

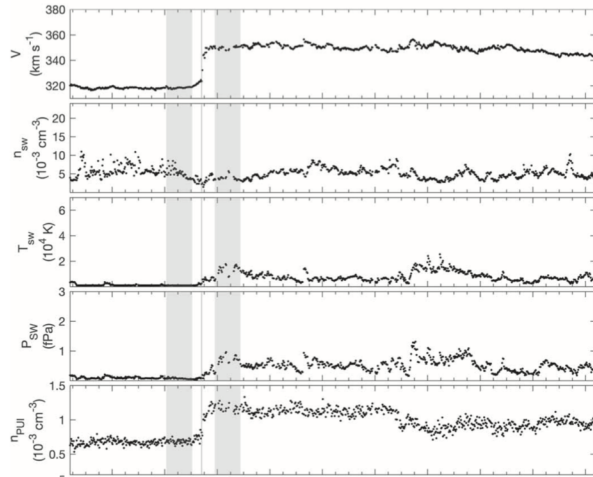
## Multi-fluid Simulation of Interplanetary Shocks With Pickup Ions

**Bertalan Zieger**

*Center for Space Physics, Boston University*



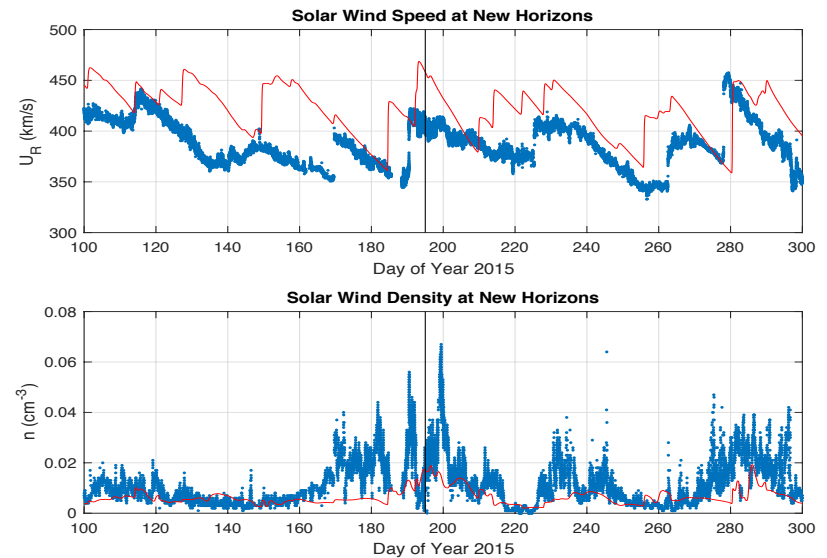
# Motivation & Outline



- Oblique shocks introduce differential flow between solar wind ions and pickup ions (PUI), as demonstrated by multi-fluid simulations.
- New Horizons data indicate inconsistency with the assumption of a single bulk velocity. The mass flux should be conserved across shocks for all the ion species.
- Solar wind ions and PUI need to be treated as separate fluids with different velocities.

PUI shock observed by New Horizons (*McComas et al., 2022*)

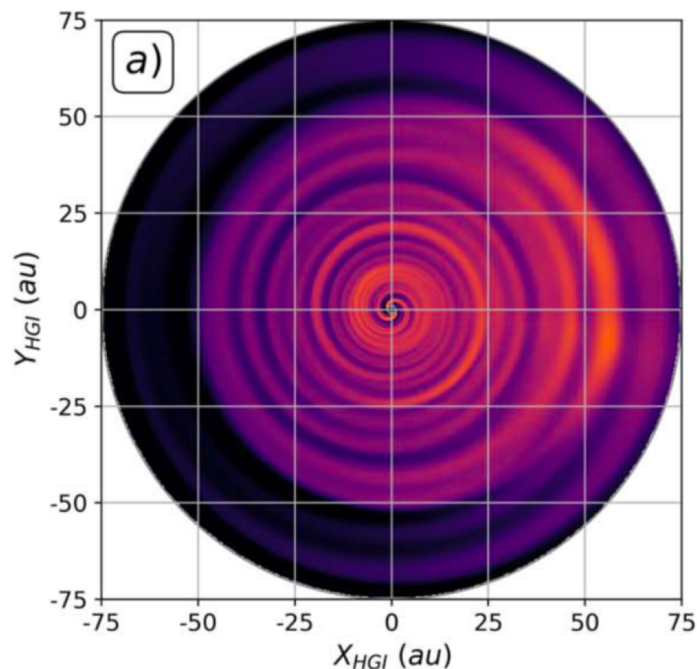
- High-resolution multi-fluid reconstruction of an interplanetary shock observed by New Horizons at 50 AU
- Multi-fluid, hybrid, and PIC simulation of the termination shock
- 2D solar wind propagation model (MSWIM2D) to predict magnetic field at New Horizons



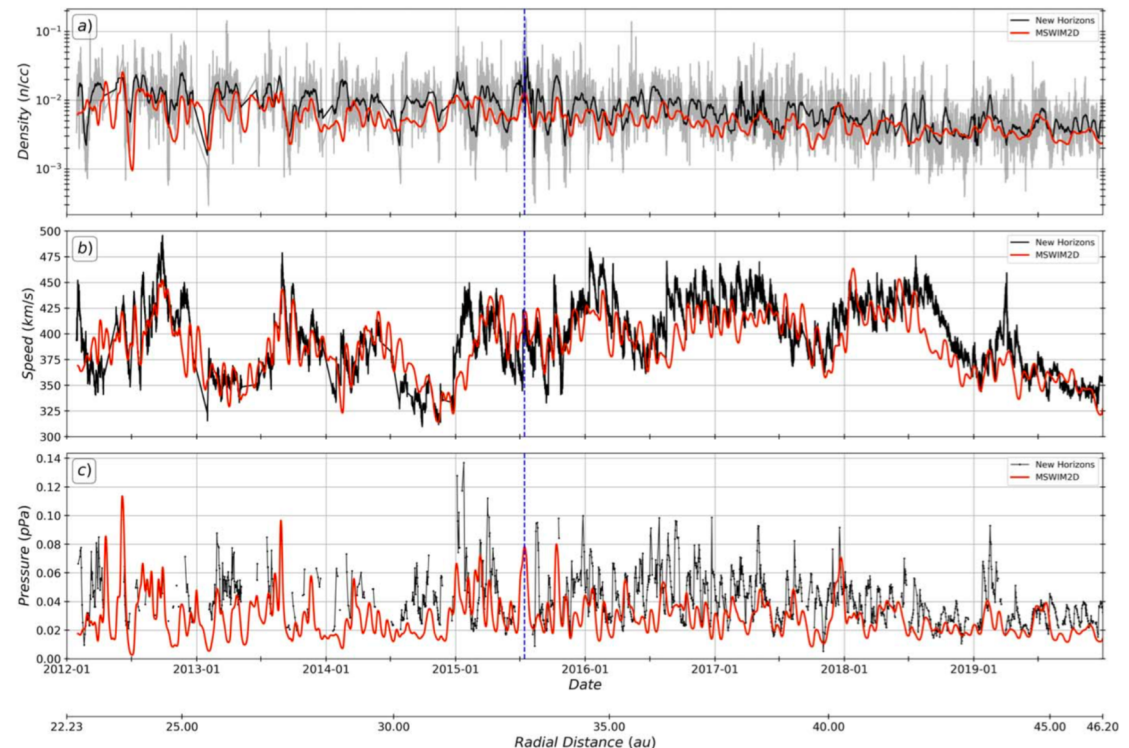
MHD reconstruction of the New Horizons Pluto flyby

# Solar Wind Propagation from 1 AU to the Outer Heliosphere: The MSWIM2D model

- 2D MHD model of the solar wind with interstellar neutrals, using ACE, WIND, and STEREO data as input at the inner boundary at 1 AU
- Predict radial trends in the solar wind in the ecliptic plane from 1 AU to 75 AU

