

# THE NEED FOR DATA IN ATMOSPHERE MODELS

TOTAL DENSITY, COMPOSITION, INDICES - *AND MORE*



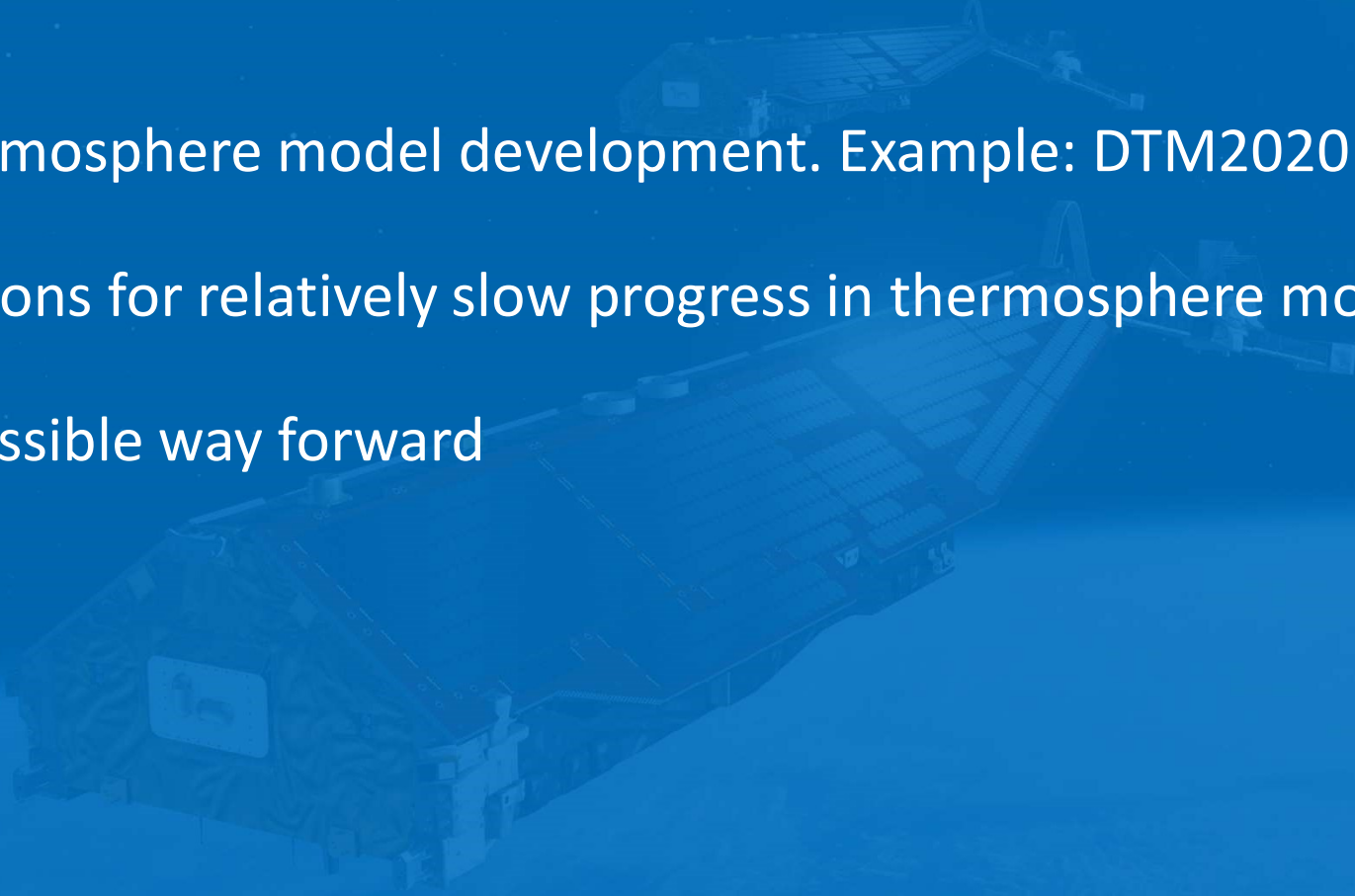
Sean Bruinsma

CNES, Space Geodesy Office

Toulouse, France

COMET ORB / ENV / OPS

13 May 2022

- 
1. Thermosphere model development. Example: DTM2020
  2. Reasons for relatively slow progress in thermosphere model improvement
  3. A possible way forward

## 2 - Data used in the construction of DTM (sparse data)

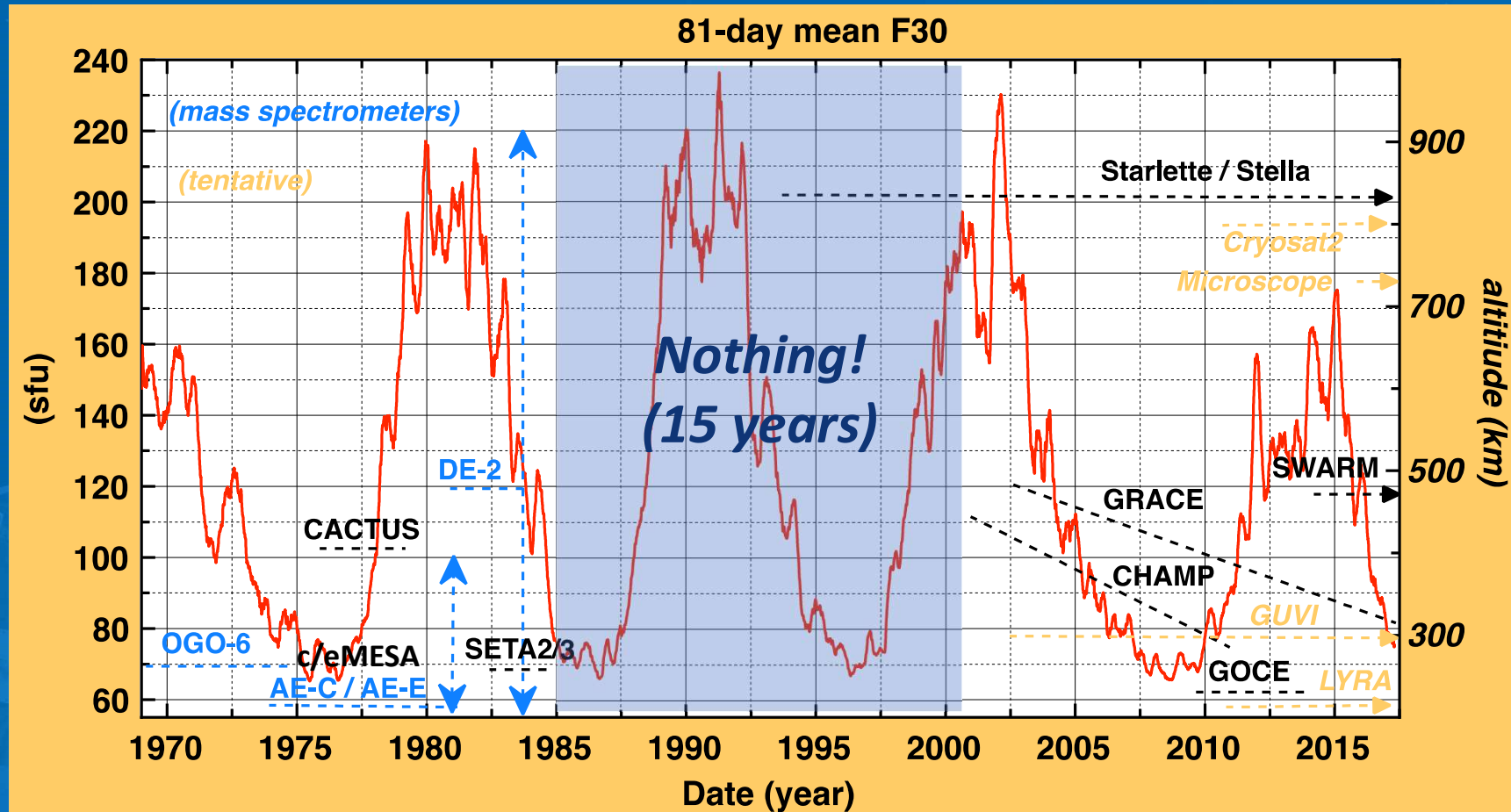
3/22

Hi-Res accelerometer  
density observations,  
but very sparse:

- ❖ Below 250 km
- ❖ Above 500 km
- ❖ For cycle max

Spectrometer data:

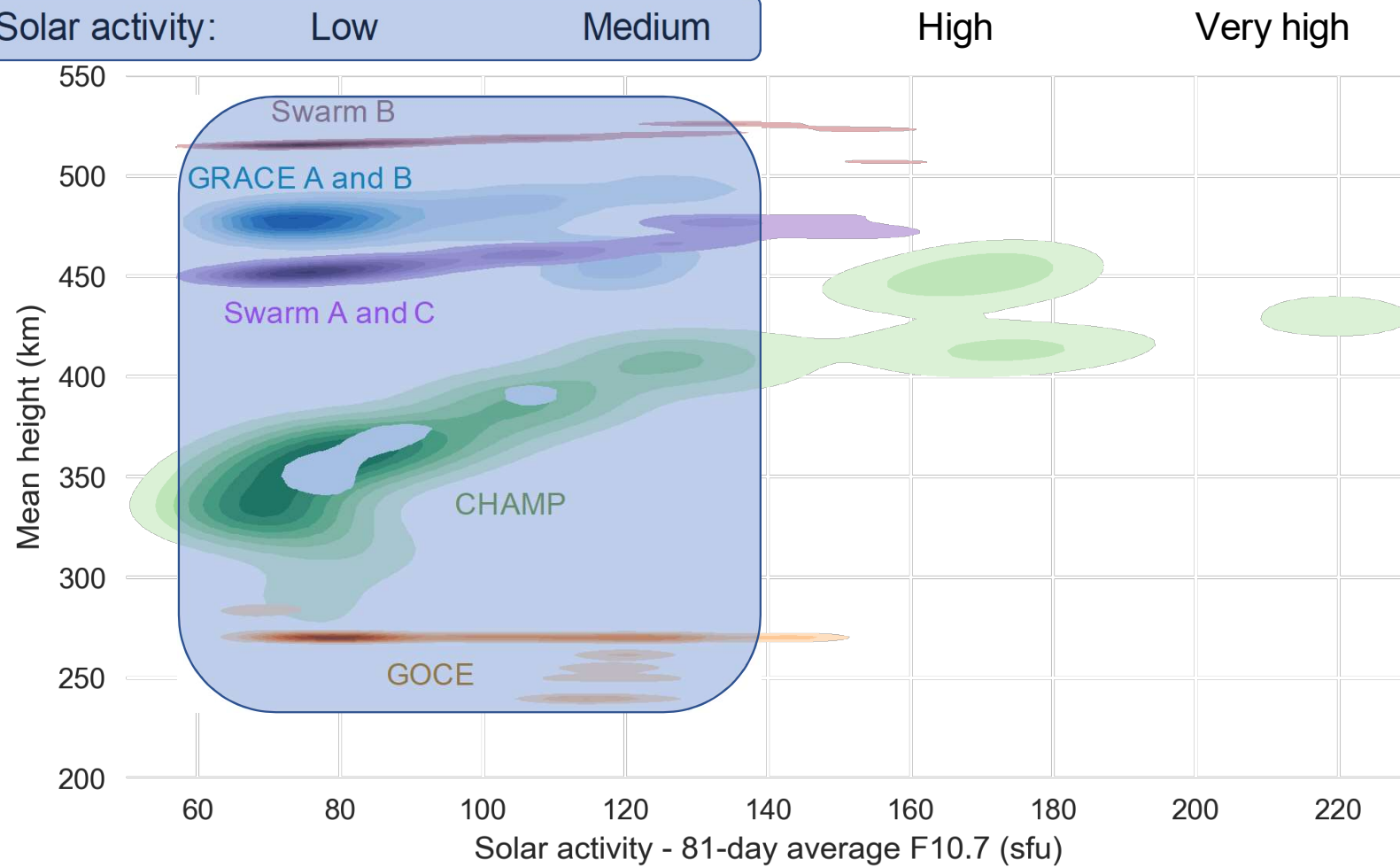
- ❖ Biased
- ❖ Eccentric orbits
- ❖ Before EUV (SEM)
- ❖ No recent data



