



GSI Helmholtzzentrum für  
Schwerionenforschung GmbH



JOHANNES GUTENBERG  
UNIVERSITÄT MAINZ

October 19 - 25, 2024

**CHEP  
2024**

Conference on Computing in High Energy and Nuclear Physics



# Novel Fitting Approach Based on a Neural Network for JUNO



**Yury Malyshkin**

on behalf of the JUNO collaboration

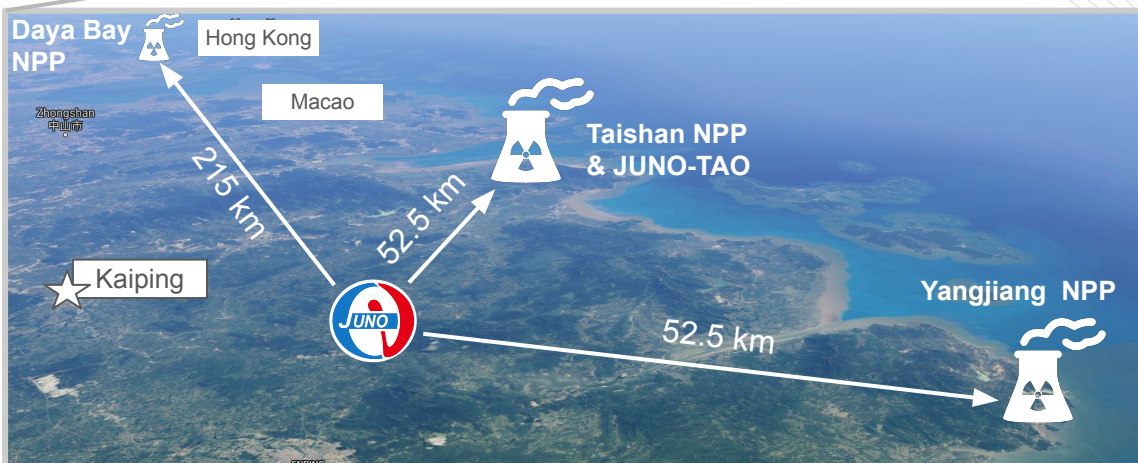
# Jiangmen Underground Neutrino Observatory

## – a high-resolution neutrino detector

- Anti- $\nu_e$  from nuclear reactors
- Solar neutrinos
- Geoneutrinos
- Atmospheric neutrinos
- Supernova neutrinos



74 institutes in 17 countries/regions  
~700 collaborators

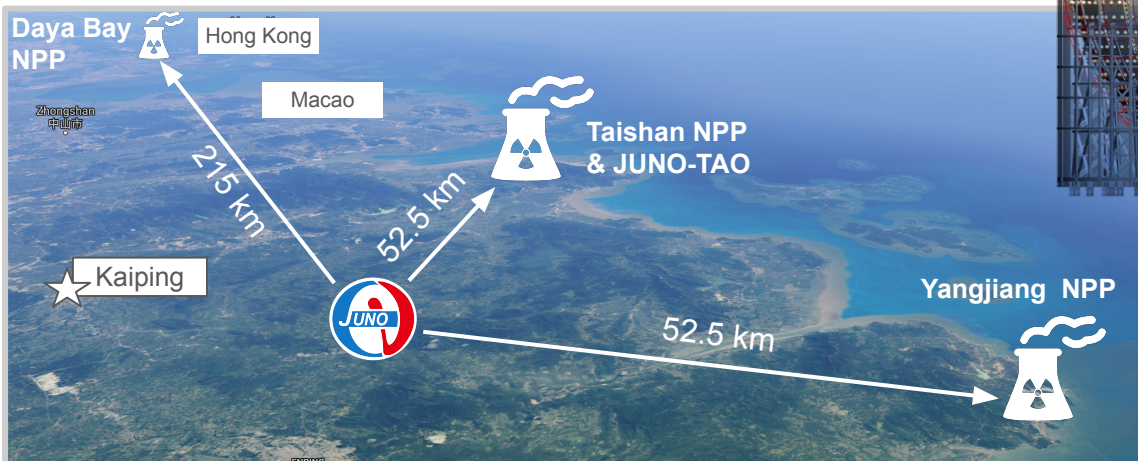
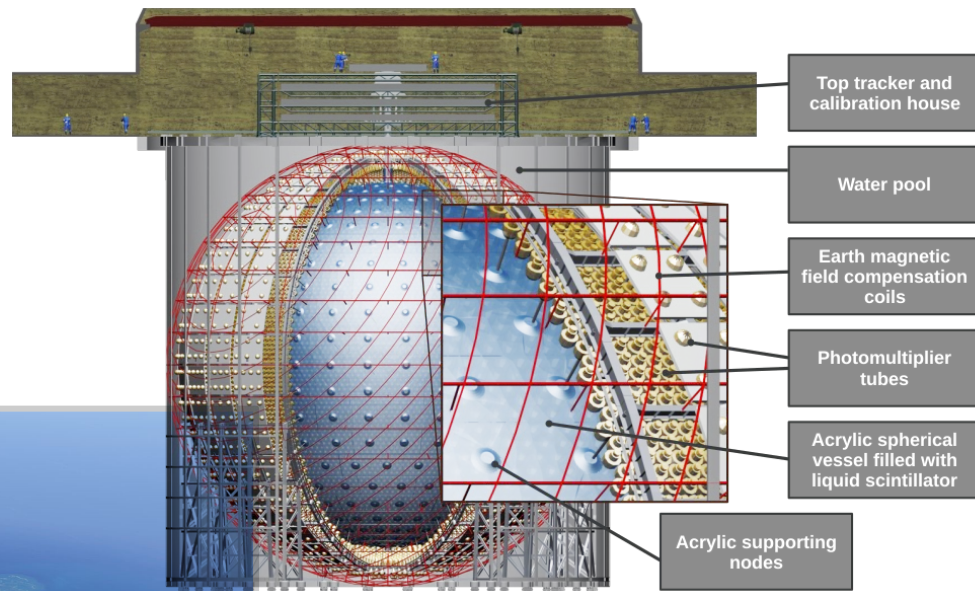


