

**V. FORMATO** on behalf of the AMS collaboration

INFN - Sezione di Roma Tor Vergata

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# OBSERVATION OF FINE TIME STRUCTURES IN THE PRIMARY COSMIC RAYS LIGHT NUCLEI FLUXES



# AMS-02 IN ORBIT

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**AMS-02** is a large-acceptance high-energy **magnetic spectrometer** capable of measure accurately particles in the **GeV-TeV** energy range. Since **2011** May 19<sup>th</sup> AMS-02 has been operating on the International Space Station (ISS). AMS recorded **>180 billion CR triggers** in ~10 years of operation.

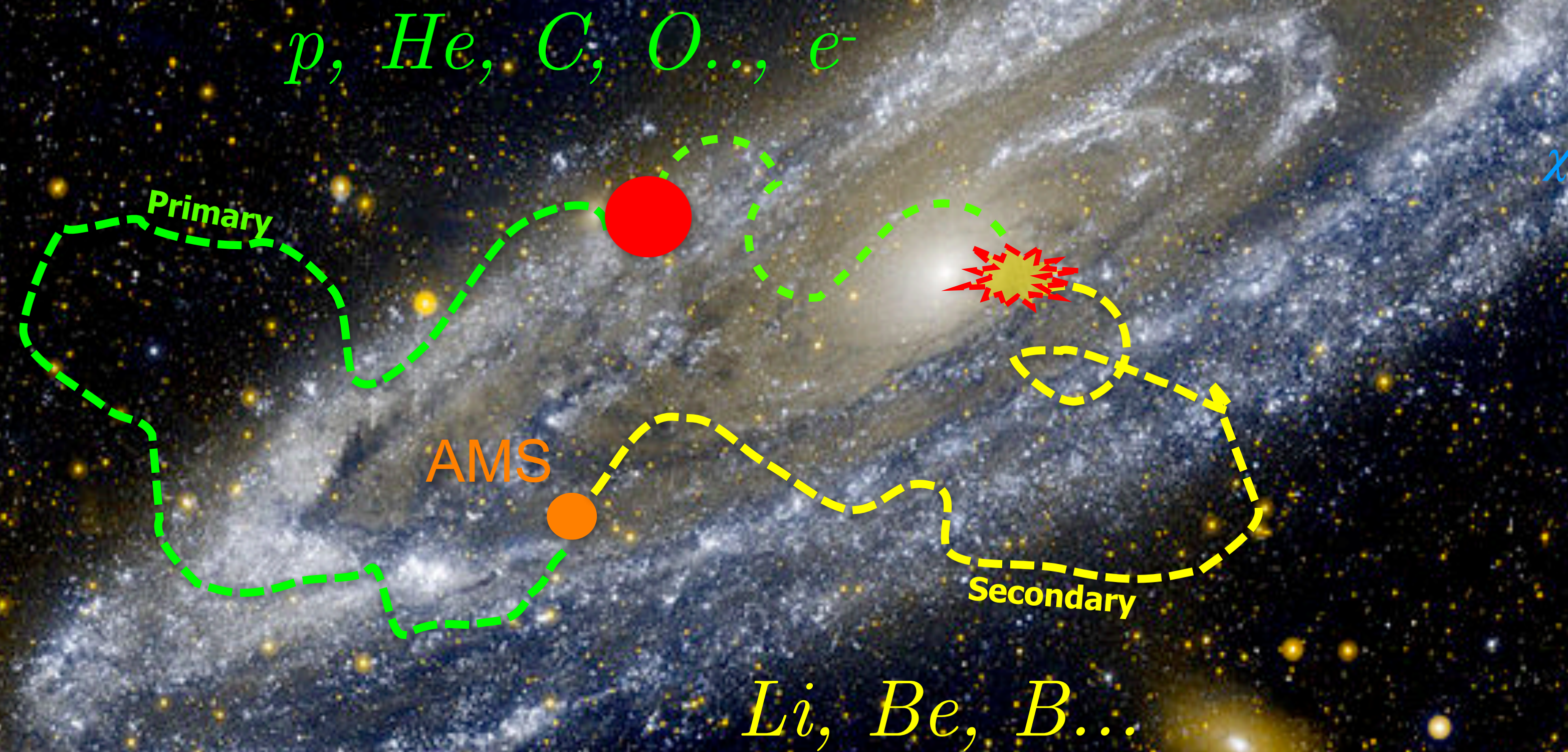


AMS is expected to take data during the whole ISS lifetime (at least 2028)



# COSMIC RAYS IN THE GALAXY

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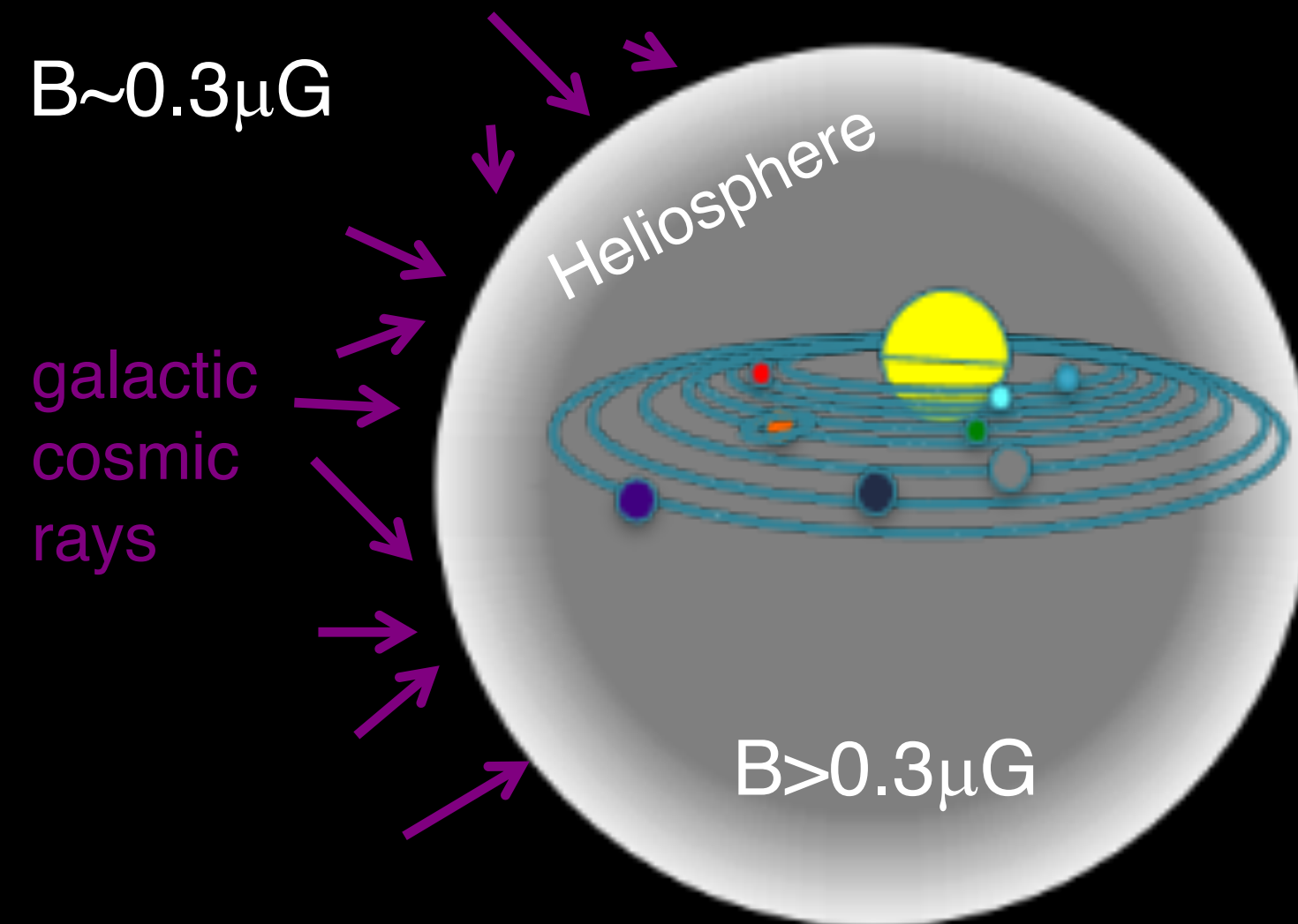


(but also other stuff like)

$$\pi^{\pm} \rightarrow \mu^{\pm} \rightarrow e^{\pm}$$
$$p + p \rightarrow p + \bar{p} + \dots$$



# COSMIC RAYS IN THE HELIOSPHERE

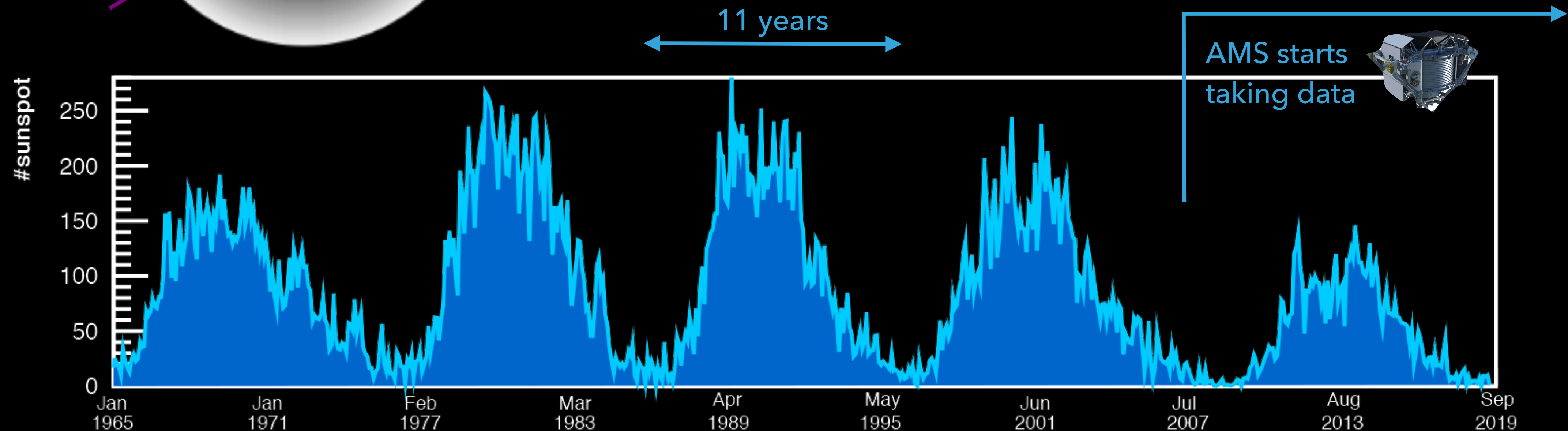


## 1. Large time scale effects (~years):

- change on intensity of CRs
- charge-sign dependence:
  - ⊙ at maximum: diffusive motion
  - ⊙ at minimum: magnetic drift + diffusive motion

## 2. Small time scale effects (~days)

- Forbush decrease & Solar Energetic Particles (SEP)

