

Solar Neutrinos: Status and Prospects

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### **These Lectures**

- a quasi-historical journey, with flash forward to the present day, looking back at solar neutrino experiments to establish the present day status
   radiochemical, water Čerenkov, liquid scintillator
- □ a look at future prospects
  - new experiments being built and what new physics they will explore
  - brief look at some experiments being proposed
- Note: I have borrowed figures and material from many experiments and many people. Thanks to all of them!



## Solar Neutrinos





pp Solar Fusion Chain



# **Solar Neutrino Pioneers**





Ray Davis built the Chlorine Experiment in the 1965-67

John Bahcall produces the "Standard Solar Model" neutrino calculations

"...to see into the interior of a star and thus verify directly the hypothesis of nuclear energy generation in stars..."

### Ray Davis' Chlorine Experiment

• neutrino capture reaction:

 $\frac{V_e + {}^{37}\text{Cl} \rightarrow {}^{37}\text{Ar} + e^-}{{}^{37}\text{Ar} + e^- \rightarrow {}^{37}\text{Cl} + V_e}$ 

- E<sub>threshold</sub> = 0.814 MeV
- <sup>37</sup>Ar half-life is 35 days
- "expose" chlorine to solar neutrino flux for ~2 t<sub>1/2</sub>
- chemistry to collect/purify ~10 atoms of argon produced in the tank
- count <sup>37</sup>Ar EC decays in a low-background proportional counter



615 tons of C<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>4</sub> location: Homestake Mine in South Dakota, USA



### Chlorine Results: 1970-1994 (Final)

- average: 2.56 ± 0.23 SNU (Solar Neutrino Unit)
- solar model predicted rate: 7-8 SNU
- 1 SNU = 1 neutrino capture per second per  $10^{36}$  target atoms



# **Solar Neutrino Problem**

- deficit of solar neutrinos detected by experiments compared to solar models is due to:
  - experiment(s) are wrong
     \* is Ray Davis wrong?
  - incorrect model/physics of the solar interior
    - \* is John Bahcall wrong?
  - incorrect understanding of nuclear reactions?
  - new properties of massive neutrinos produce an *apparent* deficit?



# What Experiments Followed?

- radiochemical experiments with gallium
- water Čerenkov detector
- heavy water Čerenkov detector
- liquid scintillator detector
- other ideas that were proposed or attempted:
  - boron-loaded scintillator CC and NC reactions
  - iodine-to-xenon radiochemical experiment
  - lithium-to-beryllium radiochemical
  - bromine-to-krypton radiochemical
  - indium experiment (very low threshold) more on this later
  - fluorine neutrino capture (with coincidence tag)

I will describe the final status of these efforts rather than the chronological contributions to our understanding of solar neutrinos, as the results came to be.

### SAGE Experiment

- neutrino capture reaction:  $v_e + {}^{71}\text{Ga} \rightarrow {}^{71}\text{Ge} + e^-$
- E<sub>threshold</sub> = 0.233 MeV
- sensitive to pp solar v
- t<sub>1/2</sub> is 11.4 days
- germanium atoms are extracted with sensitivity: 1 germanium atom extracted from 5×10<sup>29</sup> atoms of gallium, with 90% efficiency





50 tons of metallic gallium location: Baksan Underground Lab, northern Caucasus



SAGE continues to perform regular extractions every ~4 weeks.

### SAGE – Soviet American Gallium Experiment

radiochemical Ga experiment at Baksan Neutrino Observatory with 50 tons of metallic gallium running since 1990-present

> measures *pp* solar flux in agreement with SSM when oscillations are included – the predicted signal is

67.3<sup>+3.9</sup><sub>-3.5</sub> SNU

### Gallex/GNO Experiment

- similar to SAGE except with gallium chloride
- ran as Gallex (1991-97)
- then as GNO (1998-2003)
- Gallex recently reanalyzed
   all their data
- re-calibrated all lowbackground counters with large Ge spike
- used pulse-shape analysis like for GNO analysis
- improved Rn cut efficiency and background determination



100 tons of gallium chloride solution (30 tons <sup>71</sup>Ga) location: Gran Sasso National Lab in Abruzzo, Italy