No composition data since 1983

## 2 - Data used in the construction of DTM *(sparse data)*

4/22



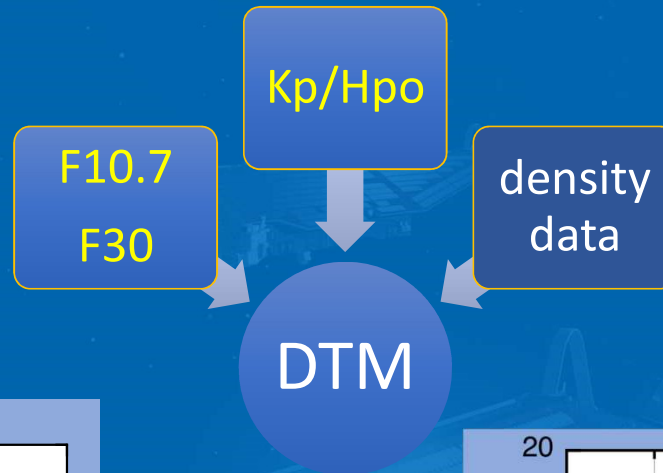
Courtesy: TU Delft, Siemes and Doornbos

## 2 - Data used in the construction of DTM

5/22

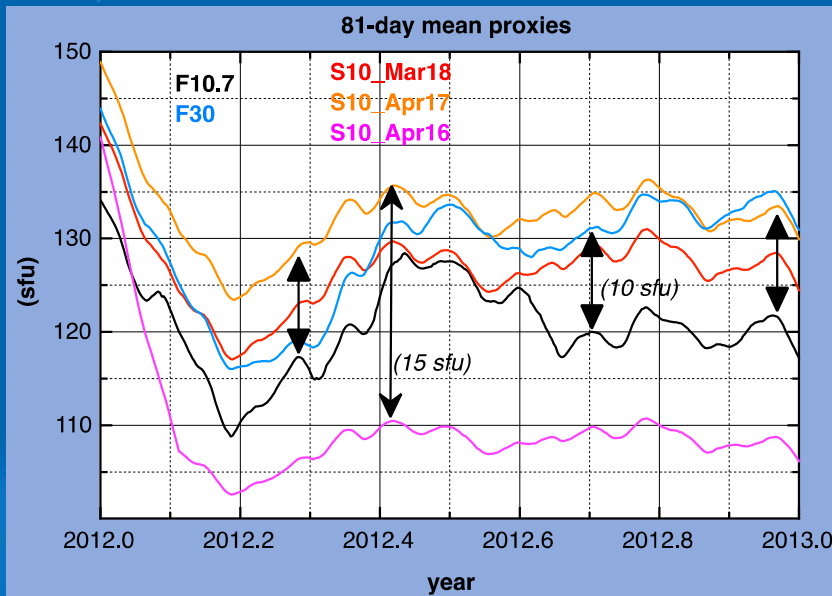
To develop a model you need:  
Temperature, density and  
composition data, and drivers.

**Solar and geomagnetic input  
is considered "truth"**  
*(we use proxies, so incorrect)*

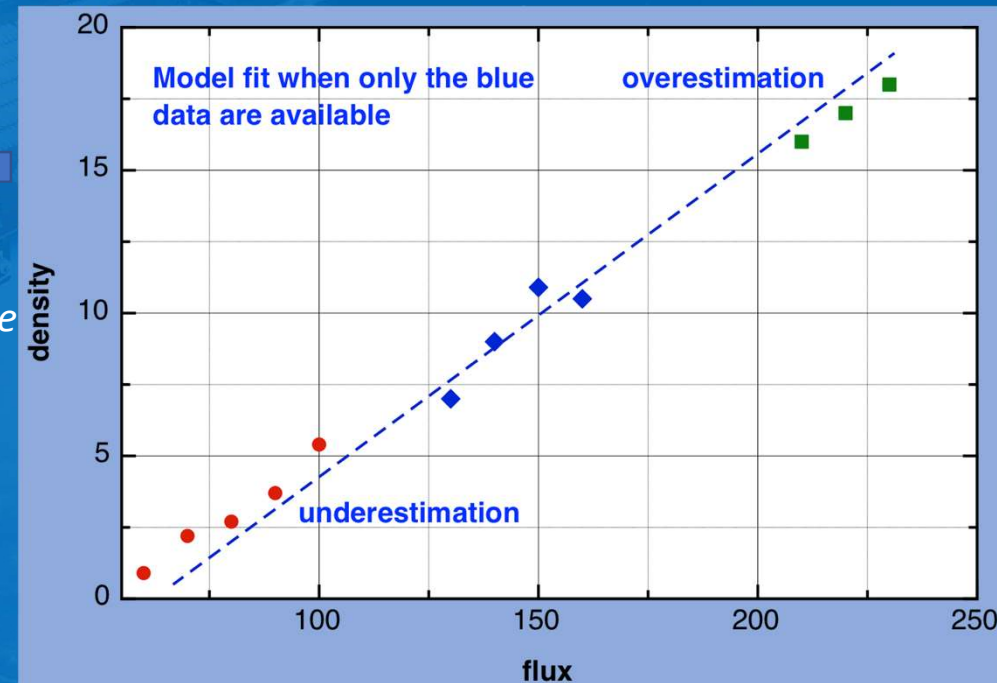


Density data preprocessing:

- Editing (threshold,  $3\sigma$ , ...), filtering
- Selection
- Scale corrections (*satellite model*)



Sparse  
Data  
example





## 2 - Data used in the construction of DTM

6/22

Two DTM2020 models were developed: one version compatible with operations, the other not **yet**

DTM

DTM2013:

F30 & Kp  
'old' DB



DTM2019:

F30 & Kp  
intermediate DB



"OPERATIONAL"

- same algorithm
- drivers: F10.7 and F30
- complete database 1970-2019

Site at Bialkow observatory, University of Wroclaw: 27 April



Intermediate:

F30 & Kp  
Complete DB



- database 2000-2019

ESA has contracted a Polish consortium to construct and operate a radio telescope to measure F10.7 and F30.

10 May: antenna installation  
17 May: first tests

Data will be made available on the ESA SWE portal.

(Hp60 already available @GFZ)