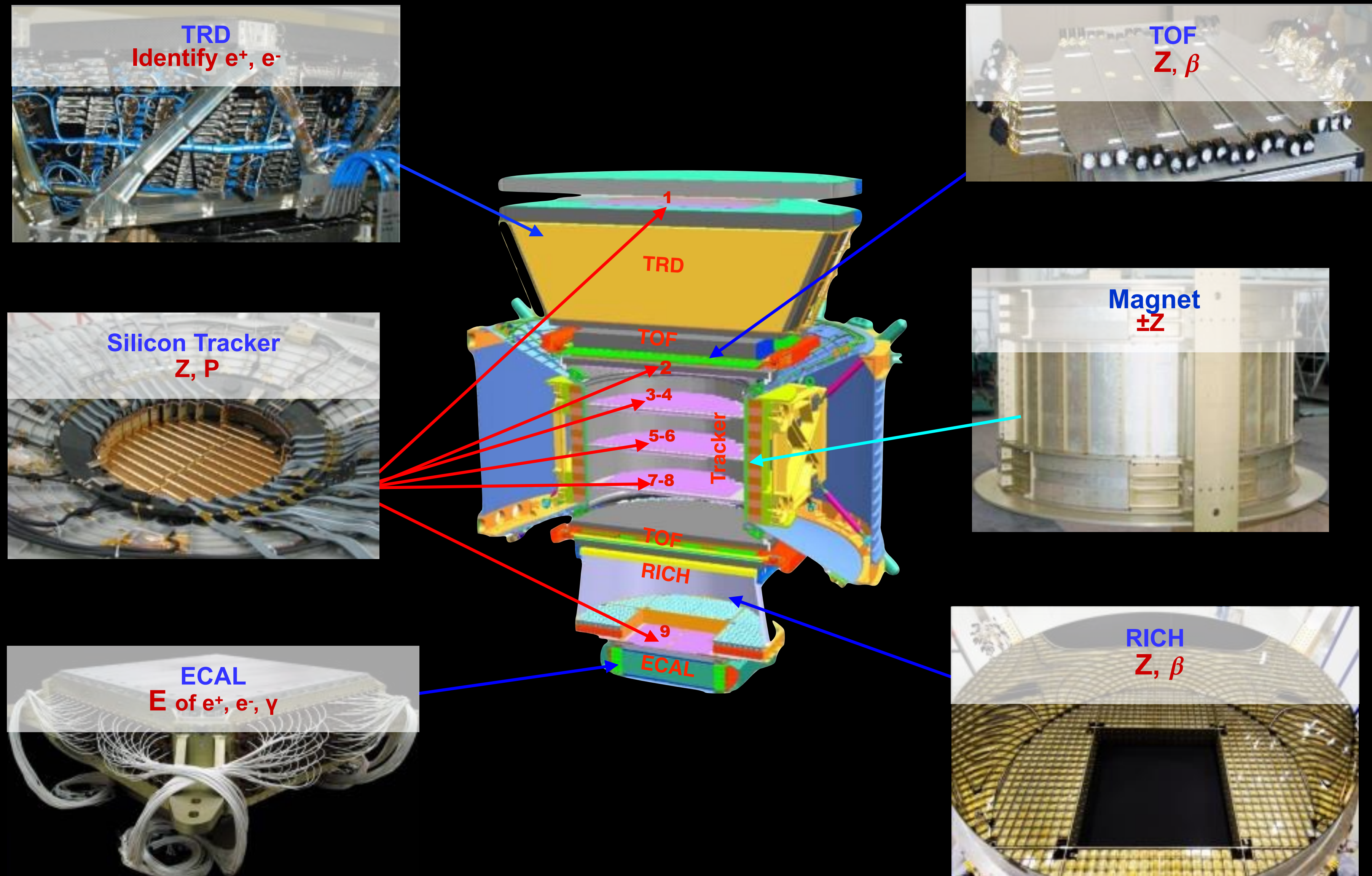




## AMS-02

Particles and nuclei are defined by their charge (**Z**) and energy (**E**  $\sim$  **P**)

Both quantities are measured redundantly and independently by the *Tracker*, *TOF*, *RICH* and/or *ECAL*





## FLUX MEASUREMENT

In this talk we will focus about **flux** measurements

A **flux** is defined as:

$$\Phi_i = \frac{\tilde{N}_i}{A_i \epsilon_i T_i \Delta R_i}$$

Number of events  
(in rigidity bin  $i$ , corrected for bin-to-bin migrations)

Exposure time  
Duty cycle + geomagnetic cutoff.  
(s)

Rigidity bin width

Trigger efficiency  
Estimated on flight data.

Acceptance (Effective geometrical factor)  
Estimated from Montecarlo and validated  
on flight data.  
( $\text{m}^2 \text{ sr}$ )

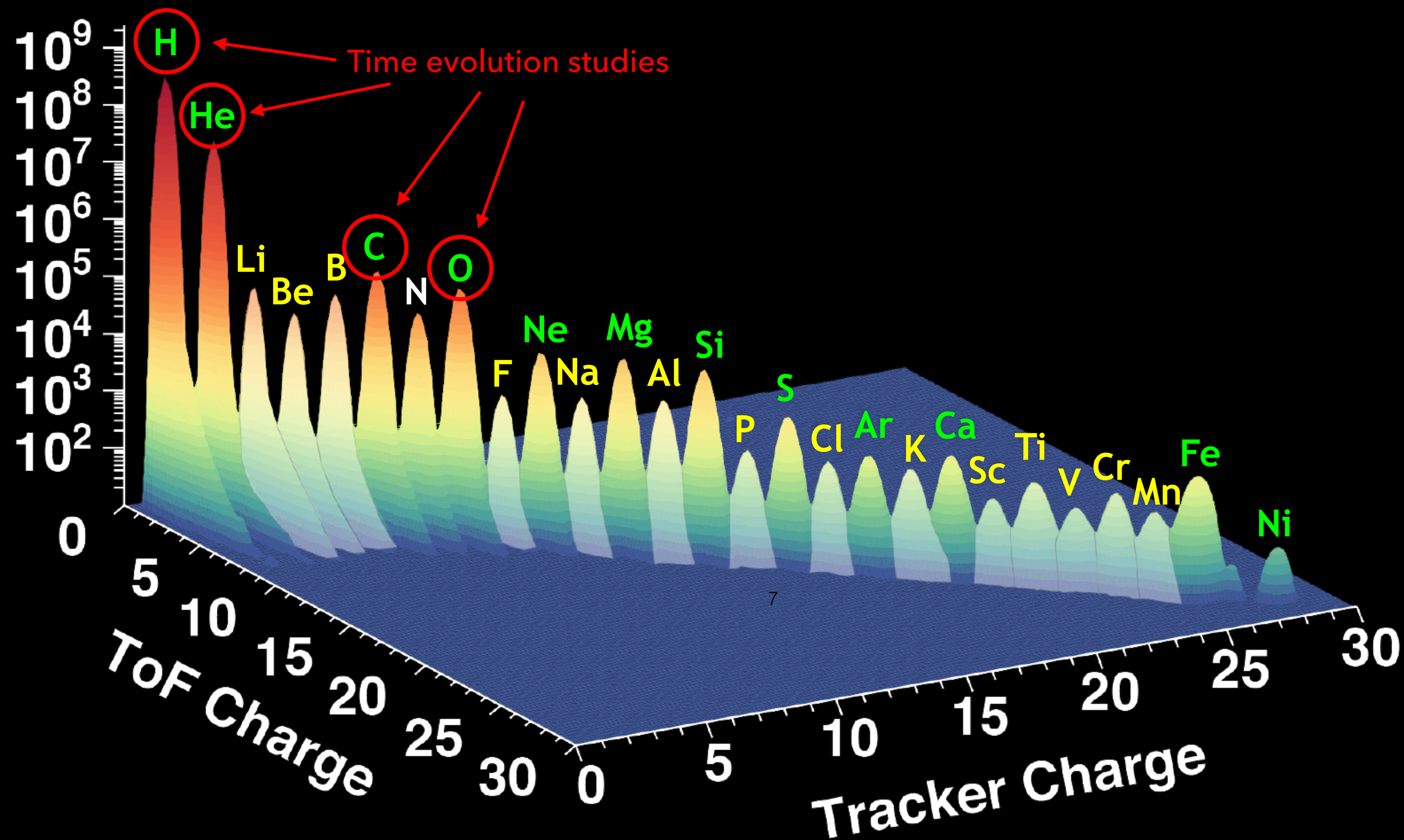
Differential flux  
( $\text{m}^2 \text{ s sr GV}^{-1}$ )

The diagram illustrates the formula for differential flux measurement. The flux  $\Phi_i$  is represented in a green box. It is equal to the ratio of the number of events  $\tilde{N}_i$  (in a red box) to the product of four factors: acceptance  $A_i$  (purple box), trigger efficiency  $\epsilon_i$  (cyan box), exposure time  $T_i$  (blue box), and rigidity bin width  $\Delta R_i$  (magenta box). Arrows point from each box to its corresponding definition and units. The acceptance  $A_i$  is estimated from Monte Carlo and validated on flight data, with units of  $\text{m}^2 \text{ sr}$ . The trigger efficiency  $\epsilon_i$  is estimated on flight data. The exposure time  $T_i$  is the duty cycle plus geomagnetic cutoff, in seconds. The rigidity bin width  $\Delta R_i$  is the width of the rigidity bin. The differential flux  $\Phi_i$  has units of  $\text{m}^2 \text{ s sr GV}^{-1}$ .



