

# The 2024 state of the art of the Standard Solar Model

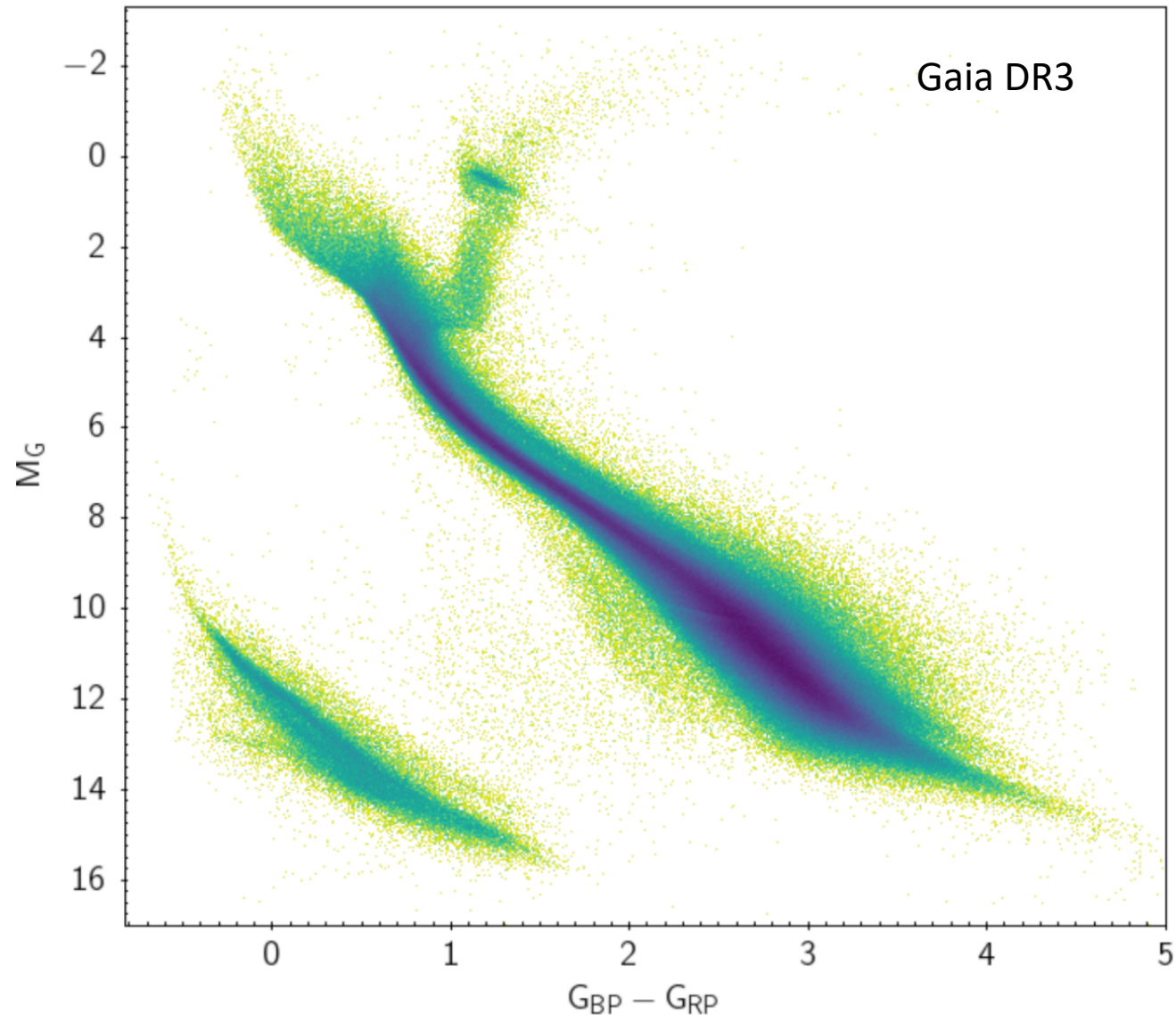
Inaugural Workshop on Nuclear Astrochemistry  
27/2/24

A. Serenelli & Y. Herrera

- Why should we continue to study the solar interior?
- Standard solar models in a nutshell
- The 2024 status of SSM: helioseismology and solar neutrinos
- SSMs in the context of precision stellar astrophysics

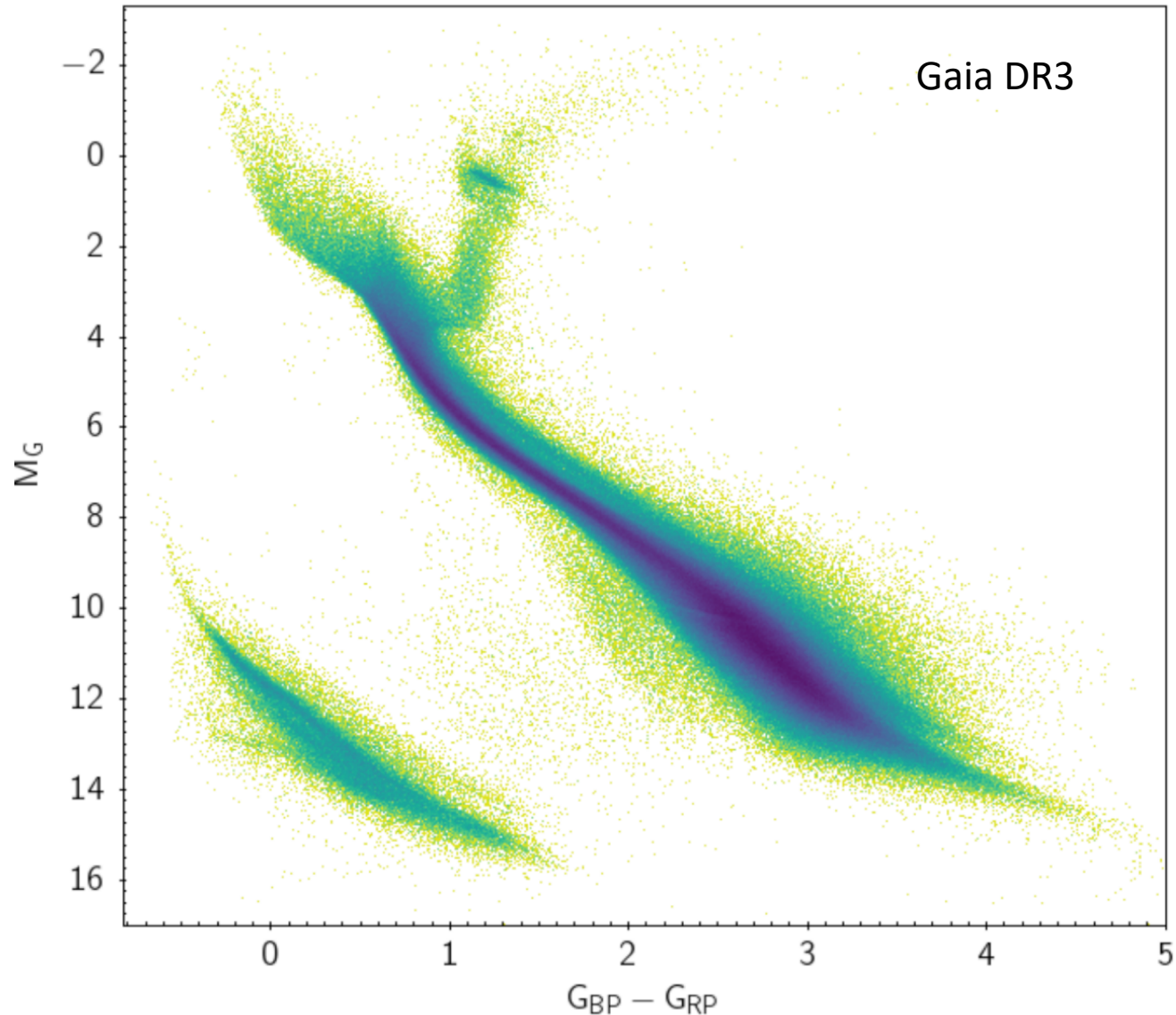


# Why the Sun? It is “foundation” science



~ $10^9$  individual stars with measurements  
colors, temperature, luminosity, composition

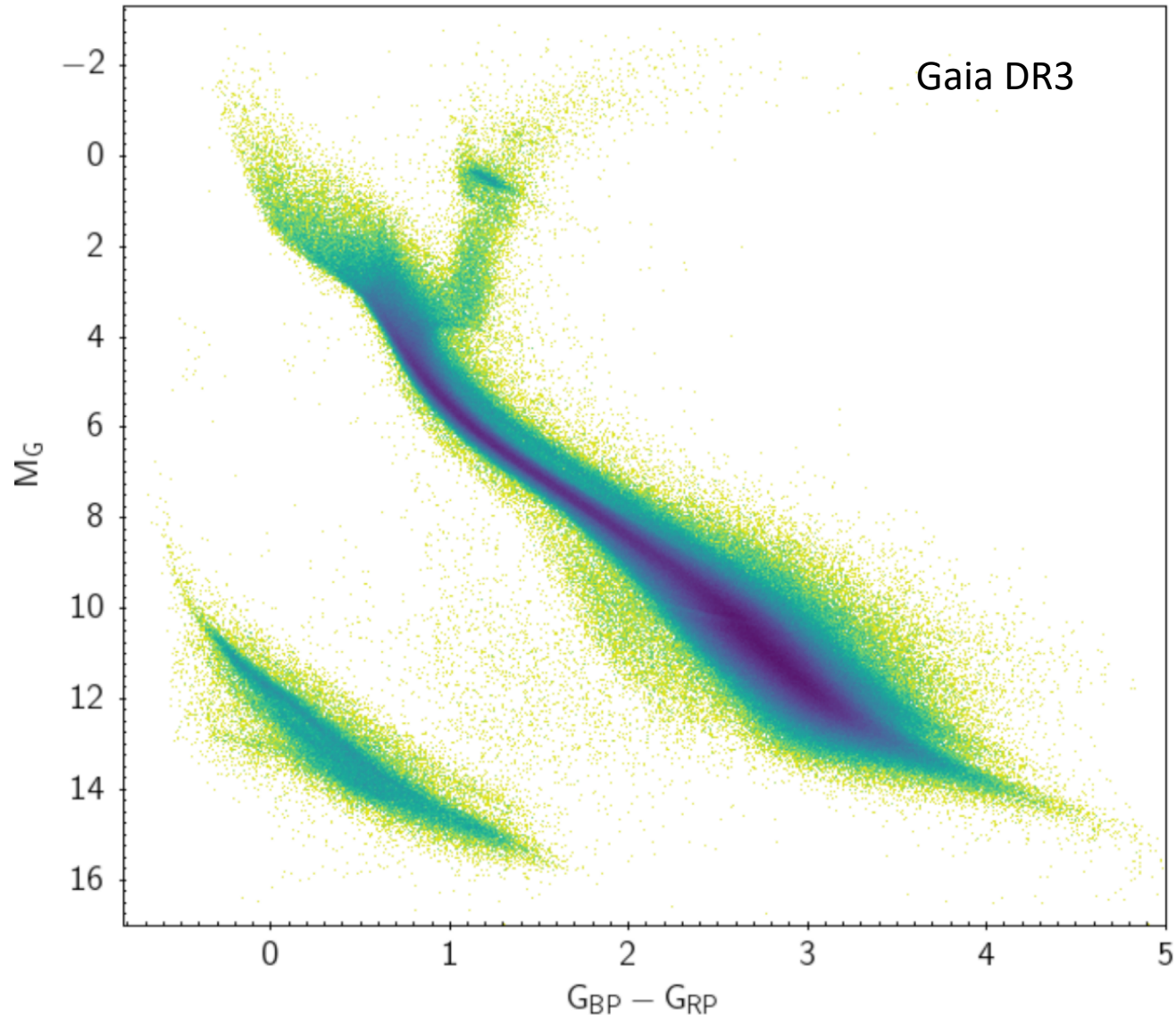
# Why the Sun? It is “foundation” science



~ $10^9$  individual stars with measurements  
colors, temperature, luminosity, composition

~  $10^3$  with accurate, precise, (model) independent  
mass determinations  
selective club: eclipsing binaries

# Why the Sun? It is “foundation” science

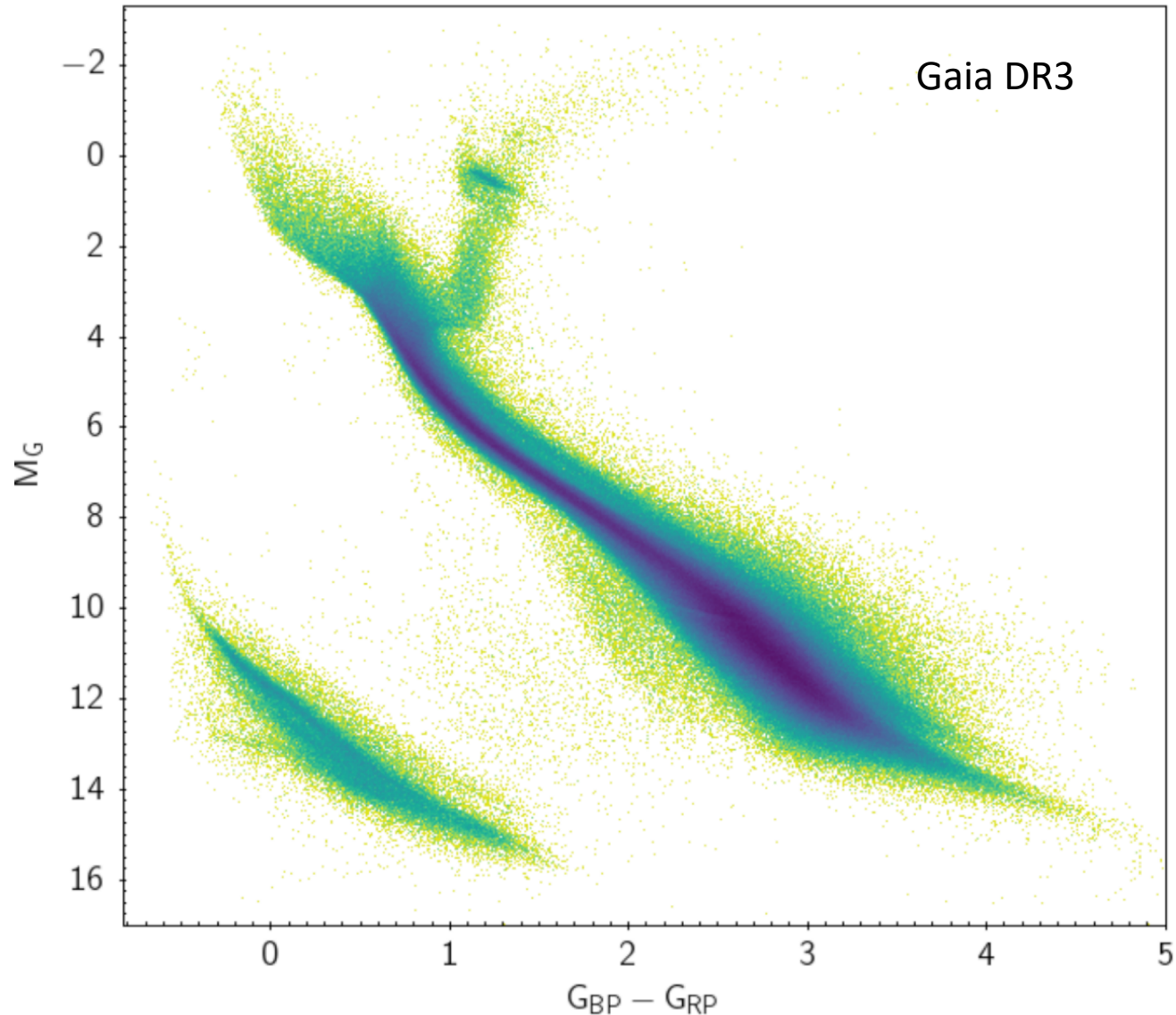


~ $10^9$  individual stars with measurements  
colors, temperature, luminosity, composition

~  $10^3$  with accurate, precise, (model) independent  
mass determinations  
selective club: eclipsing binaries

**1 star with accurate, precise, (model) independent  
age determination  
meteoritic dating**

# Why the Sun? It is “foundation” science

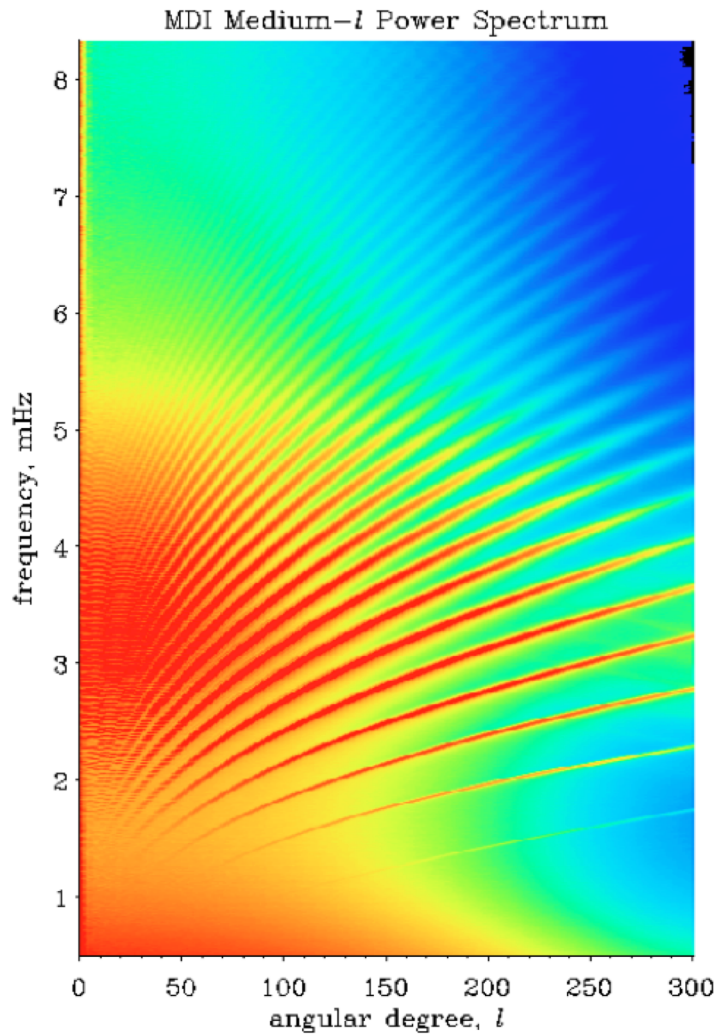


~ $10^9$  individual stars with measurements  
colors, temperature, luminosity, composition

~  $10^3$  with accurate, precise, (model) independent  
mass determinations  
selective club: eclipsing binaries

**1 star with accurate, precise, (model) independent  
age determination  
meteoritic dating  
+ highly accurate radius & mass**