See also talk by Xiaomei Zhang

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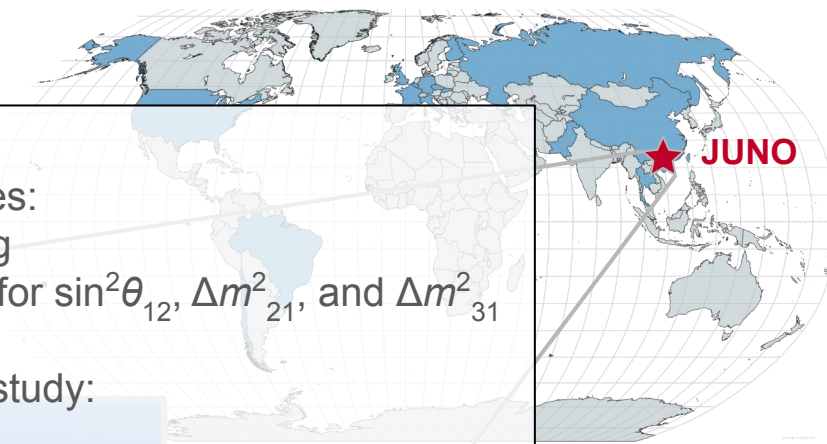


78% photo-coverage:

~17,612k large (20-inch) PMTs

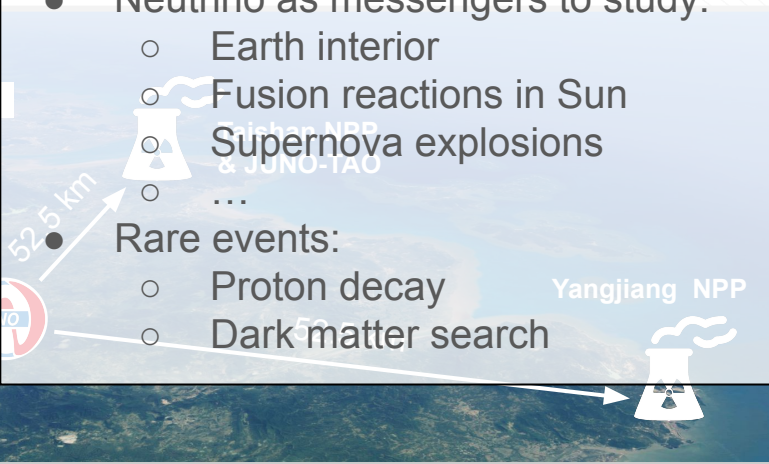
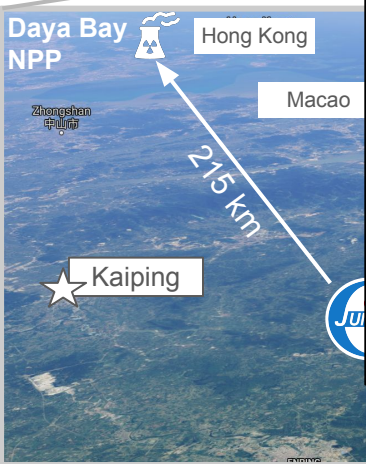
~25,600k small (3-inch) PMTs

