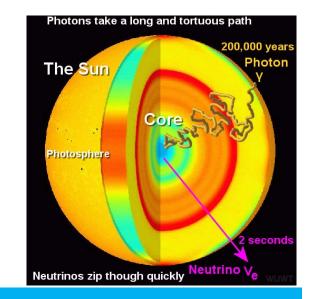
# Low-Energy Neutrino Experiments (solar neutrinos)



#### LEPTON PHOTON 2017



Gioacchino Ranucci Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare Milano

> Lepton Photon Guangzhou 10-8-2017

# One of the basic mankind's question: why does the Sun shine?

Ancient Greek's "chariot of the Sun" example of first developed "theories"

#### La Sala del Tiepolo in «palazzo Clerici» Milano



# Turning point at the passage between 19th and 20th centuries

- In the 19<sup>th</sup> century hot controversy between Lord Kelvin and Darwin: age of he Earth and the Sun to account for the evolution of the life on our planet, incompatibility with the sources of energy known at that time
- Clue  $\rightarrow$  Aston experiment in 1920: m(He)<4 m(H)

• Eddington: argued in his 1920 presidential address to the British Association for the Advancement of Science that Aston's measurement meant that the Sun could shine by converting hydrogen atoms to helium....

# Formulation of the nuclear hypothesis

"If, indeed, the sub-atomic energy in the stars is being freely used to maintain their great furnaces, it seems to bring a little nearer to fulfillment our dream of controlling this latent power for the wellbeing of the human race---or for its suicide" A. Eddington

1938 Von Weizsacker  $\rightarrow$  Identification of potential CNO cycle

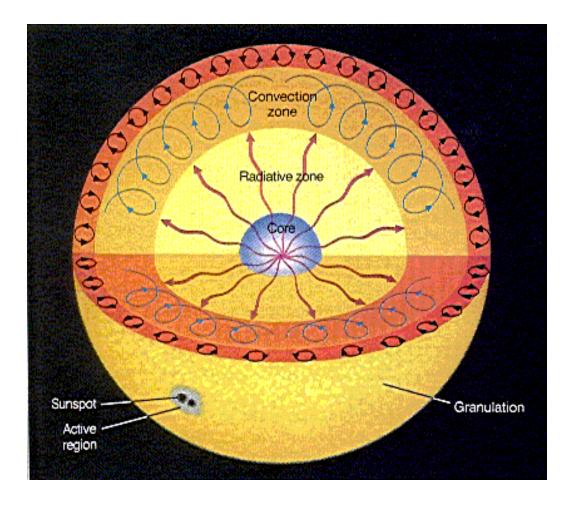
1938 Bethe  $\rightarrow$  Identification of potential *p*-*p* chain and full definition of the nuclear hypothesis

# How to prove it?

Hypothesis : there are nuclear reactions occurring in the core summarized as

$$4^{1}H \rightarrow {}^{4}He + 2e^{+} + 2v_{e} + energy$$

Can it be proved?



Yes, neutrinos coming from the reactions are the smoking gun! They pass undisturbed through the solar matter and if detected at Earth they would prove unambiguously the nuclear hypothesis; possibility debated in the context of the discussions about neutrino detection just after the world war II (Pontecorvo <sup>4</sup>/<sub>4</sub>7) From this trigger the Solar Neutrino Saga: the experimental players taking part to an almost five decades long successful

plot

Radiochemical experiments:

- Homestake (Cl)
- Gallex/GNO (Ga)
- Sage (Ga)

Common

this

ingredient in

challenging

rare events

search $\rightarrow$ 

ultra-low

background

Real time Cherenkov experiments

- Kamiokande/Super-Kamiokande
- **SNO** (Heavy water)

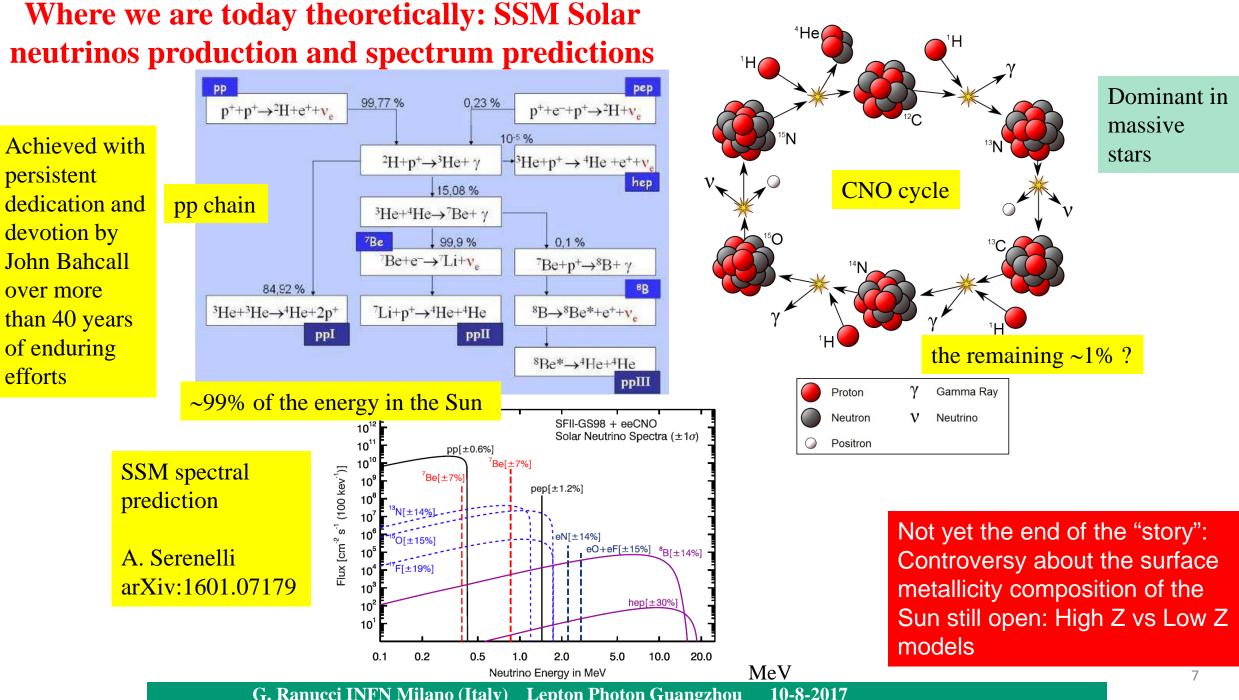
Scintillator experiment

Borexino

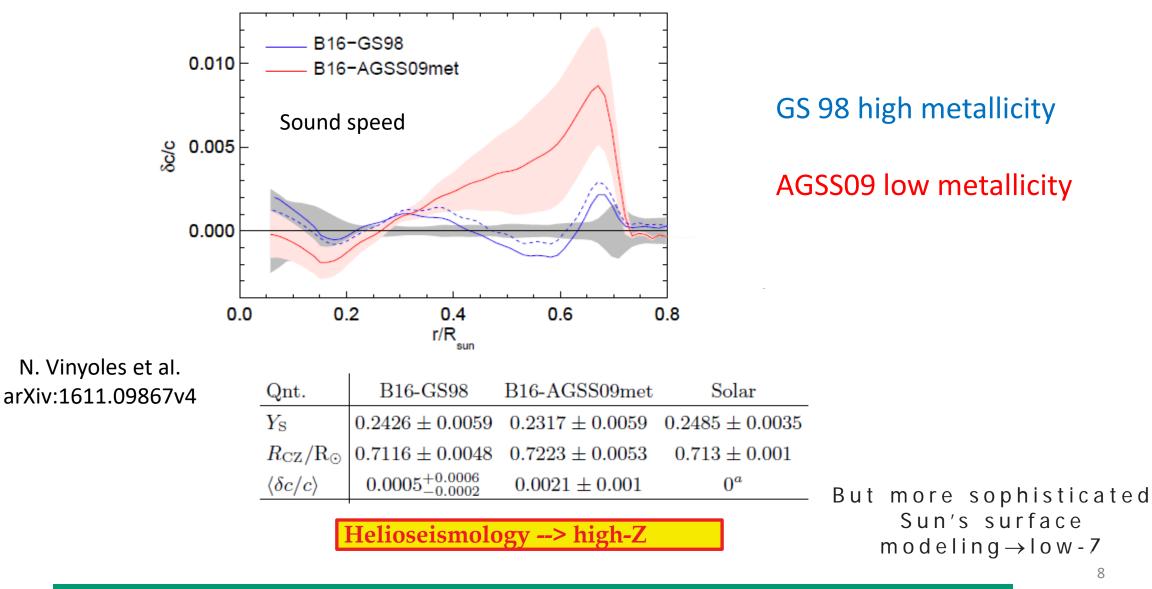


Overall two major accomplishments:

- proof of the Nuclear hypothesis
- Through the identification and solution of the "solar neutrino problem" → contribution to the proof of neutrino oscillations -MSW effect: resonant neutrino flavor conversion in matter



