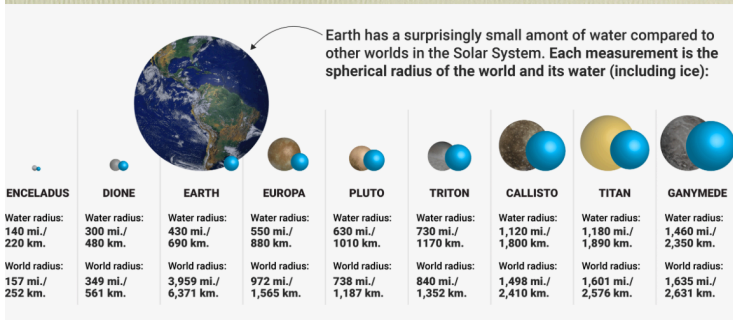


Business arising

- Thanks Brian Carroll



Peter Watson

And one of the most extraordinary animations

- <https://earth.nullschool.net/>

Peter Watson

The Sun:
the most excellent, the greatest and
the midmost star,

Peter Watson

Peter Watson, Dept. of Physics

If we look at it with “white”
light, it’s a bit dull!



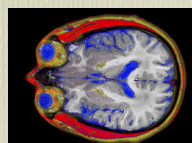
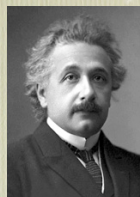
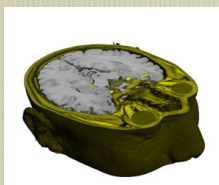
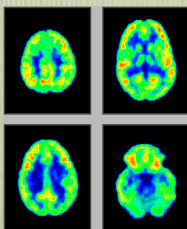
© Rick Scott
& Joe Orman

- But we can still see a few sunspots
- And Mercury!
- Note it’s darker at the edges
- And about 5800°C

Peter Watson

But if we want to find out how the sun works, we need to look at it in different ways

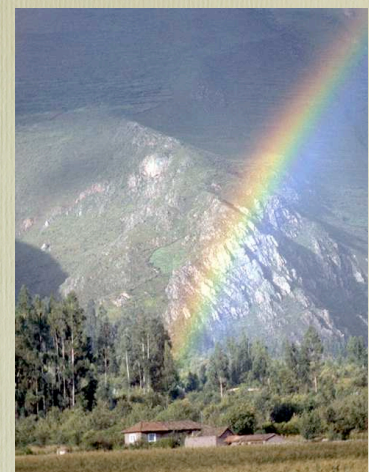
- Just like a human!



Peter Watson

So we need
to look at
the sun in
different
ways

- Start by splitting up the light



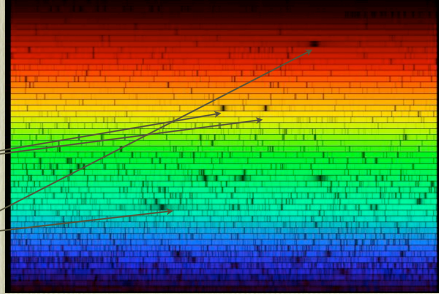
Peter Watson

- We can look at the light from the sun

- Each line is corresponds to a particular element

- e.g sodium

- and hydrogen

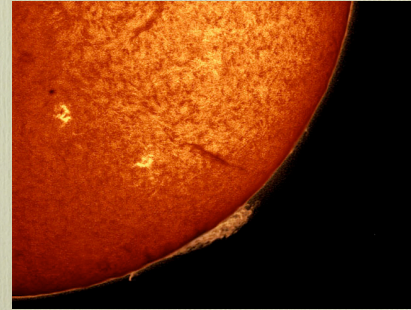


- So we can look at the hydrogen in the sun



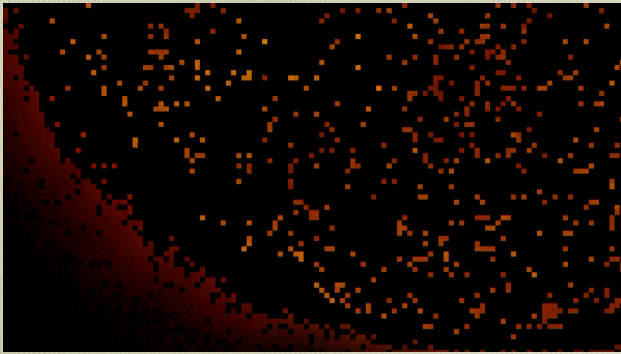
Peter Watson

- This is looking at the hydrogen (H) in the sun
- which picks up the “prominences” very clearly



Peter Watson

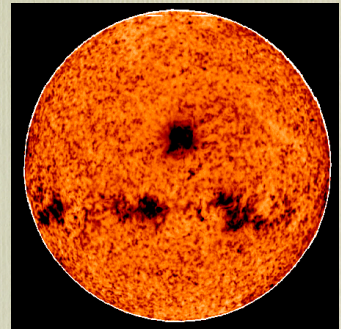
And we can watch a prominence in time-lapse



Peter Watson

But we can look at the sun in different ways, so we can see how structure varies.

- This is Helium:
- Note the sunspots, where the sun is cooler (~4500°)
- a “rösti” picture



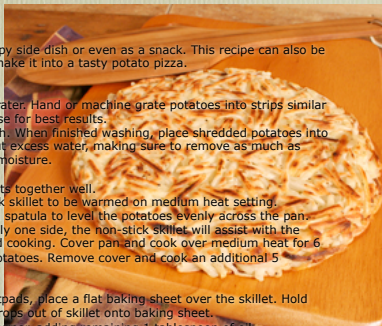
Peter Watson

Since you asked: Rösti

A traditional Swiss potato dish that can be served as a crispy side dish or even as a snack. This recipe can also be enhanced with cheese, meat and vegetables if desired to make it into a tasty potato pizza.

