

# SNO+

# Status and Outlook



Szymon Manecki  
August 9, 2023

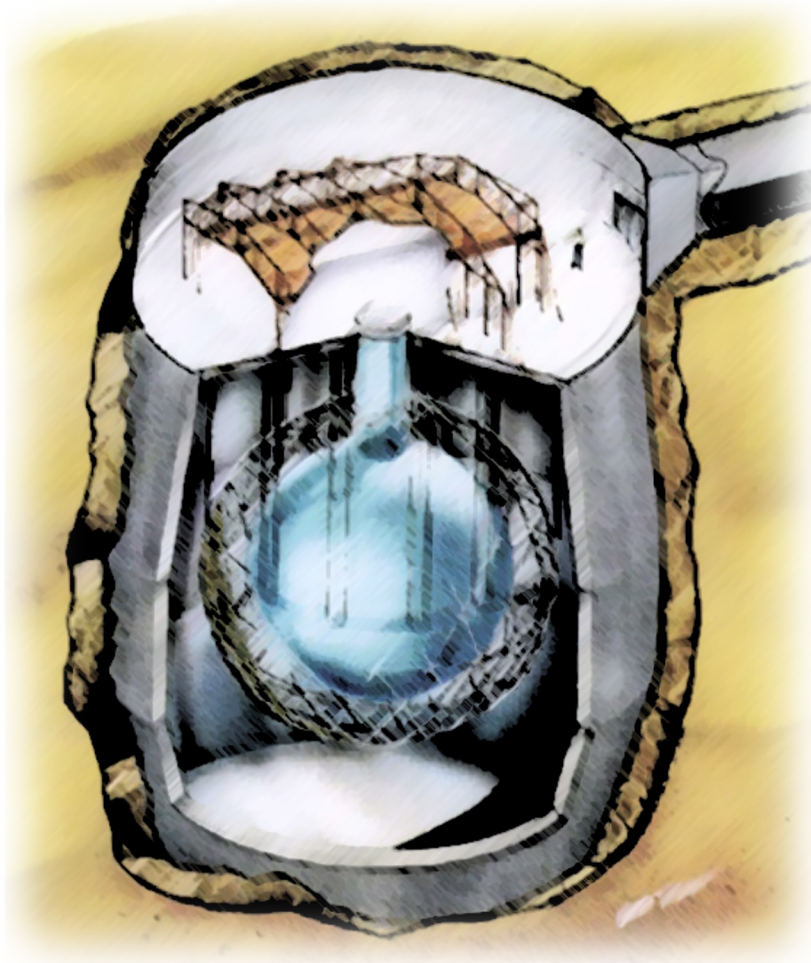


*Celebrating  
7 Years of Accelerated  
Research Progress*

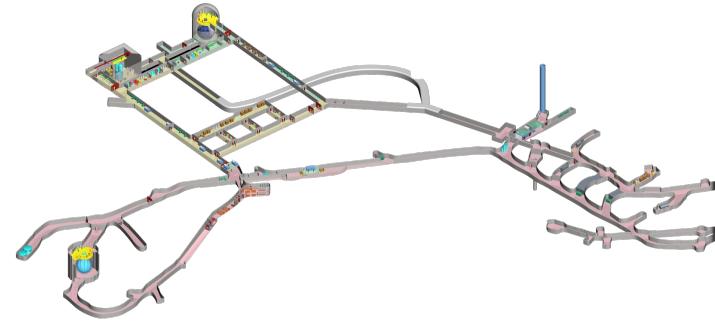
*Queen's University, Kingston, ON*

**2023 Canadian Astroparticle Physics Community Meeting**

# SNO+ Detector



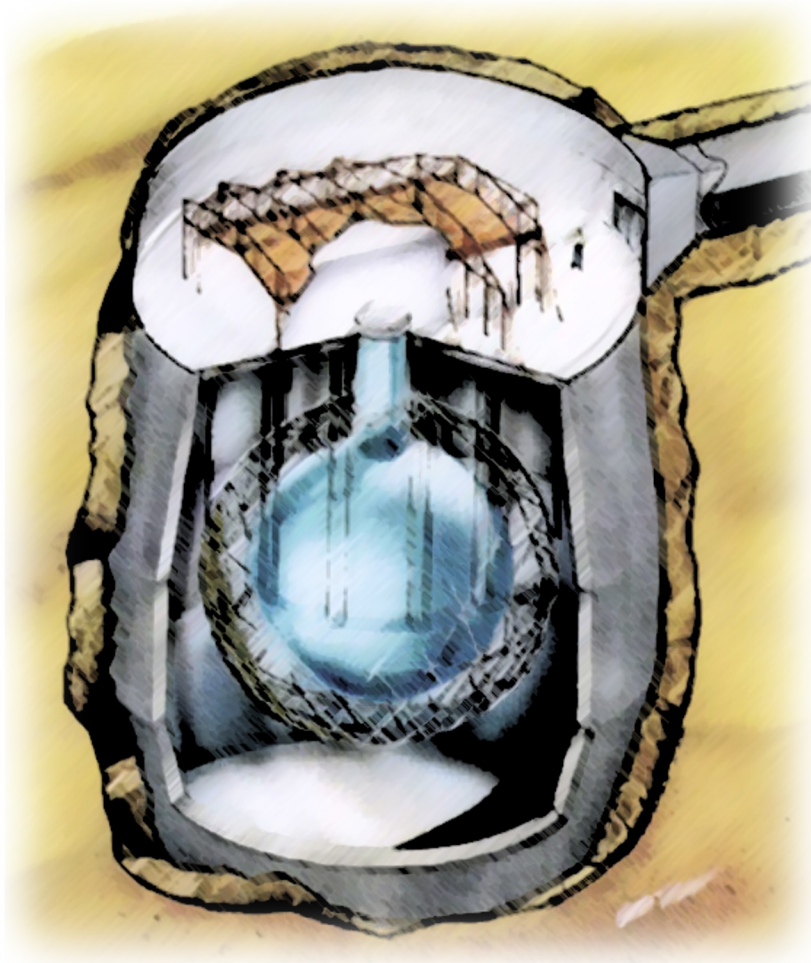
*SNO detector (1999–2006)*



- 6010 m water equivalent overburden
- 1000 cubic meters in volume
- Very low cosmic backgrounds ( $0.27 \mu/\text{m}^2/\text{d}$ )
- 9500 light sensors (PMTs)
- 12 m Diameter Acrylic Container (AV)
- Ultra-pure Water shield,  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$
- Urylon Liner and Radon Seal

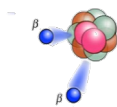


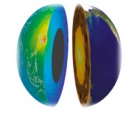



# SNO+ Physics Goals

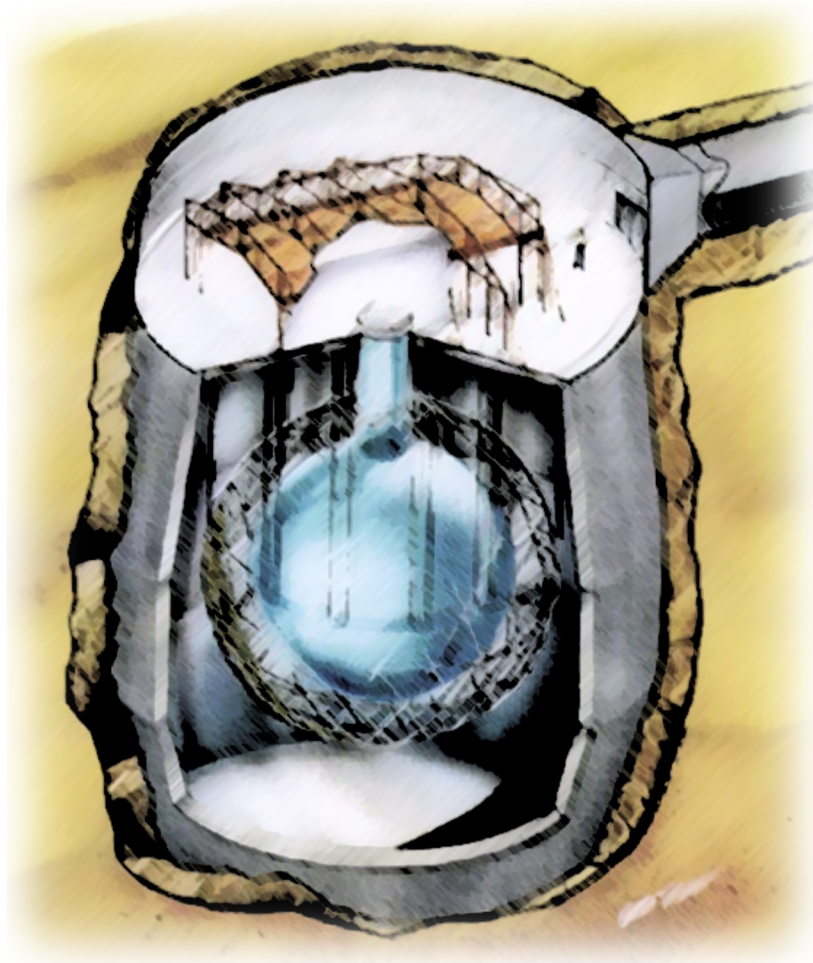


SNO detector (2007–2023+)

