

# Atmospheric neutrino physics with IceCube DeepCore.



Summer Blot

*Thanksgiving edition!*

Institute seminar at Technische Universität Dresden

23.11.2017



**ICECUBE**  
SOUTH POLE NEUTRINO OBSERVATORY

# Victor Hess and the discovery of cosmic rays

Measurements made from 1911-13 begin a new chapter in particle and nuclear physics

Over a century later, the origin of cosmic rays remains a mystery!

But that's **NOT** what I'm here to talk about...



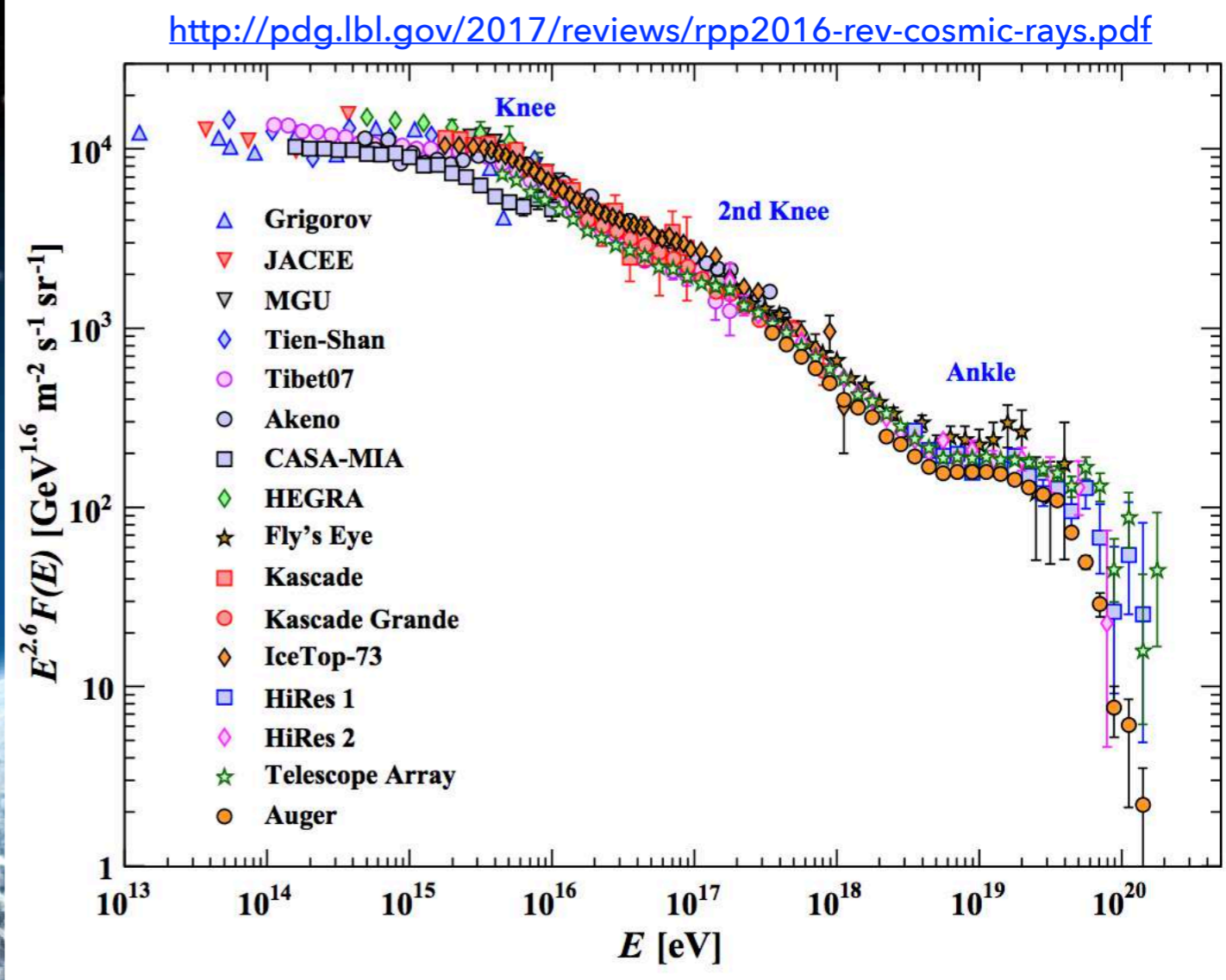
# Cosmic ray interactions in the atmosphere



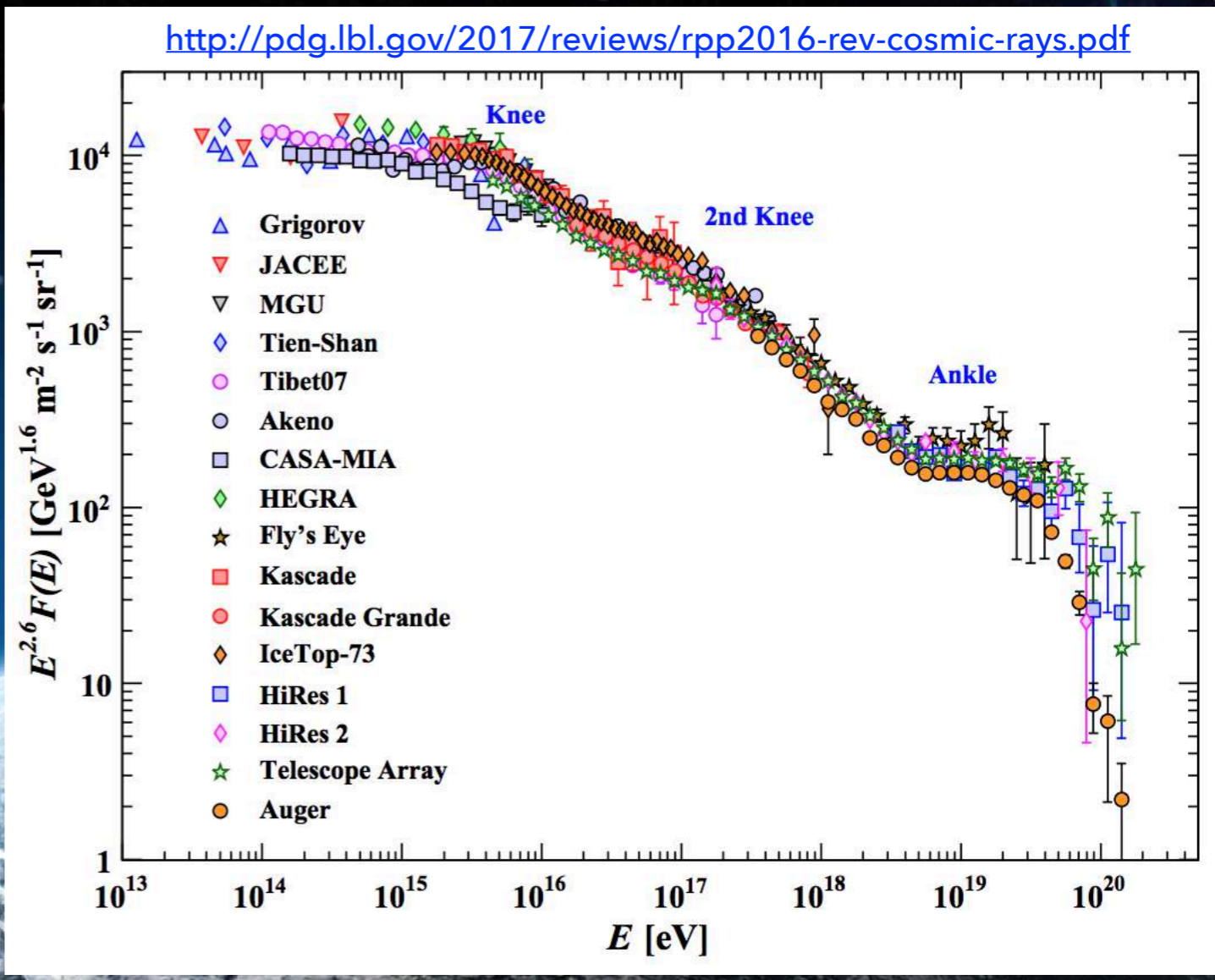
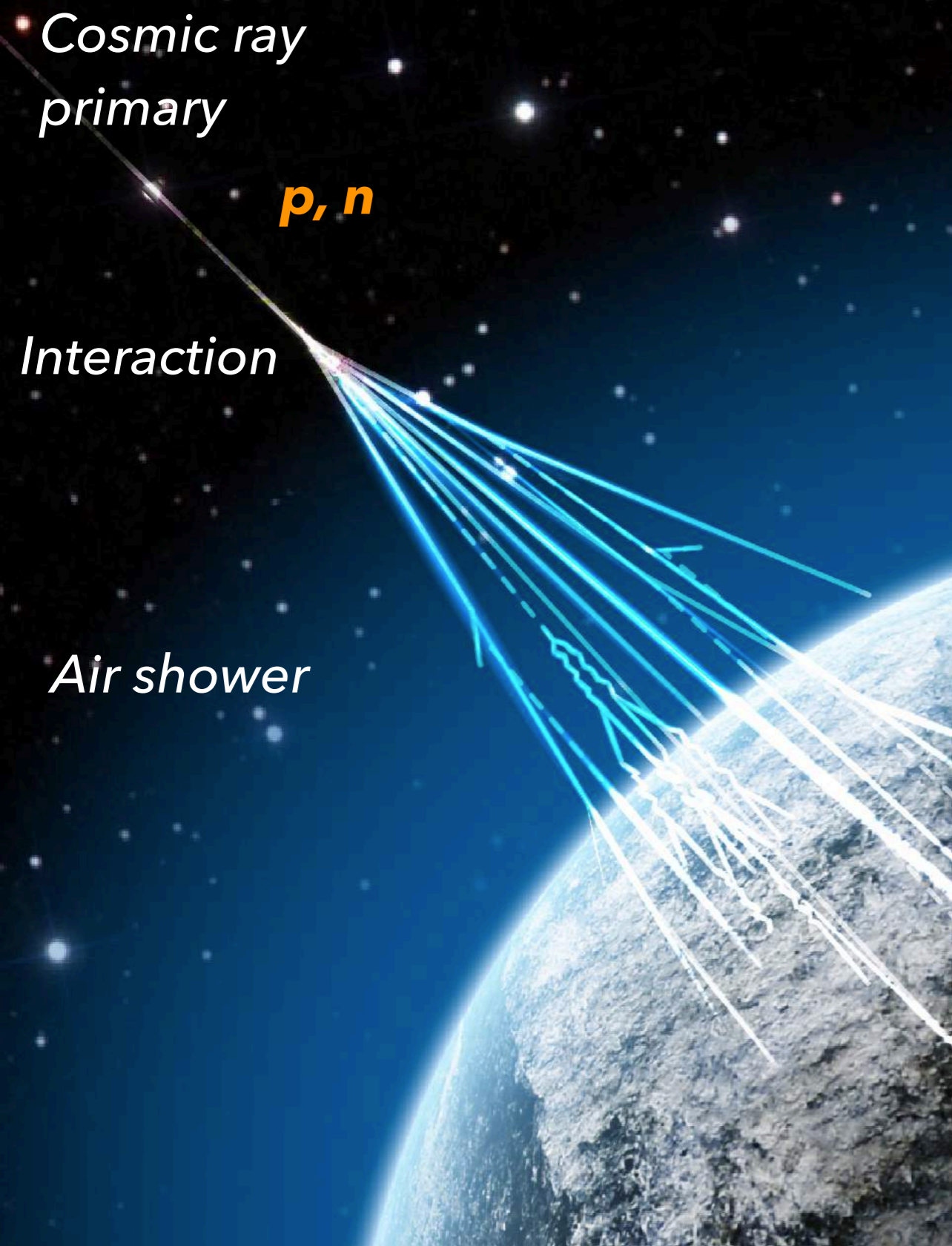
Cosmic ray primary

Interaction

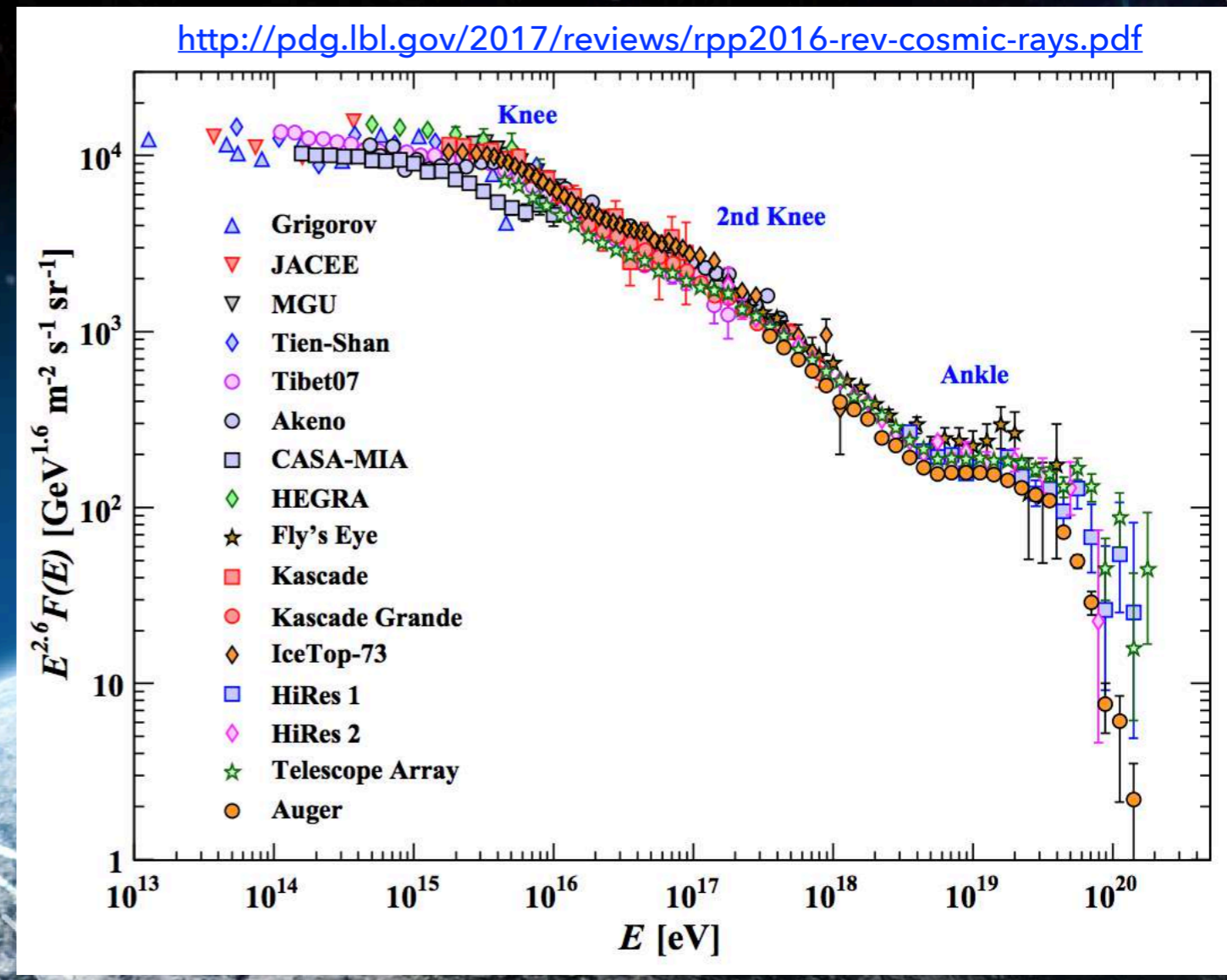
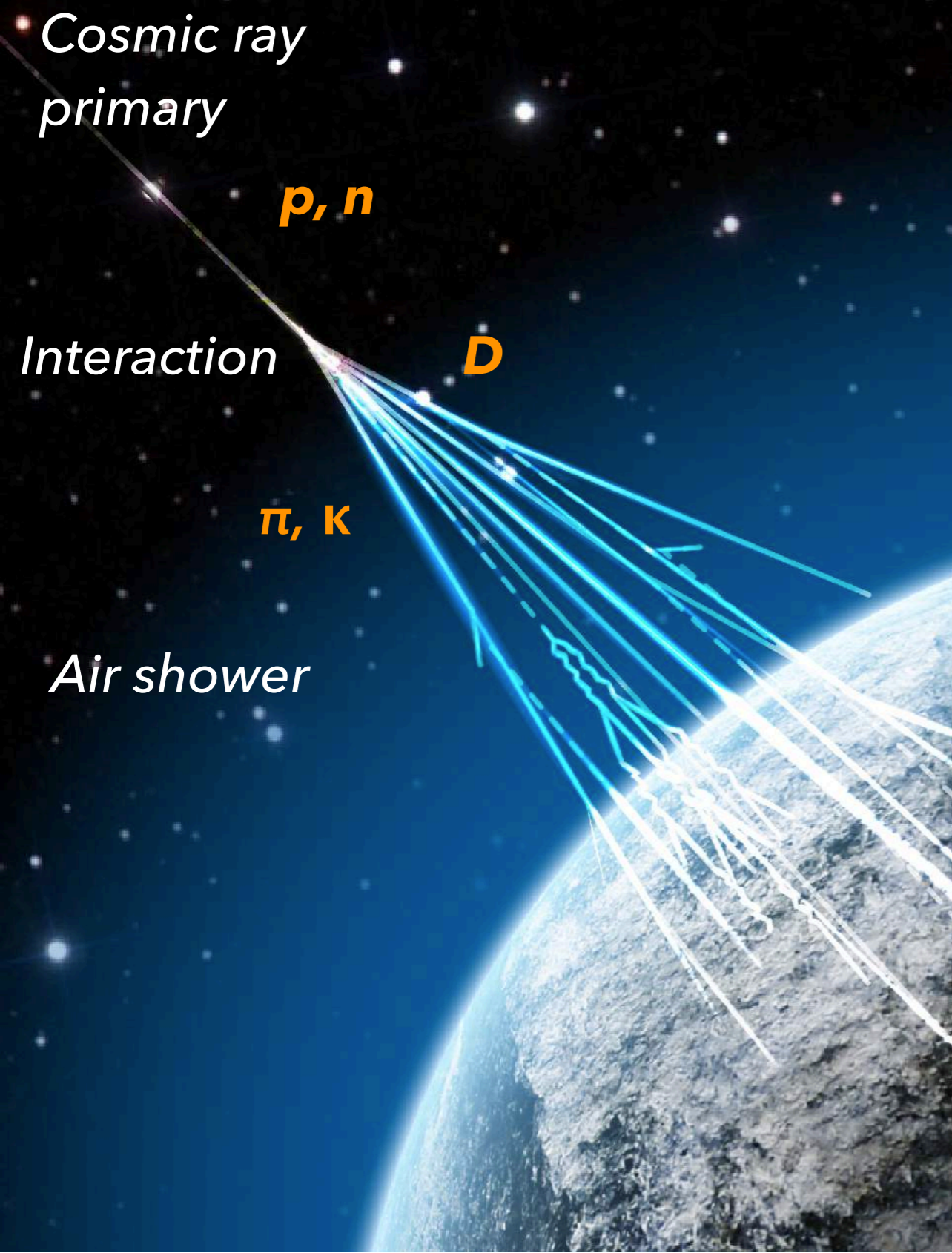
Air shower



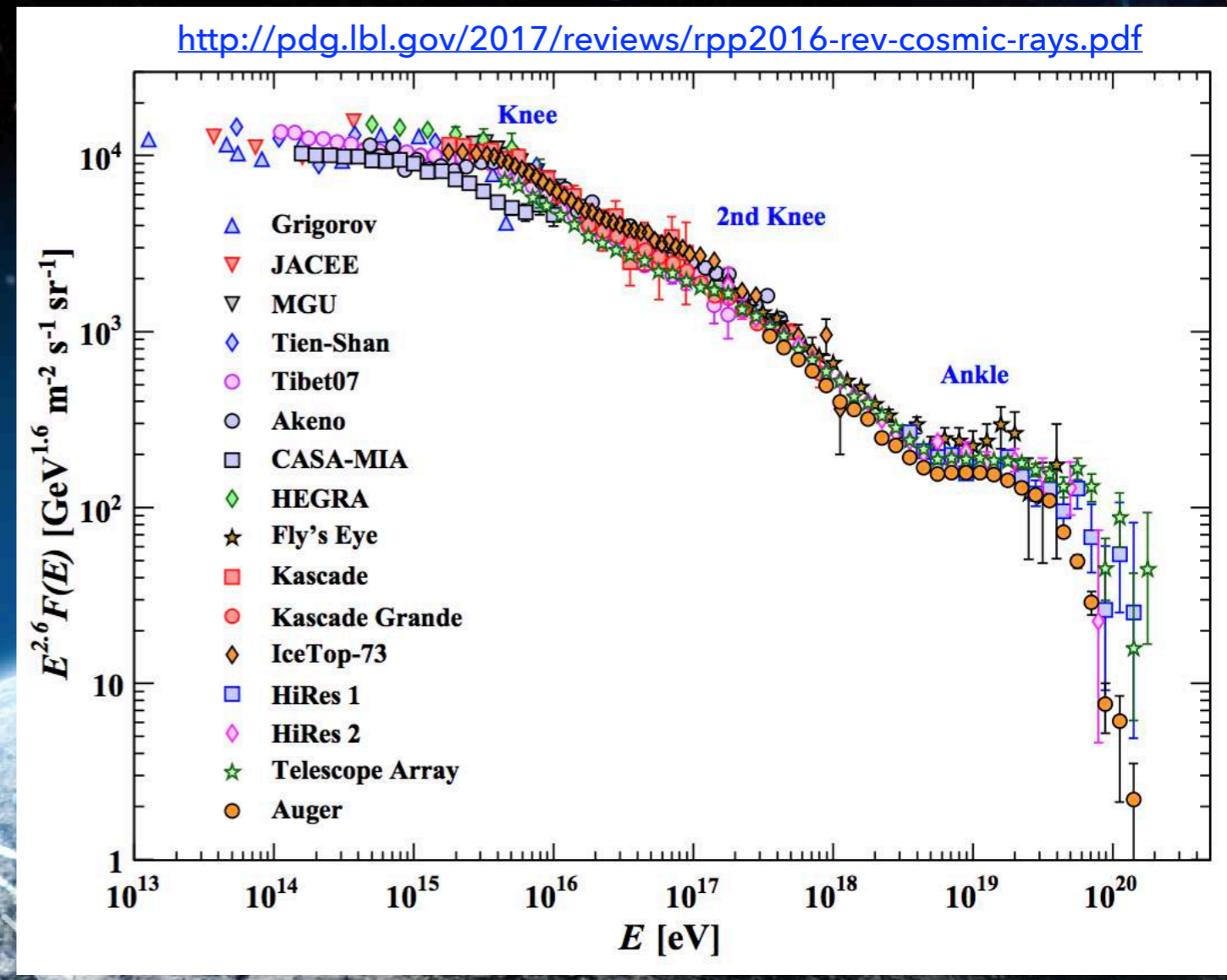
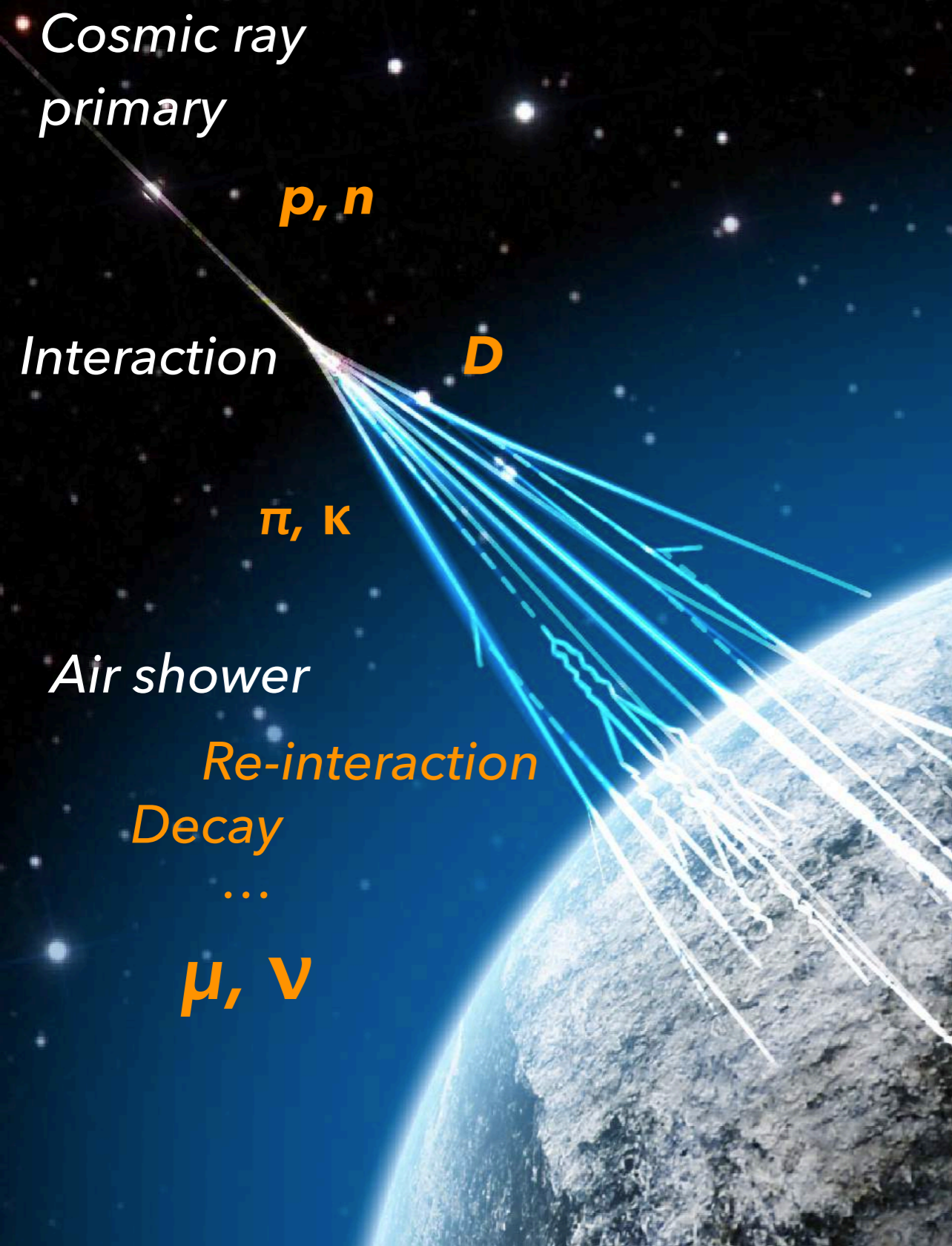
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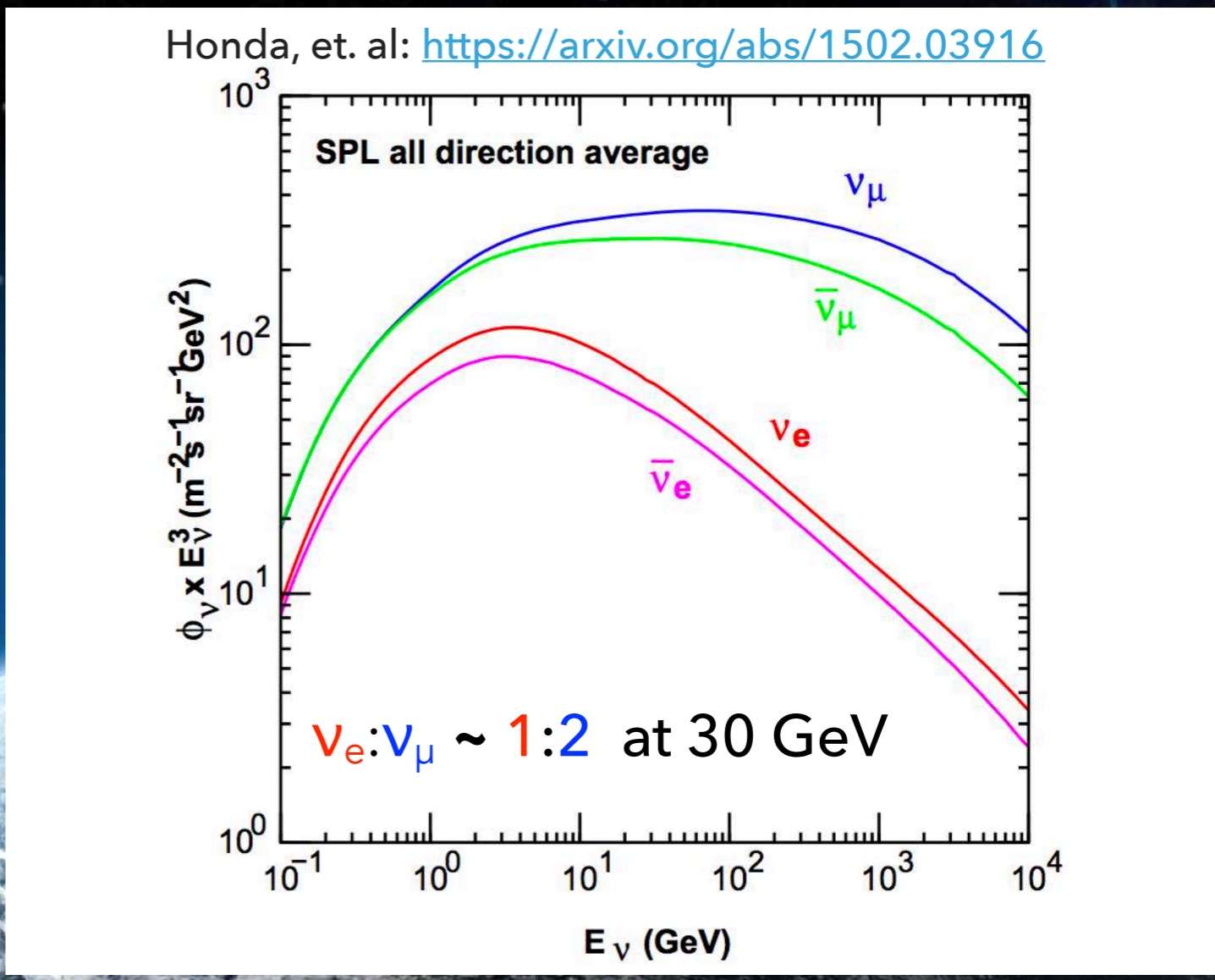
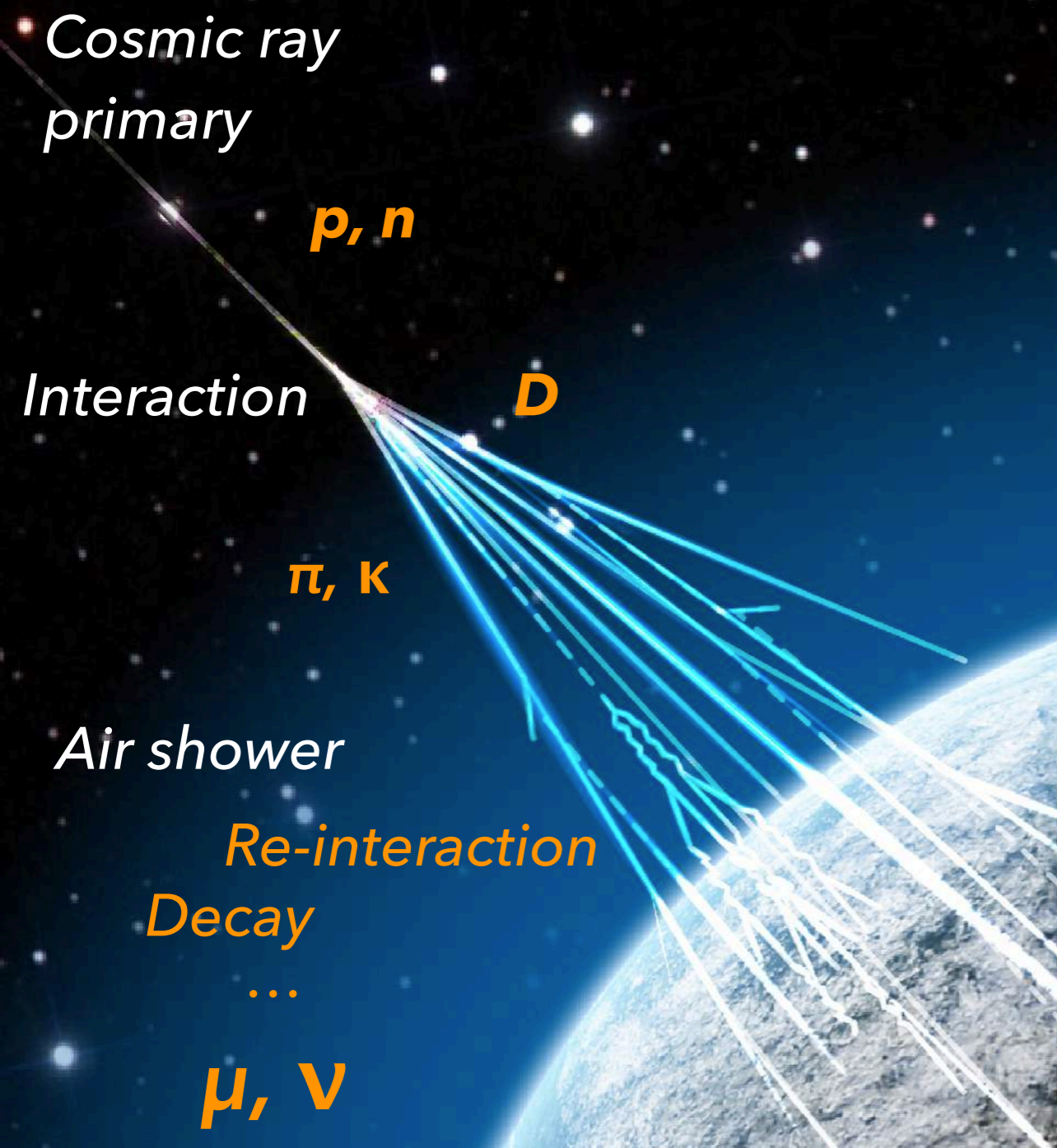
# Cosmic ray interactions in the atmosphere