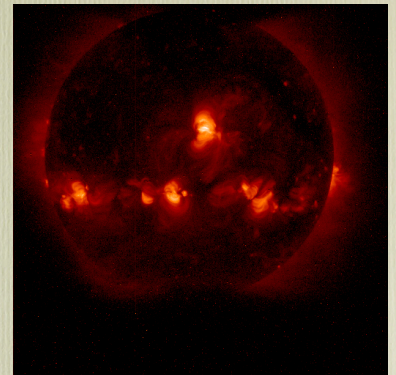
Directions

Peel potatoes and shred using a food processor or a box grater. Hand or machine grate potatoes into strips similar to hash browns. If hand grating, grate the potato lengthwise for best results.
Place strips of potatoes into water to wash off excess starch. When finished washing, place shredded potatoes into a dish towel or cloth. Wrap tightly and wring or squeeze out excess water, making sure to remove as much as possible so cooking results are not affected by the excess moisture.
Crack egg into mixing bowl and whisk until smooth.
Add potatoes, ground pepper and salt, mixing all ingredients together well.
On stovetop, add 2 tablespoons of oil to a 10 inch non-stick skillet to be warmed on medium heat setting.
Add potato mixture to the 10 inch non-stick skillet, using a spatula to level the potatoes evenly across the pan. Since the potato mixture does not firm up after cooking only one side, the non-stick skillet will assist with the ease of turning the Rösti over when the first side is finished cooking. Cover pan and cook over medium heat for 6 to 8 minutes or until golden brown on bottom surface of potatoes. Remove cover and cook an additional 5 minutes.
Coat flat baking sheet with oil or cooking spray.
Remove skillet from stovetop. Using protective mitts or hot pads, place a flat baking sheet over the skillet. Hold baking sheet against skillet and turn skillet over so Rösti drops out of skillet onto baking sheet.
Remove bits of potato from skillet and place it back onto burner, adding remaining 1 tablespoon of oil.
Slide Rösti potato cake off baking sheet and into skillet, allowing uncooked surface to begin cooking.
Cook second side in uncovered skillet for 6 to 8 minutes, until golden brown. When finished cooking, tilt skillet and allow potato cake to slide out of skillet onto serving plate. Cut into 4 pie-shaped pieces and serve warm.



Peter Watson

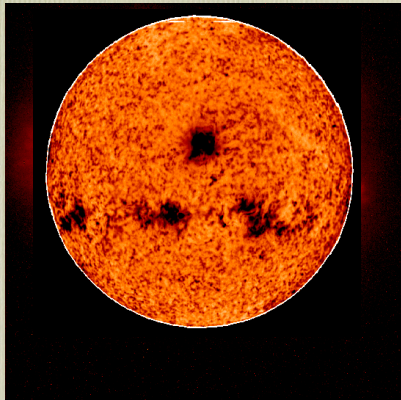
- X-rays come from hot gas
- Note the hot X-rays come from the cool sunspots



Peter Watson

And this shows the magnetic field

- Note how they all line up
- So the hot X-rays come from the cold sunspots
- And they are tied to the magnetic fields



Peter Watson

And this looks at the sun at 3 different temperatures

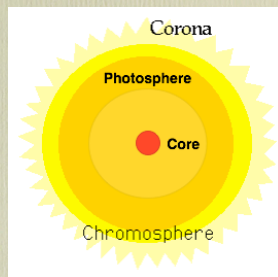
- Red at 2000000 °C
- green at 1500000 °C
- blue at 1000000 °C
- The outer part of the sun is the hottest!



Peter Watson

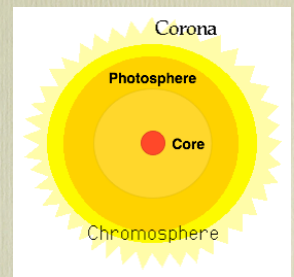
So lets look in a bit more detail

- **Core:** all nuclear reactions go on in core of sun
- **Photosphere** is at a fairly uniform 6000°.
- Not a surface in any normal sense.
- Light coming out of interior of sun will take ~ 100,000 years to get to the "surface"
- then it takes 7 minutes to reach earth.

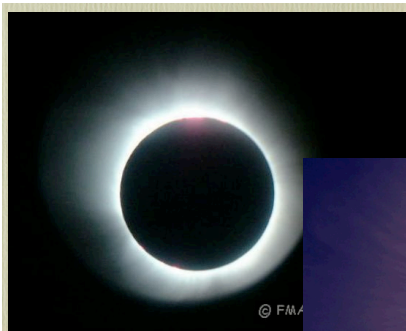


Peter Watson

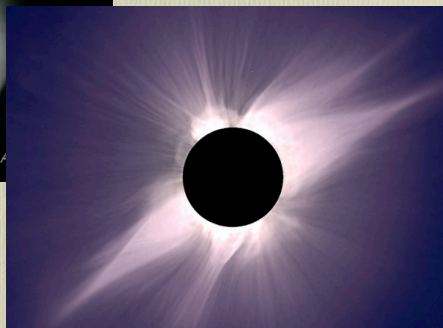
- Chromosphere: ~ solar atmosphere.
- Thickness ~ 10,000 km,
- Hotter than the photosphere.
- Corona: very diffuse, very hot (1,000,000 °C)



Peter Watson



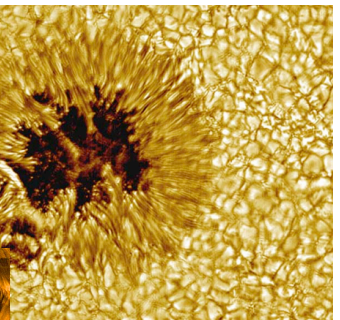
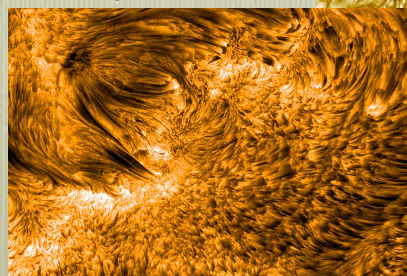
- Corona is faint, so can only be seen directly during a solar eclipse.



