A 3D reconstruction of the solar corona, showing a complex network of magnetic field lines and electron density. The image is dominated by bright yellow and orange colors, with a dark background. The solar surface is visible at the bottom, with several bright, fan-like structures extending upwards, representing coronal loops and streamers. The overall appearance is that of a highly dynamic and structured plasma environment.

3D Reconstruction of the Electron Density in the Solar Corona

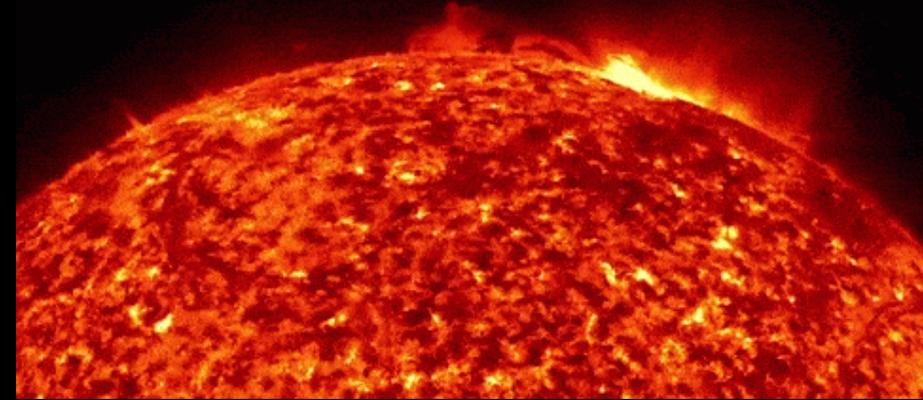
Luke Burnett

St. Olaf College, Northfield, MN
HAO, Boulder, Colorado

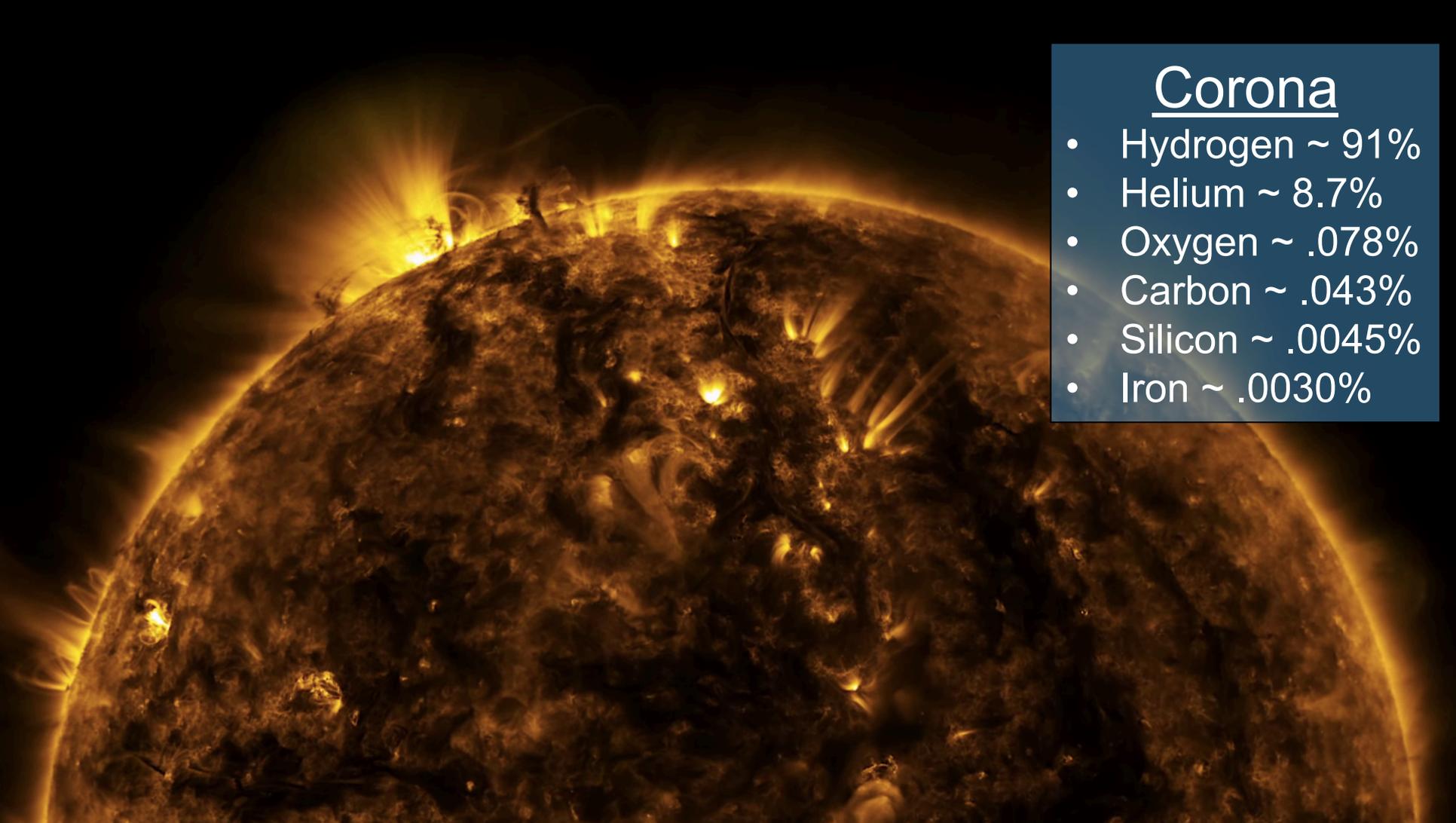
Doug Nychka, CISL
Sarah Gibson, HAO
Kevin Dalmasse, HAO, CISL