algorithm

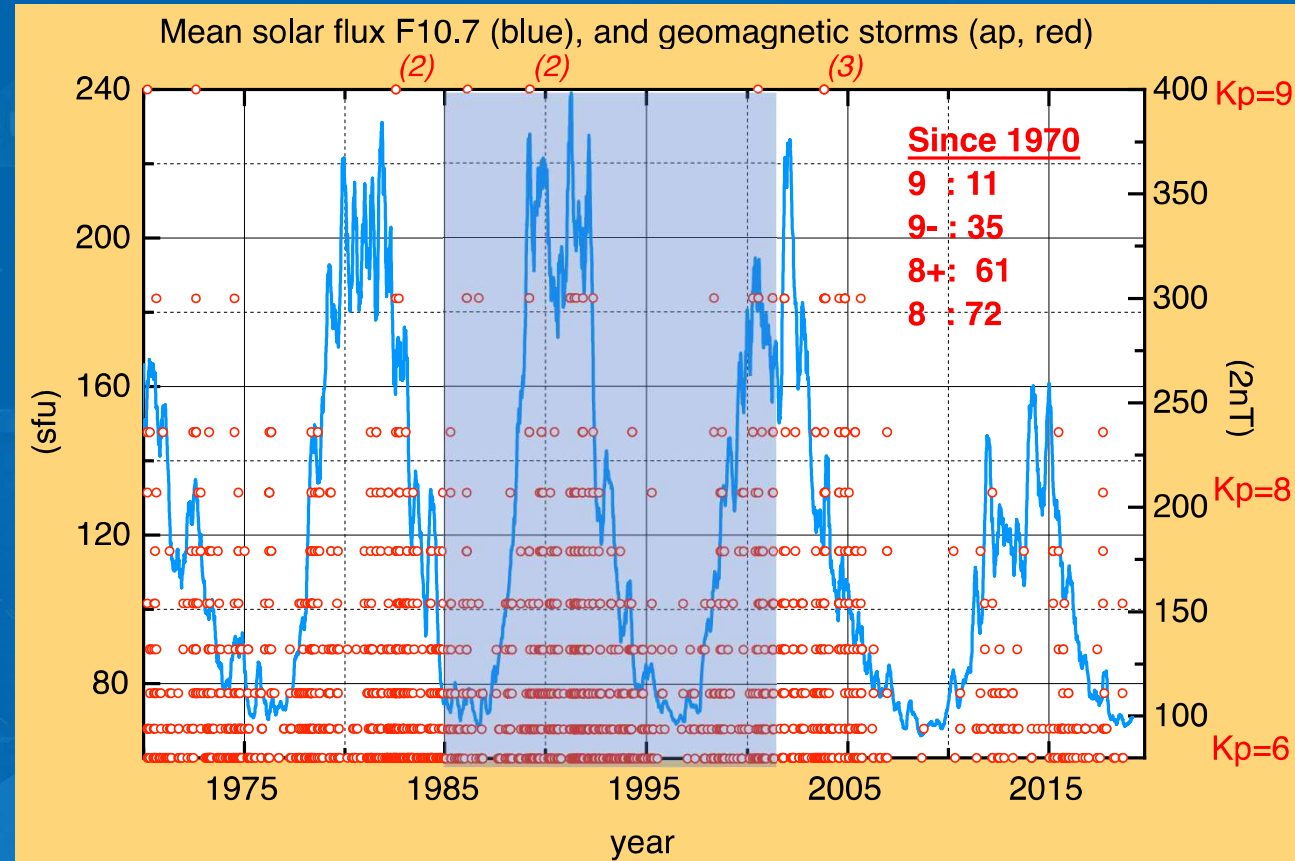
Hp60

## 2 - Data used in the construction of DTM *(sparse data & few events)*

7/22

### Slow and fast temporal variations:

- Solar cycle ( $\approx 11$  years)
- Season (6 months & 12 months)
- Active regions (months)
- Solar rotation ( $\approx 27$  days)
- Corotating Interaction Regions (9&13.5 days)
- Solar/geomagnetic storms (hours – days)
- Solar flares (hours)

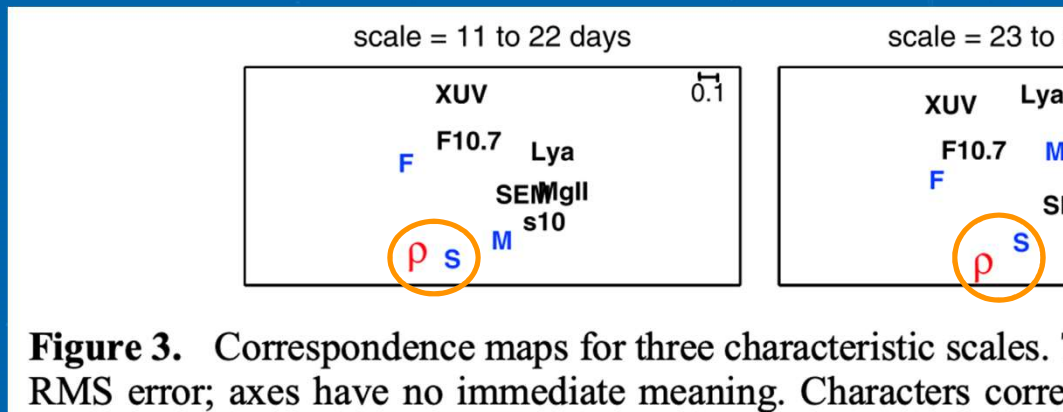


Since 2001, about 10 extreme storms – and at best 2 satellites operating each storm:  
Only 2 altitudes & local time planes observed!

## 2 - Data used in the construction of DTM *(driver for solar activity)*

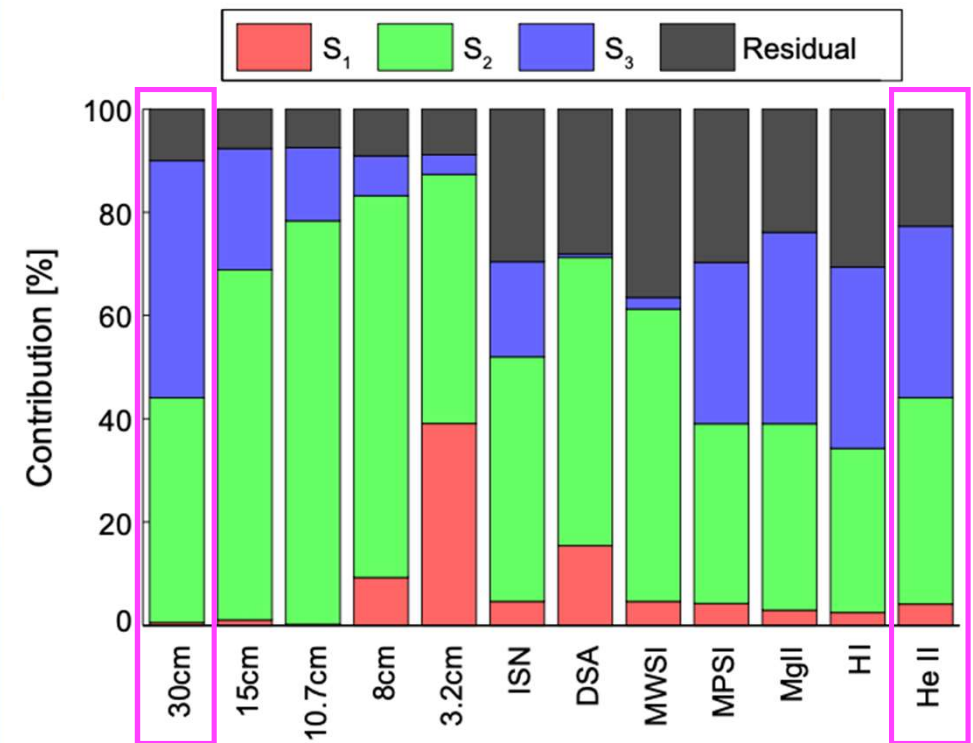
8/22

What is the 'best' (*representative of UV/EUV, calibrated, permanent and reliable*) proxy for solar EUV activity? ➔ Based on our studies: 30 cm radio flux (F30)



Best result: S (He II)  
But serious calibration issues! (*e.g. S10 in JB2008*)

So we continued looking and testing:  
*F30 is closest to He II in terms of gyroresonance (S2) and Bremsstrahlung (S3)*



**Figure 8.** Relative contribution of each of the three sources to the five radio fluxes and to seven common solar proxies. For each quantity, the sum of the contributions has been normalised to 100%.



## 2 - Data used in the construction of DTM *(driver for geomagnetic activity)*

9/22

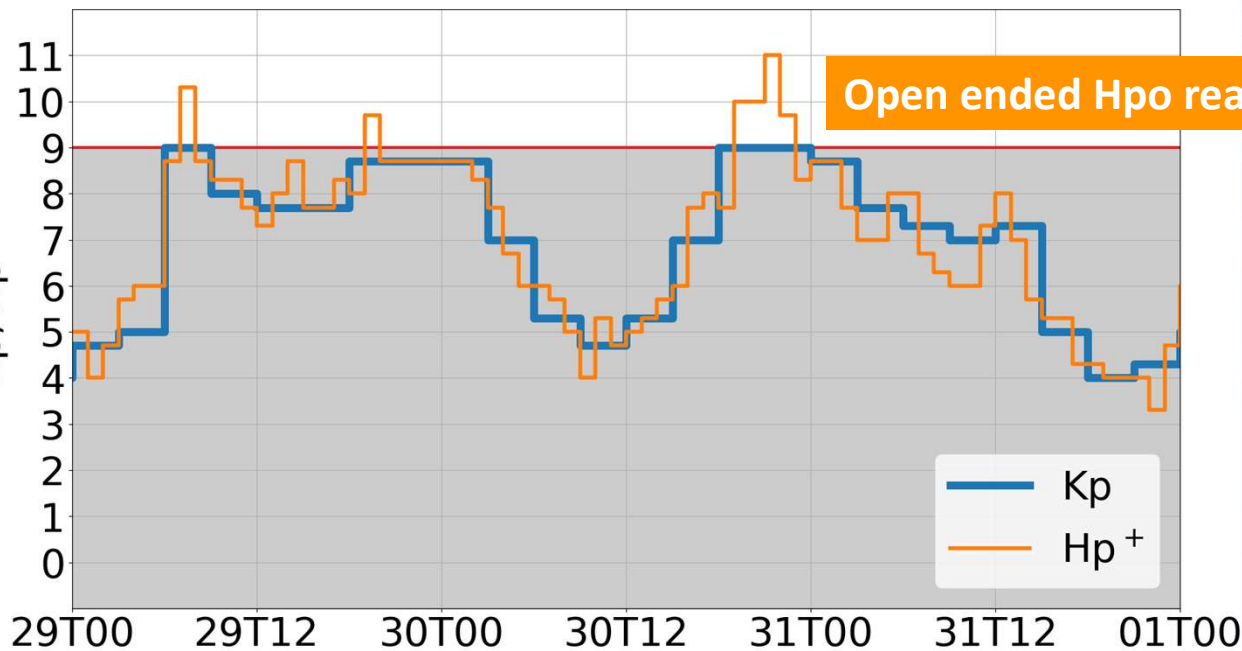
Variations of all Kp Stations, 2017-09-07

Storm: 23hr  
Kp: 21-24hr

2017-09-07 Method 'Range'

