

A new method for measuring relative abundances in the solar corona

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The FIP effect

Fractionation of the coronal composition as a function of the First Ionization Potential.

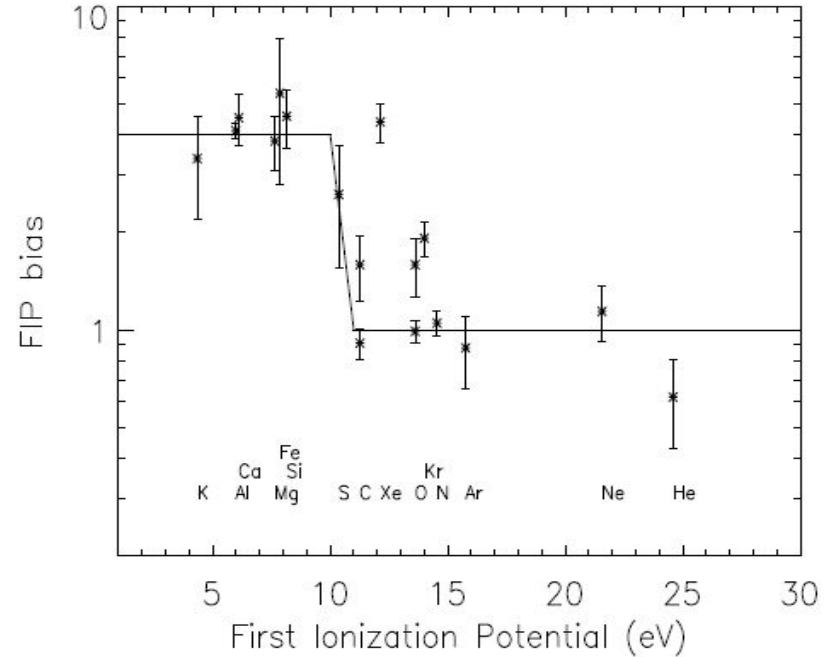
$$\text{« FIP bias » : } f_X = \frac{Ab_X^{corona}}{Ab_X^{photosphere}}$$

- ★ FIP : First Ionization Potential
- ★ Ab_X^{region} : elemental abundance relative to hydrogen in a given region of the solar atmosphere

« FIP bias » frozen in the corona



The FIP effect can allow us to trace back the source of heliospheric plasma

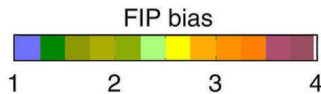
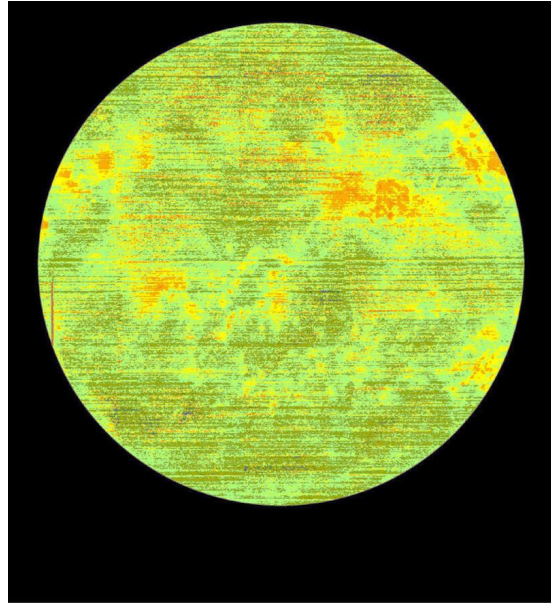


FIP bias as a function of FIP in the slow Solar Wind, von Steiger et al. (1997).

