

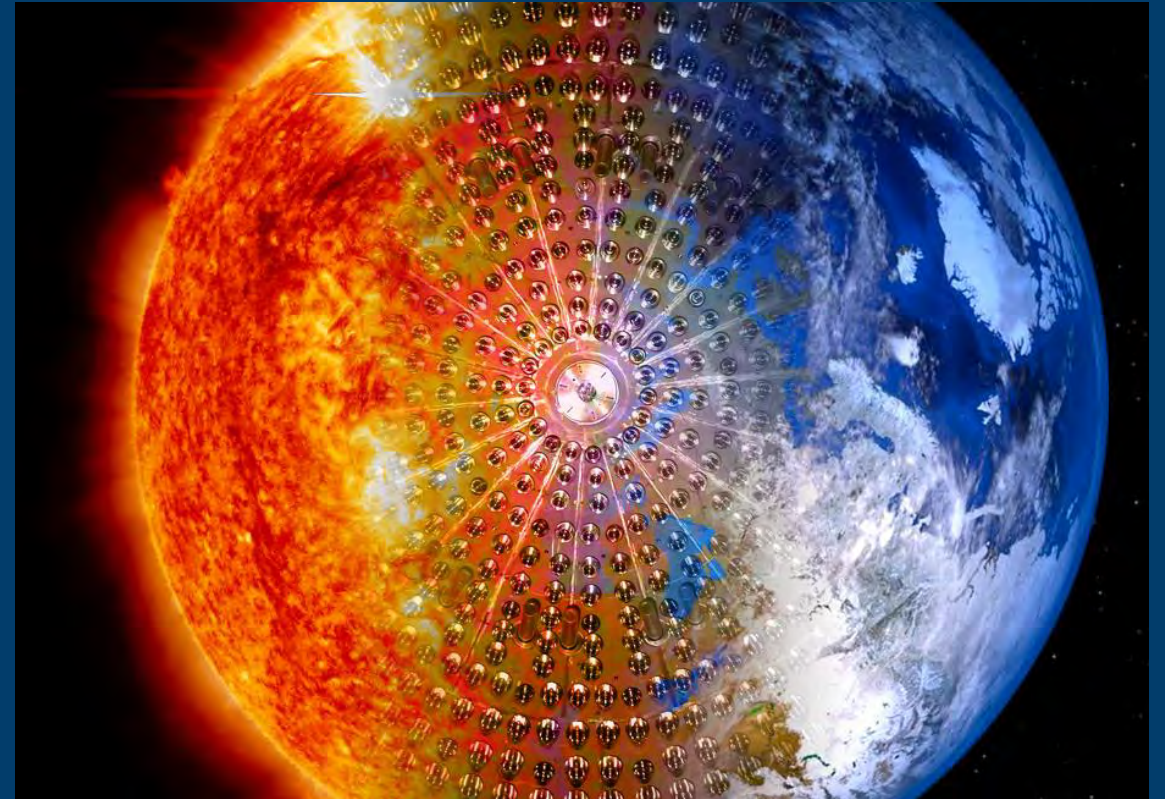
# SOLAR & GEO NEUTRINOS

LIVIA LUDHOVA

GSi DARMSTADT  
& JGU MAINZ UNIVERSITY, GERMANY

JULY 4, 2025, STRASBOURG, FRANCE

SUMMER SCHOOL ON NEUTRINO PHYSICS BEYOND THE STANDARD MODEL



✓ **W2 Professor** at **JGU Mainz** and **head of the neutrino group** at **GSI Darmstadt** since September 2024.

- ✓ **W2 Professor** at **RWTH Aachen** and **head of the neutrino group** at **IKP-2 FZ Jülich, Germany**, November 2015 – September 2024.
- ✓ **Postdoc and researcher** @ **INFN Milano, Italy**, 2005 – 2015.
- ✓ **Ph.D. in Physics** in 2005, Fribourg University, **Fribourg, Switzerland**.
- ✓ **Ph.D.** (1999) & **M.Sc.** (1996) in **Geology** and **M.Sc. in Physics** (2001), Comenius University, **Bratislava, Slovakia**.

✓ **Geology:** evolution of metamorphic rocks in the Tatra Mts., Slovakia

✓ **Exotic atoms:**

- **DAΦNE/DEAR** (Kaonic hydrogen spectroscopy), INFN Frascati, Italy.
- **CREMA** ( $\mu p$ -Lamb shift), PSI, Switzerland.

✓ **Neutrino Physics:**

- ✓ **Borexino** @ LNGS, Italy – data taking 2007 – 2021.
  - solar neutrinos and geoneutrinos.
- ✓ **JUNO** in Jiangmen, China - **topic of today!**

## ABOUT ME



Passion for Physics: at the JUNO site.



Passion for Geology:  
Mutnovka Volcano, Kamchatka, Russia.



# ABOUT MY NEUTRINO GROUP

<http://neutrino.gsi.de/>

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14 nationalities passed through the group!



- Focused on experimental neutrino physics with liquid scintillator detectors.
- Dynamic and international group established in November 2015.
- Funded from Helmholtz recruitment initiative and DFG JUNO Research Unit.
- Typically about 10 persons: 2-3 postdocs, 7-8 PhDs, 1-2 Master/Bachelors.

# OUTLINE

1. Introduction to neutrinos
2. Detection of MeV neutrinos
3. Solar neutrinos
4. Geoneutrinos



- Historical perspective
- Motivation of the measurements
- Overview of the results
- Outlook

Ask questions

There are no stupid questions  
(and if, it happened to all of us 😊)

# NEUTRINOS ARE SPECIAL

Small interaction cross sections → low rates in the detector!

**Imagine.....**

**$7 \times 10^{10}$  solar neutrinos /  $\text{cm}^2$  / s**

**and about 200 interactions  
/ day / 100 tons of liquid scintillator**



# IMPORTANCE OF RADIOPURITY

- In **100 ton** of scintillator: **~200 events/day** from solar  $\nu$  expected  
(200 / 86400 / 100 000 kg  $\sim$   **$2 \cdot 10^{-8}$  Bq/kg**)
- The scattering of a neutrino on an electron is **intrinsically not distinguishable** from a  **$\beta$  radioactivity** event or from Compton scattering from  **$\gamma$  radioactivity**
- **Typical natural radioactivity:**
  - ✓ Good mineral water:  $\sim 10$  Bq/kg  $^{40}\text{K}, ^{238}\text{U}, ^{232}\text{Th}$
  - ✓ Air:  $\sim 10$  Bq/m<sup>3</sup>  $^{222}\text{Rn}, ^{39}\text{Ar}, ^{85}\text{Kr}$
  - ✓ Typical rock  $\sim 100\text{-}1000$  Bq/kg  $^{40}\text{K}, ^{238}\text{U}, ^{232}\text{Th}, + \text{many others}$

If you want to detect solar neutrinos with liquid scintillator, you must be  
**9-10 orders of magnitude more radio-pure than anything on Earth!**

# NEUTRINOS ARE SPECIAL

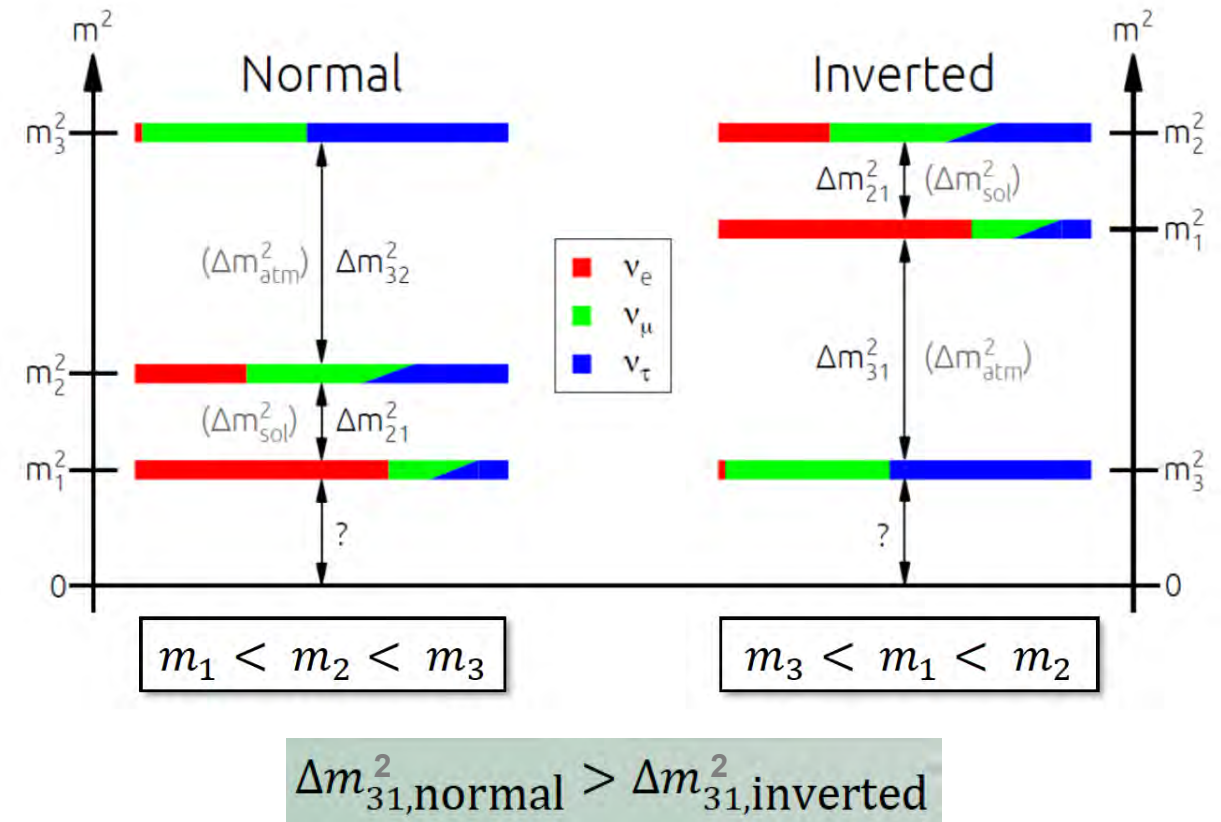
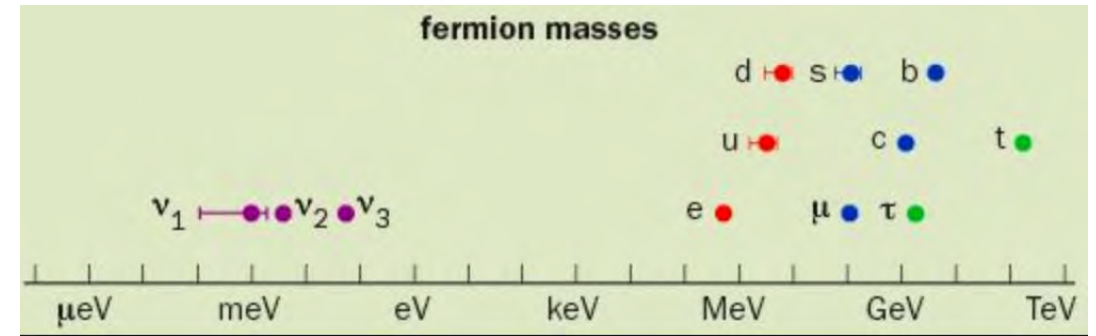
## Only weak interactions

- ✓ **Difficult to detect**
  - Large detectors
  - Underground laboratories
  - Extreme radio-purity
- ✓ **Bring unperturbed information about the source (Sun, Earth, SN)**

## Open questions in neutrino physics

- ✓ **Mass Hierarchy**  
(Normal vs Inverted)
  - CP-violating phase
  - Octant of  $\theta_{23}$  mixing angle
  - Absolute mass-scale
  - Origin of neutrino mass (Dirac vs Majorana)
- ✓ Existence of sterile neutrino

linked



$\Delta m_{31}^2 =$  has opposite signs in the two hierarchies!



# NEUTRINO MIXING AND OSCILLATIONS

$\alpha = e, \mu, \tau$   
Flavour eigenstates  
INTERACTIONS

$$|\nu_\alpha\rangle = \sum_{i=1}^3 U_{\alpha i} |\nu_i\rangle$$

$i = 1, 2, 3$   
Mass eigenstates  
PROPAGATION

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & c_{23} & s_{23} \\ 0 & -s_{23} & c_{23} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_{13} & 0 & s_{13}e^{-i\delta} \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -s_{13}e^{i\delta} & 0 & c_{13} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_{12} & s_{12} & 0 \\ -s_{12} & c_{12} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} e^{i\alpha_1/2} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & e^{i\alpha_2/2} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Atmospheric

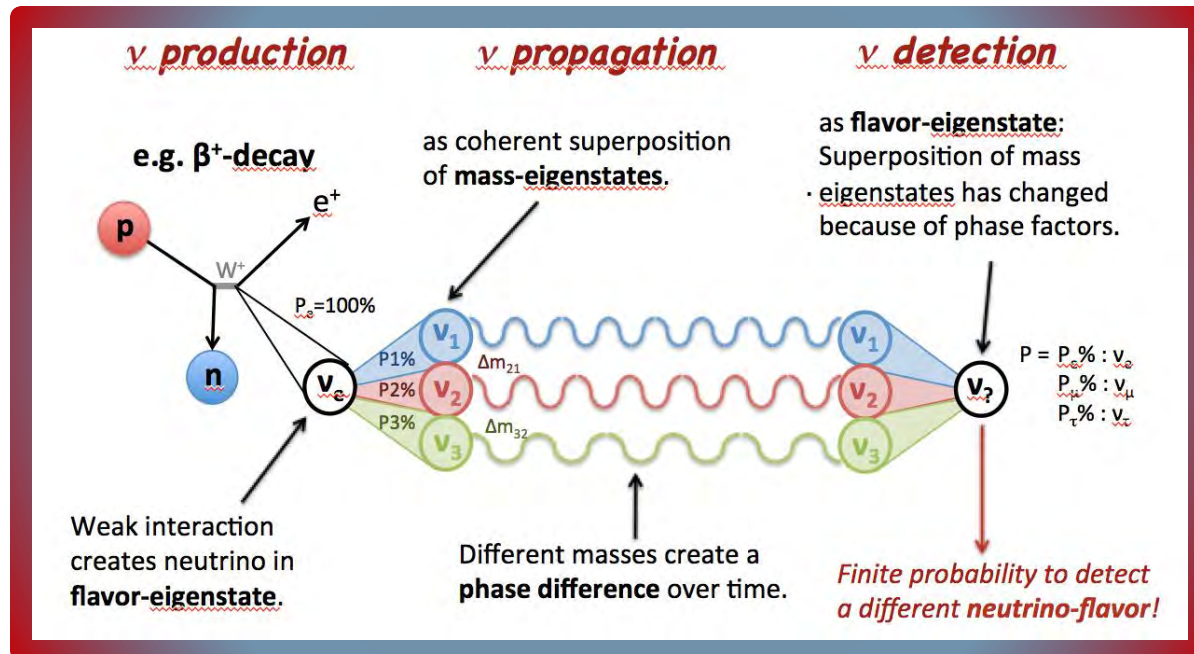
Reactor

Solar

Majorana

- **3 mixing angles  $\theta_{ij}$ :**
  - $\theta_{23}$  H45° (which quadrant?)
  - $\theta_{13}$  H9° (non-0 value confirmed in 2012)
  - $\theta_{12}$  H33°
- **Majorana phases  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2$  and CP-violating phase  $\delta$  unknown**

Courtesy M. Wurm

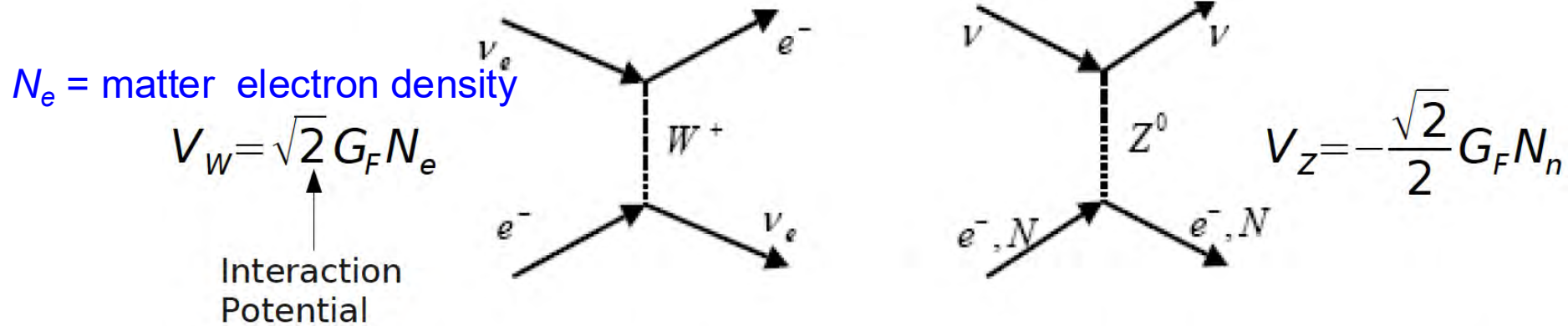


- **Neutrino oscillations**
  - Non-0 rest mass (Nobel prize 2015)
  - Survival probability of a certain flavour =  $f(\text{baseline } L, E_\nu)$
  - Different combination  $(L, E_\nu) \Rightarrow$  sensitivity to different  $(\theta_{ij}, \Delta m_{ij}^2)$
  - Oscillations in matter  $\rightarrow$  effective  $(\theta_{ij}, \Delta m_{ij}^2)$  parameters =  $f(e^- \text{ density } N_e, E_\nu)$



# $\nu$ -oscillations in matter: MSW effect

Electrons exist in standard matter –  $\mu$ ,  $\tau$  do not. Electron neutrinos travelling in matter can experience an extra charged current interaction that other flavours cannot.



Oscillation probabilities are now function of  $(\Delta m^2_M, \sin^2 2\theta_M)$

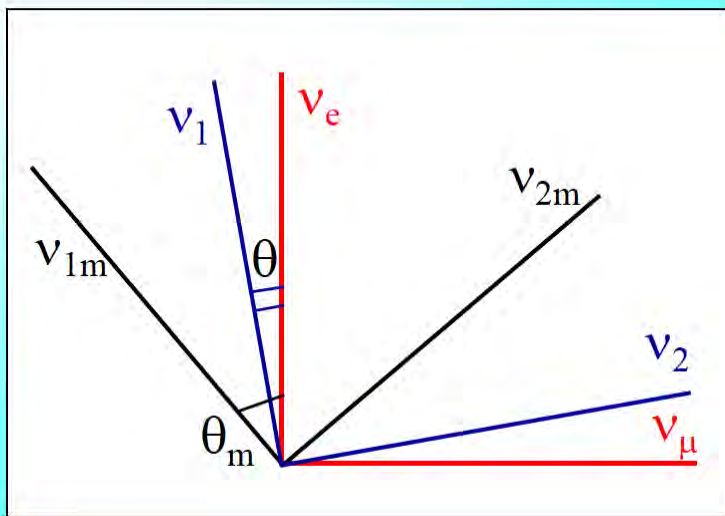
Effective oscillation parameters  $(\Delta m^2_M, \theta_M)$  instead of the vacuum ones  $(\Delta m^2_V, \theta_V)$

$$\Delta m^2_M = \Delta m^2_V \sqrt{\sin^2(2\theta_V) + (\cos 2\theta_V \zeta)^2}$$

$$\sin^2 2\theta_M = \frac{\sin^2 2\theta_V}{\sin^2 2\theta_V + (\cos 2\theta_V \zeta)^2}$$

$$\zeta = \frac{2\sqrt{2} G_F N_e E}{\Delta m^2_V}$$

# $\nu$ -oscillations in matter: MSW effect



Mixing angle determines flavors (flavor content) of eigenstates of propagation

$\theta_m$  depends on  $n_e, E$

$$\Delta m_M^2 = \Delta m_V^2 \sqrt{\sin^2(2\theta) + (\cos 2\theta_V - \zeta)^2}$$

$$\sin^2 2\theta_M = \frac{\sin^2 2\theta_V}{\sin^2 2\theta_V + (\cos 2\theta_V - \zeta)^2}$$

$$\zeta = \frac{2\sqrt{2}G_F N_e E}{\Delta m_V^2}$$

$N_e$  = matter electron density

$E$  = neutrino energy

Flavour content of mass eigenstates changes.

# Resonance character of the MSW effect

$$\sin^2 2\theta_M = \frac{\sin^2 2\theta_V}{\sin^2 2\theta_V + (\cos 2\theta_V - \zeta)^2} \quad \zeta = \frac{2\sqrt{2}G_F N_e E}{\Delta m_{vac}^2}$$

- ✓ The effect can be enhanced by a **resonance Mikheyev–Smirnov–Wolfenstein effect**

For solar neutrinos

$$\Delta m^2 = m_2^2 - m_1^2$$

Matter effects  
on solar  
neutrinos,  
we know  
 $m_2 > m_1$ .

- ✓ There is a combination of electron density  $N_e$  and neutrino energies  $E$ , for which the effective mixing angle = 1 (even if the vacuum mixing is small)

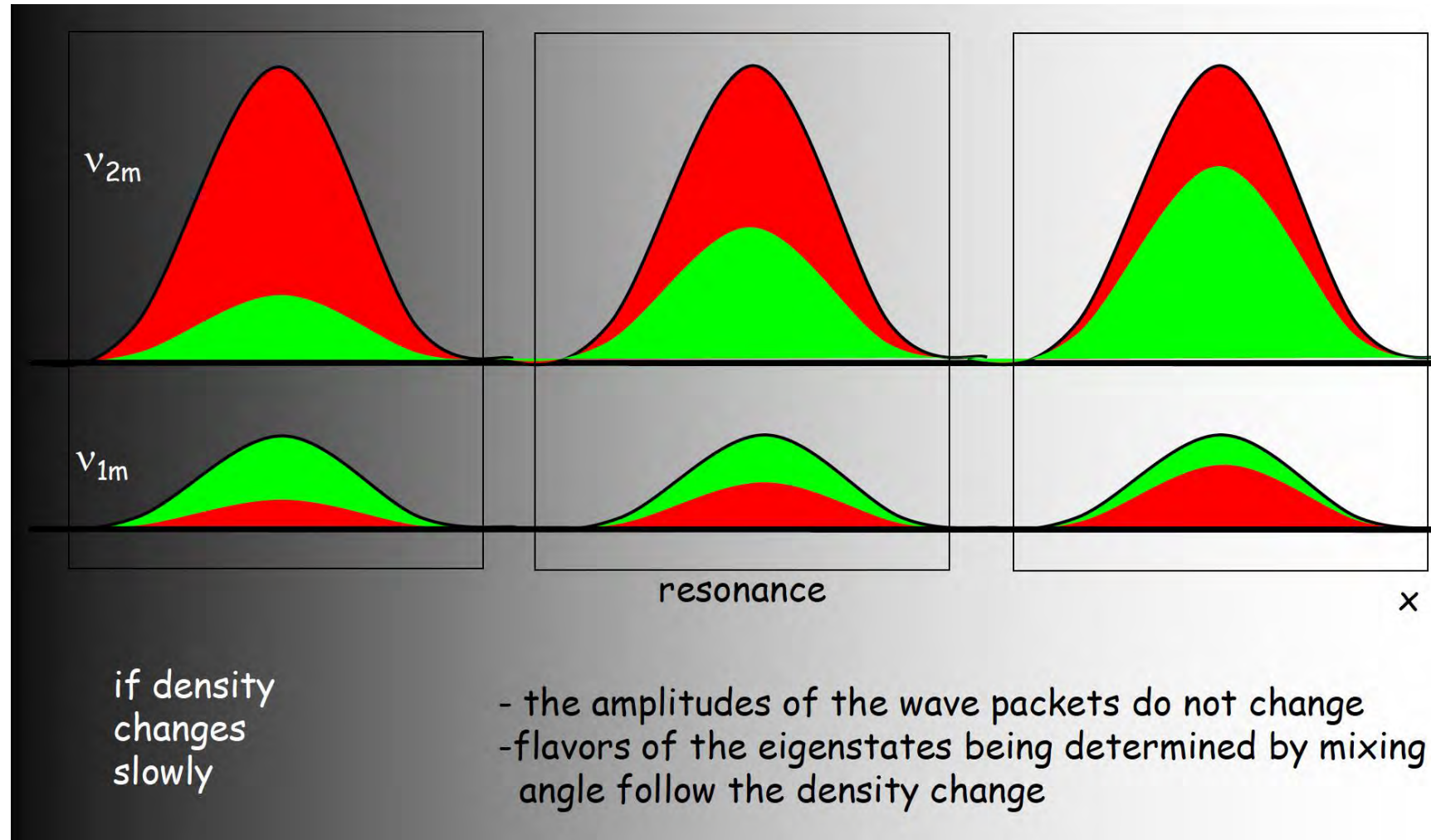
$$\zeta = \frac{2\sqrt{2}G_F N_e E}{\Delta m^2} = \cos 2\theta_V \Rightarrow \sin^2 2\theta_M = 1$$

Maximal mixing

- ✓ This yields the energy dependence of the “survival probability”:  $P_{ee}(E)$

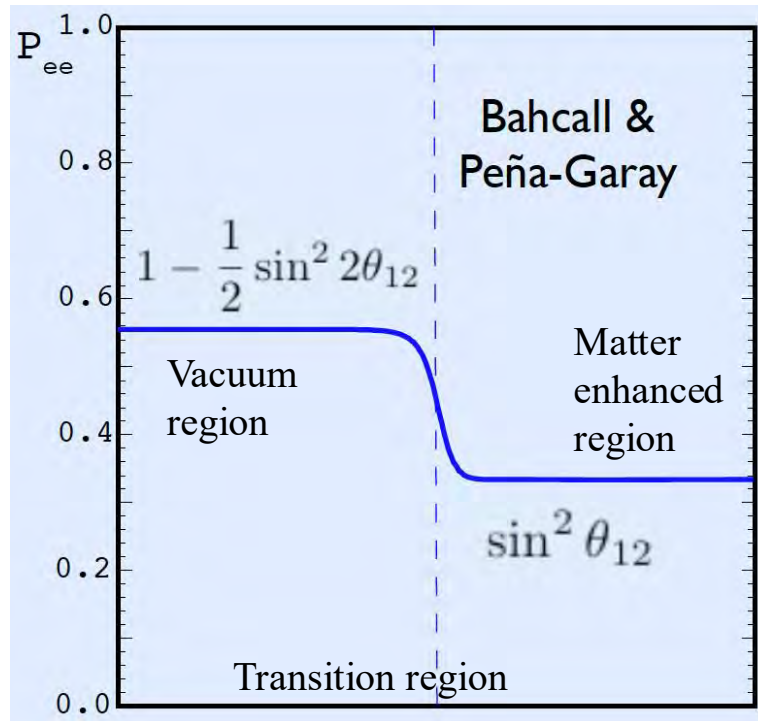
# Adiabatic conversion in the Sun

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# MSW for solar neutrinos



Energy

Before reaching the Earth:

- **pp neutrinos:** ~15 million oscillation lengths
- **$^8\text{B}$  neutrinos:** ~900,000 oscillation lengths

Vacuum oscillation (57%):

$$P_{ee} = 1 - \sin^2 2\theta_{12} \sin^2 \left( \frac{\Delta m_{12}^2 L}{4E_\nu} \right)$$

$\sin^2$  averages to  $\frac{1}{2}$ .

Matter enhanced oscillation (33%):

$$|\langle \nu_e | \nu_2 \rangle|^2 = \sin^2 \theta_{12}$$

# Neutrino detection is special

Cosmogenic background -> underground laboratories

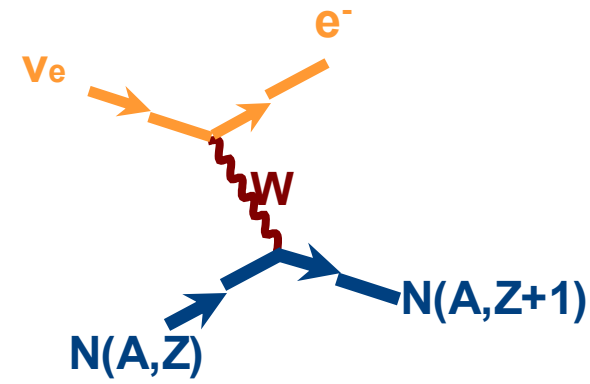


## 1) Charged current (CC) interaction

Inverse  $\beta$  decay on a proton or a nucleus

$\nu_e$  **ONLY** at MeV energies

- Muon and Tau lepton too heavy

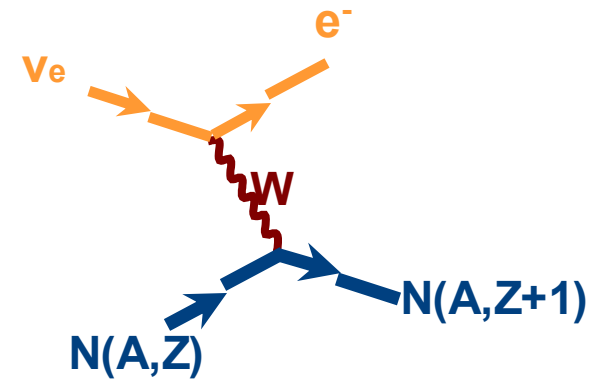


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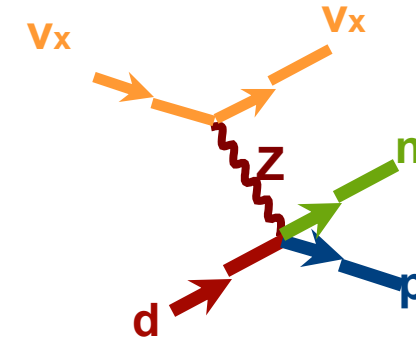
- Muon and Tau lepton too heavy



## 2) Neutral current (NC) interaction

Elastic scattering on a nucleus

- either with the emission of a recoil neutron
- All neutrino flavors have the **SAME** cross section



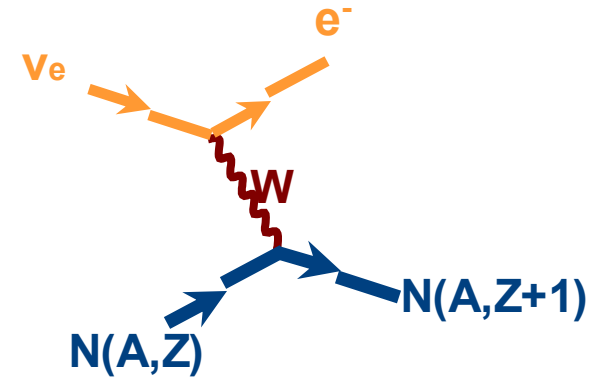


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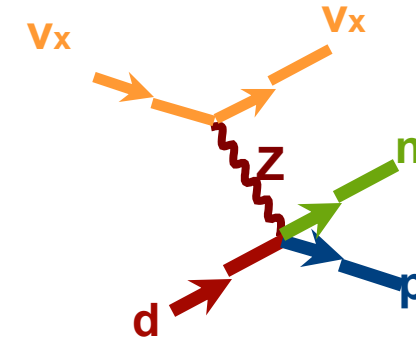
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## 2) Neutral current (NC)

Elastic scattering on a nucleus

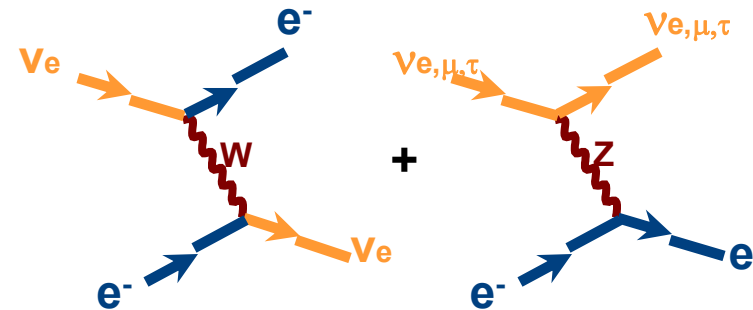
- either with the emission of a recoil neutron
- All neutrino flavors have the **SAME** cross section



## 3) Elastic scattering off an electron

(charged current (CC) + neutral current (NC) )

- Cross section for  $\nu_e$  and  $\nu_{\mu,\tau}$  is different
- for  $\nu_{\mu,\tau}$  NC only;



The secondary particles are typically detected in :

- 1) Water – Cherenkov radiation (solars)
- 2) Liquid scintillator – scintillation light (solars and geoneutrinos)

# Cherenkov cone

The geometry of the emitted photon with speed of  $c/n$ , being slower than the charged particle with speed of  $v = \beta c$ , results in a cone-shaped shock wave front

## Momentum threshold :

( $m\beta c > mc/n$  in the figure)

$$\beta > 1/n$$

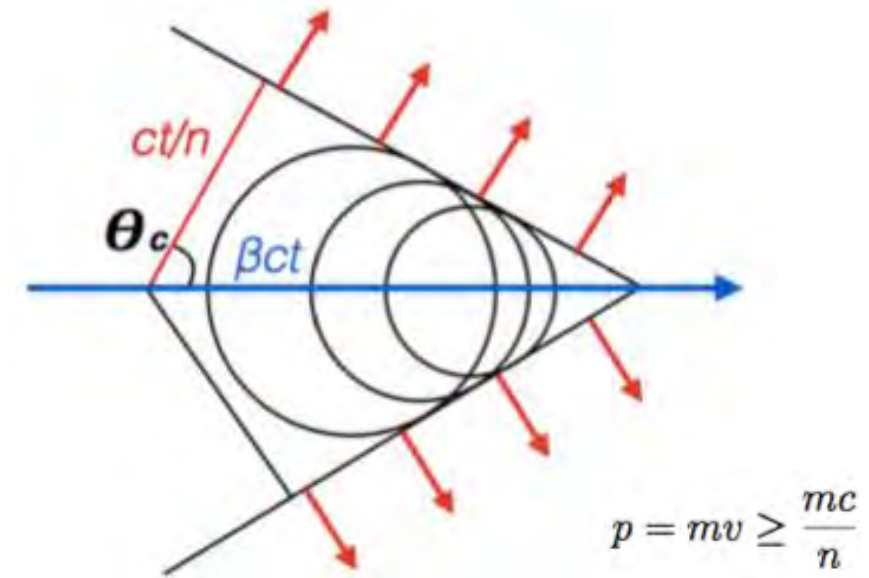
(with the  $n \sim 1.34$  in the water, the momentum thresholds (MeV/c) are:

$e$  : 0.57

$\mu$  : 118

$\pi^{+-}$  : 156

$p$  : 1051



## Energy threshold :

$$\frac{E_s}{m_0 c^2} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \beta_s^2}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - 1/n^2}}$$

$m_0$  : particle mass

## Cherenkov angle:

$$\cos \theta_C = \frac{c/n}{\beta c} = \frac{c}{nv}$$

- 1) maximum angle for a particle with the speed  $v=c \sim 42^\circ$  in the water
- 2) slower particle -> smaller Cherenkov angle

# Cherenkov radiation in neutrino detection

## **Solar neutrinos**

Kamiokande (past) /Superkamiokande (present) /Hyperkamiokande (future)

SNO (past) – Nobel Prize for solar detection!

