

Multifractal Scaling of the Solar Wind Turbulence at High Latitudes

Anna Wawrzaszek

Wiesław M. Macek

Space Research Centre PAS



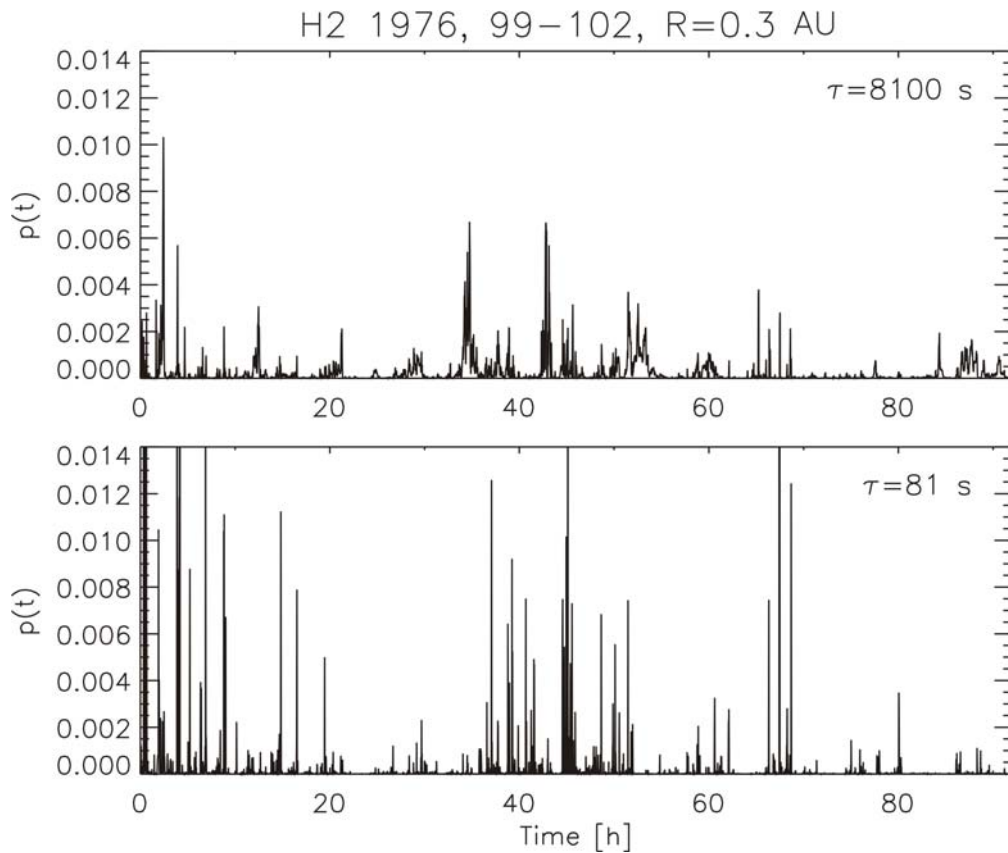
Brussels, 9 - 11 June 2010



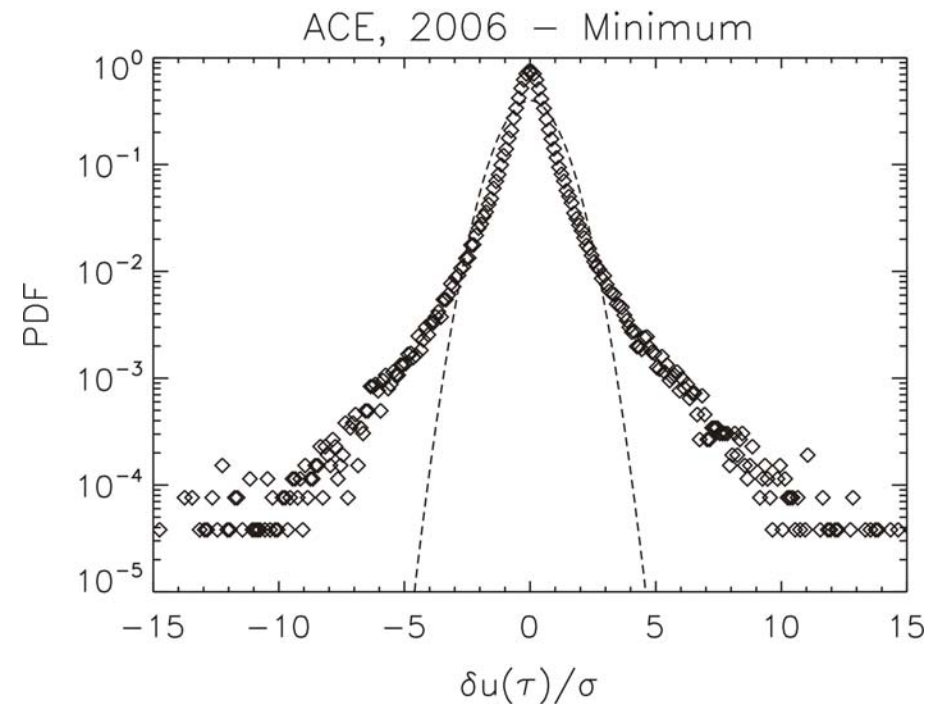
Outline

- Intermittency
- Multifractal Methods
- Solar Wind Data
- Results
 - Generalized Dimensions
 - Singularity Spectra
- Conclusions

Intermittency



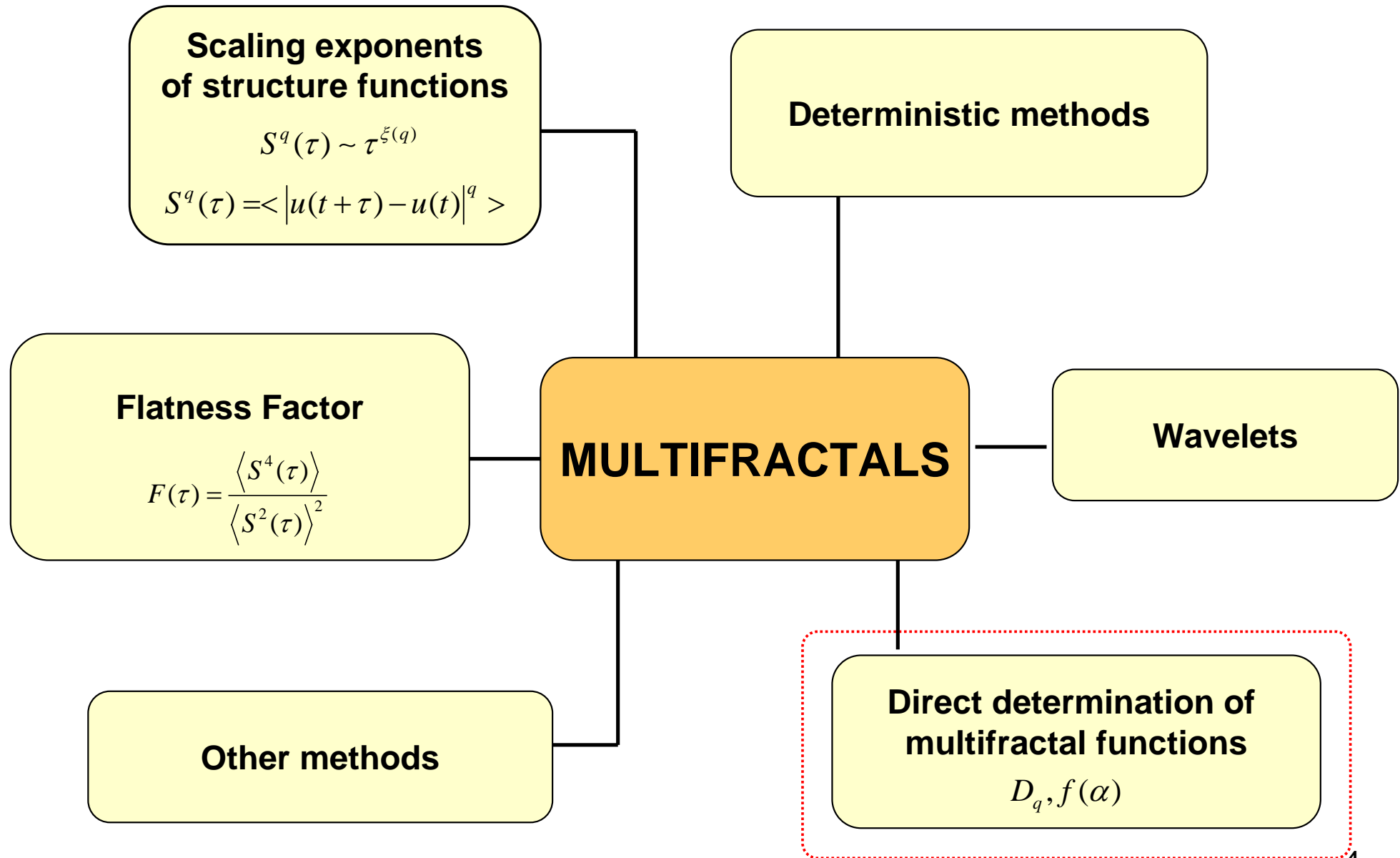
Nonuniform energy transfer rate
between different eddies
[Obhukov, 1962]



