

# Effects of the chromospheric Ly $\alpha$ line profile shape on the determination of the solar wind outflow velocity using the Doppler dimming technique

Session 5 - Solar-Terrestrial Relations, Solar Wind, Space Weather and Space Climate

Poster Session 4.6 – 7 September 2021

University of Catania

INAF- Catania Astrophysical Observatory

Giuseppe Emanuele Capuano

([giuseppe.capuano@inaf.it](mailto:giuseppe.capuano@inaf.it))



**solar orbiter**



# Doppler dimming

Phenomenon concerning the **decrease of coronal line radiation** (for example: Ly $\alpha$  or OVI) in regions where atoms/ions flow out **in the solar wind** (i.e. see Withbroe et al. 1982; Noci et al. 1987).

We consider the specific intensity **only due the coronal resonantly scattered Ly $\alpha$  radiation**:

$$I_{rad} = \frac{0.833 h B_{12}}{4\pi\lambda_0} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} n_e R_{H1}(T_e) dl \int_{\Omega} \frac{11 + 3(\mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{n}')^2}{12} F(\mathbf{n}', v_w, \theta) d\Omega$$

$$F(\mathbf{n}', v_w, \theta) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} I(\lambda' - \lambda_0 - \delta\lambda, \mathbf{n}') \Phi(\lambda' - \lambda_0) d\lambda'$$

$$I(\lambda' - \lambda_0 - \delta\lambda, \mathbf{n}') = I(\mathbf{n}') \cdot \Psi(\lambda' - \lambda_0 - \delta\lambda)$$

$$\delta\lambda = \frac{\lambda_0}{c} \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{n}' = \frac{\lambda_0}{c} v_w \cos \theta$$

# Parameters for the synthesised dimmed coronal intensity (Ly $\alpha$ case)

- Electron density ( $n_e$ ) (from pB intensity)
- Electron temperature ( $t_e$ )
- Chromospheric line intensity ( $I$ )
- Chromospheric line profile ( $\psi$ )
- Neutral HI temperature ( $t_{HI}$ )
- $\theta$  is the angle between the flow ( $\mathbf{n}'$ ) and the line-of-sight ( $\mathbf{n}$ ) direction
- Free parameter: outflow velocity ( $v_w$ )
- The outflow velocity  $v_w$  can be determined by a matching between the observed (UV radiation) and the synthesised  $I_{rad}$ .
- The effects due to  $I$ ,  $n_e$ ,  $t_e$ , and  $t_{HI}$  on the estimate of  $v_w$  have been studied by Dolei et al. (2018, 2019).
- Our aim is to study the effects due to  $\psi$  shape variations.

# Doppler factor

In order to see the effects due to the chromospheric profile on the outflow velocity determination, we consider the **Doppler factor** ( $D$ ).

It accounts for the **overlapping** between the **coronal absorption** profile ( $\Phi$ ) and the **exciting chromospheric** one ( $\psi$ ) as a function of  $v_w$ .

$$D(v_w) = \frac{\int_{\Omega} F(\mathbf{n}', v_w, \theta) p(\Omega) d\Omega}{\int_{\Omega} F(\mathbf{n}', v_w = 0, \theta) p(\Omega) d\Omega}$$

$$F(\mathbf{n}', v_w, \theta) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} I(\lambda' - \lambda_0 - \delta\lambda, \mathbf{n}') \Phi(\lambda' - \lambda_0) d\lambda'$$

$$I(\lambda' - \lambda_0 - \delta\lambda, \mathbf{n}') = I(\mathbf{n}') \cdot \Psi(\lambda' - \lambda_0 - \delta\lambda)$$

