

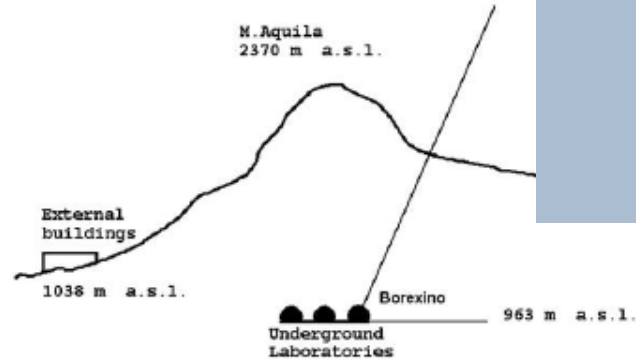
# Recent Solar and Terrestrial Neutrino Results From Borexino



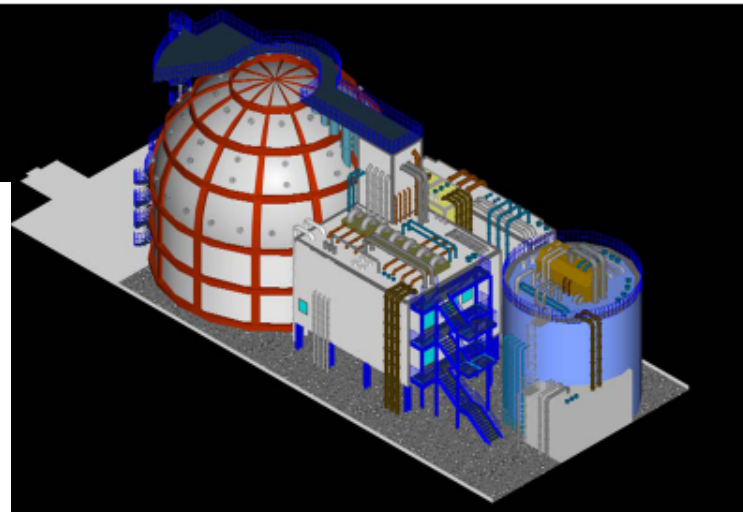
Livia Ludhova  
INFN Milano, Italy  
(on behalf of Borexino collaboration)



# Borexino experimental site



Borexino is located at the **Laboratori Nazionali del Gran Sasso**, near L'Aquila, cca.120 km from Rome in Italy, shielded by 1400 m of limestone rocks (3800 m water equivalent)



***Borexino Collaboration: Nucl. Instr. Methods. Phys. Res. A 600 (2009) 568-593: Borexino detector at the Laboratori Nazionali del Gran Sasso.***

# Borexino detector

## Scintillator:

270 t PC+PPO (1.5 g/l)  
in a 150 mm thick  
inner nylon vessel (R = 4.25 m)

## Buffer region:

PC+DMP quencher (5 g/l)  
4.25 m < R < 6.75 m

## Stainless Steel Sphere:

R = 6.75 m  
2212 PMTs 1350 m<sup>3</sup>

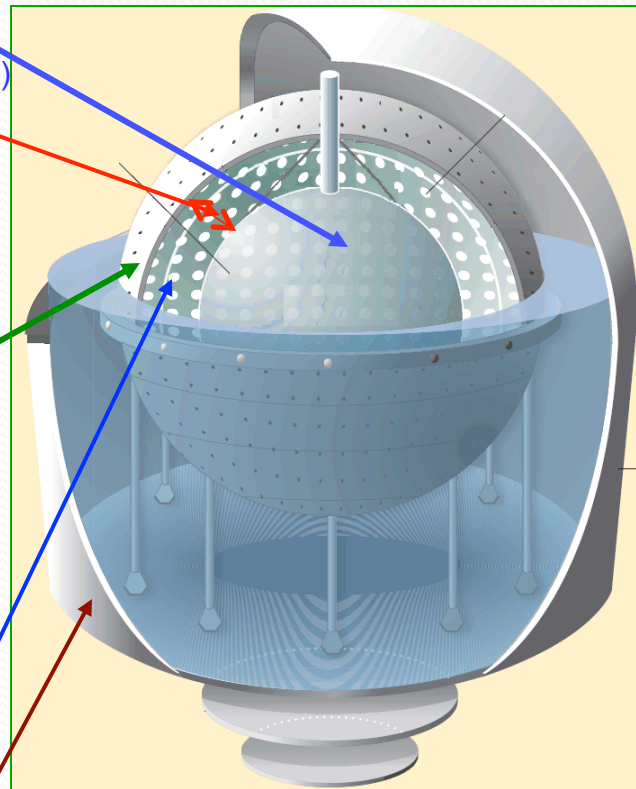
## Outer nylon vessel:

R = 5.50 m  
(<sup>222</sup>Rn barrier)

## Water Tank (2100 m<sup>3</sup>):

γ and n shield  
μ water Č detector  
208 PMTs in water

Neutrino elastic scattering on electrons of liquid scintillator:  $e^- + \nu \rightarrow e^- + \nu$ ;



# of photons → **energy**  
time of flight → **position**  
pulse shape →  $\alpha/\beta$   $\beta^+/\beta^-$

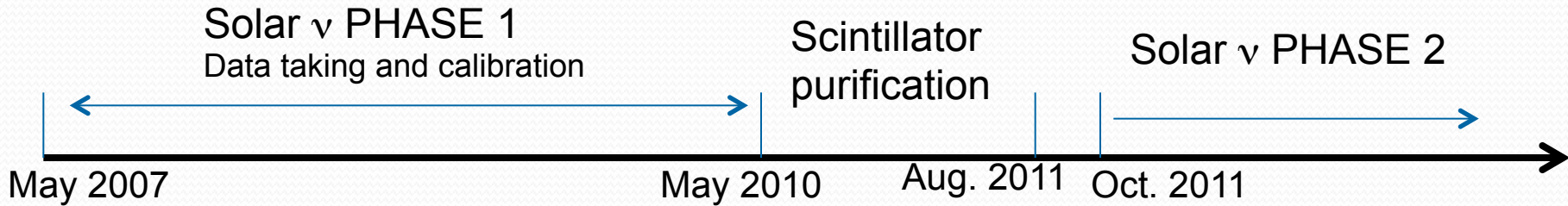
- ~500 p.e/MeV (electron equivalent);
- Low energy threshold (~0.2 MeV);
- Calibration in situ with radioactive sources;
- Energy resolution 8% @ 400 keV;
- Space resolution 16 cm @ 500 keV;
- “wall less” Fiducial Volume;
- Accurate Monte Carlo modeling of the energy and time response function;

## Drawback:

Info about the  $\nu$  directionality is lost;

**The smallest radioactive background in the world:  
9-10 orders of magnitude smaller than the every-day environment**

# Borexino PHASE 1 and PHASE 2

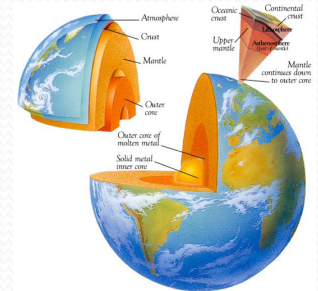


Within this period:

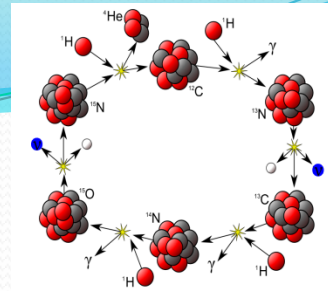
- First solar  ${}^7\text{Be}$ - $\nu$  measurement;
- Absence of  ${}^7\text{Be}$ - $\nu$  day-night asymmetry;
- Low-threshold  ${}^8\text{B}$ - $\nu$ ;
- First pep- $\nu$  detection;
- Best upper limit on CNO- $\nu$ ;
- First geo- $\nu$  observation at  $> 4\sigma$ ;
- Muon seasonal variations;
- Limits on rare processes;
- Neutrons and other cosmogenics;
- Evidence of  ${}^7\text{Be}$ - $\nu$  seasonal modulation