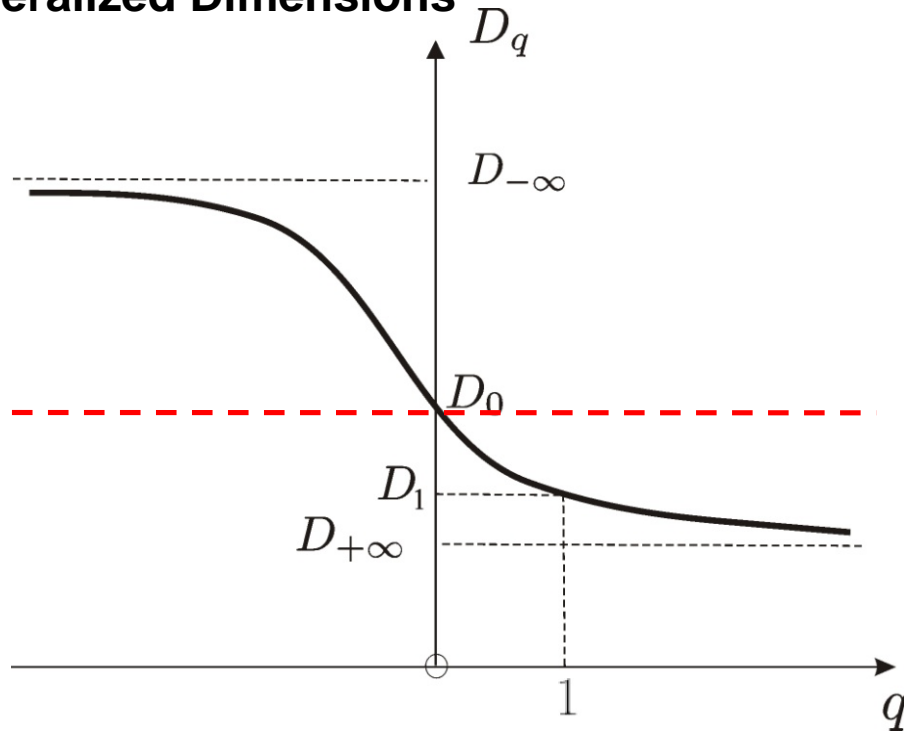
Intermittency reveals a deviation
from normal distribution.

We need multifractal description

Approaches to study multifractality



Generalized Dimensions



Multifractal Formalism

Monofractal $D_q = D$

Multifractal $D_q = D_q(q)$

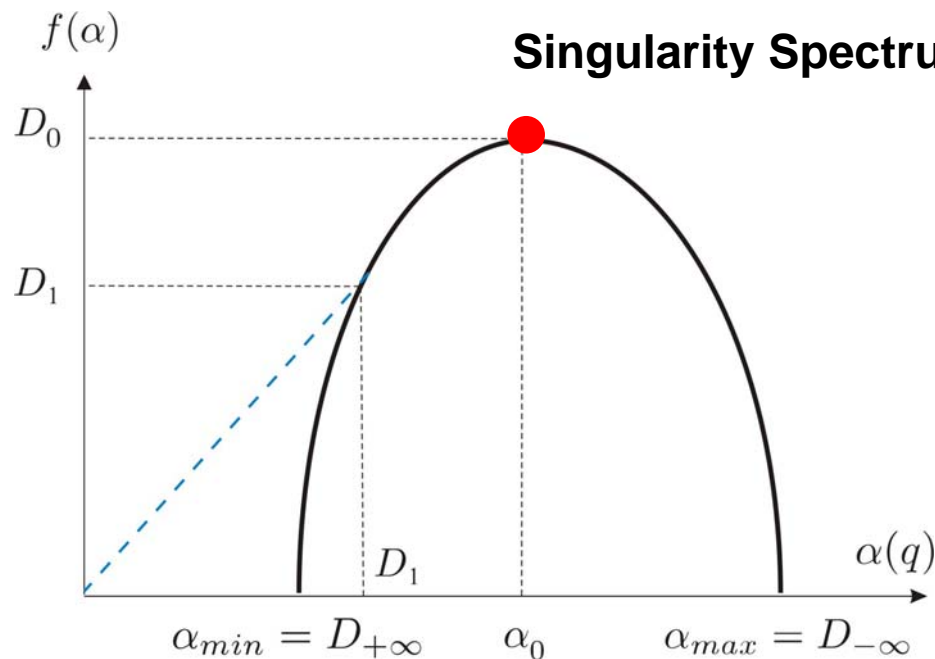
Degree of Multifractality

$$\Delta = D_{-\infty} - D_{+\infty} = \alpha_{\max} - \alpha_{\min}$$

Degree of Asymmetry

$$A = \frac{\alpha_0 - \alpha_{\min}}{\alpha_{\max} - \alpha_0}$$

Singularity Spectrum



Method

Measure $p_i(l) = \frac{\varepsilon_i(l)}{\sum_{i=1}^N \varepsilon_i(l)}$

1



2

Generalized Dimensions

Generalized average probability measure

$$\bar{\mu}(q, l) \equiv q^{-1} \sqrt[q]{\langle (p_i)^{q-1} \rangle_{\text{av}}}$$