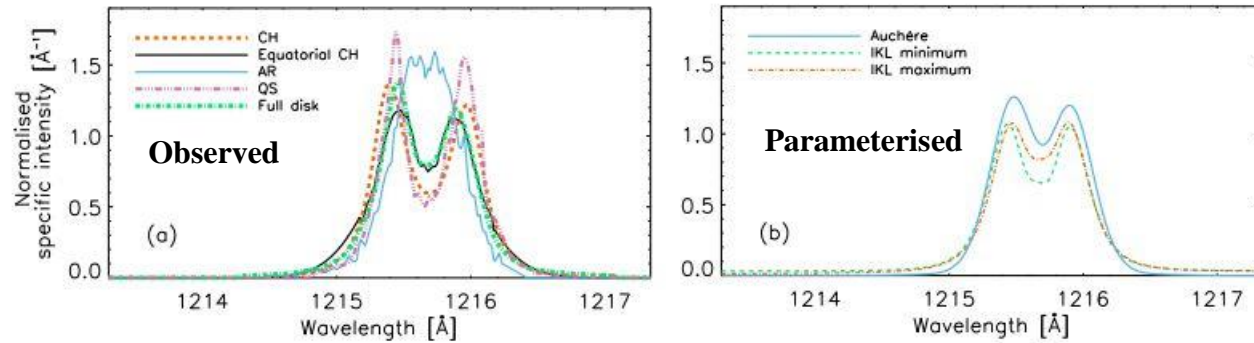
$$\delta\lambda = \frac{\lambda_0}{c} \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{n}' = \frac{\lambda_0}{c} v_w \cos \theta$$

For simplicity of calculation, we set  $\theta = 0$ .

$$D(v_w, \theta = 0) = \frac{F(\mathbf{n}', v_w, \theta = 0)}{F(\mathbf{n}', v_w = 0, \theta = 0)}$$

Bocchialini & Vial (1996)  
 Fontenla et al. (1988)  
 Lemaire et al. (2015)  
 Tian et al. (2009 a,b)

