

# JUNO: Current status and prospects

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Lake Louise Winter Institute 2023  
Lake Louise, Canada | February 19-24, 2023

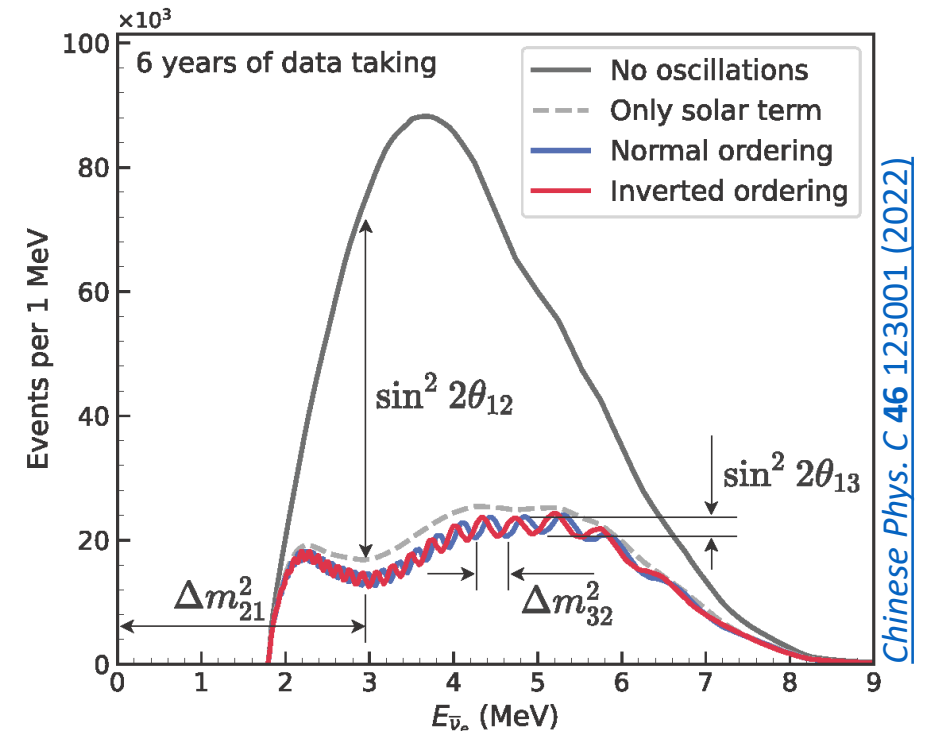
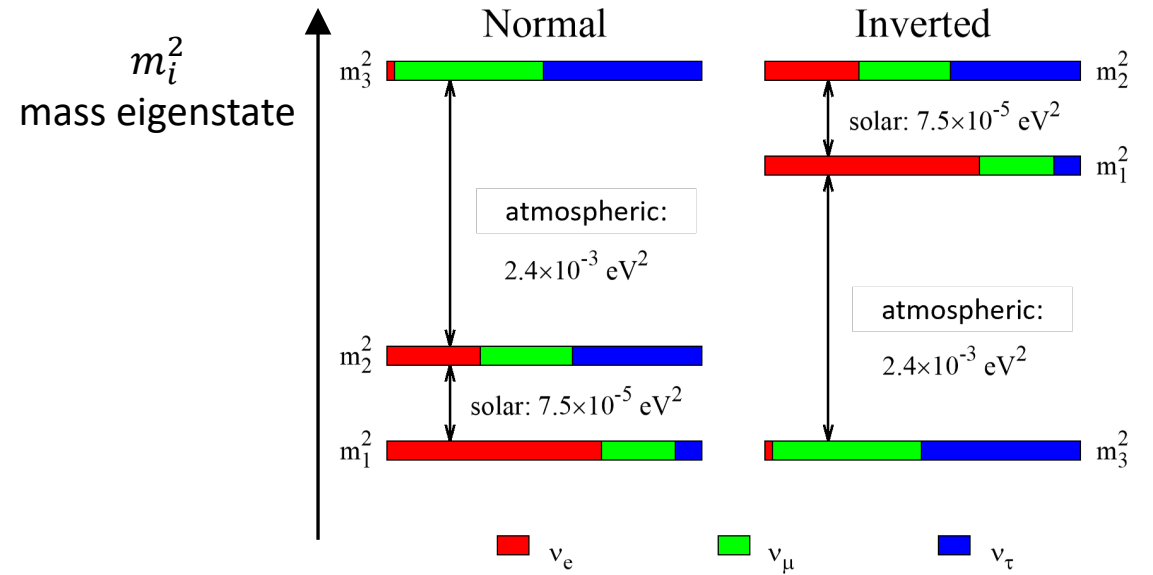


UNIVERSITÀ  
DEGLI STUDI  
DI PADOVA



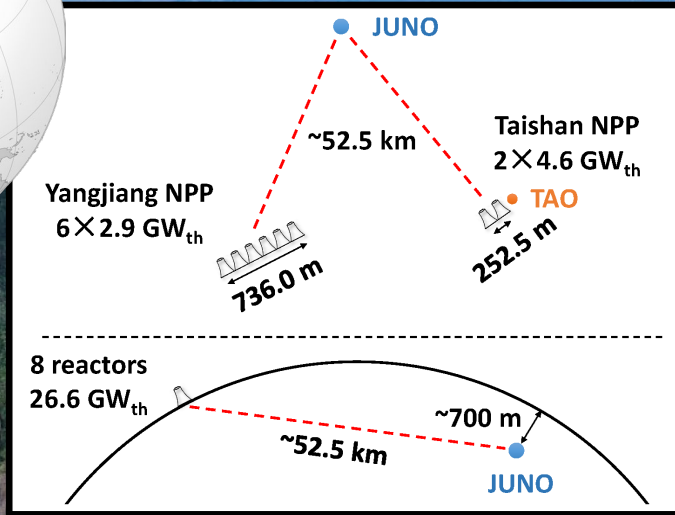
# Why JUNO?

- Neutrino oscillations observed  
→ neutrinos are massive
- Neutrino mass ordering?  
 $\Delta m_{32}^2 \gtrless 0$ ?      $\Delta m_{ij}^2 = m_i^2 - m_j^2$
- Could be determined:
  - 2 complementary approaches
  - Matter-enhanced oscillation with accelerator  $\nu$  @ long-baseline experiments
  - Vacuum oscillation with reactor  $\bar{\nu}_e$  → JUNO independent of  $\theta_{23}$  and  $\delta_{CP}$





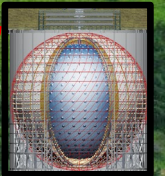
# Jiangmen Underground Neutrino Observatory



Vertical tunnel:  
563 m

Overburden:  
~650 m  
(1800 m.w.e)

Slope tunnel: 1265 m  
@ slope of 42%



Civil construction finished in Dec, 2021

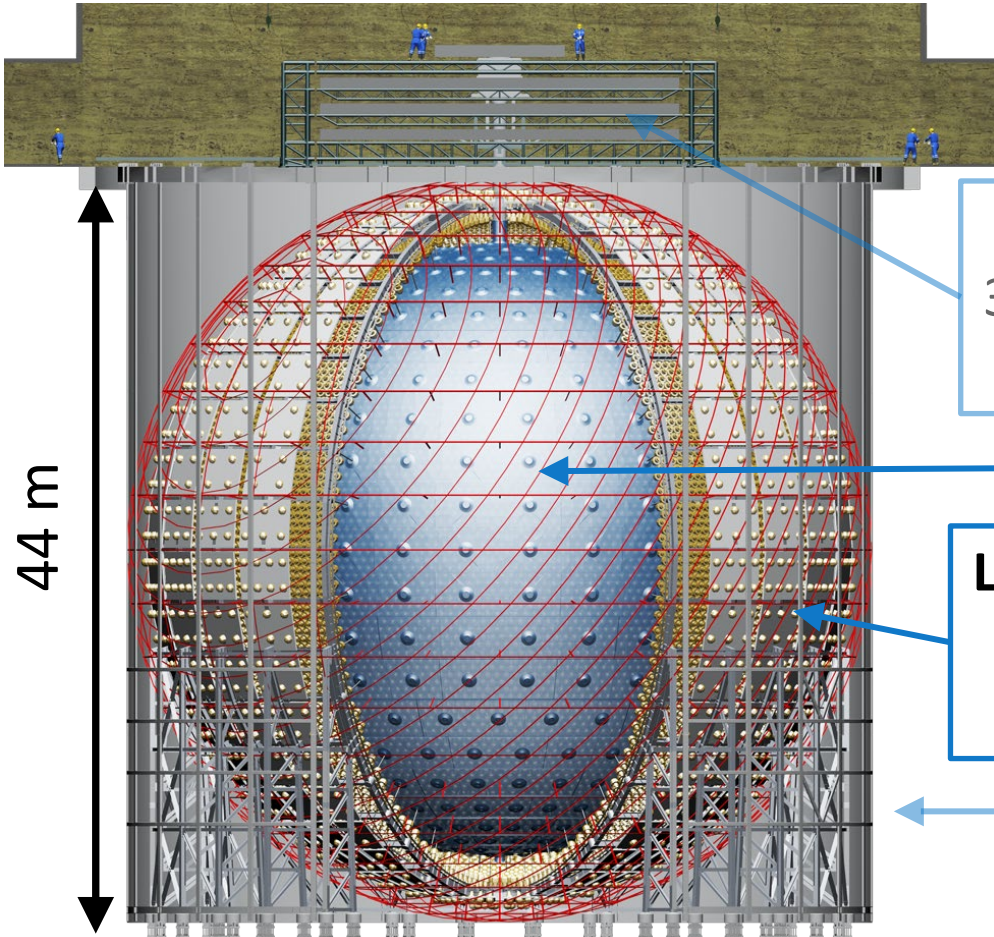


# JUNO in a nutshell

	Target Mass	Coverage	Energy resolution	Light yield [PE/MeV]
Daya Bay	20 ton (x8)	12%	8% @ 1 MeV	160
Borexino	300 ton	34%	5% @ 1 MeV	500
KamLAND	1 kton	34%	6% @ 1 MeV	250
JUNO*	20 kton	78%	3% @ 1 MeV	>1300

\* [Prog. Part. Nucl. Phys. 123 \(2022\) 103927](https://doi.org/10.1088/1361-6470/ac9027)

## Calibration House



**Top Tracker (TT):**  
3 plastic scintillator layers  
Precision muon tracking

**Central Detector (CD):**  
20 kton Liquid Scintillator (LS)  
Acrylic vessel ( $\varnothing$  35.4 m)  
Steel structure ( $\varnothing$  40.1 m)

**Light detection system:**  
17612 20-inch PMTs  
25600 3-inch PMTs

**Water Cherenkov Detector (WCD):**  
35 kton ultra-pure water  
2400 20-inch PMTs

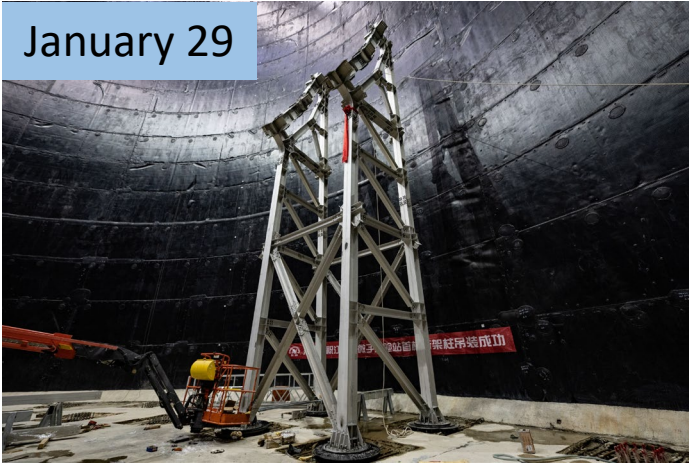


# CD: Stainless Steel Structure

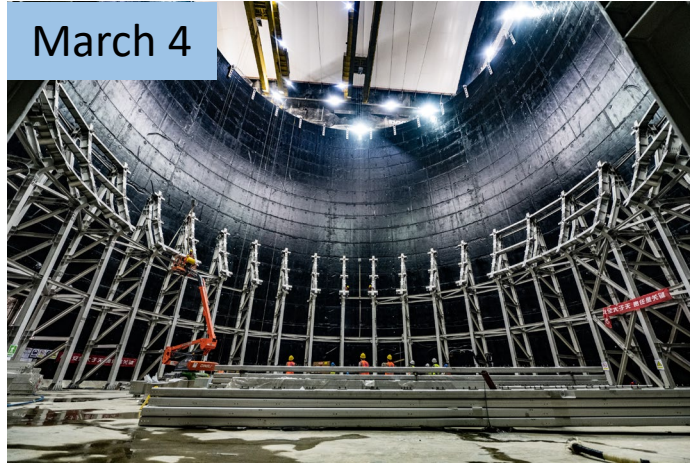
Support for acrylic vessel, PMTs, front-end electronics, ...

