

# Neutrino Physics with SNO+

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XVIII International Conference  
on Topics in Astroparticle and  
Underground Physics 2023



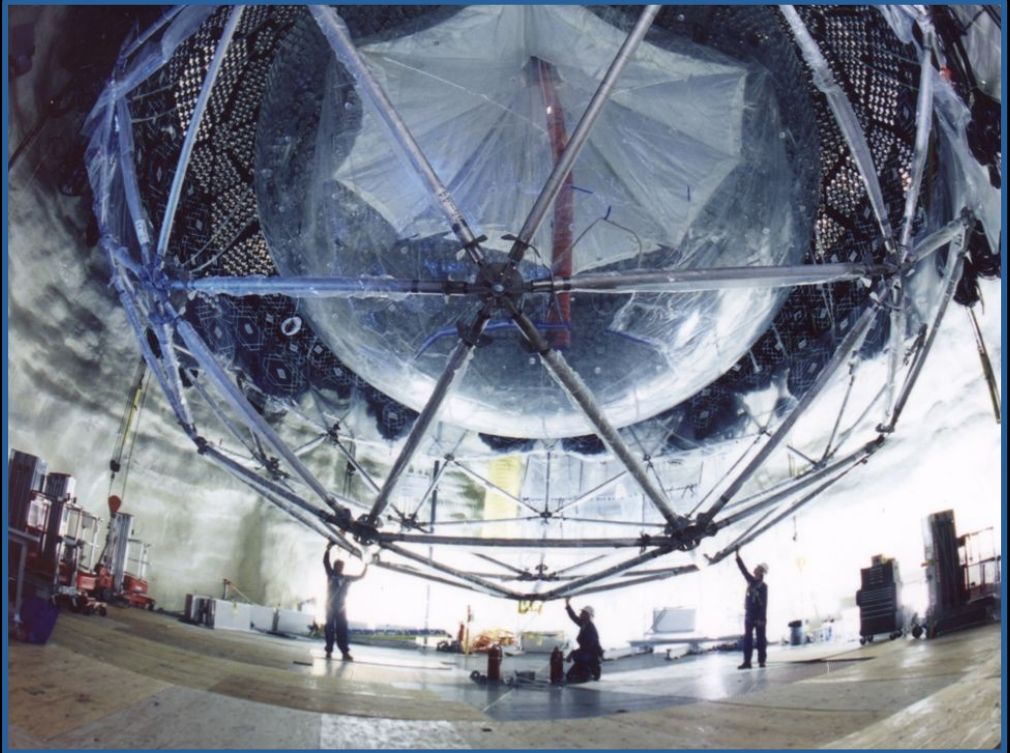
Tanner Kaptanoglu

UC Berkeley

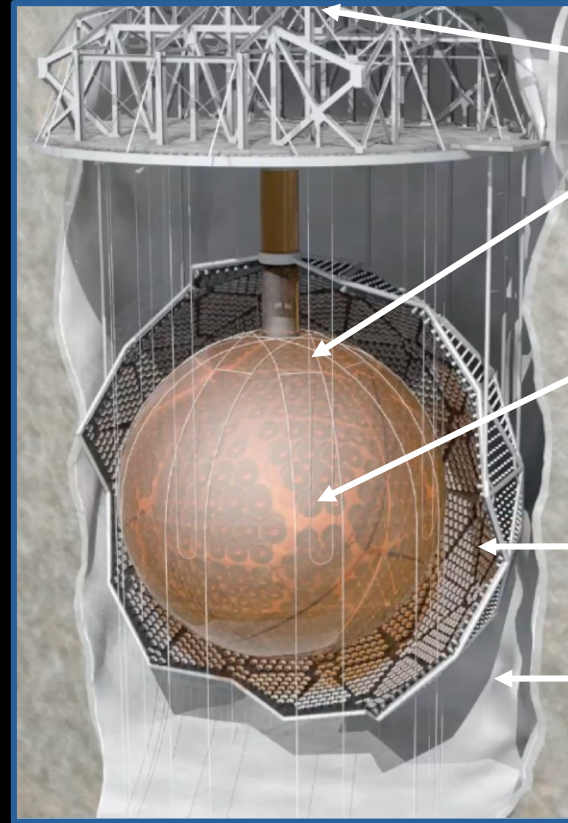
8/31/2023

# Overview

1. The SNO+ detector
2. A phased physics program
3. Solar neutrinos
4. Antineutrinos (reactor & geo)



# SNO+ Detector



6010 m.w.e overburden

Acrylic Vessel  
(12 m diameter)

780 tonnes  
liquid scintillator

~9400 PMTs

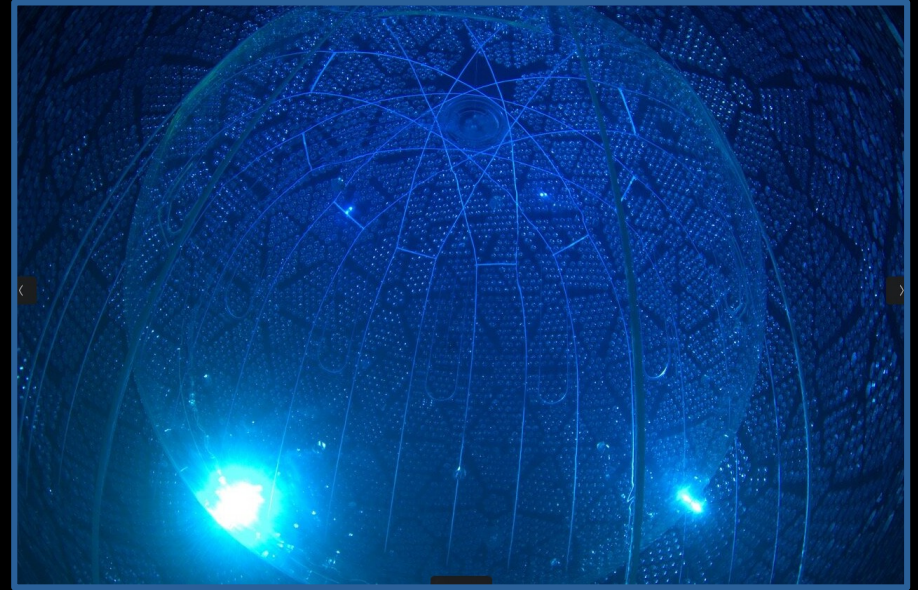
7000 tonnes  
water (buffer)



# Phased Program

## 1. Water phase

calibrations, solar, reactor neutrinos



SNO+ with water, 2017

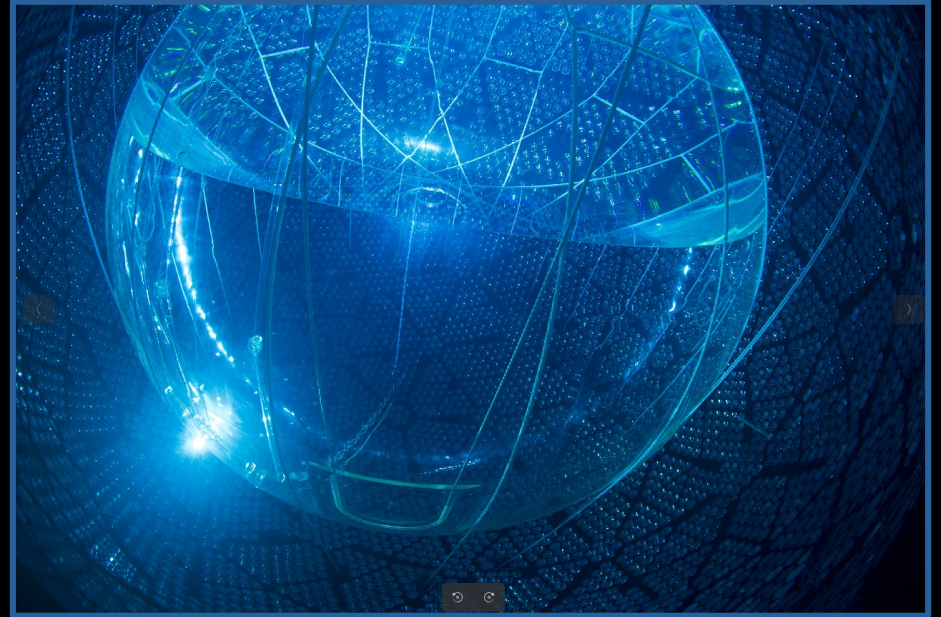
# Phased Program

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## 2. “Partial fill” phase

solar, reactor neutrinos



SNO+ filling with scintillator, 2020



# Phased Program

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calibrations, solar, reactor neutrinos

