

A new dynamo pattern revealed by
the tilt angle of bipolar sunspot groups

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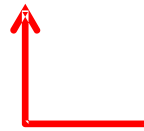
Solar dynamo

$$B_P \xrightarrow{\Omega} B_T \quad - \text{ differential rotation}$$

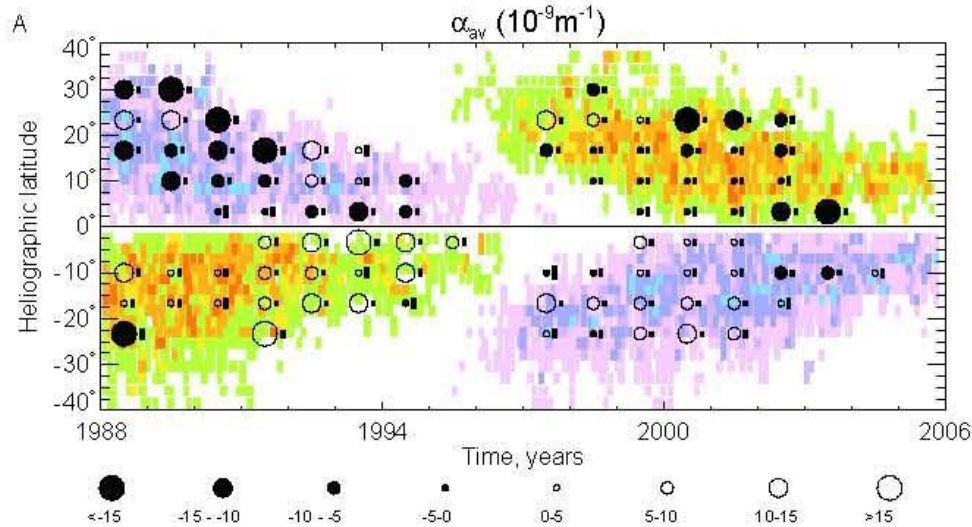
$$B_T \xrightarrow{\alpha} B_P \quad - \text{ mirror asymmetry } (\alpha\text{-effect})$$

Mean-field dynamo equation:

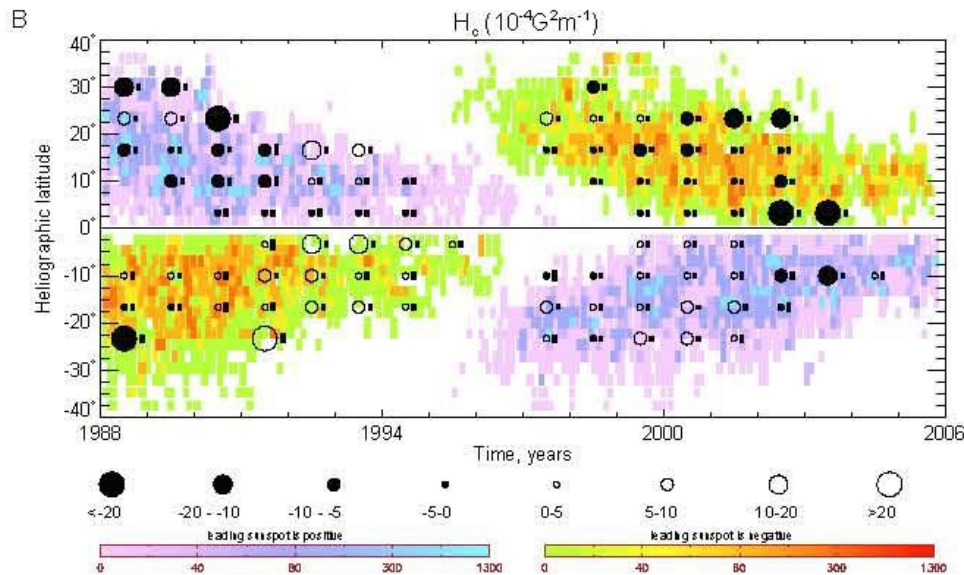
$$\frac{\partial B}{\partial t} = \nabla \times (U \times B + E - \eta \nabla \times B)$$


$$E = \alpha B + \dots$$

Current helicity: Zhang et al. 2010



$$\alpha_{av} = \langle (\mathbf{B}, \text{curl} \mathbf{B})_z / B_z^2 \rangle = \langle j_z / B_z \rangle$$

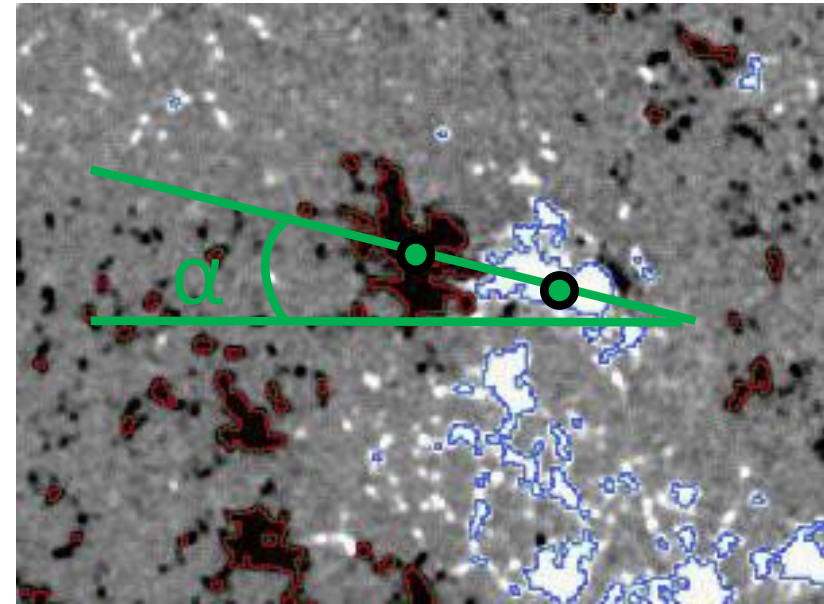


$$H_c = \langle (\mathbf{B}, \text{curl} \mathbf{B})_z \rangle = \langle B_z j_z \rangle$$

