

Fractal, multifractal, and generalized scaling in the turbulent solar wind

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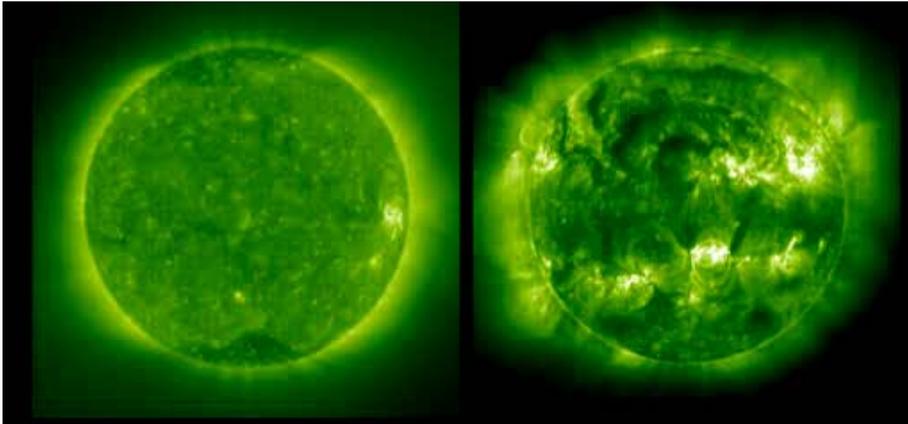
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- The quest for *universal* features of turbulence in solar wind
- Multifractal turbulence in the solar wind- *the inertial range*
- What happens on small scales- *dissipation/dispersion range*
on large scales- *outer scale*

Data thanks to CLUSTER, WIND, ACE, ULYSSES teams

Overview: the solar wind as a turbulence laboratory

SOHO-EIT image of the corona at solar minimum and solar maximum



SOHO- LASCO image of the outer corona near solar maximum



- I: coronal signature has scaling properties
- II: solar wind has intermittent (multifractal) inertial range of turbulence
- III: in-situ observations span inertial range, dissipation/dispersion range and lower k

Solar wind at 1AU power spectra- suggests inertial range of (anisotropic MHD) turbulence. Multifractal scaling in velocity and magnetic field components..

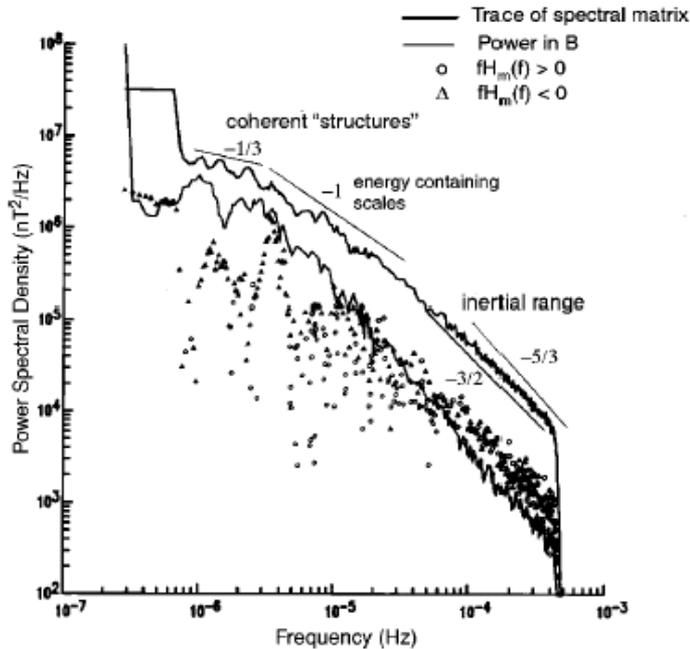


FIG. 1. A power spectrum of the solar wind magnetic field from a time series spanning more than a year. The upper curve is the trace of the power spectral matrix of the three components of B , the lower solid curve is the power in $|B|$, and the circles and triangles are the positive and negative values of the [reduced (Ref. 91)] magnetic helicity (Refs. 39 and 92) respectively.

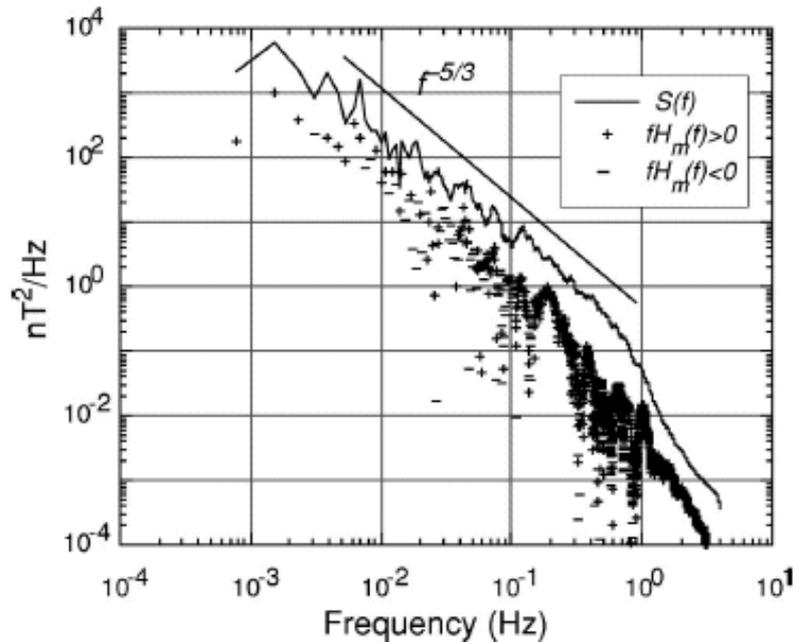


FIG. 2. A power spectrum of Mariner 10 data from 0.5 AU showing the dissipation range of magnetic fluctuations. Also shown are positive and negative values of $fH_m(f)$.

Goldstein and Roberts, POP 1999, See also Tu and Marsch, SSR, 1995

Turbulence and scaling

structures on many length/timescales.

single spacecraft- time interval τ a proxy for space

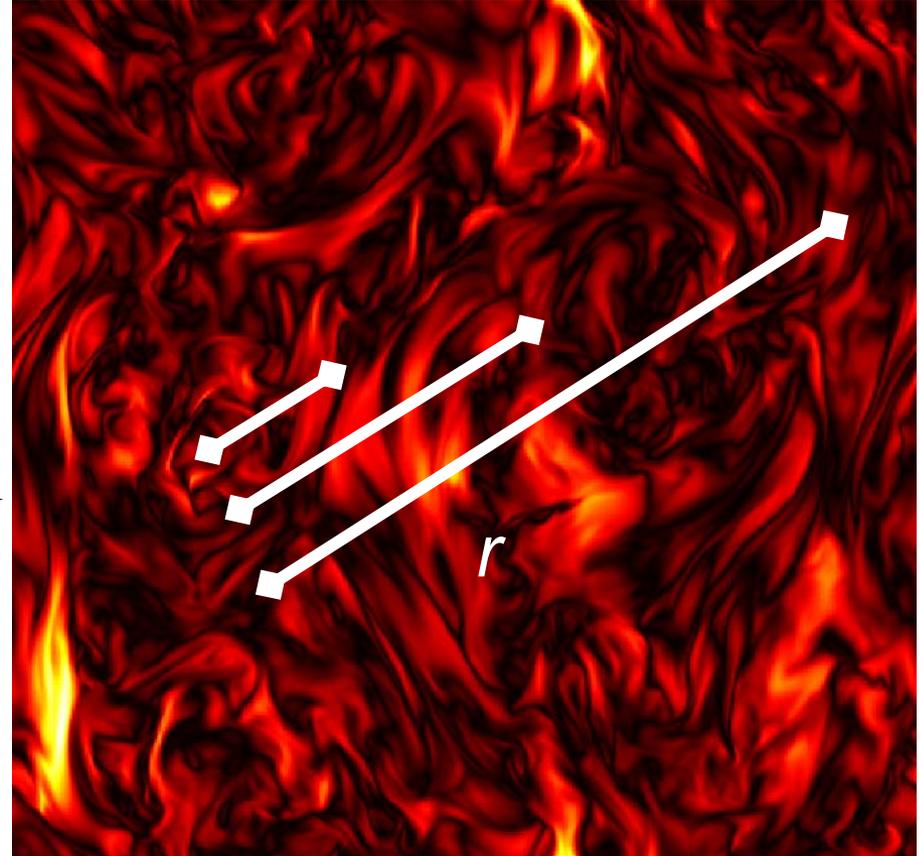
Reproducible, predictable in a *statistical* sense.

to focus on any particular scale r take a difference:

$$y(l, r) = x(l + r) - x(l)$$

look at the statistics of $y(l, r)$

power spectra- compare power in Fourier modes on different scales r



*DNS of 2D compressible MHD turbulence
Merrifield, SCC et al, POP 2006,2007*

Beyond power spectra- quantifying scaling/turbulence from observations

single spacecraft- time interval τ a proxy for space

look at (time-space) differences:

$$y(t, \tau) = x(t + \tau) - x(t)$$

for all available t_k of the timeseries $x(t_k)$

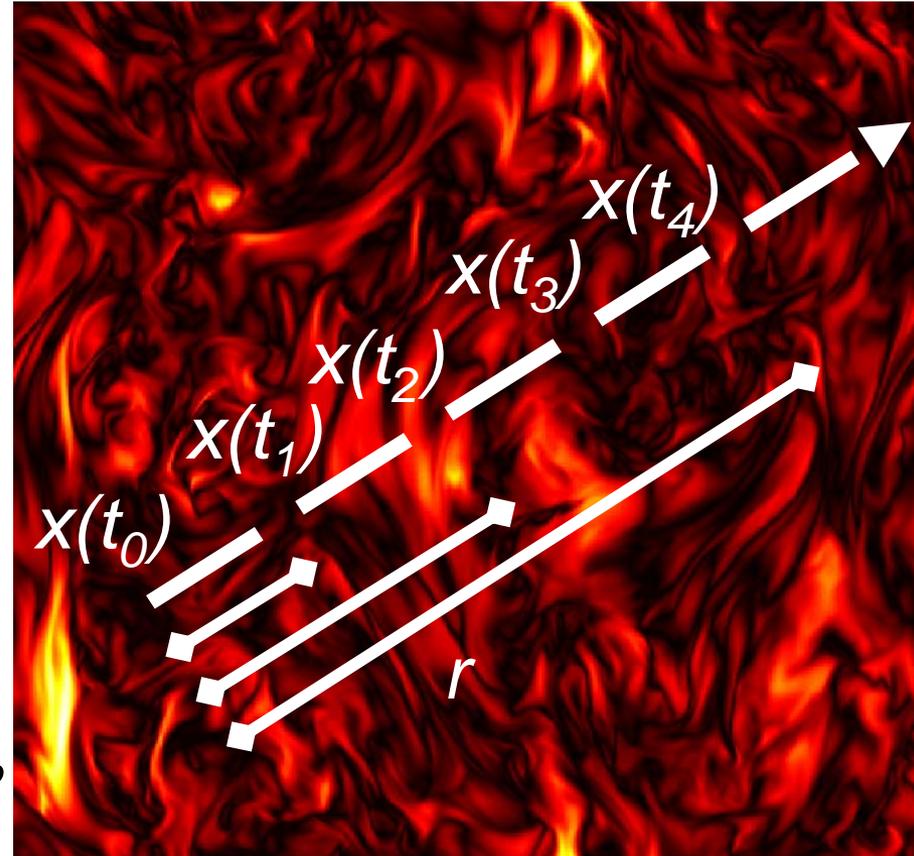
test for **statistical scaling** i.e

$$\text{structure functions } S_p(\tau) = \langle |y(t, \tau)|^p \rangle \propto \tau^{\zeta(p)}$$

we want to measure the $\zeta(p)$

fractal (self- affine) $\zeta(p) \sim \alpha p$

multifractal $\zeta(p) \sim \alpha p - \beta p^2 + \dots$



NB structure functions are just one example of a ‘scaling measure’ cf wavelets, Fourier, SVD/PCA...

All decompose the timeseries as a sum of functions on different scales.

The inertial range- anisotropy and phenomenology from scaling

Multifractal inertial range turbulence- examples

$S_p = \langle |x(t + \tau) - x(t)|^p \rangle \sim \tau^{\xi(p)}$, plot $\log(S_p)$ v.z. $\log(\tau)$ to obtain $\xi(p)$

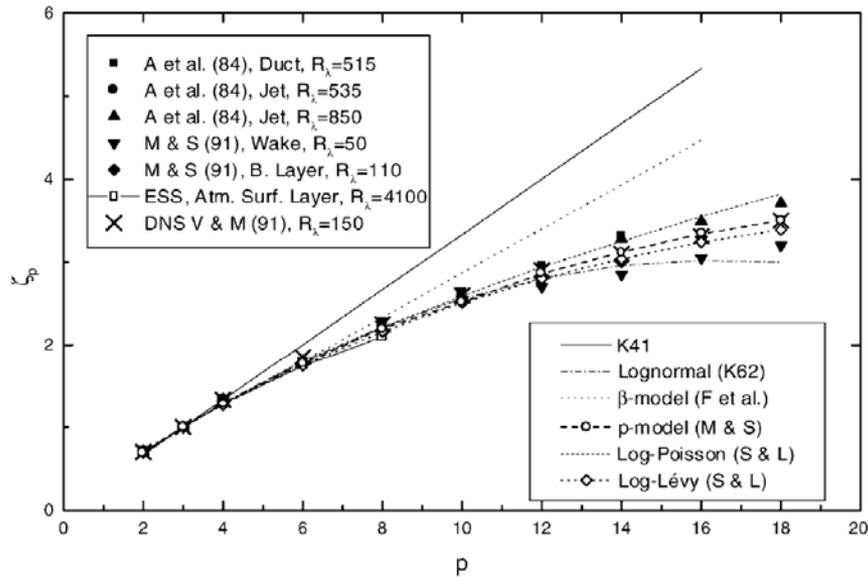


Fig. 11. Power-law exponents ζ_p of the structure functions as a function of the order p , together with the values predicted by K41 and the various intermittency models of Table 1.

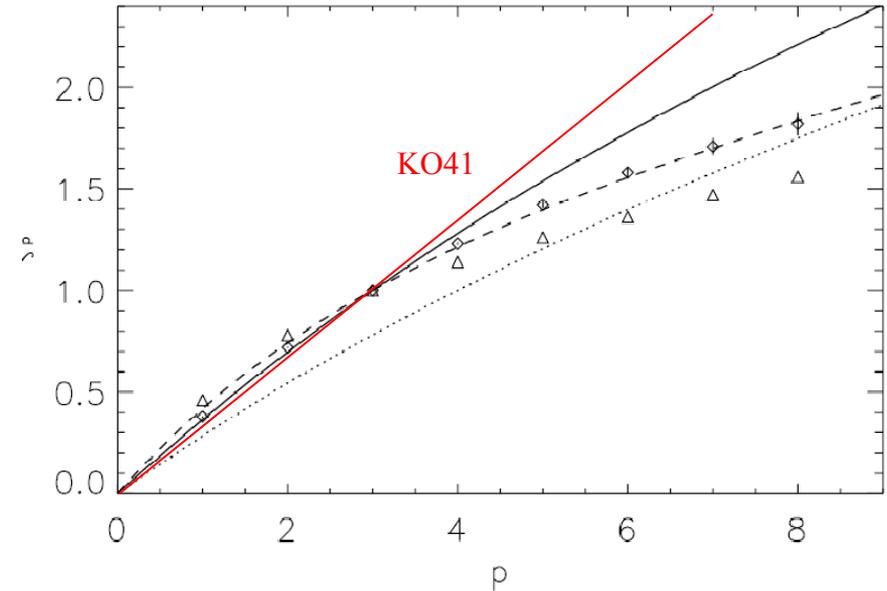


FIG. 4. Scaling exponents ζ_p^+ for 3D MHD turbulence (diamonds) and relative exponents ζ_p^+ / ζ_3^+ for 2D MHD turbulence (triangles). The continuous curve is the She-Leveque model ζ_p^{SL} , the dashed curve the modified model ζ_p^{MHD} (7), and the dotted line the IK model ζ_p^{IK} .

Lab Fluid experiments,
Anselmet et al, PSS, 2001

2 and 3D MHD simulations
Muller & Biskamp PRL 2000

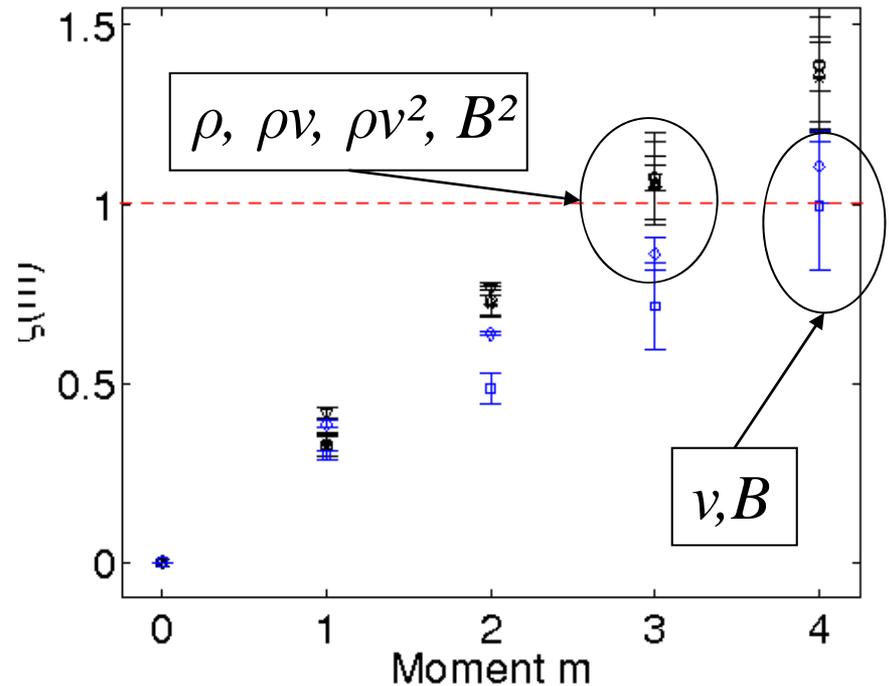
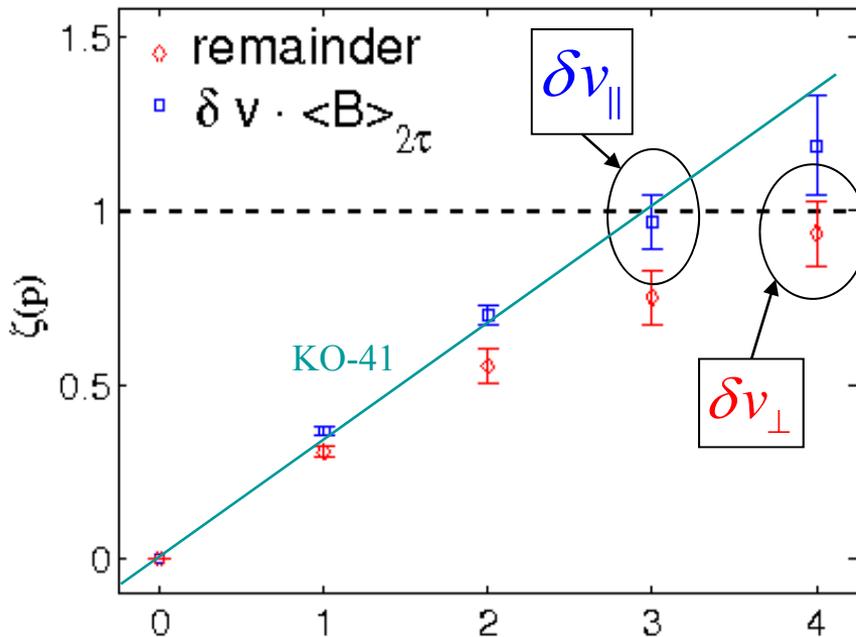
How large can we take p ? See eg *Dudok De Wit, PRE, 2004*

