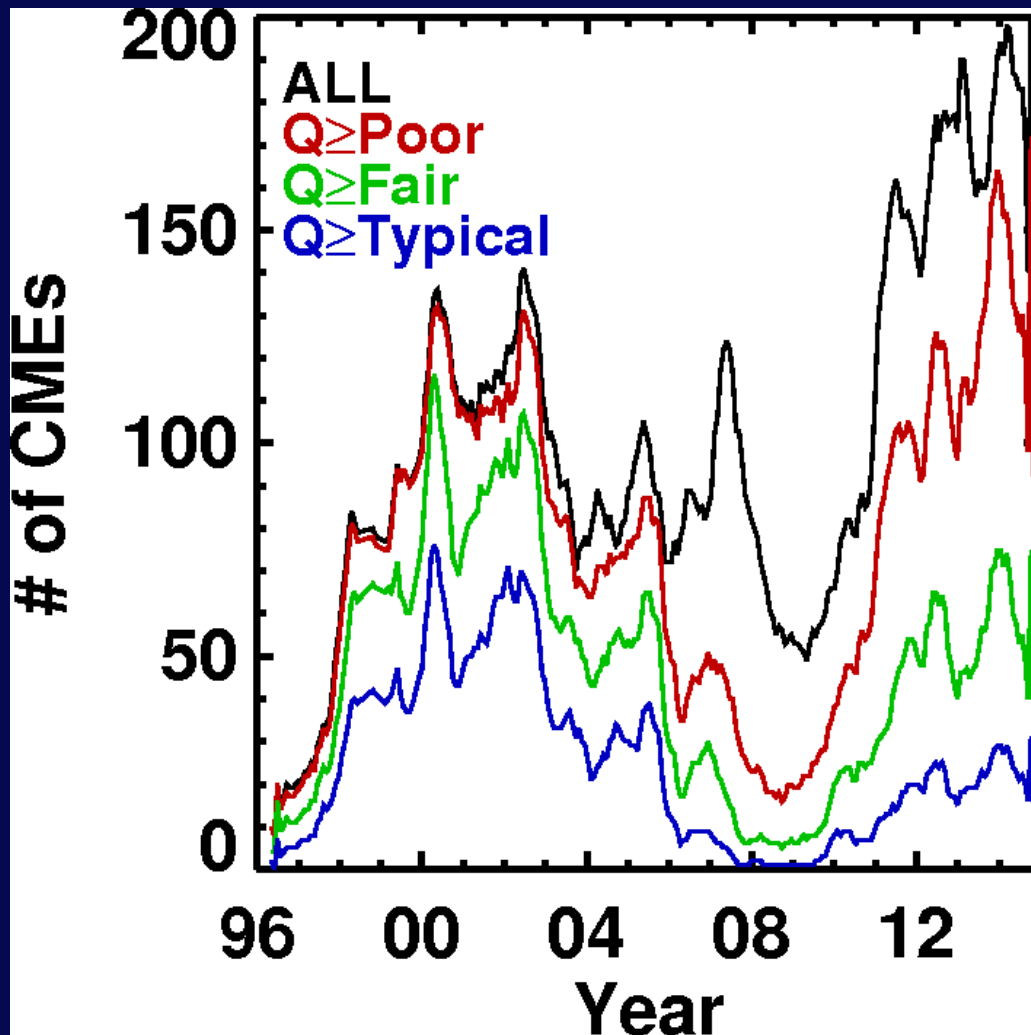


# Statistical Behavior and Solar Cycle Variation of Coronal Mass Ejections

Seiji Yashiro & Nat Gopalswamy  
The Catholic University of America

- CME Rate
- Solar Cycle Variations

# Difficulty to determine the CME rate



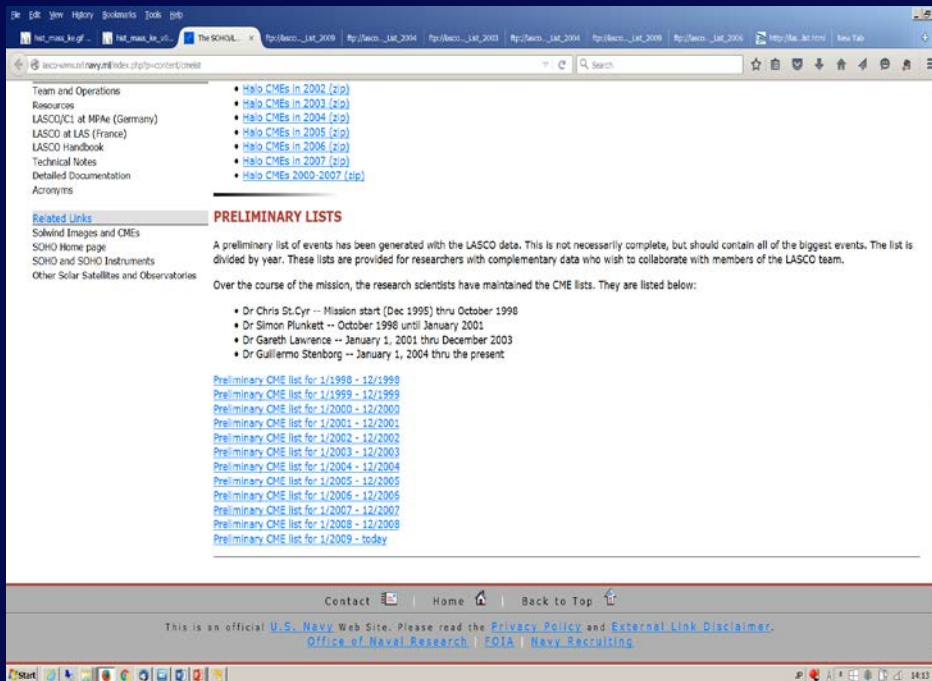
CME Quality Index

5. Excellent
4. Good
3. Typical
2. Fair
1. Poor
0. Unable to measure

- Fractions of extremely poor CMEs have increased from 2004.

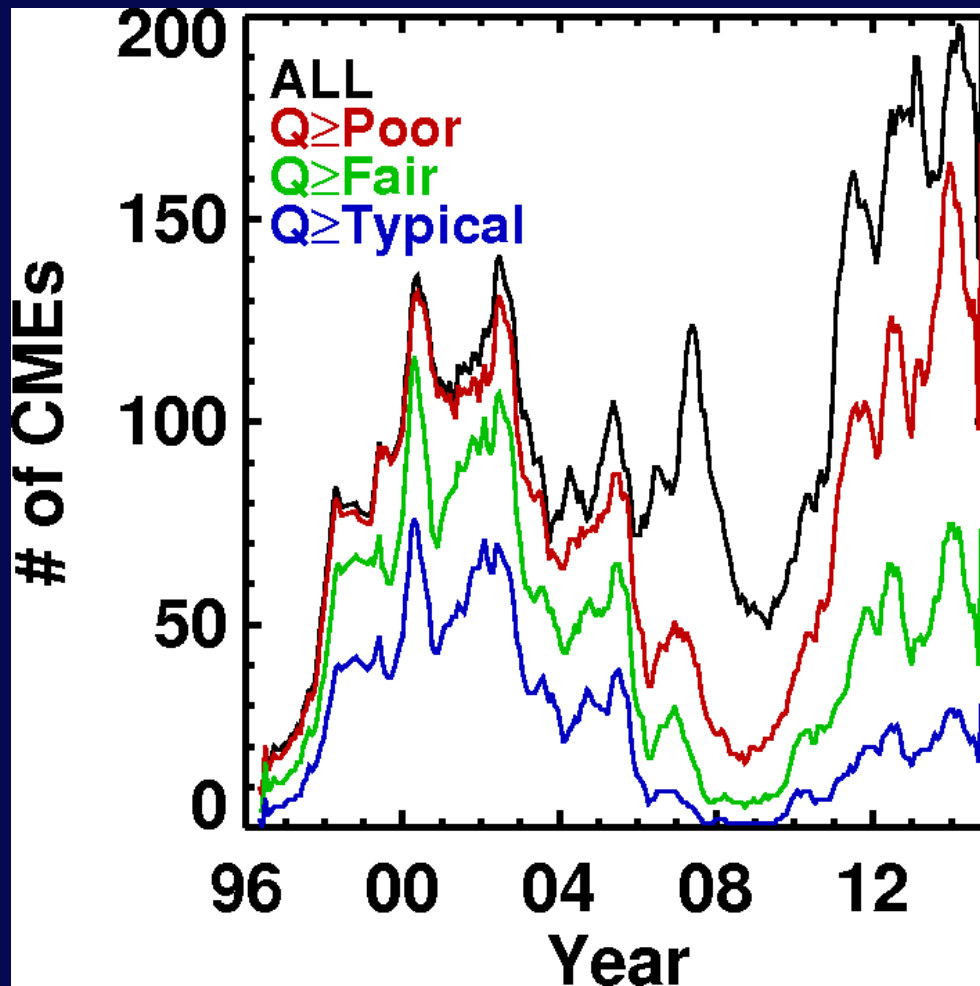
# CME Identification Procedure

Yashiro et al. 2004 stated “LASCO operators maintain a log, which contains notes (CME direction, flare association, data gap, and so on) on most of the CMEs observed daily. We use this log (available at <http://lasco-www.nrl.navy.mil/cmelist.html>) as a guide for our measurements. We also run movies of LASCO images and identify **any missing CMEs.**”



In 2004, the LASCO operator changed to G. Stenborg. He identified extremely faint and narrow CMEs, which were not listed as previously.