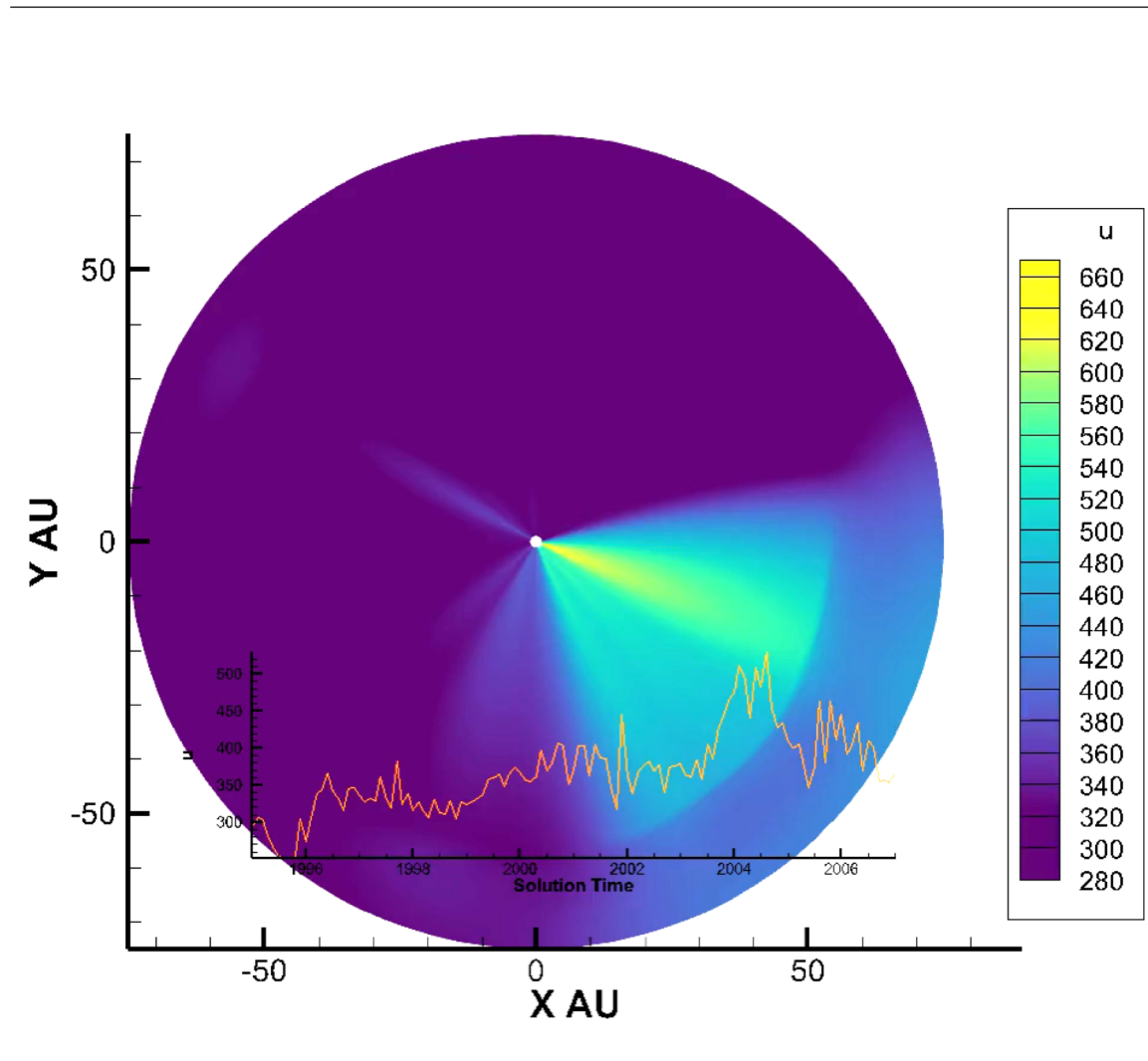


Solar wind speed in the ecliptic plane  
(Keebler et al., 2022)



Model validation with New Horizons SWAP data (Keebler et al., 2022)

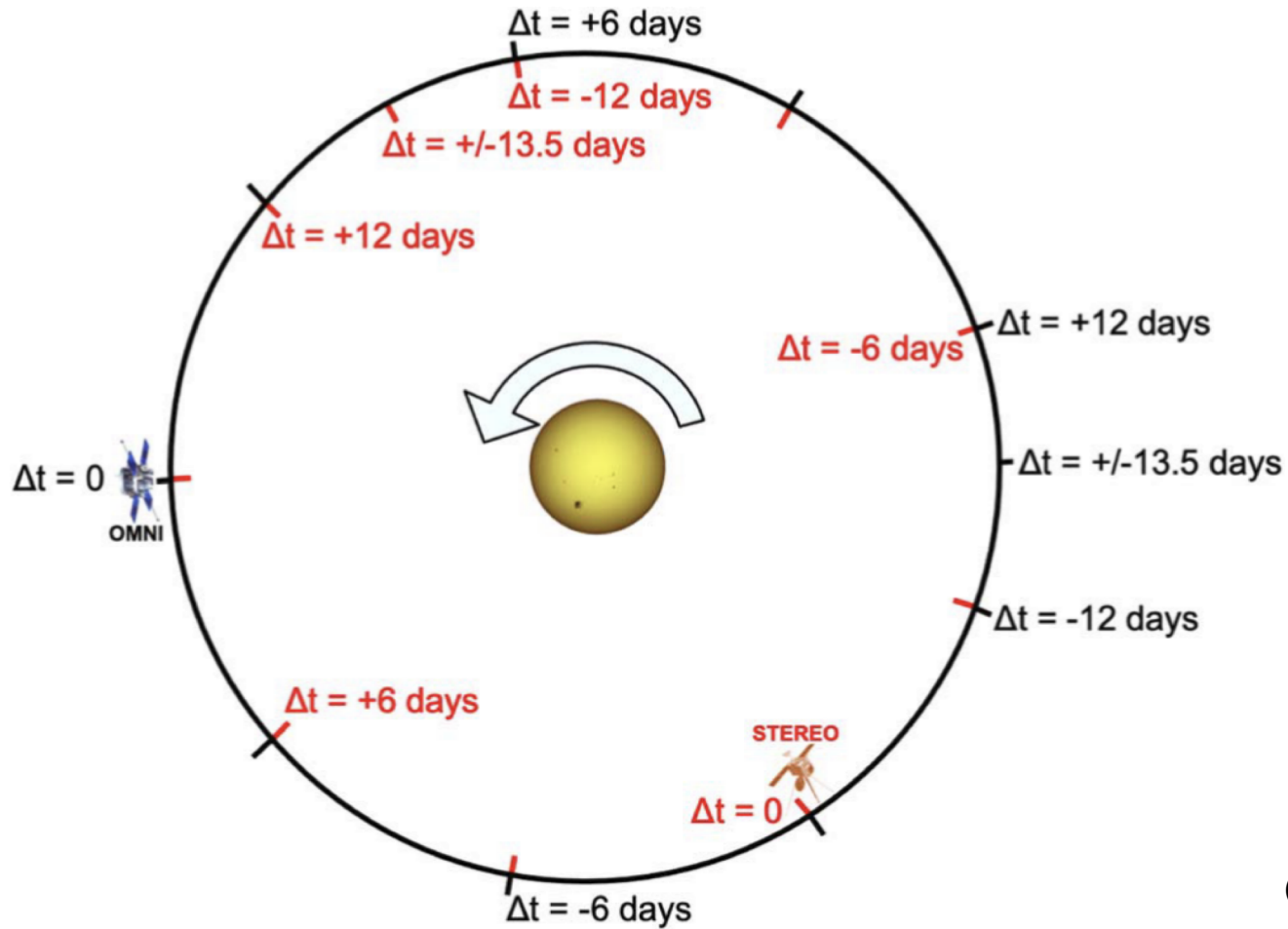
# MSWIM2D Simulation of Solar Wind Speed 1995 - 2007



