

# Hi-C to Solar-C

Dr. Amy Winebarger (NASA MSFC)



# Hi-C Team

**Jonathan Cirtain, PI (MSFC)**

**Science Team:**

Leon Golub (SAO)  
Ken Kobayashi (UAH)  
Kelly Korreck (SAO)  
Robert Walsh (UCLAN)  
Amy Winebarger (MSFC)  
Bart DePontieu (LMSAL)  
Craig Deforest (SWRI)  
Sergey Kuzin (LI)  
Alan Title (LMSAL)  
Mark Weber (SAO)

**Engineering Team:**

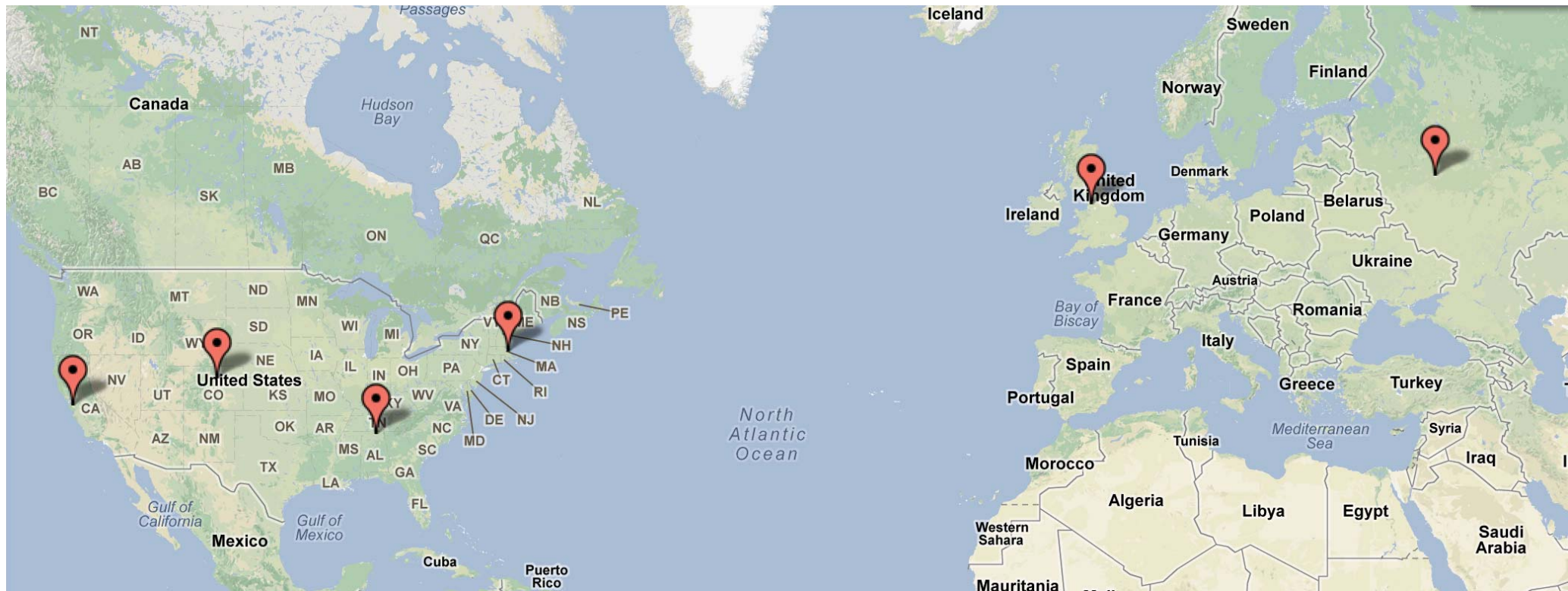
Peter Cheimets (SAO)  
Dyana Beabout (MSFC)  
Brent Beabout (MSFC)  
William Podgorski (SAO)  
Ken McCracken (SAO)

Mark Ordway (SAO)  
David Caldwell (SAO)  
Henry Berger (SAO)  
Richard Gates (SAO)  
Simon Platt (UCLAN)  
Nick Mitchell (UCLAN)



*Image above shows Hi-C launch team standing in front of the Hi-C rocket on the at White Sands Missile Range.*

# Partner Institutions

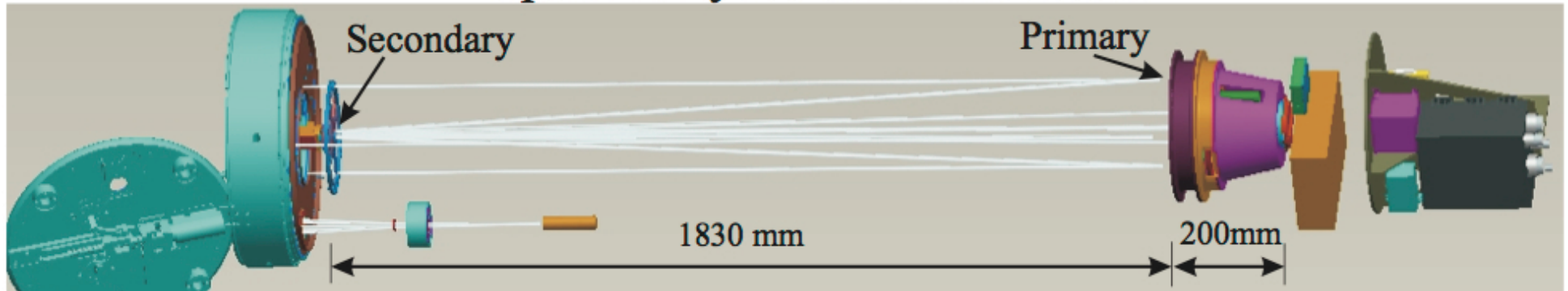


NASA Marshall Space Flight Center (MSFC)  
University of Alabama – Huntsville (UAH)  
Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory (SAO)  
University of Central Lancashire, UK (UCLAN)  
Lockheed Martin Solar and Astrophysical Laboratory (LMSAL)  
Southwest Research Institute (SWRI)  
Lebedev Institute (LI)



# High-Resolution Coronal Imager

## Optical Layout with Tolerances



Primary to secondary requirements: Distance:  $\pm 0.05\text{mm}$   
 Tilt:  $36''$   
 De-center:  $0.05\text{mm}$

Focal Plane: Axial Position:  $\pm 1\text{mm}$

Hi-C is a narrowband EUV imager. The wavelength band is center at  $193 \text{ \AA}$ .

### Hi-C Telescope Optical Design

#### Telescope Properties:

Focal Length	23.9 m
Plate Scale	$114 \mu\text{m}/\text{arcsec}$
Focal Ratio	$f/109$
Field of View	$6.8 \times 6.8 \text{ arcmin}$
RMS Spot Diameter (averaged over f.o.v.)	$0.08 \text{ arcsec}$

#### CCD Camera:

Size	$49.1 \text{ mm}^2$
Scale	$0.1 \text{ arcsec}/\text{pixel}$

#### Primary Mirror:

Radius of Curvature	$4000 \pm 4.0 \text{ mm}$
Diameter	$240 \text{ mm}$
RMS slope error	$0.4 \mu\text{rad}$

#### Secondary Mirror:

Radius of Curvature	$370 \pm 0.5 \text{ mm}$
Conic	$-1.14 \pm 0.10$
Diameter	$30 \text{ mm}$
RMS slope error	$0.1 \mu\text{rad}$

# Launch and Recovery



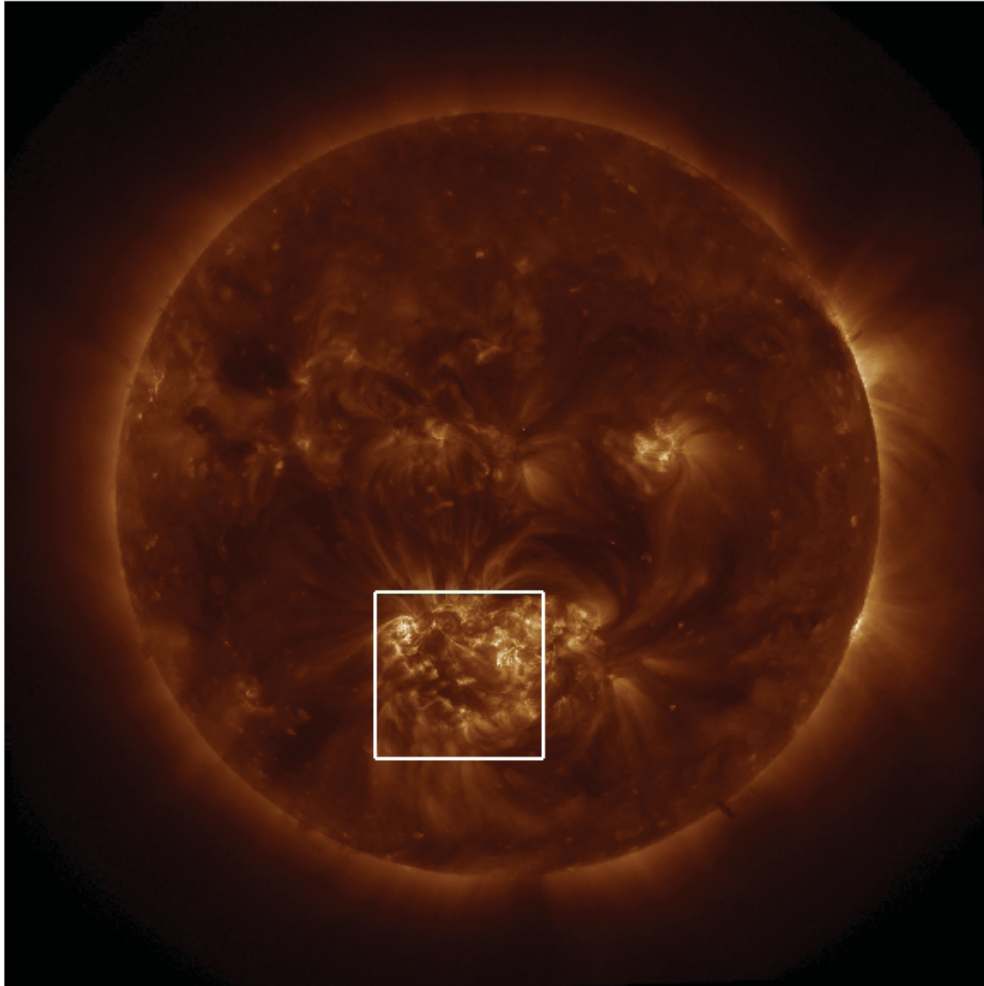
- Hi-C was launched out of White Sands Missile Range on July 11, 2012.
- The instrument obtained ~5 minutes of solar observations.
- The payload was recovered.