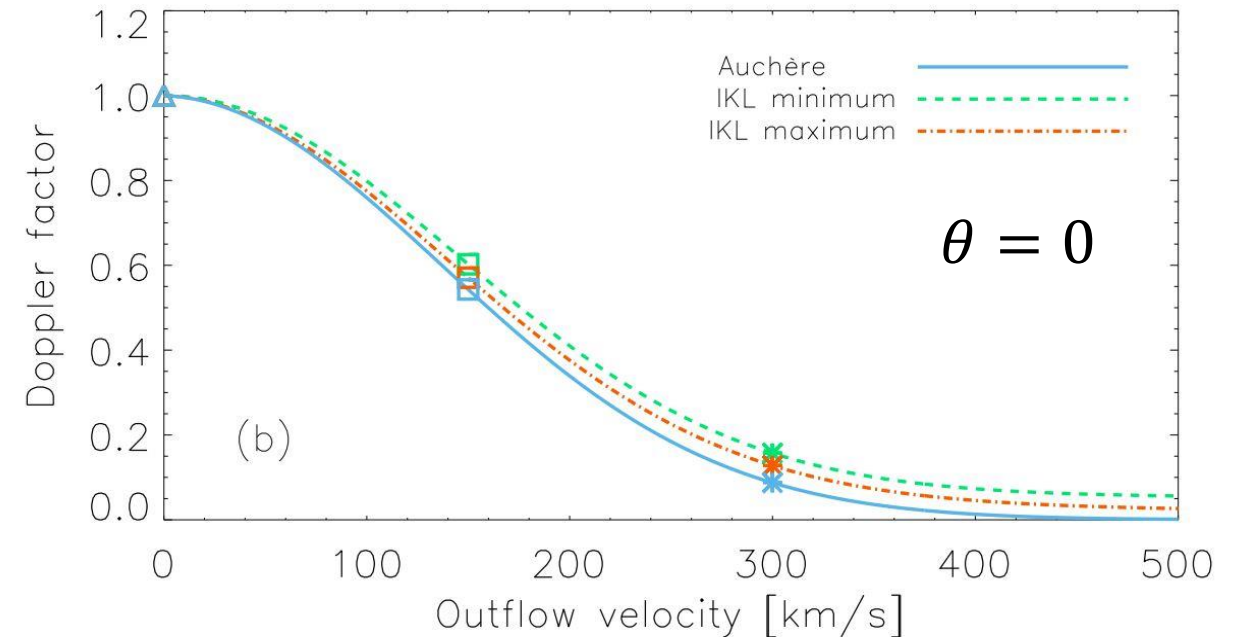
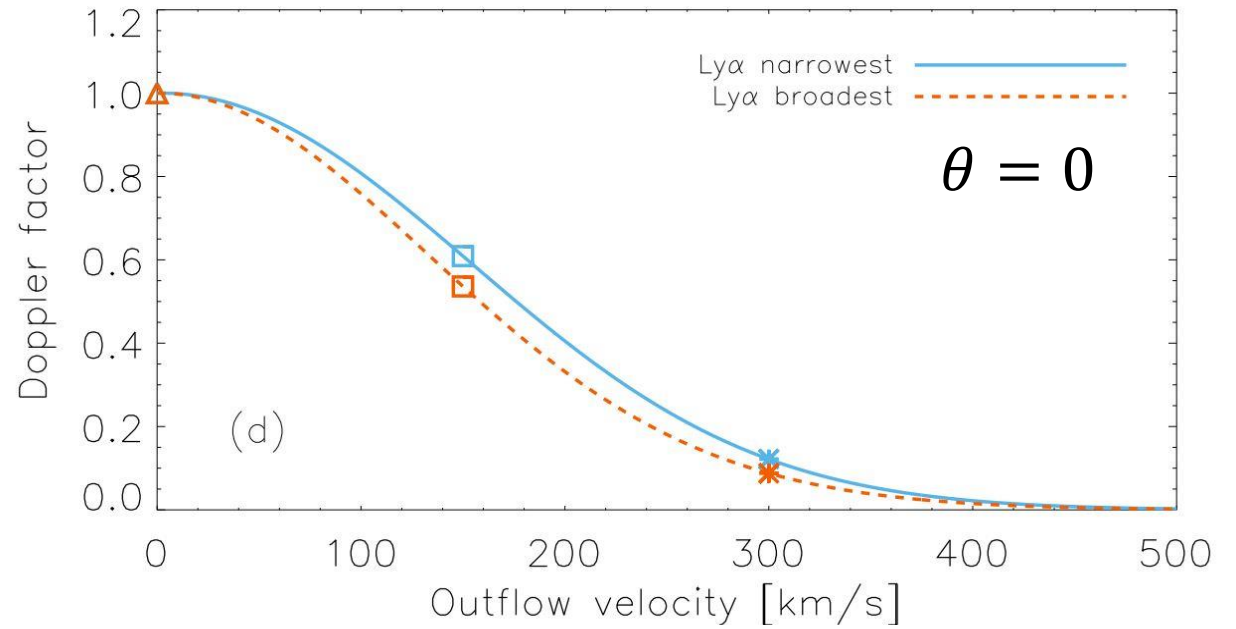
Auchère (2005)  
 Kowalska-Leszczynska et al. (2018; IKL)