But its appearance changes dramatically according during the solar cycle

Peter Watson

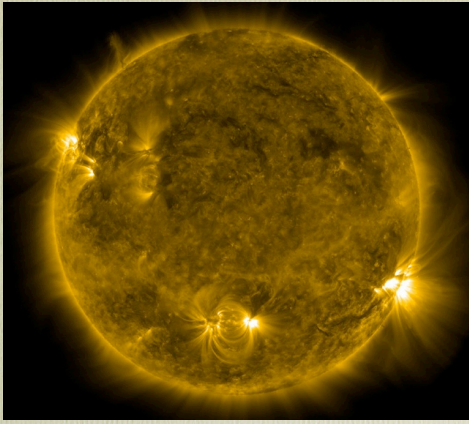
So what are these sunspots? Cool parts in



Credit: Vacuum Tower Telescope, NAO, NOAO

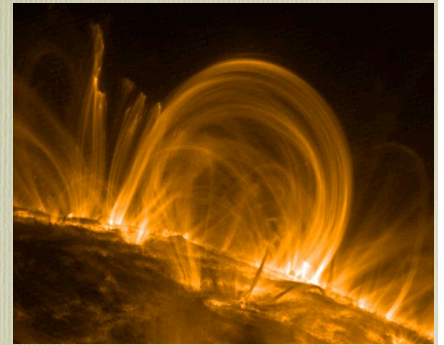
And round the we can see spicules: "flames" of hydrogen gas

From the side we can see clearly what the sunspots are



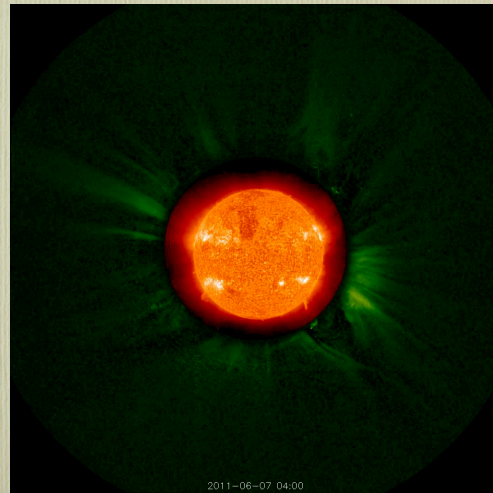
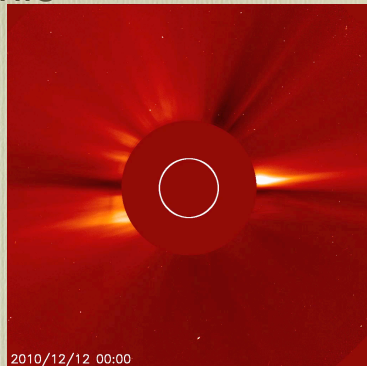
Close up view:

- magnetic field is traced out by hot plasma
- Loop of hot gas extends into the corona:
- About 50000 km

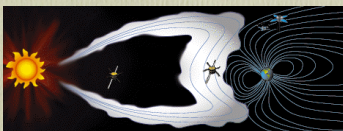


But magnetic fields are dynamic

- They can expand and squirt out gases
- or collapse and spray out high energy particles
- Solar & Heliospheric Observatory (SOHO)

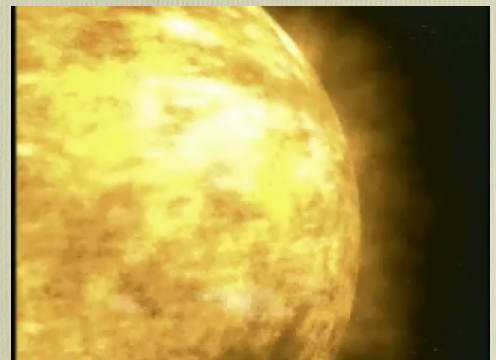


Which travel towards the earth



- So particles get filtered down to the poles

Like this

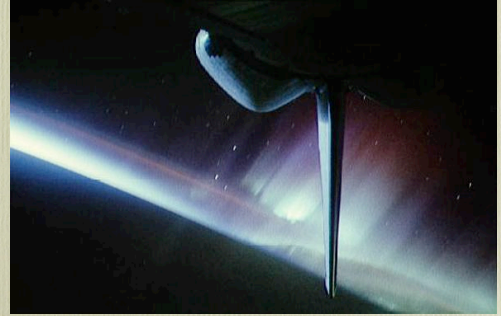


And become auroras



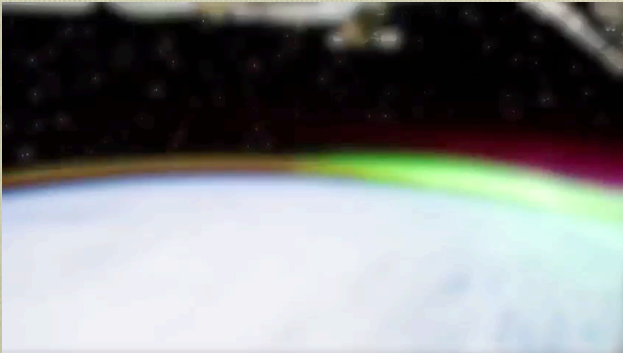
Peter Watson

Which we can even see from space!



