



# Combining Active Region Observations and Models to Confront Coronal Heating Theories

Amy R. Winebarger  
NASA MSFC



# Everything we discuss at the Loops Workshop

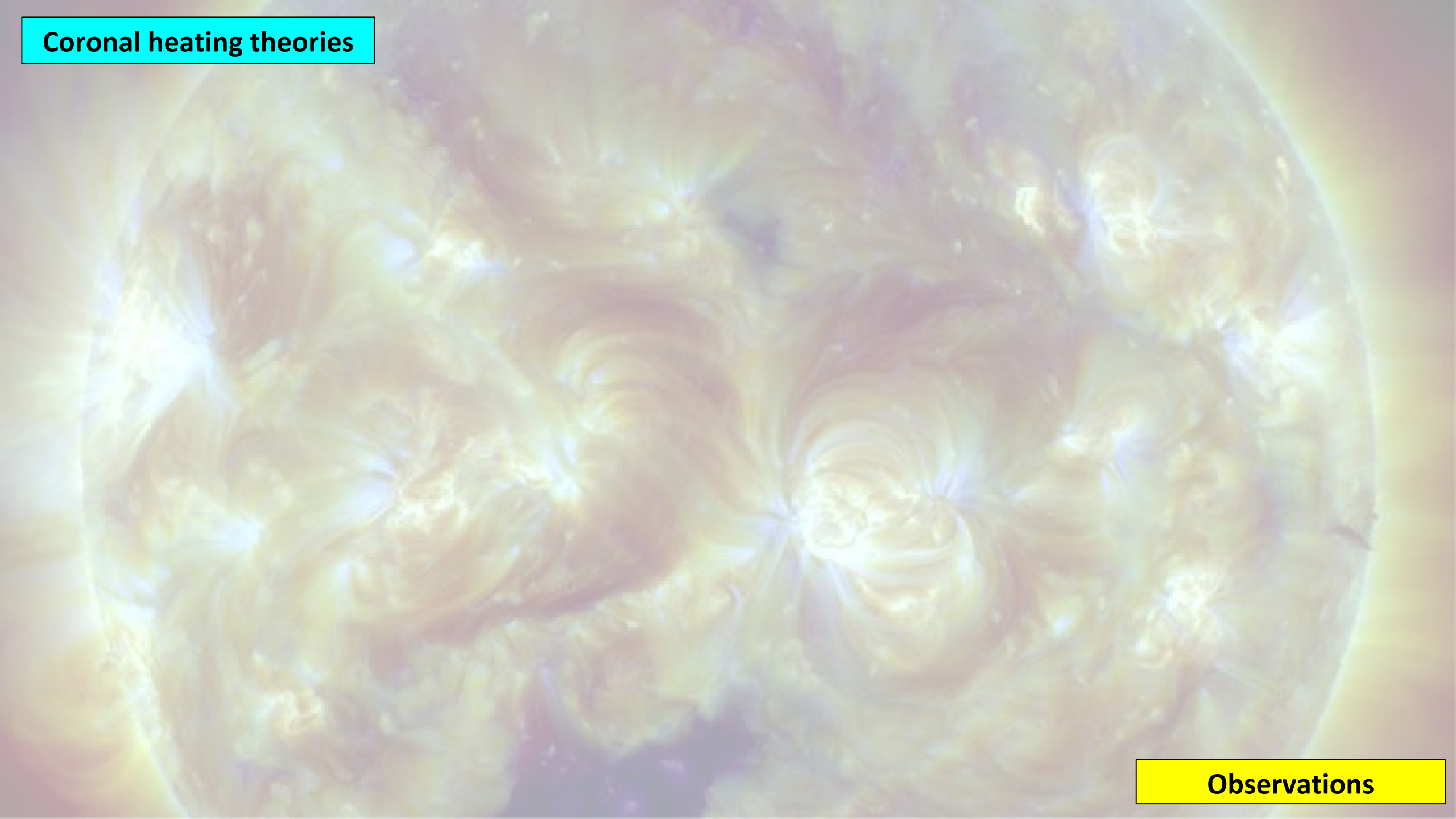
Amy R. Winebarger

NASA MSFC

# Outline

- Mind map of the problem (and solutions!)
- Four examples of progress
  - Hot plasma observation
  - Time lag maps
  - Pulsing Loops
  - Footpoint evolution

# Coronal heating theories



Observations



**Coronal heating theories**

Footpoint Stressing (DC)

Wave Dissipation Models (AC)

Taylor Relaxation Models

Turbulence Models

**Observations**

# Coronal heating theories

Footpoint Stressing (DC)

Wave Dissipation Models (AC)

Taylor Relaxation Models

Turbulence Models

Model description	Efficiency ( $\mathcal{E}$ )	Example reference
Wave Dissipation (AC) Models		
Alfvén-wave collisional damping	$\Lambda^1 \Theta^2 Re^{-1}$	Osterbrock (1961)
Resonant absorption	$\Lambda^1 \Theta^1$	Ruderman et al. (1997)
Phase mixing	$\Lambda^1 \Theta^{4/3} Re^{-1/3}$	Roberts (2000)
Surface-wave damping	$\Lambda^{1/2} \Theta^{3/2} (\Sigma/Re)^{1/2}$	Hollweg (1985)
Fast-mode shock train	$\Lambda^2 \Theta^3$	Hollweg (1985)
Switch-on MHD shock train	$\Lambda^3 \Theta^4$	Hollweg (1985)
Turbulence Models		
Kolmogorov-Obukhov cascade	$\Lambda^1 \Theta^2$	Hollweg (1986)
Iroshnikov-Kraichnan cascade	$\Lambda^2 \Theta^3$	Chae et al. (2002)
Hybrid triple-correlation cascade	$\Lambda^1 \Theta^3 (1 + \Theta)^{-1}$	Zhou & Matthaeus (1990)
Reflection-driven cascade	$\Lambda^1 \Theta^2 (f_+^2 f_- + f_-^2 f_+)$	Hossain et al. (1995)
2D boundary-driven cascade	$\Lambda^{2/3} \Theta^{1/3}$	Heyvaerts & Priest (1992)
Line-tied reduced MHD cascade	$\Lambda^1 \Theta^{1/2}$	Dmitruk & Gómez (1999)
Footpoint Stressing (DC) Models		
Current-layer random walk	$\Lambda^1$	Sturrock & Uchida (1981)
Current-layer shearing	$\Lambda^1 (1 + \Theta^2)^{1/2} (1 + \Lambda^2)^{-1/2}$	Galsgaard & Nordlund (1996)
Braided discontinuities	$\Lambda^2 \Theta^1$	Parker (1983)
Flux cancellation	$\Lambda^1 \Theta^1 (\phi^{8/3} - \phi^{4/3})$	Priest et al. (2018)
Taylor Relaxation Models		
Tearing-mode reconnection	$\Lambda^1 \Theta^1 (1 - \alpha L)^{-5/2}$	Browning & Priest (1986)
Hyperdiffusive reconnection	$\Lambda^1 \Theta^{-1} (\alpha L)^2$	van Ballegoijen & Cranmer (2008)
Non-ideal/slipping reconnection	$\Theta^{-1} (\alpha L)^1$	Yang et al. (2018)

## Coronal heating theories

Footpoint Stressing (DC)

Wave Dissipation Models (AC)

Taylor Relaxation Models

Turbulence Models

Evolution of  
intensity,  
temperature,  
density, velocity

Morphology (which  
field lines are  
heated, braiding)

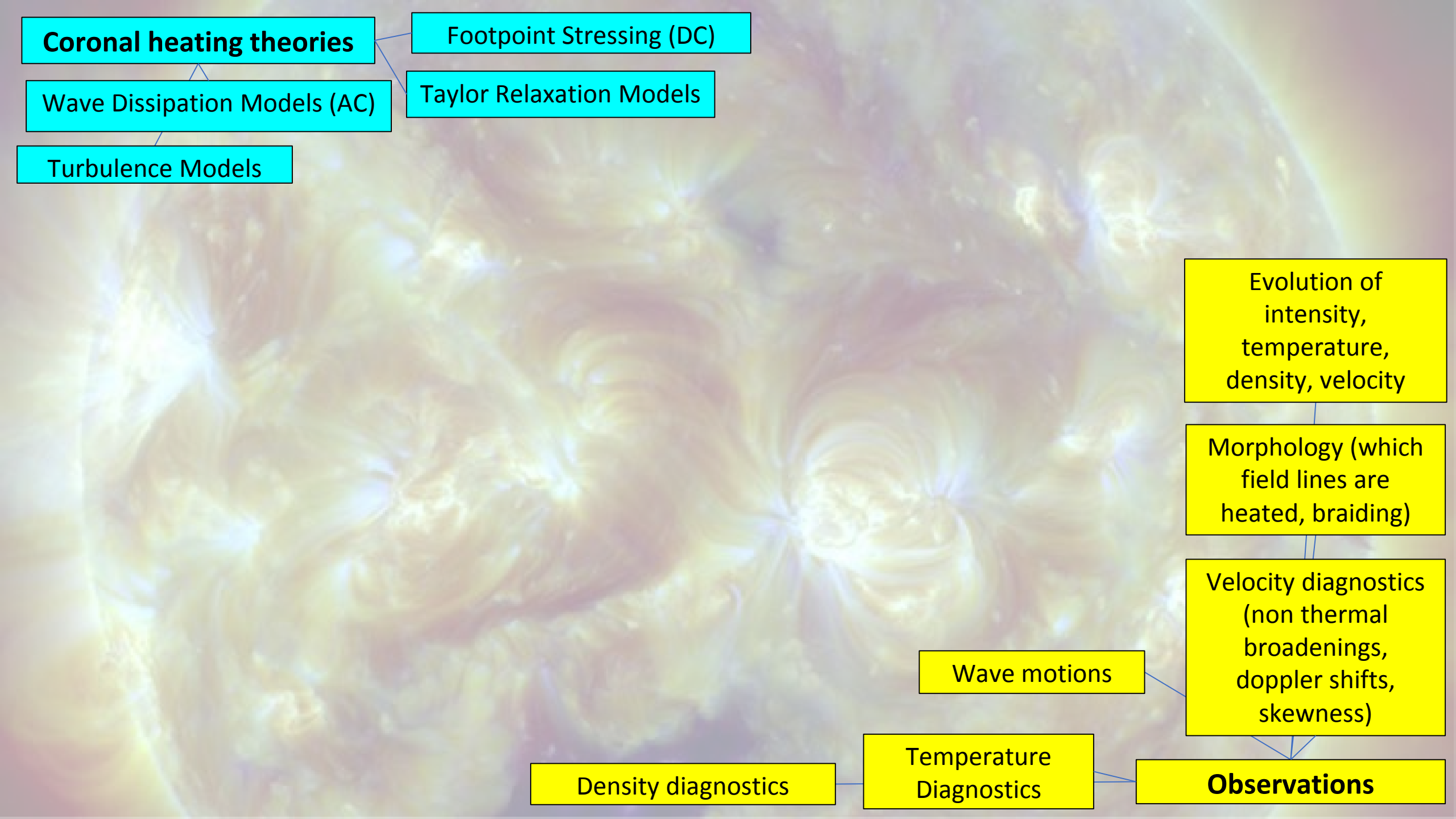
Velocity diagnostics  
(non thermal  
broadenings,  
doppler shifts,  
skewness)

Wave motions

Density diagnostics

Temperature  
Diagnostics

**Observations**



# Coronal heating theories

Footpoint Stressing (DC)

Wave Dissipation Models (AC)

Taylor Relaxation Models

Turbulence Models

Evolution of intensity, temperature, density, velocity

Morphology (which field lines are heated, braiding)

Velocity diagnostics (non thermal broadenings, doppler shifts, skewness)

Wave motions

Density diagnostics

Temperature Diagnostics

**Observations**



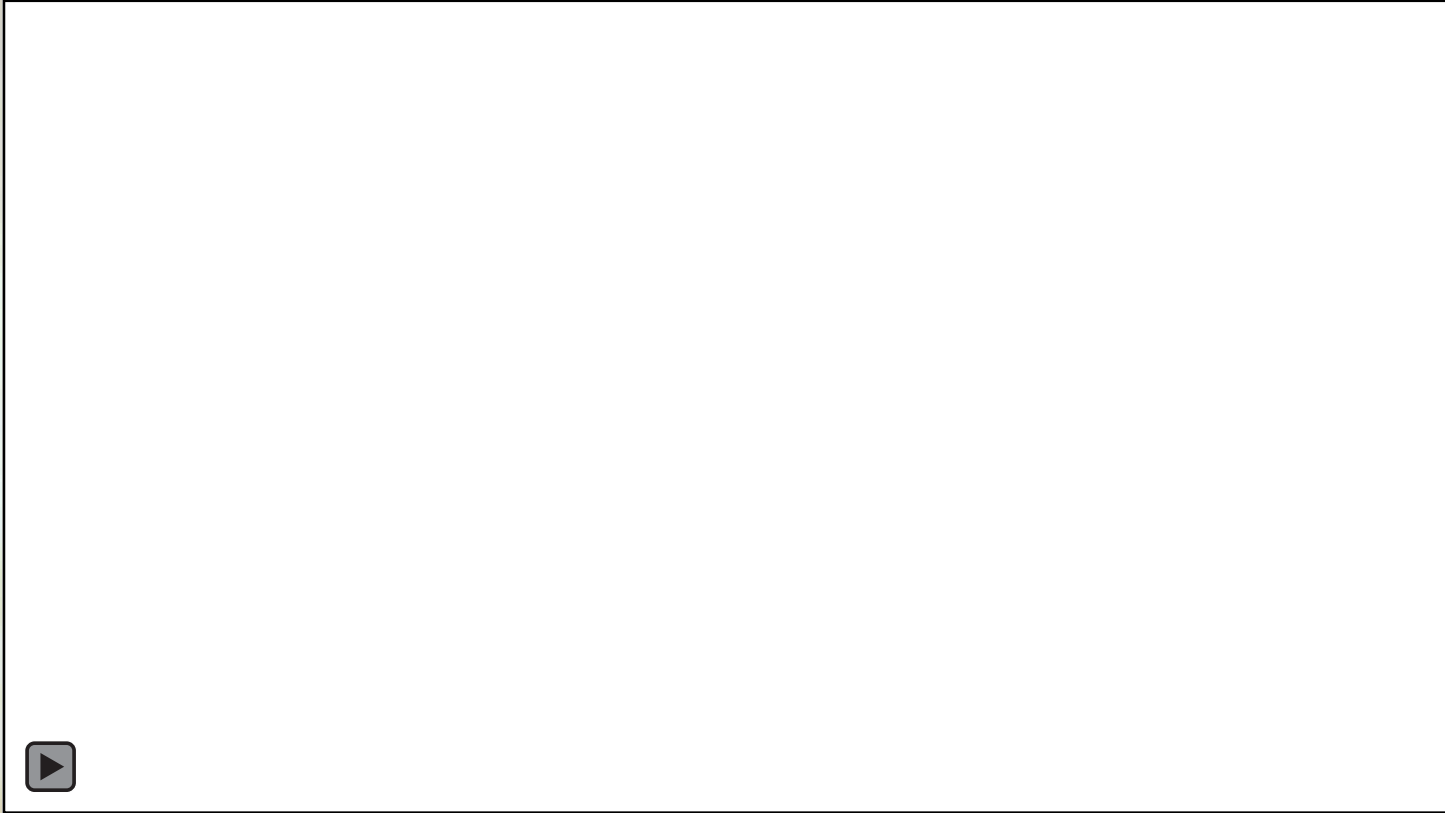
**Coronal heating theories**

Wave Dissipation Models (AC)

Turbulence Models

Footpoint Stressing (DC)

Taylor Relaxation Models



Evolution of intensity, temperature, density, velocity

Morphology (which field lines are heated, braiding)

Velocity diagnostics (non thermal broadenings, doppler shifts, skewness)

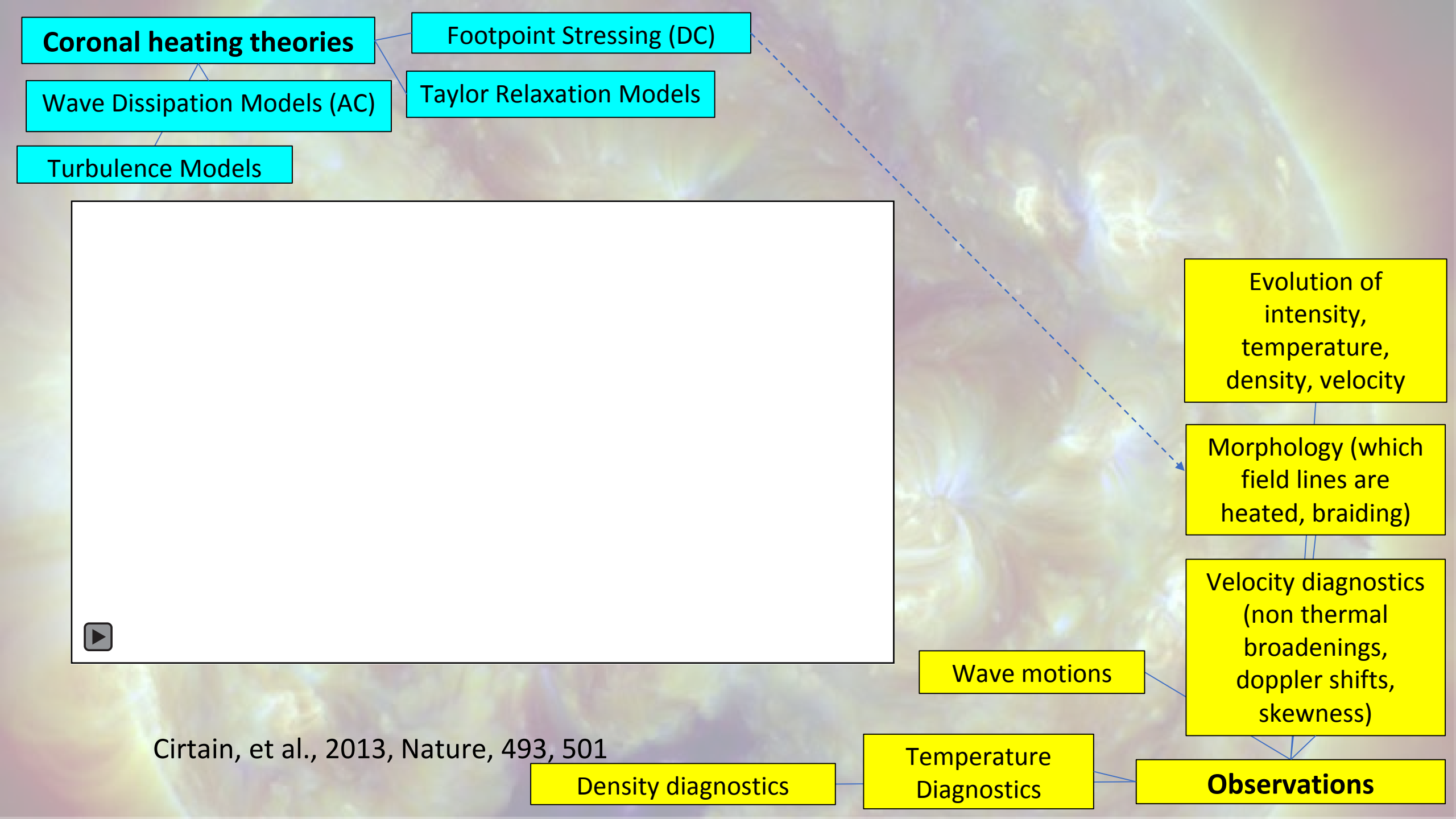
Wave motions

Temperature Diagnostics

Density diagnostics

**Observations**

Cirtain, et al., 2013, Nature, 493, 501



**Coronal heating theories**

Footpoint Stressing (DC)

Wave Dissipation Models (AC)

Taylor Relaxation Models

Turbulence Models

**SIMULATIONS**

Evolution of  
intensity,  
temperature,  
density, velocity

Morphology (which  
field lines are  
heated, braiding)

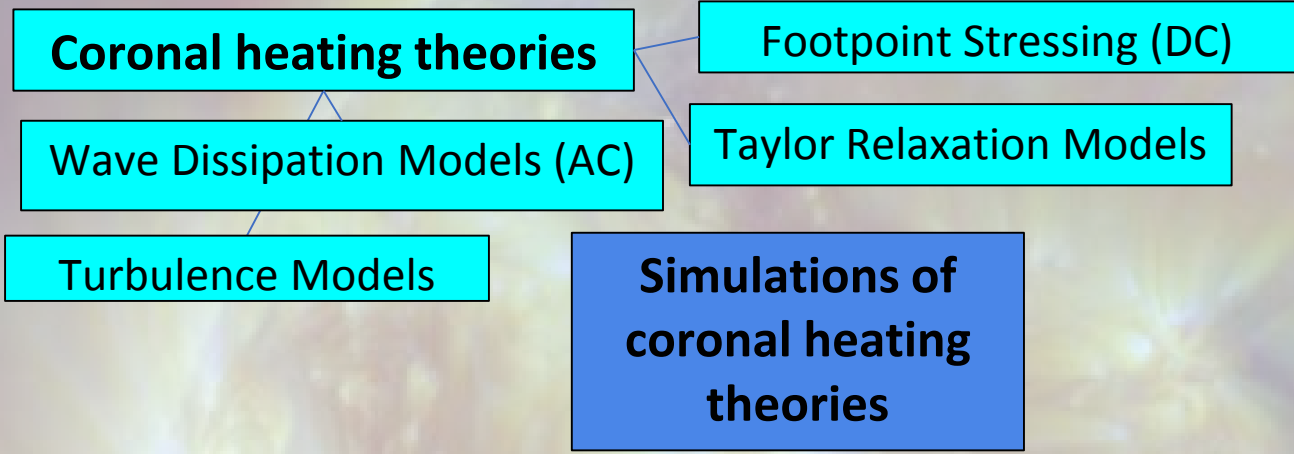
Velocity diagnostics  
(non thermal  
broadenings,  
doppler shifts,  
skewness)

Wave motions

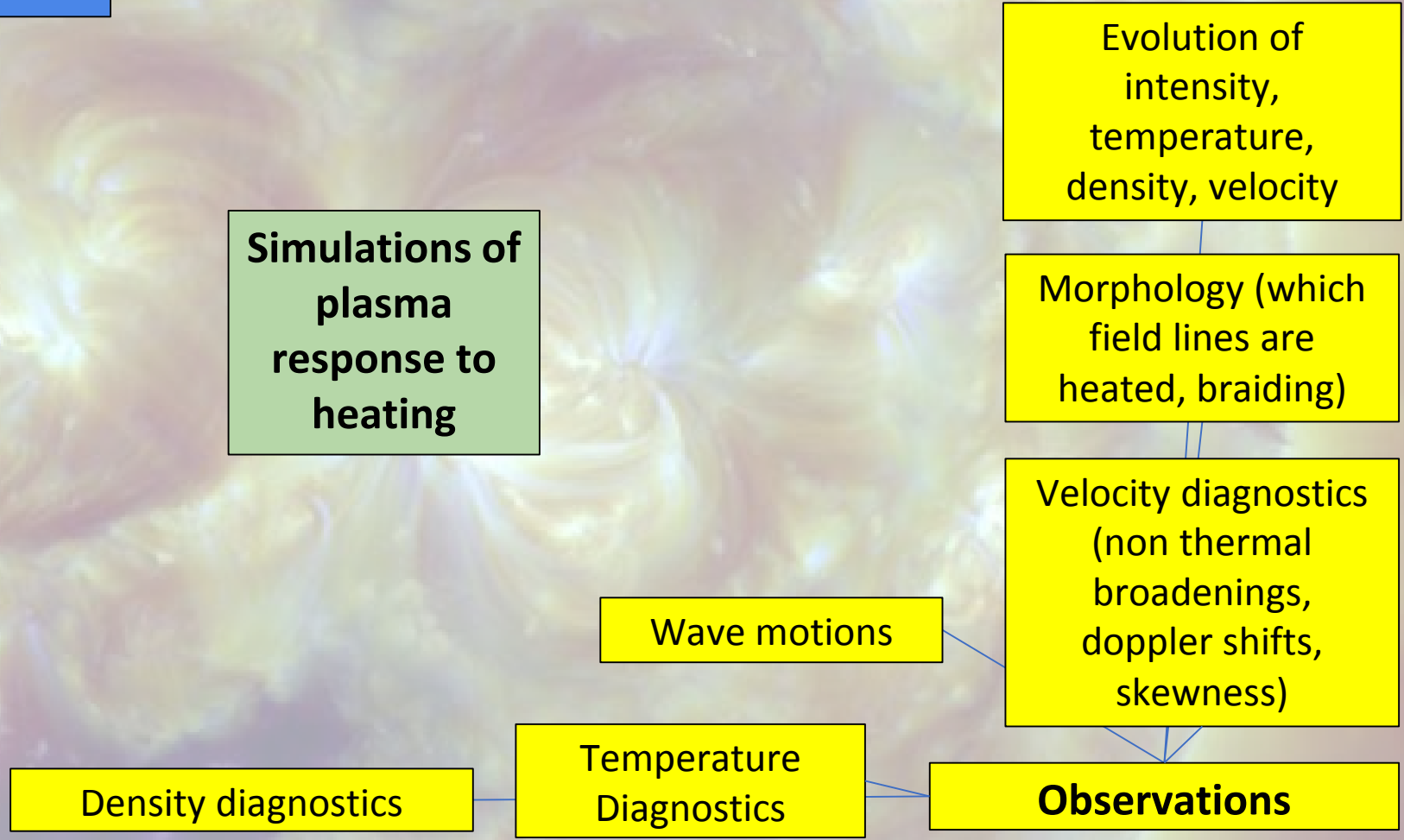
Density diagnostics

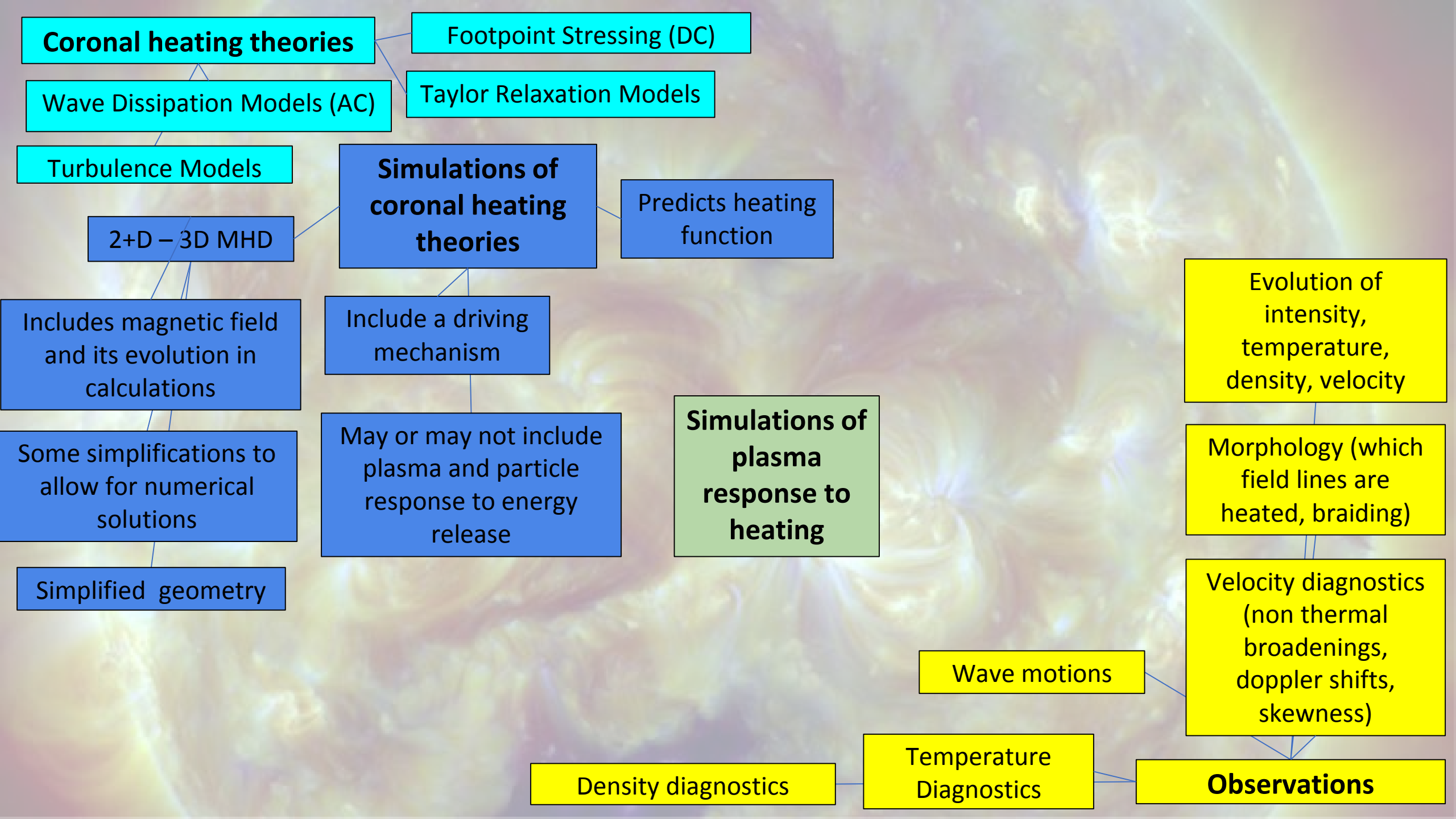
Temperature  
Diagnostics

**Observations**



**Simulations of plasma response to heating**





**Coronal heating theories**

Footpoint Stressing (DC)