Variations over time

- Flares
- CMEs
- Small-scale variation



AIA 193 - 2014/11/30 - 12:25:30Z



Corona

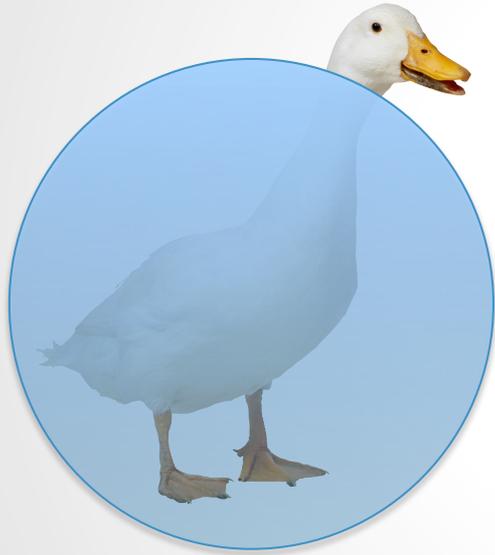
- Hydrogen ~ 91%
- Helium ~ 8.7%
- Oxygen ~ .078%
- Carbon ~ .043%
- Silicon ~ .0045%
- Iron ~ .0030%

What we have to work with:

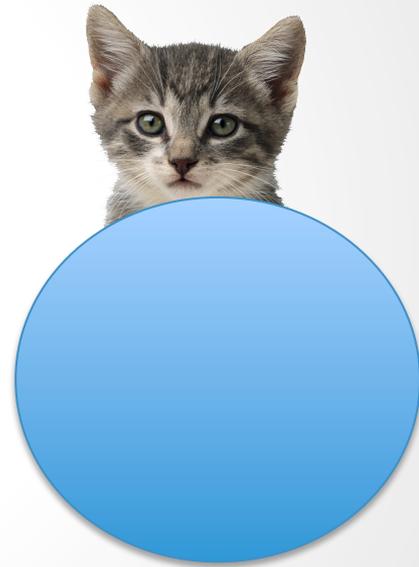
- White-light images
- 2-D images at different angles
- Projection on the “plane of sky”
(POS defined by observer’s location)

