Phenomenology of Light Sterile Neutrinos Carlo Giunti

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> NIAPP 2014 Neutrinos in Astro and Particle Physics MIAPP, Munich, Germany 15 July 2014

Sterile Neutrinos

- ► I consider sterile neutrinos with mass scale ~ 1 eV in light of short-baseline Reactor Anomaly, Gallium Anomaly, LSND.
- Other possibilities (not incompatible):
 - Very light sterile neutrinos with mass scale <
 1 eV: important for solar neutrino phenomenology
 [Das, Pulido, Picariello, PRD 79 (2009) 073010]

[de Holanda, Smirnov, PRD 83 (2011) 113011]

 \blacktriangleright Heavy sterile neutrinos with mass scale $\gg 1\,{\rm eV}:$ could be Warm Dark Matter

[Kusenko, Phys. Rept. 481 (2009) 1]

[Boyarsky, Ruchayskiy, Shaposhnikov, Ann. Rev. Nucl. Part. Sci. 59 (2009) 191] [Drewes, IJMPE, 22 (2013) 1330019]

LSND

[PRL 75 (1995) 2650; PRC 54 (1996) 2685; PRL 77 (1996) 3082; PRD 64 (2001) 112007]

 $ar{
u}_{\mu}
ightarrow ar{
u}_{e}$ $L \simeq 30 \, {
m m}$

 $1 mtext{20 MeV} \le E \le 200 ext{ MeV}$



MiniBooNE

 $L \simeq 541 \,\mathrm{m}$ 200 MeV $\leq E \lesssim 3 \,\mathrm{GeV}$



- Purpose: check LSND signal.
- ▶ Different *L* and *E*.
- ▶ Similar *L*/*E* (oscillations).
- LSND signal: E > 475 MeV.

- Agreement with LSND signal?
- CP violation?
- Low-energy anomaly!

Reactor Electron Antineutrino Anomaly

Reactor Rates Average Rate 2 Bugev3-15 - Gosgen-45 Bugey3-40 - Gosgen-65 [Mention et al, PRD 83 (2011) 073006] Bugey3-95 → ILL-9 Bugey4-15 - Krasno-33 [update in White Paper, arXiv:1204.5379] ROVNO-18 - Krasno-92 Ξ Gosgen-38 - Krasno-57 $R = N_{exp}/N_{no osc.}$ new reactor $\bar{\nu}_{e}$ fluxes 1.0 [Mueller et al, PRC 83 (2011) 054615] [Huber, PRC 84 (2011) 024617] 0.0 $\sim 2.8\sigma$ anomaly 0.8 $\overline{R} = 0.930 \pm 0.024$ [see also: Sinev, arXiv:1103.2452; Ciuffoli, Evslin, Li, JHEP 12 (2012) 110; 0.7 Zhang, Qian, Vogel, PRD 87 (2013) 073018; Ivanov et al. PRC 88 (2013) 055501] 0 20 40 60 80 100 L [m]

[Giunti, Laveder, Y.F. Li, Q.Y. Liu, H.W. Long, PRD 86 (2012) 113014]

Reactor Anomaly: 2014 Update



 $\overline{R} = 0.933 \pm 0.021$



	Exp	\overline{R}	σ
	SBL	0.928 ± 0.023	3.2σ
+	$Chooz + Palo \; Verde$	0.935 ± 0.022	2.9σ
+	Double Chooz	0.933 ± 0.022	3.1σ
+	Daya Bay	0.933 ± 0.021	3.1σ

SBL: Bugey-3 + Bugey-4 + Rovno91 + Gosgen + ILL + Krasnoyarsk + Rovno88 + SRP

2.0% fully correlated uncertainty [Following Mention et al, PRD 83 (2011) 073006]

Fully Correlated 2.7% Total Flux Uncertainty?



 $\overline{R} = 0.923 \pm 0.026$

3.0 σ Anomaly

Standard Analysis: $\overline{R} = 0.933 \pm 0.021$ (3.1 σ)

What About a 4% Uncertainty?

