



University of Zagreb



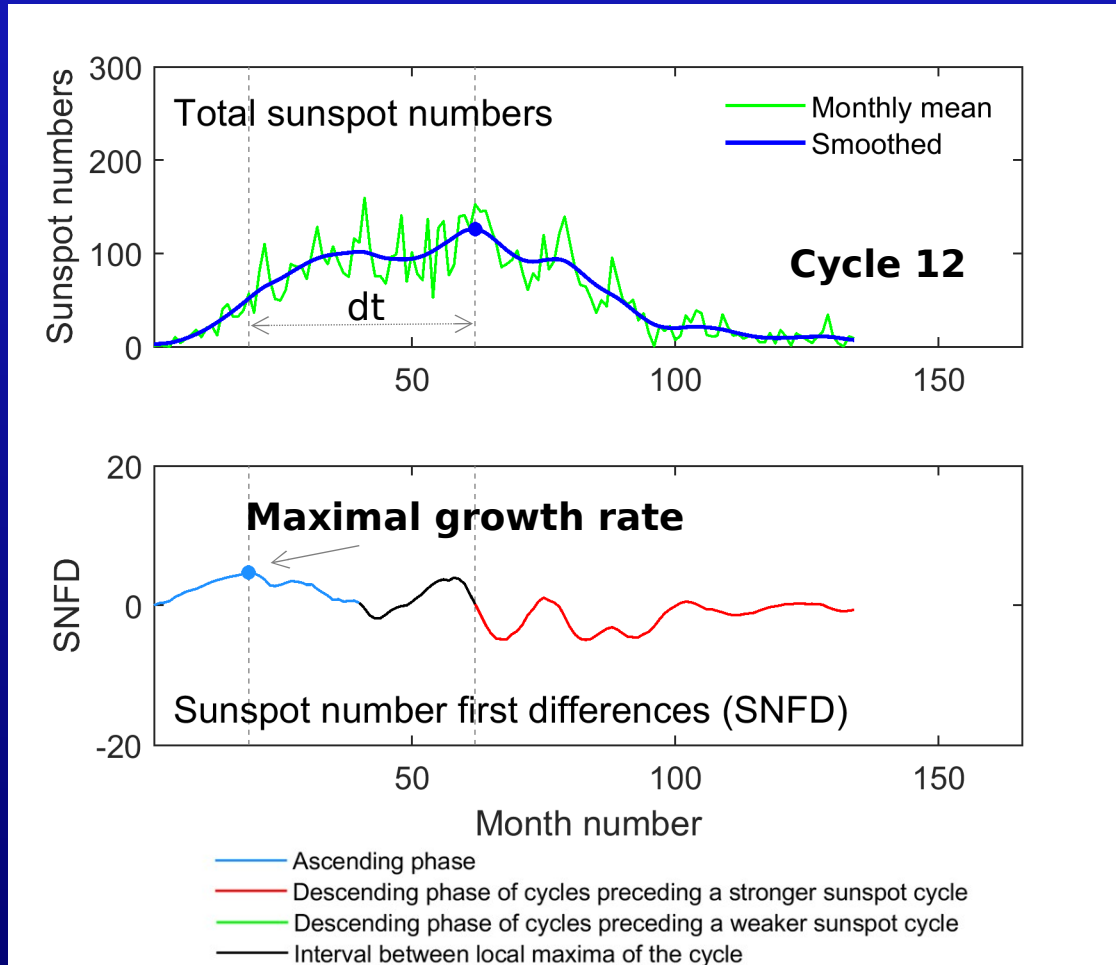
# Maximal growth rate of the ascending phase of a sunspot cycle for predicting its amplitude

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Werner Pötzi<sup>3</sup>, Frédéric Clette<sup>4</sup>, Olga Sutyrina<sup>1</sup>, Mateja Dumbovic<sup>5</sup>

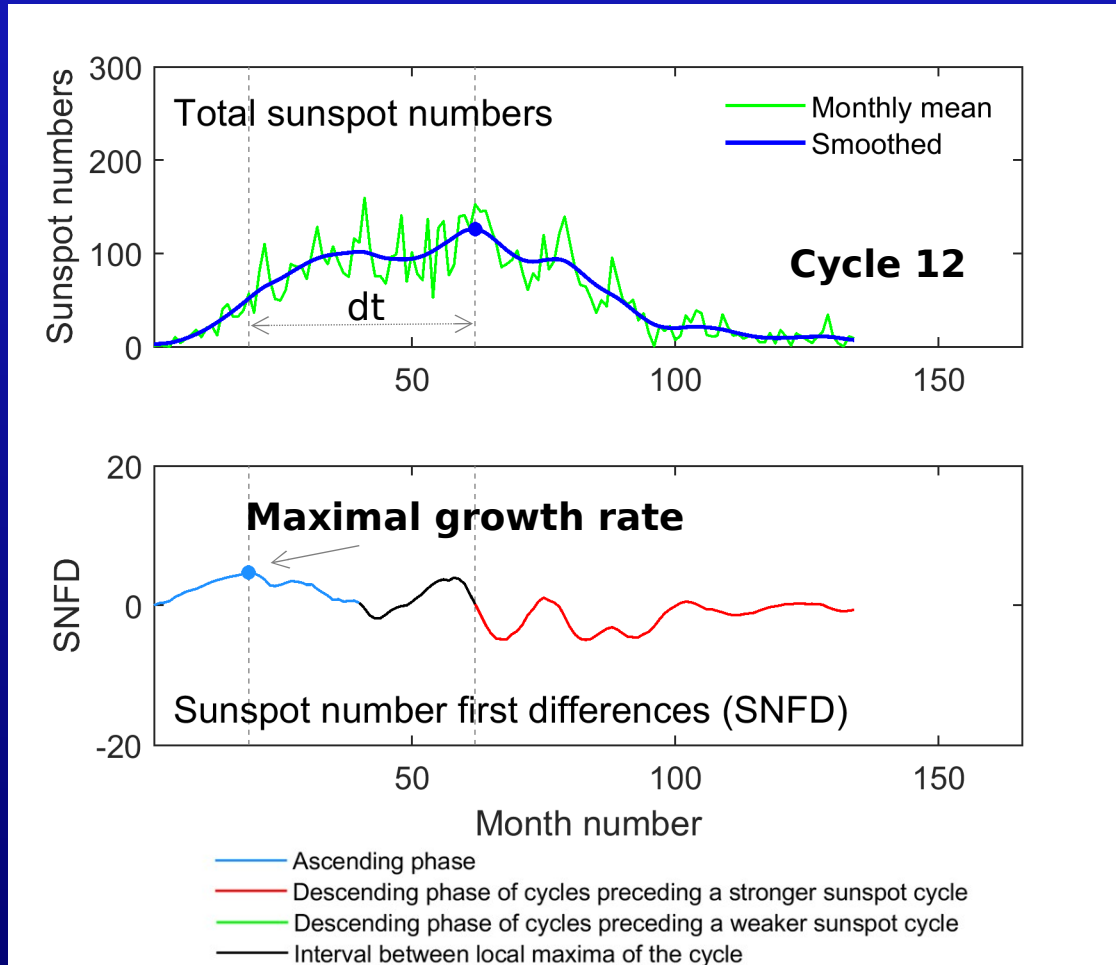
11 September 2023  
Sun in Science and Society, Solarnet-S3

1. Skolkovo Institute of Science and Technology, Moscow, Russia
2. Institute of Physics, University of Graz, Austria
3. Kanzelhöhe Observatory for Solar and Environmental Research, Austria
4. World Data Center SILSO, Royal Observatory of Belgium
5. Hvar Observatory, University of Zagreb, Croatia