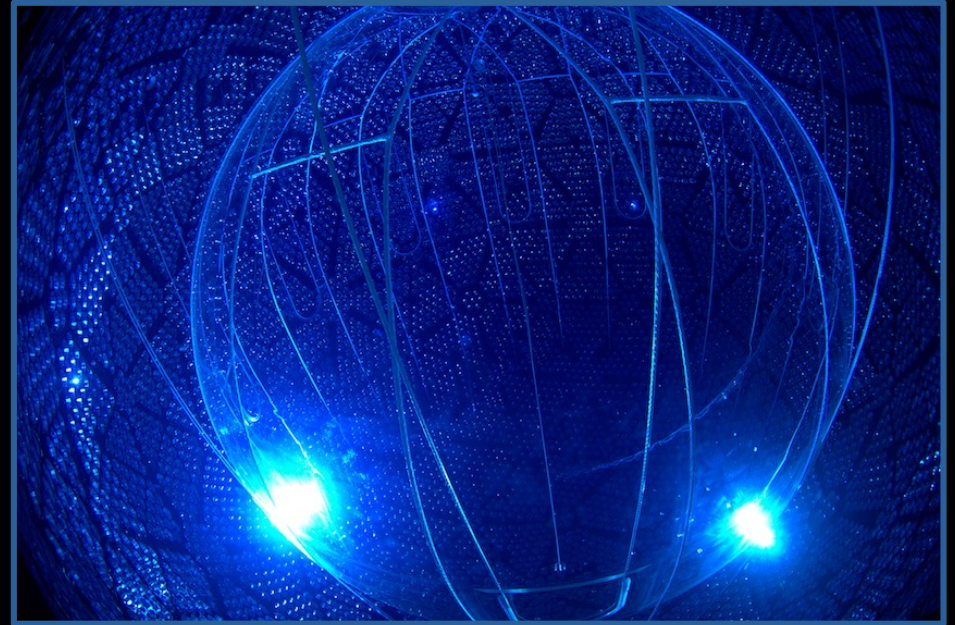
## 2. “Partial fill” phase

solar, reactor neutrinos

## 3. Liquid scintillator phase

solar, reactor, geo neutrinos

Currently full with LS, collecting quality data



SNO+ with scintillator, 2022

# Phased Program

## 1. Water phase

calibrations, solar, reactor neutrinos

## 2. “Partial fill” phase

solar, reactor neutrinos

## 3. Liquid scintillator phase

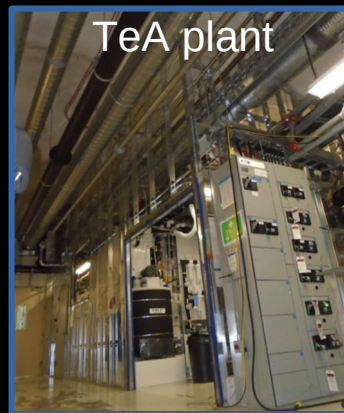
solar, reactor, geo neutrinos

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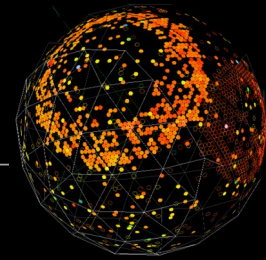
## 4. Te-loaded scintillator phase

solar, reactor,  $0\nu\beta\beta$

Planned deployment in 2024



# Physics Program



*Extremely broad physics program:*

Invisible nucleon decay ( $n \rightarrow \nu \nu \nu$ )

Solar neutrinos

Reactor & geo neutrinos

Supernova neutrinos

$0\nu\beta\beta$

[Neutrinoless double beta decay with SNO+](#)

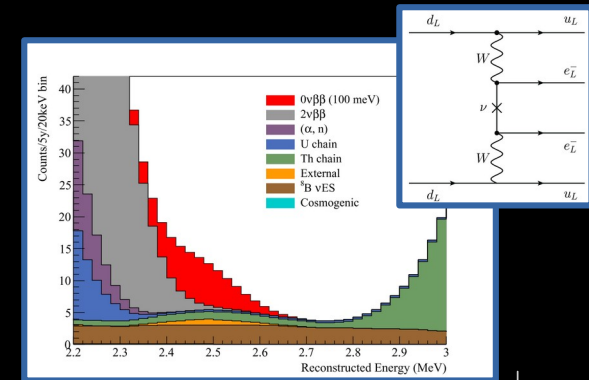
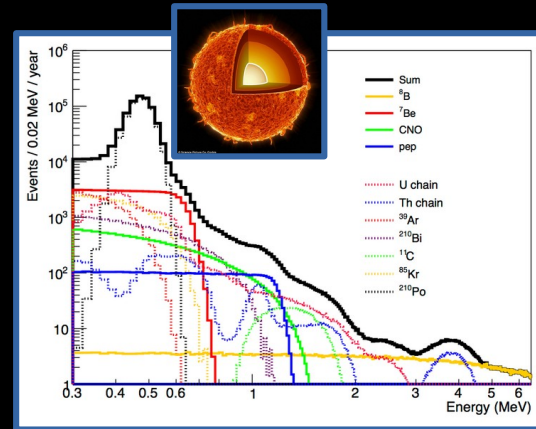
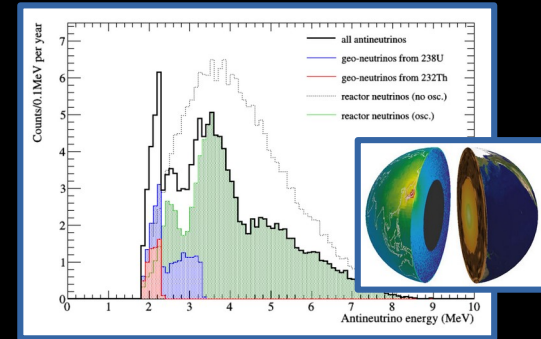
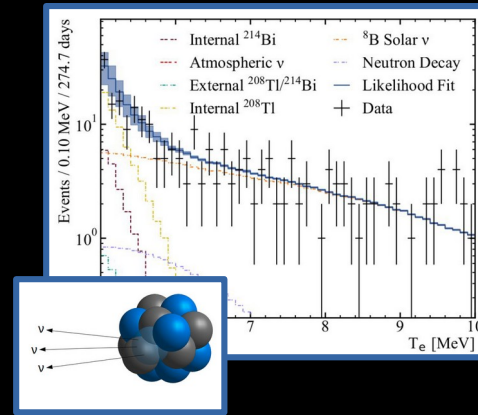
V. Lozza, TAUP 2023, session 5A (133)

[\$0\nu\beta\beta\$  target out analysis for the SNO+ Experiment](#)

