

Coronal magnetic fields measurement using MIT method

Wenxian Li

Key Laboratory of Solar Activity, National Astronomical Observatories
Chinese Academy of Sciences, China

Collaborators:

Atomic method, theory and calculations:

Lund University: Tomas Brage and LUMCAS group

Queen's University Belfast: Connor Balance

Laboratory measurement:

Fudan University: Shanghai-EBIT laboratory

Solar observations and applications:

High Altitude Observatory: Philip G. Judge

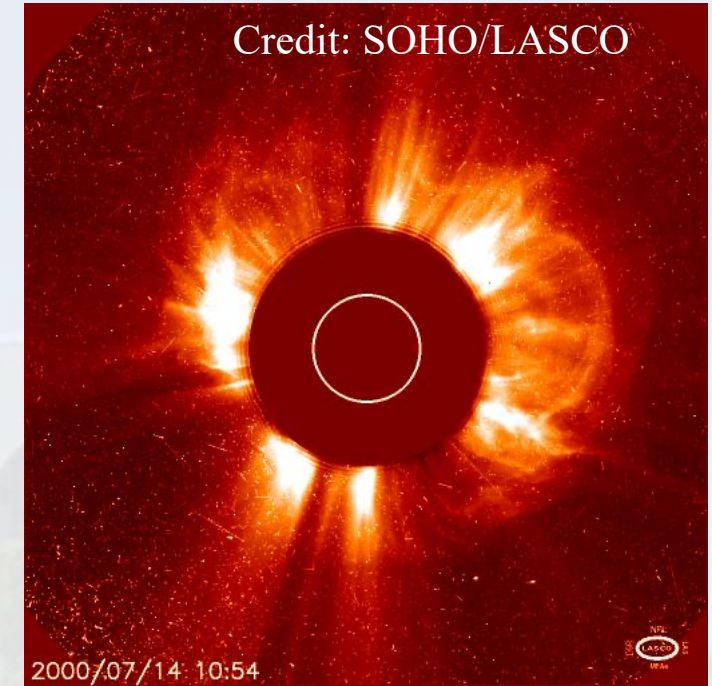
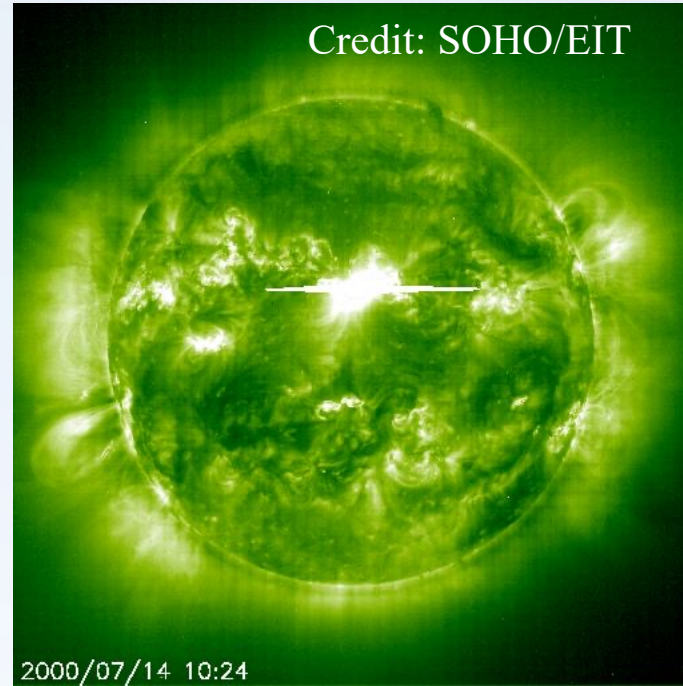
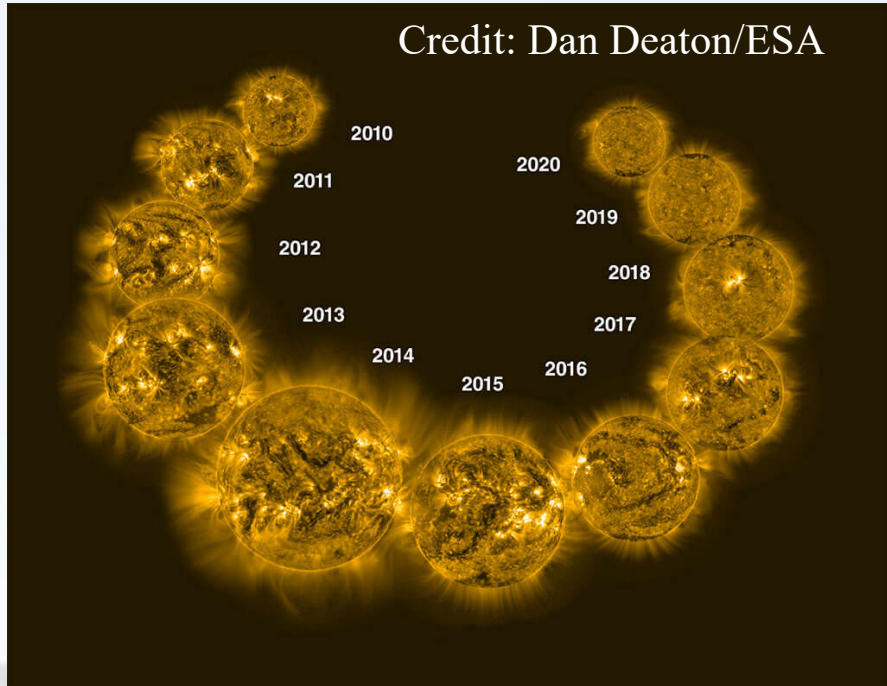
University of Michigan: Enrico Landi

