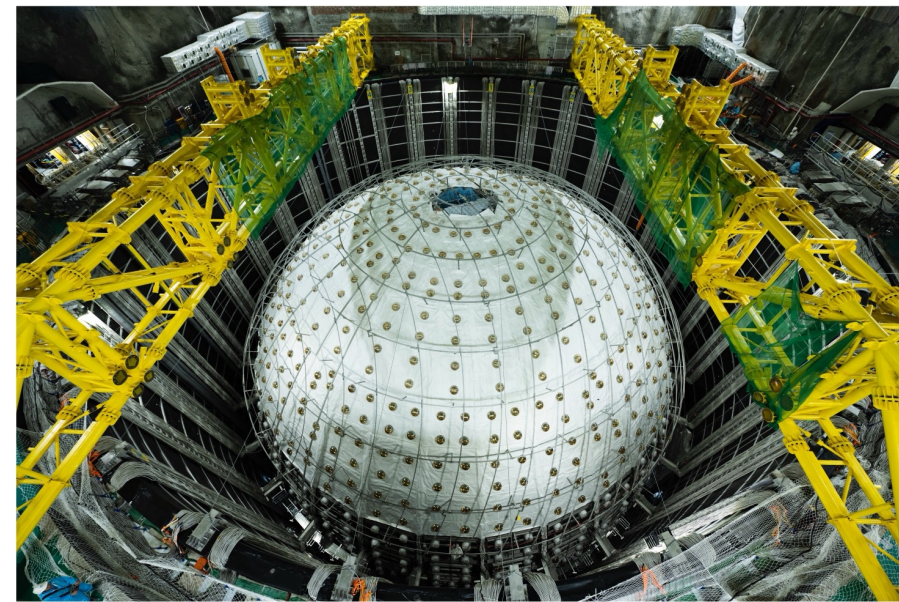




JUNO commissioning phase and first performance results



Alberto Garfagnini
Padova University and INFN-Padova
on behalf of the JUNO Collaboration



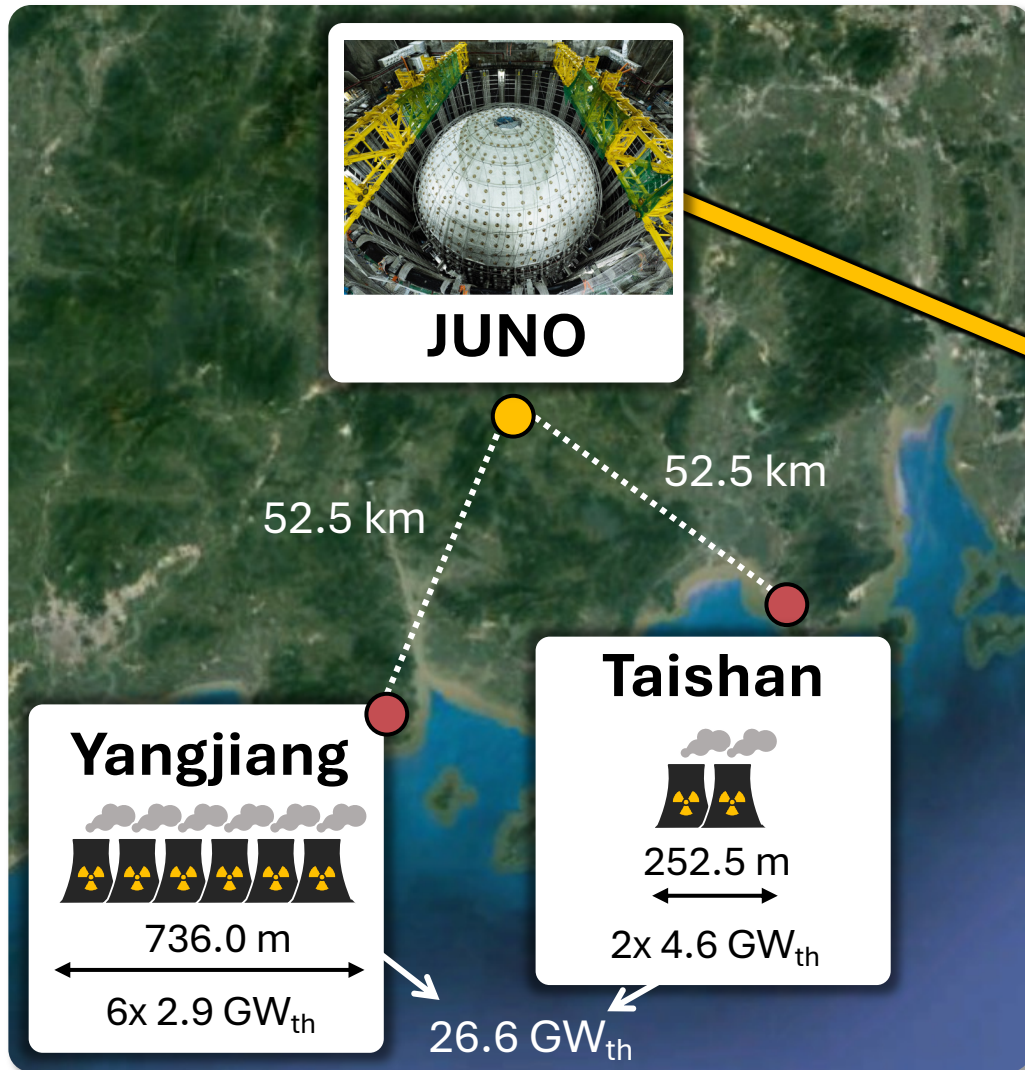
Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare

A. Garfagnini

TAUP 2025 – 西昌

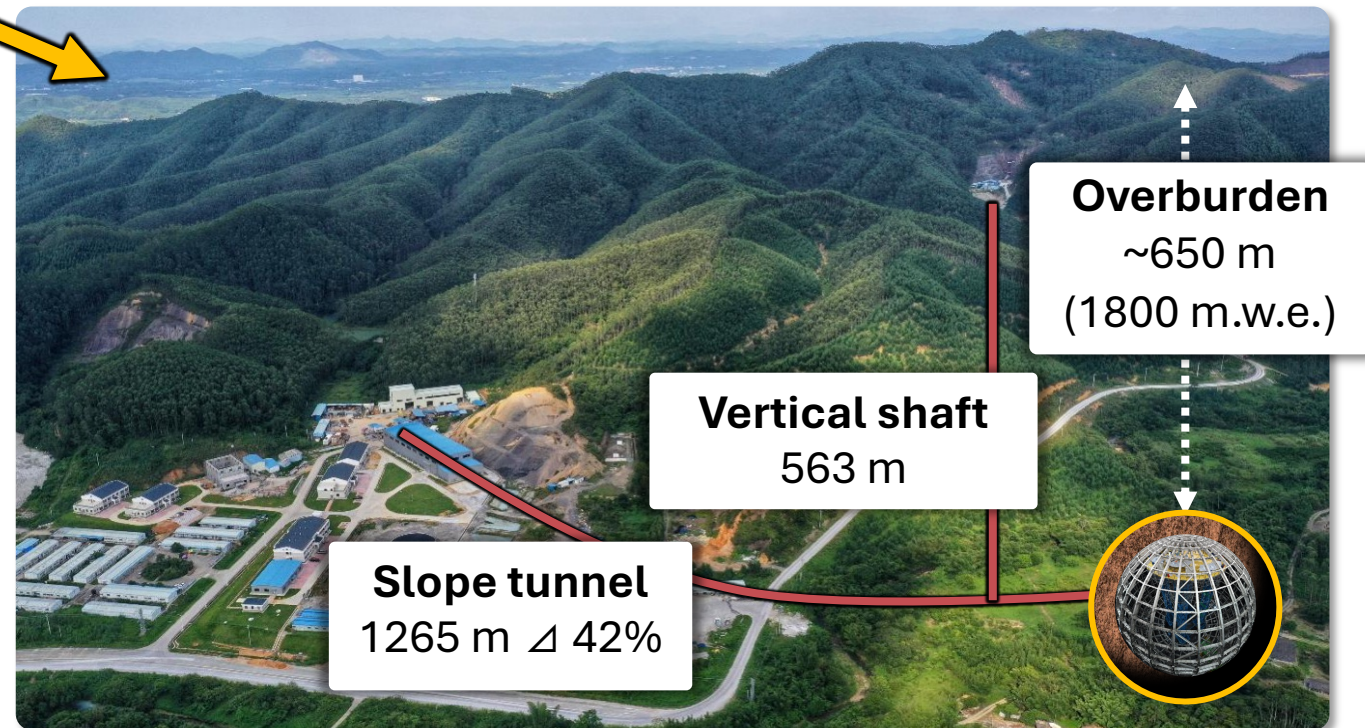
July 29, 2025

The Jiangmen Underground Neutrino Observatory



JUNO is a 20 kton multi-purpose underground liquid scintillator detector:

It sits at a baseline of about **52.5 km** from eight nuclear reactors in the Guangdong Province of South China.

