

Searching for nucleon decays with JUNO

JUNO实验寻找核子衰变的潜力

Wanlei Guo (郭万磊)

IHEP, 2023.09.25

第三届“江门中微子实验相关的理论与唯象学”研讨会——大统一专题



Outline



- 1. GUTs and Nucleon Decays**
- 2. Nucleon decay experiments**
- 3. JUNO potential to Nucleon decays**
- 4. Search for other new physics**



(1) Grand United Theories (GUT) and Nucleon Decays



(1) GUTs and Nucleon Decays

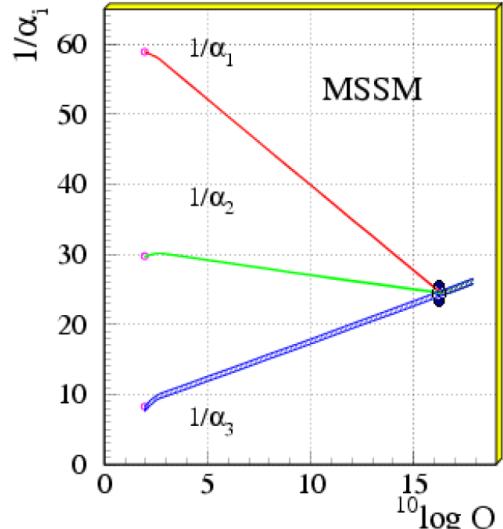


Grand United Theories (GUTs):

1. A larger symmetry group, e.g. SU(5), SO(10), SUSY SU(5)...
2. Spontaneously breaks into the SM group: $SU(3) \otimes SU(2) \otimes U(1)$.
3. Unify the strong, weak and electromagnetic interactions.

Consequences:

- Single (unified) coupling
- Charge quantization
- New gauge bosons → Baryon number violation
- → **Proton decay, B-violation neutron decay**
- B-violation is one of three Sakharov basic ingredients
- Massive neutrinos from SO(10)...
- Other predictions: **Magnetic Monopoles ...**



How to test GUTs?



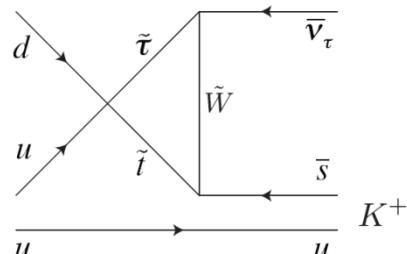
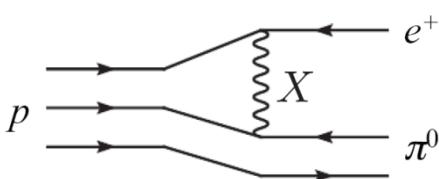
Theoretic predictions and current limits



Two favorite decay channels:

$$p \rightarrow e^+ \pi^0$$

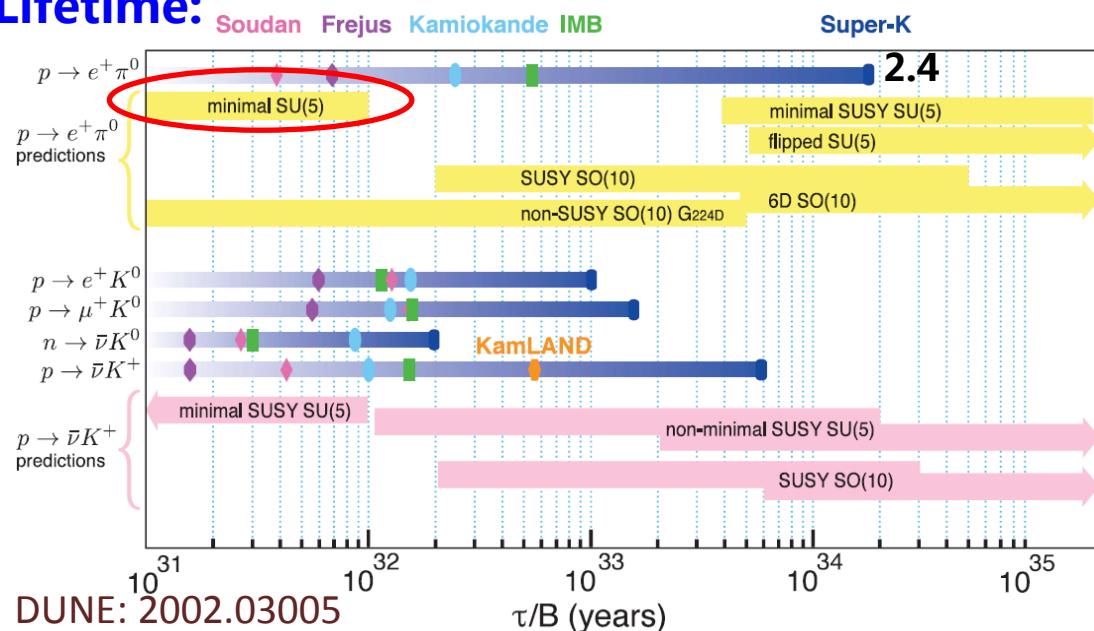
Non-SUSY GUTs



$$p \rightarrow \bar{v} K^+$$

SUSY GUTs

Lifetime:



Branching Ratios:

	Br. (%)				
	SU(5)		SO(10)		
References	[72]	[73]	[74]	[75]	[75]
$p \rightarrow e^+ \pi^0$	33	37	9	35	30
$p \rightarrow e^+ \eta^0$	12	7	3	15	13
$p \rightarrow e^+ \rho^0$	17	2	21	2	2
$p \rightarrow e^+ \omega^0$	22	18	56	17	14
Others	17	35	11	31	31
τ_p/τ_n	0.8	1.0	1.3		

Hyper-K:1109.3262



How many Nucleon decay channels have been measured?



From PDG 2023

Total Channels: 82

Mesons: $\pi^\pm, \pi^0, K^\pm, K^0, \eta, \rho, \omega, K^*(892)$;

Leptons: e^\pm, μ^\pm, ν ; **Photon:** γ

Are there other interesting channels?



Are there other nucleon decay channels ?



Proton 3-body:

Channel	$ \Delta(B - L) $	$\frac{\Gamma^{-1}}{10^9 \text{ yr}}$
$p \rightarrow e^- + e^+ + e^+$	0	793 [46]
$p \rightarrow e^- + e^+ + \mu^+$	0	529 [46]
$p \rightarrow e^+ + e^+ + \mu^-$	0	529* [46]
$p \rightarrow e^- + \mu^+ + \mu^+$	0	6 [73] (359* [46])
$p \rightarrow e^+ + \mu^- + \mu^+$	0	359 [46]
$p \rightarrow \mu^- + \mu^+ + \mu^+$	0	675 [46]
$p \rightarrow e^+ + 2\nu$	0,2	170 [81]
$p \rightarrow \mu^+ + 2\nu$	0,2	220 [81]
$p \rightarrow e^- + 2\pi^+$	2	30 [52] (82* [46])
$p \rightarrow e^- + \pi^+ + \rho^+$	2	
$p \rightarrow e^- + K^+ + \pi^+$	2	75 [46]
$p \rightarrow e^+ + 2\gamma$	0	100 [82] (793* [46])
$p \rightarrow e^+ + \pi^- + \pi^+$	0	82 [46]
$p \rightarrow e^+ + \rho^- + \pi^+$	0	
$p \rightarrow e^+ + K^- + \pi^+$	0	75* [46]
$p \rightarrow e^+ + \pi^- + \rho^+$	0	
$p \rightarrow e^+ + \pi^- + K^+$	0	75* [46]
$p \rightarrow e^+ + 2\pi^0$	0	147 [46]
$p \rightarrow e^+ + \pi^0 + \eta$	0	
$p \rightarrow e^+ + \pi^0 + \rho^0$	0	
$p \rightarrow e^+ + \pi^0 + \omega$	0	
$p \rightarrow e^+ + \pi^0 + K^0$	0	
$p \rightarrow \mu^- + 2\pi^+$	2	17 [52] (133* [46])
$p \rightarrow \mu^- + K^+ + \pi^+$	2	245 [46]
$p \rightarrow \mu^+ + 2\gamma$	0	529* [46]
$p \rightarrow \mu^+ + \pi^- + \pi^+$	0	133 [46]
$p \rightarrow \mu^+ + K^- + \pi^+$	0	245* [46]
$p \rightarrow \mu^+ + \pi^- + K^+$	0	245* [46]
$p \rightarrow \mu^+ + 2\pi^0$	0	101 [46]
$p \rightarrow \mu^+ + \pi^0 + \eta$	0	
$p \rightarrow \mu^+ + \pi^0 + K^0$	0	
$p \rightarrow \nu + \pi^+ + \pi^0$	0,2	
$p \rightarrow \nu + \pi^+ + \eta$	0,2	
$p \rightarrow \nu + \pi^+ + \rho^0$	0,2	
$p \rightarrow \nu + \pi^+ + \omega$	0,2	
$p \rightarrow \nu + \pi^+ + K^0$	0,2	
$p \rightarrow \nu + \rho^+ + \pi^0$	0,2	
$p \rightarrow \nu + K^+ + \pi^0$	0,2	

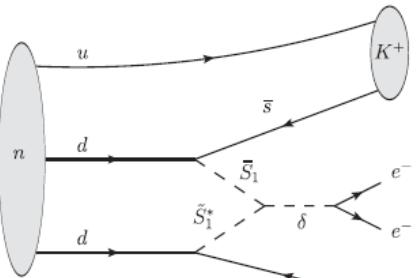
Neutron 3-body:

Channel	$ \Delta(B - L) $	$\frac{\Gamma^{-1}}{10^9 \text{ yr}}$
$\rightarrow \nu + e^- + e^+$	0,2	257 [46]
$\rightarrow \nu + e^- + \mu^+$	0,2	83 [46]
$\rightarrow \nu + e^+ + \mu^-$	0,2	83* [46]
$\rightarrow \nu + \mu^- + \mu^+$	0,2	79 [46]
$\rightarrow 3\nu$	0,2,4	0,58 [83]
$\rightarrow e^- + \pi^+ + \pi^0$	2	29 [52] (52* [46])
$\rightarrow e^- + \pi^+ + \eta$	2	
$\rightarrow e^- + \pi^+ + \rho^0$	2	
$\rightarrow e^- + \pi^+ + \omega$	2	
$\rightarrow e^- + \pi^+ + K^0$	2	
$\rightarrow e^- + \rho^+ + \pi^0$	2	
$\rightarrow e^- + K^+ + \pi^0$	2	
$\rightarrow e^+ + \pi^- + \pi^0$	0	52 [46]
$\rightarrow e^+ + \pi^- + \eta$	0	
$\rightarrow e^+ + \pi^- + \rho^0$	0	
$\rightarrow e^+ + \pi^- + \omega$	0	
$\rightarrow e^+ + \pi^- + K^0$	0	18 [82]
$\rightarrow e^+ + \rho^- + \pi^0$	0	
$\rightarrow e^+ + K^- + \pi^0$	0	
$\rightarrow \mu^+ + \pi^+ + \pi^0$	2	34 [52] (74* [46])
$\rightarrow \mu^+ + \pi^+ + \eta$	2	
$\rightarrow \mu^+ + \pi^+ + K^0$	2	
$\rightarrow \mu^+ + K^+ + \pi^0$	2	
$\rightarrow \mu^+ + \pi^- + \pi^0$	0	74 [46]
$\rightarrow \mu^+ + \pi^- + \eta$	0	
$\rightarrow \mu^+ + \pi^- + K^0$	0	
$\rightarrow \mu^+ + K^- + \pi^0$	0	
$\rightarrow \nu + 2\gamma$	0,2	219 [46]
$\rightarrow \nu + \pi^- + \pi^+$	0,2	
$\rightarrow \nu + \rho^- + \pi^+$	0,2	
$\rightarrow \nu + K^- + \pi^+$	0,2	
$\rightarrow \nu + \pi^- + \rho^+$	0,2	
$\rightarrow \nu + \pi^- + K^+$	0,2	
$\rightarrow \nu + 2\pi^0$	0,2	
$\rightarrow \nu + \pi^0 + \eta$	0,2	
$\rightarrow \nu + \pi^0 + \rho^0$	0,2	
$\rightarrow \nu + \pi^0 + \omega$	0,2	
$\rightarrow \nu + \pi^0 + K^0$	0,2	

Dinucleon decay:

Channel	$ \Delta(B - L) $	$\frac{\Gamma^{-1}}{10^9 \text{ yr}}$
$nn \rightarrow \pi^0 + \phi$	2	
$nn \rightarrow 2\eta$	2	
$nn \rightarrow \eta + \rho^0$	2	
$nn \rightarrow \eta + \omega$	2	
$nn \rightarrow \eta + \eta'$	2	
$nn \rightarrow \eta + K^0$	2	
$nn \rightarrow \eta + K^{*,0}$	2	
$nn \rightarrow \eta + \phi$	2	
$nn \rightarrow 2\rho^0$	2	
$nn \rightarrow \rho^0 + \omega$	2	
$nn \rightarrow \eta' + \rho^0$	2	
$nn \rightarrow K^0 + \rho^0$	2	
$nn \rightarrow K^{*,0} + \rho^0$	2	
$nn \rightarrow \rho^0 + \phi$	2	
$nn \rightarrow \rho^- + \rho^+$	2	
$nn \rightarrow K^+ + \rho^-$	2	
$nn \rightarrow K^{*,+} + \rho^-$	2	
$nn \rightarrow K^- + \rho^+$	2	
$nn \rightarrow K^{*-} + \rho^+$	2	
$nn \rightarrow 2\omega$	2	
$nn \rightarrow \eta' + \omega$	2	
$nn \rightarrow K^0 + \omega$	2	
$nn \rightarrow K^{*,0} + \omega$	2	
$nn \rightarrow \omega + \phi$	2	
$nn \rightarrow \eta' + K^0$	2	
$nn \rightarrow \eta' + K^{*,0}$	2	
$nn \rightarrow K^- + K^+$	2	170* [116]
$nn \rightarrow K^+ + K^{*-}$	2	
$nn \rightarrow K^- + K^{*,+}$	2	
$nn \rightarrow 2K^0$	2	
$nn \rightarrow K^{*,0} + K^0$	2	
$nn \rightarrow K^0 + \phi$	2	
$nn \rightarrow 2K^{*,0}$	2	
$nn \rightarrow K^{*-} + K^{*,+}$	2	

4-body decay:



From PRD 101, 015005 (2020)

Others?