# Cosmic ray interactions in the atmosphere



# Cosmic ray interactions in the atmosphere



High statistics sample of neutrinos over large energy range  
for FREE!

# The IceCube Neutrino Observatory





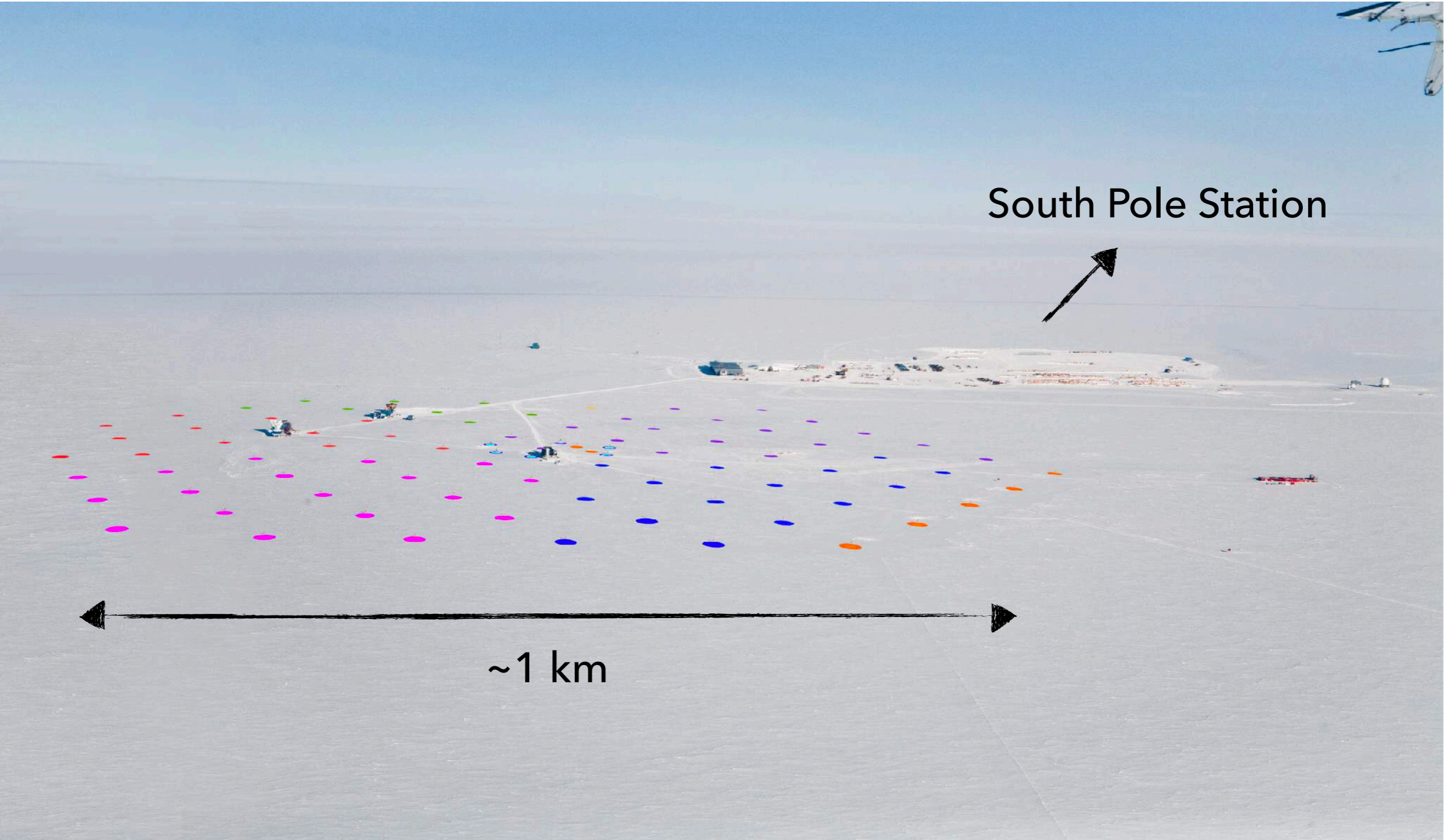
# The IceCube Neutrino Observatory



South Pole Station



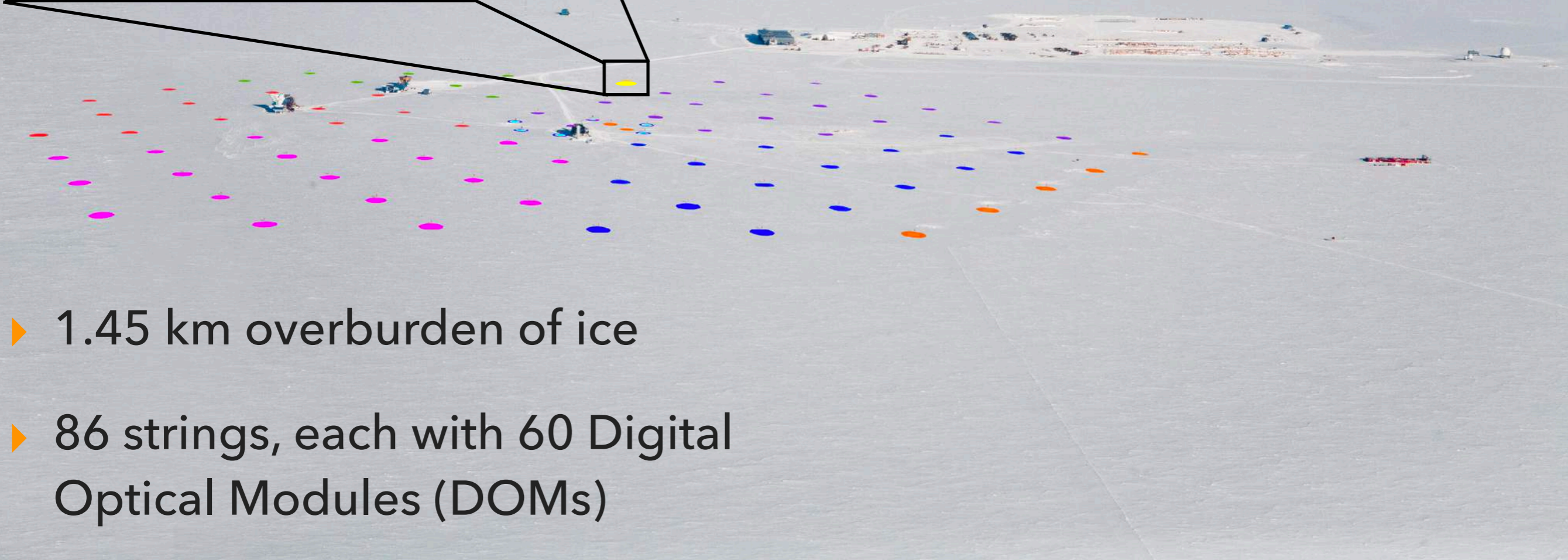
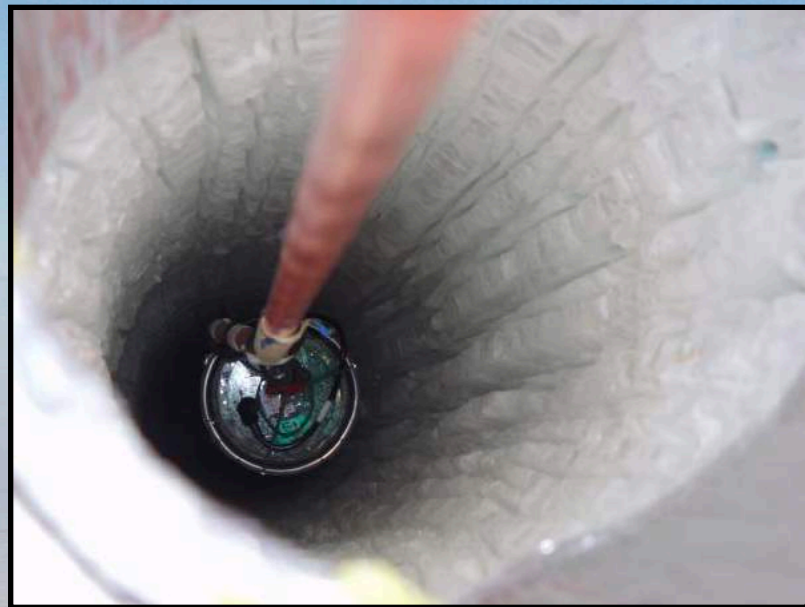
# The IceCube Neutrino Observatory



South Pole Station

~1 km

# The IceCube Neutrino Observatory



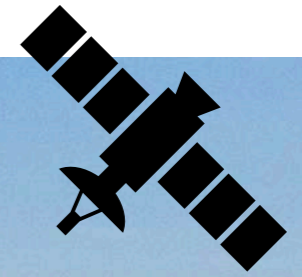
- ▶ 1.45 km overburden of ice
- ▶ 86 strings, each with 60 Digital Optical Modules (DOMs)

# The IceCube Neutrino Observatory



- ▶ 1.45 km overburden of ice
- ▶ 86 strings, each with 60 Digital Optical Modules (DOMs)
- ▶ IceTop array at surface
- ▶ 162 tanks with 2 DOMs each
- ▶ Cosmic ray shower physics

# The IceCube Neutrino Observatory

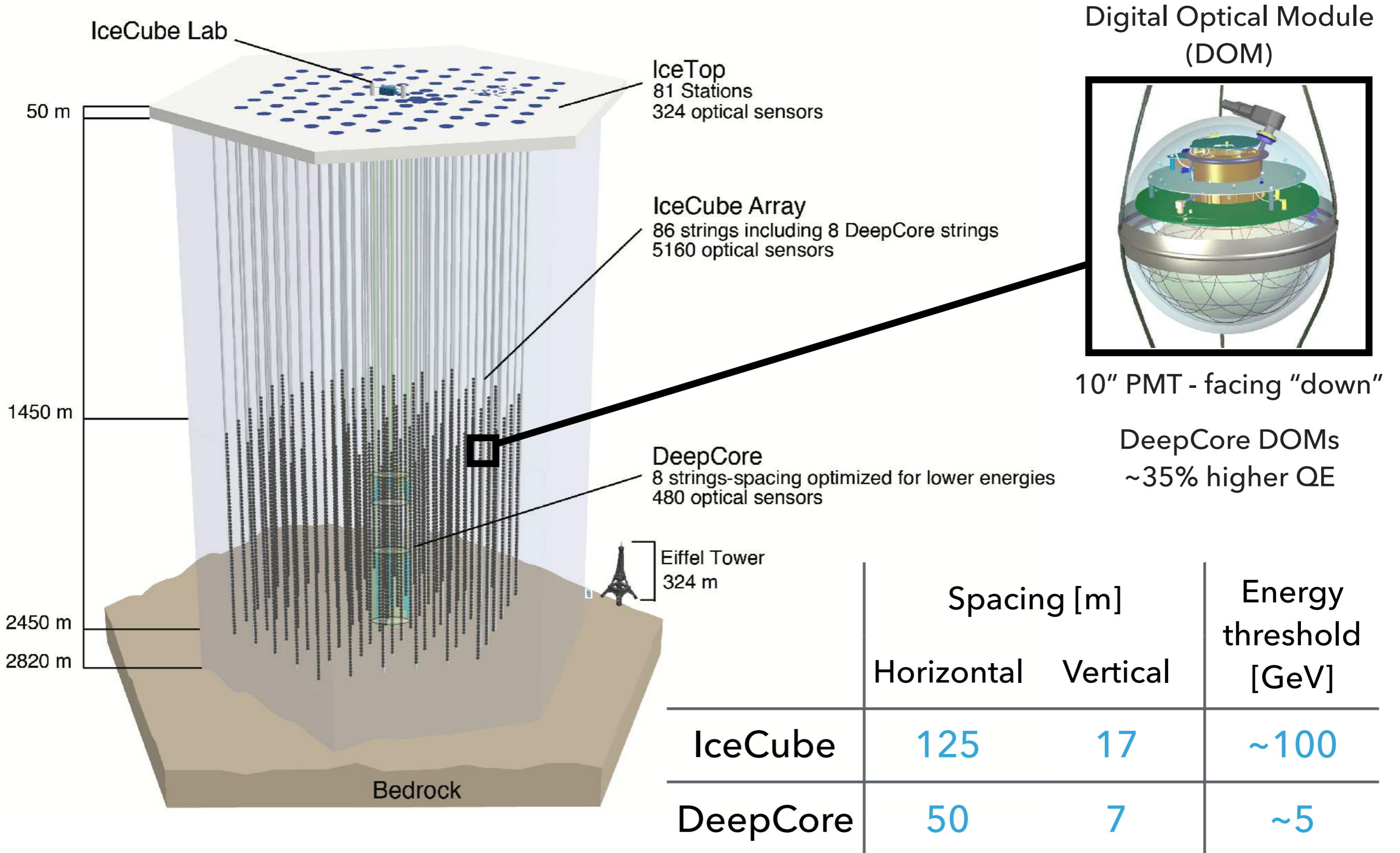


Counting Lab

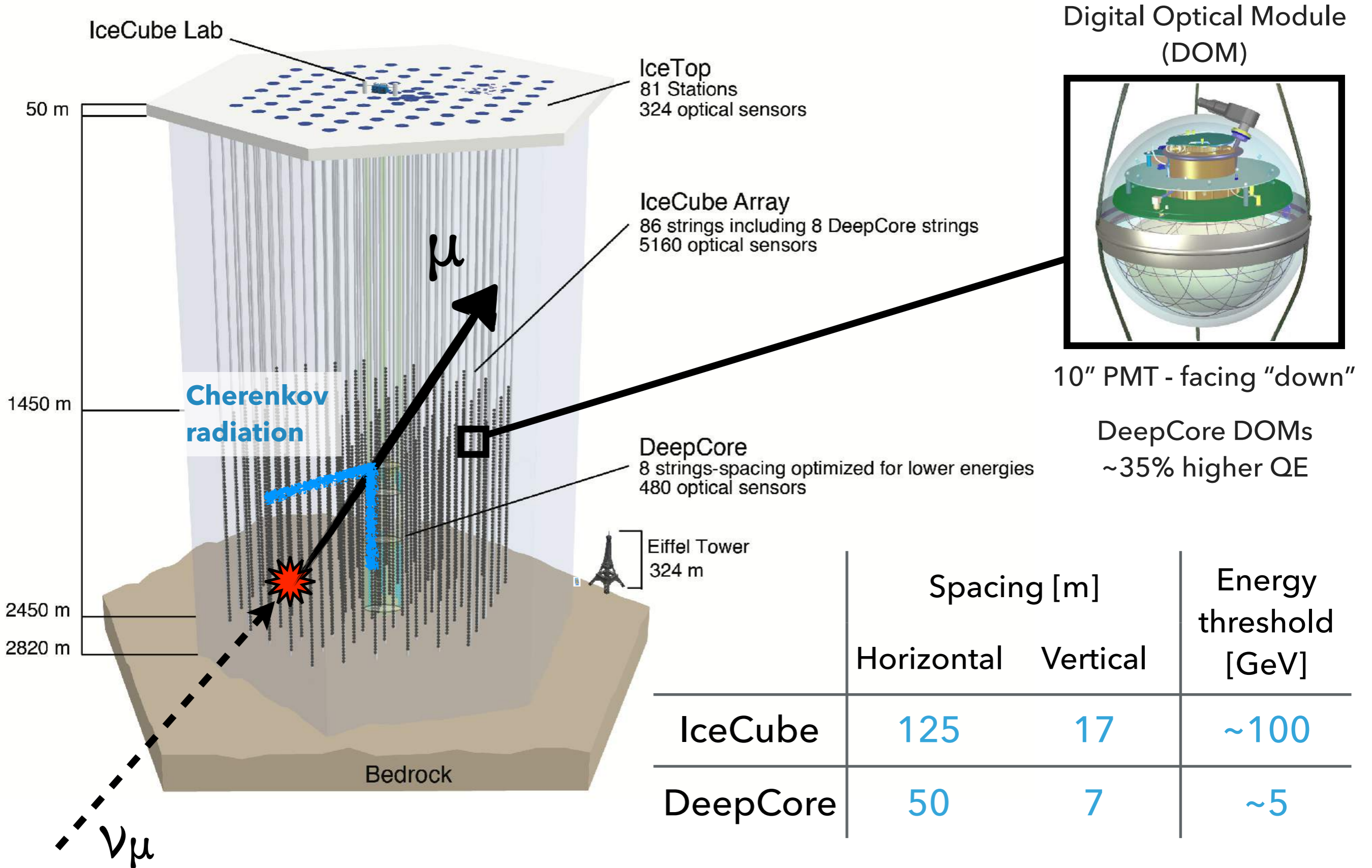


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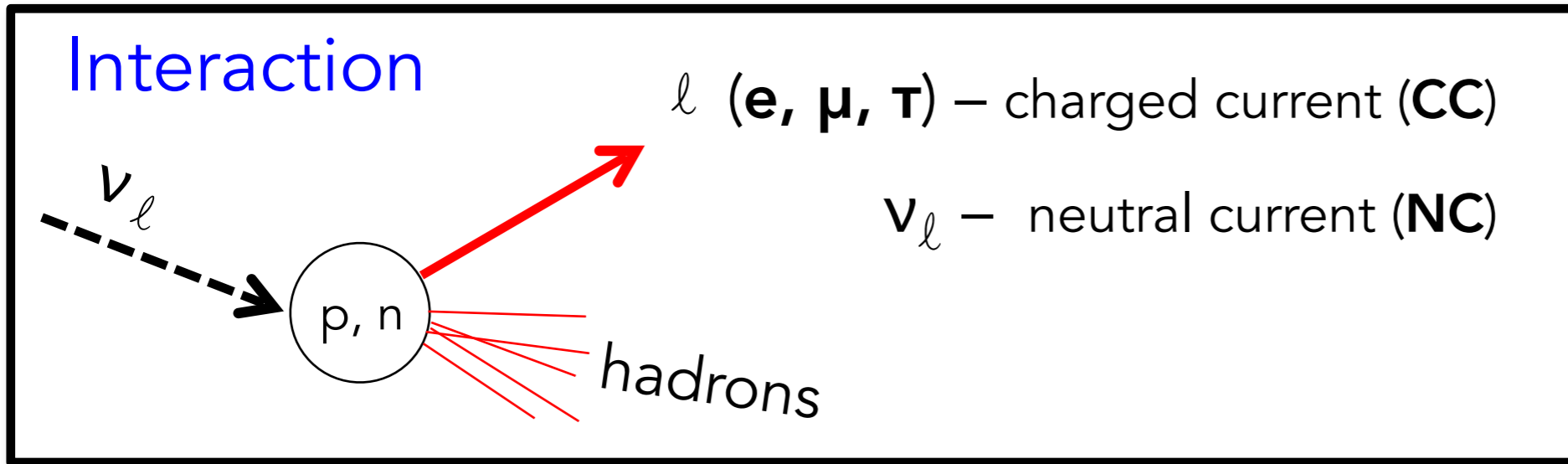
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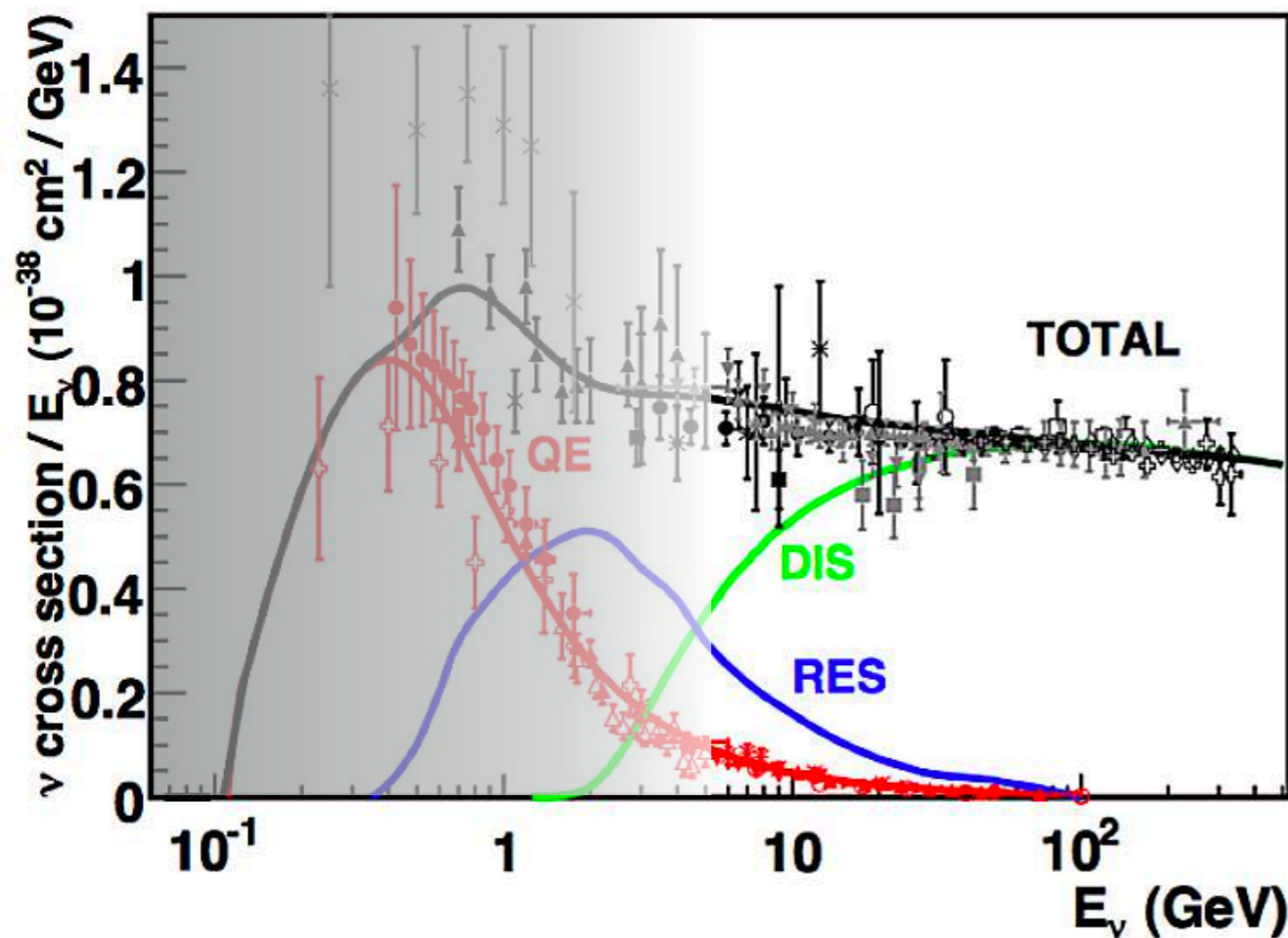
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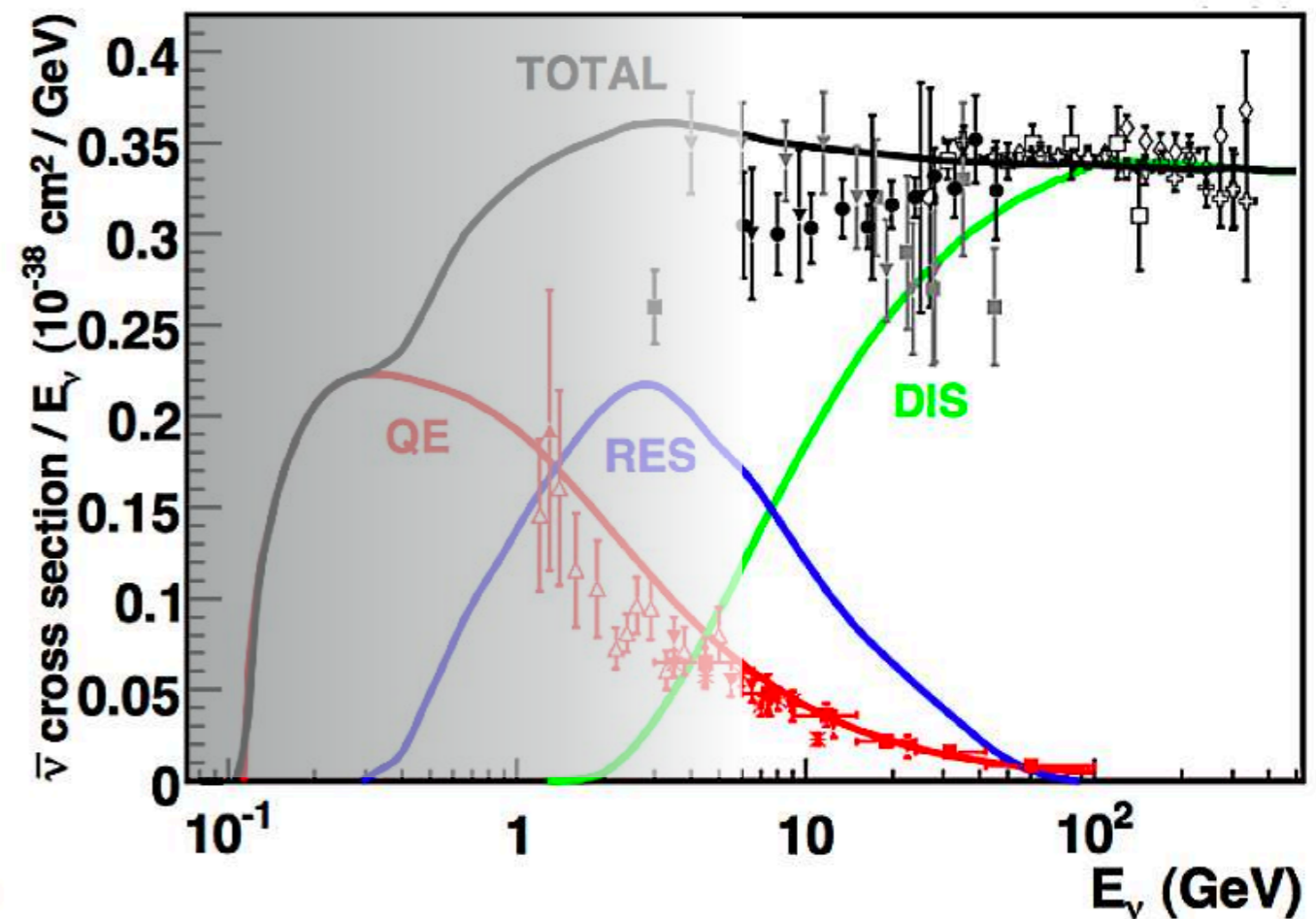
# Neutrino detection in IceCube