# Standard Solar Model vs Helioseismology



#### The prediction of solar v flux is sensitive to the Sun metallicity

		Flux	B16-GS98 HZ	B16-AGSS09met	Z Be: 10° cm <sup>-2</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> ; pep, N, O: 10 <sup>8</sup> cm <sup>-2</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> ;
		$\Phi(pp)$	$5.98(1 \pm 0.006)$	$6.03(1 \pm 0.005)$	B, F: 10 <sup>5</sup> cm <sup>-2</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> ; hep: 10 <sup>3</sup> cm <sup>-2</sup> s <sup>-1</sup>
		$\Phi(\text{pep})$	$1.44(1 \pm 0.01)$	$1.46(1 \pm 0.009)$	hep. 10 cm o
		$\Phi(hep)$	$7.98(1 \pm 0.30)$	$8.25(1 \pm 0.30)$	
		$\Phi(^7\text{Be})$	$4.93(1 \pm 0.06)$	$4.50(1 \pm 0.06)$	<sup>7</sup> Be: 8.7% diff
	$\longrightarrow$	$\Phi(^{8}B)$	$5.46(1 \pm 0.12)$	$4.50(1 \pm 0.12)$	<sup>8</sup> B: 17.6% diff
N. Vinvolos et al		$\Phi(^{13}N)$	$2.78(1 \pm 0.15)$	$2.04(1 \pm 0.14)$	
N. Vinyoles et al. arXiv:1611.09867v4	CNO		$2.05(1 \pm 0.17)$	$1.44(1 \pm 0.16)$	CNO: 40% diff
		$\Phi(^{17}F)$	$5.29(1 \pm 0.20)$	$3.26(1 \pm 0.18)$	

The experimental measurement of the CNO flux is the clue towards the resolution of the metallicity puzzle

The ultimate frontier of the solar neutrino saga to understand the SUN

Other intriguing detected and potential effects make the field very vital and of persistent attraction also for the continued study of neutrino properties

G. Ranucci INFN Milano (Italy) Lepton Photon Guangzhou 10-8-2017 Units:

pp: 1010 cm-2 s-1;

#### Radiochemical methods

#### GNO/Gallex Tank

The radiochemical technique exploits a detection target which, upon absorption of a neutrino, is converted into a radioactive element whose decay is afterwards counted.

Experiments of this kind: Homestake, Gallium Detectors (Gallex/GNO, SAGE)

The pioneering Homestake experiment was based on the inverse beta reaction

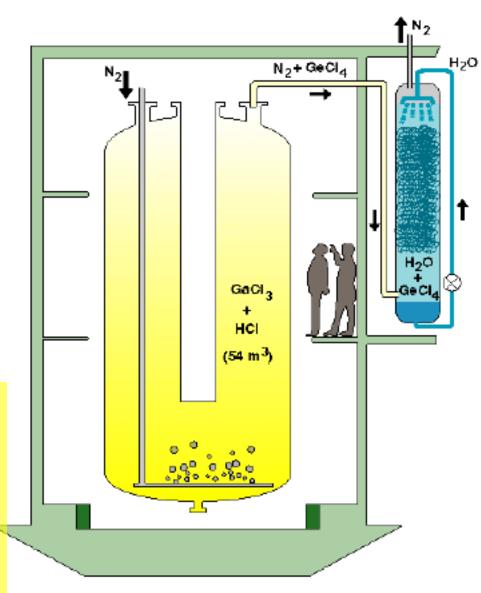
 $v_e + {}^{37}\text{Cl} \rightarrow {}^{37}\text{Ar} + e^-$  (threshold 0.814 MeV)

(method proposed by Pontecorvo (1946) and later independently by Alvarez (1949))

The Gallium experiments are based on the reaction:

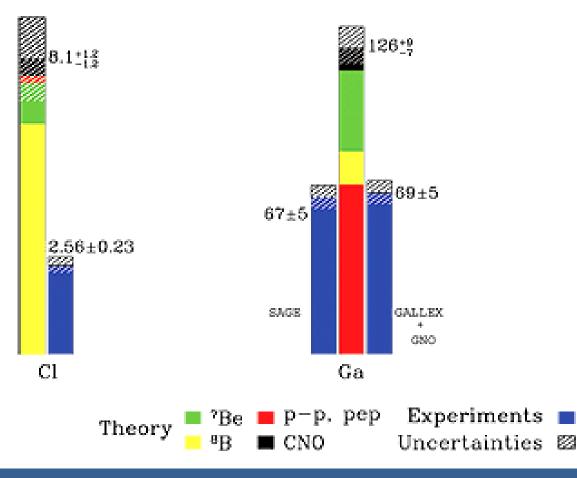
 $\nu_e + {}^{71}\text{Ga} \rightarrow {}^{71}\text{Ge} + e^-$  (threshold 0.233 MeV)

After 4 weeks about 10 <sup>71</sup>Ge nuclei present in solution - extracted through nitrogen purging converted into Germane gas and counted in miniaturized proportional counters



(proposed by Kuzmin in 1965)

#### Total Rates: Standard Model vs. Experiment Bahcall-Serenelli 2005 [BS05(0P)]

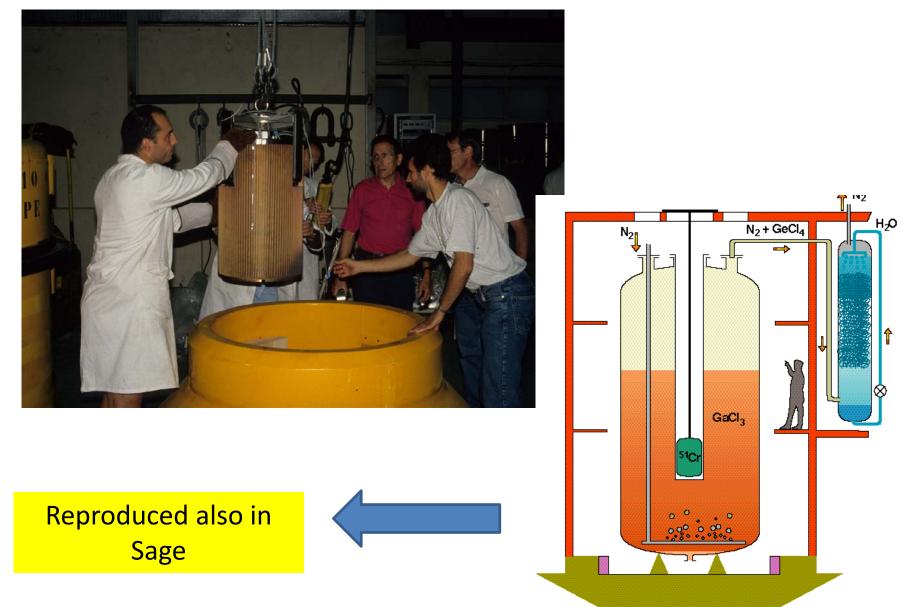


First Homestake data release 1968 Gallex data release in 1992 Grenada Neutrino Conference From the historic transparencies of John the birth and the evolution of the SNP (Solar Neutrino Problem)

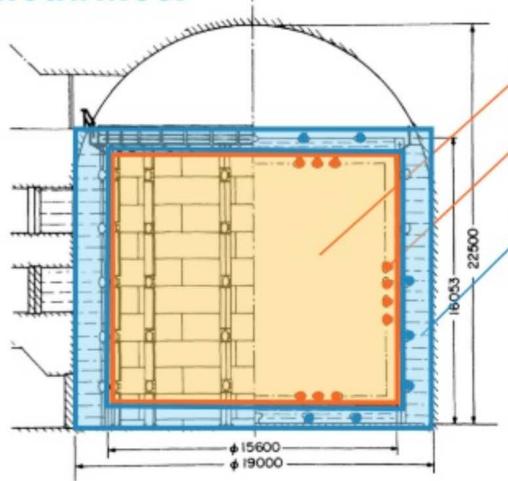
a) Homestake identified first the problem

b) The Gallium experiments
confirmed it and provided the
first initial proof of the pp
mechanism fueling the Sun by
detecting very low energy
neutrinos which were
identified as the pp neutrinos

Important part of the overall methodology: global demonstration of the method with a <sup>51</sup>Cr neutrino source



# Upgraded Kamiokande II aimed to detect solar neutrinos.



Schematic outline of the Kamiokande II detector

fiducial volume

2140-ton water

#### photomultiplier tube (PMT)

~20% of total surface of the fiducial volume

#### anticounter

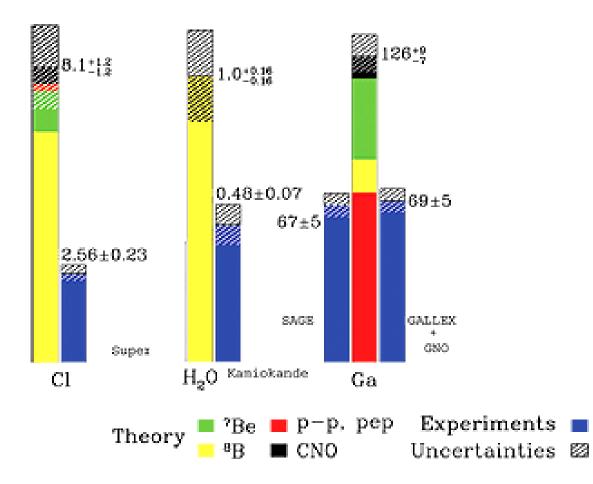
- shielding against gamma rays and neutrons
- muon "veto"
- Real-time detection
  - Directional sensitive
- Energy threshold of 8.8 MeV

In Between Cl and Ga → Kamiokande II

Confirmation of the SNP with a totally different technique

Water based Cherenkov detector

Elastic scattering of neutrinos off electrons Total Rates: Standard Model vs. Experiment Bahcall-Serenelli 2005 [BS05(OP)]