Peking University: Hui Tian group

National Astronomical Observatories: Huairou Solar Observing Station

Why coronal magnetic field?

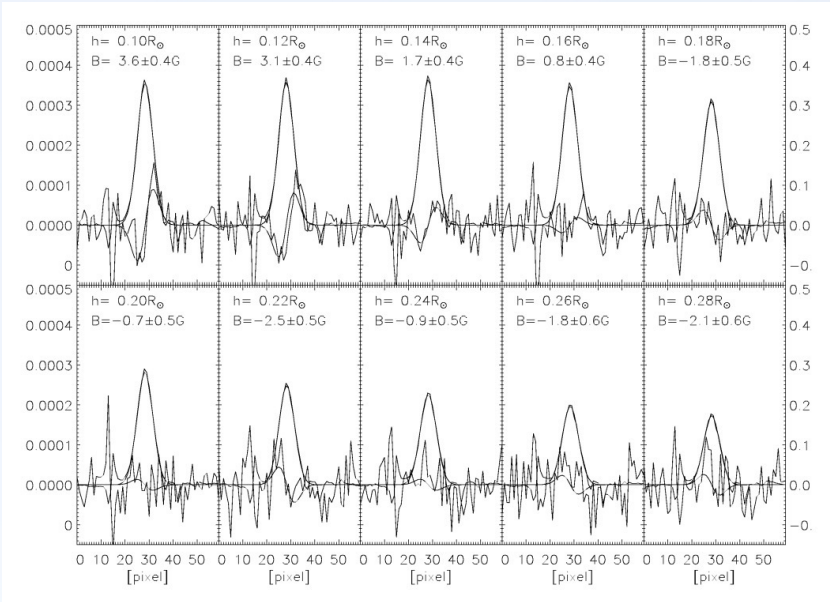
solar cycle, structuring, solar eruptions, coronal heating



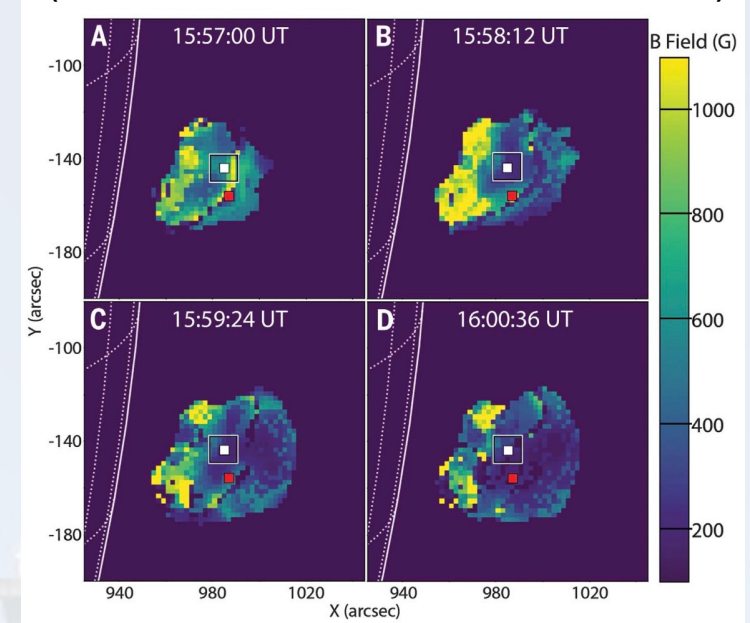
Coronal magnetic field measurement is still challenging
weaker field, higher temperature

How to measure the coronal magnetic field?