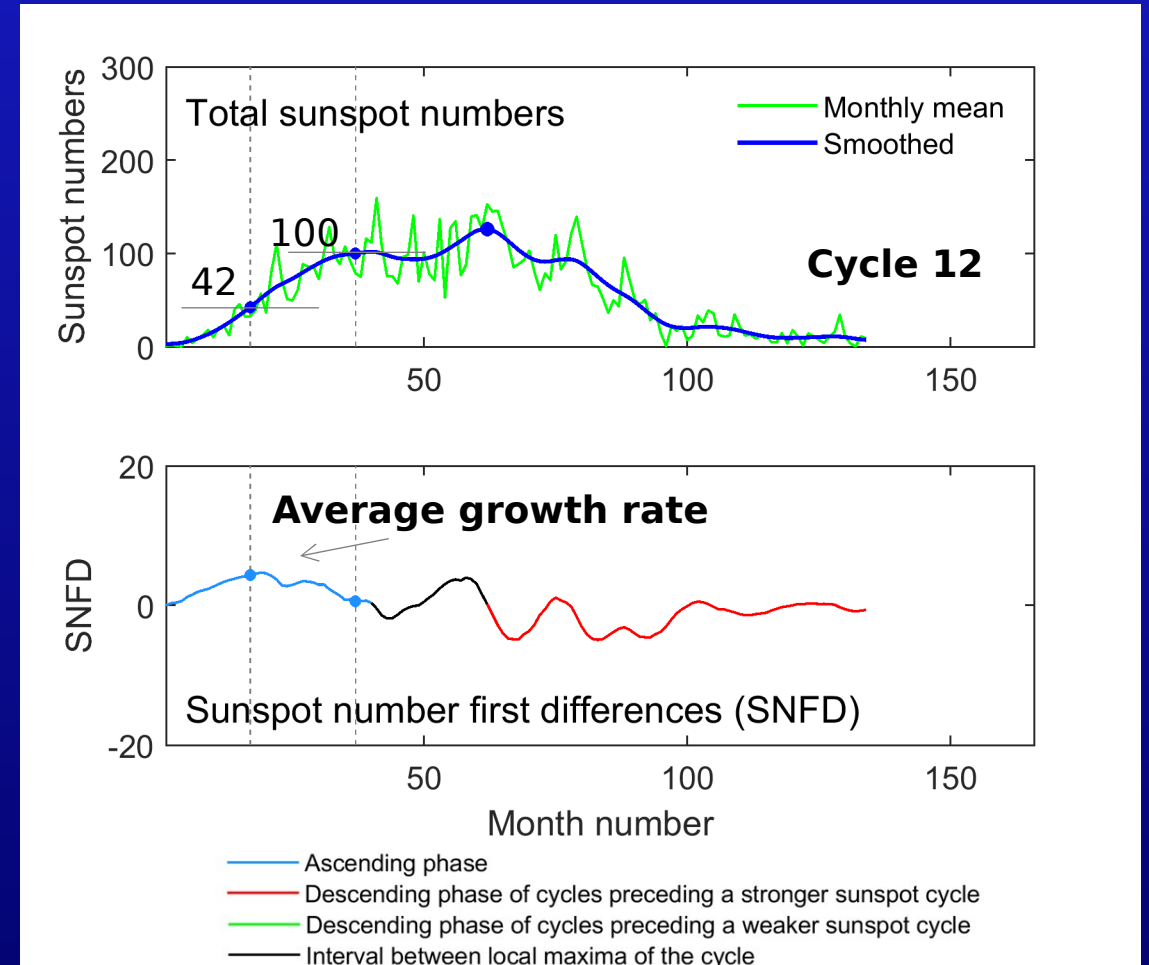
# Maximal growth rate - precursor of the sunspot cycle amplitude



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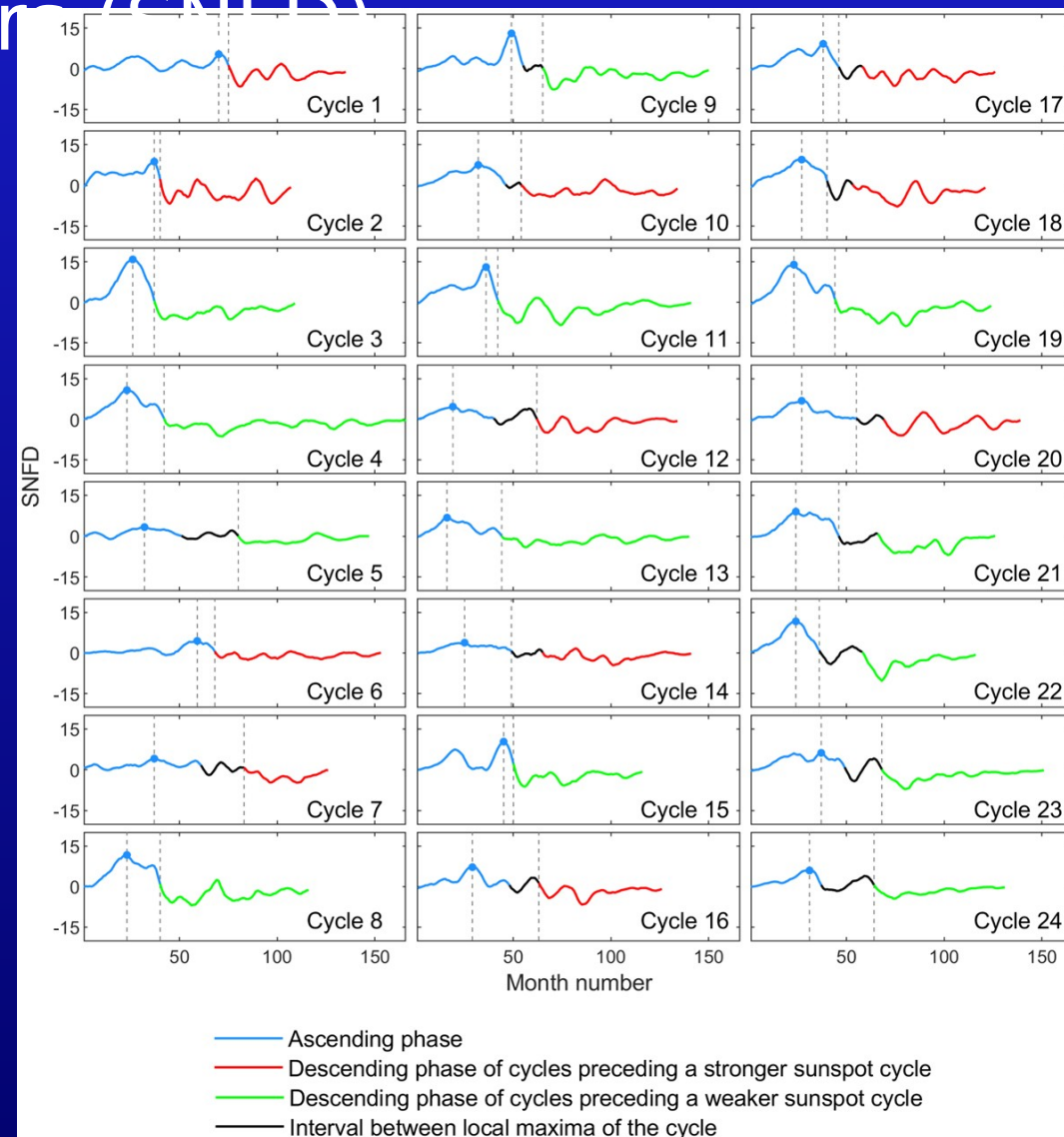
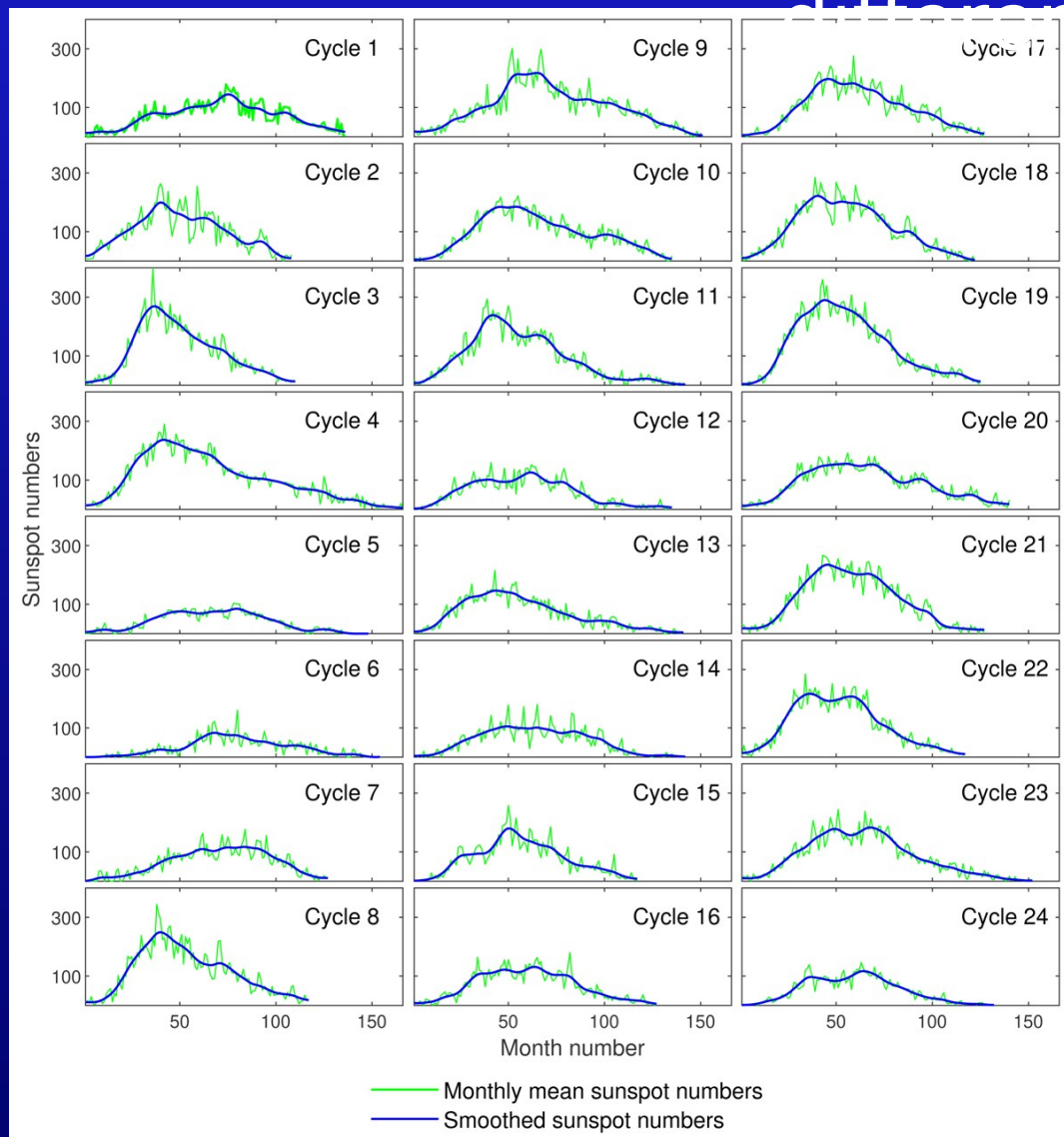


