

## Solar fusion in the Sun and neutrino emission

- Fusion reactions in the core of the Sun
- $\succ$  pp dominant in the SUN (99% of the energy and v production))
- CNO important for larger mass stars

13**C** 

β+ I

13N

(p,γ)



## Solar neutrinos spectrum



## Many years long scientific debate: solar fusion and $\nu$ oscillation



**SNO** detector

2

0

3

 $\phi_{e} (10^{6} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1})$ 

- $\blacktriangleright$  Detect  $v_e$  and  $v_{\mu}$ ,  $v_t$
- Neutrino oscillations

## $\nu$ oscillation



## Oscillation parameters:

- Mixing angles:  $\theta_{12}, \theta_{13}, \theta_{23}$
- Mass squared differences:  $\Delta m^2_{21}, \Delta m^2_{32}$  and the sign of  $\Delta m^2_{32}$
- Complex phase:  $\delta \equiv \delta_{CP}$

- 3 mixing angles  $\theta_{ij}$ :
  - $\theta_{23} \approx 45^{\circ}$  (which quadrant?)
  - $\theta_{13} \approx 9^{\circ}$  (non-0 value confirmed in 2012) ○  $\theta_{12} \approx 33^{\circ}$
- Majorana phases  $\alpha 1$ ,  $\alpha 2$  and CPviolating phase  $\delta$  unknown

#### v oscillation: LMA-MSW parameters

Solar electron v survival probability after traversing the SUN (LMA-MSW)

oscillation:

ν



Including latest SuperKamiokande results



 $v_{e}$  conversion probability influenced by matter interaction depending on electron density

## Solar metallicity and solar neutrinos



Since 2001: new analysis of spectroscopic data from photosphere, revision of surface solar metallicity, lower values (LZ) But solar models reproducing these new LZ values **disagree with elioseismology data** (solar abundance problem)



## The prediction of solar $\boldsymbol{\nu}$ flux is sensitive to the Sun metallicity

E	lux	B16-GS98 HZ	B16-AGSS09met LZ
$\overline{\Phi}$	(pp)	$5.98(1 \pm 0.006)$	$6.03(1 \pm 0.005)$
$\Phi$	(pep)	$1.44(1 \pm 0.01)$	$1.46(1 \pm 0.009)$
$\Phi$	(hep)	$7.98(1 \pm 0.30)$	$8.25(1 \pm 0.30)$
Φ	$(^7\text{Be})$	$4.93(1 \pm 0.06)$	$4.50(1 \pm 0.06)$
$\longrightarrow \Phi$	( <sup>8</sup> B)	$5.46(1 \pm 0.12)$	$4.50(1 \pm 0.12)$
$\Phi$	( <sup>13</sup> N)	$2.78(1 \pm 0.15)$	$2.04(1 \pm 0.14)$
CNO $\Phi$	( <sup>15</sup> O)	$2.05(1 \pm 0.17)$	$1.44(1 \pm 0.16)$
$\Phi$	$(^{17}F)$	$5.29(1 \pm 0.20)$	$3.26(1 \pm 0.18)$

Units: pp: 10<sup>10</sup> cm<sup>-2</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>; Be: 10<sup>9</sup> cm<sup>-2</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>; pep, N, O: 10<sup>8</sup> cm<sup>-2</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>; B, F: 10<sup>6</sup> cm<sup>-2</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>; hep: 10<sup>3</sup> cm<sup>-2</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>

<sup>7</sup>Be: 8.7% diff <sup>8</sup>B: 17.6% diff CNO: 40% diff

N. Vinyoles et al. The Astrph. Journ. 835 1 (2017)





- Designed to detect solar <sup>7</sup>Be v
- We measure the entire pp spectrum
- Has become a standard against which compare low background experiments

## Extreme radio-purity



## internal radioactivity

traces of radioisotopes in the scintillator (U,Th,<sup>40</sup>K)

## external y rays

from fluid buffer, steel sphere, PMT glass and light concentrators (<sup>40</sup>K,<sup>208</sup>TI,<sup>214</sup>Bi)

## radon emanation

from the PMTs and steel sphere

## cosmic muons

and their secondaries

## cosmogenics

neutrons and radionuclides from µ spallation and hadronic showers

## fast neutrons from external muons

## The need of low radioactive background in Borexino

Detection of  $\,$  MeV-subMeV  $\nu$ 

## No event by event signature in liquid scintillator

- shape of energy spectrum,
- radial distribution of the events,
- some pulse shape discrmination

Lack of directionality

~50 events/day 100 t expected for <sup>7</sup>Be v 5 10<sup>-9</sup> Bq/Kq Drinking water: 10 Bq/Kg Human body is: 5 KBq (<sup>40</sup>K)





## Water Cerenkov detectors can see the $\boldsymbol{\nu}$ direction

## Accurate modelling of the detector response

Event energy : from the number of PMT hits (or charge) 550 Np@1 MeV  $\sigma_{\rm F}$ = 50 KeV@1MeV

Position reconstruction: use events in the inner part of the vessel  $\sigma_{x,v,z}$ =10 cm@1MeV

Pulse shape discrimination: from the scintillation time profile

βα  $\beta + \beta -$ 

Number of Pmt hit (energy)

600

500

700

Ο.