## **Atmospheric and accelerator neutrinos:**

Kamiokande/Superkamiokande /Hyperkamiokande

## **String detectors for atmospheric and Ultra High-Energy neutrinos**

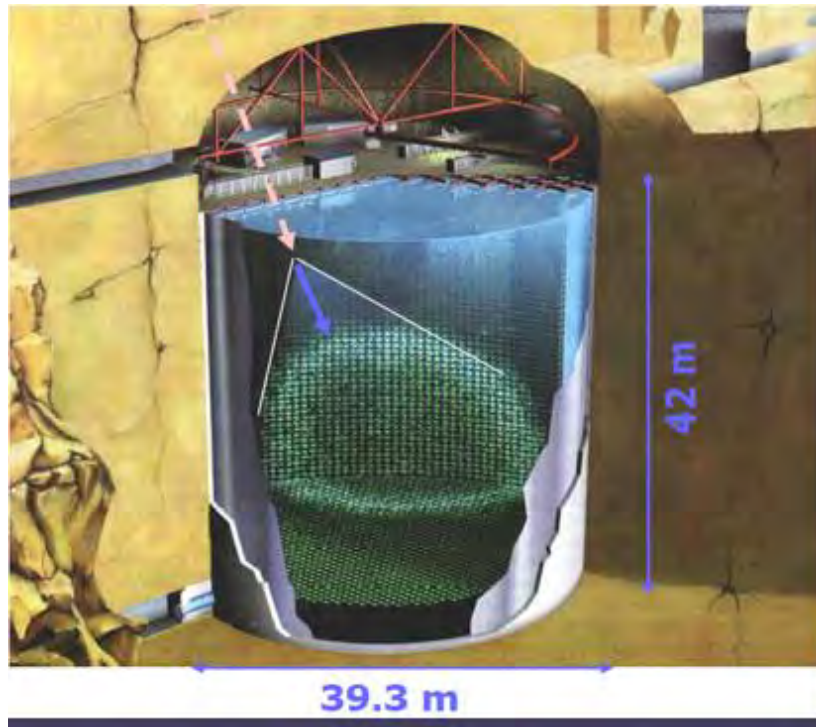
Ice-Cube

KM3NET – ORCA & ARCA

Baikal



Super-Kamiokande  
Kamioka, Japan  
50 kton water



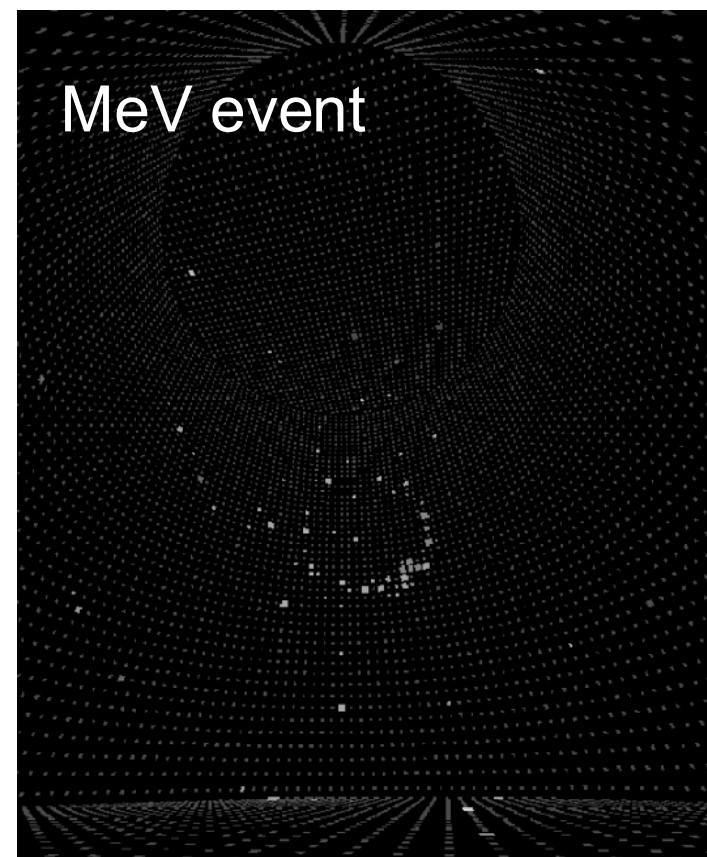
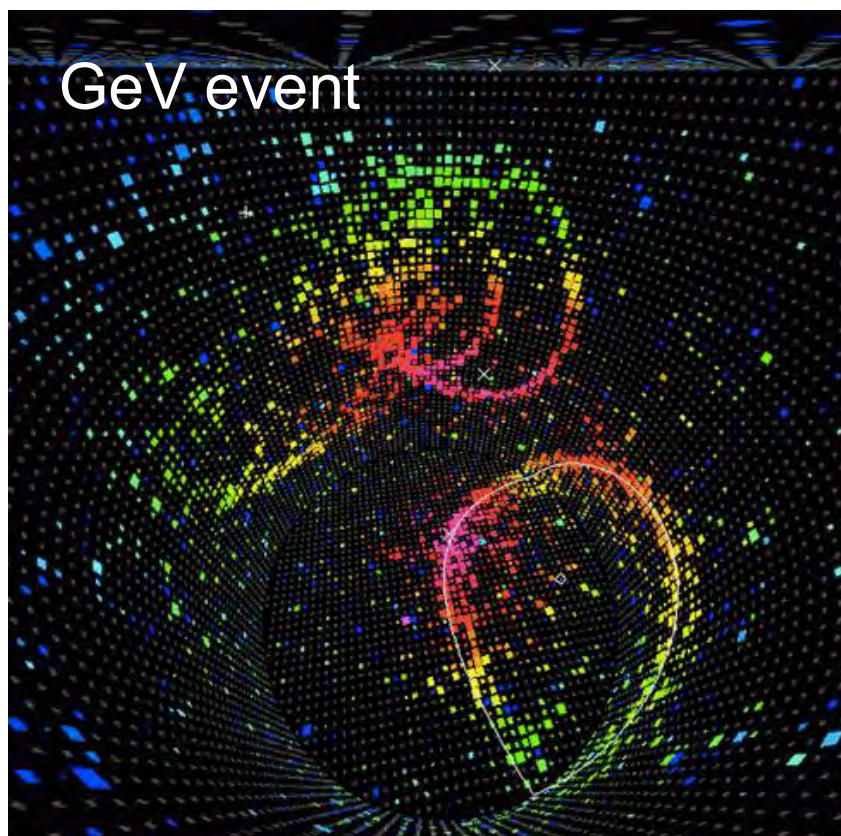
SNO  
Sudbury, Canada  
1 kton water



# Cherenkov cone in SuperK

By reconstruction of timing & spacial pattern of Cherenkov ring, one can learn

→ vertex position, direction,



# **Liquid-scintillator based detection**

# Scintillation based neutrino detection

**Detection of ionizing radiation through the scintillation light induced in special organic liquid materials = scintillators**

## **Important characteristics:**

- High scintillation efficiency and high light yield.
- Good energy and position resolution.
- Low energy threshold.
- No directionality.
- Real time measurement (energy of single events).
- Quenching: non-linearities between energy deposit and produced light.
- Pulse shape discrimination (alpha/beta, positron/electron).
- High transparency.
- Fast pulses (short decay time of the scintillation light production).
- Refractive index similar to the glass (phototube matching).



# Liquid scintillators in neutrino detection

## Solar neutrinos

Borexino (ended in 2021), SNO+ (first data), JUNO – (about to start)

## Geoneutrinos

Borexino, KamLAND (present), SNO+, JUNO

## Reactor antineutrinos

KamLAND

Daya Bay, RENO, Double Chooz (just ended)

JUNO

## $0\text{-}\beta\beta$ decay

KamLAND – Zen (present)

SNO+ (present)

## Sterile neutrino search with reactor antineutrinos

NEOS, Stereo, Neutrino-4, Prospect (present)

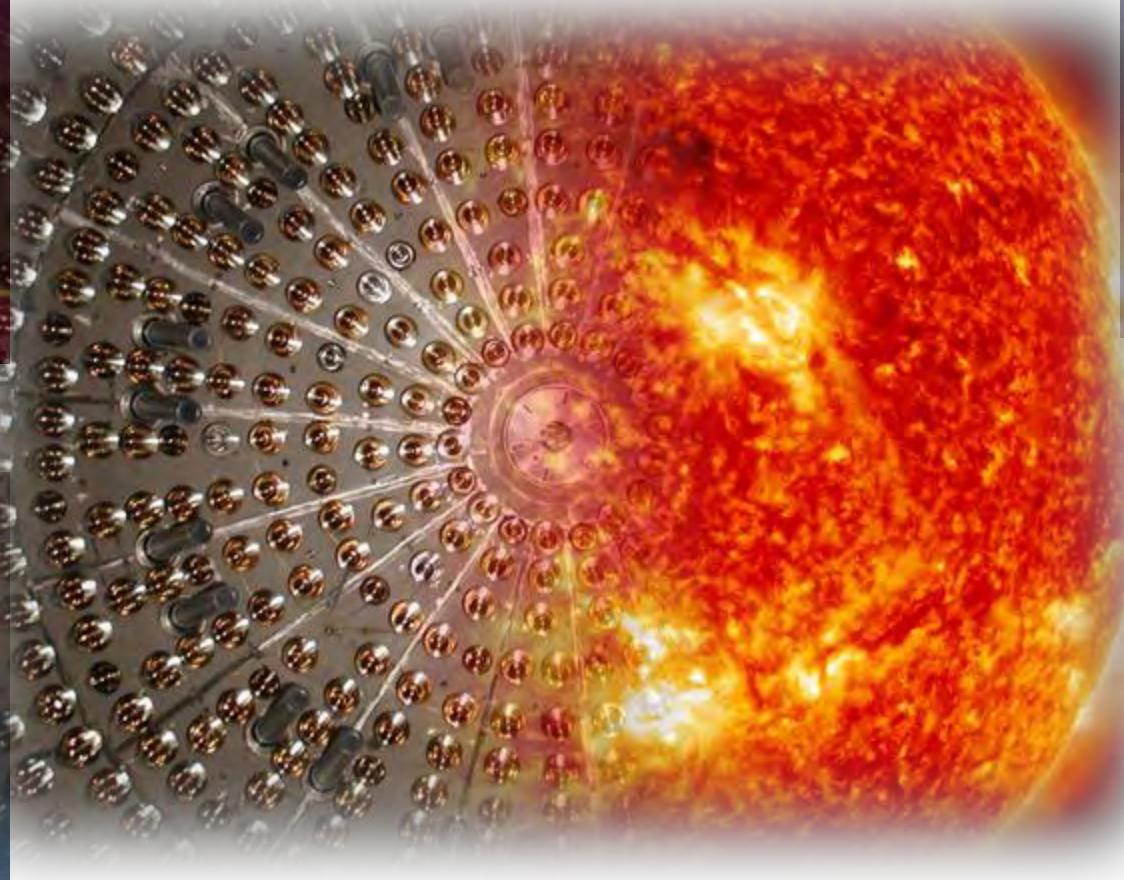
## Supernovae neutrinos

LVD (past)

## Accelerator neutrinos

LSND (past)

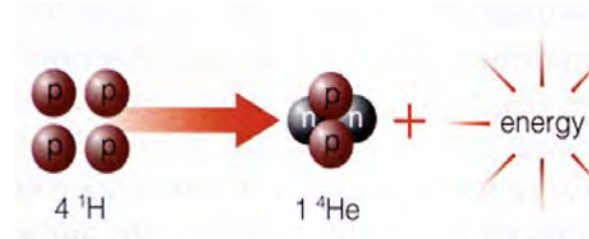
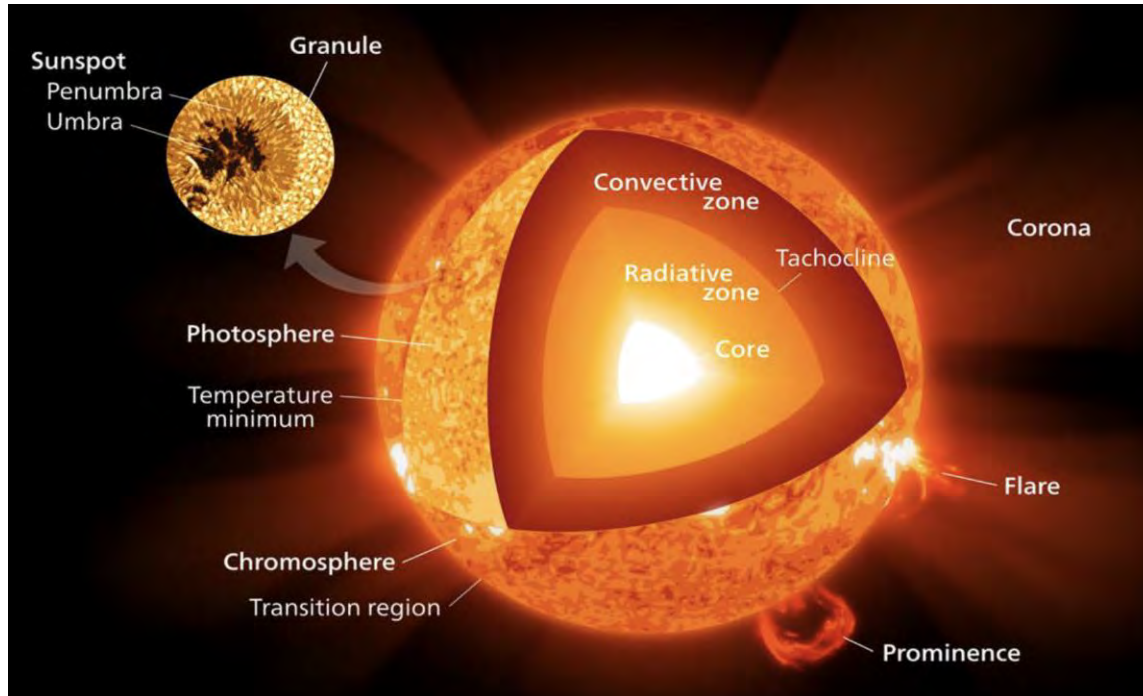
# Solar neutrinos



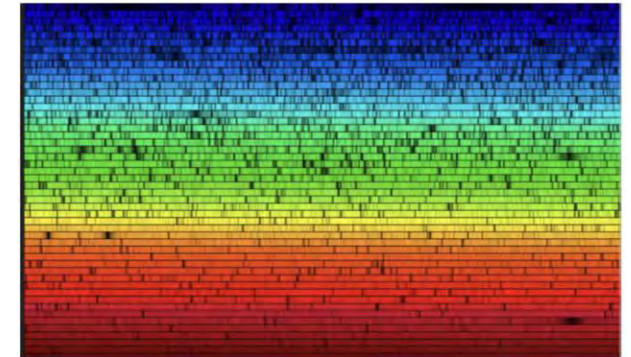
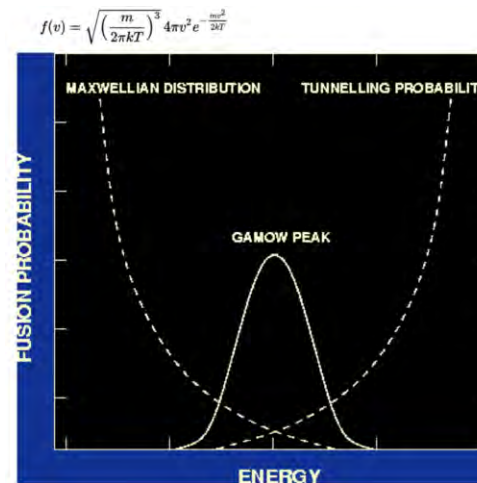
**Millennia of fascination continued.**



# THE SUN



$$(26.7\ \text{MeV}) + 2\ \nu$$



- Luminosity ( $3.8418 \cdot 10^{33}$  erg/s ( $\pm 0.35\%$ ) ( $1\ \text{erg} = 10^{-7}\ \text{J}$ )
- Age ( $\sim 4.6 \cdot 10^9$  years - old meteorites)
- Mass  $M = 1.989 \cdot 10^{30}\ \text{kg}$  ( $\pm 0.02\%$ )
- Radius  $R = 6.9598 \cdot 10^8\ \text{m}$  ( $\pm 0.01\%$ )

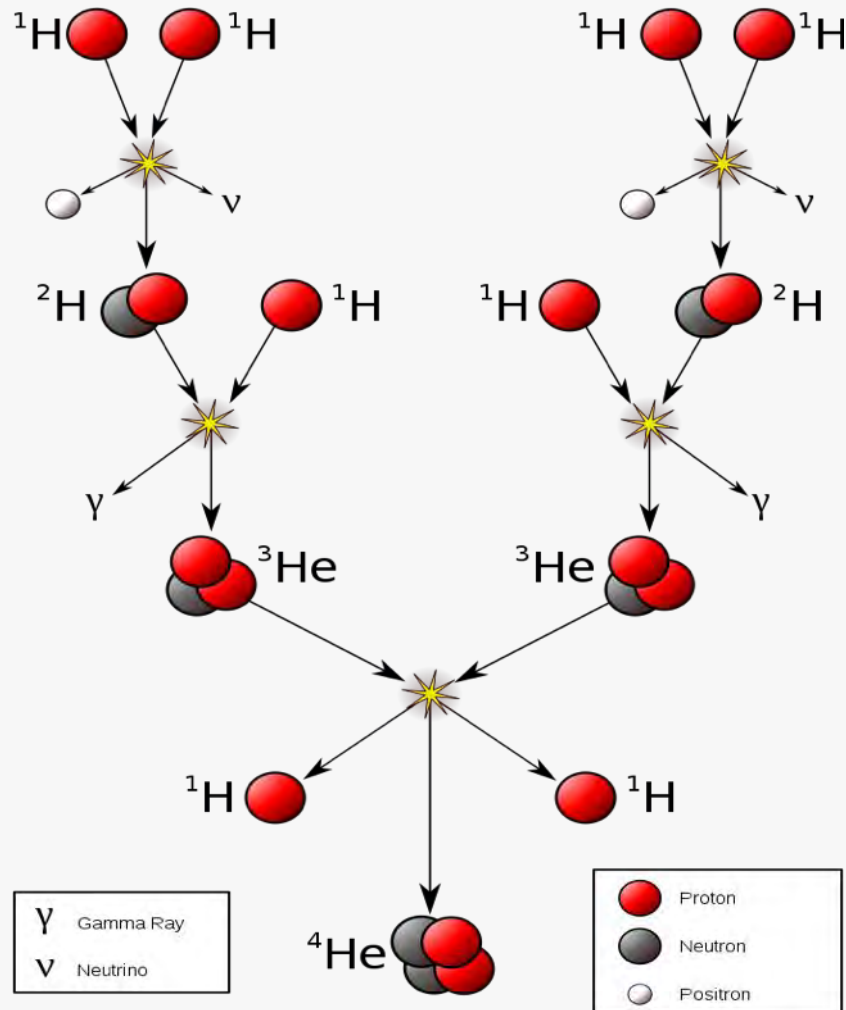
- Nucleosynthesis occurs only in the core.
- Neutrinos reach the Earth in  $\sim 8$  minutes.
- Photons take order of 100,000 years to reach the photosphere.

# HYDROGEN-TO-HELIUM FUSION

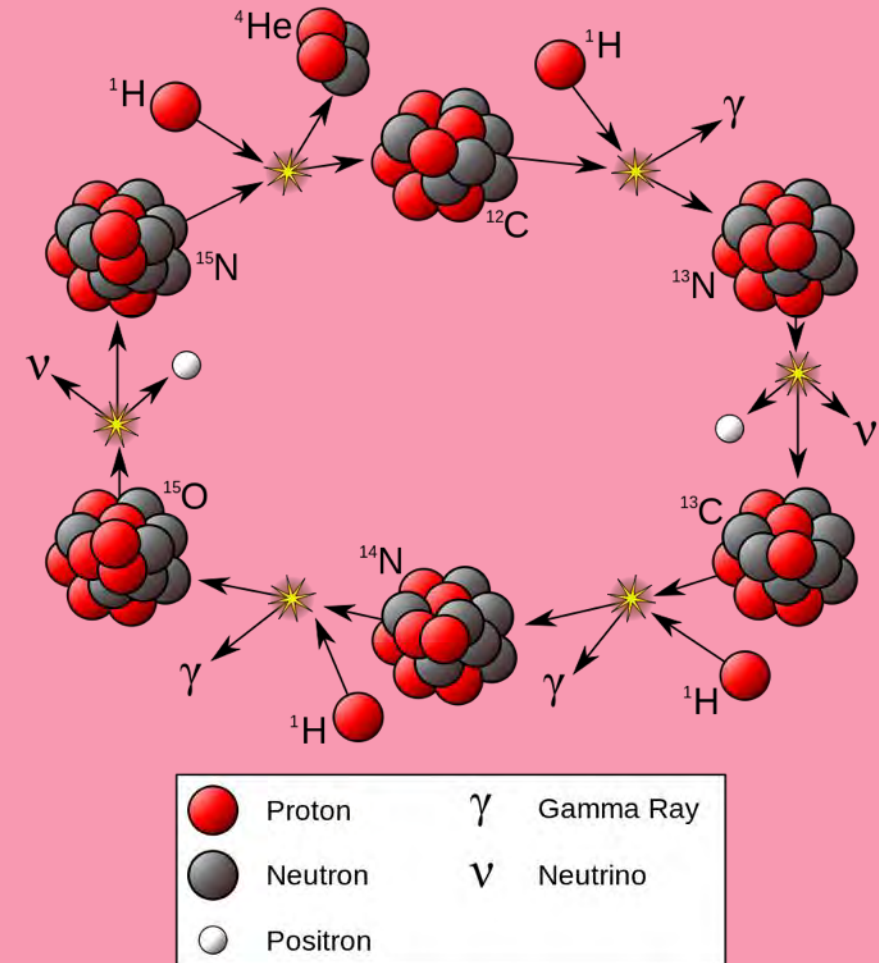
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$$4p \rightarrow {}^4\text{He} + 2e^+ + 2\nu_e \quad Q \approx 26.7\text{MeV}$$

## pp-chain: ~99% solar energy



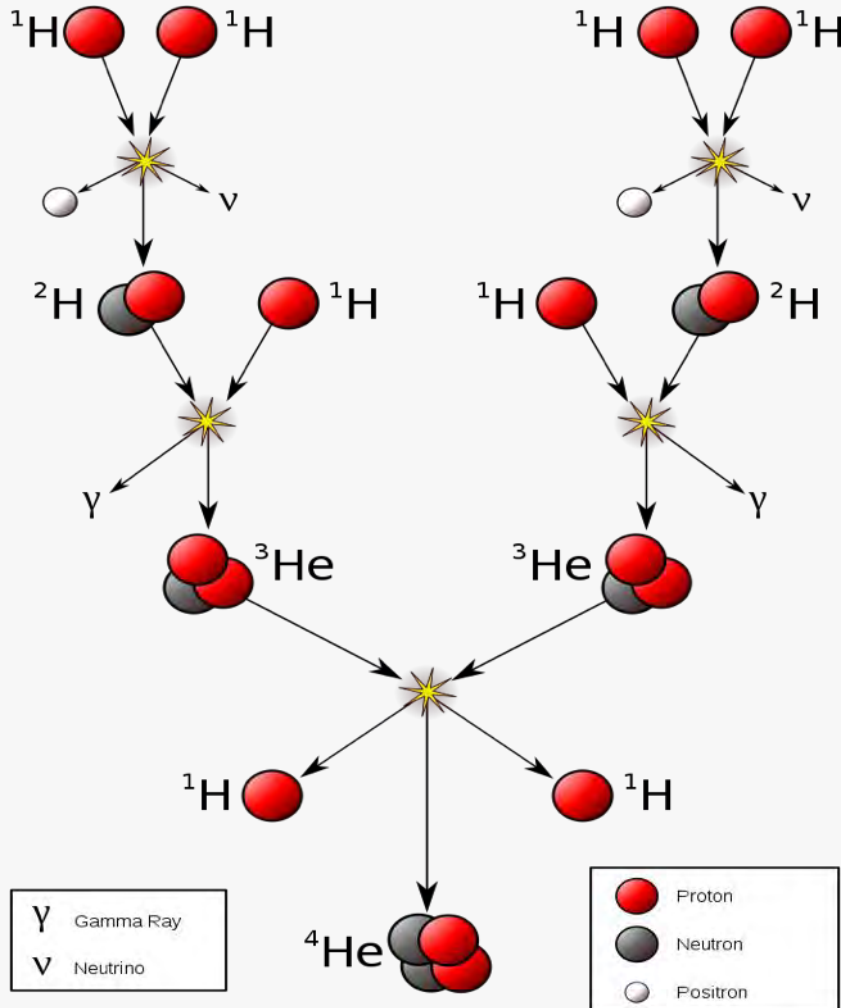
## CNO-cycle: < 1% solar energy



# HYDROGEN-TO-HELIUM FUSION $4p \rightarrow {}^4\text{He} + 2e^+ + 2\nu_e$ $Q \approx 26.7\text{MeV}$

29

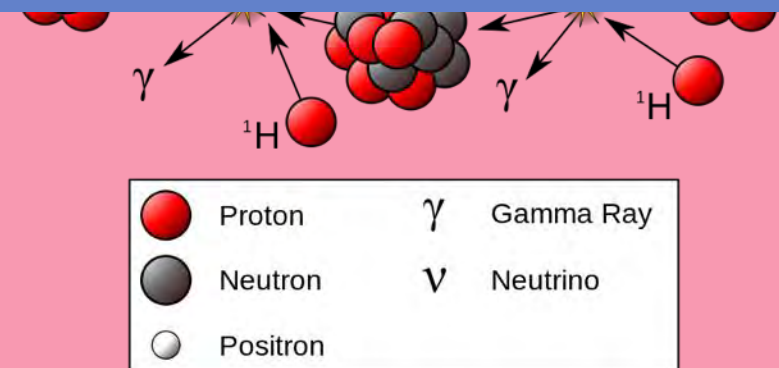
## pp-chain: ~99% solar energy



## CNO-cycle: < 1% solar energy

In stars with  $M > 1.3$  solar mass, the CNO cycle is the dominant energy source.

That makes the CNO fusion cycle the main Hydrogen-to-Helium conversion process in the stars.





# STANDARD SOLAR MODELS (SSM)

## Inputs:

- **Basic properties of the Sun:**

- luminosity
- age, mass, radius

- **Nuclear parameters**

- cross sections
- Q-values...