## Neutrinos



## Anti-neutrinos



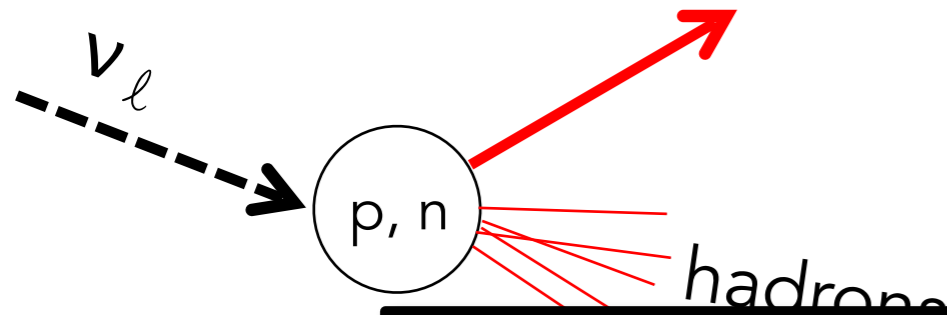


# Neutrino detection in IceCube

## Interaction

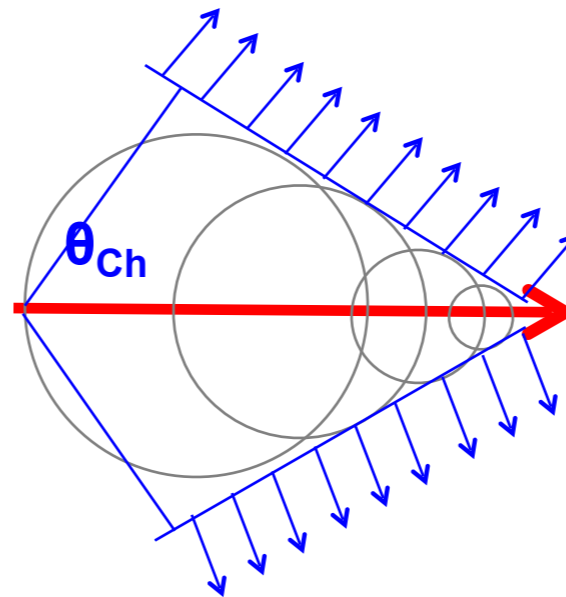
$l$  ( $e, \mu, \tau$ ) – charged current (CC)

$\nu_l$  – neutral current (NC)



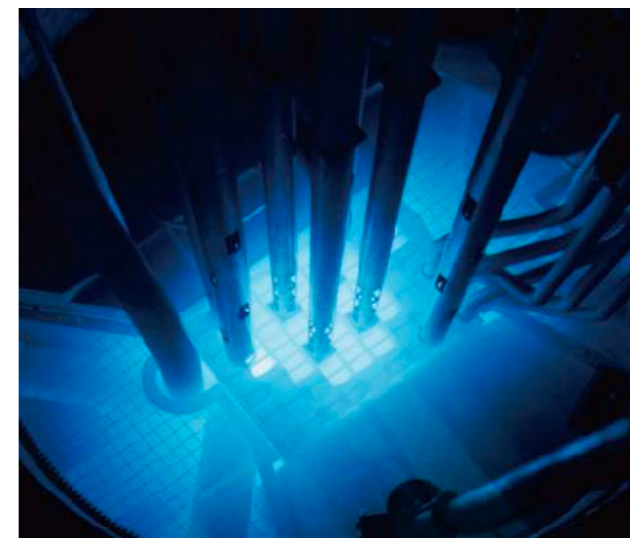
## Cherenkov radiation

Relativistic charged particle



## Frank-Tamm formula

$$\frac{d^2 N_\gamma}{d\ell d\lambda} = 2\pi\alpha z^2 \frac{1}{\lambda^2} \left( 1 - \frac{1}{\beta^2 n^2} \right)$$

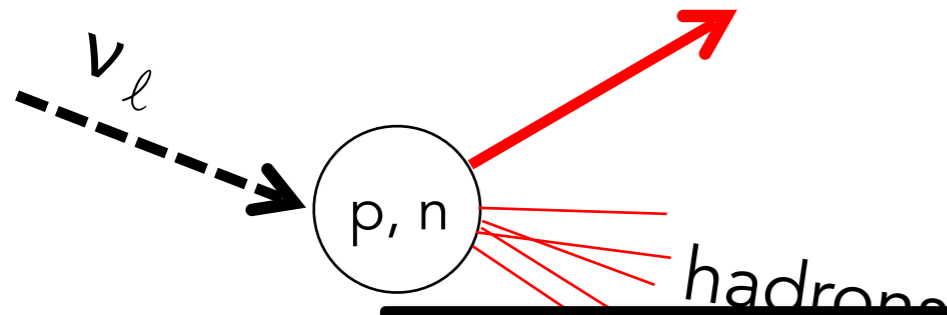


# Neutrino detection in IceCube

## Interaction

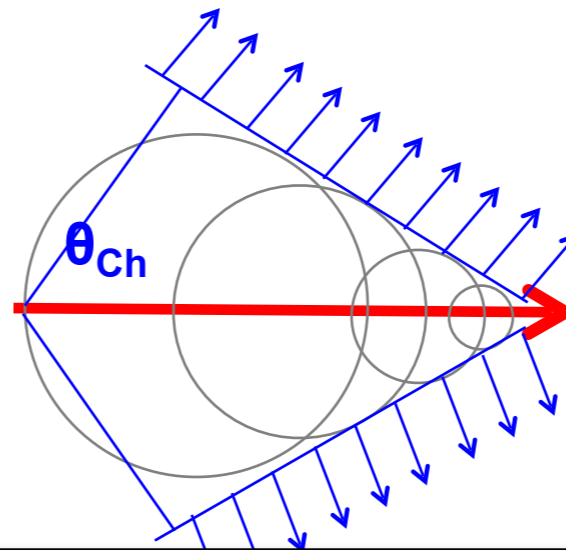
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## Cherenkov radiation

Relativistic charged particle

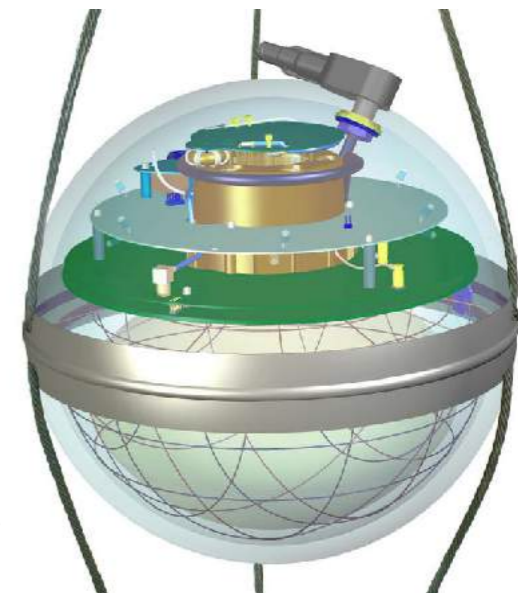


## Detection

Photons arrive at DOM,  
we measure:

Charge  
(n.p.e.)

Time  
 $\sigma_t \sim 3\text{ns}$   
( $< 1\text{ m}$  in ice)



# IceCube operations

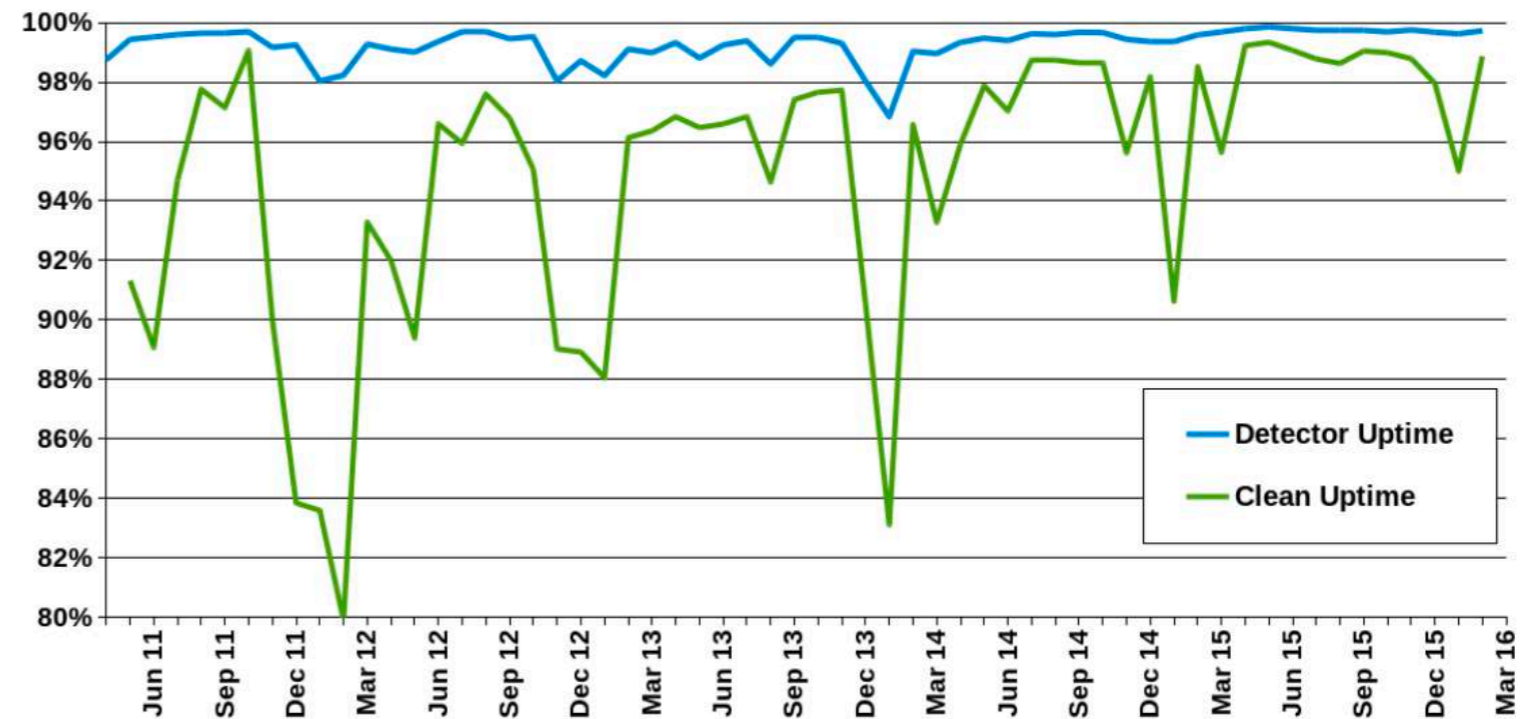
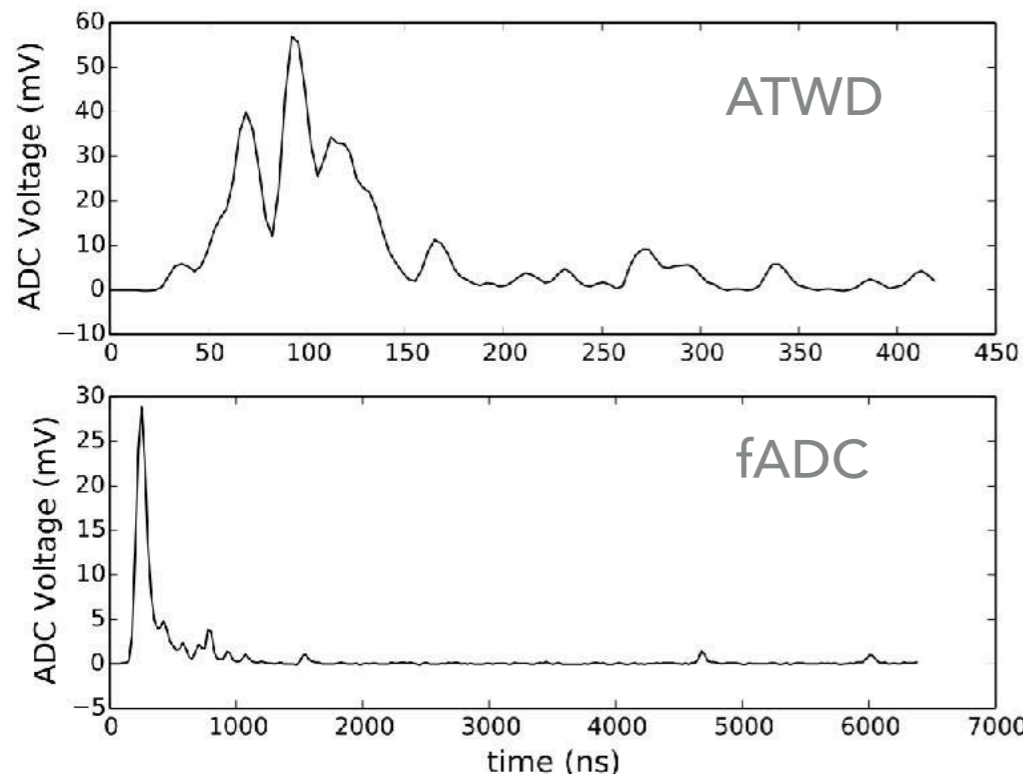


- ▶ Collecting data since 2005
  - ▶ Since 2011 (**6.5 y**) taking data with full 86-string configuration
- ▶ ~99.8% detector up-time
- ▶ 98.4% of DOMs operational

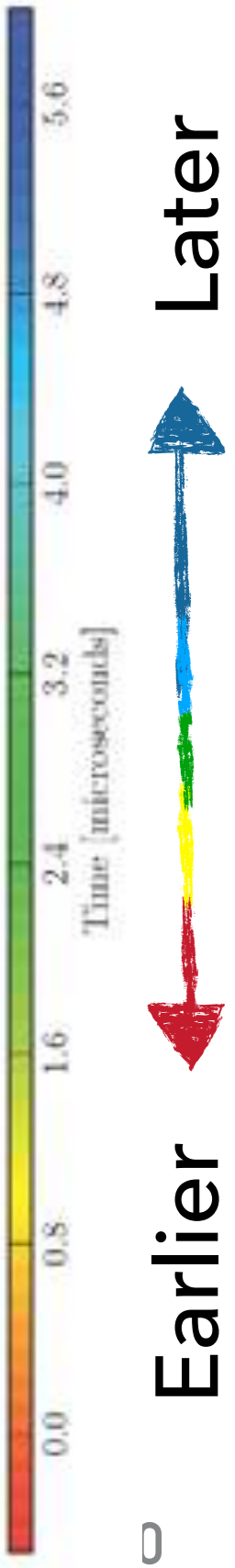
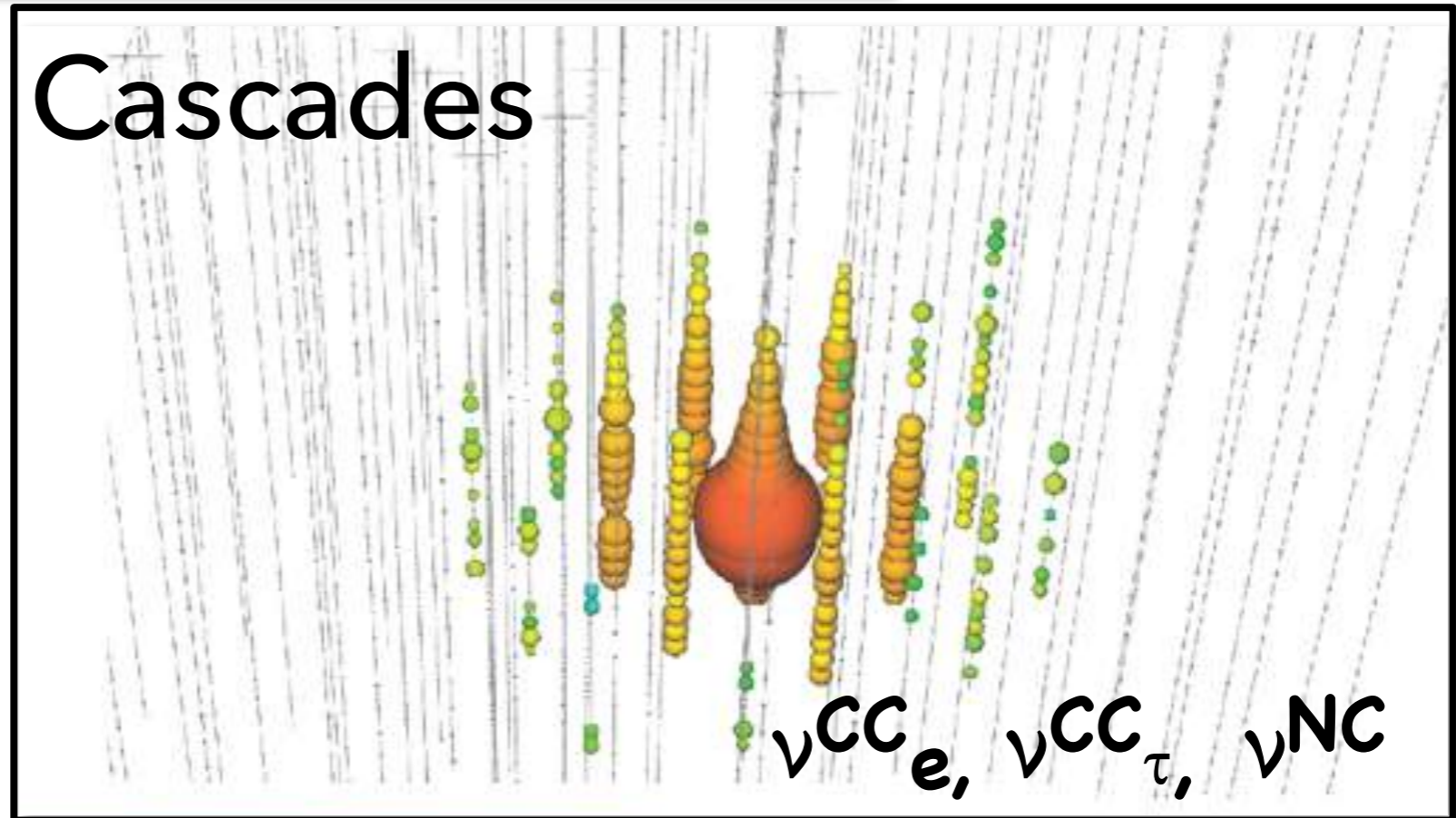
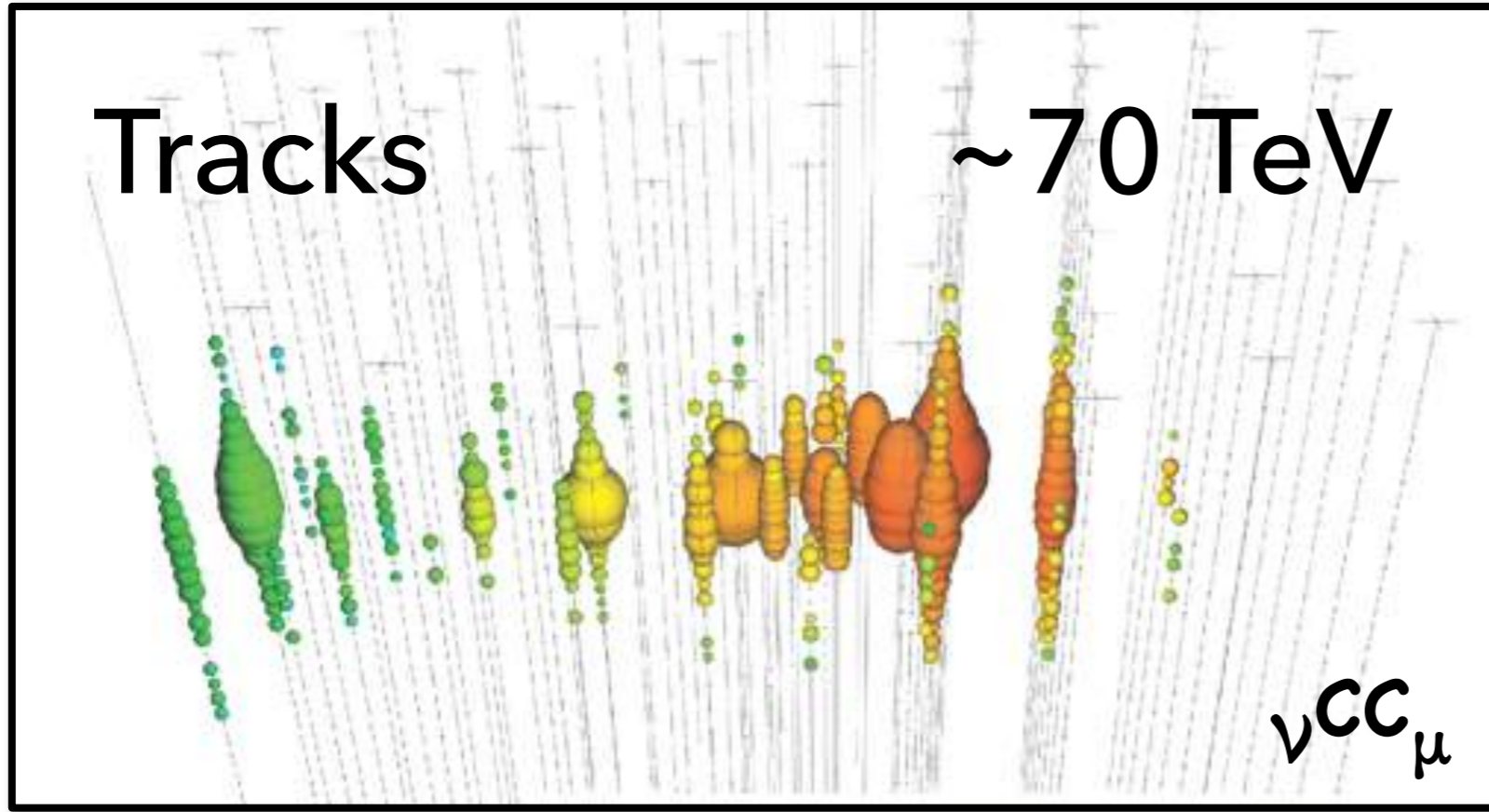
Data rate:  
2.5 - 2.9 kHz

