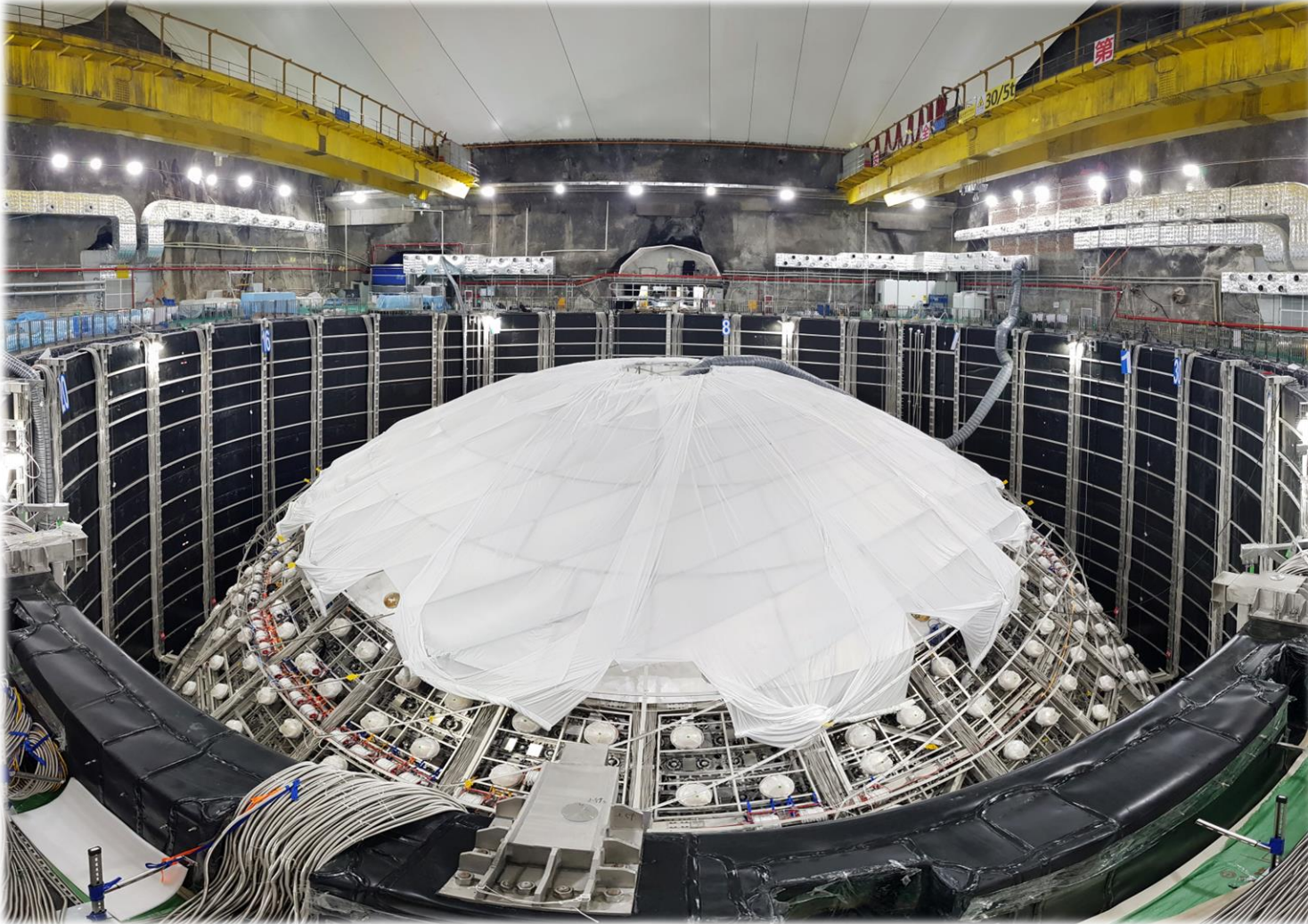


JUNO experiment: detector status and physics opportunities



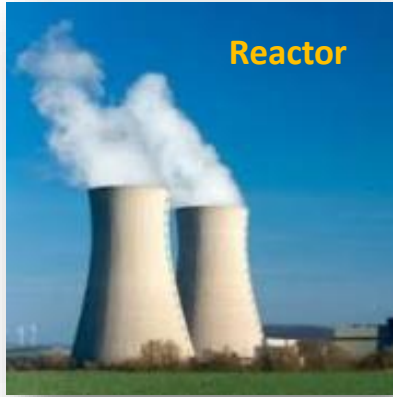
Beyond Standard Model 2023 – Hurghada (Egypt)
6-9 November 2023

Andrea Barresi

on behalf of the JUNO collaboration



A multi-purpose liquid scintillator-based neutrino observatory



Reactor

~60 IBDs per days



Atmosphere

Several per day



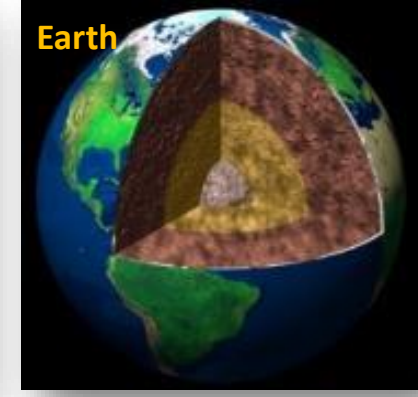
Solar

Hundred per day



Supernova

~5000 IBDs for
CCSN @10 kpc



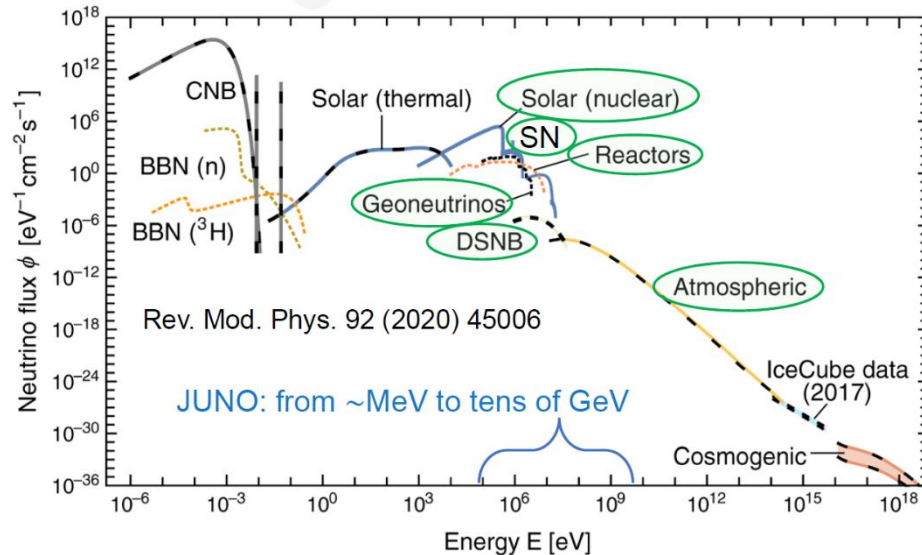
Earth

Several IBDs per day

+
New
physics

Neutrino properties

Neutrinos as a probe



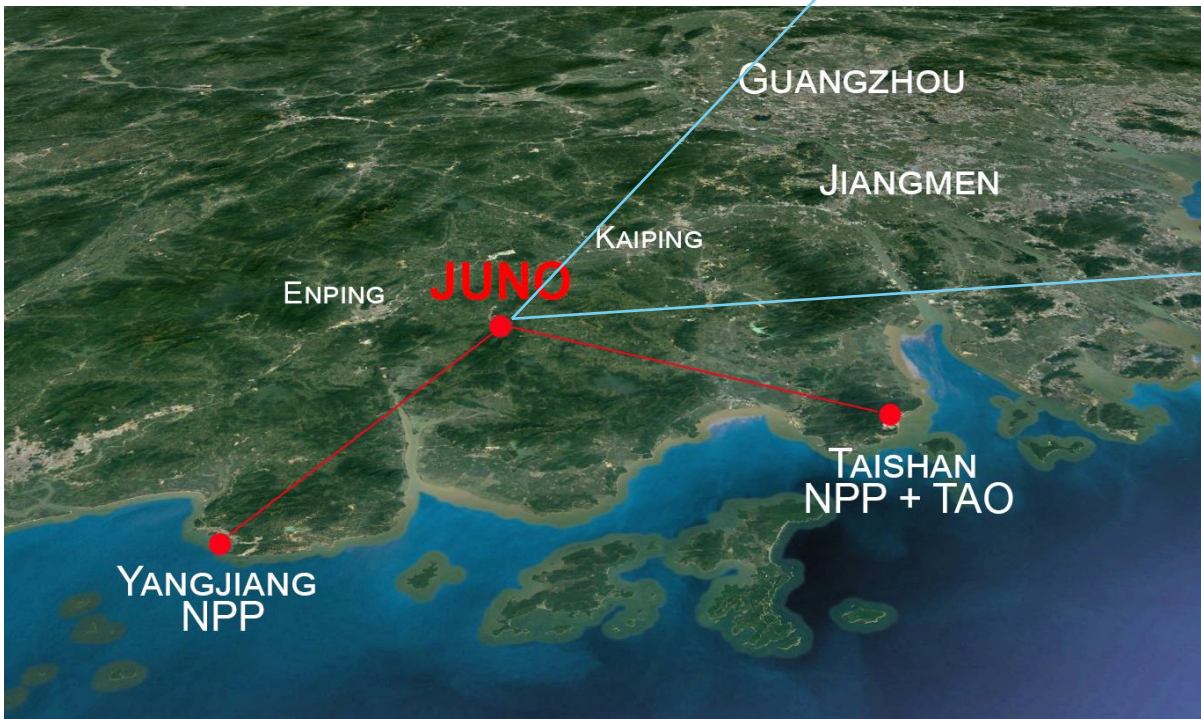
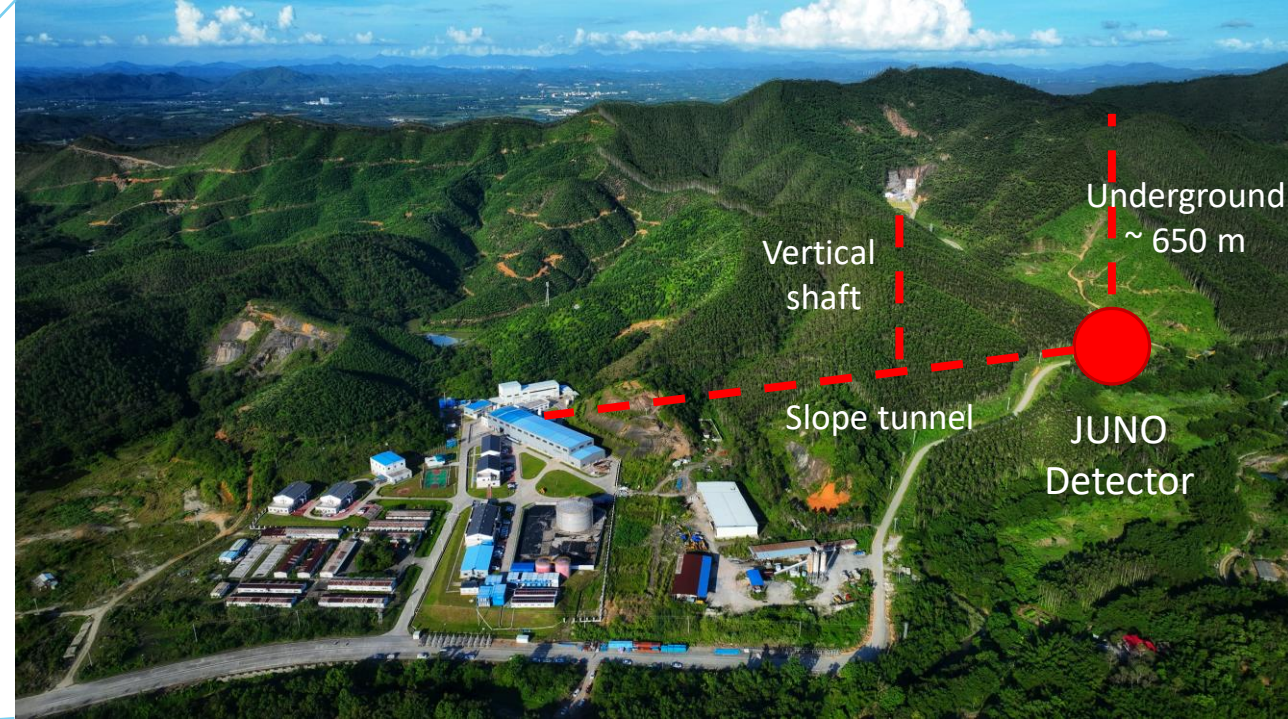
[“Neutrino Physics with JUNO,” J. Phys. G **43** \(2016\) no.3, 030401](#)
[“JUNO Physics and Detector,” Prog. Part. Nucl. Phys. **123** \(2022\), 103927](#)

JUNO site

JUNO is under construction in the Guangdong province, in China, ~ 150 km from Guangzhou

Located at ~53 km from two nuclear power plants (NPP) to maximize the sensitivity to the mass ordering.

Collaboration of 74 institutes in 17 countries, ~700 collaborators



- Yangjiang NPP:
6 x 2.9 GWth
- Taishan NPP:
2 x 4.6 GWth



JUNO main physics goals

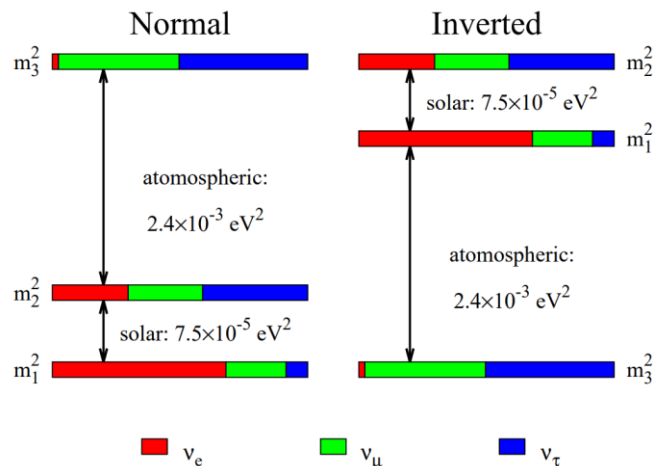
Main physics goals

- 3σ measurement of the **neutrino mass ordering** with reactor antineutrinos in ~ 6 years
- Measuring **oscillation parameter** with a precision $< 0.5\%$ ($\sin^2\theta_{12}, \Delta m_{21}^2, \Delta m_{31}^2$)

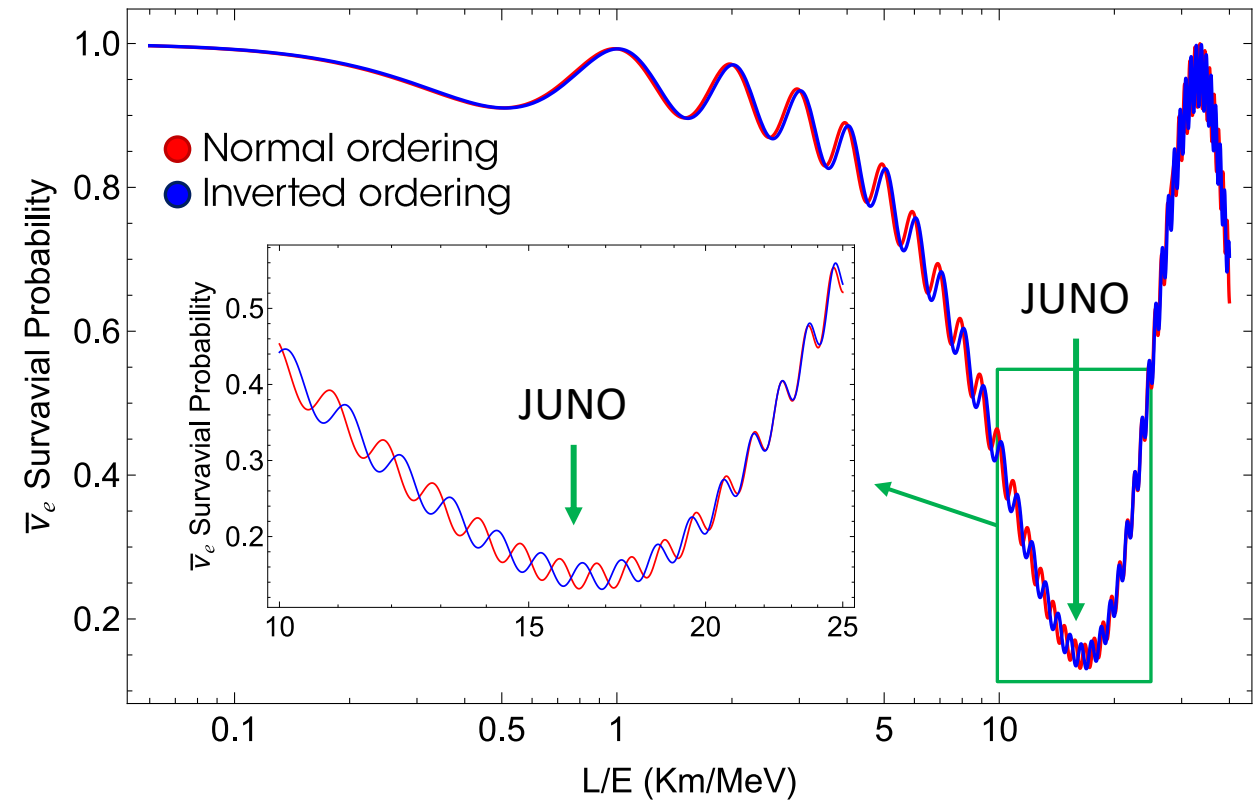


JUNO requirements

- Large signal statistics
- High energy resolution and highly controlled energy scale non-linearity for small spectral features identification
- Low background for low spurious events
- Low reactor antineutrino spectrum shape uncertainty