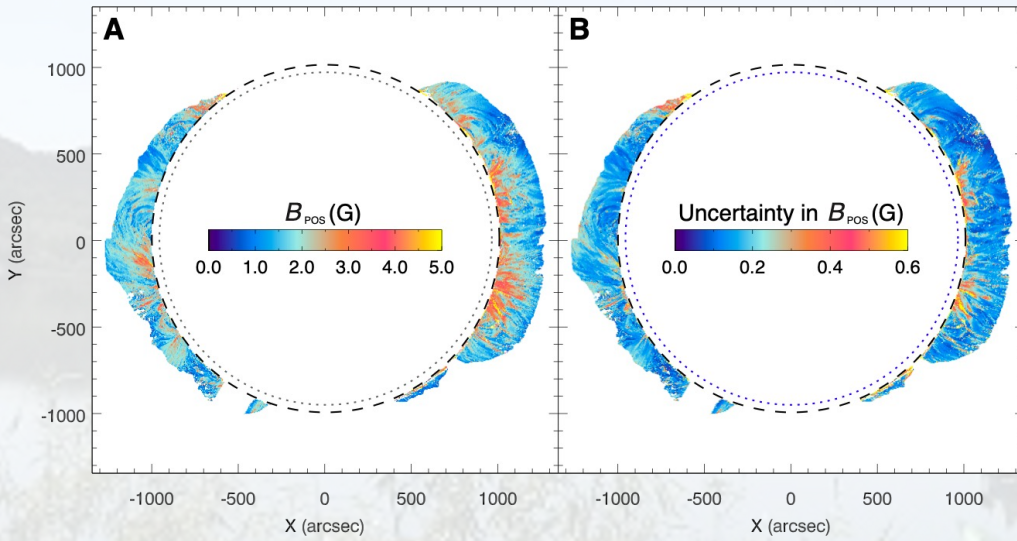
Spectropolarimetry of the visible and near-infrared coronal emission lines (Lin et al. 2004, ApJL)



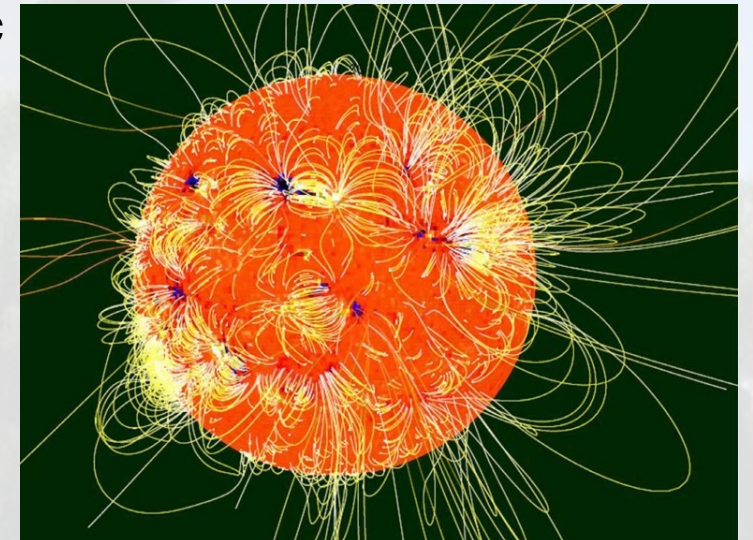
radio imaging observations (Fleishman et al. 2020, Science)



Extrapolation from photospheric magnetic field (Wiegelmann and Solanki 2004) →



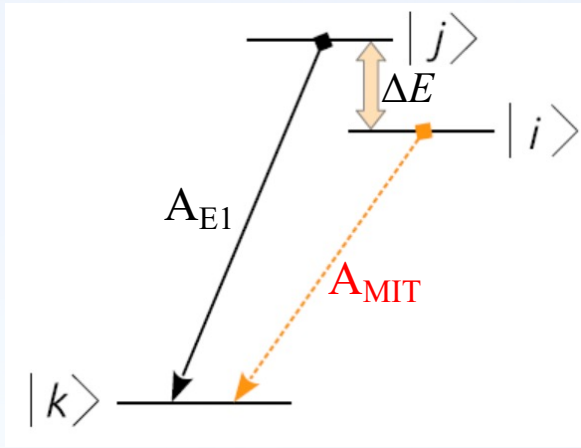
← magnetoseismology (Yang et al. 2020, Science)



Overview of magnetic-field induced transition, MIT

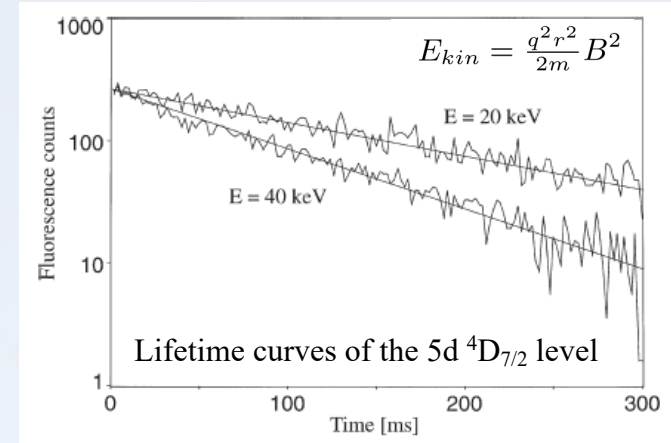
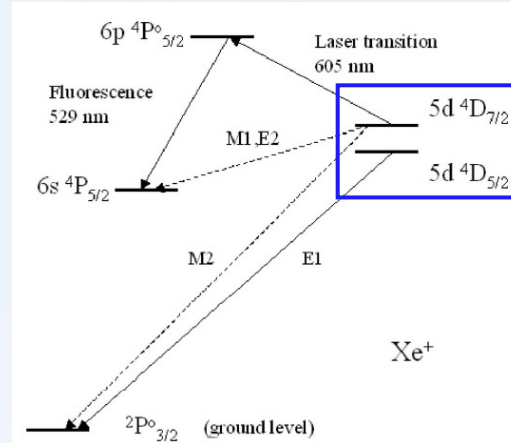
- External magnetic fields mix i and j and cause a new decay channel $i \rightarrow k$: magnetic-field induced transition (MIT)