Collect  
~1TB/day

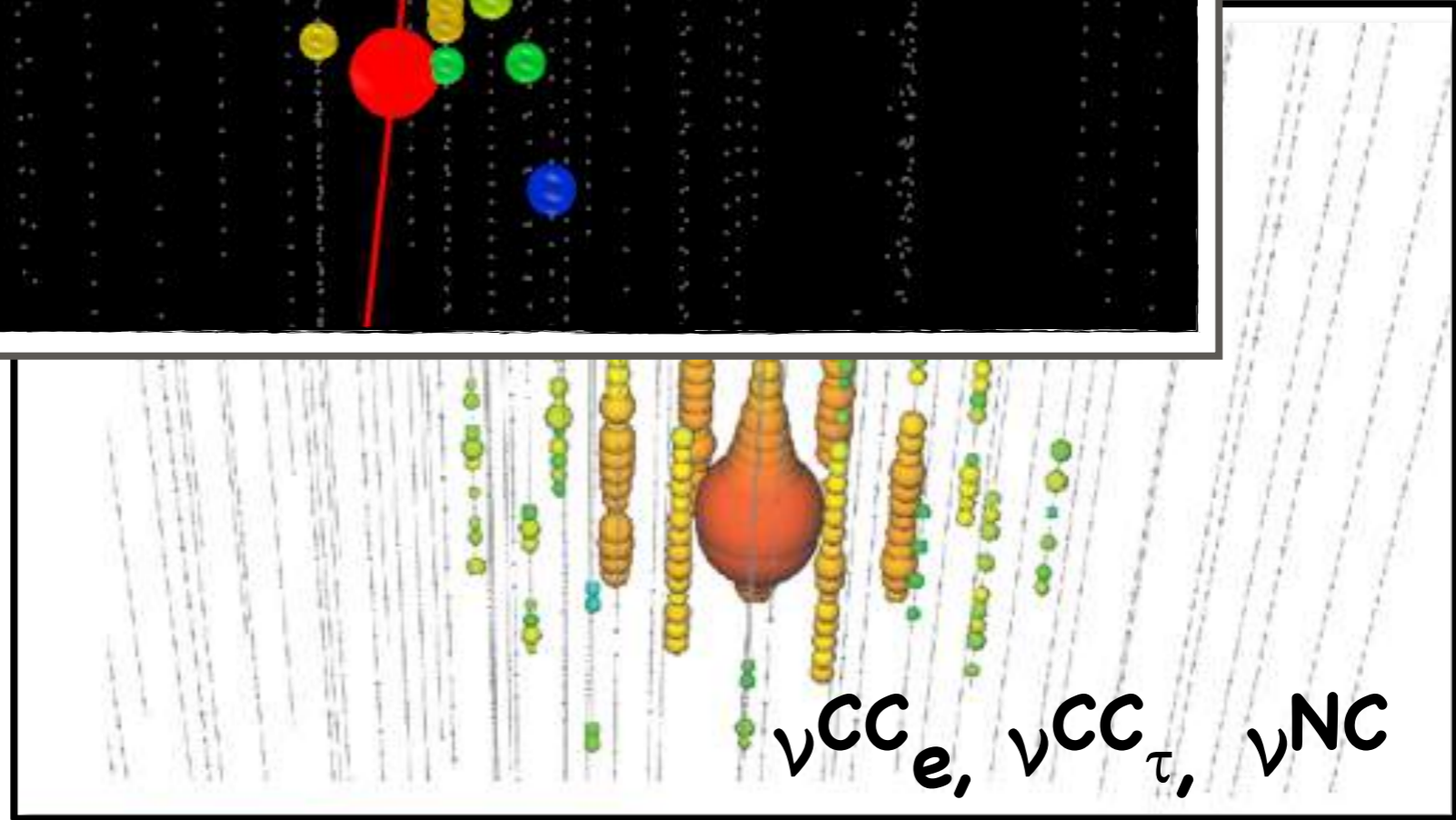
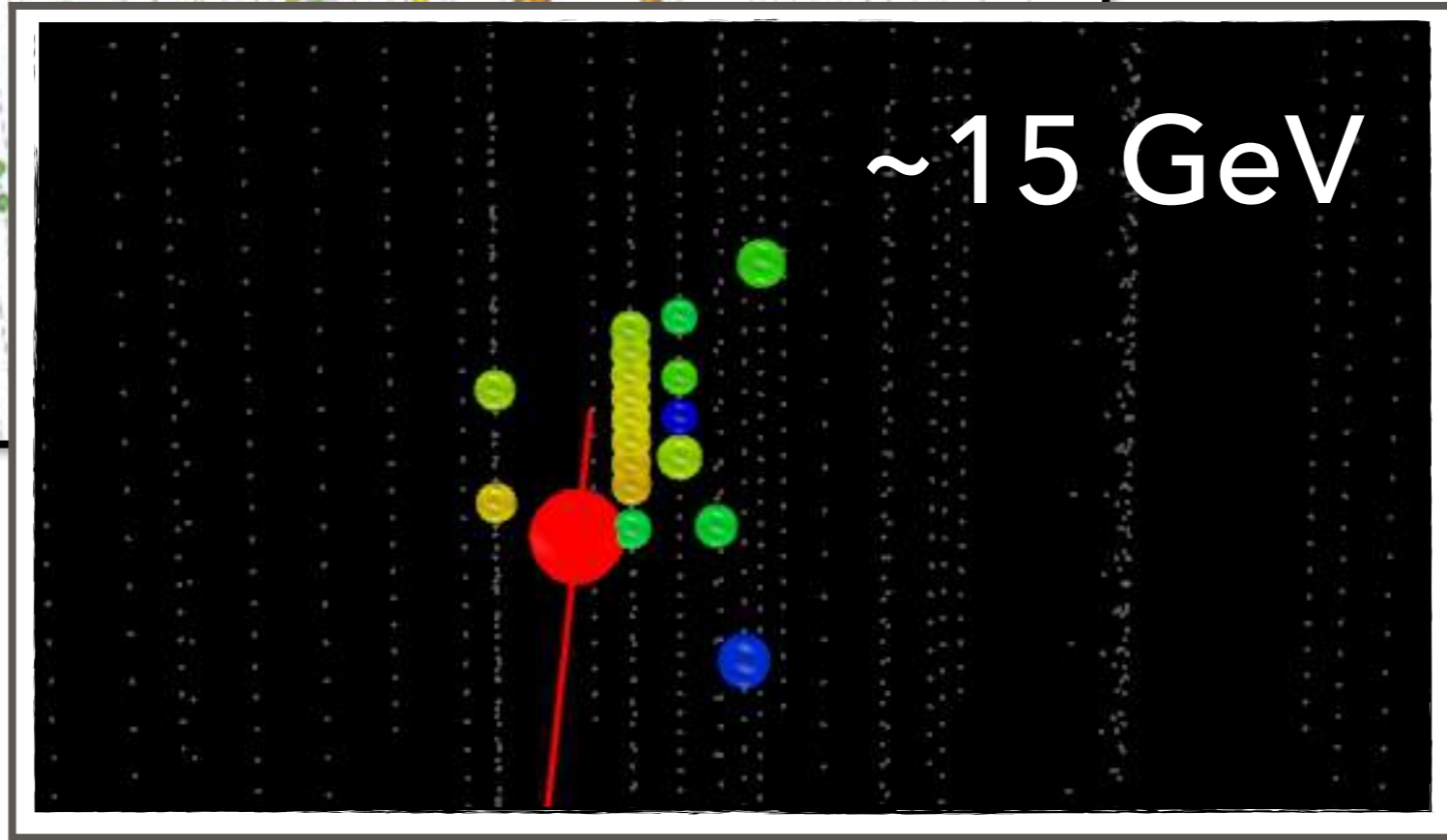
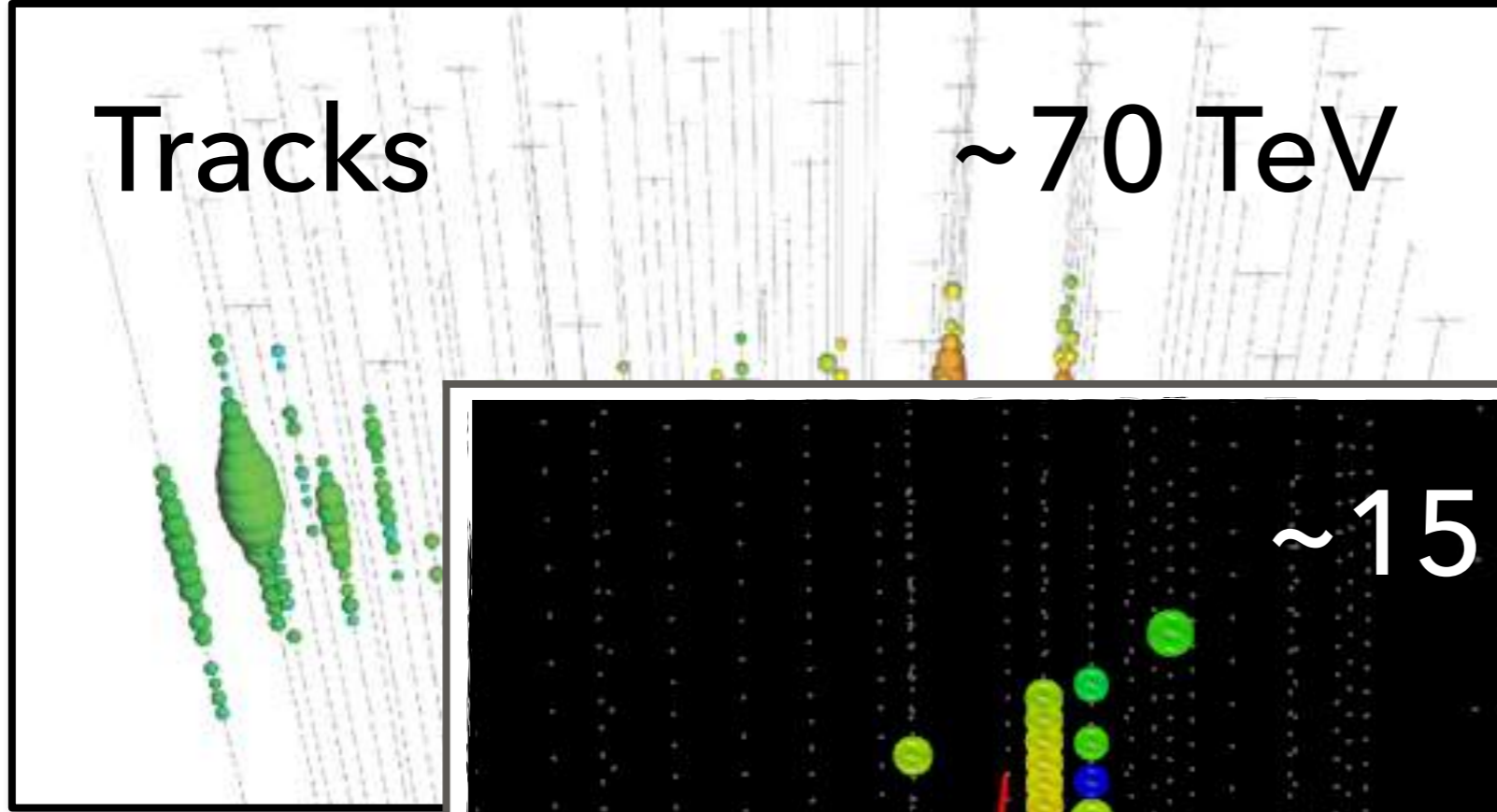
IceCube detector paper: <https://arxiv.org/abs/1612.05093>



# Event topology



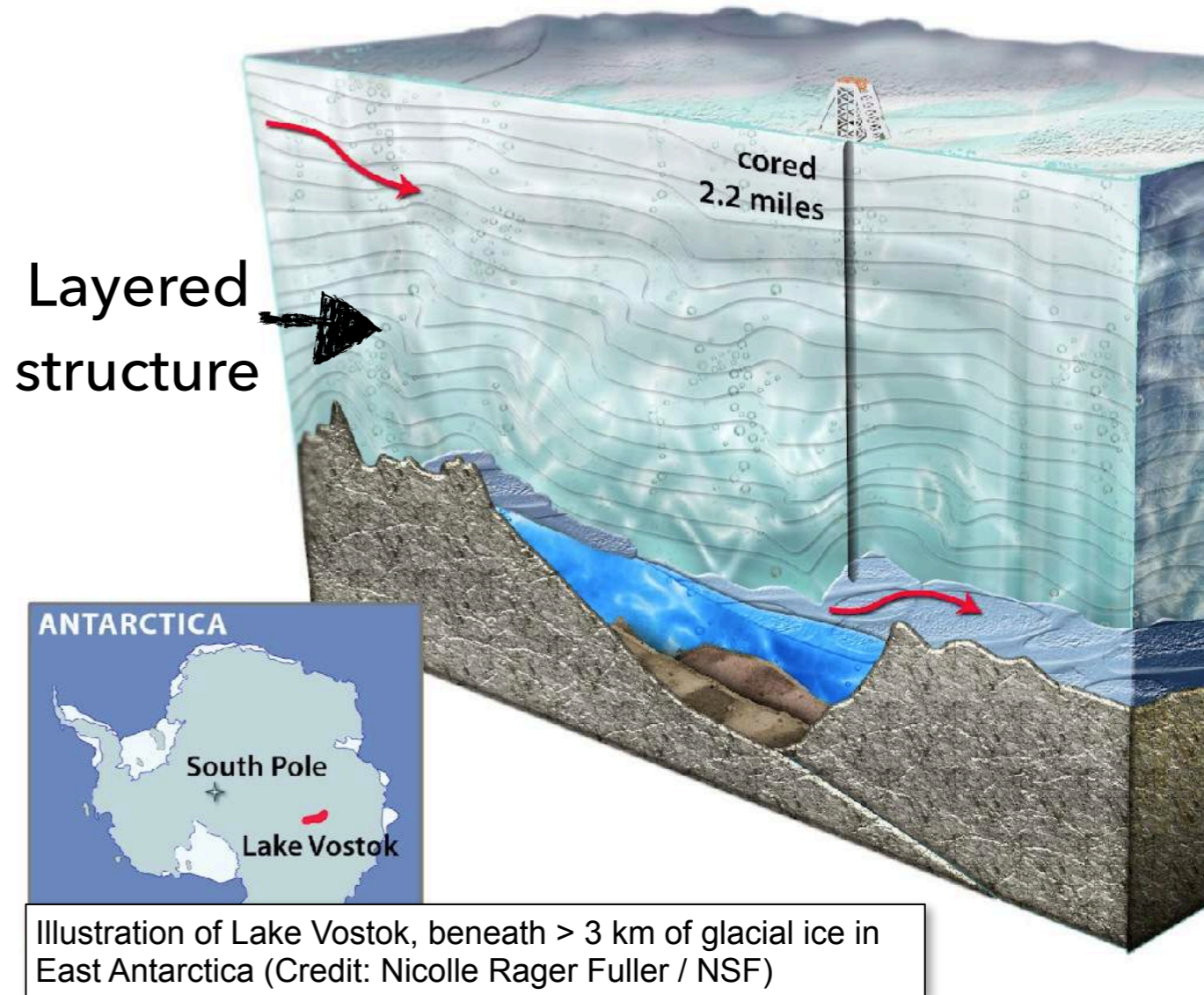
# Event topology



Earlier  $\longleftrightarrow$  Later

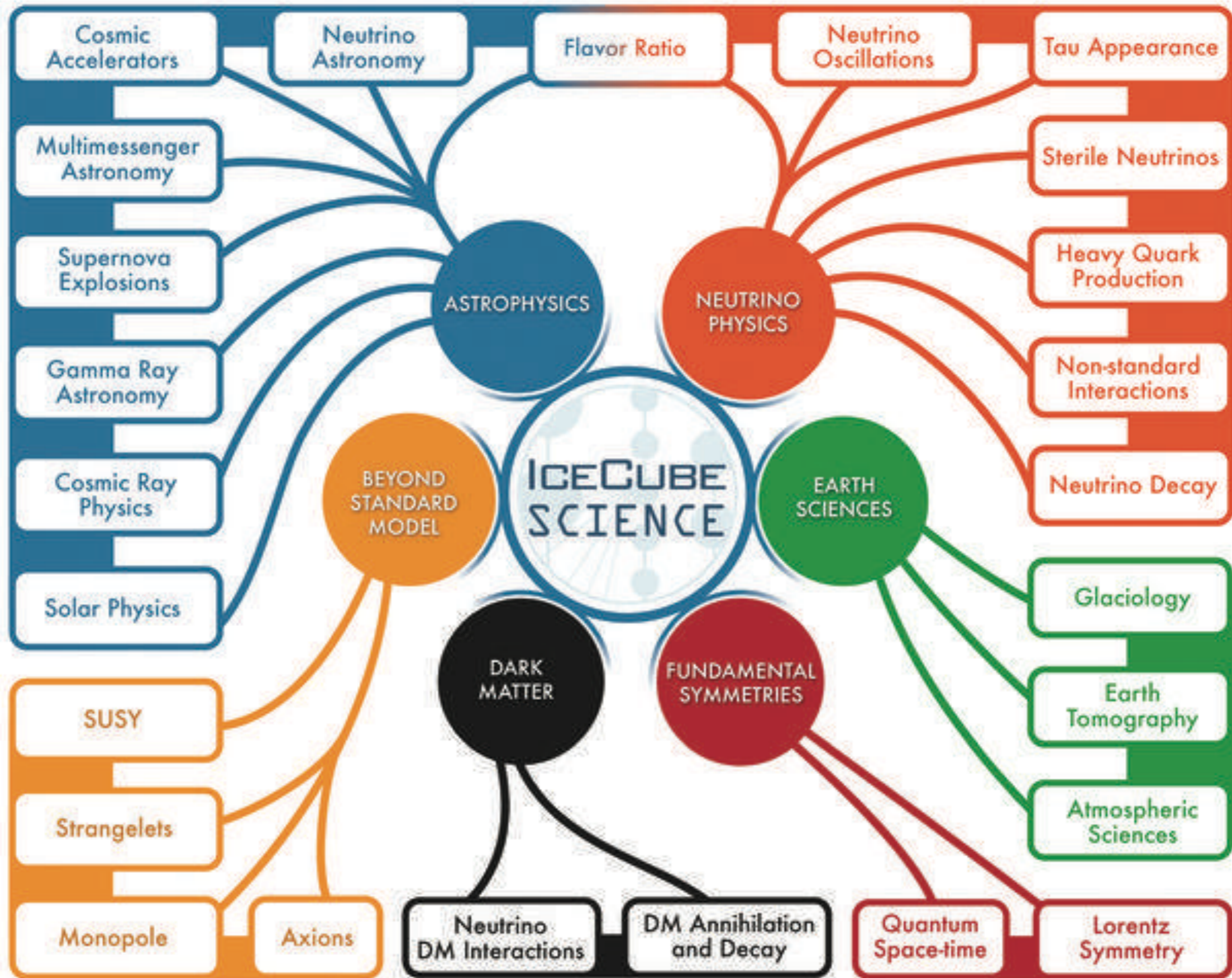
# Ice Properties

- ▶ To interpret the light pattern in IceCube, we need to calibrate a cubic kilometre of **natural ice**
- ▶ Optical properties such as absorption and scattering lengths are critical
  - ▶ Both **globally and locally**
- ▶ Large effort spent on reducing the error on ice property measurements in order to improve the physics
  - ▶ **Full suite of calibration devices:** LED flashers on each DOM, atmospheric muons, Ni lasers and cameras
  - ▶ **Ice model error currently ~10%**

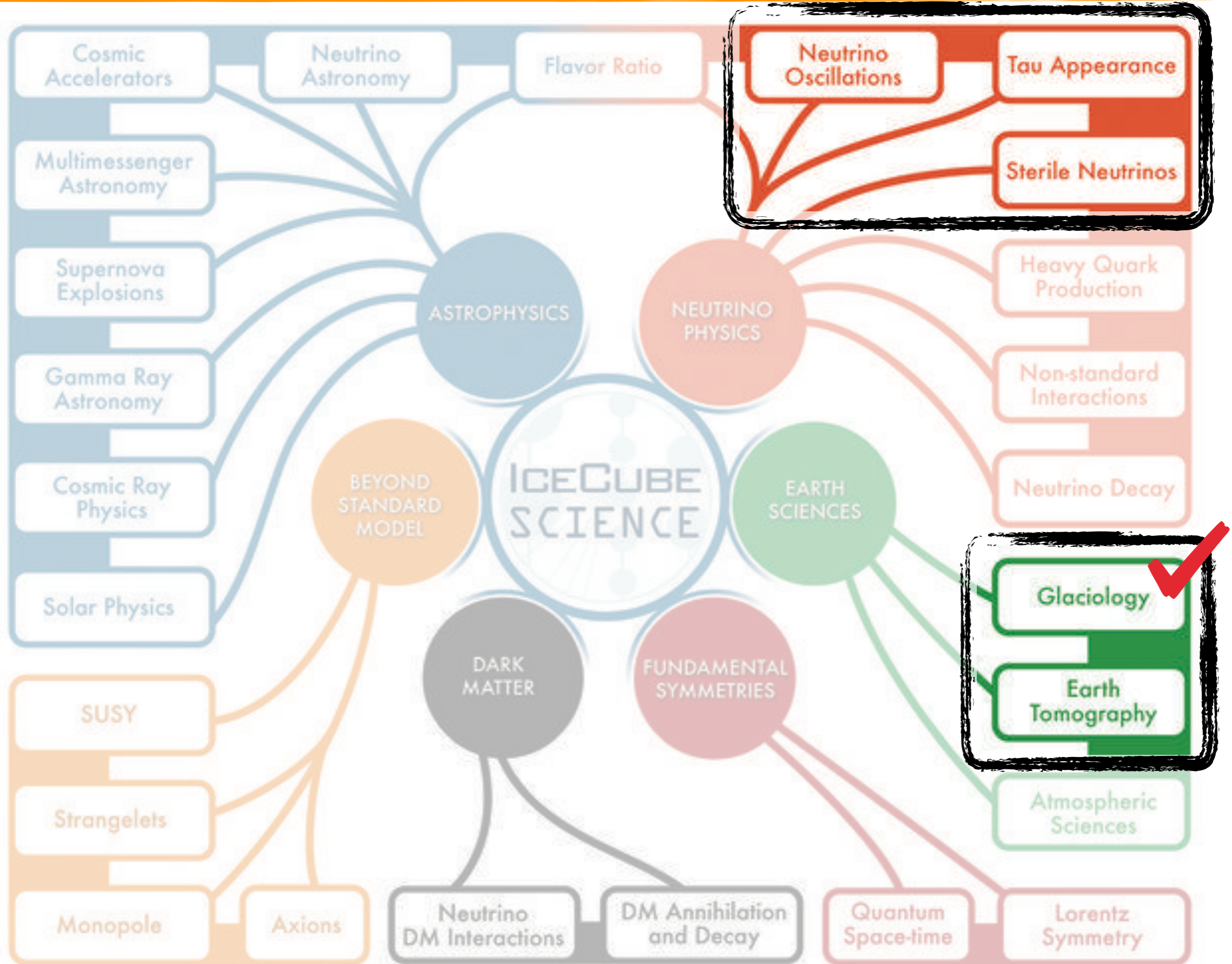


Refrozen  
"Hole ice"

# IceCube DeepCore science



# IceCube DeepCore science





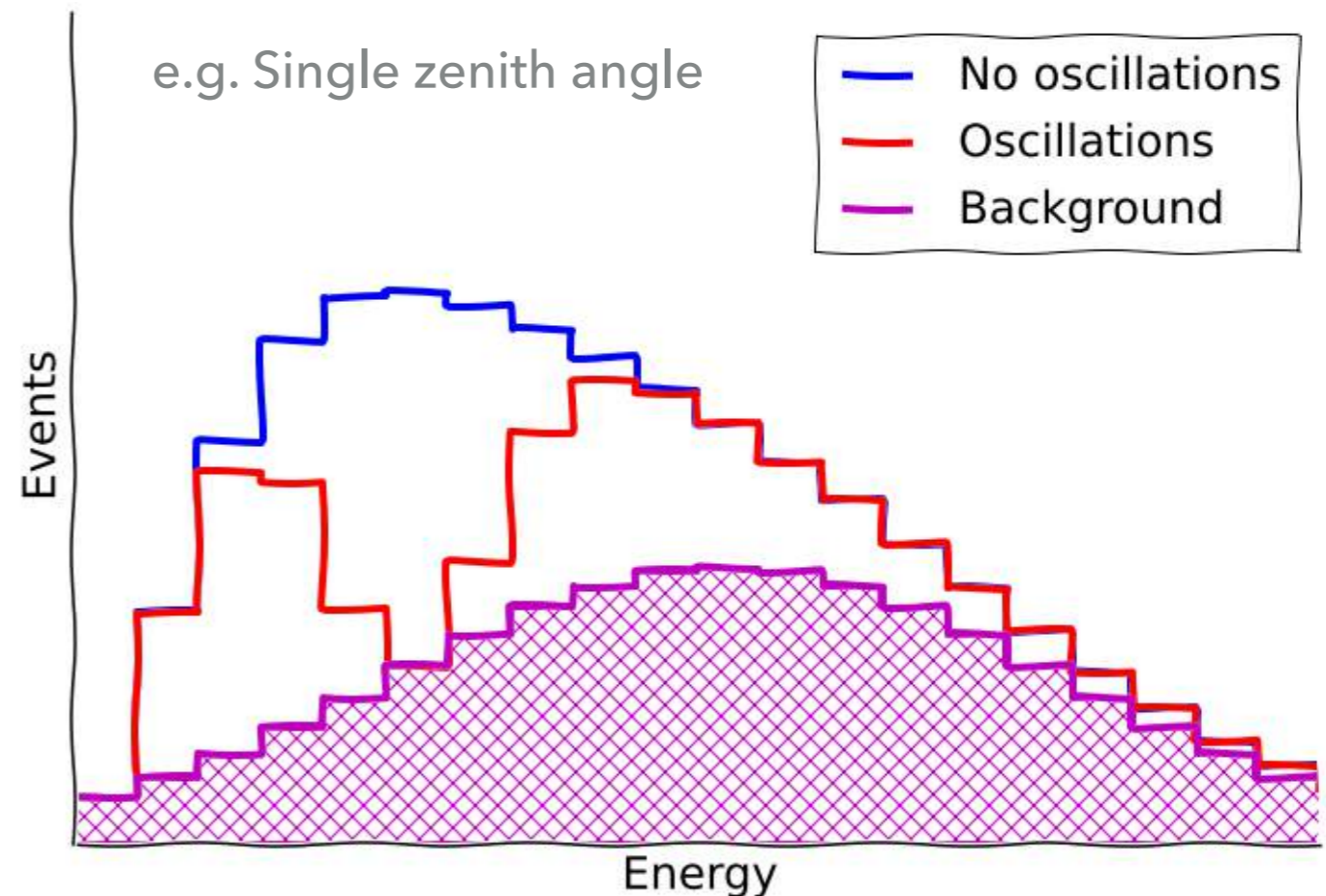
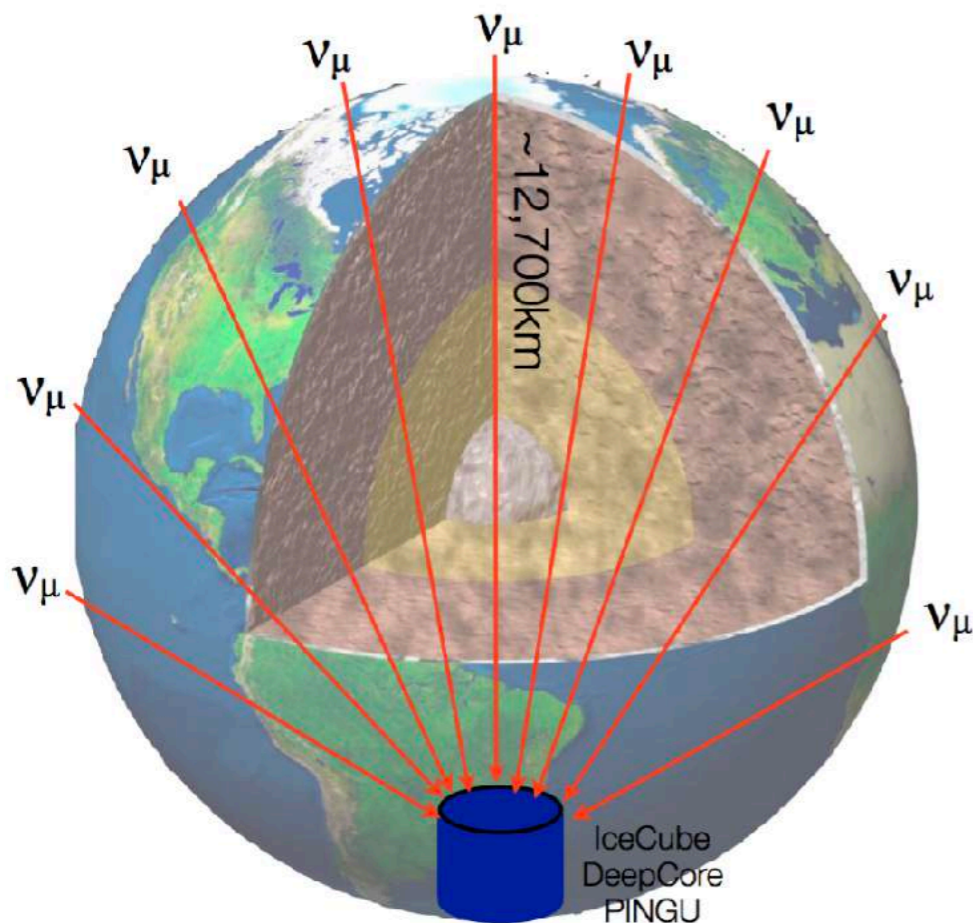
# Neutrino oscillations

- ▶ Neutrinos are produced/detected in flavour eigenstates
- ▶ Flavour at production site can be different than at detection site

Flavour state  $\neq$  mass state  
 $m_1 \neq m_2 \neq m_3$

$$|\nu_\alpha\rangle = \sum U_{\alpha i} |\nu_i\rangle$$
$$P_{\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_\mu} = 1 - \sin^2 \theta_{23} \sin^2(\Delta m_{32}^2 L / 4E)$$

(Two flavour approx.)