- **Radiation opacity**

- **Surface abundance of metals** (C, N, O, Ne, Mg, Si, Ar, Fe) – to - hydrogen ratio ( **$Z/X$  = metallicity**)

- **Elemental physics laws**

- Equations of state
- Energy-transport equations
- Conservation laws

## Outputs:

to be compared with independent data

- **Helioseismology**  
(sound-waves speed profiles)
- **Neutrino fluxes**

**Metallicity** influences **the solar neutrino fluxes** in two ways:

- **Indirect for all neutrinos:**  
**opacity**  $\rightarrow$  temperature  $\rightarrow$  cross sections  $\rightarrow$  flux
- **Direct for the CNO neutrinos:**  
**influence through C, N, O catalyzing the fusion**

# SOLAR METALLICITY PROBLEM

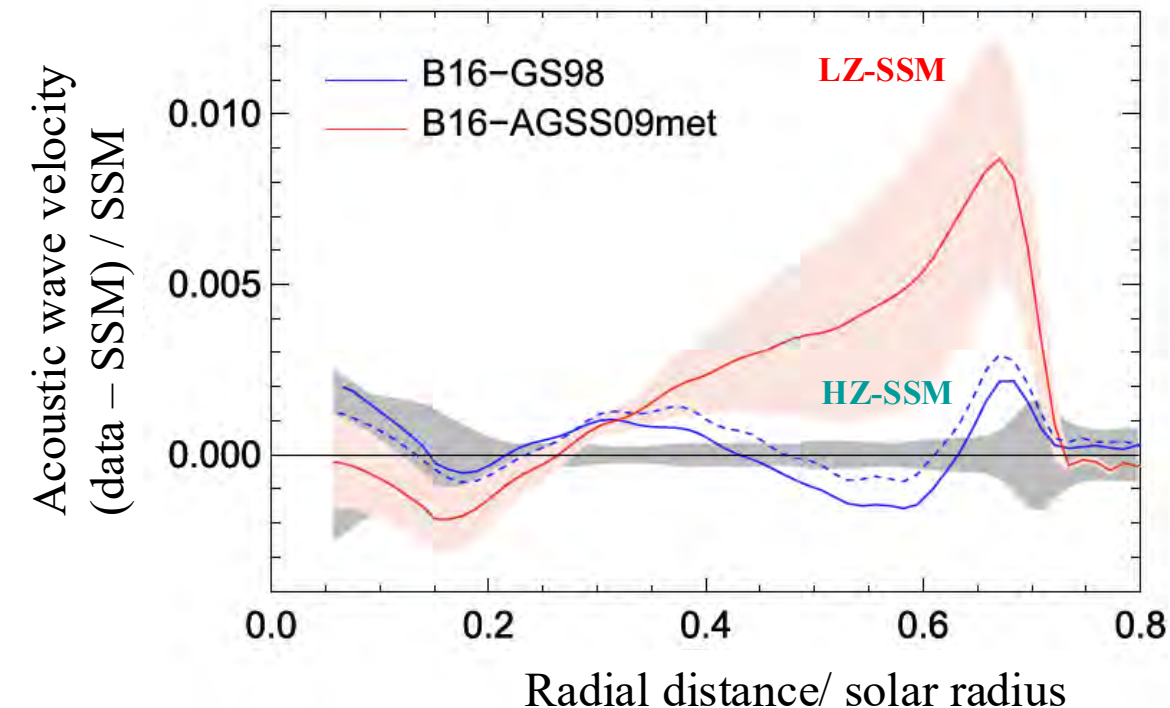
B16 Standard Solar Model with different metallicity inputs:

**High-Metallicity HZ-SSM:** older GS98 metallicity input:  $Z/X = 0.0229$

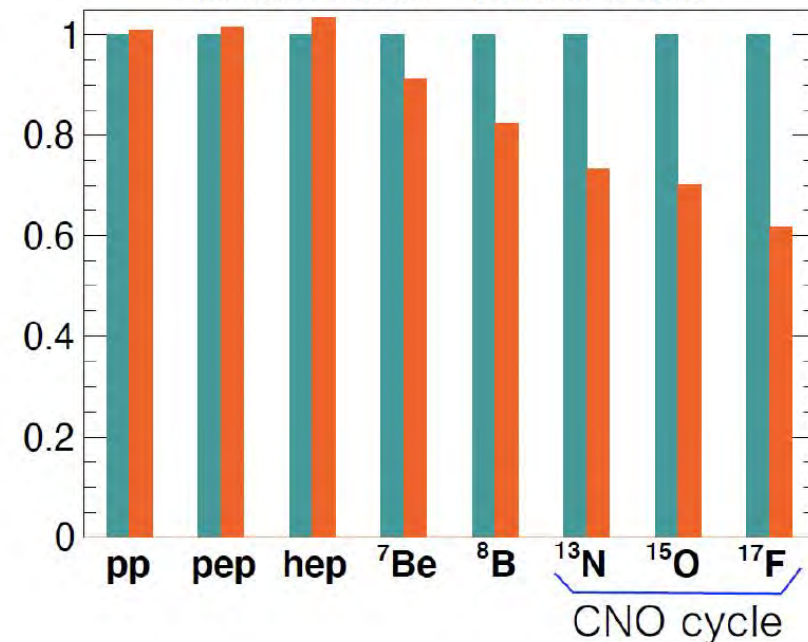
**Low-Metallicity LZ SSM:** newer AGSS09 metallicity input:  $Z/X = 0.0178$

Low metallicity inputs, based on the new spectroscopic analysis and 3D models of solar atmosphere, spoil the agreement of the **HZ-SSM (using older metallicity)** with the helio-seismological data. The **LZ-SSM** in contrast with the helio-seismological data.

Fractional sound speed difference as a function of radius



Ratio of LZ to HZ (=1)  
in each solar neutrino flux



From J. Maneira @  
Neutrino 2024

# EVOLUTION OF THE METALLICITY PREDICTIONS

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Recent studies still discrepant

1998

**GS98\*: high  
metallicity**

Uses 1D  
hydrodynamical  
model of solar  
atmosphere

**$Z/X = 0.023$**

Helioseismology: ok

*\*Grevesse et al., Space  
Sci. Rev. (1998)85]*



2009

**AGS09met\*: low  
metallicity**

Uses 3D  
hydrodynamical  
model of solar  
atmosphere

**$Z/X = 0.018$**

Helioseismology: ko

*\*A. Serenelli et al., Astr.  
J. 743, (2011)24*



2011

**Caffau11\*: low  
metallicity**

Uses 3D  
hydrodynamical  
model of solar  
atmosphere

**$Z/X = 0.0209$**

Helioseismology: ko

*\*E. Caffau et al., Sol. Phys.  
(2011) 268*



2021

**AGG21\*: low  
metallicity**

Uses 3D  
hydrodynamical  
model of solar  
atmosphere

**$Z/X = 0.0187$**

Helioseismology: ko

*\*Asplund et al. Rev. Astr. Astr.  
A&A (2021) 653*



2022

**MB22\*: high  
metallicity**

Uses 3D  
hydrodynamical  
model of solar  
atmosphere

**$Z/X = 0.0225$**

Helioseismology: ok

*Magg et al.,  
arXiv:2203.02255*

# SOLAR NEUTRINOS AND WHY TO STUDY THEM

## Neutrino physics

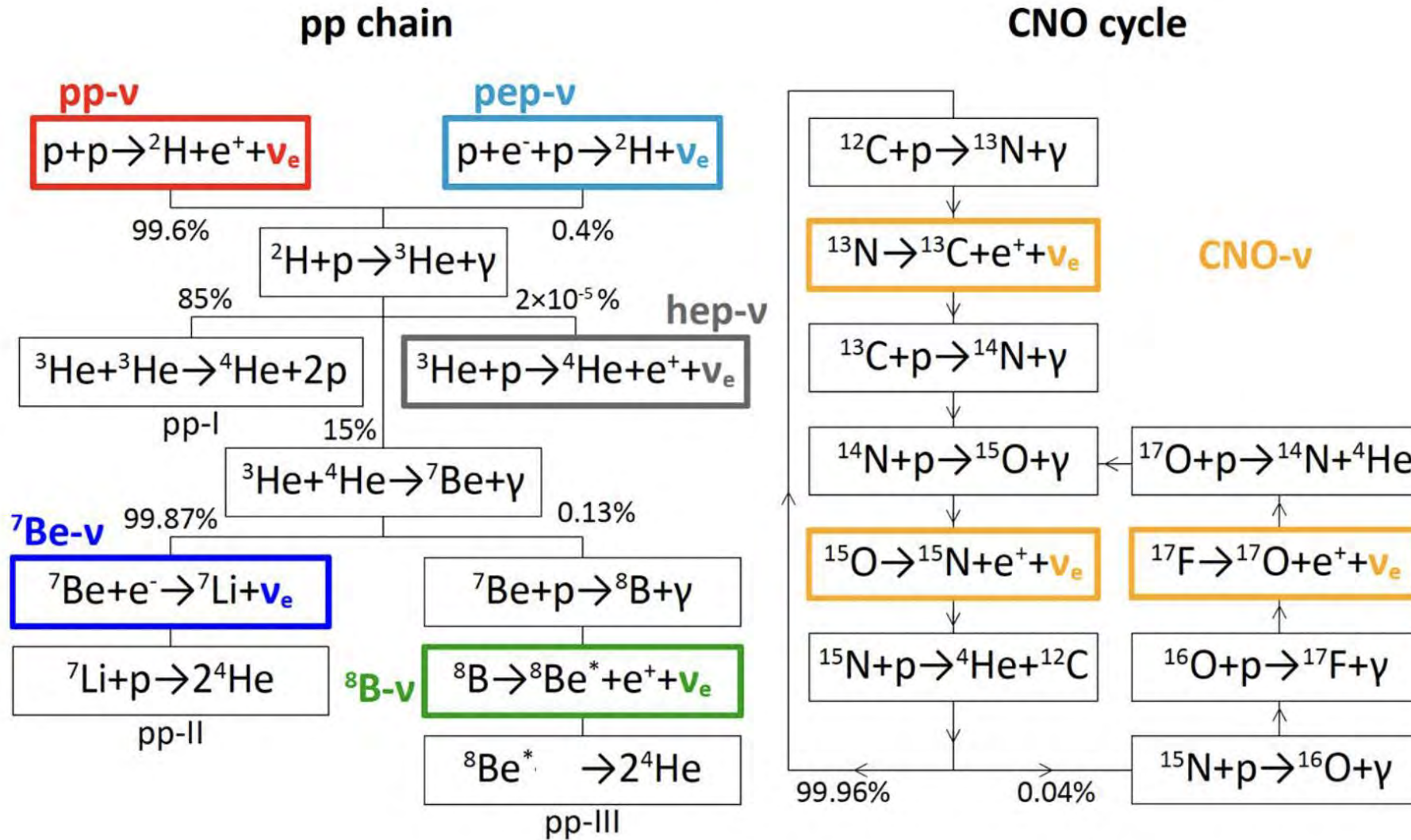
- **Neutrino oscillation parameters:** solar sector ( $\theta_{12}, \Delta m^2_{12}$ ) and global fits.
- **Survival probability  $P_{ee}$  as  $f(E_\nu)$ :** matter effects, testing LMA-MSW prediction and its upturn.
- Searches for **Non-standard Neutrino Interactions**.

## Solar and stellar physics

- Direct probe of **nuclear fusion**.
- Photon vs neutrino luminosity: testing **thermo-dynamical stability** of the Sun.
- **Standard Solar Models:**
  - ✓ Metallicity problem.



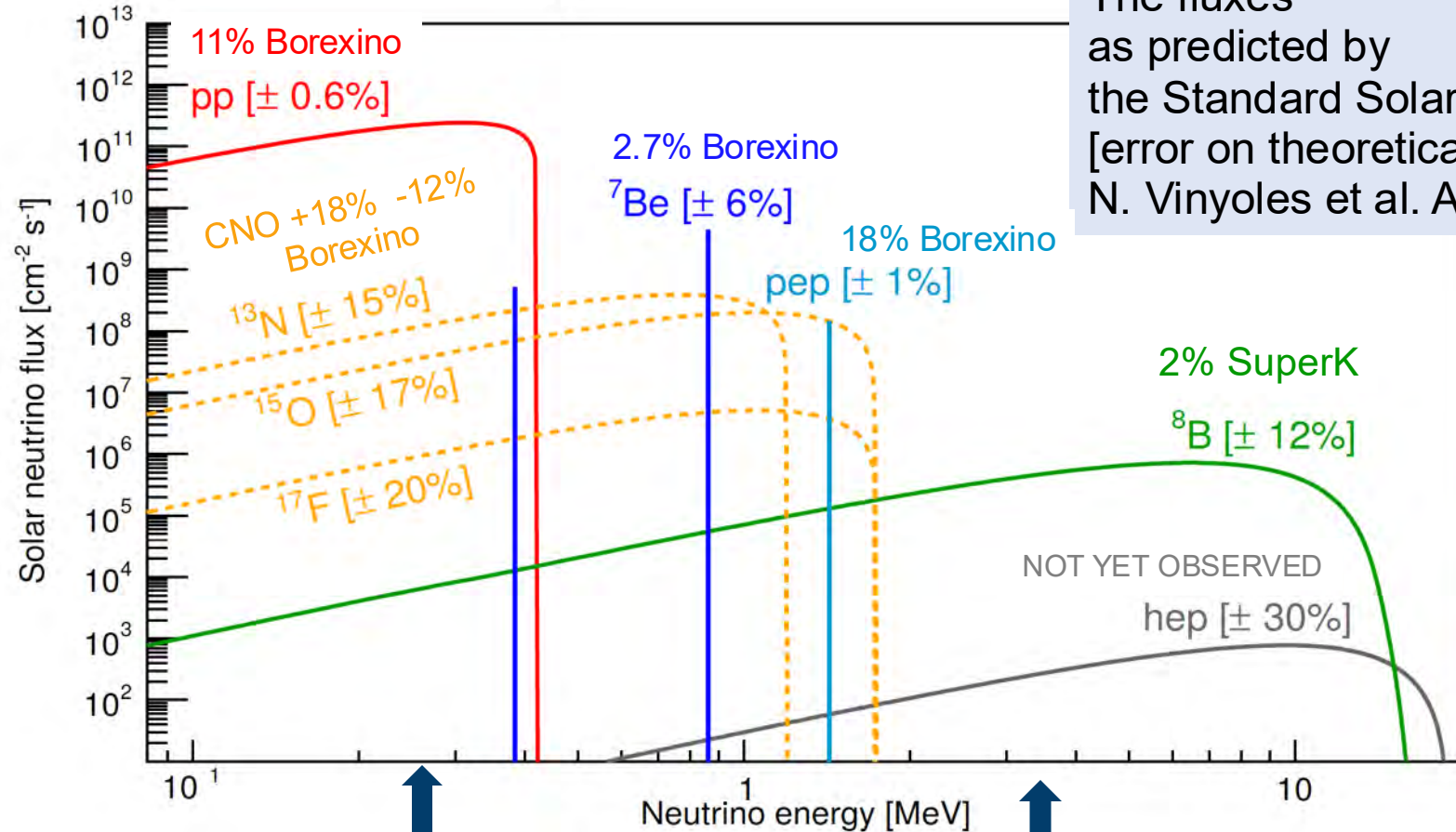
# SOLAR NEUTRINOS FROM PP CHAIN AND CNO CYCLE





# ENERGY SPECTRUM OF SOLAR NEUTRINOS

35



The fluxes as predicted by the Standard Solar Model [error on theoretical predictions].  
N. Vinyoles et al. Astrop. J 836 (2017) 202

Borexino threshold with liquid scintillator

Super-Kamiokande threshold with water Cherenkov

# Short history of solar $\nu$ experiments in 1 slide

**70's-80's: Homestake (R. Davies): Radiochemistry:  $E_\nu > 814$  keV**

✓  $^{37}\text{Cl} + \nu \rightarrow ^{37}\text{Ar} + e^-$

✓ **THE FIRST DETECTION!** deficit in the observed flux, skepticism

✓ final triumph, **Nobel prize 2002**

✓ **J. Bahcall** continues the development of the Standard Solar Model

**80's-90's: (super)Kamiokande: Water Cherenkov:  $E_\nu > 5$  MeV**

✓ confirms deficit on  $^8\text{B}$ - $\nu$  and with a real-time technique

✓ first neutrino picture of the Sun (directionality)

✓ neutrinos from other stars observed (supernova SN1987-A)

**90's: Gallex (GNO) and Sage: Radiochemistry:  $E_\nu > 233$  keV**

✓  $\nu_e + ^{71}\text{Ga} \rightarrow ^{71}\text{Ge} + e^-$

✓ deficit observed also at low energy, but is energy dependent!

**2001: SNO: Water Cherenkov:  $E_\nu > 5$  MeV**

✓ **flavour transformation of solar neutrinos proved**

✓ CC (electron flavor) and NC (all flavors) interactions separately in  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$

✓ total flux agrees with Standard Solar Model !

**2002: KamLAND: Liquid scintillator**

✓ observes and measures oscillations of electron anti-neutrinos from reactors

**2007 - 2021: Borexino: Liquid scintillator of extreme radiopurity: :  $E_\nu > 300$  keV**

✓ First real-time observation of  $^7\text{Be}$ , pep, pp neutrinos

✓ Observation of CNO

✓ Low-energy  $^8\text{B}$  neutrinos ( $> 3$  MeV recoiled  $e^-$ )

First detection

Solar-neutrino  
puzzle

Solution:  
Neutrino oscillations!

Real-time  
precision spectroscopy

**Super/HyperK & SNO+ - first  $^8\text{B}$  data & JUNO in commissioning phase**

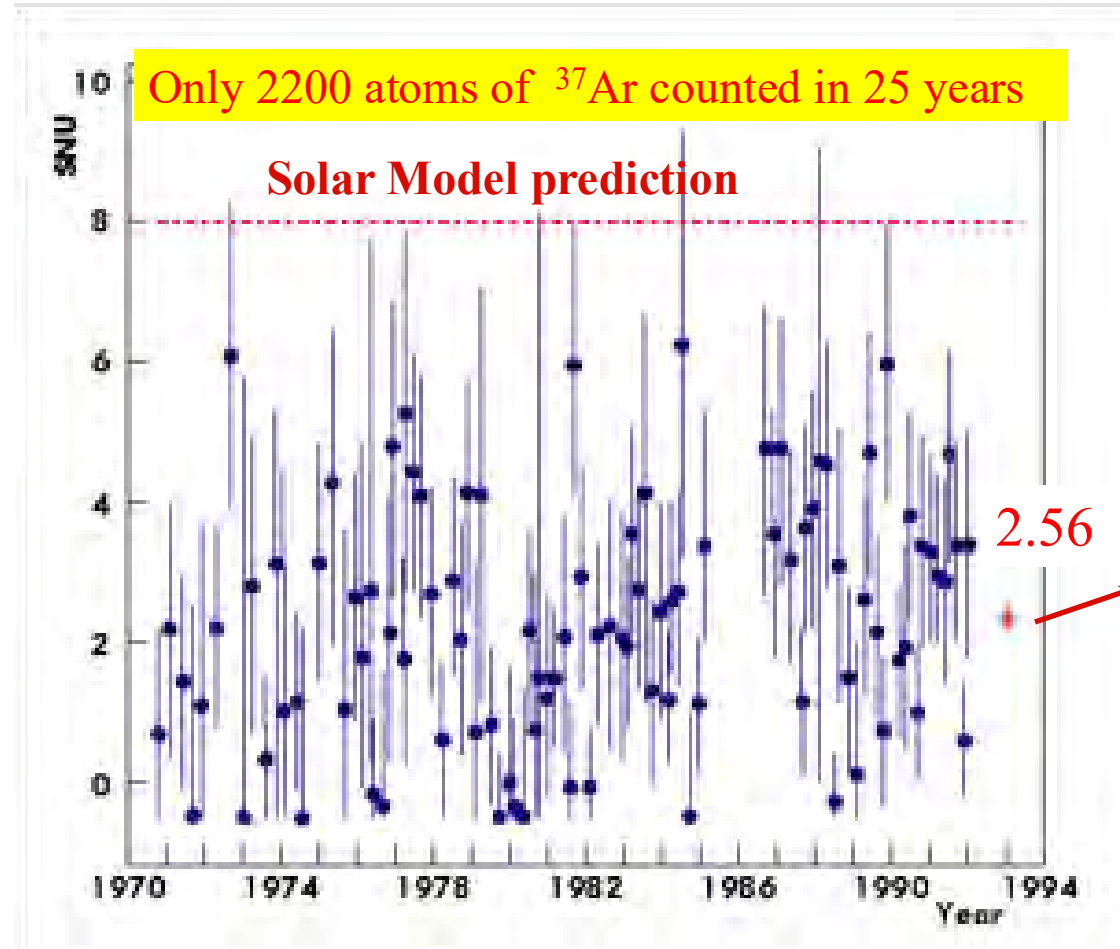
# FIRST DETECTION: HOMESTAKE - NOBEL 2002



- collect  $\sim 1$  atom/day out of  $10^{31}$
- Charged current interaction, but no detection of the electron  
 $\nu_e + {}^{37}\text{Cl} \rightarrow e^- + {}^{37}\text{Ar}$



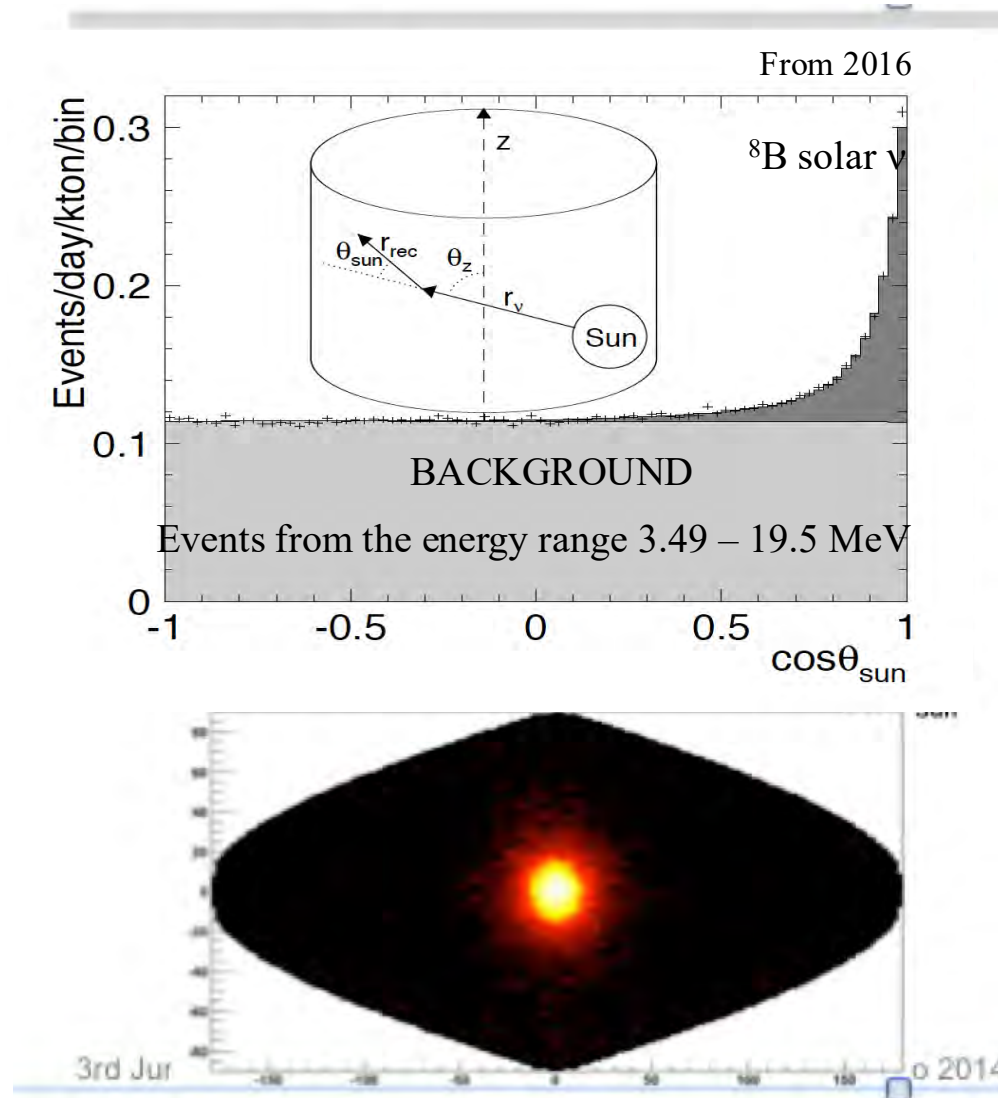
Ray Davis



1 SNU (Solar Neutrino Unit) =  $10^{-36}$  interactions on target nuclei per second

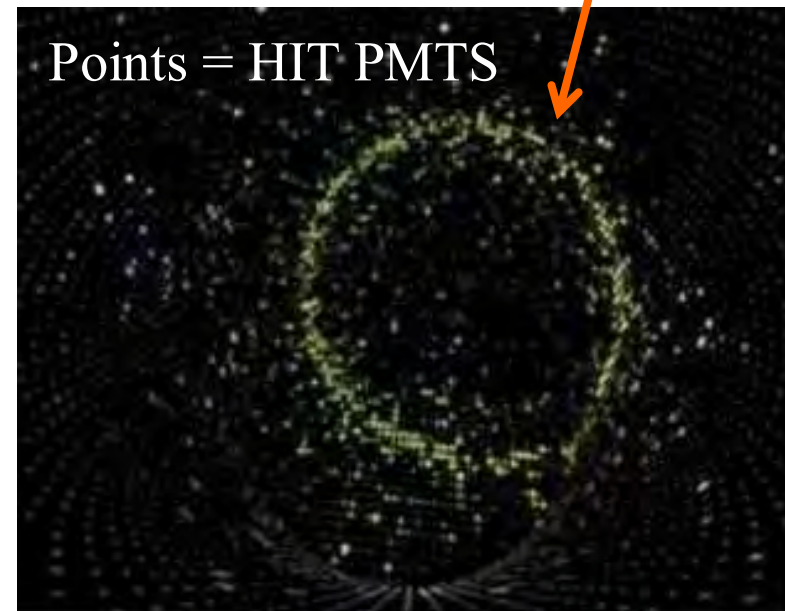
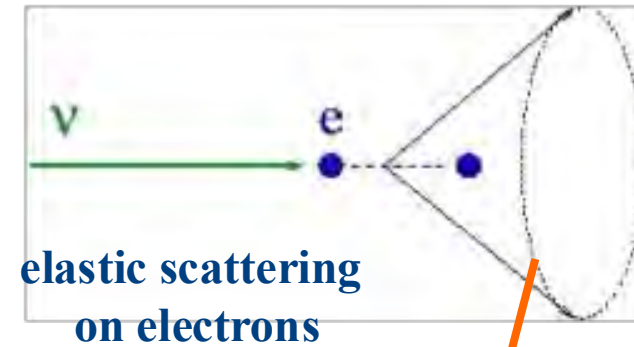
# SUPER-KAMIOKANDE: START IN 1986, NOBEL IN 2002, STILL ONLINE!

## THE FIRST REAL-TIME SOLAR NEUTRINO DETECTION



The Sun's picture in neutrinos!

### Detection in Water



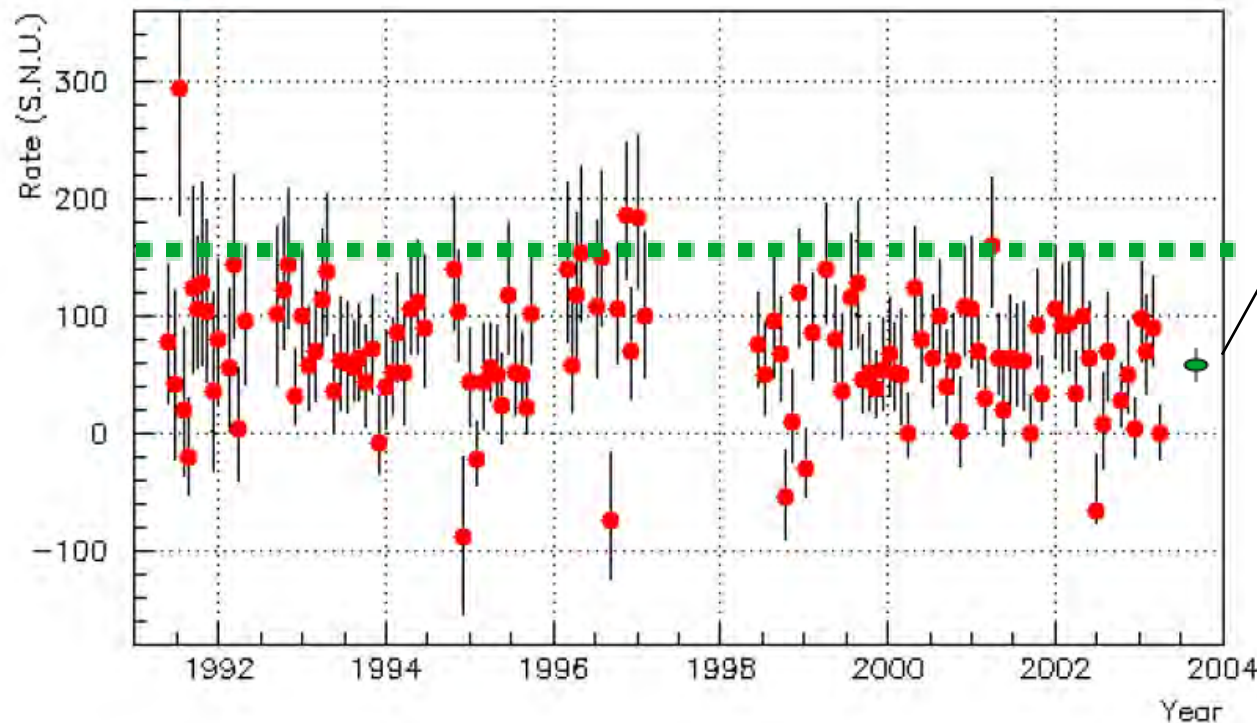


# 1991-2003 GALLEX-GNO @ LNGS, ITALY RADIOCHEMICAL EXPERIMENT

Charged current interaction:



Till Kirsten  
(MPI  
Germany)



**Final result:**

**$67.6 \pm 5.1$  SNU**

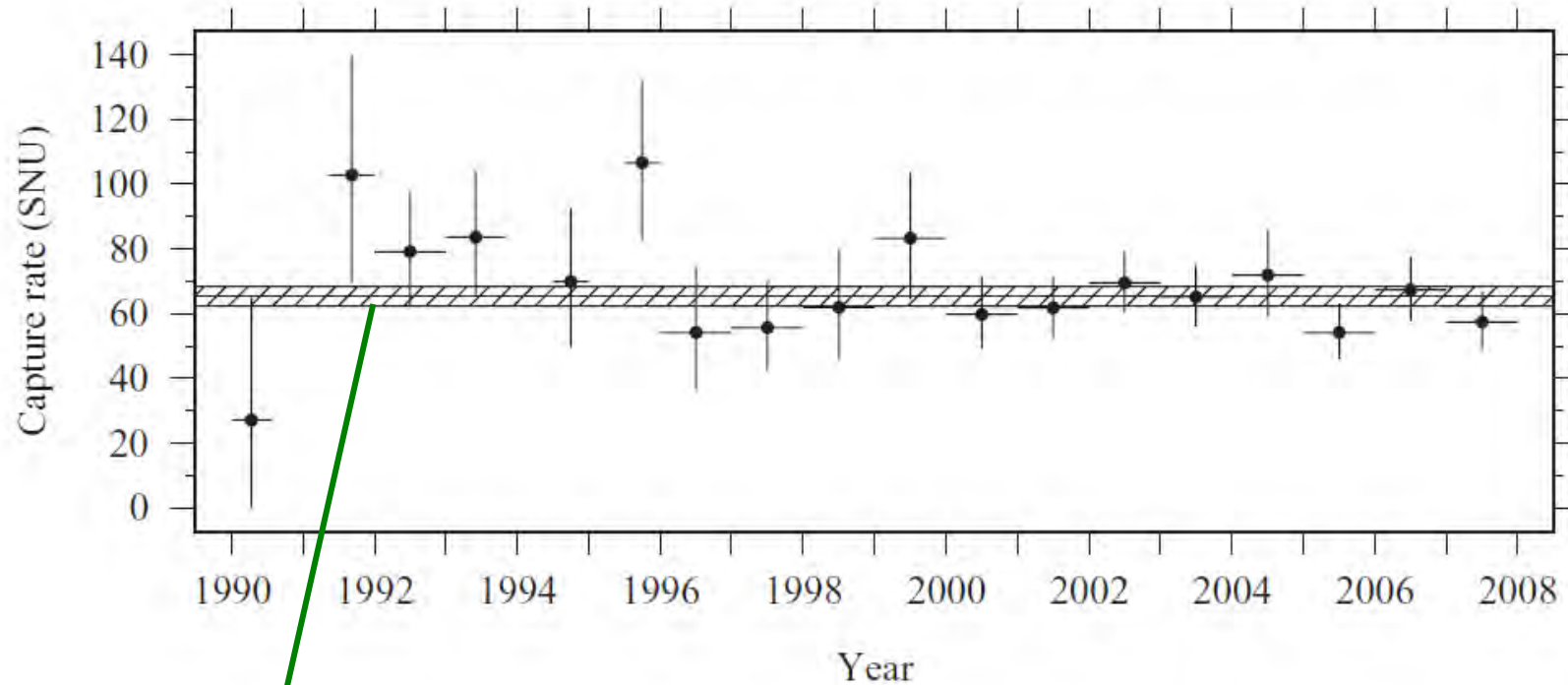
**$0.541 \pm 0.081$**

as a fraction  
of the SSM prediction



# 1990-2011 SAGE EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS

## BAKSAN, RUSSIA



**Final result:**  $65.4^{+3.1}_{-3.0}{}^{+2.6}_{-2.8}$  SNU

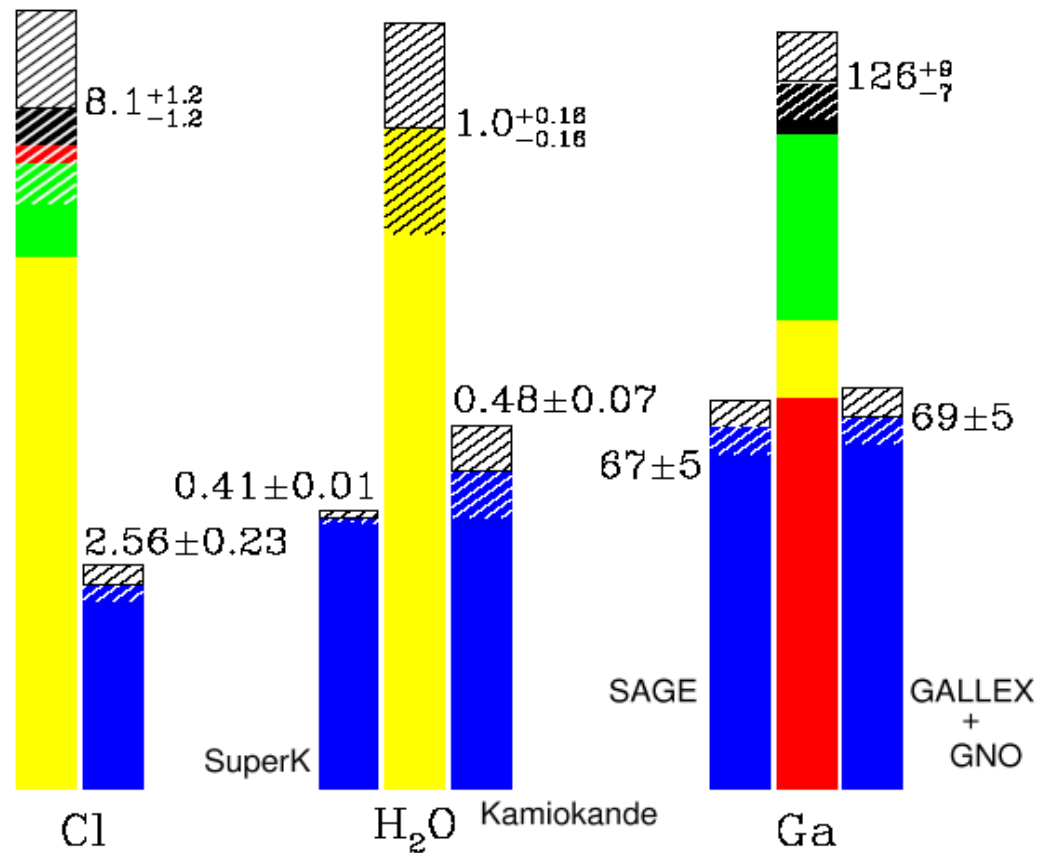


Vladimir Gavrin (Russia)