$$A_{MIT} \propto A_{E1} \frac{B^2}{\Delta E^2}$$

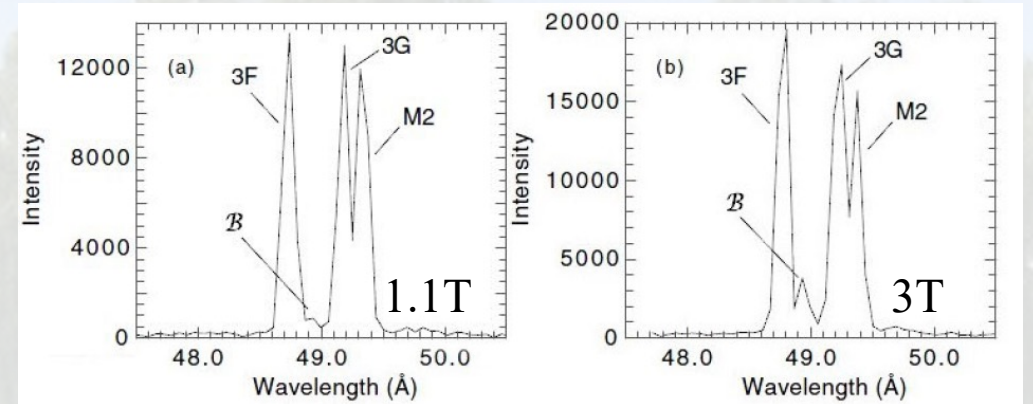
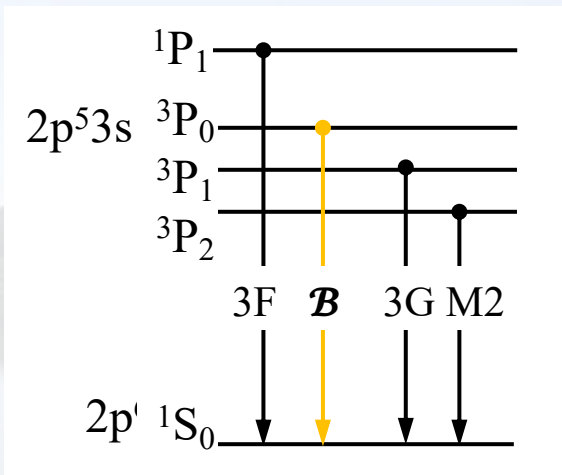


A simple three-level system

- Zeeman quenching: shorten the lifetime of levels (Schef et al. 2005, PRA)



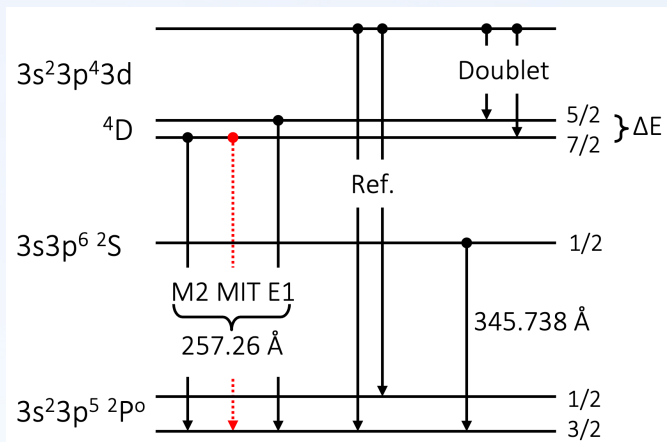
- MIT: spectroscopy measurement (Beiersdorfer et al. 2003, PRL)



