



How non-Maxwellian is the local interstellar medium?

Lukas Saul

University of Bern, Physikalisches Institut, Space & Planetary Sciences Division, Bern, Switzerland (saul@space.unibe.ch)

Recent measurements from NASA's Interstellar Boundary Explorer have forced us to ask new questions about the homogeneity of the local cloud in which our star resides. We review these results and also ask a similar question regarding the kinetic properties of the neutral gas which enters the solar system. Could this neutral gas maintain some non-equilibrium properties? We demonstrate numeric models of non-Maxwellian gas entering the solar system, and compare these models to measurements of interstellar helium made by IBEX-Lo over the last few years.