$$D_q(l) = \frac{\log_{10} \bar{\mu}(q, l)}{\log_{10} l}$$



4

Spectrum Verification

$$\alpha = \frac{d}{dq} [(q-1)D_q]$$

$$f(\alpha) = q\alpha - (q-1)D_q$$

Generalized pseudoprobability measure

3

$$\mu_i(q, l) = \frac{p_i^q(l)}{\sum_{i=1}^N p_i^q(l)}$$

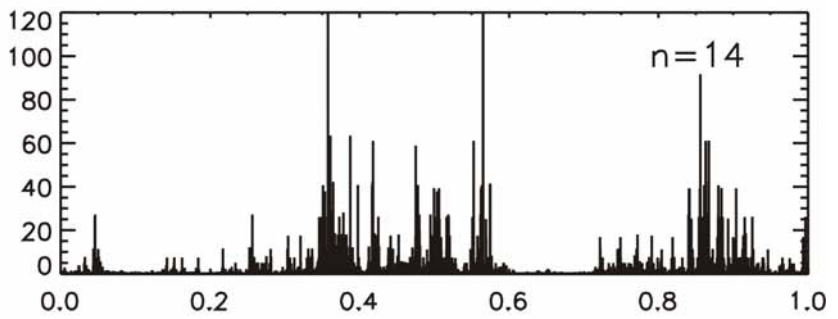
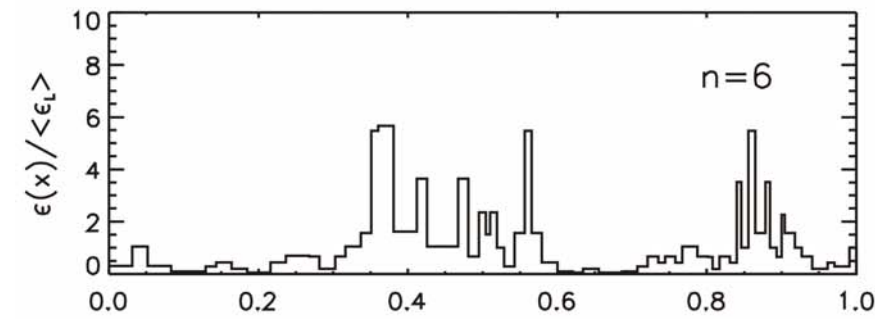
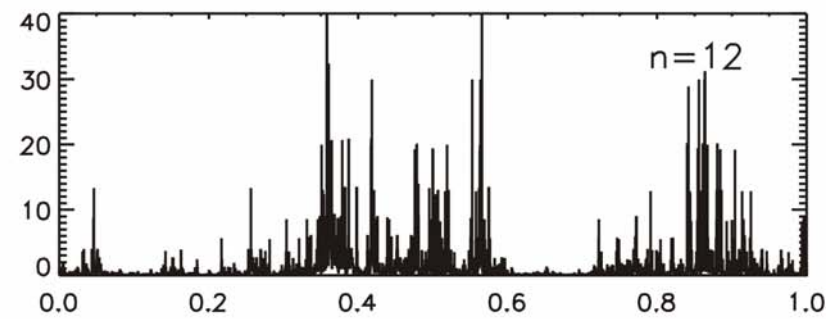
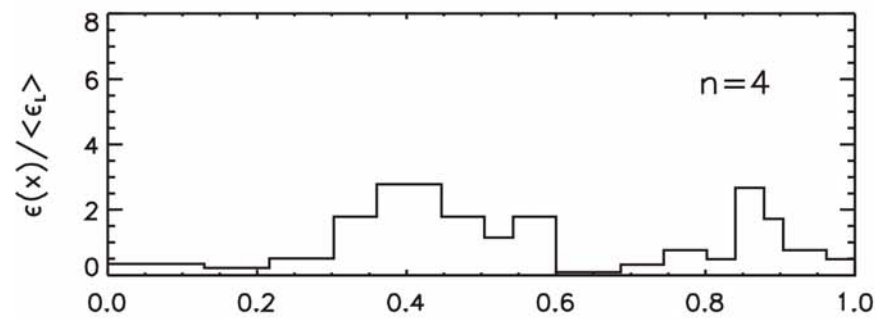
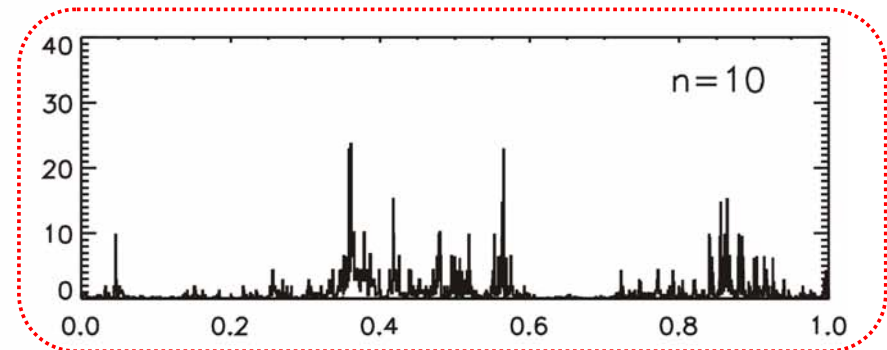
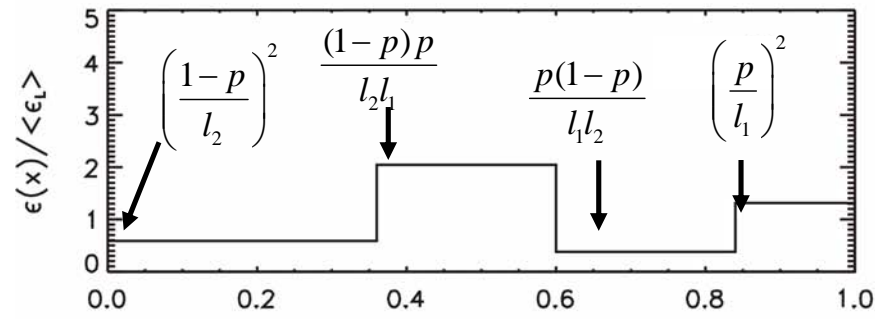
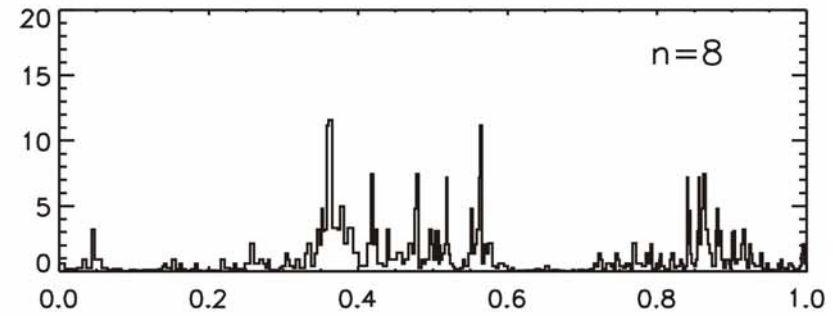
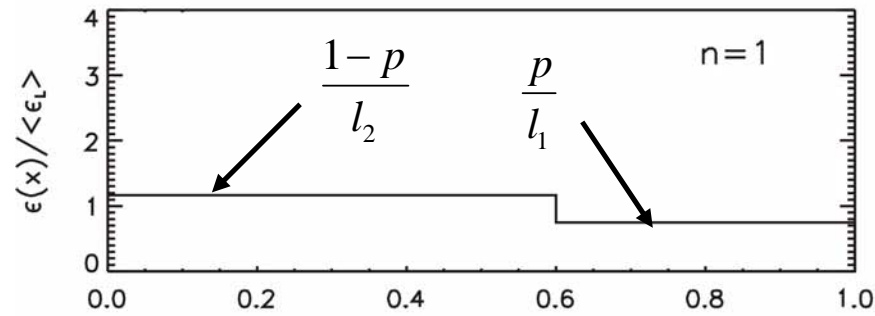
Singularity Spectrum

$$\alpha(q) = \lim_{l \rightarrow 0} \frac{\log_{10} \sum_{i=1}^N \mu_i(q, l) \log_{10} p_i(l)}{\log_{10} l}$$

$$f(q) = \lim_{l \rightarrow 0} \frac{\log_{10} \sum_{i=1}^N \mu_i(q, l) \log_{10} \mu_i(q, l)}{\log_{10} l}$$

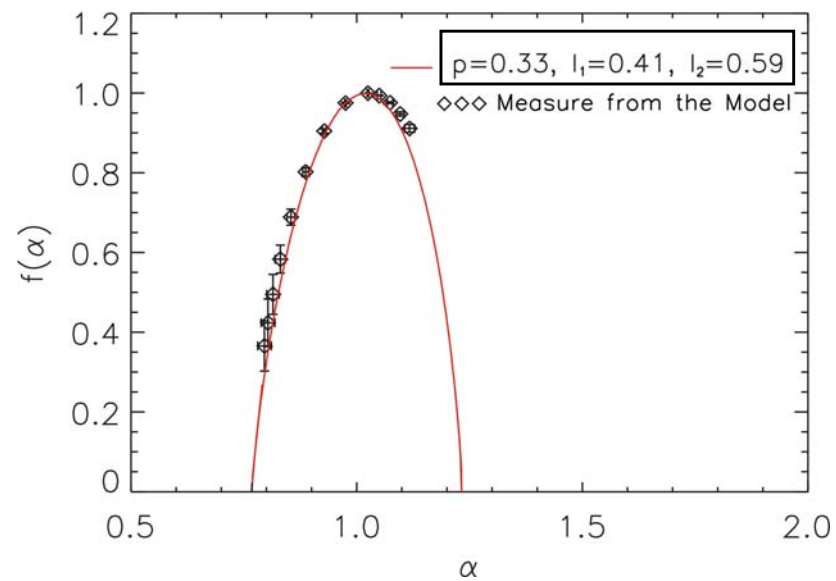
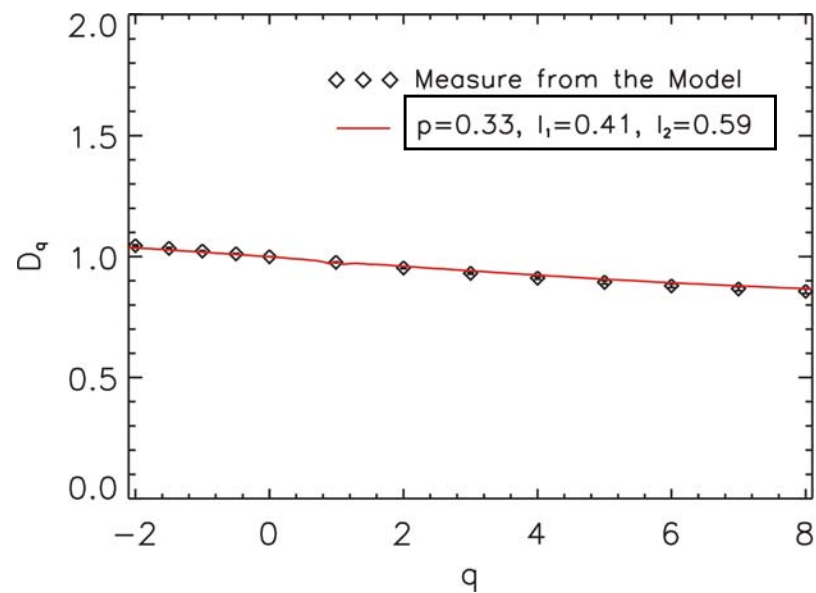
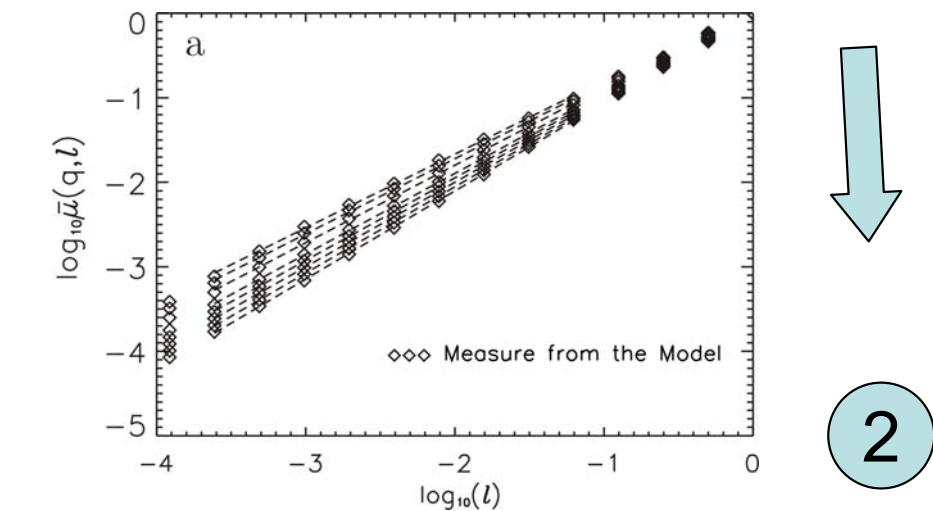
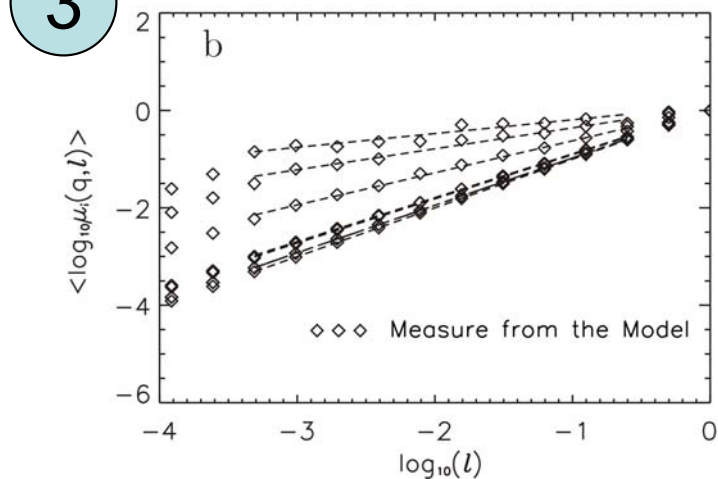
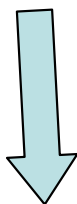
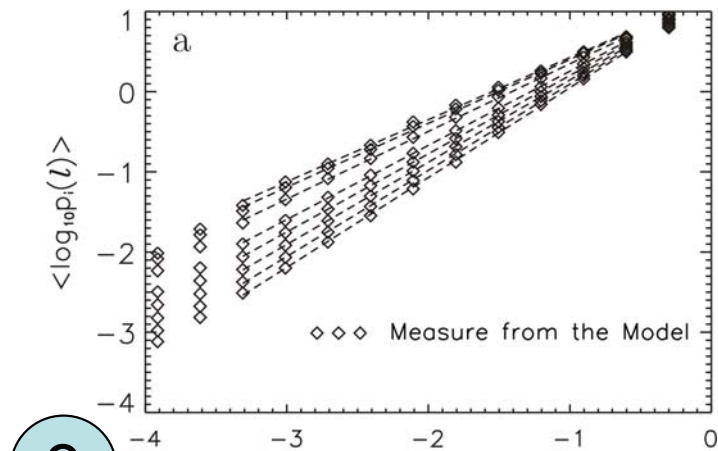
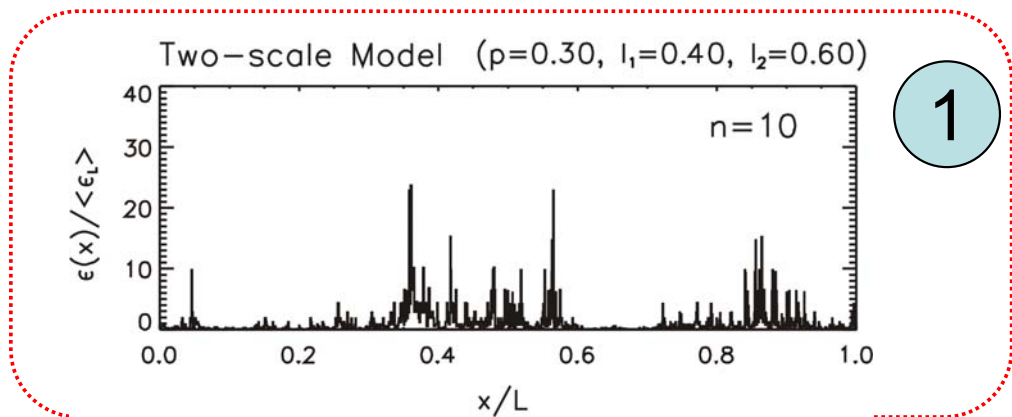