Liquid metallic Ga



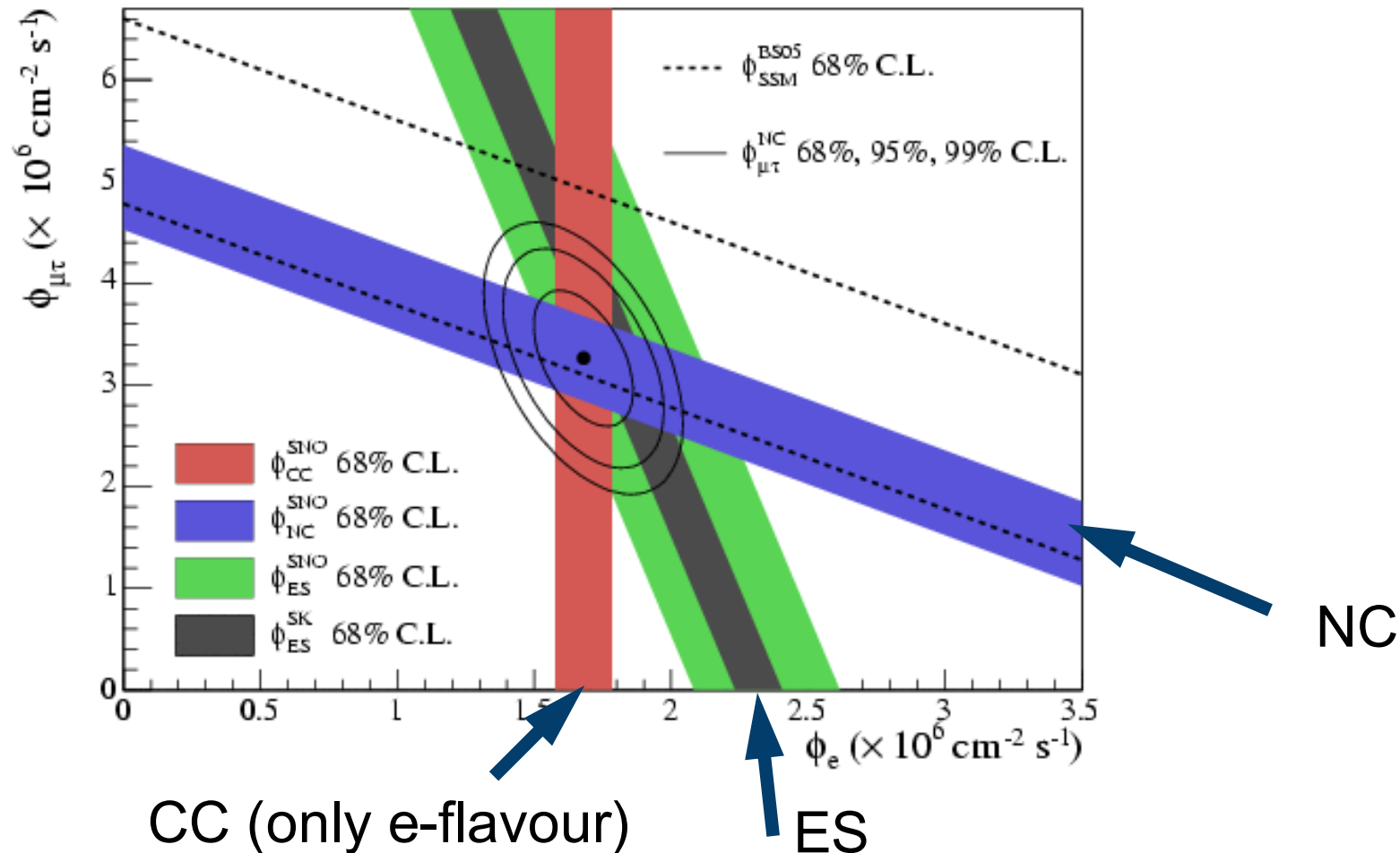
Total Rates: Standard Model vs. Experiment  
Bahcall–Serenelli 2005 [BS05(OP)]



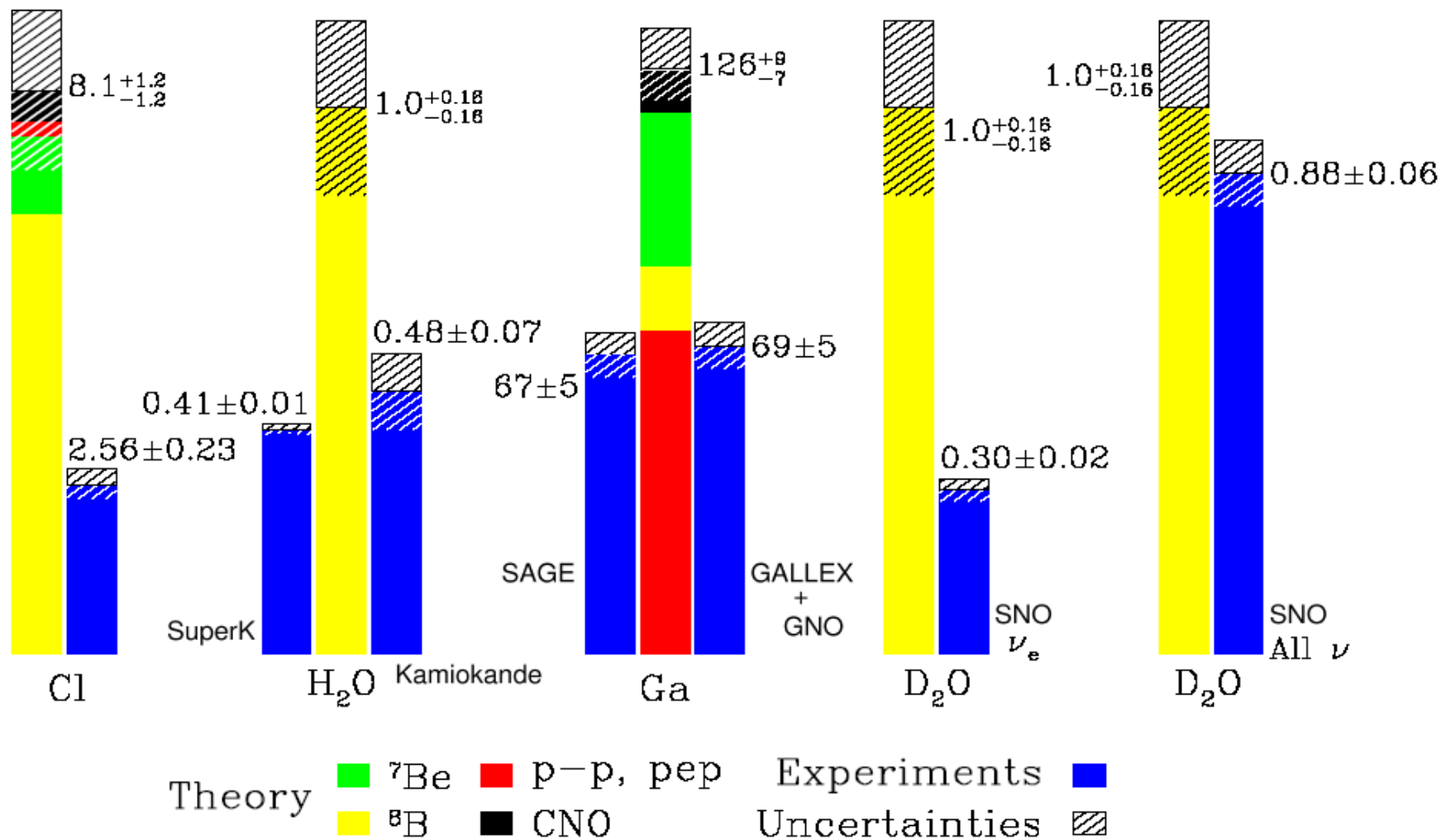
Theory ■ <sup>7</sup>Be ■ p-p, pep ■ Experiments  
■ <sup>8</sup>B ■ CNO ▨ Uncertainties

# SNO 2001: DISCOVERY OF SOLAR NEUTRINO OSCILLATIONS<sup>42</sup>

- Prove that  $\Phi(\nu_e)$  is DIFFERENT from  $\Phi(\nu_\mu, \nu_\tau)$ .
- Prove that the TOTAL neutrino flux is consistent with the Standard Solar Model.
- Big success for SNO, neutrino oscillations, and solar model theoreticians.

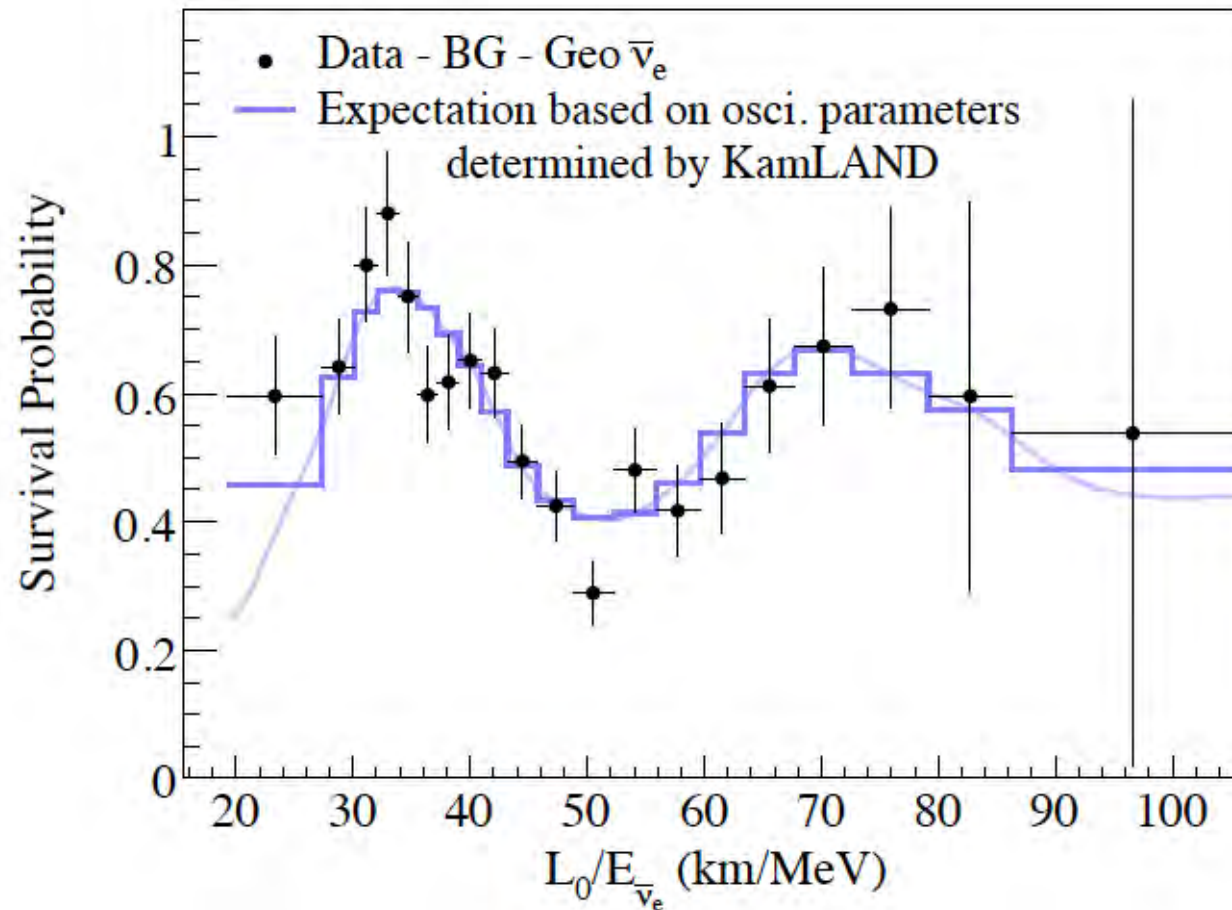


Total Rates: Standard Model vs. Experiment  
Bahcall–Serenelli 2005 [BS05(OP)]



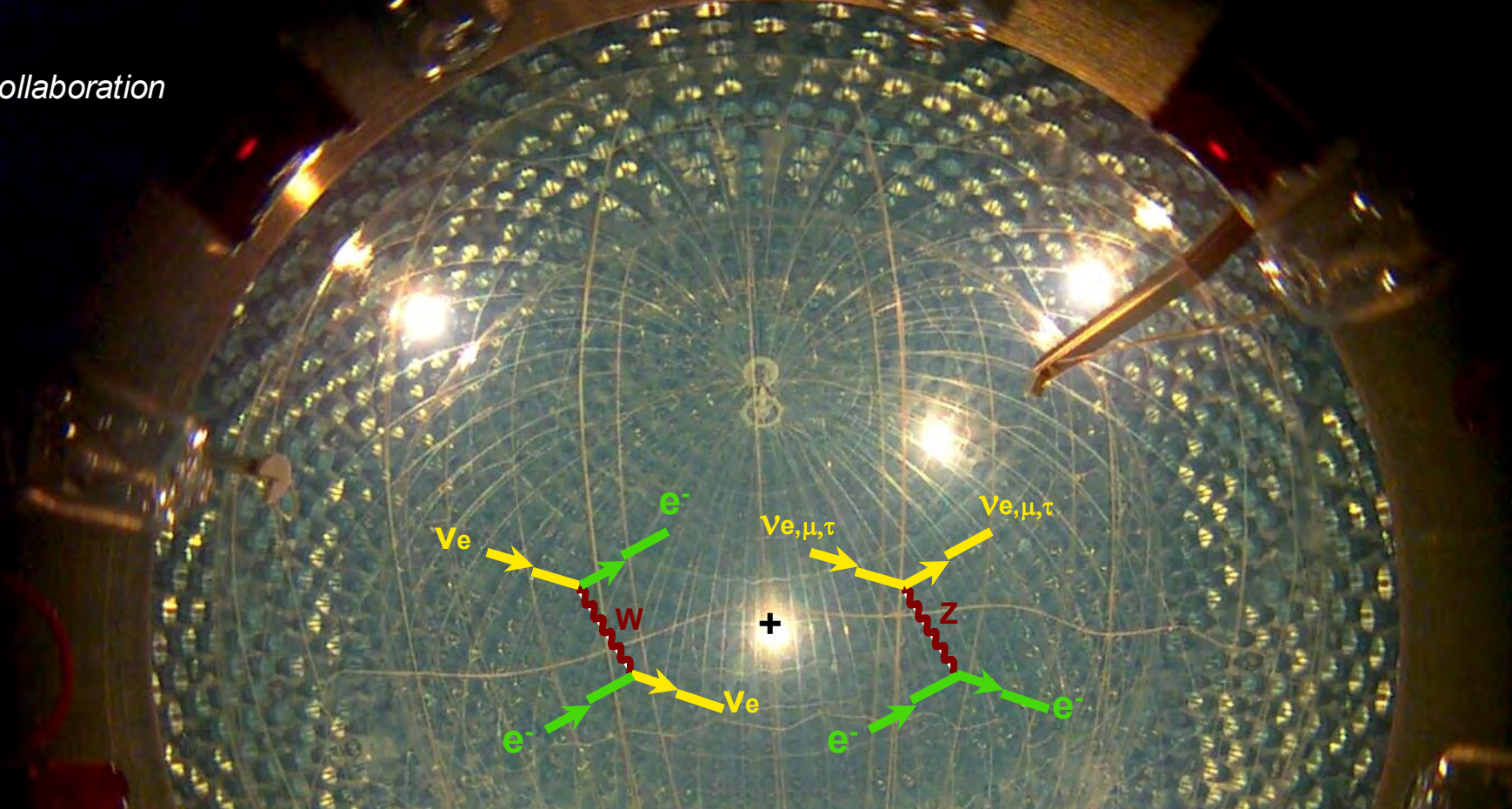
# PRECISE MEASUREMENT OF $\Delta m^2_{12}$ AND FINAL PROOF OF OSCILLATIONS (ON ANTI-NEUTRINOS FROM REACTOR!)

**KamLAND, 2002**



OSCILLATION  
PATTERN  
WAS  
SEEN!



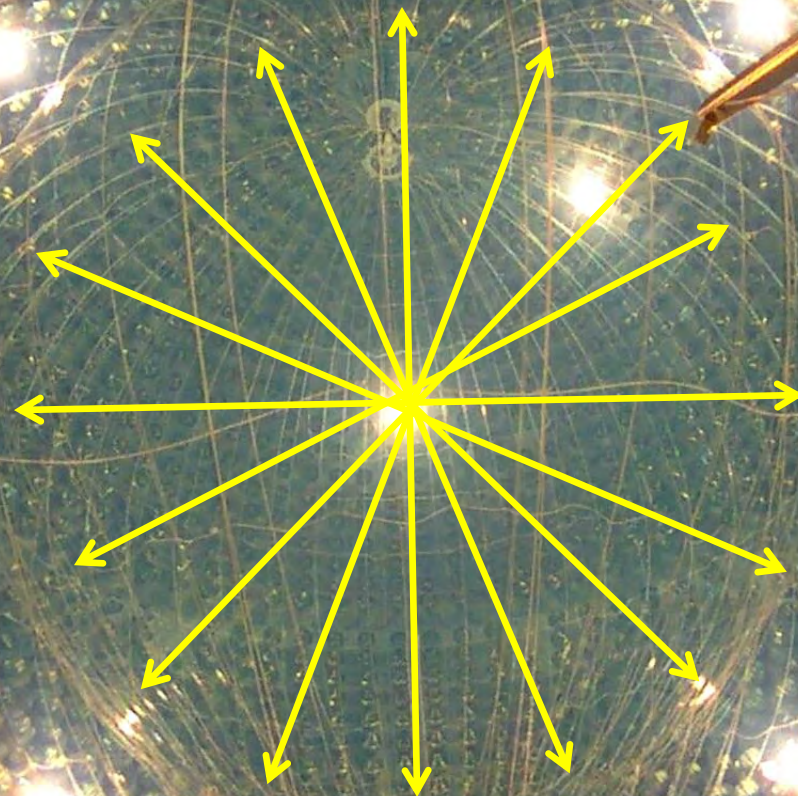


## Precision solar neutrino detection: SINGLES

- Elastic scattering off electrons both in liquid scintillator (Borexino, SNO+) and water Cherenkov (SNO, Super-Kamiokande) based detectors.
- No threshold.
- All flavours (cross section for  $\nu_e$   $\sim 6x$  higher) – MEASURED RATE DEPENDS ON  $P_{ee}$ .
- Even mono-energetic neutrinos – continuous spectrum with a Compton-like edge.
- Undistinguishable from normal radioactivity.



Isotropic scintillation light is produced by charged particles



**Number of hit PMTs = energy estimator**  
**Hit PMTs time pattern = vertex reconstruction**



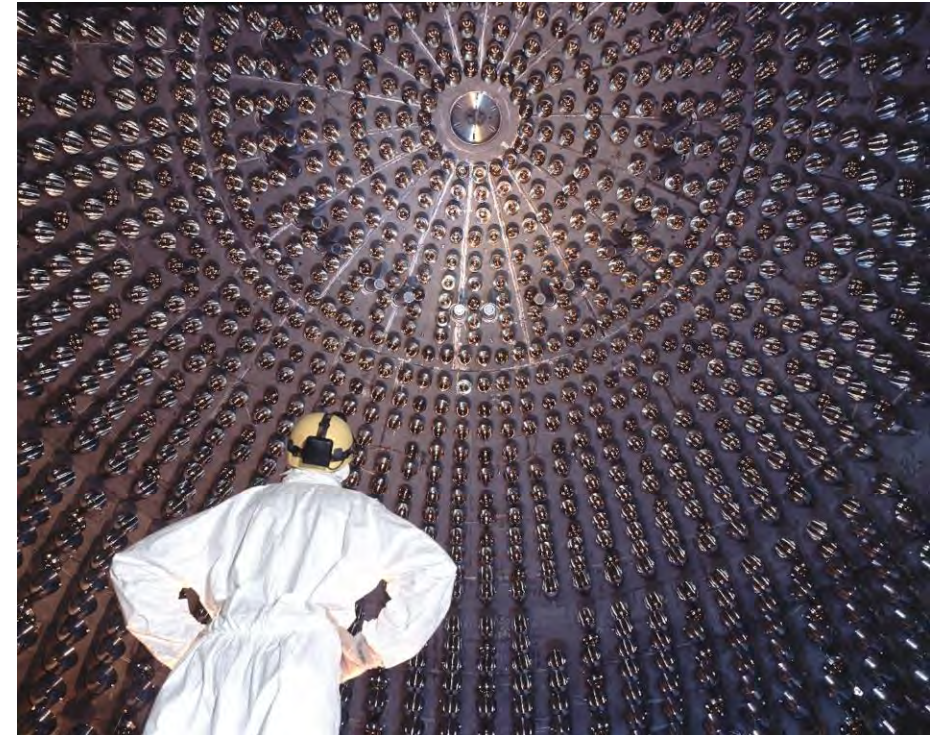
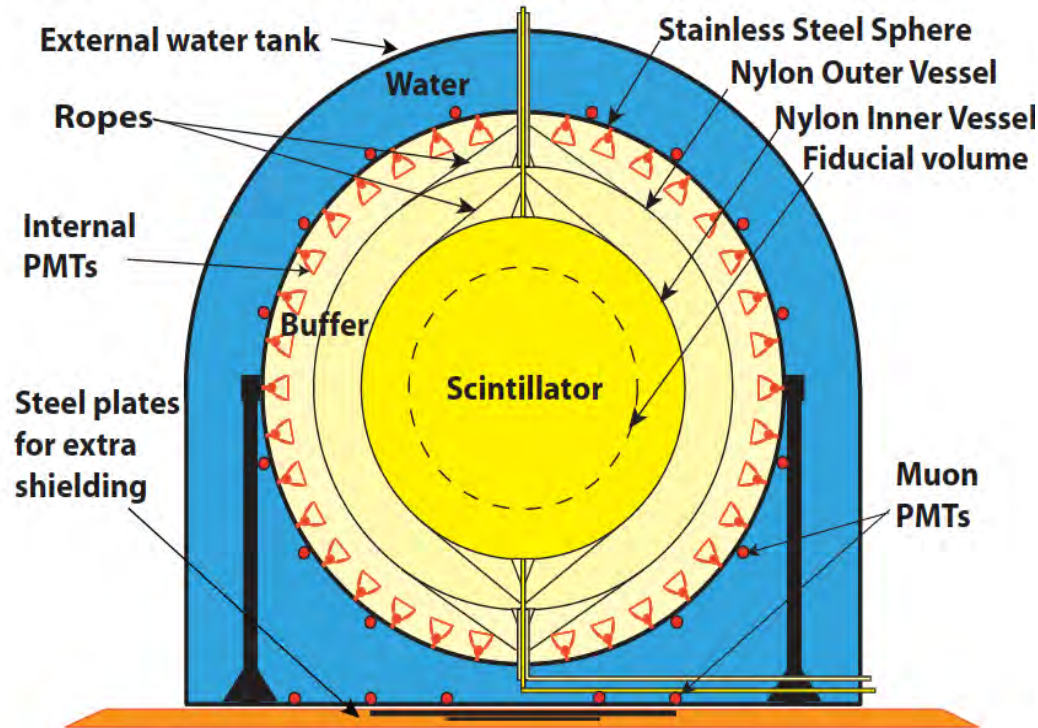
# BOREXINO @ LNGS, ITALY

47

- Data taking: 2007 – 2021;
- PC based LS: 280 tons;
- Depth: 3800 m.w.e.

Main goal: solar neutrinos below 2 MeV

**Unprecedented radio-purity**  
was the key to the success of the experiment.



# BOREXINO TIMELINE AND SOLAR NEUTRINO RESULTS

48



**First observation**  
 ${}^7\text{Be}$   
pep  
 ${}^8\text{B} > 3\text{MeV}$

**Directional  
detection of sub-  
MeV solar  
neutrinos &  ${}^7\text{Be}$   
rate (CID method)**

**First observation  
pp reaction  
NATURE 28/08/2014**

**Full pp chain  
spectroscopy  
NATURE 25/10/2018**

**CNO  
1<sup>st</sup> observation  
NATURE 25/11/2020**

**CNO improved and final  
PRL 12/12/2022  
PRD 108 (2023) 102005,**

**CNO observation with the Correlated Integrated Directionality (CID) using Cherenkov photons  
PRD 108 (2023) 102005,**

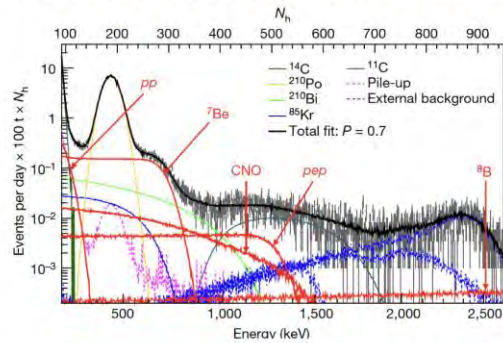


# BOREXINO SOLAR RESULTS IN 1 SLIDE

49

**$pp$  (10.5%),  ${}^7\text{Be}$  (2.7%),  $pep$  ( $>5\sigma$ , 17%)**

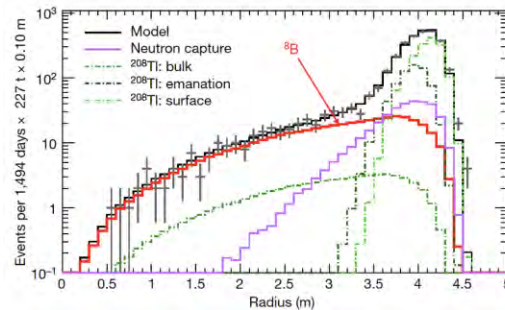
Low Energy Range (LER) [0.19 – 2.93 MeV]



Fit of **energy spectra** – spectral shape rather independent on oscillation in matter

**${}^8\text{B}$  with 3 MeV threshold (8%)**

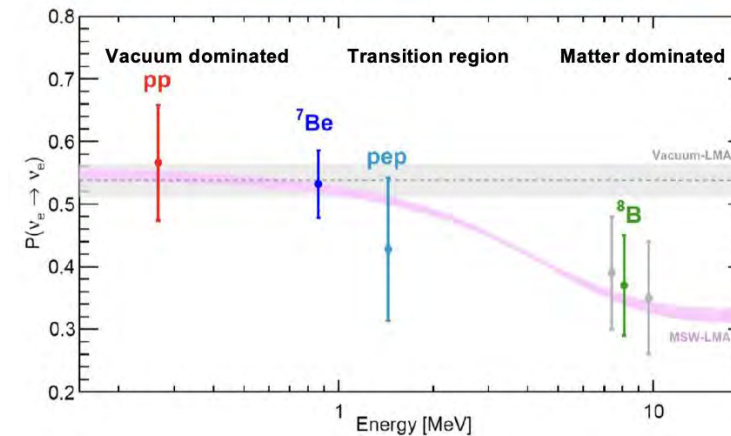
High Energy Range (HER) [3.2 – 16.0 MeV]



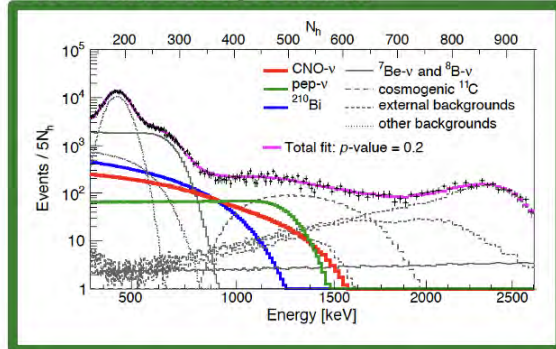
Fit of **radial distribution** – no assumption on oscillation mechanism in solar matter. Matter effect is important at these energies.

$P_{ee}$  survival probability at different energies

**Vacuum-LMA model excluded at 98.2% CL**

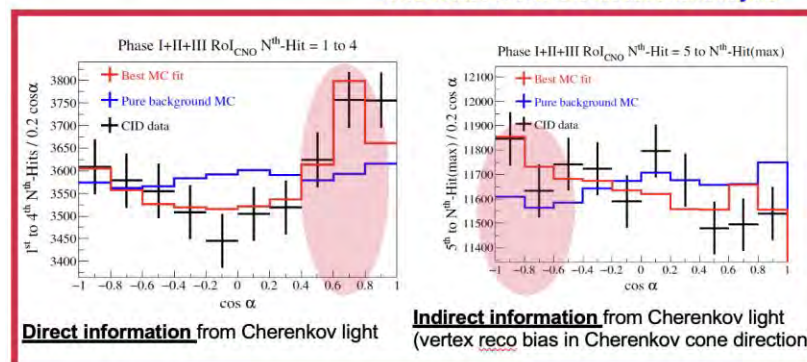


**CNO Phase III spectral fit**



( $> 8\sigma$ , +18% -12% precision)

**CNO Phase I+II+III CID directional analysis**

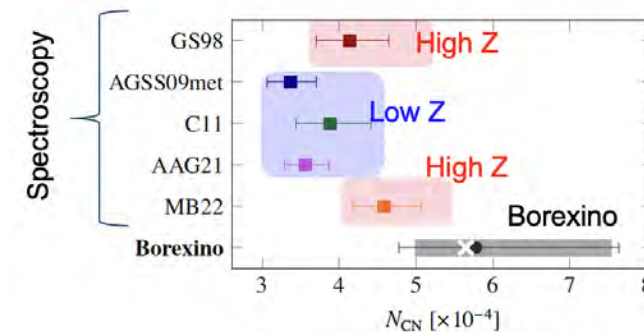


**Direct information** from Cherenkov light

**Indirect information** from Cherenkov light (vertex reco bias in Cherenkov cone direction)

Exploiting sub-dominant Cherenkov light in LS detector!