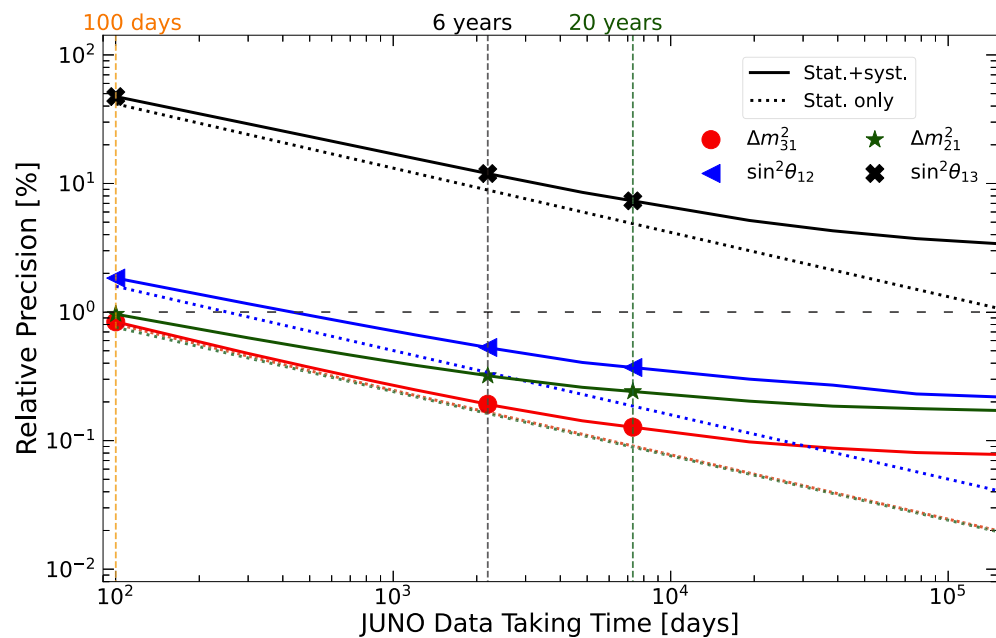


JUNO oscillation physics in a nutshell

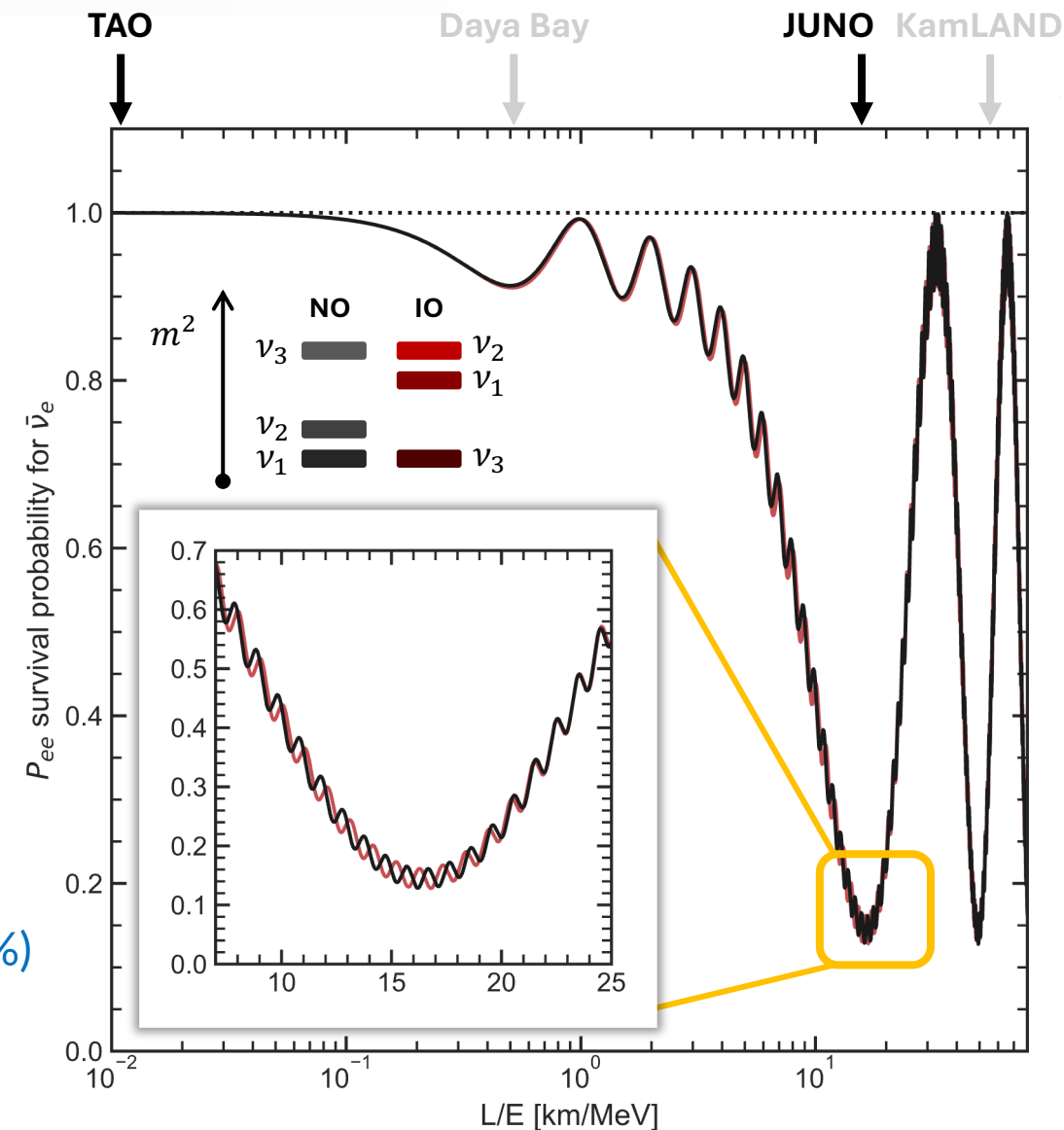
JUNO recipe: $\bar{\nu}_e$ from reactors **as source**, oscillated $\bar{\nu}_e$ **detected** via Inverse Beta Decay (IBD) $\rightarrow$ sensitive to $\mathbf{P_{ee}}$

Neutrino Mass Ordering (NMO)

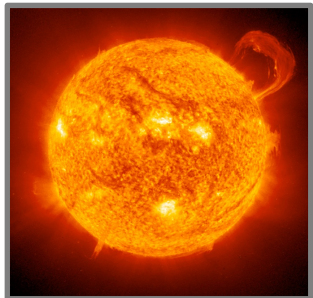
NMO sensitivity: 3σ median sensitivity to reject the wrong mass ordering hypothesis in 6.5 years $\times$ 26.6 GW thermal power



Sensitivity on oscillation parameters $O(1\%)$ in 100 days



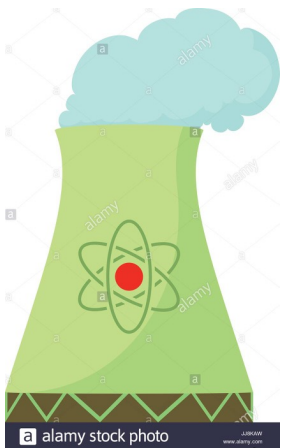
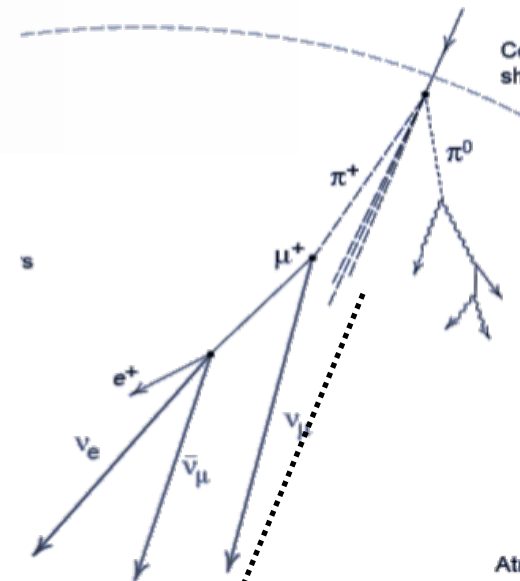
JUNO rich physics program



The unexpected: ???



Supernova burst:
 $\sim 10^4$ evts @ 10 kpc

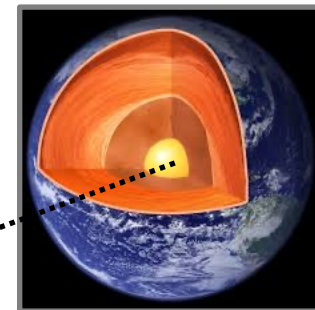


Solar: ${}^8\text{B}$ / ${}^7\text{Be}$
 $\sim 16/490$ per day

Reactor ν
 ~ 47 events per day



Atmospheric ν
Muon rate: $\sim 5\text{--}7$ Hz



Geo ν
 ~ 400 events per year

The JUNO detector

Central detector (CD)

arXiv: 2311.17314 (2023)

- **20 kton** of **LAB** scintillator
- **17612 20" large-PMTs** and **25600 3" small-PMTs**:
 - **78%** photocoverage, ~ 1600 PE/MeV → high resolution
 - dual calorimetry L-PMTs / S-PMTs → self calibration
- Earth's magnetic field **compensation coils**
- **Predicted 2.95% resolution @ 1 MeV** arXiv 2405.17860

Water Cherenkov Detector (WCD)

- **35 kton** of high pure **water** as shield
- **2400 20" L-PMTs** for **active veto**

Top Tracker (TT)