The situation in the middle of the 90's

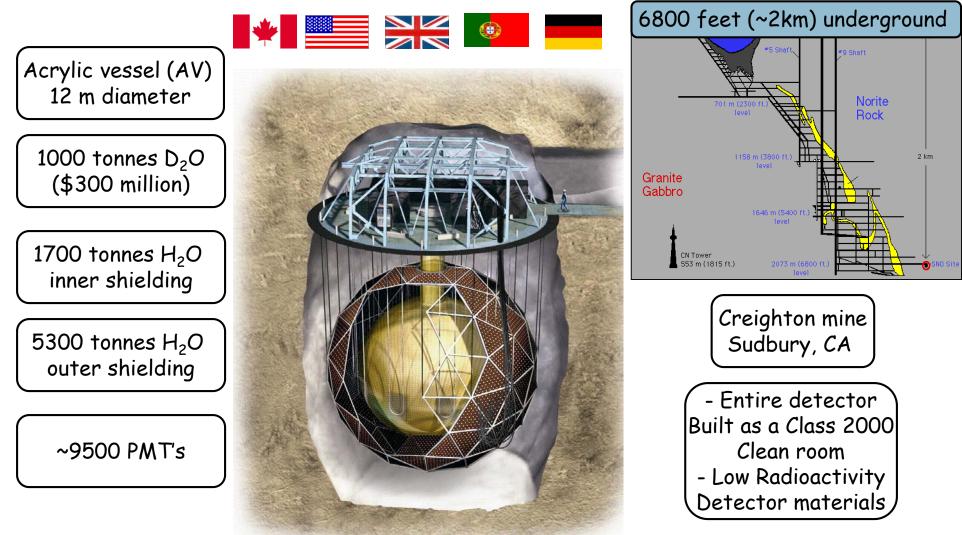
SNP firmly established by the data of four experiments and their comparison with the SSM (very similar to that reported here with the 2005 version) The contemporary era: towards the SNP solution and beyond

SNO -> passing the baton to SNO+

Borexino -> running

Super-Kamiokande -> running

# The Sudbury Neutrino Observatory: SNO



The heavy water has been returned and development work is in progress on SNO+ with liquid scintillator and <sup>130</sup>Te additive.

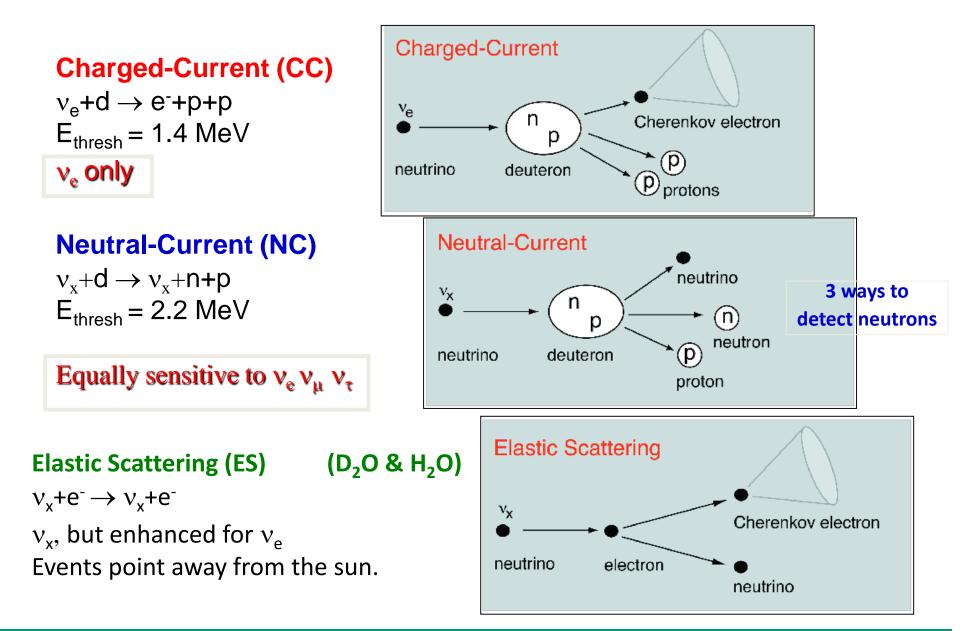
#### The acrylic vessel surrounded by the lattice of PMTs

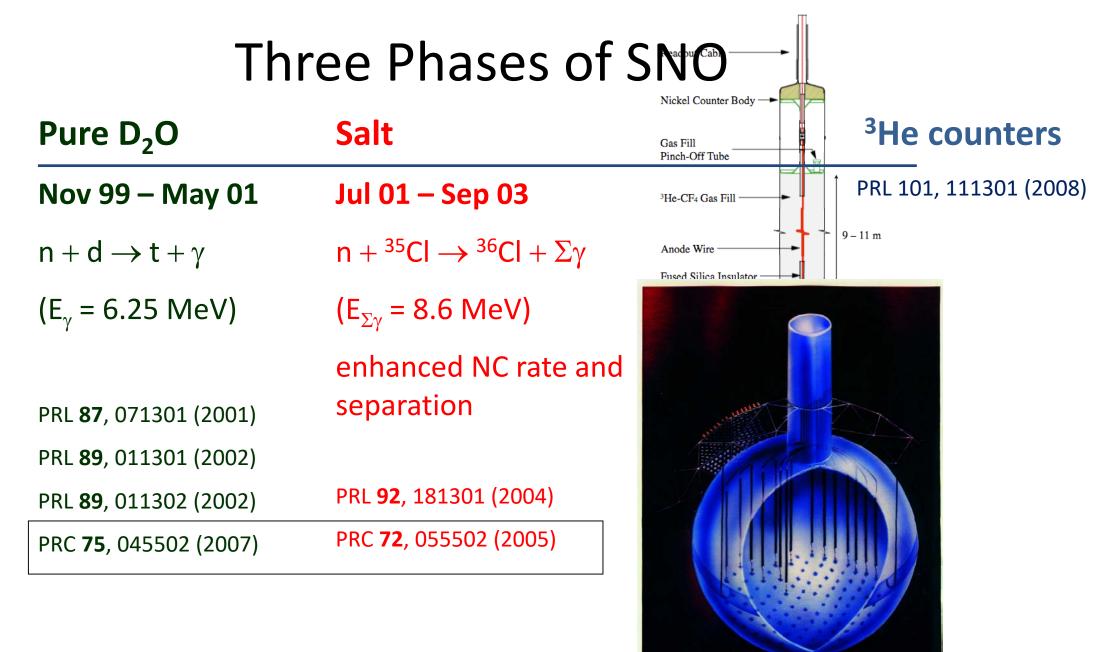


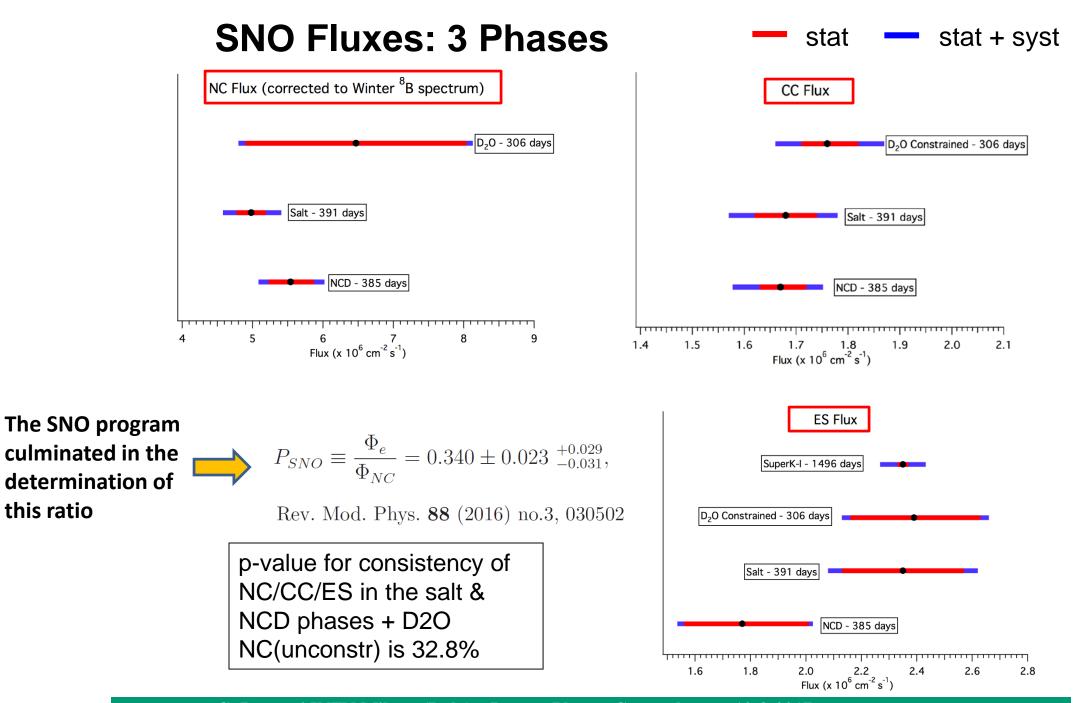
#### PMT's sphere (external view)