0.1

0.1

0.1

0.

0.0 0.06

0.0

200

300



## Borexino data taking history



.. not only solar neutrinos!!!

## All the pp chain v measured by Borexino with a unified analysis (Phase II)

pp, <sup>7</sup>Be, pep, (CNO) Low Energy Region (LER) 0.19 – 2.93 MeV High energy region (HER) 3.2 – 16 MeV HER1 (3.2-5.7) MeV + HER2 (5.7-16) MeV <sup>8</sup>B

Low energy threshold: limited by residual 2.6  $\gamma$  rays from <sup>208</sup> Tl decays in the nylon vessel

Apply cuts to remove some known background on event by event basis

<sup>11</sup>C tag and split the LER energy spectrum in <sup>11</sup>C tagged and <sup>11</sup>C subtracted The analysis stratetgy

- Select a proper fiducial volume
- Fit distribution of global quantities built with the events surving the cuts
- Use of an accurate Monte Carlo tuned with calibration sources covering all the range

Choice of the FV

- LER : 71.3 t (r<2.8 m and -1.8 <z<2.8 m)
- HER1 entire mass of the scintillator (266 t)
- HER2 z<2.5 m (due to vessel leak events) (227.8 t)



pp-chain solar neutrinos

Maximize a binned likelihood through a multivariate approach in the LER region ٠

$$L(\mathcal{G}) = L_{sub}(\mathcal{G}) \cdot L_{tag}(\mathcal{G}) \cdot L_{rad}(\mathcal{G}) \cdot L_{PS-L_{pr}}(\mathcal{G})$$
Pulse shape parameter
Energy spectrum <sup>11</sup>C subtracted
Energy spectrum <sup>11</sup>C tagged
Fit the radial distribution of the events in the <sup>8</sup>B energy region
Fit the radial distribution of the events in the <sup>8</sup>B energy region
$$ARTICLE$$
Nature Oct 25<sup>th</sup> 2018
Comprehensive measurement of C

Fit the radial distribution of the events in the <sup>8</sup>B energy region ٠

## Signal and background in the Low Energy Region

p

Data energy spectrum in the LER region (0.19-2.93 MeV) before and after cuts





Event selection

- removal  $\mu$  and cosmogenics (1.5% dead time)
- removal of Bi-Po214
- noise events
- Fiducial Volume (R<2.8 m, -1.8 < z < 2.2m)
- 71.3 tons
- no  $\alpha\beta$  discrimination
- Fraction of good events removed by cuts <0.1%

#### Simulated energy spectrum in LER region including solar v and the main background components



Purification: reduction of <sup>85</sup>Kr, <sup>210</sup>B

<sup>232</sup>Th (from <sup>212</sup>Bi-Po)

- < 5.7 10<sup>-19</sup> g/g 95% C.L. < 9.4 10<sup>-20</sup> g/g 95% C.L.
- PHASE 1: 3 10<sup>-18</sup> g/g

<sup>238</sup>U (from <sup>214</sup>Bi-Po)

- PHASE 1: 5 10<sup>-18</sup> g/g

## <sup>11</sup>C ( $\beta$ + decay) : Three Fold Coincidence and $\beta$ +/ $\beta$ - discrimination



- $\blacktriangleright\,$  Identify  $\mu$  and  $\mu$  track
- > Detect n ( $\gamma$  signal due to n capture after themalization )
- $\blacktriangleright$  Space time cuts around the  $\mu$  track and n position: <sup>11</sup>C should be there
- Build a Likelihood function to evaluate if an event is a <sup>11</sup>C

Divide the exposure in 2 samples: <sup>11</sup>C subtracted & <sup>11</sup>C tagged

Performances: 92.4 +- 4 % tagging efficiency exposure: 64% in the <sup>11</sup>C subtracted spectrum



#### Novel $\beta$ +/ $\beta$ - pulse shape parameter:

Energy normalized likelihood of the position reconstruction

Pdf of the position rec. assumes point like, prompt scintillation but:

- e+ slows down, form O-Ps with few ns lifetime
- Multiple interaction of 511 γ within about 20 cm

- The max likelihhood assumes lower values for true  $\beta\text{-}$  events than for  $^{11}\text{C}$  decay