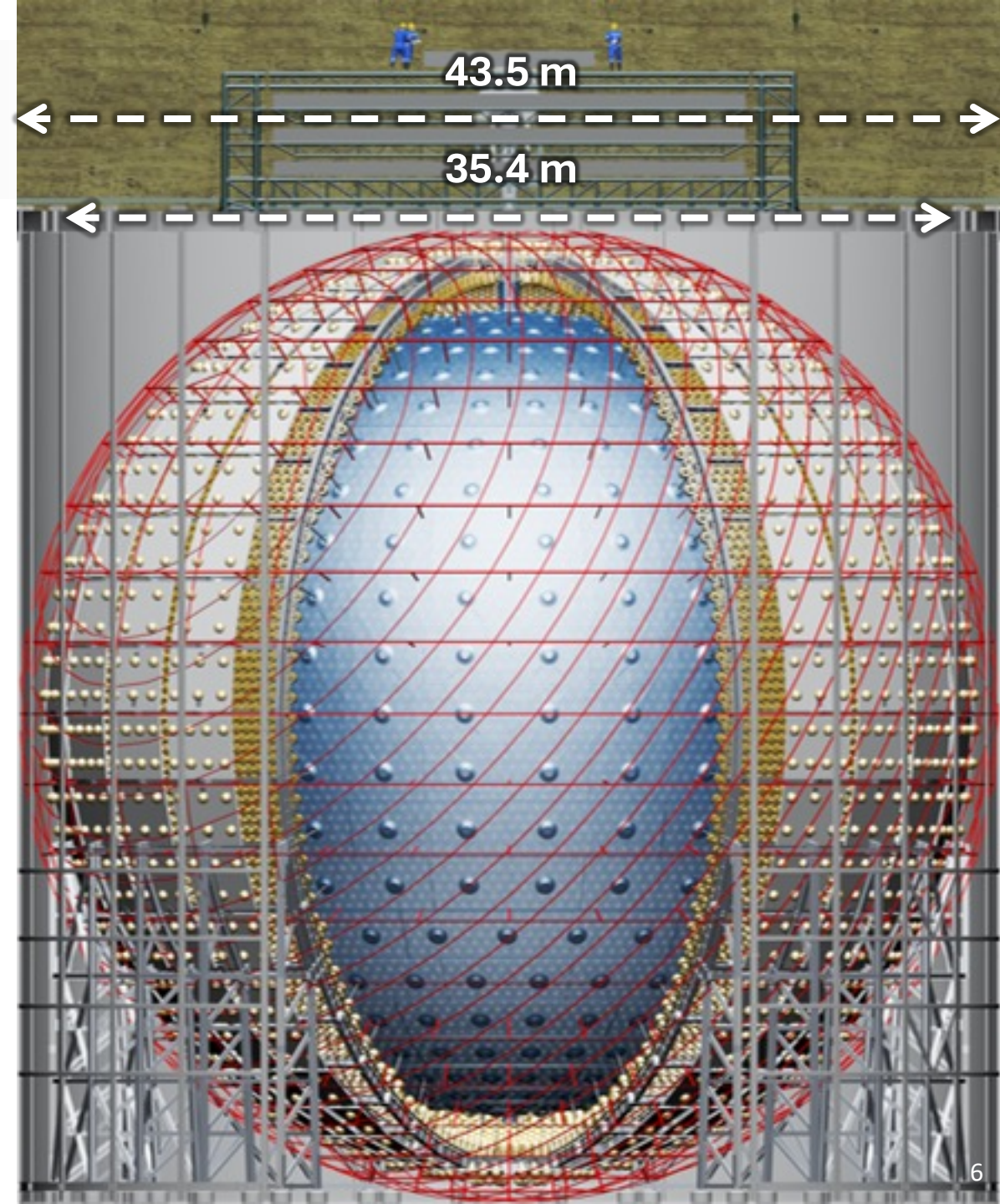
NIMA 1057 168680 (2023)

- **3× plastic** scintillator **layers** (coverage $\sim 30\%$ of muons)
- CD+WP+TT **muon veto strategy** → **92% efficiency**

Calibration system

JHEP 03 (2021) 004

- **>6 sources + laser + calibration system**
- energy-scale **systematics below 1%**



The JUNO Collaboration

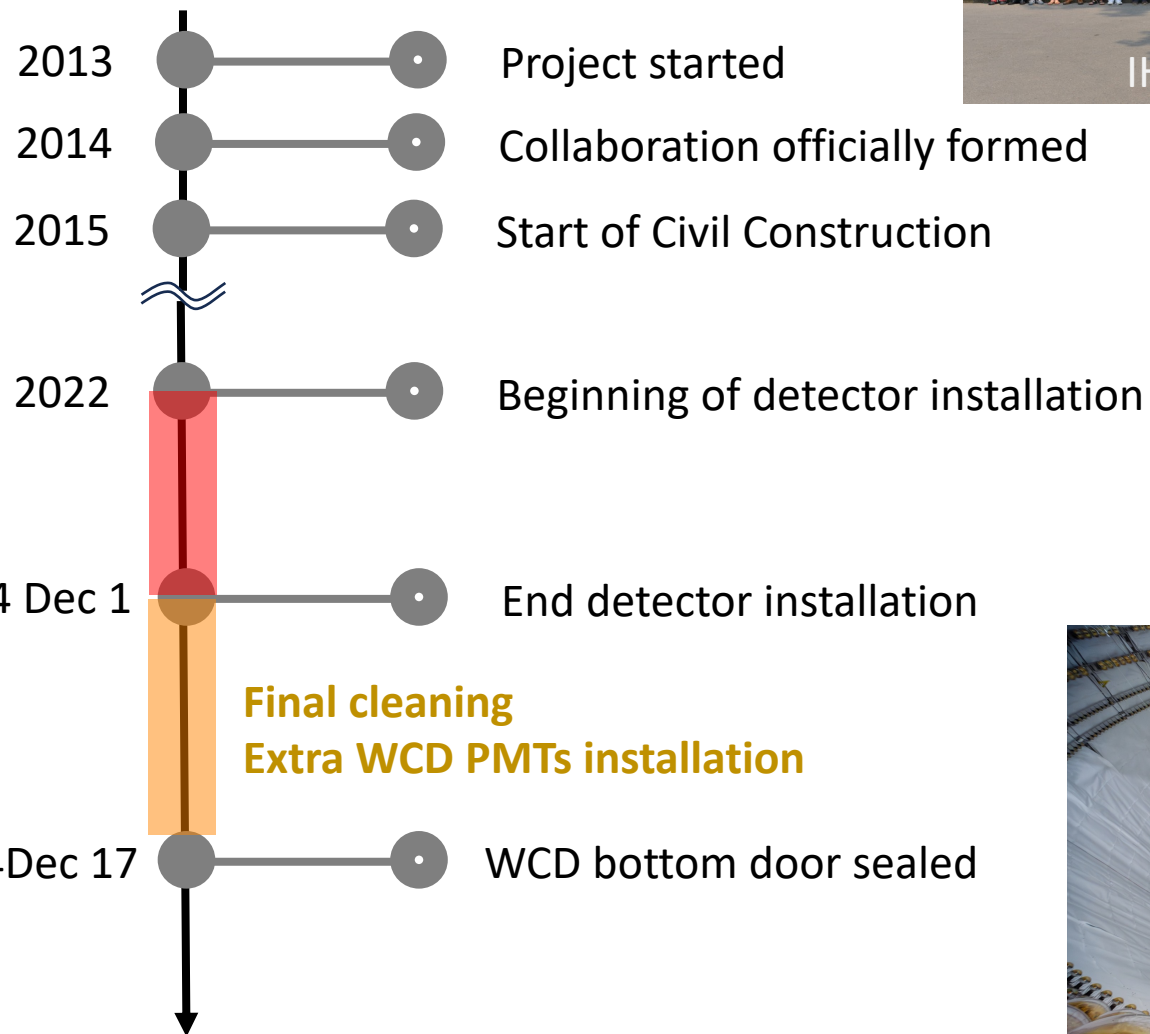
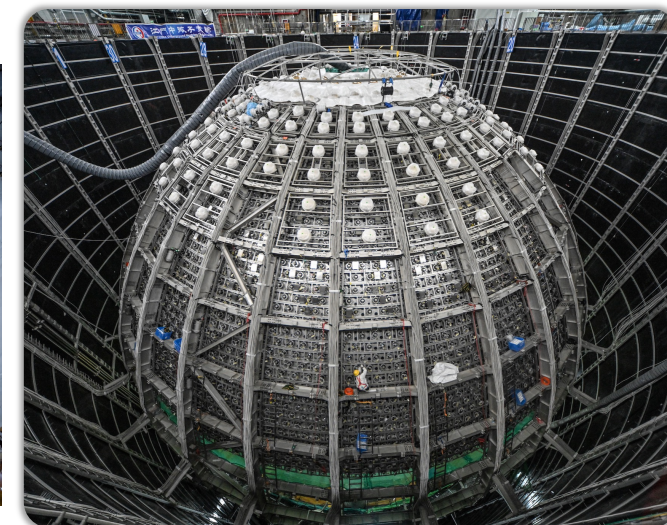
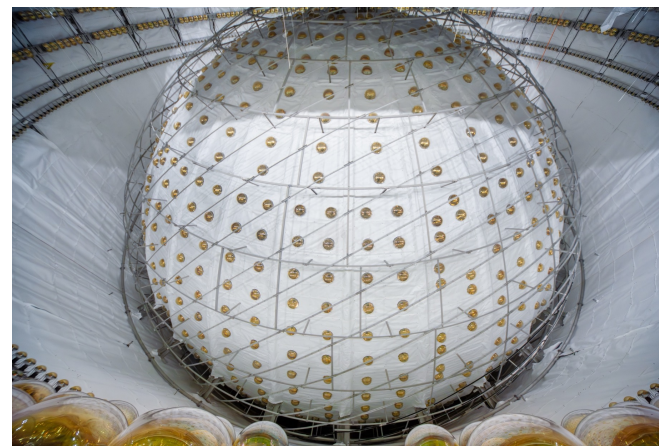
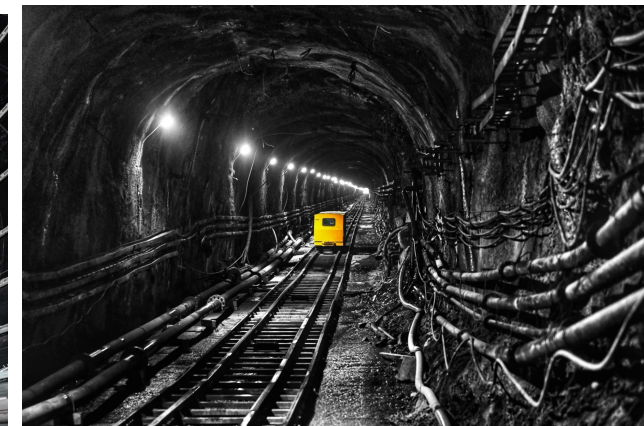