## SNO+ Broad Physics Program

- Neutrinoless Double Beta Decay 
- Invisible Nucleon Decay modes 
- High Energy Solar Neutrinos 
- Low Energy Solar Neutrinos 
- Reactor Antineutrinos 
- Geo-Neutrinos 
- Supernova- $\nu$  

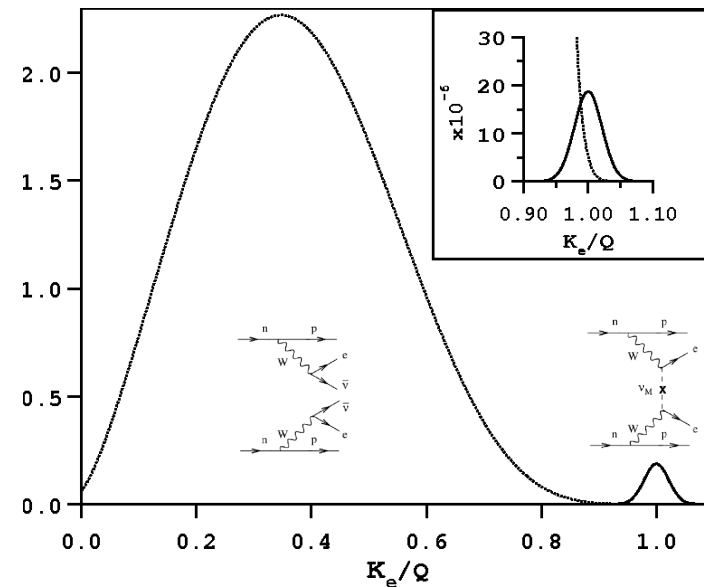
# SNO+ Physics Goals



SNO detector (2007–2023+)

## $0\nu\beta\beta$ Search Requirements

- Low backgrounds
- Good energy resolution
- Large amounts of isotope





# SNO+ 7 years ago

Calibration hardware

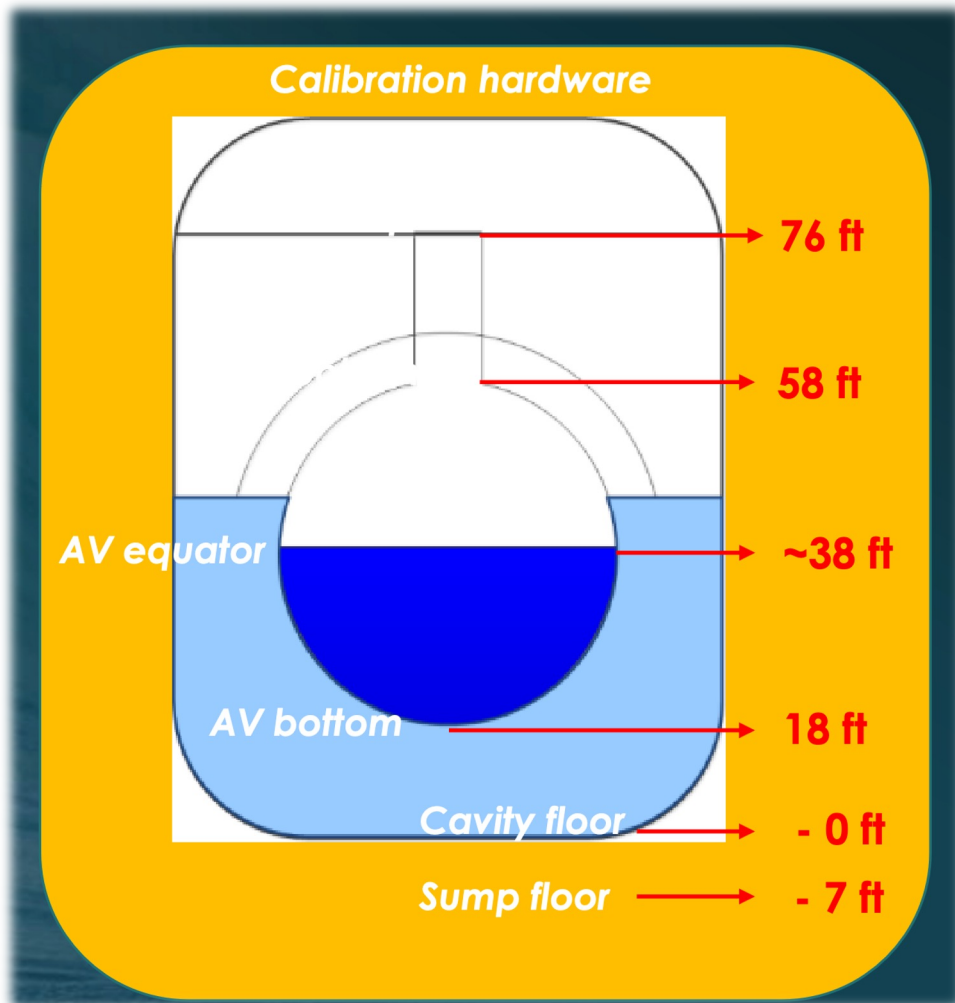


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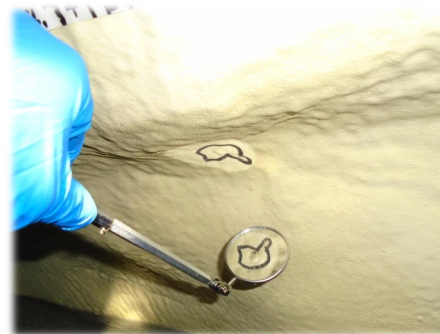
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# SNO+ 7 years ago

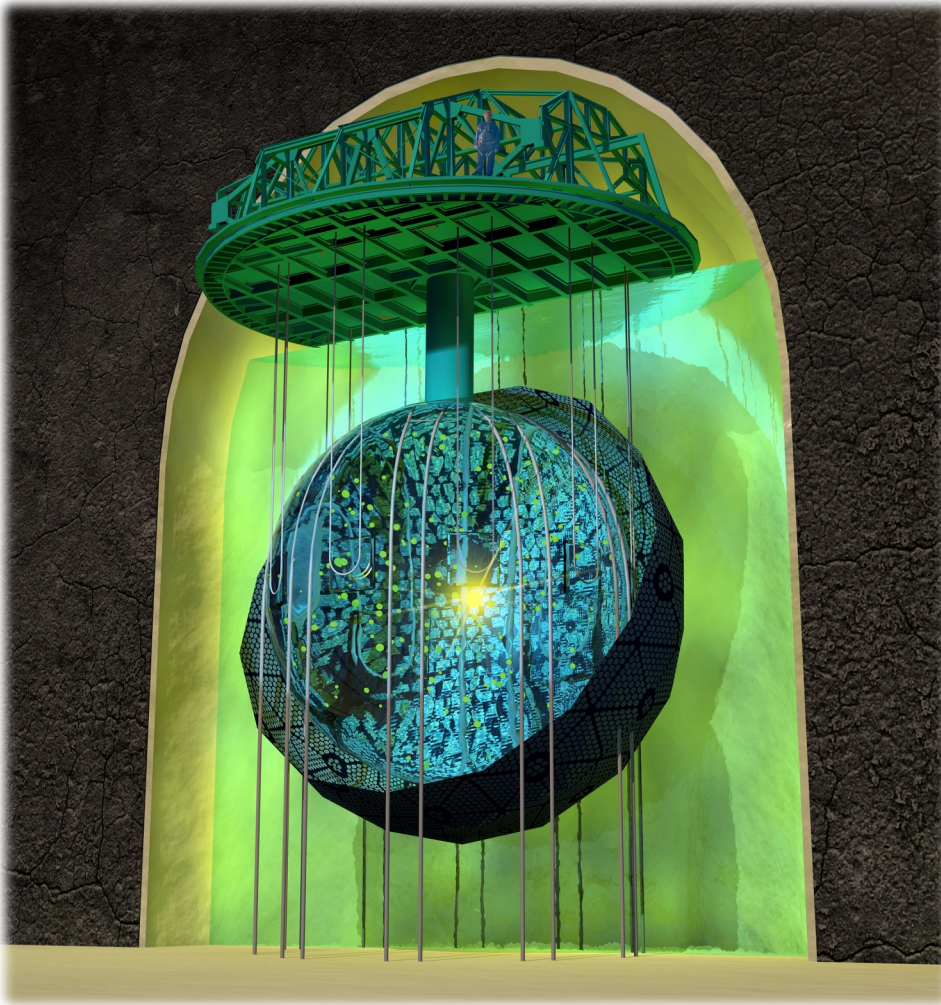


- Filling the detector with ultra-pure water
- Draining & searching for cavity leaks
- Refilling