Two-scale Model ($p=0.30, l_1=0.40, l_2=0.60$)



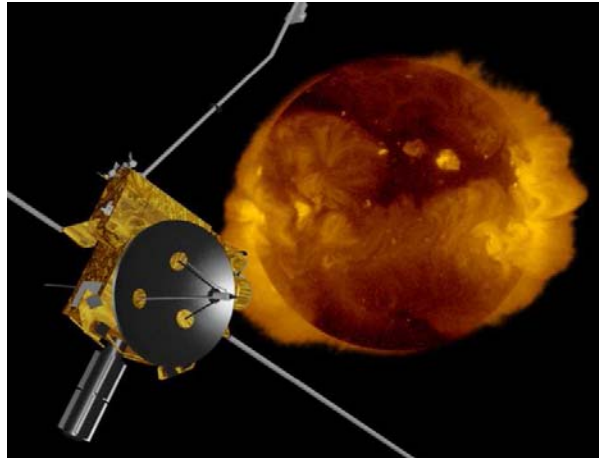
x/L

x/L



Solar Wind Data

Ulysses (1990-2009)

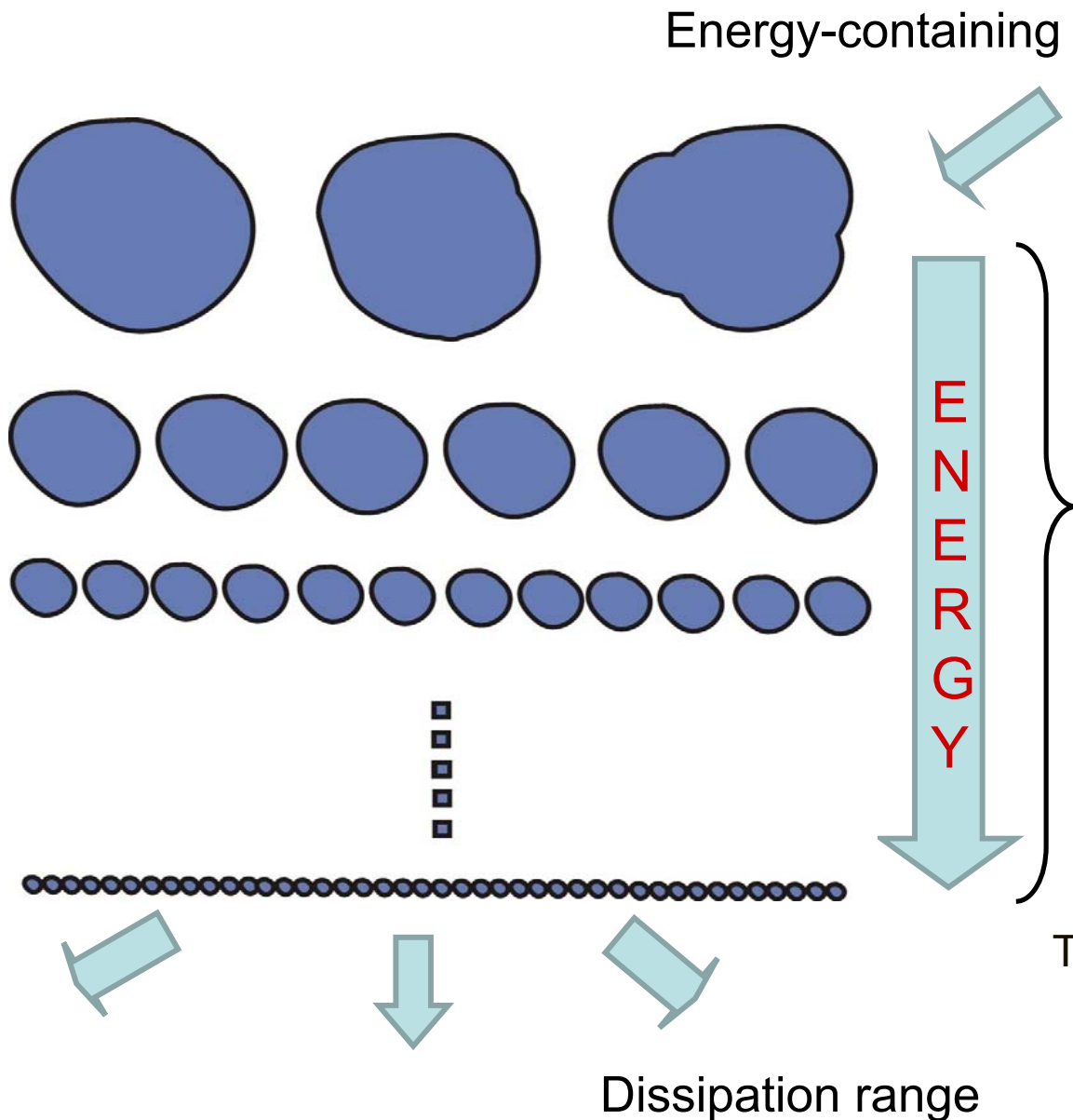


Phase of solar cycle	Solar minimum
Type of solar wind	In seven cases: fast wind In one case: slow wind
Solar wind parameter	Radial velocity
Sampling time	242 s \approx 4 min
Sample length	12 days

Year	Days	Heliographic Latitude	Heliocentric Distance
1997*	68 - 79	+14° ÷ +15°	4.9 AU
1995	104 - 115	+32° ÷ +40°	1.4 AU
1996	39 - 50	+47° ÷ +48°	3.3 AU
1995	181 - 192	+74° ÷ +78°	1.8 – 1.9 AU
1995	199 - 210	+79° ÷ +80°	1.9 – 2.0 AU
2007	150 - 161	-40° ÷ -47°	1.6 AU
1994	344 - 355	-50° ÷ -56°	1.6 – 1.7 AU
2006	317 - 328	-69° ÷ -71°	2.8 – 2.9 AU

Asterisk (*) denotes the case of the slow wind.