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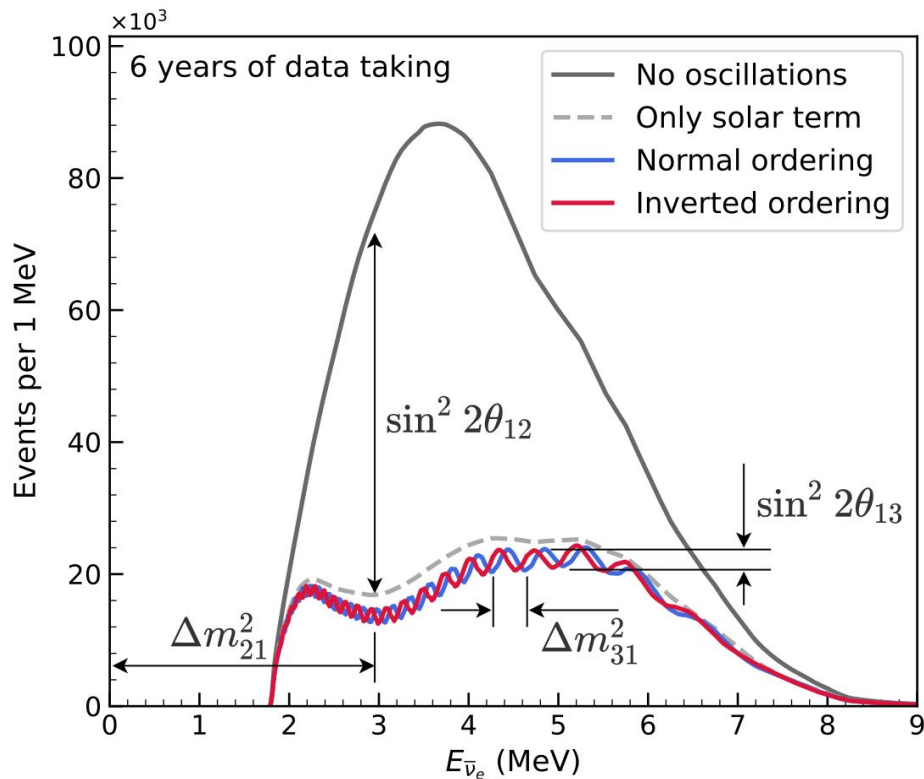


## Physics potential:

- Neutrino oscillation properties:
  - Neutrino mass ordering
  - Sub-percent precision for  $\sin^2\theta_{12}$ ,  $\Delta m^2_{21}$ , and  $\Delta m^2_{31}$
- Sterile neutrinos
- Neutrino as messengers to study:
  - Earth interior
  - Fusion reactions in Sun
  - Supernova explosions
  - ...
- Rare events:
  - Proton decay
  - Dark matter search

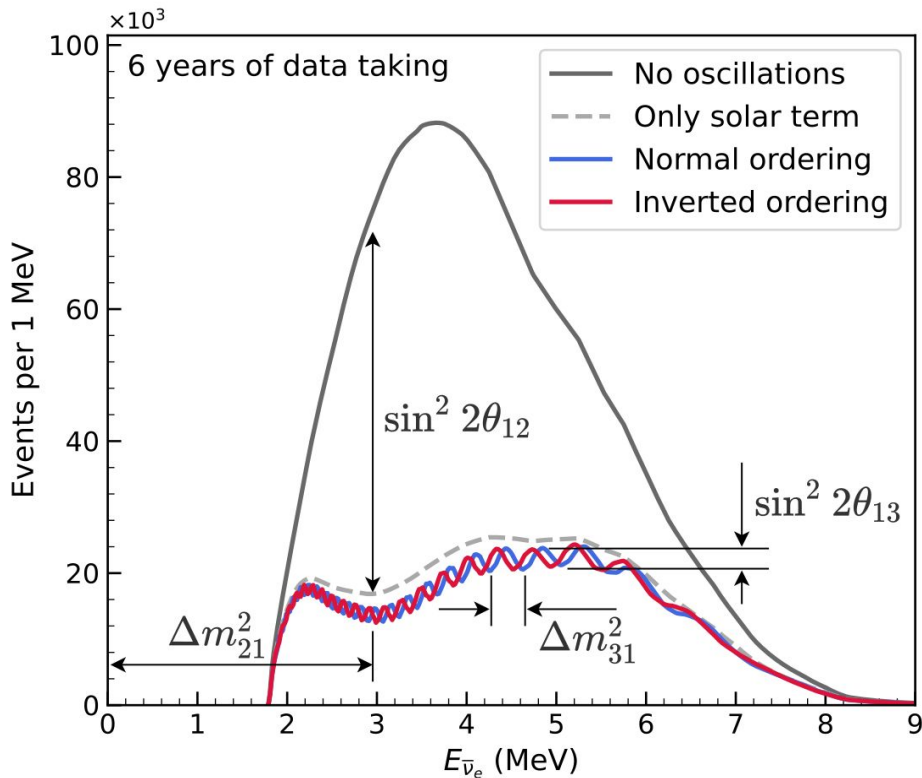


# Reactor Anti- $\nu_e$ Spectrum at JUNO

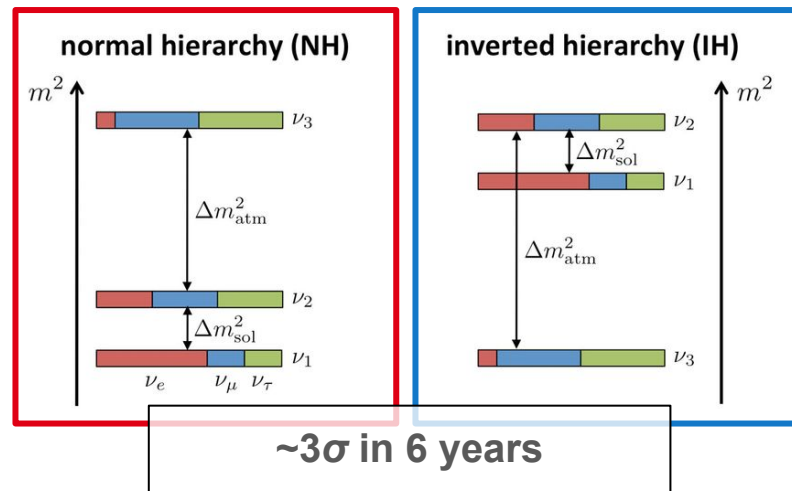


Unoscillated spectrum is also monitored with a satellite detector (Taishan Antineutrino Observatory) at 44 m from one of the reactors