Linking the Sun to the Heliosphere

« FIP bias » frozen in the corona →

The FIP effect can allow us to trace back the source of heliospheric plasma



FIP bias map of the Solar corona,
D. Brooks et al, 2014

UV spectroscopy
(remote sensing)



FIP bias maps
in the corona



Solar Orbiter

In-situ measurements



Abundance
measurements in
the Solar Wind

Comparisons



Measuring relative abundances

In the coronal approximation, the radiance of the transition line from level i to j of ion X^{+m} is :

$$I_{X^{+m}, i \rightarrow j} = \underbrace{Ab_X^{corona}}_{\text{Coronal abundance of element X}} \int \underbrace{C_{X^{+m}, i \rightarrow j}(n_e, T)}_{\text{Contribution function}} \underbrace{DEM}_{\text{Differential Emission Measure}} dT$$

Contains all the physics involved in line formation

Temperature distribution of the plasma

Simplified notation :

$$I_{X, ij} = f_X^{bias} A_X^{ph} \langle C_{X, ij}, DEM \rangle$$

The radiance of a spectral line is **proportional** to the FIP bias of the emitting element
Plasmas at different temperatures



Measuring relative abundances

$$I_{X,ij} = f_X^{bias} A_X^{ph} \langle C_{X,ij}, DEM \rangle$$

$$\frac{f_{X_{LF}}^{bias}}{f_{X_{HF}}^{bias}} = \frac{I_{LF}}{I_{HF}} \left(\frac{A_{X_{LF}}^{ph}}{A_{X_{HF}}^{ph}} \frac{\langle C_{LF}, DEM \rangle}{\langle C_{HF}, DEM \rangle} \right)^{-1}$$

Two Line Ratio (2LR)



- Fast and simple
- Easy to automate
- Inaccurate unless contribution functions match perfectly



Following DEM inversion

- Inverse problem difficult to constrain
- Complicated to automate
- More accurate

What we have



Spectroscopic
observations

The game plan

How

A new FIP bias measuring method with:

- ★ No DEM Inversion
- ★ Optimized linear combinations of spectral lines

What we want to do

- ★ Create accurate FIP bias maps systematically and semi-automatically
- ★ Re-analyze past observations
- ★ Design observations : which lines should we use ?

The Linear Combination Ratio (LCR) method

Spectral lines of **low FIP** elements

$$\mathcal{I}_{\text{LF}} \equiv \sum_{i \in (\text{LF})} \alpha_i \frac{I_i}{A_i^{\text{ph}}}$$