Kp Hp<sub>90</sub> Hp<sub>60</sub> Hp<sub>30</sub>

Hp<sup>+</sup> 60 vs. Kp, 2003-10-31



Open ended Hpo reaches 11o during Halloween storm

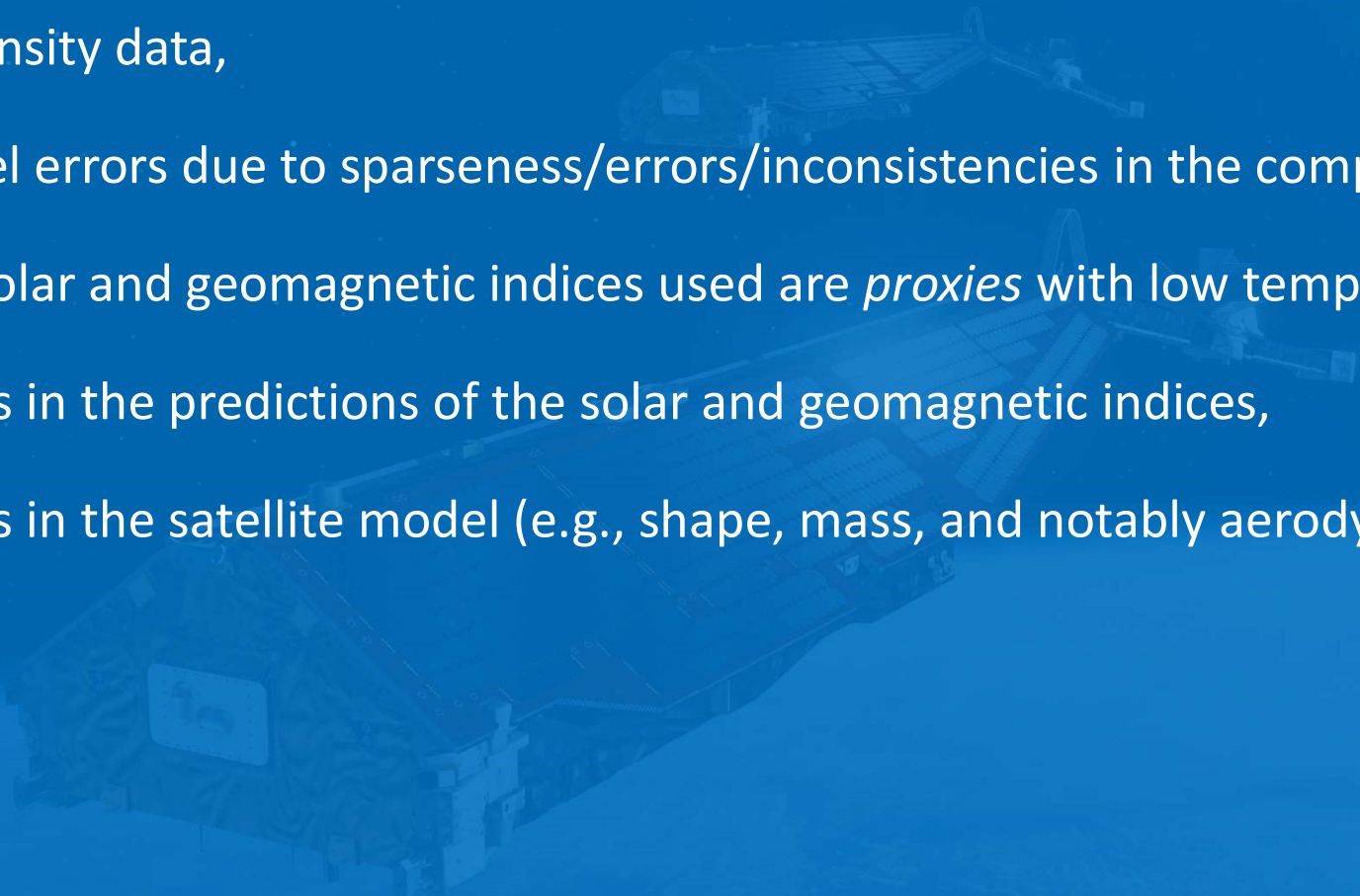
**Hpo: Kp-like, open-ended, 30&60-minutes**

- High-cadence **Hpo60** (60min resolution)
- based on local H60 values from the 13 Kp-observatories

Operational service for Hpo started 08/2020  
(@GFZ)

## The causes for the slow progress

10/22

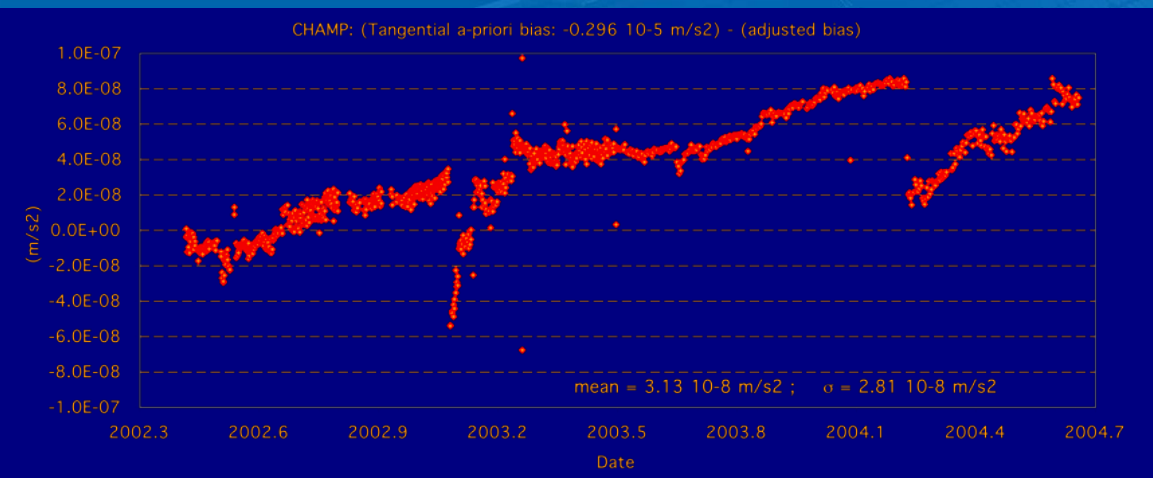
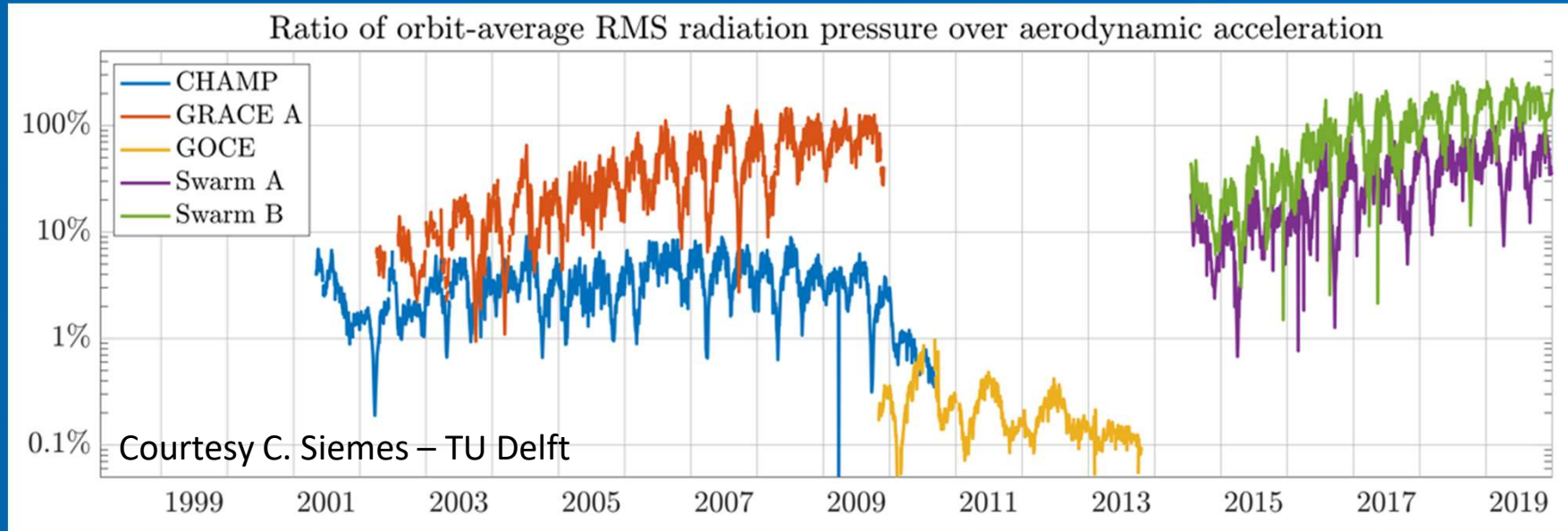
1. simple and coarse modeling algorithm in case of semi-empirical models, GCMs not fitted to density data,
  2. model errors due to sparseness/errors/inconsistencies in the compiled density data,
  3. the solar and geomagnetic indices used are *proxies* with low temporal resolution,
  4. errors in the predictions of the solar and geomagnetic indices,
  5. errors in the satellite model (e.g., shape, mass, and notably aerodynamic coefficient).
- 
- A faint, semi-transparent image of a satellite is visible in the background. It is a rectangular satellite with various instruments and antennas protruding from its surface, oriented diagonally across the slide.

# The causes for the slow progress - #2 (errors in the data)

11/22

## Two examples

1) Solar radiation pressure must be modeled to infer density. The impact of an error increases with altitude.



2) Accelerometers require calibration. The mean bias in the along-track direction of CHAMP is 10x bigger than the signal. Difficult to delineate bias and scale.

### Calibration equation:

$$a_{(\text{calibrated})} = \text{bias} + \text{scale} \cdot a_{(\text{measured})}$$

### Average values applied to CHAMP/ STAR

T: bias =  $-0.296 \cdot 10^{-5} \text{ ms}^{-2}$  scale = 0.833  
 N: bias =  $-0.341 \cdot 10^{-6} \text{ ms}^{-2}$  scale = 0.833  
 R: Model (due to instrumental problems)