# Why the Sun? It is “foundation” science



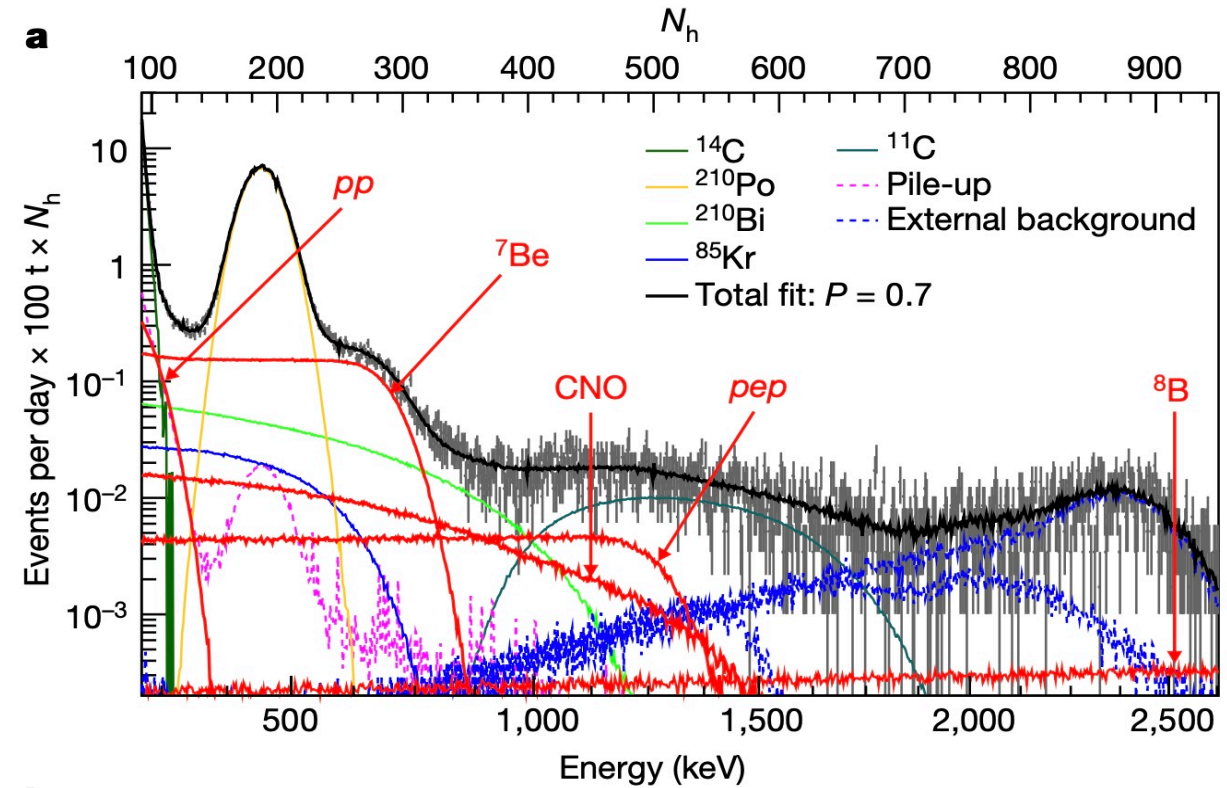
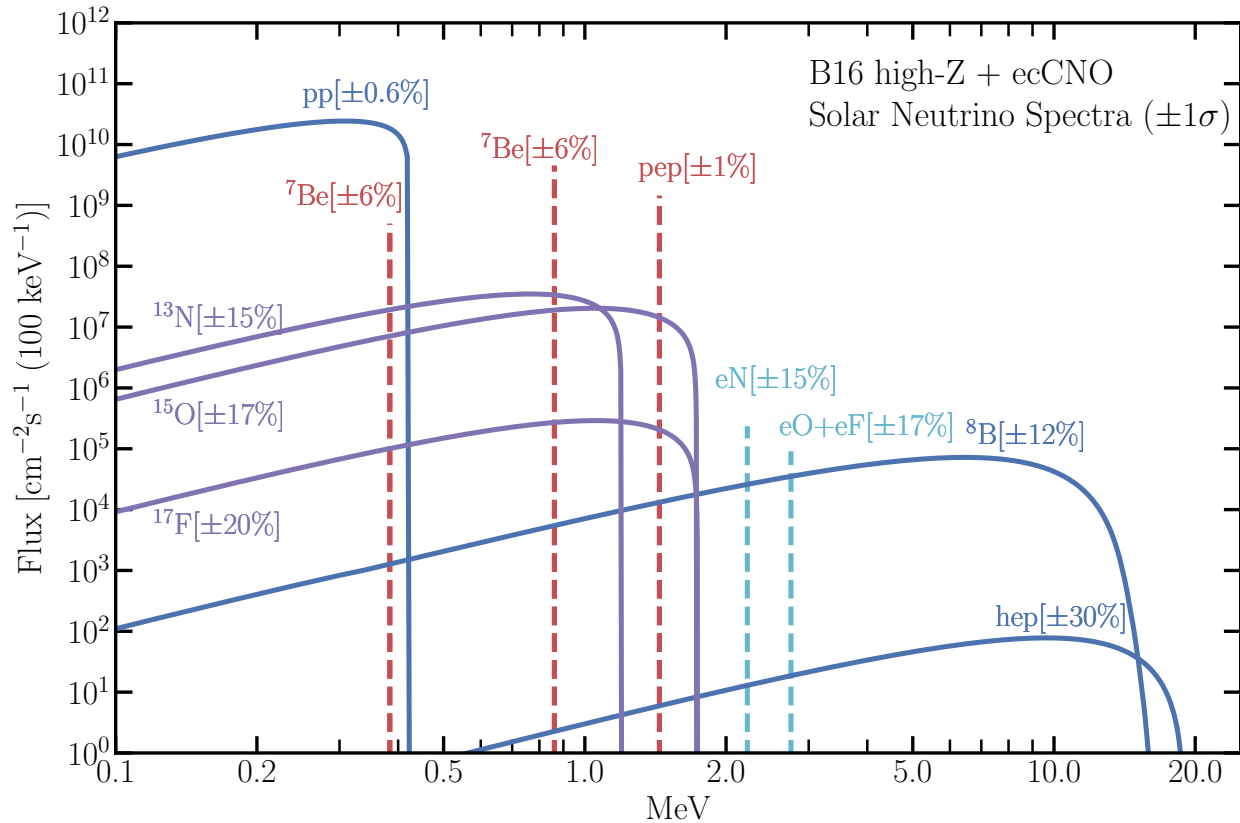
## Helioseismology

- > $10^5$  eigenmodes → inversion of internal structure:  
sound speed, density, adiabatic index (EoS)
- global quantities:  
surface helium, depth of convective envelope
- beyond standard solar models:  
internal rotation profile (depth and latitude)

**Allows testing theory of stellar evolution by looking at internal structure**

# Why the Sun? It is "foundation" science

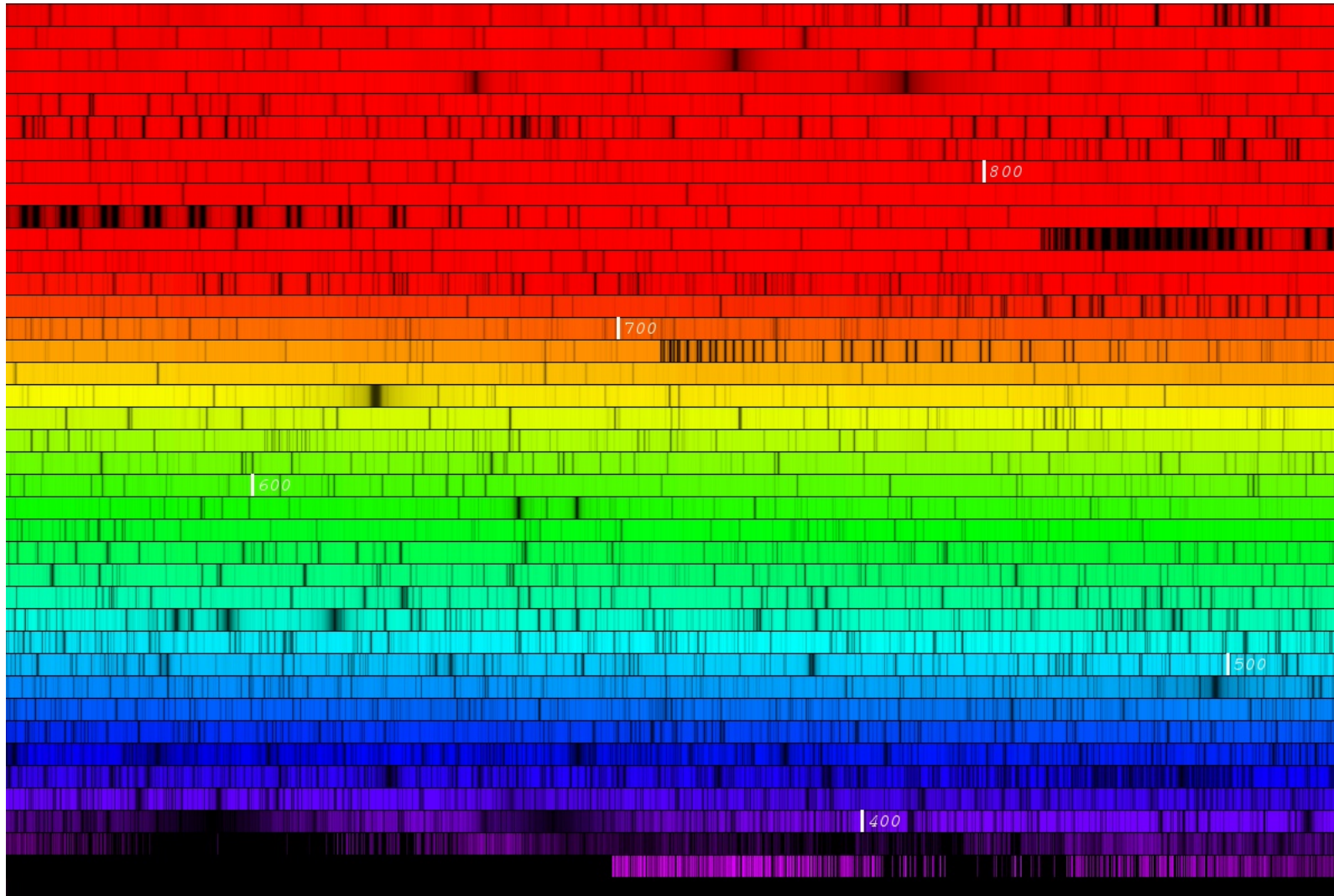
## Solar neutrinos → information on solar core, nuclear physics

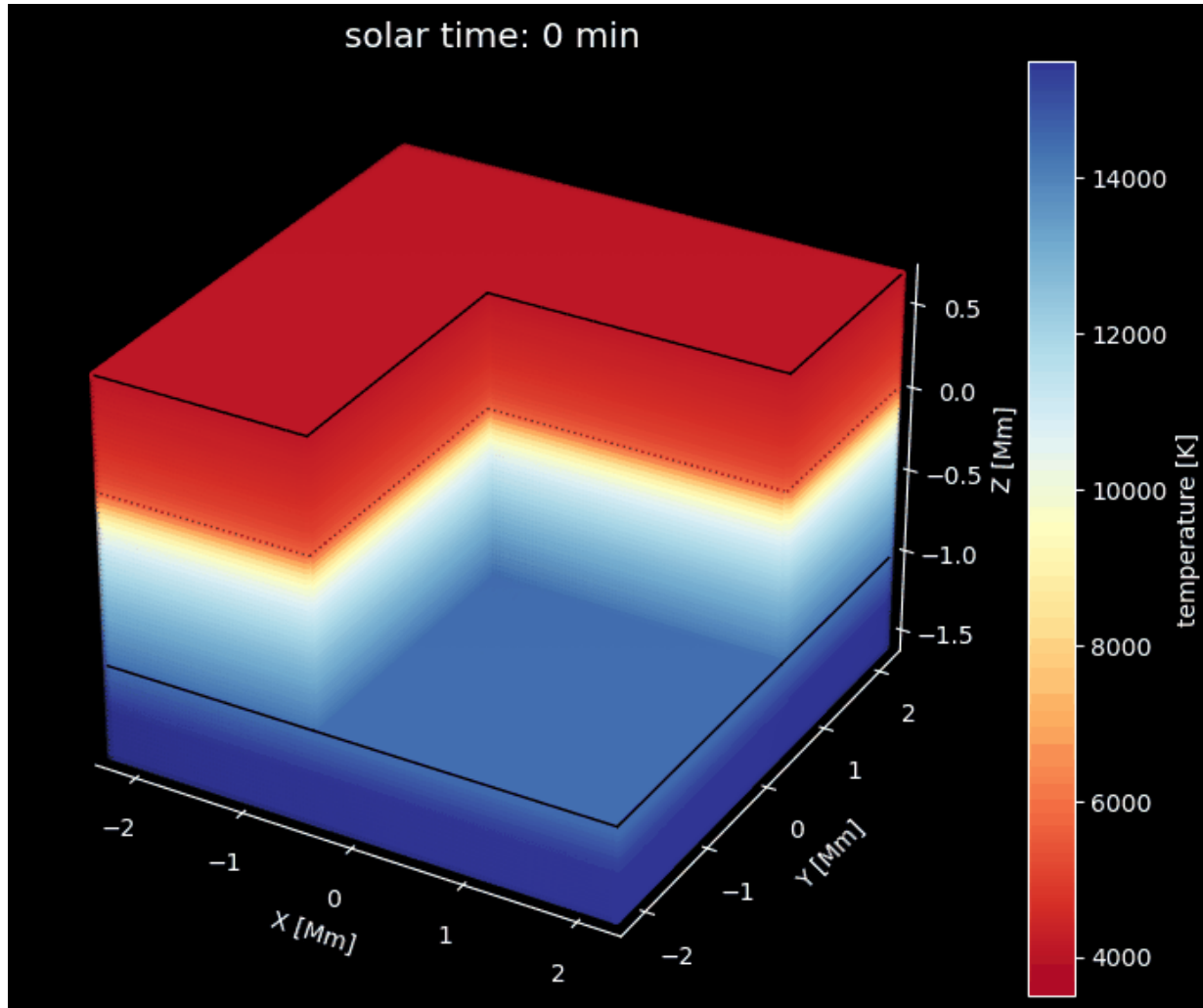


Borexino solar neutrino spectrum  
and identified solar fluxes



# Foundation science: Solar spectrum & abundances





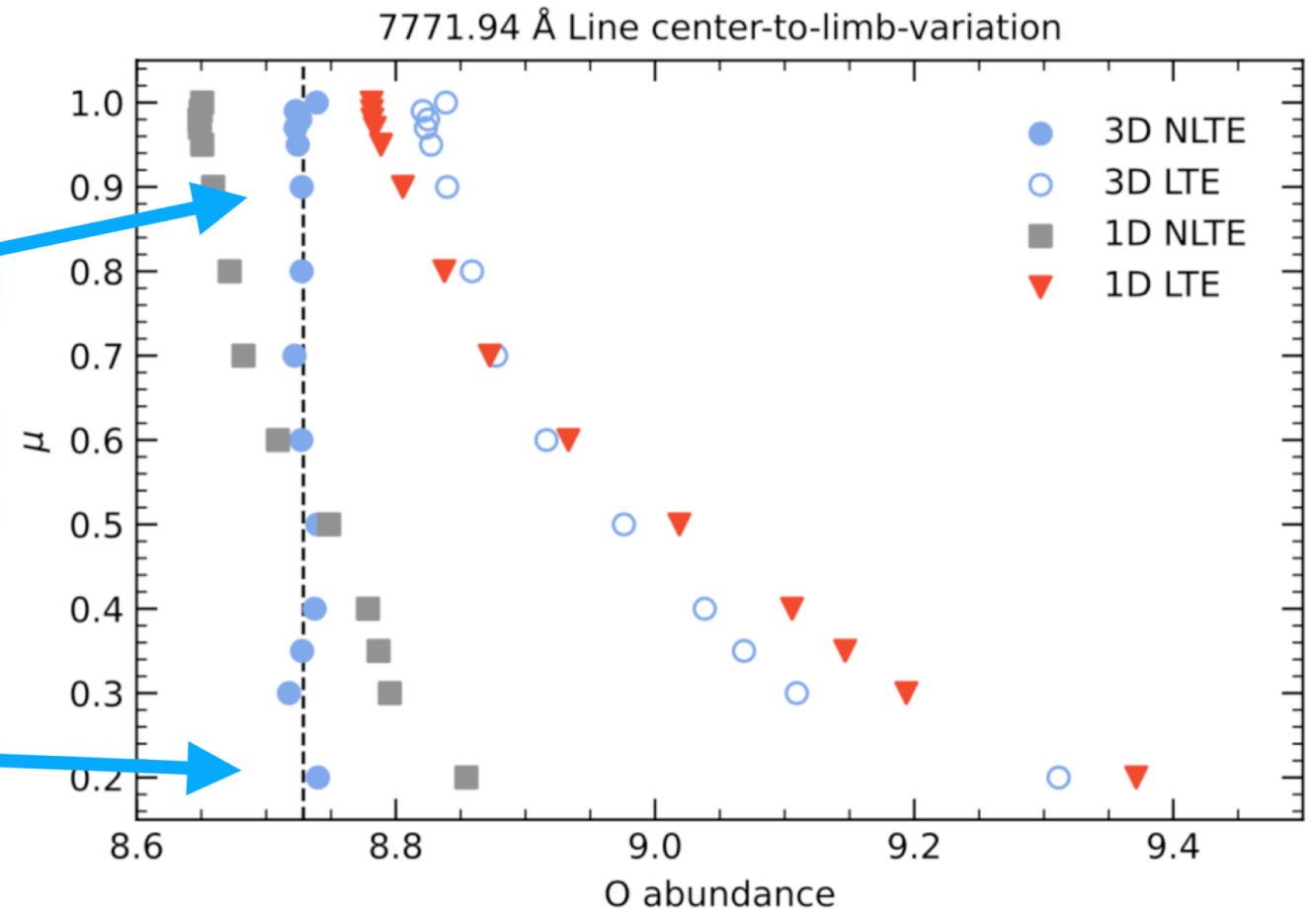
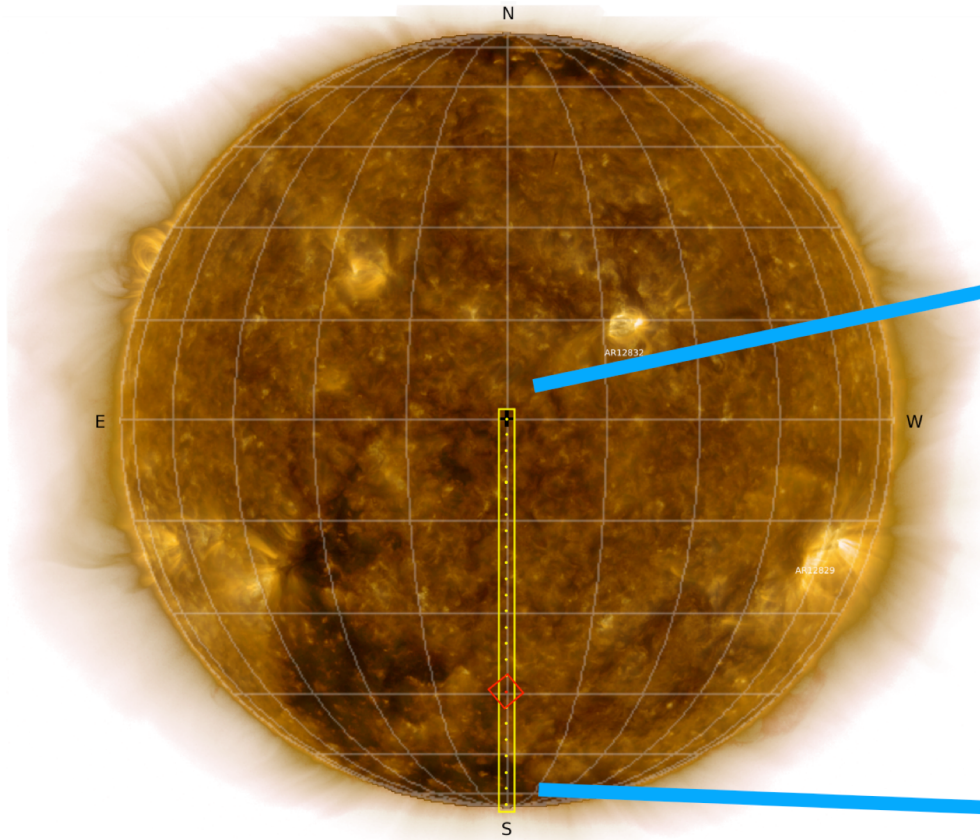
Eitner, Bergemann et al. in press

