



Heating of the solar chromosphere

João M. da Silva Santos

National Solar Observatory, Boulder, CO, USA

✉ jdasilvasantos@nso.edu

Thanks to: S. Danilovic, J. Leenaarts, J. de la Cruz Rodríguez,
X. Zhu, S. White, G. Vissers & M. Rempel

Background: IRIS SJI Mg II k

Radiative energy losses [kW m⁻²]

compiled by Withbroe & Noyes (1977)

	Lower chromosphere	Upper chromosphere	Total
QS	2	0.3	4
AR	≥10	2	20

Heating mechanisms

compiled by Withbroe and Noyes (1977)

QS	acoustic shocks, reconnection, Joule heating
AR	MHD waves, reconnection, Joule heating

other: mass flows and thermal conduction from above

“(...) dissipation of **energy carried by waves** generated in the convection zone is the most likely source of the energy heating the chromosphere.”

Heating mechanisms

compiled by Carlsson, De Pontieu & Hansteen (2019)

QS	acoustic shocks, reconnection, Joule heating, ion-neutral effects
AR	magnetoacoustic shocks, reconnection, Joule heating, Alfvén turbulence, MHD waves, ion-neutral effects



reconnection?

shocks?

reconnection?

MHD waves?

reconnection?

shocks?

Alfvén turbulence?

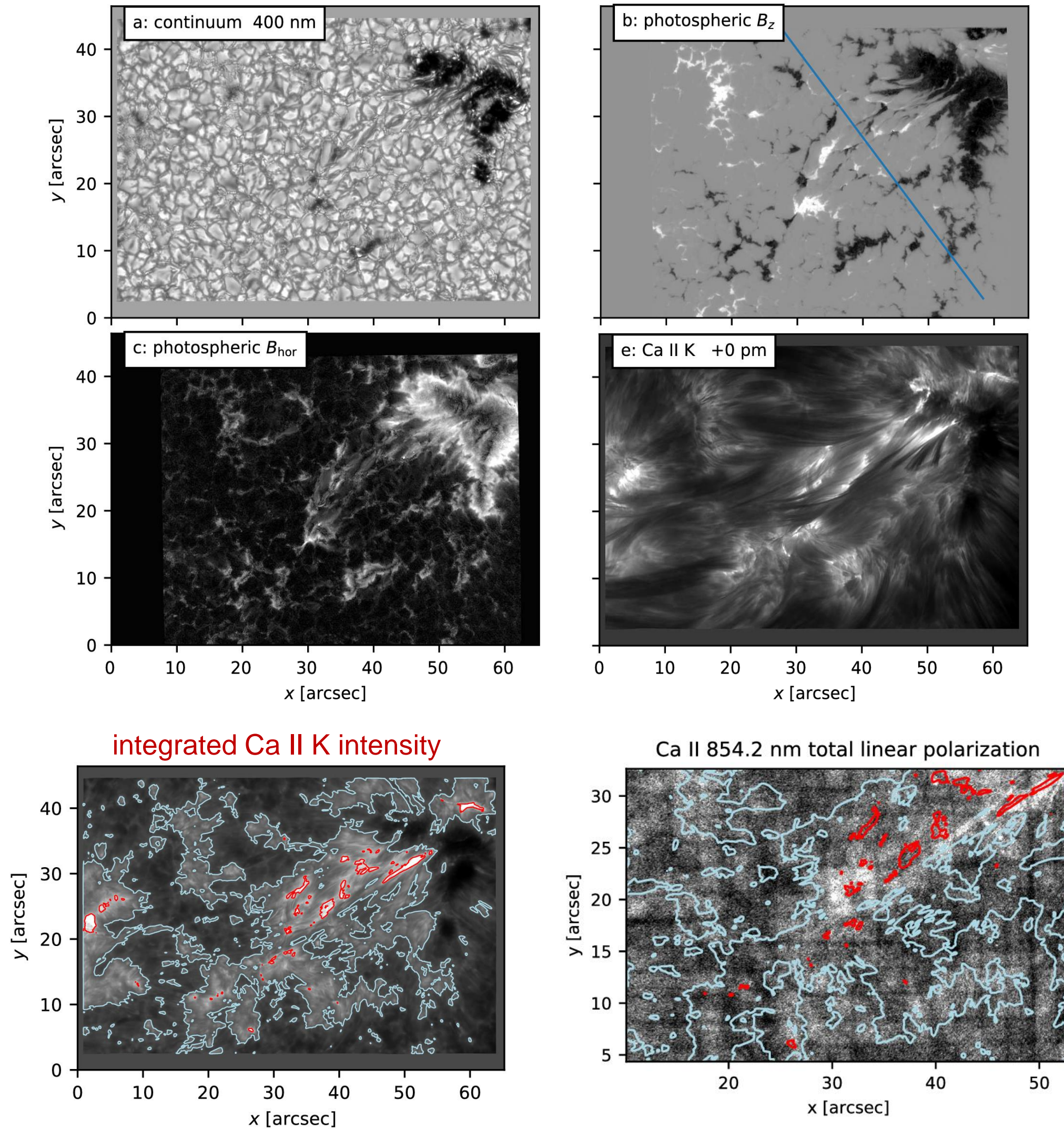
MHD waves?

shocks?

Joule heating (w/ ambipolar diffusion?)

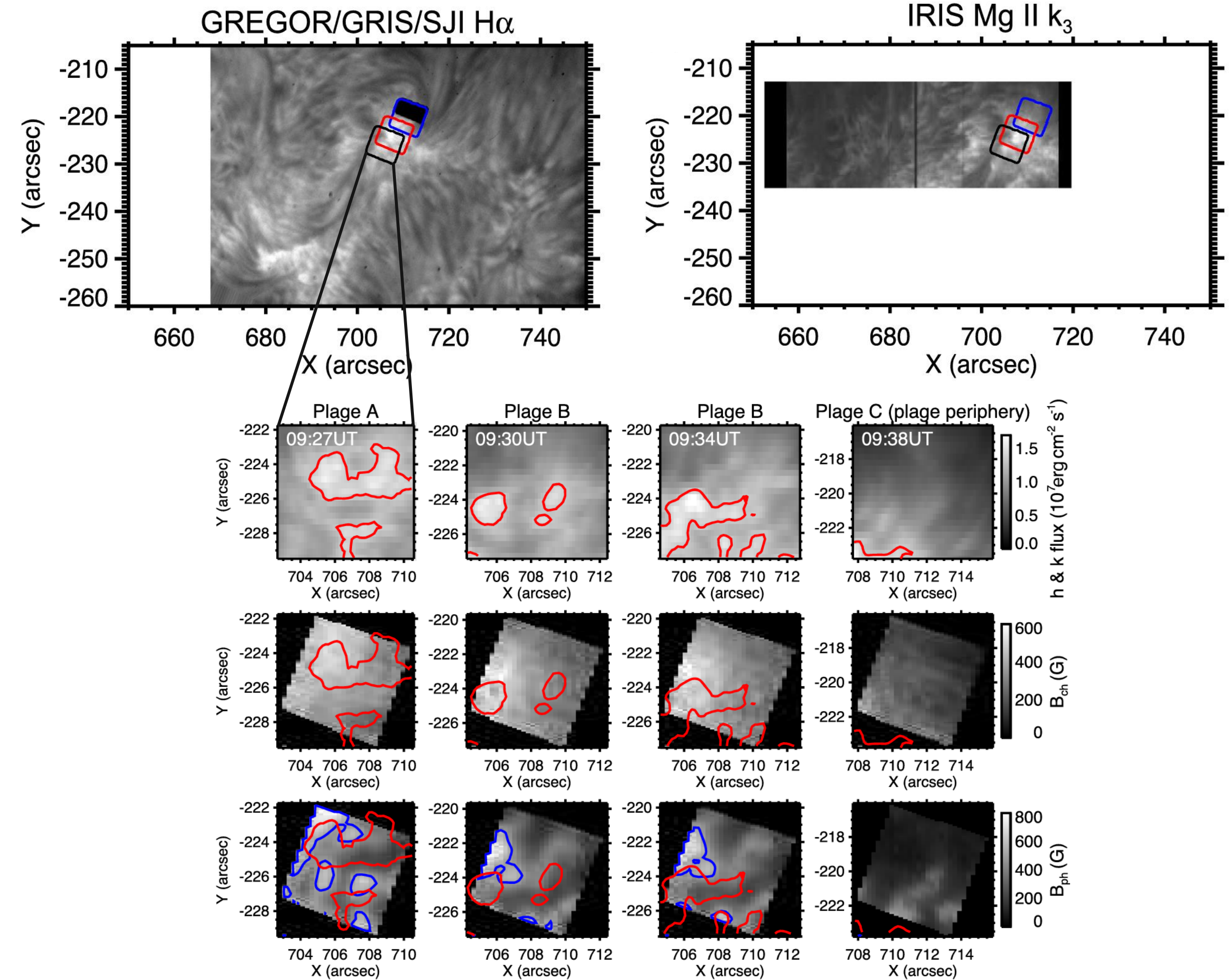
High-resolution proxies for chromospheric heating