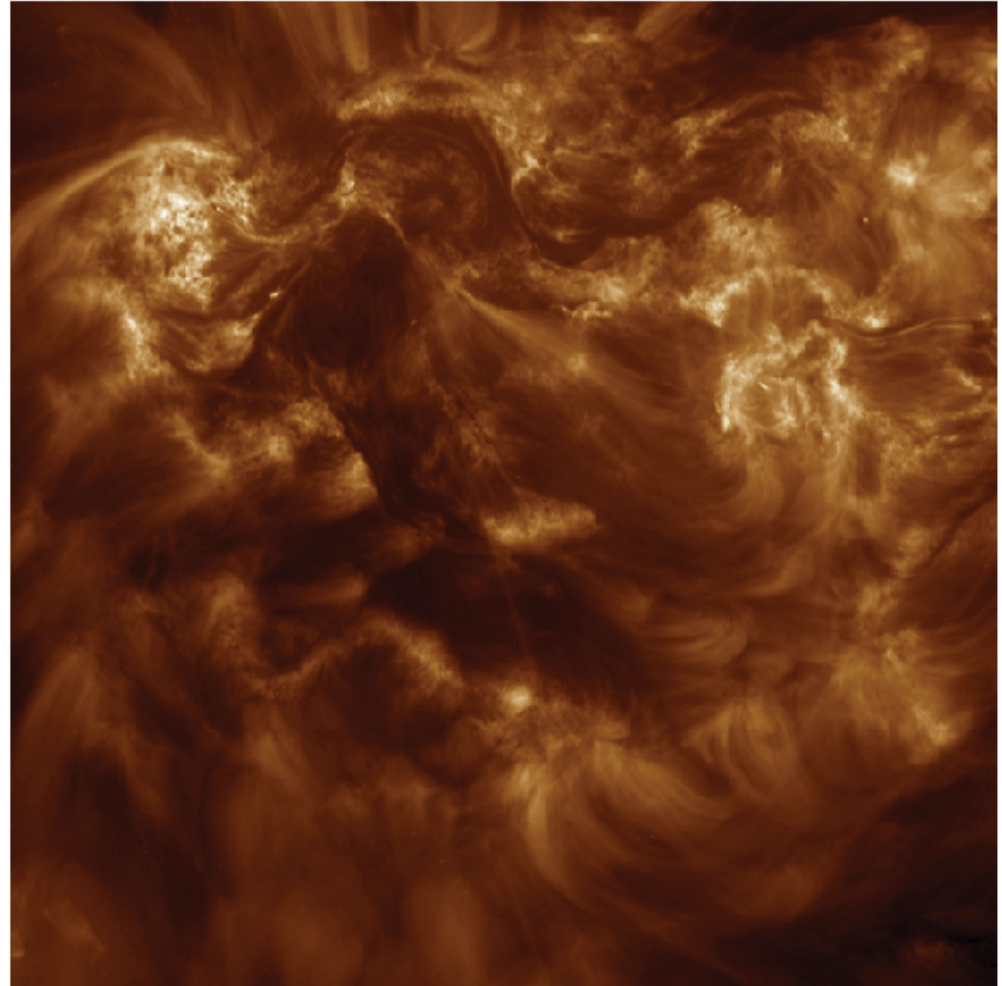


# Hi-C Target

AIA 193-Å 11-Jul-2012 18:55:07



Hi-C Field of View



The Hi-C target was Active Region 11520.



# Hi-C Data

Hi-C collected data for 345 s.

Several images was blurred due to rocket jitter and pointing.

## **Full frame (4k x 4k) data:**

- 29 full resolution images
- 2 s exposure, 5.5 s cadence

## **Partial frame (1k x 1k) data**

- 86 full resolution images
- 0.5 s exposure, 1.4 s cadence

Data was released to the solar physics community via Virtual Solar Observatory in January, 2013. It was downloaded ~900 times in the first 6 months.



# Hi-C First Results

## **Spatial Resolution**

Braided Loops (Cirtain et al.)

Low-amplitude Transverse Waves (Morton et al.)

Loop Substructure (Peter et al., Brooks et al.)

Bi-directional Flows along a Filament (Alexander et al.)

## **Temporal Resolution**

Dynamic events in moss (Testa et al.)

Small-scale Bright “Dots” (Regnier et al.)

Evolving Transition Region Loops (Winebarger et al.)

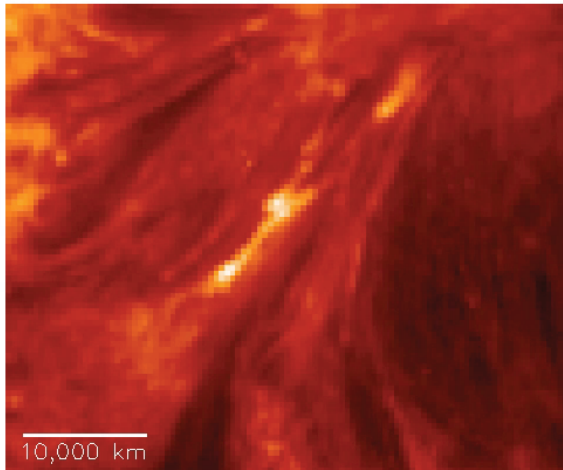
## **Required Effective Area**

Linear substructure in transient events (Winebarger et al.)

