

# Using proton temperature anisotropy as an in-situ diagnostic for solar wind origin

David Stansby<sup>1</sup>, Timothy Horbury<sup>1</sup>, Lorenzo Matteini<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Imperial College London, <sup>2</sup>LESIA Paris



Download me at  
davidstansby.com/posters

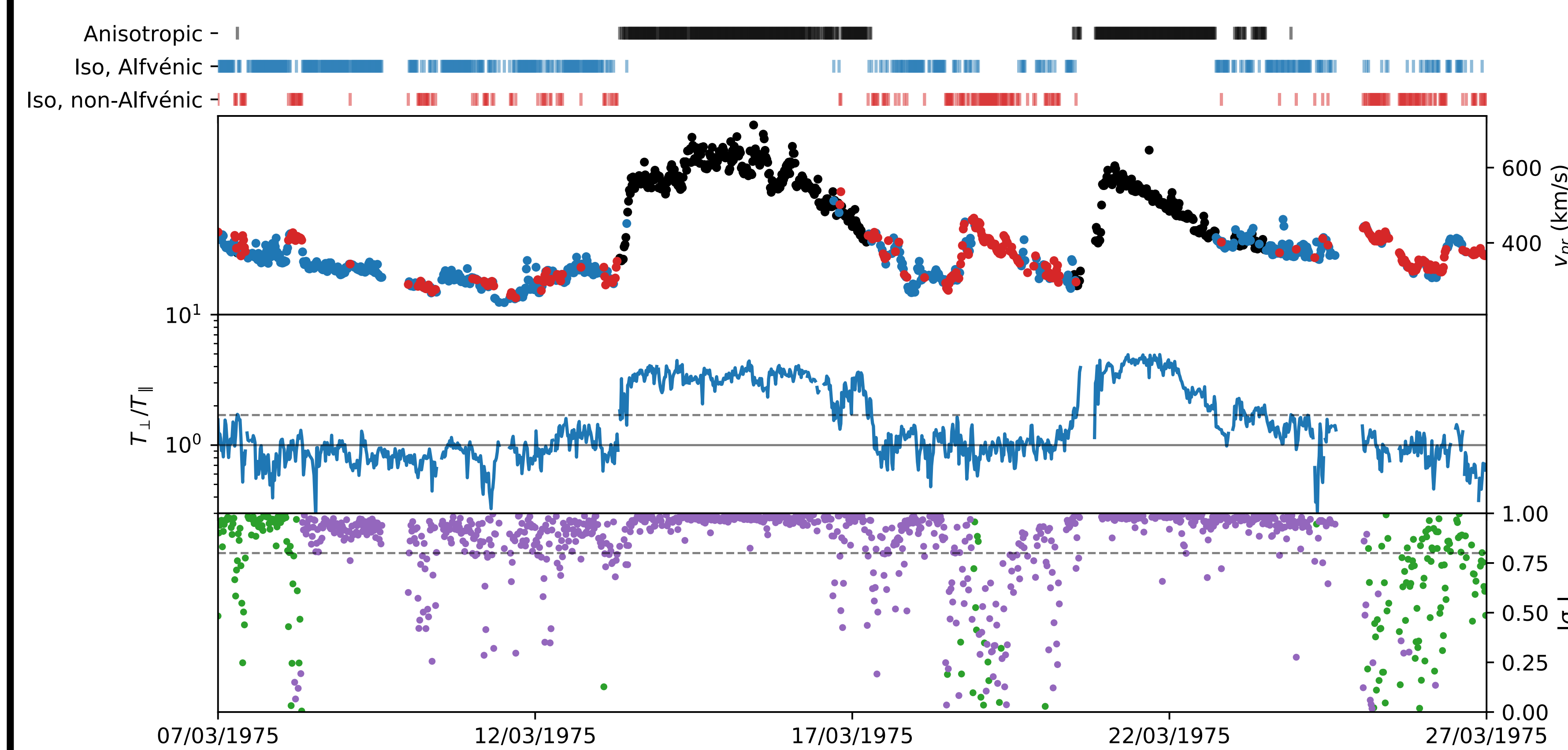
## Context

- Robustly identifying solar source of in-situ solar wind measurements is still an open problem
- Clear that splitting by speed (slow/fast) does not match possible solar sources [Stakhiv et al. 2016, D'Amicis et al. 2015, 2016]

