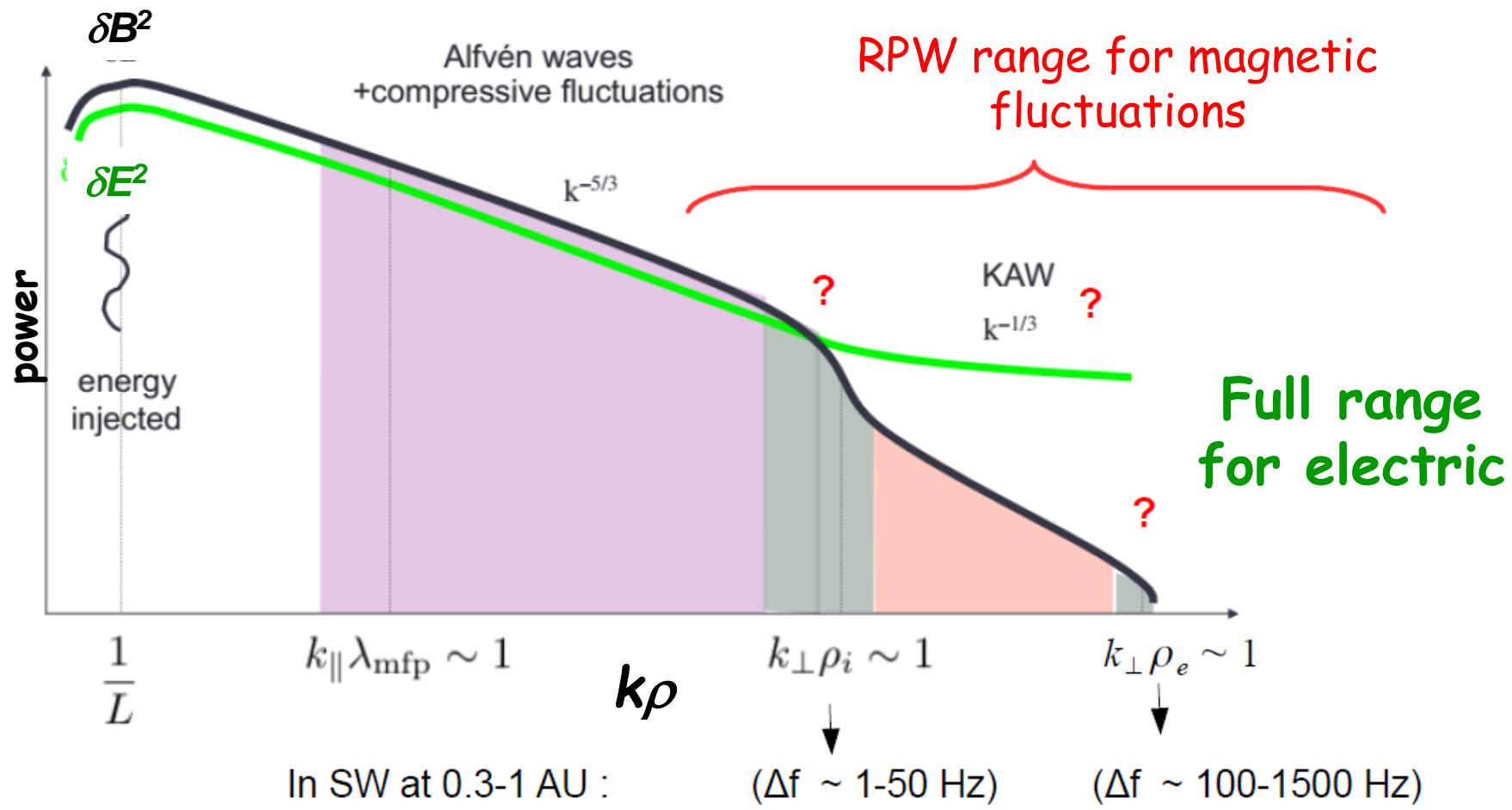
Helios + Ulysses



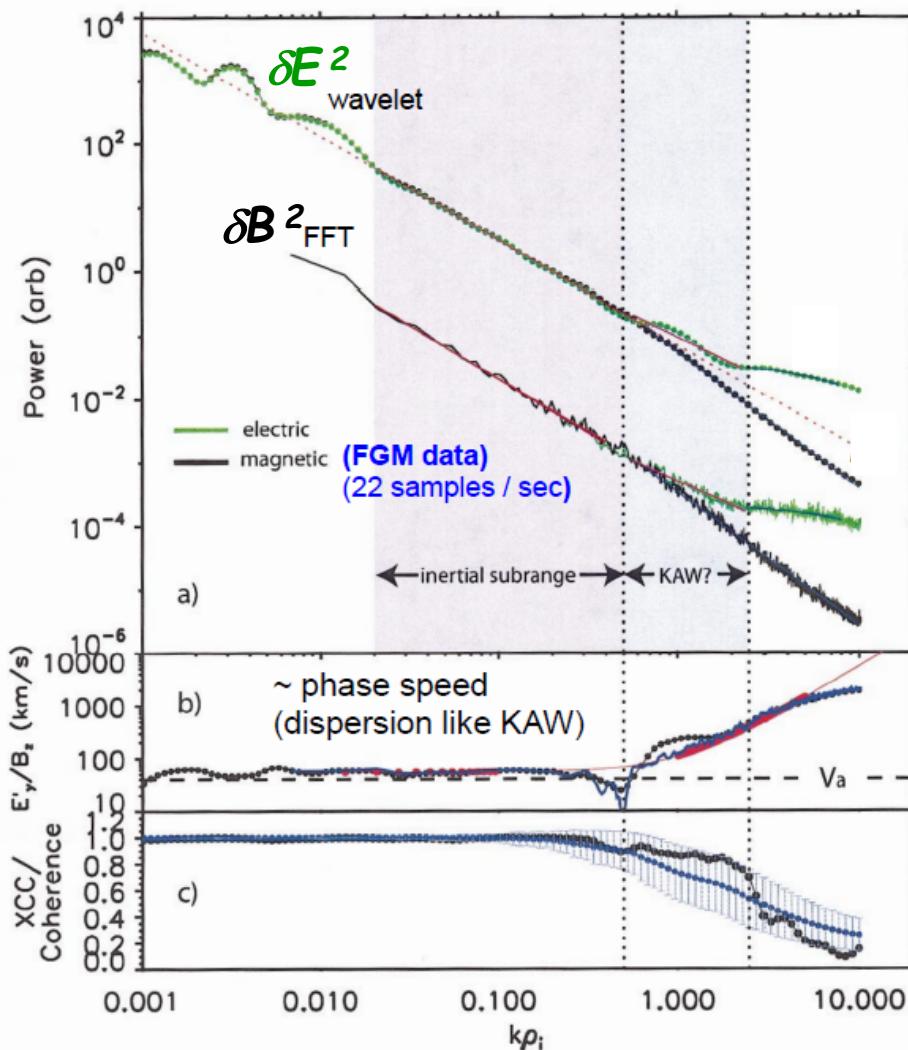
# Turbulent heating/dissipation in the Solar Wind

Kinetic Alfvén Waves ? Whistler Waves ?  
Coherent structures ? Other ?

Turbulent energy cascade from large to small scales



# Evidences for Kinetic Alven Waves turbulence ?



## Cluster

- Phase speed is  $\sim$ Alfven speed
- Dispersion at short wavelength is like Kinetic Alfvén Wave
- Strong evidence/consistency with KAW turbulence

**Evidence for a turbulent dissipation at the proton gyroscale?**

**What above  $k_{pi} \sim 1$  ?**

**Cascade up to the electron scale?**

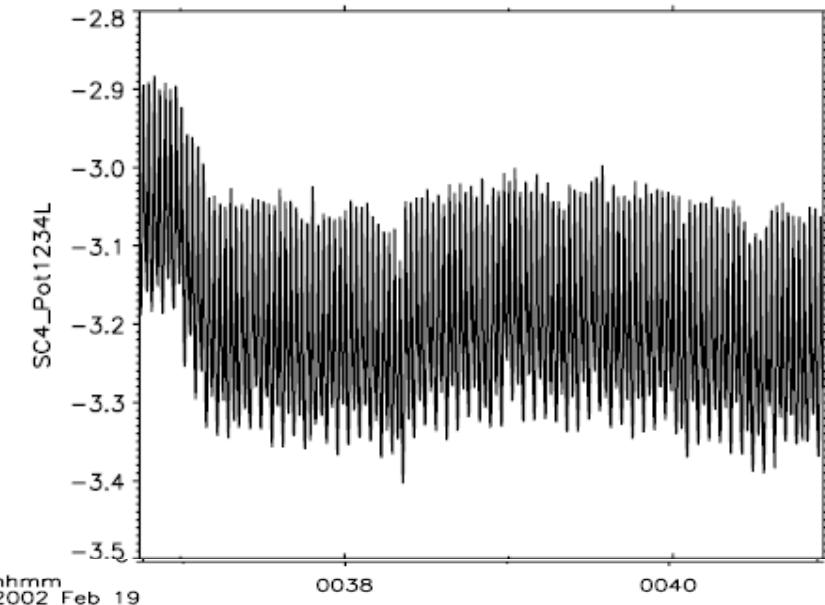
Bale et al., PRL, 2005  
(also Sahraoui et al., PRL, 2009)

# Caveats

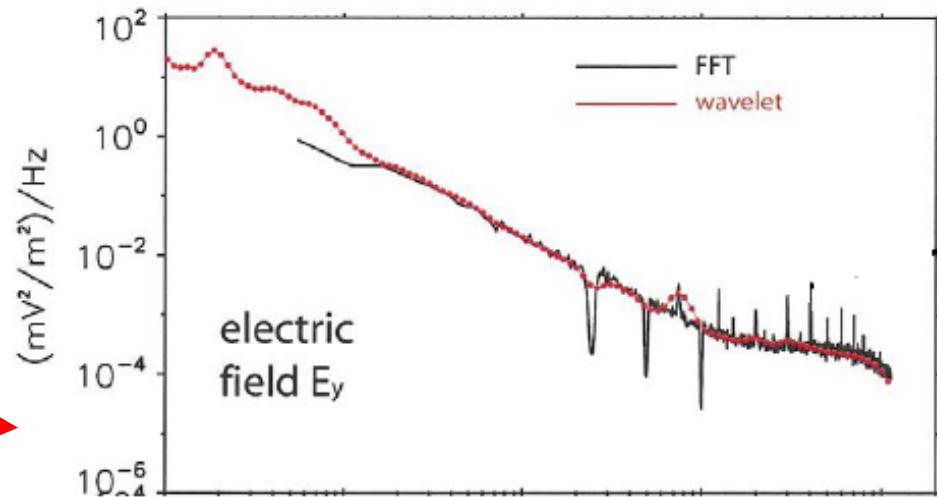
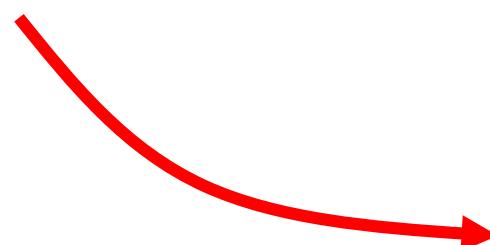
On Cluster electric measurements  
not easy because of S/C charging

Spin tone in the raw E data  
due to :