B. Tam, TAUP 2023, poster 446

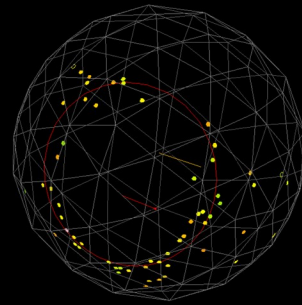
[SNO+ tellurium purification and loading for neutrinoless double beta decay search](#)

S. Manecki and S. Biller, TAUP 2023, poster 346



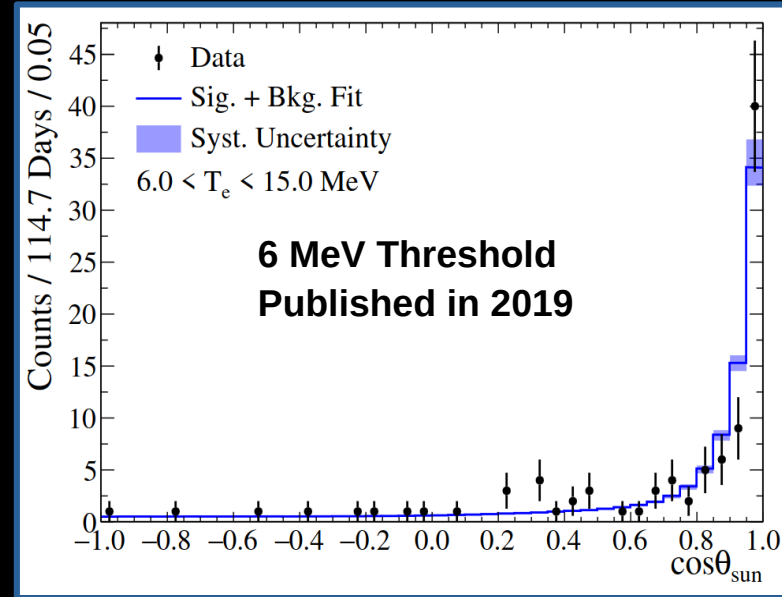
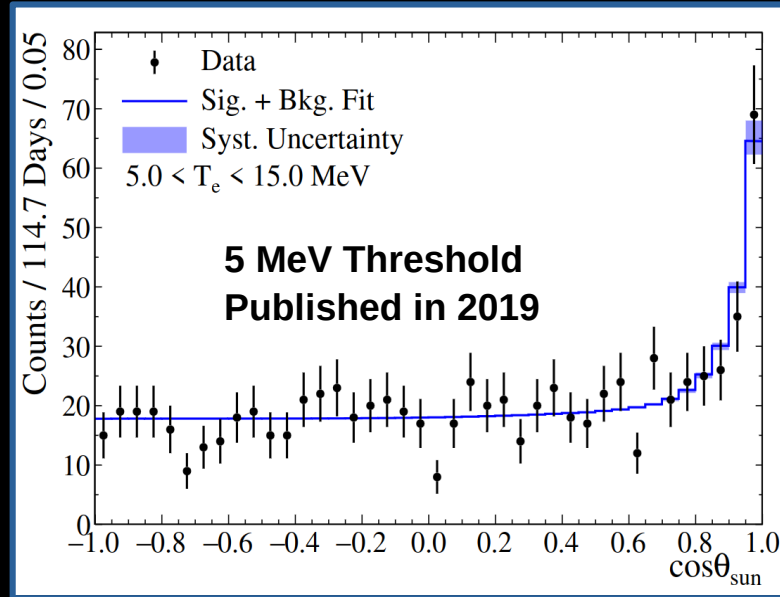


# Water Phase: Solar



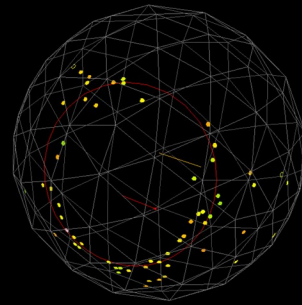
Measurement of  $^8\text{B}$  solar neutrinos performed in 69.2 kt-day dataset [1].

Lowest background measurement of solar neutrinos in a water Cherenkov detector.



[1] SNO+ collaboration, PRD 99, 012012 (2019)

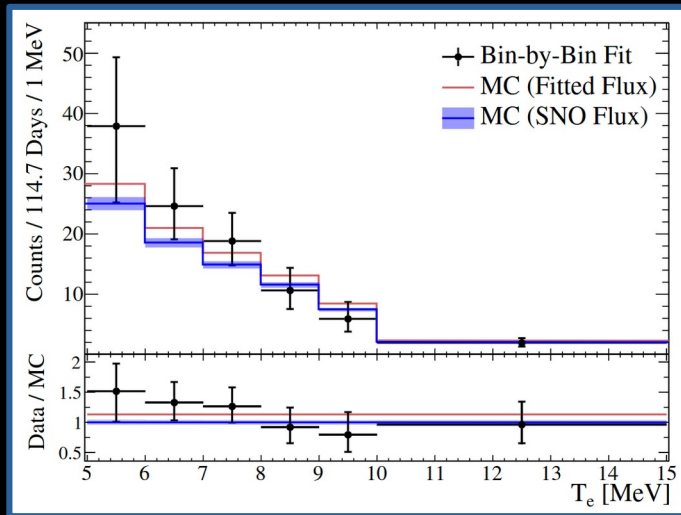
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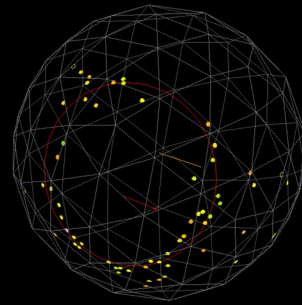
Produced  $^8\text{B}$  flux measurement, binned fit from 5 – 15 MeV.