Updated geo- $\nu$  results:  
Dec 2007 - Aug 2012

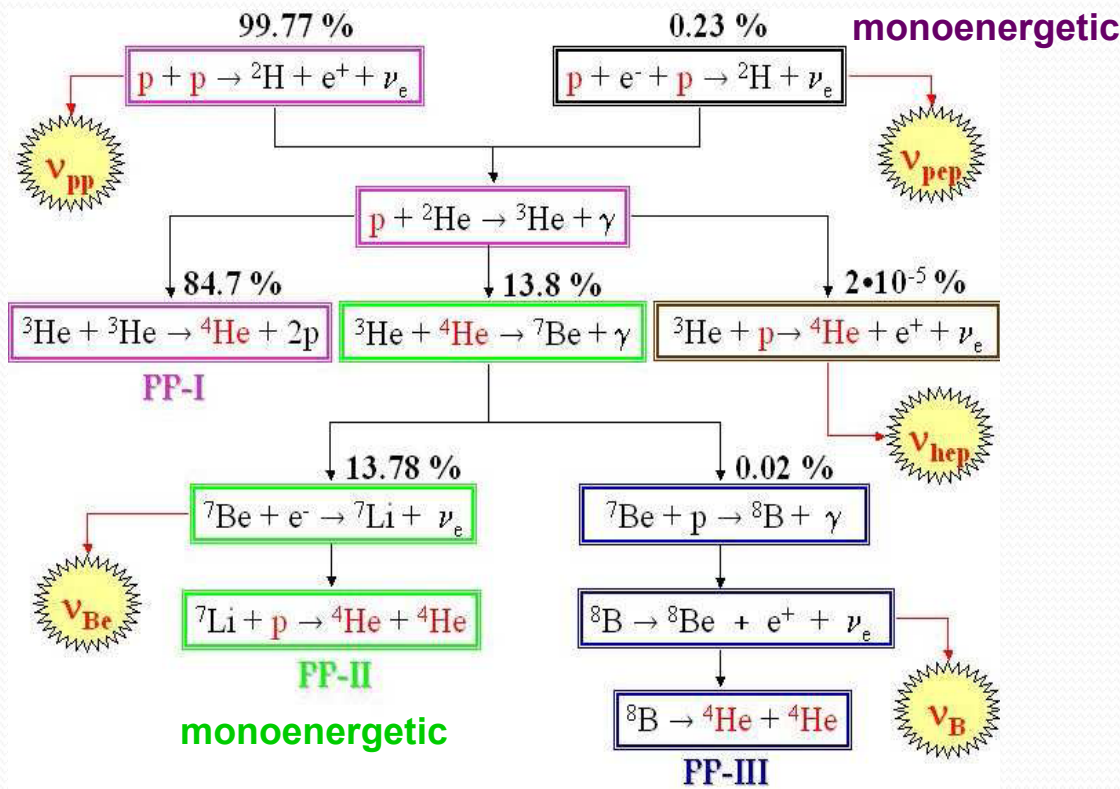
Released in 2013



# Neutrinos & Nuclear reactions in the Sun

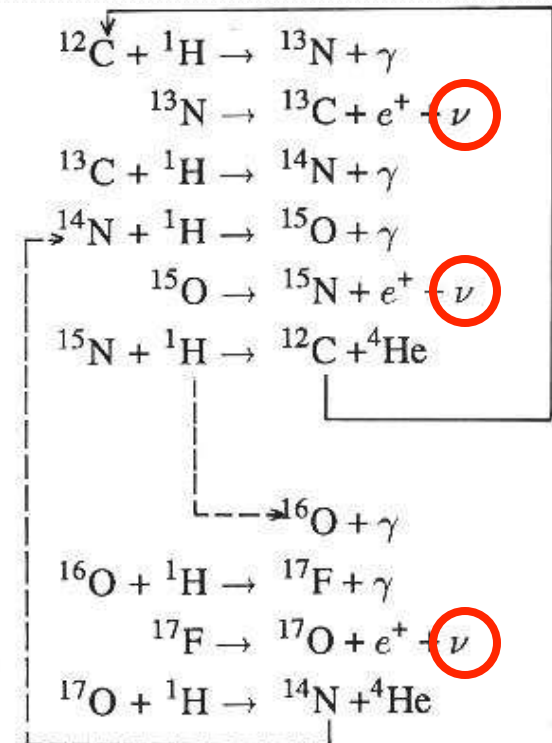


PP cycle... 99% of energy

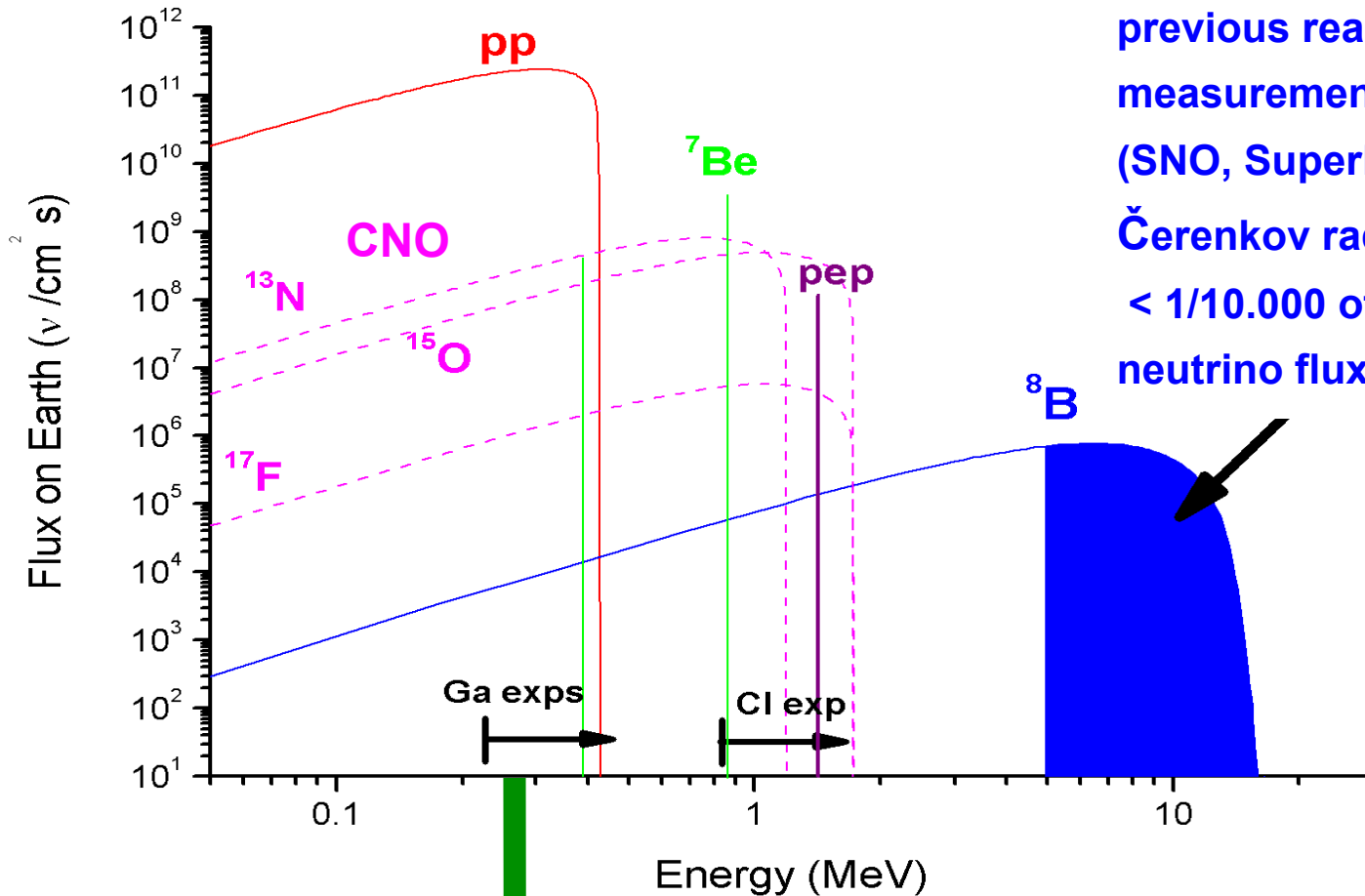


CNO cycle... <1% of energy

Poorly known  
Not directly measured



# Solar-neutrino energy spectrum



previous real-time measurements (SNO, SuperKamiokande) Čerenkov radiation < 1/10.000 of the total solar neutrino flux

# What can we learn from solar neutrinos?

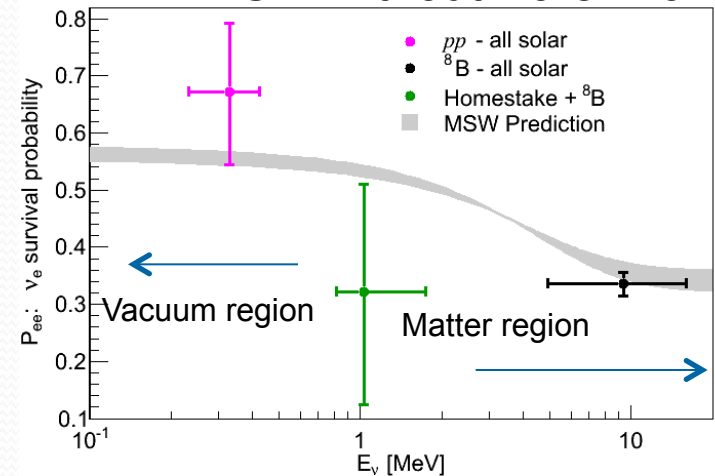
1) **About the Sun:** Solar model, SSM, flux prediction

**Metallicity:** abundance of the elements above He

$\nu$	$\Phi(\nu \text{ sec}^{-1} \text{ cm}^2)$ <b>High Metallicity</b>	$\Phi(\nu \text{ sec}^{-1} \text{ cm}^2)$ <b>Low Metallicity</b>	Diff %
pp	$5.98 (1 \pm 0.006) 10^{10}$	$6.03 (1 \pm 0.006) 10^{10}$	0.8
pep	$1.44 (1 \pm 0.012) 10^8$	$1.47 (1 \pm 0.012) 10^8$	2.1
${}^7\text{Be}$	$5.00 (1 \pm 0.070) 10^9$	$4.56 (1 \pm 0.070) 10^9$	<b>8.8</b>
${}^8\text{B}$	$5.58 (1 \pm 0.14) 10^6$	$4.59 (1 \pm 0.14) 10^6$	<b>17.7</b>
${}^{13}\text{N}$	$2.96 (1 \pm 0.14) 10^8$	$2.17 (1 \pm 0.14) 10^8$	<b>26.7</b>
${}^{15}\text{O}$	$2.23 (1 \pm 0.15) 10^8$	$1.56 (1 \pm 0.15) 10^8$	<b>30.0</b>
${}^{17}\text{F}$	$5.52 (1 \pm 0.17) 10^6$	$3.40 (1 \pm 0.16) 10^6$	<b>38.4</b>

2) **About  $\nu$ -interactions:**

$P_{ee} = \nu_e$  survival probability:  
LMA-MSW without Borexino



Non standard neutrino interaction:  
 $P_{ee}(E)$  with different shape

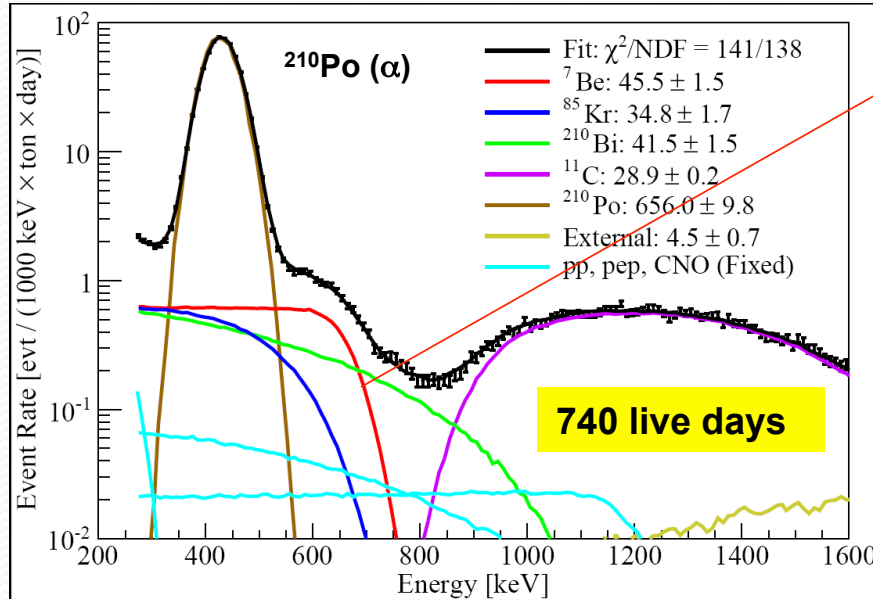
Strong deviations in the transition  
region predicted by some models;

Aldo M. Serenelli *et al.* 2011 *ApJ* **743** 24

Livia Ludhova (Borexino collaboration), WIN 2013, Natal, Brazil, 16-21 September 2013

# $^7\text{Be}$ neutrino (862 keV) rate @ 4.6%

(SSM prediction @ 7%) Phys. Rev. Lett. 107, (2011) 141302



Spectral feature: Compton-like edge from scattered electrons

$$46.0 \pm 1.5(\text{stat})_{-1.6}^{+1.5}(\text{syst})$$

**cpd/100 tons**

1ton of LS =  $(3.307 \pm 0.003) \times 10^{29}$  electrons

• comparing to non-oscillated SSM flux:  
**no oscillation excluded @  $5.0 \sigma$**

(electron equivalent flux (862 keV line):  
 $(2.78 \pm 0.13) \times 10^9 \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$ )

• assuming MSW-LMA:  
 $f(^7\text{Be}) = \text{measured flux} / \text{SSM (High Z)} = 0.97 \pm 0.09$

**$P_{ee} = 0.51 \pm 0.07$**   
**(experiment + SSM high metallicity);**

- Spectral fit including neutrino signal + background components;
- Two independent methods:  
MC based and the analytical one;
- fit with and without  $\alpha$ 's statistical subtraction;

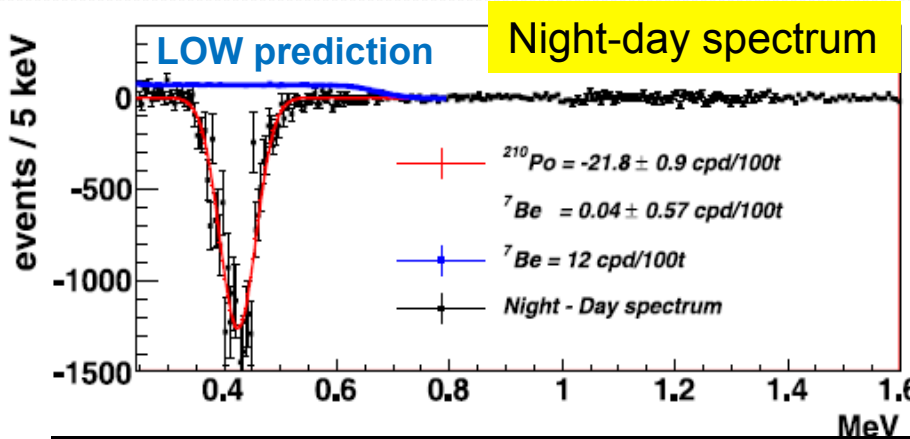


# Absence of day-night asymmetry for ${}^7\text{Be}$ rate (R)

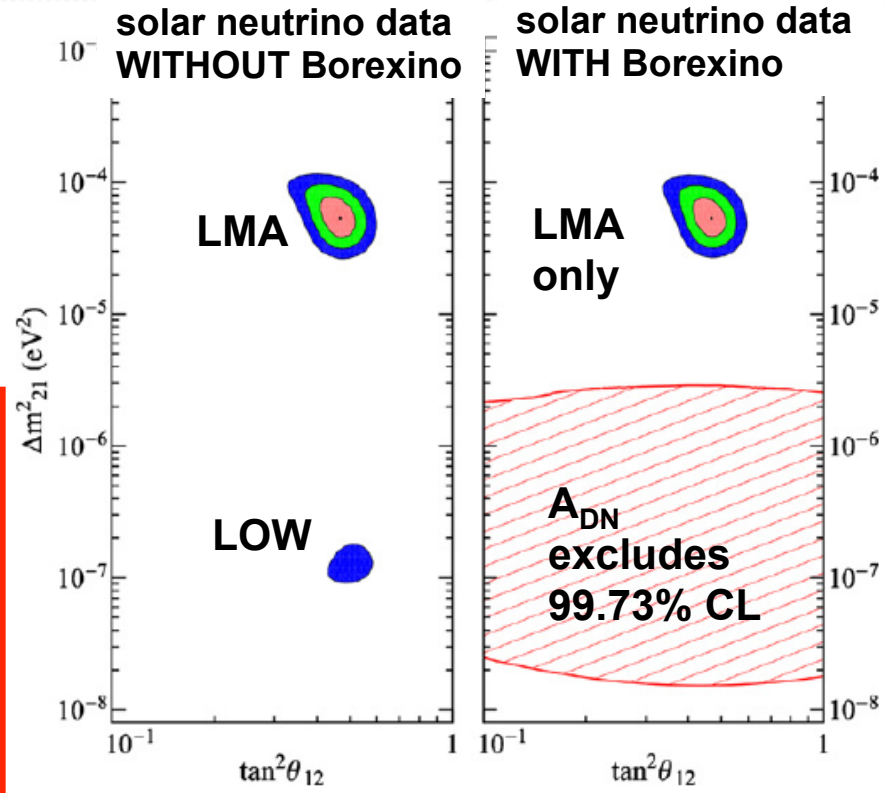
Phys. Lett. B 707 (2012) 22–26

$$A_{dn} = 2 \frac{R_N - R_D}{R_N + R_D} = \frac{R_{diff}}{\langle R \rangle}$$

- MSW: a possible regeneration of electron neutrinos in the matter (within the Earth during night): effect depends on the oscillation parameters and on energy;