(2) *Nucleon decay experiments*



Experimental tests of nucleon decays before GUTs



- In 1954, Reines, Cowan and Goldhaber give the first limit: $\tau(p) > 10^{22}$ yrs
- Before the discovery of $\bar{\nu}_e$ in 1956.
Phys. Rev.96, 1157 (1954)

Authors	Experiment	Decay mode	Depth (mwe)	τ_{\min} (yrs)
Reines, Cowan, and Goldhaber 1954 [4]	300 l liquid scint.	All ($E_{ch} > 100$ MeV)	200	10^{22}
Reines, Cowan and Kruse 1958 [49]	As above, with delayed neutron pulse	All	200	$4 \cdot 10^{23}$
Backenstoss et al. 1960 [8]	50 l liquid Cerenkov, upward rel. sec.	At least one secondary of > 250 MeV	2400	$3 \cdot 10^{26}$
Giamati and Reines 1962 [50] Kropp and Reines 1965 [51]	200 l liquid scint.	All	1760	$6 \cdot 10^{27}$ $\sim 10^{28}$
Gurr et al. 1967 [52]	Scint. hodoscope	All	8000	$2 \cdot 10^{28}$



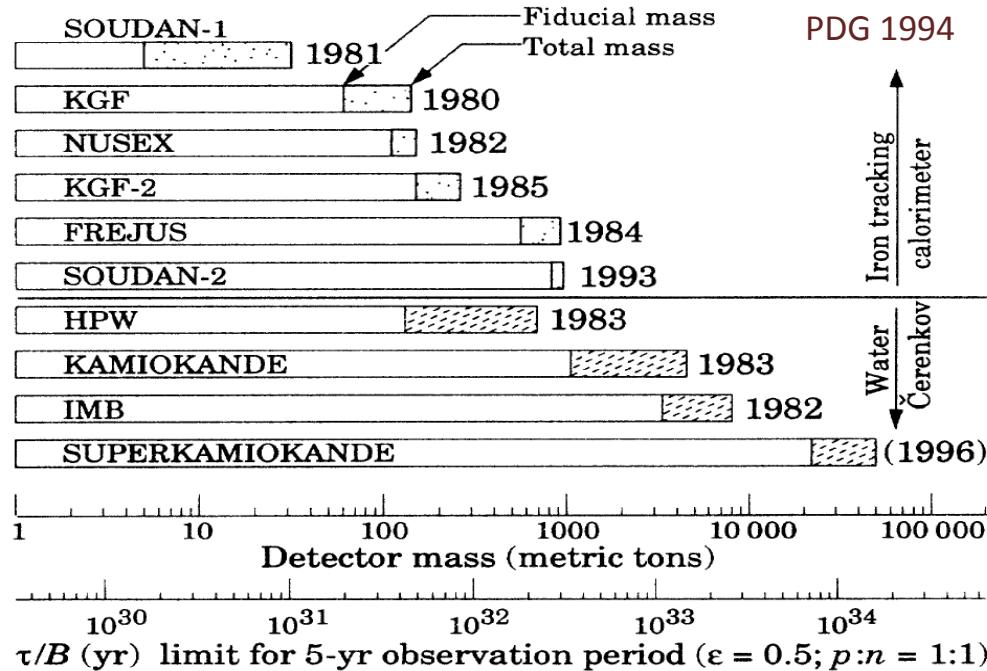
First generation of proton decay experiments



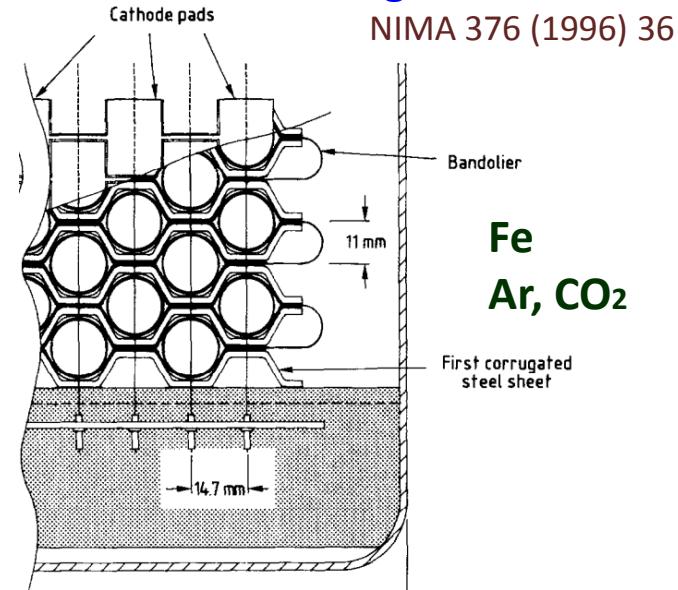
In 1974, Georgi and Glashow give SU(5) GUT, → proton lifetime $\sim 10^{29}$ yrs

→ Detector with about 1000 ton mass can test the SU(5) GUT

→ The first generation of experiments are proposed and constructed



SOUDAN-2 Iron tracking calorimeter



They do not find the evidence for proton decay, excluding minimal SU(5)!

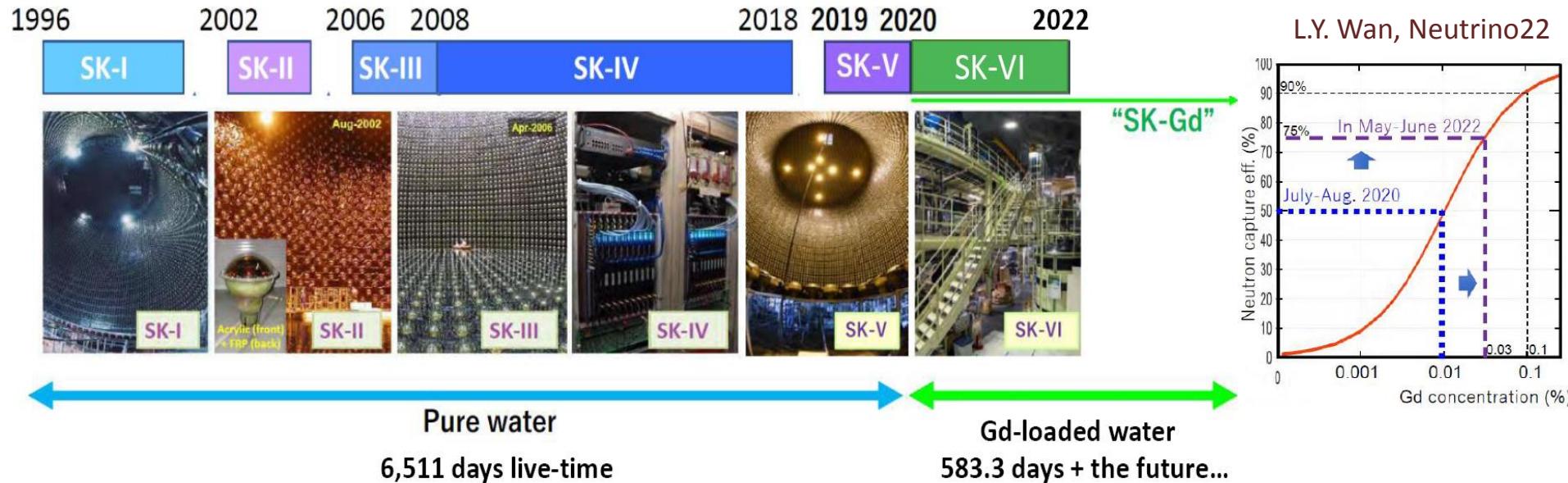


Second generation of proton decay experiments



Super-Kamiokande: Water Cerenkov, 50 kton → 22.5 kton

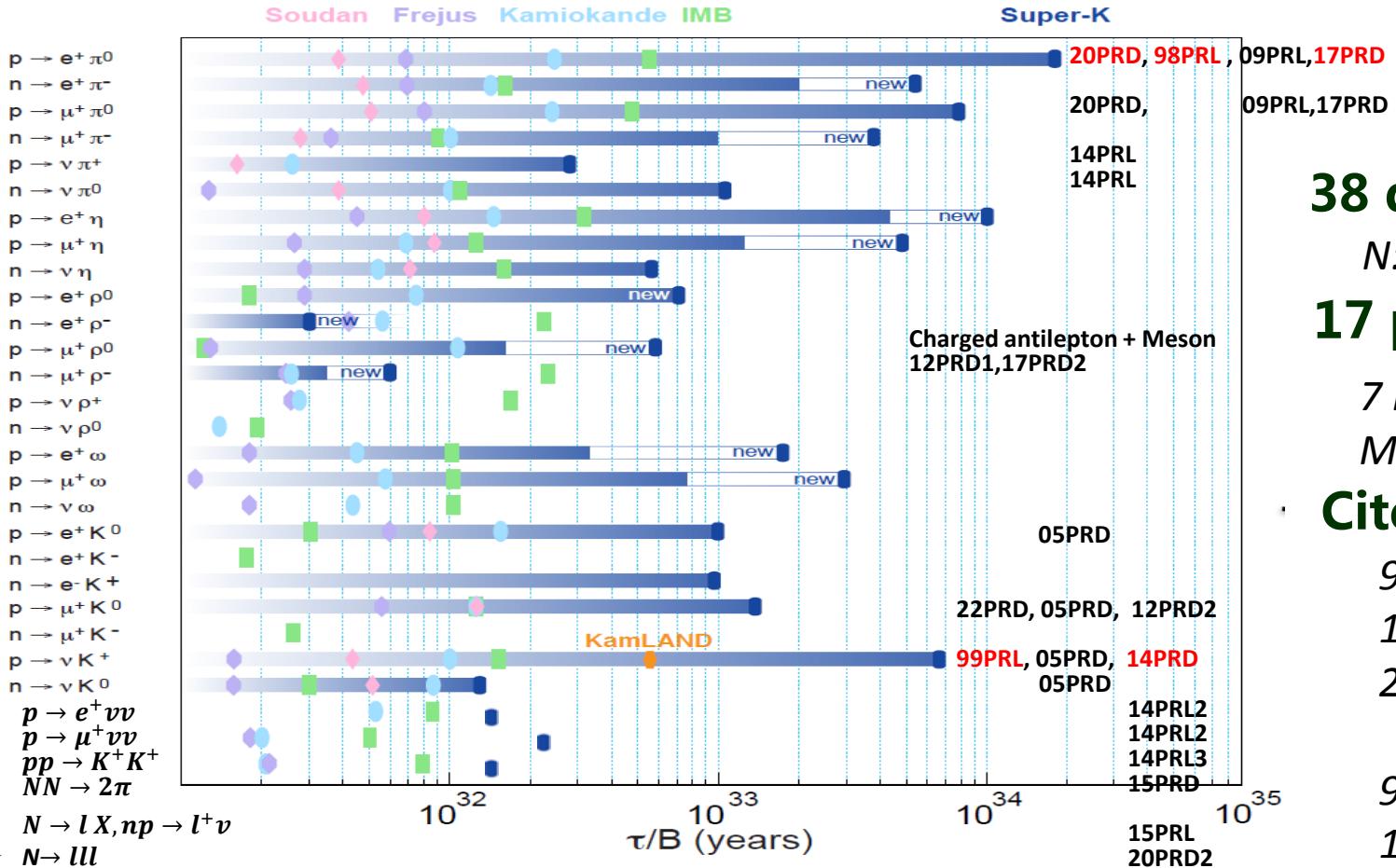
Gd concentration at SK-VI:
0.011% in weight.



After 2000, some neutrino experiments, such as KamLAND, SNO and Borexino, have also give several limits on nucleon decays.



Super-K results on nucleon decays



38 decay modes:

N: 31; *NN*: 7

17 paper:

7 PRL, 10 PRD

Most after 2012

Cites:

98PRL: 208

17PRD: 304

20PRD: 80

99PRL: 201

14PRD: 212



Super-K searching for $p \rightarrow e^+ \pi^0$

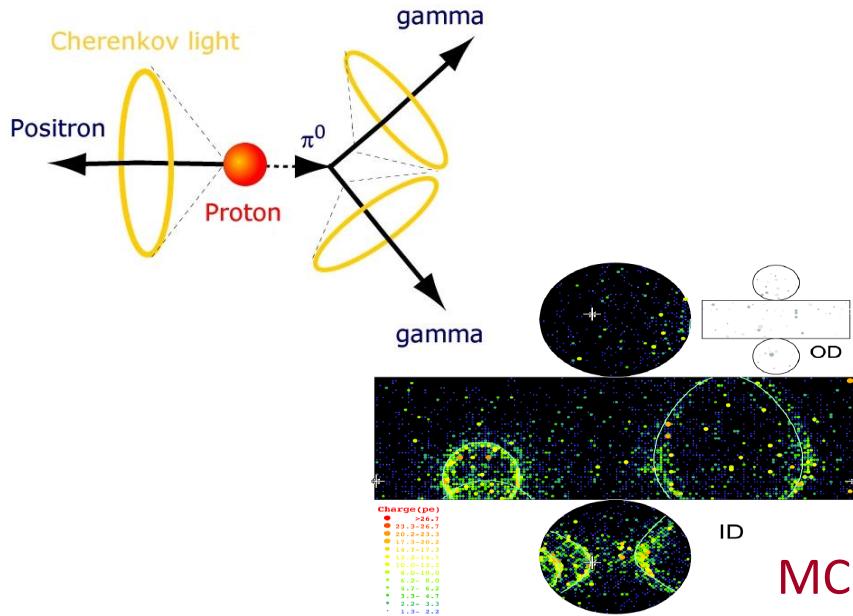


Signal features:

- Momentum of e^+ and π^0 is 460 MeV
- Kinetic energy : 459 MeV and 344 MeV

Event selection:

- A. Two or three rings
- B. e-like rings
- C. Invariant mass of π^0 (135MeV) : 85-185MeV
- D. No Michel electron
- E. \vec{P}_{tot} (<250MeV) and M_{invar} (800-1050 MeV)



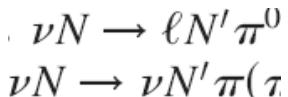
Results:

450 kton years

Efficiency: ~20%

$$\tau/B(p \rightarrow e^+ \pi^0) > 2.4 \times 10^{34} \text{ yrs}$$

Background: ~0.6





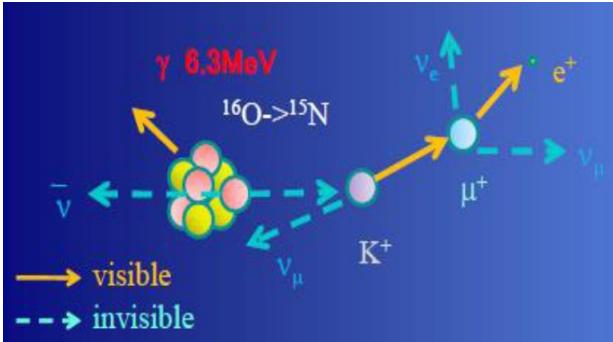
Super-K searching for $p \rightarrow \bar{v} K^+$



