

Supplementary information for the paper:

Rapid rise in the global ocean carbon sink determined from atmospheric oxygen observations

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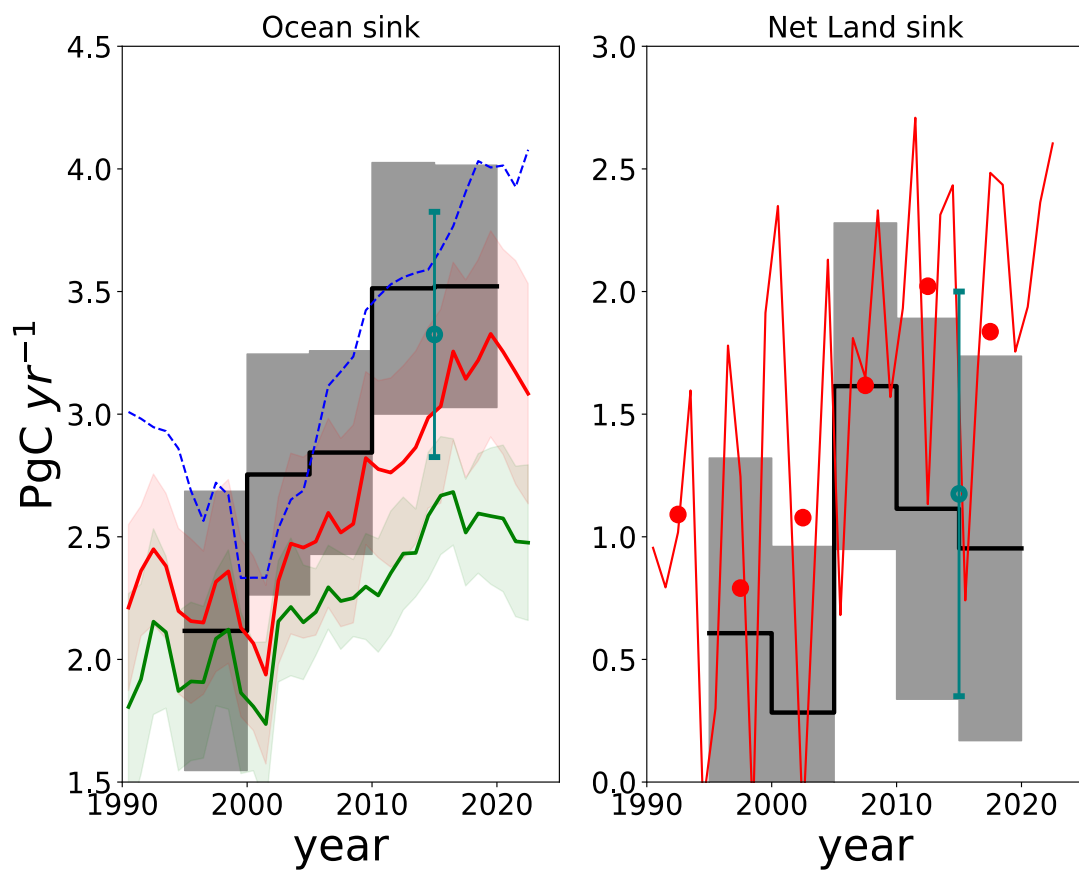
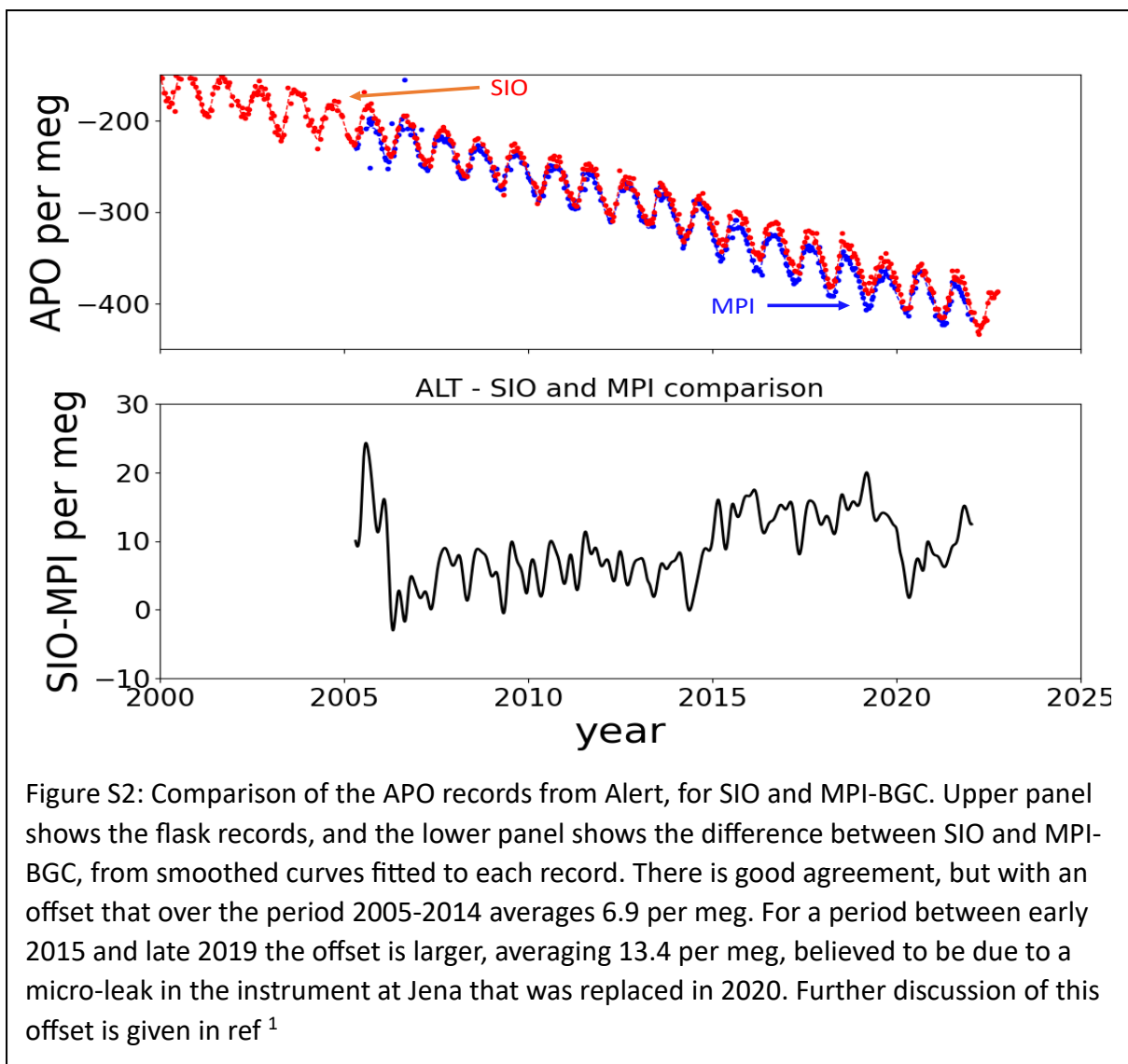


Figure S1: As Figure 4 in the text, but the  $\text{O}_2/\text{N}_2$  method ocean and net land carbon sinks (black lines, grey uncertainties) are calculated using the mean of the stations shown in figure 2, with uncertainties on  $\delta\text{APO}$  taken as the standard deviation of the stations. All other symbols have the same values as in Figure 4.



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Table S1: Numerical data for anthropogenic carbon sinks using O<sub>2</sub>/N<sub>2</sub> method: results shown in plots of Figure 4 of the main text.

<b>Figure 4a, b, Carbon sinks using marine boundary layer function for <math>\delta\text{APO}</math> change (Pg Cyr<sup>-1</sup>)</b>				
<b>Year</b>	<b>Ocean sink</b>	<b>Ocean 1-<math>\sigma</math></b>	<b>Net Land sink</b>	<b>Net Land 1-<math>\sigma</math></b>
1995-2000	2.10	0.29	0.63	0.51
2000-2005	2.81	0.39	0.24	0.61
2005-2010	2.74	0.35	1.73	0.63
2010-2015	3.54	0.46	1.10	0.74
2015-2020	3.46	0.43	1.03	0.74

Table S2: Numerical data for anthropogenic carbon sinks using O<sub>2</sub>/N<sub>2</sub> method: results shown in plots of Figure S1

<b>Figure 4c,d, Carbon sinks using unweighted mean of stations for <math>\delta\text{APO}</math> change (Pg Cyr<sup>-1</sup>)</b>				
<b>Year</b>	<b>Ocean sink</b>	<b>Ocean 1-<math>\sigma</math></b>	<b>Net Land sink</b>	<b>Net Land 1-<math>\sigma</math></b>
1995-2000	2.12	0.57	0.61	0.71
2000-2005	2.75	0.49	0.28	0.68
2005-2010	2.84	0.41	1.61	0.67
2010-2015	3.51	0.51	1.11	0.78
2015-2020	3.52	0.49	0.95	0.78

Table S3: Contributions to uncertainty in ocean and land sinks for CO<sub>2</sub> from different sources as described in Methods section. Except for the “all uncertainties” entry, these are for each source propagated through the calculations with others held constant, for the 2010-2020 decade. The last term is the 2010-2020 uncertainty as shown in Figure 4.

<b>Source of uncertainty estimated at 1-sigma</b>	<b>1-sigma, Ocean sink (Pg Cyr<sup>-1</sup>)</b>	<b>1-sigma, land sink (Pg Cyr<sup>-1</sup>)</b>
5% uncertainty in amount of fossil fuel combustion	0.12	0.64
Uncertainties on O <sub>2</sub> :CO <sub>2</sub> consumption/release for fossil fuels (taken from Table 2 of Keeling and Manning, 2014) <sup>2</sup>	0.28	0.28
5% uncertainty in $\alpha_B$ , ratio O <sub>2</sub> :CO <sub>2</sub> of land photosynthesis and respiration	0.05	0.05
Calculated uncertainty on global rate of decline of $\delta\text{APO}$	0.13	0.13

Uncertainty on ocean outgassing of 25 Tmol yr <sup>-1</sup>	0.31	0.31
All uncertainties	0.44	0.74

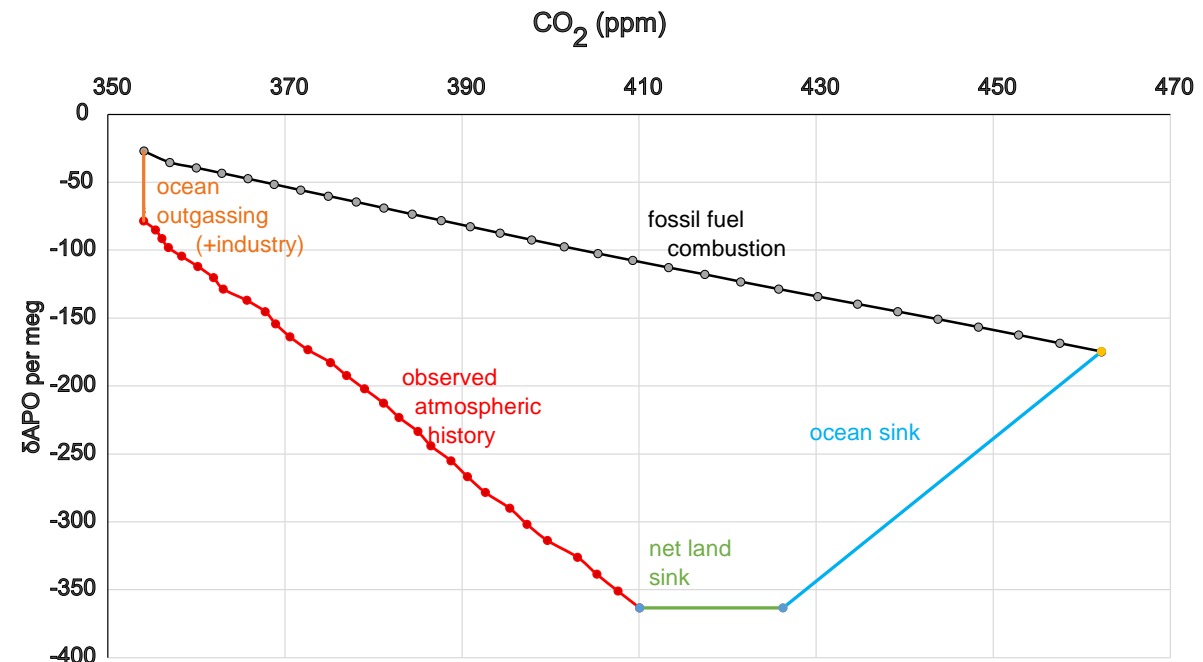


Figure S3: Vector diagram in  $\delta\text{APO} - \text{XCO}_2$  plane of the changes in atmospheric composition from 1990 to 2020, and the processes contributing to it. For the observed atmospheric history, each point represents a global annual mean, starting in 1990 at the top left of the figure. The other lines represent the processes affecting atmospheric composition (ocean  $\text{O}_2$  outgassing including a small contribution of oxygen release from industry, fossil fuel combustion, land and ocean sinks) each of which affects  $\text{CO}_2$  and APO in known ratios and therefore has a characteristic slope on this figure. Starting from the atmospheric composition in 1990, the trajectory of ocean  $\text{O}_2$  outgassing is shown (parallel to the APO axis since atmospheric  $\text{CO}_2$  is not affected). From this vector's endpoint, the fossil fuel vector is plotted, which represents how atmospheric composition changes as a result of fossil fuel combustion. This vector ends where the atmospheric composition would be if only ocean outgassing and fossil fuel burning were operating. The two unknowns, the land and ocean sinks, are then constructed as vectors of known slope that connect this point to the observed composition in 2020.

