

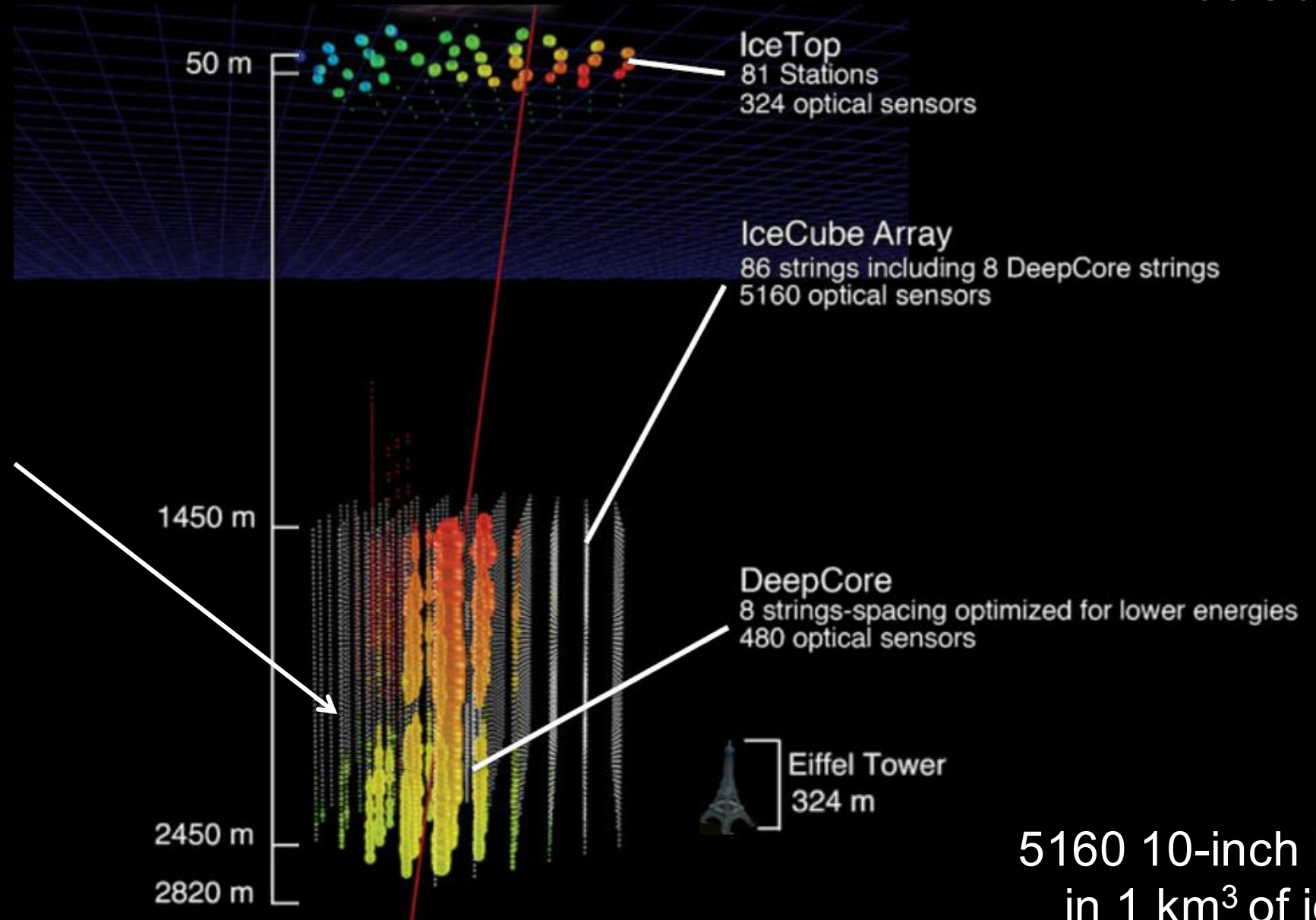
IceCube: beyond neutrino astronomy

francis halzen



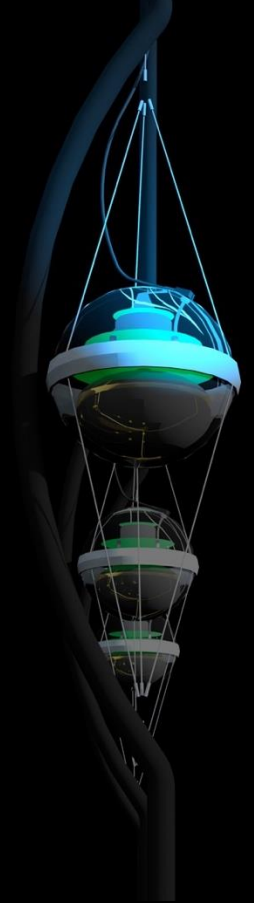
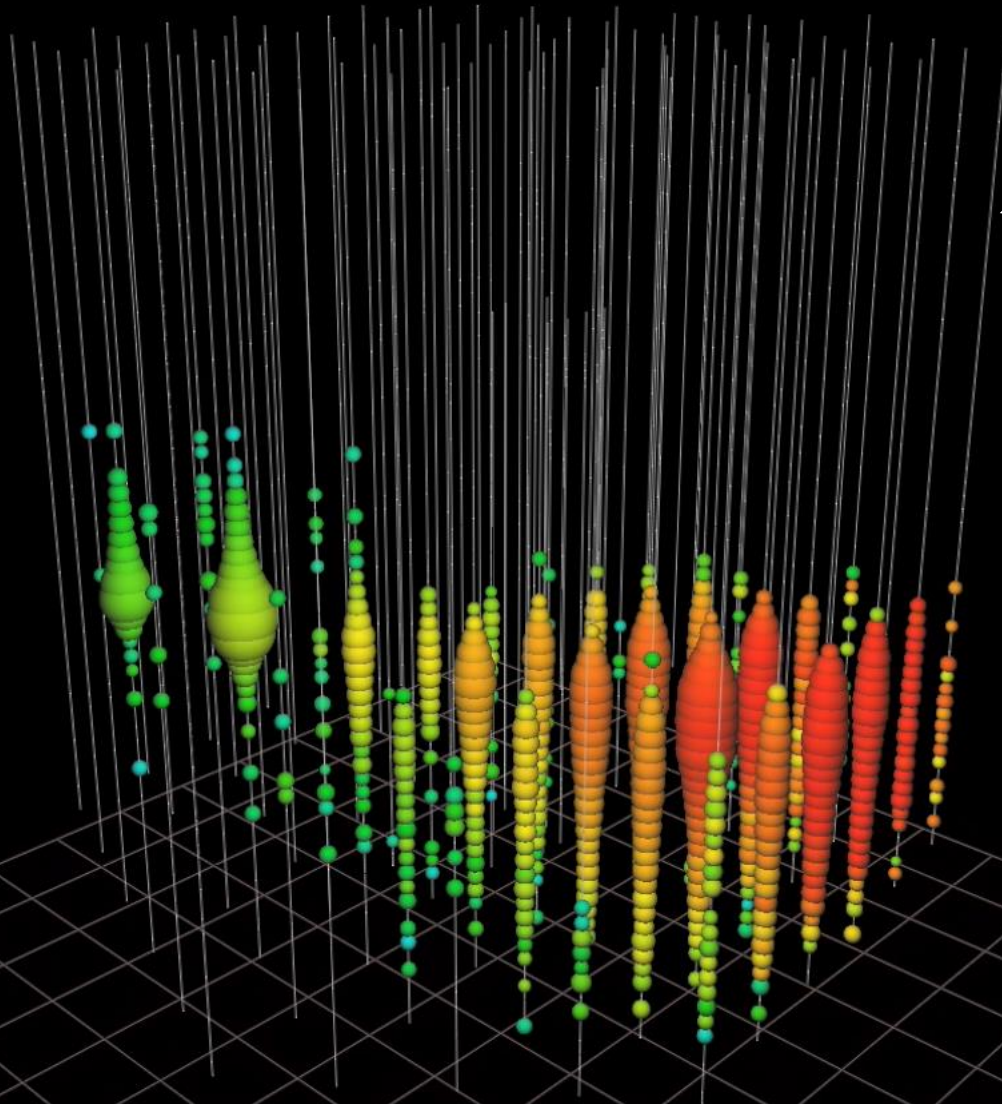
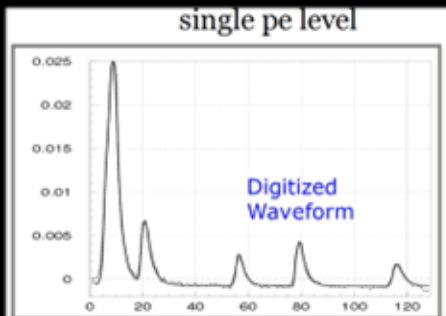
- natural Antarctic ice as a Cherenkov detector
- neutrino physics: from GeV to PeV
- detecting the next Galactic supernova explosion
- search for dark matter
- beyond the Standard Model physics: quantum decoherence, sterile neutrinos, neutrino cross sections, ...
- cosmic ray physics

IceCube



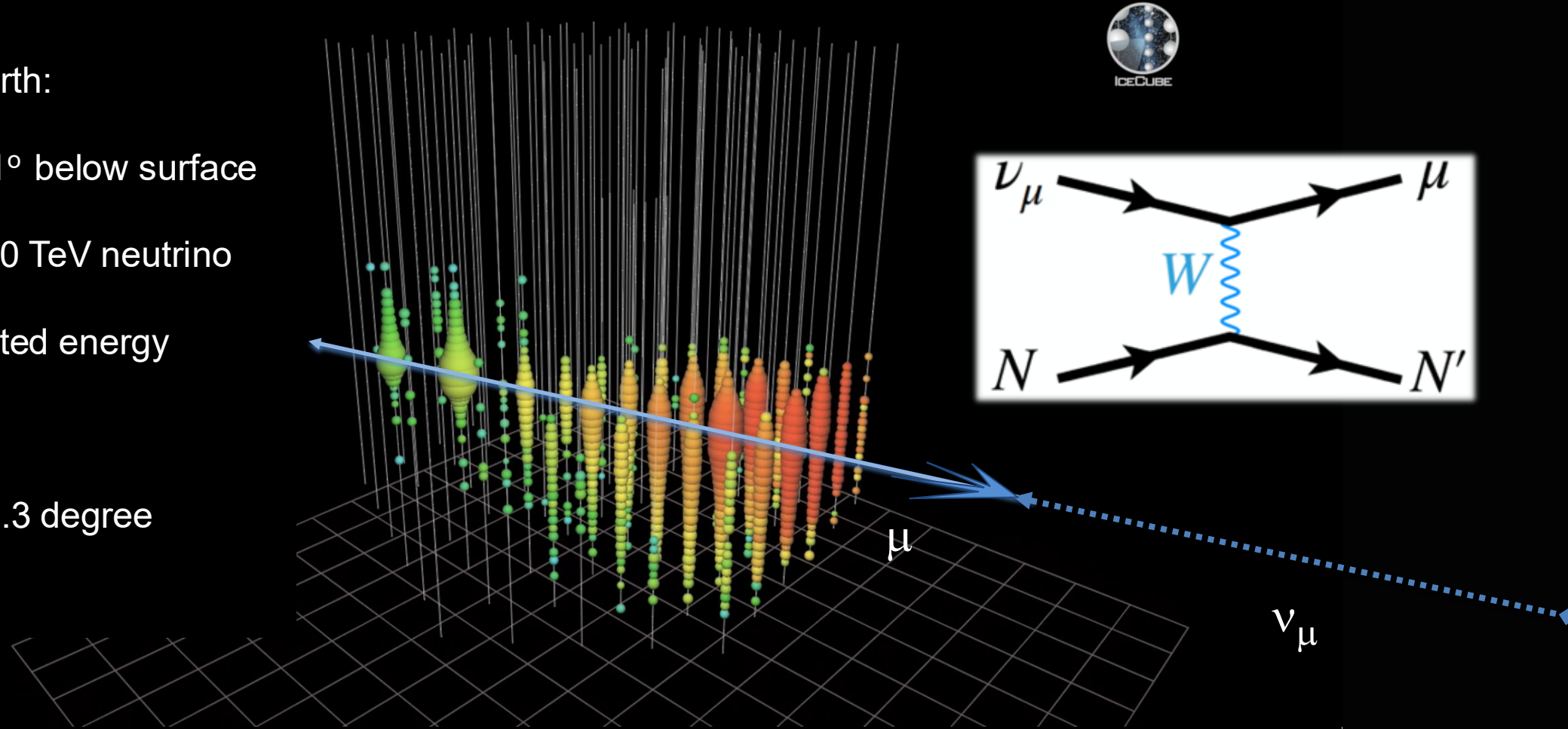
5160 10-inch PMs
in 1 km³ of ice

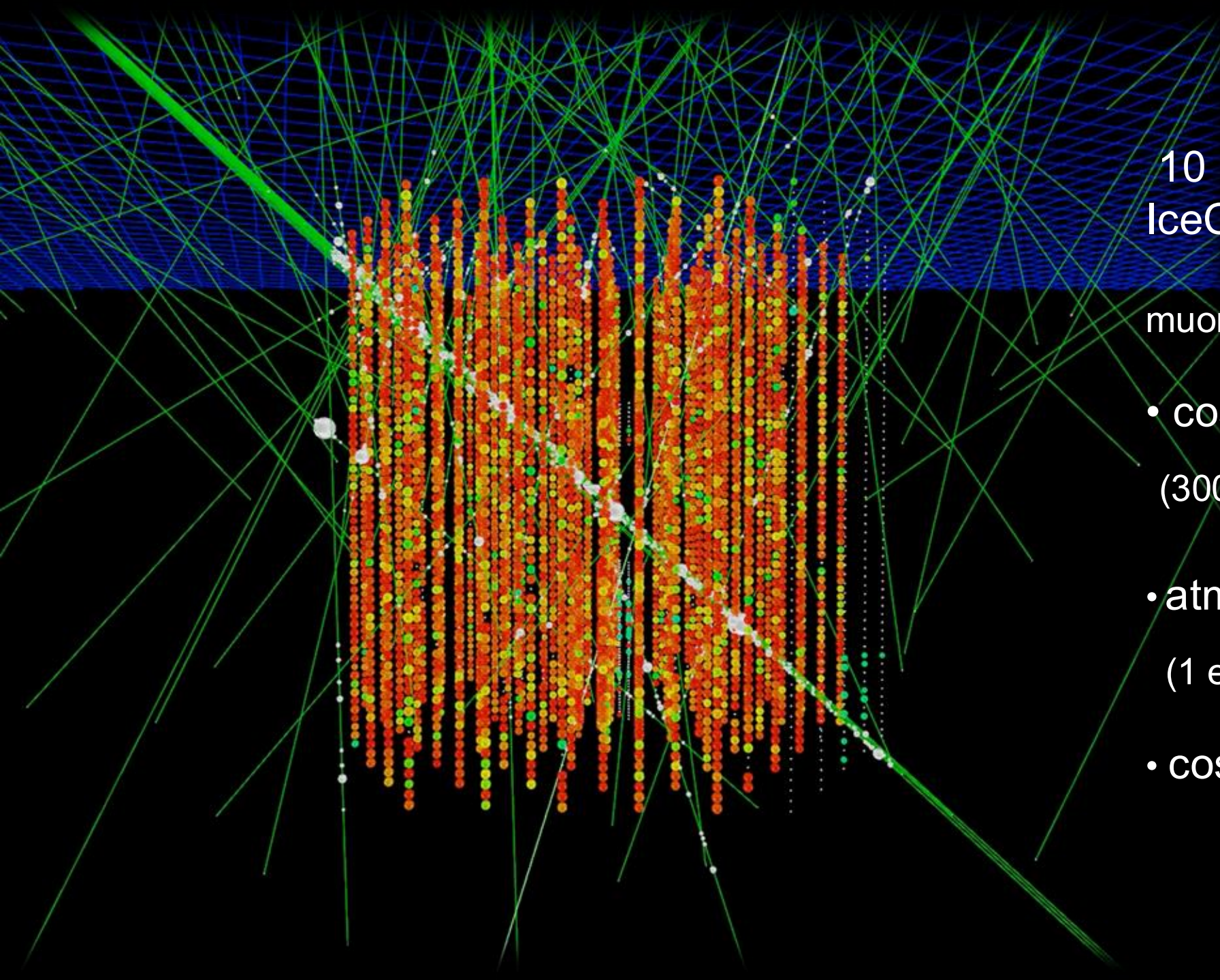
1 km³ of Antarctic ice
instrumented with 5160 PMT
(10inch) below 1450m



Look through the Earth:

- upgoing muon 11° below surface
- produced by 8,700 TeV neutrino
- 2,600 TeV deposited energy
- not atmospheric
- reconstructed < 0.3 degree
- astronomy





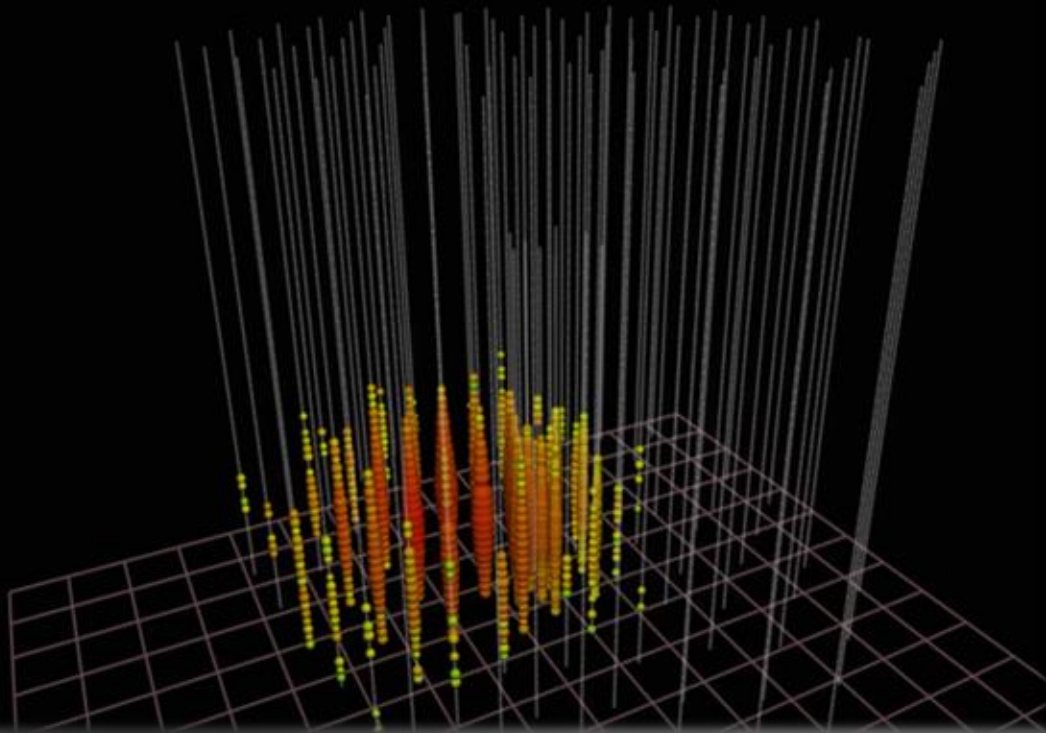
10 msec movie of
IceCube taking data

muons detected per year

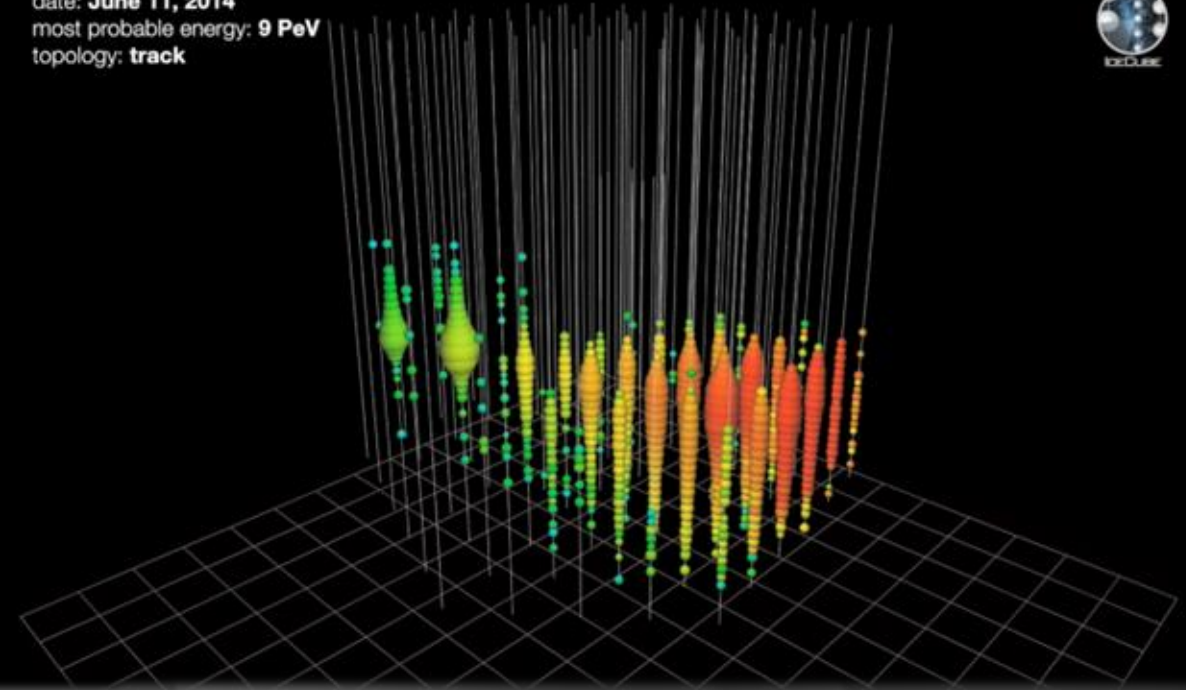
- cosmic ray muons $\sim 10^{11}$
(3000 per second)
- atmospheric neutrinos $\sim 10^5$
(1 every 5 minutes)
- cosmic neutrinos ~ 200

neutrinos interacting
inside the detector

muon neutrinos
filtered by the Earth



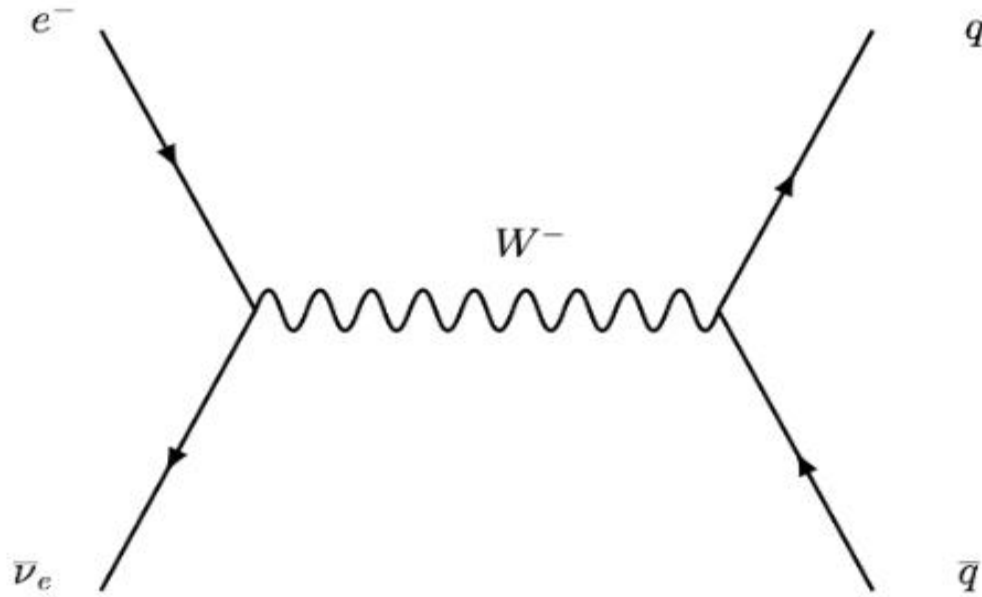
date: June 11, 2014
most probable energy: 9 PeV
topology: track



superior total energy
measurement
to 10%, all flavors, all sky

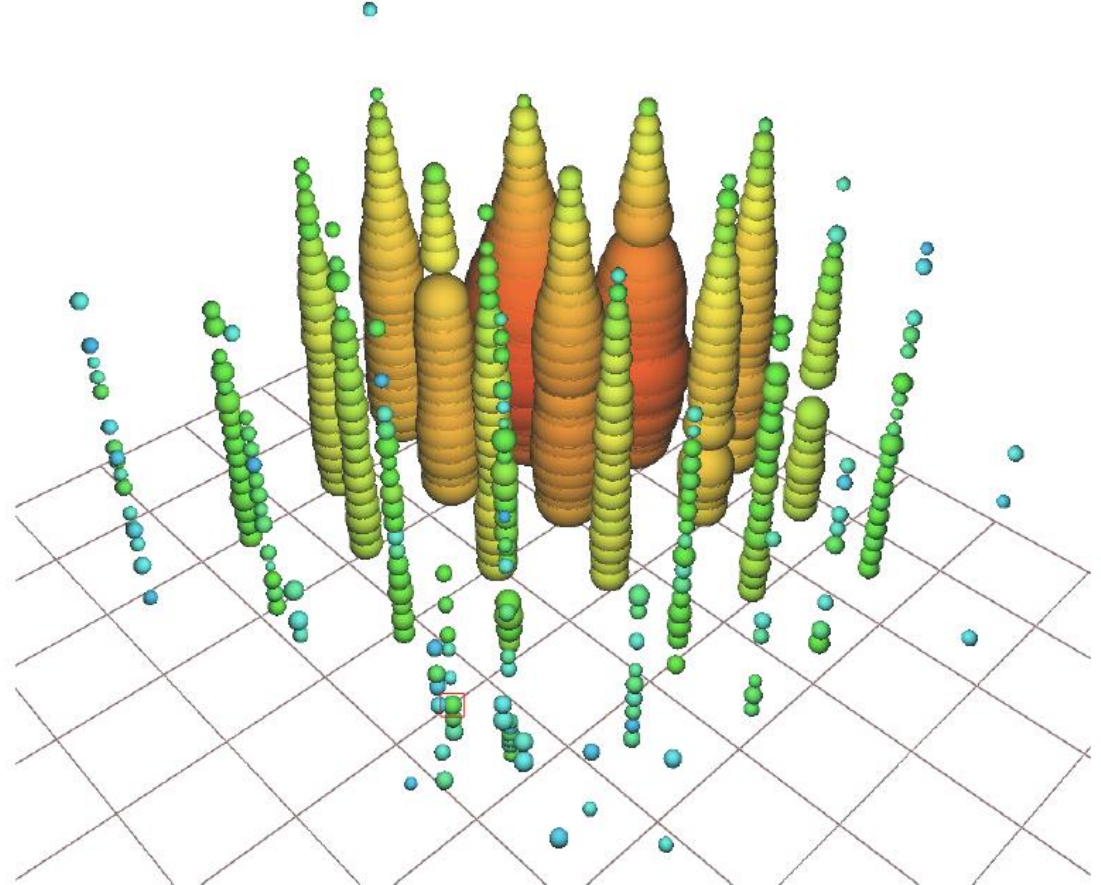
superior angular resolution $< 0.3^\circ$
including systematics

Glashow resonance event with energy 6.3 PeV

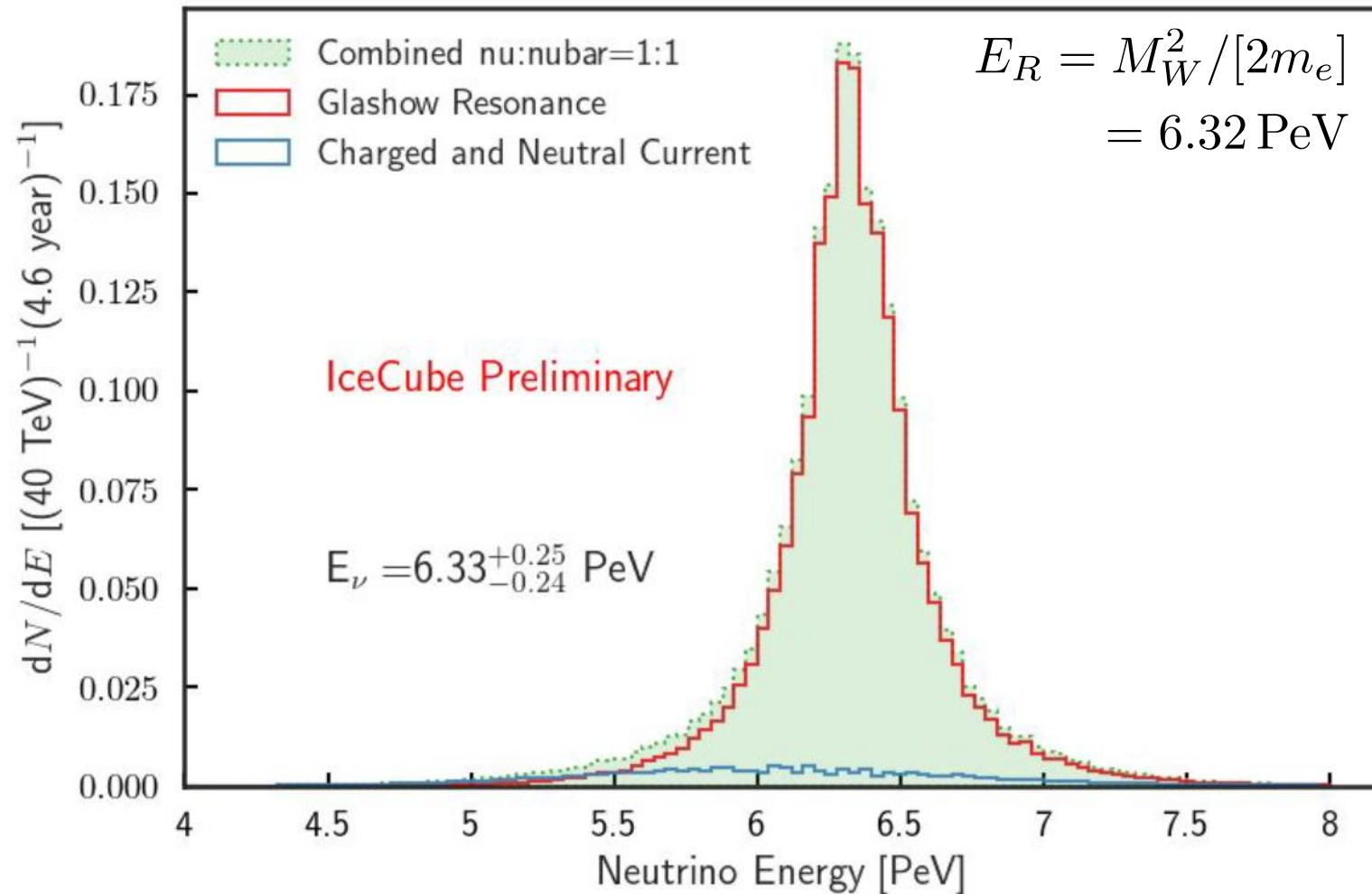
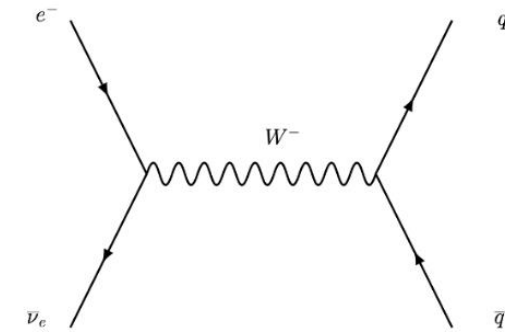


$$E_R = M_W^2 / [2m_e] \\ = 6.32 \text{ PeV}$$

resonant production of a weak intermediate boson by an anti-electron neutrino interacting with an atomic electron

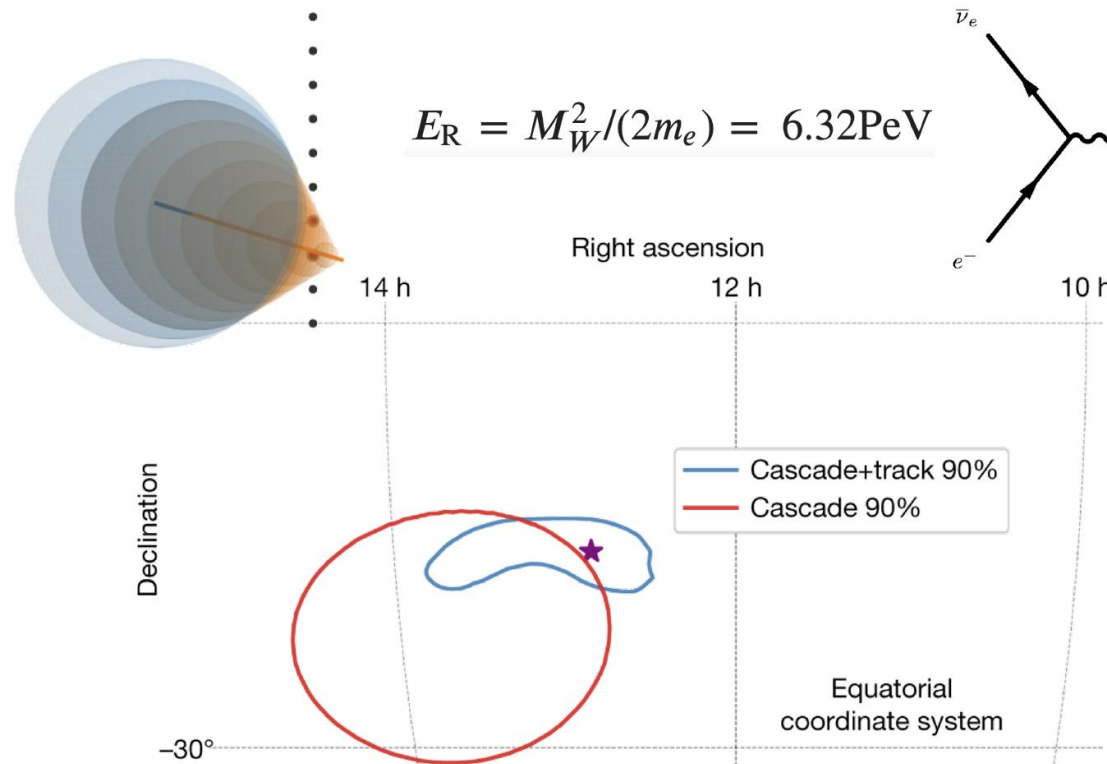


- energy measurement understood
- shower consistent with the hadronic decay of a weak intermediate boson W
- identification of anti-electron neutrino

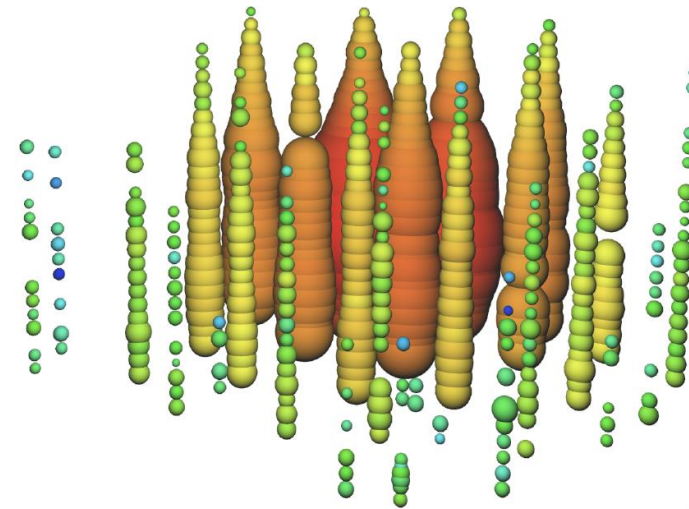


First hint of W boson resonance in data (Glashow resonance)

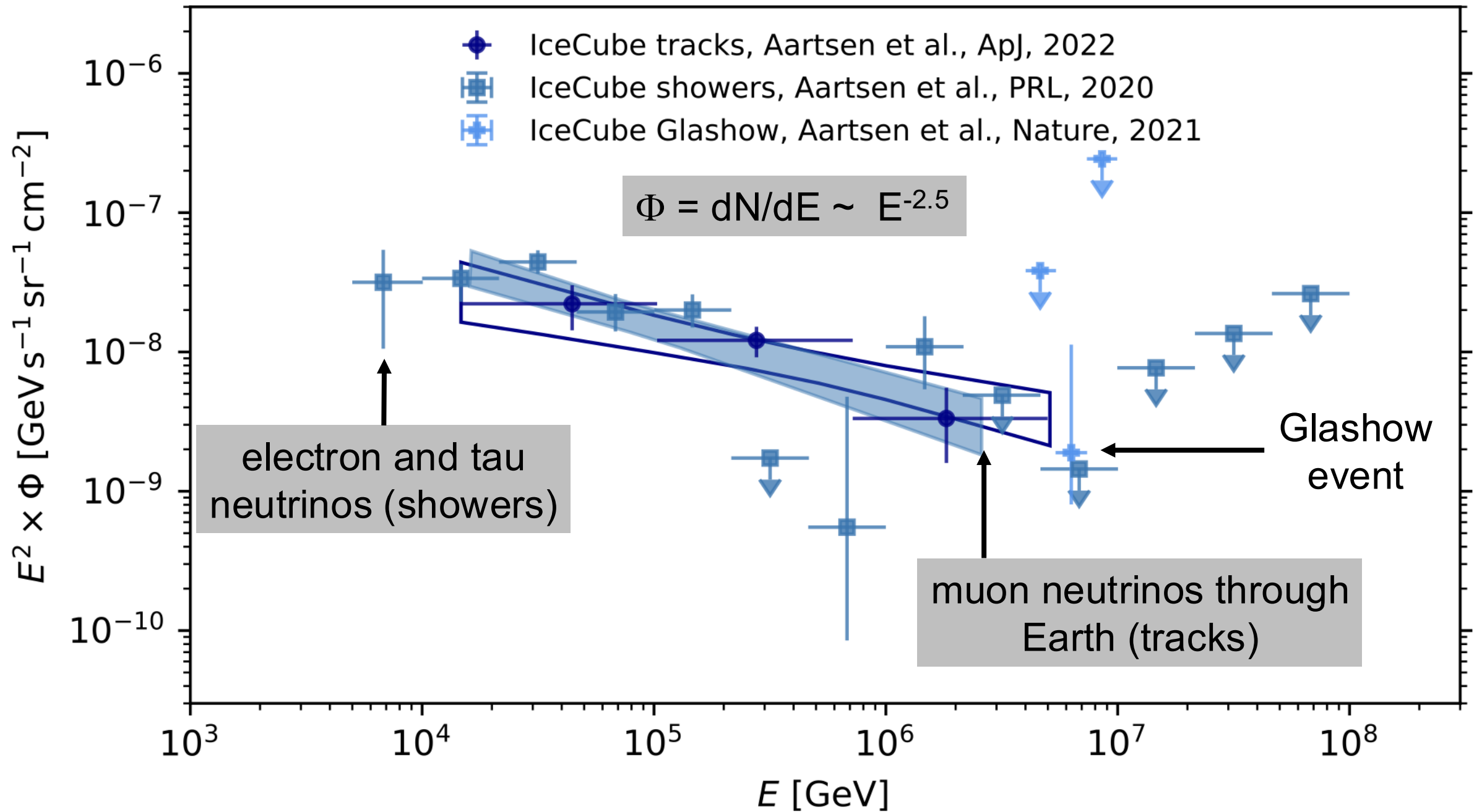
Nature **591**, 220–224 (2021)



By measuring $\nu/\bar{\nu}$ -> probe source environment directly (magnetic field, pp/pgamma)