Signal features:

- Momentum of \bar{v} and K^+ is 339 MeV (105 MeV)
- 89% K^+ decay at rest (12.38ns):

$$K^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ \nu_\mu \text{ (63.43\%)}, K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^0 \text{ (21.13\%)},$$



Event selection:

- 1: $K^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ \nu_\mu \rightarrow \gamma \text{ (6.3MeV, 41\%)} \text{ from } {}^{16}\text{O} + \mu^+ + \text{Michel } e^+$
- 2: $K^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ \nu_\mu \rightarrow \text{Monoenergetic } \mu^+ \text{ (} p = 236\text{MeV)}$
- 3: $K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^0 \rightarrow \text{two rings from } \pi^0 \text{ (} M_{inv}, p \text{)} + \pi^+ \text{ (direction, } e^+)$

$\nu p \rightarrow \nu K^+ \Lambda$ (48%),
 ν_μ CCQE (25%),

CC $1\pi^0$ with μ (38%),
kaon production (37%),
NC multi- π (11%)

Results:

260 kton years

Efficiency: ~8.4%, 9%



Background: ~0.24, 0.45

$$\tau/B(p \rightarrow \bar{v} K^+) > 5.9 \times 10^{33} \text{ yrs}$$

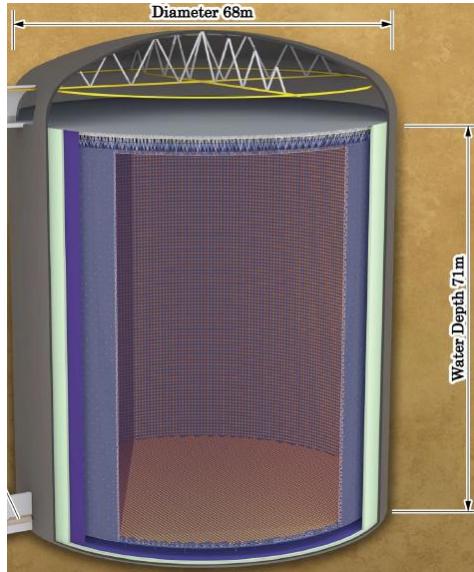
PRD 90, 072005 (2014)



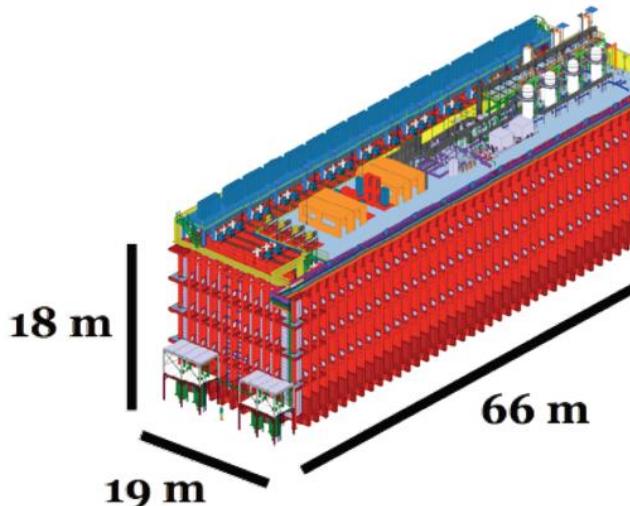
Future Nucleon Decay Experiments



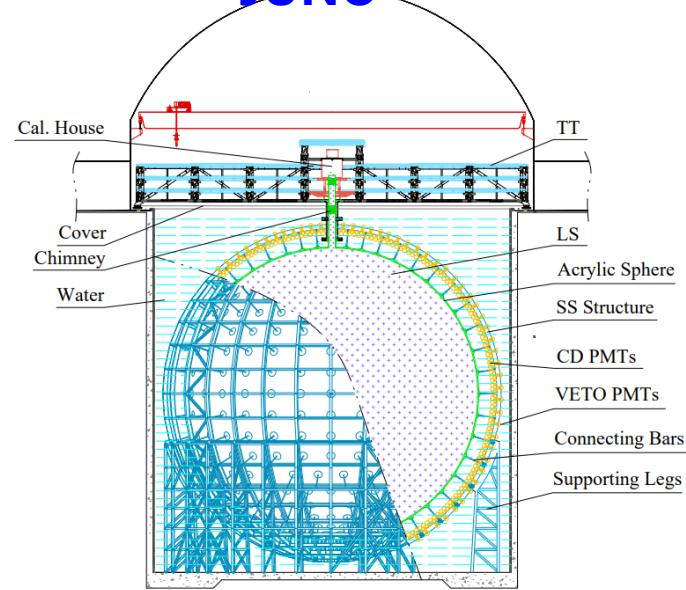
Hyper-K



DUNE



JUNO



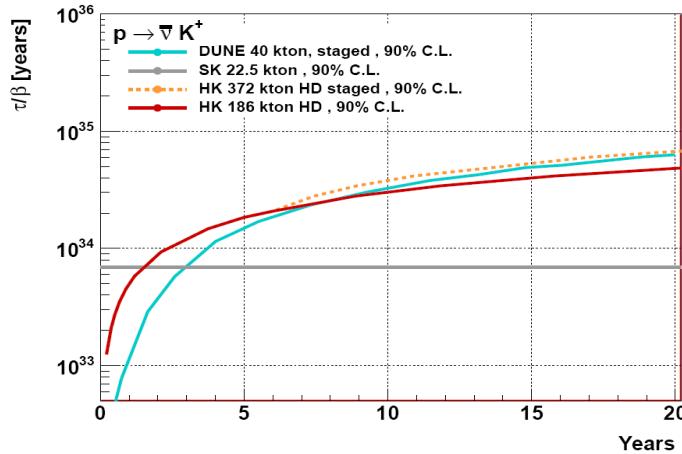
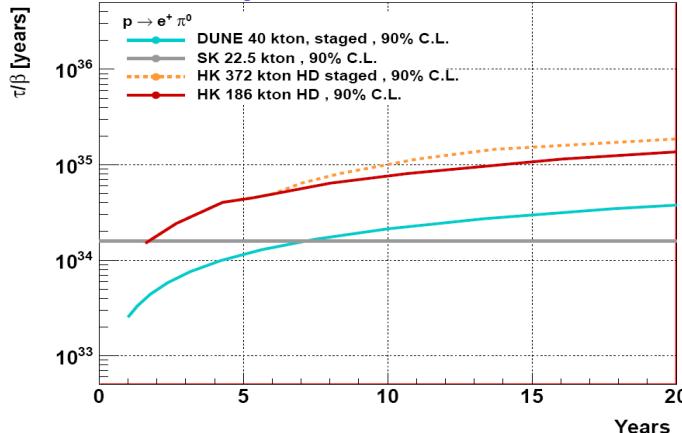
	Hyper-K	DUNE	JUNO
Mass (kton)	258 (186)	4*17 (4*10)	20
Target Nucleus	H ₂ O	Ar40	12% H, 88% C12
Technology	Water Cerenkov	LAr TPC	Liquid Scintillator
Start Time	2027	2030	2024



Nucleon decay searches in Hyper-K



Similar analysis methods with Super-K:



10 years sensitivity with 1 TANK:

Mode	Sensitivity (90% CL) [years]	Current limit [years]
$p \rightarrow e^+ \pi^0$	7.8×10^{34}	1.6×10^{34}
$p \rightarrow \bar{\nu} K^+$	3.2×10^{34}	0.7×10^{34}
$p \rightarrow \mu^+ \pi^0$	7.7×10^{34}	0.77×10^{34}
$p \rightarrow e^+ \eta^0$	4.3×10^{34}	1.0×10^{34}
$p \rightarrow \mu^+ \eta^0$	4.9×10^{34}	0.47×10^{34}
$p \rightarrow e^+ \rho^0$	0.63×10^{34}	0.07×10^{34}
$p \rightarrow \mu^+ \rho^0$	0.22×10^{34}	0.06×10^{34}
$p \rightarrow e^+ \omega^0$	0.86×10^{34}	0.16×10^{34}
$p \rightarrow \mu^+ \omega^0$	1.3×10^{34}	0.28×10^{34}
$n \rightarrow e^+ \pi^-$	2.0×10^{34}	0.53×10^{34}
$n \rightarrow \mu^+ \pi^-$	1.8×10^{34}	0.35×10^{34}

Hyper-Kamiokande Design Report: 1805.04163



Liquid Argon TPC: DUNE

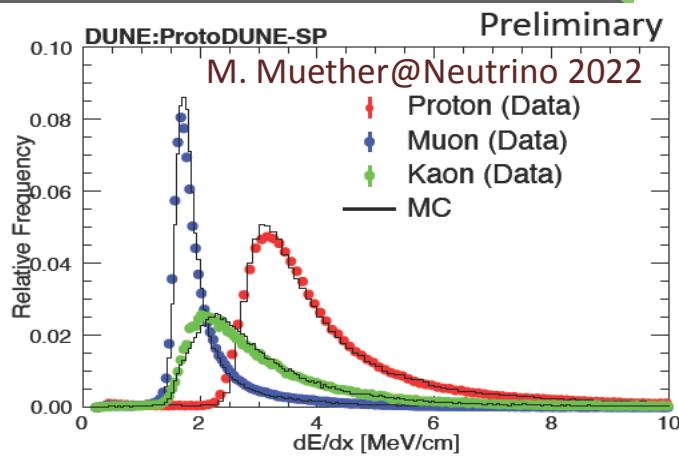
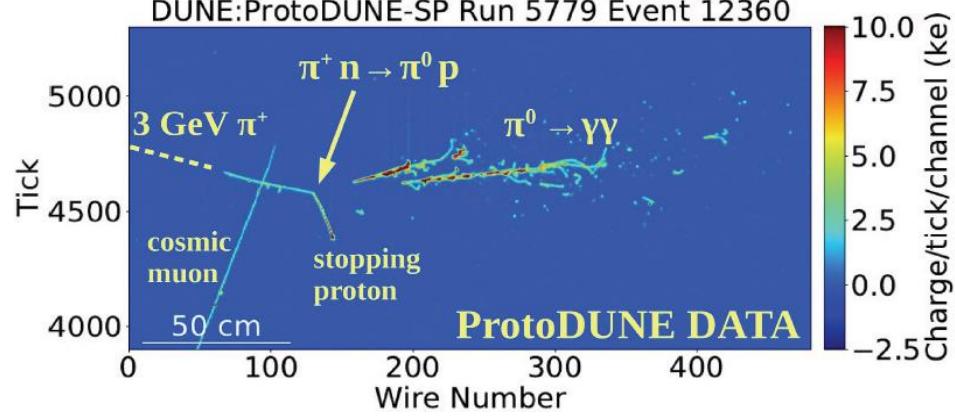


4x10 kton, LArTPC, 87 K, 1475m, 1300 km → δ_{CP} , MH, B-violation

1300 km



DUNE:ProtoDUNE-SP Run 5779 Event 12360



400 kton yrs



$$\tau/B(p \rightarrow e^+ \pi^0) > 0.87 - 1.1 \times 10^{34} \text{ yrs } (E \text{ smearing})$$

$$\tau/B(p \rightarrow \bar{\nu} K^+) > 1.3 \times 10^{34} \text{ yrs, } (30\%, 0.4 \text{ bkg}) \quad \text{DUNE Physics 2022.03005}$$



JUNO: Detector

Top Tracker (TT)

- Precise μ tracker
- 3 layers of plastic scintillator
- $\sim 60\%$ of area above WCD

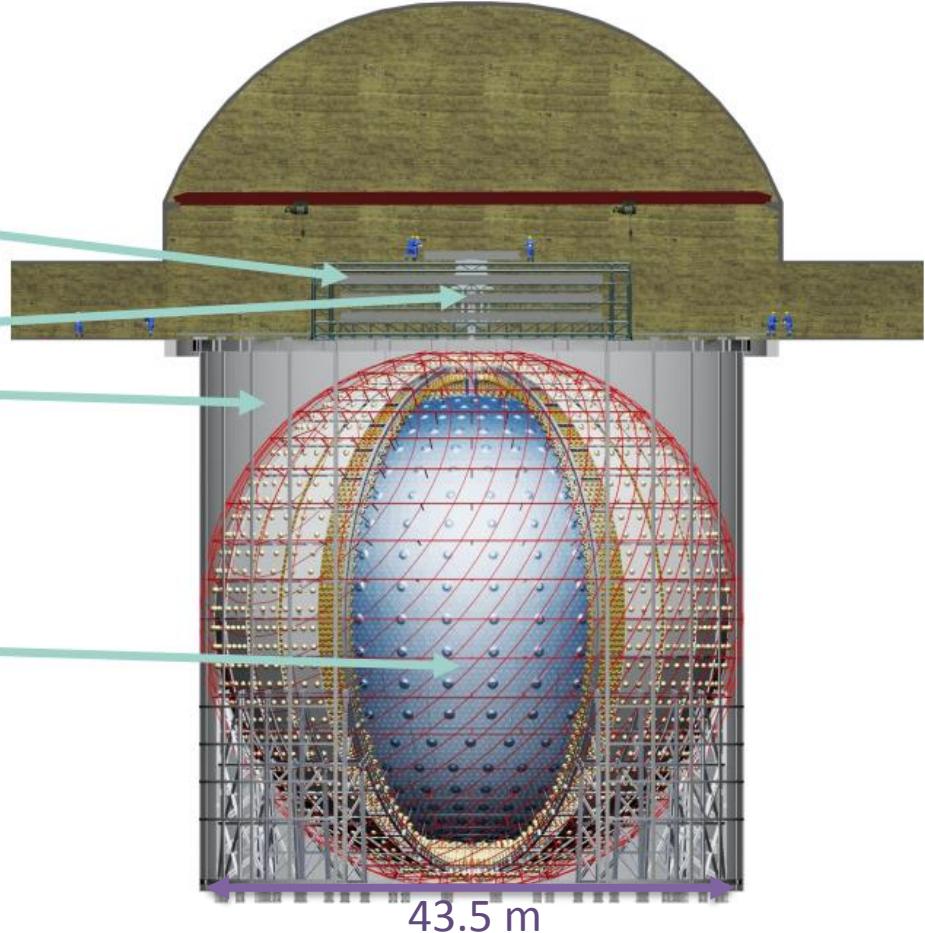
Calibration House

Water Cherenkov Detector

- 35 kton ultra-pure water
- 2.4k 20" PMTs
- High μ detection efficiency
- Protects CD from external radioactivity & neutrons from cosmic-rays