Podladchikova et al. (2022)



Cameron and Schüssler (2008)

# Solar cycles 1-24 together with the sunspot number first difference (SNFD)

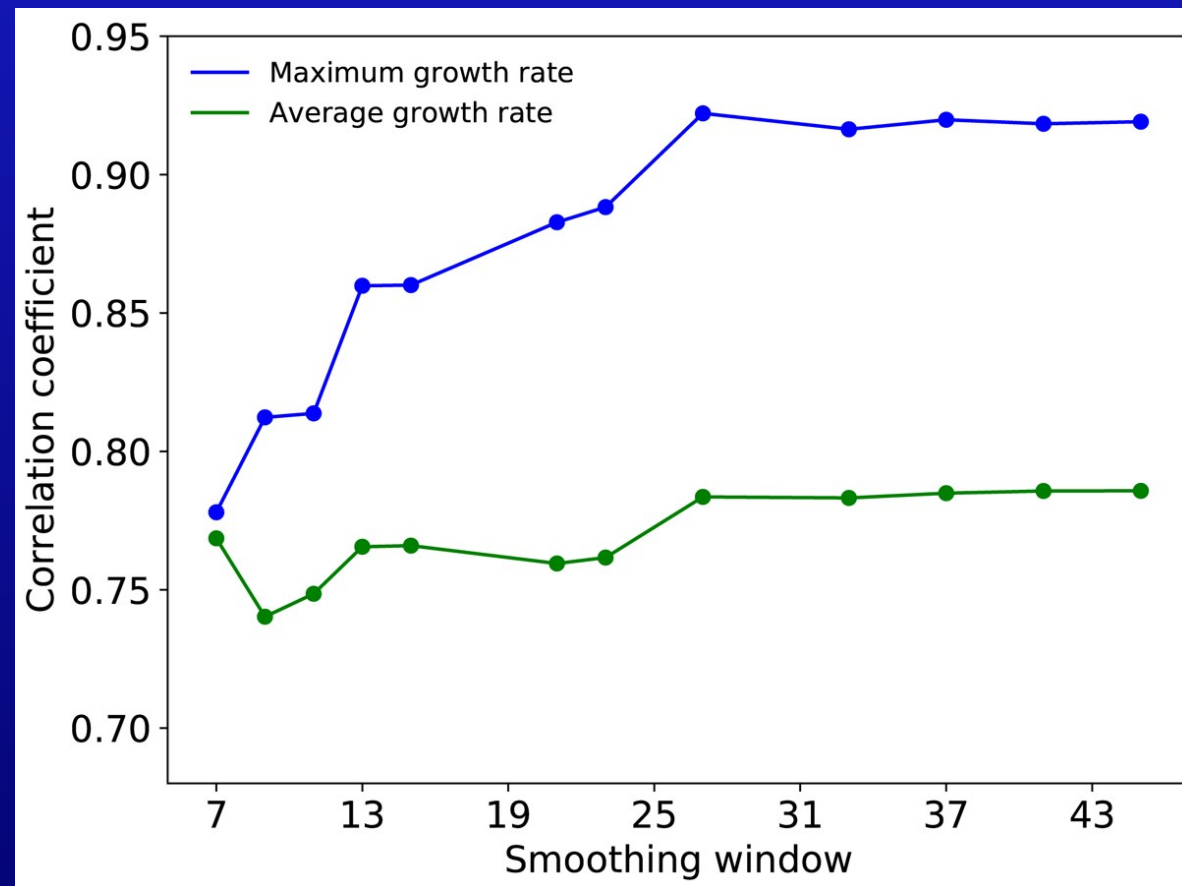
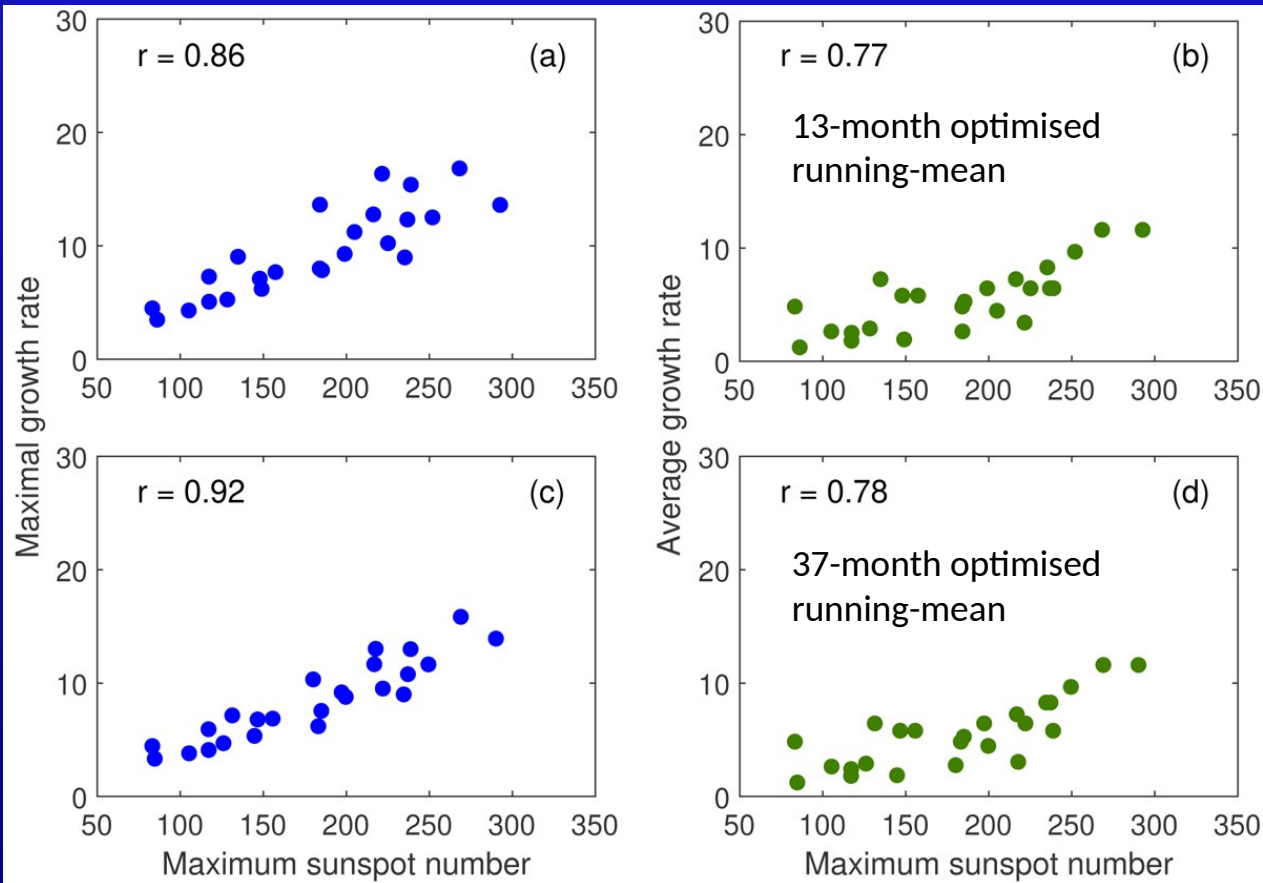


