

Long-term Power Budget for the Upper Atmosphere

D. Knipp, E. Stohl, L. Kilcommons, K. Tobiska, R. McGranaghan

¹University of Colorado Space Environment Data Analysis Group
(CU SEDA)

M. Mlynczak and L. Hunt
NASA Langley



What is the daily average power input to the upper atmosphere?

- a) Kilo Watts
- b) Mega Watts
- c) Giga Watts
- d) Tera Watts
- e) Peta Watts

Long-term Power Budget for the Upper Atmosphere

Solar

EUV

671 GW (85%)

Magnetosphere

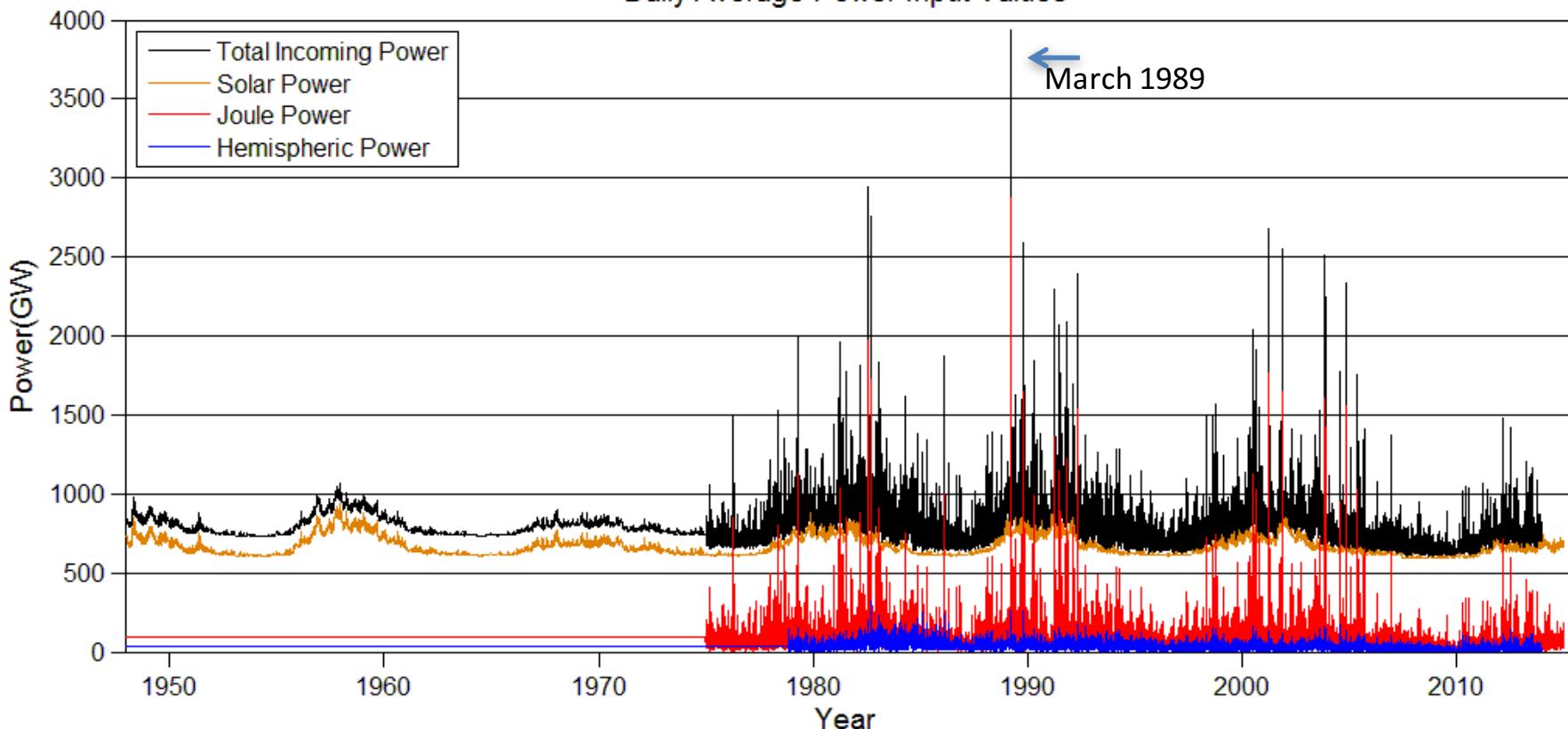
Joule heating

91 GW (11%)

Particle Precipitation

34 GW (4%)

Daily Average Power Input Values



Daily Upper-Atmosphere Power Input