**$N_{CN} = (C + N)/H$  in the Sun: 1<sup>st</sup> value based on neutrinos**  
**Solar metallicity:  $\sim 2\sigma$  preference for high - Z**

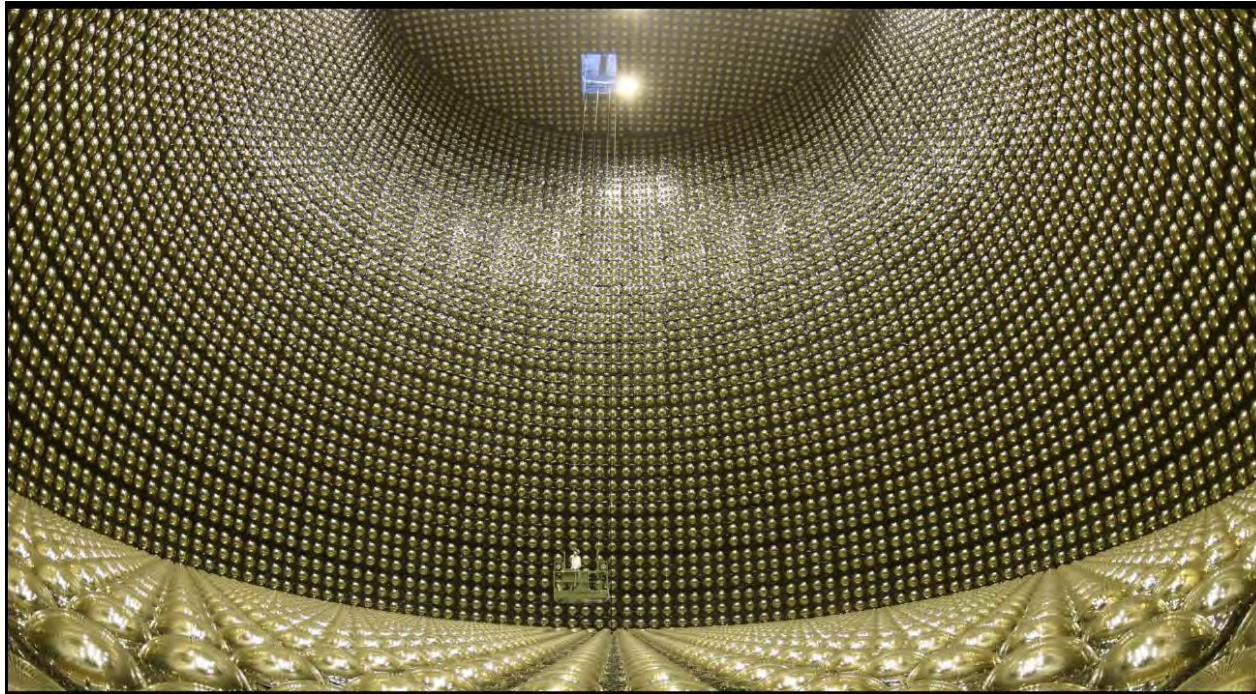


$$N_{CN} = (5.78^{+1.86}_{-1.00}) \cdot 10^{-4}$$

Comprehensive spectroscopy of  $pp$ -chain and discovery of CNO cycle solar neutrinos.



# SUPERKAMIOKANDE



Higher backgrounds as expected, but  
4 / 4.5 MeV threshold is possible.

Water Cherenkov detector

Large FV mass of 22.5 kton

> 20 years of  $^8\text{B}$  solar data in 4 Phases 1996 – 2018

Phase	SK-I	SK-II	SK-III	SK-IV
Period (Start)	April '96	October '02	July '06	September '08
Period (End)	July '01	October '05	August '08	May '18
Livetime [days]	1,496	791	548	2,970
ID PMTs	11,146	5,182	11,129	11,129
OD PMTs	1,885	1,885	1,885	1,885
PMT coverage [%]	40	19	40	40
Energy thr. [MeV]	4.49	6.49	3.99	3.49

## Phase IV

- 90% triggering efficiency down to 2.99 MeV;
- Improved analysis techniques and clear  $^8\text{B}$  measurement above **3.5 MeV**;

Complete analysis of SK phases I – IV

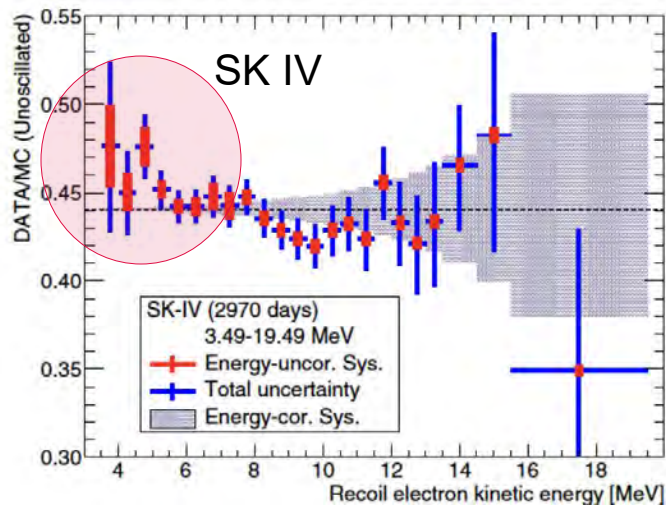
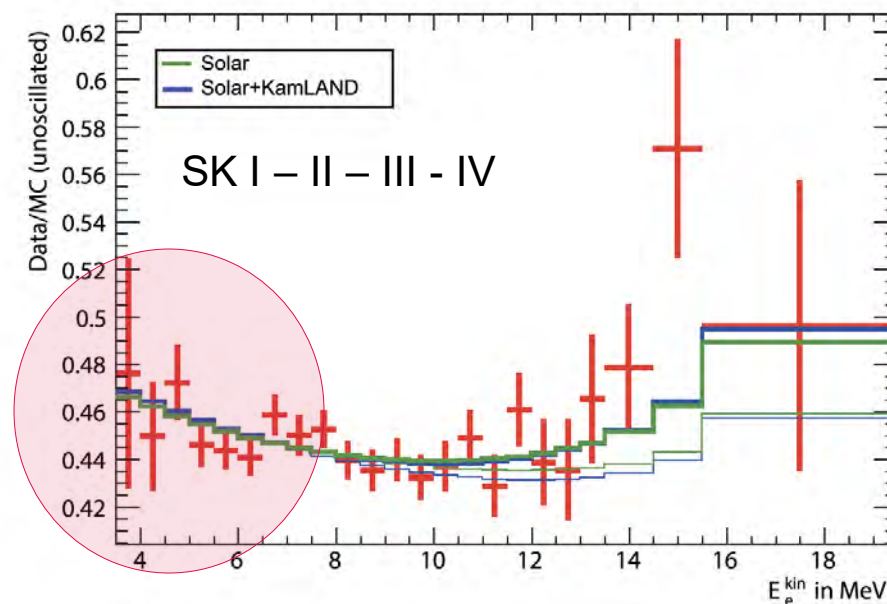
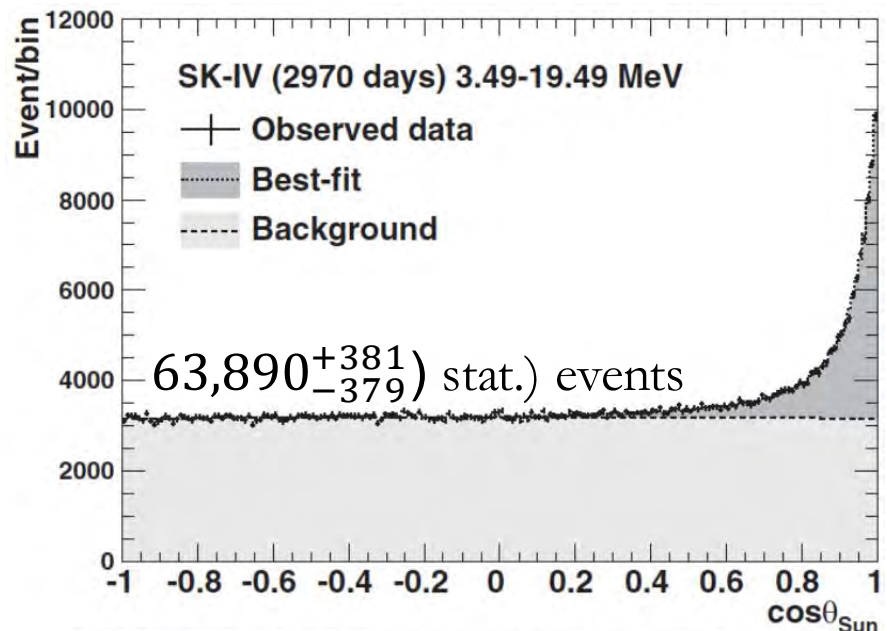
PHYS. REV. D **109**, 092001 (2024)

**Since 2020: Gd loading of LS** for neutron capture to observe DSNB via IBDs.

- SK-V: preparation
- SK-VI (0.01% Gd)
- SK-VII (0.03% Gd)

# SUPER-KAMIOKANDE LATES RESULTS

PHYS. REV. D **109**, 092001 (2024)



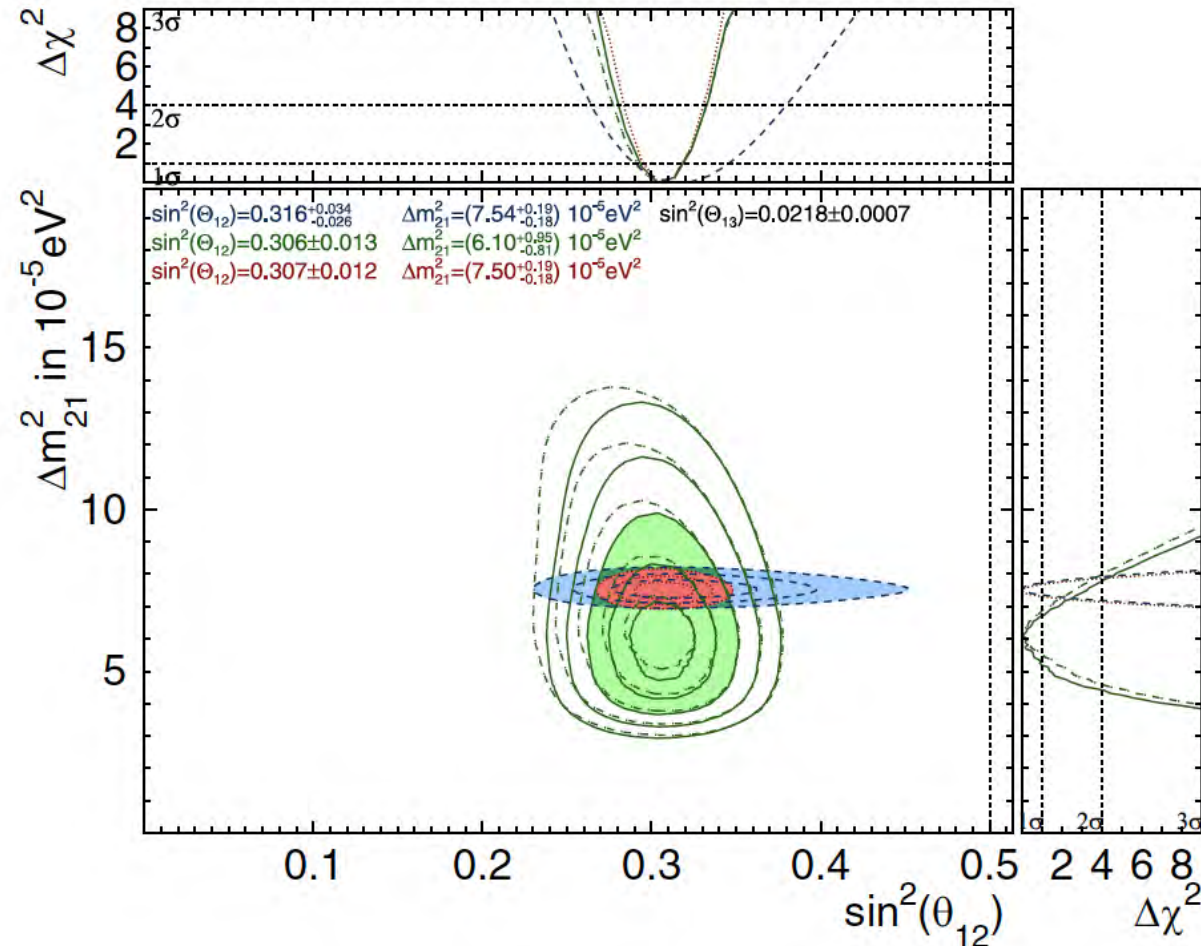
- $^8\text{B}$  flux measurement consistent among different phases – **total precision 2%**.
- Spectrum still compatible with flat survival probability, but predicted low energy **MSW upturn is favoured at  $1.2\sigma$** . Jointly with SNO data, at  $2.1\sigma$ .
- No time variations except eccentricity and **Day/Night variation** (MSW electron flavour regeneration when crossing the Earth):

$$A_{\text{D/N}}^{\text{SK,fit}} = -0.0286 \pm 0.0085(\text{stat.}) \pm 0.0032(\text{syst.}).$$



# SUPERKAMIOKANDE: SOLAR OSCILLATIONS

PHYS. REV. D **109**, 092001 (2024)



Solar best-fit value

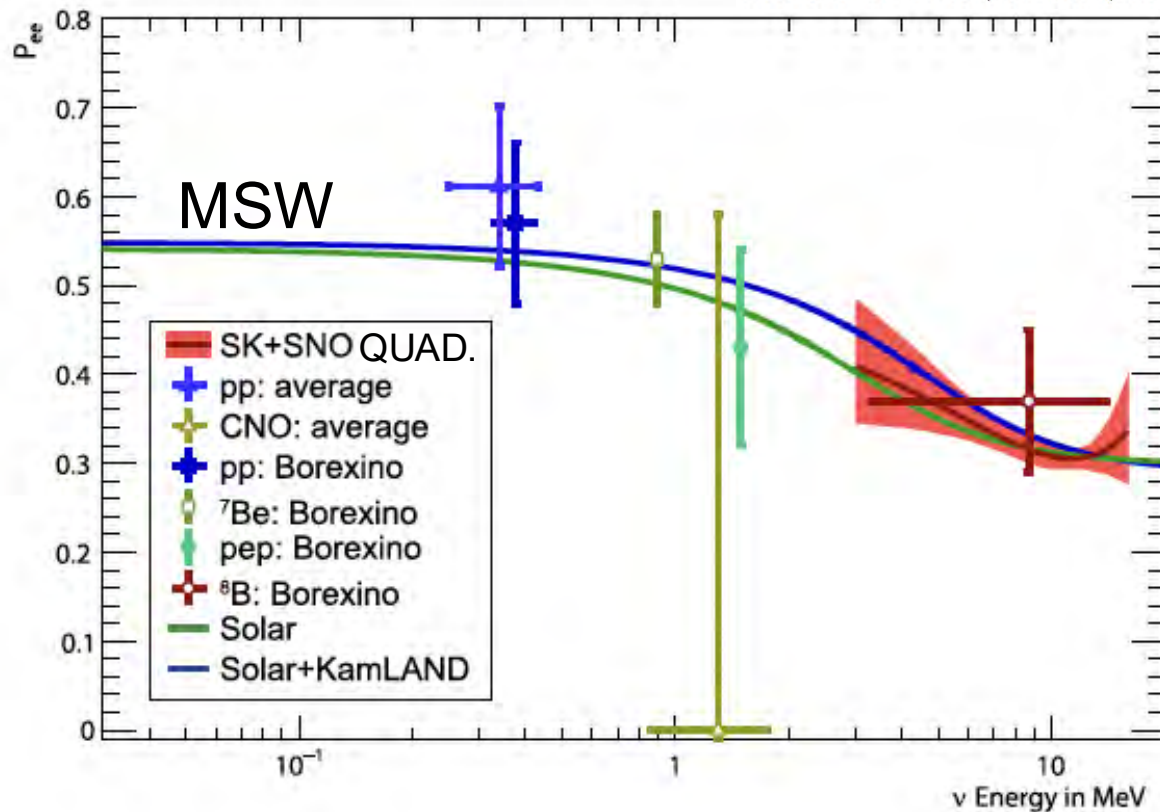
$$\Delta m_{21}^2 = 6.10^{+0.95}_{-0.81} \times 10^{-5} \text{ eV}^2$$

$\sim 1.5 \sigma$  away from KamLAND  
Previously, larger tensions.

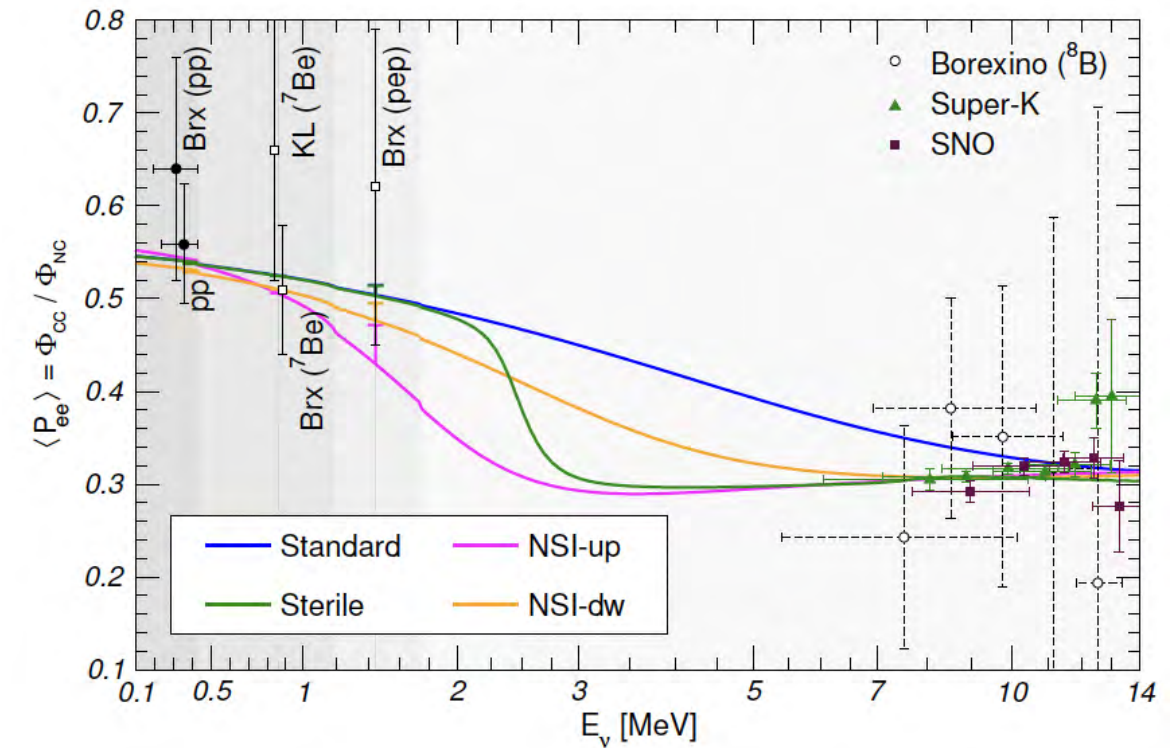


# $P_{ee}$ : VACUUM TO MATTER TRANSITION

PHYS. REV. D **109**, 092001 (2024)

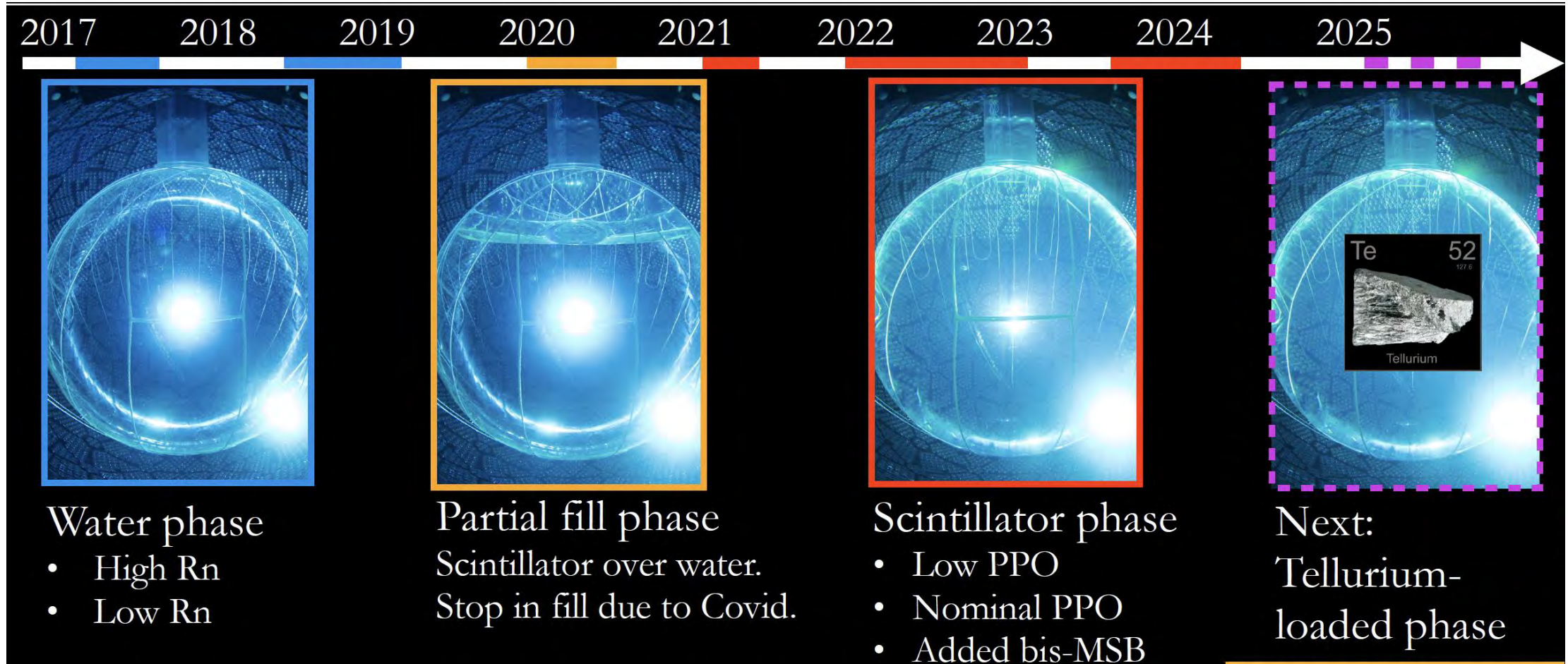


M. Maltoni et al., Eur. Phys. J. A 52 (2016) 87



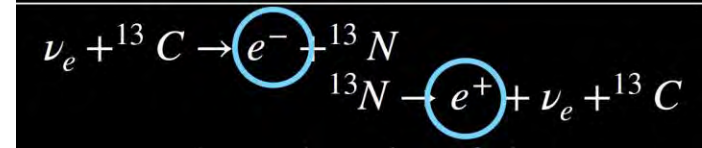
Transition region crucial for testing BSM ideas.

# SNO+ IN SUDBURY, CANADA

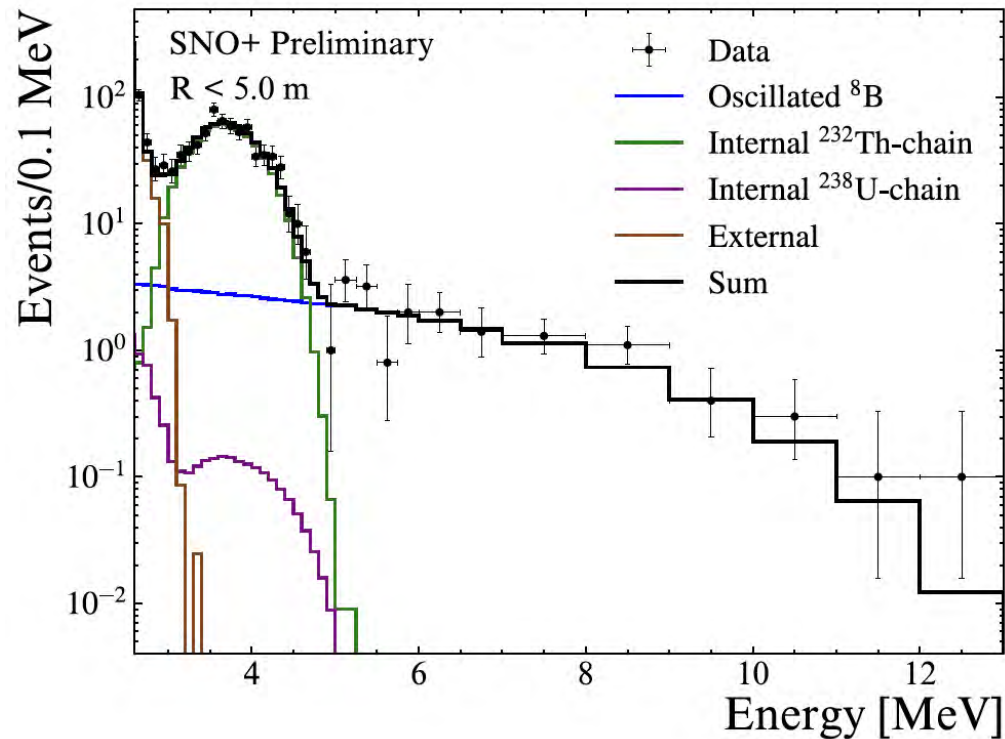




# SNO+ AND 8B SOLAR ANALYSIS

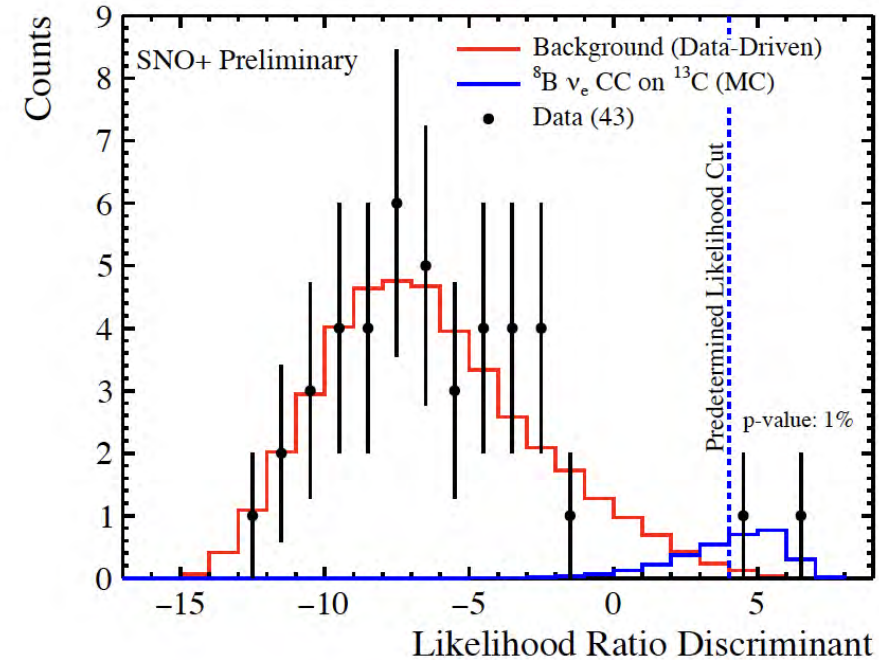


## Elastic scattering (singles)



- ES interactions in 138.9 live days of scintillator data.
- Fitted oscillation parameters compatible with global fits.
- Smaller FV opens door towards  $< 3$  MeV.

## Charge current on ${}^{13}\text{C}$ (coincidence)

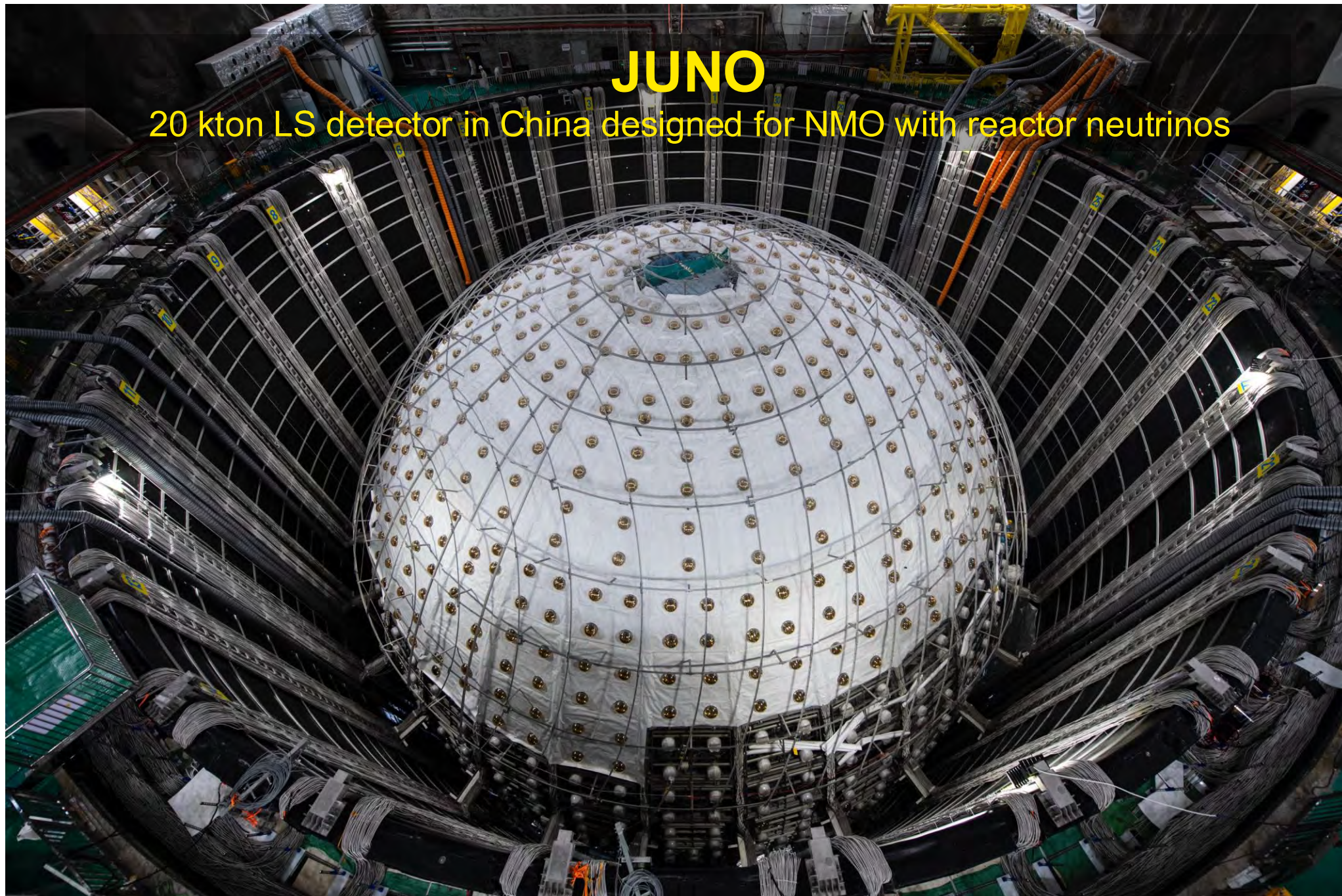


- 1.1% isotopic abundance, but  $\sigma \sim 12\times$  higher than ES.
- Never observed – 2 events indicative and compatible with expected signal.