40.1 m diameter  
Assembly precision: < 3 mm  
Low background material

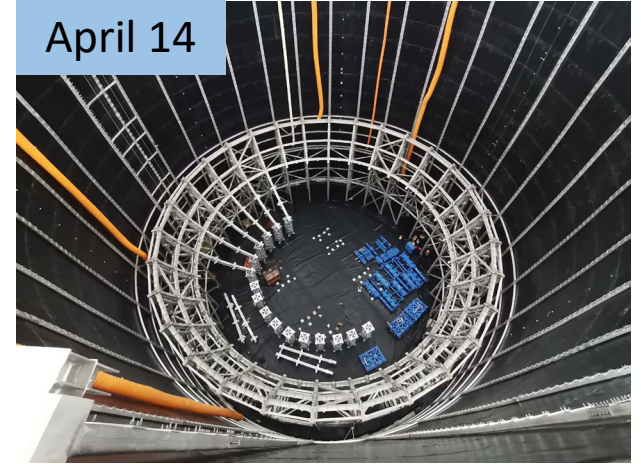
January 29



March 4



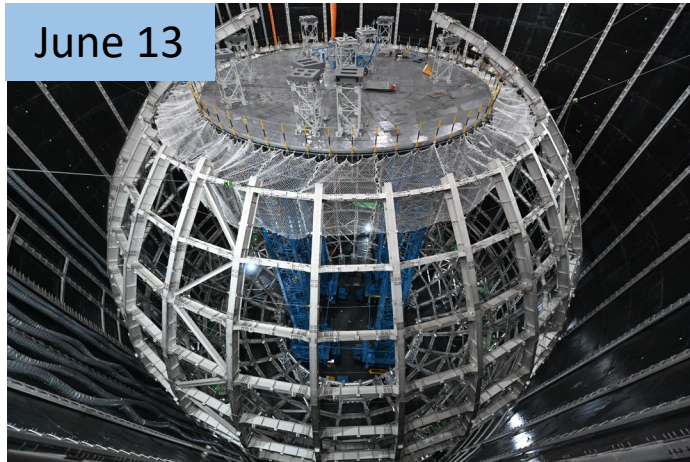
April 14



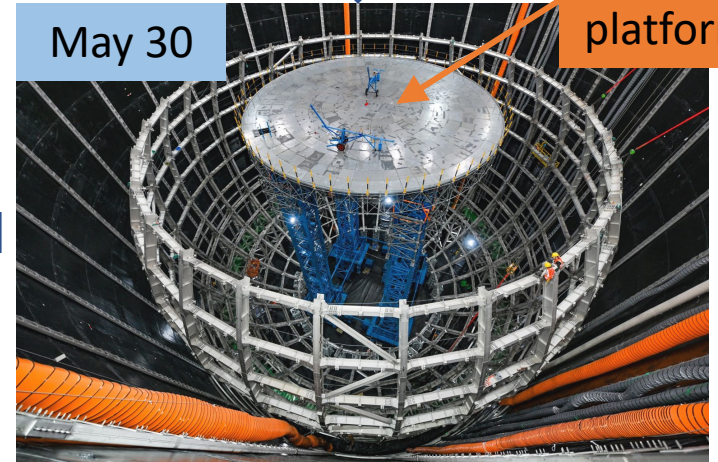
June 24 - completed



June 13



May 30





# CD: Acrylic Vessel

Contains 20 kton of LS

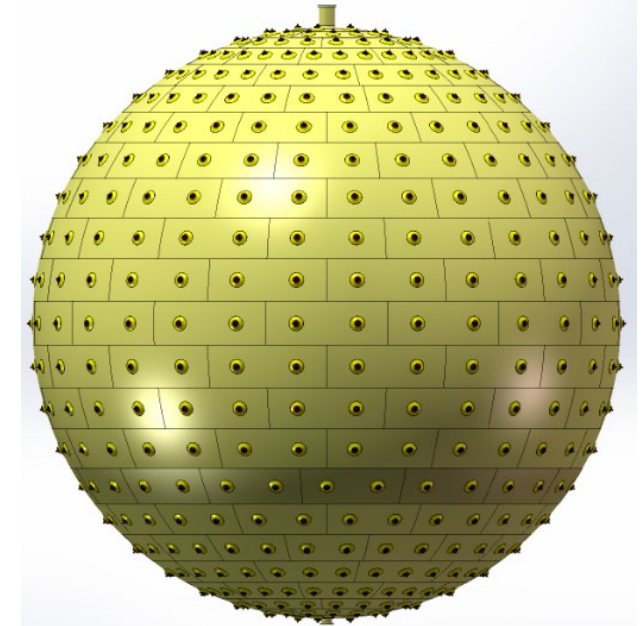
Inner diameter:  $35.40 \pm 0.04$  m

Thickness:  $124 \pm 4$  mm

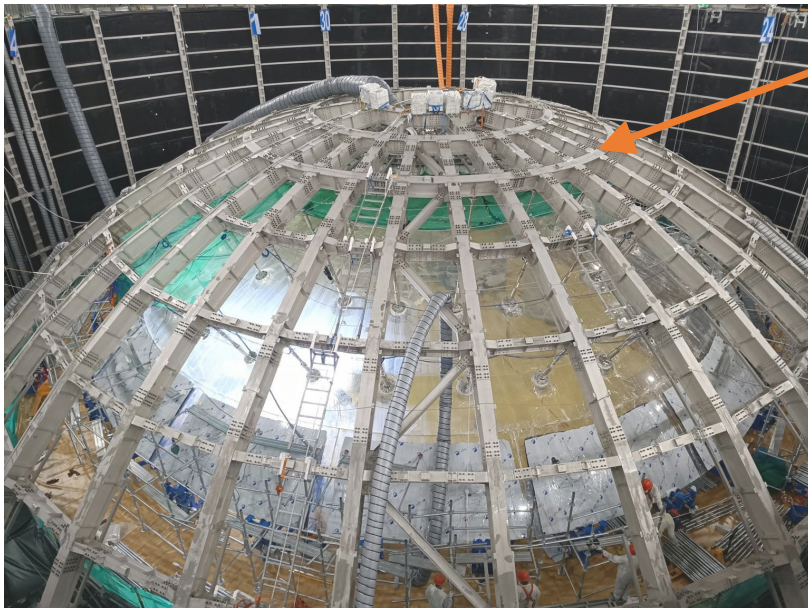
Light transparency:  $> 96\%$  @ LS

Radiopurity: U/Th/K  $< 1$  ppt

265 panels + 2 chimneys



Installation started in July 2022, from the top  
6/23 layers completed

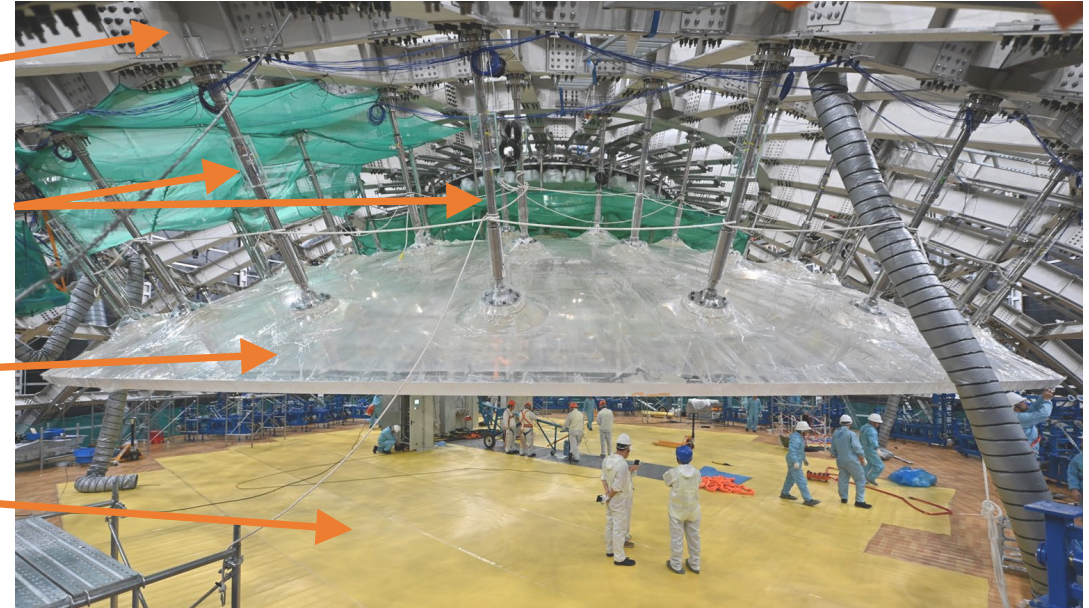


Steel structure

Connecting rods  
(590 in total)

Acrylic vessel

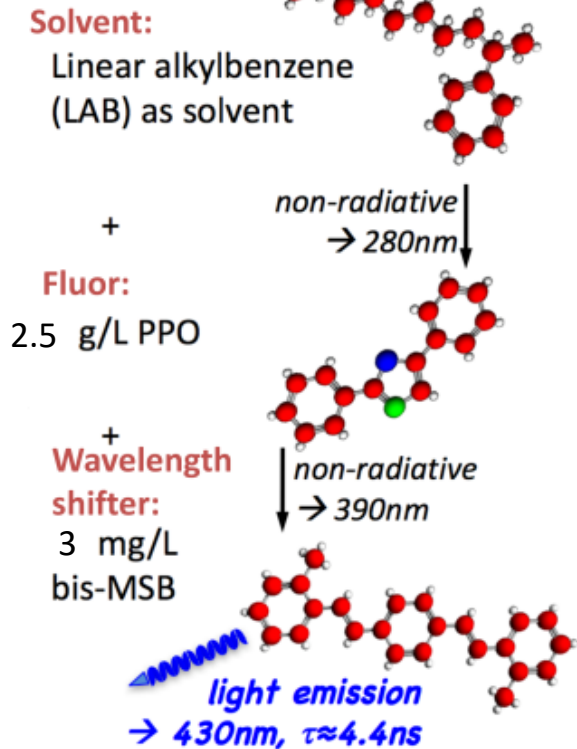
Lift platform





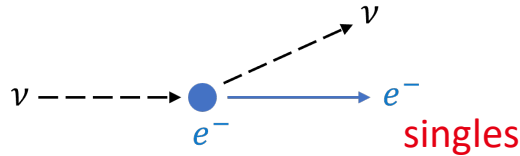
# CD: Liquid scintillator

[NIM A 988\(2021\)164823](#)



Attenuation length at 430 nm: 20 m

Solar  $\nu$ : elastic scattering



Radiopurity target:

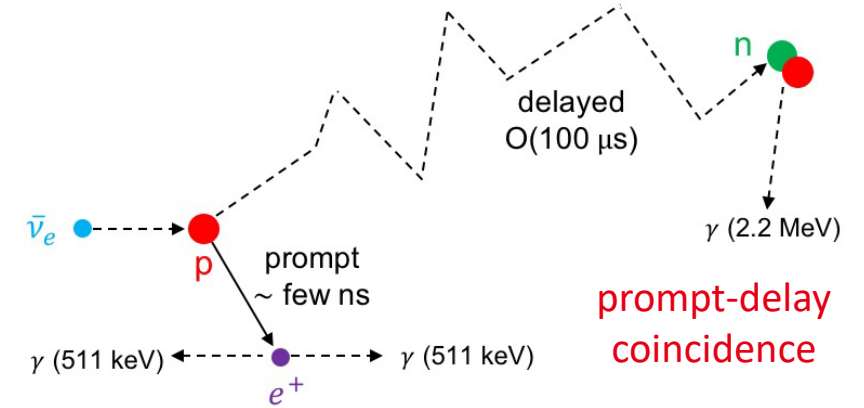
	$^{238}\text{U} / ^{232}\text{Th}$	$^{40}\text{K}$	$^{210}\text{Pb}$
IBD (reactor) $\nu$	$< 10^{-15}$ g/g	$< 10^{-16}$ g/g	$< 10^{-22}$ g/g
Solar $\nu$	$< 10^{-17}$ g/g	$< 10^{-18}$ g/g	$< 10^{-24}$ g/g