Global-scale Historical Record of Power to/from the Upper Atmosphere

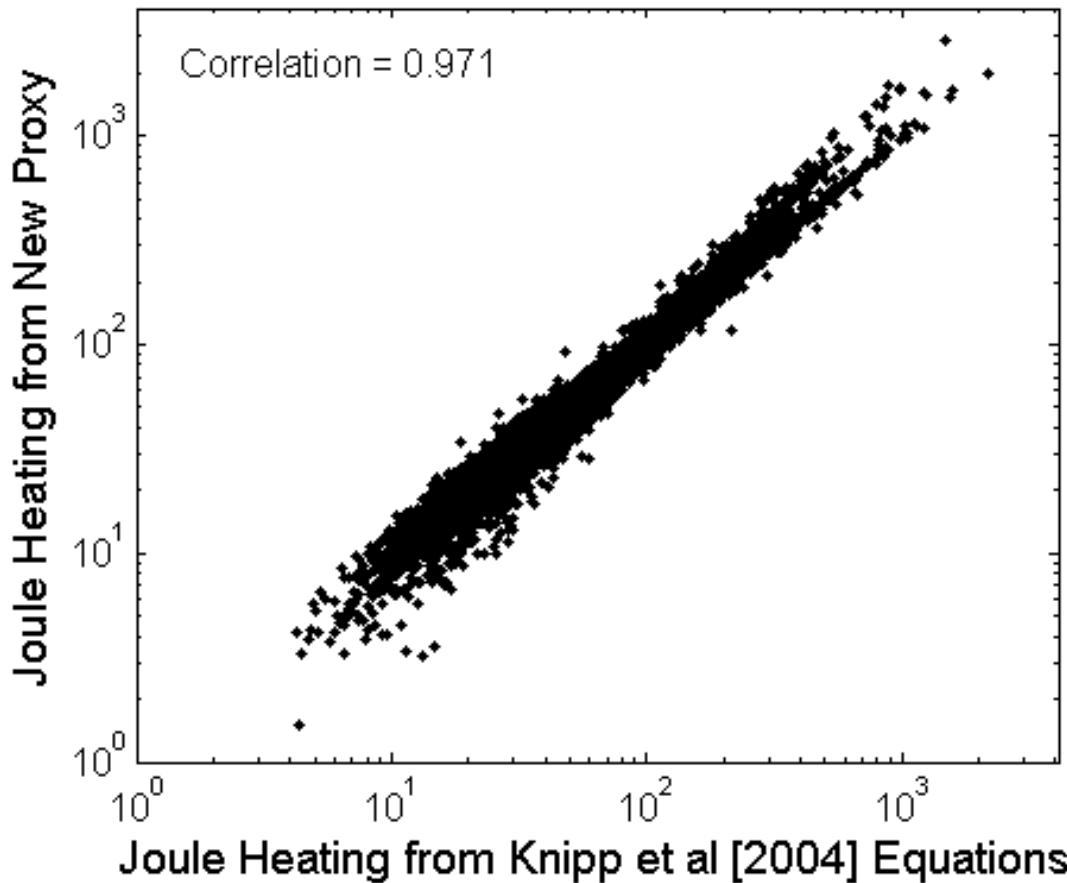
- Solar power from wavebands 25-105 & 125-175 nm
 - from the Solar Irradiance Platform [Tobiska and Bouwer, 2006], multiplied by their respective heating efficiency factors, 0.35 and 0.32, [Stolarski et al., 1975]
- NOAA POES hemispheric power [HP]
- - Joule heating (JH) proxy derived by
 - Regressing the revised Polar Cap Index [Troshichev et al., 1988, and Janzhura and Troshichev, 2011] and Dst [Sugiura, 1964]
 - NASA OMNIWeb
 - Against 16 years of NGDC SPIDR AMIE JH estimates [Ridley and Kihn, 2004]
 - TIMED/SABER [Mlynczak, 2010] IR cooling record 2002-present