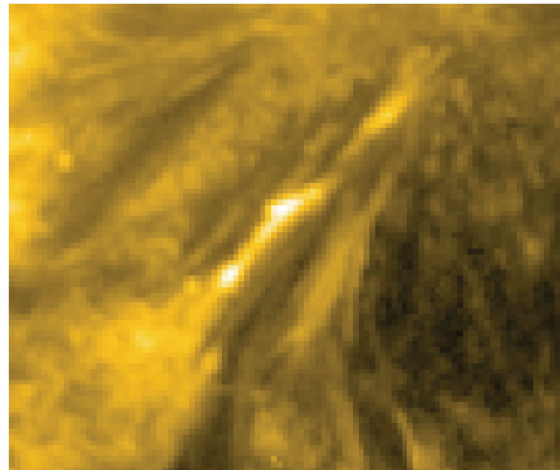


# Braided Loops

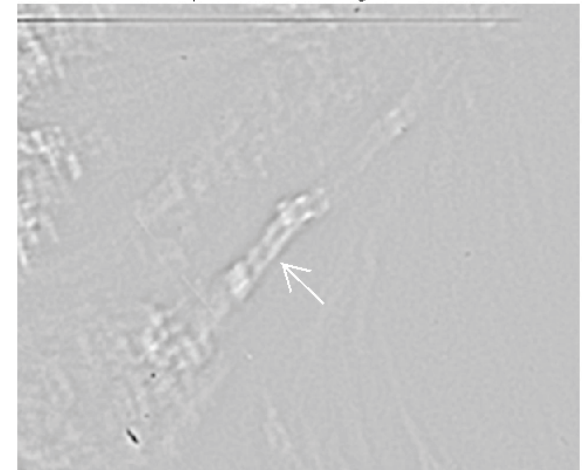
a AIA 304-Å 18:52:08



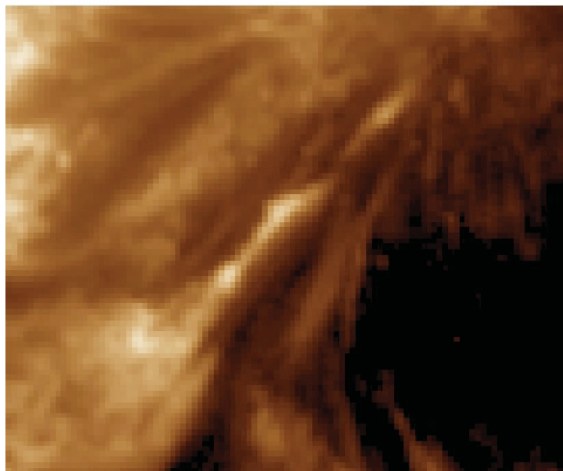
b AIA 171-Å 18:52:12



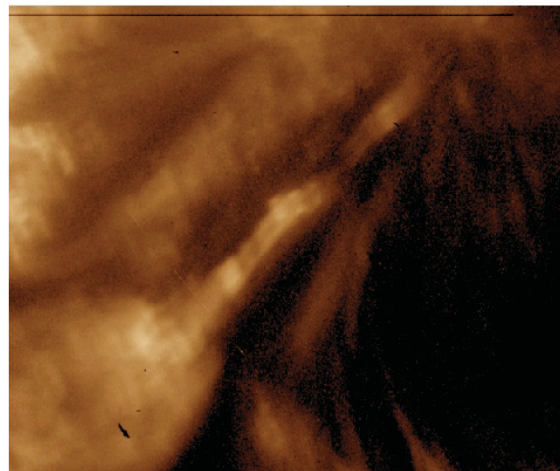
c Hi-C Unsharp Masked Image



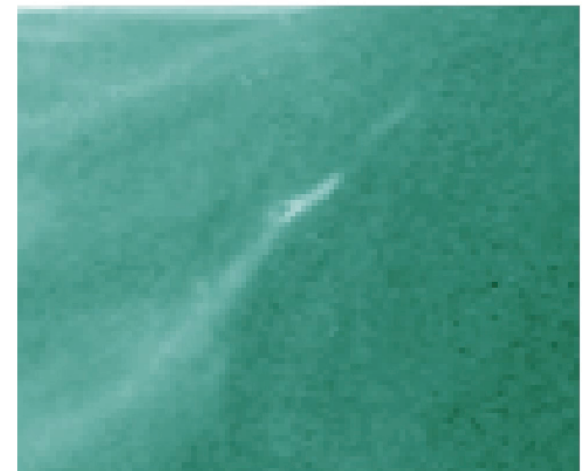
d AIA 193-Å 18:52:07



e Hi-C 193-Å 18:52:08

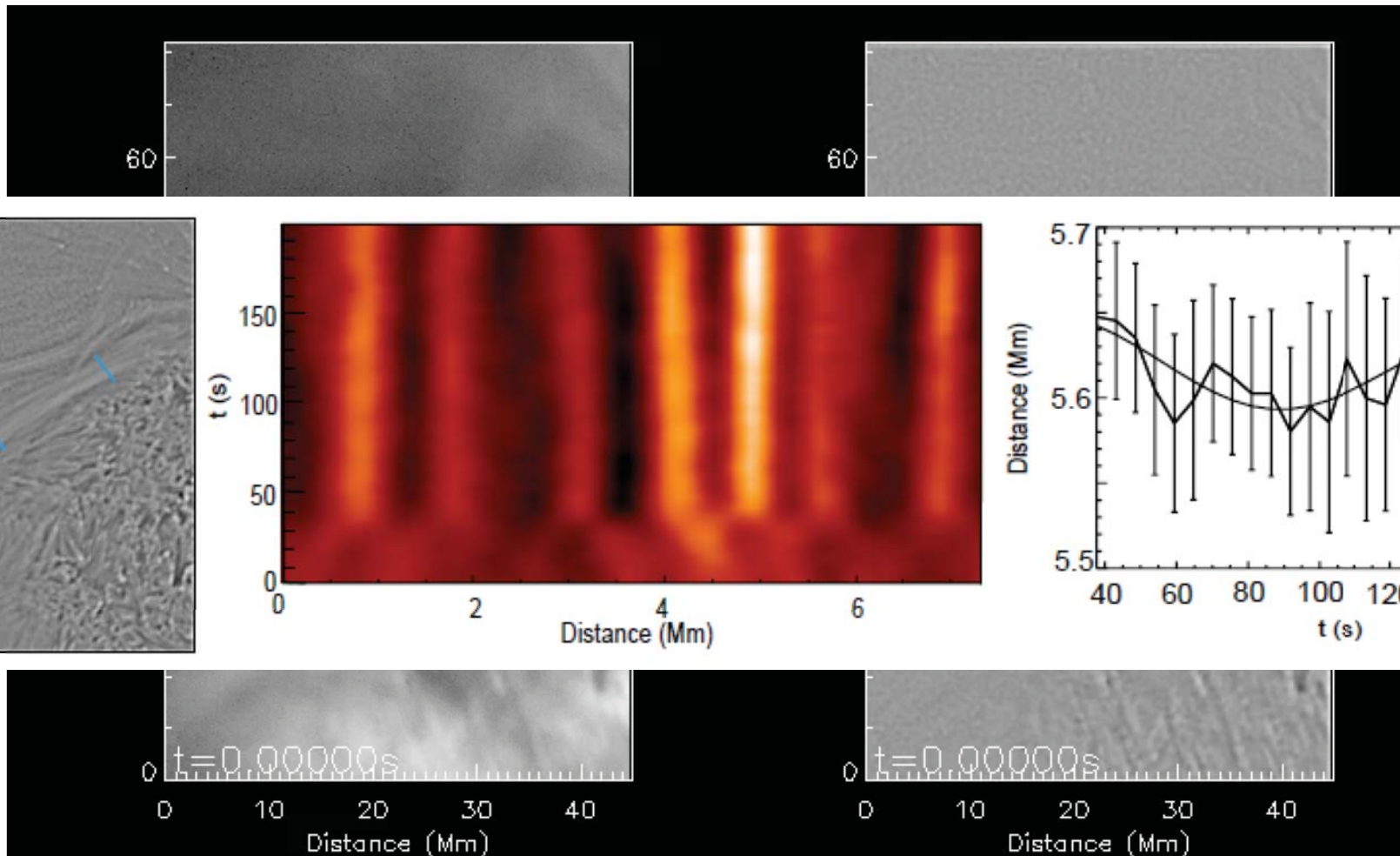


f AIA 94-Å 18:52:14



Hi-C made the first observations of coronal braiding and reconnection.

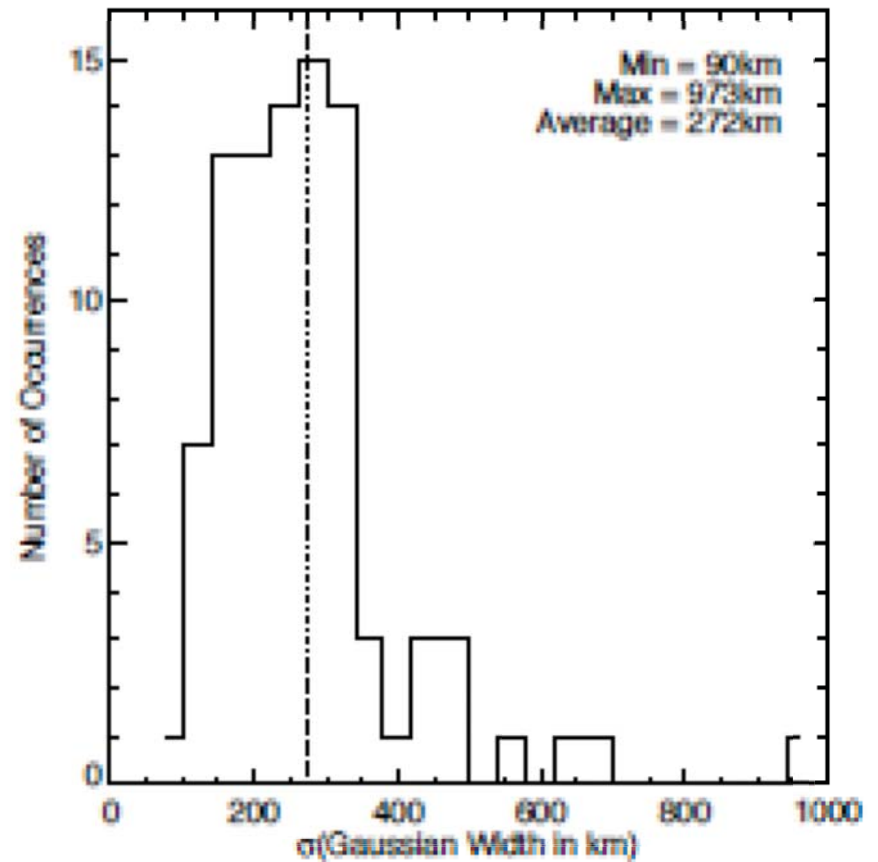
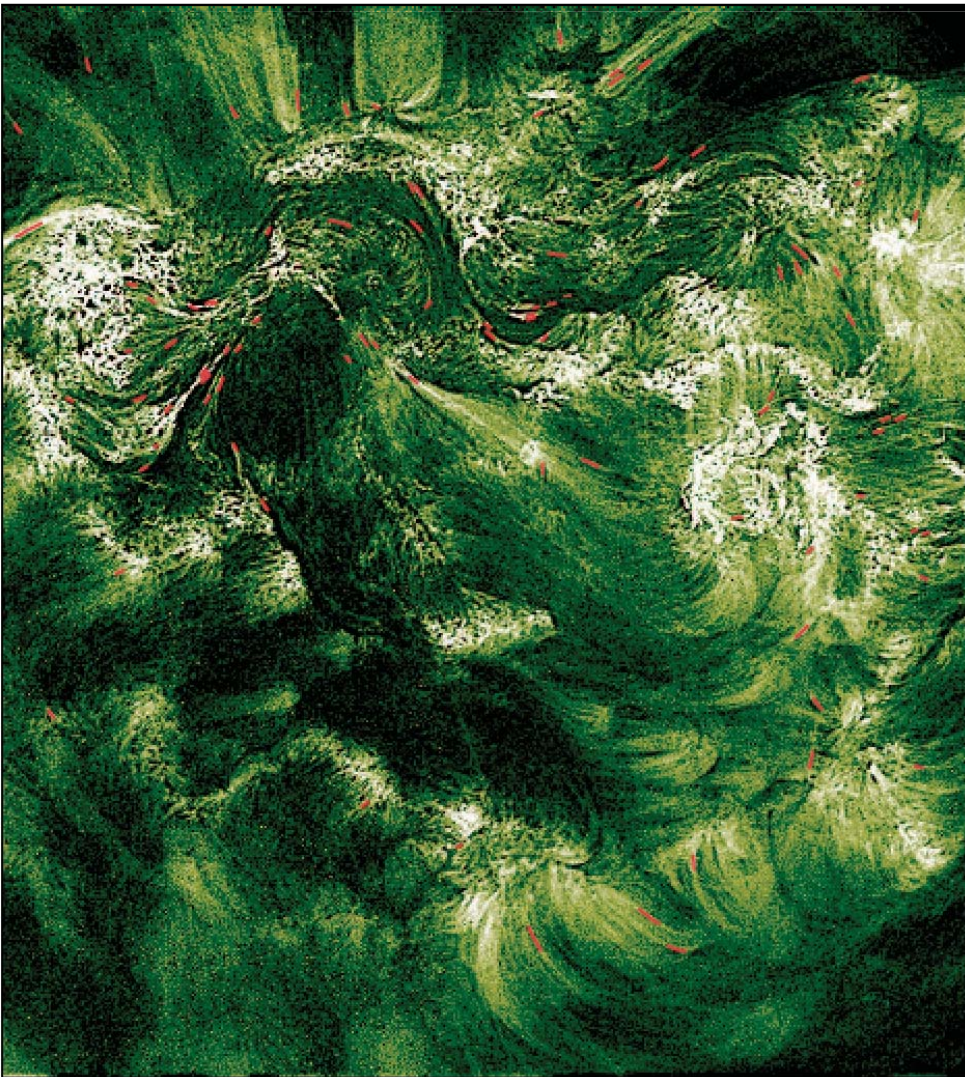
# Transverse Waves



Hi-C observed low-amplitude transverse waves, not observable in AIA. Morton & McLaughlin, 2013, A&A, 553, L10