Purification process

- **Alumina filtration:** improvement of optical properties
  - **Distillation:** remove of heavy metals, improvement of transparency
  - **Water extraction:** removal of heavy elements U/Th/K
  - **Gas stripping:** removal of volatile impurities Ar/Kr/Rn
- LS checked by OSIRIS
- Underground after LS mixing

Online Scintillator Internal Radioactivity Investigation System

Reactor  $\nu$ : inverse beta decay (IBD)

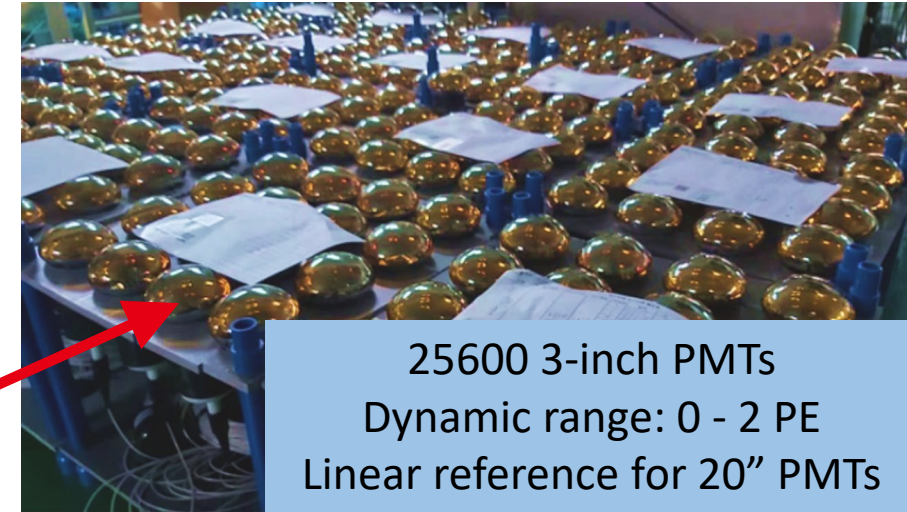
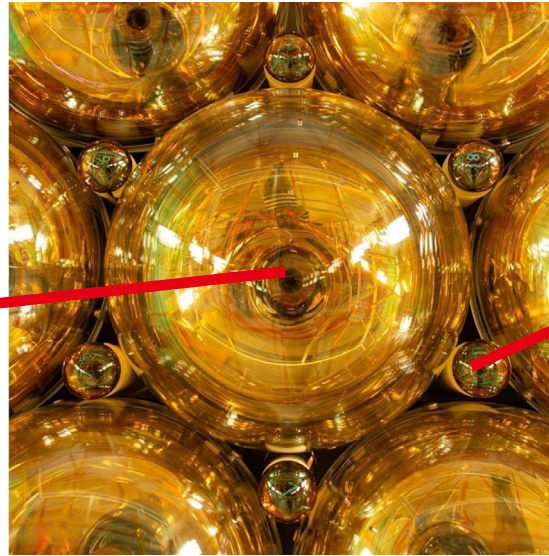




# Photomultiplier Tubes

Total photocathode coverage: 77.9%

17612 (CD) + 2400 (veto) 20-inch PMTs  
Dynamic range: 0 - 100 PE

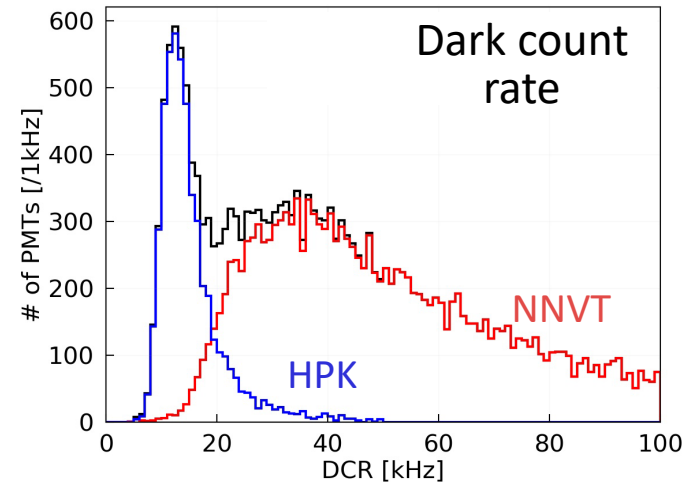
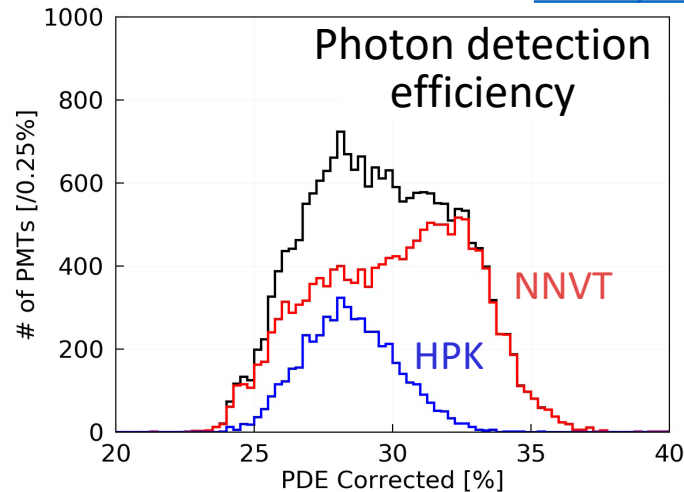


25600 3-inch PMTs  
Dynamic range: 0 - 2 PE  
Linear reference for 20" PMTs

15012 Micro-channel  
Plate PMTs from  
Northern Night Vision  
Technology (NNVT)

5000 dynode PMTs  
from Hamamatsu  
Photonics K. K. (HPK)

*Eur. Phys. J. C* **82**, 1168 (2022)



20-inch PMTs:

- All potted and tested
- Protection cover under production

3-inch PMTs:

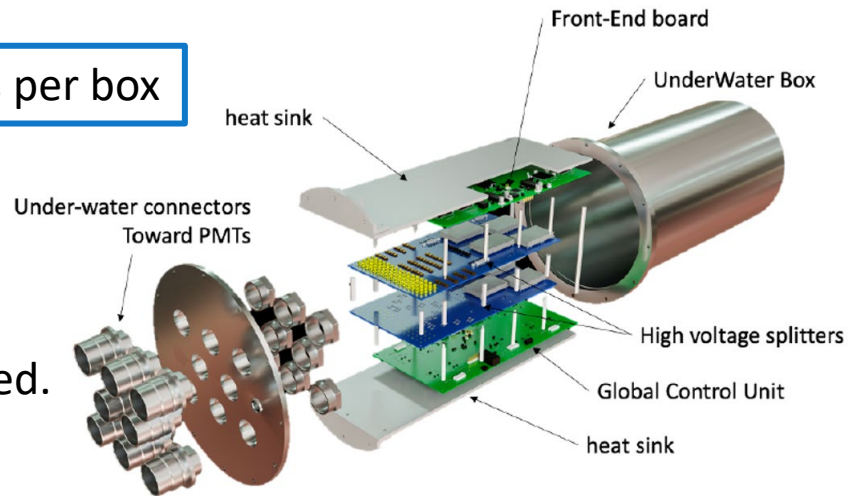
- All potted and tested

First PMTs installed!



# Electronics installation

128 3-inch PMTs per box



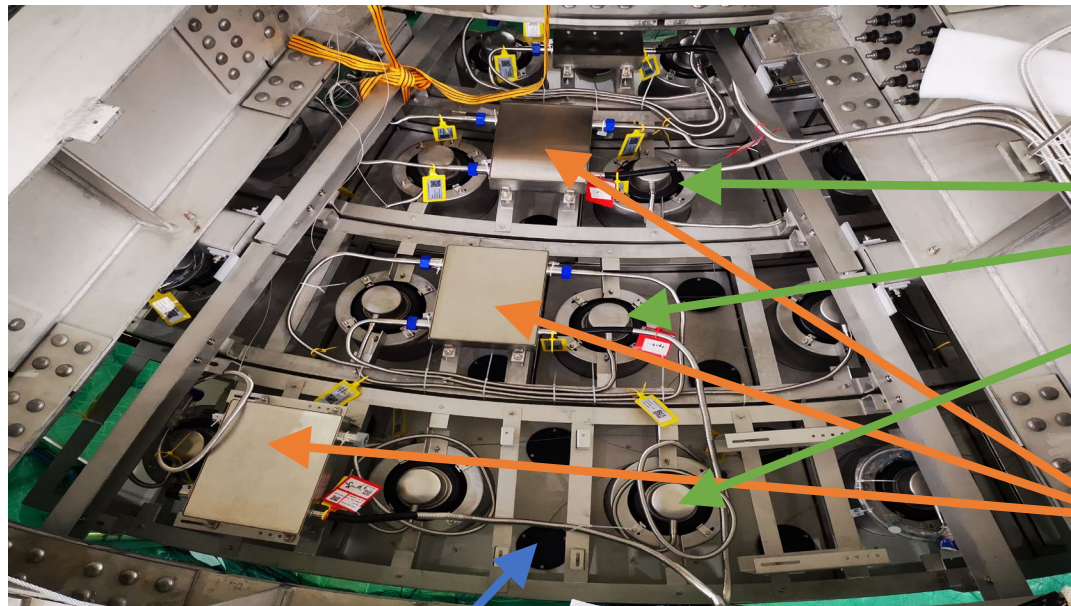
Box integration still ongoing.  
First boxes installed.

20-inch PMT under-water electronics:

- 1 GHz sampling
- Dynamic range: 1- 1000 PE
- Noise: < 10% @ 1 PE
- Failure rate: < 0.5% over 6 years

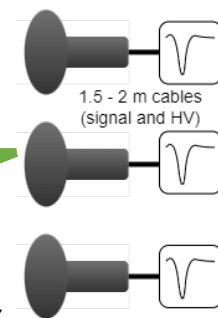
Installation started after production and mass testing.

three 20-inch PMTs per box

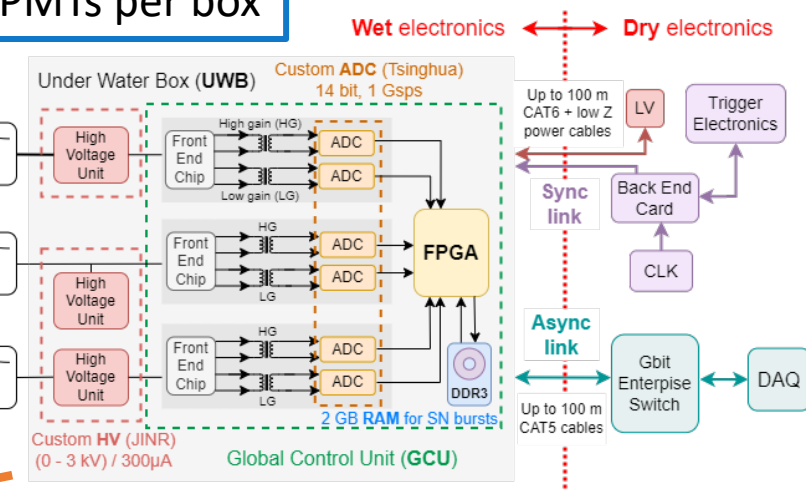
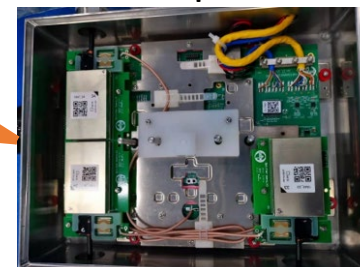


2023-02-22 3-inch PMTs

20-inch PMTs



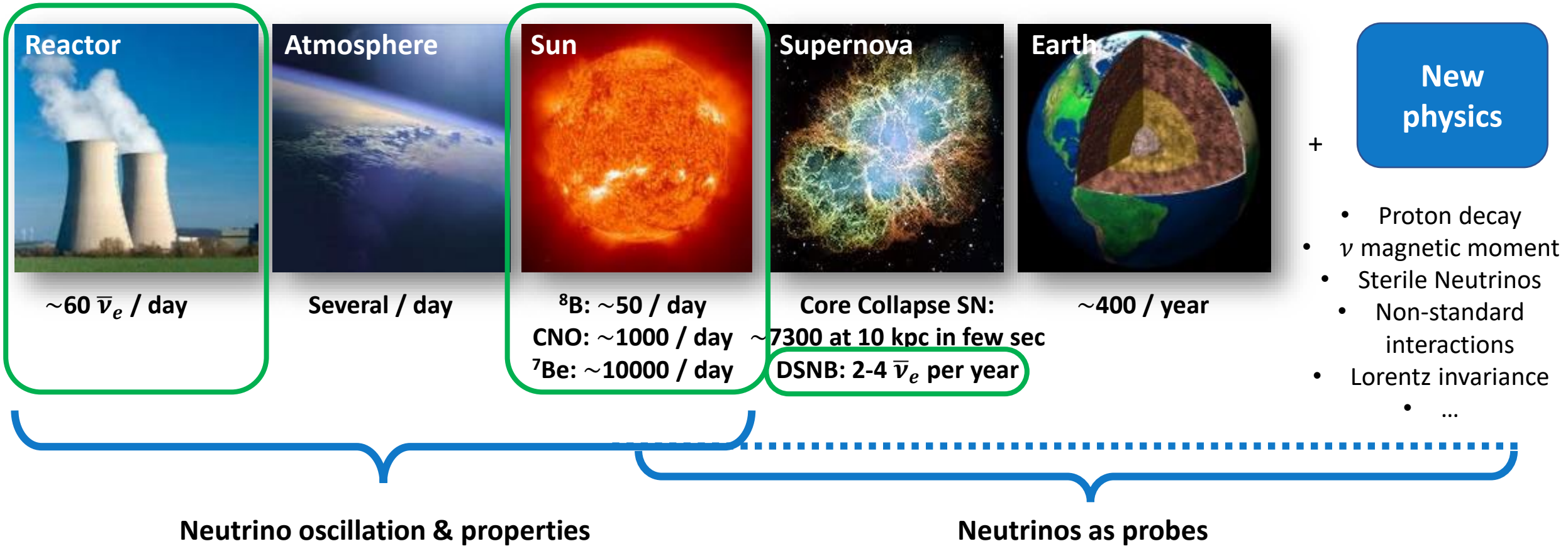
Open box



Successful first light-off test done in December 2022!