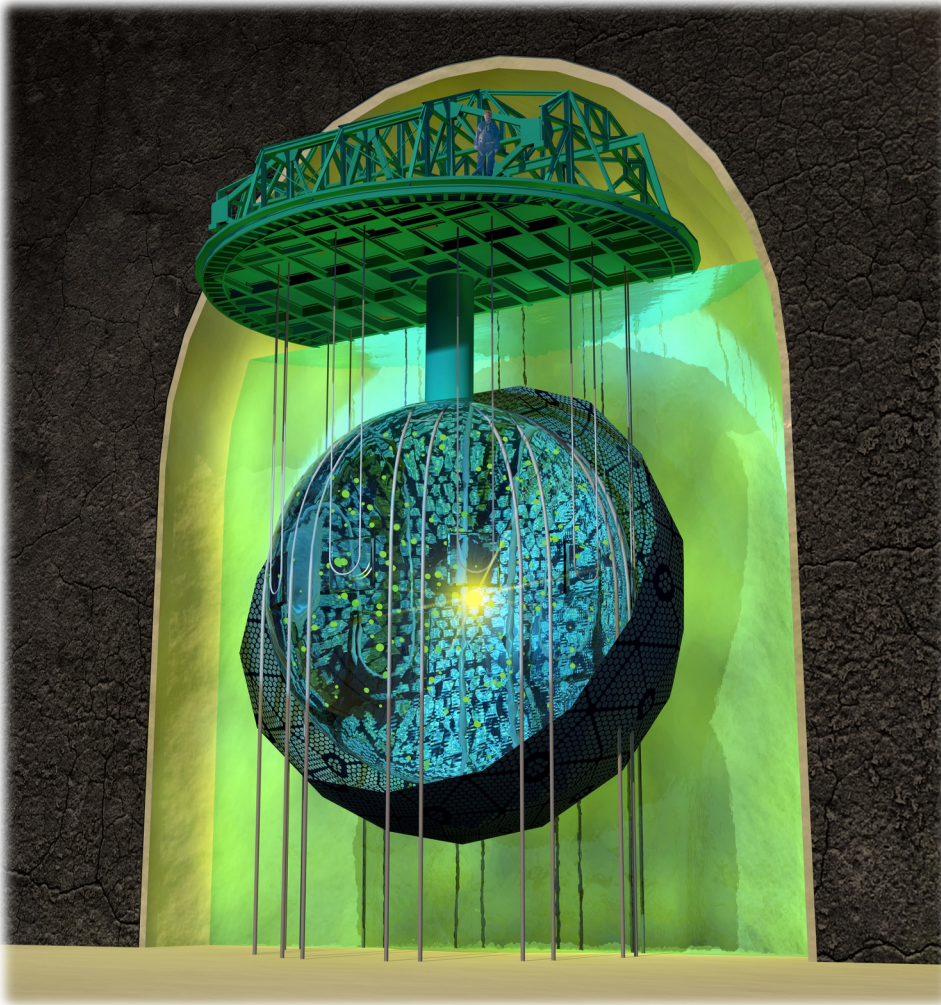
# 7 years into the future



Completed

- Water phase
- Scintillator phase
- Tellurium loading phase

# 7 years into the future



Completed

- Water phase

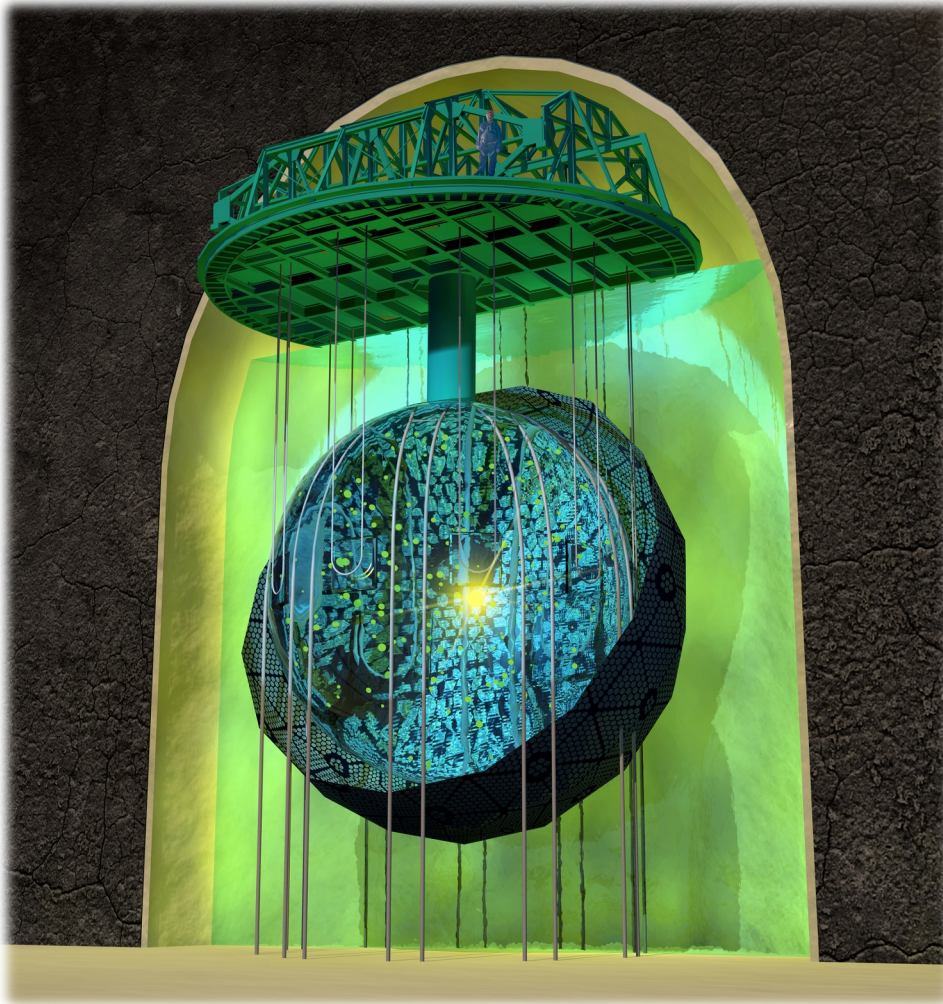
May 2017 - July 2019

- Scintillator phase

- Tellurium loading phase



# 7 years into the future



Completed

- Water phase

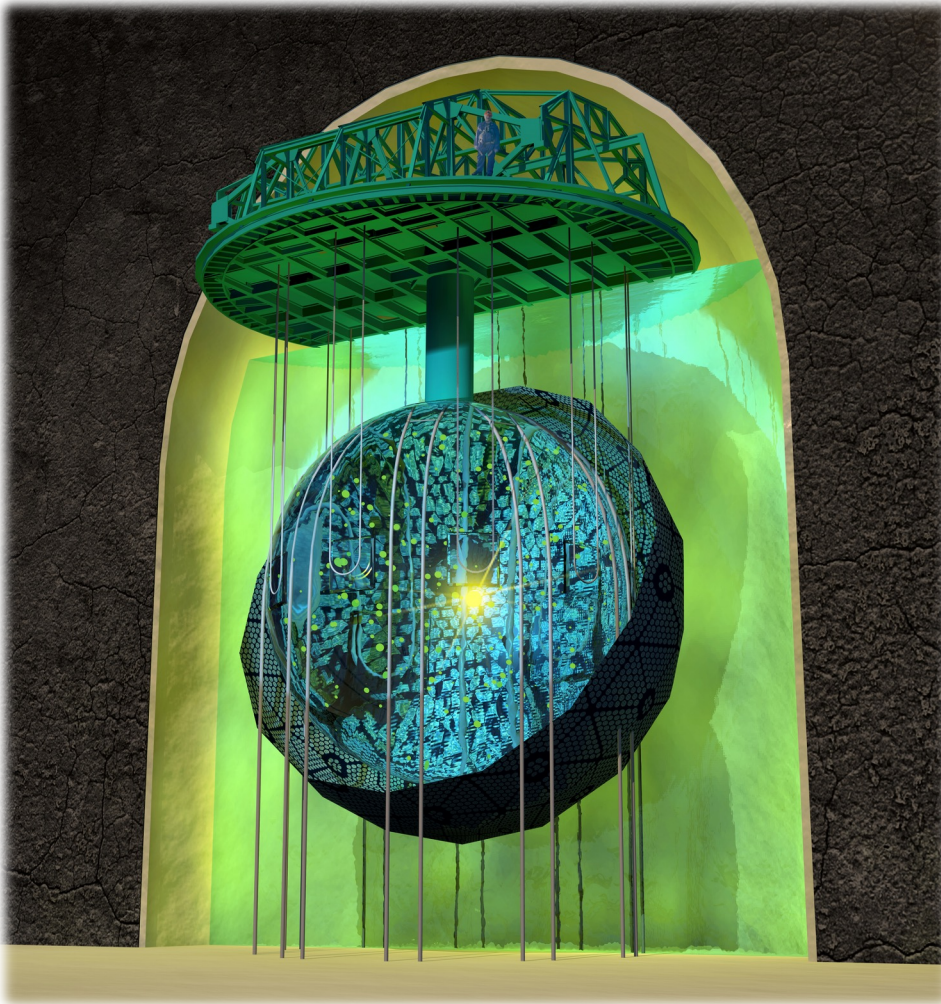
May 2017 - July 2019

- Scintillator phase

Started April 2022

- Tellurium loading phase