Solar wind anisotropy: Velocity fluctuations parallel and perpendicular to the *local* B field direction

Exponents $\zeta(p)$ for $\langle |\delta v_{\parallel,\perp}|^p \rangle \sim \tau^{\zeta(p)}$ for

$$\delta v_{\parallel} = \delta \mathbf{v} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{b}} \text{ and its remainder } \delta v_{\perp} = \sqrt{\delta \mathbf{v} \cdot \delta \mathbf{v} - (\delta \mathbf{v} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{b}})^2} \quad \zeta(3 + \alpha) = 1 \text{ determines phenomenology}$$

$$\bar{\mathbf{B}} = \mathbf{B}(t) + \dots + \mathbf{B}(t + \tau'), \quad \hat{\mathbf{b}} = \frac{\bar{\mathbf{B}}}{|\bar{\mathbf{B}}|}, \text{ here } \tau' = 2\tau \text{ and } \delta \mathbf{v} = \mathbf{v}(t + \tau) - \mathbf{v}(t)$$

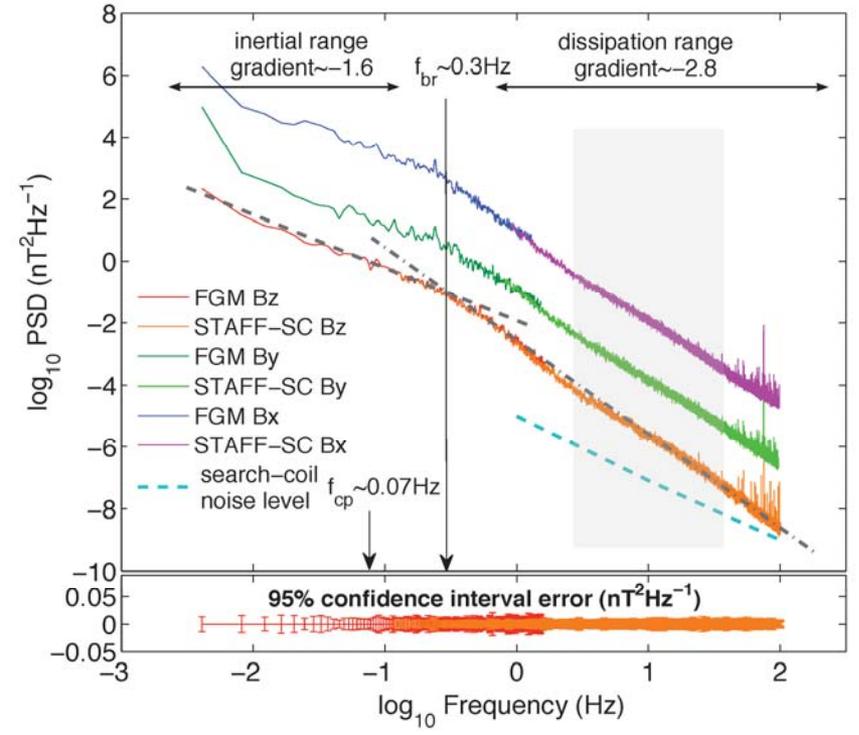
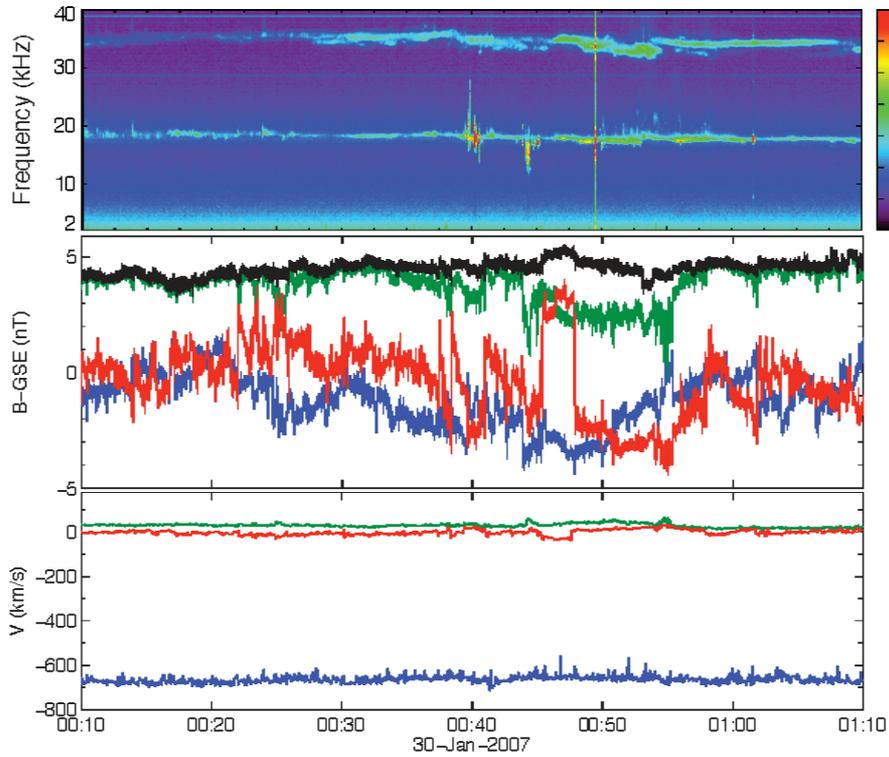


ACE 64s av. 1998-2001 Moment p

SCC et al GRL 2007, see also Hnat, SCC et al PRL 2005, SCC et al NPG 2008

The 'dissipation' range- what happens on kinetic scales

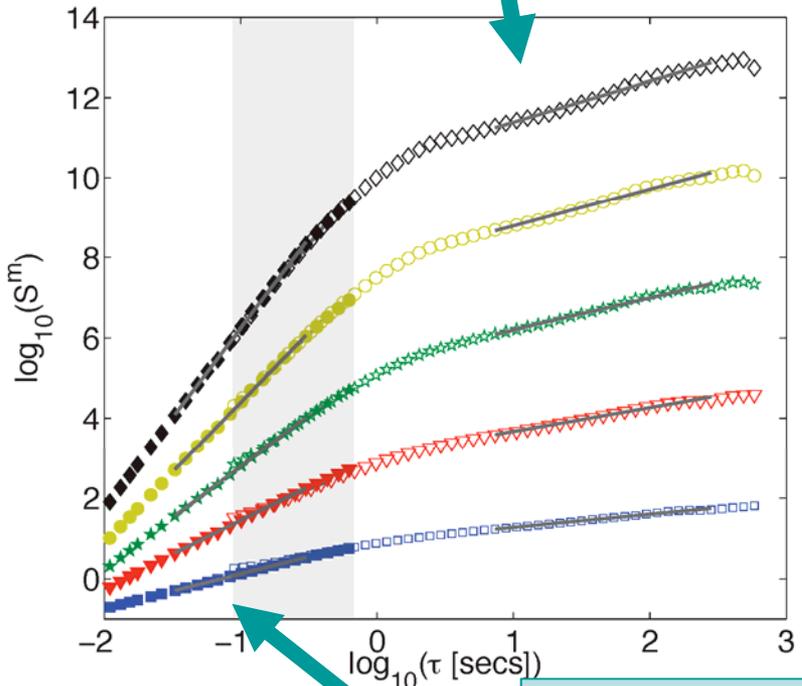
A nice quiet fast interval of solar wind- CLUSTER high cadence B field spanning IR and dissipation range



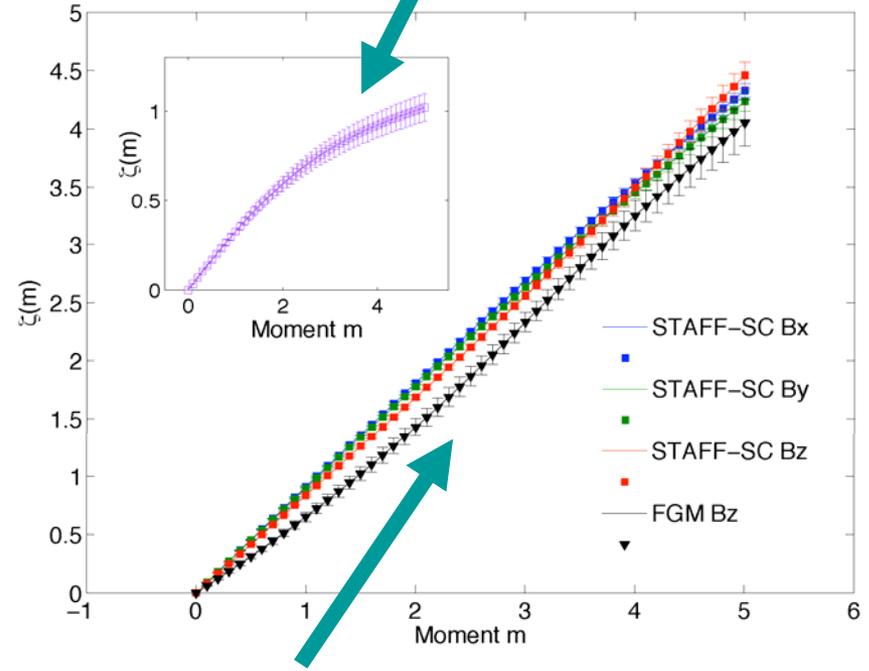
CLUSTER STAFF and FGM shown overlaid.
Kiyani, SCC et al PRL submitted 2009

$S_p = \langle |x(t+\tau) - x(t)|^p \rangle \sim \tau^{\xi(p)}$, plot $\log(S_p)$ v.z. $\log(\tau)$ to obtain $\xi(p)$

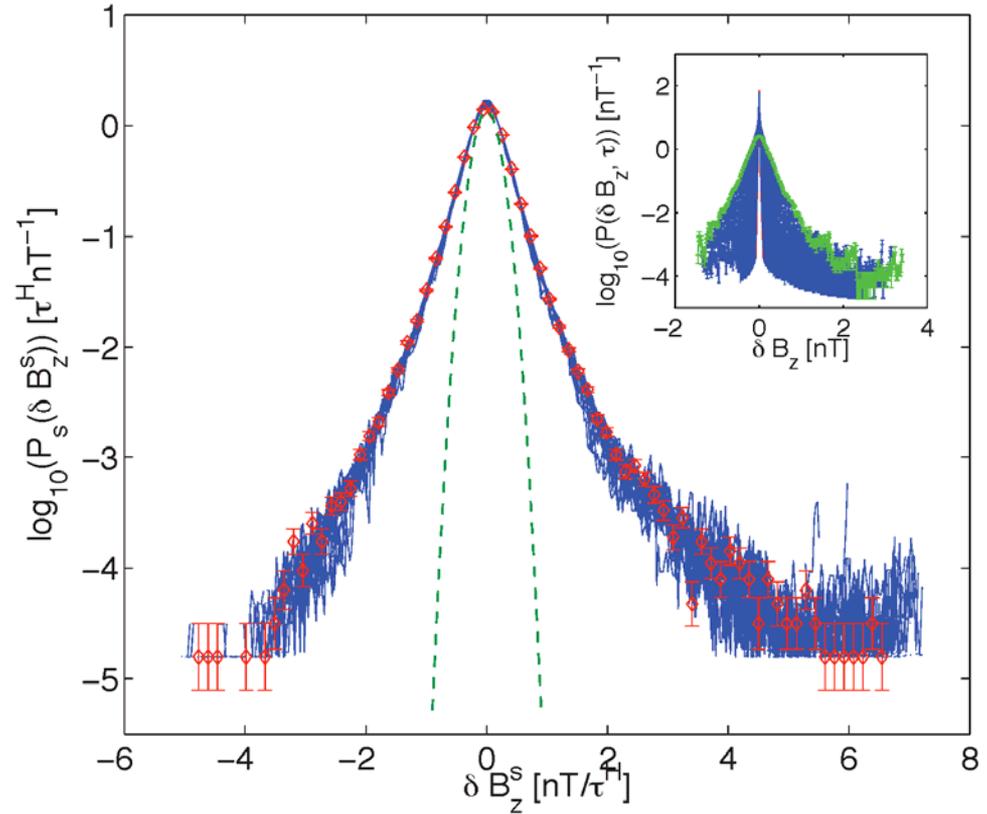
Inertial range- multifractal



Dissipation range- fractal



CLUSTER STAFF and FGM shown overlaid.
Kiyani, SCC et al PRL submitted 2009



Non- Gaussian PDF in dissipation range,
single exponent scaling collapse

The 'outer scale'- the end of the inertial range of turbulence at larger scales

ULYSSES- north and south polar passes at solar minimum

ULYSSES 60s averages B field components

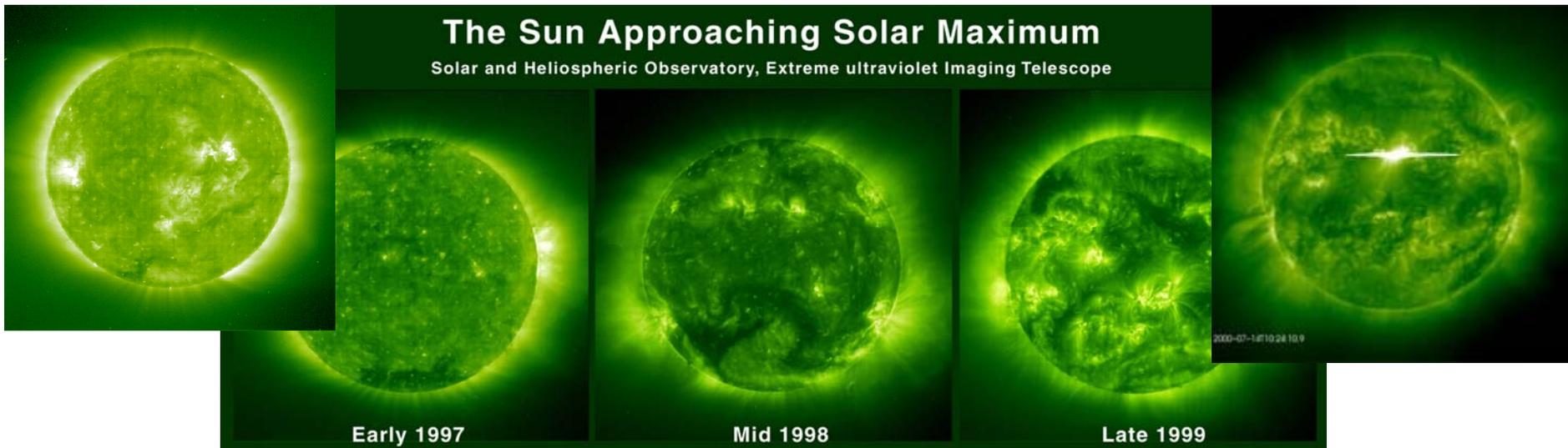
~ 8.5×10^4 points, selected as a quiet interval

-Multifractal

-See also *Nicol, SCC et al, ApJ (2008)*, *SCC et al ApJL (2009)*

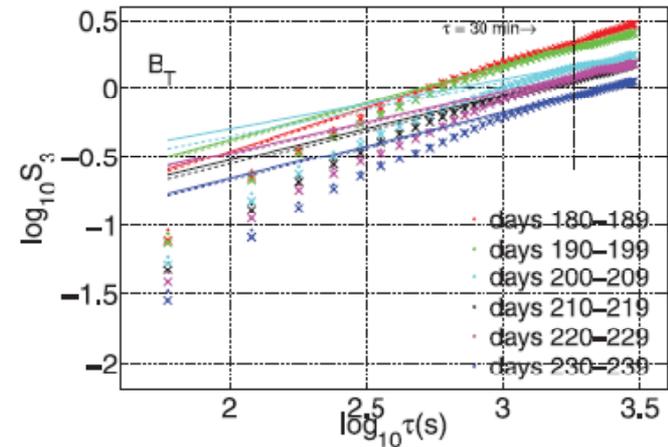
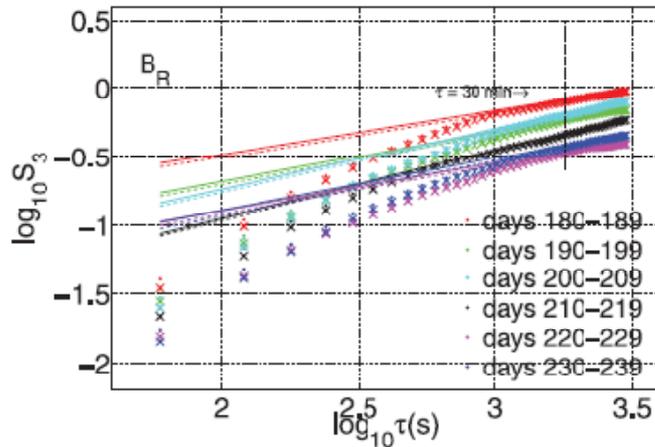
Solar cycle dependence in correlation

Wicks, SCC et al, ApJ (2009)



Evolving turbulence-

Quiet, fast polar solar wind: 1995 North polar pass, solar min, ULYSSES

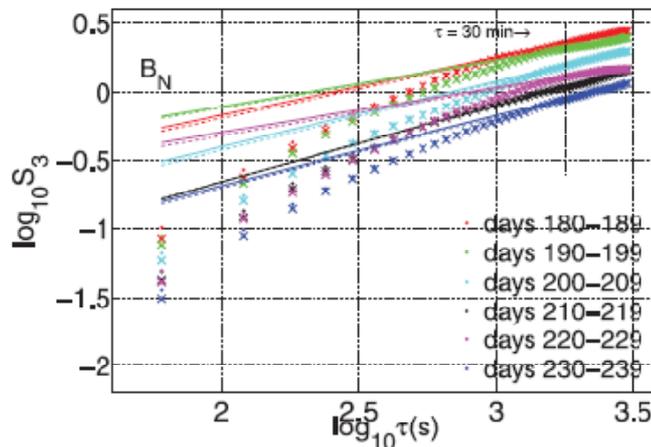


IR turbulence- expect

$$S_3 \sim \tau^{\zeta(3)}$$

i.e. straight line on log-log plot
not quite seen here!