# Loop Substructure



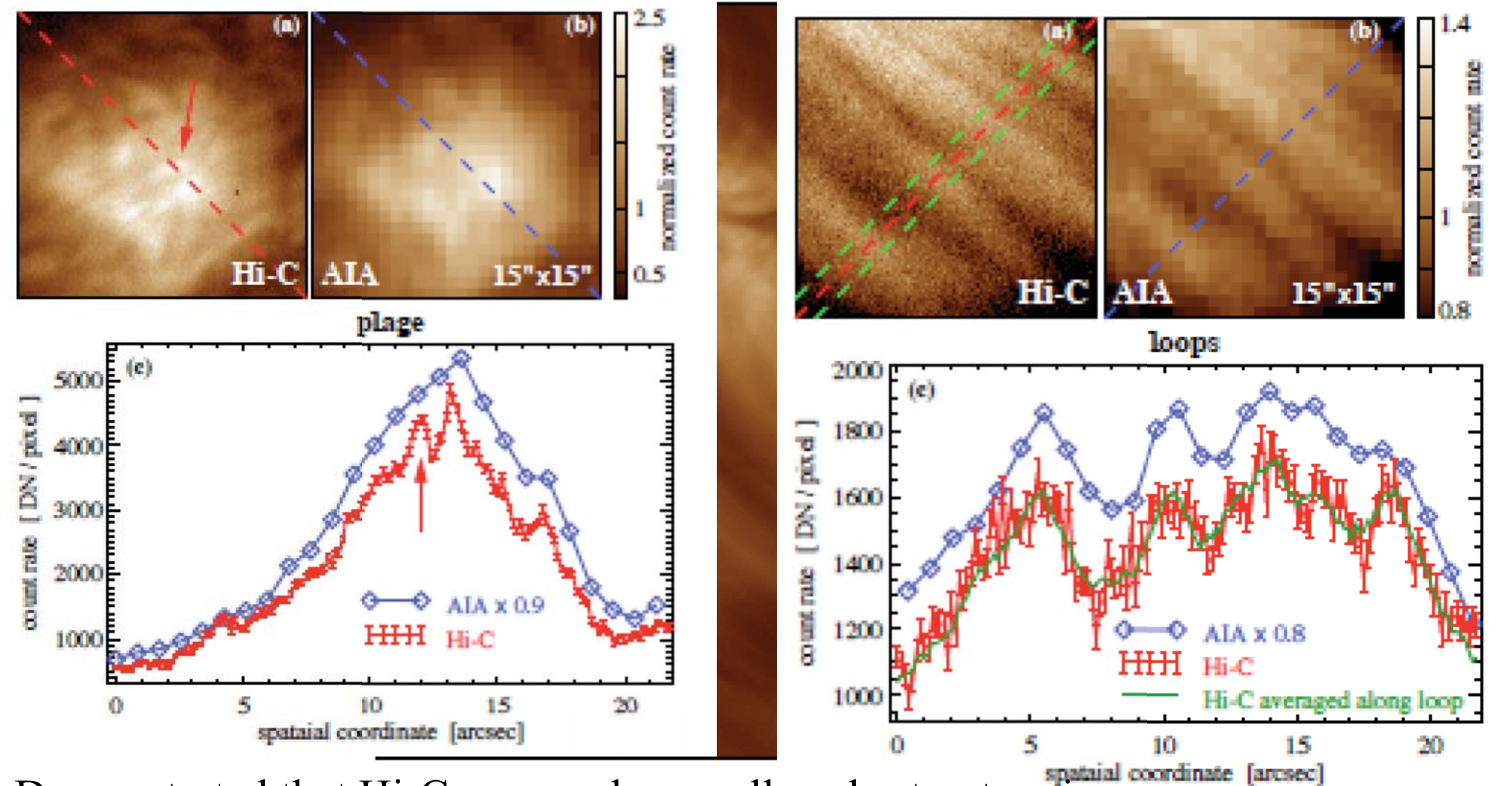
The widths of 91 loop segments were measured.

The most typical width with 270 km.

Brooks et al., 2013, ApJ, 772, 18



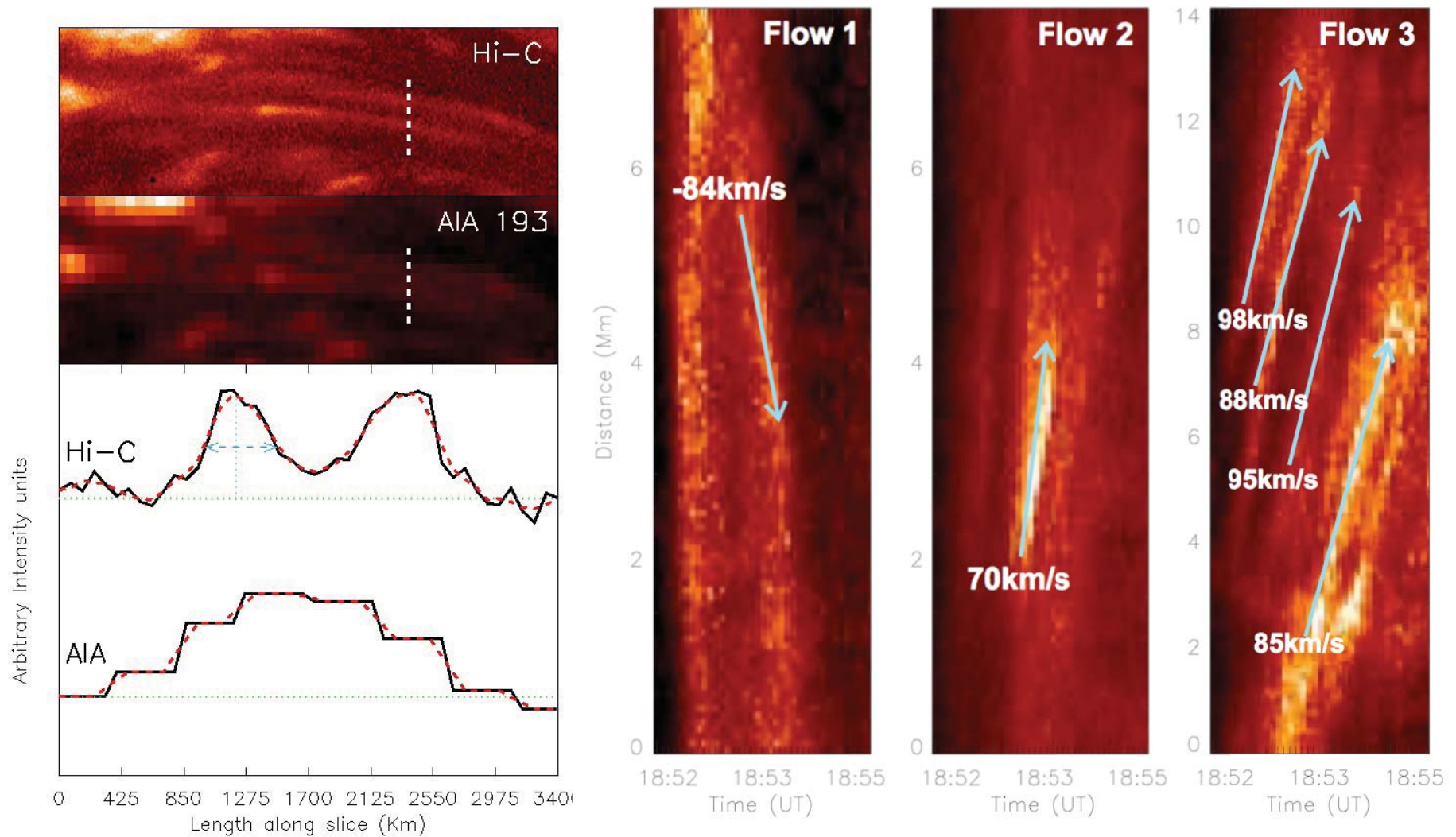
# Loop Substructure



Demonstrated that Hi-C can resolve small-scale structure in the plage, but does not observe it in loops. If loops have substructure, then  $d < 15$  km.



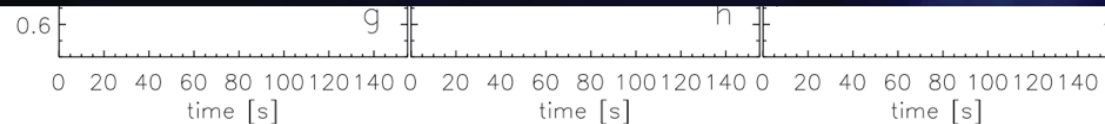
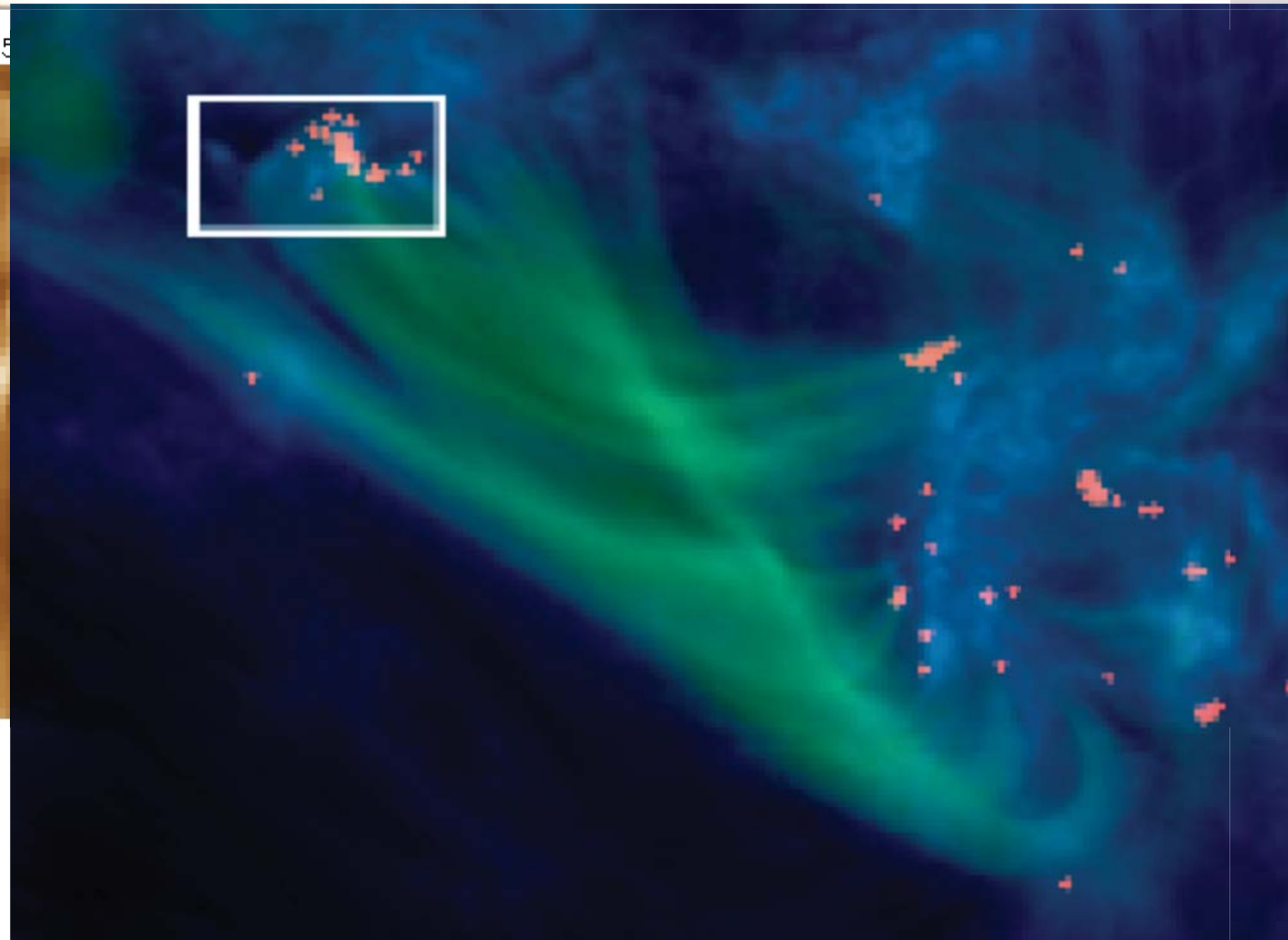
# Bi-directional Flows



Discovered bi-directional flows along a filament that was unresolved by AIA. Velocities were  $> 70$  km/s.