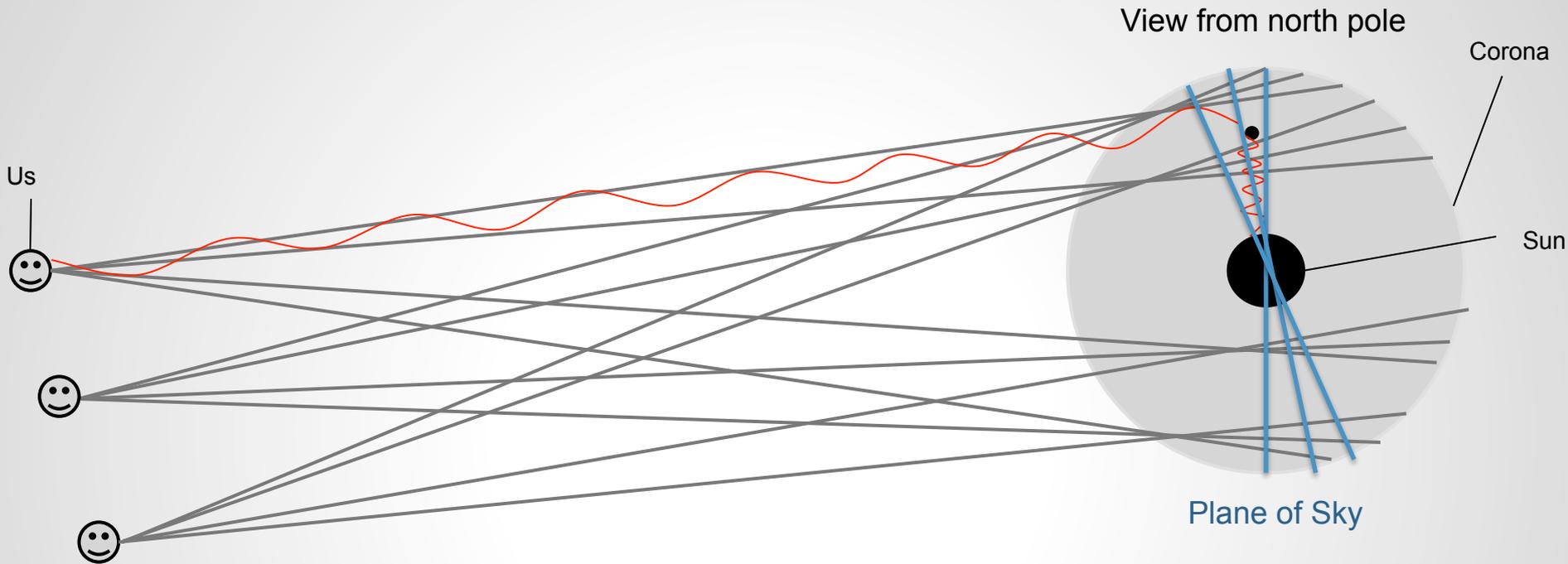


Optically Thin



Optically Thick





$$pB_{\text{LOS}} = \int_{\text{LOS}} N_e(x) \cdot S(x) dl$$

Brightness

Electron Density

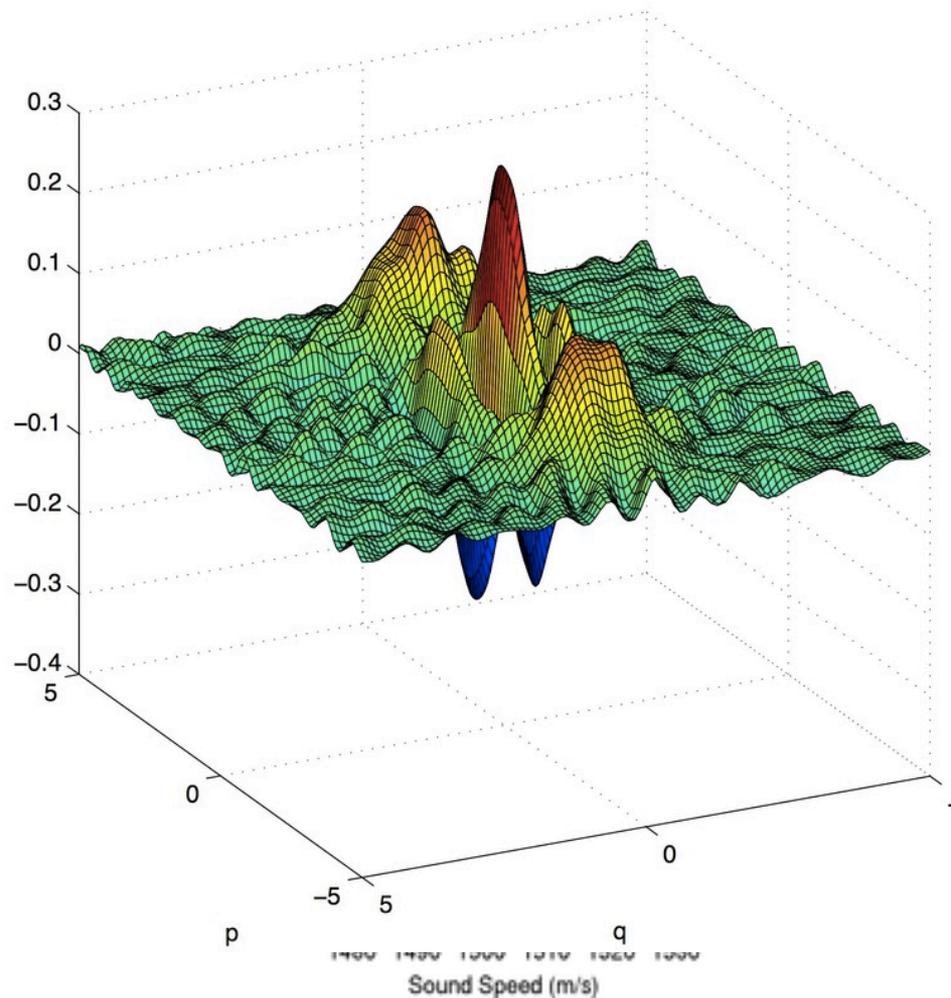
Scattering

Tomography

The reconstruction of an object of N dimensions through a series of M -dimensional slices or observations where $M < N$.

Examples:

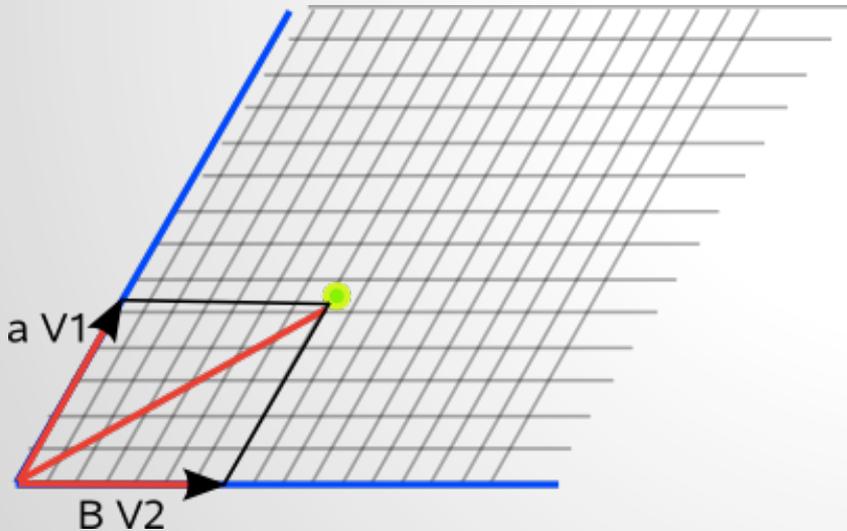
- MRI
- Ocean Acoustic Tomography
- Quantum State Tomography



