Impact of the Borexino and, Gallex results on interpretation of solar neutrino data in terms of neutrino flavor conversion

A. Yu. Smirnov

Max-Planck Institute fur Kernphysik, Heidelberg, Germany

Solar neutrino physics at LNGS Rome, September 12, 2023



Solar neutrino problem and its solutions Neutrino flavor conversion, the MSW effect GALLEX: Identifying the solution BOREXINO: Confirmation of LMA, bounds on new physics

Collaborations themselves formulated impact of their results on solution of the problem in terms of flavor conversion

Solar neutrino problem and its solutions

History of solar neutrino problem

60 years long exciting story (still to be written) started by Bruno Pontencorvo Solutions before the problem appeared

Solutions: explanation of deficit of Ar production rate observed in Cl-Ar (Homestake) experiment

Solutions \rightarrow signatures ("smoking guns") \rightarrow predictions for forthcoming and possible future experiments

Interpretation of expected experimental results prepared in advance, conclusions were drawn almost immediately once data appeared



It was process of identification (selection) of correct solution out of many proposed in advance. ... A kind of quiz

Predicting the problem



Бруно Понтекоры

Father of the problem

Detection of solar neutrinos Cl-Ar method

Introduced neutrino oscillations

Predicted possible deficit of solar neutrino due to oscillations on the way to the Earth

1967: "If the oscillation length is large ... from th point of view of detection possibilities an ideal object is the Sun"

Only v_e are detected by Cl-Ar method, v_e - $v_{\rm x}\,$ oscillations reduce the signal

The solar neutrino problem



R Davis Jr.

R. Davis, D.S. Hamer, K.S. Hoffman, 1968

Deficit (1/3) of signal in Cl-Ar

Origins

Astrophysics Nuclear physics Neutrino (particle) physics

Time variations of signals in anticorrelation with 11 years of solar activity (sun spots number)

Solar magnetic field \rightarrow large magnetic moments of neutrinos

Davis believed in time variations of signal and solution based on spinflavor precession: in final Homestake publication (1998) there no even reference to MSW solution

Solar neutrino spectroscopy

also J. Bahcall



G. T. Zatsepin, 1917 - 2010

Solar neutrino spectroscopy: measurements of fluxes of different components of the neutrino fluxes

Program of several experiments with different thresholds. In this framework

Ga-Ge - V. Kuzmin, 1965

Li - Be

SAGE

Catalogue of solutions

Vacuum oscillations

Neutrino decay, $v \rightarrow v' + \phi$

Neutrino spin precession in the magnetic field due to large magnetic moment

Resonant oscillations in matter, MSW effect

"Just-so oscillations"

Resonant Spin-flavor precession in matter, RSFP

MSW with new flavor changing neutrino interaction

V.N. Gribov, B. M. Pontecorvo, 1969

J. Bahcall, N. Cabibbo, A. Yahill, 1971

A. Cisneros, 1971 M. B. Voloshin, M. I. Vysotsky, L. B. Okun, 1986

L. Wolfenstein, 1978, S. Mikheyev, A. Y. Smirnov, 1985

S. L. Glashow and L M. Krauss, 1987

C. S. Lim, W. J. Marciano, 1988 E.Kh. Akhmedov, 1988

E. Roulet, 1991, M. M. Guzzo, A. Masiero, S. Petcov 1991

Selecting the solution

Pioneering experimentsafter HomestakeKamiokande, 1990SAGE, 1991GALLEX, 1992

- Existence of the problem was reinforced
- Astrophysical solutions: disfavored nearly excluded
- Energy dependence of the effect showed up: weaker suppression than in Cl-Ar suppression, 0.46 at SK and 0.5 - 0.6 in Gallium
 - Significant time variations of signals were not observed
 - Some discrimination of solutions

SMA
Three MSW solutions were coined: LMA
LOW

1998 year: big turn

SuperKamiokande

Atmospheric neutrino oscillations confirmed. Maximal mixing: prejudice of small mixing disappeared. (Still oscillations into steriles?)