Energy Transfer Rate



Inertial range

Energy transfer rate:

$$\varepsilon(x, l) \sim \frac{|\nu_x(x+l) - \nu_x(x)|^3}{l}$$

A probability that energy is transferred to an eddy of size l in the turbulence cascade

$$p(x_i, l) = \frac{\varepsilon(x_i, l)}{\sum_{i=1}^N \varepsilon(x_i, l)} = p_i(l)$$

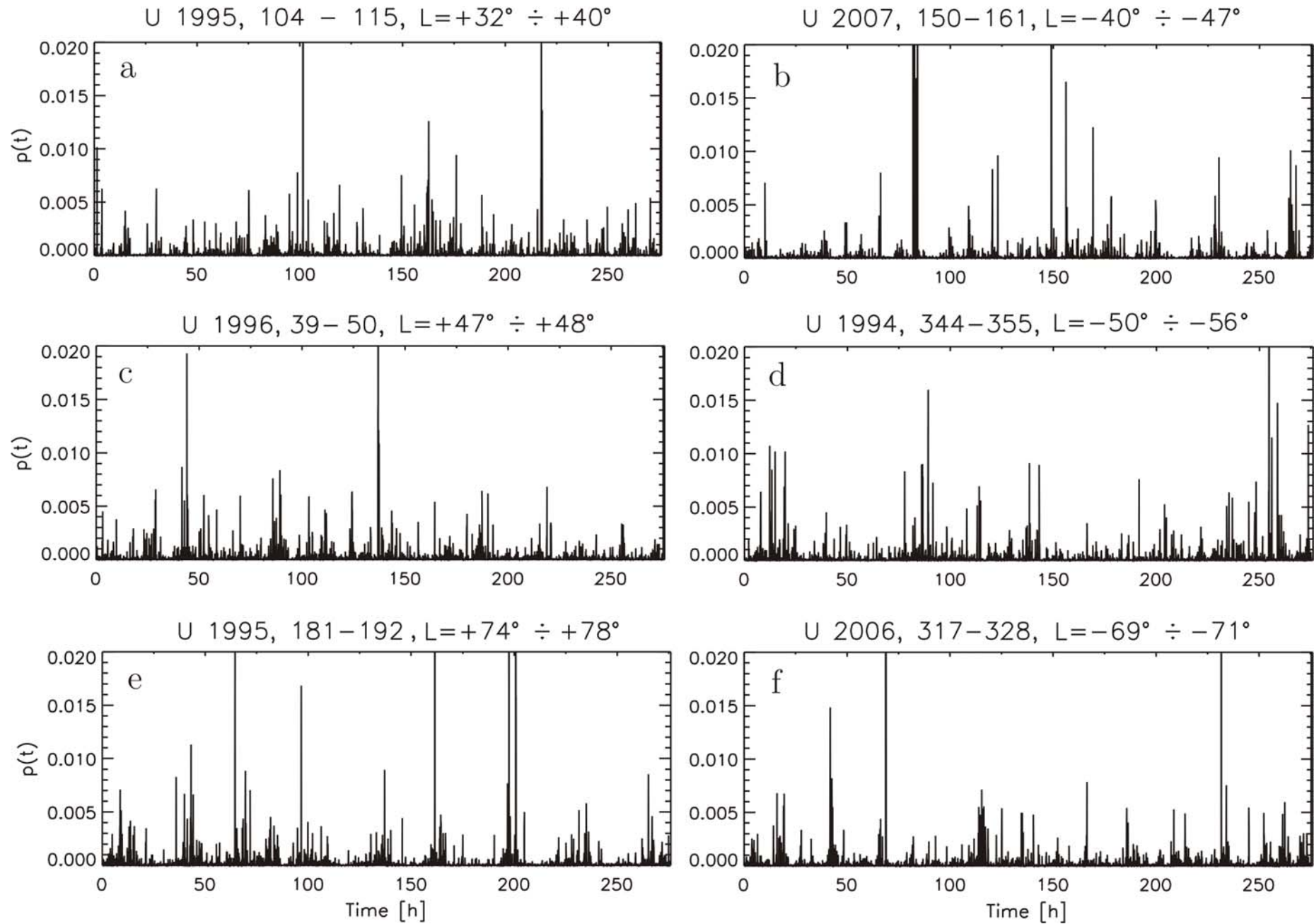
Taylor's hypothesis: $x = v_{sw}t, l = v_{sw}\Delta t$

$$p(t_i, \Delta t) = \frac{\varepsilon(t_i, \Delta t)}{\sum_{i=1}^N \varepsilon(t_i, \Delta t)}$$