# Neutrino oscillations

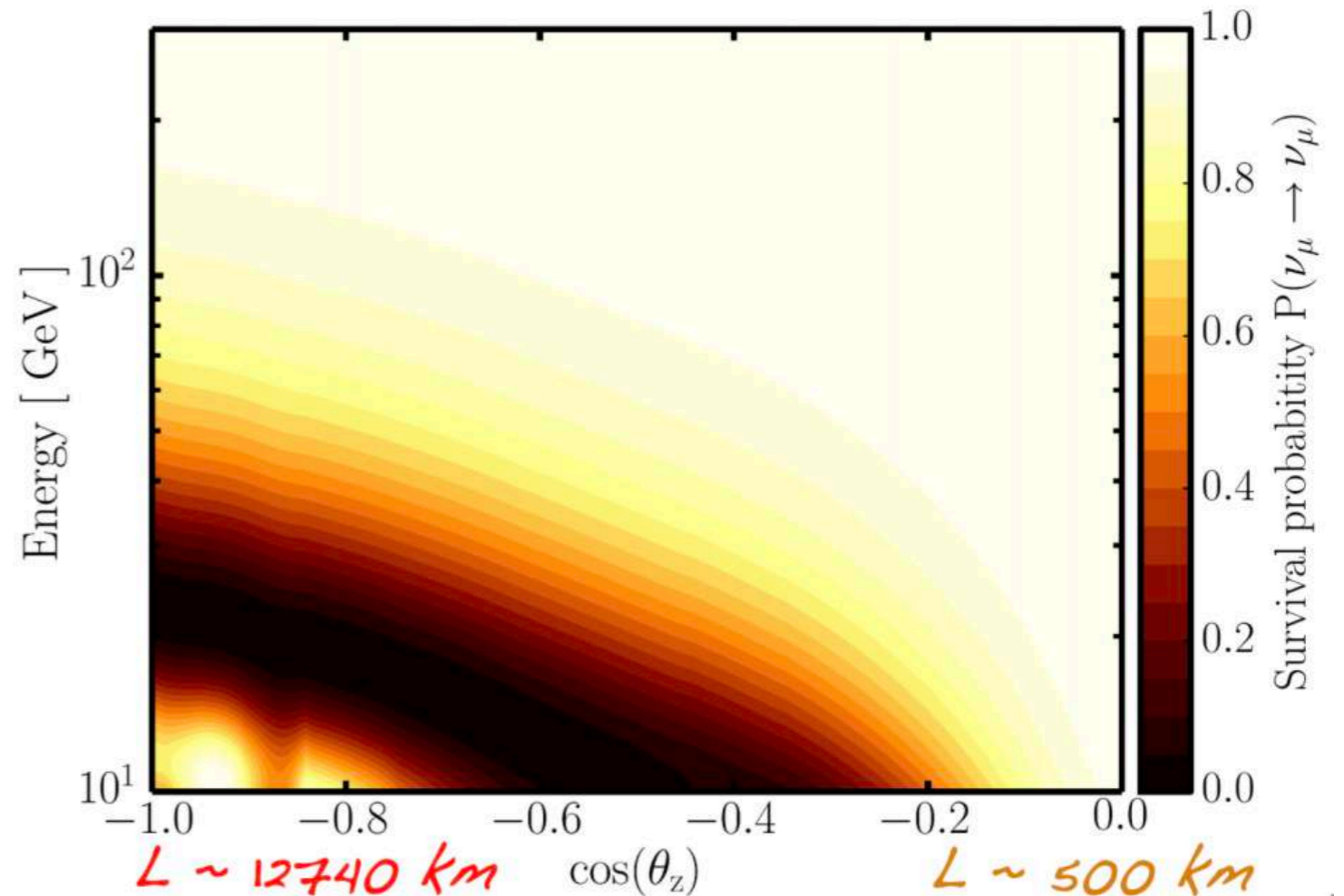
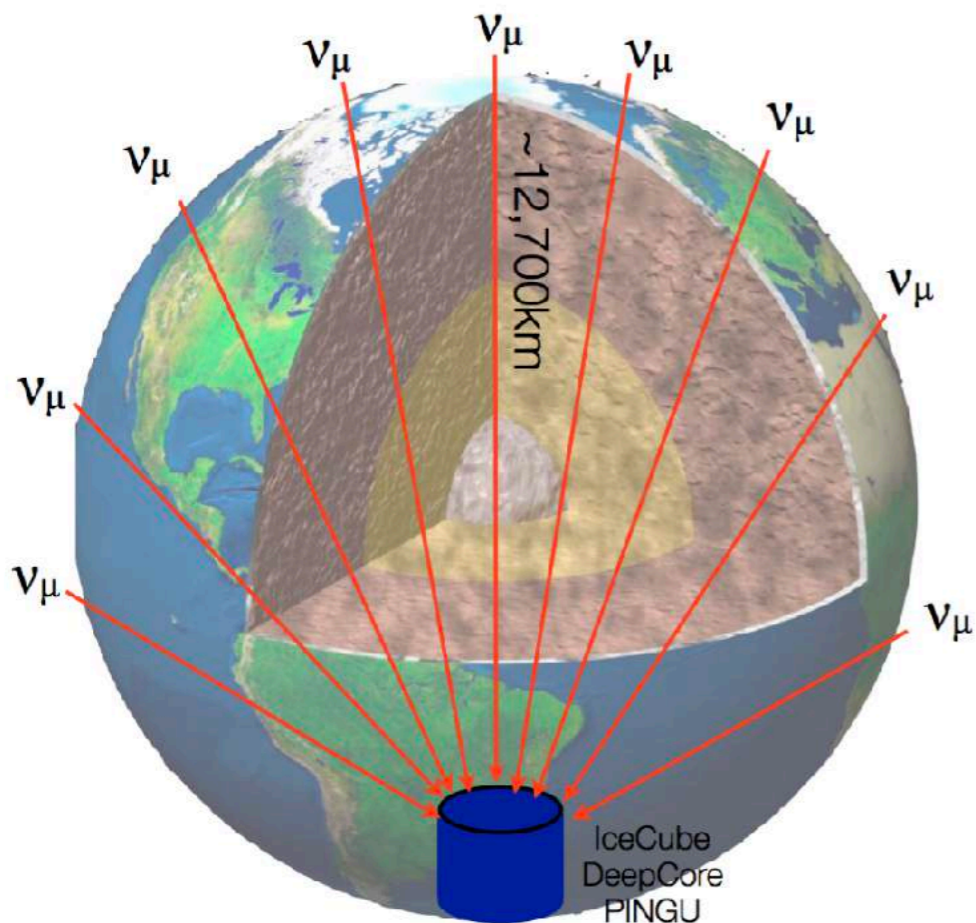
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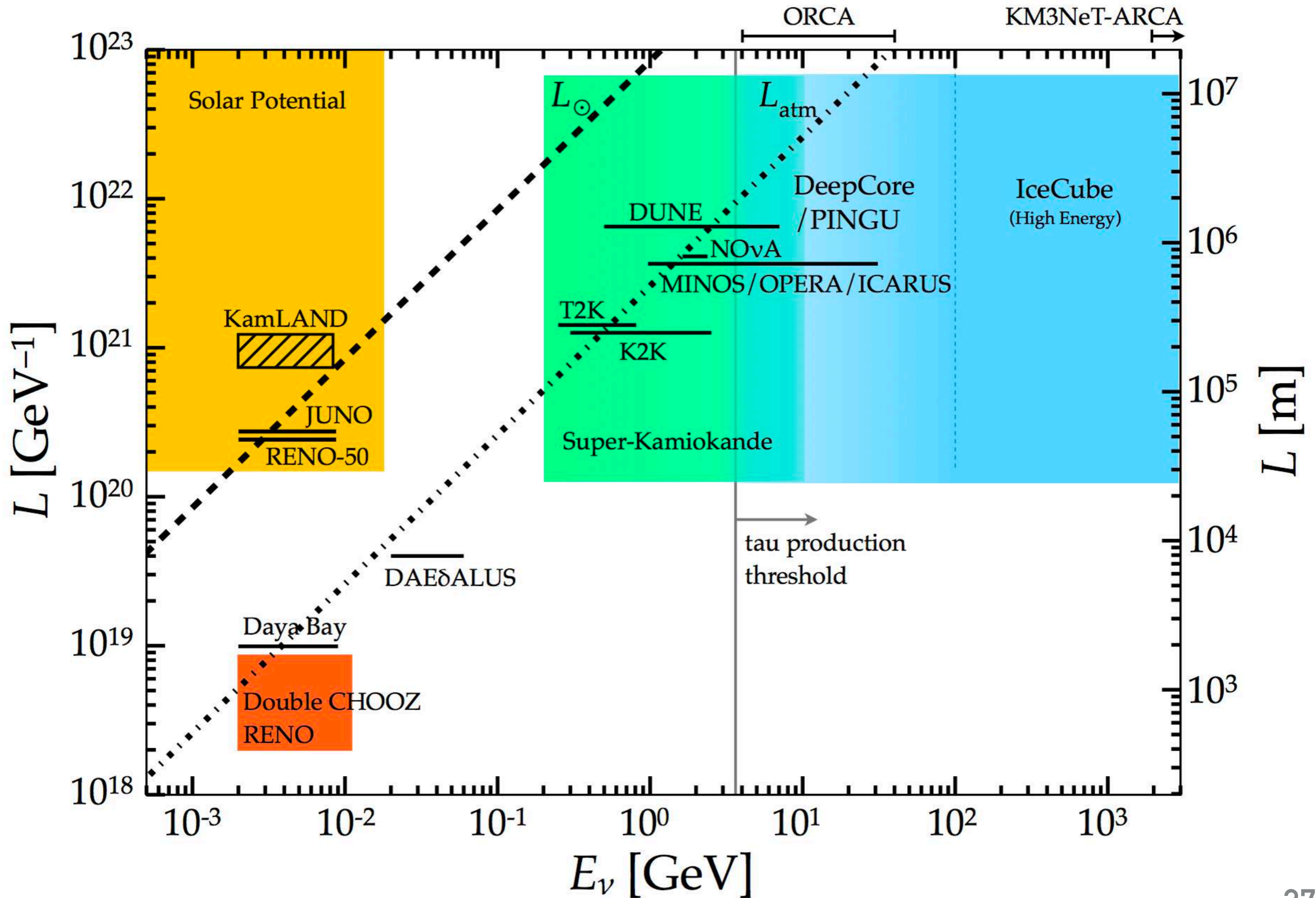
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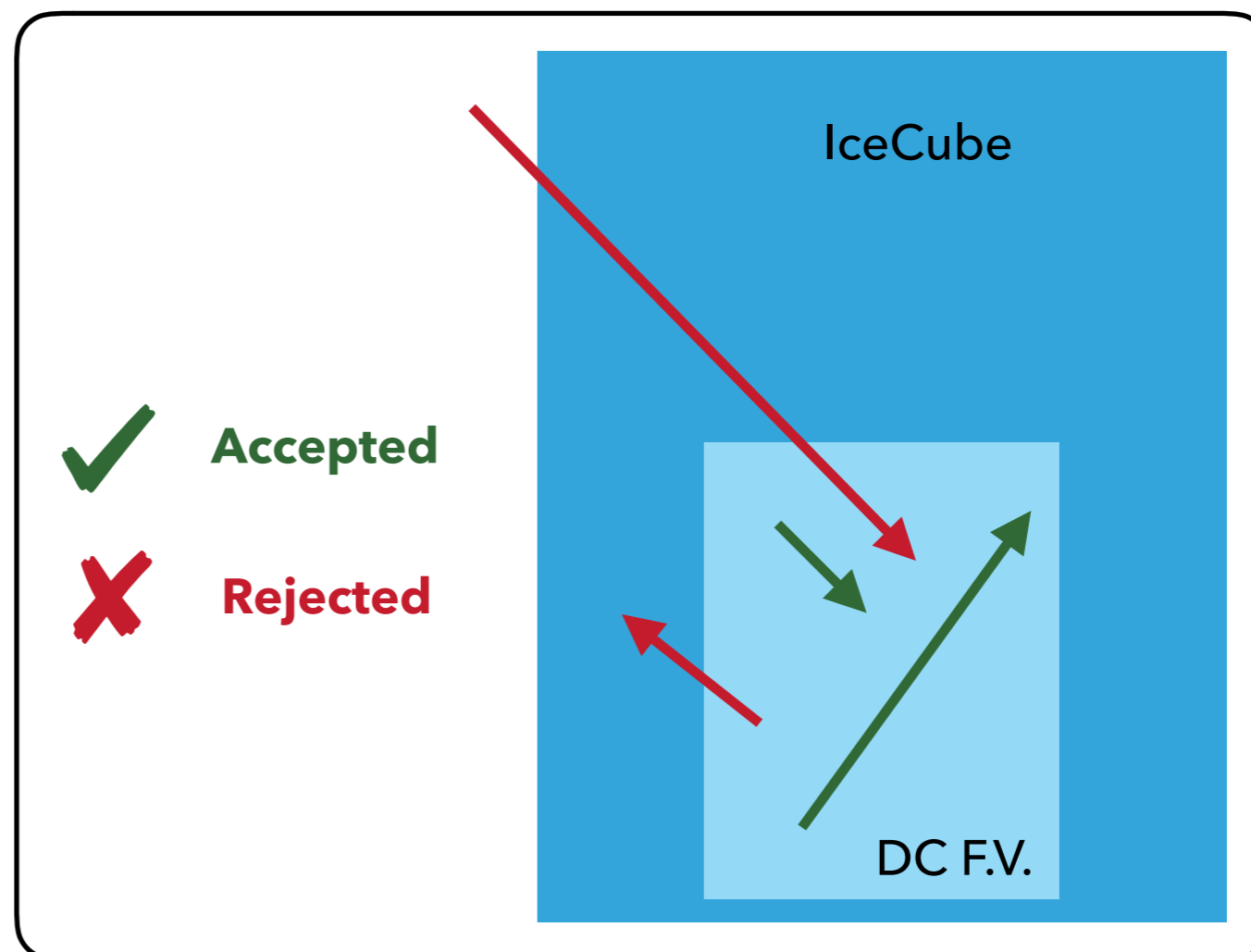
Flavour state  $\neq$  mass state  
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# The bigger picture

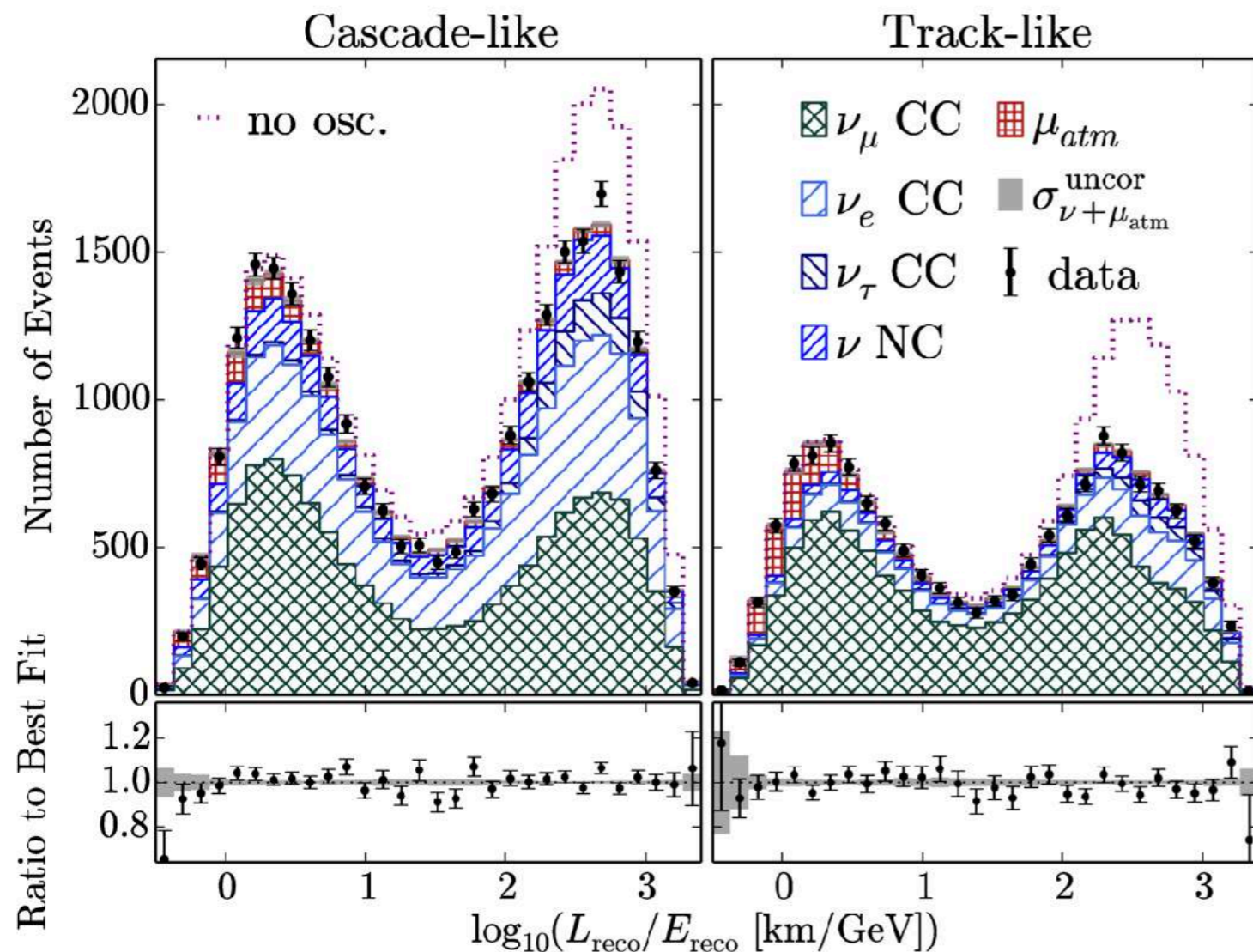


- ▶ Select starting, contained events in DeepCore Fiducial Volume (F.V.)
- ▶ 3 years of data (41,599 events)
  - ▶ ~5% atmospheric muon background
- ▶ Median resolutions @ 20 GeV for tracks (cascades):
  - ▶ 10° (16°) zenith
  - ▶ 24% (29%) in energy



- ▶ Best fit obtained through  $\chi^2$  minimisation with Gaussian penalty terms for nuisance parameters with priors

$$\chi^2 = \sum_{i \in \{\text{bins}\}} \frac{(n_i^{\nu+\mu_{\text{atm}}} - n_i^{\text{data}})^2}{(\sigma_i^{\text{data}})^2 + (\sigma_{\nu+\mu_{\text{atm}},i}^{\text{uncor}})^2} + \sum_{j \in \{\text{syst}\}} \frac{(s_j - \hat{s}_j)^2}{\hat{\sigma}_{s_j}^2},$$



Fit performed in 8x8 bins for tracks and cascades:

**log<sub>10</sub>(E<sub>reco</sub>):**  
[0.75, 1.75]  
(6 - 56 GeV)

**cos(θ<sub>reco</sub>):**  
[-1, 1]  
(full sky)

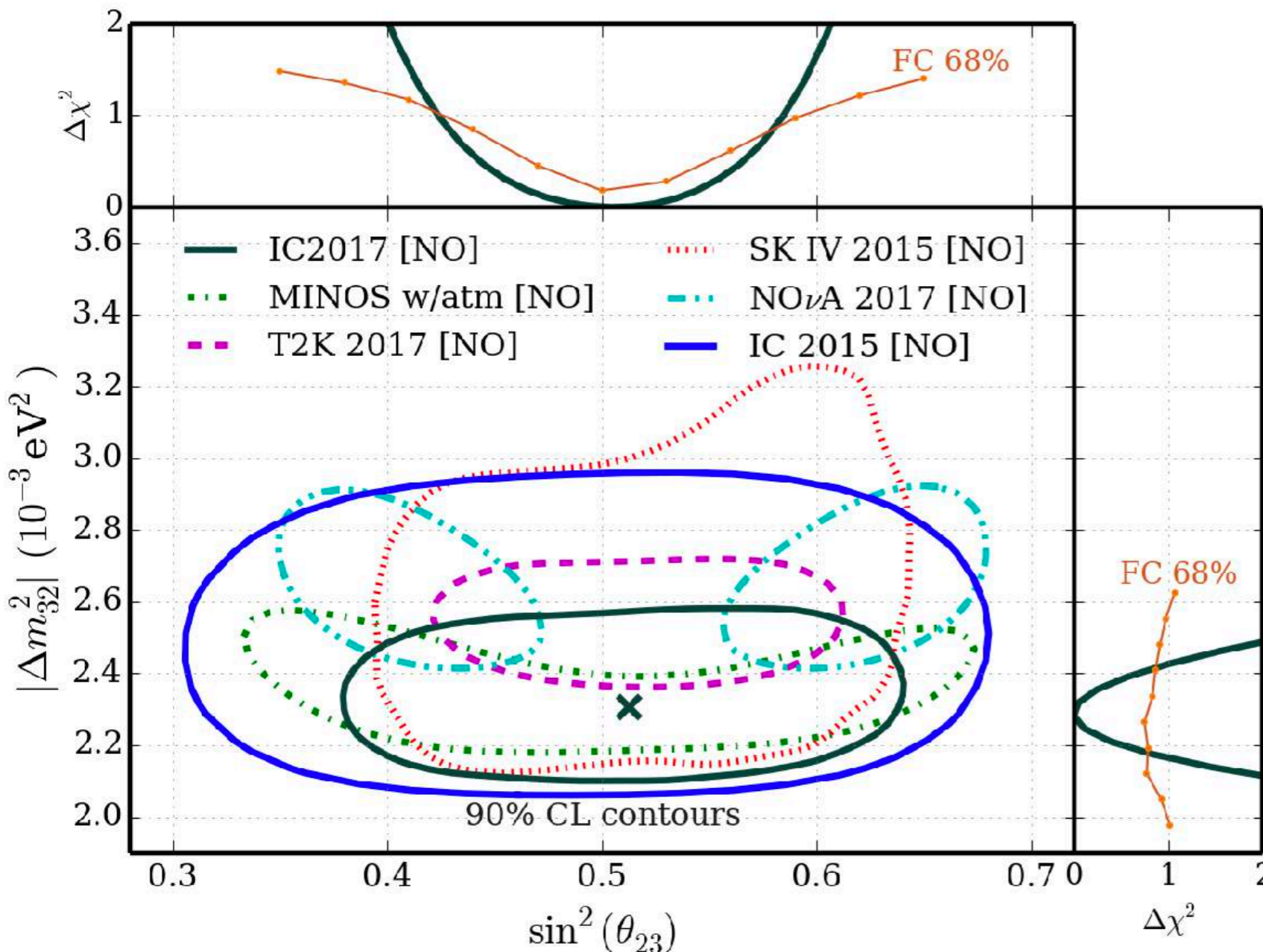
$\chi^2/\text{dof} = 117.4 / 119$

**Best Fit\*:**

\*Normal Ordering

$$\Delta m_{32}^2 = 2.31^{+0.11}_{-0.13} \times 10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2$$

$$\sin^2 \theta_{23} = 0.51^{+0.07}_{-0.09}$$



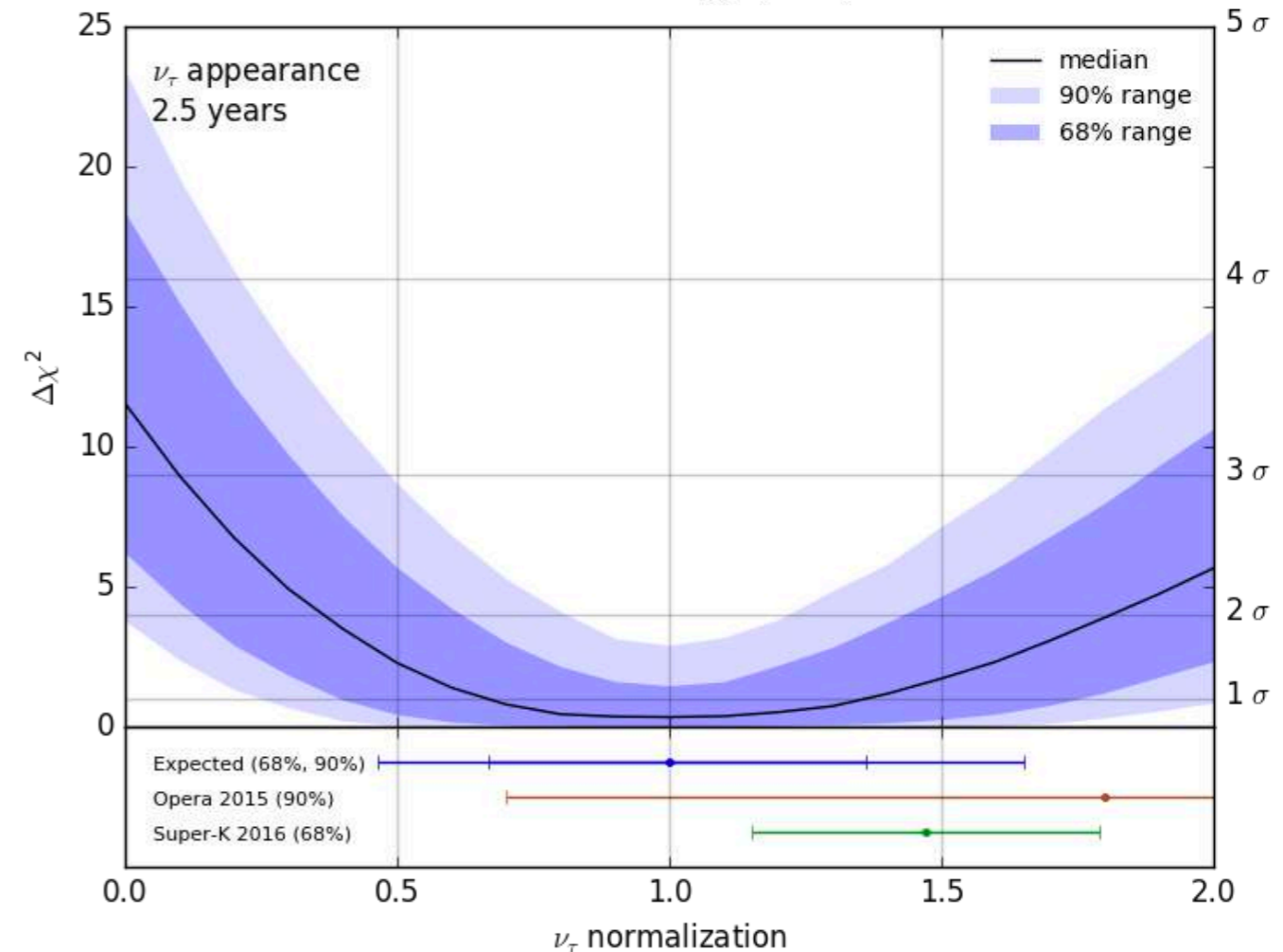
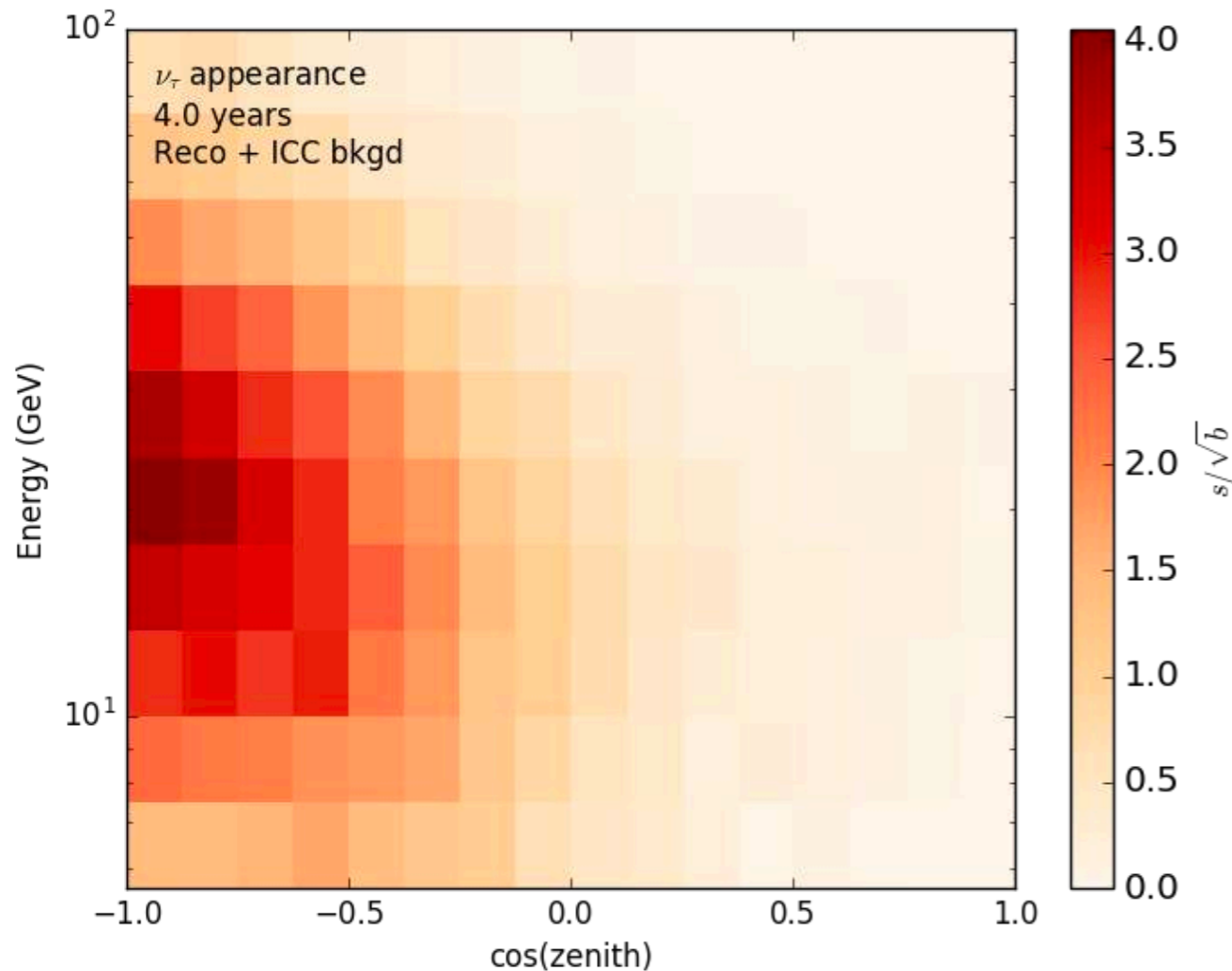
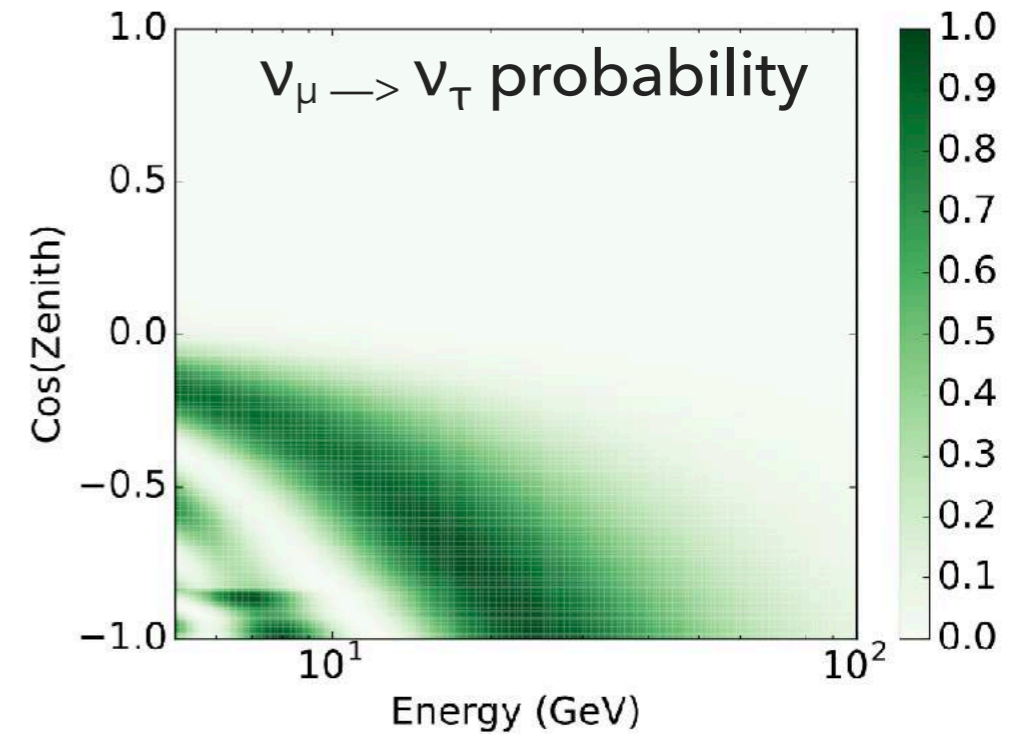
## Contribution to 1σ