# JUNO: a Neutrino Observatory

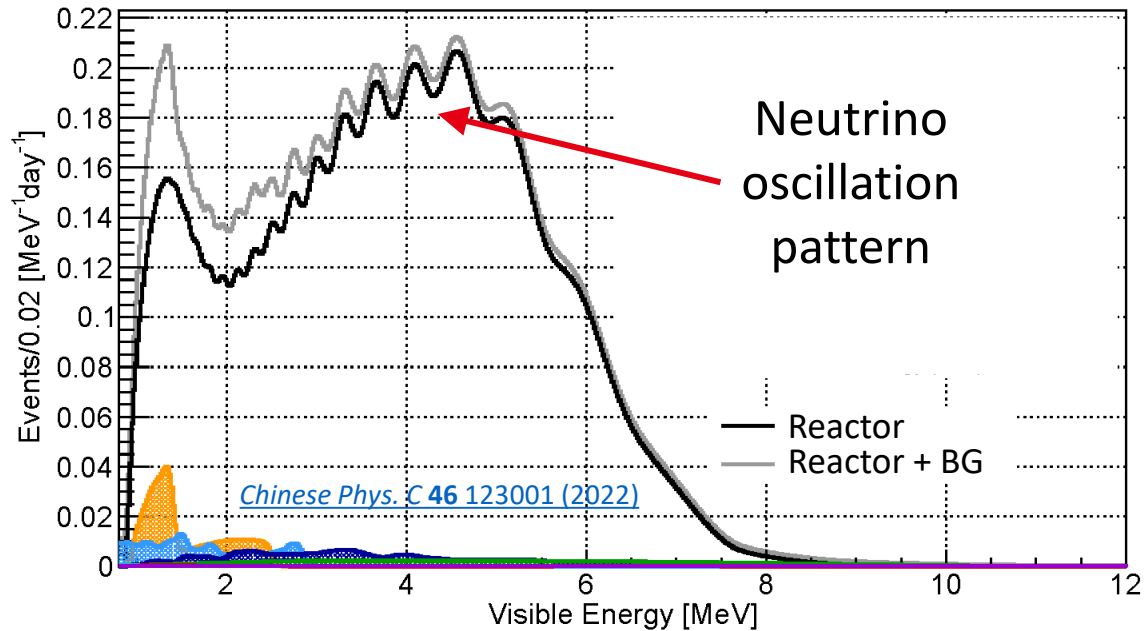


Original sensitivities studies: Neutrino Physics with JUNO, [2016 J. Phys. G: Nucl. Part. Phys. 43 030401](#)

Updated studies: JUNO Physics and Detectors, [Prog. Part. Nucl. Phys. 123 \(2022\) 103927](#)

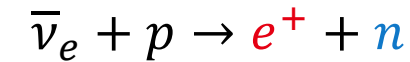


# Reactor $\bar{\nu}_e$ analysis



Signal source: 26.6 GW<sub>th</sub> from 2 reactor plants

Detection via inverse beta decay:



**Prompt signal:** positron

**Delayed signal:** n-H (2.22 MeV,  $\tau \sim 200 \mu\text{s}$ )

Prompt-delayed coincidence to suppress background

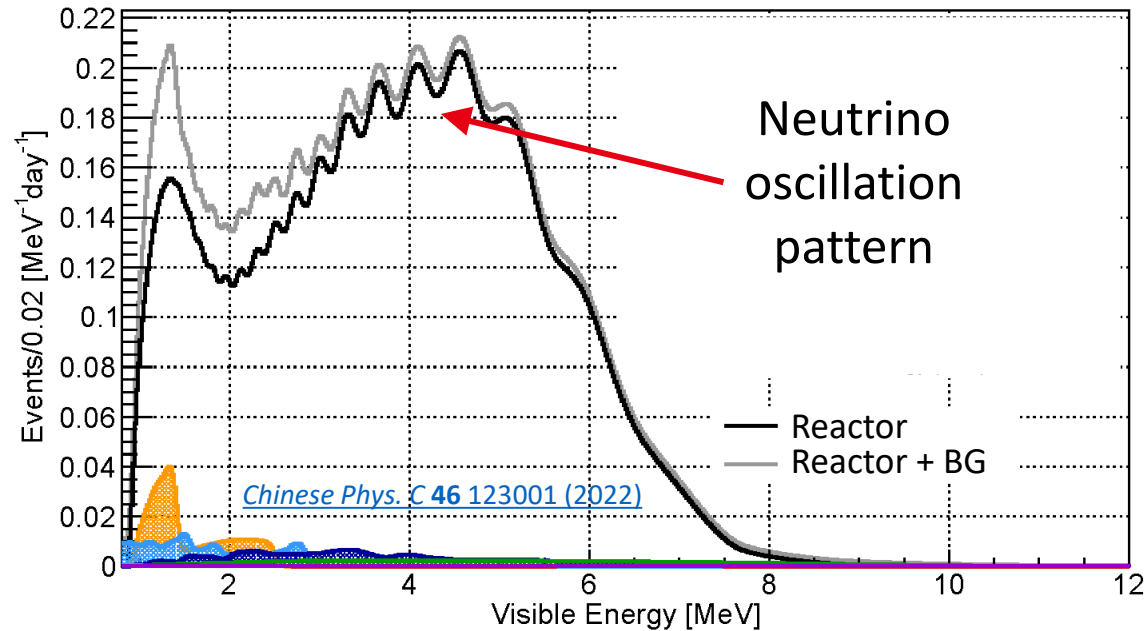
Expected signal rate: 47.1 IBD/day

Expected background rate: 4.11 /day

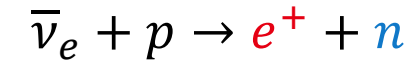
after  
selection cuts



# Reactor $\bar{\nu}_e$ analysis: neutrino mass ordering



Signal source: 26.6 GW<sub>th</sub> from 2 reactor plants  
 Detection via inverse beta decay:



Prompt signal: positron

Delayed signal: n-H (2.22 MeV,  $\tau \sim 200 \mu\text{s}$ )

Prompt-delayed coincidence to suppress background

Expected signal rate: 47.1 IBD/day

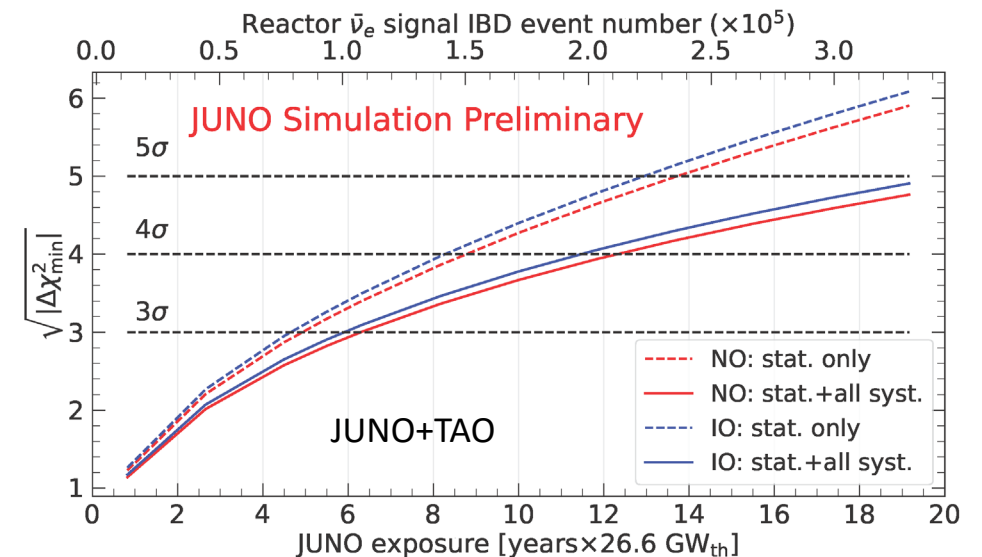
Expected background rate: 4.11 /day

after  
selection cuts

JUNO expected sensitivity on  
 neutrino mass ordering:  
 $3\sigma$  in  $\sim 6$  years with 26.6 GW<sub>th</sub>

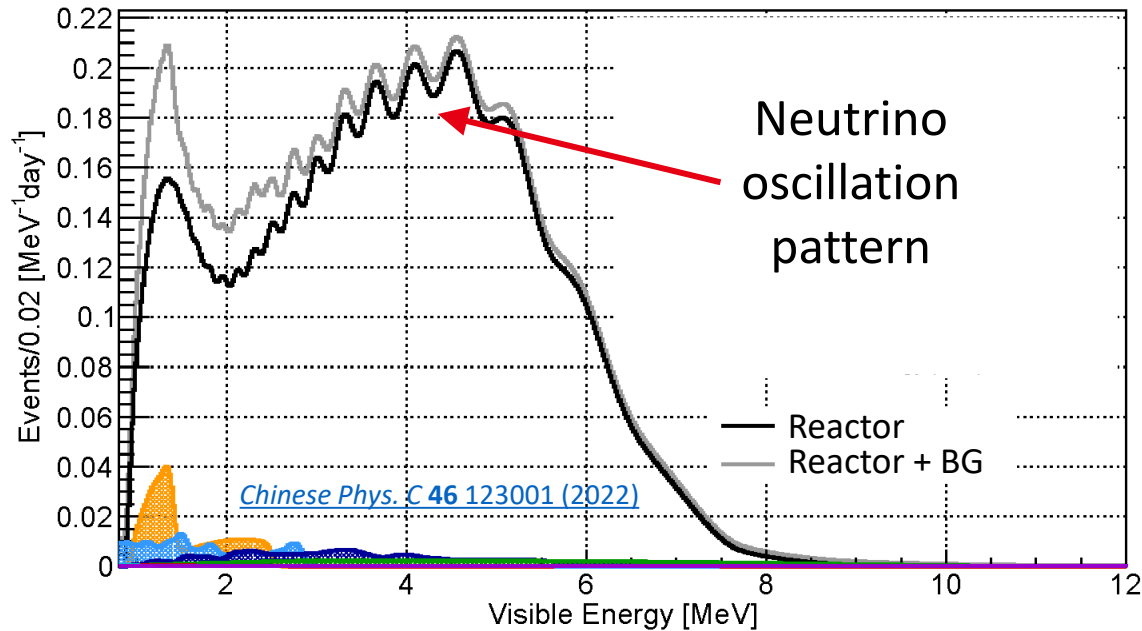
a paper is under preparation

[zenodo.6775075](https://zenodo.org/record/6775075) @ Neutrino 2022



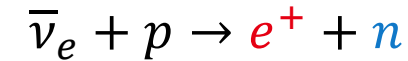


# Reactor $\bar{\nu}_e$ analysis: oscillation parameters



Signal source: 26.6 GW<sub>th</sub> from 2 reactor plants

Detection via inverse beta decay:



**Prompt signal:** positron

**Delayed signal:** n-H (2.22 MeV,  $\tau \sim 200 \mu\text{s}$ )

Prompt-delayed coincidence to suppress background

Expected signal rate: 47.1 IBD/day

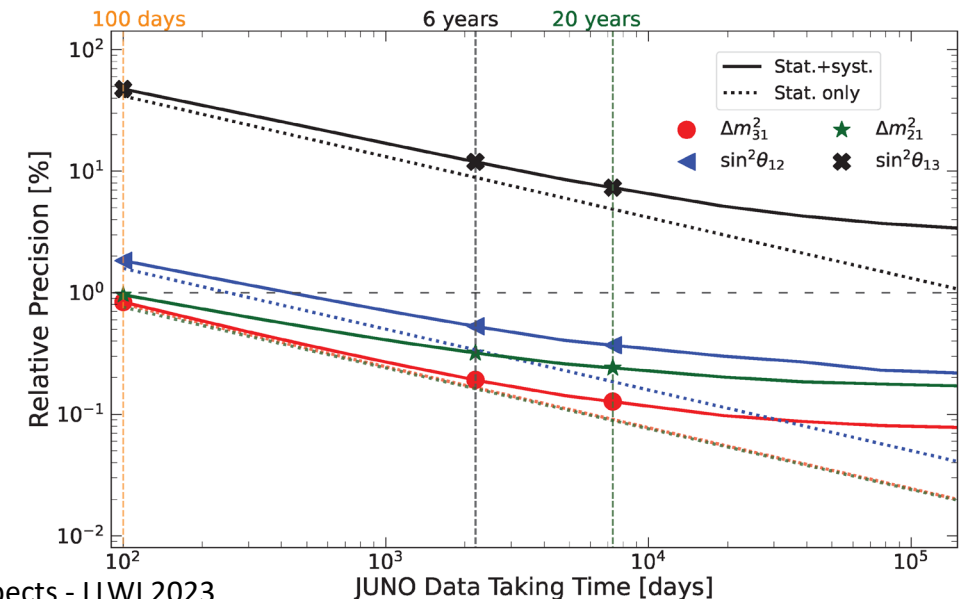
Expected background rate: 4.11 /day

after selection cuts

Sub-percent precision on  $\Delta m_{31}^2$  and  $\Delta m_{21}^2$  within 100 days  
 Sub-percent precision on  $\sin^2 \theta_{12}$  within 1 year

	$\Delta m_{31}^2$	$\Delta m_{21}^2$	$\sin^2 \theta_{12}$	$\sin^2 \theta_{13}$
PDG 2020	1.4%	2.4%	4.2%	3.2%
JUNO 6 years	$\sim 0.2\%$	$\sim 0.3\%$	$\sim 0.5\%$	$\sim 12\%$

[Chinese Phys. C 46 123001 \(2022\)](#)

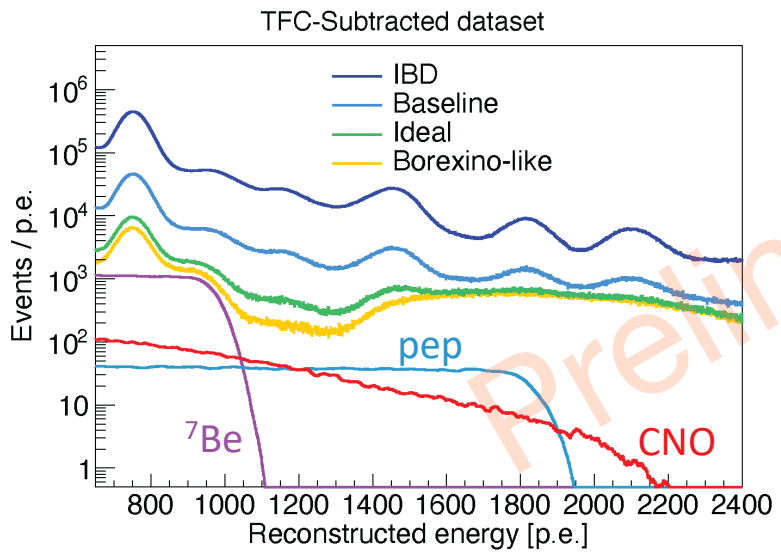




# Solar neutrinos

## Intermediate-energy $\nu$ : ${}^7\text{Be}$ , pep, CNO

- Different radiopurity scenarios
- Improve Borexino results:  ${}^7\text{Be}$  and pep in 1-2 years  
CNO in 2-4 years
- New paper soon on arXiv

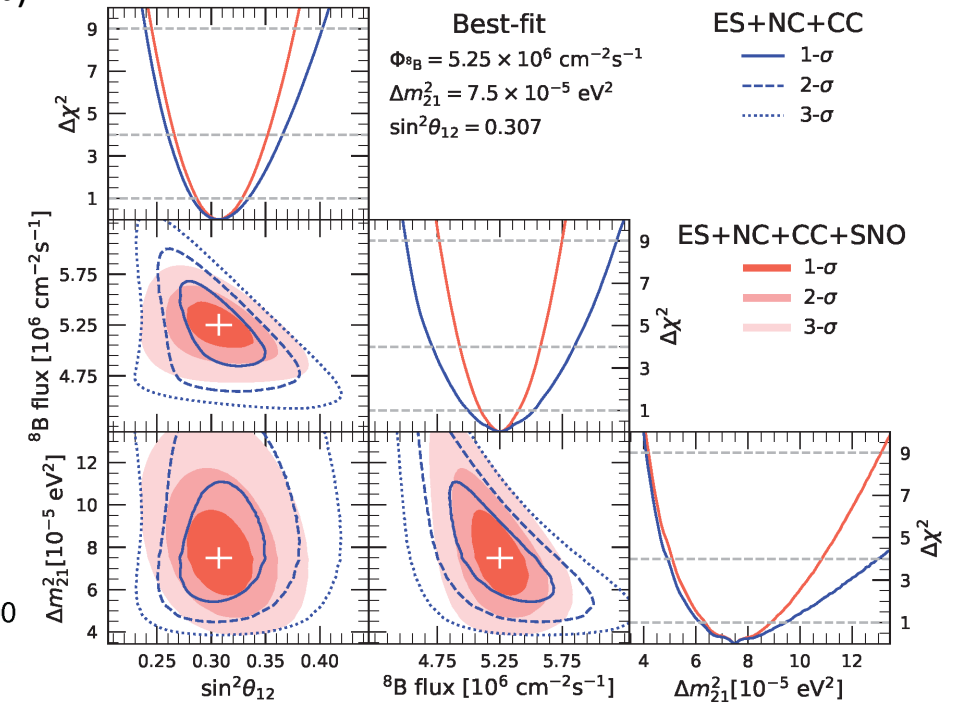
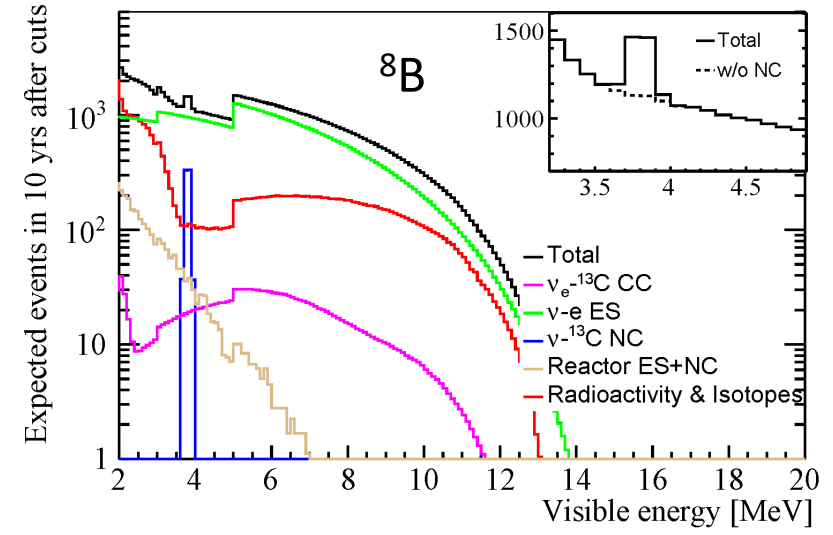
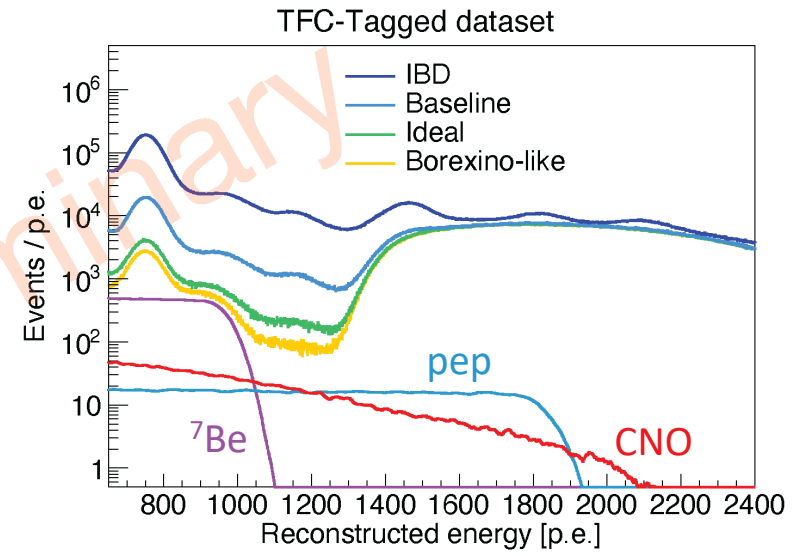


Detection through elastic scattering on  $e^-$

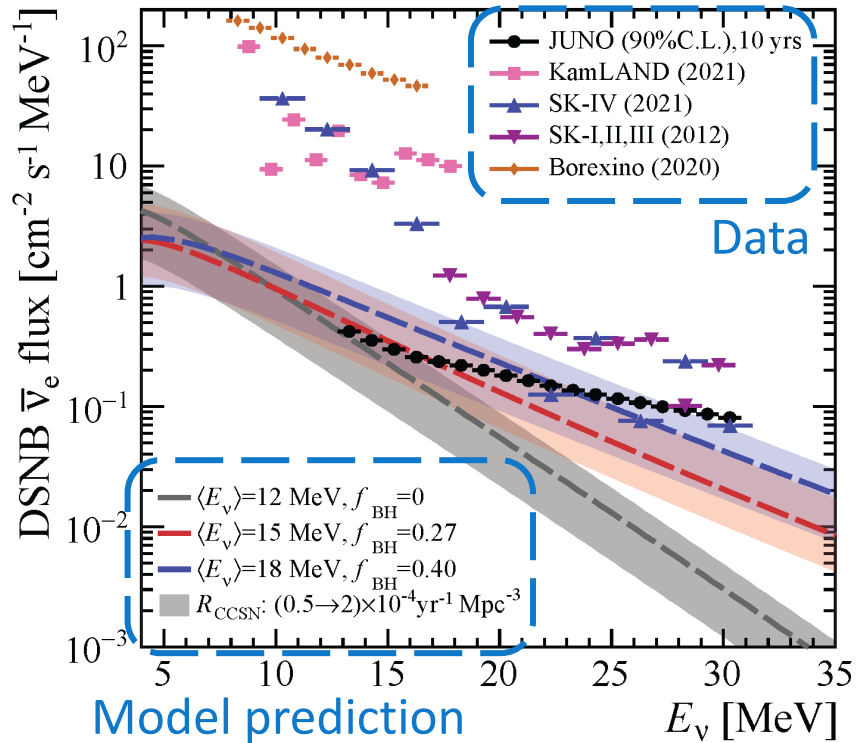
## High-energy $\nu$ : ${}^8\text{B}$

expected precision in 10 years:

- ${}^8\text{B}$  flux: 5%
  - $\sin^2\theta_{12}$ : +9% / -8%
  - $\Delta m_{21}^2$ : +25% / -17%
- [arXiv:2210.08437](https://arxiv.org/abs/2210.08437) (submitted to APJ)



