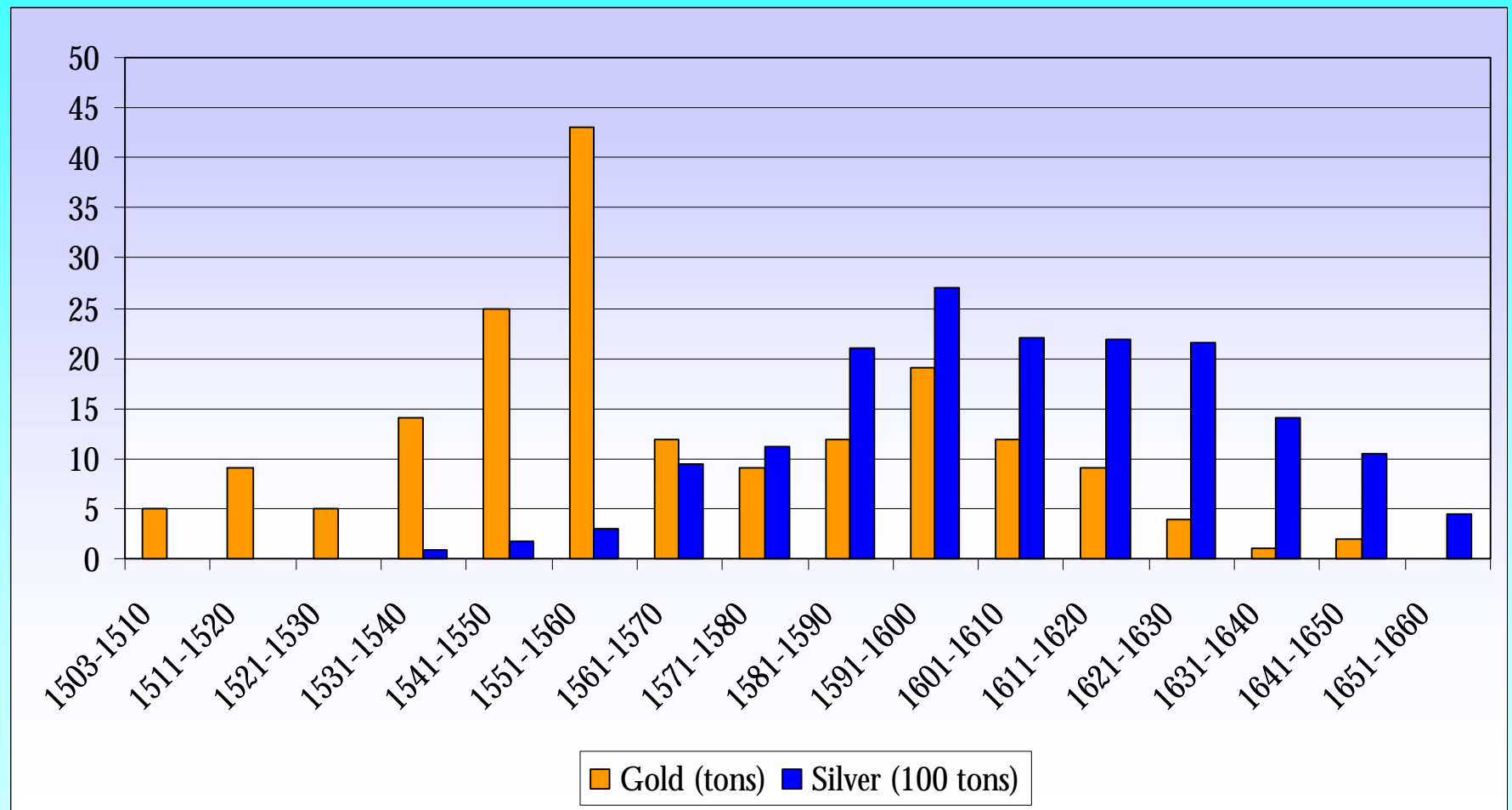


***Monetary counterfeits
in Northern Italy
during the XVII century***

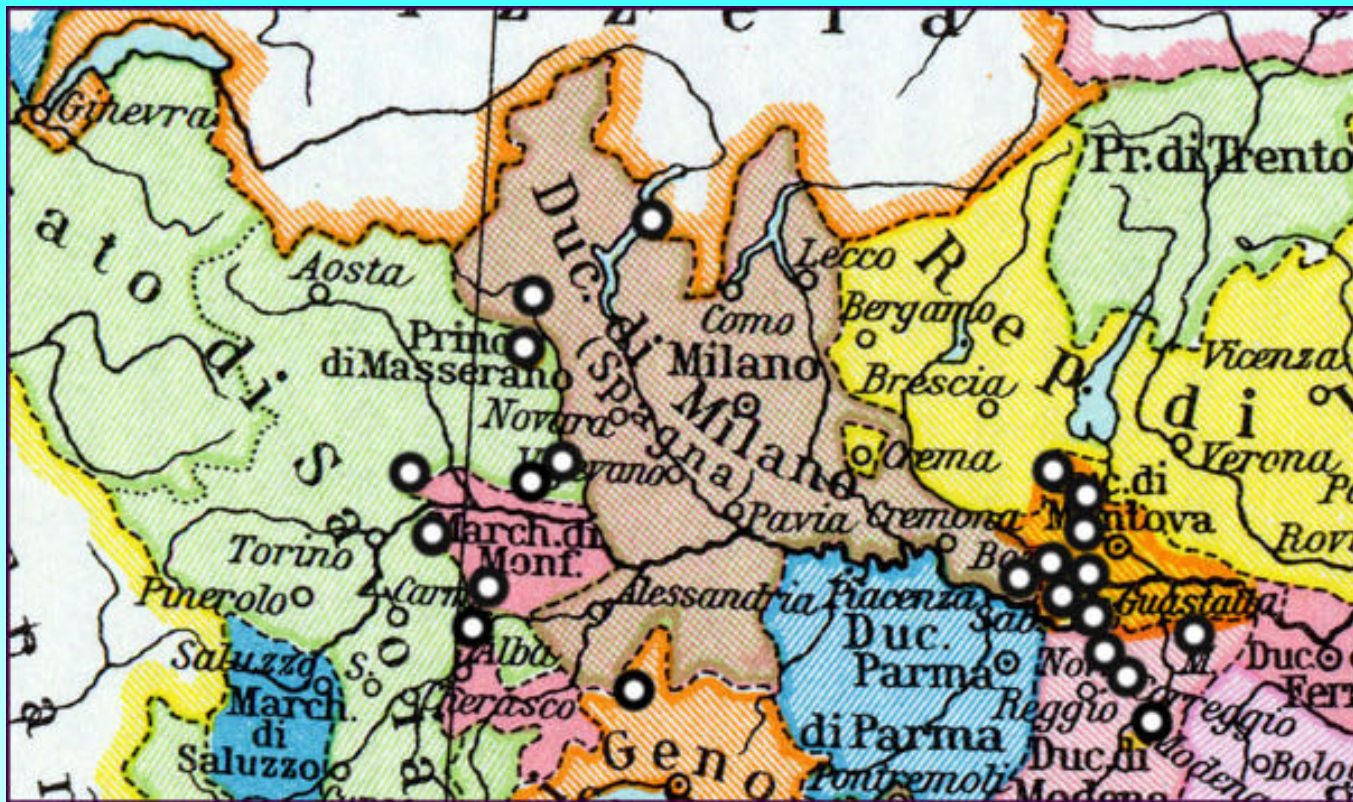
Luca Gianazza

Martigny – March 2nd, 2002

Gold and silver arrivals from America



Mint distribution



Mints issuing counterfeits between 1570s to 1680s

Kipper- und Wipperzeit

Crisis in the German world between 1618 and 1622.

Counterfeits of low-alloy silver coins and copper coins issued mainly in Germany and East Switzerland.



Luzern (Switzerland)
Dicken end of XVI century



Maccagno Inferiore (Lombardy, Italy)
Counterfeit of Dicken 1623



Guastalla (Emily, Italy)
Counterfeit of Dicken 1619

Counterfeits of Northern Europe coins

The shifts of the economical flows from the Mediterranean to the North of Europe let many mints to fake the coins circulating in those areas.