Country	Institute	Country	Institute	Country	Institute
Armenia	Yerevan Physics Institute	China	Wu Yi U.	Italy	INFN di Frascati
Belgium	Universite Libre de Bruxelles	China	Wuhan U.	Italy	INFN-Ferrara
Brazil	PUC	China	Xi'an JT U.	Italy	INFN-Milano
Brazil	UEL	China	Xiamen University	Italy	INFN-Milano Bicocca
Chile	SAPHIR	China	Zhengzhou U.	Italy	INFN-Padova
Chile	UNAB	China	NUDT	Italy	INFN-Perugia
China	BISEE	China	CUG-Beijing	Italy	INFN-Roma 3
China	CAGS	China	ECUT-Nanchang City	Pakistan	PINSTECH (PAEC)
China	ChongQing University	China	CDUT-Chengdu	Russia	INR Moscow
China	DGUT	China	SUSTech-Shenzhen	Russia	JINR
China	Guangxi U.	China	KNRC	Russia	MSU
China	Harbin Institute of Technology	Czech	Charles U.	Slovakia	FMPICU
China	IHEP	Finland	University of Jyvaskyla	Taiwan-China	National Chiao-Tung U.
China	Jinan U.	France	IJCLab Orsay	Taiwan-China	National Taiwan U.
China	Nanjing U.	France	LP2i Bordeaux	Taiwan-China	National United U.
China	Nankai U.	France	CPPM Marseille	Taiwan-China	NKNU
China	NCEPU	France	IPHC Strasbourg	Taiwan-China	NTUT
China	Shandong U.	France	Subatech Nantes	Thailand	NARIT
China	Shanghai JT U.	Germany	RWTH Aachen U.	Thailand	PPRLCU
China	IGG-Beijing	Germany	TUM	Thailand	SUT
China	SYSU	Germany	U. Hamburg	U.K.	U. Liverpool
China	Tsinghua U.	Germany	GSI	U.K.	U. Warwick
China	UCAS	Germany	U. Mainz	USA	UMD-G
China	U. of South China	Germany	U. Tuebingen	USA	UC Irvine
China	IMP	Italy	INFN Catania		