# Dynamics in the Moss

AIA 193 Å : 11-Jul-12 18:5



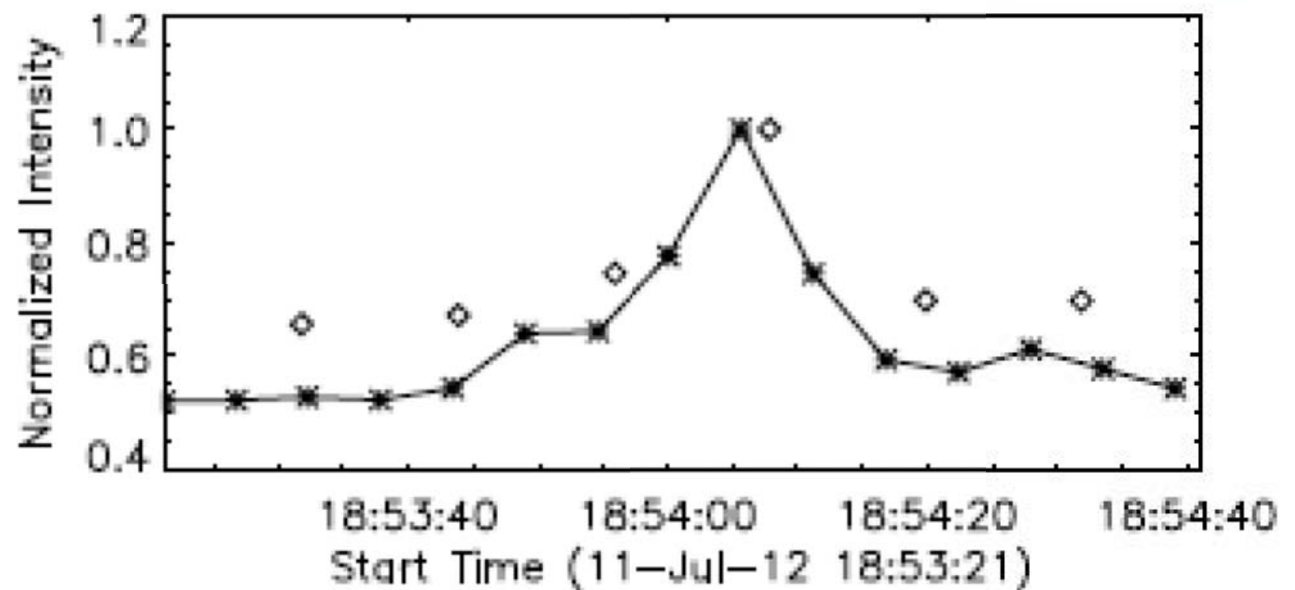
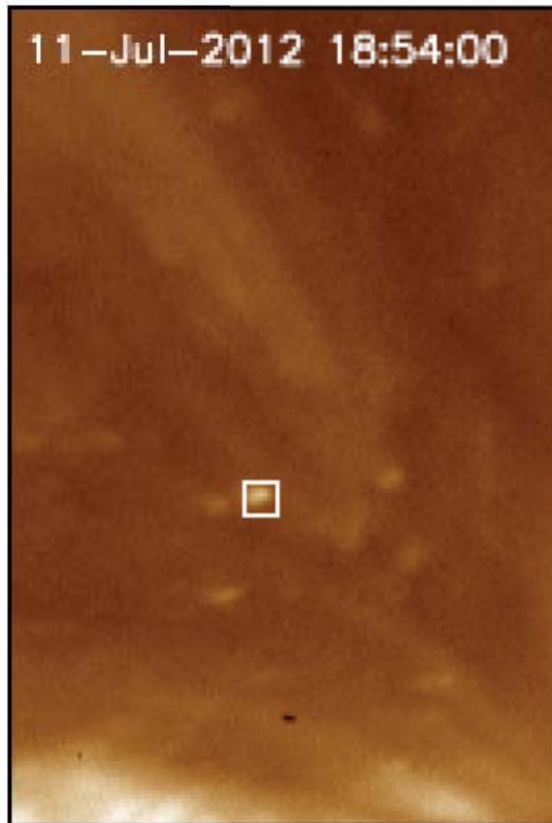
Discovered dynamics in moss at footpoints of crossed high temperature loops. Suggest this was due to coronal reconnection.

Testa et al., 2013, ApJ, 770, 1



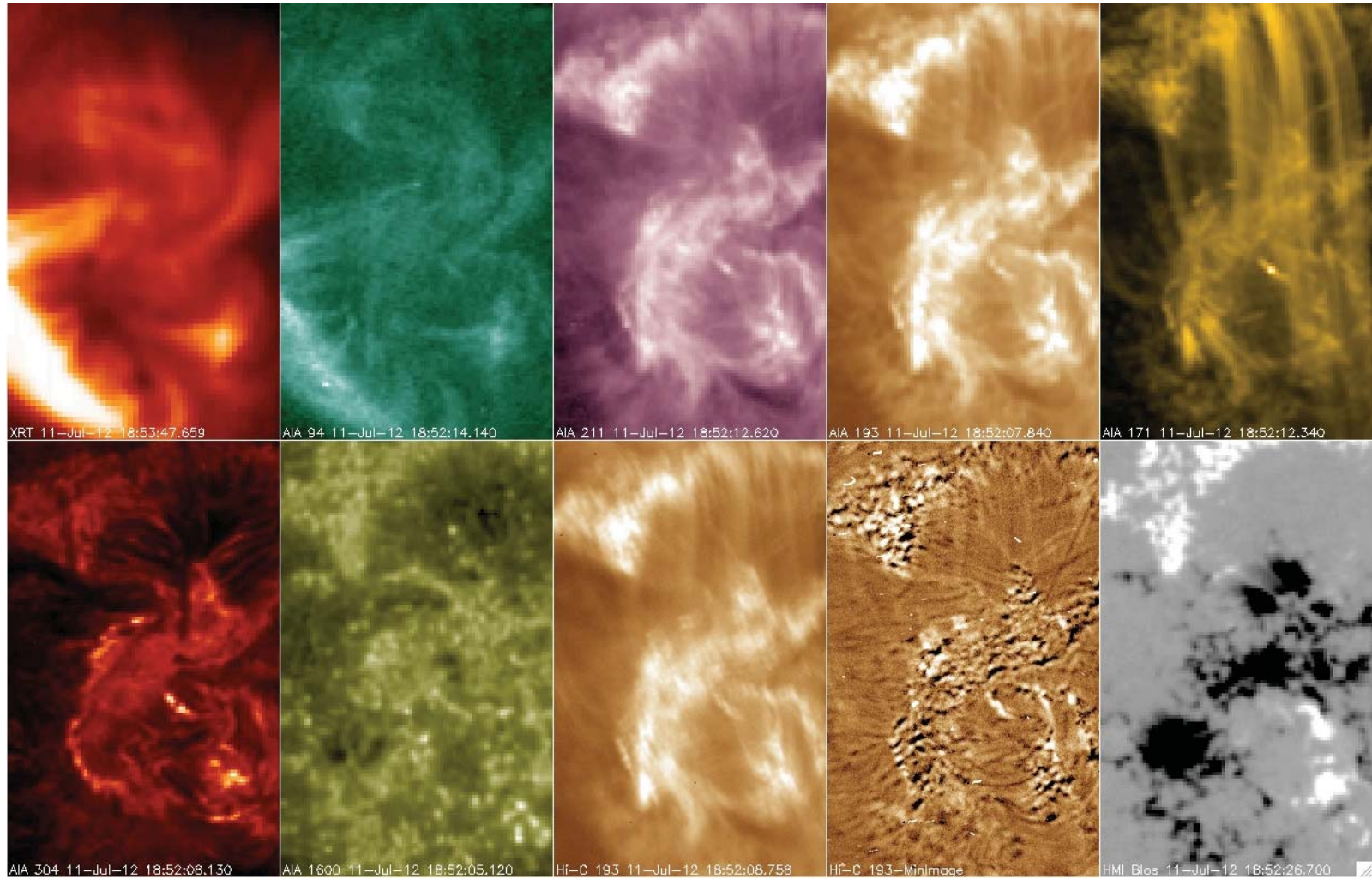
# Bright “Dots”

AIA 193 Å : 11-Jul-12 18:52:07.840



Bright, quickly evolving “dots” were discovered at the northern edge of the Hi-C field of view.