# Gallex/GNO Results



### Summary of Radiochemical Gallium Solar Neutrino Results

- updated Gallex combined:  $73.4_{-6.0}^{+6.1}$   $^{+3.7}_{-4.1}$  SNU
- GNO combined: 62.9<sup>+5.5</sup><sub>-5.3</sub> +2.5 SNU
- Gallex+GNO combined: 67.6 ± 4.0<sub>stat</sub> ± 3.2<sub>svst</sub> SNU
- SAGE average: 66.2<sup>+3.3</sup> +3.5 SNU
- both experiments calibrated with neutrino sources; and measured hot chemical extraction efficiency
- they see a clear deficit of the fundamental pp fusion solar neutrinos; results in agreement with each other and with solar model predictions when oscillations are included

# Gallex and SAGE Calibrations



FIG. 3: Results of all neutrino source experiments with Ga. Gallex results are from the recent pulse shape analysis of Kaether [9]; SAGE results are from Refs. [11] and [4]. Hashed region is the weighted average of the four experiments.

- all are low?
  - just statistics?
  - efficiency of extraction is incorrect?
  - oscillations cause disappearance?
  - production rate from source (i.e. cross section for absorption) not as large as assumed in calculation?

### **Outstanding Issues with Gallium?**

- calibrations are low?
- time dependence?
  - Gallex (1991-97) runs higher than GNO (1998-2003)
  - same is observed by SAGE
- ...or, is all of this just fine and within experimental errors? Probably.

### Energy Dependence of Solar v Deficit



# Imaging Water Čerenkov Detectors

o Kamiokande and IMB built in the 80's

- large water Čerenkov detectors that searched for proton decay
- Kamiokande was then upgraded, beginning in 1985, to detect <sup>8</sup>B solar neutrinos (1<sup>st</sup> solar v results in 1988)
- Super-Kamiokande (larger and improved) was built and became operational on April 1, 1996
- SNO a heavy water Čerenkov detector was built and started taking production data on November 1, 1999



Masatoshi Koshiba shared 2002 Nobel Prize with Ray Davis (and Giacconi)

# Čerenkov Light

- emitted by charged particles whose velocity exceed c/n
- o for electrons in water, threshold:
   E > 0.768 MeV
- o cone of light, half angle given by: cos θ = 1 / (βn); 41° in water for β ≈ 1
- o spectrum of photons emitted:

 $\frac{dN}{d\lambda} = \frac{2\pi c \alpha}{c} \left( 1 - \frac{1}{n^2 \beta^2} \right) \frac{1}{\lambda^2}$ 





5 MeV e<sup>-</sup> travels ~2 cm in water; ~800 photons produced; 20% average PMT efficiency; 33% photocathode coverage  $\rightarrow$  ~50 photoelectrons or 10 p.e./MeV

# Kamiokande



# Kamiokande <sup>8</sup>B Solar Neutrinos

- o confirmed deficit of <sup>8</sup>B solar neutrinos
- flux measured by Kamiokande of 2.67×10<sup>6</sup> cm<sup>-2</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>
   compared to solar model calculated flux of ~5-6×10<sup>6</sup> cm<sup>-2</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>
- Bahcall and Bethe made the following inference: from the Kamiokande measured flux (of  $v_e$ ), this would result in at least 3 SNU in the Chlorine experiment
- o at that time, the CI result was 2.2 ± 0.2 SNU (in 1993)

PHYSICAL REVIEW D

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VOLUME 47, NUMBER 4

15 FEBRUARY 1993

Do solar-neutrino experiments imply new physics?

John N. Bahcall Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, New Jersey 08540

H. A. Bethe Newman Laboratory of Nuclear Studies, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York 14853 (Received 24 August 1992)

# Interesting to Note...

- o it turns out that today we know that neither of these two possibilities are correct!
- Bahcall-Bethe was a test case hypothesis that refuted a conventional astrophysical solution to the solar neutrino problem
  - they scaled the whole Kamiokande signal as  $v_e$
  - but, today we know how to calculate the actual <sup>8</sup>B v<sub>e</sub> contribution to the Chlorine experiment...by using the SNO charged-current result (more on this later)

### Super-K Solar Neutrino Detection



# Typical Low Energy Event in SK

#### Super-Kamlokande

Run 1742 Event 102496 96-05-31:07:13:23 Inner: 103 hits, 123 pE Outer: -1 hits, 0 pE (in-time) Trigger ID: 0x03 E= 9.086 GDN=0.77 COSSUN= 0.949 Solar Neutrino



#### Time(ns)

< 815</li>
815- 835
835- 855
855- 875
875- 895
895- 915



- 935- 955
- 955-975
  975-995
- 995-1015
- 1015-1035
- 1035-10551055-1075
- 1055-1075
   1075-1095
- 10,3-1095
   >1095