- Tilt is a possible link between toroidal and poloidal magnetic field
- Joy's law and Hale polarity law: bipolar regions are tilted with preferred polarity
- Stenflo and Kosovichev (2012) gave effective method for algorithmic isolation of bipoles
- Tlatov et al. (2010) suggested more general approach to this problem

Recognizing bipolar groups

- Smoothing 3×3 pixels
- Selection domains with $|B| > B_{\min}$
- Compute center and flux, define search area
- Find the nearest domain of opposite polarity with similar flux:
$$\frac{||F_1| - |F_2||}{(|F_1| + |F_2|)} < \epsilon$$
- Repeat the search
- Coincide \Rightarrow bipole
- Compute tilt

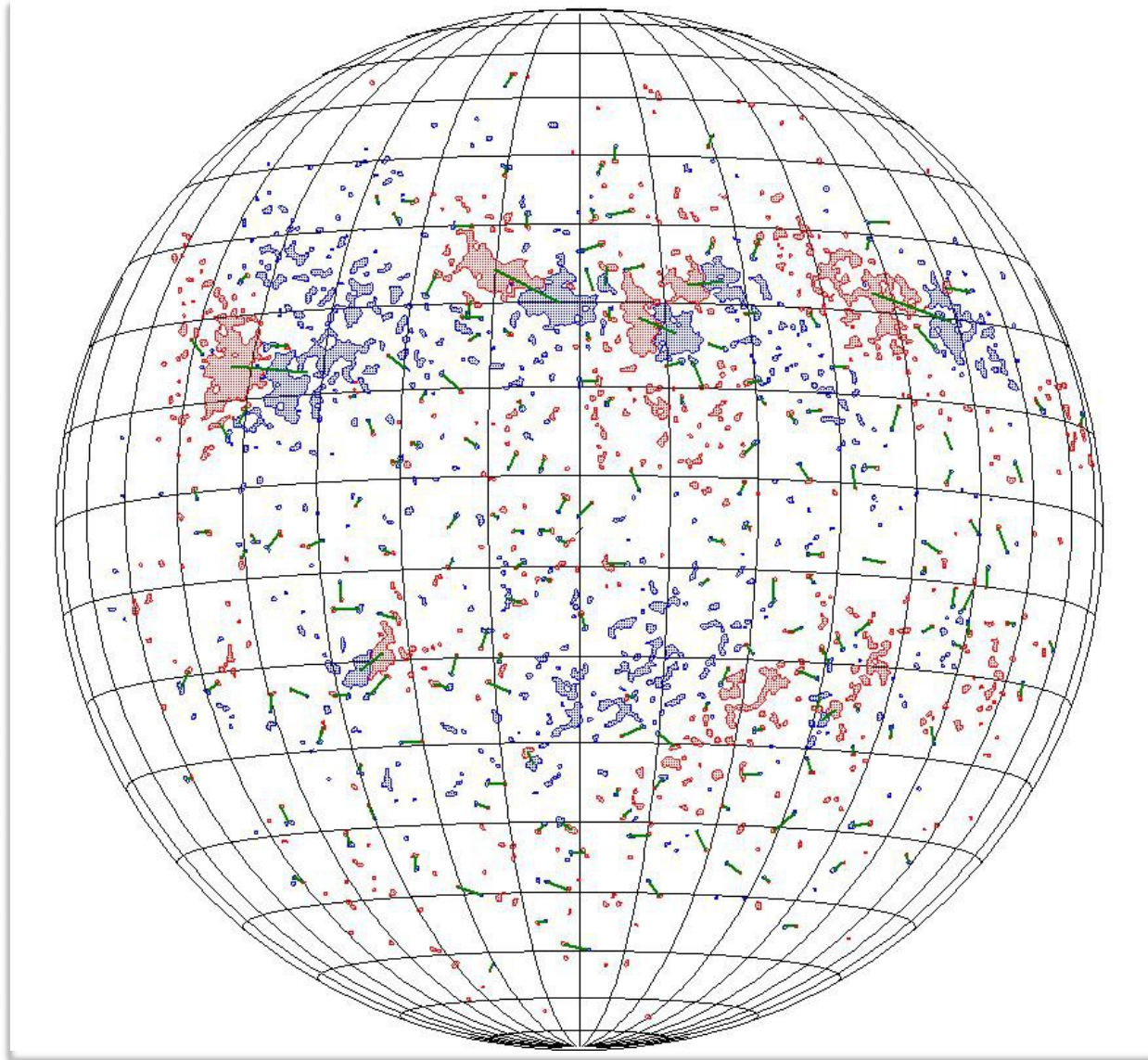


Key features

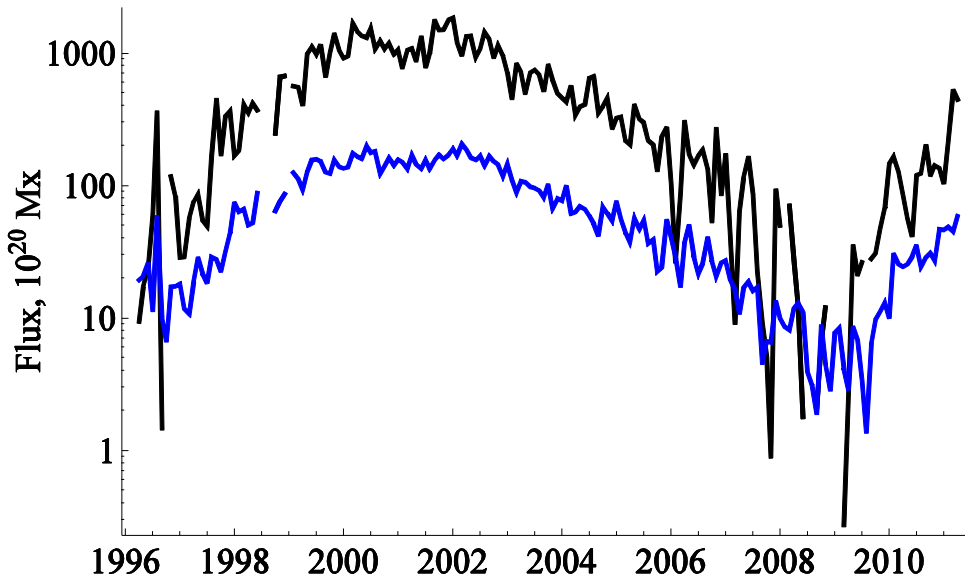
- Rich data sample: AR + ER (up to 50 MSH¹)
- KPVT, MDI and HMI data (Cycles 21-24)
- 1 magnetogram per day
- 15 bipoles per day
- Tilt corresponds to substantive domains

¹ 1 MSH= 3.044×10^6 km². The round shaped spot with area S (in MSH) has a diameter $d = 1969\sqrt{S}$ km.

Example: MDI, 11/04/2011

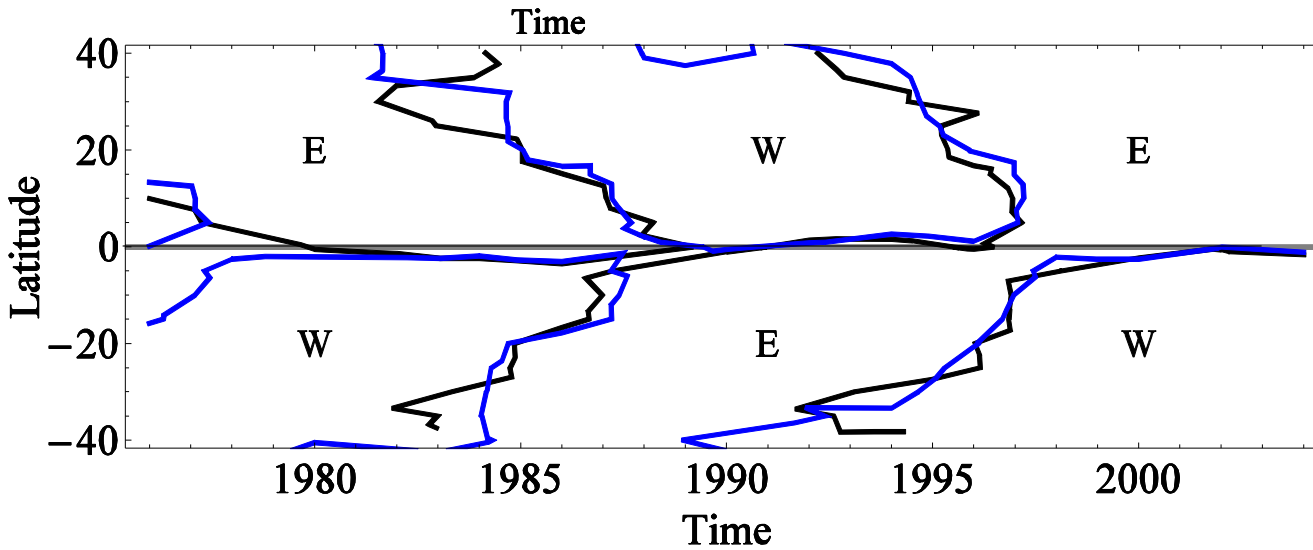


Simple tests



Flux, MDI data

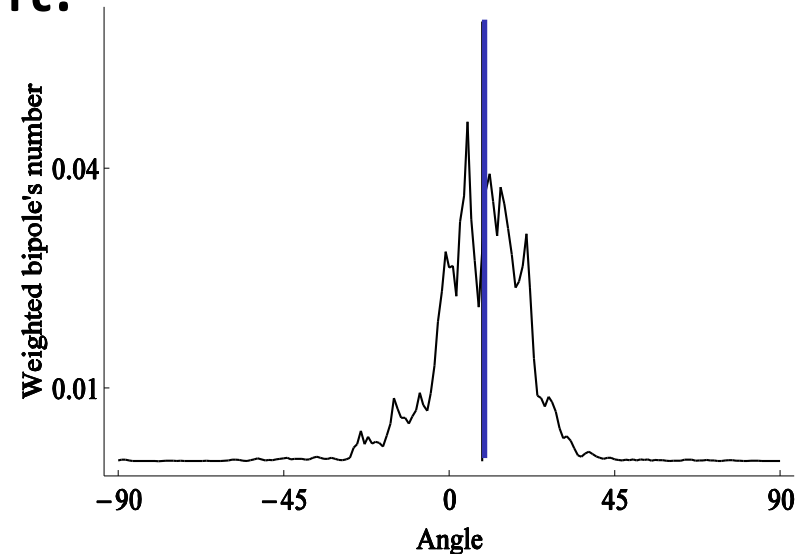
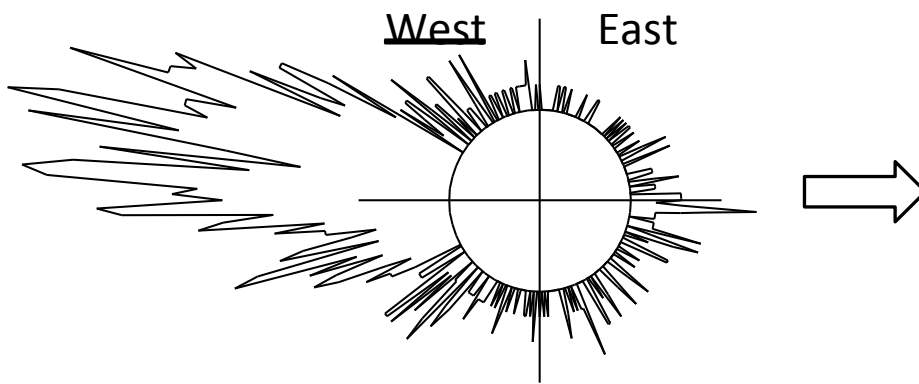
- 50-300 MSH
- >300 MSH



