

From Daya Bay to JUNO: a brief review

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Seminar @ Kings College London, Apr 4, 2025



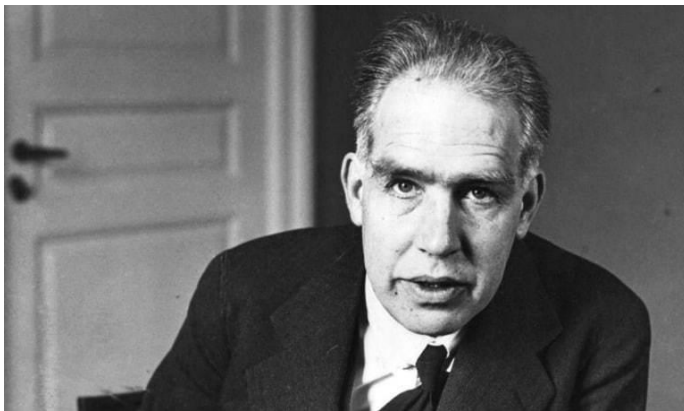
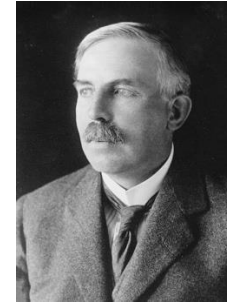
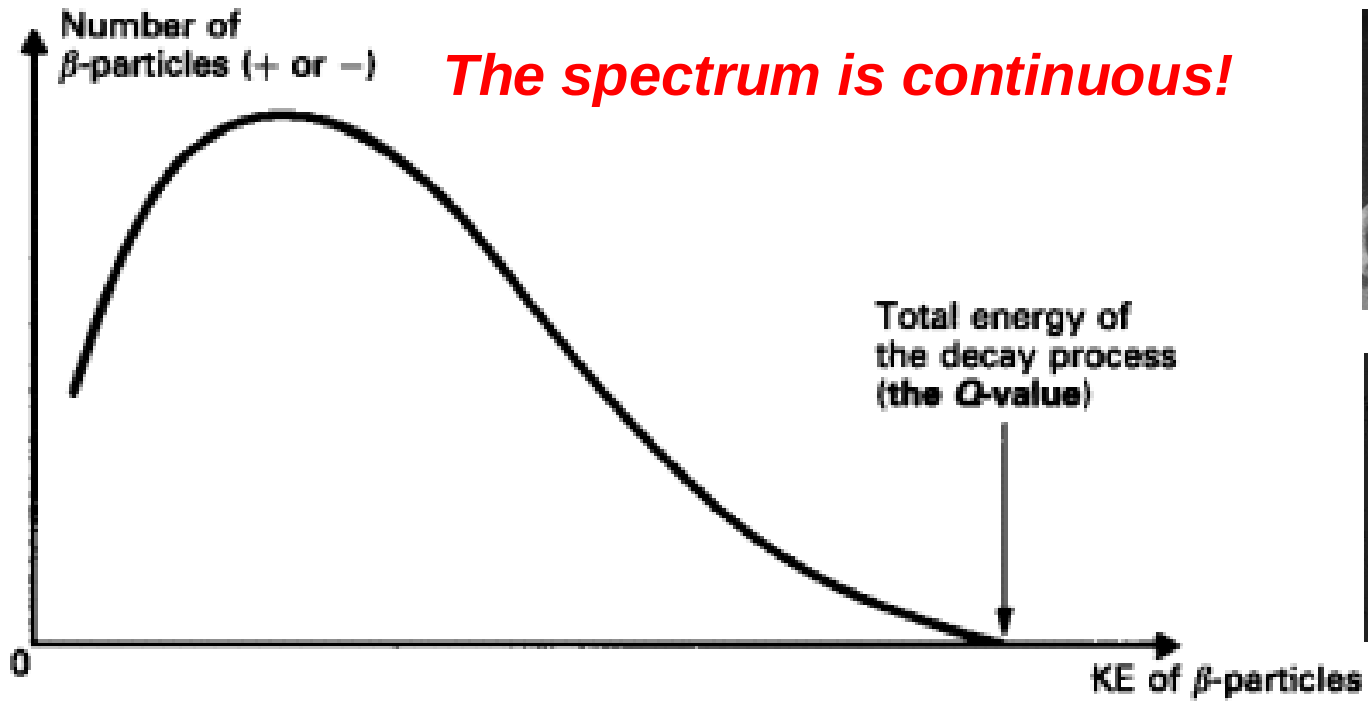


SYSU has 5 Campuses in 3 Major Cities
School of Physics is on the South Campus in Guangzhou
IFCEN is on the Zhuhai Campus



- ❖ **Introduction of Neutrino and Discovery of Neutrino Oscillation**
- ❖ **Daya Bay Reactor Neutrino Experiment (brief)**
- ❖ **Jiangmen Underground Neutrino Observatory**
- ❖ **Summary and Future Perspectives**

The "Crisis" of the beta-Spectrum in 1920s



➤ Bohr: "The energy in microworld was conserved not on an event-by-event basis, only on average"

➤ Pauli thought of another idea

Offener Brief an die Gruppe der Radioaktiven bei der
Gauvereins-Tagung zu Tübingen.

Abschrift

Physikalisches Institut
der Eidg. Technischen Hochschule
Zürich

Zürich, 4. Dez. 1930
Gloriastrasse

Liebe Radioaktive Damen und Herren,

Wie der Ueberbringer dieser Zeilen, den ich huldvollst
anzuhören bitte, Ihnen des näheren auseinandersetzen wird, bin ich
angesichts der "falschen" Statistik der N- und Li-6 Kerne, sowie
des kontinuierlichen beta-Spektrums auf einen verzweifelten Ausweg
verfallen um den "Wechselssatz" (1) der Statistik und den Energiesatz
zu retten. Nämlich die Möglichkeit, es könnten elektrisch neutrale
Teilchen, die ich Neutronen nennen will, in den Kernen existieren,
welche den Spin 1/2 haben und das Ausschliessungsprinzip befolgen und
sich von Lichtquanten ausserdem noch dadurch unterscheiden, dass sie
nicht mit Lichtgeschwindigkeit laufen. Die Masse der Neutronen
müsste von derselben Grössenordnung wie die Elektronenmasse sein und
jedenfalls nicht grösser als 0,01 Protonenmasse. Das kontinuierliche
beta-Spektrum wäre dann verständlich unter der Annahme, dass beim
beta-Zerfall mit dem Elektron jeweils noch ein Neutron emittiert
wird, derart, dass die Summe der Energien von Neutron und Elektron
konstant ist.

Nun handelt es sich weiter darum, welche Kräfte auf die
Neutronen wirken. Das wahrscheinlichste Modell für das Neutron scheint
mir aus wellenmechanischen Gründen (näheres weiss der Ueberbringer
dieser Zeilen) dieses zu sein, dass das ruhende Neutron ein
magnetischer Dipol von einem gewissen Moment μ ist. Die Experimente
verlangen wohl, dass die ionisierende Wirkung eines solchen Neutrons
nicht grösser sein kann, als die eines gamma-Strahls und darf dann
wohl nicht grösser sein als $e \cdot (10^{-13} \text{ cm})$.

Ich traue mich vorläufig aber nicht, etwas über diese Idee
zu publizieren und wende mich erst vertrauensvoll an Euch, liebe
Radioaktive, mit der Frage, wie es um den experimentellen Nachweis
eines solchen Neutrons stünde, wenn dieses ein ebensolches oder etwa
10mal grösseres Durchdringungsvermögen besitzen würde, wie ein
gamma-Strahl.

Ich gebe zu, dass mein Ausweg vielleicht von vornherein
wenig wahrscheinlich erscheinen wird, weil man die Neutronen, wenn
sie existieren, wohl schon längst gesehen hätte. Aber nur wer wagt,
gewinnt und der Ernst der Situation beim kontinuierlichen beta-Spektrum
wird durch einen Ausspruch meines verehrten Vorgängers im Amt,
Herrn Debye, beleuchtet, der mir kürzlich in Brüssel gesagt hat:
"O, daran soll man am besten gar nicht denken, sowie an die neuen
Steuern." Darum soll man jeden Weg zur Rettung ernstlich diskutieren.
Also, liebe Radioaktive, prüfet, und richtet. Leider kann ich nicht
persönlich in Tübingen erscheinen, da ich infolge eines in der Nacht
vom 6. zum 7. Dez. in Zürich stattfindenden Balles hier unabkömmlich
bin. Mit vielen Grüssen an Euch, sowie an Herrn Baek, Euer
untertänigster Diener

ges. W. Pauli

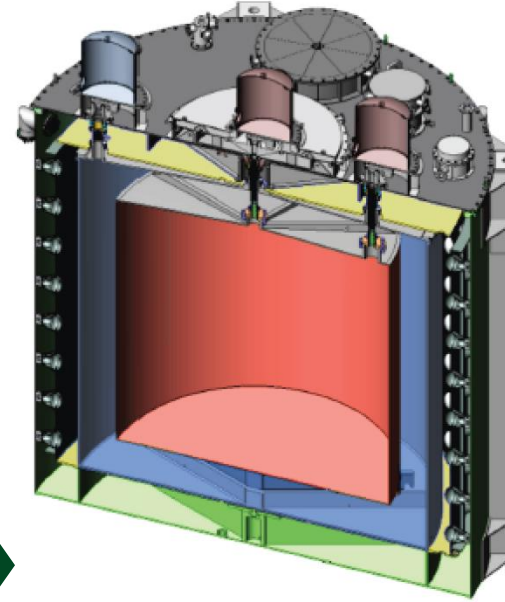
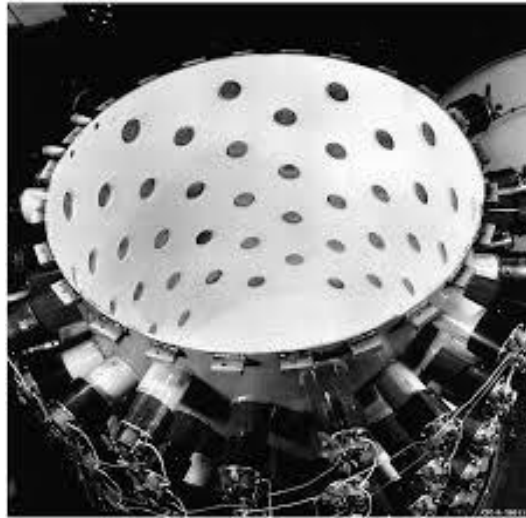
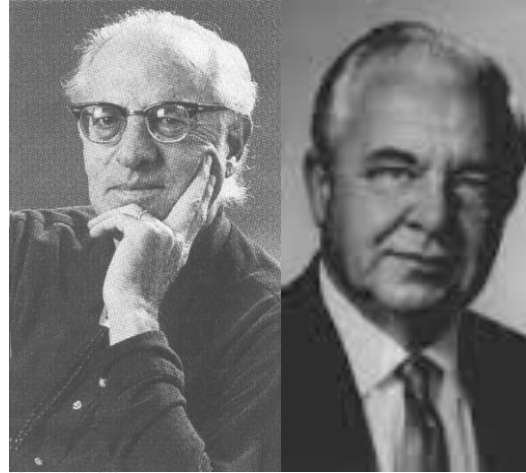
- ① Dear Radioactive Ladies and Gentlemen!
- ② I have hit upon a desperate remedy to save...the law of conservation of energy.
- ③ ...there could exist electrically neutral particles, which I will call neutrons, in the nuclei...
- ④ The continuous beta spectrum would then make sense with the assumption that in beta decay, in addition to the electron, **a neutron is emitted such that the sum of the energies of neutron and electron is constant**
- ⑤ But so far **I do not dare to publish anything about this idea**, and trustfully turn first to you, dear radioactive ones, with the question of how likely it is to find experimental evidence for such a neutron...
- ⑥ I admit that my remedy may seem almost improbable **because one probably would have seen those neutrons, if they exist, for a long time**. But nothing ventured, nothing gained...
- ⑦ Thus, dear radioactive ones, scrutinize and judge.



"I have done a terrible thing, I have postulated a particle that cannot be detected."

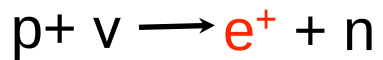
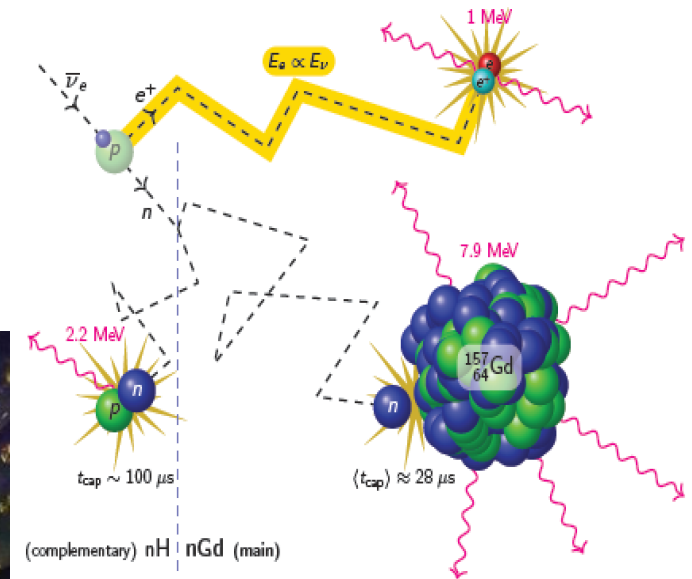
From Reines&Cowan in 1956 to Daya Bay in Earlier 2000's

- Cowan and Reines at the Savannah River Power Plant (1956-1959)



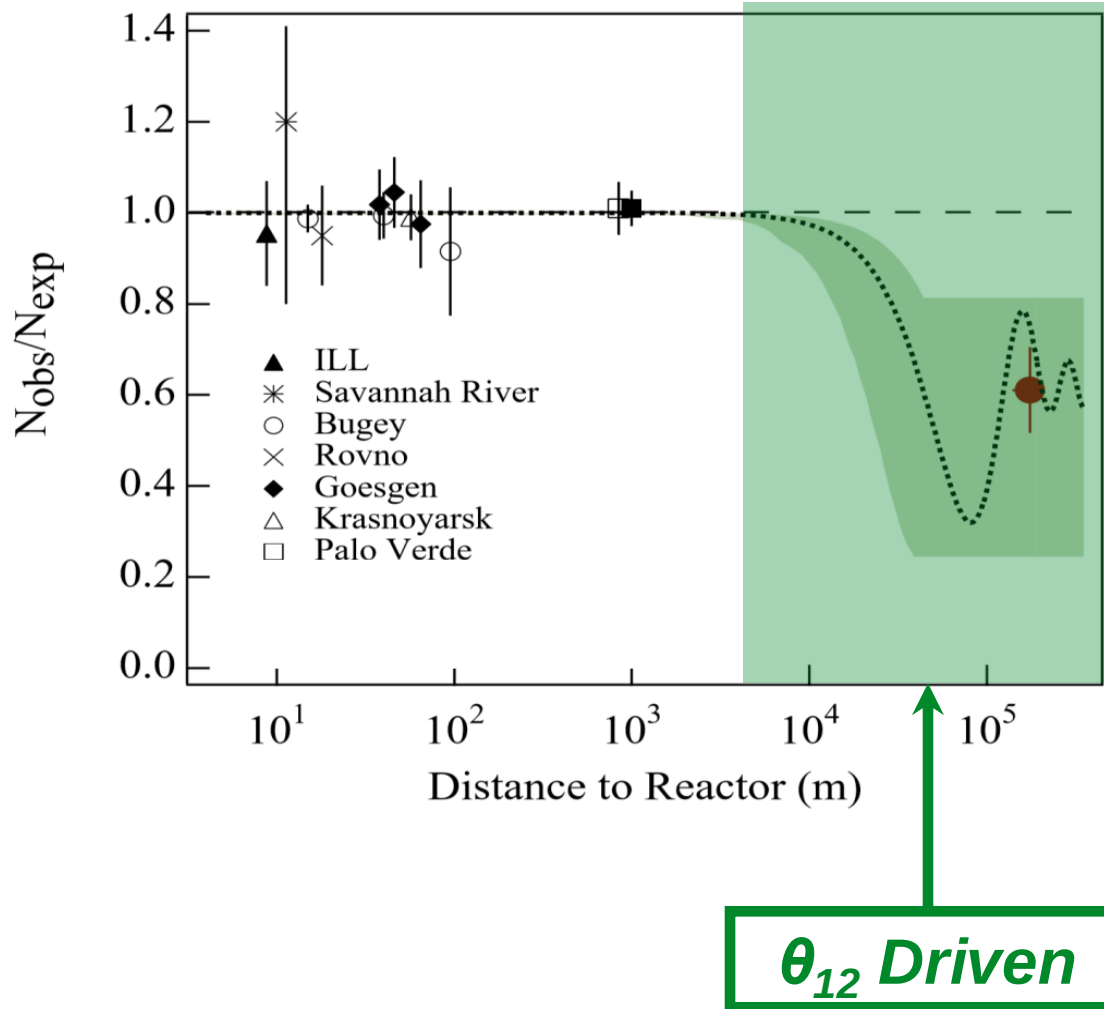
3-zone antineutrino detector (AD):

Inner zone	20 t	Gd-doped LS
Middle zone	20 t	LS
Outer zone	40 t	Mineral oil

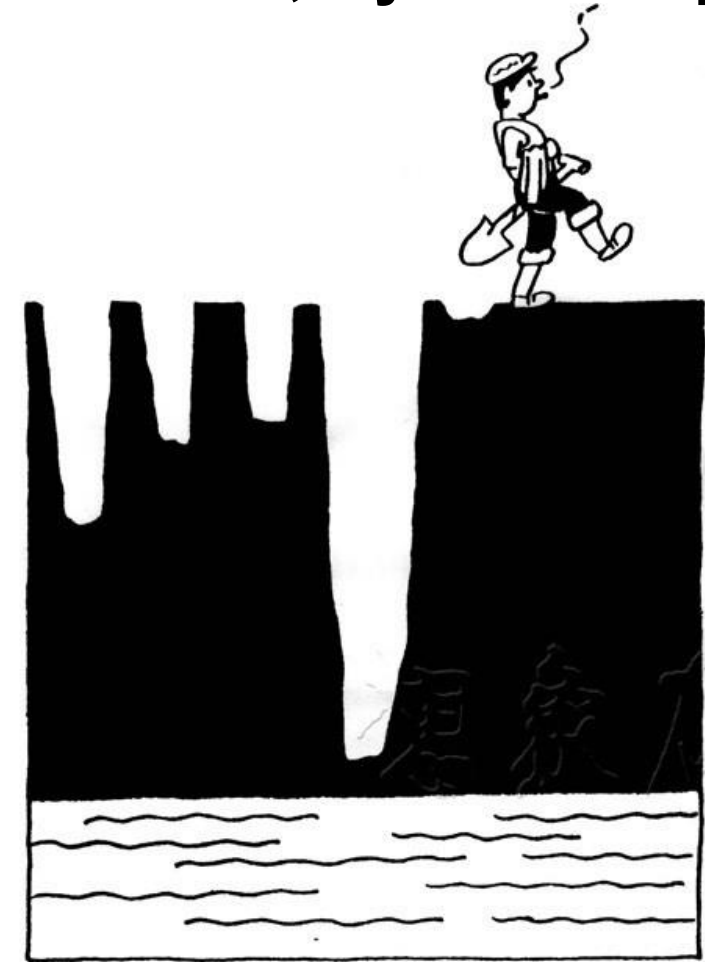


- Correlation is a VERY powerful tool!

One Page History of Discovering Reactor Neutrino Oscillation



“No water here, try another place”

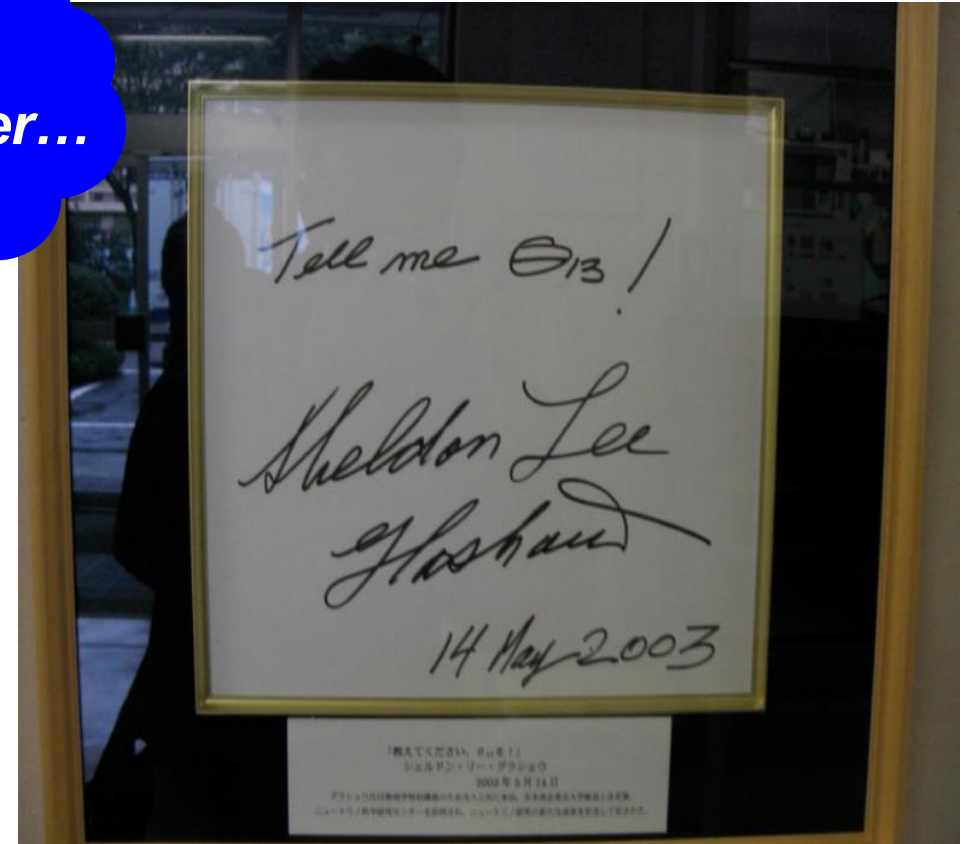


—这下面没有水，再换个地方挖

张新华画

Physicists Were All Very Very Very Desperate

Work Harder...



One of the Funders of the SM, Glashow, called for the measurement of θ_{13}

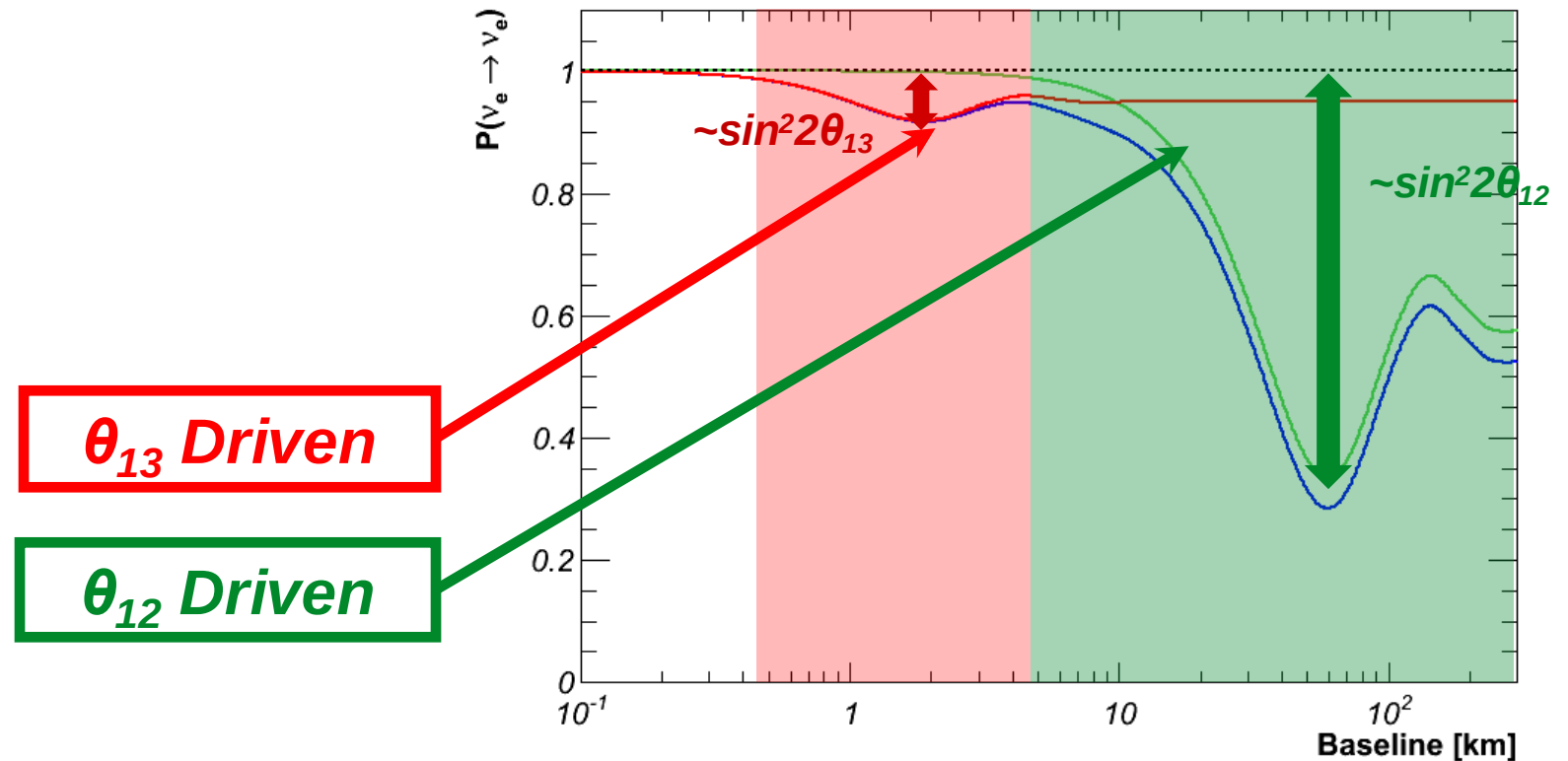
Photo by Kam-Biu Luk

Which Mixings Drive Which Reactor Neutrino Oscillations?

$$P(\bar{\nu}_e \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_e) \approx 1 - \boxed{\sin^2 2\theta_{13} \sin^2 \left(\frac{\Delta m_{ee}^2 L}{4E} \right)} - \boxed{\cos^4 \theta_{13} \sin^2 2\theta_{12} \sin^2 \left(\frac{\Delta m_{21}^2 L}{4E} \right)}$$

$$\sin^2 \left(\Delta m_{ee}^2 \frac{L}{4E} \right) \equiv \cos^2 \theta_{12} \sin^2 \left(\Delta m_{31}^2 \frac{L}{4E} \right) + \sin^2 \theta_{12} \sin^2 \left(\Delta m_{32}^2 \frac{L}{4E} \right)$$

- At different distances, the survival rate is dominated by different mixing angles
- To measure θ_{13} , a baseline of ~ 2 km is optimal



4 x 20 tons target mass at far site

Daya Bay: Powerful reactor by mountains

Far site (Hall 3)
1615 m from Ling Ao
1985 m from Daya
Overburden: 350 m

Ling Ao Near site (Hall 2)
481 m from Ling Ao
526 m from Ling Ao II
Overburden: 112 m

Ling Ao-II NPP
2x2.9 GW

Ling Ao NPP, 2x2.9 GW

Daya Bay Near site (Hall 1)
363 m from Daya Bay
Overburden: 98 m

Daya Bay NPP, 2x2.9 GW

Water hall

Liquid Scintillator hall

entrance

SAB

Construction tunnel

1006 m

465 m

810 m

295 m

Total Tunnel length
~ 3000 m

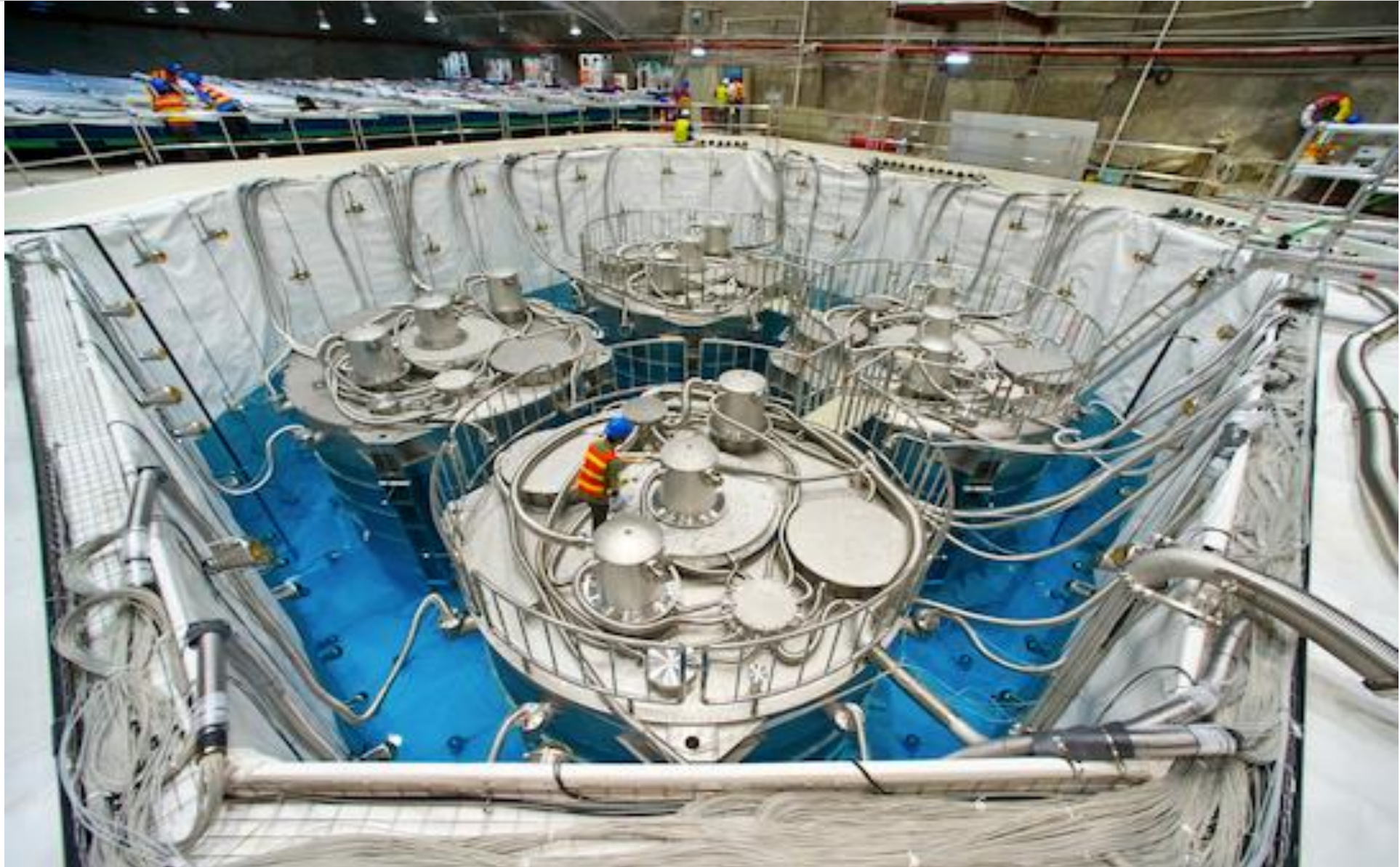
Mikaelyan LA, Sinev VV. , Phys. At. Nucl. 63:1002 2000.