New Joule Heat Proxy Index

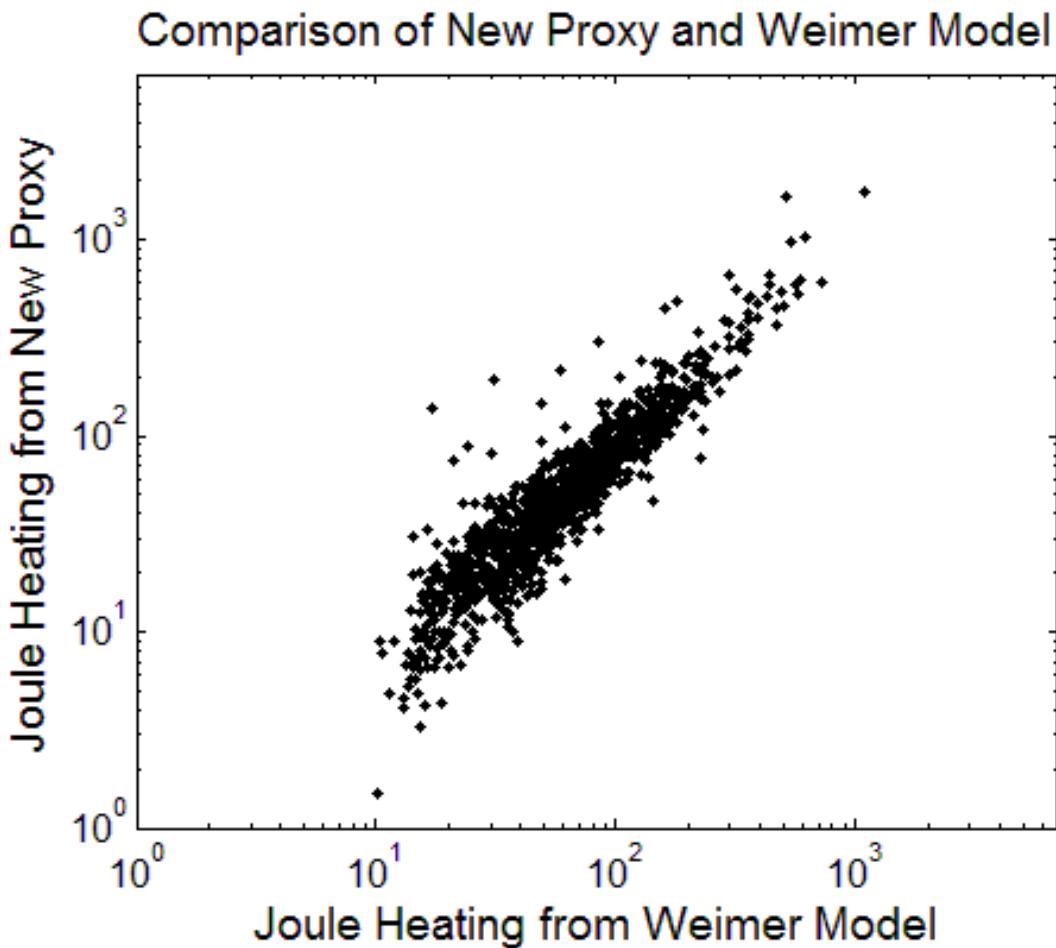
- Based only on PCI and Dst Indices
 - 16 years of NGDC SPIDR AMIE JH estimates
 - Suspect spike data eliminated
 - Winter (Oct 21 – Feb 20) :
$$46.86 |PC| + 4.91 PC^2 - 0.279 |DST| + 0.019 DST^2$$
 - Summer (Apr 21 – Aug 20) :
$$50.15 |PC| + 15.89 PC^2 + 0.347 |DST| + 0.024 DST^2$$
 - Equinox (Feb 21 – Apr 20, Aug 21 – Oct 20) :
$$53.43 |PC| + 9.36 PC^2 + 0.031 |DST| + 0.018 DST^2$$
- Compare against
 - Joule heat model [Weimer, 2005]
 - Ovation Prime [Newell et al., 2010]