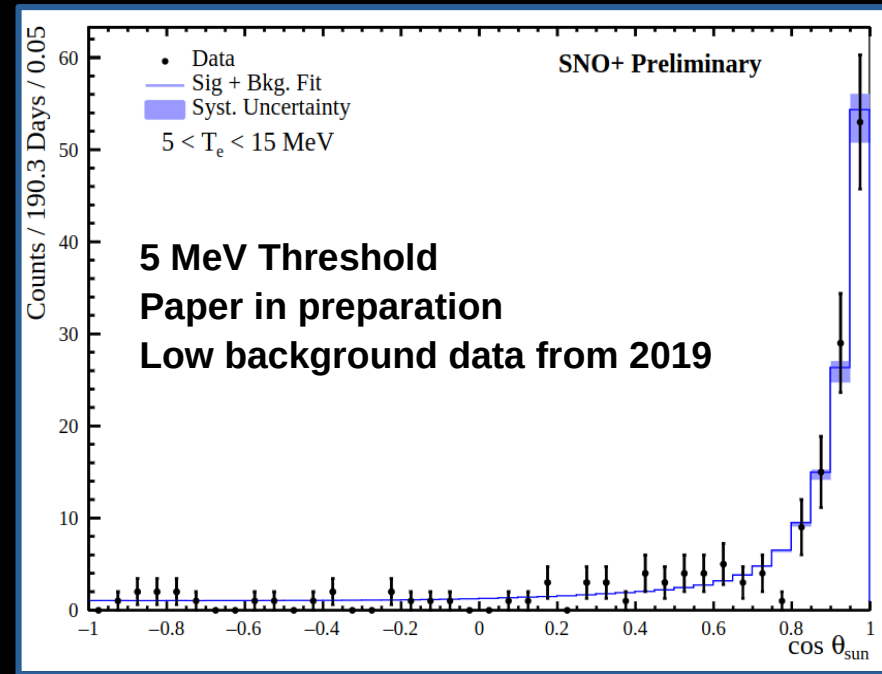
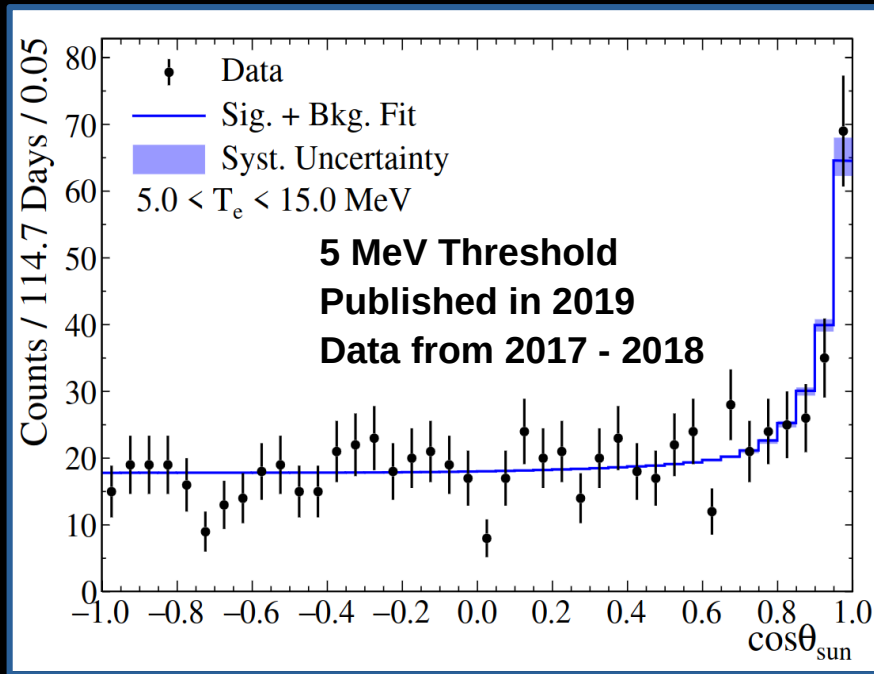
SNO+ water phase I:

$$\Phi_{^8\text{B}} = 5.95^{+0.75}_{-0.71} \text{ (stat.) }^{+0.28}_{-0.30} \text{ (syst.) } \times 10^6 \text{ cm}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$$

# Water Phase: Solar

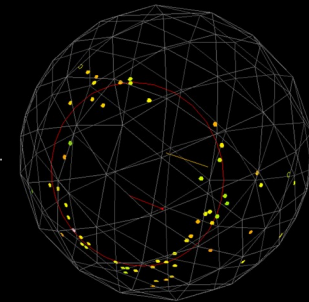


Ongoing work to reduce analysis threshold to 3.5 MeV and add an additional 114.8 kt-days of data with even lower backgrounds.

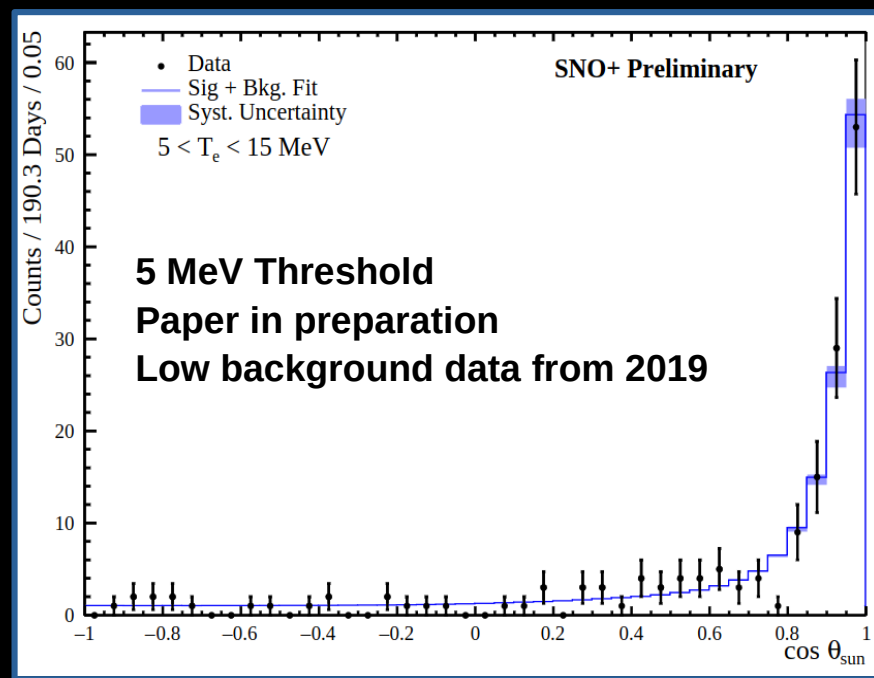
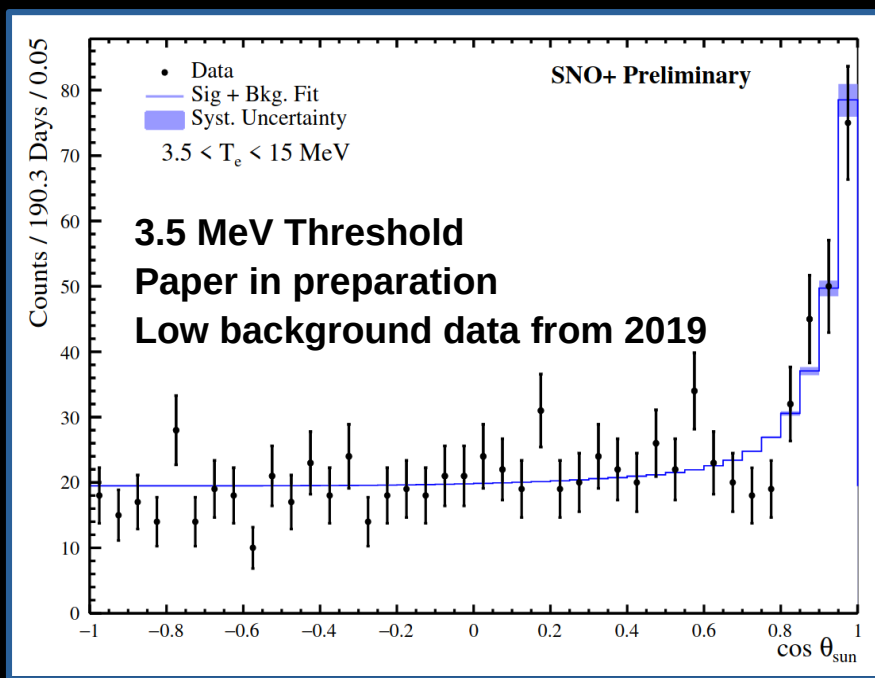