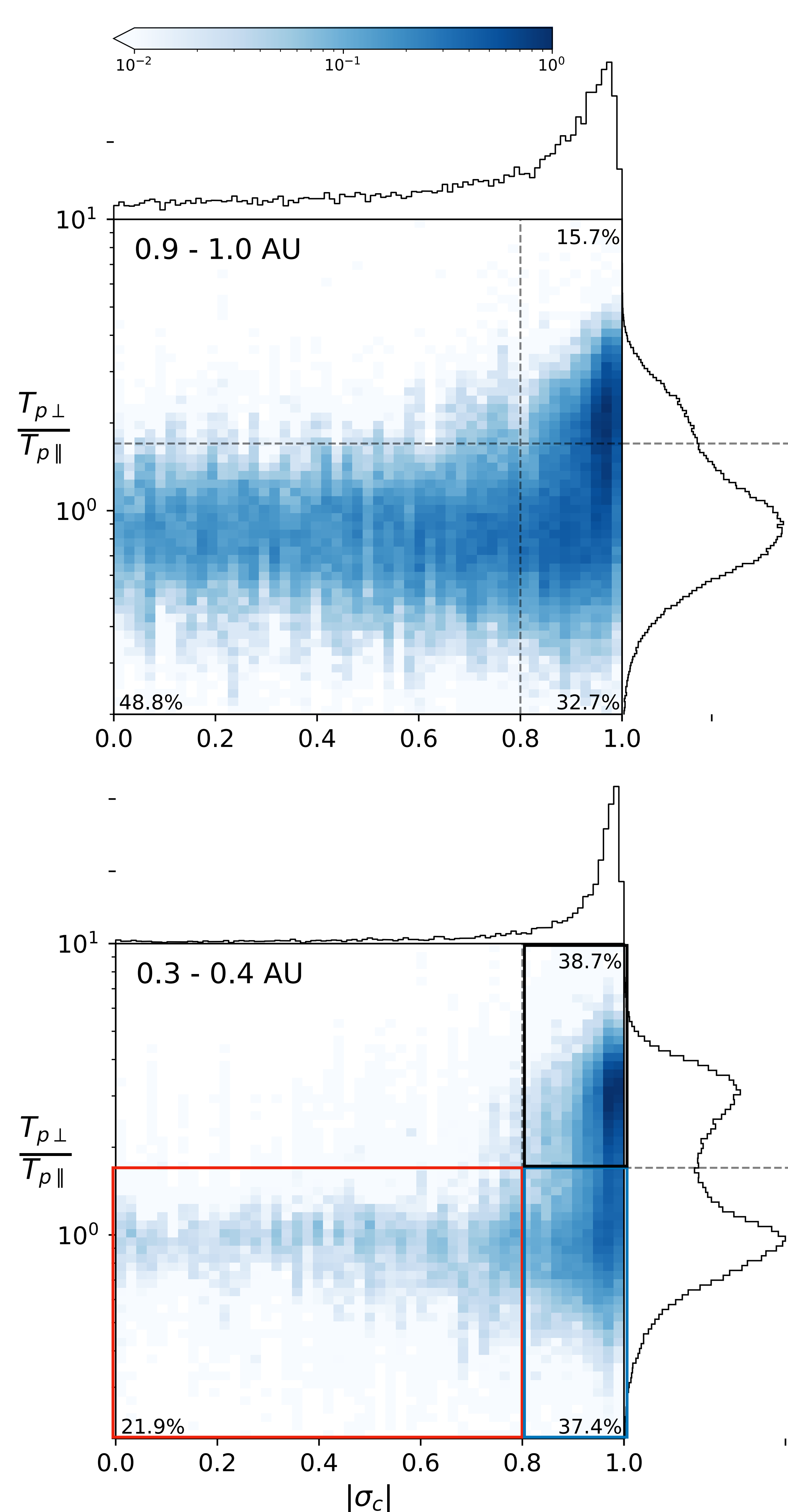
## Method

- Some 'slow' solar wind has same properties as 'fast' solar wind [Marsch et al. 1981, D'Amicis et al. 2015]
  - Strongly Alfvénic [Bruno et al. 2007]
  - $T_{p\perp}/T_{p\parallel} > 1$  in inner heliosphere [Matteini et al. 2007]
- ∴ instead of splitting wind by speed, we investigate distribution of  $T_{p\perp}/T_{p\parallel}$  and Alfvénicity

## Classification timeseries



## Global properties at 0.3 AU



- Much larger Alfvénic fraction (80%) compared to 1 AU (50%)
- $T_{p\perp}/T_{p\parallel}$  is bimodal
- All anisotropic wind is Alfvénic