# Difficulty to determine the CME rate



## CME Quality Index

5. Excellent

4. Good

3. Typical

2. Fair

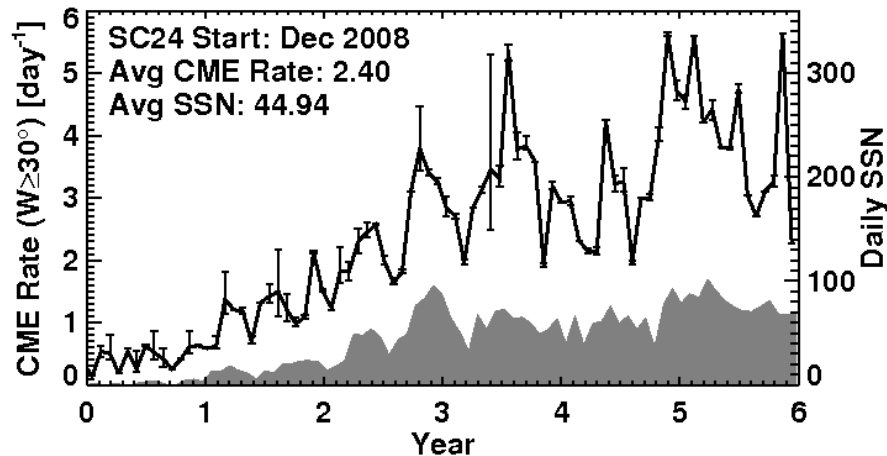
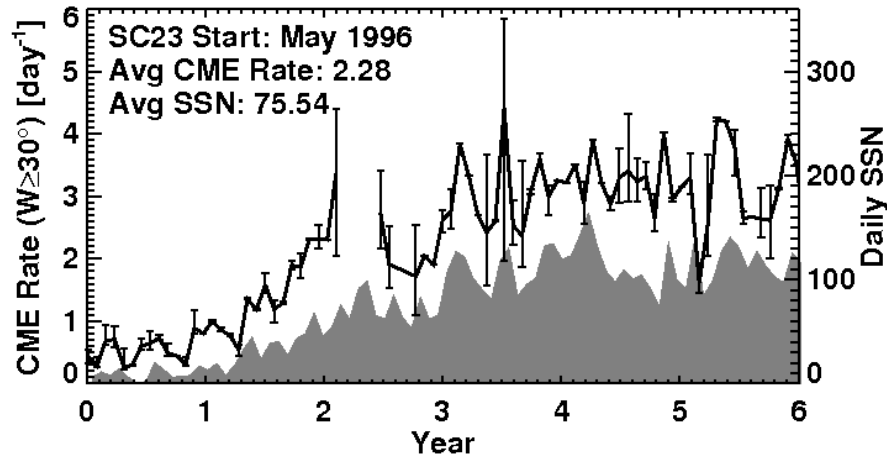
1. Poor

0.5 Extremely Poor

0. Unable to measure

- Extremely poor CMEs should be excluded for proper comparison.

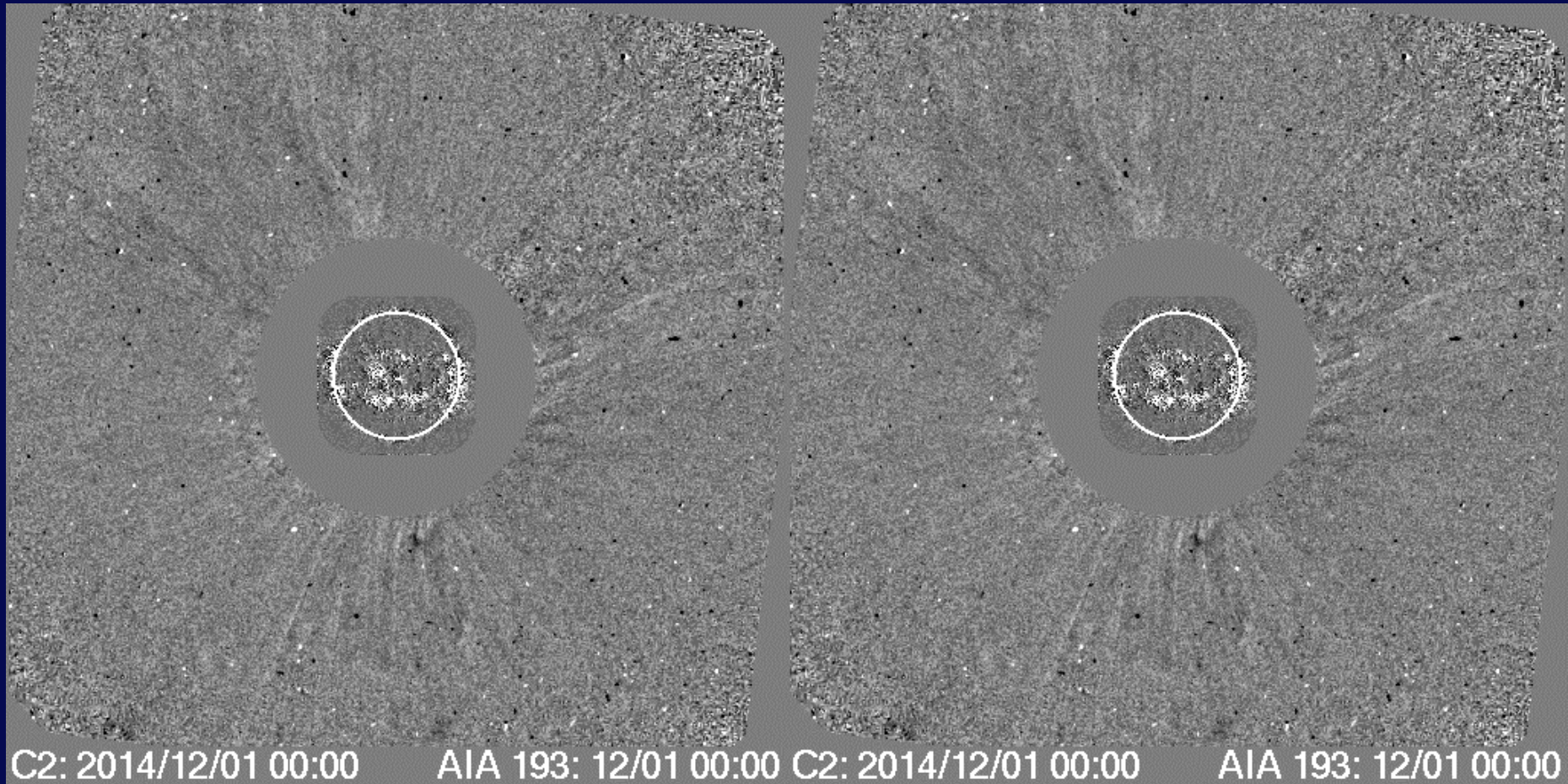
# CME Rate



The average sunspot number has declined by ~40% but CME occurrence rate did not drop in cycle 24 unlike SSN.

# Possible Bias: LASCO Cadence

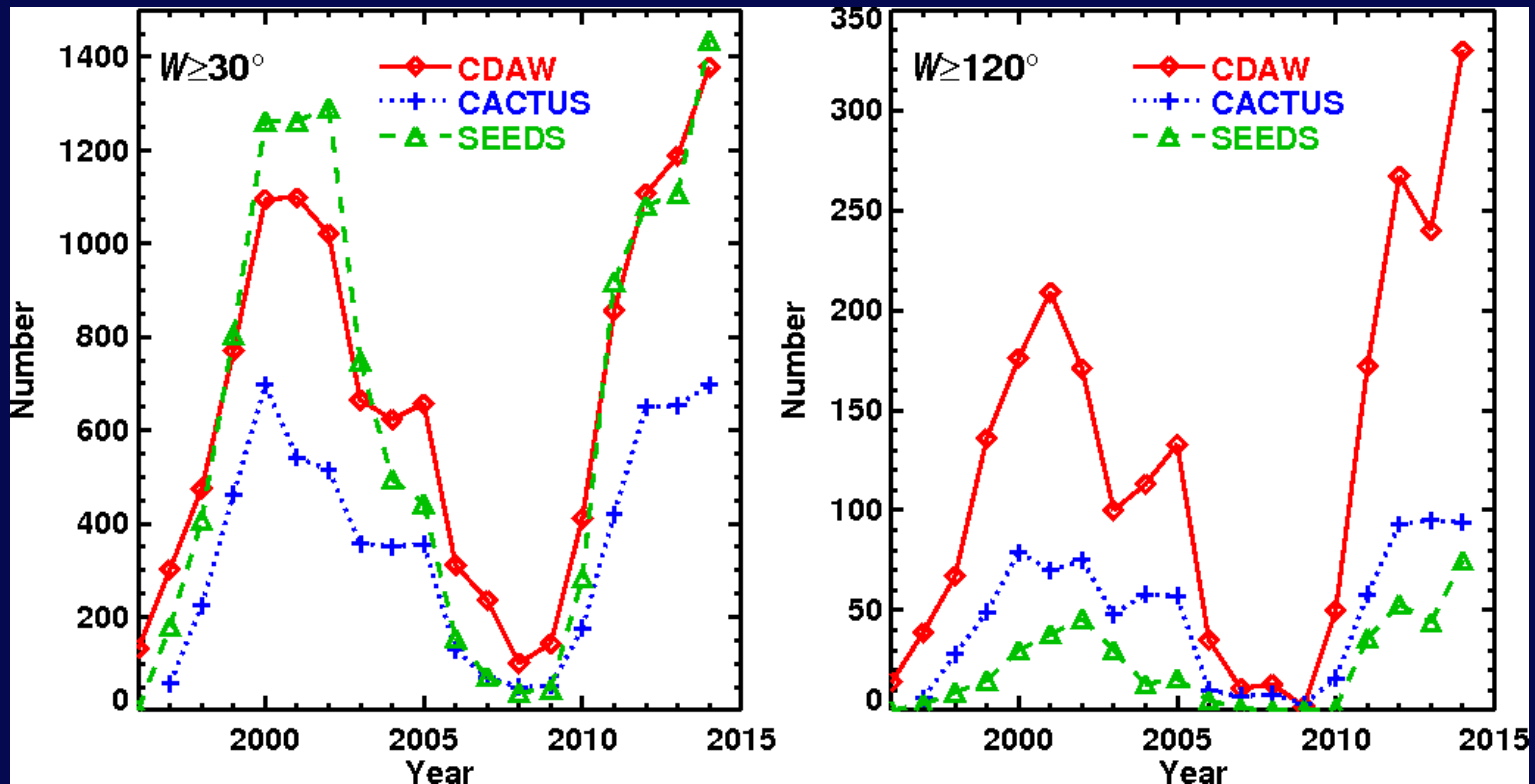
3 frames/hour  $\rightarrow$  5 frames/hour



12 minutes cadence

24 minutes cadence

# Automated CME Detection



- The CME Rate in SC24 is comparable to or higher than that in SC23.