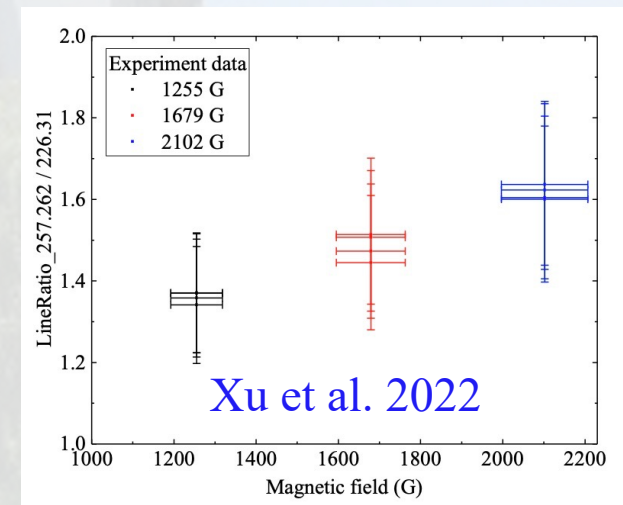
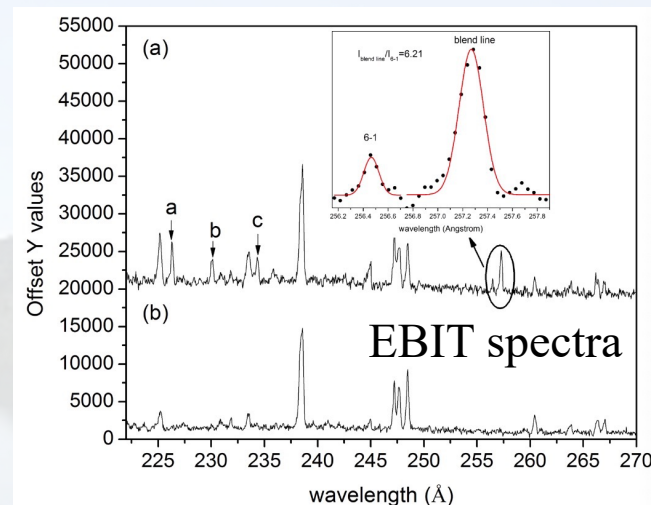
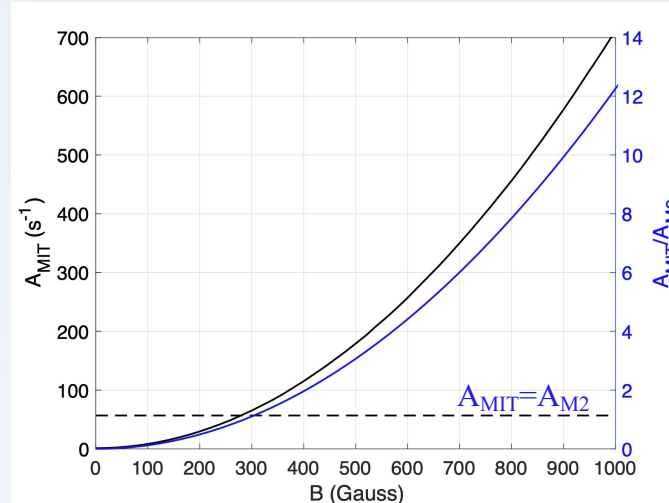
Overview of MIT in Fe X

- MIT in Fe X: enhanced by the pseudo-degeneracy of ${}^4D_{7/2,5/2}$ (Li et al. 2015, 2016, 2021, ApJ)

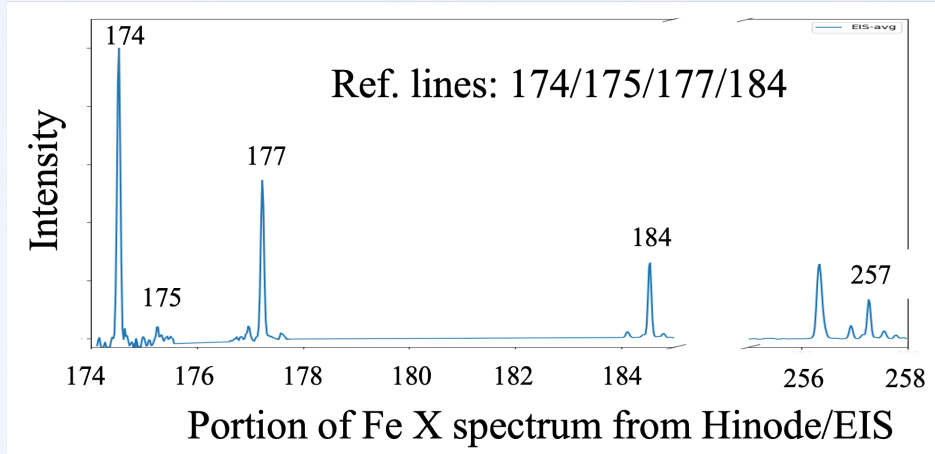
$$A_{\text{MIT}} \propto A_{\text{E1}} \frac{B^2}{\Delta E^2}$$