Central Detector

- Acrylic sphere with 20 kton liquid scint
- 17.6k 20" PMTs + 25.6k 3" PMTs
- 3% energy resolution @ 1 MeV





Features of JUNO LS detector



How to measure a physical signal:

Charged particles
propagate in LS

Waveform
Reconstruct PEs
 $\sim 1345/\text{MeV}$

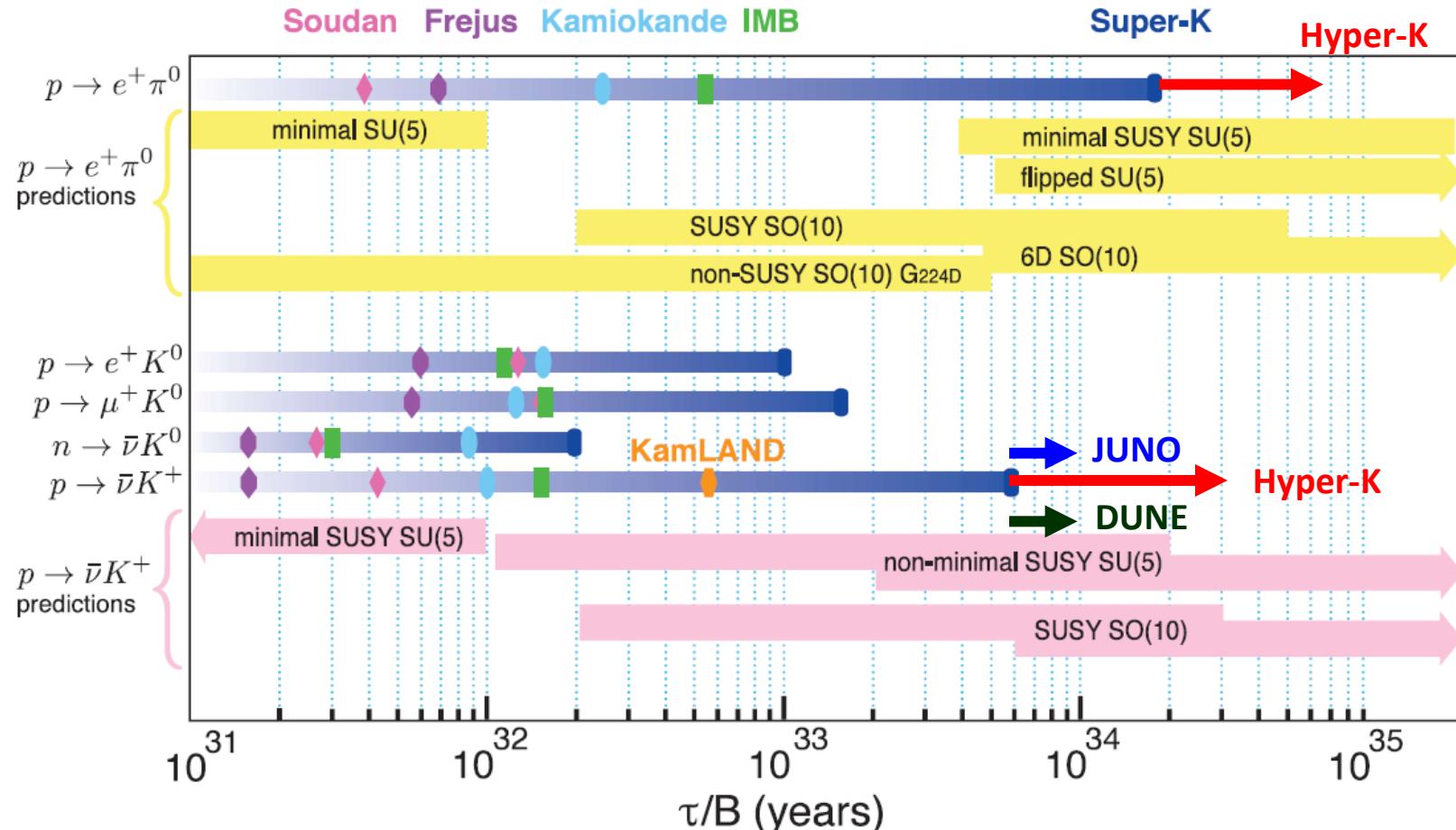
→ Ionize LAB molecule → fluor from de-excitation → Propagate in LS
↓
PMT collects PE
and amplification ← Photon electron via
photoelectric effect ← PPO shift
wavelength
on PMT photocathode

→ Excellent energy resolution: $\sigma_E \approx \sqrt{1345}/1345 \approx 3.0\% @ 1\text{MeV}$
Excellent energy threshold: 0.7 MeV

If a new physics process can produce the ionization signal in LS,
JUNO has the potential to test this new physics!!!

Nucleon decay, Dark Matter, Monopole, neutron-antineutron oscillation...

Future sensitivities of 10yrs on two flavor channels





Comparison of Hyper-K, DUNE and JUNO



	Hyper-K	DUNE	JUNO
Mass (kton)	258 (186)	4*17 (4*10)	20
Target Nucleus	H ₂ O	Ar40	12% H, 88% C12
Technology	Water Cerenkov	LAr TPC	Liquid Scintillator
Start Time	2027	2030	2024
Advantages	Large mass and cheap Good particle Identification Good direction resolution	Excellent track reconstruction Excellent particle Identification Good energy resolution	Excellent energy resolution 3% Excellent E threshold 0.7MeV
Shortcomings	Cerenkov threshold	Complex FSI for Ar40	Direction information lost



(3) JUNO potential to Nucleon decays



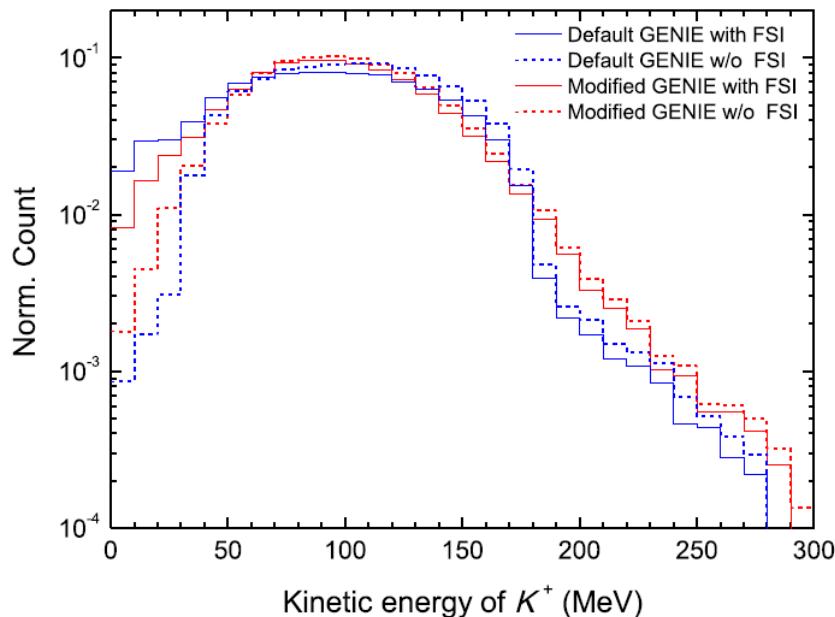
Search for $p \rightarrow \bar{\nu} K^+$ in JUNO



20 kton LS: Free proton: 1.45×10^{33}
Bound proton: 5.30×10^{33}

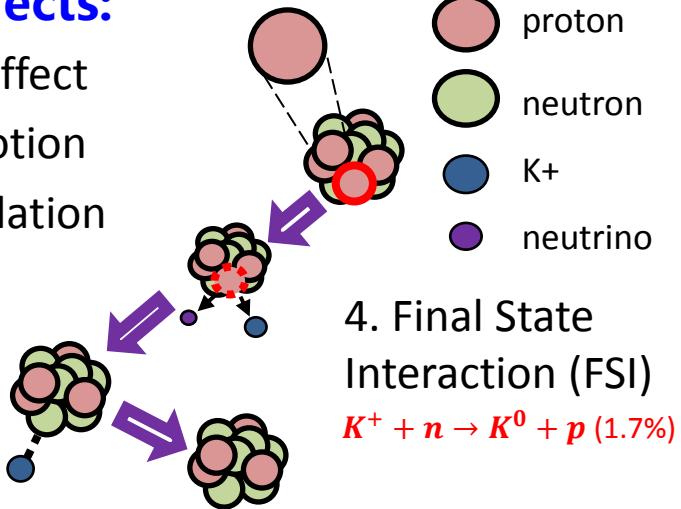
Kinetic energy of K^+

Free proton $\rightarrow 105$ MeV
Bound proton: \downarrow



Nuclear Effects:

1. Binding Effect
2. Fermi Motion
3. NN correlation



5. De-excitation of remaining nuclear:
could emit $\gamma/p/n$.

- **Modify GENIE generator**
- **Implement de-excitation with TALYS**

H. Hu, W.L. Guo et al, PLB 831, 137183(2022)

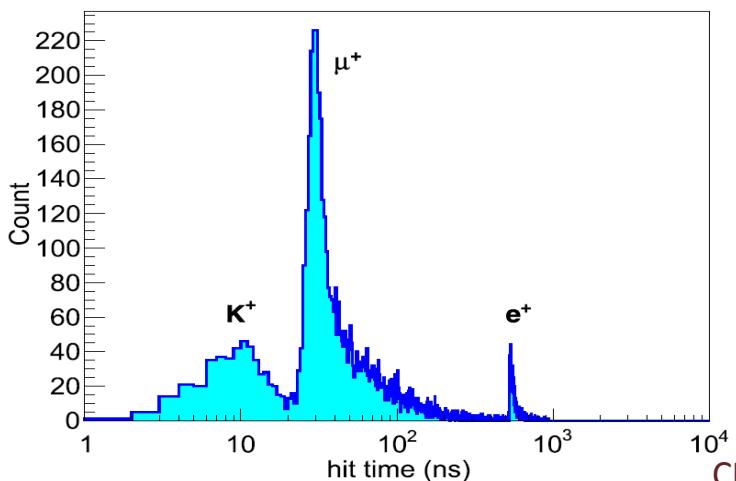


Signal characters of $p \rightarrow \bar{\nu} K^+$ in JUNO



Triple coincident signals :

Decay mode	Branching ratio (%)	Kinetic energy sum (MeV)
$K^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ \nu_\mu$	63.55 ± 0.11	152
$K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^0$	20.66 ± 0.08	354
$K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^+ \pi^-$	5.59 ± 0.04	75
$K^+ \rightarrow \pi^0 e^+ \nu_e$	5.07 ± 0.04	265–493
$K^+ \rightarrow \pi^0 \mu^+ \nu_\mu$	3.353 ± 0.034	200–388
$K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^0 \pi^0$	1.761 ± 0.022	354



CPC 47, 113002 (2023)

First pulse: K^+ kinetic energy of ~105 MeV, decay at rest

$K^+ \rightarrow \nu_\mu + \mu^+$
15 cm, 1.2ns

Second pulse
 $\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+ + \nu_e + \bar{\nu}_\mu$

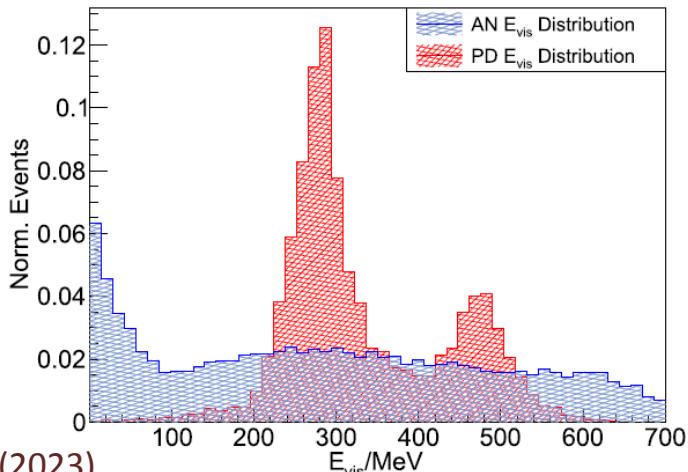
152 MeV (μ^+) or 354 MeV(π^+, π^0)

$K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ + \pi^0$

Second pulse
 $\pi^0 \xrightarrow{8.4 \times 10^{-8} \text{ ns}} 2\gamma$
 $\pi^+ \rightarrow \nu_\mu + \mu^+$

Third pulse: Michel e^+
 $\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+ + \nu_e + \bar{\nu}_\mu$

AN and PD candidates Evis Distribution





Backgrounds



Type	Ratio (%)	Ratio with E_{vis} in [100 MeV, 600 MeV](%)	Interaction	Signal characteristics
N CES	20.2	15.8	$\nu + n \rightarrow \nu + n$ $\nu + p \rightarrow \nu + p$	Single Pulse
CCQE	45.2	64.2	$\nu_l + p \rightarrow n + l^+$ $\nu_l + n \rightarrow p + l^-$	Single Pulse
Pion Production	33.5	19.8	$\nu_l + p \rightarrow l^- + p + \pi^+$ $\nu + p \rightarrow \nu + n + \pi^+$	Approximate Single Pulse (Second pulse too low)
Kaon Production	1.1	0.2	$\nu_l + n \rightarrow l^- + \Lambda + K^+$ $\nu_l + p \rightarrow l^- + p + K^+$	Double Pulse

- If energetic neutrons do not lost most of the energy within ~10ns
- Kaon Production has a negligible contribution!