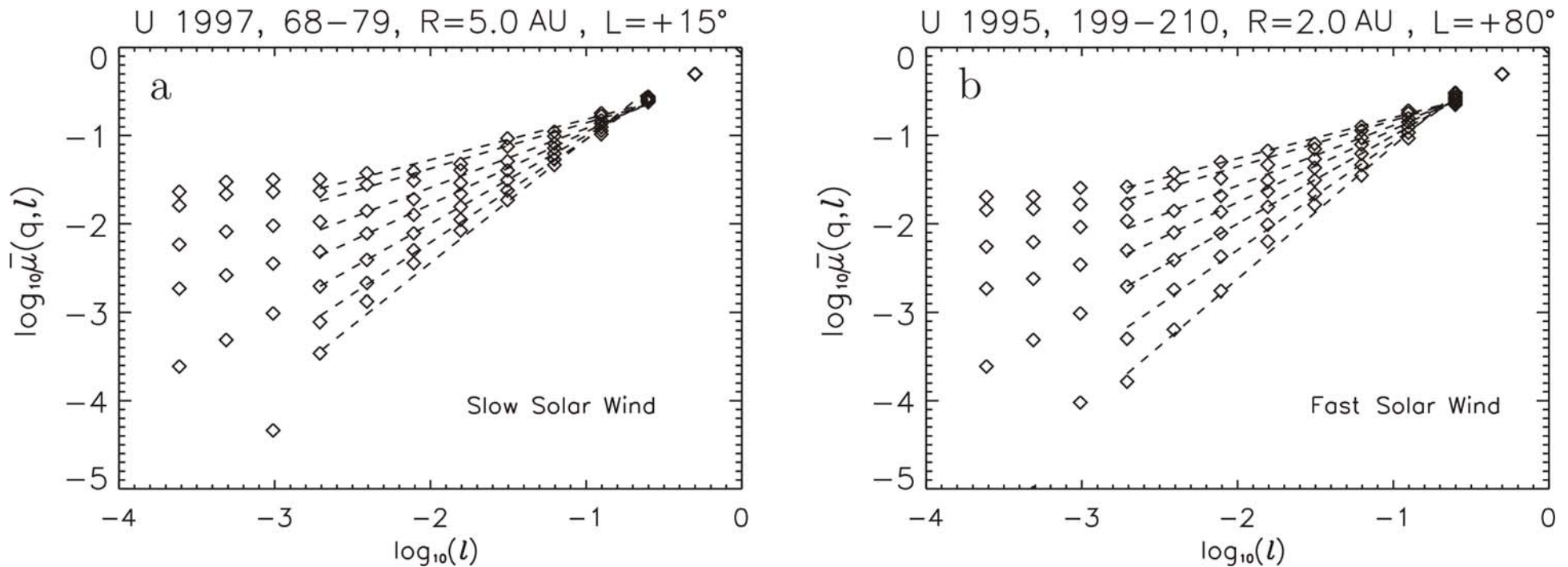
Dissipation range

Energy Transfer Rate

$\Delta t = 242$ s



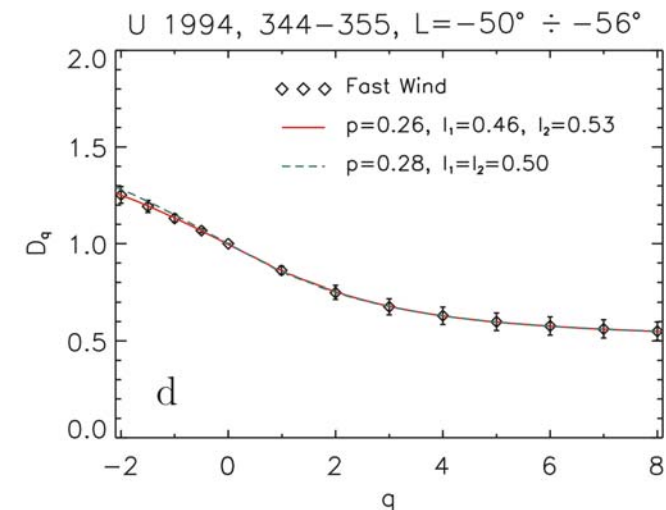
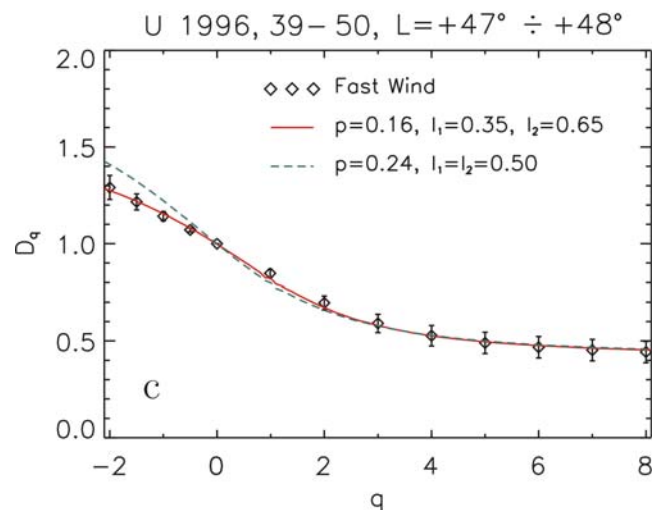
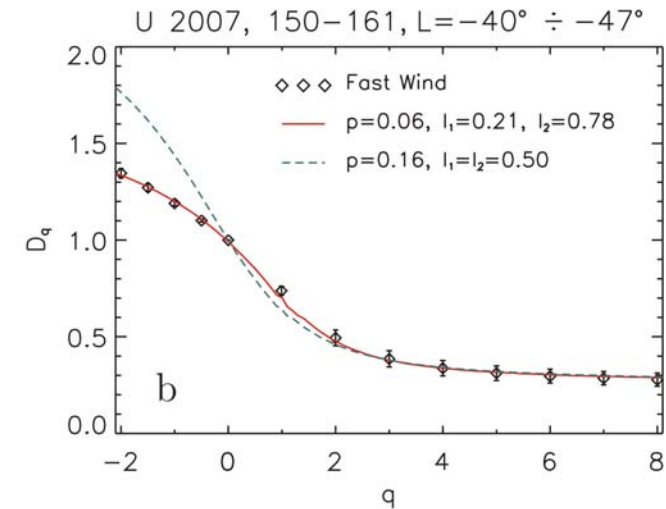
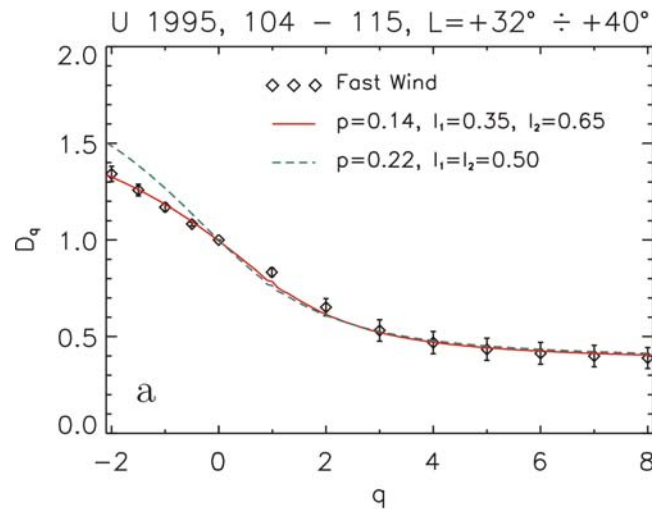
Multifractal Scaling



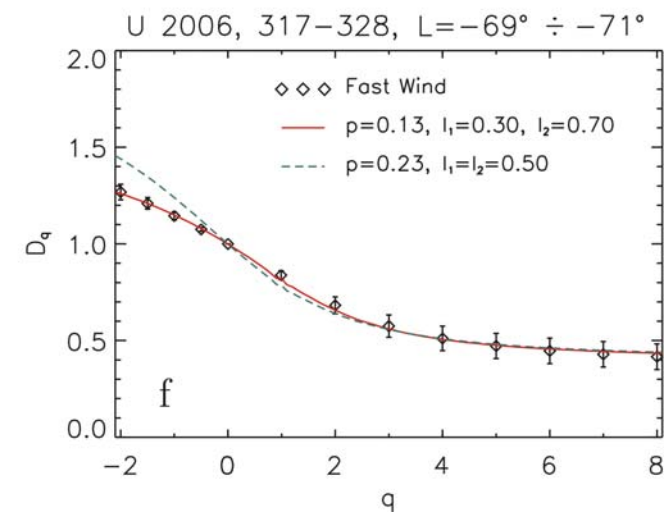
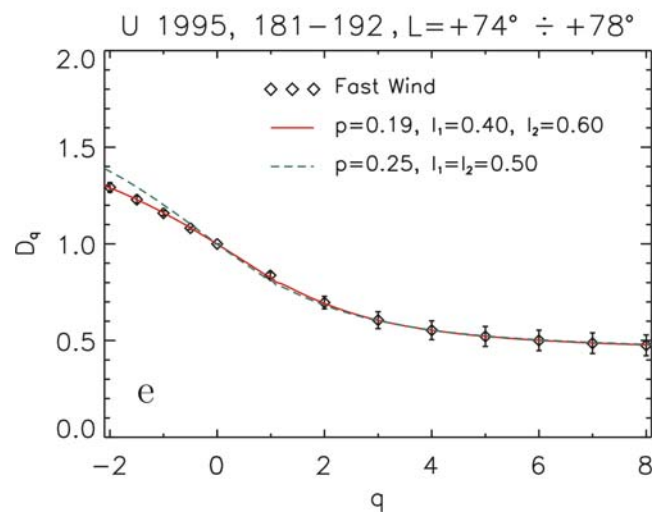
RANGE OF SCALING: $\Delta t_{\min} = 648 \text{ s}$, $\Delta t_{\max} = 11.5 \text{ h}$

Figure: Plots of the generalized average probability of cascading eddies $\log_{10} \bar{\mu}(q, l)$ versus $\log_{10} l$ for the following values of q : 6, 4, 2, 1, 0, -1, -2. These results are obtained using data measured by Ulysses during solar minimum (1995-1997) at 15° and 80° (diamonds) for the (a) slow and (b) fast solar wind, correspondingly.