$$\mathcal{C}_{\text{LF}}(T) \equiv \sum_{i \in (\text{LF})} \alpha_i C_i(T)$$

Spectral lines of **high FIP** elements

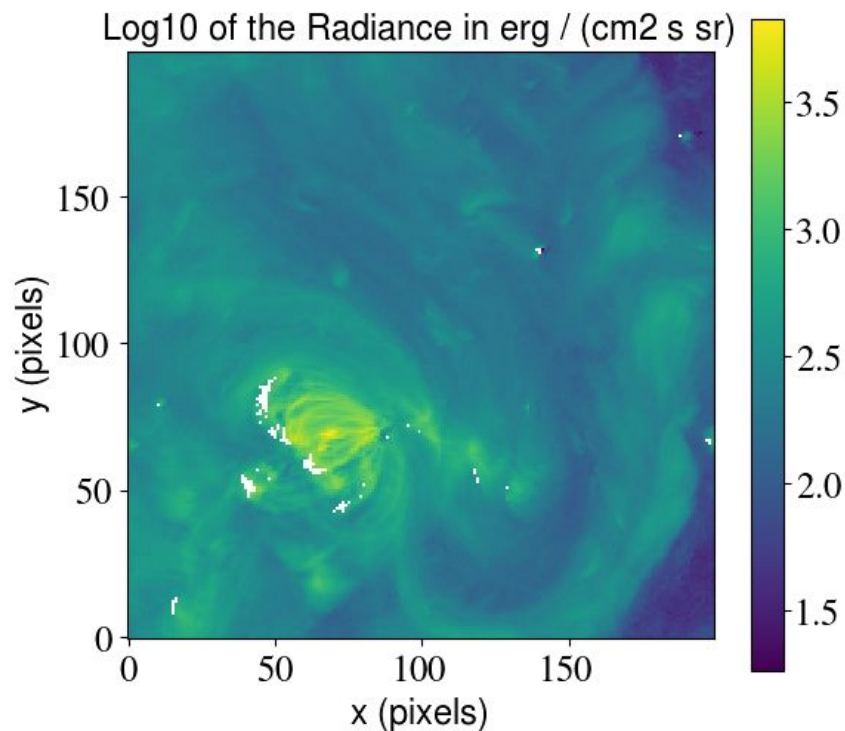
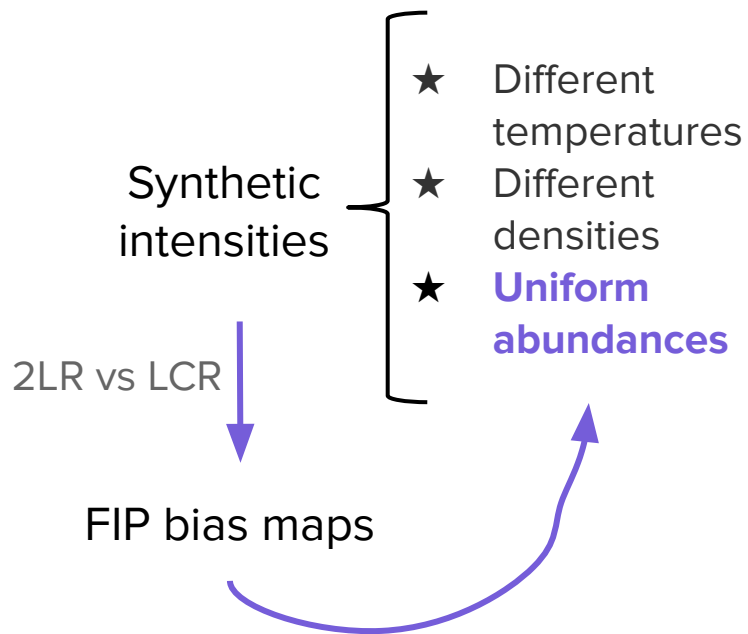
$$\mathcal{I}_{\text{HF}} \equiv \sum_{i \in (\text{HF})} \beta_i \frac{I_i}{A_i^{\text{ph}}}$$

$$\mathcal{C}_{\text{HF}}(T) \equiv \sum_{i \in (\text{HF})} \beta_i C_i(T)$$

The **relative FIP bias** is $\frac{f_{\text{LF}}^{\text{bias}}}{f_{\text{HF}}^{\text{bias}}} = \frac{\mathcal{I}_{\text{LF}}}{\mathcal{I}_{\text{HF}}} \left(\frac{\langle \mathcal{C}_{\text{LF}}, \text{DEM} \rangle}{\langle \mathcal{C}_{\text{HF}}, \text{DEM} \rangle} \right)^{-1} \approx 1$

We **minimize** $\phi(\alpha, \beta) = \sqrt{\sum_{j \in (\text{DEM})_j} \left| \frac{\langle \mathcal{C}_{\text{LF}}, \text{DEM}_j \rangle}{\langle \mathcal{C}_{\text{HF}}, \text{DEM}_j \rangle} - 1 \right|^2}$ for a set of reference DEMs