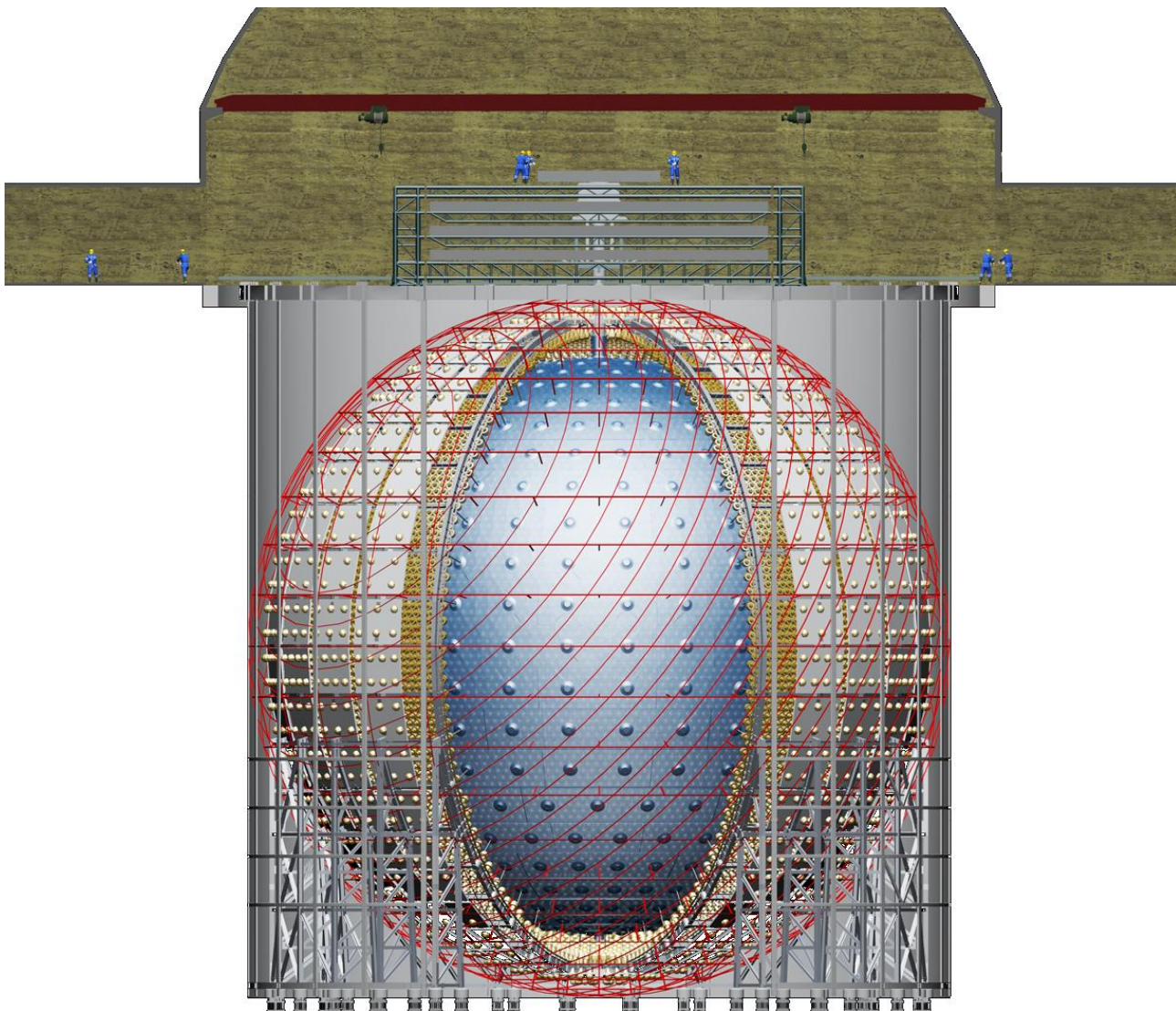


The detector location and design are optimized for the best sensitivity to NMO



Detector structure and status

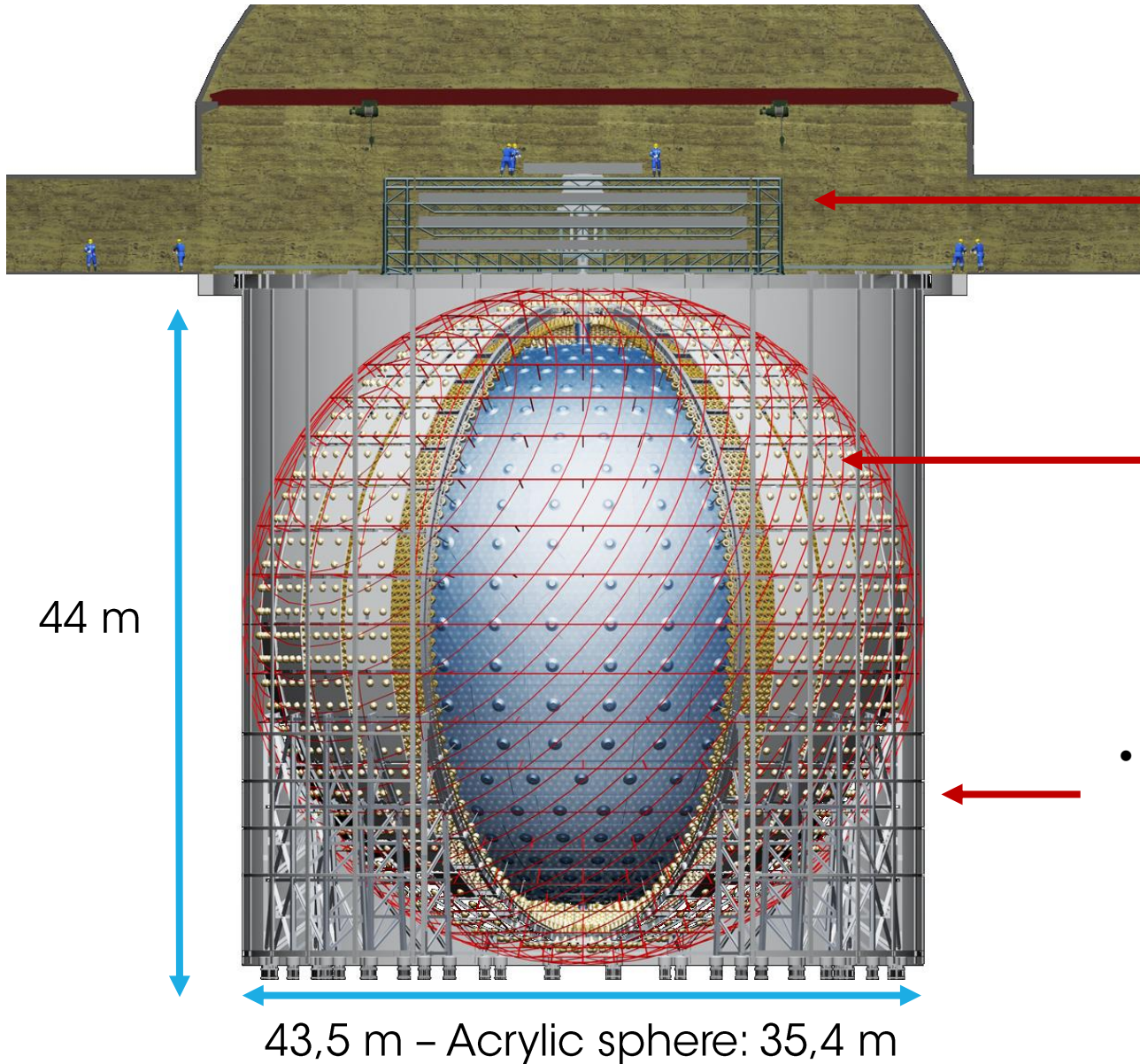
JUNO detector solutions



JUNO features

- Large signal statistics
 - Large active mass
 - Powerful antineutrino source (NPPs)
- High energy resolution
 - High photomultipliers coverage
 - High photomultipliers efficiency
 - High transparency of the liquid scintillator (LS)
- Low background
 - Accurate materials selection
 - LS purification
 - Clean environment control
 - Cosmic muons veto
 - Underground experiment
- Low reactor antineutrino spectrum shape uncertainty
 - Satellite detector (TAO)

JUNO detector structure



- **Top Tracker:**

- 3 layer of plastic scintillators from OPERA
- Top area coverage ~60 %

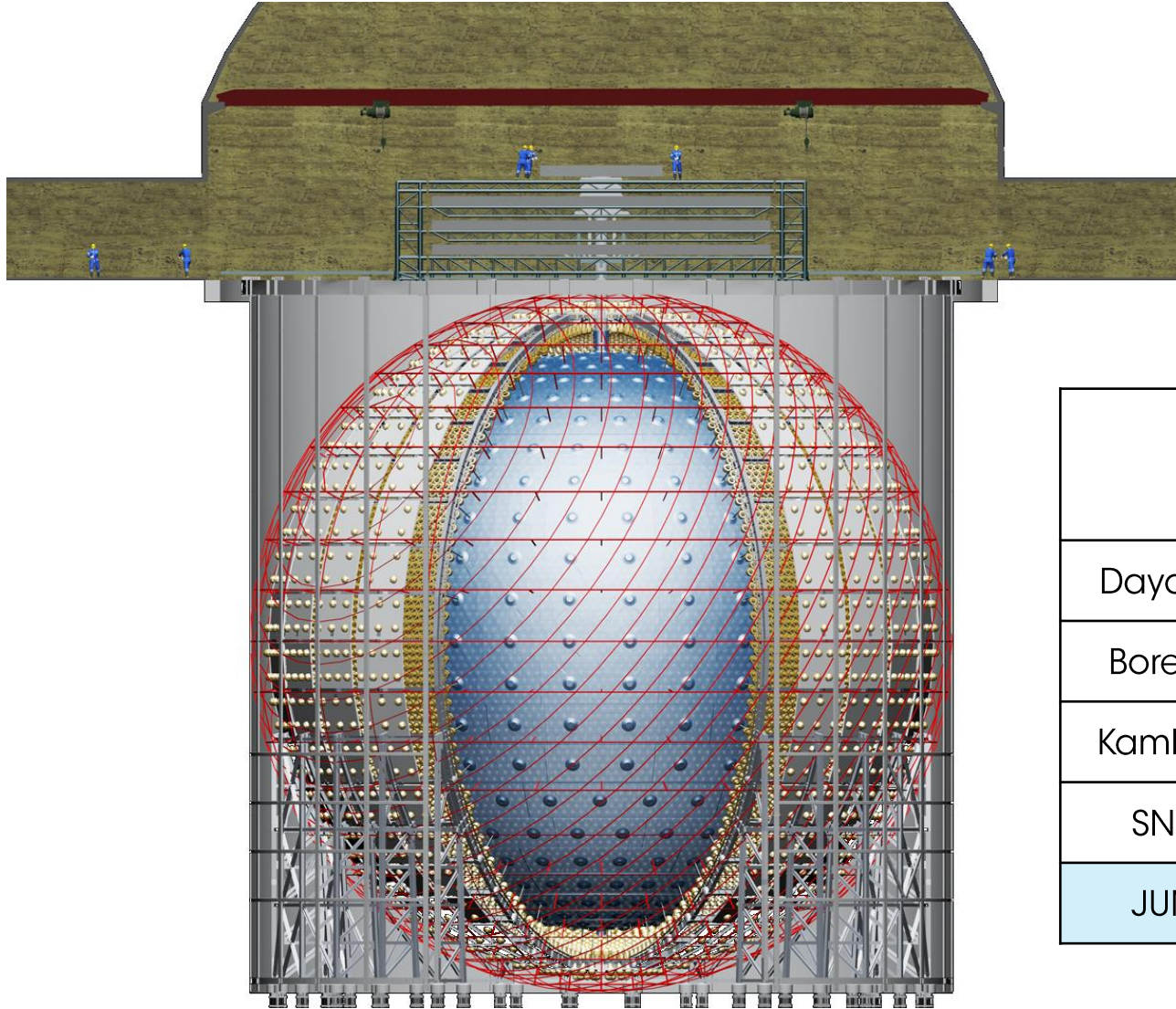
- **Central detector:**

- ~ 20 000 t of liquid scintillator in acrylic vessel
- 17612 large PMTs (20-inch)
- 25600 small PMTs (3-inch)
- ~ 78% PMT coverage
- Earth magnetic field shielding coil

- **Water Cherenkov Detector:**

- 2400 20-inch PMTs
- 35 000 t ultra-pure water
- Muon detection efficiency > 99%
- External radioactivity shielding

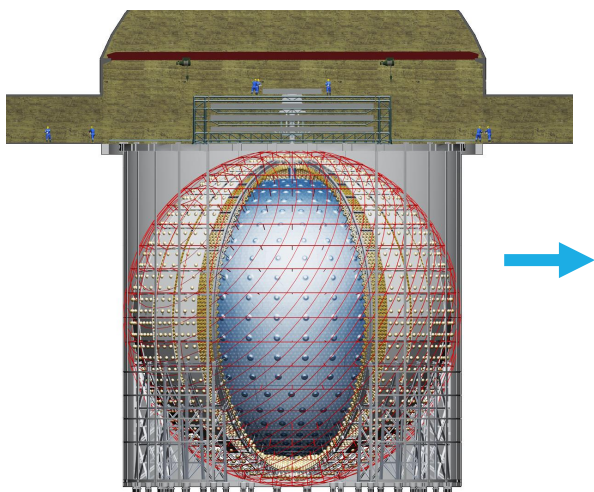
Why JUNO is different



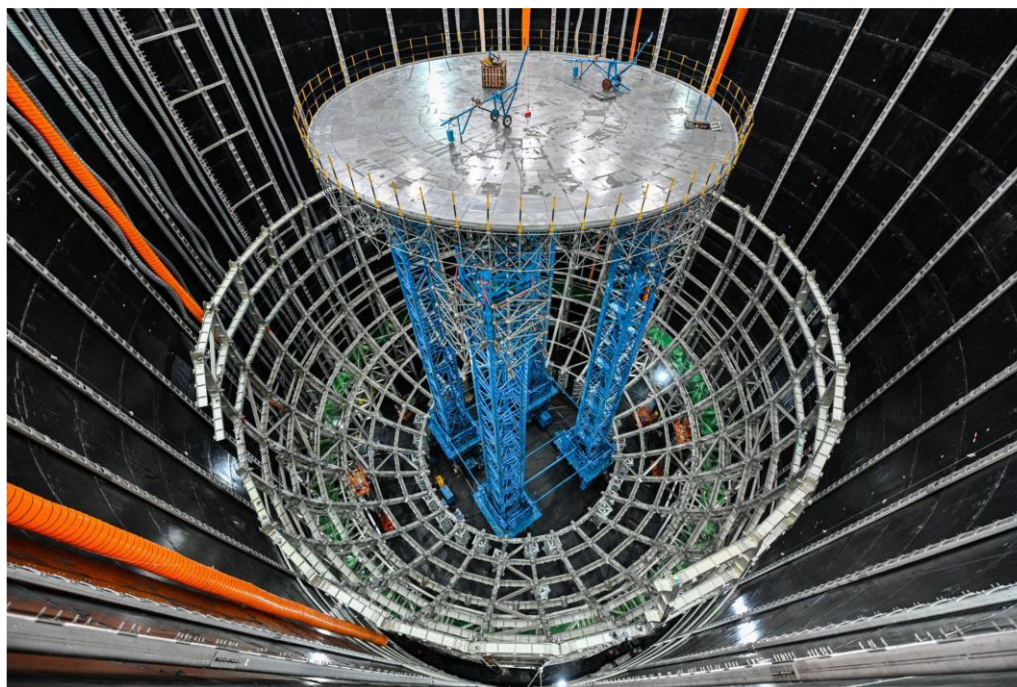
JUNO is the biggest LS-based ever build with unprecedented characteristics

	Mass (t)	PMTs coverage (%)	Light collection (pe/MeV)	E resolution (%/ \sqrt{E})
Daya Bay	20 (x8)	12 %	~160	~8%
Borexino	300	30 %	~450	~5%
KamLAND	1000	34 %	~250	~6%
SNO+	780	50 %	~520	~6%
JUNO	20000	78 %	~1600	~3%

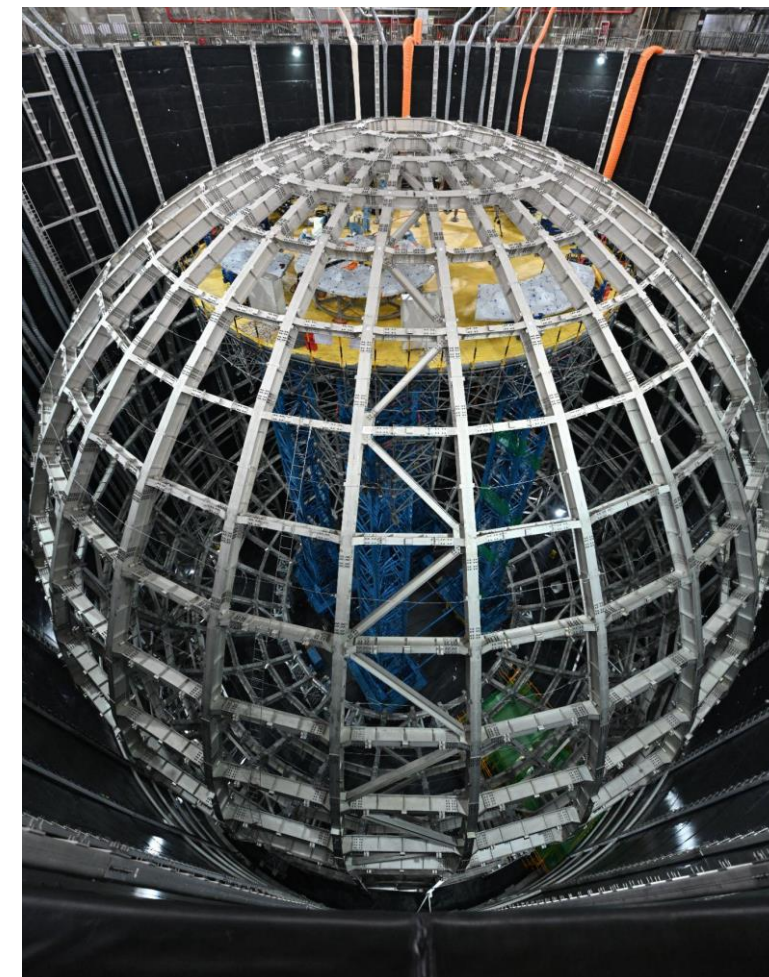
Detector construction: Stainless steel truss



Assembly precision
< 3 mm



Bottom SS structure and lifting
platform for acrylic panels installation:
May 2022



SS structure completed:
June 2022

Detector construction: Acrylic sphere

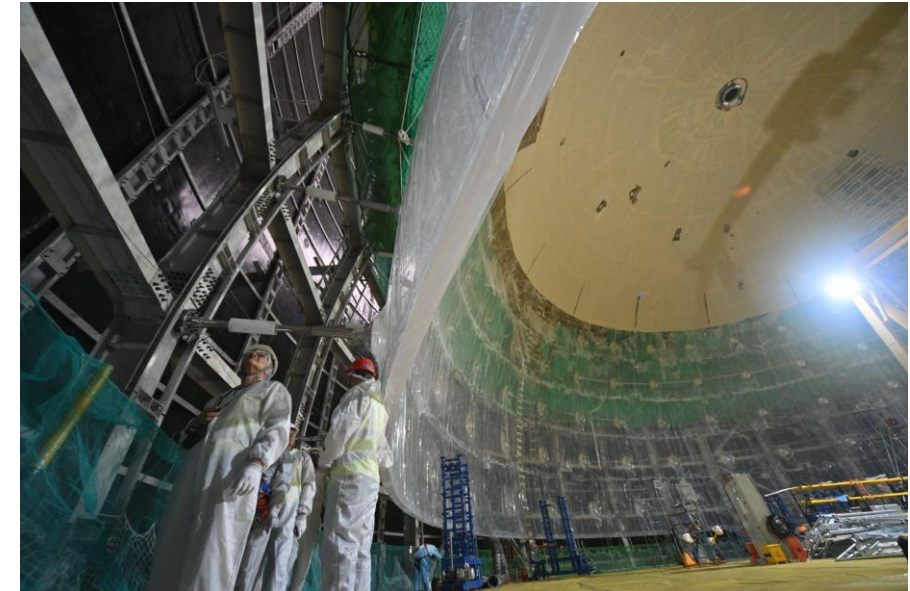
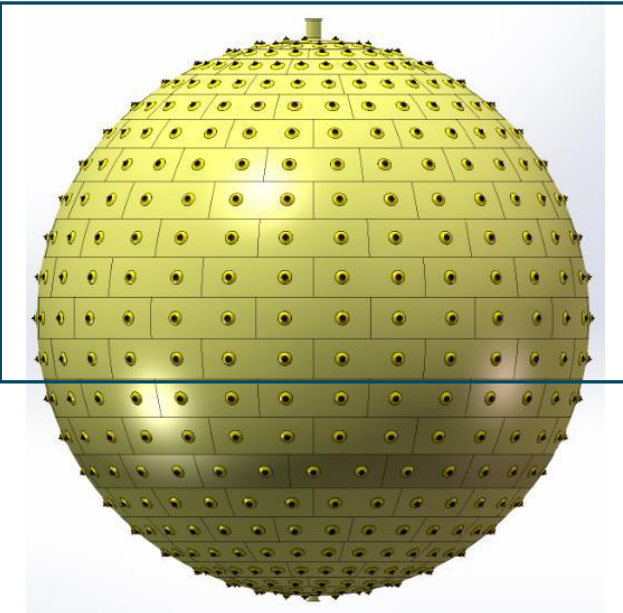
- Inner diameter: $(35,40 \pm 0,04)$ m
- Thickness: (124 ± 4) mm
- High transparency: $> 96\%$ in pure water
- High radiopurity : U,Th, K < 1 ppt

- # of panels: 256
- Total weight: 600 t

Connected to the SS truss
via 590 connecting bars

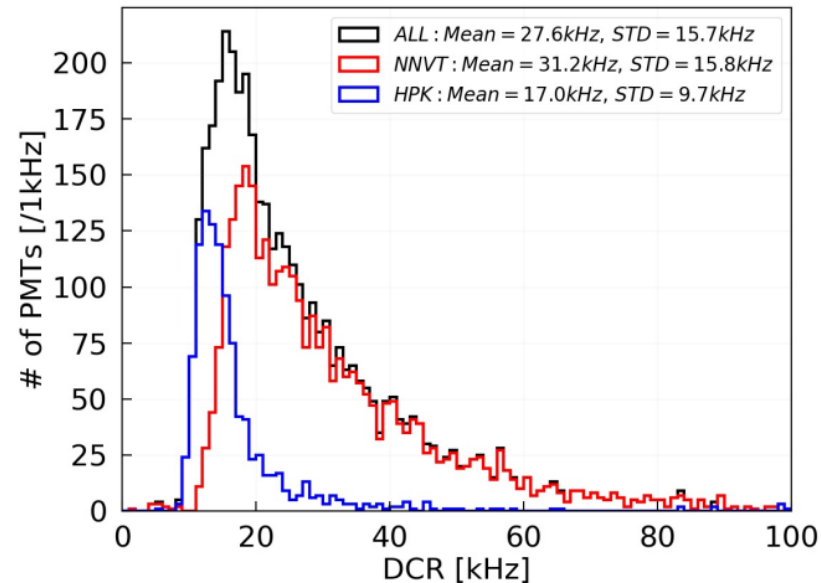
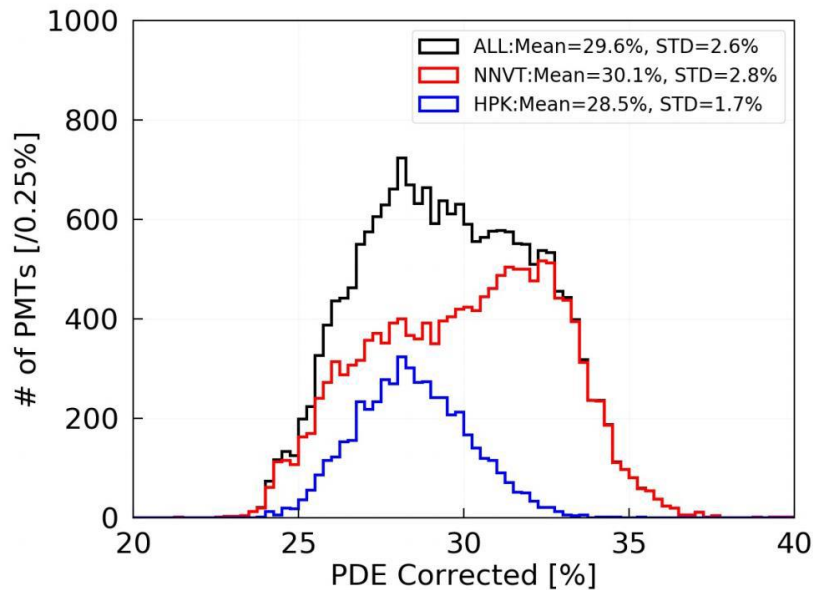


Already installed

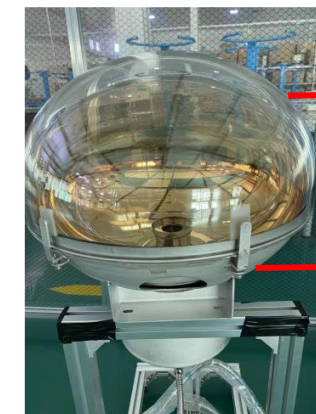


Detector construction: Photomultiplier tubes

	Hamamatsu 20"	NNVT 20"	HZC 3"
Number	5000 (CD)	12612 (CD) + 2400 (veto)	25600 (CD)
Charge collection	Dynode	MCP	Dynode
Detection efficiency	28.5%	30.1%	25%
Dark count rate (kHz)	17.0	31.2	0.5
Transit time (ns)	1.3	7.0	1.6



