LABORATORI NAZIONALI DEL GRAN SASSO

SEMINAR ANNOUNCEMENT

Stefano Davini (Genova University)
Alvaro Chavarria (Princeton University)

"First evidence of pep solar neutrinos by direct detection in Borexino 1"

We have measured the rate of pep solar neutrino interactions in Borexino to be 3.13 ± 0.55 (stat) ± 0.23 (syst) counts/(day·100 ton) and constrained the CNO solar neutrino interaction rate to < 7.6 counts/(day·100 ton) (95% C.L.). This has been possible adopting novel data analysis techniques for the rejection of the dominating background in the 1–2MeV region, cosmogenic 11C. Assuming the MSW-LMA solution to solar neutrino oscillations, these values correspond to solar neutrino fluxes of (1.6 \pm 0.3) \times 108 cm–2s–1 and < 7.4 \times 108 cm–2s–1 (95% C.L.), respectively, in agreement with the Standard Solar Model. These results represent the first measurement of the pep neutrino flux and the strongest constraint of the CNO solar neutrino flux to date.