Wave Dissipation Models (AC)

Taylor Relaxation Models

Turbulence Models

**Simulations of coronal heating theories**

Predicts heating function

2+D - 3D MHD

Includes magnetic field and its evolution in calculations

Include a driving mechanism

May or may not include plasma and particle response to energy release

**Simulations of plasma response to heating**

Evolution of intensity, temperature, density, velocity

Morphology (which field lines are heated, braiding)

Velocity diagnostics (non thermal broadenings, doppler shifts, skewness)

Wave motions

Density diagnostics

Temperature Diagnostics

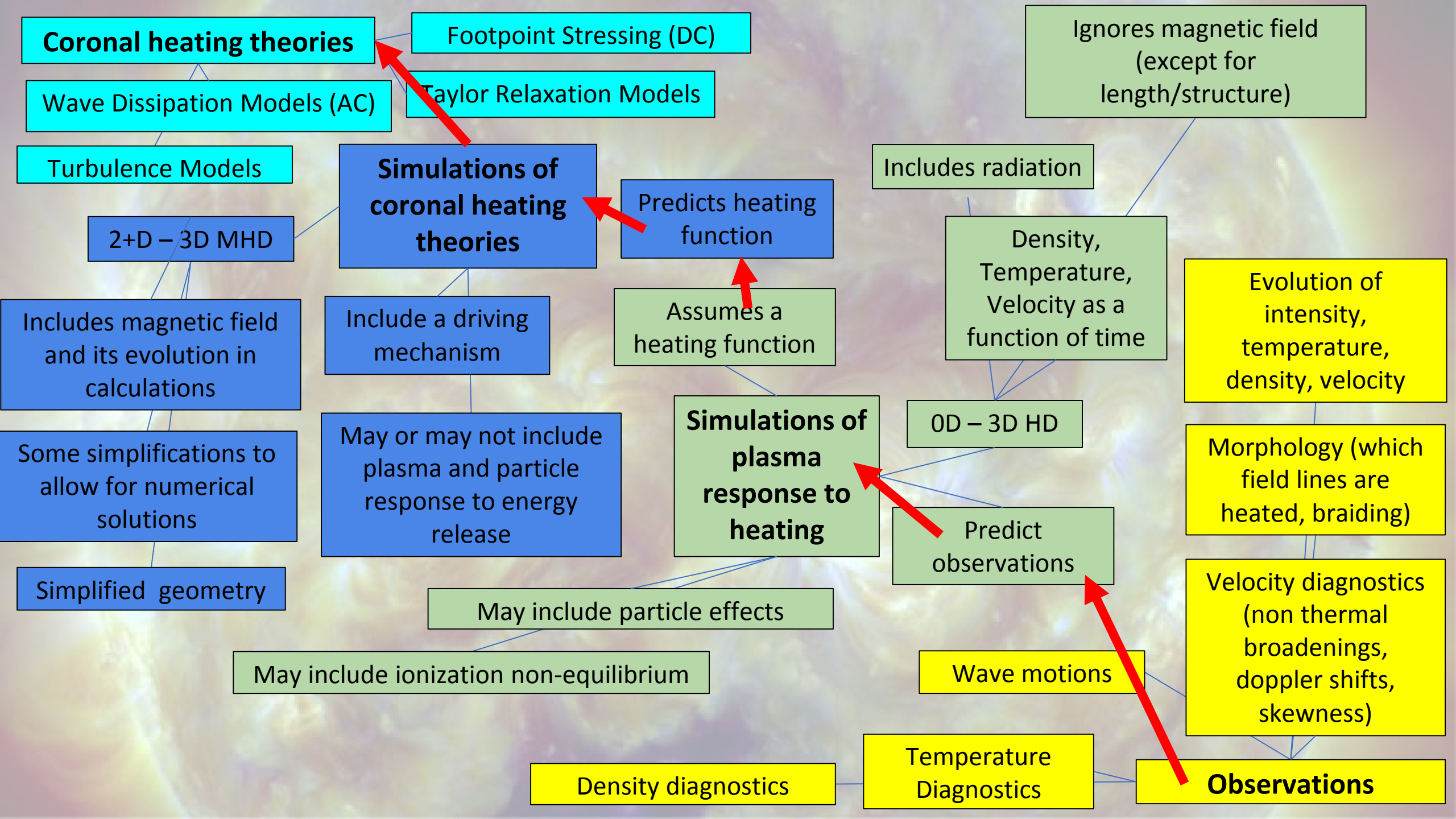
**Observations**

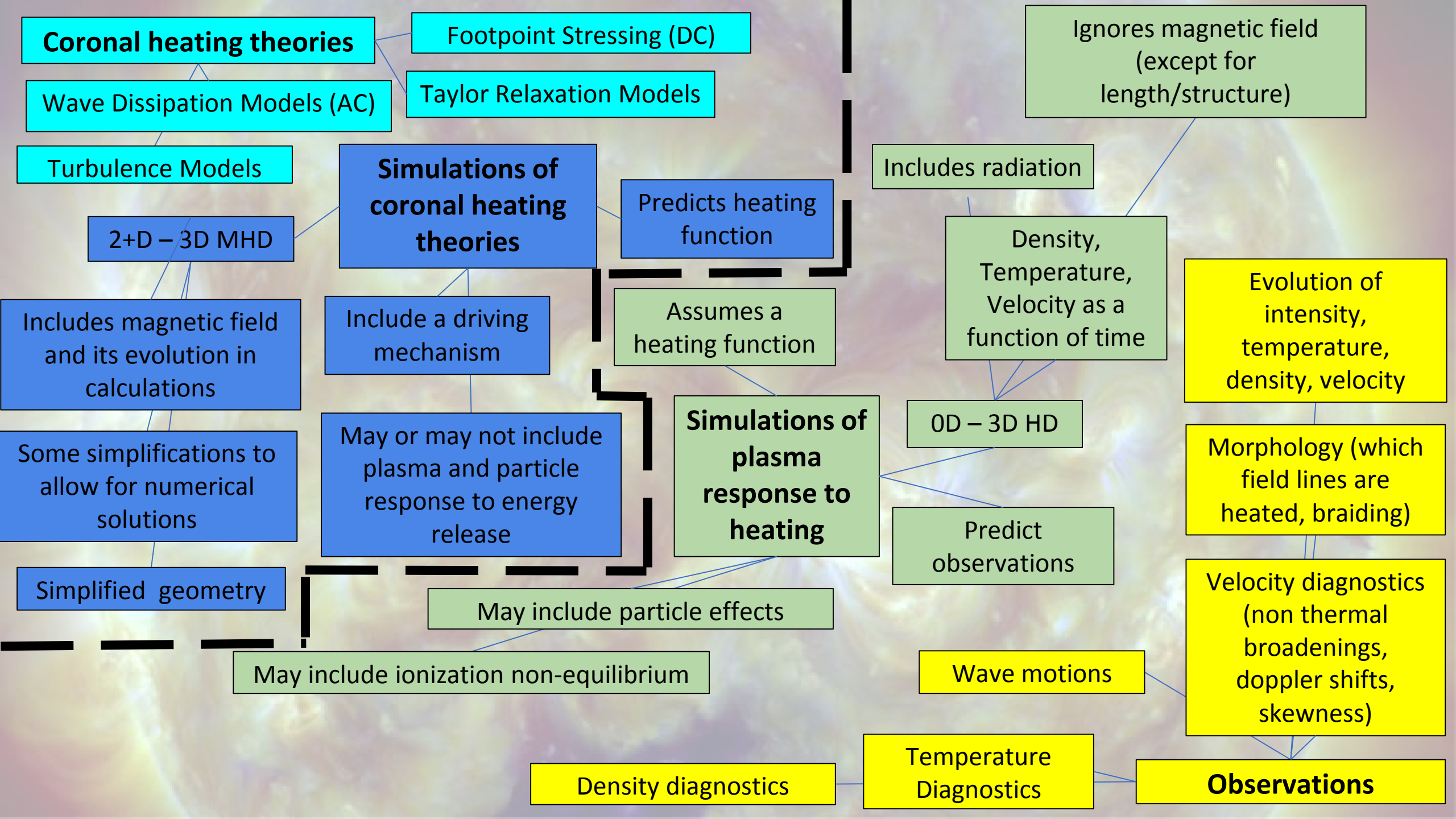
Some simplifications to allow for numerical solutions

Simplified geometry

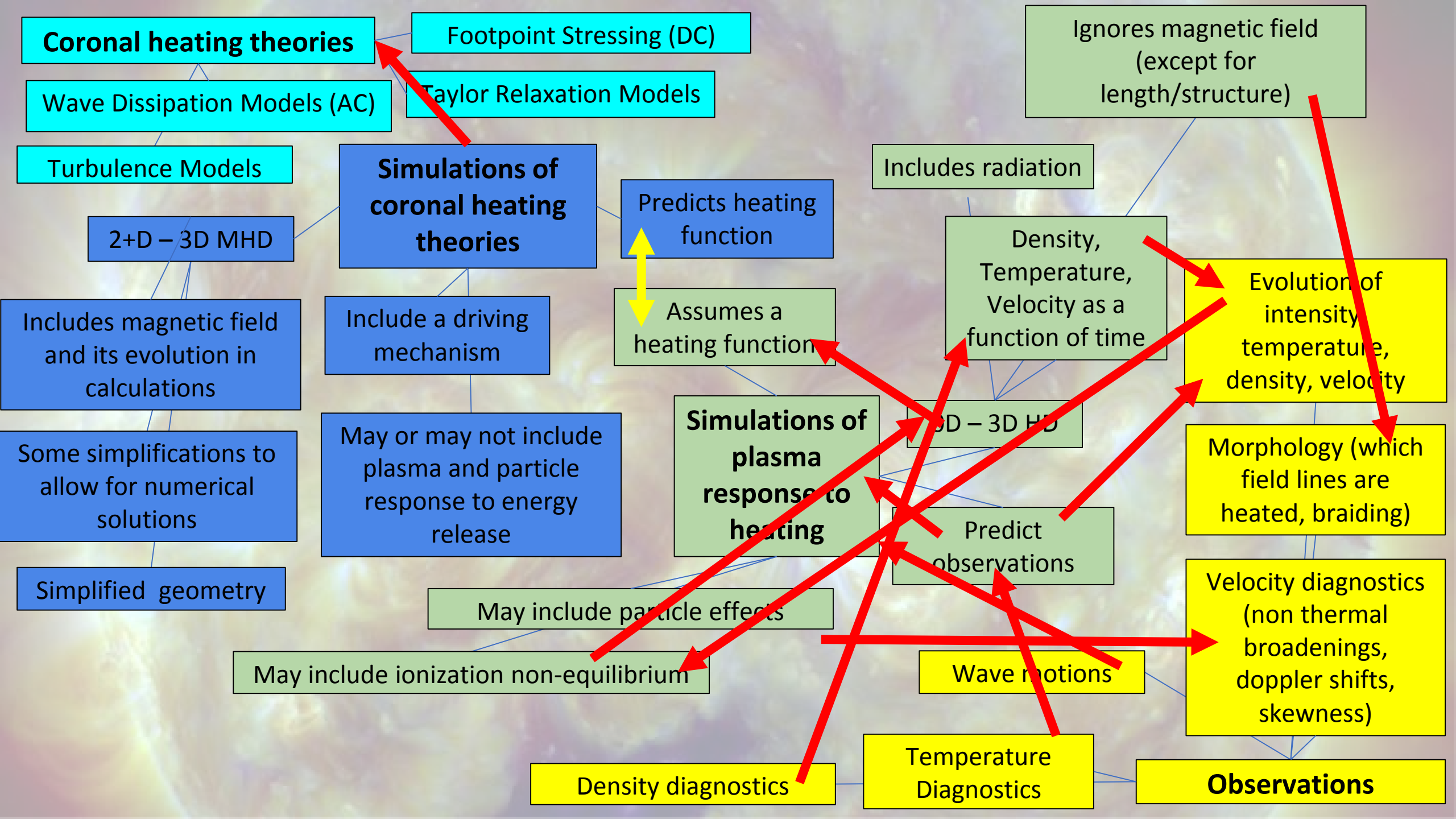


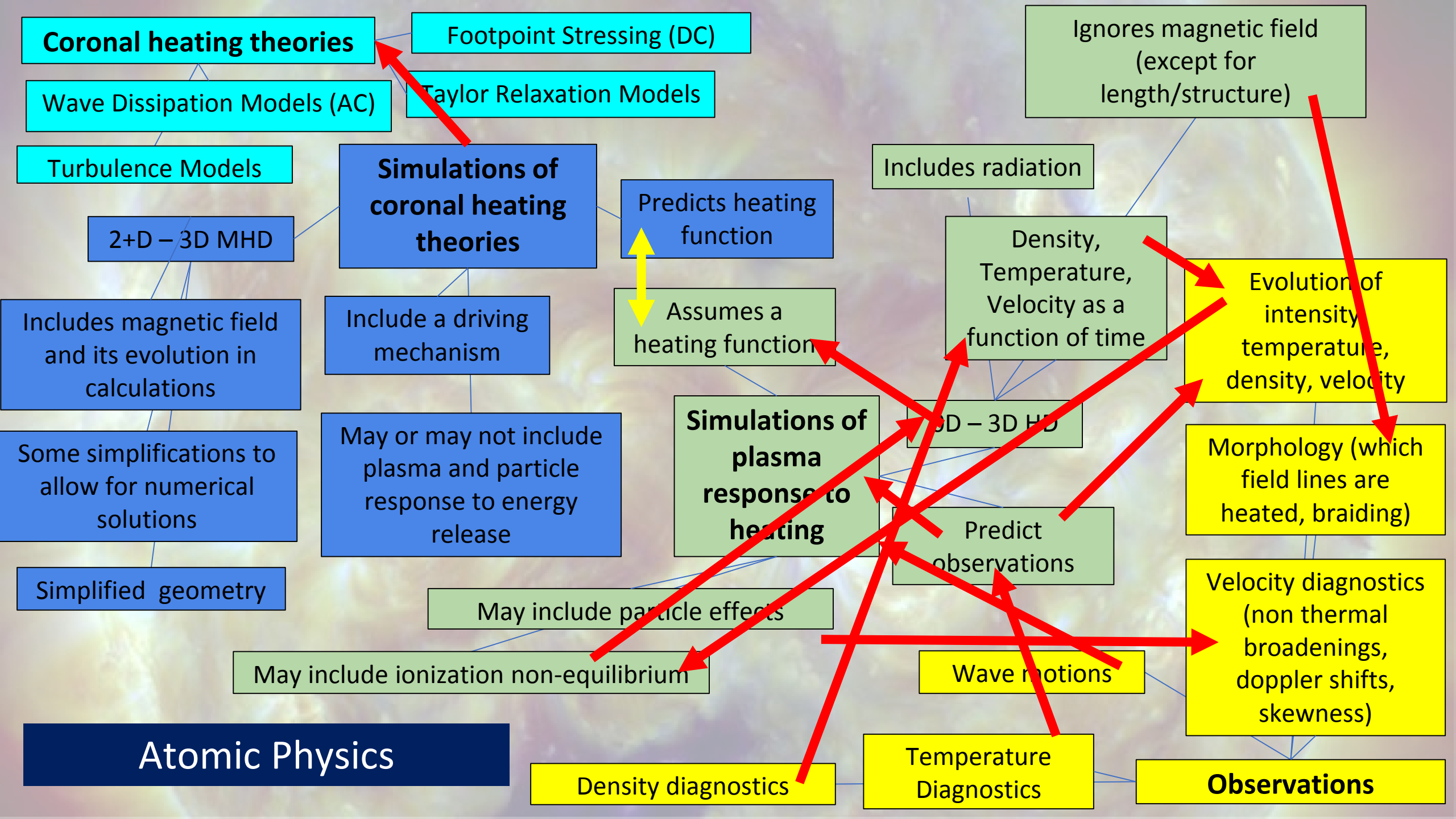










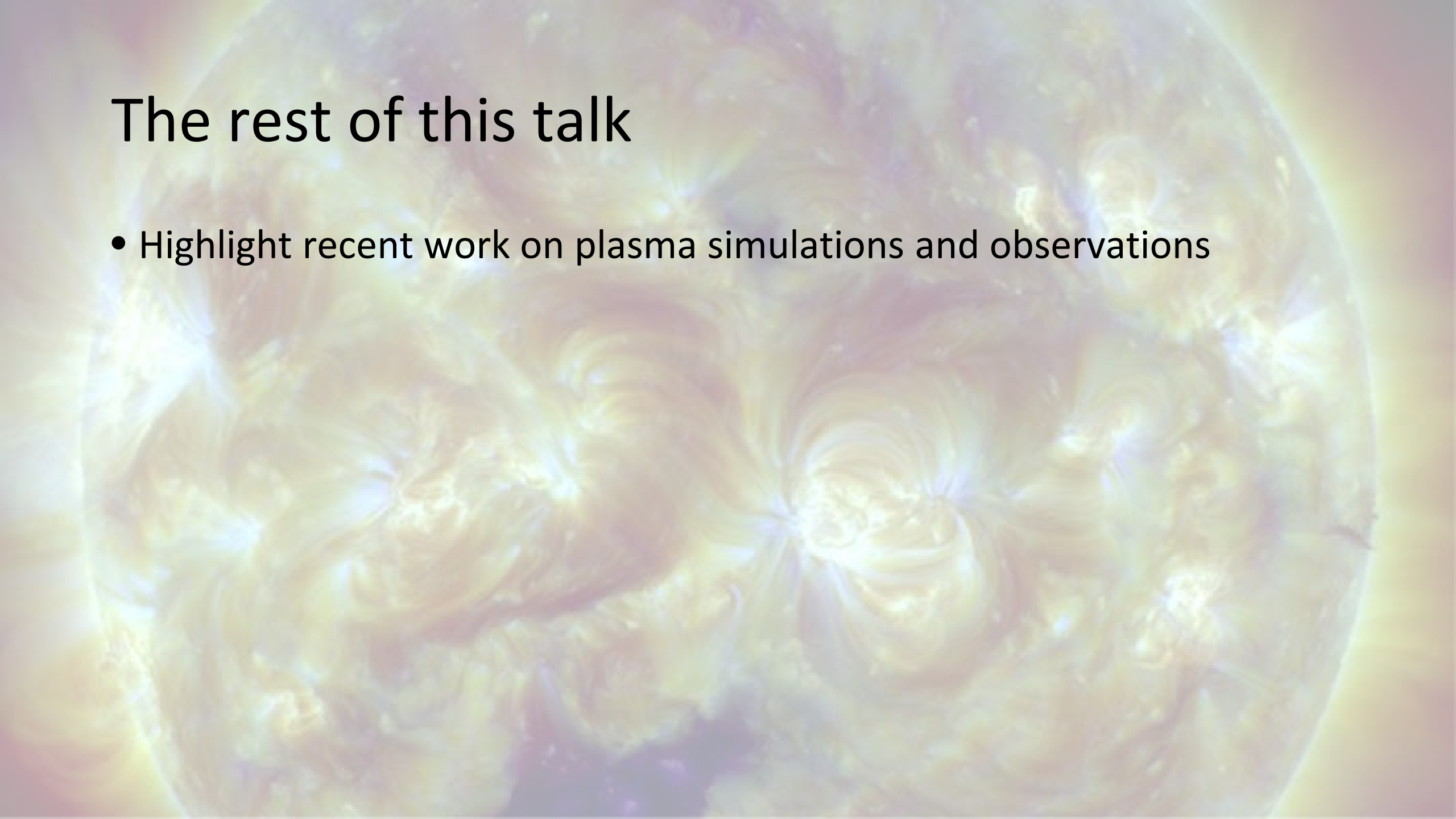


# Take away from mind map

- Progress is happening, but it is “random walk” instead of linear.
- The link between different simulations needs improvement.

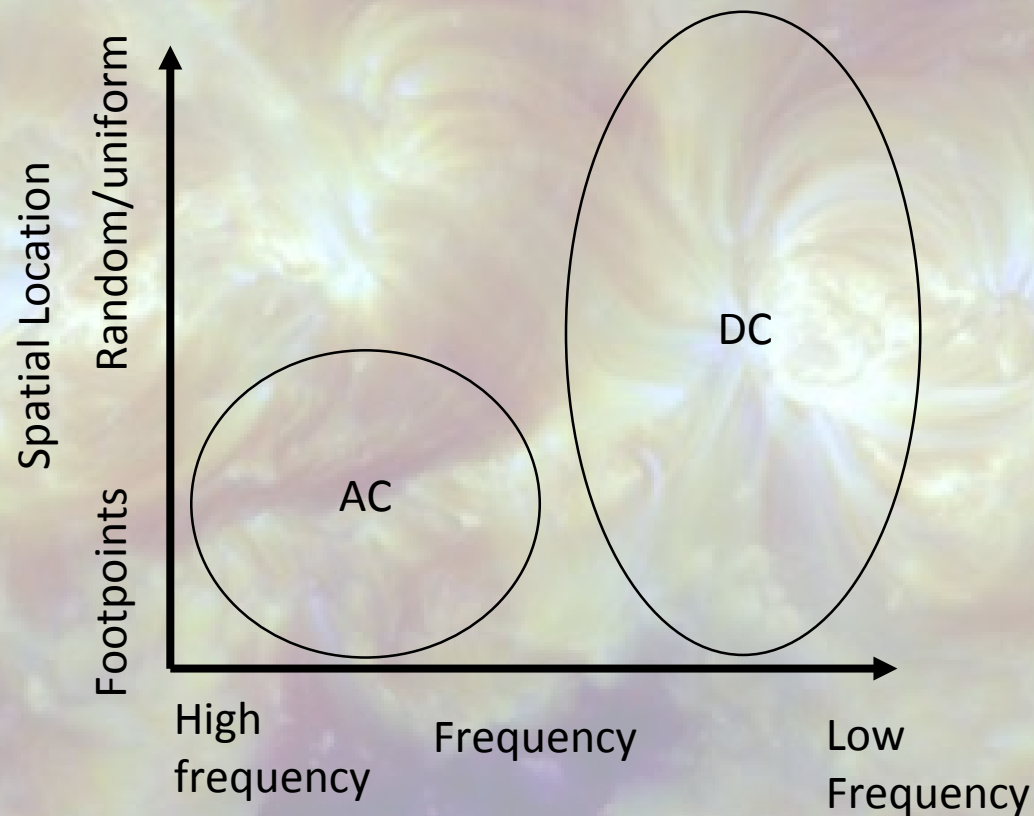
# The rest of this talk

- Highlight recent work on plasma simulations and observations



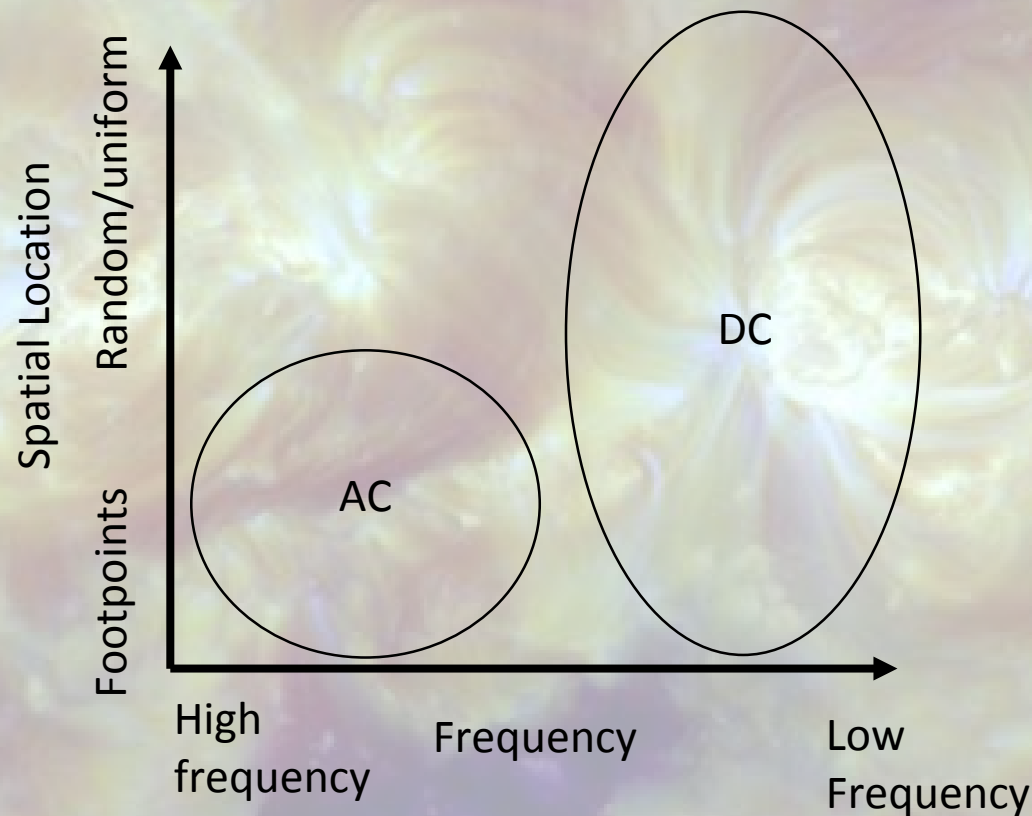
# The rest of this talk

- Highlight recent work on plasma simulations and observations



# The rest of this talk

- Highlight recent work on plasma simulations and observations



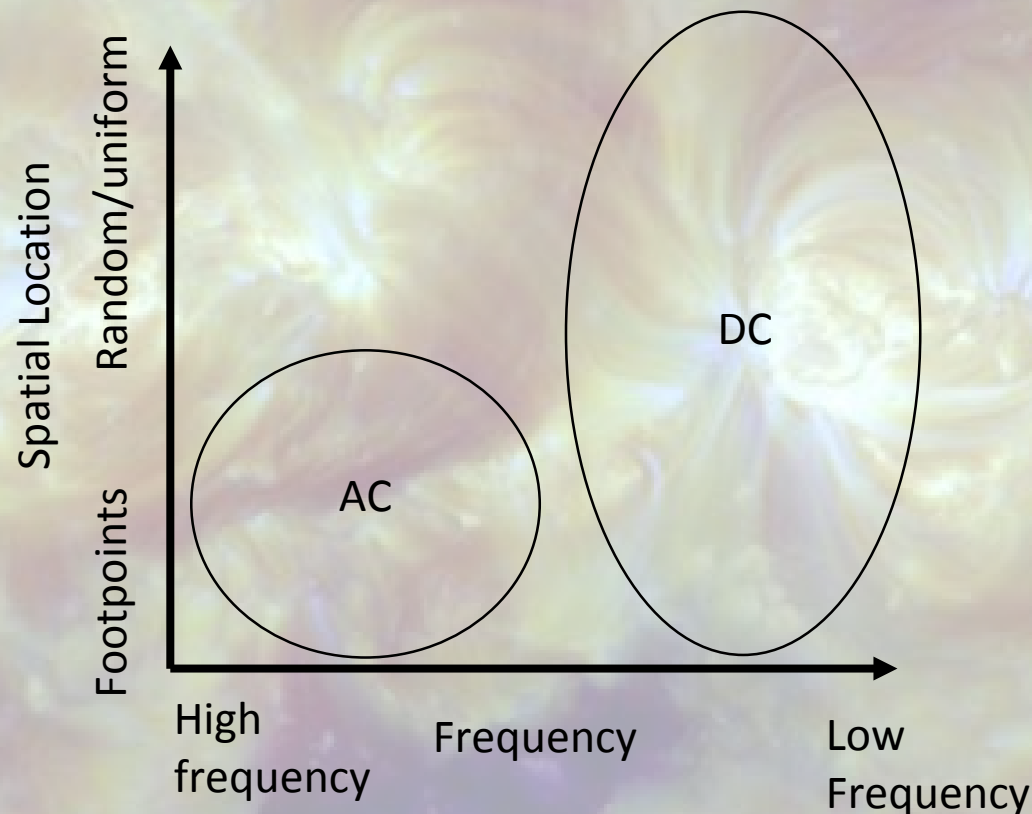
Is this true?

AC heating is based on MHD simulations

DC heating based on interpretations of stressing models.