Table S4: five-year averages of fossil fuel and oxygen terms in the equations for global ocean sink: (values are in PgC equivalent per year, e.g. O<sub>2</sub> fluxes are in moles x 12 gC)

Period	Fossil fuel combustion	O <sub>2</sub> consumption by fossil fuel combustion	"Zeff": O <sub>2</sub> release from ocean compensated for N <sub>2</sub> release	Industrial release of O <sub>2</sub>
1995-2000	6.62	9.20	0.60	0.095
2000-2005	7.30	10.12	1.04	0.11
2005-2010	8.47	11.59	0.72	0.18
2010-2015	9.46	12.84	1.24	0.22
2015-2020	9.87	13.48	1.03	0.25

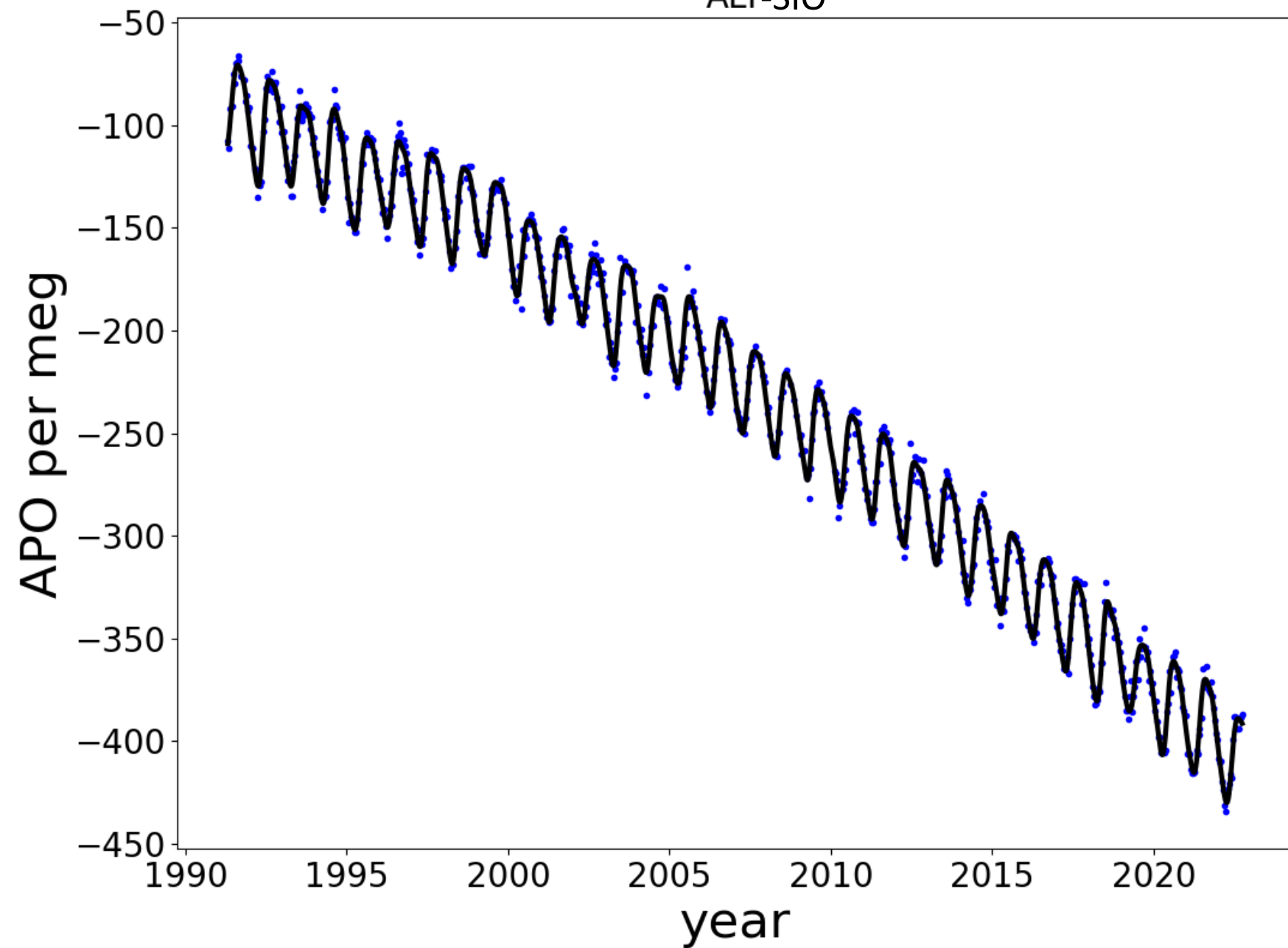
- 1 Rödenbeck, C. *et al.* The suitability of atmospheric oxygen measurements to constrain western European fossil-fuel CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and their trends. *Atmospheric Chemistry and Physics* **23**, 15767-15782 (2023). <https://doi.org/10.5194/acp-23-15767-2023>
- 2 Keeling, R. F. & Manning, A. C. in *Treatise on Geochemistry: Second Edition* Vol. 5 385-404 (2014).

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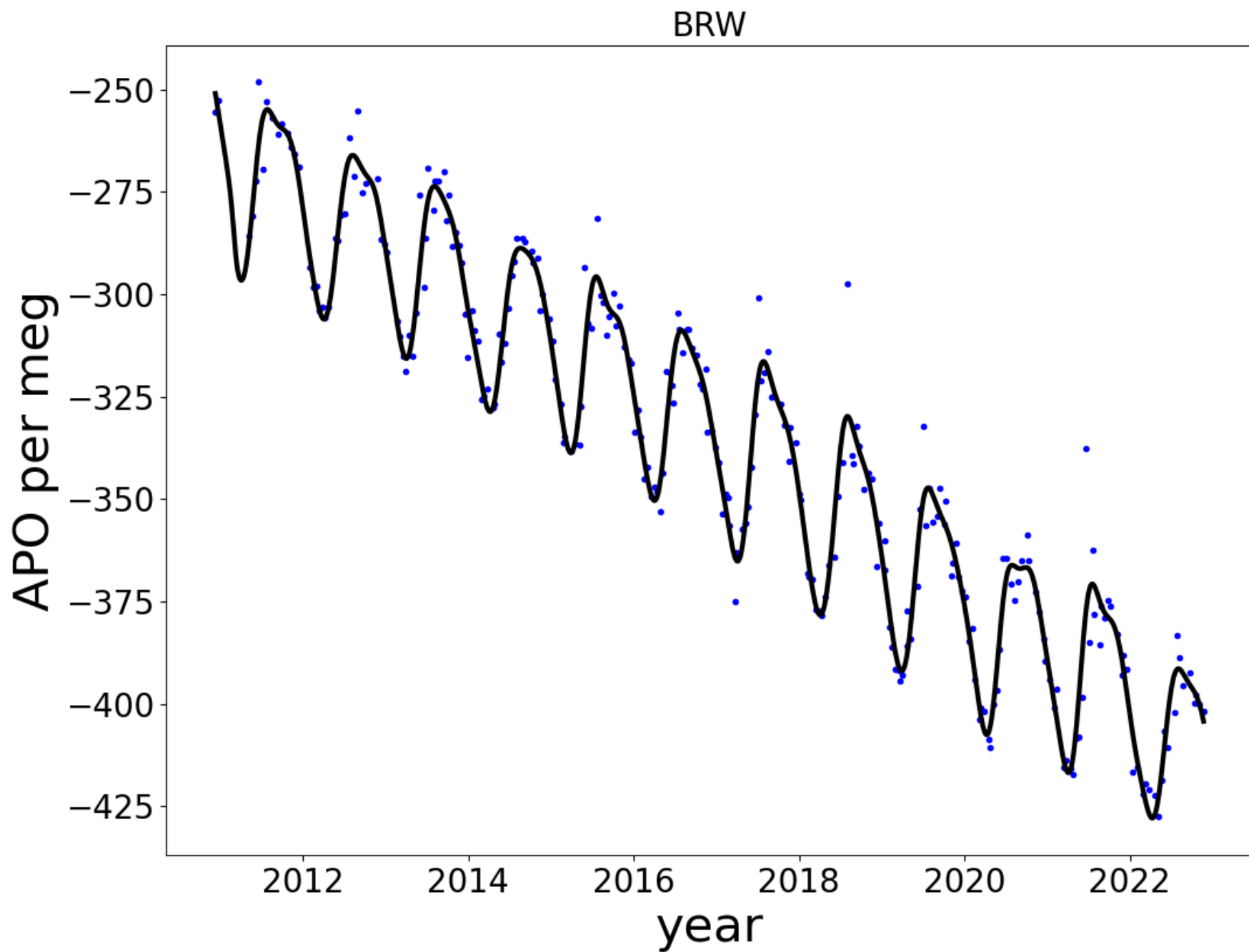
47 Figure S4 – S 29: Individual APO records used in this publication, with the smoothing curves fitted to  
48 them: The data are shown on the SIO2017 scale, with adjustments as described in the Methods.  
49 Stations are identified by their 3-letter codes (Figure 1 and Table 1 in methods). The NIES ship data  
50 are binned into ten-degree latitude bands, and are identified by the central latitude of each band.

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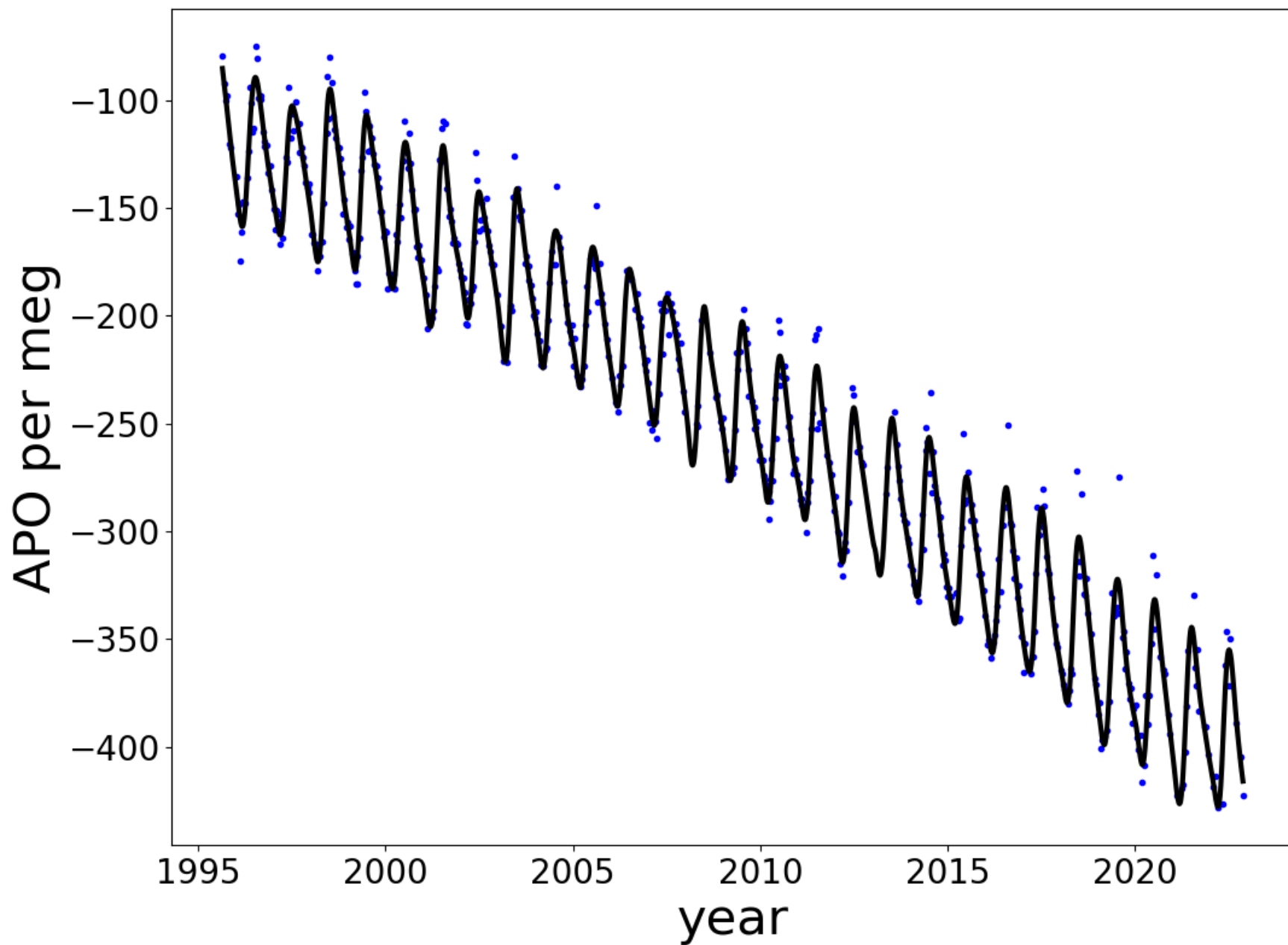
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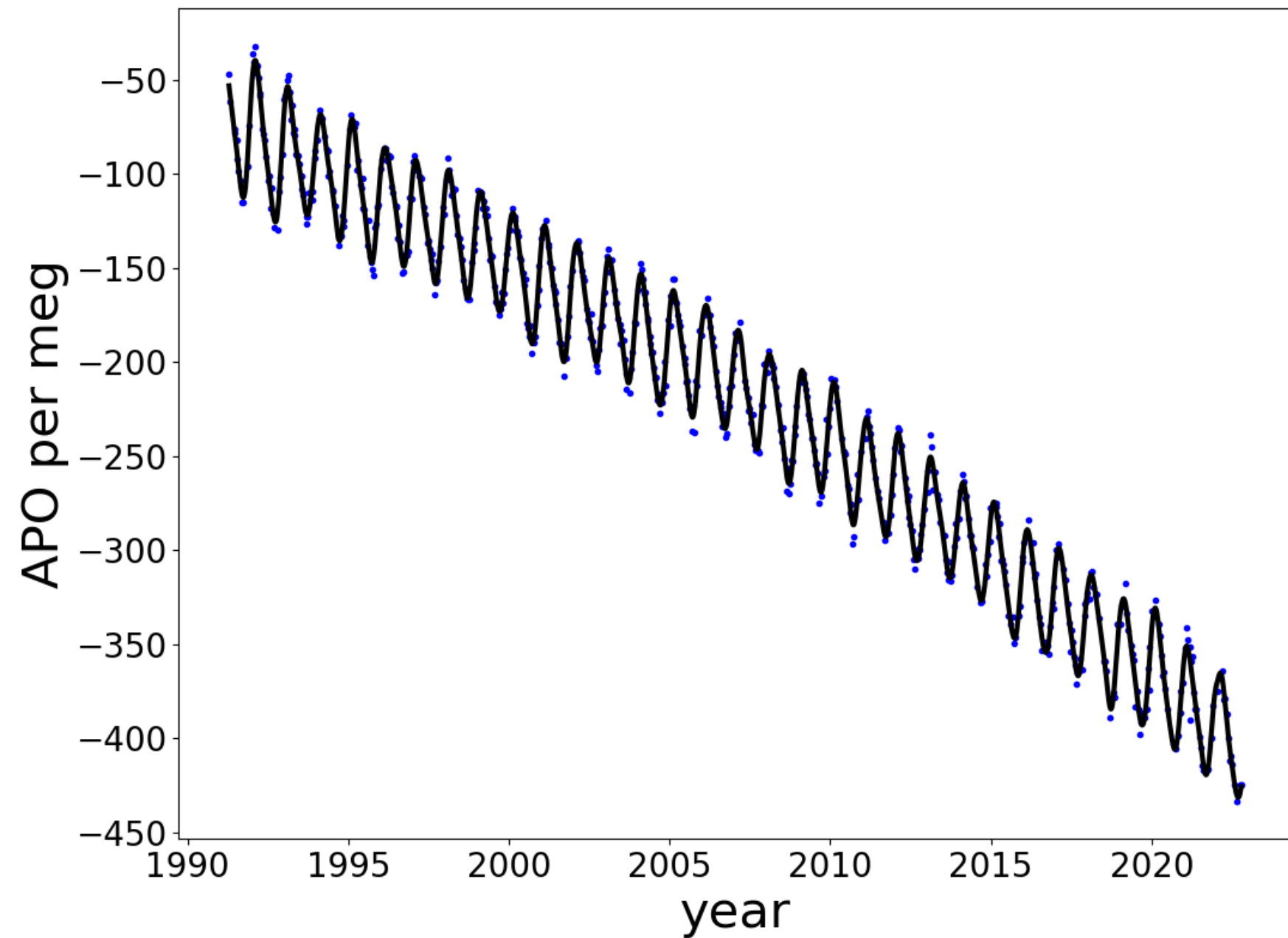