$\Delta m_{32}^2$	$\sin^2 \theta_{23}$
Atmospheric $\nu$ Flux	
~4 %	~2 %
Cross section	
~2 %	< 1 %
Detector	
~23 %	~2 %
$\sin^2 \theta_{13}$	
< 1 %	

Normalisation of  $\nu_\tau$  **fixed** to 1.0 (standard 3x3 mixing)

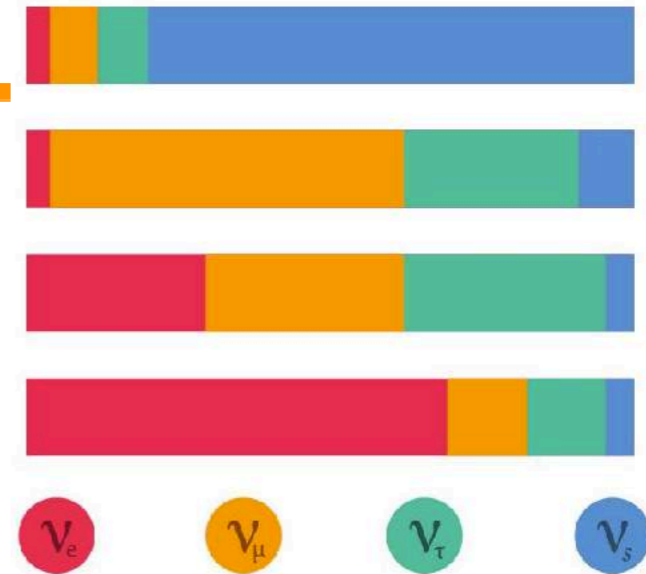
# NuTau Appearance Analysis

- ▶ Can use same neutrino sample to search for  $\nu_\tau$  appearance
- ▶ Rejection of no  $\nu_\tau$  appearance @  $\sim 2.5\sigma$  if normalisation = 1 (SM)
- ▶ Expected precision  $\sim 30\%$  @ 68%CL



# Sterile neutrinos

- ▶ Are there only 3 neutrino mass states?
  - ▶ Additional states can not couple to the weak interaction, i.e. sterile
  - ▶ Massive sterile  $\nu$ 's can still oscillate with active states
- ▶ Motivated by anomalies in previous neutrino oscillation experiments
  - ▶ Oscillations happening where they "shouldn't"
- ▶ New model adds:
  - ▶ 1 new mass -  $\Delta m^2_{41}$
  - ▶ 2 new CP phases - assume 0
  - ▶ 3 new mixing angles -  $\theta_{14}, \theta_{24}, \theta_{34}$



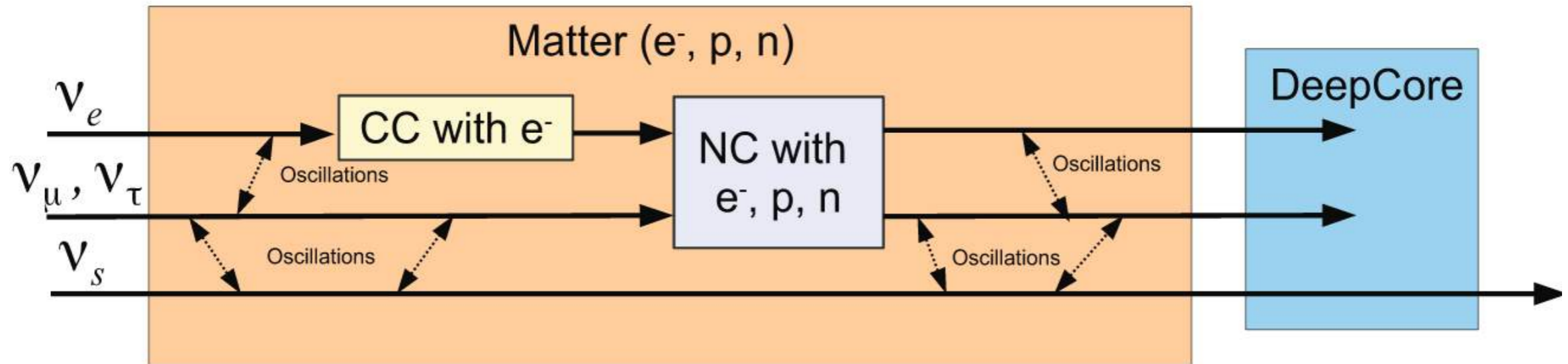
PMNS 3x3

$$\begin{pmatrix} \nu_e \\ \nu_\mu \\ \nu_\tau \\ \nu_s \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} U_{e1} & U_{e2} & U_{e3} & U_{e4} \\ U_{\mu1} & U_{\mu2} & U_{\mu3} & U_{\mu4} \\ U_{\tau1} & U_{\tau2} & U_{\tau3} & U_{\tau4} \\ U_{s1} & U_{s2} & U_{s3} & U_{s4} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \nu_1 \\ \nu_2 \\ \nu_3 \\ \nu_4 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 |U_{e4}|^2 &= \sin^2 \theta_{14} \\
 |U_{\mu4}|^2 &= \sin^2 \theta_{24} \cdot \cos^2 \theta_{14} \\
 |U_{\tau4}|^2 &= \sin^2 \theta_{34} \cdot \cos^2 \theta_{24} \cdot \cos^2 \theta_{14} \\
 &> \text{Modifies detected atmospheric neutrino flux}
 \end{aligned}$$



# Searching for sterile neutrinos - matter effects



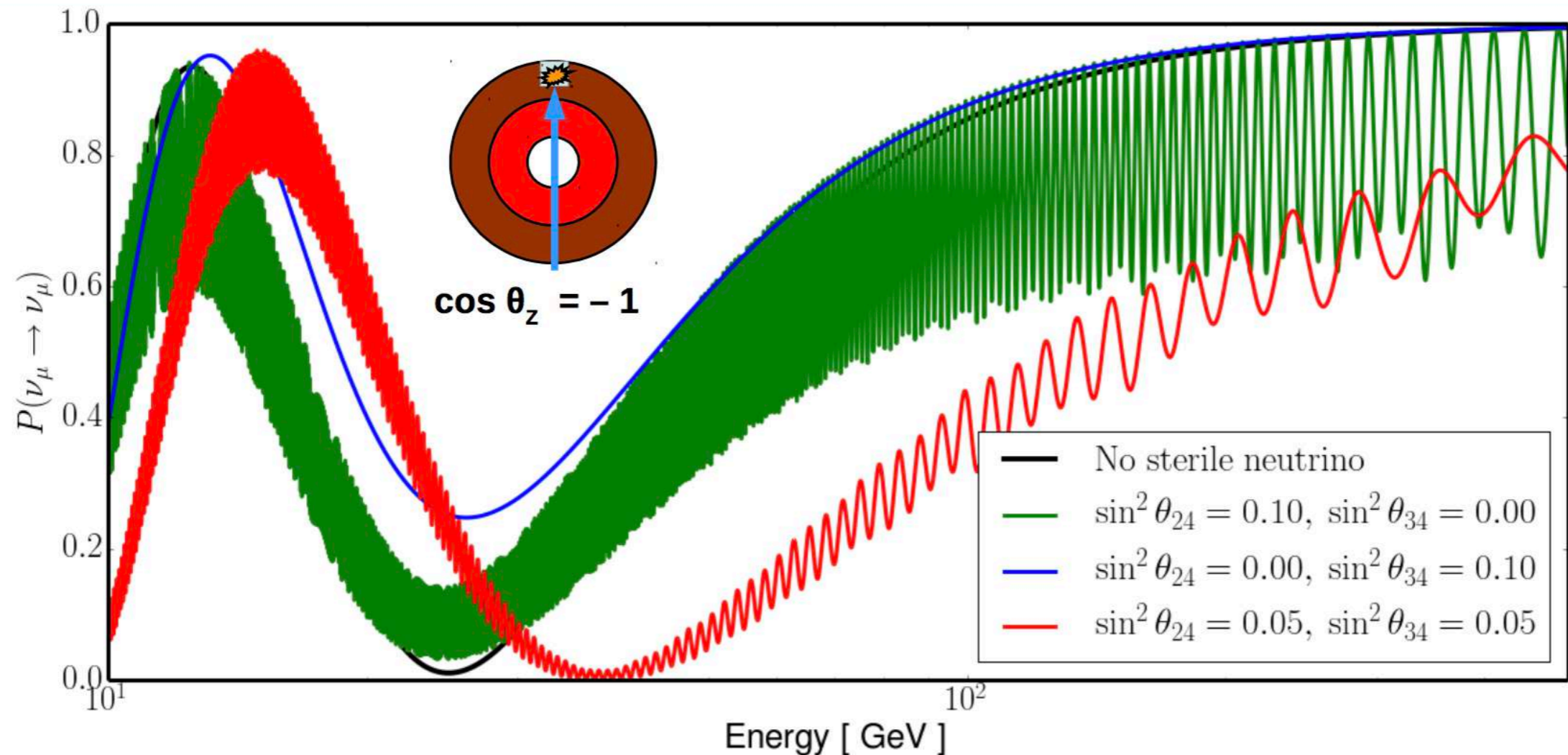
- ▶ Active neutrinos feel effects of matter potential when crossing Earth
- ▶ This modifies their propagation in a way that we typically express through effective mixing parameters:

$$\tan 2\theta_M = \frac{\tan 2\theta}{1 \pm \frac{2EV_{\text{int}}}{\Delta m^2 \cos 2\theta}} \quad \Delta m_M^2 = \sqrt{(\Delta m^2 \cos 2\theta \pm 2EV_{\text{int}})^2 + (\Delta m^2 \sin 2\theta)^2}$$

- ▶ Can achieve maximal mixing at resonance

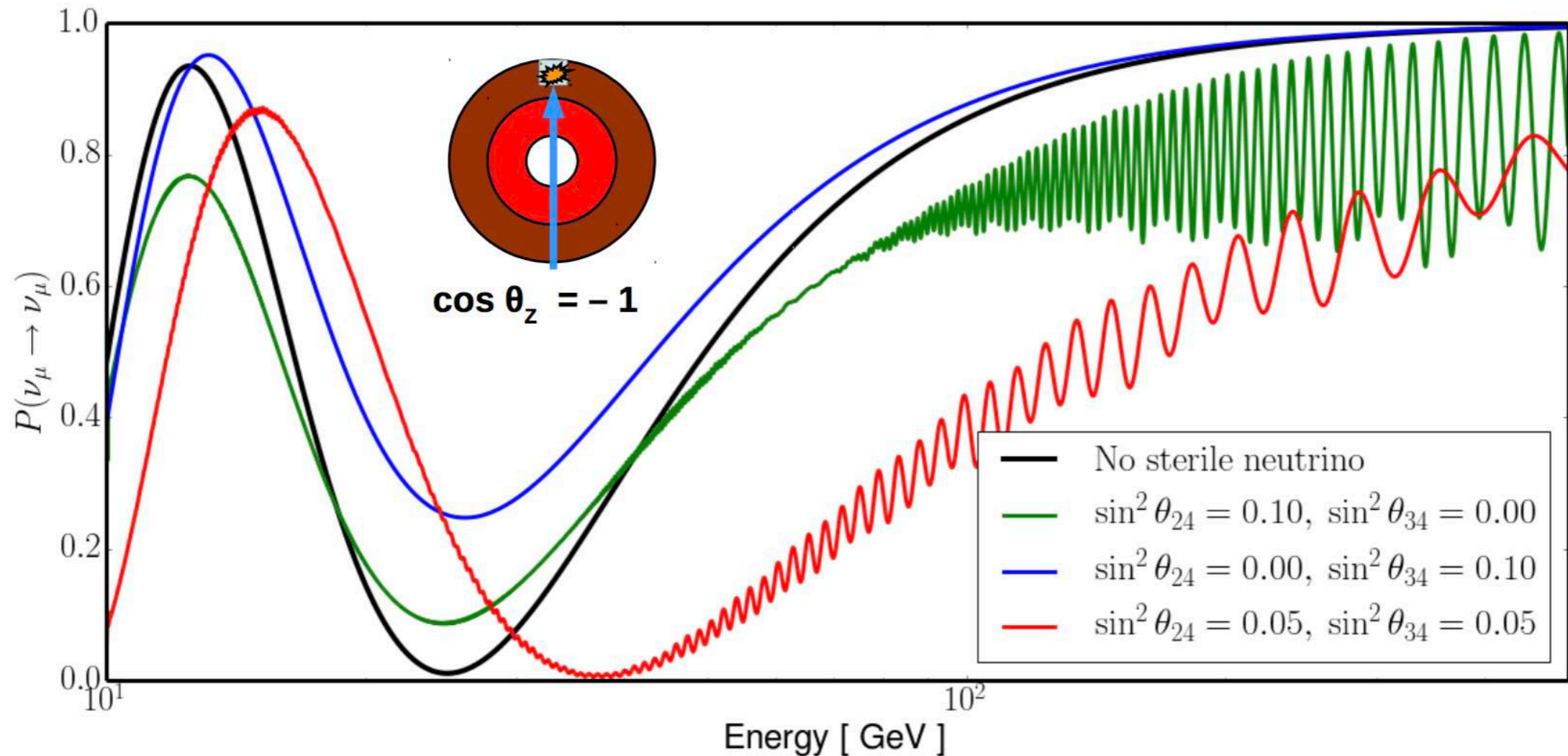
$$E_R = \frac{\Delta m^2 \cos 2\theta}{2V_{\text{int}}} \quad \longrightarrow \quad \theta_M = \frac{\pi}{4} \quad \Delta m_M^2 = \Delta m^2 \sin 2\theta$$

# Searching for sterile neutrinos – low energies



- ▶ For  $E_\nu \sim 10-100$  GeV, smaller effective matter potential leads to less disappearance, and/or shift in minimum
- ▶ Independent of  $\Delta m_{41}^2$  for values  $> 0.3$  eV<sup>2</sup>
  - ▶ Oscillations are too fast for detector resolution - only see average effect

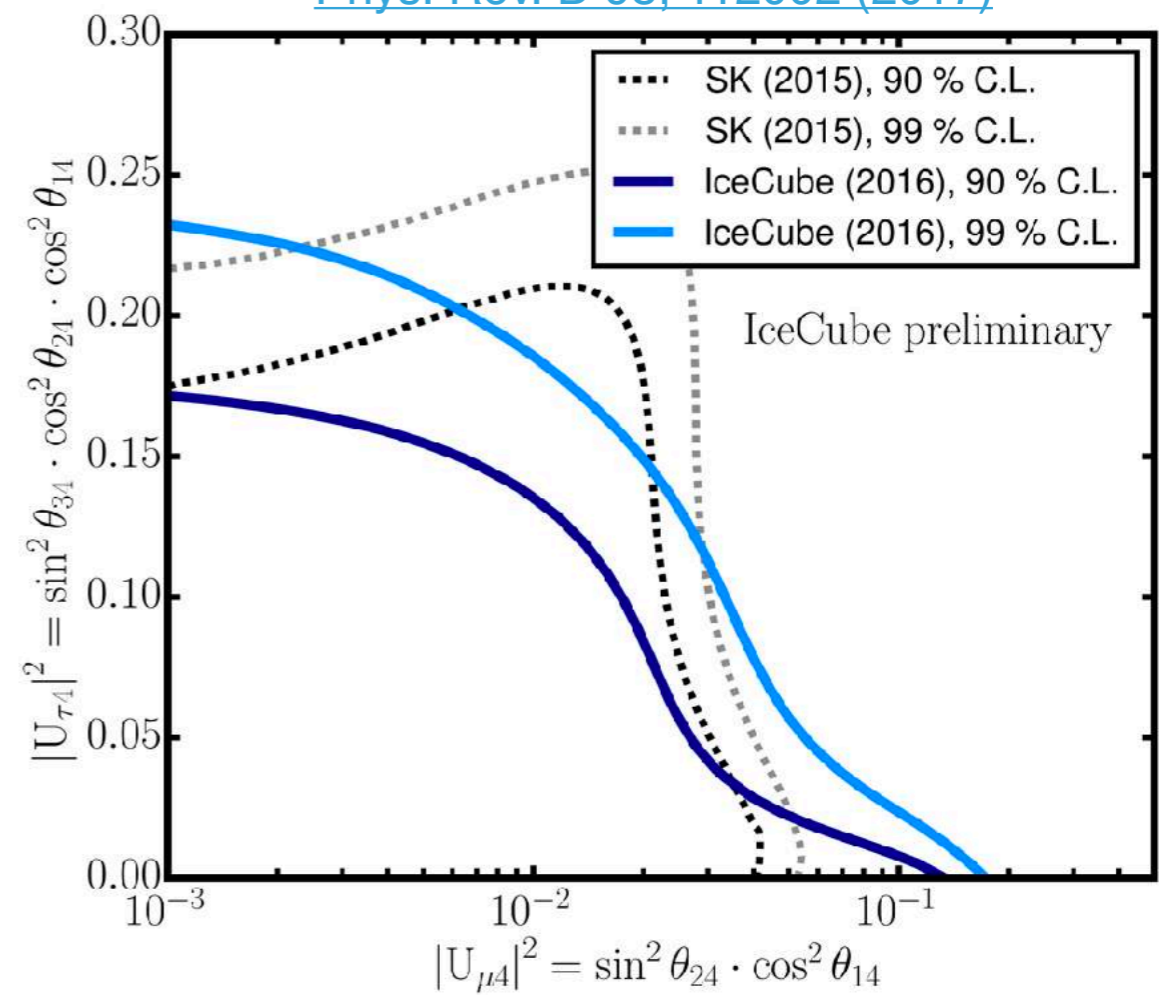
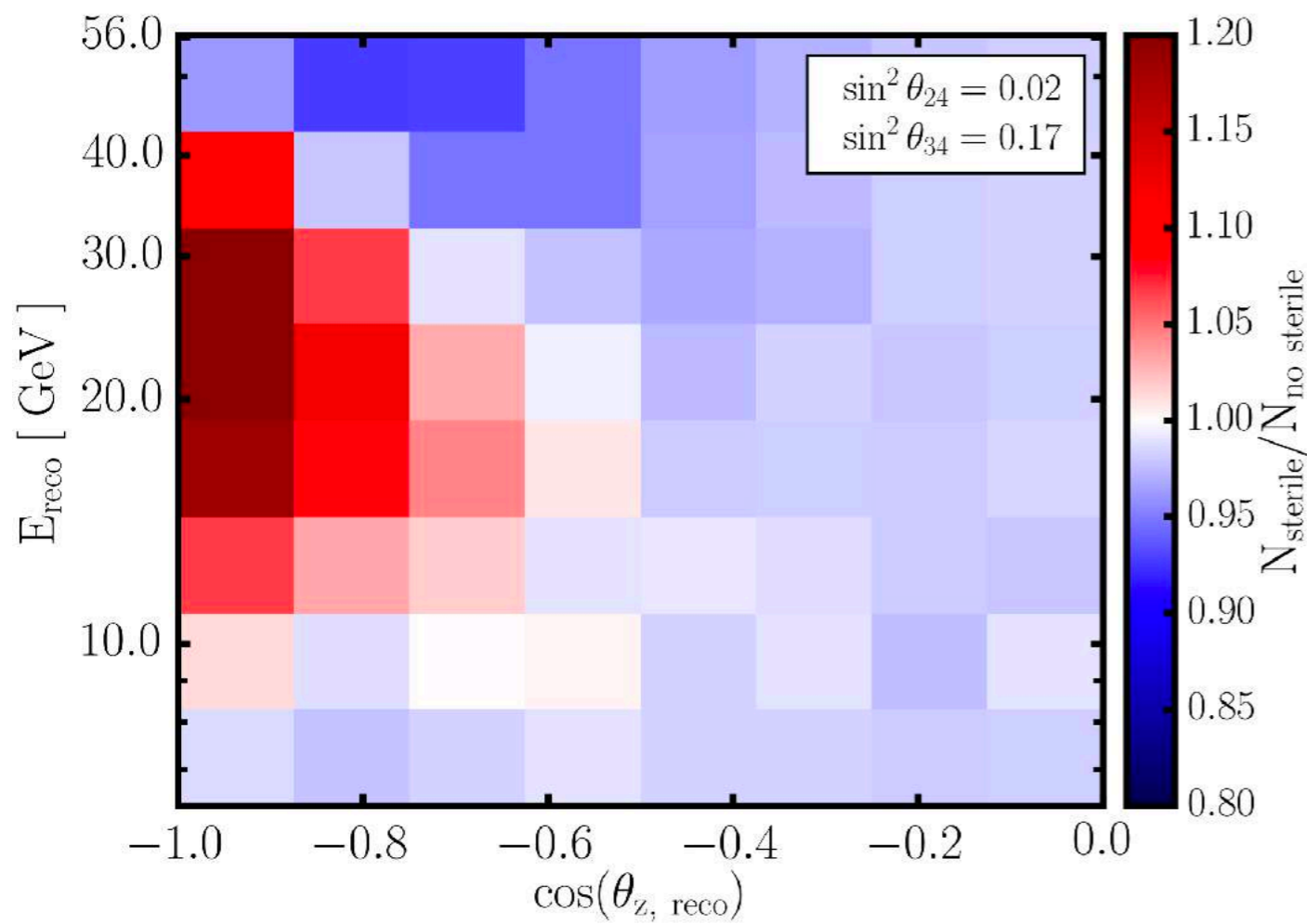
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# Searching for sterile neutrinos - low energies

Phys. Rev. D 95, 112002 (2017)