# Transition Region Loops



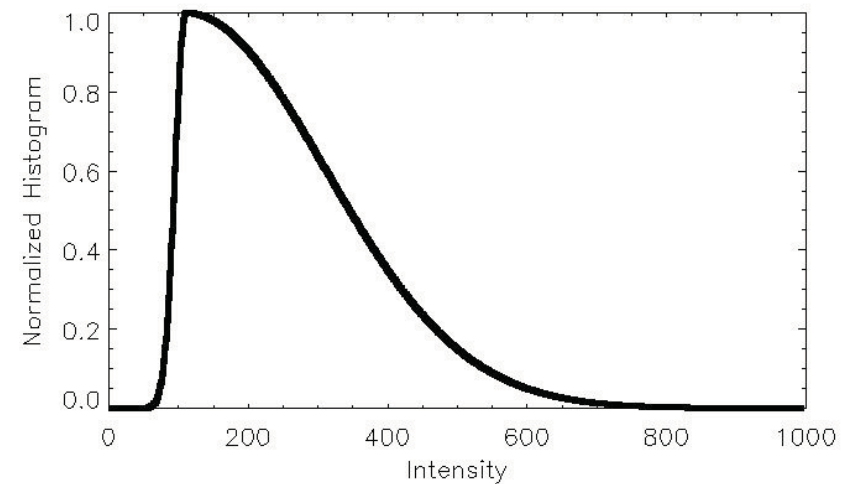
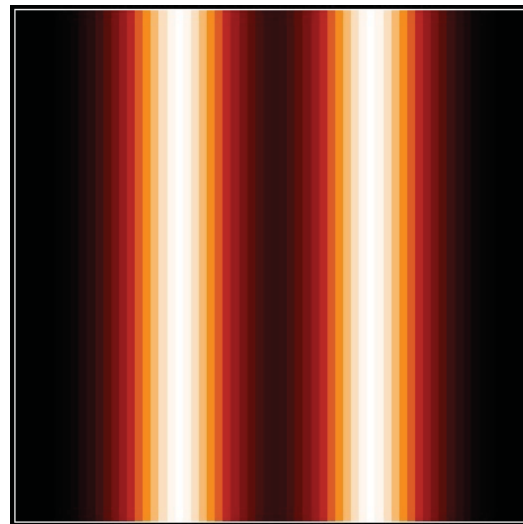
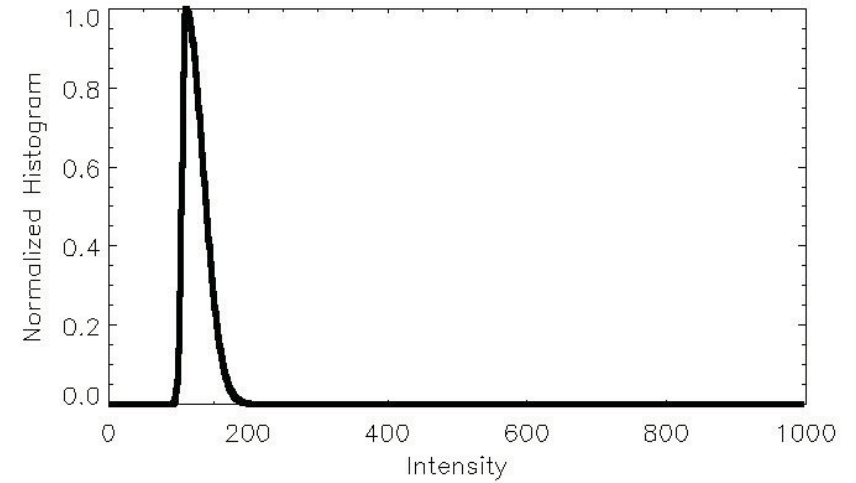
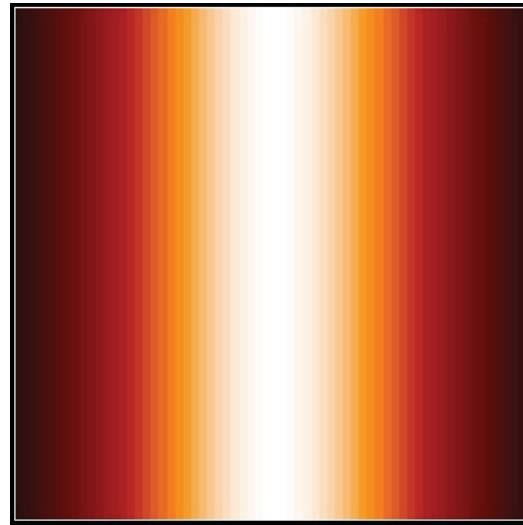
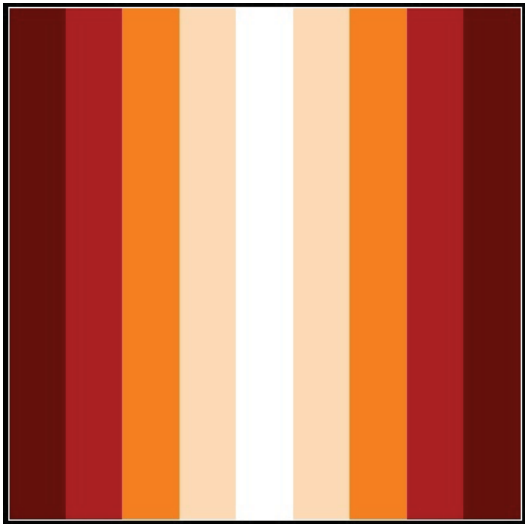
Small-scale, quickly evolving, inter-moss loops were discovered.

The maximum temperature of the loops were found to be  $\sim 10^5$  K.