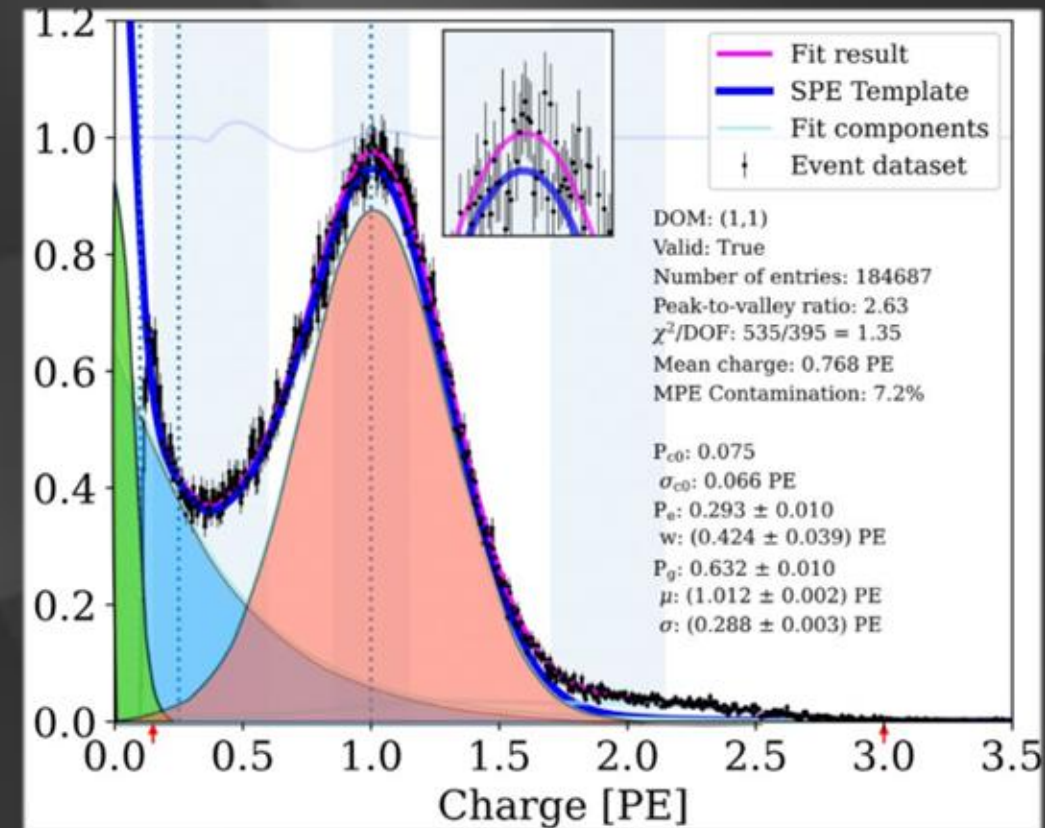


Identified muonic component from the hadronic shower
angular uncertainty contour shrinks by a factor of 5 with hybrid reco

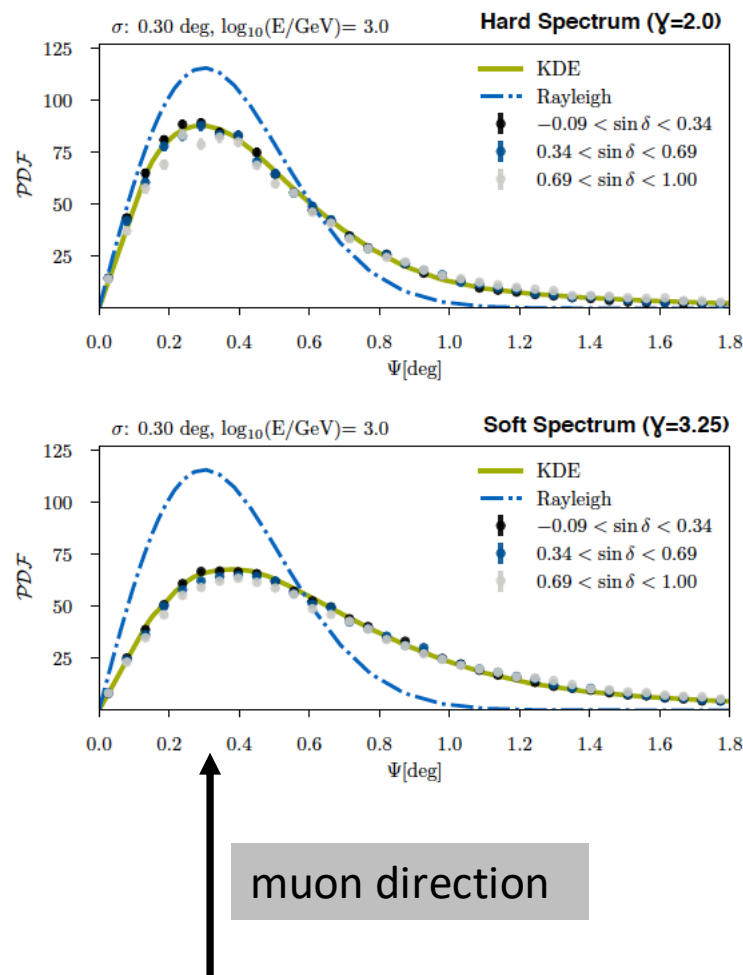


after 10 years: interesting fluctuations or neutrino sources?
→ crash program to upgrade the performance of IceCube

- improved detector geometry
 - each photomultiplier calibrated individually
 - improved characterization of the optics of the ice
 - improved muon angular resolution and energy reconstruction using **machine learning**
 - *point spread function consistent with simulation or, we were partially blind*
 - ...
- applied to 10 years of archival data (pass 2), data unblinded



- point spread function consistent with simulation
- insensitive to systematics



- Rayleigh (1D-projection of 2D Gauss) doesn't describe our Monte Carlo accurately → Tails are suppressed
- The distribution depends on the spectral index!
- Effect mainly visible at $< 10 \text{ TeV}$ energies where the kinematic angle between neutrino and muon matters
- **Solution:** Obtain a numerical representation of the γ -dependent spatial term from MC simulation (for example using KDEs)

$$\frac{1}{2\pi\sigma^2} e^{-\frac{\psi^2}{2\sigma^2}} \rightarrow \mathcal{S}(\psi | \sigma, E_\mu, \gamma)$$

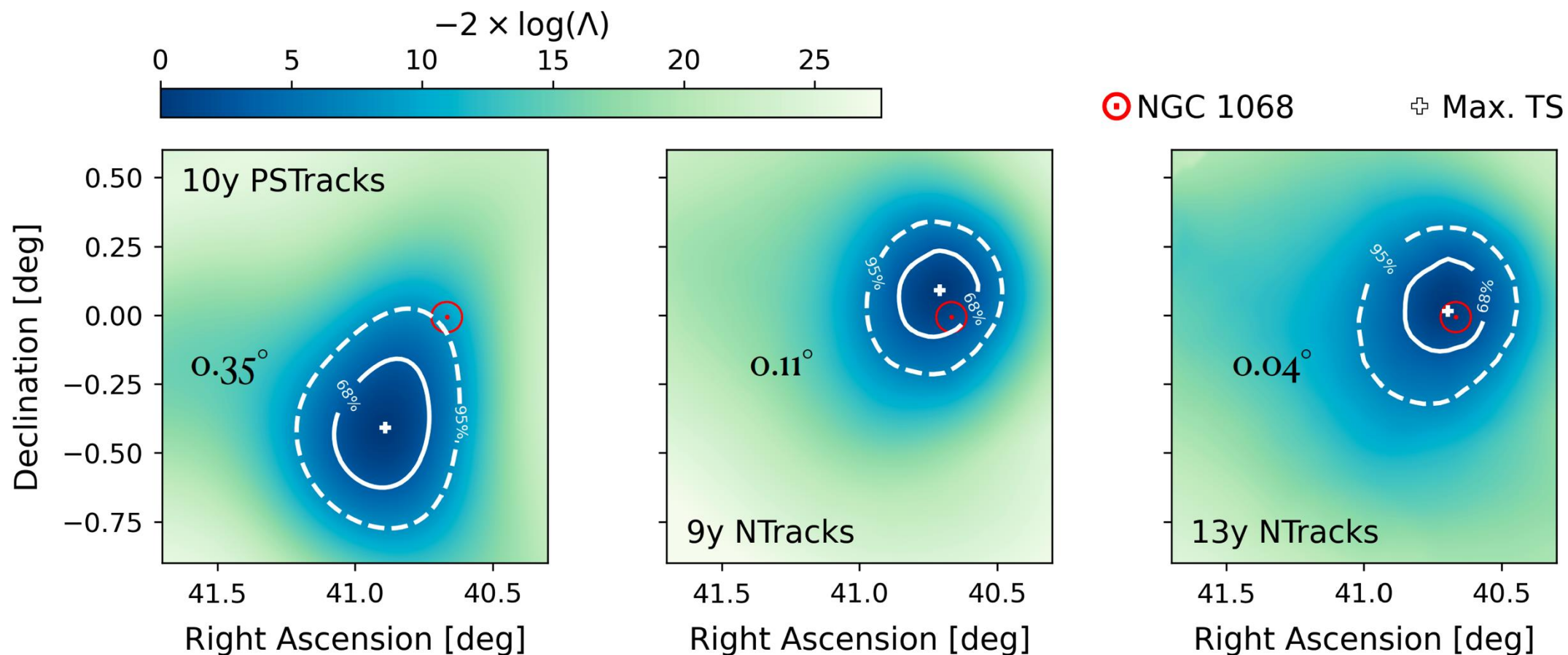
0.35 deg



0.1 deg



0.04 deg



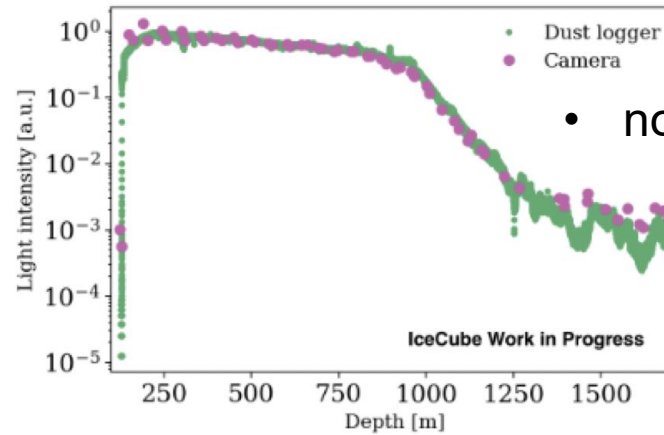
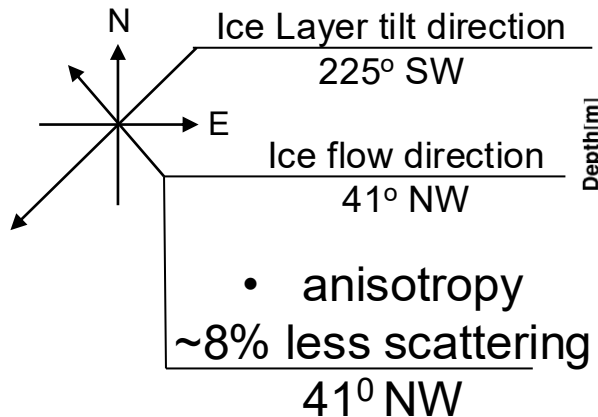
NGC 1068 comes into focus

ice: step by step

- hole ice ?



- birefringence

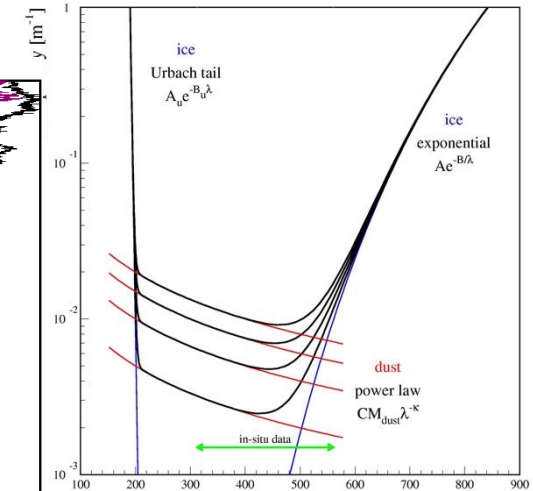
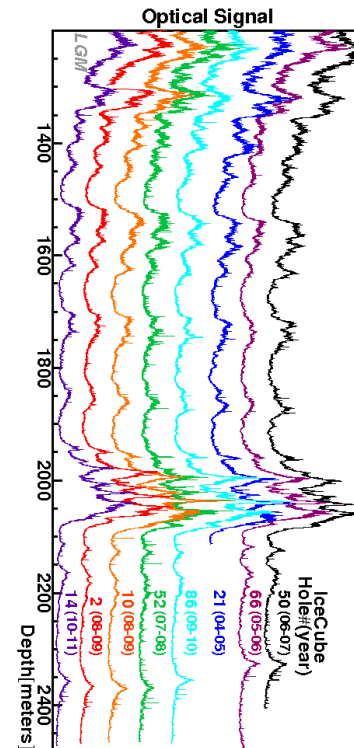
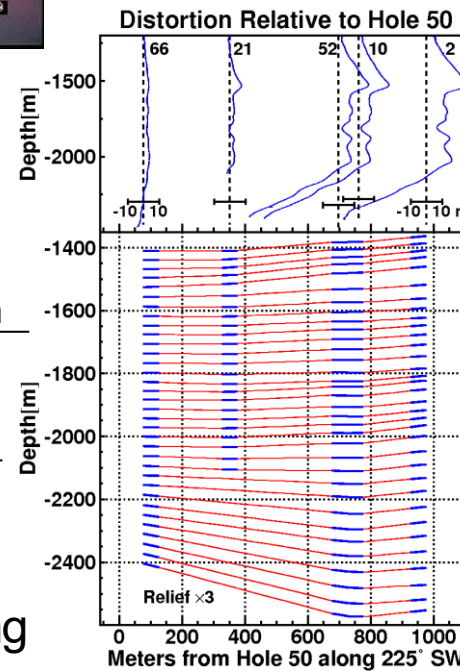


- no air bubbles/hydrates below 1350 m

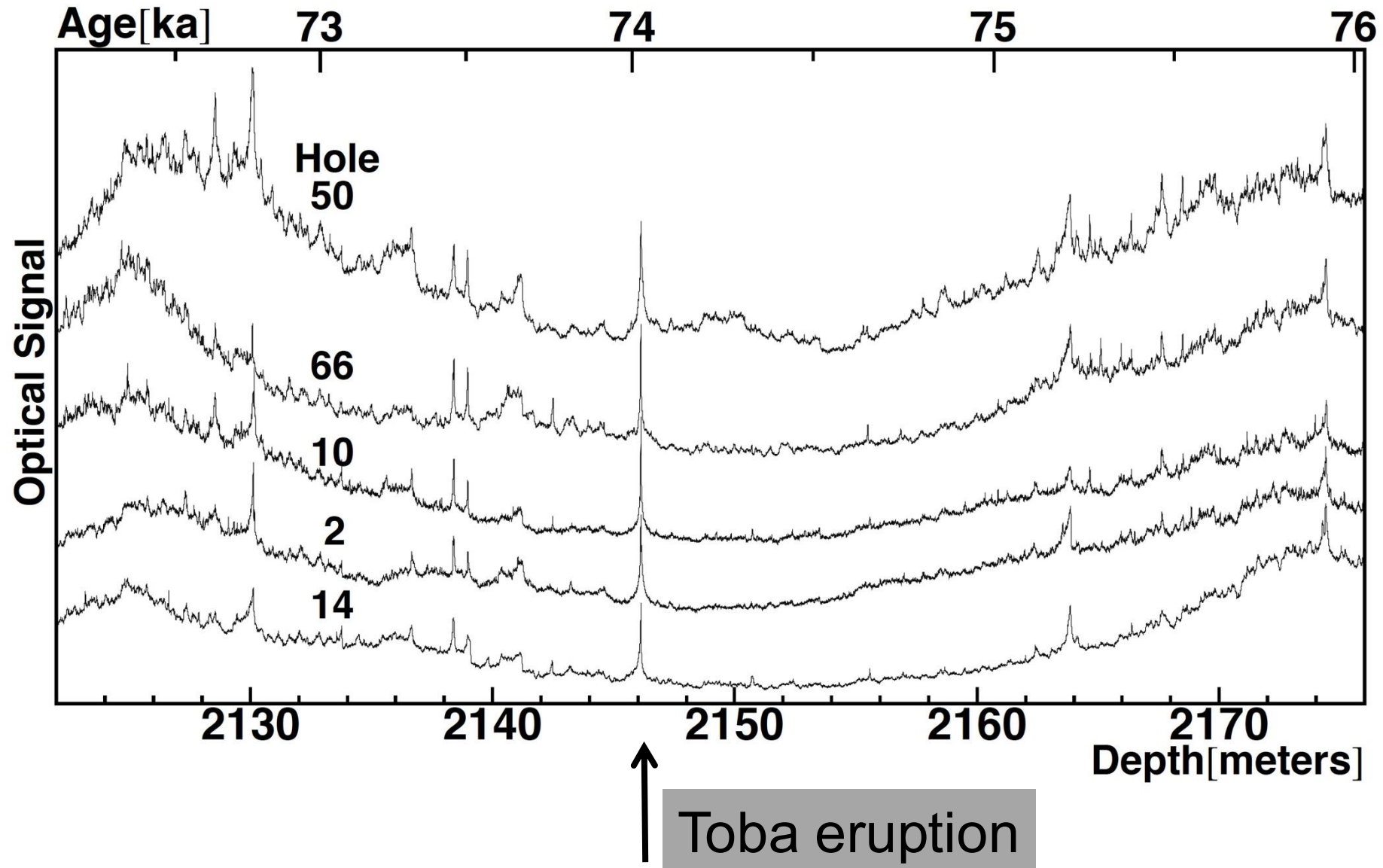
- > 100 m absorption length limited by dust

- ice layers

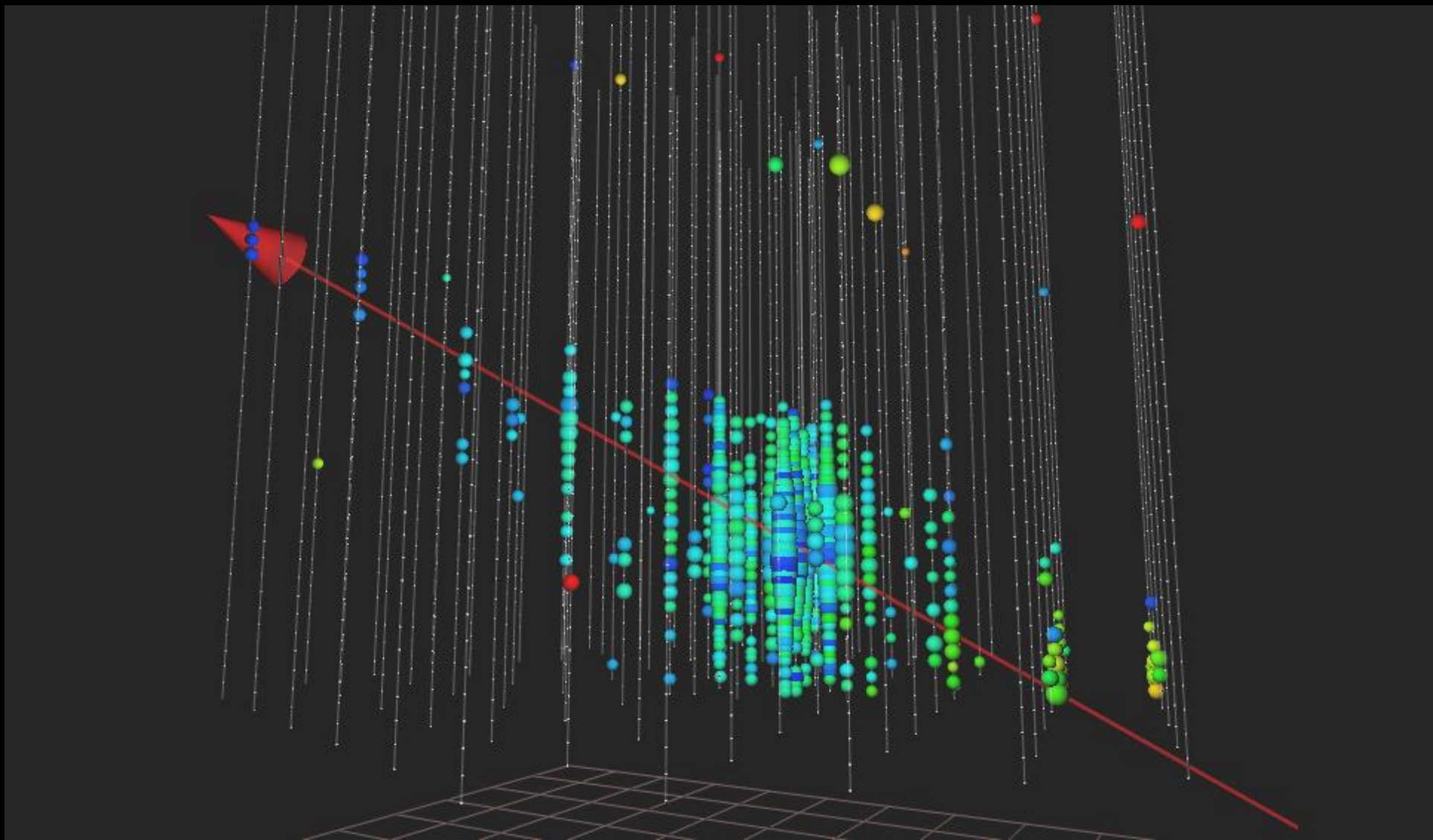
- tilted ice layers



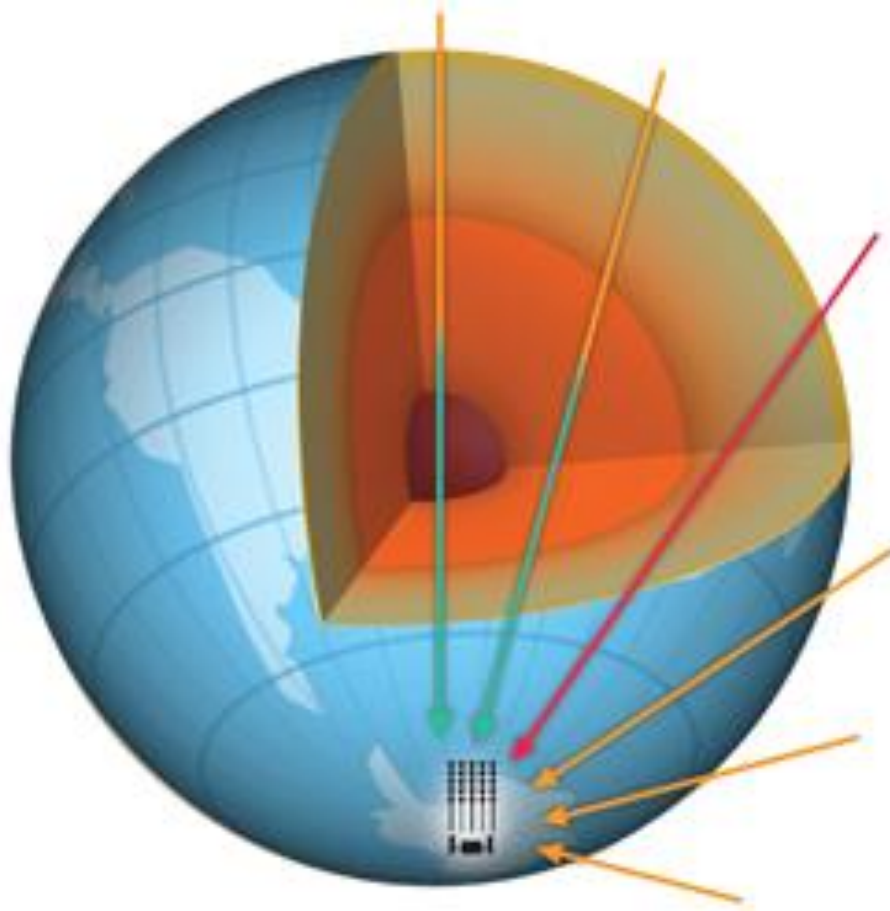
we are limited by computing, not the optics of the ice



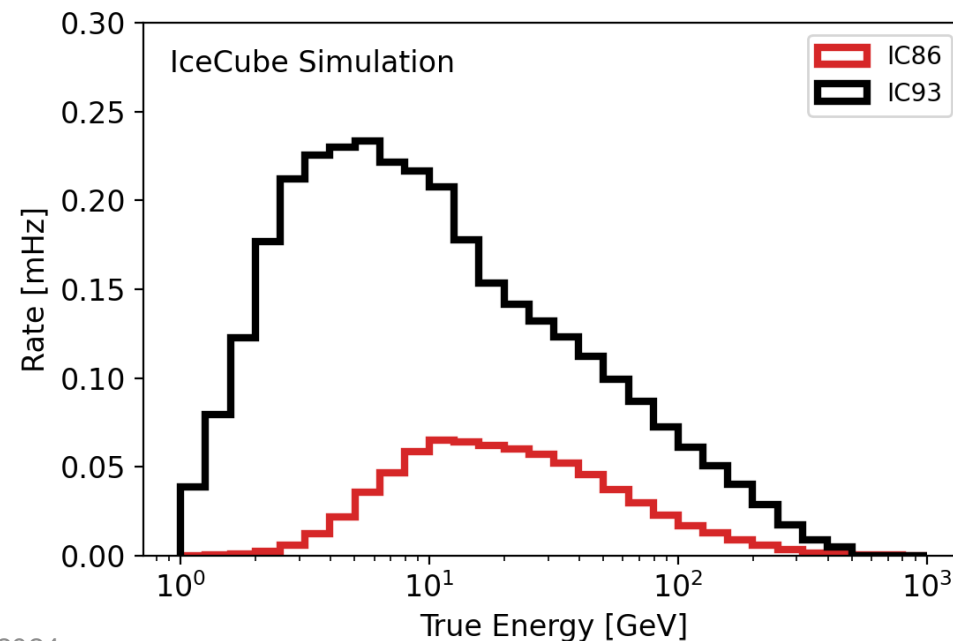
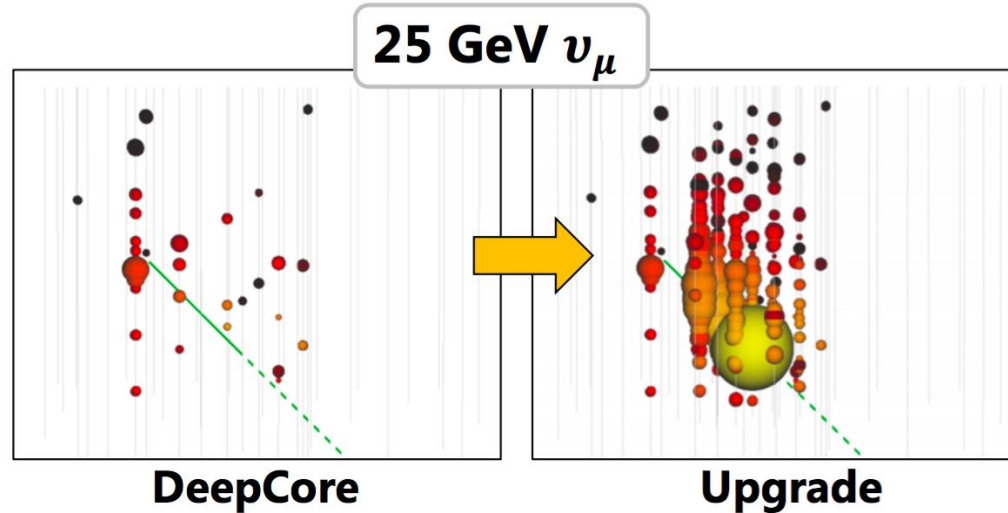
IceCube and DeepCore



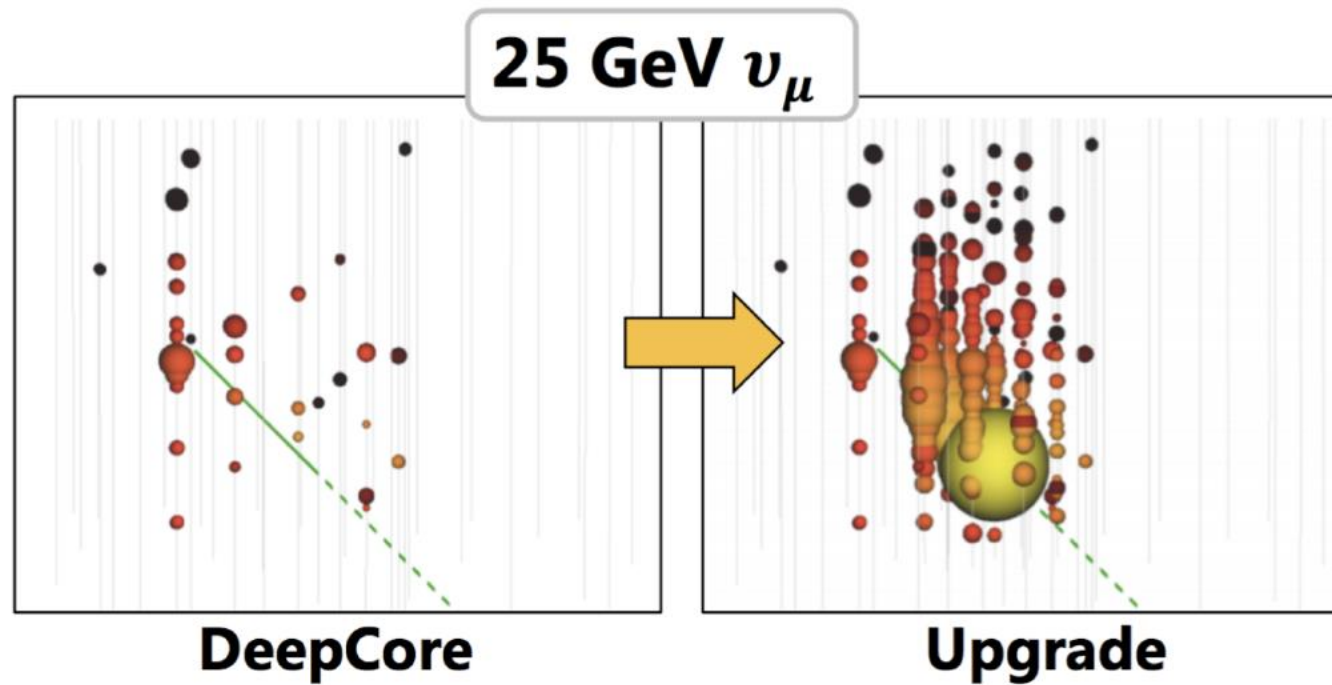
IceCube Upgrade Physics: Oscillation



Dense instrumentation, short baselines and high photocathode area will yield very large atmospheric neutrino statistics at low energies compared to IceCube DeepCore

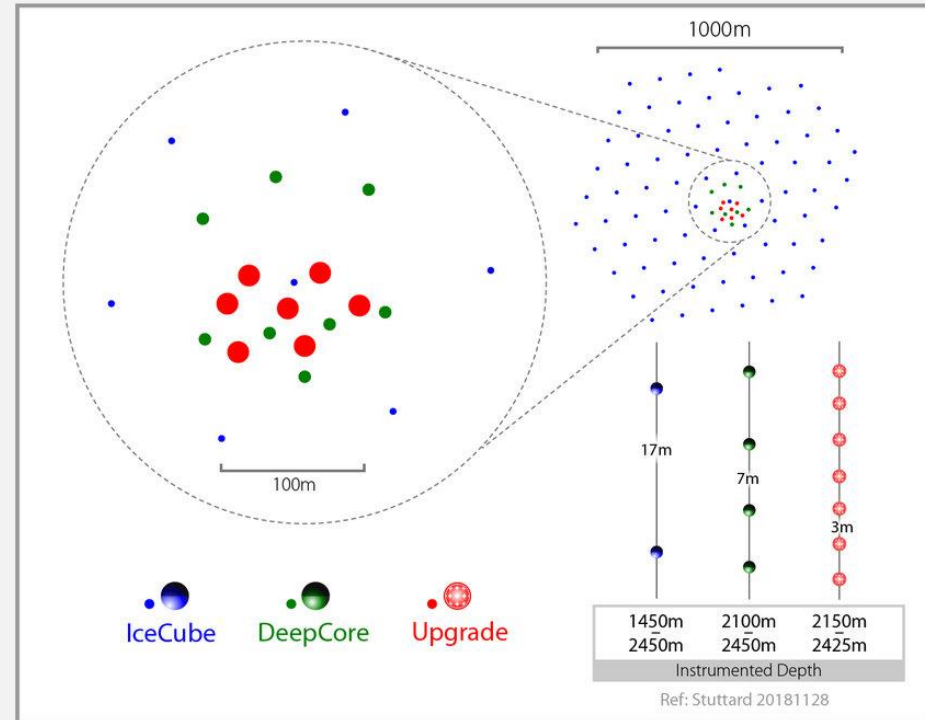


Low energy neutrinos in the Upgrade

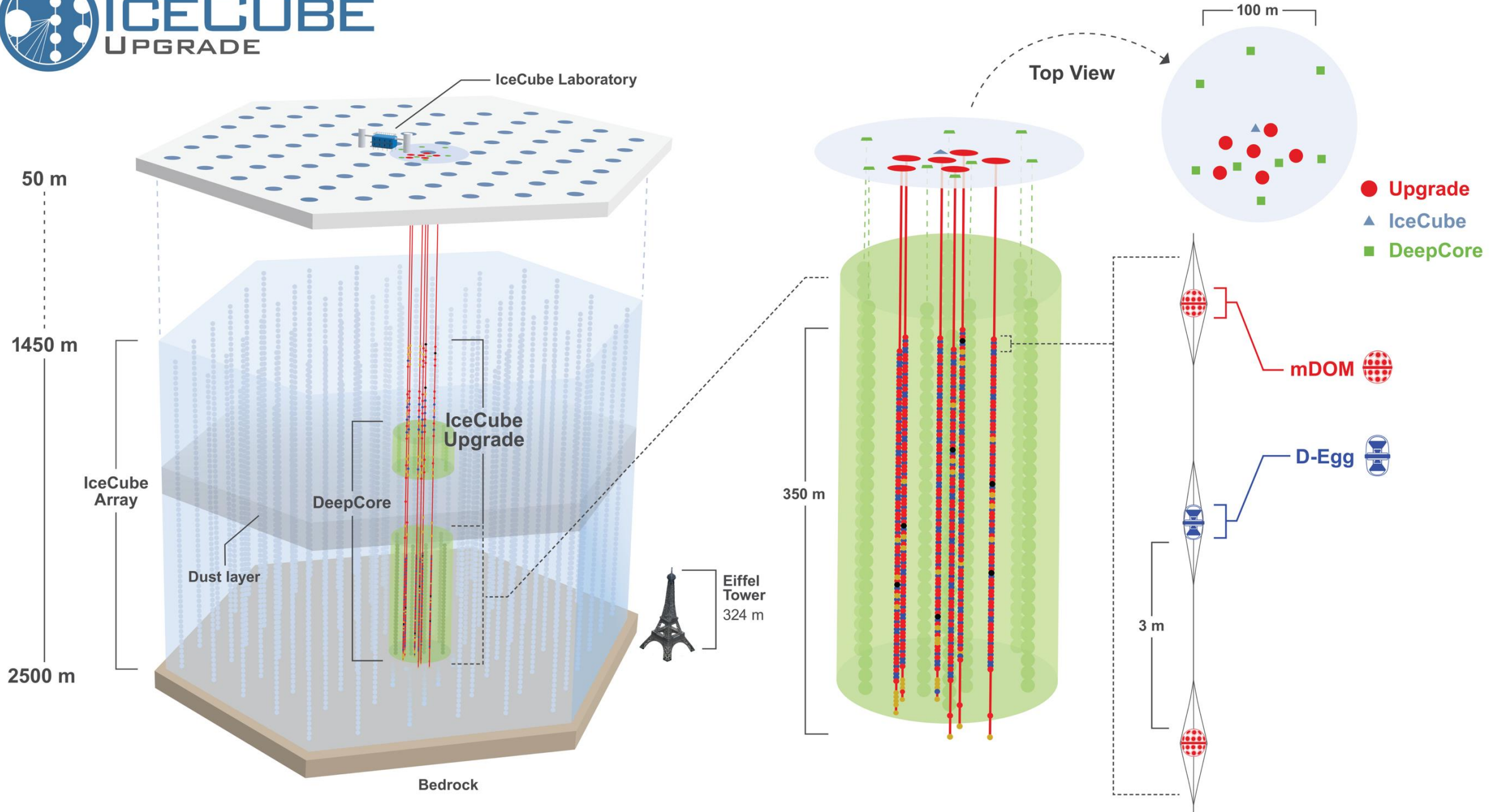


IceCube Overview

- IceCube
 - DeepCore
 - IceTop
 - Upgrade
 - IceCube-Gen2
 - Full
- Done & Delivering
- Underway
- Astro2020 Review
Preliminary Design in Preparation

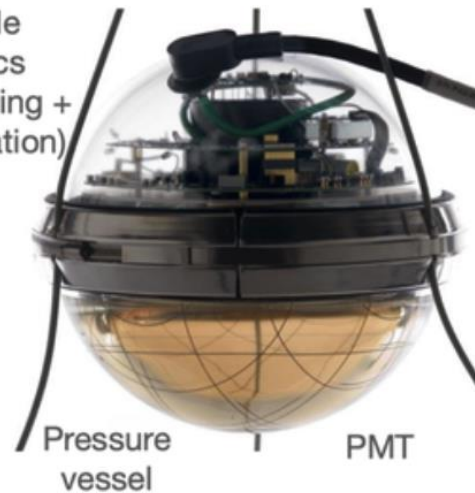


- 10 megaton volume
- string spacing : 125m → 35m → 22m
- module spacing: 17m → 7m → 3 m



IceCube Digital Optical Module (DOM)

In-module electronics
(HV + Digitizing + Communication)