Event Selection

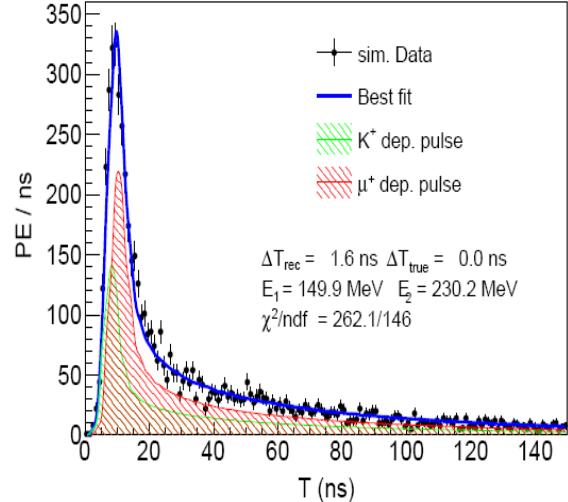
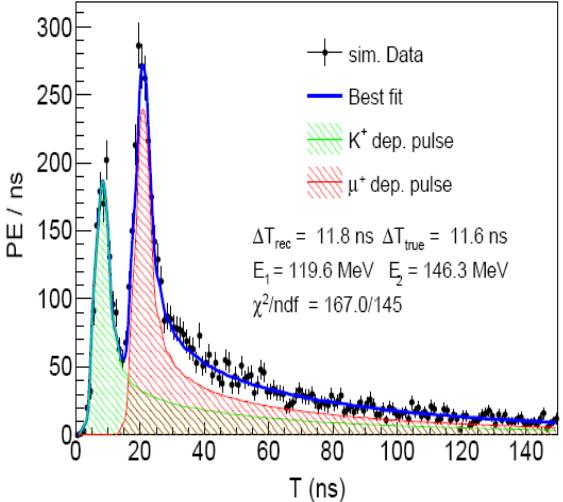
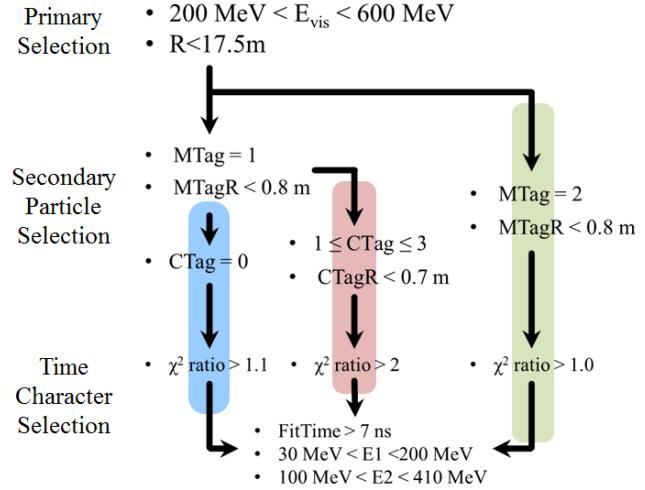


TABLE II. Detection efficiencies of $p \rightarrow \bar{\nu}K^+$ and the number of atmospheric $\bar{\nu}$ background after each selection criterion. The total amount of atmospheric $\bar{\nu}$ background simulated is 160 k, which corresponds to an exposure of 890 kton-years.

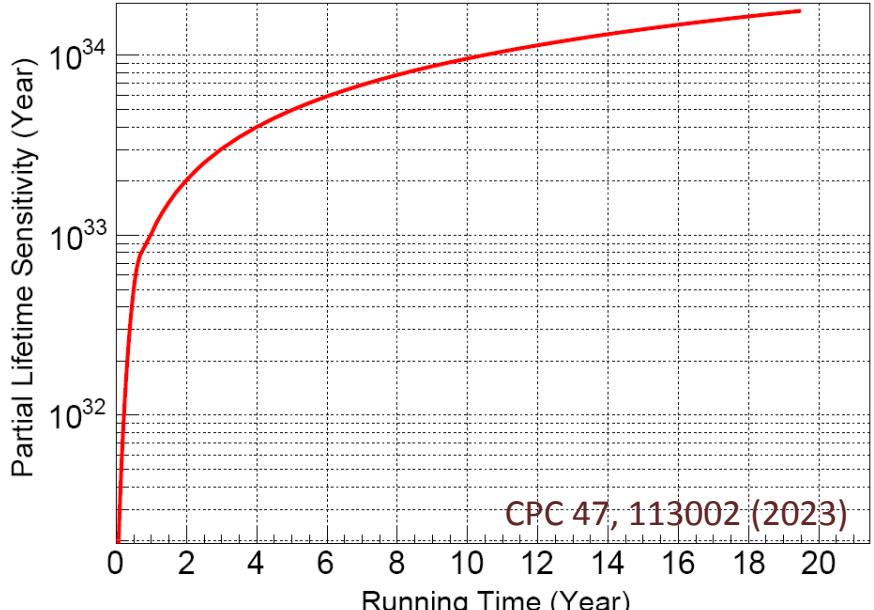
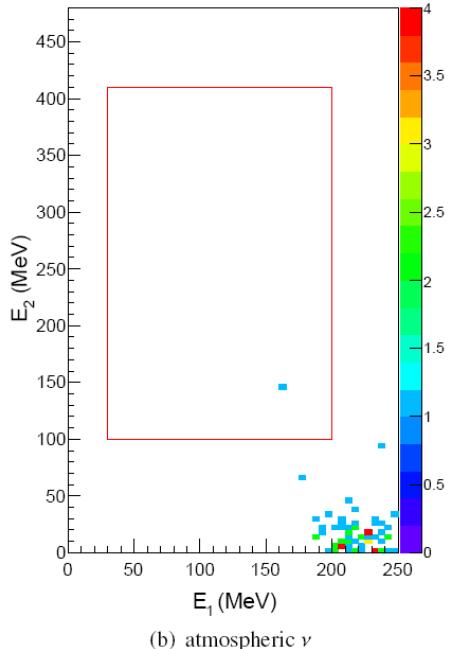
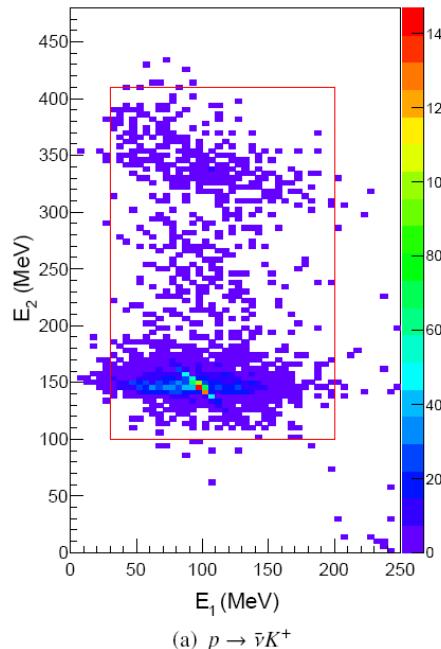
Criteria	Survival rate of $p \rightarrow \bar{\nu}K^+$ (%)			Survival count (fraction) of atmospheric $\bar{\nu}$		
	Sample 1	Sample 2	Sample 3	Sample 1	Sample 2	Sample 3
basic selection	E_{vis}	94.6		51299 (32.1%)		
	R_V	93.7		47849 (29.9%)		
Delayed signal selection	N_M	74.4		20739 (13.0%)	1143 (0.7%)	
	ΔL_M	67.0		13796 (8.6%)	994 (0.6%)	
Time character selection	N_n	48.4	17.9	—	5403 (3.4%)	6857 (4.3%)
	ΔL_n	—	16.6	—	—	4472 (2.8%)
Time character selection	R_χ	45.9	9.0	3.8	4326 (2.7%)	581 (0.4%)
	ΔT	28.3	7.7	2.4	121 (0.07%)	18 (0.01%)
	E_1, E_2	27.4	7.3	2.2	1 (0.0006%)	0
Total		36.9		1	0	

Efficiency uncertainties:

Source	Uncertainty
Statistic	1.6%
Position reconstruction	1.7%
Nuclear model	6.8%
Energy deposition model	11.1%
Total	13.2%



Sensitivity to $p \rightarrow \bar{v} K^+$



Background: 0.2/10years

Efficiency : 36.9%



$\tau/B(p \rightarrow \bar{v} K^+) > 0.96 \times 10^{34}$ yrs

$n \rightarrow \mu^- K^+$, $p \rightarrow e^+ K^*(892)^0$, $n \rightarrow \nu K^*(892)^0$, and $p \rightarrow \nu K^*(892)^+$



Neutron invisible decays in JUNO

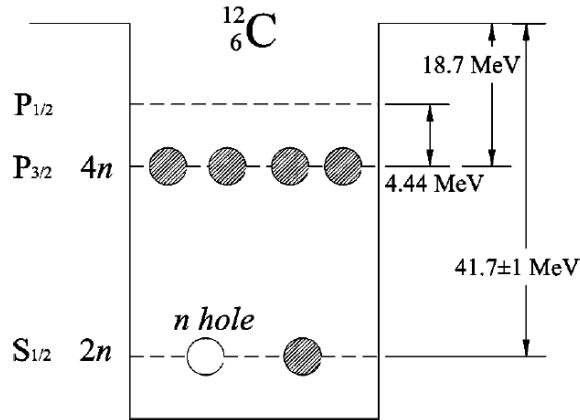


Bounded neutrons in ^{12}C :

- $n \rightarrow i\nu$ ($^{12}\text{C} \rightarrow ^{11}\text{C}^*$)
- $nn \rightarrow i\nu$ ($^{12}\text{C} \rightarrow ^{10}\text{C}^*$)

Invisible particle:

neutrinos, NP particles



s-shell neutron decays:

Detect de-excitation products of $^{11}\text{C}^*$ and $^{10}\text{C}^*$ in LS to search the invisible decay

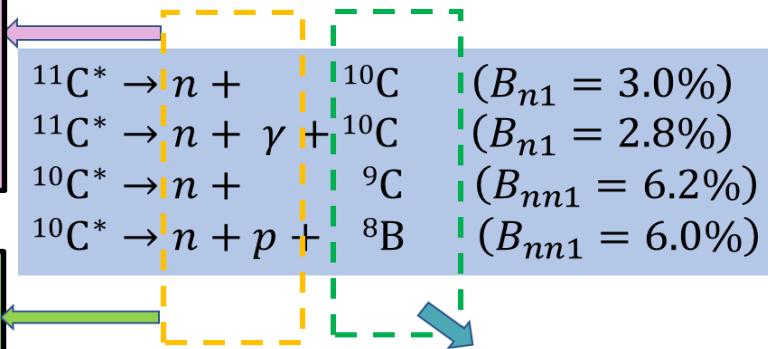
Triple coincident signals :

Prompt(1st)

- Proton recoil by neutron
- Neutron inelastic with ^{12}C
- γ (3.35 MeV) and proton (0.922 MeV)

Delayed(2nd)

- Neutron capture ($220\ \mu\text{s}$, 2.2 MeV)



Half-life Q value

[19.3 s, 3.65 MeV]

[19.3 s, 3.65 MeV]

[0.13 s, 16.5 MeV]

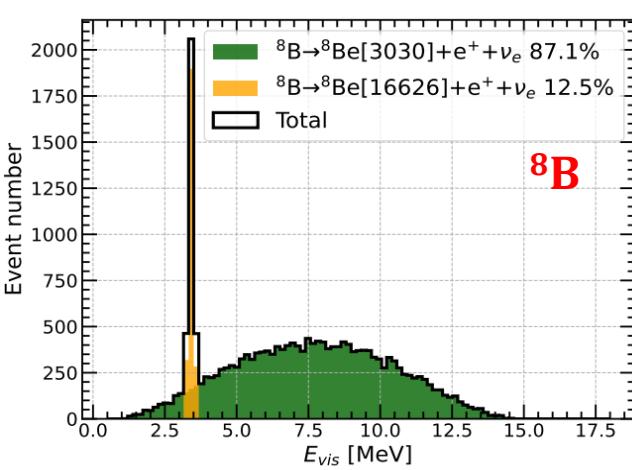
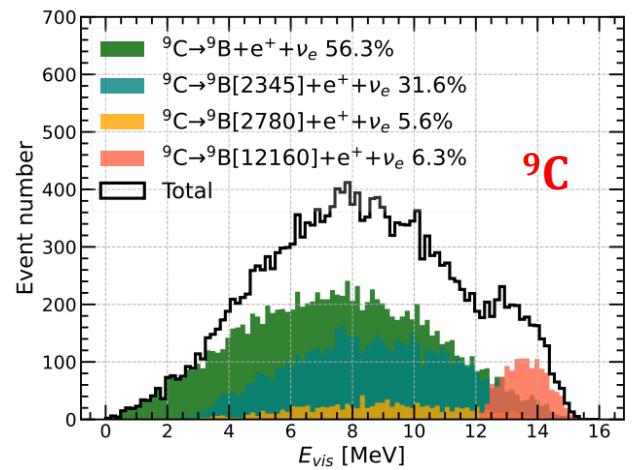
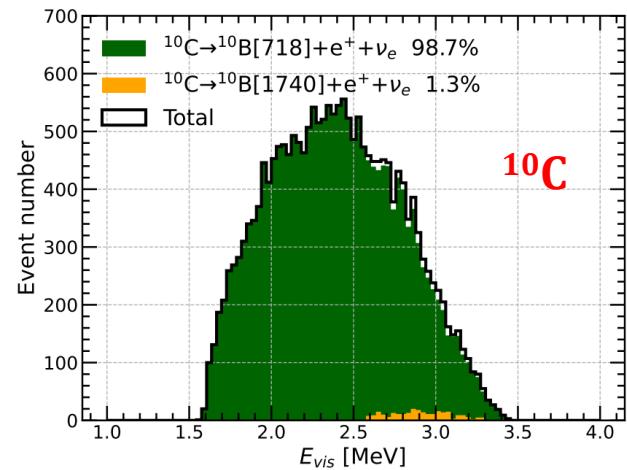
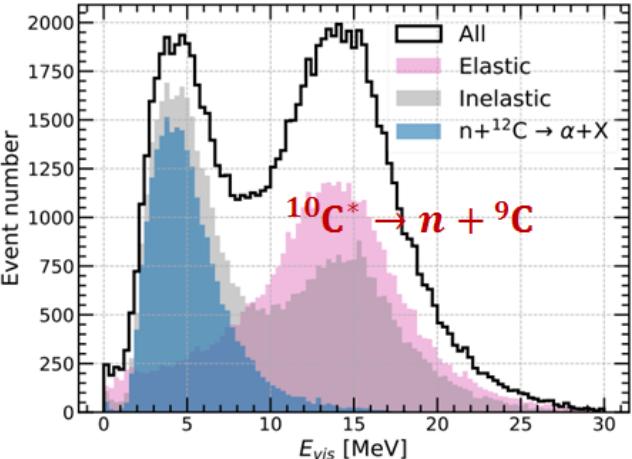
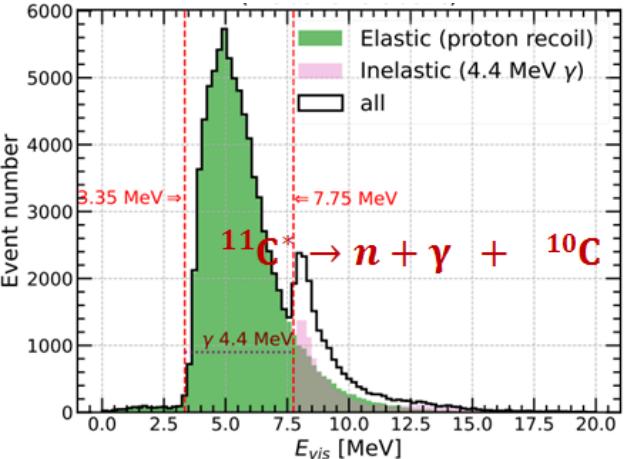
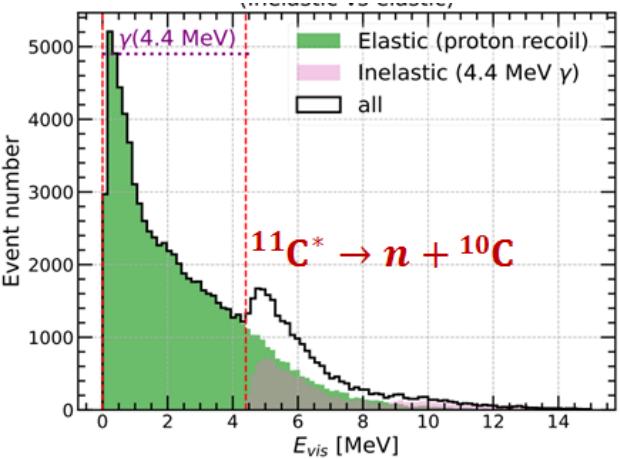
[0.77 s, 18.0 MeV]