# The rest of this talk

- Highlight recent work on plasma simulations and observations

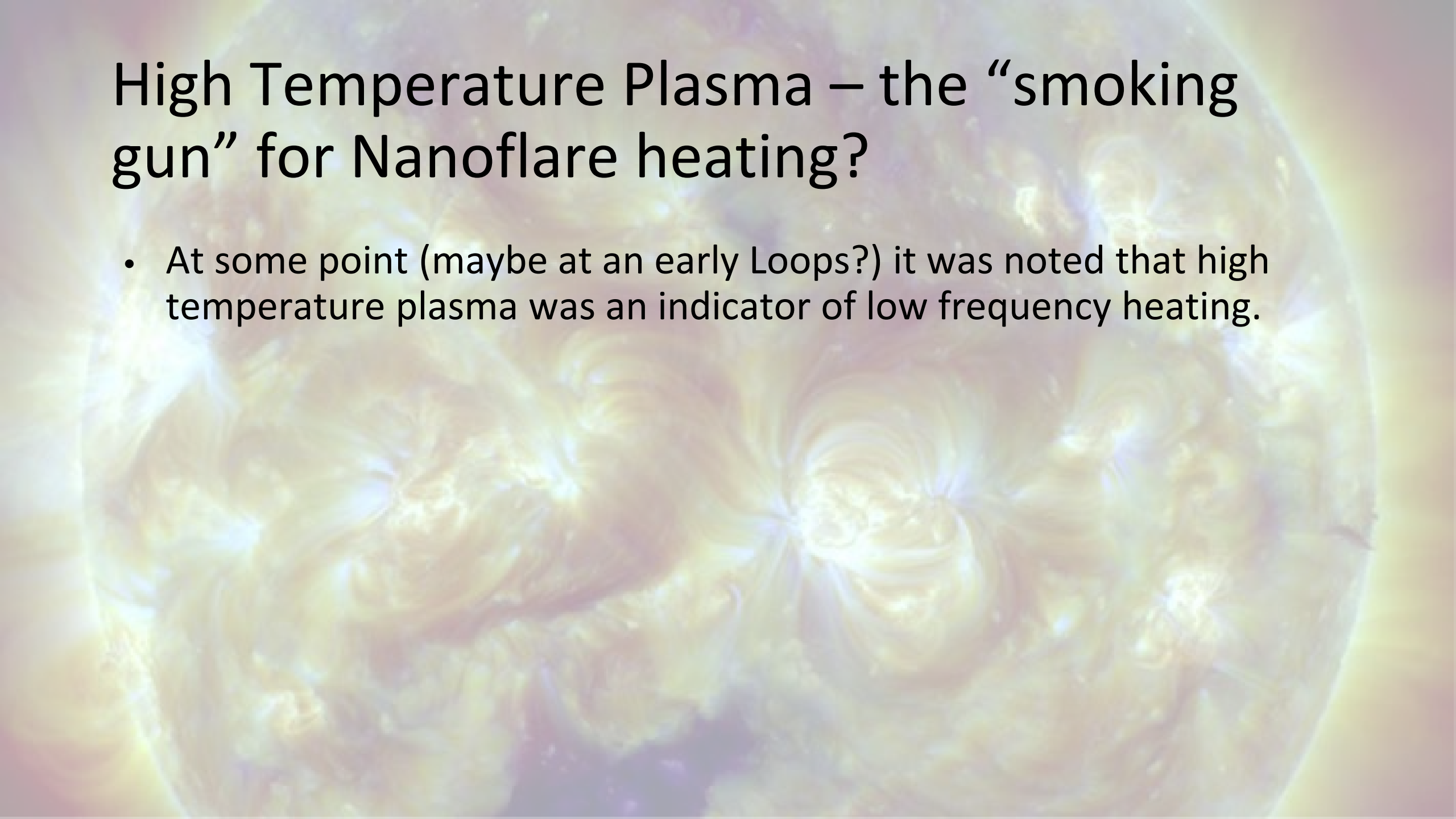


For plasma response, we define frequency relative to cooling time.

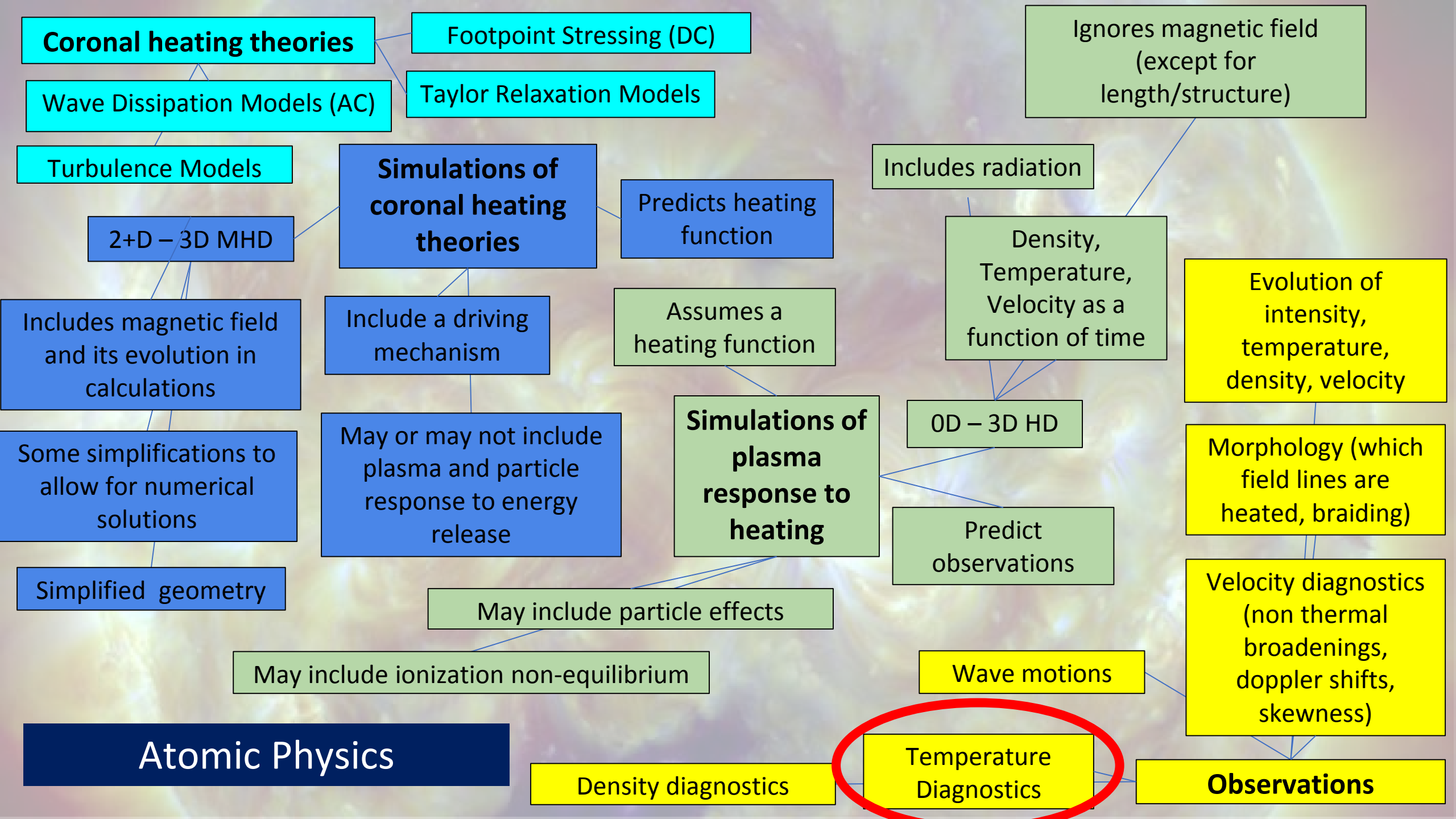
This is NOT a fundamental timescale for stressing.

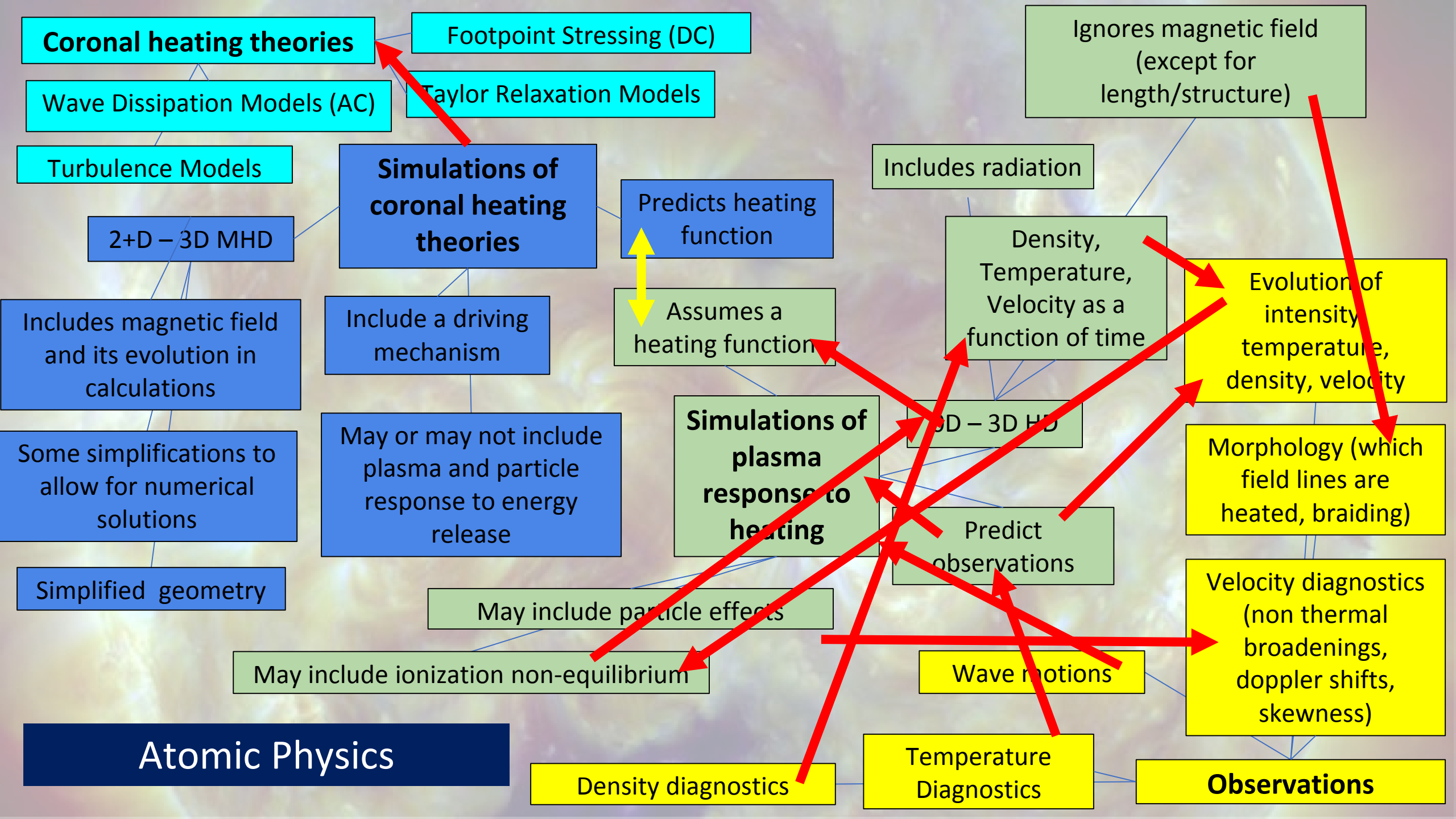
# High Temperature Plasma – the “smoking gun” for Nanoflare heating?

- At some point (maybe at an early Loops?) it was noted that high temperature plasma was an indicator of low frequency heating.

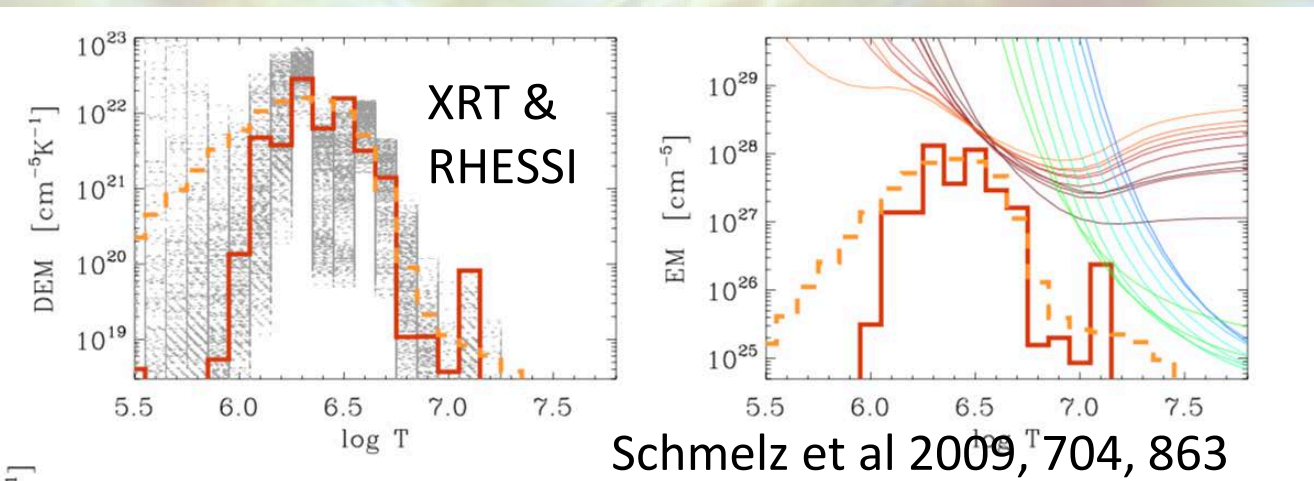
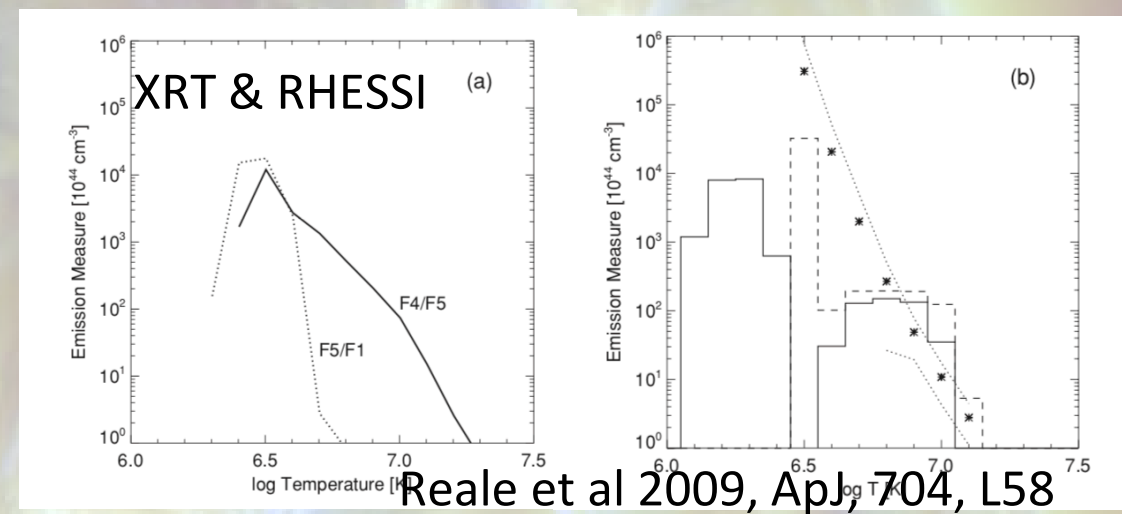
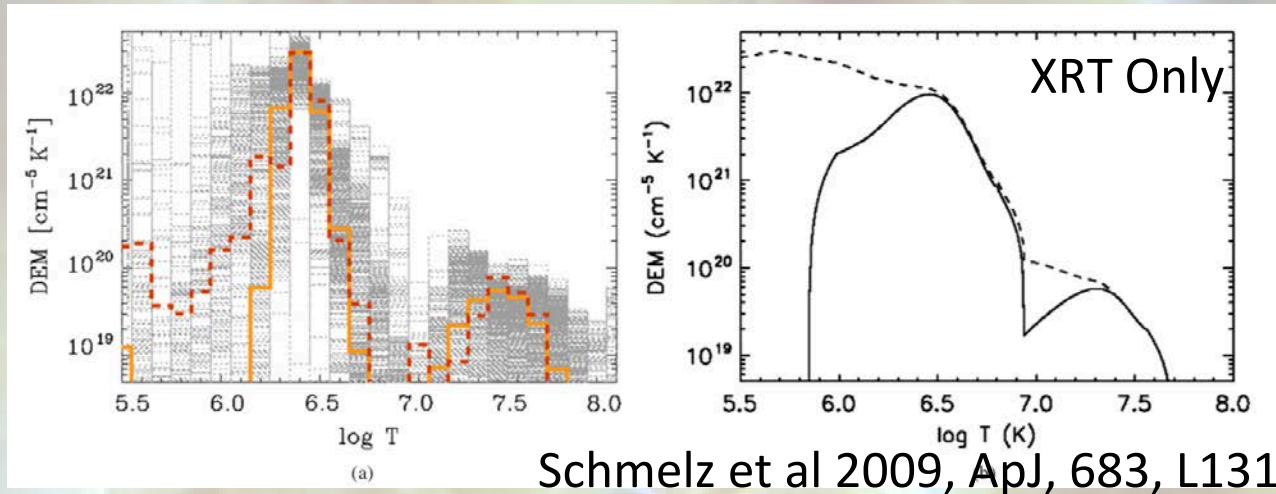








# Hunt for high temperature plasma – Early results

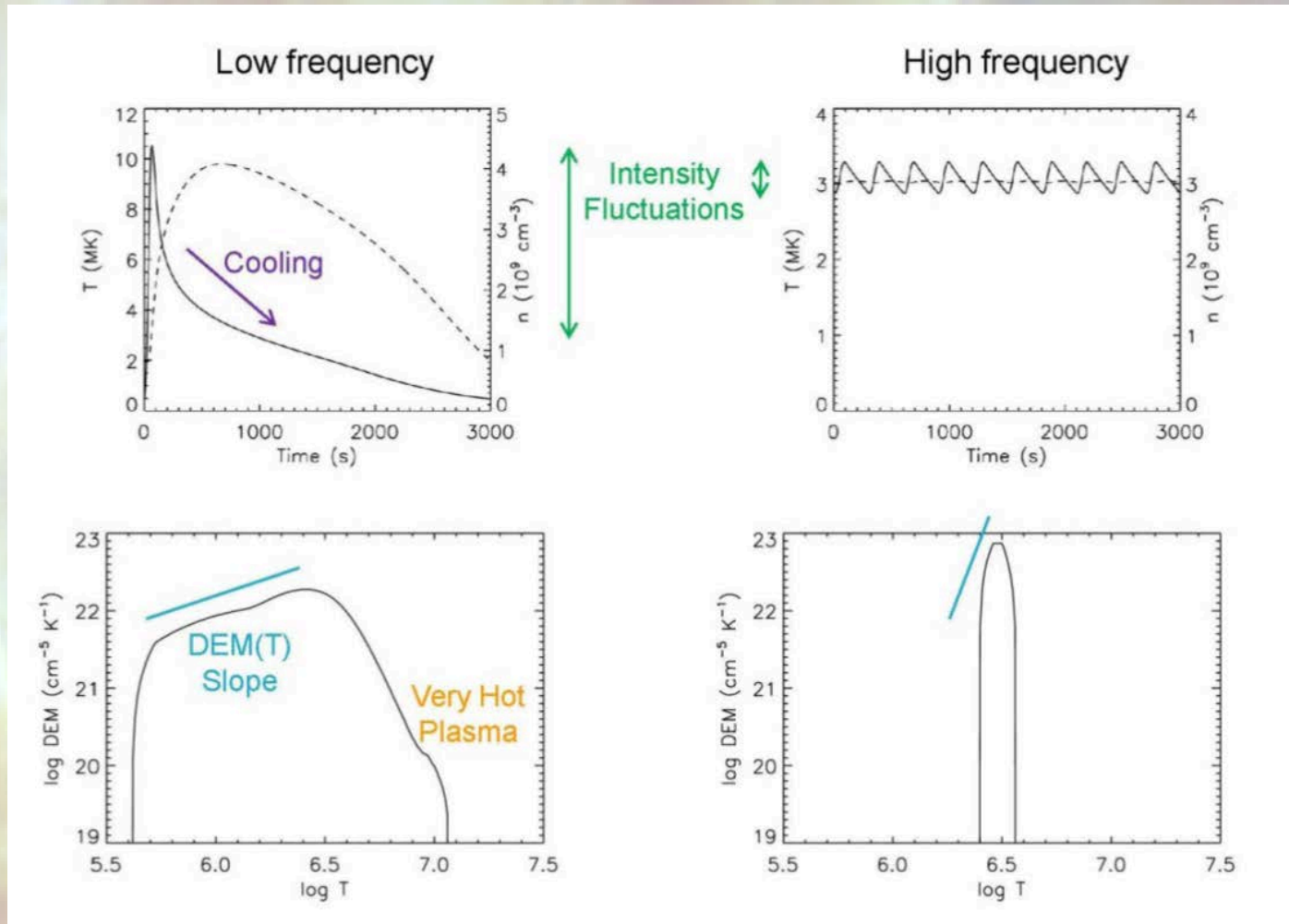


Early results focusing on hard and soft X-ray observations.

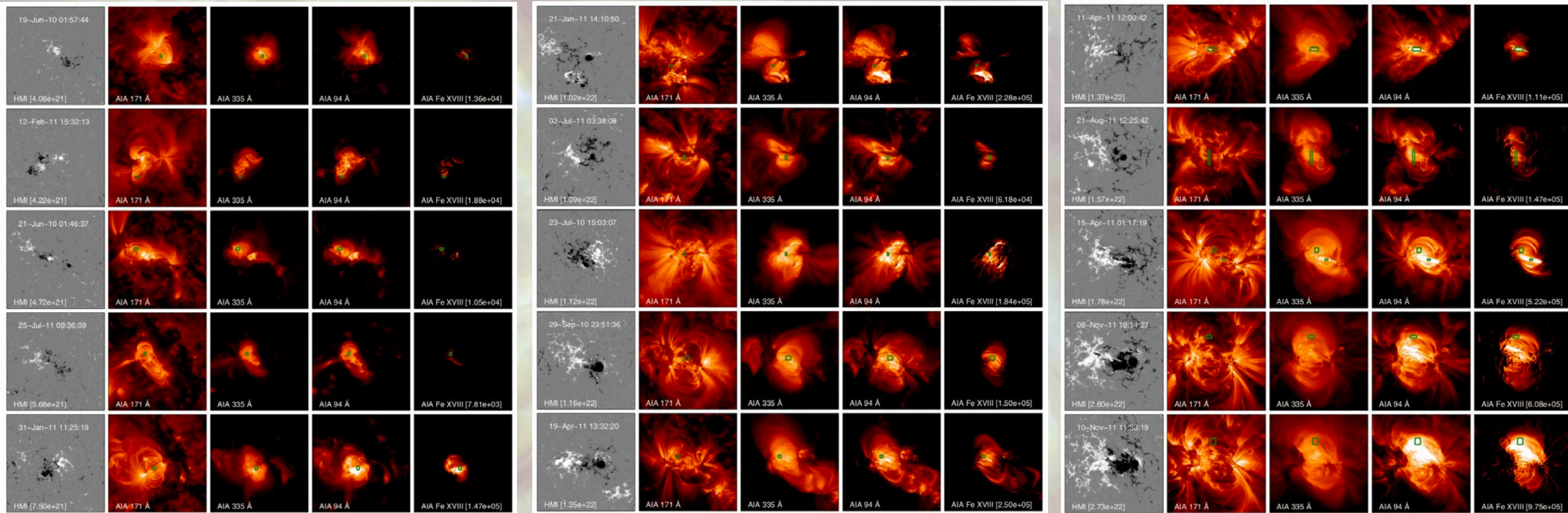
Rely on the cross calibration of the two instruments.

# High Temperature Plasma – the “smoking gun” for Nanoflare heating?

- Assume a coherent loop is a collection of strands
- Assume strands in loop are heated similarly
- Low-frequency heating – broad DEM with lots of low and cool plasma
- High frequency heating – narrow DEM.



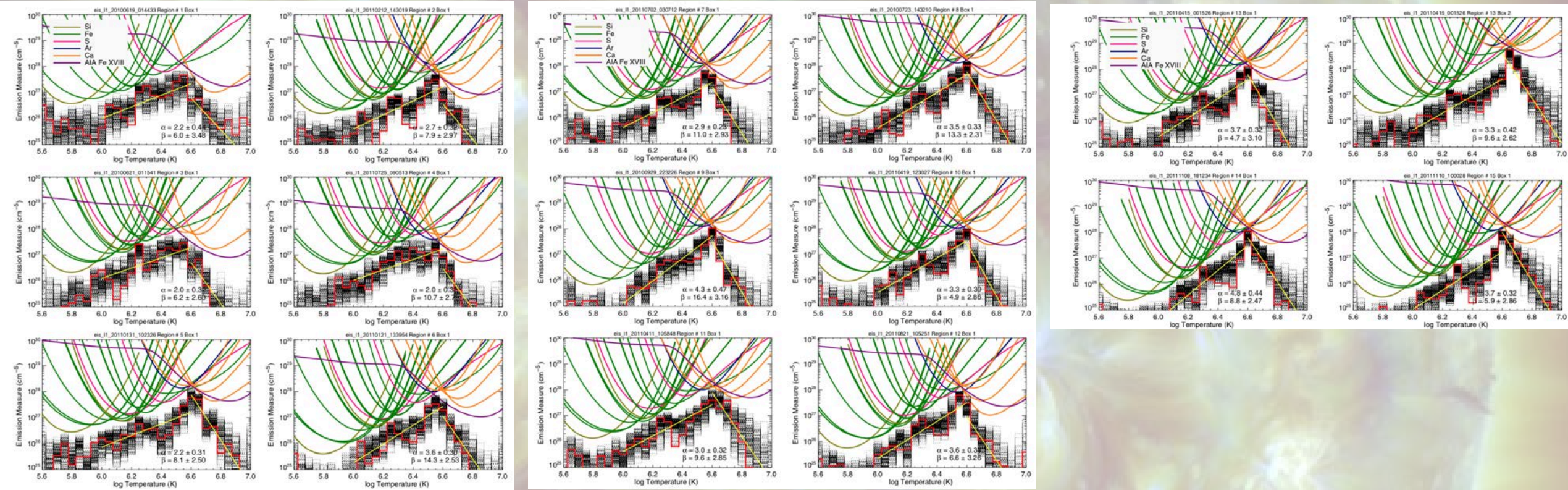
# Statistical Survey using EIS and AIA



Warren et al used AIA Fe XVIII channel to expand the temperature sensitivity.

Warren et al 2012, ApJ, 759, 141

# Statistical Survey using EIS and AIA



Parameterized the resulting EM as a broken power law with slopes  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ .

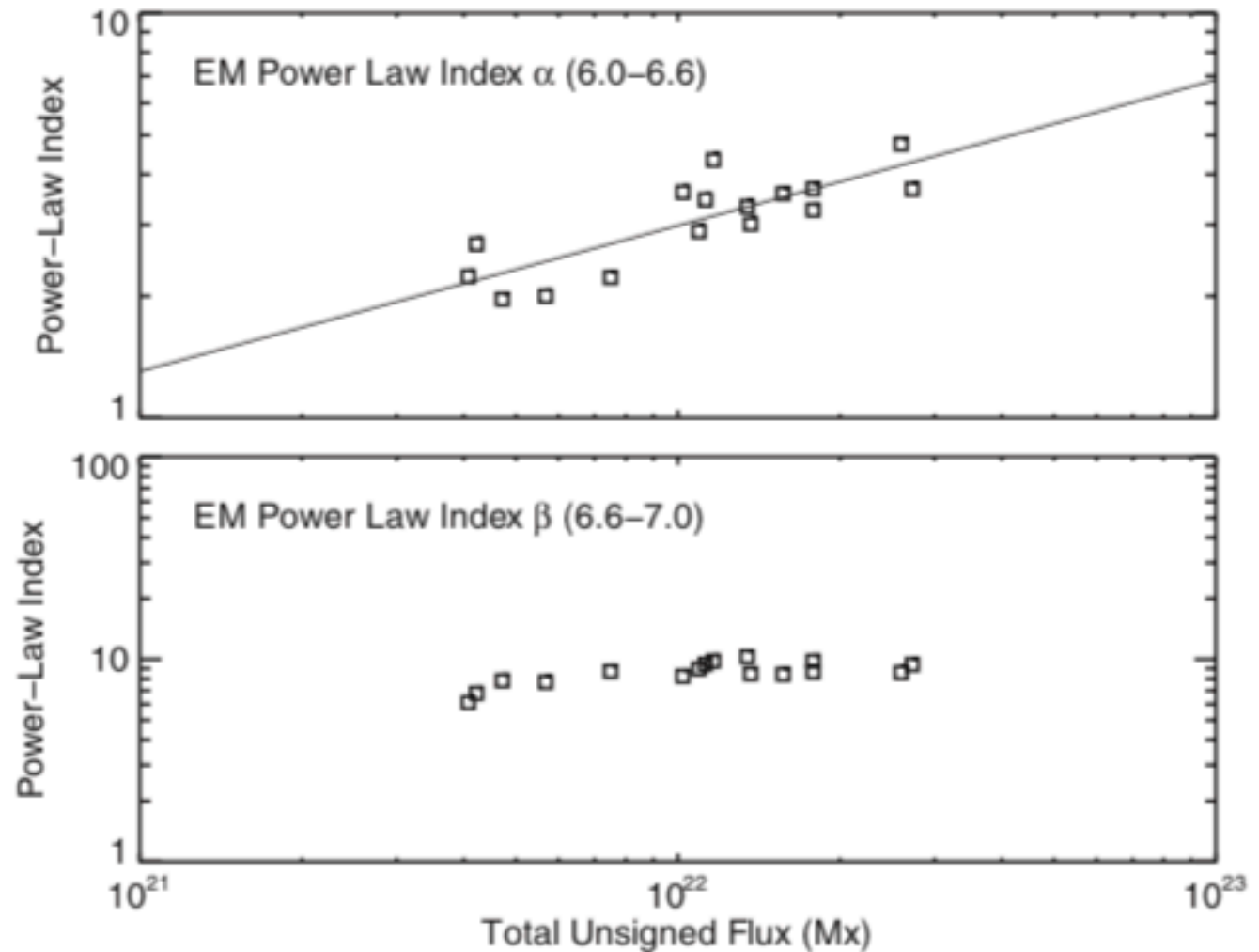
Warren et al 2012, ApJ, 759, 141

# Statistical Survey using EIS and AIA

Found relationship between EM and magnetic flux.