# Super-Kamiokande



50 kilotons water; cylinder 39.3 m diameter and 41.4 m high; 11,146 PMT's (20-inch) for 40% photocathode coverage

location: Kamioka mine, near Mozumi, Japan



11146 ID PMTs (40% coverage) Energy Threshold 5.0 MeV (Total energy) ~4.5 MeV (Kinetic energy) 5182 ID PMTs (19% coverage) 7.0 MeV ~6.5 MeV 11129 ID PMTs (40% coverage) 5.0 MeV ~4.5 MeV

Upgrade ~4.5 MeV < 4.0 MeV ~4.0 MeV <~3.5 MeV Current Target

# SK-I Solar Neutrino Results



# **SK-I Energy Spectrum**



### and D/N asymmetry versus energy



# SK-III solar neutrino results

■ Total live time : 548 days, E<sub>total</sub> ≥ 6.5 MeV 289 days, E<sub>total</sub> < 6.5 MeV May 2010

Preliminary

- Energy region: E<sub>total</sub>=5.0-20.0MeV
- <sup>8</sup>B Flux: 2.32+/-0.04(stat.)+/-0.05(syst.) (x10<sup>6</sup>/cm<sup>2</sup>/s)
  - SK-I: 2.38+/-0.02(stat.)+/-0.08(syst.)
  - SK-II: 2.41+/-0.05(stat.)+0.16/-0.15(syst.)
     (SK-I,II are recalculated with the Winter06 <sup>8</sup>B spectrum)
- Day / Night ratio:

 $A_{DN} = \frac{(\Phi_{Day} - \Phi_{Night})}{(\Phi_{Day} + \Phi_{Night})/2} = -0.056 \pm 0.031(\text{stat.}) \pm 0.013(\text{syst.})$ 



Angular resolution in SK-III is better
 In E<sub>total</sub>=5.0-5.5MeV, SK-III has better Signal to Noise ratio.
 BG level in 4.5-5.0MeV region is similar as that in 5.0-5.5MeV of SK-I







#### 1000 tonnes D<sub>2</sub>O ~

12 m diameter Acrylic Vessel

18 m diameter support structure; 9500 PMTs (~55% photocathode coverage)

- 1700 tonnes inner shielding  $H_2O$
- 5300 tonnes outer shielding  $H_2O$

Urylon liner radon seal

# 2 km Observatory

Sudbury

**Neutrino** 





depth: 2092 m (~6010 m.w.e.) ~70 muons/day



### **Neutrino Reactions in SNO**



- only detects  $\nu_e$  flavor
- good measure of neutrino energy spectrum
- Q-value 1.44 MeV
- directionality  $\propto (1 \frac{1}{3}\cos\theta)$

NC 
$$v_x + d \rightarrow p + n + v_x$$

- measures total  $^8B\,\nu$  flux from the Sun
- equal cross section for all active v flavors
- Q-value 2.22 MeV



- lower statistics
- points to the Sun





SNO Pioneers



#### Herb Chen

VOLUME 55, NUMBER 14

#### PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

**30 SEPTEMBER 1985** 

#### **Direct Approach to Resolve the Solar-Neutrino Problem**

Herbert H. Chen Department of Physics, University of California, Irvine, California 92717 (Received 27 June 1985)

A direct approach to resolve the solar-neutrino problem would be to observe neutrinos by use of both neutral-current and charged-current reactions. Then, the total neutrino flux and the electron-neutrino flux would be separately determined to provide independent tests of the neutrino-oscillation hypothesis and the standard solar model. A large heavy-water Cherenkov detector, sensitive to neutrinos from <sup>8</sup>B decay via the neutral-current reaction  $\nu + d \rightarrow \nu + p + n$  and the charged-current reaction  $\nu_e + d \rightarrow e^- + p + p$ , is suggested for this purpose.