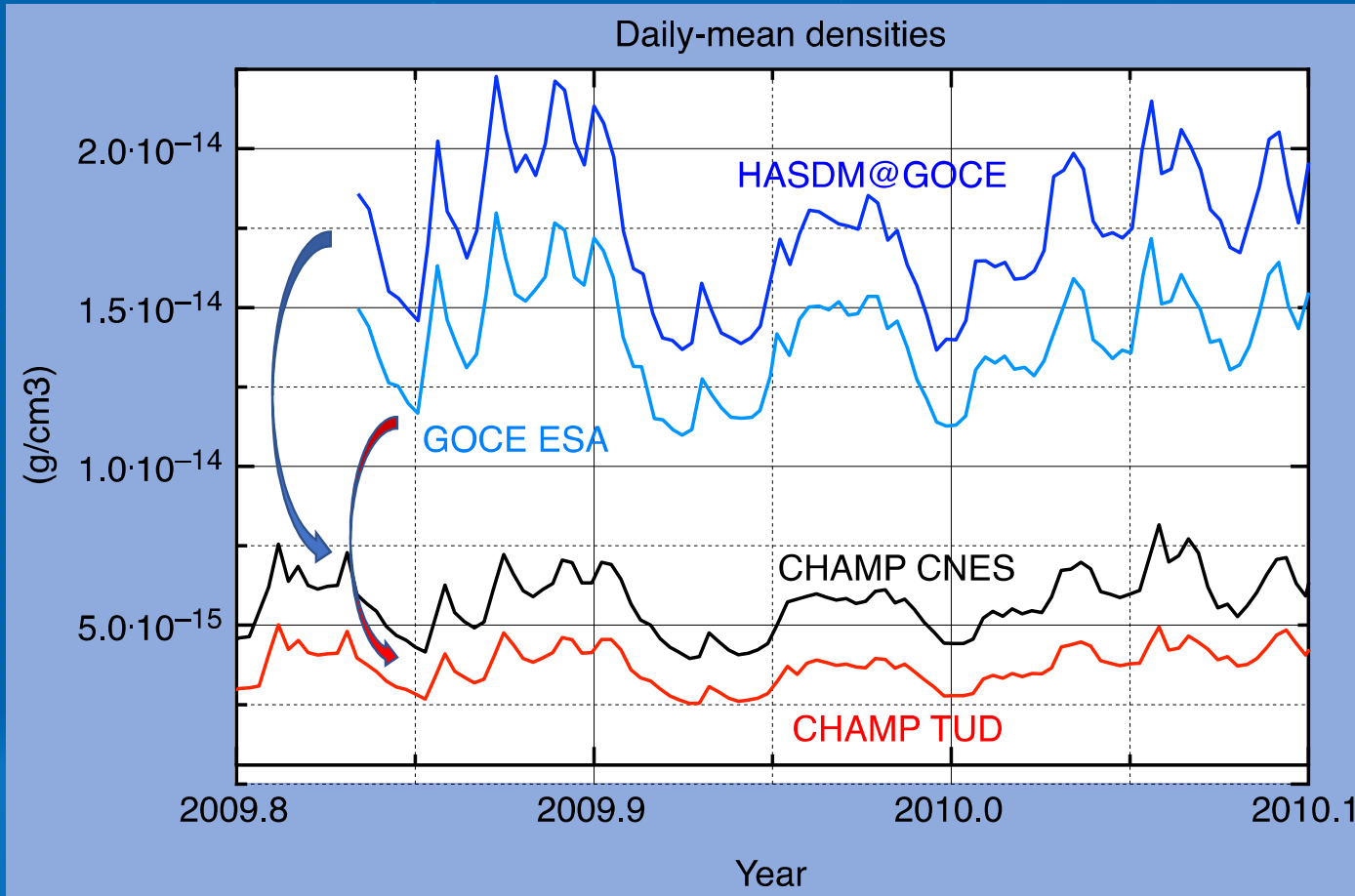
### GRACE-A

bias =  $-0.117 \cdot 10^{-5} \text{ ms}^{-2}$  scale = 0.957  
 bias =  $-0.285 \cdot 10^{-4} \text{ ms}^{-2}$  scale = 0.962  
 bias =  $-0.532 \cdot 10^{-6} \text{ ms}^{-2}$  scale = 0.968

## The causes for the slow progress - #2 (inconsistent data)

12/22

### GOCE@270km & CHAMP@350km



Consistency:

- ✓ HASDM & CNES
- ✓ ESA & TUD

⚡ HASDM & TUD

*What causes these differences?*

- Satellite model
- Cd model

*(item #5)*

# The causes for the slow progress - #3 (proxies - solar)

13/22

No EUV at the surface...

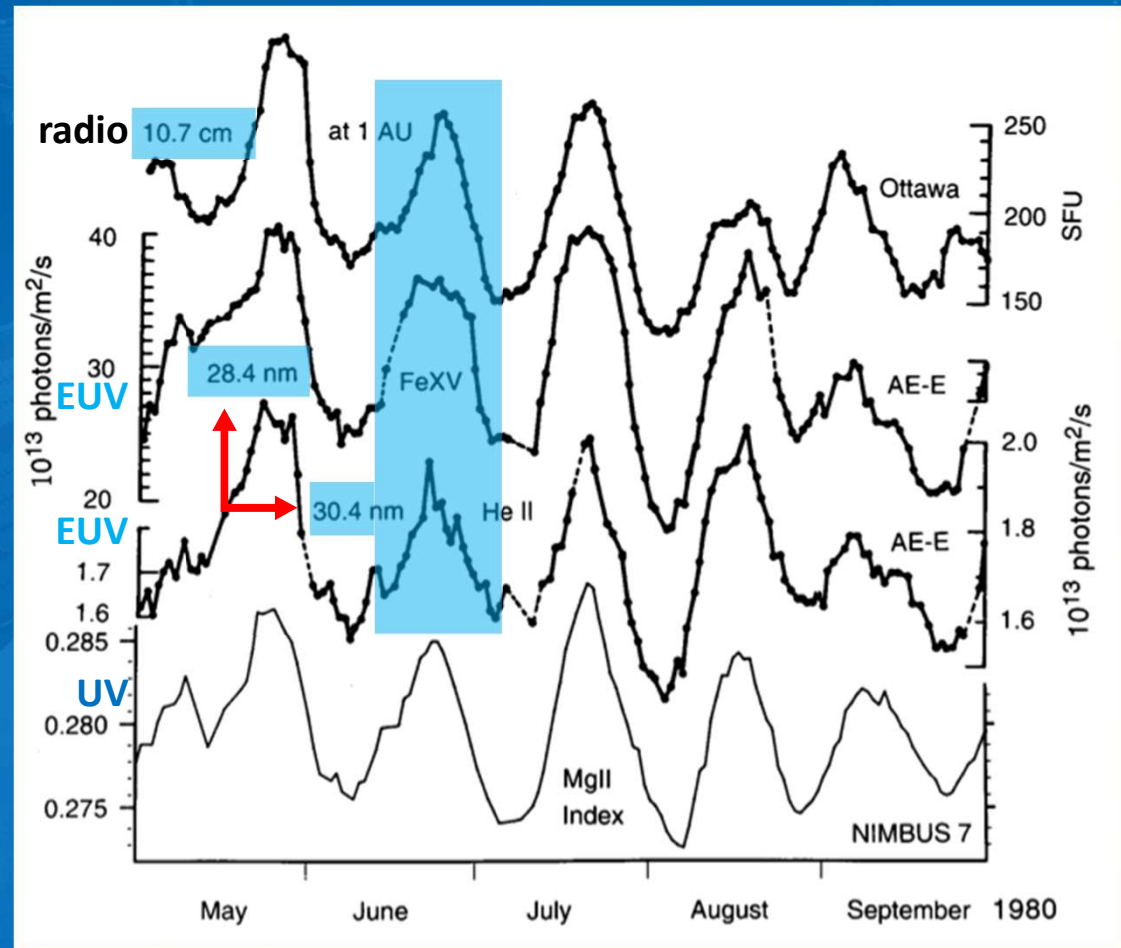
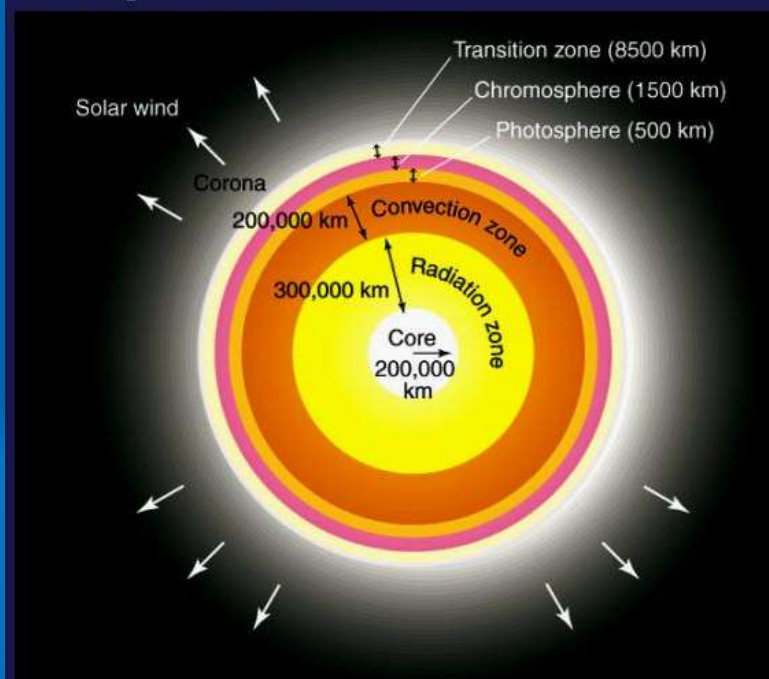
we use proxies

Proxy:

measurement that mimics variations of another observable → EUV

Solar flux (F10.7 & F30): daily measurements  
(only 1 station : in Canada & Japan respectively)