$$\frac{1}{f} \text{ is actually } \frac{1}{f^\gamma}$$



Nicol, SCC et al ApJ 2008, SCC et al, ApJL 2009

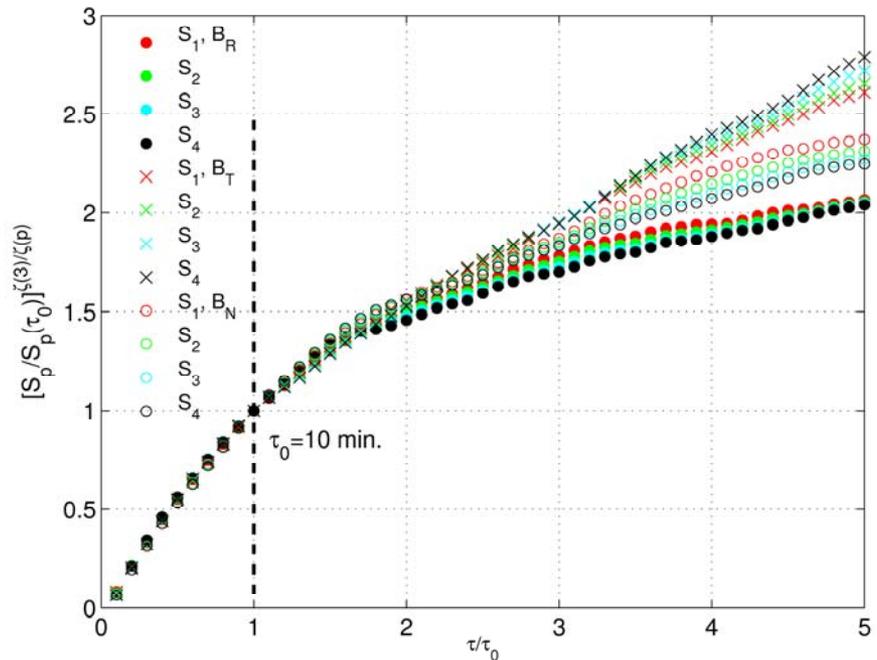
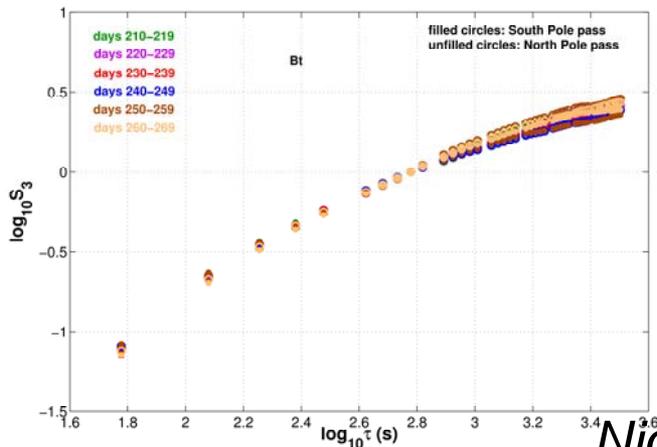
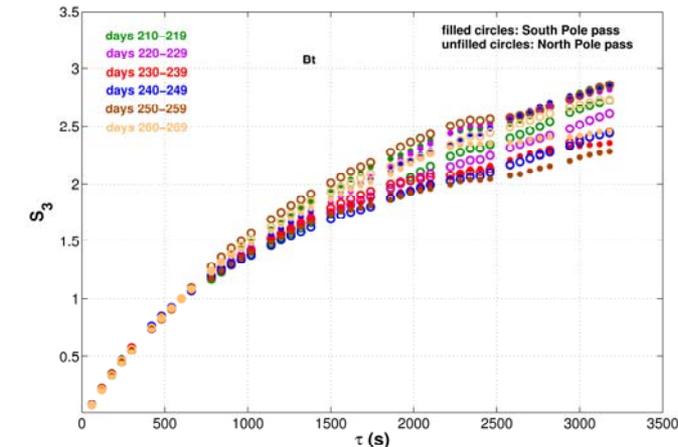
Generalized similarity (scaling)- turbulence at the outer scale- universal behaviour?

South pass 1994, North pass 1995, solar min

$$S_p \sim g(\tau)^{\xi(p)}$$

invert to obtain $g(\tau)$

same $g(\tau)$ seen

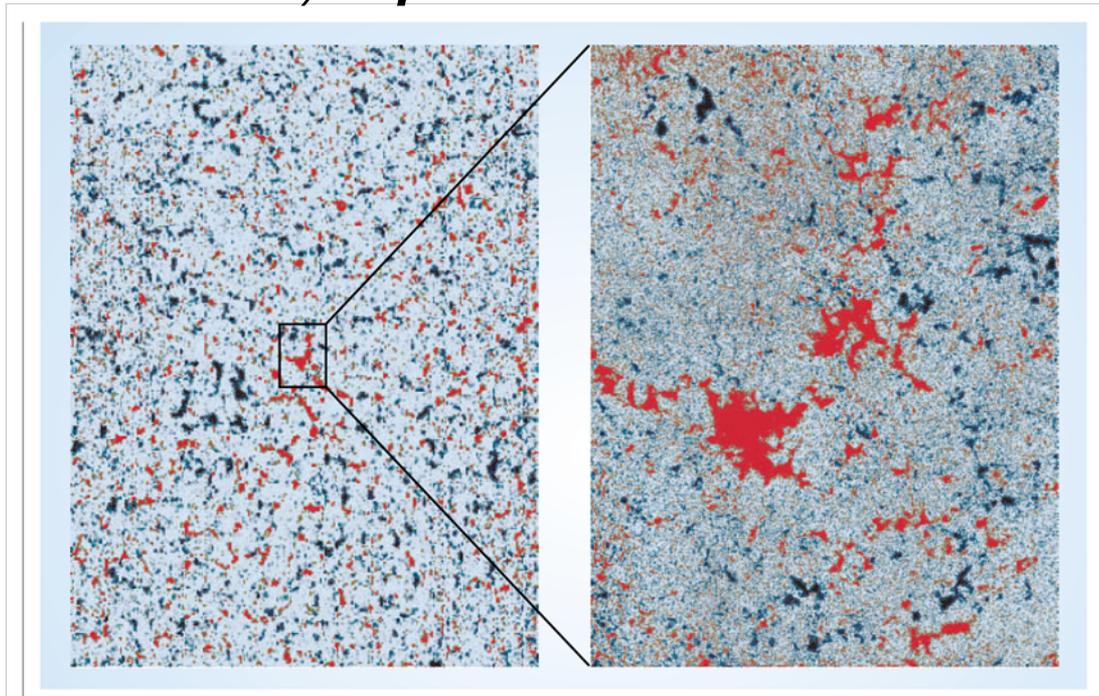


Nicol, SCC et al ApJ 2008, SCC et al, ApJL 2009

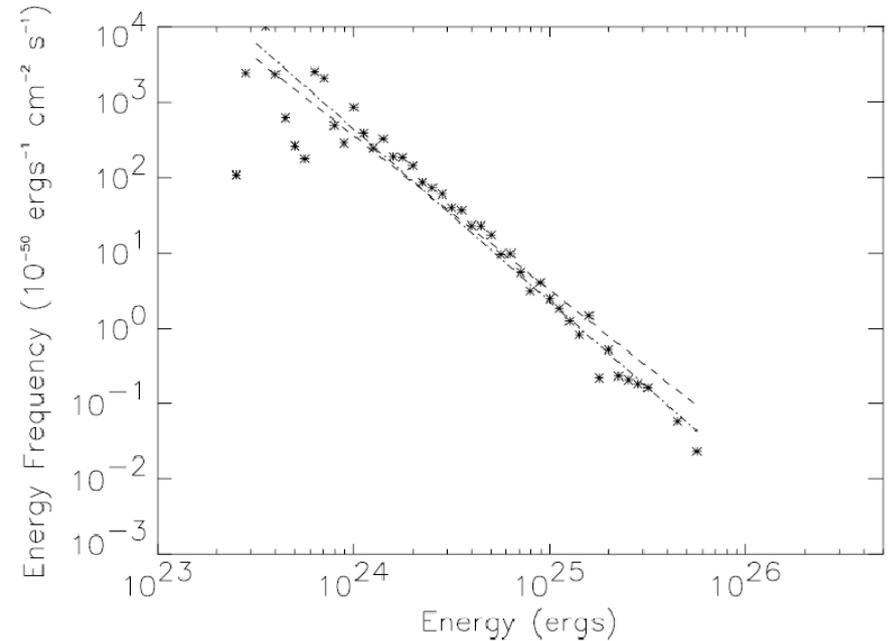
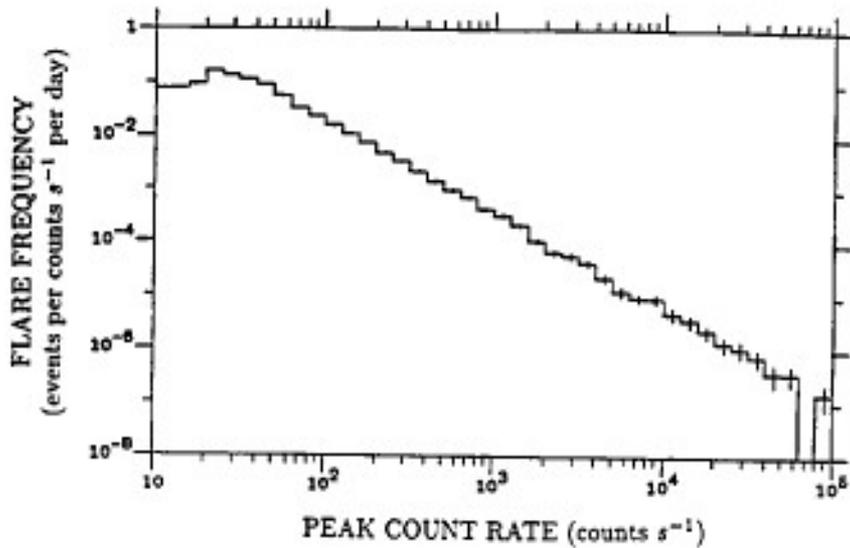
Scaling from the corona?

Scaling from the sun: Fractal patches of magnetic polarity on the quiet sun

Patches of opposing polarity –
Zeeman effect photosphere, quiet sun,
(*Stenflo, Nature 2004, See eg Janssen et al A&A 2003, Bueno et al Nature 2004+..*) - **spatial**



Scaling from the sun: power law flare statistics



Peak flare count rate *Lu&Hamilton ApJ 1991*

TRACE nanoflare events *Parnell&Judd ApJ 2000*

-temporal

Solar wind at 1AU power spectra- B magnitude shows a single power law range, inertial range of (anisotropic MHD) turbulence seen in components

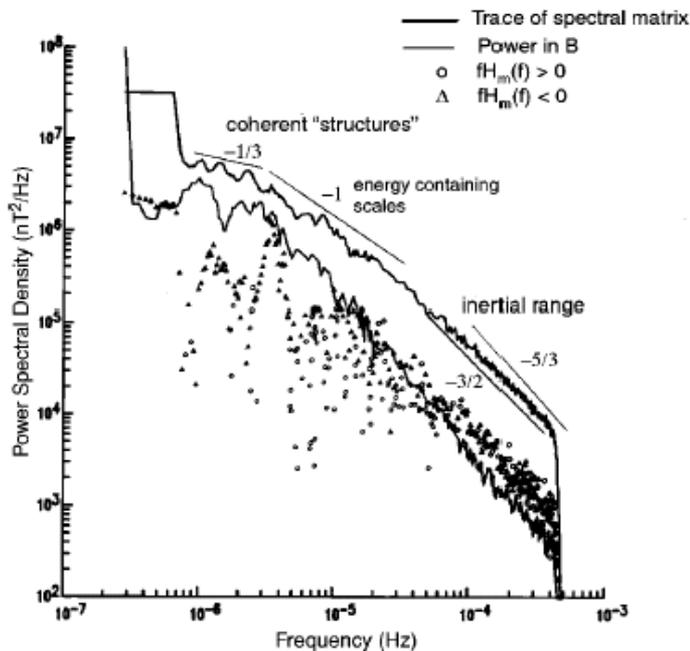


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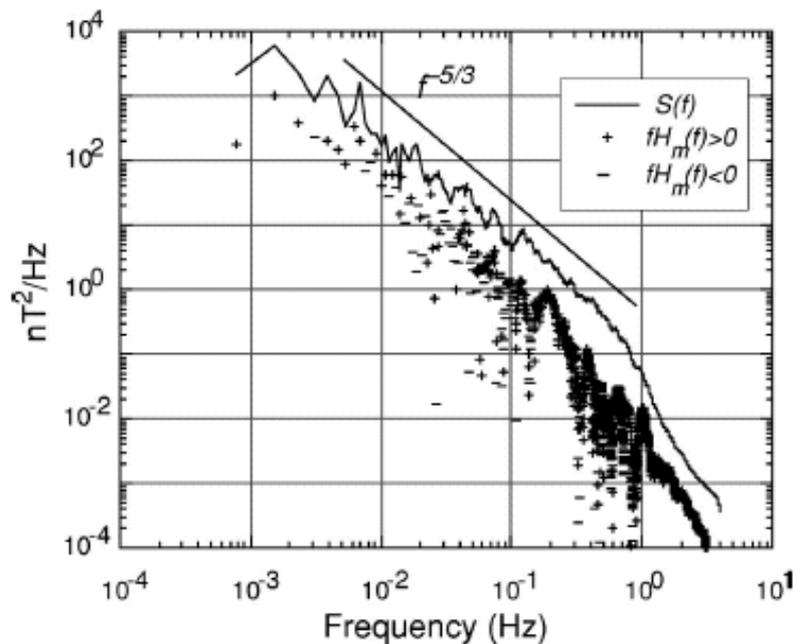
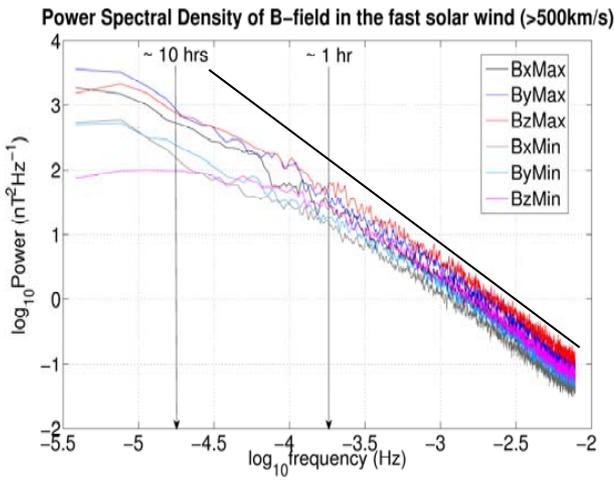
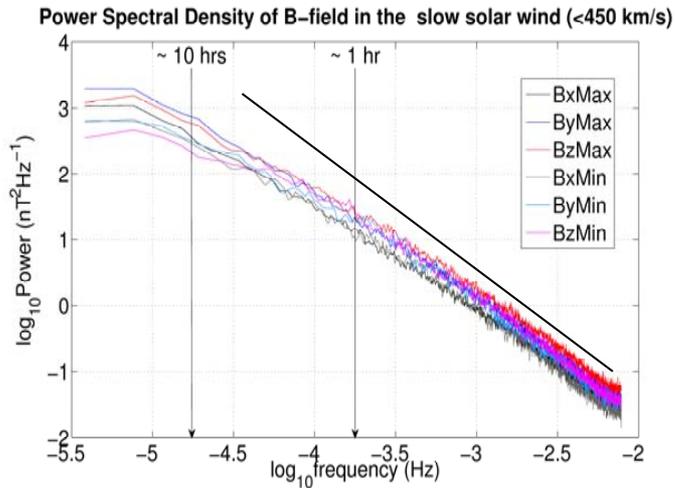


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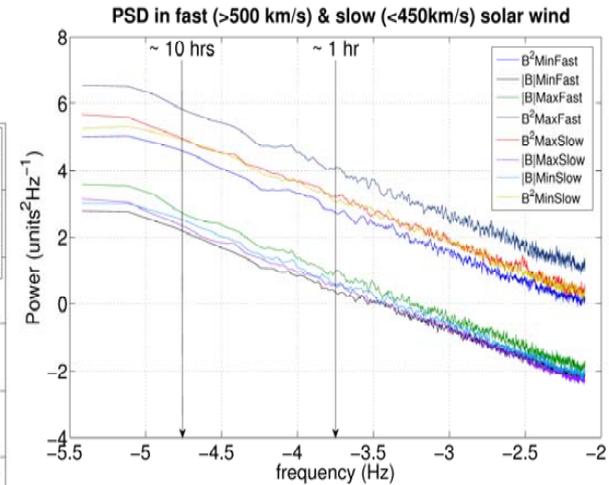
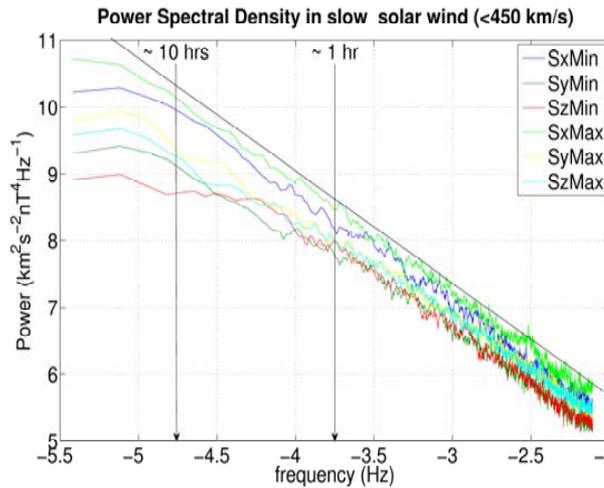
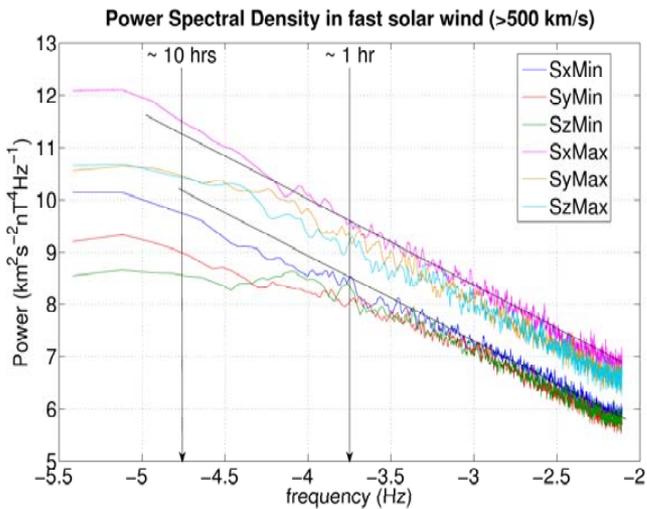
Goldstein and Roberts, POP 1999, See also Tu and Marsch, SSR, 1995