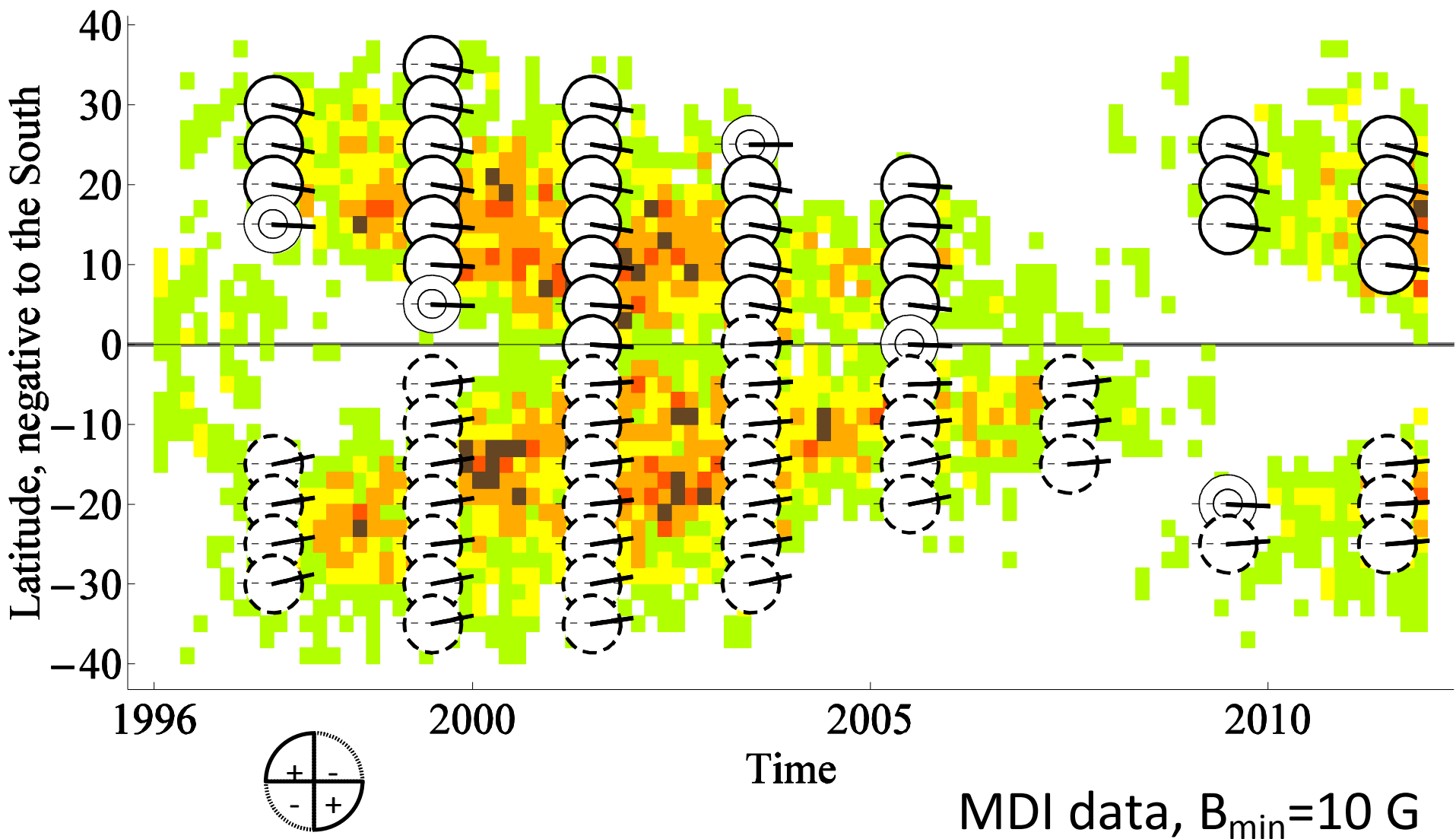
Prevalent E-W
direction of
tilt, KPVT data,
 $B_{\min}=10$ G