Solar envelope is convective  
→ hydrodynamic models → 3D models

Structure of atmosphere used for detailed  
radiative transfer  
→ synthetic spectrum  
to compare with observed one

# Foundation science: Solar spectrum & abundances

Spatially resolved spectroscopy → the need for accurate (NLTE) modeling

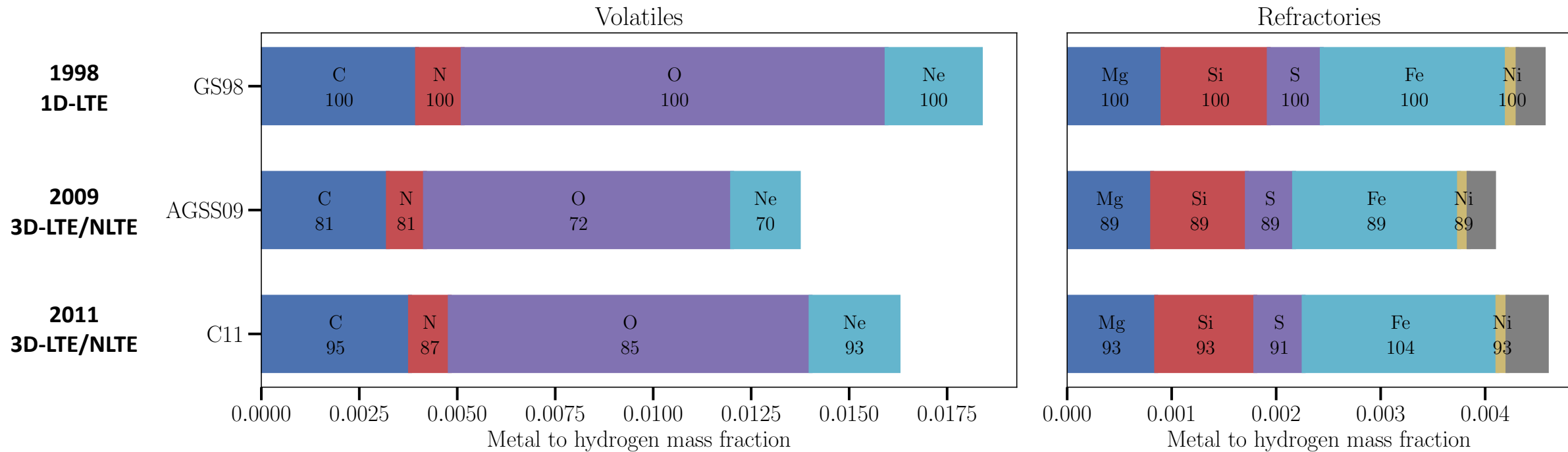


Pietrow, Hoppe, Bergemann et al. 2023

Bergemann, Hoppe, et al. 2021

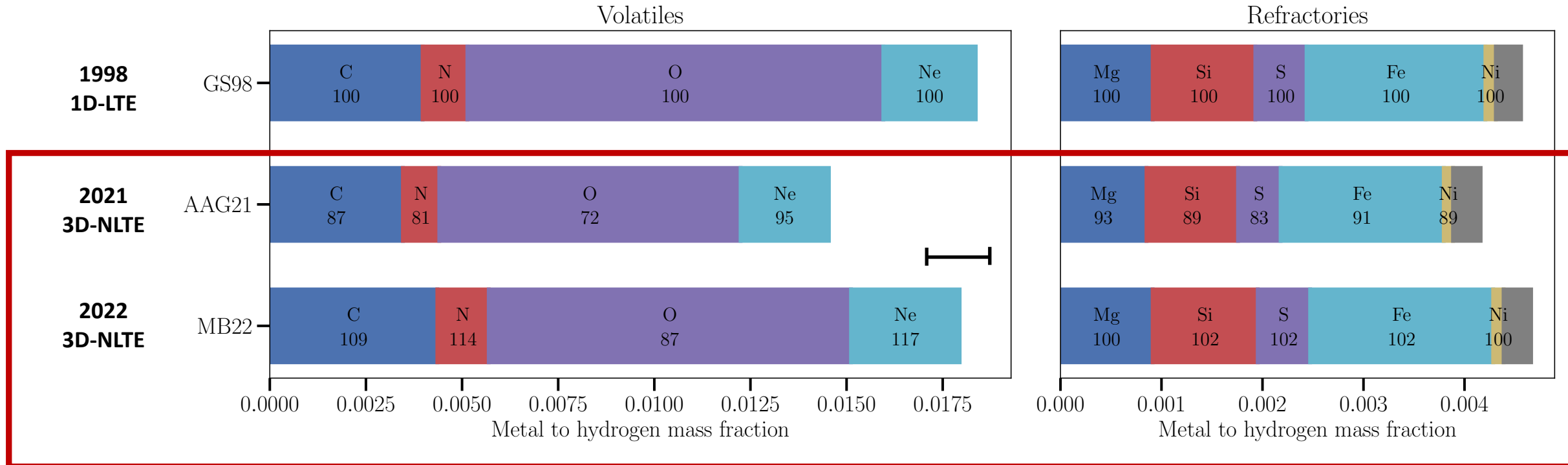
(plots from M. Bergemann)

# Which solar composition?



GS98: Grevesse & Sauval 1998, AGSS09: Asplund et al. 2009, C11: Caffau et al. 2011

# Which solar composition?



GS98: Grevesse & Sauval 1998, AAG21: Asplund et al. 2021, MB22: Magg et al. 2022

# Building a standard solar model

## Boundary conditions

**Solar mass** –  $M_{\odot}$  – determined from  $GM_{\odot}$  → limited by knowledge of  $G$  (~one part in  $10^5$ )

**Solar radius** –  $R_{\odot}$  – several methods: radio occultations, solar oscillations, Venus transit, (< one part in  $10^3$ )  
more loosely defined concept

**Solar luminosity** –  $L_{\odot}$  – bolometric measurements (< one part in  $10^3$ )

**Solar (photospheric) composition** (?) – solar spectrum, meteorites, (corona & wind)

AAG21, MB22

**Solar age** –  $\tau_{\odot}$  – radioactive dating of meteorites (~one part in  $10^3$ )

## Input to standard solar models

solar mixture (relative abundances, no normalization)

radiative opacities, equation of state

nuclear reaction rates

mixing processes: convection, microscopic diffusion

Find the 3 free parameters: **mixing length (convection)**, **initial helium**, **initial metallicity** that match observables at  $\tau_{\odot}$

SSM framework IS NOT INTENDED to be a full description of the Sun (rotation, extramixing, magn. fields)

INT WORKSHOP INT-22-82W

## Solar Fusion Cross Sections III

July 26, 2022 - July 29, 2022

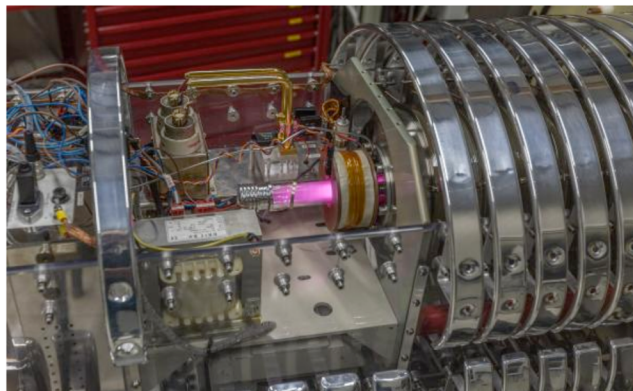
### ORGANIZERS

**Daniel Bemmerer**  
Helmholtz-Zentrum Dresden-Rossendorf  
d.bemmerer@hzdr.de

**Alessandra Guglielmetti**  
Universita degli Studi di Milano - INFN  
Milano  
alessandra.guglielmetti@mi.infn.it

**Wick Haxton**  
UC Berkeley  
haxton@berkeley.edu

**Aldo Serenelli**  
Institute of Space Sciences (ICE, CSIC)  
aldos@ice.csic.es



Note to applicants: This workshop will be held in the David Broton Building near the UC Berkeley campus in Berkeley, CA.

WORKING GROUP AND PRESENTATIONS WE

## Solar fusion III: New data and theory for hydrogen-burning stars.

D. Acharya

*Oak Ridge National Laboratory,  
Oak Ridge, TN 37831,  
USA*

M. Aliotta

*SUPA, School of Physics and Astronomy,  
University of Edinburgh,  
Edinburgh EH9 3FD,  
United Kingdom*

A.B. Balantekin

*Department of Physics,  
University of Wisconsin-Madison,  
Madison WI 53706,  
USA*

D. Bemmerer

*Helmholtz-Zentrum Dresden-Rossendorf, 01328 Dresden,  
Germany*

C.A. Bertulani

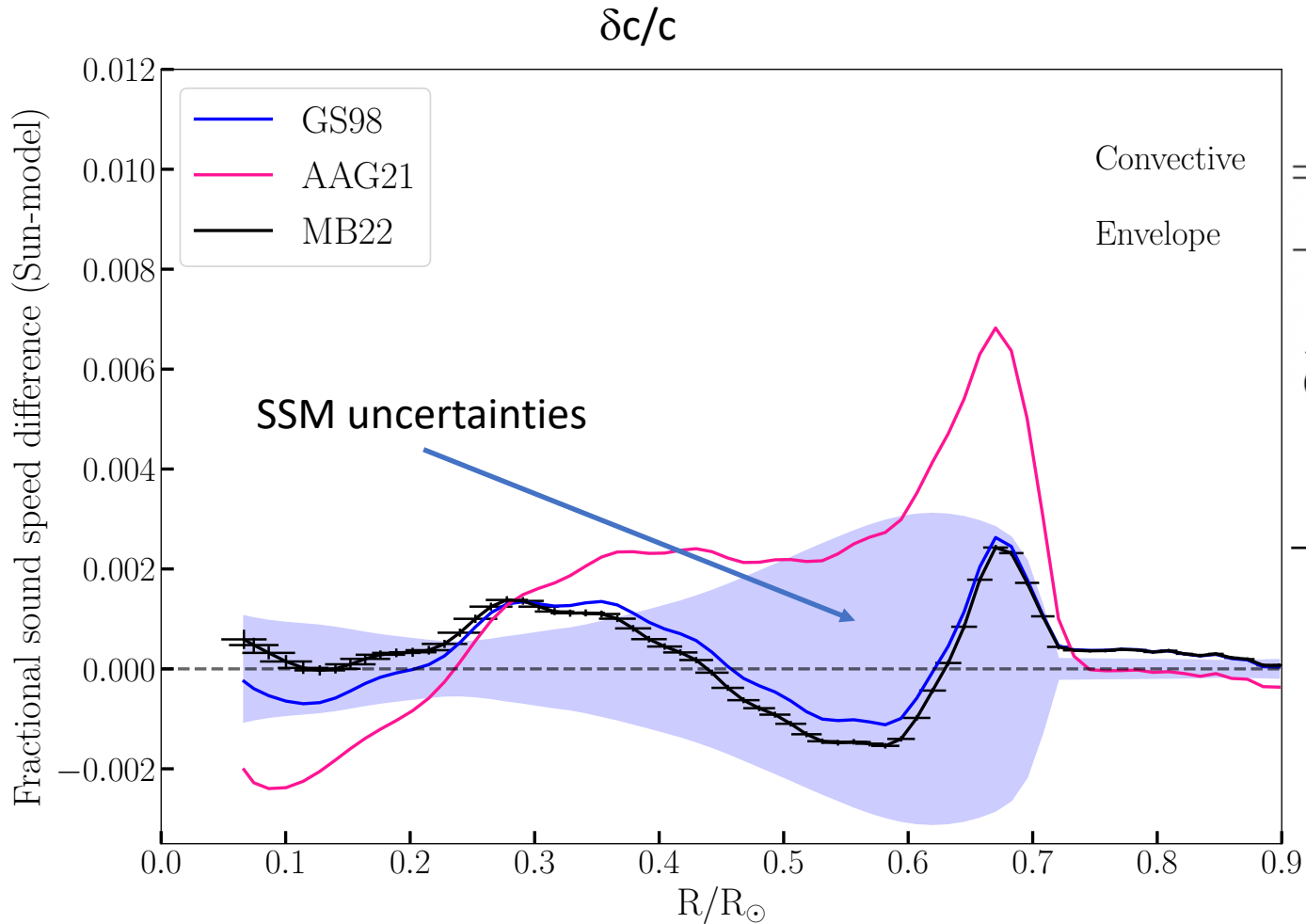
*Department of Physics and Astronomy,  
Texas A&M University-Commerce,  
Commerce, TX 75429-3011,  
USA*

Draft, February 26, 2024.

RMP coming (soon)



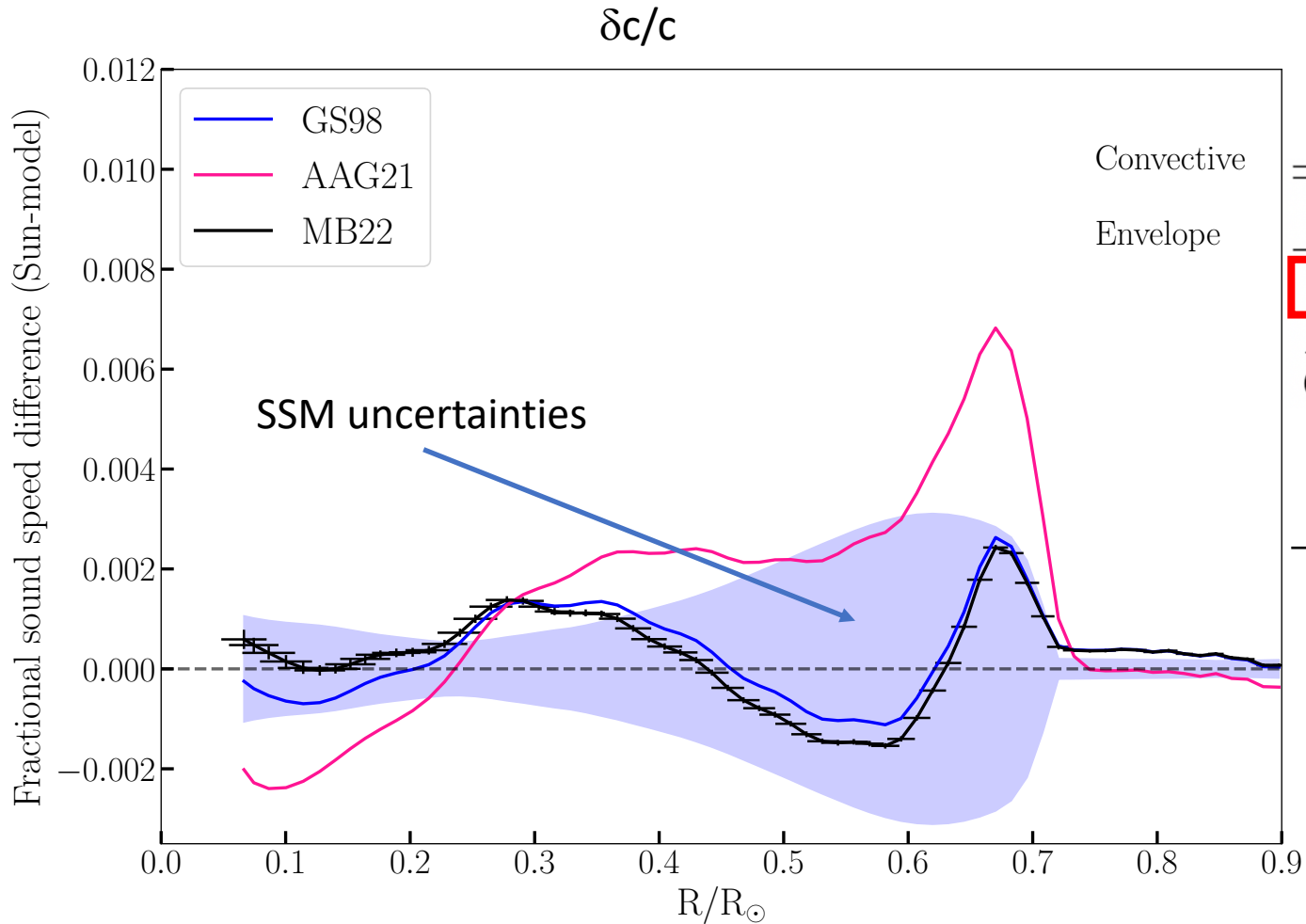
# What helioseismology tells us



Model	$R_{CZ}/R_{\odot}$	$Y_S$	$\langle \delta c/c \rangle$	$Y_{ini}$	$Z_{ini}$
MB22	0.7123	0.2439	0.0010	0.2734	0.0176
AAG21	0.7197	0.2343	0.0027	0.2638	0.0155
GS98	0.7122	0.2425	0.0010	0.2718	0.0187
<b>Solar</b>	<b>0.713</b> <b>±0.001</b>	<b>0.2485</b> <b>±0.0035</b>			