All PMTs are produced, tested and instrumented with waterproof potting



Acrylic cover

SS protection

Detector construction: Photomultiplier tubes

PMTs installation is ongoing

Clearance: 3 mm

Assembly precision: $< 1\text{mm}$



Detector construction: Electronics

Underwater electronics is used to improve the signal-to-noise ratio for better energy resolution

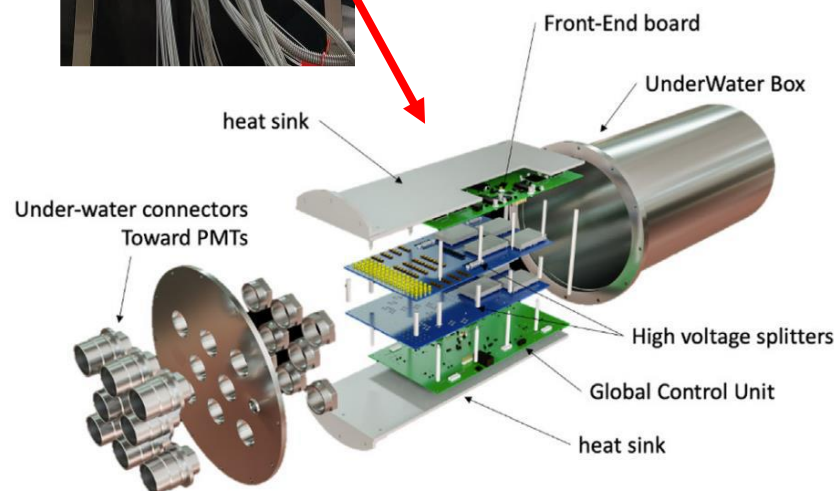
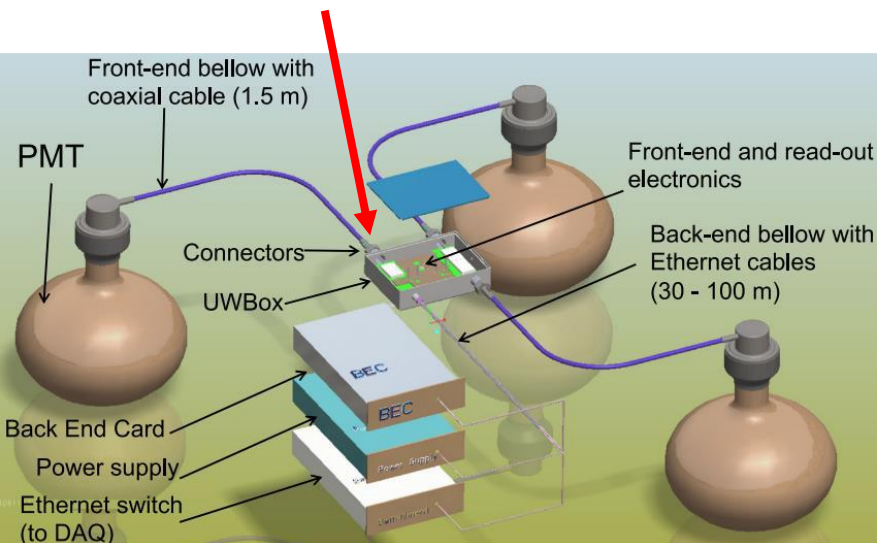
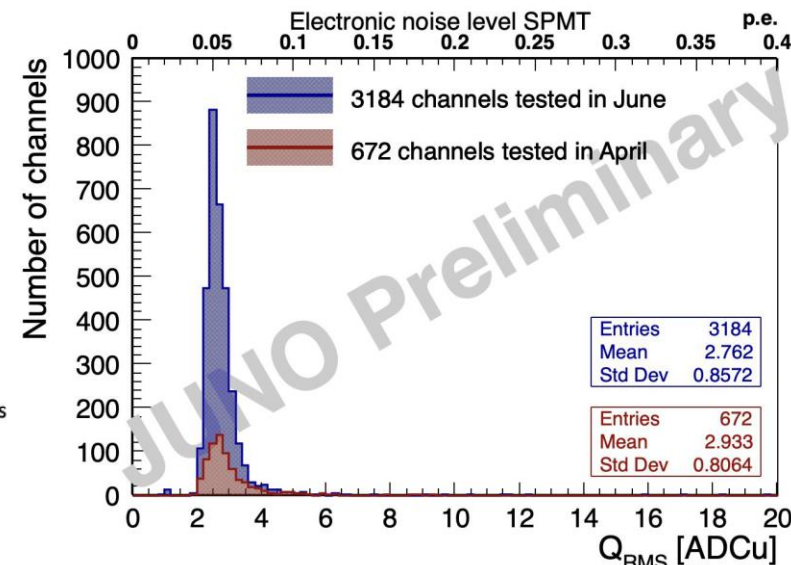
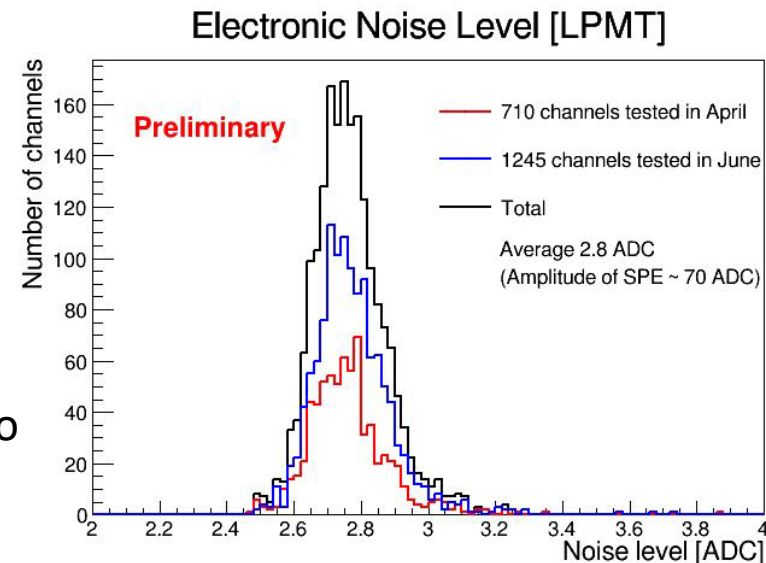
- High reliability (no access after installation)
- High precision
- Large dynamic range
- Stand high rates for short times (Supernovae)



LPMTs:
3 PMTs connected to one underwater box

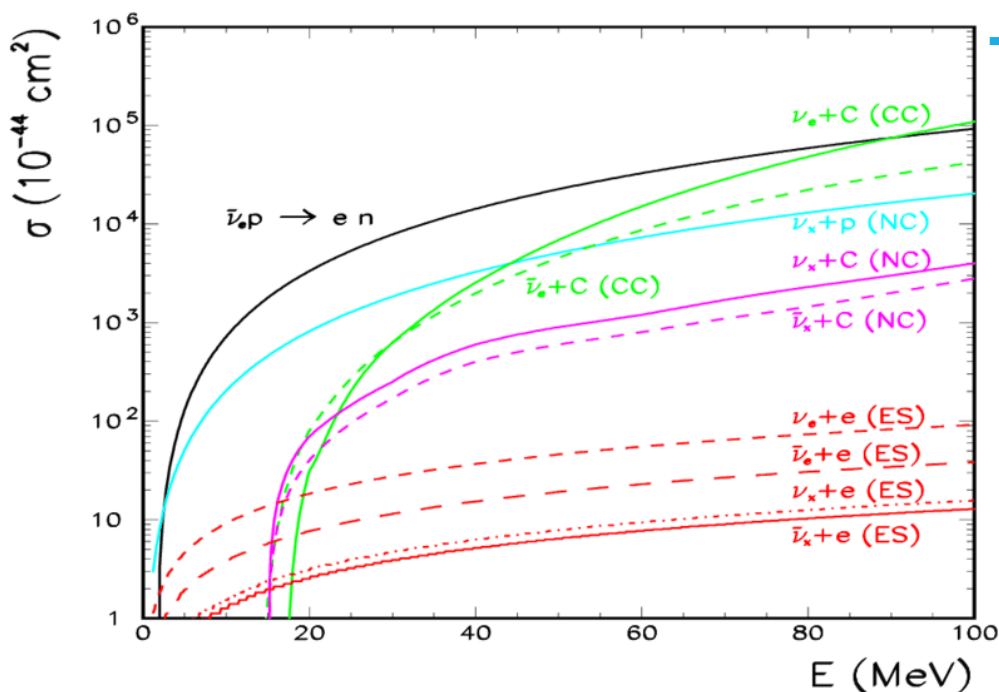
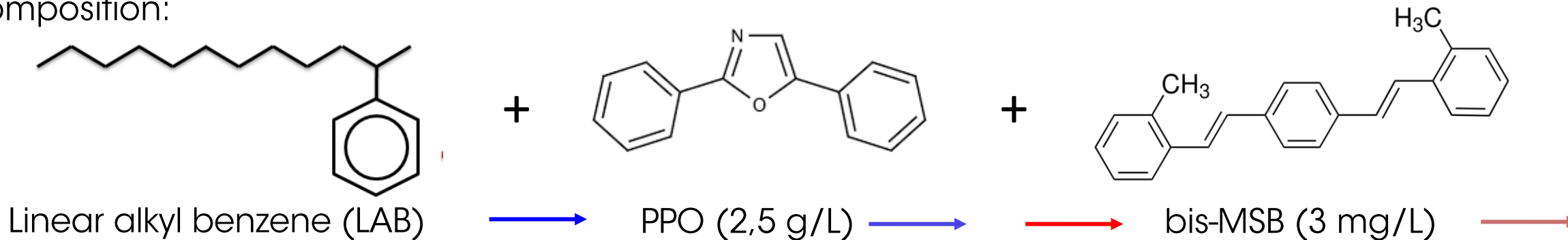


SPMTs:
128 PMTs connected to one underwater box



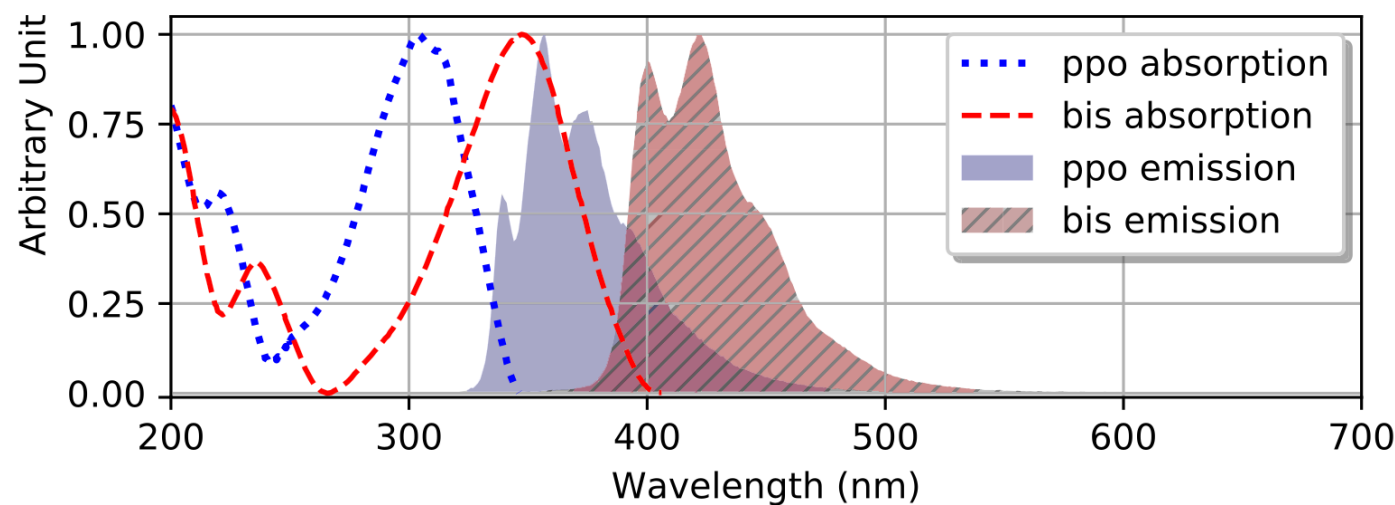
Detector construction: Liquid scintillator

Composition:



Highest cross section:
 CC on hydrogen (proton)
 Mass ratio: 88% C - 12% H
 Atomic density ratio: **37% C - 63% H**

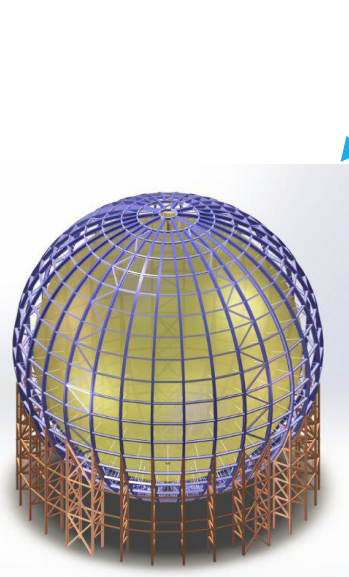
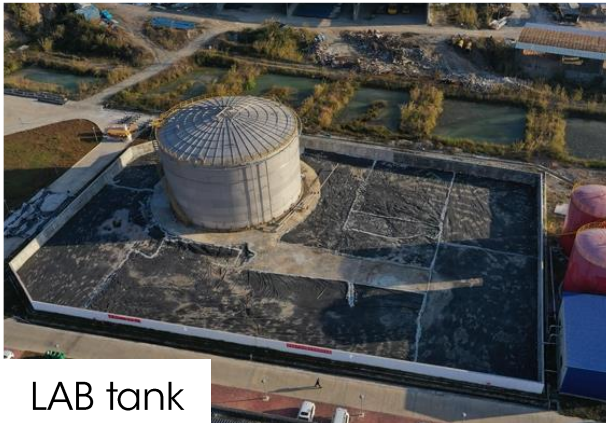
$$\bar{\nu}_e + p \rightarrow e^+ + n$$



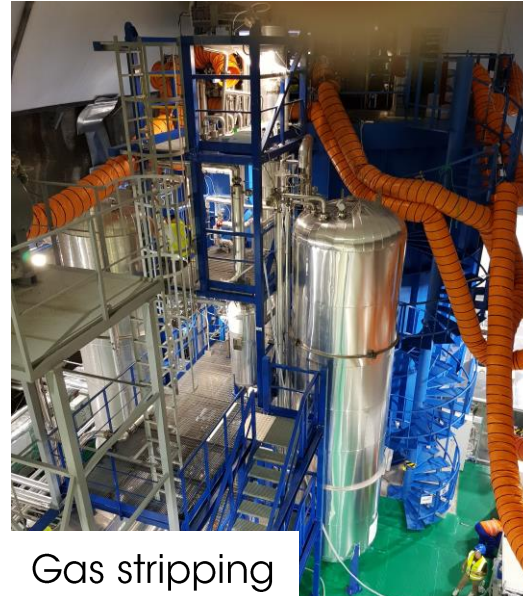
Detector construction: LS purification and filling

LS is the most critical component for radiopurity: U, Th < 1 ppq, K < 0,1 ppq for NMO
Its optical properties play a crucial role for energy resolution:
light yield ~10 000 photons/MeV with >20 m @ 430 nm attenuation length

→ Dedicated purification system



15%



Underground

85%

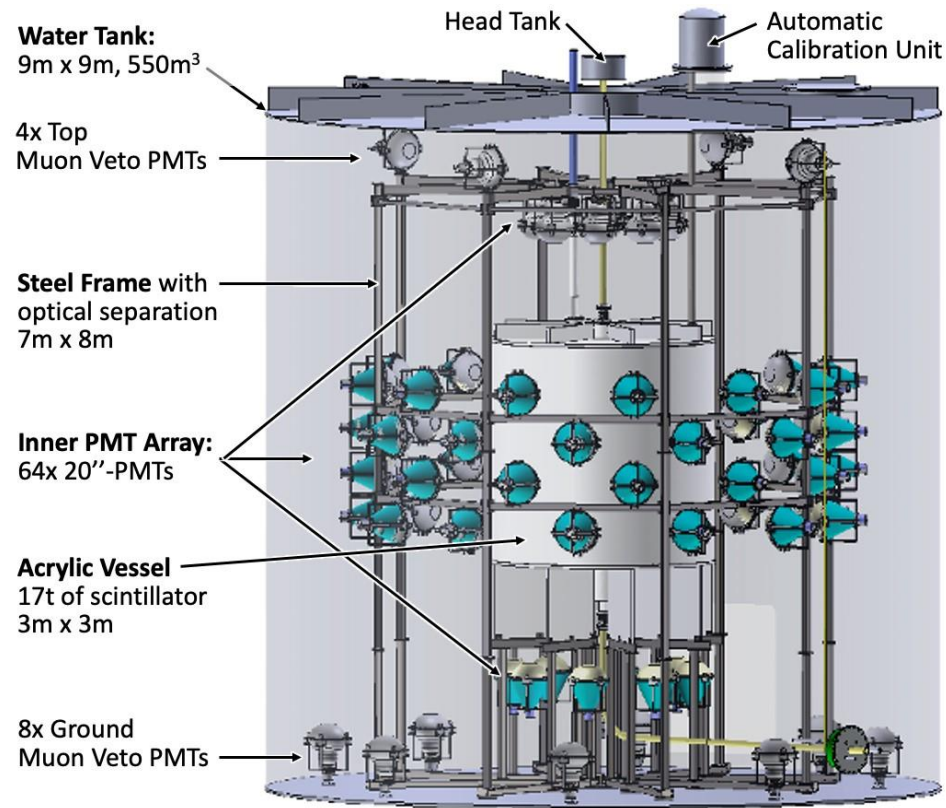
Detector construction: OSIRIS

Online Scintillator Internal Radioactivity Investigation System

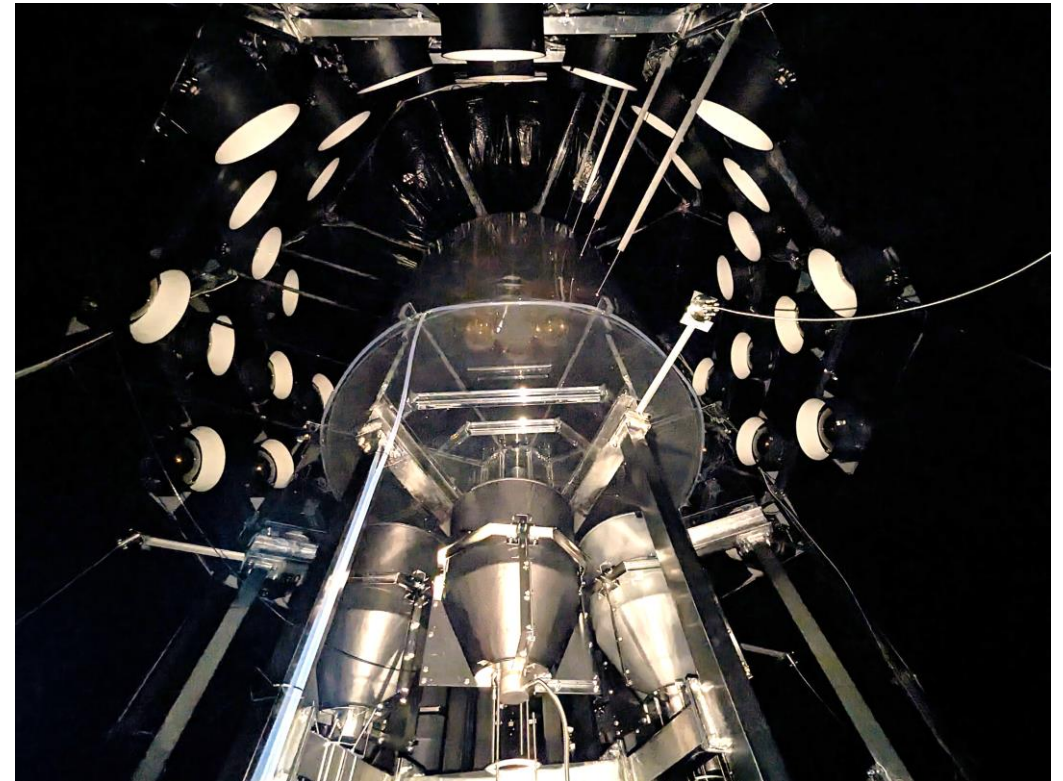
- Online monitor of LS radiopurity during filling
- **20 t LS + 550 t H₂O**
- Measure of U-Th using Bi-Po coincidence and ¹⁴C, ²¹⁰Po, ⁸⁵Kr

Sensitivity:

- Few days: U/Th (Bi-Po) $\sim 1 \times 10^{-15}$ g/g (reactor baseline case)
- 2-3 weeks: U/Th (Bi-Po) $\sim 1 \times 10^{-16-17}$ g/g (solar ideal case)