Peter Watson

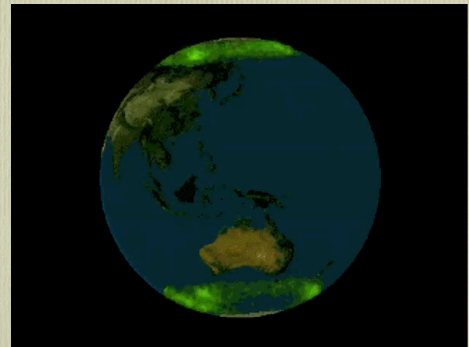
And fly through it



International Space Station movie

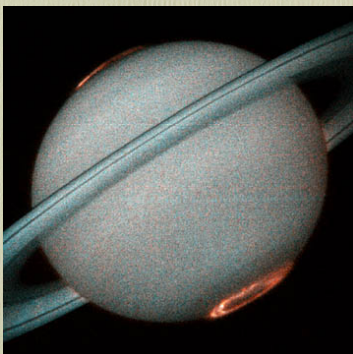
Peter Watson

- Note we always get simultaneous aurora at N & S poles



Peter Watson

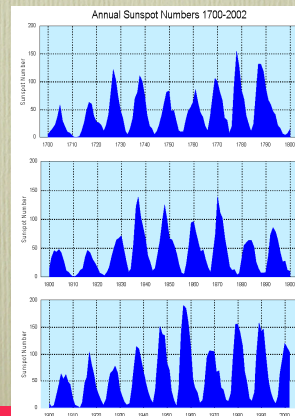
- And we can even see them on other planets



Peter Watson

What we don't understand

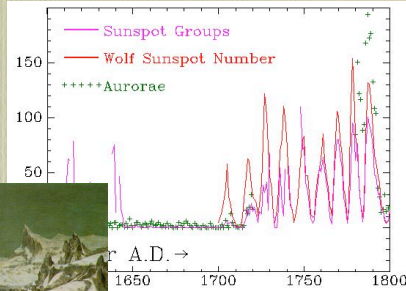
- Is why the number of sunspots/flare/aurora fluctuate with an 2x11 year cycle



Cycle is irregular, sometimes very few spots.

Peter Watson

- Maunder minimum (long period of very few spots)

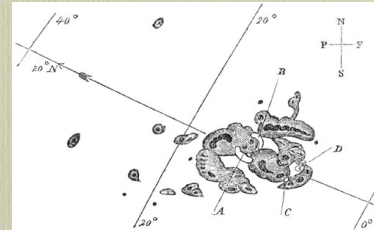


- coincided with "little ice age" in Europe (1550-1700)

Peter Watson

Carrington Event

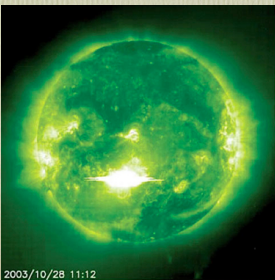
- Biggest solar storm in (recorded) history
- 28th August-2nd Sept 1859
- Blew out telegraph linkages all over Europe & US



Peter Watson

- Aurora seen in Caribbean

- From Sciam



Peter Watson

- March 1989
- Quebec blackout: 9 hours,
- communications down everywhere
- aurora in Texas (thought to be first-strike in nuclear war.
- Probably 1/10th of strength of Carrington event
- Hydro Quebec spend B\$4.3 to improve protection

Peter Watson

If it happened today

- **Nightmare scenario:**
 - surge protectors don't trip fast enough, all power transformers in North America melt.
 - Lead time for construction is 3 years...
- **Hopefully:**
 - 12 hours warning of storm would allow power lines to be isolated
 - surge protectors would burn out but could be replaced ...

Peter Watson

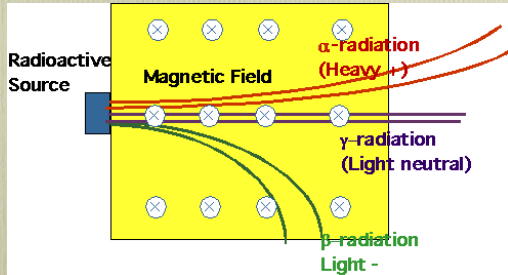
Something Nu Under the Sun

Art McDonald,
Queens U
Nobel Prize for Physics
2015



Radioactivity and Decays Becquerel (1896)

- (alpha) α -rays ~heavy, positively charged
- (beta) β -rays ~ light, negatively charged
- (gamma) γ -rays ~ neutral, light



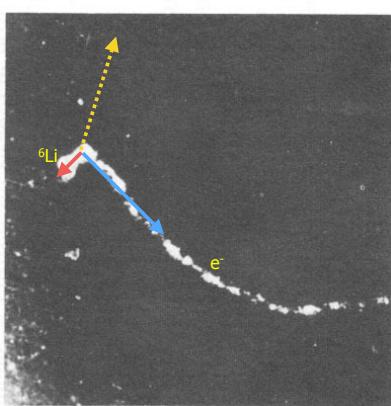
PW

Radioactive β -decays

- β particle is just an electron
- e.g. an isolated neutron will decay.
- $n \rightarrow p + e^-$

PW

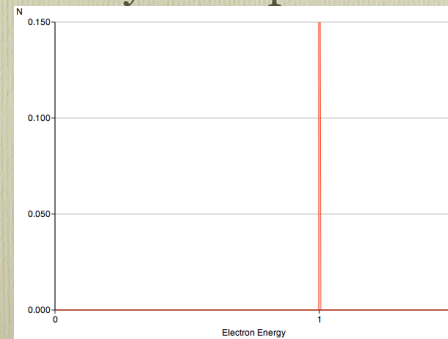
β -Decay and Momentum Conservation



Appears to violate
Momentum Conservation

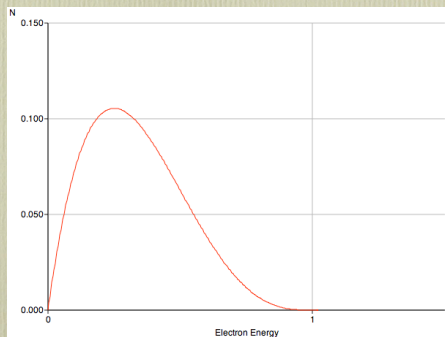
e.g. a neutron can decay: $n \rightarrow p + e^-$

Energy of Electron: What you expect..



PW

Energy of Electron: What you get..