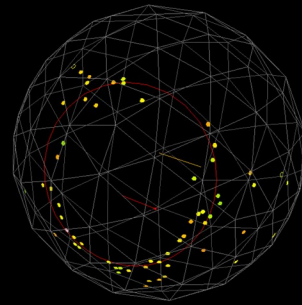
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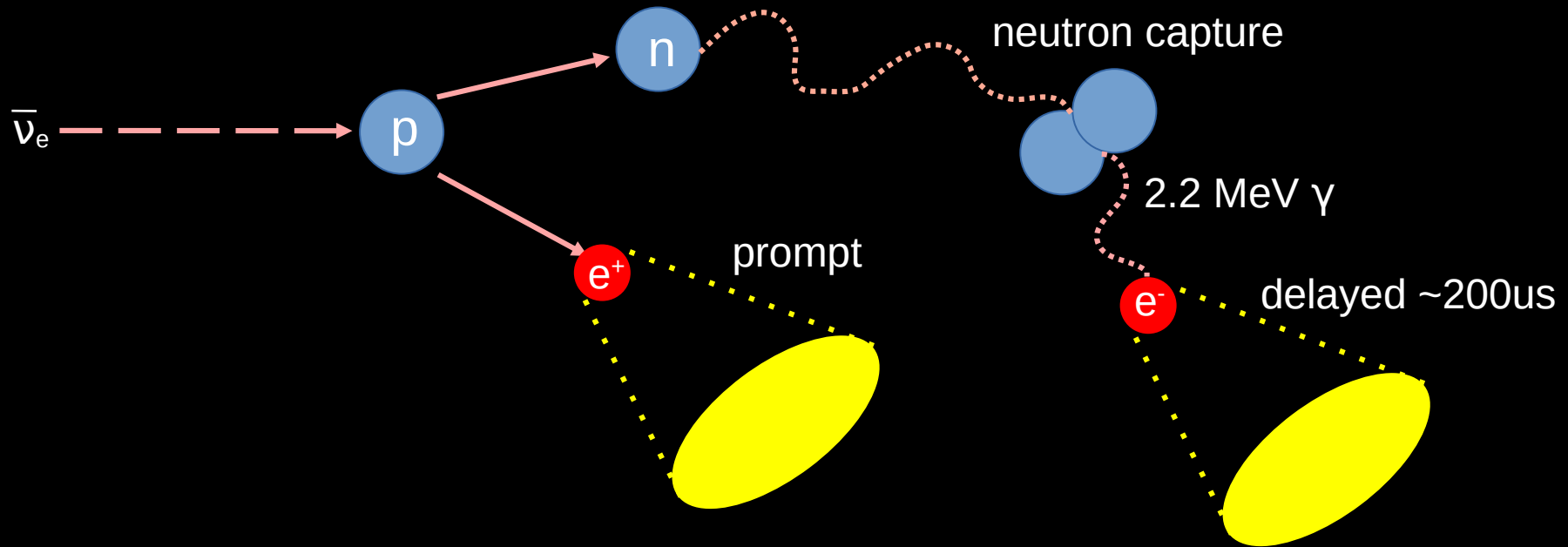
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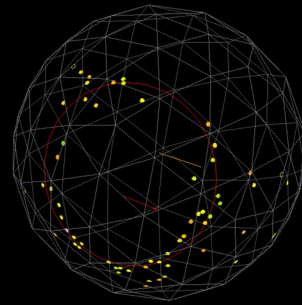
# Water Phase: Reactor



Evidence ( $> 3\sigma$ ) of antineutrinos from distant reactors ( $> 240$  km) using a water Cherenkov detector, for the first time ever [1].



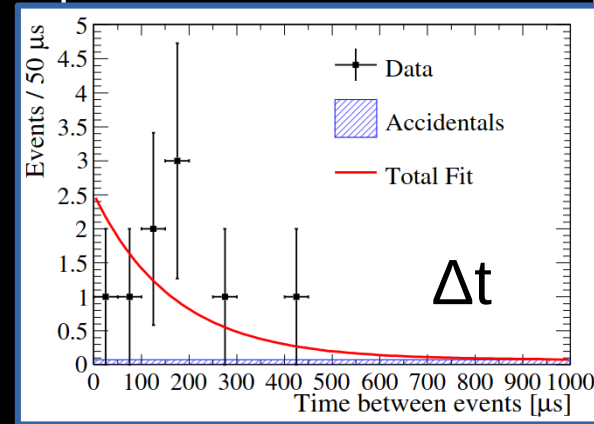
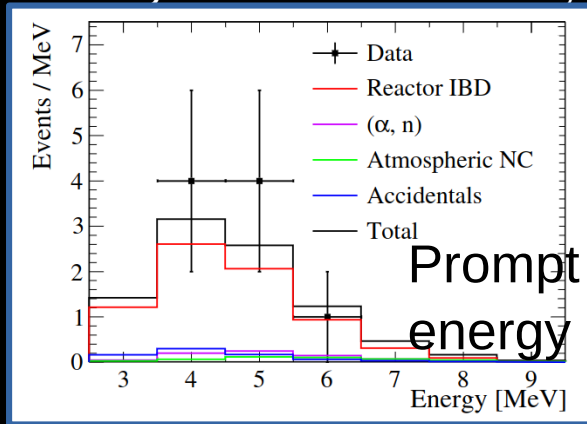
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Lowest energy threshold ( $\sim 1.4$  MeV) ever achieved in water Cherenkov detector.

Applications for distant monitoring of nuclear reactors using well-understood, inexpensive, and easy to handle material, with implications for nuclear nonproliferation.



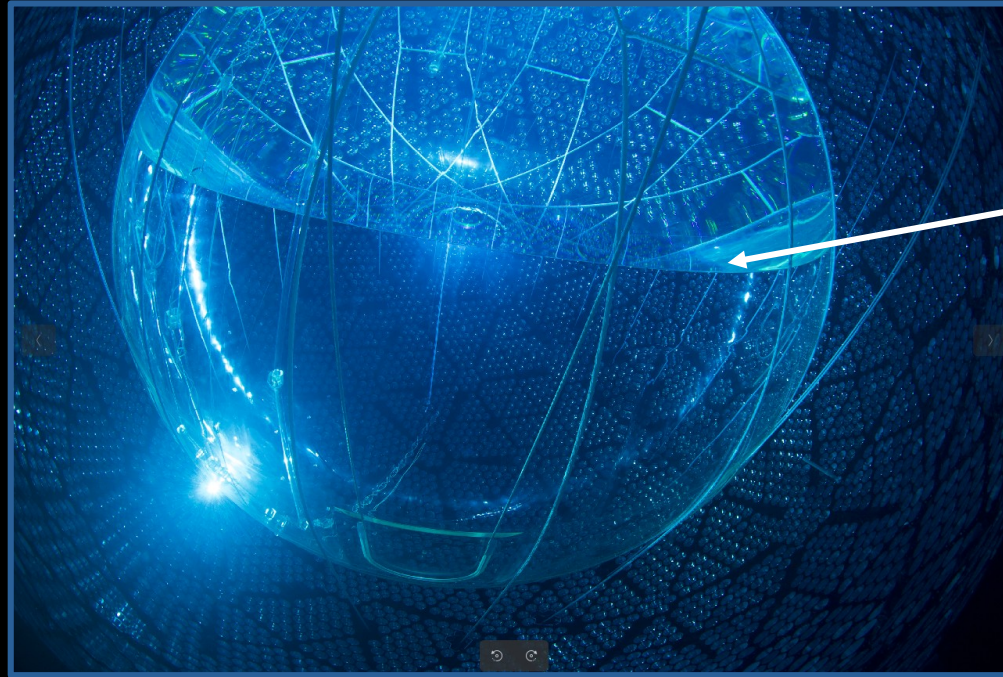
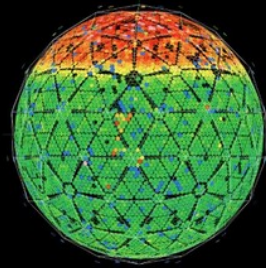
[1] SNO+ collaboration, PRL 130 (2023) 9, 091801

PRL Editor's Selection, Highlighted in Physics Magazine (2023)



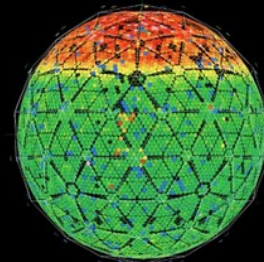
# Partial Phase

Collected data while detector was partially full with liquid scintillator.