Decay (3rd)

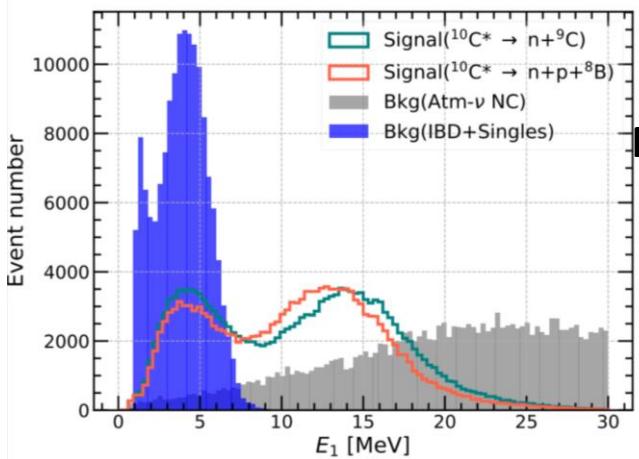
- β^+ decay of ^{10}C , ^9C , ^8B



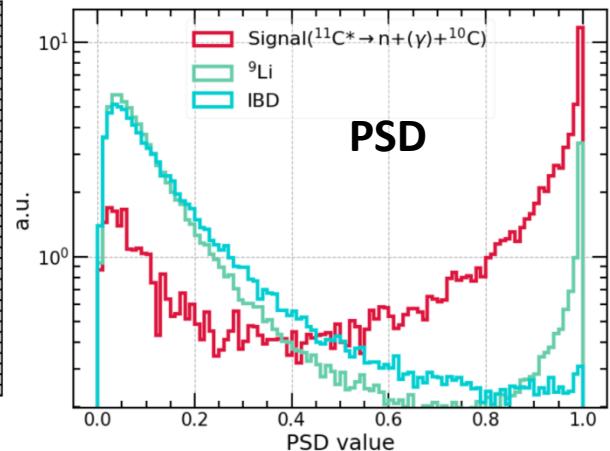
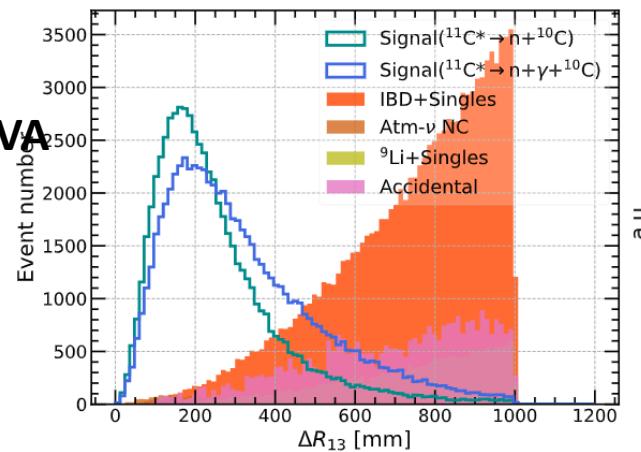
Signal Characteristics in LS



Summary of event selection				
	$n \rightarrow inv$	$nn \rightarrow inv$		
Muon veto				
Fiducial volume	$r < 16.7$ m	$r < 16.7$ m		
Selection criteria	$\Delta T_{12} < 1$ ms $\Delta T_{23} \in [0.002, 100]$ s $\Delta R_{12} < 1.5$ m $\Delta R_{23} < 1.5$ m $\Delta R_{13} < 1.0$ m $E_1 \in [0.7, 12]$ MeV $E_2 \in [1.9, 2.5]$ MeV $E_3 \in [1.5, 3.5]$ MeV	$\Delta T_{12} < 1$ ms $\Delta T_{23} \in [0.002, 3.0]$ s $\Delta R_{12} < 1.5$ m $\Delta R_{23} < 1.5$ m $\Delta R_{13} < 1.0$ m $E_1 \in [0.7, 30]$ MeV $E_2 \in [1.9, 2.5]$ MeV $E_3 \in [3.0, 16]$ MeV		
Multiplicity cut				
Total efficiency (%)	$^{11}\text{C}^* \rightarrow n + ^{10}\text{C}$ 35.6 ± 0.2	$^{11}\text{C}^* \rightarrow n + \gamma + ^{10}\text{C}$ 43.6 ± 0.2	$^{10}\text{C}^* \rightarrow n + p + ^8\text{B}$ 53.9 ± 0.3	$^{10}\text{C}^* \rightarrow n + p + ^8\text{B}$ 49.1 ± 0.3



MVA

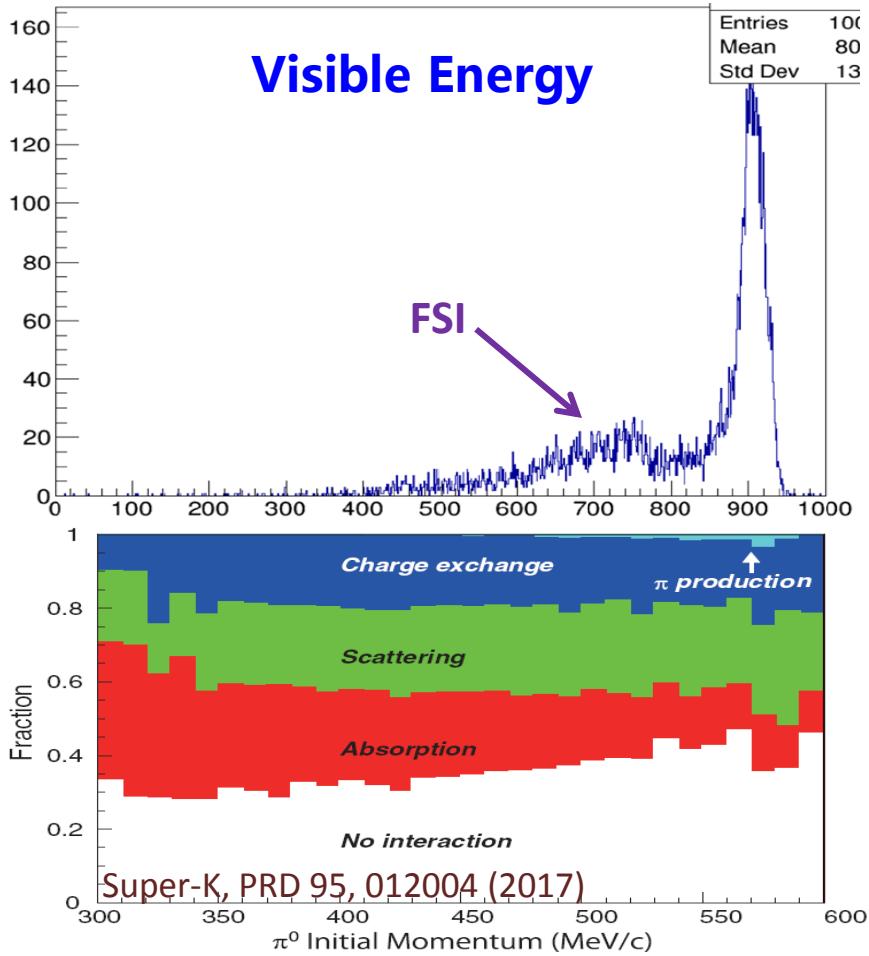


Background Source:

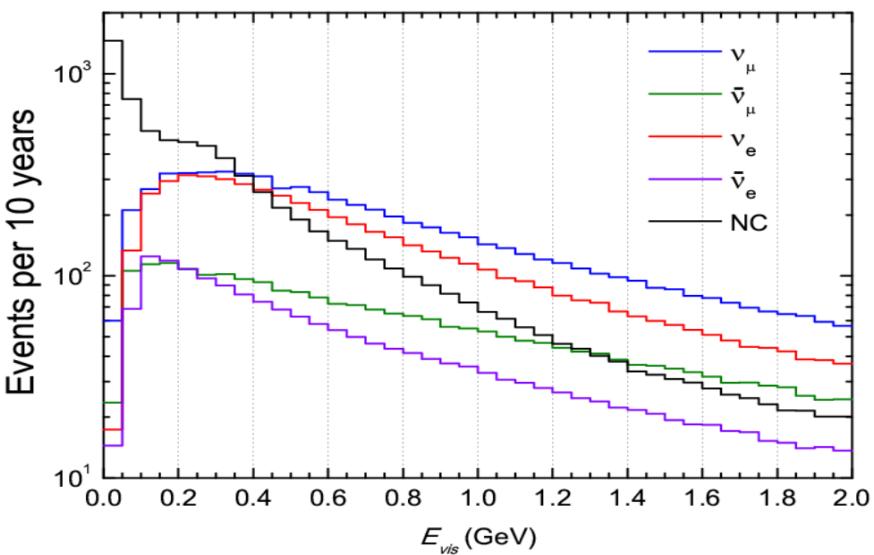
1. IBD (Inverse Beta decay),
2. Isotope from cosmic muons,
3. Radioactivity,
4. Fast neutrons,
5. Atm- ν NC



Search for $p \rightarrow e^+ + \pi^0$ in JUNO



Atmospheric v backgrounds:



10 years:
 $0.05\text{-}1\text{GeV} \rightarrow \mathbf{18114}$
(CC:11714; NC:6400)



Sensitivity estimation for $p \rightarrow e^+ + \pi^0$



Event Selection: $860 \text{ MeV} < \text{Evis} < 940 \text{ MeV}$; no Michel; no neutron capture

→ **Signal Efficiency** : 50.9%; **Background**: 97.8/10years

$$\tau/B(p \rightarrow e^+ \pi^0) > 0.19 \times 10^{34} \text{ yrs} \quad (\ll 2.4 \times 10^{34} \text{ yrs from Super-K})$$

How to estimate sensitivity?

$$N_{S_i} = N_{decay} \cdot B_i \cdot \epsilon_i = B_i \cdot \epsilon_i \cdot N_0 \frac{t}{\tau} \rightarrow \frac{\tau}{B_i} = \frac{N_0 \cdot \epsilon_i}{N_{90}} t$$

$$\begin{aligned} N_{S_i} &\text{: Signal number} \\ N_0 &\text{: Nucleon number} = 6.75 \times 10^{33} \\ \epsilon_i &\text{: Signal Efficiency} = 50.9\% \\ t &\text{: Running Time} = 10 \text{ years} \\ N_{90} &\text{: 90\% CL upper limit} = 17.7 \\ N_B &\text{: Expected BG number} = 97.8 \end{aligned}$$

90% CL upper limit N_{90} :

$$L(N_{obs}, N_S) = \frac{(N_S + N_B)^{N_{obs}}}{N_{obs}!} e^{-(N_S + N_B)} \rightarrow 90\% = \frac{\int_0^{N_{90}} L(N_{obs}, N_S) dN_S}{\int_0^{\infty} L(N_{obs}, N_S) dN_S}$$

$N_{obs} = N_B$	0.0	1.0	2.0	5.0	10	20	50	100	200	1000
N_{90}	2.3	3.3	3.9	5.2	6.6	8.8	13.0	17.8	24.6	53.3

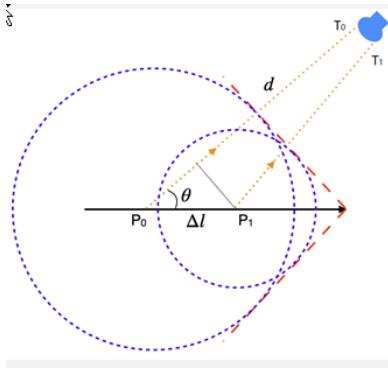
BKG number is the key quantity!!! → How to suppress BKG?