PACS numbers: 96.60.Kx, 14.60.Gh

Pinch-Off Tube
<sup>3</sup> He-CF4 Gas Fill
Anode Wire $9-11 \text{ m}$
Fused Silica Insulator
and Delay Line Termination
Vectran Braid
Acrylic ROV Ball

# A Neutrino Event

#### **Event Information: PMT hits – position, time, charge**



**Event Reconstruction: vertex, direction, energy, isotropy** 

# Fitting CC, NC, ES in SNO



# SNO Pure D<sub>2</sub>O Results (2002)



# **SNO Water Assays**



# Water Purification and Assay

#### **MnOx**

- <sup>224</sup>Ra, <sup>226</sup>Ra extraction
- decay products counted in electrostatic counters

Purification Assay of <sup>224</sup>Ra, <sup>226</sup>Ra

**HTiO** 

Th, Ra, & Pb extraction chemically stripped and counted with  $\beta$ - $\alpha$  counter

Purification Assay of <sup>224</sup>Ra, <sup>226</sup>Ra, <sup>228</sup>Th

Vacuum & Membrane radon removal **De-Gassing** Lucas cells

**Reverse Osmosis** 

conc. collection liquid scintillator Purification Assay of <sup>222</sup>Rn

Purification Assay

Ion Exchange & Ultra-Filtration

Purification

# Measuring U/Th Content

#### Ex-situ

- Ion exchange (<sup>224</sup>Ra, <sup>226</sup>Ra)
- Membrane degassing (<sup>222</sup>Rn) count daughter product decays

#### In-situ

- Low energy data analysis
- Separate <sup>208</sup>TI & <sup>214</sup>Bi





E<sub>threshold</sub> > 5 MeV

#### Constrained Shape Fluxes \*E<sub>nc</sub> >2.2 MeV

$$\begin{split} \Phi_{\rm cc}(v_{\rm e}) &= 1.76 \begin{array}{c} ^{+0.06}_{-0.05}({\rm stat.}) \begin{array}{c} ^{+0.09}_{-0.09}({\rm syst.}) \times 10^{6}\,{\rm cm^{-2}s^{-1}} \\ \\ \Phi_{\rm es}(v_{\rm x}) &= 2.39 \begin{array}{c} ^{+0.24}_{-0.23}({\rm stat.}) \begin{array}{c} ^{+0.12}_{-0.12}({\rm syst.}) \times 10^{6}\,{\rm cm^{-2}s^{-1}} \\ \\ \Phi_{\rm nc}(v_{\rm x}) &= 5.09 \begin{array}{c} ^{+0.44}_{-0.43}({\rm stat.}) \begin{array}{c} ^{+0.46}_{-0.43}({\rm syst.}) \times 10^{6}\,{\rm cm^{-2}s^{-1}} \end{array} \end{split}$$

$$\Phi_{e} = 1.76 {}^{+0.05}_{-0.05} (stat.) {}^{+0.09}_{-0.09} (syst.) \times 10^{6} \, cm^{-2} s^{-1}$$
  
$$\Phi_{\mu\tau} = 3.41 {}^{+0.45}_{-0.45} (stat.) {}^{+0.48}_{-0.45} (syst.) \times 10^{6} \, cm^{-2} s^{-1}$$

more than just v<sub>e</sub> coming from the Sun!

391-Day Salt Phase Flux Results (2005)

$$\frac{\phi_{CC}}{\phi_{NC}} = 0.340 \pm 0.023 \,_{-0.031}^{+0.029}$$

$$\Phi_{\rm CC}(v_{\rm e}) = 1.68 \stackrel{+0.06}{_{-0.06}}({\rm stat.}) \stackrel{+0.08}{_{-0.09}}({\rm syst.}) \times 10^{6} \,{\rm cm^{-2} \, s^{-1}}$$
  
$$\Phi_{\rm NC}(v_{\rm x}) = 4.94 \stackrel{+0.21}{_{-0.21}}({\rm stat.}) \stackrel{+0.38}{_{-0.34}}({\rm syst.}) \times 10^{6} \,{\rm cm^{-2} \, s^{-1}}$$

BS05(OP) Standard Solar Model Flux Calculation: (5.69  $\pm$  0.91)  $\times$  10<sup>6</sup> cm<sup>-2</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>

2002: Solar Neutrino Problem Solved by Direct Observation of Solar Neutrinos Changing Flavor  $\rightarrow$  produced as electron neutrinos but only 0.34 surviving as  $v_e$ 

...the NC measurement is also confirmation that solar models are correct and that energy generation in stars is understood!