Schematic energy diagram of Fe X



Methodology



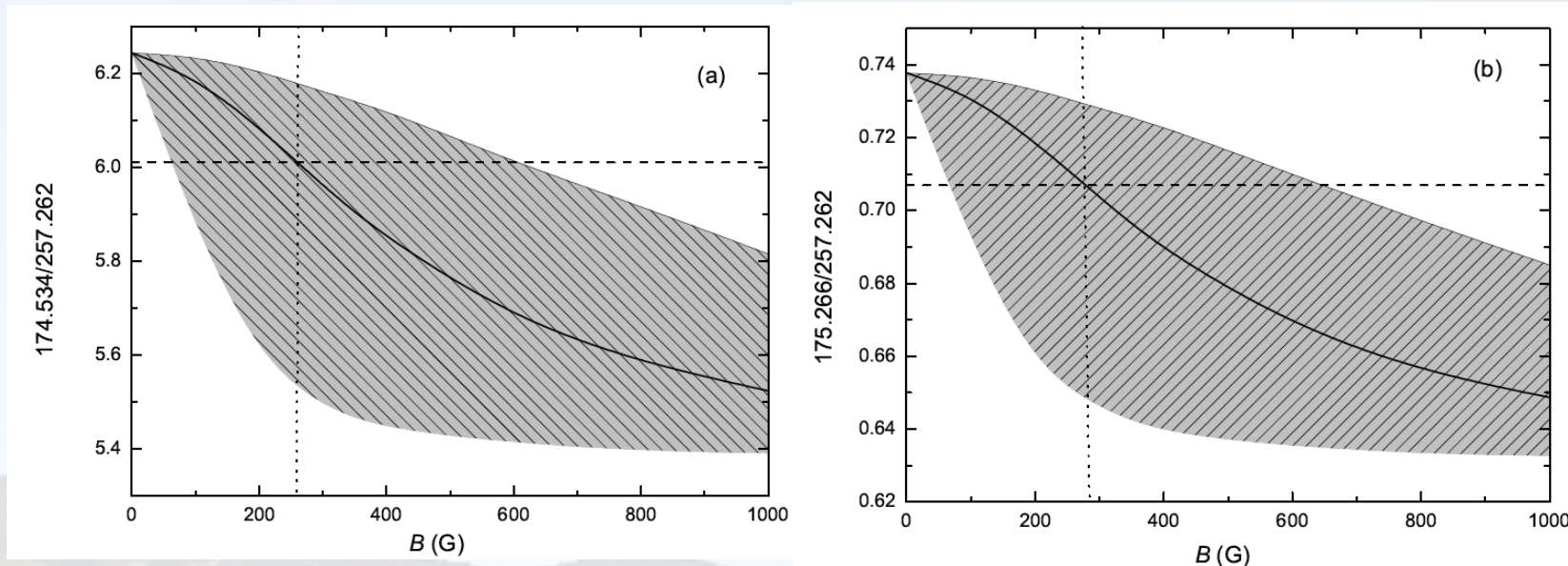
Hinode/EIS: solar corona and upper transition region emission lines in the wavelength ranges **170 – 210 Å (SW)** and **250 – 290 Å (LW)**

compare the observed 257/Ref. from EIS with theoretical predictions LR(T,N,B)

- **Reference line:** insensitive to B
- **Density diagnostic:** intensity ratio with Fe X 175
- **Temperature diagnostic:** intensity ratio with Fe X 345, DEM
- **Spectral modelling:** CHIANTI database, Int(T,N,B)

coronal magnetic field measurement – example 1

- 174 and 175 as reference lines (Si et al., ApJL, 2020)
- 174/175 for density determination
- observed intensity ratios from Brown et al. ApJS, 2008, an active region observed on Nov. 4, 2006 on the solar disk from Hinode/EIS



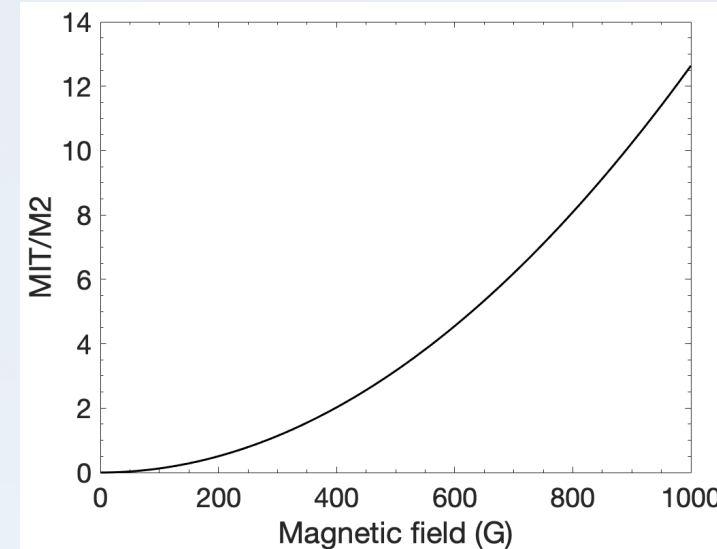
The field strength we determine is around 270 G.