SST/CRISP and CHROMIS observations



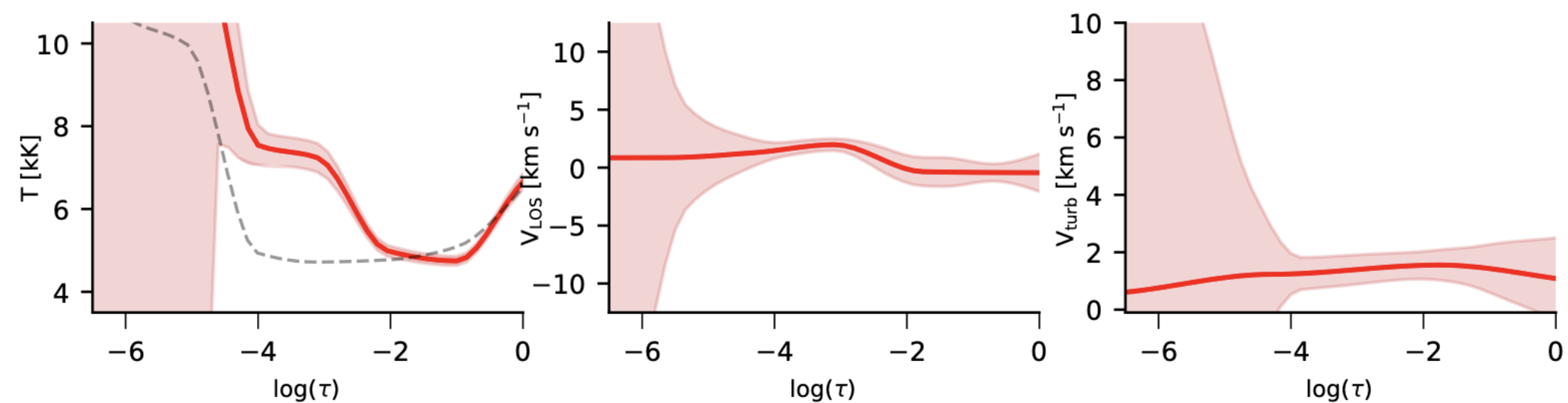
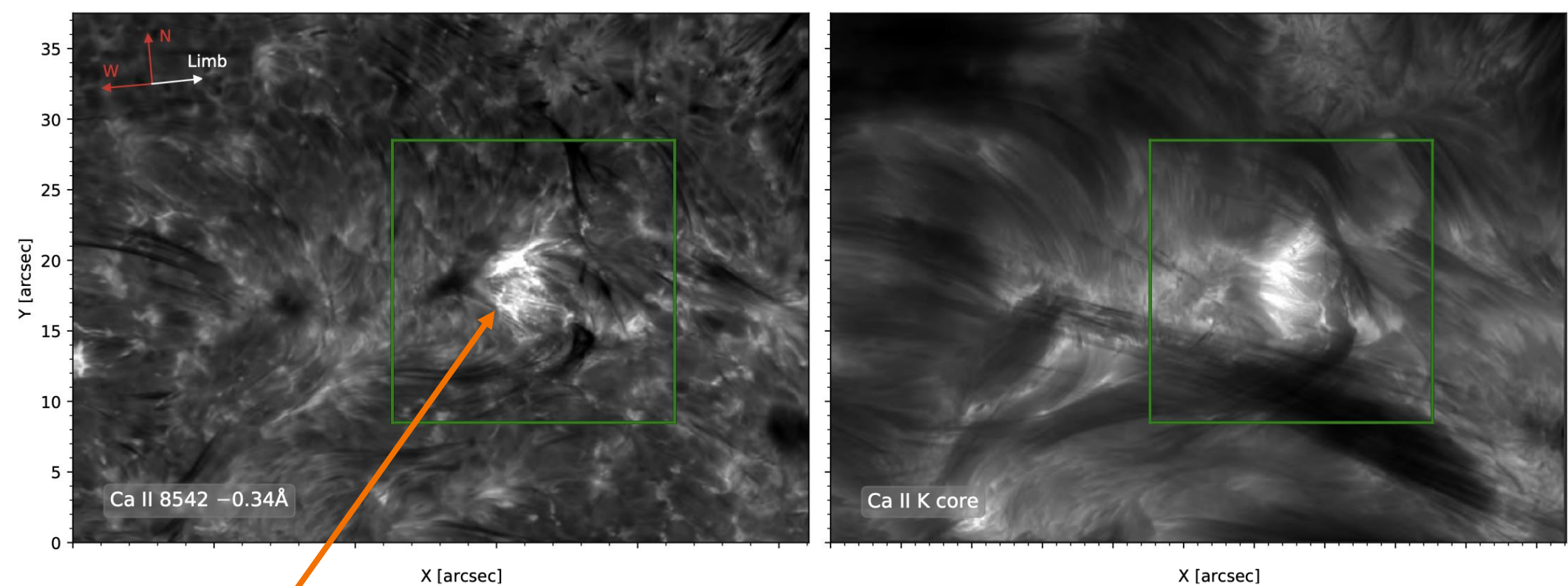
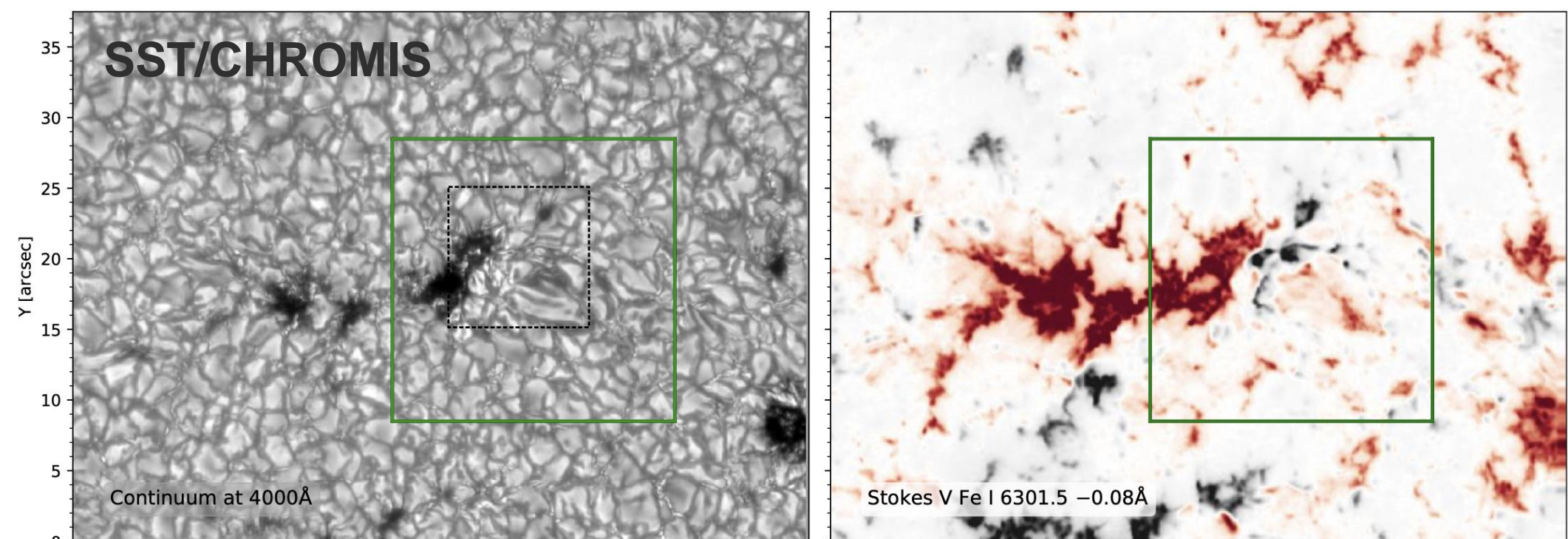
Leenaarts+ (2018)

GREGOR/GRIS and IRIS observations



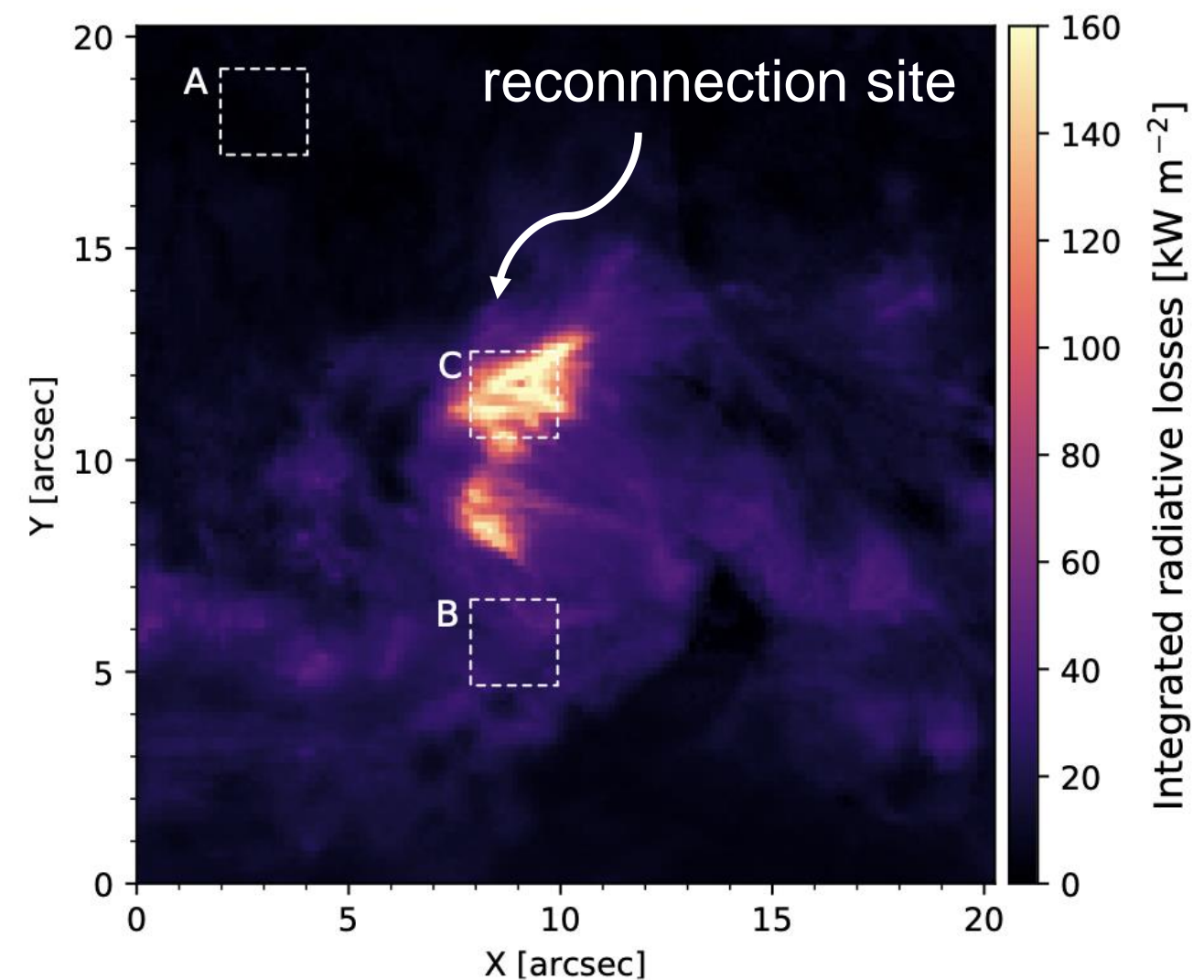
Anan+ (2021)

Spatially resolved chromospheric radiative losses



----- mean QS

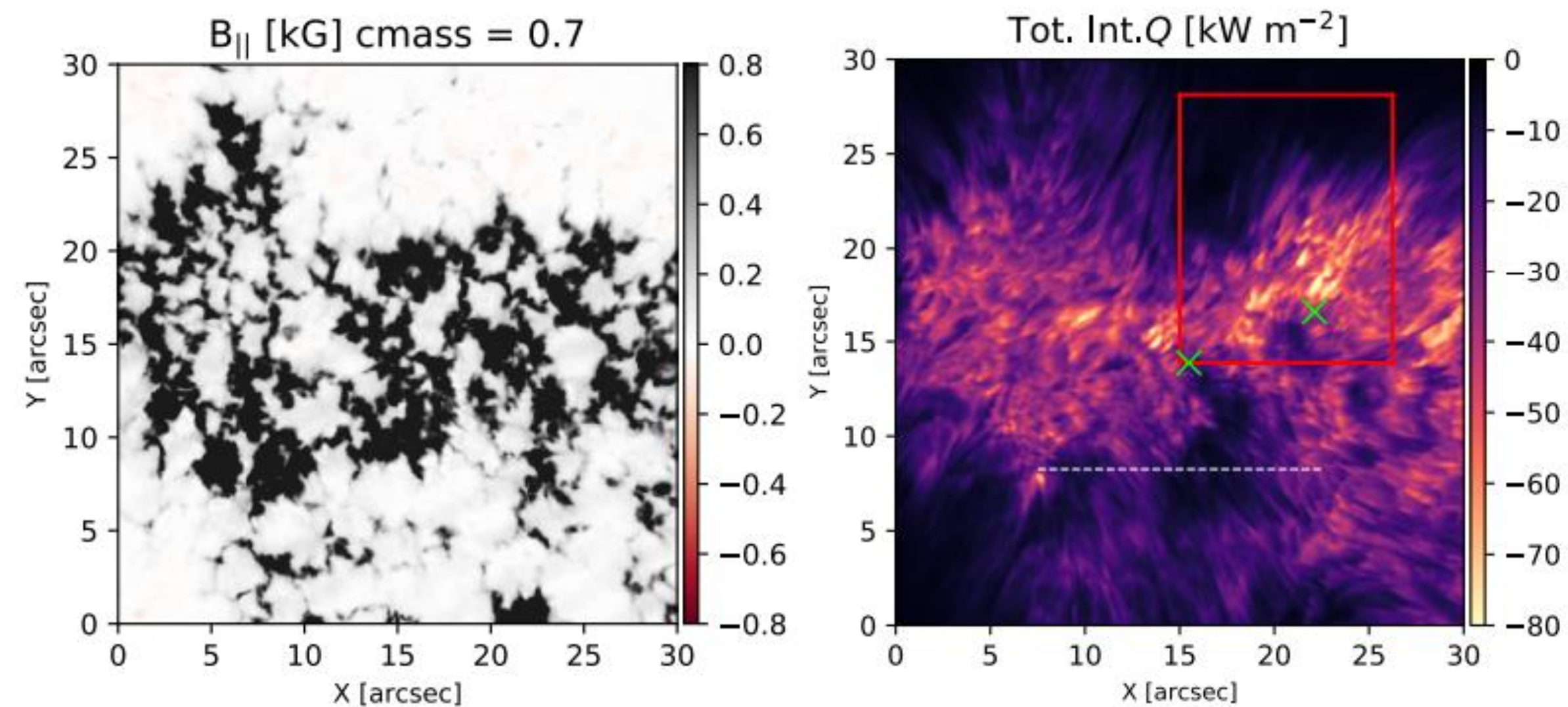
Díaz Baso+ (2021)