“Two identical liquid scintillation spectrometers stationed at the Krasnoyarsk underground site (600 MWE) at distances $R_1 = 1100$ m and $R_2 = 250$ m from the reactor source simultaneously detect (e^+, n) pairs”

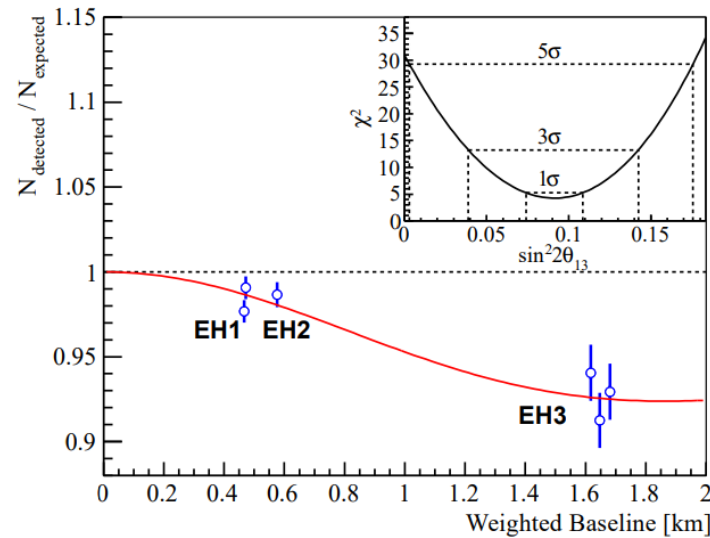
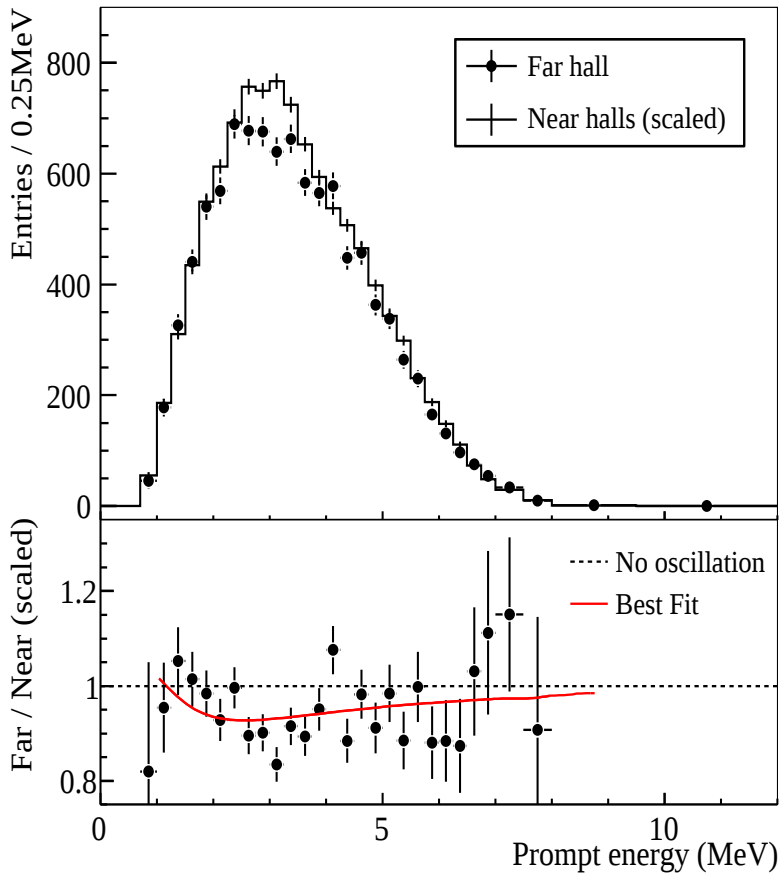
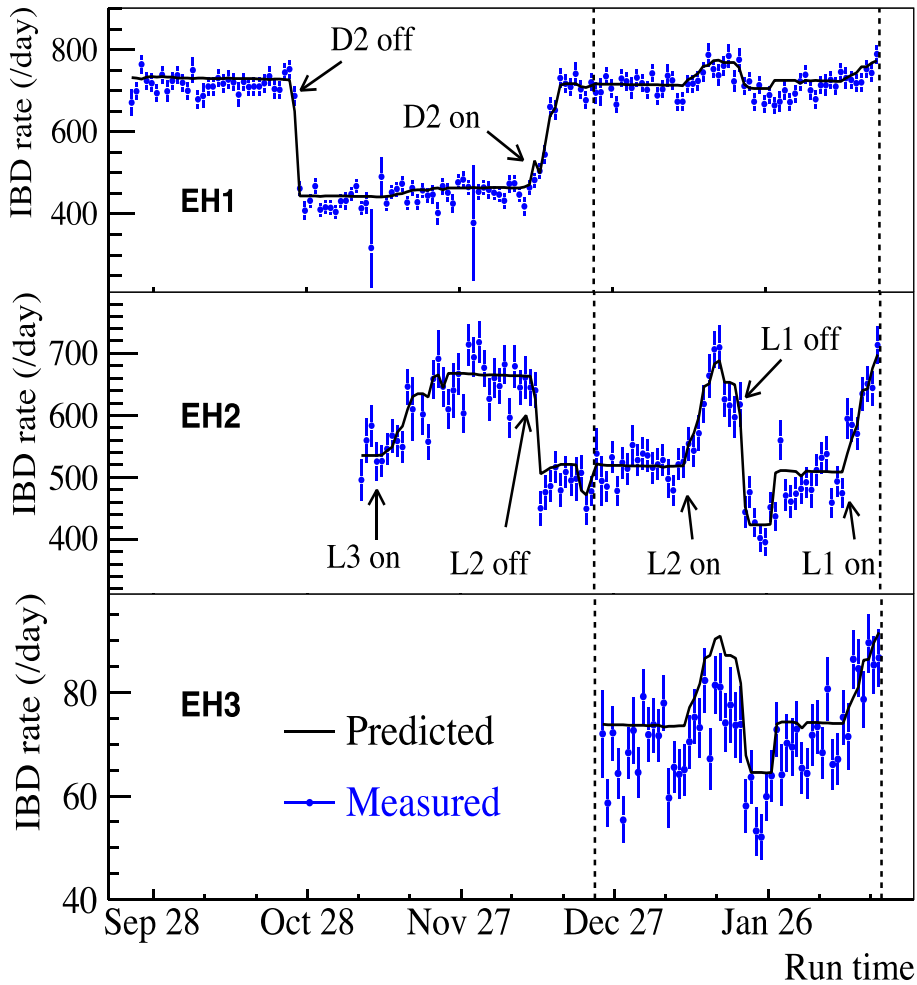
A Small Big Science Project



A Small Big Science Project



First Daya Bay Oscillation Results with 1958 Days



- We see a deficit through the near-far ratio: $0.94 \pm 0.011(\text{stat}) \pm 0.004(\text{syst})$ at the far site
- **$\sin^2 2\theta_{13} = 0.092 \pm 0.016(\text{stat}) \pm 0.005(\text{syst})$**
- **A 5-sigma discovery!**

Daya Bay Phys.Rev.Lett. 108 (2012) 171803

Daya Bay Full Data Set (Neutrino 2024)

Daya Bay reported the precision measurement with 3158-days full dataset in 2022

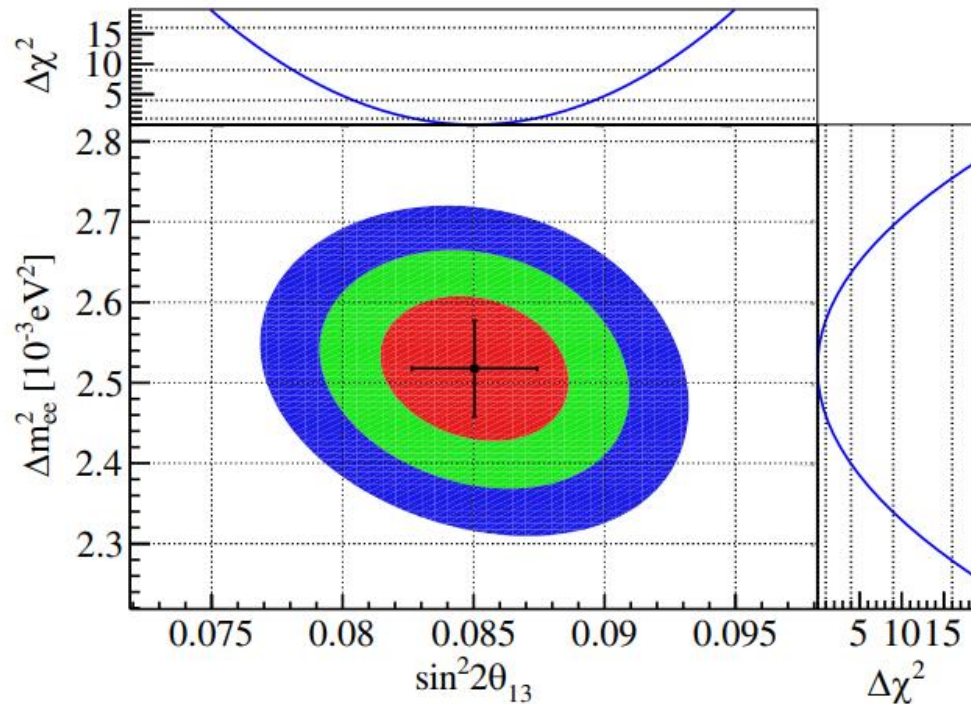
$$\sin^2 2\theta_{13} = 0.0851 \pm 0.0024$$

precision 2.8% $\rightarrow$ *the Best in the world*

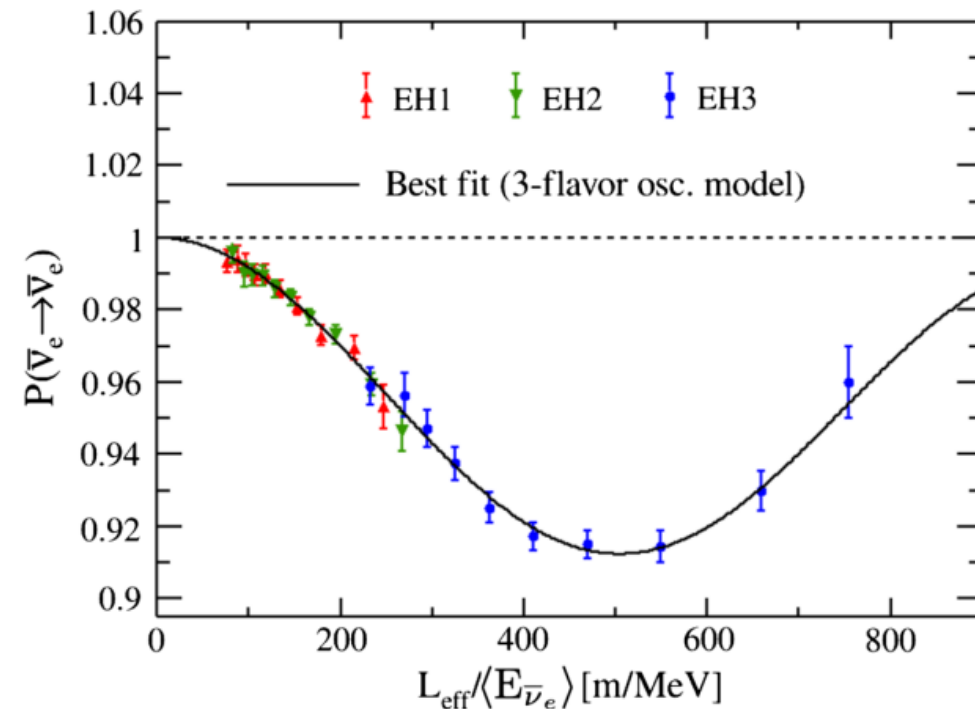
$$\Delta m_{32}^2 = 2.466 \pm 0.060 \text{ } (-2.571 \pm 0.060) \times 10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2$$

precision 2.4% $\rightarrow$ *one of the Best in the world*

Systematics, mainly detector differences, contributed about 50% in the total error



PhysRevLett. 130 161802



DYB Pinned Down θ_{13} but ν Mass Hierarchy Still Unknown

- Pontecorvo-Maki-Nakagawa-Sakata (PMNS) mixing matrix (with Majorana CP phases),

$$U_{PMNS} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \cos \theta_{23} & \sin \theta_{23} \\ 0 & -\sin \theta_{23} & \cos \theta_{23} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta_{13} & 0 & e^{-i\delta_{CP}} \sin \theta_{13} \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -e^{i\delta_{CP}} \sin \theta_{13} & 0 & \cos \theta_{13} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta_{12} & \sin \theta_{12} & 0 \\ -\sin \theta_{12} & \cos \theta_{12} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} e^{i\alpha_1/2} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & e^{i\alpha_2/2} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

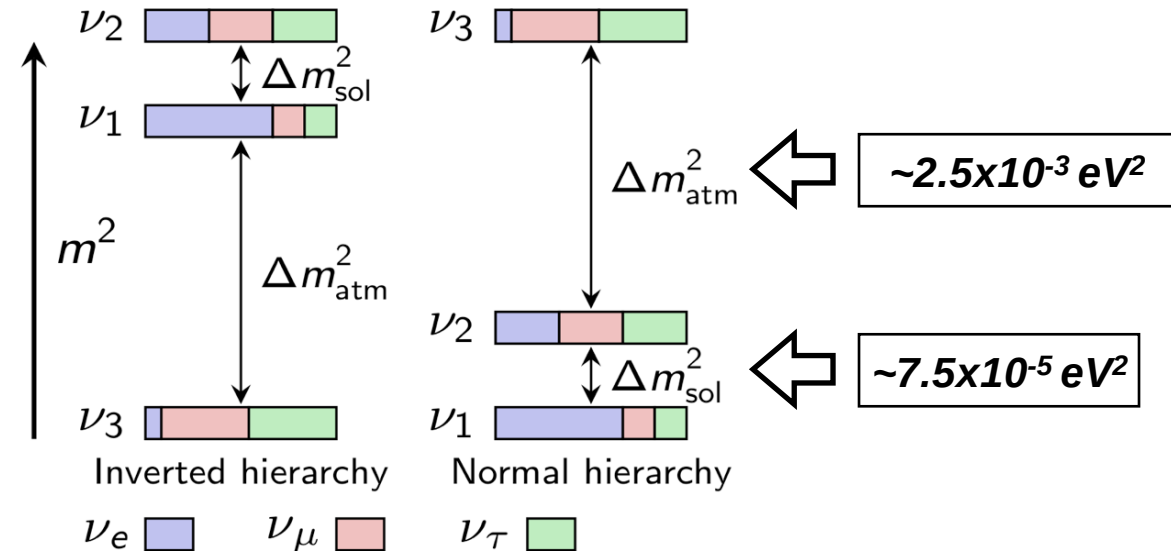
$$\begin{pmatrix} \nu_e \\ \nu_\mu \\ \nu_\tau \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} V_{e1} & V_{e2} & V_{e3} \\ V_{\mu 1} & V_{\mu 2} & V_{\mu 3} \\ V_{\tau 1} & V_{\tau 2} & V_{\tau 3} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \nu_1 \\ \nu_2 \\ \nu_3 \end{pmatrix}$$

⇒ Neutrino Oscillation Probability:

$$P_{\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\beta} = 1 - 4 \sum_{i < j} |V_{\alpha j}|^2 |V_{\beta i}|^2 \sin^2 \frac{\Delta m_{ji}^2 L}{4E}$$

Amplitude $\propto \sin^2 2\theta$

Frequency $\propto \Delta m^2 L/E$



Global Efforts Resolving ν Mass Hierarchy

Source / Principle	Matter Effect	Interference of Solar&Atm Osc. Terms	Collective Oscillation	Constraining Total Mass or Effective Mass
Atmospheric ν	Super-K, Hyper-K, IceCube PINGU, ICAL/INO, ORCA, DUNE	Atm ν_μ + JUNO		
Beam ν_μ	T2K, NOvA, T2HK, DUNE	Beam ν_μ + JUNO		
Reactor $\bar{\nu}_e$		JUNO, JUNO + Atm/Beam ν_μ		
Supernova Burst ν			Super-K, Hyper-K, IceCube PINGU, ORCA, DUNE, JUNO	
Interplay of Measurements				Cosmo. Data, KATRIN, Proj-8, $0\nu\beta\beta$

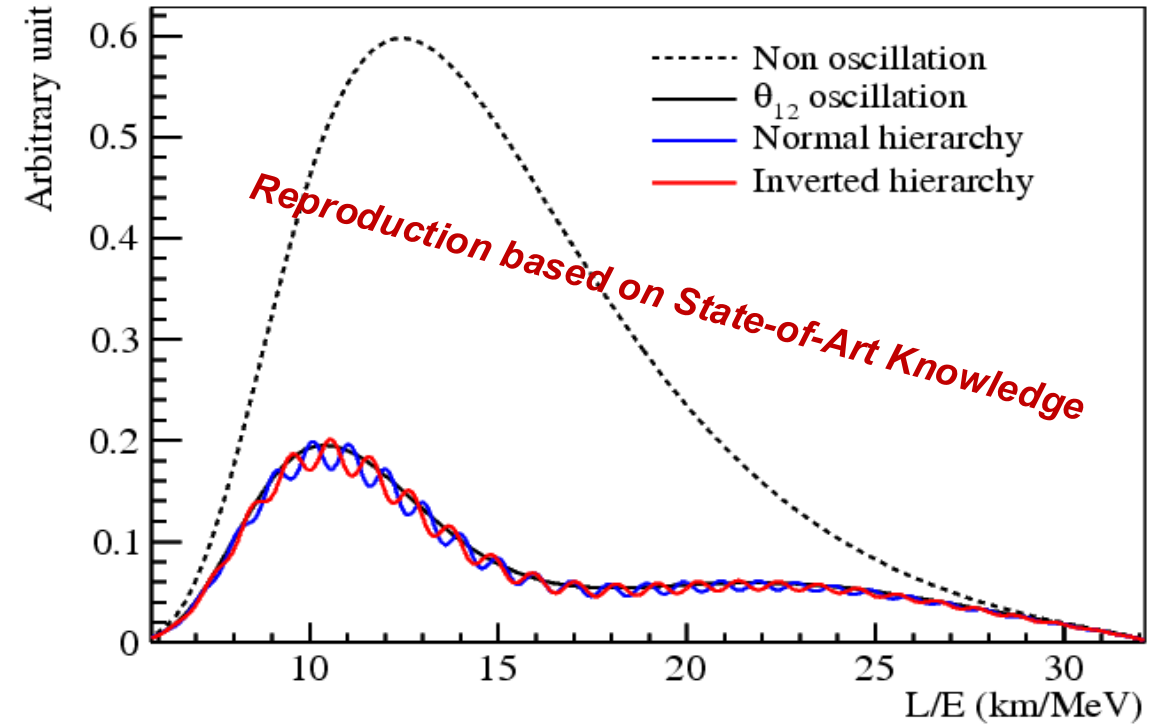
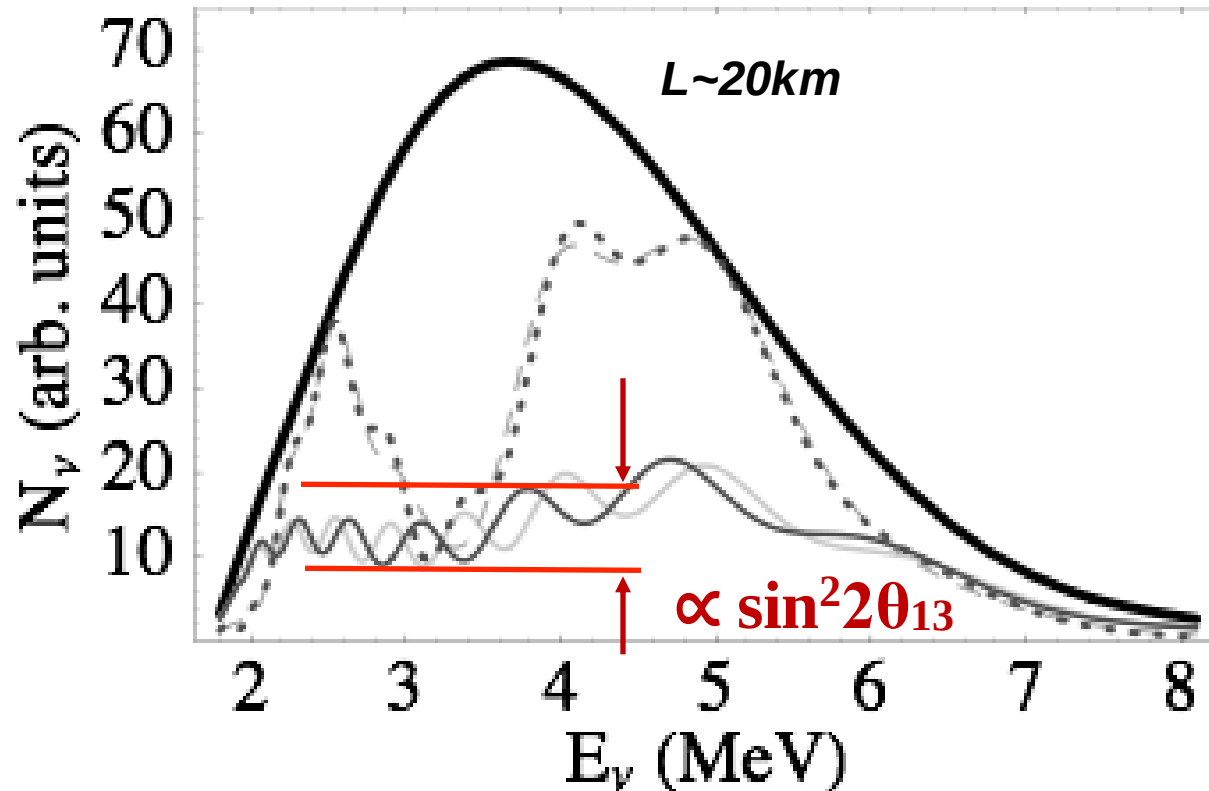
Known θ_{13} Enables Neutrino Mass Hierarchy at Reactors

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

✓ Mass hierarchy reflected in the spectrum

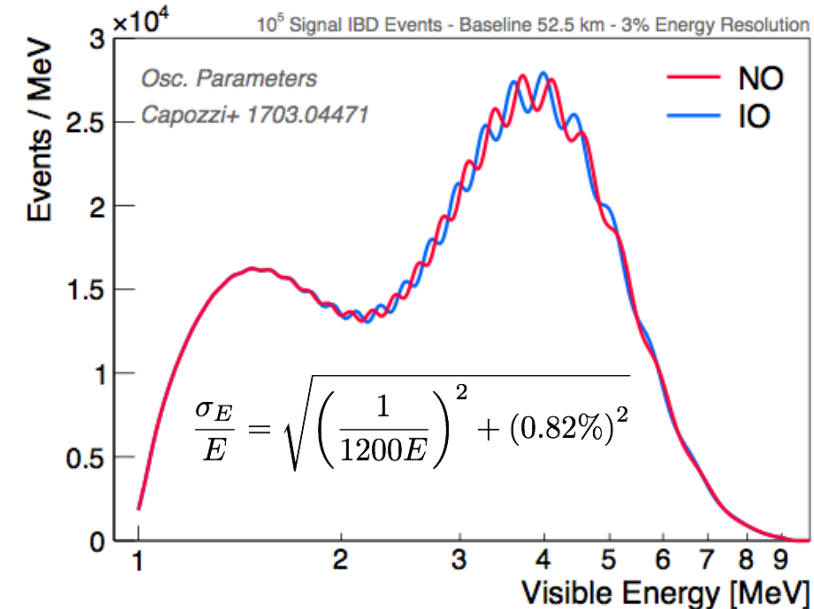
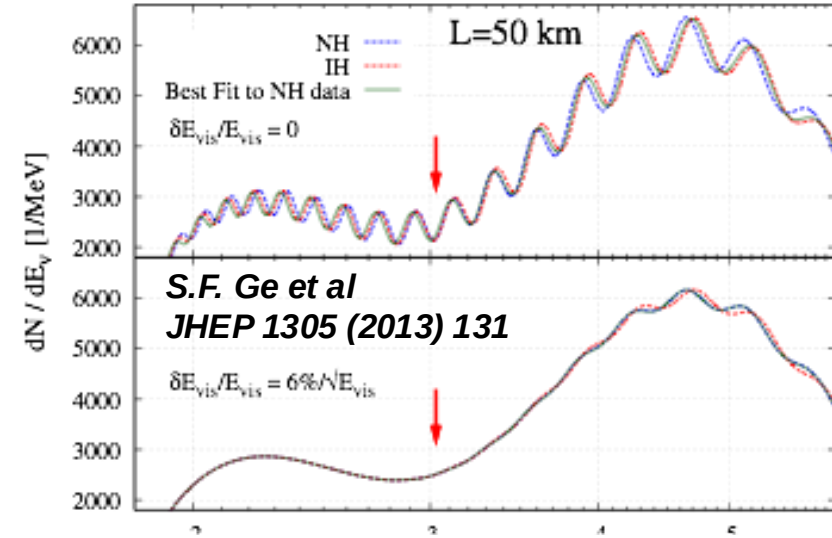
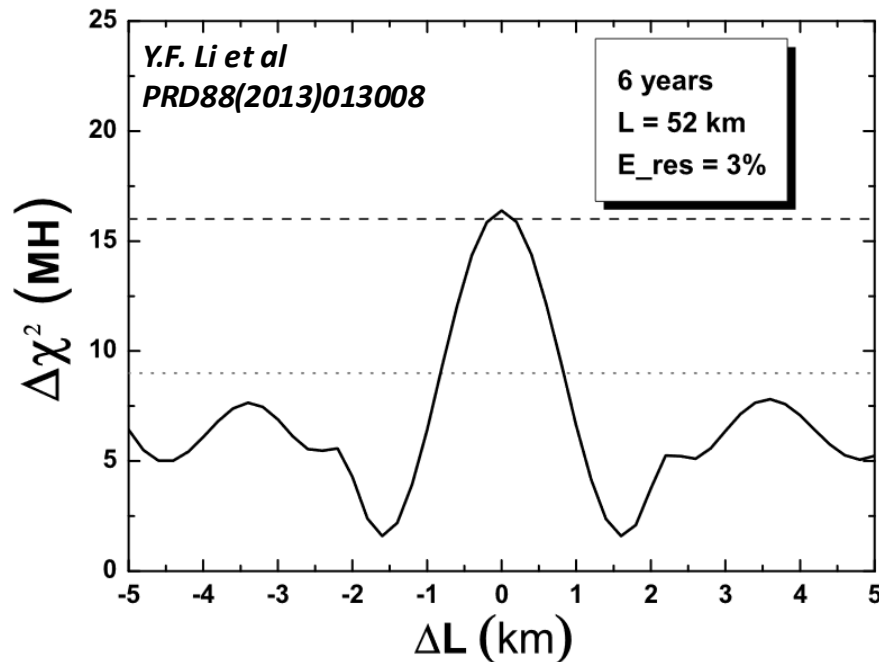
✓ Independent of the unknown CP phase

Petcov&Piai, Phys. Lett. B533 (2002) 94-106

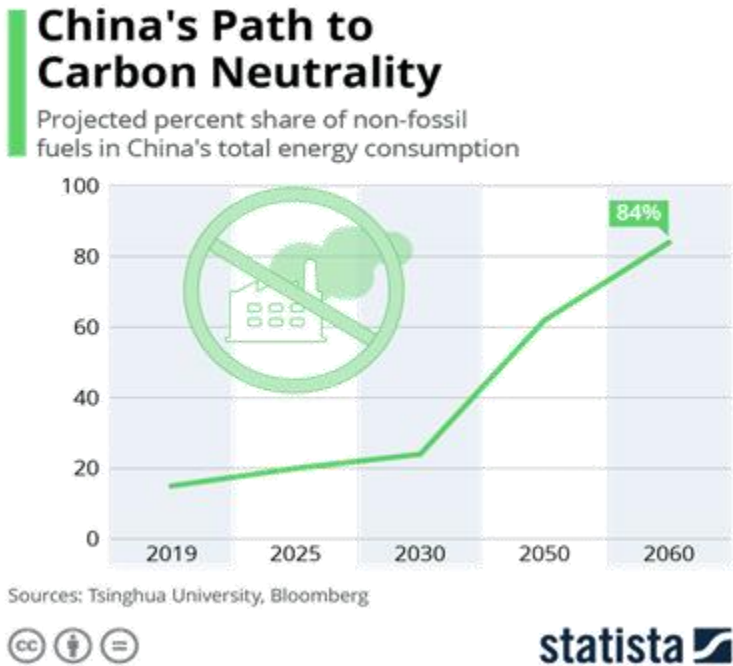


Challenges in Resolving MH using Reactors

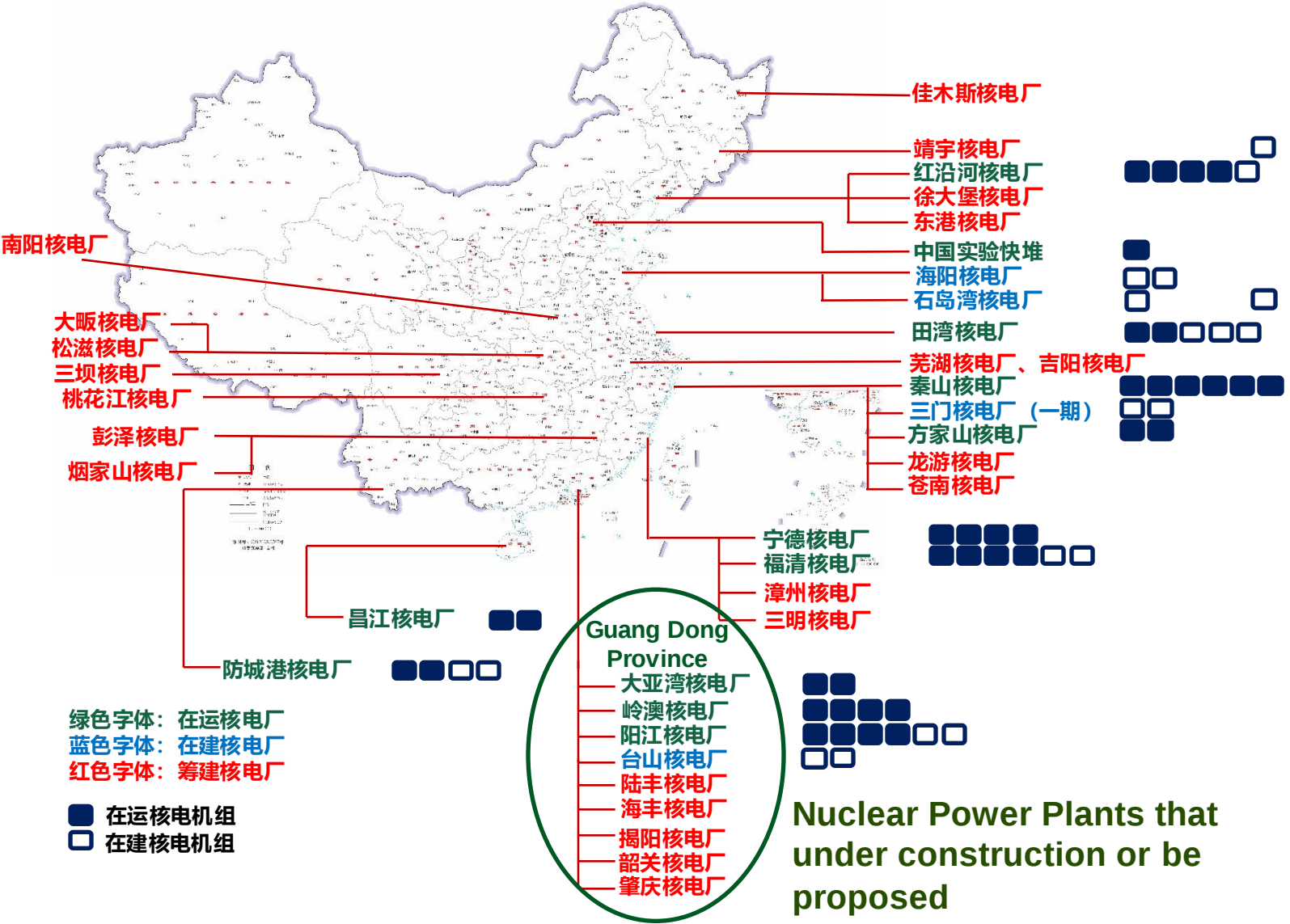
- Energy resolution: $\sim 3\%/\sqrt{E}$
- Energy scale uncertainty: $< 1\%$
- Statistics (the more the better)
- Reactor distribution: $< \sim 0.5\text{km}$