New vs Old Joule Heating Index

Joule Heating Calculated From Seasonal Proxy Equations

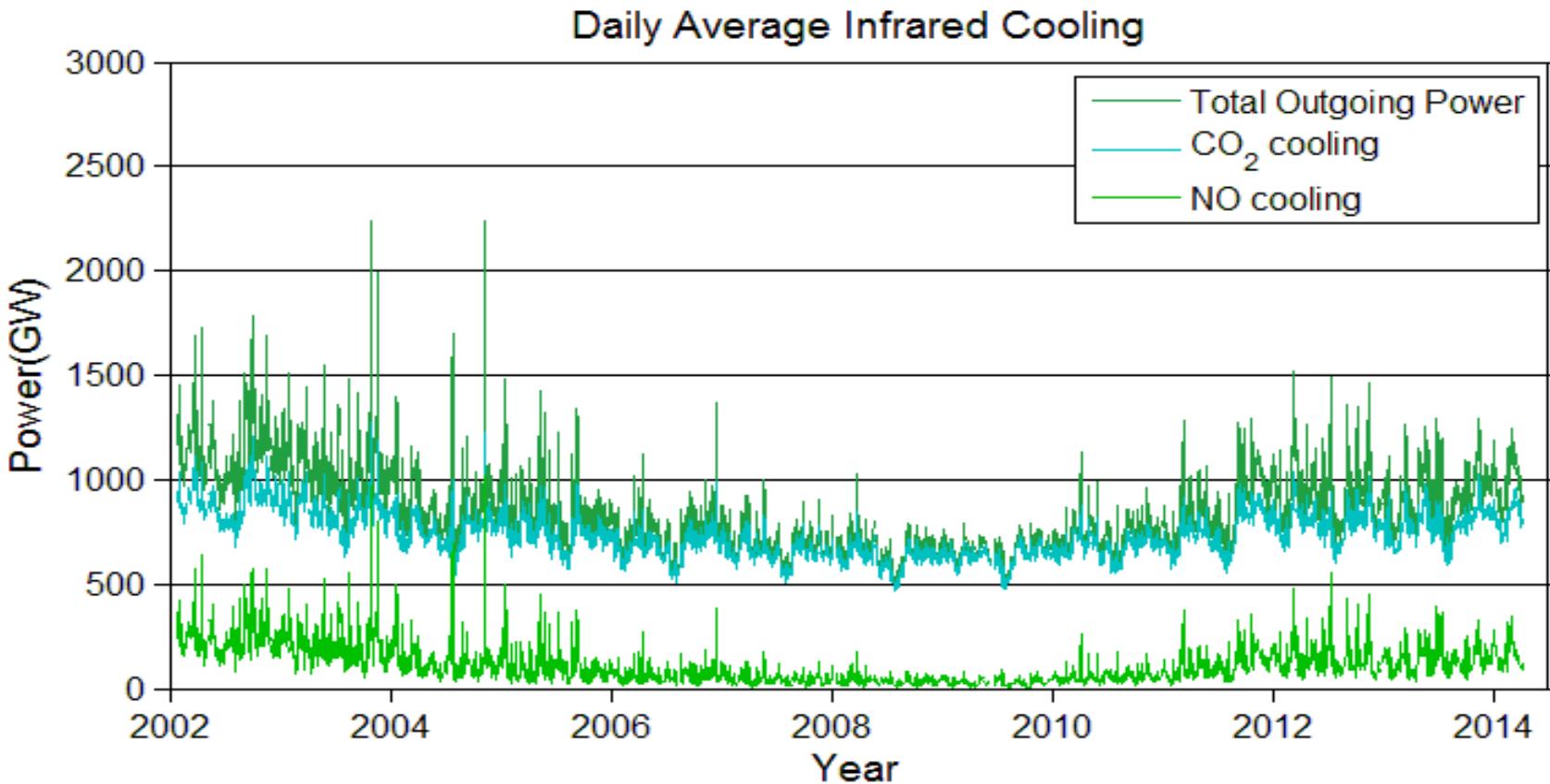


New JHI vs Weimer Model



SABER IR Radiative Power to Space

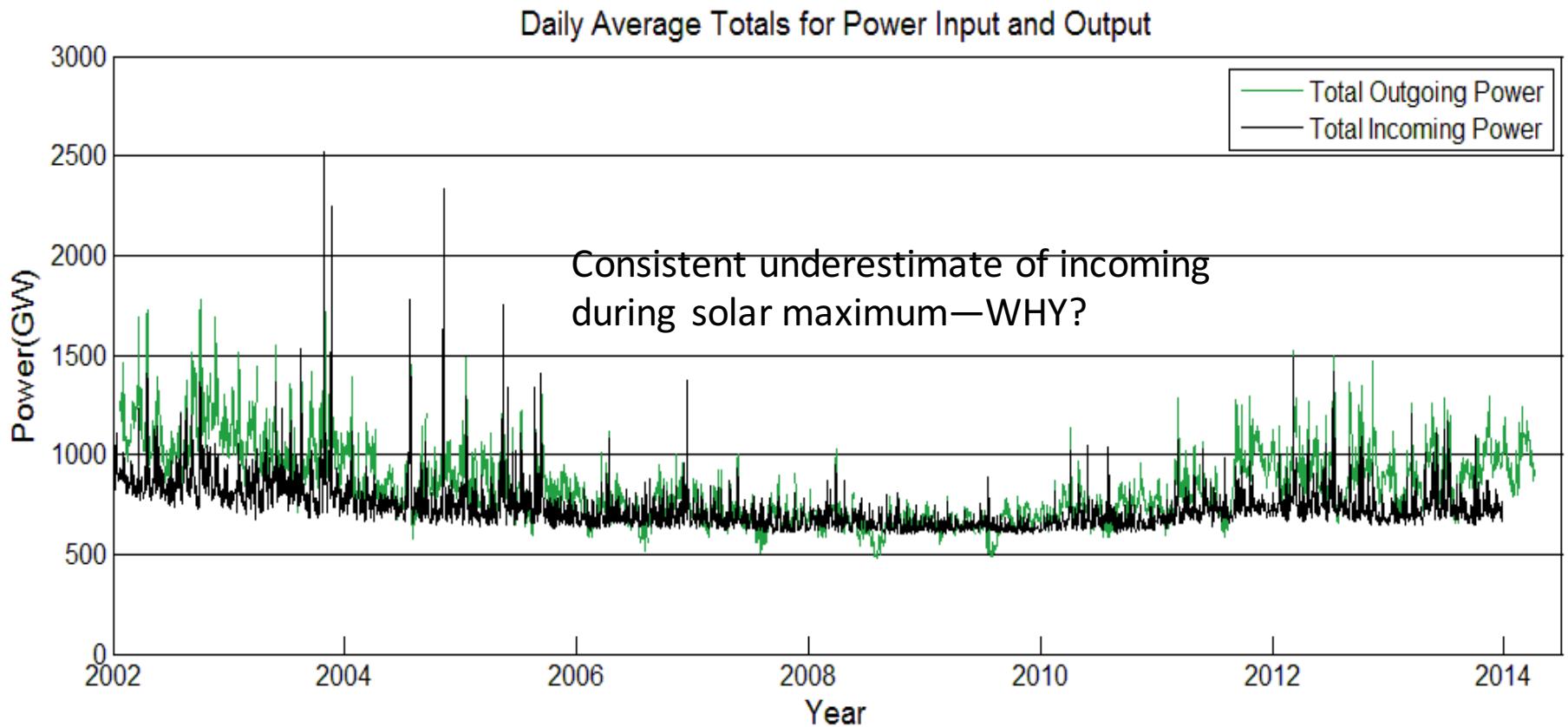
CO_2 and NO



Daily Upper-Atmosphere Power Output

Courtesy M. Mlynzack, L. Hunt

Net Power



Net Daily Upper-Atmosphere Power Output

Minding the Power Gap

- Parameterization for JH is ‘crude’
 - AMIE maps used in regression
- Not accounting for small scale variability
- Not properly accounting for dayside JH
- Particle input is also crudely parameterized
- Interaction between particles and JH lacking
- COMING SOON: Improved AMIENext Particles and JH