Split solar wind into 3 categories

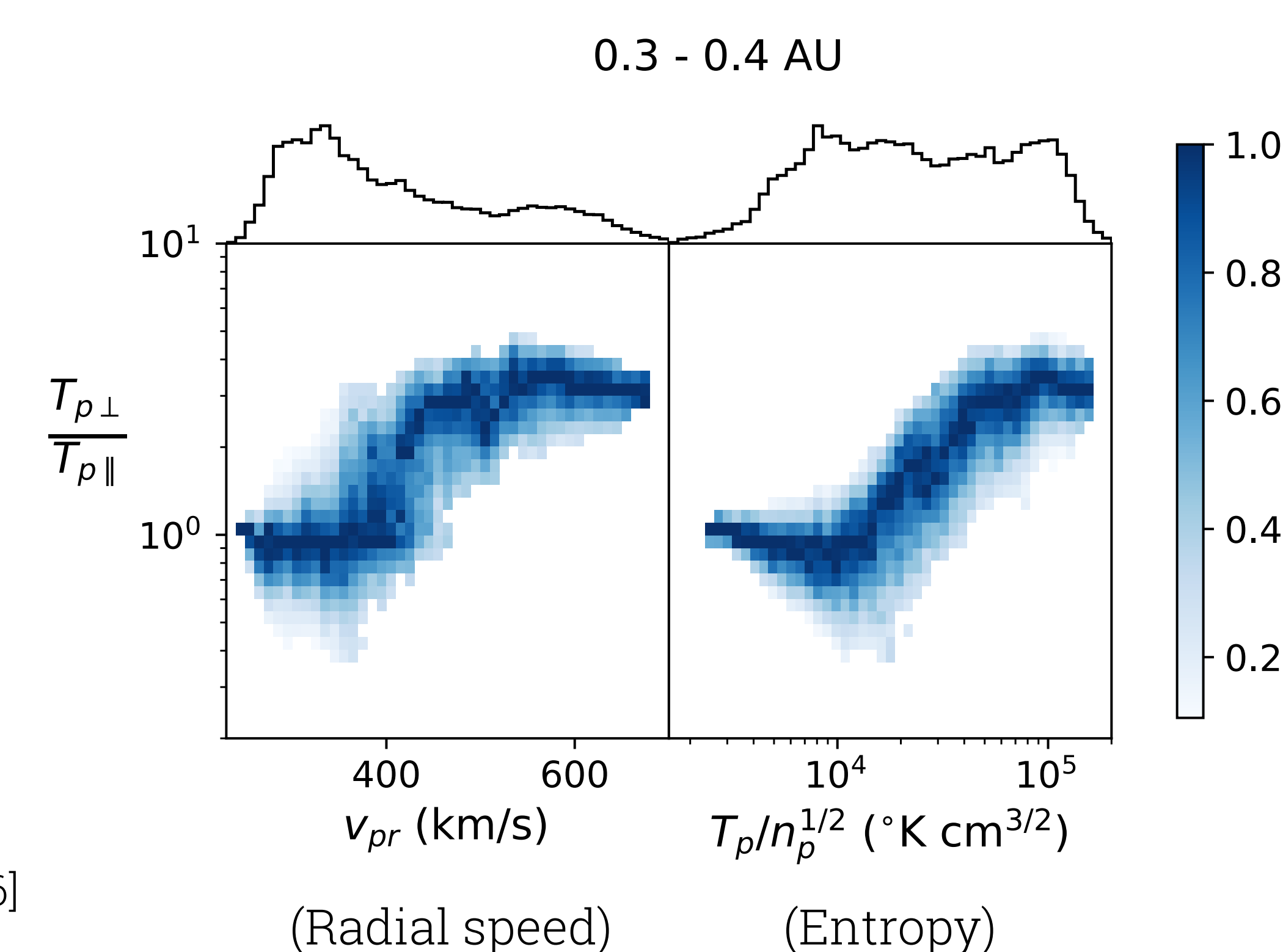
Anisotropic

Isotropic + Alfvénic

Isotropic + non-Alfvénic

## Mapping categories to solar sources

- $T_{p\perp}/T_{p\parallel}$  vs.  $v_{pr}$  is non-monotonic
- $T_{p\perp}/T_{p\parallel}$  vs. entropy is monotonic
- ∴ use to  $T_{p\perp}/T_{p\parallel}$  infer entropy
- Entropy is correlated with heavy ion charge states [Pagel et al. 2004, Stakhiv et al. 2016]



$T_{p\perp}/T_{p\parallel} \rightarrow$  Entropy  $\rightarrow$  Heavy charge states  $\rightarrow$  Solar origin