37-month optimized running-mean  
Podladchikova et al. (2017)

Lead times: 2- 49 months  
On average: 21 months

Total Sunspot Numbers

# Growth rate indicators VS the amplitudes of solar cycles 1-24



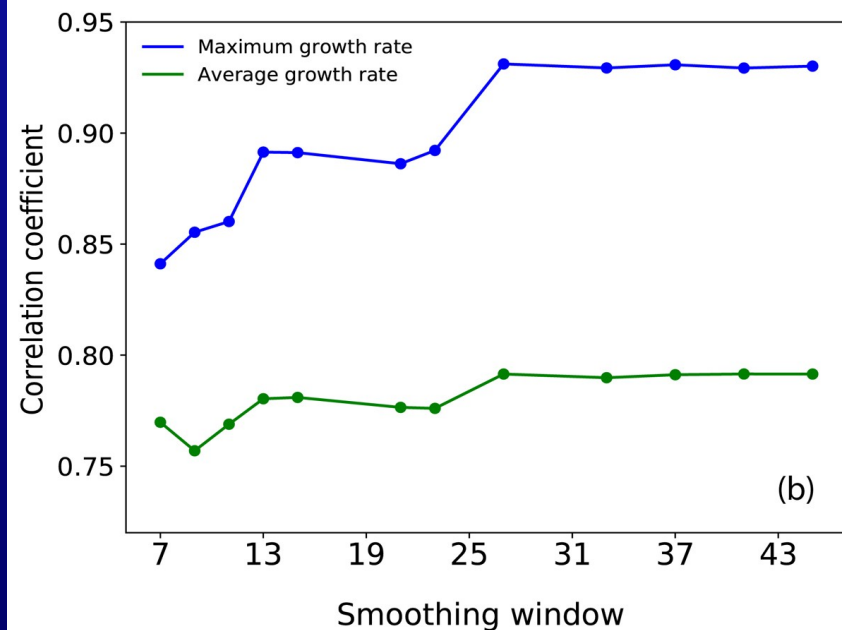
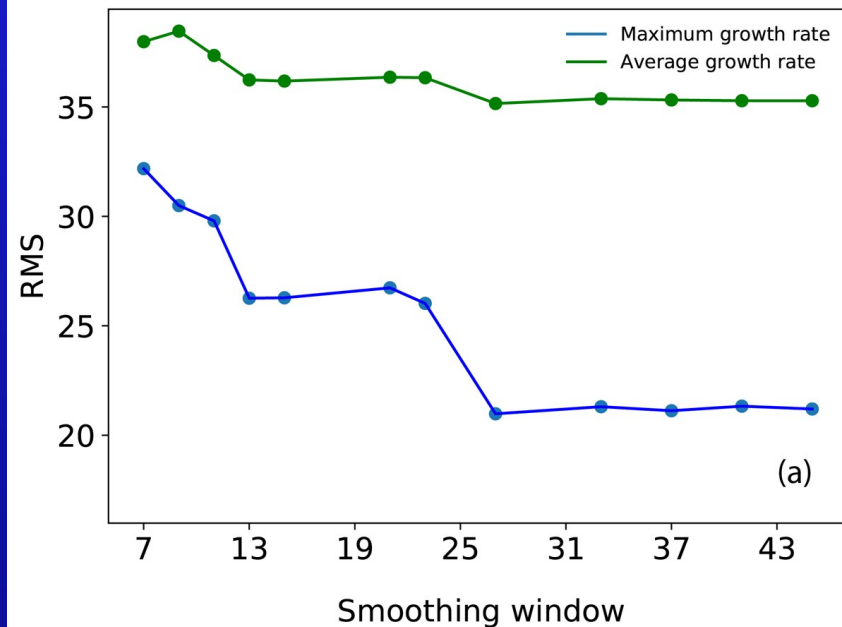
Total Sunspot Numbers

# Prediction performance of amplitudes of cycles

Third order linear regression

$$S^P = \beta_0 + \beta_1 I + \beta_2 I^2 + \beta_3 I^3$$

- value of the cycle amplitude
- value of the growth rate indicator  
(maximal or average)



Total Sunspot Numbers

# Catalogue: Extended Hemispheric Sunspot Numbers 1874 - 2020

The Data Catalogue of Hemispheric Sunspot Numbers is available via SILSO <https://www.sidc.be/silso/extheminum>  
And via Vizier: <https://cdsarc.cds.unistra.fr/viz-bin/cat/J/A+A/652/A56>



Sunspot Index and Long-term  
Solar Observations

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## Extended hemispheric sunspot numbers

### A catalogue consisting of Hemispheric Sunspot Numbers from 1874-2020

Reconstructed hemispheric sunspot numbers extending the base international hemispheric sunspot numbers before 1992. This series is based on hemispheric sunspot numbers from the Kanzelhöhe and Skalnaté-Pleso Observatories back to 1945, and on total sunspot areas from the Greenwich photographic catalogue back to 1874.