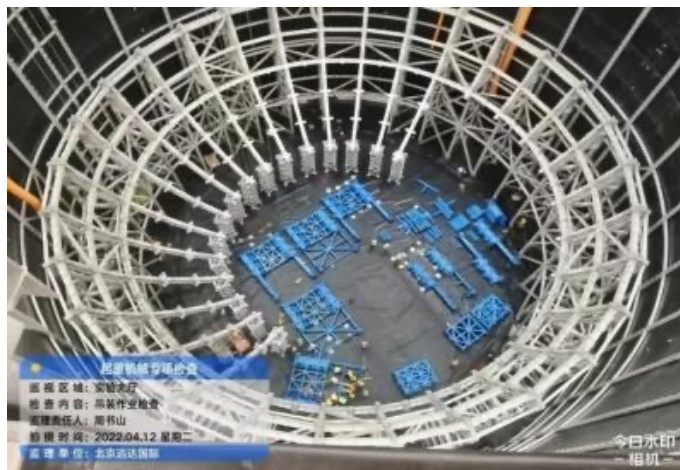


More than 700 collaborators from 74 institutions in 17 countries/regions

JUNO timeline



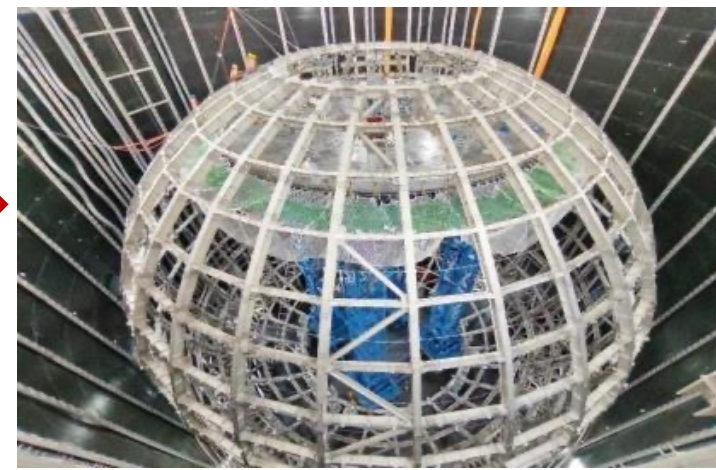
JUNO: Central Detector Construction



Bottom structure



Platform for Acrylic assembly



Top structure



5 layers of Acrylic



20 layers of Acrylic



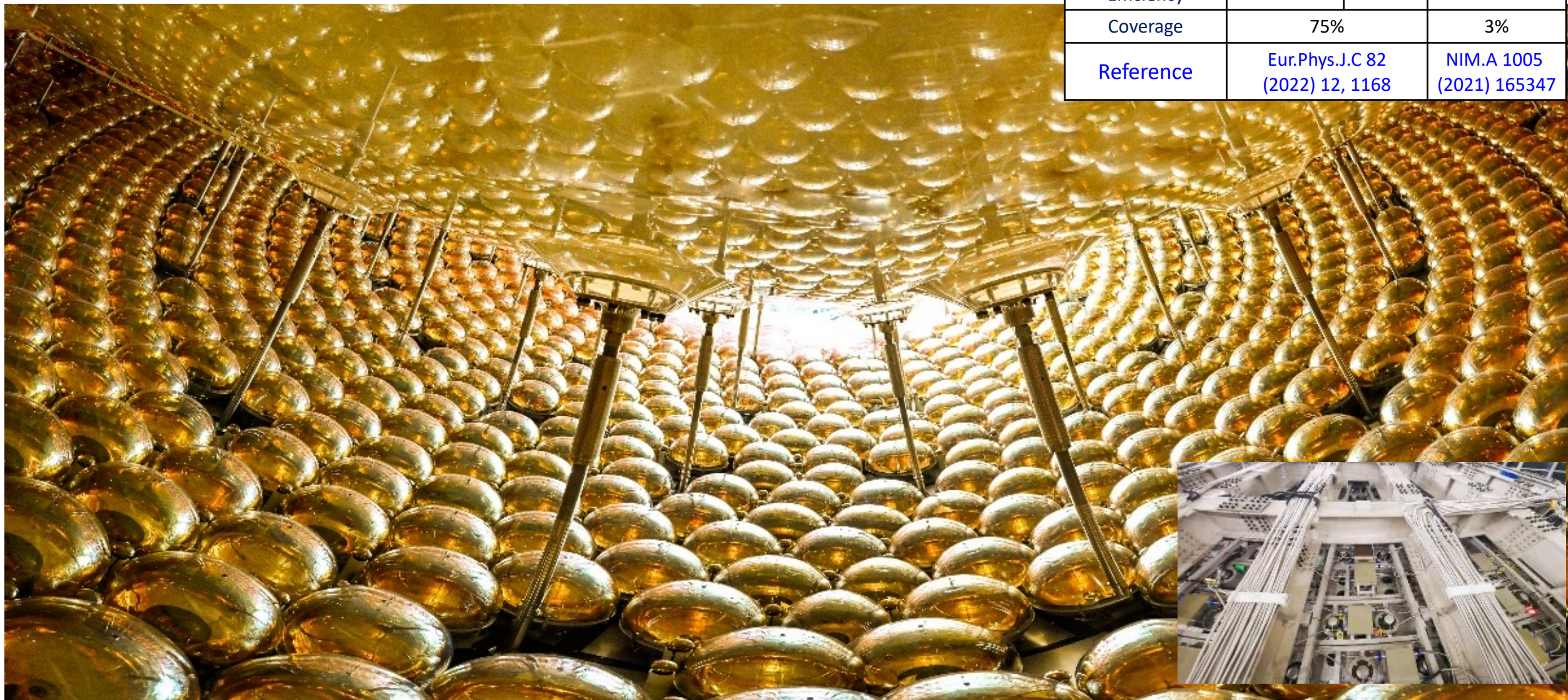
23 layers of acrylic

The JUNO detector from the inside



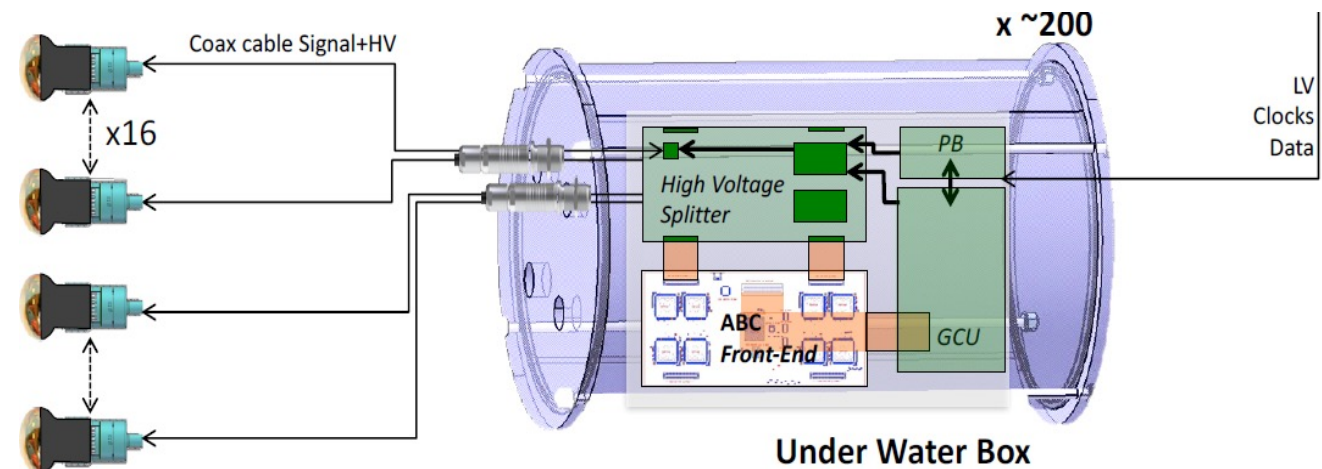
JUNO photomultipliers

	LPMT (20-inch)		SPMT (3-inch)
	Hamamatsu	NNVT	HZC
Quantity	5000	15012	25600
Charge Collection	Dynode	MCP	Dynode
Photon Detection Efficiency	28.5%	30.1%	25%
Coverage	75%		3%
Reference	Eur.Phys.J.C 82 (2022) 12, 1168		NIM.A 1005 (2021) 165347



Small PMT system

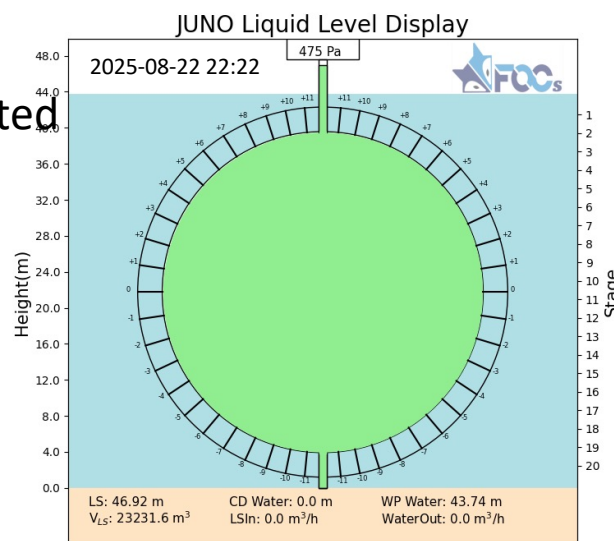
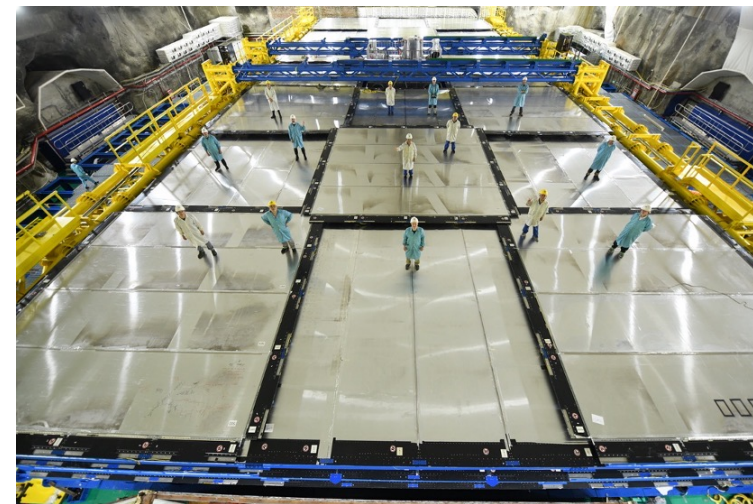
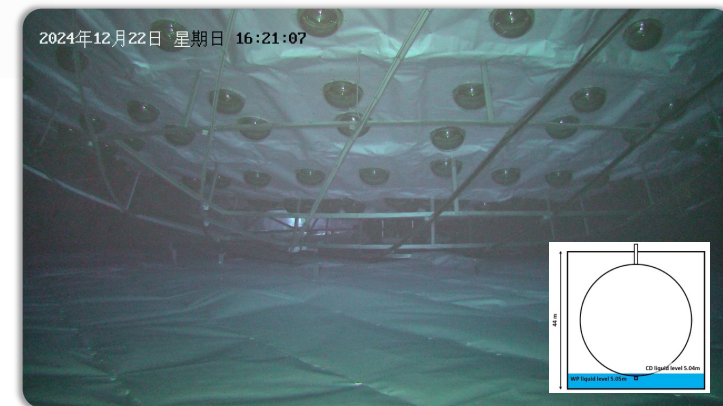
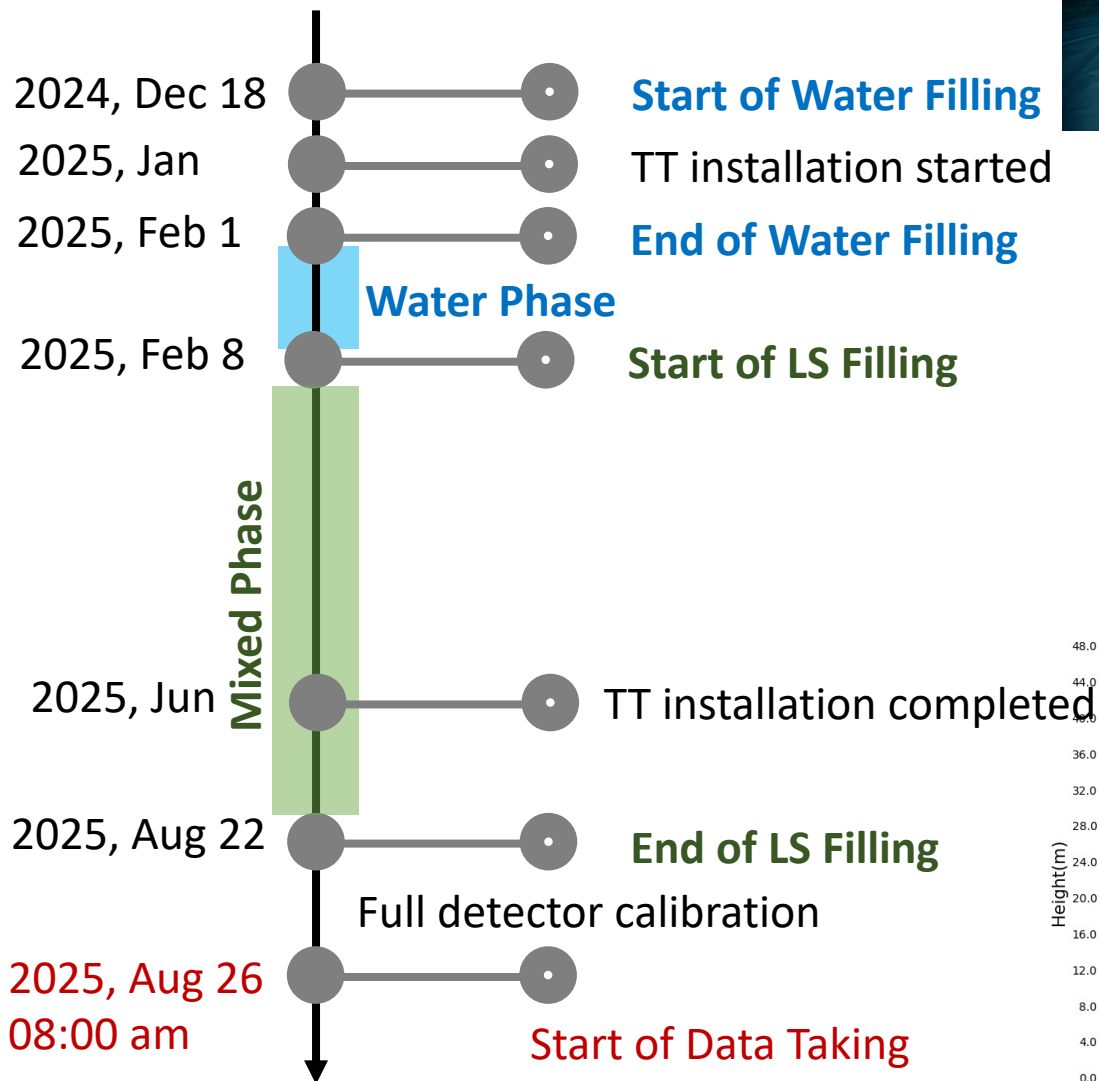
- 3% more light, higher dynamic range for muons, uniformity and linearity calibration for large PMTs, ...
- 25,600 3.1" PMTs (XP72B22) from HZC Photonics
- 200 underwater electronics boxes, each servicing 128 PMTs readout by ASIC Battery Cards (ABC), each with 8 CatiROC chips



200 boxes × 128 PMTs

JINST 16 (2021), P05010

JUNO timeline



JUNO Liquid Scintillator (LS) purification plants



Four purification plants + LS Mixing + QA/QC + high purity N_2 and water production plant to guarantee radio-purity and transparency