Suitable Nuclear Power Plants (very easy now) in China



- China builds **6-8** new reactors a year
- Each reactor needs an average of **800** professional workers

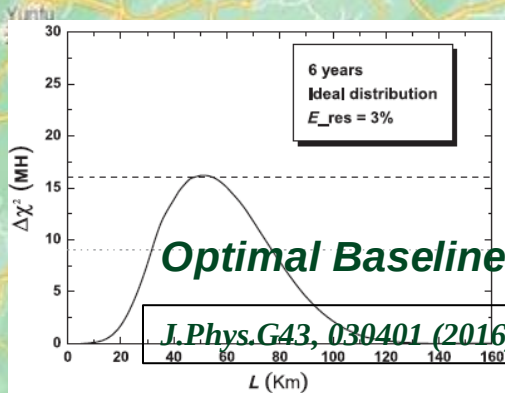


Nuclear Power Plants that under construction or be proposed

Jiangmen Underground Neutrino Observatory (JUNO)



- Proposed as a reactor neutrino experiment for **mass ordering** in 2008 (PRD78:111103,2008; PRD79:073007,2009)
 - driving the design specifications: **location**, **20 kton LS**, **3% energy resolution**, **700 m underground**
- Rich physics program in solar, supernova, atmospheric, geo-neutrinos, proton decay, exotic searches
- Approved in 2013. Construction in 2015-2024



JUNO

53 km

JUNO-TAO

Taishan NPP

2 cores, 9.2 GW_{th}

Yangjiang NPP

6 cores, 17.4 GW_{th}

70+ institutions, ~650 collaborators

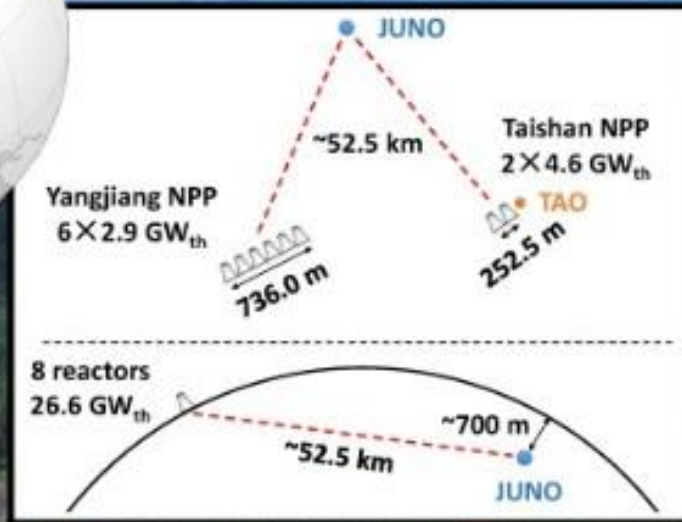
Asia: China (34), Taiwan, China (3), Thailand (3), Pakistan, Armenia

Europe: Italy (8), Germany (7), France (5), Russia (3), Belgium, Czech, Finland, Latvia, Slovakia, UK

America: Brazil (2), Chile (2), USA (2)



Jiangmen Underground Neutrino Observatory



Vertical tunnel:
563 m

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

Surface Buildings

- Office/Dorm/Computation
- Surface Assembly Building
- LAB storage (5 kton)
- Water purification / Nitrogen
- Power station
- Cable train

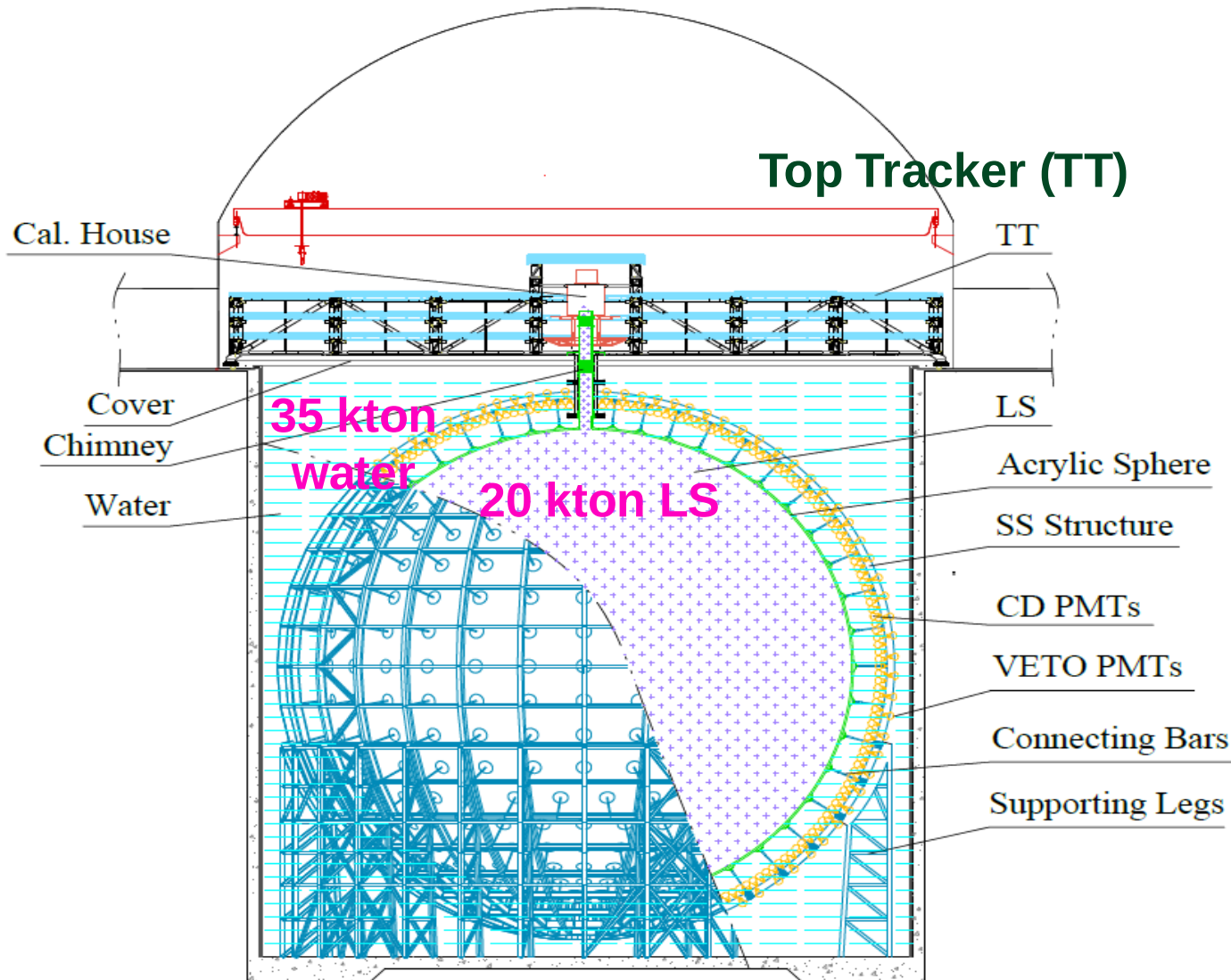
Slope tunnel: 1265 m
@ slope of 42%



Civil construction finished in Dec, 2021

Feimini - JUNO Current status and pros

The JUNO Central Detector



Acrylic Sphere:

Inner Diameter (ID): 35.4 m

Thickness: 12 cm

Stainless Steel (SS) Structure:

ID: 40.1 m, Outer Diameter (OD): 41.1 m

17612 20-inch PMTs, **25600** 3-inch PMTs

Water pool:

ID: 43.5 m, Height: 44 m, Depth: 43.5 m

2400 20-inch PMTs

$$\frac{\Delta E}{E} = \sqrt{a^2 + \frac{b^2}{E} + \frac{c^2}{E^2}}$$

Energy leakage &
non-uniformity

Photon
statistics

Noise
(~background)

The Detector Performance Goals

	KamLAND	Daya Bay	PROSPECT	JUNO
Target Mass	~1kt	20t	~4t	~20kt
Photocathode Coverage	~34%	~12% (Effective)	ESR + PMTs	~80%
PE Collection	~250 PE/MeV	~160 PE/MeV	~850 PE/MeV	~1200 PE/MeV
Energy Resolution	~6%/√E	~7.5%/√E	~4.5%/√E	3%/√E
Energy Calibration	~2%	1.5% → 0.5%	~1%	<1%

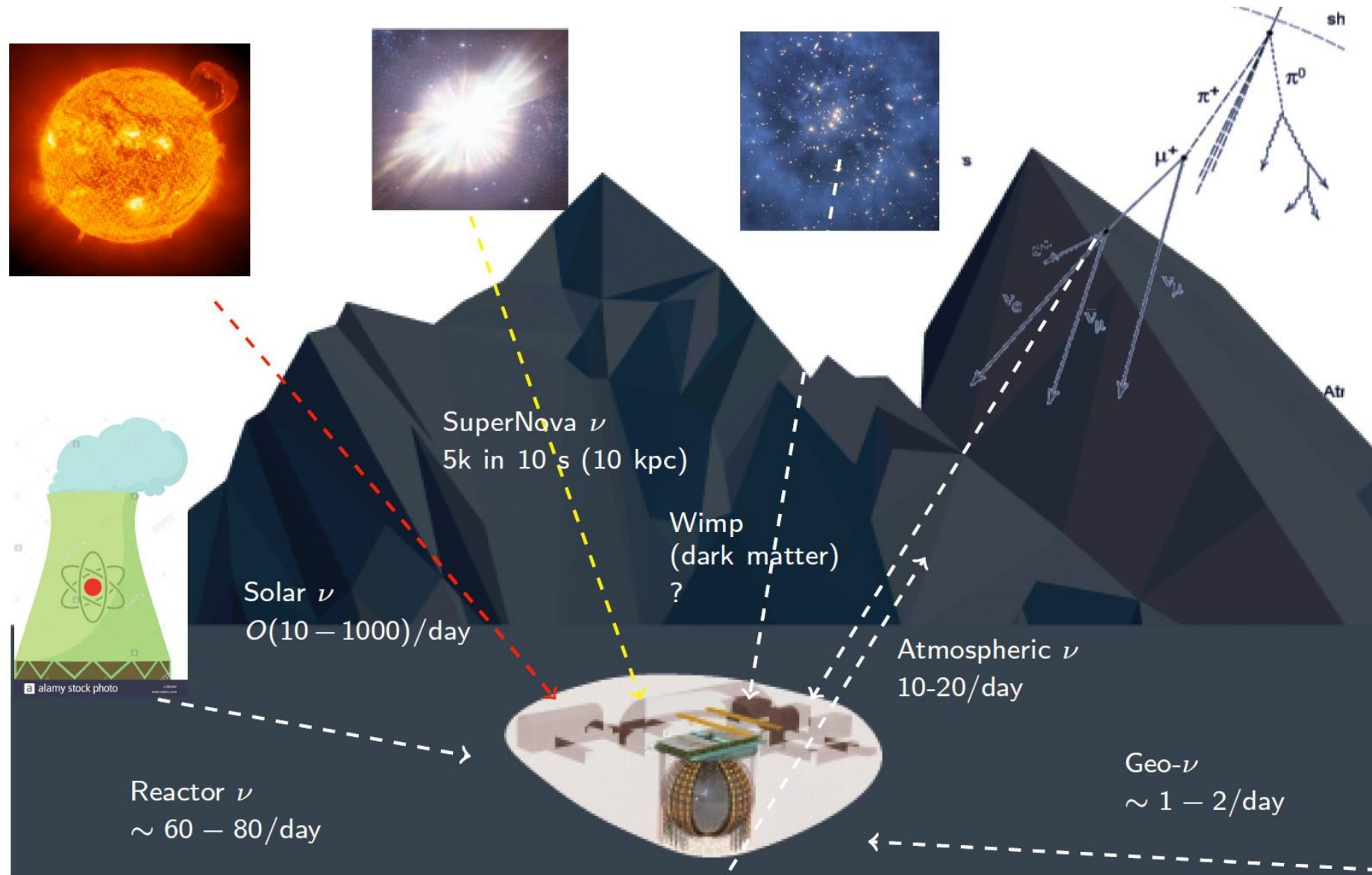
An extremely demanding detector and a challenging job

JUNO Detector and Tightly Packed PMTs

arXiv: 2311.17314 (2023)



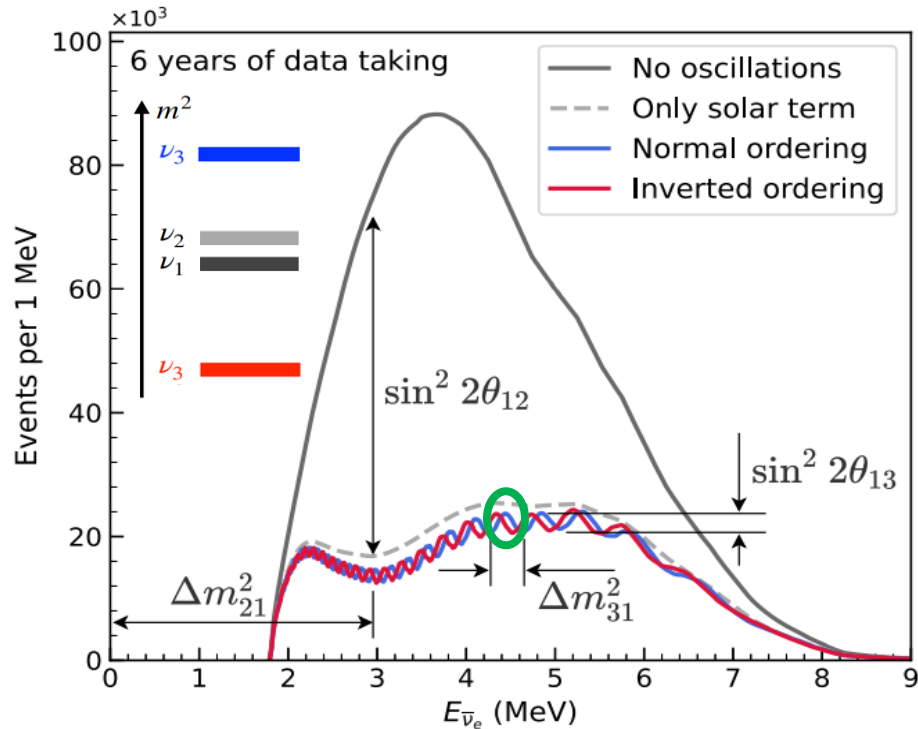
JUNO is a Multi-Physics Experiment



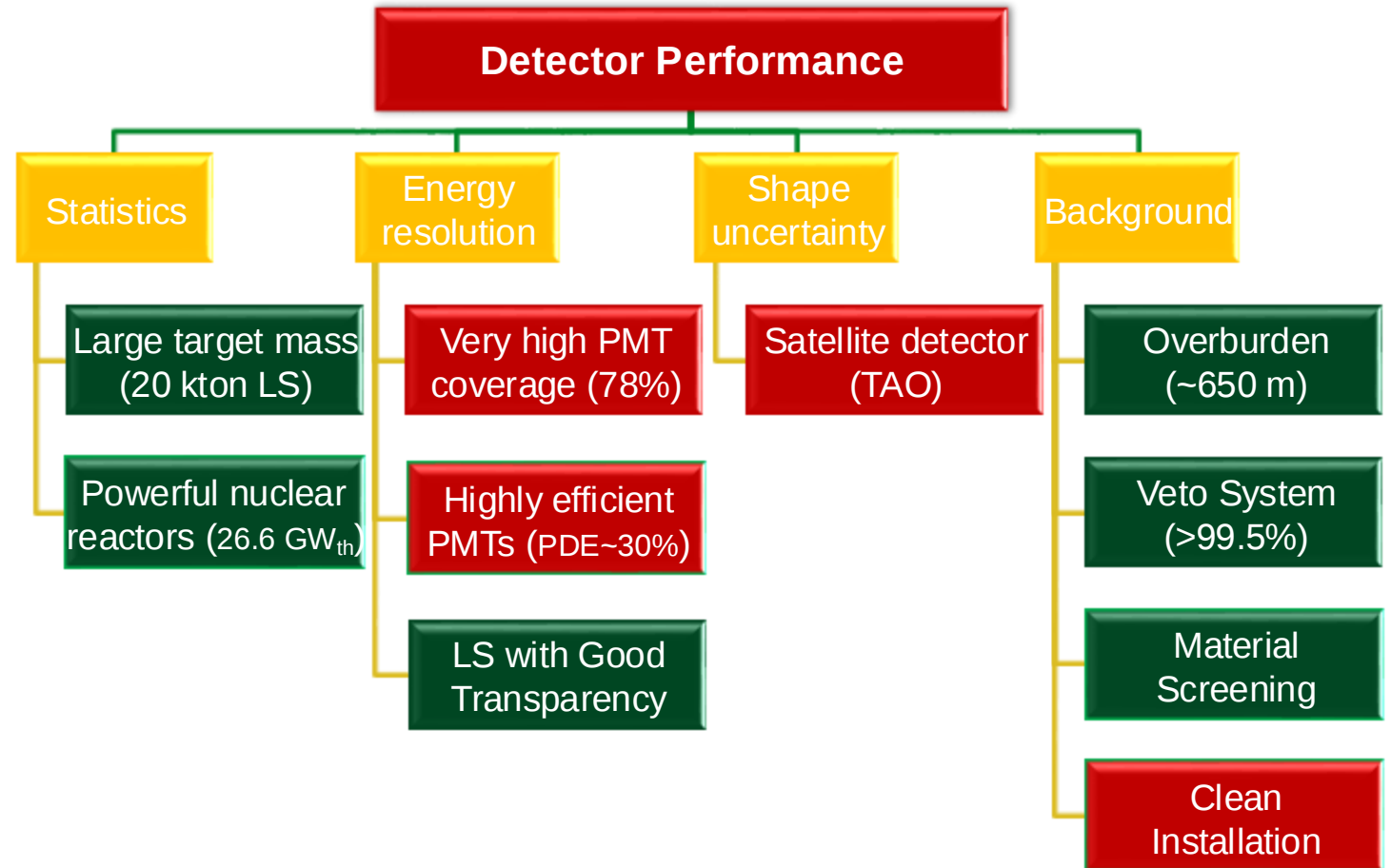
Systematic Controls for the Detector Performance

Primary goals:

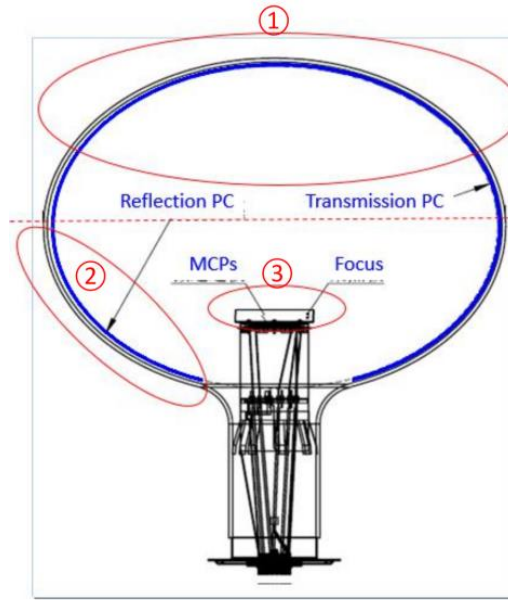
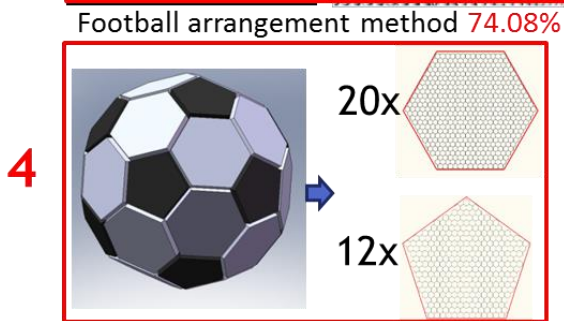
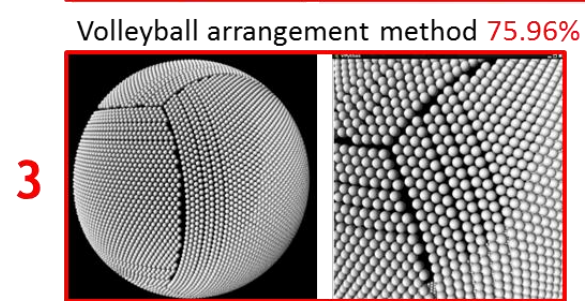
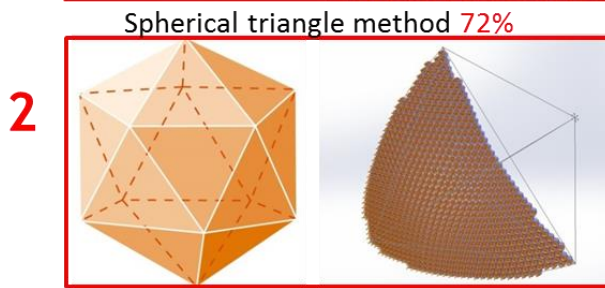
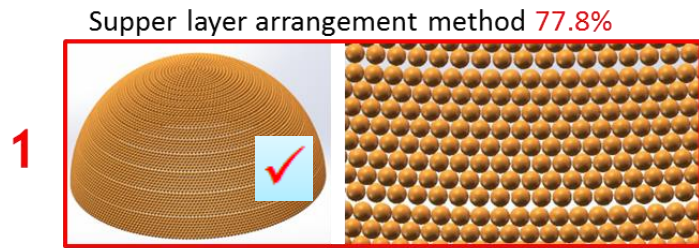
neutrino mass ordering and oscillation parameters using reactor antineutrinos at 52.5km



Nucl.Instrum.Meth.A 1042 (2022) 167435

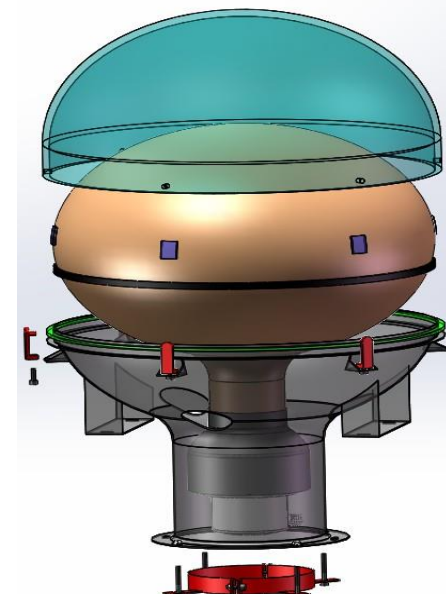
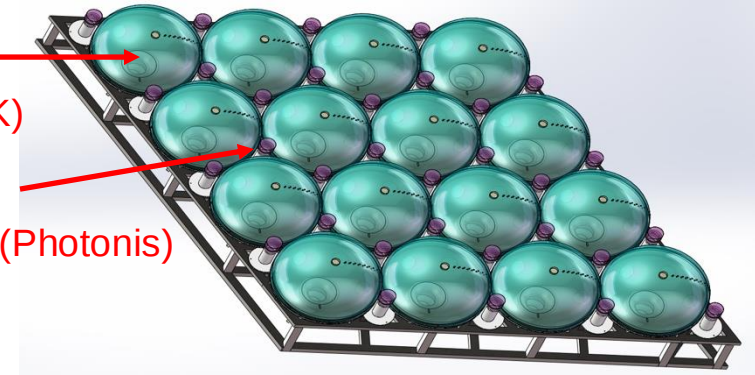


Packing PMTs as Tight as Possible and Keep Them Safe

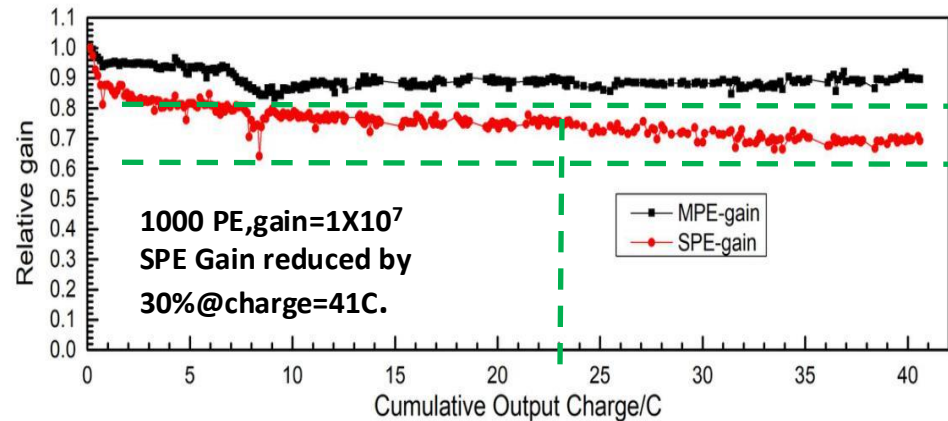
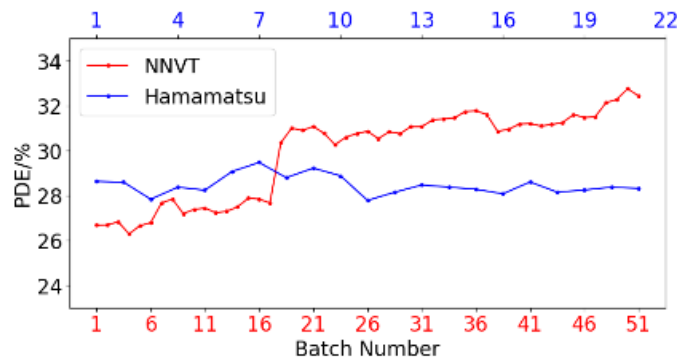
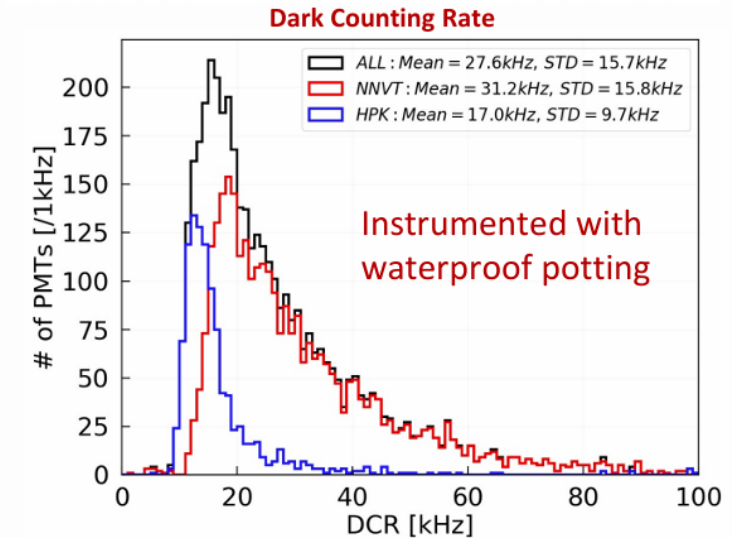
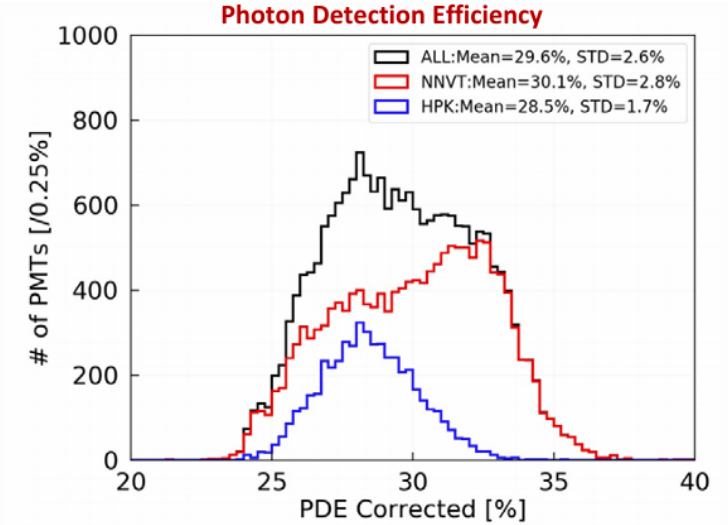
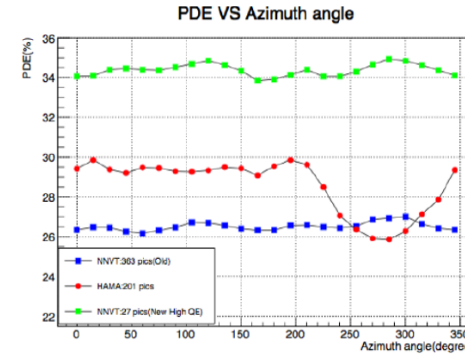
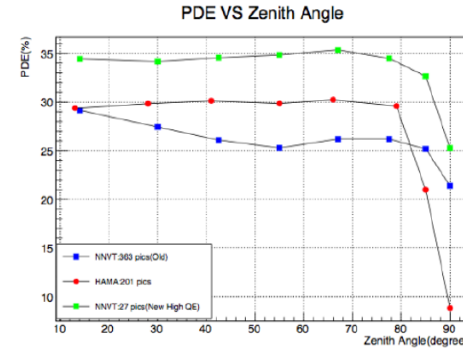
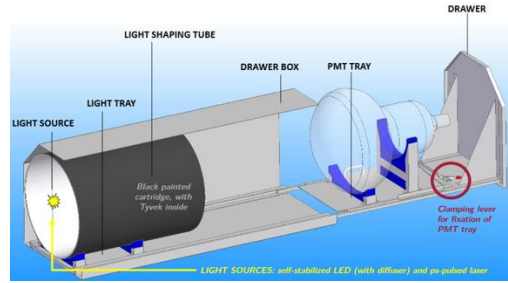


20" PMT (~18K)
MCP-PMT (~13K)
Hamamatsu HQE (5K)

3"sPMT(~25K)
HZE XP72B22 (Photonis)

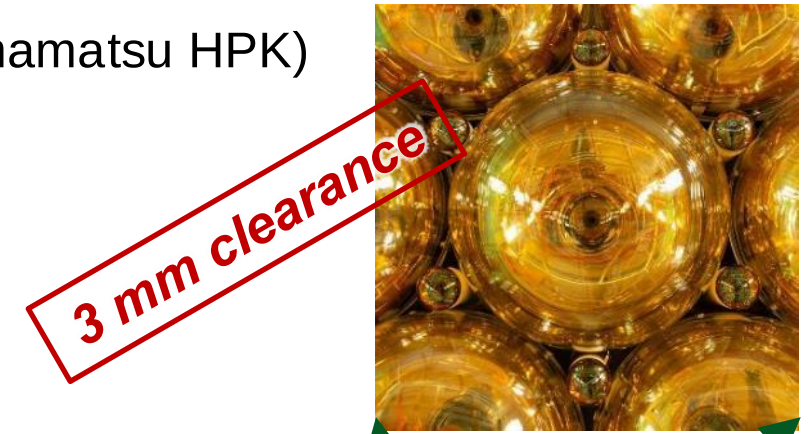


Characterizing/Testing Every Single PMT with Great Care



PMT System Summary

- 20-inch PMT: 15,012 **MCP-PMT** (NNVT) + 5,000 **Dynode PMT** (Hamamatsu HPK)
- 3.1-inch PMT: 25,600 **Dynode PMT** (HZC XP72B22)
 - All PMTs delivered and their performance tested OK
- Water proof potting done: failure rate < 0.5%/6 years
- Implosion protection: acrylic top & SS bottom (JINST 18 (2023), P02013)
 - Mass production completed