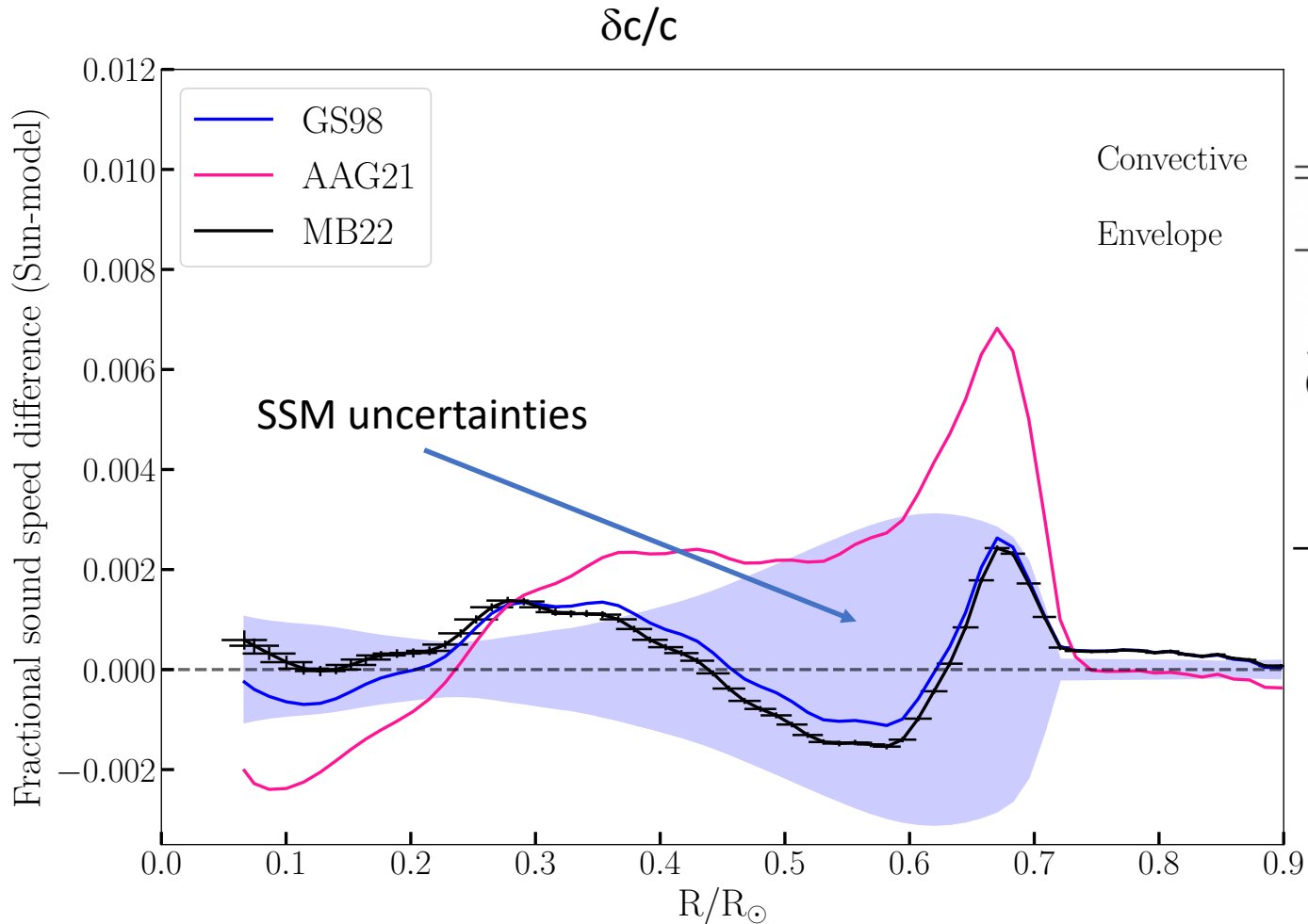


# What helioseismology tells us



Model	$R_{CZ}/R_{\odot}$	$Y_S$	$\langle \delta c/c \rangle$	$Y_{ini}$	$Z_{ini}$
MB22	0.7123	0.2439	0.0010	0.2734	0.0176
AAG21	0.7197	0.2343	0.0027	0.2638	0.0155
GS98	0.7122	0.2425	0.0010	0.2718	0.0187
<b>Solar</b>	<b>0.713</b> <b>±0.001</b>	<b>0.2485</b> <b>±0.0035</b>			

# What helioseismology tells us



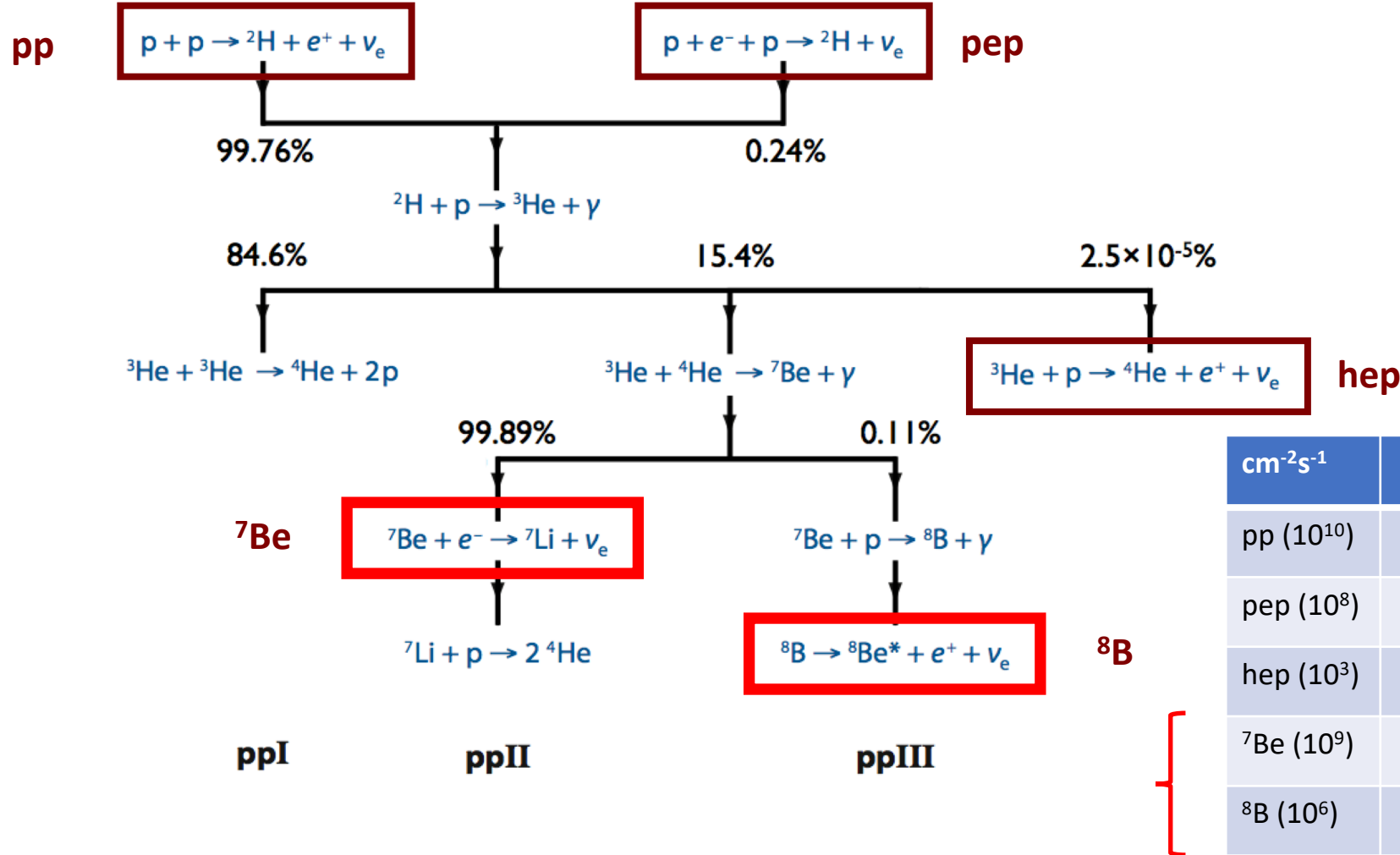
Model	$R_{CZ}/R_{\odot}$	$Y_S$	$\langle \delta c/c \rangle$	$Y_{ini}$	$Z_{ini}$
MB22	0.7123	0.2439	0.0010	0.2734	0.0176
AAG21	0.7197	0.2343	0.0027	0.2638	0.0155
GS98	0.7122	0.2425	0.0010	0.2718	0.0187
<b>Solar</b>	<b>0.713</b>	<b>0.2485</b>	<b><math>\pm 0.001</math></b>	<b><math>\pm 0.0035</math></b>	

**Results sensitive to thermal structure because sound speed scales with  $T^{1/2}$**

$$\nabla T^4 \propto \kappa$$

**→ (composition + radiative opacities)**

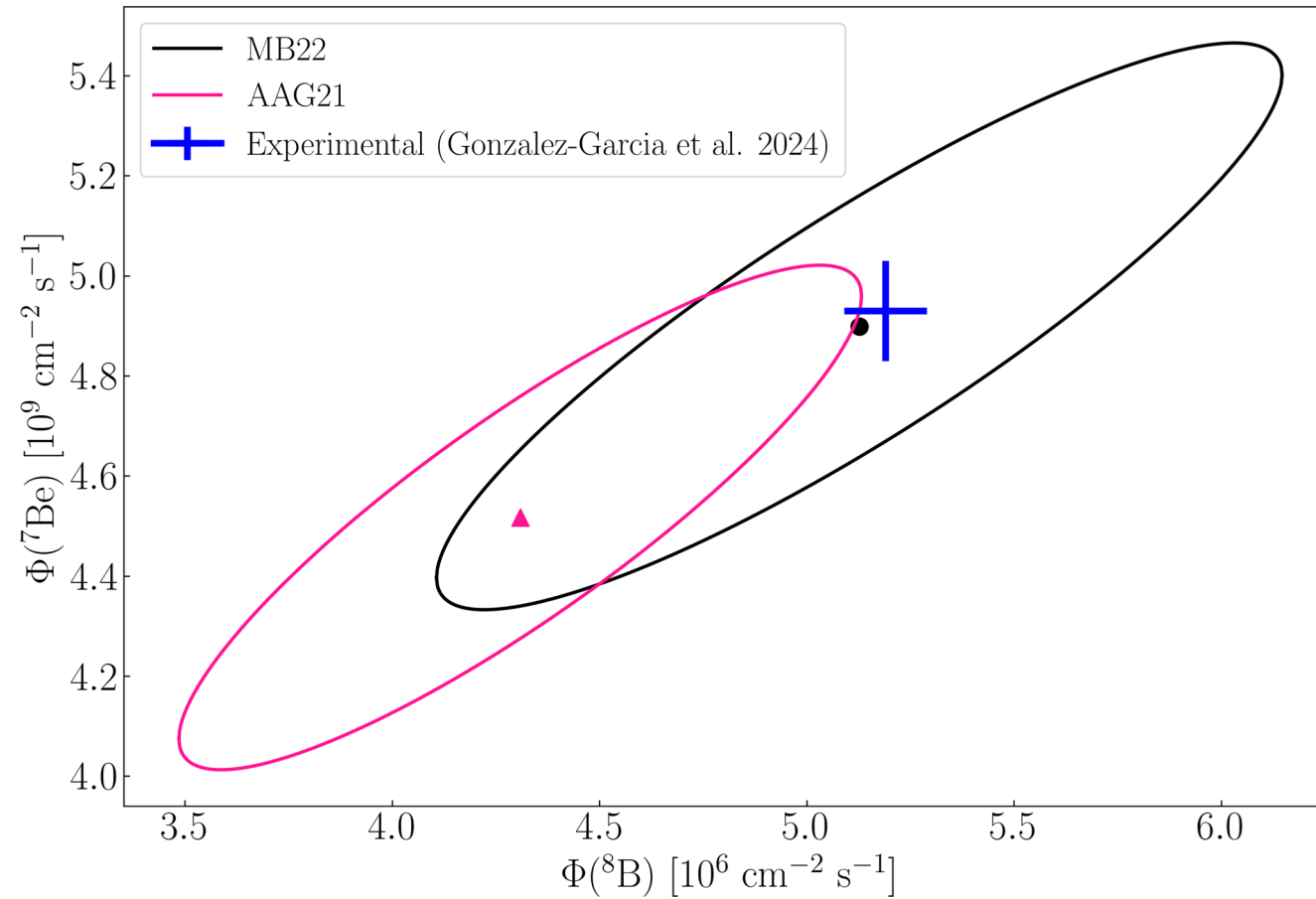
# What solar neutrinos tell us



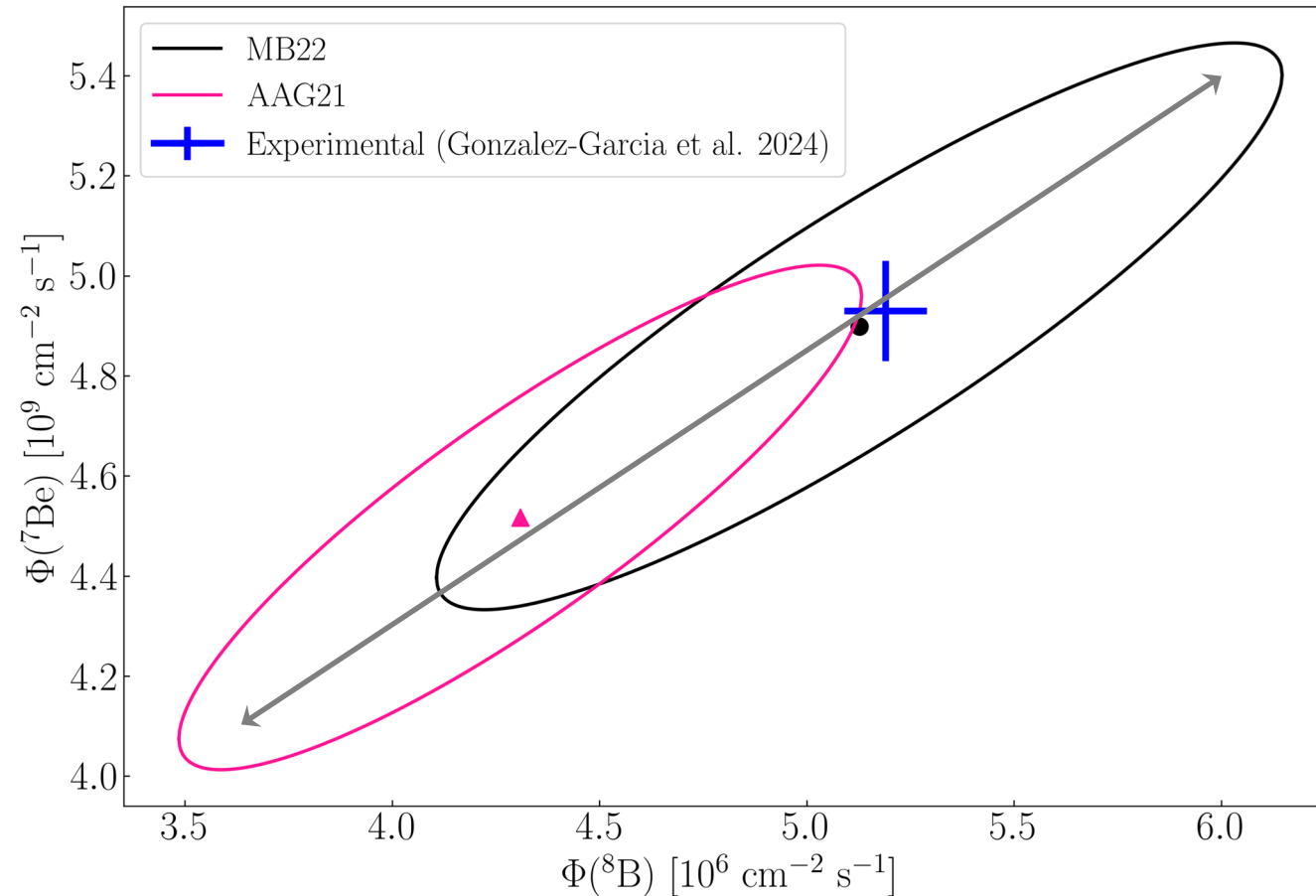
cm <sup>-2</sup> s <sup>-1</sup>	AAG21	MB22	Sun
pp (10 <sup>10</sup> )	6.00 (0.6%)	5.95 (0.6%)	5.94 (0.4%)
pep (10 <sup>8</sup> )	1.45 (1.1%)	1.42 (1.1%)	1.42 (1.6%)
hep (10 <sup>3</sup> )	8.16 (30%)	7.92 (30%)	30 (33%)
<sup>7</sup> Be (10 <sup>9</sup> )	4.52 (7.4%)	4.90 (7.6%)	4.93 (2%)
<sup>8</sup> B (10 <sup>6</sup> )	4.31 (12.6%)	5.13 (13.1%)	5.20 (1.9%)