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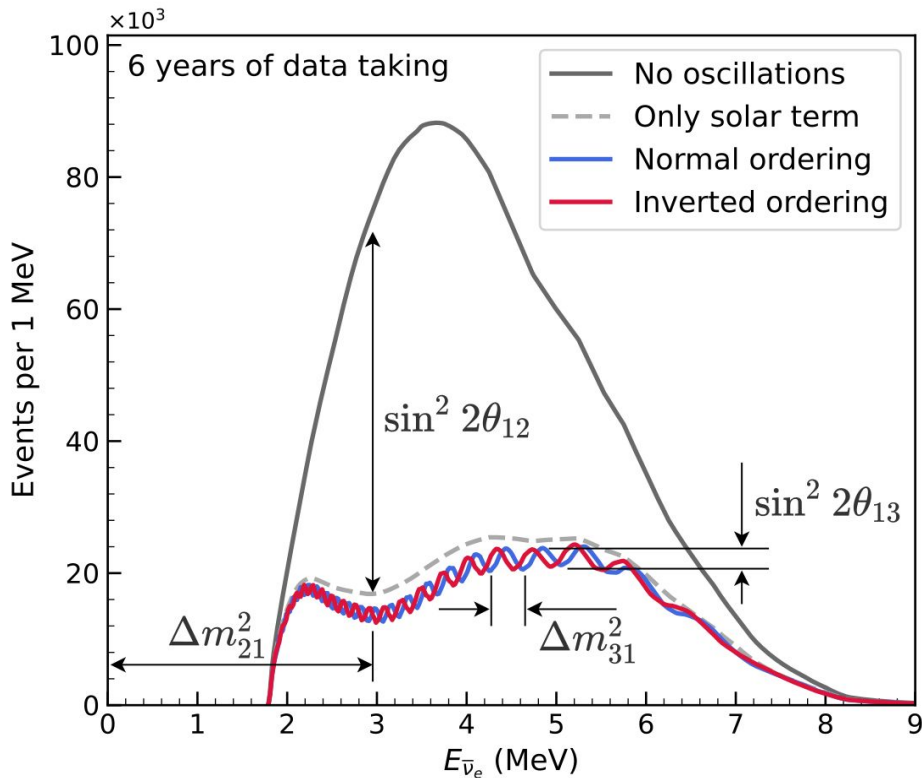


Positions of small wiggles: **neutrino mass ordering**



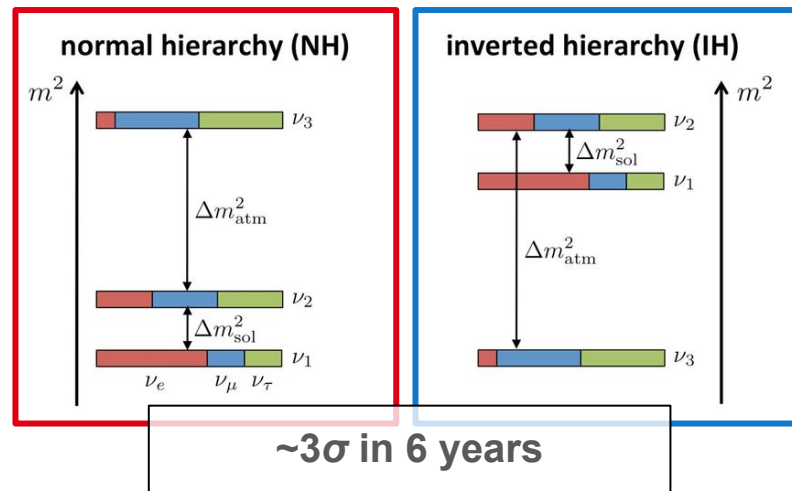
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# Reactor Anti- $\nu_e$ Spectrum at JUNO



Unoscillated spectrum is also monitored with a satellite detector (Taishan Antineutrino Observatory) at 44 m from one of the reactors

Positions of small wiggles: **neutrino mass ordering**



Frequency and amplitudes:

- slow mode: “solar” terms  $\sin^2\theta_{12}$ ,  $\Delta m^2_{21}$
- fast mode: “atmospheric”  $\Delta m^2_{31}$

**<1% precision in 6 years**

# Oscillation Analysis in JUNO

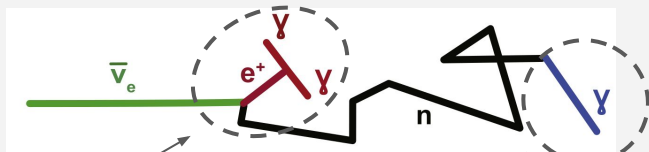
1. Predict reactor spectrum at JUNO site :

$$S(E) = f_\nu(E) \times R^{-2} \times \sigma_{\text{IBD}}(E) \times P_{ee}(E, L, \text{oscillation parameters})$$