PW

Wolfgang Pauli Neutrino

- 1930 – Neutral particles carry off missing momentum
- Shortly after discovery (mid 1930s)

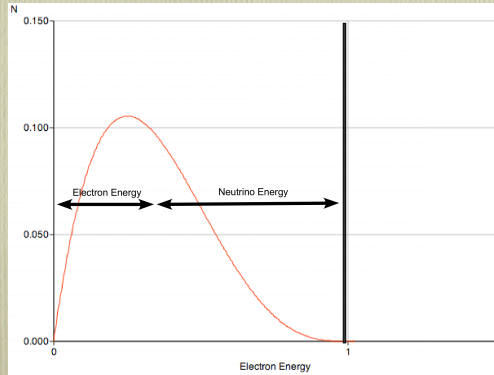
I have done a terrible thing, I have postulated a particle that cannot be detected.



Wikipedia

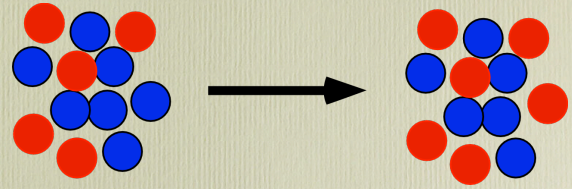
e^- and ν (nu) split the energy

e.g. a neutron can decay: $n \rightarrow p + e^- + \nu$



PW

- This can also happen in a nucleus if the energies are favorable: e.g. could have



PW

Nuclear Reactors are also (anti-) neutrino sources

- In a reactor uranium fissions to form lighter fragments
- Fragments are very neutron rich
- Neutrons decay to protons to form more stable nuclei giving neutrinos

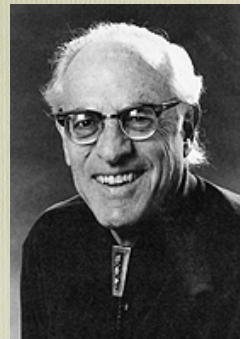
PW

Neutrinos Finally Found

- Reines and Cowan (1957)
- Detected neutrinos from a reactor
- Efforts at Chalk River by John Robson ended due to reactor problem

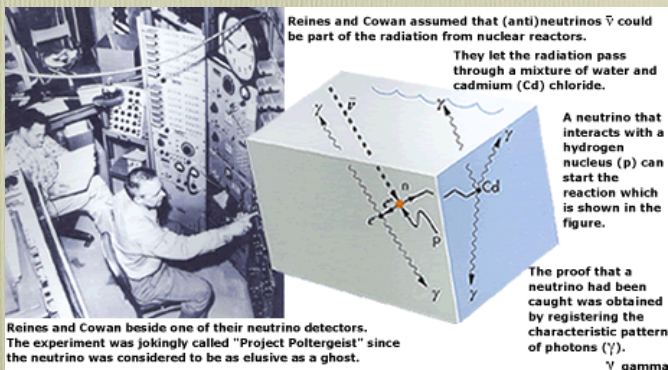
if a neutron can decay: $n \rightarrow p + e^- + \nu$

then we can reverse it $\nu + p \rightarrow n + e^+$

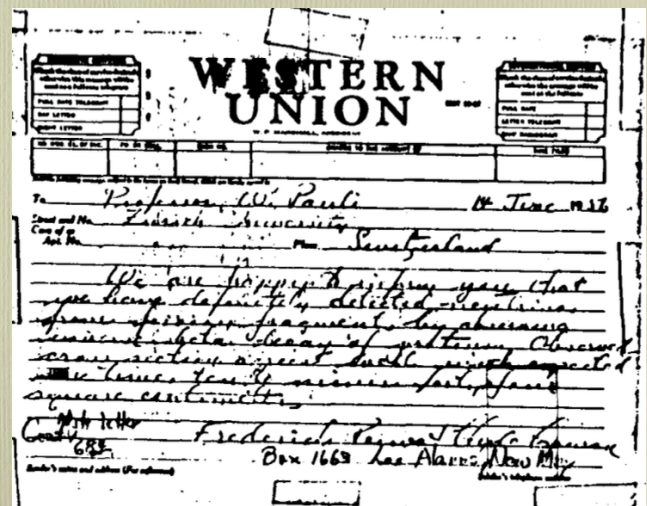


Fred Reines

Neutrinos meet Experiment

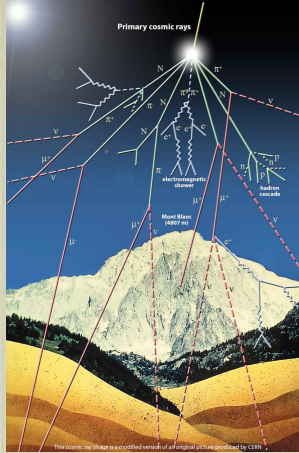


Savannah River

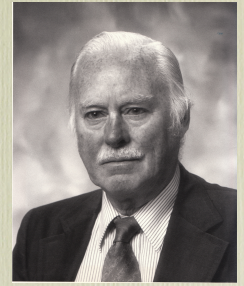
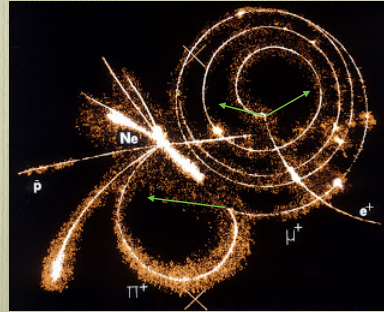


Muons

- Muons (μ) are particles like heavy electrons produced by cosmic rays
- One goes through you each minute on average!
- Lifetime $\sim 2 \mu\text{s}$

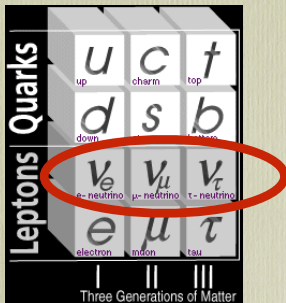


Pontecorvo/Hincks (Chalk-River/NRC/Carleton) study muons



Muon decays to electron and **2 different** neutrinos

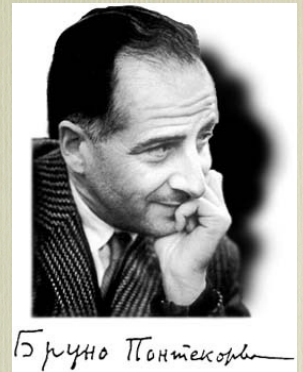
What we know so far (2016): The building blocks of the universe



PW

Pontecorvo Questions Neutrino Stability

- Perhaps neutrinos 'oscillate': a neutrino created as electron type *might* change to muon type and back again



Bruno Pontecorvo

What Are Neutrinos?