Pressure vessel

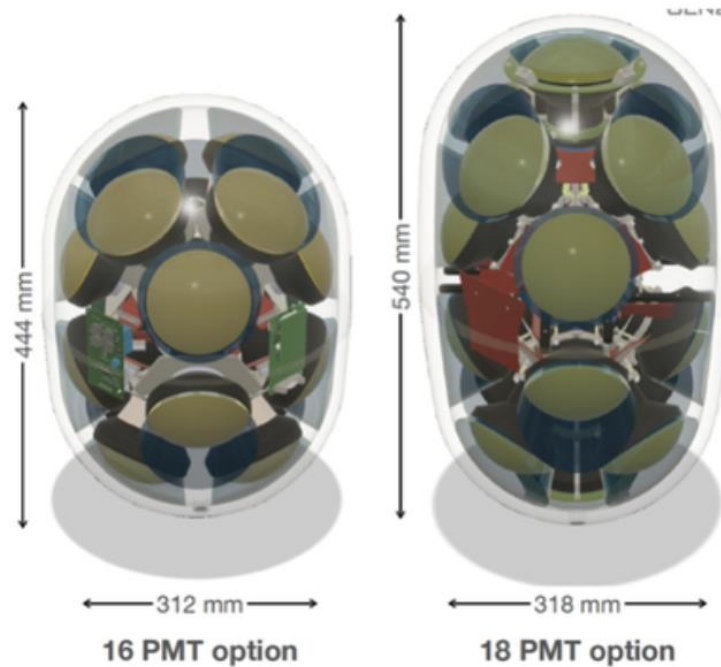
PMT



mDOM



D-Egg



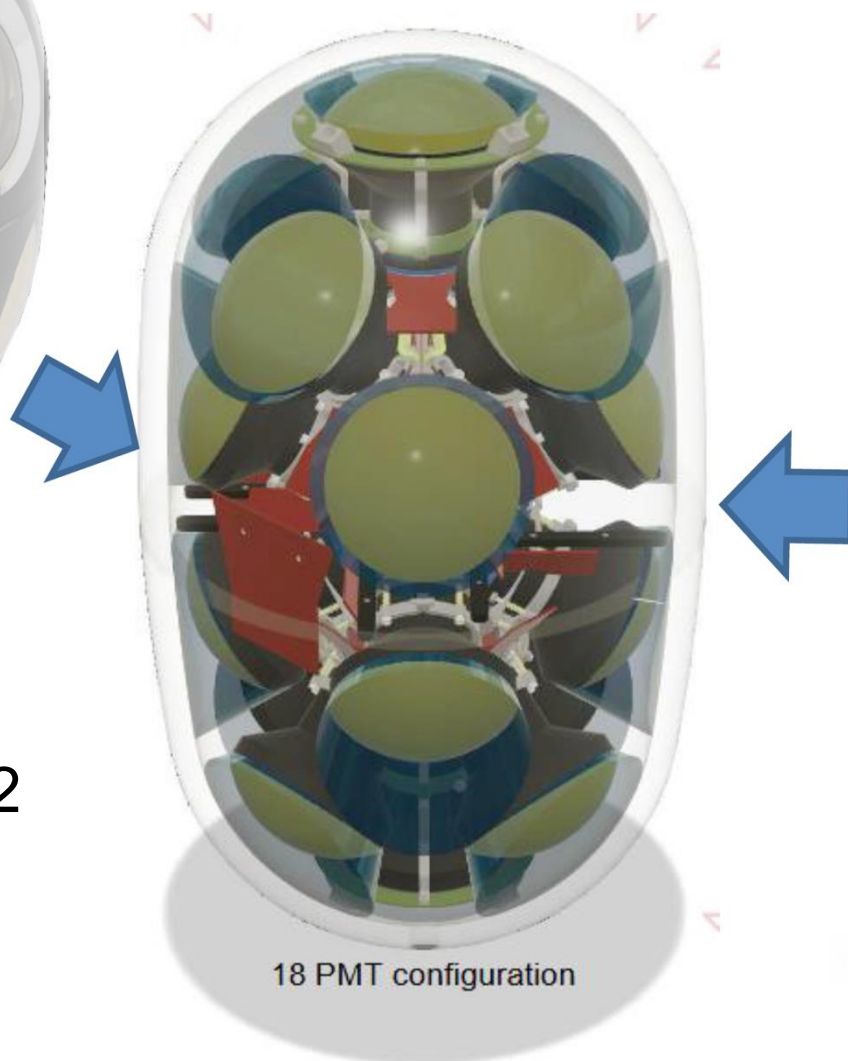
16 PMT option

18 PMT option





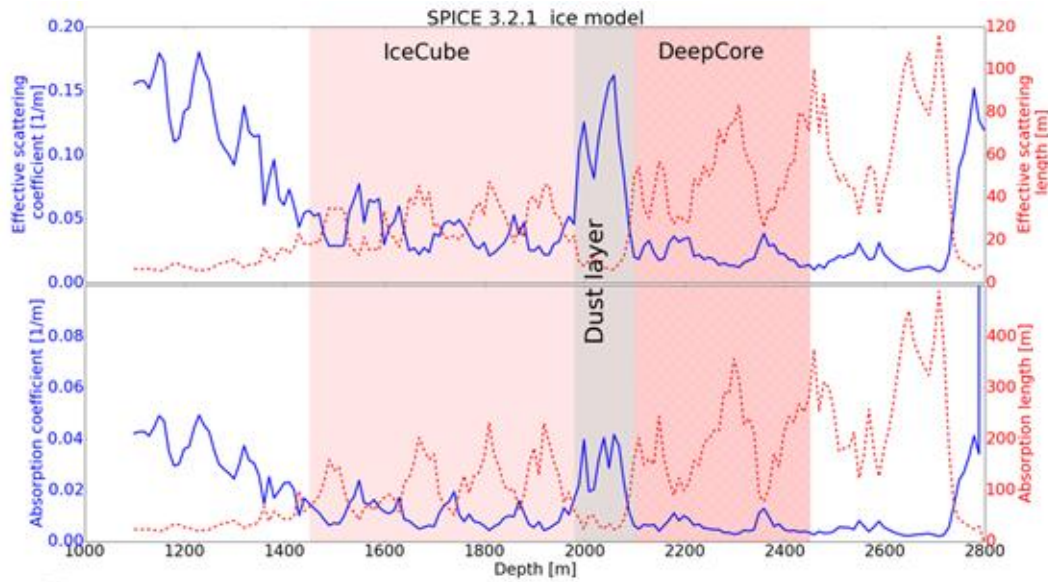
towards IceCube-Gen2



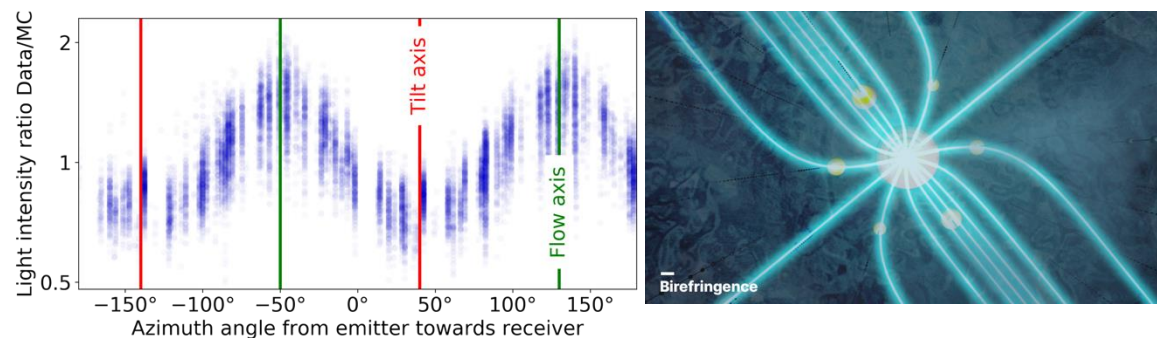
18 PMT configuration



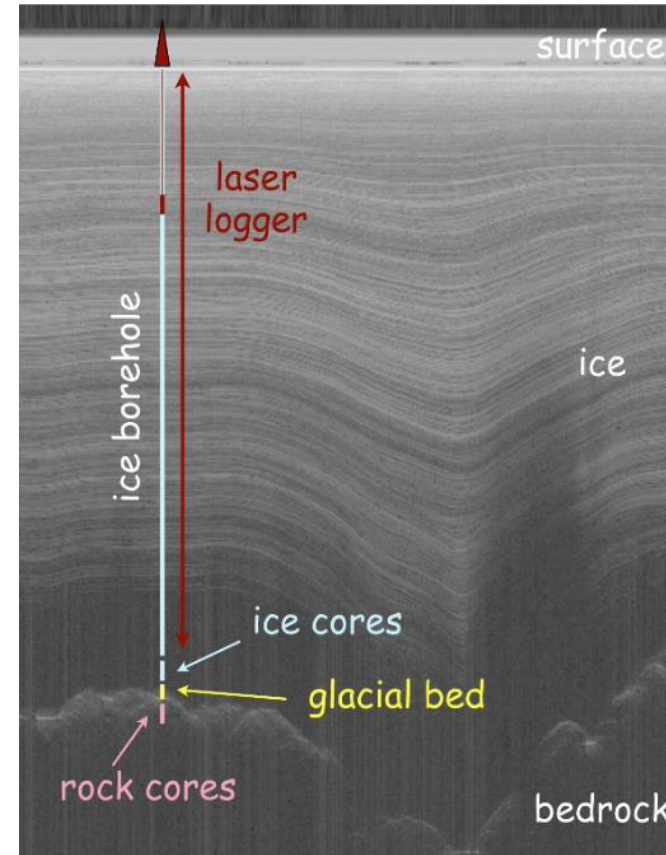
The ice model: Calibration in the Upgrade



Depth dependent concentration of dust in undisturbed “bulk ice”



Anisotropic scattering due to birefringent ice crystals



Dust layers not horizontal

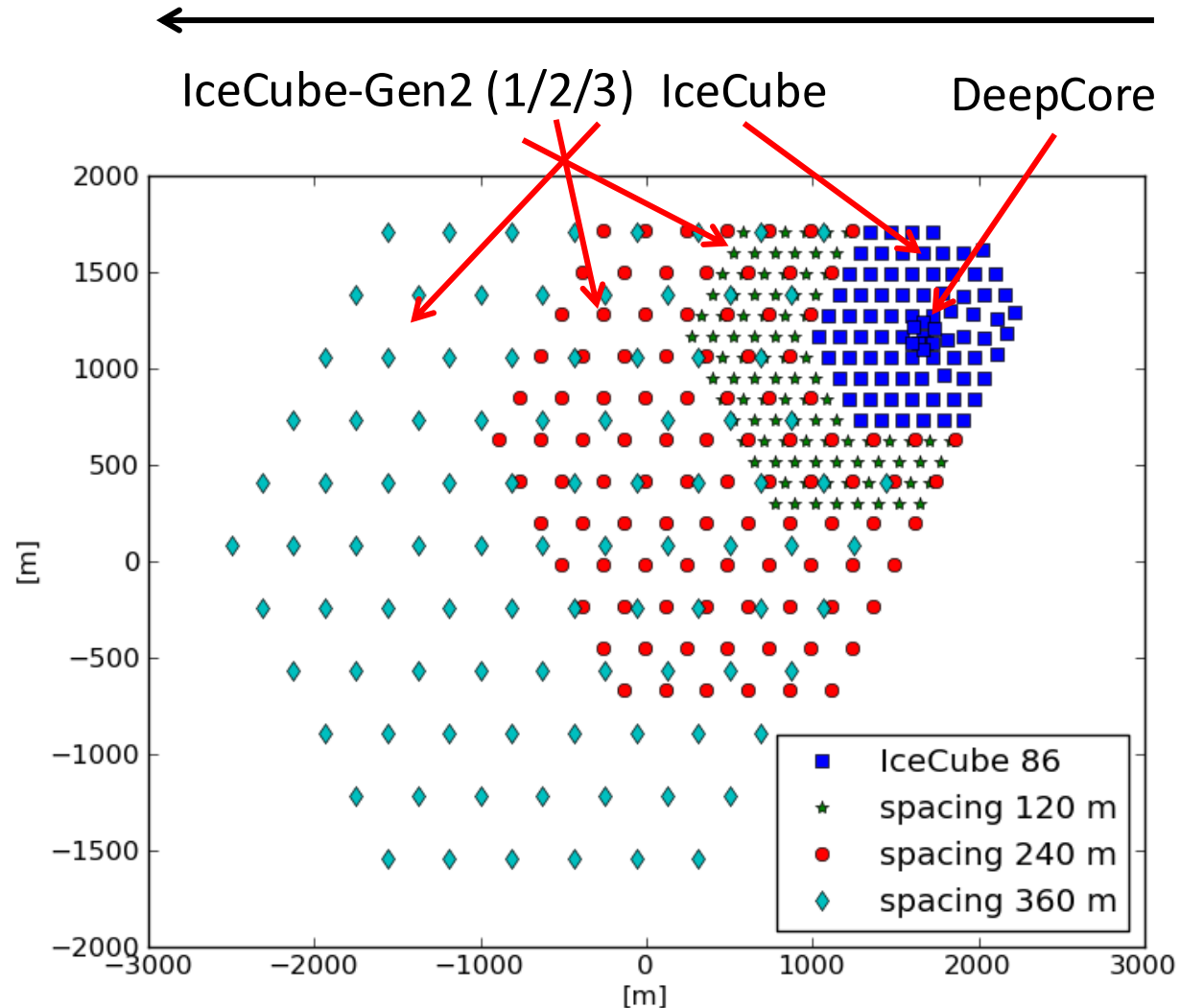


Bubbles in refrozen “hole ice”

We have made tremendous progress in understanding the ice, but simulation round trip tests indicate that the ice model can still be improved

measured optical properties → twice the string spacing

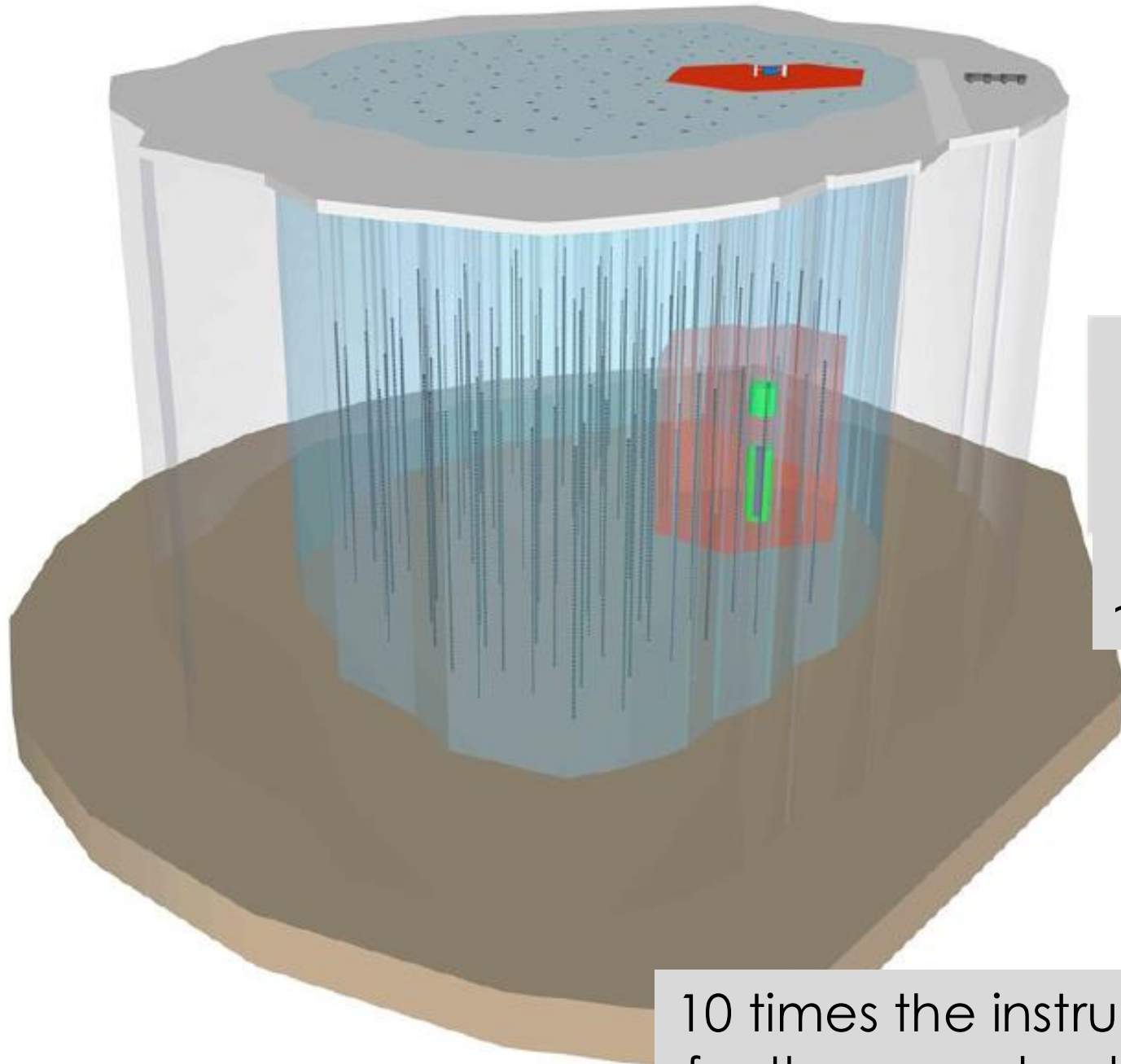
(increase in threshold not important: only eliminates energies where the atmospheric background dominates)



Spacing 1 (120m):
IceCube (1 km^3)
+ 98 strings ($1,3 \text{ km}^3$)
= $2,3 \text{ km}^3$

Spacing 2 (240m):
IceCube (1 km^3)
+ 99 strings ($5,3 \text{ km}^3$)
= $6,3 \text{ km}^3$

Spacing 3 (360m):
IceCube (1 km^3)
+ 95 strings ($11,6 \text{ km}^3$)
= $12,6 \text{ km}^3$



120 strings
depth 1.35 to
2.7 km
80 DOM/string
~250 m spacing

10 times the instrumented volume
for the same budget as IceCube

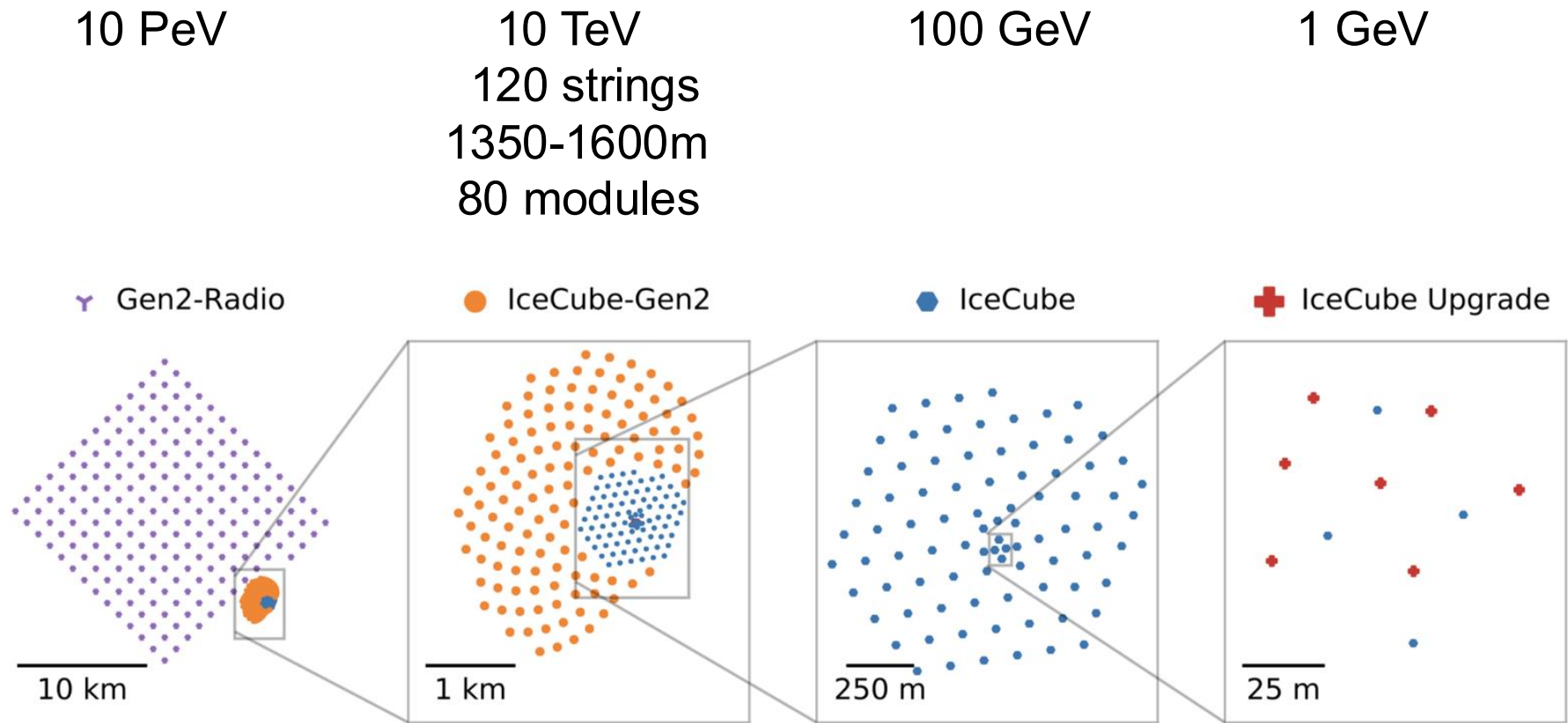
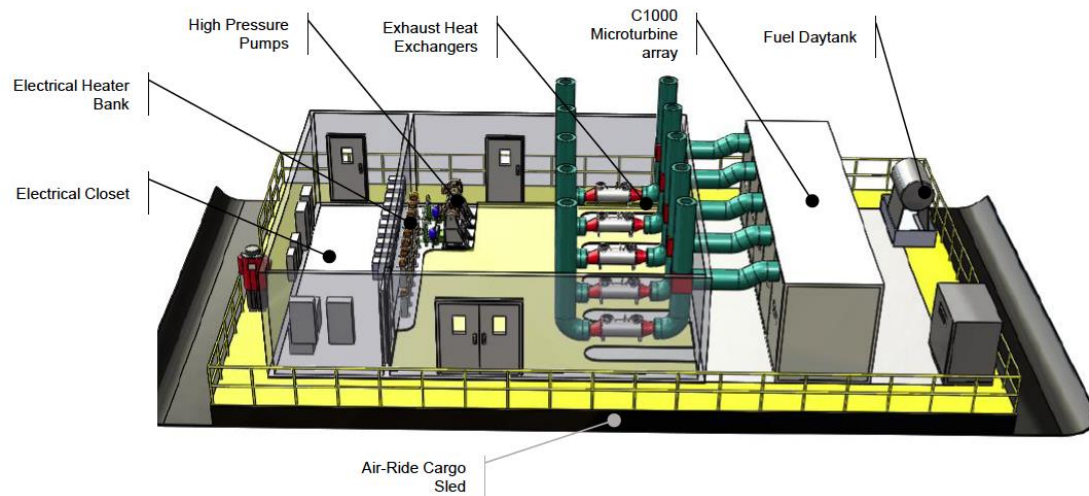
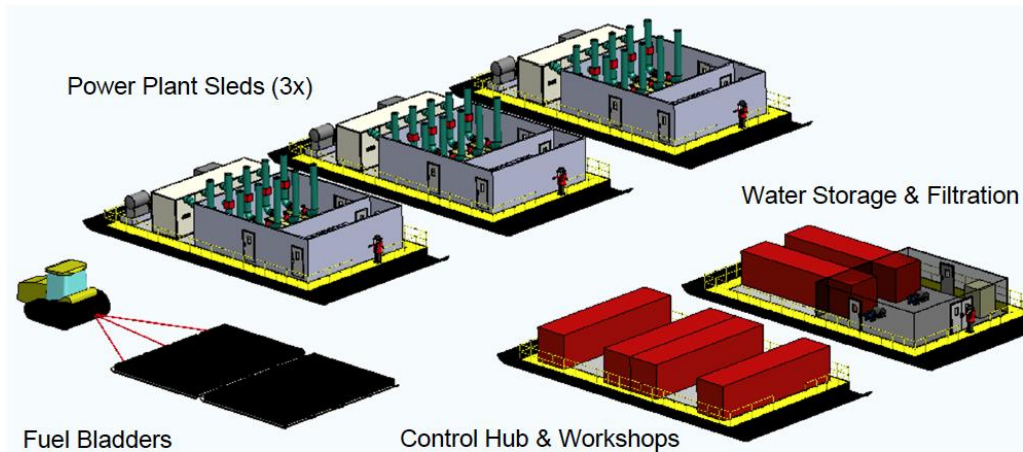


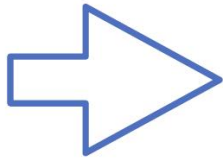
Figure 10: Exploded top-view of the full IceCube-Gen2 observatory. Far left shows the radio array, composed of individual stations resulting in a more than 500 km² instrumented area, relative to the Gen2 optical deep ice array and the existing IceCube detector.



- Next-generation Enhanced Hot Water Drill
 - reduced footprint
 - smaller crew
- Transport equipment and fuel using South Pole Traverse
 - fewer flights needed
- May also reduce hole diameter
 - reduced fuel usage

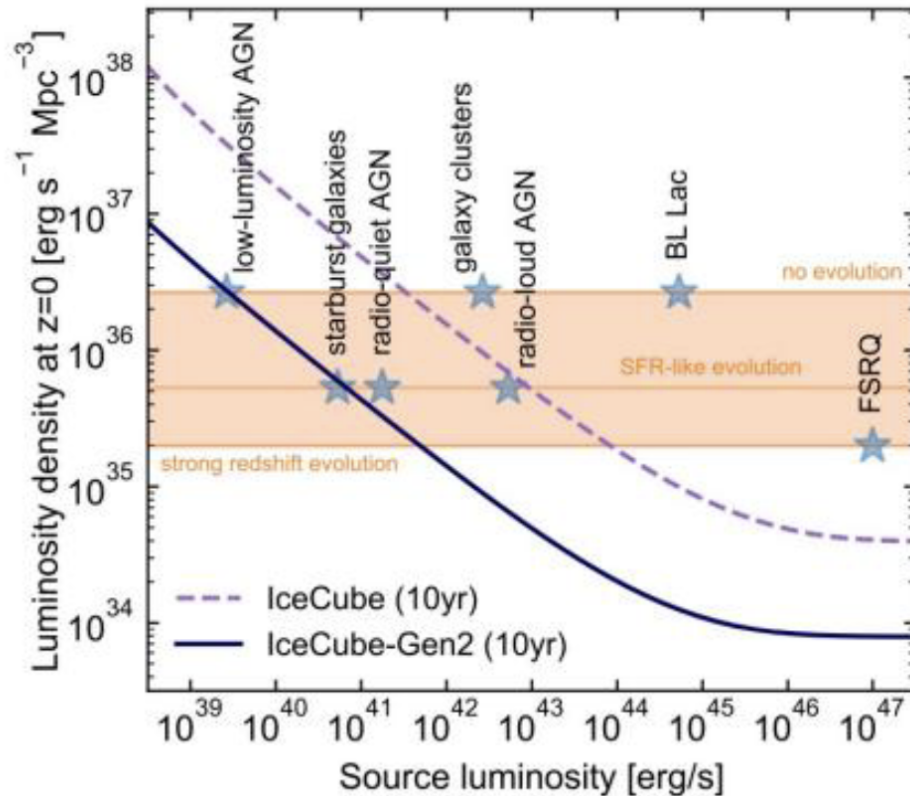


LC 130 aircraft



Number of flights

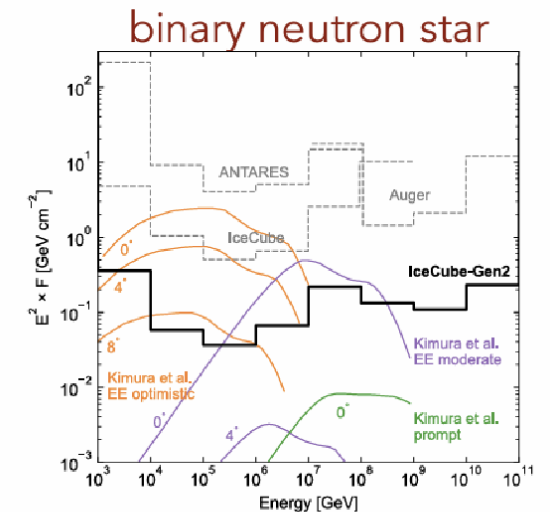
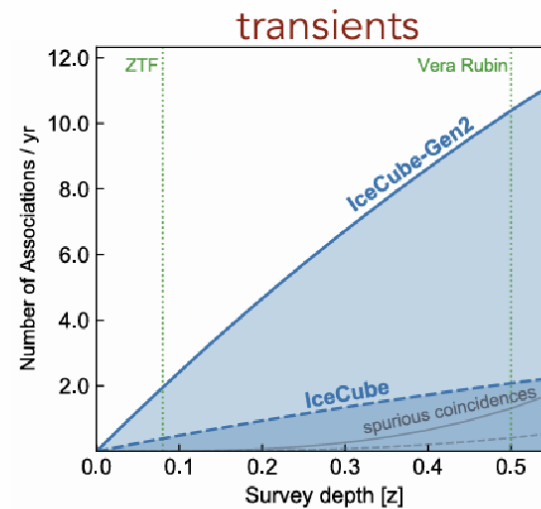
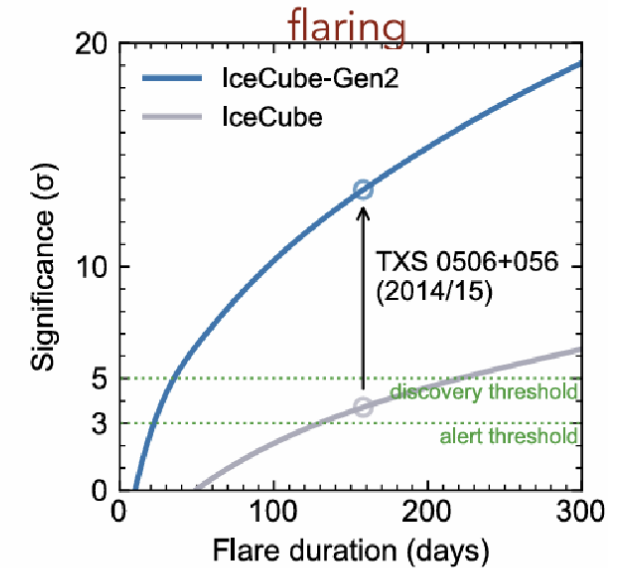
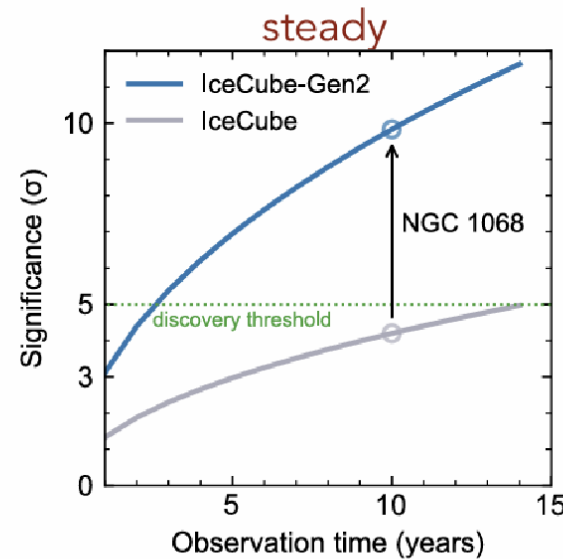
resolving the neutrino sky from TeV to EeV energy

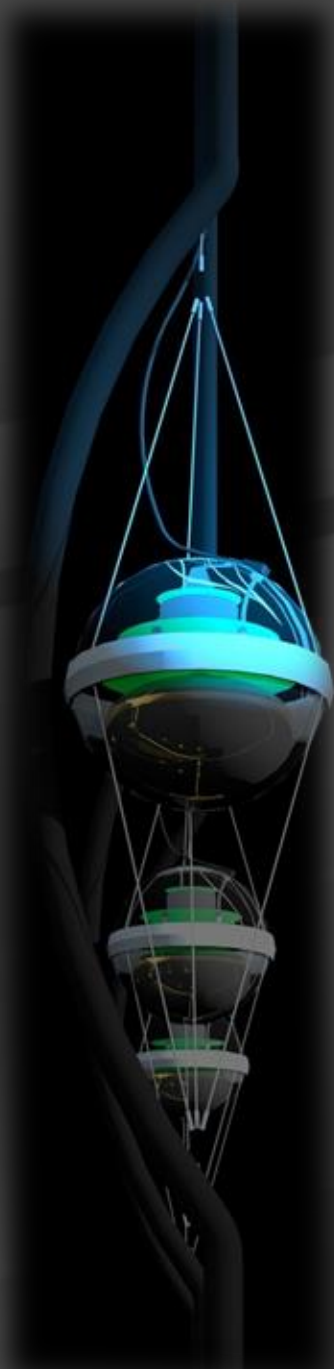


IceCube-Gen2 vs IceCube:

- 5 x point source sensitivity
- 10 x number of sources

IceCube-Gen2 will probe the leading source classes producing the diffuse neutrino flux



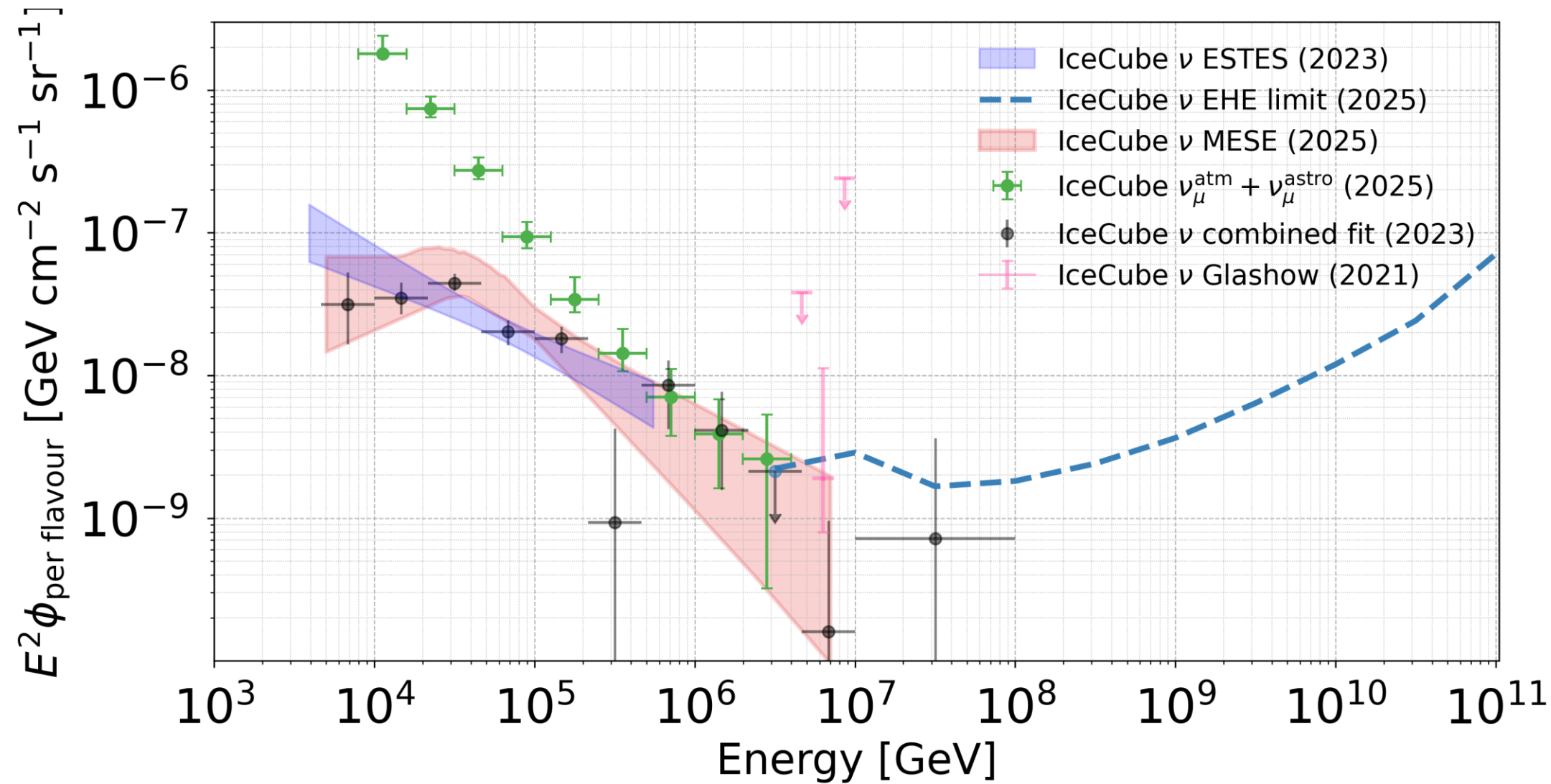


IceCube: beyond neutrino astronomy

Francis Halzen

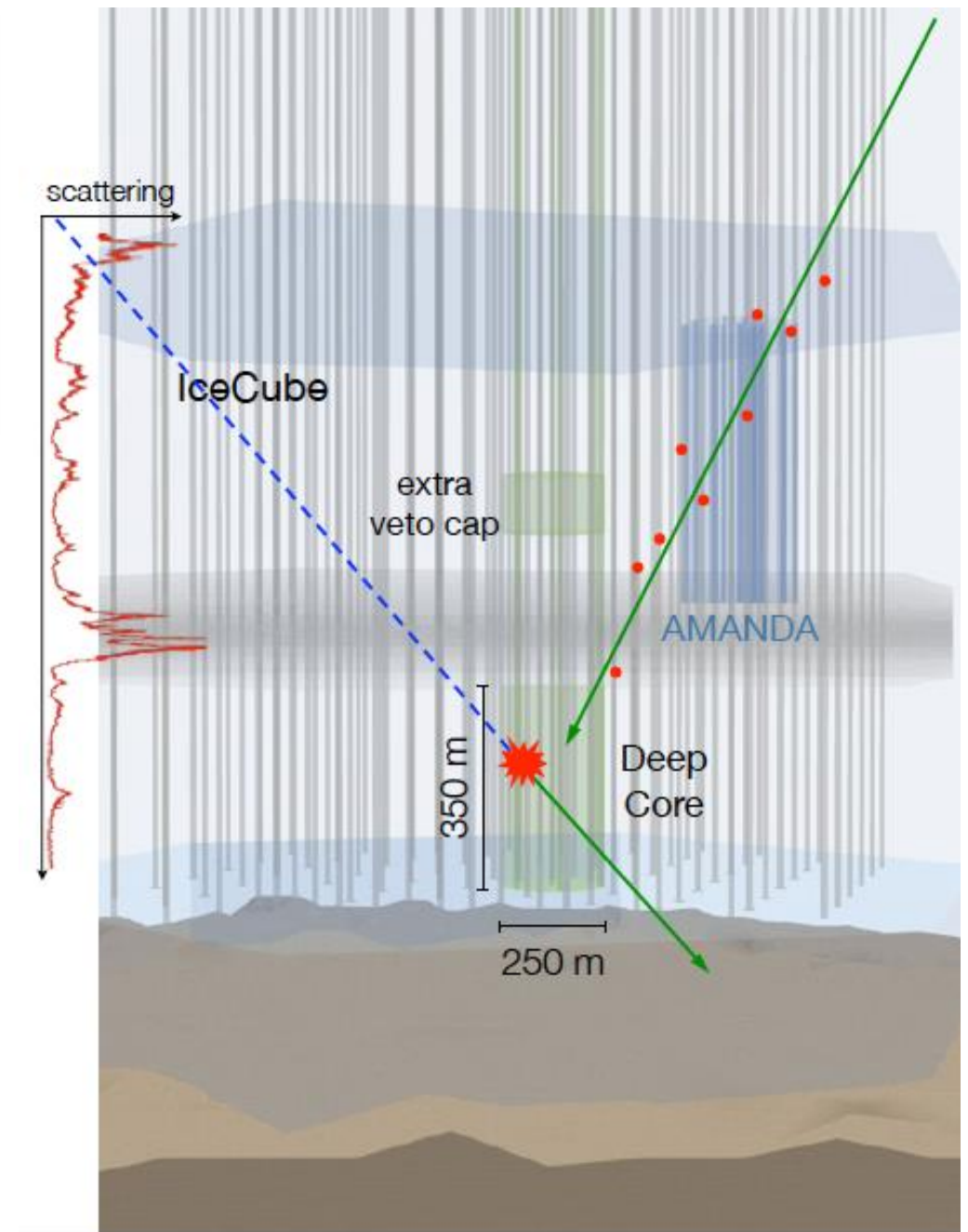
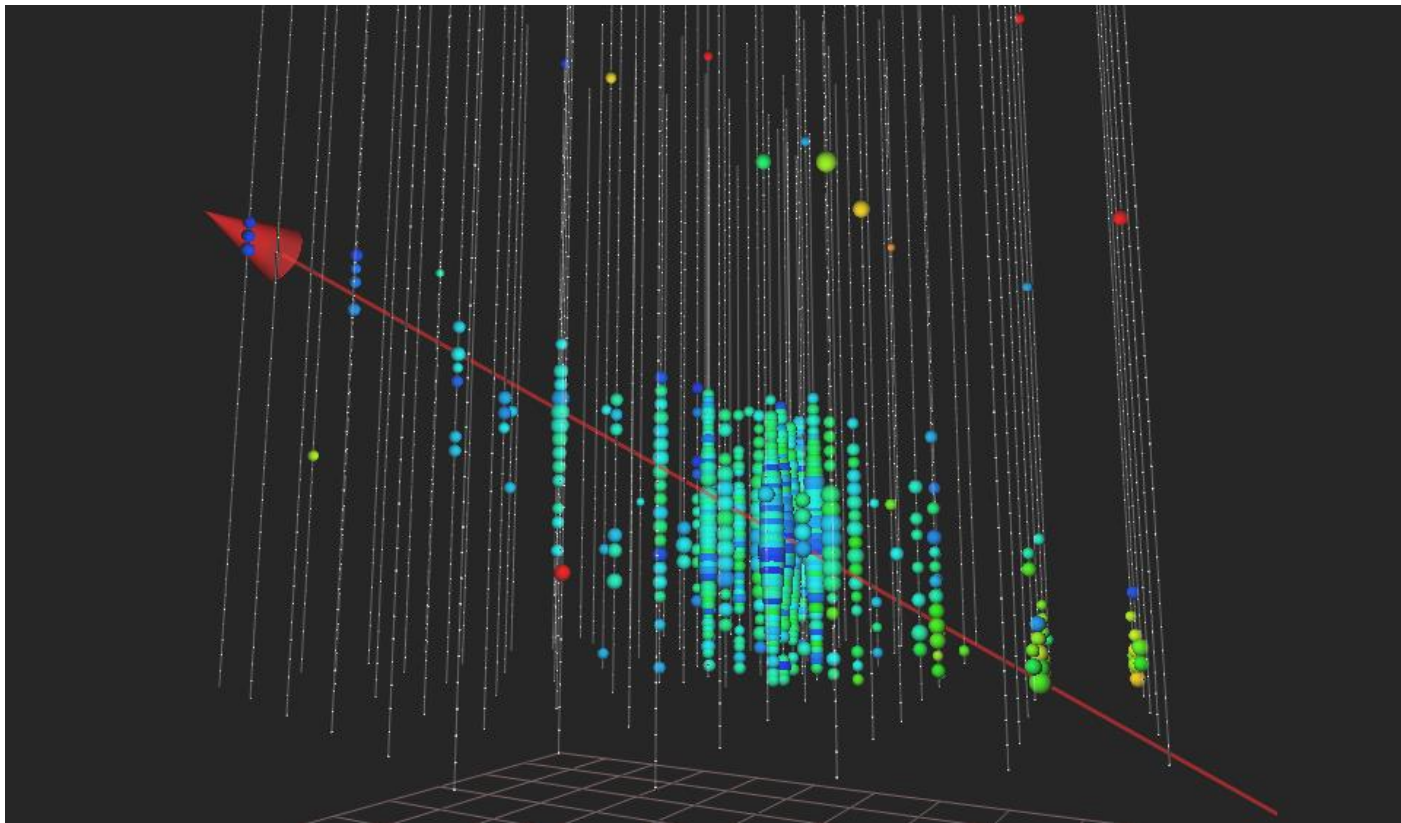
- natural Antarctic ice as a Cherenkov detector
- neutrino physics: from GeV to PeV
- detecting the next Galactic supernova explosion
- search for dark matter
- beyond the Standard Model physics: quantum decoherence, sterile neutrinos, neutrino cross sections, ...
- cosmic ray physics

natural neutrino beams: the atmosphere and the cosmos

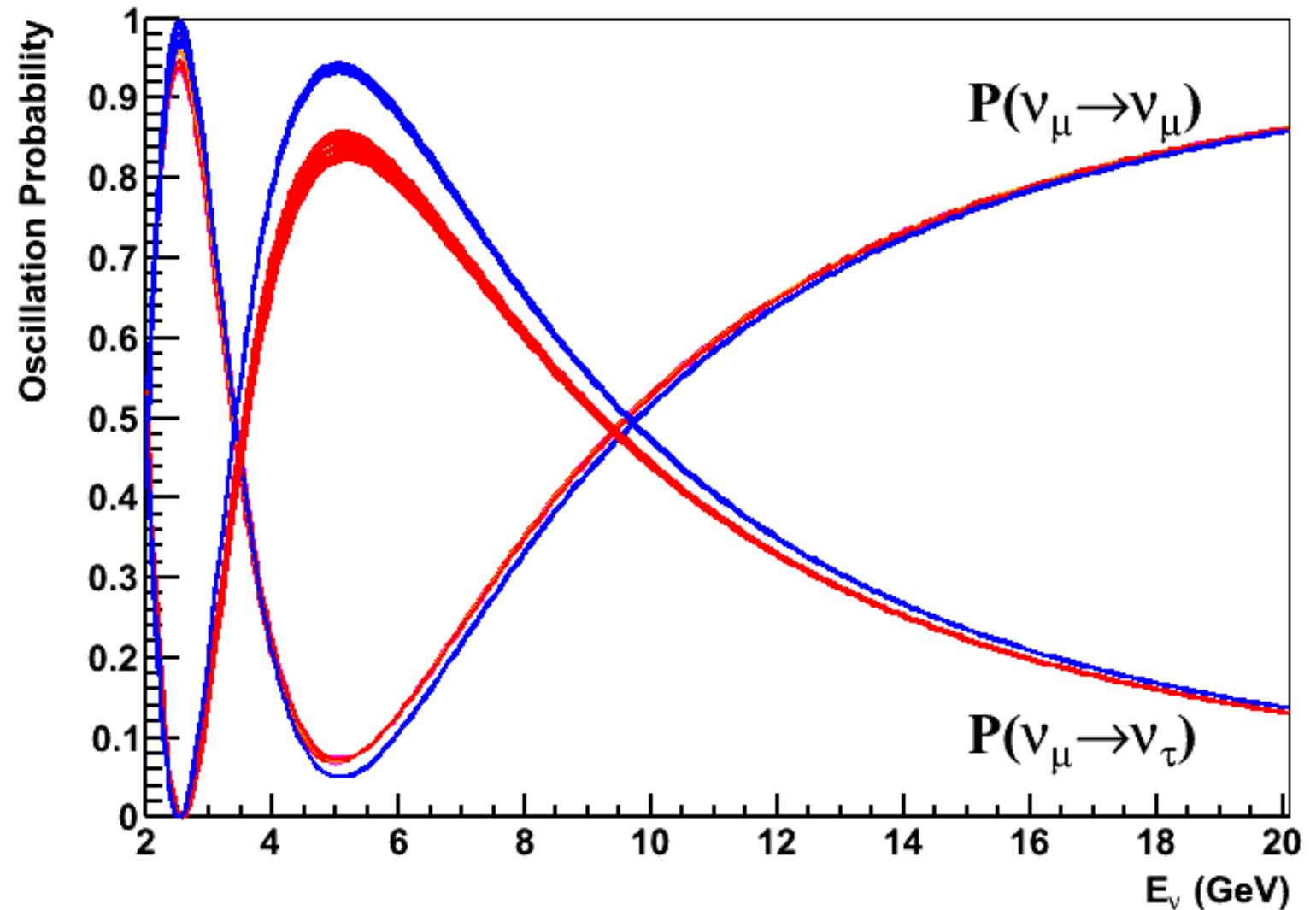


one million atmospheric neutrinos:

- 2 megaton detector (statistics)
- near 25 GeV energy nearly all muon neutrinos reappear as tau neutrinos. We measure both.
- IceCube veto: puts DeepCore at an effective depth well below SNOLAB

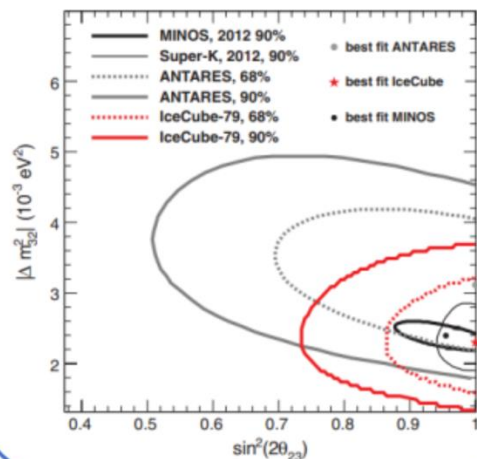
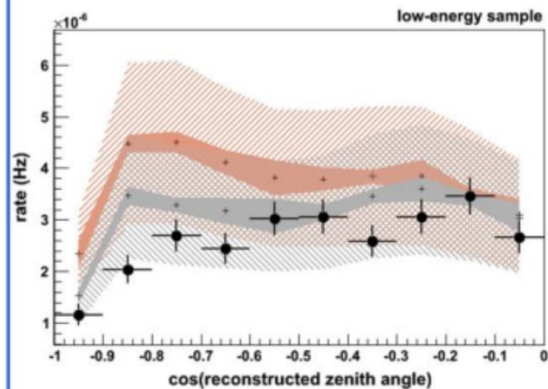


- oscillations at 10 GeV energy and above
- oscillation parameters measured in a new energy range.

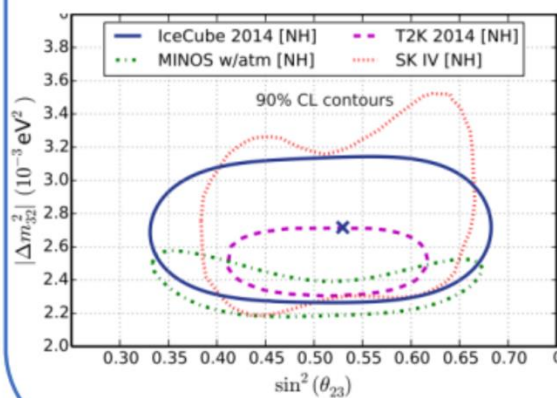
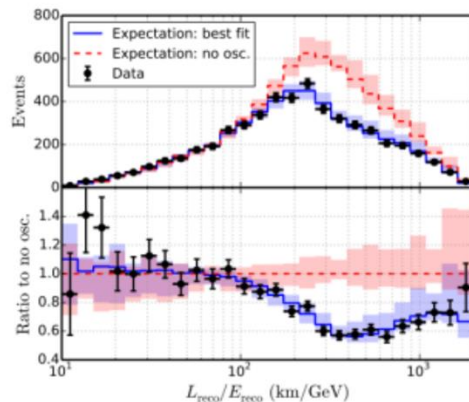


Atmospheric oscillations progression

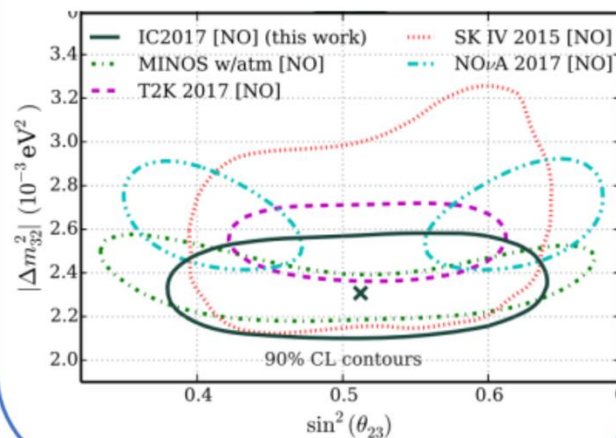
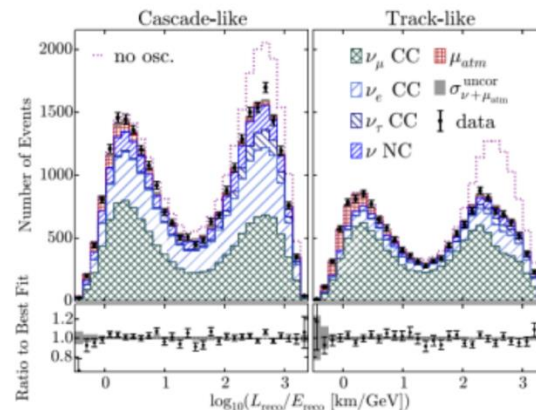
IceCube, PRL 111, 081801 (2013)
700 events



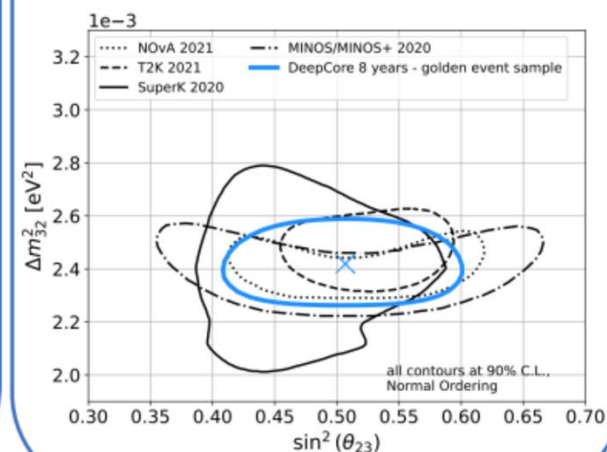
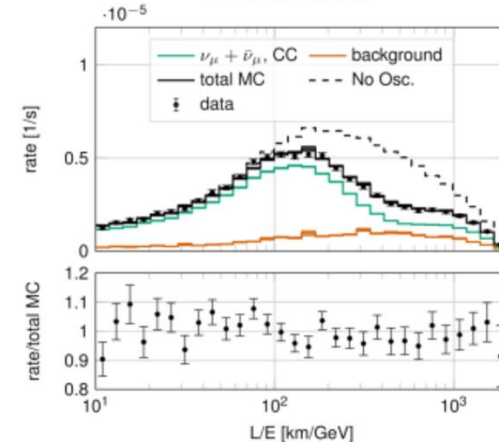
IceCube, PRD 91, 072004 (2015)
~5k events



IceCube, PRL 120, 071801 (2018)
~35k events



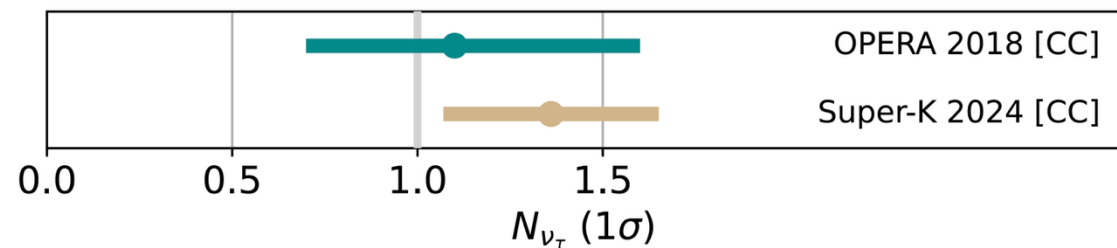
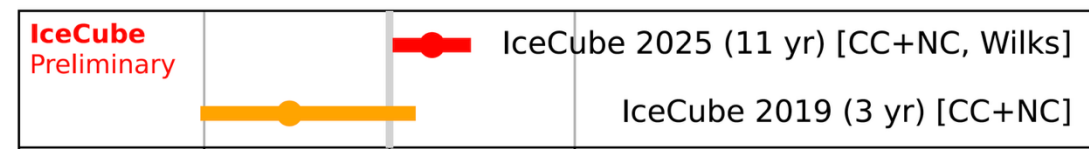
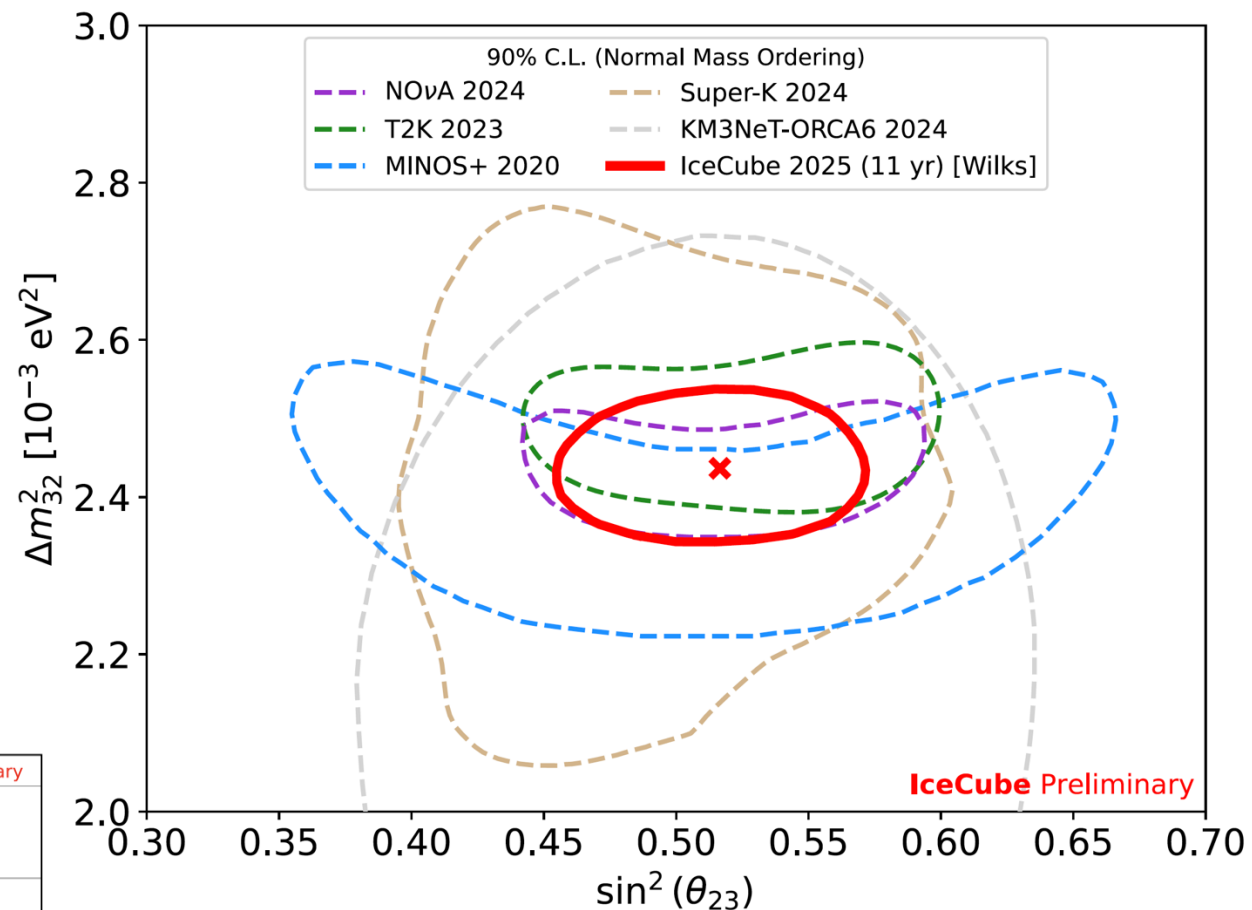
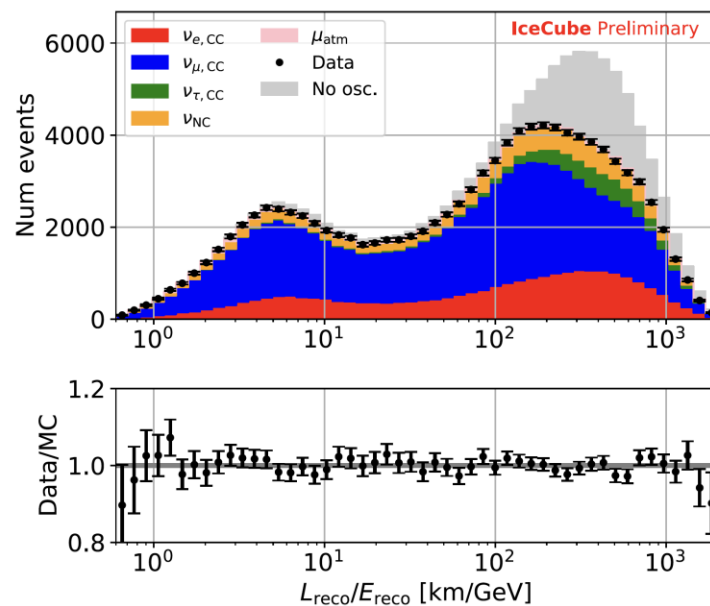
IceCube, PRD 108, 012014 (2023)
~22k events

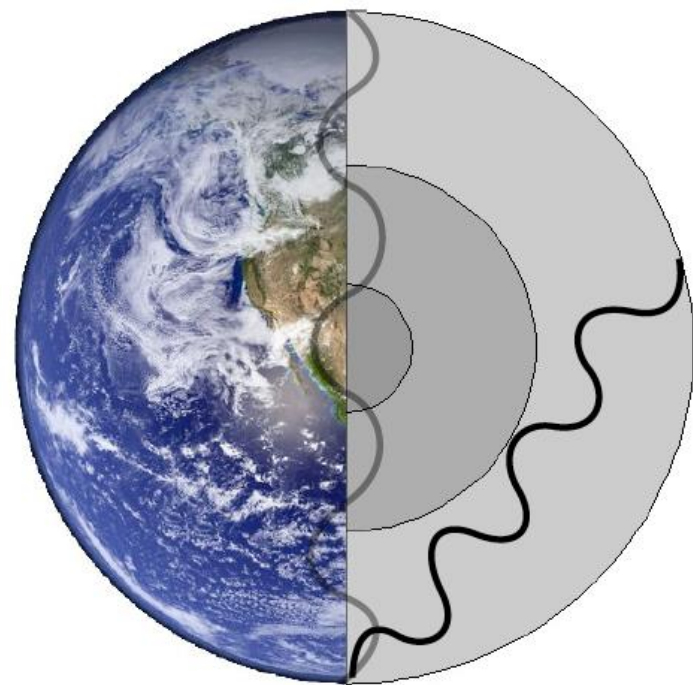
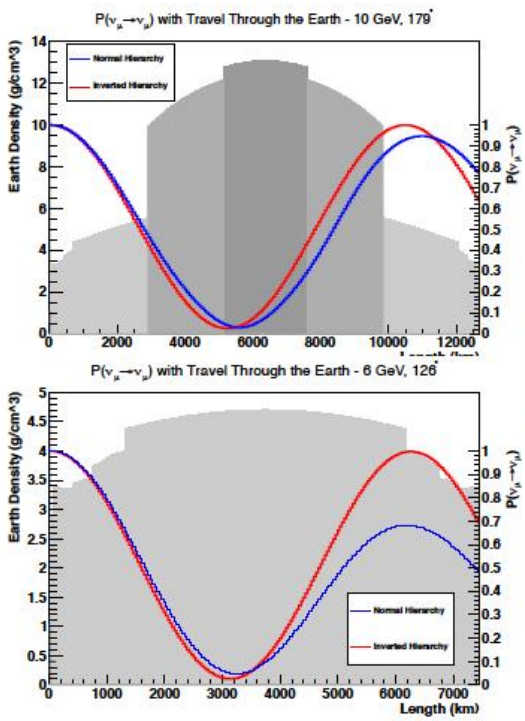
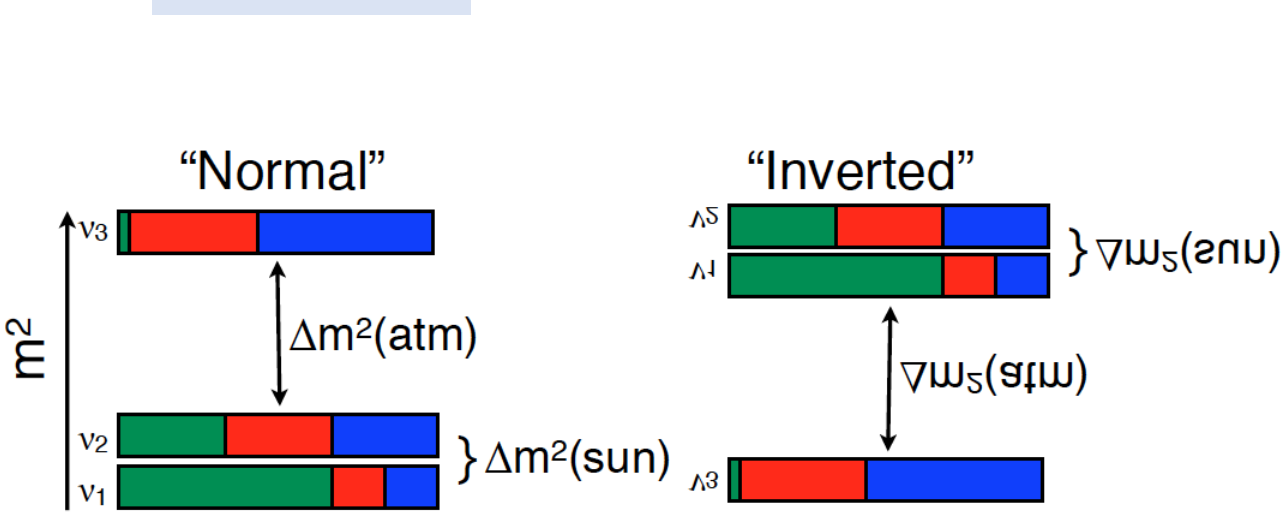


- fit both the atmospheric flux and the oscillation parameters
- blind analysis

- Broad coverage of L/E phase-space

- Baselines ranging from ~200km to ~12700km
- Reconstructed energies from 5 GeV - 100 GeV





DeepCore Neutrino Mass Ordering (9.28 years)

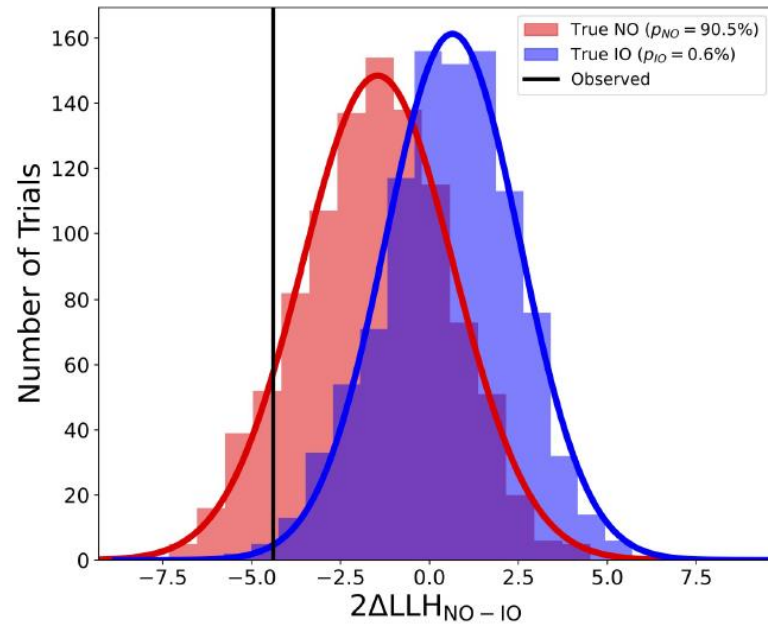
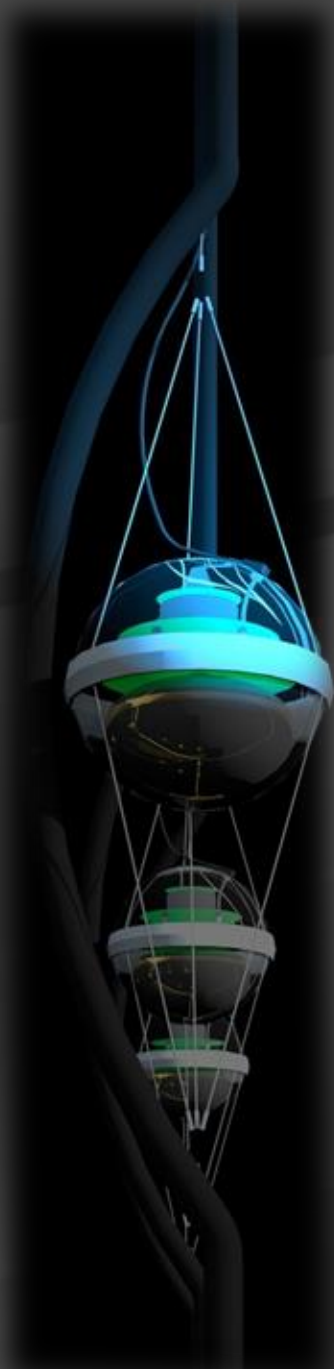


Figure 8.2: Results of the NMO analysis using 9.28 years of IceCube DeepCore data. The analysis observes a preference for the normal ordering over the inverted ordering at $2\Delta LLH_{\text{NO-IO}} = -4.398$, leading to a disfavoring of the inverted ordering at a 93.7% exclusion level, or 1.86σ .

Maria Prado UW-Madison thesis

	3-Year DeepCore	9.28-Year DeepCore (this work)
Observed $2\Delta LLH_{\text{NO-IO}}$	-0.738	-4.398
P_{IO}	15.7%	0.6%
P_{NO}	71.1%	90.5%
CL_s	53.3%	6.3%

Table 8.2: Comparison between the 3-year DeepCore NMO results [40] and this work. Clear improvement in the robustness of the results can be observed, where a much stronger preference for the normal ordering is now found.

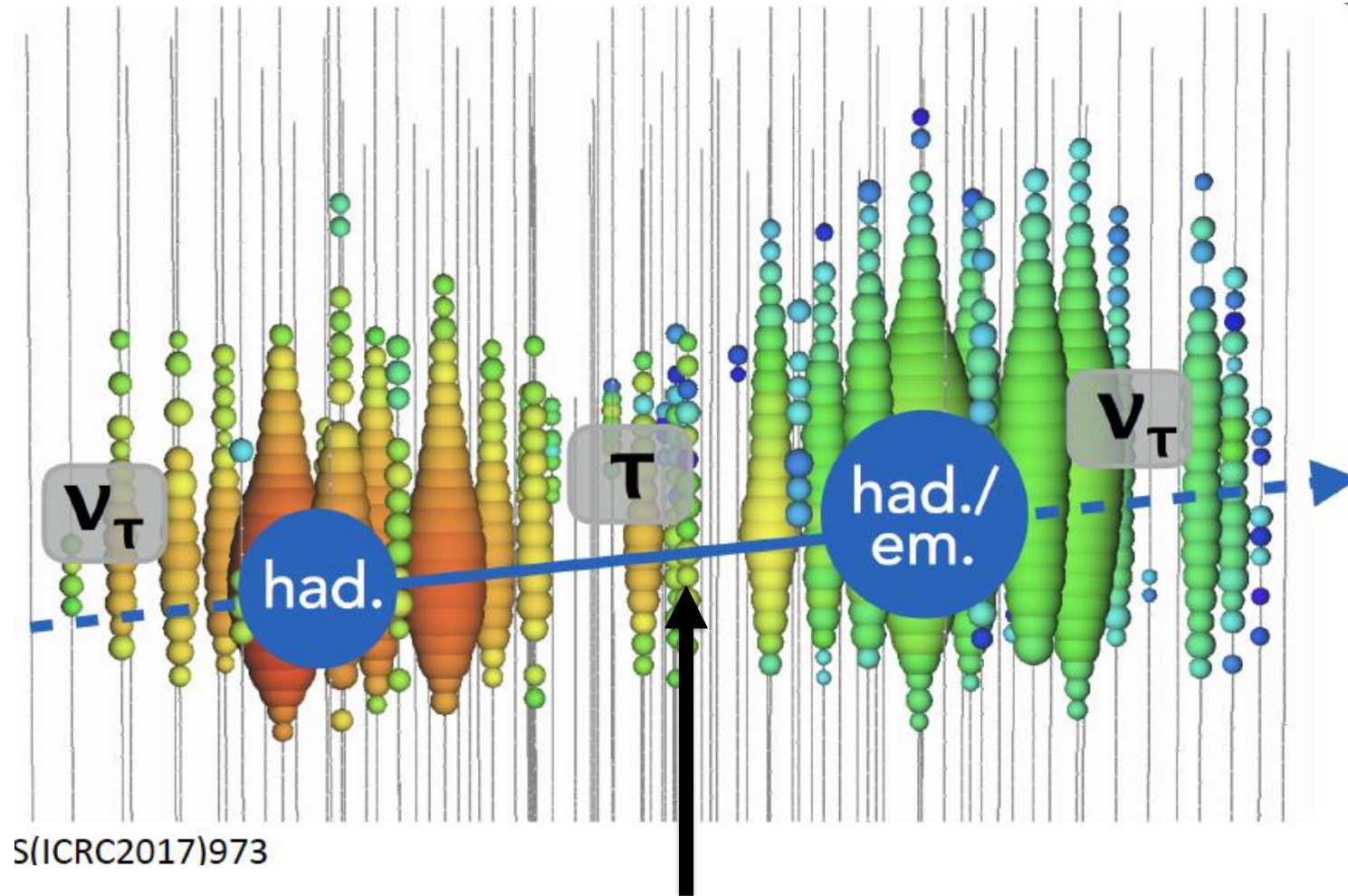


IceCube: beyond neutrino astronomy

Francis Halzen

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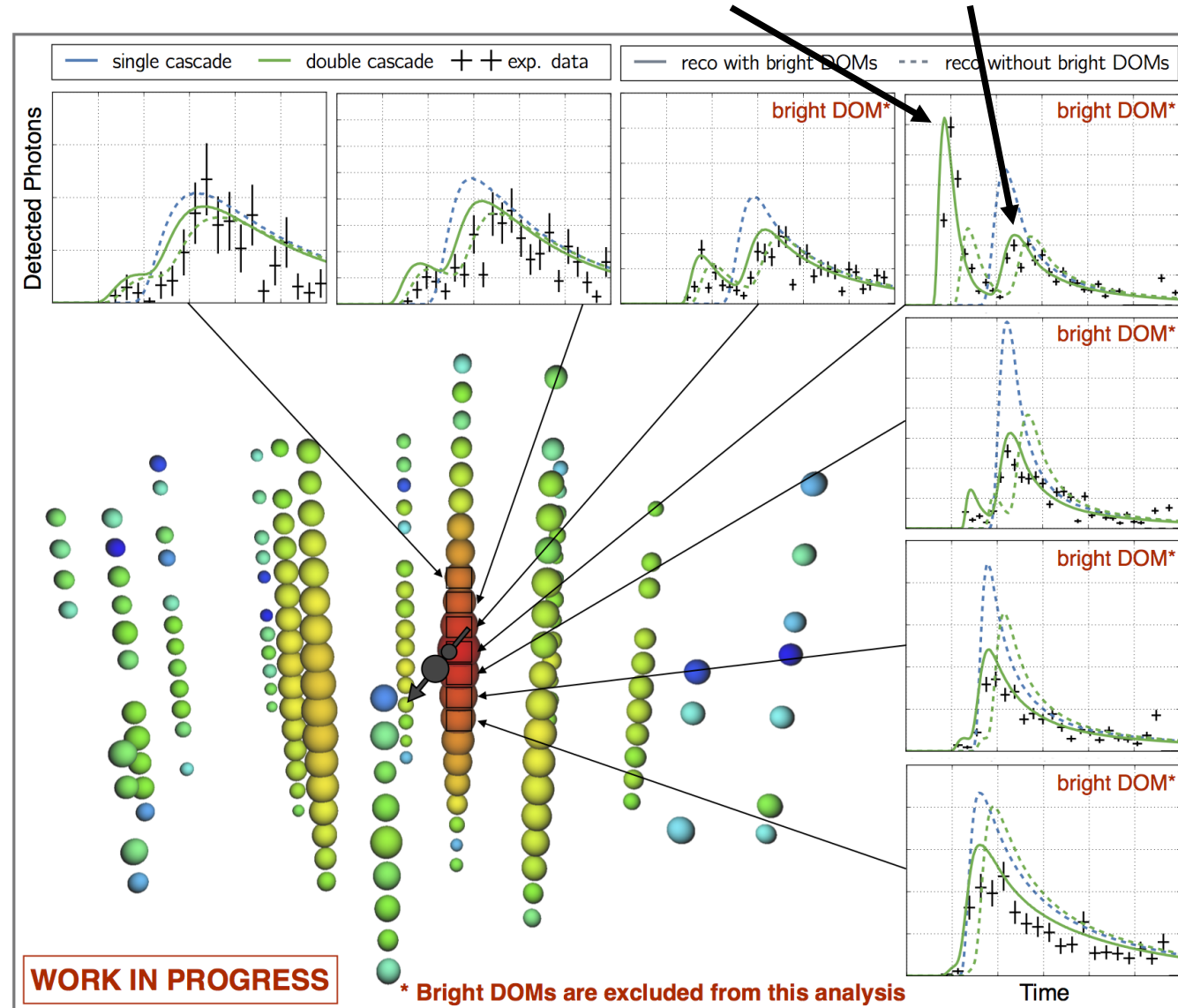
tau neutrino production and decay