**Any use of this data set should include the citation of the original reference below.**

#### Daily Hemispheric Sunspot Data (1874-05-01 to 2020-10-31)

- Daily Hemispheric Sunspot Data

TXT

CSV

INFO

#### Monthly Mean and Smoothed Hemispheric Data (1874-05 to 2020-10)

- Monthly Hemispheric Sunspot Data

TXT

CSV

INFO

#### Reference article:

Astrid M. Veronig, Shantanu Jain, Tatiana Podladchikova, Werner Pötzi, Frédéric Clette, 2021:  
Hemispheric Sunspot Numbers 1874-2020  
Astronomy & Astrophysics, Vol. 652, A56, DOI 10.1051/0004-6361/202141195  
[https://www.aanda.org/articles/aa/full\\_html/2021/08/aa41195-21/aa41195-21.html](https://www.aanda.org/articles/aa/full_html/2021/08/aa41195-21/aa41195-21.html)

SILSO



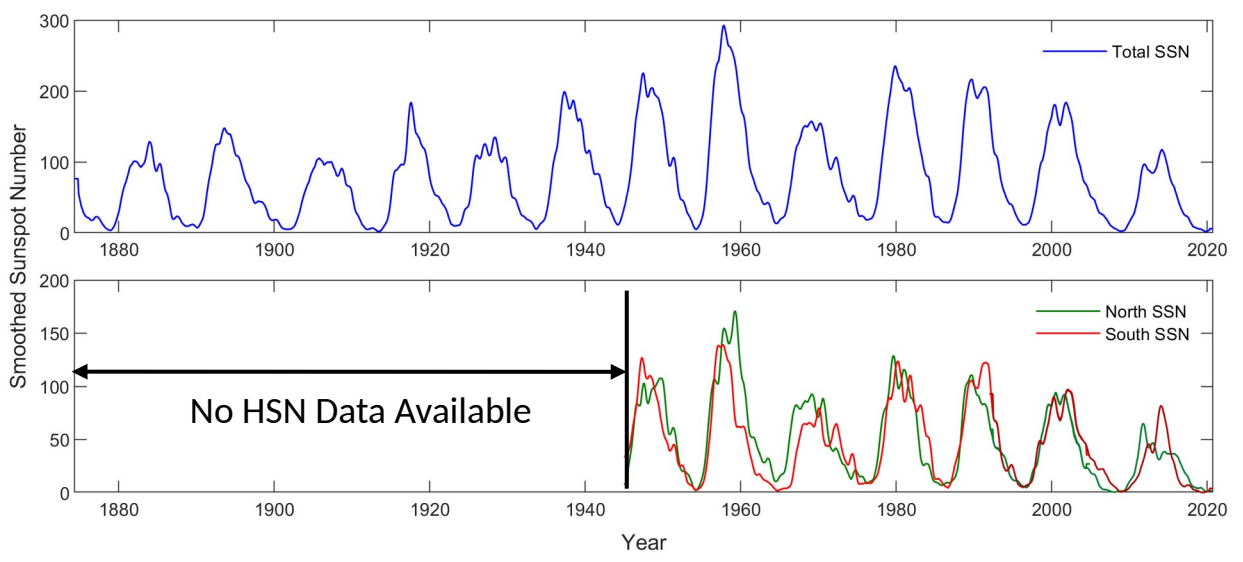
Vizier



Hemispheric  
Sunspot Numbers

# Reconstructing Hemispheric Sunspot Number

Hemispheric Sunspot Numbers



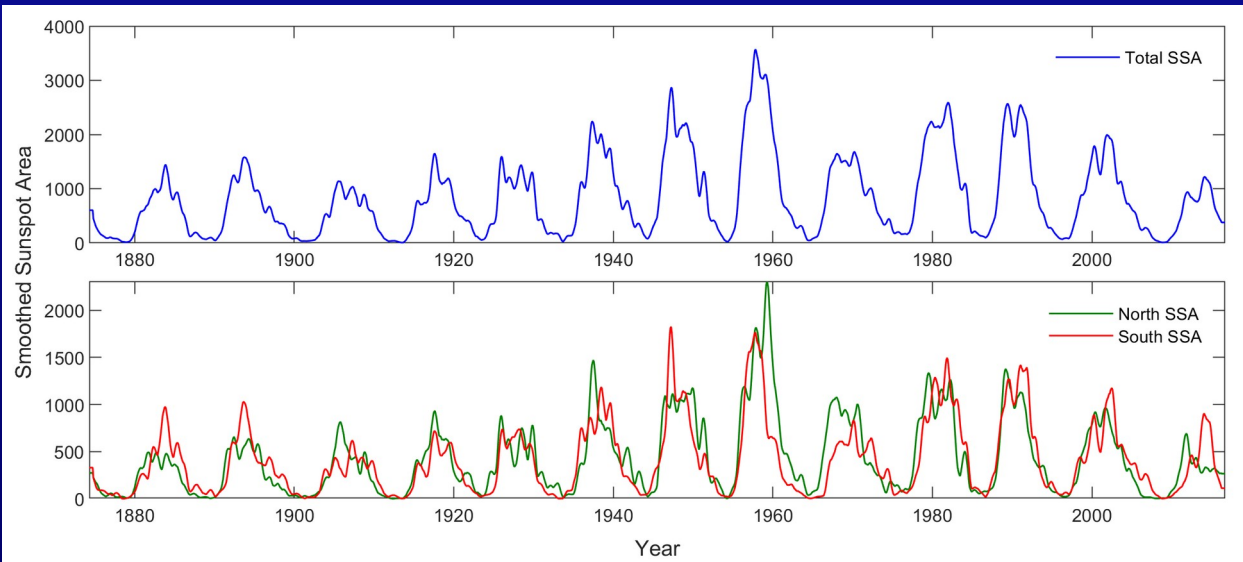
← (Total) Sunspot Number ISN (V2.0, Clette et al. 2014)

← Hemispheric SN:  
1945-2004: Temmer et al. (2006) – not calibrated to ISN V2.0  
1992-2020: SILSO World Data Centre (calibrated to ISN V2.0)

Sunspot Area  
Total and Hemispheric  
(Greenwich 1874-2016)