$T_{p\perp}/T_{p\parallel} > 1 \rightarrow$  Coronal hole wind

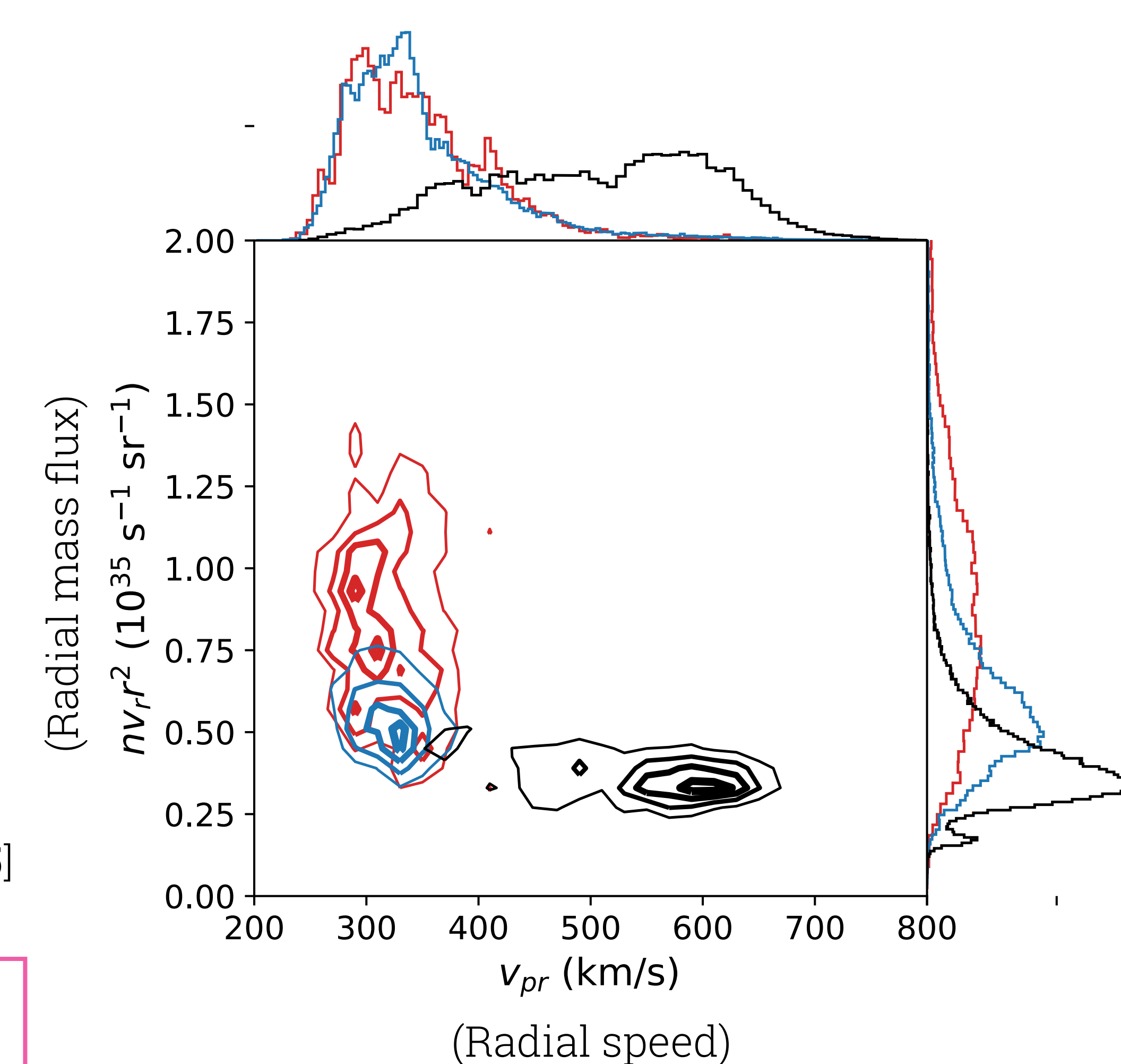
$T_{p\perp}/T_{p\parallel} = 1 \rightarrow$  non-Coronal hole wind

- Alfvénic wind has constant mass flux  $\rightarrow$  steady state
- Active regions have open flux + significant mass output [Brooks et al. 2015]

Isotropic + Alfvénic  
 $\rightarrow$  Active region wind

- non-Alfvénic wind has varying mass flux  $\rightarrow$  non-steady-state
- Some slow wind is small number density structures [Sheeley et al. 1997, Viall et al. 2015]

Isotropic + non-Alfvénic  
 $\rightarrow$  Transient structures



## Suggested categorisation

Anisotropic  $\rightarrow$  Coronal holes

Isotropic + Alfvénic  $\rightarrow$  Active regions

Isotropic + non-Alfvénic  $\rightarrow$  Small scale transients

These are testable predictions for Parker Solar Probe & Solar Orbiter with heavy ions & PFSS backmapping

## Acknowledgements

David Stansby is supported by STFC studentship ST/N504336/1  
Timothy Horbury is supported by STFC grant ST/N000692/1