Regions allowed @ 68.27%, 95.45%, 99.73% CL



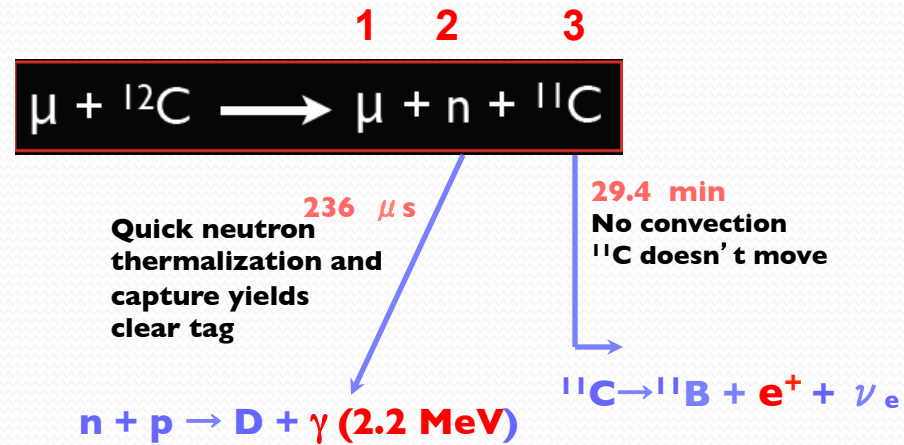
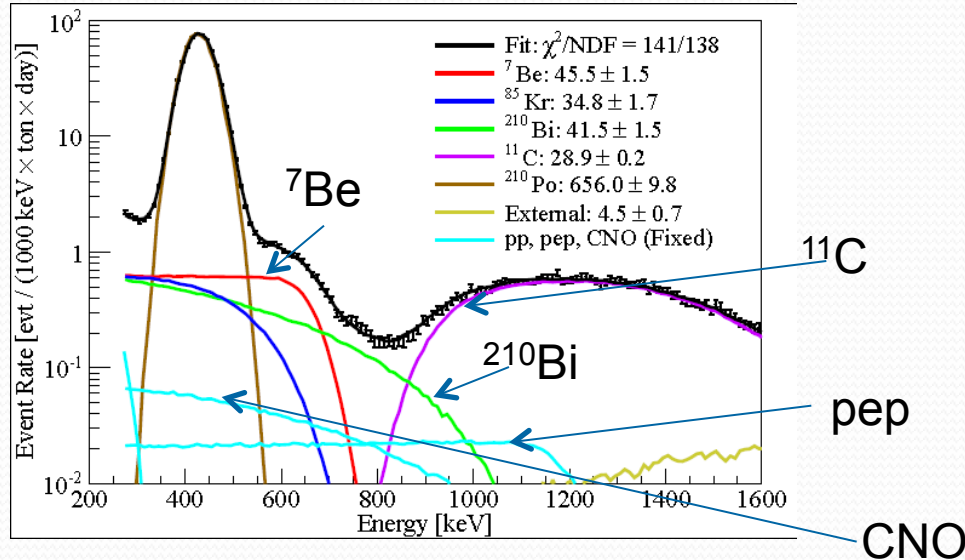
$$A_{DN} = 0.001 \pm 0.012(\text{stat}) \pm 0.007(\text{syst})$$

- in agreement with MSW-LMA;
- LOW region excluded at  $> 8.5 \sigma$  with solar neutrinos only: for the first time without the use of reactor ANTINEUTRINOS and therefore the assumption of CPT symmetry;
- constrains non standard interactions (MaVaN in Holanda 2009 excluded)

# First observation of pep neutrinos (1442 keV): multivariate analysis and novel background suppression

Expected pep interaction rate: 2-3 cpd/100t

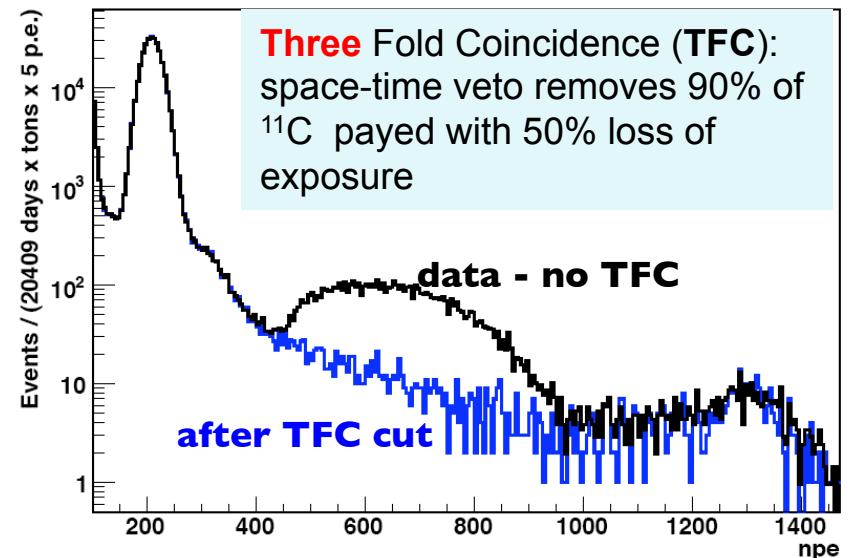
• Main background  $^{11}\text{C}$  ( $e^+$ ) with  $\tau = 29.4$  min:



❑ **Novel  $\beta^+/\beta^-$  pulse-shape discrimination:**  
 $e^+$  from  $^{11}\text{C}$  decay forms Positronium having a few ns live-time in liquid scintillator (PRC 015522 2011);

❑ **Multivariate fit of:**

- the energy spectra;
- the radial distribution of the events (external background is not uniform, while signal is)
- pulse-shape parameter distribution;



# Pep- $\nu$ rate and CNO neutrinos

- Pep rate:  $3.1 \pm 0.6_{(stat)} \pm 0.3_{(sys)}$  cpd/100 t
- Assuming MSW-LMA:  $\Phi_{\text{pep}} = 1.6 \pm 0.3 \cdot 10^8 \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$
- No oscillations excluded at **97% c.l.**
- Absence of pep solar  $\nu$  excluded at 98%
- Data/SSM (high metallicity):  $1.1 \pm 0.2$

## CNO neutrinos

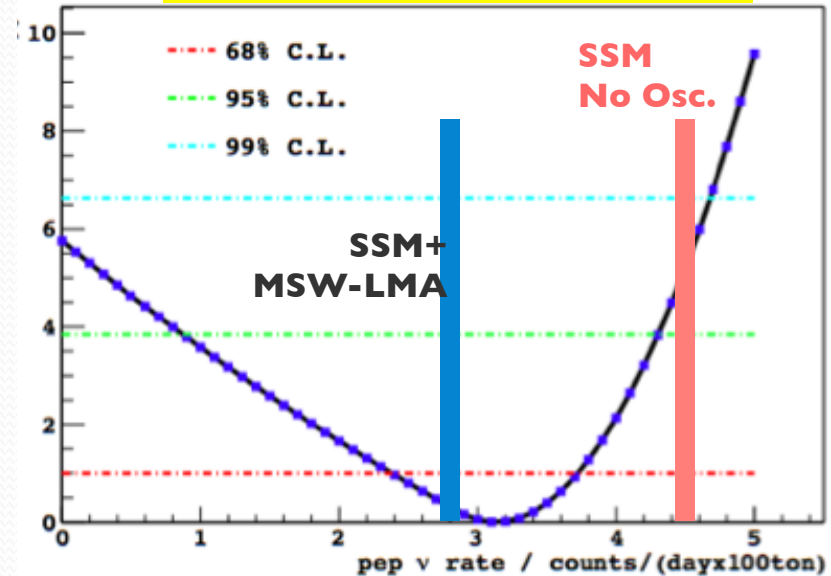
- only limits, correlation with  $^{210}\text{Bi}$ ;
- CNO limit obtained assuming pep @ SSM

**CNO rate  $< 7.1$  cpd/100 t (95% c.l.)**

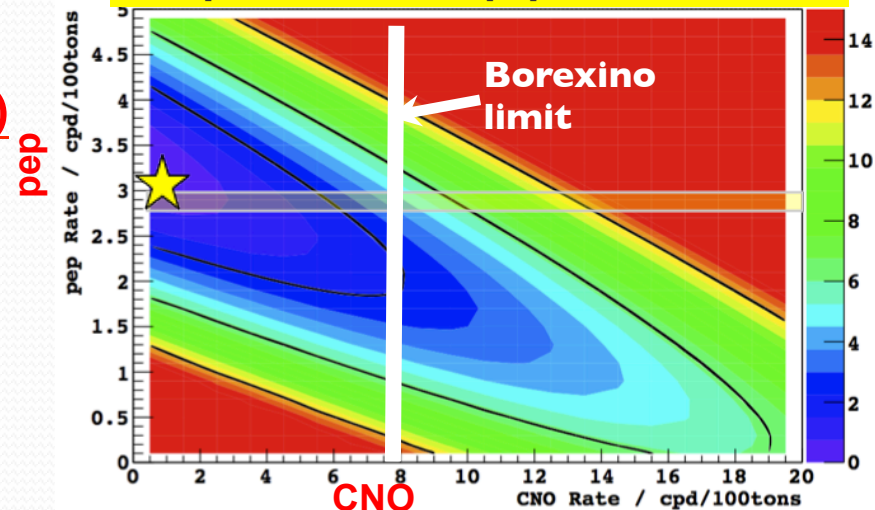
- Assuming MSW-LMA:  
 $\Phi_{\text{CNO}} < 7.7 \cdot 10^8 \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$  (95% C.L.)  
 Data/SSM (high metallicity):  $< 1.5$

**the strongest limit to date**  
**not sufficient to resolve metallicity problem**

$\Delta \chi^2$  profile for pep  $\nu$  rate



$\Delta \chi^2$  profile for fixed pep and CNO rates



# $^8\text{B}$ neutrino rate with 3 MeV energy threshold

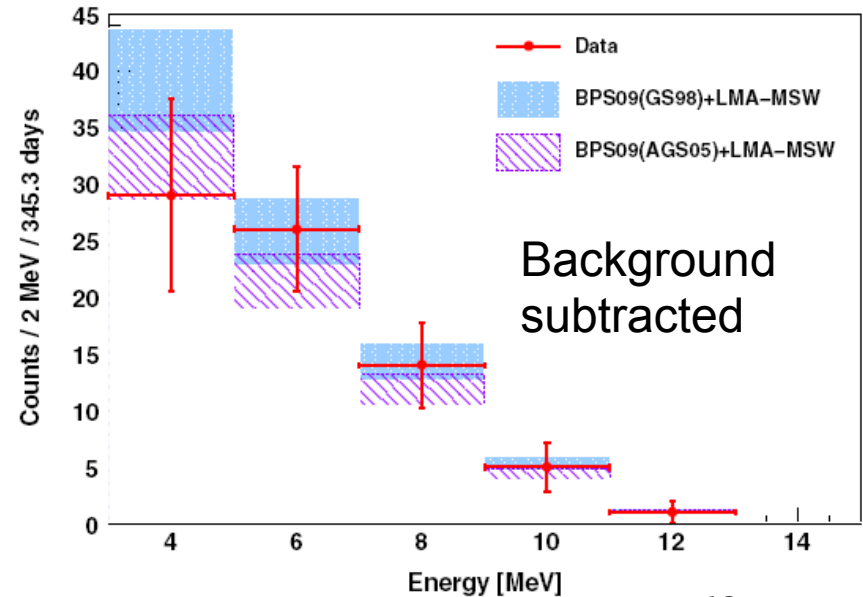
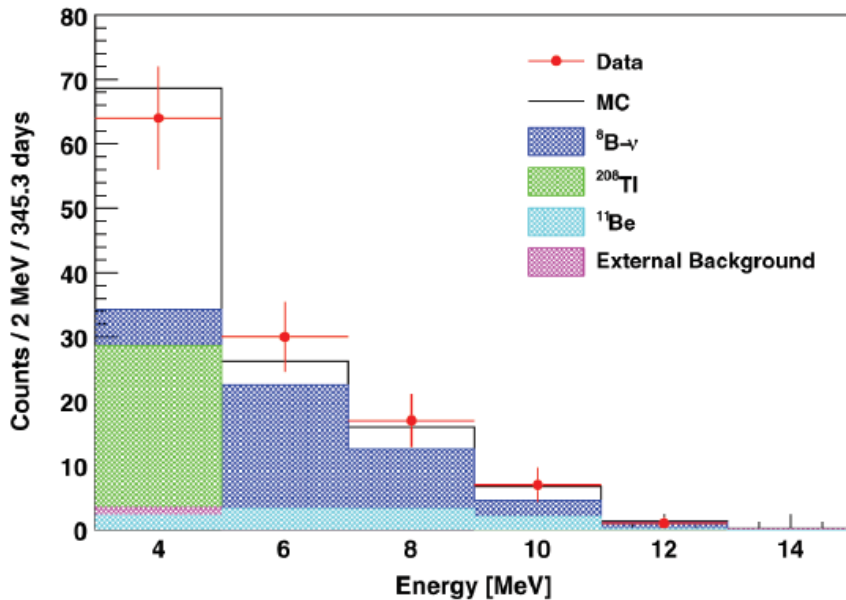
Phys. Rev. D 82 (2010) 033006 ... to recall

lower energies limited by  $^{208}\text{Tl}$

	3.0–16.3 MeV	5.0–16.3 MeV
Rate [cpd/100 t]	$0.22 \pm 0.04 \pm 0.01$	$0.13 \pm 0.02 \pm 0.01$
$\Phi_{\text{exp}}^{\text{ES}}$ [ $10^6 \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$ ]	$2.4 \pm 0.4 \pm 0.1$	$2.7 \pm 0.4 \pm 0.2$
$\Phi_{\text{exp}}^{\text{ES}}/\Phi_{\text{th}}^{\text{ES}}$	$0.88 \pm 0.19$	$1.08 \pm 0.23$

TABLE VI. Results on  $^8\text{B}$  solar neutrino flux from elastic scattering, normalized under the assumption of the no-oscillation scenario reported by SuperKamiokaNDE, SNO, and Borexino.