# 7 years into the future



Completed

- Water phase

May 2017 - July 2019

- Scintillator phase

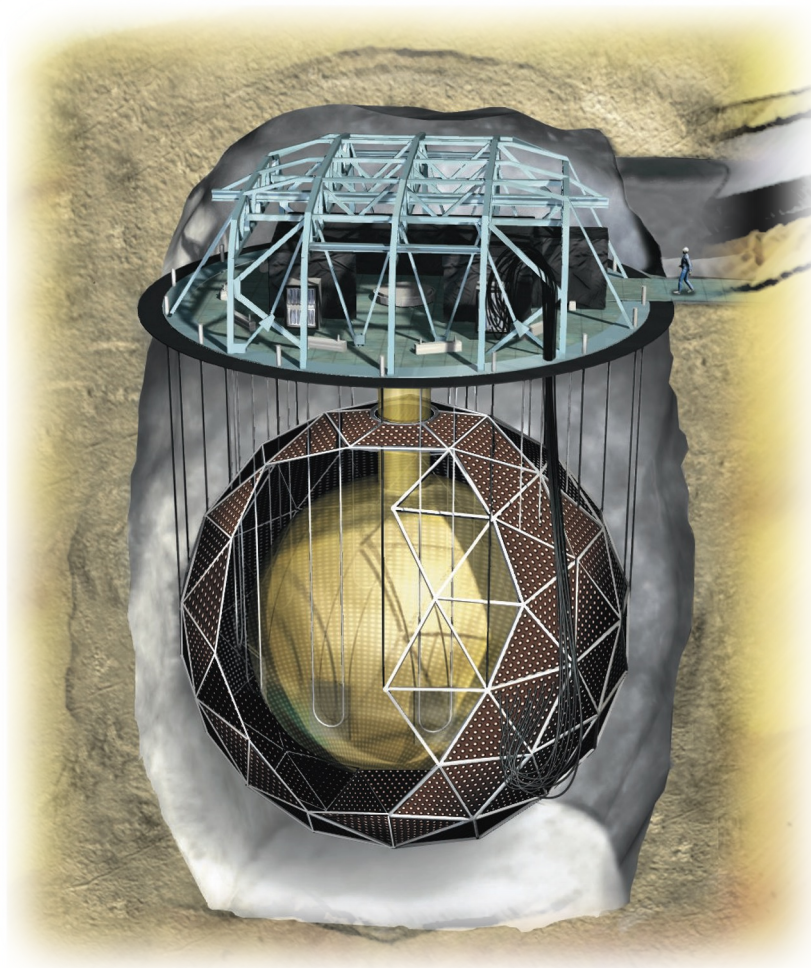
Started April 2022

- Tellurium loading phase

Soon!



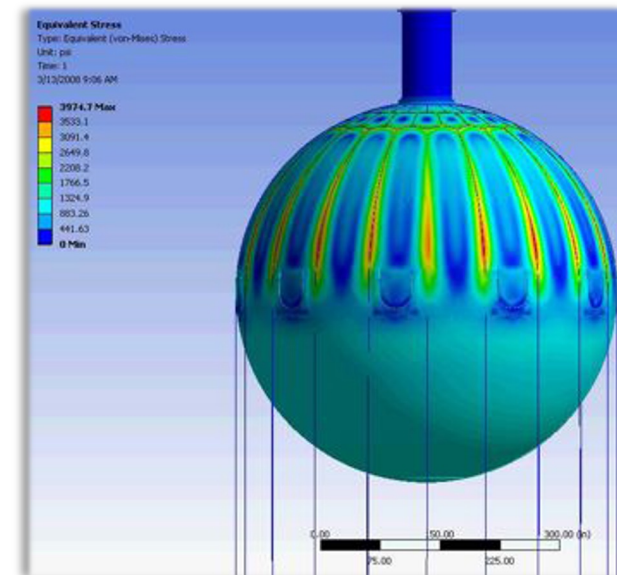
# SNO Upgrades



*SNO+ detector (2007-2023+)*

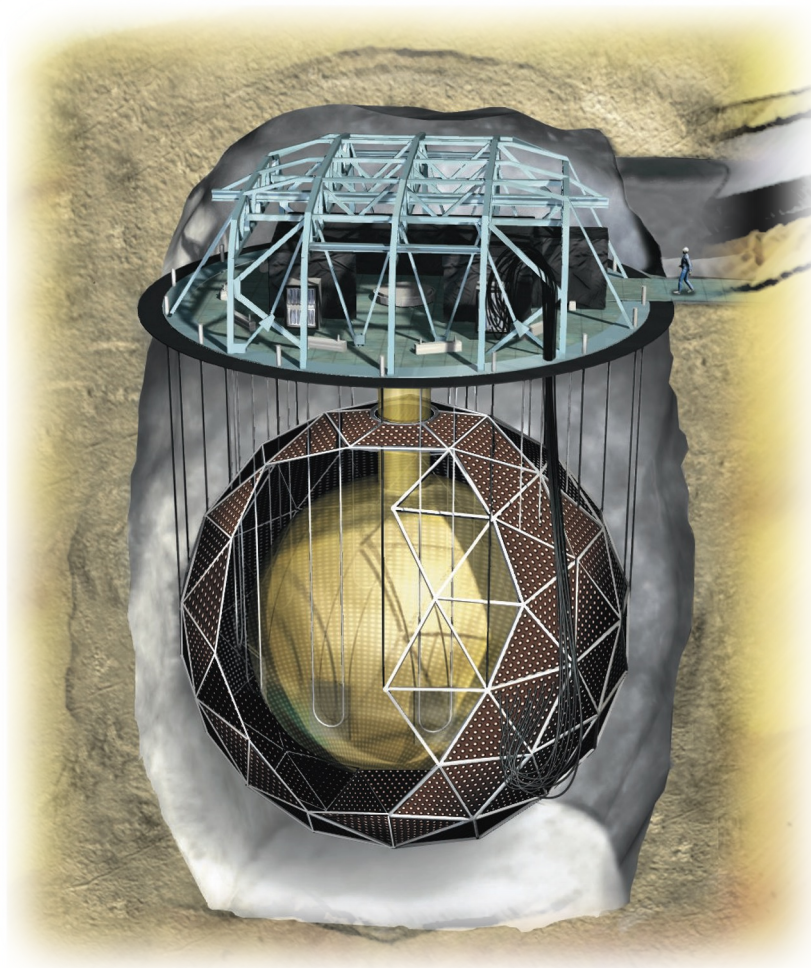
## Added new hold-down ropes

- LAB surrounded by water causes about 1.25 MN of buoyancy
- Tensylon™ material was selected due to low radioactivity
- Max AV stress 600 psi