“<QS>”: 4.5 kW m⁻²
AR: 20-50 kW m⁻²
burst: up to 160 kW m⁻²

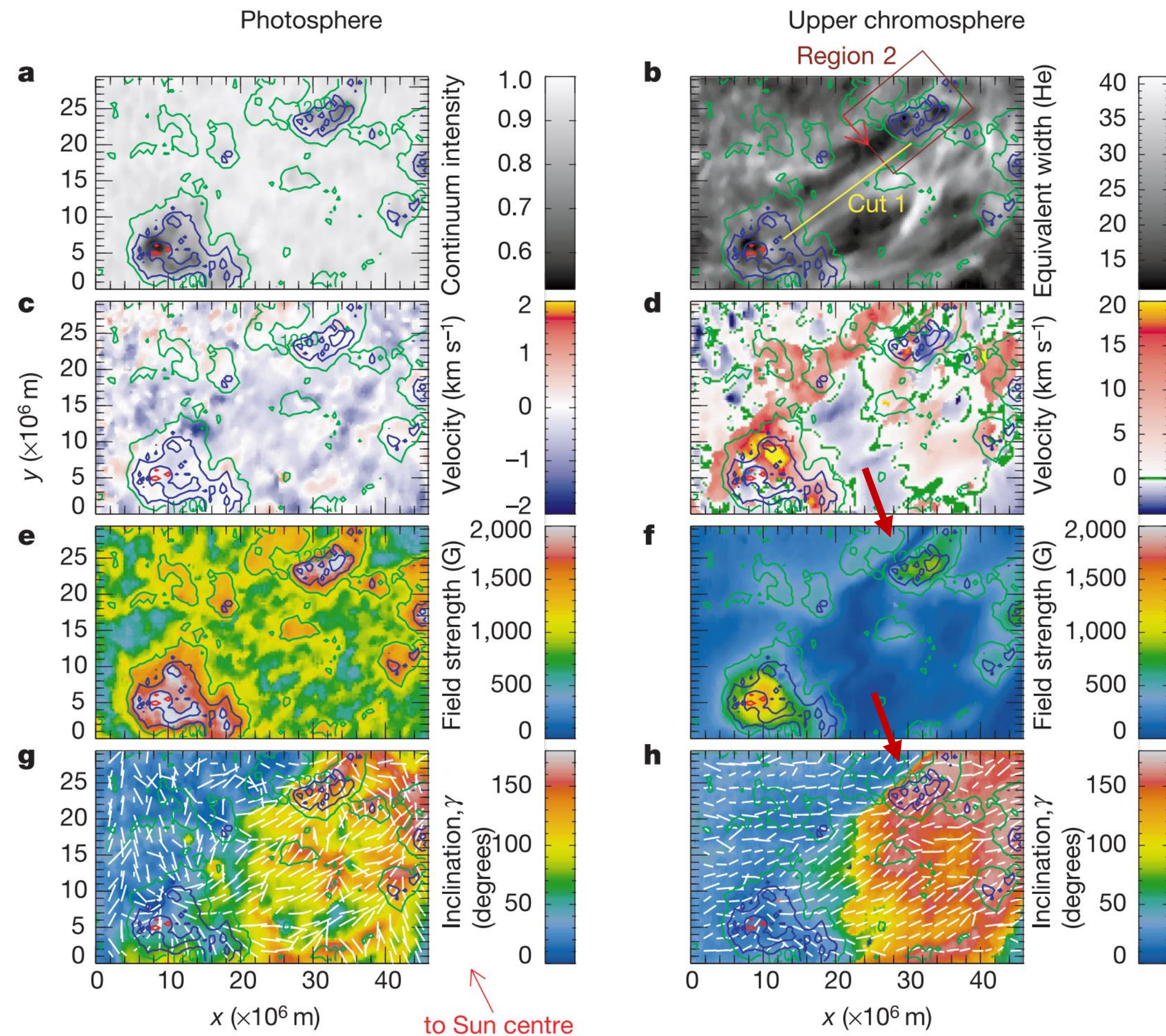
(total) dominated by the
low chromosphere

Morosin+ (2022)



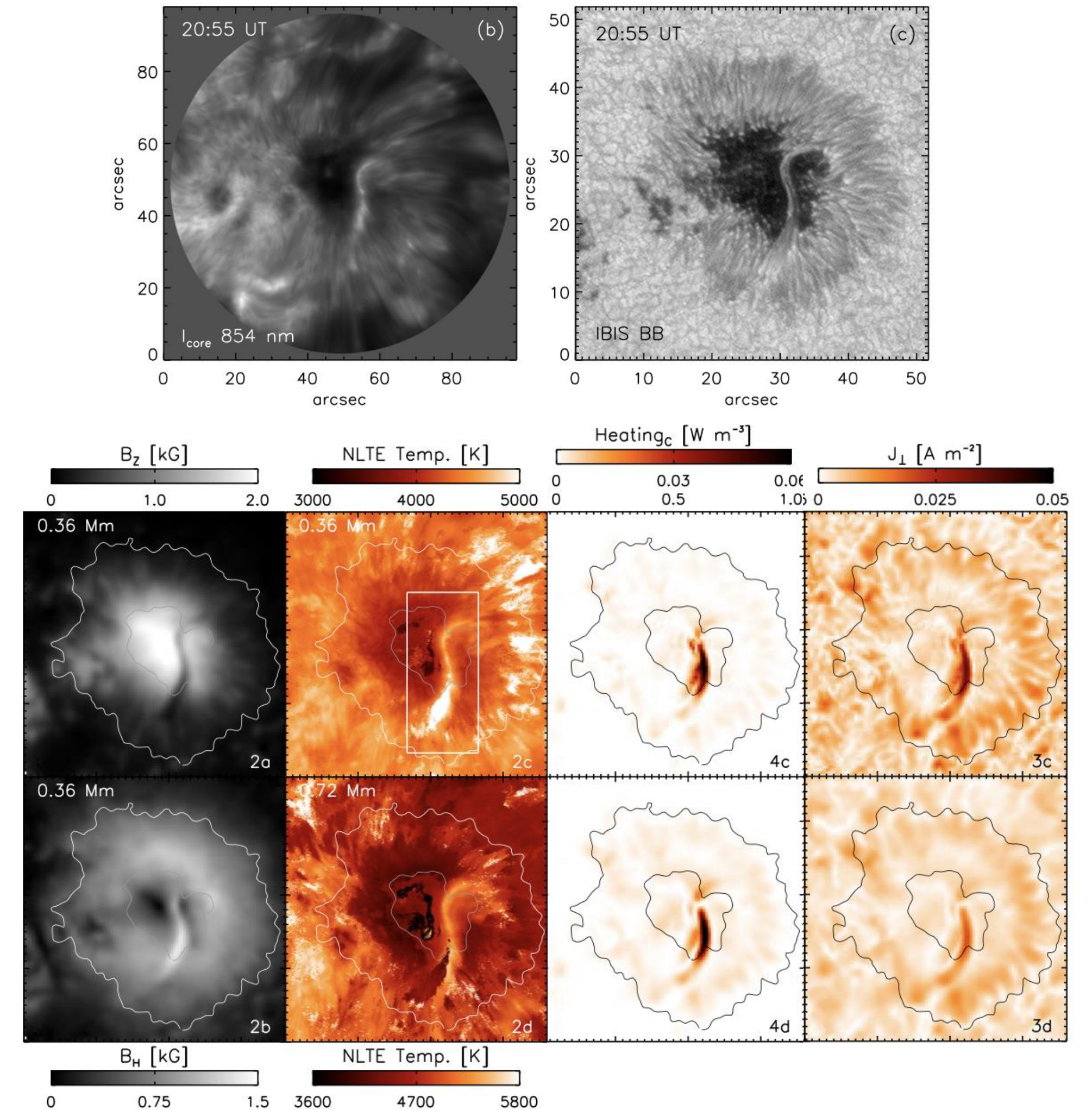
Electric currents in the chromosphere are poorly understood

He I 10830, VTT observations



Solanki+ (2003)

Ca II 8542, Dunn/IBIS observations

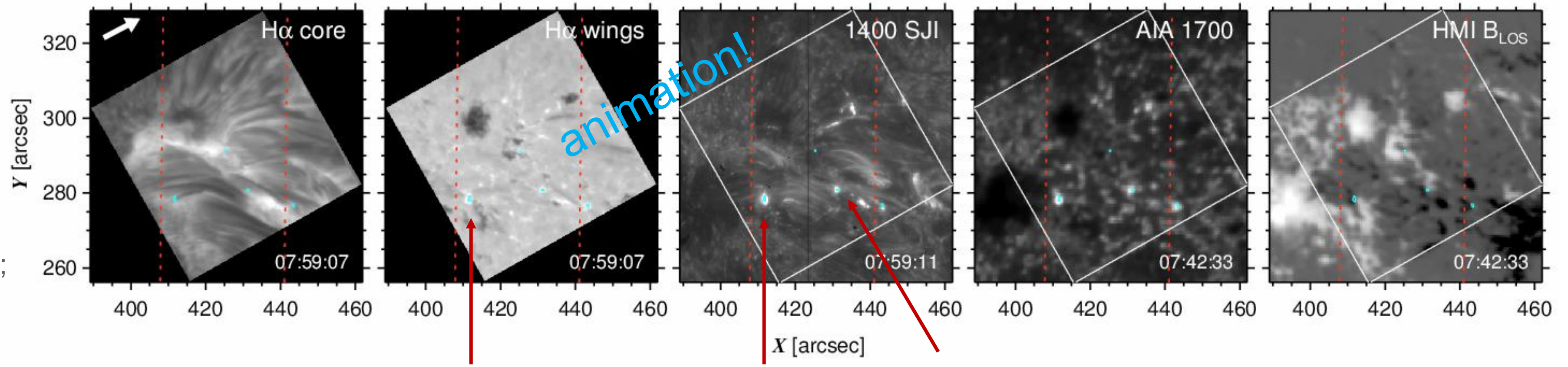


Louis+ (2021)

Heating in chromospheric current sheets: UV-bursts

IRIS, AIA, SST
observations
Vissers+ (2015)

see also, e.g., Peter+(2014);
Guglielmino+(2018)
Tian++(2018)

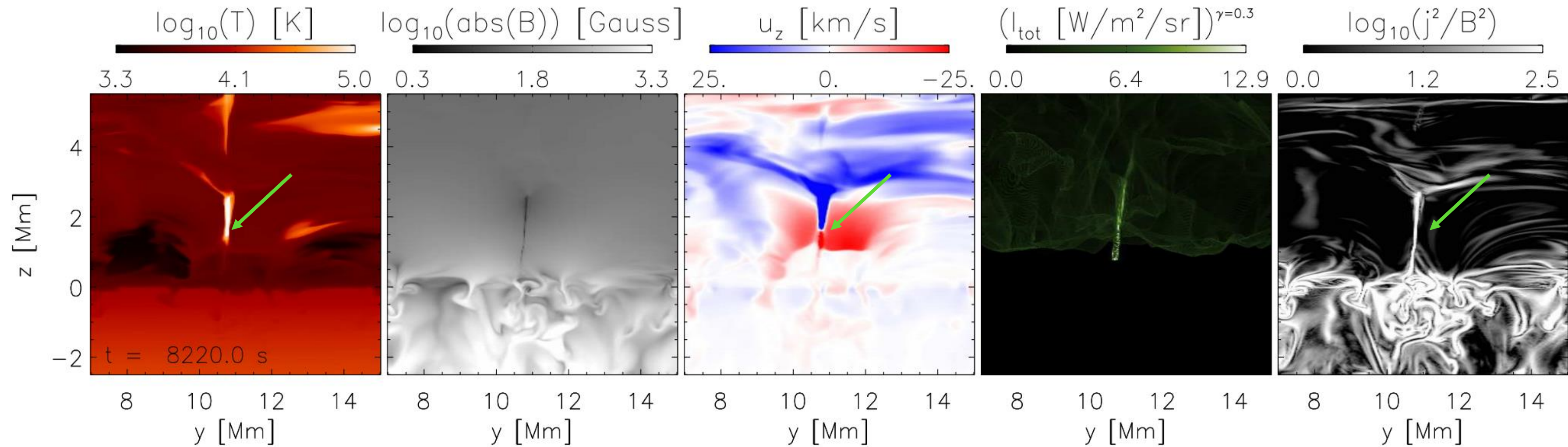


Ellerman bombs

UV-bursts

Flaring active region fibrils

2D cut of a 3D Bifrost simulation



Hansteen+ (2019)

see also, e.g., Nobrega-Siverio+ (2017);
Priest+ (2018); Peter+ (2019)