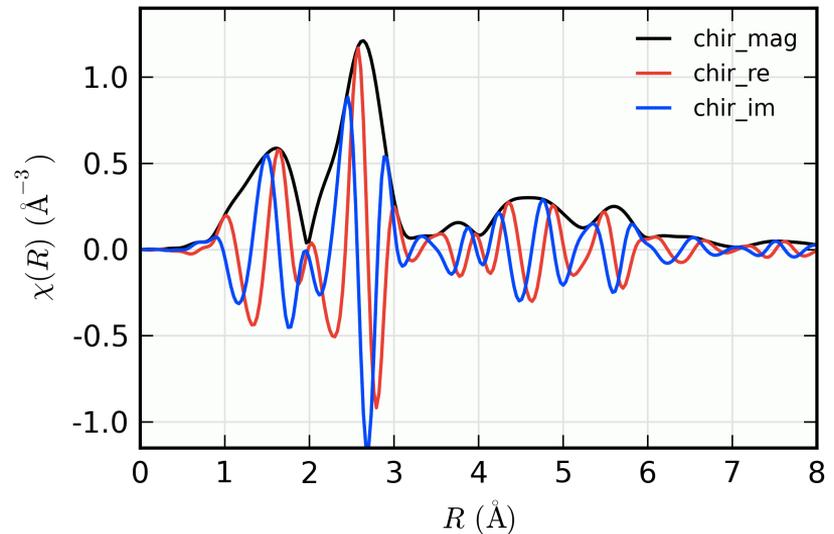
Radial Basis Functions

Combination of functions X constants

Basis vectors spanning a vector space

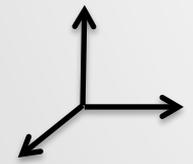


Sines and cosines describing a function

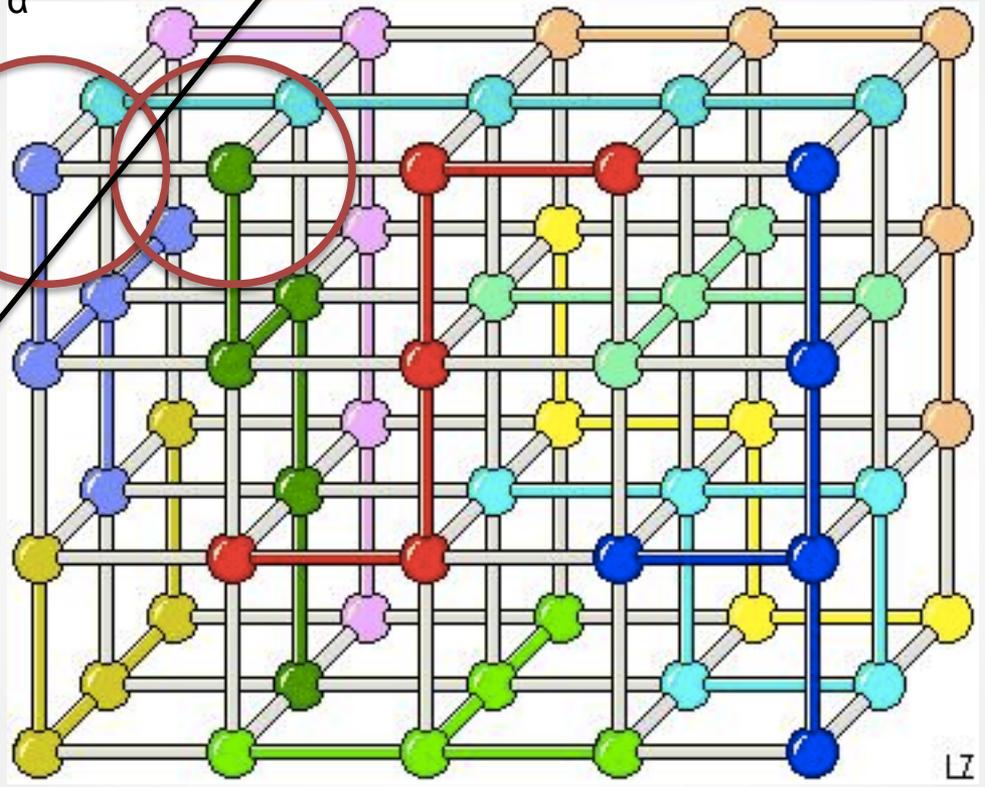


3D Lattice

"radius" defined by α



Spatial Dimensions



LZ

Basis Functions

Point in space

$$x = (r_1, \theta_1, \phi_1)$$

Basis function node location

$$b = (r_2, \theta_2, \phi_2)$$

$$d = \left(\frac{r_1 - r_2}{\alpha_r} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{\theta_1 - \theta_2}{\alpha_\theta} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{\phi_1 - \phi_2}{\alpha_\phi} \right)^2$$

α = "radius" of influence

Distance in normalized space

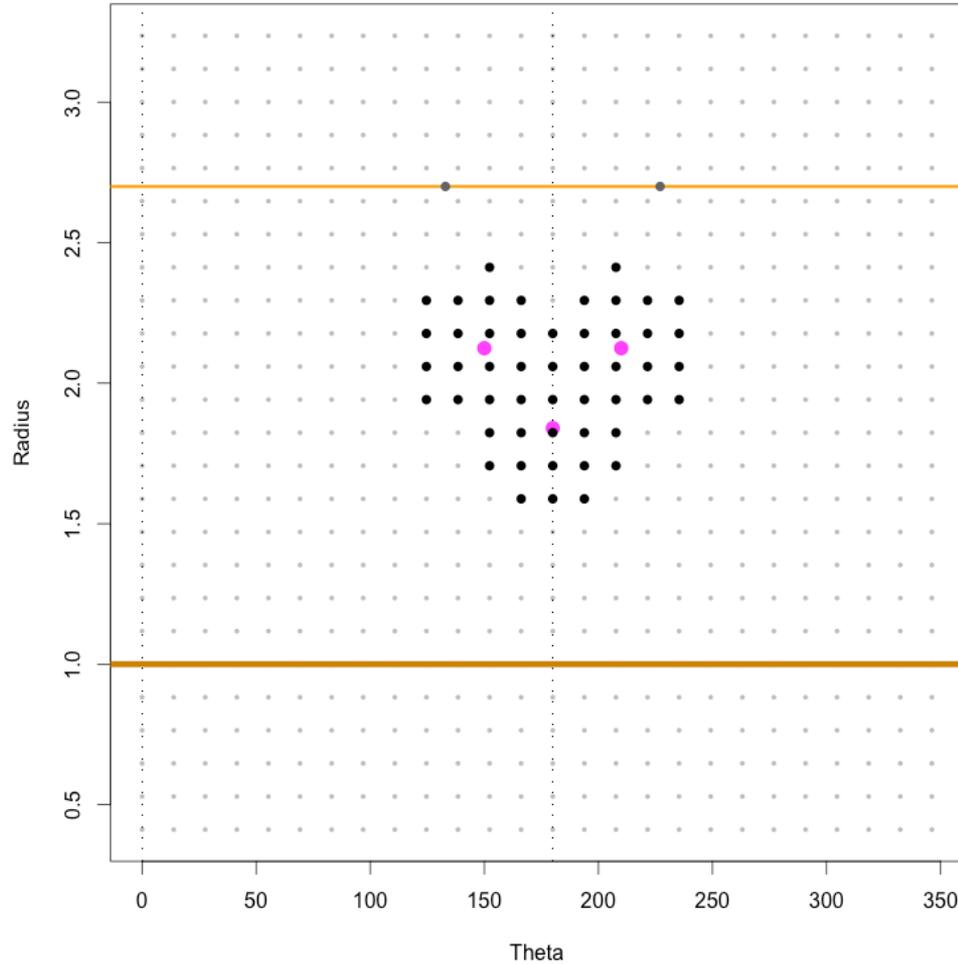
$$\psi_i(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & d \geq 1 \\ (1 - d^2)^3 & d < 1 \end{cases}$$

Value of basis function

Looking down from north pole (polar plot)

x (points in space)

b (node locations)



Integral and Sum Form

$$N_e(x) \approx N_e^*(x) = \sum_{i=1}^n \psi_i(x) \cdot c_i$$

Basis Functions

$$pB_k = \int_k N_e(x) \cdot S(x) dl$$

Kth line of sight

$$pB_k = \sum_{i=1}^n \left[\int_k \psi_i(x) \cdot S(x) dl \right] \cdot c_i$$

Matrix Form

$$\begin{bmatrix} pB_1 \\ pB_2 \\ \vdots \\ pB_k \\ \vdots \\ pB_m \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \int_1 \psi_1 \cdot S(x) dl & \int_1 \psi_2 \cdot S(x) dl & \dots & \int_1 \psi_n \cdot S(x) dl \\ \int_2 \psi_1 \cdot S(x) dl & \int_2 \psi_2 \cdot S(x) dl & \dots & \int_2 \psi_n \cdot S(x) dl \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \int_k \psi_1 \cdot S(x) dl & \int_k \psi_2 \cdot S(x) dl & \dots & \int_k \psi_n \cdot S(x) dl \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \int_m \psi_1 \cdot S(x) dl & \int_m \psi_2 \cdot S(x) dl & \dots & \int_m \psi_n \cdot S(x) dl \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \\ \vdots \\ c_n \end{bmatrix}$$