Averaging tilt

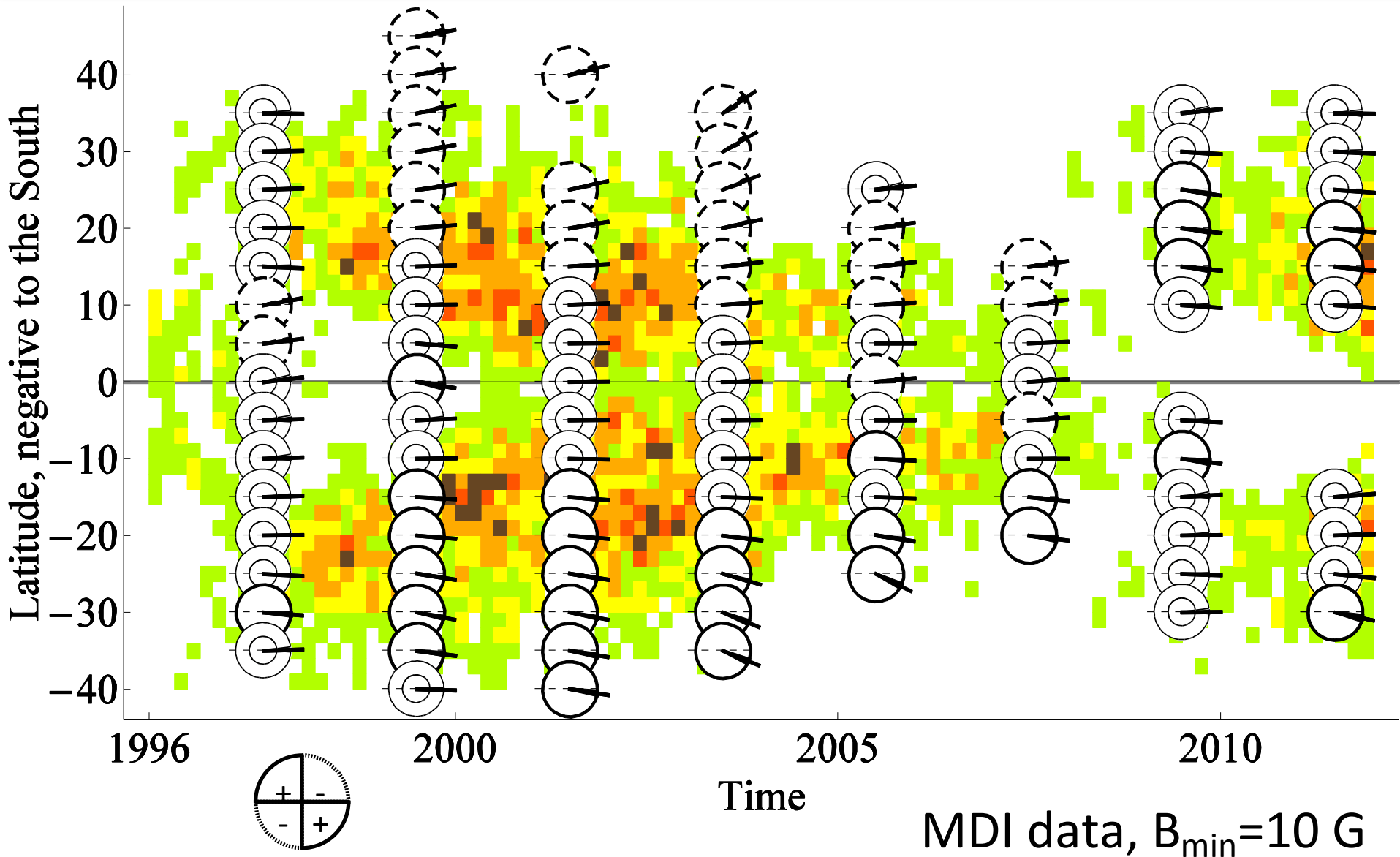
- 2-year time bins and 5° latitudinal bins
- Amplitude of Gaussian approximation defines hemisphere (East-West) for averaging
- Mean tilt is a **median** of sample (robust statistic)
- Student criteria for conf. int.