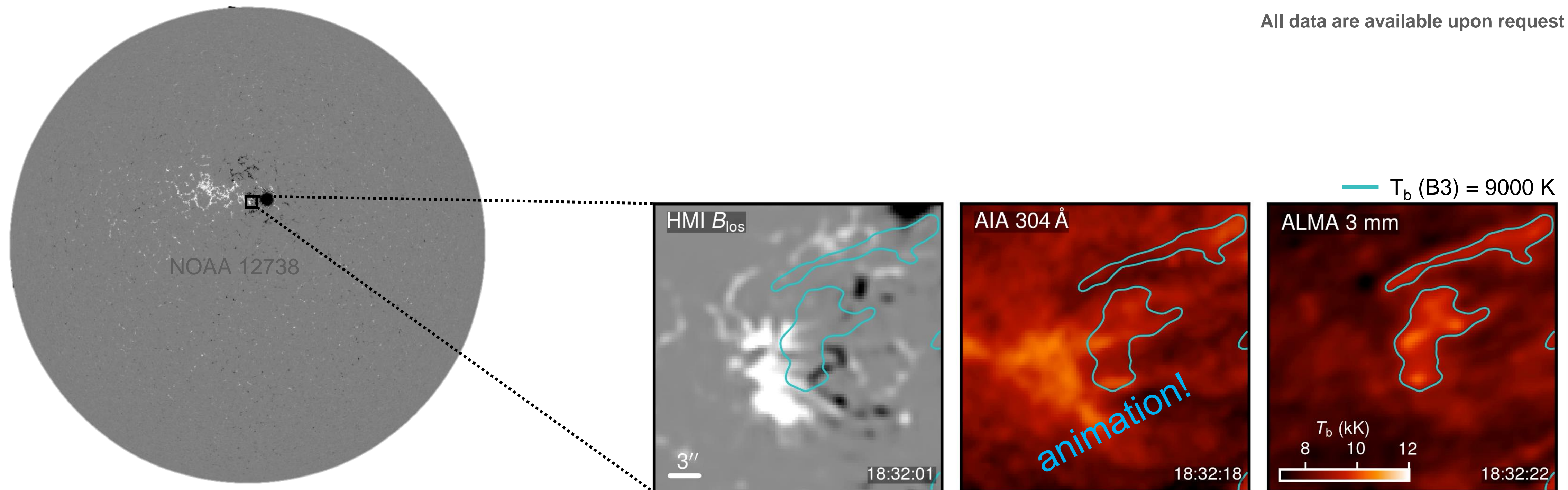
Joint observations with ALMA and the 1-m SST in 2019

da Silva Santos+ (2020, 2022a, 2022b)

14:15 ...
17:50 UT
IRIS: NUV (e.g. Mg II h and k), FUV (e.g. Si IV, C II) passbands, dense raster
Hinode/SOT/SP and EIS: Fe I 6301 magnetograms and EUV lines
ALMA: Band 6 (1.25 mm continuum), baselines up to 700 m – **0.6 arcsec**, mosaic

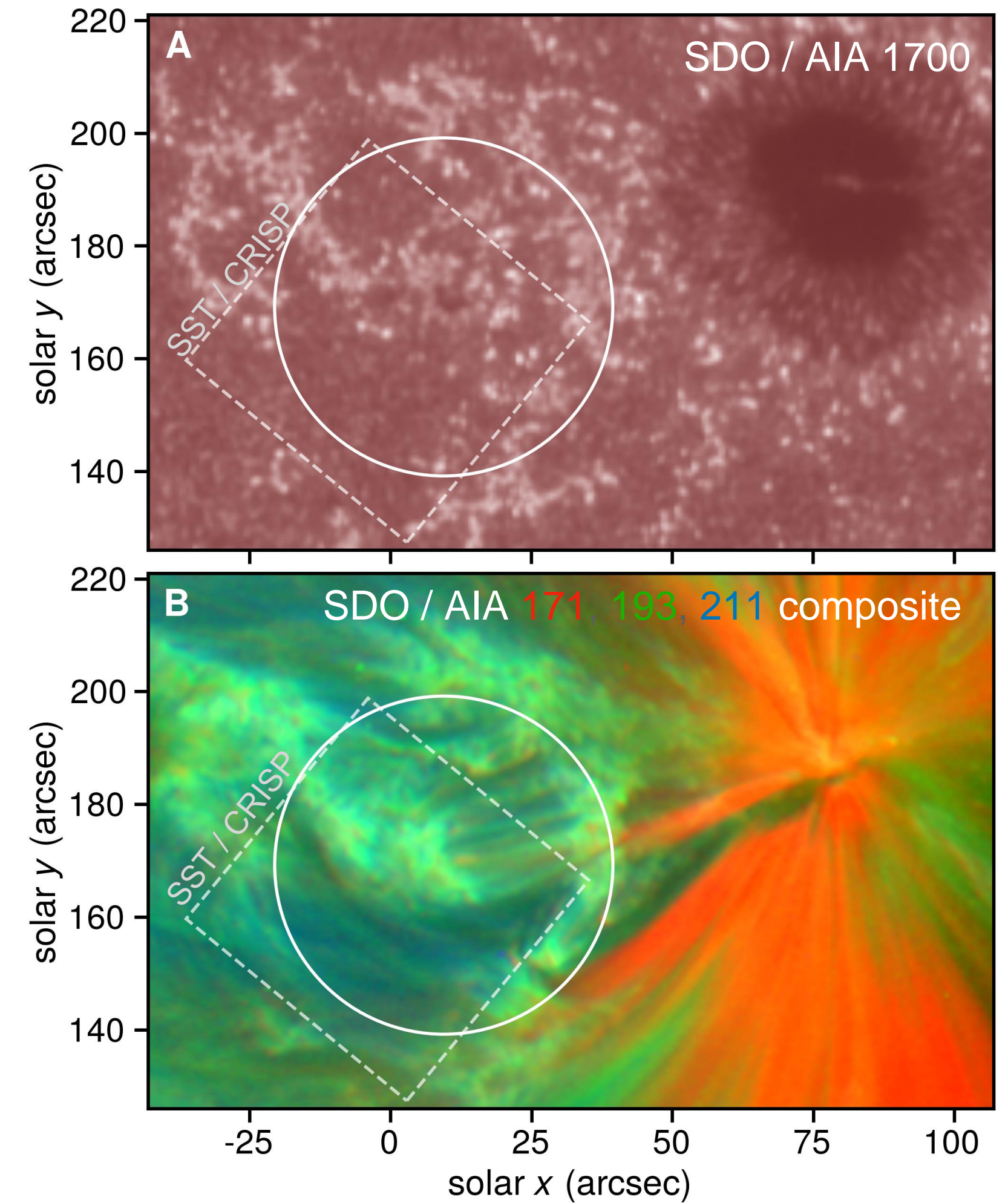
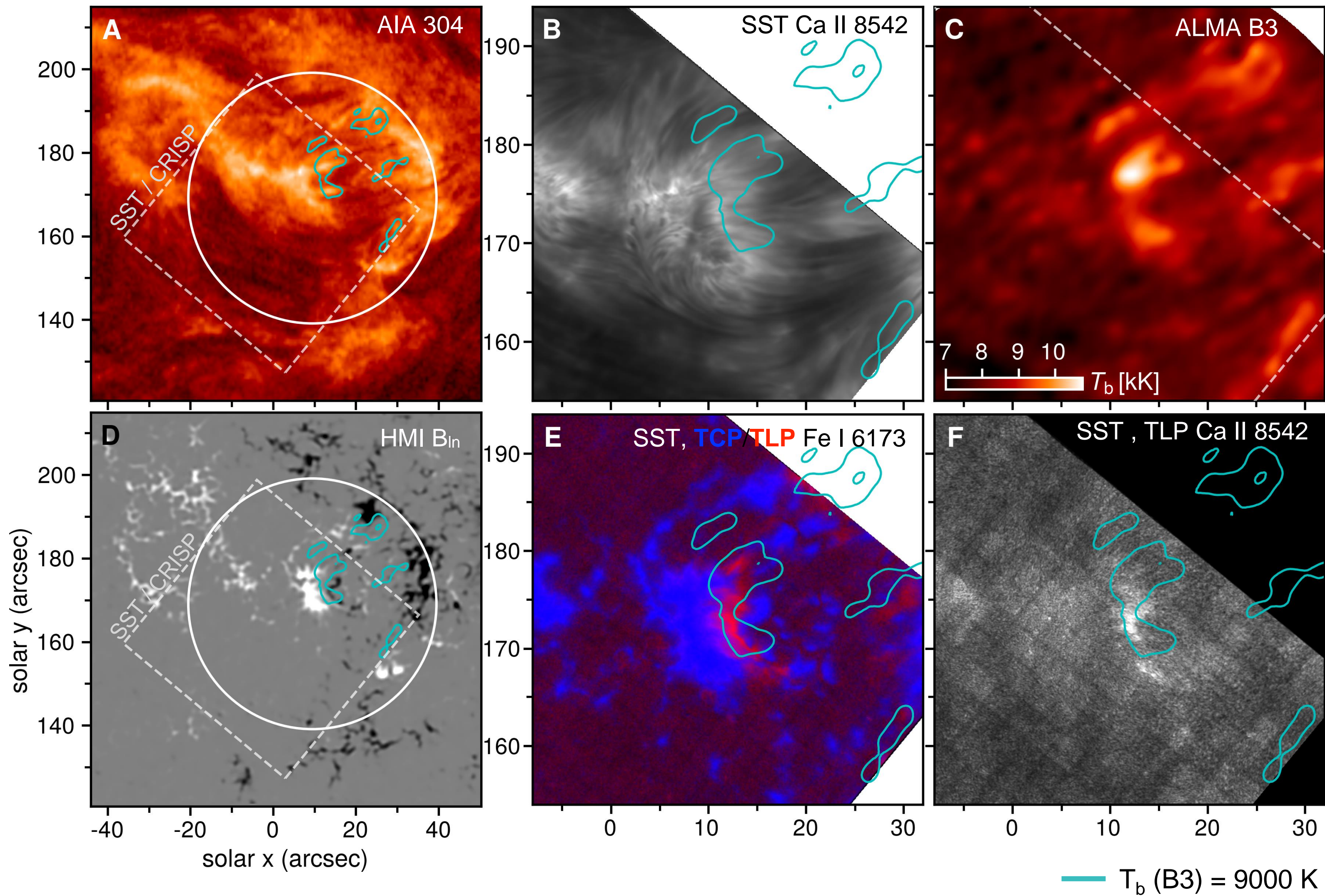
18:50 UT
SST/CRISP: Ca II 8542 and Fe I 6173 (polarimetry), single scan
ALMA: Band 3 (3 mm continuum), baselines up to 700 m – **1.2 arcsec**, 2sec cadence