Long-term Power Budget for the Upper Atmosphere

Solar

EUV

671 GW (85%)

Magnetosphere

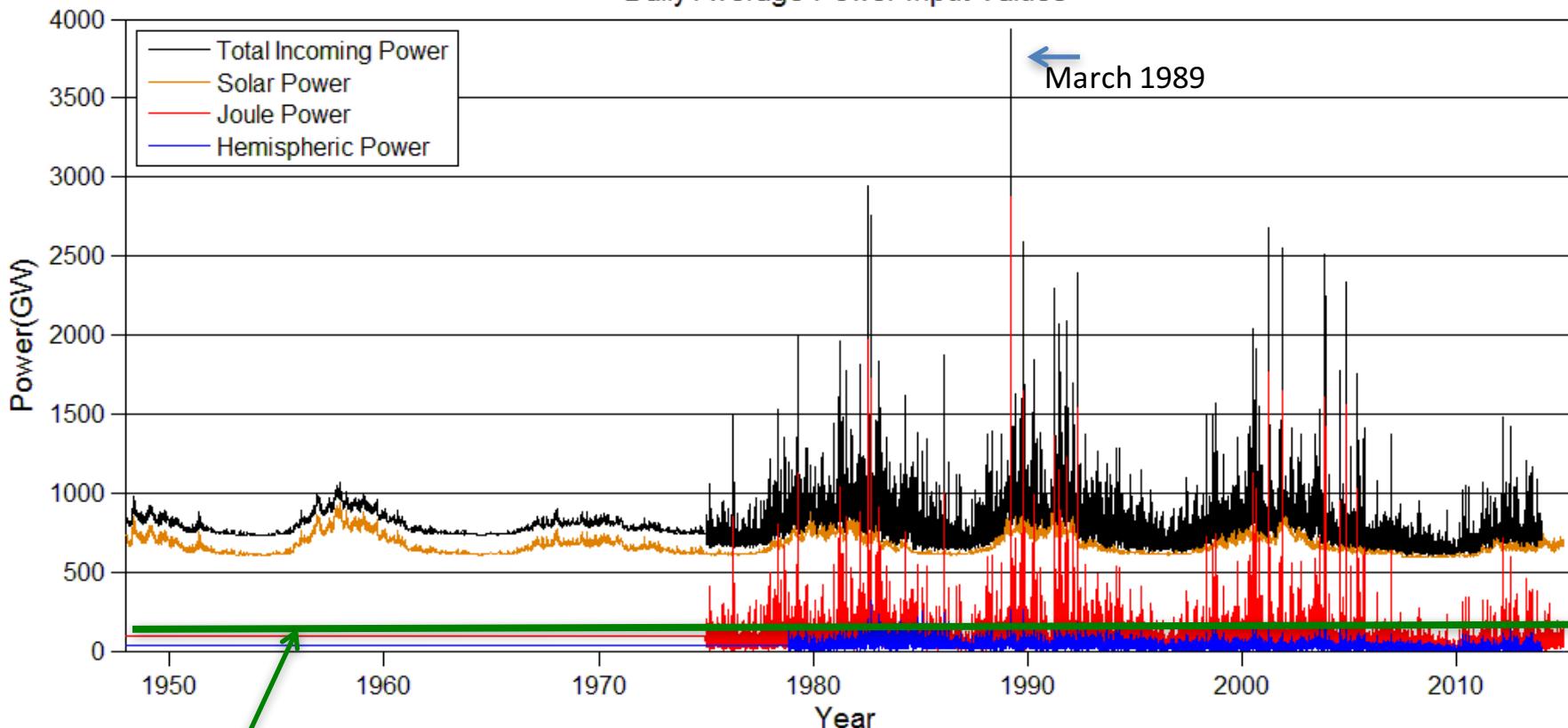
Joule heating

91 GW (11%)

Particle Precipitation

34 GW (4%)

Daily Average Power Input Values



Lower Atmosphere
~120 GW ?