# Nobeyama Radio Heliograph (NoRH)

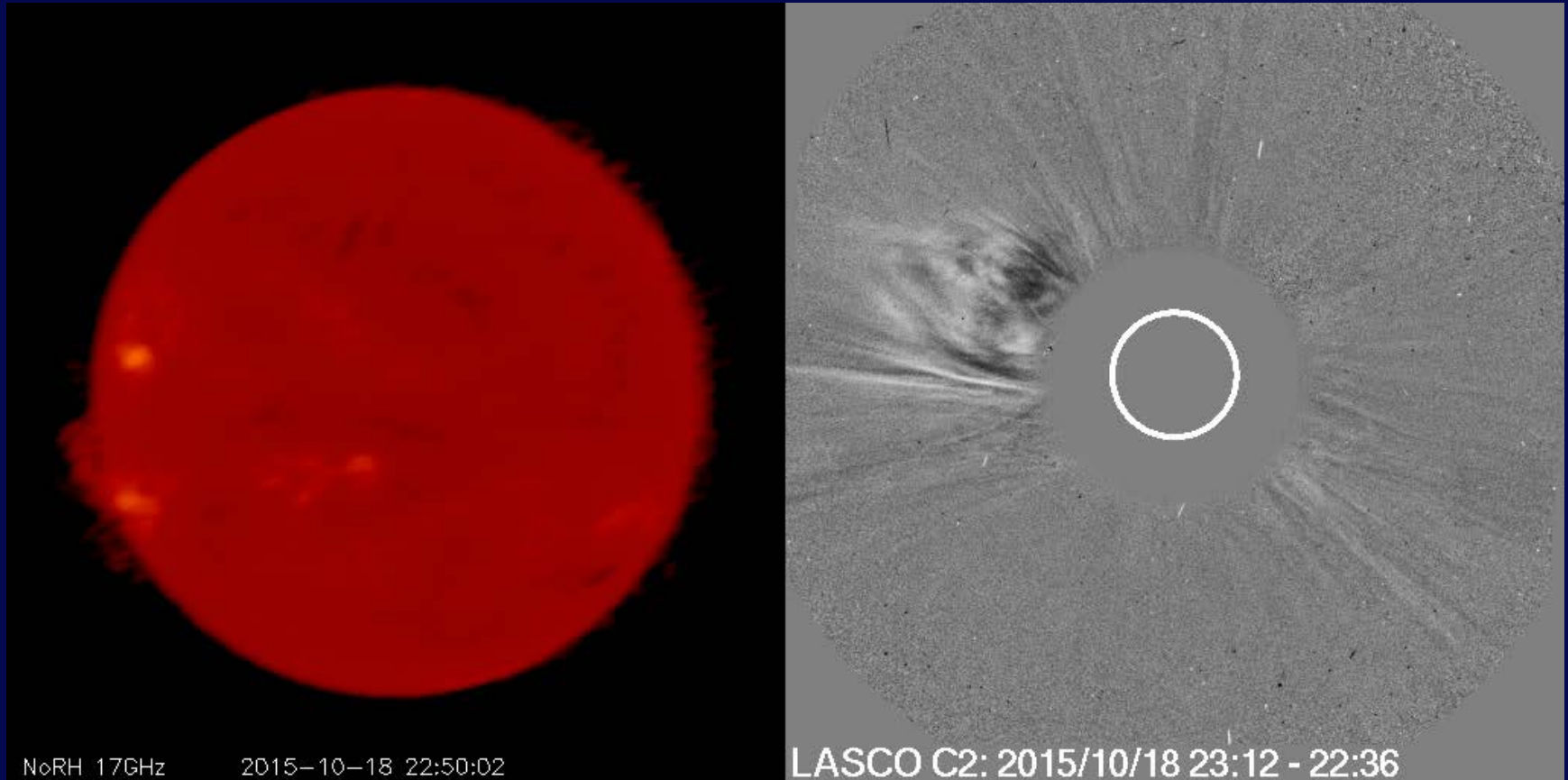
Since April 2015, NoRH has been operated by International Consortium for Continued Operation of Nobeyama Radioheliograph (ICCON=一献; a cup of sake)



- Disadvantage
  - Low Spatial Resolution ( $\sim 10''$ )
  - 16 hrs data gap because of the ground observation
- Advantage
  - High time resolution (1 sec – 0.1 sec)
  - Constant Data Quality for 23 years

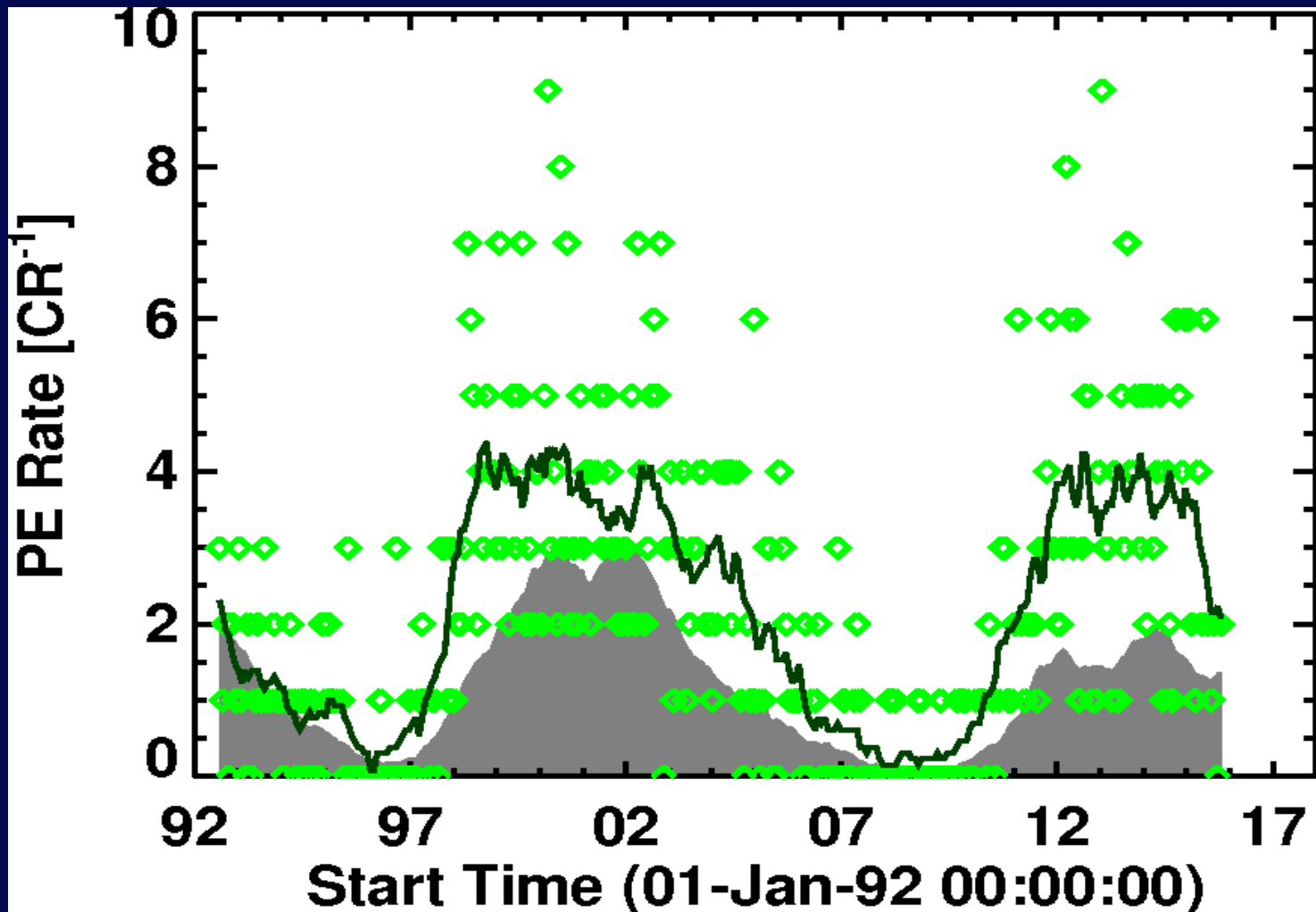


# A Prominence Eruption



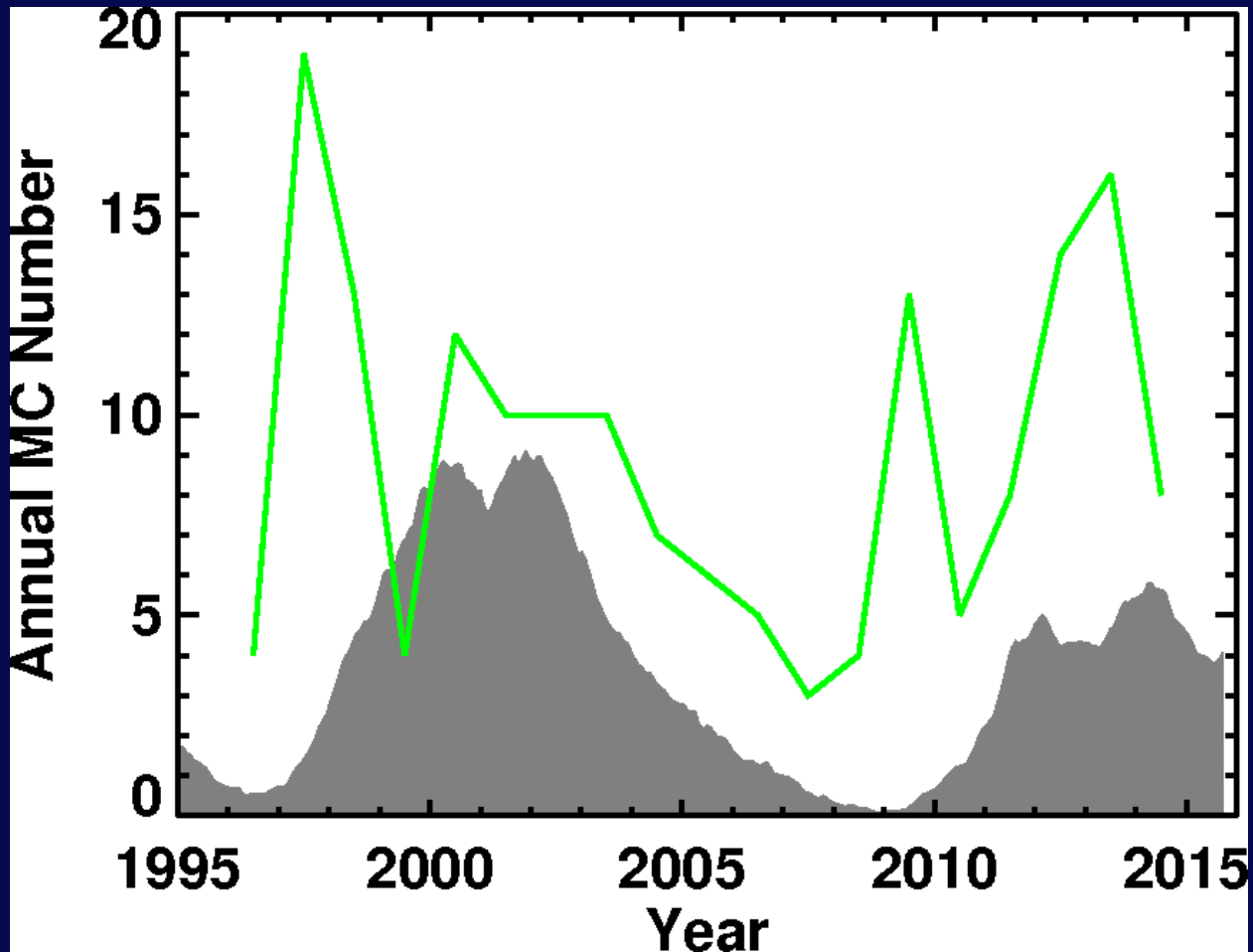
Limb events (prominence activities) are automatically detected (Shimojo+ 2006, PASJ).  
<http://hinode.stelab.nagoya-u.ac.jp/ICCON/>