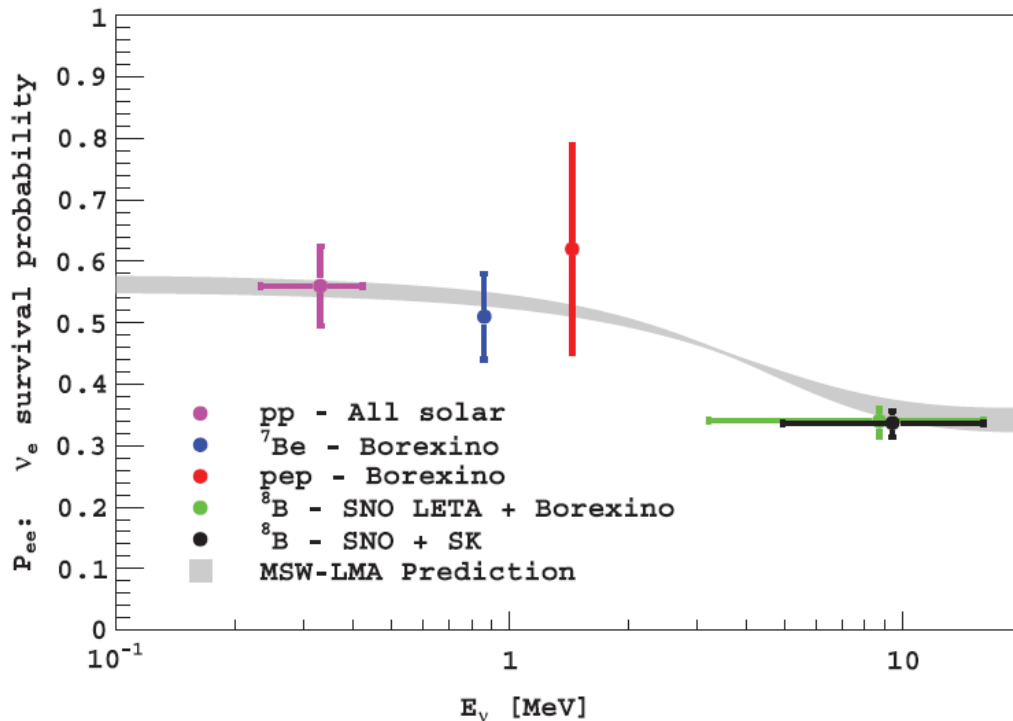
	Threshold [MeV]	$\Phi_{\text{B}}^{\text{ES}}$ [ $10^6 \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$ ]
SuperKamiokaNDE I [3]	5.0	$2.35 \pm 0.02 \pm 0.08$
SuperKamiokaNDE II [2]	7.0	$2.38 \pm 0.05^{+0.16}_{-0.15}$
SNO D <sub>2</sub> O [4]	5.0	$2.39^{+0.24}_{-0.23} \text{ }^{+0.12}_{-0.12}$
SNO Salt Phase [25]	5.5	$2.35 \pm 0.22 \pm 0.15$
SNO Prop. Counter [26]	6.0	$1.77^{+0.24}_{-0.21} \text{ }^{+0.09}_{-0.10}$
Borexino	3.0	$2.4 \pm 0.4 \pm 0.1$
Borexino	5.0	$2.7 \pm 0.4 \pm 0.2$



# Implications of Borexino solar neutrino measurements

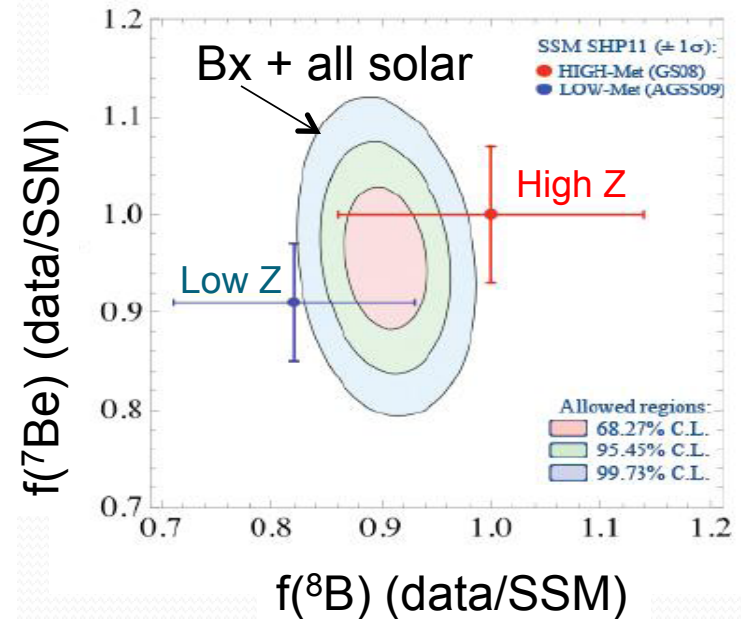
$P_{ee}$  after Borexino I

MSW-LMA gets constrained.....



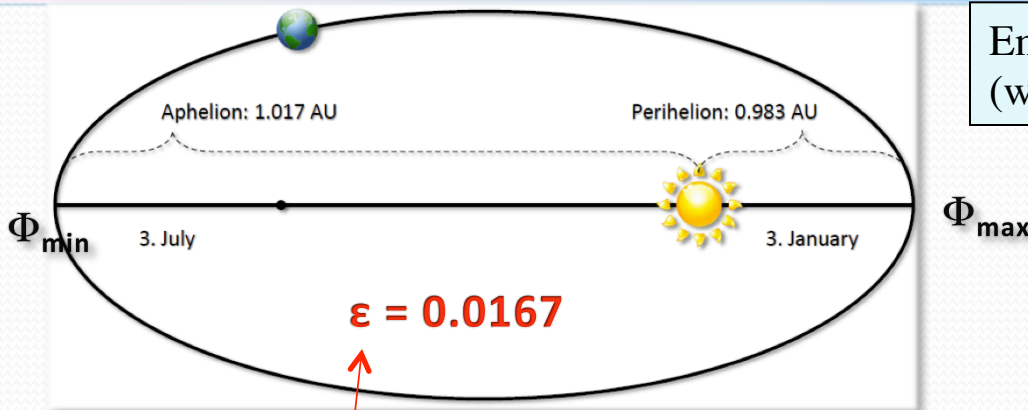
Final results of Borexino Phase-I on low-energy solar neutrino spectroscopy  
 arXiv:1308.0443

And about the Sun?



no power to resolve low/high metallicity problem

# Latest solar- $\nu$ result: annual modulation of the ${}^7\text{Be}$ - $\nu$ signal



$$\Phi(t) = \Phi_0 \left( 1 + 2\epsilon \cos\left(\frac{2\pi t}{T} - \phi\right) \right) \quad \Phi_{\max} - \Phi_{\min} = 6.8\%$$

$$T = 1 \text{ year}$$

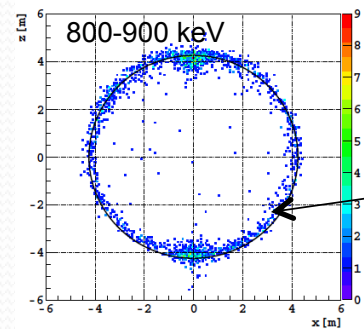
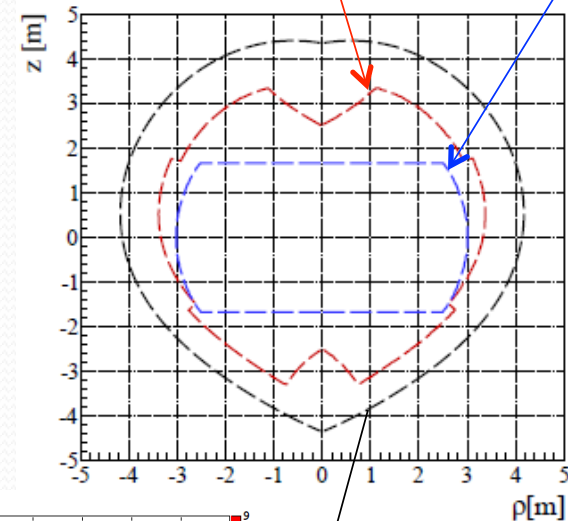
Mean flux measured by Borexino:  $46 \pm 1.5^{+1.5}_{-1.5}$  cpd/100 ton

**Spectral fit in sub-periods: too large stat. errors!**

**Rate analysis:**

Select a proper energy region (optimize signal/bgr), group data in time bins and search for a periodical component;

Enlarged, dynamic FV (**mean = 141.83 ton**)  
(with respect to the  ${}^7\text{Be}$  flux measur. (45.47 ton))



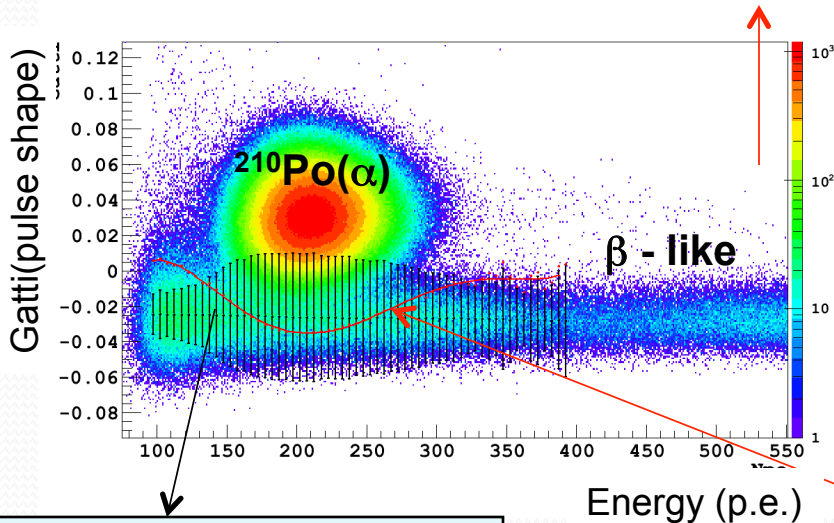
Reconstructed vessel shape  
= f (time, 1 week bin)

Based on  ${}^{210}\text{Bi}$  on the vessel

# Latest solar-ν result: annual modulation of the ${}^7\text{Be}$ -ν signal

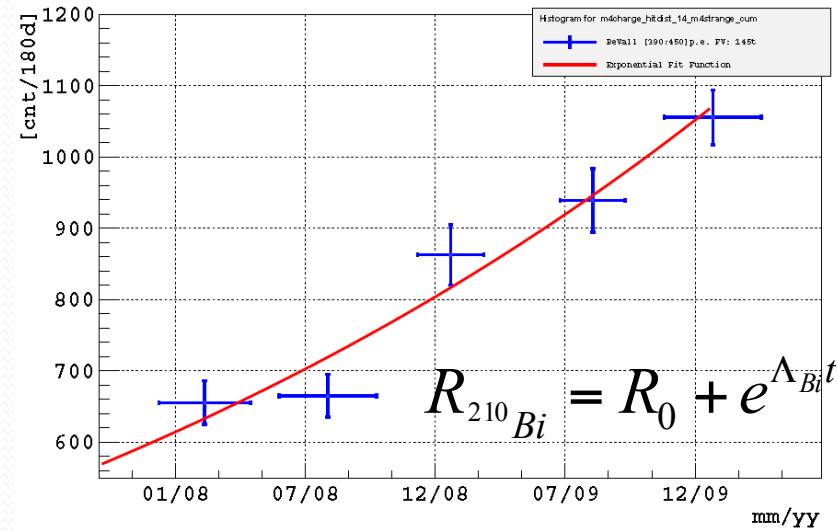
Problem:  ${}^{210}\text{Bi}$  contamination not stable in time;

Good: DETECTOR RESPONSE very stable!  
(energy, position reco, pulse shape ident.)



mean  $\beta$ -Gatti with 99.9% interval

Counts in an energy region dominated by  ${}^{210}\text{Bi}$  as a function of time



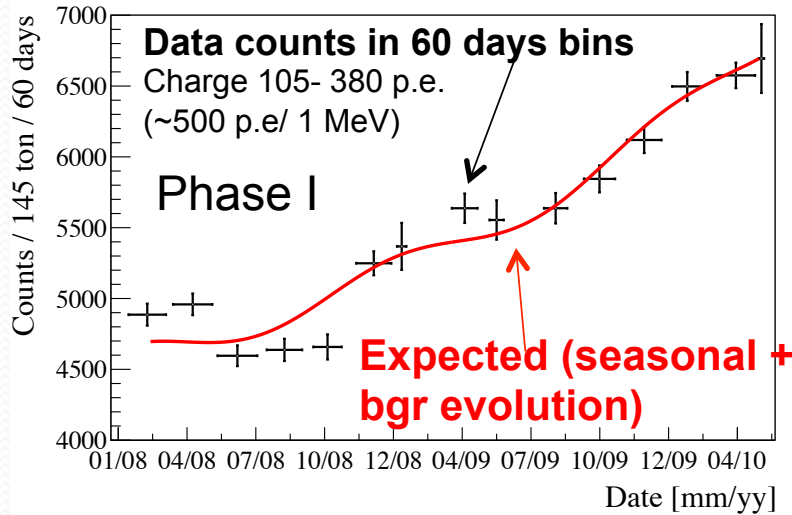
- ${}^{210}\text{Po}$  rate is also time dependent;
- Hard Gatti (pulse shape cut):  
removal of the events above the red line