“Sun”: experimental results from Gonzalez-Garcia et al. 2024

# What solar neutrinos tell us

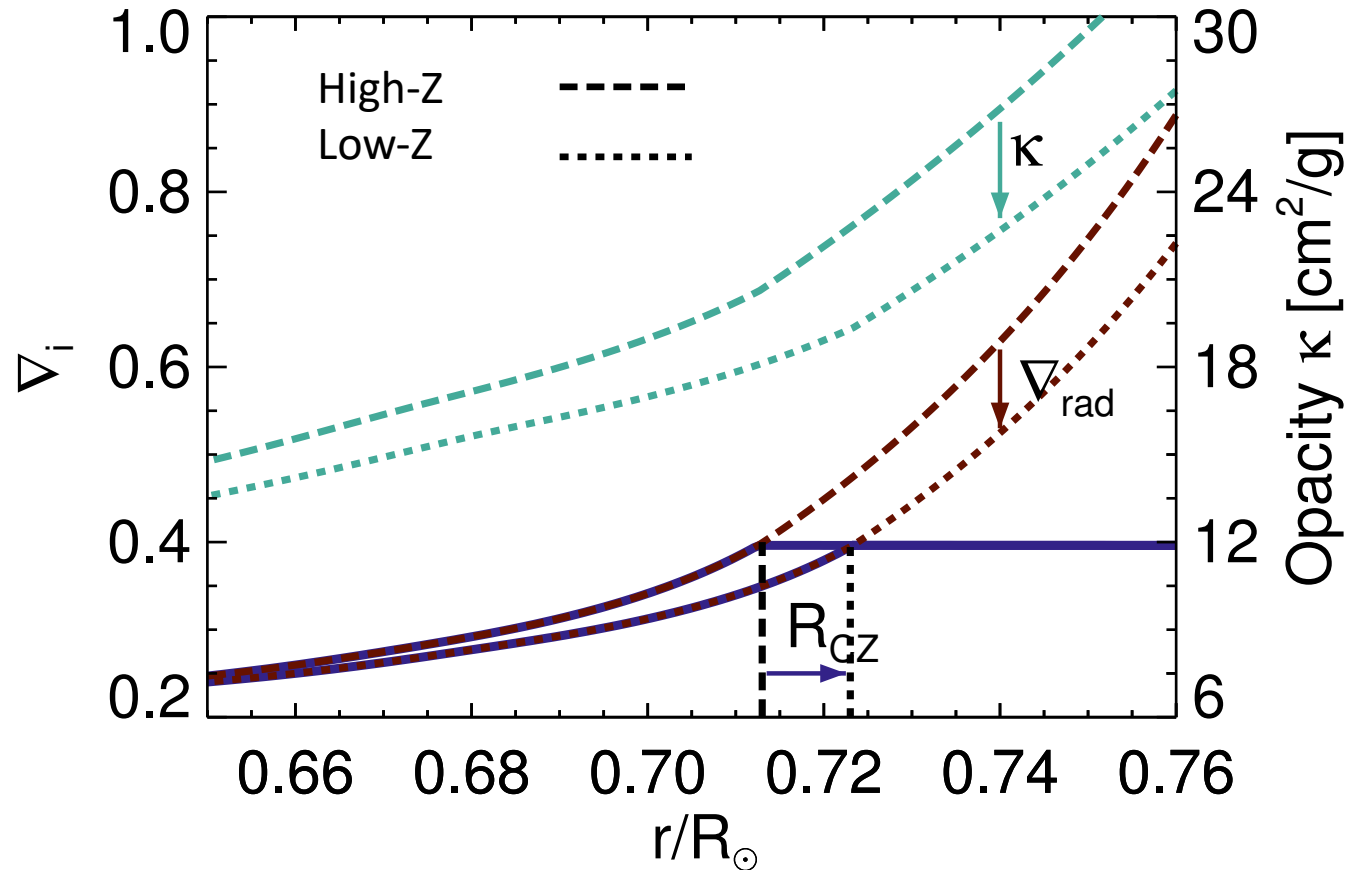


Mostly a temperature sequence with slope determined by nuclear reaction rates



**Results sensitive to composition + radiative opacities**

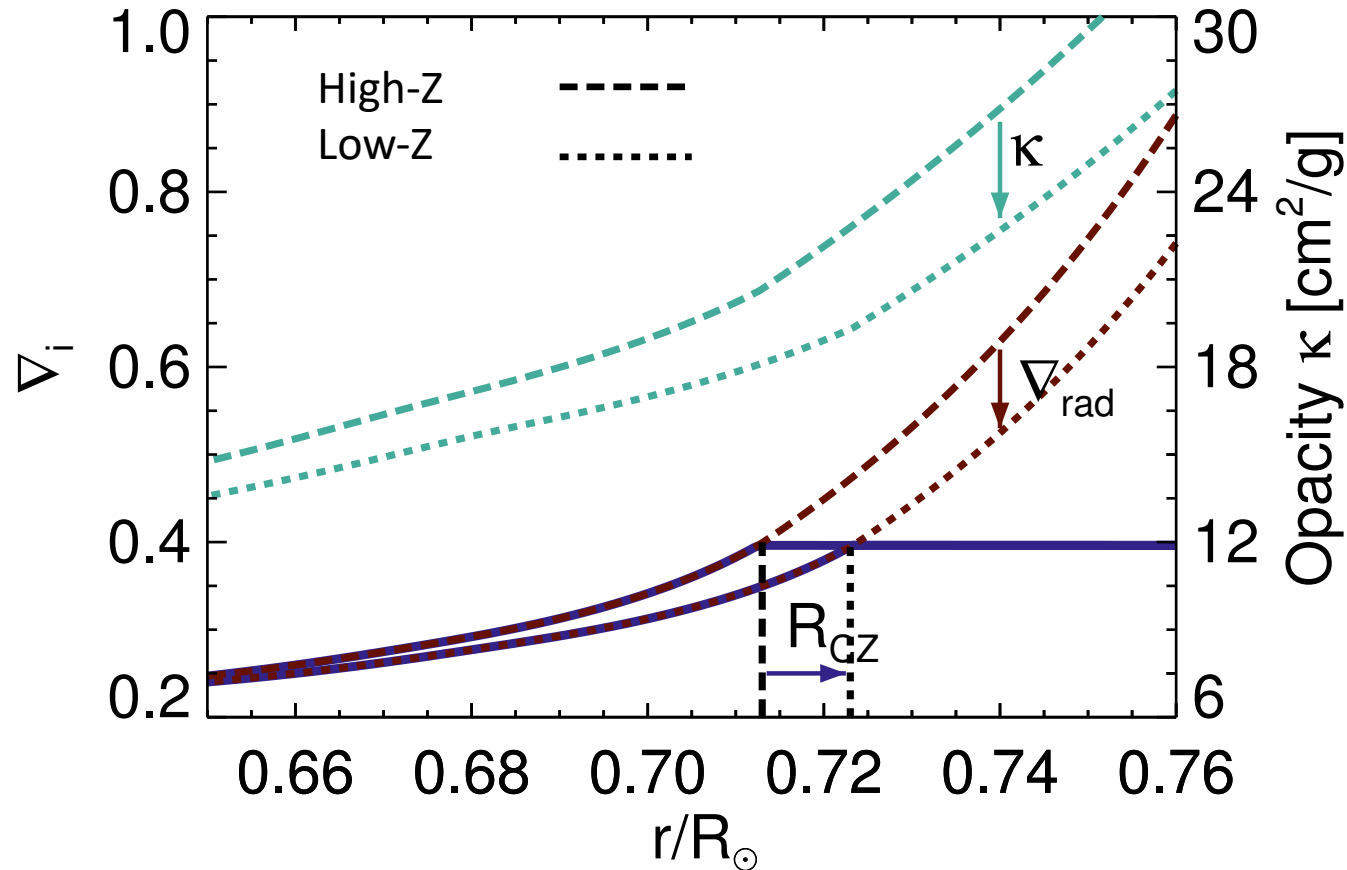
# Impact of metallicity



Solar model with low-Z has overall lower opacity

- flatter temperature profile
- slightly lower internal temperature
- affects helioseismology
- pp-chain neutrinos

# Impact of metallicity



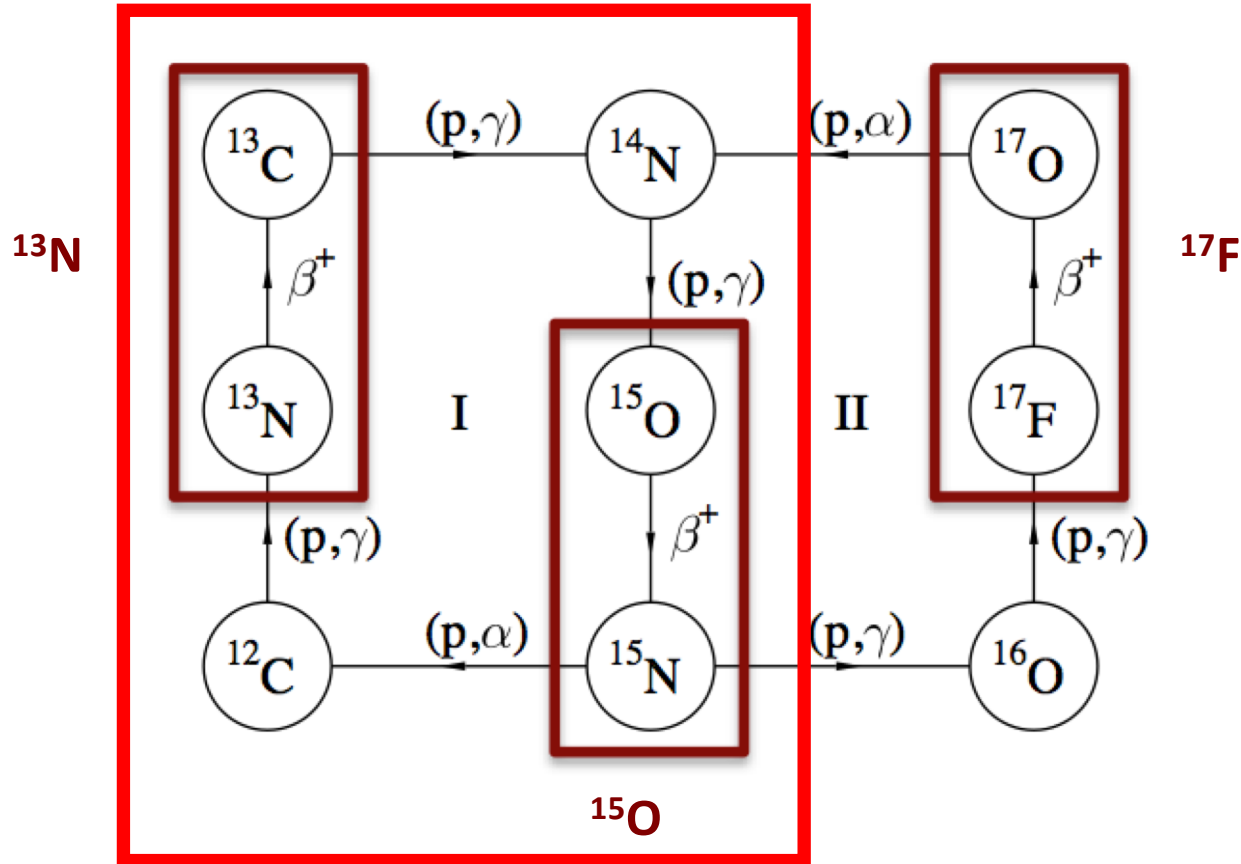
Solar model with low-Z has overall lower opacity

- flatter temperature profile
- slightly lower internal temperature
- affects helioseismology
- pp-chain neutrinos

Degeneracy between metals and opacity very difficult to break

**Opacities are the worst known fundamental piece of physics in solar/stellar modeling**

# What solar neutrinos tell us



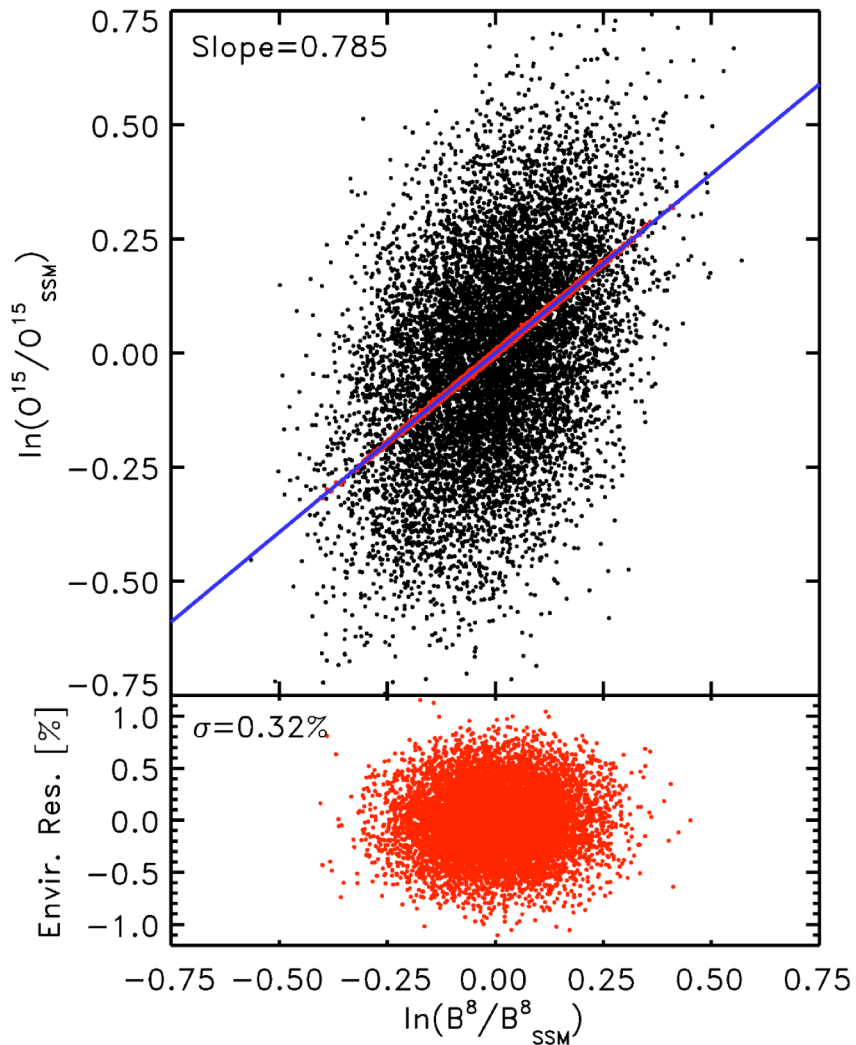
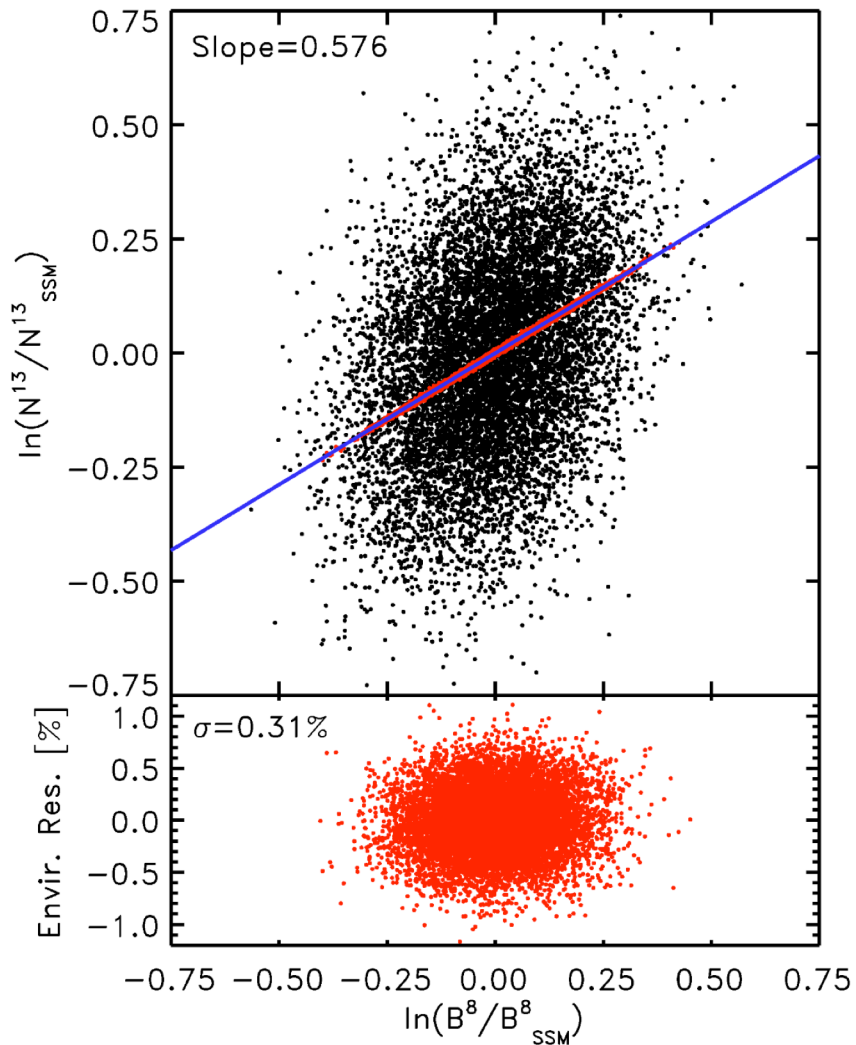
CN-cycle is marginal in the Sun: < 1% energy

This is good!!  $\rightarrow$  sensitive to all changes  
(nuclear rates, composition, core temp.)

C+N abundances catalyzes cycle  
 $\rightarrow$  linear dependence on the rate



# What solar neutrinos tell us



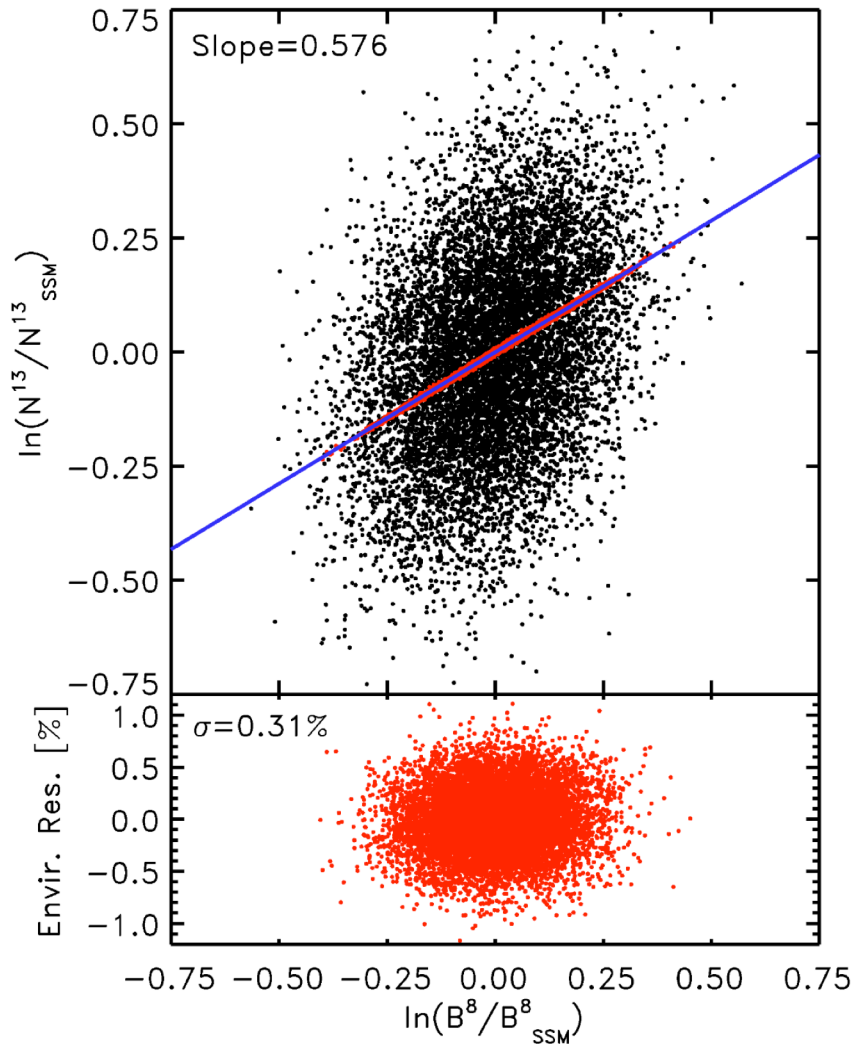
**Black: all uncertainties**

**Red: environmental (core temp.)  
excluding CNO and nuclear reactions**



Nice linear log-log relation between  
fluxes

# What solar neutrinos tell us



Complete relation between  $^{13}\text{N}$  and  $^8\text{B}$  fluxes

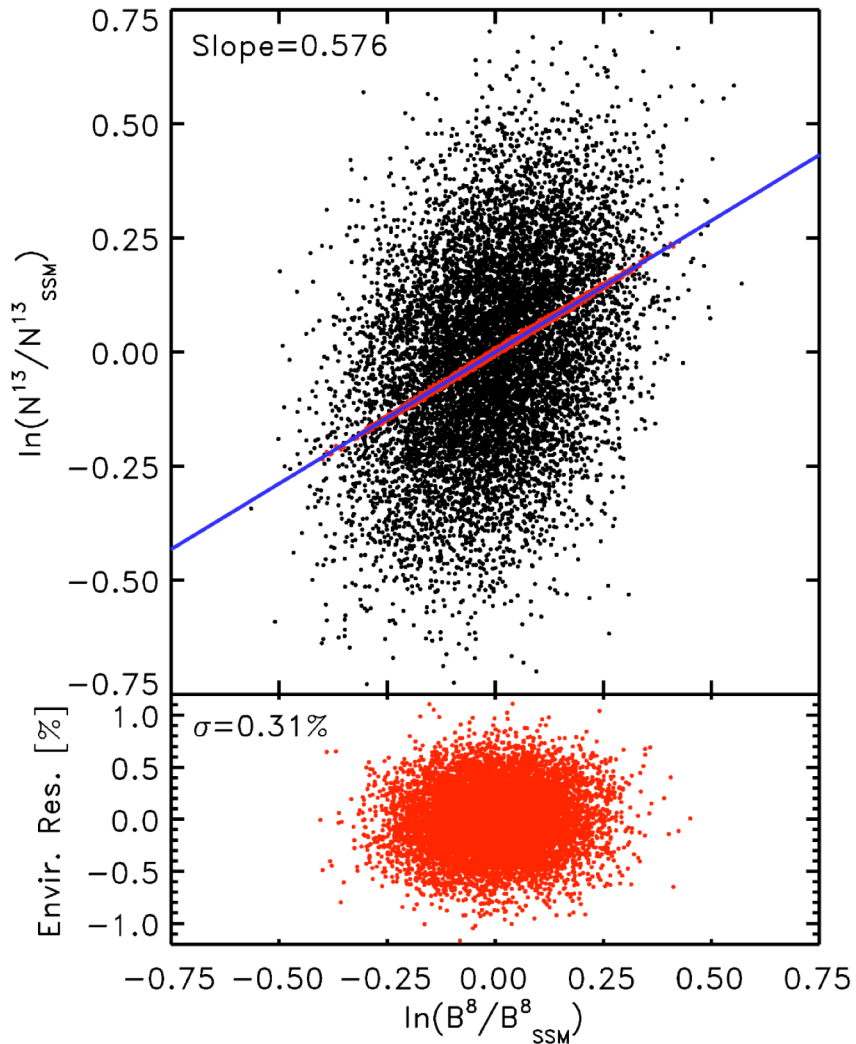
$$\frac{\phi(^{13}\text{N})}{\phi(^{13}\text{N})_{SSM}} / \left[ \frac{\phi(^8\text{B})}{\phi_{SSM}(^8\text{B})} \right]^{0.576} = x_C^{0.840} x_N^{0.161} D^{0.183}$$

$$\times [L_{\odot}^{0.553} O^{-0.017} A^{0.157}]$$

$$\times [S_{11}^{-0.639} S_{33}^{0.264} S_{34}^{-0.526} S_{17}^{-0.576} S_{e7}^{0.576} S_{114}^{0.743}]$$

$$\times [x_O^{0.002} x_{Ne}^{-0.005} x_{Mg}^{-0.004} x_{Si}^{0.0} x_S^{0.0} x_{Ar}^{0.001} x_{Fe}^{0.005}]$$