coronal magnetic field measurement – example 2

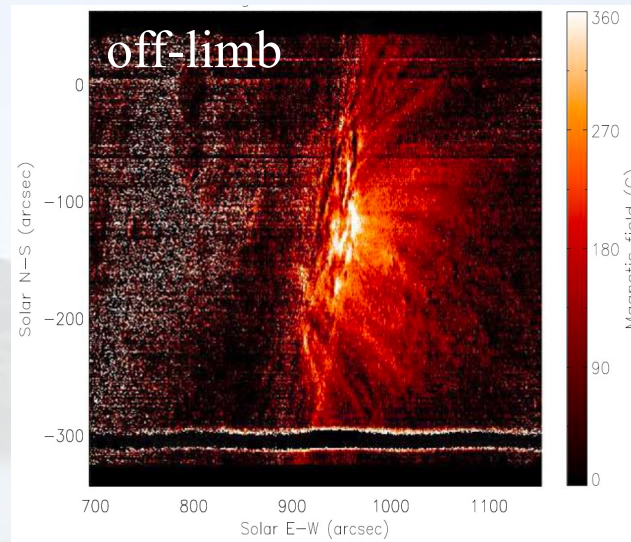
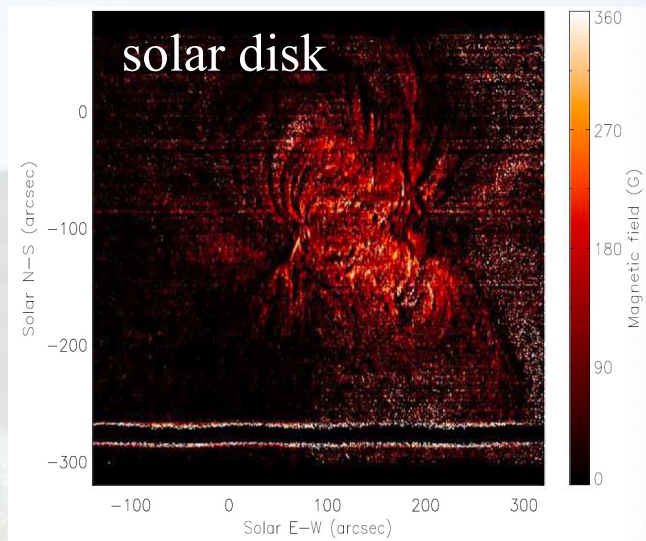
Landi et al. *ApJ*, 2020

Assumption: $A_{\text{MIT}} < A_{\text{M2}}$, MIT transition does not affect the M2 intensity

$$\frac{I(\text{MIT})}{I(\text{M2})} = \frac{I(257)}{I(\text{Ref.})} \cdot R\left(\frac{\text{Ref.}}{\text{M2}}\right) - R\left(\frac{\text{E1} + \text{M2}}{\text{M2}}\right)$$



- reference line: 184 Å
- Density measurement: Fe X 174/175, Fe XI 182/188
- One example: AR10978 maps on 12 December(11:43:36 UT) 2007



Landi et al. 2020, 2021
Brooks & Yardley 2021
Brooks et al. 2021

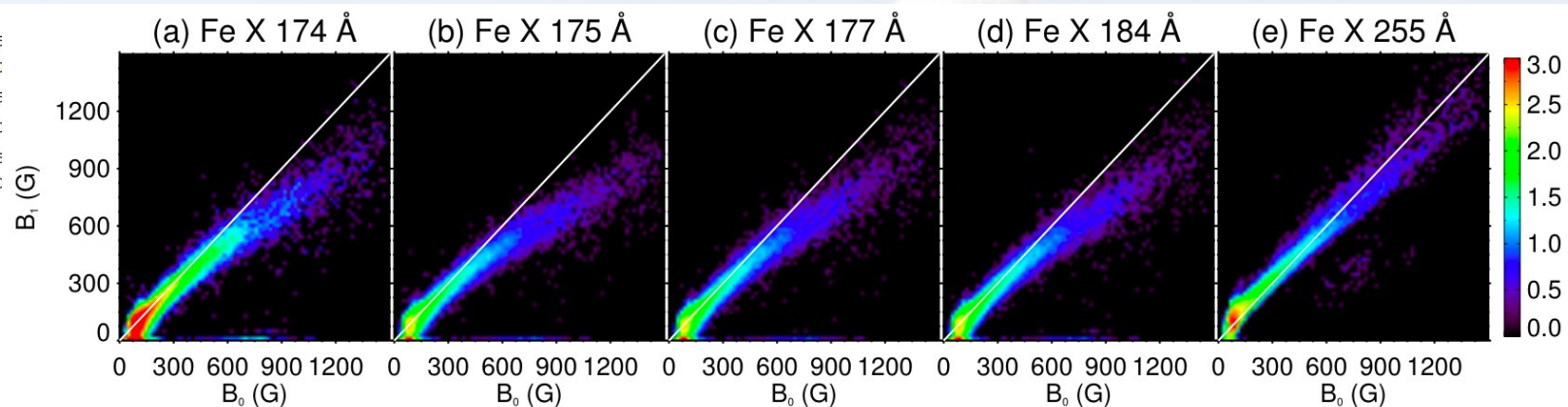
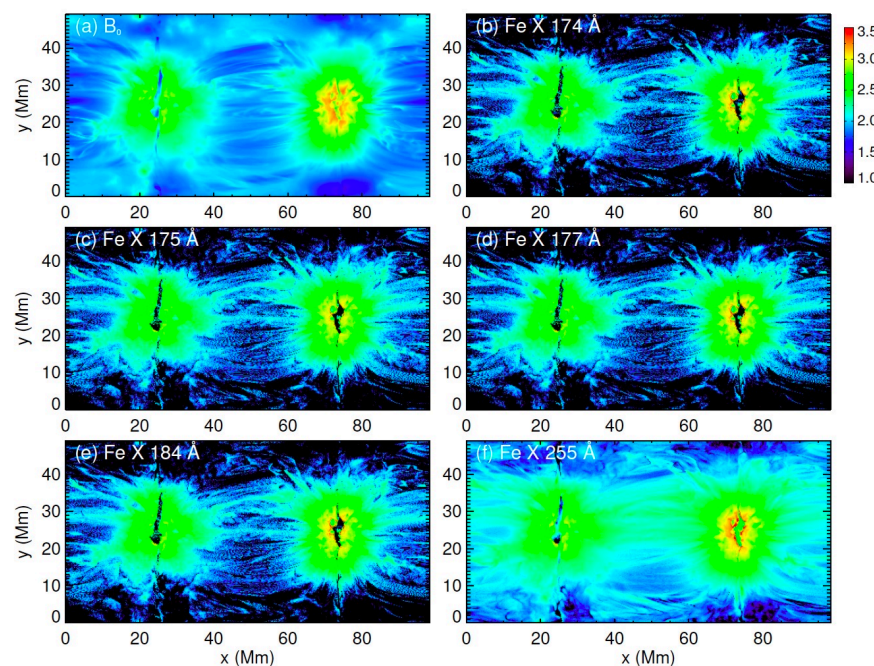
Validation: Forward modeling with a 3D MHD model