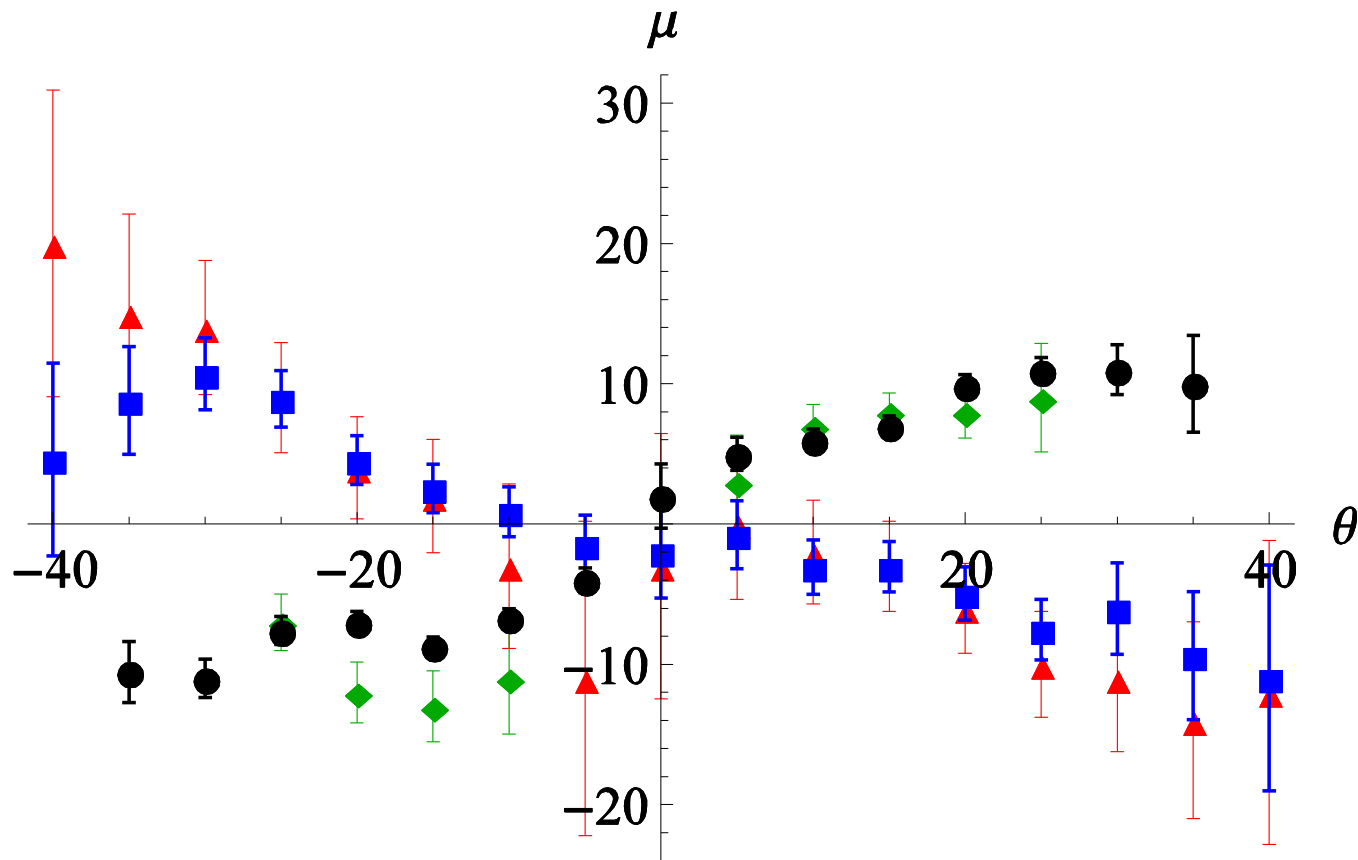
Butterfly diagram: >300 MSH



Butterfly diagram: 50-300 MSH



Joy's law: MDI & HMI



MDI data, $B_{\min} = 10$ G

● - $S > 300$ MSH

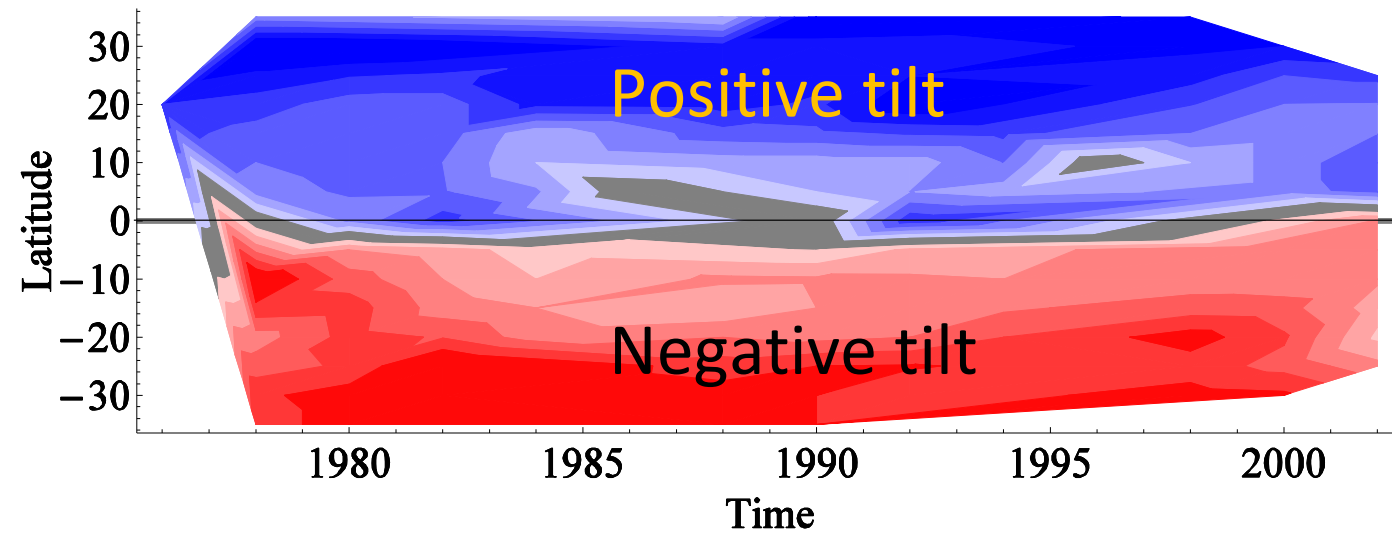
■ - $50 < S < 300$ MSH

HMI data, $B_{\min} = 15$ G