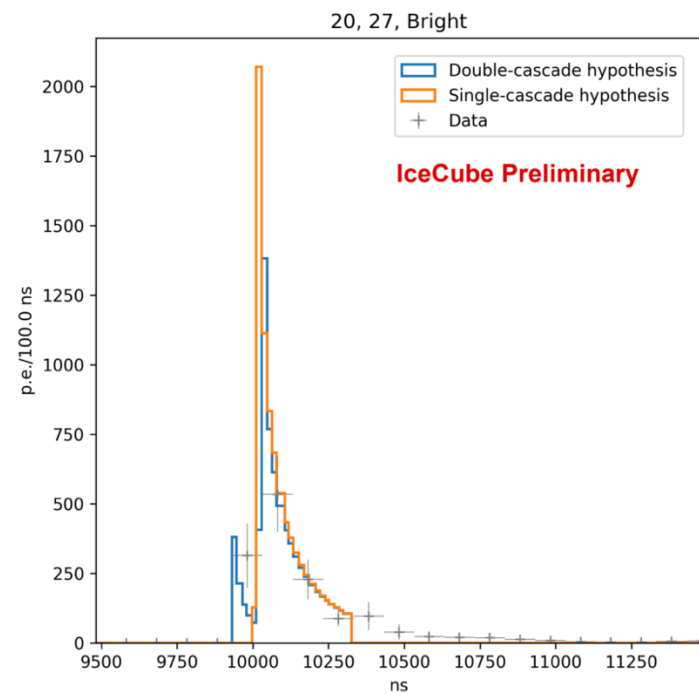
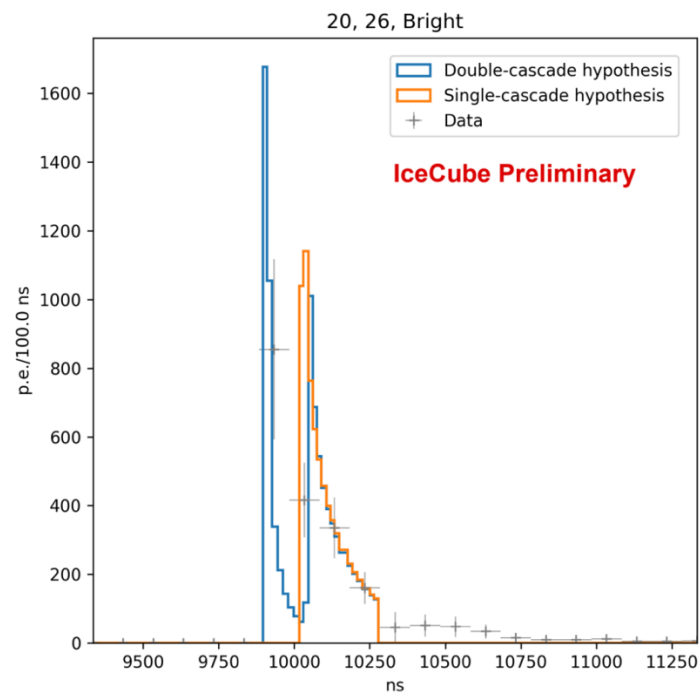
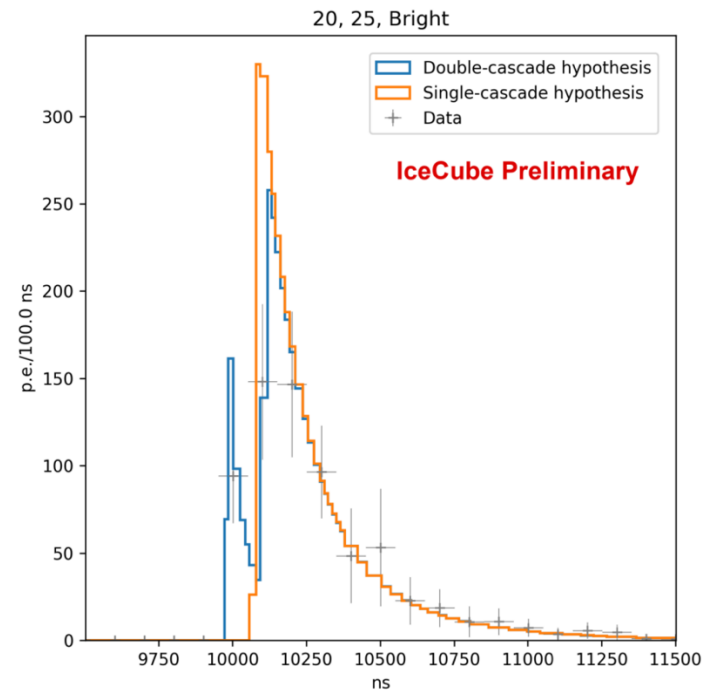
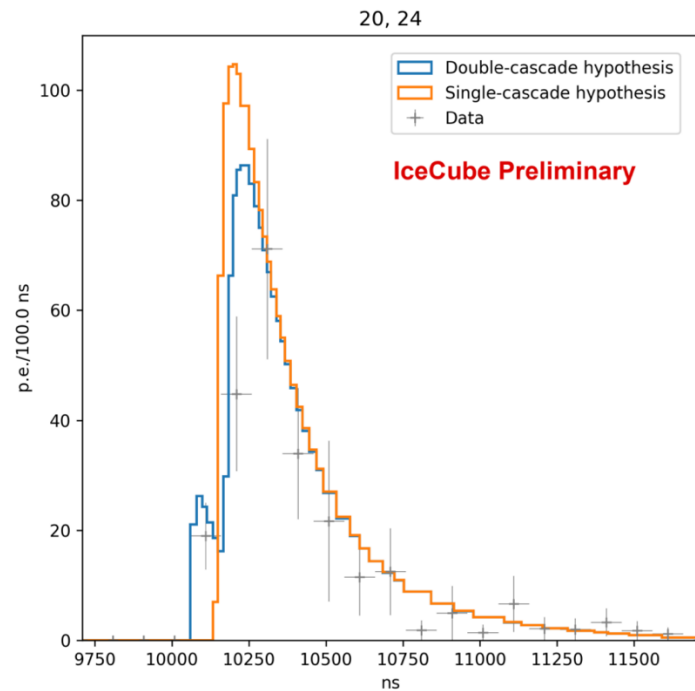


tau decay length:
 $\gamma c \tau = 50\text{m per PeV}$

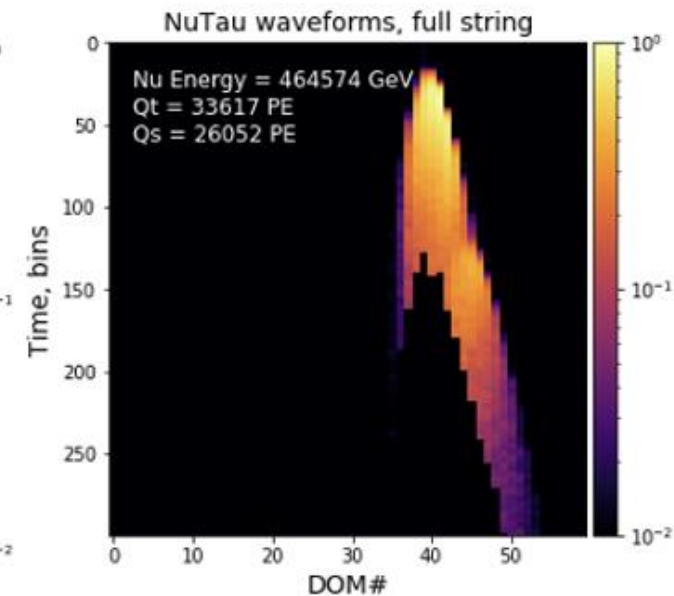
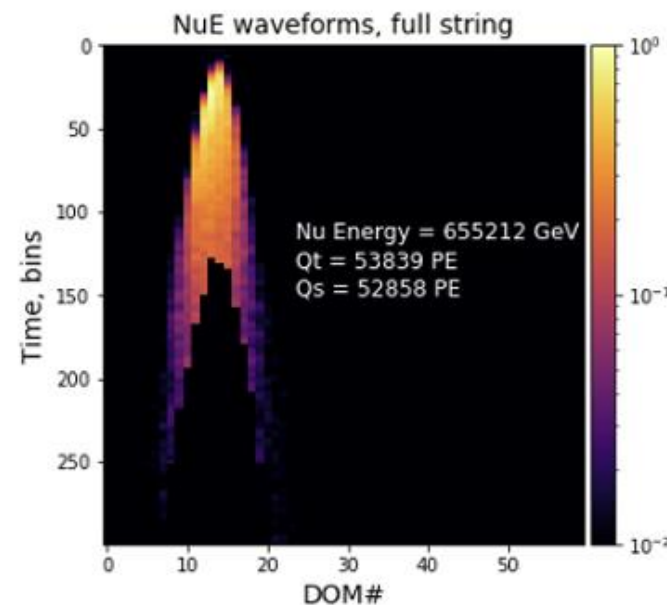
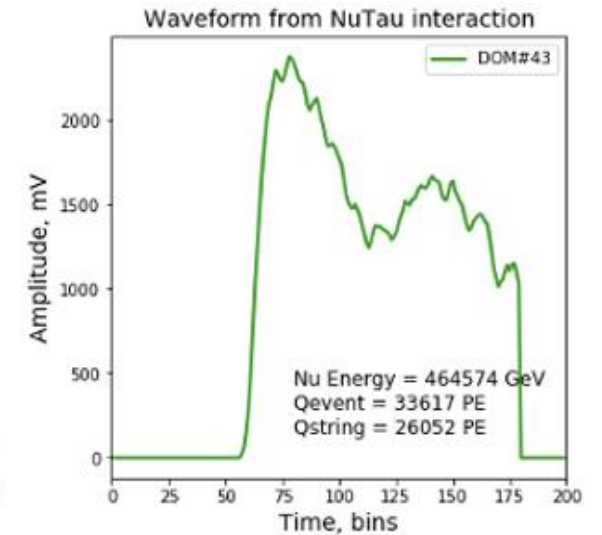
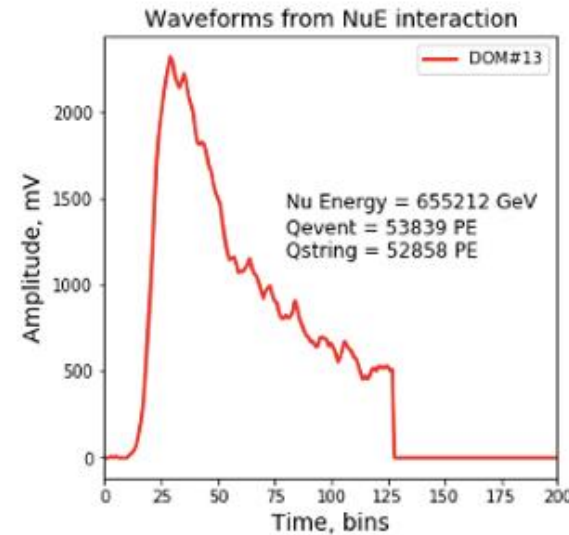
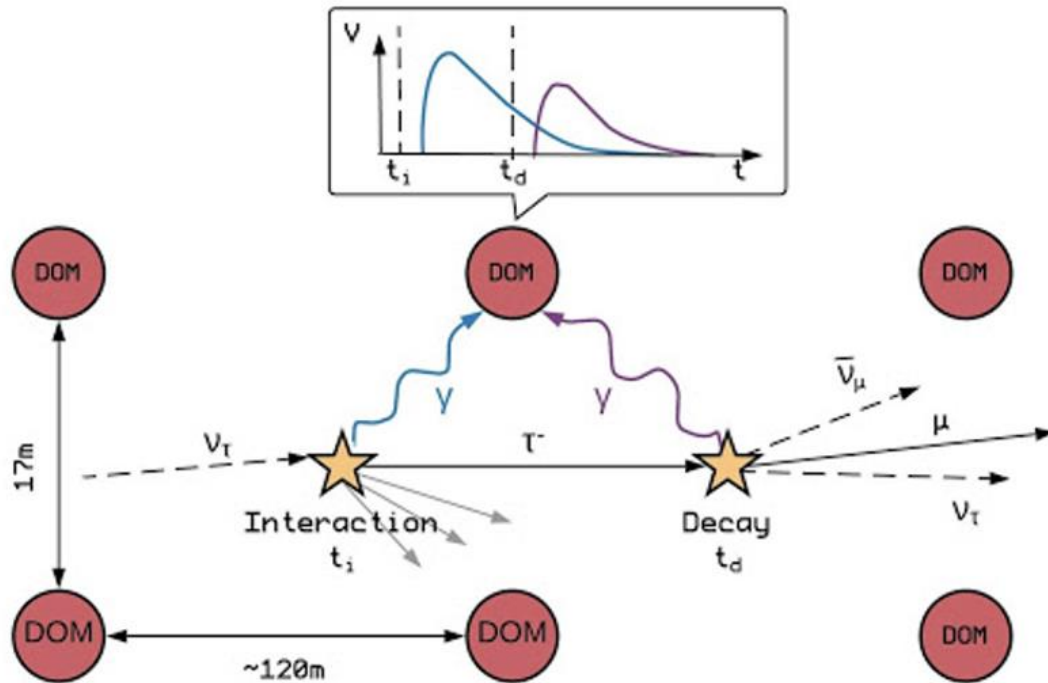
a cosmic tau neutrino with 17m lifetime

light from nutau interaction and tau decay

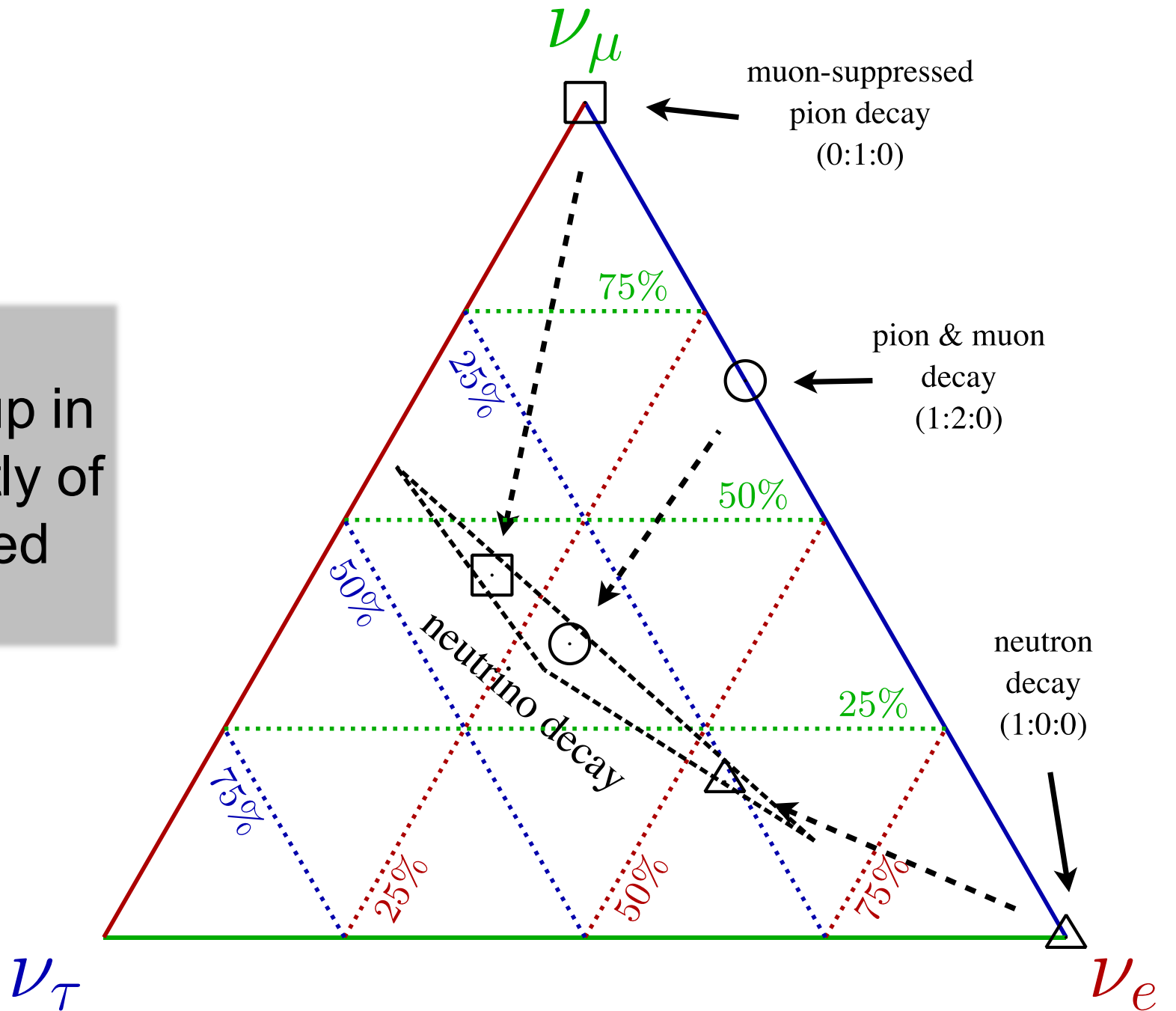




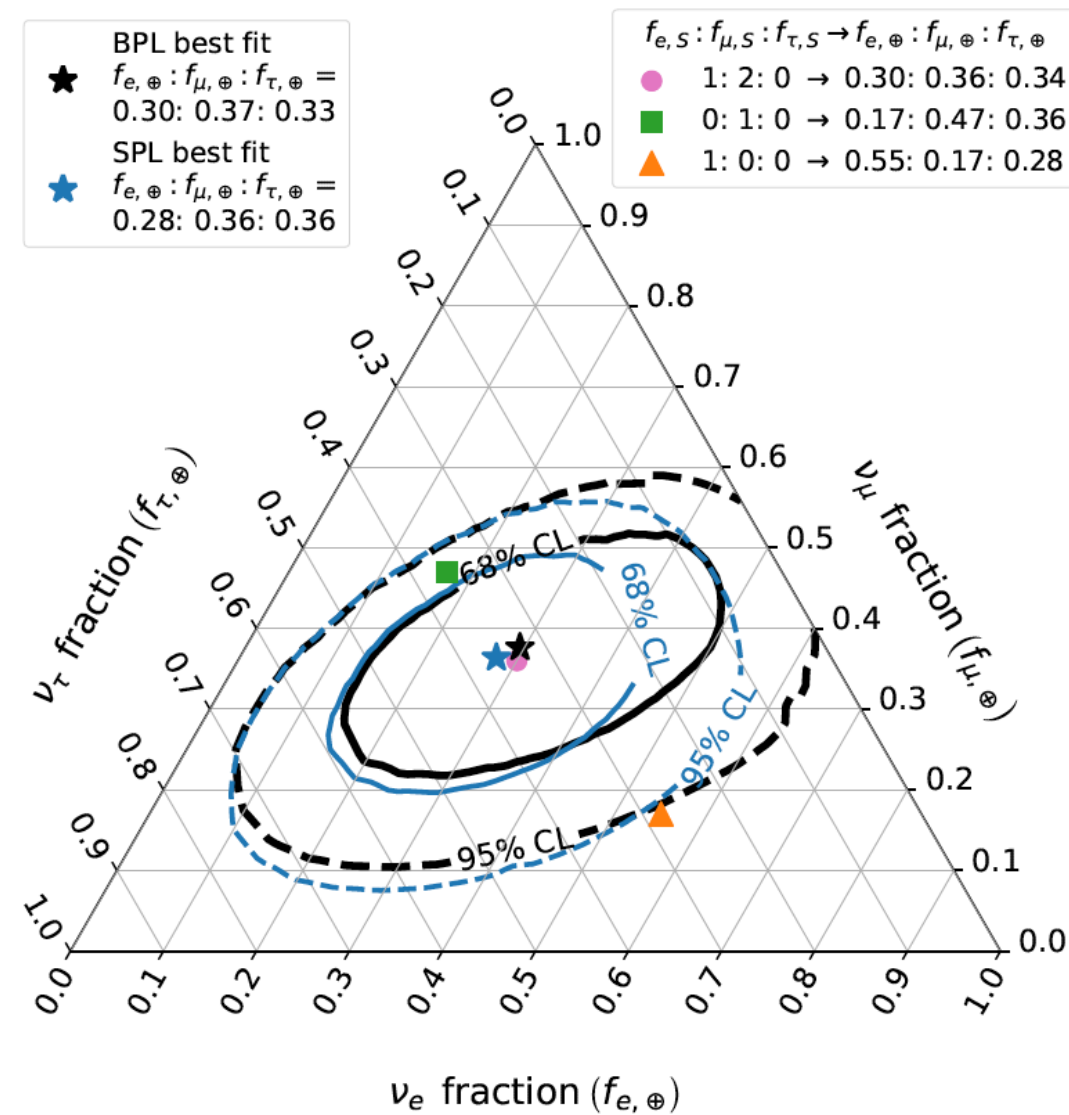
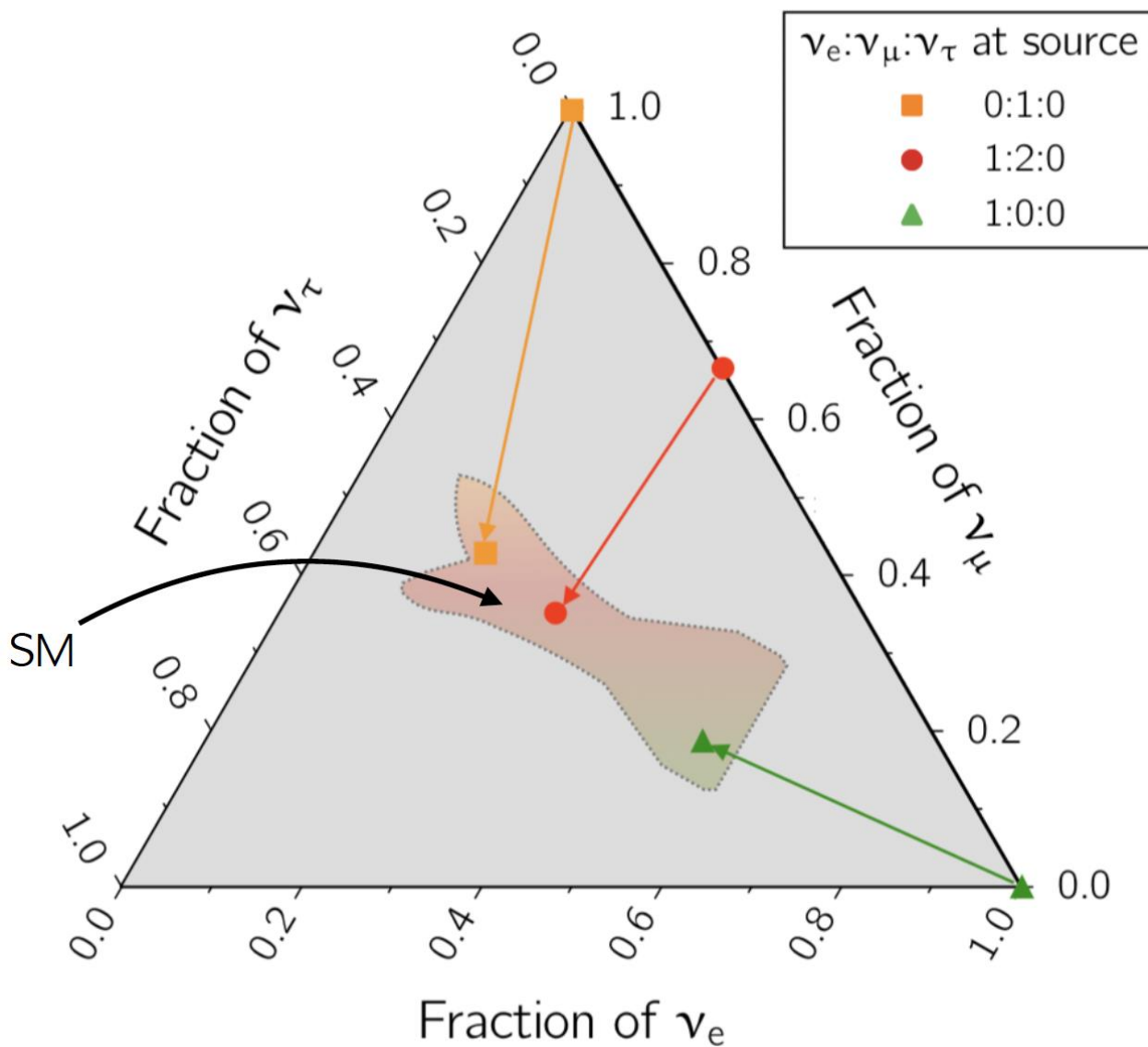
- double bang events: 8 predicted on a background of 1 and 7 observed
 - each nutau event is an extragalactic neutrinos search

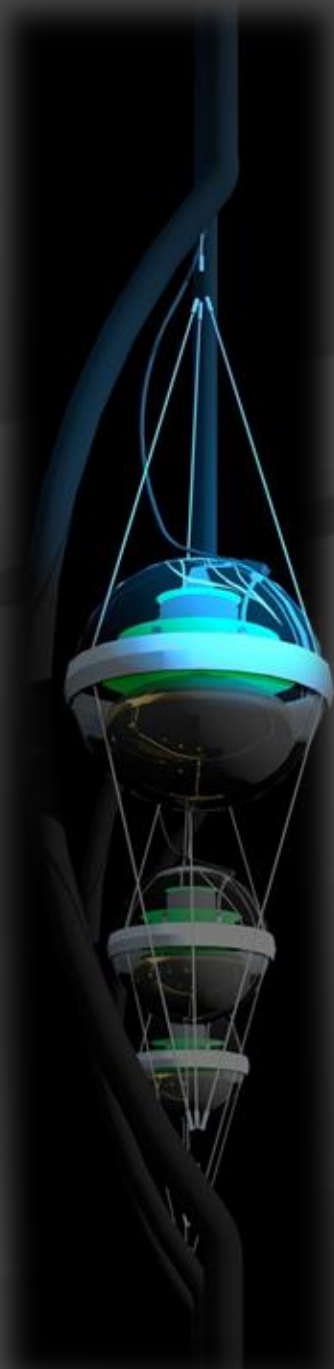


new physics ?
3-neutrino model ends up in
the triangle independently of
the initial flavors produced
by cosmic accelerators



oscillations of PeV neutrinos over cosmic distances to 1:1:1





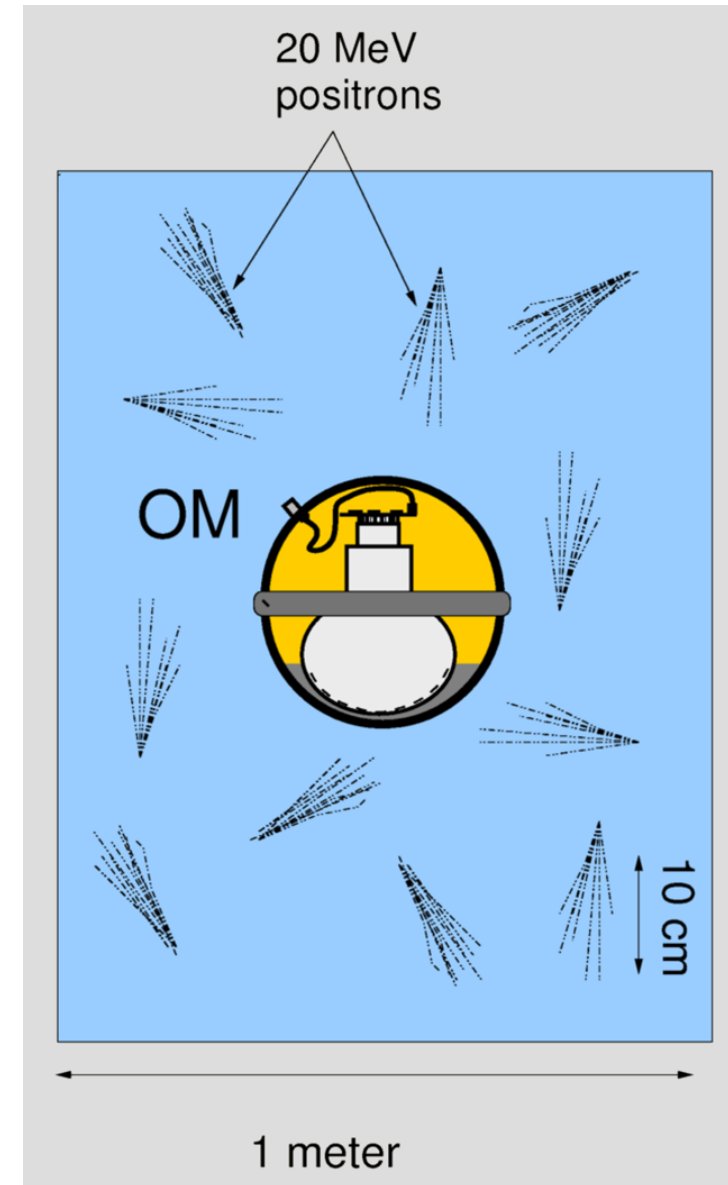
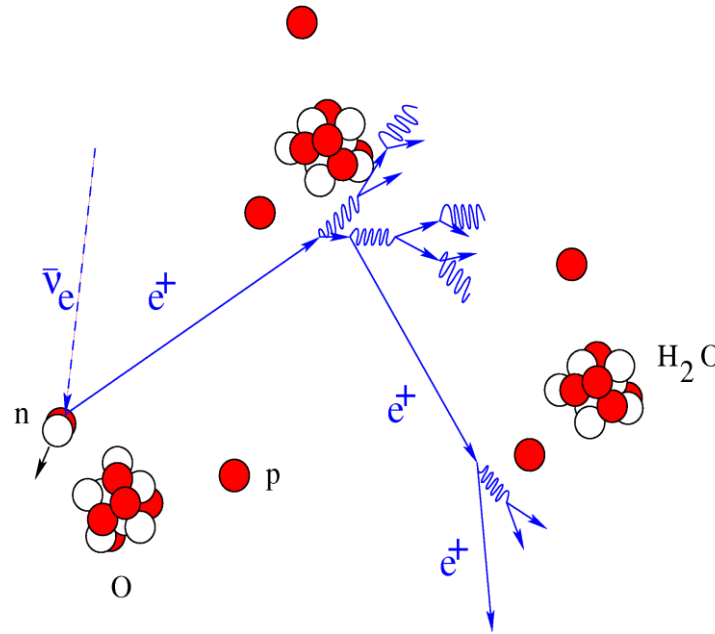
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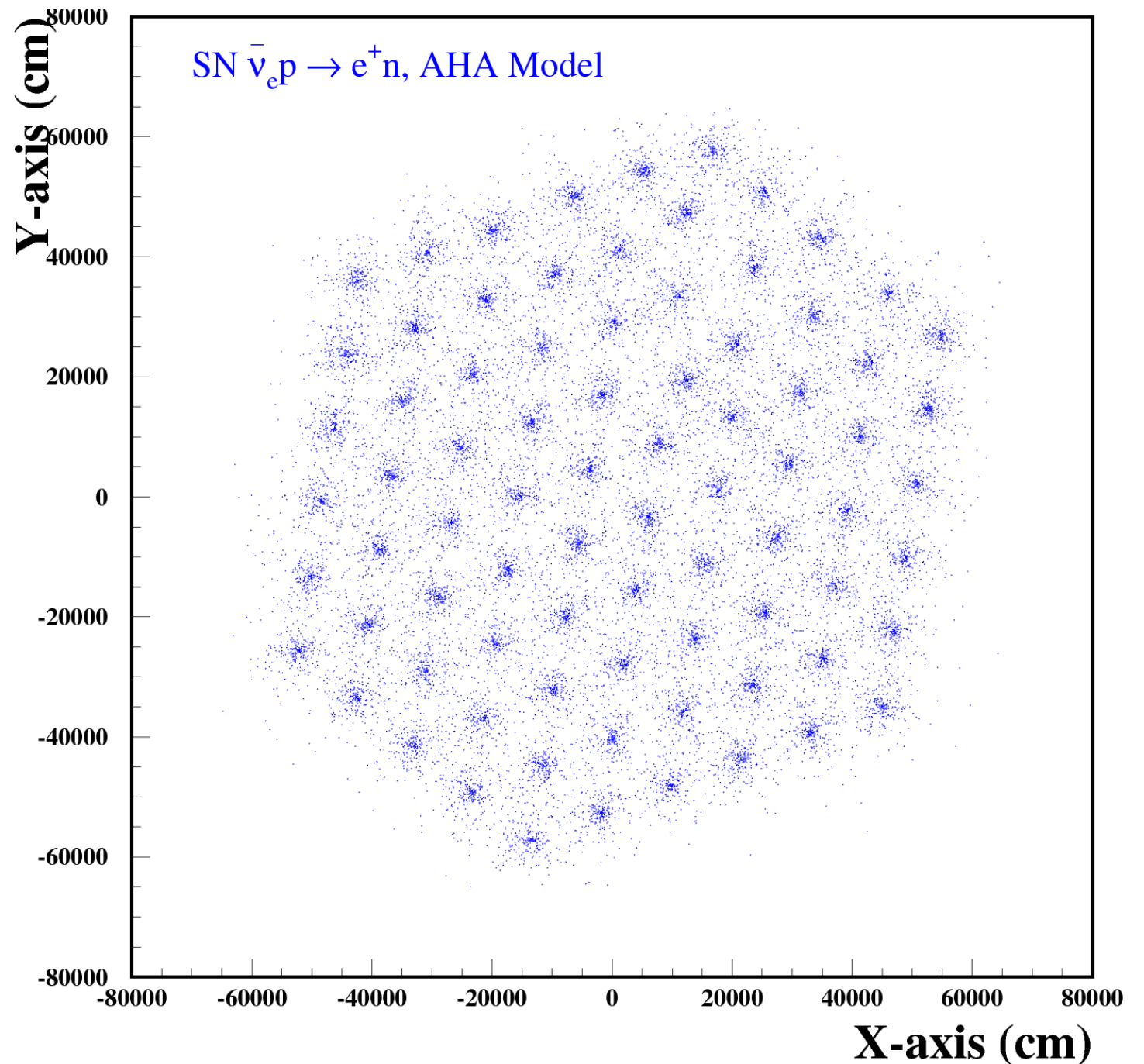
supernova burst: light from $\bar{\nu}_e + p \rightarrow n + e^+$

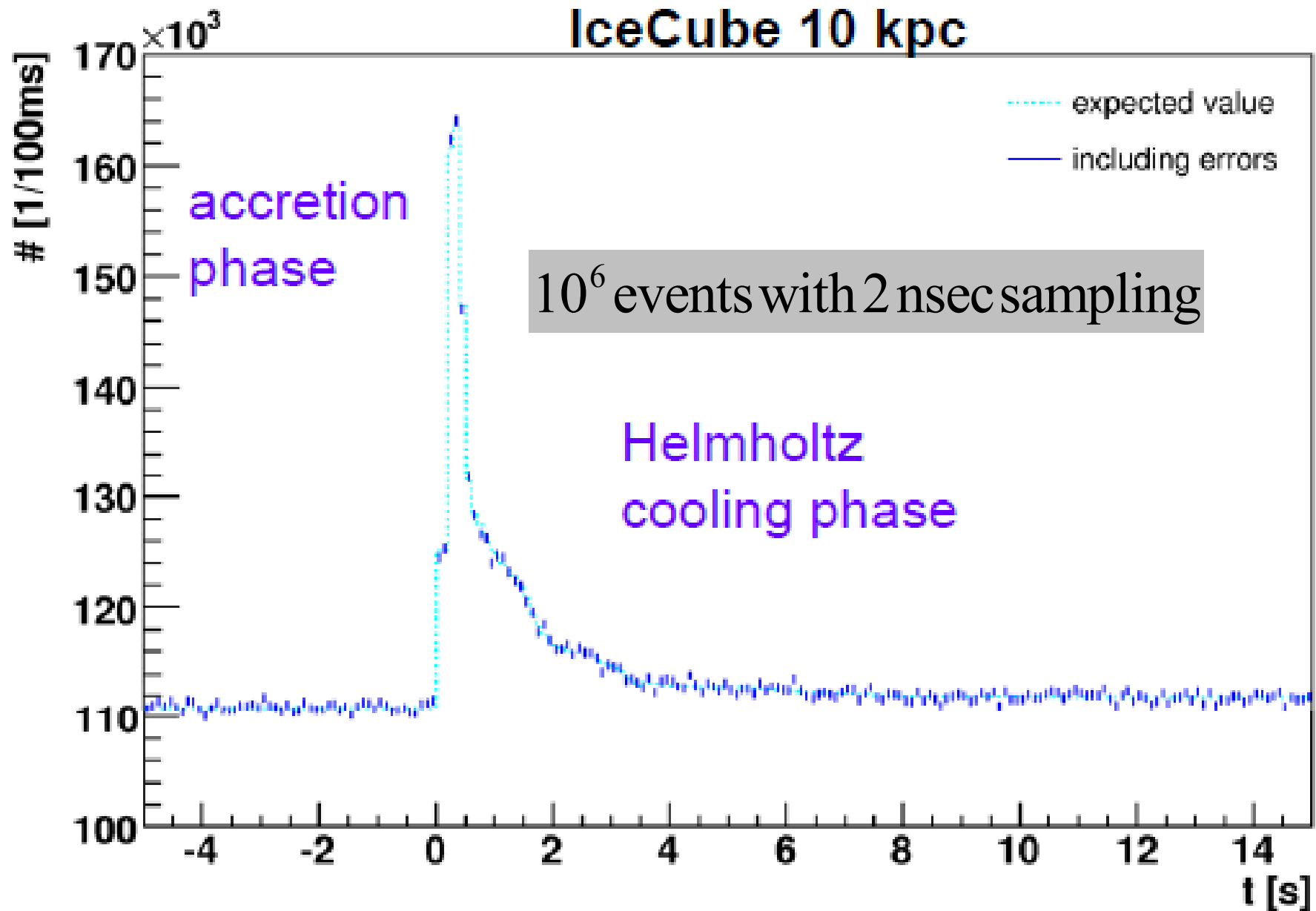
- ☞ PMT noise low (280 Hz)
- ☞ detect correlated rate increase on top of PMT noise when supernova neutrinos pass through the detector



starting points of neutrino
showers from supernova
neutrinos

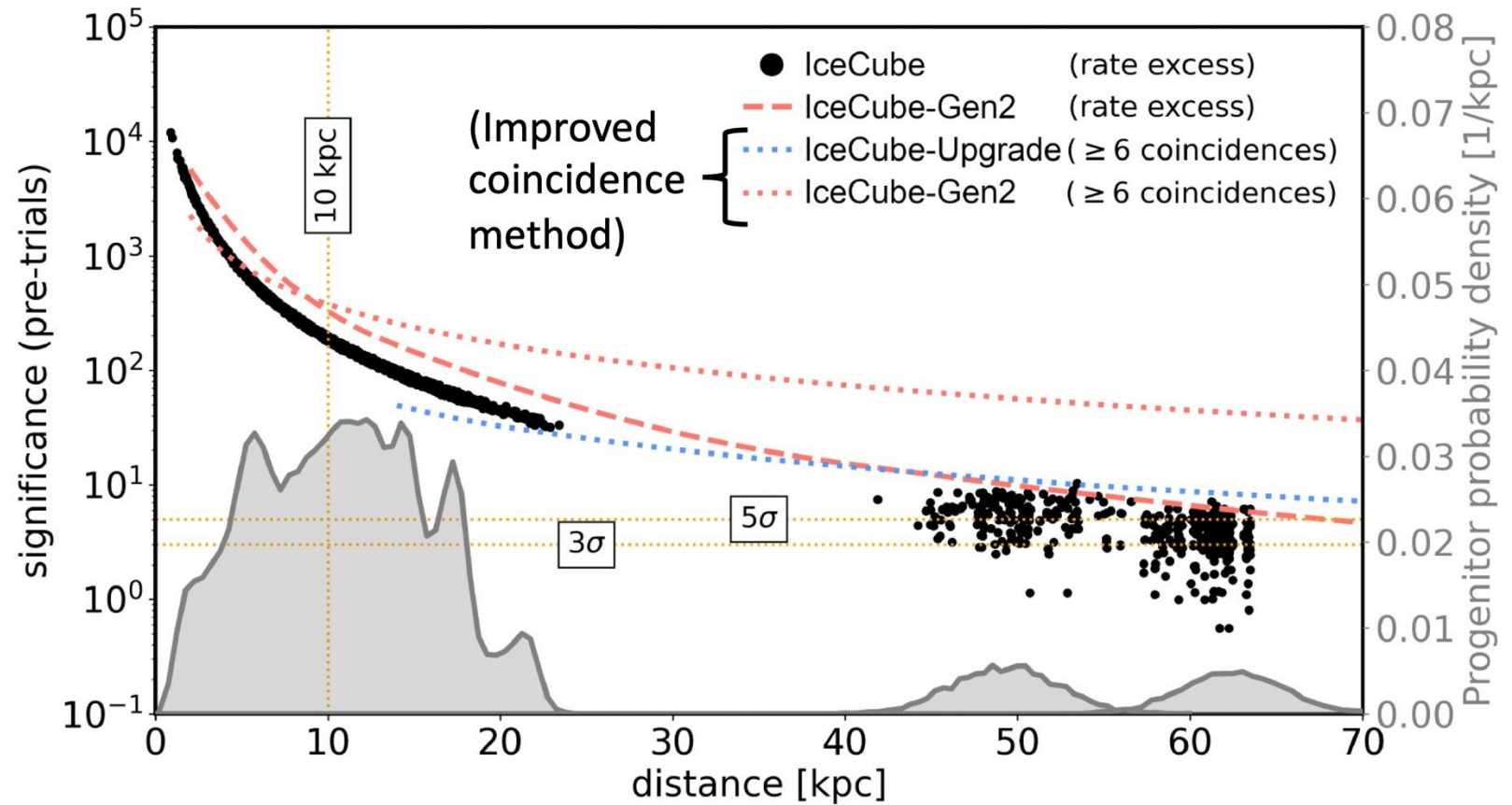
- equivalent detection volume of a 2 megaton SuperK-style detector
- 1 million events from 10 kpc
- neutronization electron neutrinos
- energy measurement from two-photon correlation



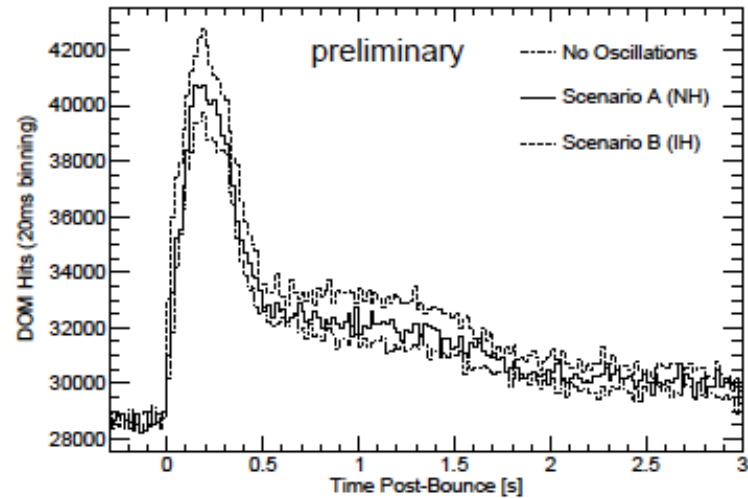


MeV neutrinos in the Upgrade and Gen2

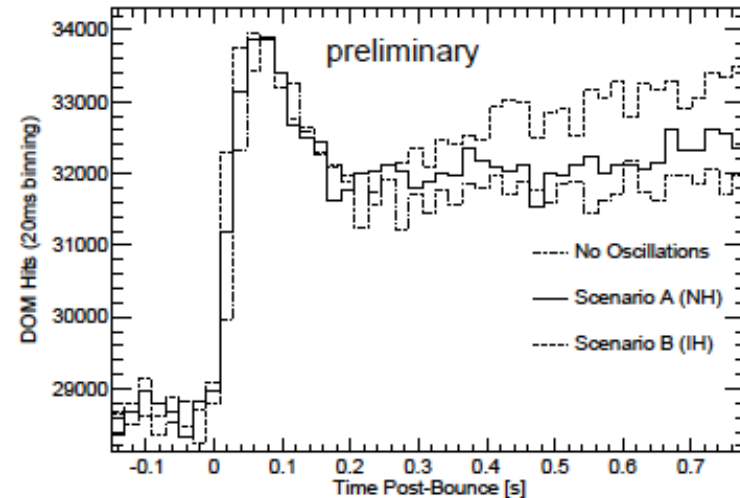
Require coincidences
between nearby phototubes
to reduce noise



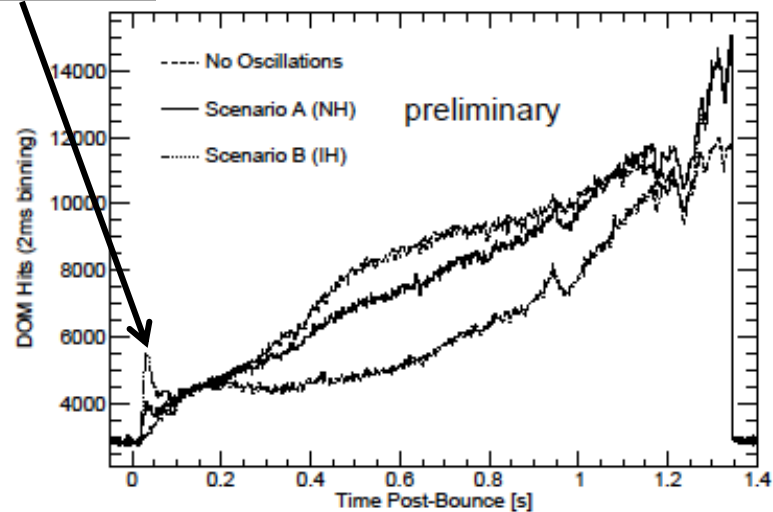
Livermore



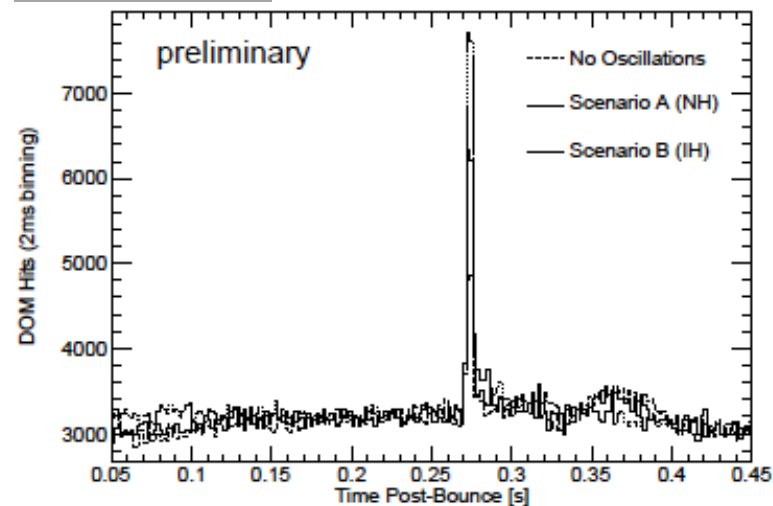
Garching



quark star



black hole



27 M_{sun} progenitor (WH07)

s27R0.0

20.00

16.25

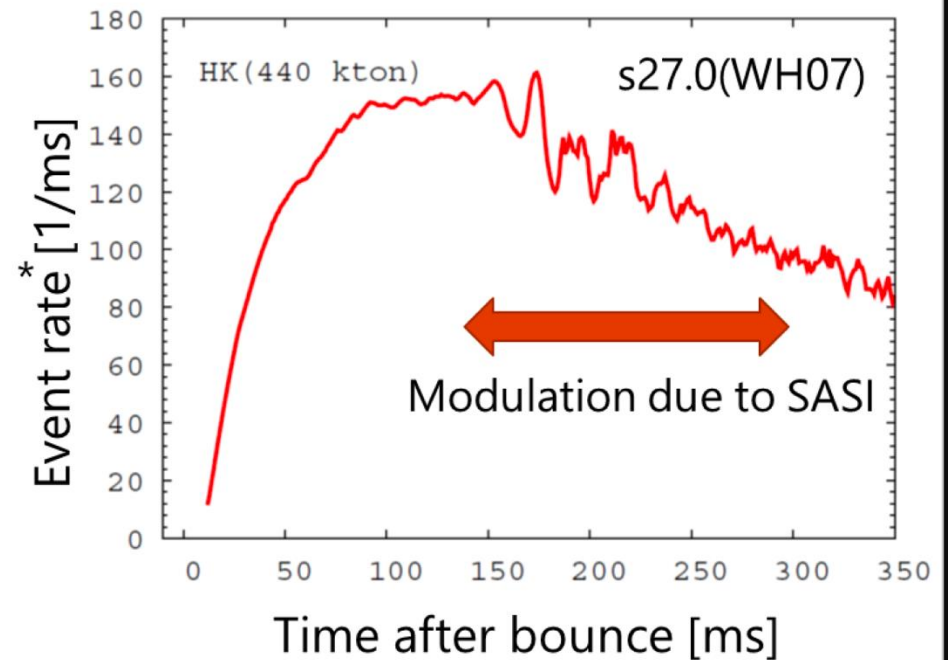
12.50

gravitational wave with
fundamental frequency:

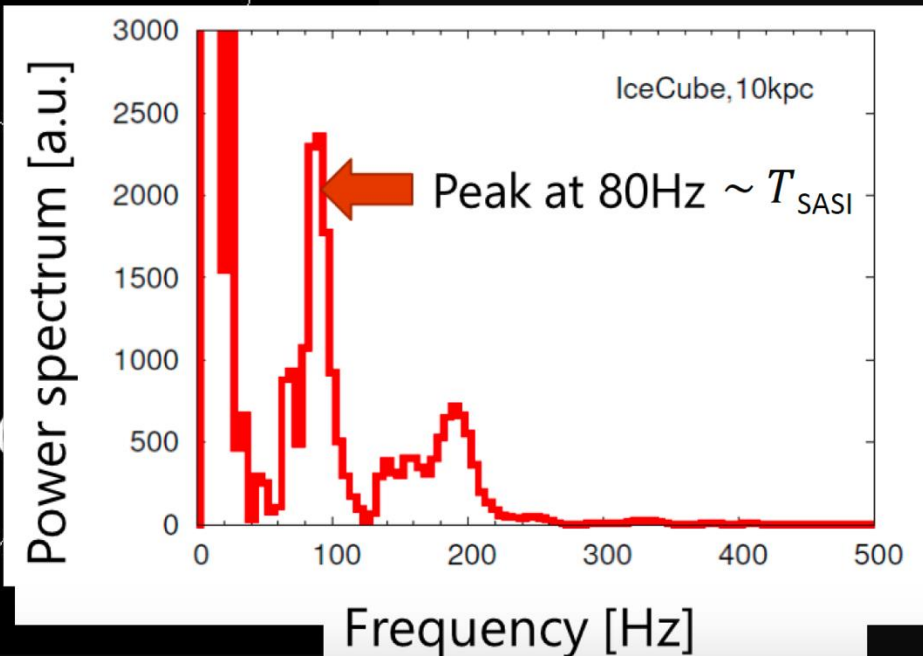
$$f_{GW} = 2 \times f_{\nu}$$

Takiwaki, KK, Foglizzo
(2021)

Angular resolution ~ 1deg.