# Diffuse Supernova Neutrino Background (DSNB)

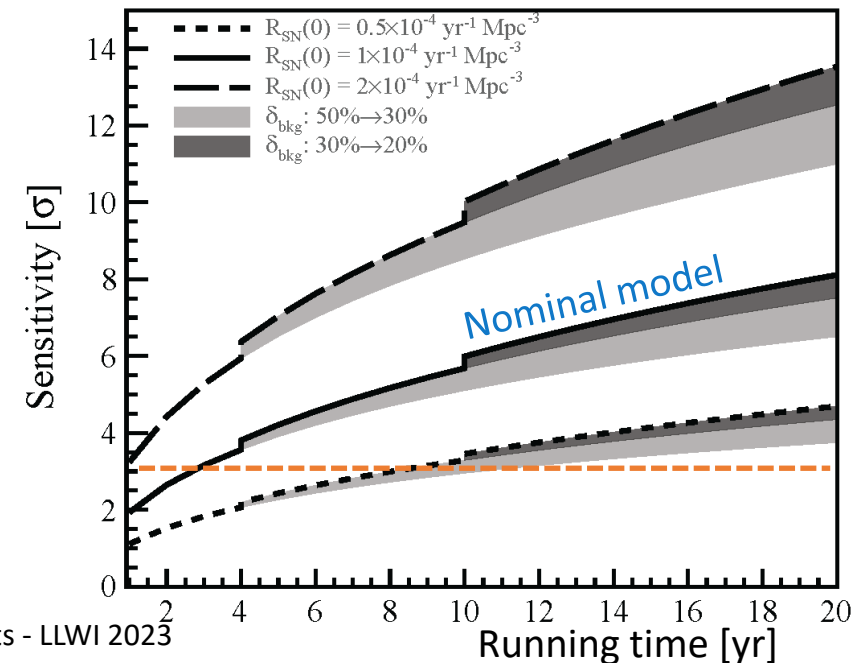


Integrated flux of all past Supernovae (SN) explosions in the visible Universe

- Not yet observed
- Expected signal: few IBD per year
- Main backgrounds:
  - IBD from reactor  $\nu$  ( $E > 10$  MeV)
  - NC interactions from atmospheric  $\nu$  on  $^{12}\text{C}$  (pulse shape discrimination – efficiency 50%  $\rightarrow$  80%)

DSNB discovery potential:  
3 $\sigma$  in 3 years with nominal model

[JCAP10\(2022\)033](#)





# The JUNO Collaboration

International collaboration  
75 Institutes from 18 countries  
> 650 collaborators

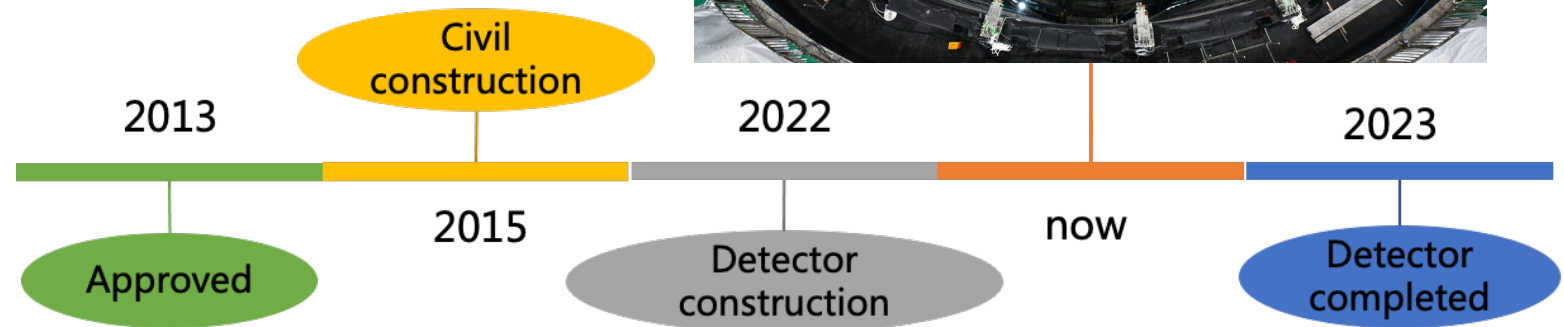
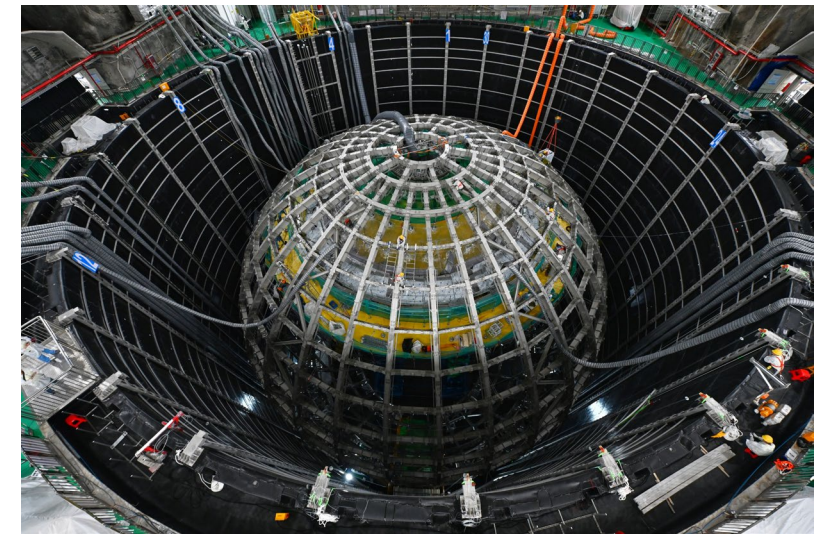


Country	Institute	Country	Institute	Country	Institute
Armenia	Yerevan Physics Institute	China	SYSU	Germany	U. Mainz
Belgium	Universite libre de Bruxelles	China	Tsinghua U.	Germany	U. Tuebingen
Brazil	PUC	China	UCAS	Italy	INFN Catania
Brazil	UEL	China	USTC	Italy	INFN di Frascati
Chile	PCUC	China	U. of South China	Italy	INFN-Ferrara
Chile	SAPHIR	China	Wu Yi U.	Italy	INFN-Milano
Chile	UNAB	China	Wuhan U.	Italy	INFN-Milano Bicocca
China	BISEE	China	Xi'an JT U.	Italy	INFN-Padova
China	Beijing Normal U.	China	Xiamen University	Italy	INFN-Perugia
China	CAGS	China	Zhengzhou U.	Italy	INFN-Roma 3
China	ChongQing University	China	NUDT	Latvia	IECS
China	CIAE	China	CUG-Beijing	Pakistan	PINSTECH (PAEC)
China	DGUT	China	ECUT-Nanchang City	Russia	INR Moscow
China	Guangxi U.	China	CDUT-Chengdu	Russia	JINR
China	Harbin Institute of Technology	Czech	Charles U.	Russia	MSU
China	IHEP	Finland	University of Jyvaskyla	Slovakia	FMPICU
China	Jilin U.	France	IJCLab Orsay	Taiwan-China	National Chiao-Tung U.
China	Jinan U.	France	LP2i Bordeaux	Taiwan-China	National Taiwan U.
China	Nanjing U.	France	CPPM Marseille	Taiwan-China	National United U.
China	Nankai U.	France	IPHC Strasbourg	Thailand	NARIT
China	NCEPU	France	Subatech Nantes	Thailand	PPRLCU
China	Pekin U.	Germany	RWTH Aachen U.	Thailand	SUT
China	Shandong U.	Germany	TUM	U.K.	U. Warwick
China	Shanghai JT U.	Germany	U. Hamburg	USA	UMD-G
China	IGG-Beijing	Germany	FZJ-IKP	USA	UC Irvine

21st JUNO collaboration meeting, Feb. 6-10, 2023, Kaiping

# Summary

- JUNO is a multi-purpose large LS detector
- Construction is ongoing



- Broad physics reach  
neutrino mass ordering:  $3\sigma$  in 6 years  
 $\Delta m_{31}^2, \Delta m_{21}^2, \sin^2 \theta_{12}$  precision  $< 1\%$  in 1 year  
solar:  ${}^7\text{Be}$ , pep, CNO,  ${}^8\text{B}$   
DSNB:  $3\sigma$  in 3 years  
...

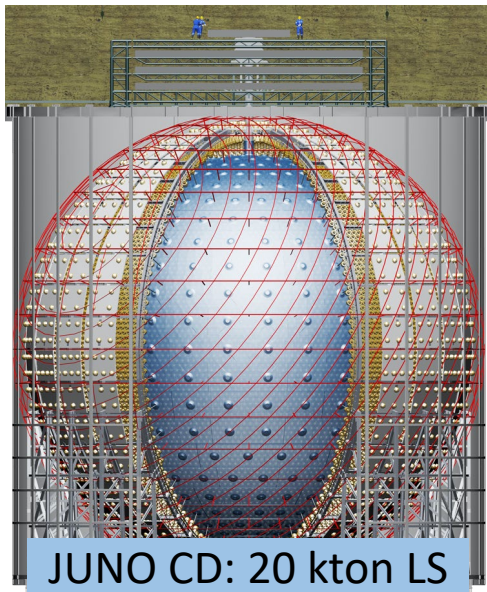
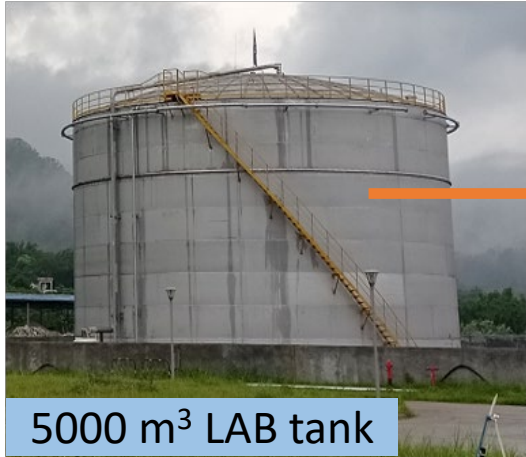
Stay tuned!  
Thank you for listening!