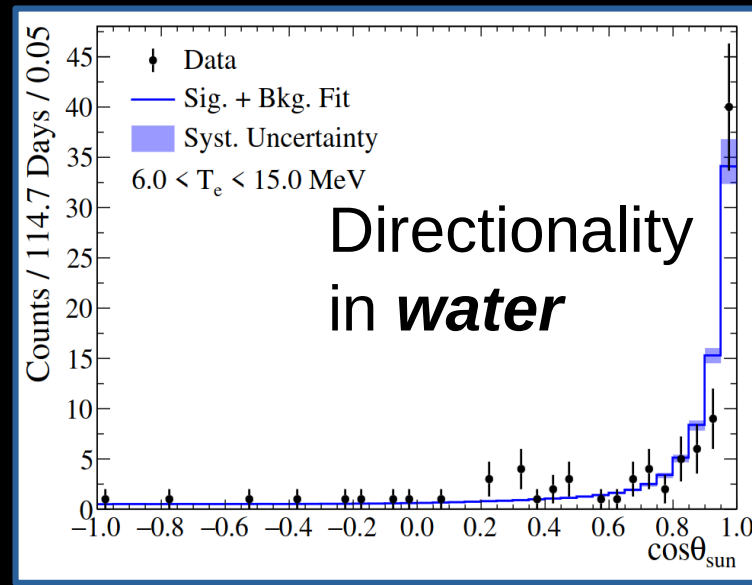
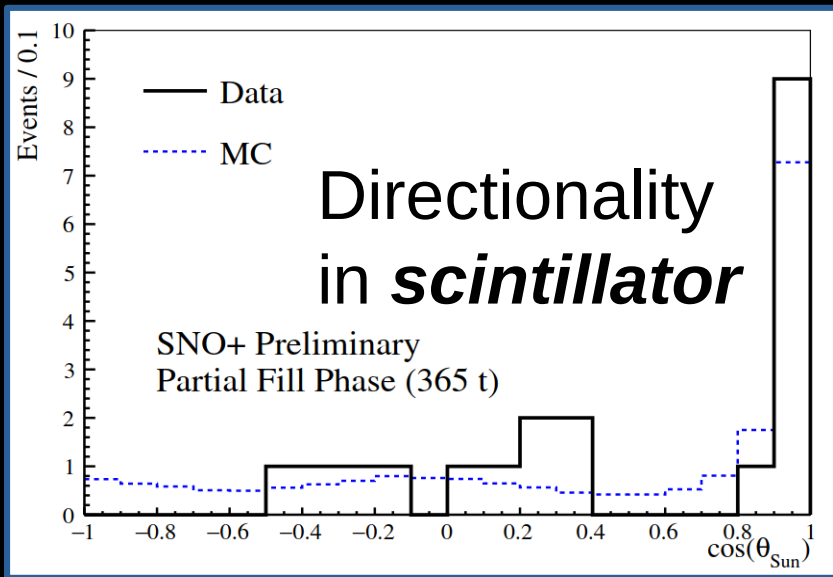
Scintillator/water  
interface

# Partial Phase: Solar



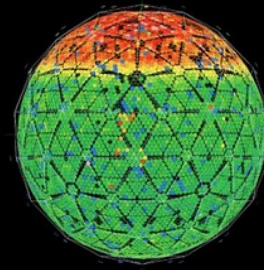
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For  $^8\text{B}$  solar neutrinos above 5 MeV we achieve excellent directional reconstruction.



*Paper in preparation*

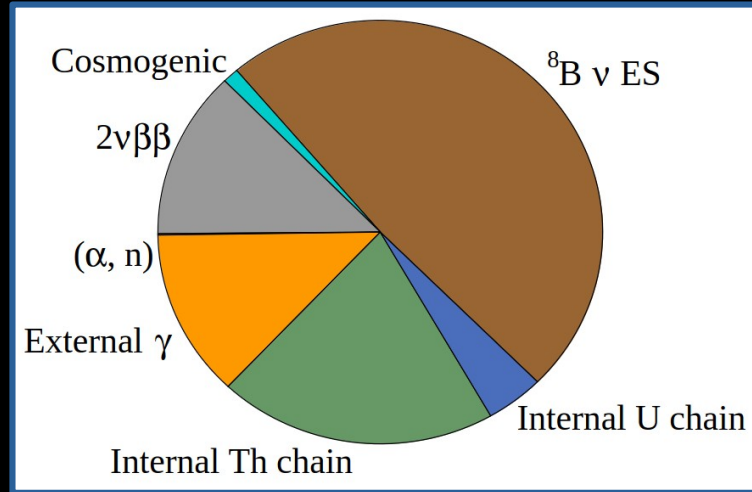
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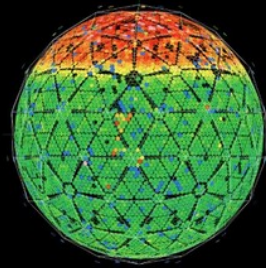
For  $^8\text{B}$  solar neutrinos above 5 MeV we achieve excellent directional reconstruction.

*Future phases: potential for improved solar neutrino sensitivity & addition background rejection for  $0\nu\beta\beta$ .*





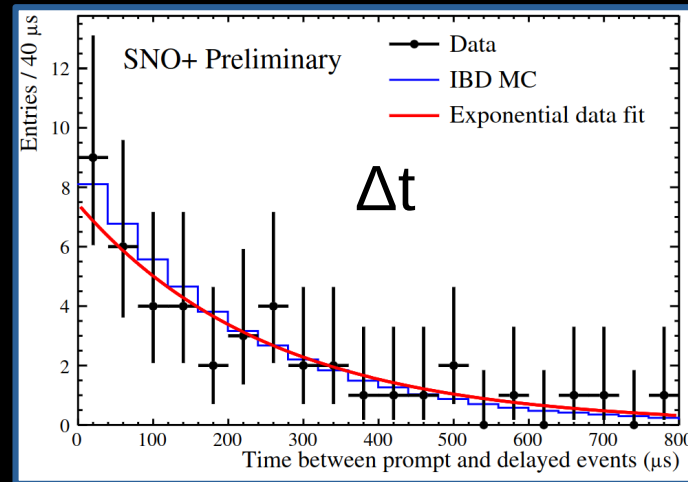
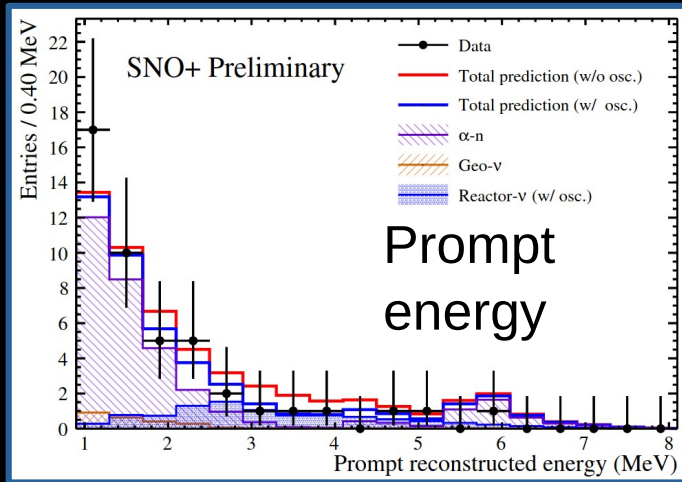
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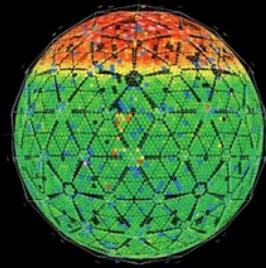
Clearly identify reactor neutrinos against ( $\alpha$ , n) background.