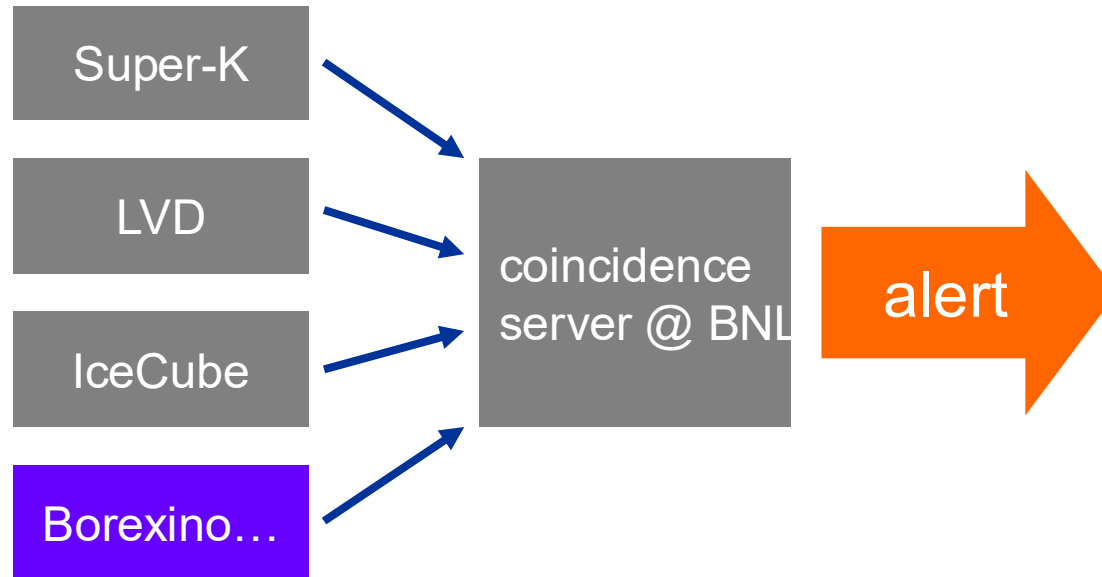


(consistent with Tamborra et al. (2013,2014))



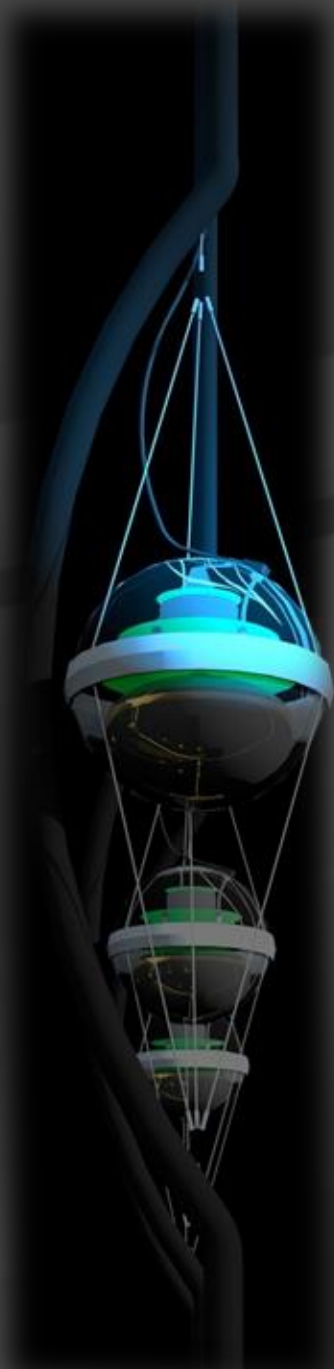
Participation in SNEWS

...several hours advanced notice to astronomers ...



received iridium messages (last 4 weeks)			
message type	time (UTC)	time delay to reception (seconds)	needed modem dial attempts
missing test message(s)			
test	Mon Jul 10 08:19:38 2006	224	1
test	Sun Jul 9 11:15:12 2006	218	1
test	Sat Jul 8 11:15:12 2006	208	1
test	Fri Jul 7 11:15:12 2006	208	1
test	Thu Jul 6 11:15:11 2006	214	1
test	Thu Jul 6 11:09:05 2006	205	1
missing test message(s)			
test	Mon Jul 3 09:45:12 2006	195	1
sn	Sun Jul 2 11:17:12 2006	445	1
	signal strength is [8.716532e+00 ± 1.325448e+00] Hz analysis timebase is [4] sec, active channels are [476], χ^2 is [5.421858e+02]		
test	Sun Jul 2 09:45:11 2006	196	1
test	Sat Jul 1 09:45:12 2006	195	1
test	Fri Jun 30 09:45:12 2006	185	1
test	Thu Jun 29 09:45:12 2006	181	1
sn	Wed Jun 28 11:20:29 2006	448	1
	signal strength is [7.296678e+00 ± 8.447978e-01] Hz analysis timebase is [10] sec, active channels are [474], χ^2 is [5.770201e+02]		
test	Wed Jun 28 09:45:12 2006	185	1
test	Tue Jun 27 09:45:12 2006	175	1
test	Mon Jun 26 09:45:12 2006	175	1
test	Sun Jun 25 09:45:12 2006	176	1
sn	Sun Jun 25 02:15:47 2006	571	2
	signal strength is [9.946102e+00 ± 1.333087e+00] Hz analysis timebase is [4] sec, active channels are [475], χ^2 is [5.061309e+02]		
test	Sat Jun 24 09:45:12 2006	165	1
test	Fri Jun 23 09:45:12 2006	165	1
test	Fri Jun 23 09:26:21 2006	170	1
test	Fri Jun 23 08:59:13 2006	732	10
test	Thu Jun 22 10:33:23 2006	162	1
test	Thu Jun 22 09:45:12 2006	160	1
test	Thu Jun 22 09:38:29 2006	163	1
test	Thu Jun 22 09:27:30 2006	167	1
test	Thu Jun 22 08:45:12 2006	173	1
missing test message(s)			
test	Tue Jun 20 09:30:12 2006	154	1

<http://snews.bnl.gov> astro-ph/0406214



IceCube: beyond neutrino astronomy

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IceCube targets for dark matter annihilation

Sun



Galactic Centre



Dwarf galaxies



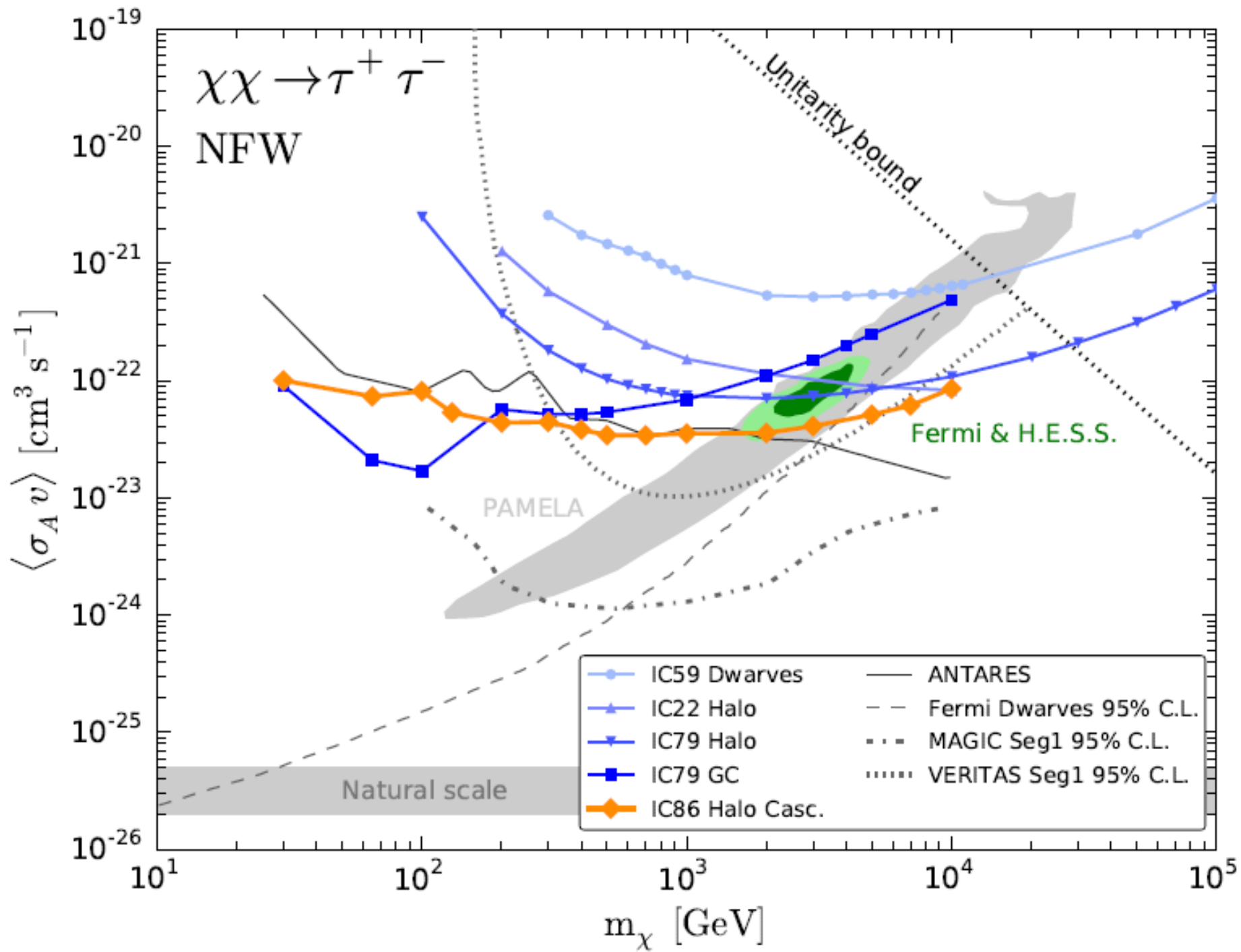
Earth



Galactic Halo

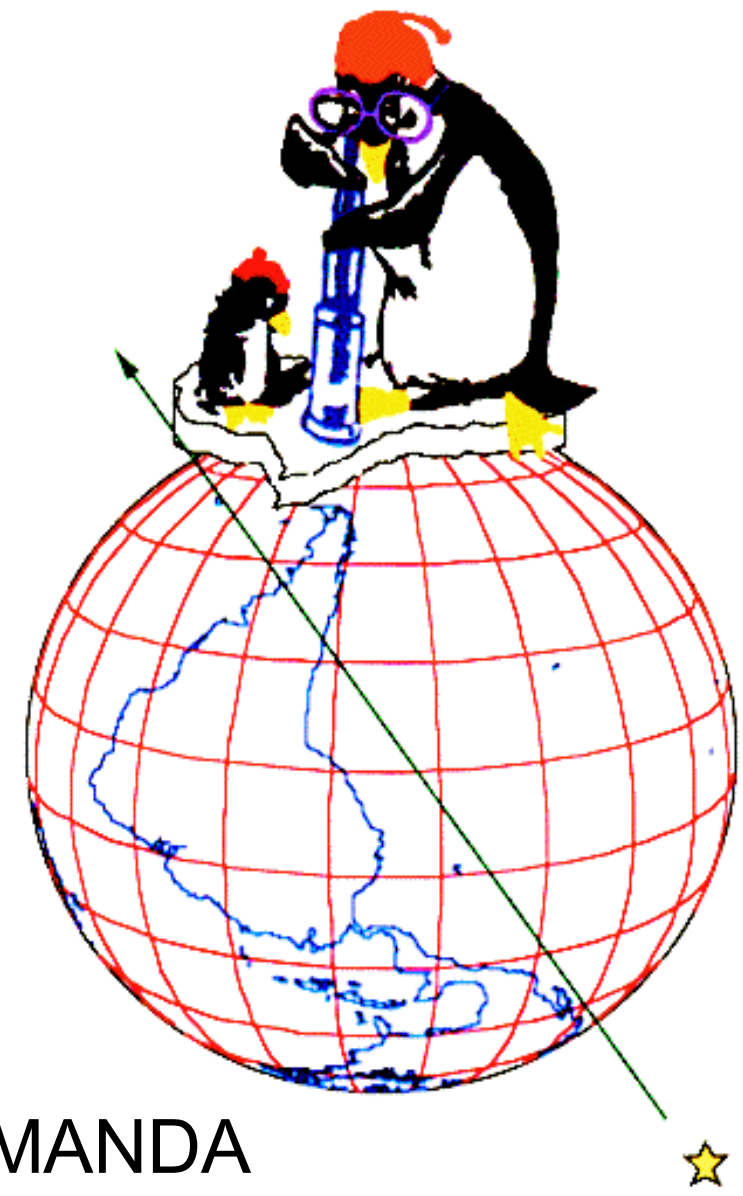


Galaxy clusters

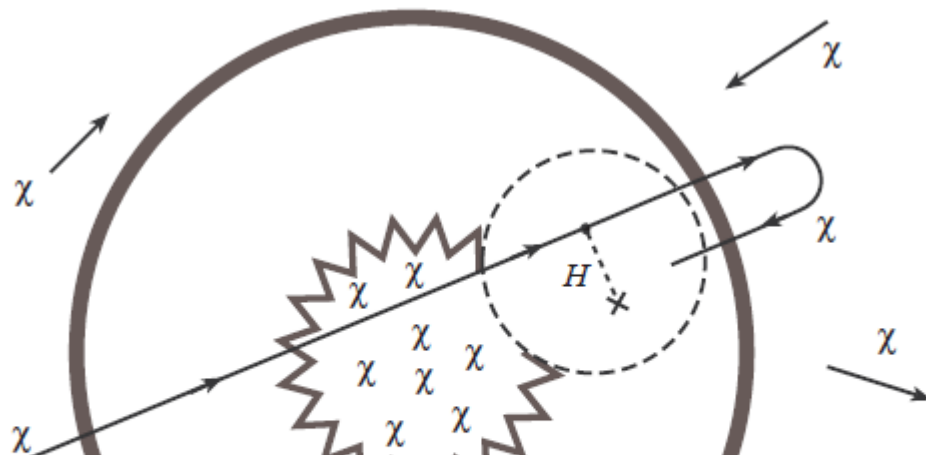


1992 Cline meeting at UCLA

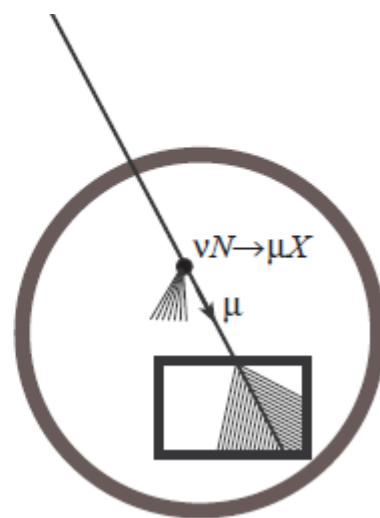
The Economist FEBRUARY 29TH-MARCH 6TH 1992	FLAWED SUPERFUND	pages 18 and 80
	CALIFORNIA'S WOMEN	page 32
	MULTI-MEDIA MADNESS	pages 17 and 73
	ANTARCTIC SCIENCE	pages 91-93



AMANDA



$$C^{\odot} \approx 3.35 \times 10^{20} \text{ sec}^{-1} \left(\frac{\rho_{\text{local}}}{0.3 \text{ GeV/cm}^3} \right) \left(\frac{270 \text{ km/s}}{\bar{v}_{\text{local}}} \right)^3 \left(\frac{100 \text{ GeV}}{m_{\chi}} \right)^2 \\ \times \left(\frac{\sigma_{\chi\text{H,SD}} + \sigma_{\chi\text{H,SI}} + 0.07 \sigma_{\chi\text{He,SI}} + 0.0005 S(m_{\chi}/m_{\text{O}}) \sigma_{\chi\text{O,SI}}}{10^{-6} \text{ pb}} \right).$$



supersymmetry on
the back of an
envelope
arXiv 9404252

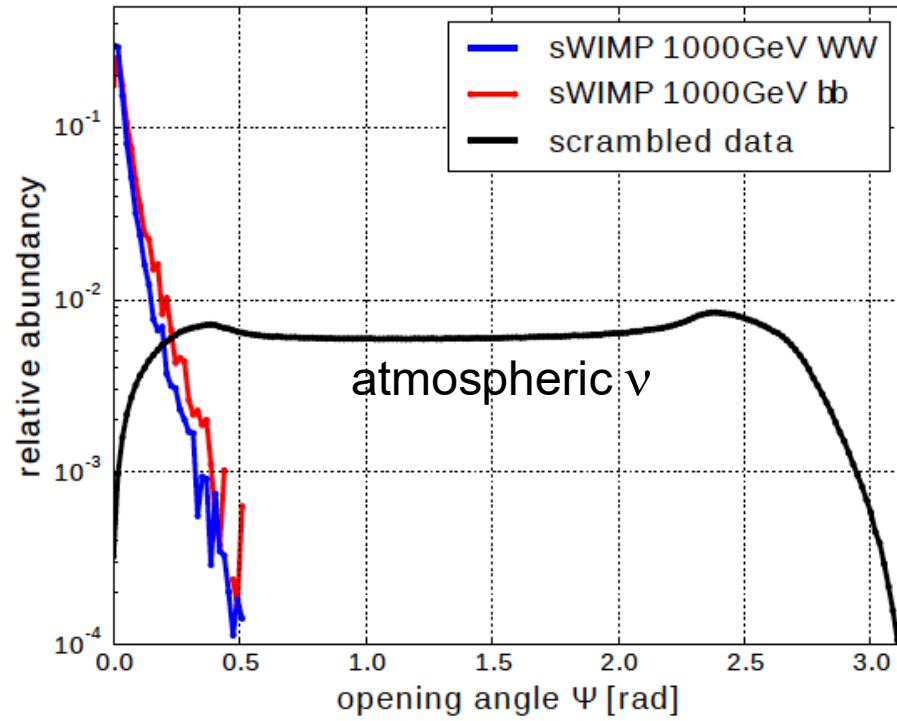
WIMP Capture and Annihilation

- 1 Halo WIMPs scatter on nuclei in the Sun
- 2 Some lose enough energy in the scatter to be gravitationally bound
- 3 Scatter some more, sink to the core
- 4 Annihilate with each other, producing neutrinos
- 5 Propagate+oscillate their way to the south pole, convert into muons in the ice

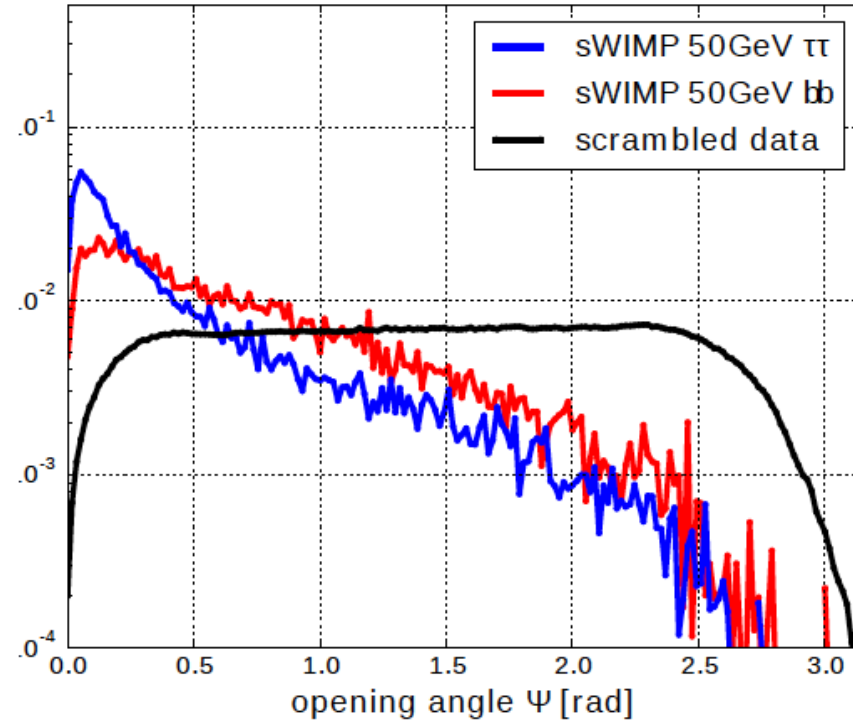
$$\chi + \bar{\chi} \rightarrow W^+ + W^- \rightarrow \nu + \bar{\nu}$$

$$\rightarrow \tau + \bar{\tau} \rightarrow \nu + \bar{\nu}$$

sun



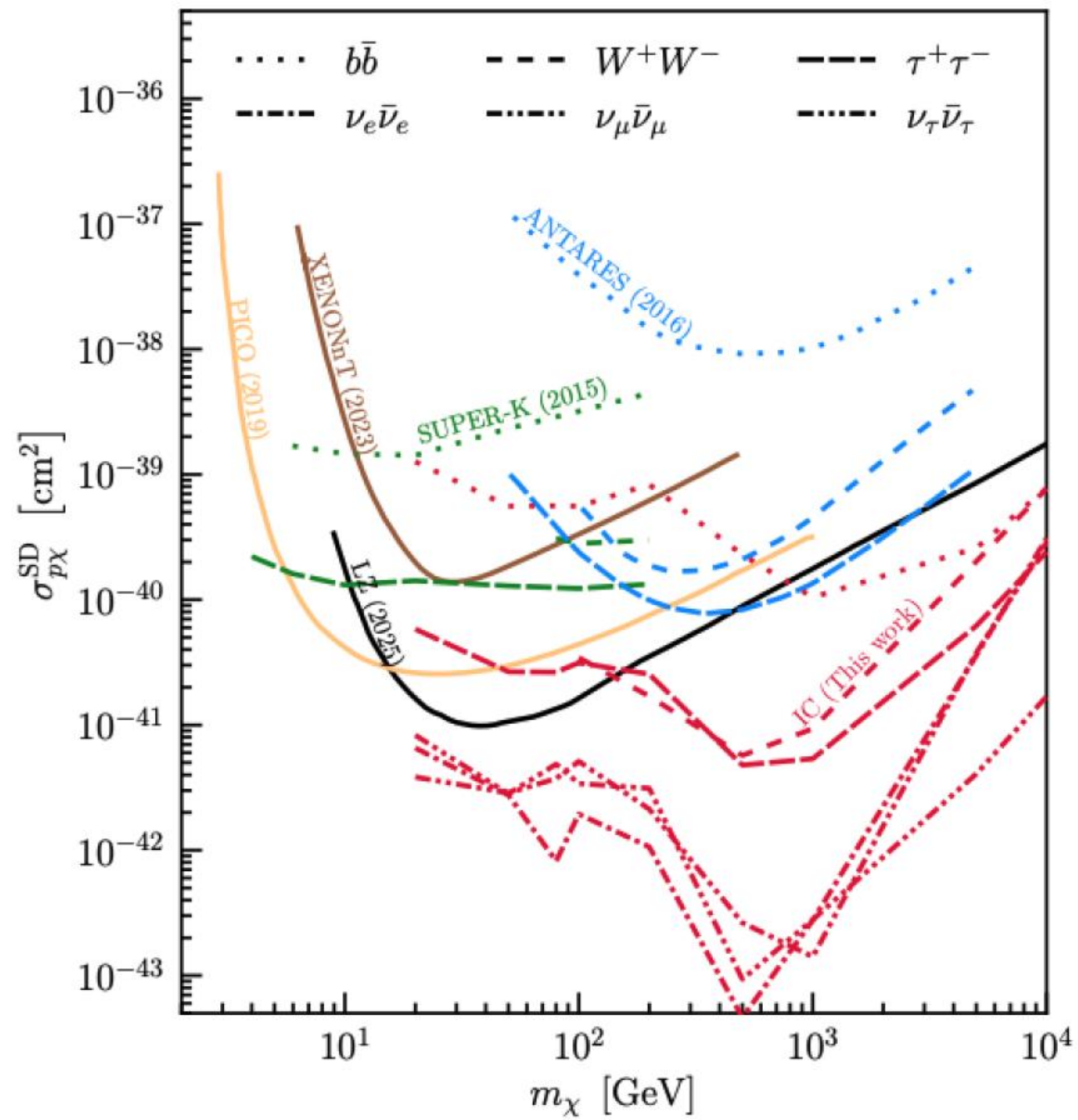
$$m_{\chi} = 1 \text{ TeV}$$



$$m_{\chi} = 50 \text{ GeV}$$

detection is a smoking gun

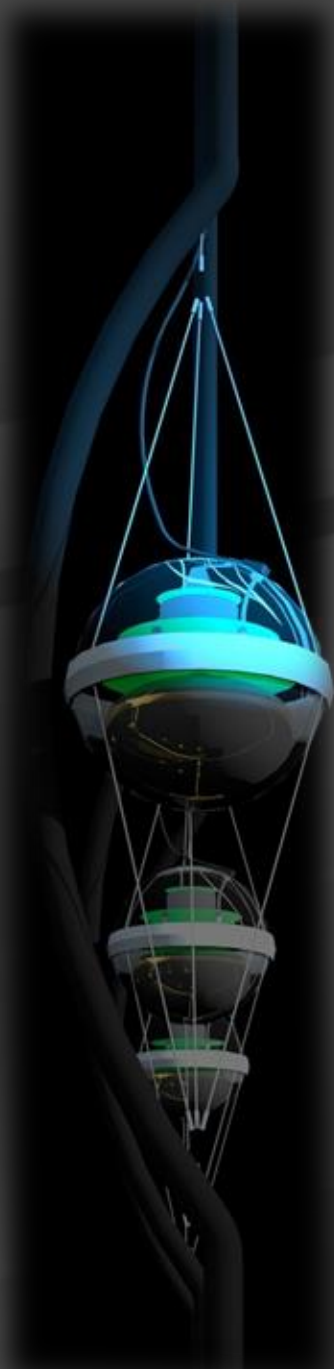
- indirect rates are dictated by the interaction cross section of WIMPS with hydrogen.
→ no unknown astrophysics
- in the neutrino case there is a direct connection between theory and observation and the background is understood.



DM-Ice Prototype Detector





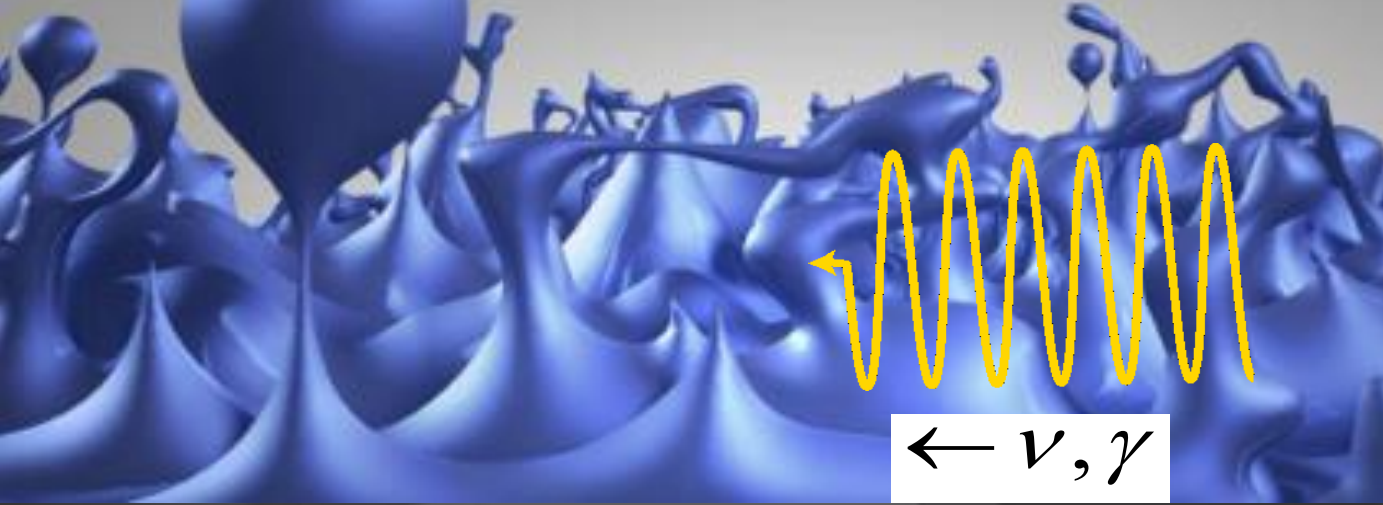


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Space-time foam



- quantized space: quantum fluctuations of space-time when geometry is activated
- oscillations as interferometer sensing quantum fluctuations

$$E^2 = p^2 + m^2 \pm E^2 \left(\frac{E}{M_{QG}} \right)^n \pm \dots$$



Space-time foam

$$E^2 = p^2 + m^2 \pm E^2 \left(\frac{E}{M_{QG}} \right)^n \pm \dots$$

so far standard oscillations prevail
over decoherence reaching

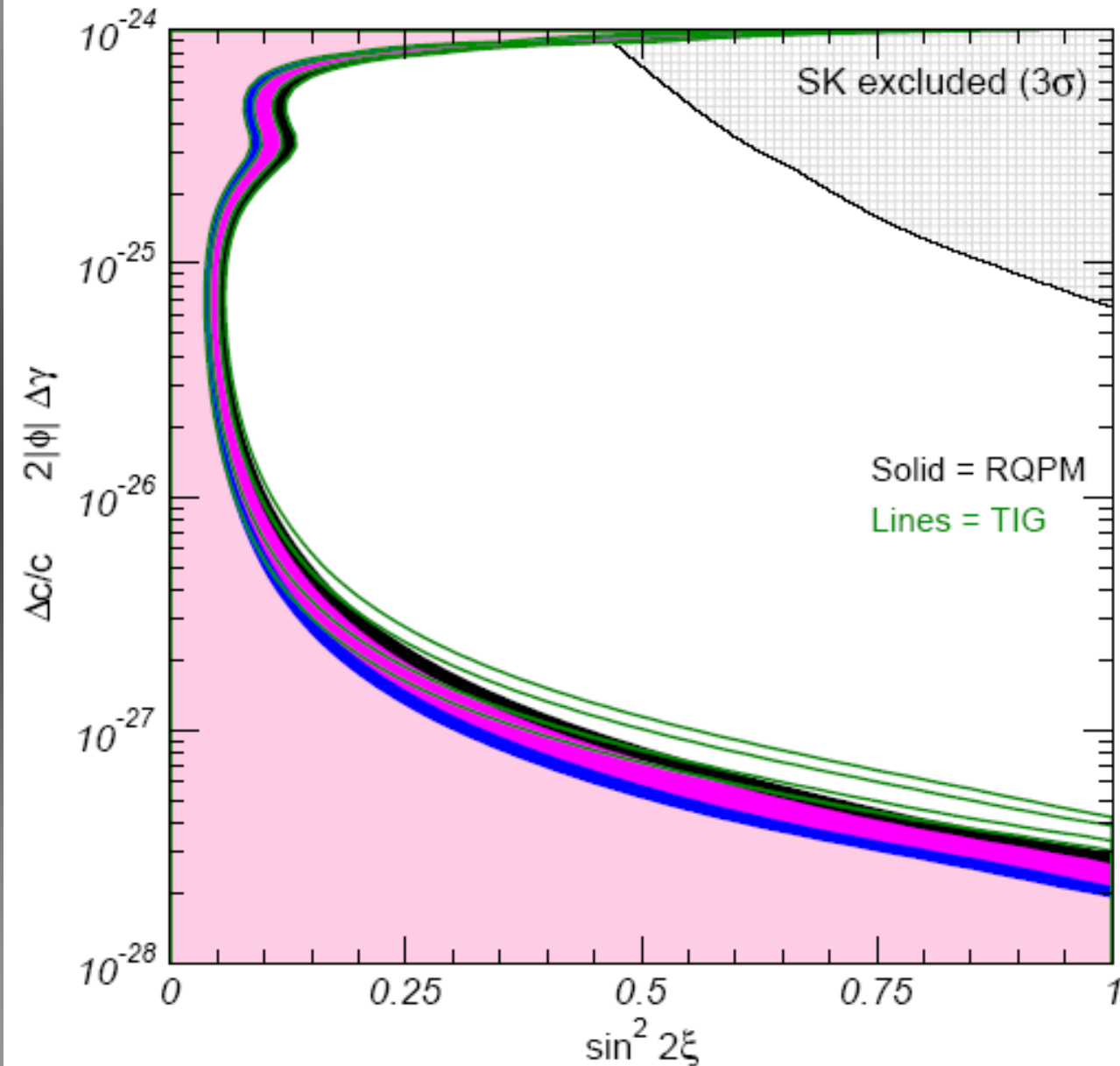
$$M_{QG} > M_{Planck}$$

- the effects are small but become observable for high energies and long distances
- speed of neutrinos depends on their energy, like photons in a crystal
- modification to dispersion relation leads to an energy dependent speed of light
- for some coefficients IceCube yields world-best limits with atmospheric neutrinos

[[2308.00105](#) [hep-ex]]

- tests
- equivalence principle and
 - Lorentz invariance

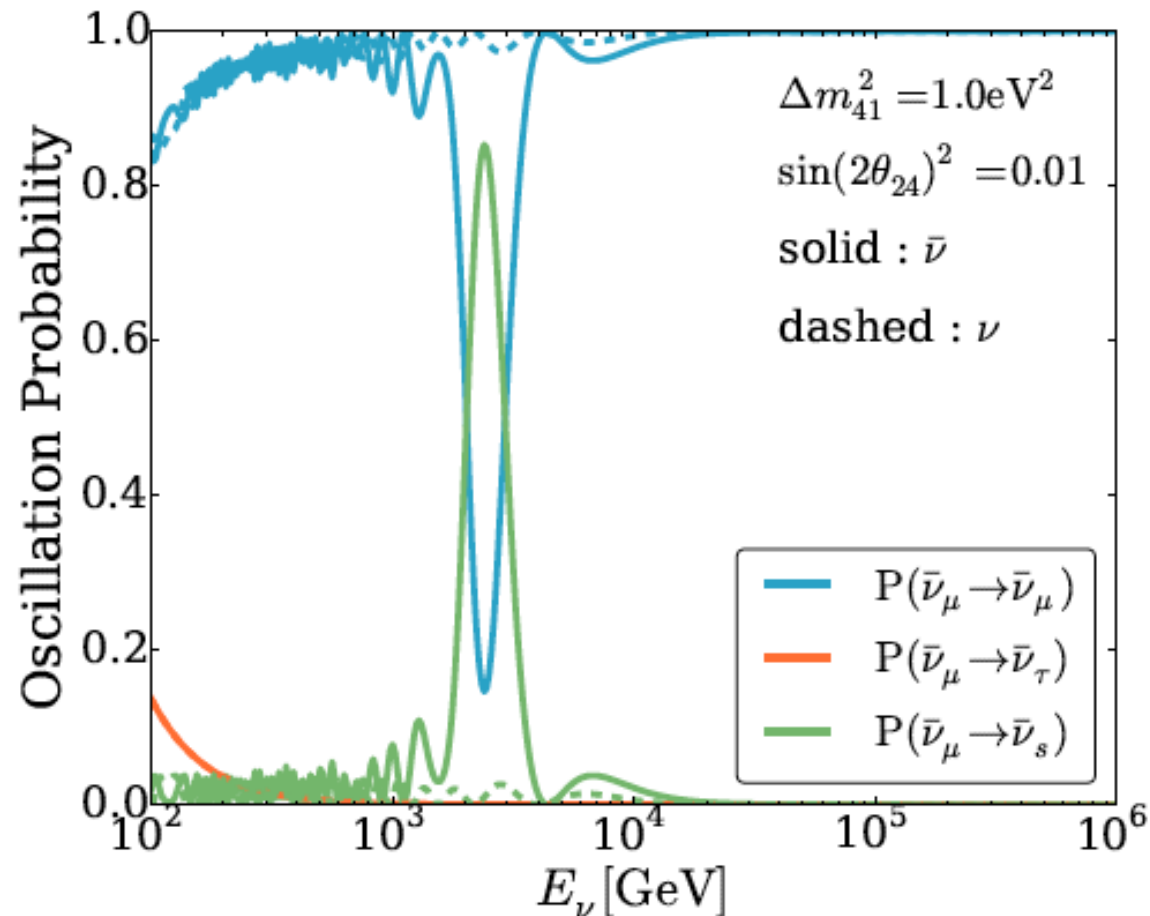
...general relativity will not last 200 years...
M. Turner