**We use Hemispheric Sunspot Areas to reconstruct Hemispheric Sunspot Number:**

**Calculate relative fraction of sunspot area and calibrate to Total Sunspot Number (ISN V2.0)**





# Hemispheric Sunspot Numbers 1874-2020

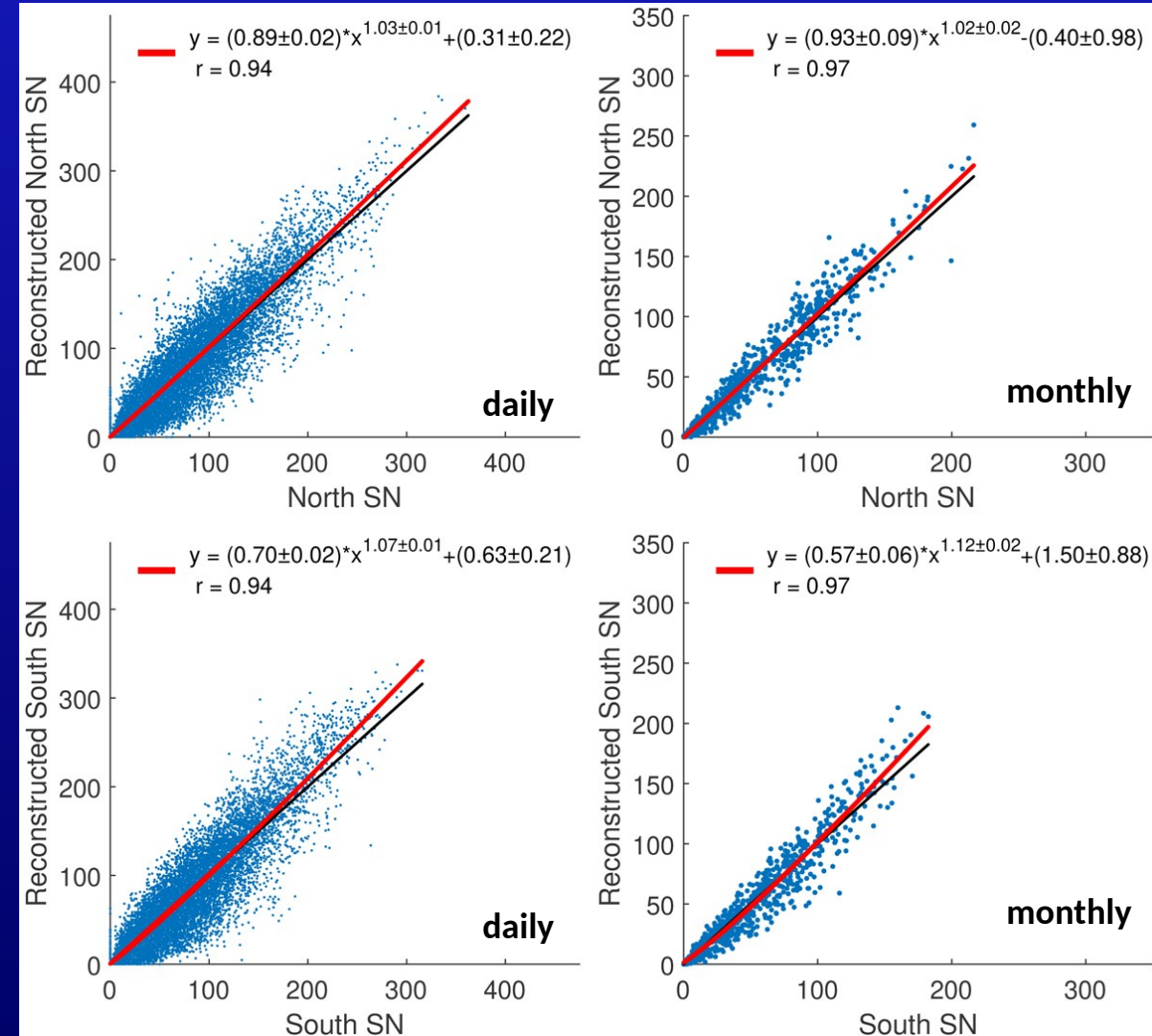
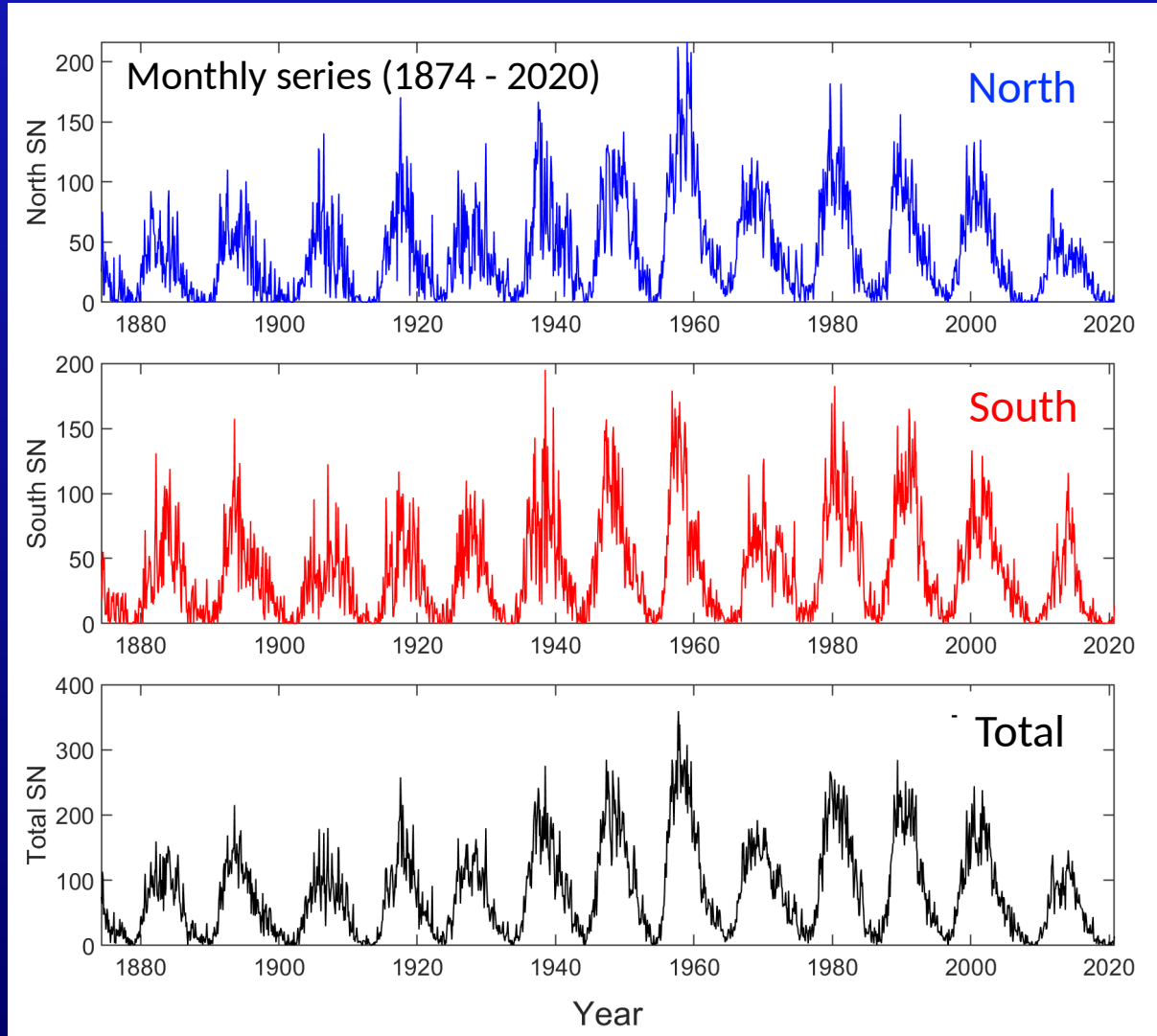
1874 - 1944: Reconstructed from Sunspot Areas