Main Regions of the Sun



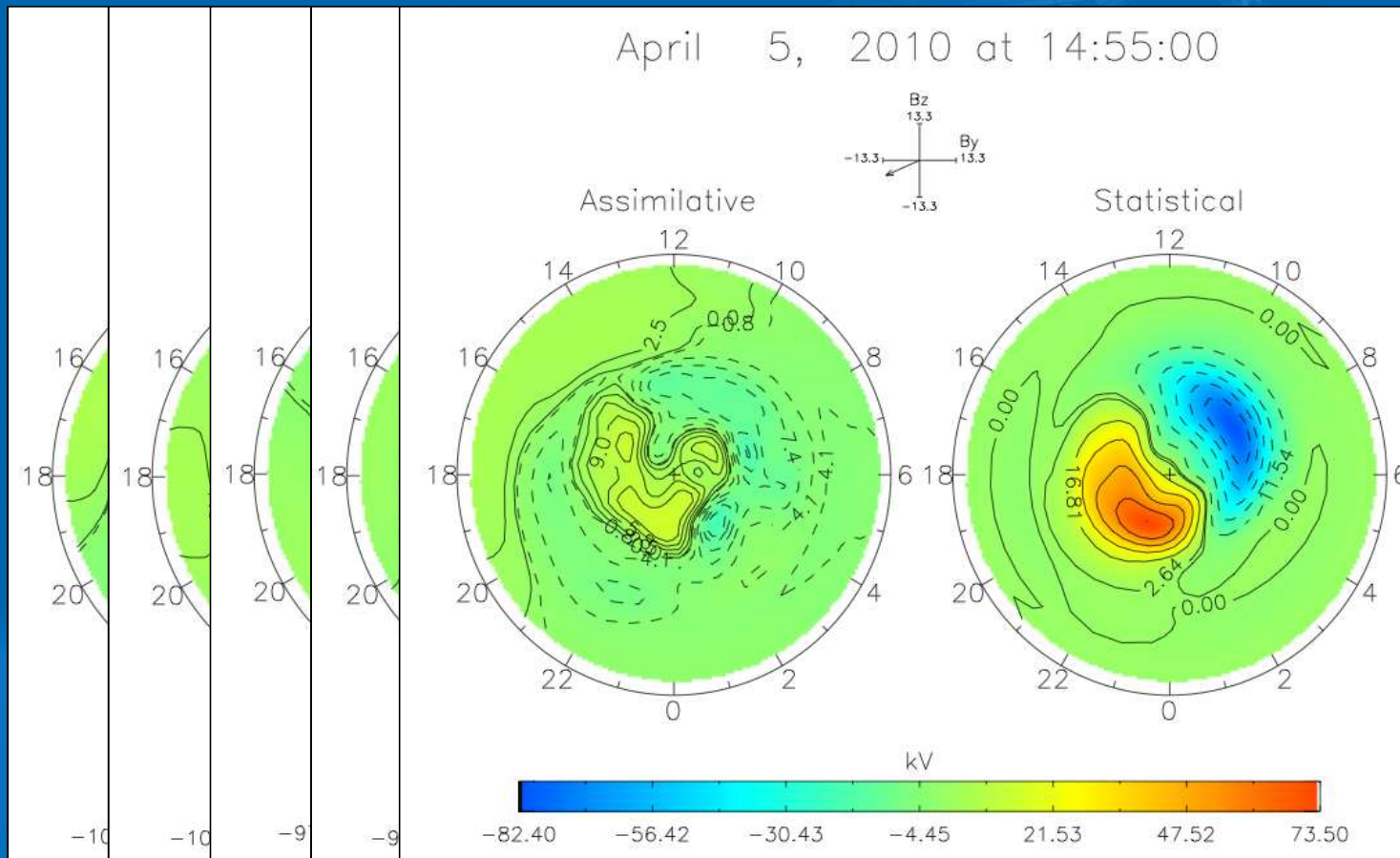


# The causes for the slow progress - #3 (proxies - geomagnetic)

14/22

Proxy for energy deposition due to solar wind (Joule heating and particle precipitation)

**Proxy:**  
*measurement that mimics variations of another observable* → Kp, Hpo



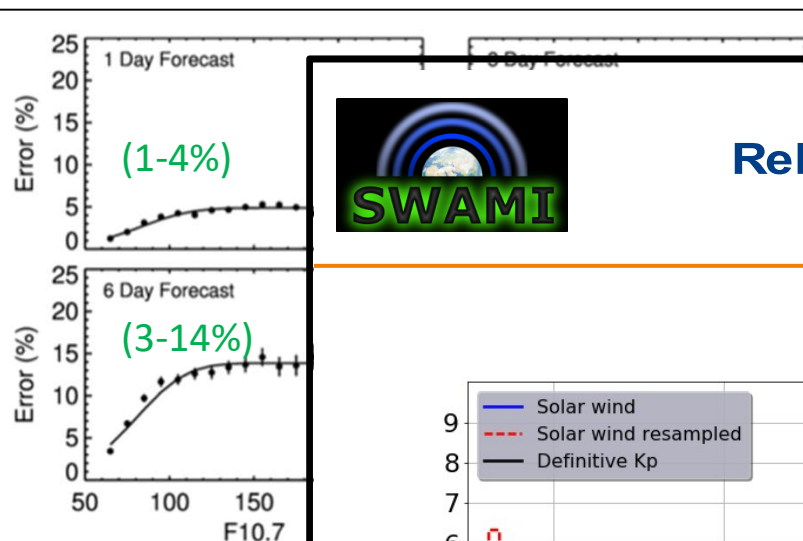
Kp (3hr), Hpo and Dst (1hr):  
→ *Planetary indices*

GCMs more often use  
Weimer or AMIE\* as drivers  
→ *High resolution*

But still large differences:  
*Statistical vs Assimilative*

\* *Assimilative Mapping of  
Ionospheric Electrodynamics*

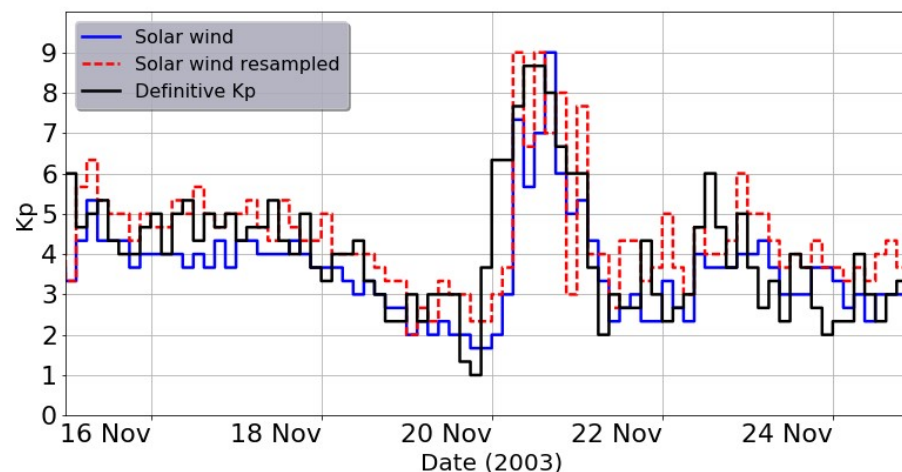
## Space Weather (Warren et al., 2017)



**Figure 5.** Forecast error as a function of level of solar activity. The top graph shows the error for a 1-day forecast, and the bottom graph shows the error for a 6-day forecast. The error is generally higher for longer forecast horizons.



## Rebalancing IV (because so few storms in the database)



- Example of a forecast **with** and **without resampling** for a 3h horizon.
- Without resampling, the model based on the solar wind (blue) systematically underestimates Kp.



# The causes for the slow progress - #5 (satellite model)

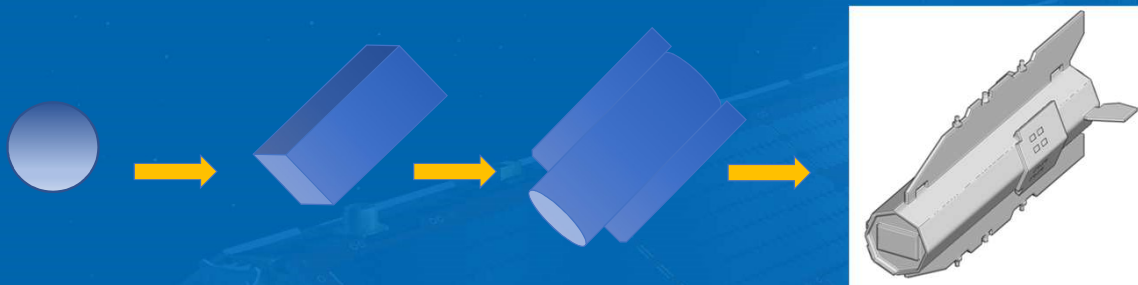
16/22

*There is no standard, nor a clear consensus within the community, on how **aerodynamic drag** should be computed*

$$a_{drag} = -\frac{1}{2} C_D \frac{A}{m} \rho v^2 \longrightarrow \rho = -\frac{2a_{drag}m}{C_D A v^2}$$

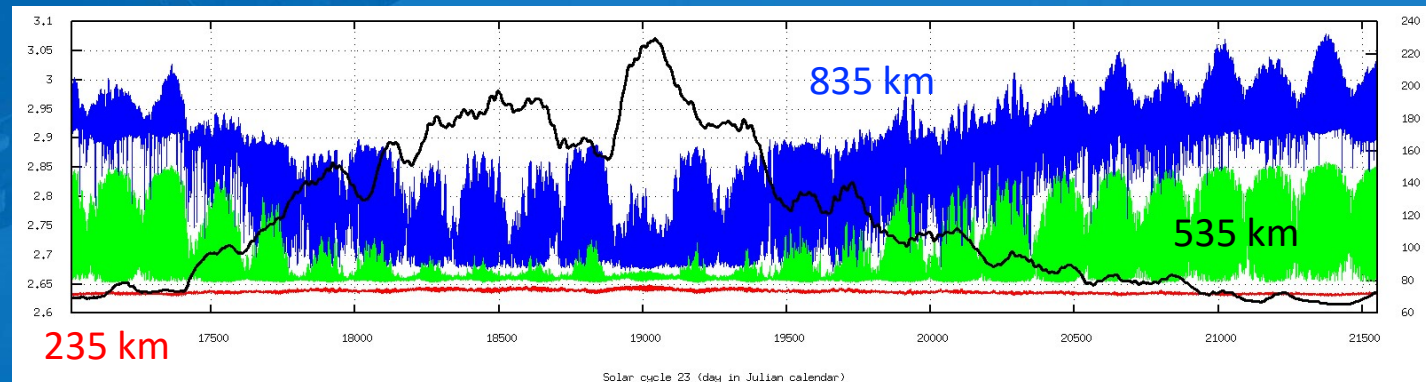
**Differences in the drag calculation are due to:**

- Level of approximation of the satellite model (sphere, number of panels, undocumented changes, mass,...)



