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³He rich periods measured by the Suprathermal Ion Telescope (SIT) on STEREO-A during solar cycle 24

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³He-rich solar energetic particle (SEP) events are characterized by a peculiar elemental composition with rare species like ³He or ultra-heavy ions tremendously enhanced over the solar system abundances.

We report on ³He rich SEP periods measured by the Suprathermal Ion Telescope (SIT) onboard STEREO-A beginning in 2007 until 2020, covering the whole solar cycle 24.

The mass resolution capabilities of SIT do not allow to easily distinguish between ³He and ⁴He especially in cases of a low ³He to ⁴He ratio.

We therefore developed a semi-automatic detection algorithm to find time periods during which a ³He enhancement can be statistically determined.

Using this method we found 112 ³He rich periods.

These periods were further examined in regards of their ³He/⁴He and Fe/O ratio.

Previously about ten ³He-rich SEP periods measured by SIT on STEREO-A have been reported.

An association with in-situ electron measurements by STEREO-SEPT and STEREO-STE showed that ~60% of the 112 periods are accompanied with electron events.

The here presented catalogue of ³He rich periods is intended to serve as a reference for the community.