Daily Upper-Atmosphere Power Input

Open Issues

- Distribution of Power
 - Latitude and longitude
 - Altitude
- Power from Below
- Heat Conduction Downward
- Non linear effects
 - Particle precipitation modifies how Joule Heating is distributed.
 - Neutral winds

Questions

Backup

Comparison Data

- Previous Joule heat proxy [Knipp et al., 2004]

Winter (Oct 21 – Feb 20) :

$$13.36 |PC| + 5.08 PC^2 + 0.47 |DST| + 0.0011 DST^2$$

Summer (Apr 21 – Aug 20) :

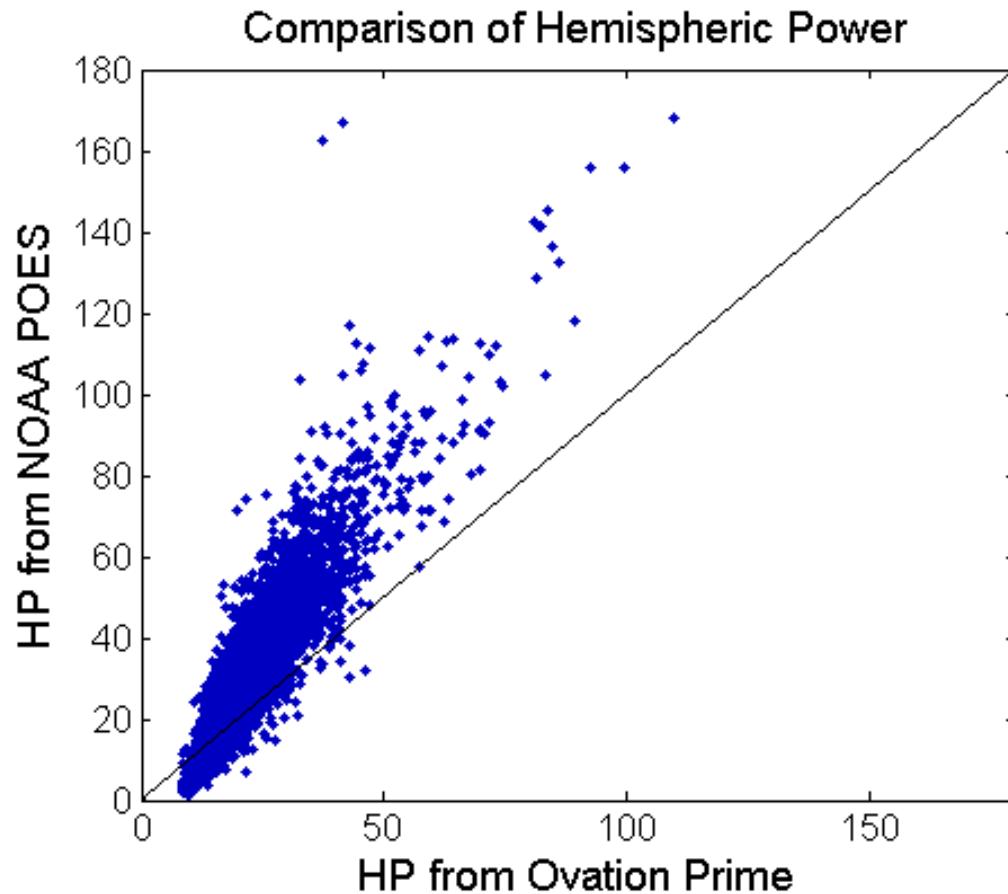
$$29.27 |PC| + 8.18 PC^2 - 0.04 |DST| + 0.0126 DST^2$$

Equinox (Feb 21 – Apr 20, Aug 21 – Oct 20) :

$$29.14 |PC| + 2.54 PC^2 + 0.21 |DST| + 0.0023 DST^2$$

- Joule heat model [Weimer, 2005]
- Ovation Prime [Newell et al., 2010]

Comparison of old and new NOAA Hemispheric Power



- Challenges
 - Move away from parameterizations
 - AMIENext
 - HP from conductance re-estimates
 - SDO data