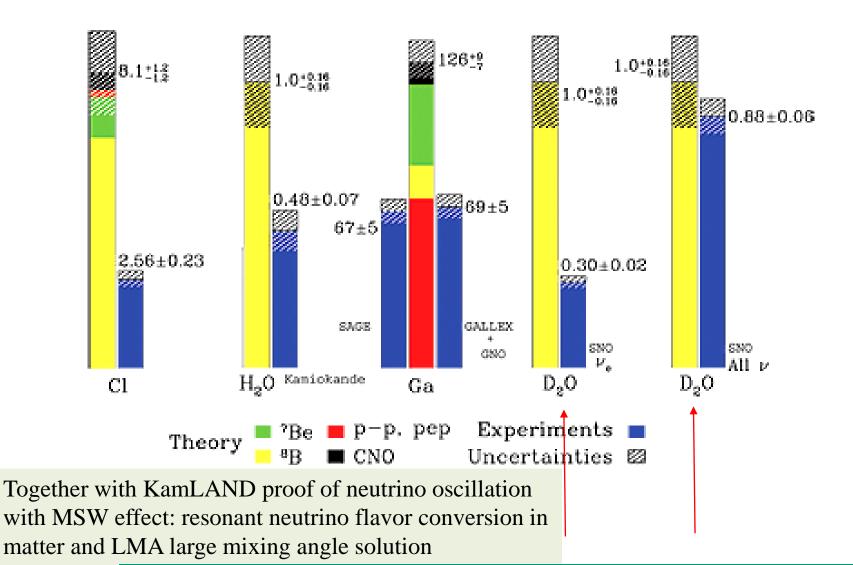
# Summary of Signatures in SNO (D<sub>2</sub>O)







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

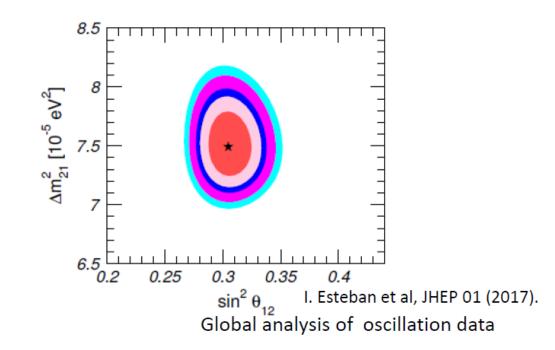


SNO with its flavor specific and flavor independent measurements proved unambiguously that the SNP was due to the neutrino flavor conversion effect

2002 & 2015 Nobel prizes

# The solution of the SNP

- Evidence of v oscillations
- Interaction of v with matter MSW Kamland reactor results + solar : LMA-MSW (year 2002)



relative precision about 4.7% both for  $\theta_{12}$  and  $\Delta m_{21}^2$ 

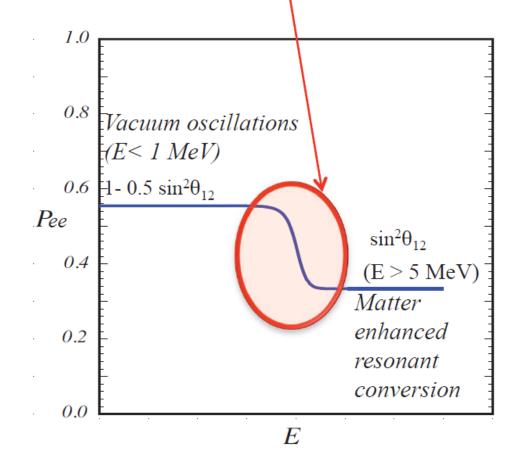
MSW Mikheyev-Smirnov-Wolfenstein effect

The transformation of the electron neutrinos is governed by the interplay between the vacuum oscillation phenomenon and the different from the others propagation of the electron neutrinos in matter, since they are the only species to undergo charged-current interactions with the electrons of the medium as argued by Wolfenstein. The physics is very well understood and described by the analysis of Mikheyev and Smirnov.

# The electron neutrino survival probability confirmation of the MSW-LMA scenario and probe of new physics

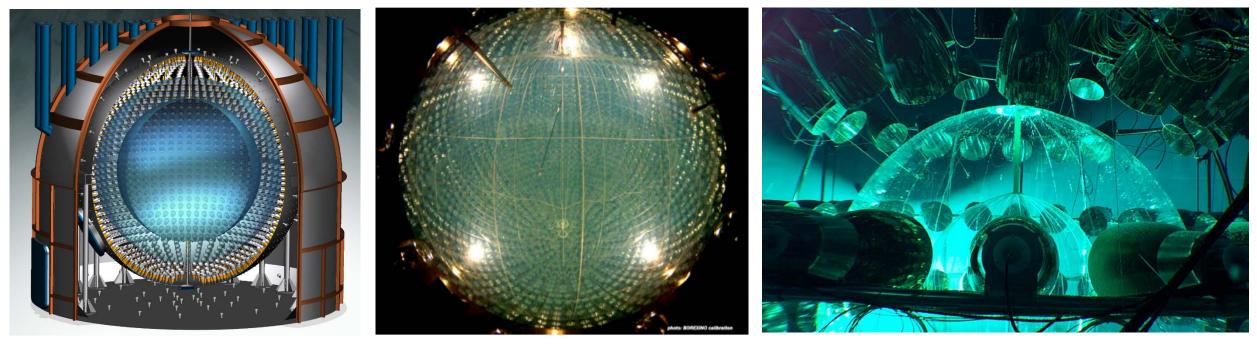
searching for deviations from MSW-LMA scenario of solar v oscillations, especially in the transition region of  $P_{ee}$ 

(e.g. mass-varying neutrinos or non-standard interactions models)



**Examples of suggested new-physics models:** 

- Mass varying neutrinos (Gonzales-Garcia & Maltoni 2008)
- Non-Standard Interactions/flavour changing NC (Friedland, Lunardini, Pena-Garay, 2008)
- Sterile Neutrinos (Holanda & Smirnov 2011)



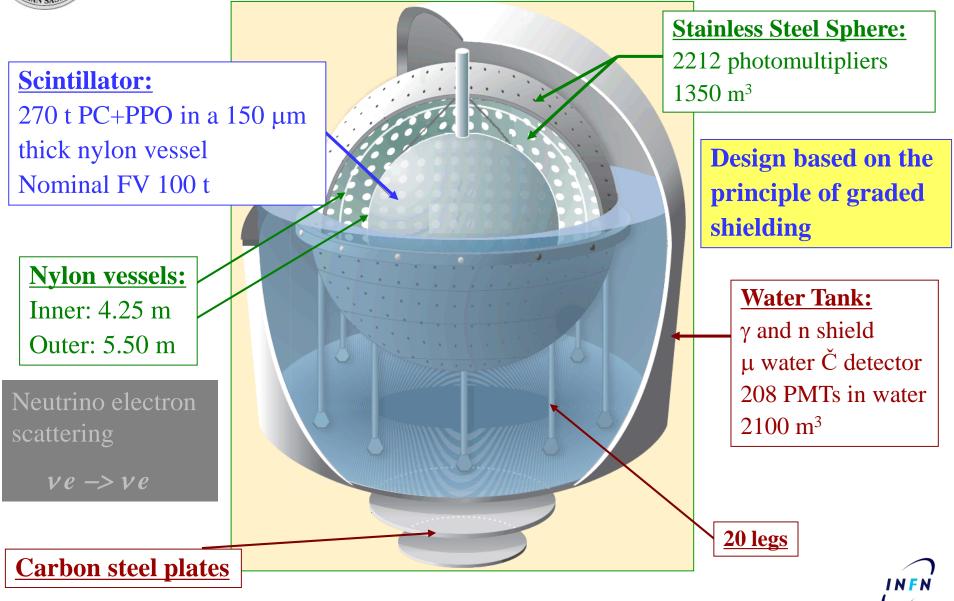
## Borexino

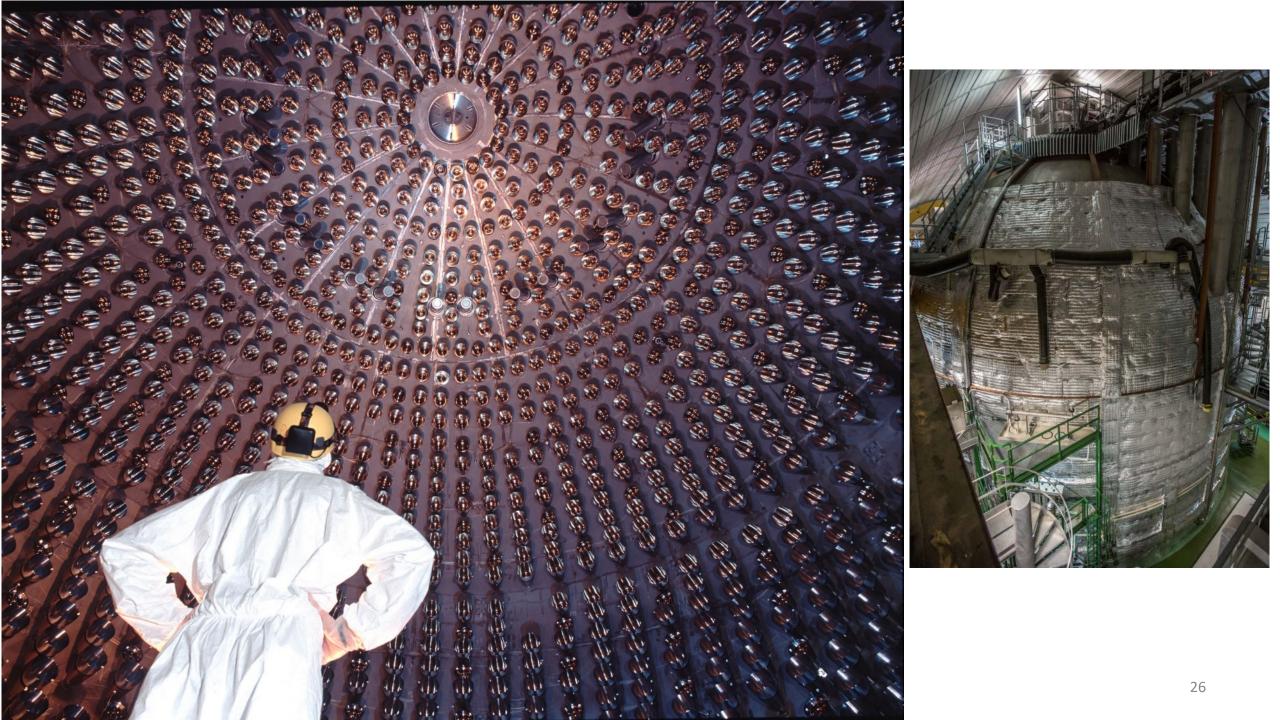
 Approaching the full solar neutrino spectroscopy in a single experiment through the individual real time detection of each spectral component - 4 out of 5 so far