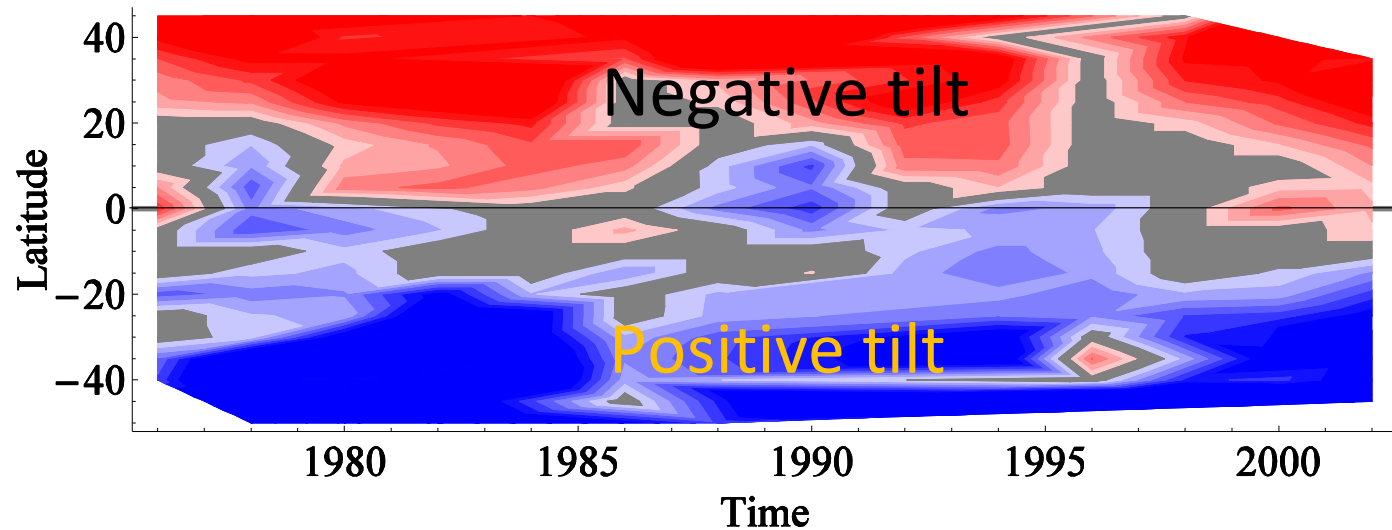
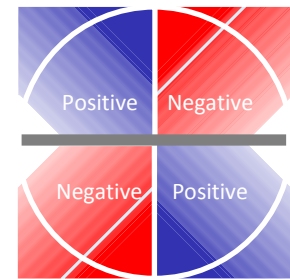
◆ - $S > 300$ MSH

▲ - $20 < S < 100$ MSH

Tilt data, KPVT

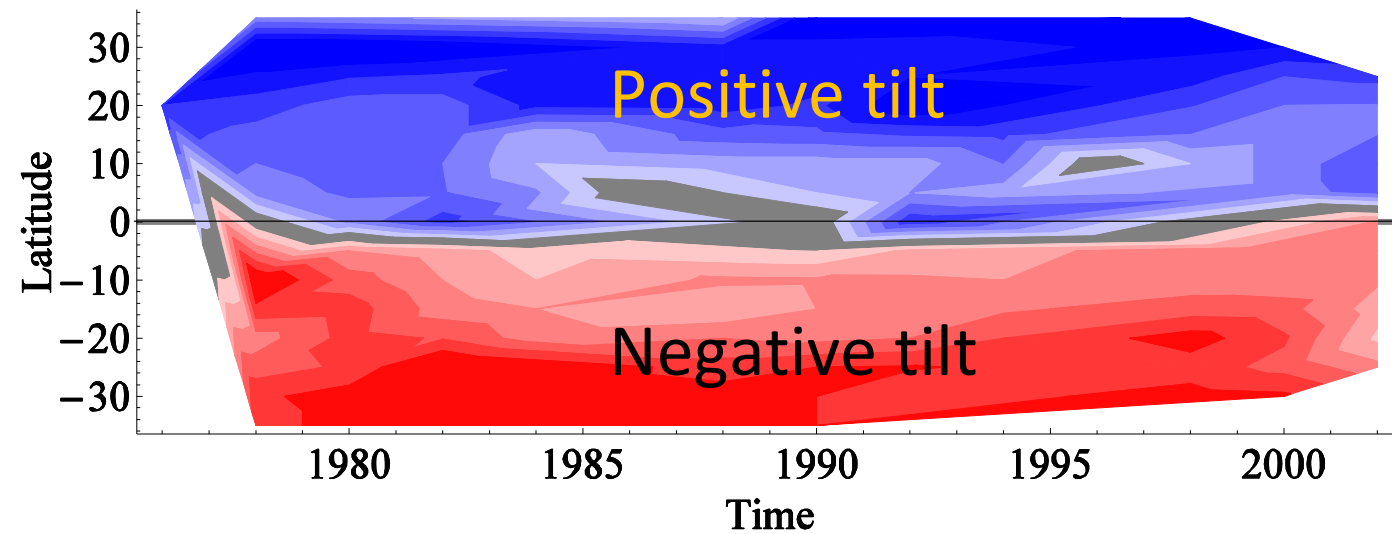


>100 MSH
 $B_{\min} = 100 \text{ G}$

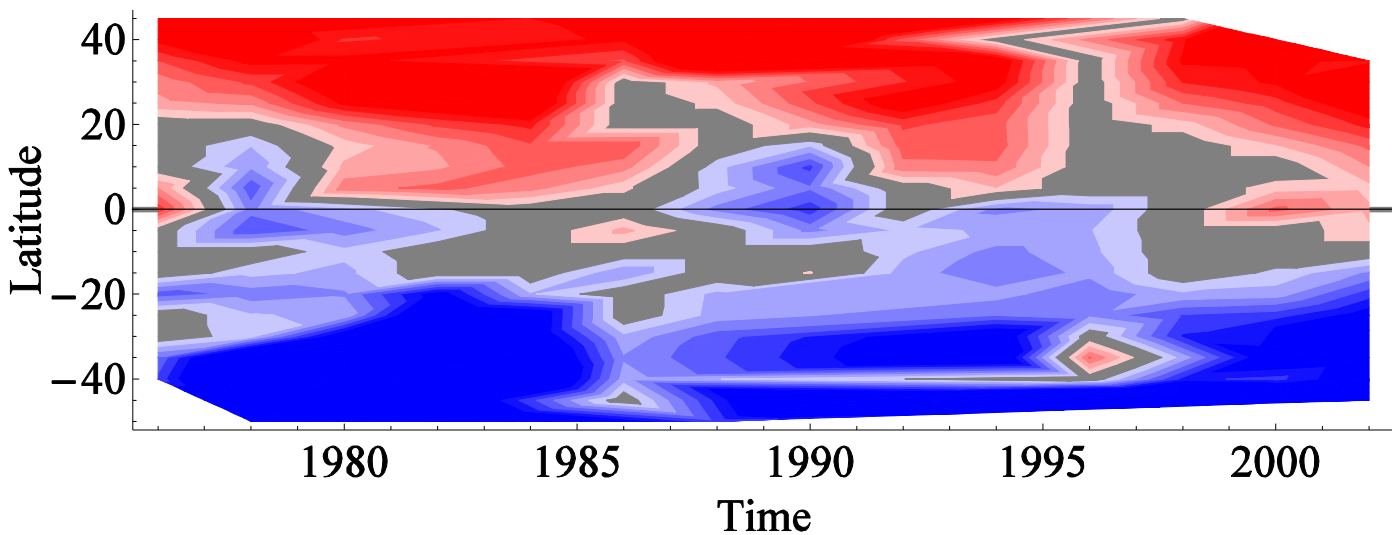
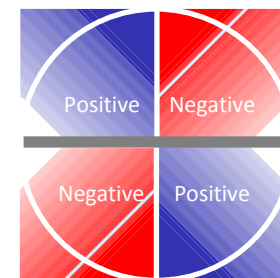