[Claimed by Hayes, Friar, Garvey, Jonkmans, PRL 112 (2014) 202501]

Only 2% Fully Correlated (2.7 σ) All 4% Fully Correlated

 (2.1σ)

$\overline{R} = 0.937 \pm 0.023$

 $\overline{R} = 0.909 \pm 0.043$



Standard Analysis: $\overline{R} = 0.933 \pm 0.021$ (3.1 σ)

Gallium Anomaly

Gallium Radioactive Source Experiments: GALLEX and SAGE

Detection Process: $\nu_e + {}^{71}\text{Ga} \rightarrow {}^{71}\text{Ge} + e^-$

 ν_e Sources: $e^- + {}^{51}\text{Cr} \rightarrow {}^{51}\text{V} + \nu_e$ $e^- + {}^{37}\text{Ar} \rightarrow {}^{37}\text{Cl} + \nu_e$

Anomaly supported by new $^{71}Ga(^{3}He, ^{3}H)^{71}Ge$ cross section measurement

[Frekers et al., PLB 706 (2011) 134]



 $E \sim 0.7 \,\mathrm{MeV}$ $\langle L \rangle_{\mathrm{GALLEX}} = 1.9 \,\mathrm{m}$

 $\langle L \rangle_{\text{SAGE}} = 0.6 \,\text{m}$

 $\sim 2.9\sigma$ anomaly

[SAGE, PRC 73 (2006) 045805; PRC 80 (2009) 015807] [Laveder et al, Nucl.Phys.Proc.Suppl. 168 (2007) 344; MPLA 22 (2007) 2499; PRD 78 (2008) 073009; PRC 83 (2011) 065504; PRD 86 (2012) 113014]

[Mention et al, PRD 83 (2011) 073006]

Light Sterile Neutrinos

- ▶ Physics Beyond the SM ⇒ right-handed sterile neutrinos
- Sterile means no standard model interactions [Pontecorvo, Sov. Phys. JETP 26 (1968) 984]
- Active neutrinos $(\nu_e, \nu_\mu, \nu_\tau)$ can oscillate into light sterile neutrinos (ν_s)
- Observables:
 - Disappearance of active neutrinos (neutral current deficit)
 - Indirect evidence through combined fit of data (current indication)
- Short-baseline anomalies $+ 3\nu$ -mixing:

$$\begin{array}{c|c} \Delta m_{21}^2 \ll |\Delta m_{31}^2| \ll |\Delta m_{41}^2| \leq \dots \\ \nu_1 & \nu_2 & \nu_3 & \nu_4 & \dots \\ \nu_e & \nu_\mu & \nu_\tau & \nu_{s_1} & \dots \end{array}$$

Effective SBL Oscillation Probabilities in 3+1 Schemes

 $\text{Perturbation of } 3\nu \text{ Mixing: } |U_{\rm e4}|^2 \ll 1 \,, \ |U_{\mu 4}|^2 \ll 1 \,, \ |U_{\tau 4}|^2 \ll 1 \,, \ |U_{\rm s4}|^2 \simeq 1$

$$U = \begin{pmatrix} U_{e1} & U_{e2} & U_{e3} & U_{e4} \\ U_{\mu 1} & U_{\mu 2} & U_{\mu 3} & U_{\mu 4} \\ U_{\tau 1} & U_{\tau 2} & U_{\tau 3} & U_{\tau 4} \\ U_{s1} & U_{s2} & U_{s3} & U_{s4} \end{pmatrix}$$

- 6 mixing angles
- 3 Dirac CP phases
- 3 Majorana CP phases

but CP violation is not observable in SBL experiments!