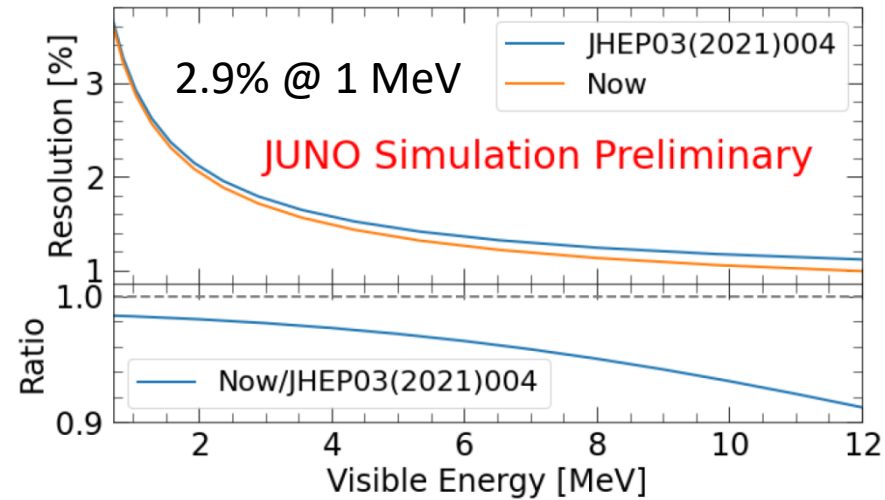
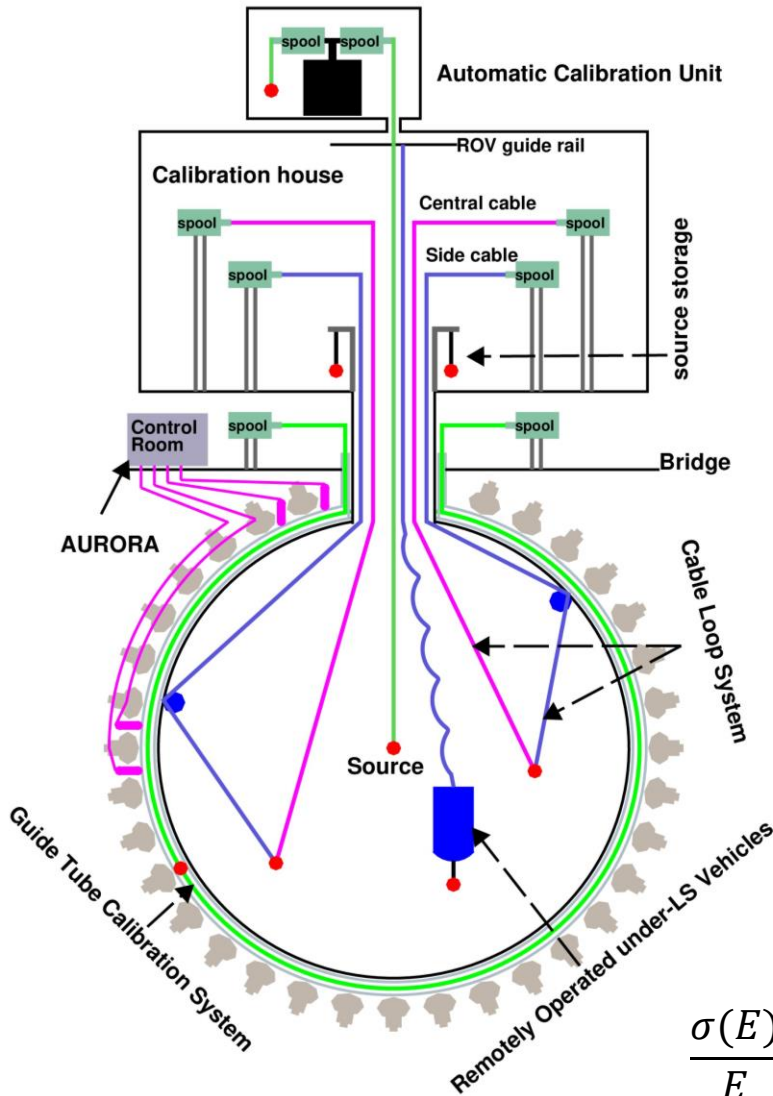
Under commissioning



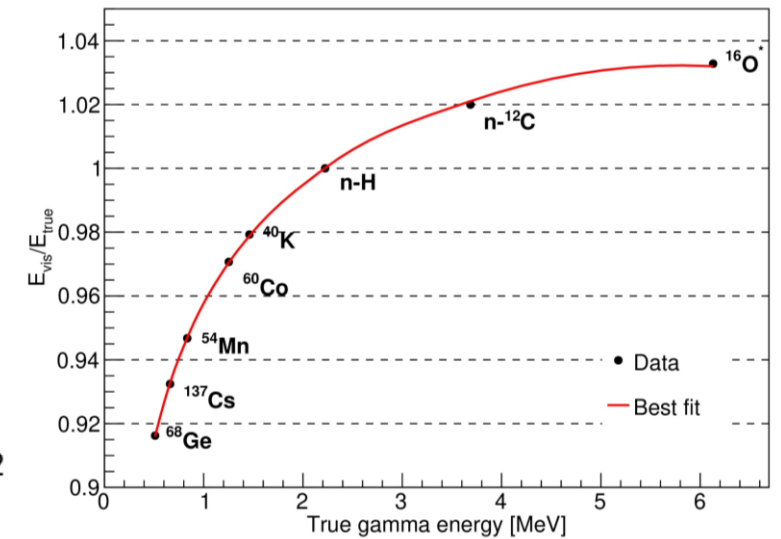
*The design and sensitivity of JUNO's scintillator radiopurity pre-detector OSIRIS. Eur. Phys. J. C **81**, 973 (2021)*

Energy calibration

- Multiple calibration systems with multiple sources:
 - 1D Automatic calibration unit
 - 2D Cable loop system + Guide tube calibration system
 - 3D Remotely operated vehicle
 - Auxiliary systems: Ultrasonic sensor system, LS transparency monitor
- Scan ensure energy scale, non-uniformity and non-linearity characterization
- 3" PMTs used to correct 20" PMTs non-linearity



Non-linearity calibration curve



$$\frac{\sigma(E)}{E} = \sqrt{\left(\frac{a}{\sqrt{E}}\right)^2 + b^2 + \left(\frac{c}{E}\right)^2}$$

Calibration strategy of the JUNO experiment. *J. High Energy Phys.* **2021**, 4 (2021)

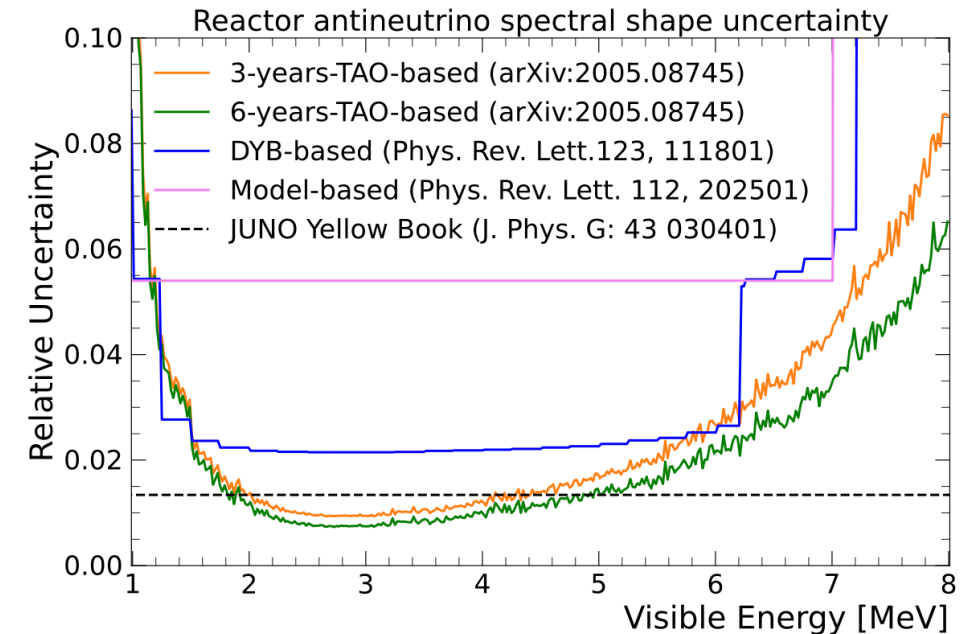
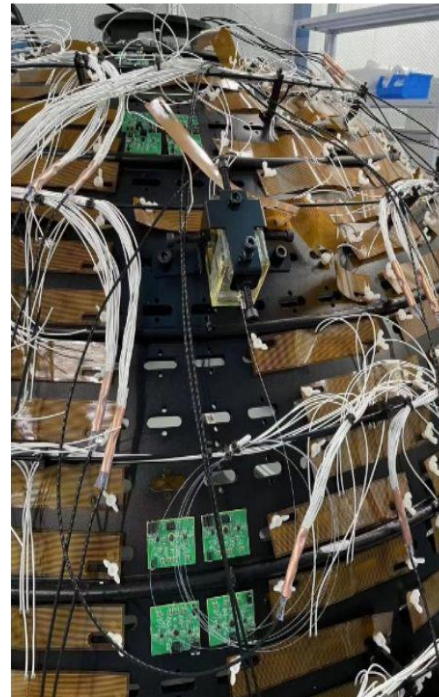
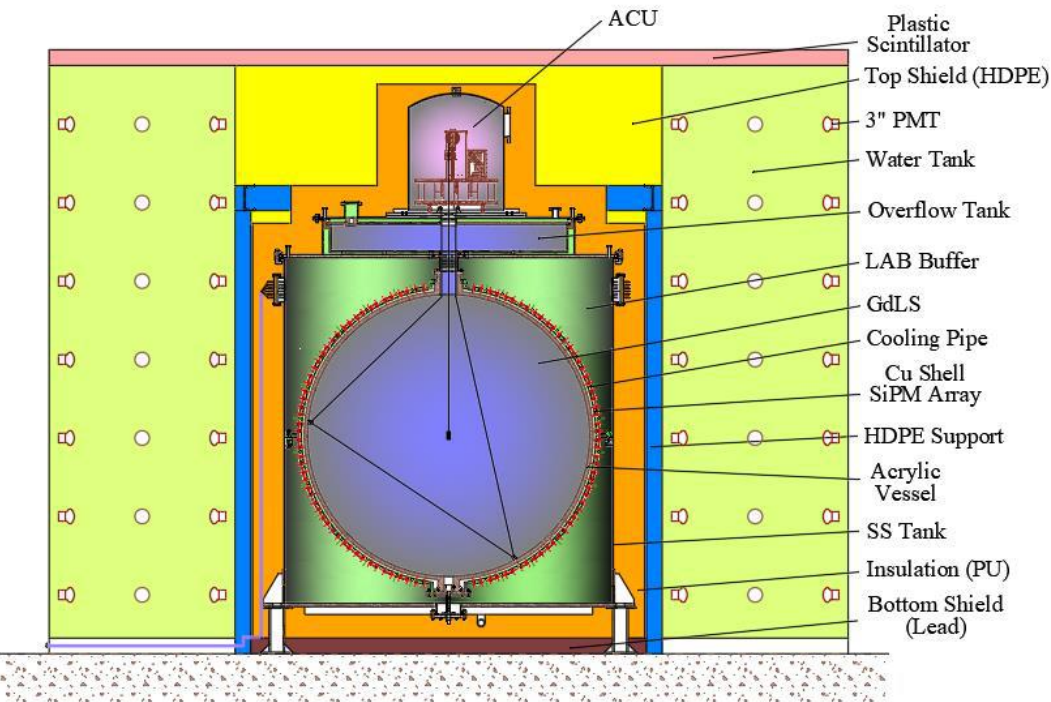
TAO satellite detector

Taishan Antineutrino Observatory

- Precise measurement of non-oscillated antineutrino spectra with high energy resolution (fine structure)
- Provide a reference spectrum for JUNO and nuclear databases
- Sensitive to light sterile neutrino

Detector features:

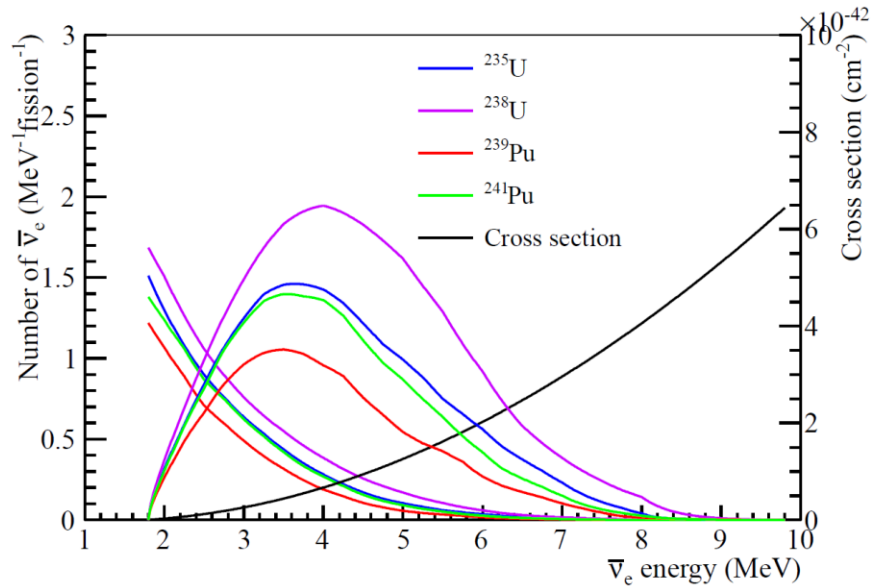
- Baseline ~ 30 m (near Taishan-1 NPP core 4,6 GWth)
- 2,8 t Gd-LS (1t Fiducial volume)
- ~94% coverage with SiPM
- Cooled at -50 °C (low SiPM dark rate)
- High E resolution: <2% @ 1MeV
- High statistic: 30x JUNO rate



JUNO physics opportunities

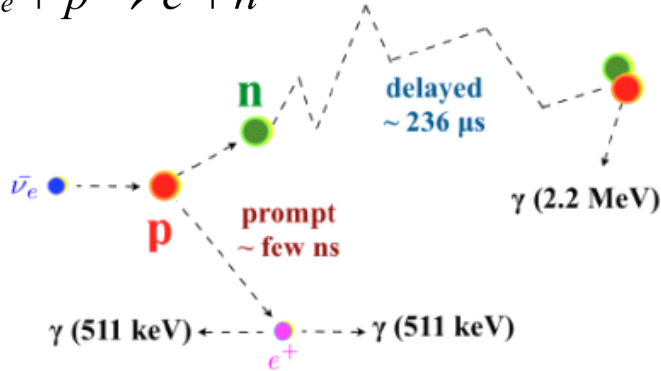
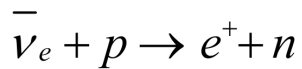
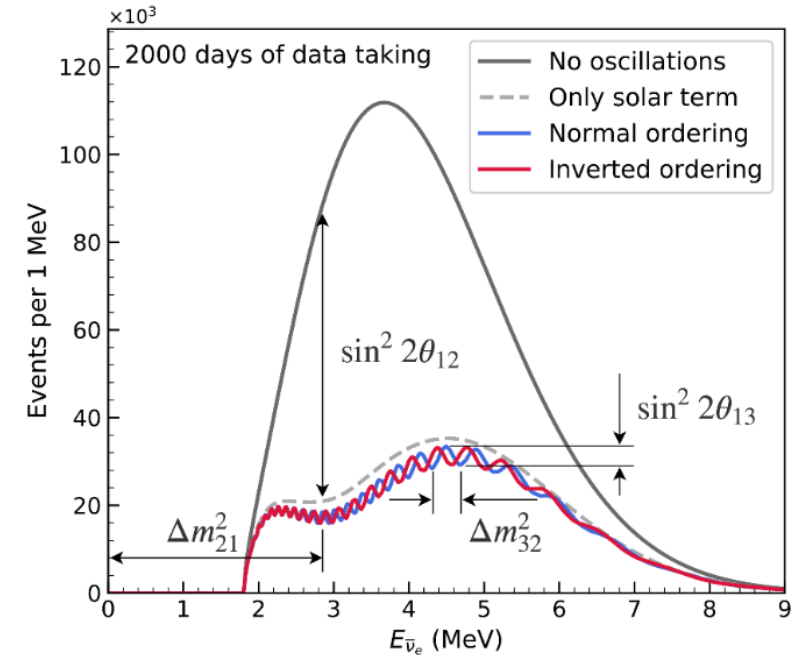
NMO with reactor antineutrino

Main physics goal of JUNO: Neutrino Mass Ordering via reactor antineutrino spectrum measurement (IBD interaction)



$$P_{\bar{\nu}_e \bar{\nu}_e} = 1 - \cos^4(\theta_{13}) \sin^2(2\theta_{12}) \sin^2\left(\frac{\Delta m_{12}^2 L}{4E}\right) - \cos^2(\theta_{12}) \sin^2(2\theta_{13}) \sin^2\left(\frac{\Delta m_{31}^2 L}{4E}\right) - \sin^2(\theta_{12}) \sin^2(2\theta_{13}) \sin^2\left(\frac{\Delta m_{32}^2 L}{4E}\right)$$

- JUNO will be able to discriminate the two oscillation patterns (phase difference) thanks to its high energy resolution.
- Determination of NMO @ > 3σ in 6 years



Prompt signal

handle for neutrino energy:

$$E_{\nu} \approx E_{e^+} + \Delta m_{n-p} + T_n$$

+

Delayed signal

neutron capture: 2.2 MeV (H) or 4.9 MeV (C) within ~200 μs

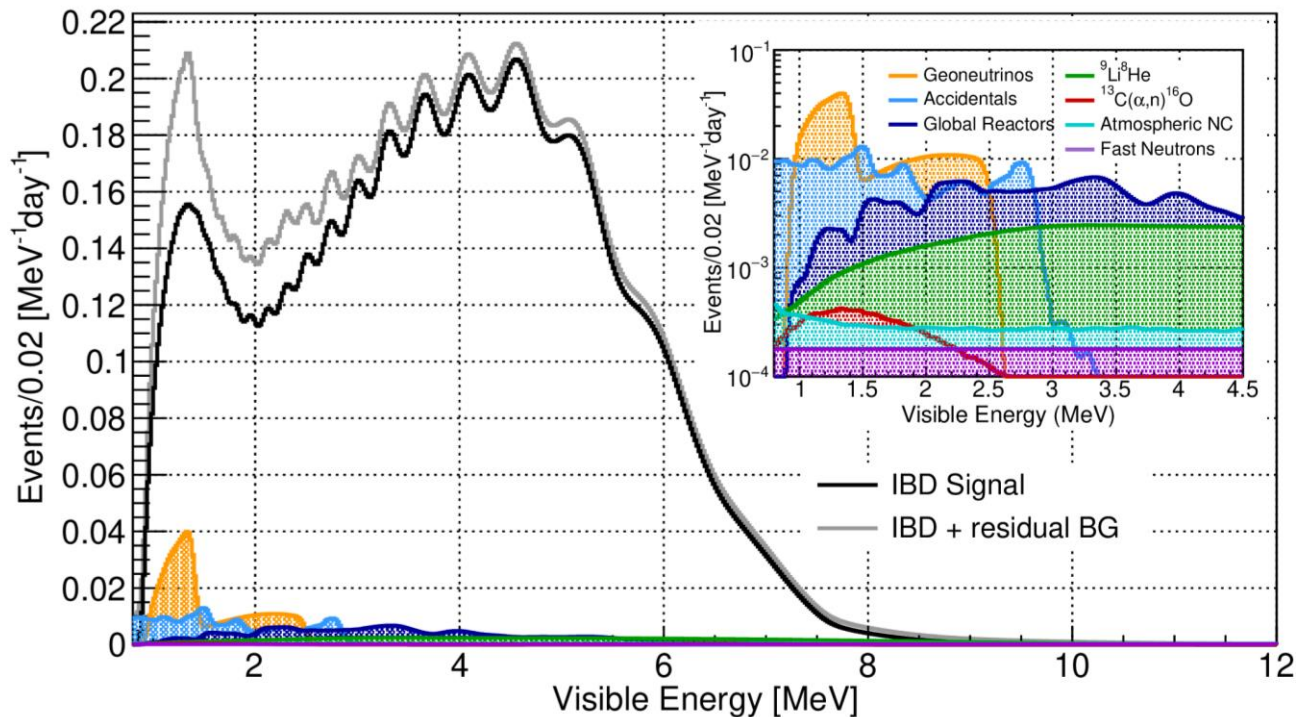
Selection criteria:

- Prompt energy: [0.7, 12] MeV
- Delayed energy: [1.9, 2.5] U [4.4, 5.5] MeV
- Time difference: < 1 ms
- Distance between prompt-delay signal vertexes: < 1.5 m

IBD Background

Main background sources for IBDs

Background	Rate (day^{-1})	Rate Uncertainty (%)	Shape Uncertainty (%)
Geoneutrinos	1.2	30	5
World reactors	1.0	2	5
Accidentals	0.8	1	negligible
${}^9\text{Li}/{}^8\text{He}$	0.8	20	10
Atmospheric neutrinos	0.16	50	50
Fast neutrons	0.1	100	20
${}^{13}\text{C}(\alpha,n){}^{16}\text{O}$	0.05	50	50