## Toy-MC and sensitivity studies



## Example of multivariate fit: energy spectrum

Energy spectrum <sup>11</sup>C tagged  $N_h$ 

# Monte Carlo Fit

- Full simulation of energy loss&detector geometry
- Tracking of single scintill.& Cherenkov photons
- Absorption, re-emission, scattering..
- Detection on PMTs & electronics response simulation
- Tuned with calibration data taken during Phase 1
- Solar  $\boldsymbol{\nu}$  and back. simulated with known time variations of the detector
- Processed as real data
- Data analysis free fit parameters: solar v and background rate
- If it works: MC well tuned & detector is stable



## CNO fixed to HZ and LZ values

## Example of multivariate fit: energy spectrum

Energy spectrum <sup>11</sup>C subtracted  $N_h$ 

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## CNO fixed to HZ and LZ values

## Zoom of the lowest energy region, below 800 KeV

#### Example of multivariate fit of the data:

- Energy spectrum zoomed in the low energy region (200-830 KeV)
- N<sub>p</sub><sup>dt2</sup>
- •
- Analytical model to link E to Np, Npe
- Including scintillation and Cerenkov Light
- Model to describe the E resolution
- Some model parameters fixed (comparison with MC or calib, data)
- Describe the energy response and resolution averaged in the FV
- Data Analysis free fit parameters:

solar v and background rate + 6 model parameters (Light Yield, 2 resolution param., position & width of 210Po peak, starting point of the 11C spectrum)

- Possibility to descrive unknown time variations
- Easy work at low energy (high rate 14C)



CNO fixed to HZ and LZ values

## 5 $\sigma$ evidence of pep solar $\nu$ (including systematics uncertainties)

Likelihood profile resulting from the multivariate fit





## Upper limit on the CNO flux



	Borexino result	Expected HZ	Expected LZ
<b>CNO</b> ν	< 8.1 95%C.L	4.91 +-0.56	3.62 +- 0.37
	cpd/100t	cpd/100t	cpd/100t

One-sided test statistics - 95% CL upper limit

## The <sup>8</sup>B signal: fit of the radial distribution of the events in the HER1 region (3.2-5.7 MeV)

- Gamma due to n capture n produced through (α,n) reaction

- <sup>208</sup>Tl from <sup>232</sup>Th of the vessel
- and in the scintillator bulk
- PDF from MonteCarlo



Borexino experimental results The pp chain solar neutrino Rate Solar v Flux Flux -SSM predictions results of Borexino (cm<sup>-2</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>) (cm-2 s-1) (cpd/100 t)  $(6.1 \pm 0.5^{+0.3}_{-0.5}) \times 10^{10}$  $5.98(1.\pm0.006) \times 10^{10}$  (HZ)  $134 \pm 10^{+6}_{-10}$ pp 2.5% accuracy 6.03(1.±0.005) × 1010 (LZ) <sup>7</sup>Be  $48.3 \pm 1.1^{+0.4}_{-0.7}$  $(4.99 \pm 0.11 \pm 0.06) \times 10^9$  $4.93(1.\pm0.06) \times 10^{9}$  (HZ)  $4.50(1.\pm0.06) \times 10^{9}$  (LZ) pep (HZ)  $(1.27 \pm 0.19^{+0.08}_{-0.12}) \times 10^{8}$  $1.44(1.\pm0.009) \times 10^{8}$  (HZ)  $2.43 \pm 0.36 \pm 0.15$  $1.46(1.\pm0.009) \times 10^{8}$  (LZ) pep (LZ)  $2.65 \pm 0.36^{+0.15}_{-0.24}$  $(1.39 \pm 0.19^{+0.08}_{-0.12}) \times 10^{8}$  $1.44(1.\pm0.009) \times 10^{8}$  (HZ)  $1.46(1.\pm0.009) \times 10^{8}$  (LZ) <sup>8</sup>Bher-1 0.136+0.013+0.003  $(5.77^{+0.56+0.15}_{-0.56-0.15})$  $\times 10^{6}$  $5.46(1.\pm0.12) \times 10^{6}$  (HZ) 4.50(1.±0.12) × 10<sup>6</sup> (LZ) pp<sup>8</sup>B<sub>HER-II</sub> 0.087+0.080+0.005  $(5.56^{+0.52+0.33}_{-0.64-0.33}) \times 10^{6}$ 5.46(1.±0.12) × 10<sup>6</sup> (HZ) 4.50(1.±0.12) × 106 (LZ) 150 <sup>≉</sup>B<sub>HE</sub> 0.223+0.015+0.006  $^{8}\mathrm{B}$  $5.46(1.\pm0.12) \times 10^{6}$  (HZ)  $(5.68^{+0.29}_{-0.41}, 0.03) \times 10^{6}$ 4.50(1.±0.12) × 10<sup>6</sup> (LZ) -7<sub>Be</sub>-> pep hep CNO < 8.1 (95 % C.L.) < 7.9 × 10<sup>8</sup> (95 % C.L.) 4.88(1.±0.11) × 10<sup>8</sup> (HZ) 0.1 0.2 0.5 2 5 10 20 1  $3.51(1.\pm0.10) \times 10^{8}$  (LZ) Neutrino energy (MeV)

## The neutrino survival probability



Not Standard v Interactions modify the survival probability...