 Unique Validation in the low energy regime of the LMA-MSW v oscillation paradigm through the experimental determination of the Pee



# Borexino at Gran Sasso: low energy real time detection





Detection principle

$$v_x + e \rightarrow v_x + e$$

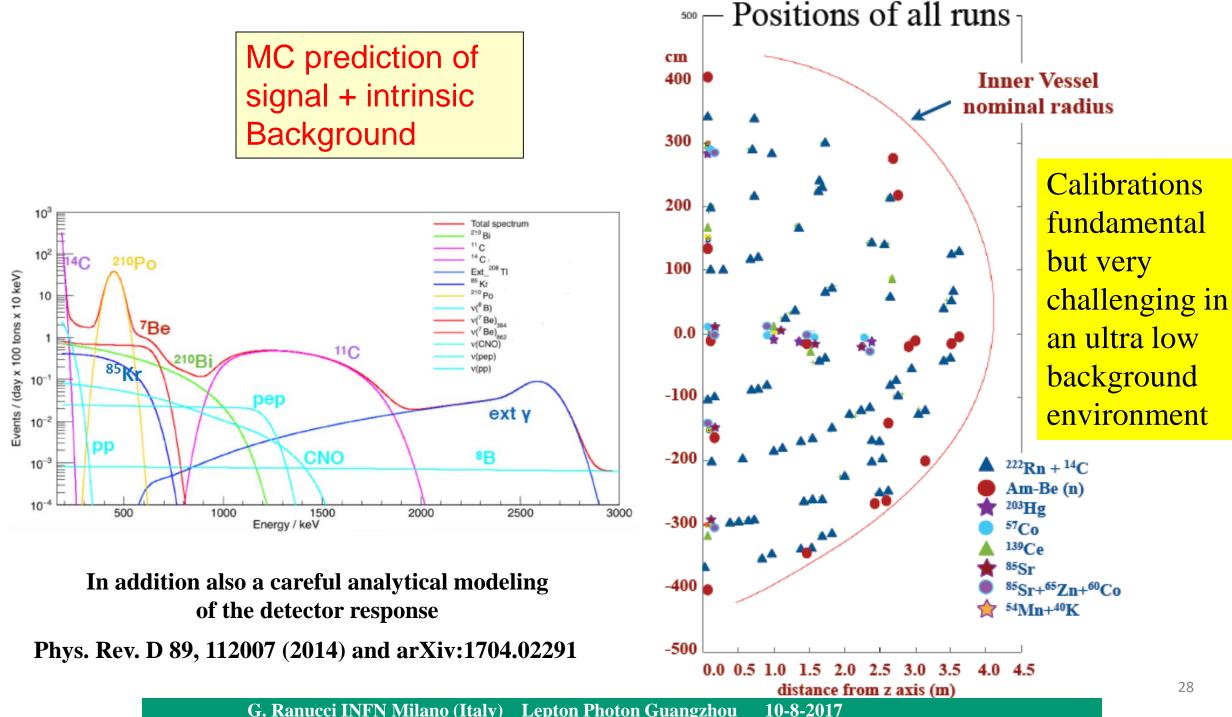
Elastic scattering off the electrons of the scintillator threshold at ~ 60 keV (electron energy)

Capabilities of the experiment : (in read tasks already accomplished)

<sup>7</sup>Be flux
<sup>8</sup>B with a lower threshold down to about 3 MeV
pep (1.44 MeV)
tight upper limit on CNO
pp neutrinos
Geo-antineutrinos
Supernovae neutrinos
and possibly actual CNO measure in the future ?

#### Achieved almost full solar v-spectroscopy in a single experiment

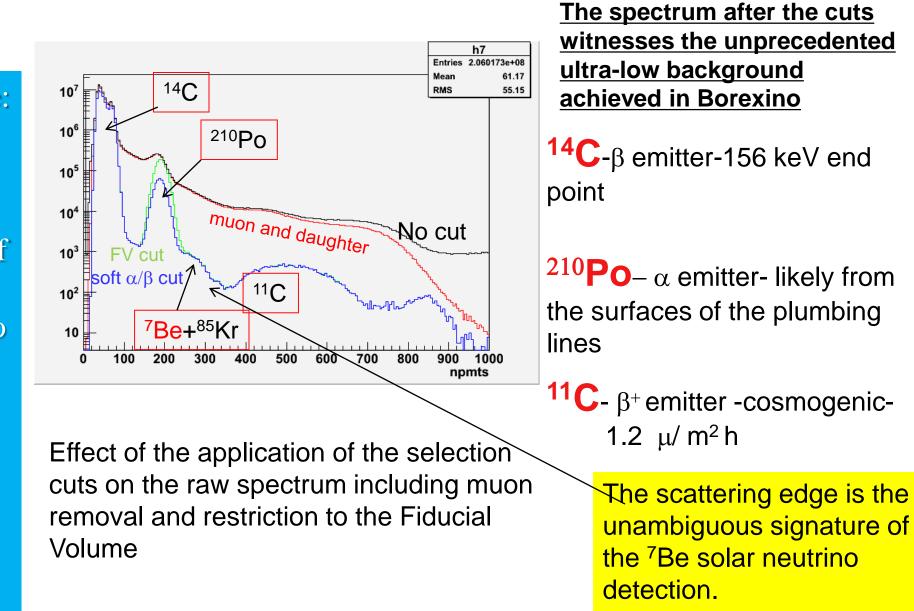
All goals requiring ultra-low background - very low even in the context of the solar neutrino studies due to the absence of other signatures





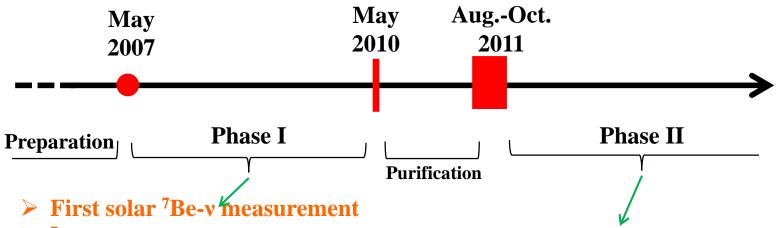
Borexino at the beginning of data taking 10 years ago

<sup>7</sup>Be scattering edge detected with 3 months of data taking





# Borexino timeline



More than 10 years of successful data taking Phase I and II before and after the 2011 purification campaign  $\rightarrow$ U 10<sup>-20</sup> g/g Th 10<sup>-19</sup> g/g

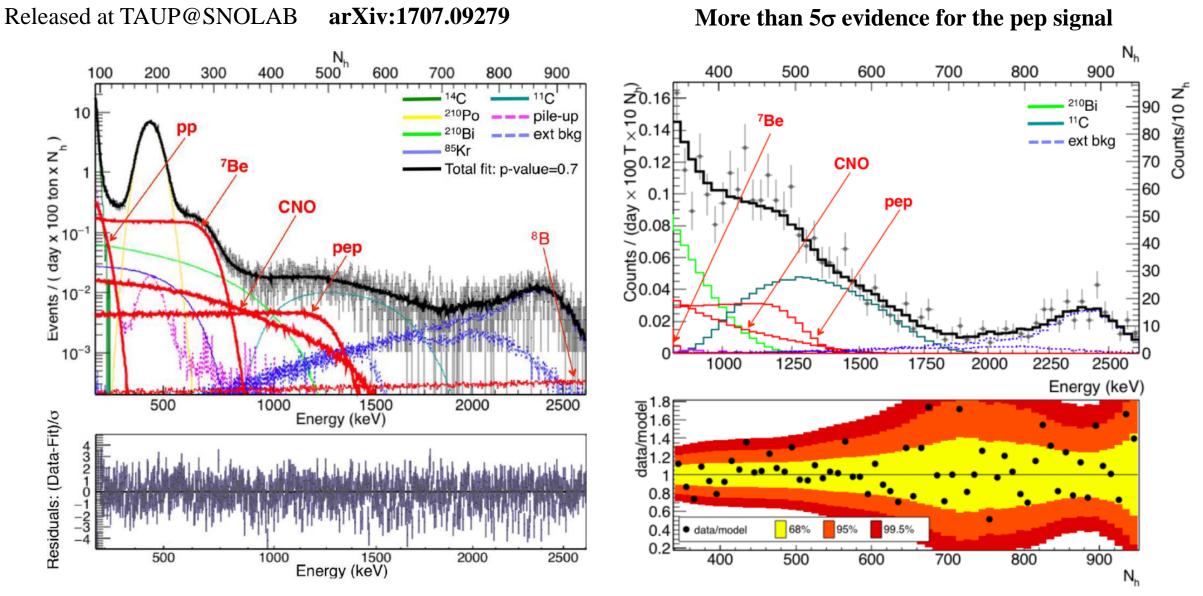
3 to 4 orders of magnitude better than the design value!