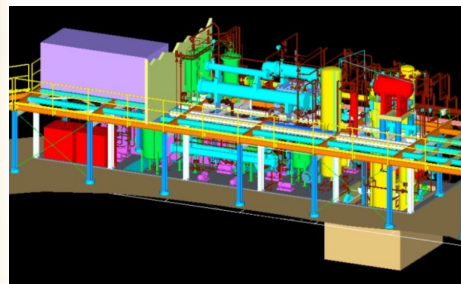
# SNO Upgrades



*SNO+ detector (2007-2023+)*

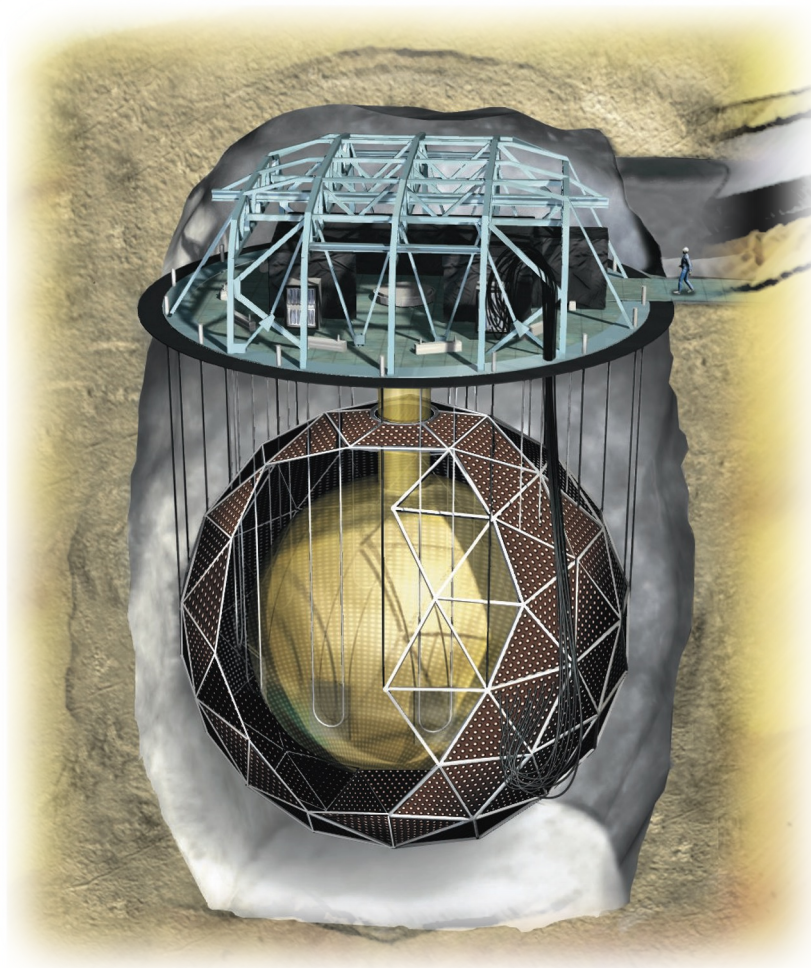
## ■ New scintillator purification plant

- Primary distillation of LAB
- Secondary distillation
- Water extraction
- Nitrogen and steam stripping
- Scavenger columns





# SNO Upgrades

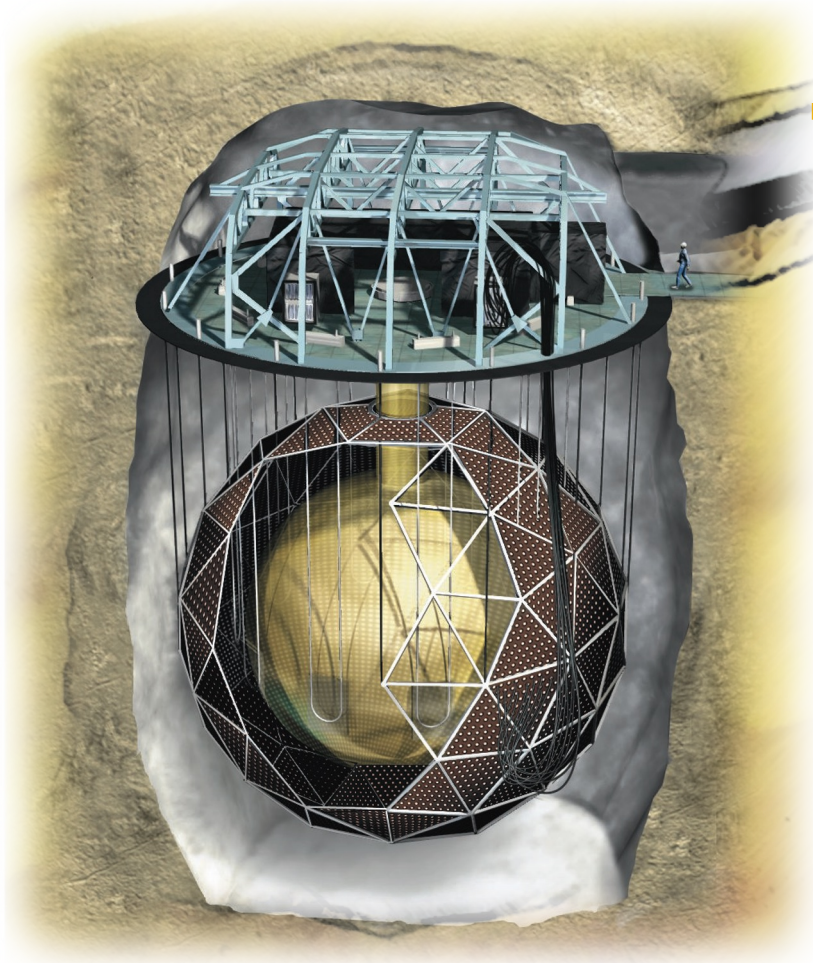


*SNO+ detector (2007-2023+)*

- New isotope plants
  - Telluric Acid purification plant
  - Tellurium Diol synthesis plant



# SNO Upgrades



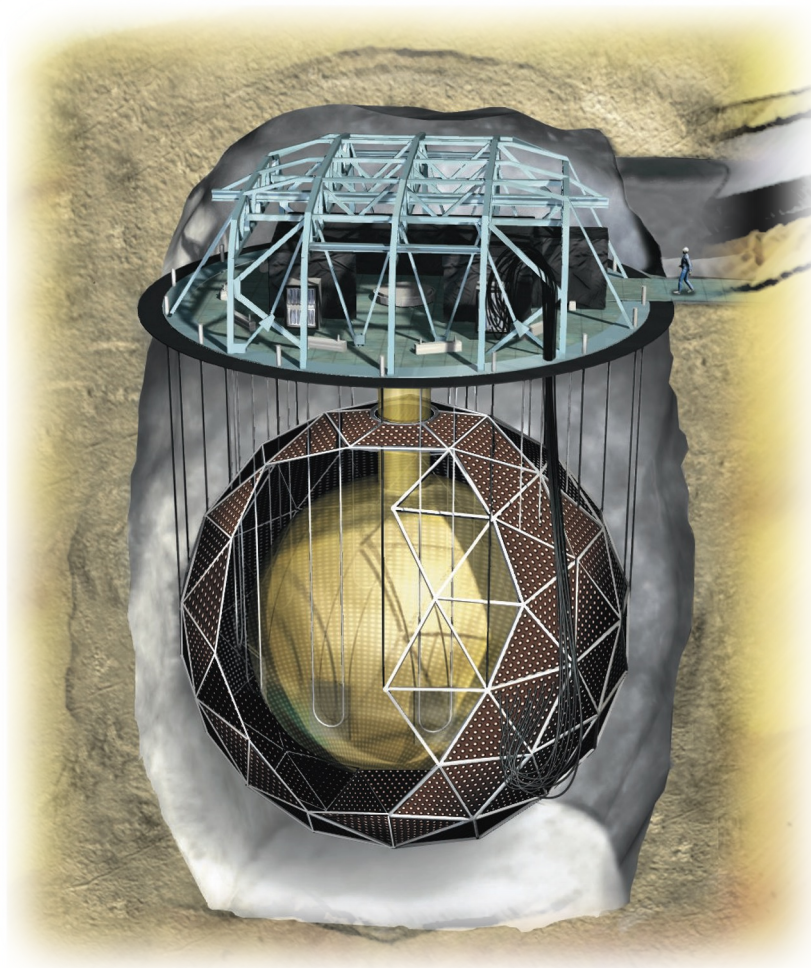
*SNO+ detector (2007-2023+)*

## ■ And more

- New DAQ
- Upgraded electronics
- Calibration sources and hardware, including in-situ LED and laser
- New cover-gas system
- CCD cameras