Excellent prospects for full fill, which will have significantly more data & lower backgrounds.



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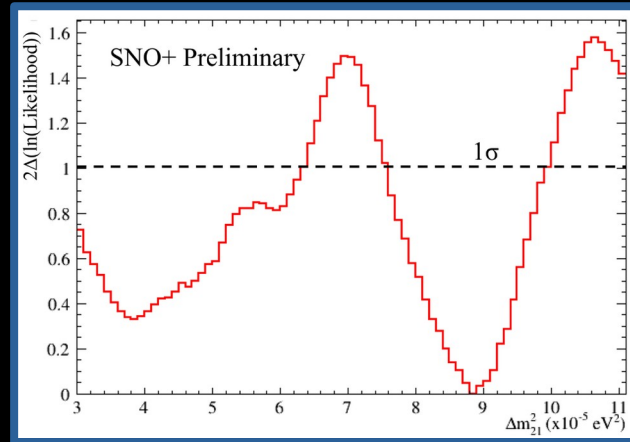


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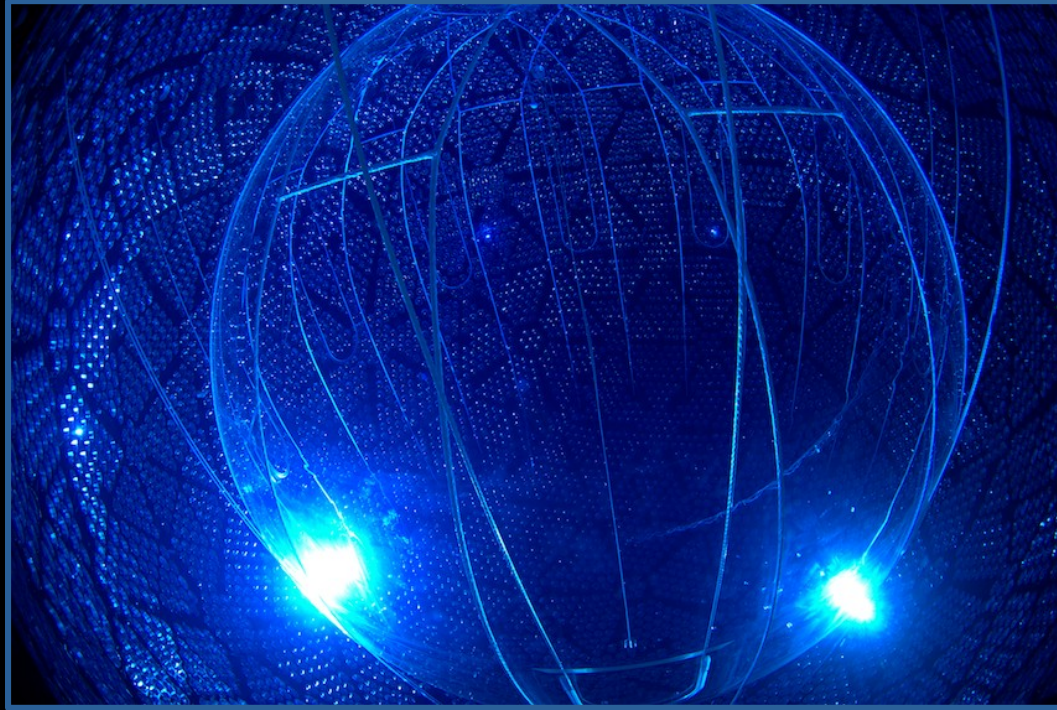
$\Delta m^2_{21}$  measurement possible despite limited volume & livetime.



*Paper in preparation*

# Scintillator Phase

Now full with scintillator, SNO+ is taking quality physics data and is supernova live!

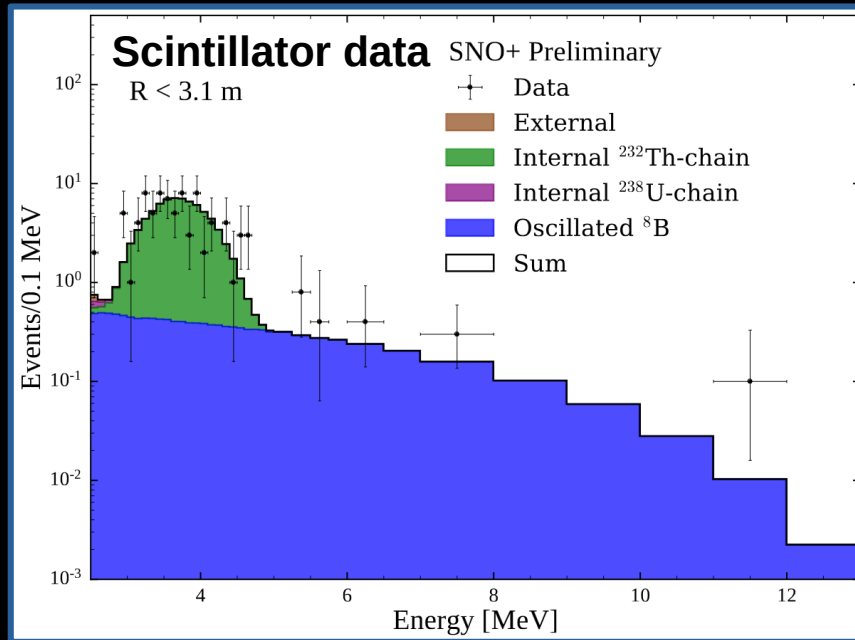




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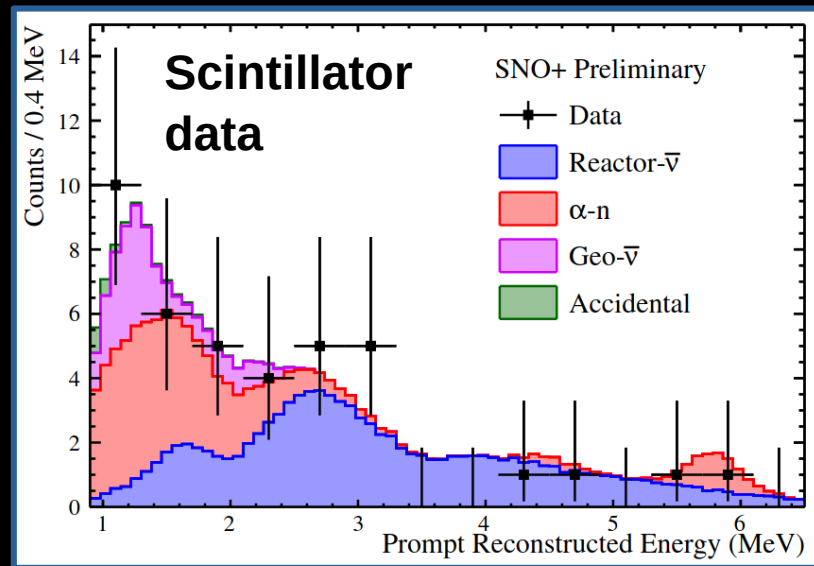
Preliminary investigations of high energy  $^8\text{B}$  solar neutrinos look promising.



# Scintillator Phase: Reactor & Geo

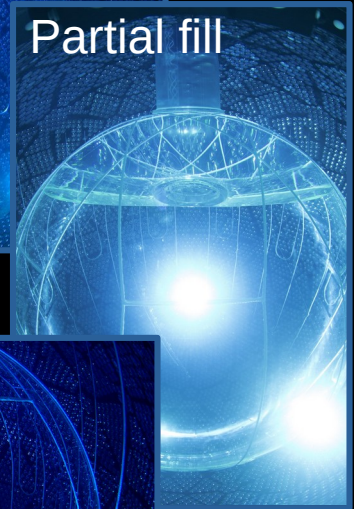
Now full with scintillator, SNO+ is taking quality physics data and is supernova live!