# Prominence Eruption Rate



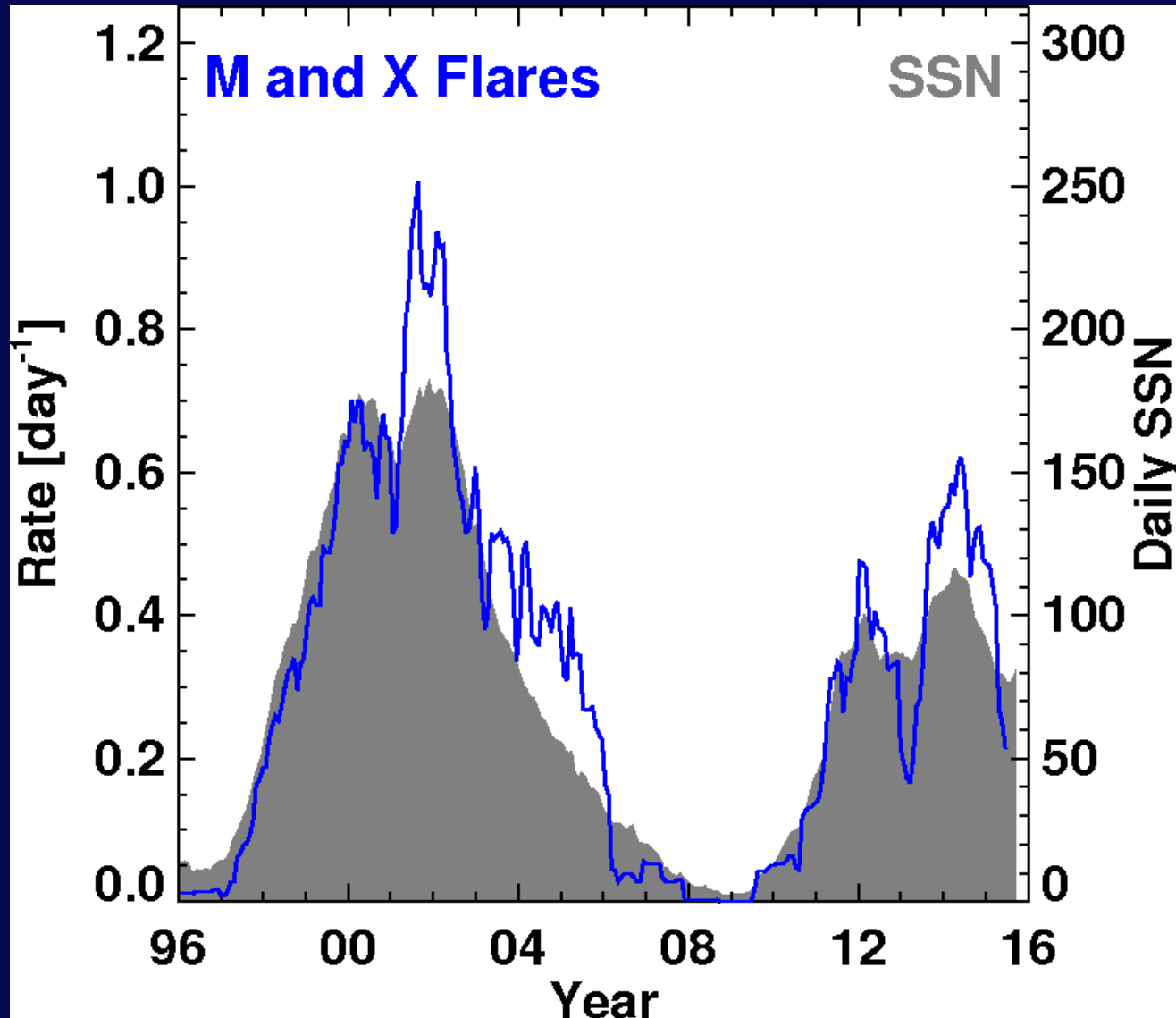
- NoRH PE Rate is comparable.

# Magnetic Cloud



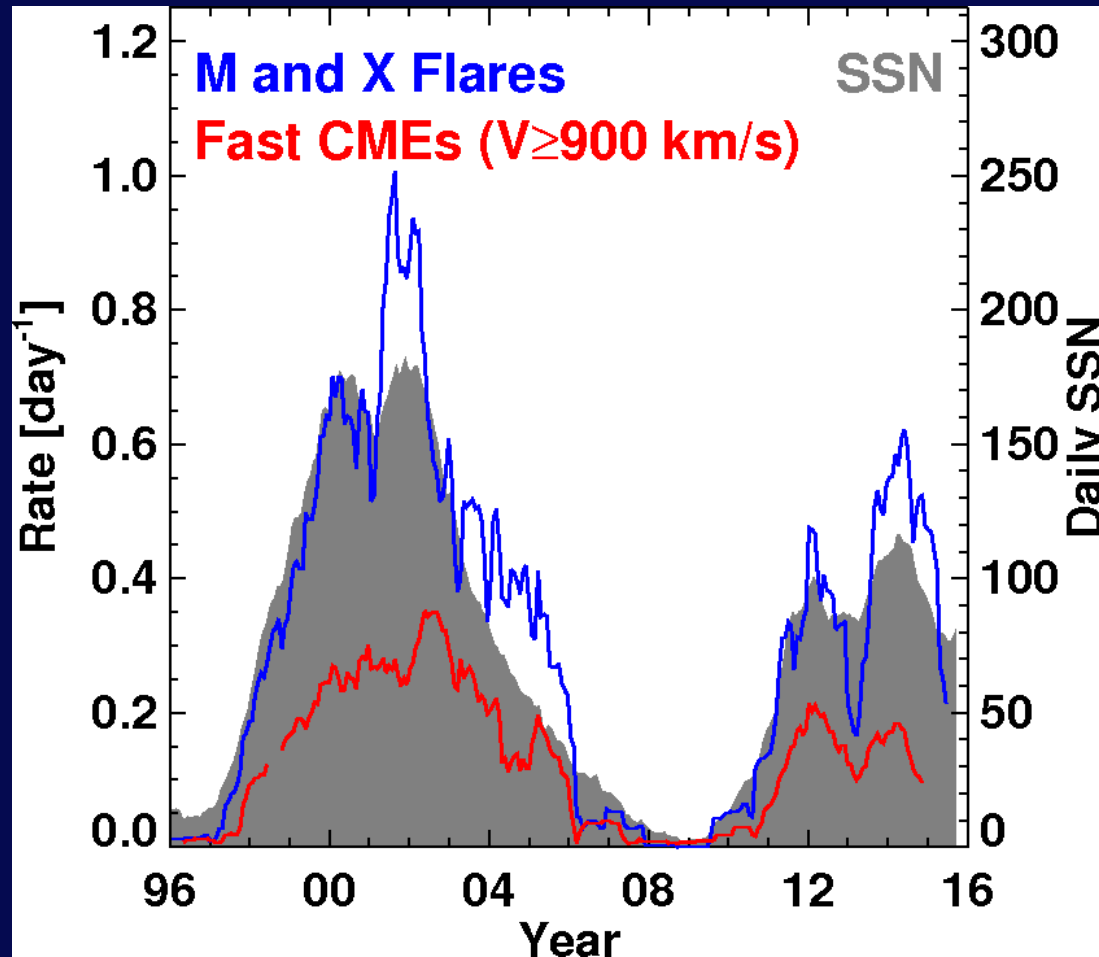
Gopalswamy+ 2015, JGR

# Flare Rate



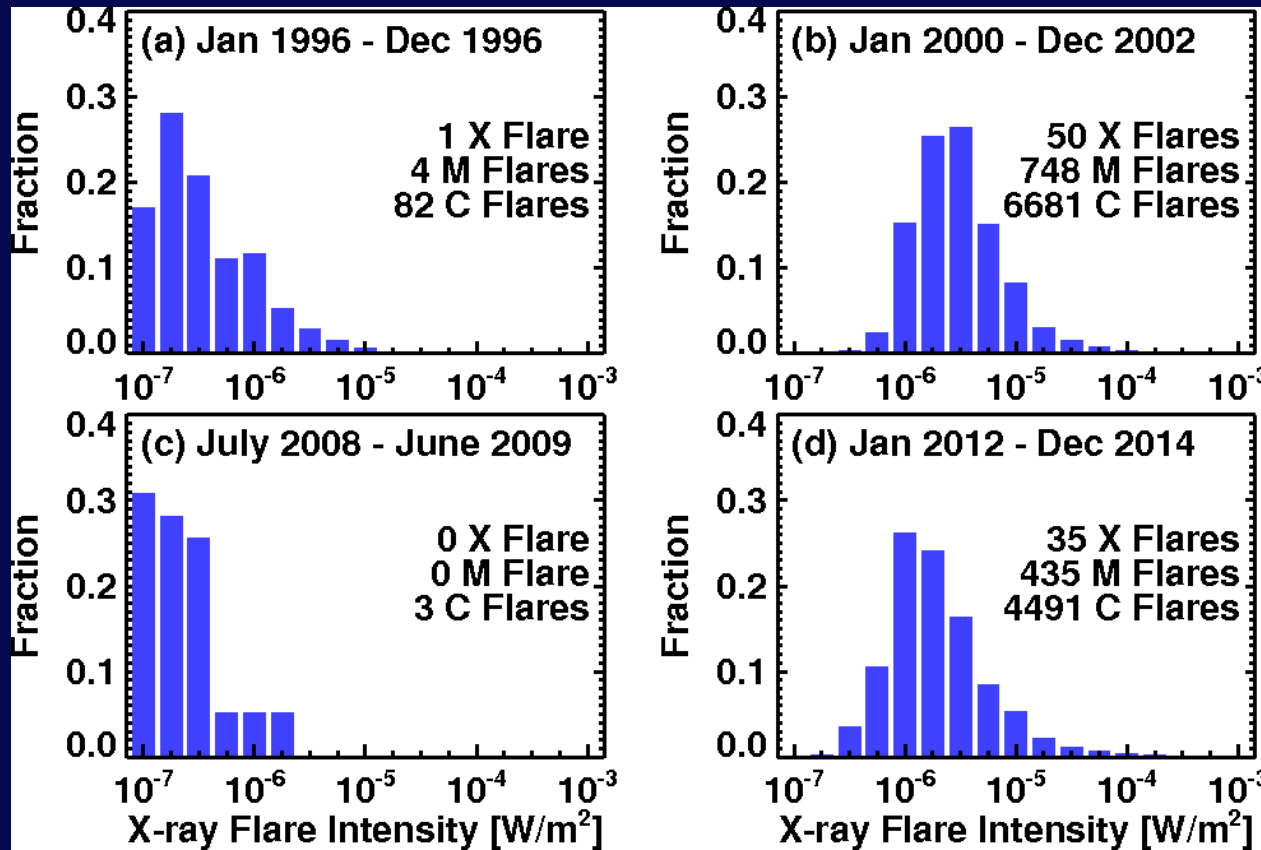
The flare occurrence rate dropped in cycle 24 like SSN.

