momentum transfer. More specifically, we can say that the ratio of the magnetic to the electric radius of the deuteron is

$$r_m/r_e = 0.93 \pm 0.038.$$

In conclusion we can say that, both from the static magnetic moment and from our measurements, there is some evidence that other contributions besides the impulse approximation have to be taken into account to understand the magnetic structure of the deuteron. We also have some evidence that the form factor connected with this anomalous contribution decreases less rapidly, as the momentum transfer increases, than the form factor obtained from the impulse approximation.

It is a pleasure to thank Professor W. C. Barber for his continuous support and many useful discussions. Our understanding of the problems connected with the deuteron form factors has greatly improved through discussion with various people, in particular, Professor S. Drell, Professor L. I. Schiff, Mr. R. Adler, and Mr. E. Erickson. Dr. G. Vanpraet and Mr. G. Gosta have been of great help in the data taking period. Mr. W. Ewings is responsible for the manufacturing of the particular hydrogen cell that made this experiment possible.

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SOLAR NEUTRINOS. I. THEORETICAL*

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The principal energy source for main-sequence stars like the sun is believed to be the fusion, in the deep interior of the star, of four protons to form an alpha particle.[1] The fusion reactions are thought to be initiated by the sequence $^{1}H(p, e^{+}\nu)^{2}H(p,\gamma)^{3}He$ and terminated by the following sequences: (i) $^{3}He(^{3}He, 2p)^{4}He$; (ii) $^{3}He(\alpha,\gamma)^{7}Be(e^{-}\nu)^{7}Li(p,\alpha)^{4}He$; and (iii) $^{3}He(\alpha,\gamma)^{7}Be(p,\gamma)^{8}B(e^{+}\nu)^{8}Be^{*}(\alpha)^{4}He$. No direct evidence for the existence of nuclear reactions in the interiors of stars has yet been obtained because the mean free path for photons emitted in the center of a star is typically less than 10^{-10} of the radius of the star. Only neutrinos, with their extremely small interaction cross sections, can enable us to see into the interior of a star and thus verify directly the hypothesis of nuclear energy generation in stars.

The most promising method[2] for detecting solar neutrinos is based upon the endothermic reaction ($Q = -0.81$ MeV) $^{37}Cl(\nu_{solar}, e^{-})^{37}Ar$, which was first discussed as a possible means of detecting neutrinos by Pontecorvo[3] and Alvarez.[4] In this note, we predict the number of absorptions of solar neutrinos per terrestrial ^{37}Cl atom by combining results of recent theoretical investigations[5-7] of the solar neutrino fluxes with calculations[8] of the relevant neutrino absorption cross sections on ^{37}Cl. The result of a preliminary experiment by Davis[2] is then used to set an upper limit on the central temperature of the sun and also to give information about the structure of ^{4}Li and its role in the proton-proton chain.

The neutrino fluxes from the hydrogen-burning reactions described in the first paragraph have recently been calculated using detailed models of the sun[5,6] and the effects of uncertainties in nuclear cross sections, as well as solar composition, opacity, and age, have been determined by Sears.[7] The most important predictions are these (uncertainties estimated from the work of Sears[7]): $\varphi_\nu(^7\text{Be}) = (1.2 \pm 0.5) \times 10^{+10}$ neutrinos per cm^2 per sec and $\varphi_\nu(^8\text{B}) = (2.5 \pm 1) \times 10^{+7}$ neutrinos per cm^2 per sec, at the earth's surface.

The cross sections for ^{7}Be and ^{8}B neutrinos to produce transitions from the ground state of ^{37}Cl to the ground state of ^{37}Ar can readily be calculated from known quantities; the results are[8] $\sigma_g(^7\text{Be}) = 1.5\sigma_0$ and $\bar{\sigma}_g(^8\text{B}) = 3.9 \times 10^{+2}\sigma_0$, where $\sigma_0 = 1.91 \times 10^{-46}$ cm^2 is a convenient combination of ground-state parameters and $\bar{\sigma}(^8\text{B})$ has been averaged over the ^{8}B neutrino spectrum. Three excited states[9] in ^{37}Ar also have large matrix elements for neutrino absorption by the ground state of ^{37}Cl (which is a $d_{3/2}{}^3$, $J = 3/2^+$, $T = 3/2$ state); the three excited states of importance in ^{37}Ar are (with their expected energies) (i) $J = 1/2^+$, $T = 1/2$ (1.4 MeV); (ii) $J = 5/2^+$, $T = 1/2$ (1.6 MeV); and (iii) $J = 3/2^+$, $T = 3/2$ (5.1 MeV). The $J = 3/2^+$, $T = 3/2$ excited state of ^{37}Ar is the analog state of the ground state of ^{37}Cl; hence the transition from the ground state of ^{37}Cl to the 5.1-MeV excited state of ^{37}Ar is superallowed and has a large matrix element for neutrino absorption. The calculated absorption cross sections[8] averaged over the ^{8}B neutrino spectrum[10] are, in order of increasing excitation energy, $\bar{\sigma}(^8\text{B})/\sigma_0 = 0.96 \times 10^{+3}$, $1.3 \times 10^{+3}$, and $4.4 \times 10^{+3}$. The net uncertainty in the magnitude of the sum of the above cross sections is estimated to be about 25%.[8,11]