Solar neutrinos: two key observations

- Flat energy spectrum of events, no significant distortion as expected e.g. in the SMA solution
- No significant Day-Night and seasonal variations due to Earth matter effect
- J. Bahcall, P. Krastev, A. Smirnov 1998: global analysis of solar neutrino data 1999: Is LMA MSW the solution of the solar neutrino problem?

LMA -favored, leading in the race... SMA, Just-so and LOW - disfavored

The MSW-LMA

John N. Bahcall, P.I. Krastev A.Yu. S., Phys.Rev.D 60 (1999) 093001 hep-ph/9905220



"Recent results on solar neutrinos provide hints that the LMA MSW solution could be correct".

"Annus mirabilis..."

2002

Milla Baldo-Ceolin Here and in Venice...

The solution identified!

SNO, April 2002

Neutral currents measured (salt result) in agreement with total neutrino flux Proof of the $v_e \rightarrow v_{\mu}$, v_{τ} transition

KamLAND, December 2002 Oscillations of reactor antineutrinos

Oscillation parameters coincide with those of LMA-MSW (in assumption of CPT symmetry)

KamLAND oscillation parameters + MSW adiabatic conversion (standard physics) SNO excludes transition to sterile

LMA MSW uniquely

Other mechanisms (solutions) : at most sub-leading effects

Resonant flavor conversion MSW

Neutrino oscillations in matter

Lincoln Wolfenstein 1923 - 2015 L. Wolfenstein, Phys. Rev. D17 (1978) 2369

Matter potential V

Oscillations of massive neutrinos in matter with Standard potential

Evolution equation in matter

Hamiltonian of the evolution equation

 $H = H(V, \Delta m^2, \theta)$

Concluded: no observable effect on solar neutrinos



Mixing angle determines flavor content of eigenstates of propagation



Resonance



LNA MSW: evolution of neutrinos

Adiabatic conversion

Loss of coherence

Oscillations in matter of the Earth

Oscillations: phase effect





Additional minus sign for muon component in v_{1m} - cancel if have the same phase

Electron neutrino propagation wave packet description

Oscillations



Adiabatic conversion



if initial density is not very big: mixing is not suppressed

- → both eigenstates are produced
- \rightarrow interference

- the amplitudes of the wave packets do not change
- flavors of the eigenstates change being determined by mixing angle, follow the density change



mixing is very small

Single eigenstate:
→ no interference
→ no oscillations
→ phase is irrelevant

Survival probability $P_{ee} = sin^2\theta$

X

 $\langle v_e | v_2 \rangle = \sin \theta$

if density changes slowly (adiabatically) \rightarrow no other eigenstate appear

$$v_{2m} \rightarrow v_2$$

Mixing and therefore the flavor content change according to density change

Loss of coherence



From the Sun to the Earth

LMA-MSW physics



during a day $P_{ie} = |U_{ei}|^2$ projection back:

In the Sun: scale invariance: no dependence of P_{ee} on distance and phase oscillations irrelevant

Oscillations in the Earth



Distance and

phase matter

SK: Earth matter effect SK Collaboration (Abe, K. et al.) arXiv:1606.07538 [hep-ex]

SK-IV solar zenith angle dependence



GALLEX: identifying the solution

Ga-Ge: disfavoring astrophysical solutions

Q_{ge} = 83 +/- 19 +/-8 SNU Stellar models: 124 -132 SNU

Already first GALLEX result: 2σ below, latter GALLEX/GNO $\rightarrow 9\sigma$

P. Anselmann et al, PLB (1992) 390

Luminosity - pp-neutrino flux - contribution to Ge production Q_{Ge}

Extracting pp-neutrino flux, suppression probability

"By 1997 GALLEX established both the presence of pp-neutrinos and a significant deficit (\approx 40 %) in the sub-MeV neutrino induced rate. This was the strongest indication for neutrino transformations on the way between the solar core and the Earth, implying non-zero neutrino mass and non-standard physics"

Restricting other solutions

Neutrino decay

to sterile neutrinos

to active antineutrinos

Excluded by SN87A Q_{GE} < 45 SNU strongly disfavored

Time variations as observed by Homestake...