# Flare and Fast CME Rate

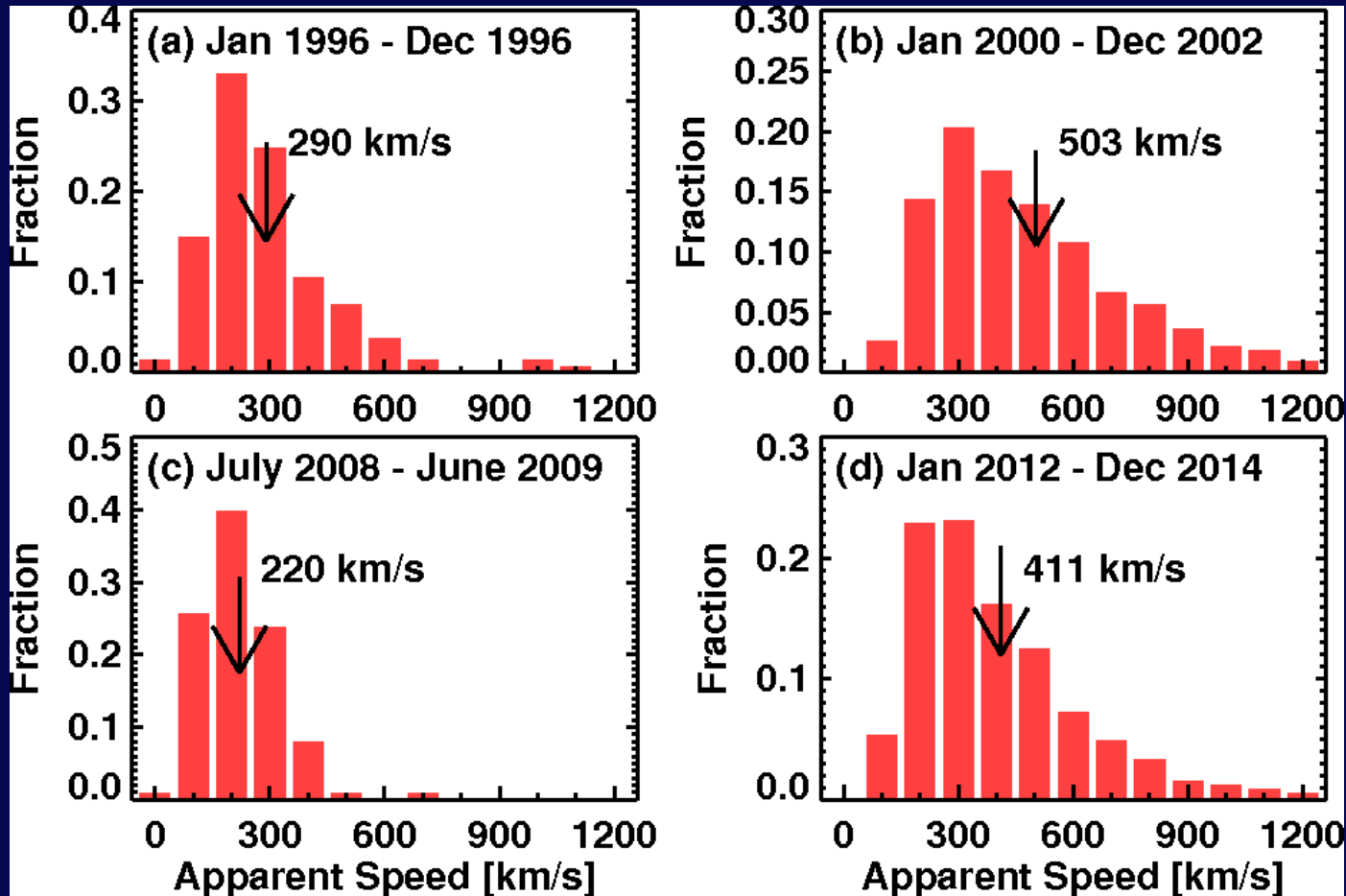


The number of fast CMEs dropped in cycle 24.