$pB = A\vec{c}$

Computing A

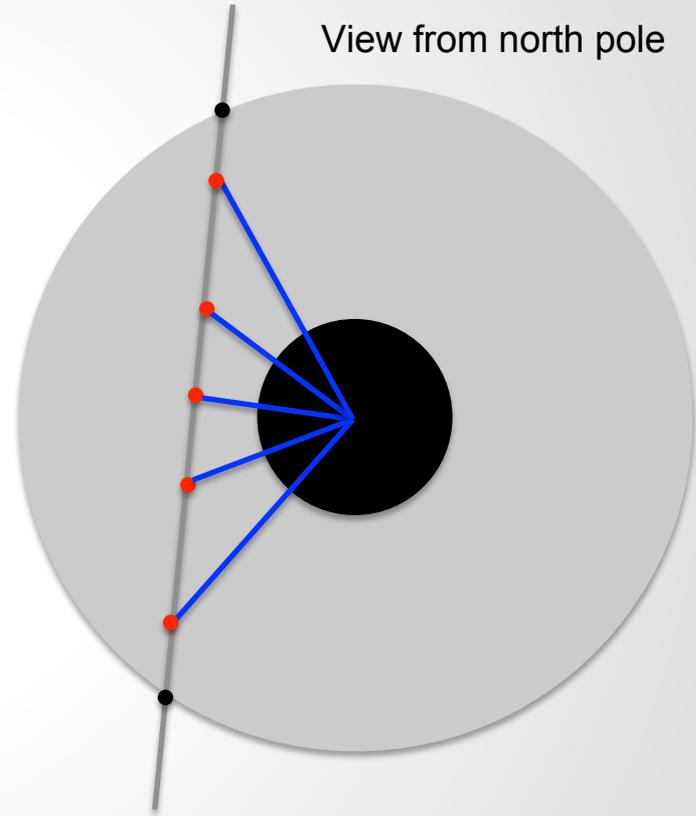
$$A = \begin{bmatrix} \int_1 \psi_1 \cdot S(x) dl & \int_1 \psi_2 \cdot S(x) dl & \dots & \int_1 \psi_n \cdot S(x) dl \\ \int_2 \psi_1 \cdot S(x) dl & \int_2 \psi_2 \cdot S(x) dl & \dots & \int_2 \psi_n \cdot S(x) dl \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \int_m \psi_1 \cdot S(x) dl & \int_m \psi_2 \cdot S(x) dl & \dots & \int_m \psi_n \cdot S(x) dl \end{bmatrix}$$

Major algorithms in program

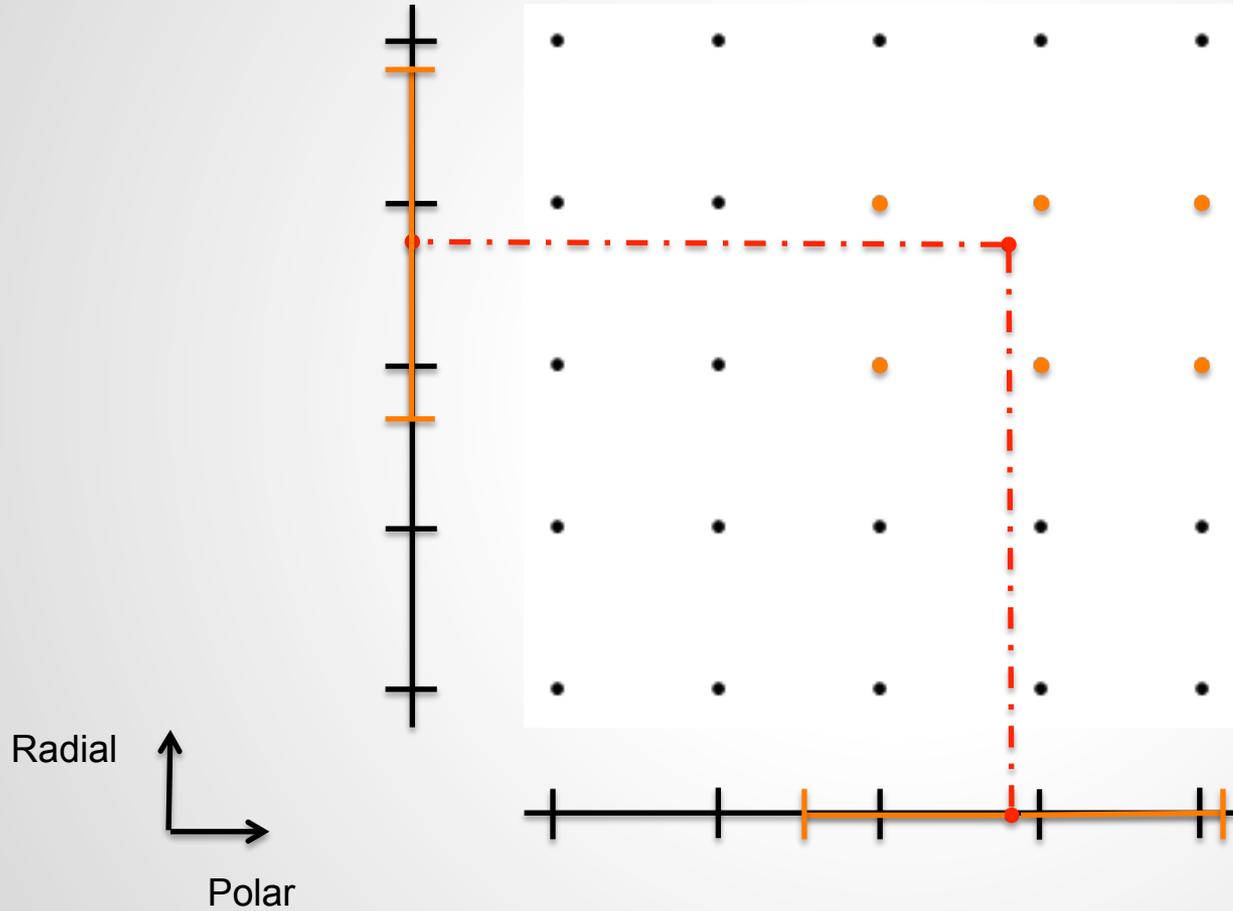
- Determine LOS sample points
- Find basis functions in range
- Compute integral

Determining LOS sample points

$$\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} x_0 \\ y_0 \\ z_0 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} u_x \\ u_y \\ u_z \end{pmatrix} t$$