Successful explanation of Cl time variation and Kamiokande II non-observation of variations - predict even larger variations of signal in GALLEX:

from 75-80 to 25 SNU

Restricting parameters of MSW solution



Suppression pit (bath)

LMA: energy dependence is determined by dependence of the mixing angle at the production (with averaging over distribution of sources)



Extracting probability in sub-MeV range

GNO collaboration M . Altmann, Phys.Lett. B 616 (2005) 174-190

Subtract from GALLEX+GNO result contributions from experimentally determined fluxes of 8B-(SNO/SK) neutrino flux.

Assume BP04 SSM neutrino fluxes

This gives the survival probability for sub-GeV (pp- and Beneutrino) fluxes

 P_{ee} (sub-MeV) = 0.556 ± 0.071

Subtract from GALLEX+GNO result contributions of experimentally determined fluxes of 8B-(SNO/SK) and 7Be-(BOREXINO) gives

$P_{ee}(pp only) = 0.52 \pm 0.12$

- implies the experimental verification of the solar model and of the neutrino oscillation mechanisms at sub-MeV energies that are otherwise inaccessible.

Time dependence of Ga-Ge signal?



the results are consistent with a flat behaviour; however a weak time dependency (of unknown origin) is not excluded. Re-evaluation after calibration

Varying neutrino masses and mixing?

SAGE - no indication of t-dependence, BOREXINO?

BOREXINO Confirmation of LMA Bounds on new physics

Spectroscopy of whole solar neutrino spectrum

After LMA-MSW

After SNO and KamLAND: LMA-MSW conversion was identified as the leading (dominant) mechanism which explains the solar neutrino data

Next goals:

Checks of the solution Precision measurements of parameters 1-3 mixing effect Searches of possible deviations from LMA-MSW predictions Bounds on new physics

Other proposed mechanisms can produce sub-leading effects

Oscillations of pseudo-dirac neutrinos Spin-flavor precession Oscillations to sterile neutrinos NSI

Dark LMA solution

Astrophysics of the Sun

⁷Be: Day-Night effect

Excluding LOW solution



Neutrino oscillations parameter

99.73% c.l. excluded region by the Borexino 7Be day-night data (hatched red region in the right panel);

The LOW region is strongly excluded by the 7Be day-night data the allowed LMA parameter region does not change significantly

Energy profile of LMA-MSW


Tensions, transition region



meV sterile neutrino



sterile neutrino $m_0 \sim 0.003 \text{ eV}$



For solar nu: $sin^2 2\alpha \sim 10^{-3}$

Conversion for small mixing angle -Adiabaticity violation

Allows to explain absence of upturn and reconcile solar and KAMLAND mass splitting but not large D-N asymmetry

Additional radiation in the Universe

 $\Delta N_{eff} \sim 0.1$

Searches for this sterile in atmospheric neutrinos if mixes with $\nu_{\rm 3}$

Light sterile neutrino



$$\mathsf{R}_{\Delta} = \Delta \mathsf{m}_{01}^2 / \Delta \mathsf{m}_{21}^2$$

 α - mixing angle with active neutrinos

P. C. de Holanda, A. Yu. Smirnov, 1012.5627 [hep-ph] Phys.Rev.D83:113011,2011

New physics effects



M. Maltoni, A.Y.S. 1507.05287 [hep-ph]

Extra sterile neutrino with $\Delta m_{01}^2 = 1.2 \times 10^{-5} \text{ eV}^2$, and $\sin^2 2\alpha = 0.005$

Non-standard interactions with $\varepsilon^{u}{}_{D}$ = - 0.22, $\varepsilon^{u}{}_{N}$ = - 0.30 $\varepsilon^{d}{}_{D}$ = - 0.12, $\varepsilon^{d}{}_{N}$ = - 0.16

Also enhances the D-N asymmetry

Refraction due to very light scalar mediator

Shao-Feng Ge, S. Parke, 1812.08376 [hep-ph]

Neutrino scattering on electrons via very light scalar exchange

The solar neutrino conversion probabilities with scalar NSIs vs. Borexino results.