- <sup>7</sup>Be-v day-night asymmetry
   Low-threshold <sup>8</sup>B-v
- First pep-v detection
- Best upper limit on CNO-v
- > <sup>7</sup>Be-v seasonal modulation
- **>** Geo-v observation at >  $5\sigma$ (phase I + part of phase II data)
- > Muon seasonal variations
- Limits on rare processes
- Neutrons and other cosmogenics

Measurement of pp-v flux crucial milestone towards the full solar-v spectroscopy (Nature 2014) and strong evidence of the pp mechanism
 Improved <sup>7</sup>Be-v seasonal modulation 2017
 New round of the previous measurements with improved precision just released at TAUP updated pp <sup>7</sup>Be and pep fluxes, <sup>8</sup>B to be updated
 almost full solar-v precision spectroscopy!

- Short-baseline v oscillation: SOX from April
   2018 up to Fall 2019 with <sup>144</sup>Ce source
- Continued quest for possible determination of CNO-v flux (ultimate goal for solar neutrinos)

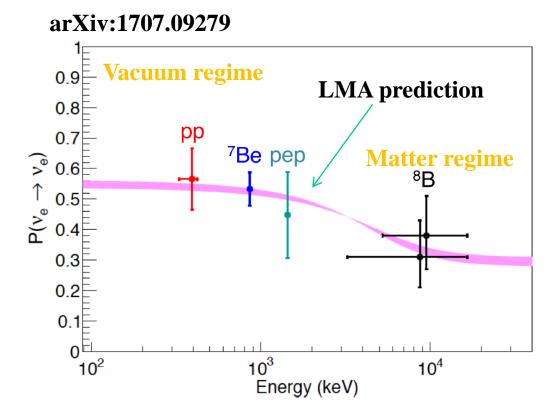
#### Full spectroscopy and evidence of the pep scattering edge



#### Comparison between Phase I and Phase II results

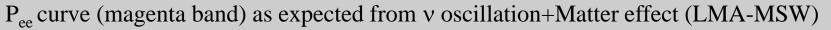
	Phase I	Phase II	Uncertainty reduction <u>Phase II</u> Phase I
рр	144 ± 13±10	134 ± 10 <sup>+6</sup> -10	0.78
<sup>7</sup> Be(862KeV)	<b>46.0 ± 1.5</b> <sup>+1.6</sup> -1.5	<b>46.3 ± 1.1</b> <sup>+0.4</sup> -0.7	0.57
рер	3.1 ± 0.6 ± 0.3	(HZ) 2.43 $\pm 0.36^{+0.15}_{-0.22}$ (LZ) 2.65 $\pm 0.36^{+0.15}_{-0.24}$	0.61

Beginning of the precision era in the study of low energy solar neutrinos <sup>7</sup>Be precision 2.7% The global oscillation picture: survival probability of the electron neutrinos contrasted with the Borexino data points



FROM BOREXINO VALIDATION AT LOW ENERGY OF THE LMA-MSW OSCILLATION PARADIGM

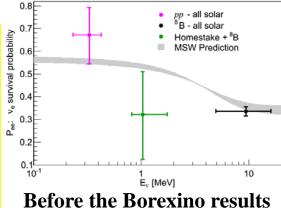
Open issues : <sup>8</sup>B upturn at low energy? Sub-leading effects?



$$A^{^{7}Be}{}_{DN} = \frac{D - N}{(N + D)/2} = (-0.1 \pm 1.2 \pm 0.7)\%$$

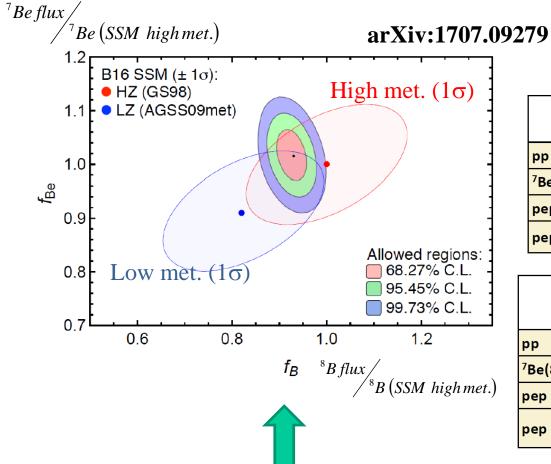
Borexino Coll., Phys. Lett. B707 (2012) 22.

Day-Night asymmetry of <sup>7</sup>Be neutrinos consistent with 0 in agreement with the LMA-MSW expectation



"Although historically by measuring  $\Delta m^2_{21}$ KamLAND has uniquely selected the LMA solution, now the solar neutrino experiments alone can do this due to new measurements by Borexino, which validated the solution at low energies, and due to higher accuracy of other results." M. Maltoni and A.Yu. Smirnov EPJA 52, 87 2016

# Can the current data discriminate between high and low metallicity ?

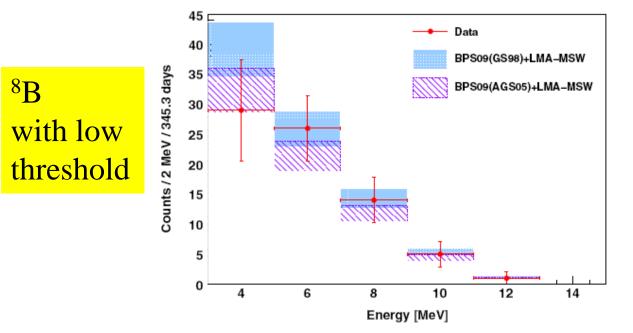


New pp, <sup>7</sup>Be, pep results of the analysis of Phase II data

Borexino results cpd/100t		expected HZ cpd/100t	expected LZ cpd/100t	
рр	<b>134 ± 10</b> <sup>+6</sup> <sub>-10</sub>	131.0 ± 2.4	132.1 ± 2.4	
<sup>7</sup> Be(862+384 KeV)	<b>48.3 ± 1.1</b> <sup>+0.4</sup> <sub>-0.7</sub>	47.8 ± 2.9	43.7 ± 2.6	
pep (HZ)	<b>2.43 ± 0.36</b> <sup>+0.15</sup> -0.22	2.74 ± 0.05	2.78 ± 0.05	
pep (LZ)	<b>2.65 ± 0.36</b> <sup>+0.15</sup> -0.24	2.74 ± 0.05	2.78 ± 0.05	
			-	
	Borexino results Flux (cm <sup>-2</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> )	expected HZ Flux (cm <sup>-2</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> )	expected LZ Flux (cm <sup>-2</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> )	
p	(6.1 ± 0.5 <sup>+0.3</sup> -0.5) 10 <sup>10</sup>	5.98 (1± 0.006) 10 <sup>10</sup>	6.03 (1± 0.005) 10 <sup>10</sup>	
Be(862+384 KeV)	(4.99 ± 0.13 <sup>+0.07</sup> -0.10) 10 <sup>9</sup>	4.93 (1± 0.06) 10 <sup>9</sup>	<b>4.50 (1± 0.06)</b> 10 <sup>9</sup>	
ep (HZ)	(1.27 ± 0.19 <sup>+0.08</sup> -0.12) 10 <sup>8</sup>	1.44 (1± 0.009) 10 <sup>8</sup>	1.46 (1± 0.009) 10 <sup>8</sup>	
pep (LZ) $(1.39 \pm 0.19^{+0.08}_{-0.13}) 10^8$		1.44 (1± 0.009) 10 <sup>8</sup>	1.46 (1± 0.009) 10 <sup>8</sup>	

The latest Borexino data though cannot disentangle between the two models point to a slight preference for the HZ p-value for HZ-SSM 0.87 p-value for the LZ-SSM 0.11 weak hint towards the HZ hypothesis not statistically significant

## Other achievements of Borexino



	Threshold	$\Phi_{^{8}B}^{^{ES}}$
	[MeV]	$[10^6 \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}]$
SuperKamiokaNDE I [7]	5.0	$2.35 \pm 0.02 \pm 0.08$
SuperKamiokaNDE II [2]	7.0	$2.38 \pm 0.05^{+0.16}_{-0.15}$
SNO D <sub>2</sub> O [3]	5.0	$2.39^{+0.24}_{-0.23}$ $^{+0.12}_{-0.12}$
SNO Salt Phase [26]	5.5	$2.35\pm0.22\pm0.15$
SNO Prop. Counter [27]	6.0	$1.77^{+0.24}_{-0.21}^{+0.09}_{-0.10}$
Borexino	3.0	$2.4 \pm 0.4 \pm 0.1$
Borexino	5.0	$2.7{\pm}0.4{\pm}0.2$