Effective SBL Oscillation Probabilities in 3+2 Schemes

$$\begin{split} \phi_{kj} &= \Delta m_{kj}^2 L/4E \\ \eta &= \arg[U_{e4}^* U_{\mu4} U_{e5} U_{\mu5}^*] \\ P_{(-)}_{\nu_{\mu} \to \nu_{e}}^{(-)} &= 4|U_{e4}|^2 |U_{\mu4}|^2 \sin^2 \phi_{41} + 4|U_{e5}|^2 |U_{\mu5}|^2 \sin^2 \phi_{51} \\ &+ 8|U_{\mu4} U_{e4} U_{\mu5} U_{e5}| \sin \phi_{41} \sin \phi_{51} \cos(\phi_{54}^{(+)} - \eta) \\ P_{(-)}_{\nu_{\alpha} \to \nu_{\alpha}}^{(-)} &= 1 - 4(1 - |U_{\alpha4}|^2 - |U_{\alpha5}|^2)(|U_{\alpha4}|^2 \sin^2 \phi_{41} + |U_{\alpha5}|^2 \sin^2 \phi_{51}) \\ &- 4|U_{\alpha4}|^2 |U_{\alpha5}|^2 \sin^2 \phi_{54} \end{split}$$

[Sorel, Conrad, Shaevitz, PRD 70 (2004) 073004; Maltoni, Schwetz, PRD 76 (2007) 093005; Karagiorgi et al, PRD 80 (2009) 073001; Kopp, Maltoni, Schwetz, PRI 107 (2011) 091801; Giunti, Laveder, PRD 84 (2011) 073008; Donini et al, JHEP 07 (2012) 161; Archidiacono et al, PRD 86 (2012) 065028; Conrad et al, AHEP 2013 (2013) 163897; Archidiacono et al, PRD 87 (2013) 125034; Kopp, Machado, Maltoni, Schwetz, JHEP 1305 (2013) 050; Giunti, Laveder, Y.F. Li, H.W. Long, PRD 88 (2013) 073008; Girardi, Meroni, Petcov, JHEP 1311 (2013) 146]

- ► Good: CP violation
- Bad: Two massive sterile neutrinos at the eV scale!

4 more parameters: $\Delta m_{41}^2, |U_{e4}|^2, |U_{\mu4}|^2, \Delta m_{51}^2, |U_{e5}|^2, |U_{\mu5}|^2, \eta$

3+1

3+2: 2010 MiniBooNE $\nu_{\mu} \rightarrow \nu_{e}$ and $\bar{\nu}_{\mu} \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_{e}$



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Global ν_e and $\bar{\nu}_e$ **Disappearance**



Mainz and Troitsk Limit on m_4^2

[Kraus, Singer, Valerius, Weinheimer, EPJC 73 (2013) 2323] [Belesev et al, JETP Lett. 97 (2013) 67; JPG 41 (2014) 015001]



KATRIN Sensitivity



[see also: Sejersen Riis, Hannestad, JCAP (2011) 1475; Sejersen Riis, Hannestad, Weinheimer, PRC 84 (2011) 045503]

Neutrinoless Double- β Decay



$$|m_{\beta\beta}| = \left|\sum_{k=1}^4 U_{ek}^2 m_k\right|$$

$$m_{\beta\beta}^{(4)} = |U_{e4}|^2 \sqrt{\Delta m_{41}^2}$$

caveat: possible cancellation with $m^{(3\nu-IH)}_{\beta\beta}$

[Barry et al, JHEP 07 (2011) 091] [Li, Liu, PLB 706 (2012) 406] [Rodejohann, JPG 39 (2012) 124008] [Girardi, Meroni, Petcov, JHEP 1311 (2013) 146]

3ν -Mixing

 $m_{\beta\beta} = |U_{e1}|^2 m_1 + |U_{e2}|^2 e^{i\alpha_2} m_2 + |U_{e3}|^2 e^{i\alpha_3} m_3$



Cancellation with $m_{\beta\beta}^{(light)}$?