Low backgrounds and excellent prospects for sensitive reactor and geo neutrino measurements and for a precise measurement of oscillation parameters.



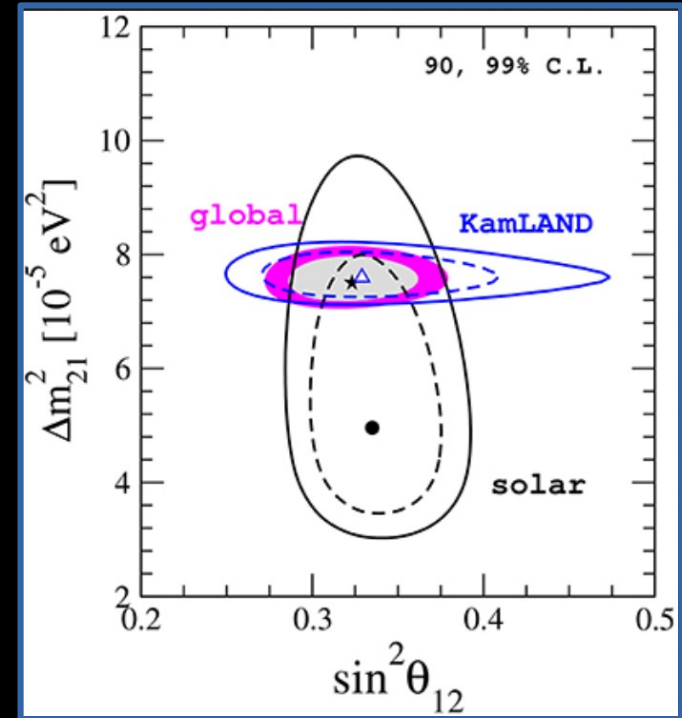
# Conclusions

1. SNO+ has collected low background data in the water, partial fill, and scintillator fill phases, producing sensitive measurements of solar and reactor antineutrinos, primarily limited by the size of the datasets during these transitional periods.



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2. This is promising for future measurements, such as precision solar, reactor, and geo neutrino measurements, which may help resolve tensions in oscillation parameters.

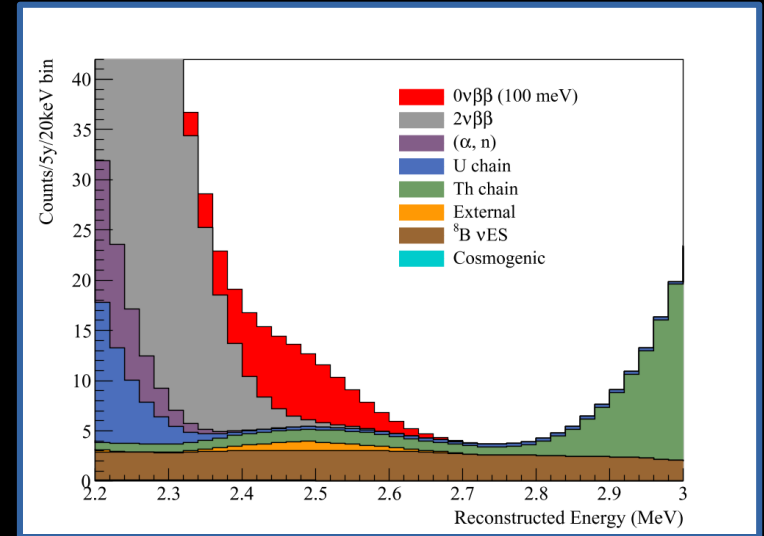


Y. Farzan, M. Tortola Front. in Phys. 6 (2018) 10



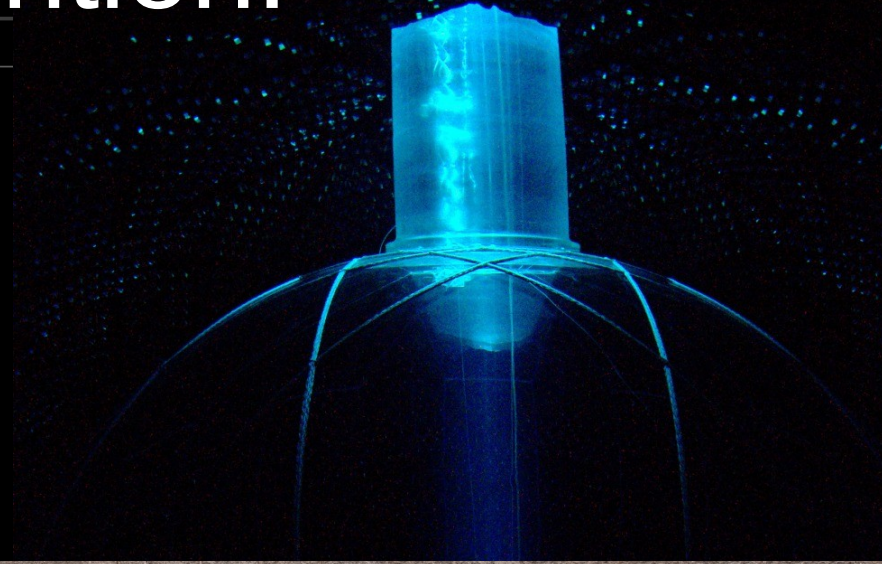
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2. This is promising for future measurements, such as precision solar, reactor, and geo neutrino measurements, which may help resolve tensions in oscillation parameters.
3. SNO+ has demonstrated potential to perform low background physics measurements, promising for the  $0\nu\beta\beta$  phase.



Expected backgrounds & example  
signal in  $0\nu\beta\beta$  phase

# Thank you for your attention!

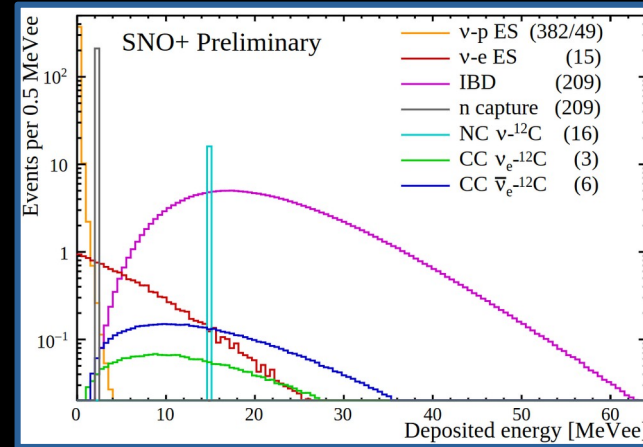


# Supernova & Dark Matter

*Currently supernova live*

Working towards integrating with SNEWS

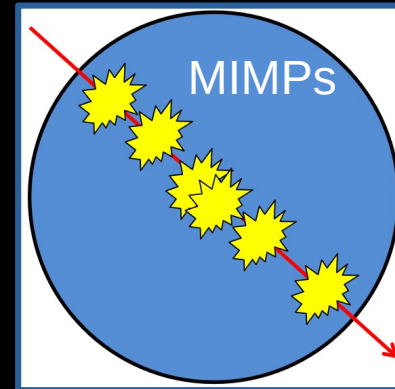
*Additional exotic searches in progress*



MIMPs

Fermionic dark matter

High energy ( $> 10$  MeV) antineutrinos  
(DSNB, primordial black holes, etc)



Beacom and Vagins, PRL, 93:171101