1945 - 1991: From Temmer et al. (2006), but recalibrated to ISN V2.0

1992 - : From World Data Centre SILSO

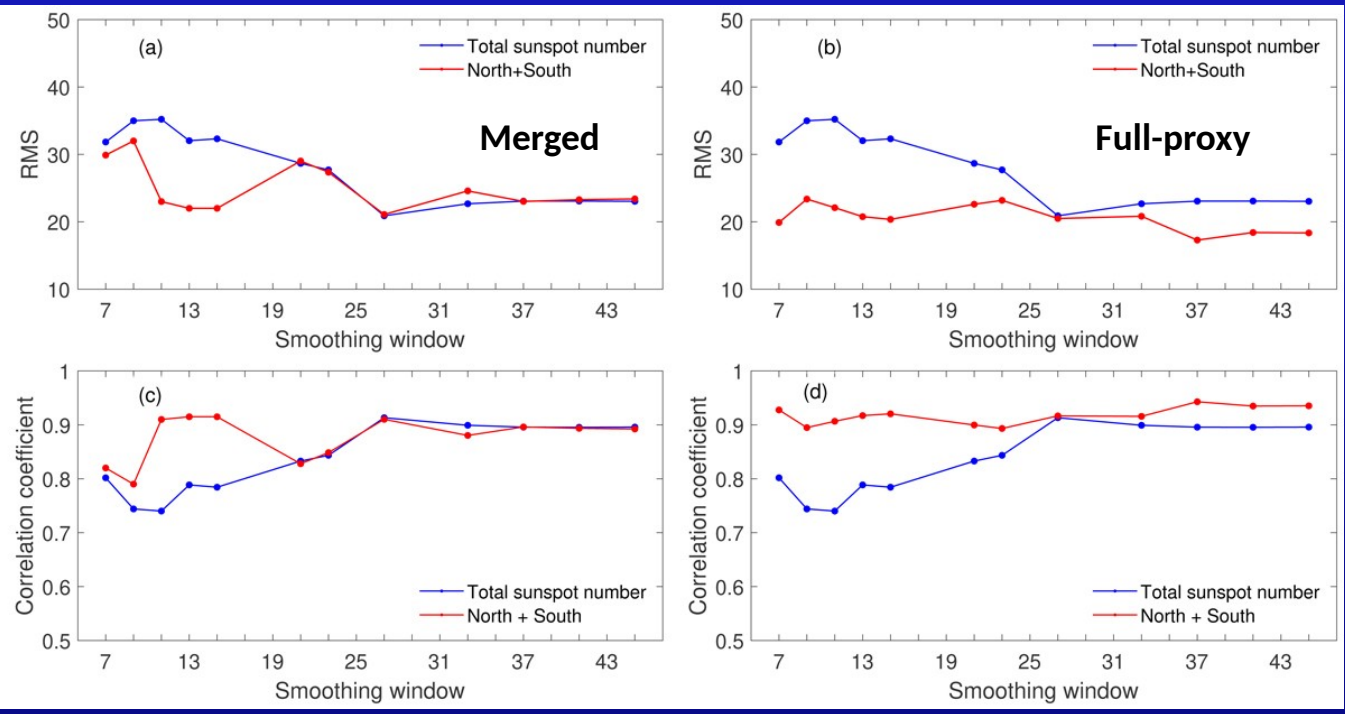
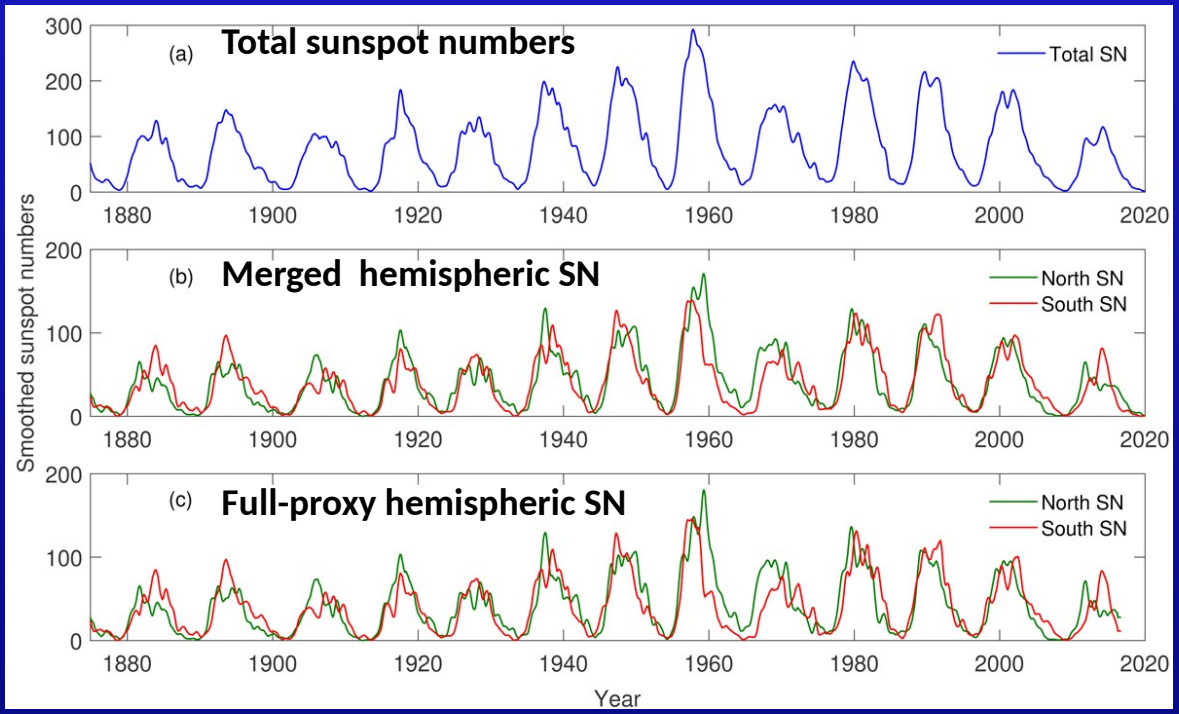
Reconstructed HSN compared to the existing HSN data for the common time period (1945 - 2016)

Veronig et al. (2021)



**Hemispheric Sunspot Numbers**

# Reconstruction performance of amplitudes of cycles 1-24 with the hemispheric sunspot numbers



**Merged hemispheric SN:** reconstructed from  
 1874 - 1944: Reconstructed from Sunspot Areas  
 1945 - 1991: From Temmer et al. (2006), but recalibrated to ISN V2.0  
 1992 - : From World Data Centre SILSO

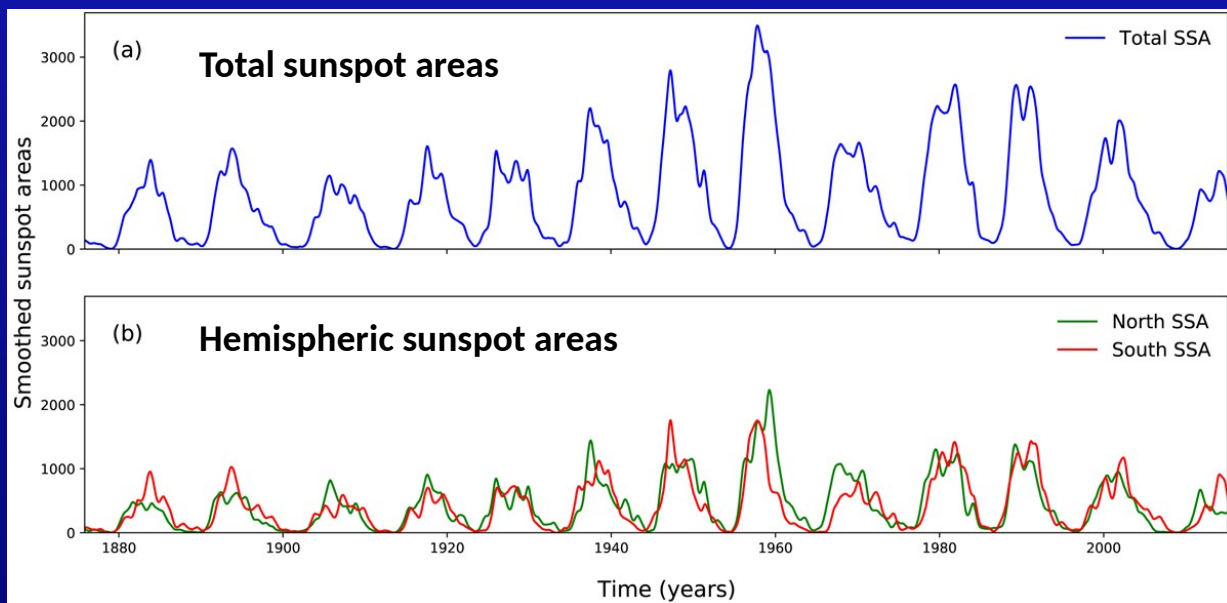
**Full-proxy hemispheric SN:** reconstructed purely from sunspot areas over 1874-2016