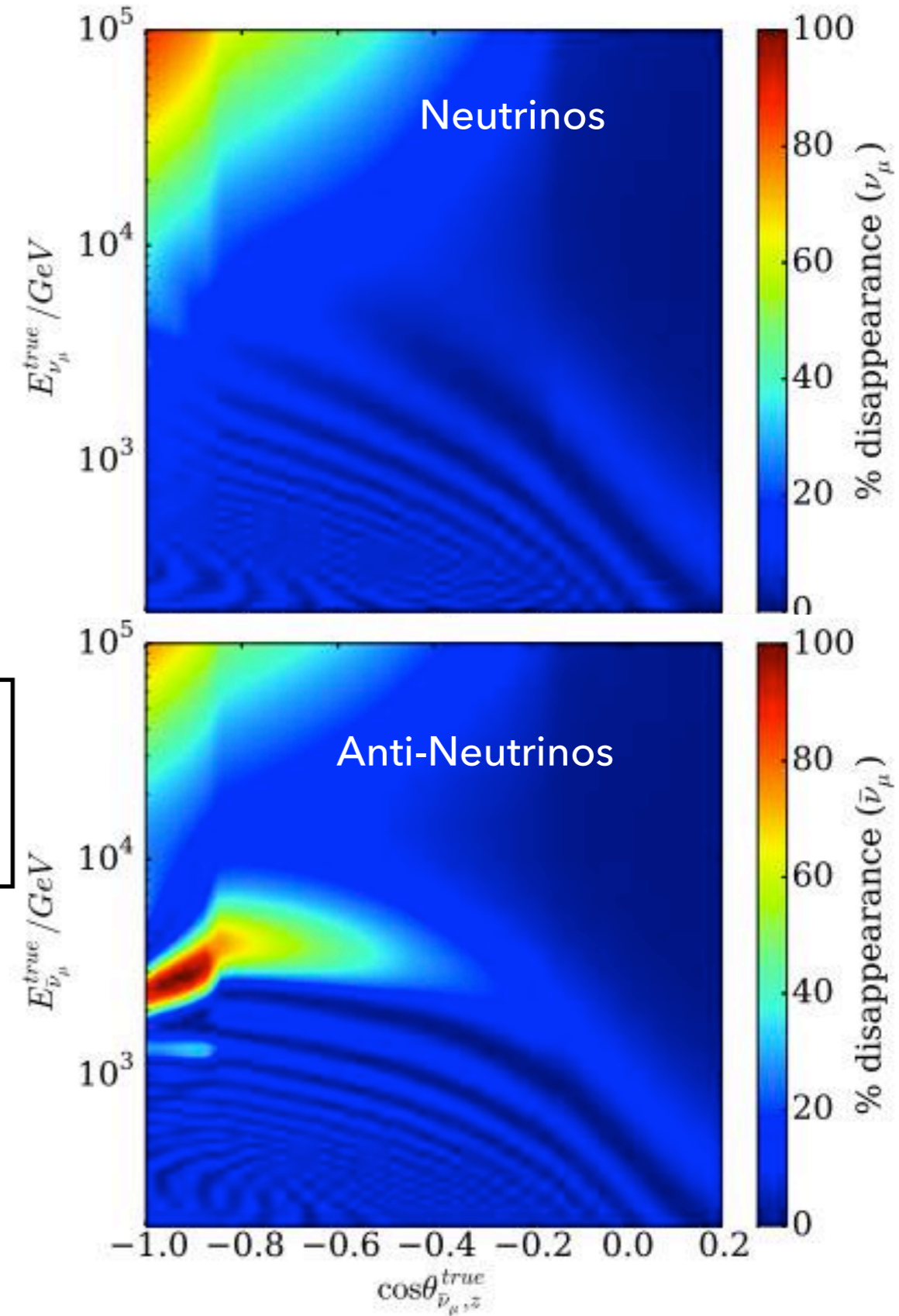
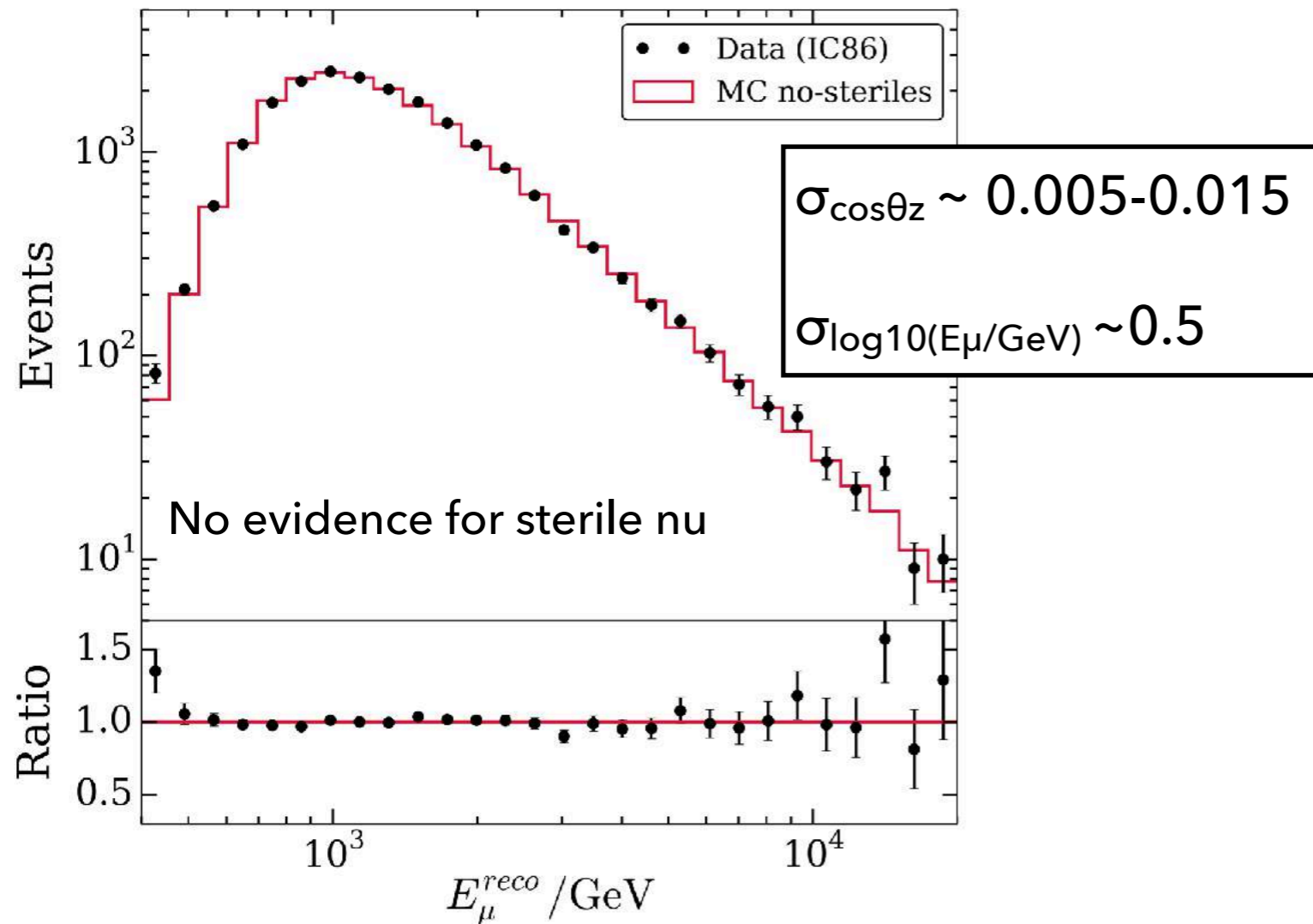
Maximum log-likelihood

$$-\ln \mathcal{L} = \sum_i (\mu_i - n_i \ln \mu_i) + \sum_k^{n_{priors}} \frac{(\phi_k - \phi_k^0)^2}{2\sigma_{\phi_k}^2},$$

- ▶ 3 years of track-like events with energies 6 – 56 GeV
- ▶ Oscillations consistent with standard 3x3 mixing
- ▶ Strong constraints on  $U_{\tau 4}$  mixing element

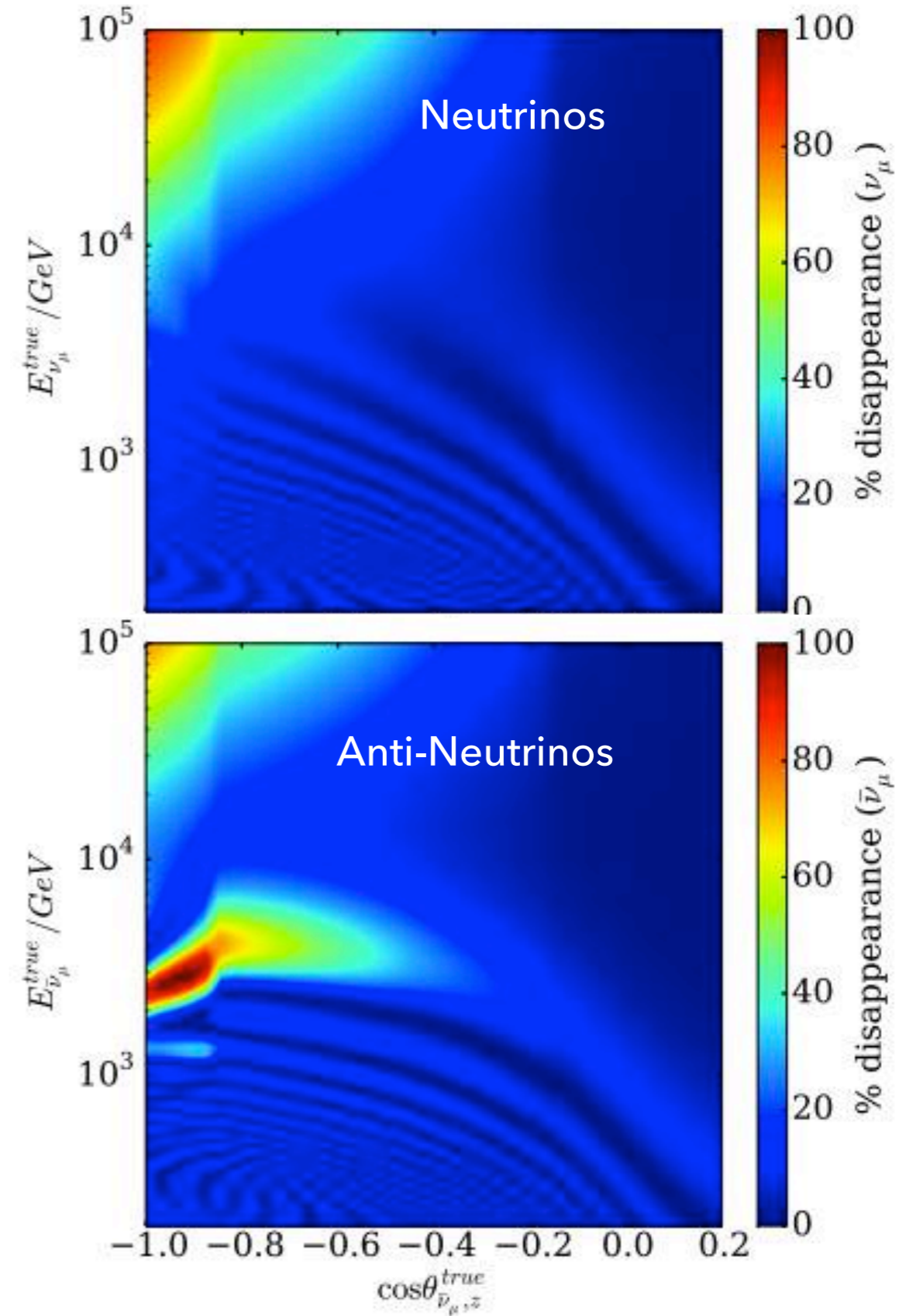
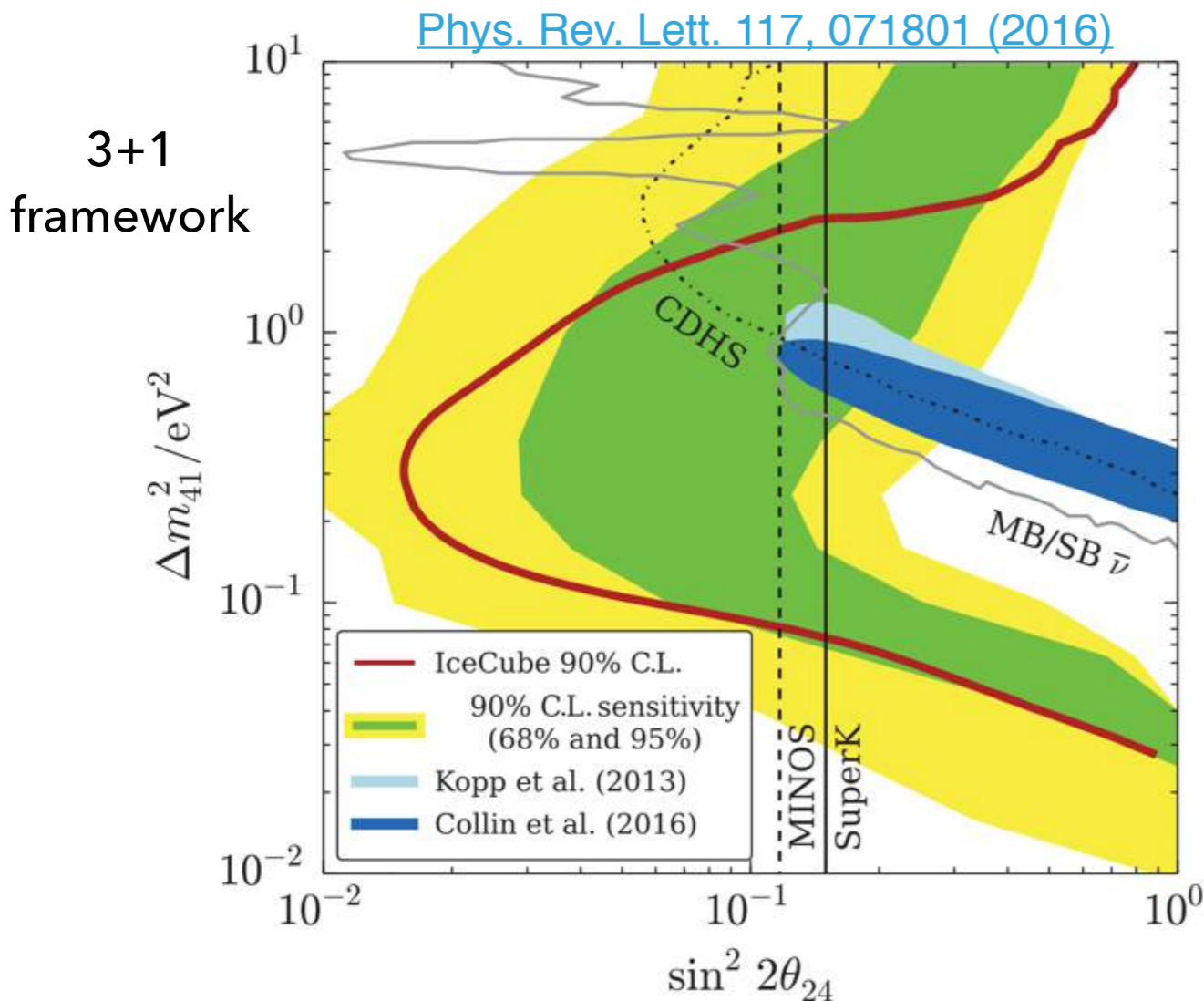
# Searching for sterile neutrinos - high energies

- ▶ For  $E_\nu \sim \text{TeV scale}$ , we look for resonant enhancement of oscillations for anti- $\nu$
- ▶ Position of resonance proportional to  $\Delta m^2_{41}$
- ▶ Using 1 year of up-going neutrino data



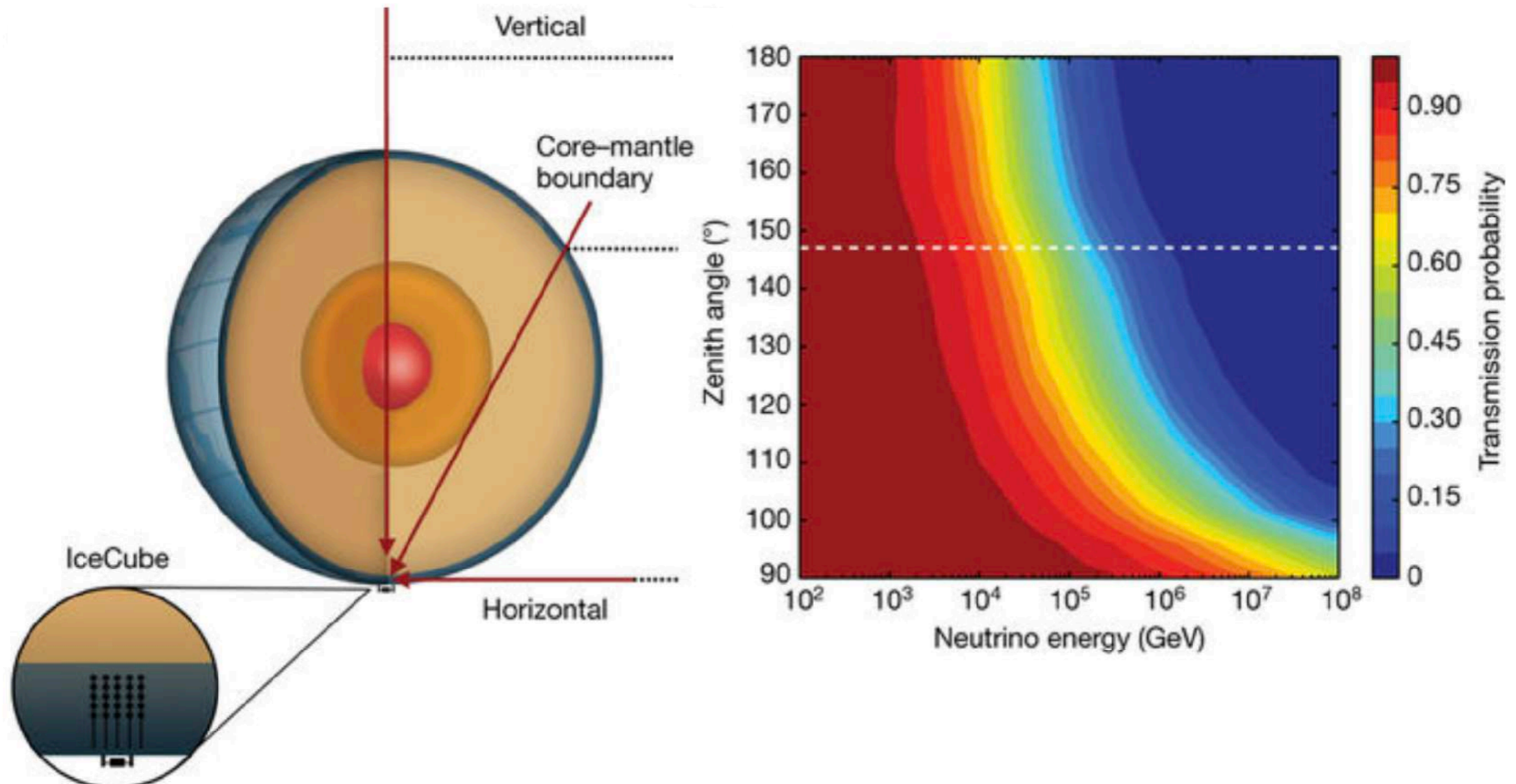
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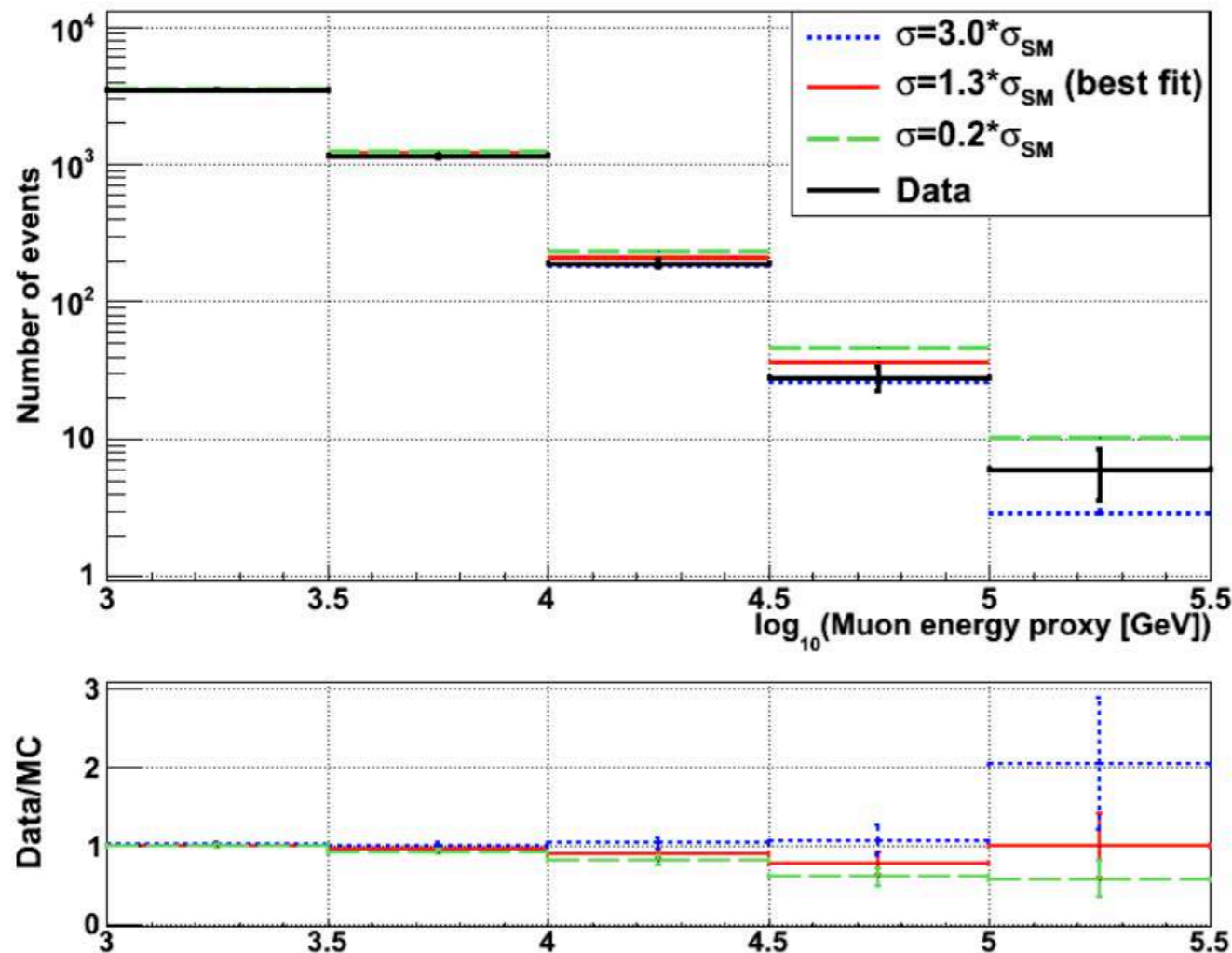
# Neutrino-nucleon cross section measurement

- ▶ At very high energies, no atmospheric neutrino oscillations are expected
- ▶ But earth becomes more opaque at these energies
- ▶ Can use the Earth as a target to measure neutrino-nucleon cross section



# Neutrino-nucleon cross section measurement

- ▶ At very high energies, no atmospheric neutrino oscillations are expected
- ▶ But earth becomes more opaque at these energies
- ▶ Can use the Earth as a target to measure neutrino-nucleon cross section
- ▶ **First measurement of CC neutrino cross section at 6.3 - 980 TeV**



*Hot off the press!*

[Published in Nature](#)

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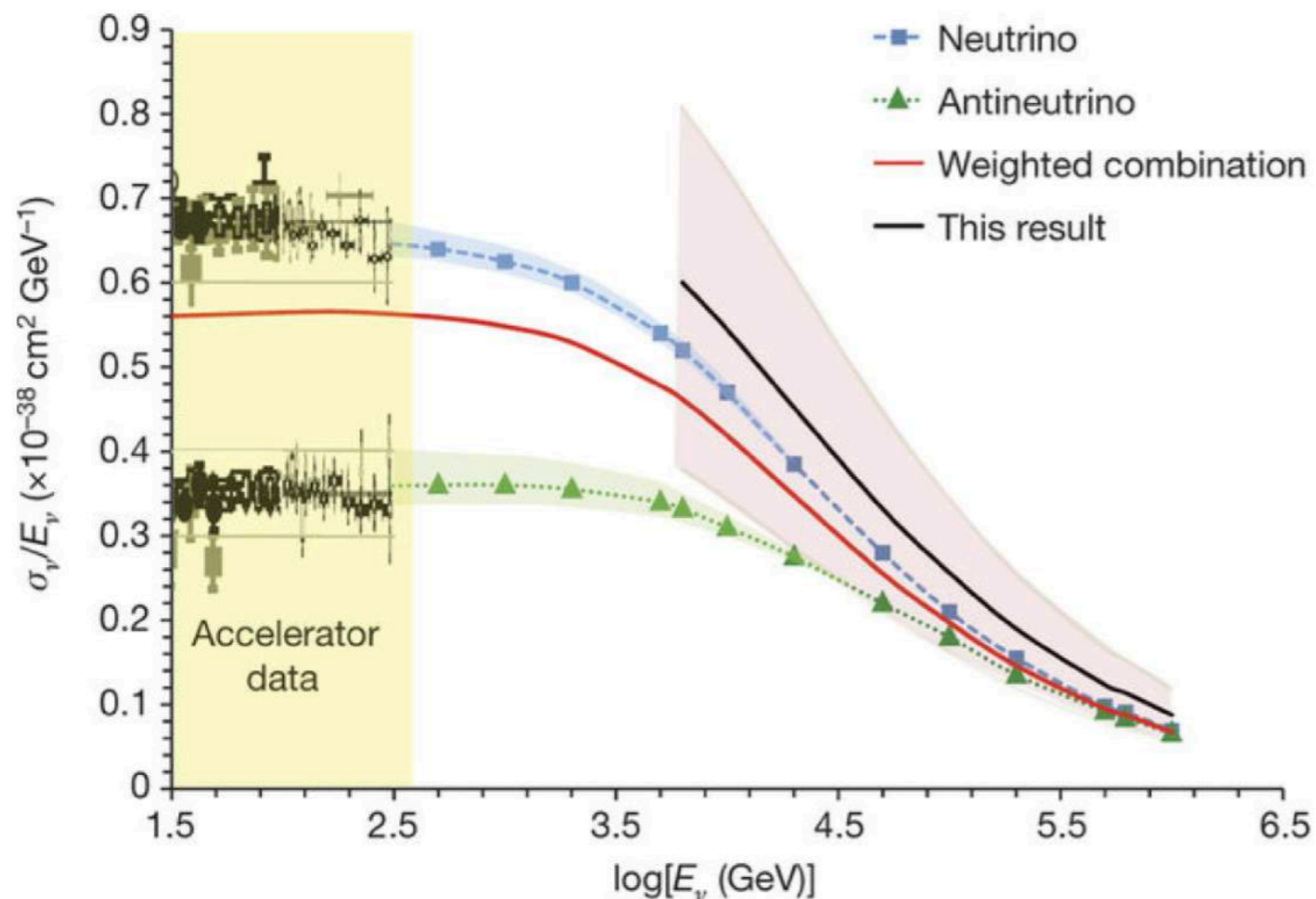
[YouTube](#)





# Neutrino-nucleon cross section measurement

- ▶ At very high energies, no atmospheric neutrino oscillations are expected
- ▶ But earth becomes more opaque at these energies
- ▶ Can use the Earth as a target to measure neutrino-nucleon cross section
- ▶ **First measurement of CC neutrino cross section at 6.3 - 980 TeV**



*Hot off the press!*

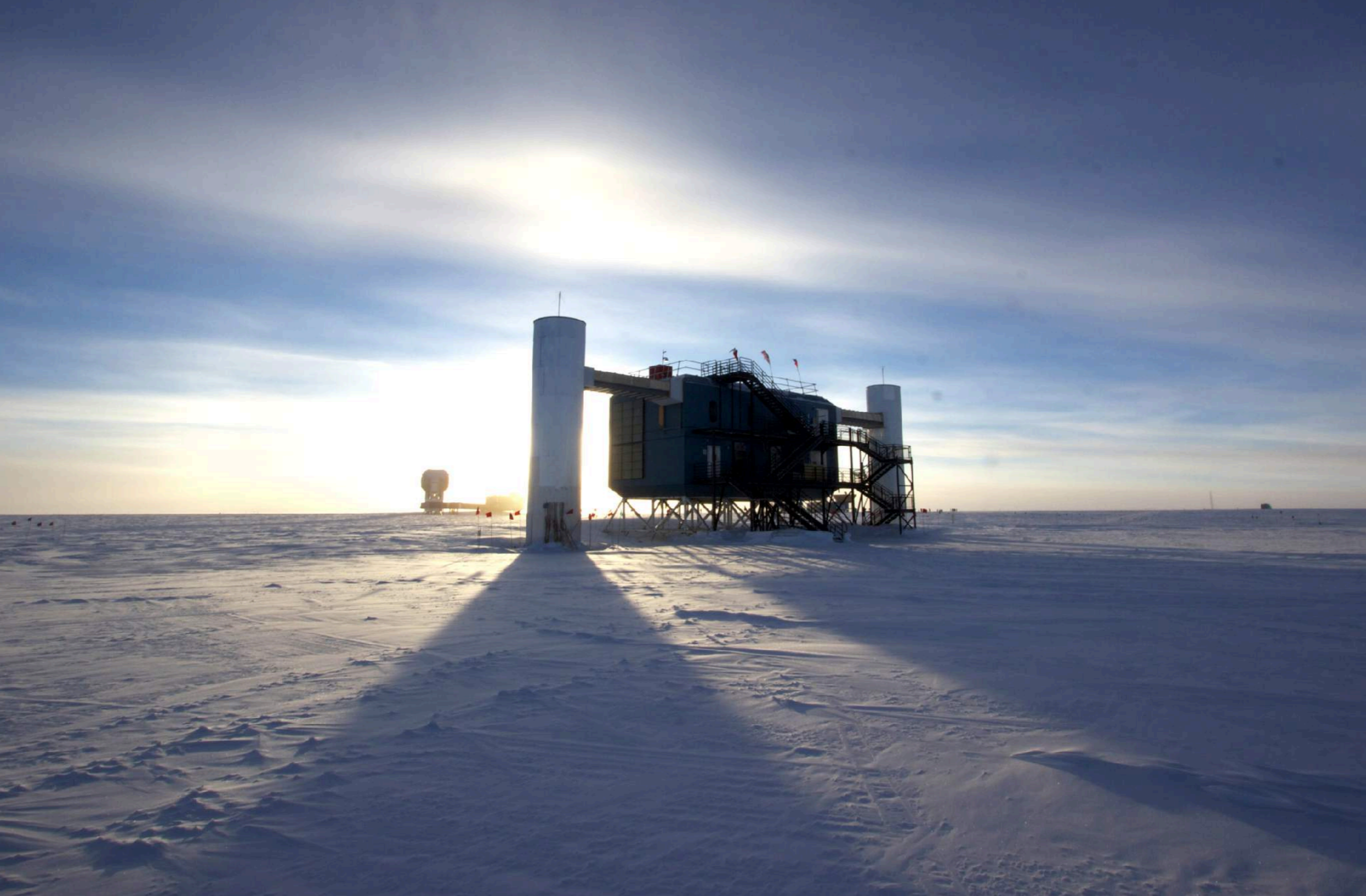
[Published in Nature](#)