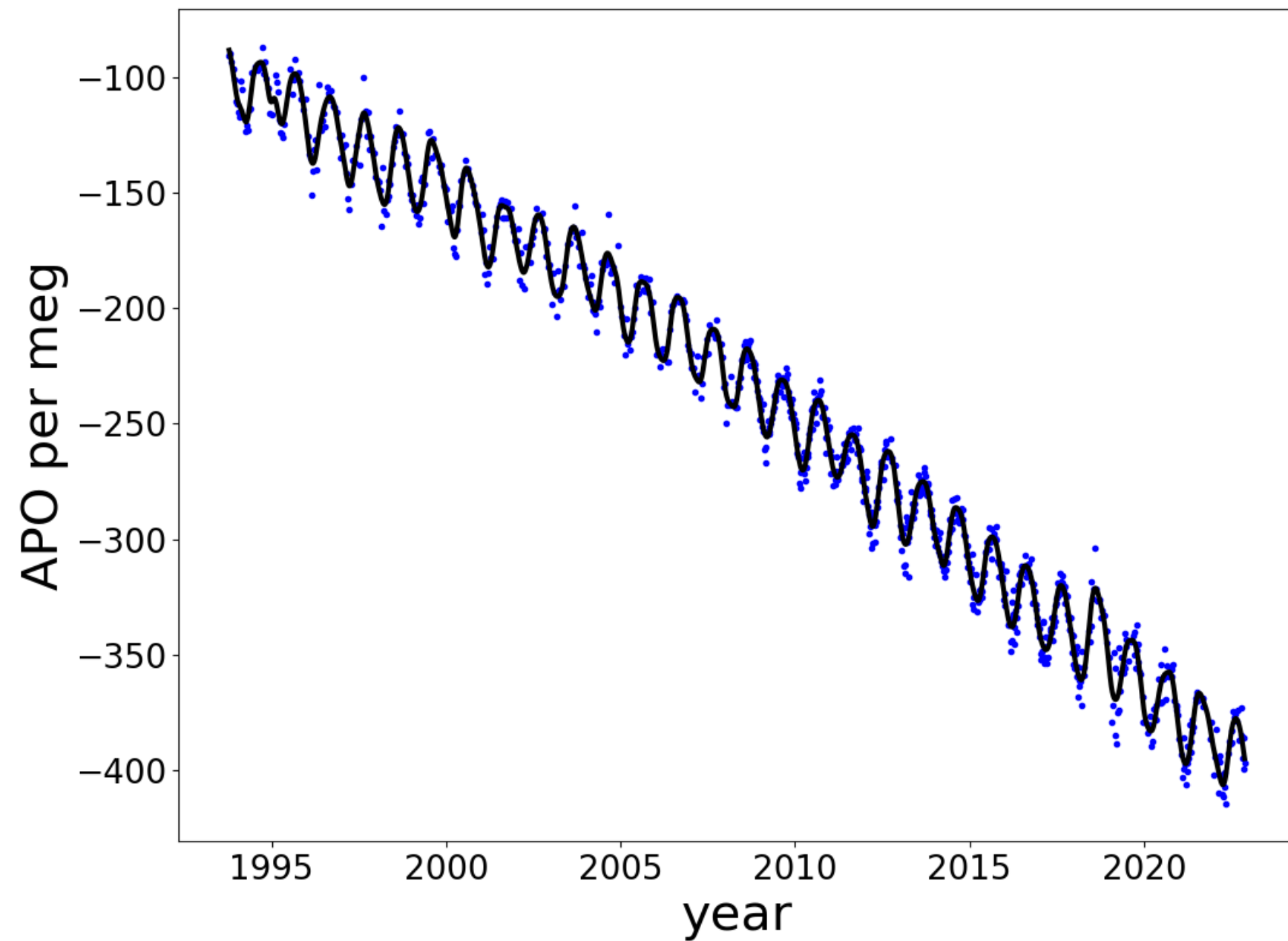
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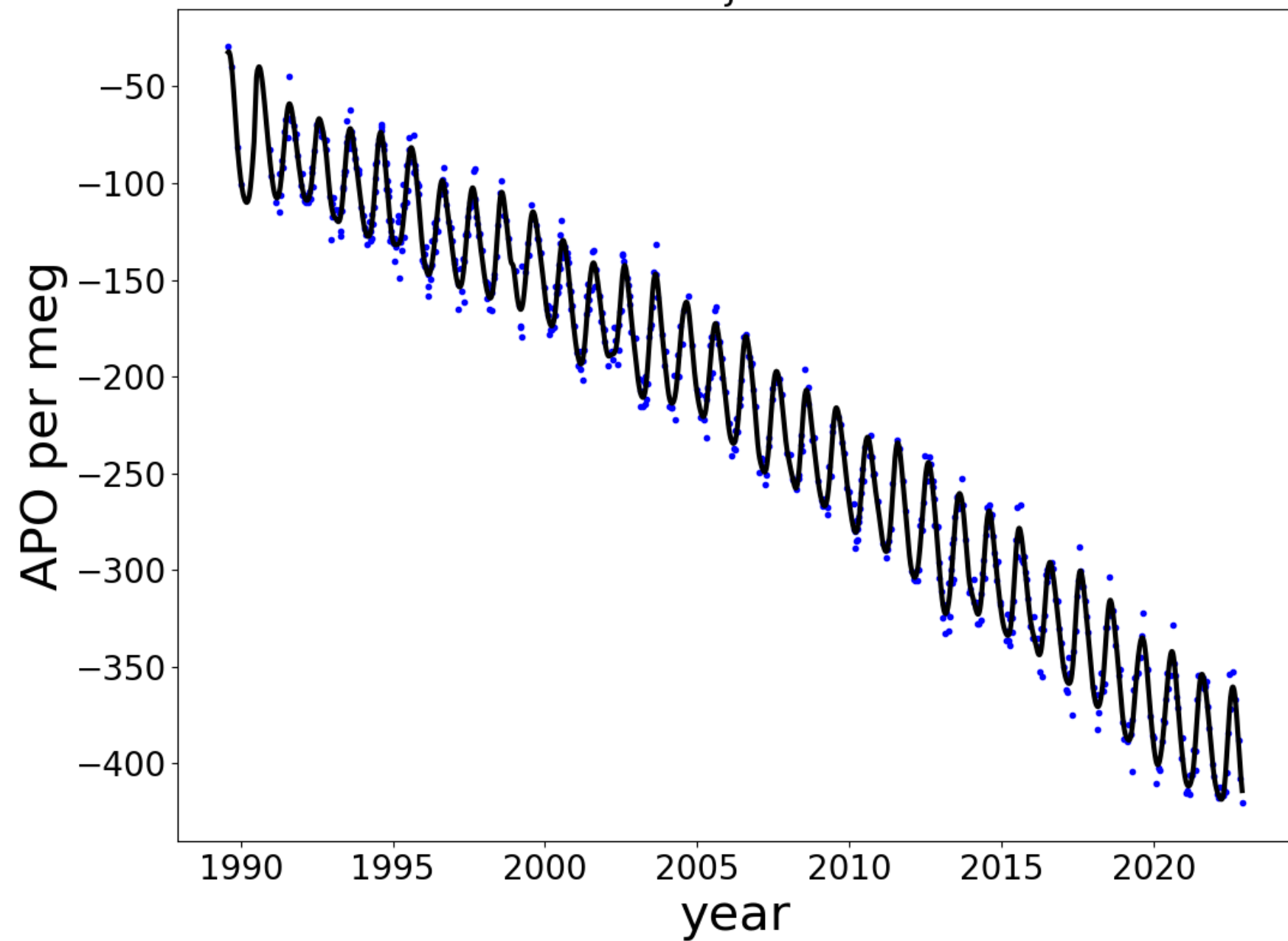
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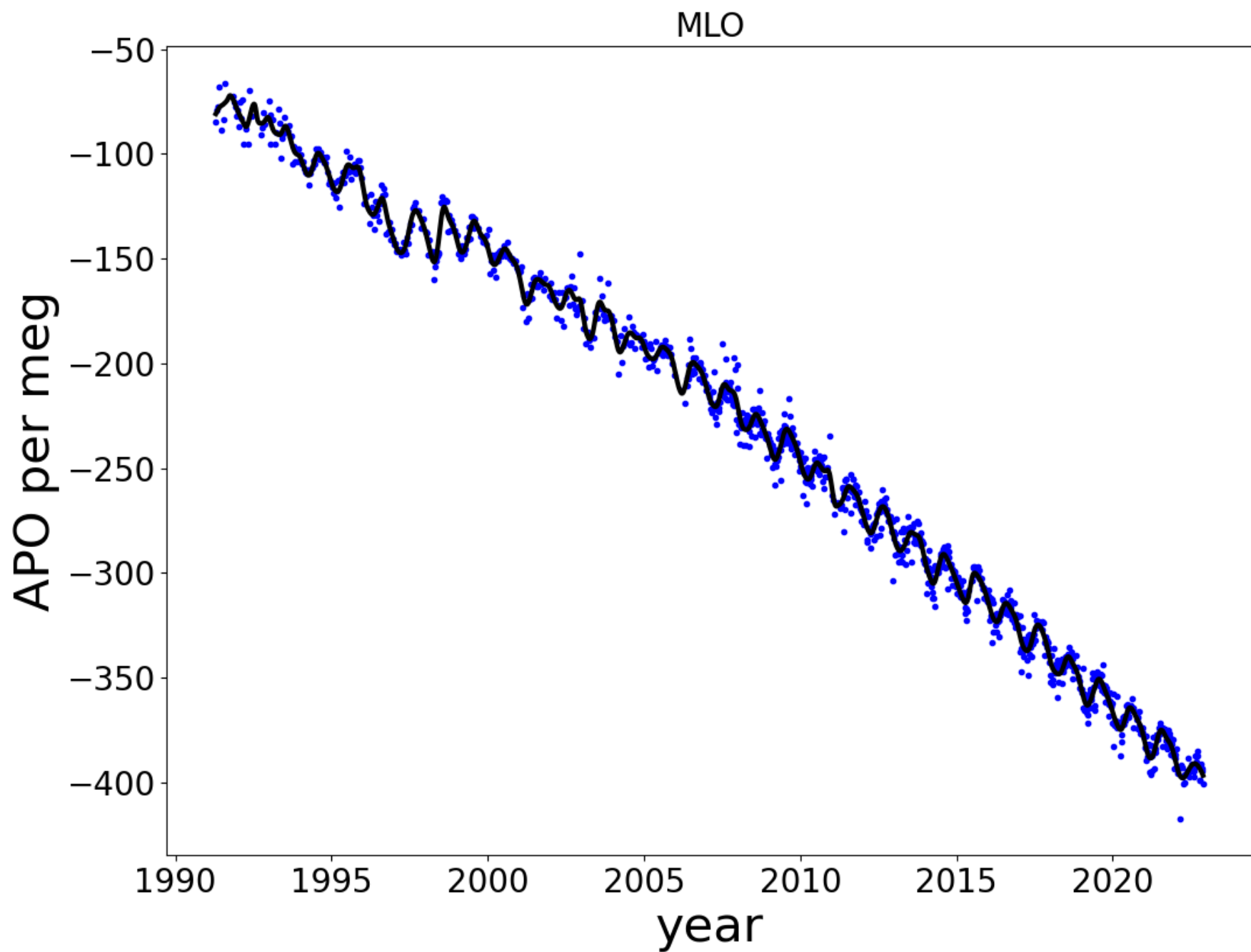