All data are available upon request

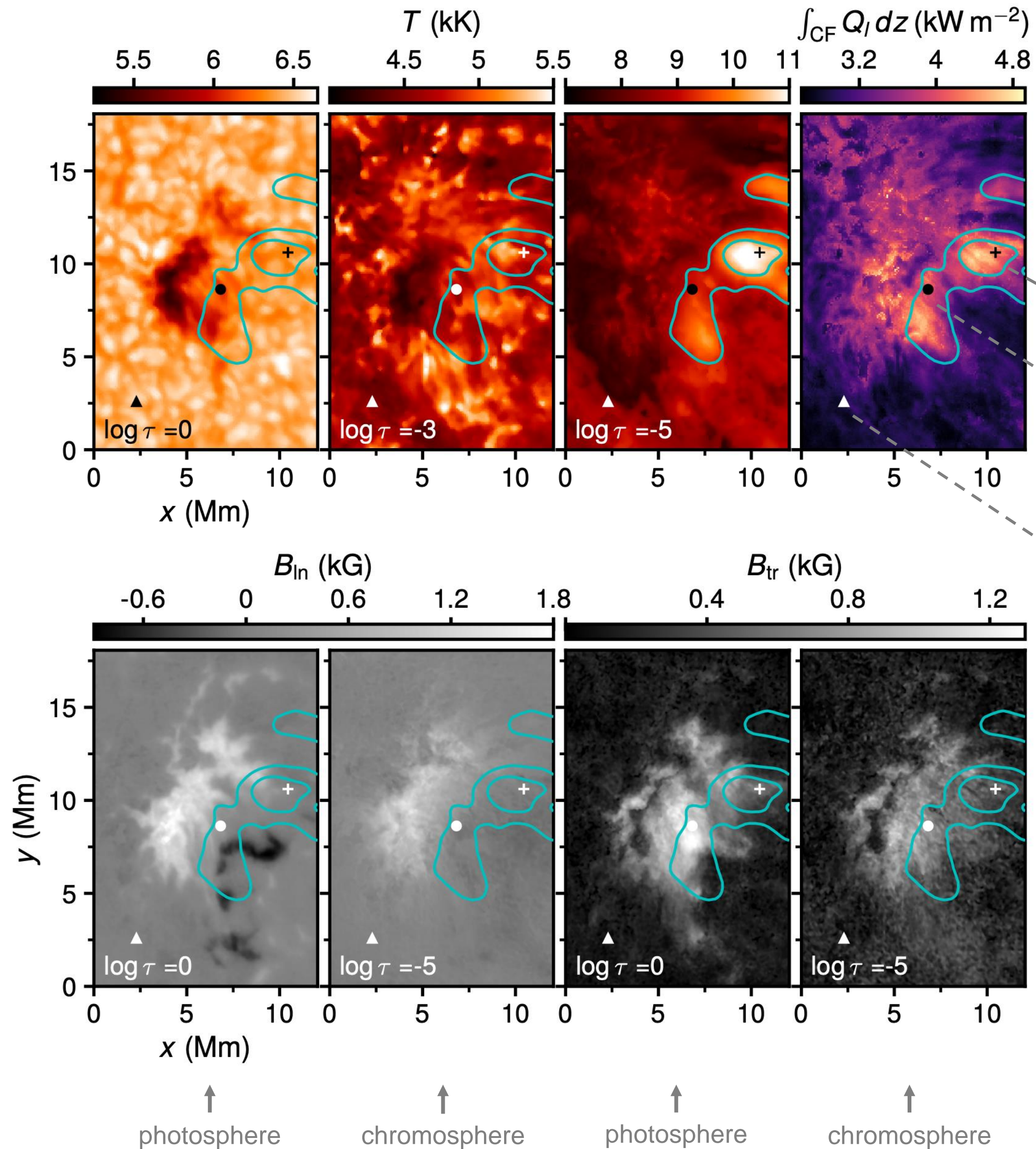


Flux emergence and chromospheric heating

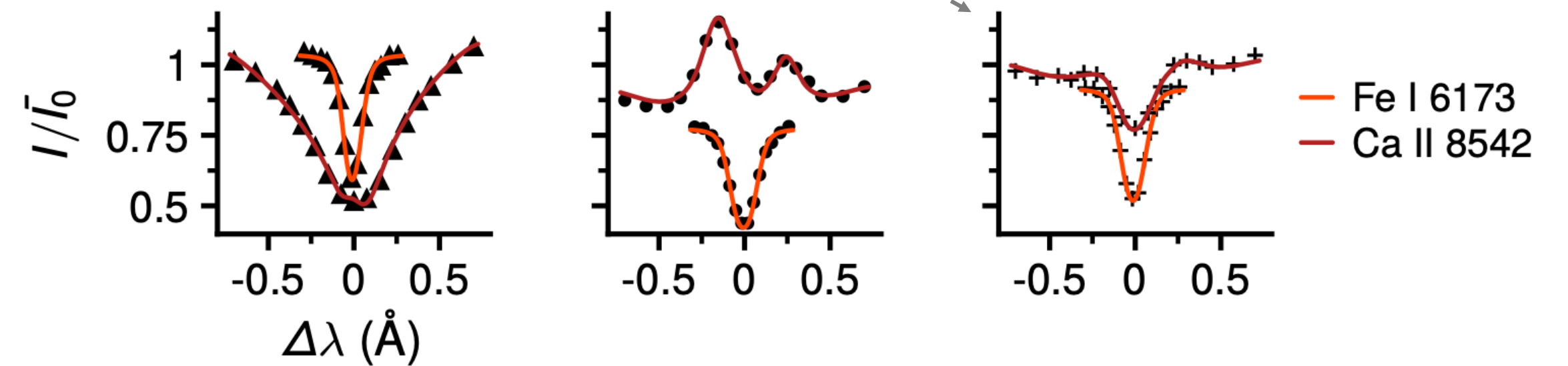
da Silva Santos+ (2022, *A&A*, 661, A59)



Non-LTE inversions of SST/CRISP+ALMA 3 mm data

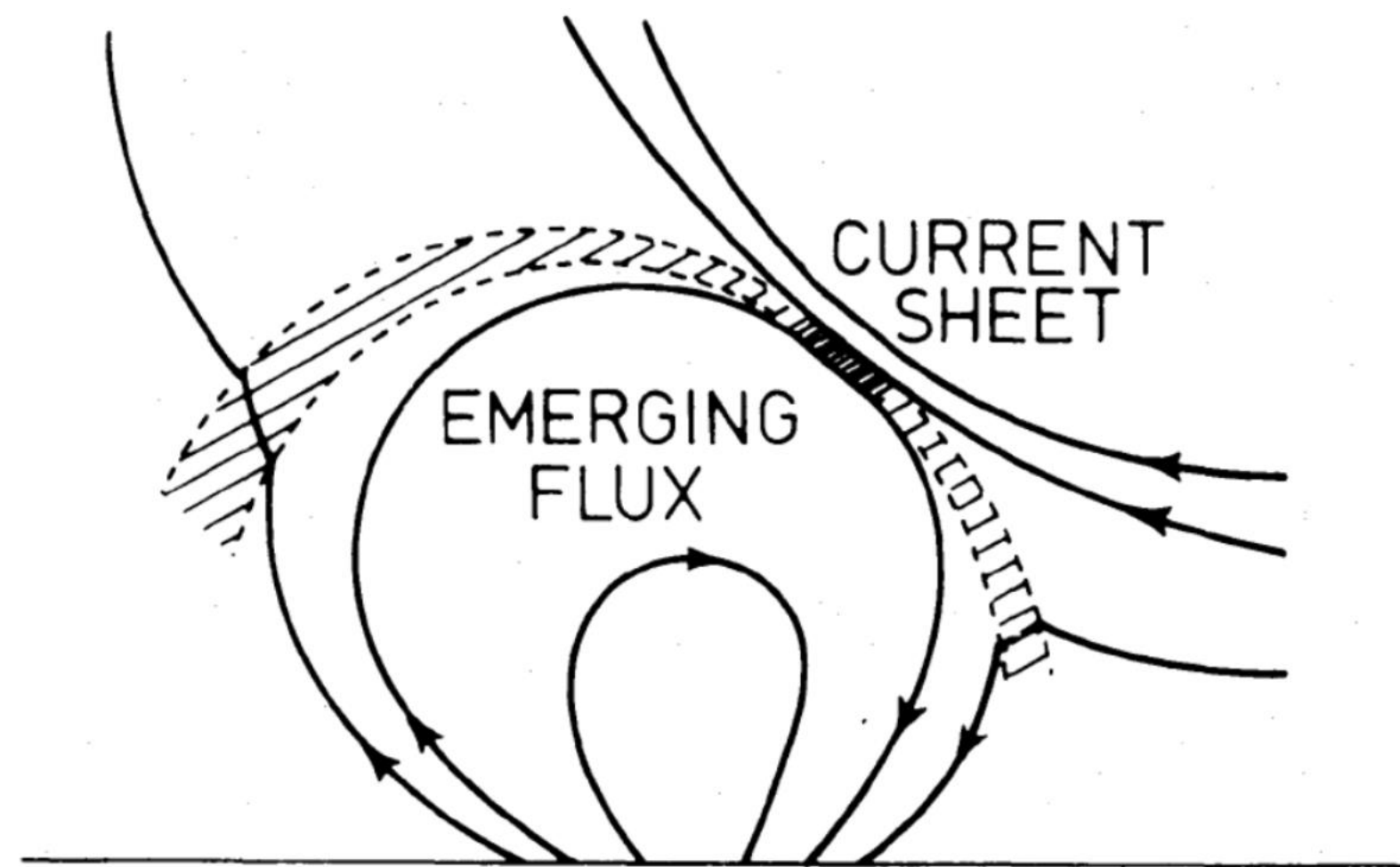


← **Radiative losses** (Ca II, Mg II, HI) within the contribution function of the 3 mm continuum (upper chromosphere $T \sim 10,000$ K)



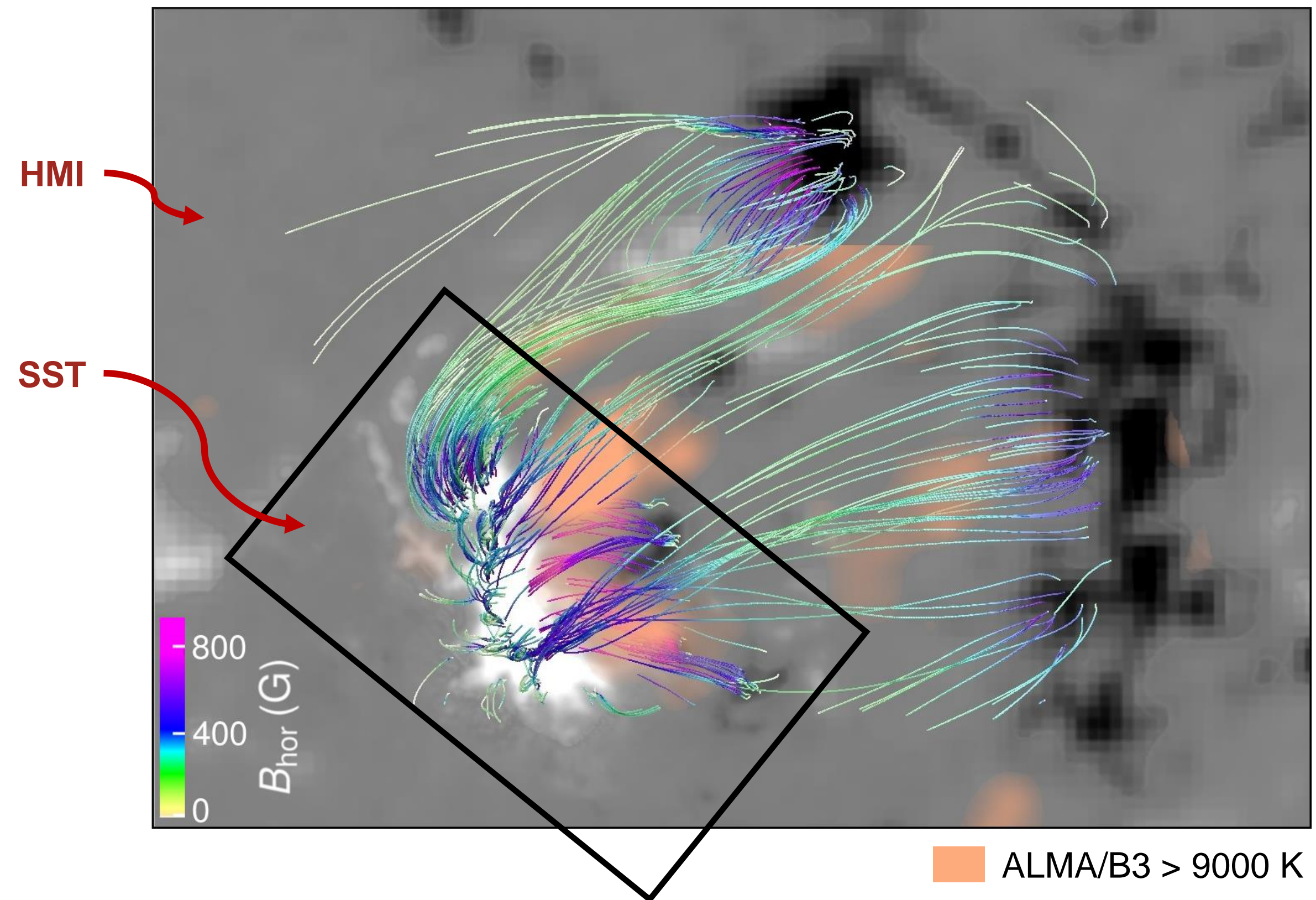
example fits at different locations

Magnetohydrostatic extrapolation based on the SST+HMI (composite) vector magnetogram