Components show 2 regions inertial range and '1/f'

x- component of Poynting flux
B magnitude
one single region



Shown: *log-log* plots of PSD of 3 day intervals averaged over 1 year ACE solar max (2000); solar min (2007)
Plotted: $|\mathbf{B}|$, B^2 and normalized $\mathbf{S} = -[\mathbf{B}(\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{B}) - \mathbf{v}B^2]$
Fast $v > 500 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ and slow $v < 450 \text{ km s}^{-1}$

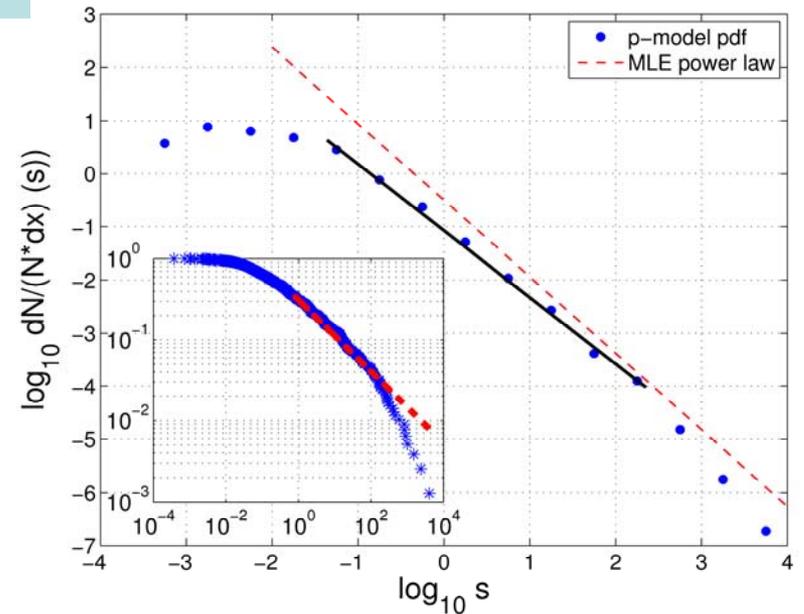
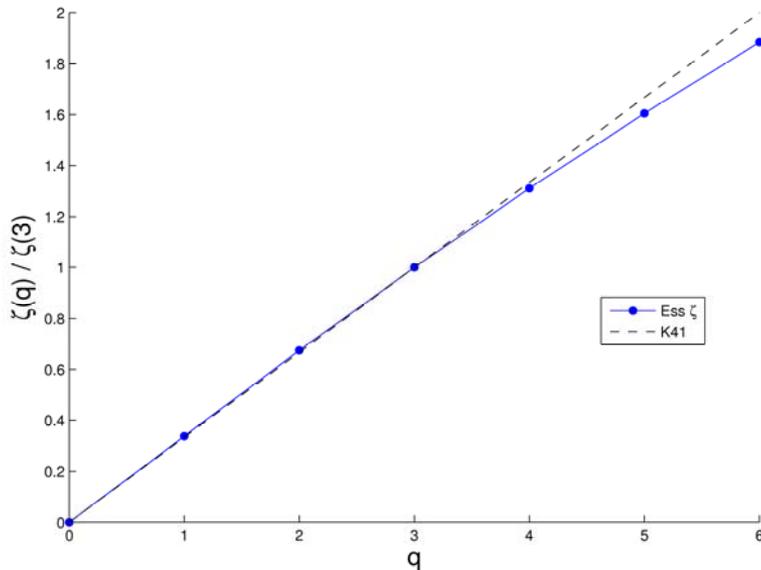


Signature of coronal fields within IR-
Kiyani, SCC et al PRL, 2007



p-model for intermittent turbulence- shows finite range power law avalanches

p-model timeseries shows multifractal behaviour in structure functions as expected



Thresholding the timeseries to form an avalanche distribution- finite range power law
Watkins, SCC et al, PRL, 2009, SCC et al, POP 2009

Summary

- The quest for *universal* features of turbulence in solar wind
- The corona contributes some scaling- dominates x component of Poynting flux and B magnitude
- *inertial range*: Components- Multifractal anisotropic MHD turbulence
- *dissipation/dispersion range- fractal (monoscaling)* distinct from fluid/MHD phenomenology
- *outer scale*- a universal function for the largest scales in finite range turbulence?

Turbulence, fractals and multifractals (intermittency)

velocity difference across an eddy $d_r v = v(l+r) - v(l)$

eddy time $T(r)$ and energy transfer rate $\varepsilon_r \propto \frac{d_r v^2}{T}$

now $T \propto \frac{r}{d_r v}$ so that $\varepsilon_r \propto \frac{d_r v^3}{r}$ or $\langle d_r v^3 \rangle \propto \langle \varepsilon_r \rangle r$ and $\langle d_r v^p \rangle \propto r^{p/3} \langle \varepsilon_r^{p/3} \rangle$

If the flow is **non-intermittent** $\langle \varepsilon_r^p \rangle = \bar{\varepsilon}^p$, r independent

$\Rightarrow \langle d_r v^p \rangle \propto r^{p/3} \bar{\varepsilon}^{p/3} \sim r^{\zeta(p)}$ - $\zeta(p) = \alpha p$ linear with p - *selfsimilar(fractal)*

intermittency correction- $\langle \varepsilon_r^p \rangle$ is r dependent- $\zeta(p)$ quadratic in p - *multifractal*

$\langle \varepsilon_r \rangle = \bar{\varepsilon}$ independent of r (**steady state**) so $\zeta(3) = 1$

cannot distinguish fractal from multifractal from power spectrum (only fixes $\zeta(2)$)

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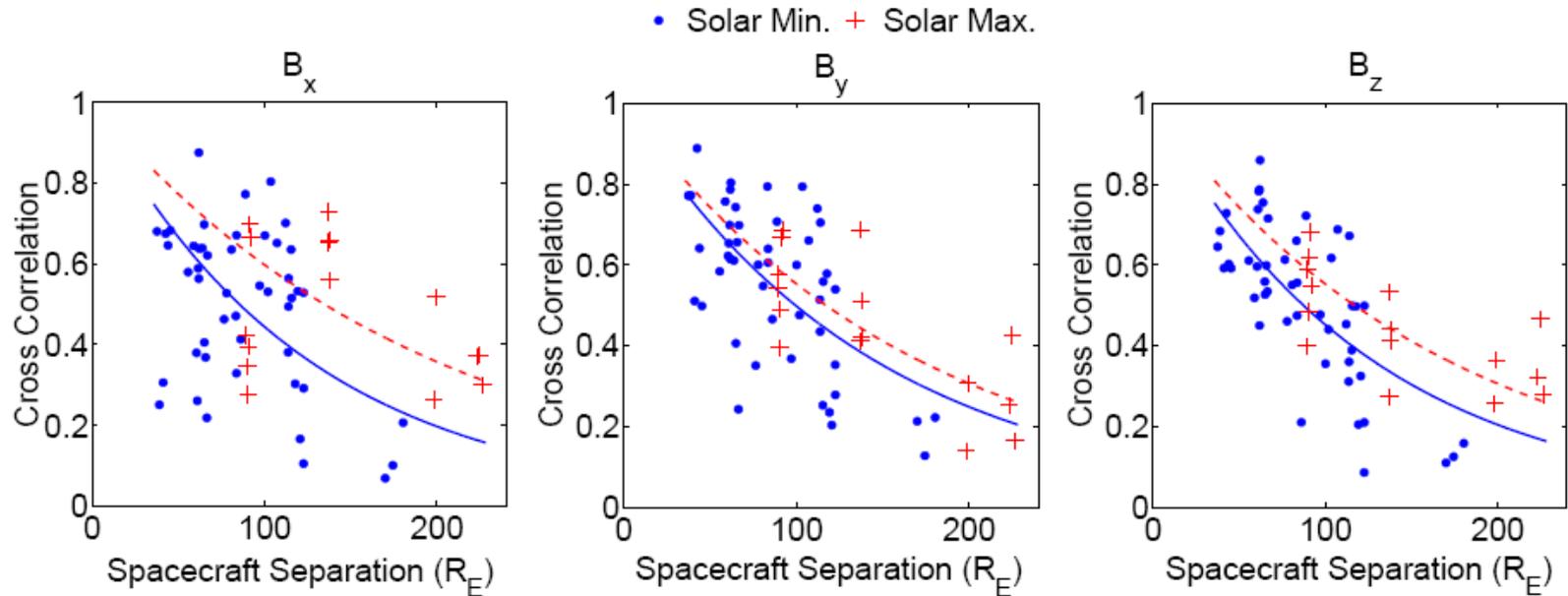
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MHD: now T is due to (say) Alfvénic collisions $T \sim \frac{r}{d_r v} \left(\frac{v_0}{d_r v} \right)^\alpha$ giving $\varepsilon_r \sim \frac{d_r v^{3+\alpha}}{r}$

MHD: same with $\frac{p}{3} \rightarrow \frac{p}{3+\alpha}$ and $\zeta(\alpha+3) = 1$

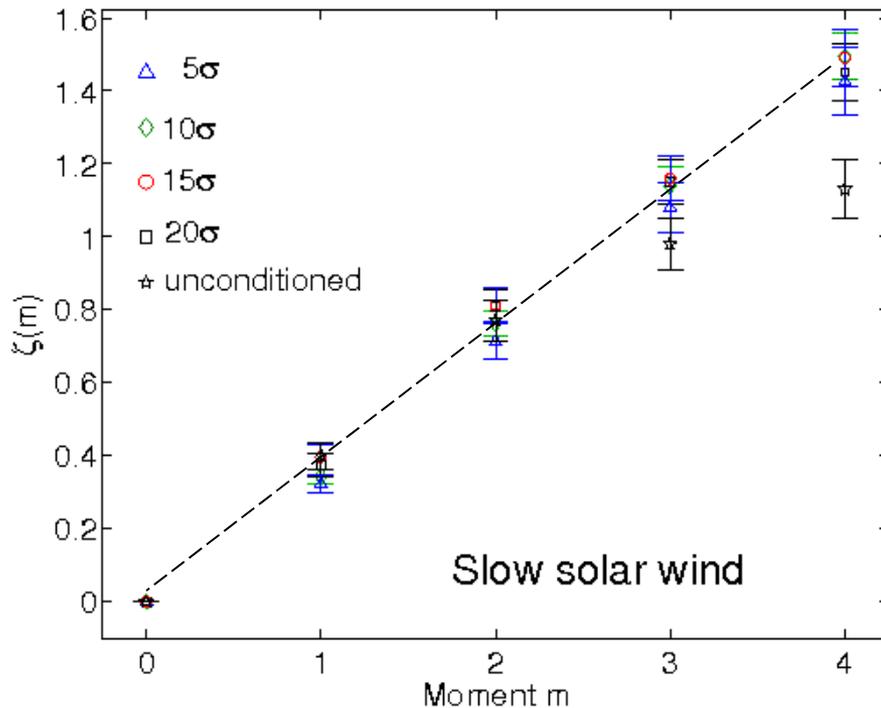
Much less (if any) solar cycle variation in components.



Summary- what we have learned..

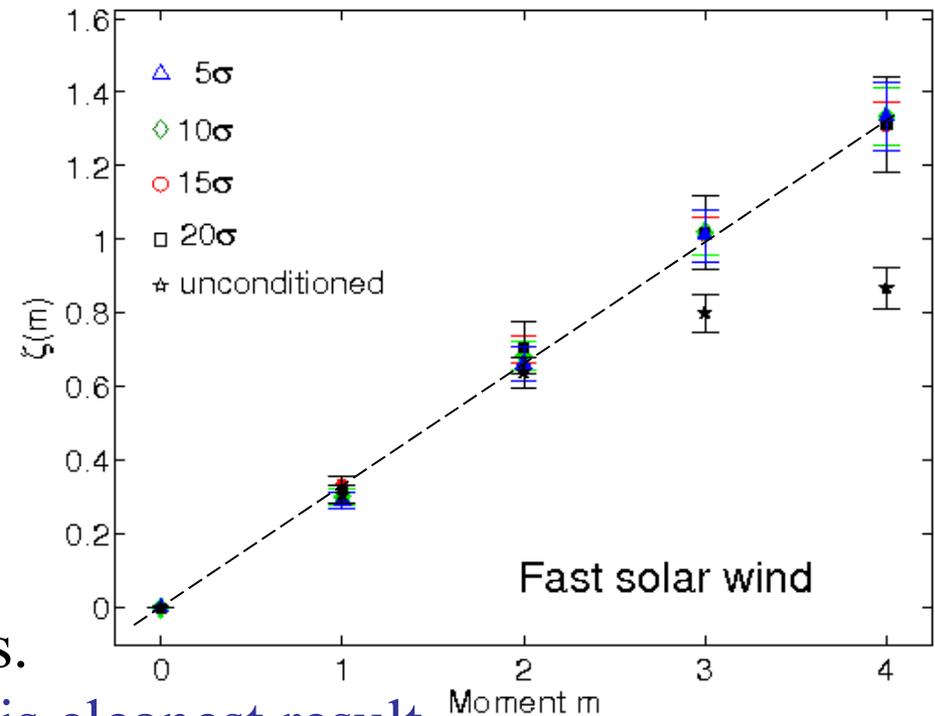
- 'Turbulence' is a sub- class of 'scaling'- and we observe scaling
- 2 types of 'scaling and bursty' in time (i) fractal and heavy tailed (non- Gaussian) (ii) multifractal (and both are sometimes called intermittent)
- Method to distinguish these proposed
- The 'straightforward' solar wind- scaling coronal signature within the inertial range of turbulence
- Coronal signatures in magnetic energy density, Poynting flux, density?
- Physical insights flow from universality (asking: are the observed exponents the same as...?) to determine the physics- so the *error bars* are important!
- Finite size data sets, time stationarity!
- SDE models as a bridge between scaling (turbulence) and critical phenomena, as a method for quantifying 'anomalous transport'
- Evolving and boundary layer turbulence- universal(?) functions we can measure

Scaling- ρ in slow and fast solar wind



compare ρ for raw and conditioned GSF

ρ quickly converges to $\zeta(m) \sim m/3$, for small m

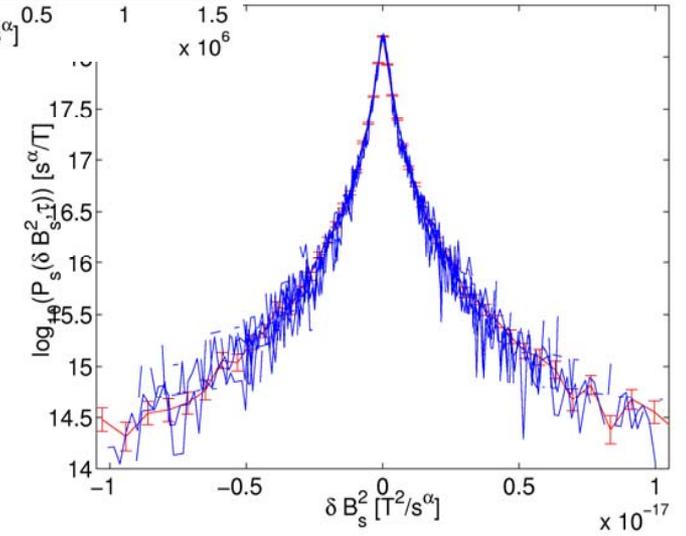
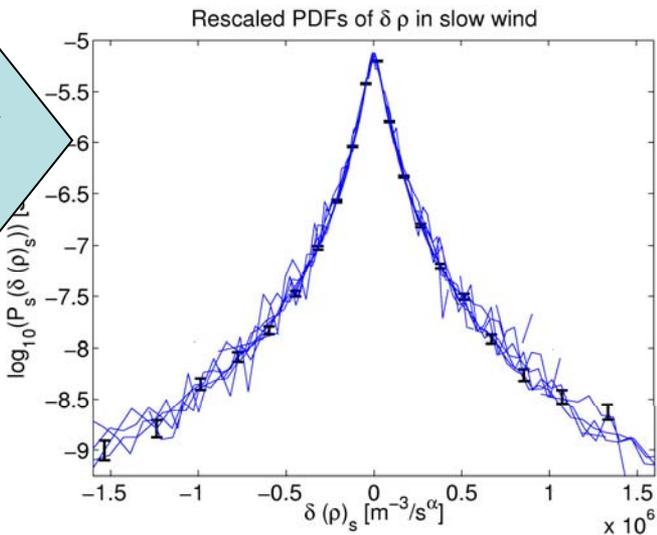
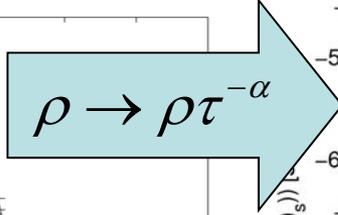
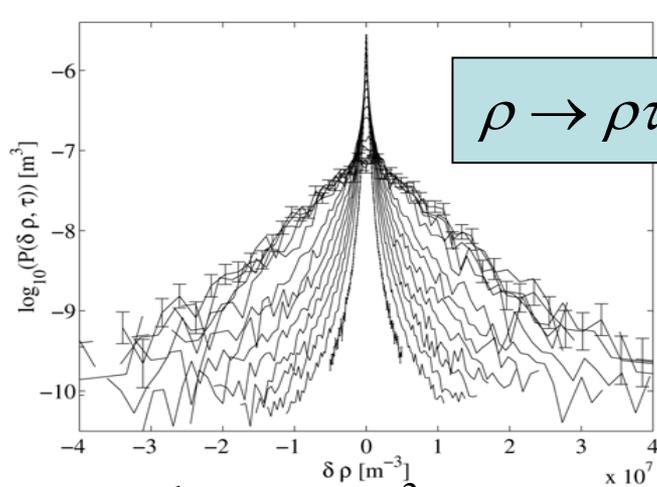


ACE 98-01 (4years)

Slow: 1×10^6 , fast: 6×10^5 samples.