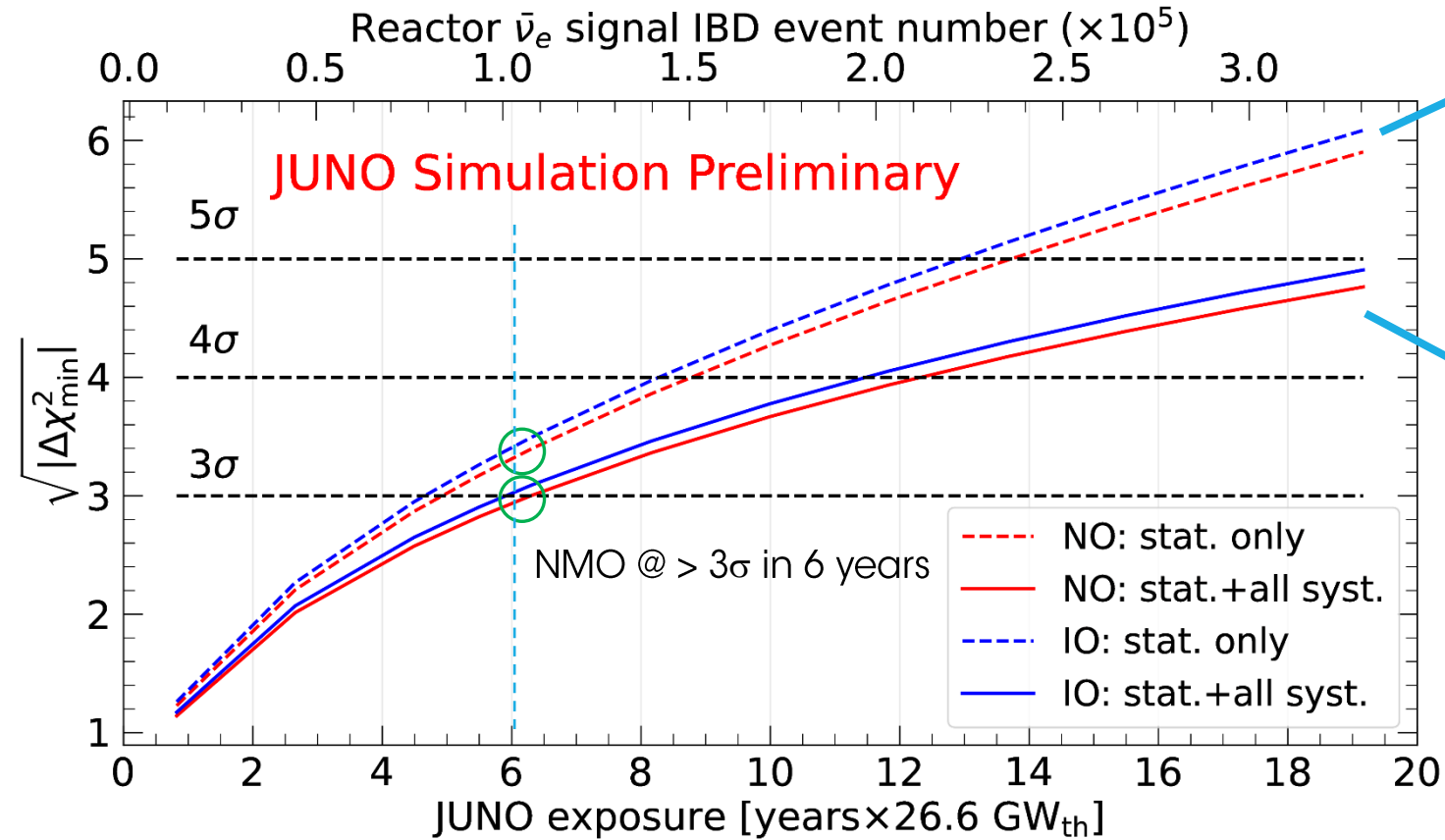


Event selection for background reduction:

- Muon veto for cosmogenic background
- FV cut + IBD cuts for accidental coincidences

	Efficiency (%)	IBD rate (day^{-1})
IBDs	100	57.4
FV cut	91.5	52.5
IBD selection	98.1	51.5
Muon veto	91.6	47.1
Combined	82.2	47.1

NMO - Sensitivity



	$\Delta\chi^2_{\min}$	stat. + 1 syst.
Statistics	11.3	
Stat.+Flux error	-0.6	
Stat.+Backgrounds	-1.4	
Stat.+Nonlinearity	-0.4	
Stat.+Others	< -0.05	
Total	9.0	

JUNO Simulation Preliminary

Sensitivity can be improved:

- Combination of reactor and atmospheric neutrino analysis
- Combination with long baseline neutrino beam experiments

Main updates from JUNO yellow book (*JPG 43:030401 (2016)*)

- 2 less reactor cores (36 -> 26,6 GWth, lower signal rate)
- 60 m less overburden (30 % higher muon flux)
- Improved detection and muon veto MC efficiencies
- Higher energy resolution (3% -> 2,9 %)
- TAO reference

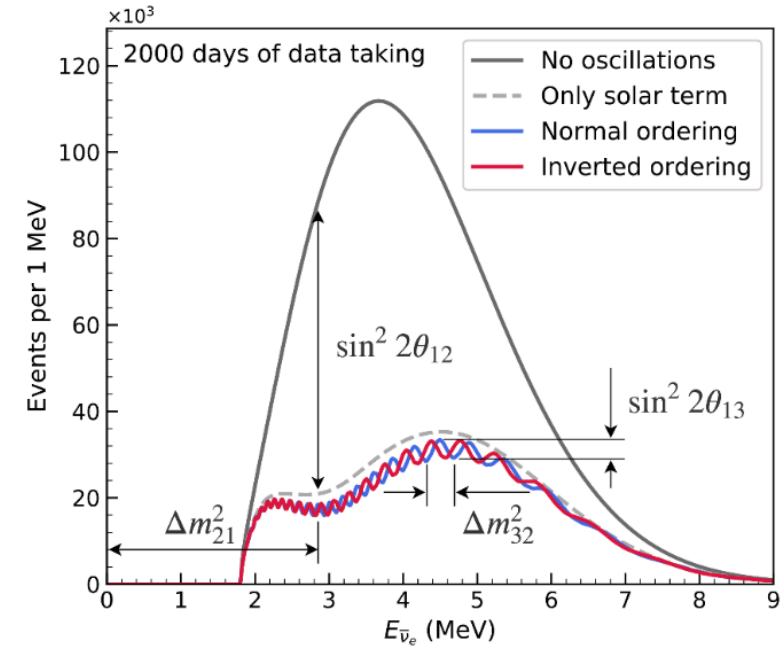
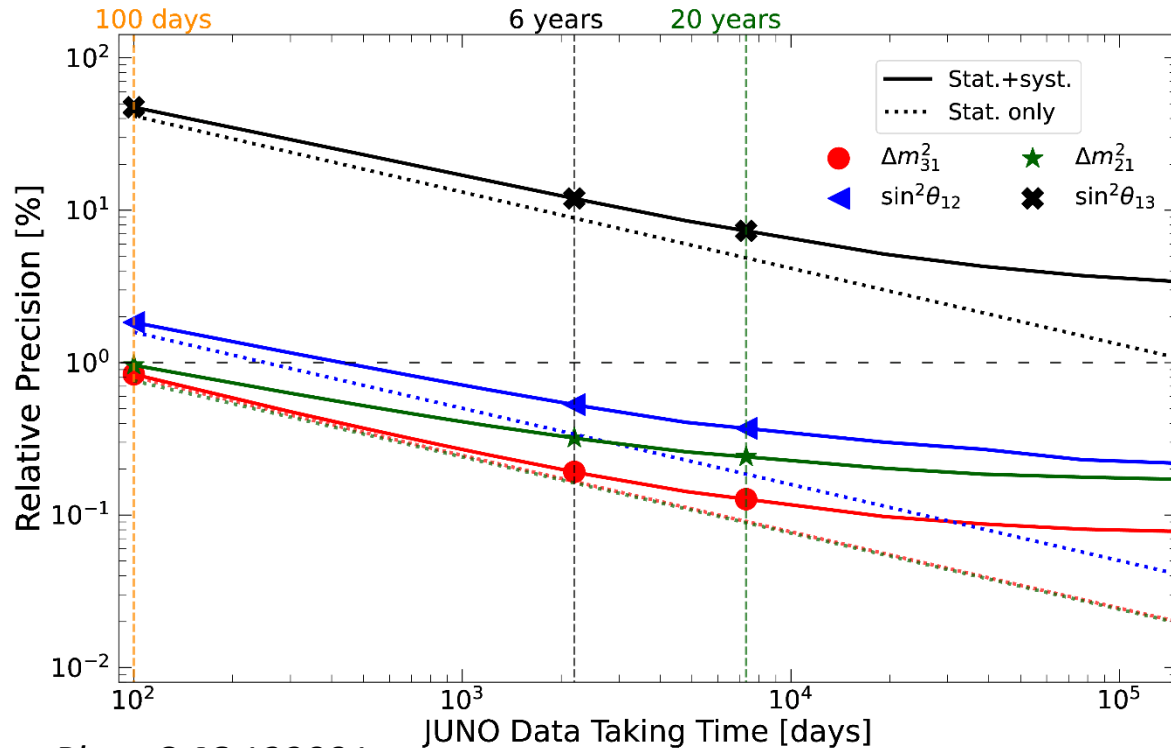
Sensitivity to oscillation parameters

Other main physics goals of JUNO: precise oscillation parameters measurement

- JUNO will observe simultaneously fast and slow oscillations (first experiment)
- The probability depends on Δm_{12}^2 , Δm_{31}^2 , θ_{12} , θ_{13}

JUNO allows high precision measurements of Δm_{12}^2 , Δm_{31}^2 , $\sin^2 \theta_{12}$ (< 1% in 2 years)

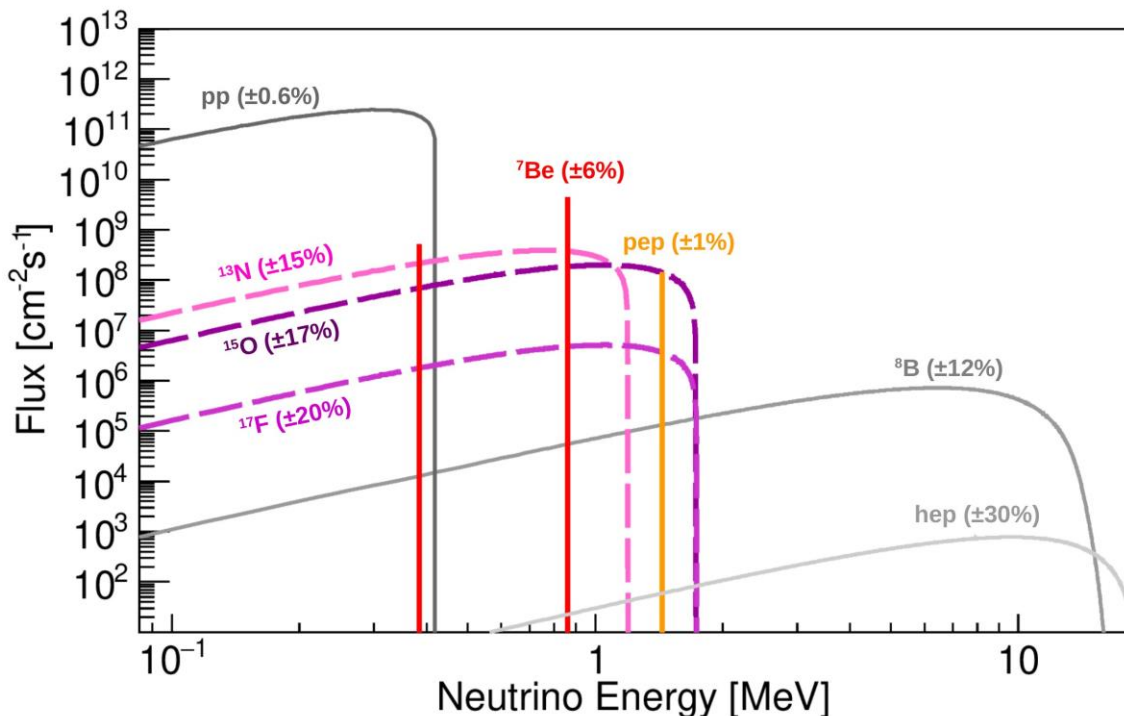
$$P_{\bar{\nu}_e \bar{\nu}_e} = 1 - \cos^4(\theta_{13}) \sin^2(2\theta_{12}) \sin^2\left(\frac{\Delta m_{12}^2 L}{4E}\right) - \cos^2(\theta_{12}) \sin^2(2\theta_{13}) \sin^2\left(\frac{\Delta m_{31}^2 L}{4E}\right) - \sin^2(\theta_{12}) \sin^2(2\theta_{13}) \sin^2\left(\frac{\Delta m_{32}^2 L}{4E}\right)$$



	PDG 2020	Nufit 5.2	JUNO 100 days	JUNO 6 years
$\sin^2 \theta_{13}$	3.2%	2.6%	48%	12%
$\sin^2 \theta_{12}$	4.2%	4.0%	1.9%	0.5%
Δm_{21}^2	2.4%	2.8%	1.0%	0.3%
Δm_{31}^2	1.3%	1.1%	0.8%	0.2%

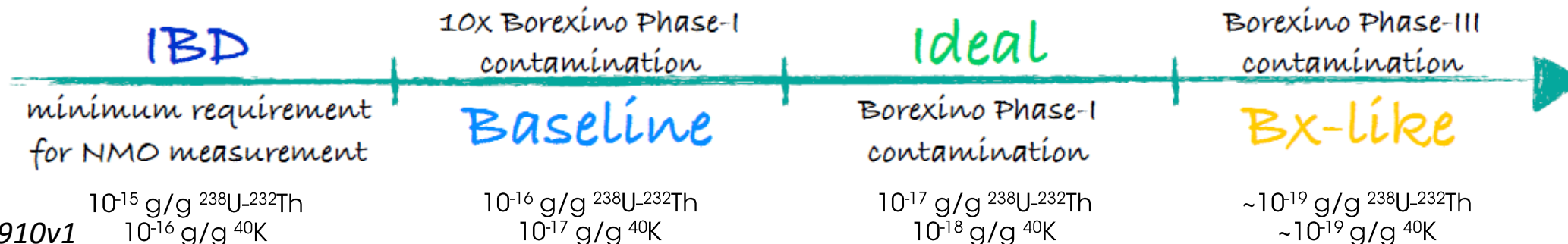
Solar neutrinos

JUNO can measure solar neutrino in the ES channel: $e^- + \nu \rightarrow e^- + \nu$



- The only real-time probes for the sun core
 - Neutrinos are produced in sun fusion reactions: pp chain (99%) and CNO cycle (1%)
 - Can be used to measure the sun composition (metallicity)
- **A very low background level (LS radiopurity and cosmogenic ^{11}C) and accurate knowledge is required**

Different background scenarios:



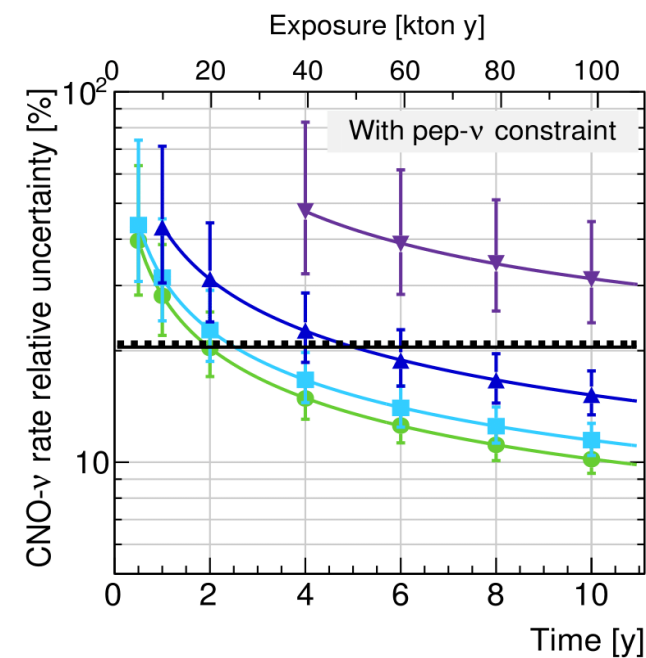
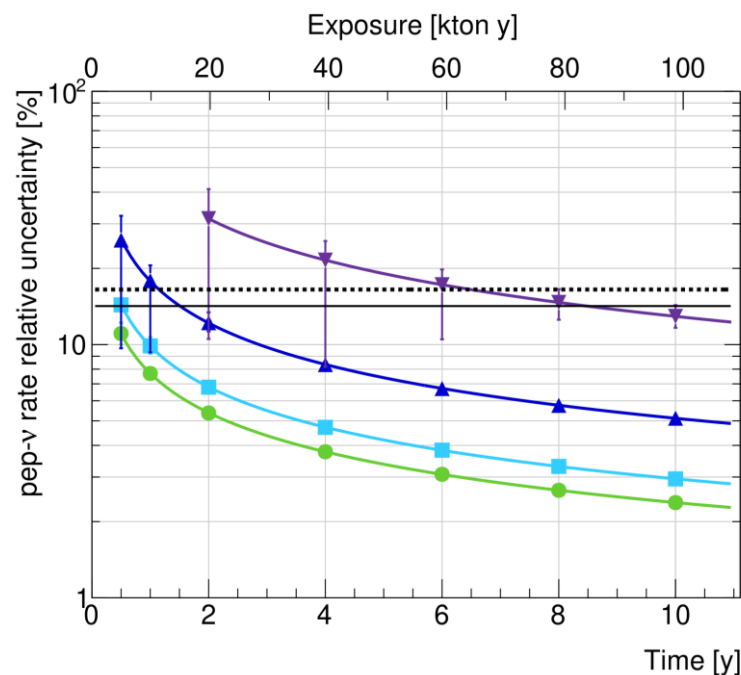
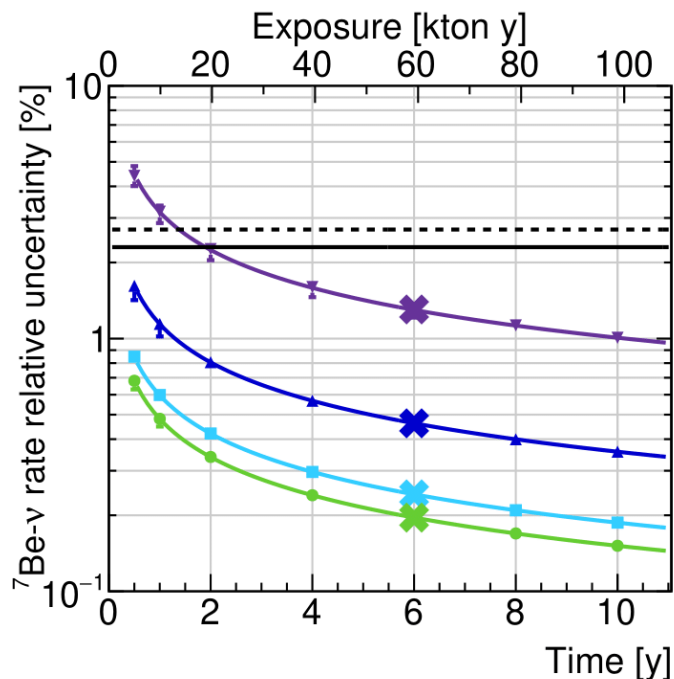
arXiv:2303.03910v1

Solar neutrinos ^7Be , pep, CNO

Background scenarios:

- min. requirement for NMO (U-Th 10^{-15} g/g)
- 10 x Borexino Phase-I (U-Th 10^{-16} g/g)
- Borexino Phase-I (U-Th 10^{-17} g/g)
- Borexino Phase-III (U-Th 10^{-19} g/g)

- ^7Be : <2,7% (Borexino) in 1-2 years
- pep: <17% (Borexino) in 6 years for IBD scenario and 1-2 years in other bkg scenarios
- CNO: <20% (Borexino) in 2-4 years based on bkg scenario (except IBD)

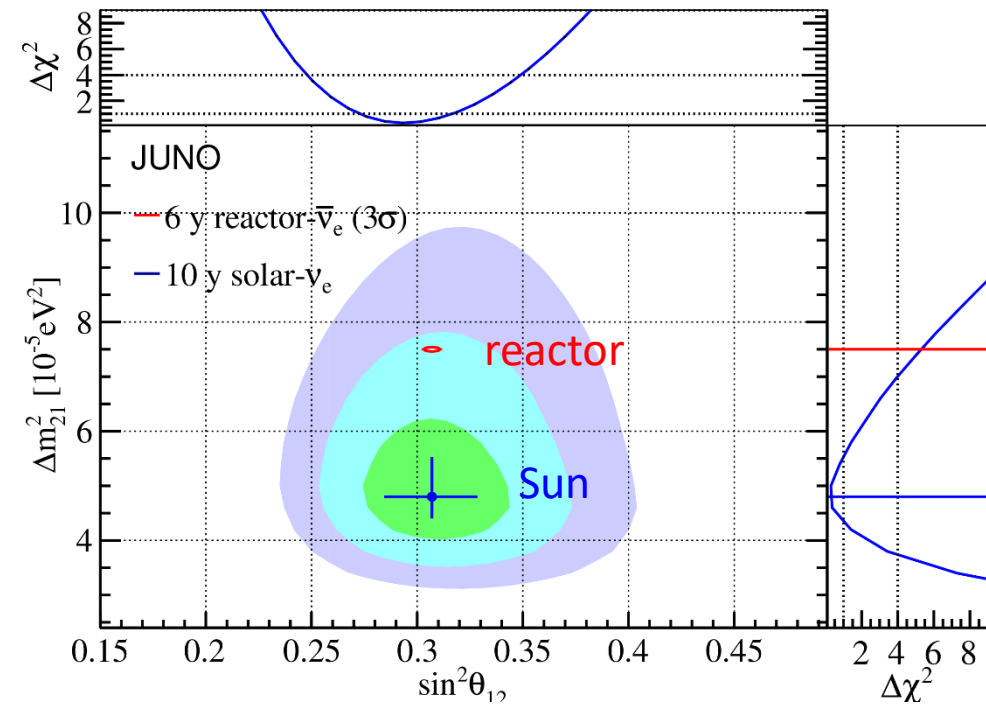
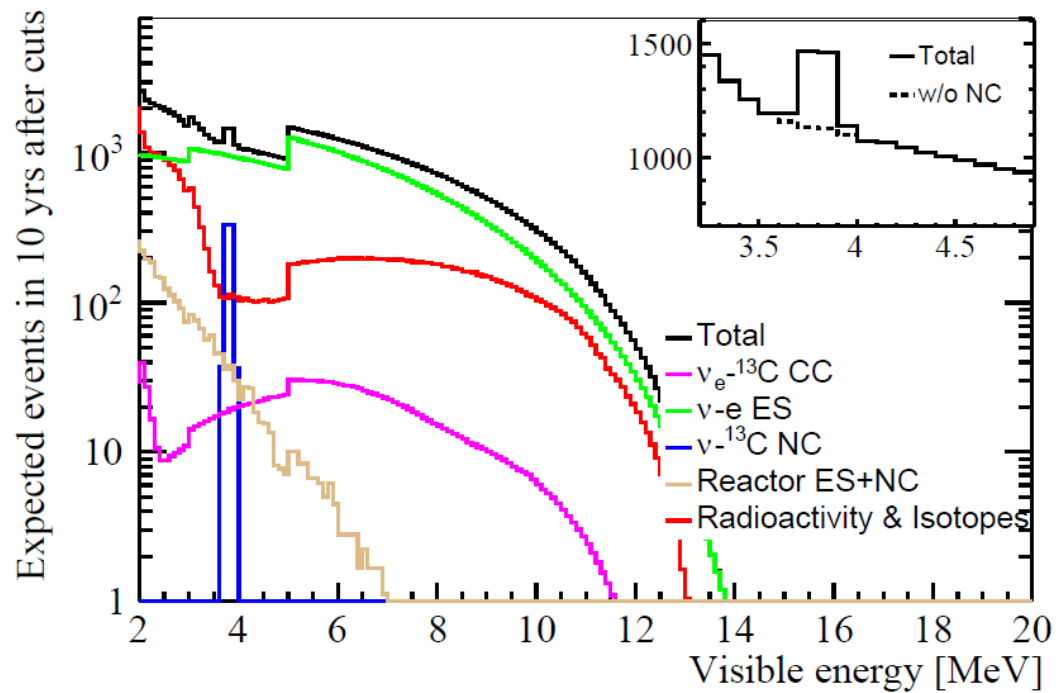