Courtesy of *Anna Nica*

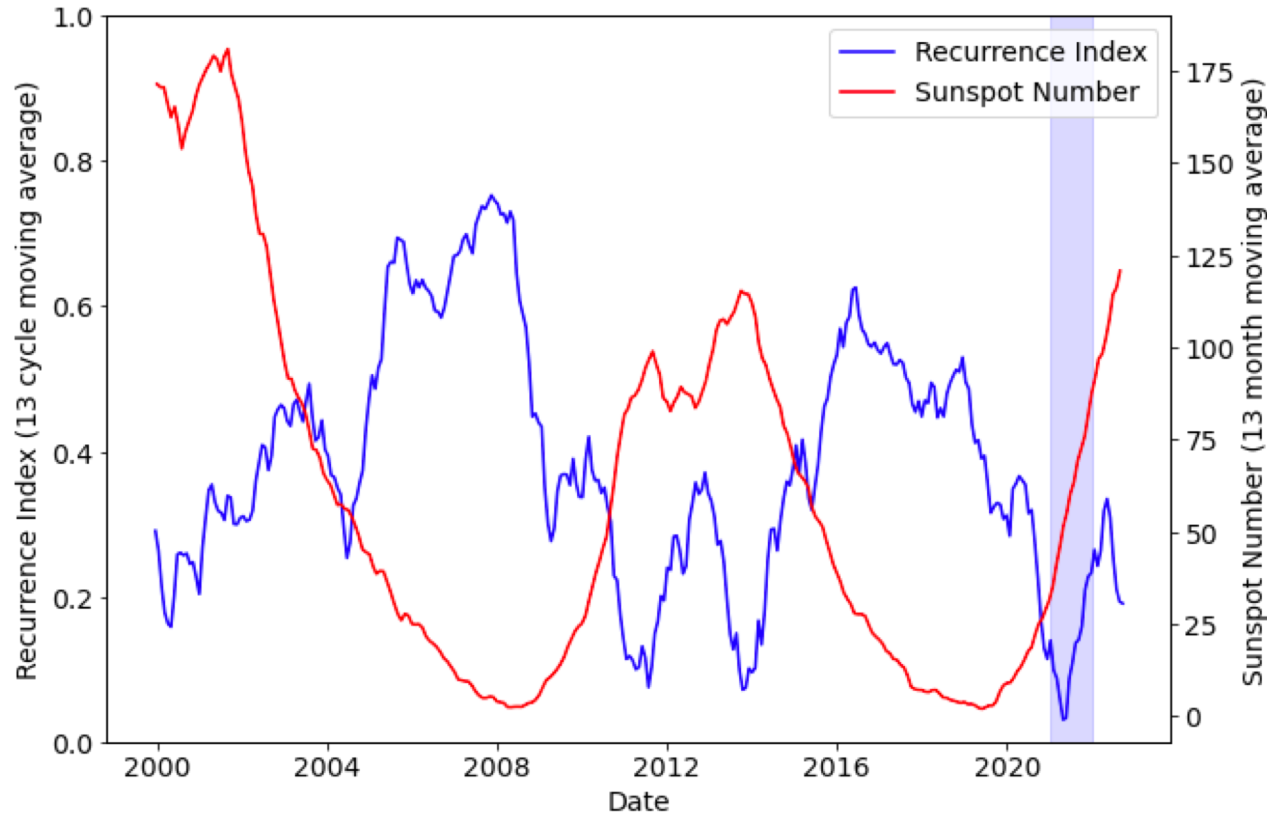


# Inner Boundary Conditions at 1 AU from Earth (OMNI) and STEREO



(Keebler et al., 2022)

# Solar Cycle Variation of the Solar Wind Recurrence Index



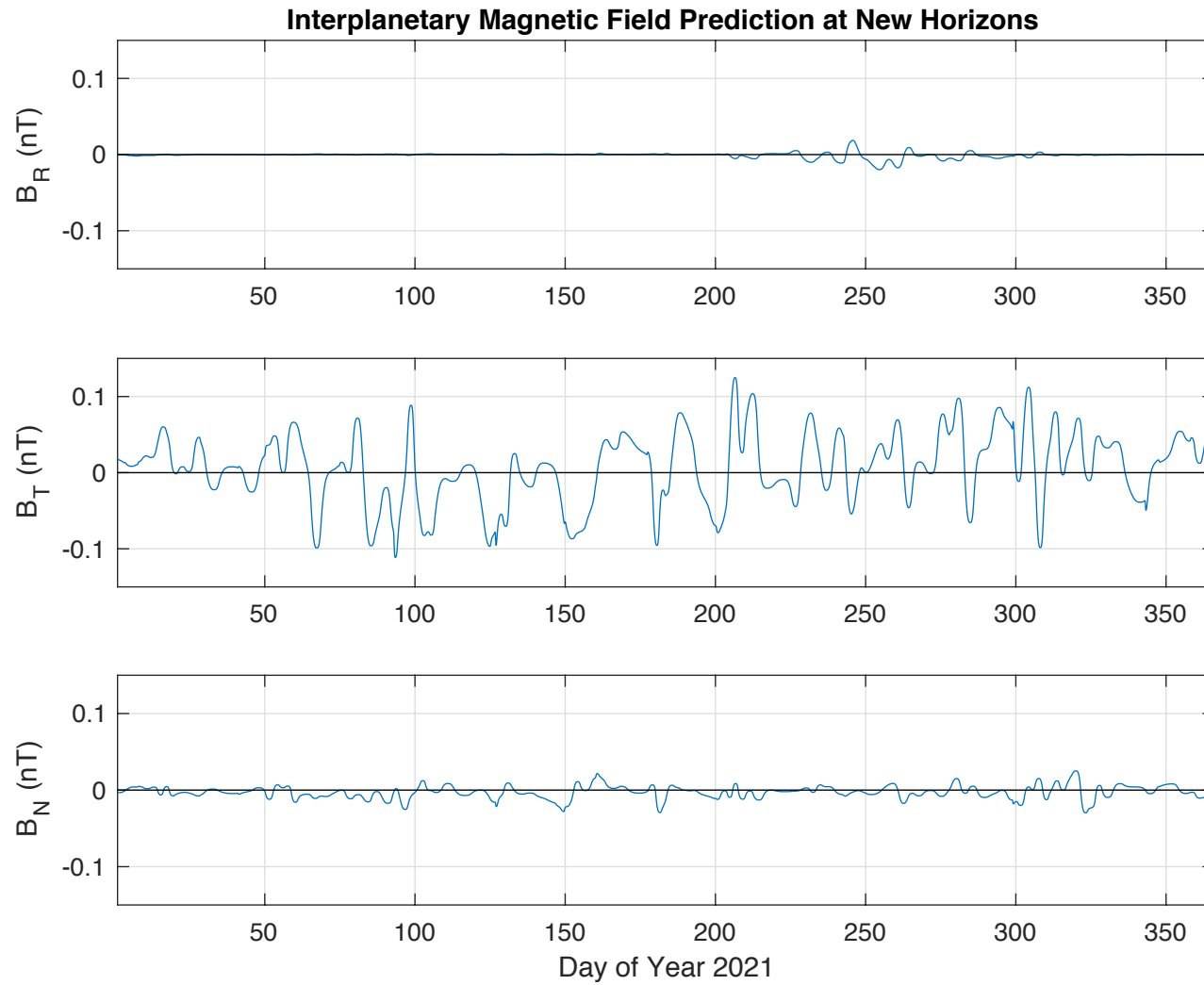
## Recurrence index:

Correlation of hourly solar wind speed data between successive solar rotations (27 days)

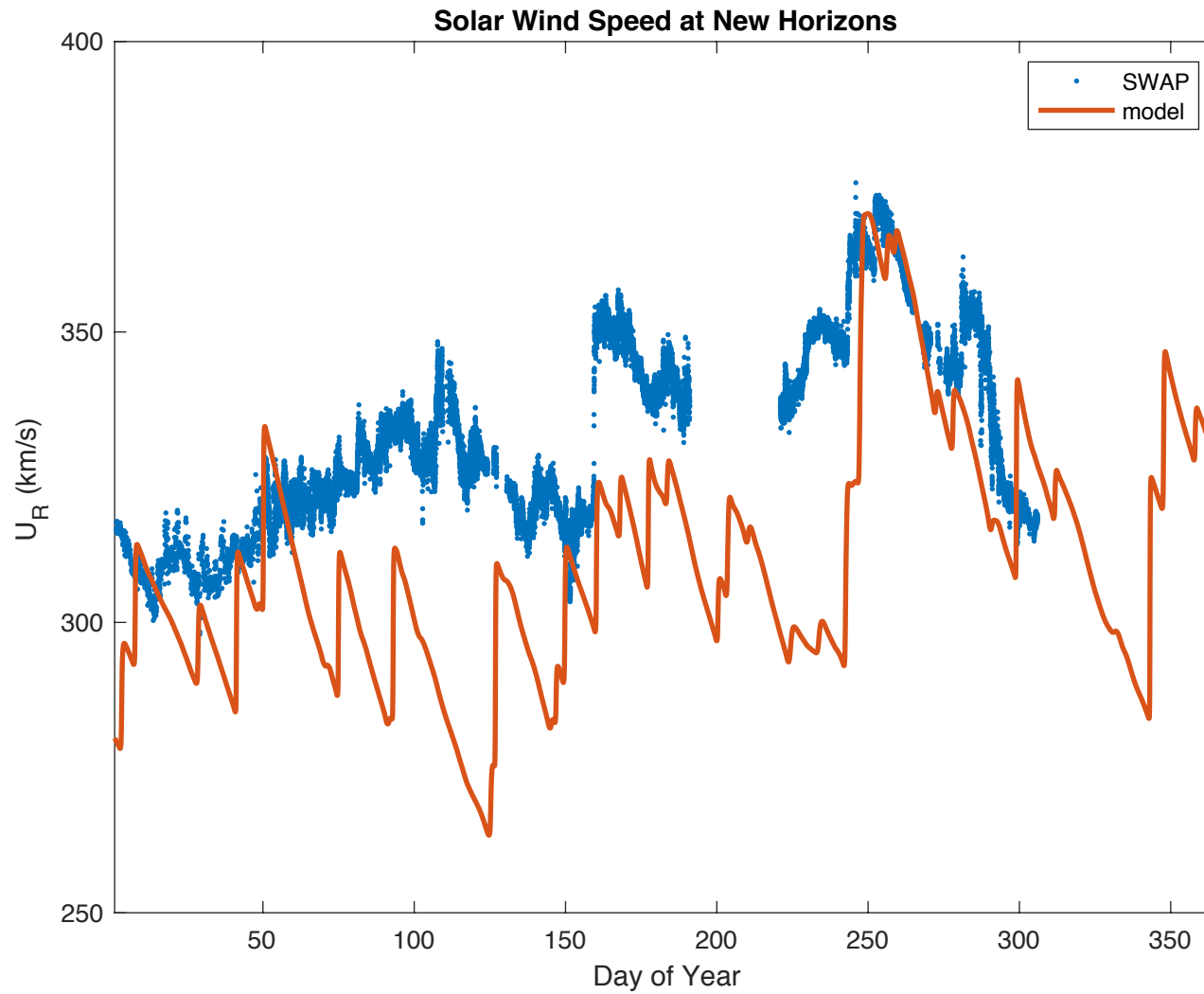
Highest in the late declining phase of the solar cycle due to recurrent high-speed solar wind streams