Threshold is 450 km/sec. fast wind is cleanest result

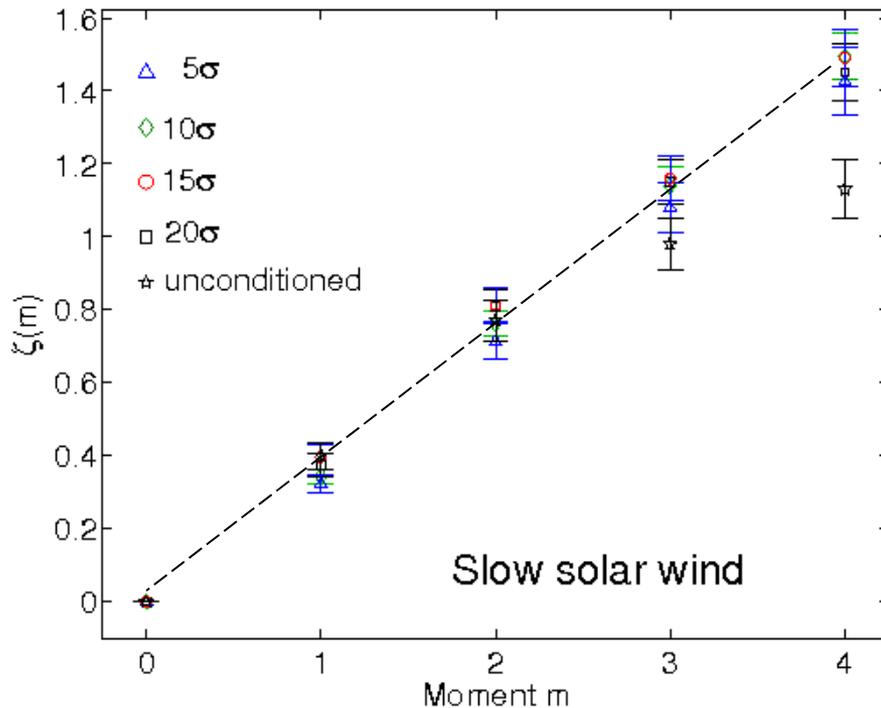
Rescaled PDF- ρ, B^2 in the solar wind



slow sw shown, ρ, B^2
 selfsimilar or
 weakly multifractal scaling up to $\tau \sim$ few hrs
 WIND 46/98s
 Key Parameters '95-'98
 Approx 10^6 samples
 Verified with ACE
Hnat, SCC et al GRL,2002, POP 2004

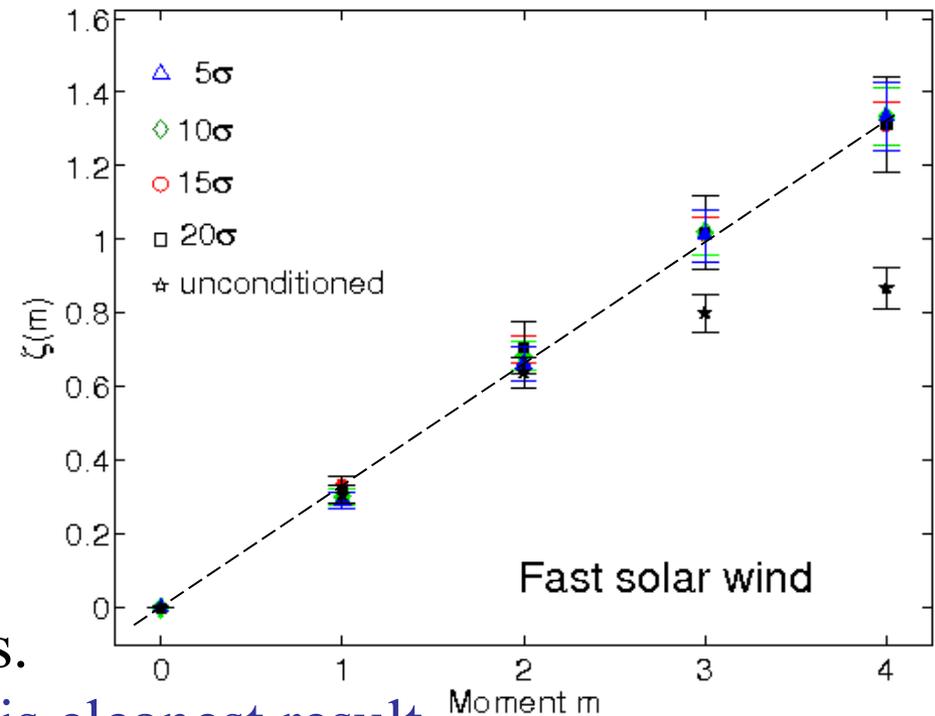


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Passive scalars and incompressibility

Bershadskii and Sreenivasan PRL '04 argued that $|B|$ is passive scalar..
Appeal to *universality* in scaling exponents (same physics, same scaling)

$$\frac{DQ}{Dt} = \frac{\partial Q}{\partial t} + v \cdot \nabla Q = 0$$

e.g.

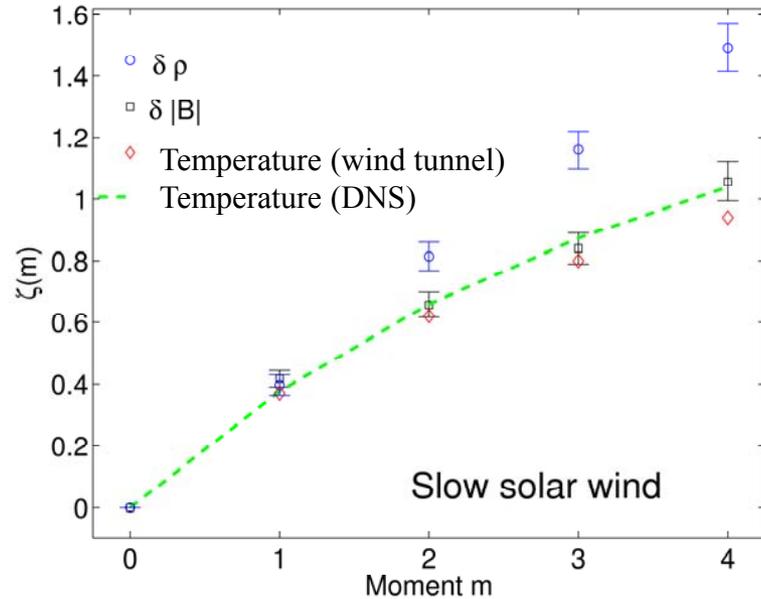
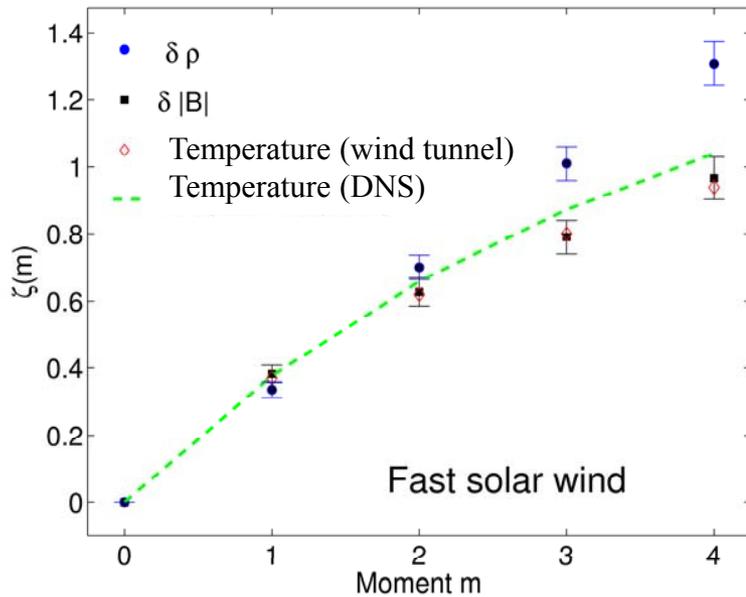
$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\rho v) = 0 = \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + v \cdot \nabla \rho$$

with $\nabla \cdot v = 0$ incompressible flow

if the flow is incompressible- ρ must be a passive scalar-

Passive scalars comparison

does not need to be so precise..



1 year ACE data (1998)

Compare ρ with passive scalars:
 Conditioned $|B|$ (same dataset), + others
 Argued that $|B|$ is passive scalar..

Bershadskii and Sreenivasan PRL '04

ρ is not passively advected
 with the flow?

Hnat, SCC et al PRL '05

Fokker- Planck models

(see also fractional kinetics and Lévy flights)

Langevin equation

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = \beta(x) + \gamma(x)\eta$$

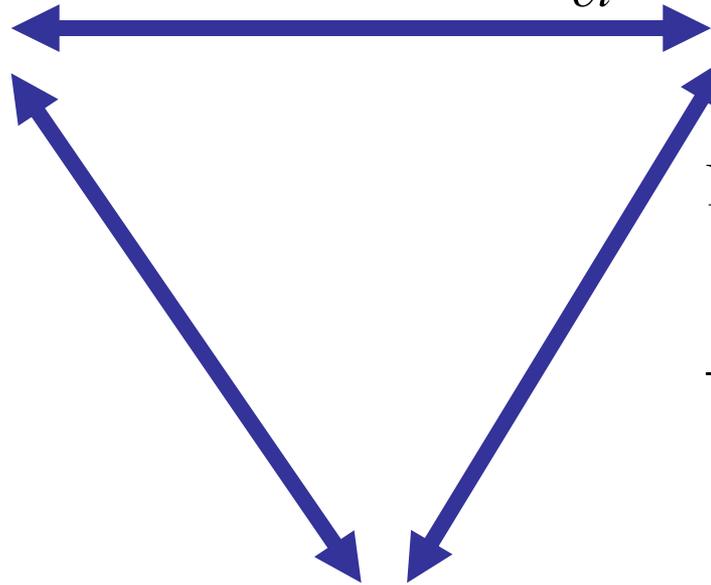
η stochastic iid

Fokker- Planck equation

$$\frac{\partial P(y,t)}{\partial t} = \nabla(A(y)P(y,t) + B(y)\nabla P(y,t))$$

can solve for $P(y,t)$

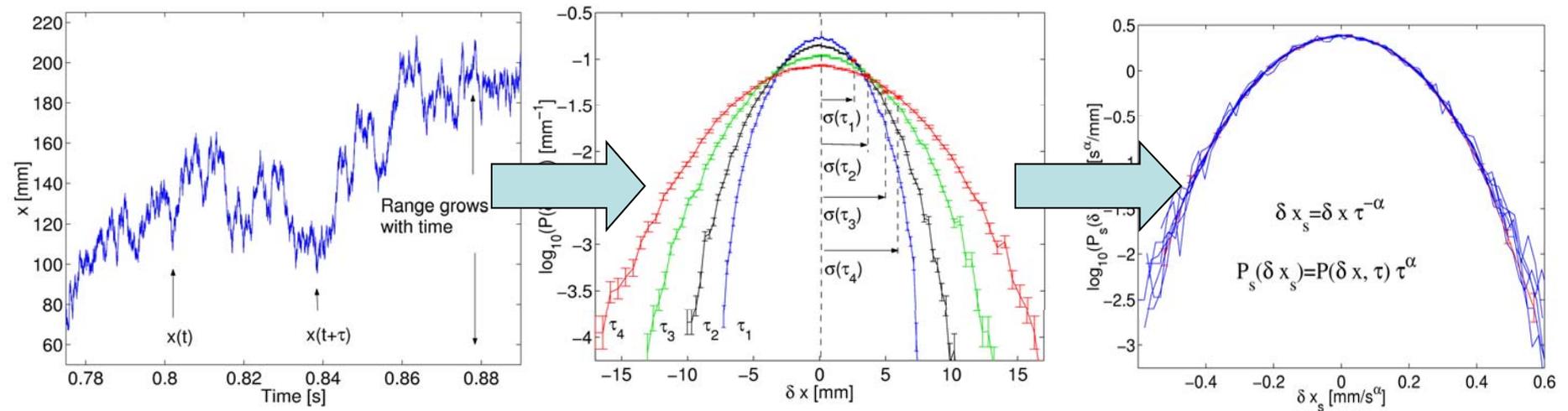
Note: $y(t)$ is distance travelled in interval $t = \tau$ –a differenced variable



Renormalization-scaling system looks the same under

$$t' = \frac{t}{\tau}, y' = \frac{y}{\tau^\alpha} \text{ and } \alpha \neq \frac{1}{2} \dots\dots\dots \text{which implies } P(y',t') = \tau^\alpha P(y,t)$$

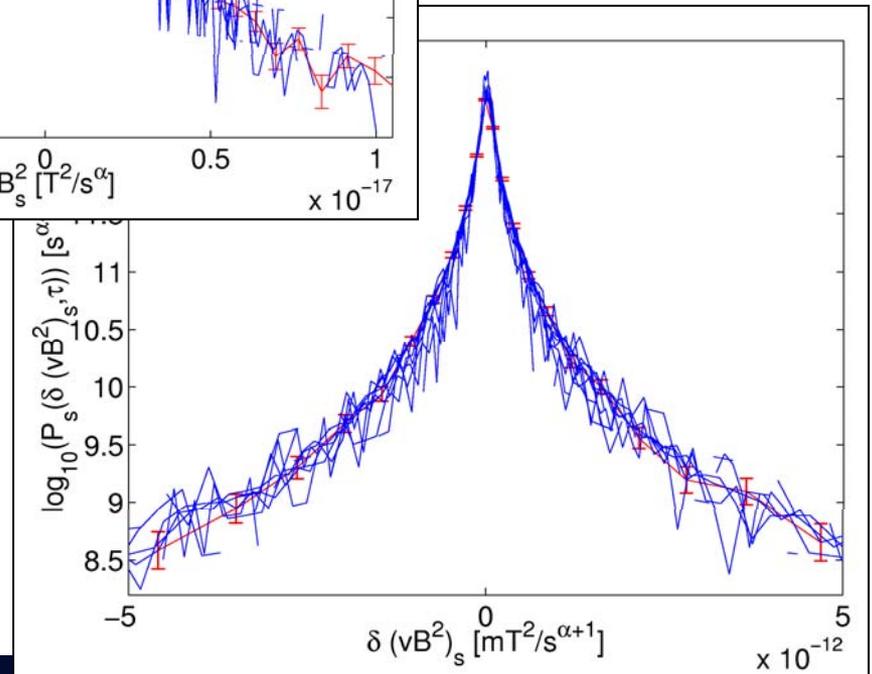
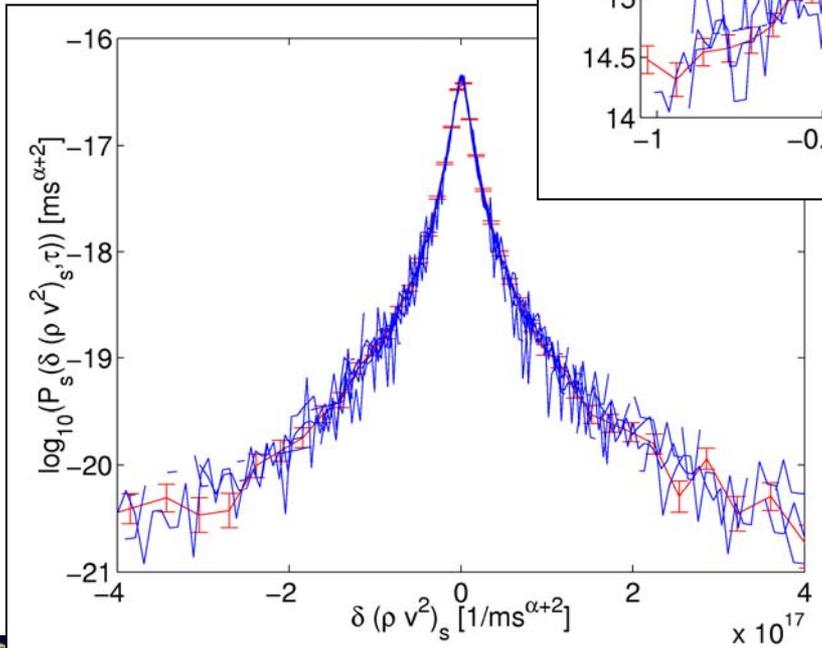
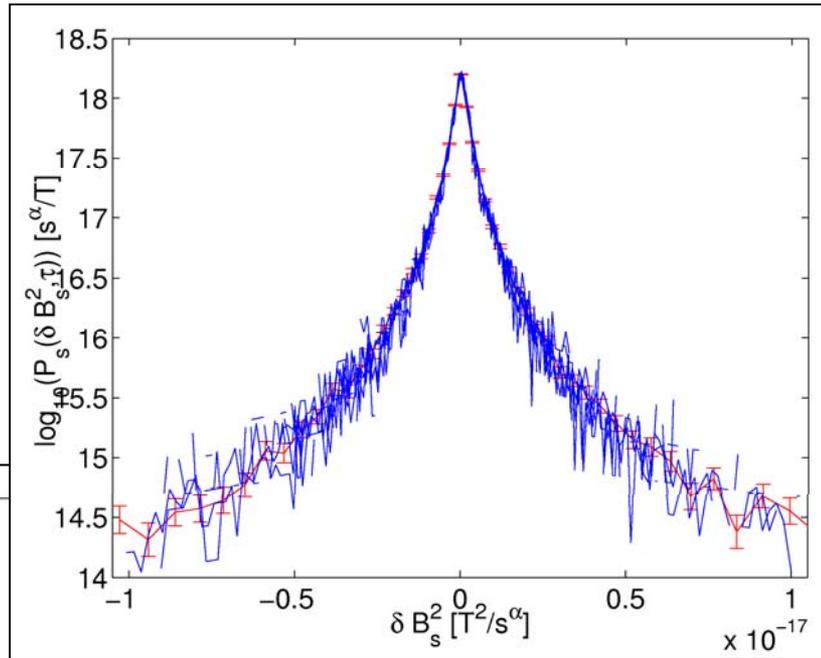
How 'differences' tell us about scaling - Brownian walk ('fractal')



- 1) difference the timeseries $x(t)$ on timescale τ to obtain $y(t, \tau) = x(t + \tau) - x(t)$
- 2) $P(y, \tau)$ are self- similar (fractal) - *if* same function under single parameter rescaling
- 3) rescaling parameter comes from the data eg $\sigma(\tau) \sim \tau^\alpha$, $\alpha = 1/2$ here
- 4) so moments of the PDF: $\langle y(t, \tau)^p \rangle_t \sim \tau^{\alpha p}$

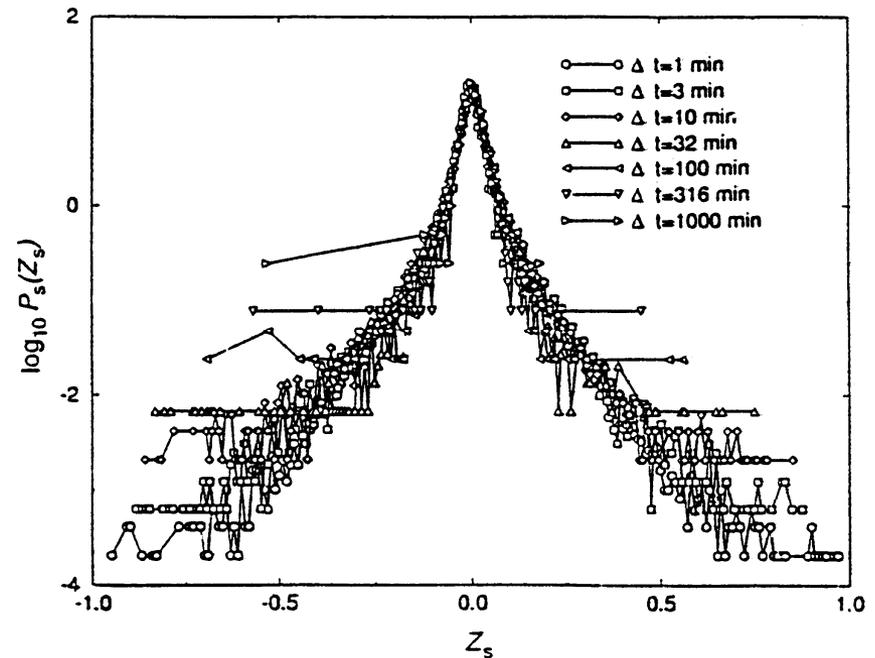
Rescaled PDF of $S=vB^2, \rho v^2, B^2 \dots$