Solar neutrinos ^8B

^8B neutrino main channel: ES $e^- + \nu \rightarrow e^- + \nu$

Also visible via NC/CC on ^{13}C (200t): $\nu_e + ^{13}\text{C} \rightarrow e^- + ^{13}\text{N}$ and $\nu_x + ^{13}\text{C} \rightarrow \nu_x + ^{13}\text{C}$

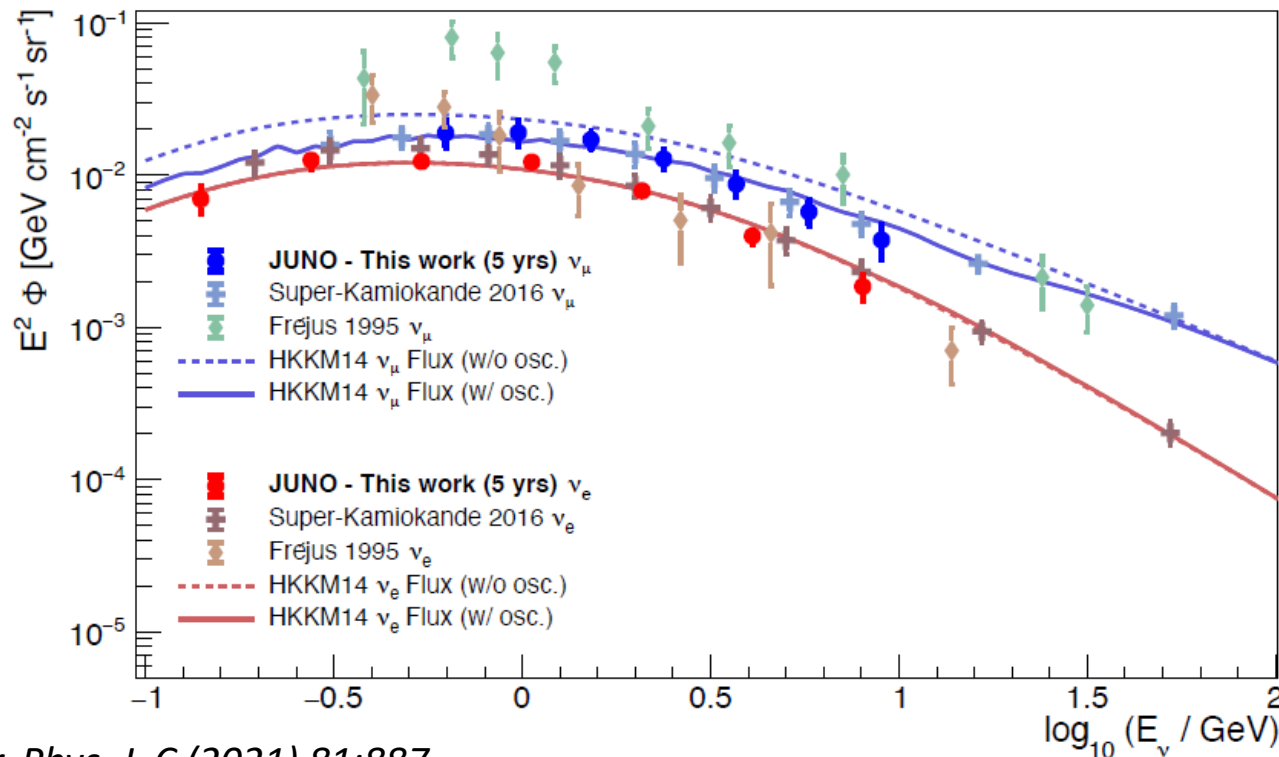
Model independent measurement of ^8B neutrino flux ($\sim 5\%$) and oscillation parameters Δm_{21}^2 , $\sin^2\theta_{12}$



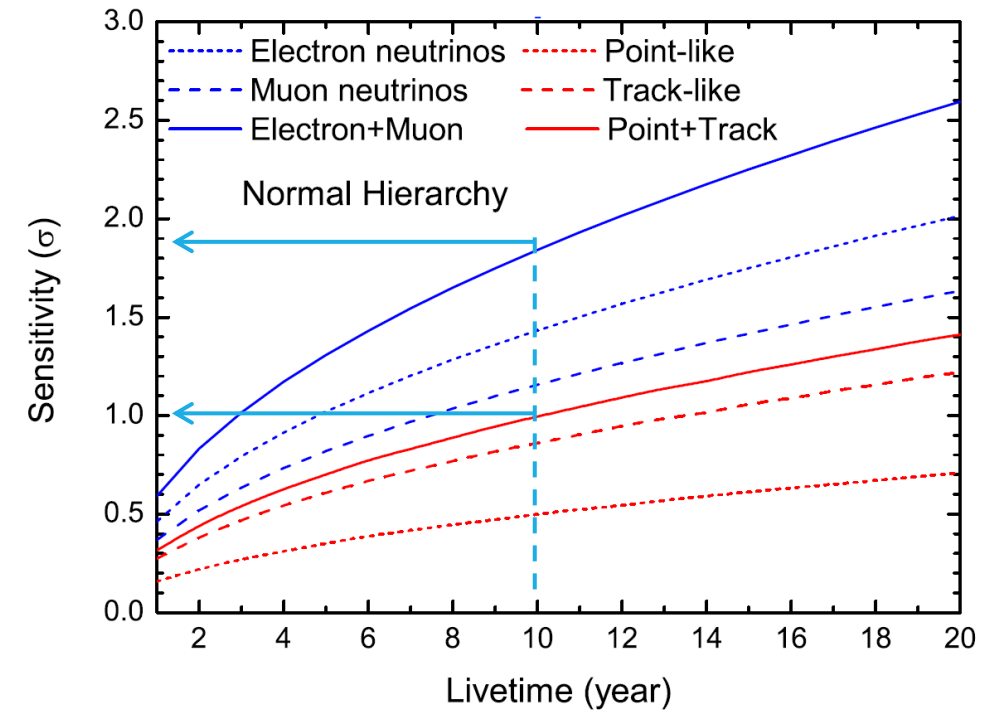
arXiv:2210.08437v1

Atmospheric neutrinos

- One of the first measurement with a LS detector (the current are mainly based on Cherenkov detectors)
- Detection via CC (μ and e) and NC (all)
- μ/e flavor separation based on 3" PMTs hit-time and LPMTs waveform features
- Measurement of θ_{23}
- Complementary measurement of NMO with matter effect ($\sim 1-1,8\sigma$ in 10 years)
- Validation of cross-sections in sub-GeV energy range



Yellow book (2016)



More realistic sensitivity study with reconstruction performance and combined with reactor anti-nu are in progress.

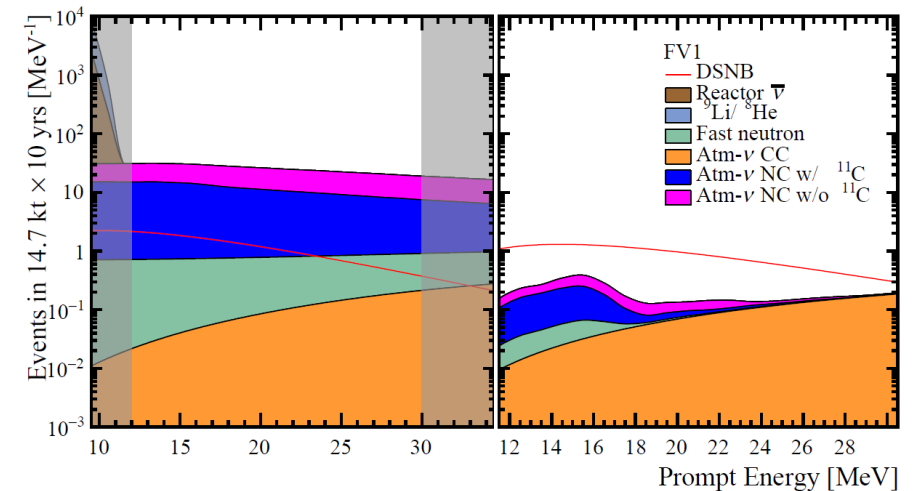
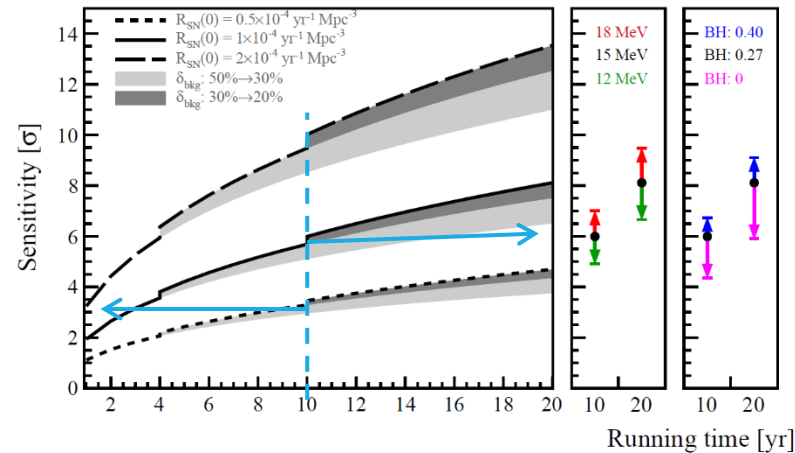
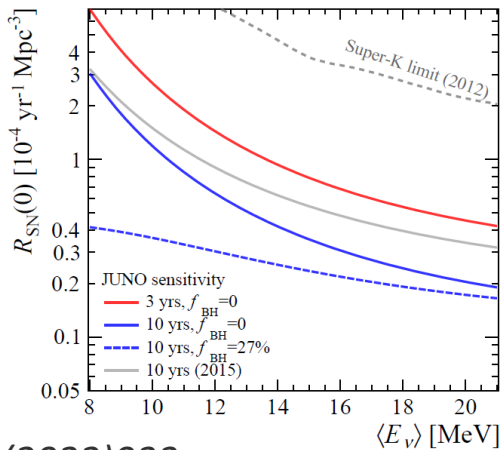
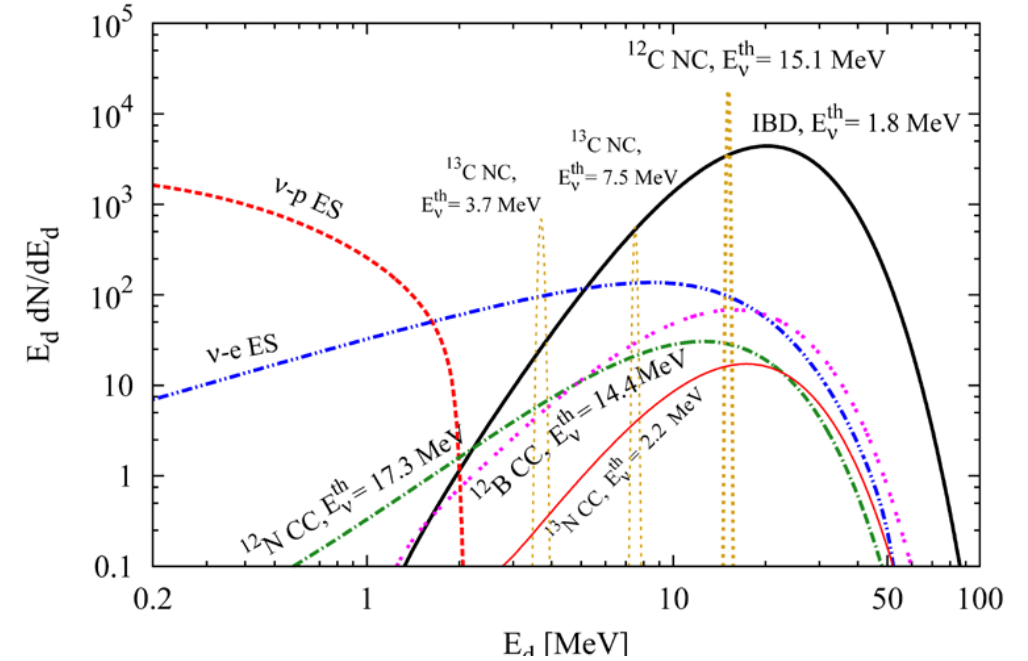
Supernova neutrinos: Core collapse and diffuse background

Core collapse SN

- Core-collapse SN emits ~99% of the energy via neutrinos
- SN rate: ~3 per century
- Multi-channel detection -> all flavor
- Determination of time evolution, energy spectra and flavor content
- Expected rate @ 10 kpc: 5000 IBD, 2000 pES, 300 eES, 300 NC, 200 CC

Diffuse SN neutrino background

- Integrated flux from past SN in the visible universe (SN rate: ~10 per second)
- Provide information about the star formation rate
- Many background sources (reactor IBD, atmospheric ...)
- Expected rate: 2-4 per year (IBD channel in 10-30 MeV)
- Expected discovery potential: 3σ in 3 years

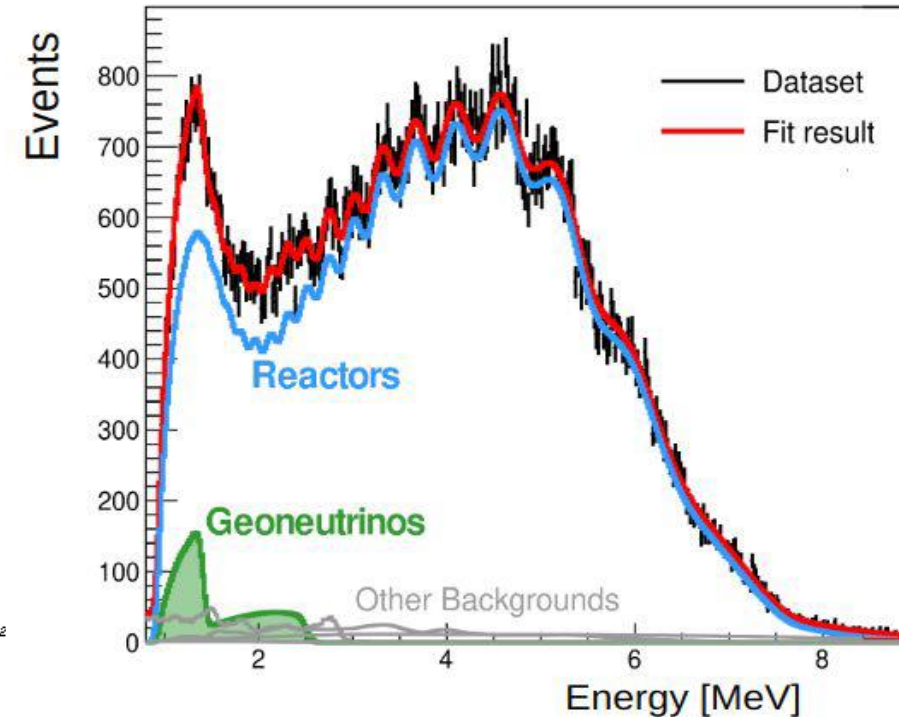
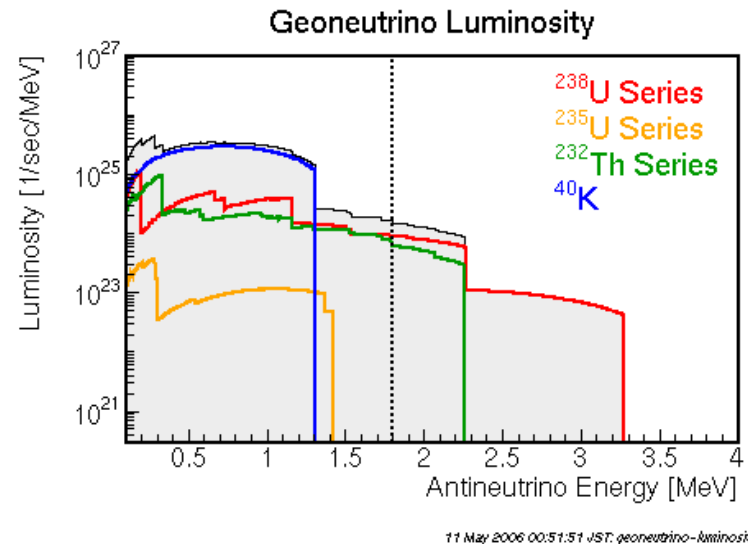


Geoneutrinos

- Geoneutrino are produced from β decays of radioactive nuclides in the earth crust and mantle
- Expected rate at JUNO: 400 events/year via IDB
- Current world sample (KamLAND+ Borexino): ~ 200
- High background from reactor antineutrino
- Geological study of the local crust is crucial to separate the mantle contribution (ongoing)
- The knowledge of the reactor spectrum shape is crucial (TAO)

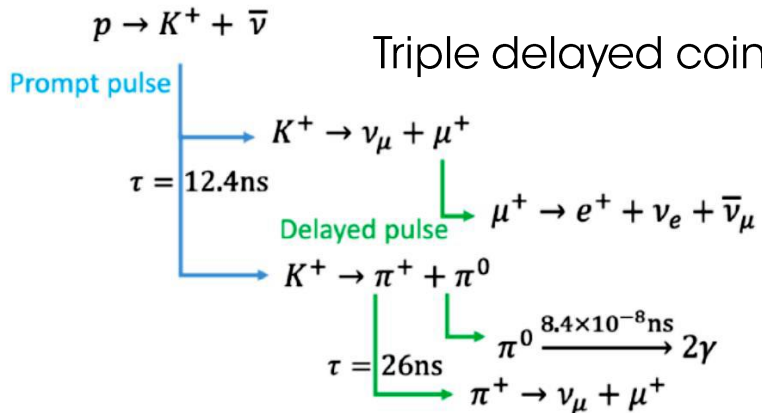
- Expected results:
 - Precision measurement of total geoneutrino signal at fixed U/Th ratio: $\sim 8\%$ in 10 years (15% KamLAND)
 - Precision measurement of U and Th components:

	6 years	10 years
^{232}Th :	$\sim 40\%$	$\sim 35\%$
^{238}U :	$\sim 35\%$	$\sim 30\%$
$^{232}\text{Th} + ^{238}\text{U}$:	$\sim 18\%$	$\sim 15\%$
$^{232}\text{Th}/^{238}\text{U}$ ratio:	$\sim 70\%$	$\sim 55\%$

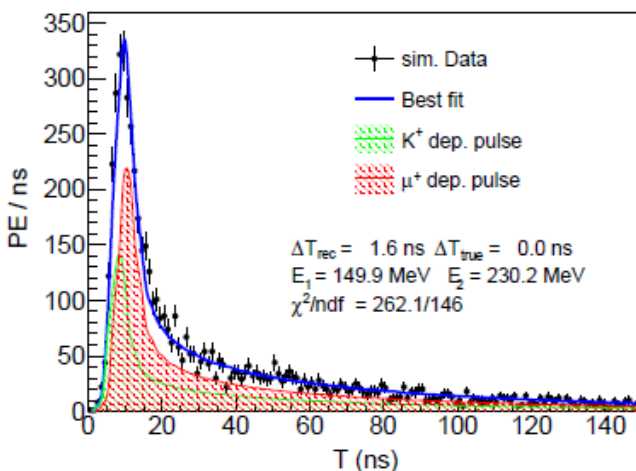
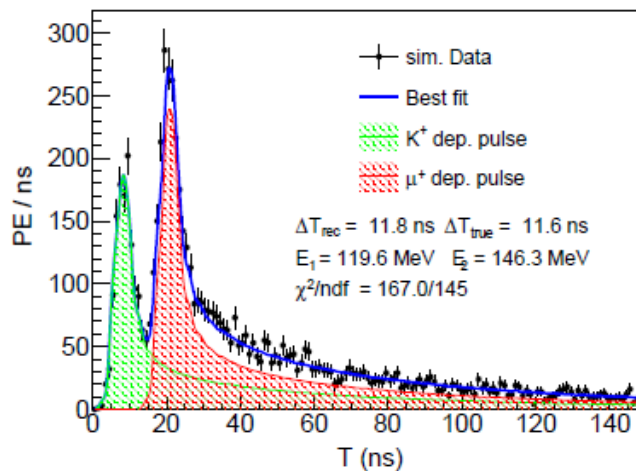