Courtesy of *Sammy Siegel*

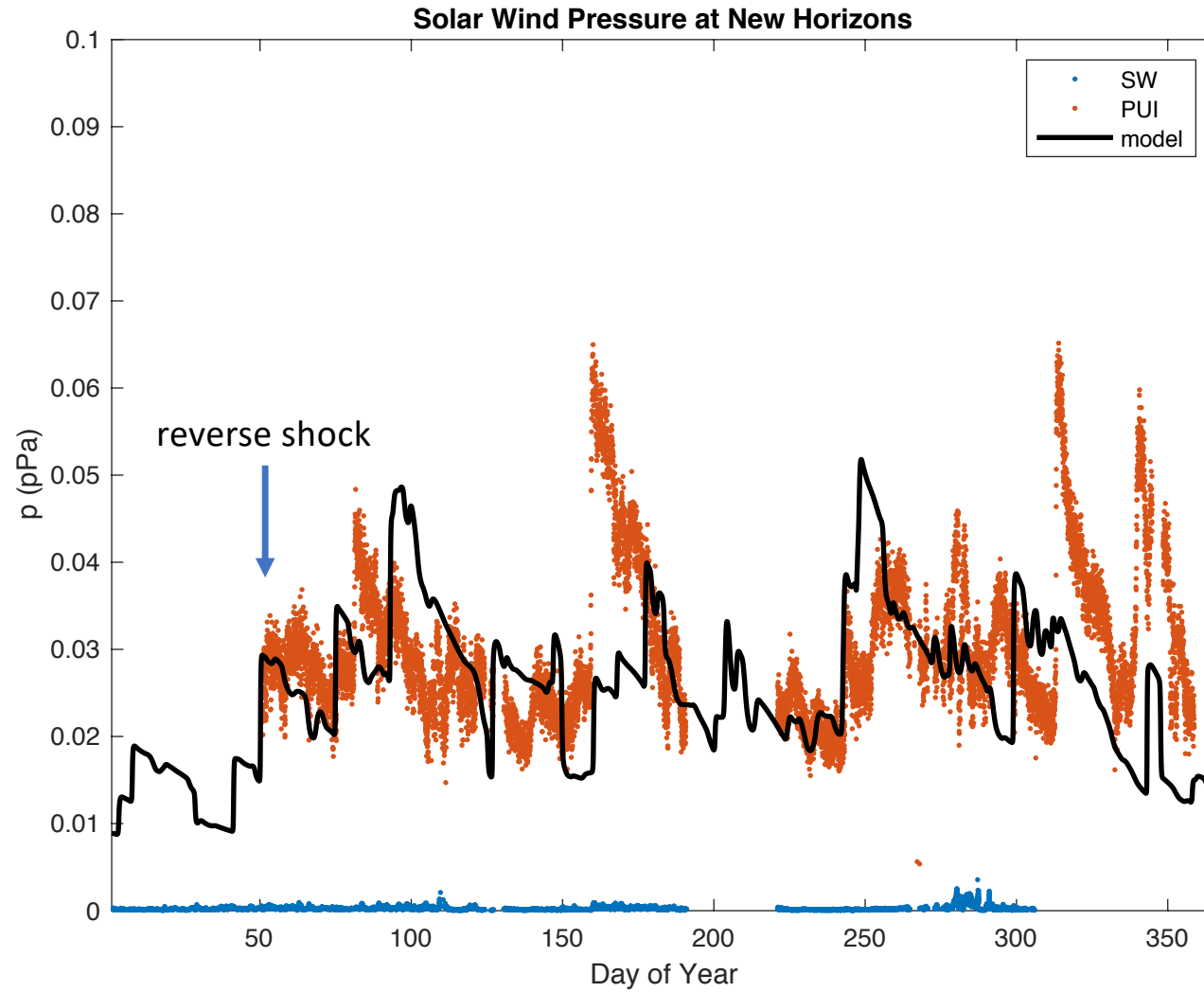
# Interplanetary Magnetic Field Prediction at New Horizons



# Solar Wind Speed at New Horizons in 2021



# Solar Wind Pressure at New Horizons in 2021



# Multi-fluid Simulation of an Interplanetary Shock Observed by New Horizons on DOY 50 in 2021

PUI abundance = 30%  
 $T_{\text{PUI}}/T_{\text{SW}} = 400$

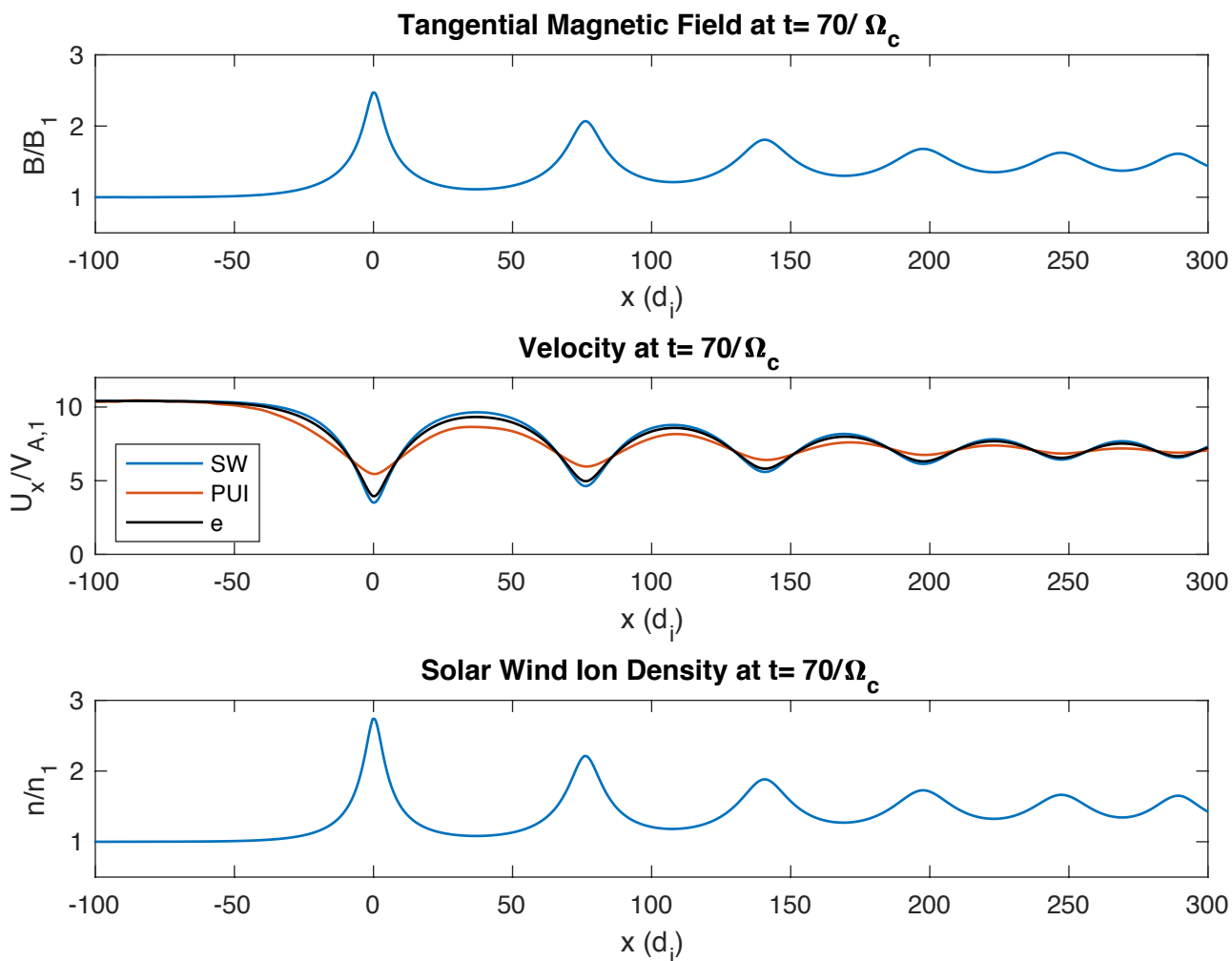
**TS3**

Compression ratio = 1.5 (1.8)