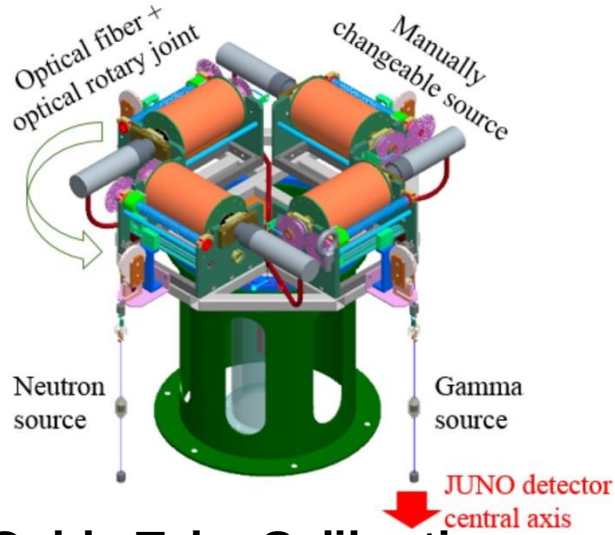


	LPMT (20-in)		SPMT (3-in)
	Hamamatsu	NNVT	HZC
Quantity	5,000	15,012	25,600
Charge Collection	Dynode	MCP	Dynode
Photon Det. Eff.	28.5%	30.1%	25%
Dynamic range for [0-10] MeV	[0, 100] PEs		[0, 2] PEs
Coverage	75%		3%
Reference	Eur.Phys.J.C 82 (2022) 12, 1168		NIM.A 1005 (2021) 165347

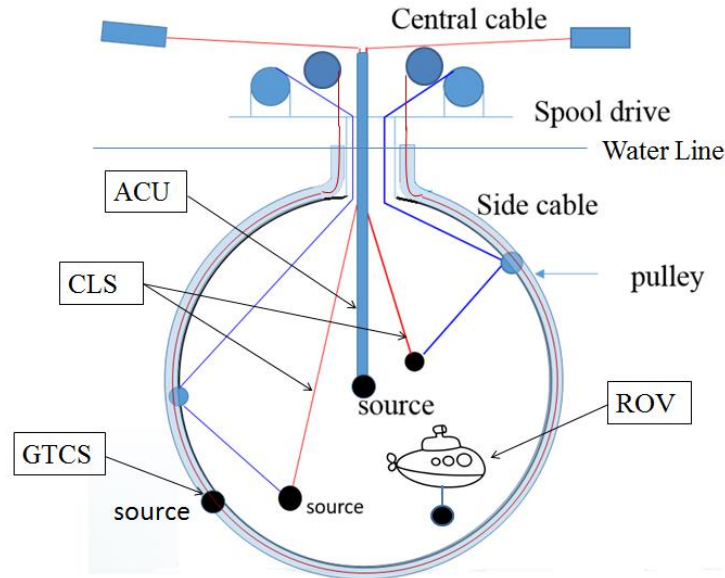
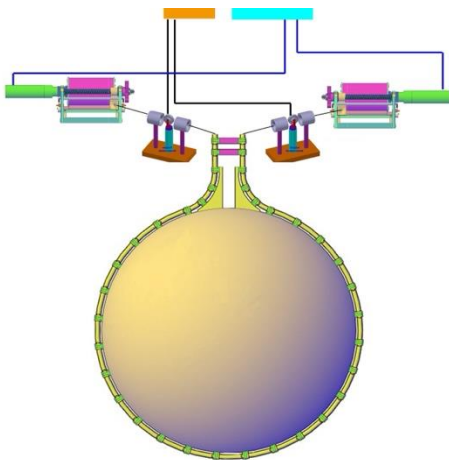


A Comprehensive Calibration System

Automatic Calibration Unit (ACU)

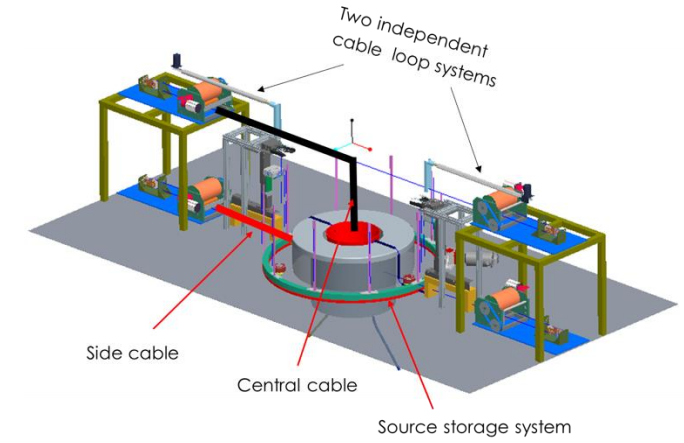


Guide Tube Calibration System (GTCS)

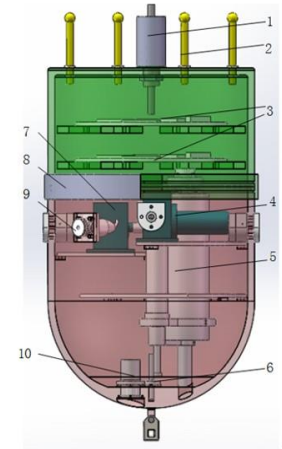


Complementary for covering entire energy range of reactor neutrinos and full-volume position coverage inside JUNO central detector

Cable Loop System (CLS)



Remotely Operated under-liquid-scintillator Vehicles (ROV)



Calibration and Expected Energy Resolution

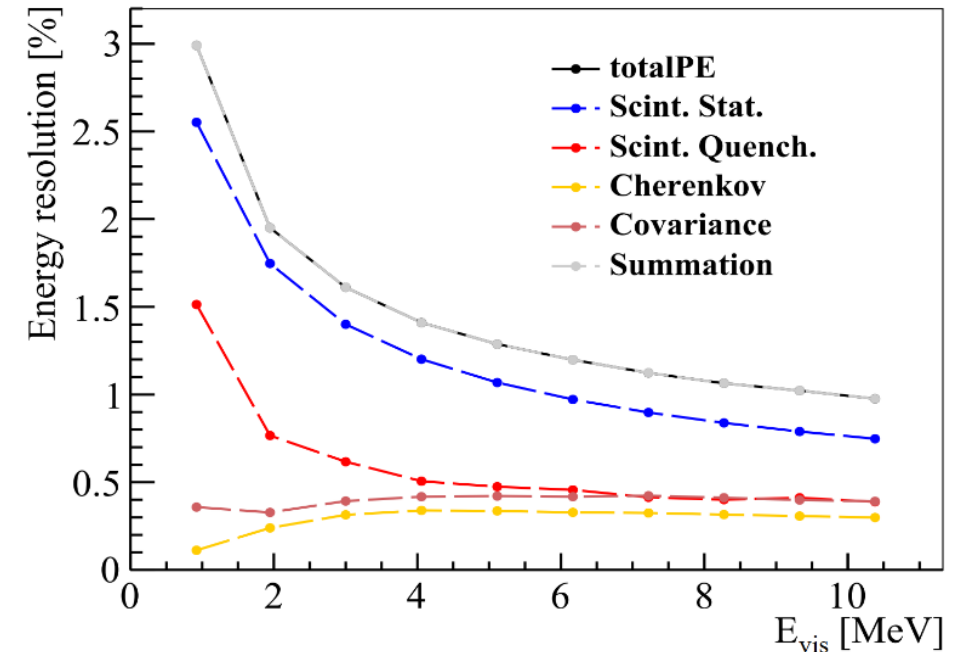
- **Four systems** for 1D, 2D, 3D scan with multiple sources
- **Energy scale** and **non-linearity** will be calibrated to **<1%** using γ peaks and cosmogenic ^{12}B beta spectrum

$$\frac{\sigma}{E_{vis}} = \sqrt{\left(\frac{2.61\%}{\sqrt{E_{vis}}}\right)^2 + (0.64\%)^2 + \left(\frac{1.20\%}{E_{vis}}\right)^2}$$

$\downarrow$
Photon statistics
 $\downarrow$
Constant term
 $\downarrow$
Dark noise, Annihilation-induced γ s



Expected energy resolution: **2.95% @1MeV**



JHEP 03 (2021) 004

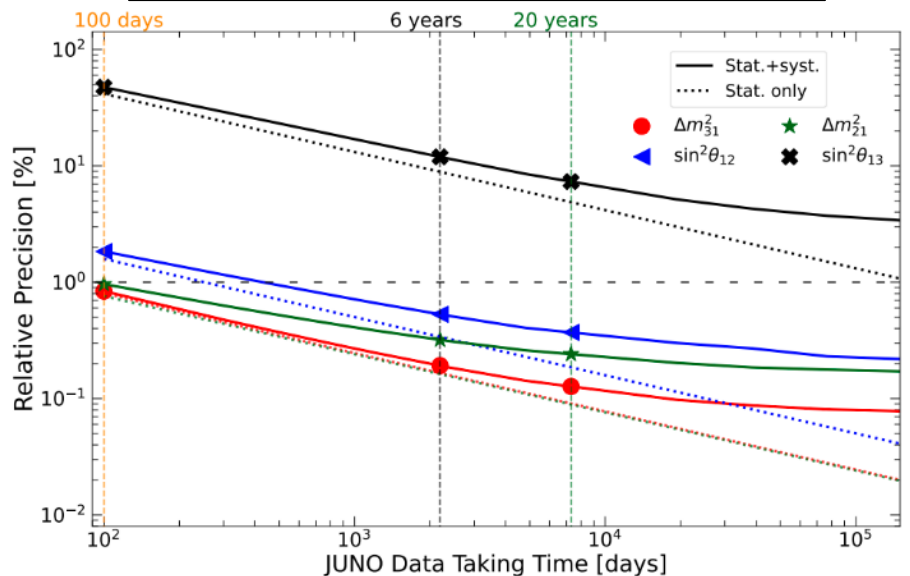
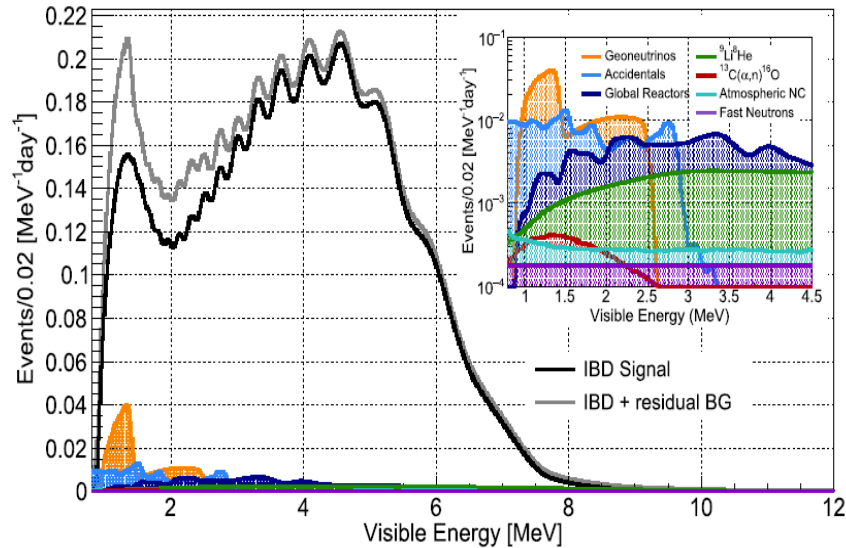
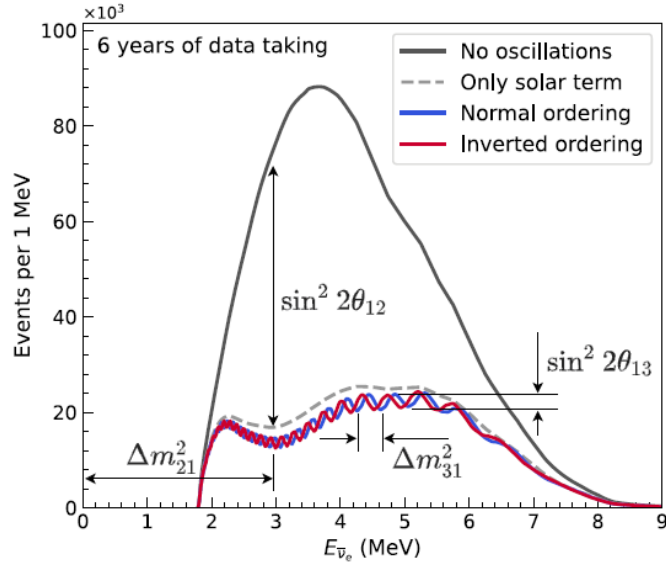
arXiv:2405.17860 (2024)

Precision Measurement of oscillation parameters



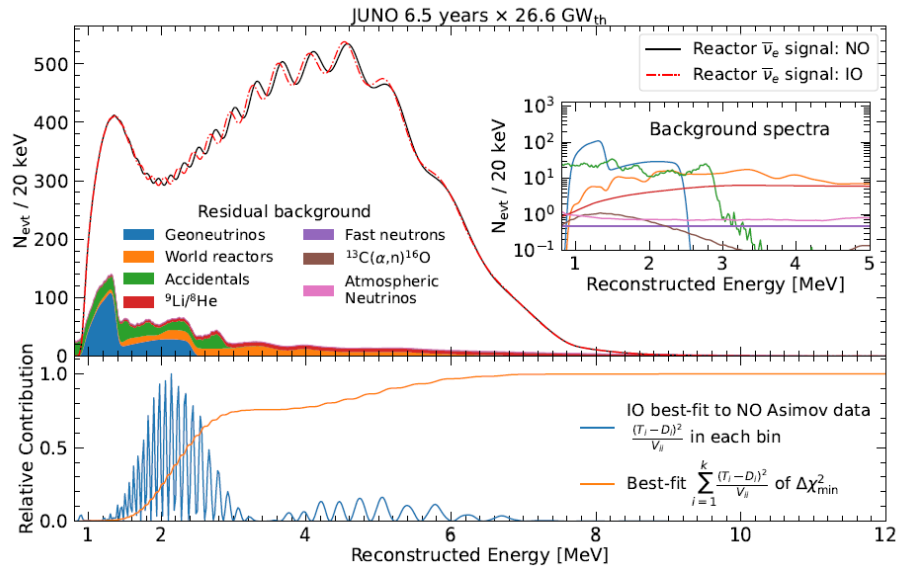
$\sin^2 2\theta_{12}$, Δm_{21}^2 , $|\Delta m_{32}^2|$, leading measurements in 100 days; precision <0.5% in 6 years

Chin. Phys. C46 (2022) 12, 123001

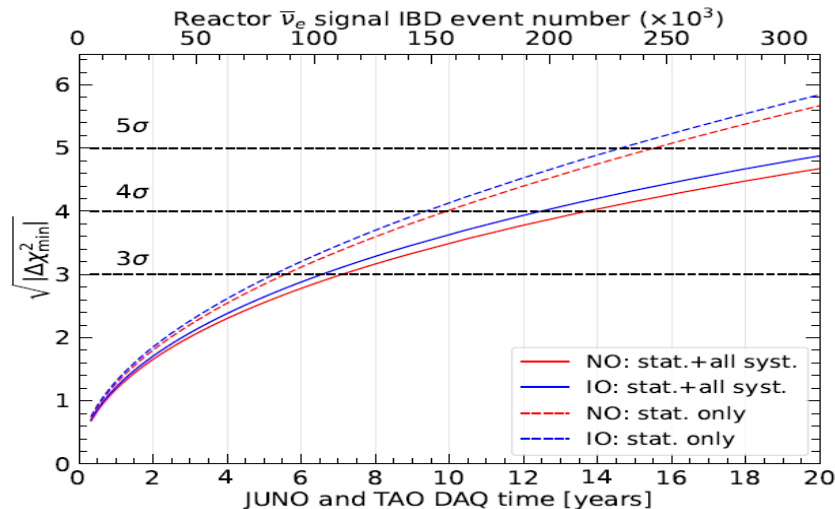


	Central Value	PDG2020	100 days	6 years	20 years
Δm_{31}^2 ($\times 10^{-3}$ eV ²)	2.5283	± 0.034 (1.3%)	± 0.021 (0.8%)	± 0.0047 (0.2%)	± 0.0029 (0.1%)
Δm_{21}^2 ($\times 10^{-5}$ eV ²)	7.53	± 0.18 (2.4%)	± 0.074 (1.0%)	± 0.024 (0.3%)	± 0.017 (0.2%)
$\sin^2 \theta_{12}$	0.307	± 0.013 (4.2%)	± 0.0058 (1.9%)	± 0.0016 (0.5%)	± 0.0010 (0.3%)
$\sin^2 \theta_{13}$	0.0218	± 0.0007 (3.2%)	± 0.010 (47.9%)	± 0.0026 (12.1%)	± 0.0016 (7.3%)

Neutrino Mass Ordering



Sensitivity mostly from 1.5-3 MeV



	Design	Now
Thermal Power	36 GW _{th}	26.6 GW _{th} (26%↓)
Signal rate	60 /day	47.1 /day (22%↓)
Overburden	~700 m	~ 650 m
Muon flux in LS	3 Hz	4 Hz (33%↑)
Muon veto efficiency	83%	91.6% (11%↑)
Backgrounds	3.75 /day	4.11 /day (10%↑)
Energy resolution	3.0% @ 1 MeV	2.95% @ 1 MeV (2%↑)
Shape uncertainty	1%	JUNO+TAO
3σ NMO sens. Exposure	<6 yrs × 35.8 GW_{th}	~6 yrs × 26.6 GW_{th}

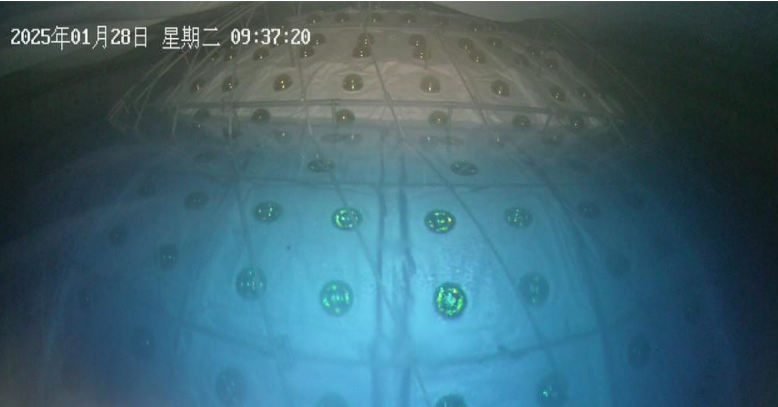
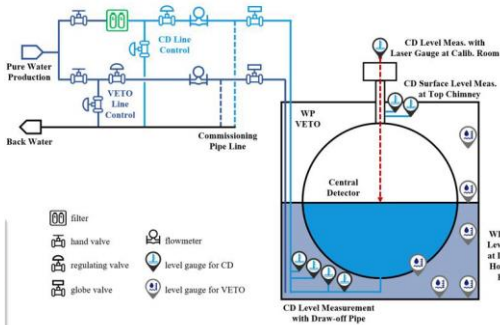
- ◆ JUNO NMO median sensitivity:
3σ (reactors only) @ ~6 yrs * 26.6 GW_{th} exposure
- ◆ Combined reactor and atmospheric neutrino analysis in progress: further improve the NMO sensitivity

arXiv:2405.18008 (2024)

Current Status of JUNO: Water Filling



- Dec 1, 2024, Installation finished
- Dec 18, 2024, water filling started
- Feb 2, 2025, water filling completed



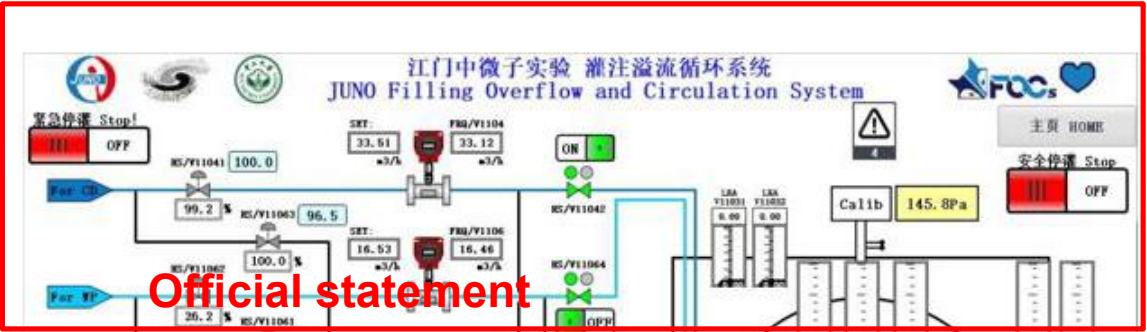
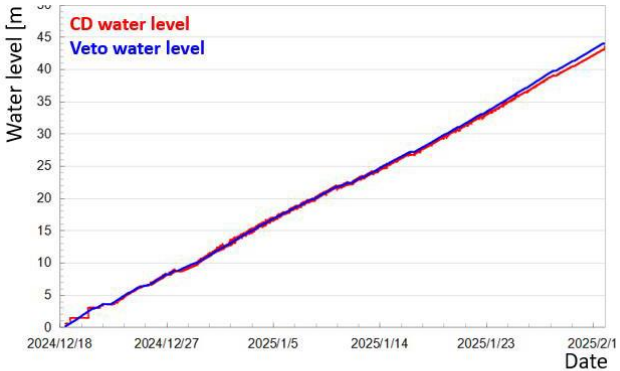
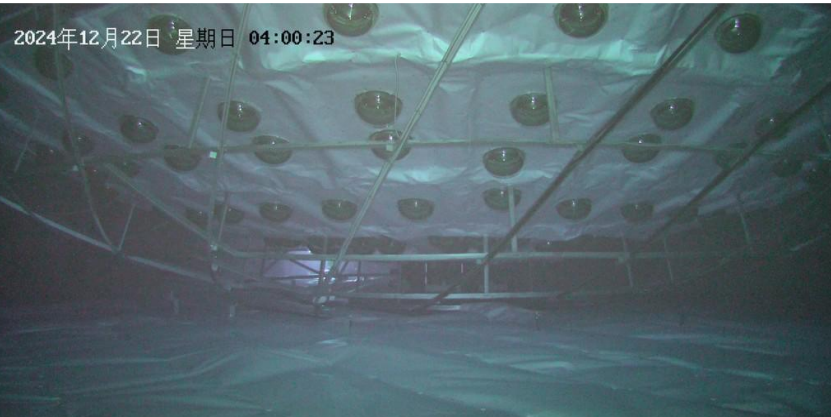
out pure water filling

ynchronize pure water filling of CD and WP.

pure water production for FOC **~90 m³/h**.

urther purification of CD line.

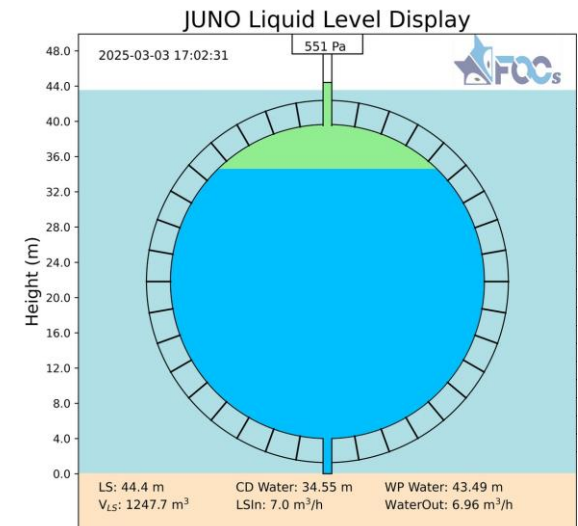
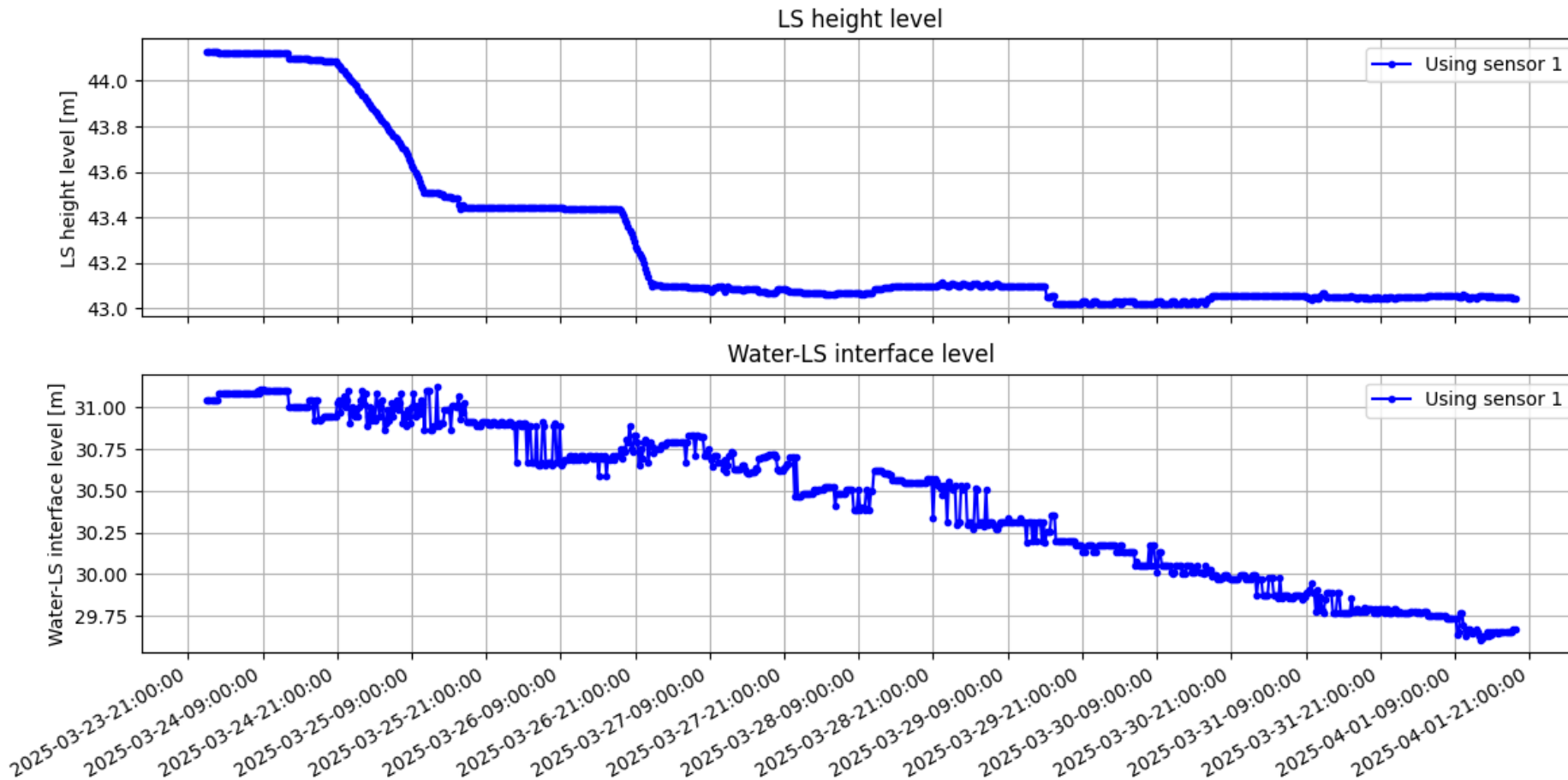
Use **regulating valves** to regulate flow entering CD or WP for **liquid level balance**.



Current Status of JUNO: Water Filling



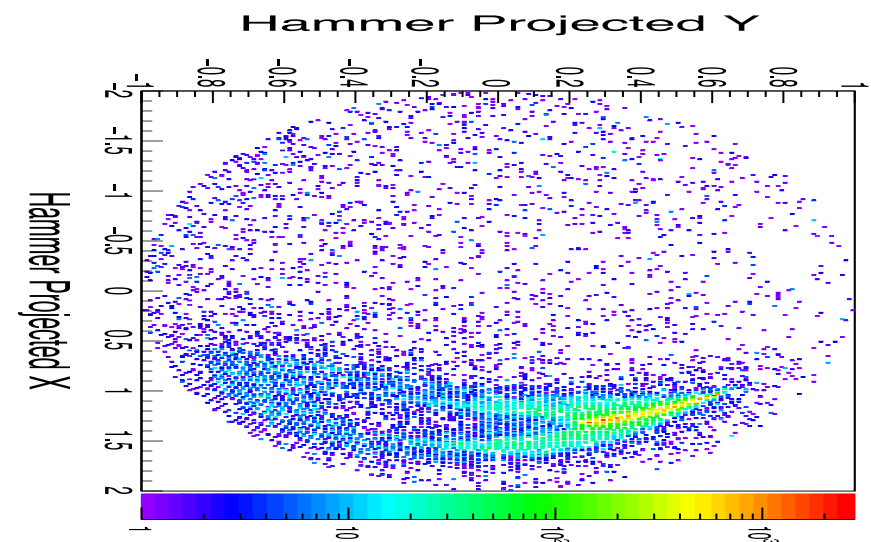
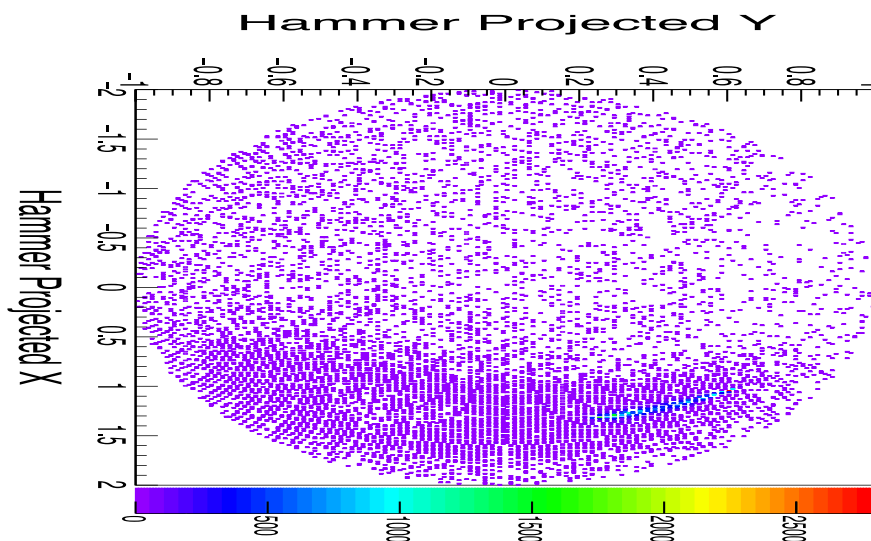
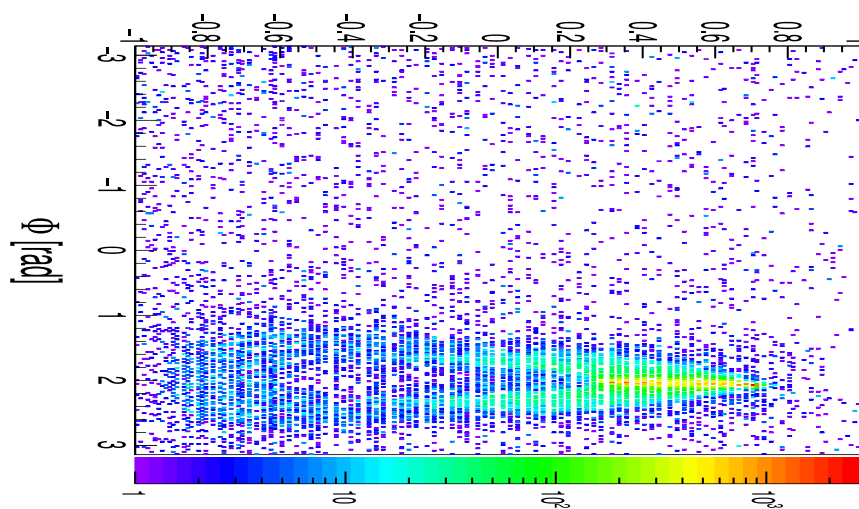
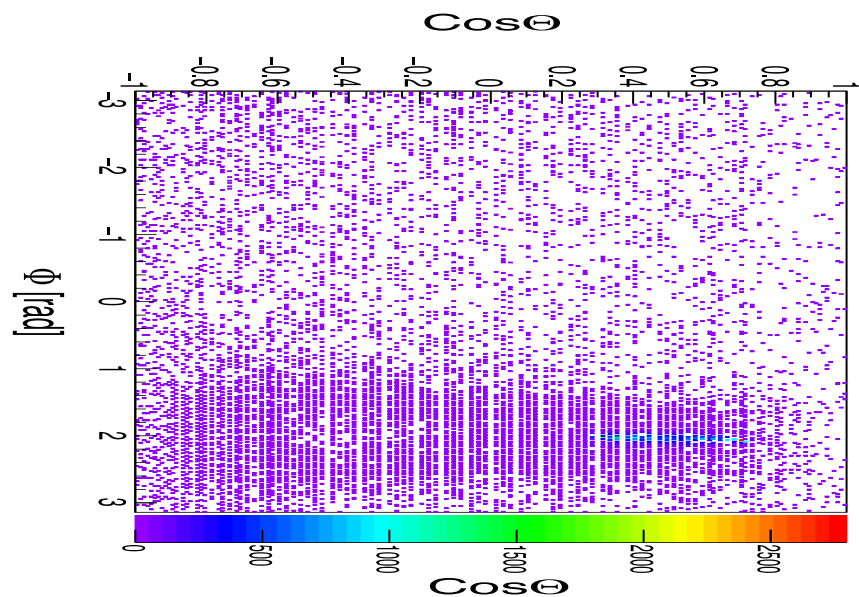
➤ Feb 8, 2024, LS replacing/filling started



LS radiopurity better than 10^{-15} mBq/m³ (ICP-MS)

➤ Apr 1, 2025, total LS in: ~4,248 m³

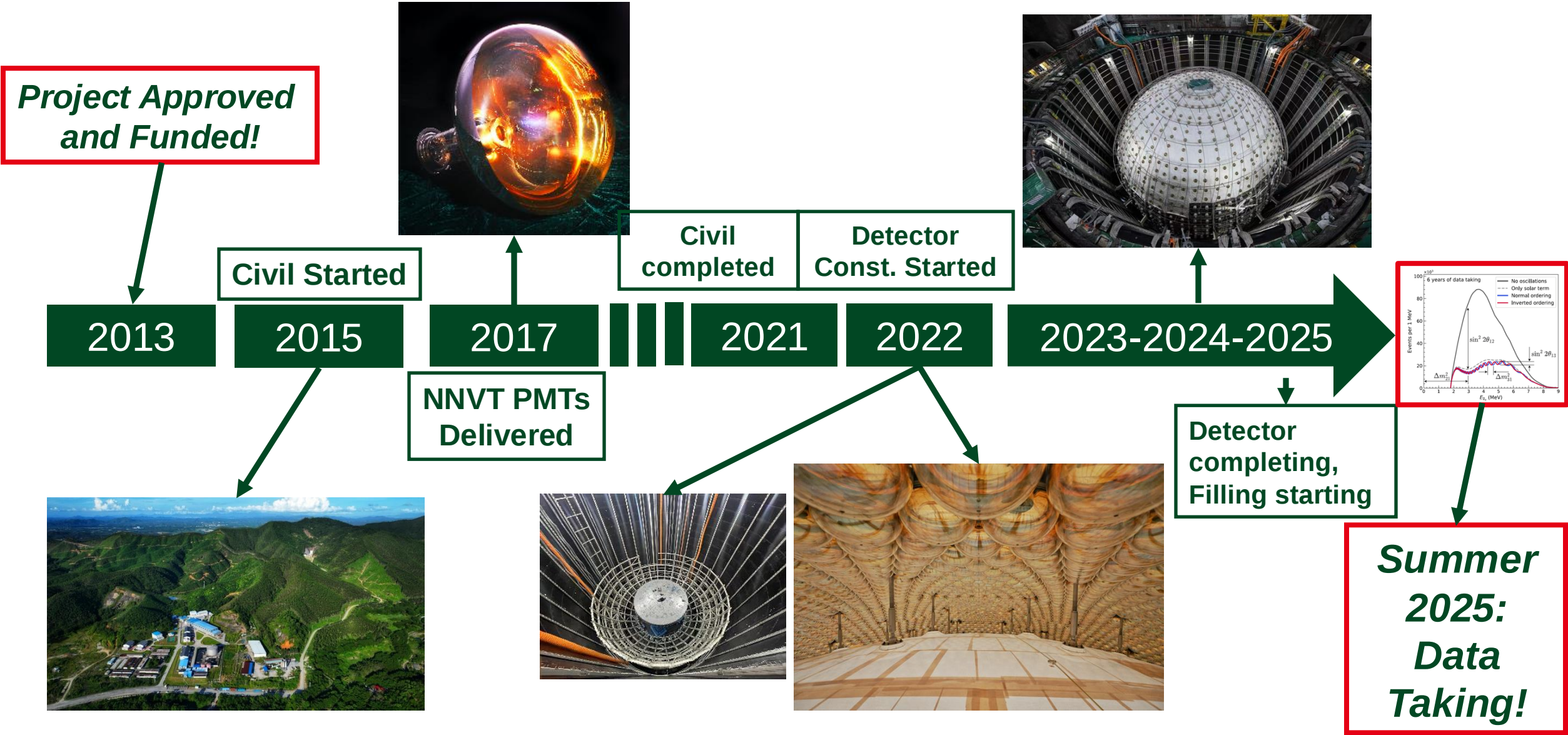
Let's See Some Event/Photons!