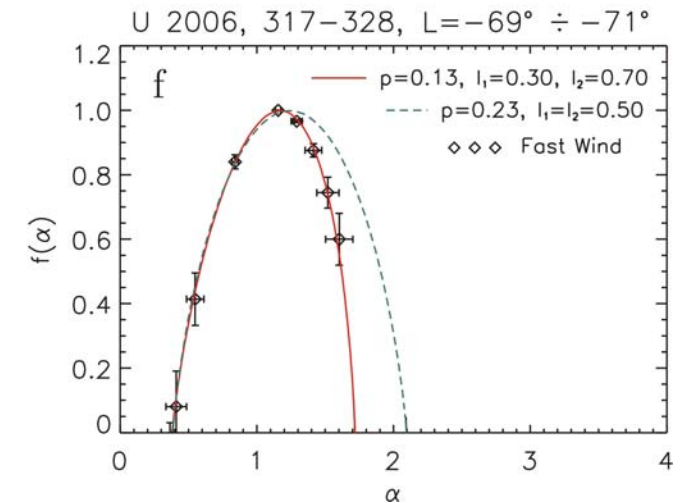
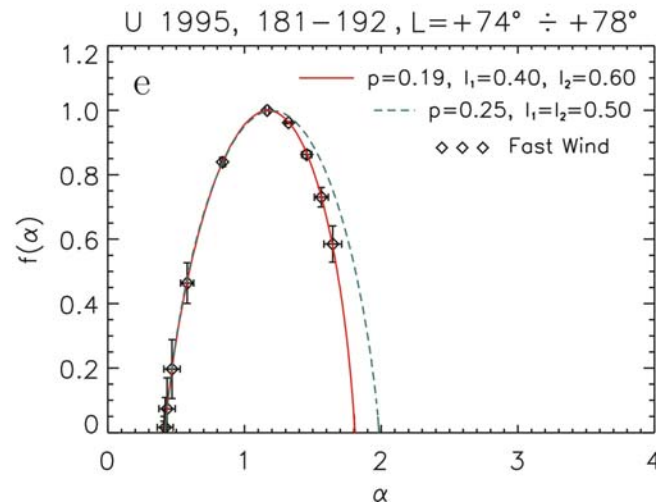
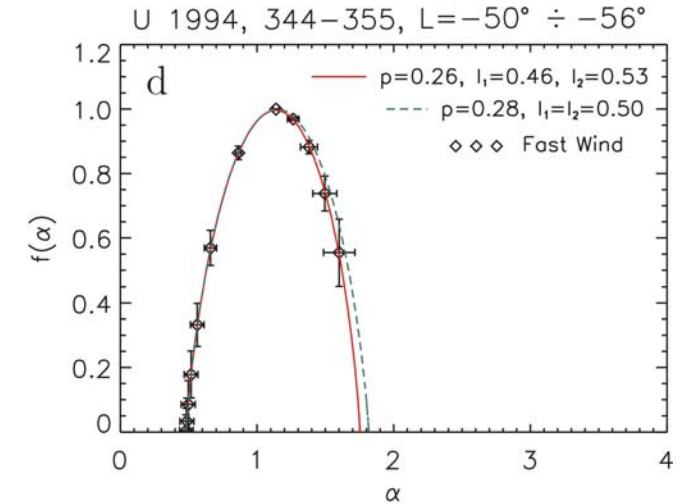
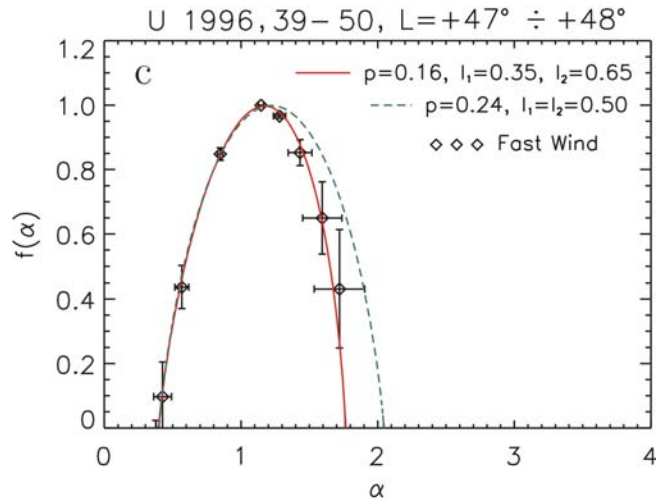
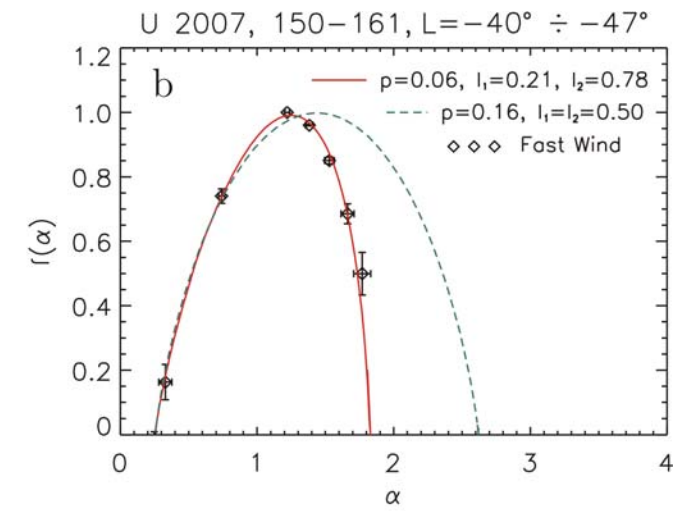
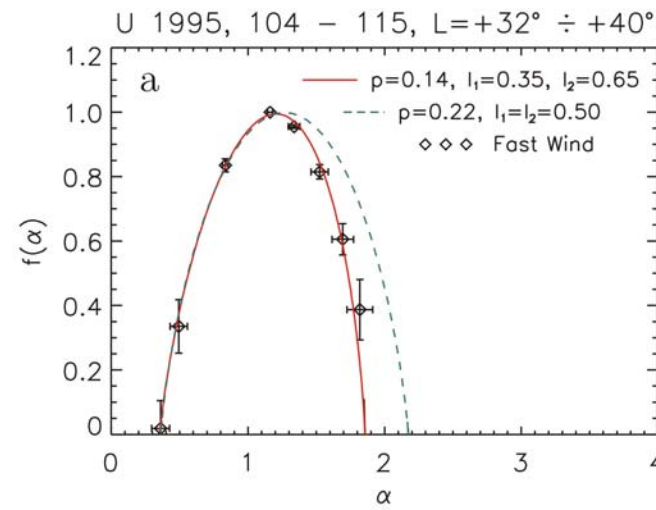
Generalized Dimensions



$$0.16 < p < 0.28$$



Singularity Spectra



Generalized Dimensions and Singularity Spectra

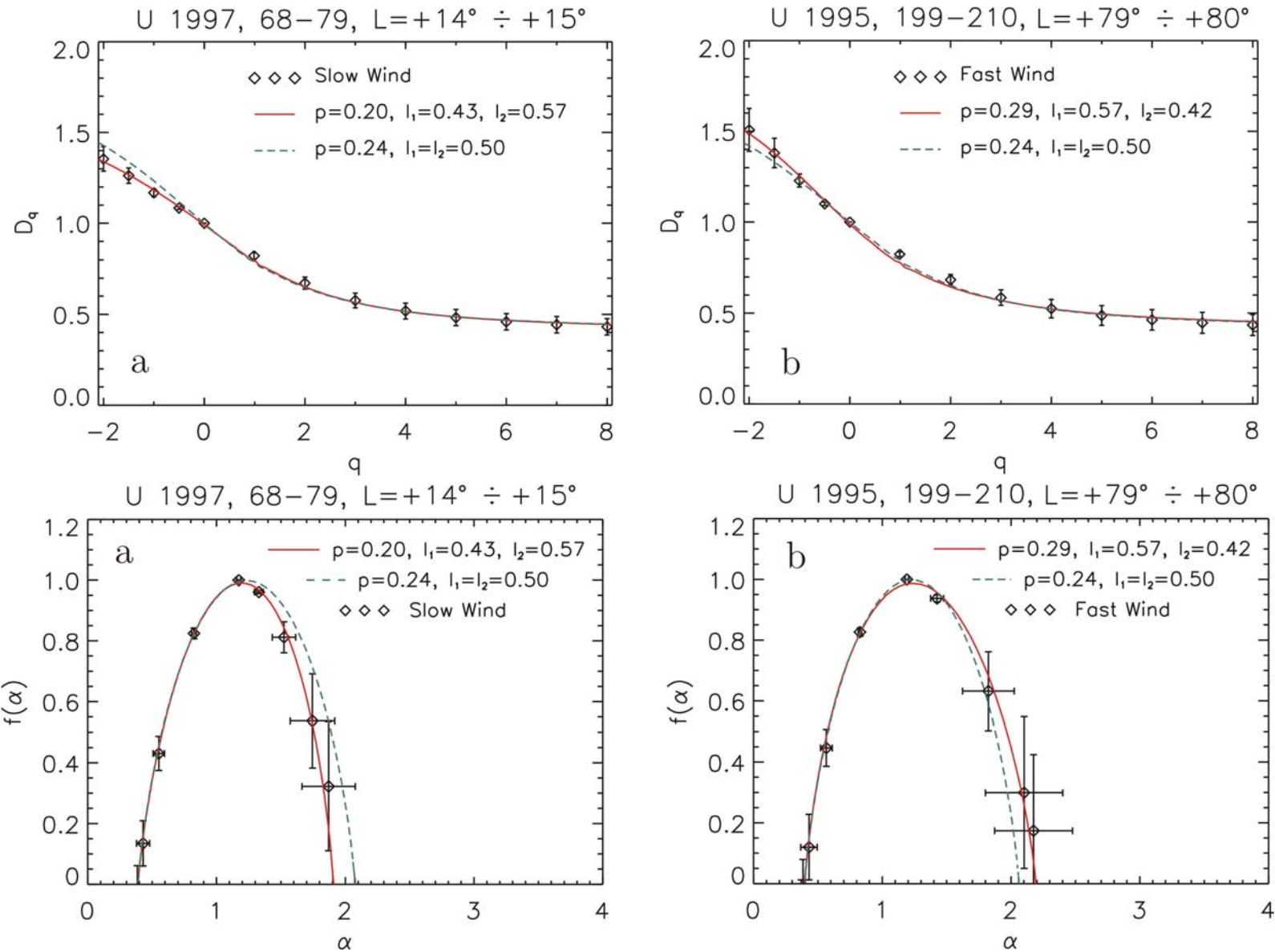


Figure : Generalized dimensions and singularity spectra for the slow (at 15°) and fast (at 80°) solar wind during solar minimum (1995-1997).