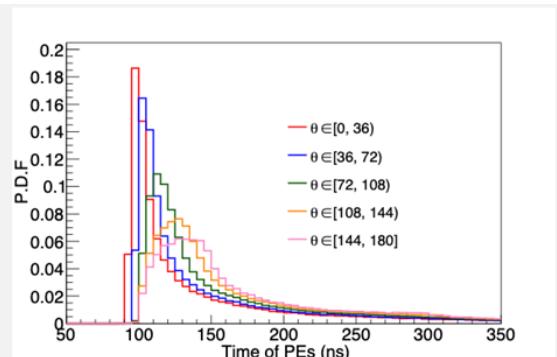
How to suppress BKG ? → Momentum information



ν directional information reflects in each PMT waveform



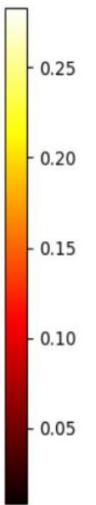
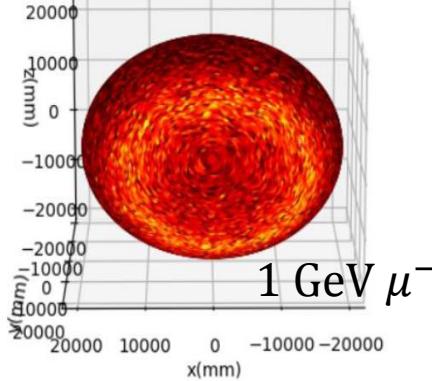
$$\frac{\Delta l}{\Delta t} \propto \frac{1}{|1 - n\beta \cos\theta|}$$



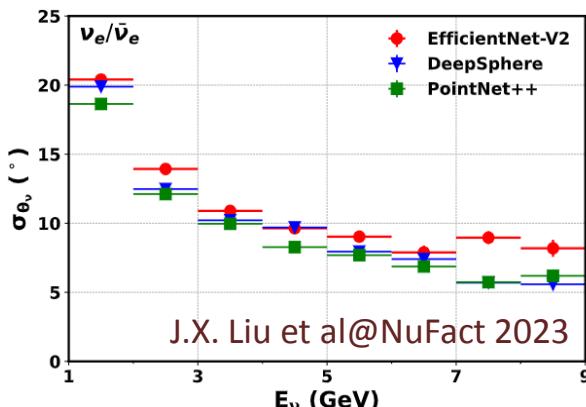
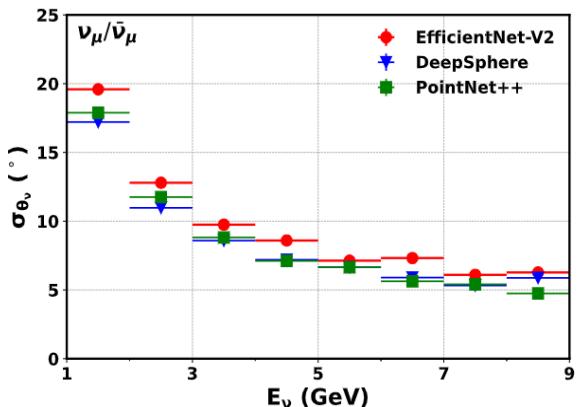
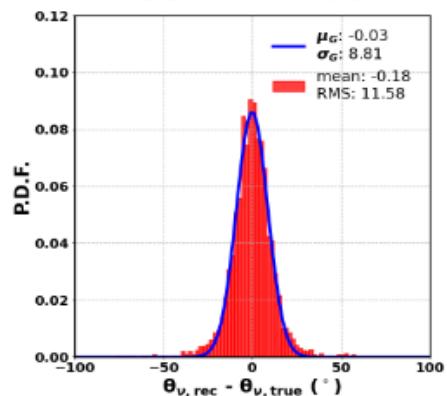
Distribution of the number of photoelectrons (PEs) over time for PMTs with different angles θ to the particle track

Cerenkov-like Ring:

First 4ns PEs/total PEs



3GeV < E < 4GeV



J.X. Liu et al@NuFact 2023



Simply estimate JUNO sensitivities to other channels (1)



Y.J. Niu et al

Only use:

1. Energy
2. Michel e^\pm
3. n capture
4. Some assumptions about FSI

VS Super-K?

Antilepton+ Meson									
ID	Channels	n_b	n_{90}	$\epsilon(\%)$	$\tau_{10}(10^{33} \text{ yrs})$	$\tau_3(10^{33} \text{ yrs})$	$\tau_{exp}(10^{33} \text{ yrs})$	TECN	Rank
1	$p \rightarrow e^+ \pi^0$	97.8	17.7	50.9	1.9	1	24	SKAM(20)	E
*1	$n \rightarrow e^+ \pi^-$	1943.0	73.9	83.44	0.578	0.312	5.3	SKAM(17D)	E
2	$p \rightarrow \mu^+ \pi^0$	152.6	21.7	54.68	1.6	0.9	16	SKAM(20)	E
*2	$n \rightarrow \mu^+ \pi^-$	2101.3	76.8	85.14	0.568	0.306	3.5	SKAM(17D)	E
3	$p \rightarrow \bar{\nu} \pi^+$	7172.09,3405.55	162.8	91.24	0.366	0.199	0.39	SKAM(14E)	D
*3	$n \rightarrow \bar{\nu} \pi^0$	2668.9	86.3	59.06	0.351	0.189	1.1	SKAM(14E)	E
4	$p \rightarrow e^+ \eta$	97.8	17.7	30.62	1.1	0.56	10	SKAM(17D)	E
5	$p \rightarrow \mu^+ \eta$	134.1	20.4	30.62	1	0.5	4.7	SKAM(17D)	E
6	$n \rightarrow \bar{\nu} \eta$	336.1	37.8	31.42	0.528	0.2657	0.158	IMB3(99)	B
7	$p \rightarrow e^+ \rho^0$	4398.9	110.4	91.11	0.5384	0.2918	0.72	SKAM(17D)	D
*7	$n \rightarrow e^+ \rho^-$	2067.5	76.1	83.75	0.564	0.304	0.217	IMB3(99)	B
8	$p \rightarrow \mu^+ \rho^0$	3067.4	92.4	93.48	0.6600	0.3566	0.57	SKAM(17D)	C
*8	$n \rightarrow \mu^+ \rho^-$	2323.6	80.6	87.71	0.557	0.301	0.228	IMB3(99)	B
9	$p \rightarrow \bar{\nu} \rho^+$	1657.6,1394.7,102.8	81.8	70.17	0.559	0.300	0.162	IMB3(99)	B
*9	$n \rightarrow \bar{\nu} \rho^0$	214.1	25.5	41	0.8237	0.432	0.019	IMB(88)	A
10	$p \rightarrow e^+ \omega$	1:1024.2,97.8 2:4398.9	106.1	30.61	0.1947	0.1052	1.6	SKAM(17D)	E
11	$p \rightarrow \mu^+ \omega$	1:116.2, 118.7 2:3067.4	45.5	30.44	0.4425	0.2303	2.8	SKAM(17D)	E
12	$n \rightarrow \bar{\nu} \omega$	1: 640 2:4398.9	92.2	28.23	0.1623	0.087	0.108	IMB3(99)	C

Three and more leptons									
ID	Channels	n_{bkg}	n_{90}	$\epsilon(\%)$	$\tau_{10}(10^{33} \text{ yrs})$	$\tau_3(10^{33} \text{ yrs})$	$\tau_{exp}(10^{33} \text{ yrs})$	TECN	Rank
49	$p \rightarrow e^+ e^+ e^-$	97.8	17.7	77.78	2.9	1.5	34	SKAM(20)	E
50	$p \rightarrow e^+ \mu^+ \mu^-$	24.5	9.6	79.24	5.38	2.58	9.2	SKAM(20)	D
51	$p \rightarrow e^+ \bar{\nu} \nu$	2460.1	83	90.83	0.714	0.386	0.17	SKAM(14)	B
52	$n \rightarrow e^+ e^- \bar{\nu}$	1255.7	59.7	88.39	0.758	0.408	0.257	IMB3(99)	B
53	$n \rightarrow \mu^+ e^- \bar{\nu}$	1256.7	59.7	90.75	0.779	0.419	0.083	IMB3(99)	A
54	$n \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^- \bar{\nu}$	115.4	19.1	89.37	2.397	1.237	0.079	IMB3(99)	A
55	$n \rightarrow \mu^+ e^+ e^-$	133.9	20.4	83.3	2.1	1.1	23	SKAM(20)	E
56	$n \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^+ \mu^-$	0.0	2.4	83.15	17.7	5.3	10	SKAM(20)	A
57	$p \rightarrow \mu^+ \bar{\nu} \nu$	983.1	52.9	82.33	1.015	0.544	0.22	SKAM(20)	B
58	$p \rightarrow e^- \mu^+ \mu^+$	23.1	9.29	68.43	4.8	2.3	11	SKAM(20)	D



Simply estimate JUNO sensitivities to other channels (2)



Antilepton+Mesons									
ID	Channels	n_{bkg}	n_{90}	$\epsilon(\%)$	$\tau_{10}(10^{33} \text{ yrs})$	$\tau_3(10^{33} \text{ yrs})$	$\tau_{exp}(10^{33} \text{ yrs})$	TECN	Rank
23	$p \rightarrow e^+ \pi^+ \pi^-$	4398.9	110.4	91.11	0.5384	0.2918	0.082	IMB3(99)	A
24	$p \rightarrow e^+ \pi^0 \pi^0$	214.1	25.5	41	1.049	0.550	0.147	IMB3(99)	A
25	$n \rightarrow e^+ \pi^- \pi^0$	2067.5	76.1	83.75	0.564	0.304	0.052	IMB3(99)	A
26	$p \rightarrow \mu^+ \pi^+ \pi^-$	3067.4	92.4	93.48	0.6600	0.3566	0.133	IMB3(99)	B
27	$p \rightarrow \mu^+ \pi^0 \pi^0$	3591.5	99.9	93.84	0.613	0.332	0.101	IMB3(99)	A
28	$n \rightarrow \mu^+ \pi^- \pi^0$	2323.6	80.6	87.71	0.557	0.301	0.074	IMB3(99)	A
29	$n \rightarrow e^+ \pi^- K^0$	2932.3,460.2	96	96.71	0.516	0.279	0.018	IMB3(91)	A
Lepton+Meson									
ID	Channels	n_{bkg}	n_{90}	$\epsilon(\%)$	$\tau_{10}(10^{33} \text{ yrs})$	$\tau_3(10^{33} \text{ yrs})$	$\tau_{exp}(10^{33} \text{ yrs})$	TECN	Rank
30	$n \rightarrow e^- \pi^+$	1070.4,818.8,163.2	66	80.13	0.622	0.333	0.065	FREJ(88)	A
31	$n \rightarrow \mu^- \pi^+$	1308.9,118,219	40	79.98	1.024	0.534	0.049	IMB(88)	A
32	$n \rightarrow e^- \rho^+$	1657.6,1394.7,102.8	81.8	70.17	0.439	0.236	0.062	IMB(88)	A
33	$n \rightarrow \mu^- \rho^+$	1899.5,192,398,197.6	42.6	74.56	0.897	0.472	0.007	IMB(88)	A
34	$n \rightarrow \mu^- K^+$	257.7,132.0	33	59.54	0.924	0.583	0.032	FREJ(91B)	A
35	$n \rightarrow \mu^- K^+$	42.6,27.7	14.5	58.95	2.083	1.053	0.057	FREJ(91B)	A
Lepton+Mesons									
ID	Channels	n_{bkg}	n_{90}	$\epsilon(\%)$	$\tau_{10}(10^{33} \text{ yrs})$	$\tau_3(10^{33} \text{ yrs})$	$\tau_{exp}(10^{33} \text{ yrs})$	TECN	Rank
36	$p \rightarrow e^- \pi^+ \pi^+$	534.7,46.6,76.6	27.2	41.06	0.985	0.502	0.03	FREJ(91B)	A
37	$n \rightarrow e^- \pi^+ \pi^0$	1657.6,1394.7,102.8	81.8	70.17	0.439	0.236	0.029	FREJ(91B)	A
38	$p \rightarrow \mu^- \pi^+ \pi^+$	79.4,0.6,53.6	7.5	54.06	4.702	1.763	0.017	FREJ(91B)	A
39	$n \rightarrow \mu^- \pi^+ \pi^0$	1899.5,192,398,197.6	42.6	74.56	0.897	0.472	0.034	FREJ(91B)	A
40	$p \rightarrow e^- \pi^+ K^+$	32.9,314.8,581.3	19.2	57.54	1.955	0.963	0.075	IMB3(99)	A
41	$p \rightarrow \mu^- \pi^+ K^+$	0.1,89.3,0.5	3.2	63.48	12.942	4.284	0.245	IMB3(99)	A
Antilepton+Photon(s)									
ID	Channels	n_{bkg}	n_{90}	$\epsilon(\%)$	$\tau_{10}(10^{33} \text{ yrs})$	$\tau_3(10^{33} \text{ yrs})$	$\tau_{exp}(10^{33} \text{ yrs})$	TECN	Rank
42	$p \rightarrow e^+ \gamma$	97.8	17.7	75.88	2.8	1.442	0.67	IMB3(99)	A
43	$p \rightarrow \mu^+ \gamma$	100.1	17.9	77.83	2.8366	1.4647	0.478	IMB3(99)	A
44	$n \rightarrow \bar{\nu} \gamma$	1011.0	53.7	86.69	0.827	0.444	0.55	SKAM(15)	C
45	$p \rightarrow e^+ \gamma \gamma$	97.8	17.7	76.04	2.8	1.44	0.1	FREJ(91)	A
46	$n \rightarrow \bar{\nu} \gamma \gamma$	1552.3	66.2	88.83	0.987	0.370	0.219	IMB3(99)	B

A: Its result is much better than the best limit so far, if we get 3 years' events, we can come out on top. In this rank, τ_3 is at least 3 times bigger than τ_{exp} .

B: In this rank, τ_3 is bigger than τ_{exp} . And this channel is worthwhile studying more.

C: We have a better result than before for 10 years' data, but $\tau_3 < \tau_{exp}$.

D: $\tau_{10} < \tau_{exp}$, The disparity between our outcome and theirs is a little big. We can do more but may do in vain.

E: There is a big gap comparing to current limit τ_{exp} , we would better give up it.

OPEN: There is a better method to take event selection or the result is not very reliable.



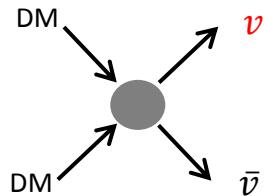
(4) *Search for other new physics*



Dark matter indirect searches

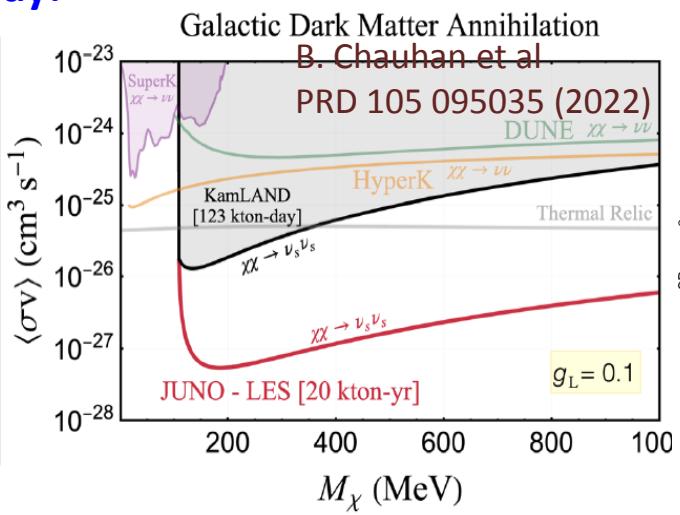
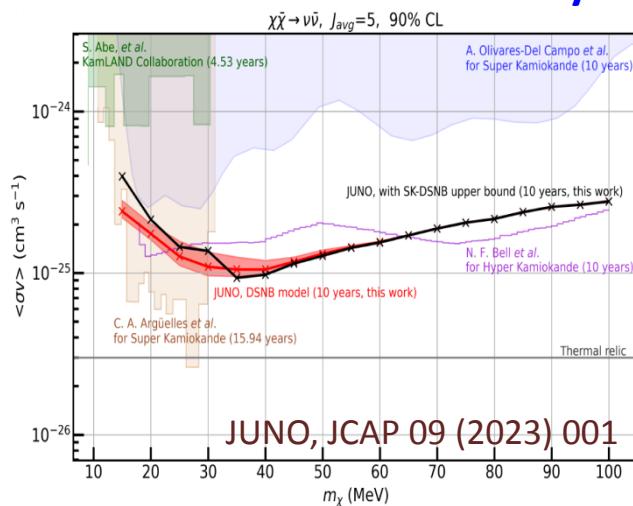