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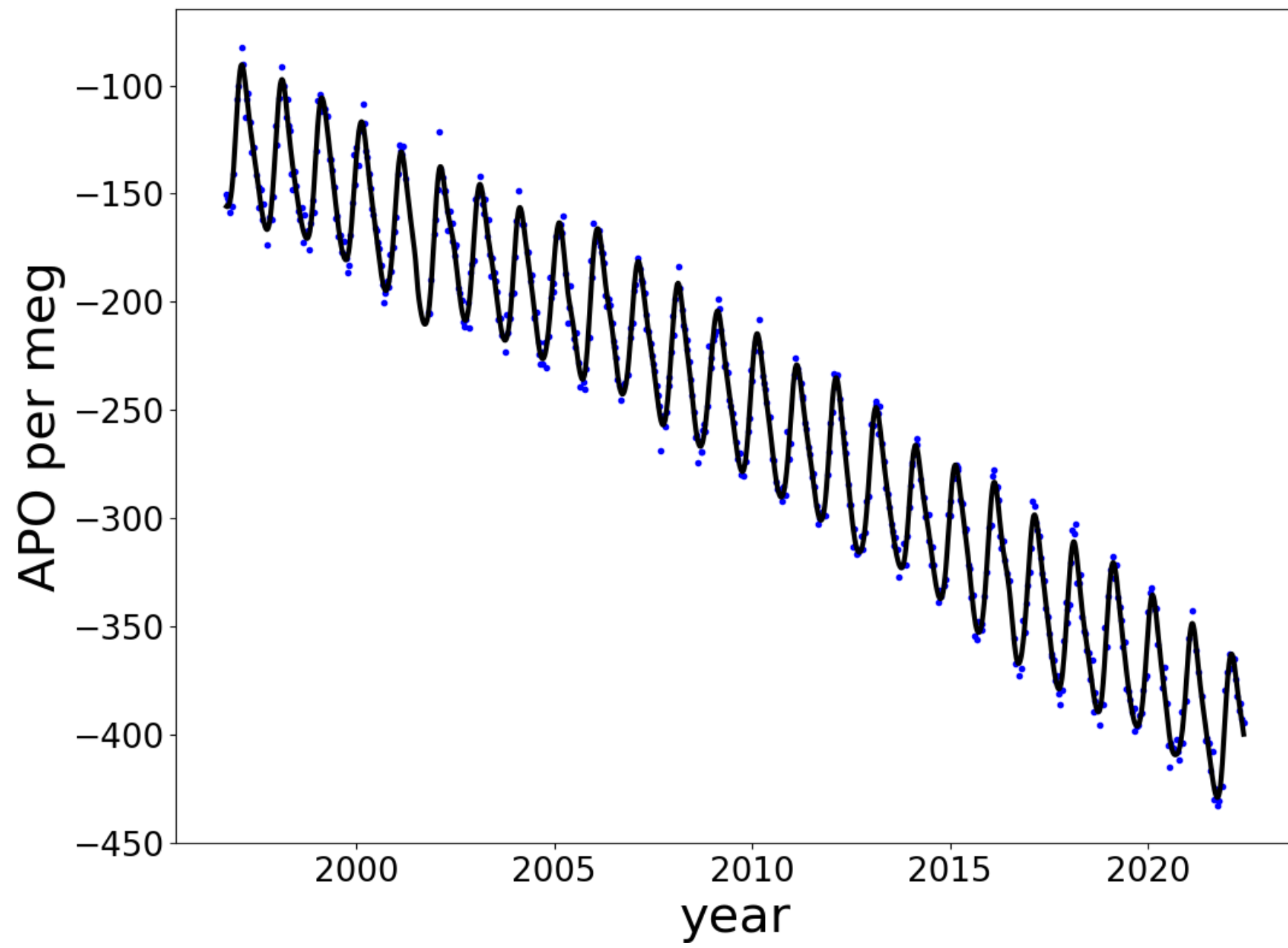


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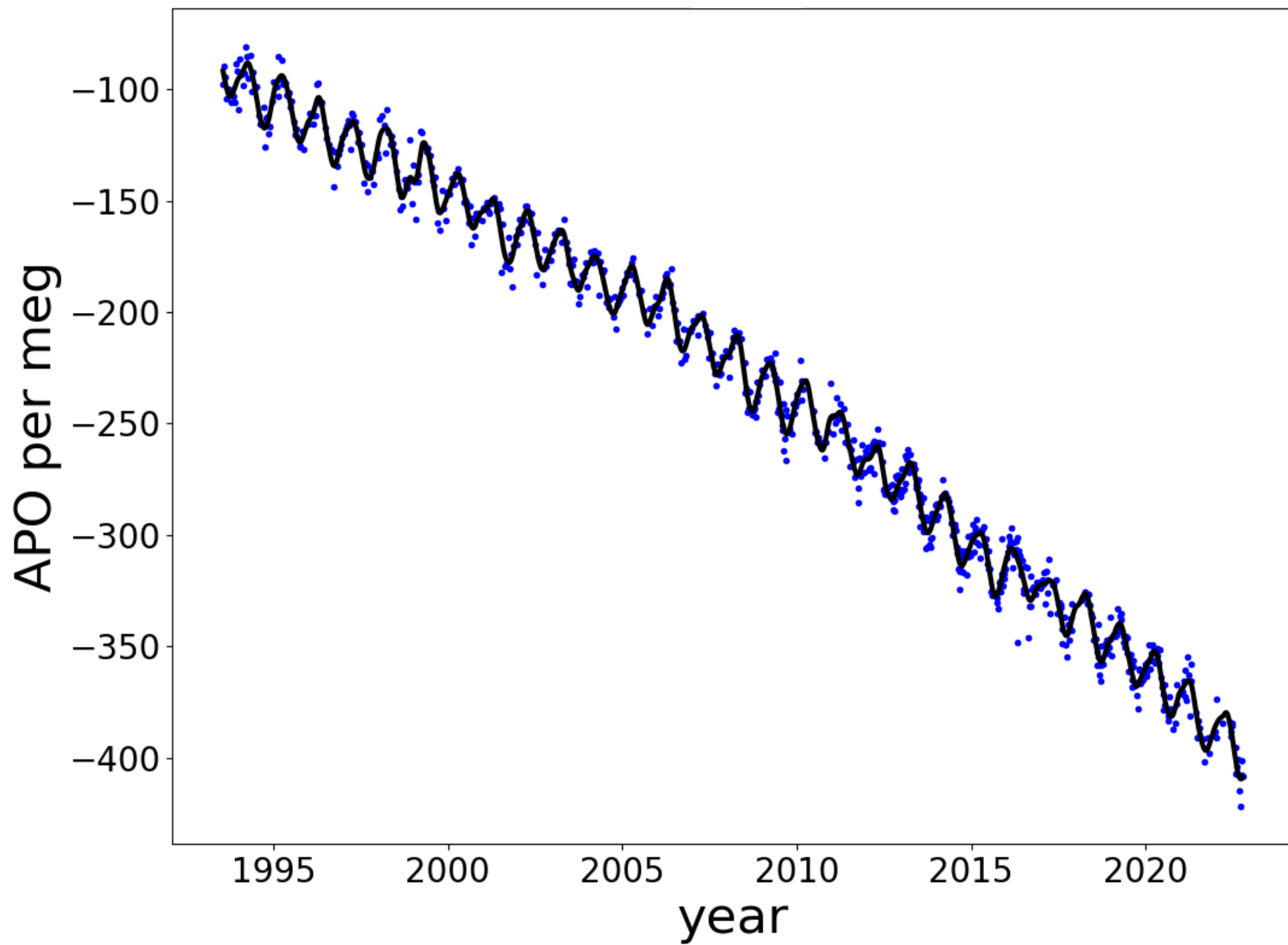




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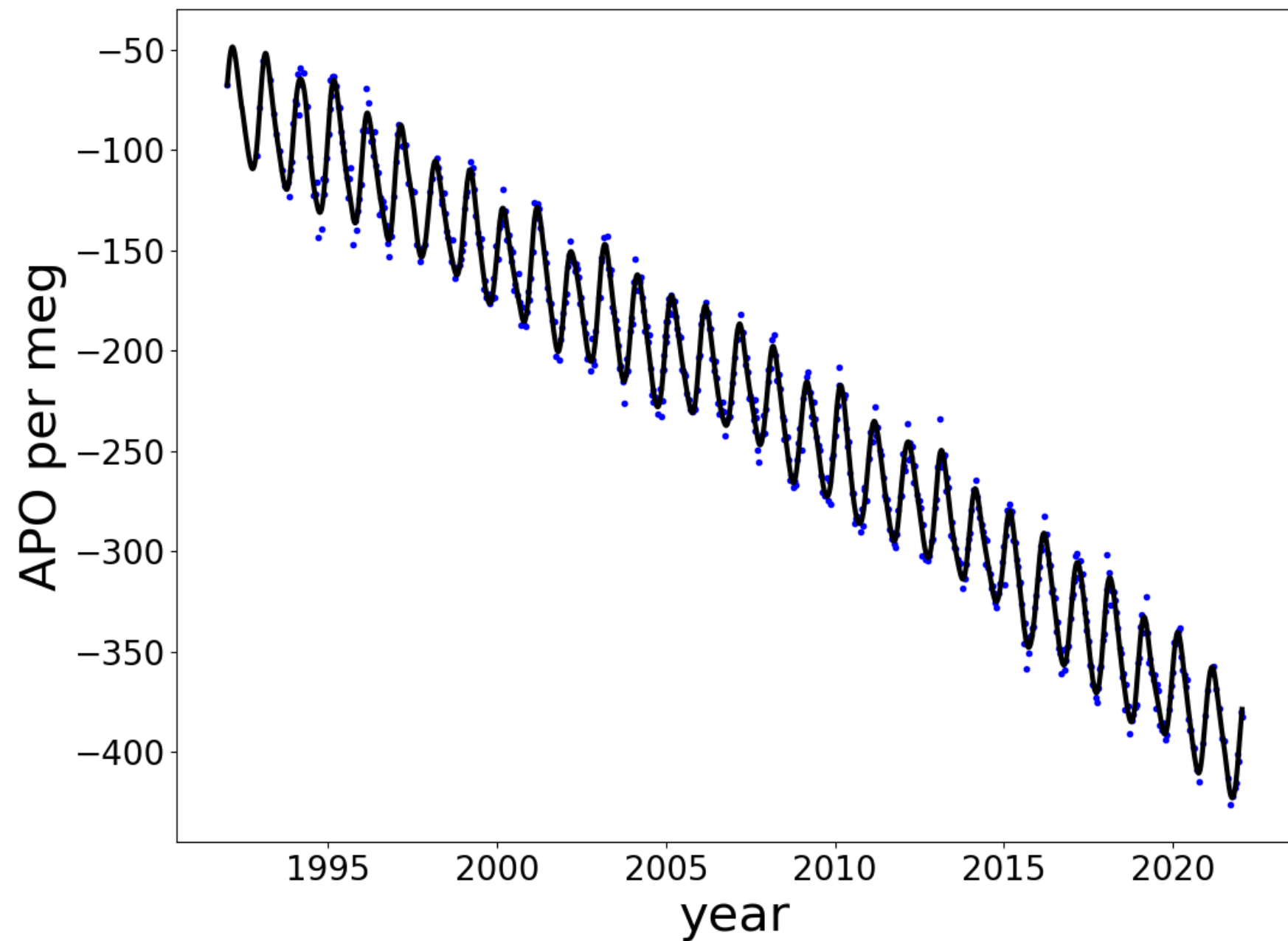