$$S^P = \beta_0 + \beta_1 I + \beta_2 I^2 + \beta_3 I^3$$

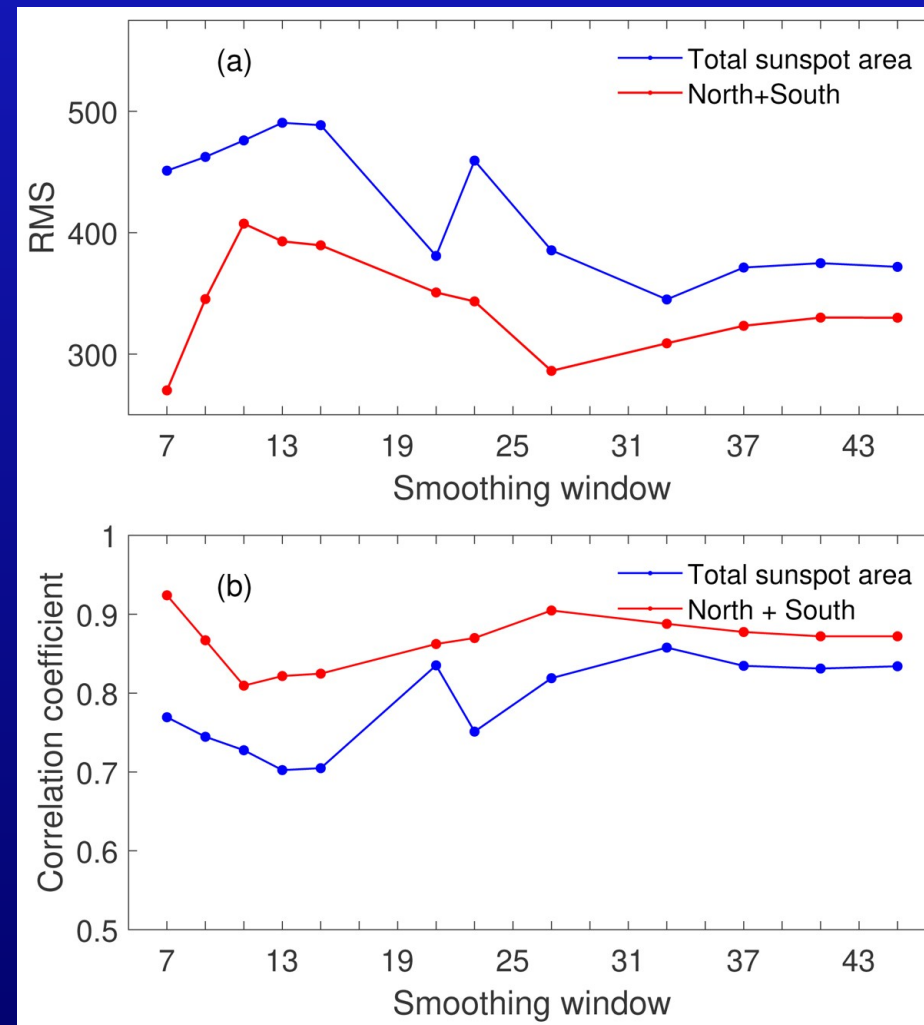
- value of the cycle amplitude
- sum of the maximal growth rate at North and South

# Hemispheric Sunspot Areas

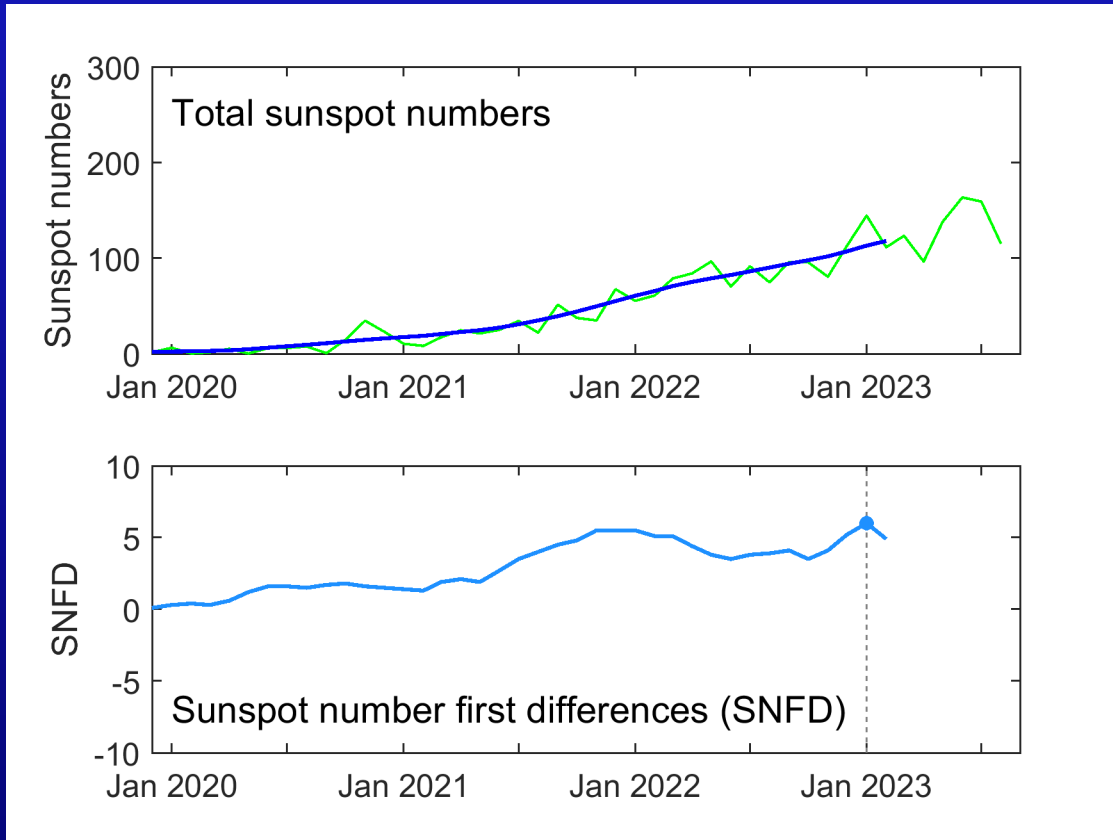
# Simulation performance of amplitudes of cycles 1-24 with the hemispheric sunspot areas



37-month optimized running-mean



# Prediction of the amplitude of cycle 25 with the total sunspot numbers



Lower estimate:  $126 \pm 26$

Last available smoothed sunspot number:  
February 20223

**Other predictions in range from 90 to 139 (e.g.)**

Kitiashvili 2016; Podladchikova et al. 2017;  
Singh & Bhargawa 2017;  
Bhowmik & Nandy 2018;  
Labonville et al. 2019; Miao et al. 2020;  
Burud et al. 2021; Kumar et al. 2021;  
Brajša et al. 2022.

**Prediction with a large amplitude of 233**

McIntosh et al. (2020)

# SUMMARY

1

**Maximal growth rate** of sunspot activity in the ascending phase of a solar cycle is a **better precursor** of a subsequent solar cycle amplitude than the **average growth rate**.

2

We developed and tested a prediction technique based on using **the maximal growth rate** as a precursor.

3

Finally, we demonstrated that **the hemispheric sunspot indices** derived separately for the two hemispheres **provide advantages** in predicting the solar cycle amplitudes compared to the sunspot indices describing the entire solar disc. This is a strong foundation for **supporting regular monitoring, recording, and predictions of solar activity based on hemispheric sunspot data**, which accounts for the different evolution of the two hemispheres over a solar cycle, which in general do not evolve in phase.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!**

See more details in Podladchikova et al. (2022)