Multifractality - Latitudinal Dependence

Heliographic Latitude	Heliocentric Distance	Multifractality Δ	Asymmetry A
+14° ÷ +15° (1997)*	4.9 AU	1.52 ± 0.22	1.14 ± 0.30
+32° ÷ +40° (1995)	1.4 AU	1.50 ± 0.17	1.10 ± 0.20
+47° ÷ +48° (1996)	3.3 AU	1.37 ± 0.18	1.21 ± 0.32
+74° ÷ +78° (1995)	1.8 – 1.9 AU	1.39 ± 0.07	1.17 ± 0.12
+79° ÷ +80° (1995)	1.9 – 2.0 AU	1.80 ± 0.28	0.80 ± 0.29
−40° ÷ −47° (2007)	1.6 AU	1.57 ± 0.07	1.53 ± 0.20
−50° ÷ −56° (1994)	1.6 – 1.7 AU	1.27 ± 0.12	1.07 ± 0.20
−69° ÷ −71° (2006)	2.8 – 2.9 AU	1.34 ± 0.10	1.36 ± 0.25

Asterisk (*) denotes the case of the slow wind.

Multifractality - Latitudinal Dependence

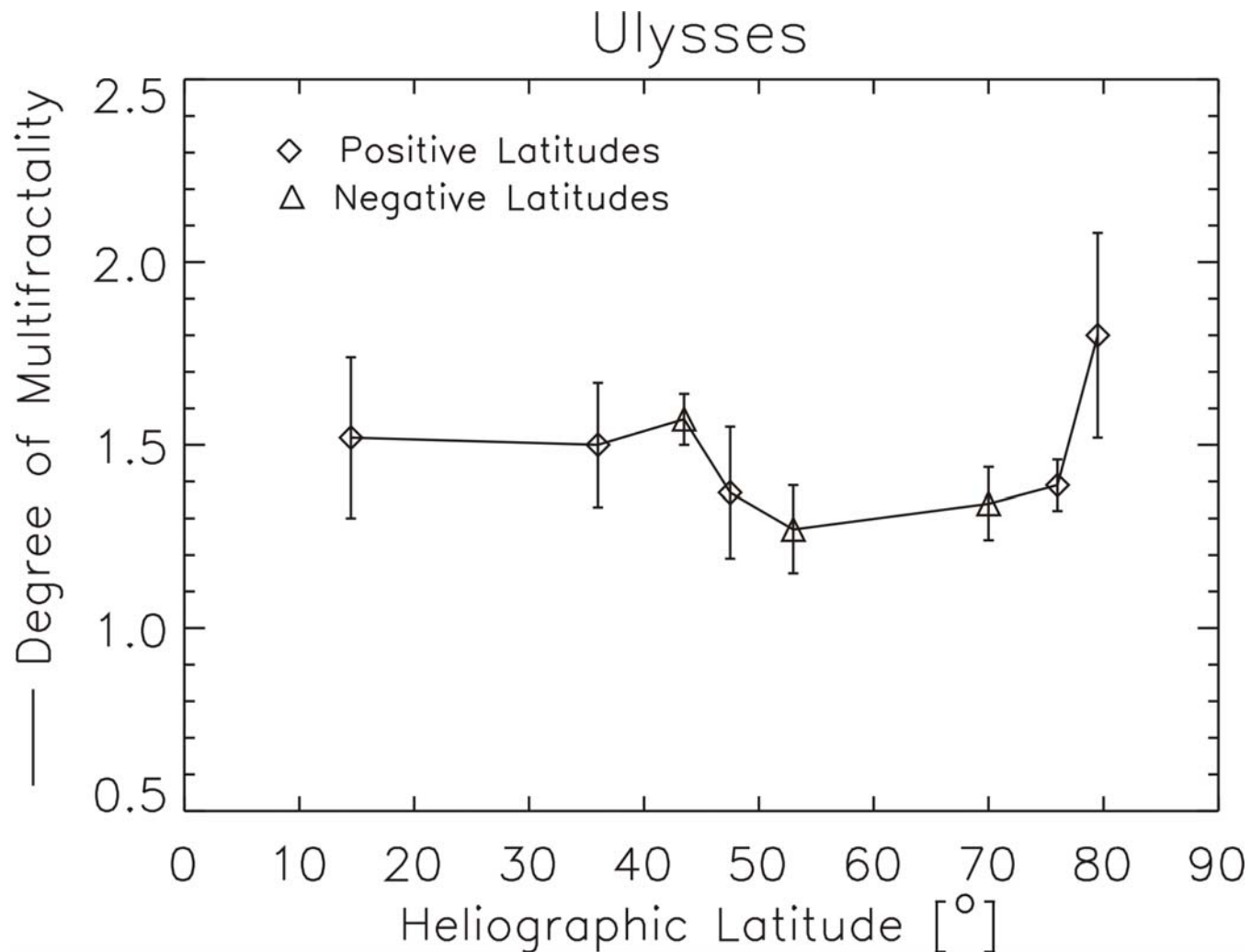


Figure: Degree of multifractality Δ (continuous line) for the slow (at 15°) and fast (above 15°) solar wind during solar minimum (1994-1996, 2006-2007) in dependence on heliographic latitude below (triangles) and above (diamonds) the ecliptic.

Asymmetry - Latitudinal Dependence

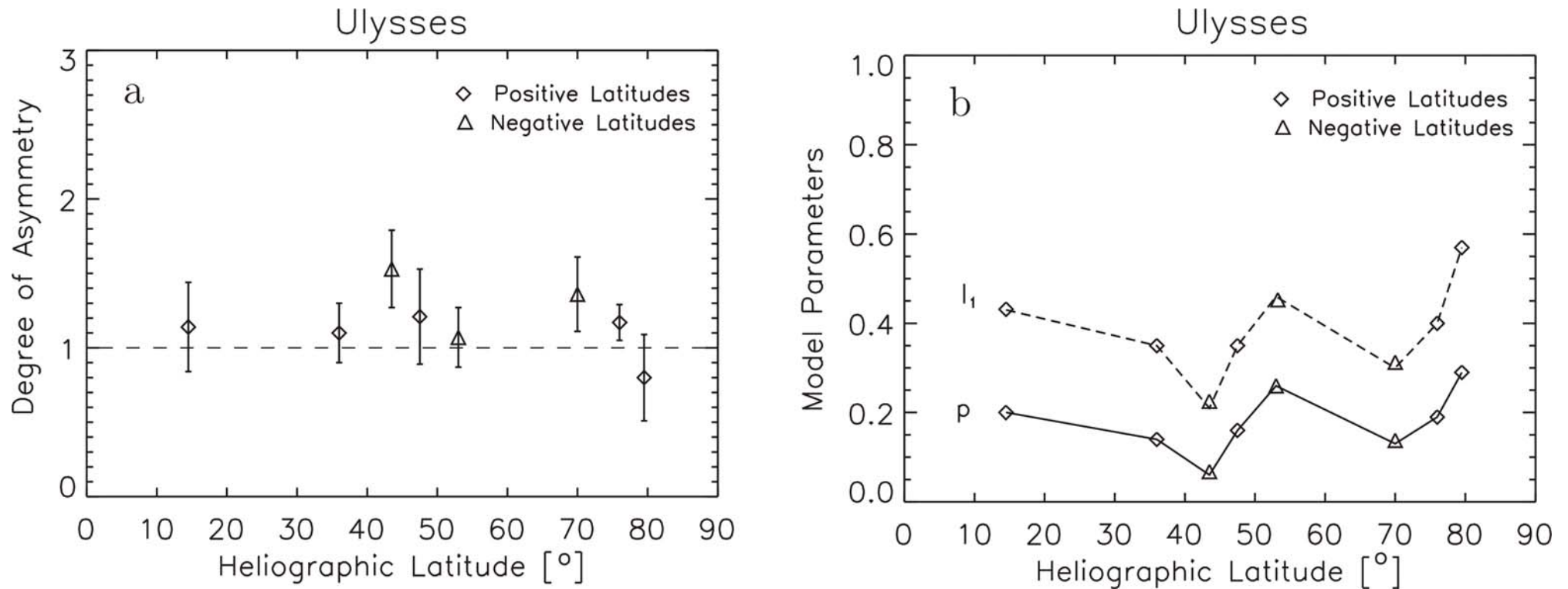


Figure: (a) Degree of asymmetry (A) and (b) change of two-scale model parameters p (diamonds) and l_1 (asterisk) in dependence on heliographic latitude during solar minimum (1994-1996, 2006-2007).

Conclusions


We have studied the inhomogeneous rate of the transfer of the energy flux indicating multifractal and intermittent behavior of solar wind turbulence out of the ecliptic plane. In particular:

- We have identified somewhat smaller degree of multifractality at high latitudes during solar minimum for the fast solar wind, where turbulence evolves more slowly as compared with that at the ecliptic.
- We have shown that the degree of multifractality and asymmetry of the fast solar wind exhibit latitudinal dependence with some symmetry with respect to the ecliptic plane.
- The multifractal singularity spectra out of ecliptic plane become roughly symmetric.

Conclusions

- The minimum intermittency is observed at mid-latitudes and is possibly related to the transition from the region where the interaction of the fast and slow streams takes place to a more homogeneous region of the pure fast solar wind.

Basically, the multifractal spectra for solar wind are consistent with the two-scale model for both positive and negative q , but rather with different scaling parameters for sizes of eddies in the ecliptic, while in most cases the usual p model is sufficient to reproduce the spectrum of the fast solar wind out of the ecliptic plane.



Thank you for your attention