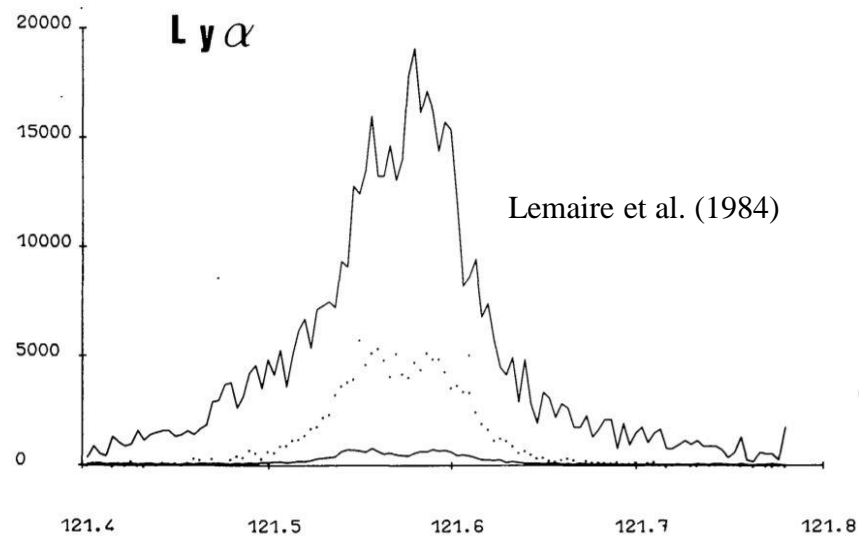
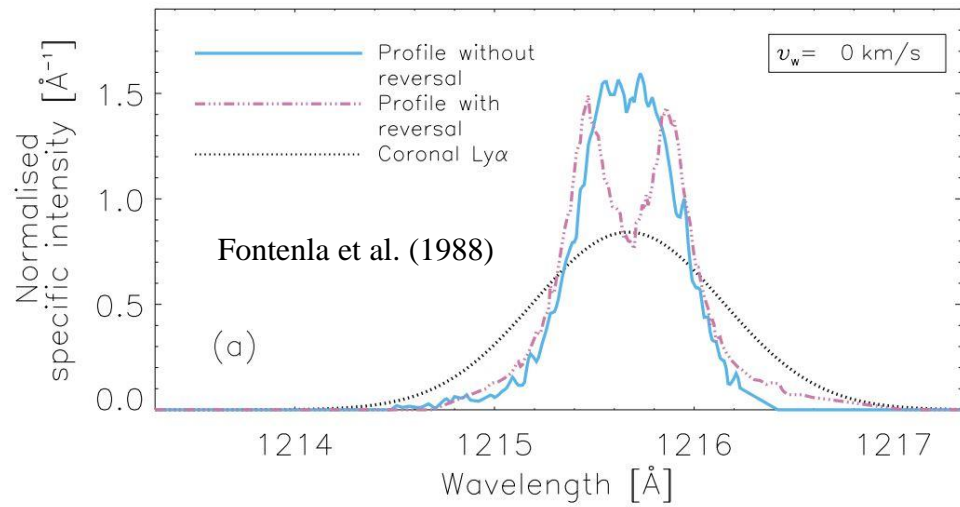


Profile parameters observed variation:

- Width (50%)
- Reversal depth (69%)
- Asymmetry (35%)
- Distance of the peaks (50%)