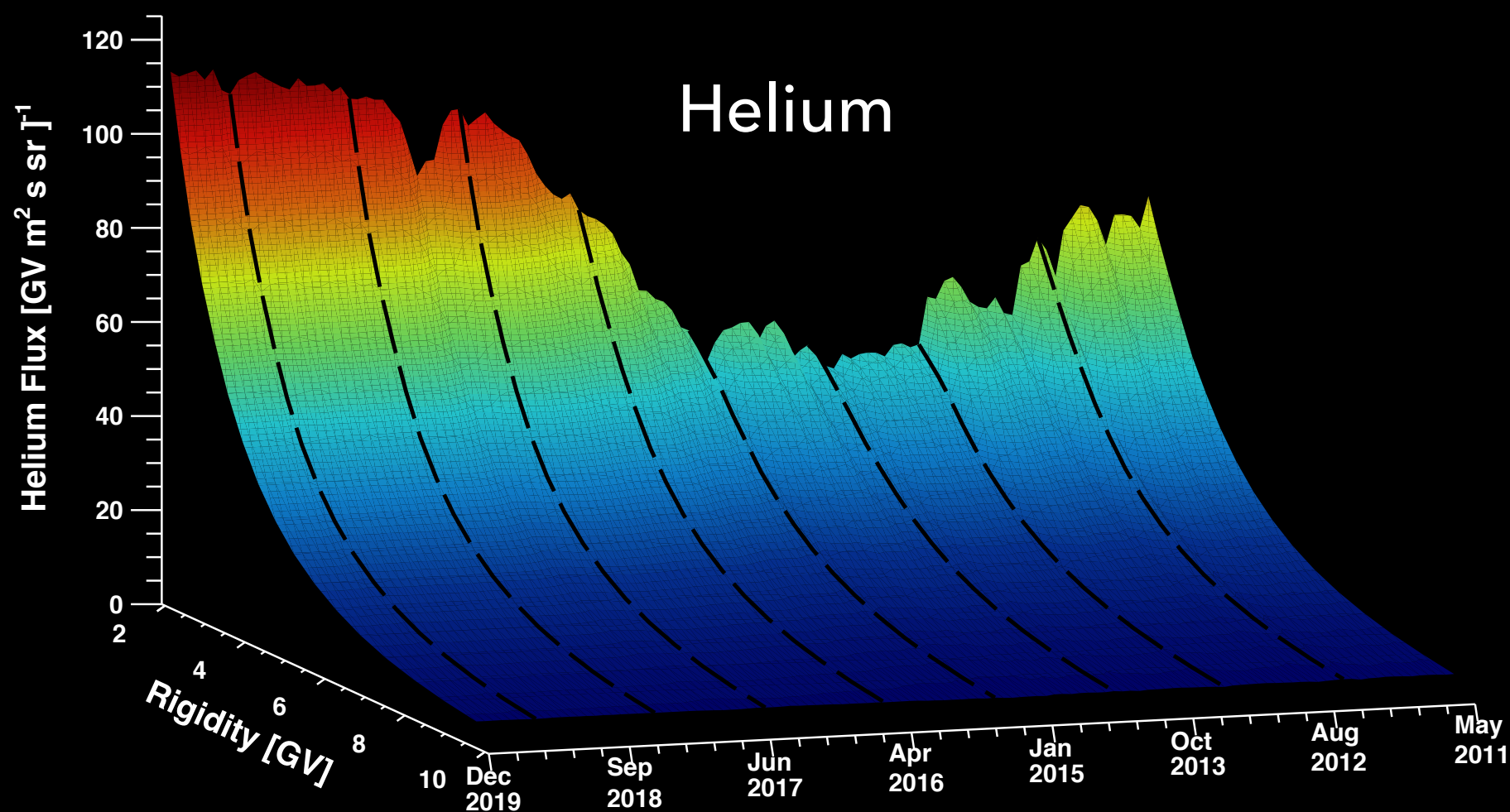
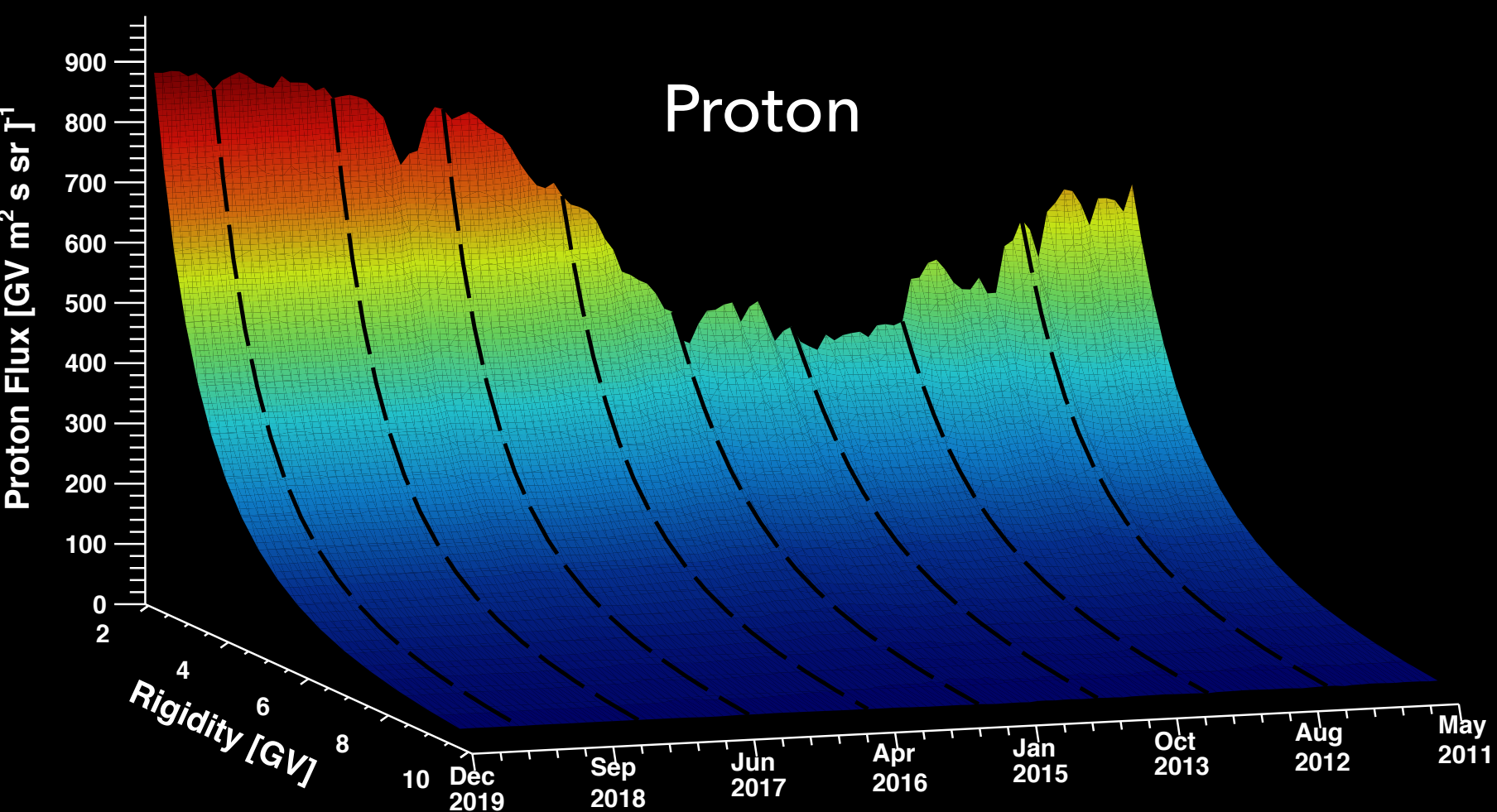
THE AMS PERIODIC TABLE

Primary  
Secondary

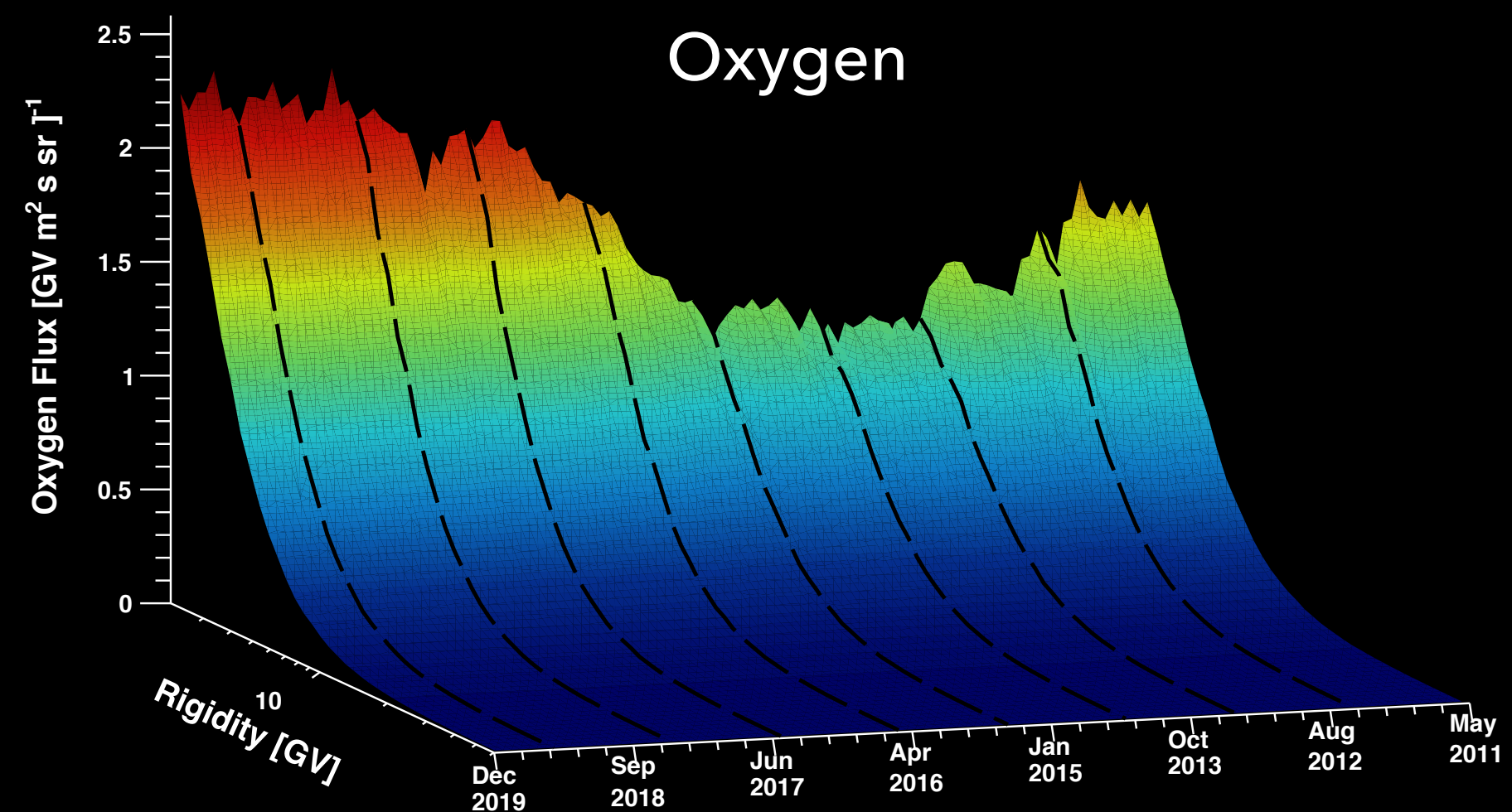
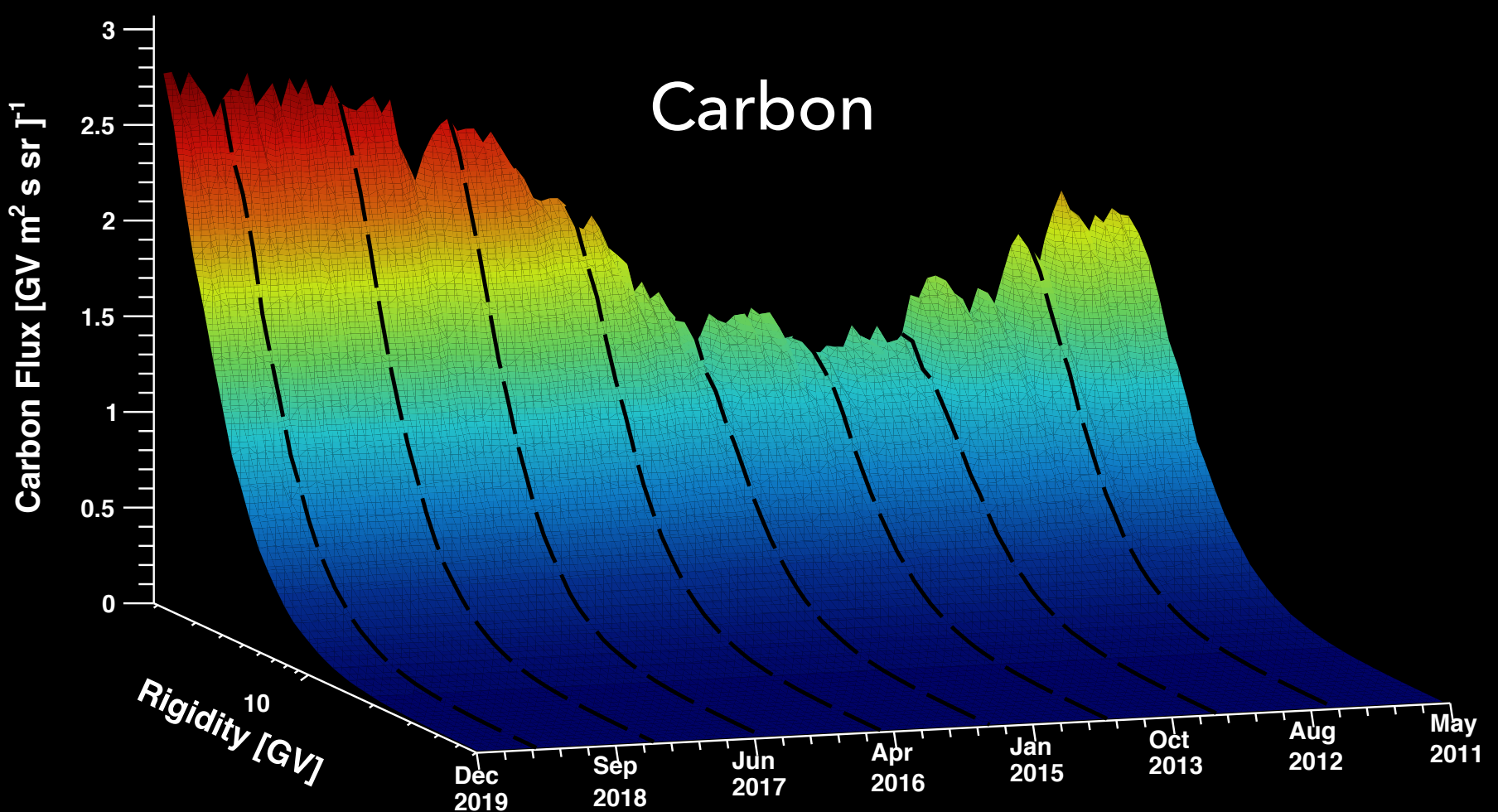