PDF shown to 10σ
(raw data)
Hnat et al PRE 2003



A not so simple fractal timeseries- financial markets

- *Mantegna and Stanley- Nature, 1995*
- S+P500 index
- 'heavy tailed' distributions
- Brownian walk in log(price) is the basis of Black Scholes (FP model for price dynamics)
- Non- Gaussian PDF, fractal scaling- Fractional Kinetics or non- linear FP
in solar wind: Hnat, SCC et al PRE 2003, SCC et al NPG 2005



Structure functions-estimating the $\zeta(p)$ from data

Define **structure function** (generalized variogram) S_p for differenced timeseries:

$$y(t, \tau) = x(t + \tau) - x(t)$$

$$S_p(\tau) = \langle |y(t, \tau)|^p \rangle \propto \tau^{\zeta(p)} \text{ if scaling}$$

We would like to calculate $S_p(\tau) = \langle |y(t, \tau)|^p \rangle = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |y|^p P(y, \tau) dy$

$$\text{then } S_p(\tau) = \tau^{\zeta(p)} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} y_s^p P_s dy_s$$

Conditioning- an estimate is:

$$\langle |y|^p \rangle = \int_{-A}^A |y|^p P(y, \tau) dy \text{ where } A = [10 - 20]\sigma(\tau)$$

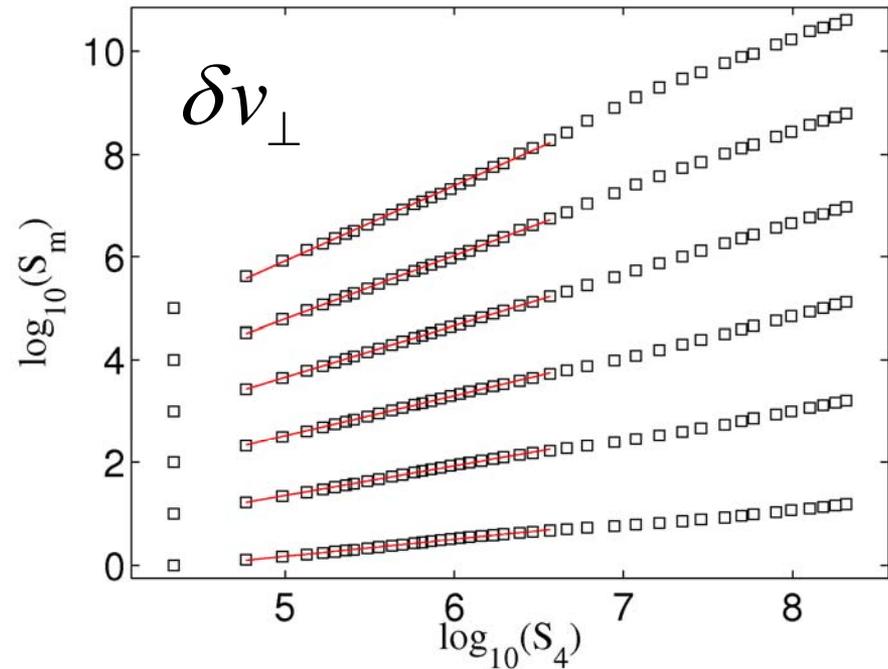
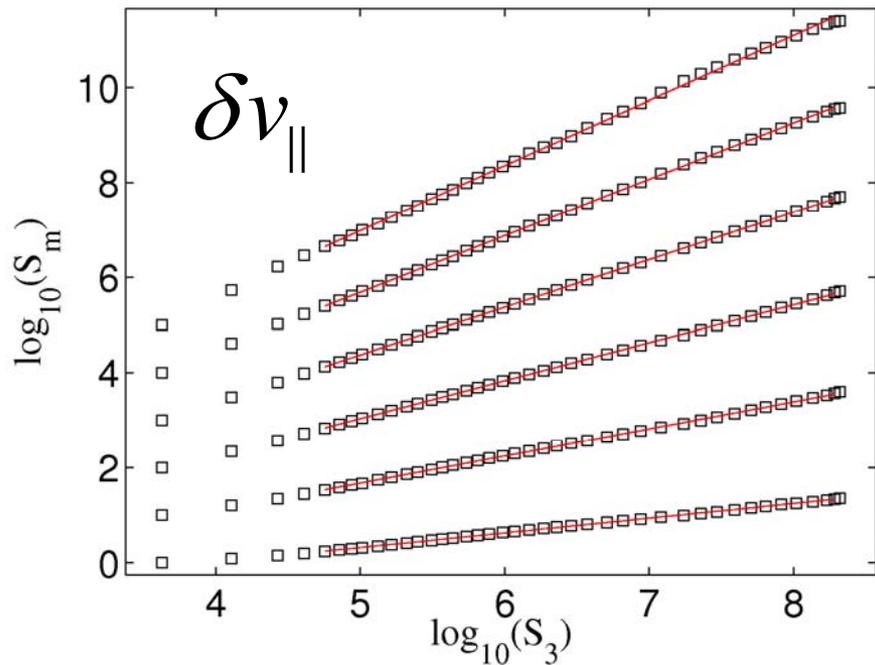
strictly ok if selfsimilar: $y \rightarrow y_s \tau^\alpha, P \rightarrow P_s \tau^{-\alpha}, \zeta(p) = p\alpha$

if $\zeta(p)$ is quadratic in p (multifractal)- weaker estimate

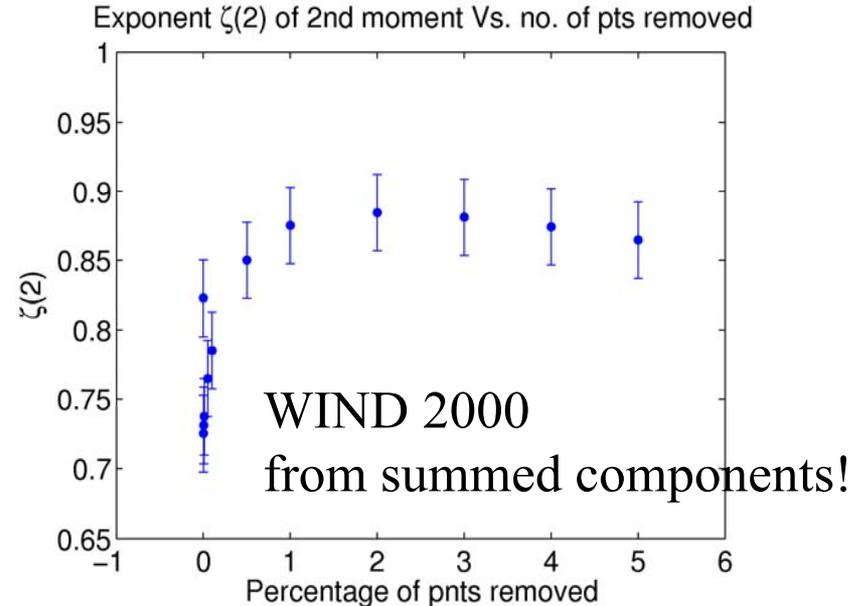
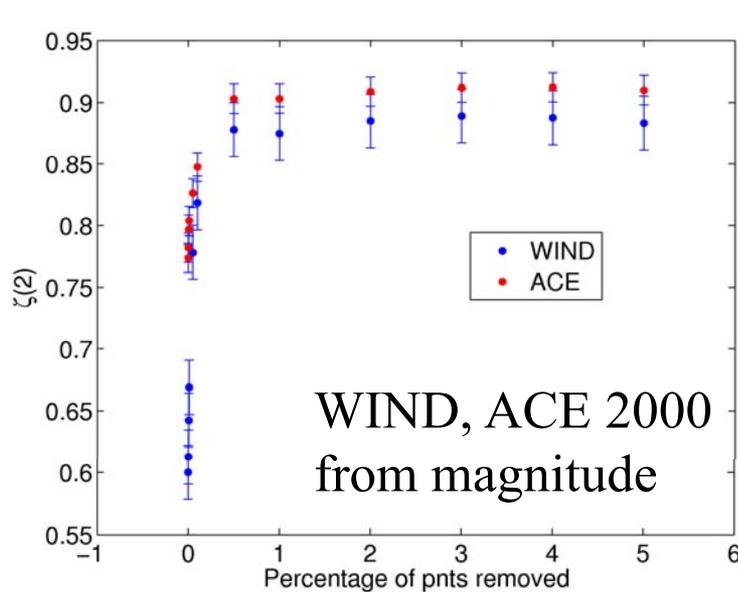
Confirmation of a scaling range- ESS plots:

$S_p = \langle |\delta \mathbf{v} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{b}}|^p \rangle \sim \tau^{\zeta(p)}$ and its remainder versus S_3, S_4 where $\zeta(3), \zeta(4) \approx 1$ respectively

ESS tests $S_p = G(\tau) S_q^{\zeta(p)/\zeta(q)}$



Seen both in WIND and ACE



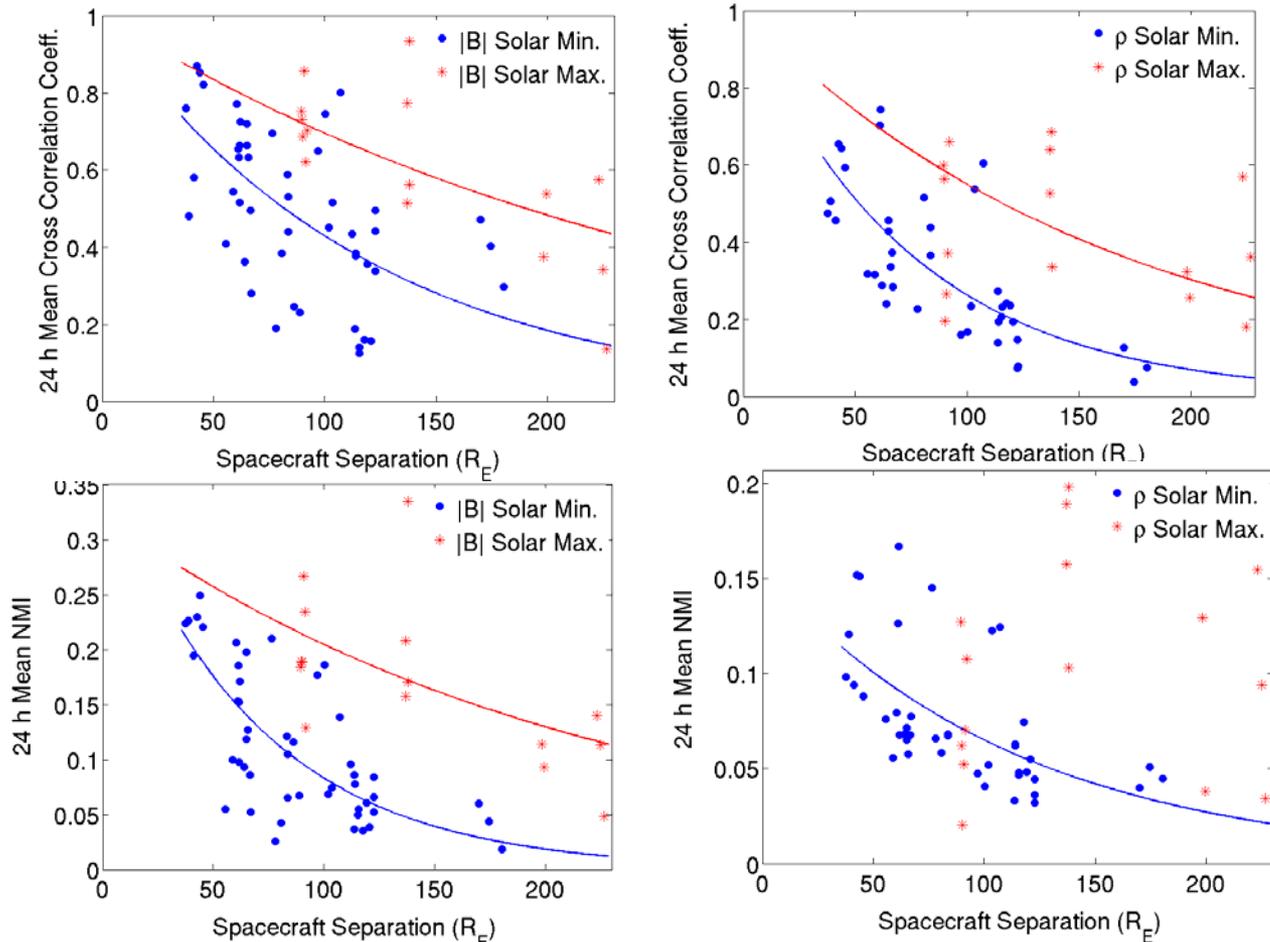
Scaling is sensitive to calibration?

Shown B^2

WIND: from summed components,
and from magnitude

ACE: from magnitude

Solar Cycle Dependence of Solar Wind Correlation Length- between WIND-ACE



- Fits are of the form :

$$y = A \exp(-x/\lambda)$$
- $A = 1$ for cross correlation fitting.
- Each point represents 24 hours of data
- Running mean subtracted.

Wicks, SCC et al, ApJ(2009)

Diffusion- random walk

Brownian random walk

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = \eta$$

η is stochastic iid

diffusion equation

$$\frac{\partial P(y,t)}{\partial t} = D \nabla^2 P(y,t)$$

$\Rightarrow P(y,t)$ is Gaussian

Note: $y(t)$ is distance
travelled in interval $t = \tau$
–a differenced variable

Renormalization-scaling system looks the same under

$$t' = \frac{t}{\tau}, \quad y' = \frac{y}{\tau^\alpha} \quad \text{and} \quad \alpha = \frac{1}{2} \dots \dots \dots \text{which implies } P(y', t') = \tau^\alpha P(y, t)$$

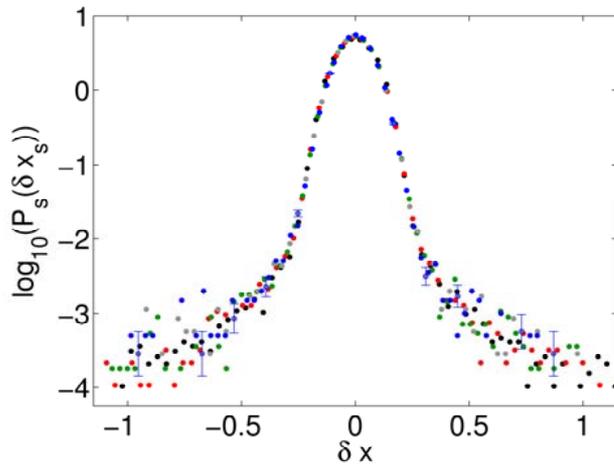
$\Rightarrow P(y, t)$ is Gaussian, the fixed point under RG

A more precise test for fractality- outliers and convergence: example-Lèvy flight ('fractal')

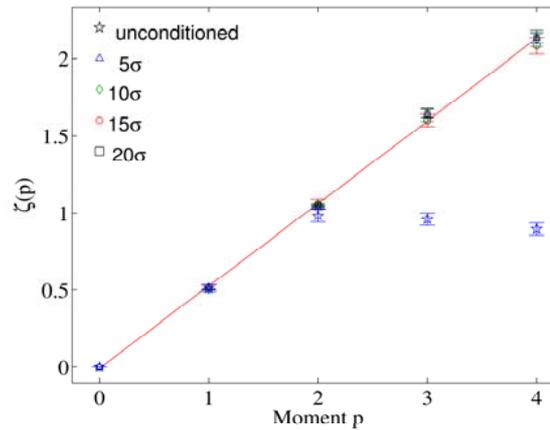
$$P(x) \sim \frac{C}{x^{1+\mu}}, x \rightarrow \pm\infty, 1 < \mu < 2 \text{ power law tails, self similar}$$

for a finite length flight $(x - \langle x \rangle)^2 \sim t^{2/\mu}$

so $\mu = 2$ is Gaussian distributed, Brownian walk



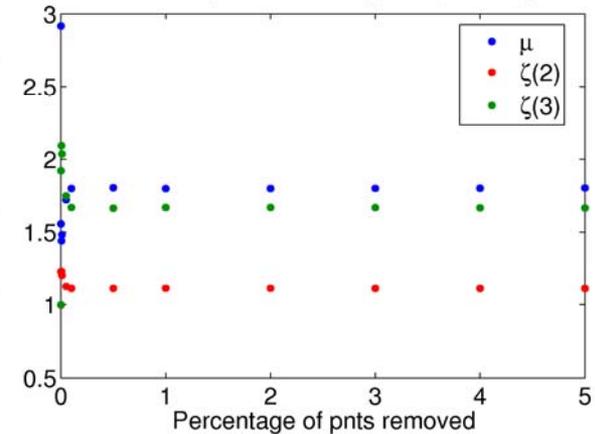
PDF rescaling $x \rightarrow x_s \tau^\alpha, P \rightarrow P_s \tau^{-\alpha}$



Structure functions: $S_p(\tau) = \langle |x(t, \tau)|^p \rangle \propto \tau^{\zeta(p)}$

expect $\zeta(p) \sim \alpha p, \alpha = 1/\mu$

Levy index μ and 2nd & 3rd moment exponents $\zeta(2)$ & $\zeta(3)$
Vs. % of pnts removed ($\mu=1.8, N=1e6$)



SCC et al, NPG, 2005, Kiyani, SCC et al PRE (2006)

Velocity fluctuations parallel and perpendicular to the *local* B field direction