[Barry, Rodejohann, Zhang, JHEP 07 (2011) 091]; Li, Liu, PLB 706 (2012) 406; Rodejohann, arXiv:1206.2560]

$$m_{\beta\beta}^{(\text{light})} = \begin{vmatrix} 3\\ k=1 \end{vmatrix} U_{ek}^2 m_k \end{vmatrix} \qquad m_{\beta\beta}^{(4)} = |U_{e4}|^2 \sqrt{\Delta m_{41}^2}$$
$$m_{\beta\beta} = m_{\beta\beta}^{(\text{light})} + e^{i\alpha_4} m_{\beta\beta}^{(4)} \qquad m_{\beta\beta}^{(4)} \gtrsim 10^{-2} \text{ eV}$$

- ► Normal Hierarchy: $m_{\beta\beta}^{(\text{light})} \lesssim 4.5 \times 10^{-3} \text{ eV}$ (95% CL) no cancellation is possible
- ► Inverted Hierarchy: $1.4 \times 10^{-2} \lesssim m_{\beta\beta}^{(\text{light})} \lesssim 5.0 \times 10^{-2} \text{ eV}$ (95% CL) cancellation is possible
- ▶ Quasi-Degenerate: $m_{\beta\beta}^{(\text{light})} \gtrsim 5.0 \times 10^{-2} \text{ eV}$ cancellation is possible



Assumption: no cancellation



3+1: Appearance vs Disappearance

• ν_e disappearance experiments:

$$\sin^2 2\vartheta_{ee} = 4|U_{e4}|^2 \left(1 - |U_{e4}|^2\right) \simeq 4|U_{e4}|^2$$

• ν_{μ} disappearance experiments:

$$\sin^2 2\vartheta_{\mu\mu} = 4|U_{\mu4}|^2 \left(1 - |U_{\mu4}|^2\right) \simeq 4|U_{\mu4}|^2$$

• $\nu_{\mu} \rightarrow \nu_{e}$ experiments:

$$\sin^2 2\vartheta_{e\mu} = 4|U_{e4}|^2|U_{\mu4}|^2 \simeq \frac{1}{4}\sin^2 2\vartheta_{ee}\sin^2 2\vartheta_{\mu\mu}$$

▶ Upper bounds on $\sin^2 2\vartheta_{ee}$ and $\sin^2 2\vartheta_{\mu\mu} \implies$ strong limit on $\sin^2 2\vartheta_{e\mu}$

[Okada, Yasuda, IJMPA 12 (1997) 3669-3694]

[Bilenky, Giunti, Grimus, EPJC 1 (1998) 247]

3+1 Global Fit



[different approach and conclusions: Kopp, Machado, Maltoni, Schwetz, JHEP 1305 (2013) 050]

Goodness of Fit

Assumption or approximation: Gaussian uncertainties and linear model
\$\chi_{min}^2\$ has \$\chi^2\$ distribution with Number of Degrees of Freedom NDF = \$N_D - \$N_P\$ \$N_D = Number of Data \$N_P\$ = Number of Fitted Parameters
\$\langle \chi_{min}^2 \rangle = \$NDF\$ \$\langle \chi_{min}^2 \rangle = \$NDF\$ \$\langle \chi_{min}^2 \rangle = \$2NDF\$ \$\langle \chi_{min}^2 \rangle \chi_{min}^2 \rangle = \$2NDF\$ \$\langle \chi_{\chi_{min}^2} \rangle \chi_{\chi_{min}^2} \rangle \chi_{\chi_{\chi_{min}^2}} \rangle \chi_{\chi_{\chi_{min}^2}} \rangle \chi_{\chi_{\chi_{\chi_{min}^2}}} \rangle \chi_{\chi_{\chi_{\chi_{min}^2}}} \rangle \chi_{\chi

Parameter Goodness of Fit

Maltoni, Schwetz, PRD 68 (2003) 033020, arXiv:hep-ph/0304176

 Measure compatibility of two (or more) sets of data points A and B under fitting model

•
$$\chi^2_{PGoF} = (\chi^2_{min})_{A+B} - [(\chi^2_{min})_A + (\chi^2_{min})_B]$$

- ► χ^2_{PGoF} has χ^2 distribution with Number of Degrees of Freedom NDF_{PGoF} = $N_P^A + N_P^B - N_P^{A+B}$
- $PGoF = \int_{\chi^2_{PGoF}}^{\infty} p_{\chi^2}(z, NDF_{PGoF}) dz$

MiniBooNE Low-Energy Excess?