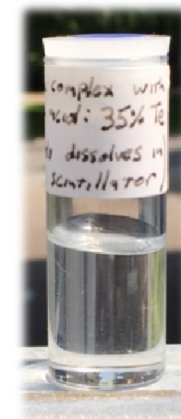
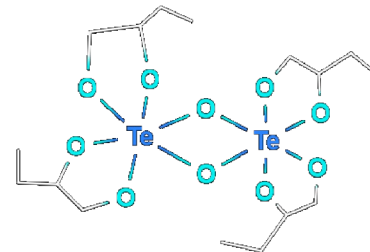


# SNO Upgrades



SNO+ detector (2007-2023+)

- And more
  - New DAQ
  - Upgraded electronics
  - Calibration sources and hardware, including in-situ LED and laser
  - New cover-gas system
  - CCD cameras
- Continued R&D
  - Scintillator properties
  - Metal-loading in LAB



# Three Phases

- Water phase
- Scintillator phase
- Tellurium I and II phases



# Water Phase

- Best limits on invisible modes of nucleon decay  
*PRD 99, 032008 (2019); PRD 105 112012 (2022)*
- Measurement of the  $^8\text{B}$  solar neutrino flux in SNO+ with very low backgrounds  
*PRD 99, 012012 (2019)*
- Highest efficiency ( $\sim 50\%$ ) for neutron detection in a water Cherenkov detector  
*PRC 102, 014002 (2020)*
- Detection of antineutrinos from distant reactors using only pure water  
*PRL 130, 091801 (2023)*

# Water Phase

- **Best limits** on invisible modes of nucleon decay

*PRD 99, 032008 (2019); PRD 105 112012 (2022)*

- Measurement in SNO+ \

Decay Mode	Partial Lifetime Limit	Existing Limits
$n$	$9.0 \times 10^{29}$ y	$5.8 \times 10^{29}$ y [5]
$p$	$9.6 \times 10^{29}$ y	$3.6 \times 10^{29}$ y [6]
$pp$	$1.1 \times 10^{29}$ y	$4.7 \times 10^{28}$ y [6]
$np$	$6.0 \times 10^{28}$ y	$2.6 \times 10^{28}$ y [6]
$nn$	$1.5 \times 10^{28}$ y	$1.4 \times 10^{30}$ y [5]

- Highest sensitivity in a water Cherenkov detector

- Detection of antineutrinos from distant reactors using only pure water

*PRL 130, 091801 (2023)*



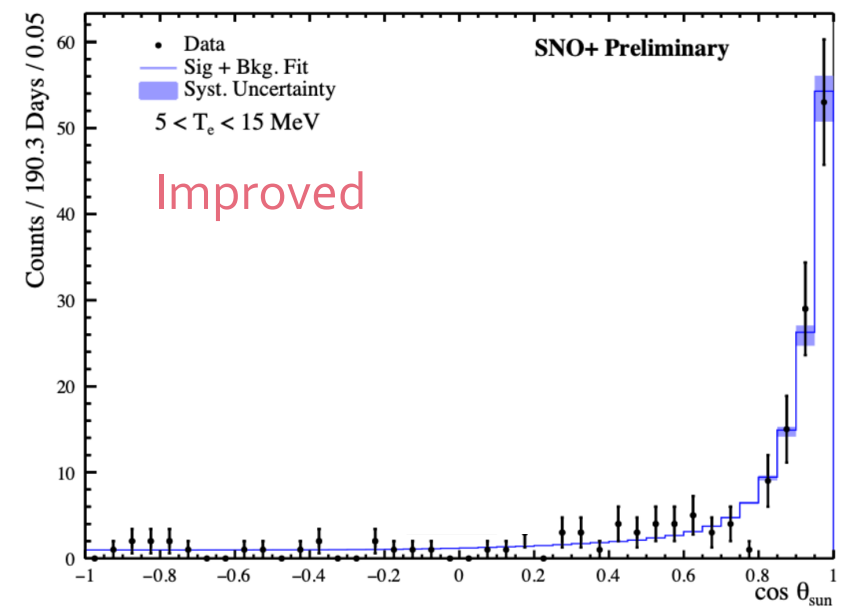
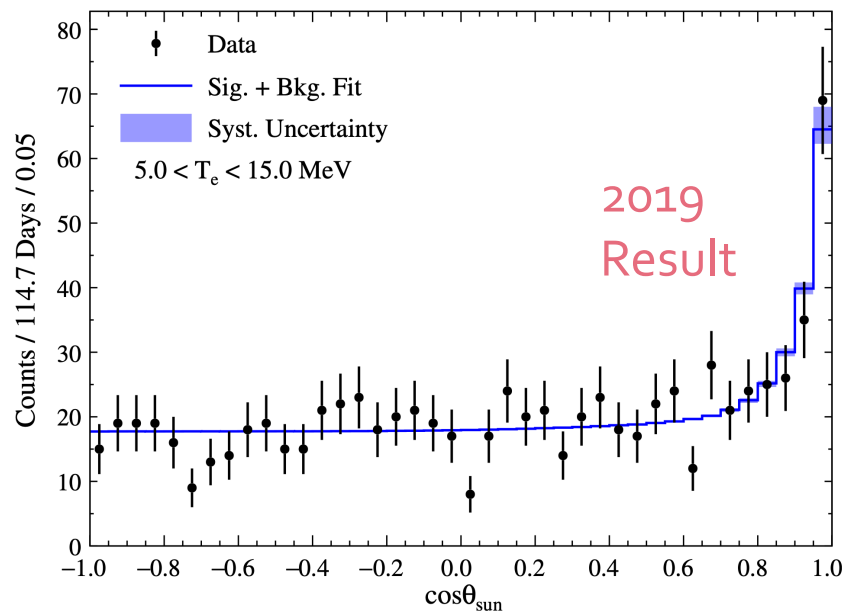
# Water Phase

- Best limits on invisible modes of nucleon decay

*PRD 99, 032008 (2019); PRD 105 112012 (2022)*

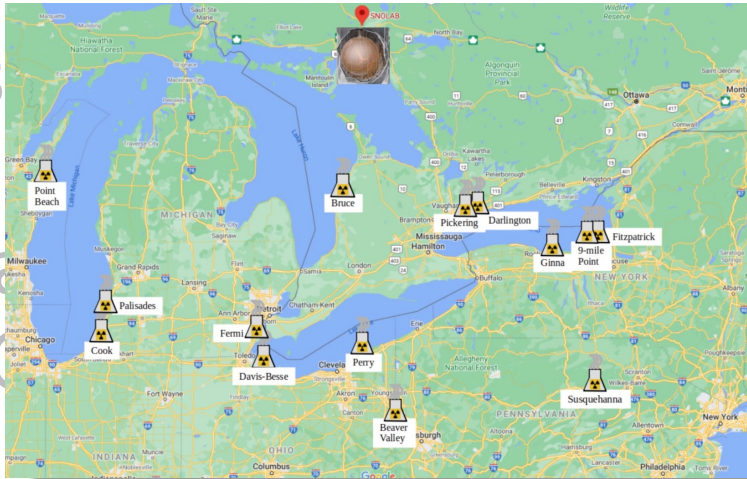
- Measurement of the 8B solar neutrino flux in SNO+ with very low backgrounds