- illumination variations on the probes
- wake effects

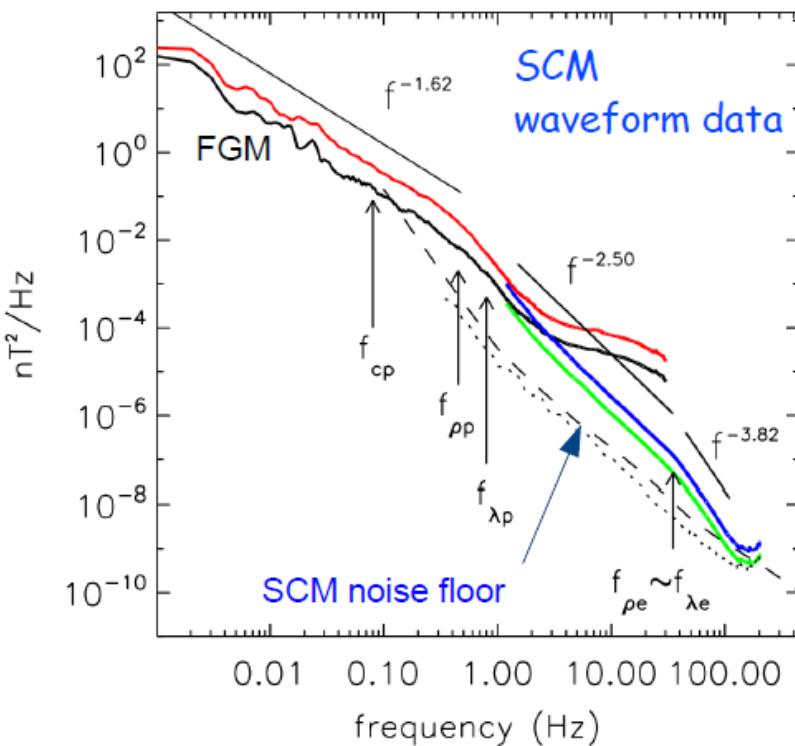


Spin tone needs  
to be filtered



# Evidences for a Cascade well above the proton scales up to the electron typical scales (gyroscale and above ?)

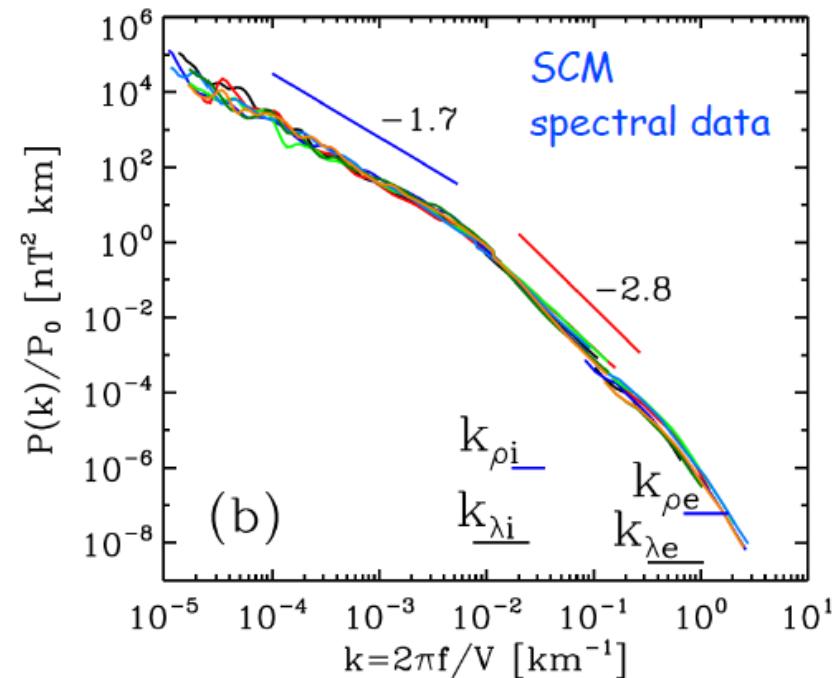
A first case study



Sahraoui et al., PRL, 2009

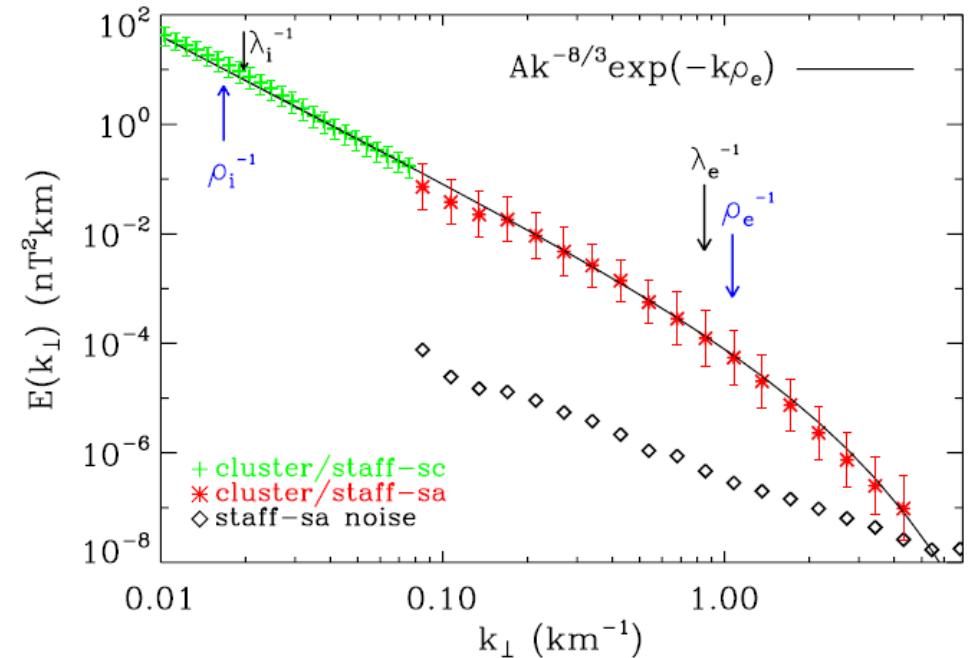
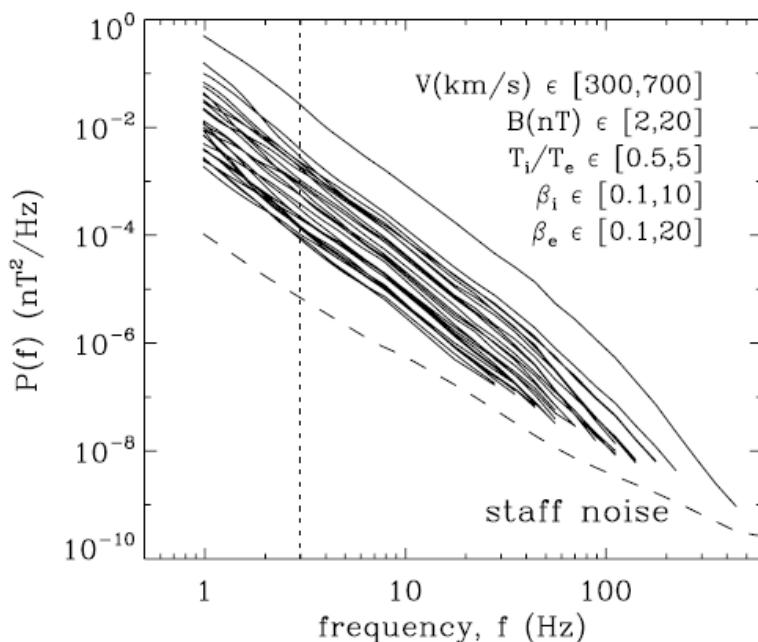
Cluster

Another similar study (several cases)

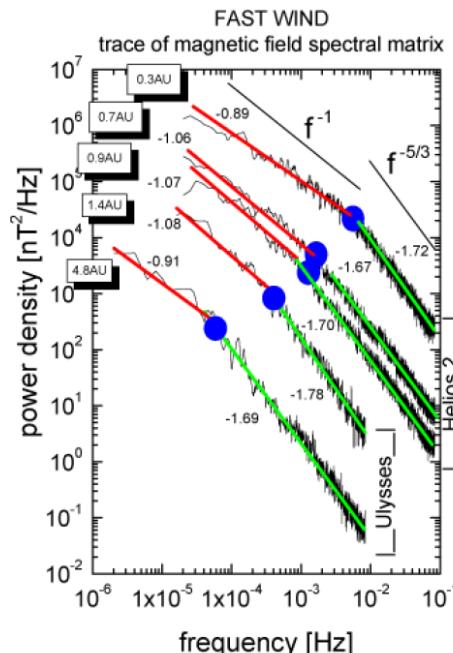


Alexandrova et al., PRL, 2009

- Exponential decrease or power law ?
- Observational limitations : noise floor both for dE2 and dB2

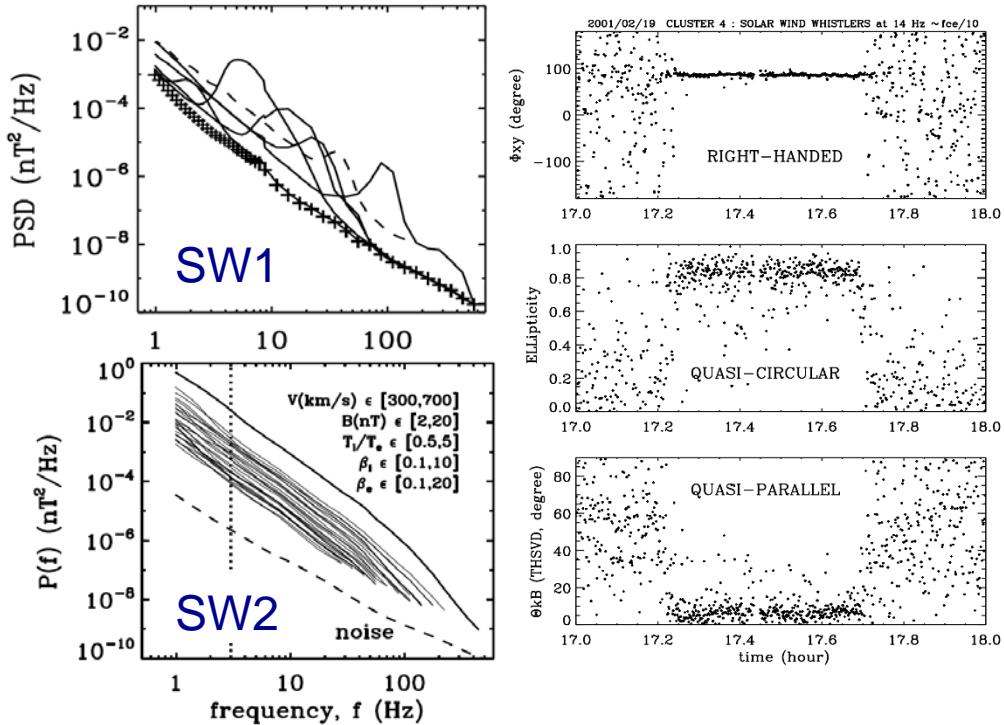
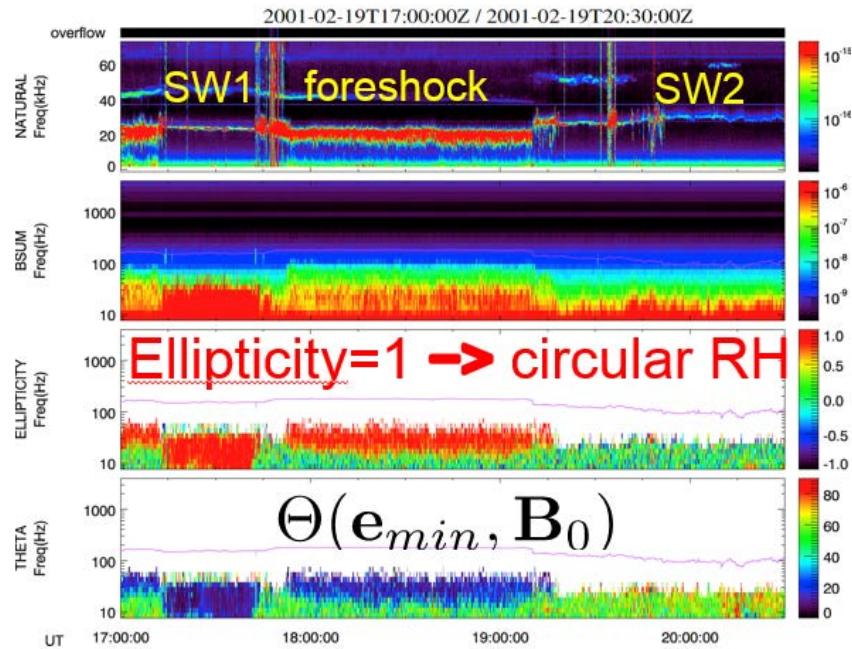


Even with the same search coil sensitivity as on Cluster, RPW will make important improvements

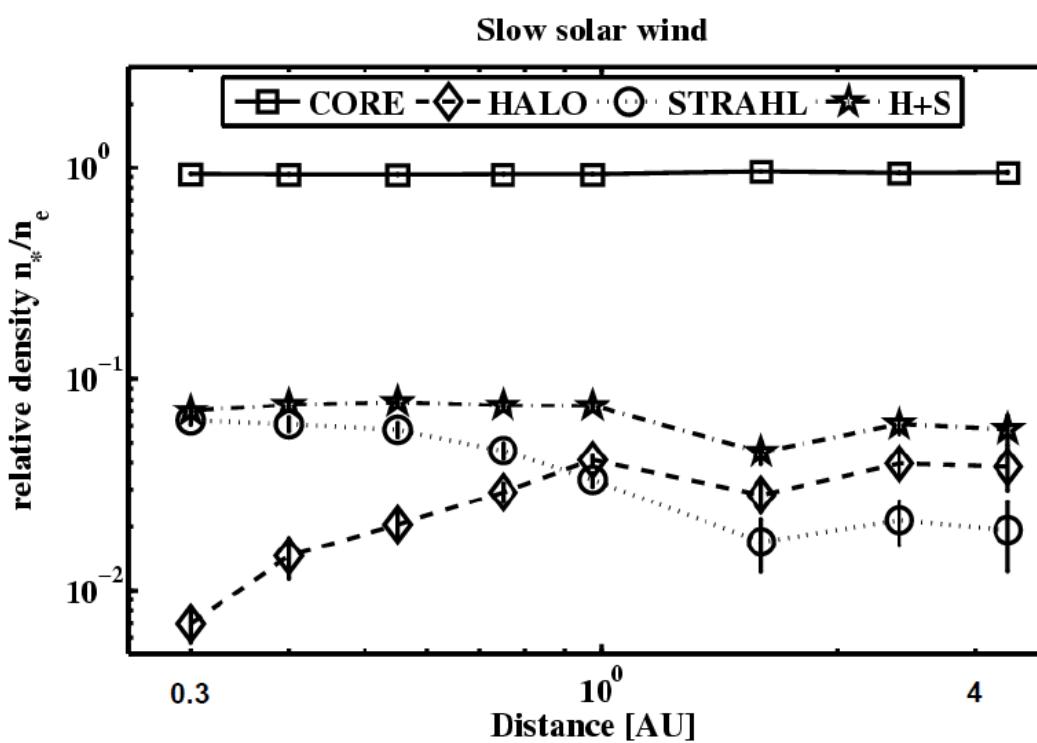
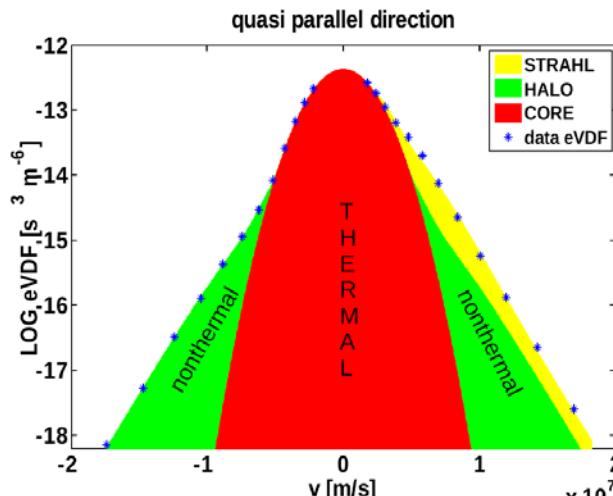


- A function of the ion thermal pressure
  - Similar to the behaviour in the « far » dissipation range in usual fluid turbulence
- $E(k) \propto k^3 e^{-ckl_d}$  ?

# Coherent waves are also observed for e.g Whistler waves (Lacombe et al., 2014)



- Polarized fluctuations => spectra with bumps (10% of data)
- Non-polarized fluctuations => permanent (or background) turbulence (90% of data, Alexandrova et al. 2012, 2013)
- Permanent turbulence + sporadic polarized fluctuations => "intermediate" spectral shape (breaks, small bumps, ...)



Can these Whistler waves explain the radial evolution of electron VDFs ?

Helios, Cluster, Ulysses

Data set : ~ 240,000 samples  
from 0.3 to 4 AU

Stverak et al., JGR, 2009

Maksimovic et al., 2005

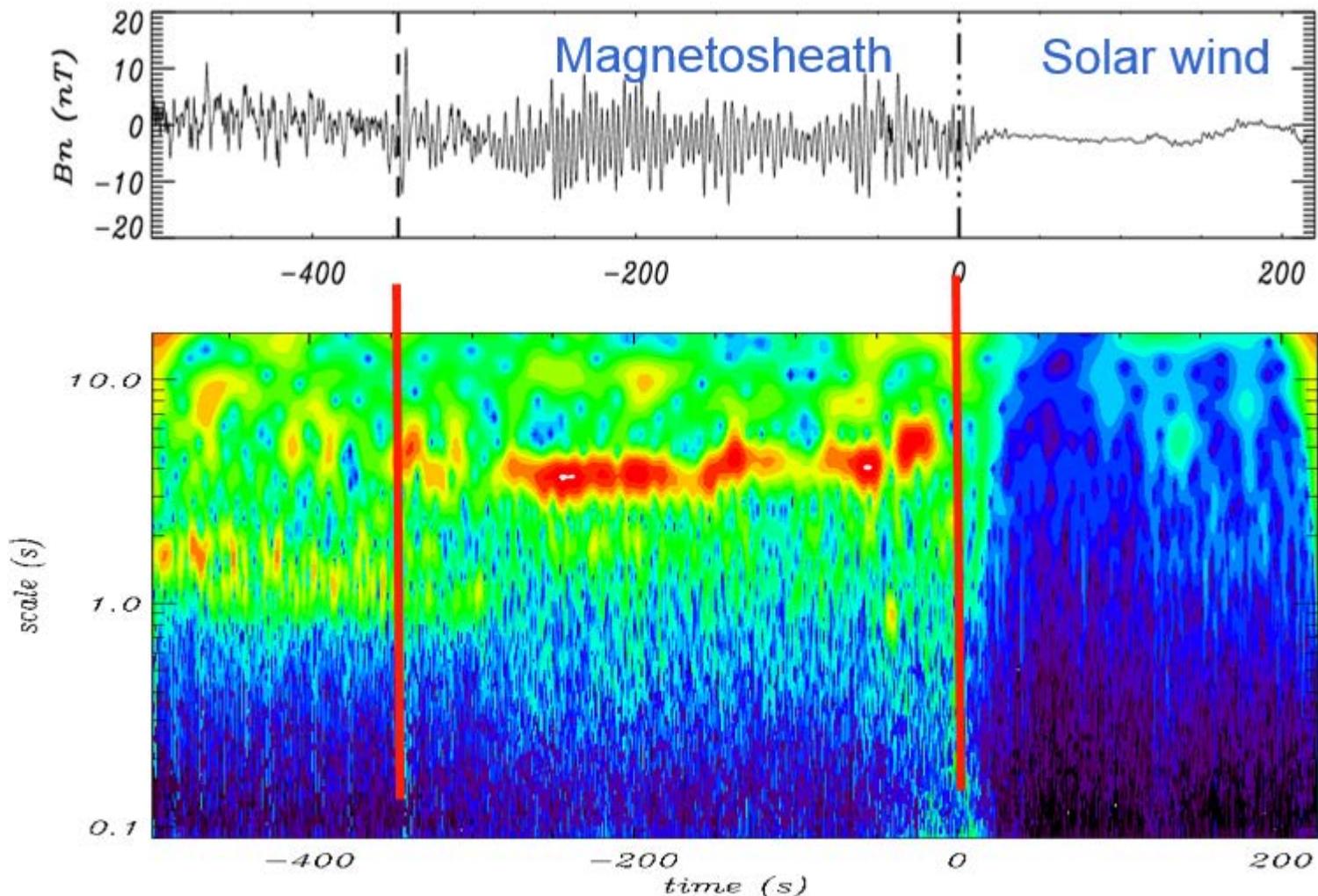
During expansion,  
strahl is transformed  
into halo by wave-  
particle interactions ?