# Backup

# LS: Radiopurity control strategy

Most installation done  
Commissioning will start soon



85%

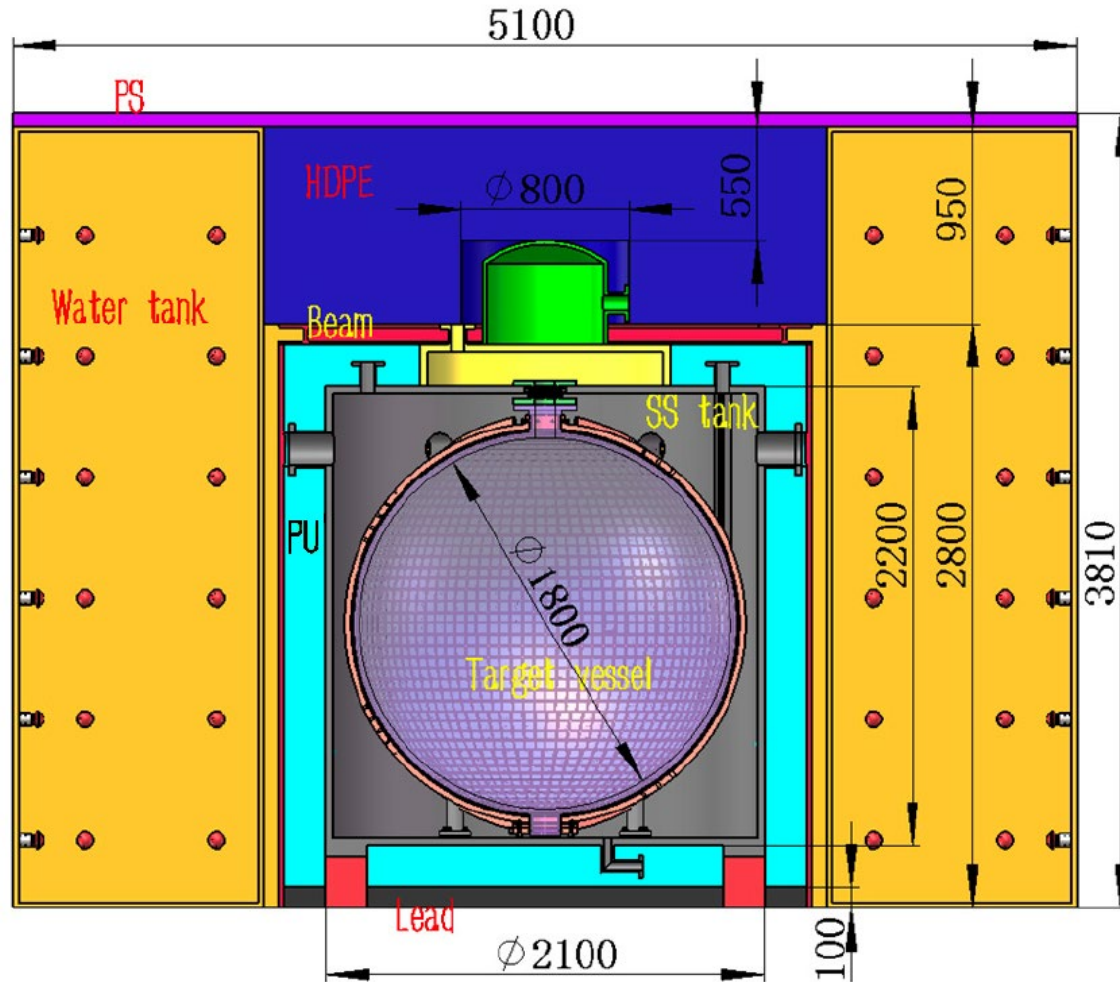


15%





# Taishan Antineutrino Observatory - TAO



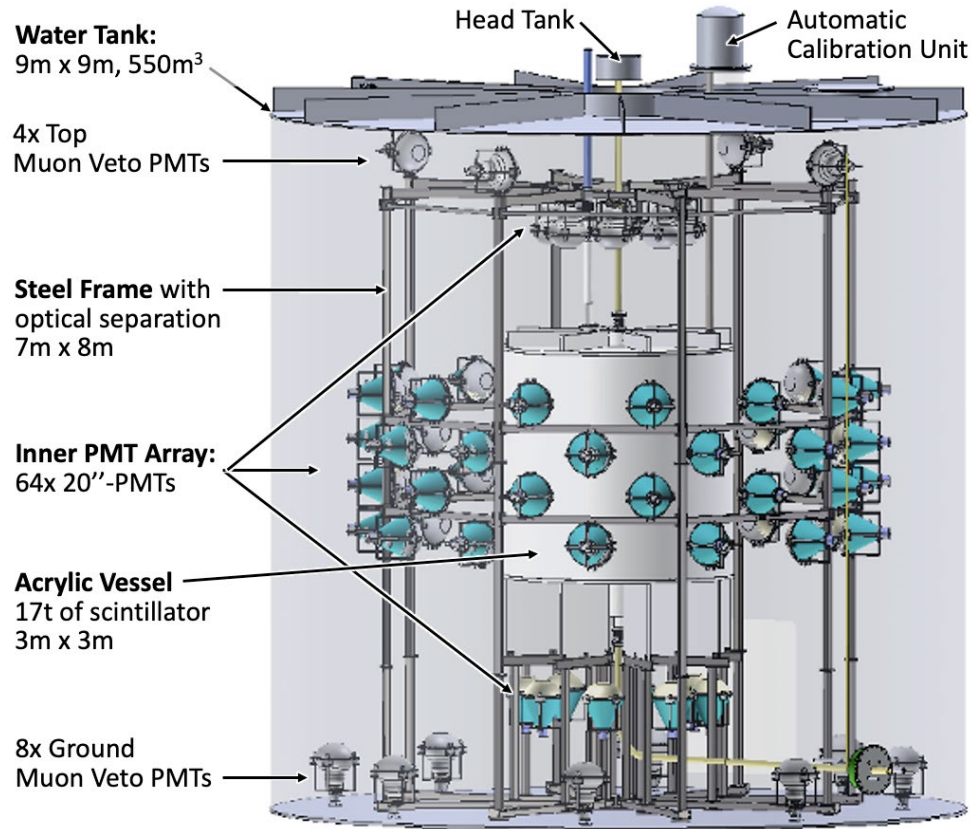
[arXiv: 2005.08745](https://arxiv.org/abs/2005.08745)

- 2.8 ton Gd-LS in acrylic vessel
- 10 m<sup>2</sup> SiPM → ~94% coverage
- 50% PDE for light detection
- Operated @ -50°C
- 4500 PE/MeV
- Energy resolution < 2% @ 1 MeV
- 30 m from Taishan core

## Main goals:

- Reference spectrum for JUNO
- Benchmark for nuclear databases
- Isotopic yields and spectra
- Search for sterile neutrinos

# Online Scintillator Internal Radioactivity Investigation System - OSIRIS



[EPJC 81 \(2021\) 973](#)

A 20 ton detector to monitor LS radiopurity before and during JUNO detector filling

280 PE/MeV

Energy resolution: 6% @ 1 MeV

64 x 20-inch PMTs for LS – 9% coverage

12 x 20-inch PMTs for muon veto

Expected sensitivity:

- $\sim 10^{-15}$  g/g for U/Th in a few days (reactor)
- $\sim 10^{-17}$  g/g for U/Th in 2-3 weeks (solar)

Other measurable isotopes:  $^{14}\text{C}$ ,  $^{210}\text{Po}$ ,  $^{85}\text{Kr}$

Possible upgrade to Serappis [Eur. Phys. J. C 82, 779 \(2022\)](#)  
(Search for RAre PP-neutrinos In Scintillator)



# Veto Water Cherenkov detector

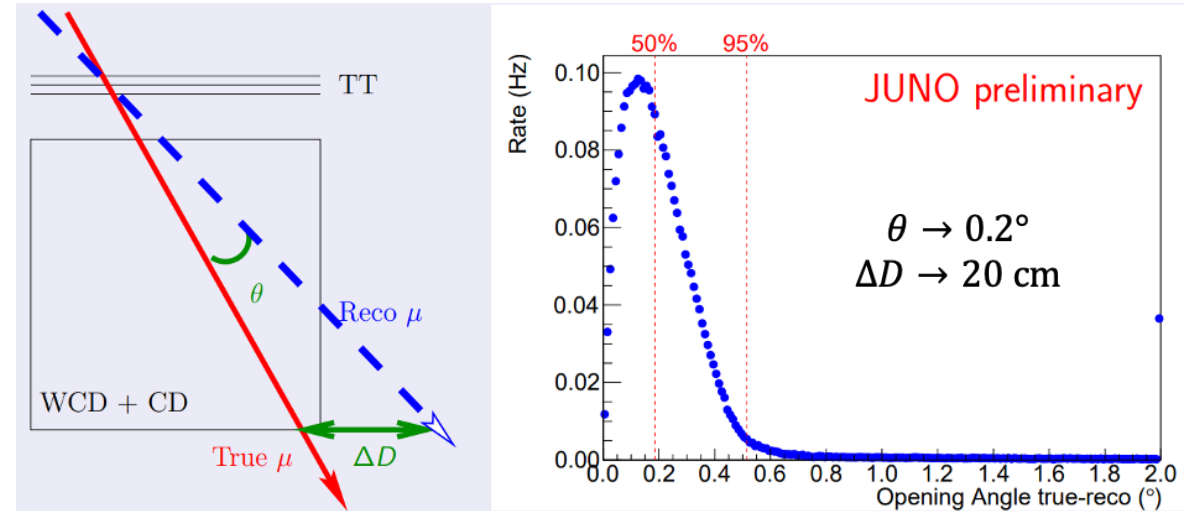
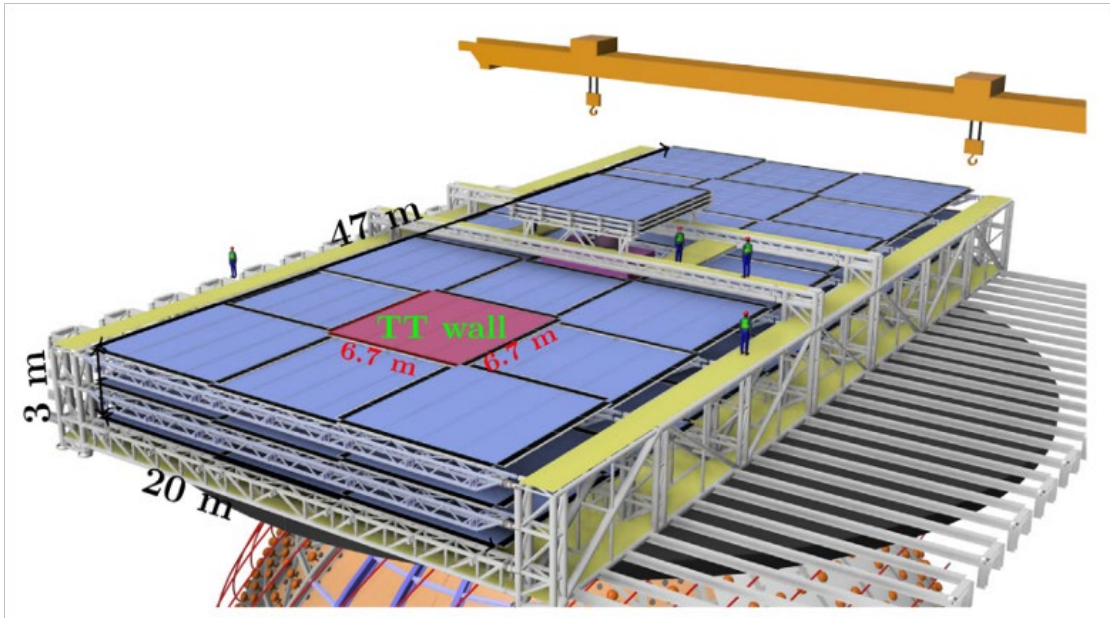
~650 m rock overburden (1800 m.w.e.) → muon rate: 4 Hz, mean muon energy: 207 GeV



35 kton of ultra-pure water serving as passive shield and Water Cherenkov detector

- 2400 20-inch MCP PMTs, detection efficiency of cosmic muons larger than 99.5%
- Keep the temperature uniform and stable at  $(21 \pm 1)^\circ\text{C}$
- Quality:  $^{222}\text{Rn} < 10 \text{ mBq/m}^3$ , attenuation length 30~40 m

# Veto detector: Top Tracker

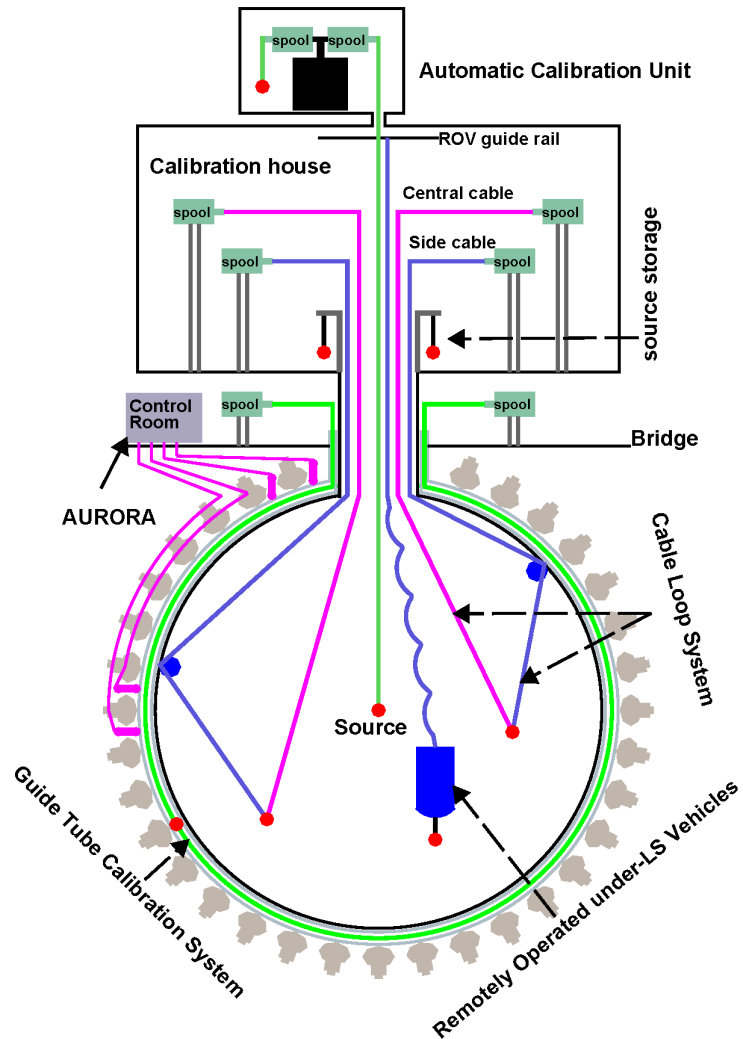


3 layers of **plastic scintillators** refurbished from the OPERA experiment:

- Covering about 50% of the top of the water pool
- Three scintillator layers to reduce accidental coincidences
- All scintillator panels arrived on site in 2019
- Precision **muon tracking**
- Study of **cosmogenic background**



# Calibration system



4 sub-systems [JHEP 03\(2021\)004](https://arxiv.org/abs/2103.004)