Chen et al. 2021a,b, Liu et al. 2022, ApJ

- Synthesize the Fe X line intensities from 3D MHD model
- Density diagnostics: Fe X 175/174 line ratio
- Temperature diagnostics: Fe X 184/345 line ratio

(a): B_{model}

(b)-(f): B_{MIT} derived using different ref. lines



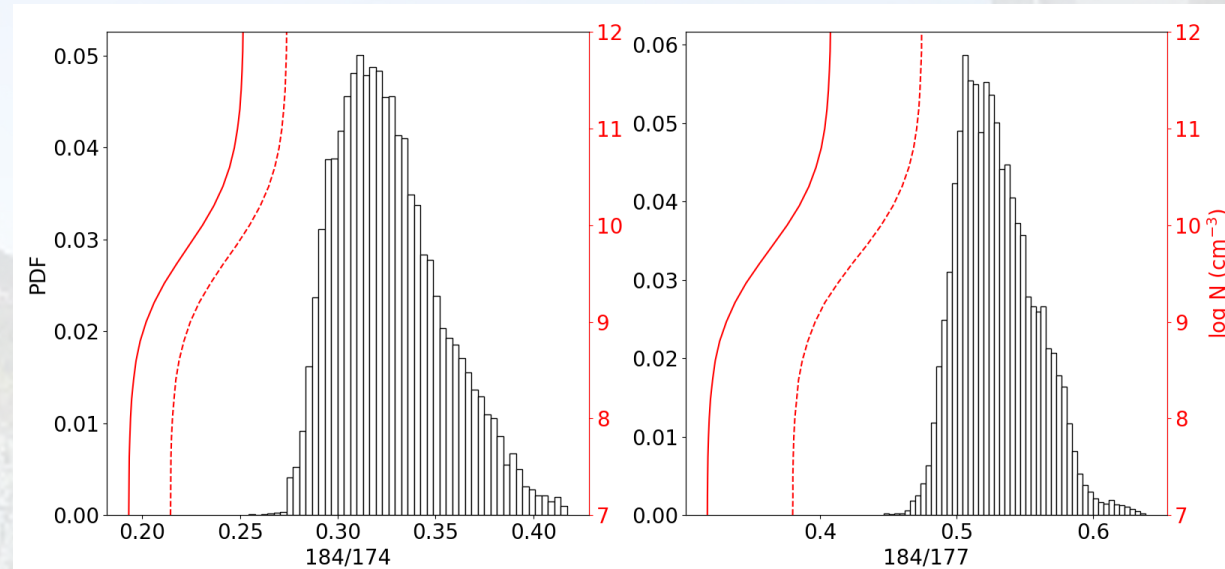
the MIT technique could provide reasonably accurate coronal magnetic field measurements in active region

Limitations and uncertainties

- Only field strength can be measured, but not the direction
- **Uncertainty in atomic data:**
 - ΔE : 20% uncertainty from the recent SUMER measurements ([Landi et al. 2020](#))
 - CHIANTI v.10 – **transition and collisional data** from R-matrix ([Del Zanna et al. 2012](#))
- **Intensity calibration:** short- and long-wavelength

[Li et al. 2021, 2022:](#)

- large-scale **MCDHF calculations** for energy levels and radiative data for states up to $n=4$
- **Dirac Atomic R-matrix calculation** for electron-impact collision strengths



Summary

- The magnetic-field-induced transition method has been developed and was verified in the laboratory.
- The pseudo-degeneracy of two levels in Fe X causes the MIT@257 Å line to be sensitive to the relatively small magnetic fields expected in the solar corona.
- Forward modeling with 3D MHD models has verified that the MIT technique could provide reasonably accurate coronal magnetic field measurements in active regions.
- The MIT method has been applied to HINODE/EIS observations and illustrates the potential of a new diagnostic technique for coronal field strength measurement.
- Further efforts are necessary on both theoretical and observational side to provide a better estimation of magnetic field using the MIT method.
- It is also highly desirable to combine different magnetic field techniques to achieve a better understanding of coronal magnetism.

Thanks for your attention!