DM annihilation in the Milk Way and Sun...:



- ✓ Monoenergetic neutrinos: $E_\nu = m_{DM}$;
- ✓ Produce both **coincident** and **single signals**;
- ✓ Singles is complementary to $\bar{\nu}_e$ analysis

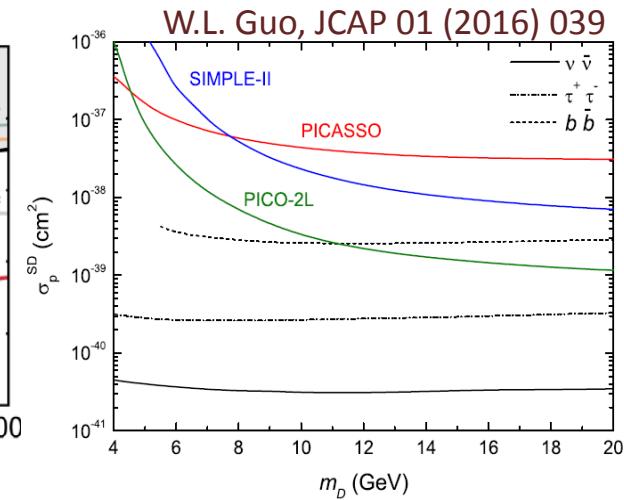
DM annihilation in the Milky Way:



Detect: $\bar{\nu}_e + p \rightarrow e^+ + n$ (IBD)

$\nu_s + p \rightarrow \nu_s + p$

in Sun:



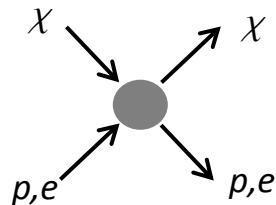
$\nu_e/\bar{\nu}_e$ CC



Dark matter direct searches



Usual Dark Matter (WIMP) scatters in JUNO:



DM Velocity: $v_\chi \approx 10^{-3}c = 300 \text{ km/s}$

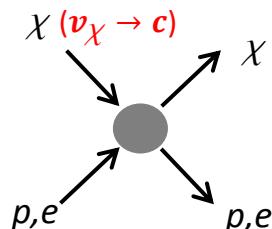
Recoil energy: $T_N = m_N v^2 * 2 \cos^2 \theta * \frac{m_D^2}{(m_D + m_N)^2} \approx m_N v^2 = \begin{cases} 12 \text{ keV } (^{12}\text{C}) \\ 1 \text{ keV } (\textbf{p}) \\ 1 \text{ eV } (e^-) \end{cases} \ll 0.7 \text{ MeV}$

Two possible mechanisms $\rightarrow E_{vis} > 1 \text{ MeV}$:

Change initial state:

$$\nu_\chi \rightarrow c$$

Kinetic energy $\rightarrow E_{vis}$

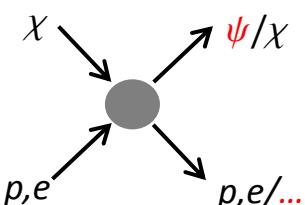


Boosted Dark Matter (BDM)

Change final state:

$$\sum m_{\text{final}} < m_\chi + m_{p,e}$$

Mass energy $\rightarrow E_{vis}$



Explosive Dark Matter

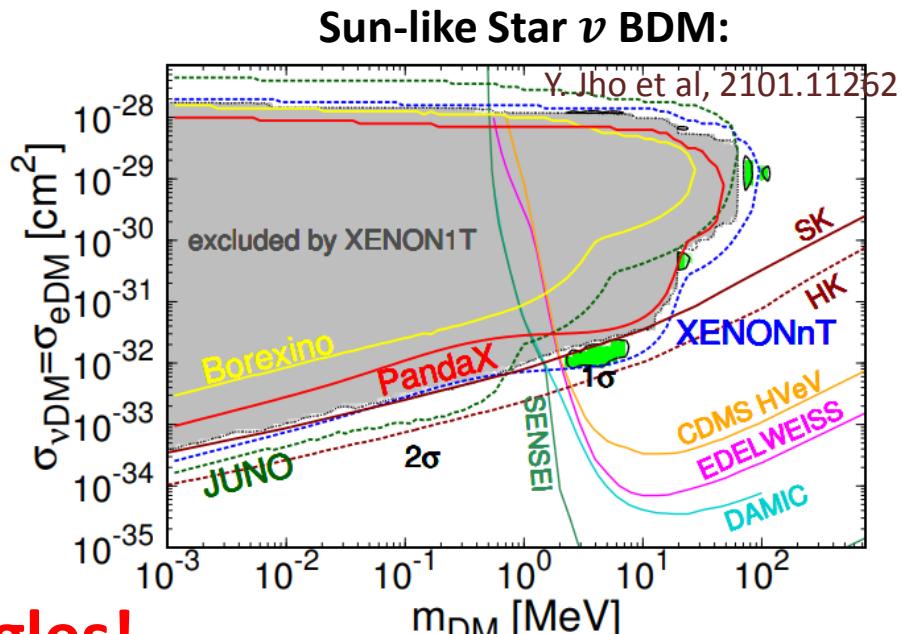
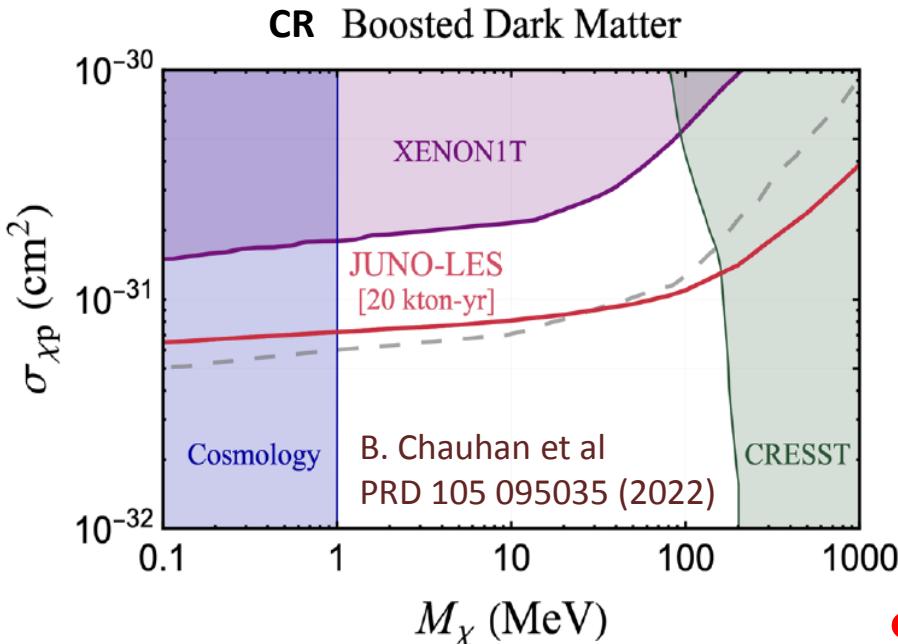
Multiply Interacting Massive Particles

MIMP

There are many new physics models, can produce the relativistic DM.
Please refer to 2207.02882 (Snowmass 2021) for more references.



Predicted JUNO sensitivities from theoretical papers



Singles!

Detect: $\text{DM} + p \rightarrow \text{DM} + p$

$\text{DM} + e^- \rightarrow \text{DM} + e^-$

Comparison between Super-K, DUNE, JUNO for proton recoil:

Super-K(Hyper-K): Kinetic energy >585 MeV can produce a ring used to reconstruction

DUNE: has not the free proton

JUNO: Kinetic energy > 25 MeV \rightarrow Evis>15 MeV

Monoenergetic BDM!



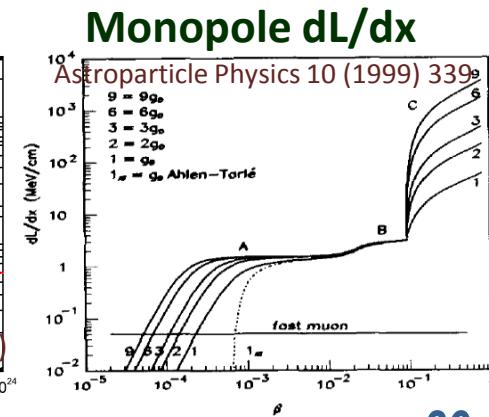
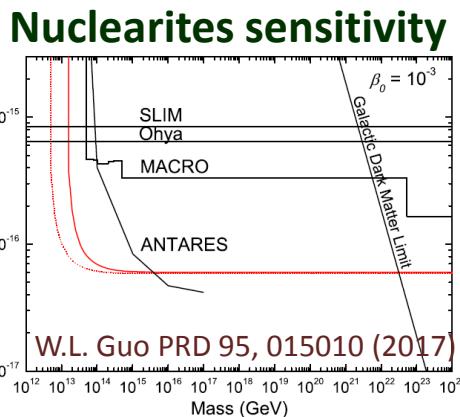
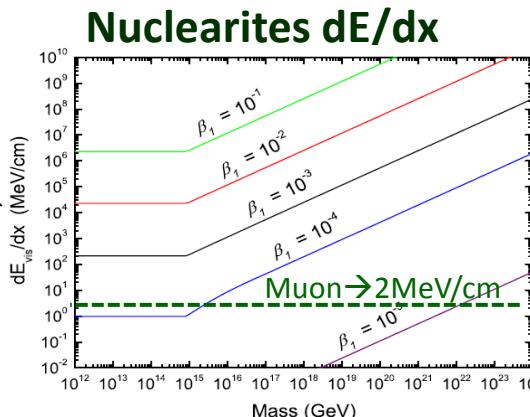
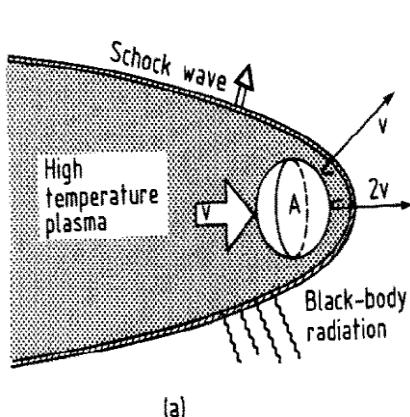
Low velocity massive particles (Nuclearizes,Monopole,MIMP)

Strange Quark Matter (SQM):

- SQM is a hypothetical strongly interacting matter composed of roughly equal numbers of u, d, s quarks and a small amount of electrons; **Absolutely stable**; $\rho_N = 3.6 \times 10^{14} \text{ g/cm}^3$
- $A > 10^7$ **Nuclearites (奇异核素)**, typical $\beta \sim 10^{-3}$ (galaxy velocity)

GUT magnetic monopoles:

- GUTs predict existence of monopoles, which can be produced in the very early Universe
- Mass: $M_M \sim 10^{16} - 10^{18} \text{ GeV}$; Velocity: $\beta \sim 10^{-3}$; Charge : $g = n g_D$



Continuous trigger events in a line with the same energy for long time in JUNO LS!!!

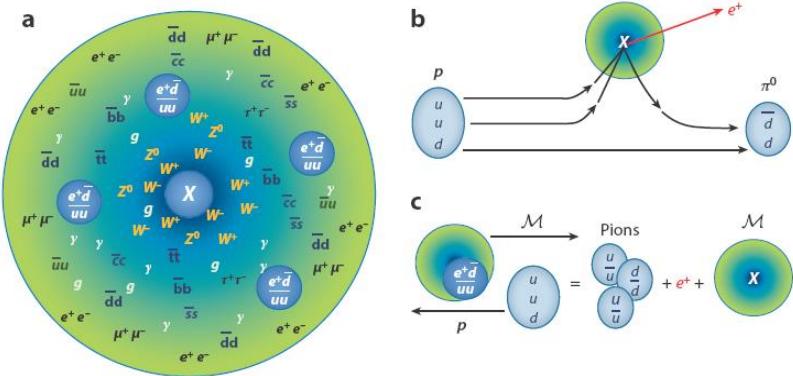


Proton decays catalyzed by GUT monopoles



Monopole catalyze proton decays:

- Rubakov-Callen effect, GUT model dependent
- Catalysis cross section σ_R is the order of **strong interaction**



Monopole propagate in LS:



Discrete trigger events in a line with the same energy for long time in JUNO LS!!!

Detect neutrinos from Monopole-catalyzed proton decay in Sun:

$$M + p \rightarrow M + \mu^+ + K^0, \quad K^0 + p \rightarrow K^+ + n, \quad K^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ + \nu_\mu \text{ (236 MeV)}$$

H.Hu, W.L. Guo et al, JCAP 06 (2022) 003



$n - \bar{n}$ oscillation:



$\bar{n} +$ nucleon annihilation in nucleus:

ID	Channel	ID	Channel
1	$p + \bar{n} \rightarrow \pi^+ + \pi^0$	9	$n + \bar{n} \rightarrow 2\pi^0$
2	$p + \bar{n} \rightarrow \pi^+ + 2\pi^0$	10	$n + \bar{n} \rightarrow \pi^+ + \pi^- + \pi^0$
3	$p + \bar{n} \rightarrow \pi^+ + 3\pi^0$	11	$n + \bar{n} \rightarrow \pi^+ + \pi^- + 2\pi^0$
4	$p + \bar{n} \rightarrow 2\pi^+ + \pi^- + \pi^0$	12	$n + \bar{n} \rightarrow \pi^+ + \pi^- + 3\pi^0$
5	$p + \bar{n} \rightarrow 2\pi^+ + \pi^- + 2\pi^0$	13	$n + \bar{n} \rightarrow 2\pi^+ + 2\pi^-$
6	$p + \bar{n} \rightarrow 2\pi^+ + \pi^- + 2\omega$	14	$n + \bar{n} \rightarrow 2\pi^+ + 2\pi^- + \pi^0$
7	$p + \bar{n} \rightarrow 3\pi^+ + 2\pi^- + \pi^0$	15	$n + \bar{n} \rightarrow \pi^+ + \pi^- + \omega$
8	$n + \bar{n} \rightarrow \pi^+ + \pi^-$	16	$n + \bar{n} \rightarrow 2\pi^+ + 2\pi^- + 2\pi^0$

Similar with Nucleon decays, ~ 2 GeV, more FSI

Will be analyzed in future



Summary



- JUNO is one of future three influential nucleon decay experiments.
- JUNO has competitive sensitivities for some nucleon decay channels!
- JUNO can search some other new physical processes.

Thanks for your attention!