# Flare Intensity Distributions

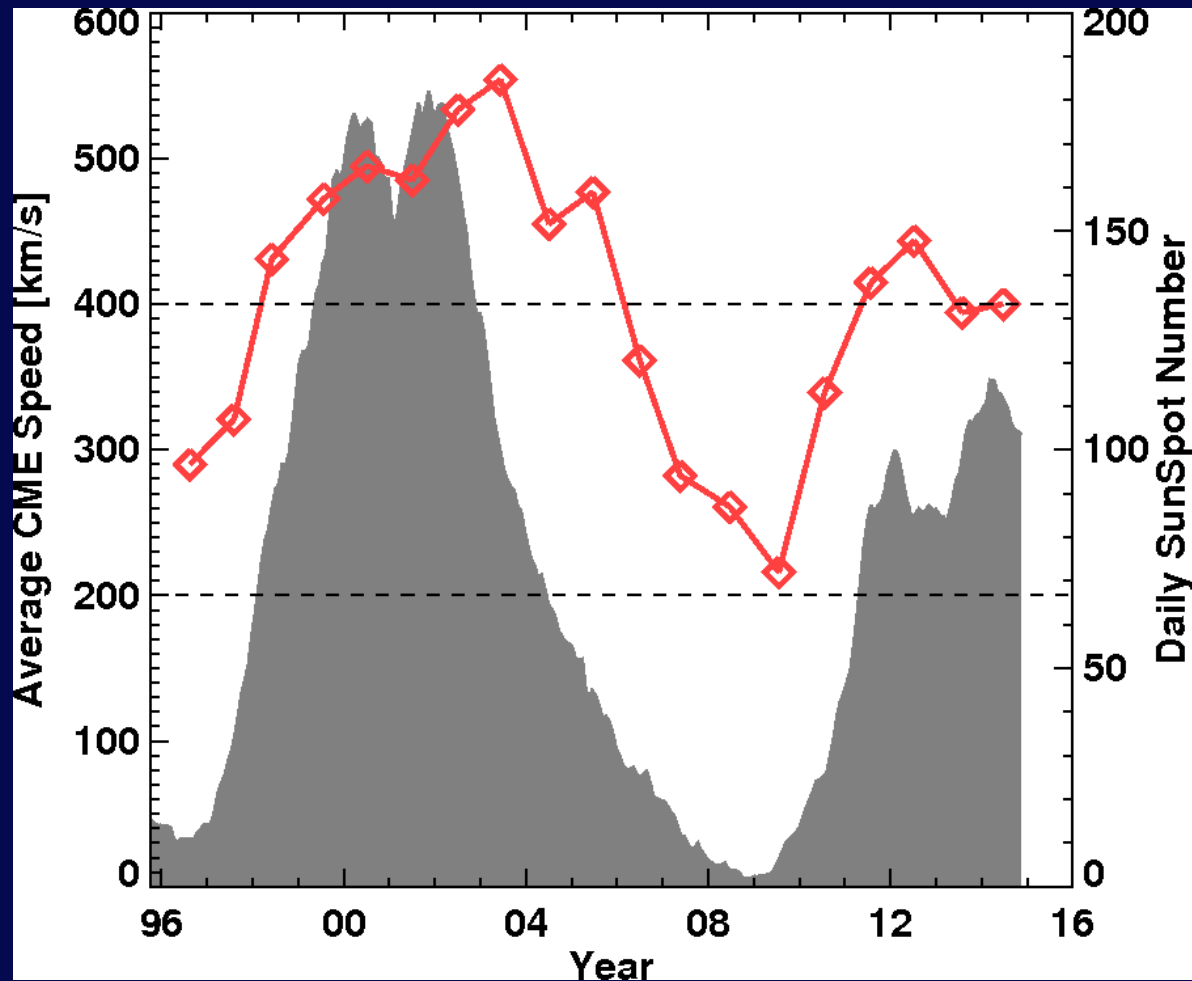


# CME Speed Distributions



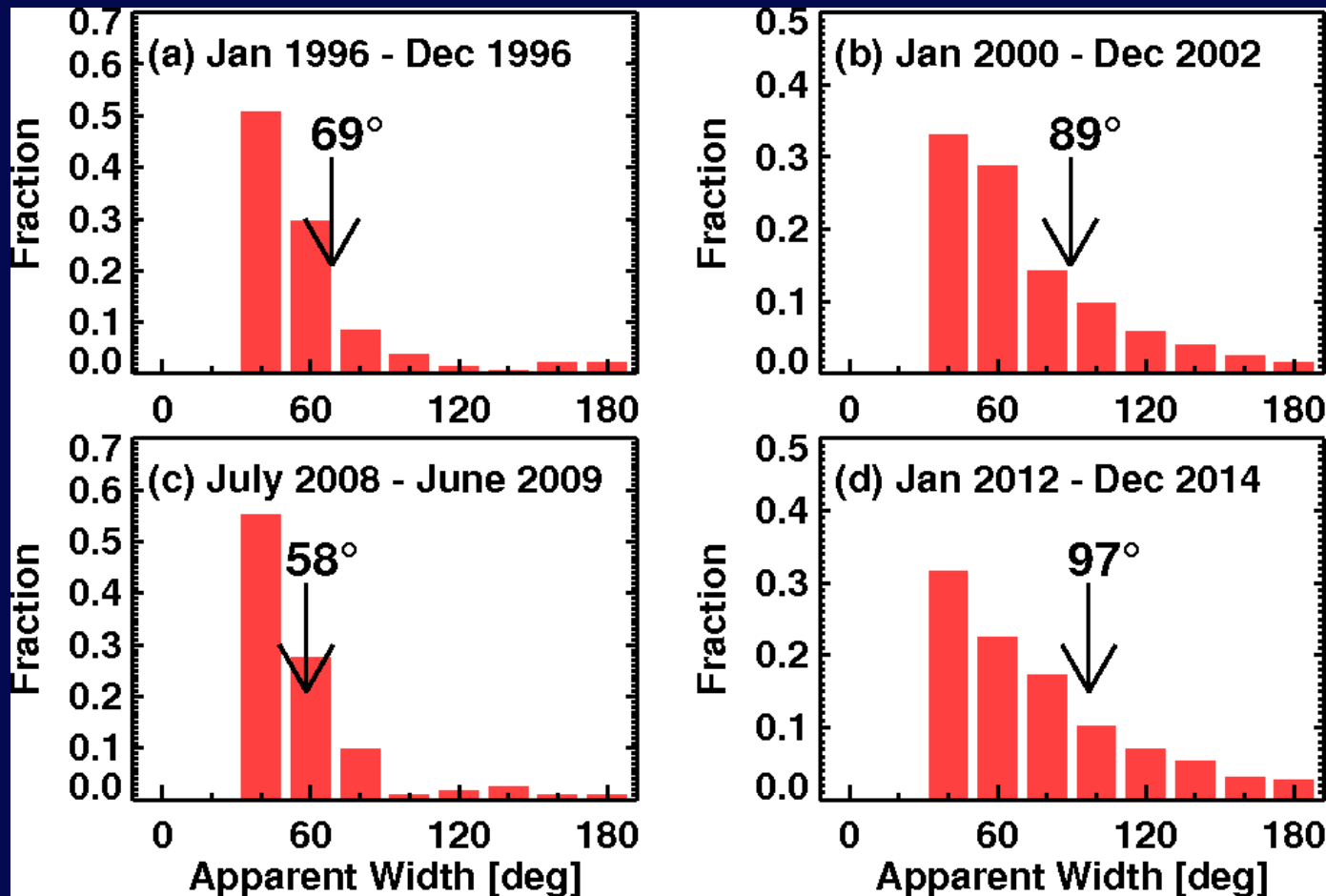
- On average, the CMEs in the 23 maximum are slower than those in the 24 maximum.

# Annual Averaged CME Speed



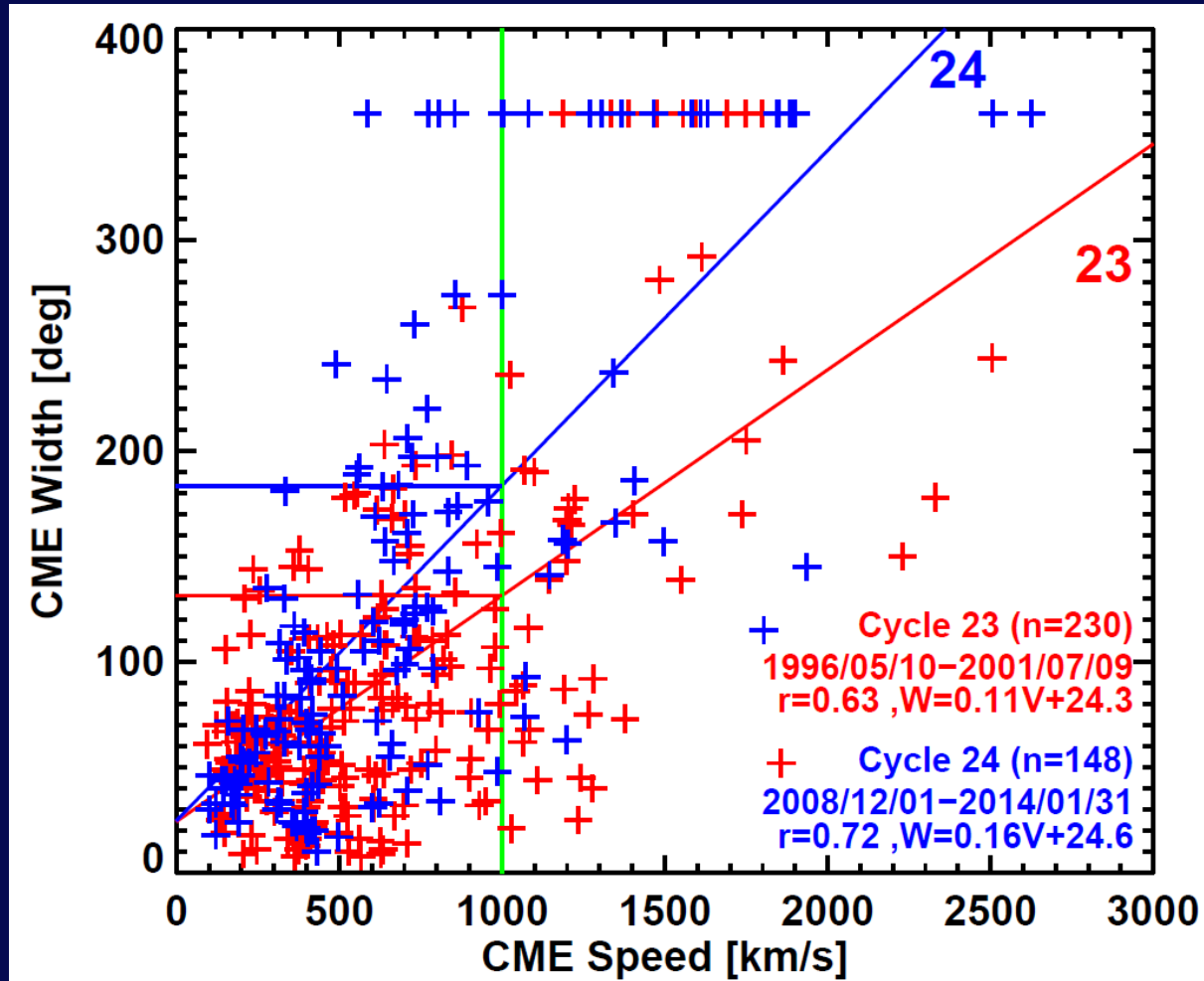


# CME Width Distributions



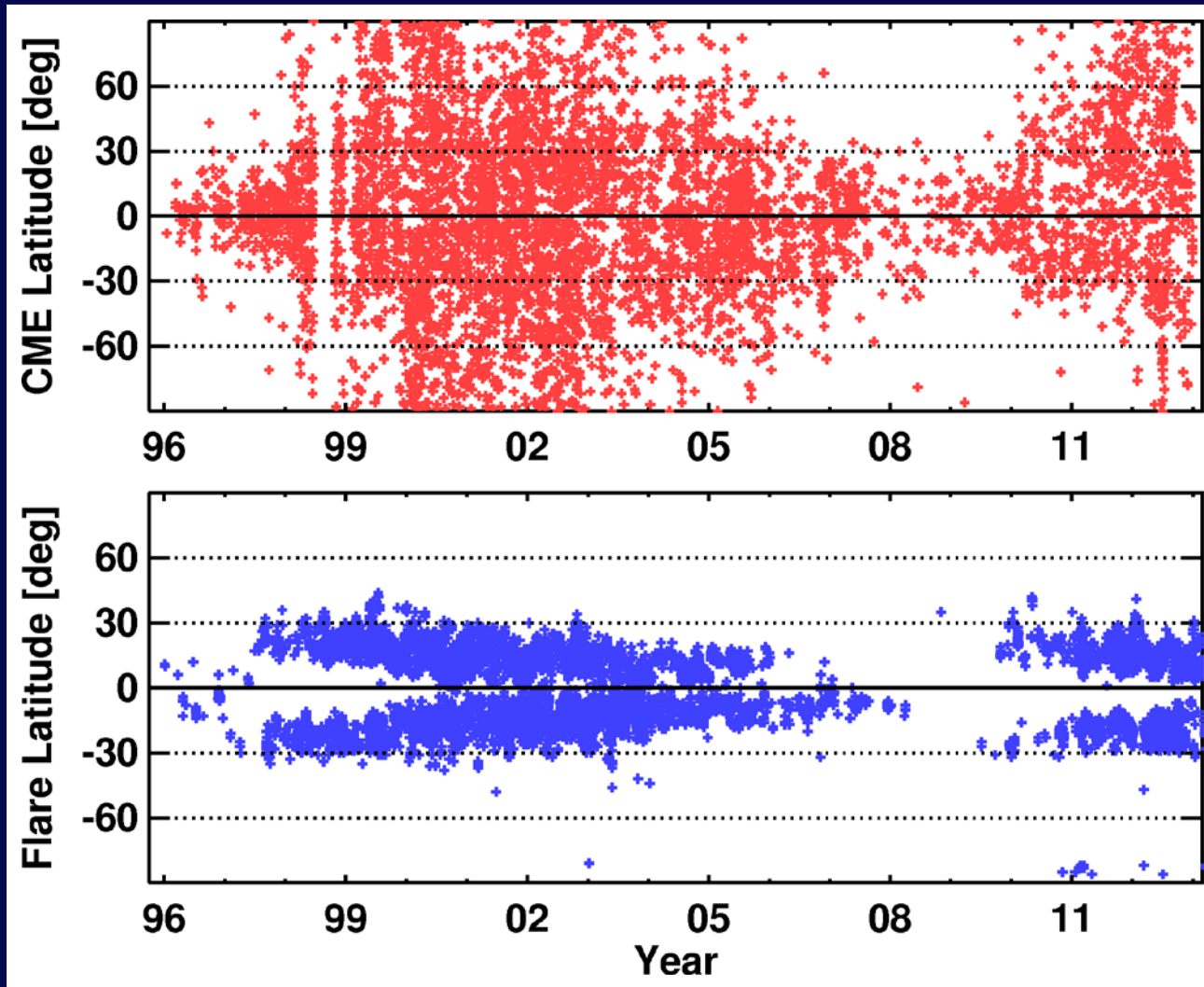
- The CMEs in SC24 are wider.