PRIMARY NUCLEI FLUXES



Proton, Helium, Carbon and Oxygen fluxes from May 2011 up to November 2019. The time interval is 27 days (Bartels Rotation)





## WHAT CAN WE LEARN?

Let's take a step back and consider how cosmic rays travel through the heliosphere

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial t} = \boxed{-\mathbf{V}_{\text{sw}} \cdot \nabla f} + \boxed{\nabla \cdot (K \cdot \nabla f)} + \boxed{\frac{1}{3} \nabla \cdot \mathbf{V}_{\text{sw}} \frac{\partial f}{\partial \ln R}}$$

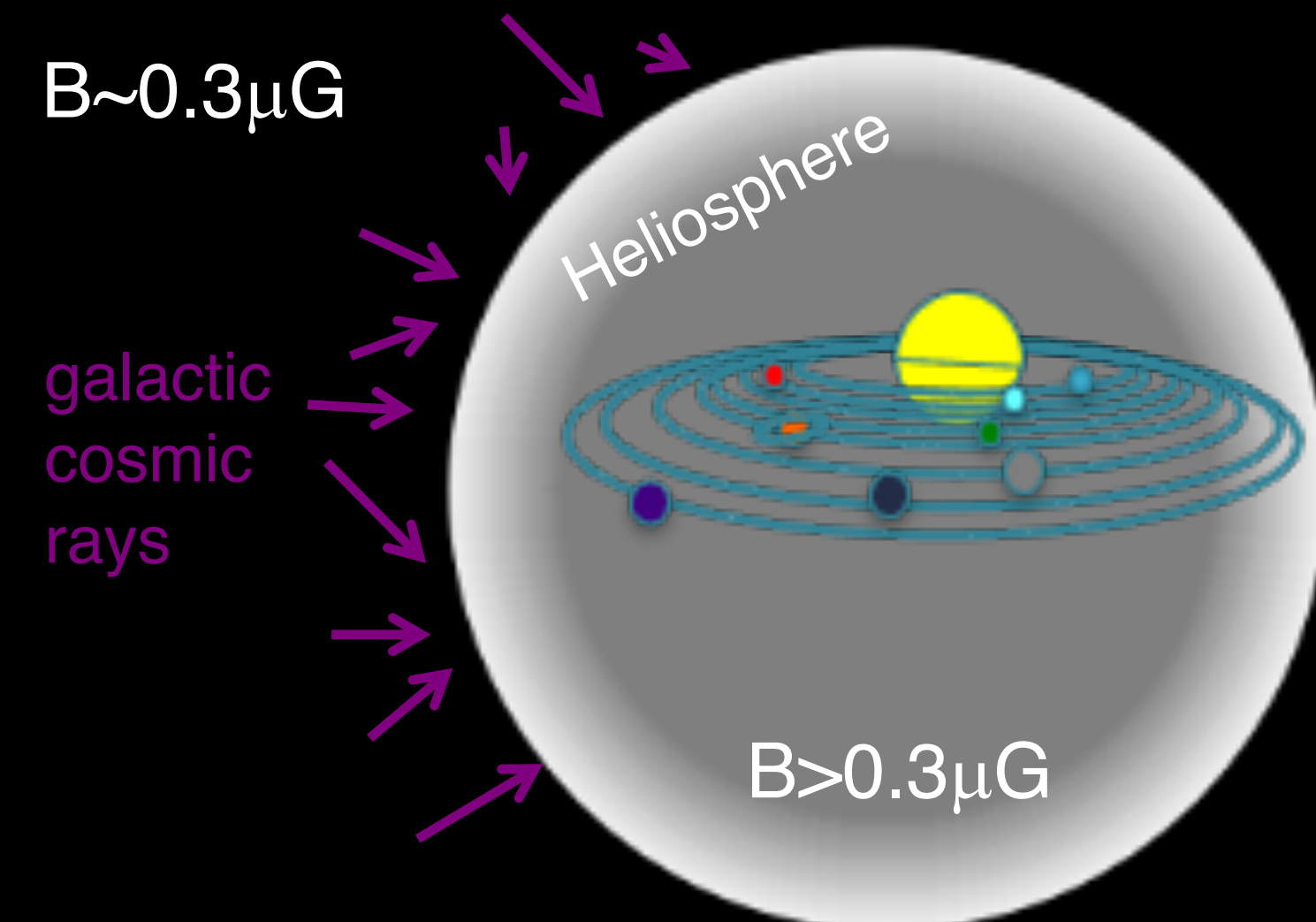
Particle phase-space density

Convection by  
radially outflowing  
solar wind

Diffusion against  
heliospheric magnetic  
field irregularities


Drift on gradients and  
curvatures of heliospheric  
magnetic field / current sheet

Adiabatic energy losses due  
to expanding solar wind





## WHAT CAN WE LEARN?

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial t} = -\mathbf{V}_{\text{sw}} \cdot \nabla f + \nabla \cdot (K \cdot \nabla f) + \frac{1}{3} \nabla \cdot \mathbf{V}_{\text{sw}} \frac{\partial f}{\partial \ln R}$$


Modulation of different nuclei driven mainly by two effects:  $K(\mathbf{x}, R) = \beta K_1(\mathbf{x}) K_2(R)$

1. Velocity dependence of the diffusion tensor:

$K_2$  is assumed to be the same for all nuclei, but the velocity dependence induces changes in this term of the Parker equation for nuclei with different  $A/Z$ .

2. Difference in spectral shape:

The adiabatic energy change term in the Parker equation depends on the spectral shape. If two nuclei have the same  $A/Z$ , but different spectral shape outside the heliosphere (LIS), the last term will be different.

By looking at flux ratios using species with similar  $A/Z$  we can probe the shape of the Local Interstellar Spectrum. In particular we can point out if the shape of the LIS is similar or significantly different in the rigidity range  $R > 2$  GV, where no direct measurements outside the heliosphere are available.



# WHAT CAN WE LEARN?

By looking at flux ratios using species with similar  $A/Z$  we can probe the shape of the Local Interstellar Spectrum. In particular we can point out if the shape of the LIS is similar or significantly different in the rigidity range  $R > 2$  GV, where no direct measurements outside the heliosphere are available.