# JUNO

20 kton LS detector in China designed for NMO with reactor neutrinos





# MODEL INDEPENDENT MEASUREMENT OF $^8\text{B}$ SOLAR NEUTRINOS

## Interaction channels of $^8\text{B}$ - $\nu$ :

**ES:**  $\nu_x + e^- \rightarrow \nu_x + e^-$

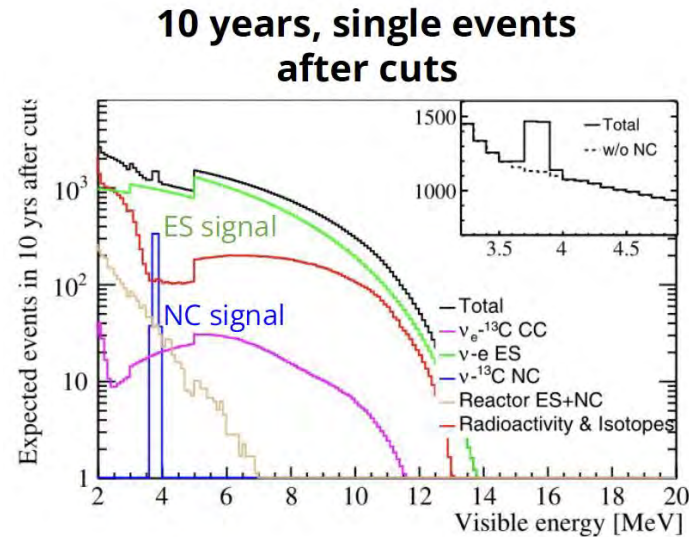
- No threshold
- All flavours &  $\sigma(\nu_{\mu,\tau}) / \sigma(\nu_e) = 1/6$
- Single events - continuous spectrum

**CC:**  $\nu_e + {}^{13}\text{C} \rightarrow e^- + {}^{13}\text{N}$

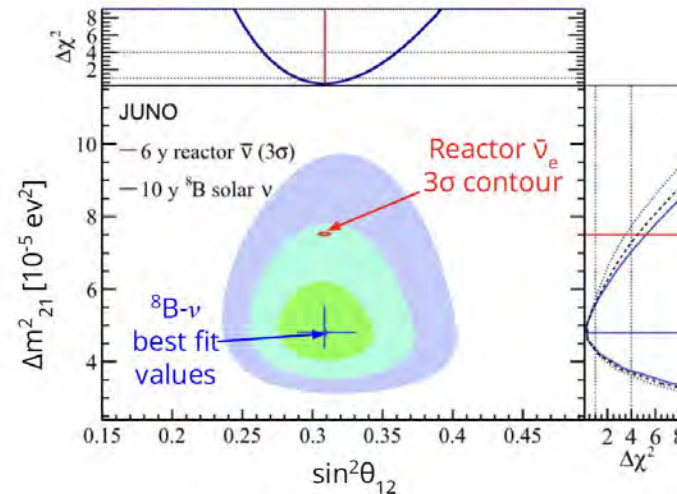
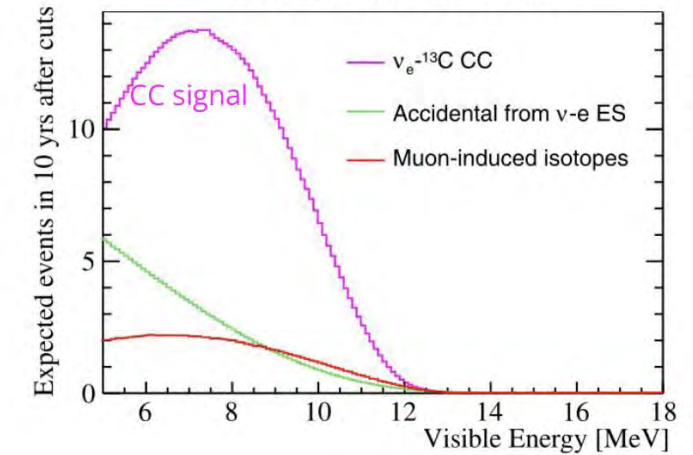
- $E_{\text{thr}} = 2.2 \text{ MeV}$
- Possible only with  $\nu_e$
- Prompt:  $e^-$ ; Delayed:  ${}^{13}\text{N}$  decay

**NC:**  $\nu_x + {}^{13}\text{C} \rightarrow \nu_x + {}^{13}\text{C}^*$

- $E_{\text{thr}} = 3.685 \text{ MeV}$
- All flavors & equal  $\sigma$
- Single events - monochromatic  $\gamma$



## 10 years, correlated prompt events after cuts



Potential to search for possible discrepancies

## Expected precision in 10 years:

$^8\text{B}$  flux: 5% JUNO

$\sin^2 \theta_{12}$ : +9% / -8%

$\Delta m^2_{21}$ : +27% / -17%

ES: *Chinese Phys. C* 45 (2021) 1

ES+NC+CC: *Ap. J.* 965 (2024) 122

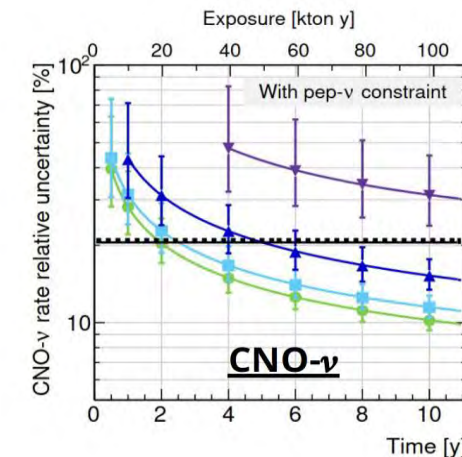
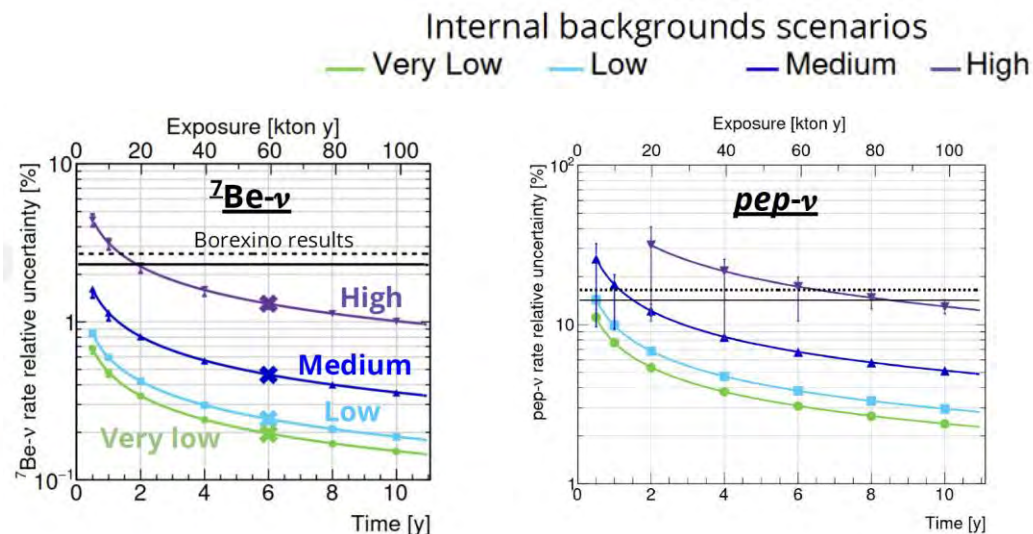
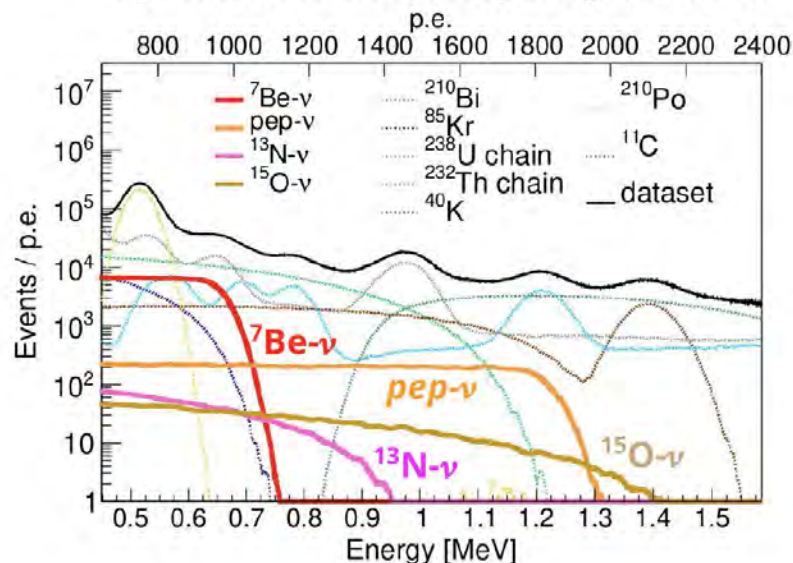


# SENSITIVITY TO $^7\text{Be}$ , pep, CNO SOLAR NEUTRINOS

58

ES:  $\nu_x + e^- \rightarrow \nu_x + e^-$

6 years, Medium radiopurity scenario



*J. Cos. Astro. Phys. 10 (2023) 022.*

- Several radio-purity scenarios: from the Borexino level up to the “IBD” one (minimum required for the NMO)
- JUNO has potential to improve the precision of the existing Borexino measurements
  - **$^7\text{Be}$** : in 1-2 years time  $< 2.7\%$  (current Borexino precision) for all radiopurity scenarios
  - **pep**: in 1-2 years time  $< 17\%$  (current Borexino precision), only in IBD scenario after more than 6 years
  - **CNO**: constraining pep rate is crucial, precision of 20% possible in 2 to 4 years (except for the IBD scenario)
    - constraint of  $^{210}\text{Bi}$  radioactive background not needed (applied in Borexino analysis *Nature* 587 (2020) 577–582)
    - Independent measurement of  $^{13}\text{N}$  and  $^{15}\text{O}$  might be possible for the first time.

# Solar neutrino Summary & outlook

- **Worldwide** solar neutrino experiments
- Experiments at geologically particular locations

- **Borexino** (Italy): comprehensive solar neutrino spectroscopy, CNO discovery, stopped data-taking in October 2021.
- **SuperKamiokande** (Japan): the most precise  $^8\text{B}$  analysis, data taking with Gd loading ongoing, solar analysis with special analyses possible.
- **SNO+** (Canada): first  $^8\text{B}$  analyses, CC on  $^{13}\text{C}$  seems feasible.
- **JUNO** (China): 20 kton LS & comprehensive solar neutrino program. Fully filled detector in summer 2025.
- **HyperKamiokande** (Japan): 260 kton water, the largest solar detector, upturn & MSW test, precise D/N asymmetry, potential for *hep* discovery. Start expected in 2027.
- **JINPING** (China): deepest lab, 500 m<sup>3</sup> to be filled with water and later LS (slow or loaded), data 2027.
- **DUNE, THEIA, SUPER CHOOZ** – solar also among their goals, further future.



# Vulcanism



# Geoneutrinos

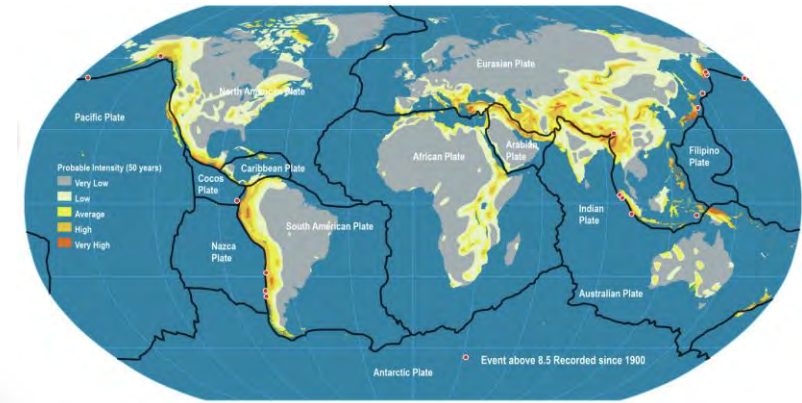
From where is coming  
the energy driving these processes?

How can **neutrino physics** help us to  
understand?

**Earth shines in geoneutrinos:**  
 $\text{flux} \sim 10^6 \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$

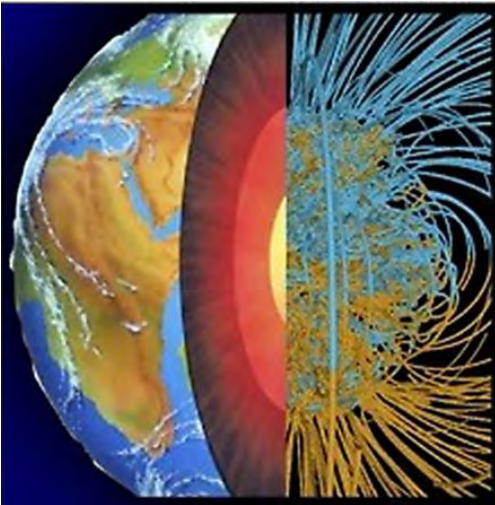
# Plate tectonics & mantle convection

60



<https://transportgeography.org>

# Geo-dynamo



# Earthquakes

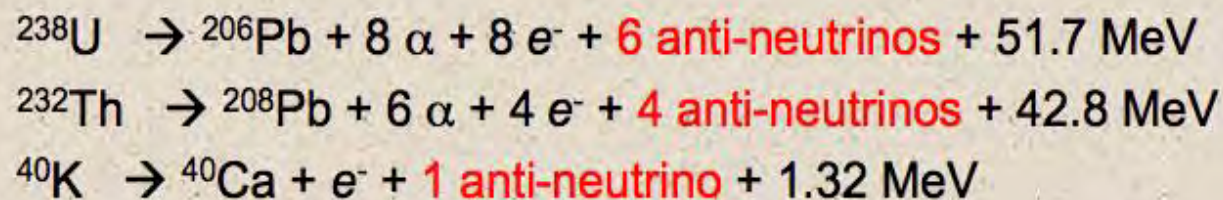


L'Aquila, Italy, 2009

# GEONEUTRINOS AND GEOSCIENCE

Nuclear physics

Abundances  
(mass)  
of radioactive  
elements



**Main goal:**

**Mantle radiogenic heat**

- Mantle homogeneity
- U/Th ratio
- Earth formation



Distribution of radioactive elements



Signal  
prediction

Geoneutrino flux  
(signal)

Signal  
interpretation

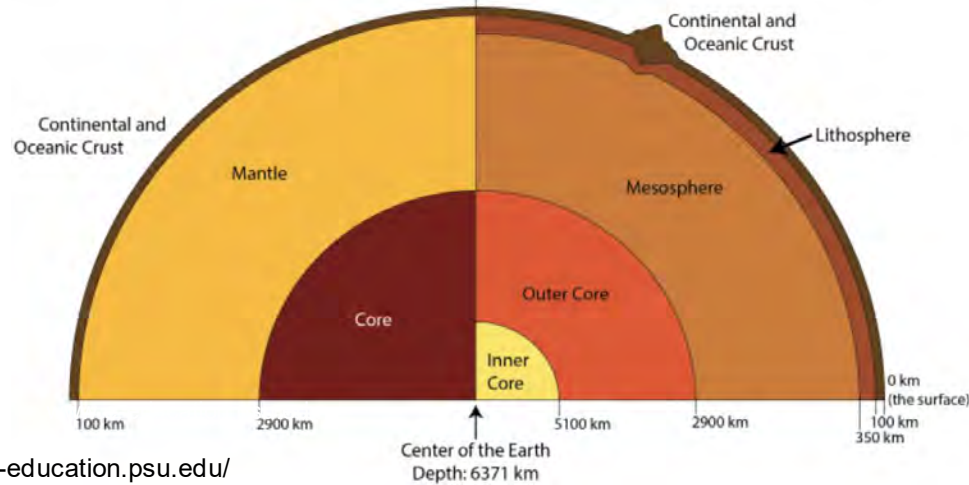
**Neutrino geoscience:** a truly inter-disciplinary field!



# THE EARTH TODAY

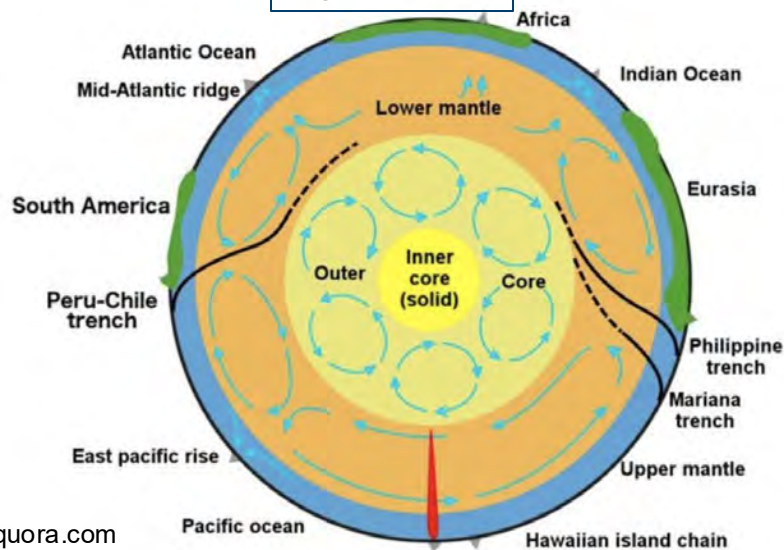
## Compositional layers

## Mechanical layers



www.e-education.psu.edu/

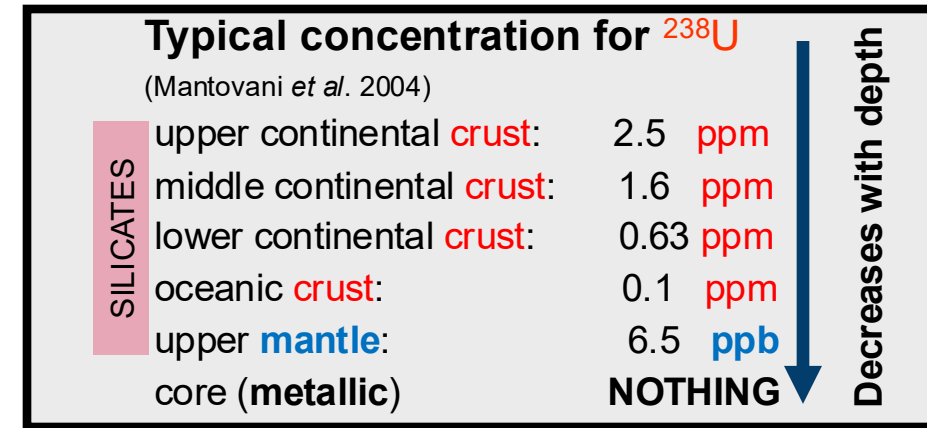
## Dynamics



www.quora.com

## U and Th distribution

**Refractory** (high condensation T) & **Lithophile** (silicate loving)



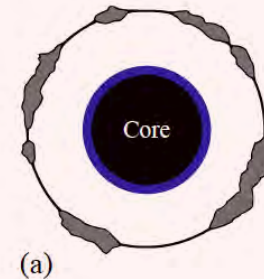
U/Th distribution in the mantle (3 scenario)

Geoneutrino flux from the mantle

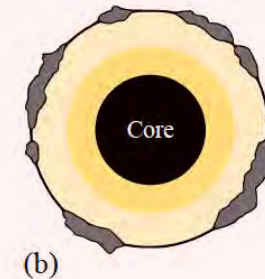
Low

Intermediate

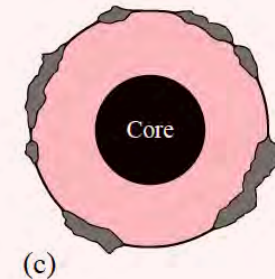
High



(a)



(b)



(c)

PHYS. REV. D 101, 012009 (2020)

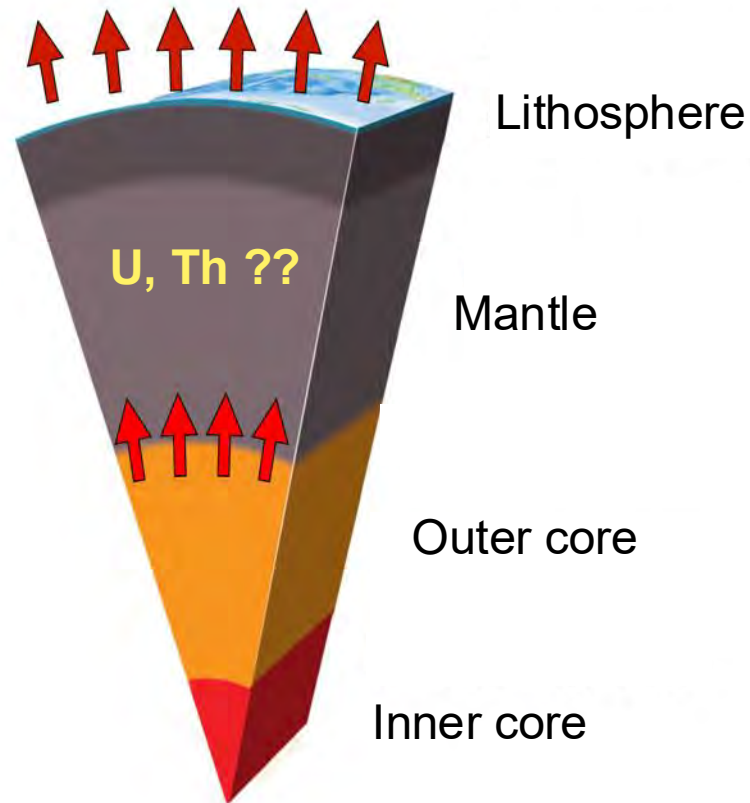


# THE EARTH'S HEAT BUDGET

## Integrated surface heat flux:

From measured T-gradients along bore-holes

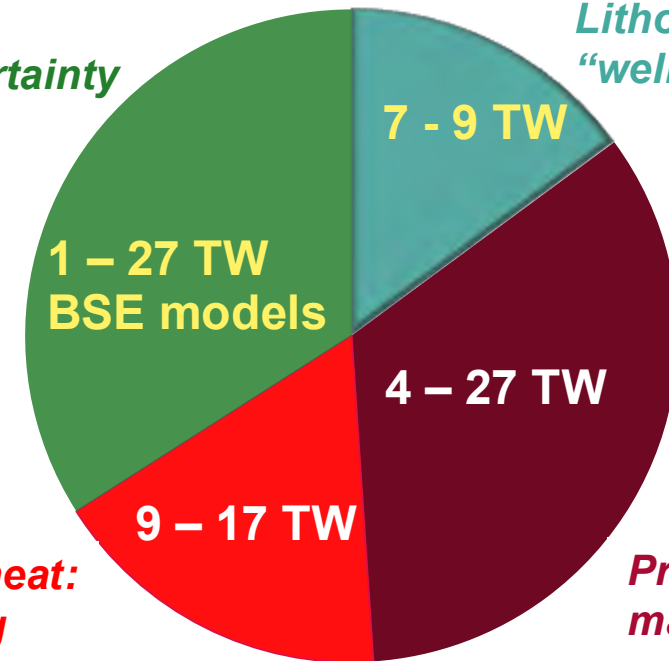
$$H_{\text{tot}} = 47 \pm 2 \text{ TW}$$



## Radiogenic heat & Geoneutrinos

*Mantle  
big uncertainty*

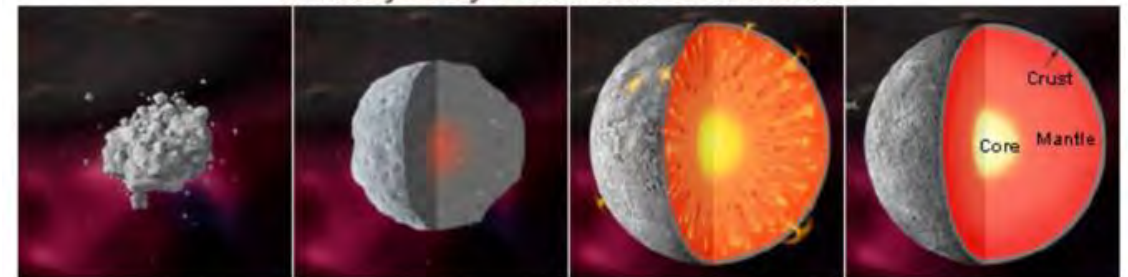
*Lithosphere  
"well" known*



*Primordial heat:  
core cooling*

*Primordial heat:  
mantle cooling*

*A Rocky Body Forms and Differentiates*



(From Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History - [http://www.mnh.si.edu/earth/text/5\\_1\\_4\\_0.html](http://www.mnh.si.edu/earth/text/5_1_4_0.html))

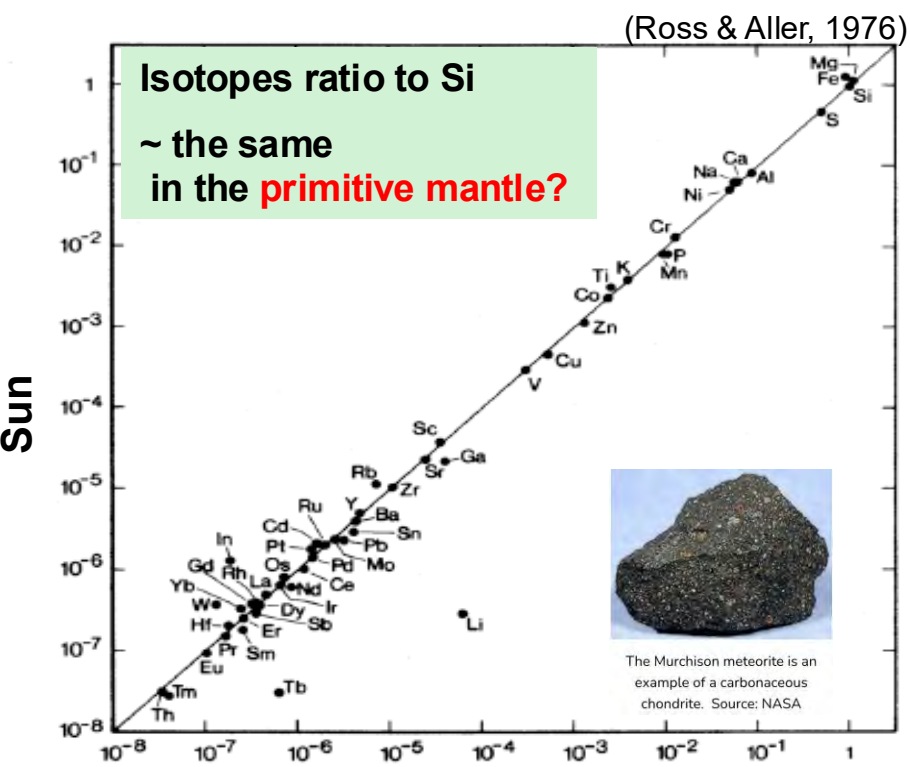
Modeling the composition of the Earth **primitive mantle**  
*Various inputs:* composition of the chondritic meteorites, composition of rock samples from the upper mantle and crust, energy needed to run the mantle convection, correlations with the composition of the solar photosphere, .....

silicate  
primitive mantle

=

present-day  
crust + mantle

PHYS. REV. D 101, 012009 (2020)



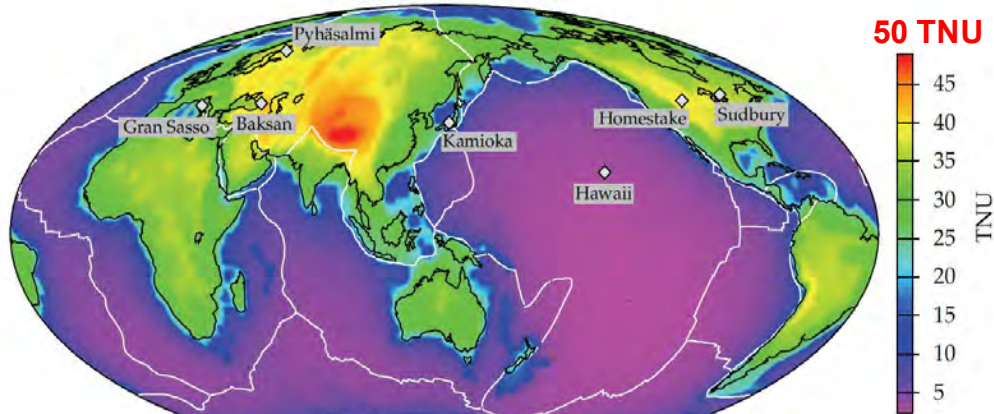
C1 carbonaceous chondritic meteorites

BSE model	M (U) [10 <sup>16</sup> kg]	M (Th) [10 <sup>16</sup> kg]	M (K) [10 <sup>19</sup> kg]	H <sub>rad</sub> (U+Th+K) [TW]	
Cosmochemical (CC)	5 ± 1	17 ± 2	59 ± 12	11.3 ± 1.6	Low Q
Geochemical (CC)	8 ± 2	32 ± 5	113 ± 24	20.2 ± 3.8	Middle Q
Geodynamical (GD)	14 ± 2	57 ± 6	142 ± 14	33.5 ± 3.6	High Q
„Fully radiogenic“ (FR)	20 ± 1	77 ± 3	224 ± 10	47 ± 2	

- Mantle composition is inferred from the BSE models by subtracting the relatively well-known crustal composition
- Ratios of different elements, including U and Th, are much better known than their absolute abundances:  
**mass ratio of Th/U = 3.9**

# GEONEUTRINO SIGNAL WORLDWIDE: from $\phi \sim 10^6 \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$ to a handful of events

Expected **crustal signal**: “known and big”



Earth Planet. Sci. Lett.,  
361 (2013) 356-366)

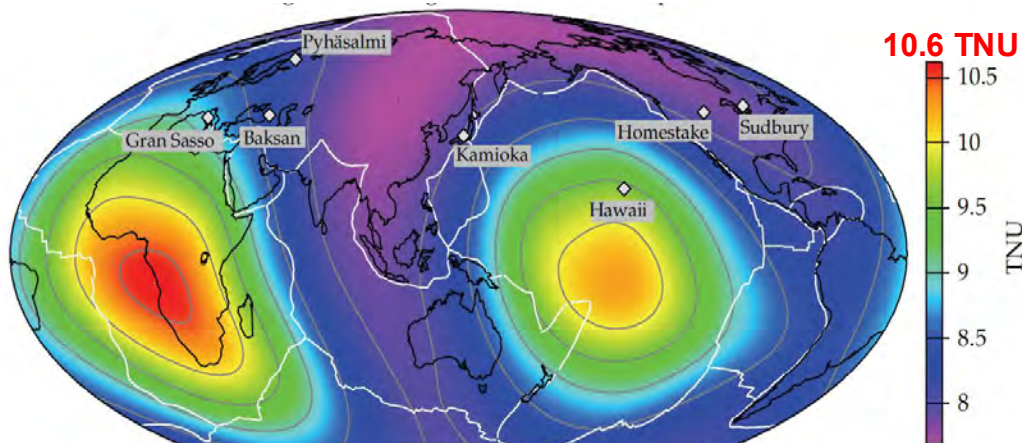
**The signal is small, we need big detectors!**

## Terrestrial Neutrino Unit

1 TNU = 1 event /  $10^{32}$  target protons / year  
cca 1 IBD event / 1 kton / 1 year, 100% detection efficiency

Expected **mantle signal**: super-tiny and unknown

Hypothesis of heterogeneous mantle composition motivated by the observed Large Shear Velocity Provinces at the mantle base



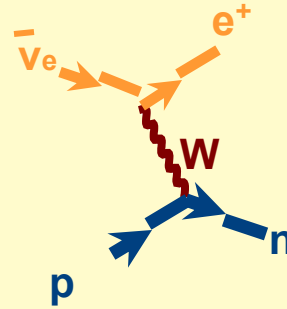
Earth Planet. Sci. Lett.,  
361 (2013) 356-366)