Find Basis Functions in Range



$$p\vec{B} = A\vec{c} \quad N_e^*(x) = \sum_{i=0}^n \psi_i(x) \cdot c_i$$

1. Can invert pB to get c , and thus N_e

- Minimize: $(pB - Ac^*)^T(pB - Ac^*) + \lambda(c^*)^T Qc^*$

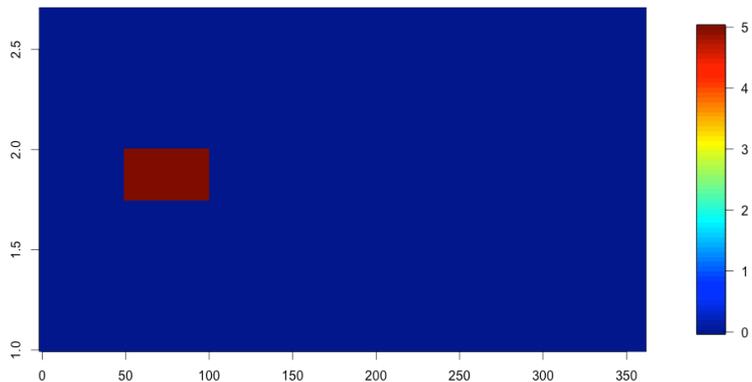
2. Allows us to check accuracy of the modeling method

- Model with known density
- Get c coefficients $(N_e - \Psi c)^T(N_e - \Psi c) + \lambda c^T Qc$
- Use c coefficients to get pB
- Do inversion with pB to get new set of c coefficients (c^*)
- Compare c to c^*

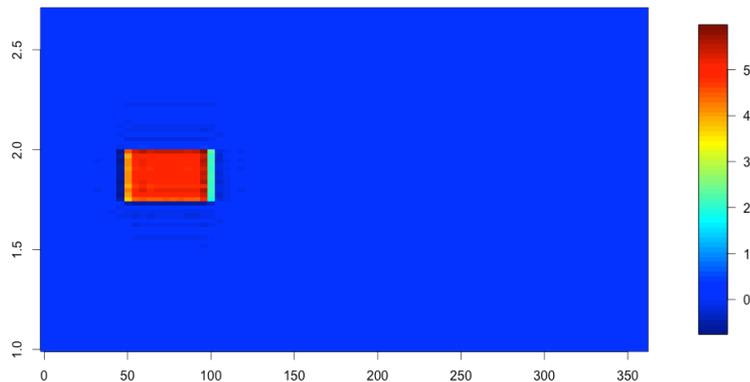
Step 1: Model with known density

Step 2: Obtain c coefficients

Ground truth

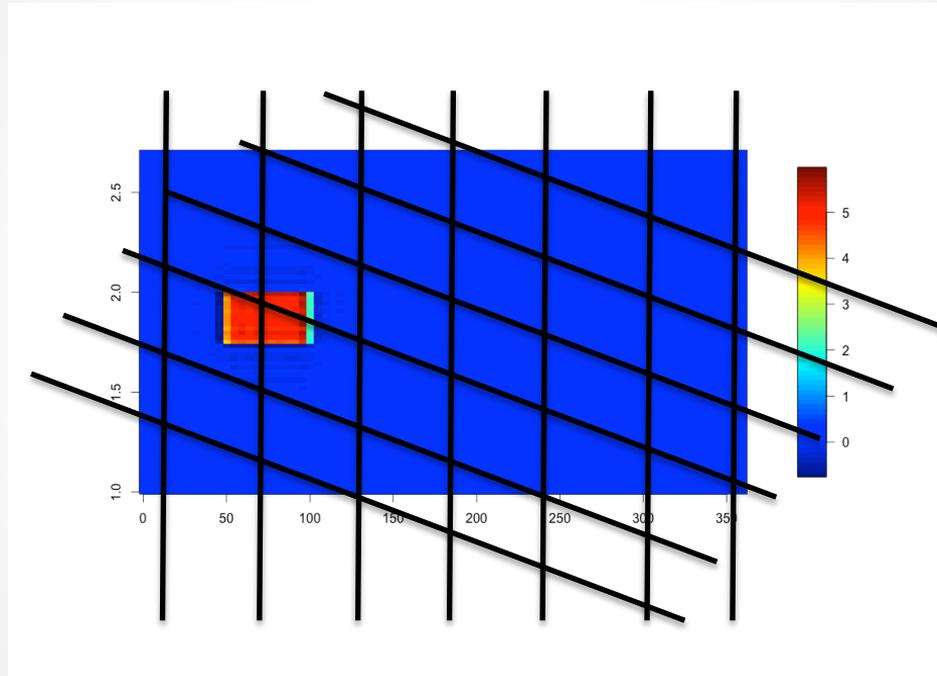


Reconstructed density with
24522 basis functions $N_e(c)$



$$N_e(x) \approx \sum_i \psi_i(x) \cdot c_i$$

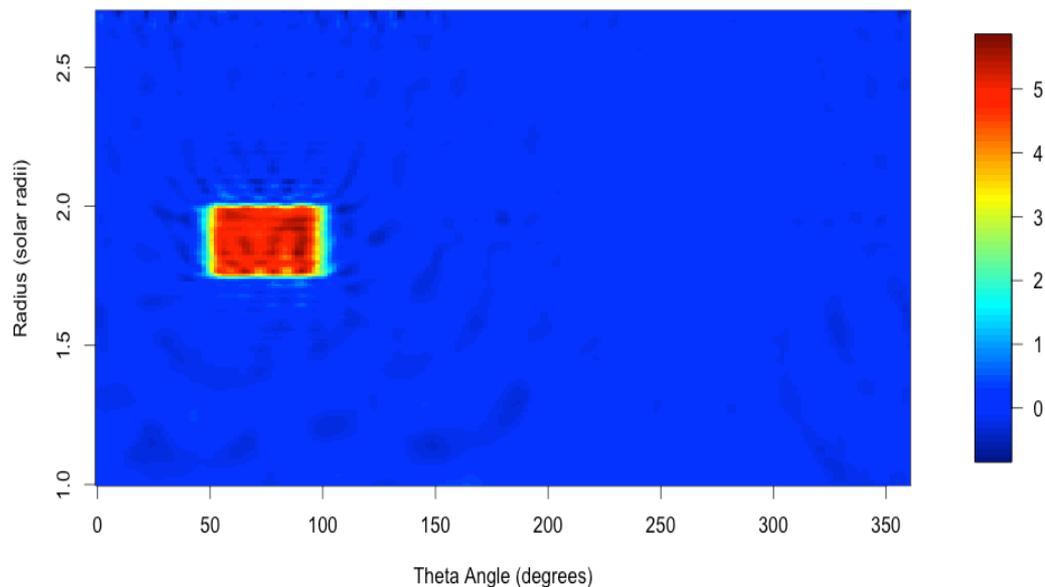
Step 3: Use c coefficients to get pB



$$A\vec{c} = p\vec{B}$$

Step 4: Do inversion with pB to get new set of c coefficients (c^*)