# Cycle Variation: CME Width



Gopalswamy+ 2014, GRL

# CME and Flare Latitudes

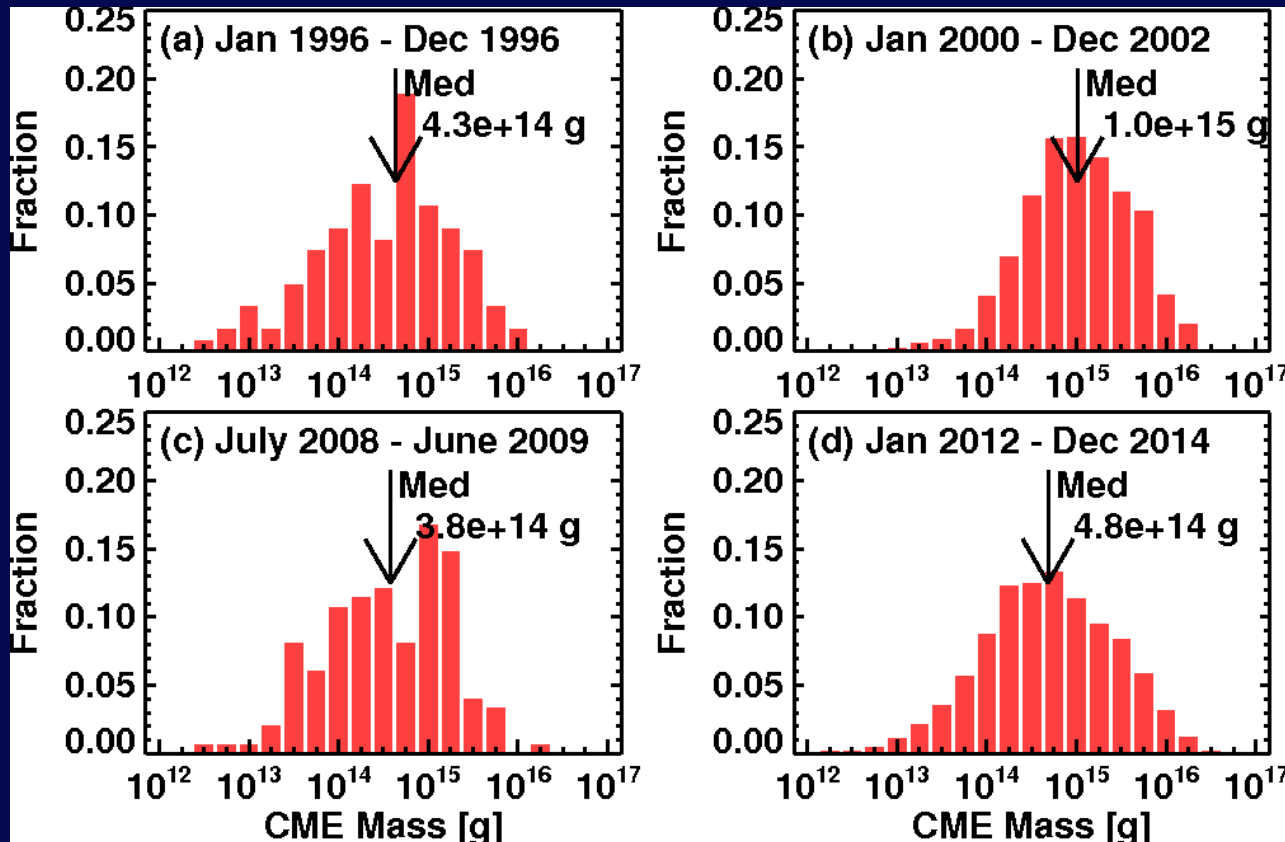


- Compared to the flare latitudes, the CME latitudes are more widely distributed.

# CME Mass Measurement

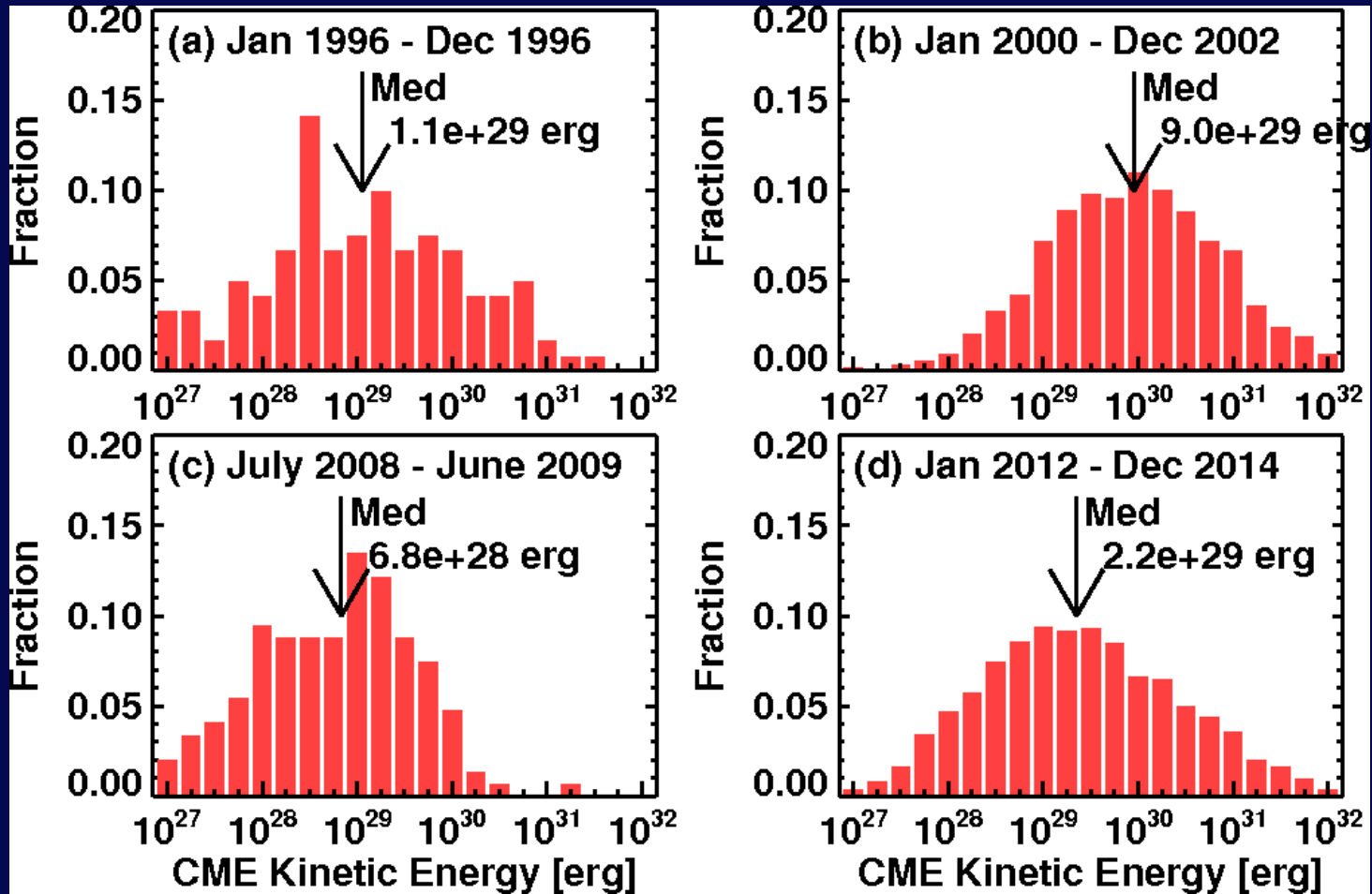
- Mass measurement assumes that the CME material is in the sky-plane (Vourlidas et al. 2000).
  - Mass measurement is accurate for limb events.
- Previously we did not provide the mass of partial and full halos.
  - But we know there are limb halo CMEs.

# CME Mass Distributions



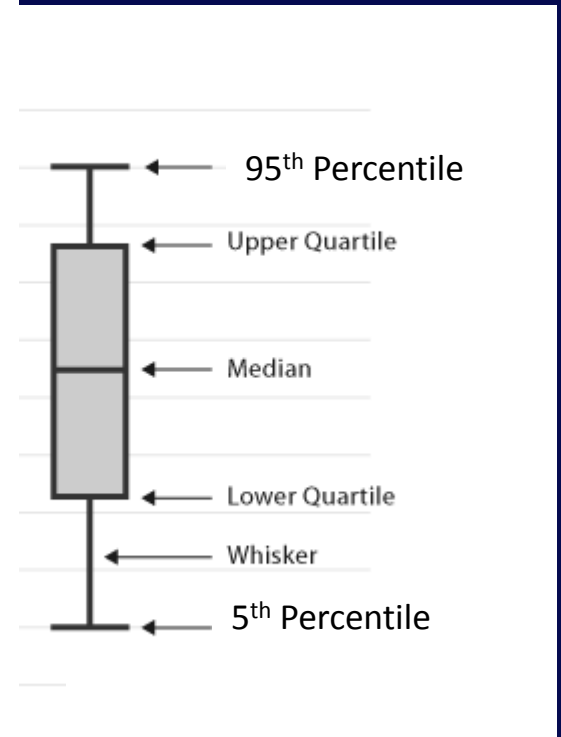
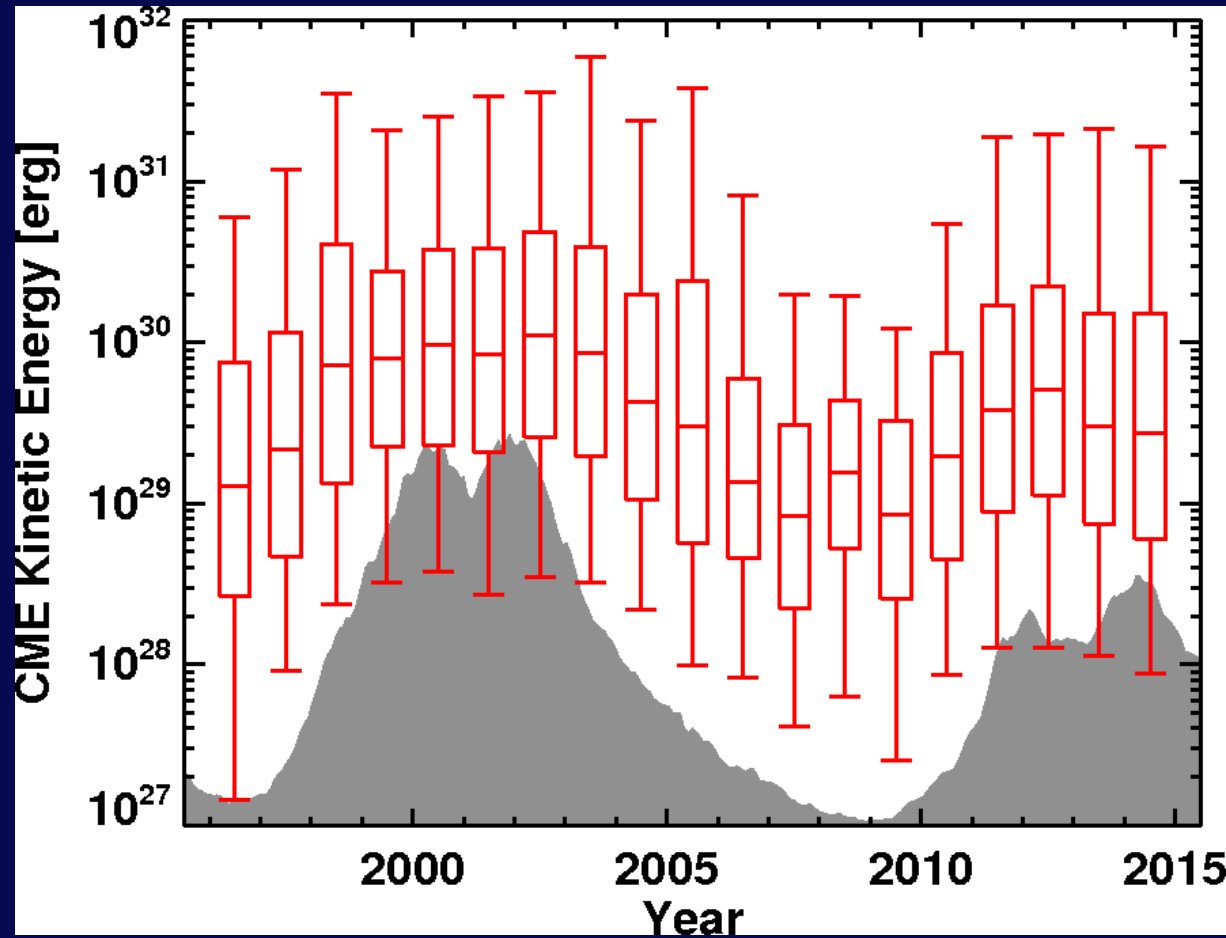
- The median mass of the SC24 max is approximately half of the SC23 max.