## Implication of the results: probe solar fusion with R



Implication of the results: check solar Luminosity with v and with photons

$$L_{neutrinos} = 3.89_{-0.42}^{+0.35} \quad 10^{33} \ erg \ / \ s$$

$$L_{photon} = 3.846 \pm 0.015 \quad 10^{33} \ erg \ / s$$

## A step toward the understanding of the metallicity...?



## Annual modulation of the <sup>7</sup>Be solar $\nu$ in Borexino



## Effort toward the CNO solar $\boldsymbol{\nu}$ measurement

1) Reduce <sup>210</sup>Bi by purification: partially achieved

2) Infer the <sup>210</sup>Bi activity from the <sup>210</sup>Po vs time

Assuming <sup>210</sup>Bi rate constant

 $n_{\rm Po}(t) = [n_{\rm Po,0} - n_{\rm Bi}] \exp(-t/\tau_{\rm Po}) + n_{\rm Bi}.$ 

 $\begin{array}{c} 210 \text{Pb} & \xrightarrow{\beta (63 \text{ KeV})} 210 \text{Bi} & \xrightarrow{\beta} 210 \text{Po} & \xrightarrow{\alpha} 206 \text{Pb} \\ T_{1/2}=22y & 5 \text{ days} & 138 \text{ days} & \text{stable} \end{array}$ 

F. Villante et al., Phys. Lett. B 701 (2011)

> Look at the <sup>210</sup>Po time decay: at regime we should have the same the amount of <sup>210</sup>Po and <sup>210</sup>Bi

<sup>210</sup>Po is easy to count thanks to PSD in the scintillator

Needed:

- <sup>210</sup>Po activity not too high: actual values are OK
- stable conditions for long time ( some years..)
- no additional <sup>210</sup>Po sources

We observed <sup>210</sup>Po leaching out the nylon vessel and moving into the FV due to convection motions Thermal insulation &temperature control of the detector to reduce and control thermal gradients



Before thermal insulation

After thermal insulation



<sup>210</sup> Po decay in the interior of the inner vessel (r<2.5 m and abs(z)<1.5m)

## Conclusions

- Borexino running since May 2007
- We measured all v from pp chain
- Annual modulation of 7Be v detected
- Additional results on rare processes
- Geoneutrinos detected with 5.9 s (using data from the year 2007 to 2015)

and new results coming soon

- Effort in progress to measure CNO  $\nu$ 



#### Purification of the scintillator

6 cycles, closed loop Reduction factors: → 4.6 for <sup>85</sup>Kr → 2.3 for <sup>210</sup>Bi

Background ( <i>LER</i> )	rate (Bq/100 t)
<sup>14</sup> C(0.156 MeV, β <sup>-</sup> )	[40.0 ± 2.0]
Background ( <i>LER</i> )	rate (cpd/100 t)
<sup>85</sup> Kr (0.687 MeV, β <sup>-</sup> ) (internal)	6.8 ± 1.8
<sup>210</sup> Bi (1.16 MeV, β) (internal)	17.5 ± 1.9
<sup>11</sup> C (1.02-1.98 MeV, β <sup>+</sup> ) (internal)	26.8 ± 0.2
<sup>210</sup> Po (5.3 MeV, α) (internal)	260.0 ± 3.0
<sup>40</sup> K (1.460 MeV, γ) (external)	$1.0 \pm 0.6$
<sup>214</sup> Bi (<1.764 MeV, γ) (external)	1.9 ± 0.3
<sup>208</sup> T1 (2.614 MeV, γ) (external)	3.3 ± 0.1

## Rate of relevant background

Background (HER-I)	rate (cpd/227.8 t)
μ, cosmogenics, <sup>214</sup> Bi (internal)	$[6.1^{+8.7}_{-3.1}10^{-3}]$
$(\alpha, n)$ (external)	0.224 ± 0.078
<sup>208</sup> T1(5.0 MeV, $\beta^{-}$ , $\gamma$ ) (internal)	$[0.042 \pm 0.008]$
<sup>208</sup> T1(5.0 MeV, $\beta^{-}$ , $\gamma$ ) (emanated)	$0.469 \pm 0.063$
<sup>208</sup> T1(5.0 MeV, $\beta^{-}$ , $\gamma$ ) (surface)	$1.090 \pm 0.046$
Background (HER-II)	rate (cpd/266.0 t)
μ, cosmogenics (internal)	$[3.8^{+14.6}_{-0.1}10^{-3}]$
$(\alpha, n)$ (external)	$0.239 \pm 0.022$