*PRD 99, 012012 (2019)*



# Water Phase

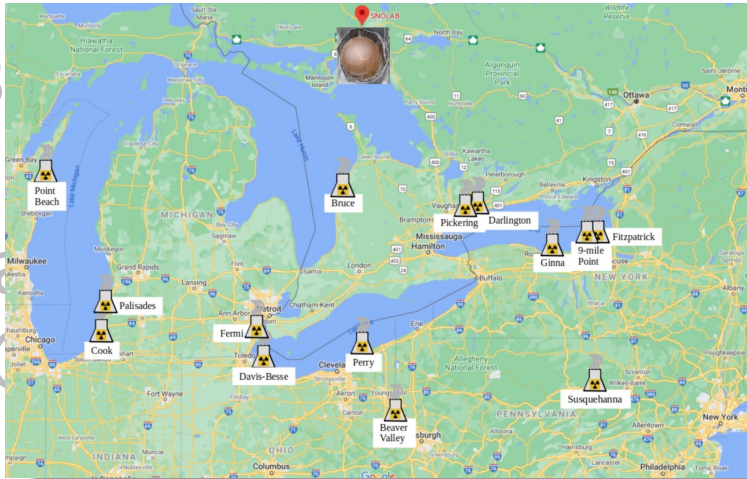
- Best modes of nucleon decay  
*PRD 99, 032008 (2019); PRD 105 112012 (2022)*
- Mean background  
$$\bar{\nu}_e + p \rightarrow e^+ + n$$
*PRD 99, 012012 (2019)*
- Highest efficiency (~50%) for neutron detection in a water Cherenkov detector  
*PRC 102, 014002 (2020)*
- Detection of antineutrinos from distant reactors using only pure water  
*PRL 130, 091801 (2023)*





# Water Phase

- Best modes of nucleon decay  
*PRD 99, 032008 (2019); PRD 105 112012 (2022)*
- Measured backgrounds  
$$\bar{\nu}_e + p \rightarrow e^+ + n$$
*PRD 99, 012012 (2019)*
- Highest efficiency (~50%) for neutron detection in a water Cherenkov detector  
*PRC 102, 014002 (2020)*
- Detection of antineutrinos from distant reactors using only pure water  
*PRL 130, 091801 (2023)*



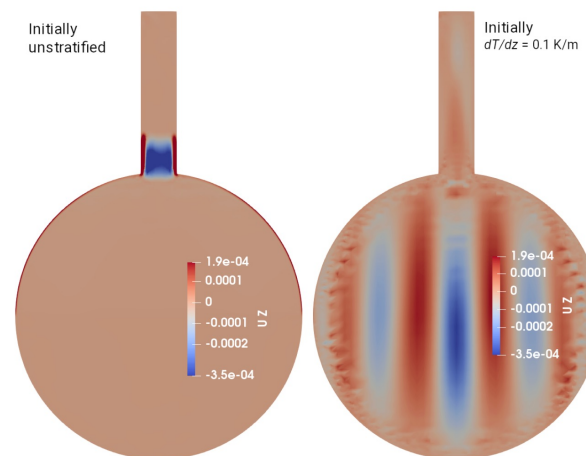
# Scintillator Phase

- During filling (paused “partial-fill”) demonstrated purification goals of  $\sim 0.5 \times 10^{-17}$  g/g for U and Th
- Full-phase started in April 2019 with 780 tonnes of LAB and 2.2 g/L of PPO (wavelength shifter)  
*PRD 99, 012012 (2019)*
- Currently in the process of adding:
  - BHT – **stabilizer** (target of  $\sim 4$  kg already added)
  - Bis-MSB – light yield **booster** (target of  $\sim 5$  kg with 0.5 kg already added) – expected to double the output



# Scintillator Phase

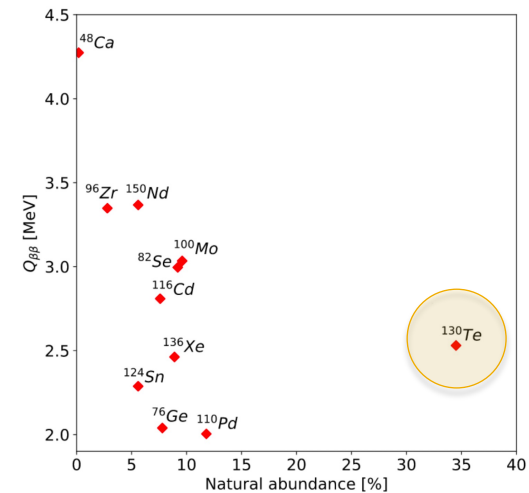
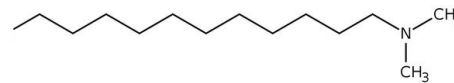
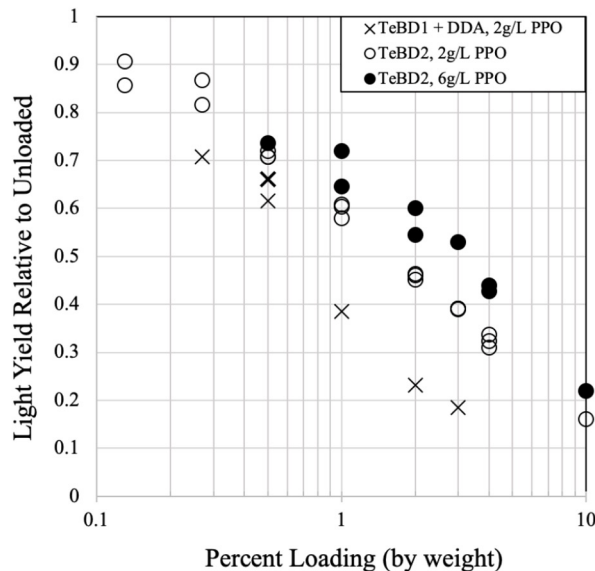
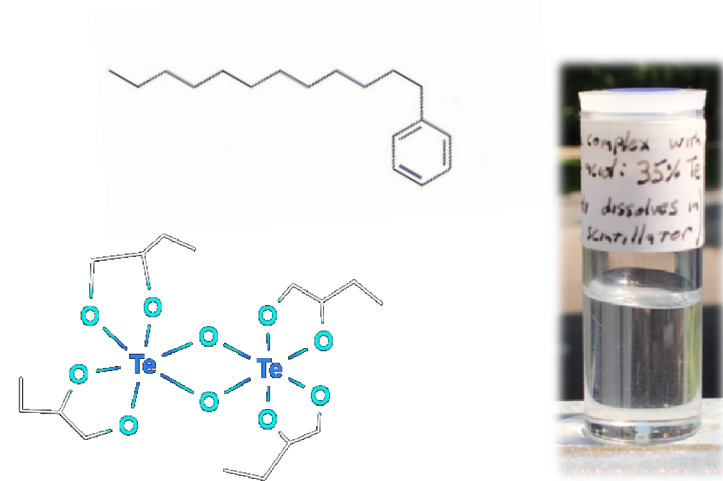
- Stay tuned for upcoming physics results
  - Reactor and geo-neutrinos
  - Solar neutrinos (including directionality)
  - Exotic physics
  - Supernova monitoring
- Spin-off analysis of the thermal gradient effect
  - “Thermally-driven scintillator flow in the SNO+ neutrino detector”



*J.D. Wilson for the SNO+ Collaboration*

# Tellurium Phase

- 780 T Linear Alkylbenzene (LAB) + 2.2 g/L PPO (Primary Fluor) + 5 mg/L bisMSB (WS)
- Tellurium Butanediol (TeDiol) 0.5% Te in LAB
- DDA (stabilizing amine) 0.2% in LAB