# And even solitary structures ...

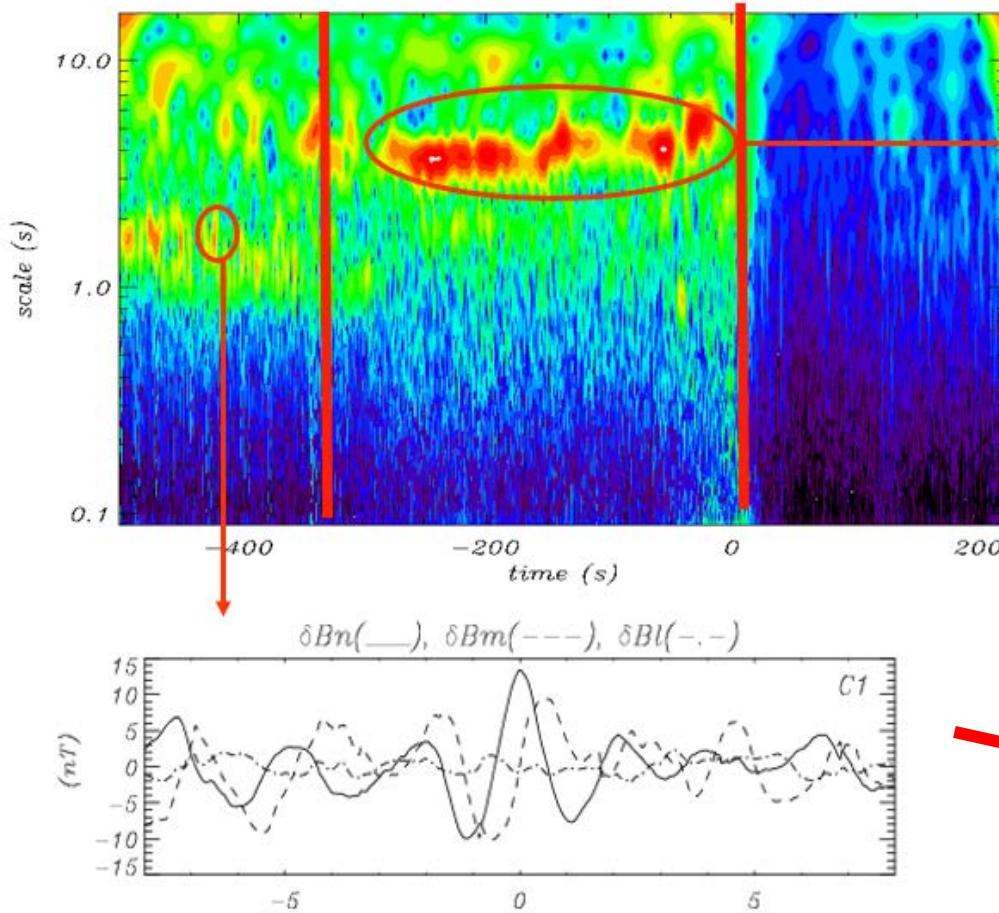
For e.g. Alexandrova et al. 2006, JGR



## Wavelet analysis of CLUSTER SCM waveforms



# Presence of time-localized events in the vicinity of Alfvén Ion Cyclotron wave



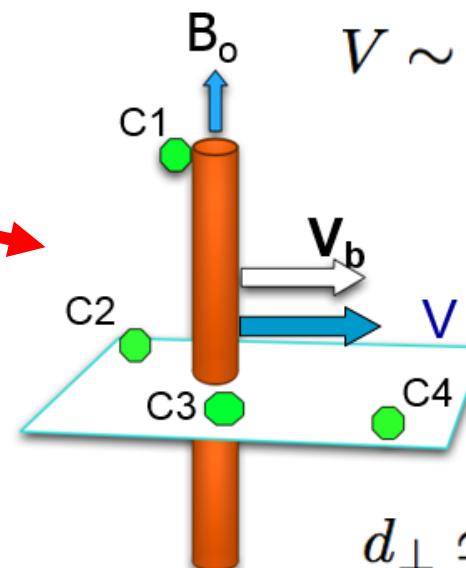
Alfvén Ion  
Cyclotron wave

$$\lambda \propto 10 c/\omega_{pi}$$

$$f \propto 0.4 f_{ci}$$

Alexandrova  
et al.  
2006, JGR

In plasma frame:  
 $V \sim [0, 0.3]V_A$



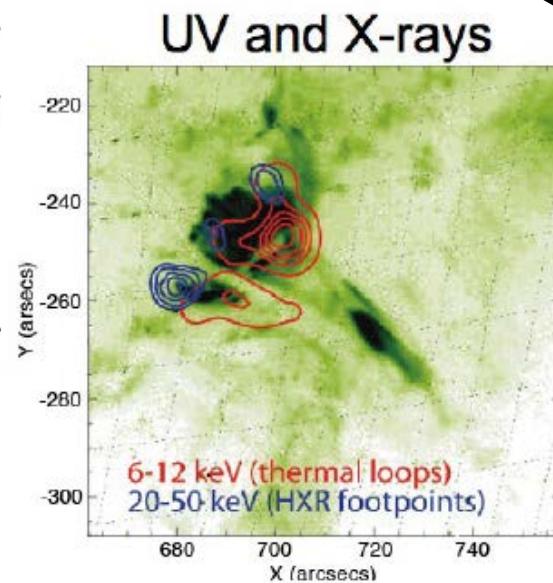
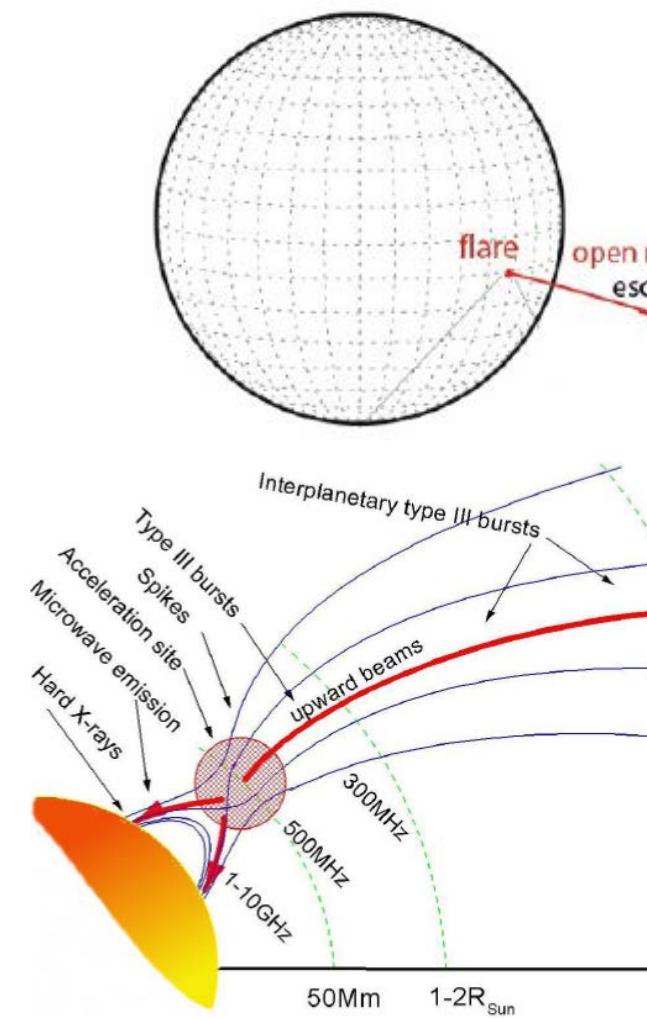
Full characterization with the 4  
CLUSTER S/C of localized Alfvén  
Vortices : role for the dissipation ?

$$d_{\perp} \simeq 500 \text{ km}$$

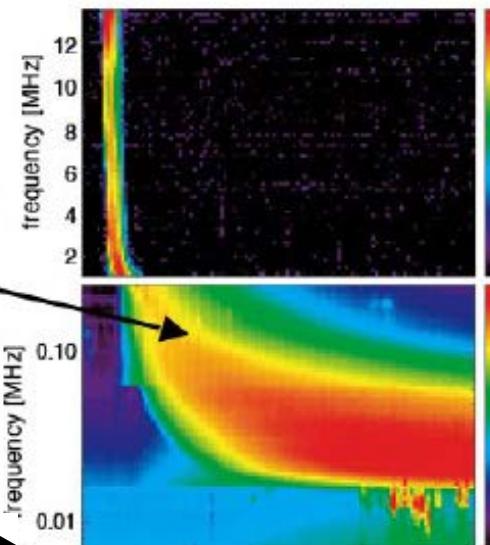
$$d_{\perp} \sim 10c/\omega_{pi}$$

# Radio waves : what do we observed and understand ?

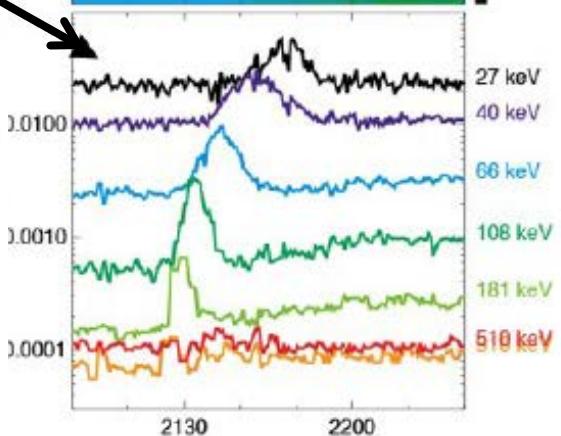
# Solar Radio Bursts



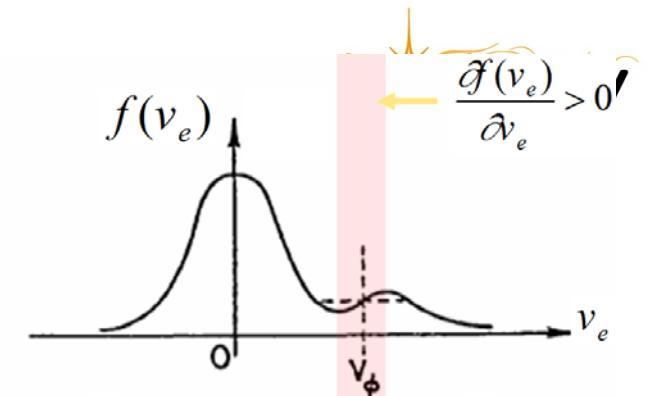
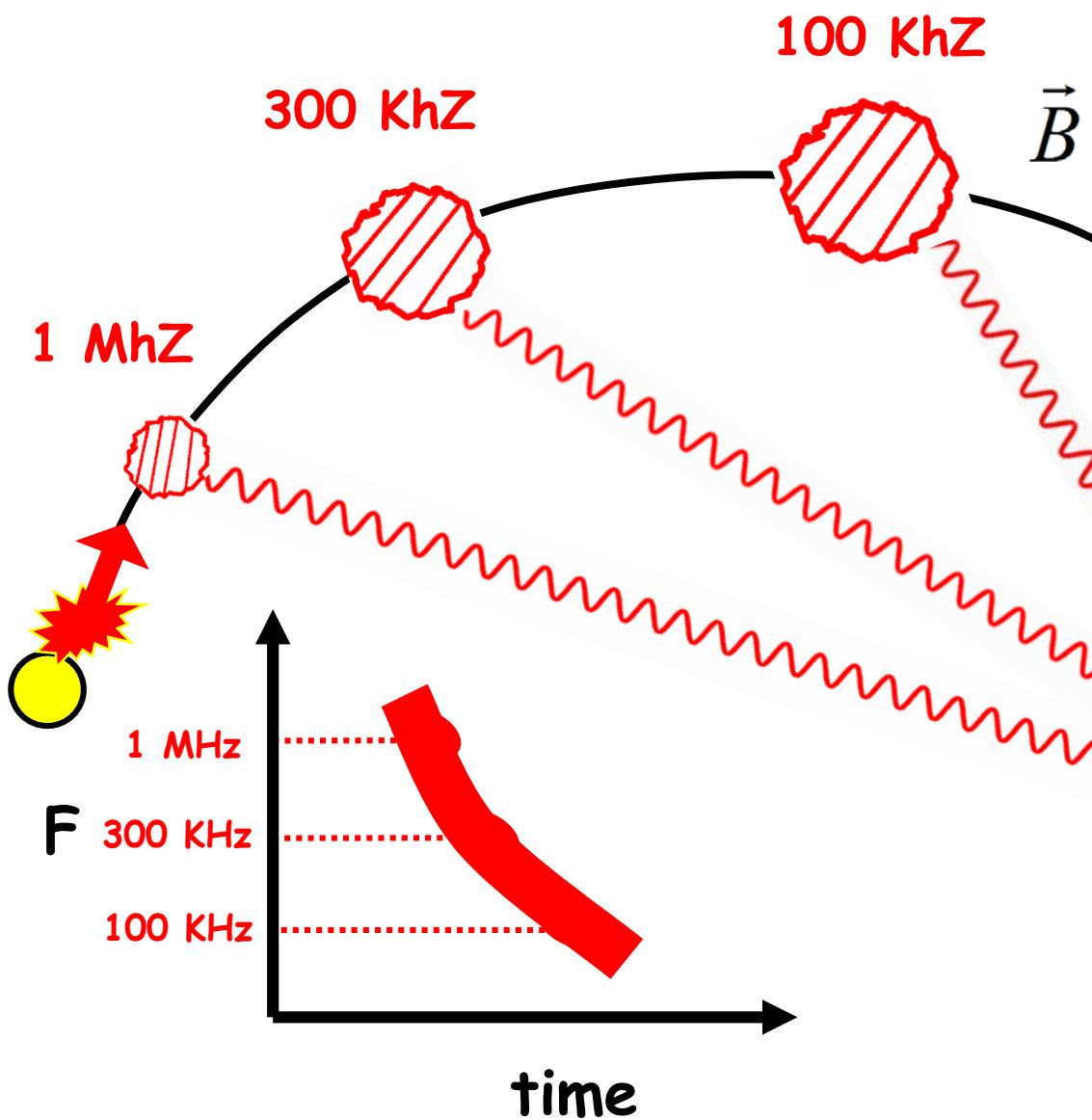
radio burst