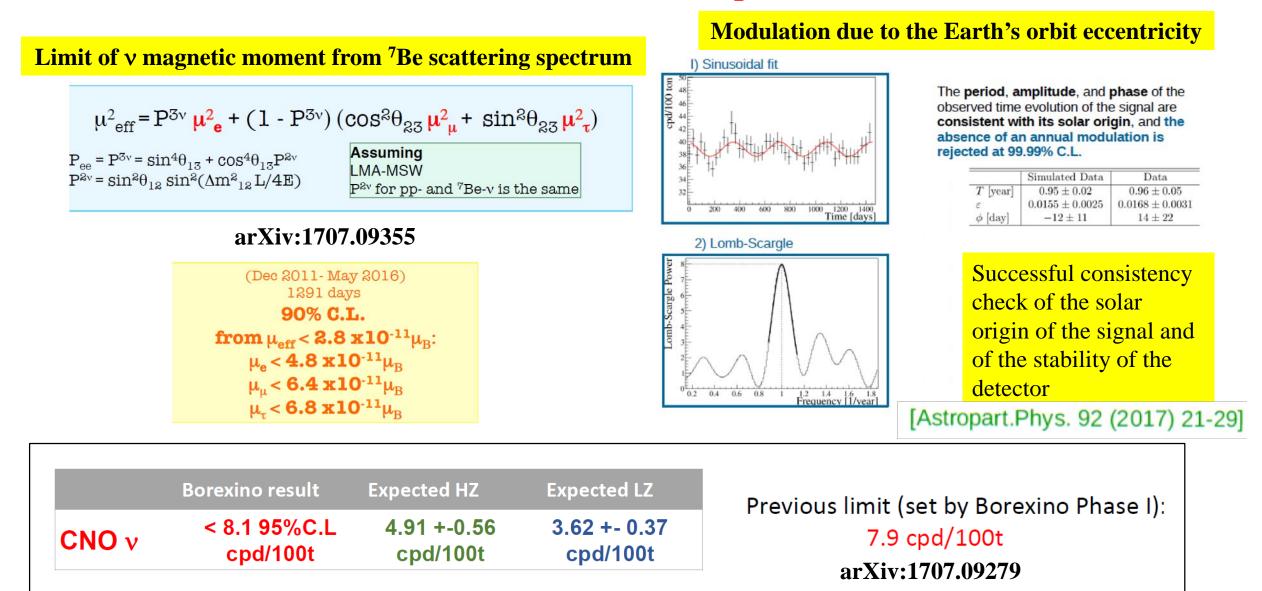
Phys. Rev. D, 82 (2010) 033006

The complete spectroscopy from **pp to** <sup>8</sup>**B** (to be further updated) represents the first and unique determination of the pp cycle  $\rightarrow$  final crowing of the experimental quest for the burning mechanism fueling the Sun!

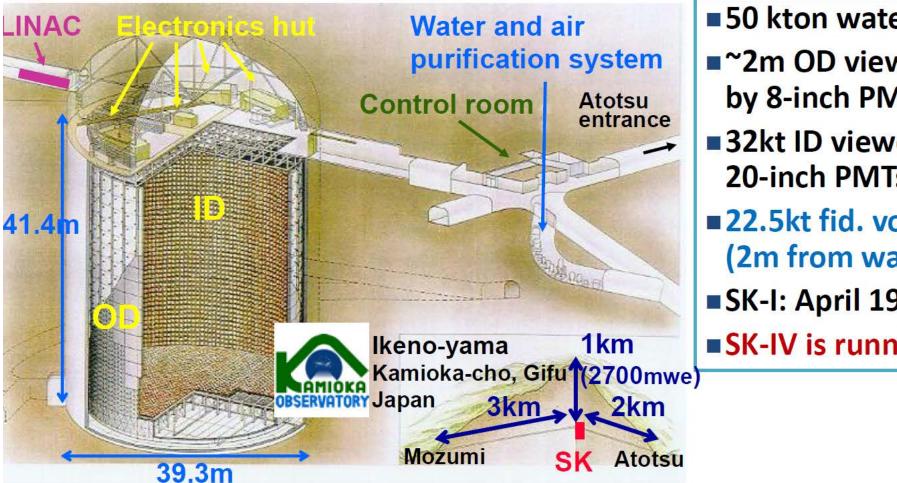
Expected values: (C. Pena Garay, private comm,)

Quantitative probe of  
the pp solar fusion  
long advocated by  
John Bahcall
$$R = \frac{Rate({}^{3}He + {}^{3}He)}{Rate({}^{3}He + {}^{4}He)}$$
 $R = \frac{2 \Phi({}^{7}Be)}{\Phi(pp) - \Phi({}^{7}Be)}$  $R = 0.180 \pm 0.011$  $HZ$   
 $R = 0.161 \pm 0.010$ Measured value:arXiv:1707.09279 $R = 0.18 \pm 0.02$ 