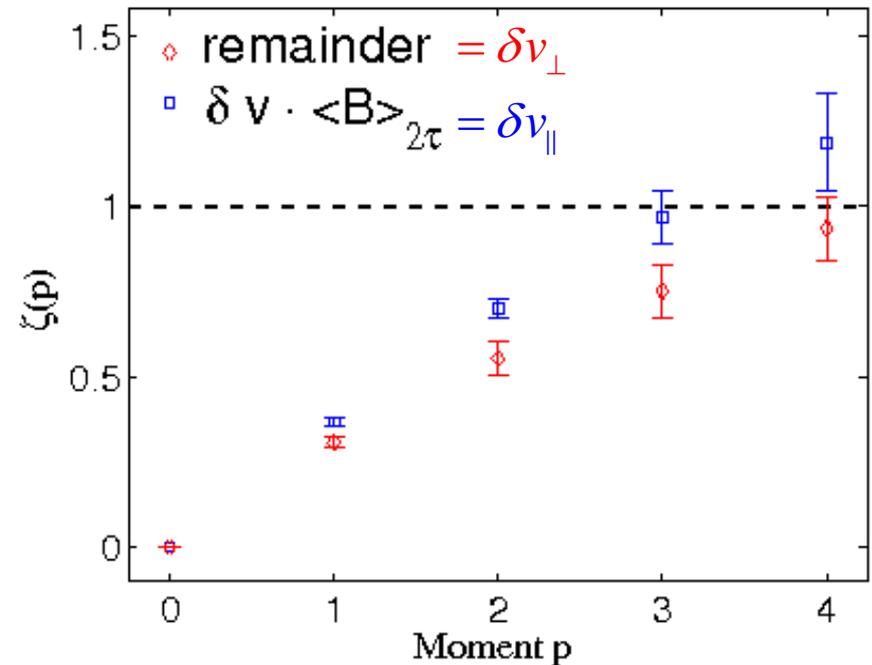
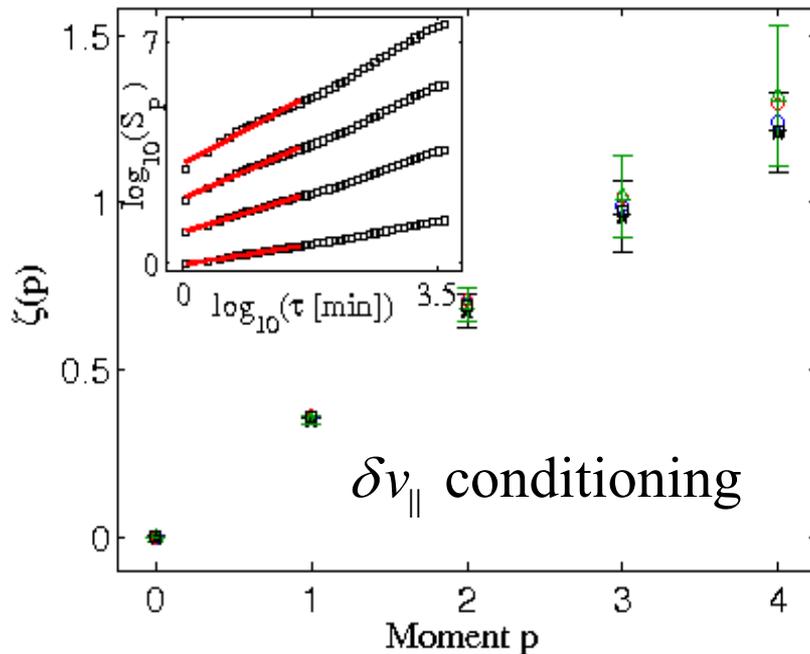
Exponents $\zeta(p)$ for $\langle |\delta v_{\parallel,\perp}|^p \rangle \sim \tau^{\zeta(p)}$ for

ACE 64s av. 1998-2001

$$\delta v_{\parallel} = \delta \mathbf{v} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{b}} \text{ and its remainder } \delta v_{\perp} = \sqrt{\delta \mathbf{v} \cdot \delta \mathbf{v} - (\delta \mathbf{v} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{b}})^2}$$

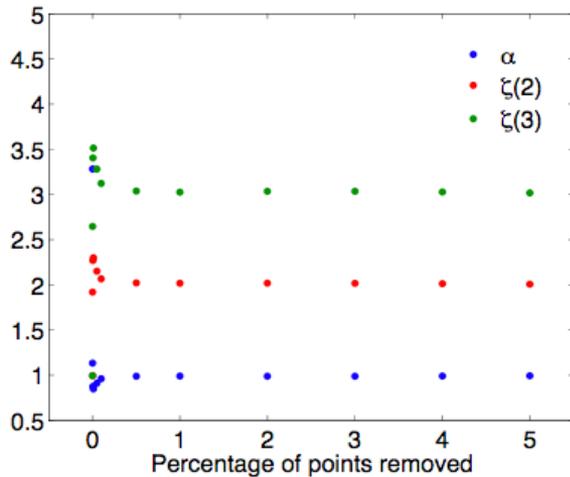
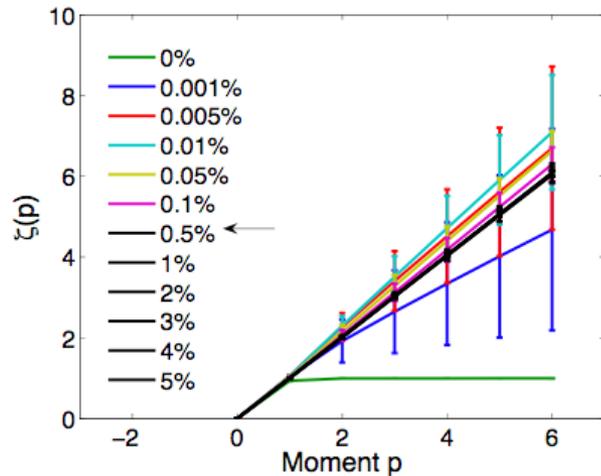
Chapman et al GRL (2007)

$$\bar{\mathbf{B}} = \mathbf{B}(t) + \dots + \mathbf{B}(t + \tau'), \quad \hat{\mathbf{b}} = \frac{\bar{\mathbf{B}}}{|\bar{\mathbf{B}}|}, \text{ here } \tau' = 2\tau \text{ and } \delta \mathbf{v} = \mathbf{v}(t + \tau) - \mathbf{v}(t)$$



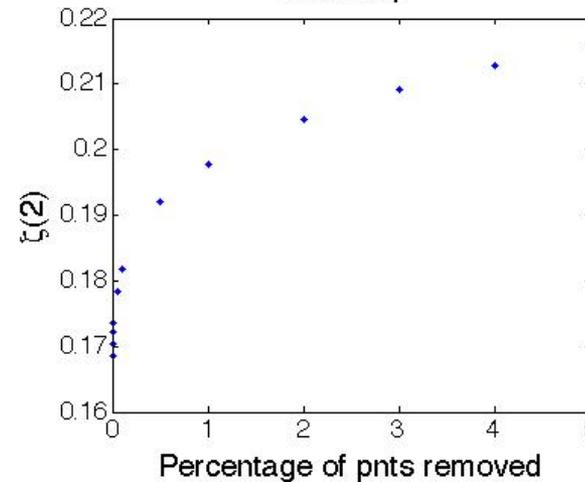
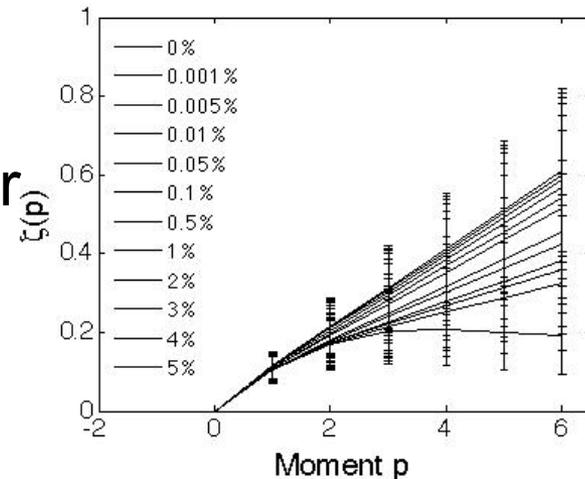
Distinguishing self-affinity (fractality) and multifractality

Levy flight -- Fractal



P-model -- Multifractal

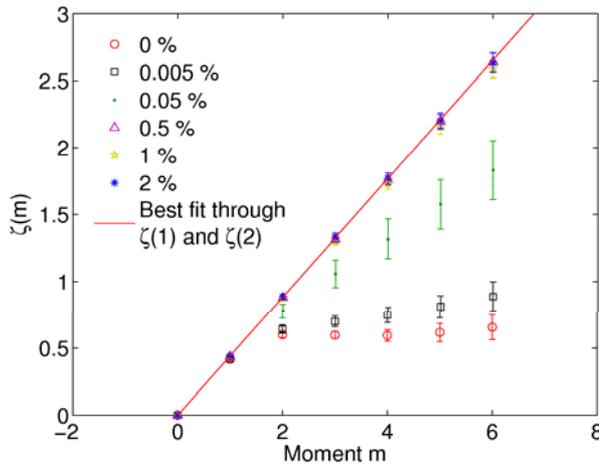
'rank - order
CDF test'



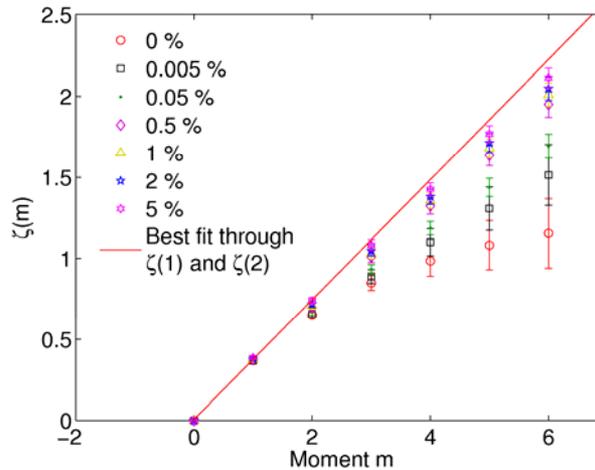
Kiyani, SCC et al, PRL (2007)

Solar cycle variation WIND Inertial Range-- $|B|^2$

2000 - Solar max

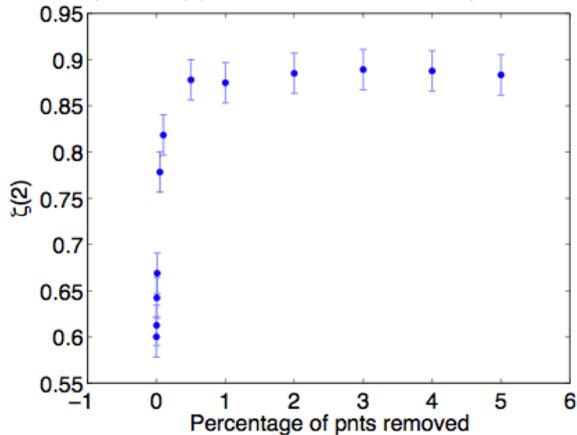


1996 - Solar min

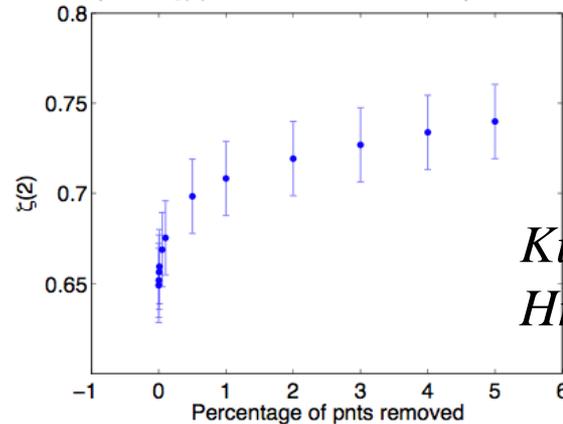


Fractal signature 'embedded' in (multifractal) solar wind inertial range turbulence -coincident with complex coronal magnetic topology
 Max/min:
 Distinct topology of coronal fields?
 Distinct fast wind?

Exponent $\zeta(2)$ of 2nd moment Vs. no. of pts removed



Exponent $\zeta(2)$ of 2nd moment Vs. no. of pts removed



*Kiyani, SCC et al, PRL (2007),
 Hnat, SCC et al, GRL, (2007)*

Anisotropy and intermittency free parameters-Kolmogorov vs MHD scaling

velocity difference $d_r v = v(l+r) - v(l)$, energy transfer rate $\varepsilon_r \sim \frac{d_r v^2}{T}$

Kolmogorov: simply have T as the eddy turnover time $T \sim r/d_r v$ so that $\varepsilon_r \sim \frac{d_r v^3}{r}$

MHD: now T is due to (say) Alfvénic collisions $T \sim \frac{r}{d_r v} \left(\frac{v_0}{d_r v} \right)^\alpha$ giving $\varepsilon_r \sim \frac{d_r v^{3+\alpha}}{r}$

intermittency $\langle \varepsilon_r^p \rangle \sim \bar{\varepsilon}^p \left(\frac{r}{L} \right)^{\tau(p)}$

\Rightarrow **Kolmogorov:** $\langle d_r v^p \rangle \sim r^{p/3} \bar{\varepsilon}^{p/3} \left(\frac{L}{r} \right)^{\tau(p/3)} \sim r^{\zeta(p)}$

\Rightarrow **MHD:** same with $\frac{p}{3} \rightarrow \frac{p}{3+\alpha}$ intermittency free $E(k) \sim \langle dv^2 \rangle / k \sim k^{-(5+\alpha)/(3+\alpha)}$

$\langle \varepsilon_r \rangle = \bar{\varepsilon}$ independent of r (steady state) so $\tau(1) = 0$ and $\zeta(\alpha+3) = 1$

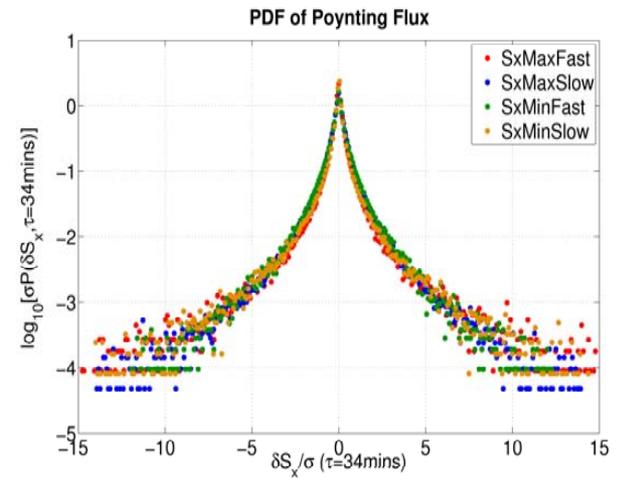
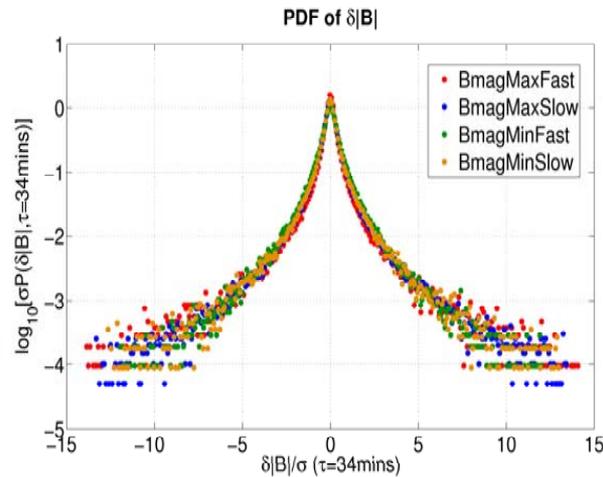
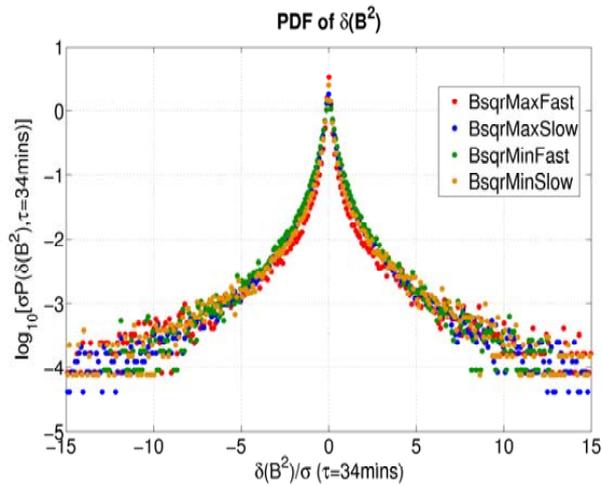
what is α ?

Kolmogorov Obukhov (1941) hydrodynamic: $\alpha=0$

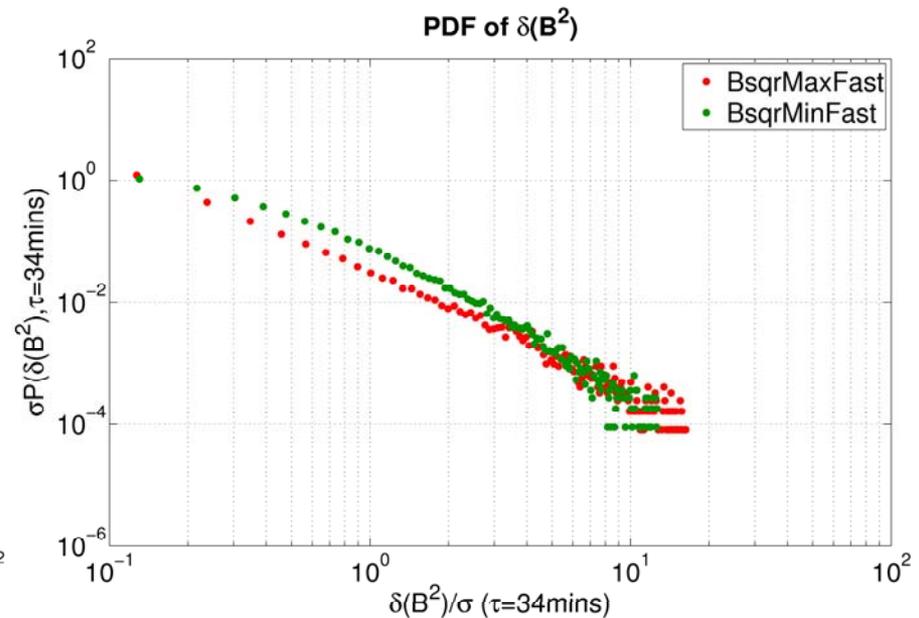
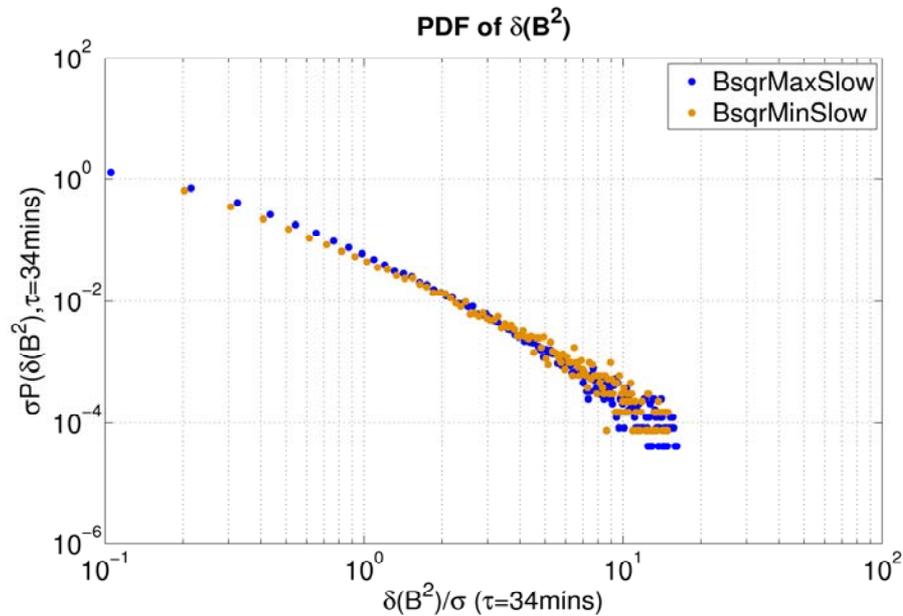
Iroshnikov Kraichnan (1964) weak isotropic MHD $\alpha=1$,