50-300 MSH
 $B_{\min} = 10 \text{ G}$

Tilt data, KPVT

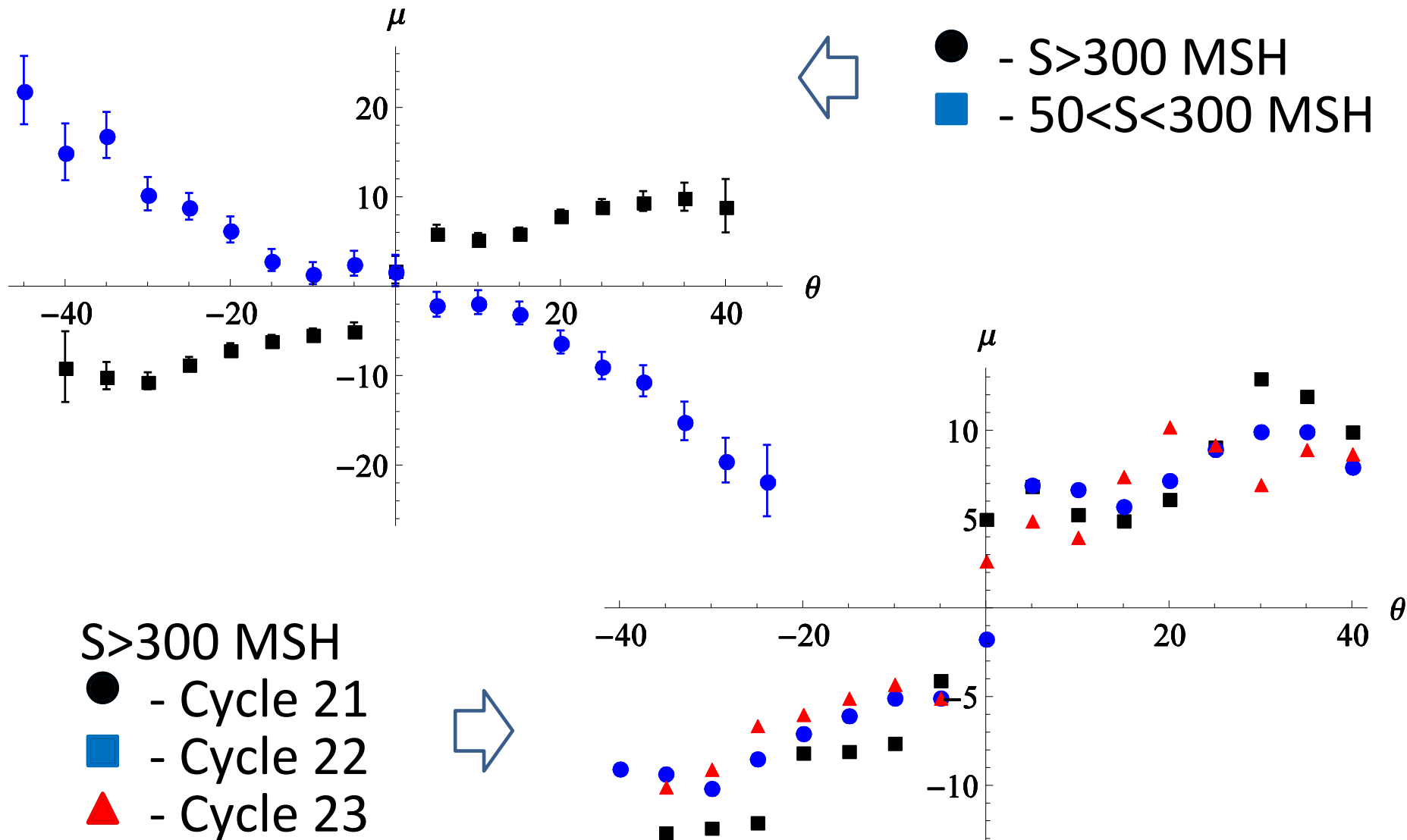


>100 MSH
 $B_{\min} = 100 \text{ G}$



50-300 MSH
 $B_{\min} = 10 \text{ G}$

Joy's law: KPVT, $B_{\min}=10$ G



Main results

- Tilt data with high time-latitude resolution for wide area range (AR & ER)
- For large bipoles tilt is positive in the Northern and negative in the Southern hemisphere with latitudinal profile $\mu=27\sin\theta$
- No pronounced variations of tilt angle between cycles and inside cycles (as opposed to current helicity)
- Inverse Joy's law for small bipoles