Found beta was  $\sim 10$  in all cases.

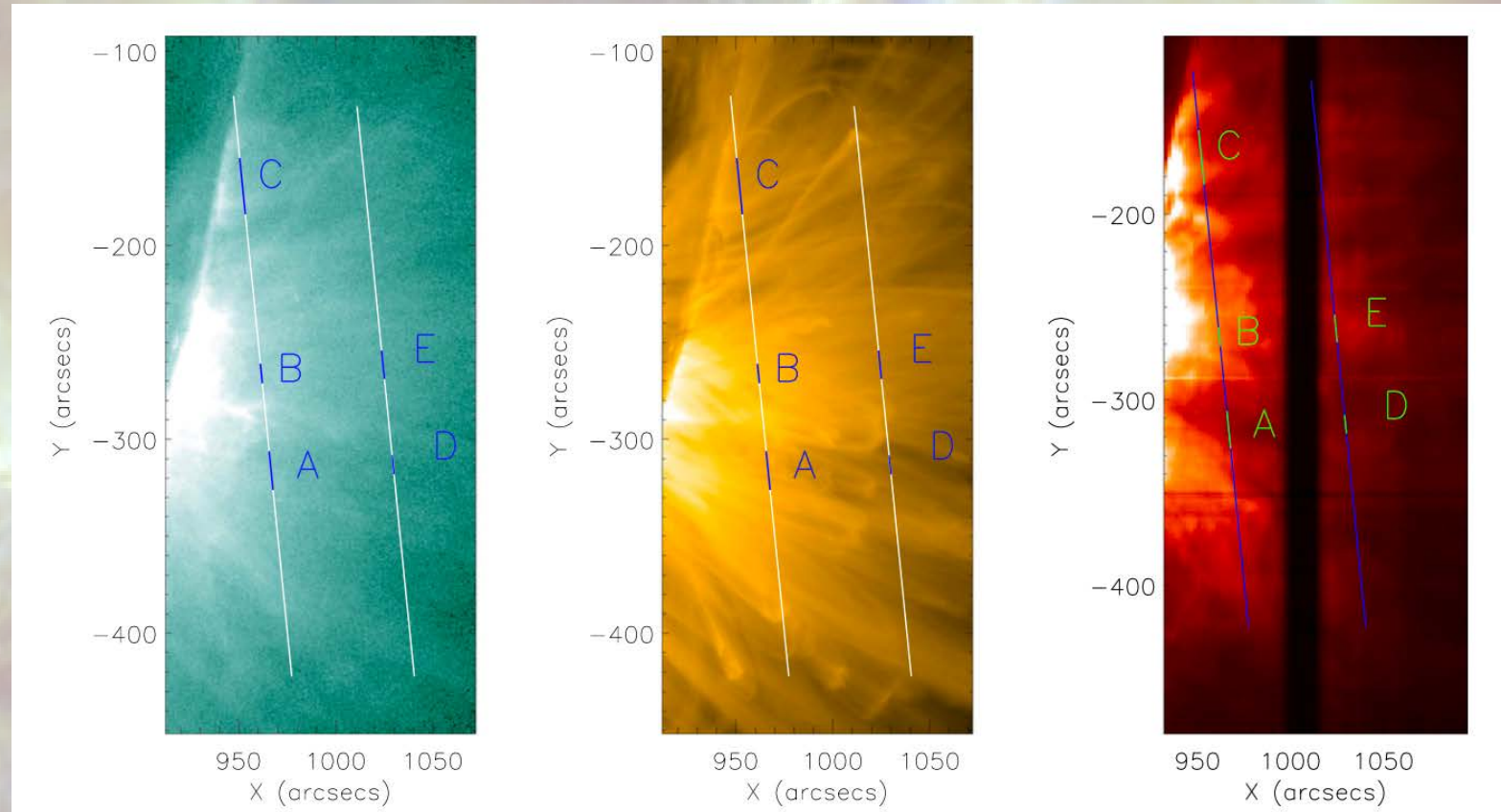
Large uncertainty due to limited high temperature sensitivity



# SUMER and EIS

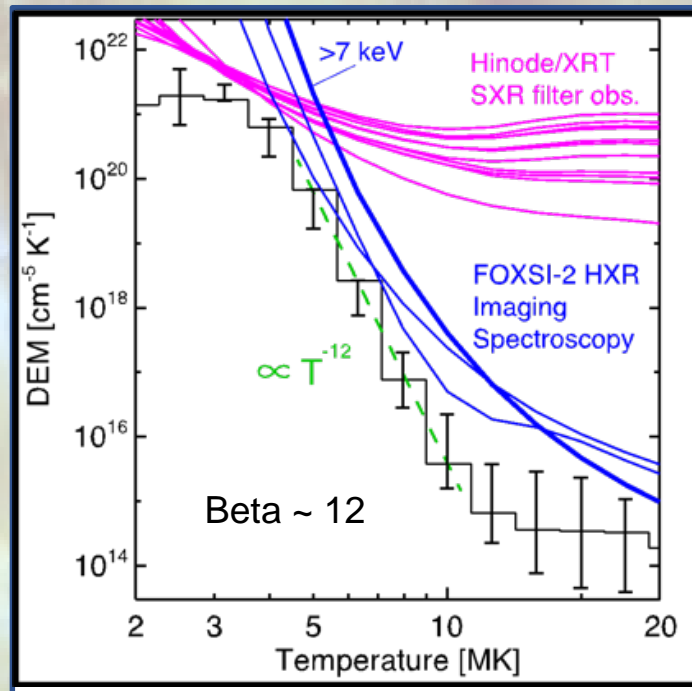
SUMER and EIS were combined to study thermal structure of an off limb active region

Beta between 8.5 – 4.5

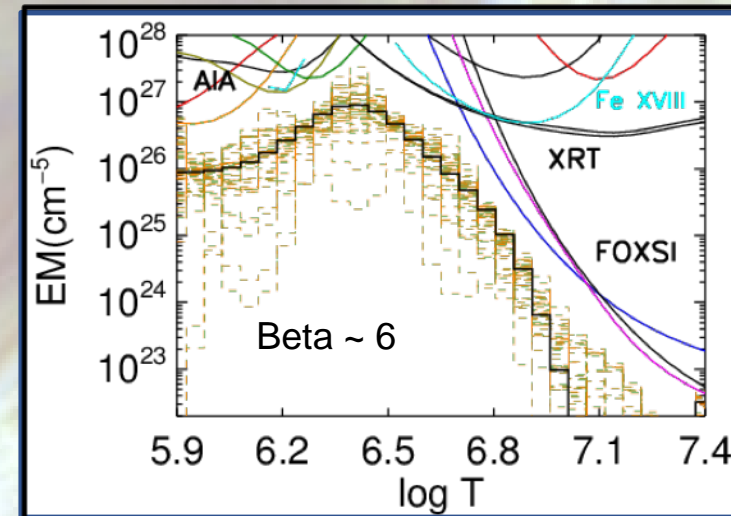




# Recent results – FOXSI sounding rockets



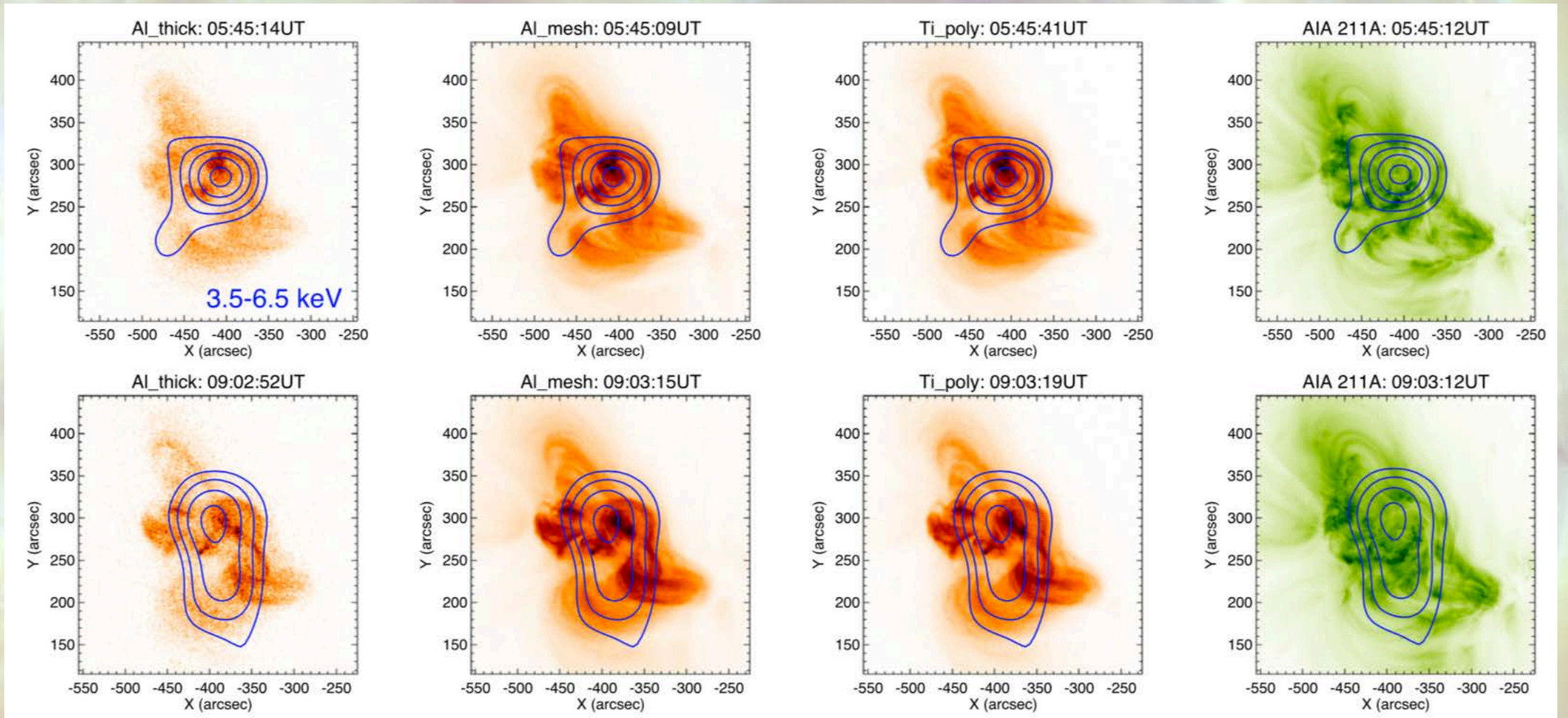
Ishikawa et al, 2017, Nature Astronomy, 1, 771



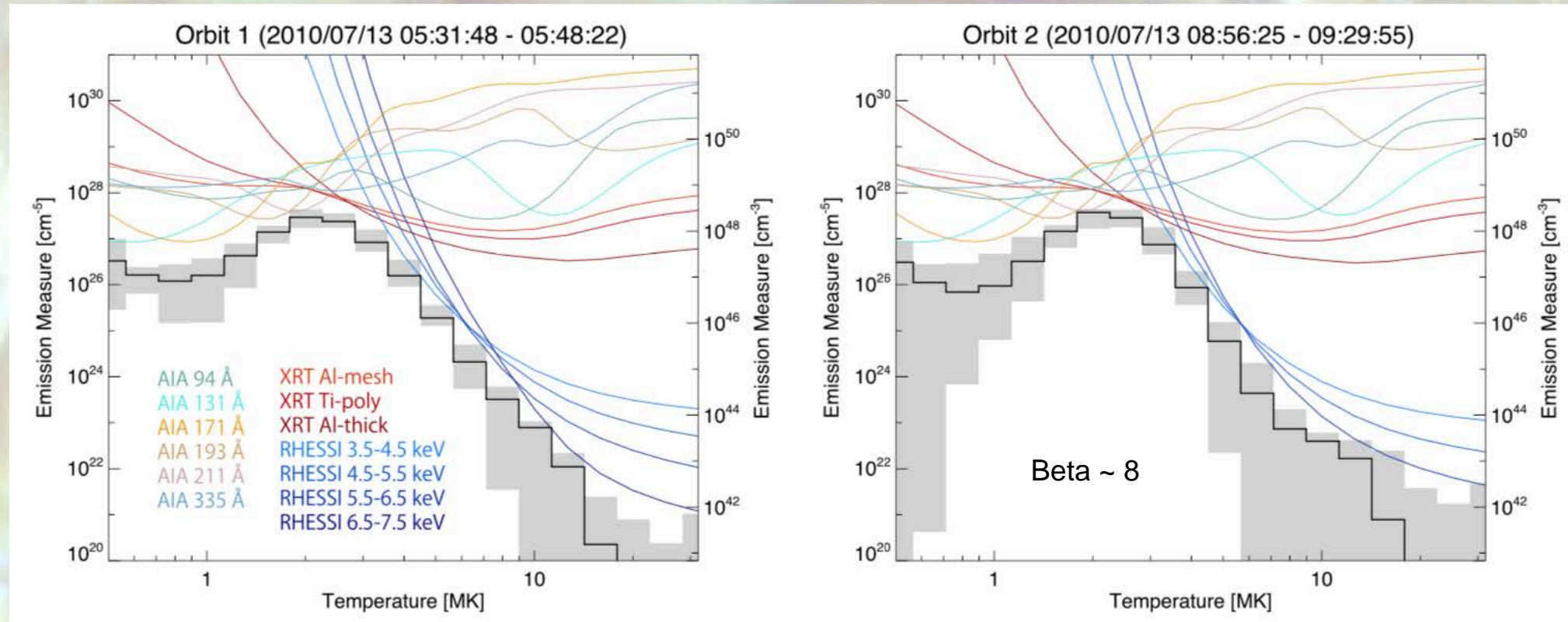
Athiray et al (2019, to be submitted)

Recent FOXSI results measure slope with a combination of XRT, AIA and FOXSI.

# Recent results



# Recent results



Ishikawa and Krucker did a detailed analysis of a non-flare AR with XRT, AIA, and RHESSI.

Ishikawa and Krucker 2019, 876, 111

# Summary of Beta

Publication	Beta
Warren et al. 2012	10+- 3
Parenti et al 2017	4.5 – 8.5
Ishikawa et al 2017	12
Athiray et al (submitted)	6
Ishikawa & Krucker 2019	8

# In a parallel effort...

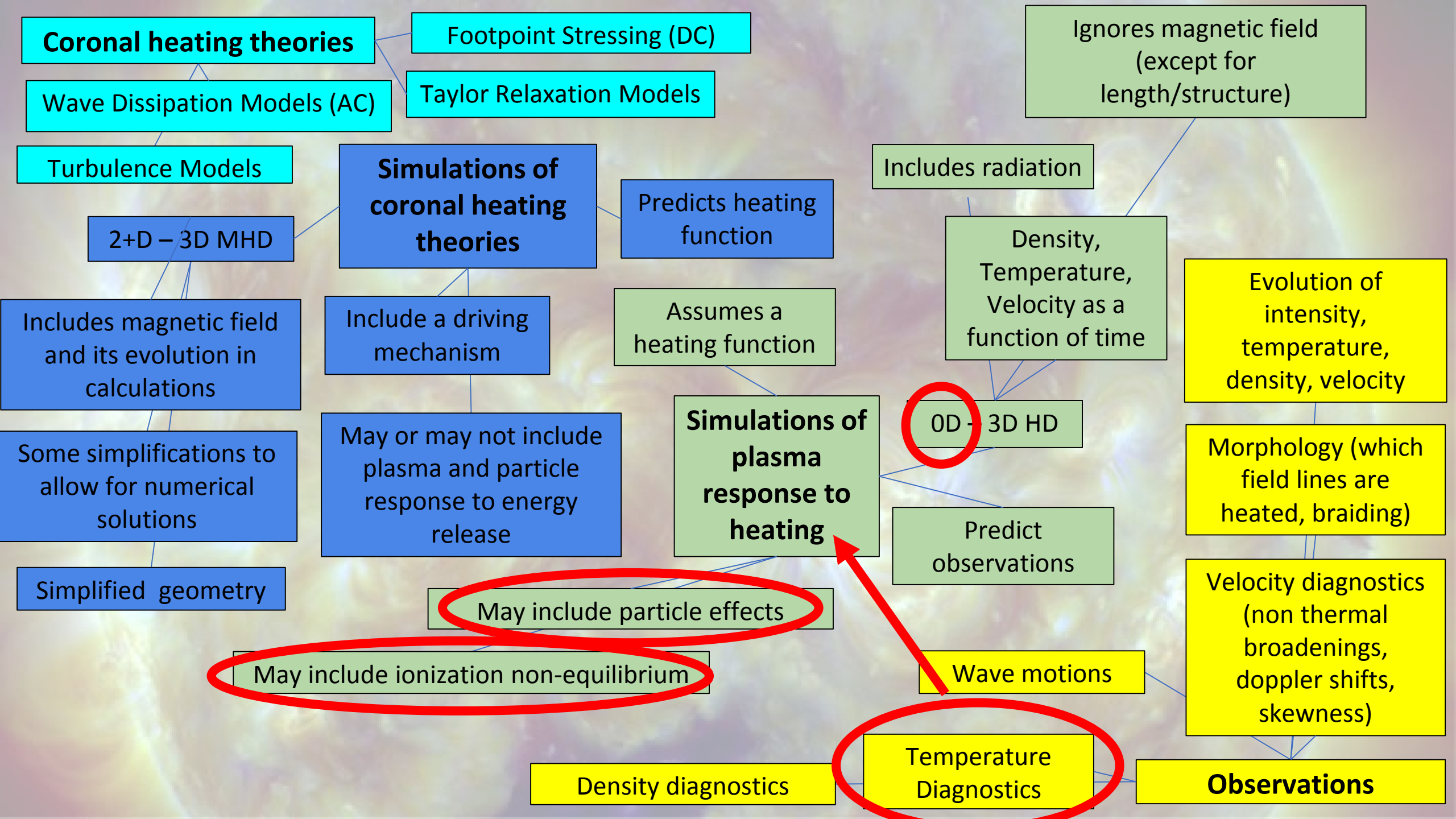
Series of papers investigated the relationship between heating frequency and temperature diagnostics.

- Bradshaw et al, 2012, ApJ, 783, 53
- Reep et al., 2013, ApJ, 784, 193
- Cargill, 2014, ApJ, 784, 49
- Barnes et al, 2016, ApJ, 829, 31
- Barnes et al. 2016, ApJ, 833, 217

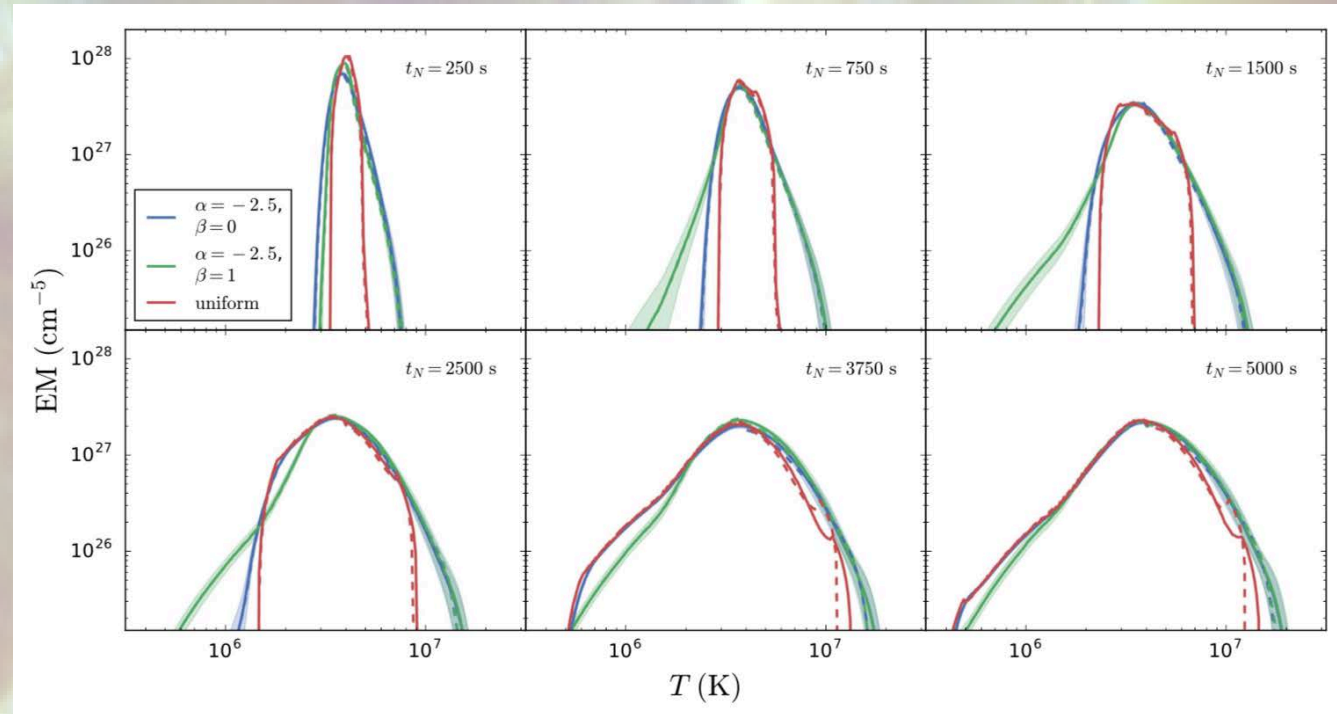
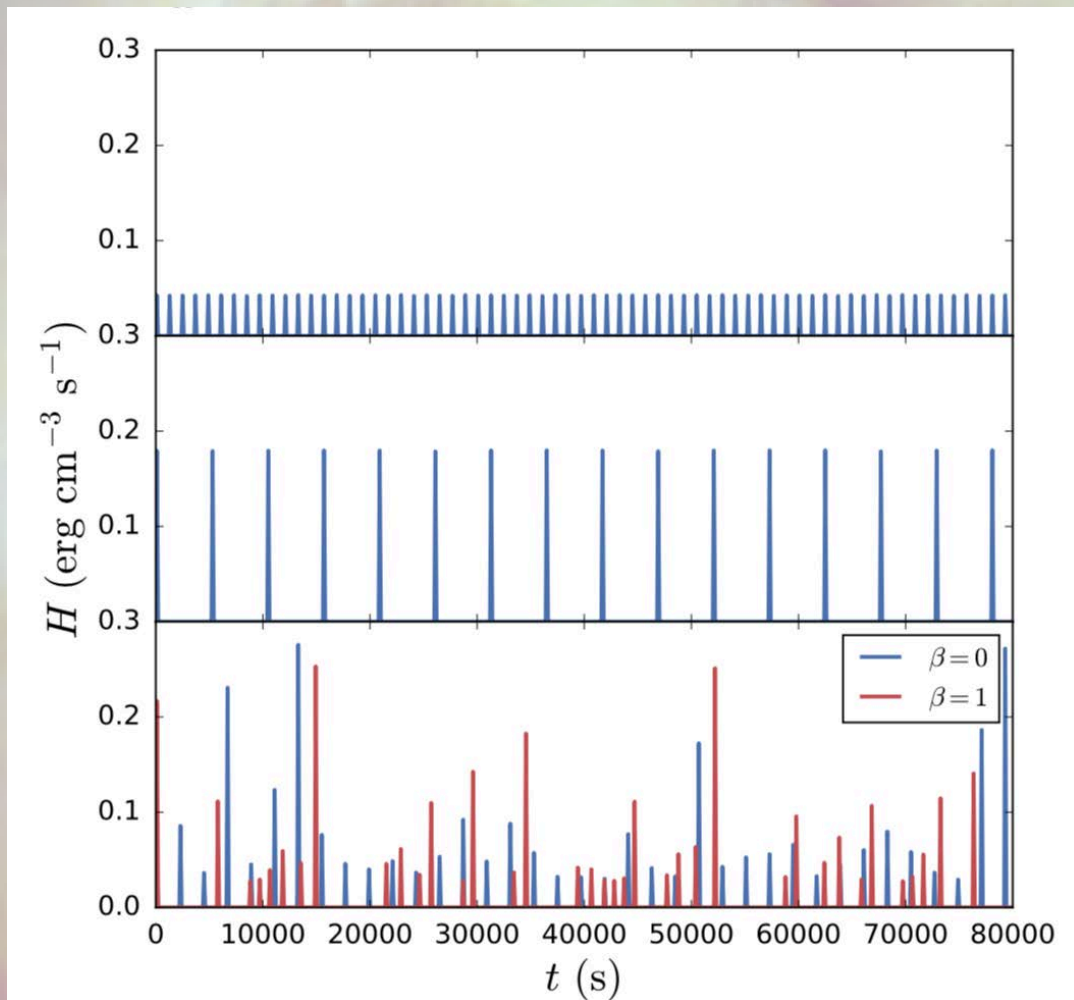
# In a parallel effort...

Series of papers investigated the relationship between heating frequency and temperature diagnostics.

- Bradshaw et al, 2012, ApJ, 783, 53
- Reep et al., 2013, ApJ, 784, 193
- Cargill, 2014, ApJ, 784, 49
- Barnes et al, 2016, ApJ, 829, 31
- Barnes et al. 2016, ApJ, 833, 217 ←



# Description of Simulations



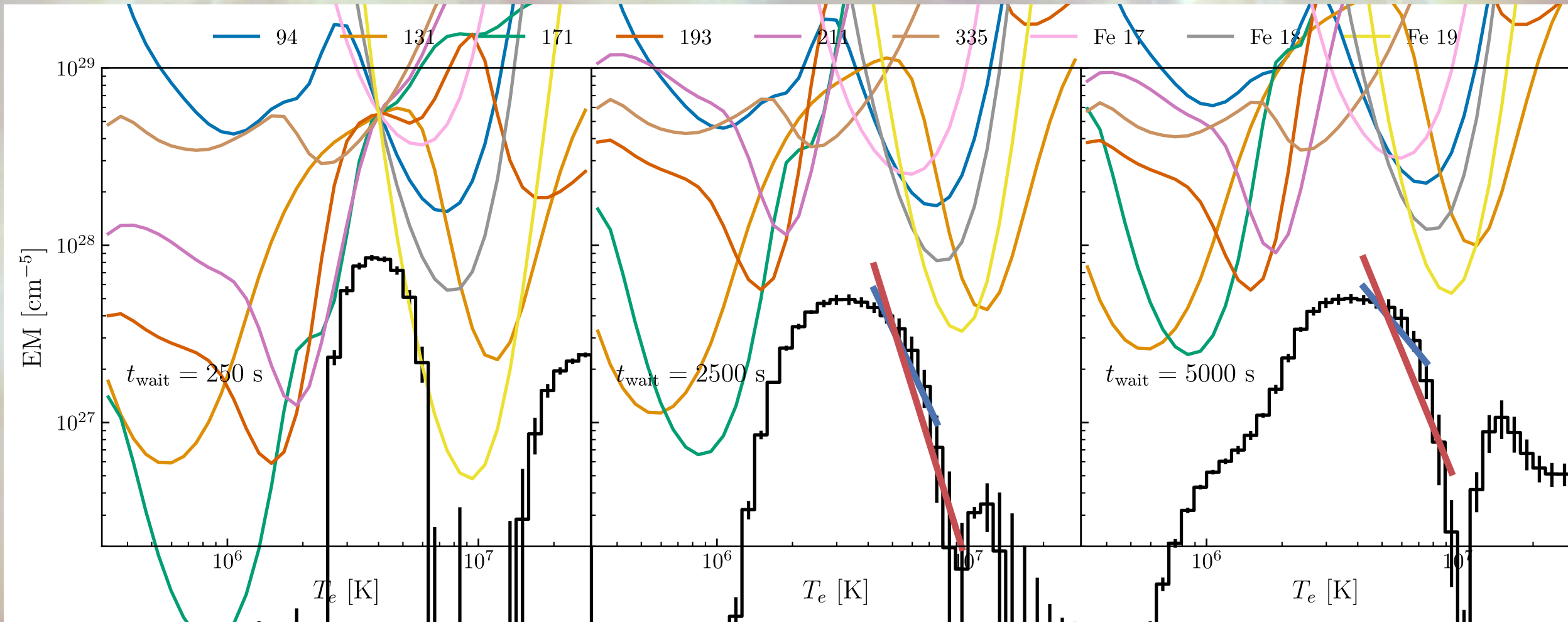
Barnes et al. considered different heating frequencies (regular and random) and different vehicles for heating (ions and electrons).