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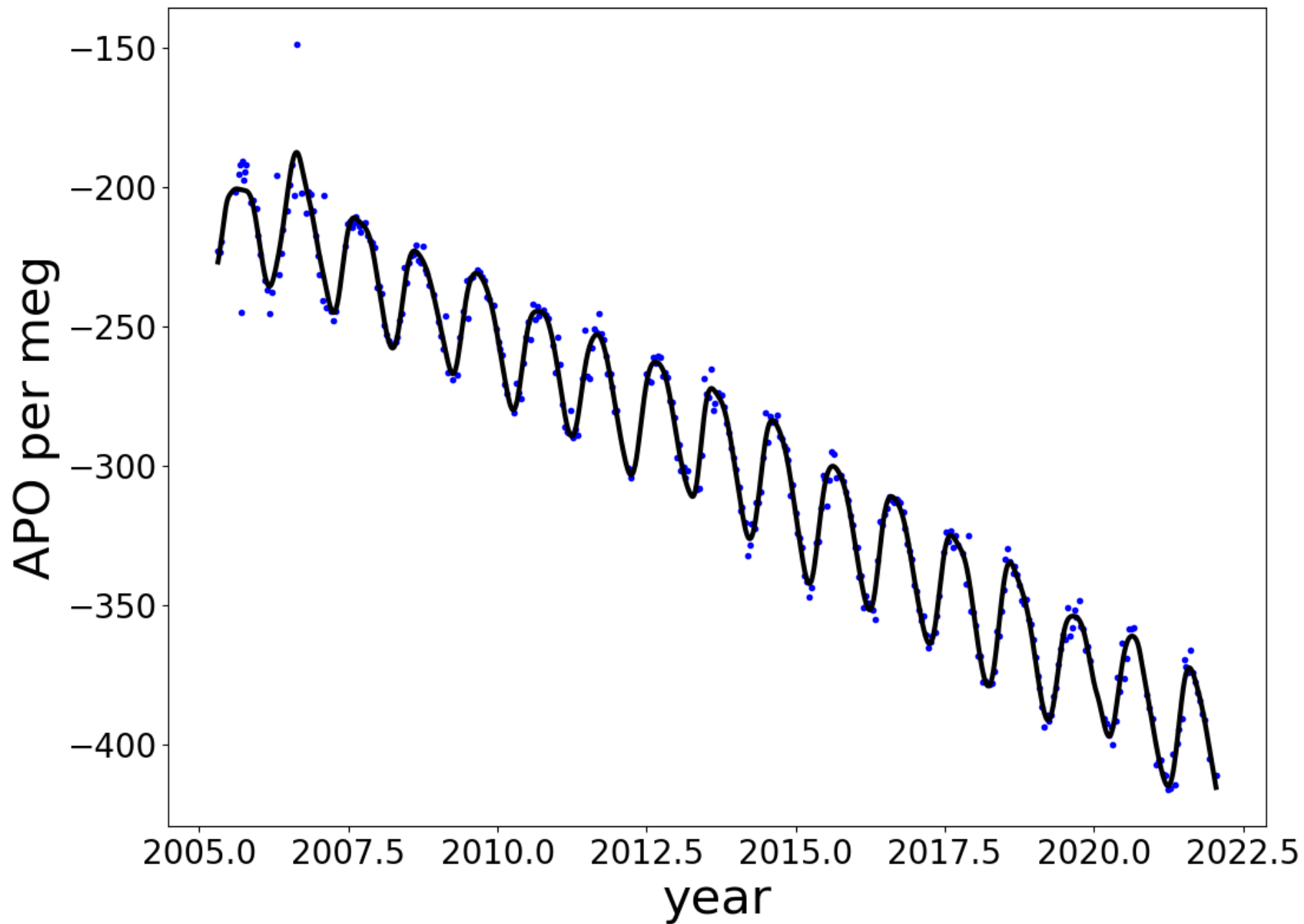




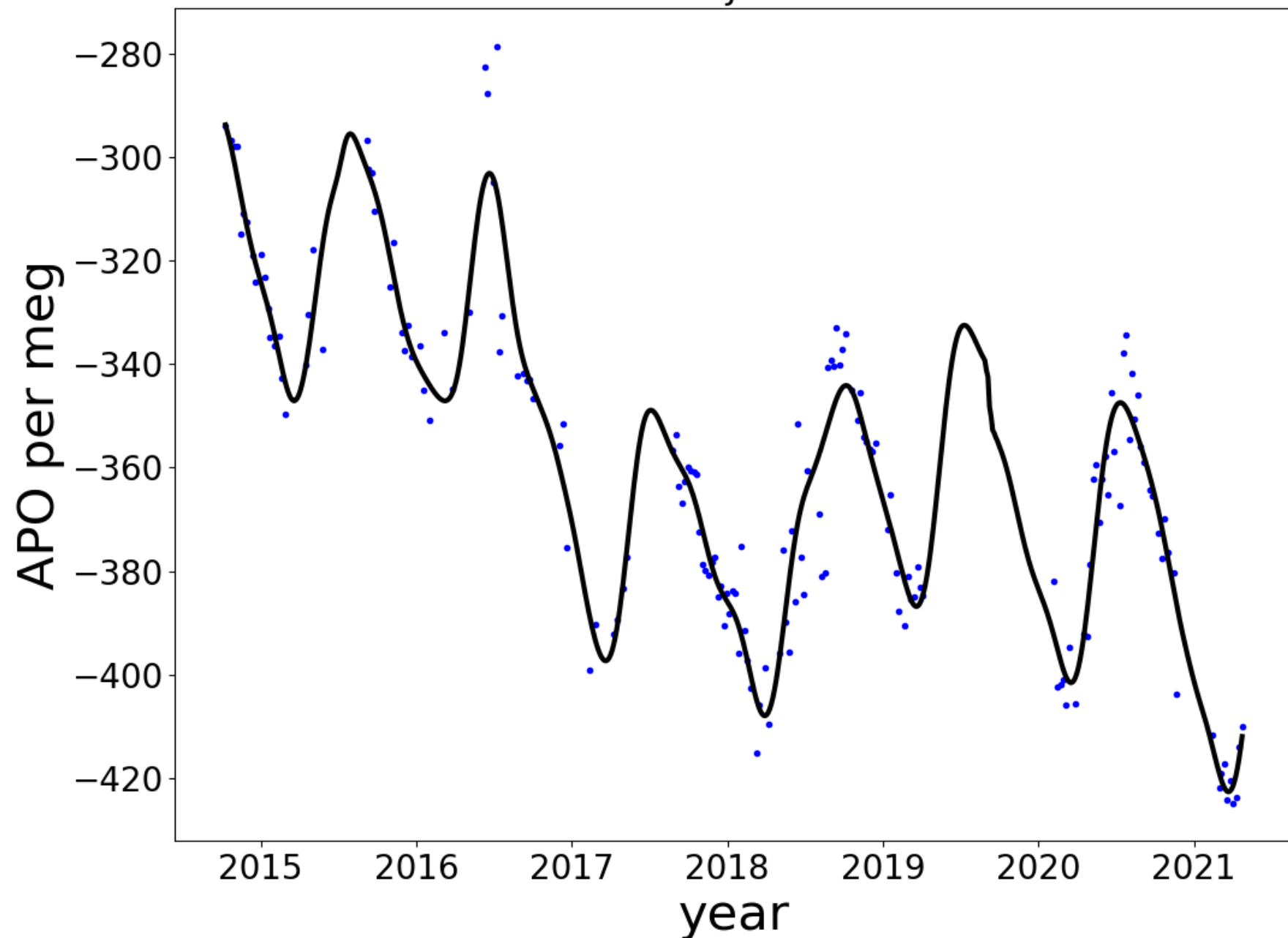
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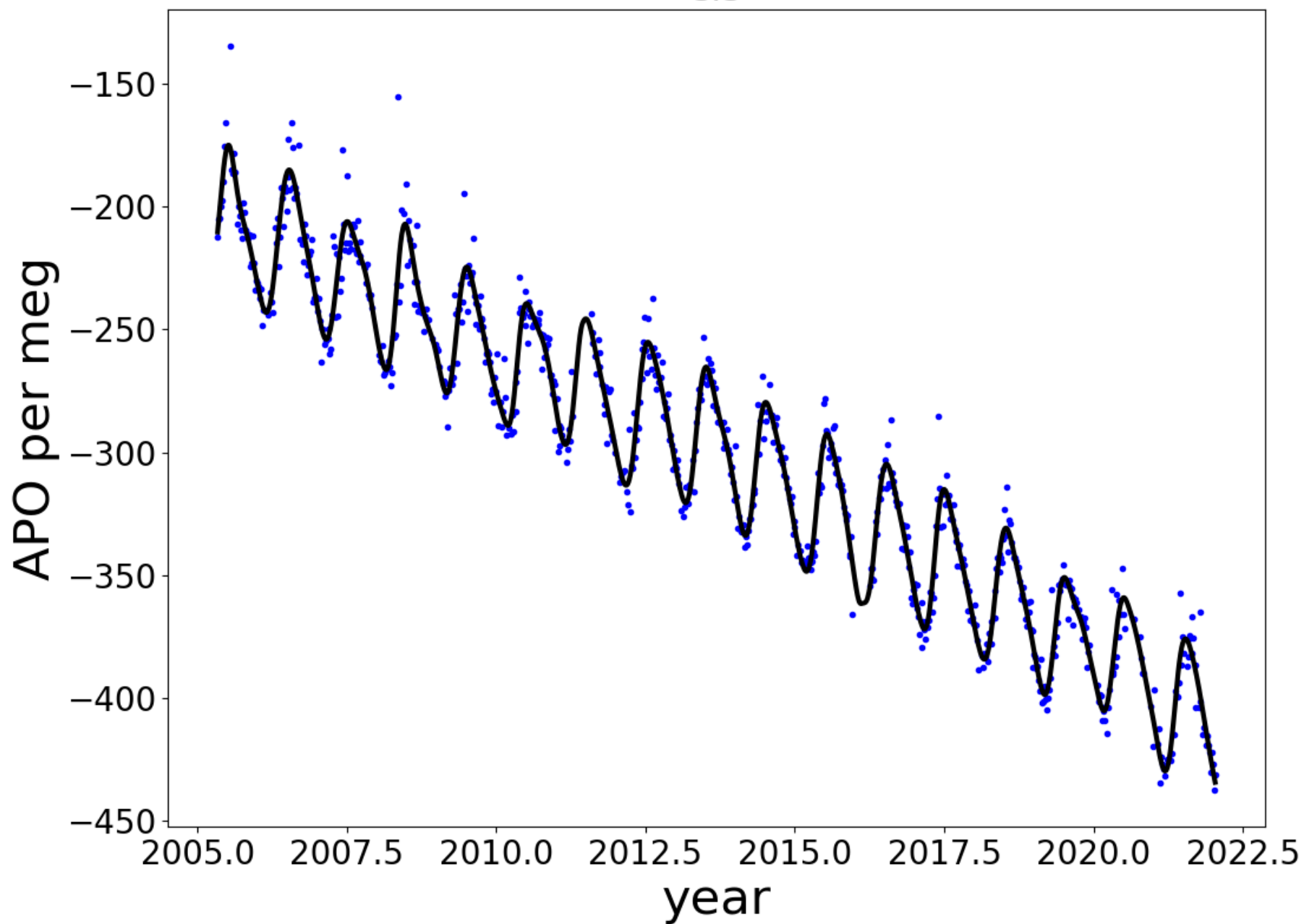
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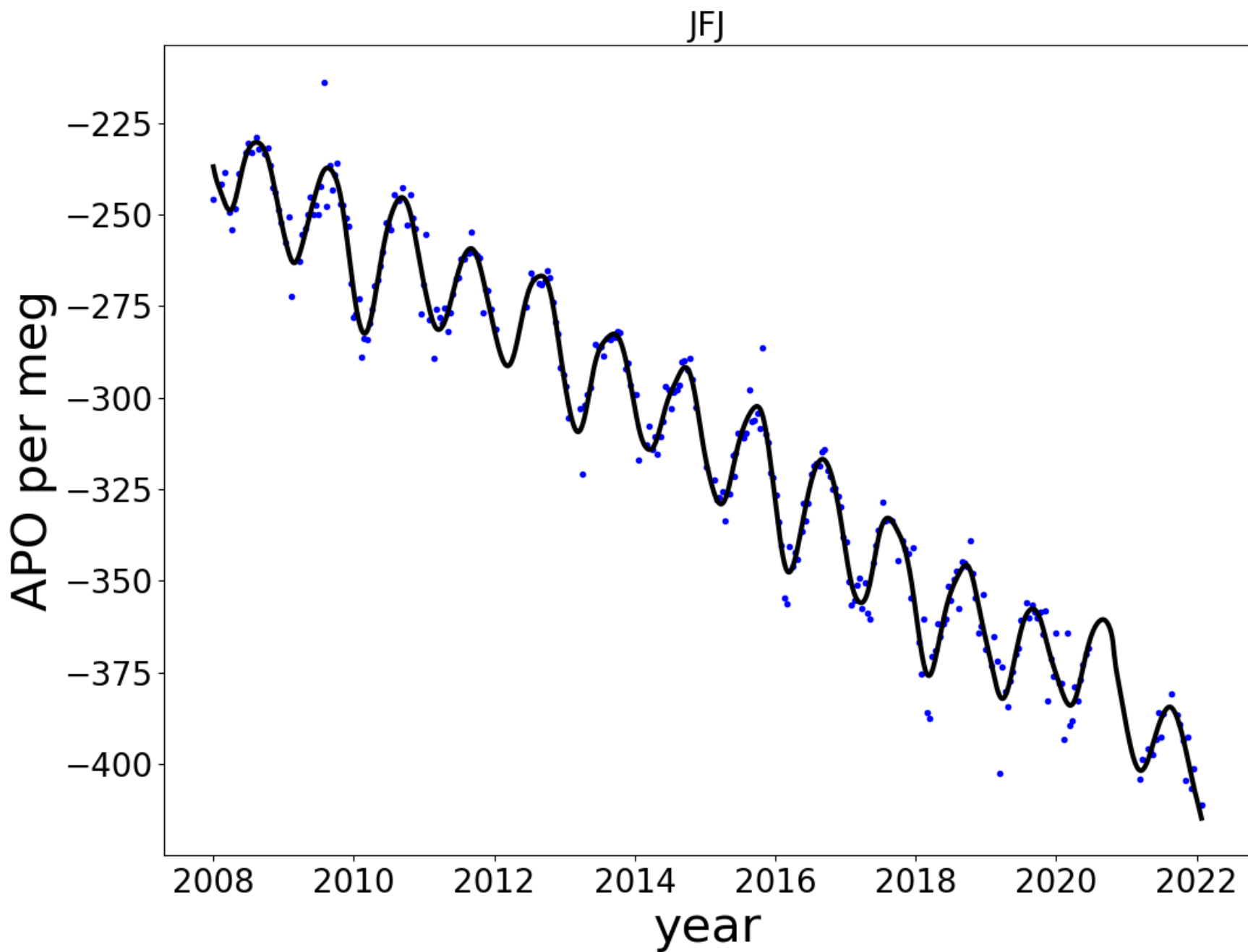