energetic electrons

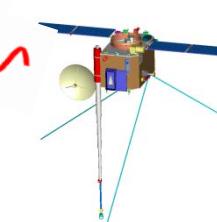


## Solar Type III radio emissions



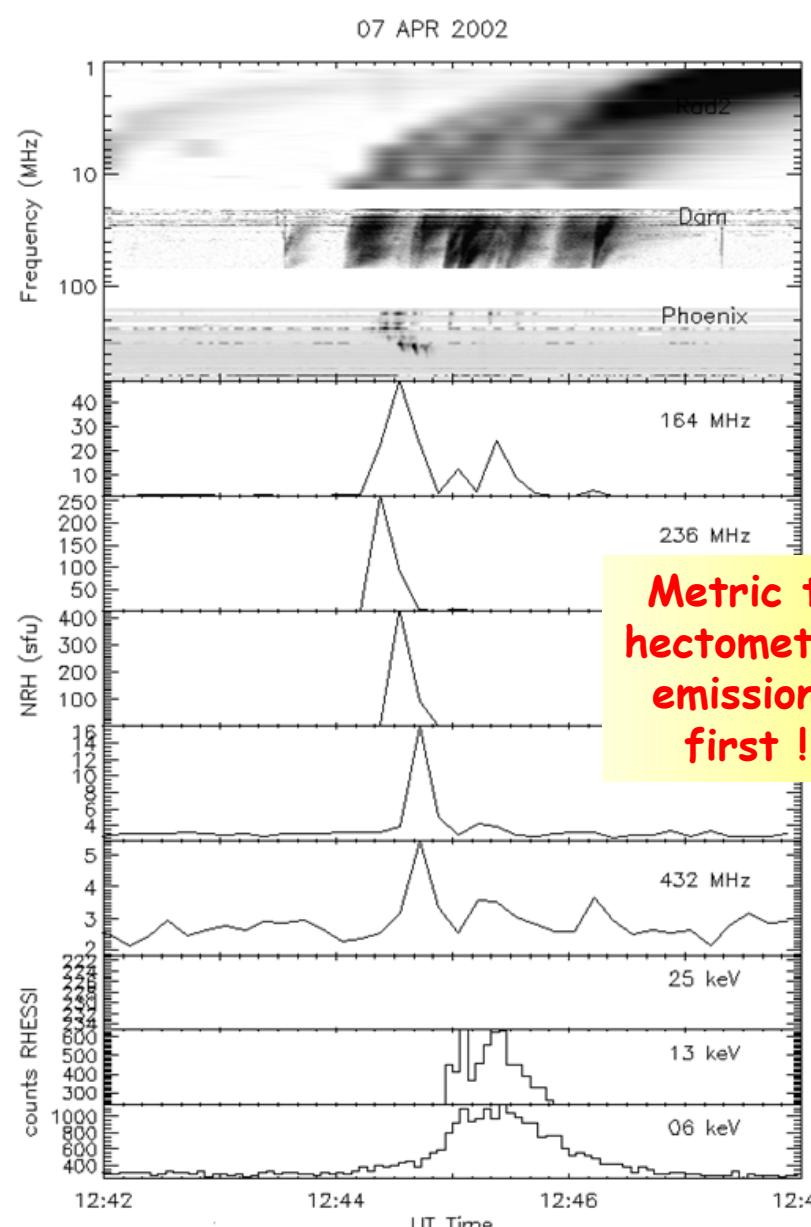
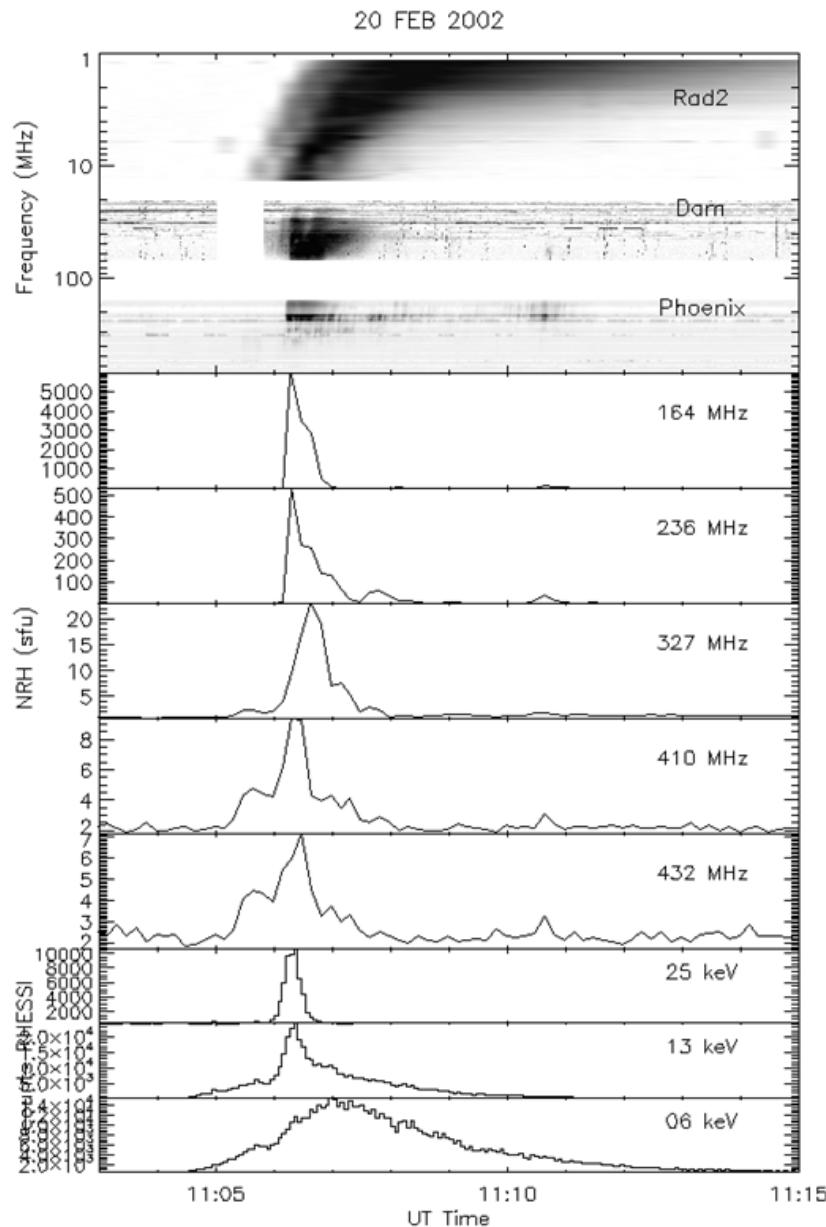
Electrostatic  
Langmuir waves  
→ radio emission

$$F_p \text{ (kHz)} \propto \sqrt{N_e \text{ (cm}^{-3}\text{)}} \\ N_e \propto 1/R^2 \text{ (au)}$$



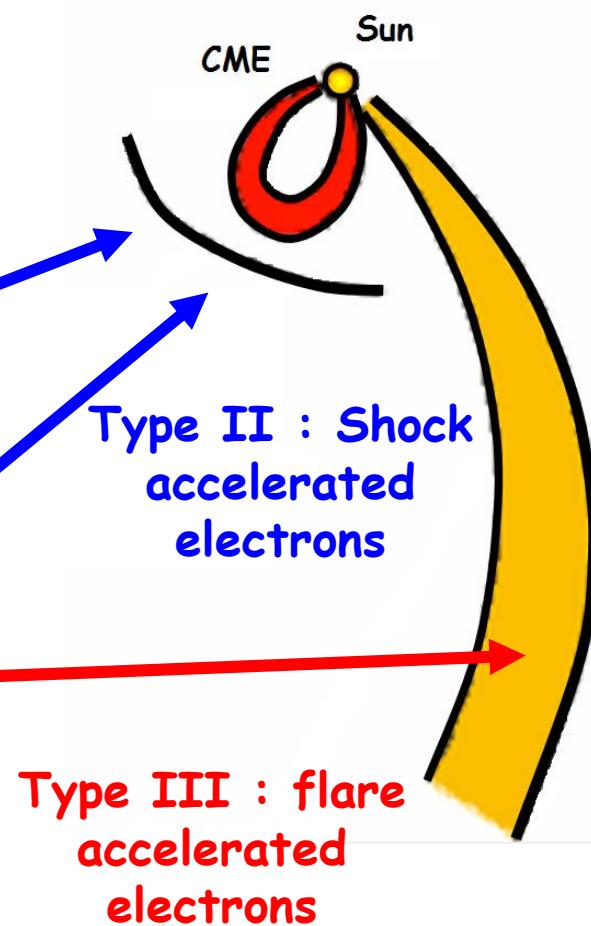
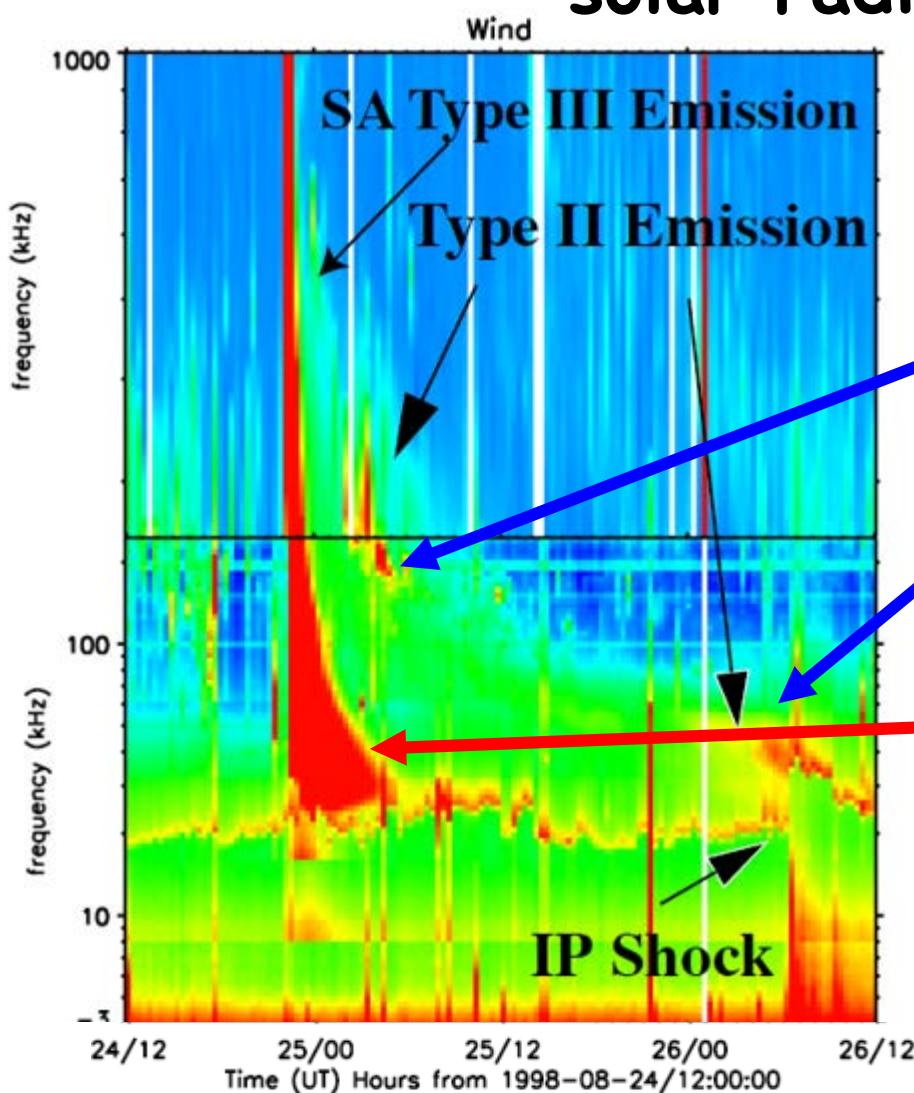
$$\rightarrow F_p \propto \frac{1}{R}$$

# Combined RHESSI / NRH / Phoenix/Dam/WIND-WAVES observations

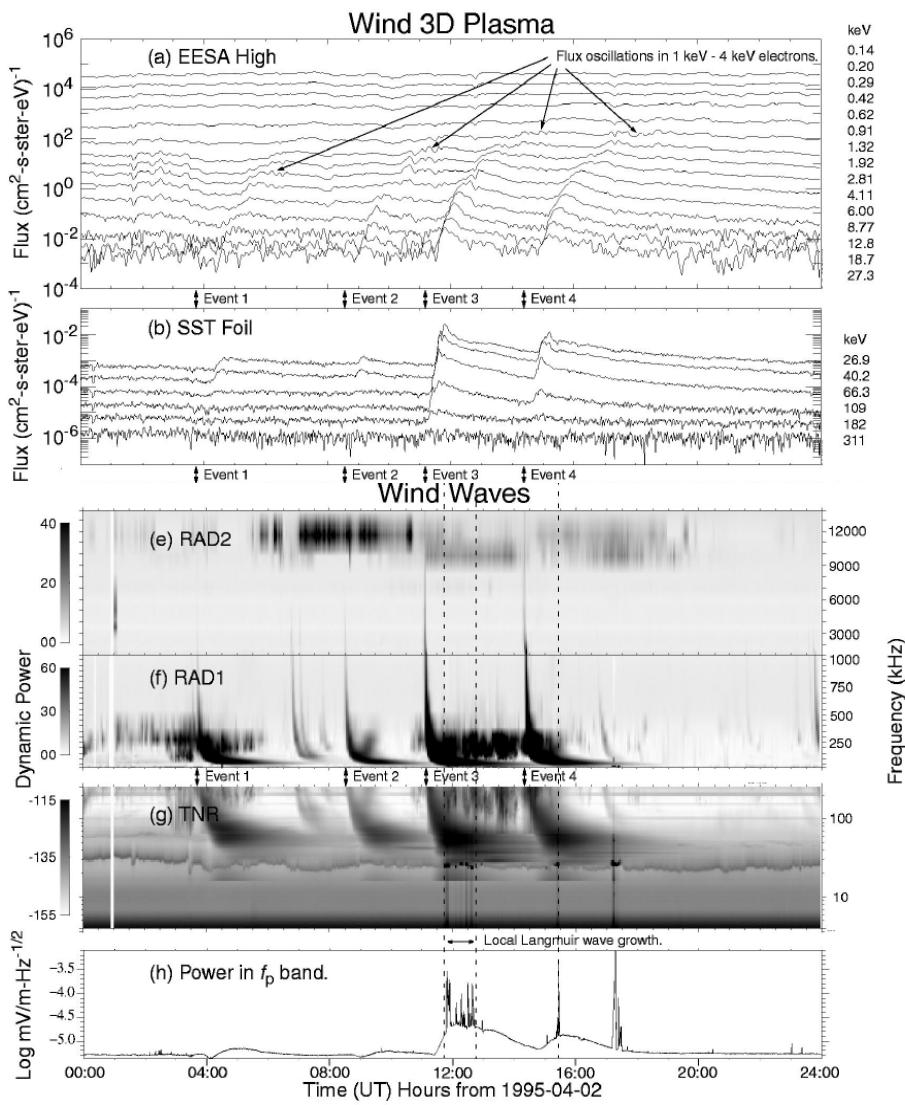


Metric to  
hectometric  
emissions  
first !