Mach number = 1.3 (1.6)

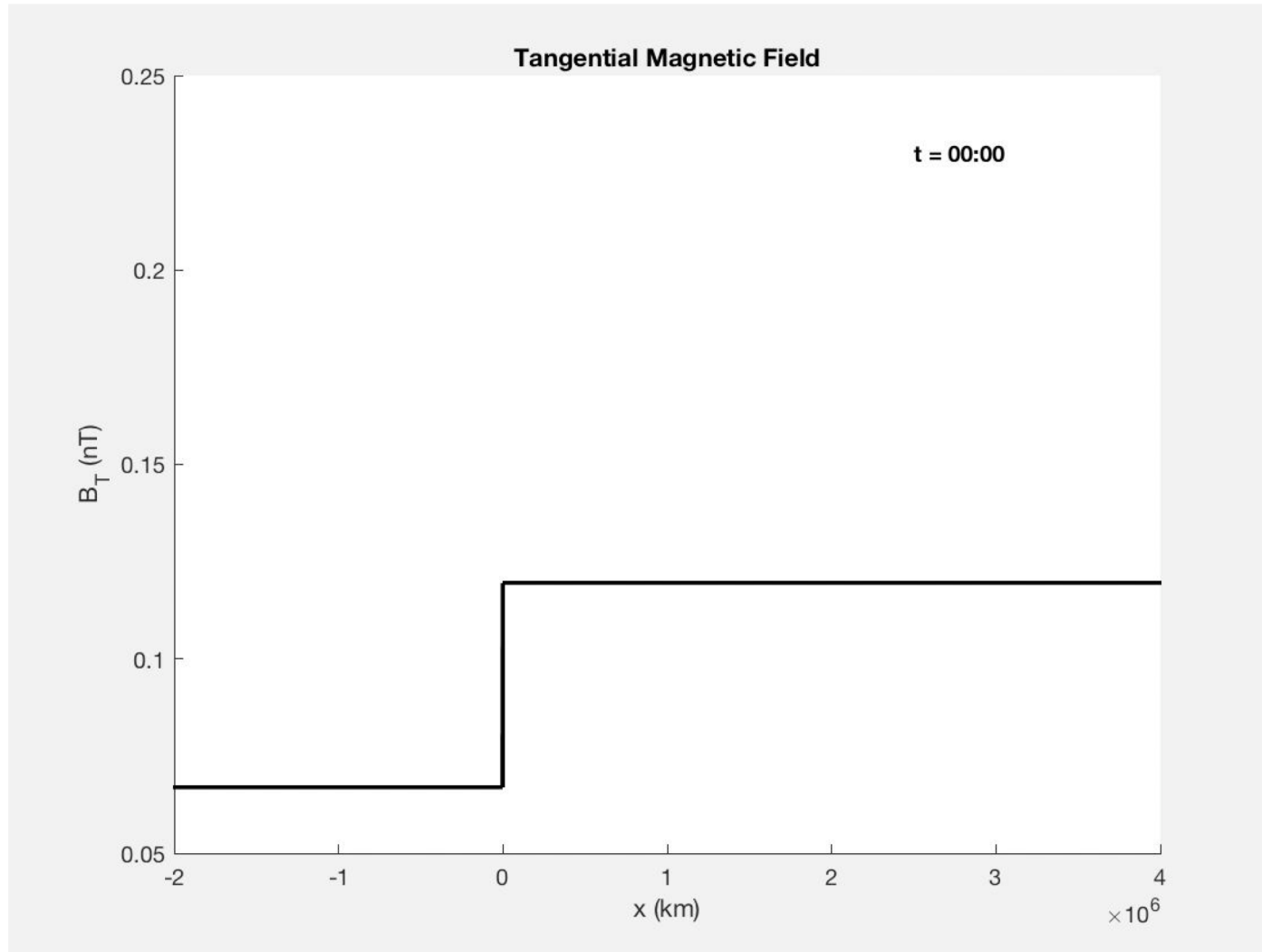
Plasma  $\beta = 73$  (60)