The total predicted number of absorptions per terrestrial ^{37}Cl atom per second, using the above estimates for fluxes and cross sections, is found to be

$$\sum \varphi_\nu(\text{solar})\sigma_{\text{abs}} = (4 \pm 2) \times 10^{-35} \text{ sec}^{-1}. \qquad (1)$$

Only about 10% of the predicted number of absorptions is due to ^{7}Be neutrinos, although the ^{7}Be neutrino flux is predicted to be approximately 500 times the ^{8}B neutrino flux.[12] The solar value of $\sum\varphi\bar{\sigma}$ given by Eq. (1) is at least several orders of magnitude greater than one would expect from cosmic neutrinos[13] or from neutrinos produced in the earth's atmosphere by the decay of cosmic ray secondaries.[13,14]

The ^{8}B neutrino flux is extremely sensitive[5,12] to the central temperature of the sun because of the large Coulomb barrier, compared to solar thermal energies, for the reaction $^7\text{Be}(p,\gamma)^8\text{B}$ of sequence (iii). An upper limit on the central temperature of the sun can therefore be derived by combining the experimental upper limit already obtained by Davis,[2] on the number of solar neutrinos captured per terrestrial ^{37}Cl atom, with Eq. (1) and the known temperature dependence of the $^7\text{Be}(p,\gamma)^8\text{B}$ reaction. In this way we find that the central temperature of the sun is less than 20 million degrees[5] and that a measurement of the ^{8}B neutrino flux accurate to $\pm 50\%$ would determine the central temperature to better than $\pm 10\%$.

The role of ^{4}Li in the proton-proton chain has long been recognized as an important astrophysical problem,[1,15] but one that has not yet been solved by direct nuclear physics experiments. The upper limit obtained by Davis[2] on the number of solar neutrinos captured per terrestrial ^{37}Cl atom can be used, however, to show that ^{4}Li does not play a significant role in the proton-proton chain in the sun. The relevant cross section for neutrino absorption (with $q_\nu{}^{\text{max}} = 20$ MeV) is[8] $\bar{\sigma}(^4\text{Li}) = 2 \times 10^{-42}$ cm^2 and hence $\varphi_\nu(^4\text{Li}) \leq 2 \times 10^{+8}$ neutrinos per cm^2 per sec. The fraction of terminations of the proton-proton chain that occur via ^{4}Li can be calculated[16] as a function of the energy, E_γ, by which the mass of the ground state of ^{4}Li exceeds the mass of ^{3}He plus a proton. One can also calculate an upper limit on the fraction of terminations that occur via $^3\text{He}(p,\gamma)^4\text{Li}(\beta^+\nu)^4\text{He}$ by comparing the above upper limit on $\varphi_\nu(^4\text{Li})$ (multiplied by 17 MeV, the thermal energy release in such a termination) with the observed solar constant ($8.7 \times 10^{+11}$ MeV cm^{-2} sec^{-1}). In this way we find that $E_\gamma \geq 20$ keV[17] and conclude that ^{4}Li participates in at most 0.2% of the proton-proton terminations in the sun.

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by R. Davis, Jr.

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[8]J. N. Bahcall (to be published). This reference will contain an extensive discussion of neutrino absorption cross sections that are relevant to the detection of solar neutrinos. A variety of experimental tests of the assumptions used to calculate the excited-state neutrino absorption cross sections for $^{37}\mathrm{Cl}(\nu, e^-)^{37}\mathrm{Ar}$ will also be discussed.

[9]I am grateful to Professor B. R. Mottelson and Professor M. A. Preston for comments that sparked the investigation of excited-state transitions.

[10]The proton-proton ($q_\nu^{\max} = 0.42$ MeV) and ^{7}Be electron-capture ($q_\nu = 0.86$ MeV) neutrinos do not have sufficient energy to induce transitions to excited states in ^{37}Ar.

[11]The assumptions made in calculating the ^{37}Cl neutrino absorption cross sections could be directly checked by measuring the ft values for the $^{37}\mathrm{Ca} \rightarrow {}^{37}\mathrm{K}$ decays, one of whose branches is also superallowed. Two other experiments that would be useful in testing the assumptions made in the cross-section calculations are (i) a measurement of the branching ratios in the $^{37}\mathrm{K} \rightarrow {}^{37}\mathrm{Ar}$ decay, and (ii) a measurement with improved accuracy of the ft values in the $^{35}\mathrm{Ar} \rightarrow {}^{35}\mathrm{Cl}$ decay. Predictions for the lifetimes and energies of all branches involved in the above decays are available upon request and will appear in reference 8.

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[17]This result implies that there are no $T = 1$ alpha-particle bound states below 19 MeV.