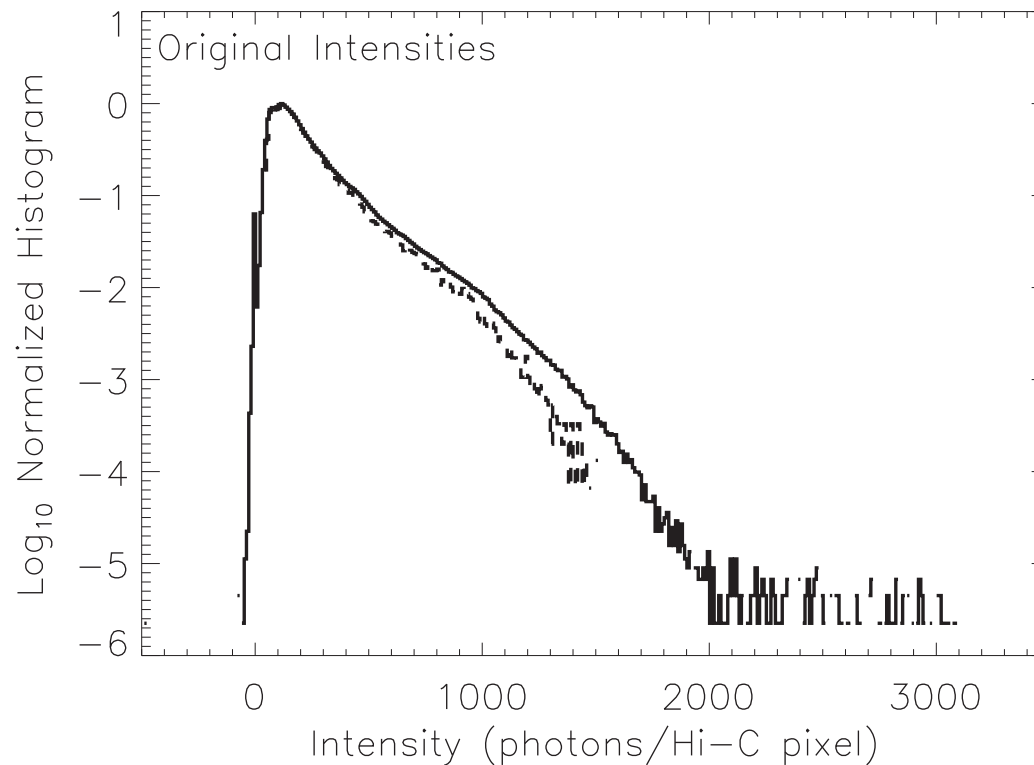
Winebarger et al., 2013, ApJ, 771, 21



# Effective Area Requirements



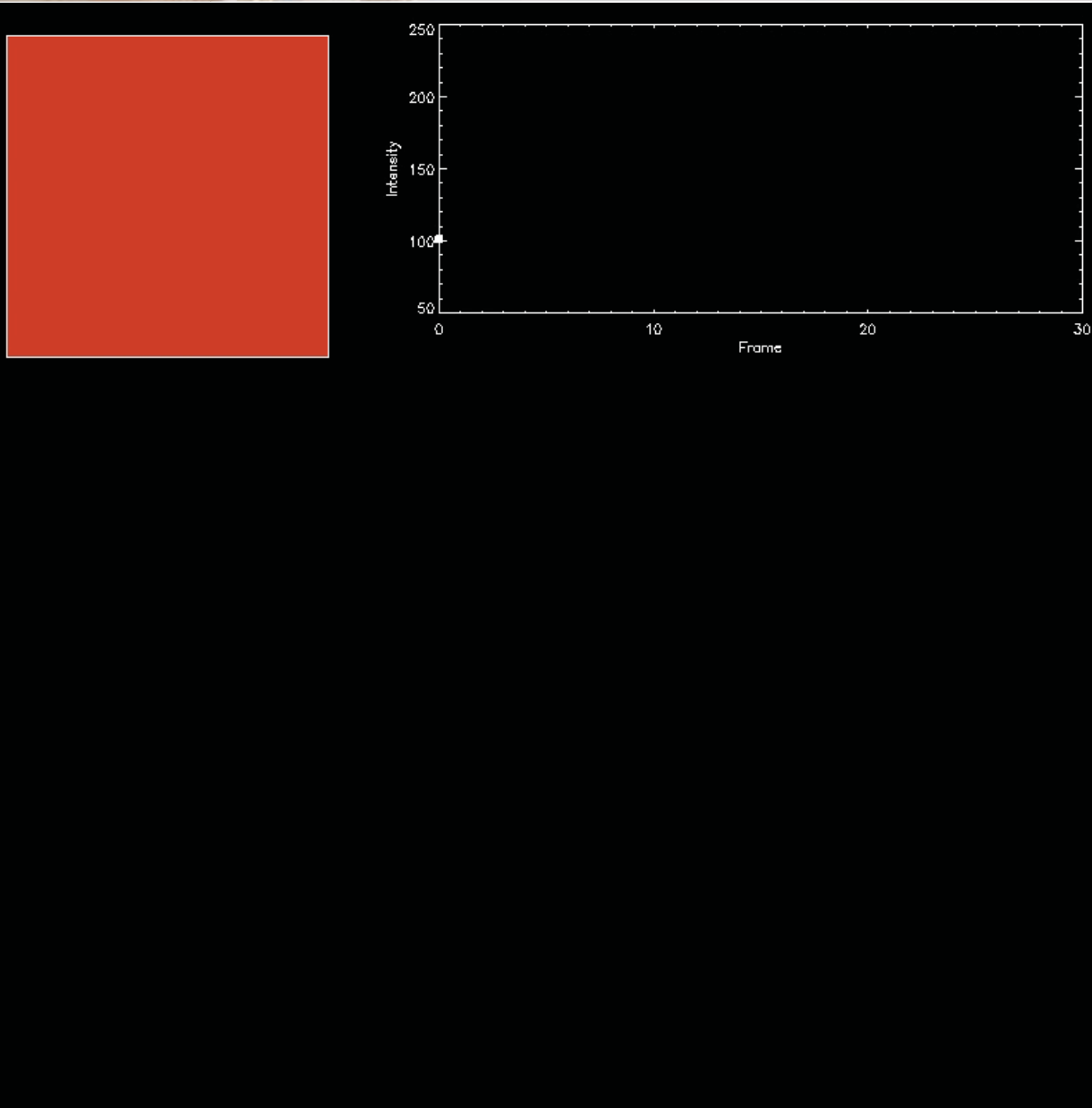
# Observed by Hi-C



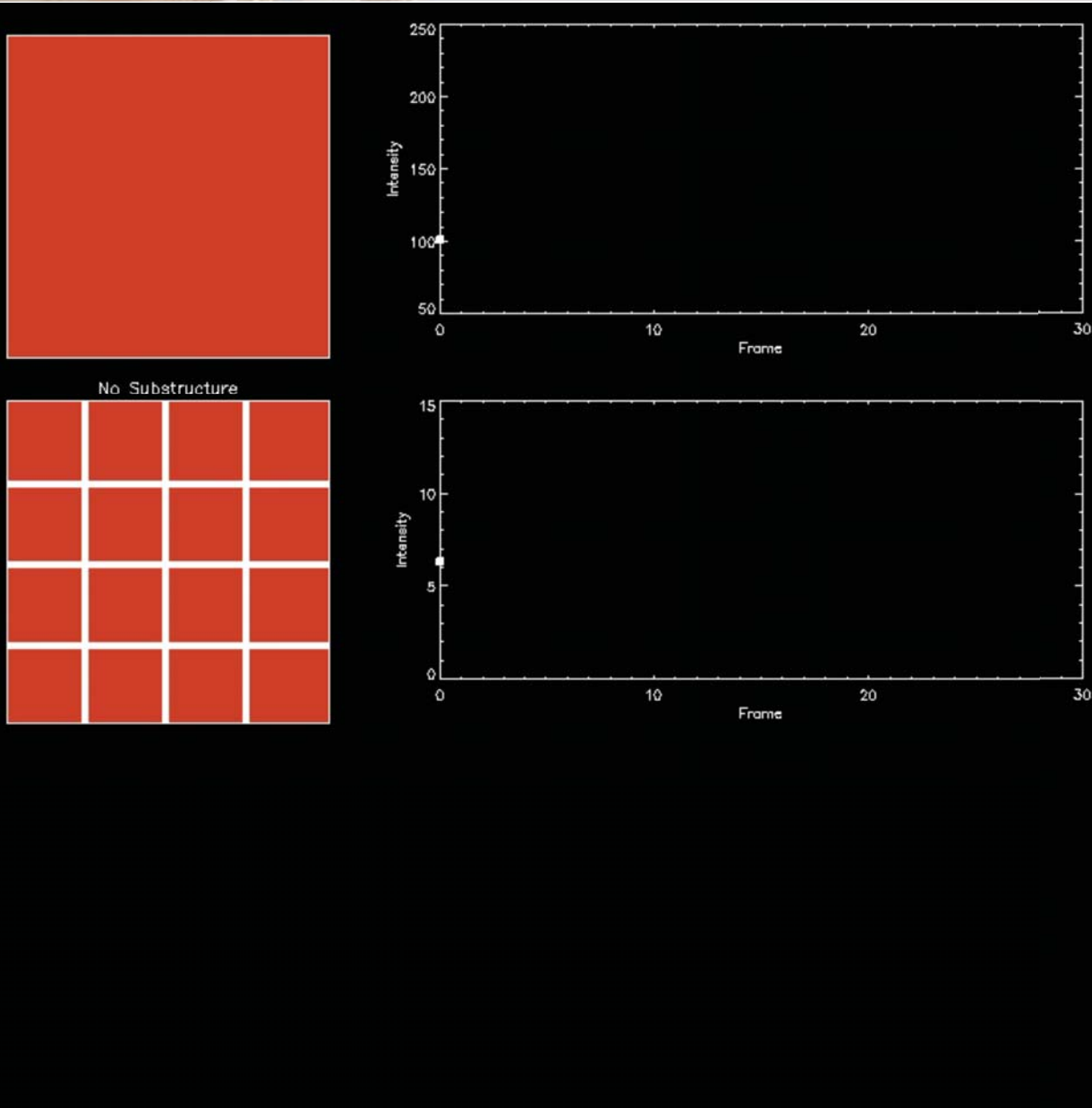
Hi-C initially did not appear to demonstrate the  $\sim 3-4$  increase in intensity expected for linear substructure.