Included non-equilibrium ionization.

Barnes et al, 2016, ApJ, 833, 217

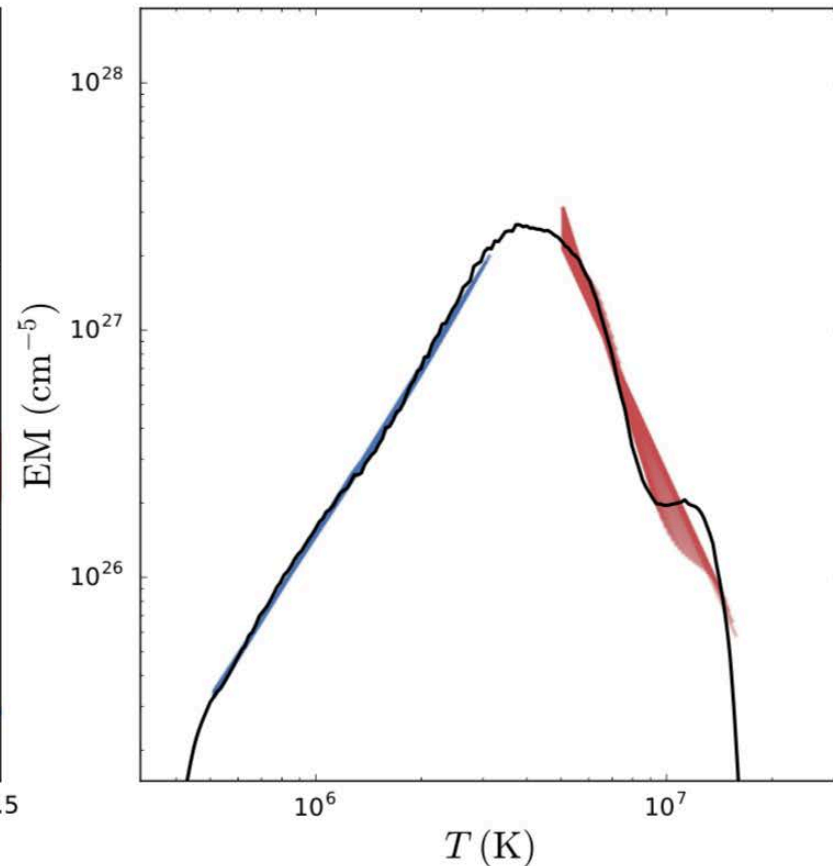
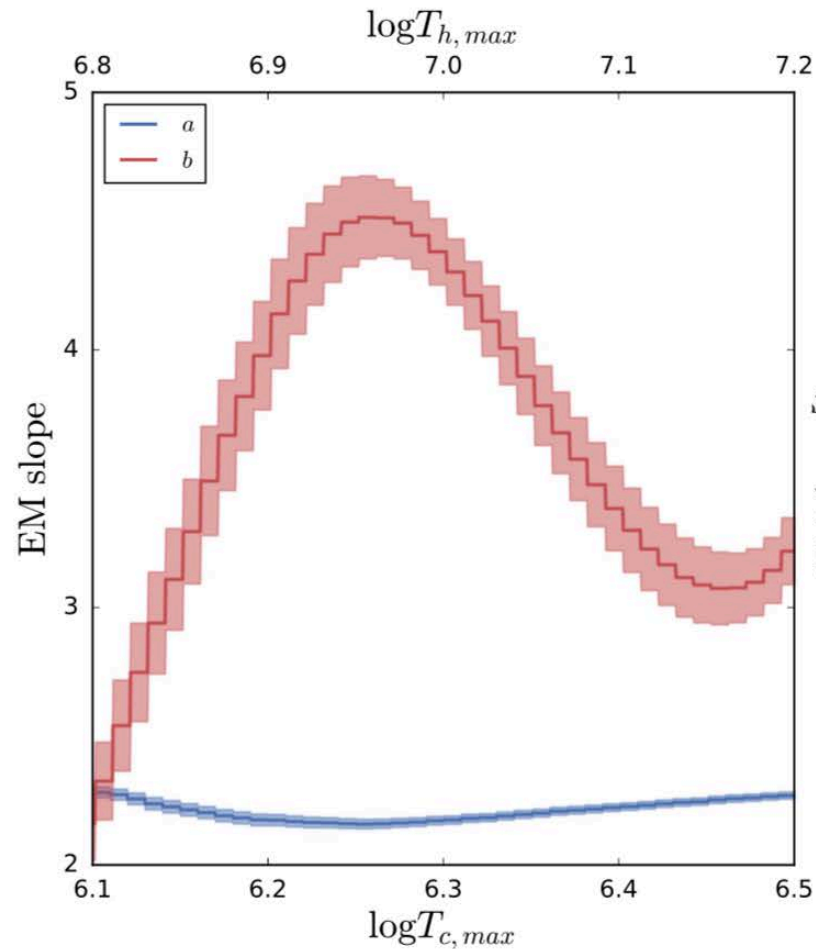


# Maybe Beta isn't a great parameter?



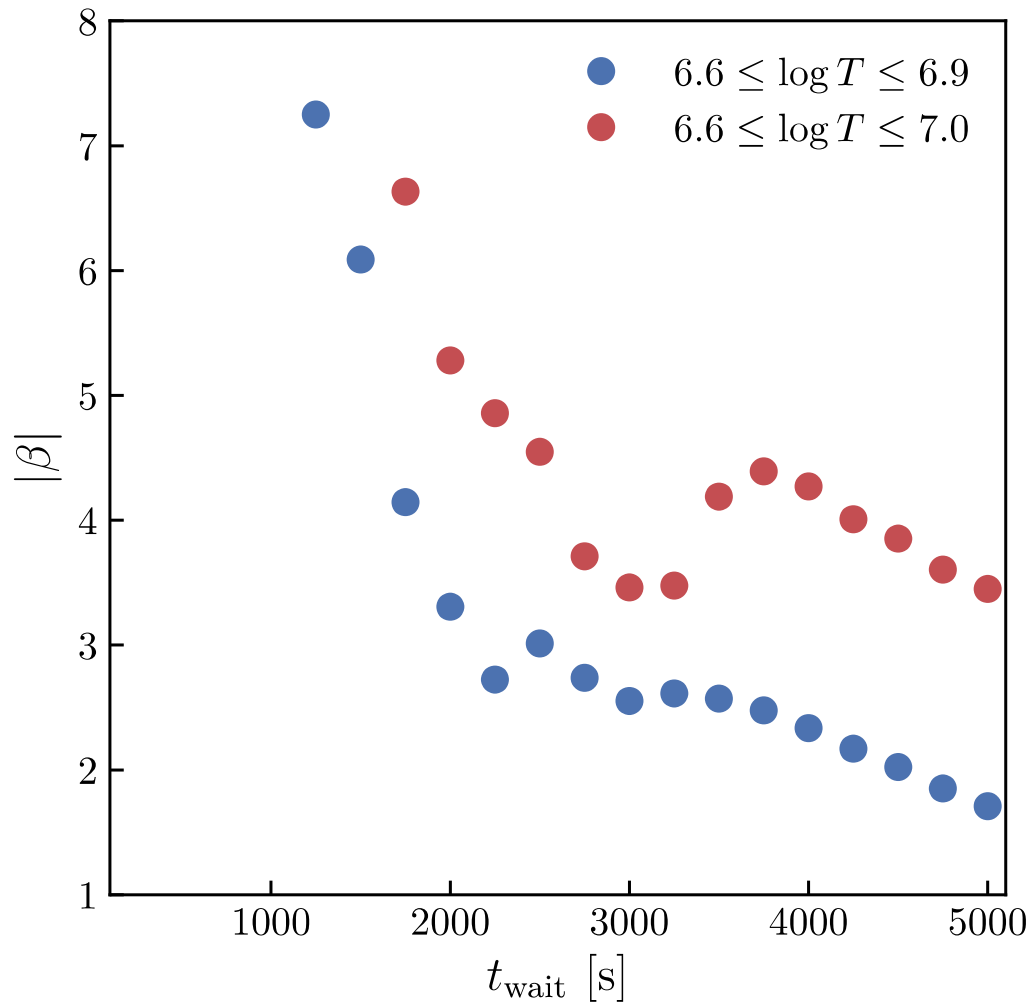
Barnes (private communication)

# Maybe Beta isn't a great parameter?



The measured beta depends strongly on the selected bounds.

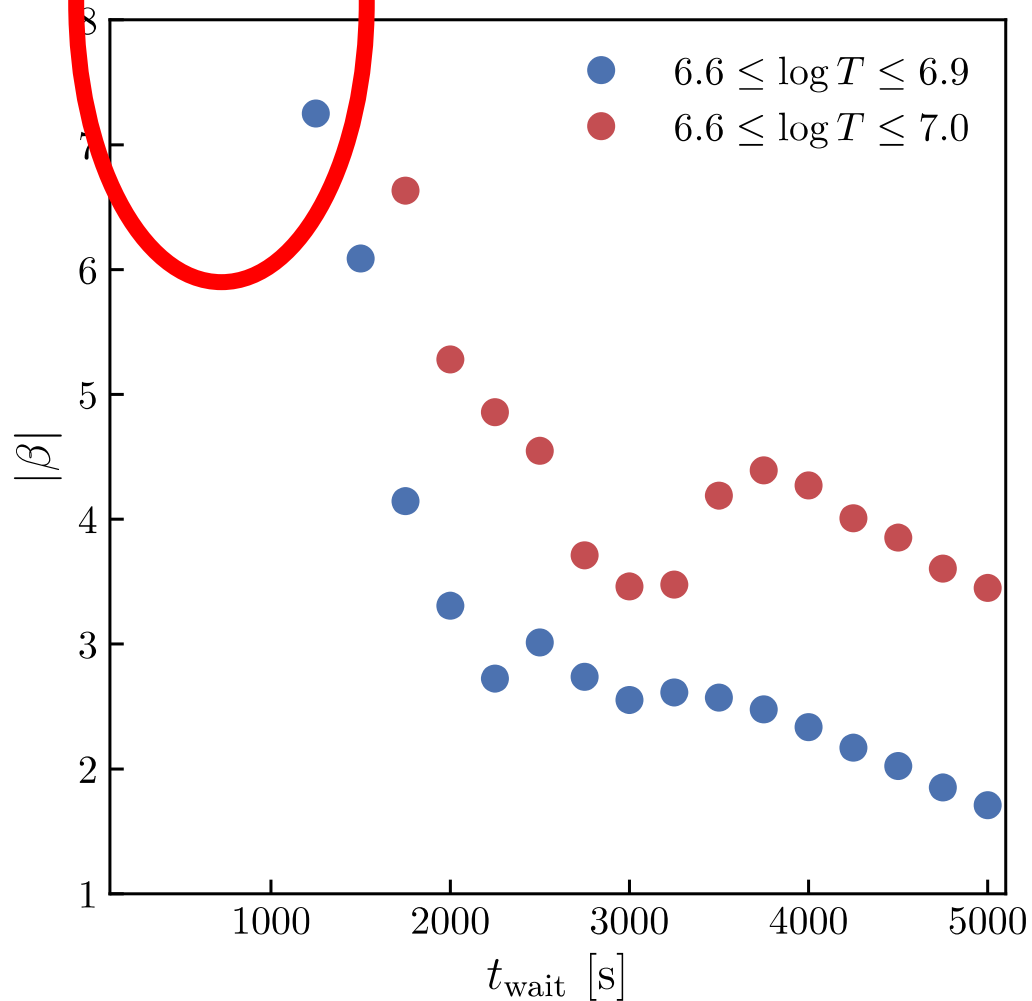
# Results from Simulations



Betas that have been recently measured ( $\sim 10$ ) indicate high frequency heating.

This is only for one loop length – 80 Mm.

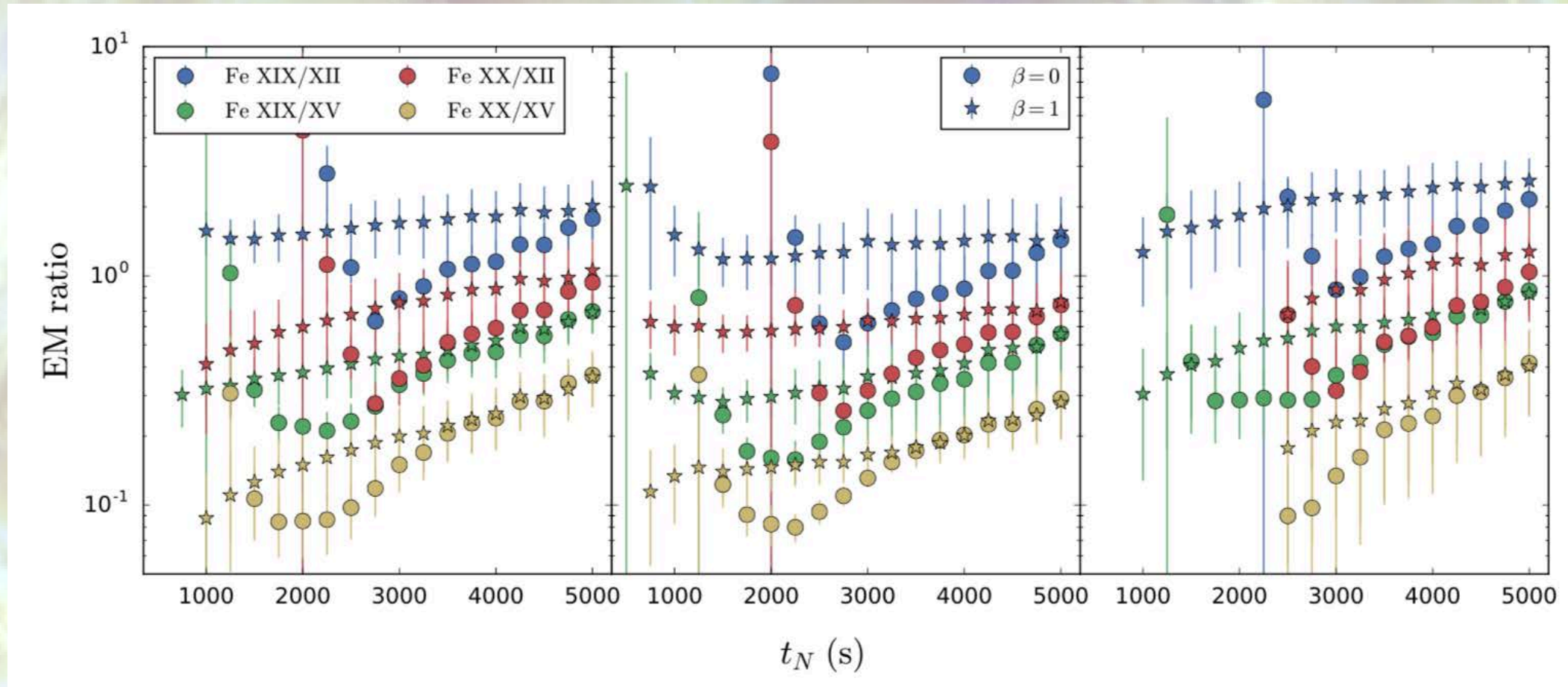
# Results from Simulations



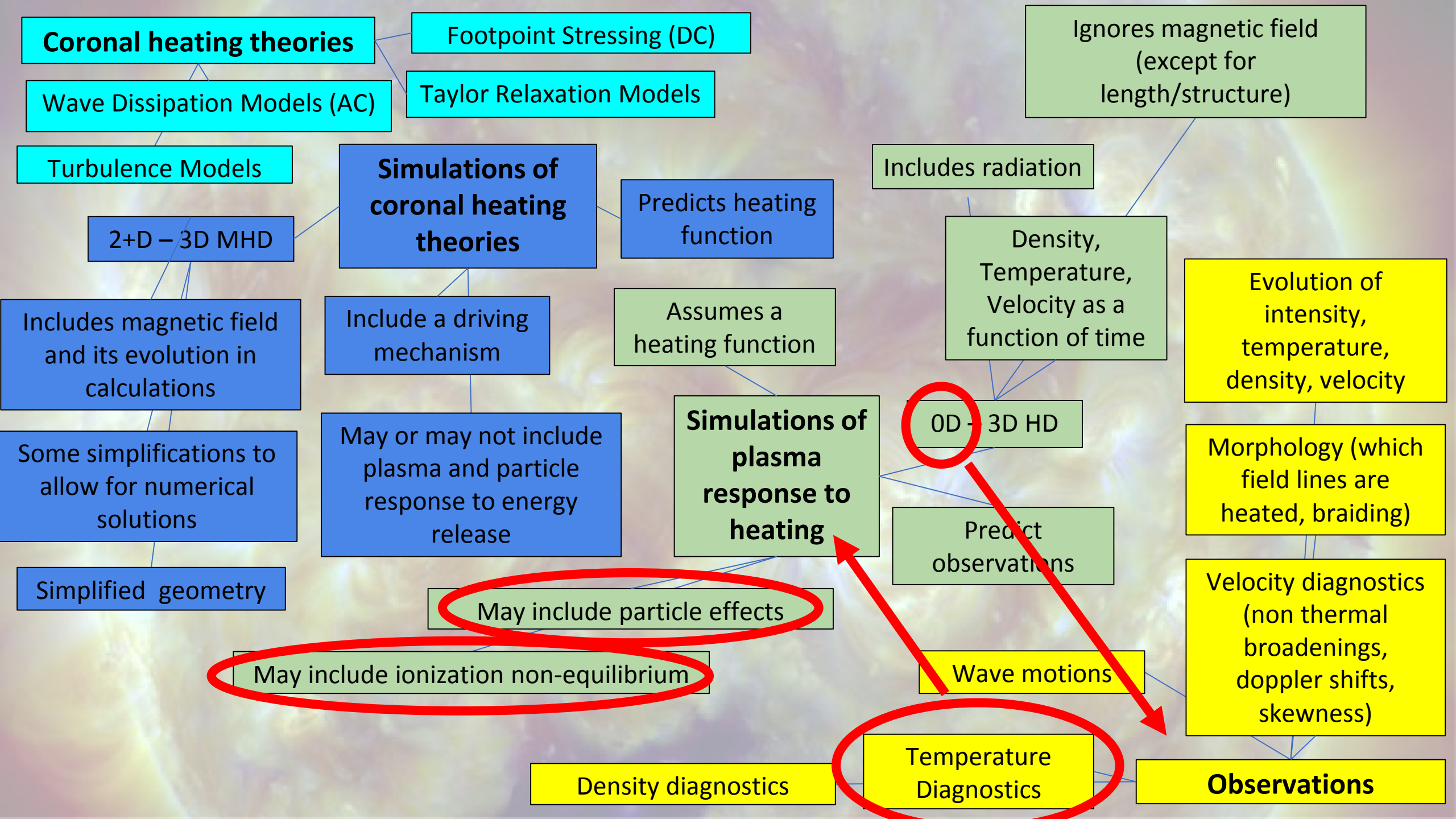
Betas that have been recently measured ( $\sim 10$ ) indicate high frequency heating.

This is only for one loop length – 80 Mm.

# Results from Simulations



Barnes suggested that line ratios may be a better diagnostic tool than beta.

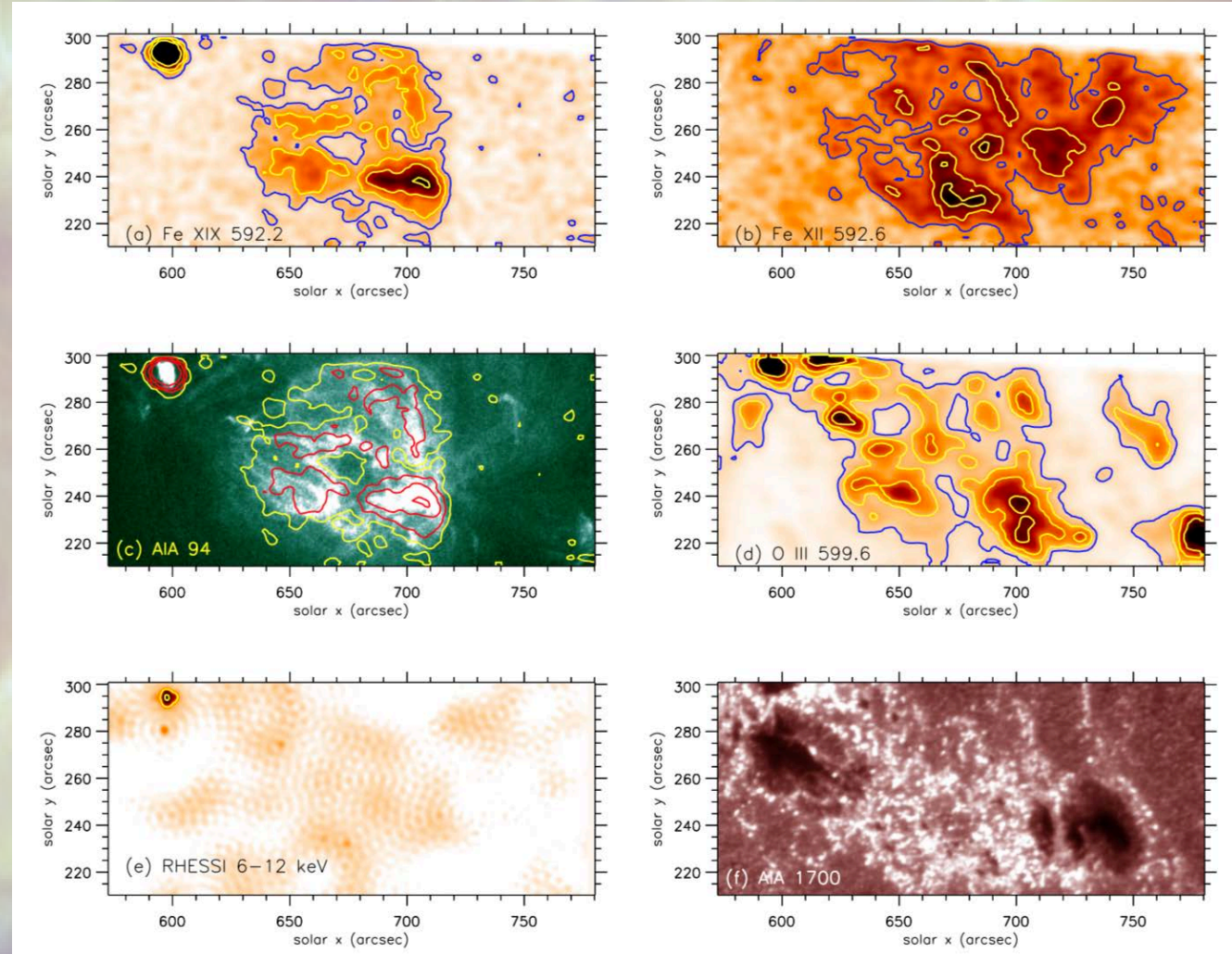


# Fe XIX pervasive in Active Region

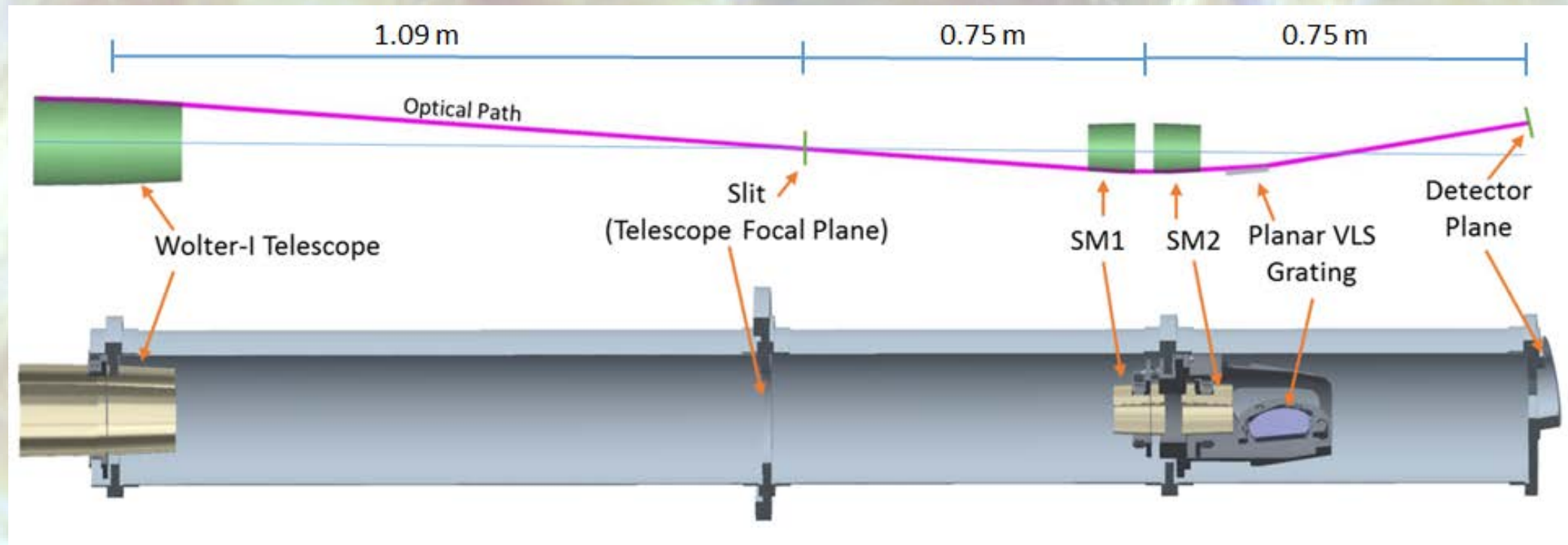
EUNIS sounding rocket experiment observed pervasive Fe XIX emission in a non-flaring Active Region.

Determined this was consistent with nanoflare heating.

Determined ratio of Fe XIX to Fe XII inside and outside the Active Region Core.