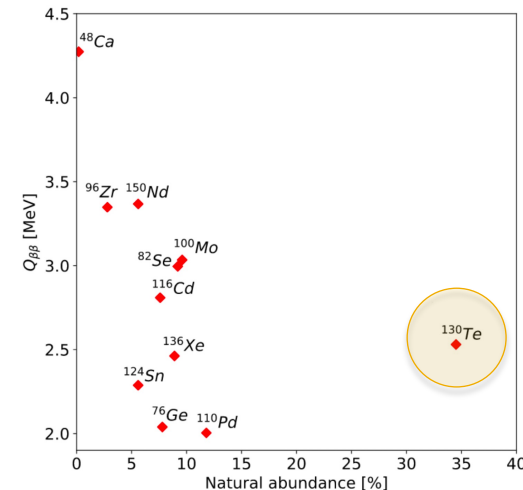
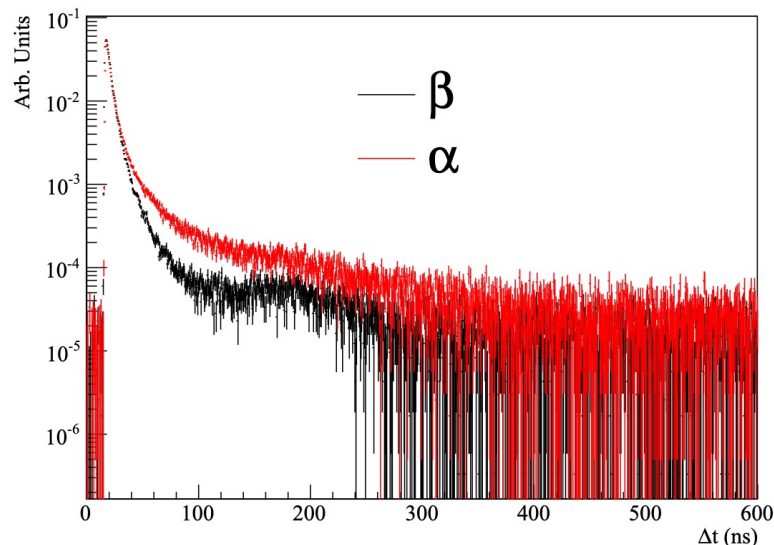
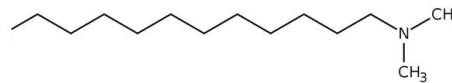
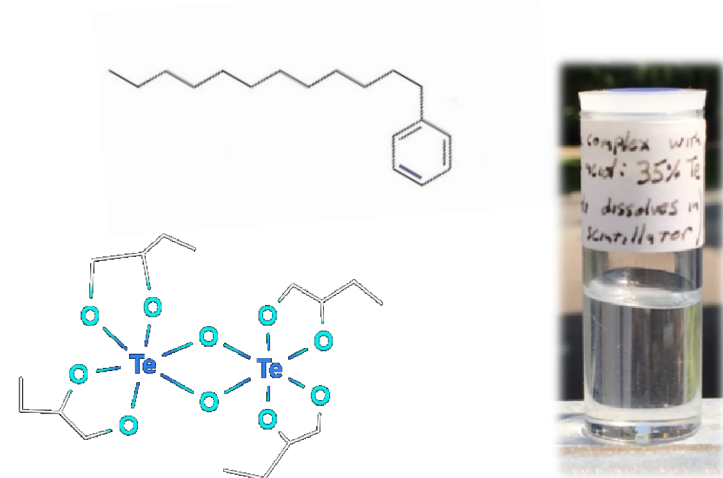


Very high natural abundance



# Tellurium Phase

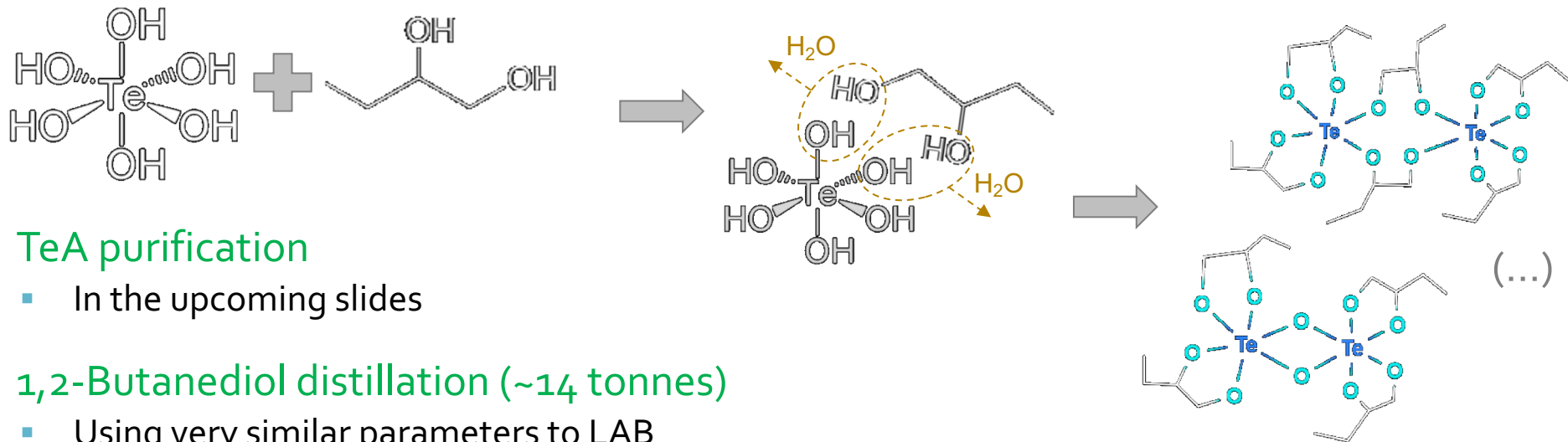
- 780 T Linear Alkylbenzene (LAB)
  - + 2.2 g/L PPO (Primary Fluor)
  - + 5 mg/L bisMSB (WS)
- Tellurium Butanediol (TeDiol)
  - 0.5% Te in LAB
- DDA (stabilizing amine)
  - 0.2% in LAB



Very high natural abundance

# Te Scintillator

- LAB-soluble TeDiol complexes are formed in condensation and further oligomerization reactions of Telluric Acid with 1,2-Butanediol



- **TeA purification**
  - In the upcoming slides
- **1,2-Butanediol distillation (~14 tonnes)**
  - Using very similar parameters to LAB
- **DDA distillation (~3 tonnes)**
  - U/Th target at  $\sim 10^{-15}$ g/g (expected reduction factor of 1000 from the assayed level has been easily reached with spiked distillation)
  - Expected reduction factors for Co/Na have been achieved, but clean handling post-distillation is going to be important

# TeA Purification

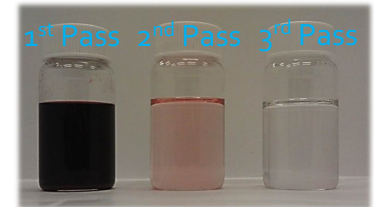
- The purification technique relies on solubility of TeA in water based on pH
  - $\text{Te(OH)}_6 \rightleftharpoons \text{Te(OH)}_5\text{O}^- + \text{H}^+$ 

in-soluble                      soluble
- Insoluble contamination
  - Dissolve in water, and filter
- Soluble contamination
  - Force TeA to recrystallize then drain the “dirty” liquid

Isotope	$t_{exp}=1 \text{ yr}$
<sup>22</sup> Na	15309
<sup>26</sup> Al	0.048
<sup>42</sup> K	565
<sup>44</sup> Sc	102
<sup>46</sup> Sc	43568
<sup>56</sup> Co	2629
<sup>58</sup> Co	25194
<sup>60</sup> Co	6906
<sup>68</sup> Ga	37343
<sup>82</sup> Rb	18047
<sup>84</sup> Rb	11850
<sup>88</sup> Y	390620
<sup>90</sup> Y	823
<sup>102</sup> Rh	276189
<sup>102m</sup> Rh	133848
<sup>106</sup> Rh	1534
<sup>110m</sup> Ag	69643
<sup>110</sup> Ag	939
<sup>124</sup> Sb	3101138
<sup>126m</sup> Sb	240
<sup>126</sup> Sb	358996



10kg pilot-scale



Target (r.f. 10<sup>3</sup>):  
<sup>238</sup>U: 1.3x10<sup>-15</sup> g/g  
<sup>232</sup>Th: 5x10<sup>-16</sup>g/g

Needed reduction  
 for cosmogenics by:  
 10<sup>5</sup>-10<sup>6</sup>

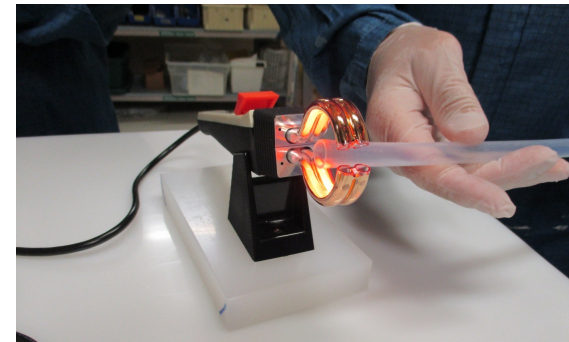


Target 8 tonnes of TeA “cooling” UG



# Te Commissioning

- Almost all systems ready, currently entering the phase of final commissioning
- Most vessel pre-cleaned and verified to meet the target (of below 0.1 ppt U and <0.05ppt Th)
- Target-out approach allows us to measure most backgrounds before the isotope finally enters the detector
- First test-batch (no deployment) of TeA purification scheduled later this year





# Thank You





# Backup