Proton decay

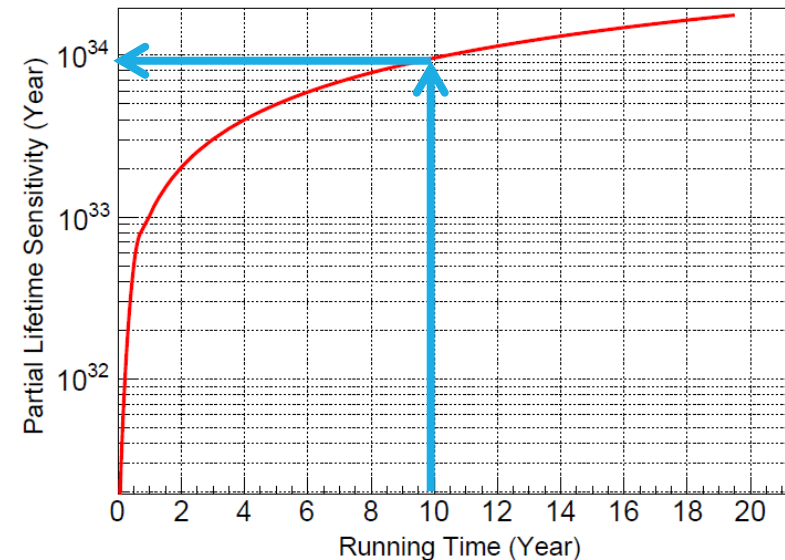
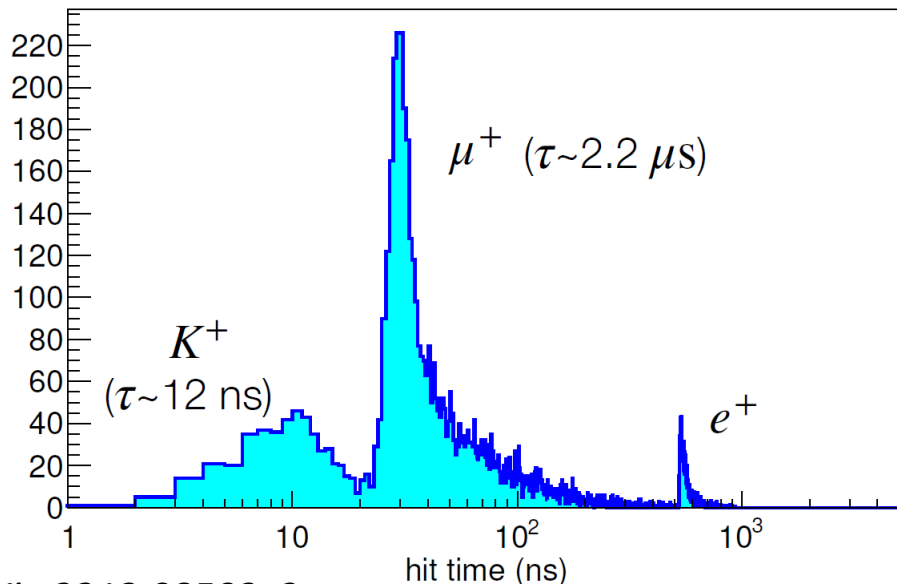
Huge mass of LS provide high sensitivity to proton decay: $p \rightarrow \bar{\nu} + K^+$



Triple delayed coincidence \rightarrow background suppression



Time-of-flight-corrected Hit Time



Expected sensitivity in 10 years:
 $9.6 \cdot 10^{33} \text{ y @90\% CL}$

Super-K result: $> 5.9 \cdot 10^{33} \text{ y @90\% CL}$

arXiv:2212.08502v3

Summary

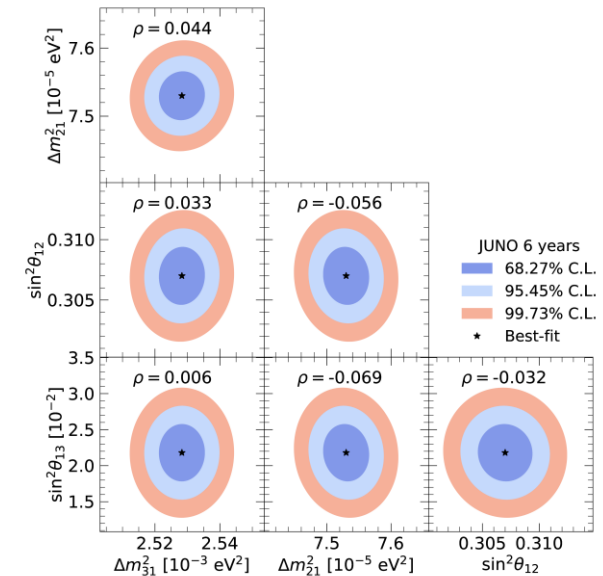
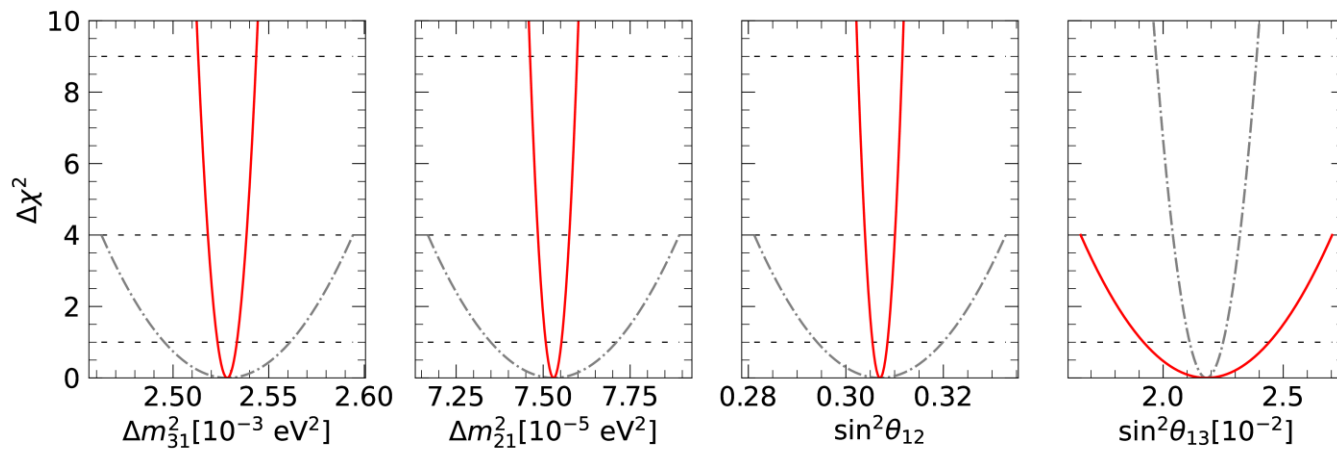
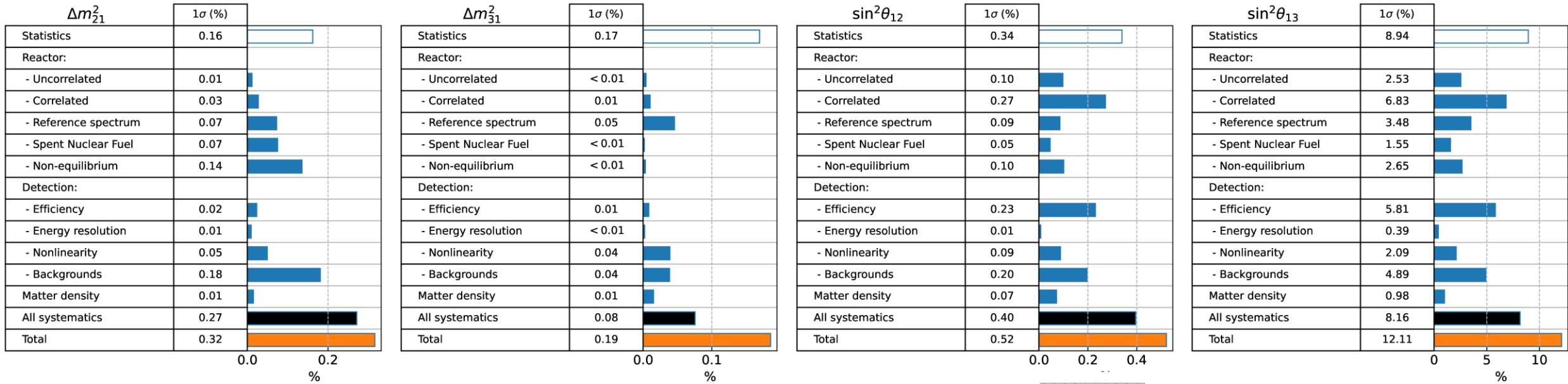
- JUNO is a neutrino observatory with unprecedented features
- Rich physics program in particle and astroparticle physics
- Main goal: determine the neutrino mass ordering at $> 3\sigma$ in 6 years
- Measurement of oscillation parameter at sub-percent level
- Measurement of other neutrino sources: solar, atmospheric, supernova and geo neutrinos
- Other physics topic (e.g. proton decay)
- Data taking start in 2024

**Thank you
for your attention!**

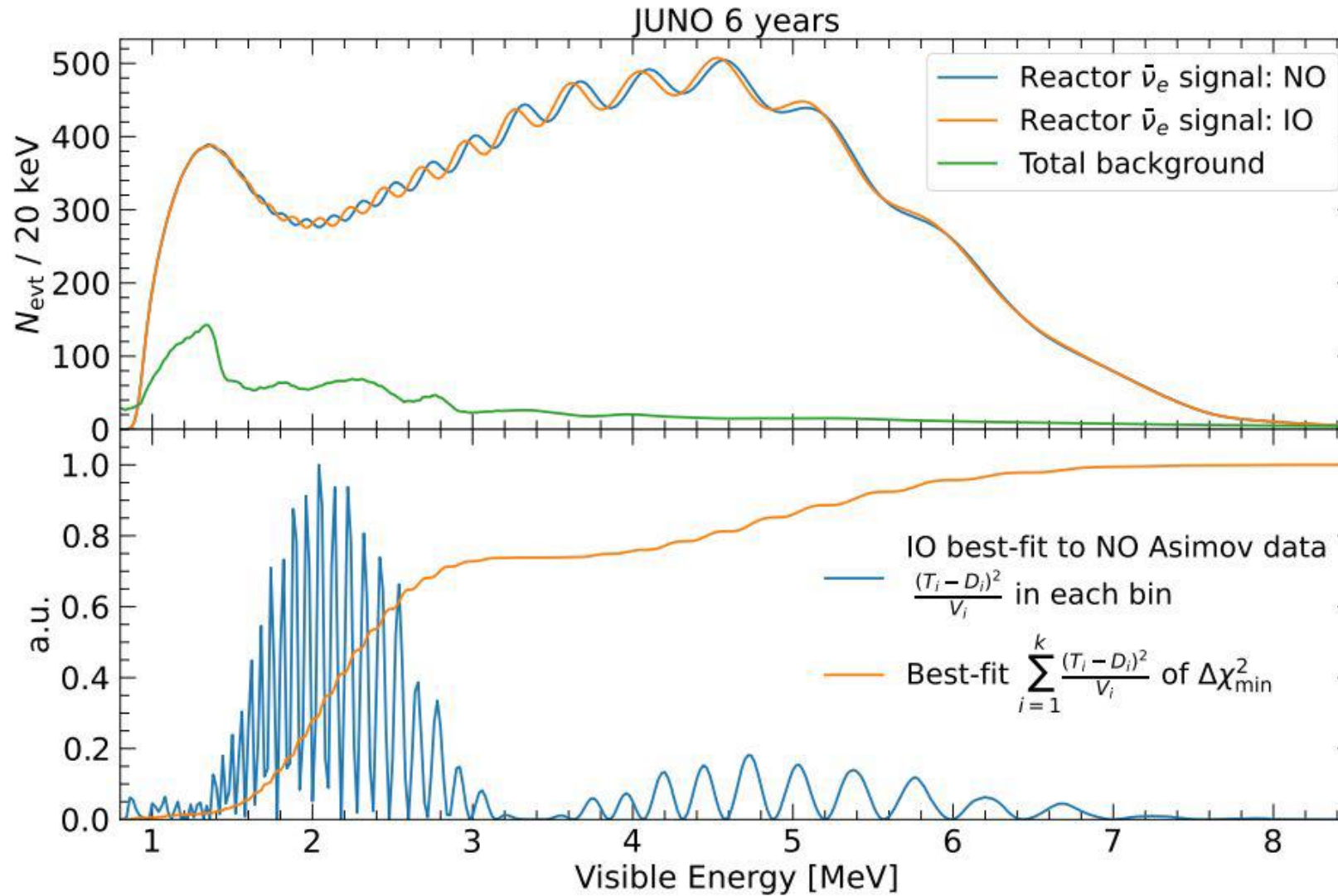


Backup slides

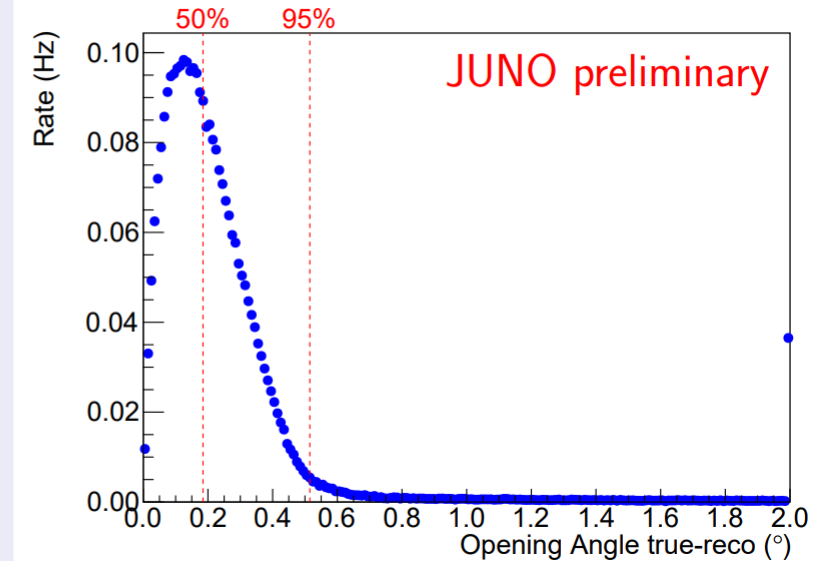
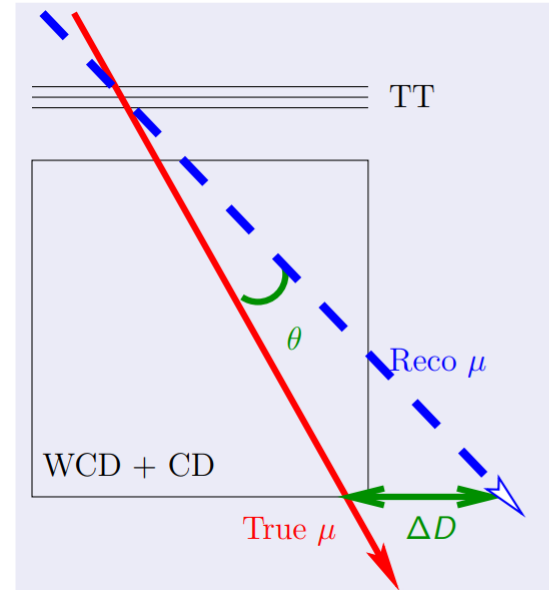
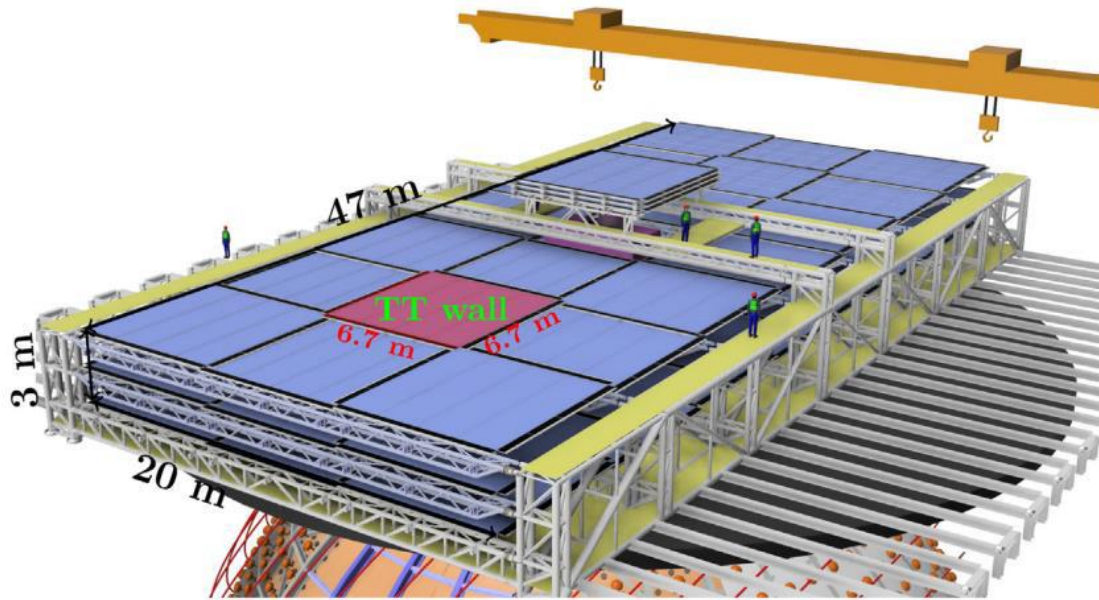
Oscillation parameters precise measurements



Spectral contribution to $\Delta\chi^2$



Top tracker for muon veto



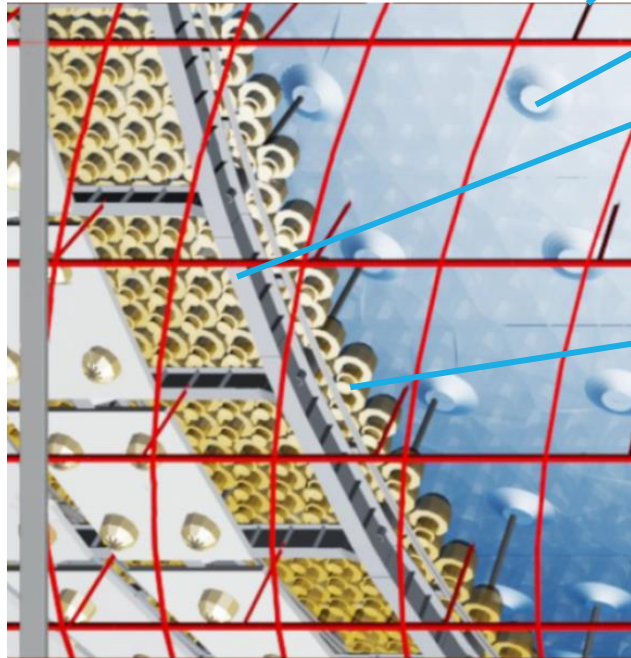
Plastic scintillator from the OPERA experiment

- About 60% coverage on the top, three layers to ensure precise tracking and reduce accidental coincidence
- High XY granularity ($2,6 \times 2,6 \text{ cm}^2$) and angular resolution ($0,2^\circ$ median)
- Provide well reconstructed muon sample for other system
- The Top Tracker support bridge is ready for production.