To satisfy bounds on $h_v h_e$ (especially from searches of 5th force):

 $1/m_{\phi} \gg R_{Earth}$

 \rightarrow strong suppression of the potential V = V_0 m_{\varphi} R_{Earth}

To avoid bounds – cancellations in $5^{\rm th}$ force experiments – not shown if this is possible

BOREXINO spectroscopy

Borexino Collaboration (Agostini, M. et al.) arXiv:1707.09279 [hep-ex]



The survival probability Pee as a function of neutrino energy.

The data points for HZ-SSM flux predictions, 8B: grey for the separate HER-I and HER-II sub-ranges and green for the combined HER range).

The error bars include experimental and theoretical uncertainties.

The gray band: Pee predicted by the Vacuum-LMA scenario,

the pink band represents the MSW-LMA solution. The width of the bands is $\pm 1\sigma$.

Solar - KamLAND Δm_{21}^2 - tension disappears

SK (also SNO+) observe the upturn of spectrum (SNO, SK)

The D-N asymmetry at SK is reduced $3.3\% \rightarrow 2.1\%$

Best fit value of Δm_{21}^2 from analysis of the solar neutrino data increased

Discrepancy with KamLAND results reduced $2\sigma \rightarrow 1.2 \sigma$



F Capozzi, et al 2107.00532 [hep-ph]

SK- upturn shows up

Yasuo Takeuchi* for the Super-Kamiokande Collaboration



Preliminary energy distributions of observed solar neutrino events (left) and allowed ee-survival probability in daytime (right). The plot on the left is the statistical combination of the observed spectra during SK-I, II, III, and IV.

Astrophysics, tool for searches Beyond LMA

After the main mechanism of was identified and parameters well measured





BOREXINO: bounds on NSI interactions

Phase-II dataset



a) Allowed region for the NSI parameters ε_e^R and ε_e^L . b) Allowed region for the NSI parameters ε_τ^R and ε_τ^L . For both HZ-SSM and LZSSM metallicity scenarios.

Excludes 1.6 bigger potential, dark solution on electrons

Neutrino magnetic moment



Spectral fit with the neutrino effective magnetic moment fixed at the upper limit Borexino Collaboration, M. Agostini et al., arXiv:1707.09355

data from 1291.5 days exposure during phase II of the Borexino. No significant deviations from the expected shape of the electron recoil spectrum have been found.

upper limit on the effective neutrino magnetic moment:

 μ_{eff} < 2.8·10⁻¹¹ μ_{B} , 90% C.L.

(constraints on the sum of the solar neutrino fluxes implied by gallium experiments has been used)

Antineutrinos from the Sun



Expected in the case of spin-flavor conversion

Upper limits on the monochromatic v_e flux from:

- 1- the present Borexino data (red line);
- 2- SuperKamiokaNDE (blue line) and
- 3- SNO (black line)

Contribution to the number of events from new physics

Pilar Coloma, M.C. Gonzalez-Garcia, Michele Maltoni JHEP 07 (2022) 138, 2204.03011 [hep-ph],



Difference between the number of events with respect to the SM expectation, as a function of N_h (number of hits of the PMT).

Conclusion

Ga-Ge experiment played fundamental role in the process of identification of solution of the Solar neutrino problem. Motivated KamLAND

The established LMA MSW solution is based on the adiabatic flavor conversion driven by change of mixing angle in matter with density

BOREXINO provided important check of the LMA MSW solution, in particular, confirming the energy profile of the effect in whole the energy range (all the components of the solar neutrino flux). It produced bounds on beyond the LMA effects

Opens new phase of studies of astrophysics of the Sun

In addition: Establishing Nature of neutrino mass

Refractive neutrino mass: VEV vs EV Neutrino mass from neutrino condensate E, t, environment dependence

Refraction on scalar DM

Elastic forward scattering of ν on background scalars ϕ with fermionic χ mediator

χ



Resonance: $s = m_{\chi}^{2}$

for ϕ at rest the resonance ν energy:

$$E_R = \frac{m_{\chi}^2}{2m_{\phi}}$$

If mediator and target particle are light, the 1/E dependence shows up at low explored energies.





mass?