# Transient Events

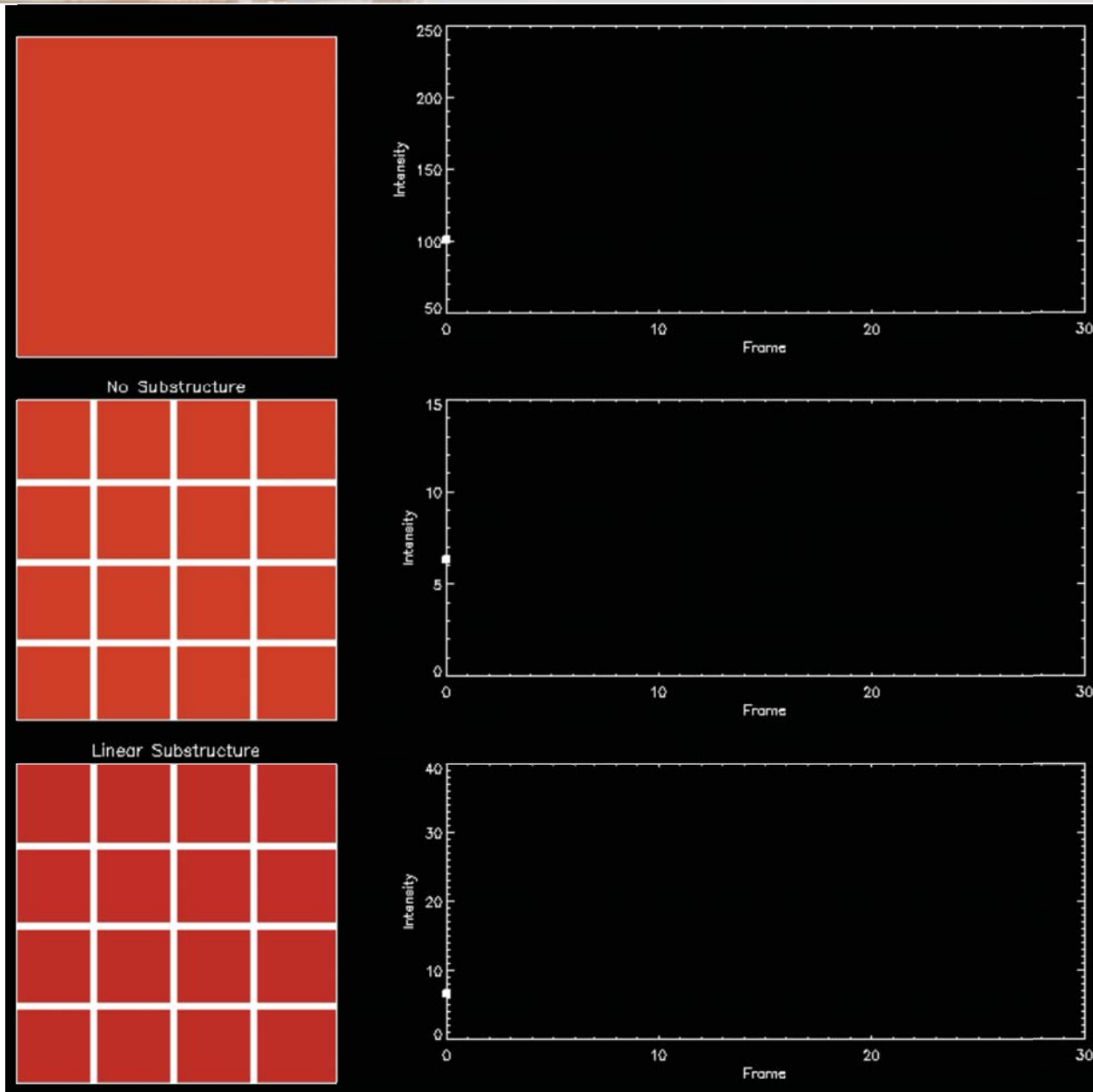


# Transient Events

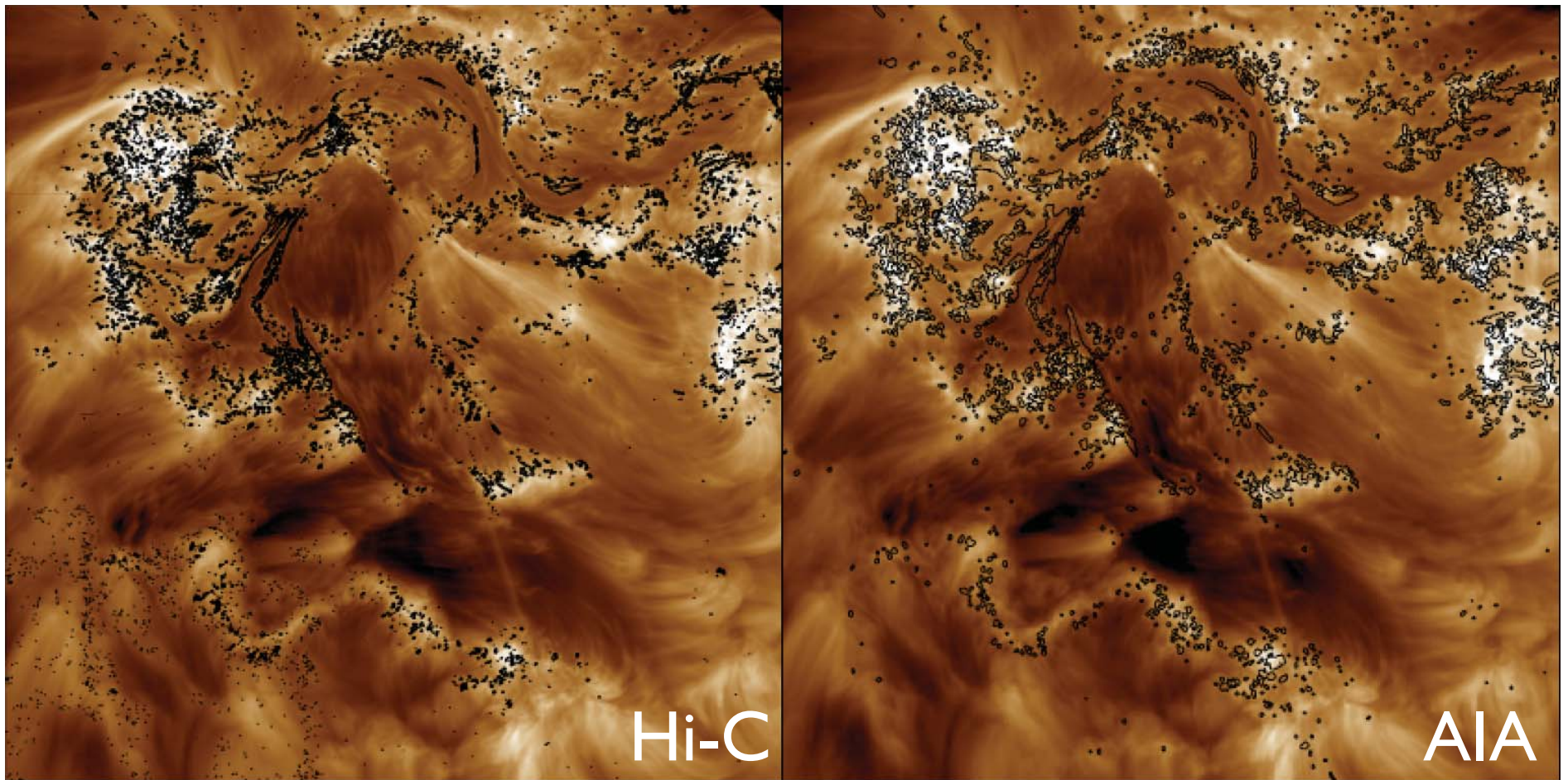




# Transient Events



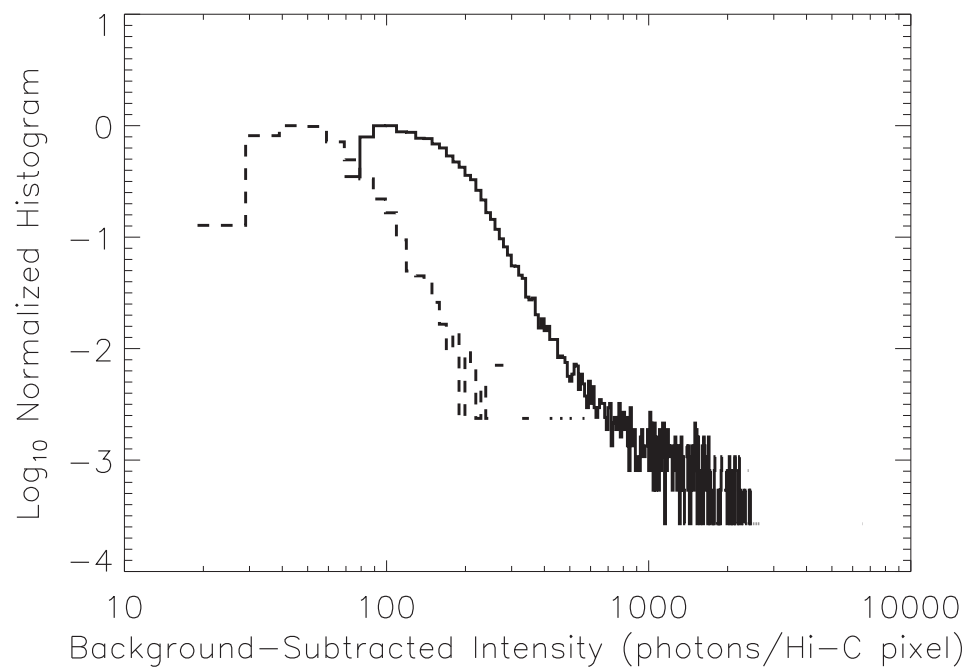
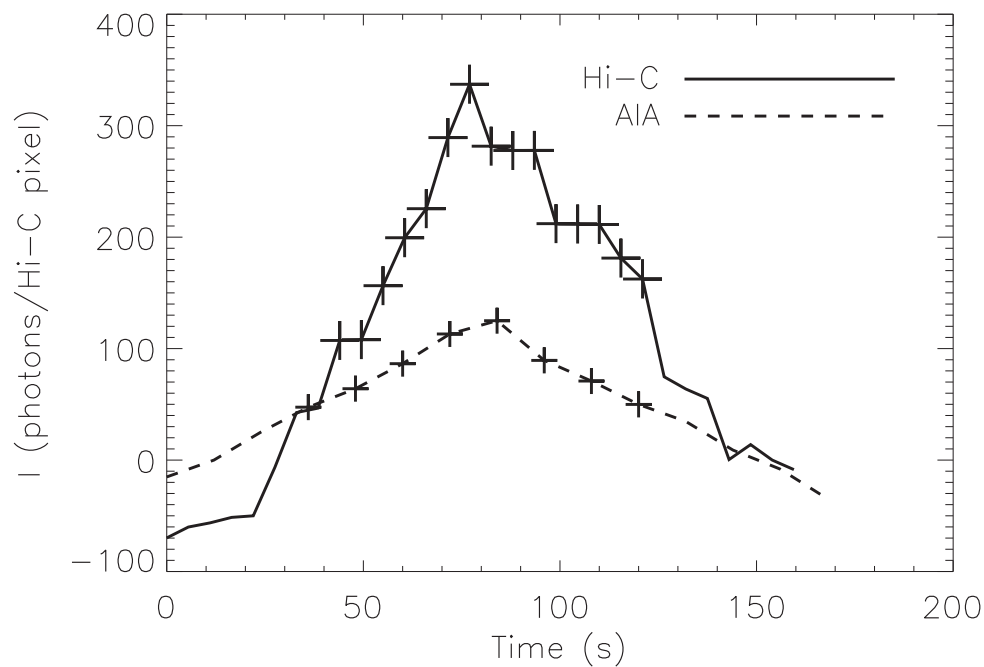
# Transient Events



Found locations of transient events in the Hi-C and AIA data.

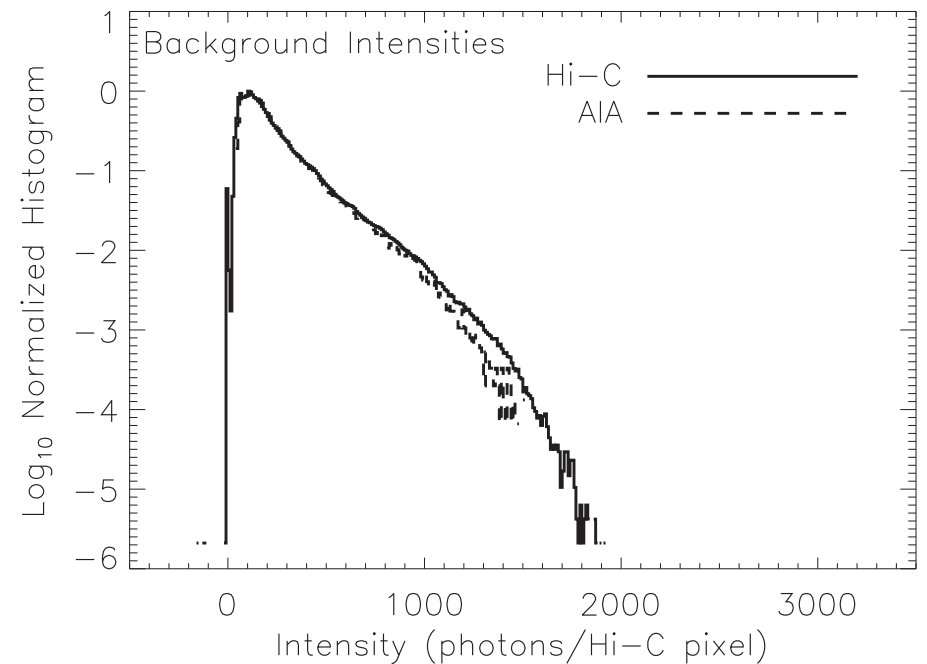
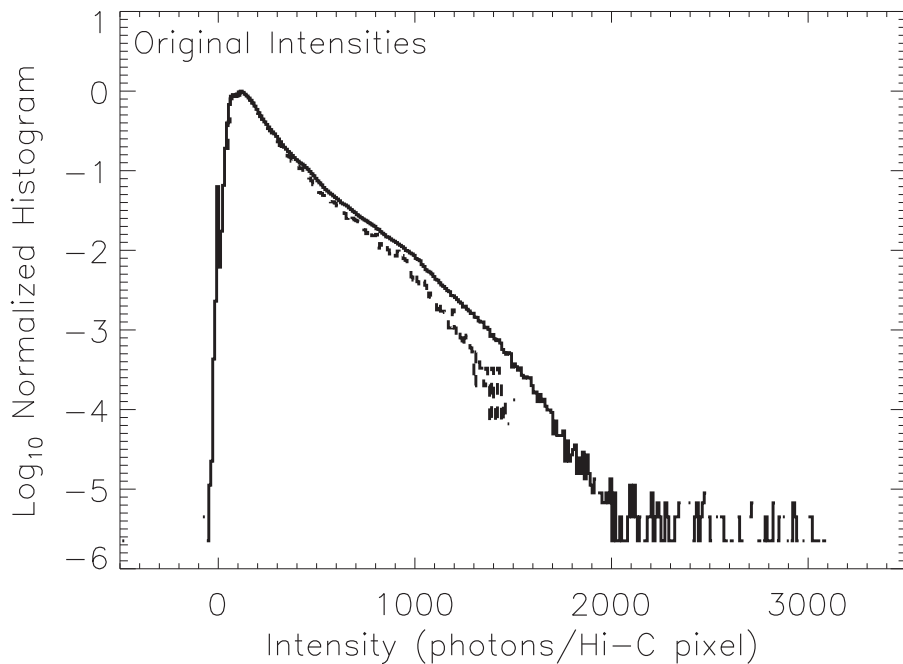


# Transient Events



**We found that transient events in Hi-C were 2.5 times brighter than transient events in AIA. We conclude this is due to linear substructure, unresolved by AIA.**

# Background



Hi-C reveals that the background varies smoothly, i.e., has little substructure.





# Conclusions

Hi-C reveals substructure in the solar corona that is not resolved by AIA.

Hi-C reveals quickly evolving structures that cannot be observed with AIA.

Hi-C reveals that there is an intensity enhancement expected for linear substructure, but find the images are dominated by a smoothly varying background.