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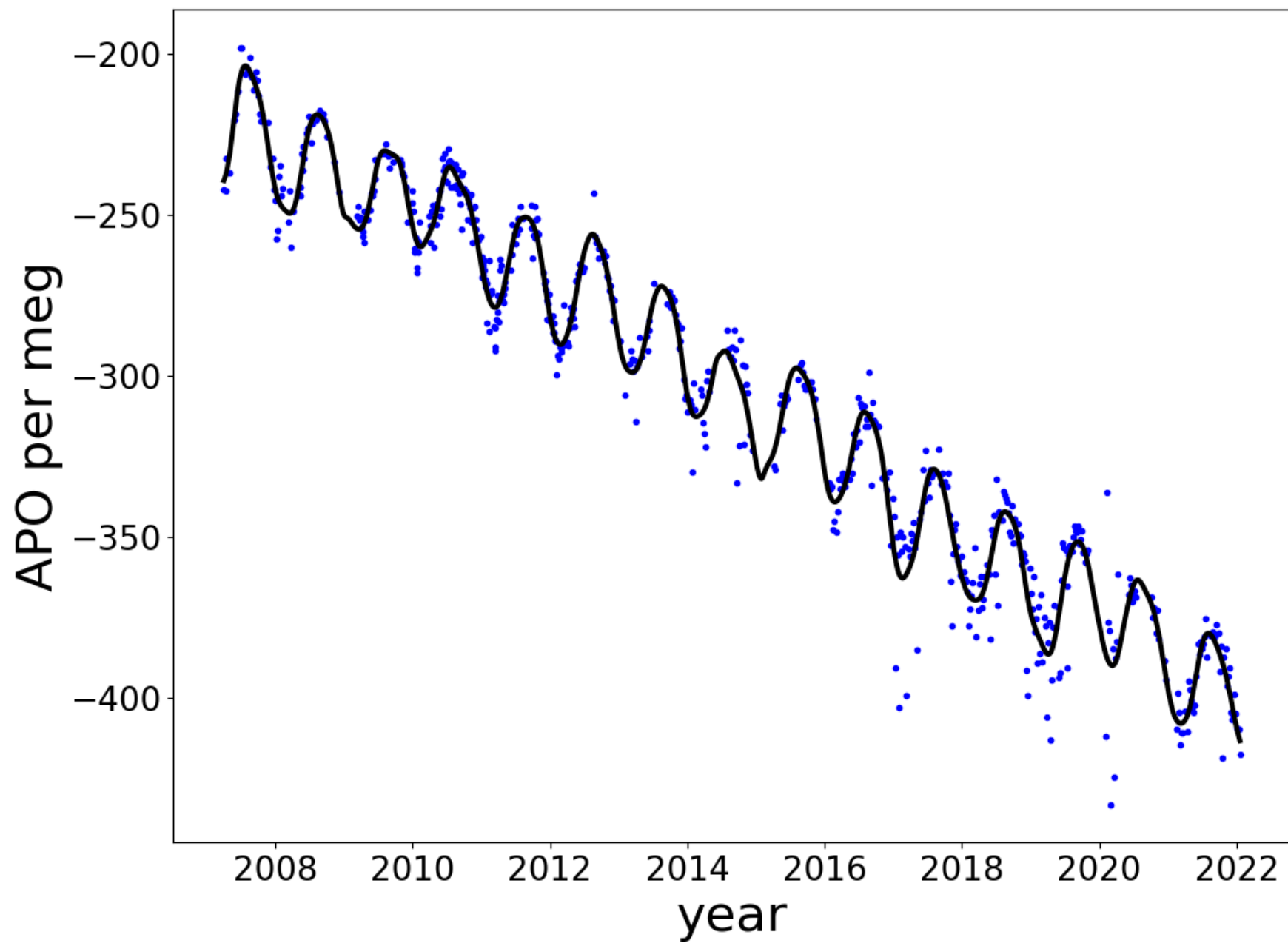


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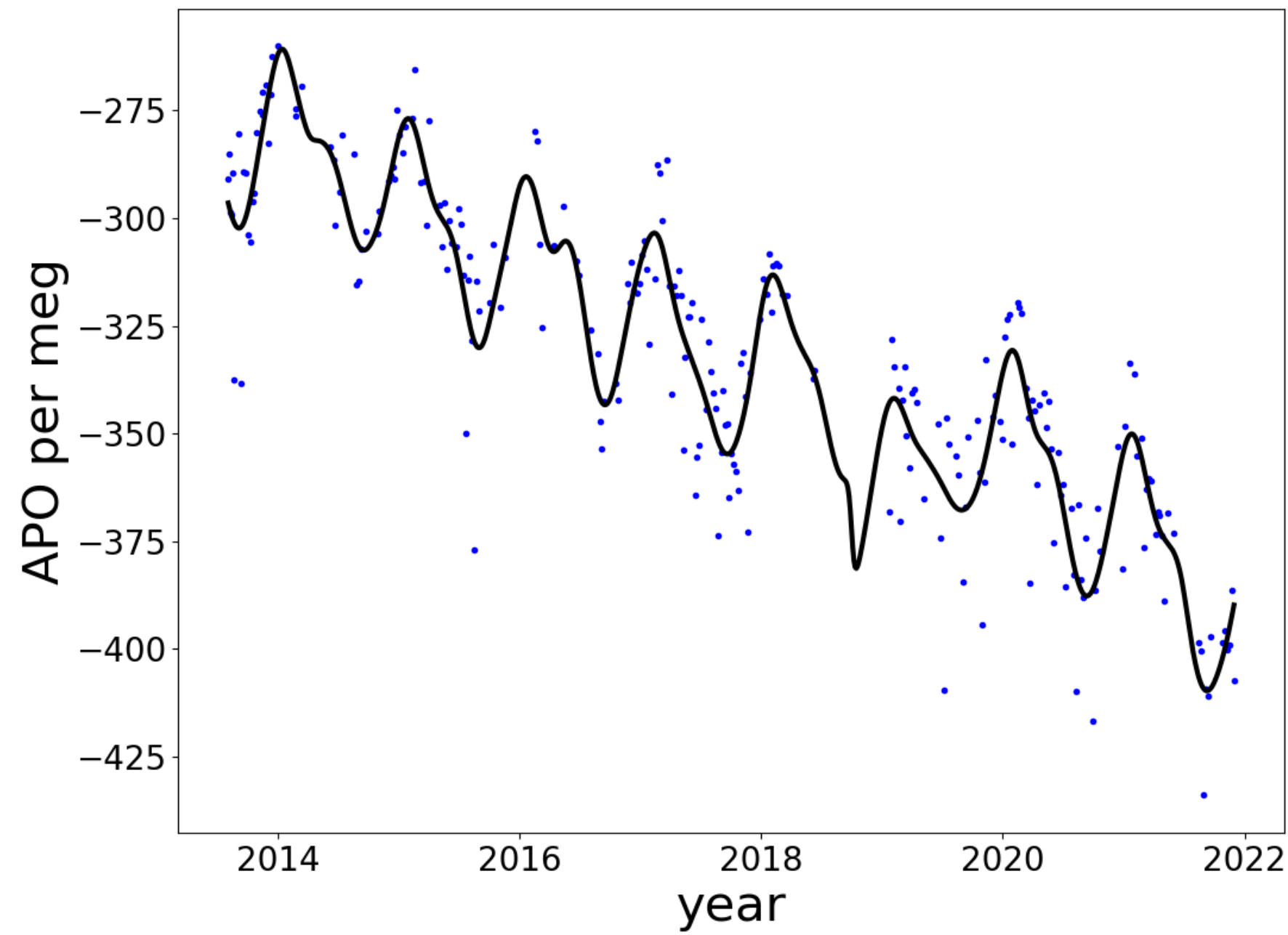