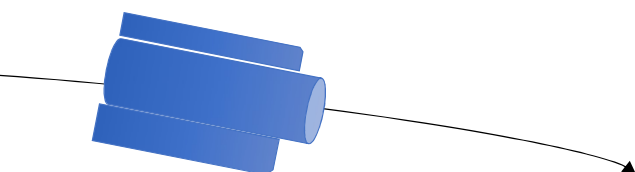
- Aerodynamic coefficient model

$C_D$  of a sphere and Sentman model over one solar cycle for 3 altitudes



## What is the problem?

### 1 – Infer density, and ingest (Here: CNES-GS)



$$\rho = -\frac{2 a_{drag} m}{C_D A v^2}$$

Model (e.g. DTM2020)

### 2 – Compute orbit (not CNES-GS)

Model( $\rho$ )

$$C_D = C_D$$

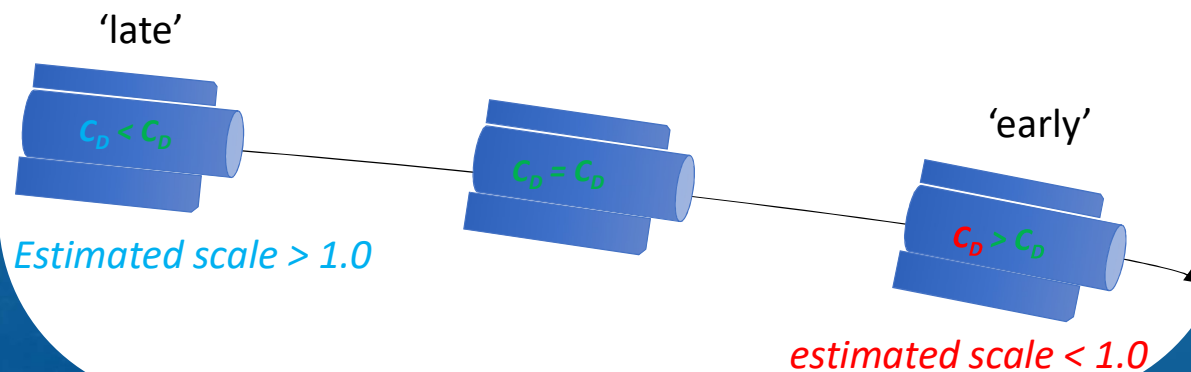
$$a_{drag} = -\frac{1}{2} C_D \frac{A}{m} \rho v^2$$

$$C_D < C_D$$

$$a_{drag} = -\frac{1}{2} C_D \frac{A}{m} \rho v^2$$

$$C_D > C_D$$

$$a_{drag} = -\frac{1}{2} C_D \frac{A}{m} \rho v^2$$





1. simple and coarse modeling algorithm in case of semi-empirical models, GCMs not fitted to density data,

**Does not appear to be the limiting factor yet, and GCMs with DA are being tested**

2. model errors due to sparseness/errors/inconsistencies in the compiled density data,

**Well-distributed data needed, accurately processed (*continuous, calibrated, satellite model*)**

3. the solar and geomagnetic indices used are *proxies* with low temporal resolution,

**Issues with solar EUV data (*calibration*); geomagnetic indices are global proxies**

4. errors in the predictions of the solar and geomagnetic indices,

**Can be improved for solar proxies, but geomagnetic activity forecast horizon very limited**

5. errors in the satellite model (e.g., shape, mass, and notably aerodynamic coefficient).

**Shape and mass should be correct for spacecraft (*debris!*), but no standard for  $C_D$**



## A possible way forward

19/22

Concurrent temperature, composition and density data (spectros+accelerometer *on the same mission*)  
accurate satellite model – ground tests!

Measurements at altitudes **below 200** ( $O_2, N_2, dT$ ), 250 ( $N_2, O$ ), 400 ( $O$ ), 500 ( $O, He$ ), **800 km** ( $O, He$  - *EO sats*)  
constellation (*cubesats?*) – **accurate  $C_D$  model also required**


Calibrated and reliable EUV measurements (e.g. He II), 6hr cadence  
regular rocket under flight calibration campaigns with the *same* instruments

And: international coordination of the above 'observing system' – WMO?

**But large obstacles remain in forecasting:**

**Solar activity for horizon > 5 days**

**Geomagnetic activity for horizon > 12hr**

If all data in near-real-time  Model+Data Assimilation (DA)  
is achievable

*allows correcting thermosphere state,  
e.g. for driver error, or lack of driver*

# A possible way forward: DTM + Data Assimilation

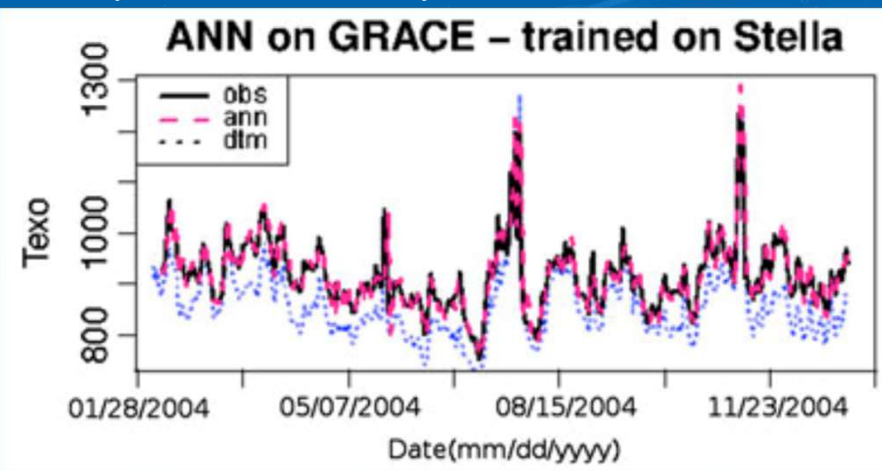
20/22

	Altitude (km)	eccentricity	inclination	Time frame
GOCE	270	0.002	97°	1/2010 – 12/2012
CHAMP	450 – 350	0.001	87°	5/2001 – 12/2009
GRACE	490 – 460	0.002	89°	4/2003 – 12/2009
<i>Starlette</i>	815	<i>0.021</i>	<i>50°</i>	1/1994 – 12/2009
Stella	800	0.001	99°	1/1994 – 12/2009

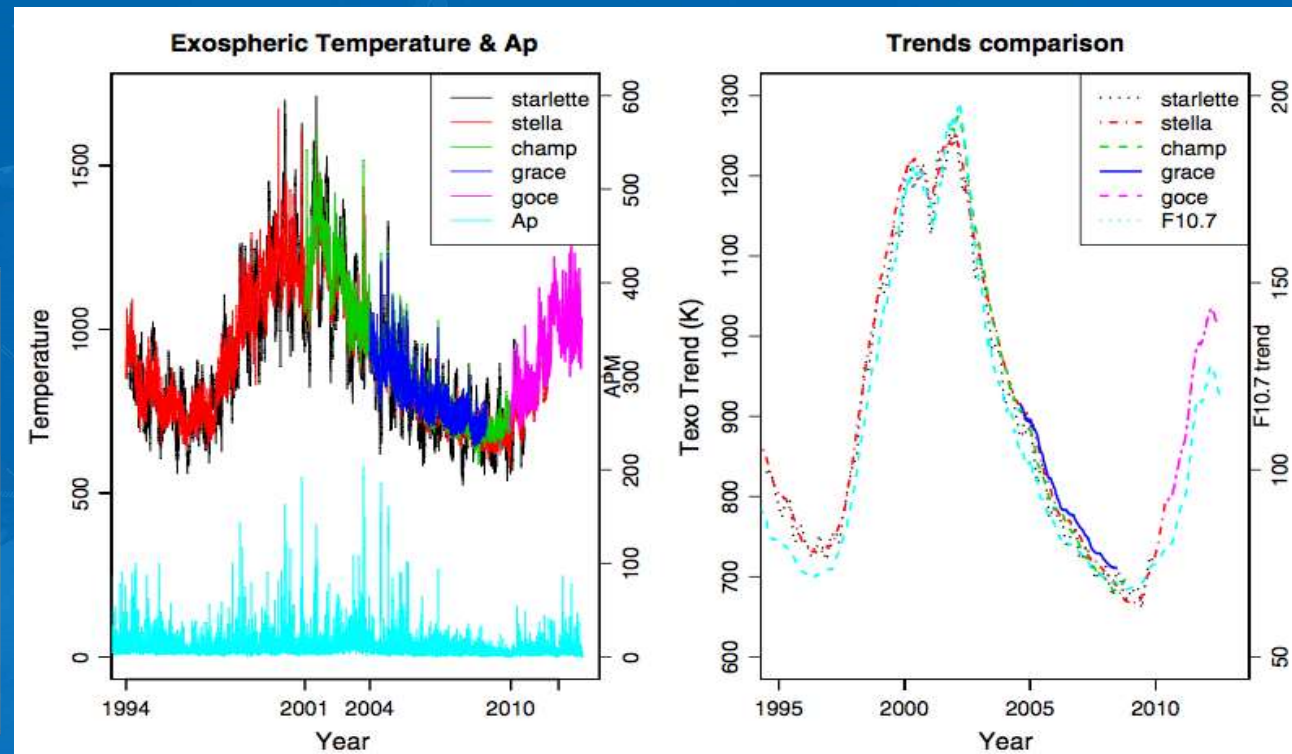
**USAF: HASDM**  
(classified)  
*~80 objects, hourly updates*

Reduce model bias through  
computation and forecast of  
exospheric temperature corrections

Comparisons of 1-day forecasts:



(prototype developed in FP7 project ATMOP)