- Neutral particles
- Very weakly interacting with matter
- If 100,000,000,000 neutrinos strike the earth, all but 1 will pass right through
- Must have very little mass, if any
- Seem to come in 3 distinct types – electron, muon, tau

PW

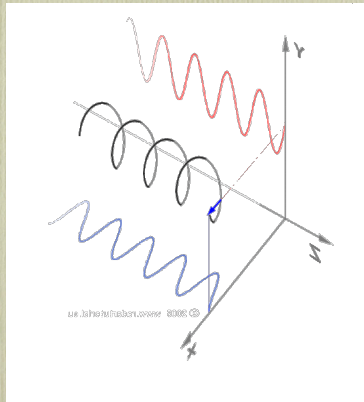
- Most living things are right-handed



Jacques Linard, early 17th, c

What Are Neutrinos?

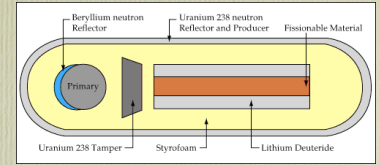
And they are left-handed....meaning



Wikipedia

So how does the sun work?

- Sun is ~ 90% hydrogen,
- ~9% Helium
- ~1% everything else
- It "burns" Hydrogen to Helium (almost the same reaction as a hydrogen bomb!)

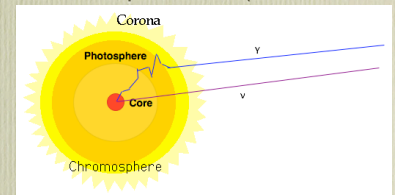


Peter Watson



PW

- And this is what keeps us warm!
- How do we know it's true?
- What really goes on in the core is a bit more complicated
- 4 protons become helium + 2 positrons (anti-electrons) + 2 neutrinos



The neutrinos produced at the centre make it to earth in 8 minutes

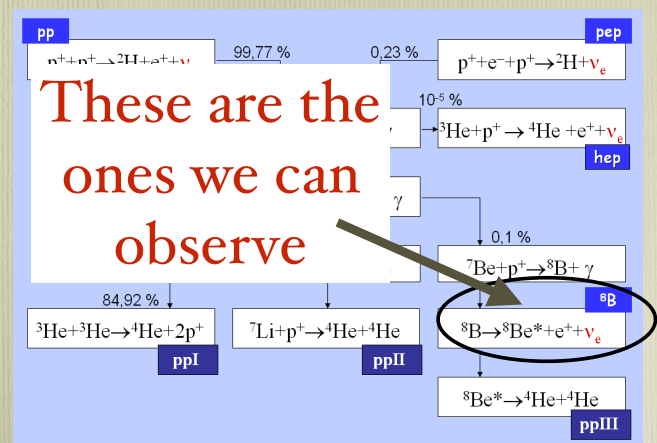
Peter Watson

- One Trillion (roughly) go through your thumbnail each second
- you hadn't noticed?
- tsk tsk!
- If we could see the neutrinos, we can see the centre of the sun, but they have almost no interactions!



Peter Watson

It's a bit more complicated....Proton-Proton Chain

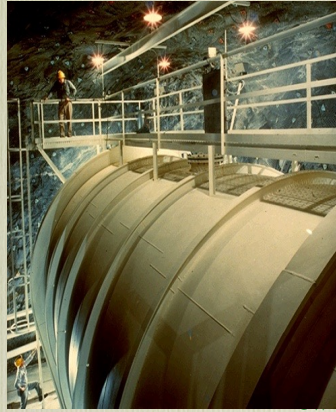


Peter Watson

37-Chlorine Experiment Ray Davis (Nobel 2002)

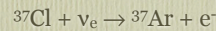


- 100,000-gallon tank of perchloroethylene
- 4800 feet underground in the Homestake Gold Mine

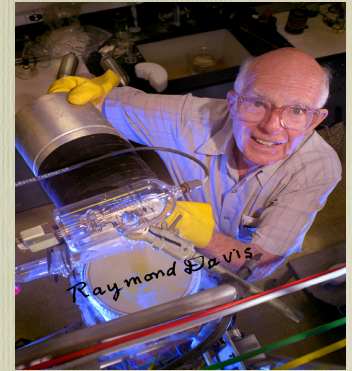
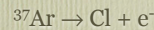


37-Chlorine Experiment

- A solar neutrino interacts with ^{37}Cl to produce Argon and an electron



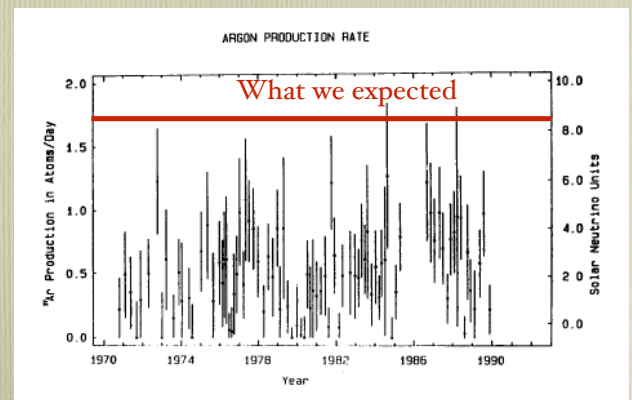
- Argon decays after 35 days: detect the electrons