Heyvaerts+ (1977)

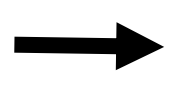
see also, e.g., Galsgaard+ (2007)
Cheung & Isobe (2014)
Archontis & Hansteen (2014)
Ortiz+ (2016)



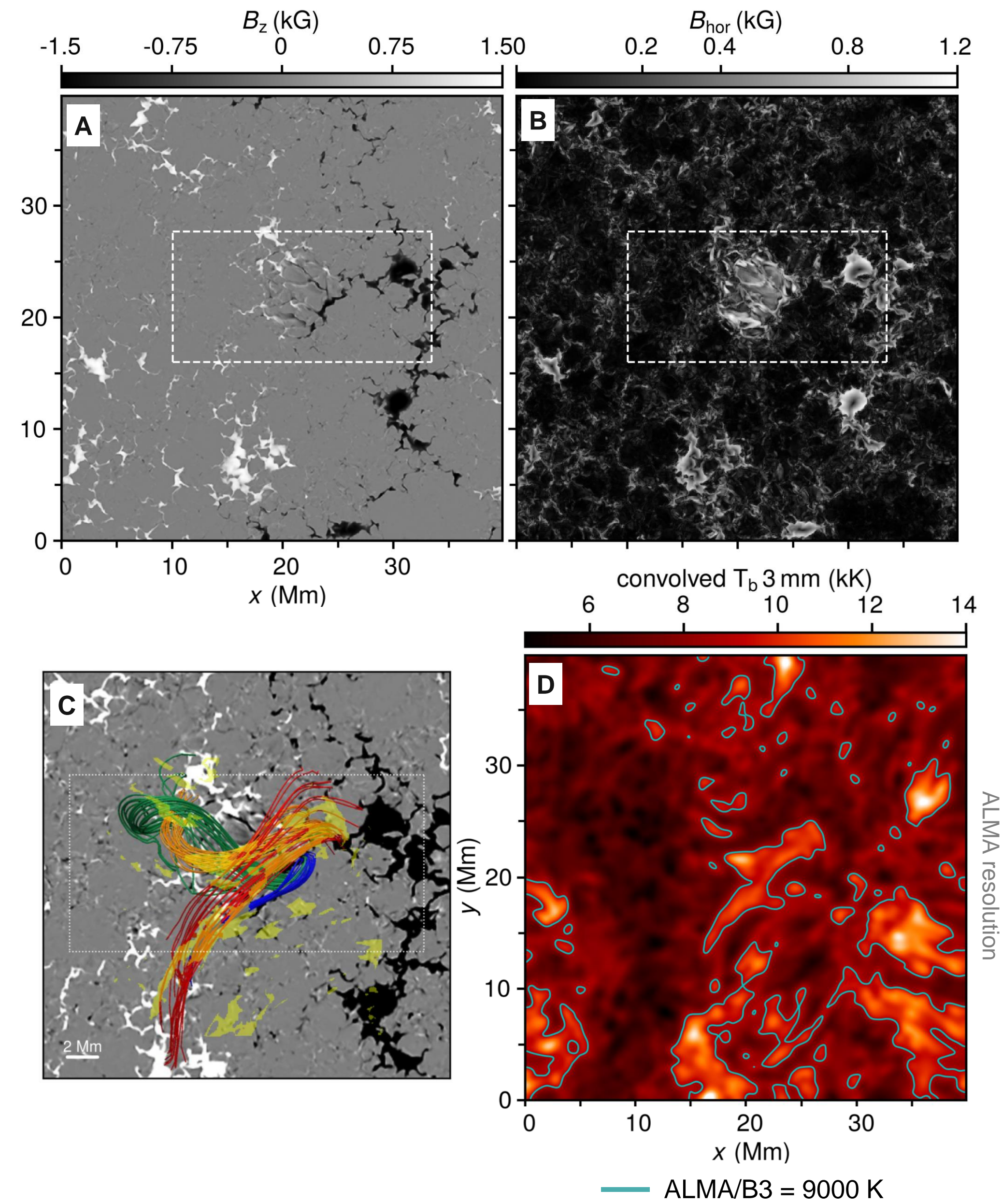
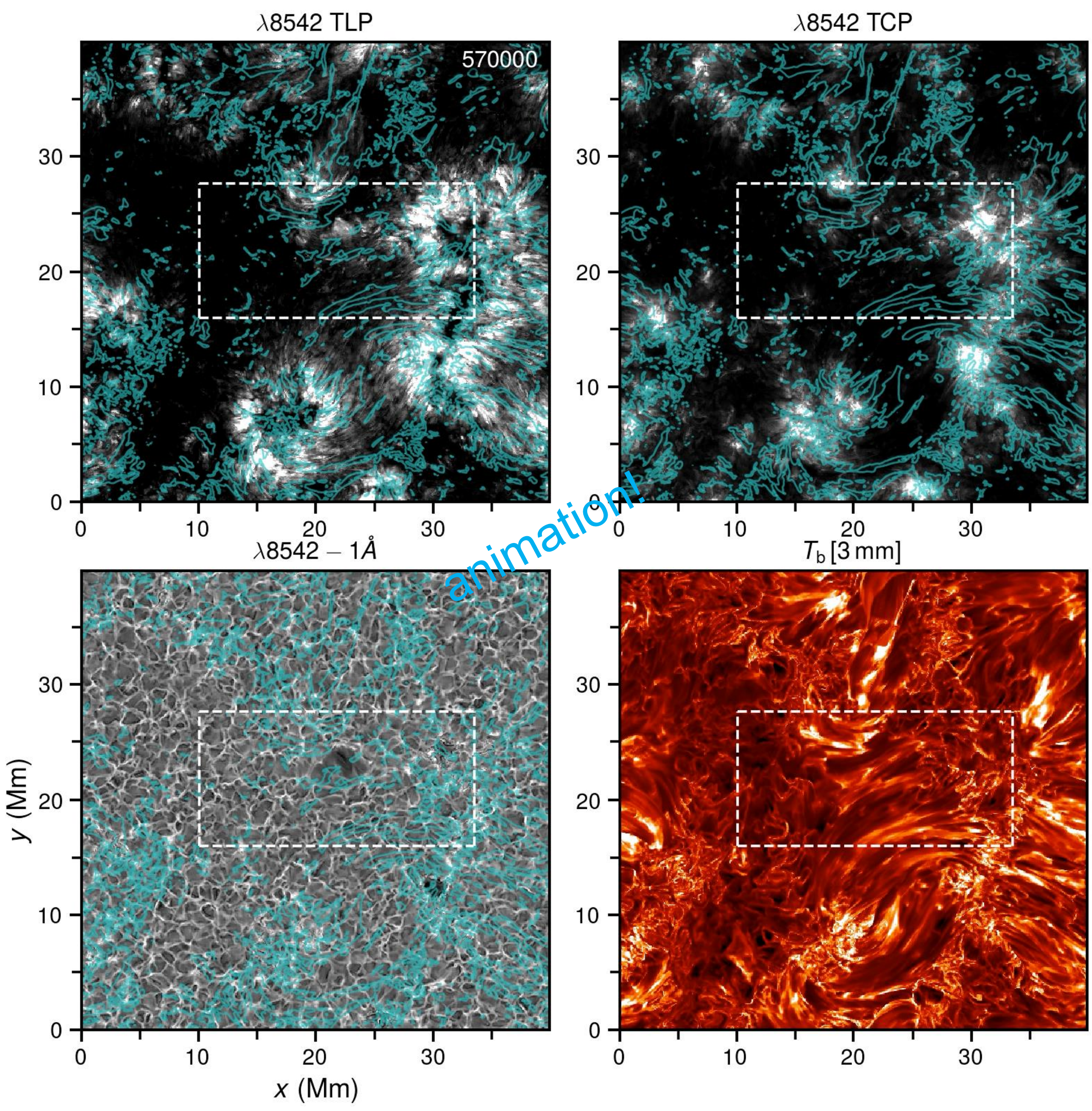
da Silva Santos+ (2022)