Low Mach number subcritical  
 dispersive shock wave

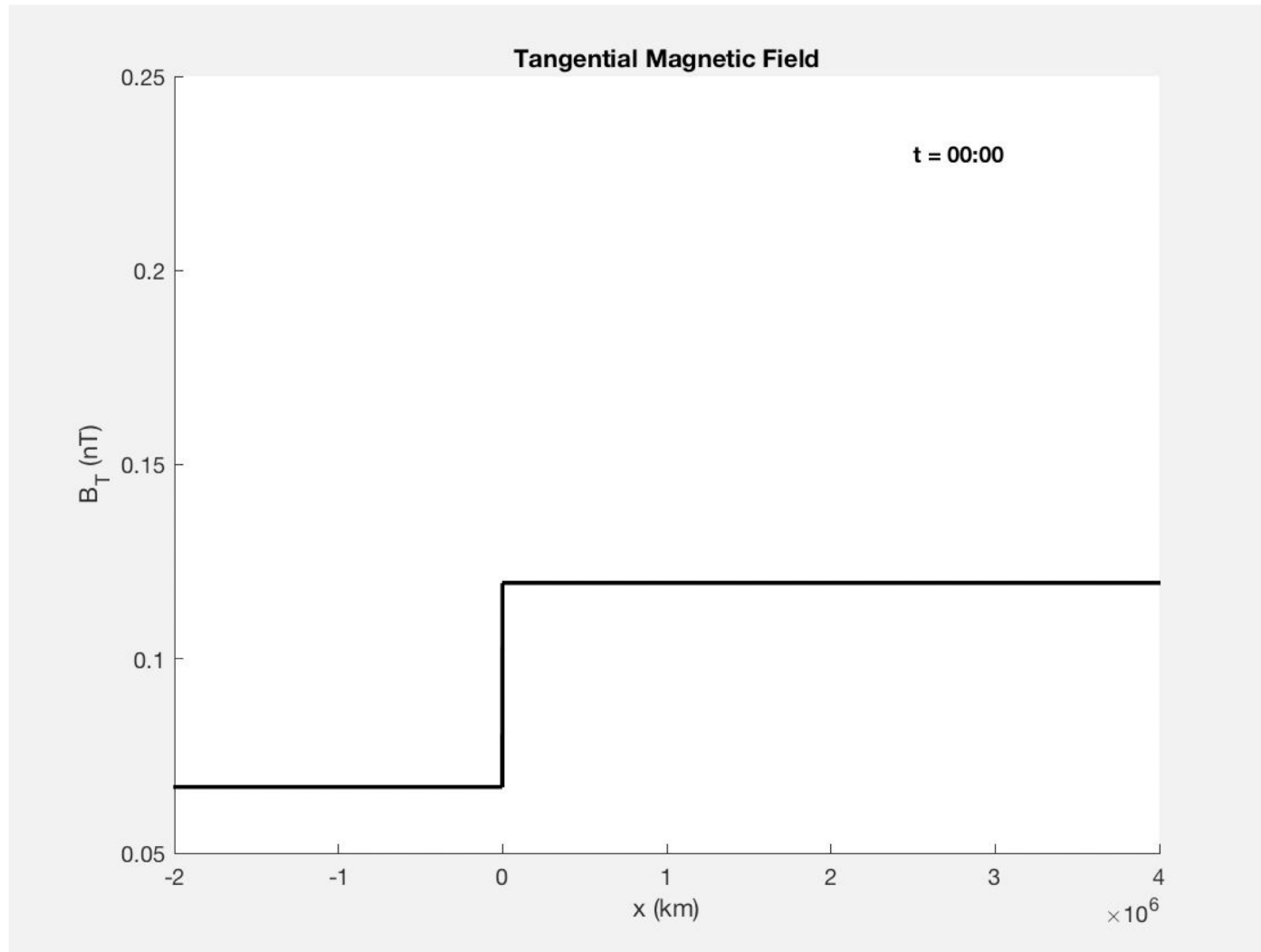




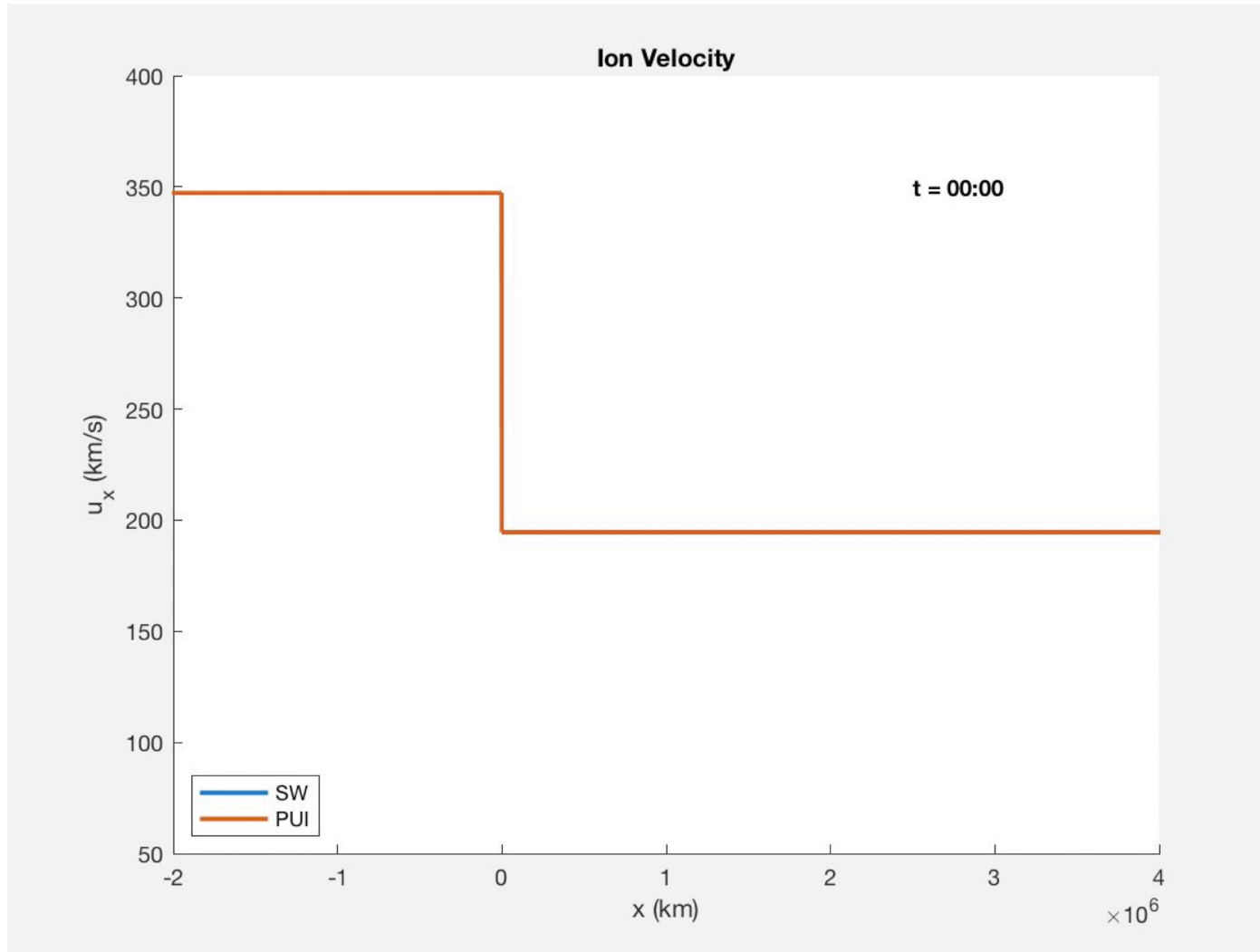
# Multi-species MHD Simulation of the Termination Shock



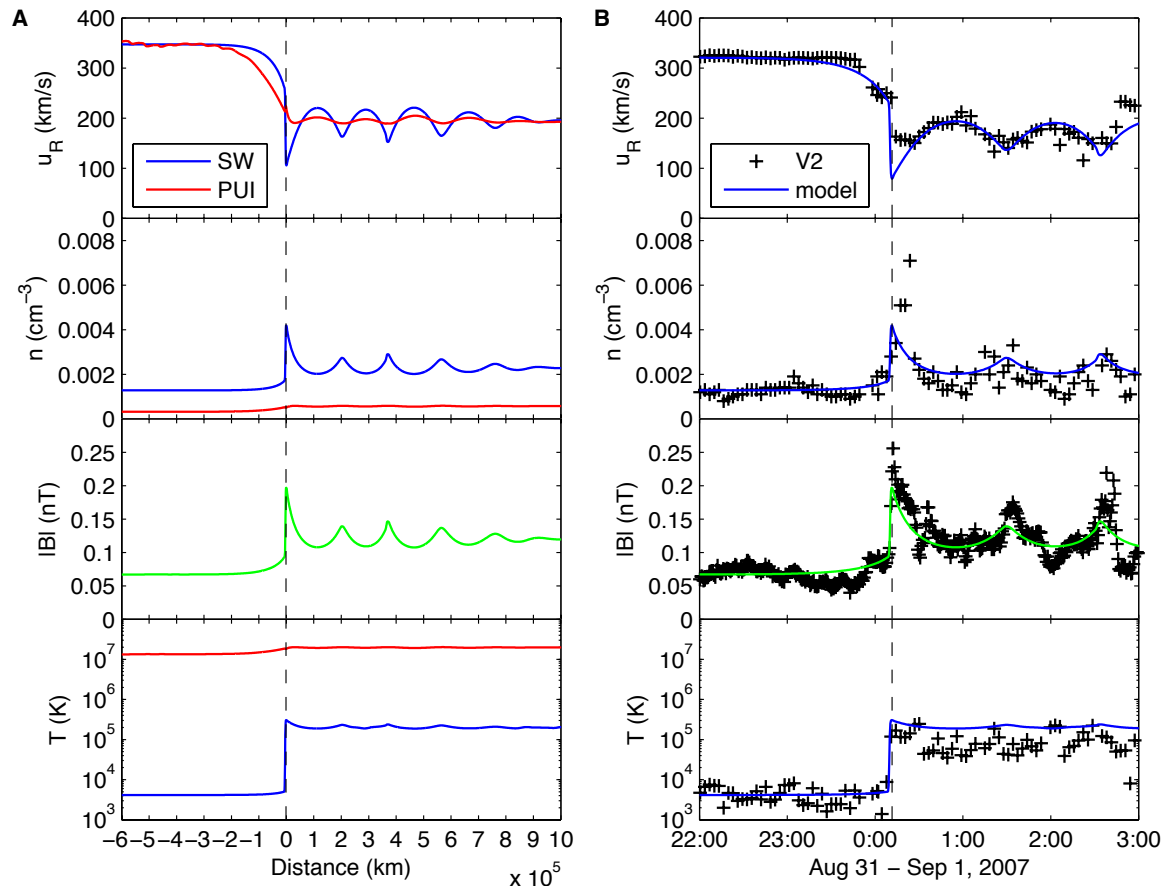
# Three-Fluid Simulation of the Termination Shock



# Three-Fluid Simulation of the Termination Shock



# Model Validation With Voyager 2 Data, TS3

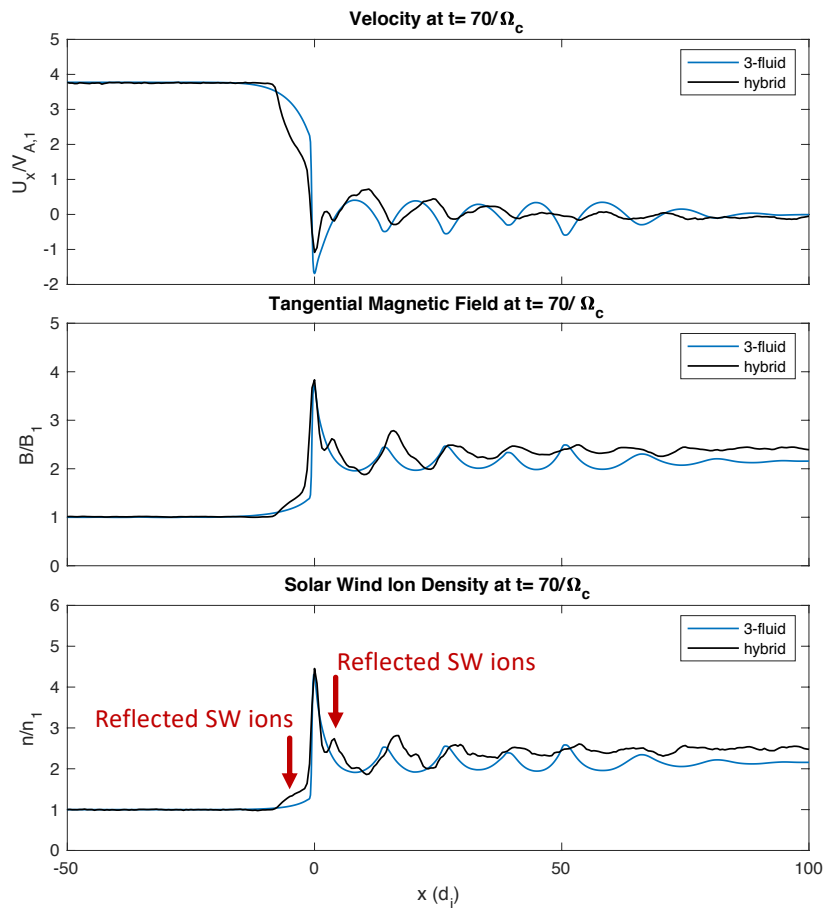


The pickup ion temperature can be constrained by fitting the simulated shock structure to Voyager 2 observations.