PW

Ray Davis tells me that the experiment is simple ('only plumbing') and the chemistry is 'standard.' I suppose I must believe him, but as a non-chemist I am awed by the magnitude of his task and the accuracy with which he can accomplish it. —John Bahcall 1969

PW



PW

Results of the Chlorine Experiment

- Look for $\text{Cl} \rightarrow \text{Ar}$
- First done in 1968
- Production of Argon

Experiment may be wrong
Model of Sun may be wrong
Model of neutrino may be wrong

PW

Neutrino Detection in Heavy Water

Suggested by Herb Chen d. 1987



- Heavy water is D_2O – D is Deuterium
- Deuterium nucleus is weakly bound proton and neutron
- **allows us to detect ν_e 's (electron nu's) and ν_x 's (all nu's) simultaneously**

Sudbury Neutrino Observatory (SNO)

- Patience: idea formulated in 1985, construction started in 1990, First results in Fall 2000
- Money: (depending on what you include) M\$40 - M\$150
- Skill: meant constructing a device that has never existed before

PW

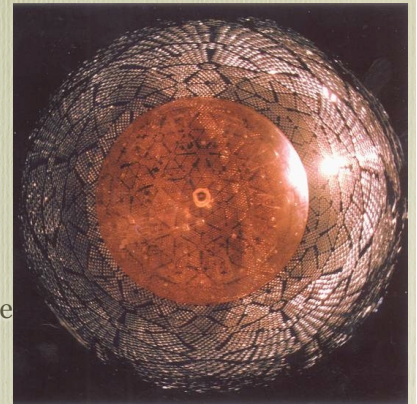
- Luck: Could only be built in Canada because of a political boondoggle, but more seriously:

- **if** we are lucky (we were!), we could

1. Understand how the sun works

2. Understand how neutrinos work

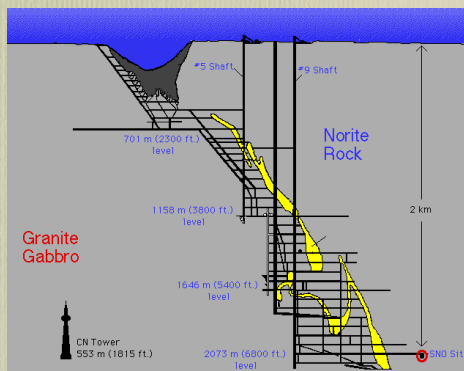
- **If** we had been unlucky, would just have found the previous experiments were wrong!



SNO

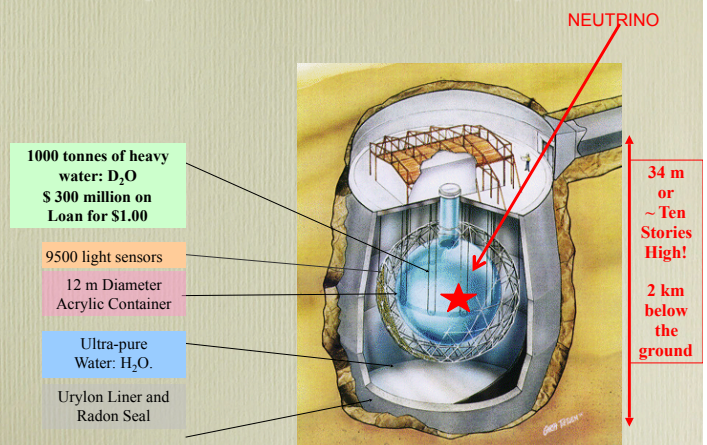
Sudbury Neutrino Observatory

- Let's look at the sun through 2 kilometres of rock!!
- And use 1000 tons of heavy water as our detector



Peter Watson

Sudbury Neutrino Observatory (SNO)



Bursts of light from radioactivity were reduced to ~10 times less frequent than neutrinos

SNO



Excavating the Cavity

as large as a 10 story building

Largest cavity excavated at this depth

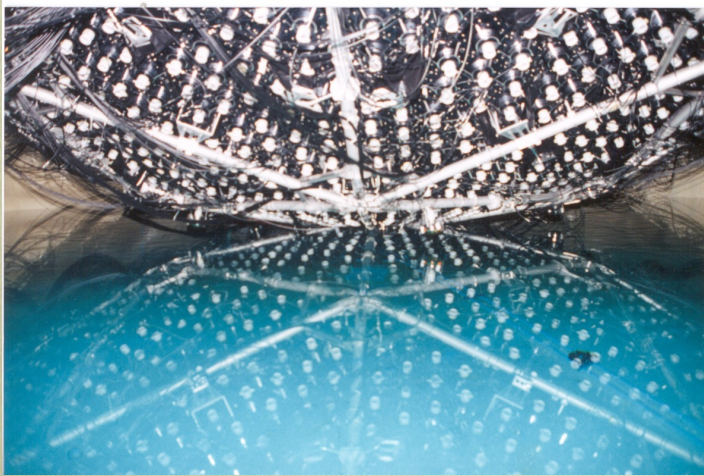
SNO

A part of the Heavy Water Purification System (Basement of Herzberg)