Achievements:

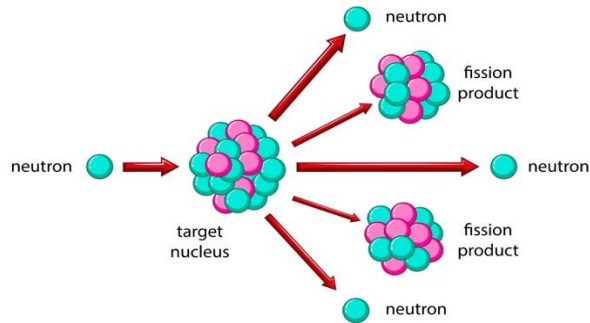
- Calibration of the large PMTs using laser data
- Small failure channels : $\sim 7/17\text{k}$ ($\sim 0.04\%$ loss at installation)
- Calibration sources working as expected (Am-Be and Am-C)
- We have seen some muon candidates

JUNO Milestones



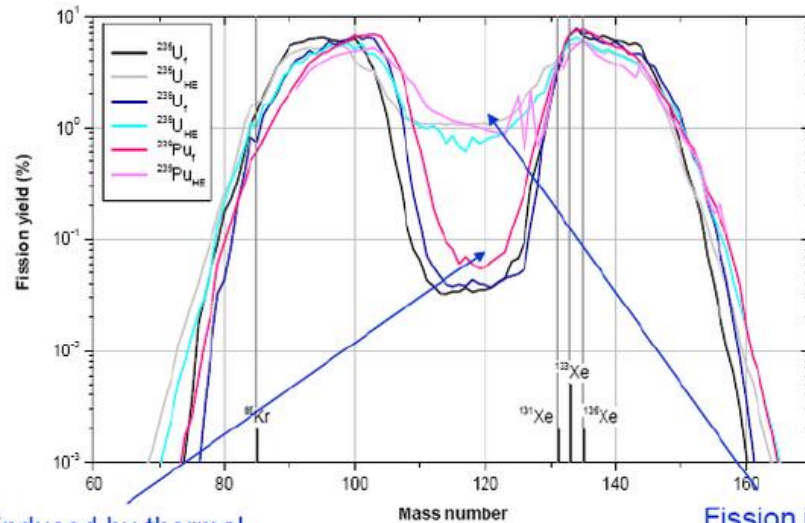
Reactor Antineutrino Anomaly (RAA)

Nuclear Fission



- T. A. Mueller et al., *PRC83*, 054615 (2011)
- P. Huber, *Phys. Rev.C84*, 024617 (2011)
- Daya Bay, *PRL116*(2016), *PRL123*(2019)
- RENO, *PRL121*(2018)
- NEOS, *PRL118*(2017)
- Double Chooz, *Nature Physics* 16(2020)

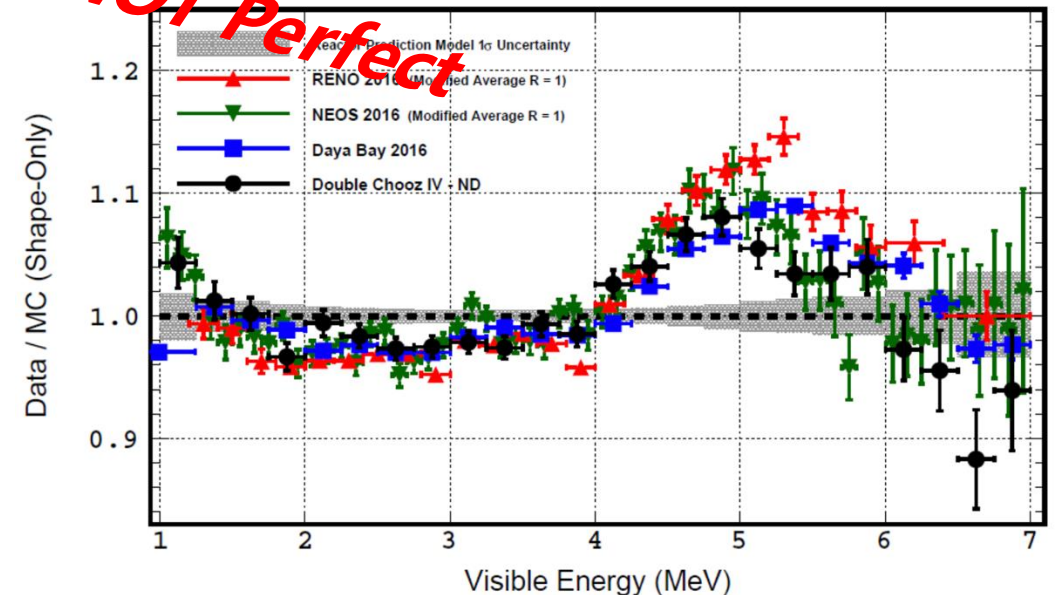
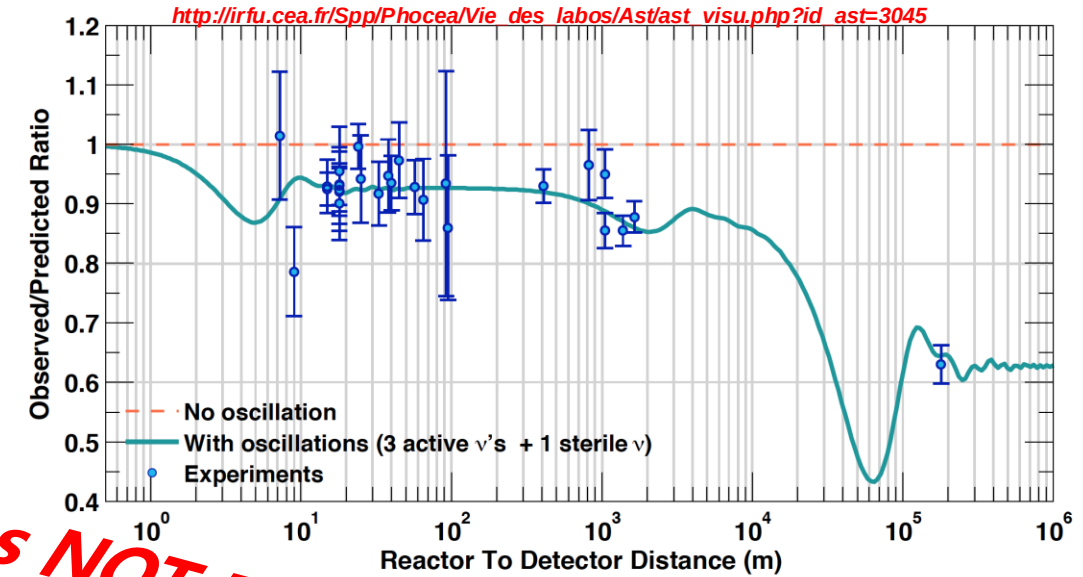
(Fission yield is a function of the fissioning nuclide and the incident neutron energy)



Fission induced by thermal
(fission spectrum) neutrons

Fission induced by high
energy neutrons (14.7 MeV)

Reactor Neutrinos NOT Perfect



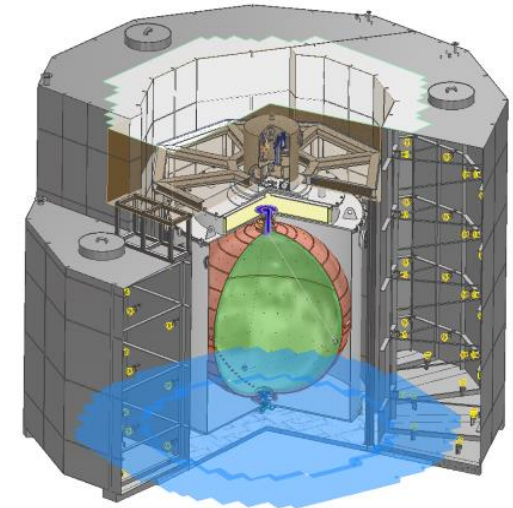
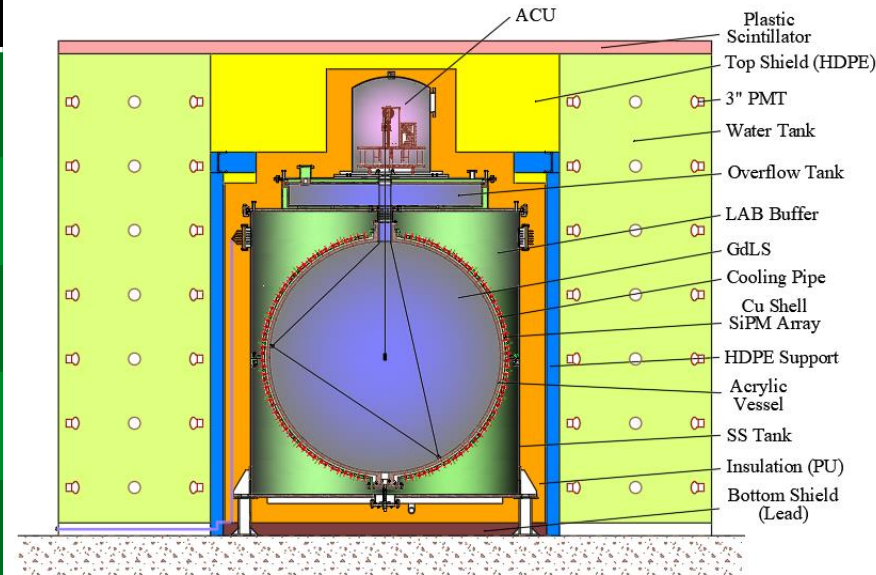
JUNO-TAO: another unprecedented reactor detector

arXiv: 2005.08745



2.8 ton GdLS detector

Baseline	~30 m
Reactor Thermal Power	4.6 GW
Light Collection	SiPM
Photon Detection Efficiency	>50%
Working Temperature	-50 °C
Dark Count Rate [Hz/mm ²]	~100
Coverage	~94%
Detected Light Level [PE/MeV]	4500
Energy resolution	< 2% @ 1 MeV



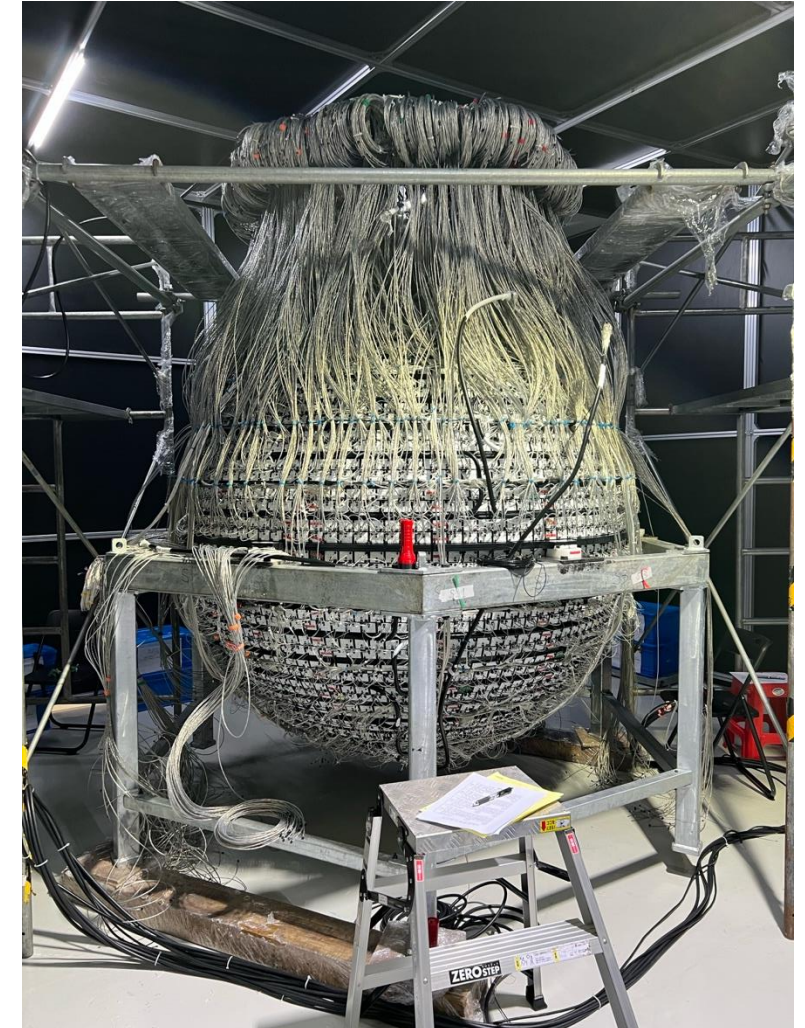
- ✓ SiPMs to achieve high light yield with ~94% coverage
 - 4500 PEs/MeV & energy resolution < 2% @ 1 MeV
- ✓ Gd-LS works at -50°C to lower the dark noise of SiPM

Start construction in Taishan Laboratory since Nov. 2024 and expected to be completed in Summer 2025.

The TAO Detector Installation



arXiv: 2005.08745



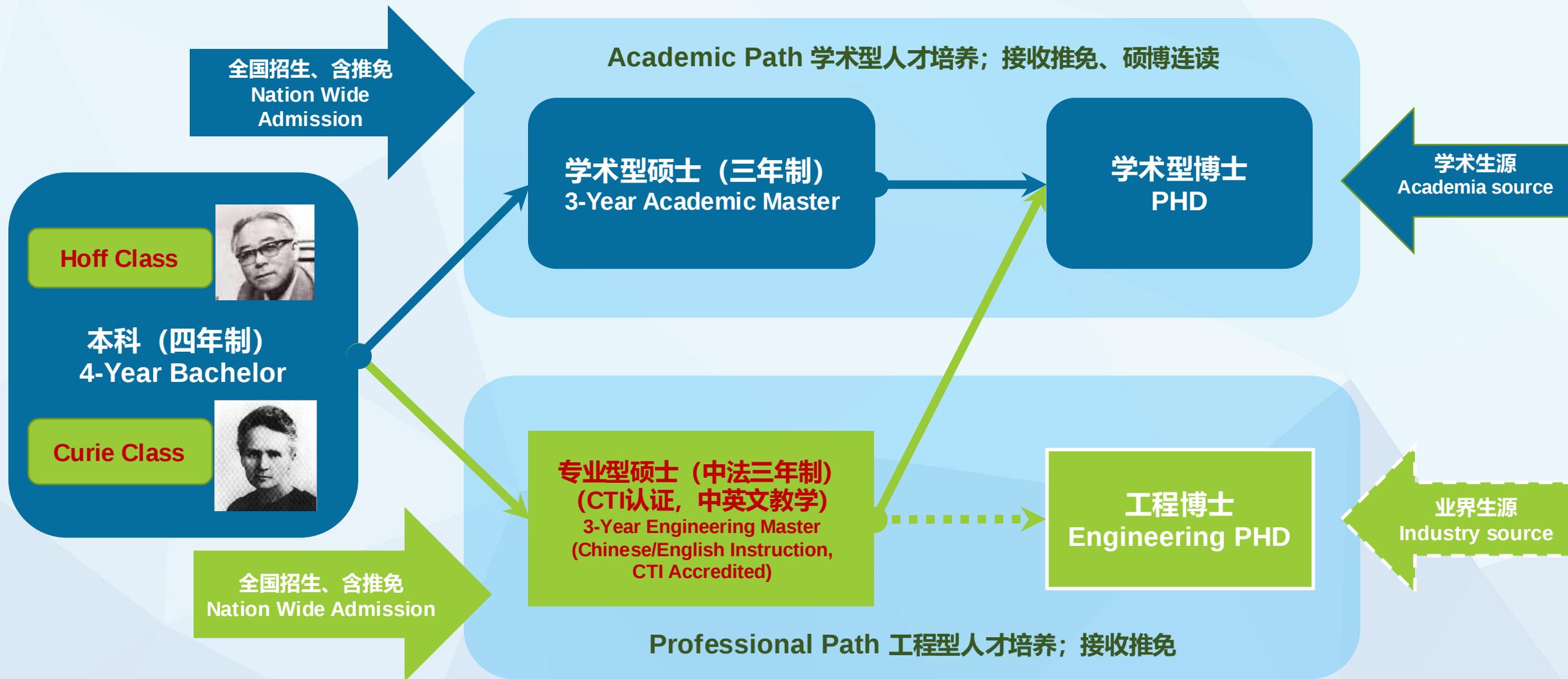
Summary and Future Perspectives

- ❖ Neutrino physics has provided the first new physics beyond the SM and it is now entering the precision phase → **Reactor Neutrinos have been playing essential roles;**
- ❖ JUNO's neutrino physics highlights: neutrino mass ordering $3-4\sigma$ in 6 years (reactor neutrino alone); sub-percentage precision oscillation parameter measurements
- ❖ JUNO construction is completed → **Detector filling & Commissioning in parallel: both water and LS quality good**
- ❖ We have been using reactor neutrinos for free --- it is payback time to the nuclear energy industry → **JUNO-TAO has great potential in reactor physics and nuclear data**
- ***Stay tuned for our data taking in July 2025!***

2009: IFCEN was jointly built by SYSU and FINUCI, an alliance formed by 5 French partners



SYSU and FINUCI signed the first phase of cooperation (witnessed by the then prime ministers of the two countries at the Great Hall of the People)



核燃料循环与材料

Nuclear Fuel Cycle & Materials



核工程材料与力学

Nuclear Materials and Mechanics



核化学与放射化学

Nuclear chemistry and radiochemistry

核能科学与工程

Nuclear Energy Science & Engineering



核仿真与安全

Nuclear energy simulation and safety



反应堆热工水力

Nuclear reactor thermal hydraulics



先进核能系统

Advanced Nuclear Energy Systems

核物理

Nuclear Physics

中低能核物理、天体物理、核数据
Low- and medium-energy
nuclear physics, astrophysics,
nuclear data

核科学与技术

Nuclear Science & Technology

核数据科学与应用

Nuclear Data



核环境辐射监测与应急

Nuclear environmental radiation
monitoring and emergency response



辐射防护与安全

Radiation protection and safety

辐射防护与环境保护

Radiation & Environmental Protection



辐射探测

radiation detection



等离子体技术

plasma technology



放射治疗及核医药

Radiotherapy and nuclear medicine

核技术及应用

Nuclear Technology & Applications

粒子物理、新型探测器、中微子应用
Particle physics, novel
detectors, neutrino applications

粒子物理

Particle Physics



中山大學
SUN YAT-SEN UNIVERSITY

IFCEN just moved into a new building on Zhuhai Campus



IFCEN is entering a new phase!

New Space (~30,000m² Classrooms&Labs)

We are actively reaching out for new partners in both education and research!



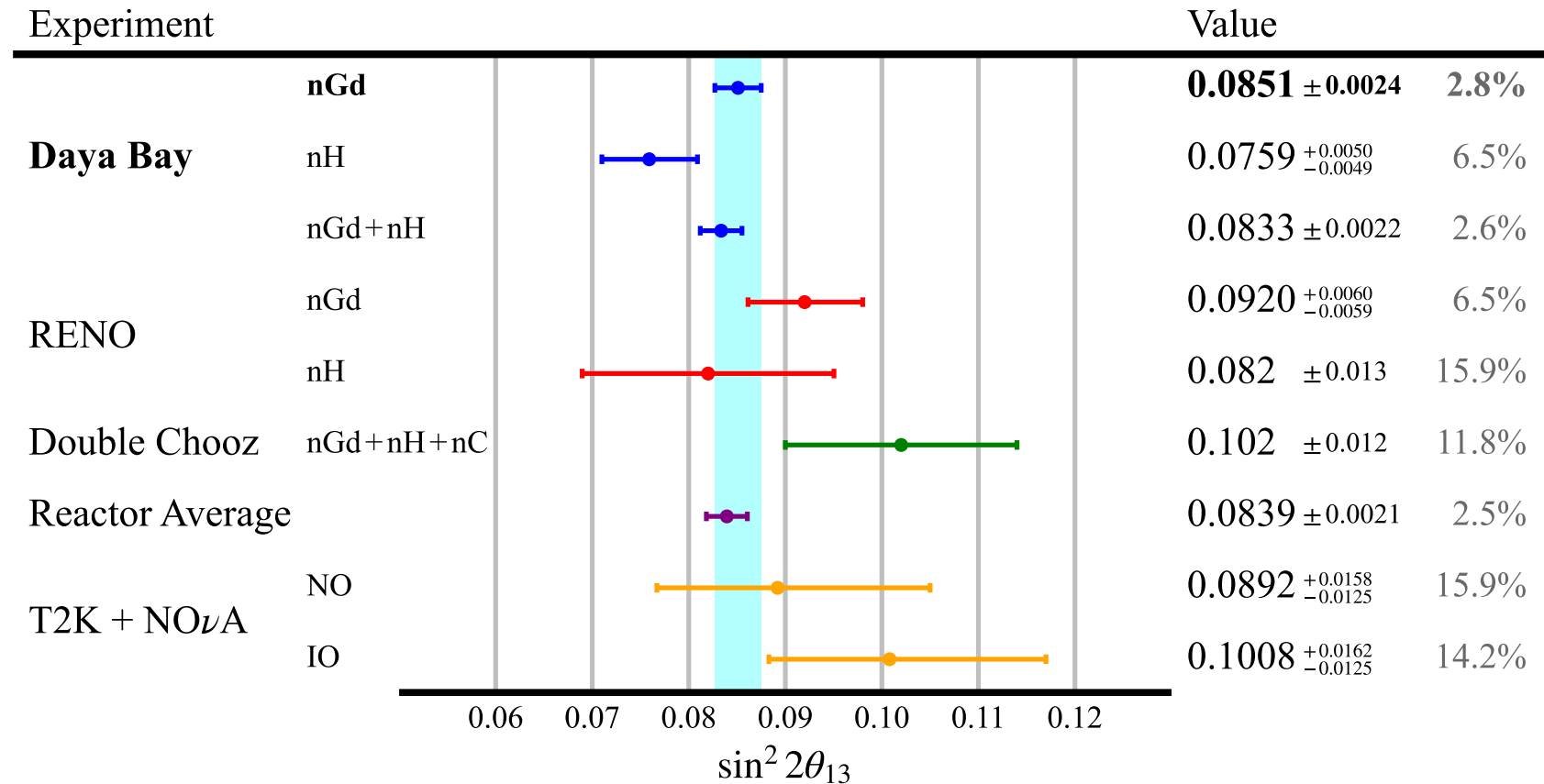
Global comparison θ_{13}



Daya Bay leads the precision measurement, nGd+nH gives 2.6% precision

By combining all reactor results, ultimate precision of $\sin^2 2\theta_{13}$: 2.5%