2. Predict backgrounds
3. Apply detector effects to get **reconstructed spectrum** (in terms of visible energy of prompt signal)
4. Fit oscillation parameters under NO and IO assumptions

## Detection channel:

Inverse Beta-Decay (IBD)



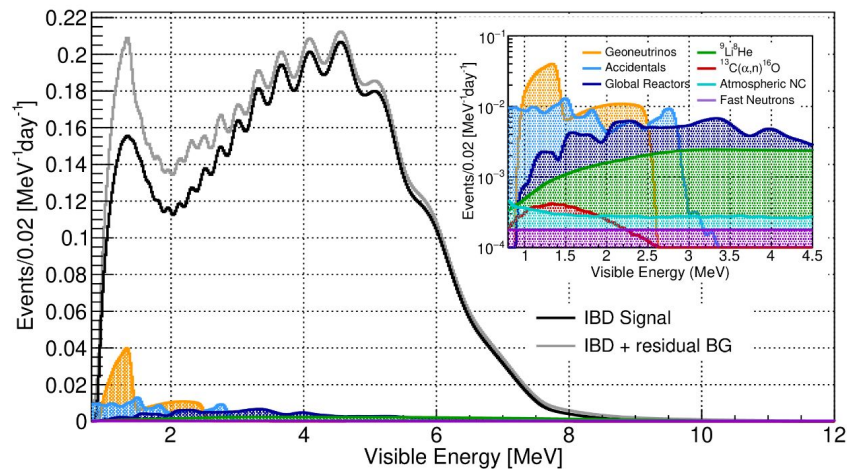
### Prompt signal

handle for neutrino energy:

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

### Delayed signal

neutron capture: 2.2 MeV (H) or 4.9 MeV ( $^{12}\text{C}$ ) within  $\sim 200 \mu\text{s}$





# Two approaches to predict reconstructed spectrum

## Standard Approach

– analytical transformations using a parameterized model for detector response [1]. The model parameters are based on MC or data\*.

- Fast
- More flexible  
(easier to add new parameters)
- May lack some features  
(e.g. non-Gaussian energy resolution and its position dependence)

[1] [arXiv:2405.18008](https://arxiv.org/abs/2405.18008) (2024), accepted by Chin.Phys.C

\* from Daya Bay and calibration data from JUNO, once available

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## Full MC Simulation Driven Approach

– use  $E_\nu \rightarrow E_{\text{rec.}}$  mapping directly from simulation.

- Slow
- Relies on accuracy of MC
- Extra flexibility is possible  
(introducing extra parameters on top of MC outcome)
- More complete picture

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**default in JUNO**

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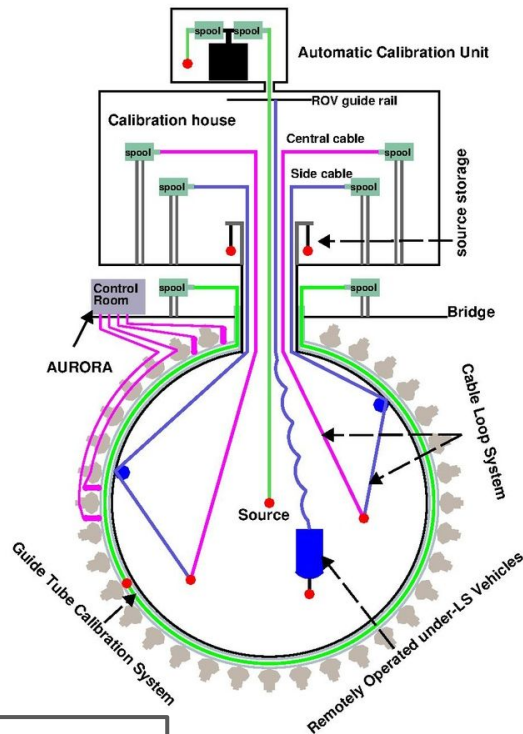
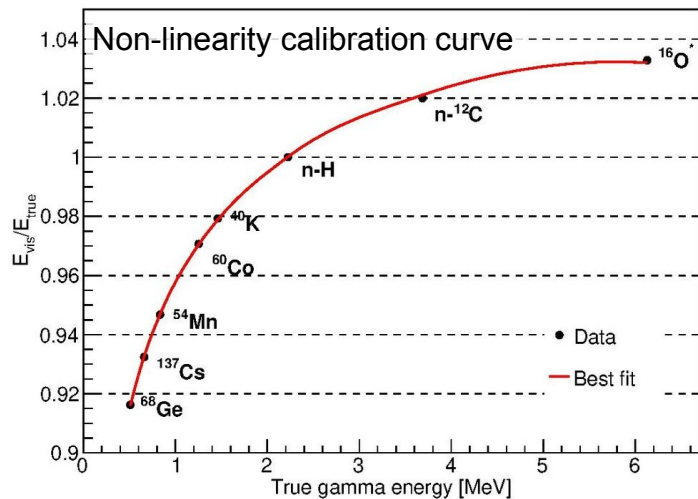
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Can we afford this  
as well?