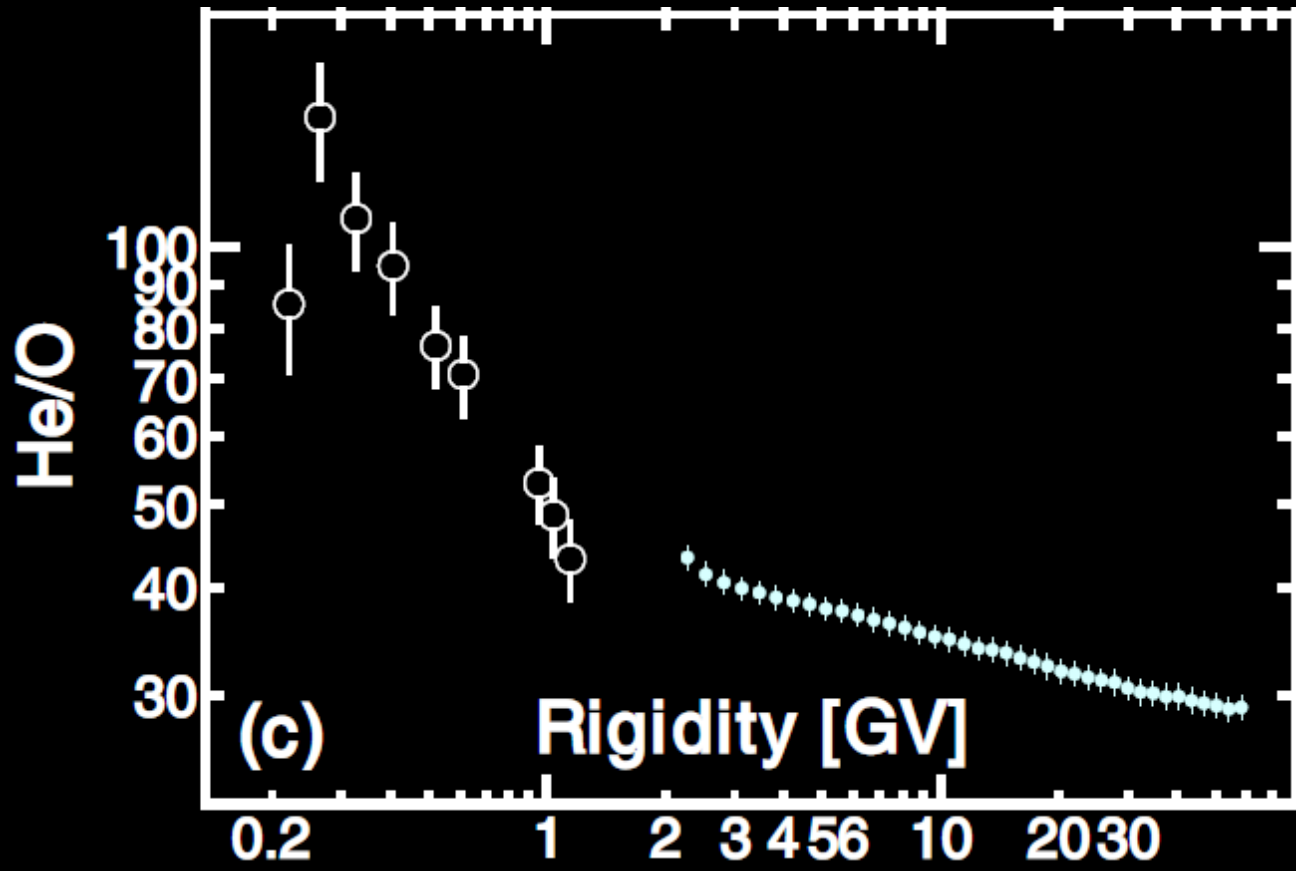
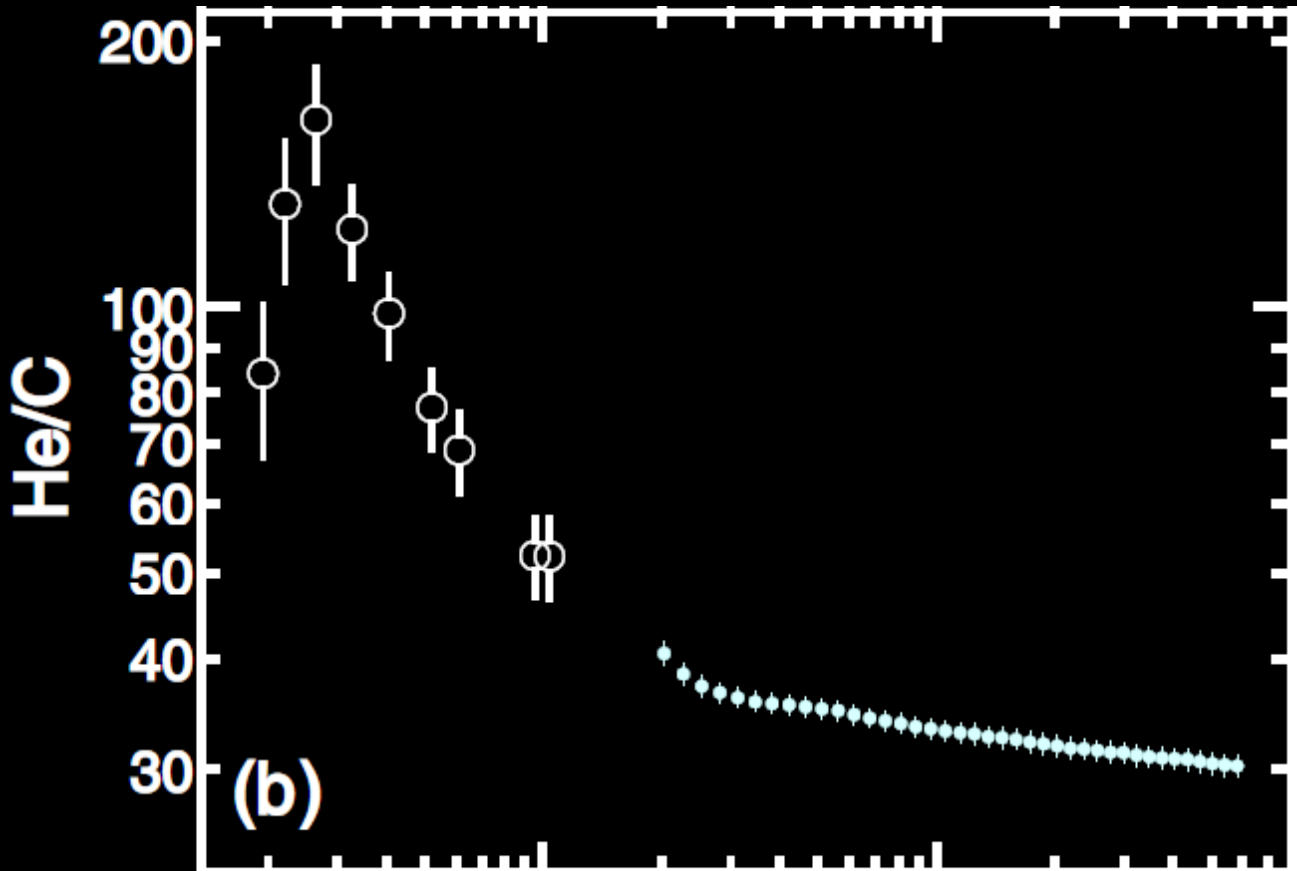
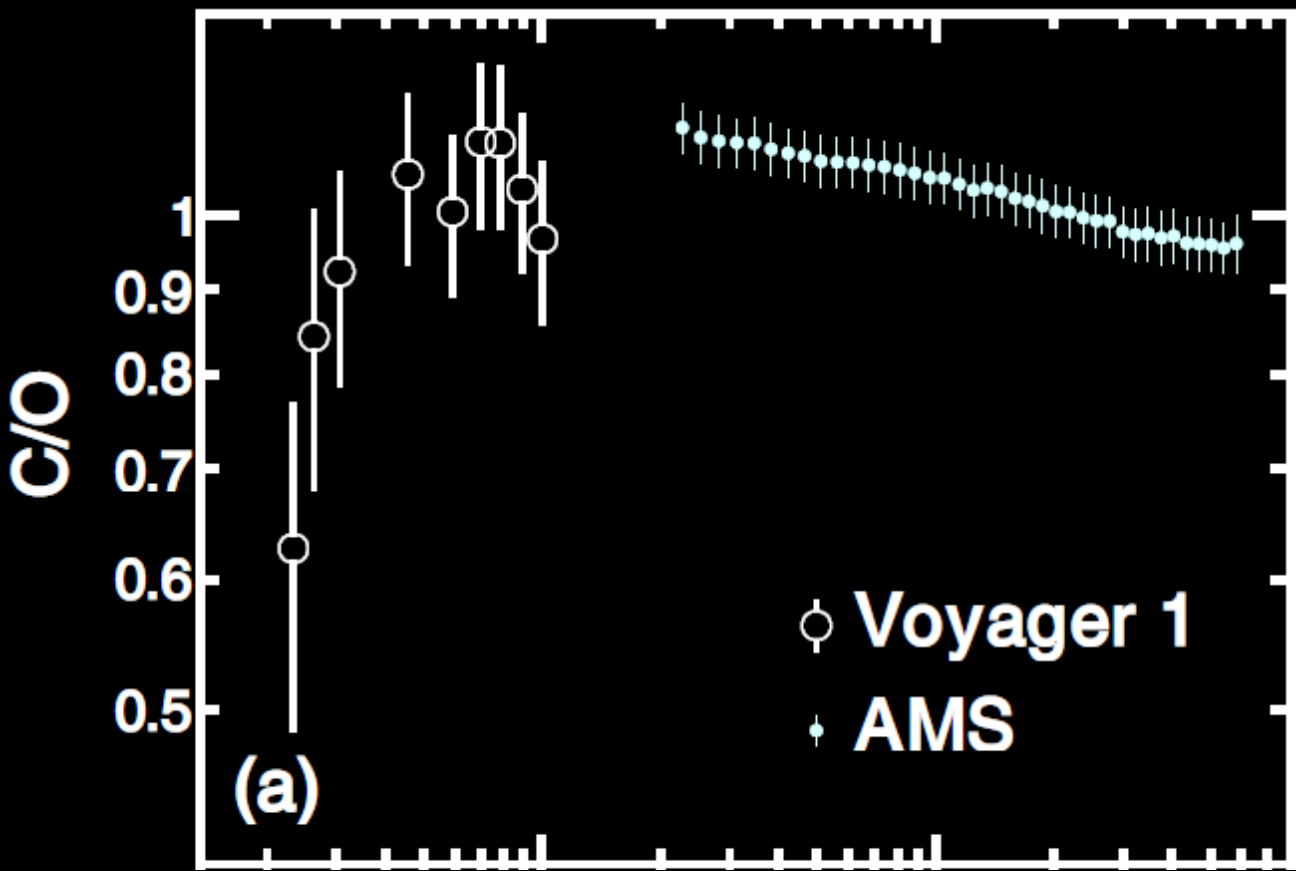
	$\Delta A/Z$ [1]
C/O	$0.01 \pm 0.02$
He/C	$-0.08 \pm 0.03$
He/O	$-0.07 \pm 0.02$
p/C	$-1.02 \pm 0.02$
p/O	$-1.01 \pm 0.01$
p/He	$-0.94 \pm 0.02$

[1]: Average weighted by isotopic composition.  
Based on data from CRDB: Maurin et al, 2020 (<https://lpsc.in2p3.fr/crdb>)

- 1) C/O: same velocity, so any time dependence comes from spectral shape differences.
- 2) He/C, He/O: very similar velocities, so any time dependence comes from spectral shape differences.

Flux ratio vs time	LIS ratio
Flat	Flat
Correlated with solar activity	Increasing
Anti-correlated with solar activity	Decreasing

- 3) p/C, p/O: numerical model needed to disentangle between velocity and LIS difference.
- 4) p/He: from numerical model, velocity difference is the main contribution to time dependence.