Large number density of target particles is required \rightarrow form substantial part of whole DM

Effect of classical component

A. Berlin, 1608.01307 [hep-ph]

Solution of equation of motion for classical field has t and x dependence:

$$\phi_{c}(t, x) \sim \frac{\sqrt{2 \rho(x)}}{m_{\phi}} \cos(\omega t - k x)$$

 ω ~ $m_{\varphi},$ k = $m_{\varphi}v,~v$ ~ 10^{-3} – virialized velocity in the Galaxy

 ϕ_c generates the mass term m' $v_L f_R$ + h. c. with m' = $g \phi_c$ Oscillating mass with period $T_{osc} = 2\pi/m_{\phi} = 4 \ 10^{-15} \ sec$ (1 eV/m_{ϕ})

Loss of coherence due to velocity dispersion
$$\Delta v \sim v$$
?
 $\Delta \omega = m_{\phi} v \Delta v \sim m_{\phi} v^{2}$
 $\tau_{coh} = \frac{2\pi}{\Delta \omega} = 4 \ 10^{-9} \text{ sec (1 eV/m}_{\phi})$

System transforms into a cold gas of individual scatterers. Still in some aspects can be considered as classical field without time variations

Vacuum and properties of oscillations

Neutrino vacuum condensate due to gravity. Order parameter

G.Dvali , L Funcke,

1602.03191 [hep-ph]

 $\langle \Phi_{\alpha\beta} \rangle = \langle v_{\alpha}^{T} C v_{\beta} \rangle \sim \Lambda_{G} = \text{meV} - 0.1 \text{ eV}$

Cosmological phase transition at $T \sim \Lambda_G$

Neutrinos get masses $m_{\alpha\beta} \sim \langle \Phi_{\alpha\beta} \rangle$ Flavor is fixed by weak (CC) interactions, charged leptons get masses by usual Higgs field

 $\mathbf{m} \sim \mathbf{U}(\theta)^{\mathsf{T}} \langle \Phi \rangle \mathbf{U}(\theta)$

< Φ > = diag (Φ_{11} , Φ_{22} , Φ_{33}), \bigwedge mixing matrix

T $\wedge \Lambda_{G}$ Relic neutrinos form bound states $\phi = (v_{\alpha}^{T}v_{\beta})$ decay and annihilate into ϕ (neutrinoless Universe)

Symmetry of system $SU(3) \times U(1)$ is spontaneously broken by neutrino condensate - ϕ are goldstone bosons • get small masses due explicit symmetry breaking by WI via loops



(self-coupling of string field Φ /scale factor of phase transition)

Travelling around string winds VEV $\langle \Phi \rangle$ by the SU(3) transformation: $\langle \Phi(\theta_s) \rangle = \omega(\theta_w)^T \langle \Phi \rangle \omega(\theta_w)$

 $ω(θ_W)$ path - O(3) transformation with angles $θ_W = (θ_W^{12}, θ_W^{13}, θ_W^{23})$. After the path ω lepton mixing changes as $U = U(θ) ω(θ_W)$ over length $ξ, θ_W = O(1)$.

Solar system moves through the frozen string-DW background with v = 230 km/sec. For 6 years d = vt = 4 x 10^{13} m - comparable with expected ξ time variations?

JinPing underground lab

scintillator uploaded water detectors?



FV: 100 times bigger than BOREXINO

Deeper than SNO



Neutrino Energy [MeV]

Bounds on magnetic moments



Bounds on interactions due to light mediators

Bounds from Borexino Phase-II spectral data (blue) on a scalar (left panel) and pseudoscalar (right panel) mediator (at 90% CL for 1 d.o.f.,) which couples universally to all fermions in the SM.