# Calibration

JUNO will have multiple calibration systems:

- to cover the whole detector
- to cover the whole energy range
- to monitor detector stability



Expected calibration performance:

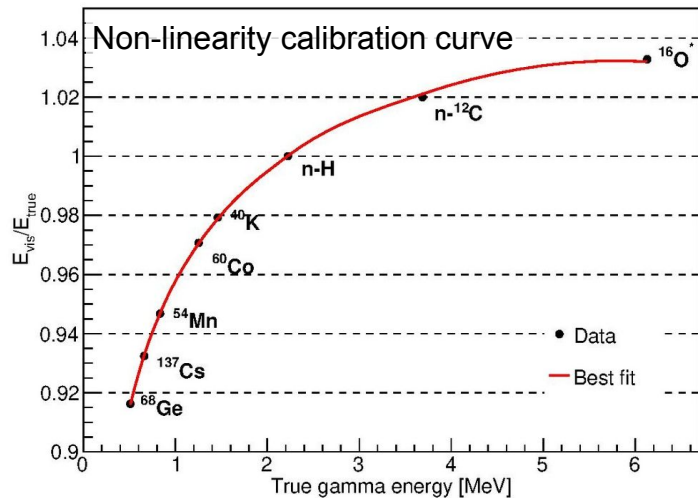
< 1% energy scale uncertainty

[[JHEP 2021, 4 \(2021\)](#)]

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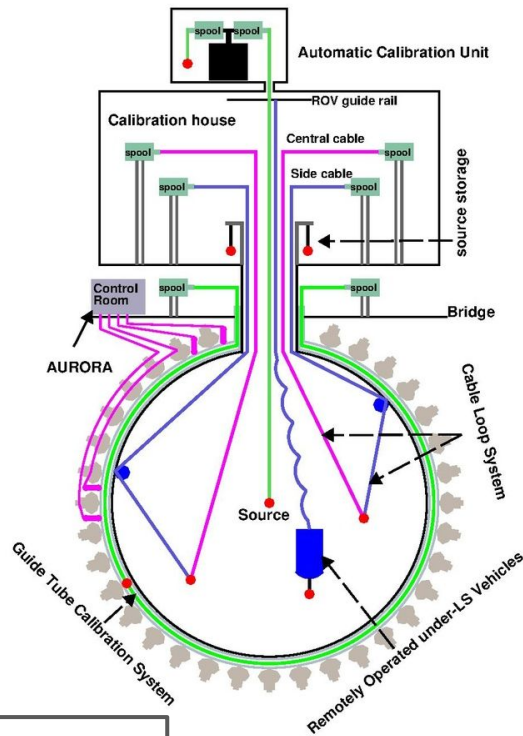
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Expected calibration performance:

< 1% energy scale uncertainty



- Official MC will be tuned with the data from calibration  
-> **more precise training data for NN**
- NN-based approaches may help to tune MC  
*See talk by Arsenii Gavrikov*

[[JHEP 2021, 4 \(2021\)](#)]

# MC-based Detector Response

One has to:

1. Get  $E_\nu$  and  $E_{\text{rec}}$  from simulation (no oscillations)
2. Put events in energy bins according to  $E_{\text{rec}}$
3. Weight them according to  $P_{ee}(E_\nu)$

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One has to calculate  $P_{ee}$  for each **event** for each **set of parameters**  
( $\theta_{12}, \theta_{13}, \Delta m^2_{21}, \Delta m^2_{31}$ )

$$\mathcal{P}(\bar{\nu}_e \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_e) = 1 - \sin^2 2\theta_{12} c_{13}^4 \sin^2 \Delta_{21} \\ - \sin^2 2\theta_{13} (c_{12}^2 \sin^2 \Delta_{31} + s_{12}^2 \sin^2 \Delta_{32})$$

$$c_{ij} \equiv \cos \theta_{ij}$$

$$s_{ij} \equiv \sin \theta_{ij}$$

$$\Delta_{ij} = \frac{c^3}{\hbar} \cdot \frac{\Delta m_{ij}^2 L}{4E}$$

**Computationally expensive operations!**



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**Computationally expensive operations!**

$10^7$  events/spectrum

×

$10^3$  predictions/fit

↓

$10^{10}$  invocations/fit

# Possible Technical Realizations

1. Calculate  $P_{ee}(E_\nu)$  analytically and fill histograms on the fly:
  - **SLOW:** ~0.1 sec per spectrum

Example configuration:  
10M events  
400 energy bins

# Possible Technical Realizations

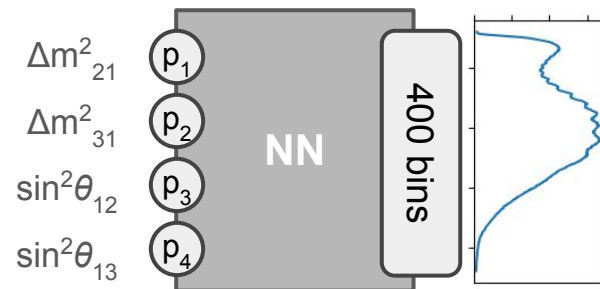
1. Calculate  $P_{ee}(E_{\nu'})$  analytically and fill histograms on the fly:
  - **SLOW**: ~0.1 sec per spectrum
2. Precalculate spectra on a fine grid of oscillation parameters (OP)  $\mathbf{p}$ .
  - Requires massive computation but only once
  - **HUGE DISK SPACE**: ~1KB per spectrum X (number of points)^(number of parameters)
  - It has to be read from disk, so the access is **SLOW**