$$\begin{aligned}
 n_{\text{SW}} &= 0.0013 \text{ cm}^{-3} \\
 T_{\text{SW}} &= 4200 \text{ K} \\
 B &= 0.067 \text{ nT} \\
 n_{\text{PUI}} &= 0.25 n_{\text{SW}} \\
 A_{\text{PUI}} &= 0.2 \\
 T_{\text{PUI}} &= 13.4 \text{ MK} \\
 T_e &= 0.83 \text{ MK} \\
 p_e &= 0.0173 \text{ pPa}
 \end{aligned}$$

*Zieger et al., 2015*

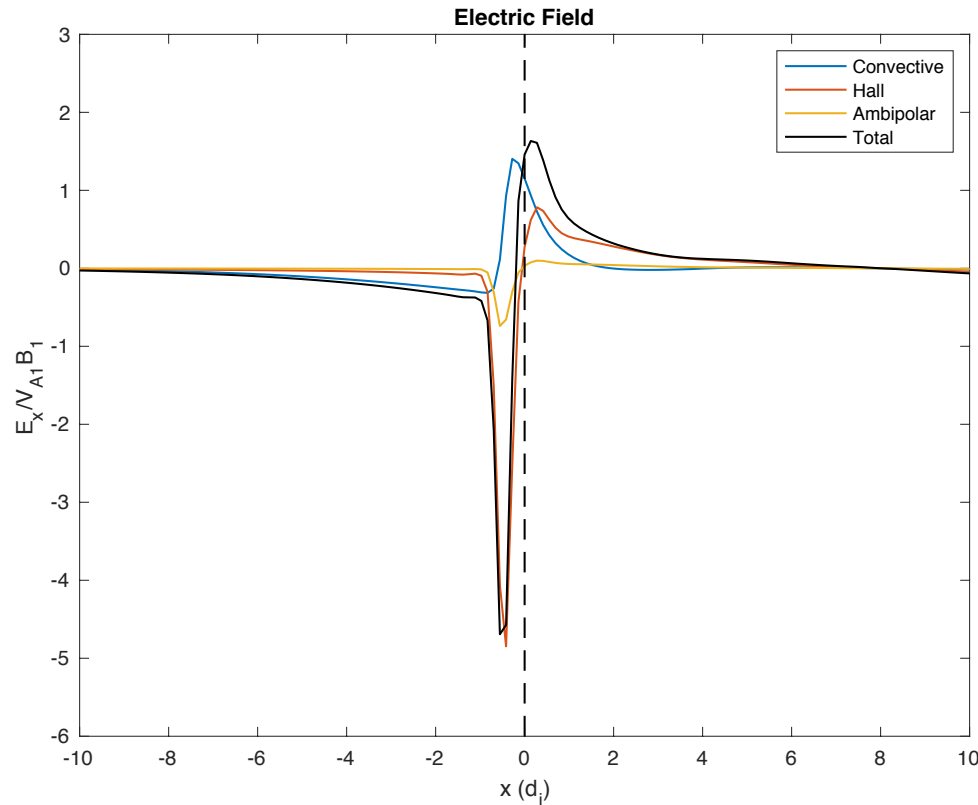
# Three-Fluid and Hybrid Simulations of TS2



The shock structure is dominated by dispersion rather than ion reflection.

The secondary peaks in the ion density are produced by reflected solar wind ions.

## Cross-Shock Electric Field, TS2



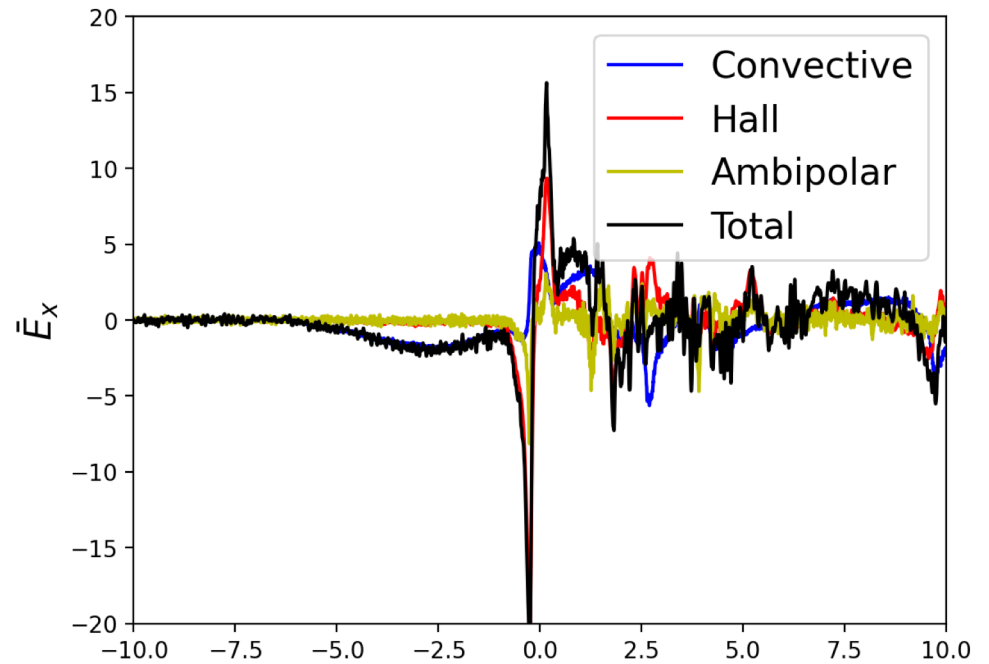
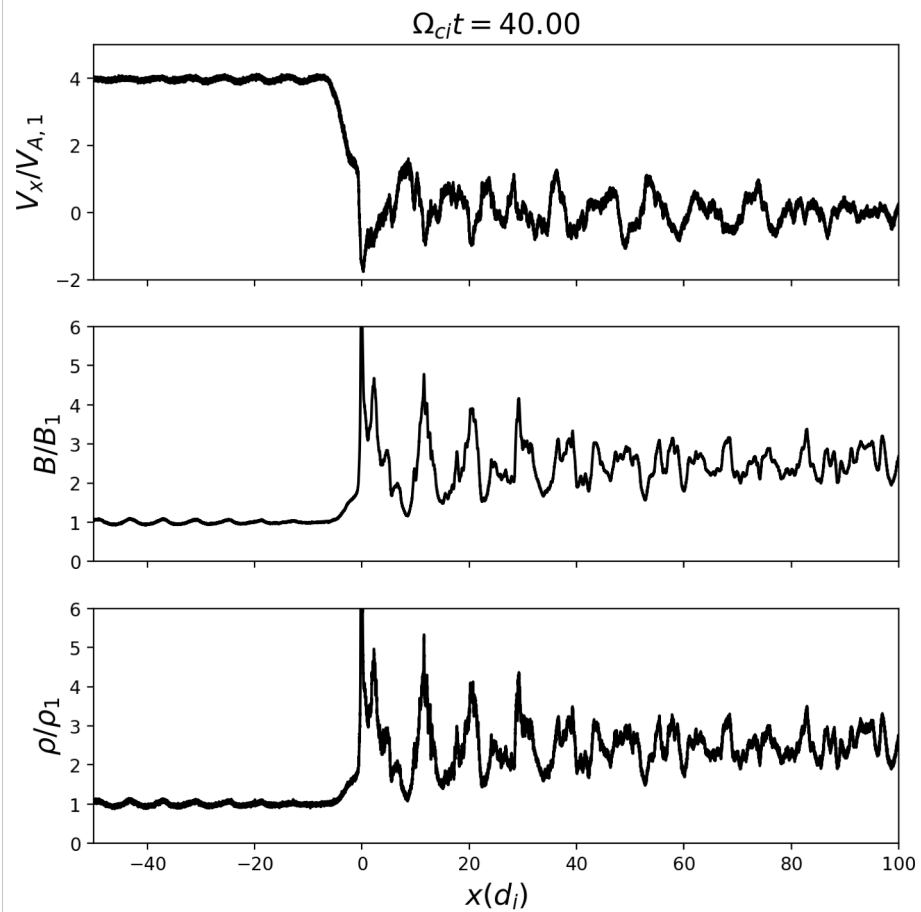
The Hall term dominates in the cross-shock electric field.

The convective and ambipolar terms more or less compensate each other.