# PRIMARY NUCLEI FLUXES

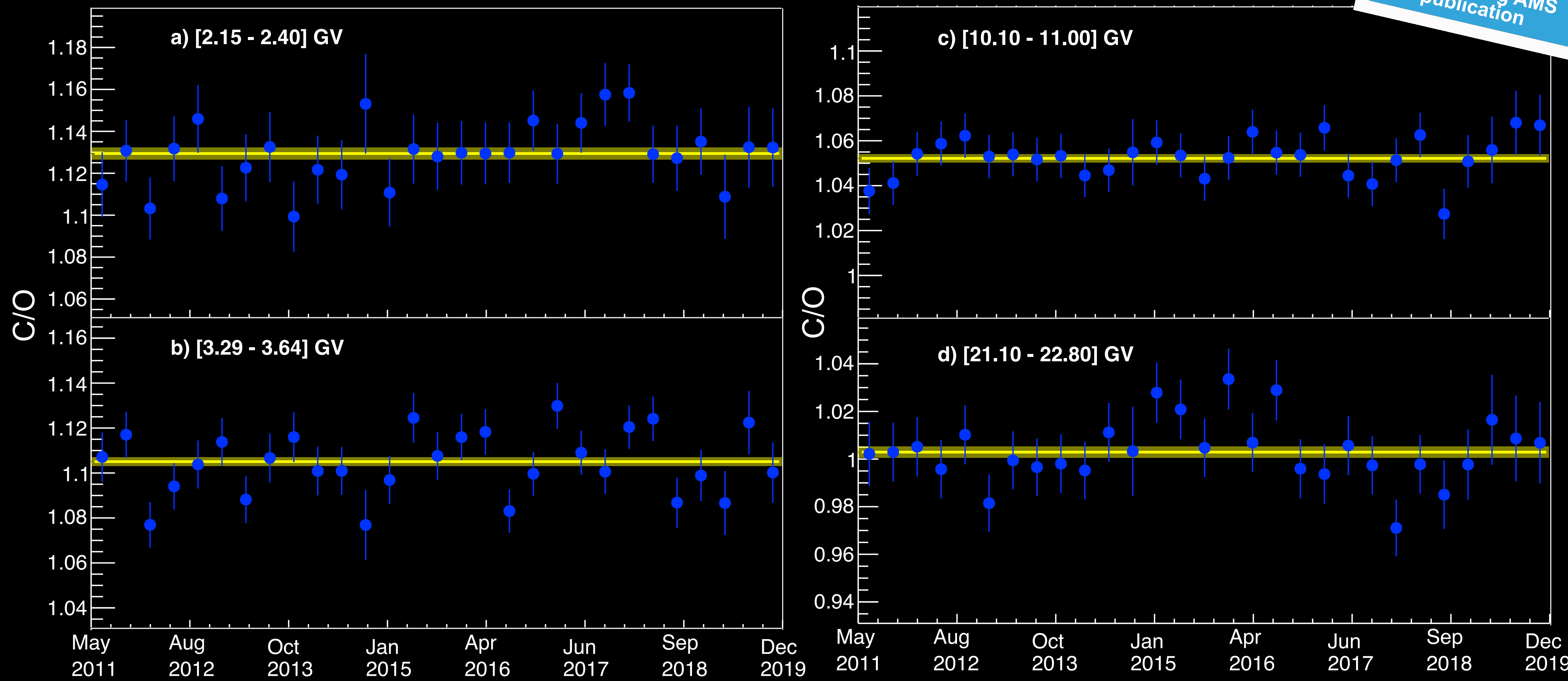
- proton, Helium, Carbon & Oxygen fluxes from May 2011 to Oct. 2019, in 27 days time interval (Bartels rotations)
- Rigidity ranges:  
 $[1, 60]$  GV for p  
 $[1.7, 60]$  GV for He  
 $[1.9, 60]$  GV for C  
 $[2.1, 60]$  GV for O
- Similar long-term and short-term time structures
- The amplitude of these structures decreases with increasing rigidity and becomes non-observable at:  
 $\sim 25$  GV for C & O  
 $\sim 50$  GV for He  
 while it's **always observable for protons** in the rigidity range analyzed.





PRIMARY NUCLEI FLUXES

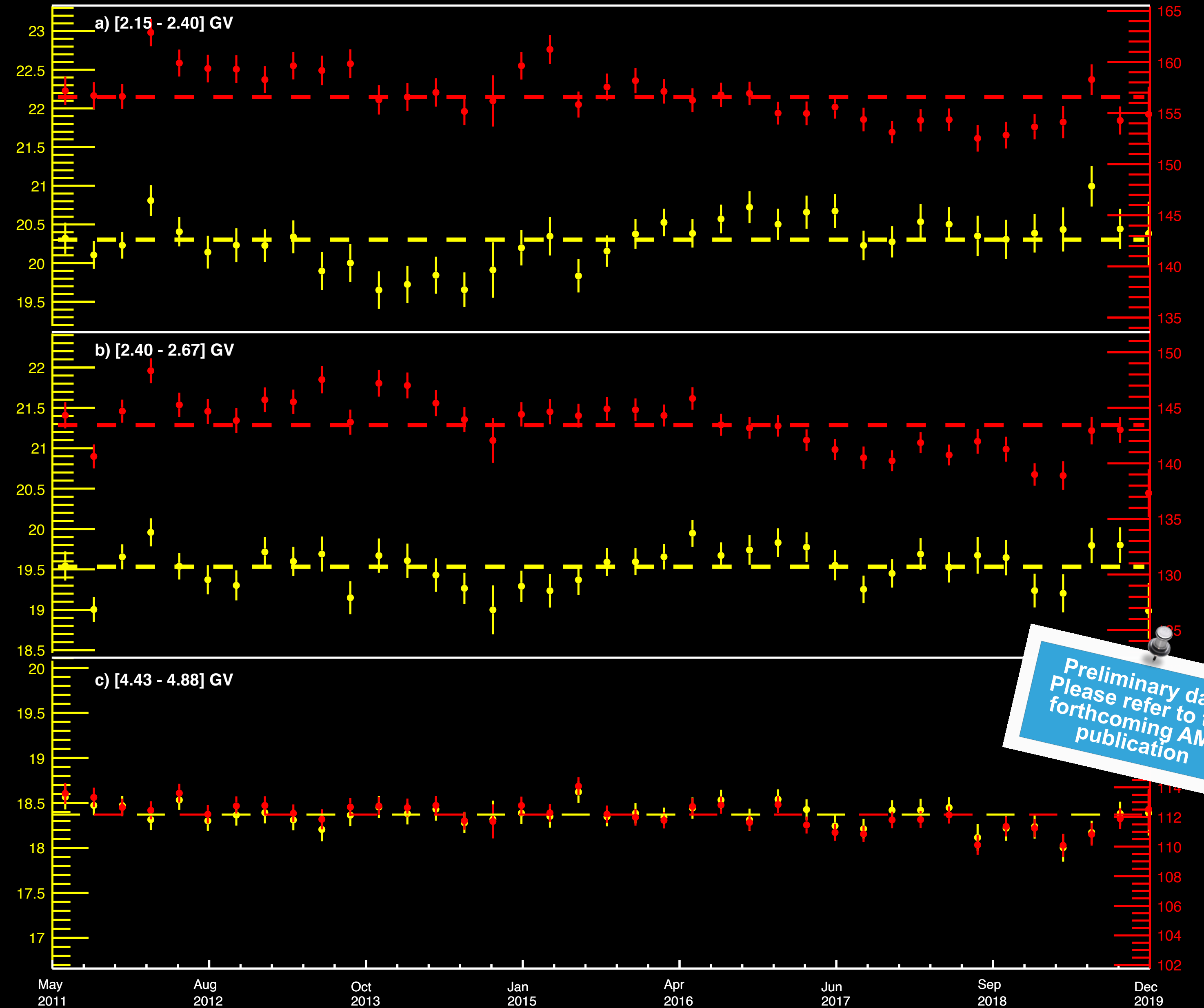
- 4 Bartels rotations time interval
- the first and only measurement of the time dependence of Carbon and Oxygen fluxes as a function of rigidity
- C&O have similar A/Z, hence same velocity, no time dependence difference arising from the velocity
- The C/O flux ratio is time independent in the whole rigidity range (from 2 to 60 GV)





# PRIMARY NUCLEI FLUXES

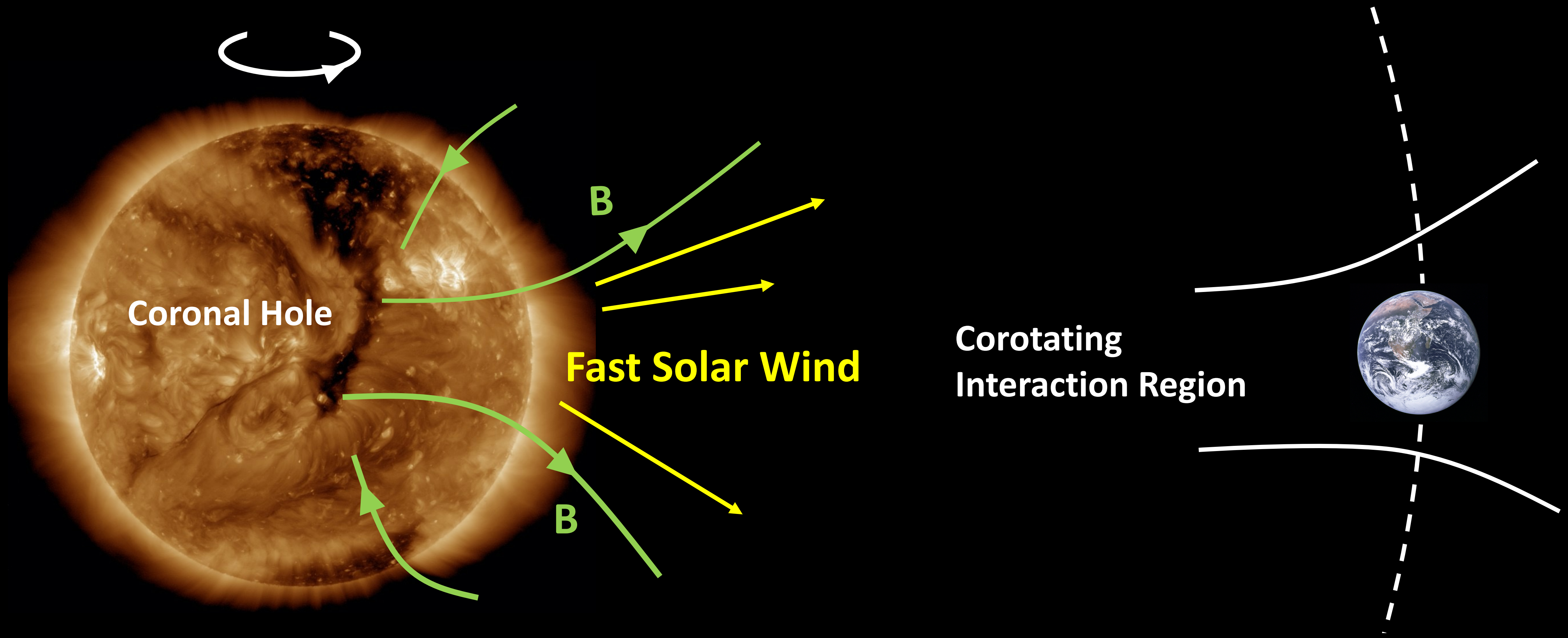
- 3 Bartels rotations time interval
- $\text{He}/(\text{C}+\text{O})$  flux ratio exhibits a time dependence up to  $\sim 2.5$  GV
- He, C&O have similar  $A/Z$ , hence their LIS must have different rigidity dependence above 2 GV
- $\text{p}/(\text{C}+\text{O})$  flux ratio exhibits a time dependence up to  $\sim 4$  GV
- p, C&O have different  $A/Z$ , hence both LIS rigidity dependence and velocity contribute to the observed time dependence of  $\text{p}/(\text{C}+\text{O})$





## FINER STRUCTURES

The presence of one or more coronal holes on the surface of the Sun creates recurrent variations in cosmic rays with a period of 27, 13.5, and 9 days.