### Solar Neutrino Flavour Content



### Summary of Main SNO Solar v Results

- direct measure of the averaged survival probability of <sup>8</sup>B solar v
- total active flux of <sup>8</sup>B solar v agrees with solar model calculations Phase II

Phase III

$$\frac{\Phi_{CC}}{\Phi_{NC}} = 0.340 \pm 0.023 (\text{stat.})_{-0.031}^{+0.029} \text{ Phase II} \\ \frac{\Phi_{CC}}{\Phi_{NC}} = 0.301 \pm 0.033 \text{ Phase III}$$

$$\phi_{NC} = (4.94 \pm 0.21(\text{stat.})_{-0.34}^{+0.38}) \times 10^{6} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$$
  
$$\phi_{NC} = (5.54_{-0.31}^{+0.33}(\text{stat.})_{-0.34}^{+0.36}) \times 10^{6} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$$
  
BS05(OP) (5.69 ± 0.91) × 10<sup>6</sup> cm<sup>-2</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>

global fit of oscillation parameters including KamLAND and all solar neutrino data

$$\Delta m^2 = 7.59^{+0.19}_{-0.21} \times 10^{-5} \,\text{eV}^2$$
$$\sin^2 \theta = 0.32 \pm 0.02$$

 $\Box v_e$  day-night asymmetry

$$\frac{N-D}{(N+D)/2} = 0.037 \pm 0.040$$
 combined Phase I+I expected value is ~0.03

### **SNO Spectrum**



# SNO and Chlorine Revisited

Chlorine rat	te [SNU]:	SNO measures $v_e$ flux:
<sup>8</sup> B	5.76 🔨	$\Phi(^{8}B) = 0.33 \text{ SSM}$
<sup>7</sup> Be	1.15	better predictor of <sup>8</sup> B in CI
рер	0.22	$1.92 \pm 0.17$ SNU
CNO	0.42	
hep	0.04	CI experimental rate:
total	7.82	2.56 ± 0.23 SNU
		there is room for <sup>7</sup> Be!

# Liquid Scintillator Solar v Detection

- □ Borexino was originally a boron-loaded liquid scintillator
  □ was to look for CC and NC neutrino reactions on <sup>11</sup>B
- $\hfill\square$  then, the interest turned to the "missing" <sup>7</sup>Be solar neutrinos
  - SMA (small mixing angle) MSW solution had this energy as maximum suppression (lowest survival probability)
- radiopurity requirements of a boron-loaded scintillator were also as stringent as requirements to see <sup>7</sup>Be solar neutrinos using neutrino-electron elastic scattering...
  - thus a switch to <sup>7</sup>Be focus eliminated the need for dealing with boron
- scintillation light is isotropic no correlation with Sun direction (also kinematics at lower energy makes this less feasible)
- $\square$  recoil-edge feature is thus very important for <sup>7</sup>Be v detection

### Solar Neutrino Survival Probability



# <sup>7</sup>Be Solar Neutrino Detection

#### neutrino-electron scattering



# **Borexino at Gran Sasso**

- 300 tons of pseudocumene-based scintillator
- 100 ton fiducial volume
- <sup>7</sup>Be solar v
  v-e scattering
  2212 8" PMTs
  light yield
  ~500 p.e./MeV
  detector filled
  May 15, 2007





### Borexino <sup>7</sup>Be Solar v Measurement



PRL 101, 091302 (2008)

rate of <sup>7</sup>Be solar neutrinos:  $49 \pm 3 \pm 4$  counts/(day 100 tons) SSM predicted no-osc rate: 74 counts/(day 100 tons)

SSM (high metallicity) predicted rate including MSW-LMA oscillations: 48 ± 4 counts/(day·100 tons)

# Additional Borexino Analysis Details

- □ light yield is free parameter in the fits: 500 ± 12 pe/MeV
- position resolution: 16 cm @ 500 keV
- systematics estimated prior to calibration of detector response
  - deployment of some calibration sources has now taken place
  - calibration data currently being analyzed



lator mass	0.2
ss ratio	6.0
	0.1
ponse function	6.0
of cuts	0.3
natic error	8.5

E II. Estimated systematic uncertainties [%].

### hep Solar Neutrinos

flux is ~750 times smaller than the <sup>8</sup>B solar neutrinos
 no detection from Super-K or SNO yet



# SNO Solar hep Limit (from Phase I data)

- 2 events observed
   number events expected
   background: 3.13 ± 0.60
   SSM signal: 0.99 ± 0.09
   modified Feldman-Cousins 90% CL limit <2.9 times SSM or < 2.3×10<sup>4</sup> cm<sup>-2</sup>s<sup>-1</sup>
  - hep flux limit includes oscillations



### SK-I hep Solar Neutrino Analysis