# Further recent accomplishments



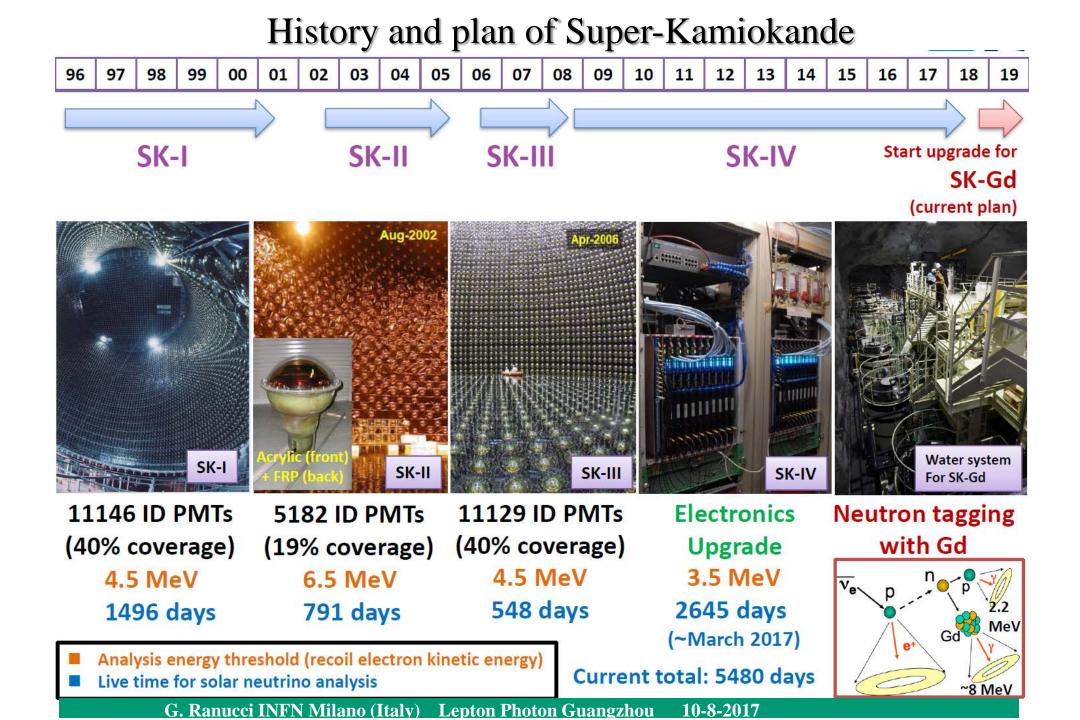
# Super-Kamiokande

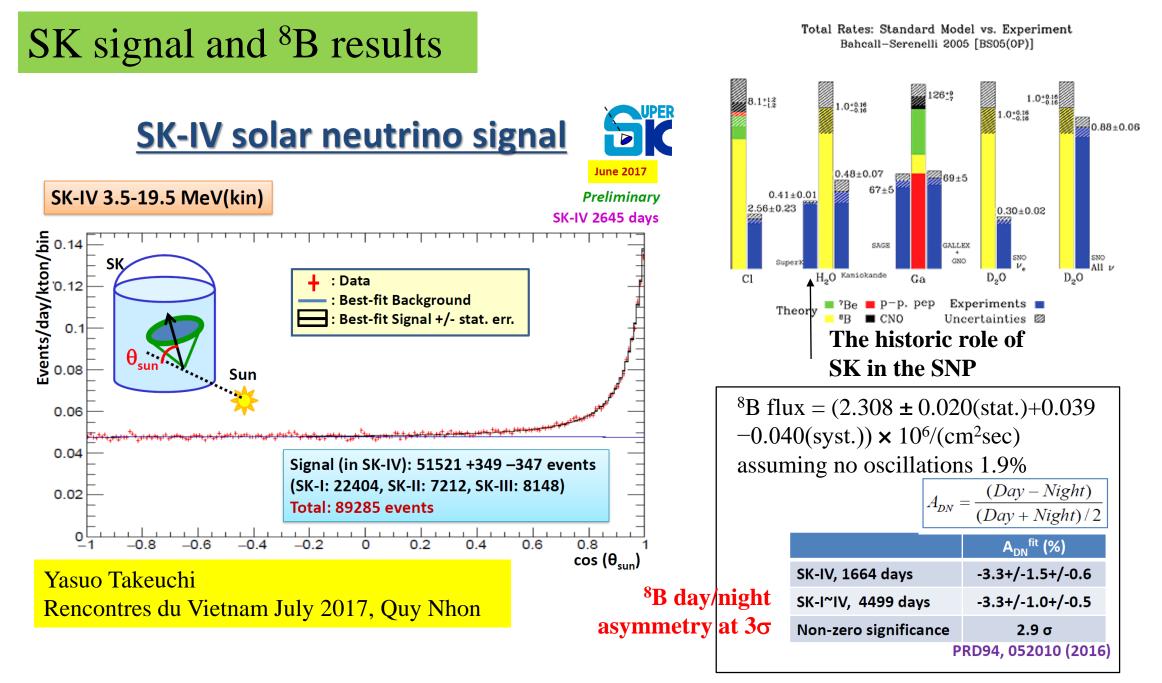


50 kton water

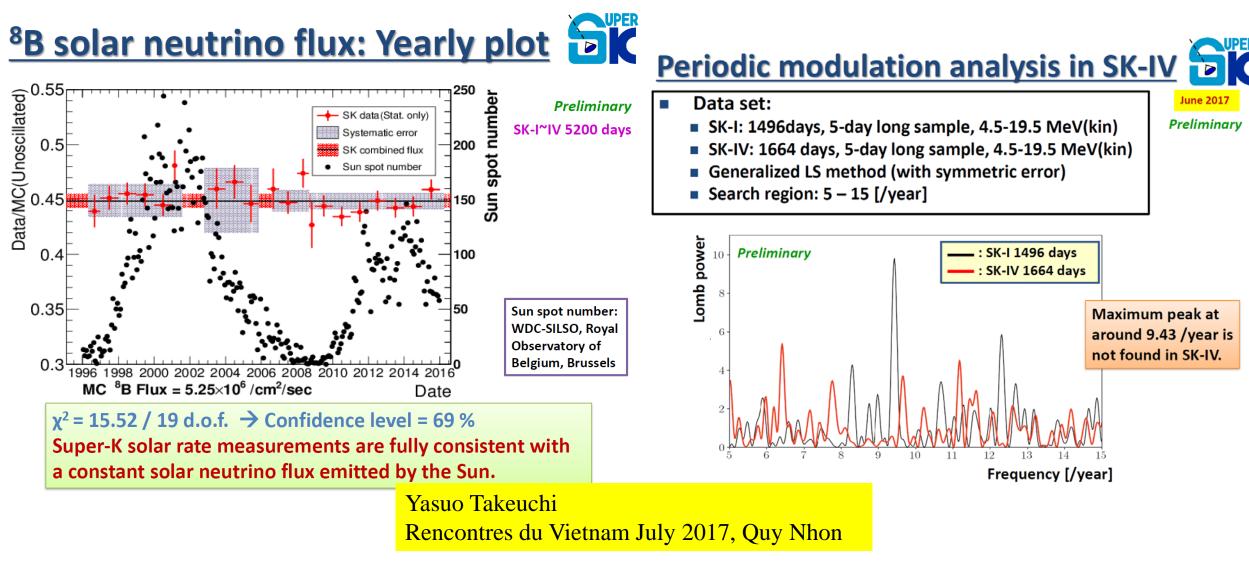
- 2m OD viewed by 8-inch PMTs
- 32kt ID viewed by 20-inch PMTs
- **22.5kt fid. vol.** (2m from wall)
- SK-I: April 1996~
- SK-IV is running

Inner Detector (ID) PMT: ~11100 (SK-I,III,IV), ~5200 (SK-II) **Outer Detector (OD) PMT: 1885** 

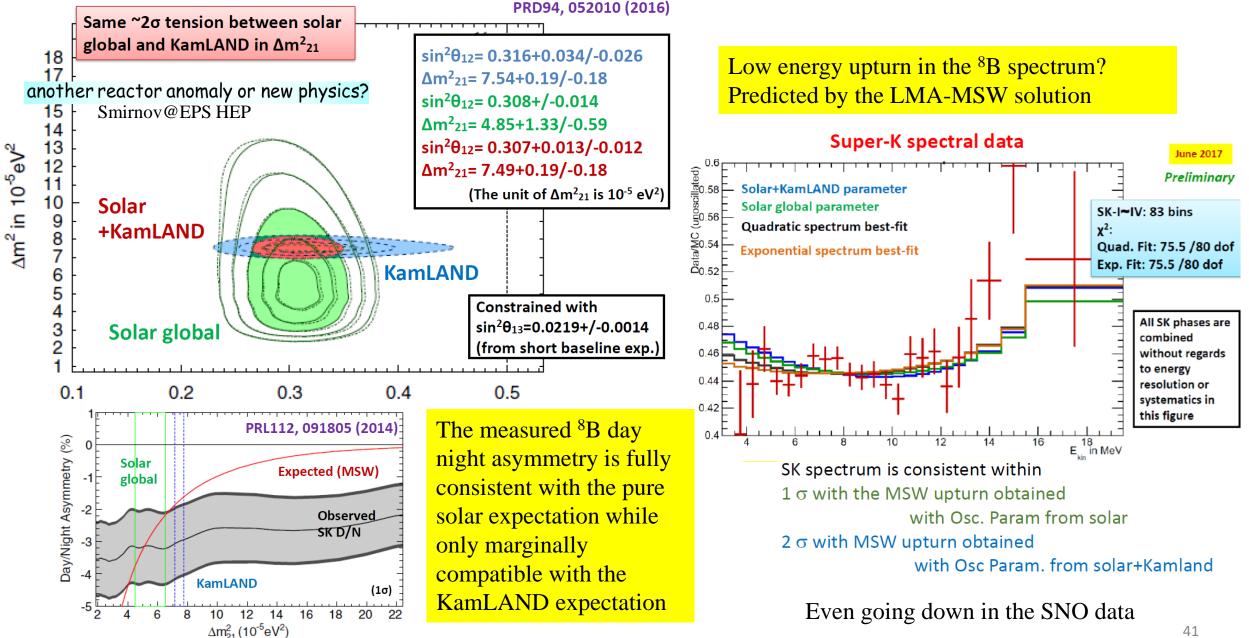




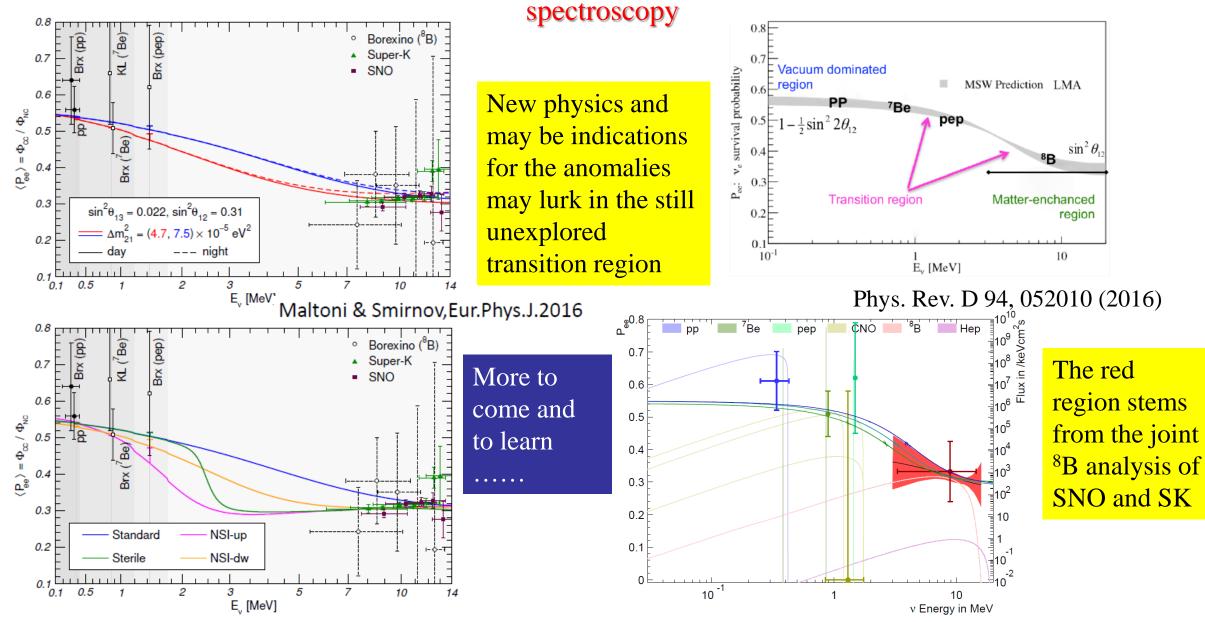
# Time variation analysis of the <sup>8</sup>B flux



### Anomalies?!



#### The richness of the Pee potential signatures and the importance of the precision



# **Conclusions and outlooks**

Solar neutrinos investigation one of the most successful and prolific of results area of experimental particle physics over the past 5 decades triggering and motivating the major developments in neutrino physics in this period

➢ Fundamental contribution to establish the 3v oscillation paradigm→ oscillations in vacuum and matter with resonance flavor conversion

➤ The LMA-MSW scenario firmly established as the true solution of the solar neutrino problem and "solar" oscillation parameters sin<sup>2</sup>θ<sub>12</sub> and  $\Delta m^2_{21}$  measured with good precision together with KamLAND

> Definite and conclusive quantitative assessment of the pp burning mechanism fueling the Sun

# **Conclusions and outlooks**

Borexino and Super-Kamiokande entered the precision era – open questions

- Which is the nature of the hinted anomalies? Are they flukes or signatures of more profound facts?
- Are there sub-leading effects beyond the LMA MSW solution ?- imprinting of new physics in the transition region?
- ≻ Further tests for solar model metallicity puzzle CNO open issue

New experiments with solar neutrinos among their capabilities which will enter the field in the near-medium term

SNO+ JUNO (liquid scintillator) Hyper-Kamiokande (water Cherenkov) DUNE (liquid Argon)

We expect more from the running and future experiments.....

Solar neutrinos proved to be a gold mine of opportunities for physics and astrophysics...

.Talk dedicated to those great physicists no more with us who paved the way towards the unveiling of the secret treasures of this wonderful "mine"



Bruno



Lincoln



Stanislav



Herb

John

Yōji

# Thanks