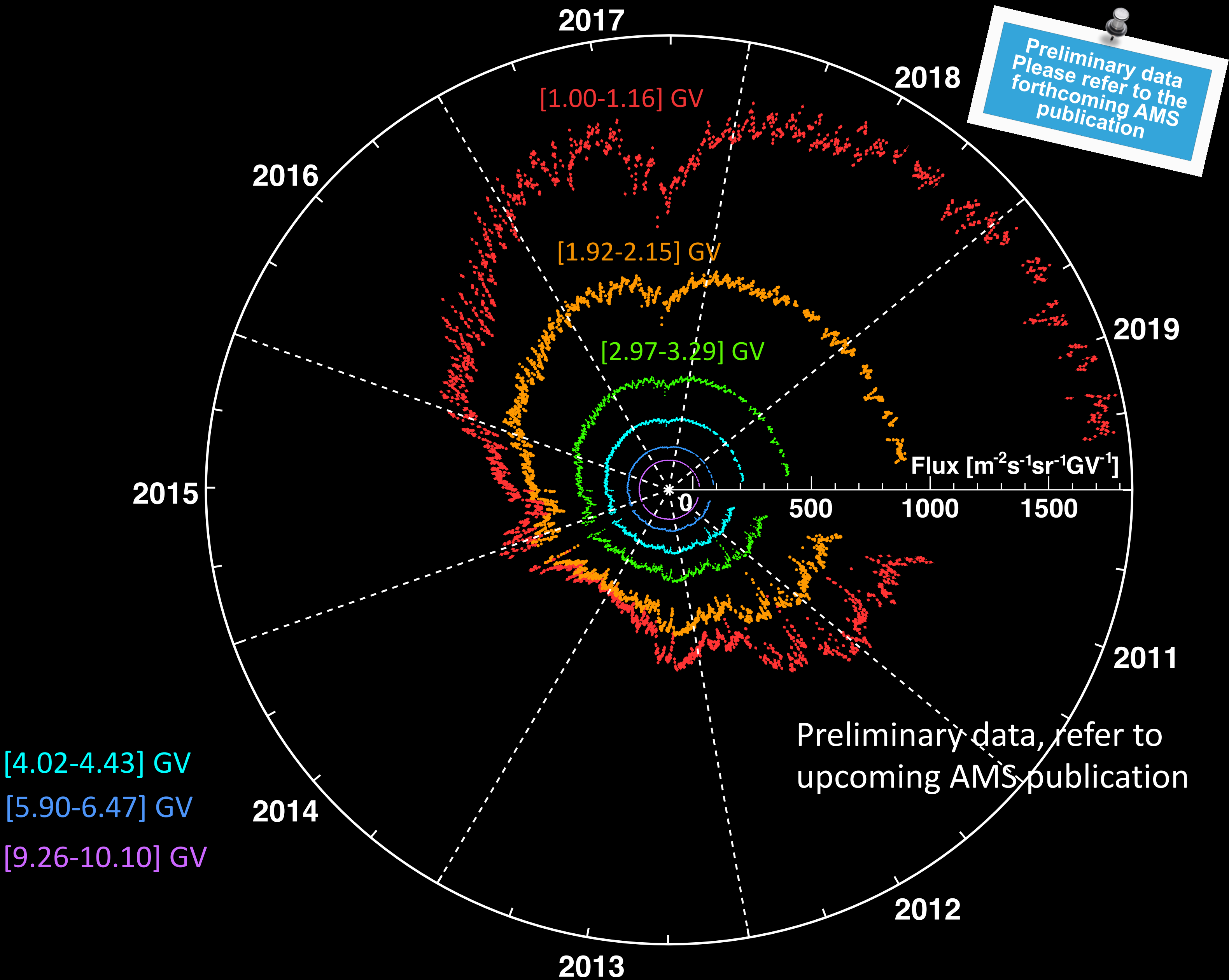




# DAILY FLUXES

To explore these effects we can study the proton flux on a daily basis

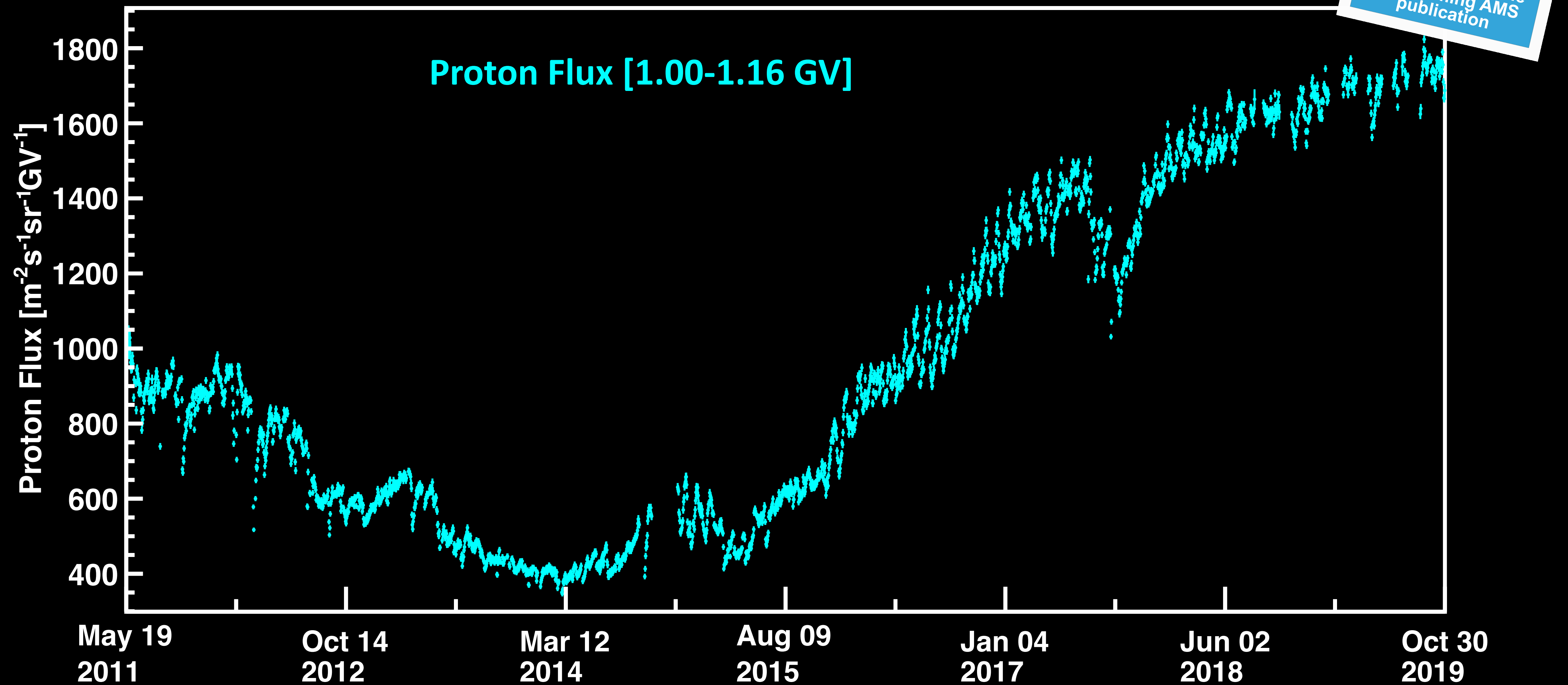
5.5 billion protons collected from May 20, 2011 to October 29, 2019 (a total of 2824 days or 114 Bartels rotations)





## DAILY FLUXES

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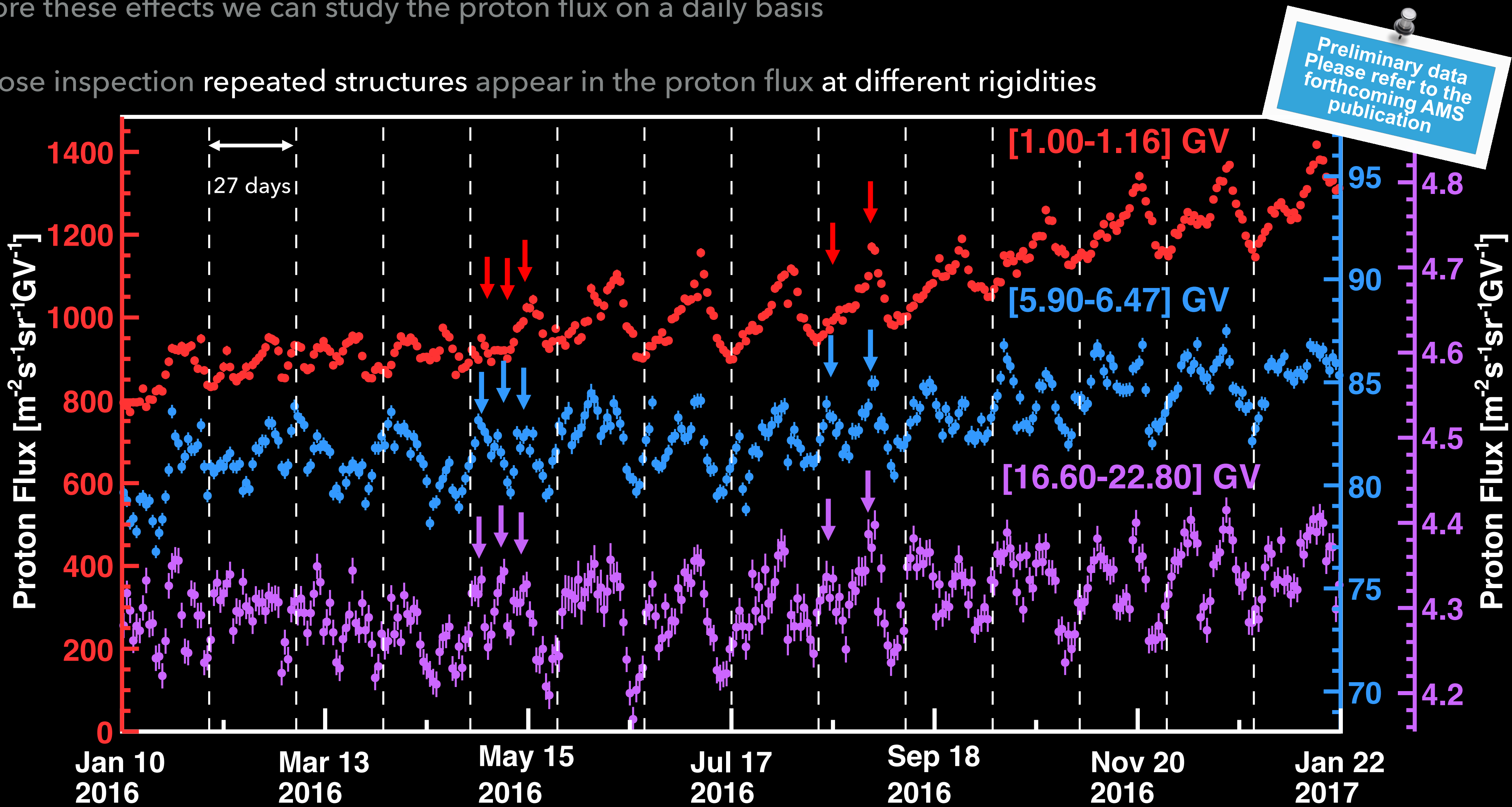