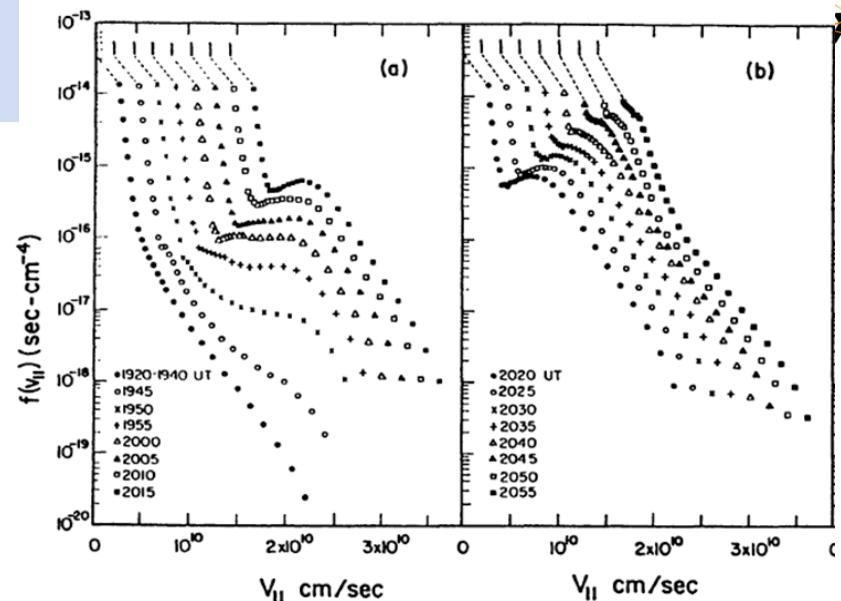
# Type III & Type II solar radio bursts



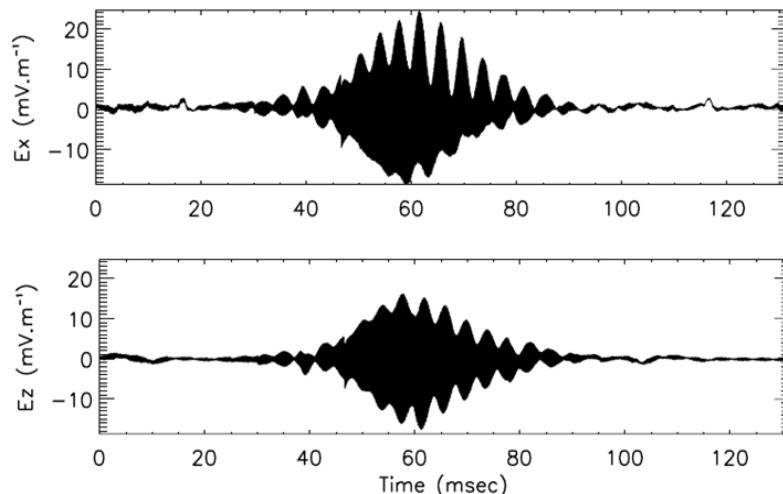
# In-situ Type III and II measurements will be available on SO



Adapted from [Ergun et al., 1998]



Adapted from [Lin et al. 1981]



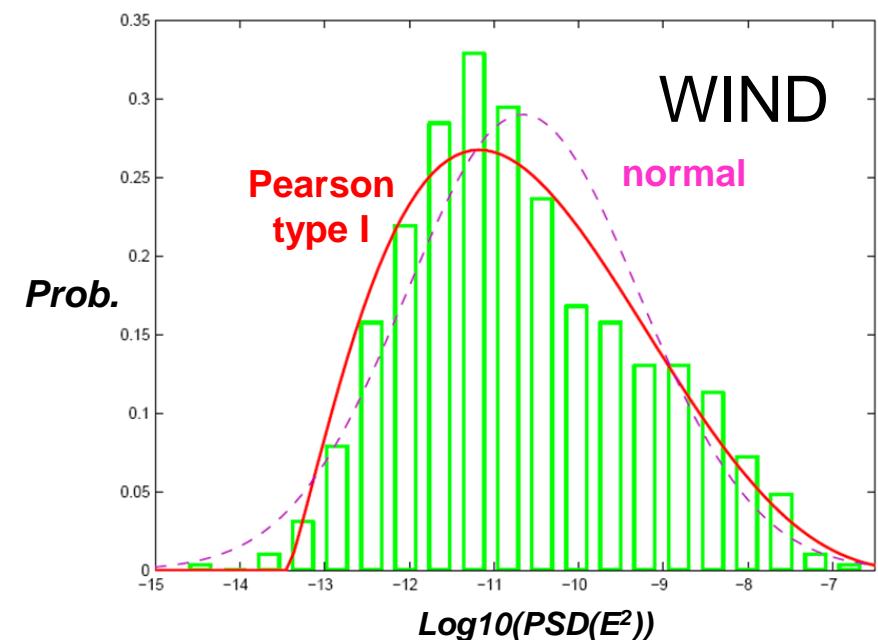
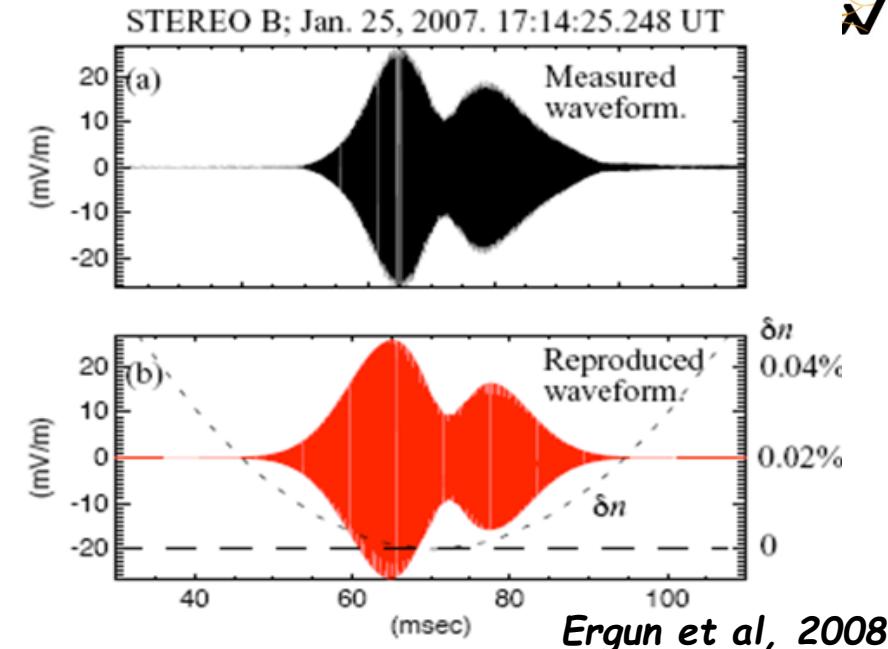
Swaves

# RPW improvements for in-situ waves measurements

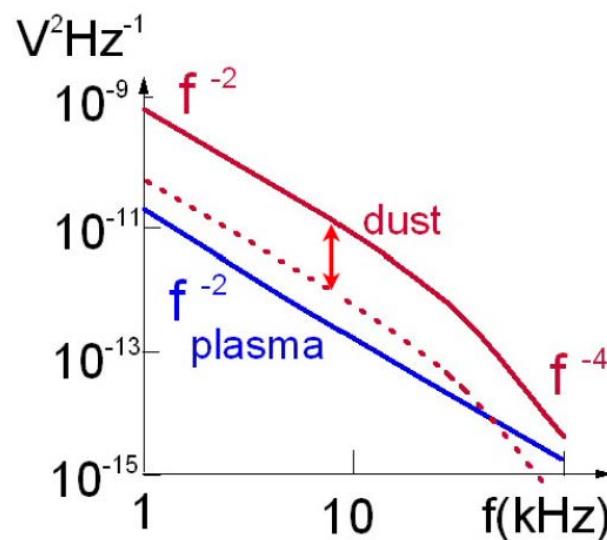
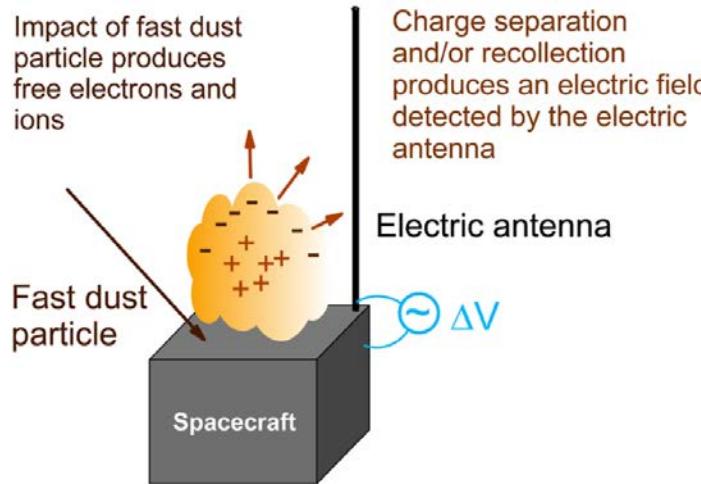
- RPW will measure both Langmuir waves and density fluctuations (from S/C pot. fluctuations, biased antennas)
- DC E field and cross-shock potential**

- RPW will measure simultaneously 2-axis E + 1 axis B up to 500 kHz → mode conversion

- Onboard statistics of LW power
- Distribution of LW power more Pearson like than Normal ?  
(Vidojevic et al., 2010)

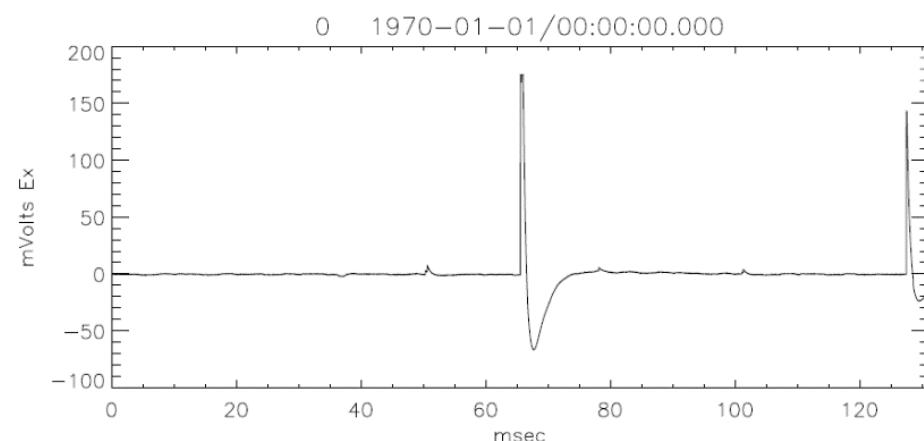


# Interplanetary Dust



$$\text{Released charge : } Q \simeq 0.7m^{1.02}v^{3.48}$$

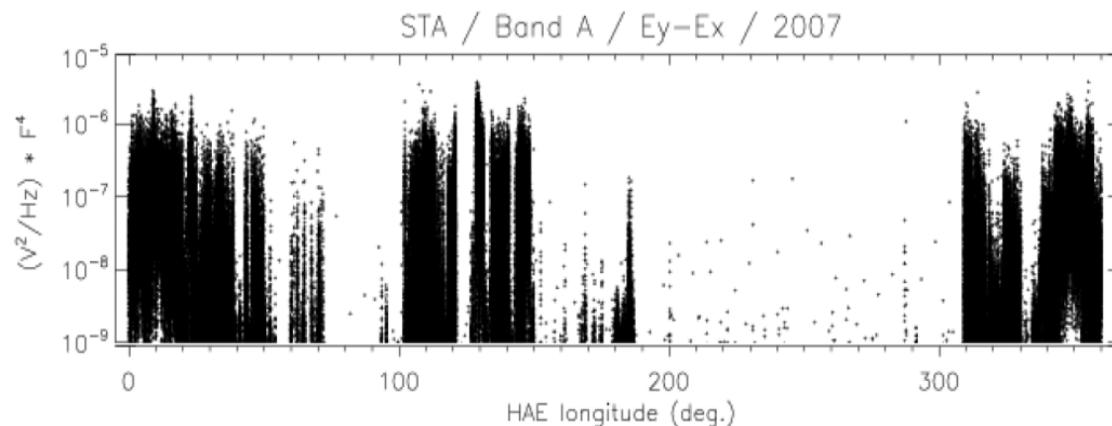
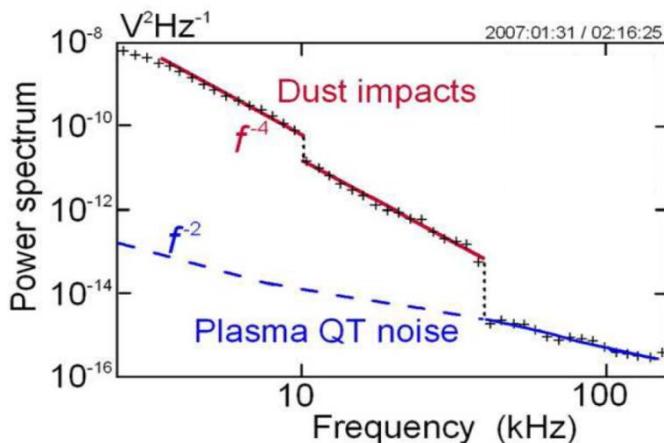
$$\text{Induced voltage pulse on S/C of capacitance } C : \delta V \sim -Q/C$$