# CME Kinetic Energy Distributions



- The median K.E in SC24 decreased 76%.

# CME Kinetic Energy: Cycle Variation



# CME Source Regions

- CMEs originate from sunspot (active regions; ARs) and non-sunspot regions (quiet regions; QRs).
- What fractions of the CMEs do originate from QRs?
- Starting Point: Wide CMEs ( $W \geq 60^\circ$ ) observed by SOHO/LASCO.
- We use STEREO/COR1 to exclude backside CMEs.
- We use SDO/AIA, H $\alpha$ , and Hinode/XRT to identify the surface signatures of the CME, e.g. flares, filament eruptions, and dimmings.
- We analyzed 233 CMEs occurred in 2011.



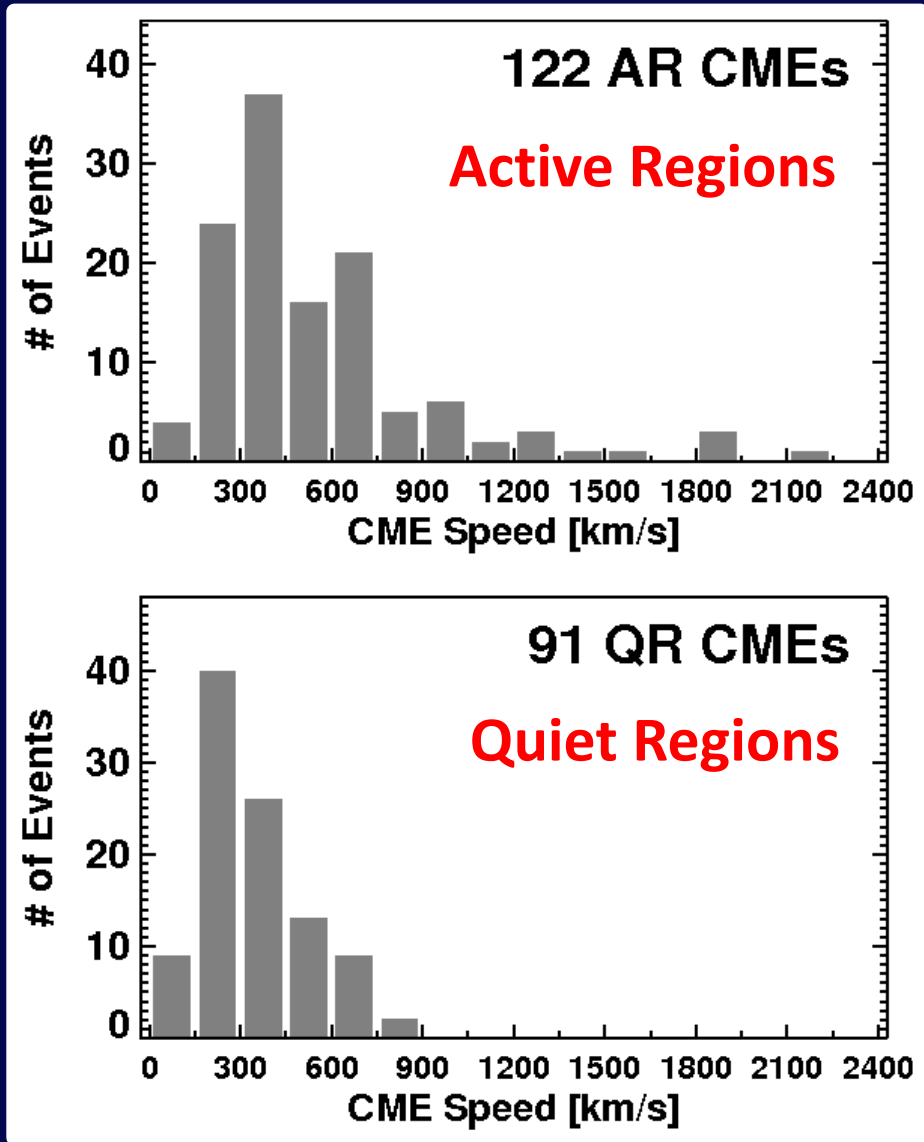
# CME Source Regions

Active Regions	Quiet Regions	No Surface Signature Identified (Stealth CMEs)
55%	41%	4%

- Significant fractions of the CMEs originates from the QRs.
- We could not identify the surface signature of the 10 (4%) CMEs.

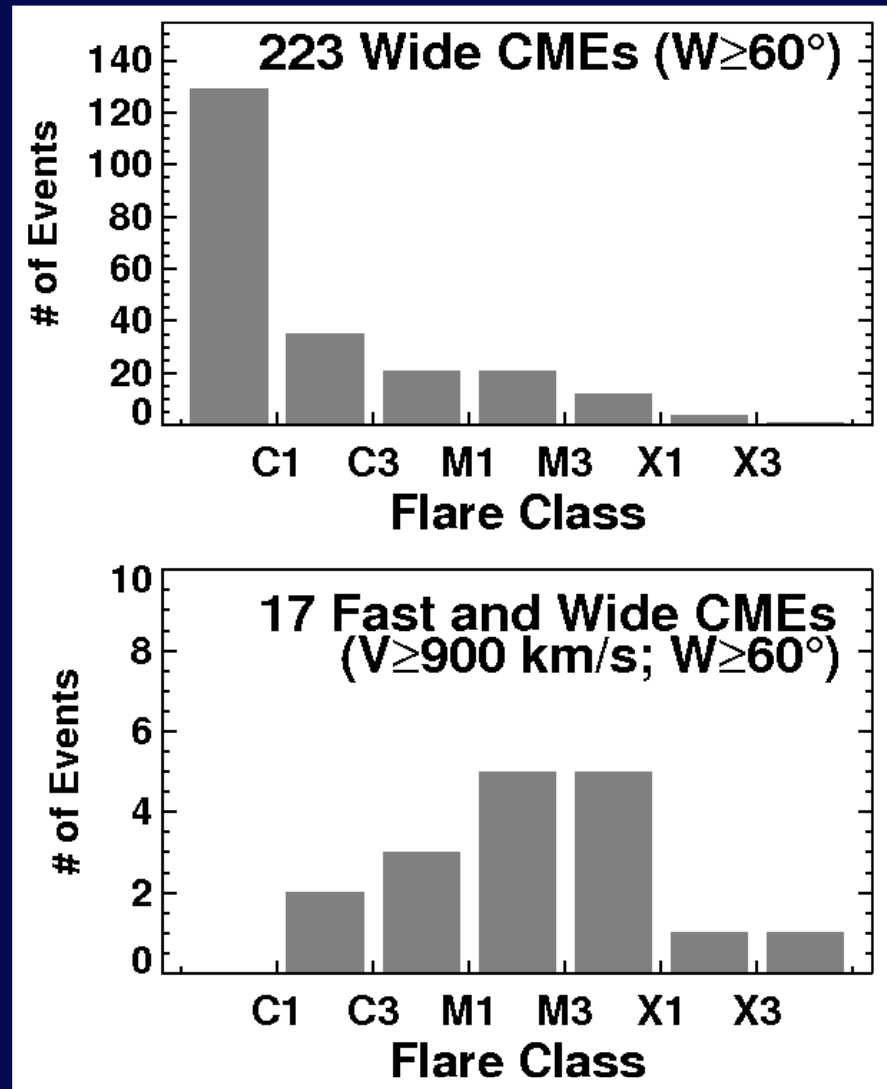
# CME Speed Distribution

- The speed distributions are highly overlapped.
- On average, the AR CMEs are faster than QR CMEs.
- Fast and wide CMEs ( $V \geq 900$  km/s;  $W \geq 60^\circ$ ) originate from active regions only.



# CME-associated Flares

- Approximately 60% of the wide CMEs are associated with B-class or below.
  - Many of them are associated with filament eruptions.
  - Note: Backside and limb event ( $\text{Lon} > 85^\circ$ ) are excluded to avoid the possible X-ray occultation.
- Only 17% of the wide CMEs are associated with M- and X-class flares.
- Approximately 30% of the fast and wide CMEs are associated with C-class flares.
- For space weather purpose, we need to keep watch the C-class flares also.



# Summary

- The CME occurrence rate did not drop in cycle 24 unlike SSN.
  - Significant number of the CMEs originate from QRs.
- On average, the CMEs in cycle 24 are less energetic because of the decrease of the CMEs from ARs.
- On average, the CMEs in cycle 24 are wider because of the decrease of ambient pressure.

	SC23 Max	SC24 Max
Speed	503 km/s	411 km/s
Width	89°	97°
Mass	$1.0 \times 10^{15}$ g	$4.8 \times 10^{14}$ g
Kinetic Energy	$9.0 \times 10^{29}$ erg	$2.2 \times 10^{29}$ erg