Radiopurity requirements

All materials must be selected for their radiopurity

Highest radiopurity requirement for inner material



Material	Mass (t)	Radius (m)	²³⁸ U (ppb)	²³² Th (ppb)	⁴⁰ K (ppb)	²¹⁰ Pb/ ²²² Rn	⁶⁰ Co (mBq/kg)
Liquid scintillator							
LS reactor	20000	0-17.7	10 ⁻⁶	10 ⁻⁶	10 ⁻⁷	10 ⁻¹³ ppb	
LS solar			10 ⁻⁸	10 ⁻⁸	10 ⁻⁹	10 ⁻¹⁵ ppb	
Acrylic vessel	580	17.7-17.8	0.001	0.001	0.001		
Acrylic nodes	28.5	17.8-17.9	0.001	0.001	0.001		
Calibration parts	0.04		1.5	4.5	0.02		
SS structure							
truss	1000	20.0-20.05	1	3	0.2		20
bars	65	17.9-20.0	0.2	0.6	0.02		1.5
LPMT glass							
NNTV	84.5	19.2-19.8	200	120	4		
Hamamatsu	33.5	19.2-19.8	400	400	40		
veto (NNTV)	16.0	20.2-20.8	200	120	4		
LPMT cover							
acrylic	110	19.2-19.4	0.003	0.01	0.01		
SS	150	19.4-19.8	0.4	2.5	0.12		
LPMT readout							
divider	0.6	19.8-19.9	3000	5000	100		
potting	24.5	19.7-19.9	70	50	4		
UWB	100	20.1-20.4	50	200	5		20
SPMT glass	2.6	19.3-19.4	400	400	200		
SPMT readout							
divider	0.15	19.4	3000	10000	200		
potting	5.1	19.4-19.5	100	50	20		
UWB	11	20.1-20.4	50	200	5		20
Water	35000	17.8-21.8				10 mBq/m ³	
Rock			10000	30000	5000		

Radius

0 m

~ppq -> 10⁻¹⁵ g/g
10⁻⁸ Bq/kg (²³⁸U)

17,7 m

17,82 m

~ppt -> 10⁻¹² g/g
10⁻⁵ Bq/kg (²³⁸U)

19,50 m

~ ppb /ppm

21,75 m



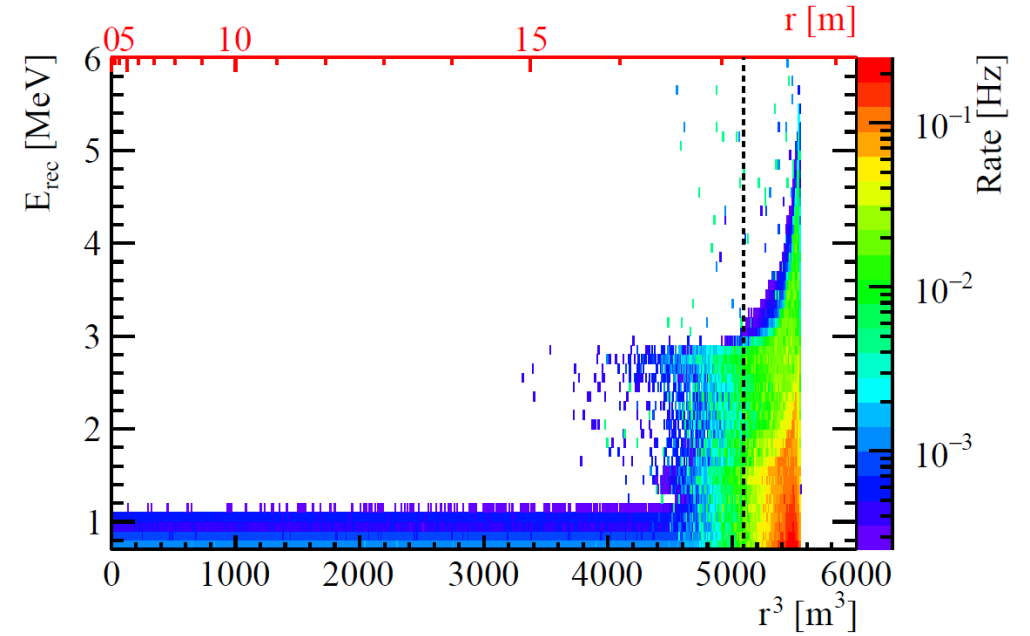
Radioactive background budget

Material	Mass [t]	Target impurity concentration					Singles	
		²³⁸ U [ppb]	²³² Th [ppb]	⁴⁰ K [ppb]	²¹⁰ Pb [ppb]	⁶⁰ Co [mBq/kg]	ALL [Hz]	FV [Hz]
LS-reactor	20000	10 ⁻⁶	10 ⁻⁶	10 ⁻⁷	10 ⁻¹³		2.5	2.2
Acrylic	610	10 ⁻³	10 ⁻³	10 ⁻³			8.4	0.4
SS structure	65	0.2	0.6	0.02		1.5	15.9	1.1
	1000	1	3	0.2		20		
PMT glass	33.5	400	400	40			26.2	2.8
	100.5	200	120	4				
PMT readout	2.6	400	400	200			3.4	0.4
	125	68	194	5		16		
Other	16.3	93	243	12		14	2.5	0.3
Sum							59	7.2

$E > 0.7$ MeV (IBD cut)
FV cut: 17.2 m



-15% compared to the design



Accidental rate (IBD like signals)

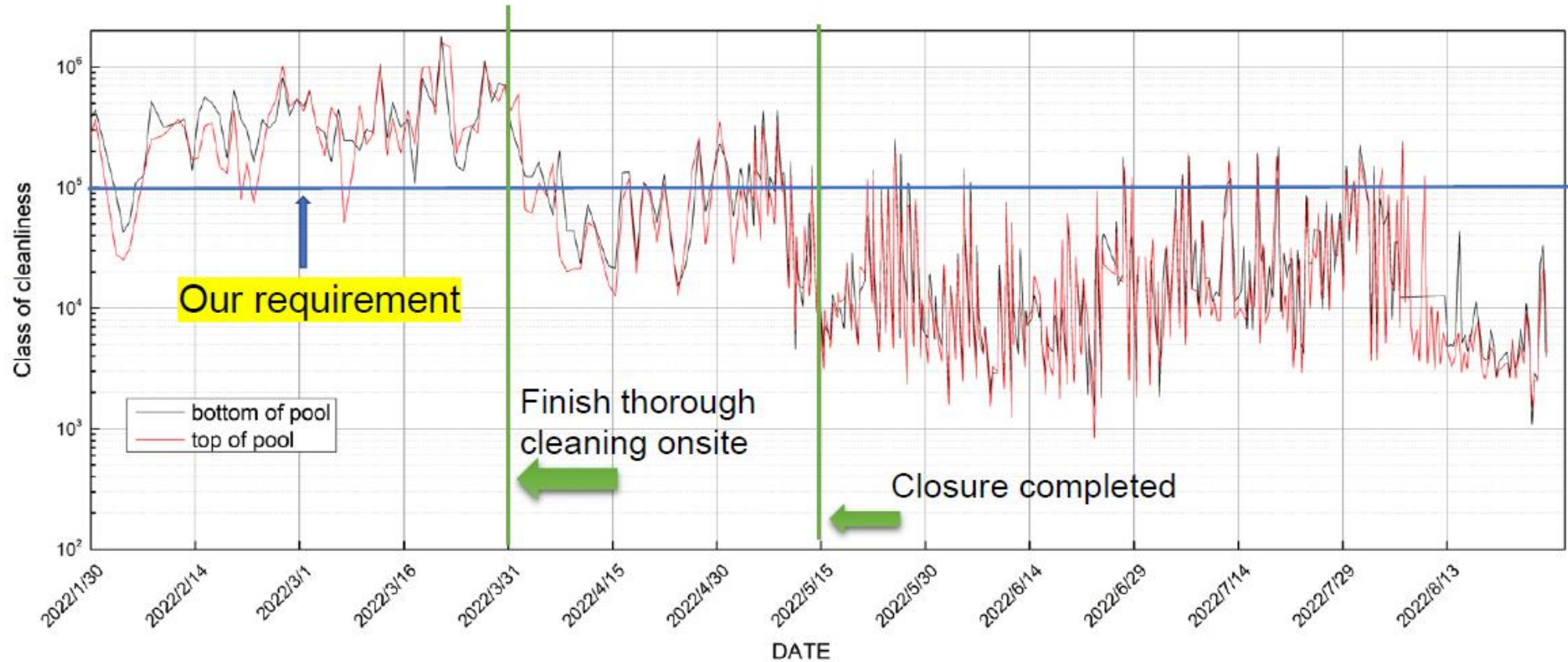
R_{acc} [cpd]	Fiducial volume radius [m]				
	17.0	17.1	17.2	17.3	17.4
$E_{th} = 0.7$ MeV	0.20	0.41	0.89	2.0	4.9
$E_{th} = 0.8$ MeV	0.19	0.38	0.83	1.9	4.6
$E_{th} = 0.9$ MeV	0.17	0.35	0.78	1.8	4.3

Experimental hall cleanliness

Temperature control:
(21±1) °C

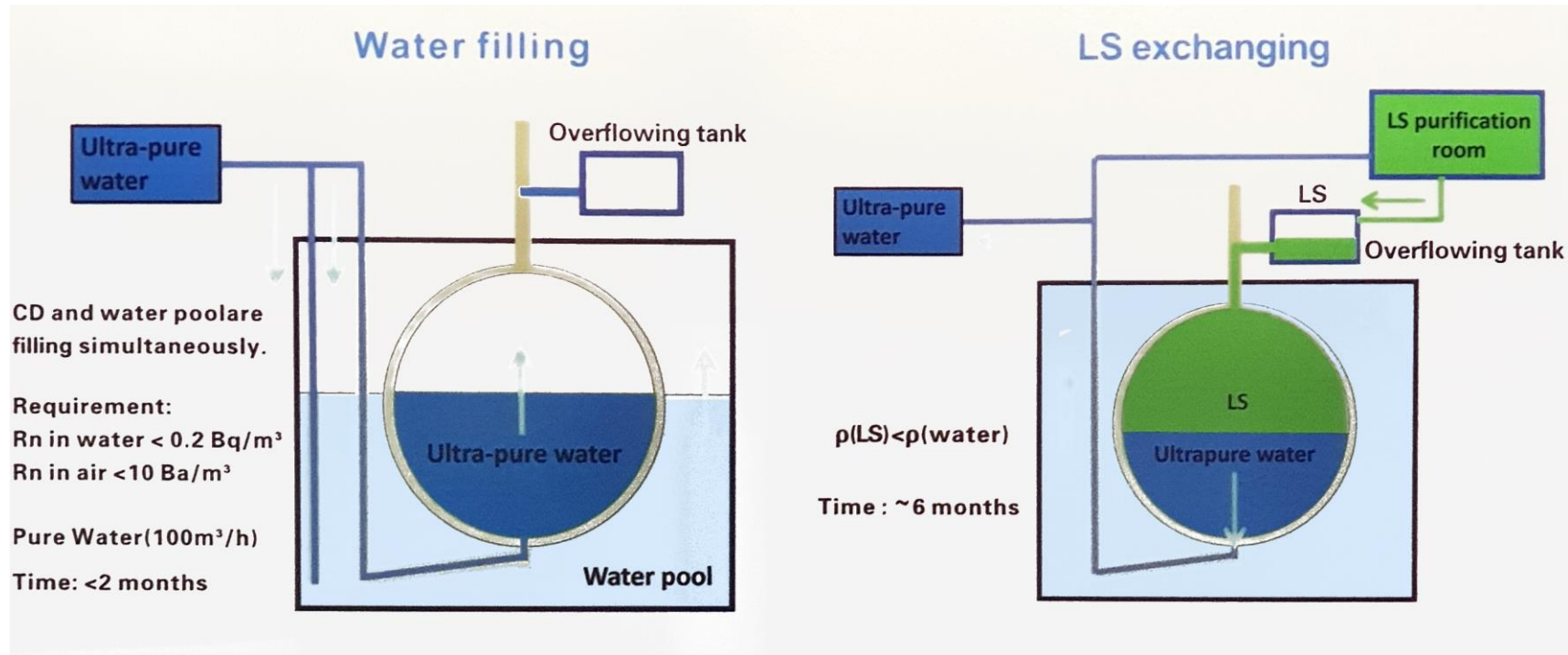
Clean environment during installation is crucial

- Class 100 k in WCD
- Class 10 k between PMTs and acrylic sphere
- Class 1 k inside the acrylic sphere



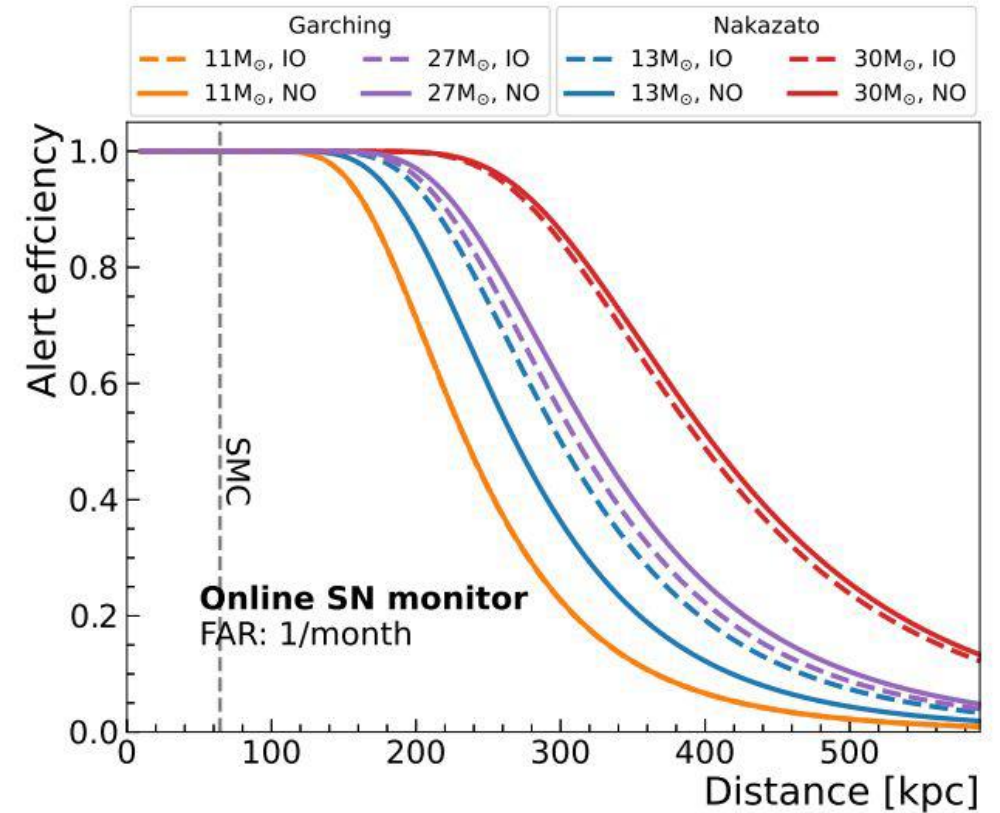
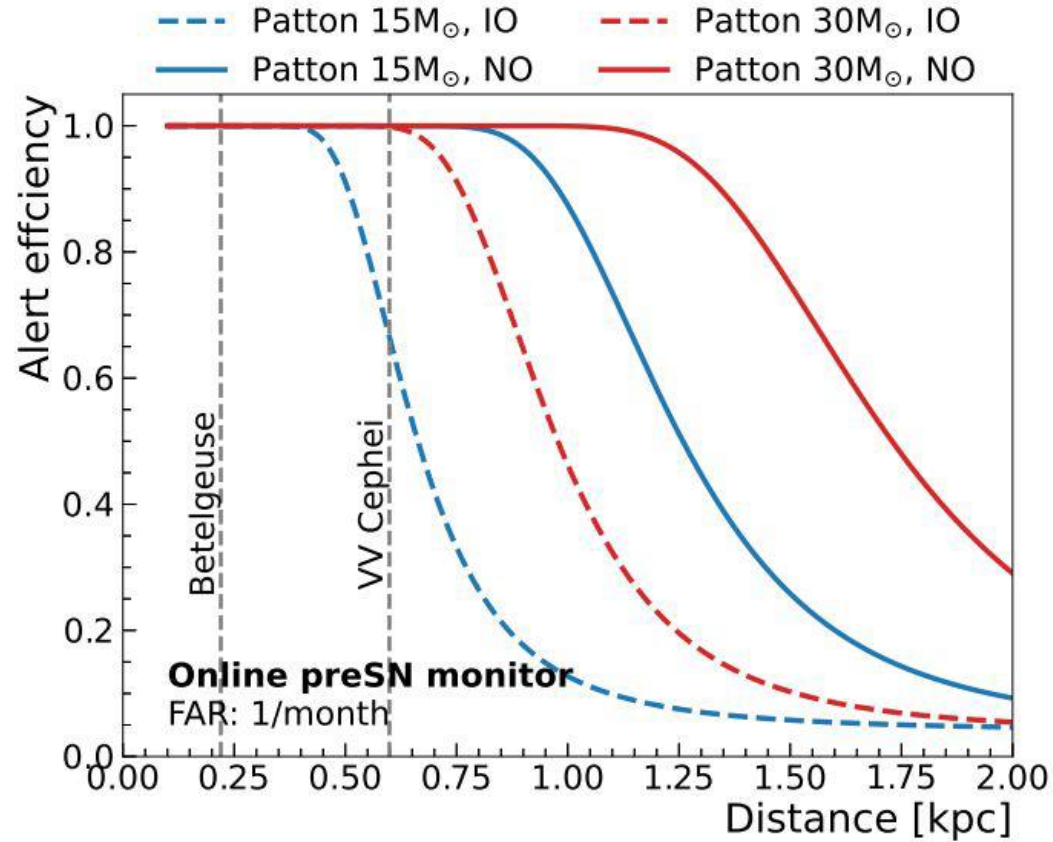
LS filling and CD commissioning

1. Filling water pool and CD with ultra-pure water (UPW) at the same level
2. LS-UPW exchange

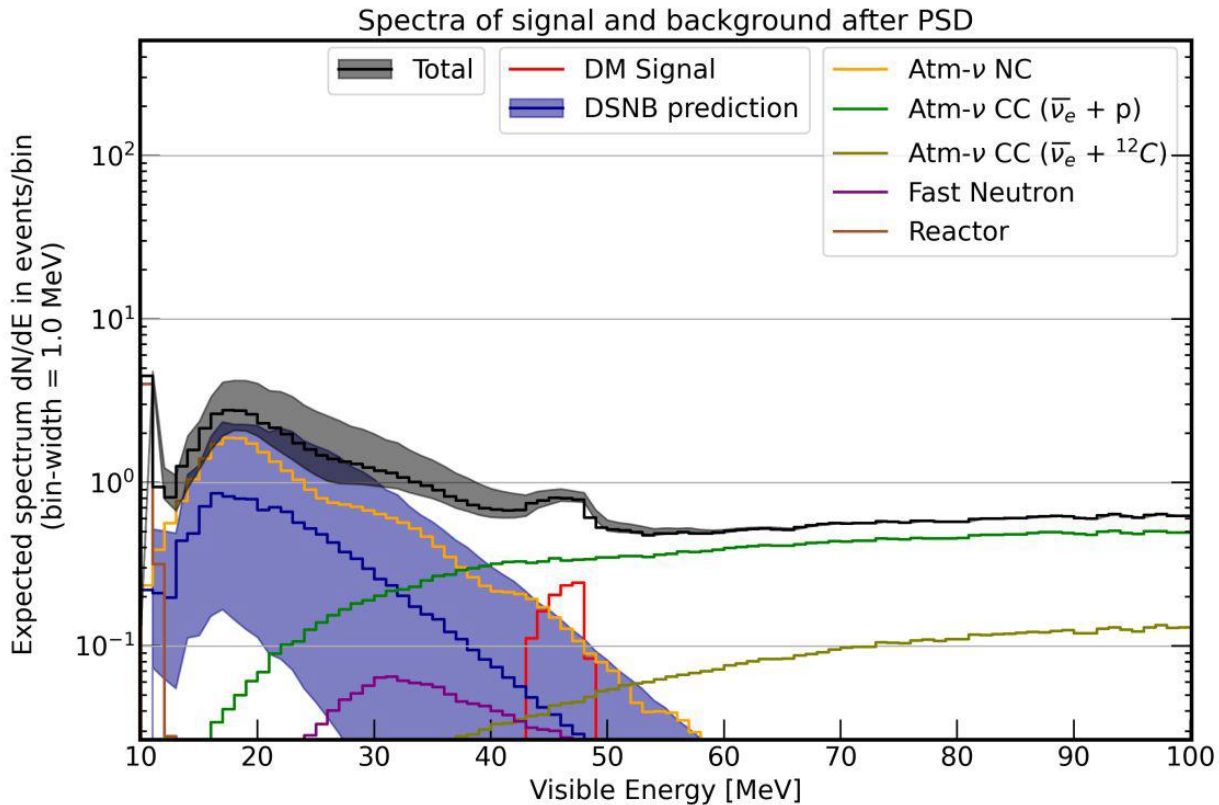


CCSN online monitor

- Capability to detect pre-SN neutrinos from close SN-candidates
- >50% efficiency to detect CCSN up to 250–300 kpc



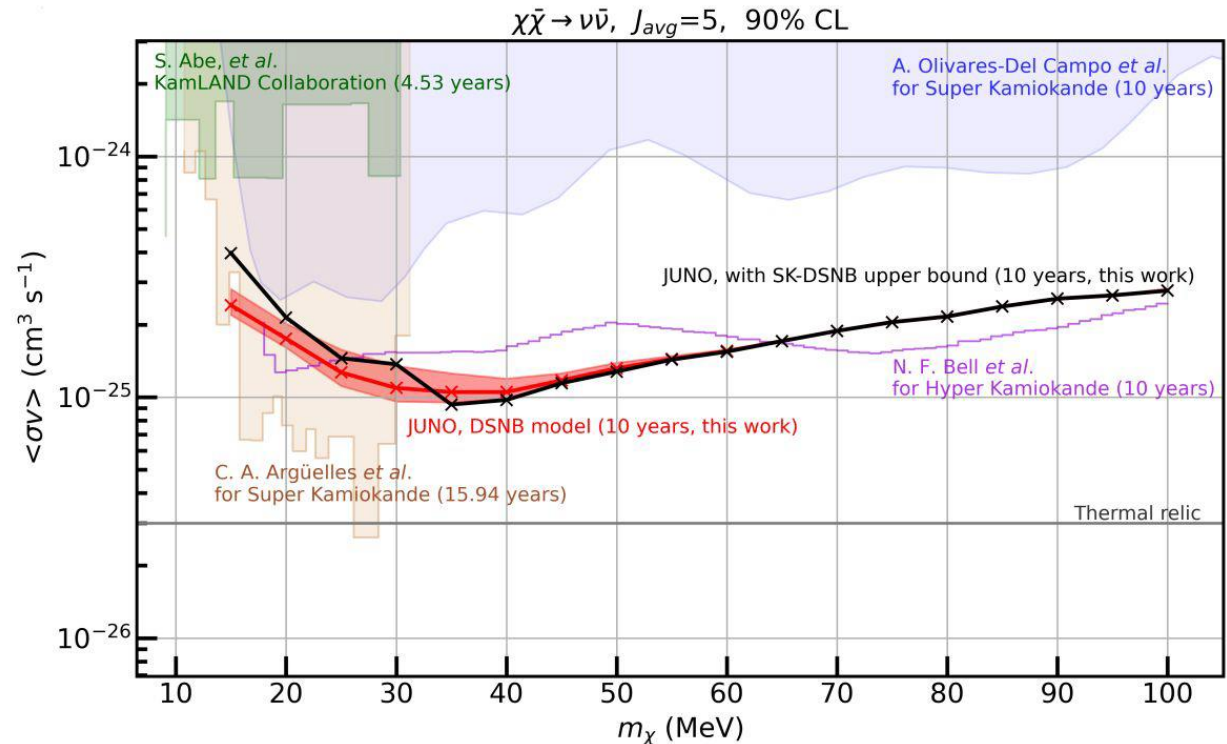
Dark matter search



Expected sensitivity in 10 years:

$$\langle\sigma v\rangle = 1.1 \cdot 10^{-25} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$$

- From dark matter self annihilation
- Detection in IBD channel in 15-100 MeV energy range
- PSD for atmospheric neutrino rejection



Sterile neutrino at TAO

- Very close to the Taishan NPP core (30m)
- High statistics (30x JUNO)
- High energy resolution (2% @ 1 MeV)

Sensitivity at the Δm^2 region of 0.05 – 1 eV²:
complimentary to the longer baseline experiments