Temporal domain

Spectral domain

# Discovery of a large flux of nanodust on Stereo Meyer-Vernet et al., 2012

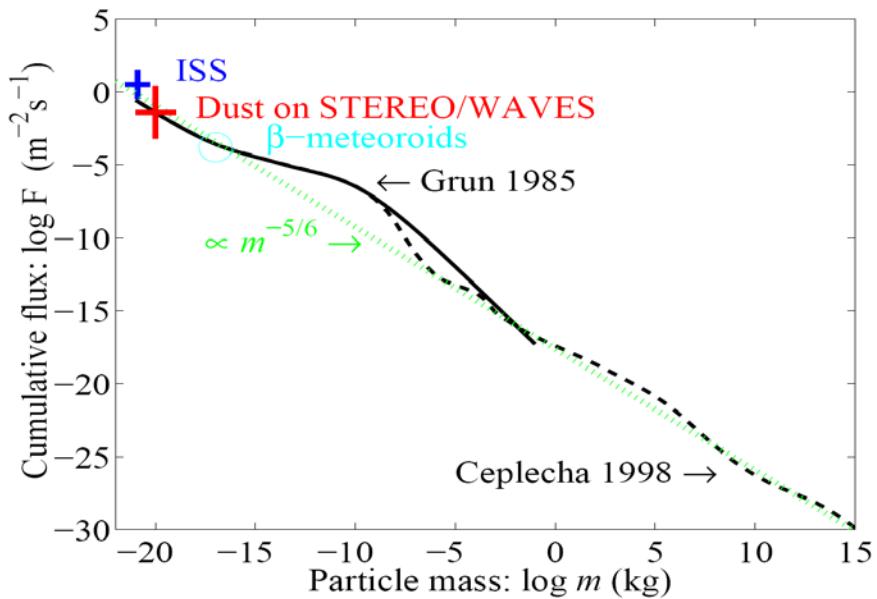


Released charge :  $Q \simeq 0.7m^{1.02}v^{3.48}$

→ A nanoparticle  
@ 300 km/s

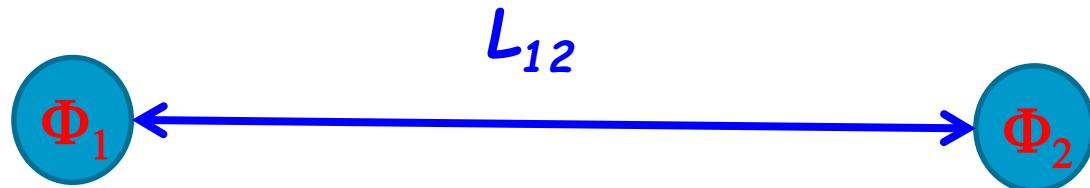
~ a grain of mass  
10<sup>4</sup> greater  
@ 20 km/s

Picked-up by the  
-VXB field

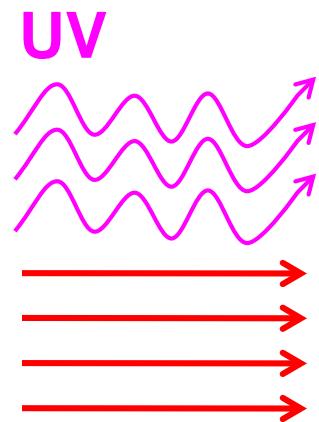


# On the difficulty of measuring the DC/LF electric component of plasma waves

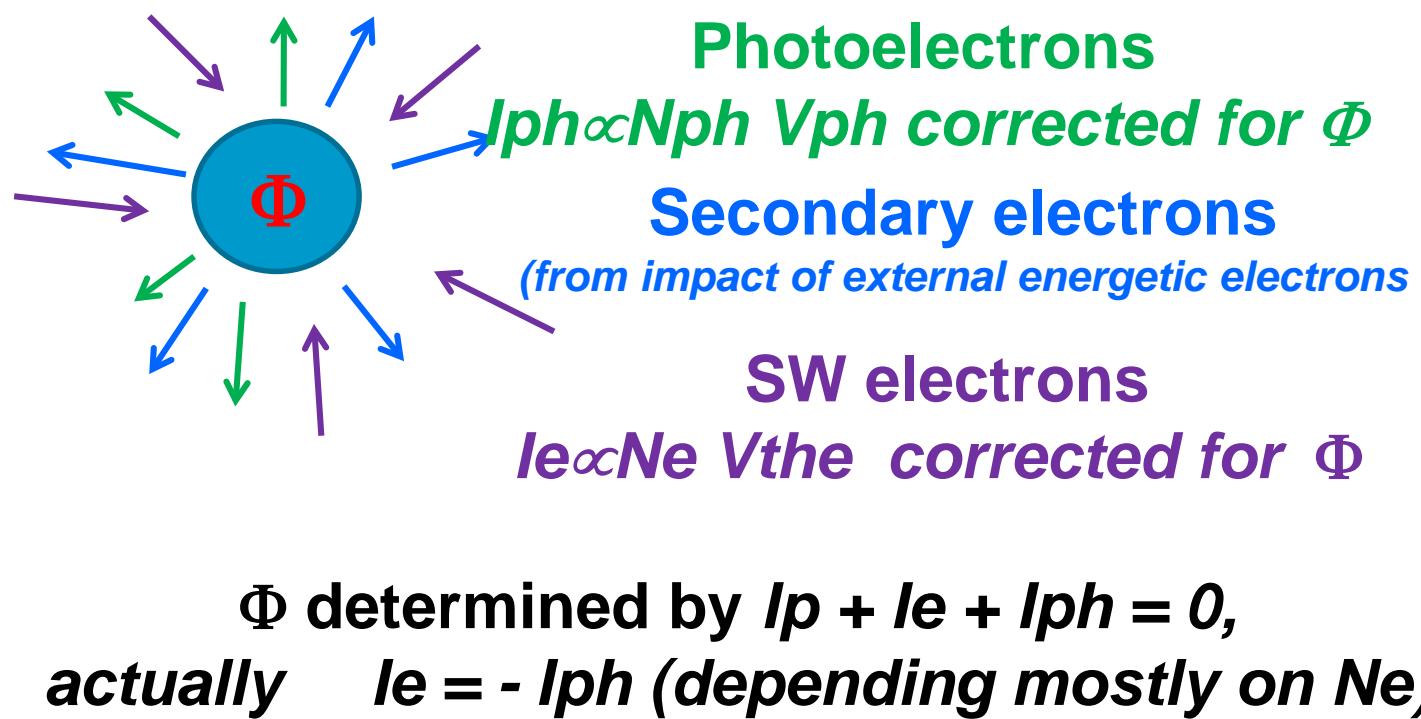
# Basics for measuring DC/LF E Field



$$|E| = |\Phi_2 - \Phi_1| / L_{12}$$



Protons :  
 $I_p \propto N_p V_p$   
 Negligible at  
 0th order



Salem et al., 2001

$$J_{ph0} \approx \frac{10^{-5} \chi}{d_{AU}^2}$$

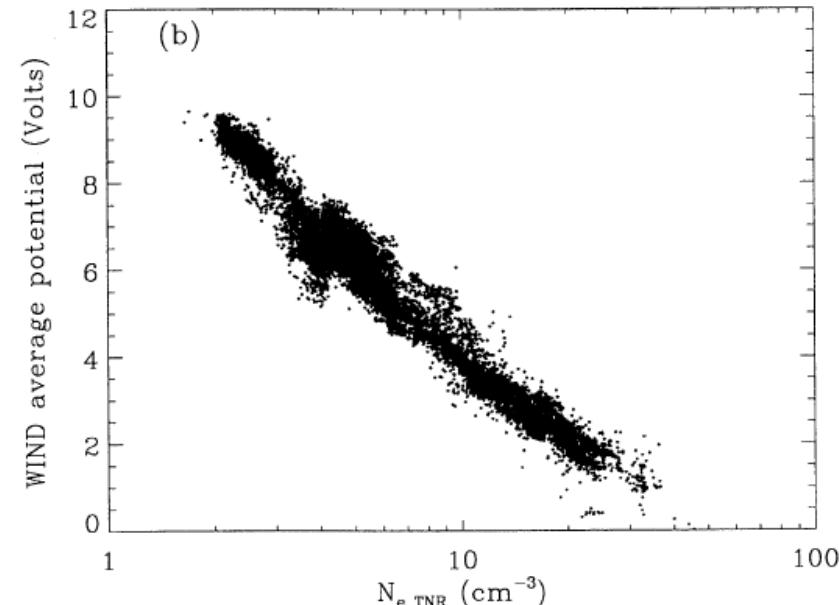
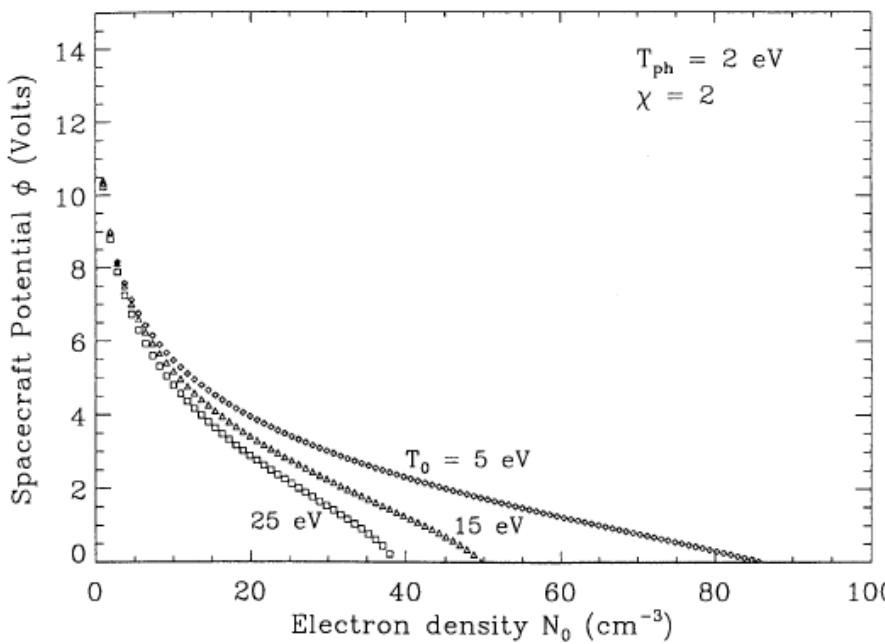
$$J_{ph} = J_{ph0} \left(1 + \frac{e\phi}{k_B T_{ph}}\right) e^{-e\phi/k_B T_{ph}},$$

$$J_e = e N_e v_e,$$

$$J_e = J_{e0} \left(1 + \frac{e\phi}{kT_{e0}}\right)$$

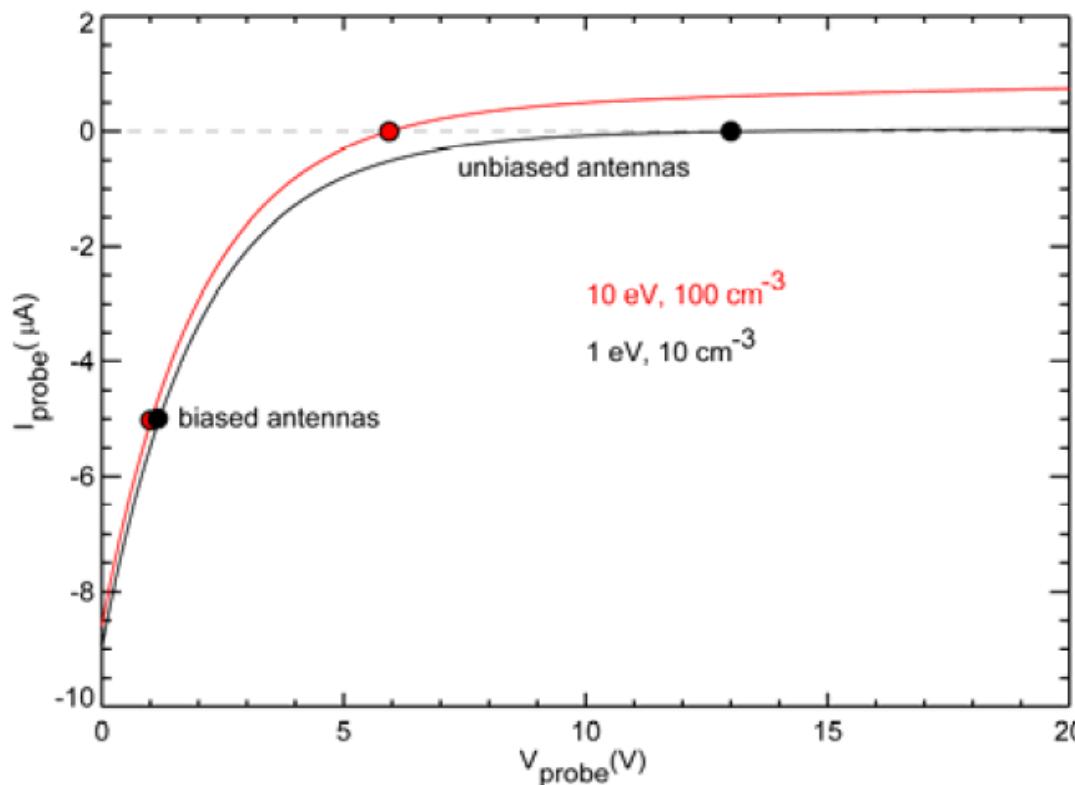
**Φ varies with Ne !!**

**We want to  
measure ~mV/m !!**



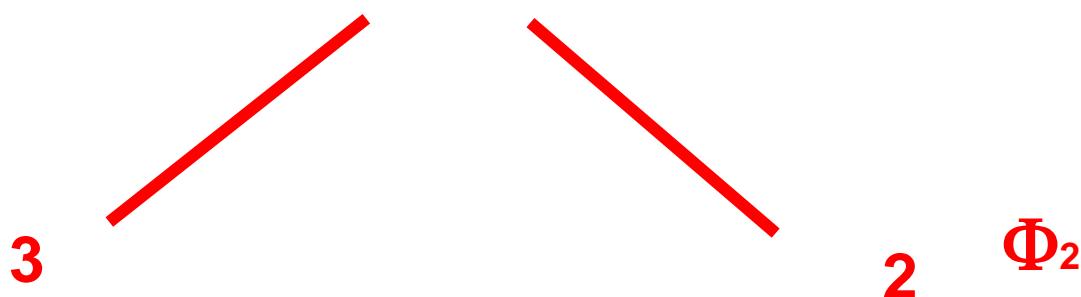
## We need to bias the antennas

$$I_e + I_{ph} + I_{bias} = 0$$



**Figure 2.4** The simulated voltage-current curve of the antenna for two different plasma regimes. The potential variations of biased antenna are significantly less for different plasma parameters than for unbiased antenna.