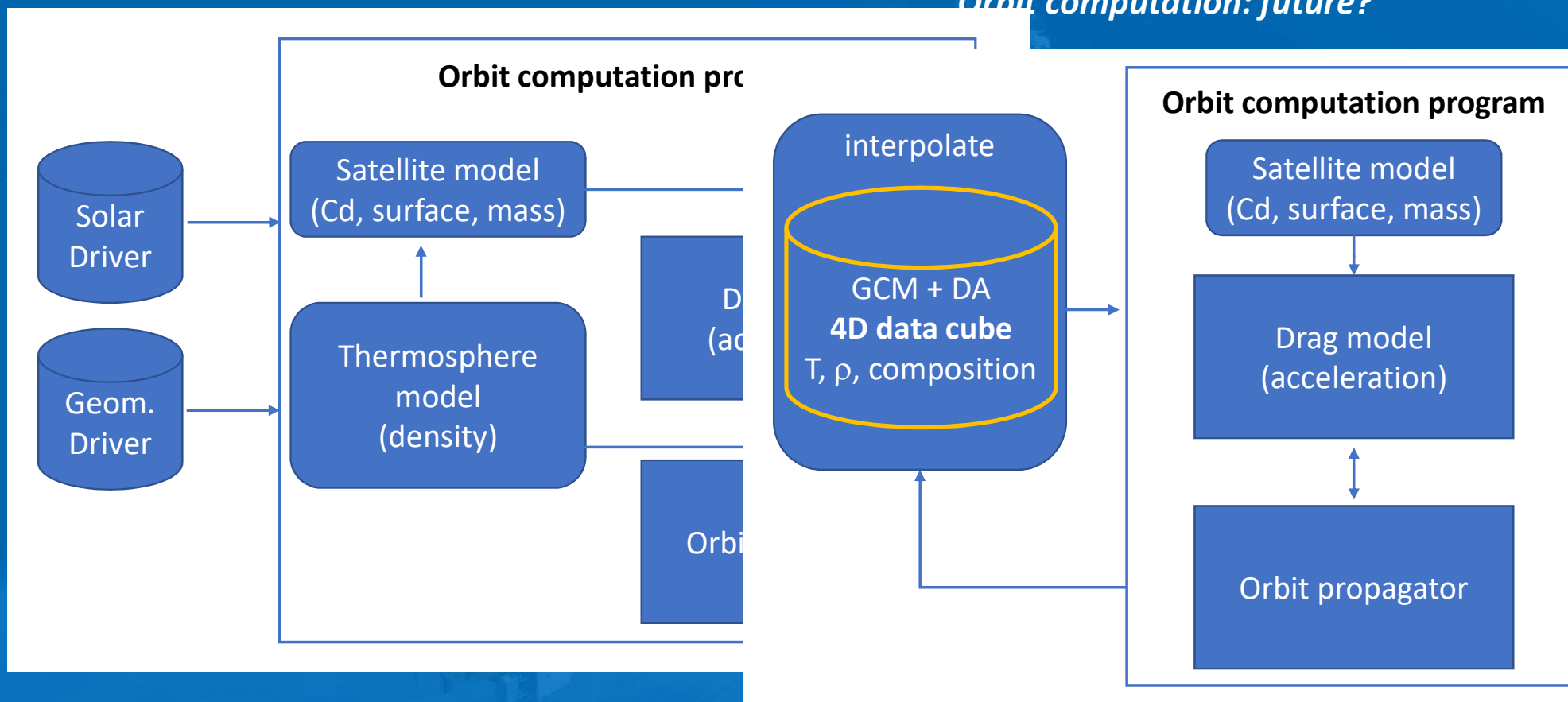


# A possible way forward: GCM + Data Assimilation

21/22

## Orbit computation: present situation

## Orbit computation: future?







## ISWAT - International Space Weather Action Teams

Join forces to advance space weather understanding and capabilities to alert and shield society!

HOME JOIN ISWAT HOW WE WORK NEWS, EVENTS, ACTIVITIES CONTACT US

**IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT:** In face of the recent evolution of the COVID pandemics and of the related travel restrictions, we are postponing the in-person ISWAT Meeting to **26-30 September, 2022**.

Mini-ISWAT Roadmap Status Review and Preparation Virtual Working Meeting I: March 30 - April 1, 2022 ([click here for LIVE AGENDA](#))

- Links to presentations, Chats and meeting recordings are from the [LIVE AGENDA](#)

### LATEST NEWS:

#### COSPAR SPACE WEATHER ROADMAP 2022 ([click here for details](#))

- Announcements of Special Issues of *Advances in Space Research*
  - COSPAR Space Weather Roadmap 2022 Research and Applications Announcement:
    - \*\* Please note that we have granted an extension for the first Topical Issue to 18<sup>th</sup> March 2022 \*\*
  - COSPAR Space Weather Roadmap 2022 Achievements and Goals Announcement: deadline 30 June 2022
    - Click [here](#) for [Roadmap Preparation Page](#)

#### ISWAT WORKING MEETINGS (upcoming, ongoing and recent):

- Mini-ISWAT Roadmap Status Review and Preparation Virtual Working Meeting II: Tentative dates: May18 - May 20, 2022 ([click here for details](#), TBD)
- Mini-ISWAT Roadmap Status Review and Preparation Virtual Working Meeting I: March 30 - April 1, 2022 ([click here for details](#))
- COSPAR ISWAT2022 Working Meeting, Coimbra, Portugal (in-person), 26-30 September, 2022
- COSPAR ISWAT2021 Virtual Working Meeting: Towards Community-Driven Living COSPAR Space Weather Roadmap
- Mini-ISWAT Virtual Meeting Series, Feb - Jun 2021 ([click here for details](#))
- COSPAR ISWAT Inaugural Working Meeting, February 10-14, 2020 ([click here to view plenary presentations, including team photos](#))
- COSPAR Scientific Assembly, Sydney, Australia, January 28 - February 4, 2021 ([click here for details of PSW events](#))

Keywords

### H2: CME structure, evolution and propagation through heliosphere

- H2-01:** CME Arrival Time and Impact Working Team (Leads: C. Verbeke <cjimverbeke@gmail.com>, M. L. Mays <m.leila.mays@nasa.gov>)
- H2-02:** Magnetic Profiles of Interplanetary CMEs (Lead: Christina Kay ckey314@gmail.com)
- H2-03:** CME model evaluation through synthetic observations (Lead: Luke Barnard <l.a.barnard@reading.ac.uk>, Tanja Amerstorfer <tanja.amerstorfer@oeaw.ac.at>)

### H3: Radiation environment in heliosphere

- H3-01:** SEP Validation (Leads: Katie Whitman kathy.whitman@nasa.gov, Phil Quinn philip.r.quinn@nasa.gov, Hazel Bain hazel.bain@noaa.gov, Ian Richardson ian.g.richardson@nasa.gov, Mark Dierckxsens Mark.Dierckxsens@aeronomie.be, M. Leila Mays, m.leila.mays@nasa.gov); SEP Scoreboard (Leads: M. Leila Mays m.leila.mays@nasa.gov, Mark Dierckxsens Mark.Dierckxsens@aeronomie.be)
- H3-02:** The Suprathermal Seed Population in the Interplanetary Medium (Lead: Maher Dayeh maldayah@swri.edu)
- H3-03:** Heliophysics for Artemis and Beyond (Lead: Alexa Halford alexa.j.halford@nasa.gov Brian Walsh bwalsh@bu.edu Eddie Semones edward.j.semones@nasa.gov)

### H4: Space Weather at other planets/ planetary bodies

- H4-01:** Understanding the physics of Space Weather at planetary bodies (Lead: Reka Winslow rwinslow@guero.sr.unh.edu)
- H4-02:** Towards Solar System robotic and human exploration (Lead: TBD, POC: Insoo Ju, Insoo.Jun@jpl.nasa.gov)

### G1: Geomagnetic environment

- G1-01:** Geoelectric field and GIC modelling Working Team (Lisa Rosenqvist <lisa.rosenqvist@foi.se>)
- G1-02:** Mid-to-Low-Latitude Space Weather Effects (Katarina Nykyri, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, USA <nykyrik@erau.edu>)
- G1-03:** Auroral Precipitation and High Latitude Electrodynamics (AuroraPHILE) (Lead: Bob Robinson robert.m.robinson@nasa.gov Katie Garcia-Sage katherine.garcia-sage@nasa.gov)
- G1-04:** MHD models of the geomagnetic environment and their capability to reproduce small scale GIC source processes (Lead: Daniel Welling daniel.welling@uta.edu)
- G1-05:** Understanding the Geomagnetic Response to CMEs (Lead: Chigo Ngwira cngwira@astraspace.net)

### G2a: Atmosphere variability

- G2A-01:** Thermosphere Model Assessment and Improvement (Lead: Sean Bruinsma <sean.bruinsma@cnes.fr>)
- G2A-02:** Space Weather and Lower Atmosphere (Lead: Jia Yue jia.yue@nasa.gov)
- G2A-03:** Satellite Aerodynamic Modeling (Lead: Piyush Mehta piyush.mehta@mail.wvu.edu)

### G2b: Ionosphere variability

- G2B-01:** TechTIDE Warning and Mitigation Technologies for Travelling Ionospheric Disturbances Effects (Lead: Anna Belehaki <belehaki@noa.gr>)
- G2B-02:** Ionospheric Plasma Irregularities and Their Impact on Trans-ionospheric Radio Waves. (Lead: Wojciech Miloch w.j.miloch@fys.uio.no)
- G2B-03:** LW-Sun-Ionosphere nexus (Lead: Dr. Shanmugha Sundaram G A ga\_ssundaram@cb.amrita.edu)
- G2B-04:** Ionospheric perturbation indices and scales (Lead: Norbert Jakowski norbert.jakowski@dlr.de)
- G2B-05:** Ionosphere Plasma Density: NmF2/foF2, hmF2, TEC (Lead: Ioanna Tsagouri tsagouri@noa.gr)
- G2B-06:** Global and Regional Ionospheric Total Electron Content (Lead: Ludger Scherliess ludger.scherliess@usu.edu)
- G2B-07:** HamSCI: Ham Radio Science Citizen Investigation (Lead: Nathaniel Frissell nathaniel.frissell@scranton.edu Phil Erickson pje@mit.edu)
- G2B-08:** Ground-based and space borne HF-VHF ionospheric investigations (Lead: Hanna Rothkaehl hrot@cbk.waw.pl Maaijke Mevius mevius@astron.nl)
- G2B-09:** Ionospheric Scoreboard Development (Lead: Katherine Garcia-Sage katherine.garcia-sage@nasa.gov)
- G2B-10:** Modelling and Forecasting Ionospheric TEC/Scintillations based on Artificial Intelligence Methods (Lead: Devanaboyina Venkata Ratnam dvratnam@kluniversity.in Pasumarthi Babu Sree Harsha babu9harsha@gmail.com Gampala Siva Vara Prasad gsivavaraprasad@gmail.com)

### G3: Near-Earth radiation and plasma environment

- G3-01:** Radiation Effects at Aviation Altitudes (Leads: Kent Tobiska <ktobiska@spacenvironment.net>, Matthias Meier <matthias.meier@dlr.de>)
- G3-02:** Surface Charging Effects and the Relevant Space Environment (Leads: Natalia Ganushkina <ganuna@umich.edu>, Joseph Minow <joseph.minow@nasa.gov>)
- G3-03:** On Total Dose Effects (Leads: Insoo Jun <insoo.jun@jpl.nasa.gov>, Timothy Guild <timothy.b.guild@aero.org>)
- G3-04:** Internal Charging Effects and the Relevant Space Environment (Leads: Yuri Shprits <yuri.shprits@gfz-potsdam.de>, T. Paul O'Brien <paul.obrien@aero.org>)
- G3-05:** Solar Energetic Particle Population in Geospace (Lead: Valeriy Tenishev vtensishe@umich.edu)

Navigation/

The COSPAR ISWAT initiative is a global hub for collaborations addressing challenges across the field of space weather research.

**S:** Space weather origins at the Sun

**H:** Heliosphere variability

**G:** Coupled heliosphere system

S1: Long-term solar variability

H1: Heliospheric magnetic field and solar wind

G1: Geomagnetic environment

S2: Ambient solar magnetic field, heating and spectral irradiance

H2: CME structure, evolution and propagation through heliosphere

G2a: Atmosphere variability

S3: Solar eruptions

H3: Radiation environment in heliosphere

G2b: Ionosphere variability