# DAILY FLUXES

To explore these effects we can study the proton flux on a daily basis

Upon close inspection repeated structures appear in the proton flux at different rigidities

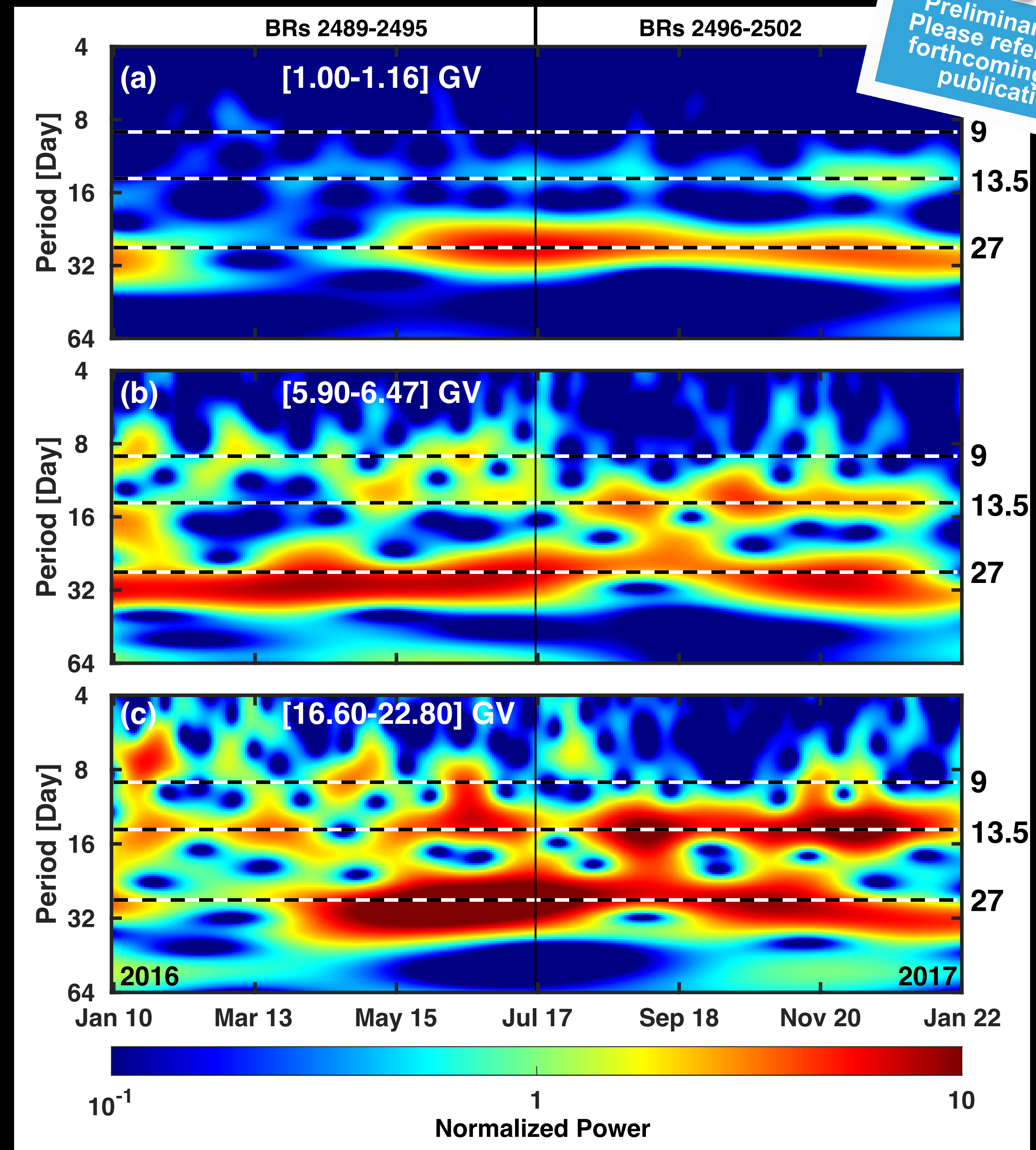




## WAVELET ANALYSIS

To better understand these structures we perform a wavelet analysis on the flux and look at the frequency power as a function of time.

Periods of 9, 13.5, and 27 days are observed in 2016. The strength of all three periodicities change with time and rigidity. In particular, shorter periods of 9 and 13.5 days, when present, are more visible at ~6 GV and ~20 GV compared to 1 GV.



Preliminary data  
Please refer to the  
forthcoming AMS  
publication



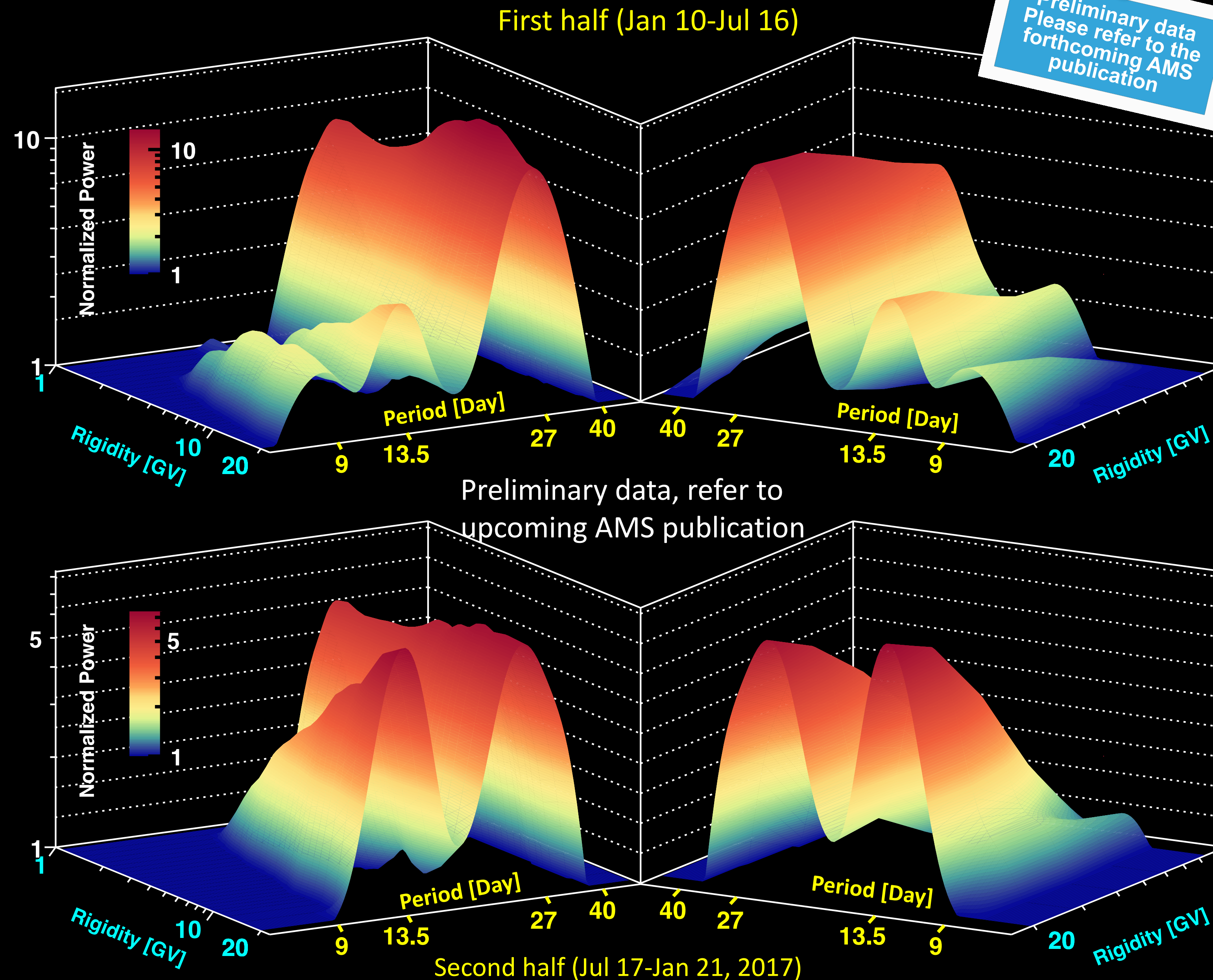
## WAVELET ANALYSIS

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Periods of 9, 13.5, and 27 days are observed in 2016. The strength of all three periodicities change with time and rigidity. In particular, shorter periods of 9 and 13.5 days, when present, are more visible at ~6 GV and ~20 GV compared to 1 GV.

The strength of all three periodicities is rigidity dependent.

In particular, the strength of 9-day and 13.5-day periodicities increases with increasing rigidity up to ~10 GV and ~20 GV respectively, and then decreases with increasing rigidity up to 100





## CONCLUSIONS

- The precision measurement of proton, Helium, Carbon and Oxygen fluxes in Bartels rotations from May 2011 to October 2019 has been presented.
- The study of the time evolution as a function of rigidity for different nuclei species provides unique info to understand the contribution of the LIS and of the velocity dependence of CR propagation in the heliosphere.
- The first and only measurement of the time dependence of Carbon and Oxygen fluxes as a function of rigidity.
- The 4 nuclei species exhibit similar behavior in time:
  - C&O have an identical time behavior, indicating a very similar rigidity dependence of their LIS above  $\sim 2$  GV.
  - The He/(C+O) flux ratio exhibit a time dependence up to  $\sim 2.5$  GV, indicating that their LIS has a different rigidity dependence.
  - The p/(C+O) flux ratio also shows a time dependence up to  $\sim 4$  GV. Both LIS rigidity dependence and velocity contribute to this time behavior.
- We have presented the precision measurements of the daily proton fluxes in cosmic rays from 1 GV to 100 GV between May 20, 2011 and October 29, 2019 based on  $5.5 \times 10^9$  protons. The proton fluxes exhibit variations on different time scales, in days, months, and years.
- From 2014 to 2018, we observed recurrent flux variations with a period of 27 days. Shorter periods of 9 days and 13.5 days are observed in 2016.
- The strength of all three periodicities changes with both time and rigidity. In particular, the strength of 9-day and 13.5-day periodicities increases with increasing rigidities up to  $\sim 10$  GV and  $\sim 20$  GV respectively, and then decreases with increasing rigidity up to 100 GV.