# Upcoming Instrument - MaGIXS

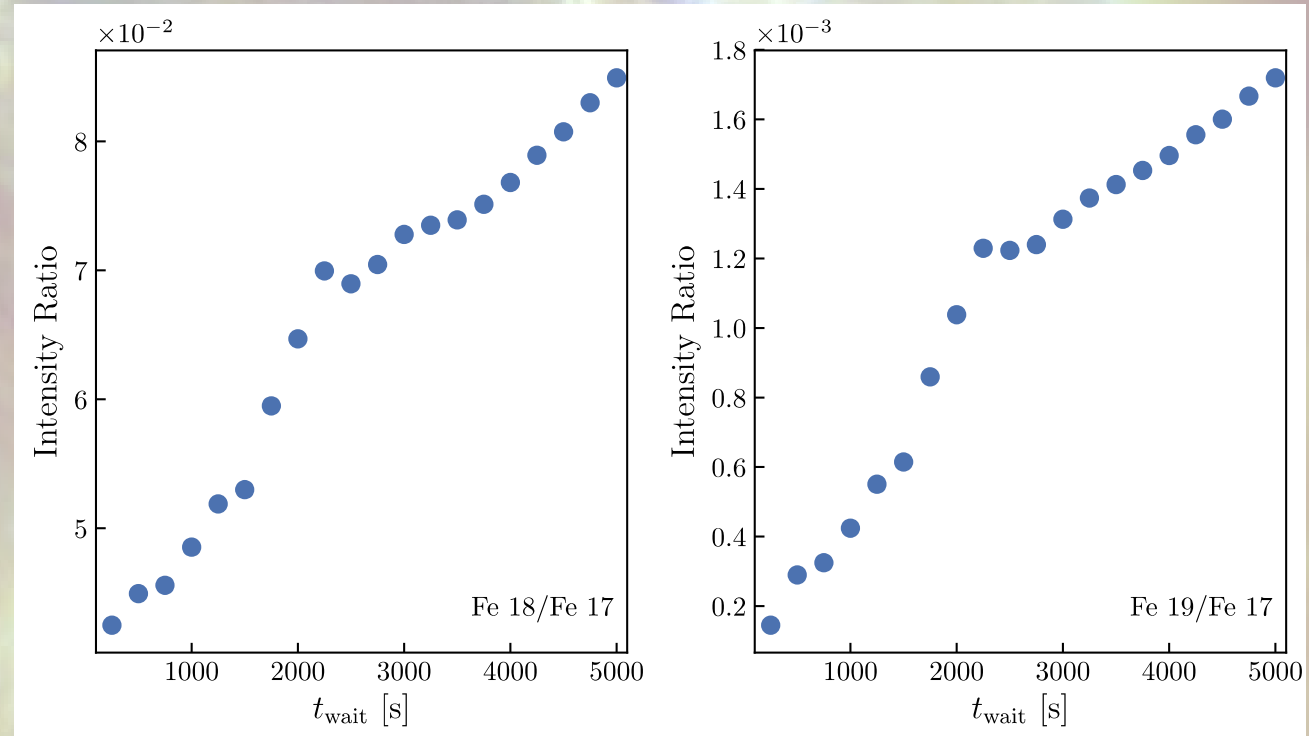
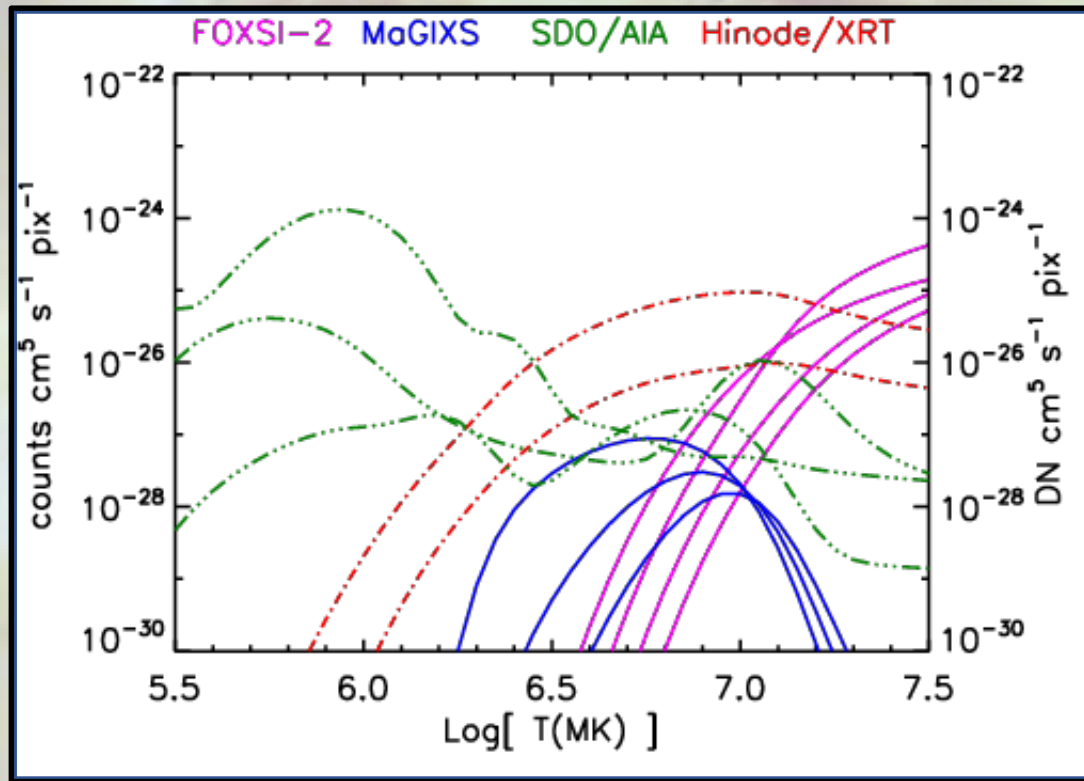


Marshall Grazing Incidence X-ray Spectrometer (MaGIXS) sounding rocket instrument.

Spatially and spectrally resolve 6-25 Ang wavelength range (Fe XVII, Fe XVIII, Fe XIX)



# Upcoming Instrument - MaGIXS



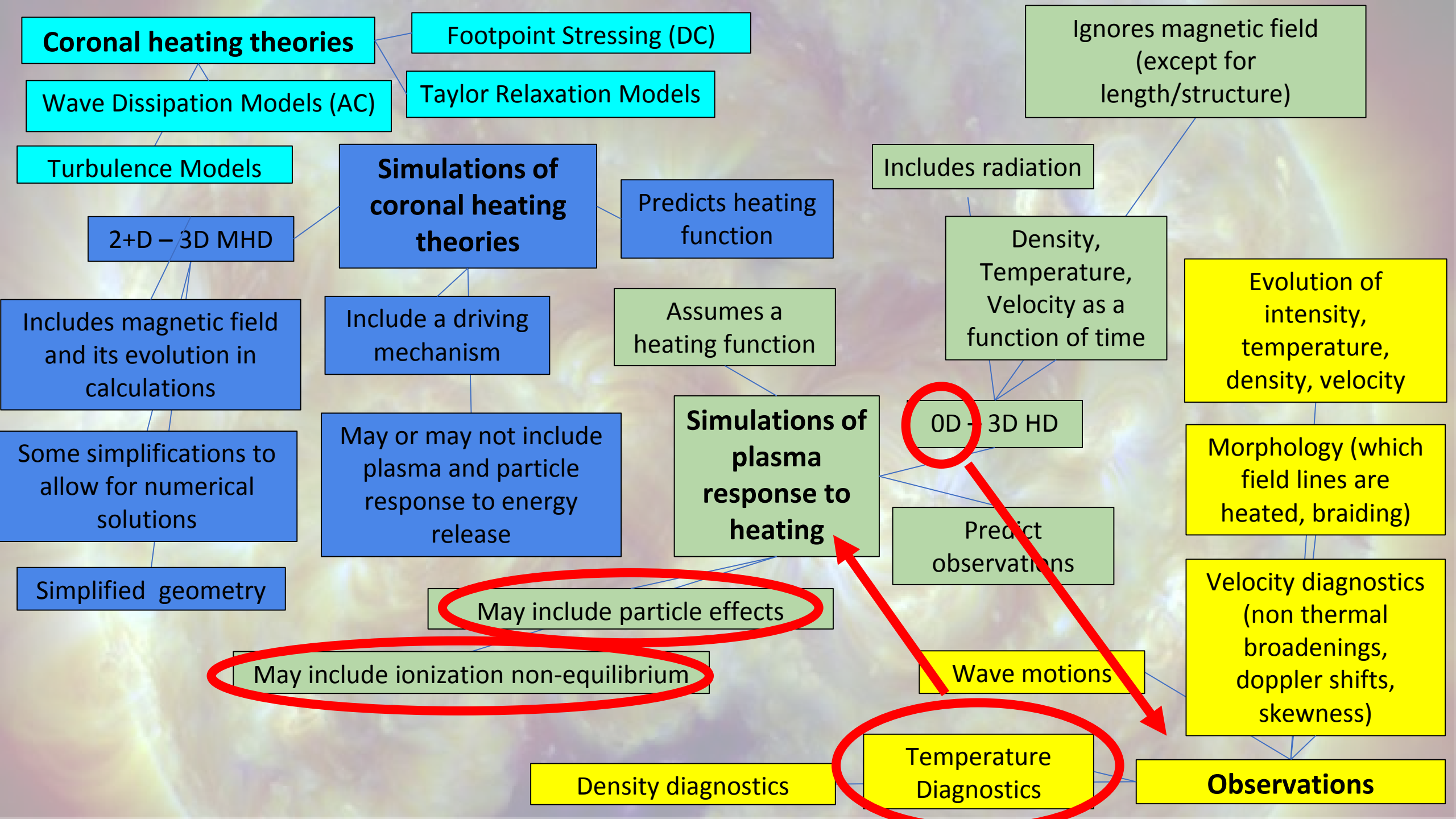
MaGIXS provides a bridge between XRT and FOXSI.

Athiray et al, 2019, to be submitted

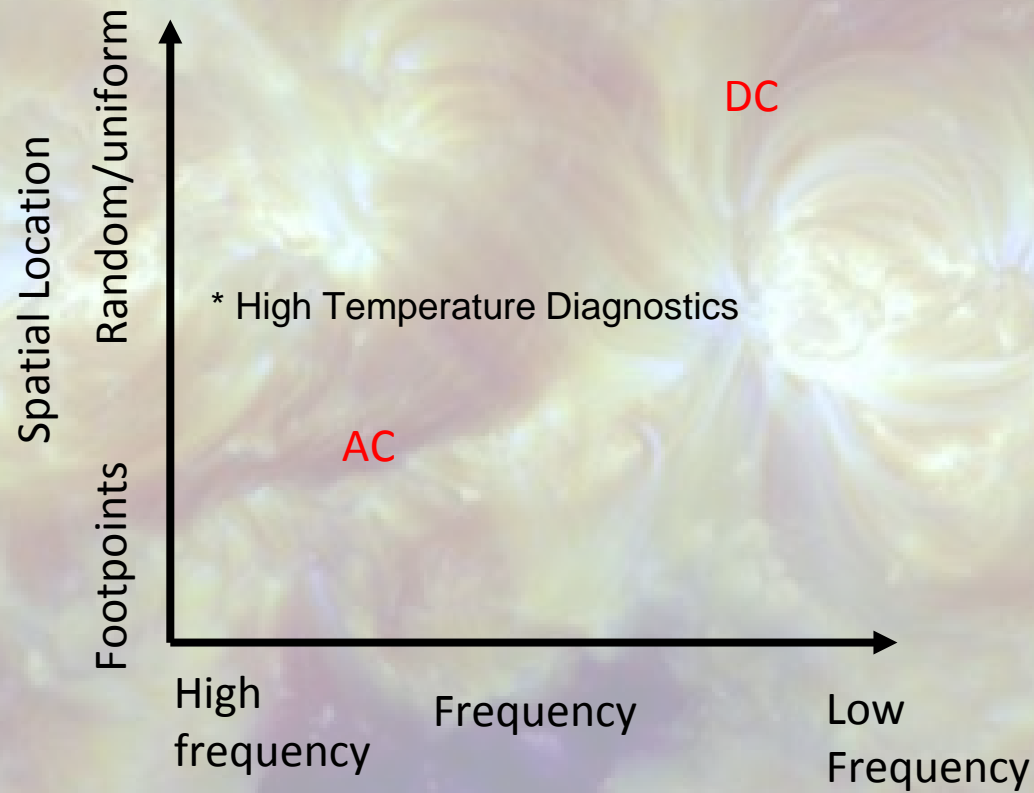
# Upcoming Instrument - MaGIXS



MaGIXS build it currently underway at MSFC! To be flown in 2020.



# Tentative Link to Coronal Heating Theories

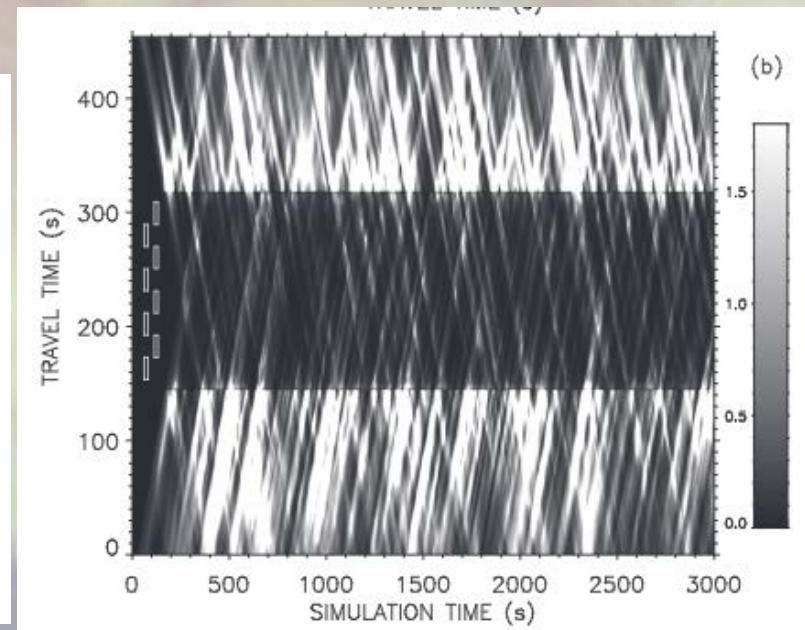
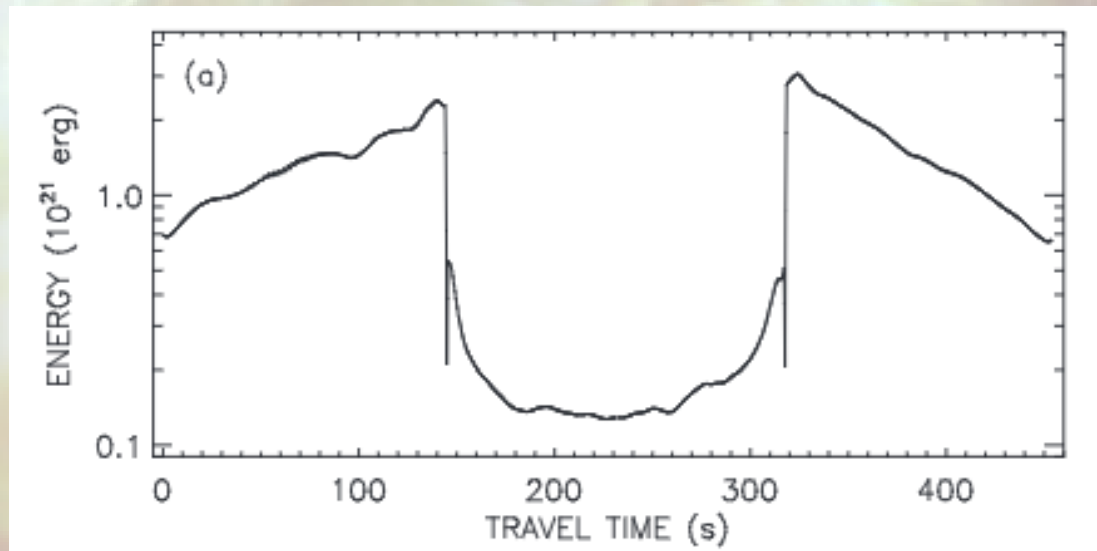


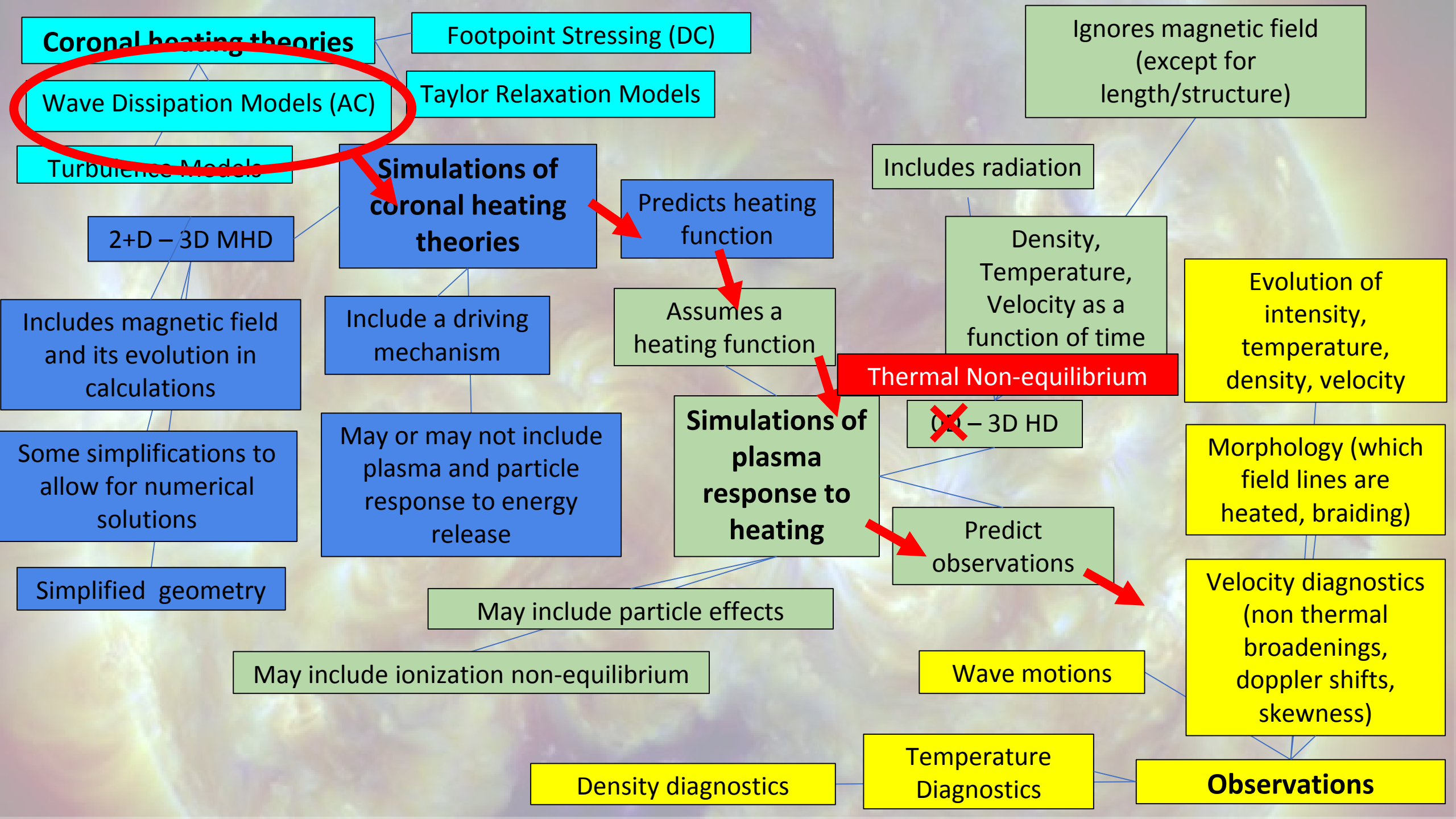


# Dissipation of Alfvén Waves

Series of papers that consider how Alfvén waves might be dissipated to heat the corona.

In these papers, they predict the energy release as a function of space and time.



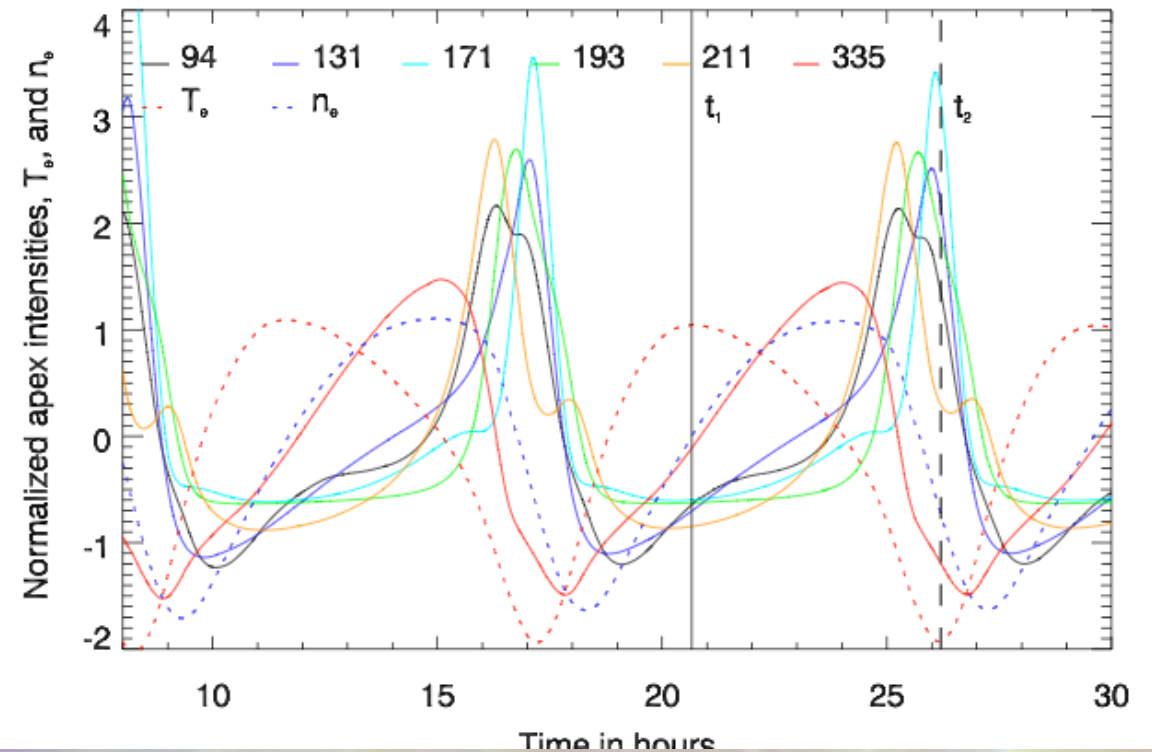
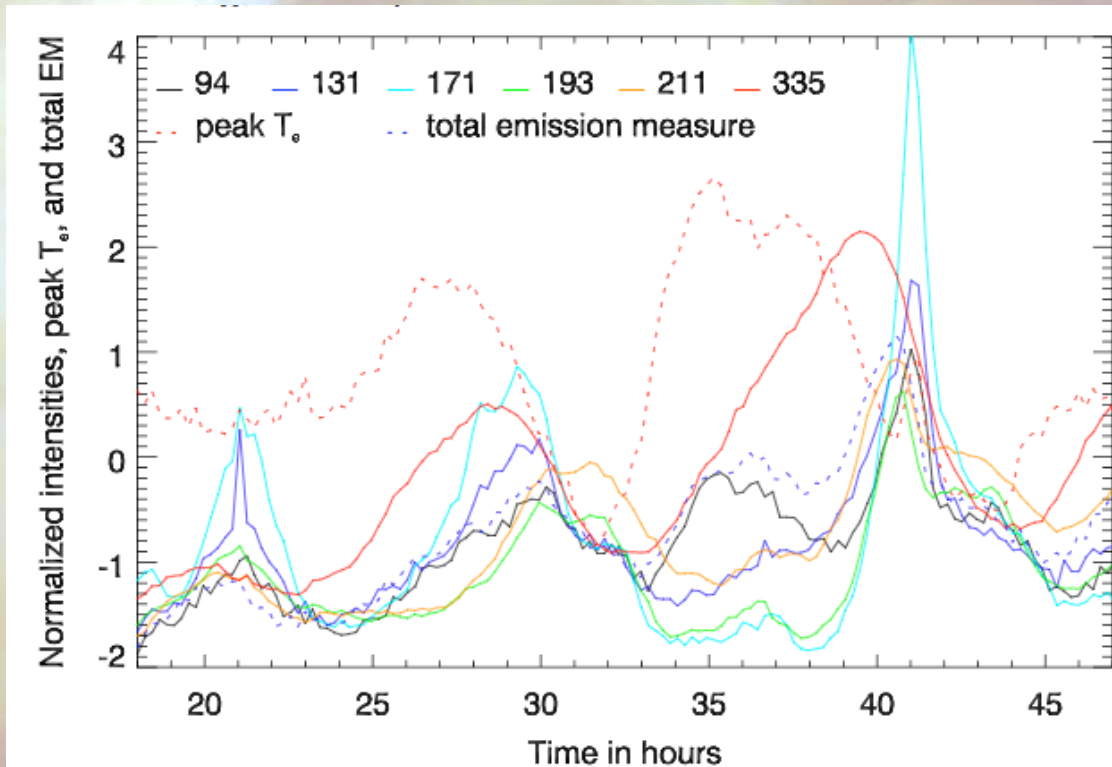