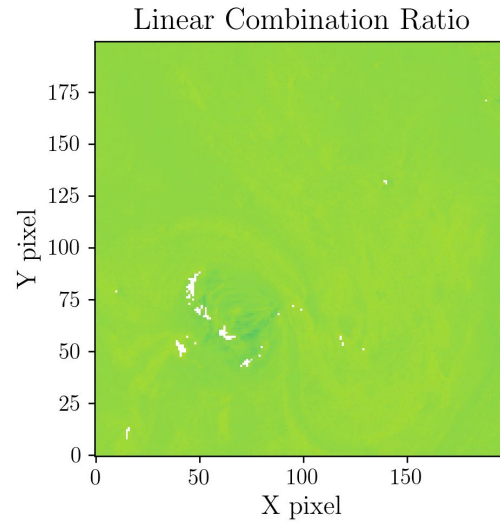
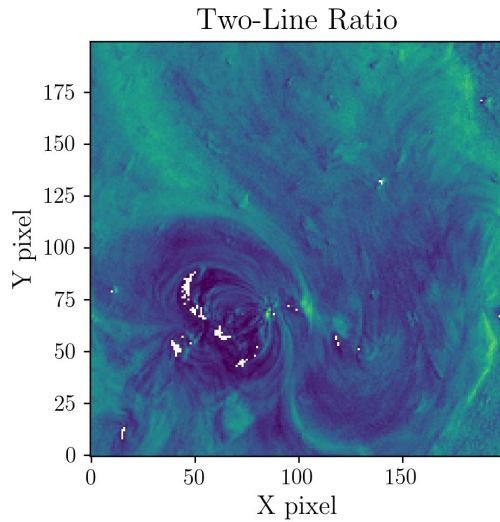
Tests on uniform FIP bias maps



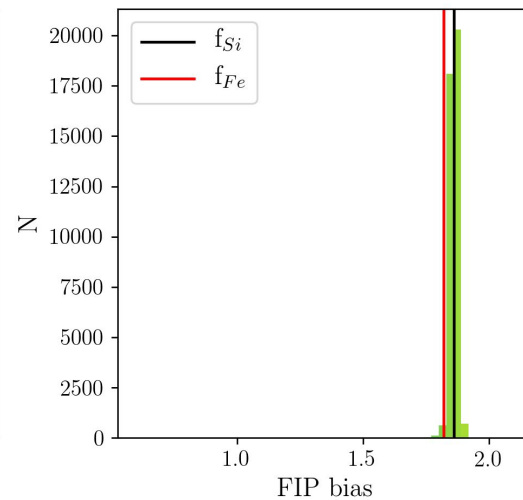
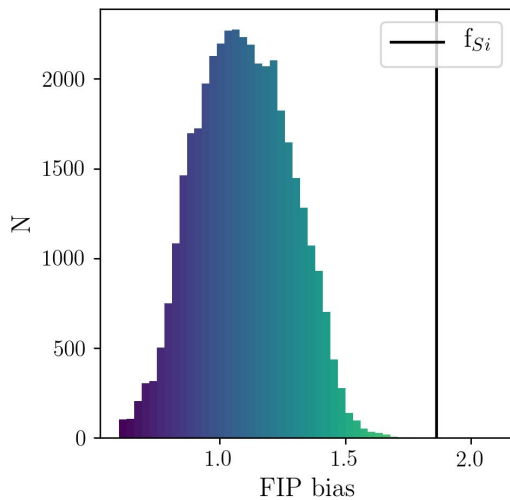
Fe xii 195.119 Angstroms