# Annual modulation of the ${}^7\text{Be}$ - $\nu$ signal: Results

arXiv:1308.0443

## 3 analysis methods (consistent results)

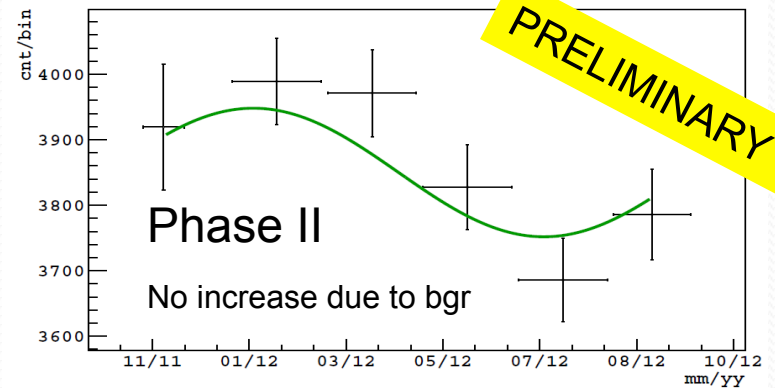
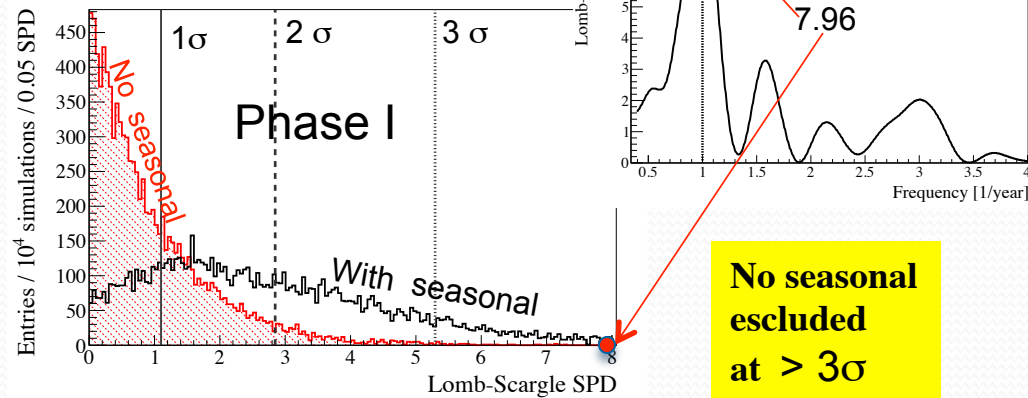
- Fit of the rate vs time;
- Lomb Scargle analysis;
- Empirical Mode Decomposition;



Within  $2\sigma$  from expected values

$$R = R_0 + e^{\Lambda_{Bi}t} + \bar{R} \left[ 1 + 2\varepsilon \cos\left(\frac{2\pi}{T} - \varphi\right) \right]$$

Monte Carlo distribution of the Spectral Power Density (SPD) With reak S/BGR ratio





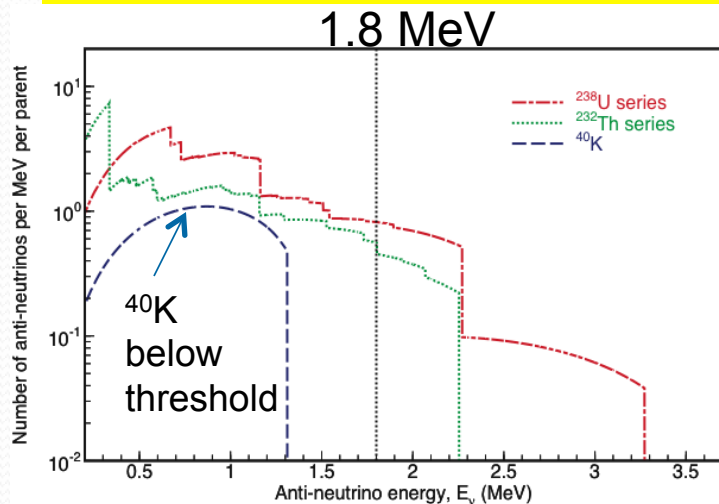
# Geoneutrinos

antineutrinos from the decay of  $^{238}\text{U}$ ,  $^{232}\text{Th}$ ,  $^{40}\text{K}$  in the Earth

Abundance of radioactive elements fixes the amount of radiogenic heat (nuclear physics);  
 Mass and distribution of radiogenic elements  $\rightarrow$  geoneutrino flux (cca  $10^6 \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$ );  
 From measured geoneutrino flux to radiogenic heat....

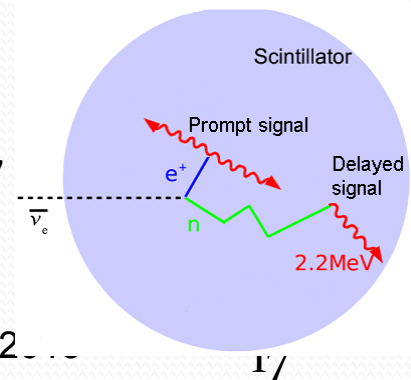
**Main goal:** determine the contribution of the **radiogenic heat to the total surface heat flux**, which is an important margin, test, and input at the same time for many geophysical and geochemical models of the Earth;

**Further goals:** tests and discrimination among geological models, study of the mantle homogeneity, insights to the processes of Earth's formation.....



$E_\nu > 1.8 \text{ MeV}$

- “prompt signal”  
 $e^+$ : energy loss + annihilation
- “delayed signal”  
 $n$  capture after thermalization  $2.2 \gamma$



# Geoneutrinos in Borexino

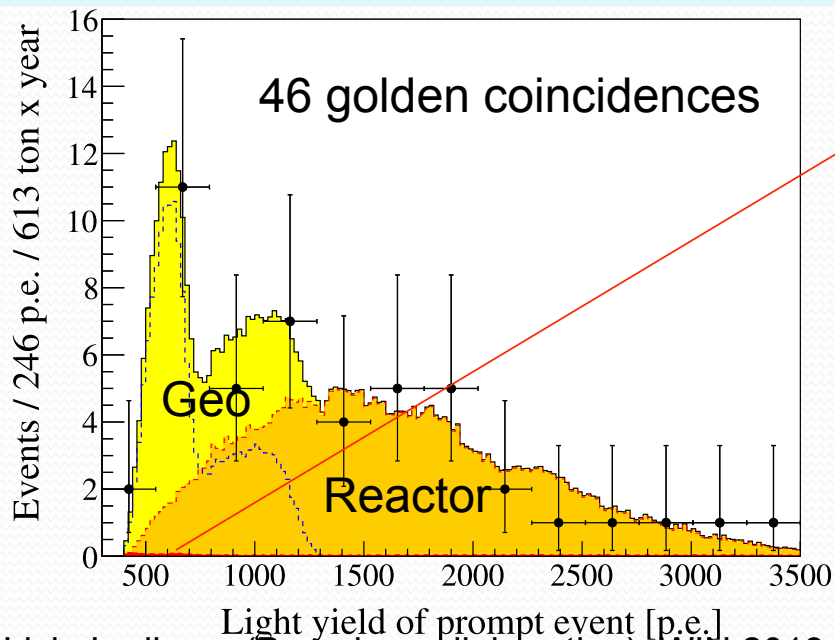
Previous result: G. Bellini et al. Phys. Lett. B 687 (2010) 299 with 252.6 ton-year exposure after cuts;

**New result:** G. Bellini et al. Phys. Lett. B 722 (2013) 295 with  $(613 \pm 26)$  ton-year after cuts ;

**Event selection** (MC defined efficiency:  $0.84 \pm 0.01$ ):

- $Q_{\text{prompt}} > 480$  p.e.,  $Q_{\text{delayed}}$  (860,1300),  $\Delta R$  (prompt-delayed)  $< 1$  m,  $\Delta t$  (prompt-delayed) (20 – 1280  $\mu$ s),  $G_{\text{atti}_{\text{delayed}}} < 0.015$  (must be “ $\beta$ -like”)

▪ **Large Fiducial Volume:** distance from the vessel  $> 25$  cm



Background not due to reactors is very small

Background source	Events
${}^9\text{Li}$ - ${}^8\text{He}$	$0.25 \pm 0.18$
Fast $n$ 's ( $\mu$ 's in WT)	$< 0.007$
Fast $n$ 's ( $\mu$ 's in rock)	$< 0.28$
Untagged muons	$0.080 \pm 0.007$
Accidental coincidences	$0.206 \pm 0.004$
Time corr. background	$0.005 \pm 0.012$
( $\gamma, n$ )	$< 0.04$
Spontaneous fission in PMTs	$0.022 \pm 0.002$
( $\alpha, n$ ) in scintillator	$0.13 \pm 0.01$
( $\alpha, n$ ) in the buffer	$< 0.43$
<b>Total</b>	<b><math>0.70 \pm 0.18</math></b>

# Geoneutrinos in Borexino: fit results

- Unbinned maximal likelihood fit with unconstrained geo and reactor component;
- $N_{\text{reactor}} = 31.2_{-6.1}^{+7}$  in agreement with expectation of  $33.3 \pm 2.4$  events after oscillations;

Fixed Th/U mass ratio to chondritic value of 3.9:

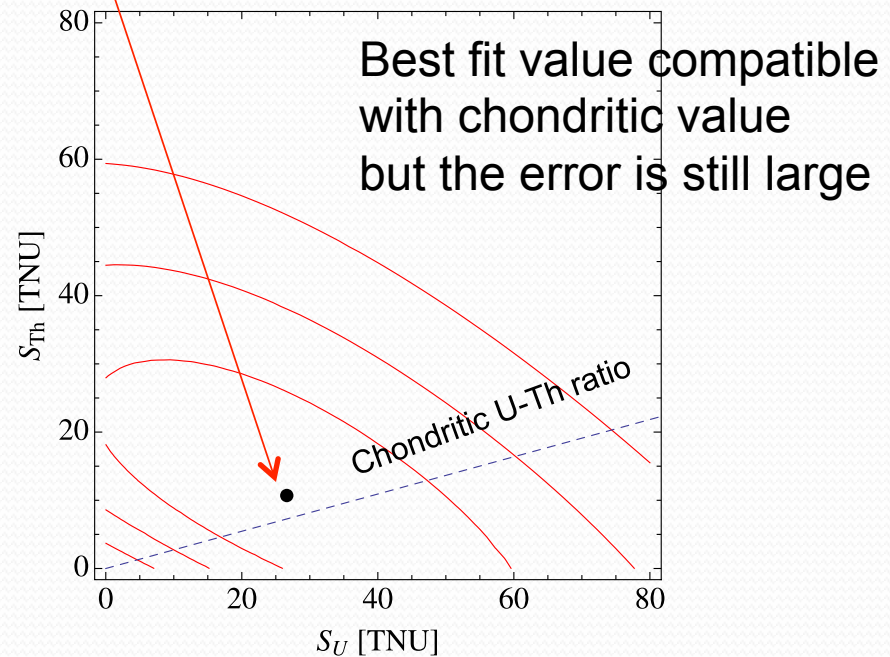
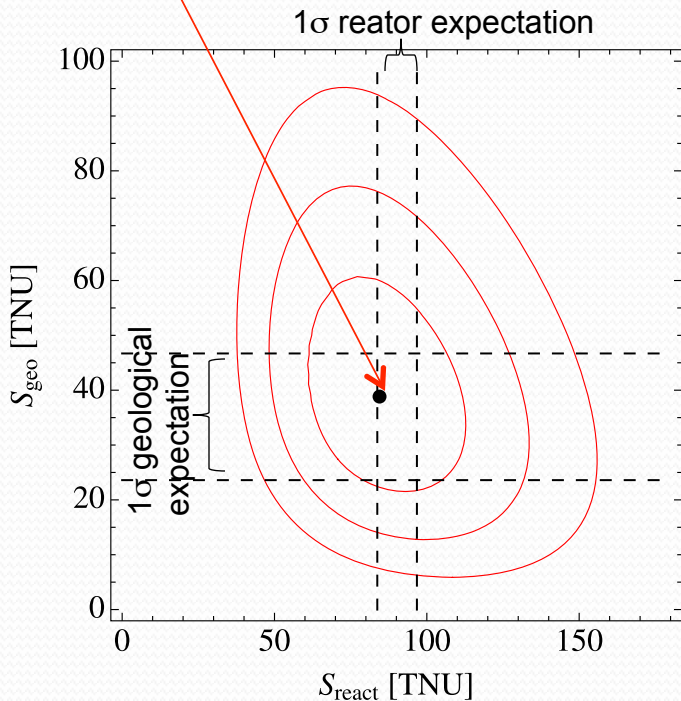
$$N_{\text{geo}} = 14.3 \pm 4.4 \text{ events}$$

$$S_{\text{geo}} = 38.8 \pm 12.0 \text{ TNU}$$

Th/U ratio free in the fit:

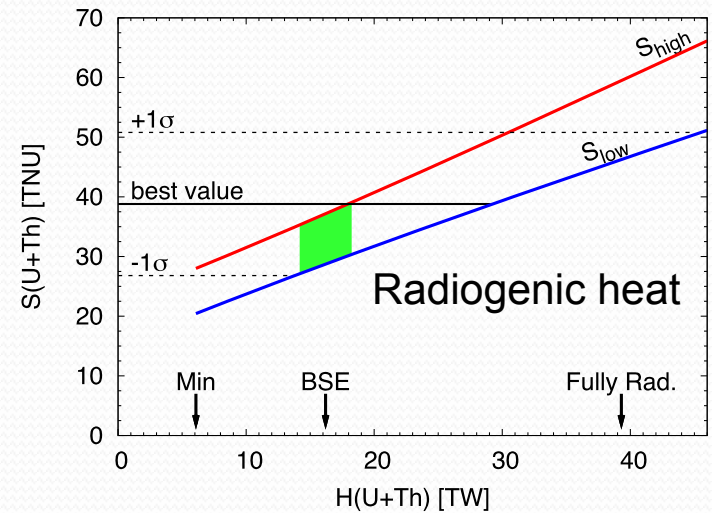
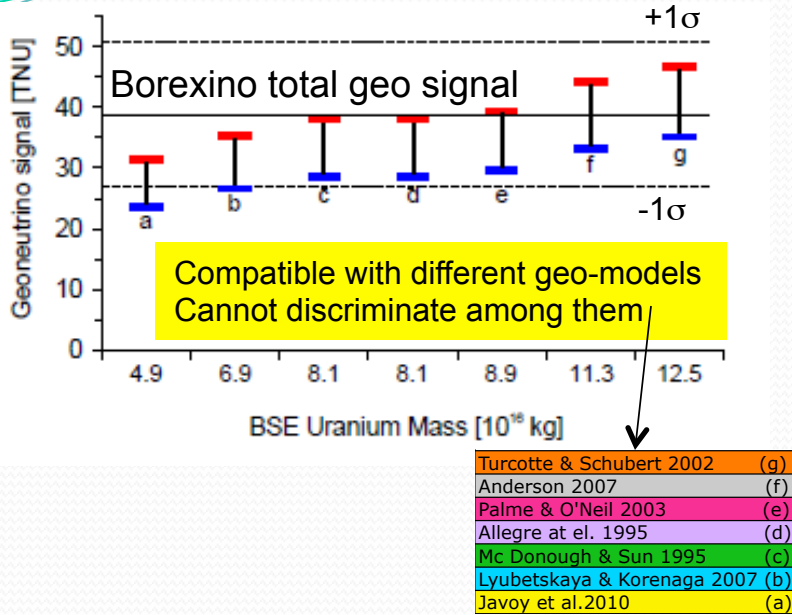
$$S(^{238}\text{U}) = 26.5 \pm 19.5 \text{ TNU}$$

$$S(^{232}\text{Th}) = 10.6 \pm 12.7 \text{ TNU}$$



Best fit value compatible with chondritic value but the error is still large

# Geoneutrinos in Borexino: implications



## Mantle signal

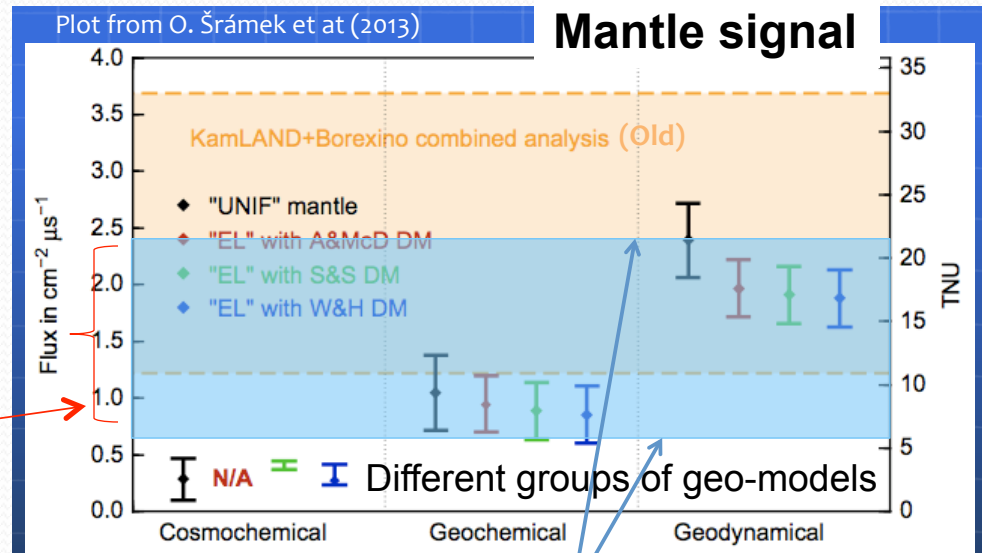
= measured total – expected crustal (relatively well known)

Borex only:  $15.4 \pm 12.3$  TNU

Assuming homogeneous mantle:

Borex + KamLAND Nature Geoscience 4 (2011) 574

**$14.1 \pm 8.1$  TNU**



# Borexino Phase II

## Radiopurity after the purification of the scintillator:

- 1) Krypton: strongly reduced: consistent with zero cpd/100t from spectral fit
- 2)  $^{210}\text{Bi}$ : from  $\sim 70$  cpd/100 tons to 20 cpd/100tons);
- 3)  $^{238}\text{U}$  (from  $^{214}\text{Bi}$  -  $^{214}\text{Po}$  tagging)  $< 9.7 \cdot 10^{-19}$  g/g at 95% C.L.
- 4)  $^{232}\text{Th}$ :  $< 1.2 \cdot 10^{-18}$  g/g at 95% C.L. (2 events in  $\sim 600$  days)
- 5)  $^{210}\text{Po}$  decaying (200 cpd/100 tons in May 2013)
- 6) Radon:  $(5.4 \pm 1.1) \cdot 10^{-19}$  g/g
- 7) Under study: estimation of the  $^{210}\text{Bi}$  content from  $^{210}\text{Po}$  evolution in time;

## Physics goals of PHASE 2

- Improve limit on CNO (observation?); ( $^{210}\text{Bi}$  suppression required);
- Improve significance of pep signal ( $3\sigma$  or more),  $^{210}\text{Bi}$  suppression required;
- Search for pp neutrinos ( $^{85}\text{Kr}$  suppression helps);
- Improve precision on  $^7\text{Be}$  neutrinos ( $^{210}\text{Bi}$  and  $^{85}\text{Kr}$  suppression required);
- Collect statistics for geo-neutrino studies;



XXIV Workshop on Weak Interactions and Neutrinos

# WIN 2013

Sep. 16 to 21, 2013 Natal, Brazil



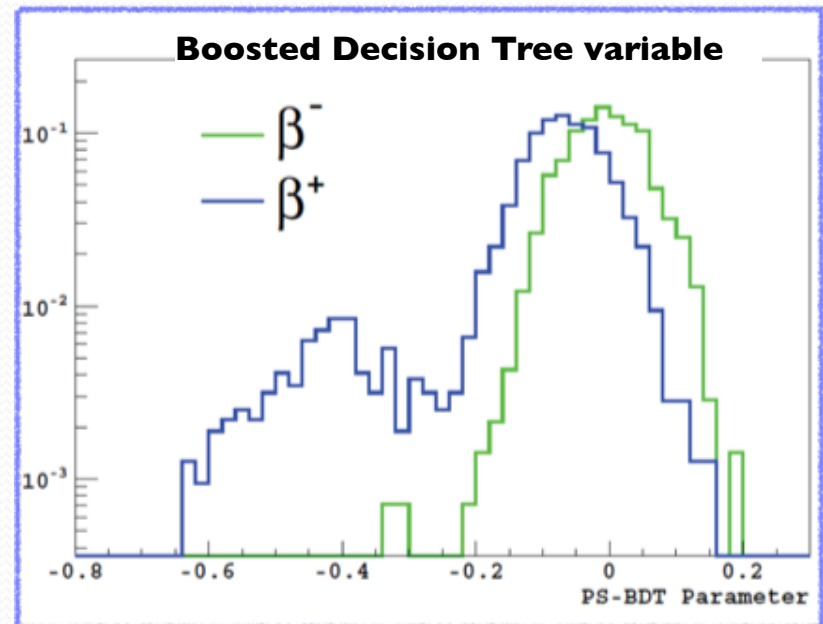
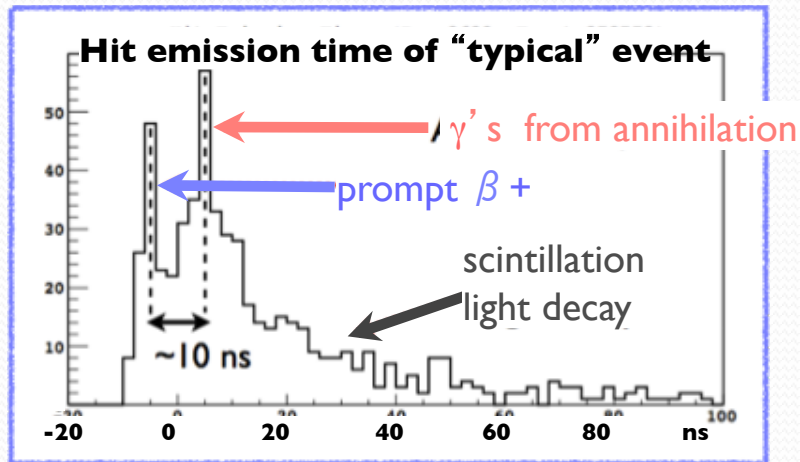
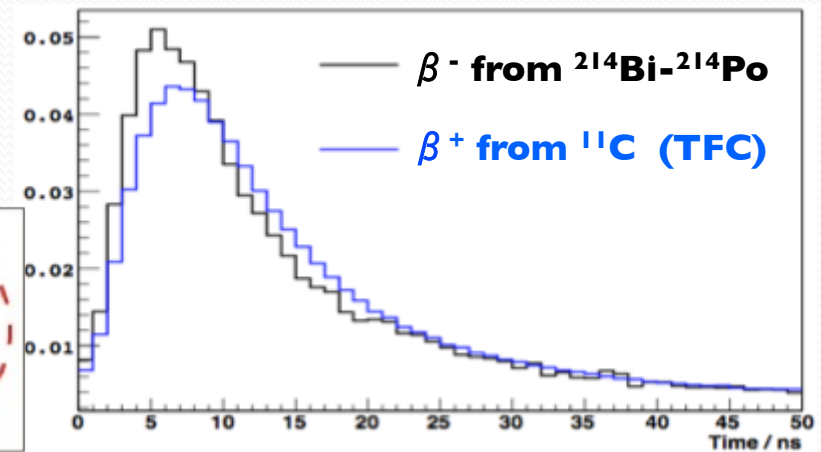
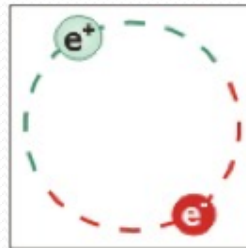
**Thank you!**



# Backup

# $\beta^+$ - $\beta^-$ discrimination

- Positrons form **ortho-positronium** in  $\sim 50\%$  of cases (in PC)
  - Scintillation signal **delayed** by  $\sim 3$  ns
  - **Pulse shape is different**
  - Parameters measured in a dedicated experiment



- A Pulse Shape discriminating variable was developed, based on a **Boosted Decision Tree (BDT)**



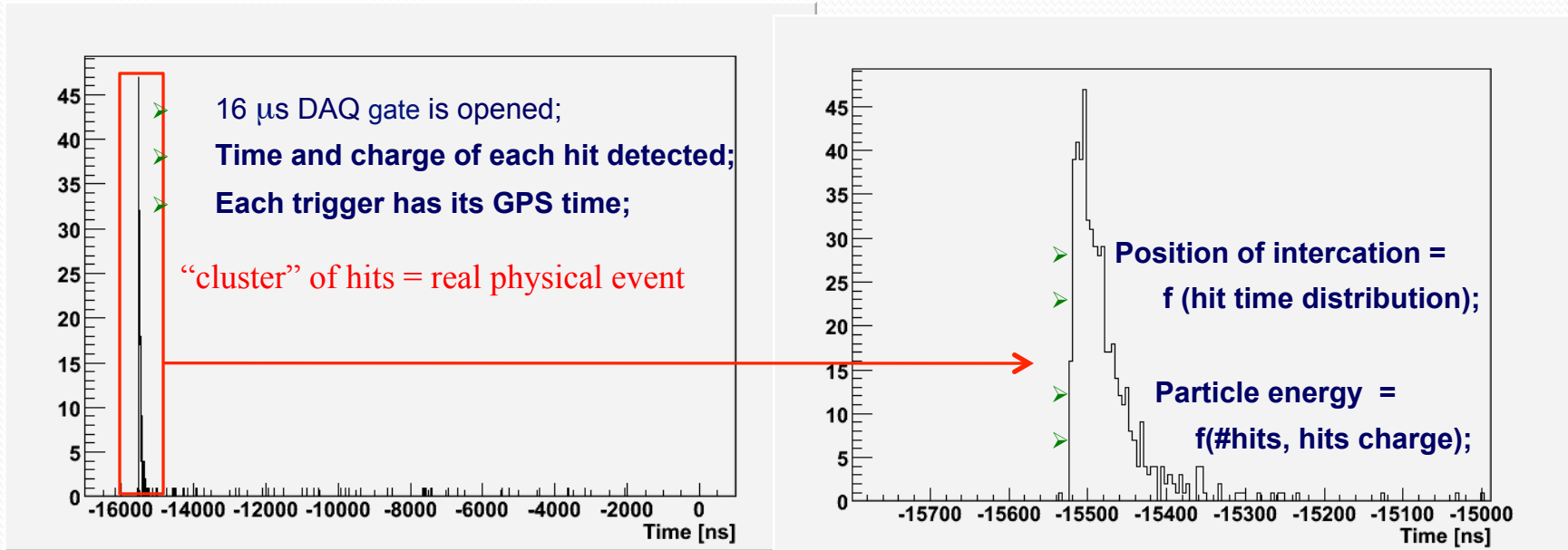
# The internal background in Borexino i

- Careful selection of the construction materials and operational procedures;
- Special procedures for fluid procurement;
- Scintillator and buffer purification during the filling;
- Sparging with high purity N<sub>2</sub>;
- More than 15 years of work... **Extreme radiopurity is a must!!!**