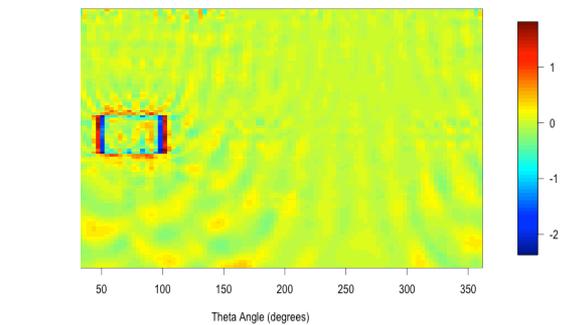
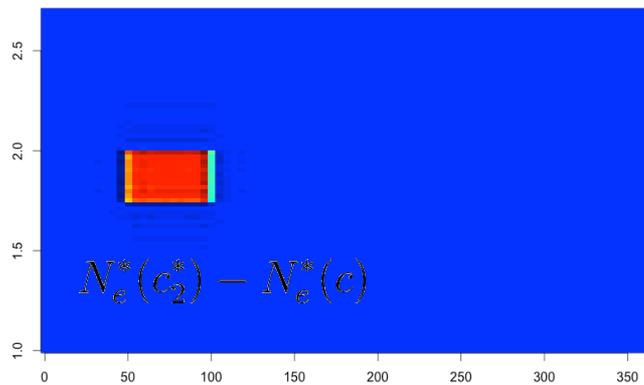
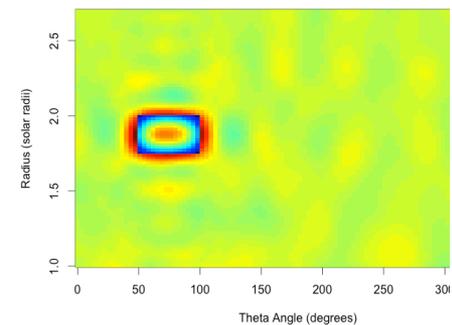
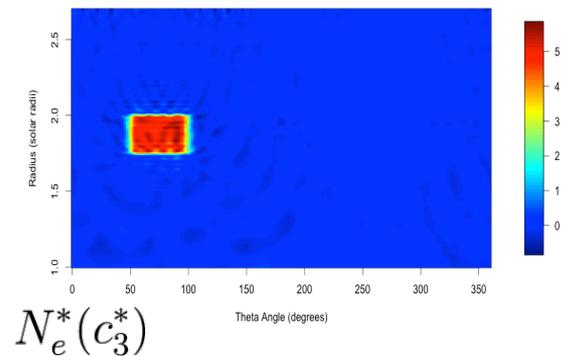
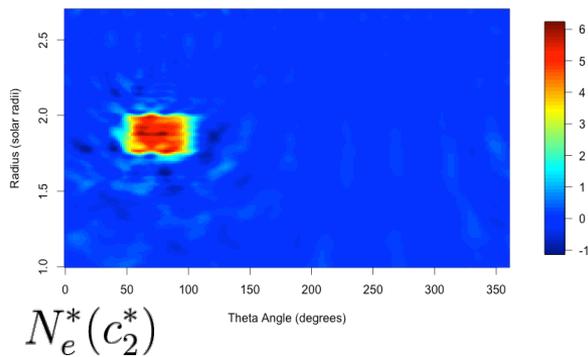
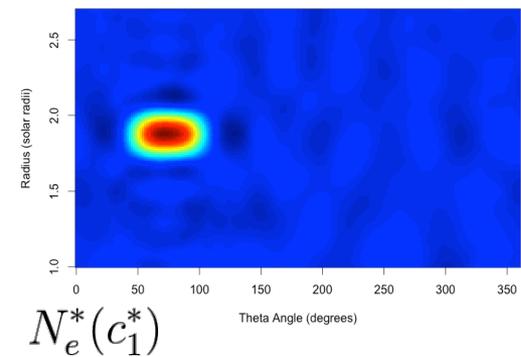
$$N_e(c_B^*)$$