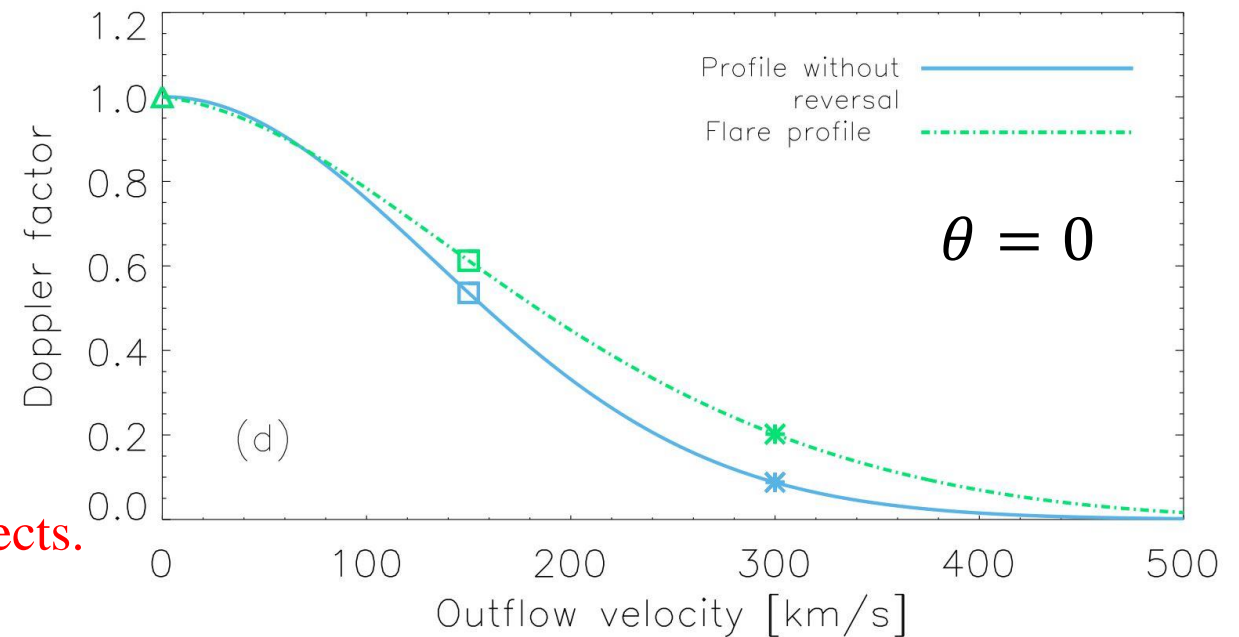
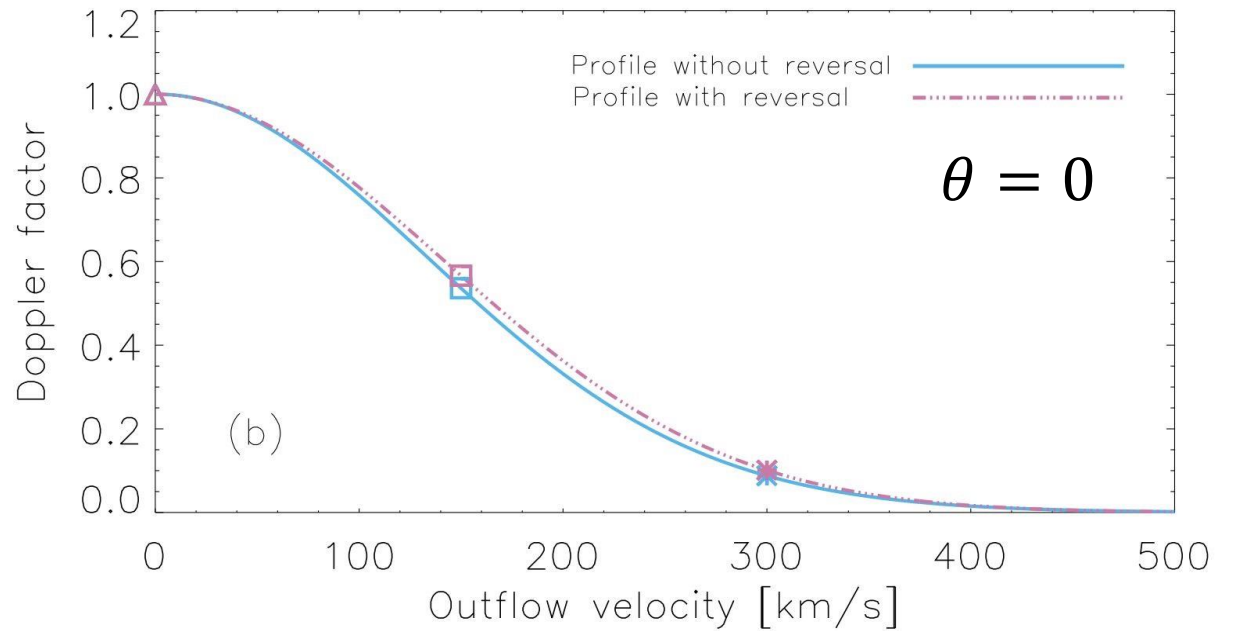
**Negligible effects** for what concerns all the profile parameters, both for **observed** and **parameterised** profiles.  
 (Capuano et al. 2021)





Only in the case of a **flare profile**  
the effects are **not negligible**.

Analysis also made with  $\theta = 30^\circ \rightarrow$  not remarkable effects.  
(Capuano et al. 2021)



# Results and conclusions

- The variability of the pumping Ly $\alpha$  profile affects the estimates of the coronal HI velocity by about 9-12% (22 km s<sup>-1</sup> and 30 km s<sup>-1</sup>, respectively).
- Effects due to  $\theta \neq 0$  below about 70 km s<sup>-1</sup> (14%).
- **In the upper cases, we obtain small differences in the HI outflow velocity estimate.**
- Only when we consider a flare profile, we obtain large uncertainties values (100 km s<sup>-1</sup>; 21%).
- **Therefore, a unique shape of the Ly $\alpha$  chromospheric profile can be adopted all over the solar disc and for different solar cycle periods.**
- Future analysis with data coming from Metis/Solar Orbiter will be performed.