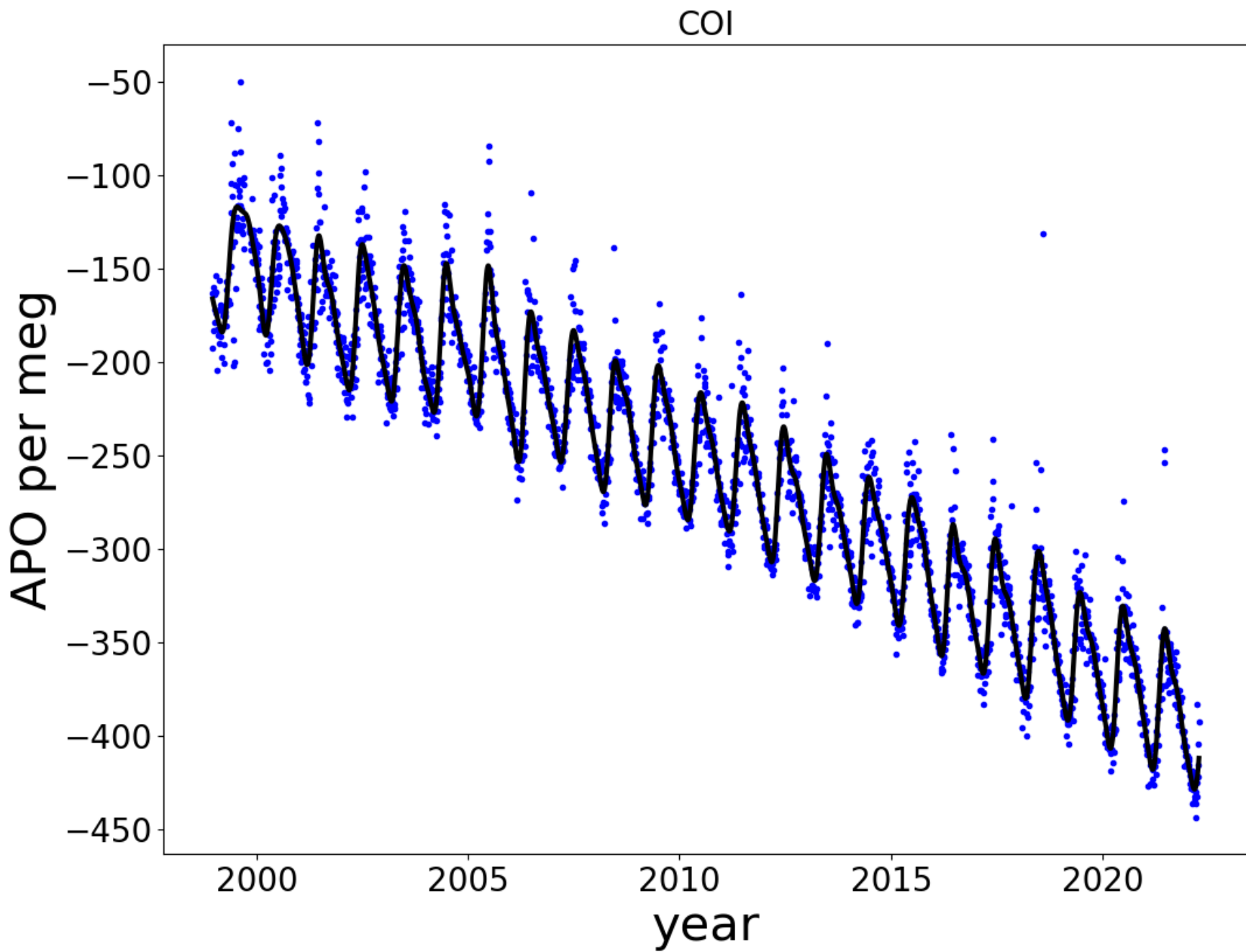


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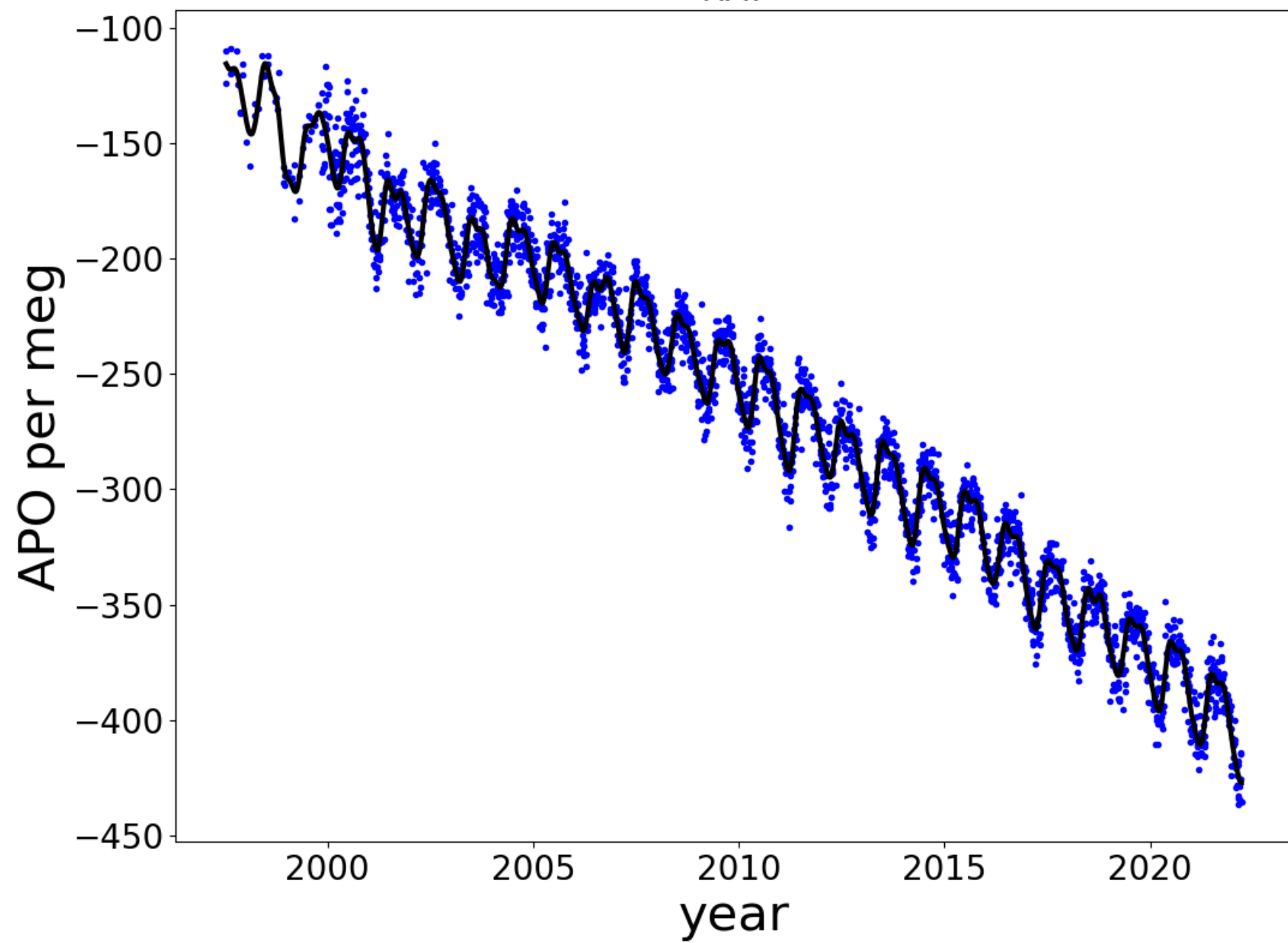
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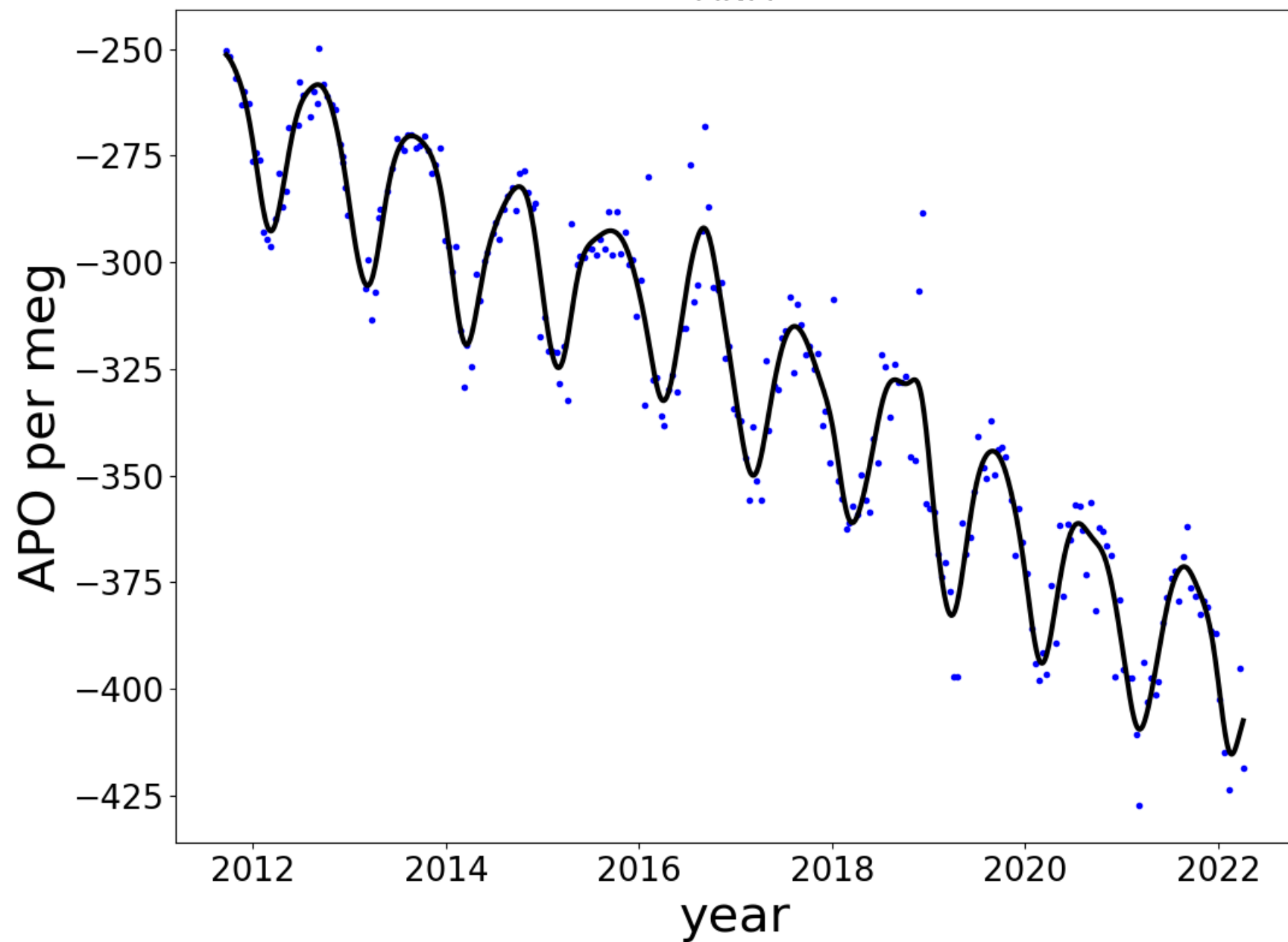