# What solar neutrinos tell us



Complete relation between  $^{13}\text{N}$  and  $^8\text{B}$  fluxes

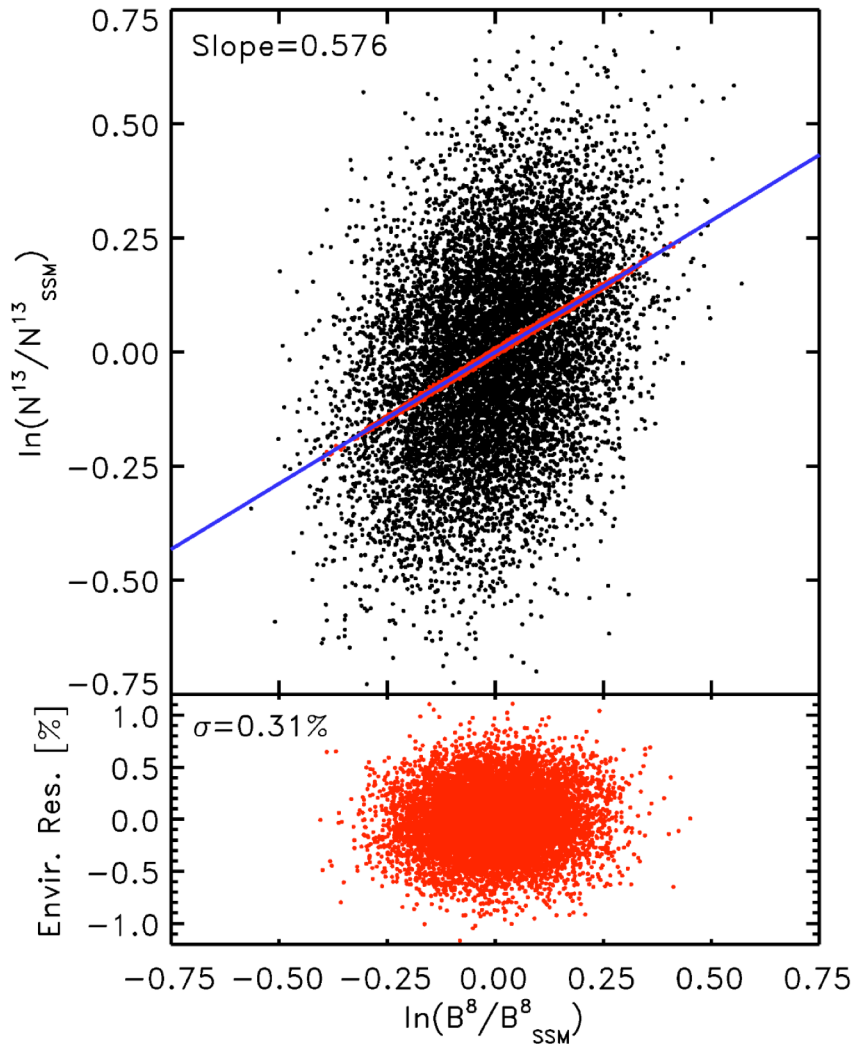
$$\frac{\phi(^{13}\text{N})}{\phi(^{13}\text{N})_{SSM}} / \left[ \frac{\phi(^8\text{B})}{\phi_{SSM}(^8\text{B})} \right]^{0.576} = x_C^{0.840} x_N^{0.161} D^{0.183}$$

$$\times [L_{\odot}^{0.553} O^{-0.017} A^{0.157}]$$

$$\times [S_{11}^{-0.639} S_{33}^{0.264} S_{34}^{-0.526} S_{17}^{-0.576} S_{e7}^{0.576} S_{114}^{0.743}]$$

$$\times [x_O^{0.002} x_{Ne}^{-0.005} x_{Mg}^{-0.004} x_{Si}^{0.0} x_S^{0.0} x_{Ar}^{0.001} x_{Fe}^{0.005}]$$

# What solar neutrinos tell us



Complete relation between  $^{13}\text{N}$  and  $^8\text{B}$  fluxes

$$\frac{\phi(^{13}\text{N})}{\phi(^{13}\text{N})_{SSM}} / \left[ \frac{\phi(^8\text{B})}{\phi_{SSM}(^8\text{B})} \right]^{0.576} = x_C^{0.840} x_N^{0.161} D^{0.183}$$

$$\times [L_{\odot}^{0.553} O^{-0.017} A^{0.157}]$$

$$\times [S_{11}^{-0.639} S_{33}^{0.264} S_{34}^{-0.526} S_{17}^{-0.576} S_{e7}^{0.576} S_{114}^{0.743}]$$

$$\times [x_O^{0.002} x_{Ne}^{-0.005} x_{Mg}^{-0.004} x_{Si}^{0.0} x_S^{0.0} x_{Ar}^{0.001} x_{Fe}^{0.005}]$$

$$\frac{\phi(^{13}\text{N})}{\phi(^{13}\text{N})_{SSM}} \simeq \left( \frac{\phi(^8\text{B})}{\phi(^8\text{B})_{SSM}} \right)^{0.576} (x_{C+N}) [1 \pm 0.075(\text{nuc}) \pm 0.03(\text{D})]$$

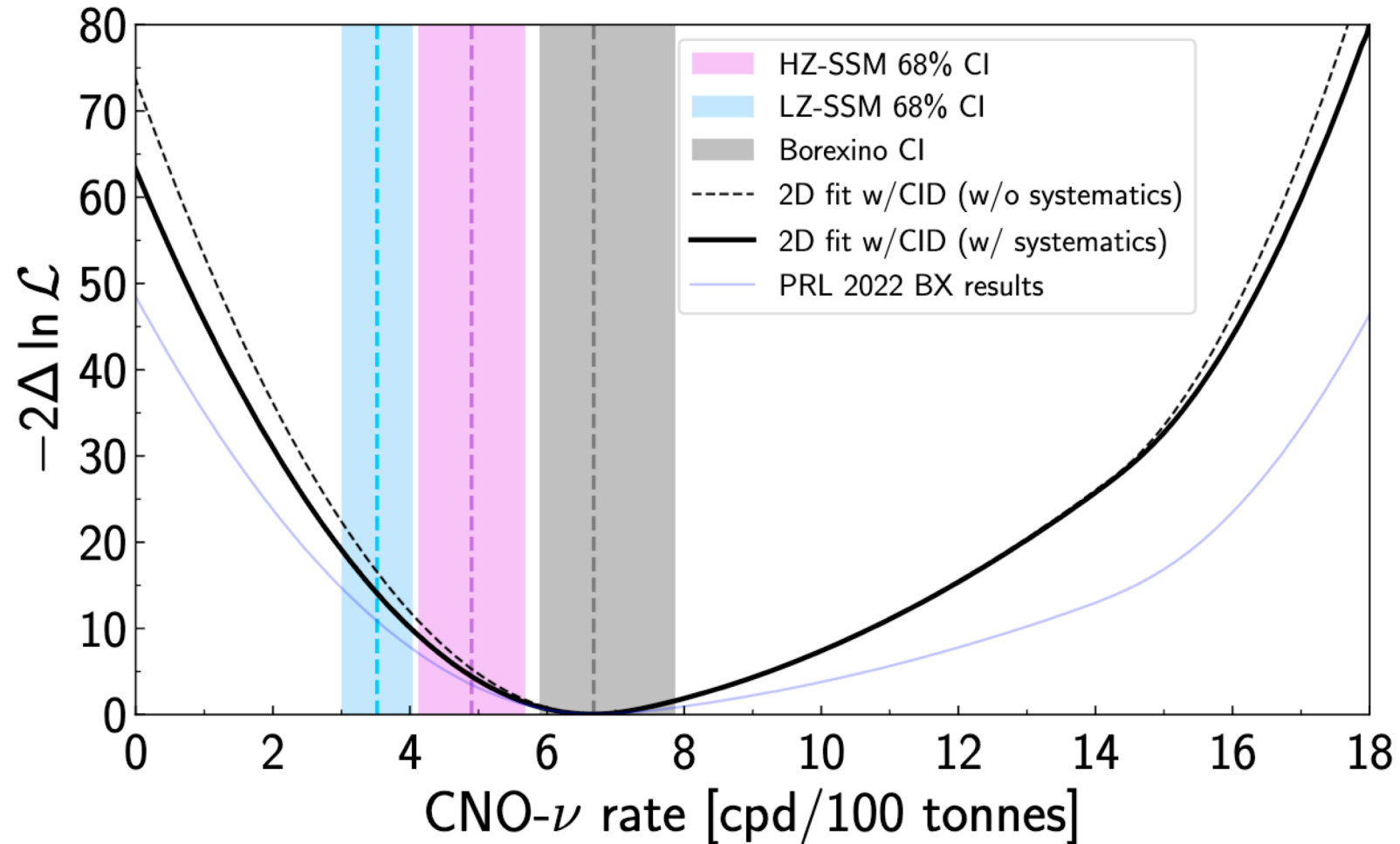
**A measurement of CN fluxes leads to determination of solar core C+N**

$^{14}\text{N}(p,\gamma)^{15}\text{O}$  – 8.4% error  $\rightarrow$  6% contribution

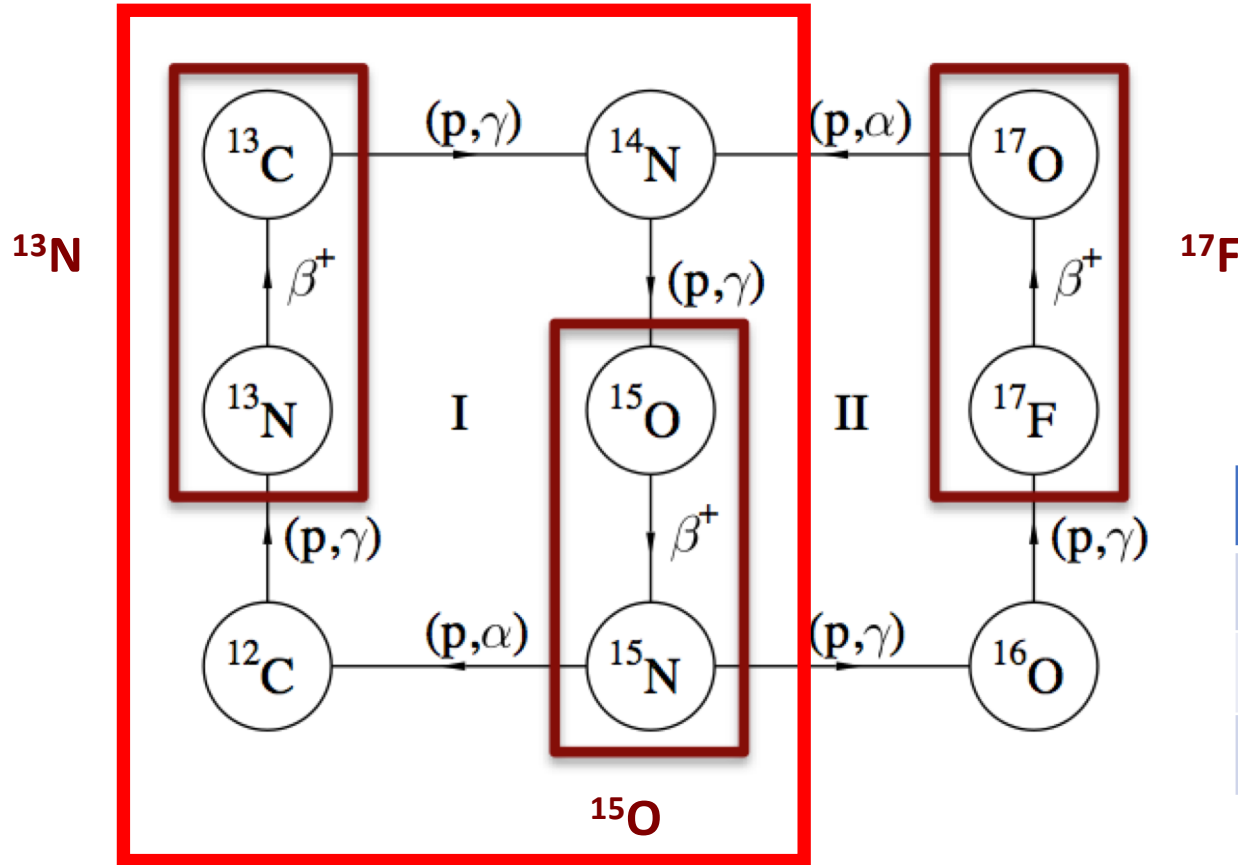
$^3\text{He}(^4\text{He},\gamma)^7\text{Be}$  – 5% error  $\rightarrow$  3% contribution

after SFIII

Borexino measurement of  $^{13}\text{N}+^{15}\text{O}$  fluxes (Borexino coll. 2022, 2023)



# What solar neutrinos tell us



CN-cycle is marginal in the Sun: < 1% energy

This is good!!  $\rightarrow$  sensitive to all changes  
(nuclear rates, composition, core temp.)

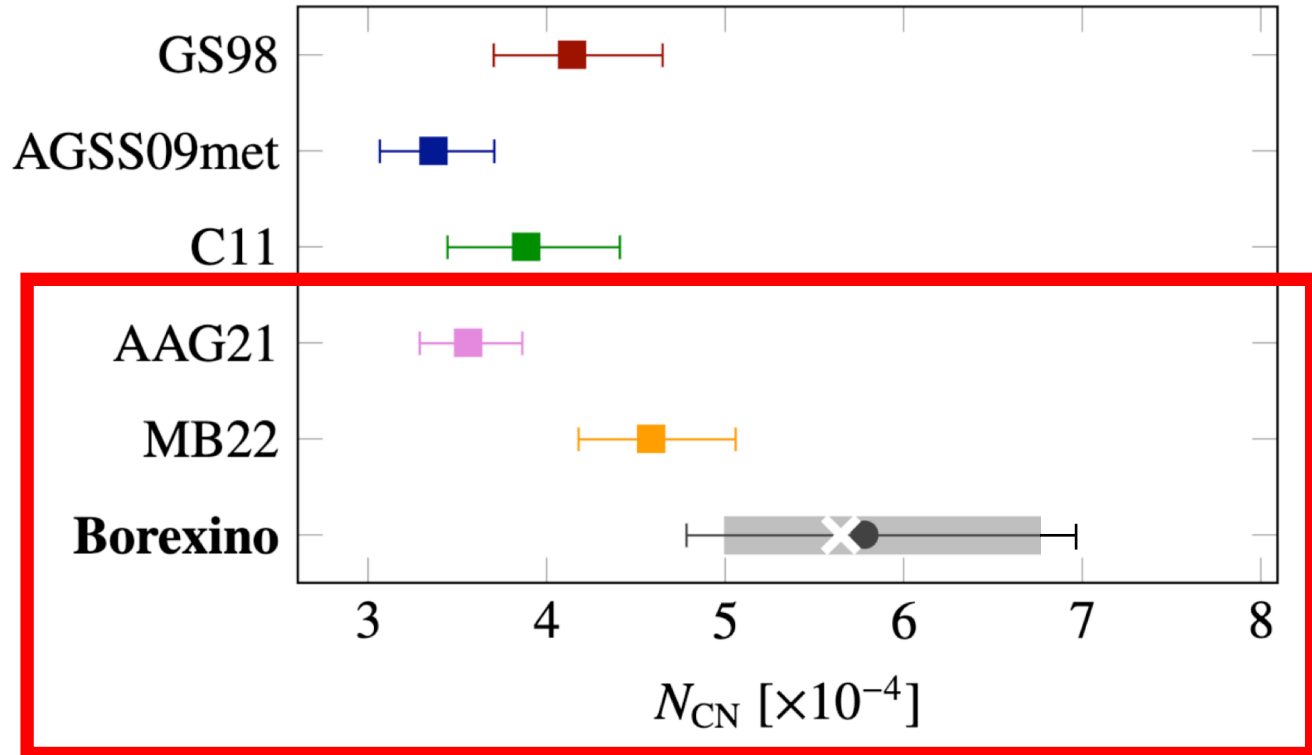
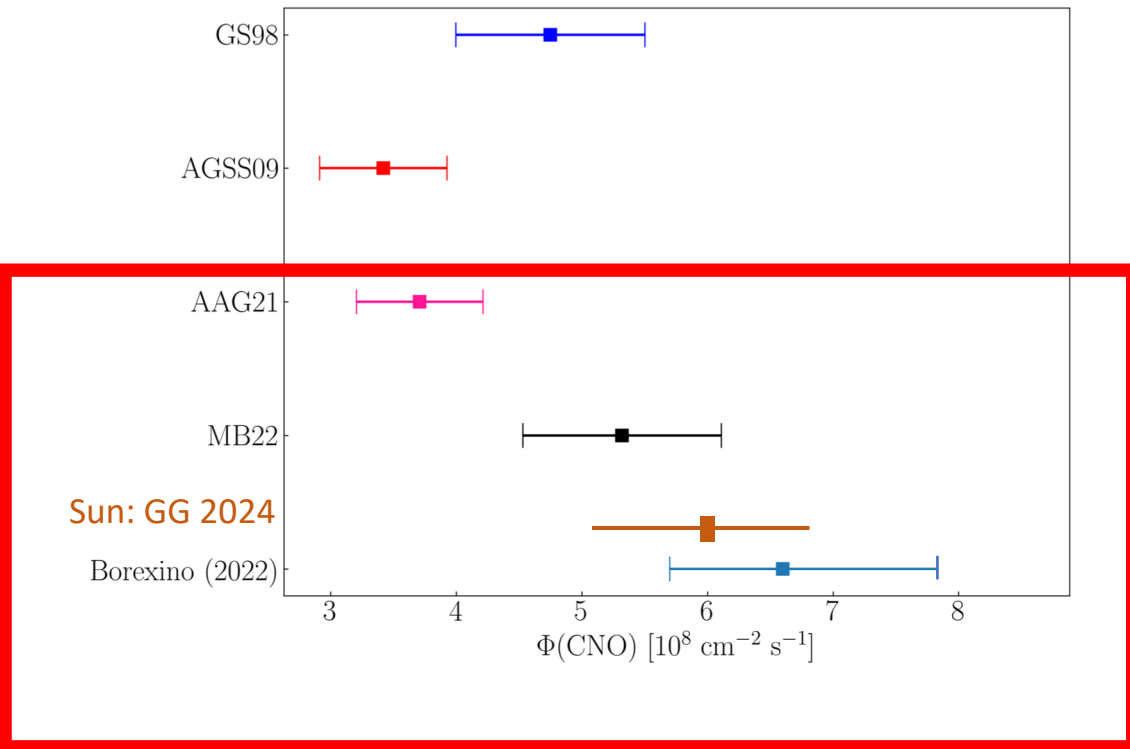
C+N abundances catalyzes cycle  
 $\rightarrow$  linear dependence on the rate