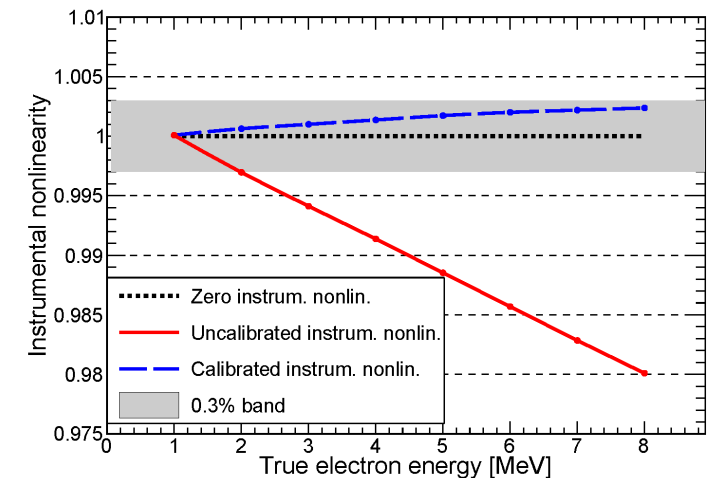
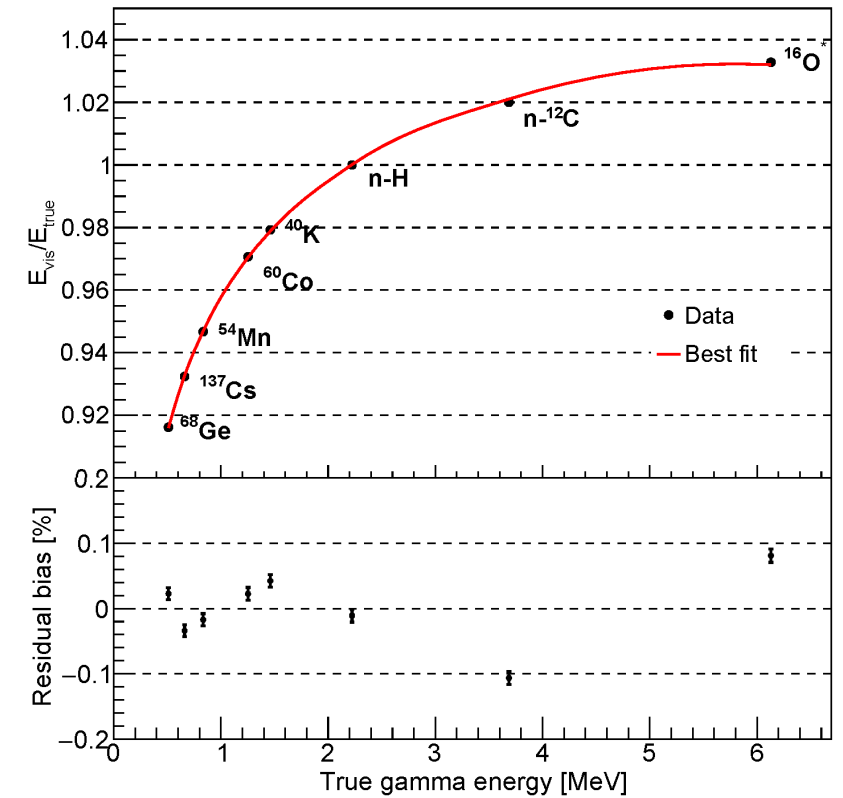
## Liquid scintillator non-linearity:

- 5 gamma sources
- 2 neutron sources
- Continuous  $^{12}\text{B}$  spectrum

## Instrumental non-linearity:

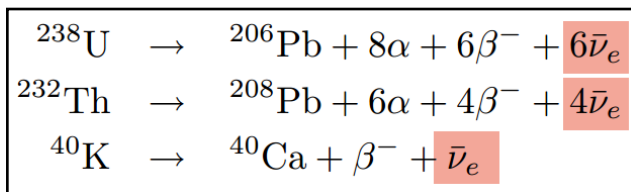
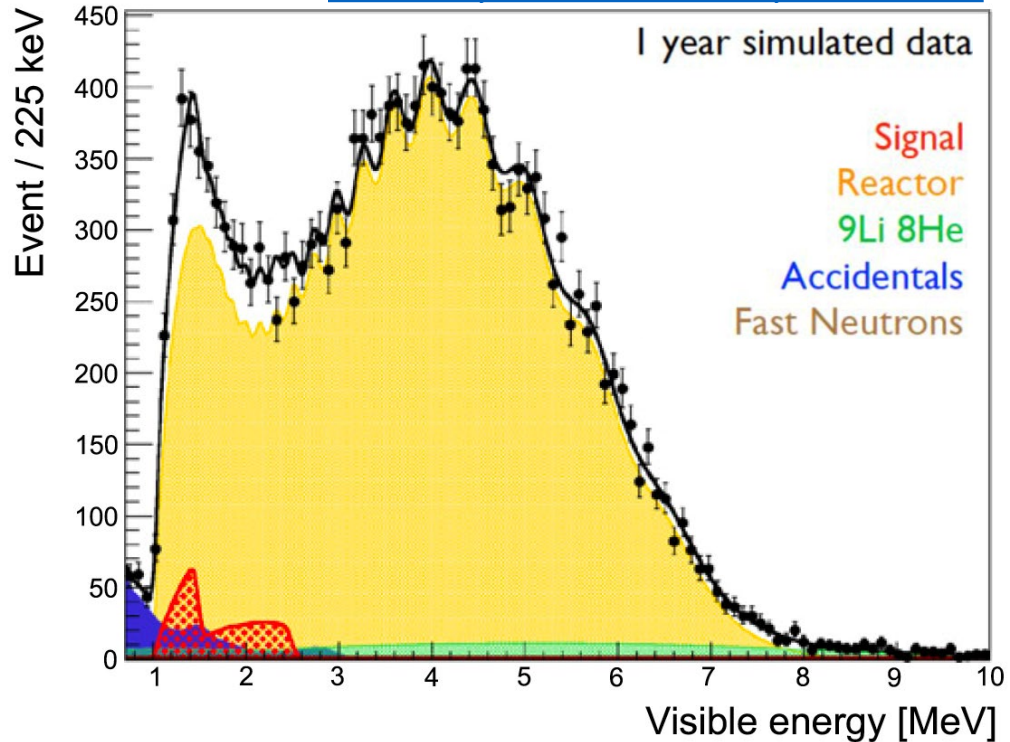
- Tunable UV laser
  - Gamma source
- Dual Calorimetry Calibration\*
- Use 3-inch PMTs as linear reference
  - Correct 20-inch PMT channel-wise non-linearity
- Residual NL < 0.3%

\*Yang Han, <https://hal.archives-ouvertes.fr/tel-03295420v1>



# Geoneutrinos

[2016 J. Phys. G: Nucl. Part. Phys. 43 030401](#)



Motivation:

- Earth radiogenic heat, especially from the mantle
  - U/Th ratio  $\rightarrow$  insight about the Earth formation
- Expected  $\sim 400$  IBD per year
  - Challenge: reactor- $\nu$  background,  $\sim 40$  times larger
  - Flux precision: 13% in 1 year  $\rightarrow$  5% in 10 years (current precision  $\sim 16$ -18%)
  - Sensitive to Th/U ratio at percent level
  - Interdisciplinary team of physicists and geologists at work to develop a local refined crust model (required to get information on the mantle)



# Atmospheric neutrinos

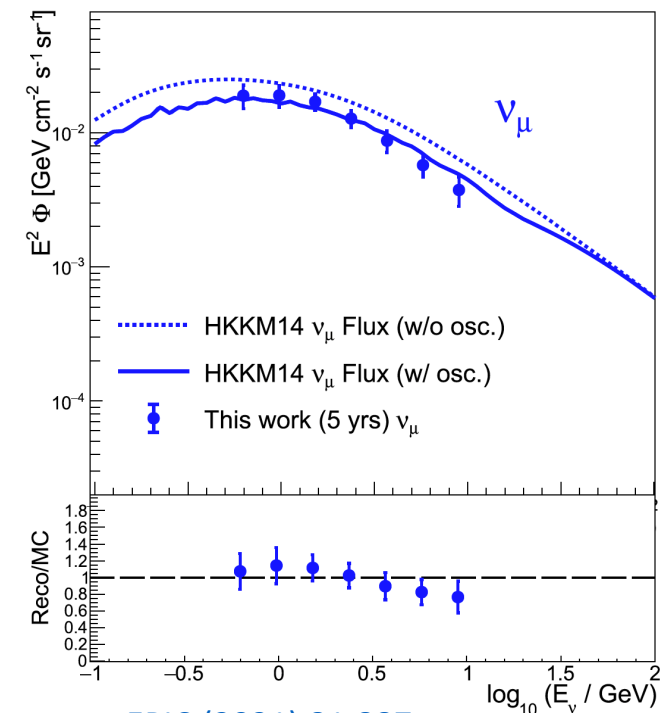
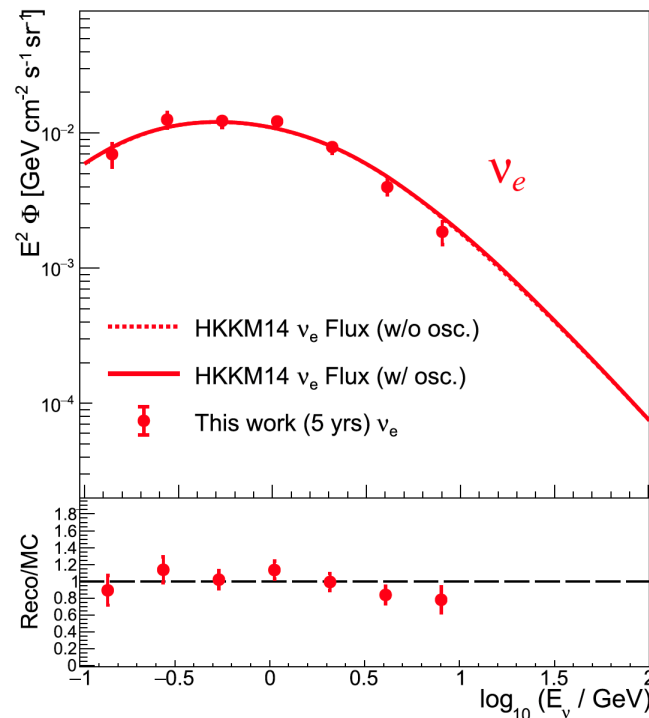
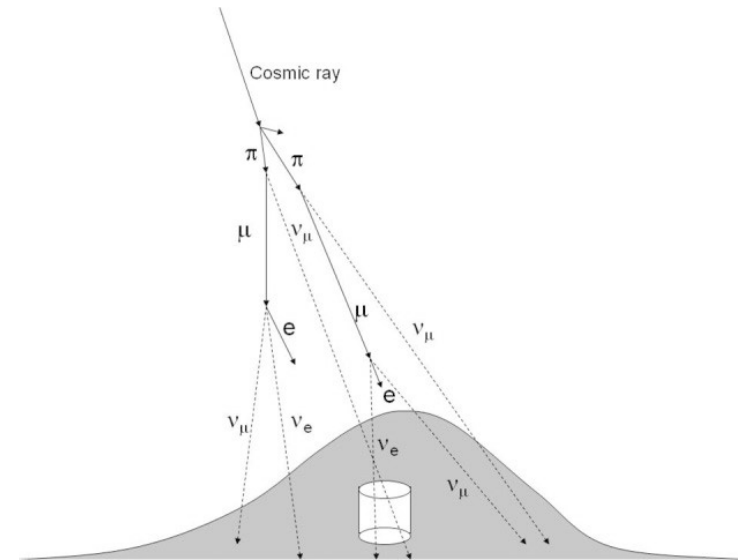
First measurement with LS: can give important inputs in the 100 MeV - 10 GeV energy range

Detection through CC and NC interactions – CC-only analysis

Muon/electron flavour discrimination:  $\nu_e$  and  $\nu_\mu$  spectra with precision of 10% to 25% in 5 years

NMO determination through matter effects – complementary to reactor neutrinos  
→ Combined analysis under study

Measurement of  $\theta_{23}$



[EPJC \(2021\) 81:887](#)

# Supernova (SN) neutrinos

Galactic core-collapse SN (CCSN) rate:  
~3 per century

CCSN emits 99% of energy in form of  
neutrinos

Supernova Burst @ 10 kpc:  
~5000 IBD  
~300 eES  
~2000 pES (all flavours)

Dedicated electronics to handle high  
rate of events within few seconds.

Determination of flavour content,  
energy spectrum,  
time evolution of the signal