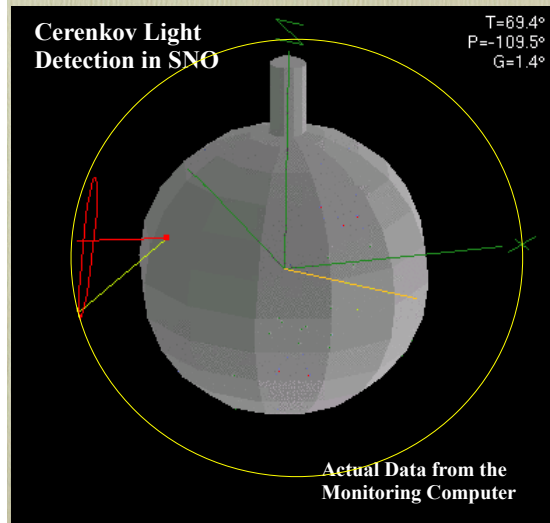
SNO

Detector partially filled



SNO

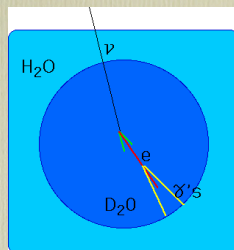
Cerenkov Light
Detection in SNO



Cone of light
emitted when
neutrinos hit
atoms in water

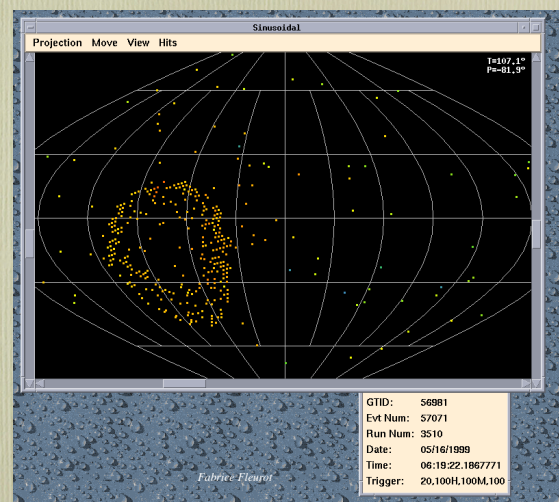
SNO

- Once every 3 hours a neutrino will hit an atom and produce light



- Which we can detect

Peter Watson



SNO

The Basic SNO Result

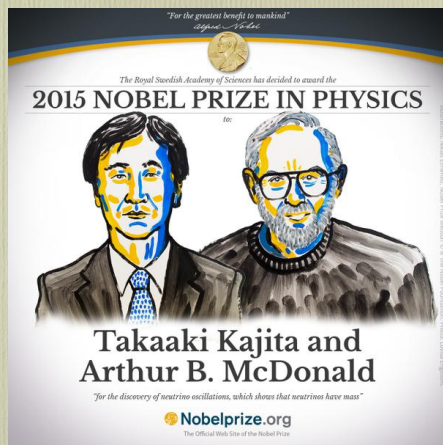
- Flux of Electron type Neutrinos ~ 1 million/sec
- Flux of **All** Neutrinos ~ 5 million/sec
- (note: these are just the high energy ones)

These numbers are different
Electron neutrinos must change into
another kind

PW

So neutrinos really come from
the core of the sun, but they
change into another kind on the
way over

Why?



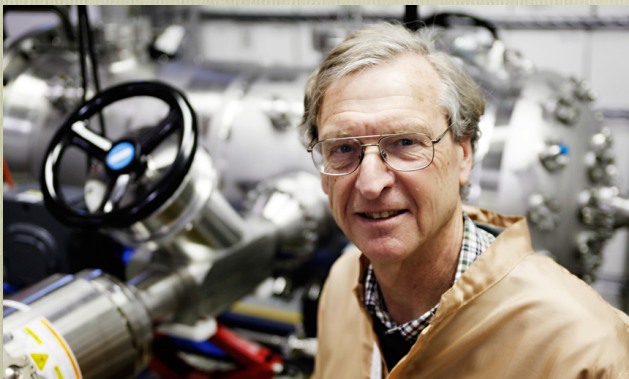
Peter Watson



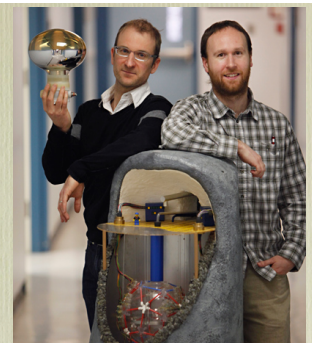
Peter Watson

The Carleton Connection:

David Sinclair (Inaugural **CAP-TRIUMF Vogt Medal**) for Outstanding Experimental or Theoretical Contributions to Subatomic Physics.



- Alain Bellerive
- Etienne Rollin
- and about 20 others



I will be with you in spirit (if I ever get off the phone today). Thanks to everyone from SNO for all they have done to create this success.
Way to go colleagues!!!
Art

The unexpected Bonus!

SAN FRANCISCO – November 3, 2015 – The Breakthrough Prize today announced that ten-time Grammy Award winner Pharrell Williams will perform at its third annual Breakthrough Prize ceremony, held to honor the world's top scientists and mathematicians, on Sunday, November 8 in Silicon Valley. Williams will be joined at the exclusive ceremony by a star-studded lineup of presenters, including Academy Award winner **Russell Crowe**, Academy Award winner **Hilary Swank**, Lily Collins, and Thomas Middleditch and Martin Starr of HBO's Silicon Valley. As previously announced, Emmy-nominated Cosmos executive producer and Family Guy creator **Seth MacFarlane** will serve as the ceremony's host. The Breakthrough Prize ceremony is hosted by co-founders **Sergey Brin** (Google) and **Anne Wojcicki** (23andMe), **Jack Ma** (Alibaba) and **Cathy Zhang**, **Yuri Milner** (DST Global) and **Julia Milner**, and **Mark Zuckerberg** (Facebook) and **Priscilla Chan**, along with Vanity Fair

The unexpected Bonus!

LAUREATES

Breakthrough Prize [Special Breakthrough Prize](#) [New Horizon](#)
2016 [2015](#) [2014](#) [2013](#) [2012](#)



Kam-Biu Luk and the
Daya Bay Collaboration



Yifang Wang and the
Daya Bay Collaboration



Arthur B. McDonald and
the SNO Collaboration



Takaaki Kajita and the
Super K Collaboration

And finally, written and performed by
Maayan Blevis



se.

- So we understand (more-or-less) how the sun works:
- It is 4.5 billion years old
- "Best before" date is 10 billion years when it runs out of hydrogen fuel