5000 m³ LAB tank



Al₂O₃ to remove particles



Distillation to remove radioactive impurities



Add 2.5 g/L PPO and 3 mg/L bis-MSB

JUNO Liquid Scintillator (LS) purification plants



Four purification plants + LS Mixing + QA/QC + high purity N_2 and water production plant to guarantee radio-purity and transparency



5000 m³ LAB tank



Al_2O_3 to remove particles



Distillation to remove radioactive impurities

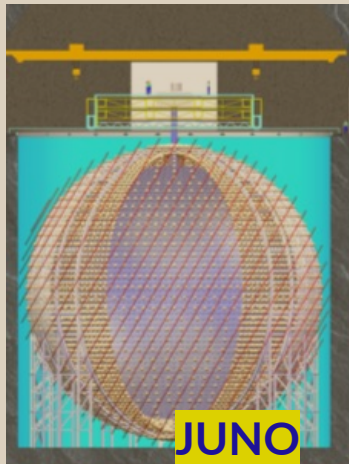


Add 2.5 g/L PPO and 3 mg/L bis-MSB

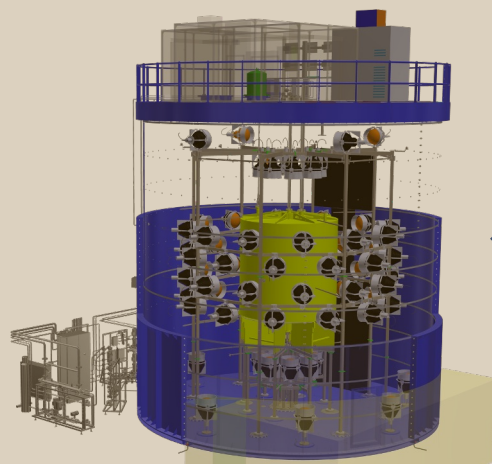


1800 m SS pipes to underground

UNDERGROUND LAB



JUNO



OSIRIS for LS qualification



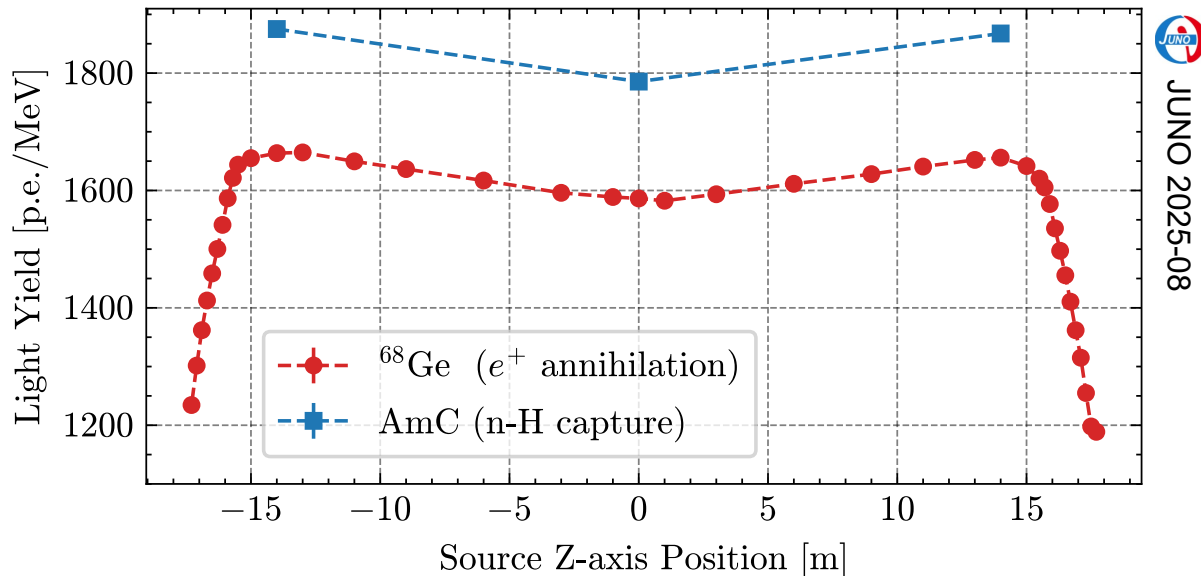
Gas stripping to remove Rn and O_2



Water extraction to remove radioactive impurities

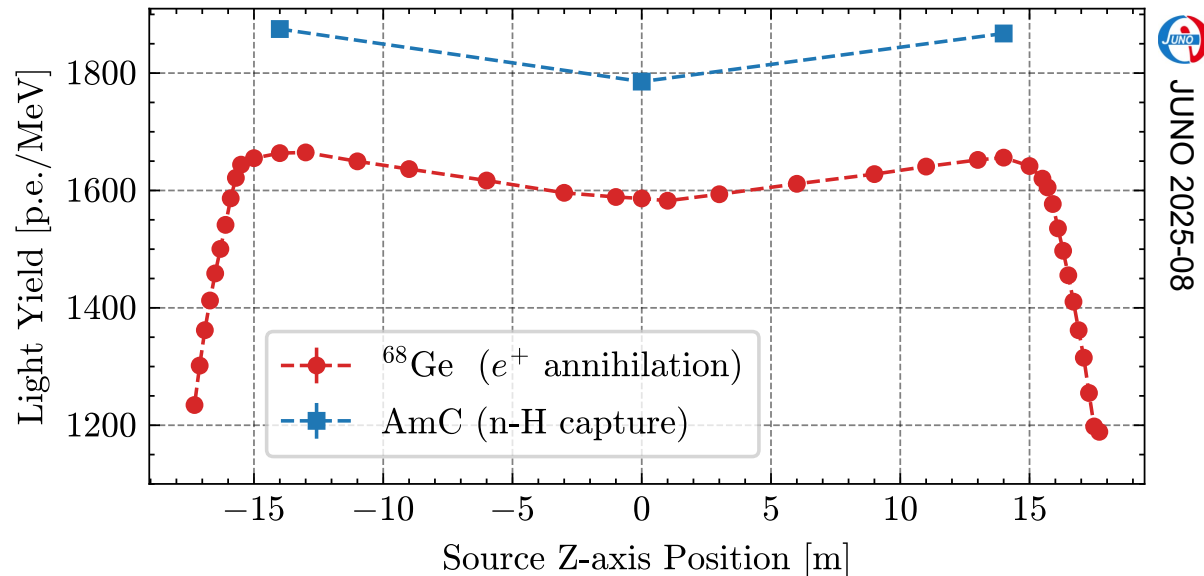
Commissioning : preliminary detector performances

- Light yield in good agreement with expectations:
 - At the CD center: 1786 p.e./MeV (10% higher than expected)
- Small ΔLY between the upper/lower hemisphere < 17 p.e./MeV