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3. Train a Neural Network to predict spectrum (bin contents):
  - Requires same computations as in (2), but only once
  - Requires training
  - Final model is **FASTER** and requires **LESS DISK SPACE**

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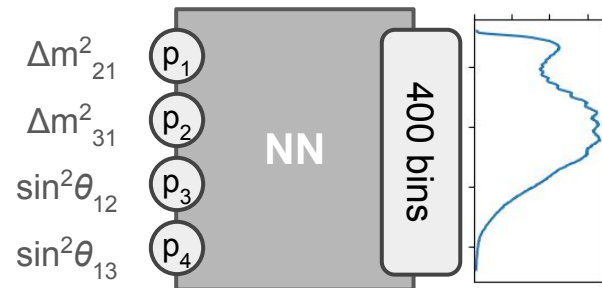
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Note: KATRIN already uses this approach [[Eur. Phys. J. C 82, 439 \(2022\)](#)]



# Reactor Spectrum Prediction Performance

## Dataset:

Pre-calculated spectra for 5M combinations of  
 $\Delta m_{21}^2, \Delta m_{31}^2, \sin^2\theta_{12}$  within  $3\sigma$  [PDG2022]  
 $\sin^2\theta_{13}$  within  $5\sigma$  [PDG2022]  
70% for training, 30% for validation

## NN architecture (dense layers):

- input layer: 4 input nodes
- 2 layers with 400 nodes and RELU activation function
- output layer: 400 nodes, no activation function

Loss function: **MSE**

Optimizer: **RMSprop(learning\_rate=0.02)**

Model size: **322800 parameters / 1.23MB**

Prediction speed:    **~1 msec / spectrum**  
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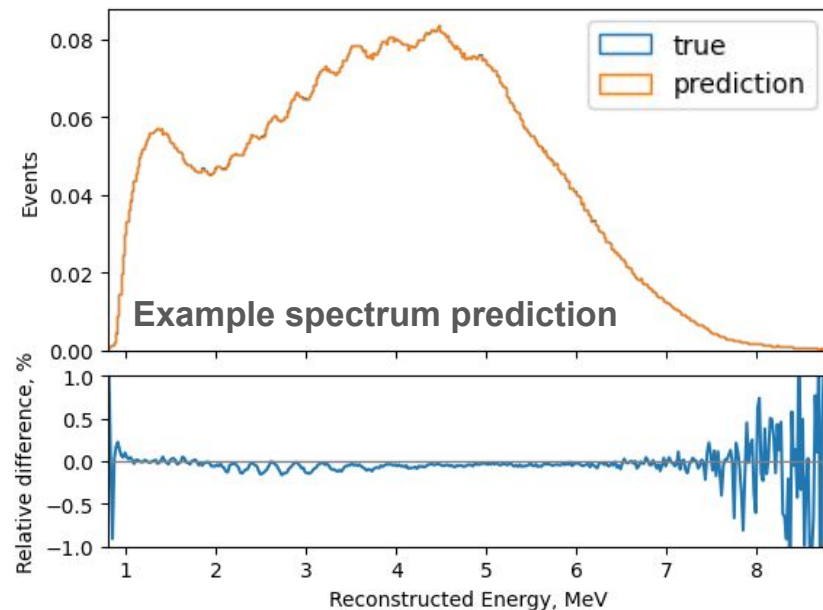
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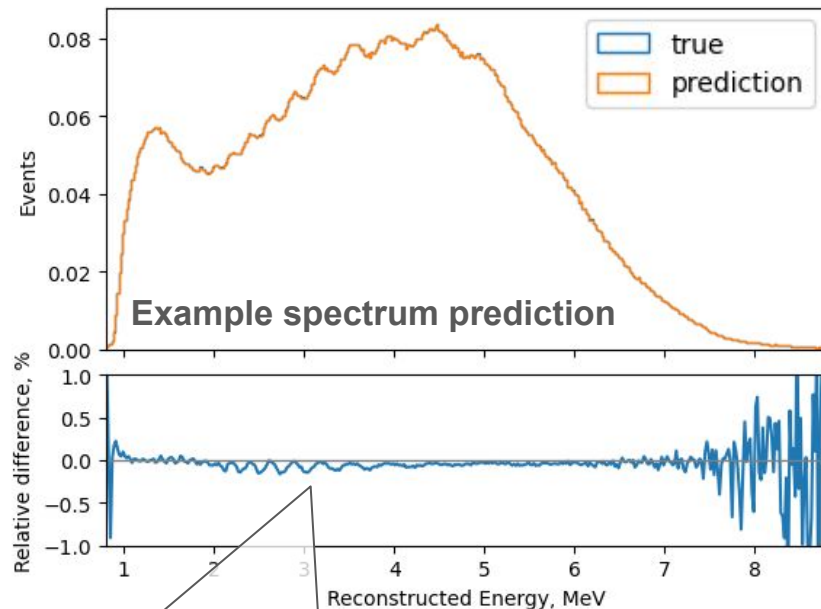
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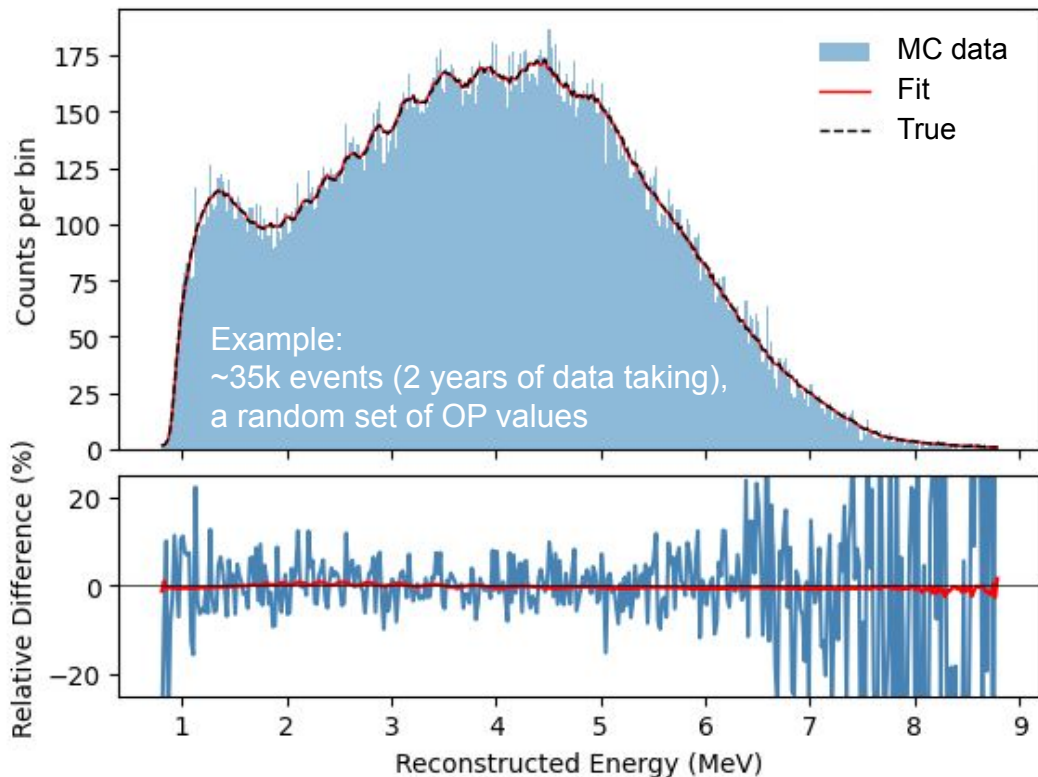
Small oscillatory artifacts