Generalized Ohm's Law: 
$$\mathbf{E} = \underbrace{-\mathbf{u}_+ \times \mathbf{B}}_{\text{convective}} + \underbrace{\frac{1}{en_e} \mathbf{J} \times \mathbf{B}}_{\text{Hall}} - \underbrace{\frac{1}{en_e} \nabla p_e}_{\text{ambipolar}} + \underbrace{\eta \mathbf{J}}_{\text{ohmic}}$$

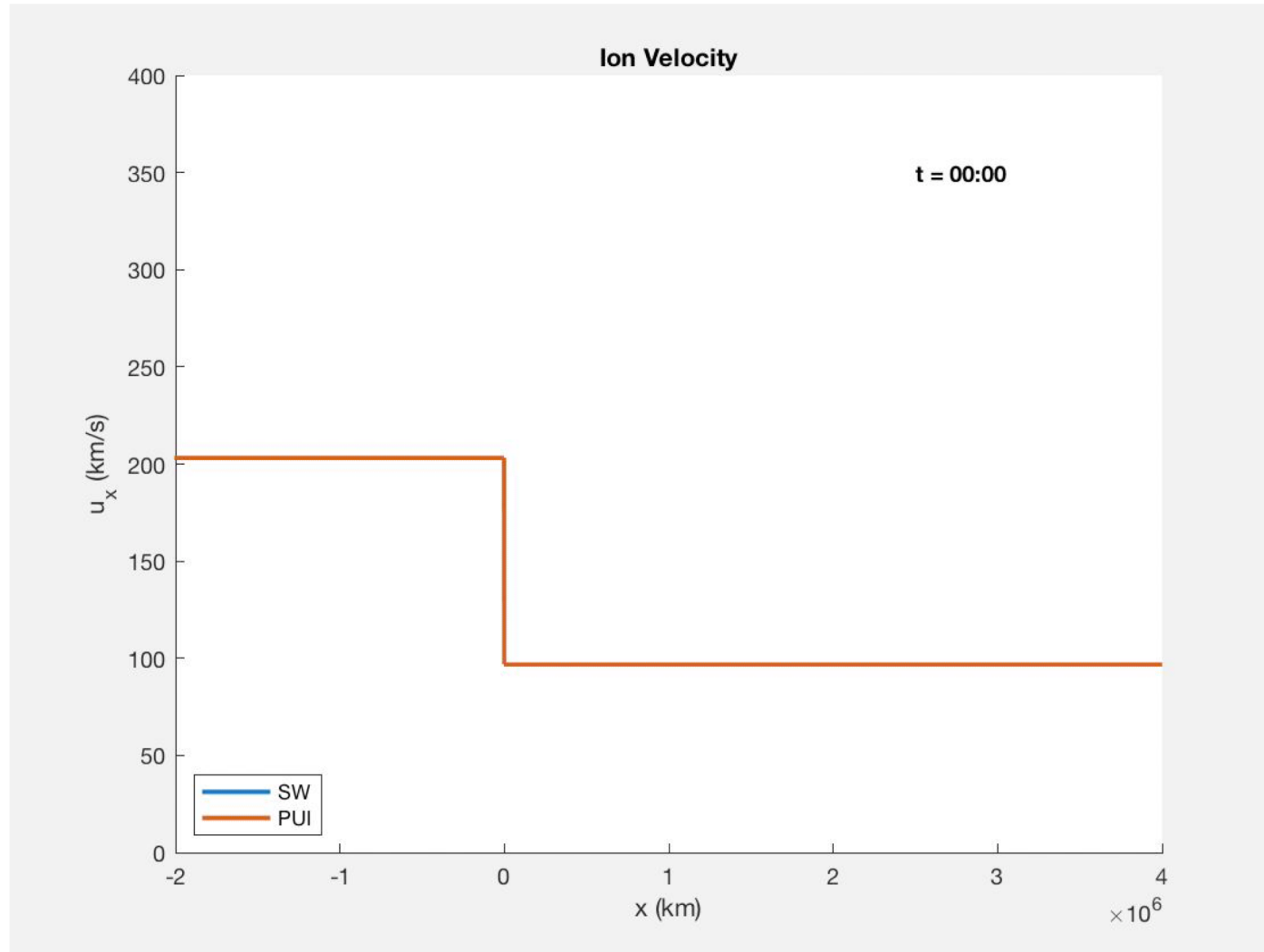


# PIC Simulation of TS2

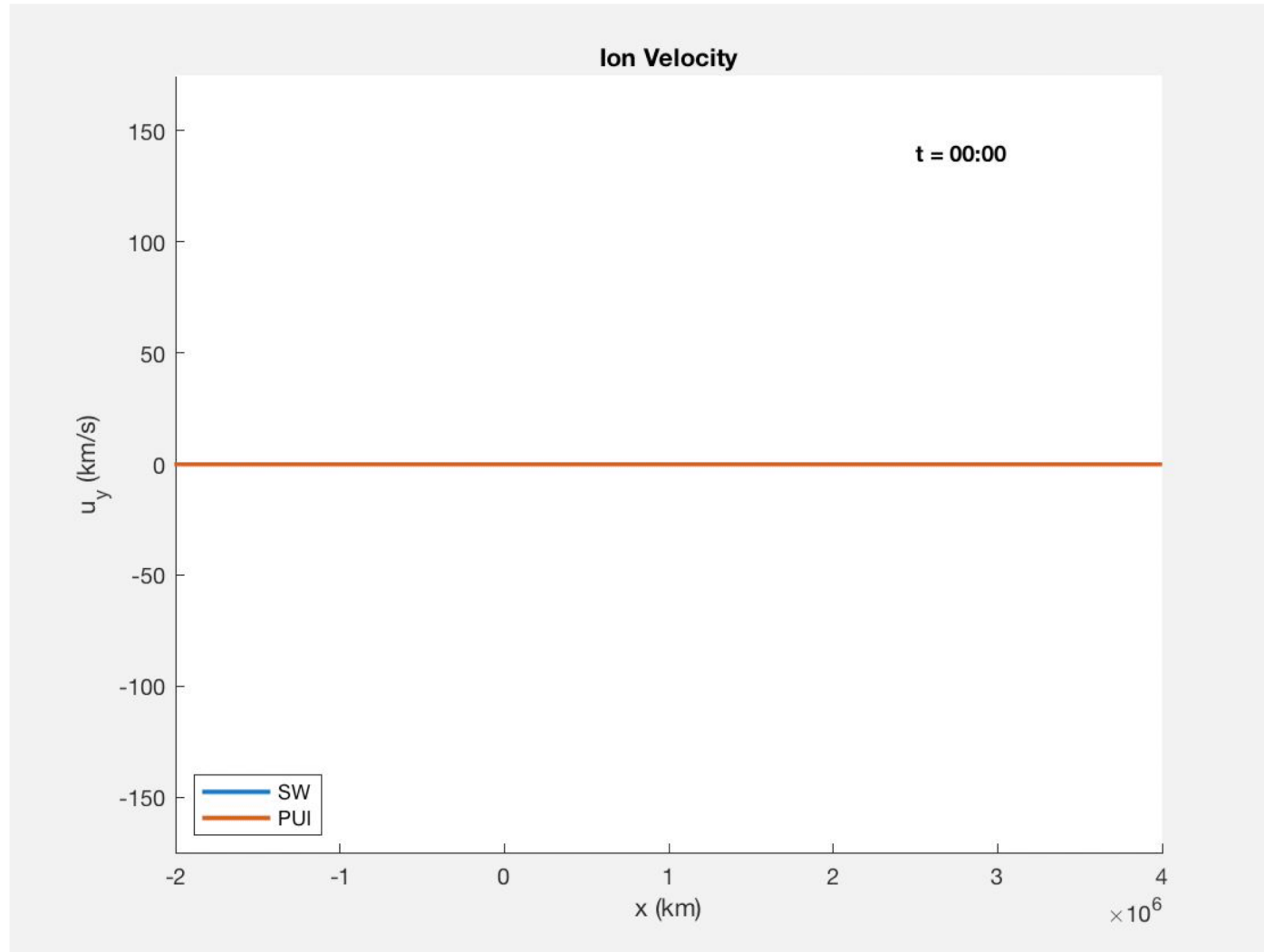


Courtesy of *Senbei Du*

# Three-Fluid Simulation of an Oblique Termination Shock, $\theta_{Bn} = 70^\circ$ Radial Velocity



# Three-Fluid Simulation of an Oblique Termination Shock, $\theta_{Bn} = 70^\circ$ Tangential Velocity



## Conclusions

- **Pickup ions should be treated as a separate fluid in the outer heliosphere**
- **The magnetic field at New Horizons can be predicted by a 2D solar wind propagation model (MSWIM2D).**
- **The prediction is best in the declining phase of the solar cycle when the solar wind recurrence index is high.**
- **The shock observed by New Horizons at 50 AU on DOY 50 in 2021 is a subcritical dispersive shock wave.**
- **Multi-fluid simulation with pickup ions can reproduce the microstructure of the termination shock observed by Voyager 2.**
- **The multi-fluid approach is validated by hybrid and PIC simulations.**
- **Oblique multi-ion shocks introduce differential ion flows in the downstream region.**