Goldreich Sridhar (1994-5) strong MHD $\alpha_\perp = 0$

Boldyrev (2005) strong, background field anisotropic MHD $\alpha_\perp = 1$

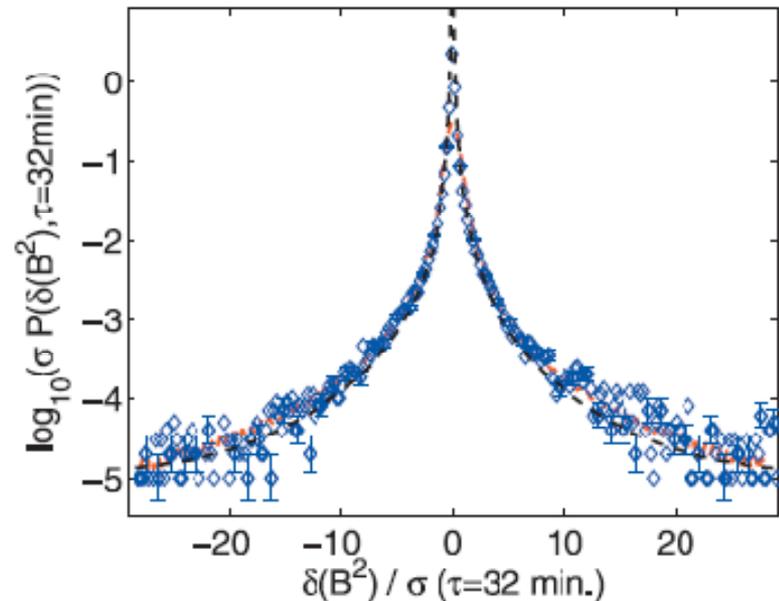
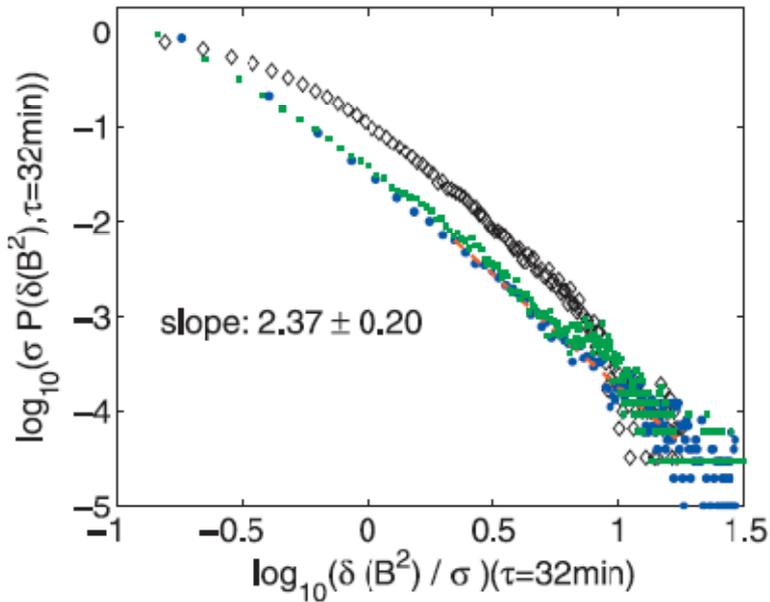


PDF functional form of fluctuations- require a more careful look..



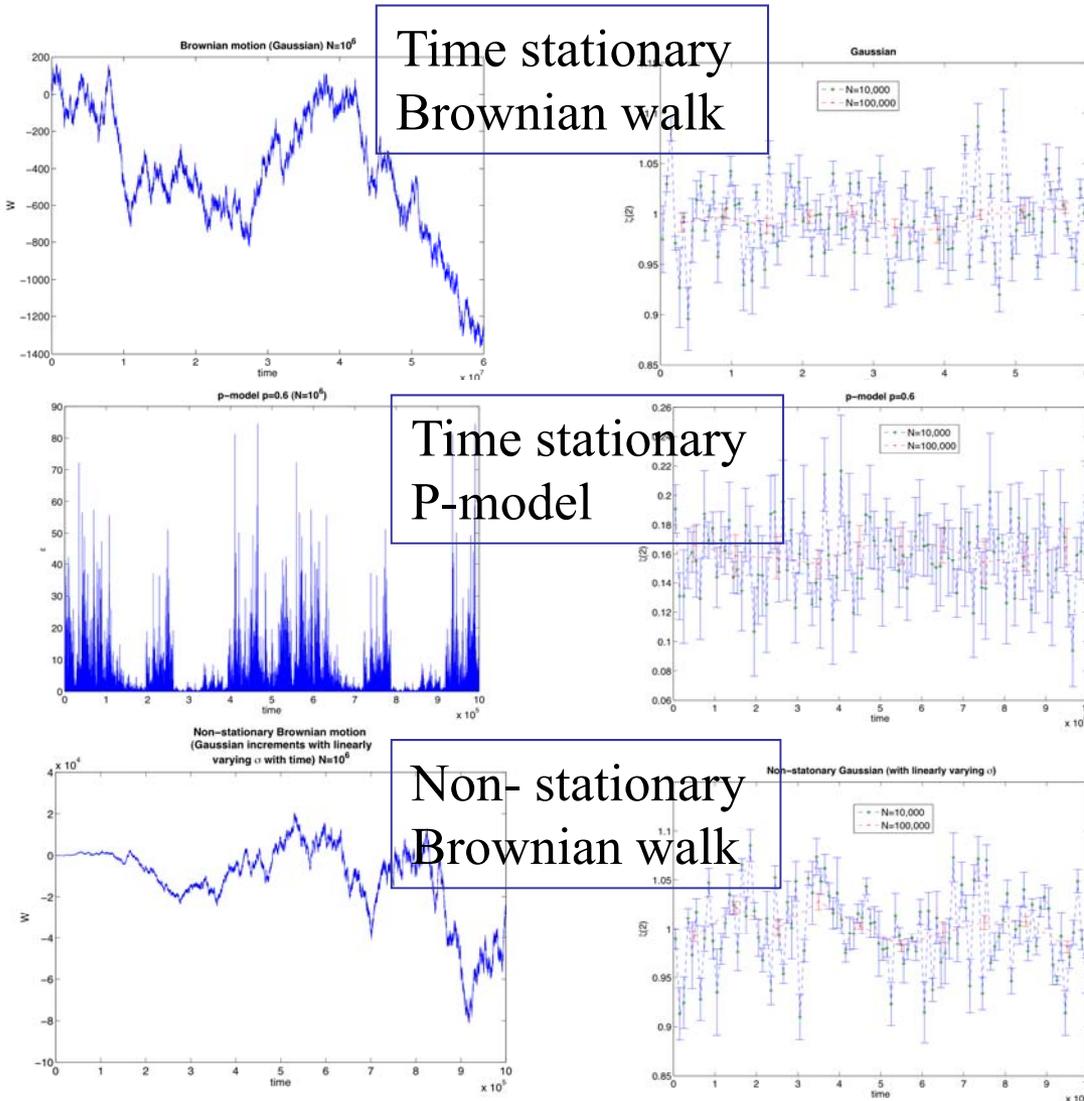
Fast and slow wind have different PDFs of fluctuations. For fast wind, these also vary with solar cycle.

Left: B^2 fluctuation PDF solar max and solar min
 Right: solar max, FP and Lévy fit



WIND 1996 min (\diamond), 2000 max (\circ), ACE 2000 max (\square)
Hnat, SCC et al, GRL, (2007)

Finite sample effect- error on exponent $\zeta(2)$ as a function of sample size N



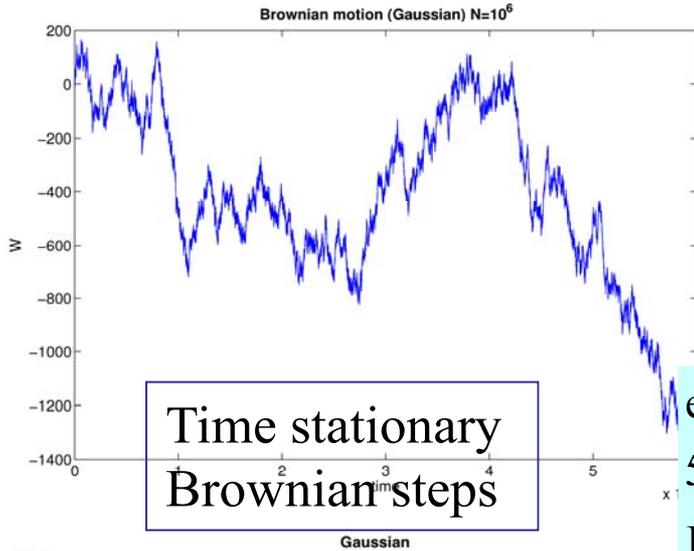
Time stationary
Brownian walk

Time stationary
P-model

Non-stationary
Brownian walk

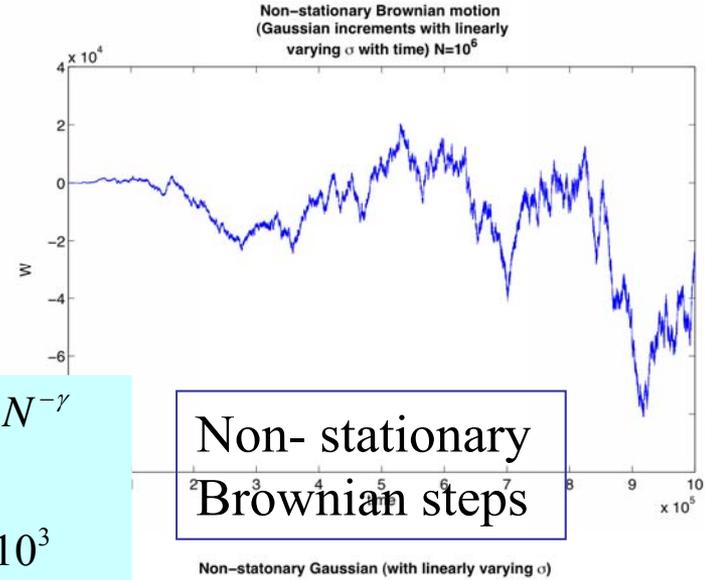
Kiyani, SCC et al, PRE submitted (2008)

Finite sample effect- error on exponent $\zeta(2)$ as a function of sample size N

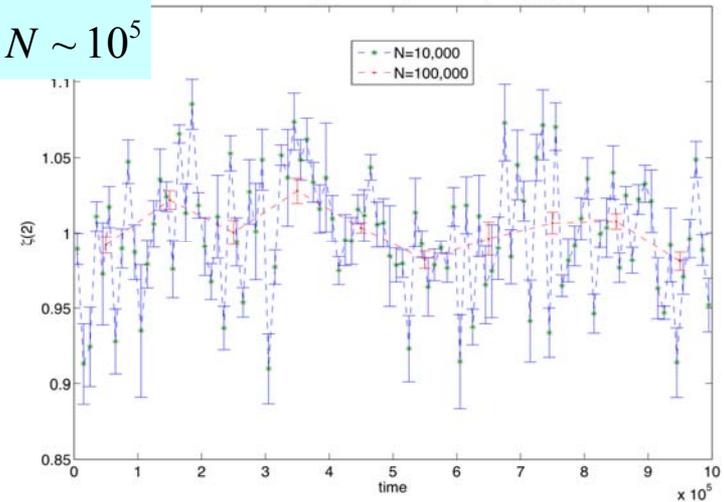
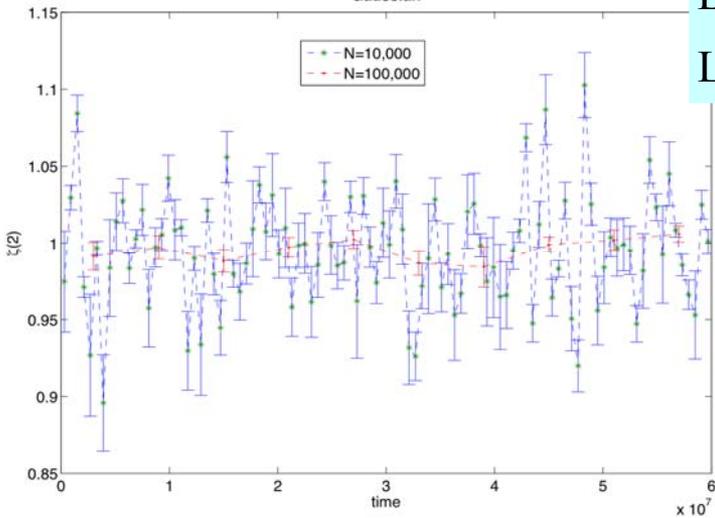


Time stationary
Brownian steps

error on $\zeta(2) \sim N^{-\gamma}$
5% error:
Brownian: $N \sim 10^3$
Levy, p-model $N \sim 10^5$



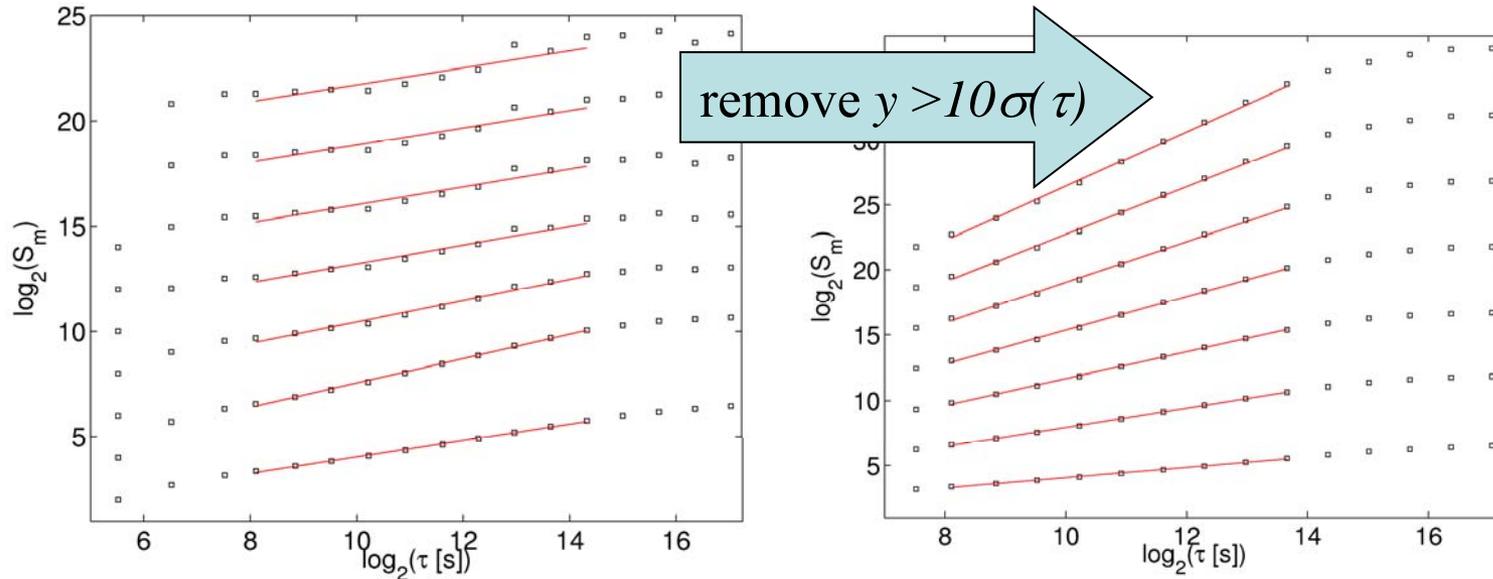
Non-stationary
Brownian steps



Kiyani, SCC et al, PRE submitted, 2008. See also Dudok De Wit, PRE, 2004

Structure functions- uncertainties (example - ρ in slow solar wind)

$$y(t, \tau) = x(t + \tau) - x(t) \text{ test for scaling - } S_m(\tau) = \langle |y(t, \tau)|^m \rangle \propto \tau^{\zeta(m)}$$



2 sources of uncertainty in exponent

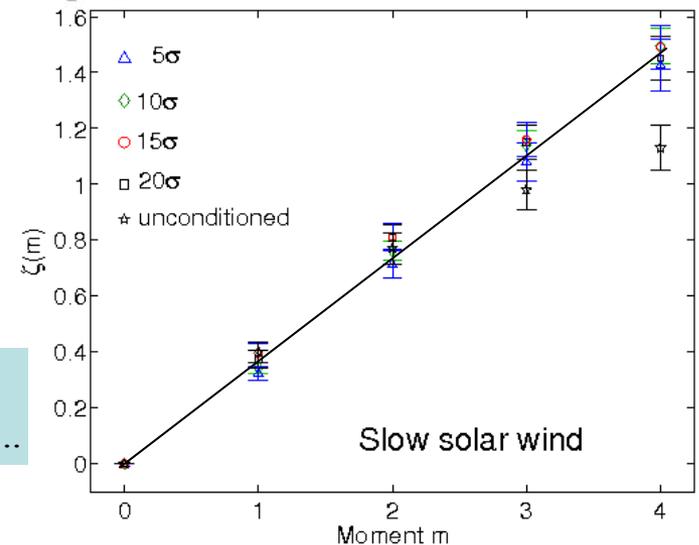
- 1) Fitting error of lines (error bar estimates)
- 2) Outliers- Shown: removed < 1% of the data
ACE 98-01 (4years)- 10^6 samples.
Threshold 450 km/sec.

fractal or multifractal?

fractal (self-affine) $\zeta(p) \sim \alpha p$

multifractal $\zeta(p) \sim \alpha p - \beta p^2 + \dots$

cf Fogedby et al PRE 'diffusion in a box'



Dynamical model for self similar fluctuations

If the PDF of fluctuations $y = x(t + \tau) - x(t)$ on timescale τ is **selfsimilar**:

$$P(y, \tau) = \tau^{-\alpha} P_s(y\tau^{-\alpha})$$

P is then a solution of a **Fokker-Planck** equation:

$$\frac{\partial P}{\partial \tau} = \nabla [AP + B\nabla P], \text{ where transport coefficients } A = A(y), B = B(y)$$

with $A \propto y^{1-1/\alpha}$, $B \propto y^{2-1/\alpha}$ we solve the Fokker-Planck for P_s

This corresponds to a **Langevin equation**: $\frac{dx}{dt} = \beta(x) + \gamma(x)\xi(t)$

and we can obtain β, γ via the Fokker-Planck coefficients

see Hnat, SCC et al. Phys. Rev. E (2003), Chapman et al, NPG (2005)