Westfriesland (The Netherlands)

Ducat 1593



Maccagno Inferiore (Lombardy, Italy)

Counterfeit of Ducat 1622 (*ongaro*)

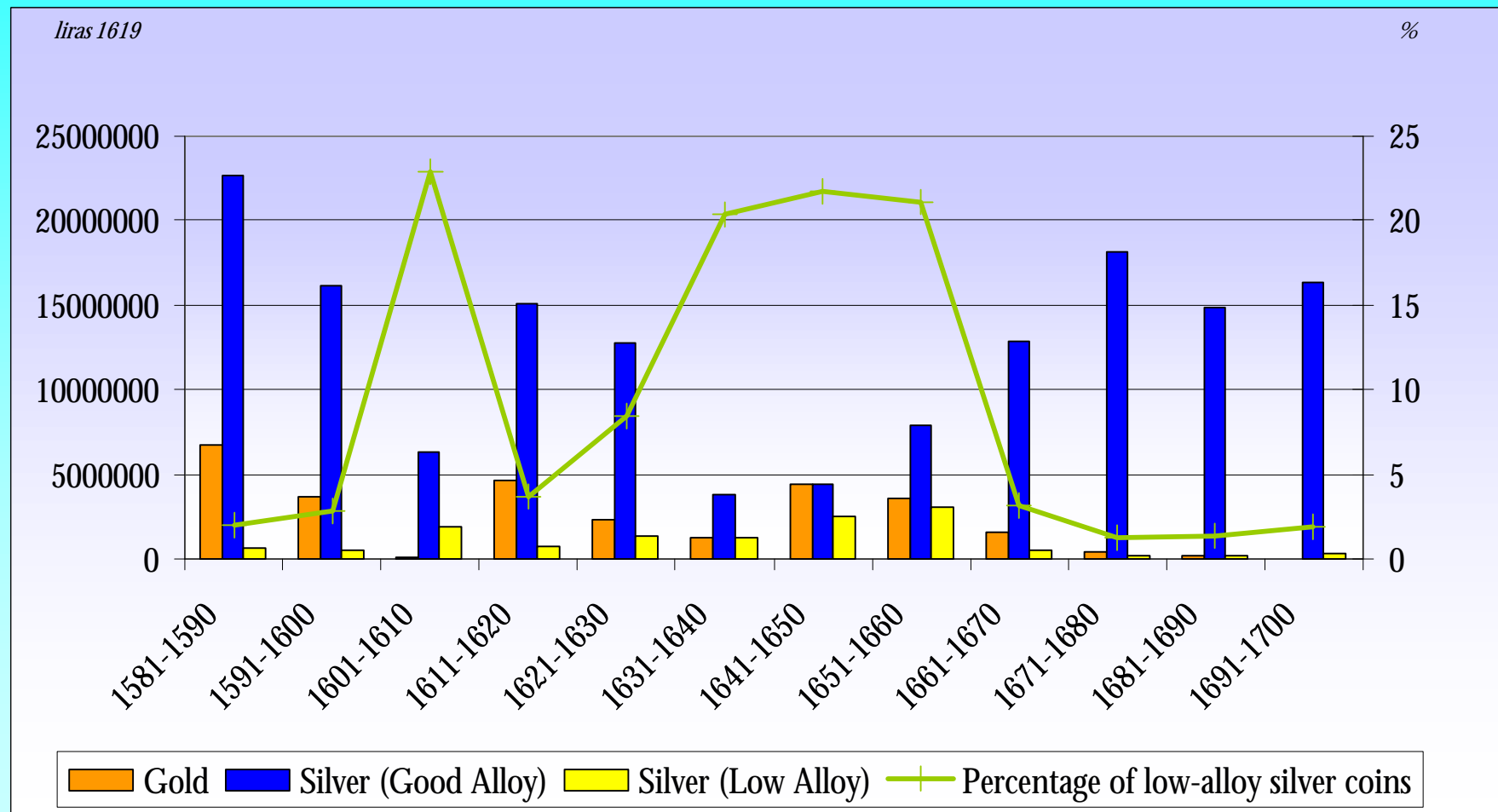
The Duchy of Milan

From 1640s, in the Duchy of Milan huge diffusion of counterfeits of *parpagliole*, *sesini* and *quattrini* (i.e., low-alloy silver coins struck in the mint of Milan).

This phenomenon reached its top between 1654 and 1664. During these ten years in the only Estate of Milan fifteen bans for the regulation of the coins were published.

Most mentioned mints: Bozzolo, Castiglione delle Stiviere, Desana, Maccagno Inferiore, Masserano, Tassarolo.

Coins struck by the mint of Milan



End of counterfeits

Around 1660: first signals of an economical recovery, the larger mints started again to strike good silver alloy coins, reducing at the same time the number of copper and low alloy pieces

New change in the monetary production in Northern Italy starting from 1666-67.

Many mints producing counterfeits reduce or stop their activity during this years (Maccagno Inferiore: after 1660; Sabbioneta: 1671; Bozzolo: 1671; Novellara: 1678).