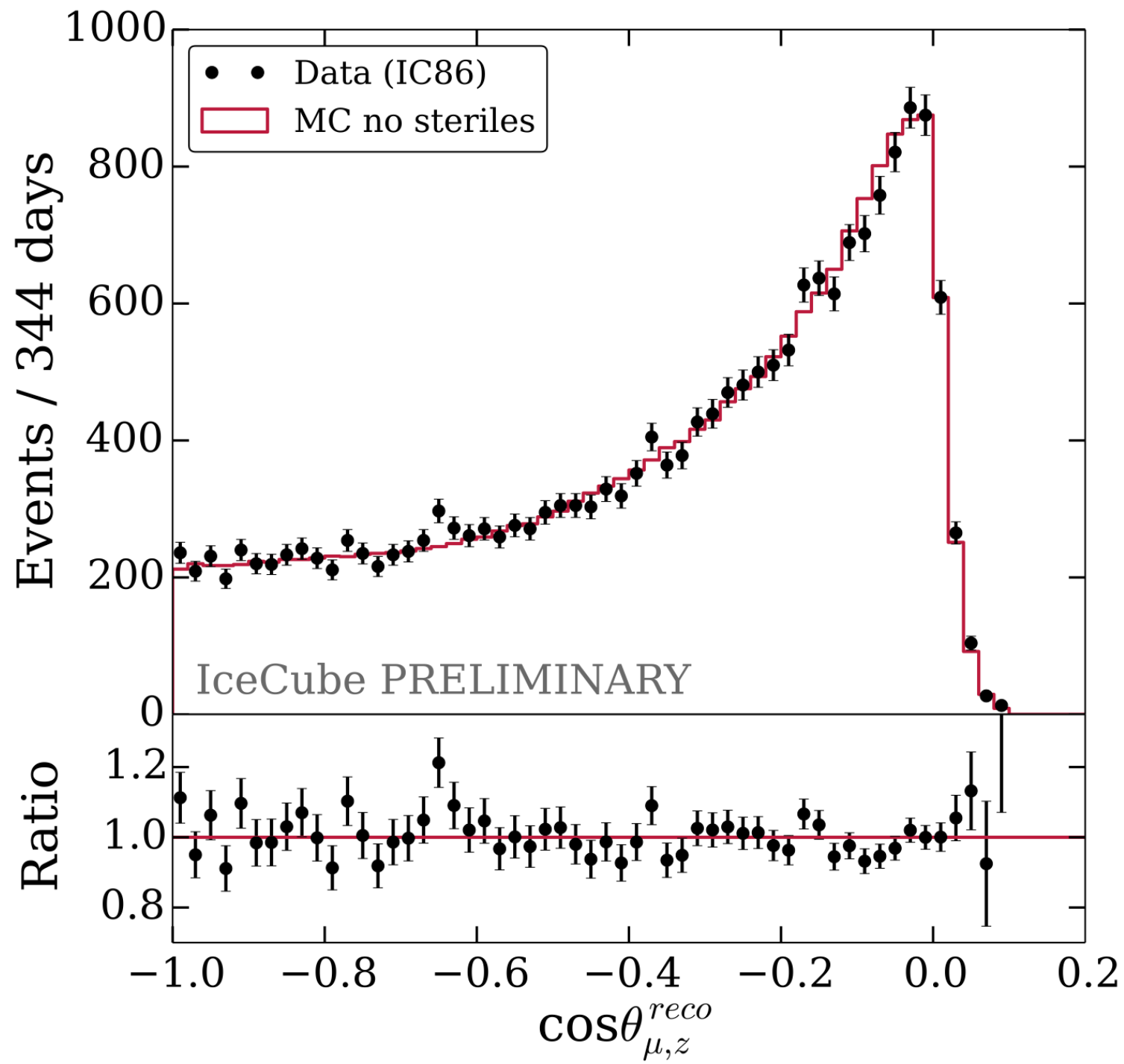


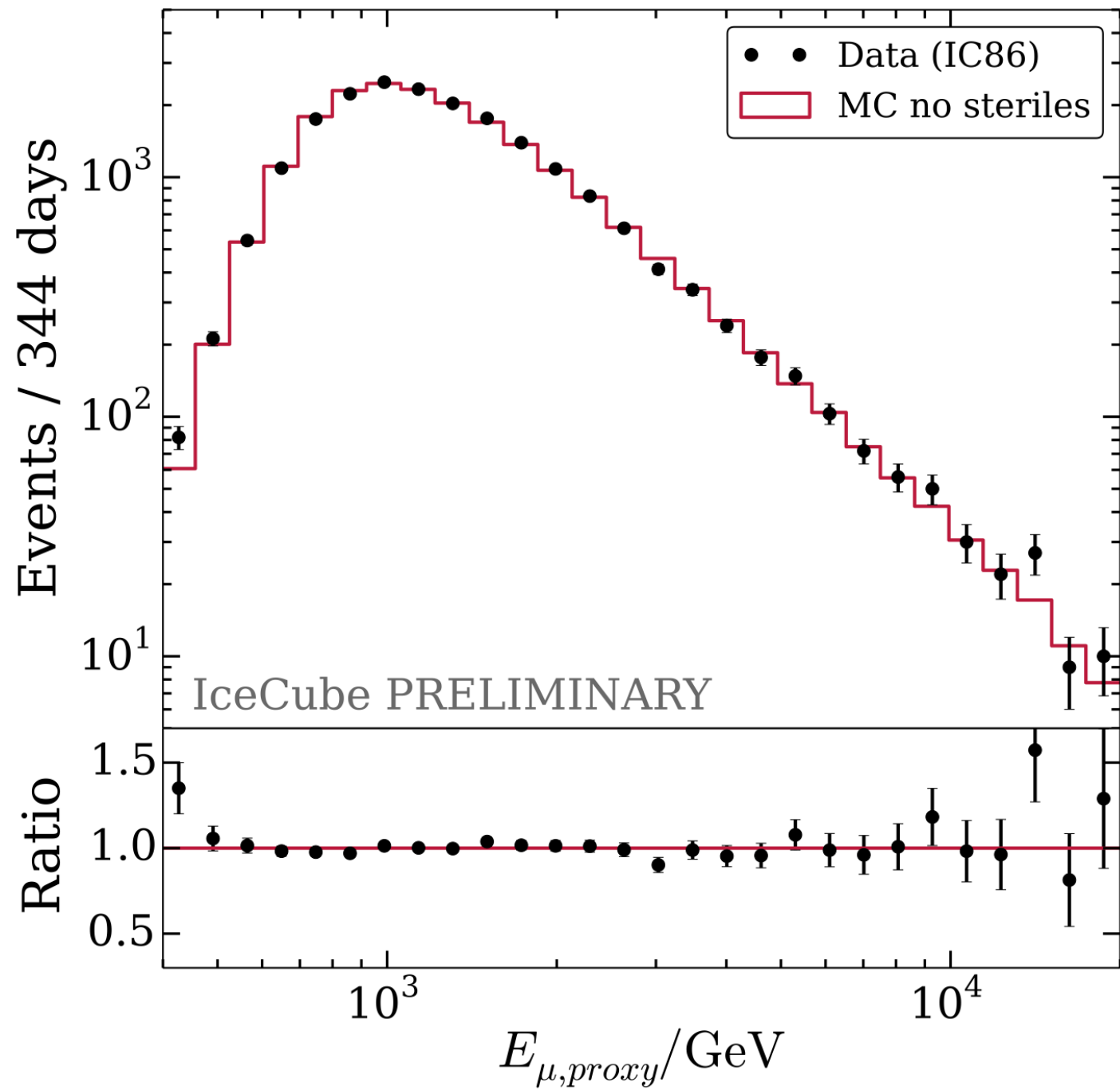
eV sterile neutrino $\rightarrow$ Earth MSW resonance for TeV neutrinos

In the **Earth** for sterile neutrino $\Delta m^2 = O(1\text{eV}^2)$ the MSW effect happens when

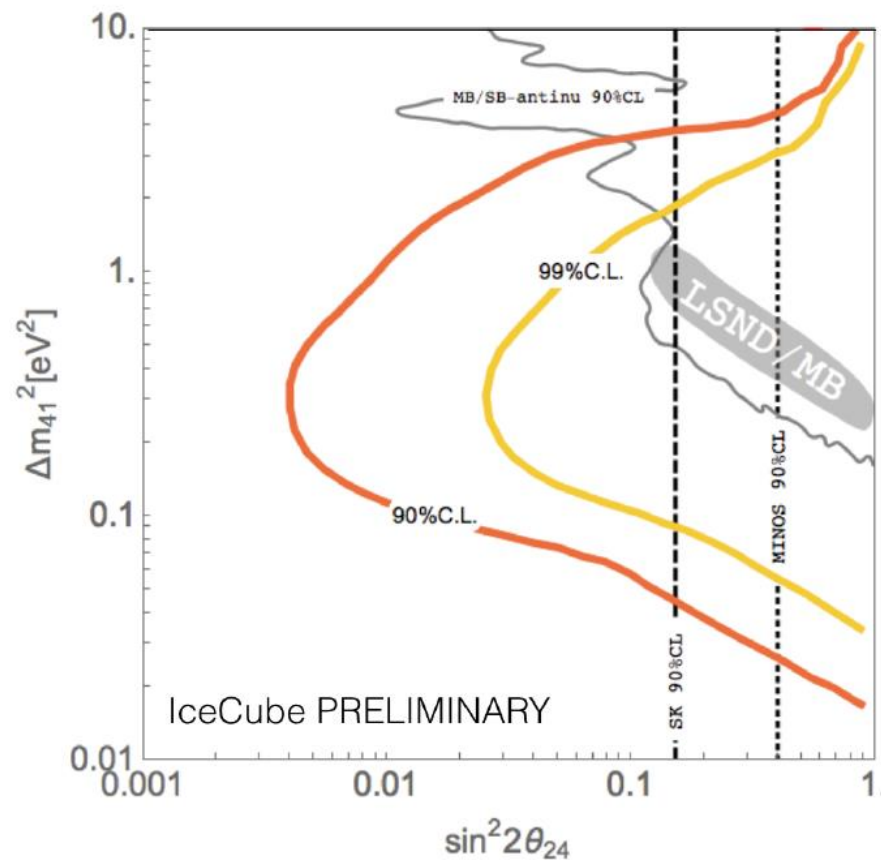
$$E_\nu = \frac{\Delta m^2 \cos 2\theta}{2\sqrt{2}G_F N} \sim O(\text{TeV})$$



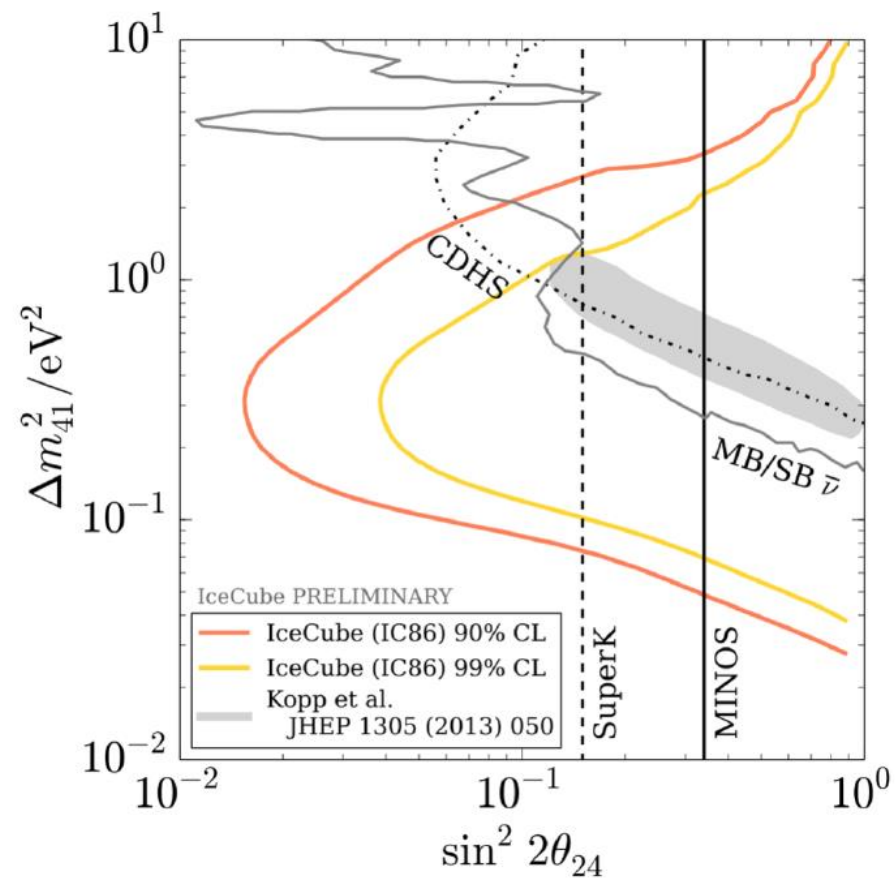


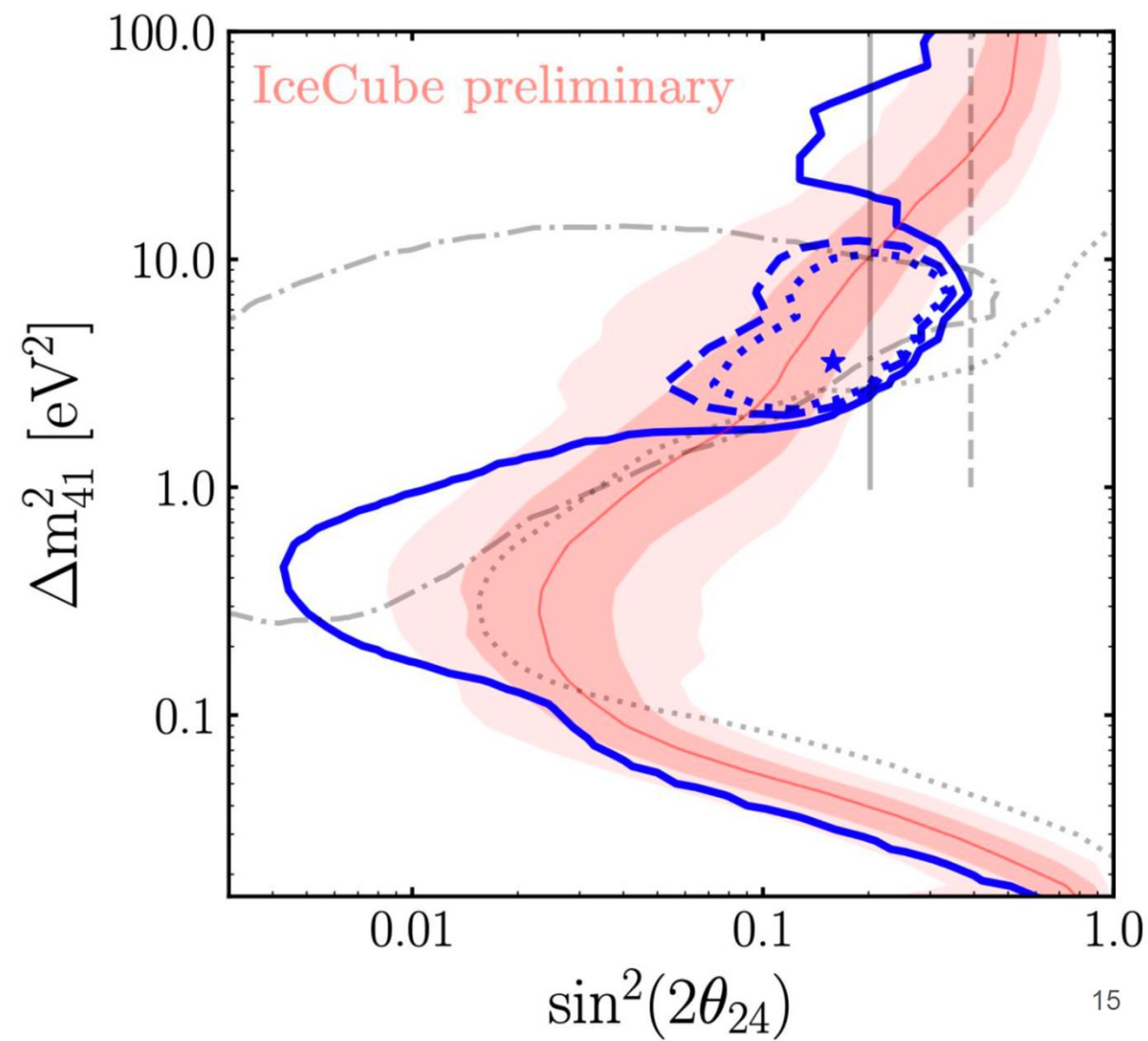
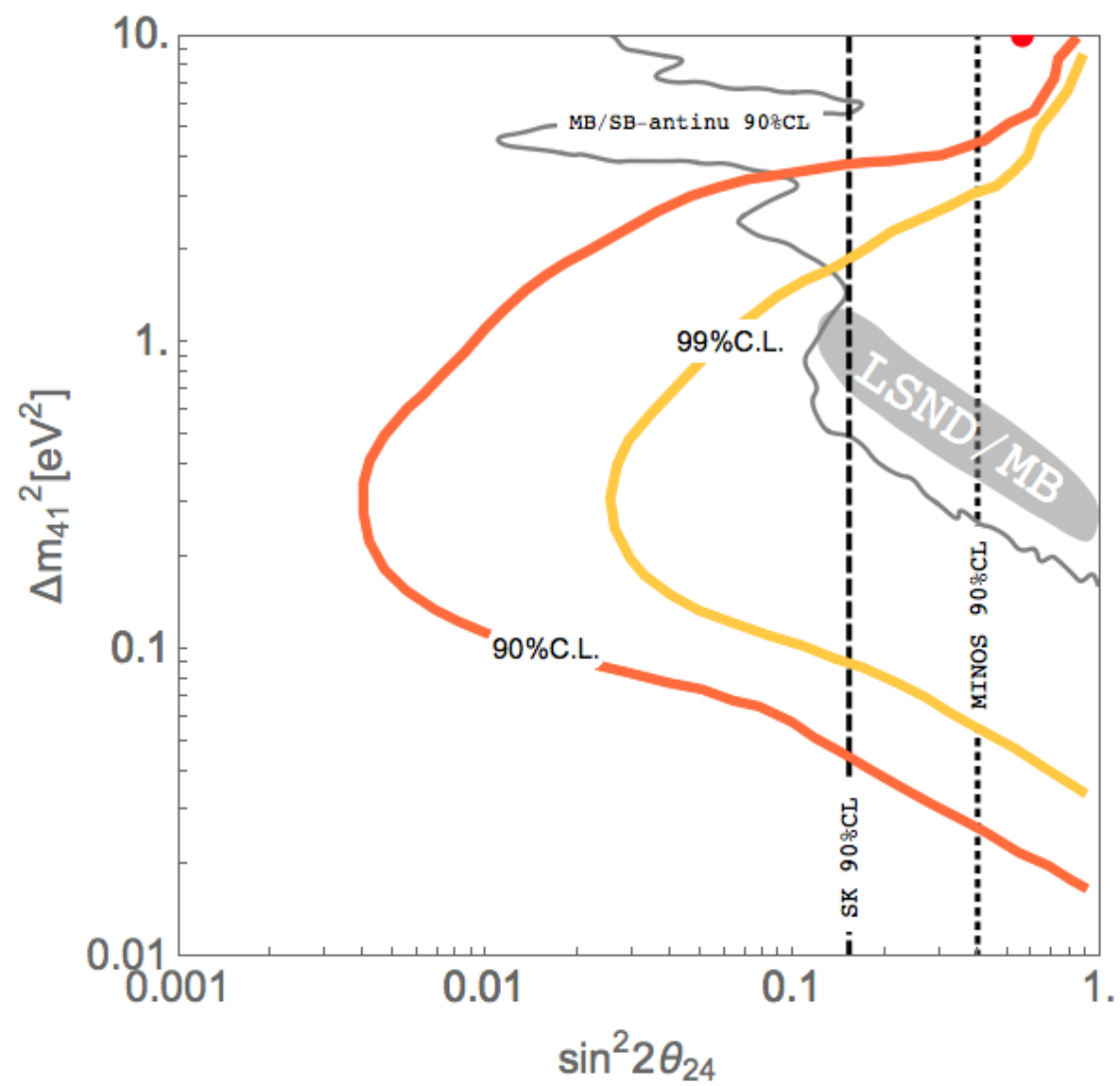


SHAPE



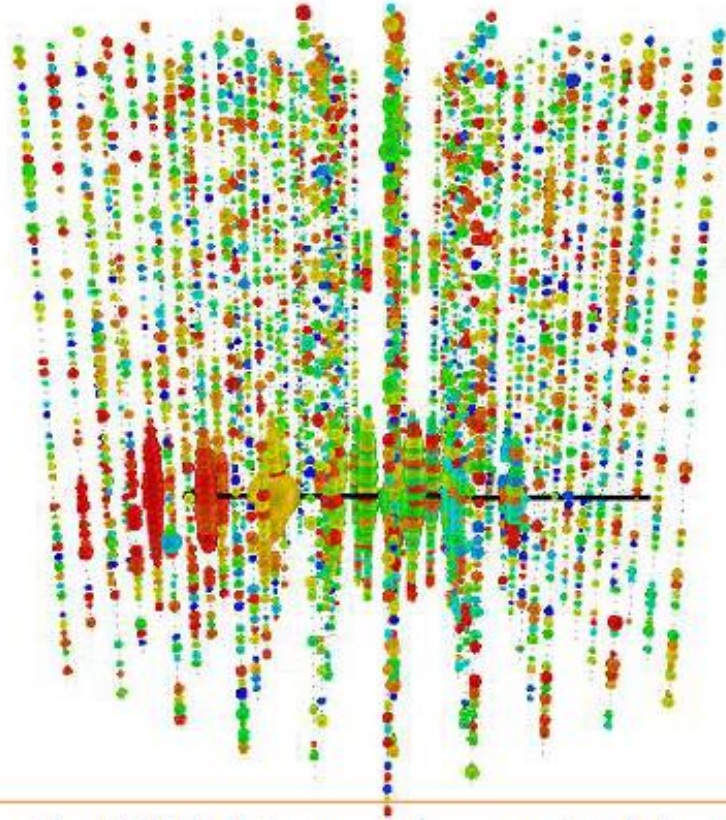
SHAPE+RATE



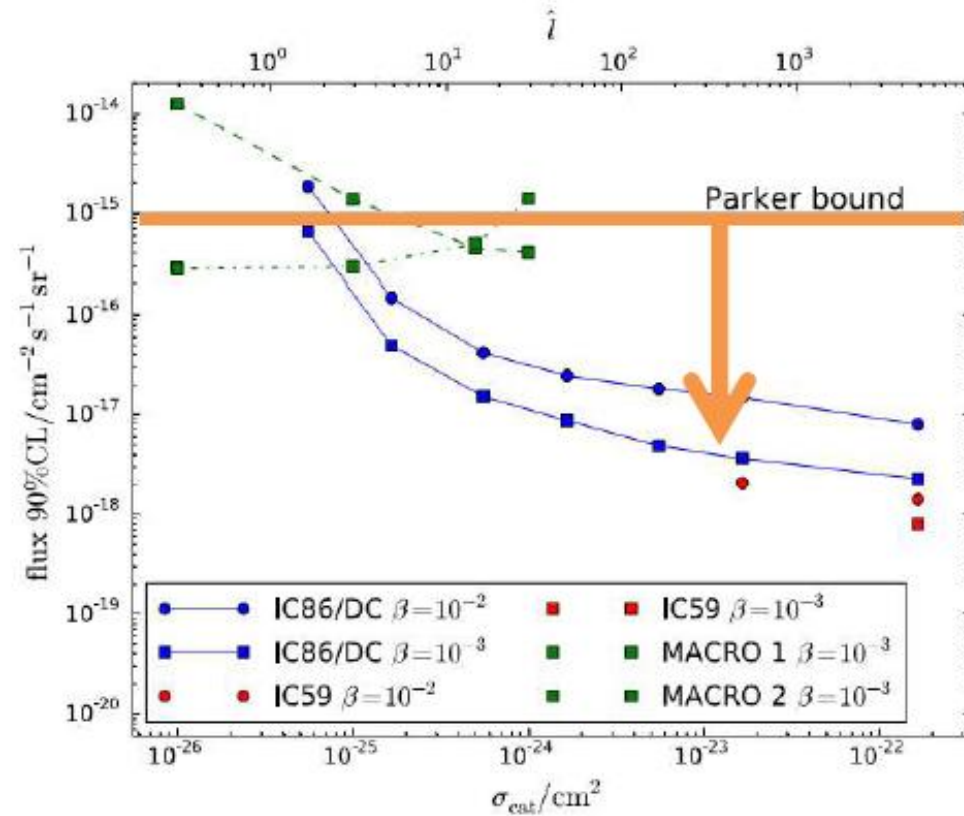


GUT monopoles

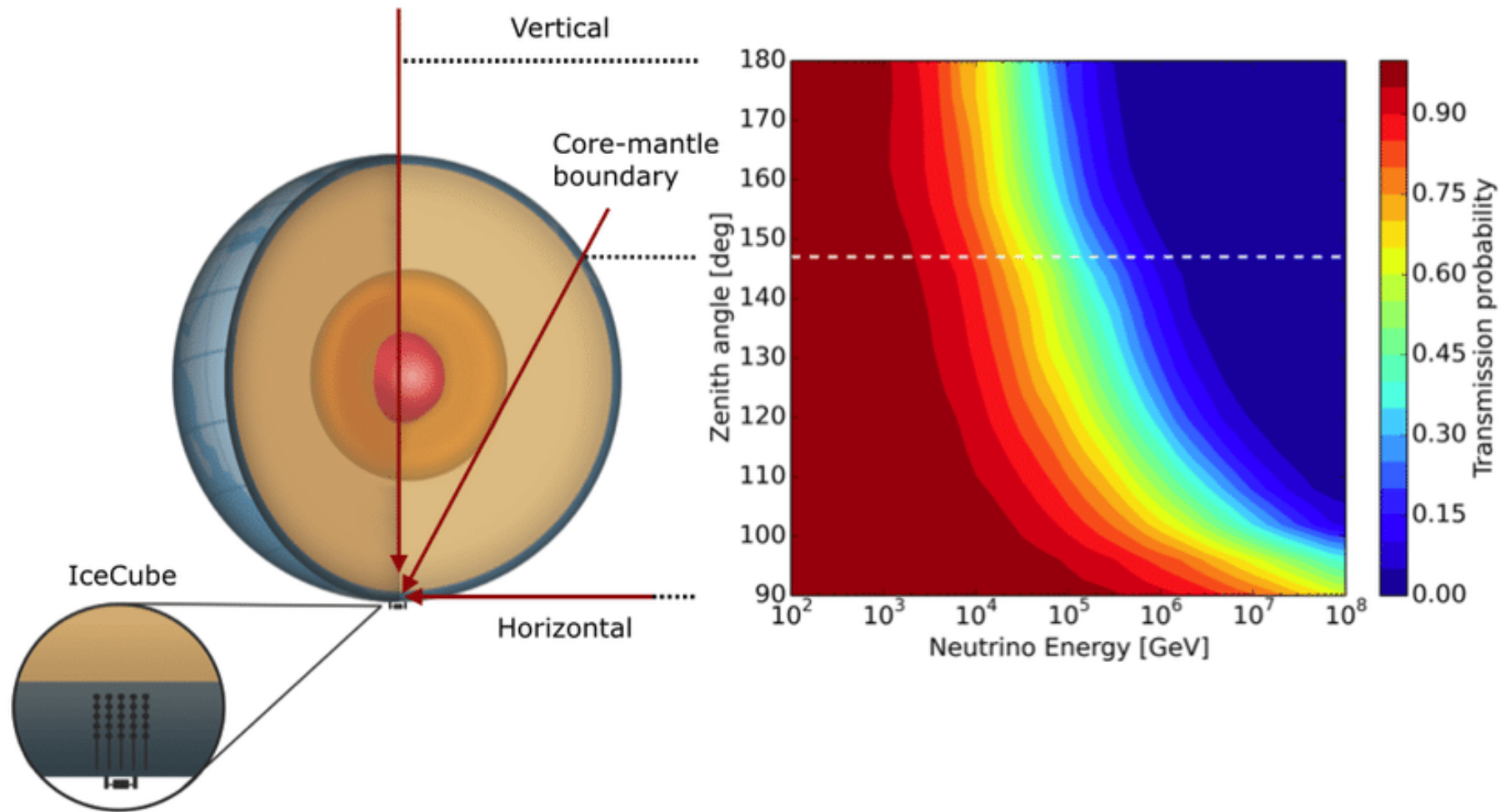
Example: slowly moving magnetic monopole catalyzing proton decay:



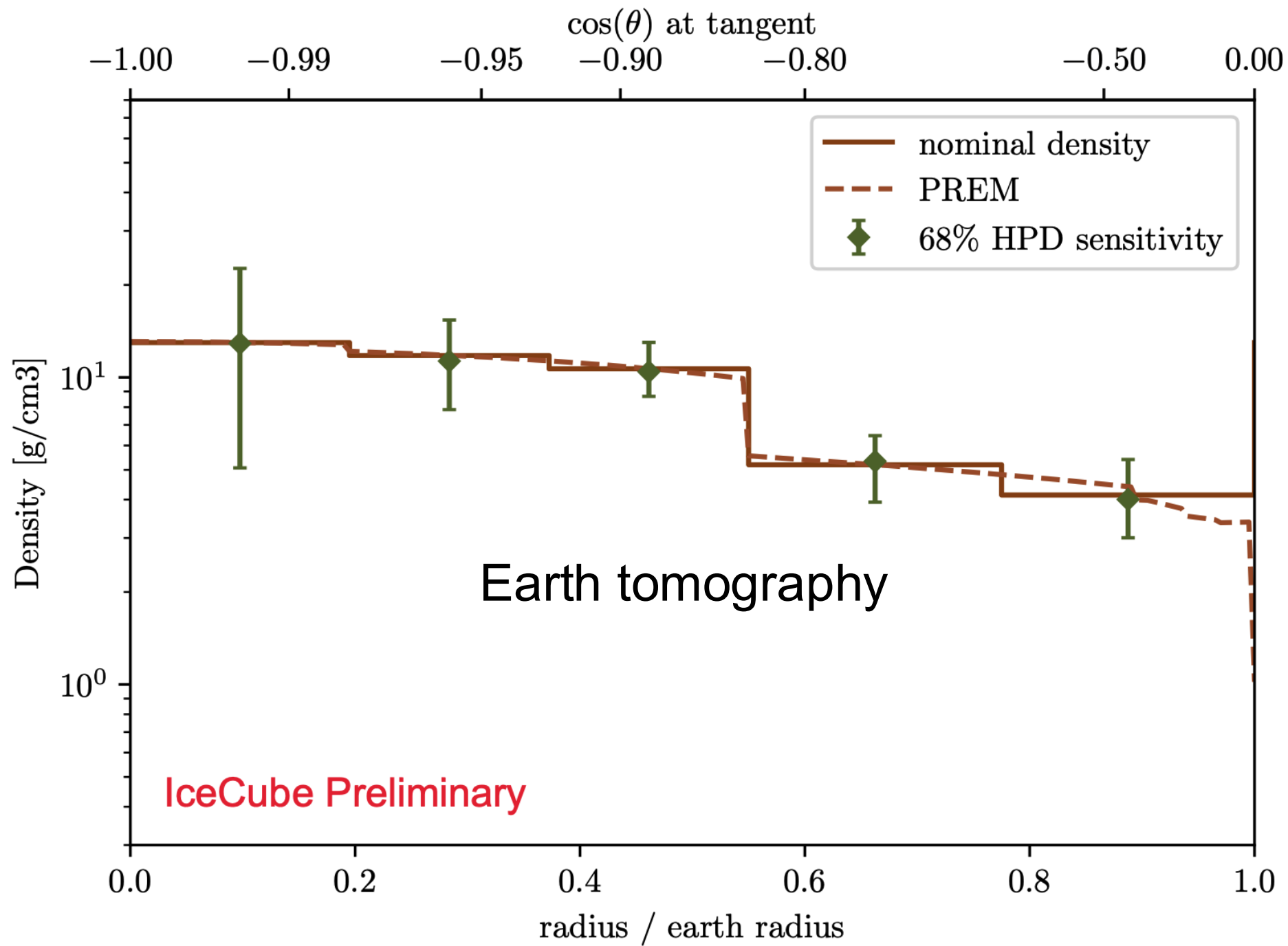
$v \sim c/1000$, 10 ms data, special trigger
Strong signal above integrated noise

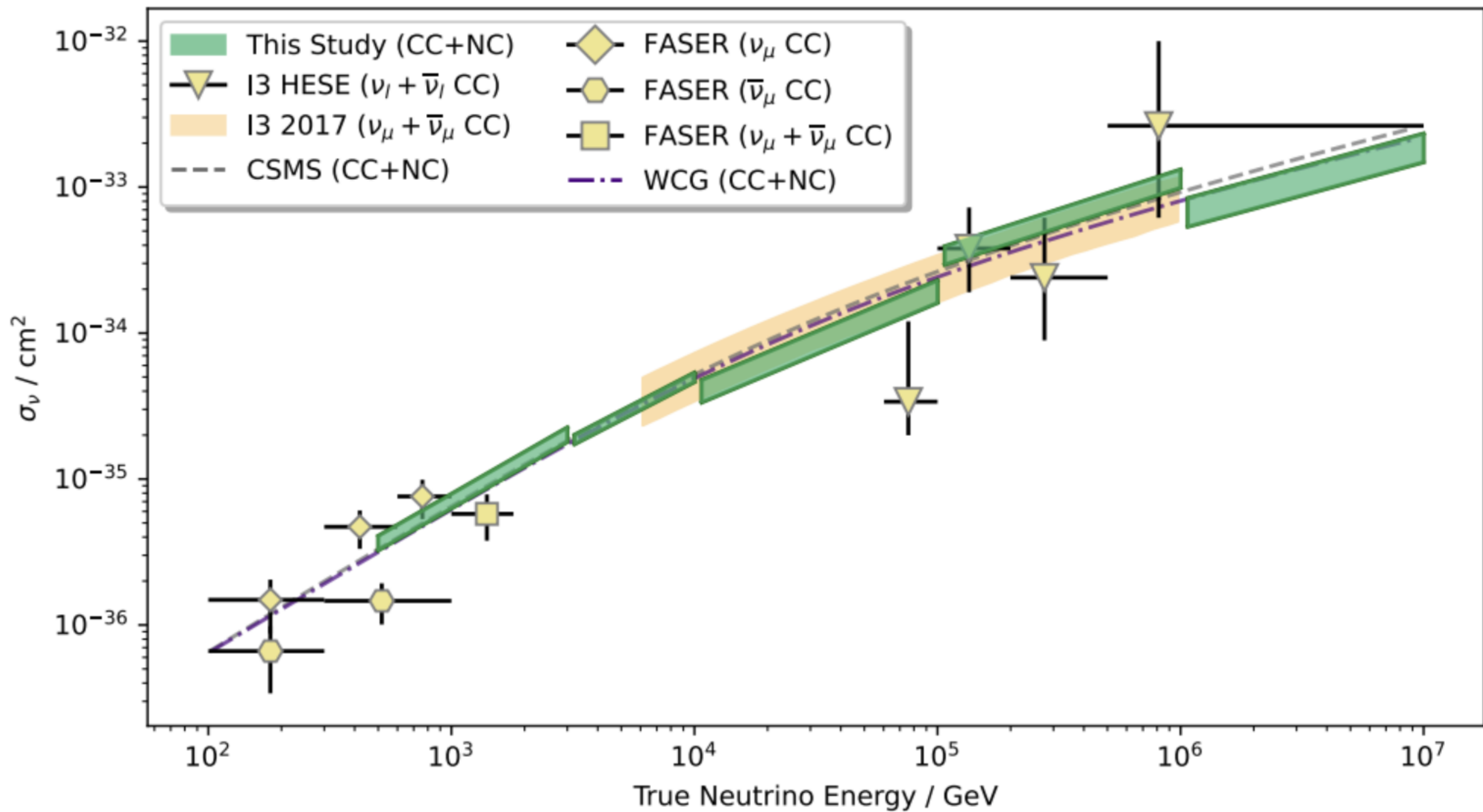


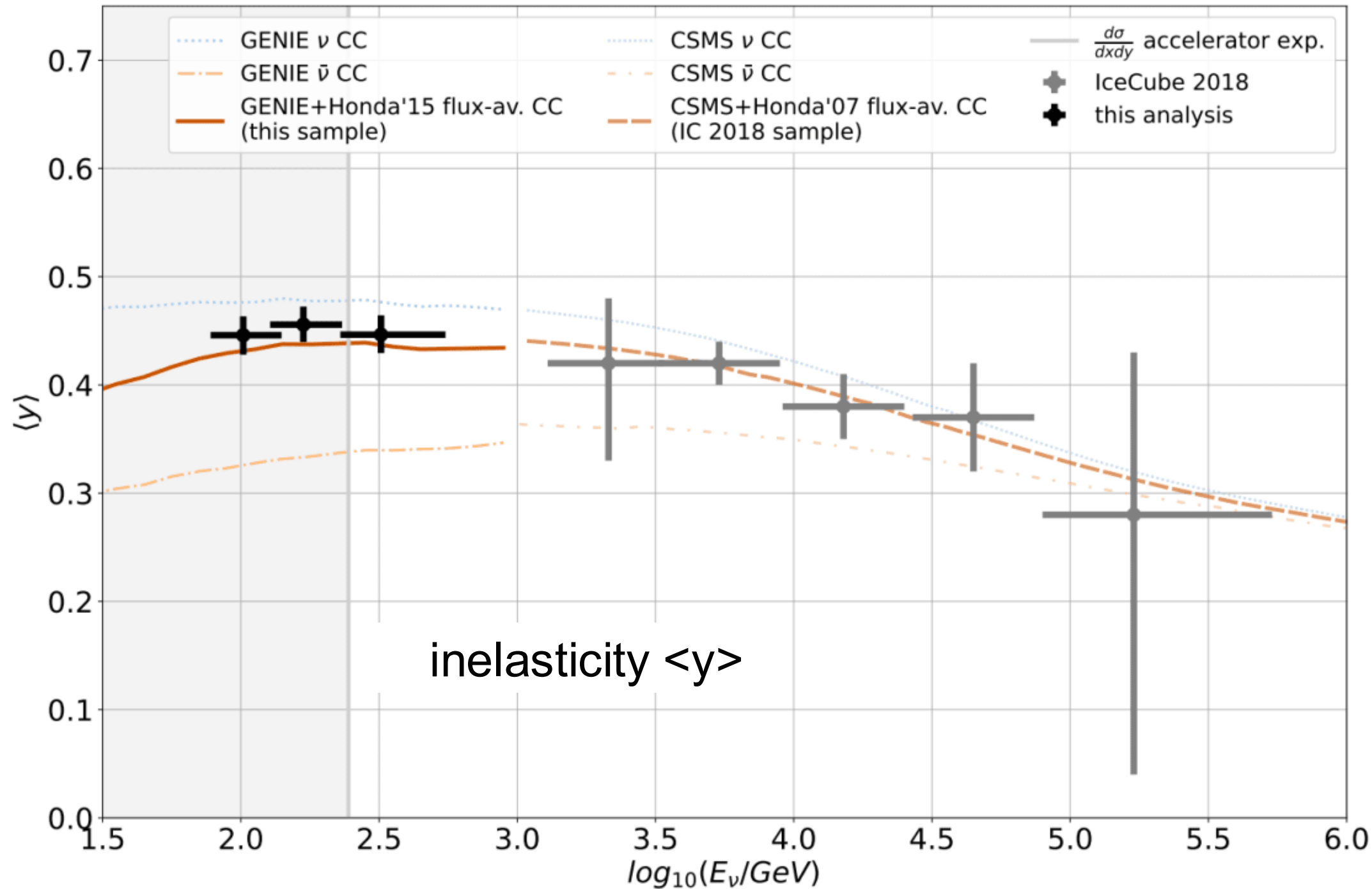
EPJC 74, 7 (cover print)