Bounds on new interactions due light mediators

Bounds on couplings as function of mass (blue) from Borexino Phase II spectral data (90% CL for 1 d.o.f).,on the vector mediators associated to a new U(1)' symmetry



Bounds on vector NSI coupling



LMA-Dark solution

Scaling:

$$\Delta m_{21}^2 \rightarrow - \Delta m_{21}^2, V \rightarrow - V$$

 \rightarrow inversion of 1-2 ordering

Equivalently, mixing is not changed if $\cos 2\theta_{12} \rightarrow -\cos 2\theta_{12}, V \rightarrow -V$ $\sin^2 \theta_{21} \rightarrow 1 - \sin^2 \theta_{21}$ dark side: 0.69

Change of sign of the potential requires NSI

$$V = V_e + V_{NSI}$$

$$V_{NSI} = -2V_e$$

O.G. Miranda, M.A. Tortola, J. W. F. Valle, JHEP 19 (2006) 008 hep-ph/0406280

P. B. Denton, et al. arXiv:1804.03660 [hep-ph] $V_{\alpha\beta}^{f} = 2V_{e} \epsilon_{\alpha\beta} \frac{n_{f}}{n}$ 1.51.00.5P.S. 0.0Oscillations 90% -0.5-1.0-1.5-1.5-1.0 - 0.50.51.01.50.0 2.0 $\epsilon^{u,V}$

Nature of neutrino mass

and mass squared probed in oscillations

NSI on DM + mixing with sterile



gauge coupling, g_A

Solar Neutrinos as a Probe of Dark Matter-Neutrino Interactions - F. Capozzi, et al. JCAP 1707 (2017) no.07, 021 arXiv:1702.08464 [hep-ph]



Implications GNO + BOREXINO

GNO62.9 ± 6.0 5.9 SNUGALLEX77.5 ± 7.6 7.8 SNUGNO collaborationGALLEX+GNO69.3 ± 5.5 SNUM . Altmann, PLBSAGE66.9 ± 5.3 5.0 SNU(2005)

According to LMA(MSW) (identified by SNO/SK data), vacuum oscillations dominate below 1 MeV and the mixing angle $\theta = (32 \pm 1.6)^{\circ}$ The first preliminary results from the BOREXINO experiment on the flux of solar 7Be neutrinos make can be used to deduce the ppneutrino flux separately. We extract from our data the e-e survival probability Pee for pp-neutrinos subtracting experimentally determined 8B-(SNO/SK) and 7Be-(BOREXINO) neutrino fluxes.

This gives $Pee(pp only) = 0.52 \pm 0.12$.

The results imply the experimental verification of the solar model and of the neutrino oscillation

mechanisms at sub-MeV energies that are otherwise inaccessible.



Lines of equal suppression



W.C. Haxton, Phys.Rev.D 35 (1987) 2352

Spectroscopy with BOREXINO

After Be measurements

After pep measurements



Electron neutrino survival probability Pee as a function of neutrino energy.

Borexino's effect on the low energy Pee measurements, the green (dashed) points are calculated without using the Borexino data.

BOREXINO: NSI interactions



S. Agarwalla

Excludes 1.6 bigger potential, dark solution on electrons



After salt phase of SNO: Ar- and Ge- production rates



P.C. de Holanda, A.Yu. Smirnov Astropart.Phys. 21 (2004) 287 hep-ph/0309299 [hep-ph]

Predictions for the Germanium and Argon production rates. The allowed regions of the oscillation parameters from the combined fit of the solar neutrino data and the KamLAND spectrum.

Q > 2.95 SNU

Solar neutrinos SNO+ results

SNO+ Collaboration (Anderson, M. et al.) Phys.Rev. D99 (2019) no.1, 012012 1812.03355 [hep-ex]

Water phase: Measurement of the 8B solar neutrino flux in SNO+ with very low backgrounds S/B ~ 4, E > 6 MeV 114.7 days of data



69.2 kt-day dataset Flux: 2.53 [-0.28+0.31(stat) -0.10+0.13(syst)] x 10⁻⁶ cm ⁻² s⁻¹