~~24673~~ Basis Functions

~~30~~ Viewing angles

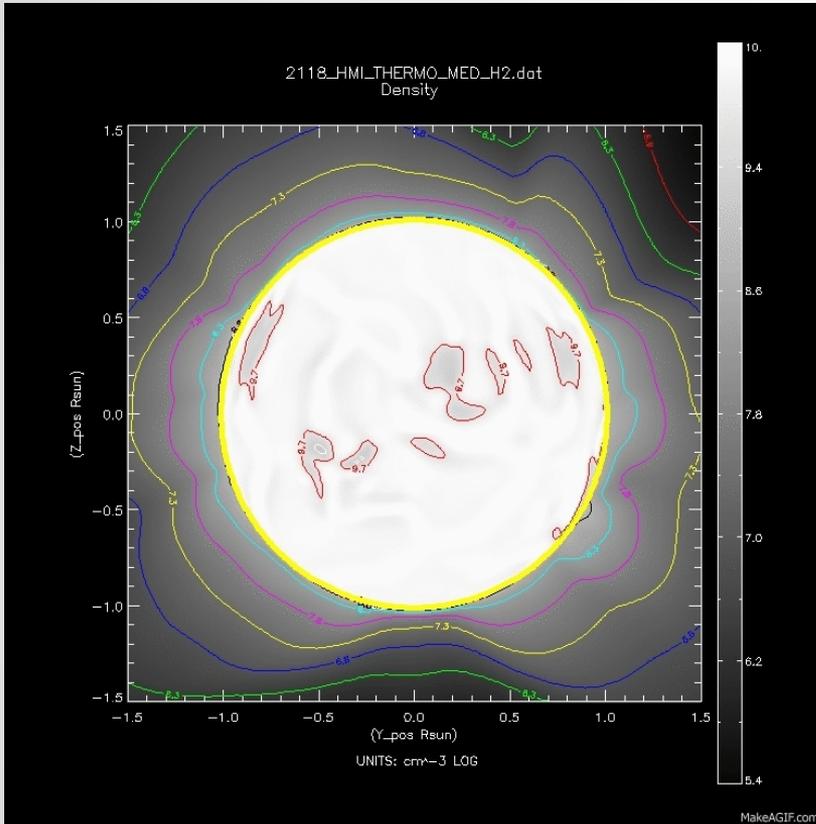
~~360~~ LOS per angle



Mean square error: .2
Average error: -.2

$$N_e^*(c)$$

Mean square error: .012
Average error: -.00014

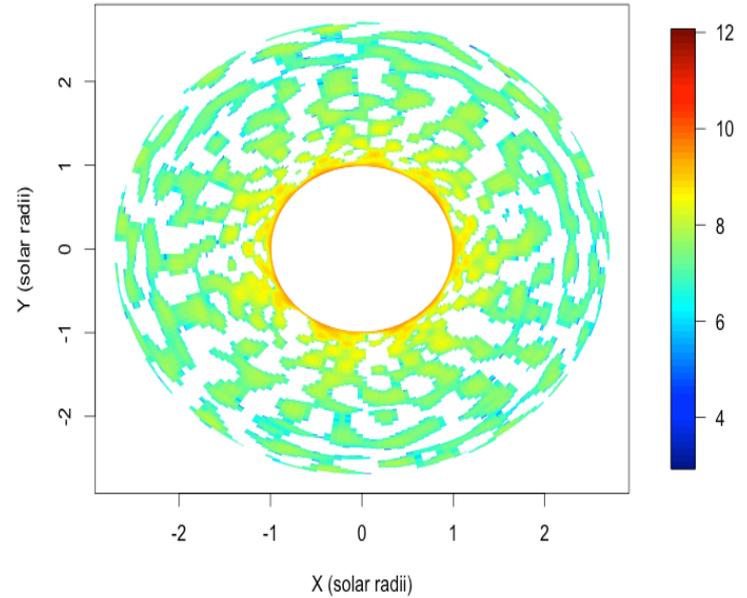
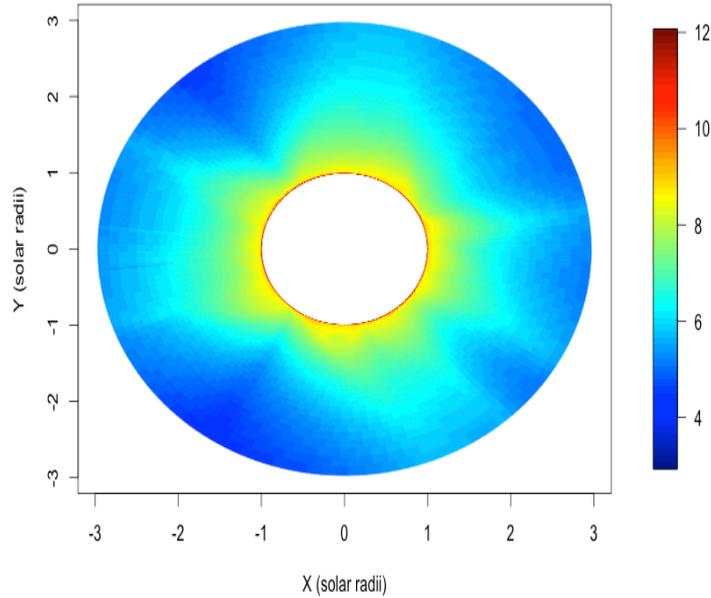


View from Earth

Predictive Science Model

- Boundary-driven model
- Solve through MHD equations
- Provides density at all points
- Datacube available for each solar rotation (chosen to match data)

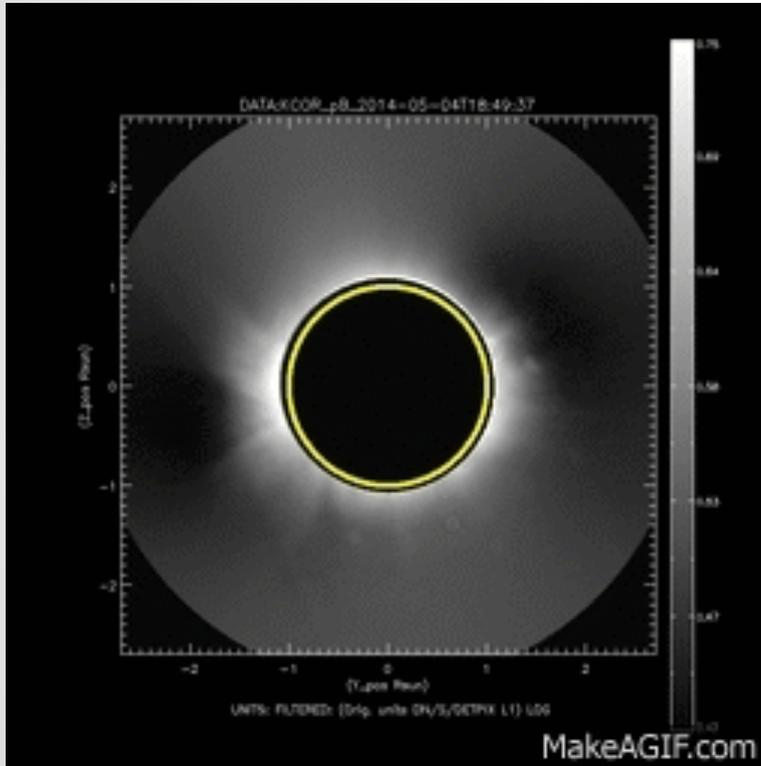
View from north pole



Mean square error: $1.01 \text{ e}8$
Average error: $-2.6 \text{ e}6$

Final Milestone

Applying our method to actual data



View from Earth (pB)

Completed

- Some assessment of accuracy
- Data Collection
- Program to build A-matrix

Future Work

- Finish 2D testing
- Extend testing to three dimensions
- Finish R-C interface
- Perform method with real data
- Consider further improvements (?)