**Mantle signal is even more challenging!**

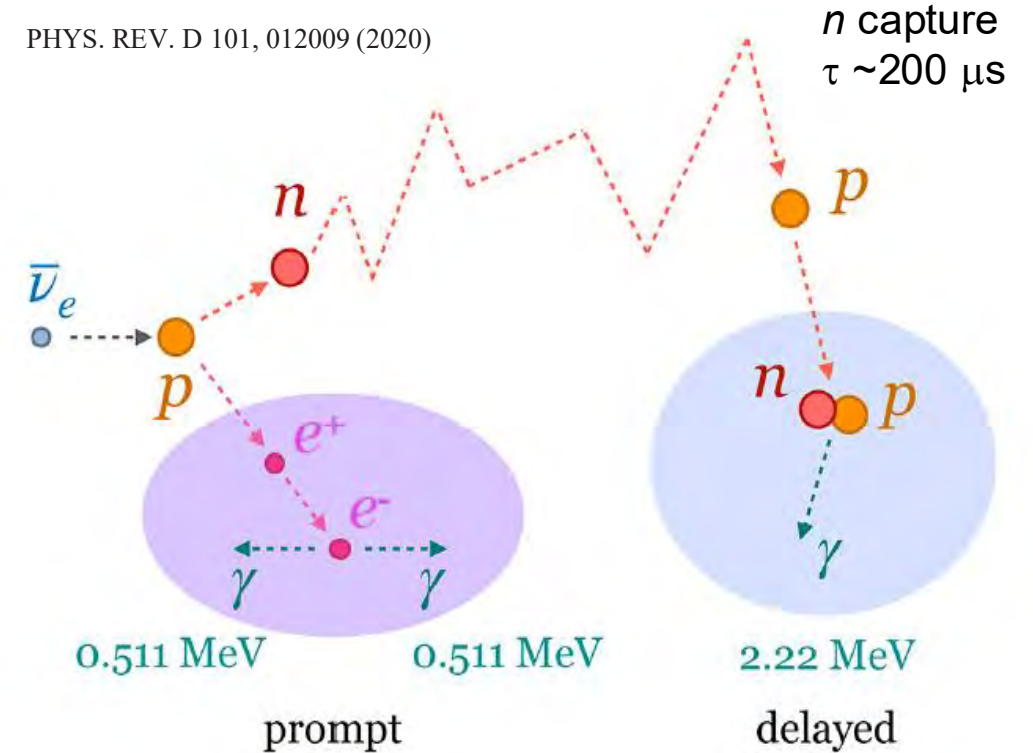
# GEONEUTRINO DETECTION WITH LIQUID SCINTILLATOR <sup>66</sup>

## Electron antineutrino detection: delayed coincidence

- Inverse Beta Decay on proton (IBD)
- Charge current interaction mediated by W bosons
- Sensitive only to **electron flavour antineutrinos**
- Cross section very well known
- Generally, powerful **background suppression** tool
- **Reactor neutrinos** – irreducible background with ~10 MeV end-point, geoneutrinos ~3.3 MeV



PHYS. REV. D 101, 012009 (2020)

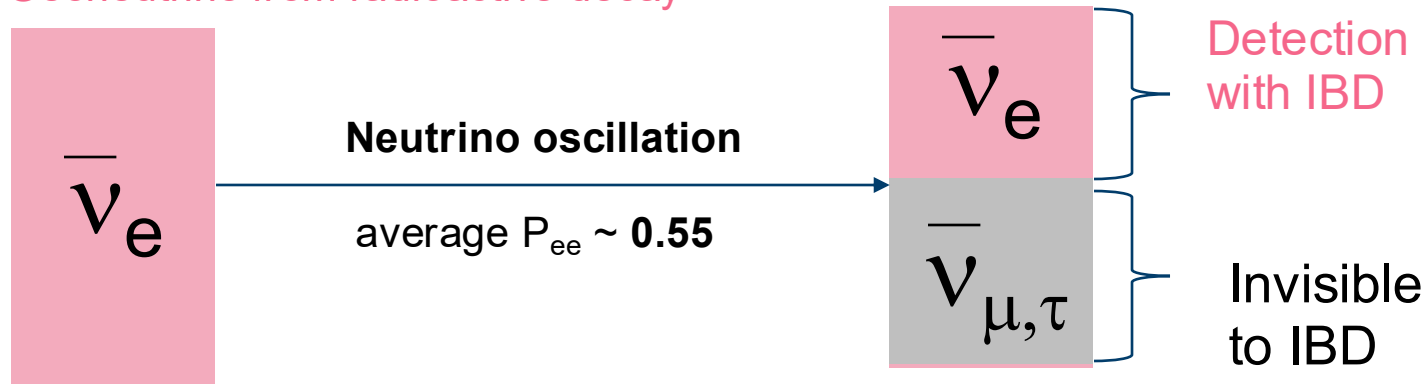


**Energy threshold = 1.8 MeV**

$\sigma$  @ few MeV:  $\sim 10^{-42} \text{ cm}^2$

(~100 x more than elastic scattering on  $e^-$ )

Geoneutrino from radioactive decay

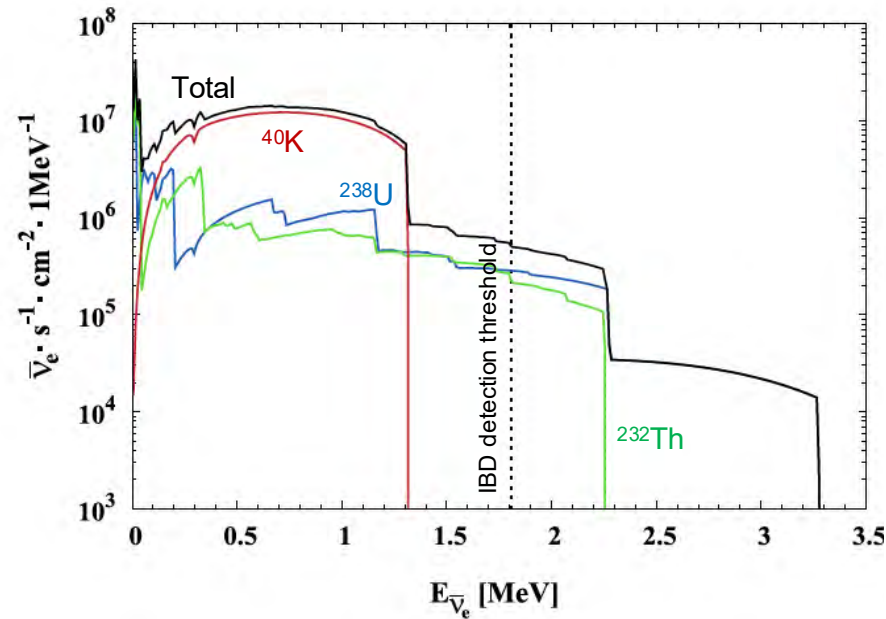


$$\begin{aligned} E_{\text{prompt}} &= E_{\text{visible}} \\ &= T_{e^+} + 2 \times 511 \text{ keV} \\ &\sim E_{\text{antineutrino}} - 0.784 \text{ MeV} \end{aligned}$$

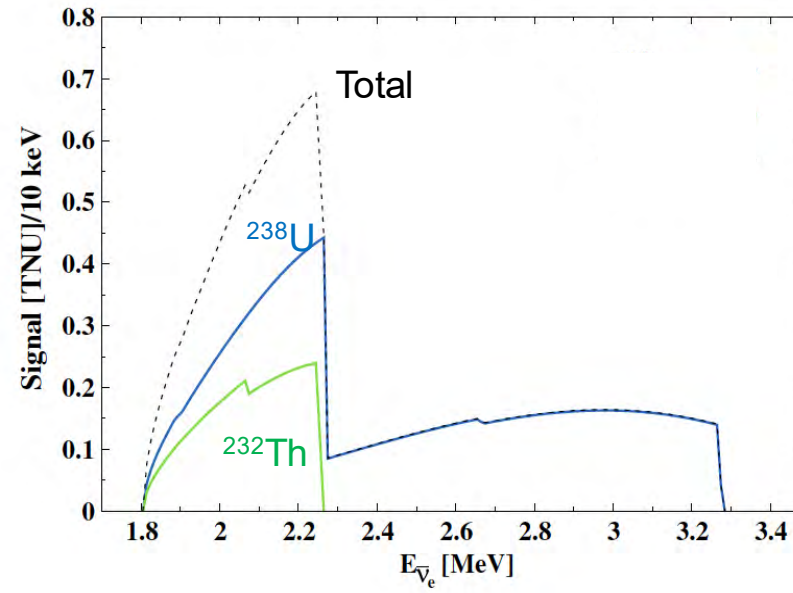


# GEONEUTRINO SPECTRAL SHAPE @ LNGS (BOREXINO SITE)

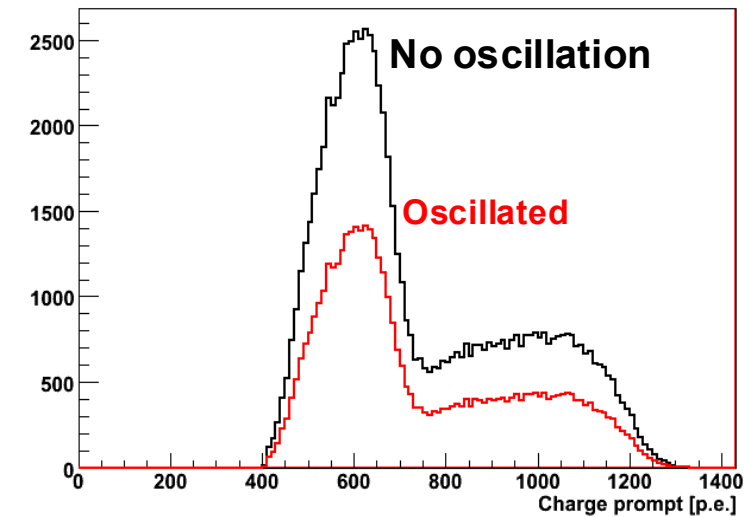
Geoneutrino flux



Geoneutrinos detected via IBD



Effect of neutrino oscillations

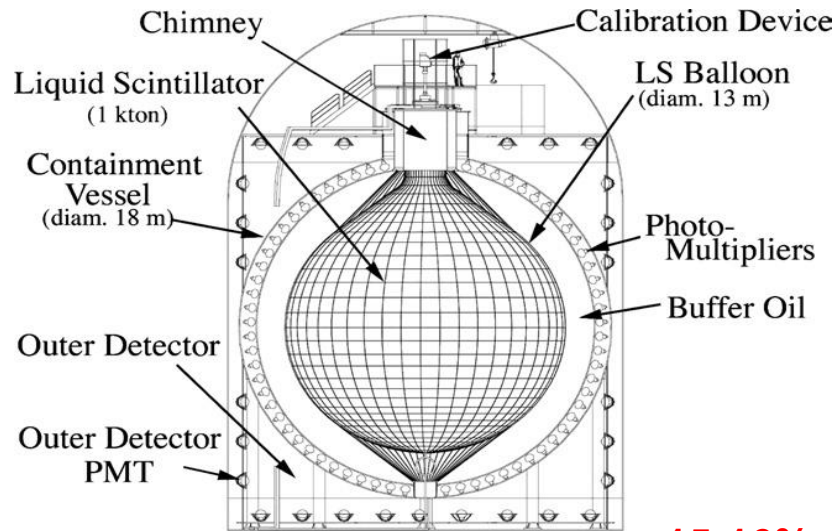


- We are able to **detect geoneutrinos only from the decay chains of  $^{238}\text{U}$  and  $^{232}\text{Th}$**  above 1.8 MeV energy.
- $^{40}\text{K}$  geoneutrinos cannot be detected.
- $^{238}\text{U}$  and  $^{232}\text{Th}$  have different end points of their spectra: **the key how to distinguish them.**
- **Effect of neutrino oscillations:** for 3 MeV antineutrino, the oscillation length is  $\sim 100$  km; considering the Earth's dimensions and the continuous distribution of U and Th: for the precision of the current experiments – only suppression of the visible signal without spectral deformation.

# EXPERIMENTS THAT MEASURED GEONEUTRINOS

## KamLAND, Kamioka, Japan

Border between  
OCEANIC / CONTINENTAL CRUST

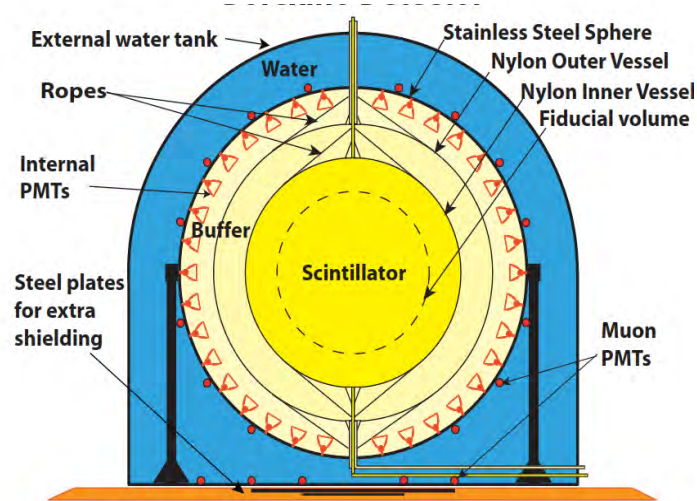


15-16%

- Main goal: reactor neutrinos
- Data taking: since 2022
- LS: 1000 tons;
- Depth: 2700 m.w.e.
- $S(\text{reactors})/S(\text{geo}) \sim 6.7$  (up to 2010)  
 $\sim 0.4$  (from 2011 after Fukushima)

## Borexino, LNGS, Italy

CONTINENTAL CRUST

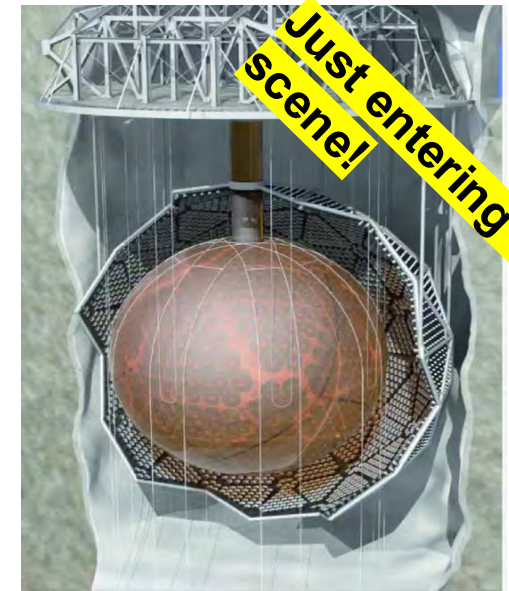


17-18%

- Main goal: solar neutrinos:  
extreme radio-purity needed & achieved;
- Data taking: 2007 - 2021
- LS: 280 tons;
- Depth: 3800 m.w.e.
- $S(\text{reactors})/S(\text{geo}) \sim 0.3$  (2010)

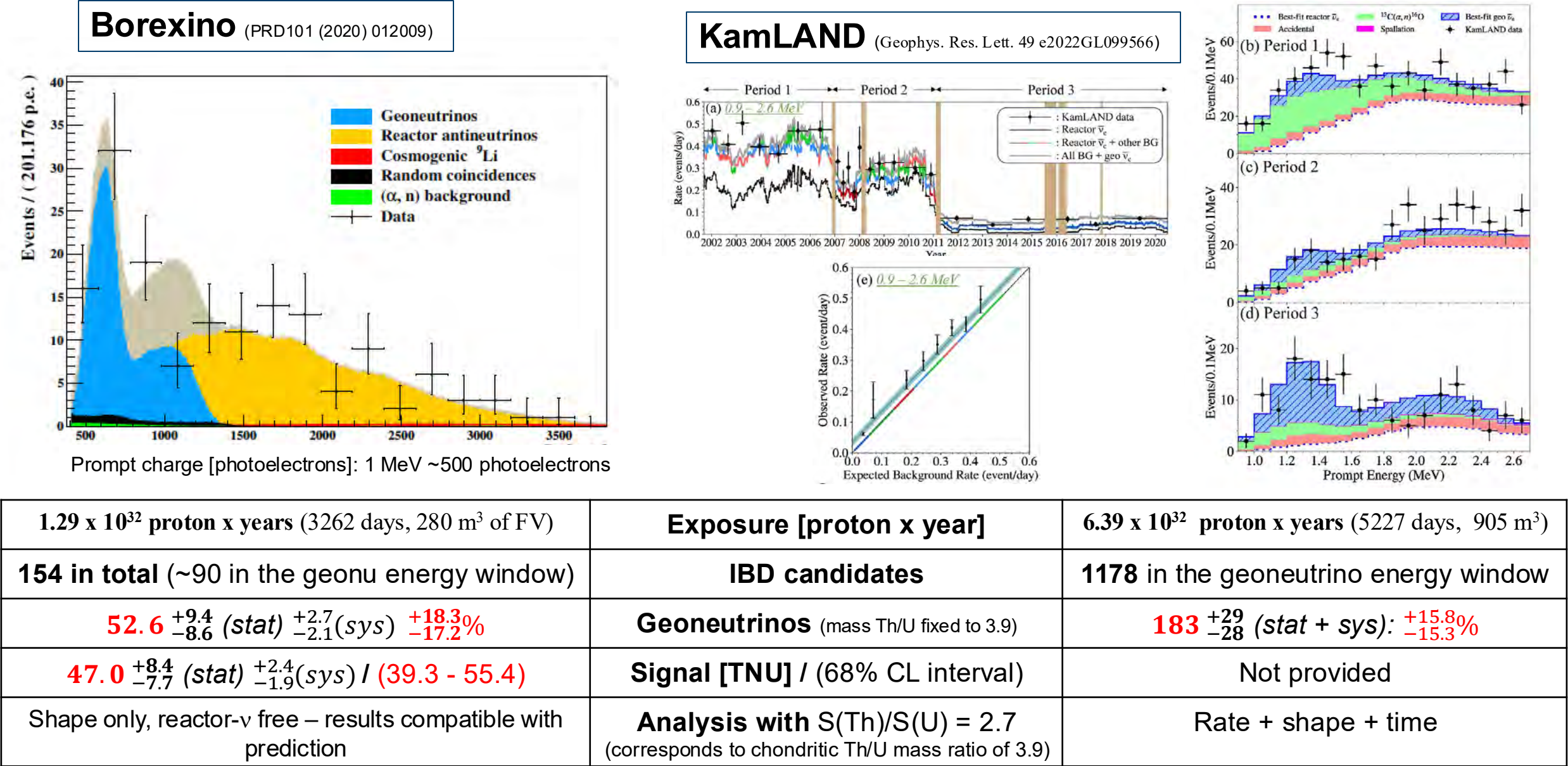
## SNO+

CONTINENTAL SHIELD (OLD CRUST)



43 - 47%

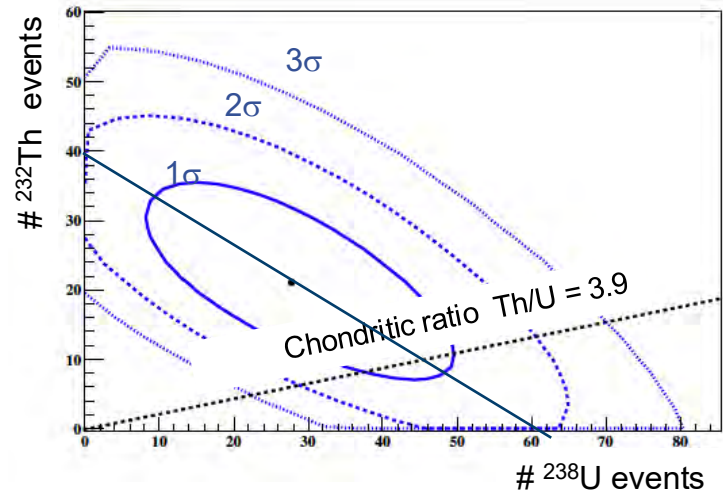
- Main goal:  $0\nu\beta\beta$  decay
- Data taking: since 2022
- LS: 780 tons;
- Depth: 6000 m.w.e.
- Background dominated by  $(\alpha, n)$  and not reactors.





# LATEST RESULTS: SPECTRAL FIT with Th and U free

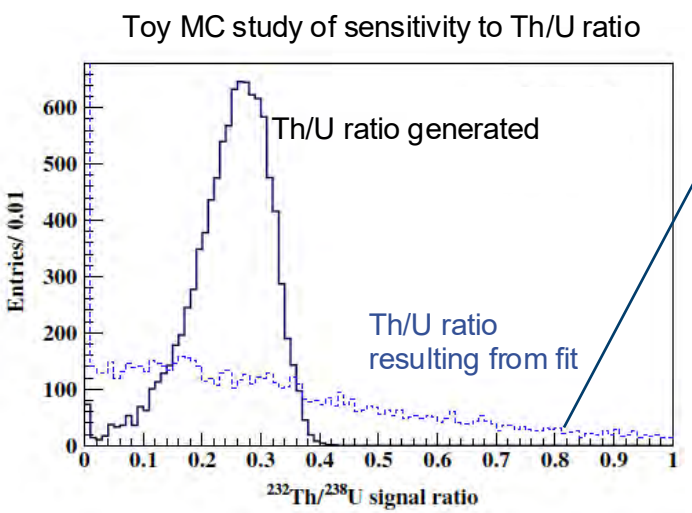
**Borexino** (PRD101 (2020) 012009)



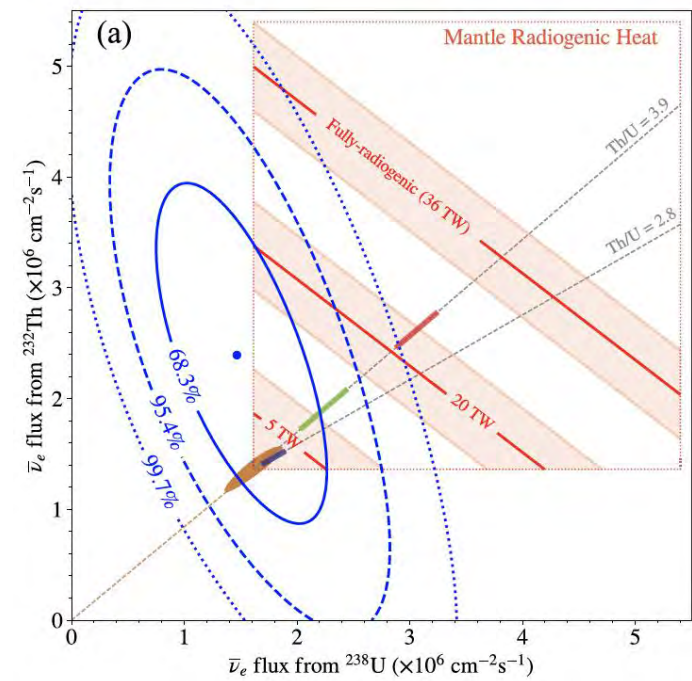
U:  $29.0^{+14.1}_{-12.9}$  events  
Th:  $21.4^{+9.4}_{-9.1}$  events  
U + Th:  $50.4^{+10.1}_{-9.2}$  events

The resulting Th/U ratio is compatible with the chondritic value,

but with the achieved exposure  $1.29 \times 10^{32}$  proton x years, Borexino has no sensitivity to measure the Th/U ratio.



**KamLAND** (Geophys. Res. Lett. 49 e2022GL099566)



$6.39 \times 10^{32}$  proton x year

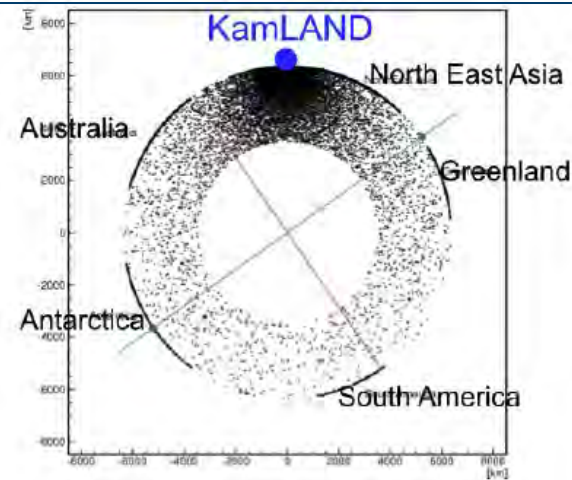
	N of event	0signal rejection
U	$117^{+41}_{-39}$	$3.3\sigma$
Th	$58^{+25}_{-24}$	$2.4\sigma$
U+Th	$174^{+31}_{-29}$	$8.3\sigma$

1. Due to the strong anticorrelation of U and Th components, the total geonu signal is very similar in this fit.
2. But to measure the Th/U ratio, large statistics is needed.

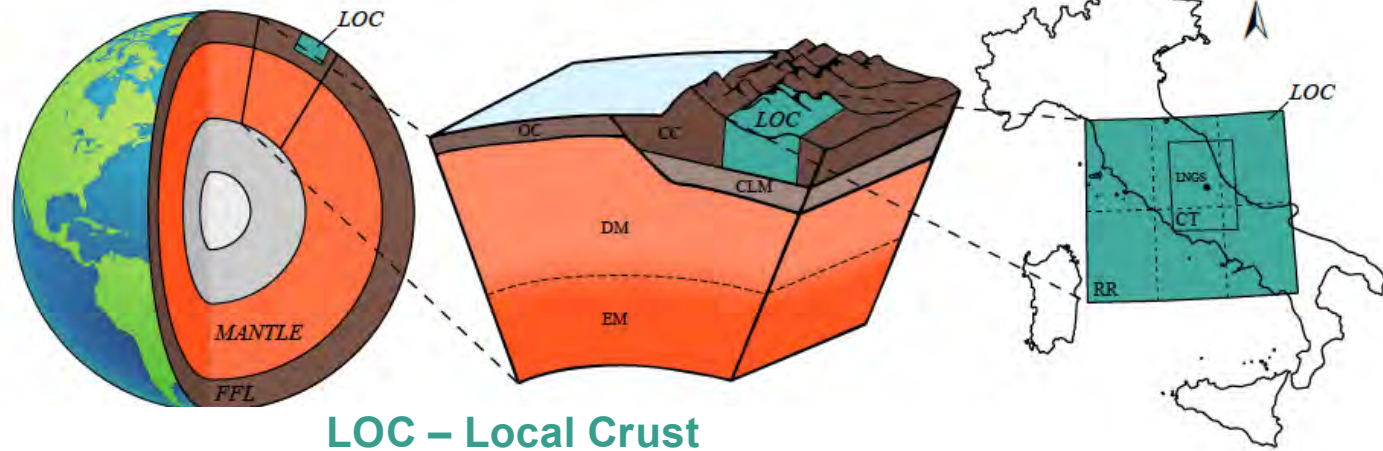
# MANTLE SIGNAL: IMPORTANCE OF LOCAL GEOLOGY

71

Contribution of different Earth's regions to the total KamLAND signal



Courtesy: H. Watanabe



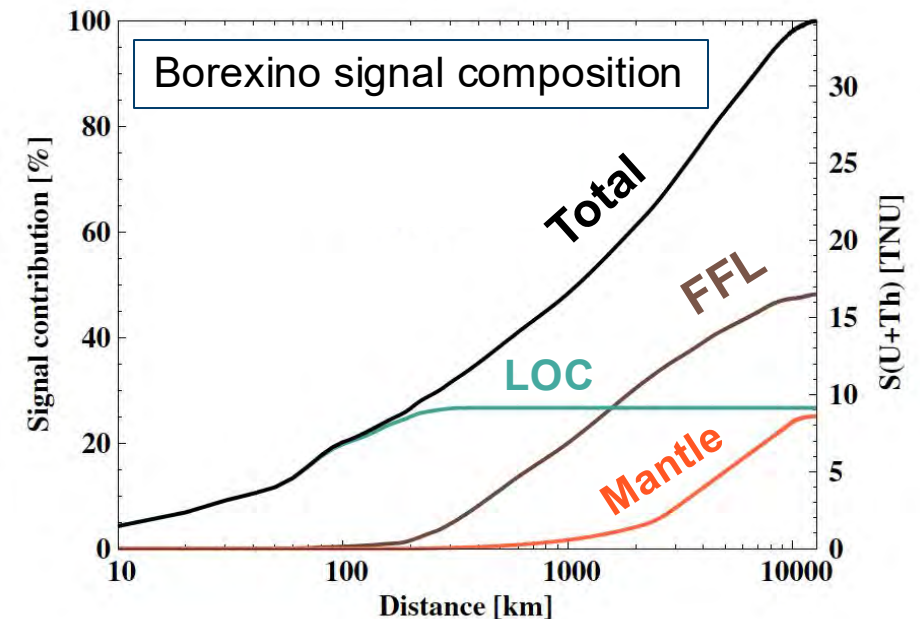
LOC – Local Crust

FFL – Far Field Lithosphere

Mantle

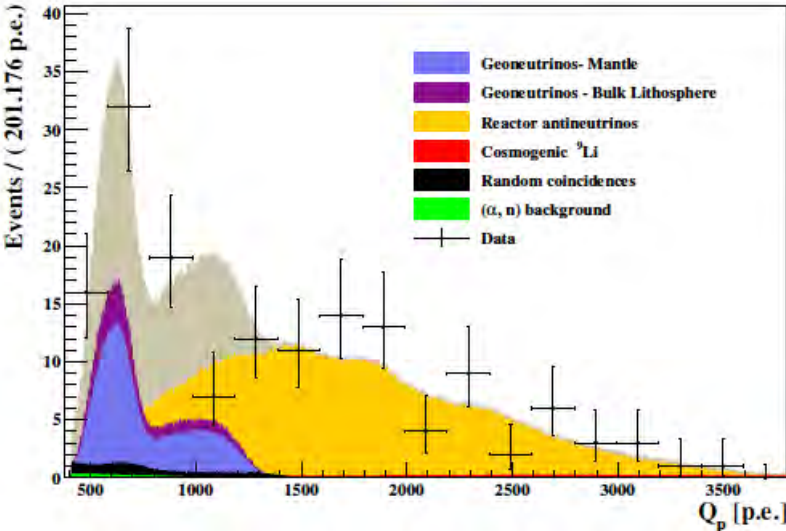
PRD101 (2020) 012009

- In order to measure the **Mantle** signal, lithospheric signal must be subtracted.
- **Local Crust (LOC)** - the area of a few hundreds km around the experiment contributes up to 40-50% of the total geoneutrino signal and must be known rather precisely.
- **Far Field Lithosphere (FFL)** – complementary part of the crust to LOC + the continental lithospheric mantle, more approximations are allowed.