Consistent results from reactor and accelerator experiments



Note: average is error weighted average assuming no correlation



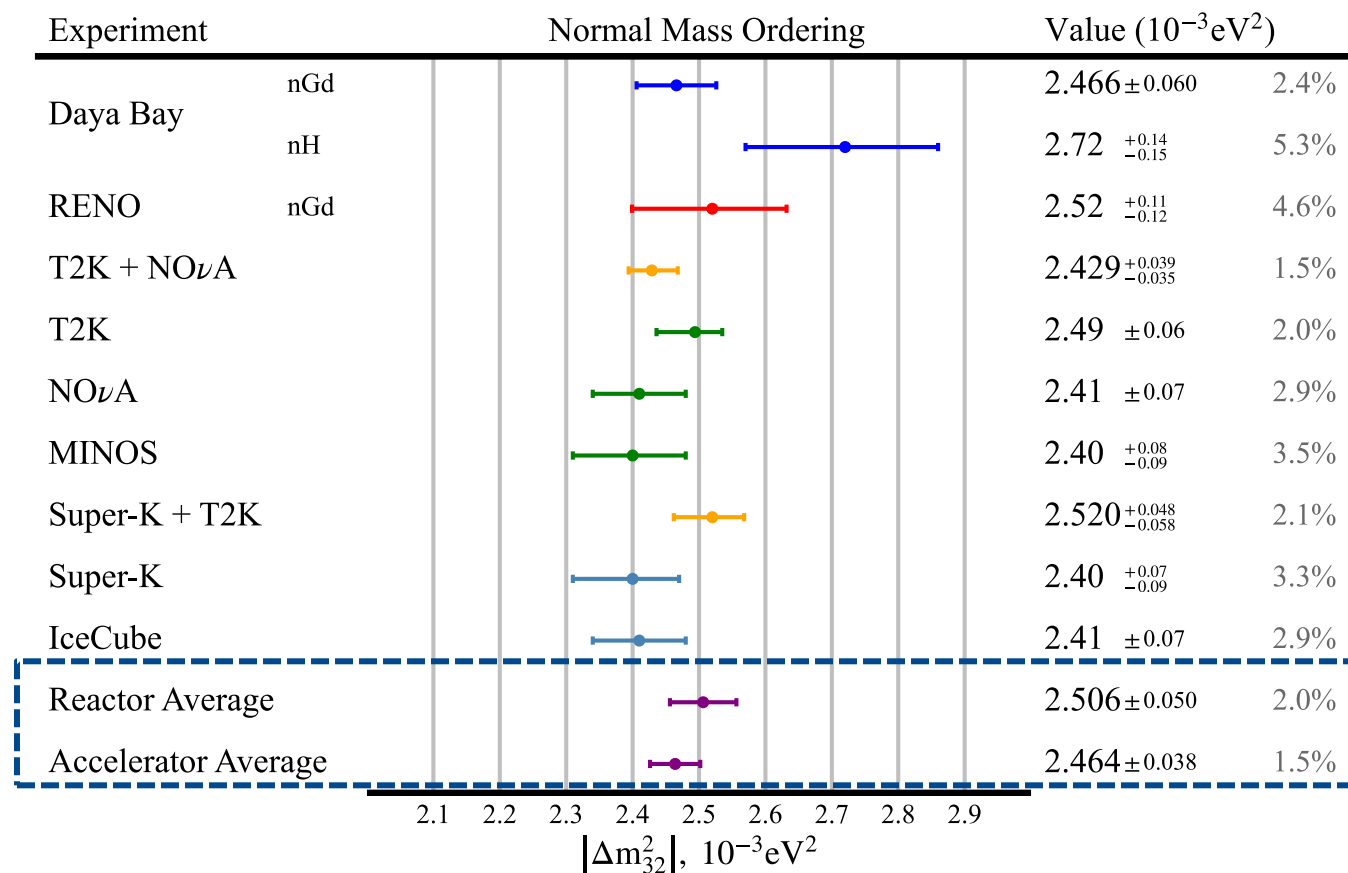
Global comparison Δm^2



Consistent results from reactor and accelerator experiments

Reactor weighted average 2% dominated by Daya Bay

Accelerator weighted average 1.5% (SK+T2K) + NOvA + MINOS + IceCube



Note: average is error
weighted average
assuming no correlation

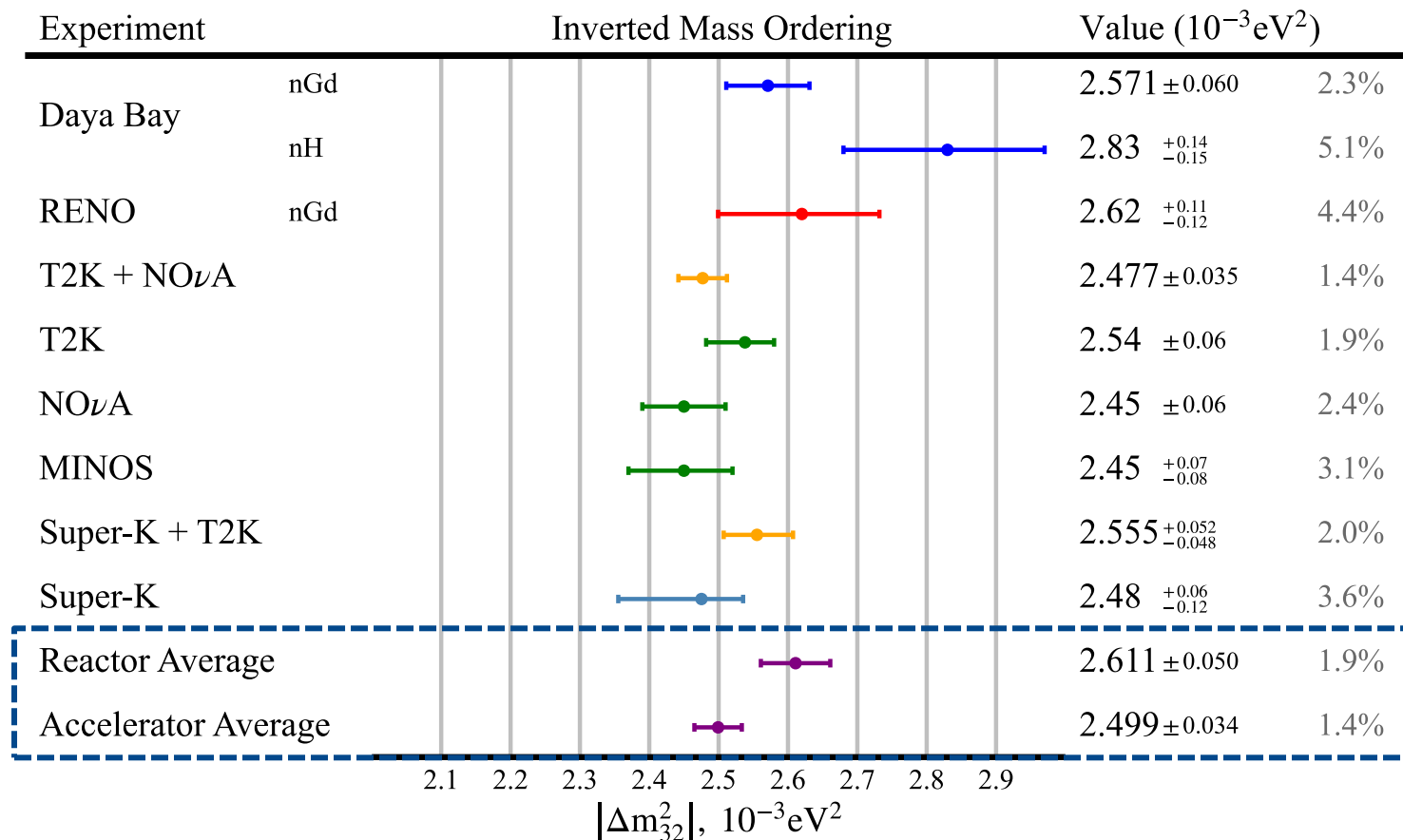


Global comparison Δm^2



Consistent results from reactor and accelerator experiments

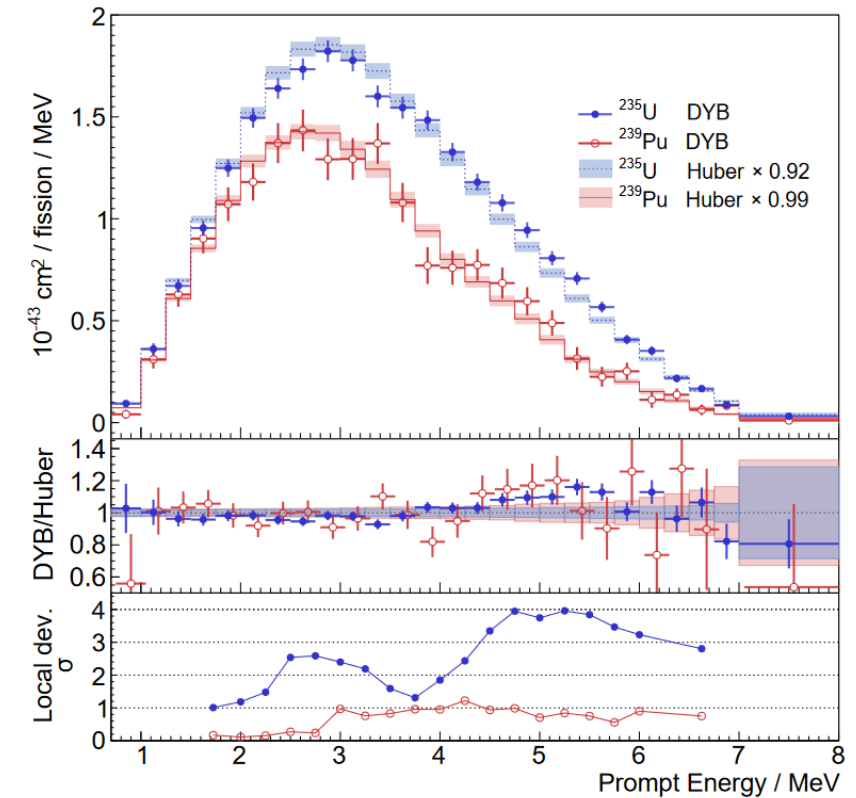
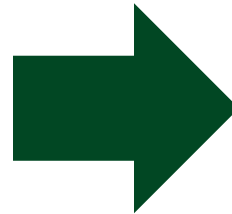
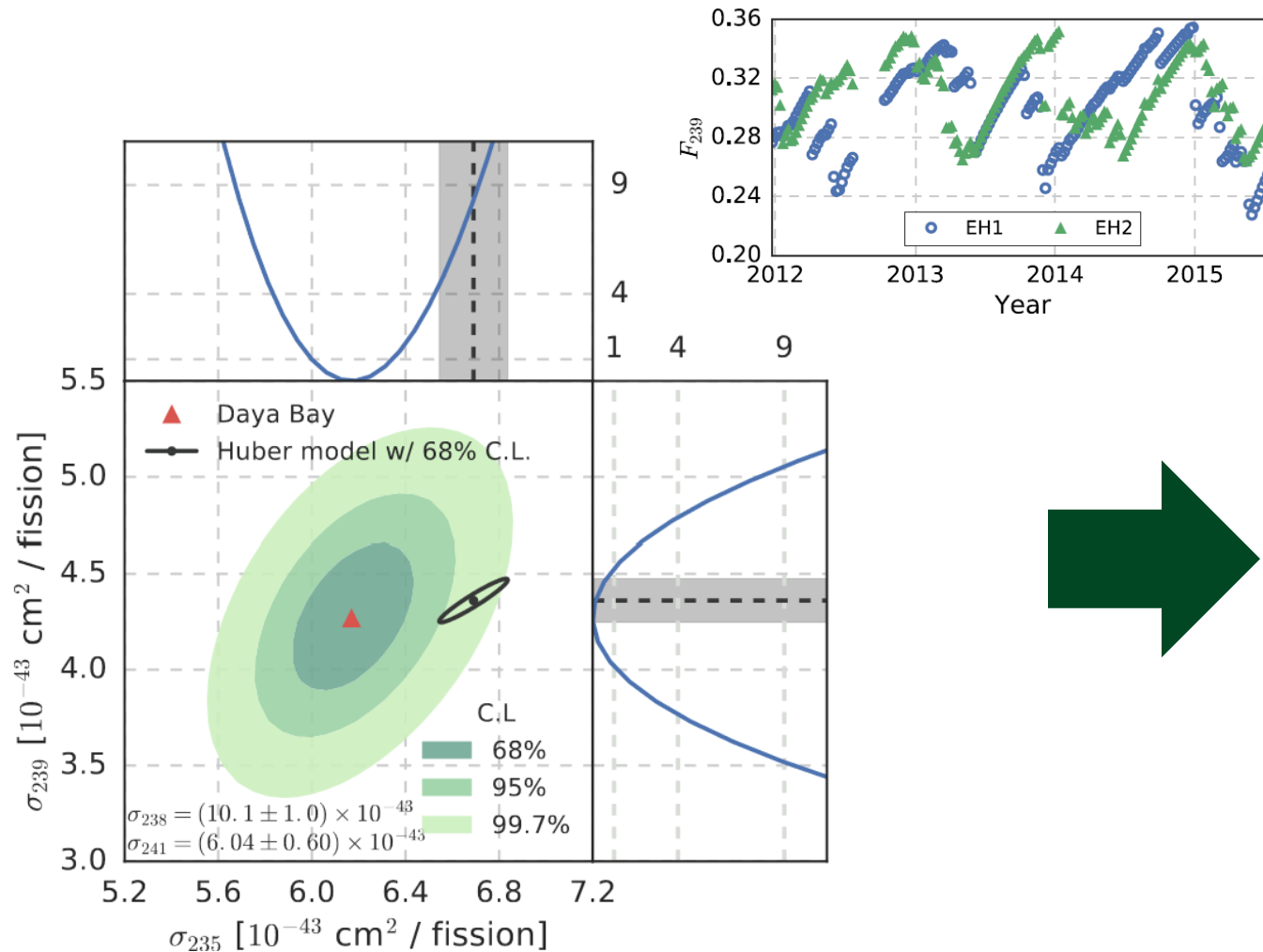
Normal Ordering slightly preferred ($<2\sigma$) from reactor/accelerator averages



Note: average is error weighted average assuming no correlation

Understanding Reactor Antineutrinos: Fuel Evolution

- *Fuel evolution: Phys.Rev.Lett. 118 (2017) no.25, 251801*
- *Isotope decomposition, PRL 123 (2019) no.11, 111801*



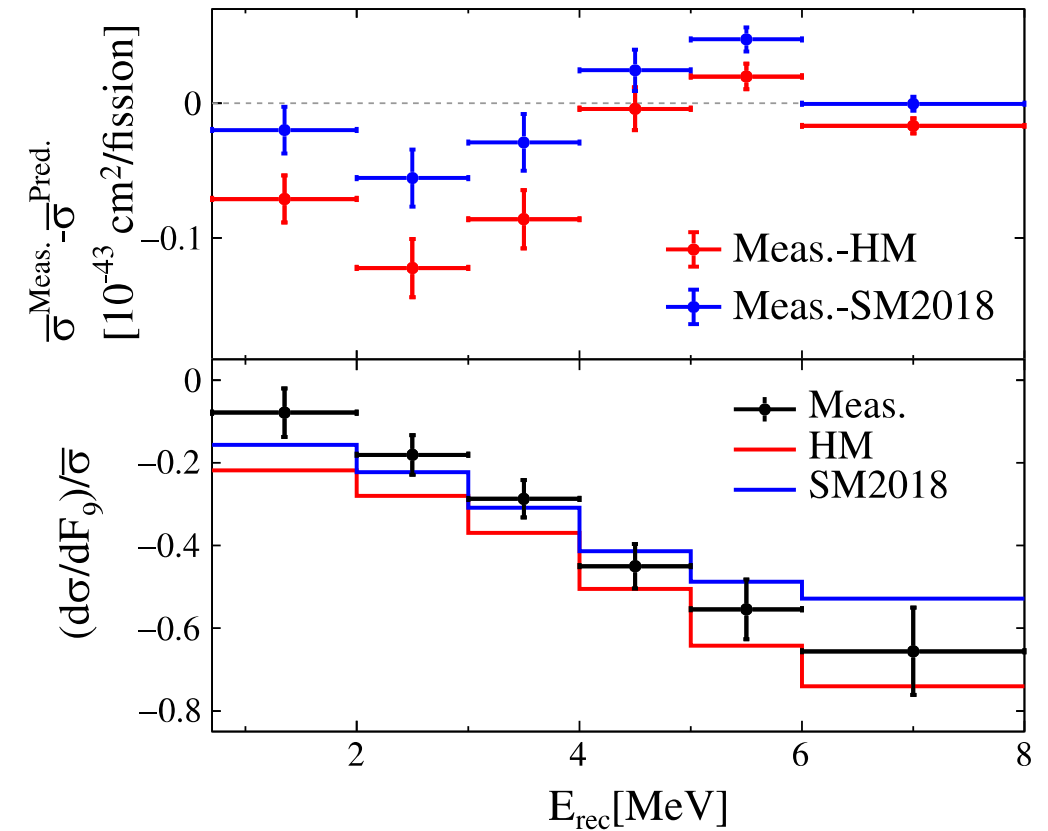
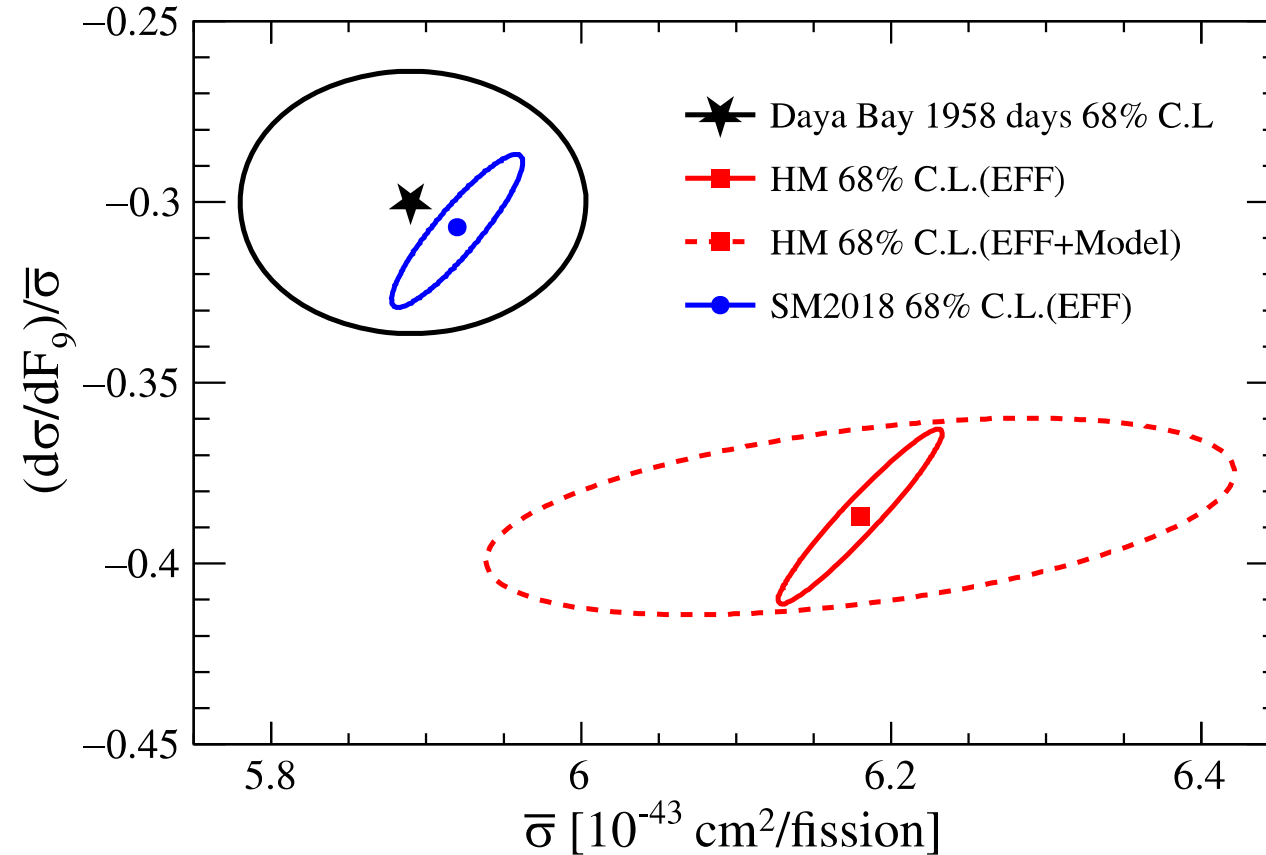
^{235}U : 4-sigma effect

^{239}Pu : 1.2-sigma effect

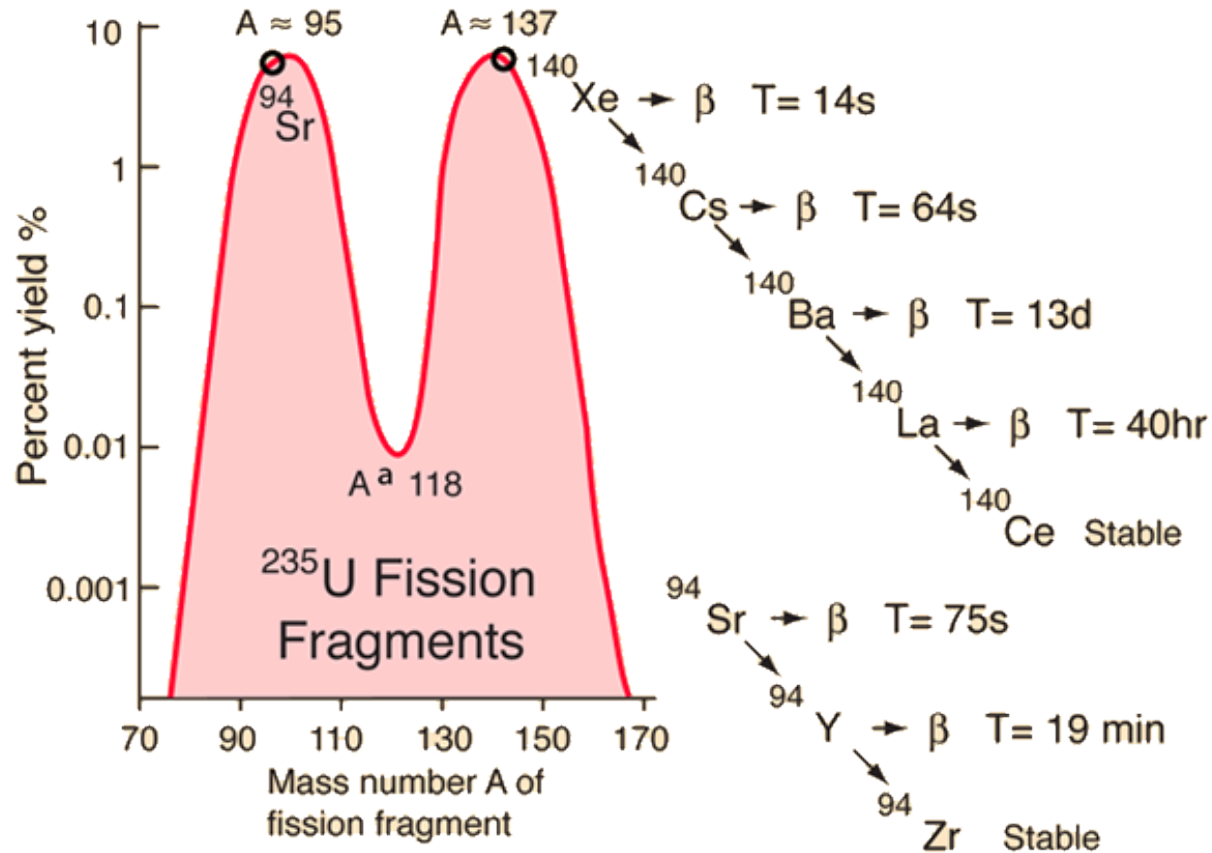
Understanding Reactor Antineutrinos: Improved Systematics



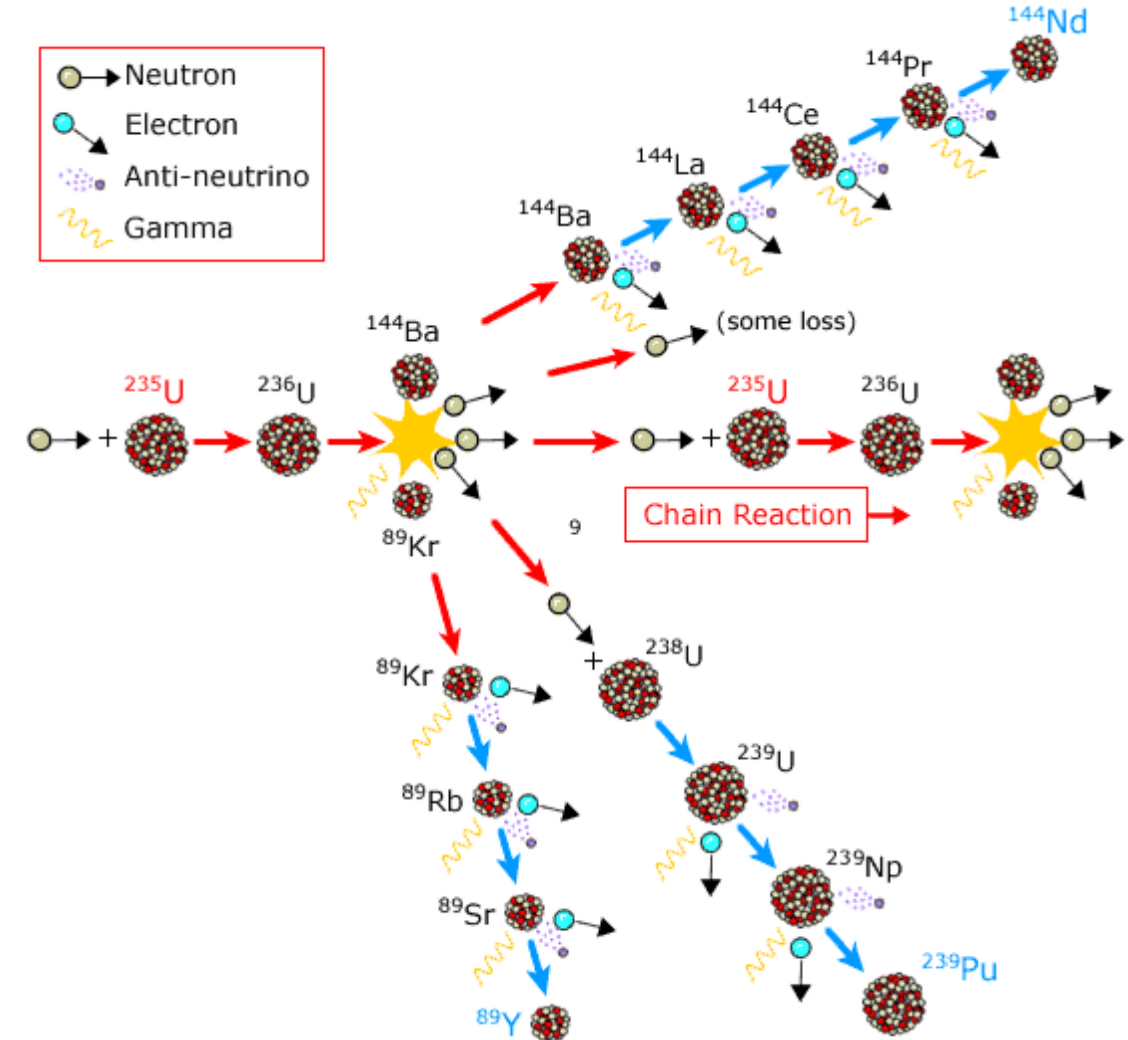
- Improved Fuel evolution: *Phys.Rev.Lett.* 130 (2023) no.21, 211801



How Reactor Neutrinos are Produced



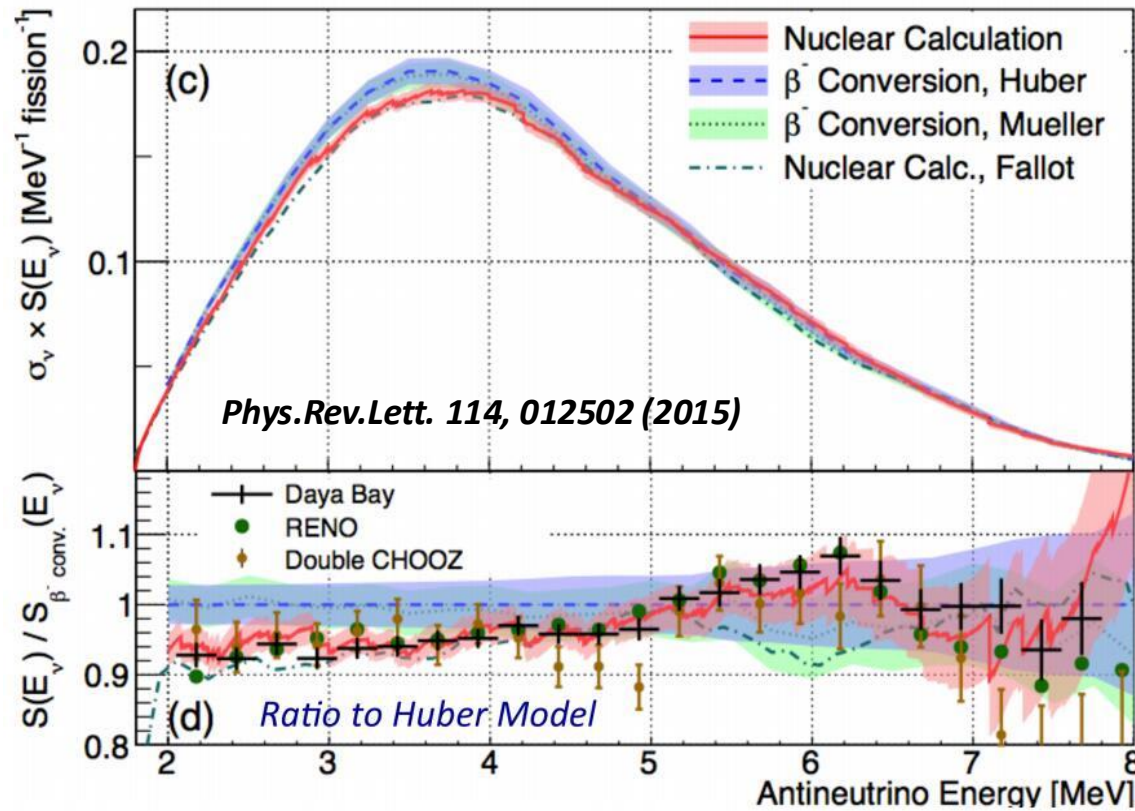
❖ *Six antineutrinos/fission up to $\sim 10\text{MeV}$*



The “*ab initio*” (summation) Method

$$S(E_{\bar{\nu}}) = \sum_{i=0}^n R_i \sum_{j=0}^m f_{ij} S_{ij}(E_{\bar{\nu}})$$

f_{ij} — the branching fraction of isotope i decaying to the energy level j of daughter isotope



R_i — the equilibrium decay rate of isotope i

$$R_i \cong \sum_{p=0}^P R_p^f Y_{pi}^c$$

✓ R_p^f — the fission rate of the parent isotope p

✓ Y_{pi}^c — the cumulative yield of isotope i

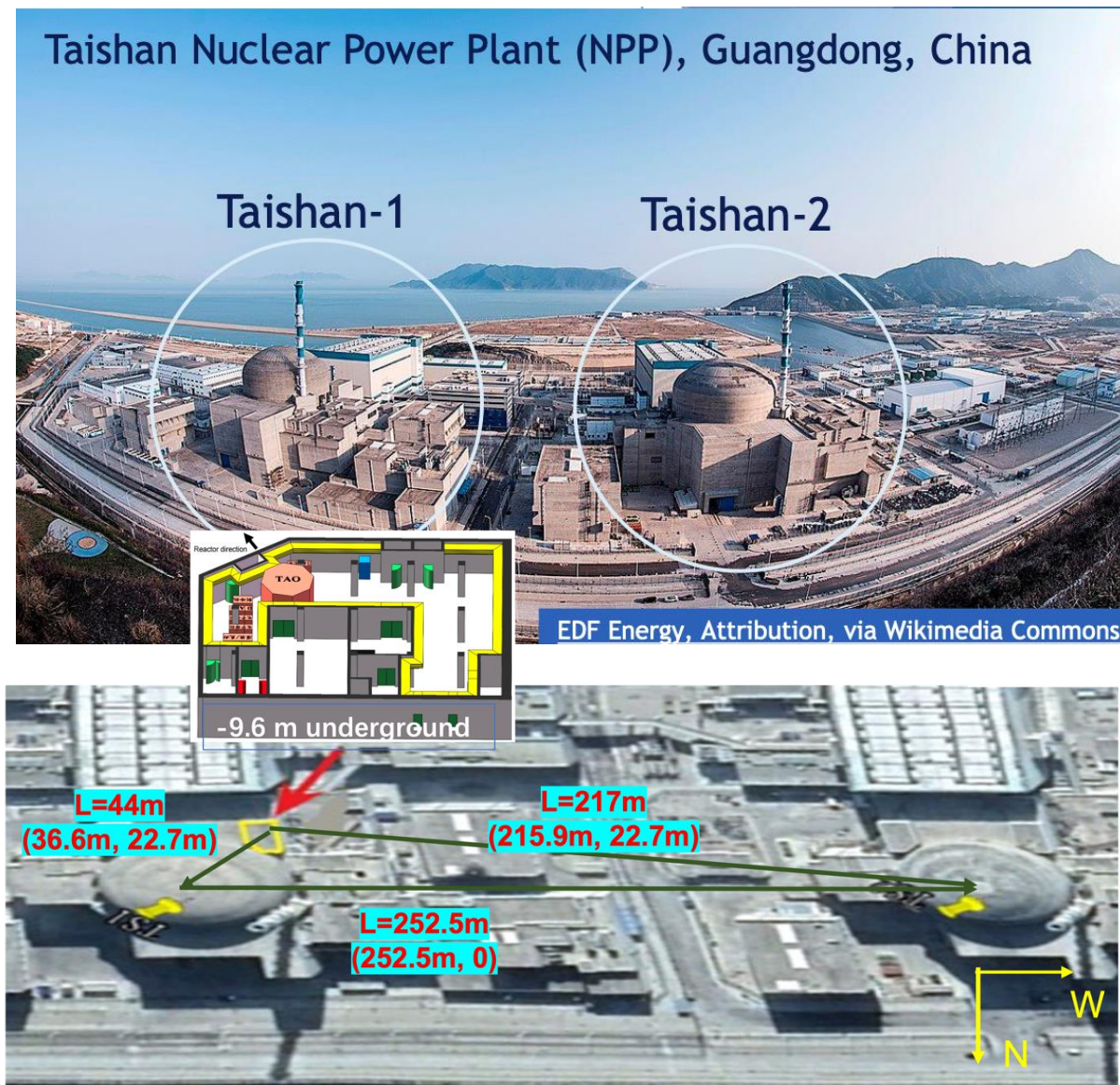
The 5 MeV bump was predicted with a **large uncertainty** from summation calculation.

Additionally, the **saw-tooth structures** were also predicted in the summation spectrum.