# Observational Predictions

Long Term Pulsations  
Coronal Rain  
Slowly Evolving Loops

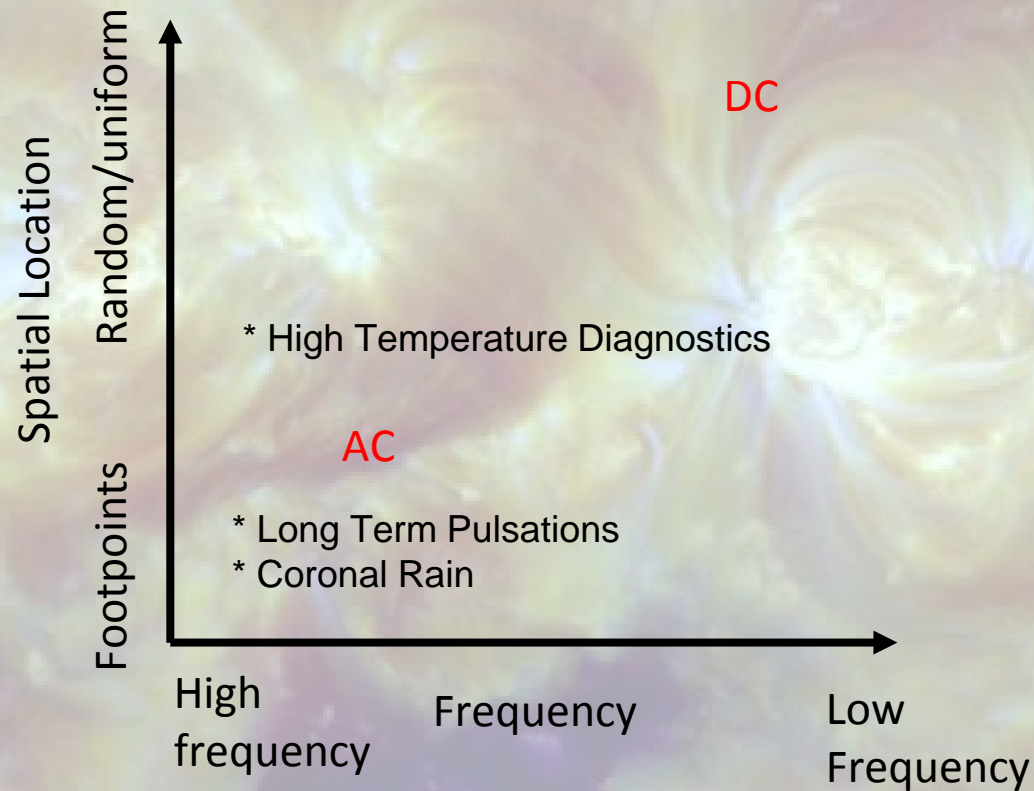
Observations

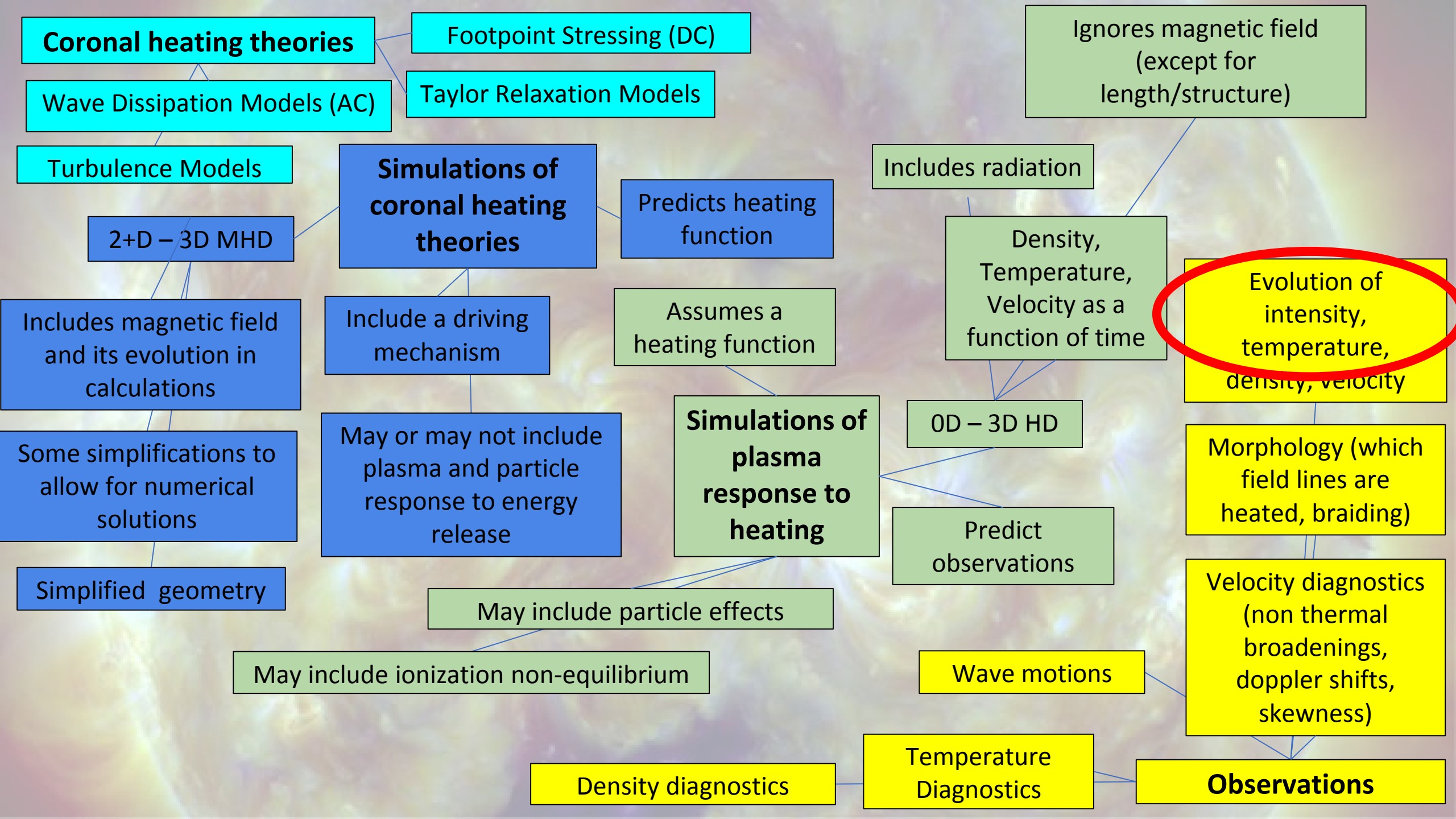
1D model



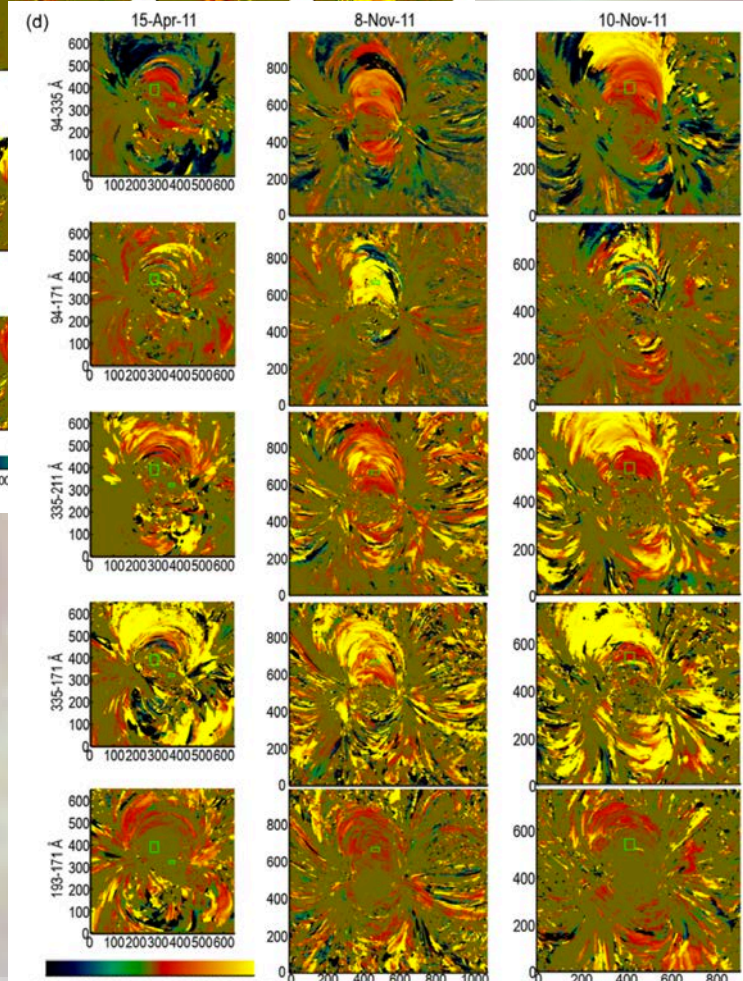
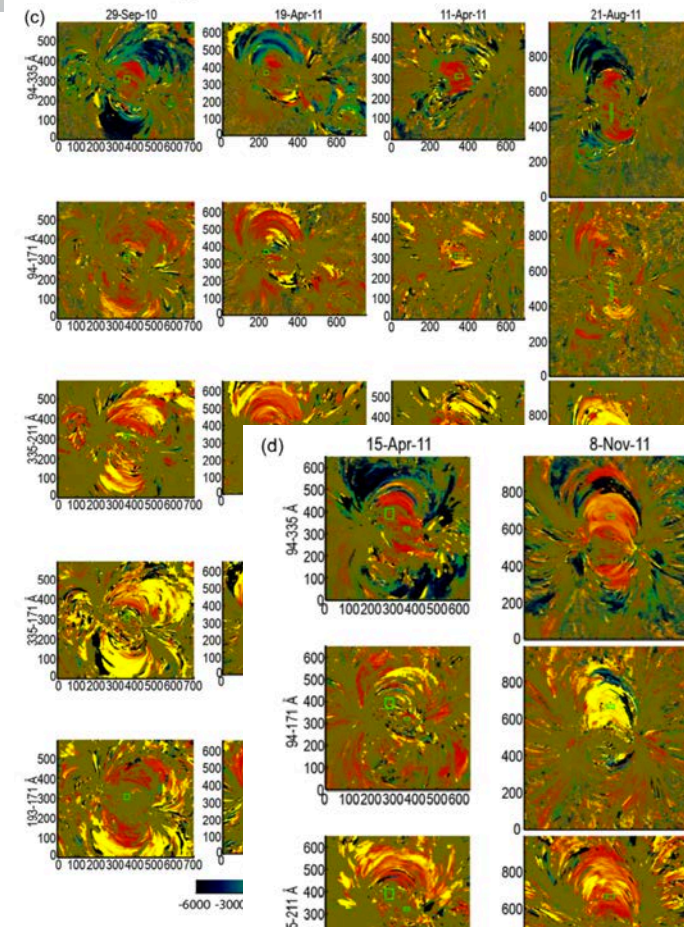
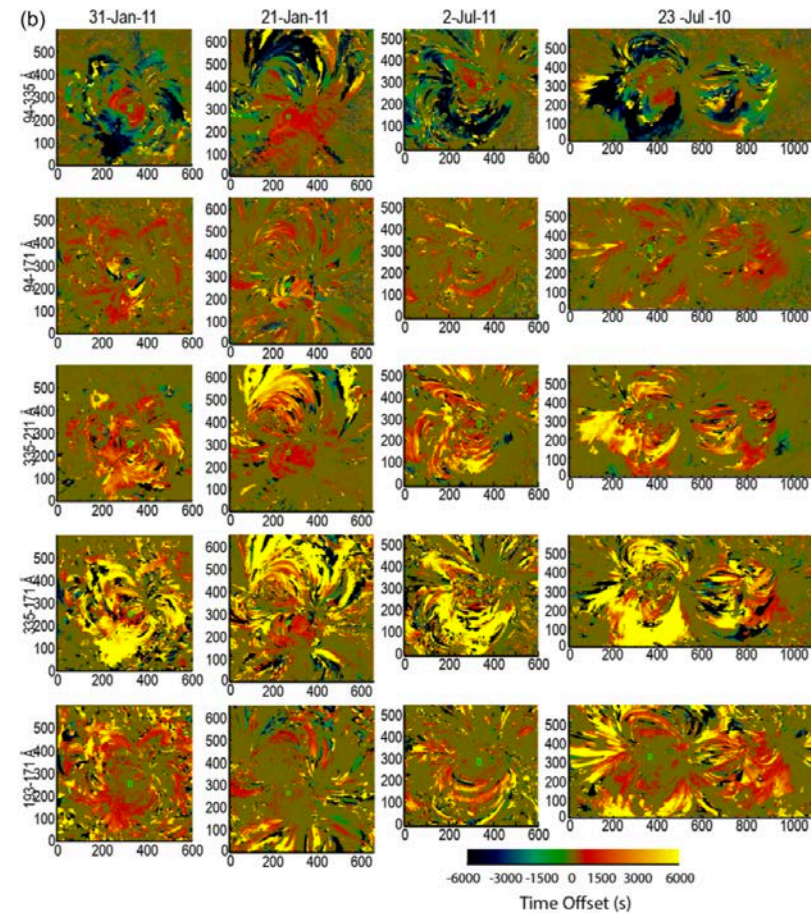
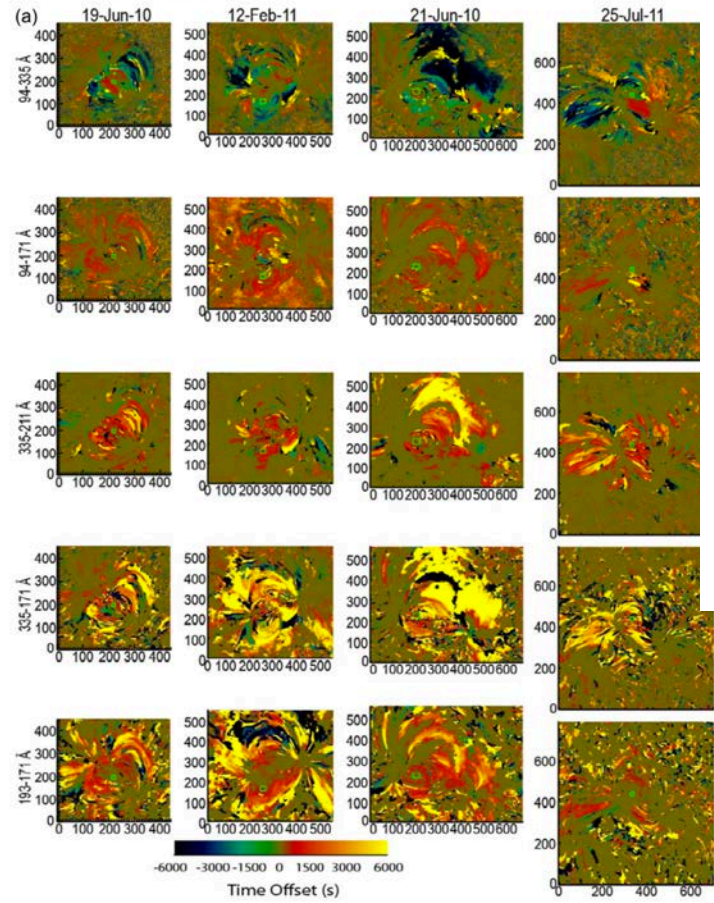


# Tentative Link to Coronal Heating Theories





# Time lags

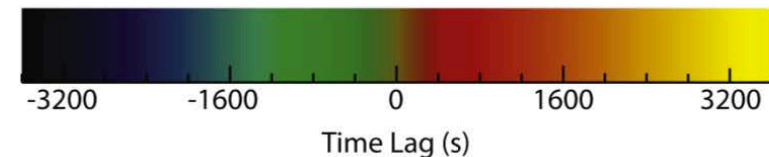
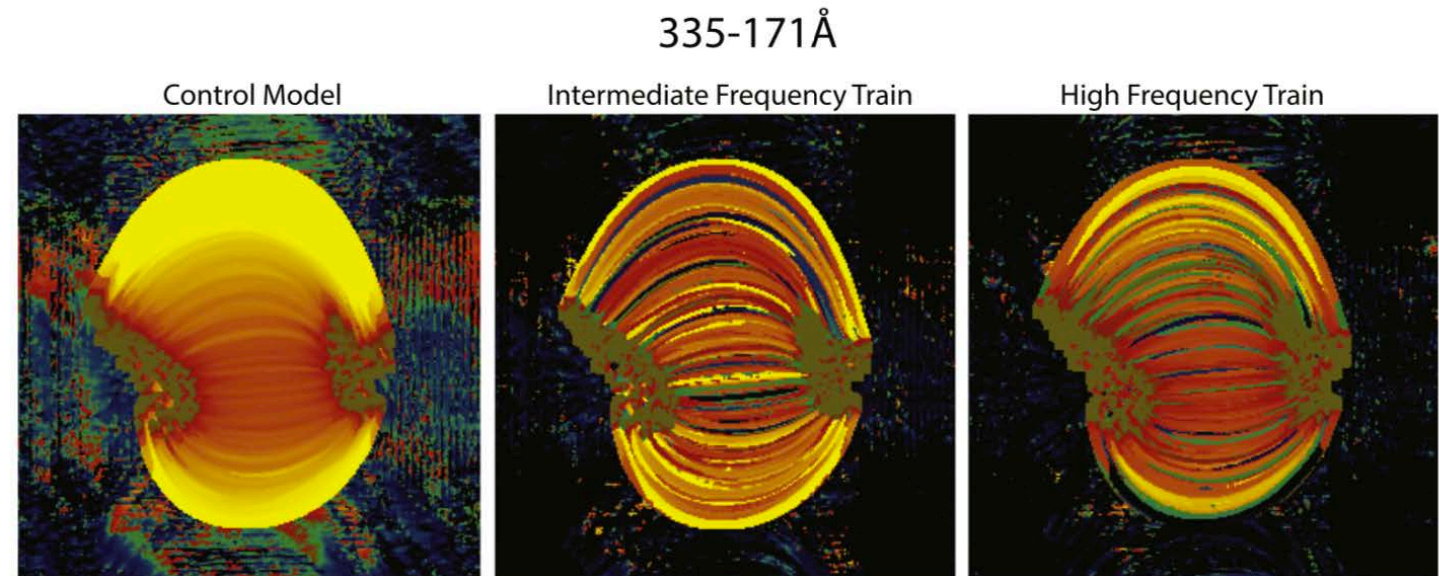
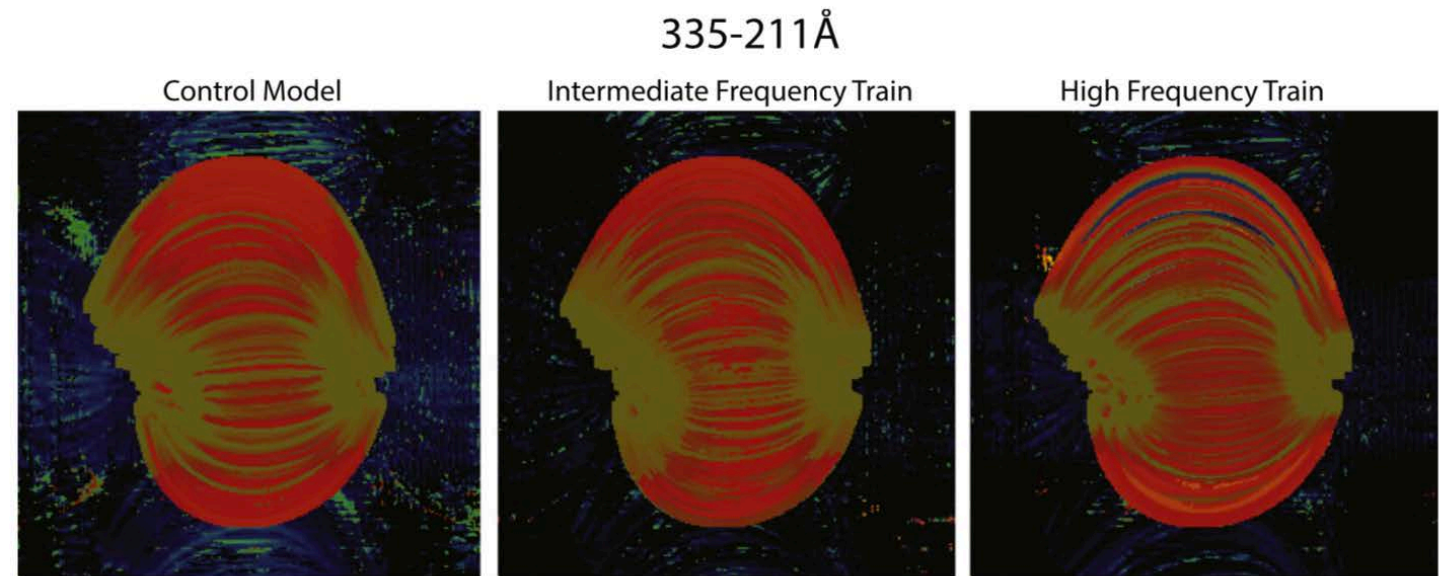


Viall & Klimchuk completed a study of the evolution of the same set of active regions studied by Warren et al. 2012.

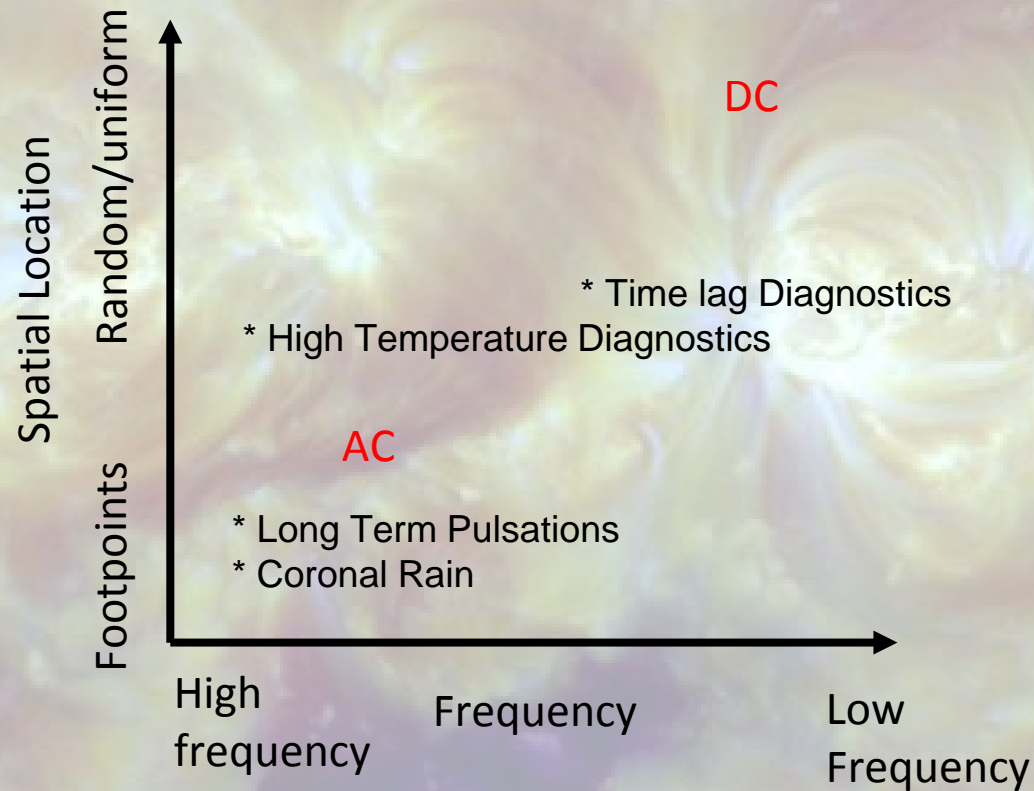
# Time lags

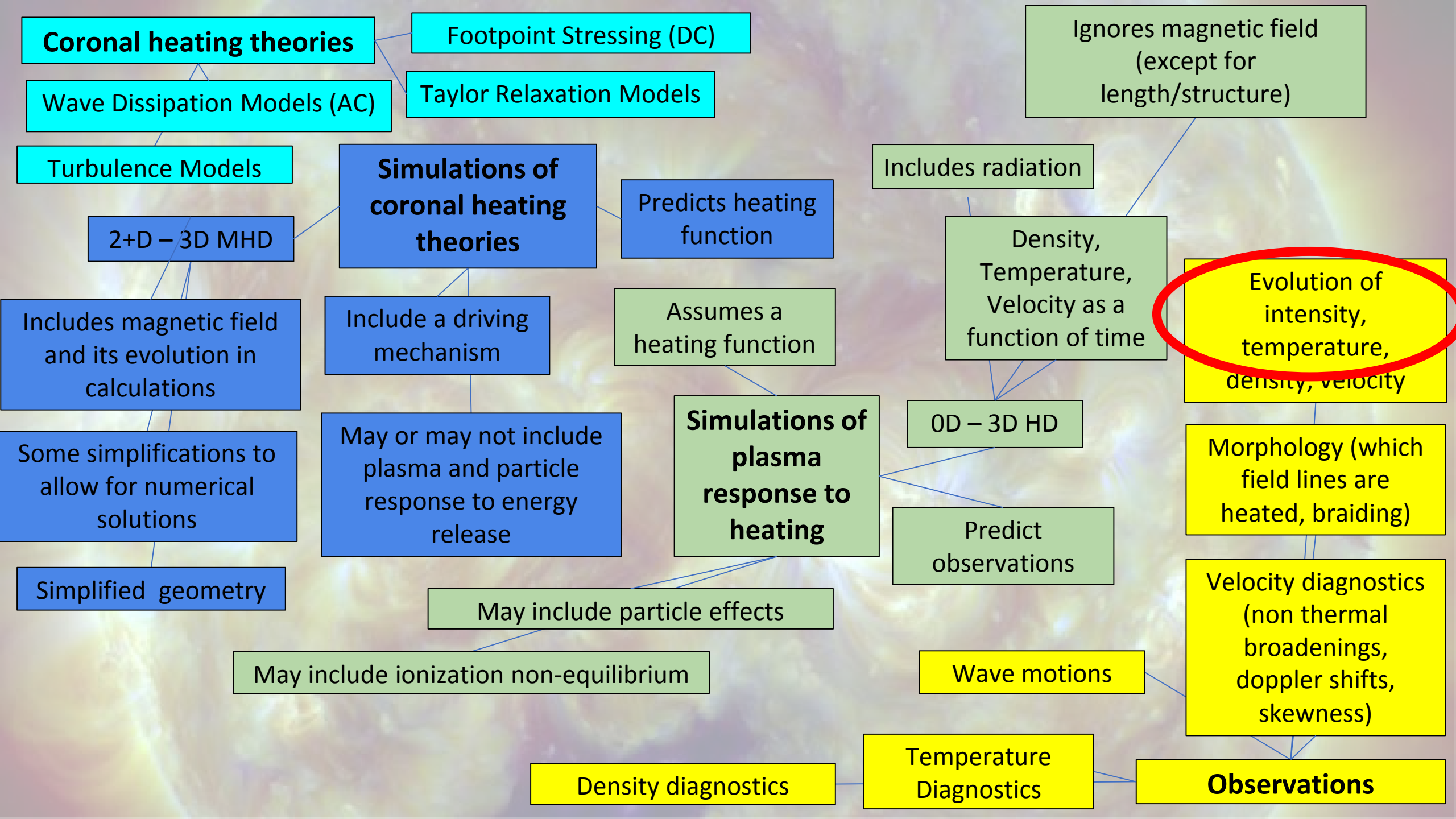
Bradshaw & Viall used ebtel to model time lag maps.

Determined intermediate or low frequency heating best matched observations.

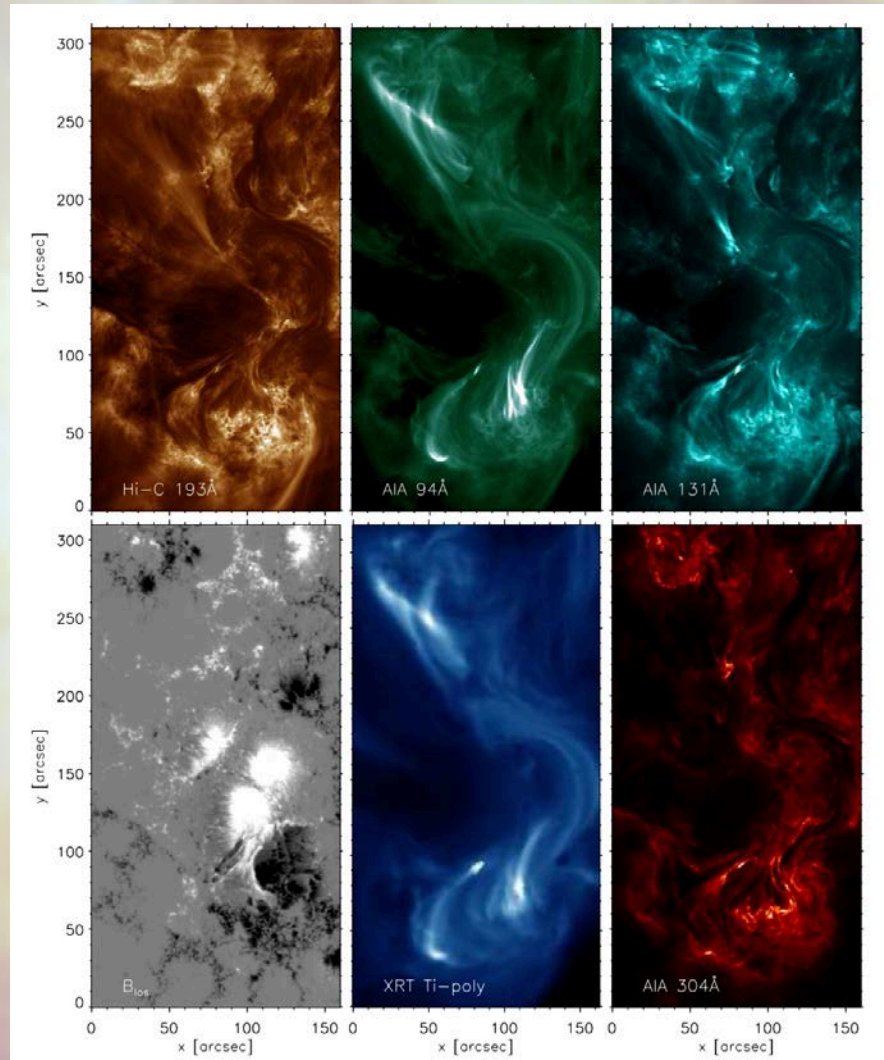


# Tentative Link to Coronal Heating Theories

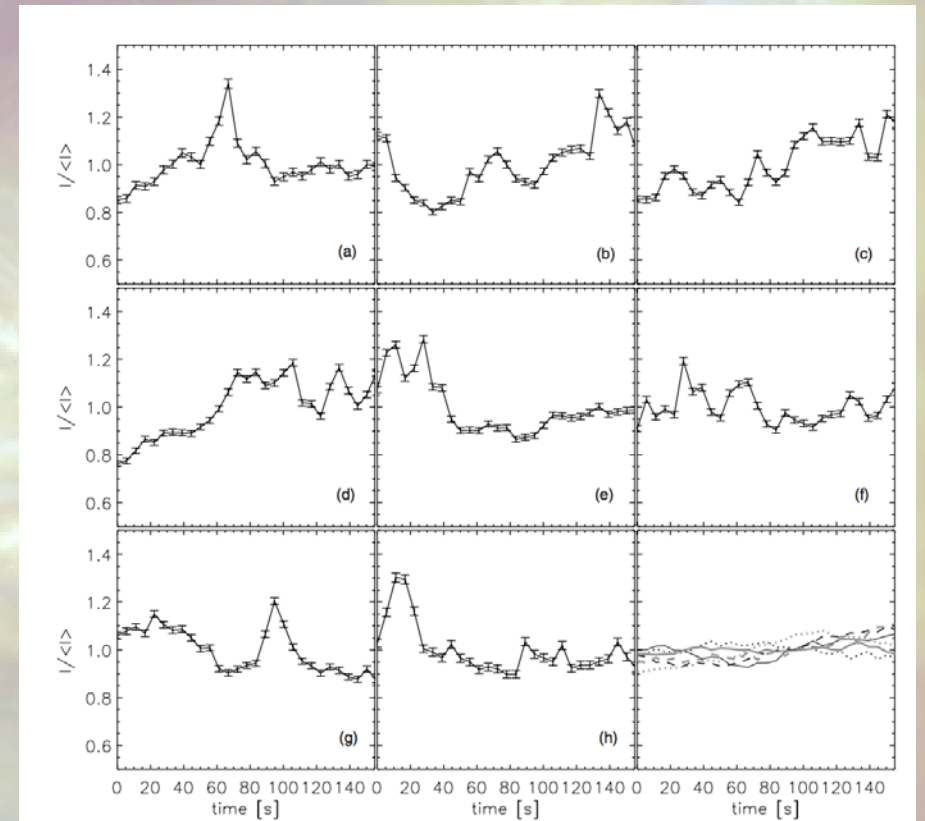


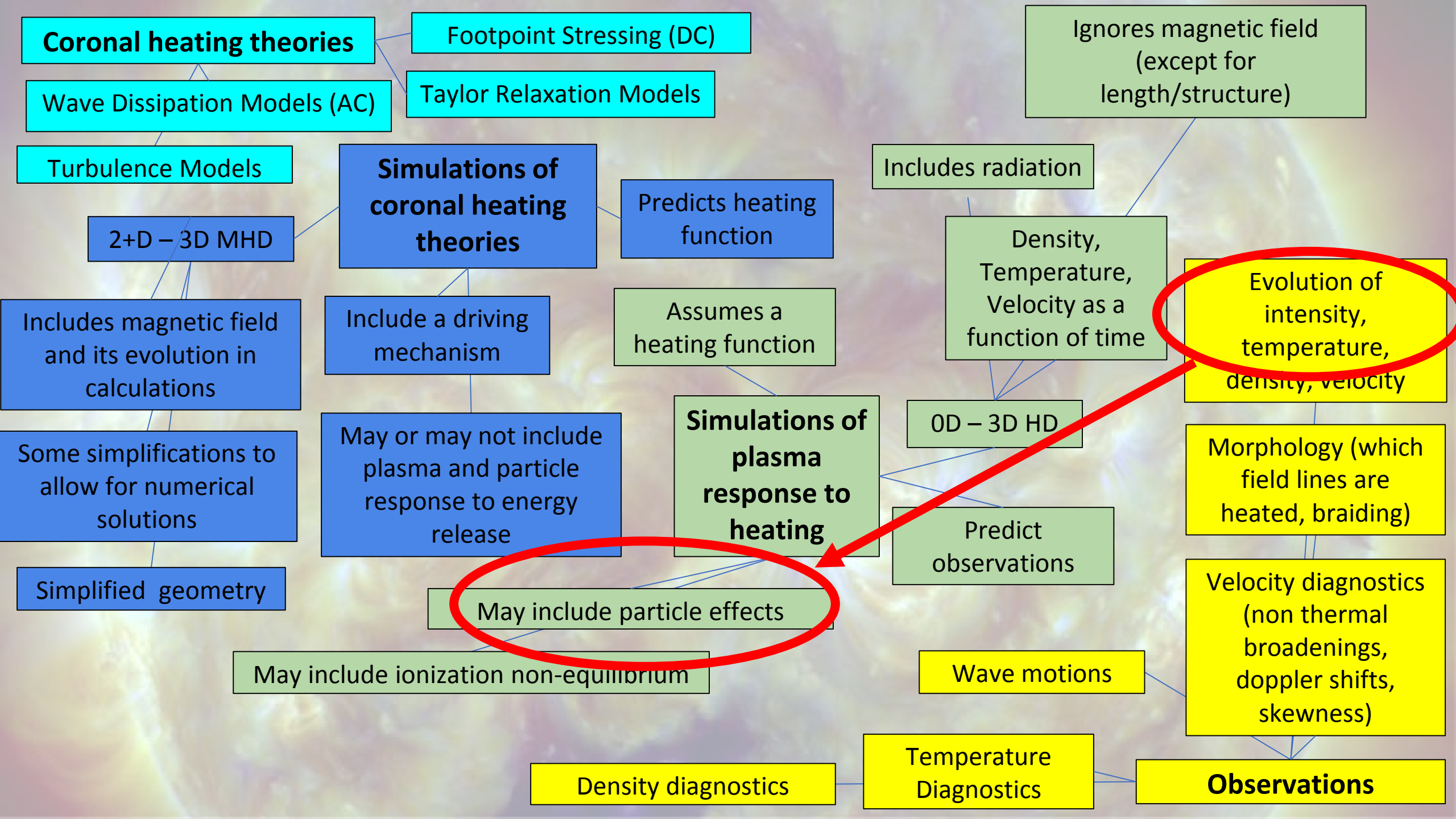


# Short-lived, small-scale brightenings in the moss



Hi-C revealed short lived brightenings at the footpoints of high temperature loops.