$\text{cm}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$	AAG21	MB22	Sun
$^{13}\text{N}$ ( $10^8$ )	2.21 (13%)	3.12 (15%)	3.48 (14%)
$^{15}\text{O}$ ( $10^8$ )	1.58 (16%)	2.32 (17%)	2.53 (14%)
$^{17}\text{F}$ ( $10^6$ )	3.40 (16%)	4.74 (16%)	----

“Sun”: Gonzalez-Garcia et al. 2024

# What solar neutrinos tell us

## Borexino measurement C+N abundance in the **solar core** (Borexino coll. 2022, 2023)



CN neutrinos break the degeneracy between composition and opacity

Favor large CN abundance



# However, back to helioseismology

Propagation of sound waves carry information about composition through adiabatic index:

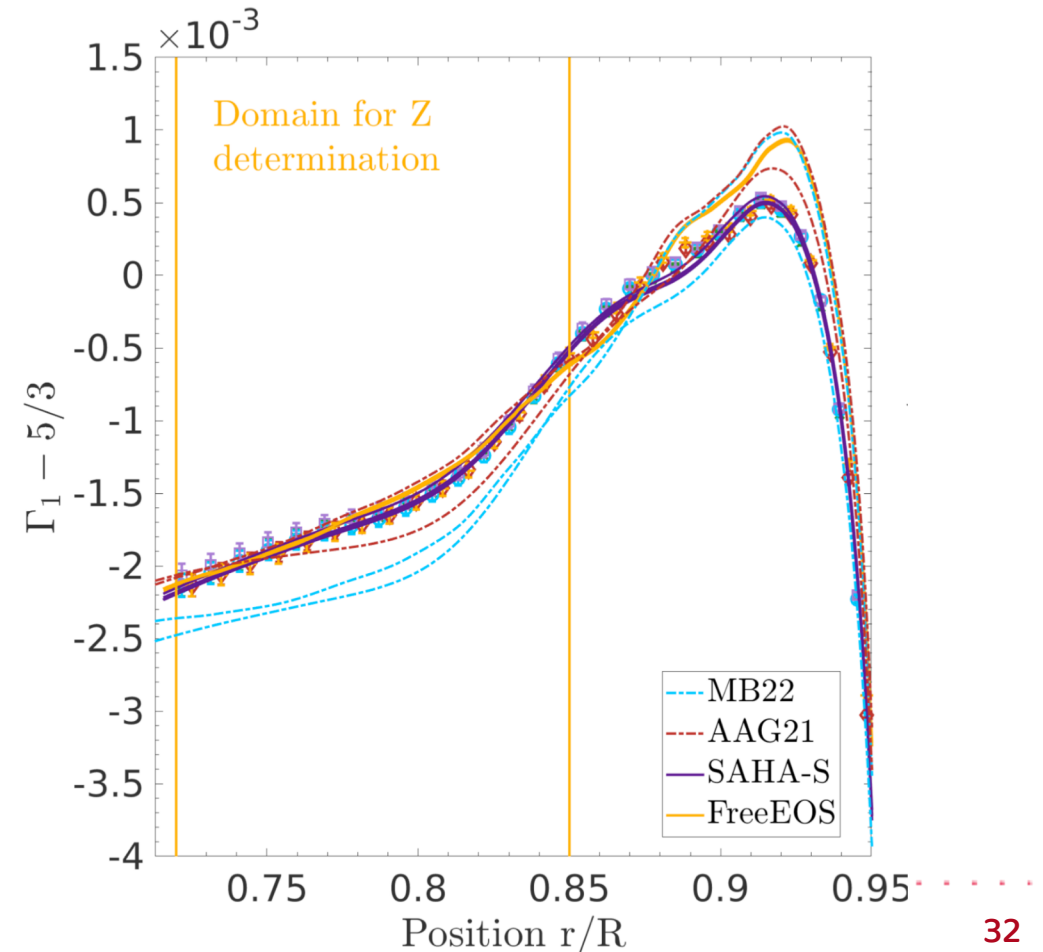
$$\Gamma_1 = \left( \frac{\partial \ln P}{\partial \ln \rho} \right)_{\text{ad}} = 5/3 \text{ (for fully ionized gas)} < 5/3 \text{ in partial ionization regions}$$

It can be determined through inversion of solar oscillations and compared to solar models.

Only sensitive to total Z (not individual elements)

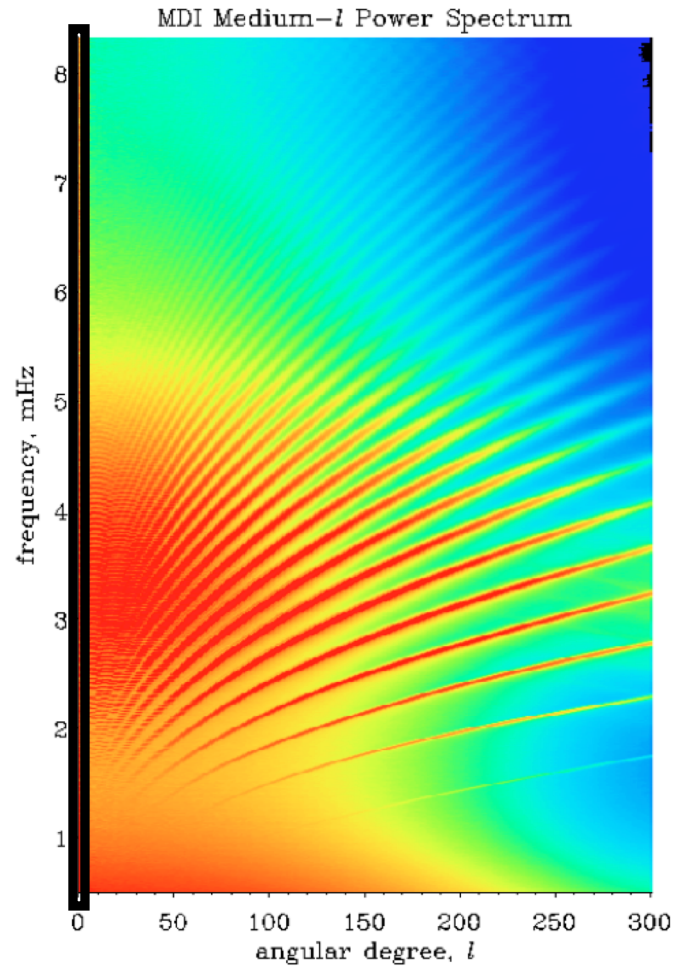
Results are degenerate with equation of state

**Results indicate agreement with AAG21 rather than MB22**

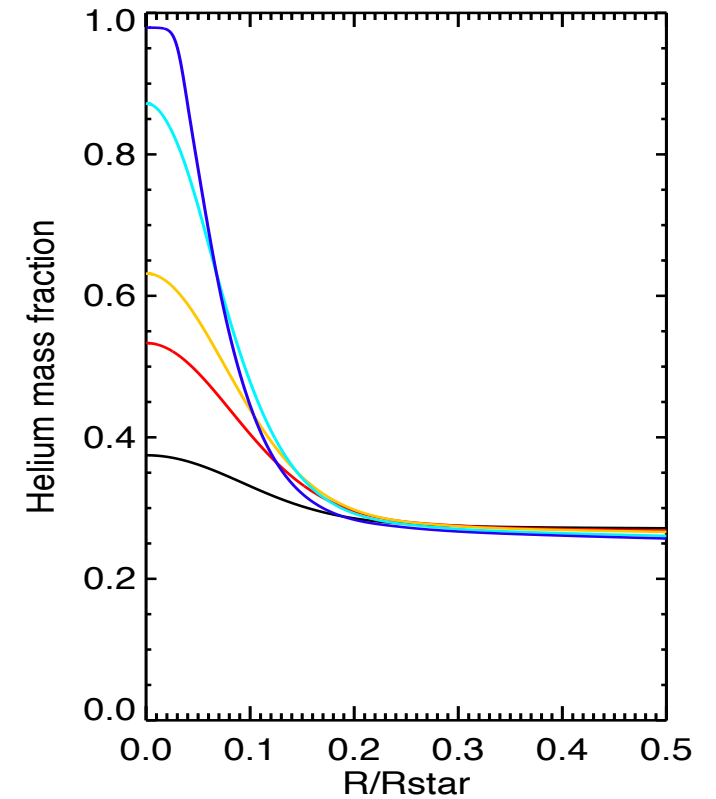
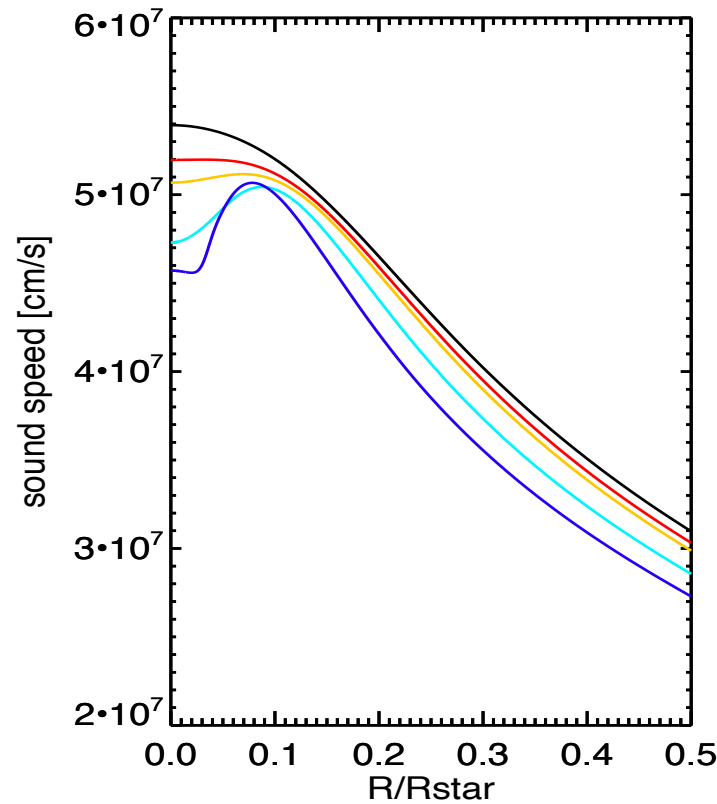




Cancellation effects limit modes to  $l=0, 1, 2, (3)$  for other stars (e.g. Kepler, TESS, PLATO)



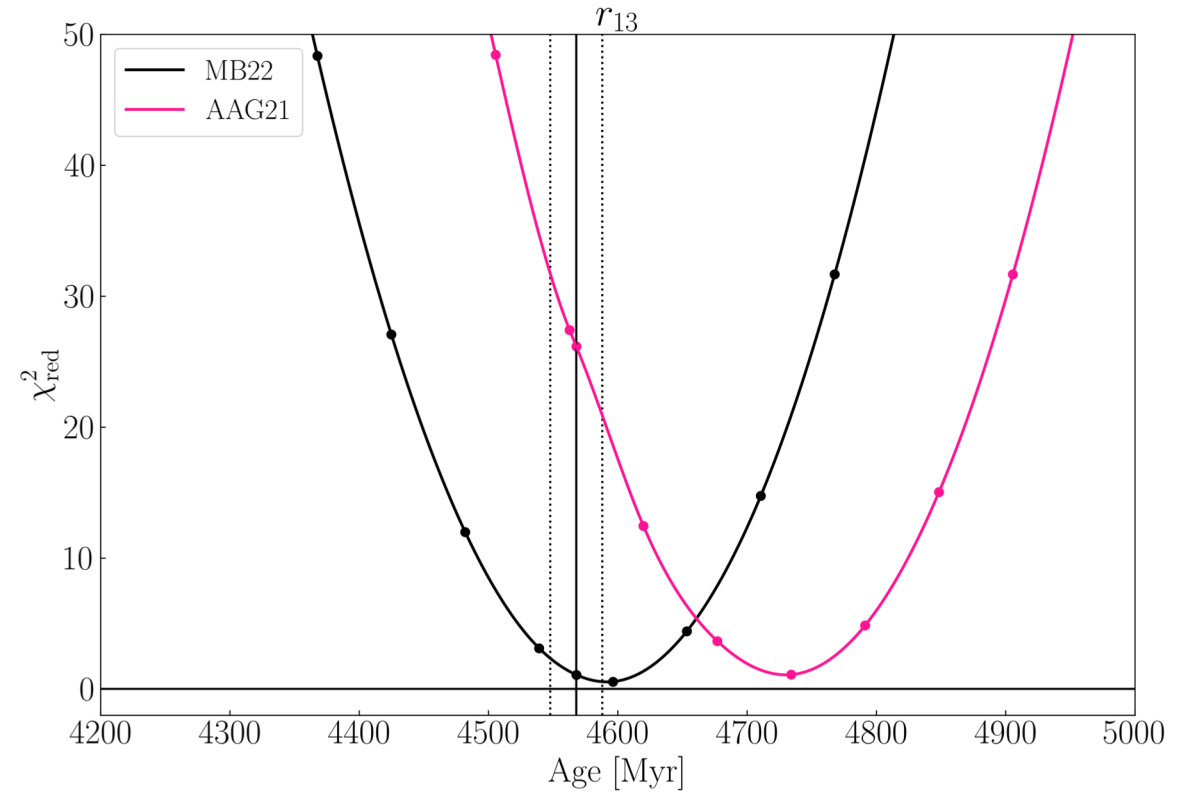
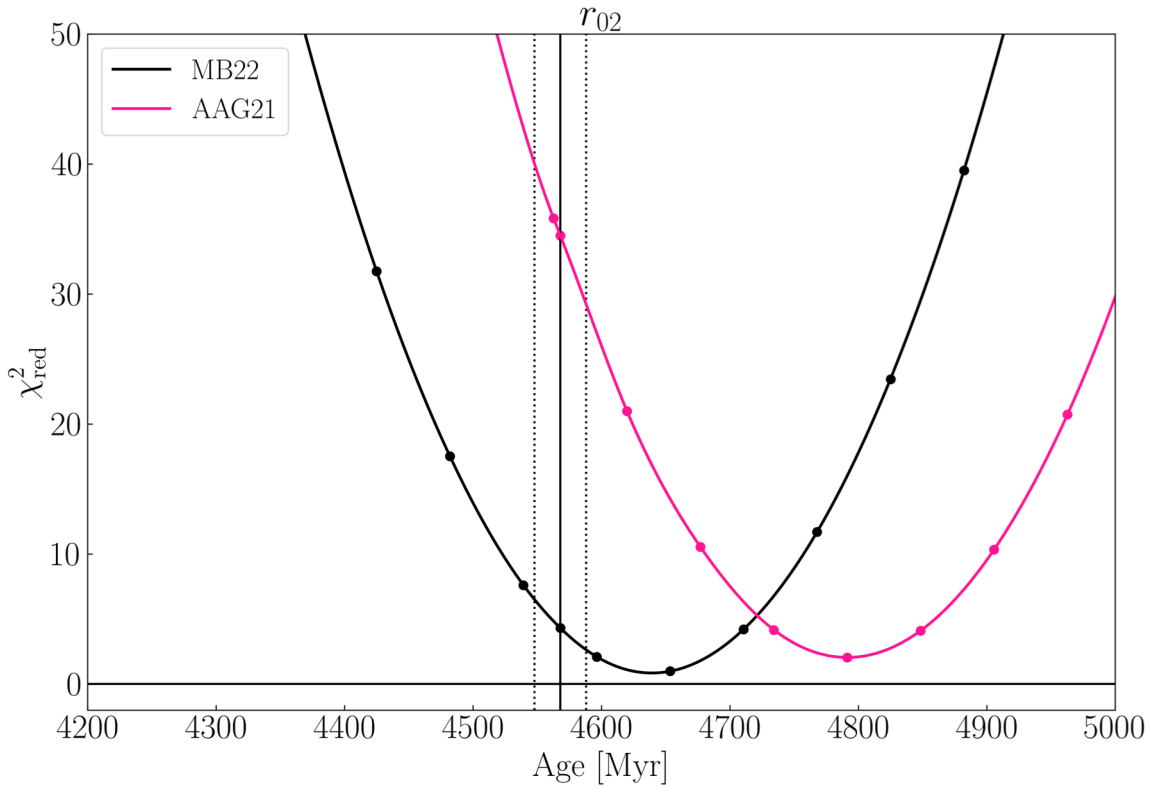
$$\nu_{n,l} - \nu_{n-1,l+2} \propto \frac{1}{4\pi\nu_{n,l}} \int_0^R \frac{dc}{dr} \frac{dr}{r} \longrightarrow \text{age diagnostics}$$



# The Sun from afar

No independent age for other stars

$$\nu_{n,l} - \nu_{n-1,l+2} \propto \frac{1}{4\pi\nu_{n,l}} \int_0^R \frac{dc}{dr} \frac{dr}{r}$$