courtesy C. Cully

$\delta\Phi_E = ?$ 

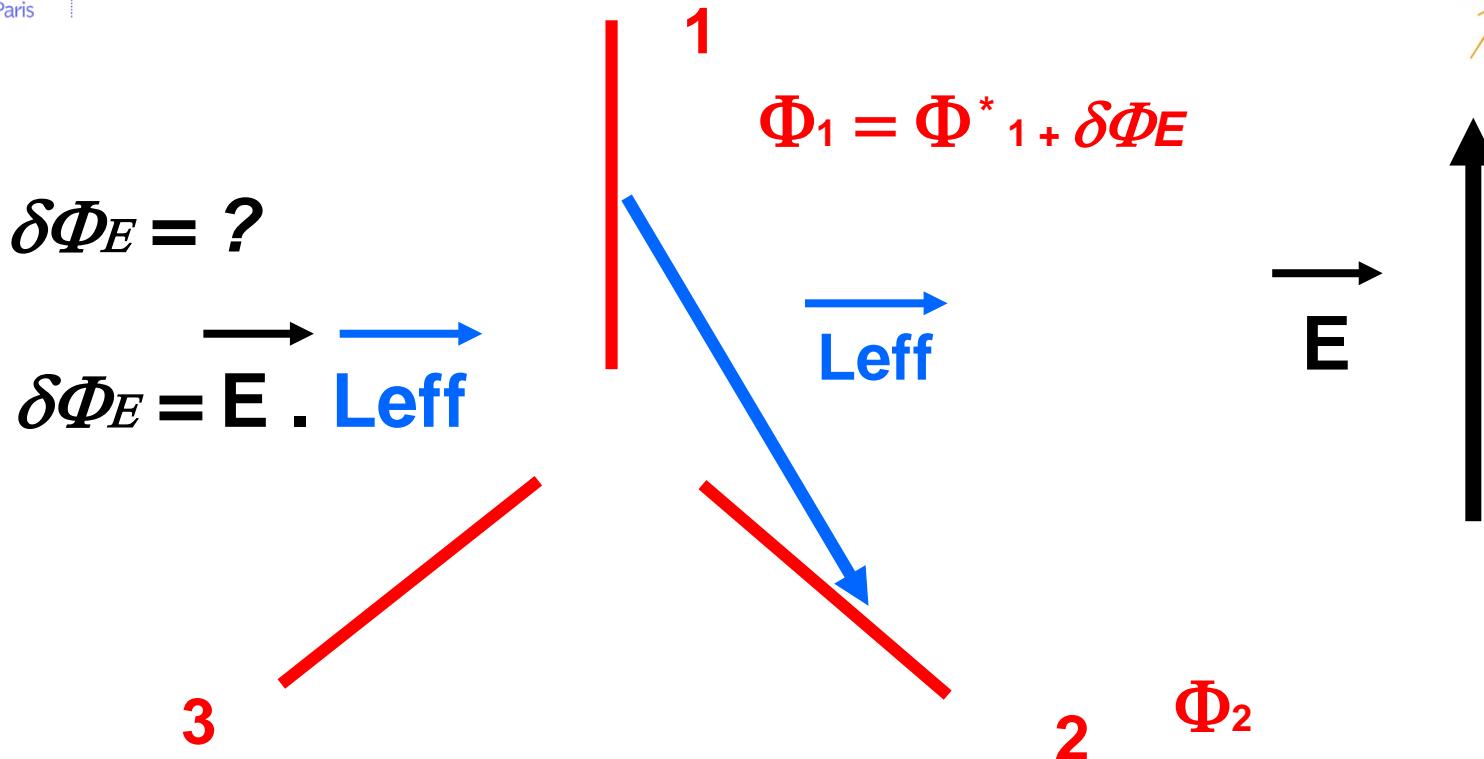
If  $\Phi^* = \Phi_2$  then  $\Phi_2 - \Phi_1 = \delta\Phi_E$

For that we need :

- Equal illumination for 1 & 2
- Symmetry with respect to the S/C
- Biasing the probes

Typically

If  $\Phi^* = \Phi_2 \sim 0$  to 10 Volts  
 $E \sim$  few to few 100s of mV/m



If  $\Phi^*_1 = \Phi_2$  then  $\Phi_2 - \Phi_1 = \delta\Phi_E$

For that we need :

- Equal illumination for 1 & 2
- Symmetry with respect to the S/C
- Biasing the probes

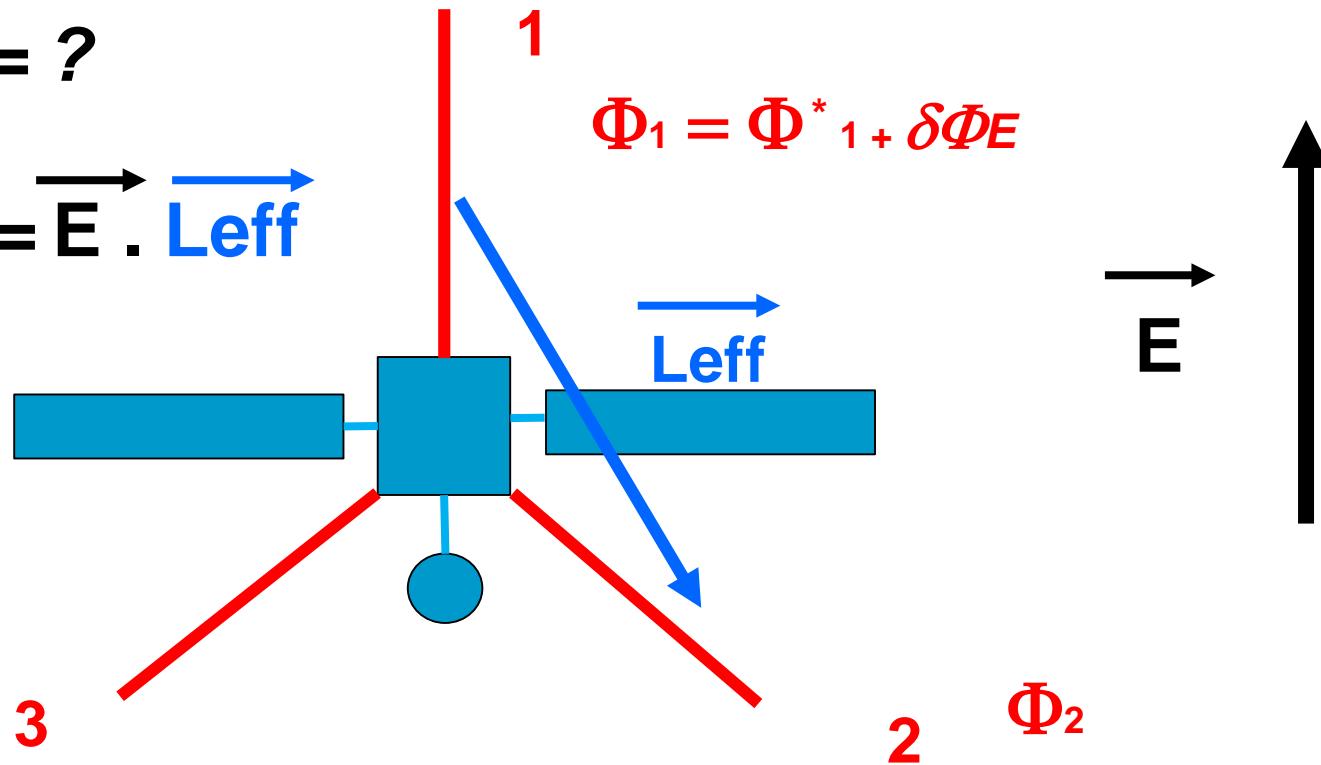
Typically

If  $\Phi^*_1 = \Phi_2 \sim 0$  to 10 Volts  
 $E \sim$  few to few 100s of mV/m

**Leff can only be determined by simulation**

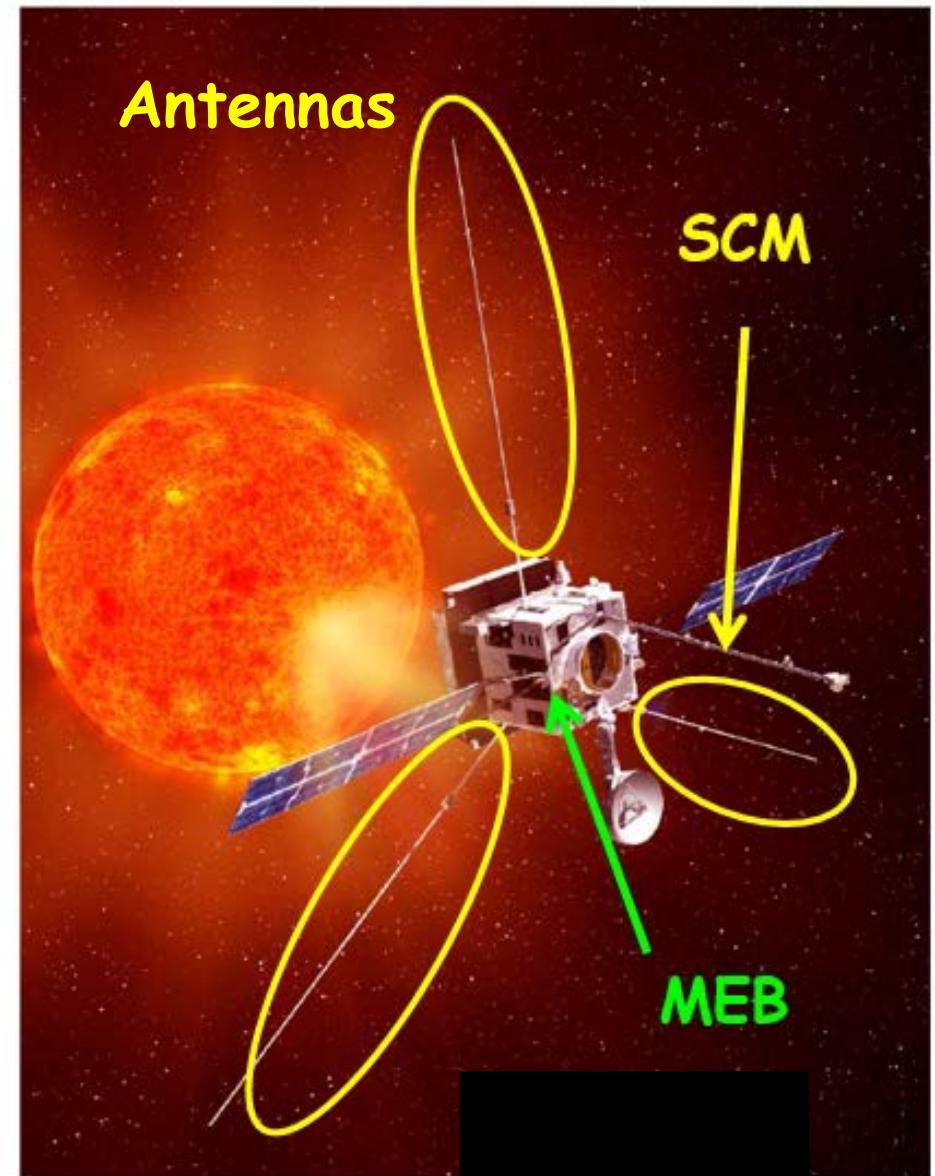
$$\delta\Phi_E = ?$$

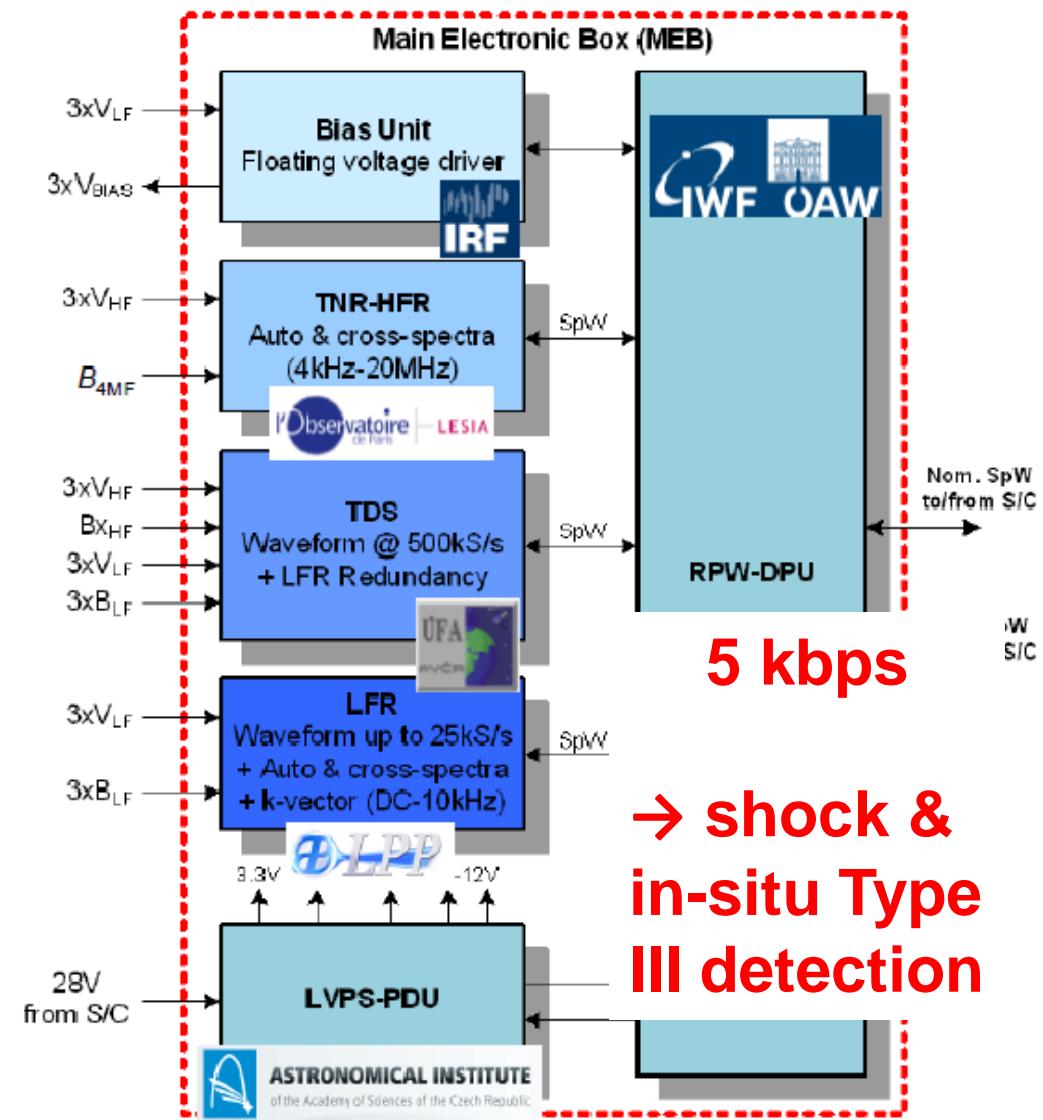
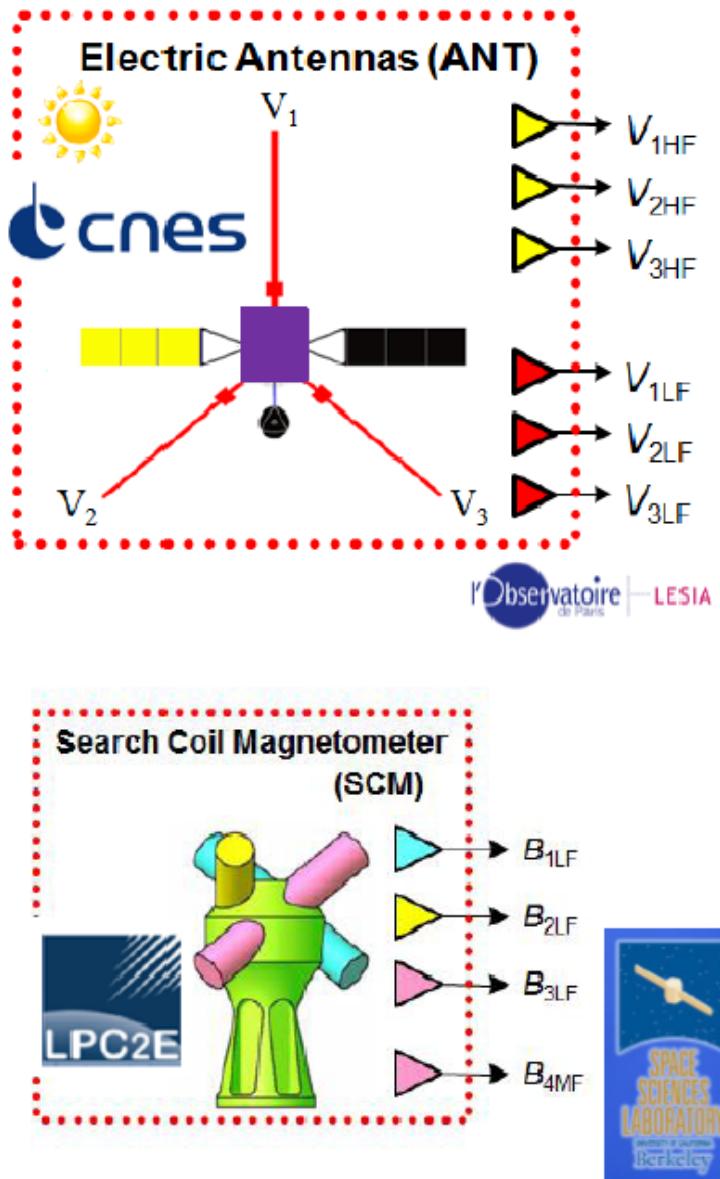
$$\delta\Phi_E = \vec{E} \cdot \vec{L_{eff}}$$