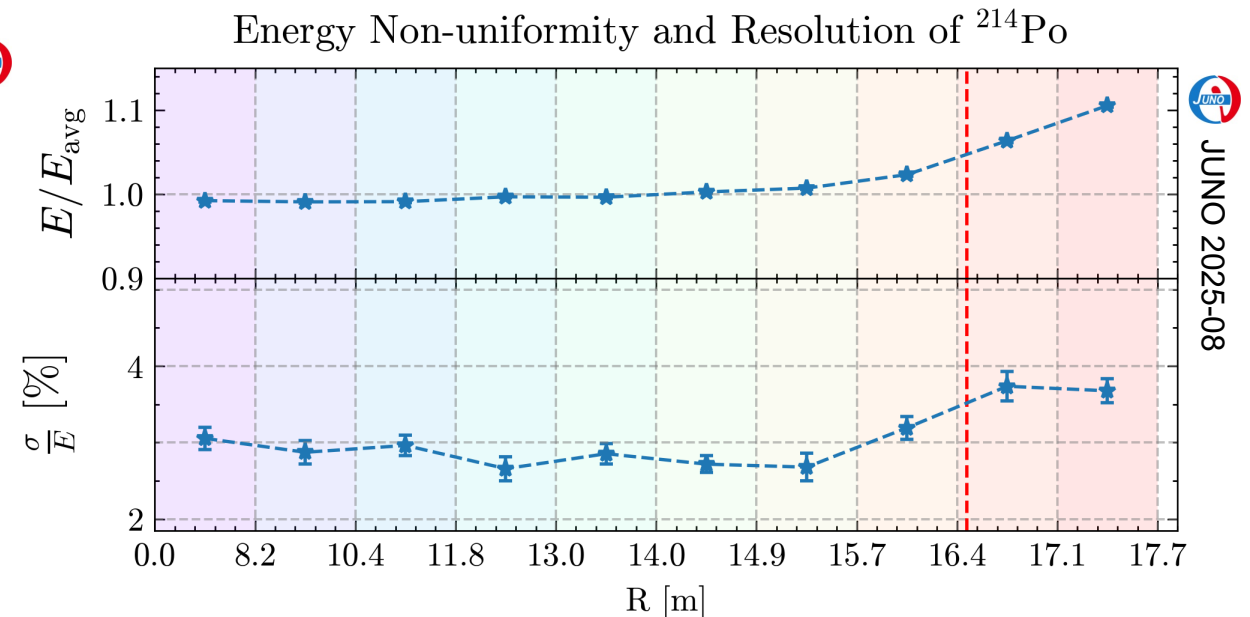


Commissioning : preliminary detector performances

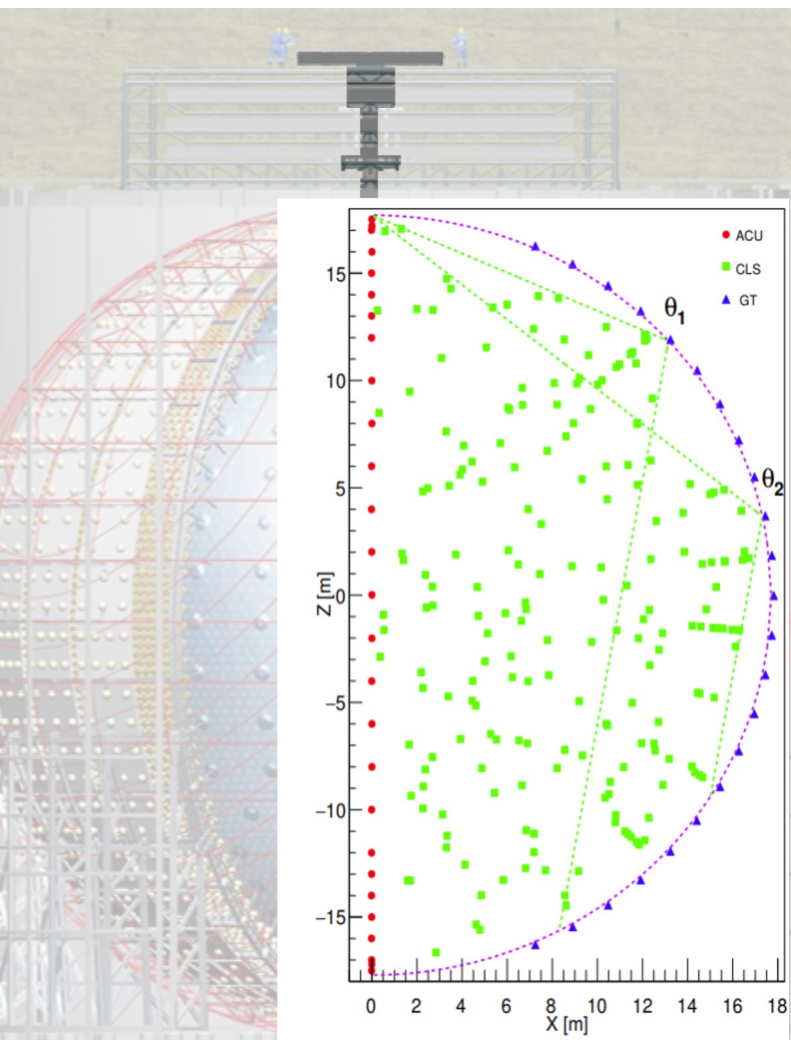
- Light yield in good agreement with expectations:
 - At the CD center: 1786 p.e./MeV (10% higher than expected)
- Small ΔLY between the upper/lower hemisphere < 17 p.e./MeV



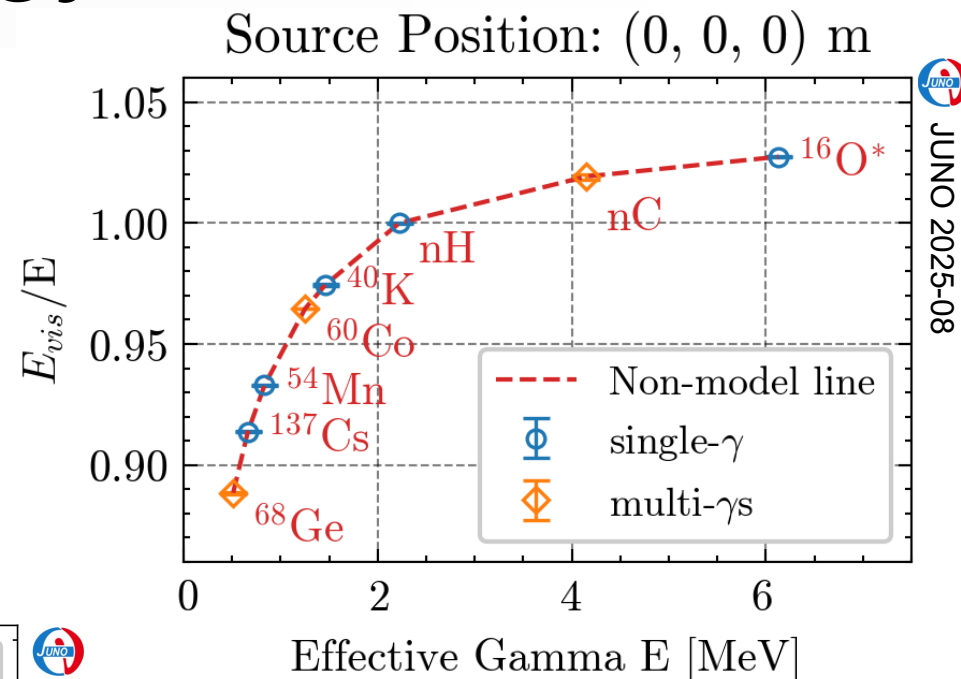
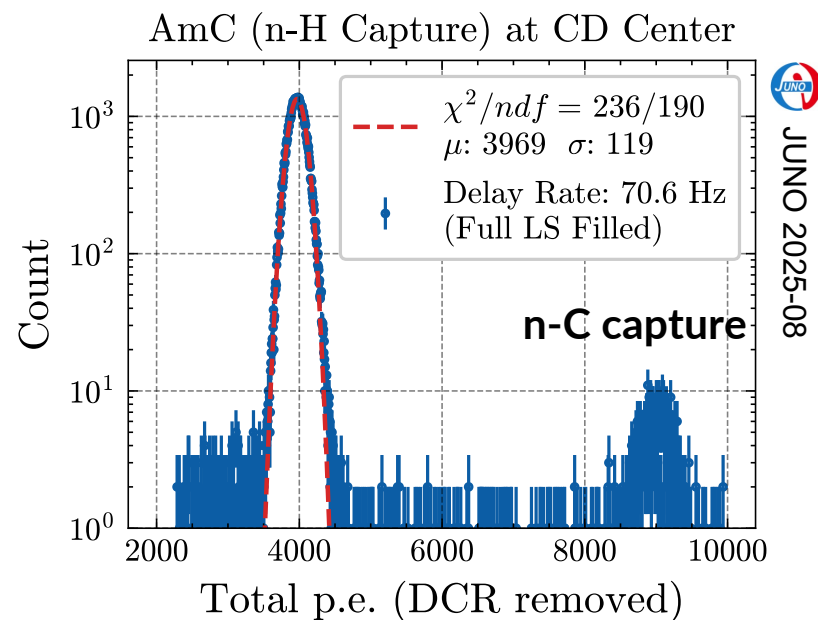
- Energy resolution for alpha from ^{214}Po gives $\sim 3\%$ @0.92MeV
- Residual energy non-uniformity inside Fiducial Volume (FV) $< 2.3\%$



Commissioning : detector energy calibration



- **Automatic Calibration System** (ACU, 1D along central z-axis)
- **Cable Loop System** (CLS, 2D, along a plane)
- **Guided Tube** (GT, 2D along the acrylic sphere)



- **Remotely Operated Vehicle (3D)** can access any position inside the LS volume

Multiple calibration systems have been developed
 Results shown here only for ACU

Commissioning : Water/LS radio-purity

Radiopurity control of raw material:

- ✓ Meticulous Monte Carlo Simulation for proper distribution of radioactivity budget
- ✓ Careful material screening
- ✓ Accurate detector production handling

Better than spec. by 15% ! *JHEP 11 (2021) 102*

Commissioning : Water/LS radio-purity

Radiopurity control of raw material:

- ✓ Meticulous Monte Carlo Simulation for proper distribution of radioactivity budget
- ✓ Careful material screening
- ✓ Accurate detector production handling

Better than spec. by 15% ! *JHEP 11 (2021) 102*

Radiopurity control:

- Leak check of all joints (each $< 10^{-8}$ mbar·L/s) for ^{222}Rn and ^{85}Kr ✓
- Cleaning and washing of all pipes & vessels to remove dust (by check water/LAB cleanness) ✓
- Clean room environment during installation ✓
- Acrylic Surface treatment and protection(Rn daughters) ✓
- LS filling scheme: water replacement and water washing ✓

Commissioning : Water/LS radio-purity

VETO Water:

- $U/Th < 0.4 \times 10^{-15} \text{ g/g}$, $^{222}\text{Rn} < 10 \text{ mBq/m}^3$, $^{226}\text{Ra} < 1 \text{ mBq/m}^3$

Acrylic, water, PMTs, steel and LS are clean and water shielding works

- Single rates $< 7 \text{ Hz}$ for $R < 17.2 \text{ m}$ & $E > 0.7 \text{ MeV}$ (design 7.2 Hz)

→ **Good enough for reactor neutrinos**

LS cleanliness is very close to other solar neutrino experiments:

- $^{238}\text{U} < 3 \times 10^{-17} \text{ g/g}$ (low radon area in a small fiducial volume)
 $< 10 \times 10^{-17} \text{ g/g}$ (fitted plateau from full detector radon decay)
- $^{232}\text{Th} < 10 \times 10^{-17} \text{ g/g}$ ($R < 13 \text{ m}$)
- $^{210}\text{Po} < 10 \times 10^4 \text{ cpd/kt}$