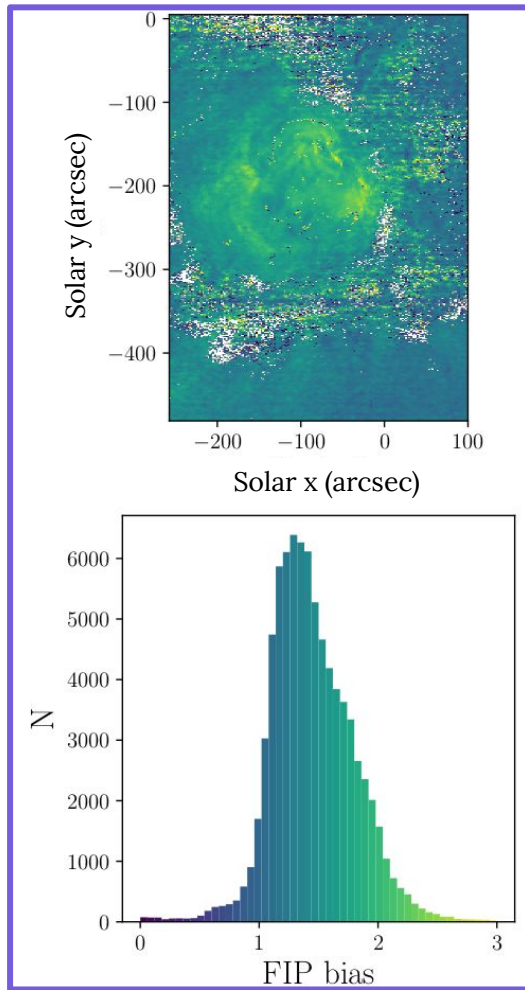
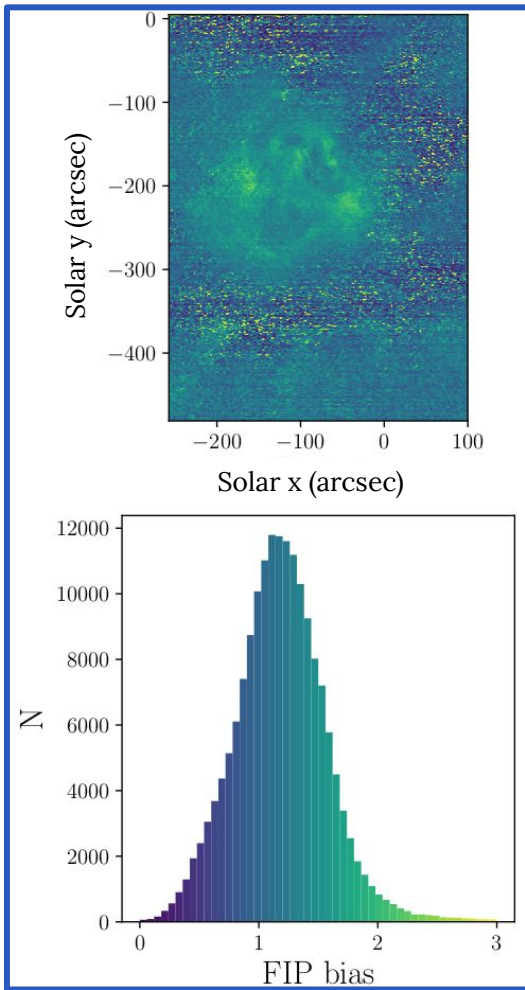
Tests on uniform FIP bias maps

Maps for relative FIP bias
(ground truth: uniform,
 ≈ 1.8)



Histograms of values in
maps





In practice : Hinode/EIS

Application of the **LCR method** to spectroscopic observations of a sigmoidal anemone-like Active Region inside an equatorial Coronal Hole, previously studied in [Baker et al. \(2013\)](#).

Following DEM inversion

$$\frac{f_{\text{Si}}}{f_{\text{S}}}$$

Linear combinations

$$\frac{f_{\text{Si}} \& \text{Fe}}{f_{\text{S}}}$$

- ★ Similar structures with enhanced or depleted relative FIP bias in both maps.

Conclusions

- ★ The tests show that **the LCR method performs well**, and **does not require prior DEM inversion**.
- ★ The LCR method could be useful to **re-analyze past observations** that were not intended for abundance measurements.
- ★ It could help us **prepare future observations**.

Present and Future work

- ★ Re-analyze past EIS/Hinode observations (ISSI Team of Susanna Parenti).
- ★ Assessment of **linear combinations of lines** for the UV spectrometer **SPICE** on board Solar Orbiter to help connect remote and in-situ measurements from SWA/HIS.
- ★ Could become a SPICE **level 3 data product**.

Thank you
for
listening