The problem is that there is a S/C in addition to the RPW antennas !!  
Need to simulate the effect of the S/C

# RPW : a (very) brief description





DC Efield expertise & calibration, link to SPP

## SCM sensitivity + HELIOS variations

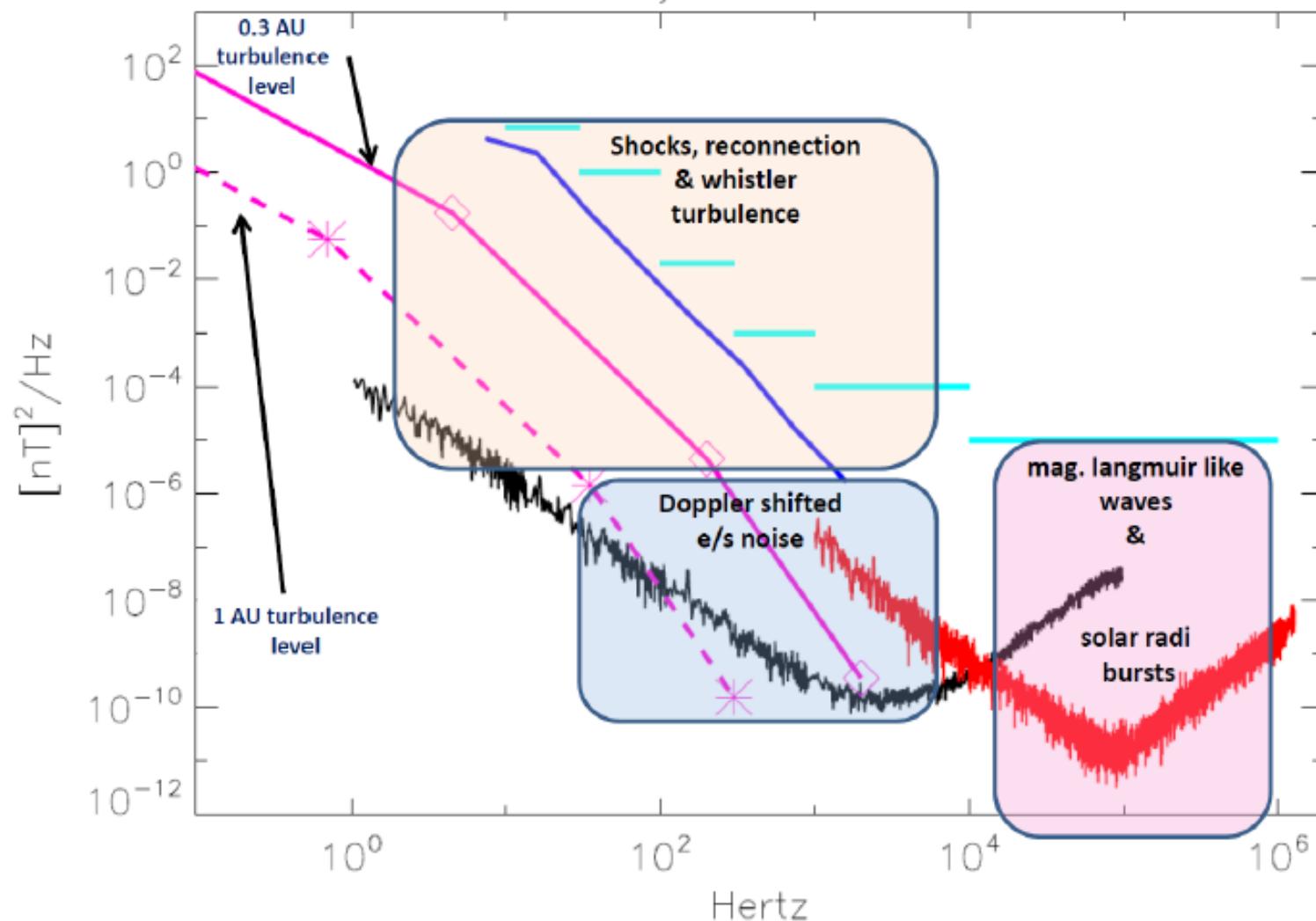
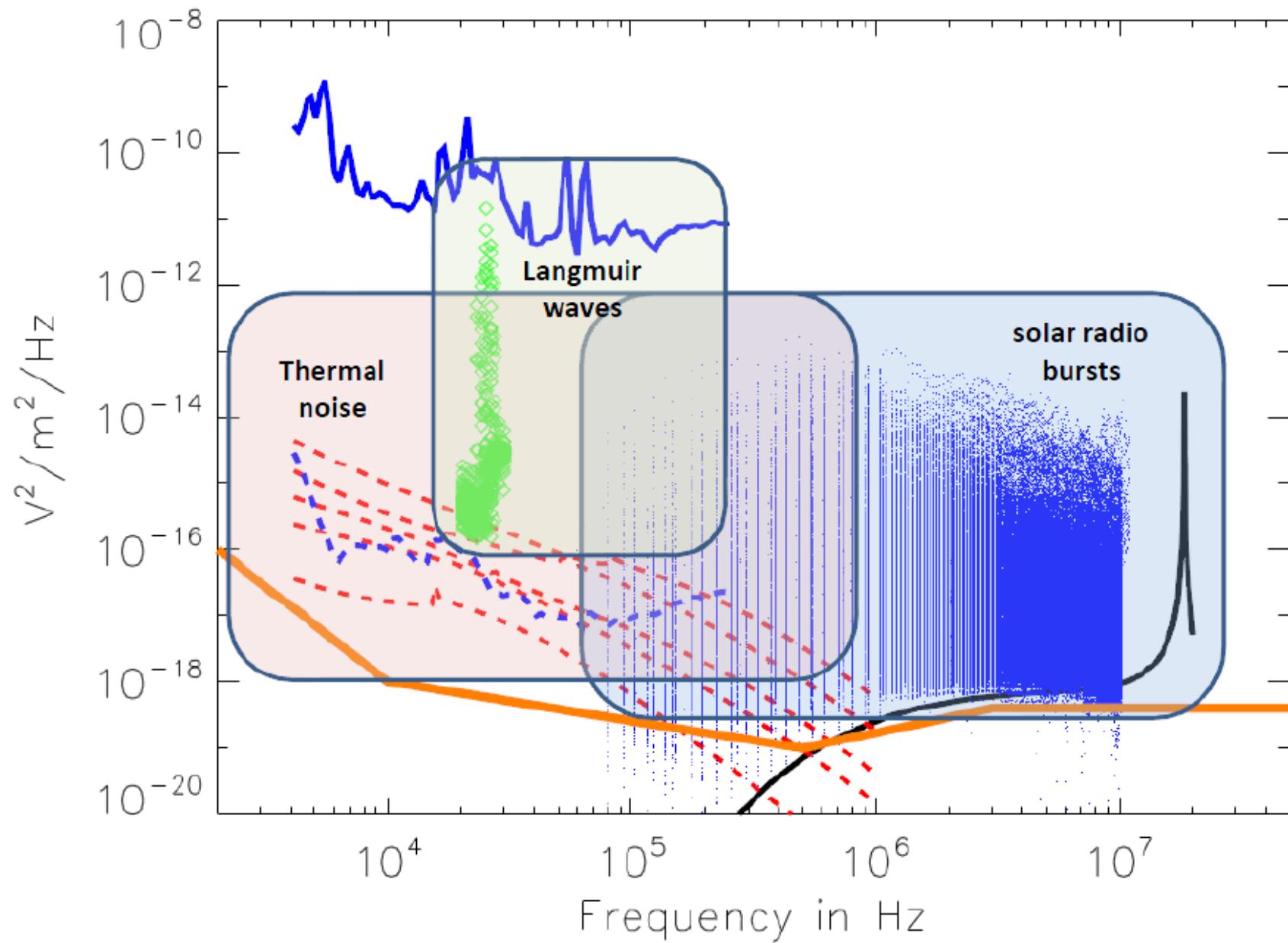


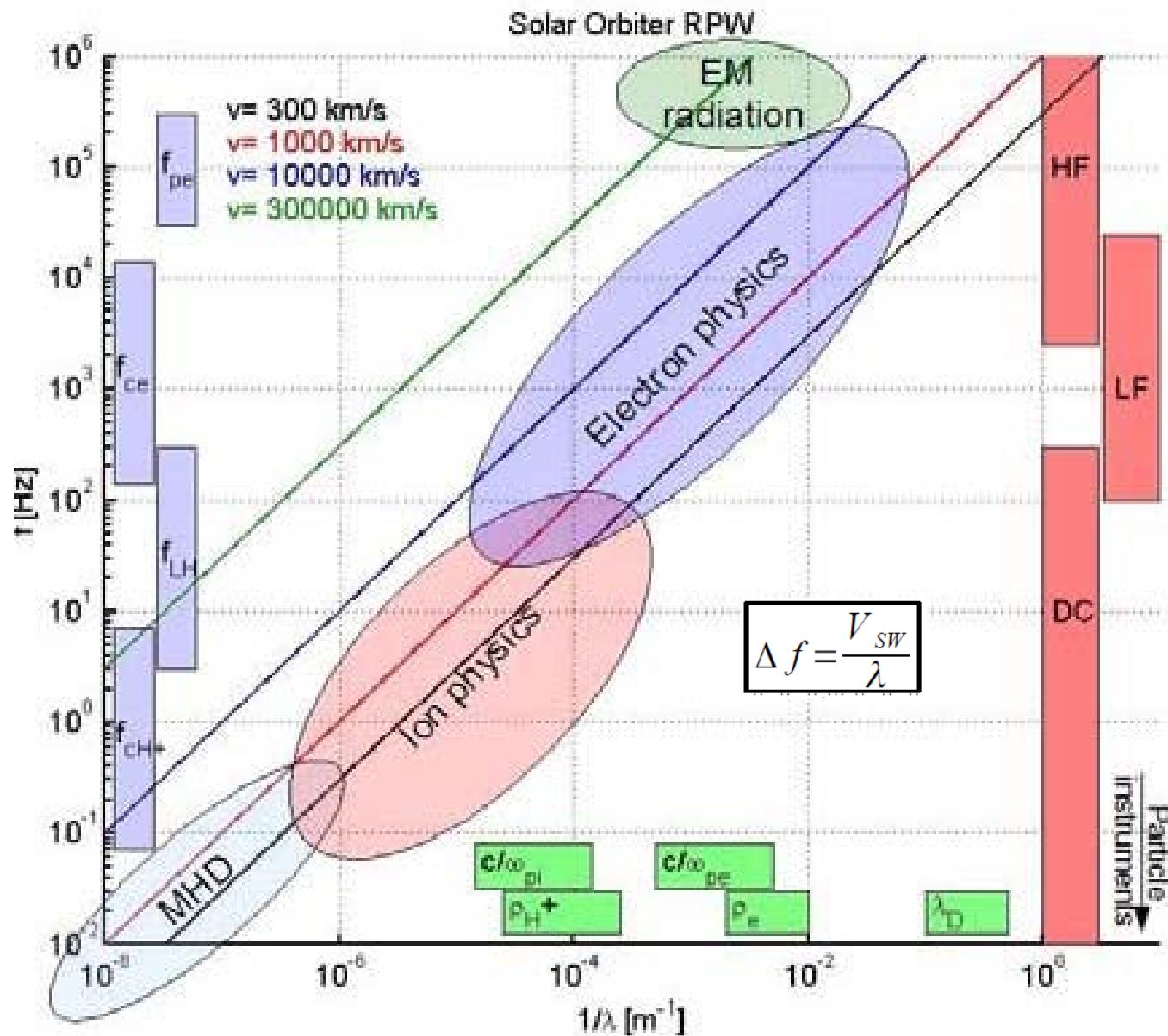
Figure 10: Magnetic field fluctuations of various natural phenomena that will be observed by the RPW instrument



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“Instantaneous” 5 x 5 spectral matrix  
(256 FFT points)

$$\mathbf{SM}(\omega_j^{(m)}) = \begin{bmatrix} B_1B_1^* & B_1B_2^* & B_1B_3^* & B_1E_1^* & B_1E_2^* \\ cc & B_2B_2^* & B_2B_3^* & B_2E_1^* & B_2E_2^* \\ cc & cc & B_3B_3^* & B_3E_1^* & B_3E_2^* \\ cc & cc & cc & E_1E_1^* & E_1E_2^* \\ cc & cc & cc & cc & E_2E_2^* \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow$$

Time Averaged Spectral Matrix (ASM)

$$\mathbf{ASM}(\omega_j^{(m)}) = \frac{1}{N_{SM}^{(m)}} \sum_{k=1}^{N_{SM}^{(m)}} \mathbf{SM}_k(\omega_j^{(m)}) = \langle \mathbf{SM} \rangle_{time}$$

↳ Frequency average ...  
 $S(\omega_j^{(m)}) = \langle \mathbf{ASM} \rangle_{frequency}$

... before computations of the BPs  
(i.e. wave parameters)



Mono-k  
assumption :

(Means, JGR, 1972) {

(Samson & Olson, GJRA, 1980) {

$$\mathbf{n} \times \mathbf{E} = \frac{\omega}{k} \mathbf{B} \longrightarrow$$

- BP1 set 1: Power spectrum of the magnetic field (**B**)
- BP1 set 2: Power spectrum of the electric field (**E**)
- BP1 set 3: Wave normal vector (from **B**)
- BP1 set 4: Wave ellipticity estimator (from **B**)
- BP1 set 5: Wave planarity estimator (from **B**)
- BP1 set 6:  $X_{SO}$  (radial)-component of the Poynting vector
- BP1 set 7: Phase velocity estimator

$$\frac{S_{ij}}{\sqrt{S_{ii} S_{jj}}} \longrightarrow$$

- BP2 set 1: Autocorrelations
- BP2 set 2: Normalized cross correlations