NO FIT OF LOW-ENERGY EXCESS!

3+1 Global Fit with MB Low-Energy Data



- Allowed region does not change much
- Enhanced appearance-disappearance tension
- Our approach: low-energy excess is not due to oscillations
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MiniBooNE Impact on SBL Oscillations?



<u>3+2</u>

- 3+2 should be preferred to 3+1 only if
 - there is evidence of two peaks of the probability corresponding to two Δm^2 's
 - or
 - ▶ there is CP-violating difference of $\nu_{\mu} \rightarrow \nu_{e}$ and $\bar{\nu}_{\mu} \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_{e}$ transitions
- ► 2008 ν + 2010 $\bar{\nu}$ MiniBooNE data indicated $\nu \bar{\nu}$ difference \downarrow reasonable and useful to consider 3+2
- $\nu \bar{\nu}$ difference almost disappeared with 2012 $\bar{\nu}$ data
- Okkam razor: 3+1 is enough!
- Different approach and conclusions:
 - Kopp, Machado, Maltoni, Schwetz, JHEP 1305 (2013) 050: Use all MiniBooNE data. No 3+1 global fit. 3+2 slightly preferred? Small allowed region.
 - Conrad, Ignarra, Karagiorgi, Shaevitz, Spitz, AHEP 2013 (2013) 163897: Use all MiniBooNE data. 3+2 strongly preferred. Very small allowed regions.

MiniBooNE Low-Energy Excess?



► 3+2: GoF = 8% PGoF = 0.1%

Preliminary 2014 Update of 3+1 Global Fit



MINOS?



[Giunti, Laveder, PRD 84 (2011) 093006]

IN PRACTICE NO CHANGE!

Cosmology

Energy density of radiation before photon decoupling (CMB):

$$\rho_R = \left[1 + \frac{7}{8} \left(\frac{4}{11} \right)^{4/3} N_{\text{eff}} \right] \rho_{\gamma}$$
$$N_{\text{eff}}^{\text{SM}} = 3.046 \qquad \Delta N_{\text{eff}} = N_{\text{eff}} - N_{\text{eff}}^{\text{SM}}$$

Sterile neutrino contribution:

$$\rho_s = (T_s/T_\nu)^4 \rho_\nu \implies \Delta N_{\rm eff} = (T_s/T_\nu)^4$$

Current energy density of sterile neutrinos:

$$\Omega_{s} = \frac{n_{s}m_{s}}{\rho_{c}} \simeq \frac{1}{h^{2}} \frac{(T_{s}/T_{\nu})^{3}m_{s}}{94 \,\mathrm{eV}} = \frac{1}{h^{2}} \frac{\Delta N_{\mathrm{eff}}^{3/4}m_{s}}{94 \,\mathrm{eV}} = \frac{1}{h^{2}} \frac{m_{s}^{\mathrm{eff}}}{94 \,\mathrm{eV}}$$
$$m_{s} = m_{4} \simeq \sqrt{\Delta m_{41}^{2}}$$



Recent discussion: [Bergstrom, Gonzalez-Garcia, Niro, Salvado, arXiv:1407.3806]

Tension between $\Delta N_{\rm eff} = 1$ and $m_s \approx 1 \, {\rm eV}$

 $\begin{array}{ll} \mbox{Sterile neutrinos are thermalized } (\Delta N_{\rm eff}=1) \mbox{ by active-sterile oscillations} \\ \mbox{before neutrino decoupling} & \mbox{[Dolgov, Villante, NPB 679 (2004) 261]} \end{array}$

Proposed mechanisms to avoid the tension:

- Large lepton asymmetry [Hannestad, Tamborra, Tram, JCAP 1207 (2012) 025; Mirizzi, Saviano, Miele, Serpico, PRD 86 (2012) 053009; Saviano et al., PRD 87 (2013) 073006; Hannestad, Hansen, Tram, JCAP 1304 (2013) 032]
- Enhanced background potential due to interactions in the sterile sector [Hannestad, Hansen, Tram, PRL 112 (2014) 031802; Dasgupta, Kopp, PRL 112 (2014) 031803; Bringmann, Hasenkamp, Kersten, arXiv:1312.4947; Ko, Tang, arXiv:1404.0236; Archidiacono, Hannestad, Hansen, Tram, arXiv:1404.5915]
- ► a larger cosmic expansion rate at the time of sterile neutrino production [Rehagen, Gelmini JCAP 1406 (2014) 044]
- ► MeV dark matter annihilation [Ho, Scherrer, PRD 87 (2013) 065016]
- Invisible decay [Gariazzo, Giunti, Laveder, arXiv:1404.6160]

Cosmological Invisible Decay



[Gariazzo, Giunti, Laveder, arXiv:1404.6160]

 $N_s(t) = \Delta N_{
m eff} \, e^{-t/ au_s} \qquad au_s \sim 10^9 \, {
m y}$

Sketch of Model

$$\blacktriangleright \mathcal{L}_{\mathsf{I}} = \sum_{\alpha,\beta} \overline{\nu}_{\alpha} \left(g_{\alpha\beta}^{(\mathsf{s})} + g_{\alpha\beta}^{(\mathsf{p})} \gamma^5 \right) \nu_{\beta} \phi \qquad \alpha, \beta = e, \mu, \tau, \mathbf{s}, \mathbf{s}', \dots$$

• $m_s \sim 1 \, {
m eV}, \quad \tau_s \sim 10^9 \, {
m y} \implies g^{({
m s},{
m p})}_{s\beta} \sim 10^{-15}$

► Rate of *ν* − *φ* interactions (*ν* + *ν̄* → *φ* + *φ*, *ν* + *φ* → *ν* + *φ*, ...), in a thermal environment of relativistic neutrinos with temperature *T_ν*:

 $\Gamma_{
m I} \sim (g^{(
m s,p)}_{seta})^4 \, T_
u$ [Hannestad, Raffelt, PRD 72 (2005) 103514]

$$T_
u \lesssim 1\,{
m MeV} \implies \Gamma_{
m I}^{-1} \gtrsim 10^{31}\,{
m y}$$

• The only effective process is the invisible decay $\nu_s \rightarrow \nu_\beta + \phi$

Conclusions

- Short-Baseline ν_e and $\bar{\nu}_e$ 3+1 Disappearance:
 - Reactor $\bar{\nu}_e$ anomaly is alive and exciting.
 - Gallium ν_e anomaly strengthened by new cross-section measurements.
 - Many promising projects to test short-baseline ν_e and $\bar{\nu}_e$ disappearance in a few years with reactors and radioactive sources.
 - Independent tests through effect of m_4 in β -decay and $(\beta\beta)_{0\nu}$ -decay.
- Short-Baseline $\bar{\nu}_{\mu} \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_{e}$ LSND Signal:
 - MiniBooNE experiment has been inconclusive.
 - Better experiments are needed to check LSND signal!
 - ▶ If $|U_{e4}| > 0$ why not $|U_{\mu4}| > 0$? \implies Maybe LSND luckily observed a fluctuation of a small $\bar{\nu}_{\mu} \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_{e}$ transition probability with amplitude $\sin^{2} 2\vartheta_{e\mu} = 4|U_{e4}|^{2}|U_{\mu4}|^{2}$, which has not been seen by other appearance experiments.
- Cosmology:
 - BICEP2 + Planck indication in favor of $\Delta N_{\rm eff} \approx 1$.
 - Tension between $\Delta N_{\text{eff}} = 1$ and $m_s \approx 1 \,\text{eV}$.
 - Cosmological and oscillation data can be explained by invisible decay of ν_s .