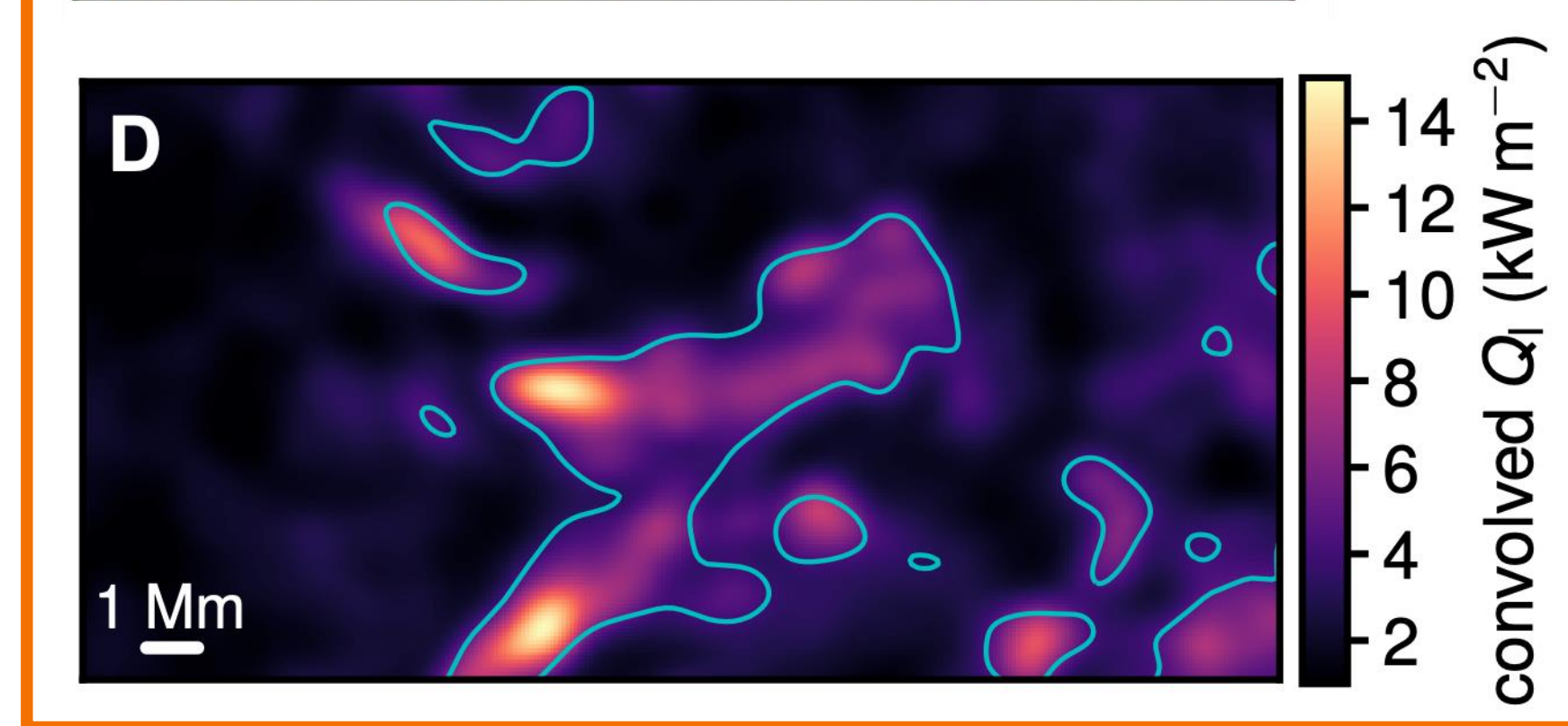
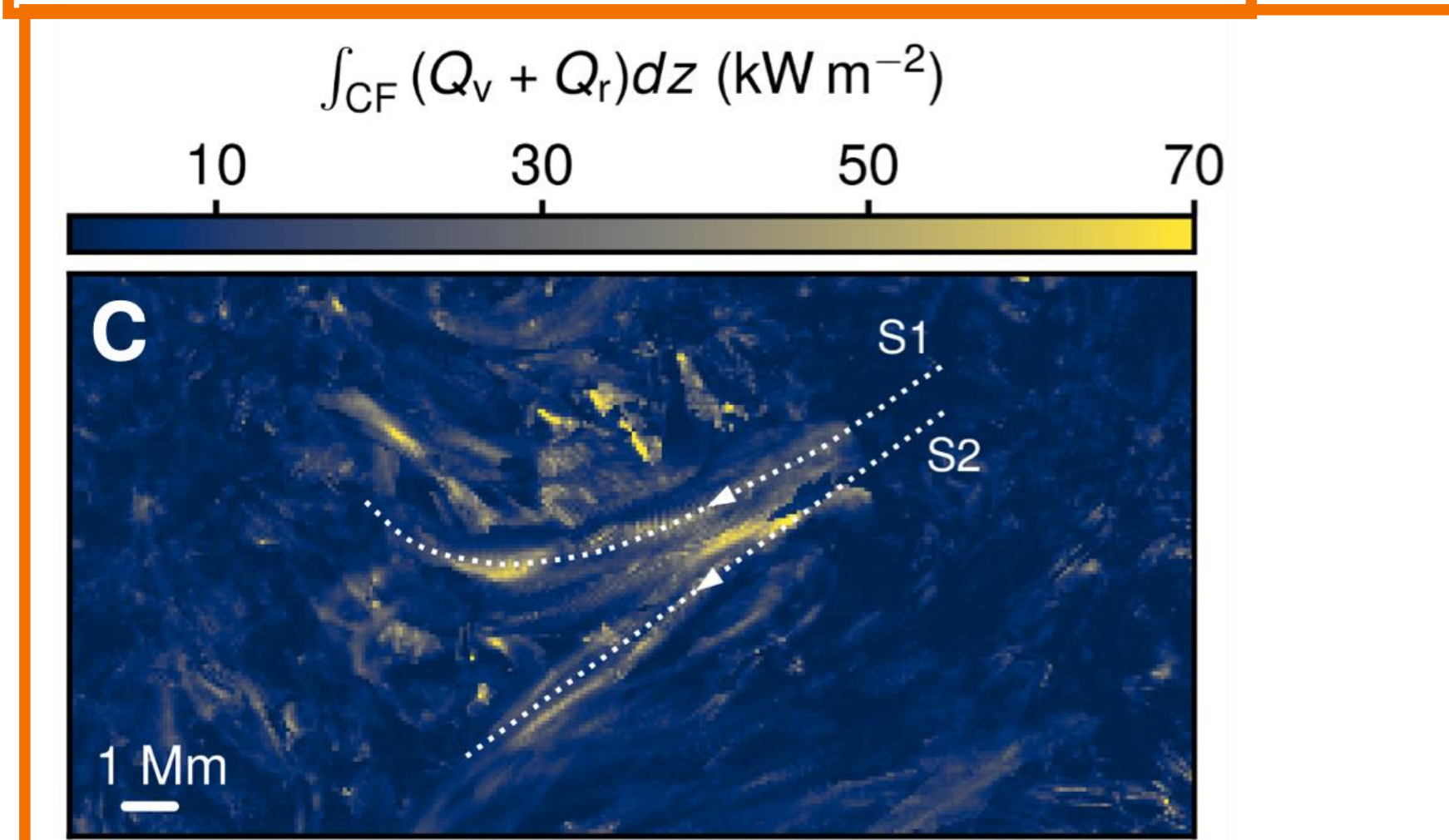
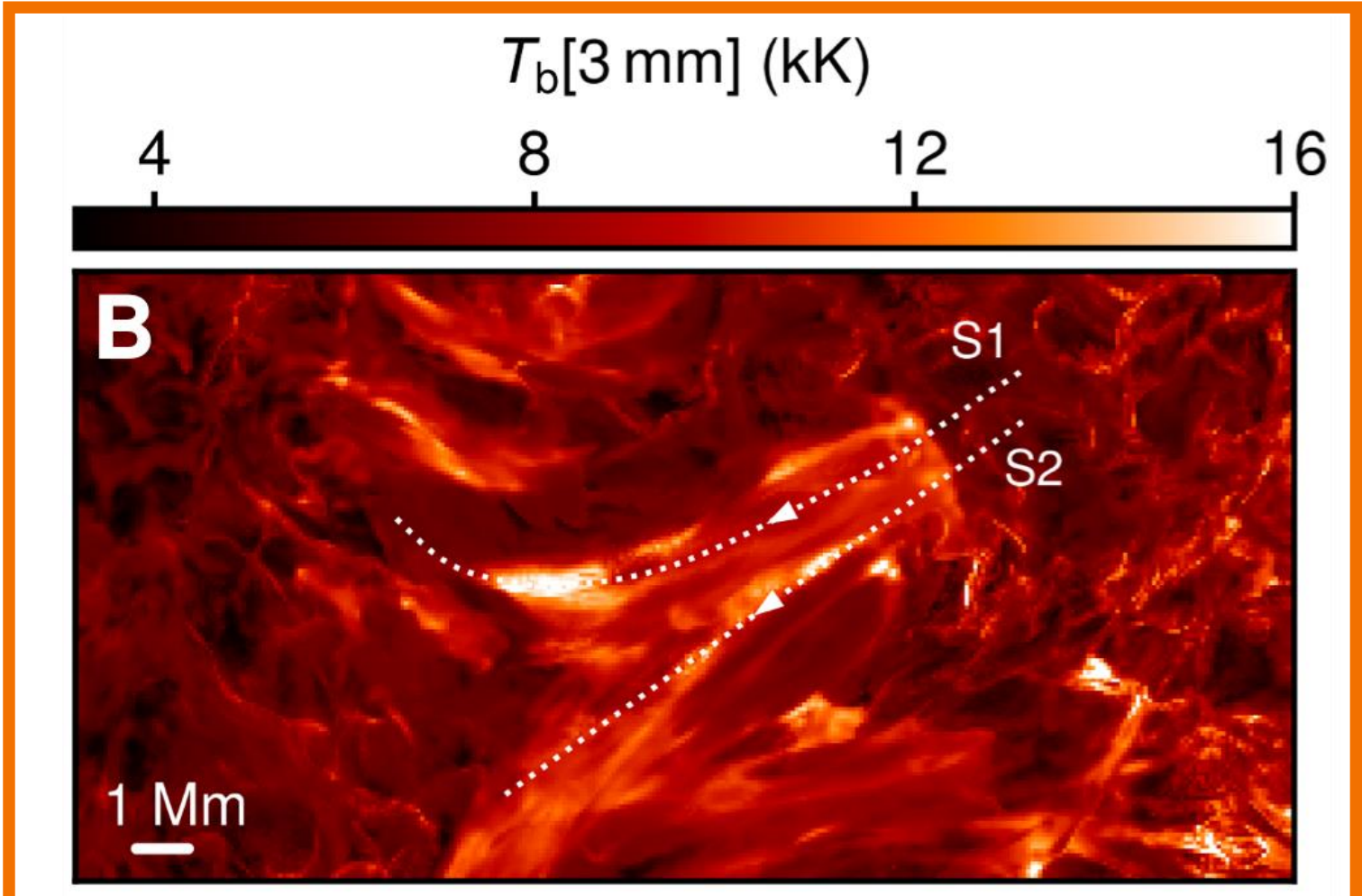
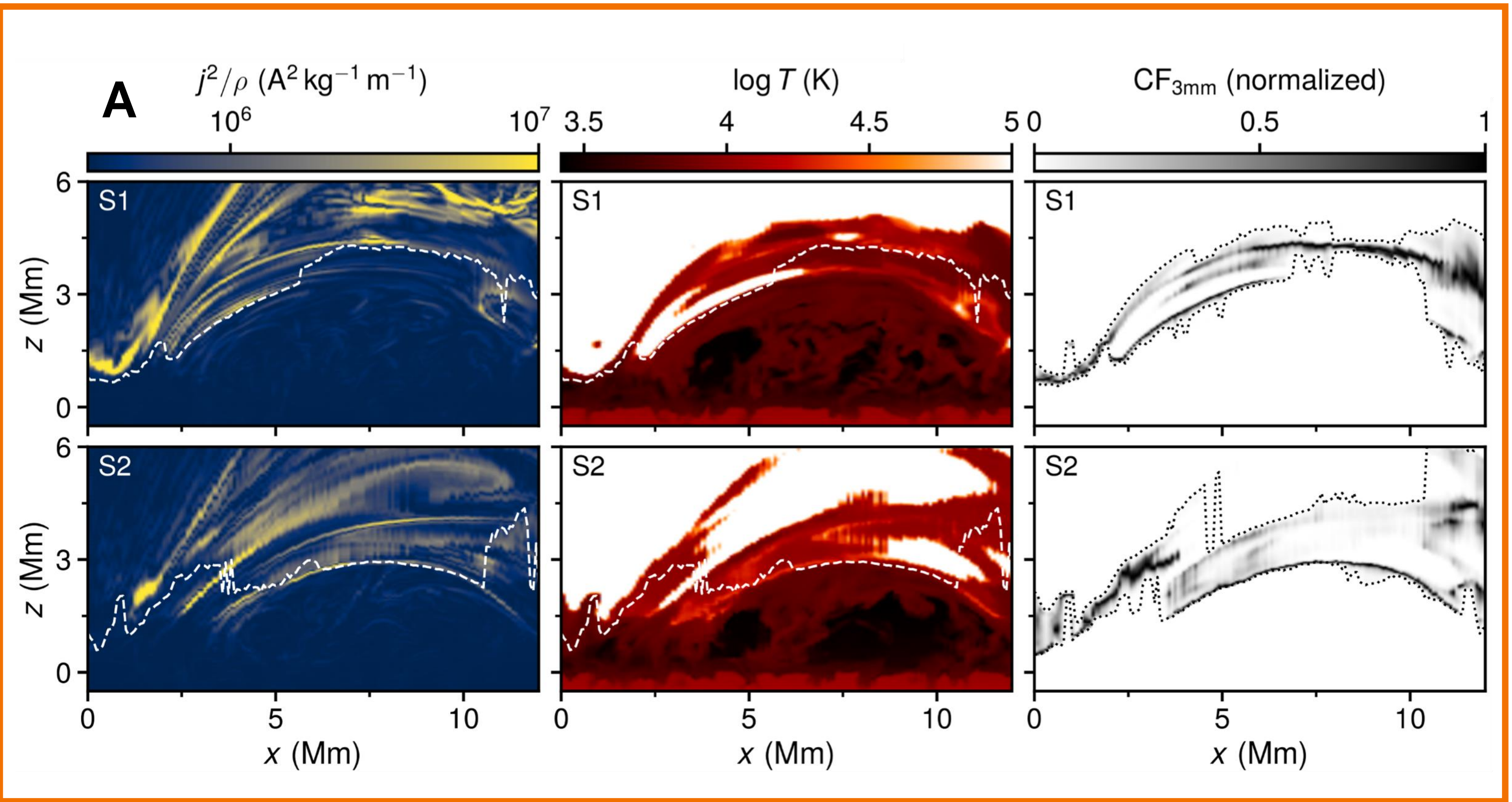
see e.g., Zhu & Wiegmann (2018); Zhu+ (2020) on the extrapolation algorithm