The Tao Site



- ❖ Taishan Nuclear Power Plant has two cores currently in operation (other two cores might be built later)
- ❖ Both reactors are European Pressurized Reactor (EPR) with 4.6 GWth thermal power
- ❖ Taishan-1 reached first criticality and was connected to the grid in June 2018
 - the first running EPR in the world!
- ❖ The TAO detector will be installed in a basement at 9.6 m underground, outside of the concrete containment shell of the reactor core
 - >99.99% signal from Taishan-1+Taishan-2
 - 4% signal from Taishan-2
- ❖ Muon rate and cosmogenic neutron rate are measured to be 1/3 of those on the ground



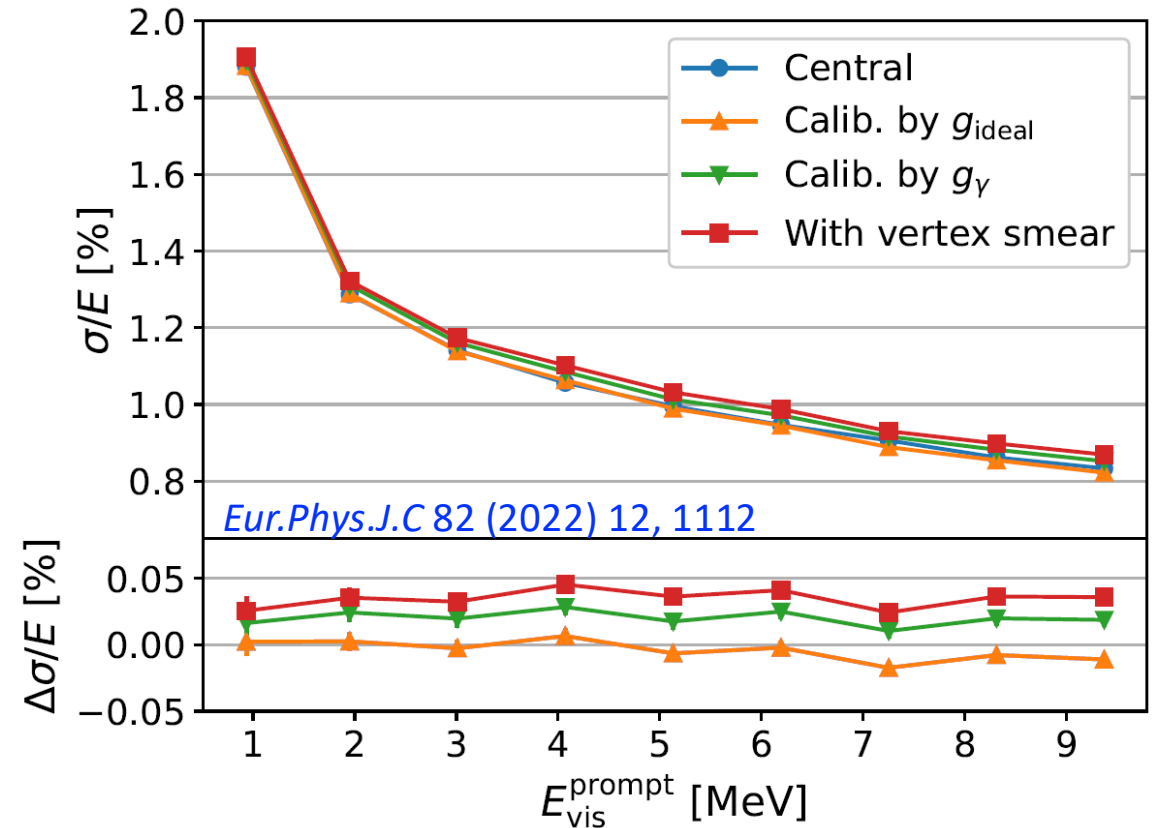
TAO Energy Resolution

	JUNO	TAO
Coverage	~ 75%	~ 94%
Photon detection efficiency	~ 30%	> 50%
Attenuation length	> 20 m ($R = 17.2$ m)	> 20 m ($R = 0.9$ m)
Photoelectron yield	~ 1665 PE/MeV	~ 4500 PE/MeV
Energy resolution	2.95% @ 1 MeV	~ 2% @ 1 MeV

Non-stochastic effects affecting energy resolution in TAO:

- at low energies, the contribution from the LS quenching effect might be quite large;
- at high energies, the smearing from neutron recoil of IBD becomes dominant.

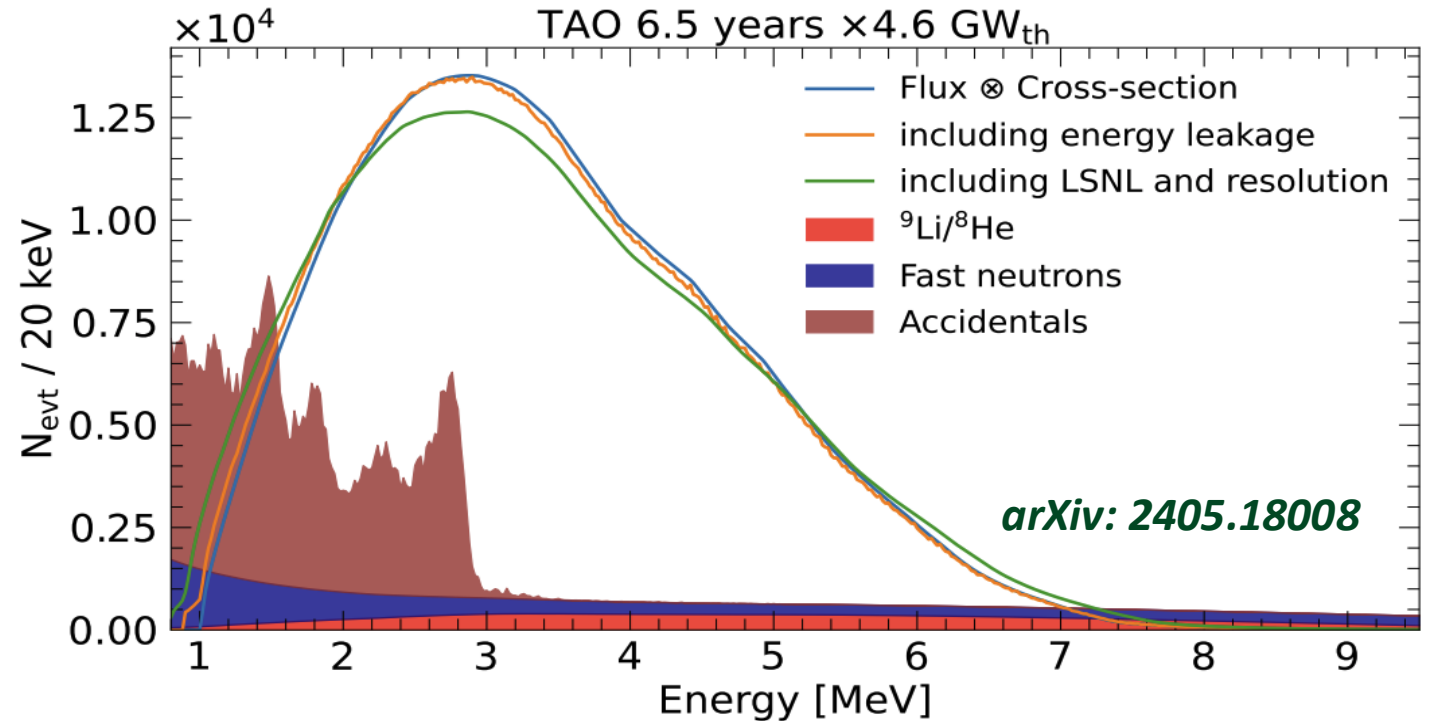
In most of the energy region of interest, the energy resolution of TAO will be sub-percent!



1. ~94% coverage of SiPM with ~50% PDE
2. Inner diameter of target: 1.8 m, $L_{\text{absorption}}$ very small
3. Gd-LS works at -50°C, increase the photon yield

TAO Expected Signal and Background

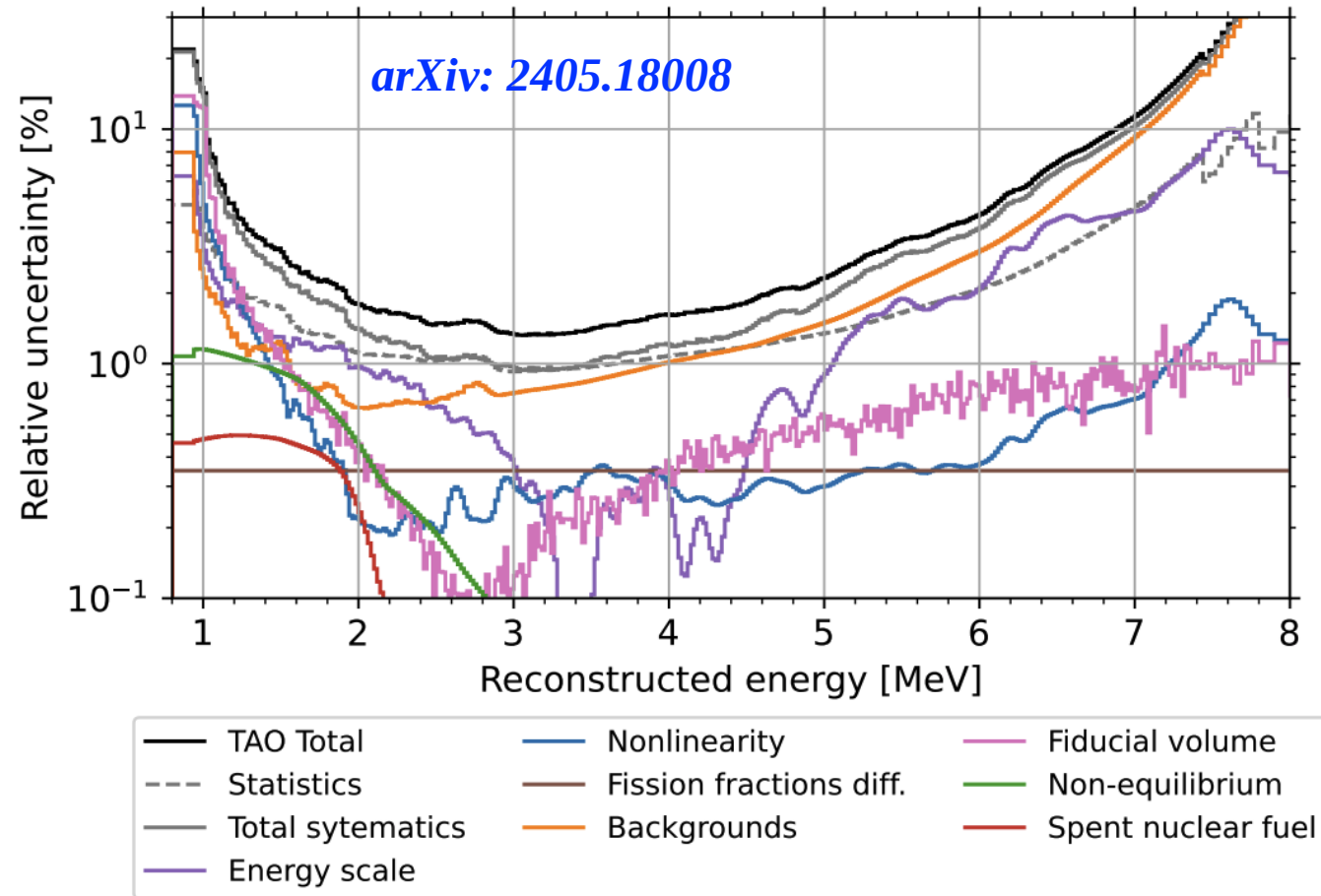
- ❖ The signal spectrum is shown w/ and w/o applying energy leakage, liquid scintillator non-linearity (LSNL), and energy resolution effects.
- ❖ TAO backgrounds will be directly measured exploiting the reactor-off data (about one month per year)



Type	Rate [day^{-1}]	Rate Uncert. [%]	Shape Model	Shape Uncert. [%]
Signal	1000	10	same as JUNO	FF, FV, ES
Fast neutron	86	–	TAO simulation	<10%
$^9\text{Li}/^8\text{He}$	54	20	same as JUNO	10%
Accidental	190	1	same as JUNO	–

Shape Uncertainty of the TAO Spectrum

- ❖ Statistical uncertainty: $\sim 1\%$ in the energy range 2–5 MeV (20keV bin width)
- ❖ Systematic uncertainties not negligible at low/high energies, but are $\sim 1\%$ in the central energy range 2–5 MeV



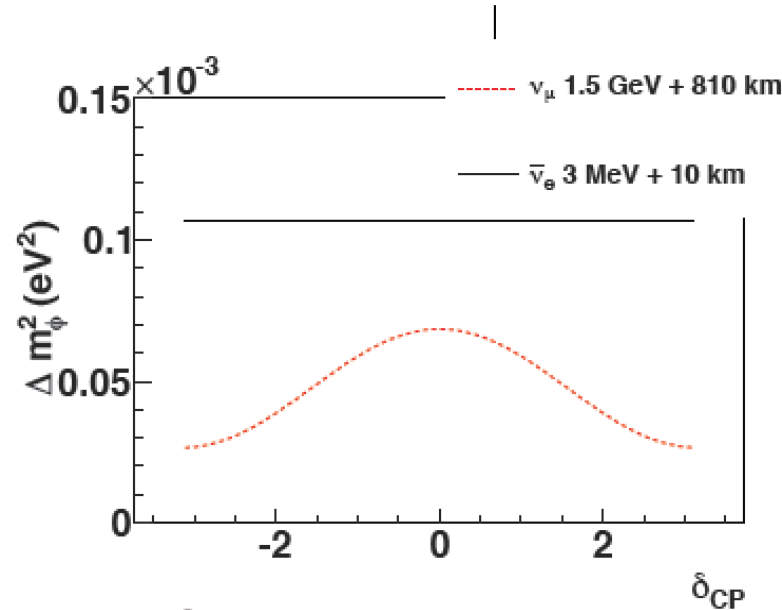
e- / μ -Flavor Feels Mass Ordering Differently

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

$$= 1 - 2s_{13}^2 c_{13}^2 - 4c_{13}^4 s_{12}^2 c_{12}^2 \sin^2 \Delta_{21} + 2s_{13}^2 c_{13}^2 \sqrt{1 - 4s_{12}^2 c_{12}^2 \sin^2 \Delta_{21}} \cos(2\Delta_{32} \pm \phi)$$

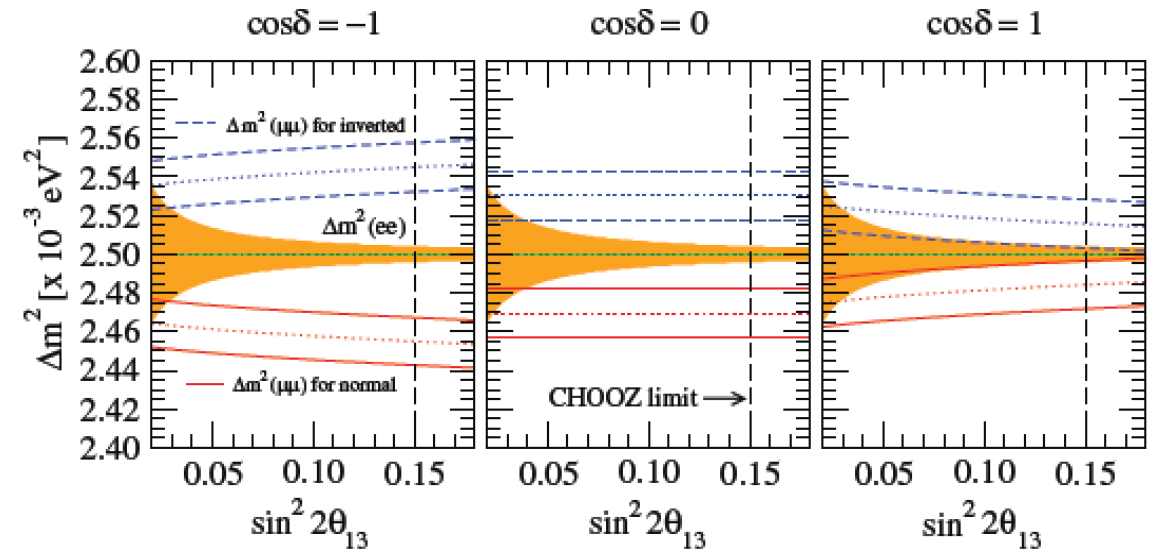
- Both reactor and long-baseline experiment measure mass-squared splitting
- A natural question to ask: Is this meaningful?

$$P_{\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_\mu} = 1 - P_{21}^\mu - \cos^2 \theta_{13} \sin^2 2\theta_{23} \sin^2 \frac{(\Delta m_{32}^2 \pm \phi)L}{4E}$$



Qian et al, PRD87(2013)3, 033005

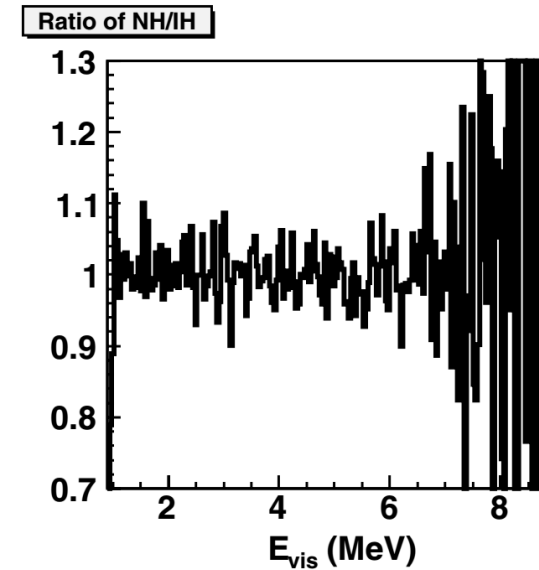
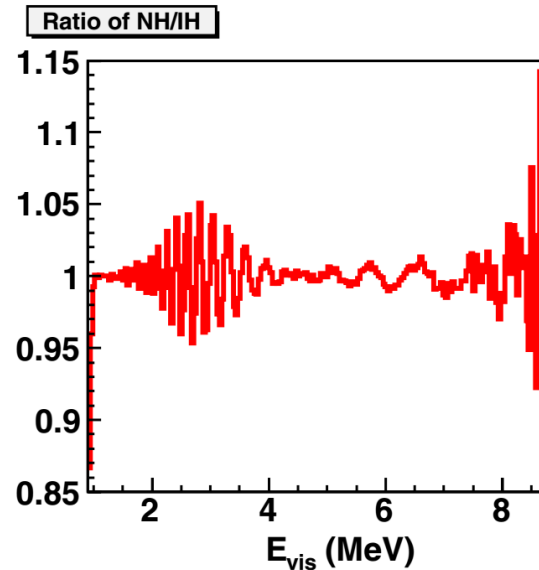
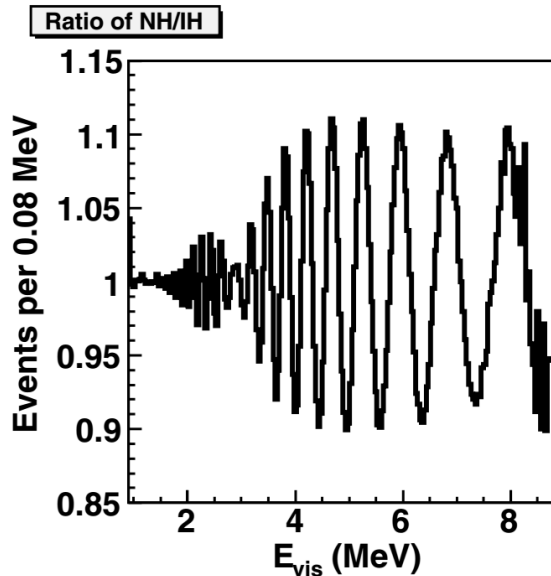
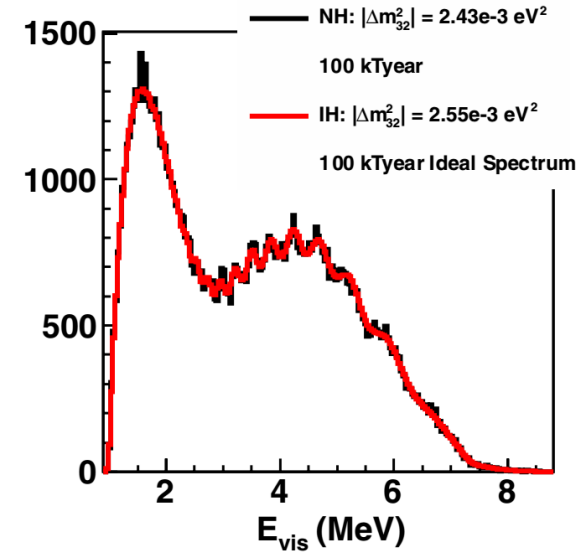
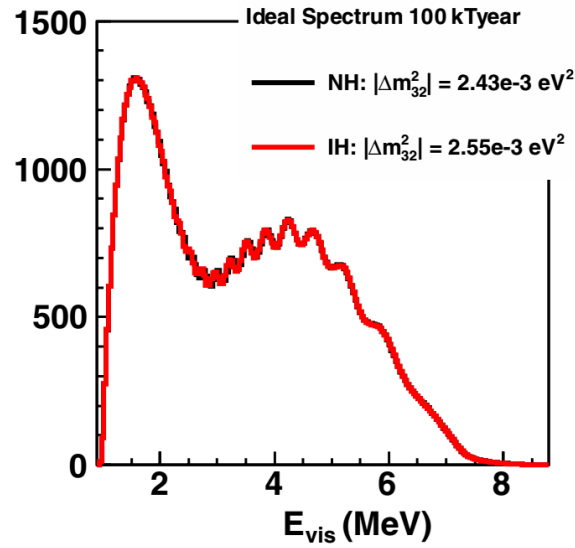
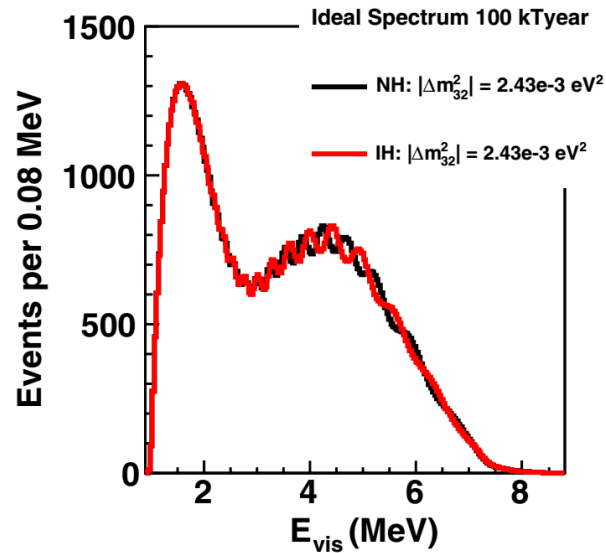
FIG. 6: The dependence of effective mass-squared difference $\Delta m_{ee\phi}^2$ (solid line) and $\Delta m_{\mu\mu\phi}^2$ (dotted line) w.r.t. the value of δ_{CP} for $\bar{\nu}_e$ and ν_μ disappearance measurements, respectively.



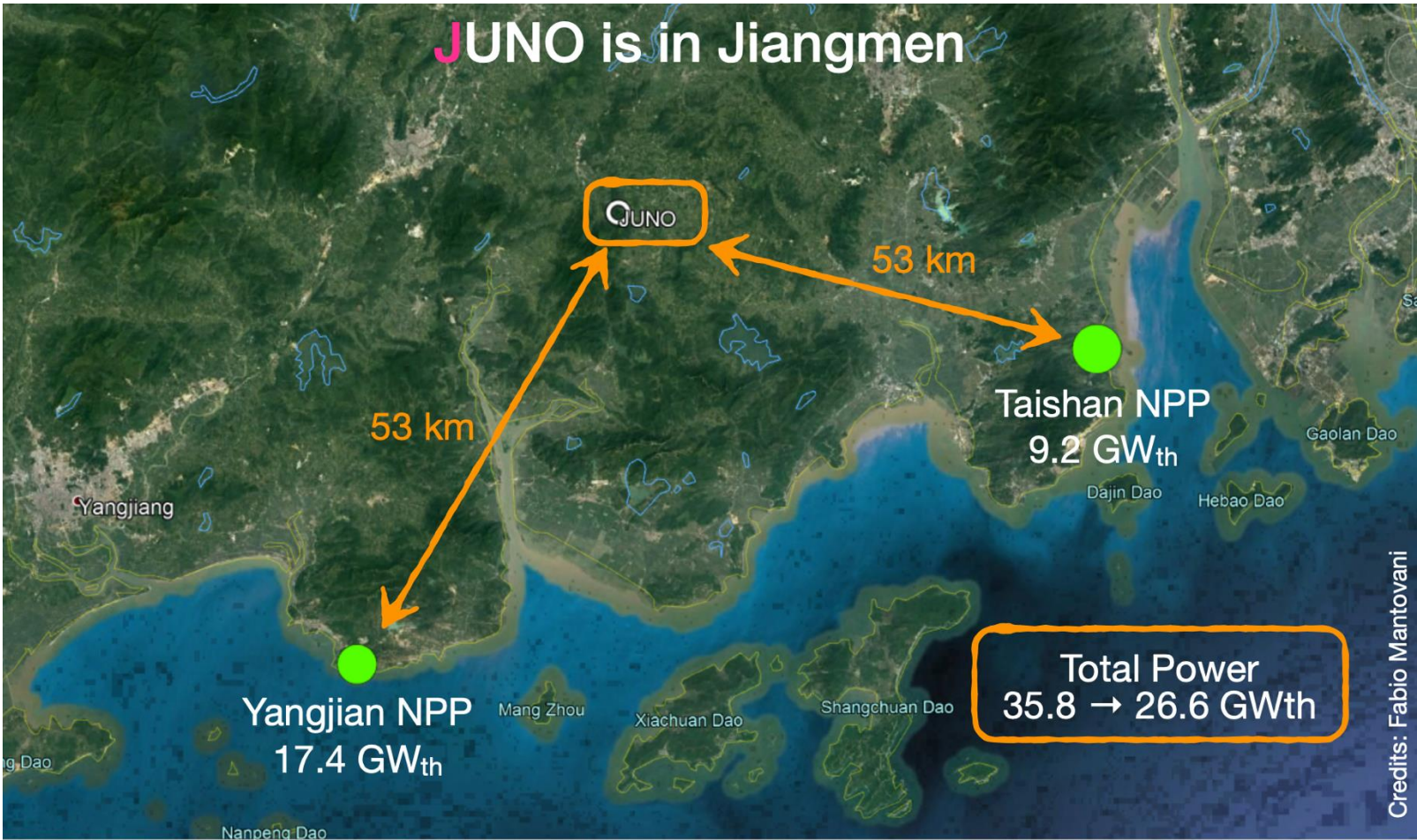
Minakata et al PRD74(2006), 053008

Also See: Zhang&Ma, arXiv:1310.4443/
Mod. Phys. Lett. A29 (2014) 1450096

Challenges in Resolving MH using Reactor Sources



The Jiangmen Underground Neutrino Observatory



Taishan Power Plant



Yangjiang Power Plant

8 Reactors Operating

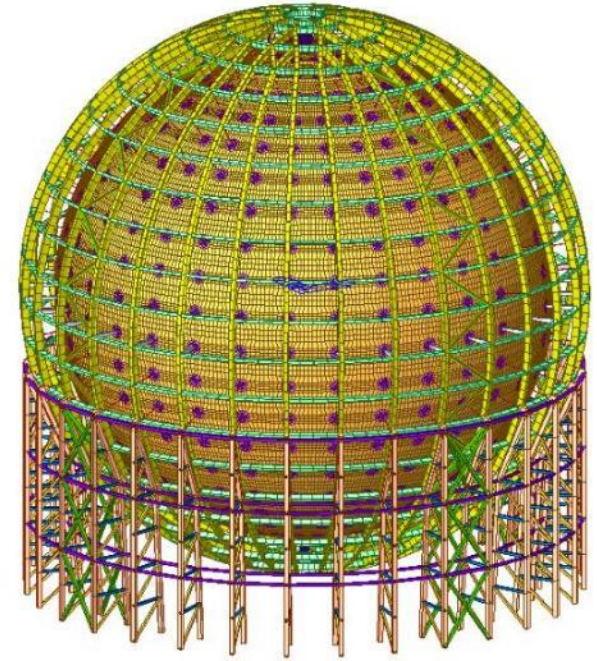
Cores	YJ-1	YJ-2	YJ-3	YJ-4	YJ-5	YJ-6	TS-1	TS-2	DYB	HZ
Power (GW)	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	4.6	4.6	17.4	17.4
Baseline(km)	52.74	52.82	52.41	52.49	52.11	52.19	52.77	52.64	215	265

The Central Detector



arXiv: 2311.17314 (2023)

- ❖ **35.4 m spherical acrylic vessel**, containing 20 kton LS, **supported by the 41.1 m Stainless Steel structure via** 590 supporting bars
- ❖ **SS structure completed except bottom 4 layers**
- ❖ **Acrylic panel production completed**
 - A special production line for low backgrounds (< 1 ppt U/Th/K)
 - Processed while maintaining **high transparency** ($>96\%$) and **low surface background** (<5 ppt U/Th in $50\ \mu\text{m}$ thickness): Shaping, sanding/polishing, cleaning, machining, and protection of panels by PE film
- ❖ **Acrylic vessel construction on-going (critical path)**
 - SS structure built from bottom to top, then, acrylic built from the top to bottom, layer by layer, **17/23 layers finished**, defects repaired
 - SS bars connecting the acrylic and SS, sensors for stress monitoring

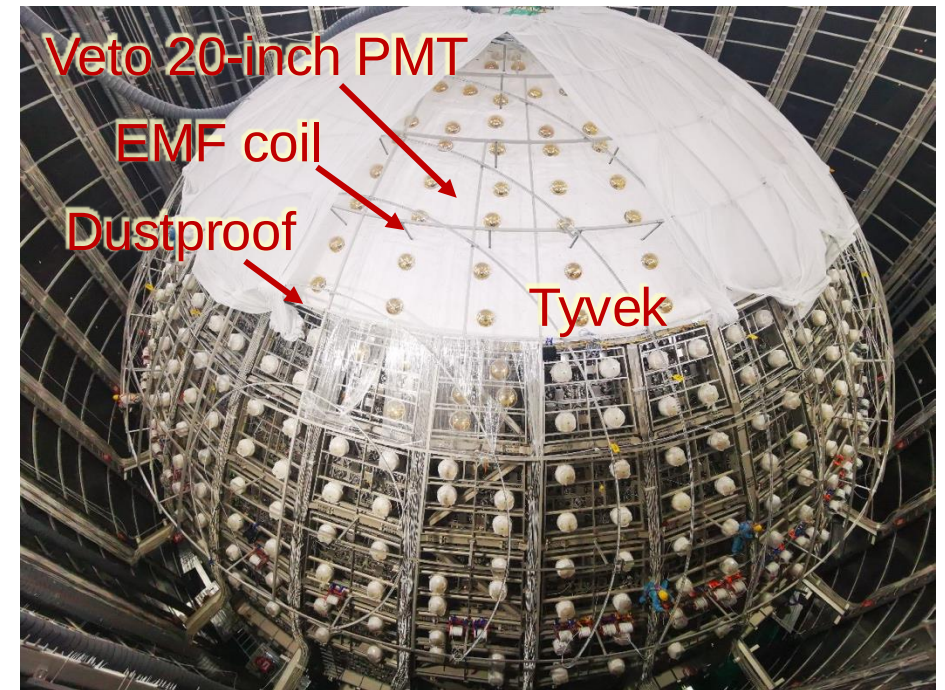
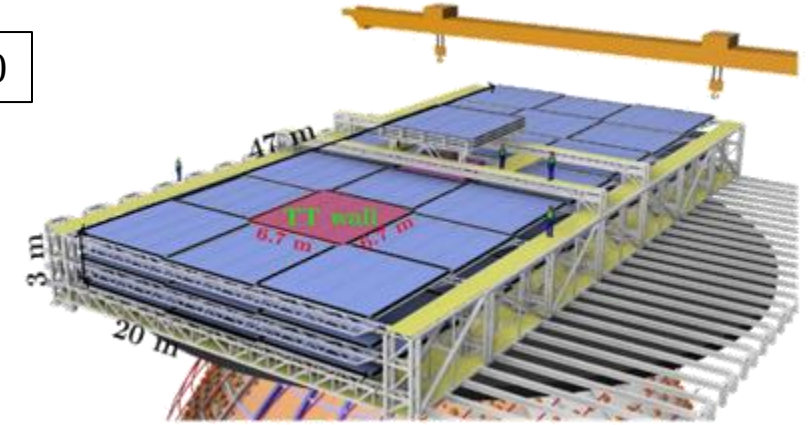