- could not suppress so far
- no significant effect on analysis observed



# Using NN as Part of Fitting Software

NODA (Neutrino Oscillation Data Analysis) Python framework – one of the fitter codes in JUNO



**Migrad**

FCN = 178.7      Nfcn = 332

EDM = 0.0135 (Goal: 0.2)

Valid Minimum      Below EDM threshold (goal x 10)

No parameters at limit      Below call limit

Hesse ok      Covariance accurate

	Name	Value	Hesse Error	Minos Error-	Minos Error+	Limit-	Limit+	Fixed
0	dm2_21	7.410	0.022			7.35	7.71	
1	dm2_31	2.502	0.013			2.49	2.56	
2	sin2_th12	0.2974	0.0021			0.294	0.32	
3	sin2_th13	2.19	0.06			2.11	2.25	
4	norm	0.995	0.010			0	10	

	dm2_21	dm2_31	sin2_th12	sin2_th13	norm
dm2_21	0.000492	0.01e-3 (0.023)	21e-6 (0.454)	-0.1e-3 (-0.097)	0.12e-3 (0.564)
dm2_31	0.01e-3 (0.023)	0.00019	1e-6 (0.023)	0.01e-3 (0.014)	0 (0.015)
sin2_th12	21e-6 (0.454)	1e-6 (0.023)	4.55e-06	15e-6 (0.099)	17e-6 (0.813)
sin2_th13	-0.1e-3 (-0.097)	0.01e-3 (0.014)	15e-6 (0.099)	0.00473	-0.05e-3 (-0.080)
norm	0.12e-3 (0.564)	0 (0.015)	17e-6 (0.813)	-0.05e-3 (-0.080)	9.84e-05

Successfully coupled with iMinuit  
– demonstrates that it can be used  
for real fitting!

# Summary

- JUNO requires powerful tools for sensitivity and real data analyses of reactor anti- $\nu_e$ .
- Other analyses, e.g. geoneutrino, also requires fitting of reactor anti- $\nu_e$ .
- Standard “analytical” approach, used by other fitters, may miss some features which are, however, present in the full Monte Carlo simulation.
- Full MC-based approach relies on the accuracy of detector simulation.
- Full MC-based approach is computationally challenging, but using a neural network for spectrum prediction gives a dramatic speed.
- Inclusion of extra parameters, which can be fitted, is being considered.
- First sensitivity results are in agreement with other fitters.