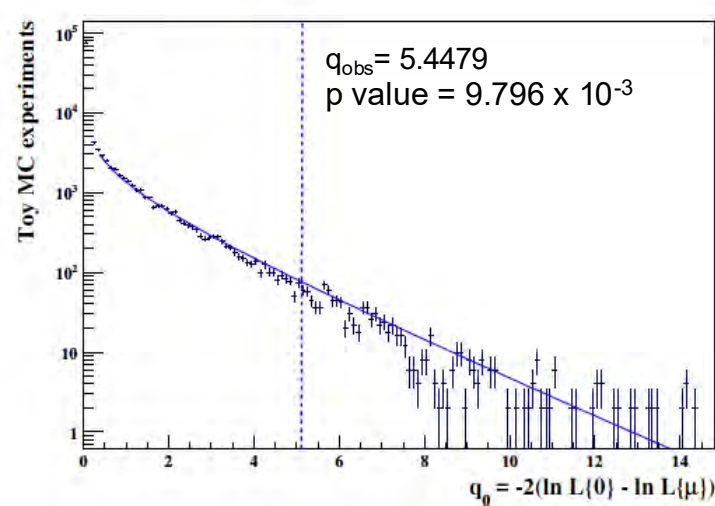


# BOREXINO: MANTLE SIGNAL & RADIOGENIC HEAT

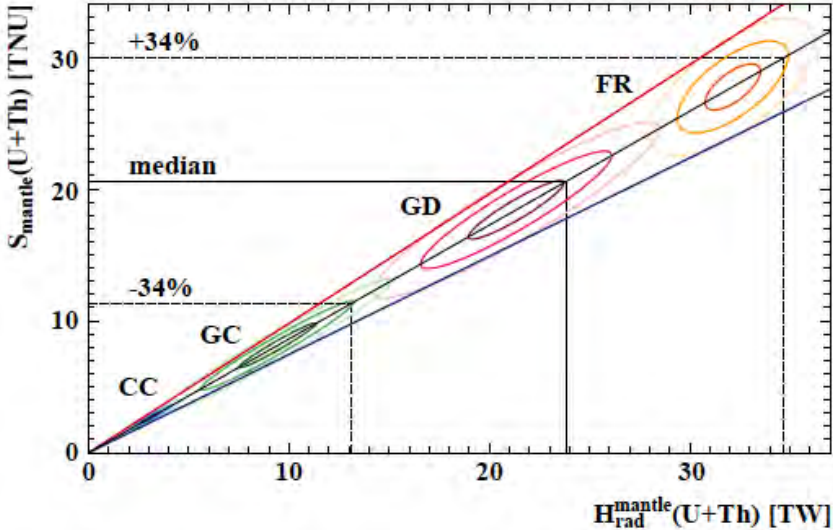
Lithospheric signal:  $(28.8 \pm 5.6)$  events with  $S(\text{Th})/S(\text{U}) = 0.29$   
Mantle:  $S(\text{Th})/S(\text{U}) = 0.26$   
Maintaining for the bulk Earth chondritic Th/U



Sensitivity study using log-likelihood ratio meth



Borexino U+Th mantle signal:



LOC: Coltorti et al. Geochim. Cosmoch. Acta 75 (2011) 2271.  
FFL: Y. Huang et al., Geoch. Geoph. Geos. 14 (2013) 2003.

**Mantle null hypothesis rejected at 99.0% C.L.**

Mantle events	$23.7^{+10.7}_{-10.1}$
Mantle signal U + Th [TNU]	$21.2^{+9.6}_{-9.1}$
Mantle heat U + Th [TW]	$24.6^{+11.1}_{-10.4}$
Earth U + Th + K [TW]	$38.2^{+13.6}_{-12.7}$

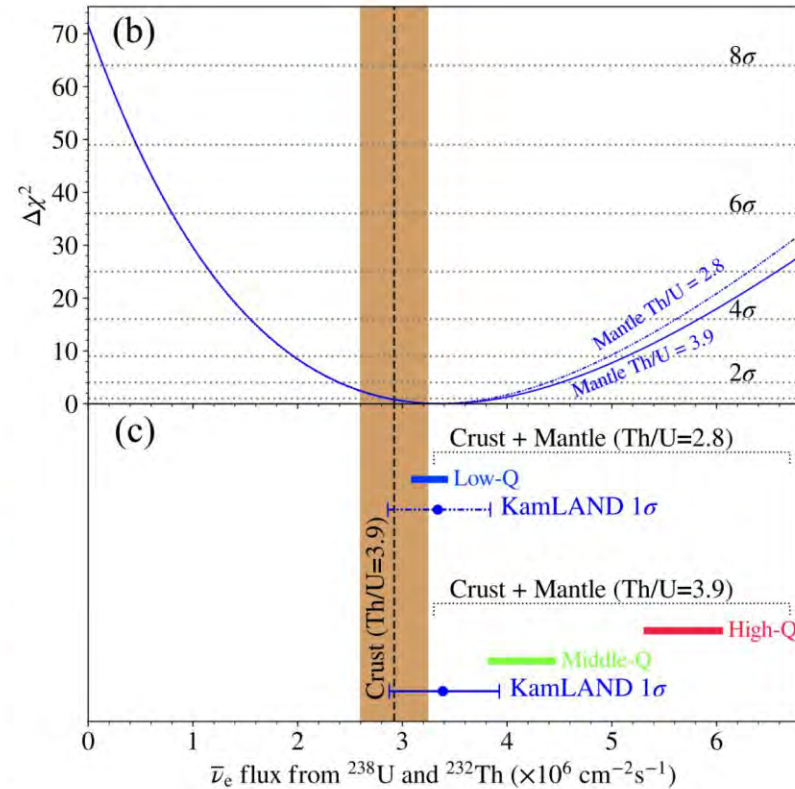
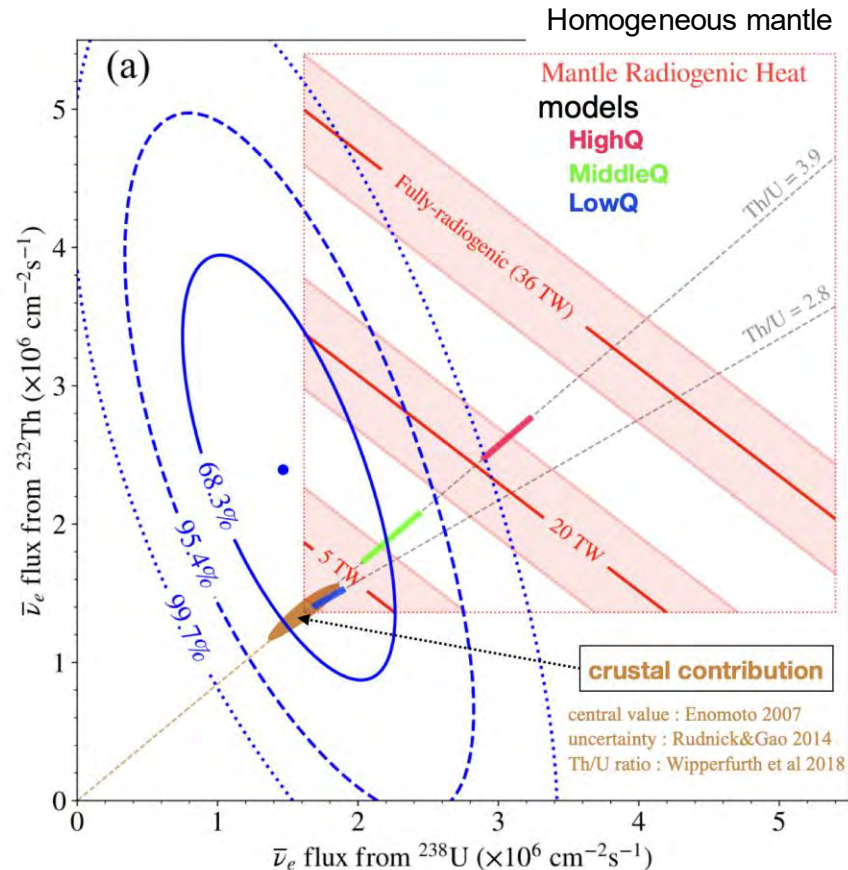
Borexino is compatible with geological predictions but least  $(2.4\sigma)$  compatible with the BSE models predicting the lowest U+Th mantle abundances (CC & LowQ BSE).

- + 18% contribution of  $^{40}\text{K}$  in the mantle
- +  $8.1^{+1.9}_{-1.4}$  TW from lithosphere (U+Th+K)



# KAMLAND: RADIOGENIC HEAT

Geophys. Res. Lett. 49 e2022GL099566 & courtesy H. Watanabe



## ✓ Radiogenic Heat

Th/U free

Adding heat estimate from crust,  
 $^{238}\text{U}$  : 3.4 TW,  $^{232}\text{Th}$  : 3.6 TW

Crust + mantle

$$Q^{\text{U}} = 3.3^{+3.2}_{-0.8} \text{ TW}$$

$$Q^{\text{Th}} = 12.1^{+8.3}_{-8.6} \text{ TW}$$

$$Q^{\text{U}} + Q^{\text{Th}} = 15.4^{+8.3}_{-7.9} \text{ TW}$$

1 $\sigma$  lower limit  
allows negative mantle signal.

HighQ model is rejected at

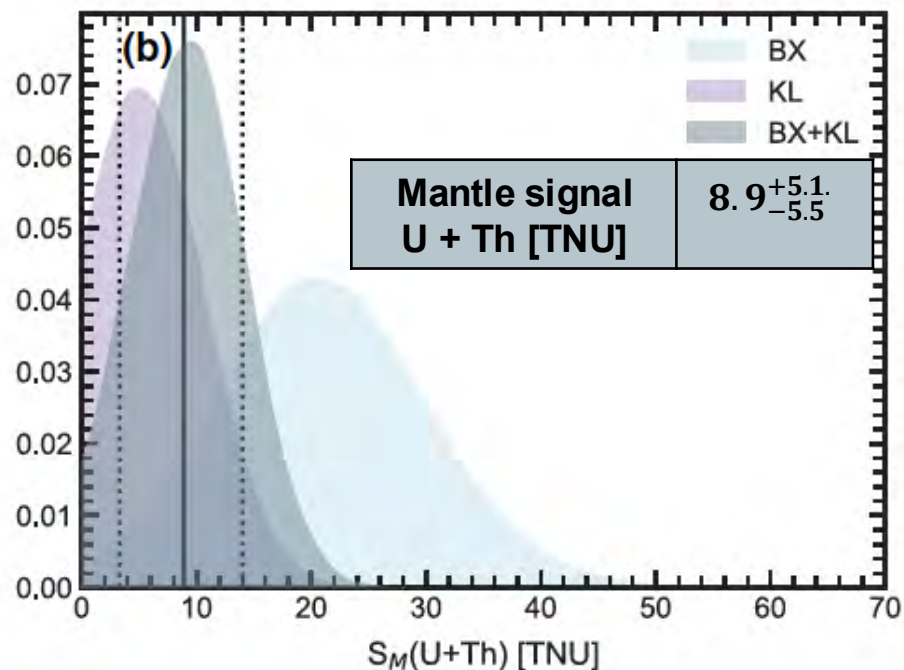
99.76 % C.L. (homogeneous mantle)

97.9% C.L. (concentrated at CMB)

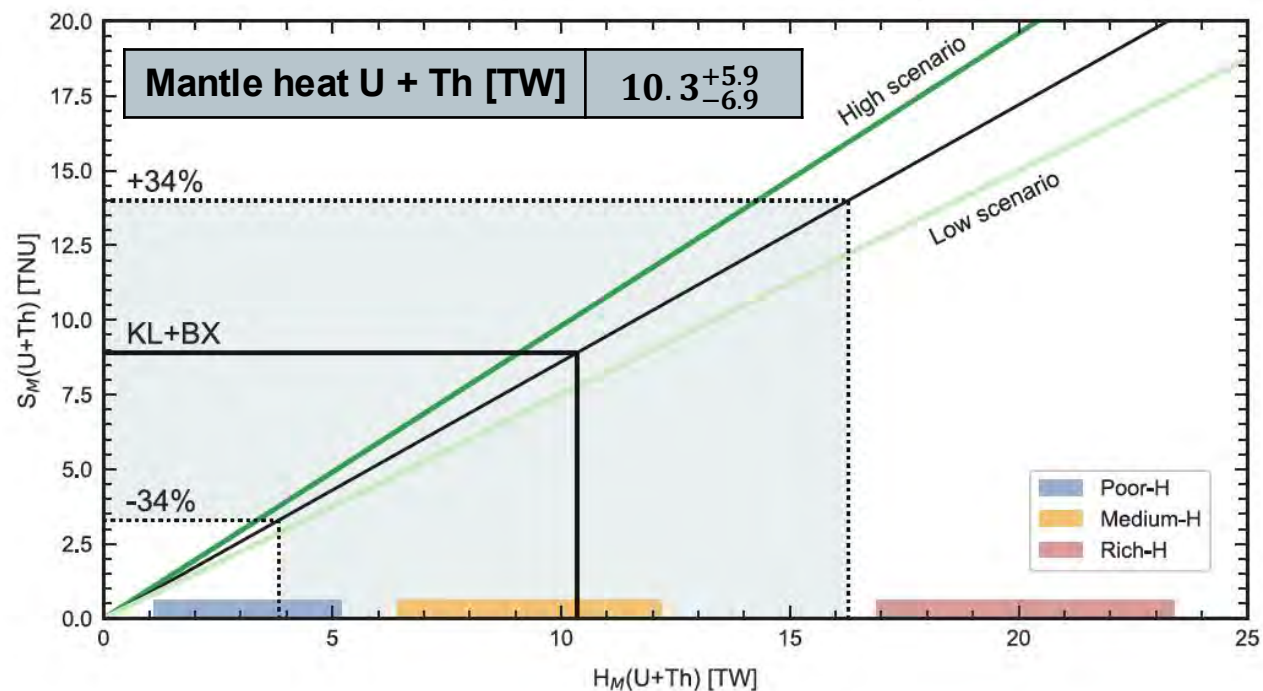
# BOREXINO + KAMLAND COMBINED

Bellini et al.: La rivista del Nuovo Cimento 45 (2022) 1

Mantle U + Th signal



Mantle radiogenic heat vs BSE

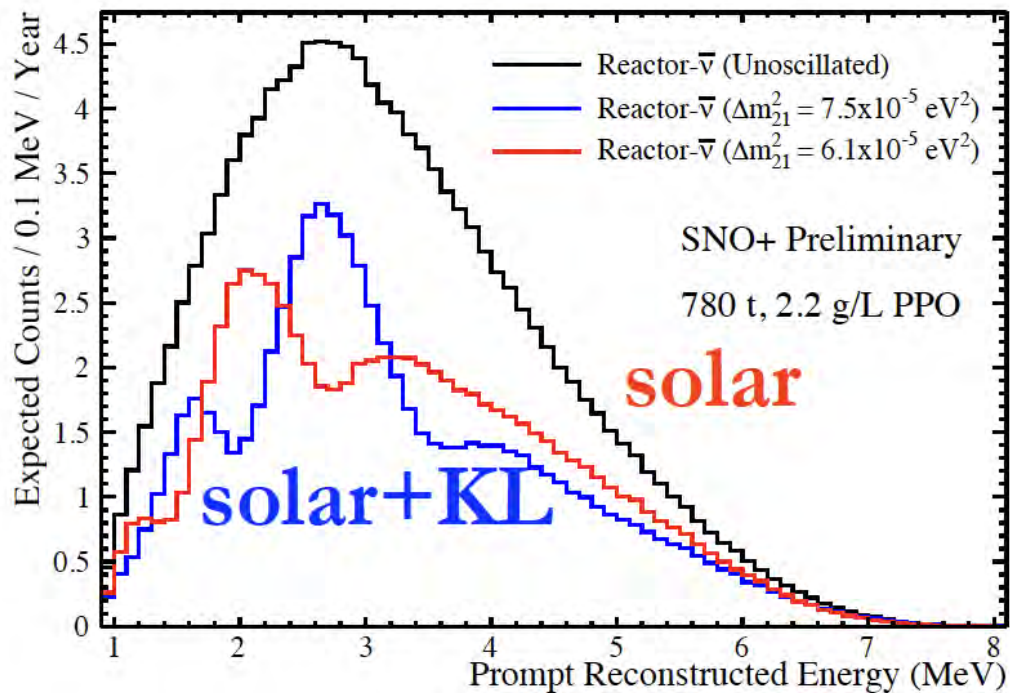


- Analysis assumes laterally homogeneous mantle
- Some level of disagreement between the two experiments
- Combined analysis perfectly compatible with MiddleQ BSE Models

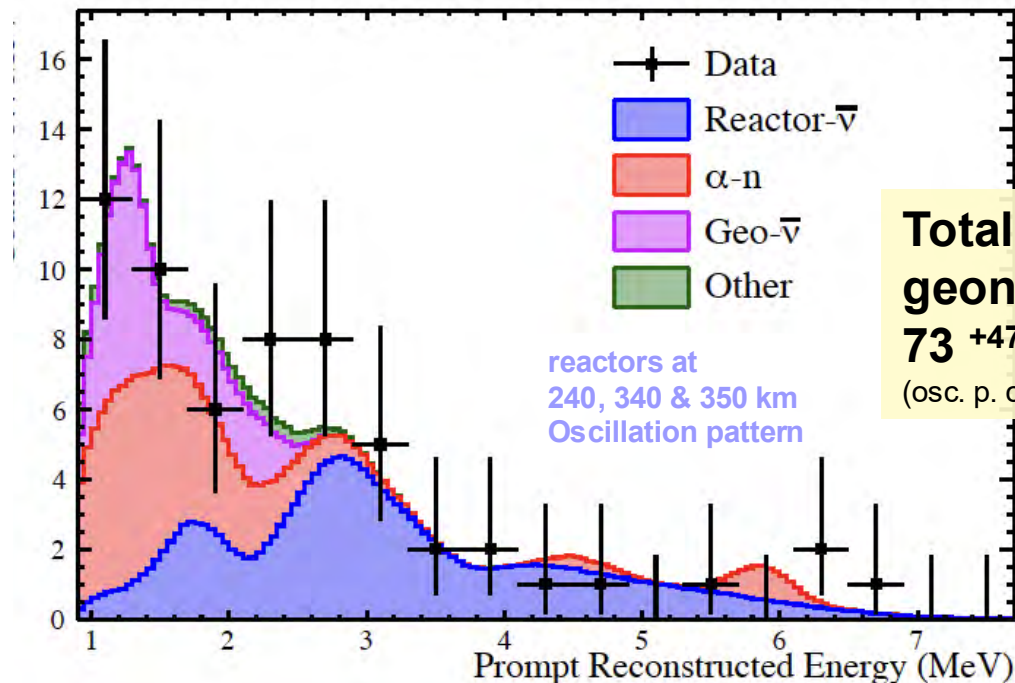
# SNO+ EXPERIMENT IN CANADA – LATEST NEWS

The first data: [May 7 2025 arXiv: 2505.04469v1](#)

134.4 day data set (May 2022 – March 2023)



SNO+ can measure solar oscillation parameters with reactor neutrinos.

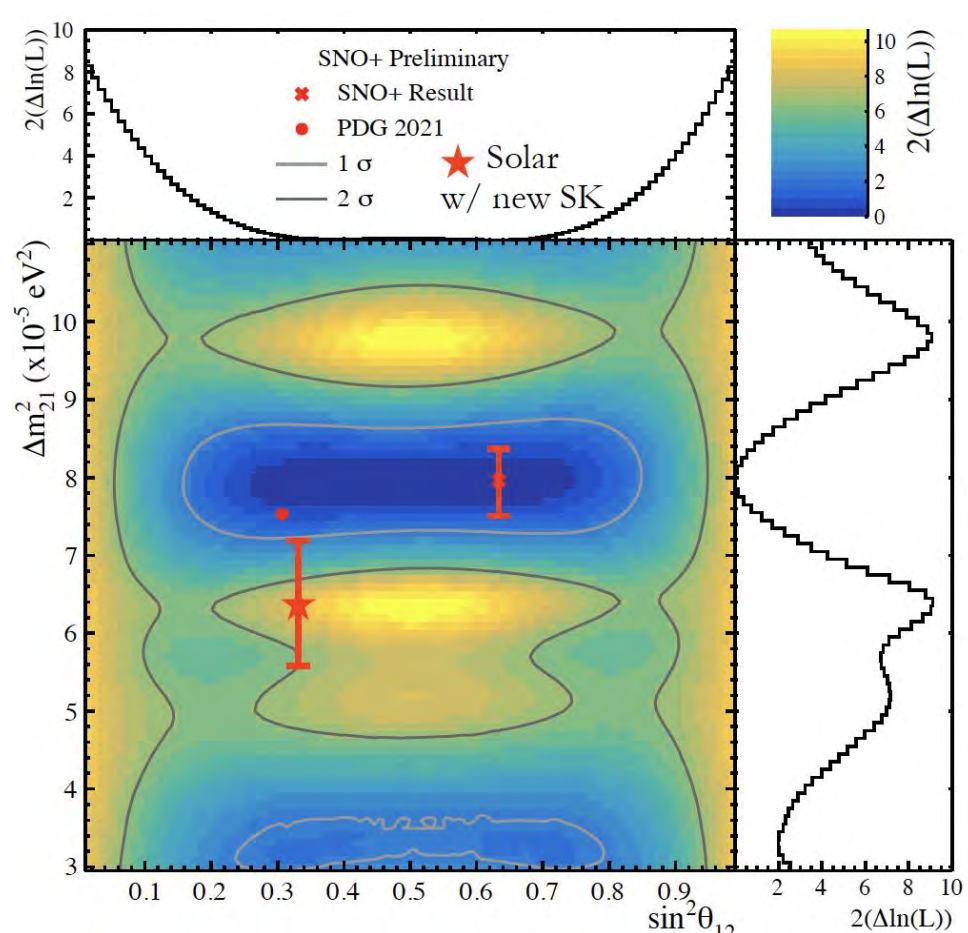


**Total measured  
geoneutrino signal**  
 **$73^{+47}_{-43}$  TNU**  
(osc. p. constrained to PDG 2021)

	Fit (Uncon.)	Fit (Con.)
$\Delta m_{21}^2 (\times 10^{-5} \text{ eV}^2)$	$7.96^{+0.48}_{-0.42}$	$7.58^{+0.18}_{-0.17}$
$\sin^2 \theta_{12}$	$0.62^{+0.16}_{-0.40}$	$0.308 \pm 0.013$
Geo- $\bar{\nu}$ IBD rate (TNU)	$79^{+49}_{-44}$	$73^{+47}_{-43}$



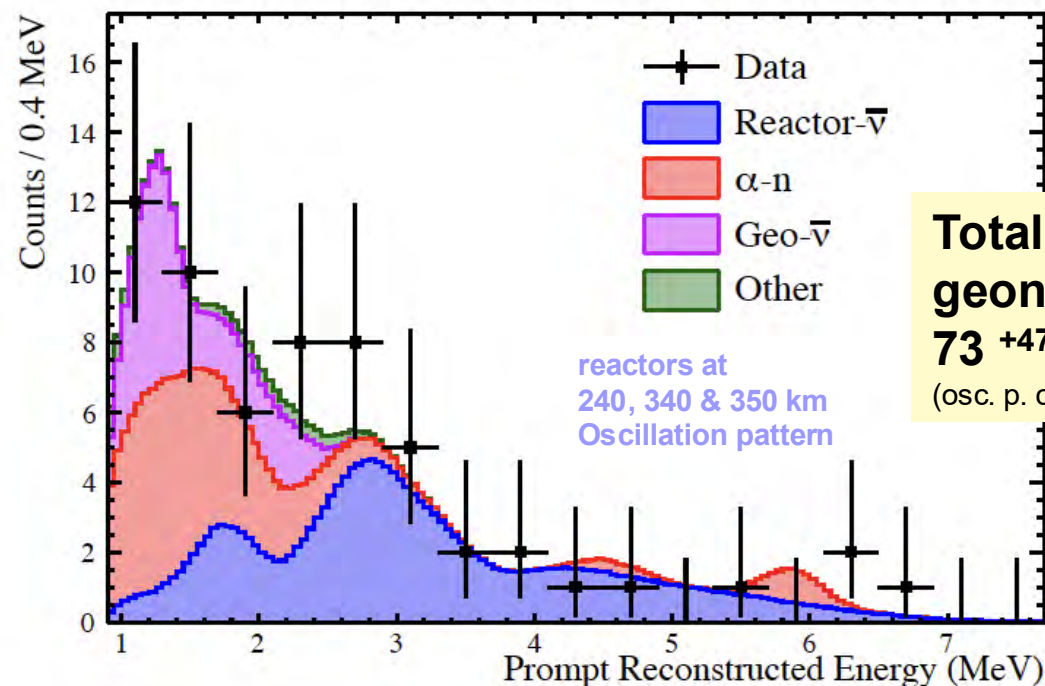
# SNO+ EXPERIMENT IN CANADA – LATEST NEWS



SNO+ can measure solar oscillation parameters also with reactor neutrinos.

The first data: May 7 2025 arXiv: 2505.04469v1

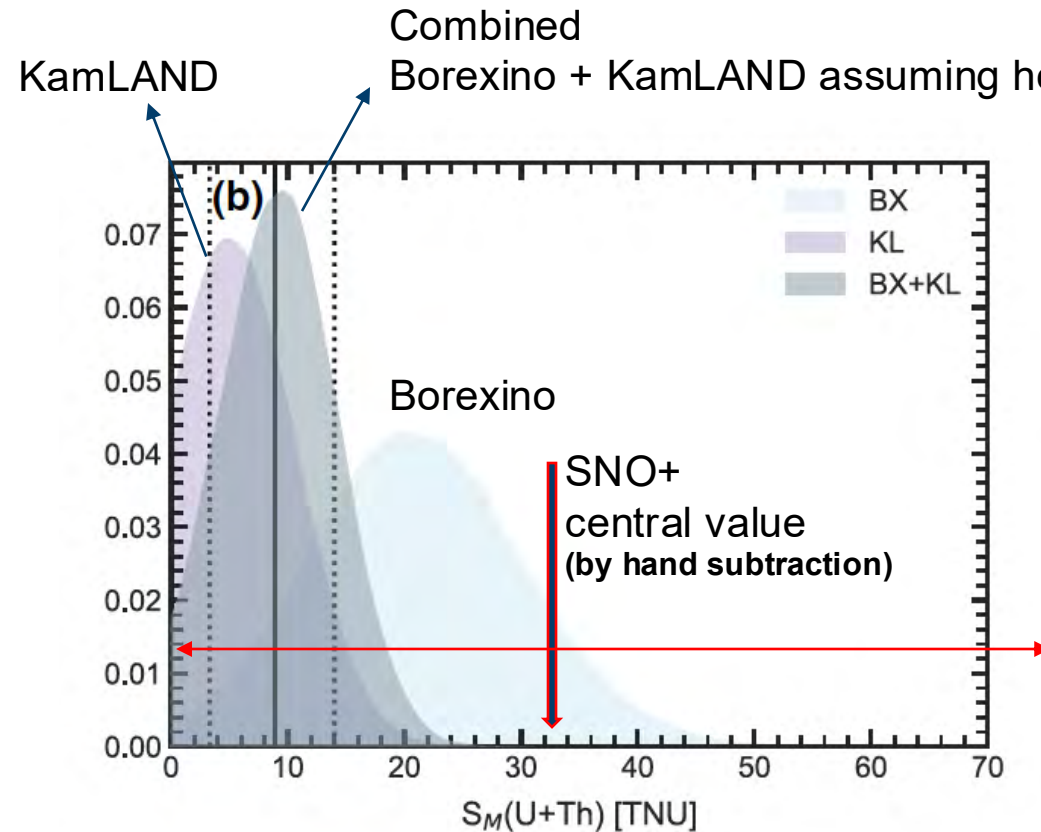
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Geo- $\bar{\nu}$ IBD rate (TNU)	$79^{+49}_{-44}$	$73^{+47}_{-43}$

# MANTLE SIGNALS COMPARISON



G. Bellini et al. 2021

**Total measured signal by SNO**  
 $73^{+47}_{-43}$  TNU

**Predicted crustal:**  
 $40^{+6}_{-4}$  TNU Huang et al. 2014

**Mantle ~ 33 TNU**  
**(by hand subtraction by me)**  
 (large error, 1 sigma touching 0)

**Reminder mantle by**

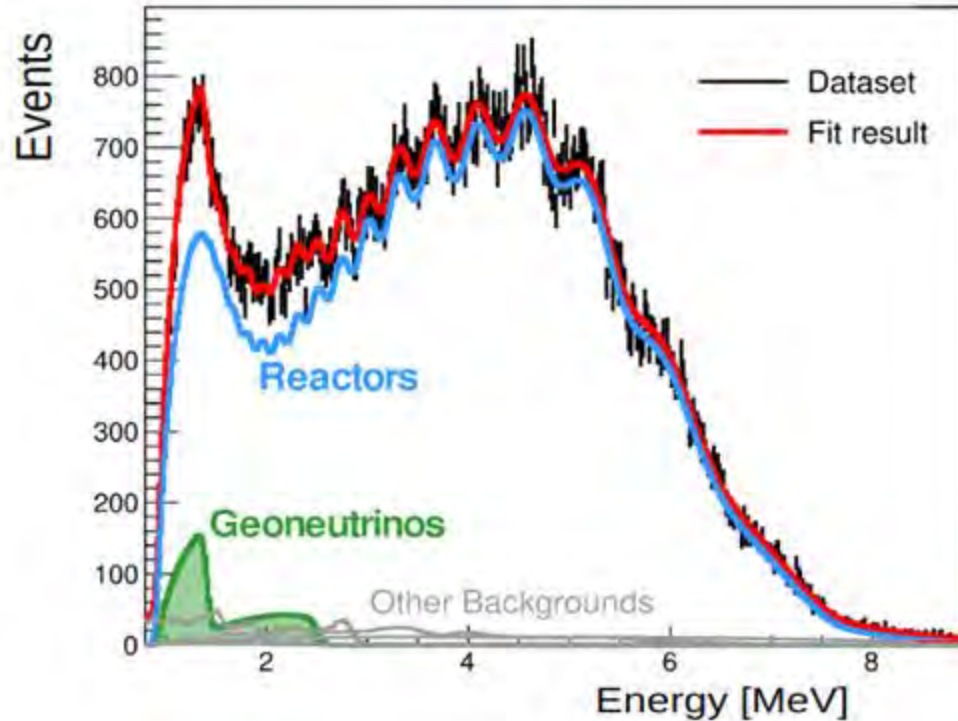
**Borexino**  $21.2^{+9.6}_{-9.1}$  TNU

**KamLAND**  $\sim 5.4$  TNU

Intriguing question: is mantle not homogeneous?

# GEONEUTRINOS IN JUNO

Simulation of 10 years of data



**Big advantage:**

- ✓ Large volume and thus high statistics: **400 geoneutrinos / year.**

**Main limitations:**

- ✓ Large **reactor neutrino background.**
- ✓ Relatively shallow depth – cosmogenic background.

- Current (KamLAND and Borexino ) precision on measured geoneutrino flux is ~16-18%.
- JUNO can reach this precision in a few years.
- JUNO will provide statistics sufficient to separate with a high significance U and Th.
- **Geological study of the local crust** important in order to separate the mantle contribution and it is ongoing.

- Expected precision of the total geoneutrino signal: **~8% in 10 years** (Th/U mass ratio fixed to 3.9)
- Precision of U and Th individual components **in 10 years:**  
 $^{232}\text{Th}$  ~35%     $^{238}\text{U}$  ~30%     $^{232}\text{Th} + ^{238}\text{U}$  ~15%     $^{232}\text{Th}/^{238}\text{U}$  ~55%

PRELIMINARY



# Geoneutrino summary & outlook



- **Borexino** (Italy): stopped data-taking in October 2021 (last update till April 2019)
- **KamLAND** (Japan): latest update in summer 2022 more data expected to come this year.
- **SNO+** (Canada): 780 ton & DAQ started & 30-40 geonus/year; Low cosmogenics; - first events just detected!
- **JUNO** (China): 20 kton & completion this & 400 geonus/year! - about to start (*J. Phys. G: Nucl. Part. Phys.* 43 (2016) 030401);
- **JINPING** (China): 5 kton; deepest lab, far away from reactors, very thick continental crust at Himalayan region; (*PRD* 95 (2017) 053001)
- **HanoHano** / Ocean Bottom Detector (Hawaii): ~10 kton movable underwater detector with ~80% mantle contribution:  
**“THE” GEONU DETECTOR**

# Solar neutrinos take home message

- *Importance in discovery of neutrino oscillations and neutrino mass.*
- *Evidence for matter effects shaping neutrino transformations.*
- *Detection of neutrinos from pp chain and CNO cycle, key to probing solar metallicity.*
- *Future: precision oscillation studies, new physics searches, deeper understanding of solar fusion and core composition.*





# Geoneutrinos take home message

- *Measurements of geoneutrinos in general agreement with Bulk Silicate Earth (BSE) models.*
- *Slight tension in mantle contributions based on existing measurements.*
- *Key to understanding Earth's heat budget and geodynamics.*
- *Future: precision studies of mantle composition, radioactive element distribution, and thermal evolution of the Earth.*



Thank you!