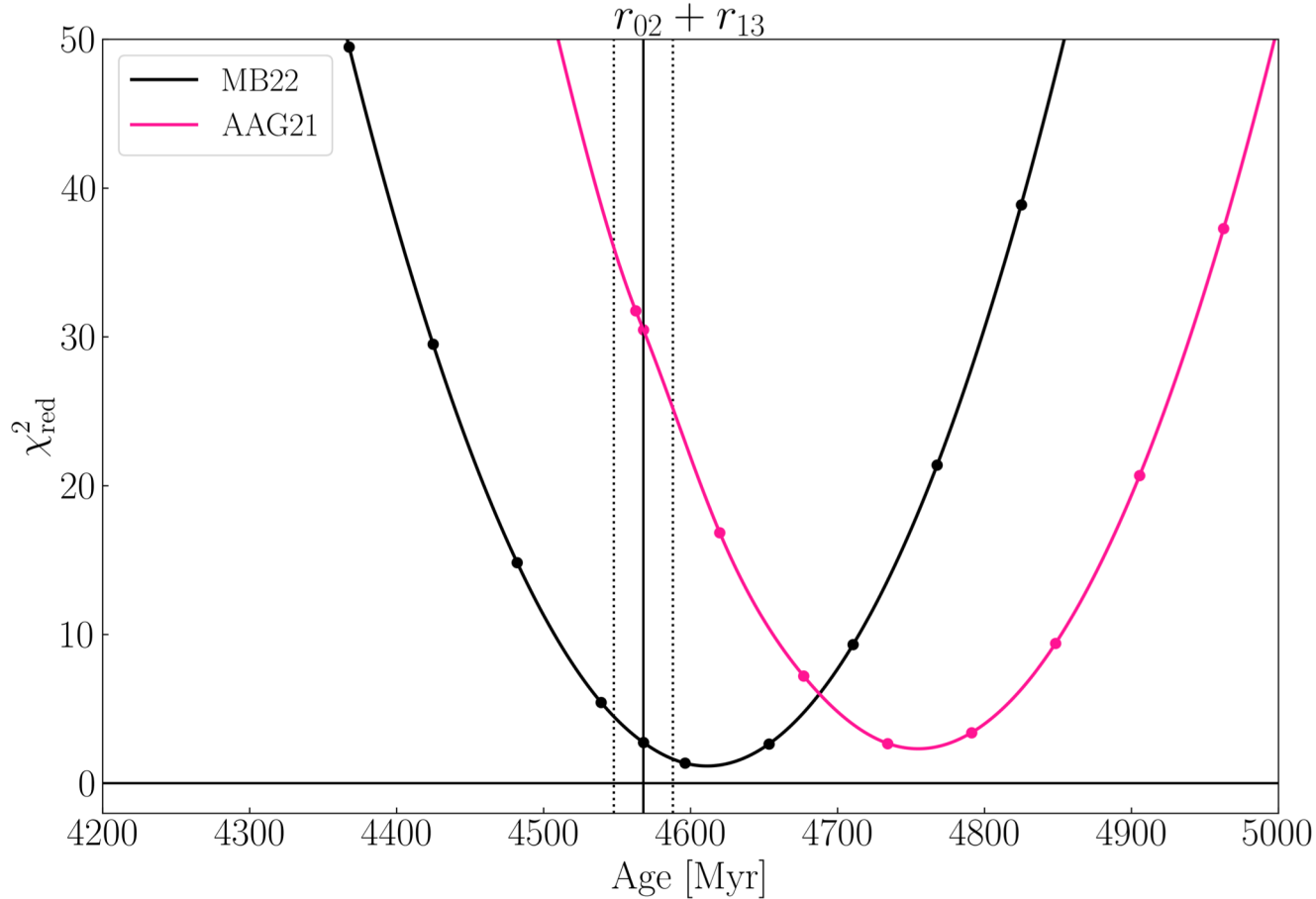
Composition introduces a systematic effect on age determination (assuming solar mass is perfectly known) up to 250Myr (5%)



# The Sun from afar

No independent age for other stars

$$\nu_{n,l} - \nu_{n-1,l+2} \propto \frac{1}{4\pi\nu_{n,l}} \int_0^R \frac{dc}{dr} \frac{dr}{r}$$



	Solar age (Gyr)	$\chi^2$ (33 dofs)
<b>Sun</b>	<b>4.568 ± 0.020</b>	---
AAG21	4.755 ± 0.034	76.6
MB22	4.611 ± 0.032	38.4

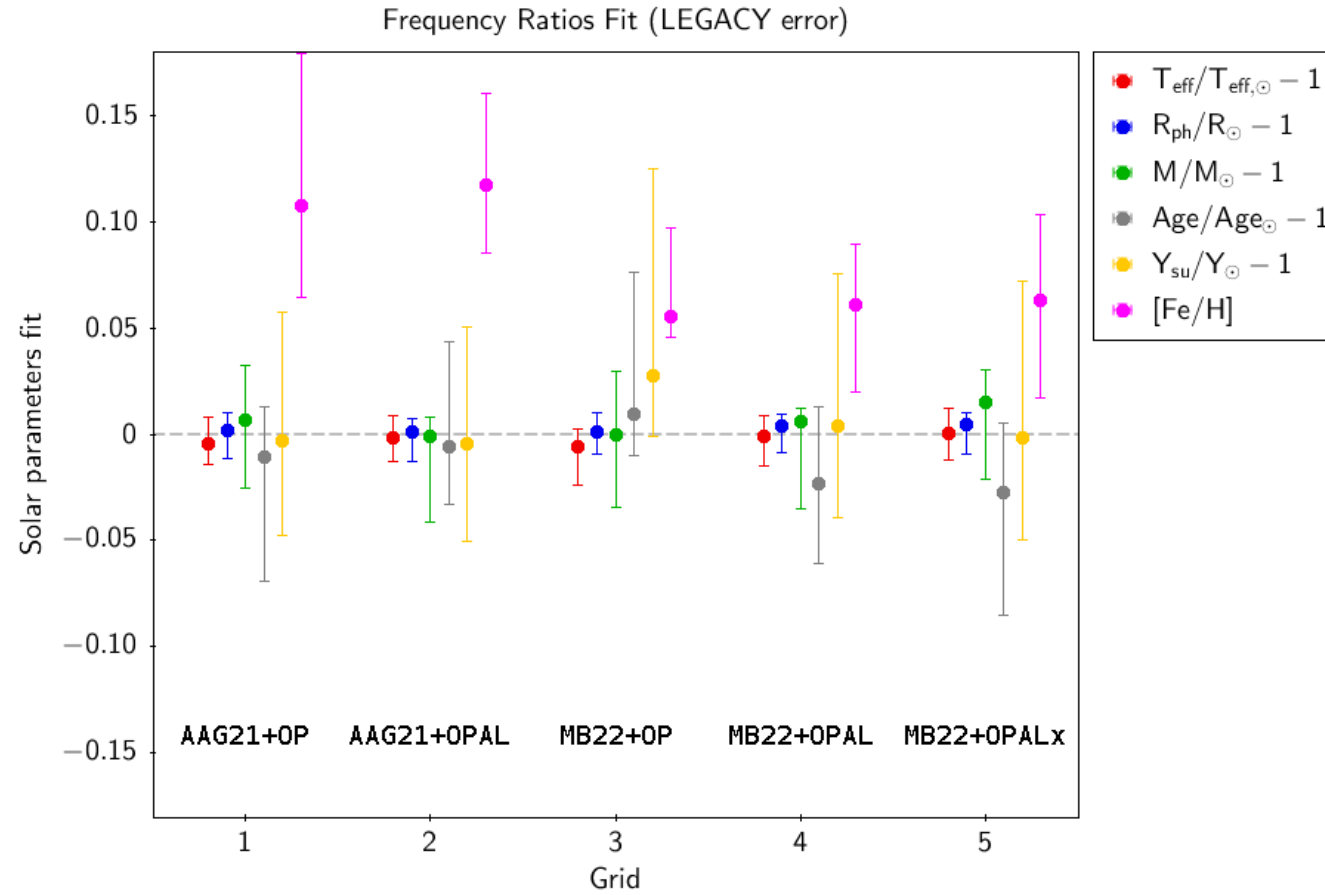
Composition introduces a systematic effect on age determination (assuming solar mass is perfectly known) up to 250Myr (5%)



# The Sun as a star

No independent mass, radius, or age. Typical spectroscopic errors for temperature and metallicity [Fe/H]

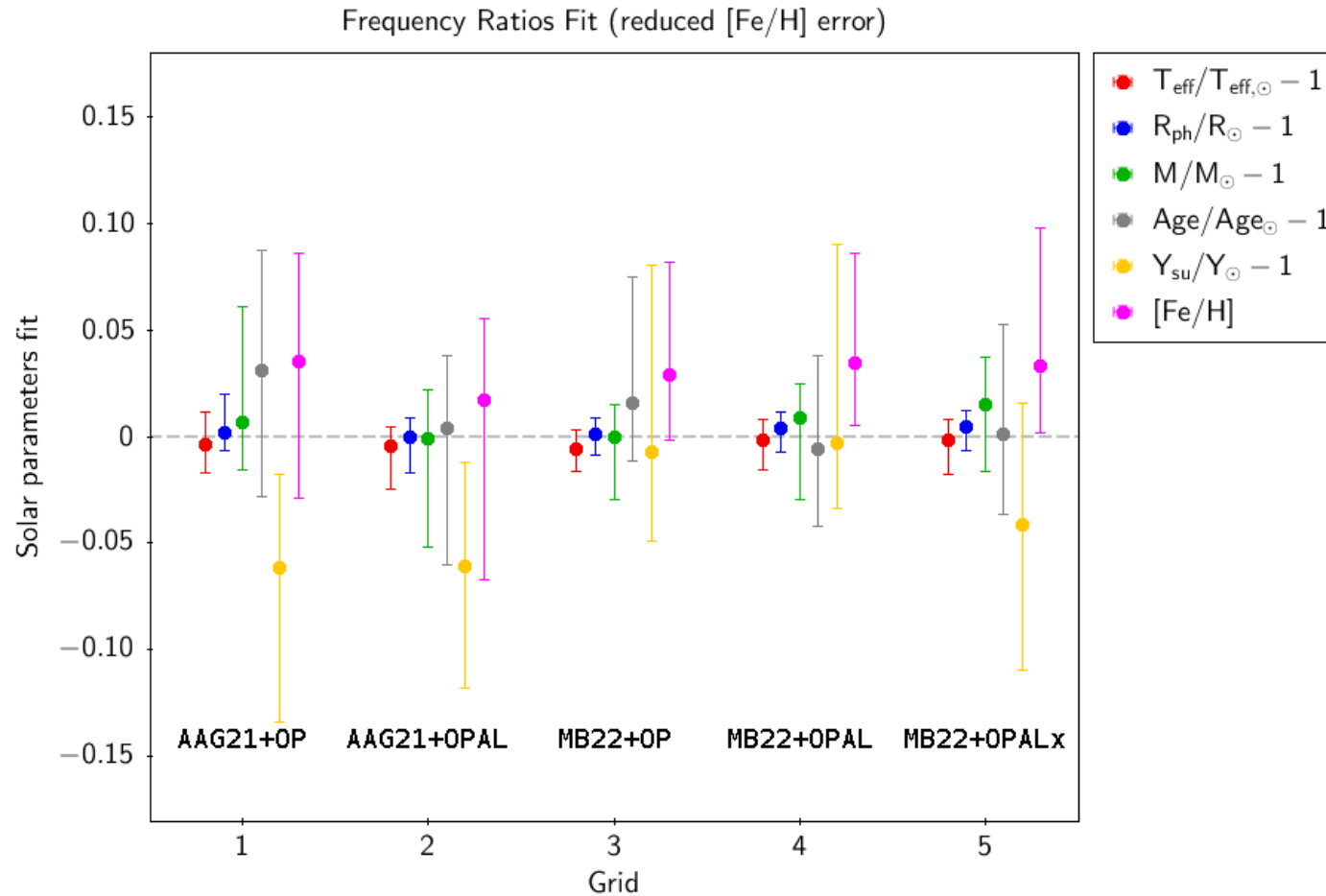
Asteroseismology favors higher metallicity, seen here as a “non-solar” solar abundance



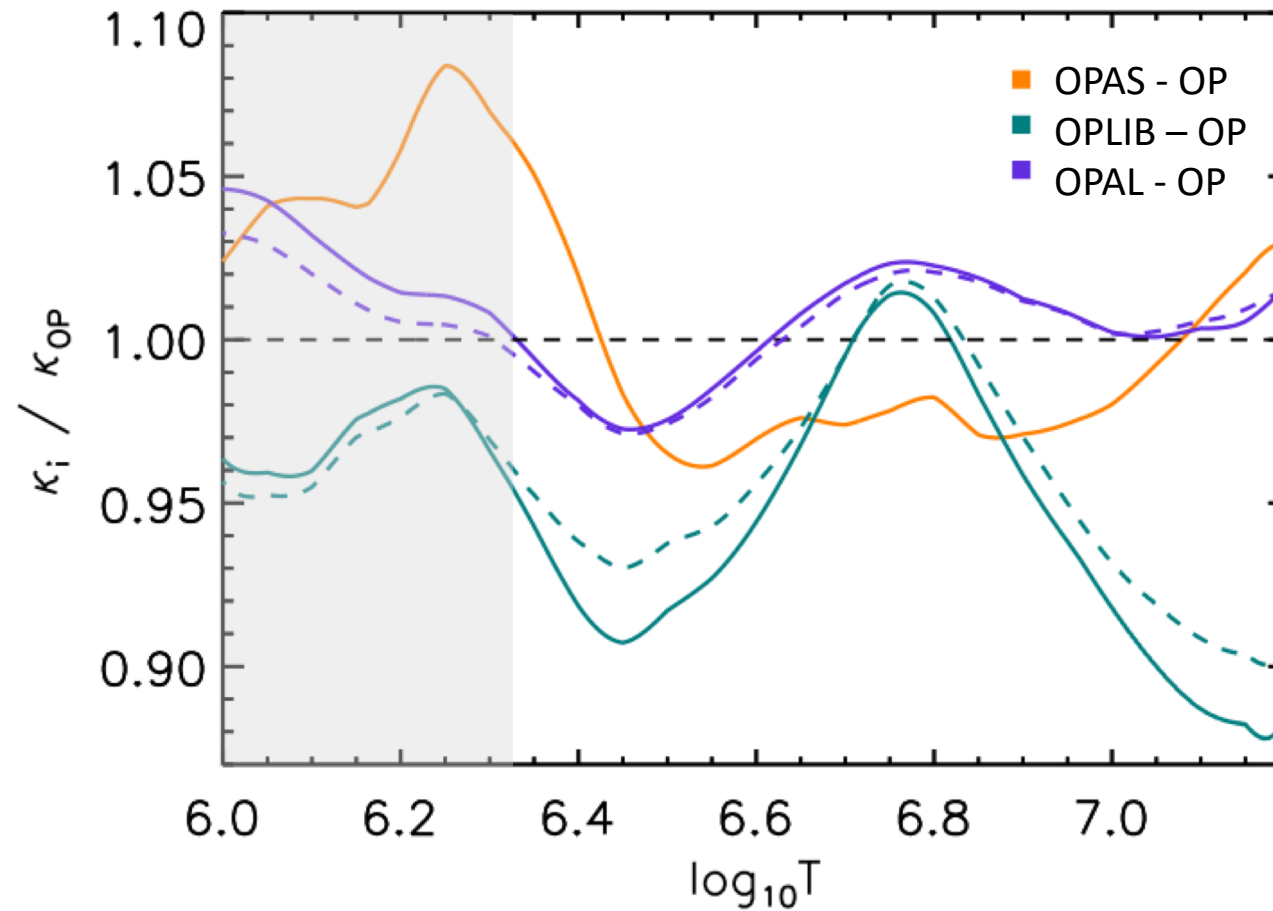
# The Sun as a star

No independent mass, radius, or age. Typical spectroscopic errors for temperature and metallicity [Fe/H]

Forcing [Fe/H] to match by reducing its uncertainty, problems start to appear in helium, age



# Solar (stellar) radiative opacities



Dashed – GS98

Solid – AGSS09

# Solar (stellar) opacities

Bailey et al. 2015



Institute of Space Sciences



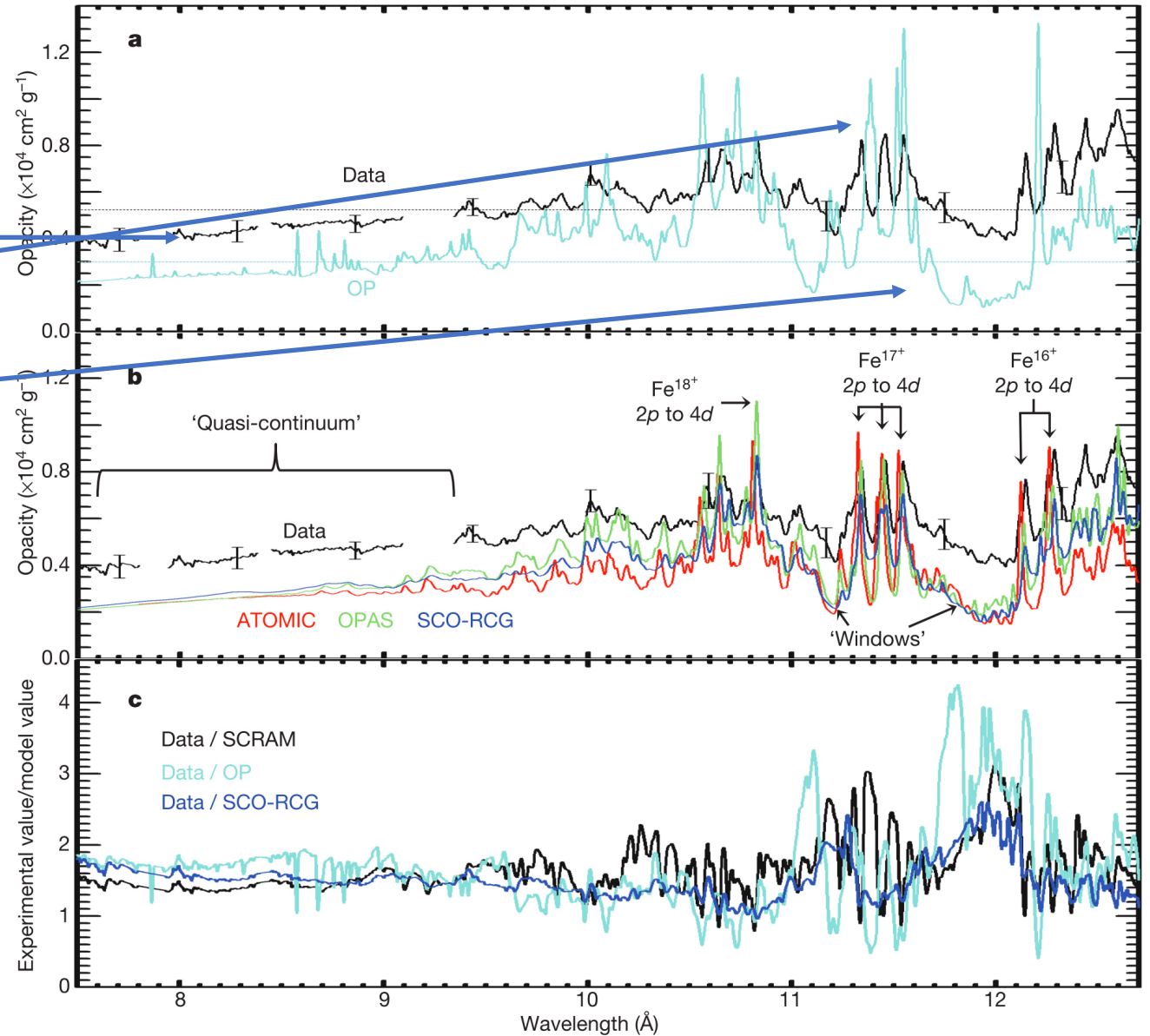
Calculations have:

1) Lower quasicontinuum

2) Narrower lines

3) Deeper opacity windows

Experimental hint of higher opacity than theoretical calculations predict  
but situation unclear because of large differences in continuum



# Summary, so far

Constraints to compute solar models – composition is the big uncertainty:

- High solar metallicity is favored by (degenerate with opacity):  
    sound speed, surface helium, depth of convective envelope  
    pp-chain solar neutrinos
- by CNO neutrinos (independent of opacity)
- but lower solar metallicity is favored by (degenerate with equation of state):  
    adiabatic index

Foundation science –  
only possible in the Sun

Dominant uncertainties in models:

- radiative opacities
- nuclear reactions (esp.  $^{14}\text{N}+p$ , then  $^3\text{He}+^4\text{He}$ )
- equation of state

For solar-like stars:

- solar metallicity is reference value (see Camilla's talk)
- systematic offsets in age (5%) and other parameters (not too large but PLATO aims at < 10% age error)
- radiative opacities