3D MURaM simulation of flux emergence



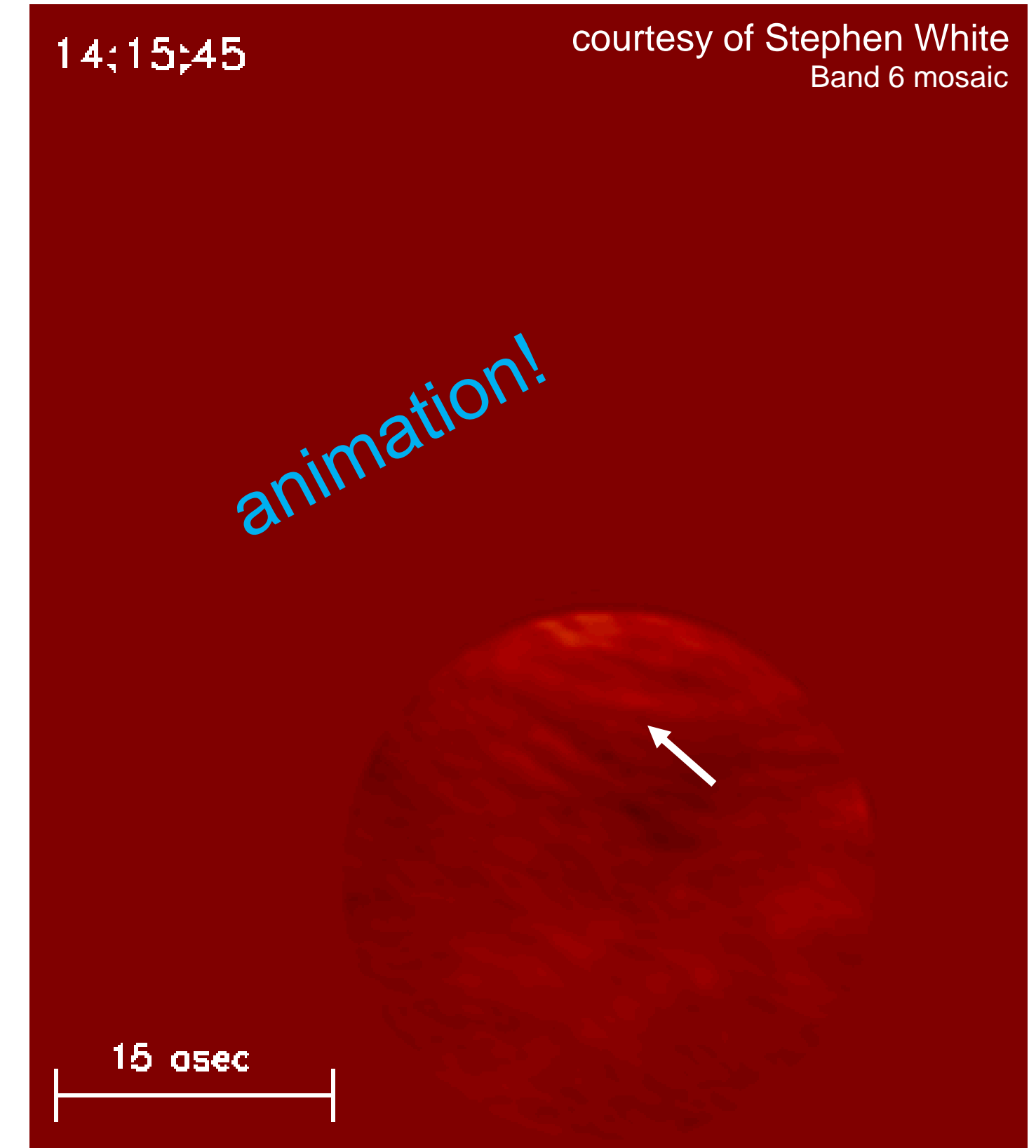
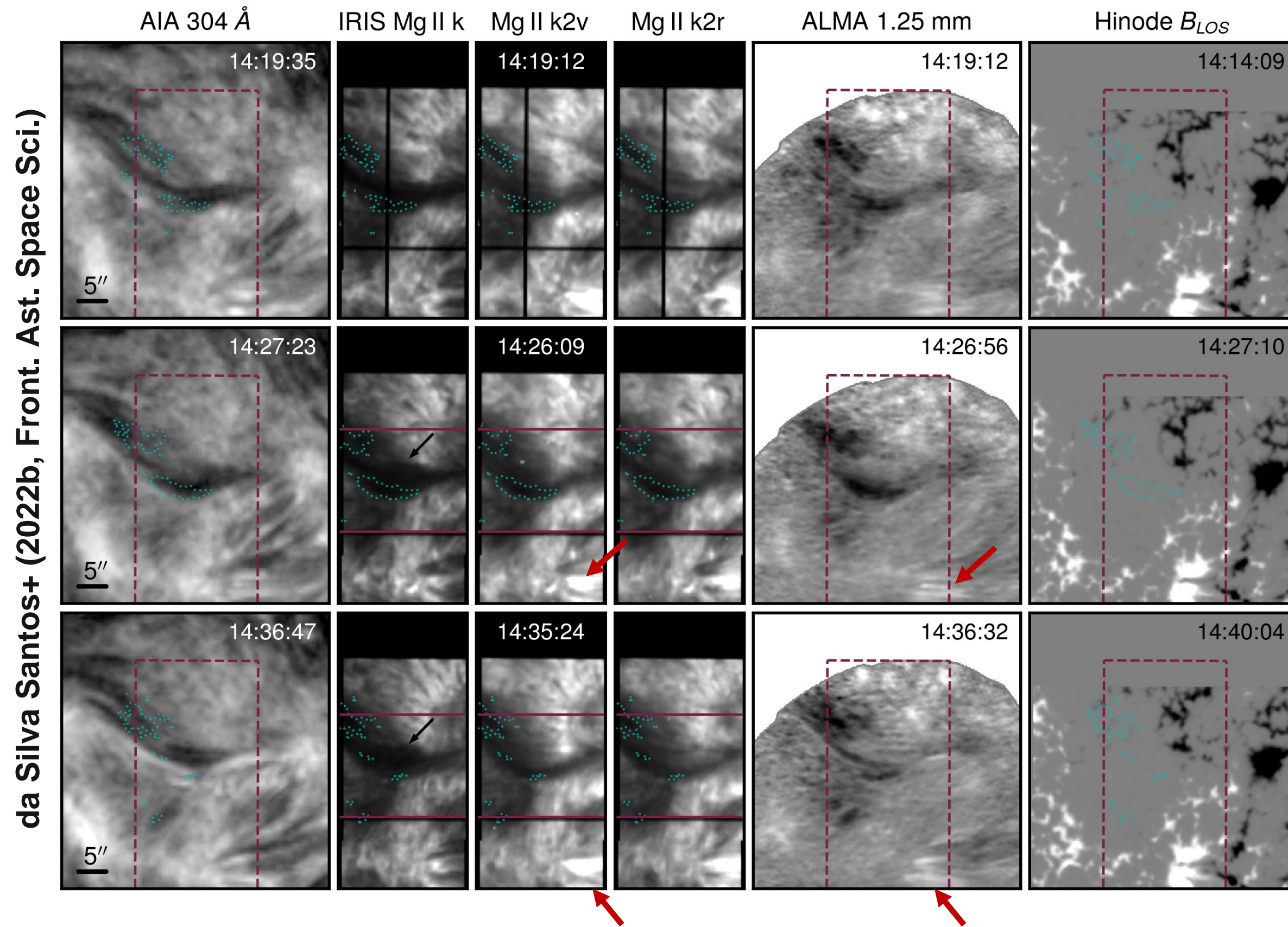
selected snapshot for analysis



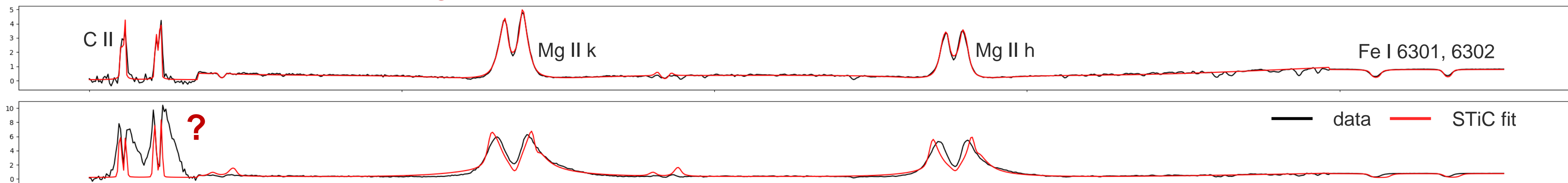


A Vertical slices of the MURaM atmosphere
 B 3 mm brightness temperature
 C Total heating rates within the 3 mm formation range (**capped**)
 D Chromospheric radiative losses within the 3 mm formation range

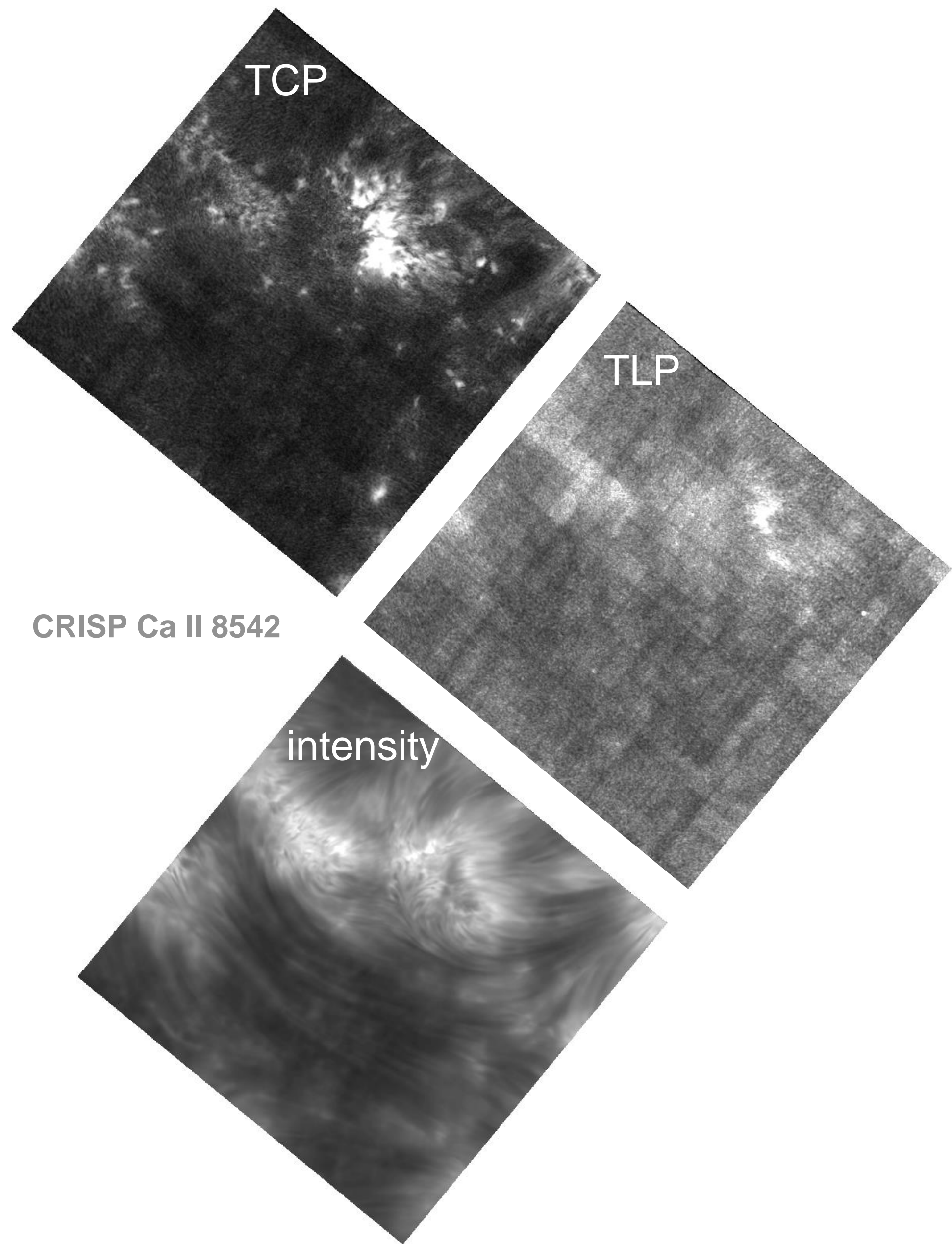
IRIS / Hinode / ALMA observations of the AR hours earlier



Attempting to invert IRIS + Hinode + ALMA spectra of a UVB (using STiC)



Conclusions



- Persistent, enhanced chromospheric temperatures are associated with the interaction of **low-lying magnetic loops** and the **canopy in an AR**.
- **Radiative cooling rates** (upper chromosphere $\sim 10,000$ K) up to $\sim 5 \text{ kW m}^{-2}$ — a factor >2 higher than in the surroundings.
- The main observables are reproduced by **MURaM simulation**.

Impact of NEQHION on the mm continuum during flux emergence?