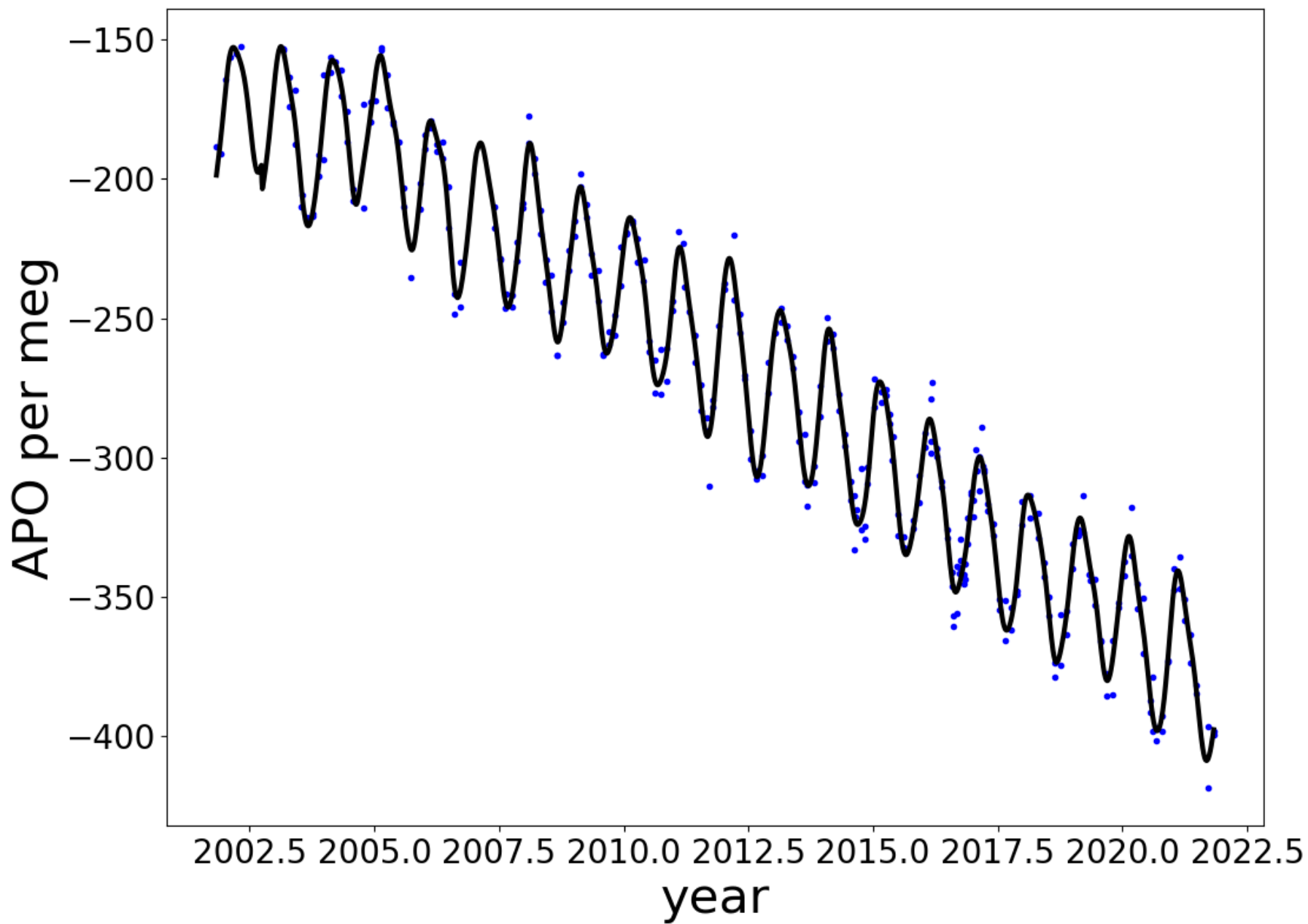
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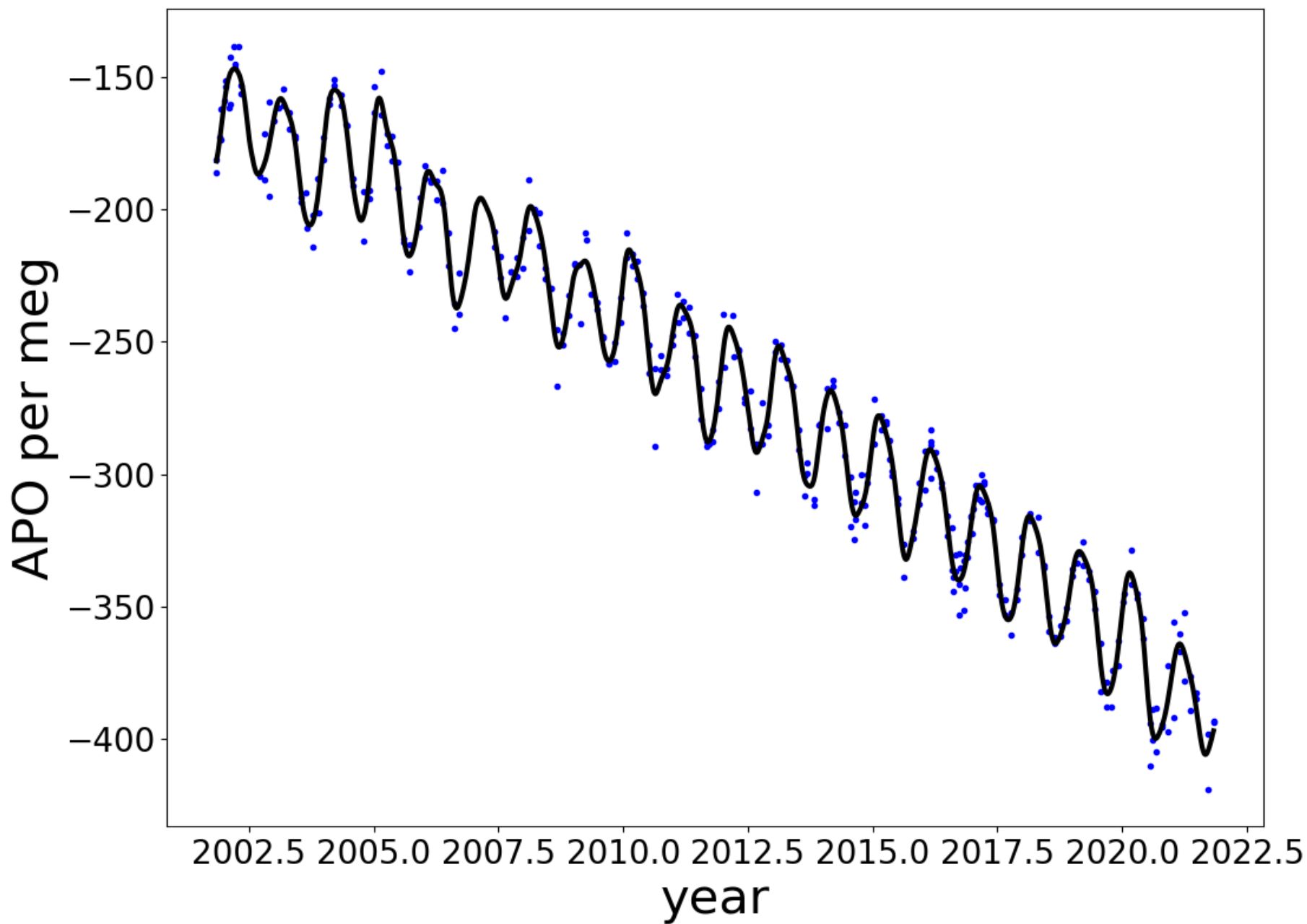
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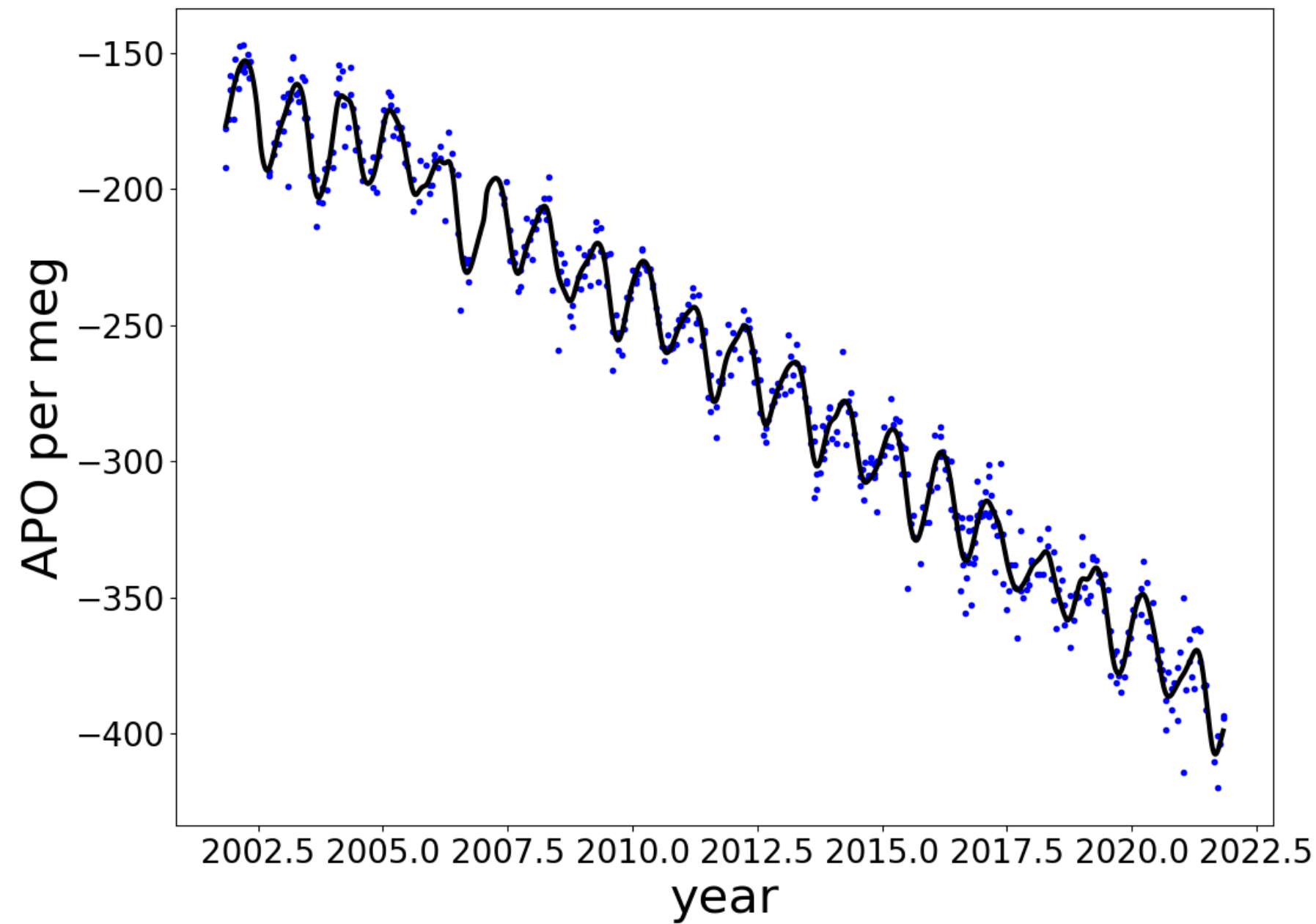
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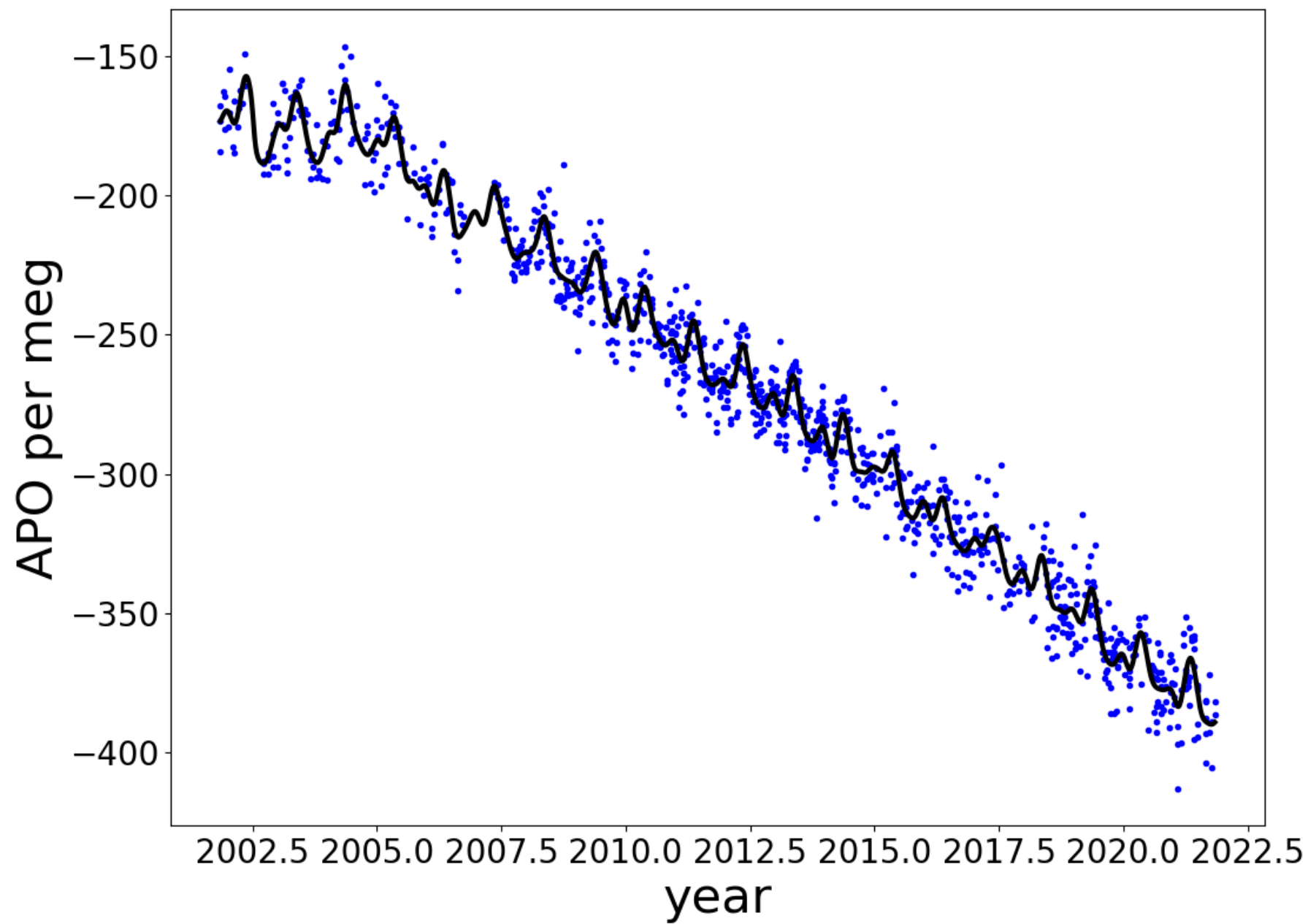
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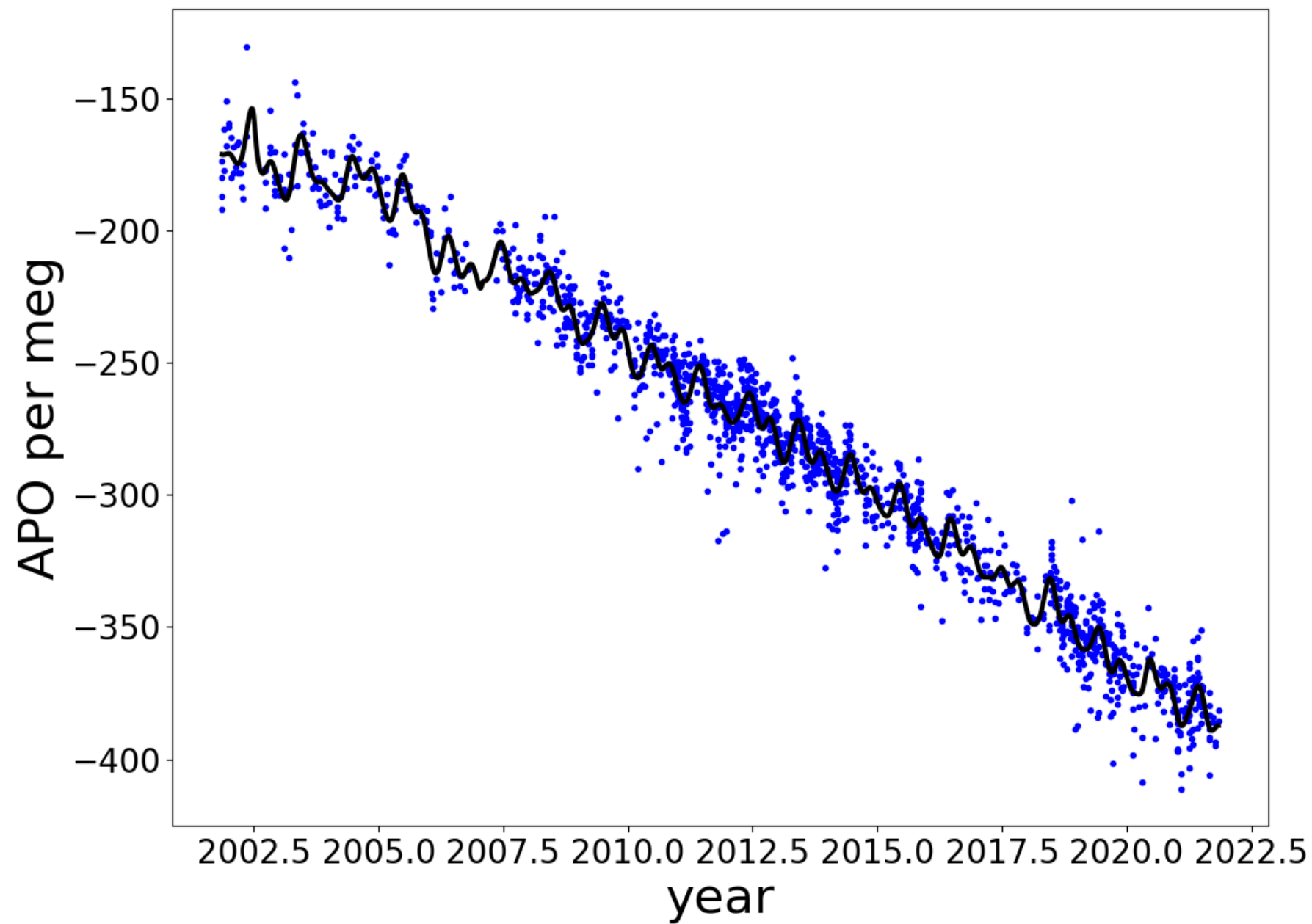
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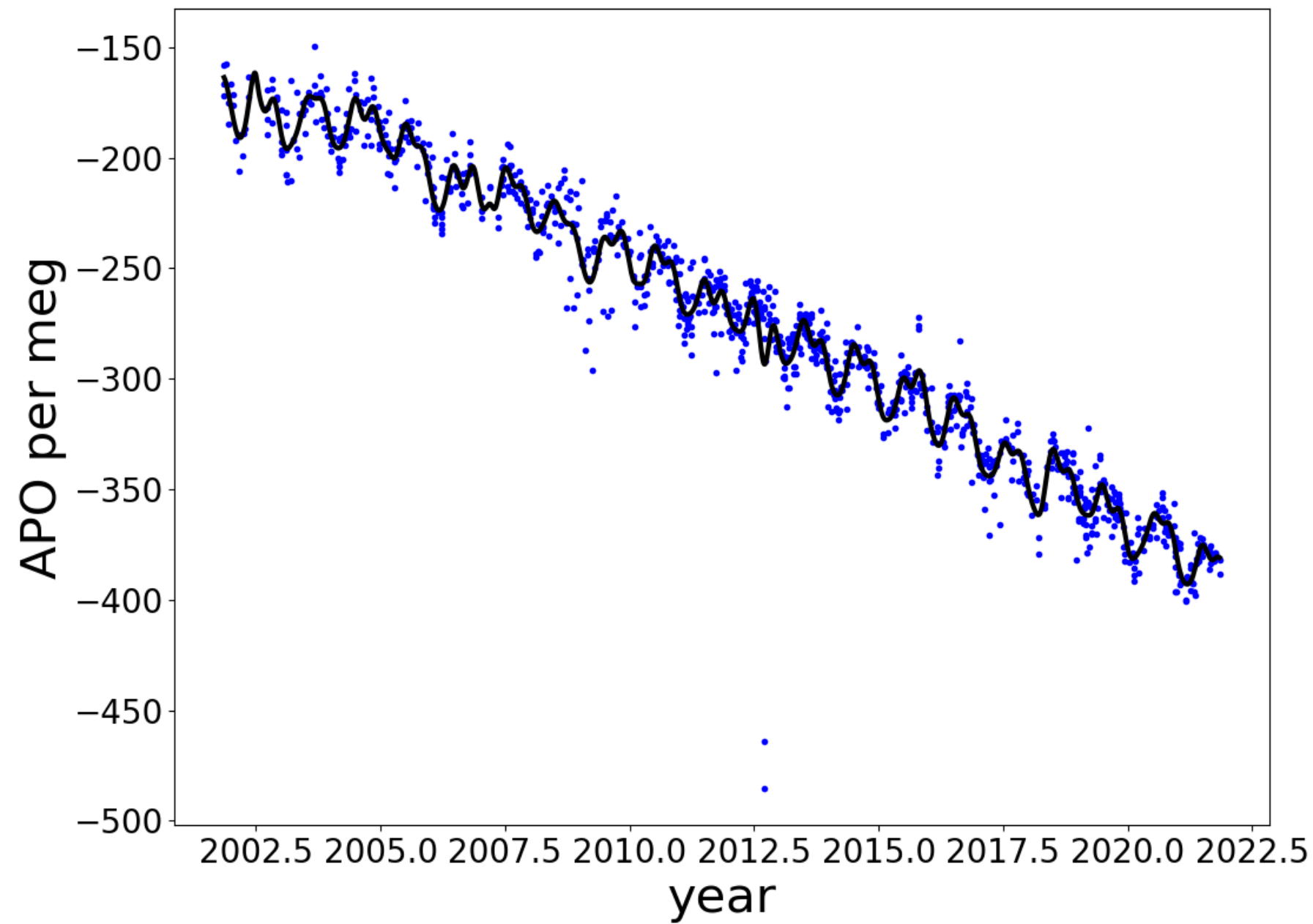
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# SHIP 05



SHIP 15





# SHIP 25