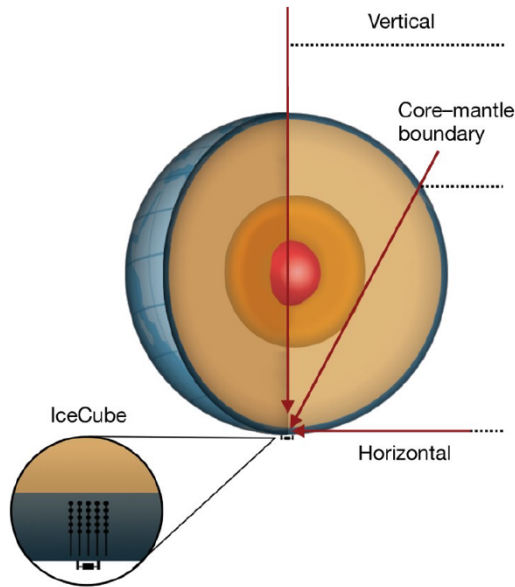
absorption length of a neutrino is 12,500 km at 70 TeV



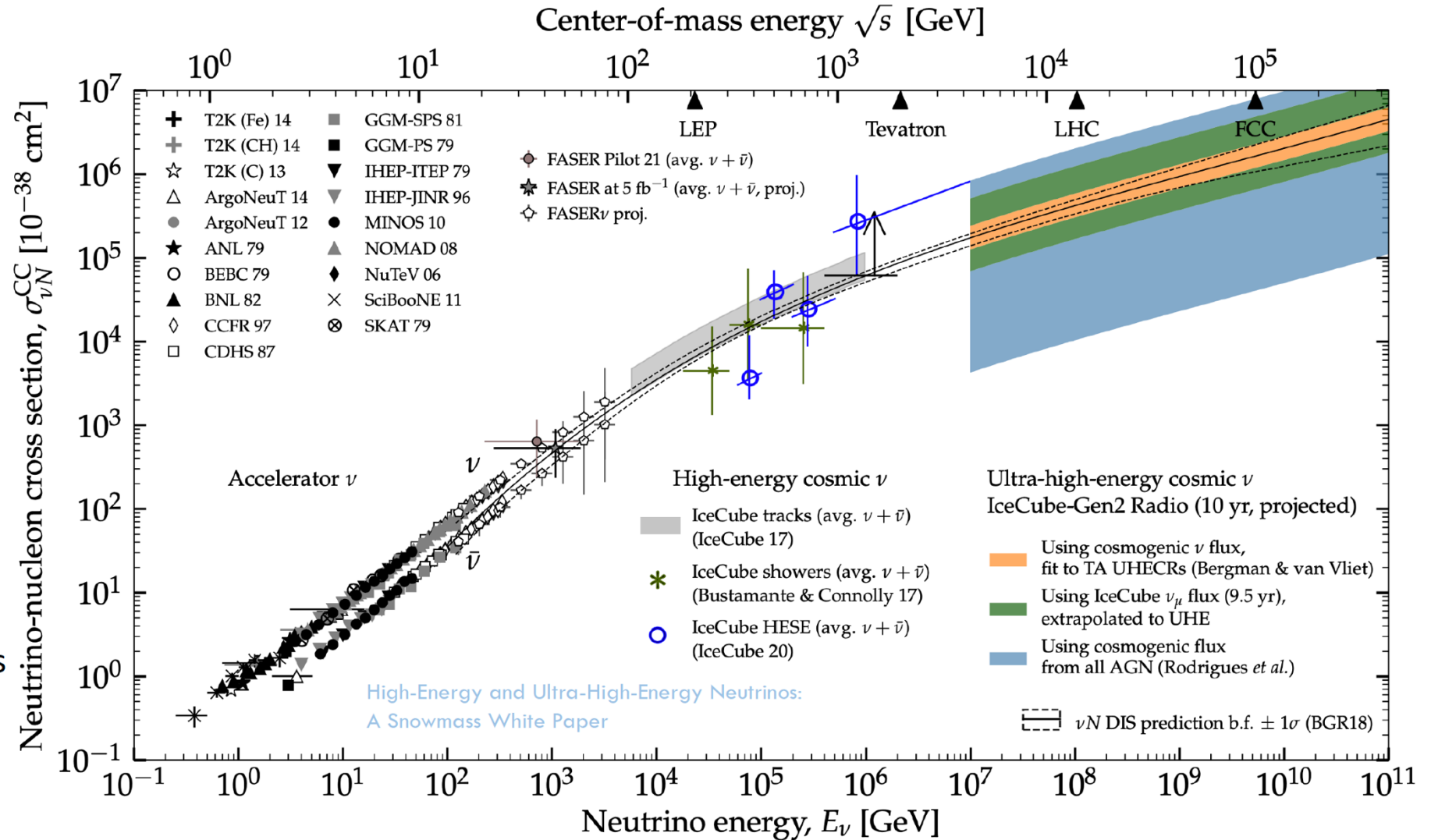


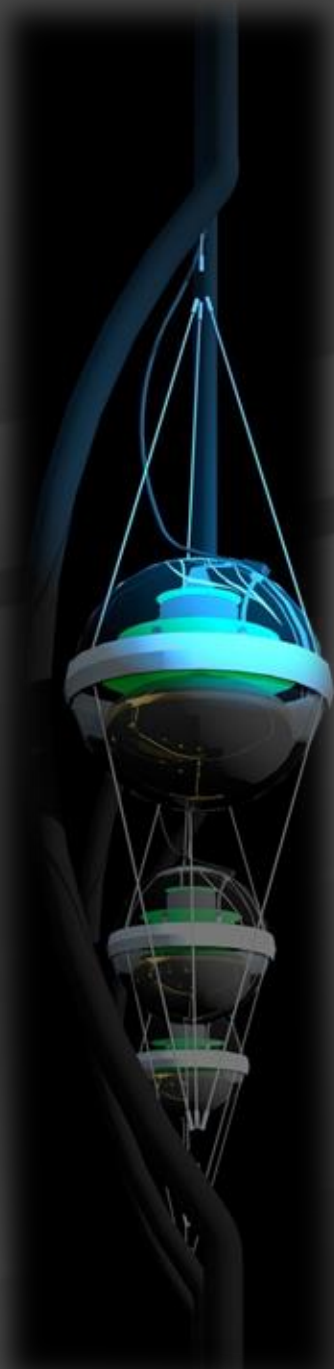


CROSS SECTION WITH EARTH AS THE TARGET



Extending x-section measurements to energies beyond Earth-based accelerators

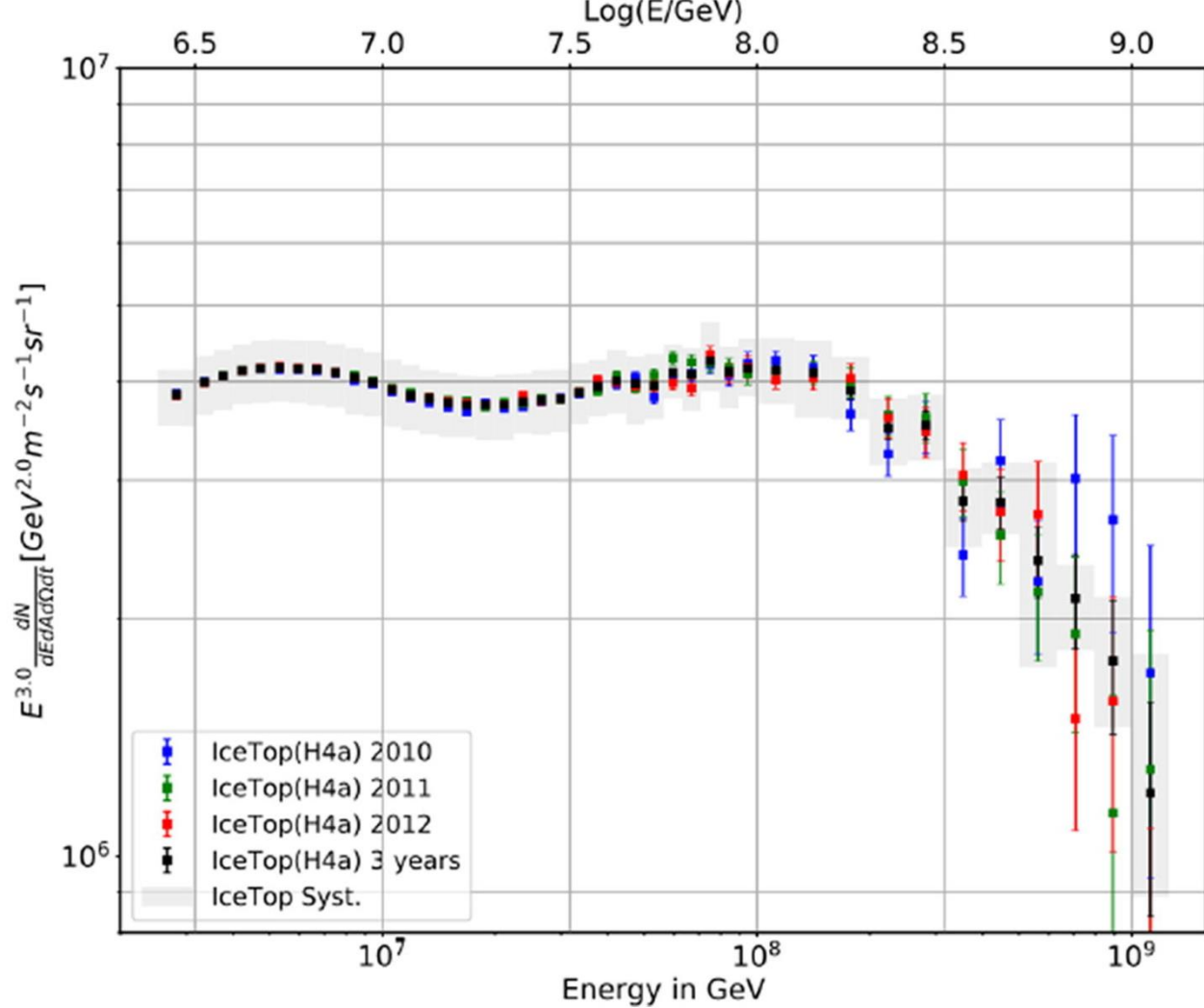




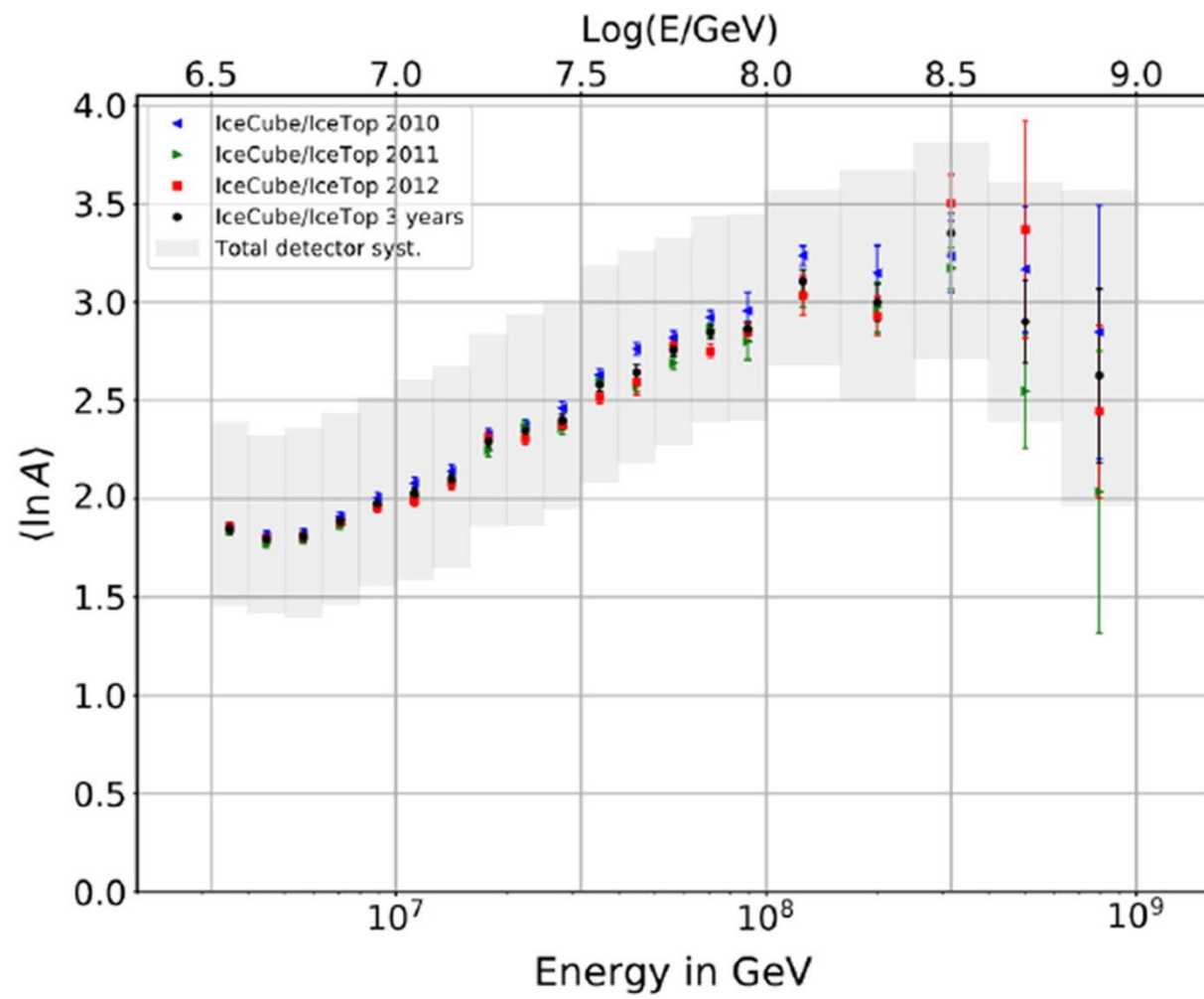
IceCube: beyond neutrino astronomy

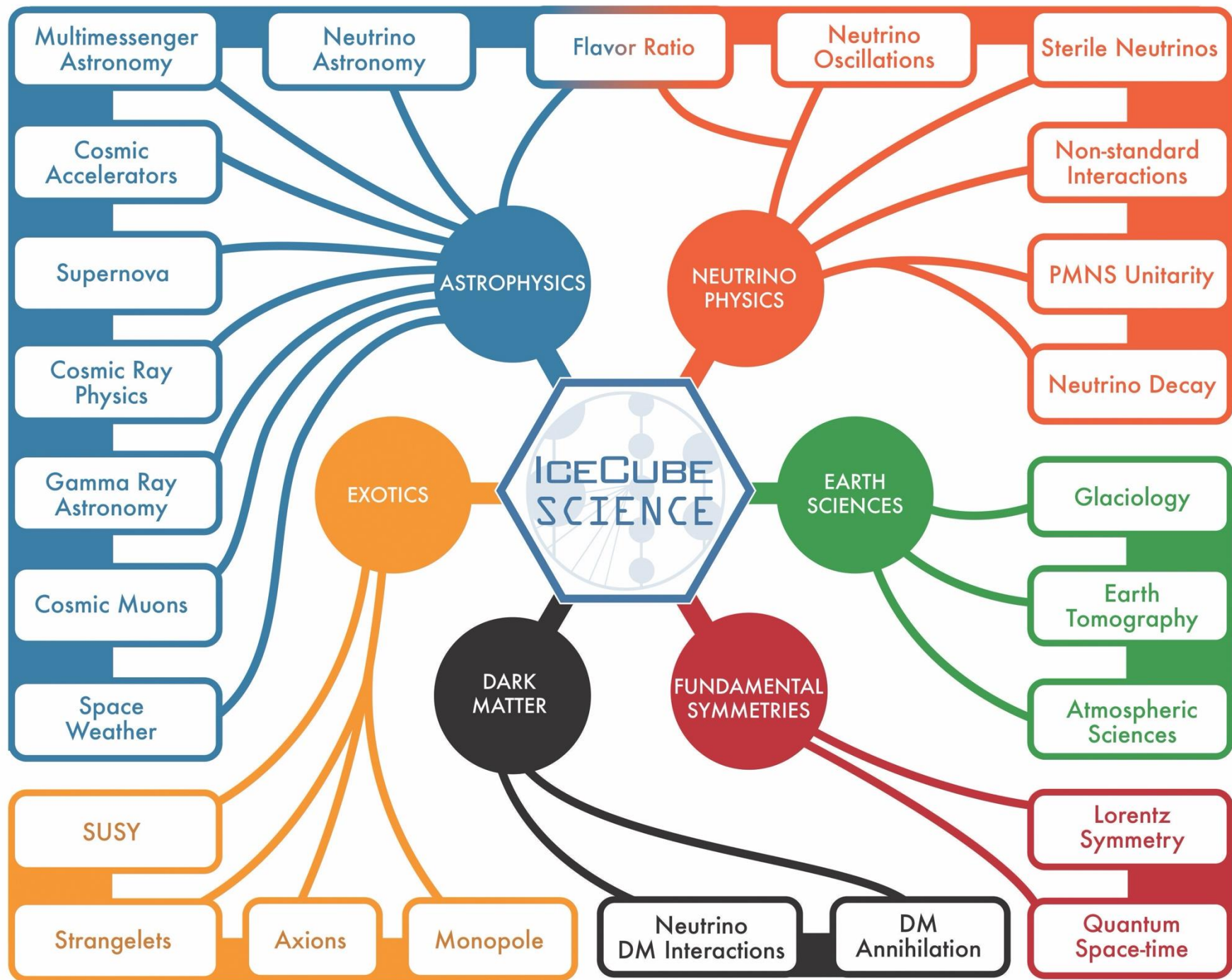
Francis Halzen

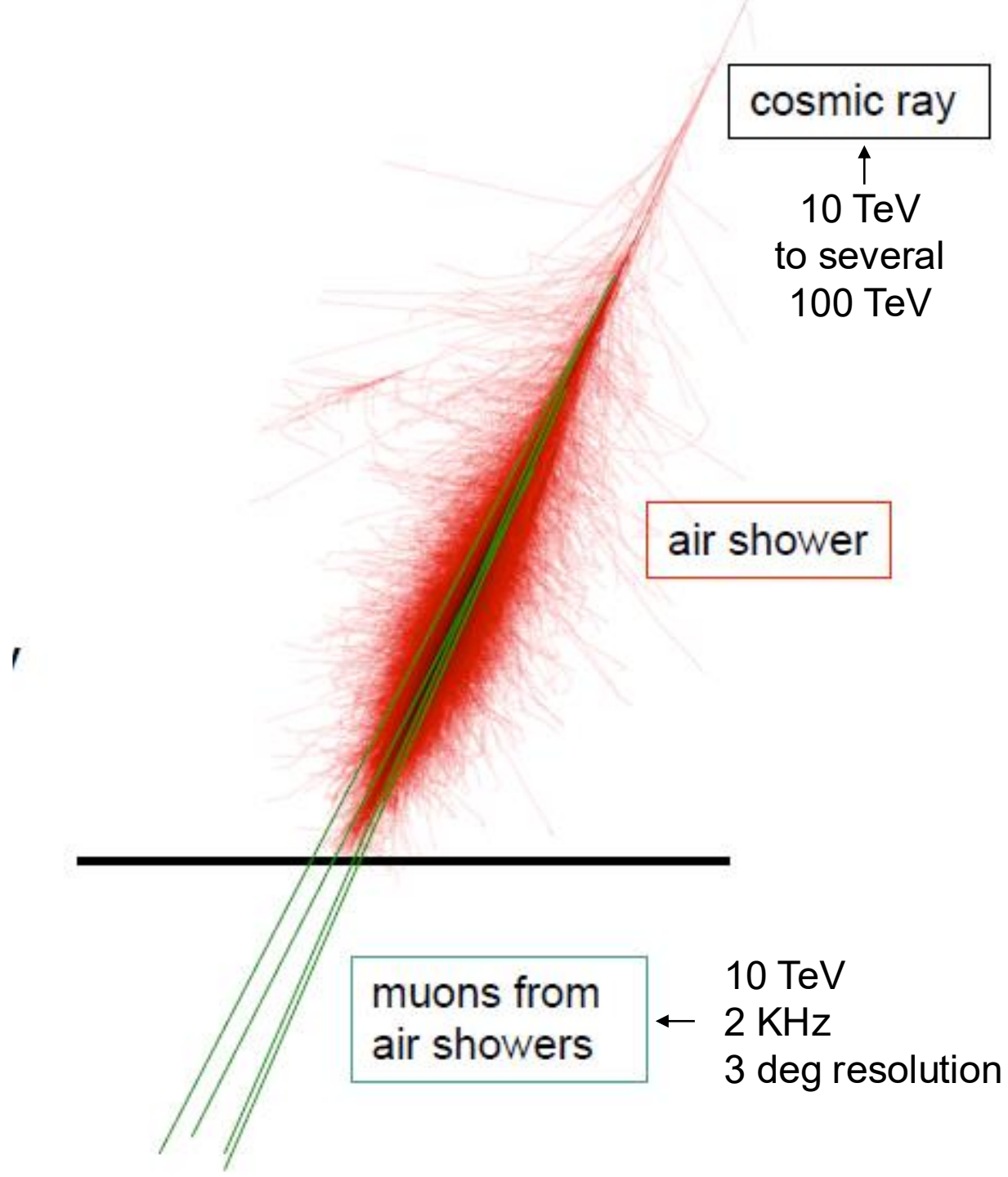
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- cosmic ray physics



IceTop

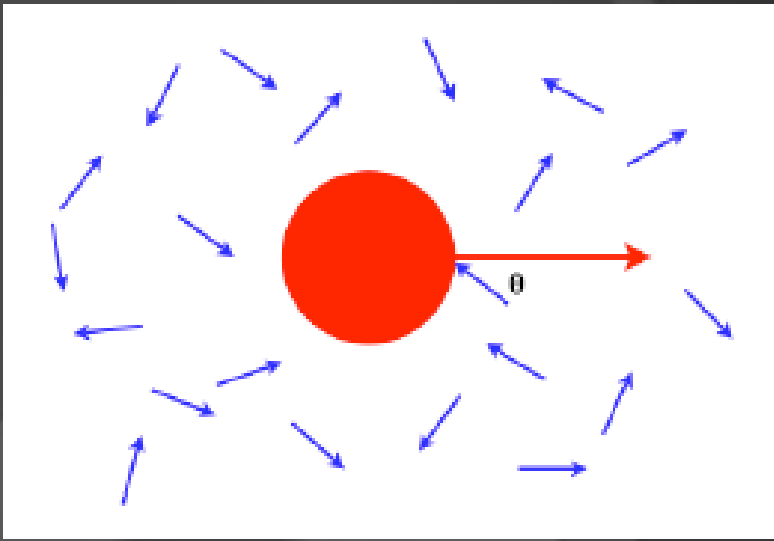






cosmic rays in IceCube

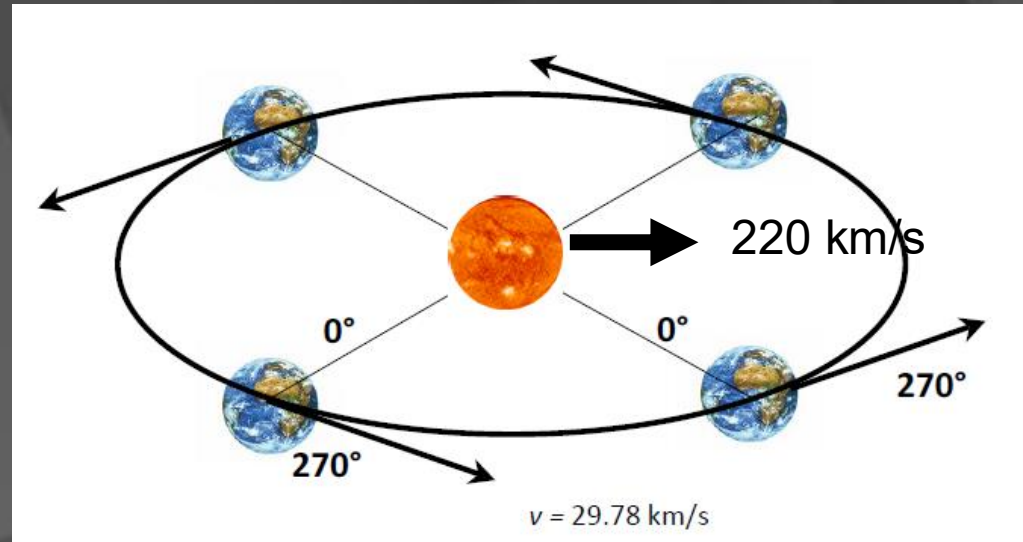
- galactic
- not solar
- highest energies approach the “knee”
- gyroradius < 1 pc in microgauss field
- closest sources > 100 pc



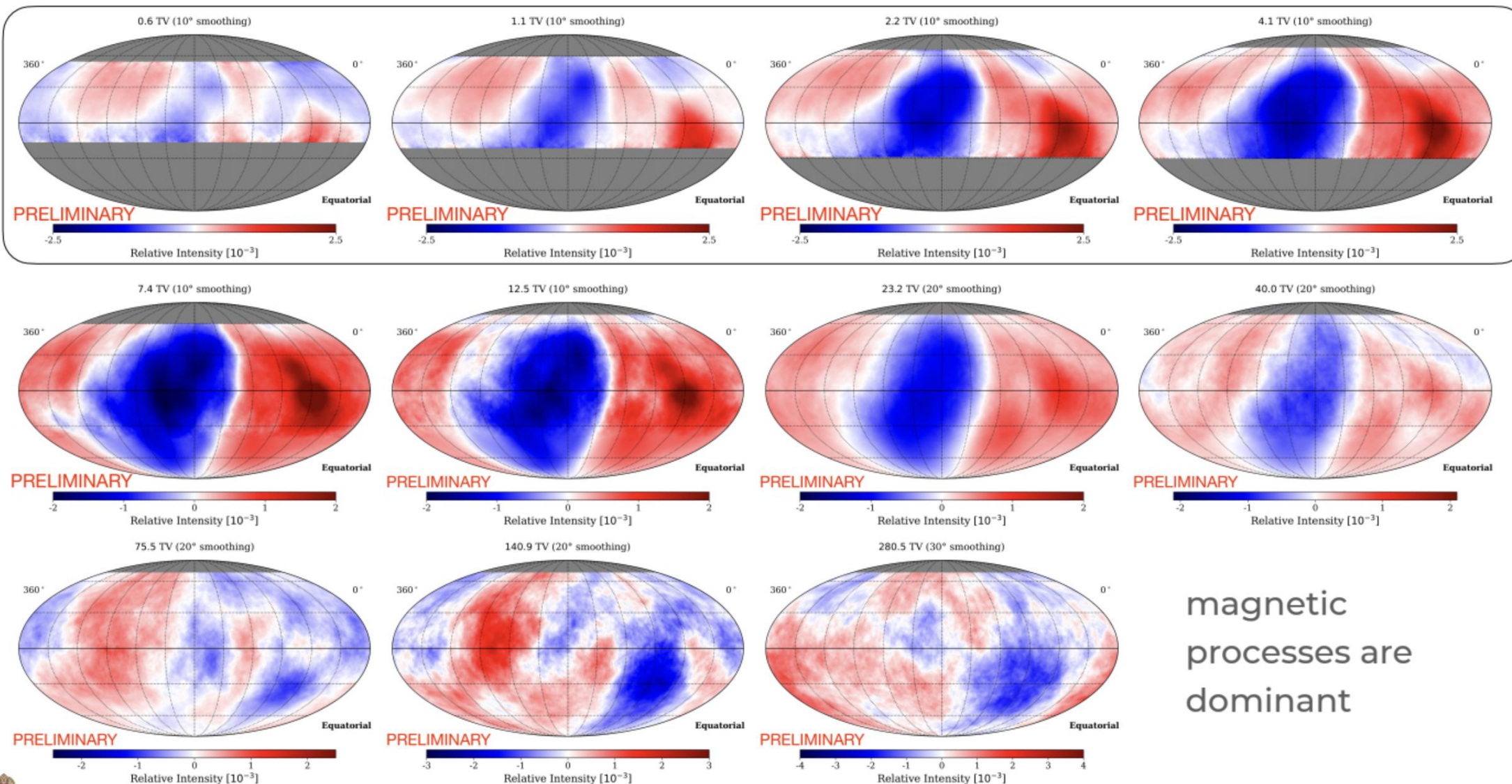
dipole anisotropies

motion of the Earth in the
frame of the cosmic rays?

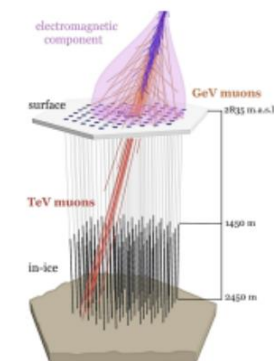
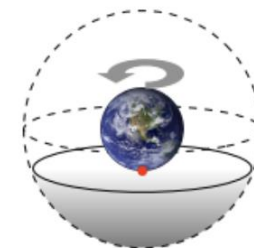
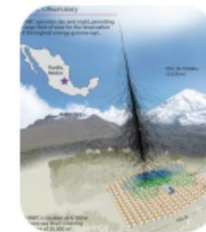
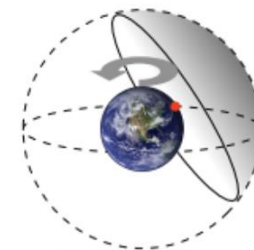
- solar dipole:
motion of the Earth
around the sun
- motion of the Sun
relative to the Galaxy
(Compton-Getting)



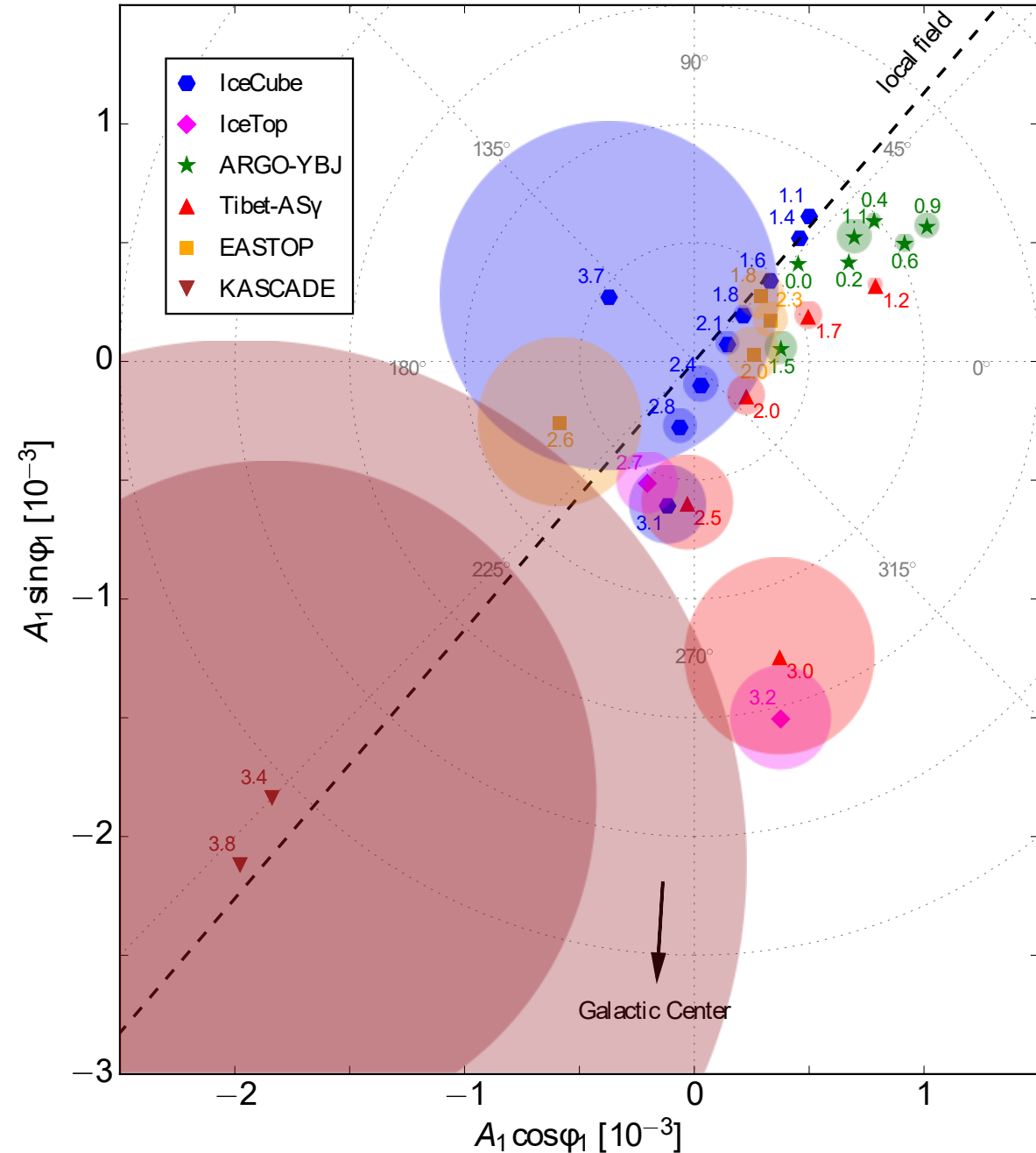
HAWC & IceCube - [PoS\(ICRC2025\)244](#) & [arXiv:2507.07070](#)

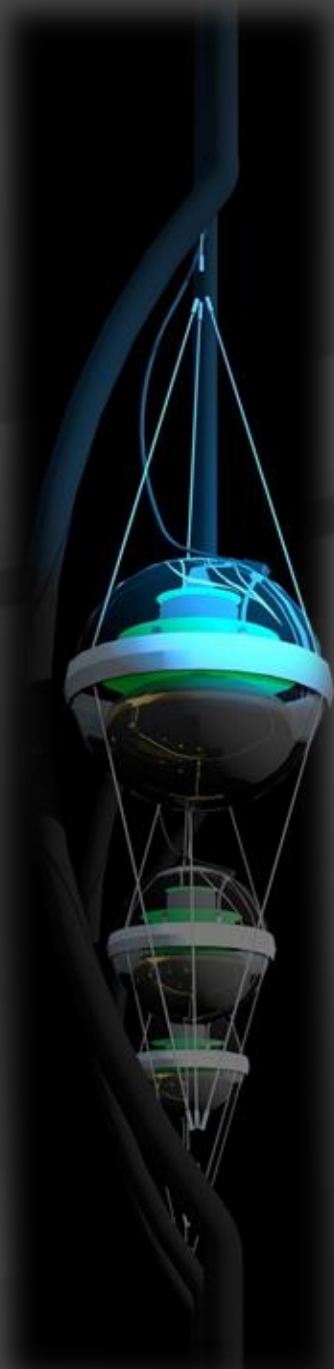


magnetic
processes are
dominant



dipole rotates from the direction of the local magnetic field at TeV energy to the direction of the Galactic center at PeV energy possibly reflecting nearby Galactic cosmic ray sources

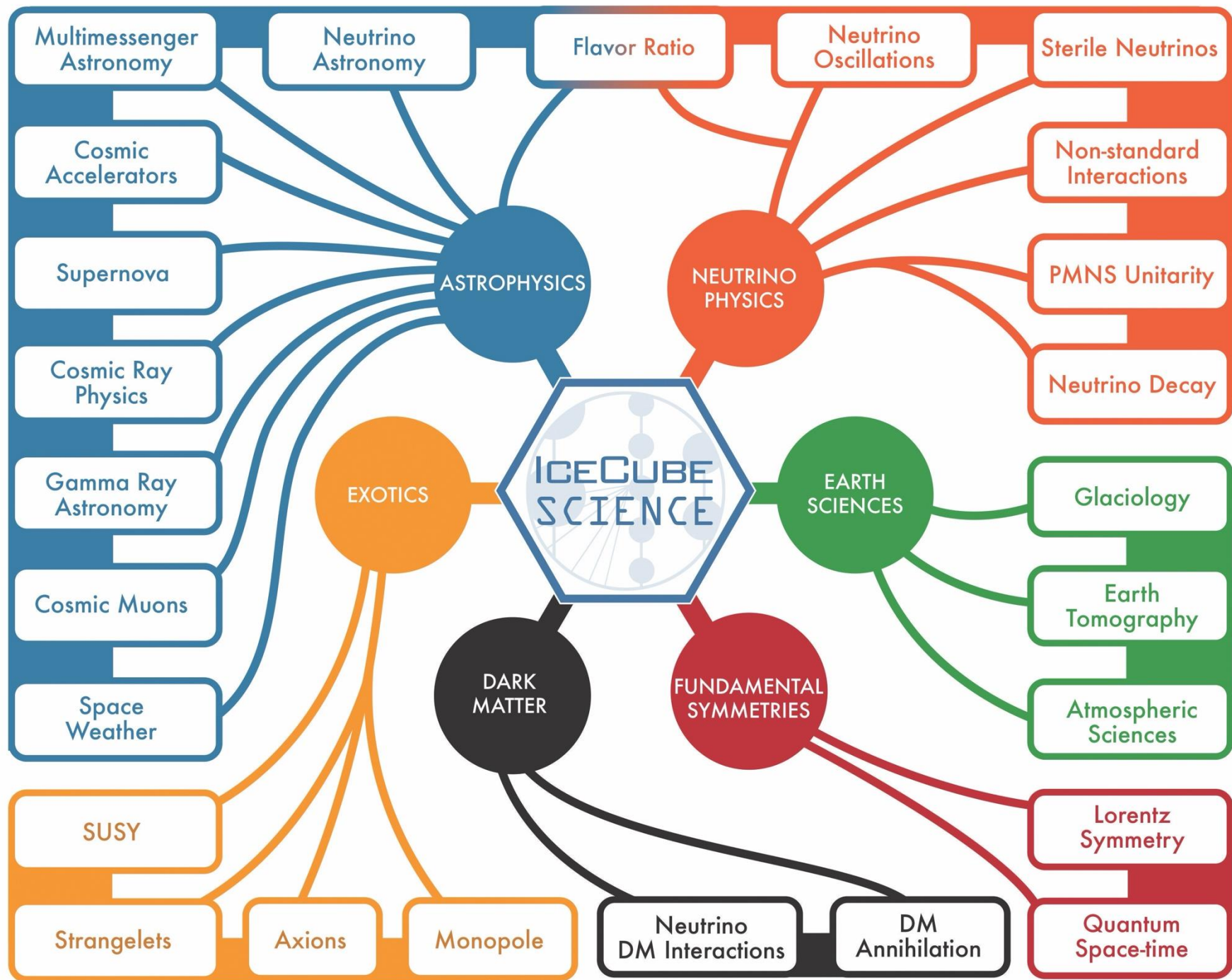




IceCube: beyond neutrino astronomy

Francis Halzen

- natural Antarctic ice as a Cherenkov detector
- neutrino physics: from GeV to PeV
- detecting the next Galactic supernova explosion
- search for dark matter
- beyond the Standard Model physics: quantum decoherence, sterile neutrinos, neutrino cross sections, ...
- cosmic ray physics



THE ICECUBE COLLABORATION



THE ICECUBE COLLABORATION



ITALIA 1

1

UNITED KINGDOM 1



UNITED STATES 25