Background	Typical abundance (source)	Goal	Measured
<sup>14</sup> C/ <sup>12</sup> C	10 <sup>-12</sup> (cosmogenic) g/g	10 <sup>-18</sup> g/g	~2 x 10 <sup>-18</sup> g/g
<sup>238</sup> U (by <sup>214</sup> Bi- <sup>214</sup> Po)	2 x 10 <sup>-5</sup> (dust) g/g	10 <sup>-16</sup> g/g	(1.6 ± 0.1) x 10 <sup>-17</sup> g/g
<sup>232</sup> Th (by <sup>212</sup> Bi- <sup>212</sup> Po)	2 x 10 <sup>-5</sup> (dust) g/g	10 <sup>-16</sup> g/g	(5 ± 1) x 10 <sup>-18</sup> g/g
<sup>222</sup> Rn (by <sup>214</sup> Bi- <sup>214</sup> Po)	100 atoms/cm <sup>3</sup> (air) emanation from materials	10 <sup>-16</sup> g/g	~ 10 <sup>-17</sup> g/g (~1 count /day/100t)
<sup>210</sup> Po	Surface contamination	~1 c/day/t	May 2007: 70 c/d/t Sep 2008: 7 c/d/t
<sup>40</sup> K	2 x 10 <sup>-6</sup> (dust) g/g	~10 <sup>-18</sup> g/g	< 3 x 10 <sup>-18</sup> (90%) g/g
<sup>85</sup> Kr	1 Bq/m <sup>3</sup> (air)	~1 c/d/100t	(28 ± 7) c/d/100t (fast coinc.)
<sup>39</sup> Ar	17 mBq/m <sup>3</sup> (air)	~1 c/d/100t	<< <sup>85</sup> Kr 25

# Data structure and detector performance

- Charged particles and  $\gamma$  produce scintillation light: photons hit inner PMTs;
- DAQ trigger: > 25 inner PMTs (from 2212) are hit within 60-95 ns:



- Outer detector gives a muon veto if at least 6 outer PMTs (from 208) fire;

**Light yield: (500  $\pm$  12) p.e./MeV**

taking into account quenching factor

**Spatial resolution:** 35 cm @ 200 keV  
 (scaling as  $N_{p.e.}^{-1/2}$ ) 16 cm @ 500 keV

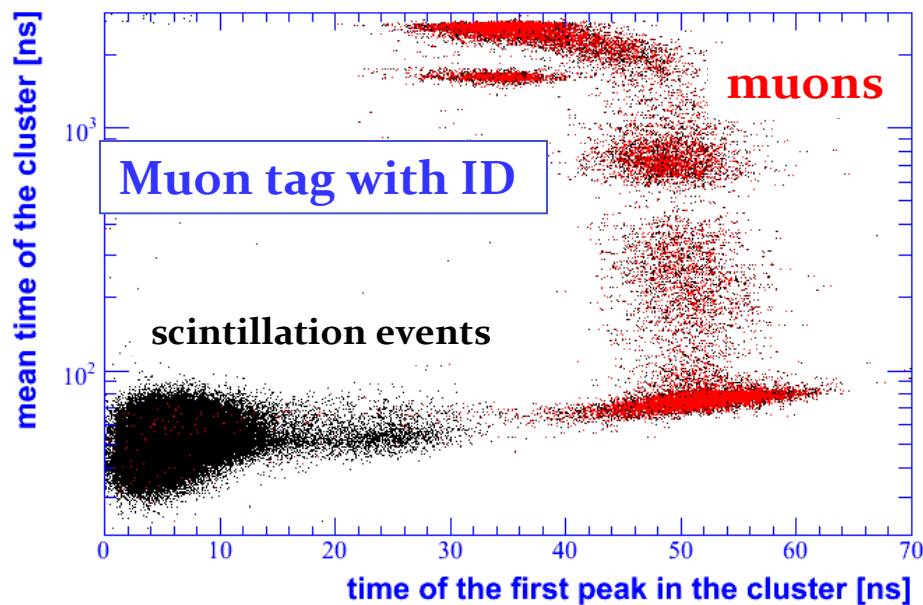
**Energy resolution (s):** 10% @ 200 keV

8% @ 400 keV

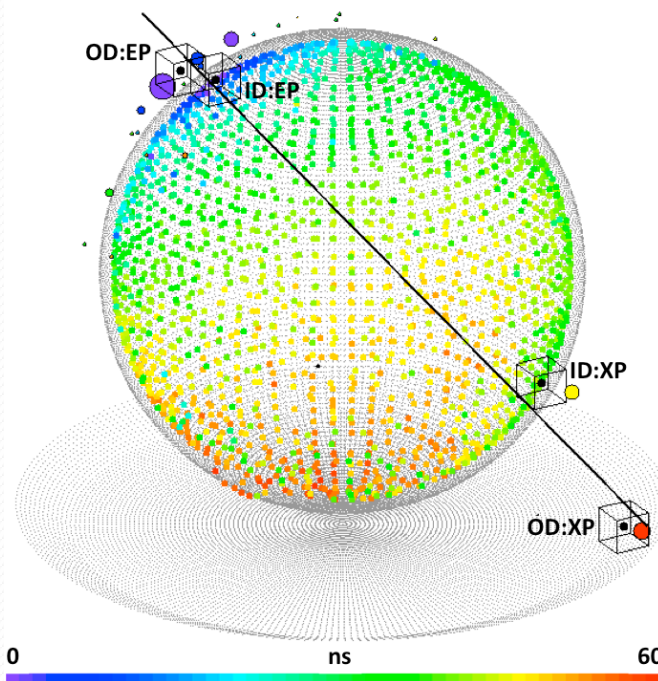
6% @ 1000 keV

# Muon and neutron detection

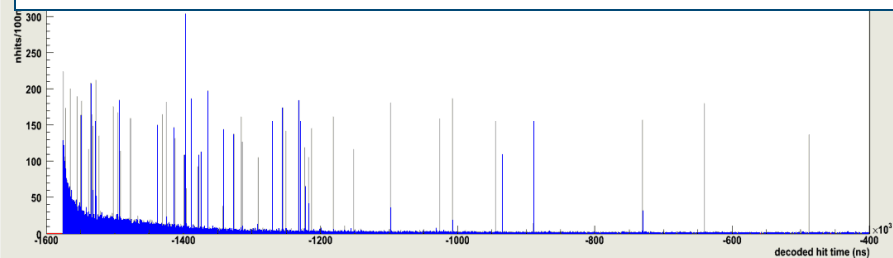
- $\mu$  are identified by the OD and by the ID
  - OD eff: > 99.28%
  - ID analysis based on pulse shape variables
    - Cluster mean time, peak position in time
  - **Combined overall efficiency > 99.992%**
  - After cuts,  $\mu$  not a relevant background for  ${}^7\text{Be}$ 
    - Residual background: < 1 count /day/ 1 00 t



## Muon track reconstruction



After each  $\mu$ , 1.6 ms gate opened to detect neutrons:  
example with several tens of neutrons.



**NEW: Muon and Cosmogenic Neutron Detection in Borexino.**  
Sent to JINST 2 weeks ago, arXiv:1101.3101

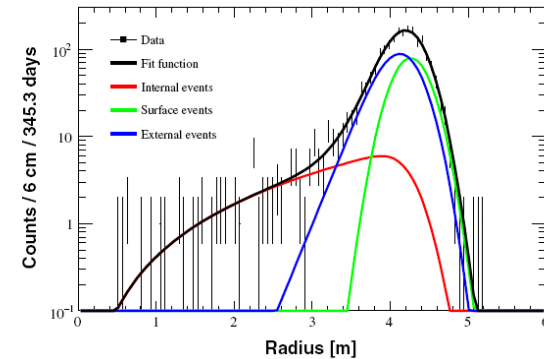
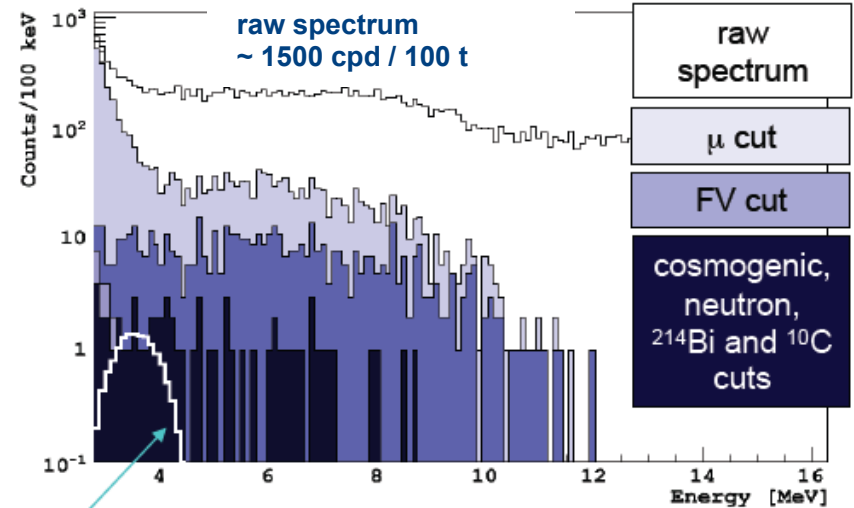
# $^8\text{B}$ analysis details

## External backgrounds (FV CUT):

- High energy  $\gamma$  from neutrons
- $^{214}\text{Bi}$  and  $^{208}\text{Tl}$  from Rn emanated from nylon or detector

## Internal radiocative backgrounds:

- $^{214}\text{Bi}$  ( $^{238}\text{U}$  chain) via  $^{214}\text{Bi}$ - $^{214}\text{Po}$  coincidences;
- $^{208}\text{Tl}$  ( $^{232}\text{Th}$  chain) from bulk: stat. subtr.;



## Cosmogenic background rejection:

- **FAST COSMOGENIC CUT:** 6.5 s dead time after all ID muons to reject fast cosmogenic isotopes; (29.2 % dead time, 4300 muons/day passing ID)
- **NEUTRON REJECTION:** 2 ms after all muons (neutron capture time 256  $\mu\text{s}$ , AmBe source);
- **$^{10}\text{C}$  SUBTRACTION:** 3-fold coincidence with parent muon and neutron;
- **$^{11}\text{Be}$  STATISTICAL SUBTRACTION;**

# Background: $^{232}\text{Th}$ and $^{238}\text{U}$ content

Assuming secular equilibrium:

$^{232}\text{Th}$  chain

$^{238}\text{U}$  chain

$\tau = 432.8 \text{ ns}$



$\tau = 236 \mu\text{s}$

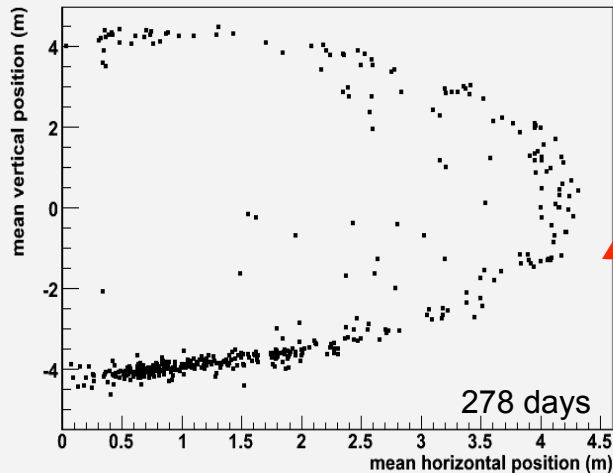


$(6.8 \pm 1.5) \times 10^{-18} \text{ g(Th)/g}$

Bulk contamination

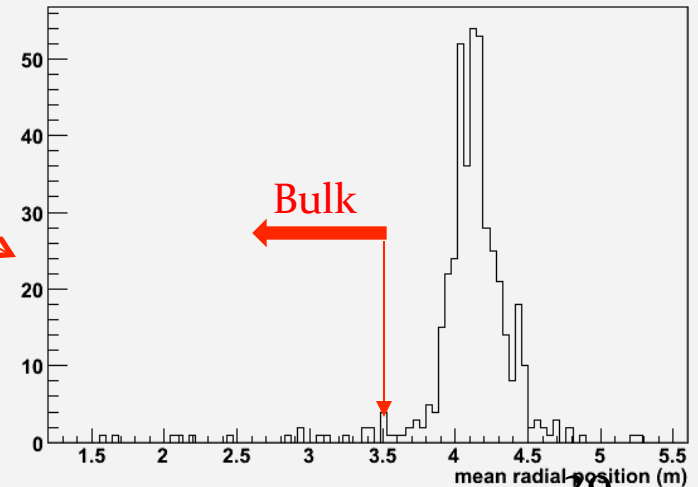
$(1.6 \pm 0.1) \times 10^{-17} \text{ g(U)/g}$

Only few bulk candidates



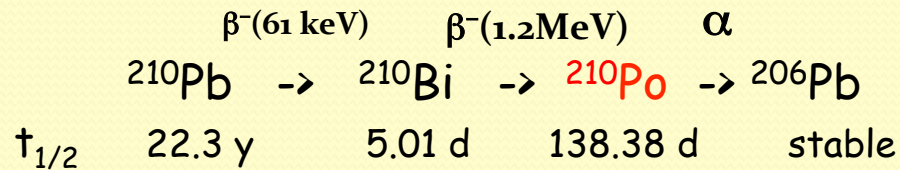
$^{212}\text{Bi}$ - $^{212}\text{Po}$   
centre of mass  
position distribution

IN 2013, Natal, Braz



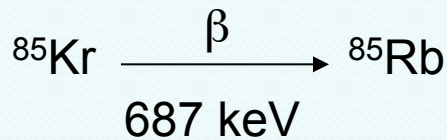
# Background: $^{210}\text{Po}$ and $^{85}\text{Kr}$