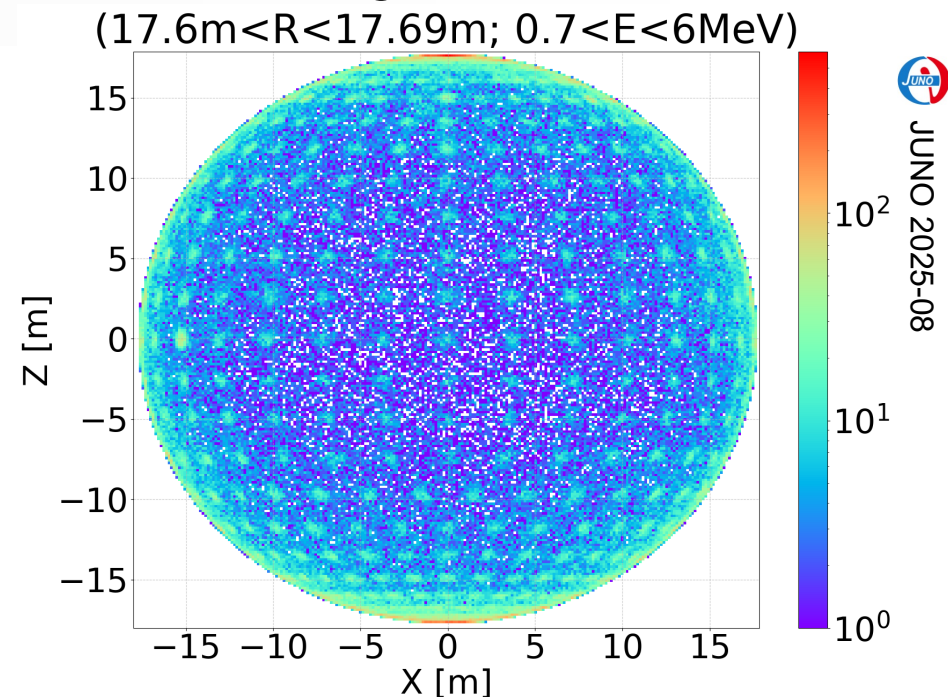
Radiopurity control of raw material:

- ✓ Meticulous Monte Carlo Simulation for proper distribution of radioactivity budget
- ✓ Careful material screening
- ✓ Accurate detector production handling

Better than spec. by 15% ! *JHEP 11 (2021) 102*

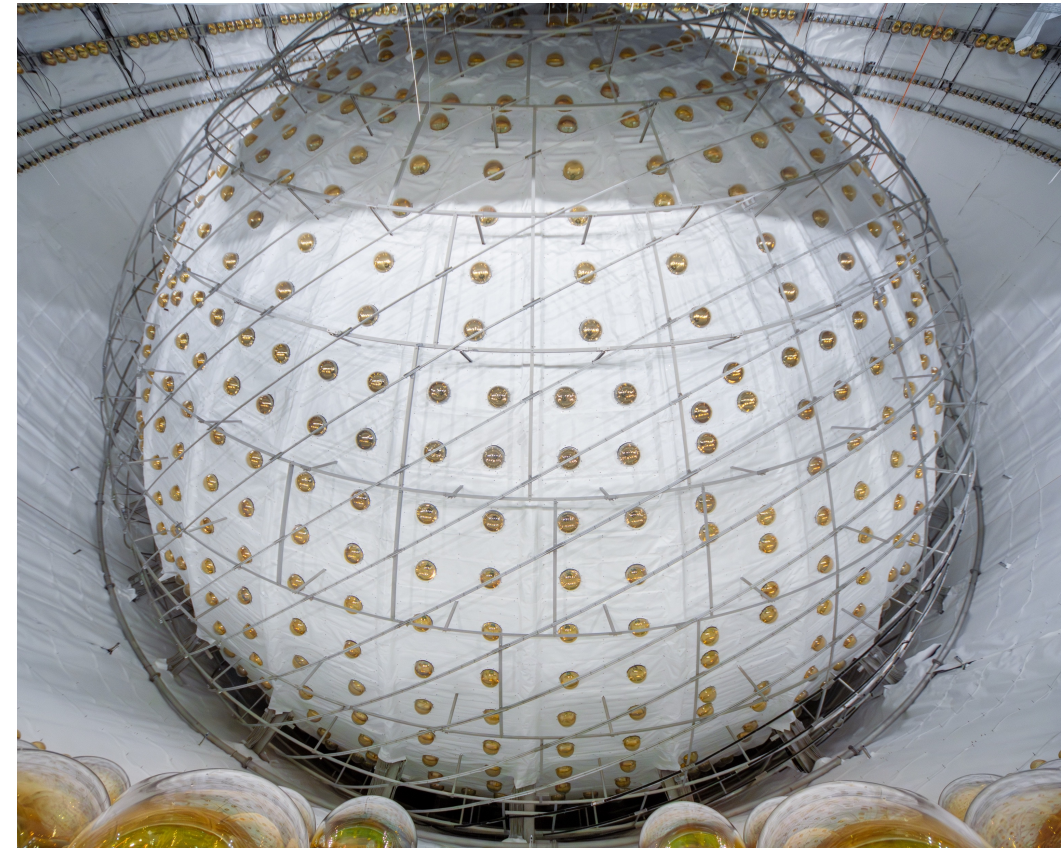
Radiopurity control:

- Leak check of all joints (each $< 10^{-8} \text{ mbar}\cdot\text{L/s}$) for ^{222}Rn and ^{85}Kr ✓
- Cleaning and washing of all pipes & vessels to remove dust (by check water/LAB cleanness) ✓
- Clean room environment during installation ✓
- Acrylic Surface treatment and protection(Rn daughters) ✓
- LS filling scheme: water replacement and water washing ✓

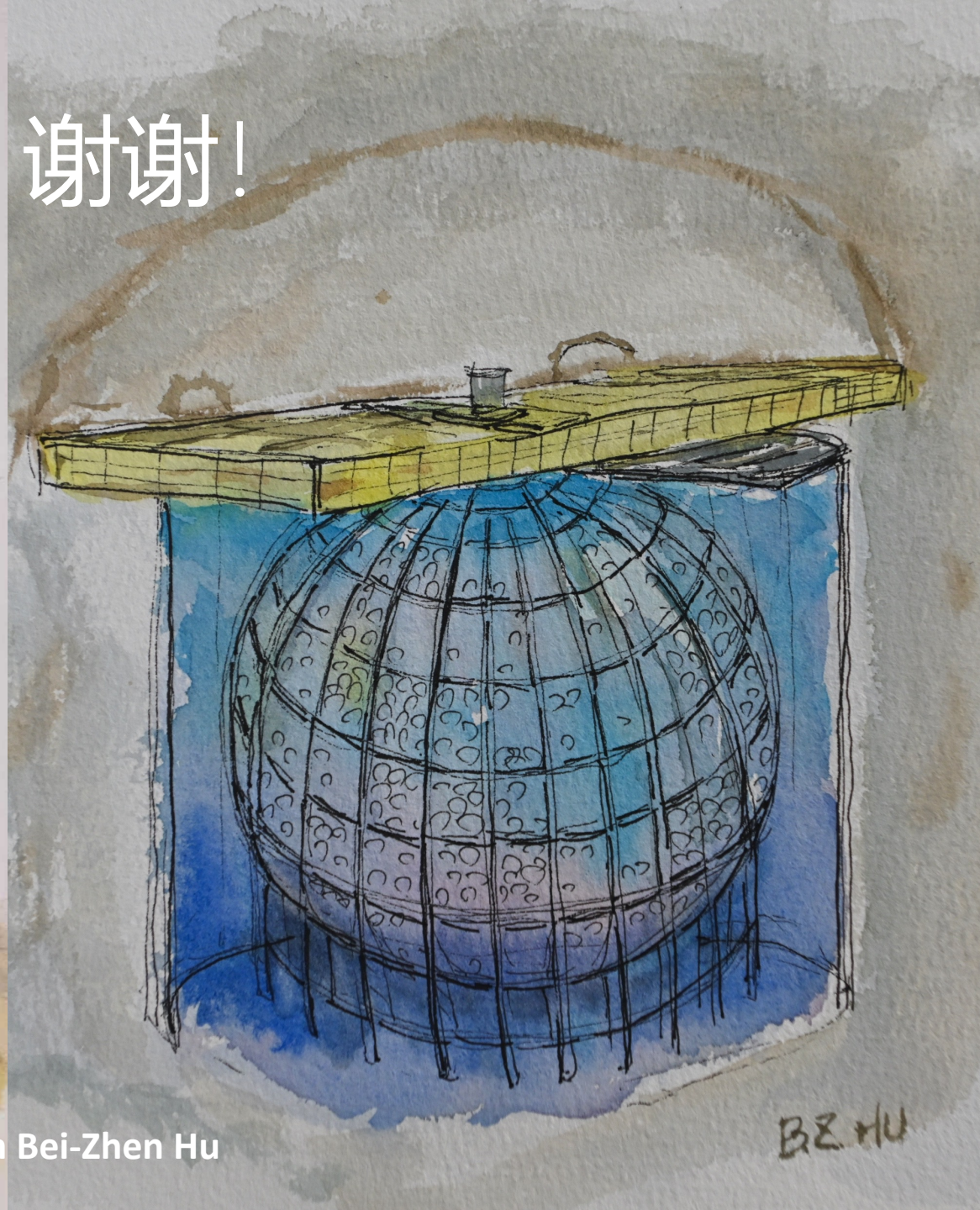


Summary and Outlook

- After 17 years efforts, construction of the JUNO detector is fully completed, despite numerous challenges
- Initial testing and performance studies show that key specifications have been mostly met, such as LS transparency, radiopurity, light yield, linearity and energy resolution
- We are excited to have started the physics data-taking: results shown are fresh obtained after few days of calibration and data taking
- Results from reactor neutrinos will come soon
- Other results on astrophysics will come later



Thanks for your attention! 谢谢!



Drawings from Bei-Zhen Hu