Veto Detectors

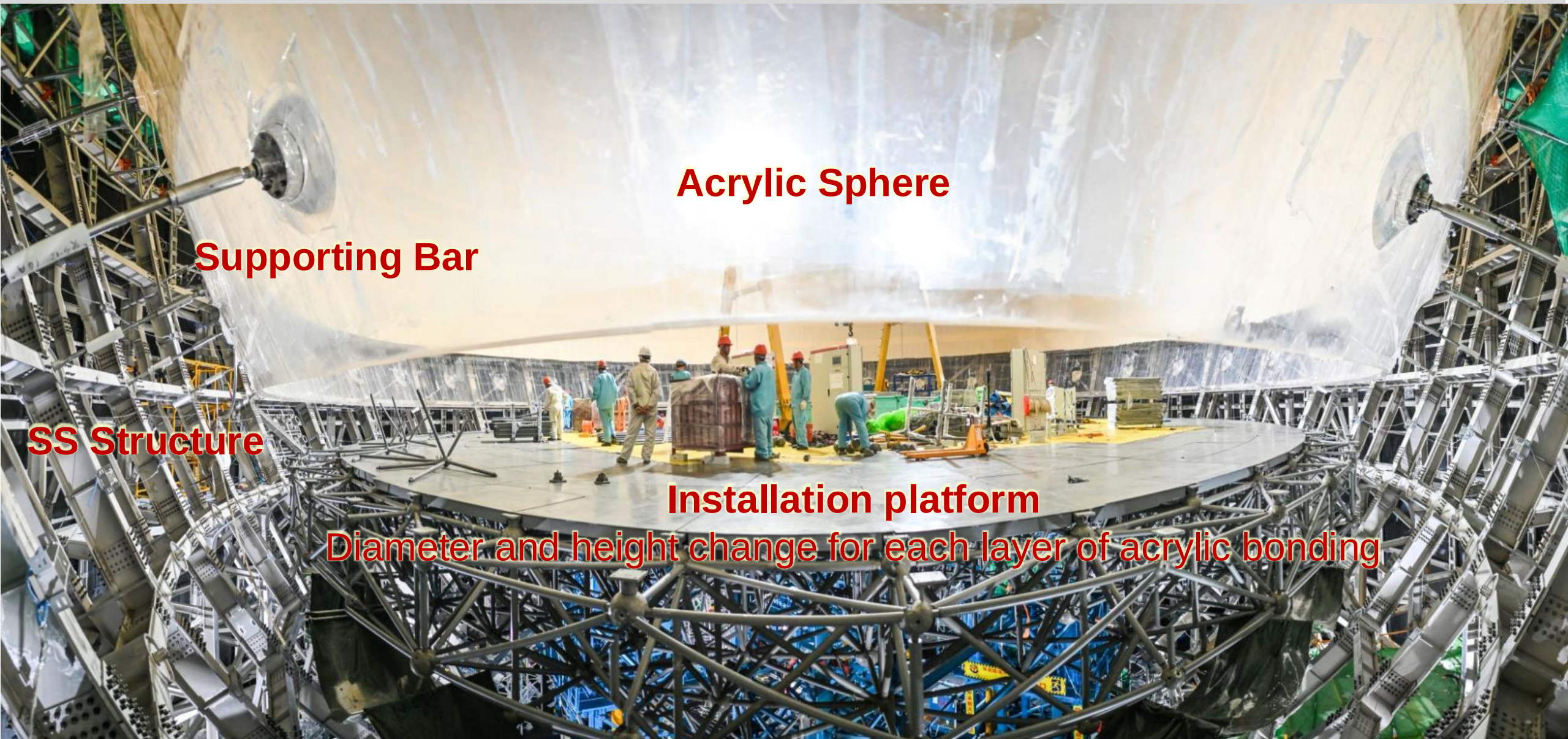


- Water Cherenkov + Top tracker
- Water Cherenkov detector
 - 35 kton water to shield backgrounds from the rock
 - Instrumented w/ 2400 20-inch PMTs on SS structure
 - Water pool lining: 5 mm HDPE (black) to keep the clean water and to stop Rn from the rock, will cover w/ tyvek
 - 100 ton/h pure water system installed.
Requirement: $U/Th/K < 10^{-14}$ g/g and $Rn < 10$ mBq/m³, attenuation length > 40 m, temperature controlled to (21 ± 1) °C
- Top tracker (to be installed)
 - Refurbished OPERA scintillators
 - 3 layers, ~60% coverage on the top
 - $\Delta\theta \sim 0.2^\circ$, $\Delta D \sim 20$ cm
- Earth Magnetic Field compensation coil

NIMA 1057 (2023) 168680



Inside the Detector



Acrylic Sphere

Supporting Bar

SS Structure

Installation platform

Diameter and height change for each layer of acrylic bonding

Calibration and Expected Energy Resolution

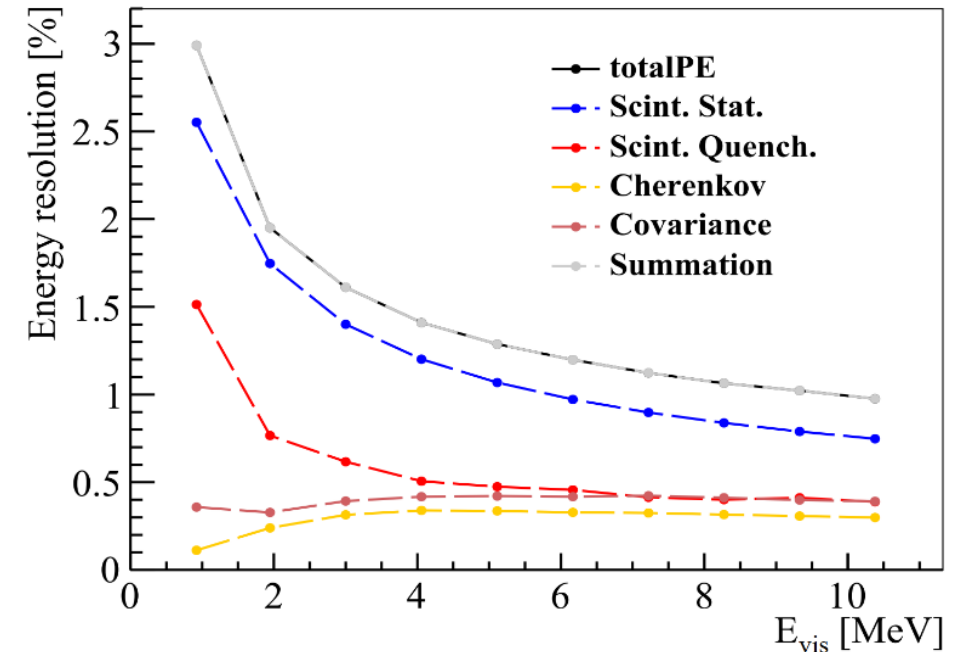
- **Four systems** for 1D, 2D, 3D scan with multiple sources
- **Energy scale** and **non-linearity** will be calibrated to **<1%** using γ peaks and cosmogenic ^{12}B beta spectrum

$$\frac{\sigma}{E_{vis}} = \sqrt{\left(\frac{2.61\%}{\sqrt{E_{vis}}}\right)^2 + (0.64\%)^2 + \left(\frac{1.20\%}{E_{vis}}\right)^2}$$

$\downarrow$
Photon statistics
 $\downarrow$
Constant term
 $\downarrow$
Dark noise, Annihilation-induced γ s



Expected energy resolution: **2.95% @1MeV**



JHEP 03 (2021) 004

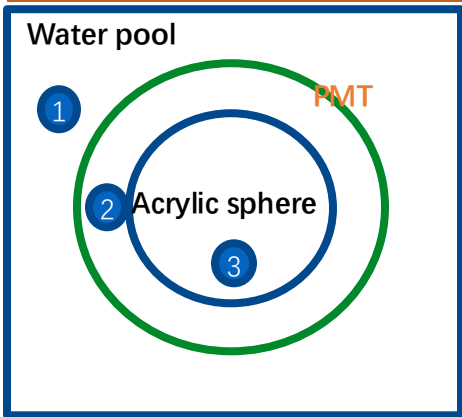
arXiv:2405.17860 (2024)

A Controlled Installation Environment for Cleanness

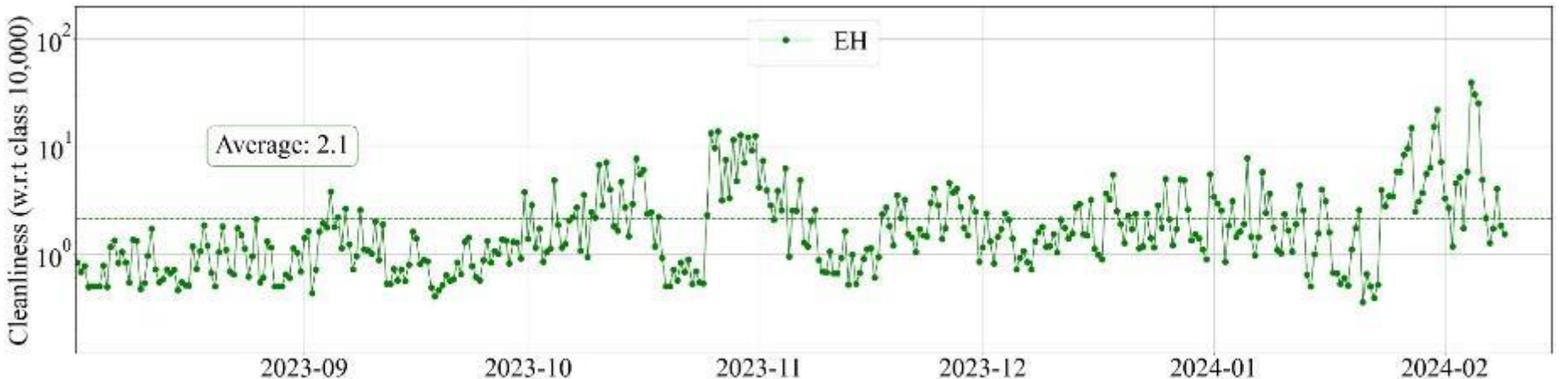
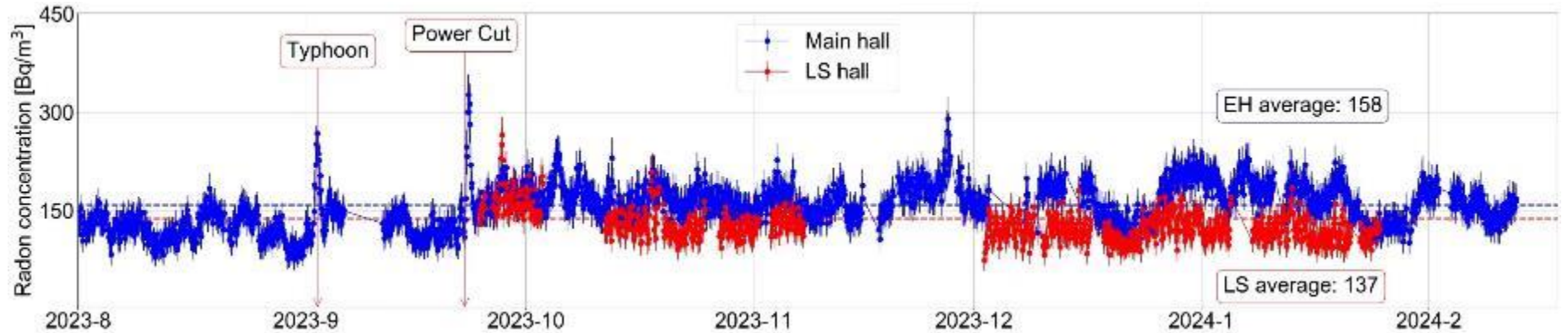
❖ Average radon and cleanliness:

- Radon concentration: $\sim 160 \text{ Bq/m}^3$ in the EH, $\sim 140 \text{ Bq/m}^3$ in the LS hall
- Cleanliness: class 20,000

Region	Level
1	Class 100,000
2	Class 10,000
3	Class 1000

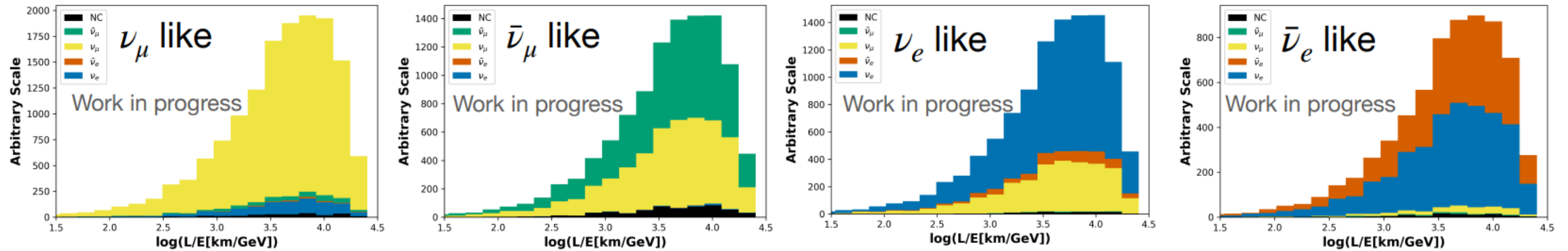


Radon concentration
in air: $< 200 \text{ Bq/m}^3$

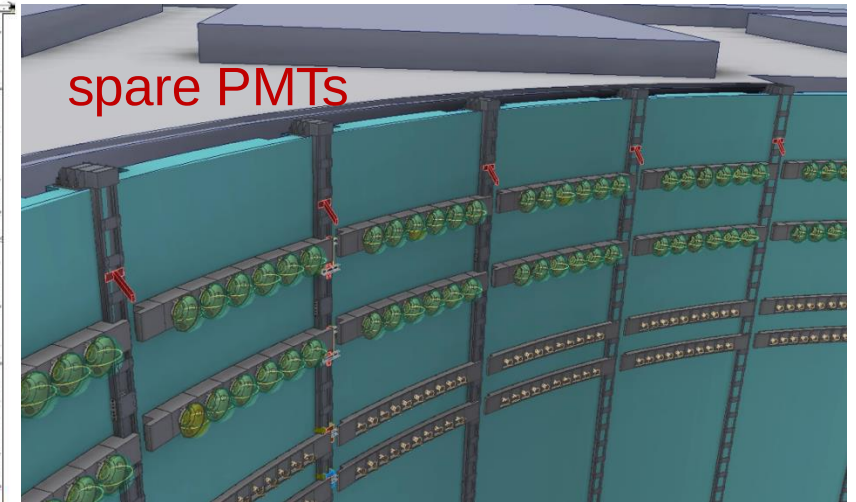
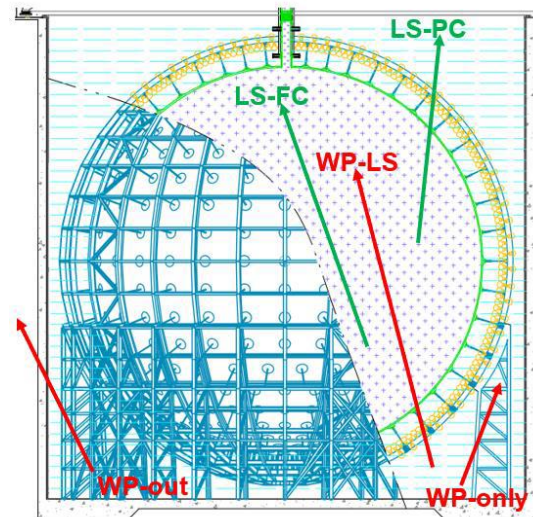


Adding Contributions from Atmospheric Neutrinos

- JUNO will be the first to study atmospheric neutrino oscillation with liquid scintillator:
 e/μ separation, $\nu/\bar{\nu}$ separation, ν energy (instead of lepton energy), track direction in LS

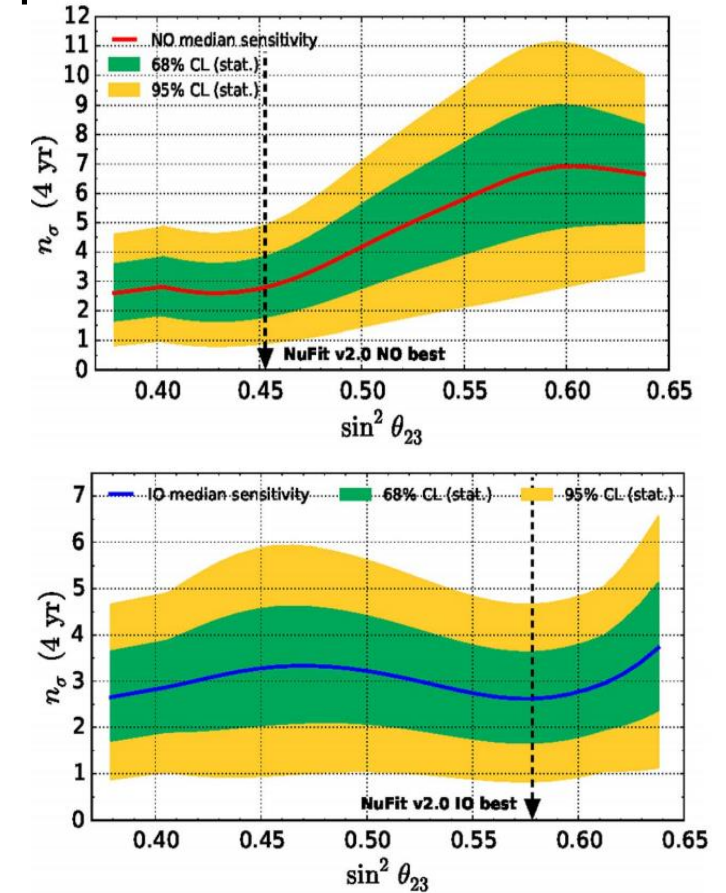
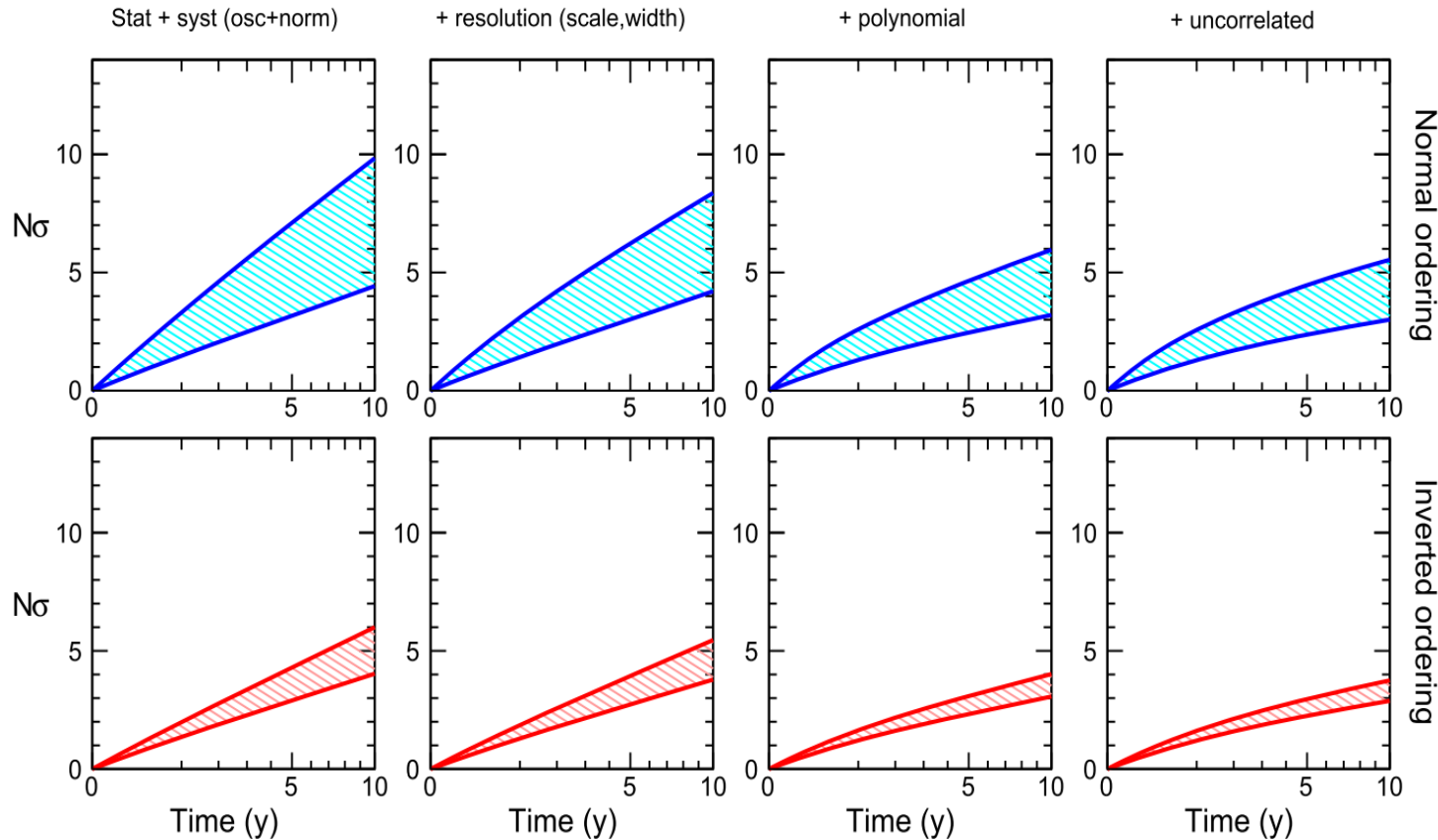


- ❖ Improving the reconstruction and PID algorithm, as well as sensitivity
- ❖ Plan to install all spare PMTs on top wall of the water pool to improve PID and direction reconstruction



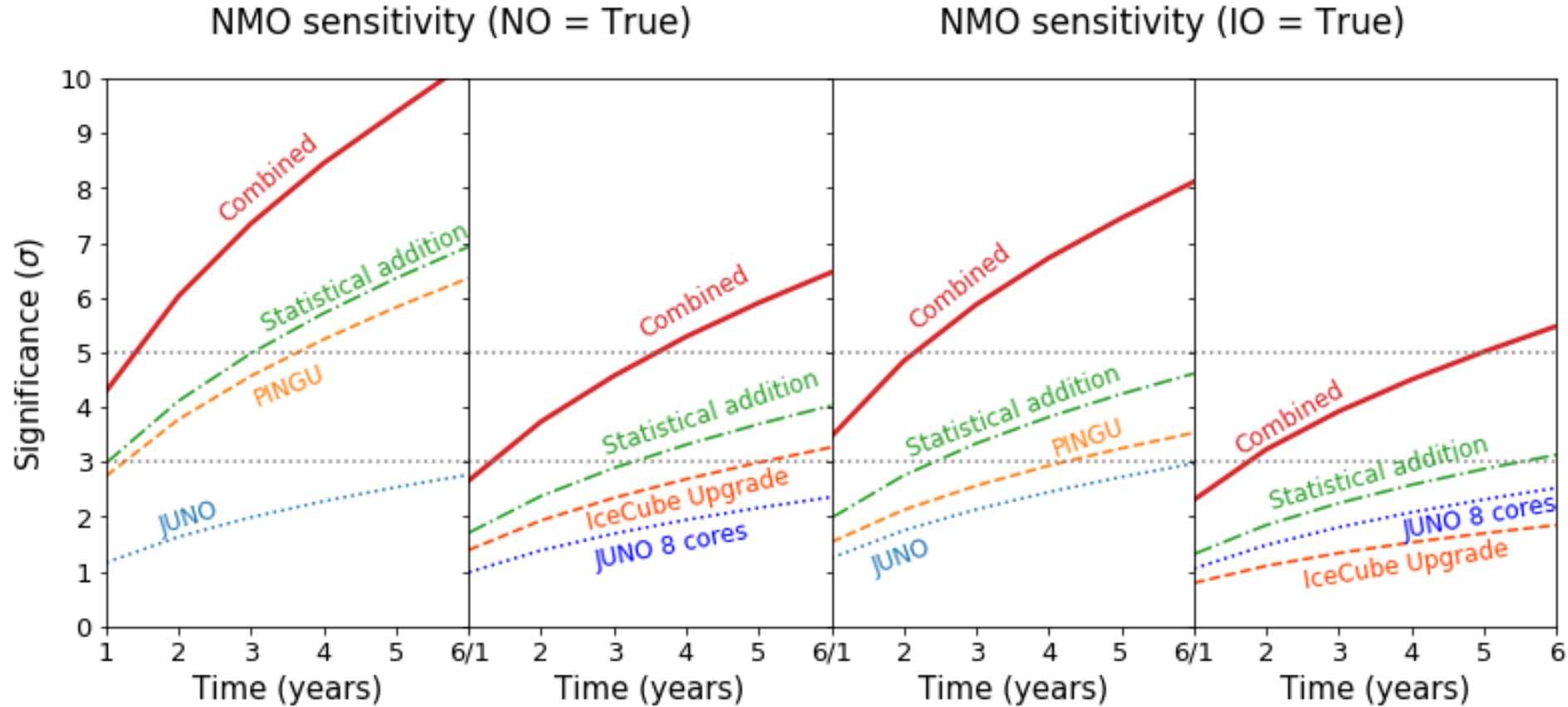
KM3NeT/ORCA and PINGU Sensitivities

- More advantageous for the normal ordering case
- Uncertain due to a different unknown parameter, the atmospheric mixing angle



- ***F Capozzi et al for KM3NeT/ORCA, PINGU Group for PINGU***
J. Phys. G: Nucl. Part. Phys. 45 (2018) 024003

Combining JUNO and PINGU/DeepCore *(courtesy of M. Wurm)*



JUNO unchained

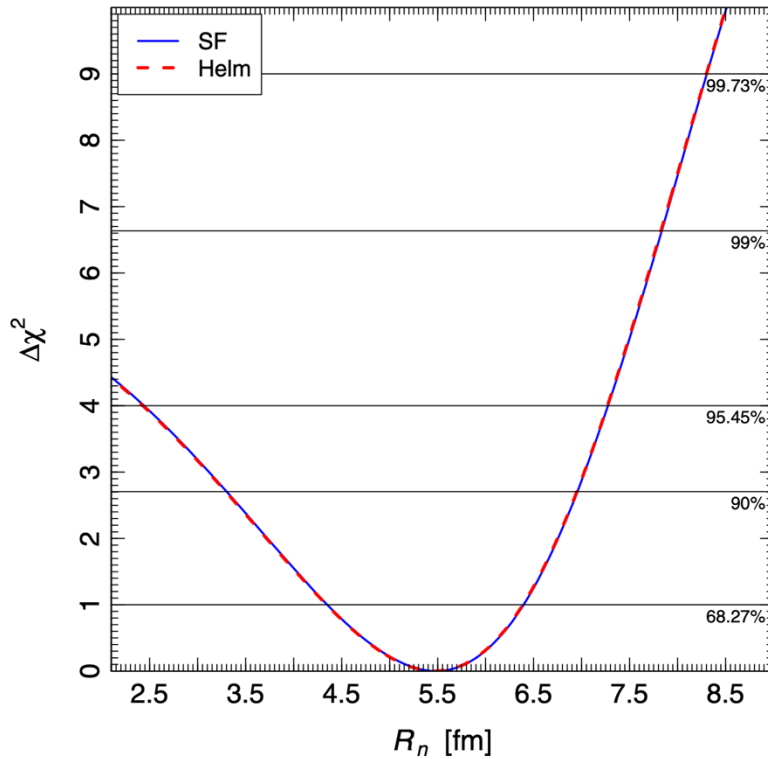


- Nominal configuration, i.e. PINGU (26 strings) + JUNO (10 cores)
- Reduced configurations, i.e. IC Upgrade (7 str) + JUNO (8 cores)
- **In any case, 5σ -discovery after 5 years**

Neutrino as Probes: Nuclear and Earth Sciences

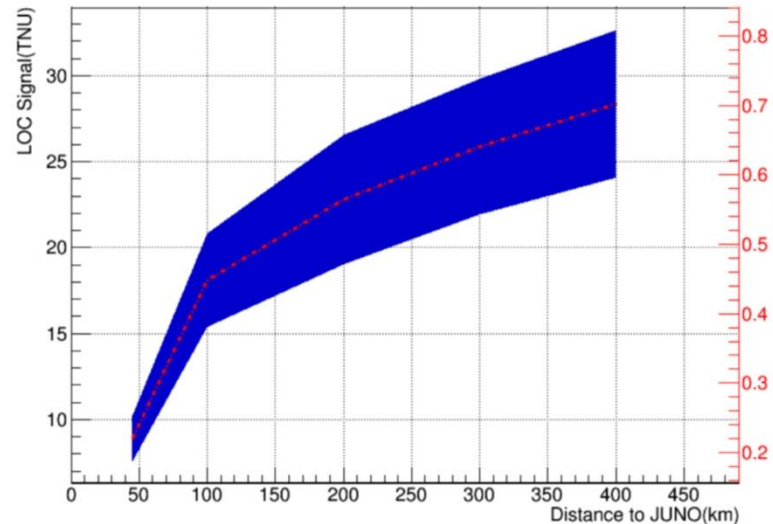
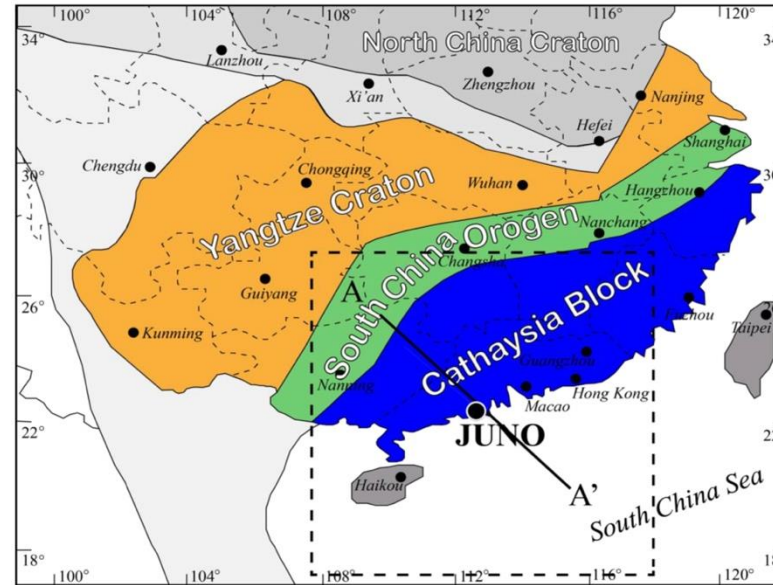


Cadeddu & Y.F. Li et al, PRL120, 072501 (2018)

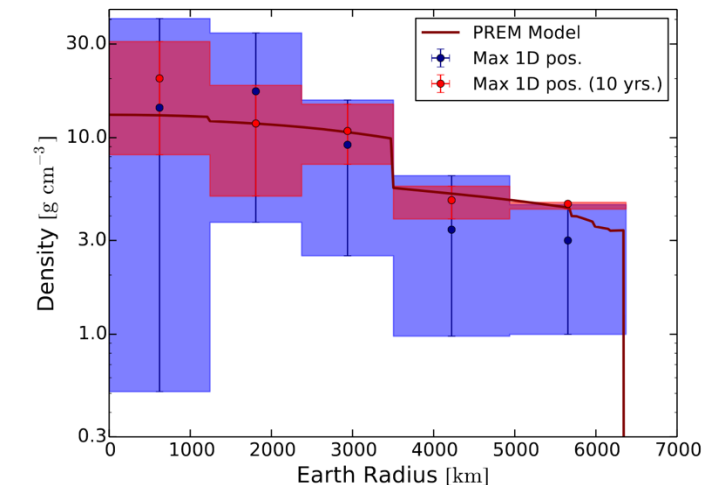
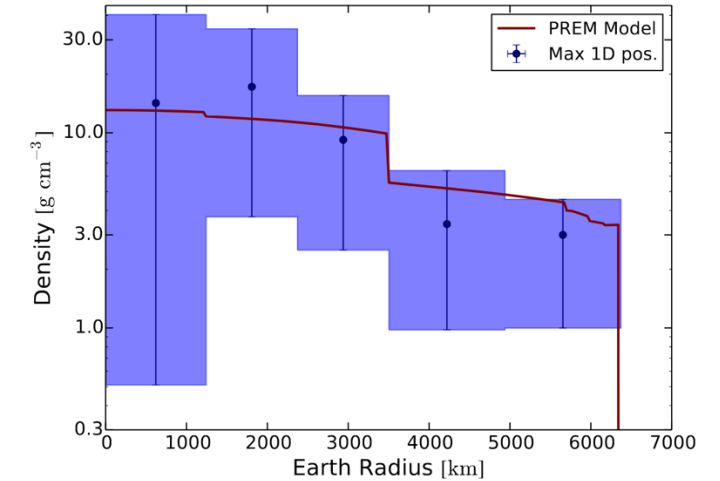


$$R_n = 5.5^{+0.9}_{-1.1} \text{ fm.}$$

First time measuring neutron radius!



A. Donini et al, Neutrino tomography of Earth, Nature Physics 2018



ν Mass Hierarchy Still Unknown