$^{210}\text{Po}$ : end of  $^{238}\text{U}$  chain :



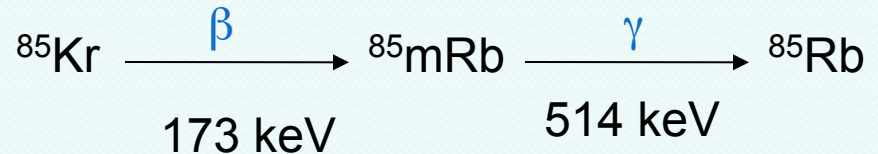
- The bulk  $^{238}\text{U}$  and  $^{232}\text{Th}$  contamination is **negligible**
- The  $^{210}\text{Po}$  background is **NOT related** neither to  $^{238}\text{U}$  nor to  $^{210}\text{Pb}$  contamination
- **May 2007 ~80 counts/day/ton,  $\tau=204.6$  days**
- **$^{210}\text{Bi}$  no direct evidence** ---> free parameter in the total fit, cannot be disentangled, in the  $^7\text{Be}$  energy range, from the CNO

$^{85}\text{Kr}$   $\beta$ -decay energy spectrum similar to the  $^7\text{Be}$  recoil electron



$\tau = 10.76 \text{ y} - \text{BR: } 99.56\%$

$^{85}\text{Kr}$  is studied through :



$\tau = 1.46 \text{ ms} - \text{BR: } 0.43\%$

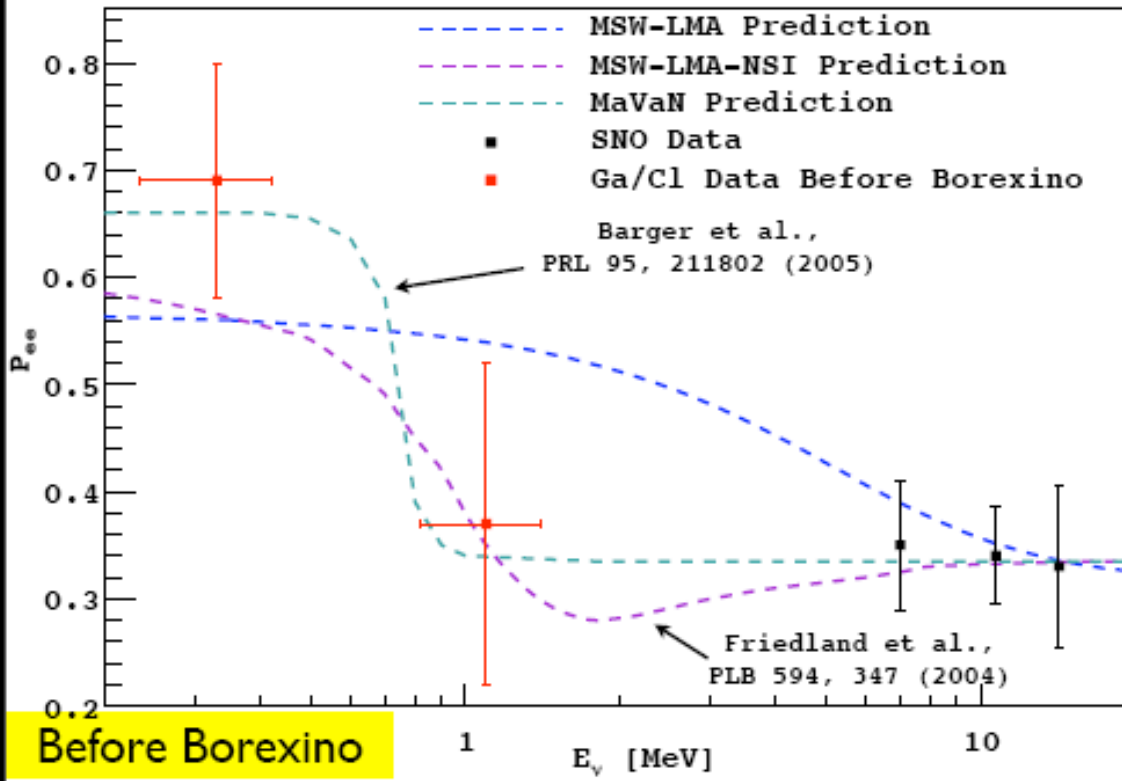


PRELIMINARY: the  $^{85}\text{Kr}$  contamination **(30±5) counts/day/100 ton**

# What can we learn from solar neutrinos (2) ?

Neutrino Physics: precision measurement of solar  $\nu$  fluxes vs survival probability  $P_{ee}$

Solar Neutrino Survival Probability



**Low energy neutrinos:**  
flavor change dominated by vacuum oscillations;

**High energy neutrinos:**  
Resonant oscillations in matter (MSW effect):  
Effective electron neutrino mass is increased due to the charge current interactions with electrons of the Sun

**Transition region:**  
Decrease of the  $\nu_e$  survival probability ( $P_{ee}$ )

Vacuum regime

Matter regime

# Detection principle

# of photons → energy  
time of flight → position  
pulse shape →  $\alpha/\beta$   $\beta^+/\beta^-$

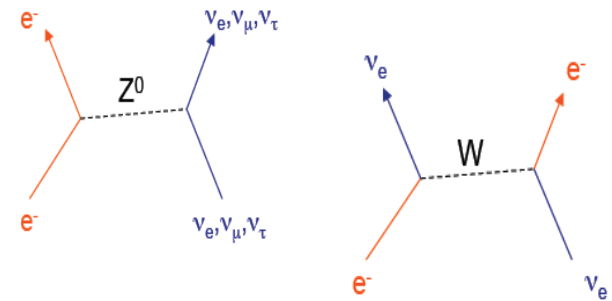
- Neutrino elastic scattering on electrons of liquid scintillator:  $e^- + \nu \rightarrow e^- + \nu$ ;
- Scattered electrons cause the scintillation light production;

## Advantages:

- Low energy threshold ( $\sim 0.2$  MeV);
- High light yield and a good energy resolution;
- Good position reconstruction;

## Drawbacks :

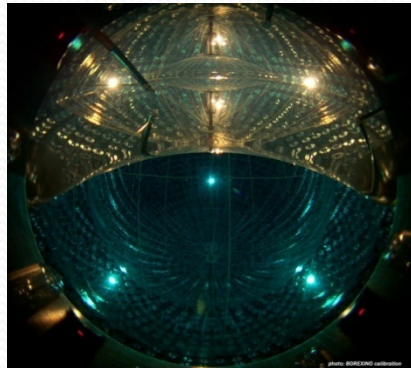
- Info about the  $\nu$  directionality is lost ;
- $\nu$ -induced events can't be distinguished from the events of  $\beta/\gamma$  natural radioactivity;



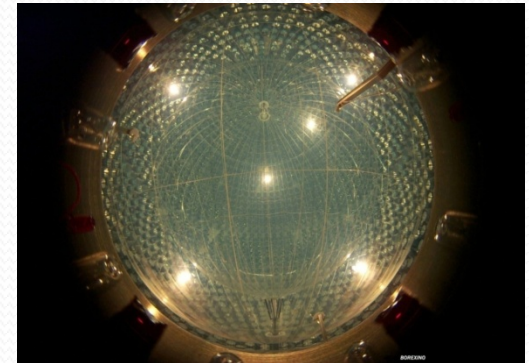
End October 2006



March 2007



May 2007



Livia Ludhova (Borexino collaboration), WIN 2013, Natal, Brazil, 16-21 September 2013



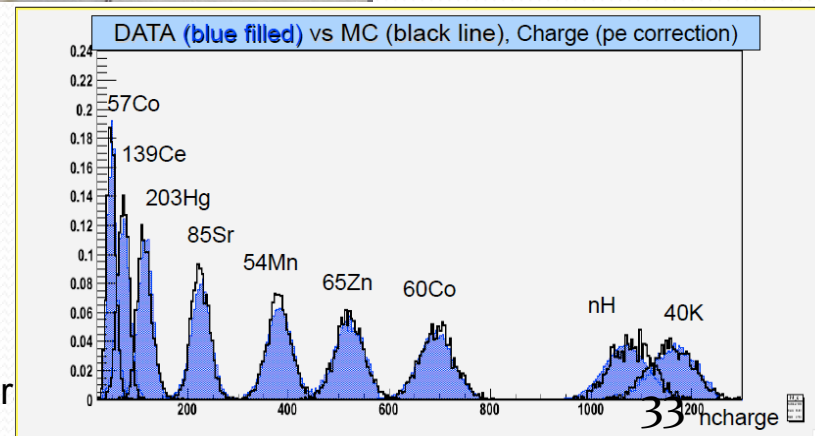
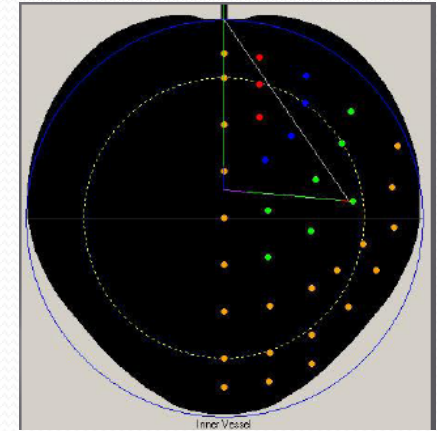
# Calibration with radioactive sources

	$\gamma$								$\beta$		$\alpha$	n (AmBe)		
	$^{57}\text{Co}$	$^{139}\text{Ce}$	$^{203}\text{Hg}$	$^{85}\text{Sr}$	$^{54}\text{Mn}$	$^{65}\text{Zn}$	$^{60}\text{Co}$	$^{40}\text{K}$	$^{14}\text{C}$	$^{214}\text{Bi}$	$^{214}\text{Po}$	n-p	n+ $^{12}\text{C}$	n+Fe
energy (MeV)	0.122	0.165	0.279	0.514	0.834	1.1	1.1, 1.3	1.4	0.15	3.2		2.226	4.94	~7.5

- Absolute source position: LED and CCD cameras ( $\pm 2\text{cm}$ );
- cca. 300 points through the whole scintillator volume;

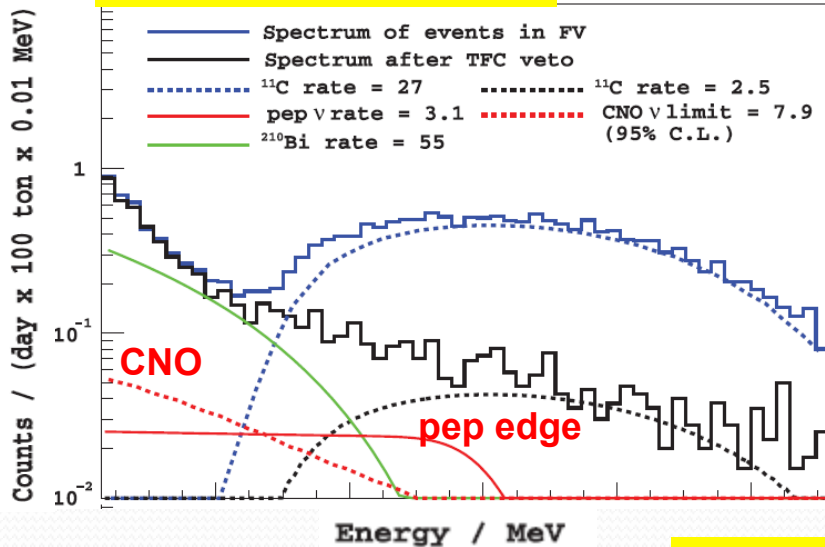
- **Detector response as a function of position;**
- **Fiducial volume definition and tuning of the spatial reconstruction algorithm;**
- **Energy scale definition**  
precise calibration in the 0-7 MeV range.
- **Tuning of the full Monte Carlo simulation**

**SYSTEMATIC ERROR REDUCTION  
For ALL SOLAR NEUTRINO RESULTS**

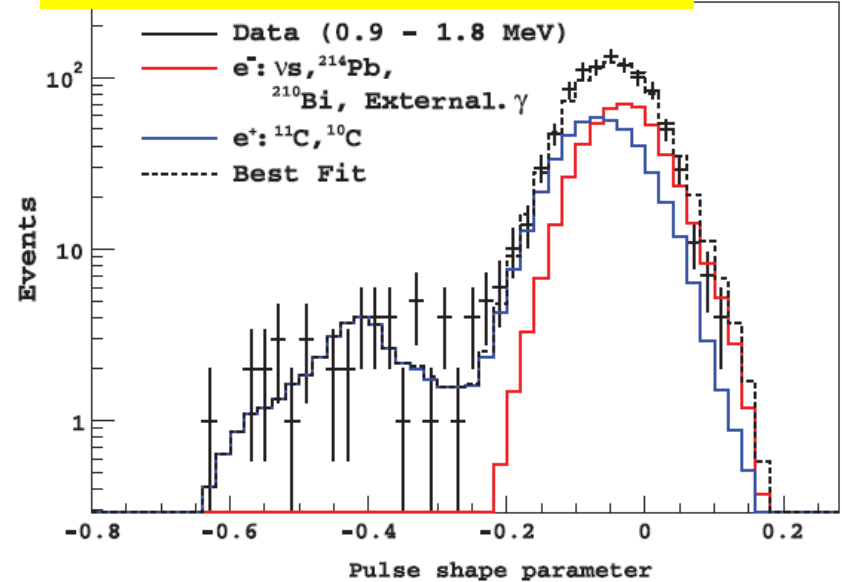


# Multivariate maximum likelihood fit

## Energy spectral fit



## Pulse shape variable



## Radial fit