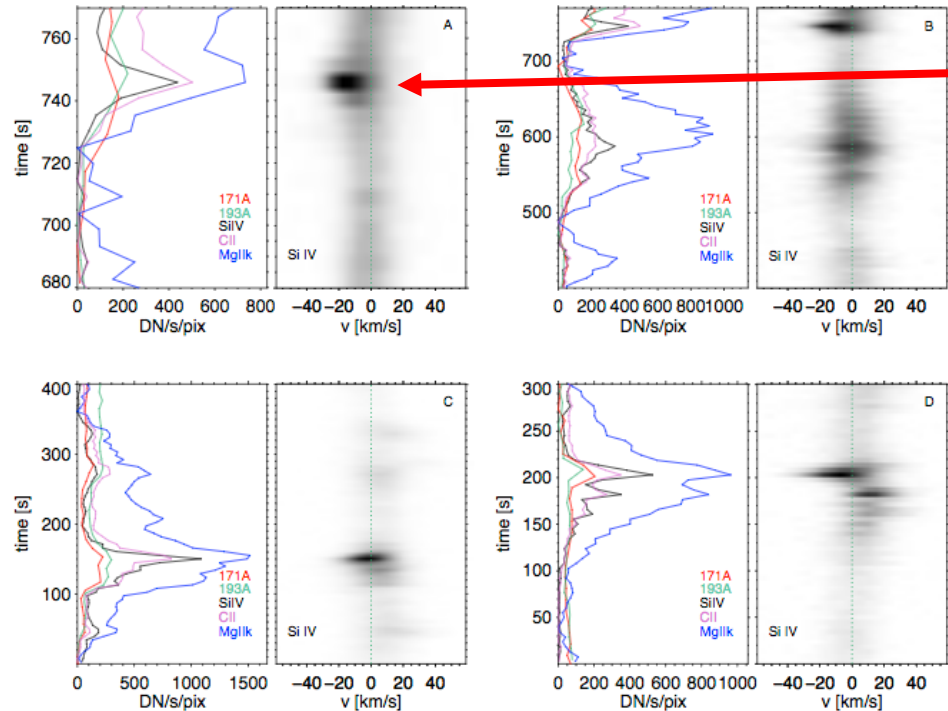
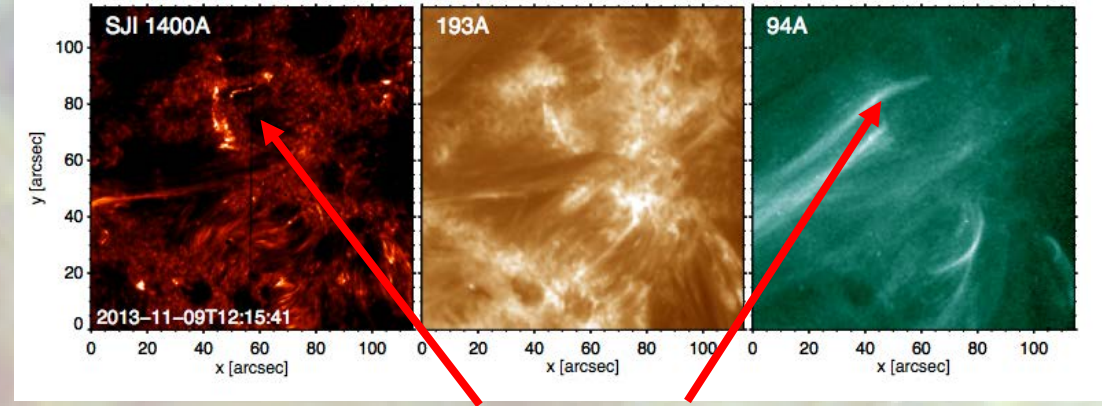




# Observations supporting infrequent heating

**Title: Evidence of Non-Thermal Particles in Coronal Loops Heated Impulsively by Nanoflares**

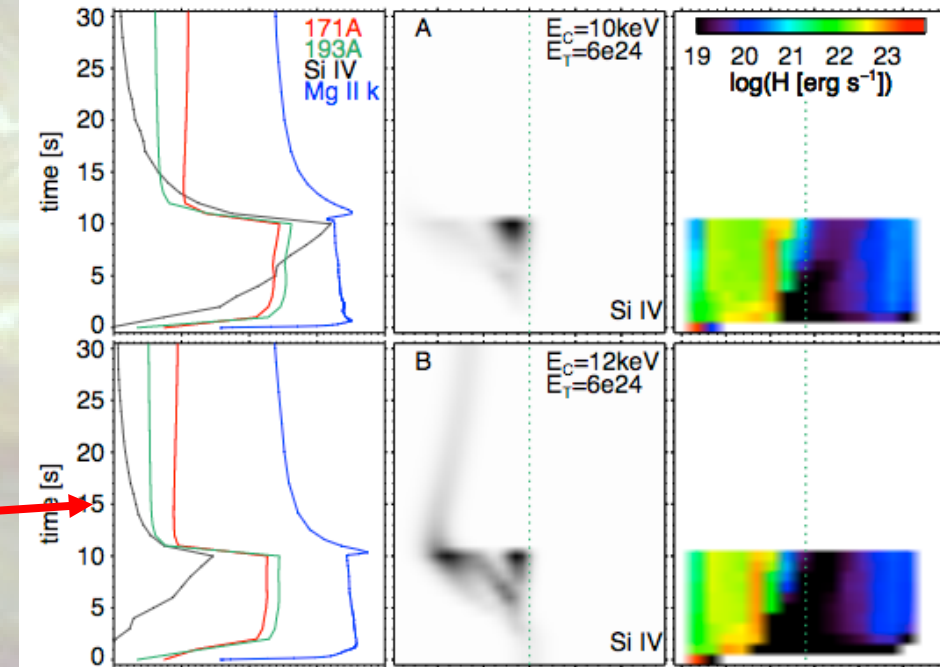
**Authors:** P. Testa<sup>1\*</sup>, B. De Pontieu<sup>2,3</sup>, J. Allred<sup>4</sup>, M. Carlsson<sup>3</sup>, F. Reale<sup>5</sup>, A. Daw<sup>4</sup>, V. Hansteen<sup>3</sup>, J. Martinez-Sykora<sup>6</sup>, W. Liu<sup>2,7</sup>, E.E. DeLuca<sup>1</sup>, L. Golub<sup>1</sup>, S. McKillop<sup>1</sup>, K. Reeves<sup>1</sup>, S. Saar<sup>1</sup>, H. Tian<sup>1</sup>, J. Lemen<sup>2</sup>, A. Title<sup>2</sup>, P. Boerner<sup>2</sup>, N. Hurlburt<sup>2</sup>, T.D. Tarbell<sup>2</sup>, J.P. Wuelser<sup>2</sup>, L. Kleint<sup>2,6</sup>, C. Kankelborg<sup>8</sup>, S. Jaeggli<sup>8</sup>



Brightenings are associated with blue shifts in Si IV.

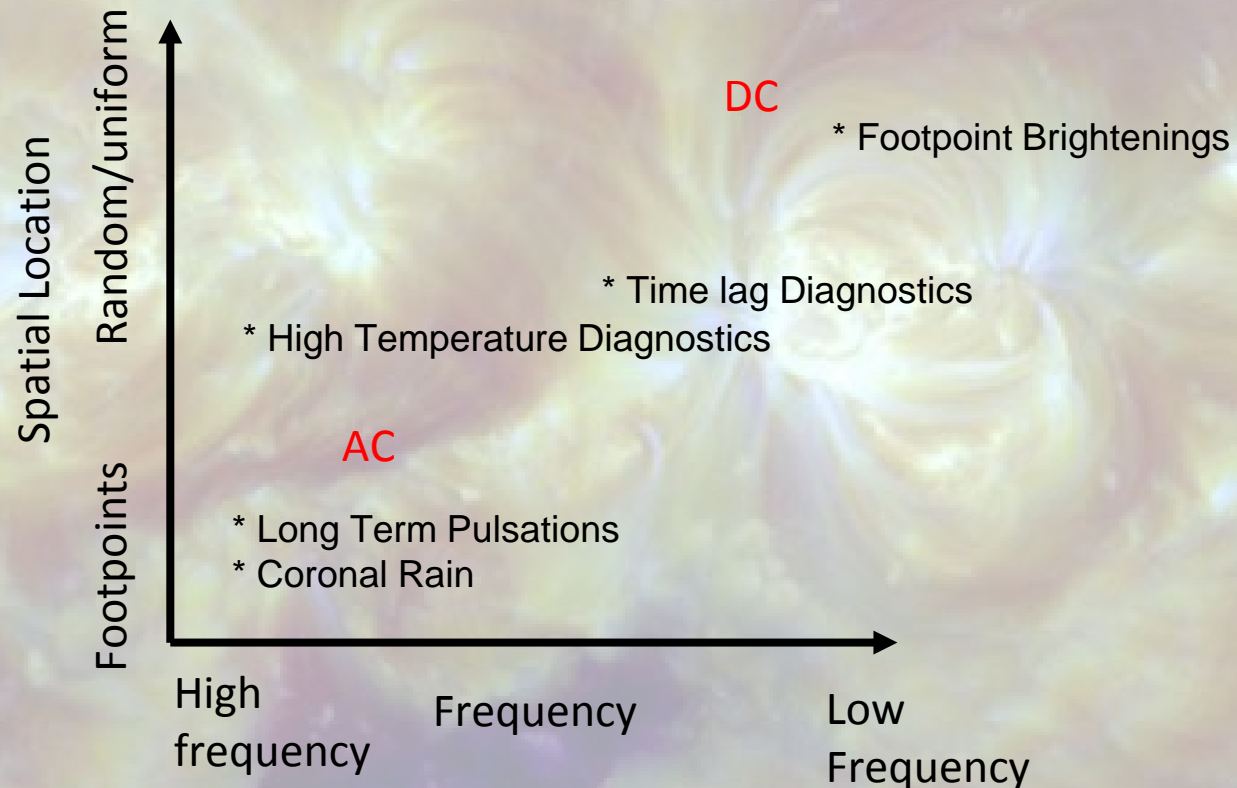
Consistent with nonthermal electron beams associated with magnetic reconnection.

Can be used to limit the models to determine heating rate and duration.



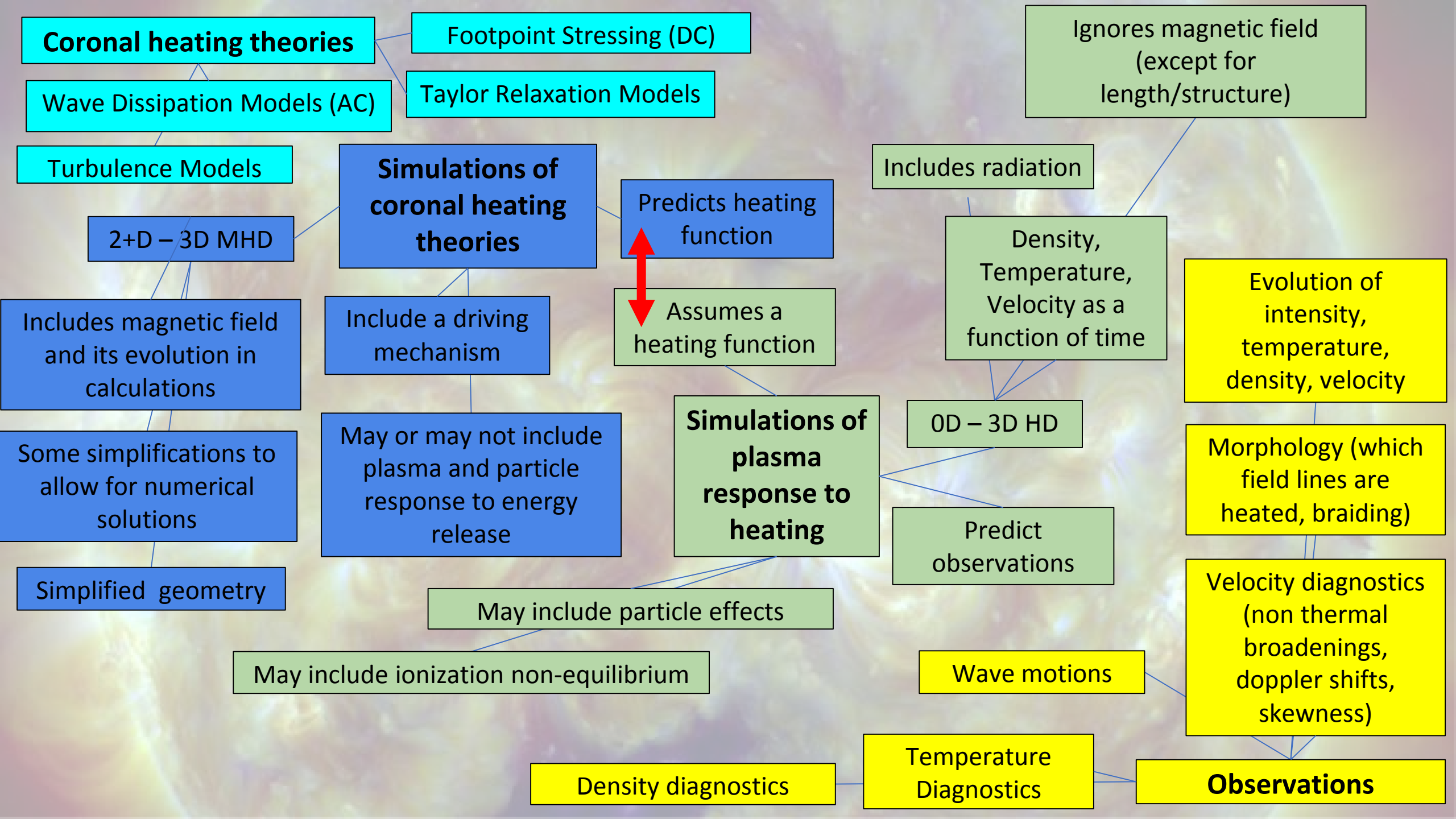
# Tentative Link to Coronal Heating Theories

There is strong observational evidence for heating on multiple frequencies at multiple spatial locations.

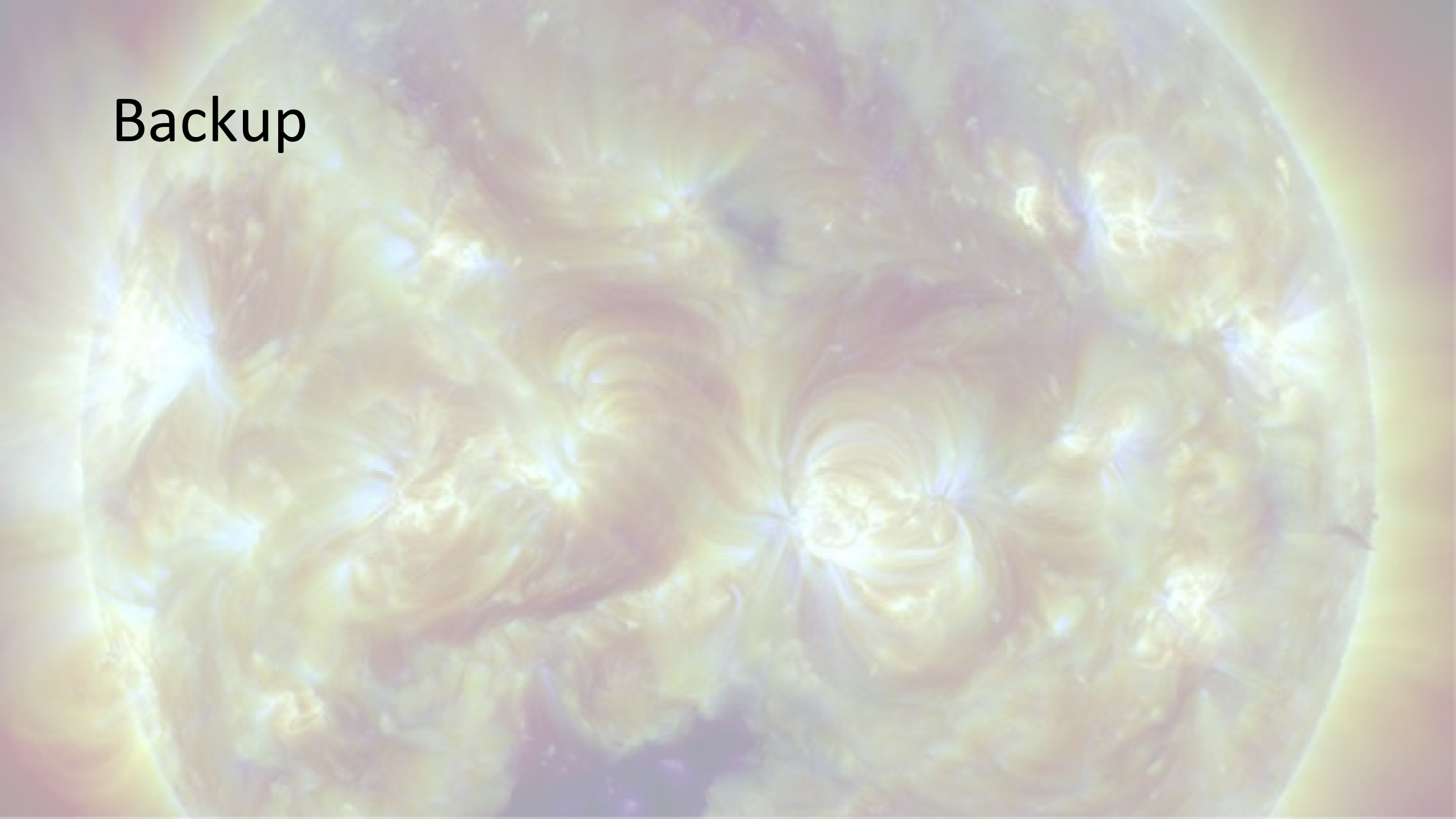


# Conclusions

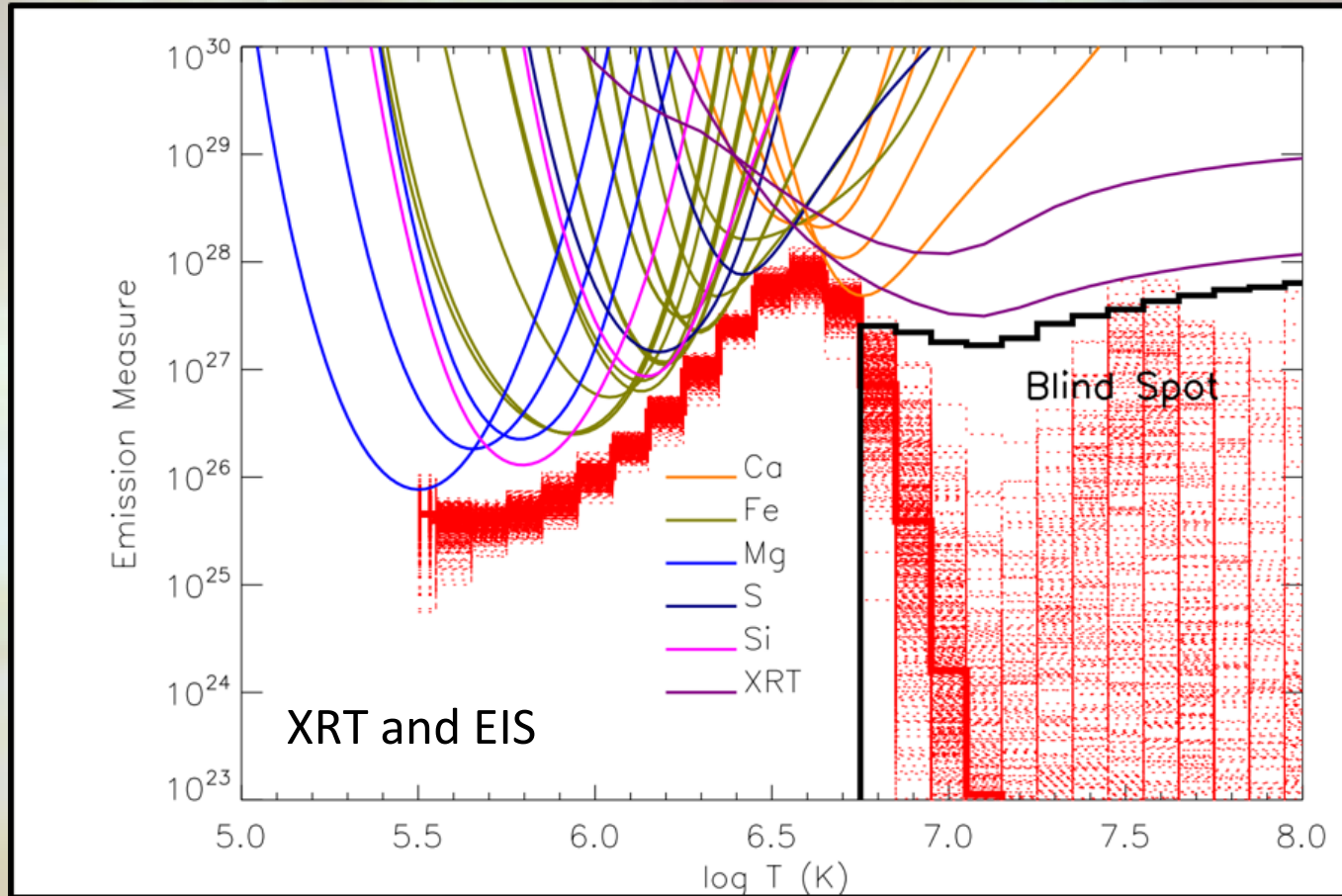
- We are “hopscotching” our way toward constraining the coronal heating mechanism
- As instruments improve, so must the fidelity of the simulations
- We have made a lot of progress. There is still a long way to go!
- There needs to be better connection between the theoretical simulations and simulations of plasma response to heating.



Backup



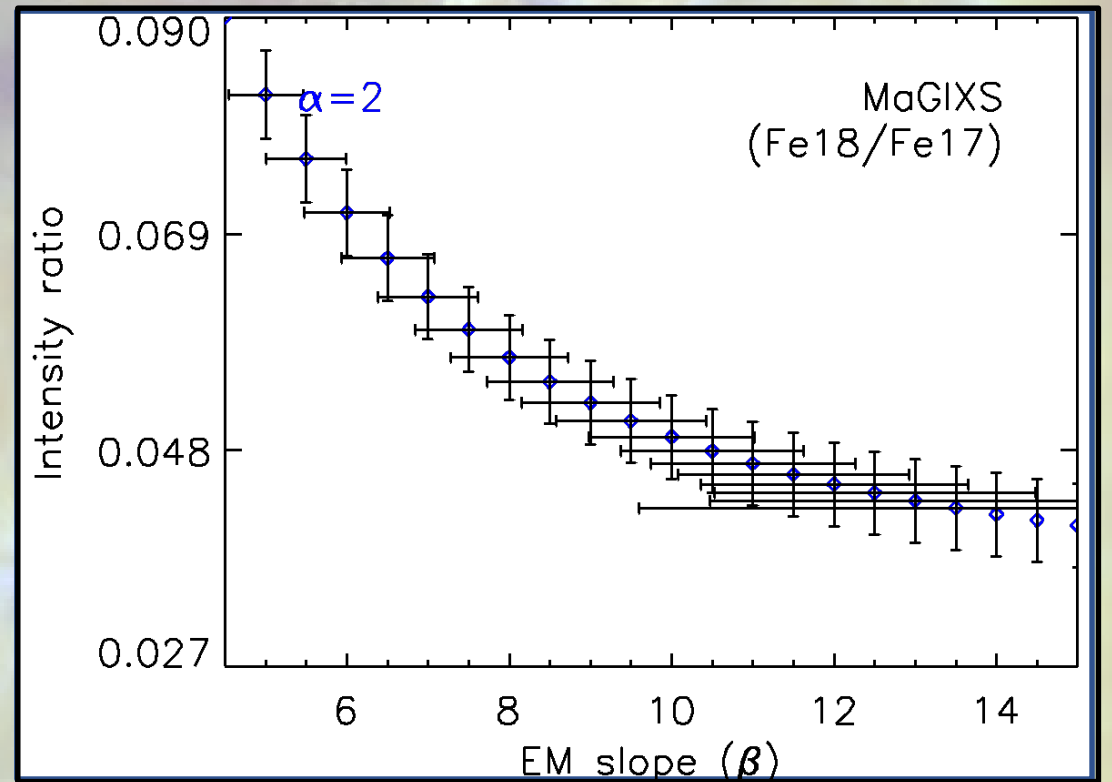
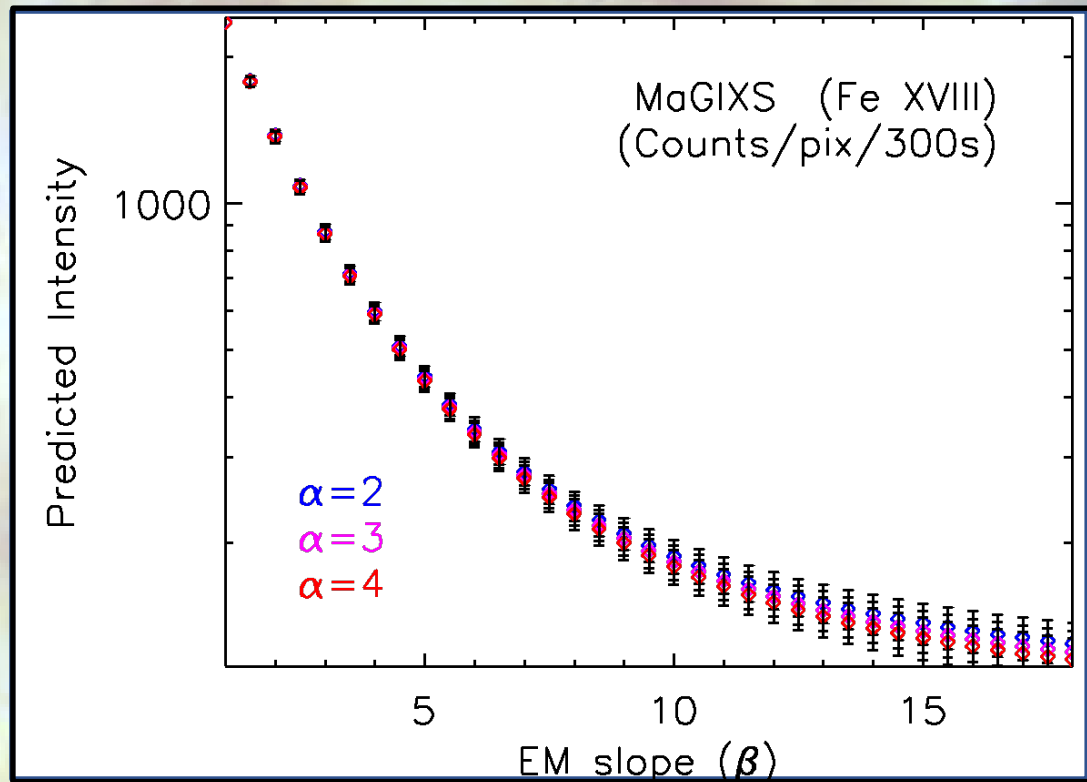
# High temperature “blind spot” in Hinode



Two instruments are Hinode (XRT and EIS) have a blind spot at high temperatures.

Winebarger et al 2012, ApJ, 746, L17

# Upcoming Instrument - MaGIXS



With MaGIXS measure Beta with better precision, a smaller spatial resolution and better “cross calibration.”