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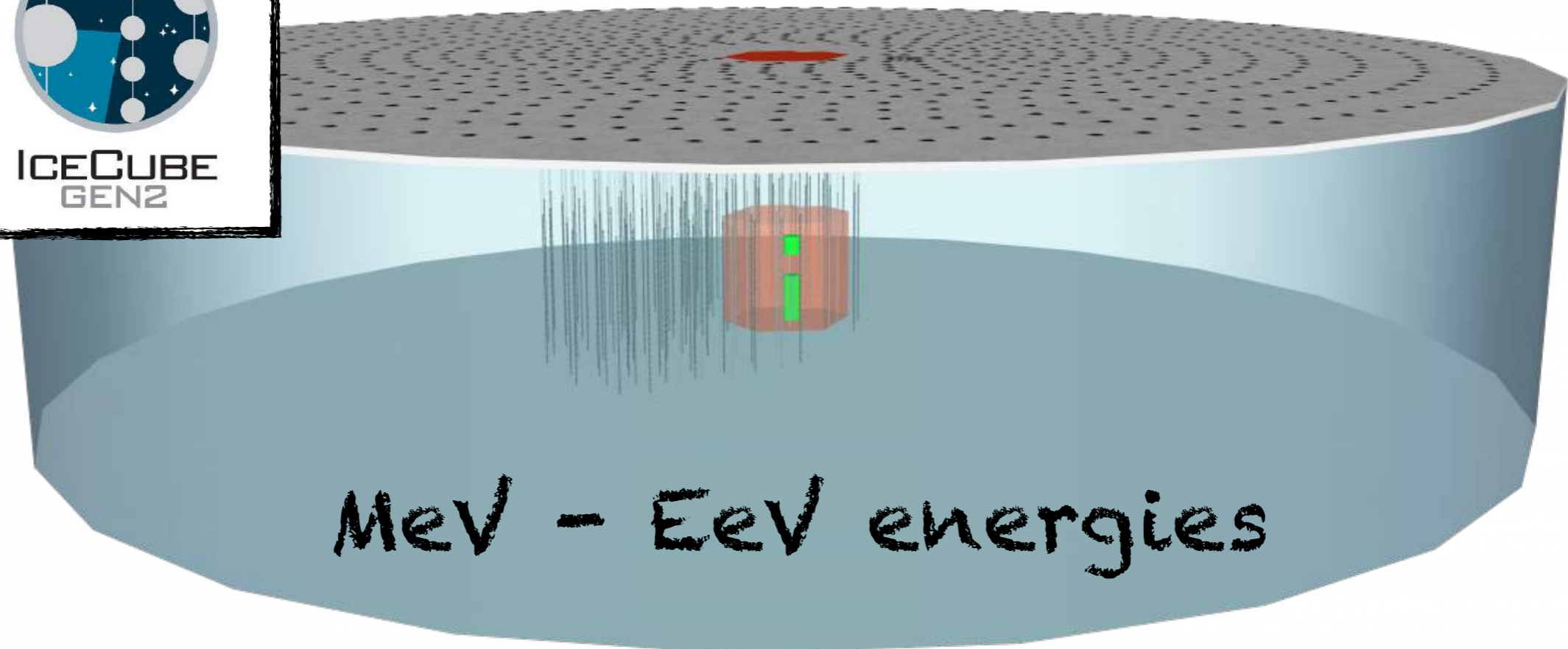


# Looking towards the future ...



# Upgrade to IceCube Gen2

- ▶ Goal:
  - ▶ 5x better sensitivity to detect point sources
  - ▶ 10x more statistics
- ▶ Larger instrumented volume
- ▶ Surface array for veto/air shower physics
- ▶ **Denser center (PINGU) for precision neutrino physics** <https://arxiv.org/abs/1401.2046>  
LOI Version 2
- ▶ Radio array

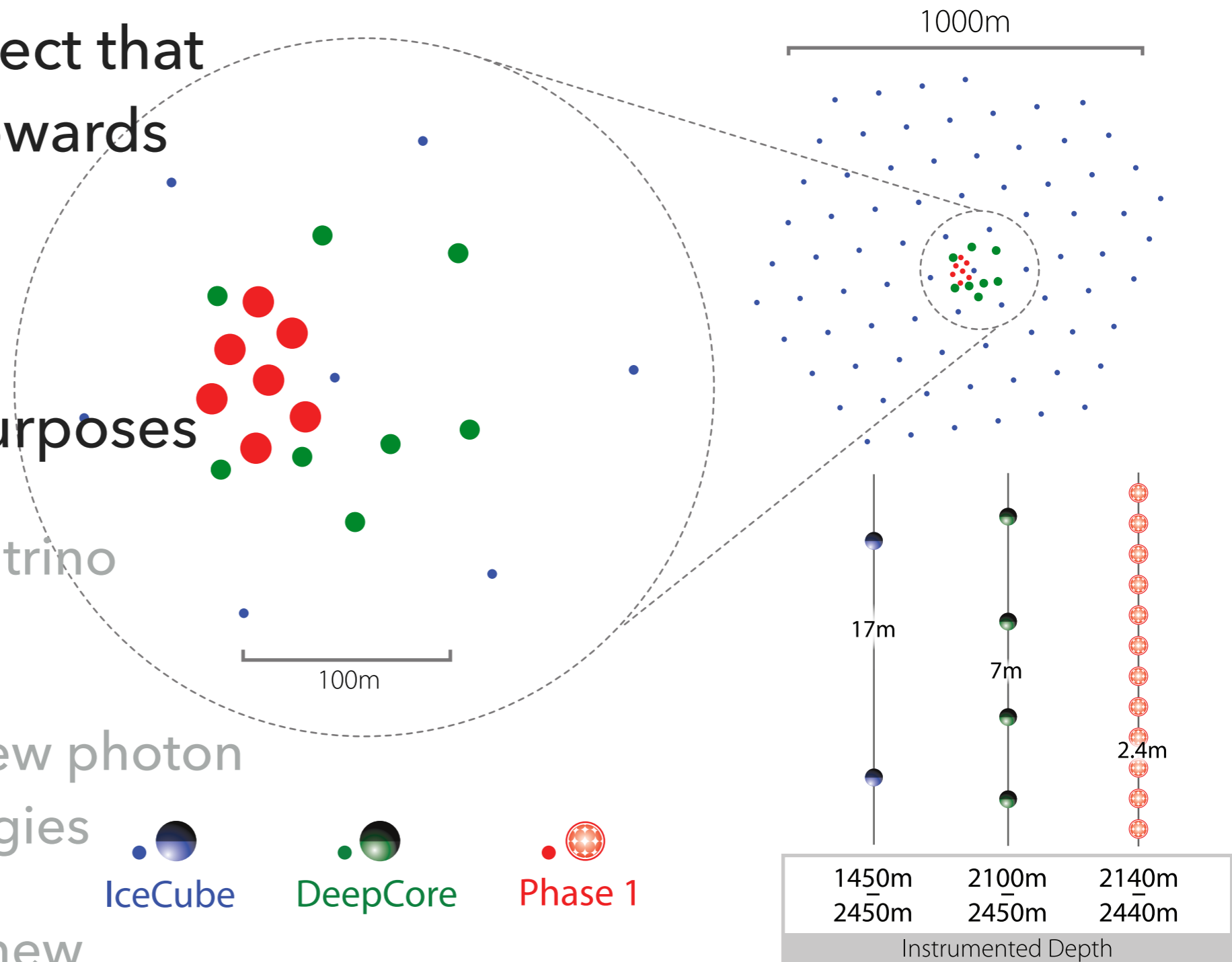


# IceCube Upgrade

- ▶ Stand-alone project that also paves the way towards IceCube Gen2 construction

- ▶ Three primary purposes

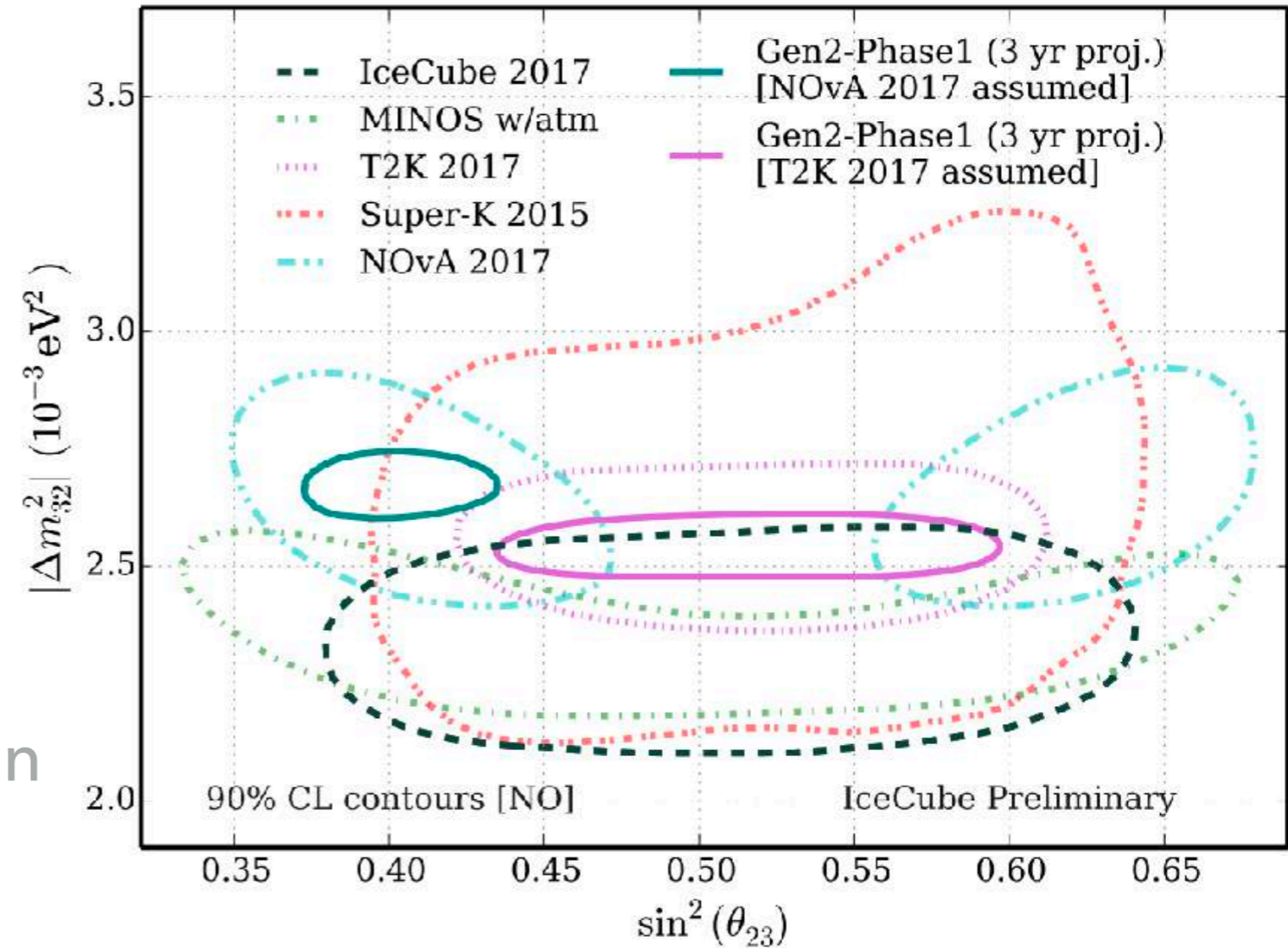
- ▶ High impact neutrino physics
- ▶ In-situ R&D of new photon sensor technologies
- ▶ Deployment of new calibration devices



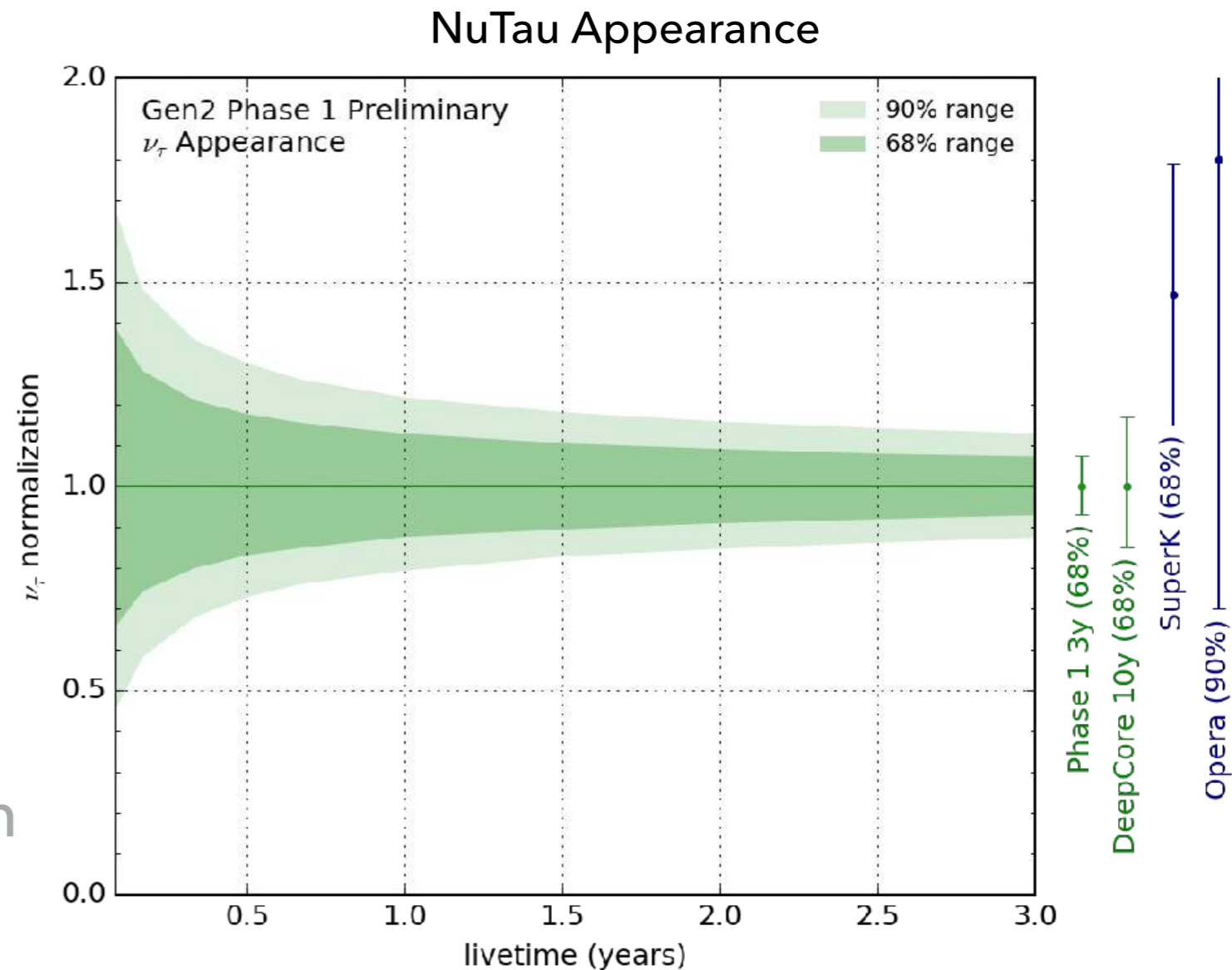
# IceCube Upgrade

- ▶ Stand-alone project that also paves the way towards IceCube Gen2 construction
- ▶ Three primary purposes
  - ▶ High impact neutrino physics
  - ▶ In-situ R&D of new photon sensor technologies
  - ▶ Deployment of new calibration devices

NuMu Disappearance



- ▶ Stand-alone project that also paves the way towards IceCube Gen2 construction
- ▶ Three primary purposes
  - ▶ High impact neutrino physics
  - ▶ In-situ R&D of new photon sensor technologies
  - ▶ Deployment of new calibration devices



# IceCube Upgrade

- ▶ Stand-alone project that also paves the way towards IceCube Gen2 construction
- ▶ Three primary purposes
  - ▶ High impact neutrino physics
  - ▶ In-situ R&D of new photon sensor technologies
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# IceCube Upgrade

- ▶ Stand-alone project that also paves the way towards IceCube Gen2 construction
- ▶ Three primary purposes
  - ▶ High impact neutrino physics
  - ▶ In-situ R&D of new photon sensor technologies
  - ▶ Deployment of new calibration devices



Difficult to calibrate refrozen ice in drill holes with current devices/methods

Precision Optical Calibration Device (POCAM)

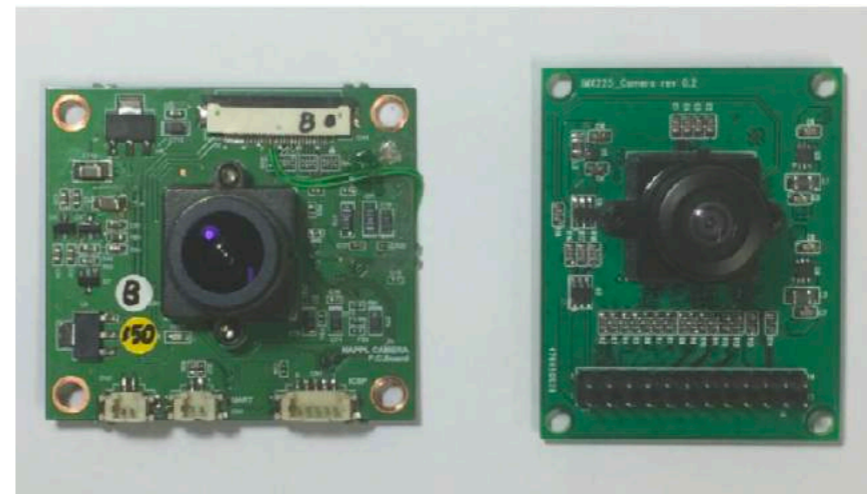
Prototype deployed at Lake Baikal



K. Krings, E. Resconi, ICRC2017

CCD

CMOS



M. Jeong, W. Kang, ICRC2017



With large data set of GeV - PeV neutrinos,  
wide range of physical phenomena accessible  
with IceCube DeepCore.



With IceCube Gen2, physics reach would be  
even greater, and we hope to demonstrate this  
with the IceCube Upgrade!

# BACKUPS

# A global endeavour



## THE ICECUBE COLLABORATION

**AUSTRALIA**  
University of Adelaide

**BELGIUM**  
Université libre de Bruxelles  
Universiteit Gent  
Vrije Universiteit Brussel

**CANADA**  
SNOLAB  
University of Alberta–Edmonton

**DENMARK**  
University of Copenhagen

**GERMANY**  
Deutsches Elektronen-Synchrotron  
Friedrich-Alexander-Universität  
Erlangen-Nürnberg  
Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin  
Ruhr-Universität Bochum  
RWTH Aachen  
Technische Universität Dortmund  
Technische Universität München  
Universität Münster  
Universität Mainz  
Universität Wuppertal

**JAPAN**  
Chiba University

**NEW ZEALAND**  
University of Canterbury

**REPUBLIC OF KOREA**  
Sungkyunkwan University

**SWEDEN**  
Stockholms Universitet  
Uppsala Universitet

**SWITZERLAND**  
Université de Genève

**UNITED KINGDOM**  
University of Oxford

**UNITED STATES**  
Clark Atlanta University  
Drexel University  
Georgia Institute of Technology  
Lawrence Berkeley National Lab  
Marquette University  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Michigan State University  
Ohio State University  
Pennsylvania State University  
South Dakota School of Mines and  
Technology

Southern University  
and A&M College  
Stony Brook University  
University of Alabama  
University of Alaska Anchorage  
University of California, Berkeley  
University of California, Irvine  
University of Delaware  
University of Kansas  
University of Maryland  
University of Rochester  
University of Texas at Arlington

University of Wisconsin–Madison  
University of Wisconsin–River Falls  
Yale University

### FUNDING AGENCIES

Fonds de la Recherche Scientifique (FRS-FNRS)  
Fonds Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek-Vlaanderen  
(FWO-Vlaanderen)

Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF)  
German Research Foundation (DFG)  
Deutsches Elektronen-Synchrotron (DESY)

Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS)  
Knut and Alice Wallenberg Foundation  
Swedish Polar Research Secretariat

The Swedish Research Council (VR)  
University of Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation (WARF)  
US National Science Foundation (NSF)

# Beating the background

## Trigger level

$\sim 10^6 \mu$ :  $1\nu$

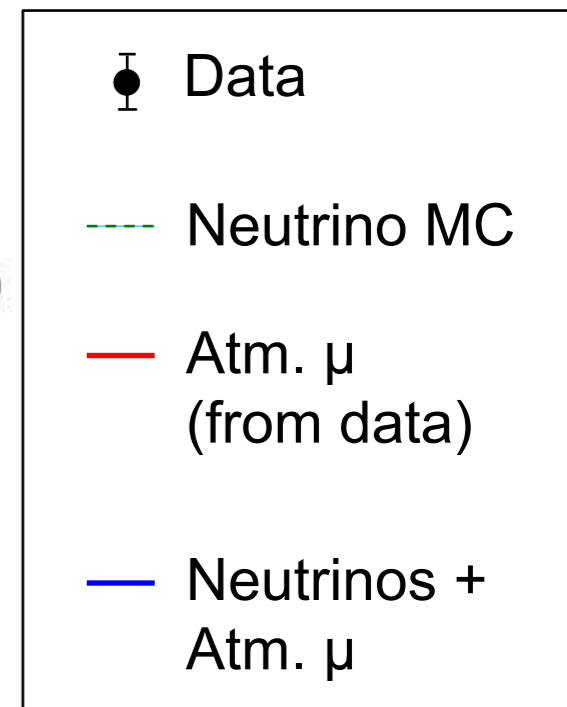
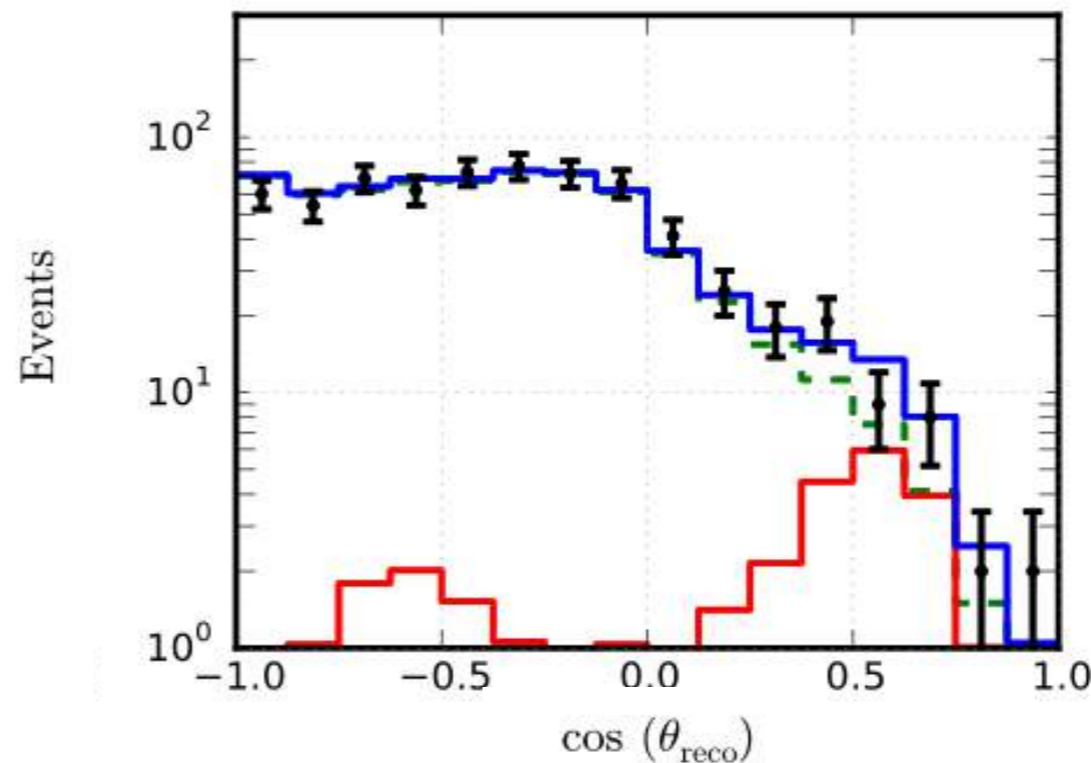
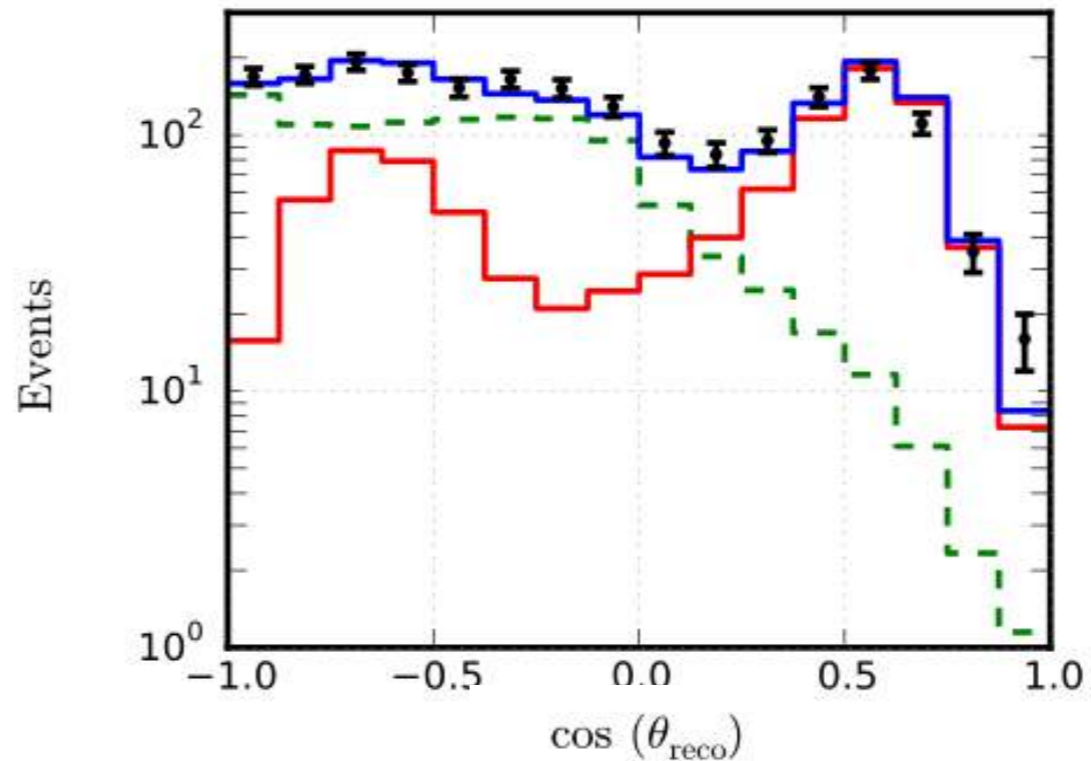
### > Veto

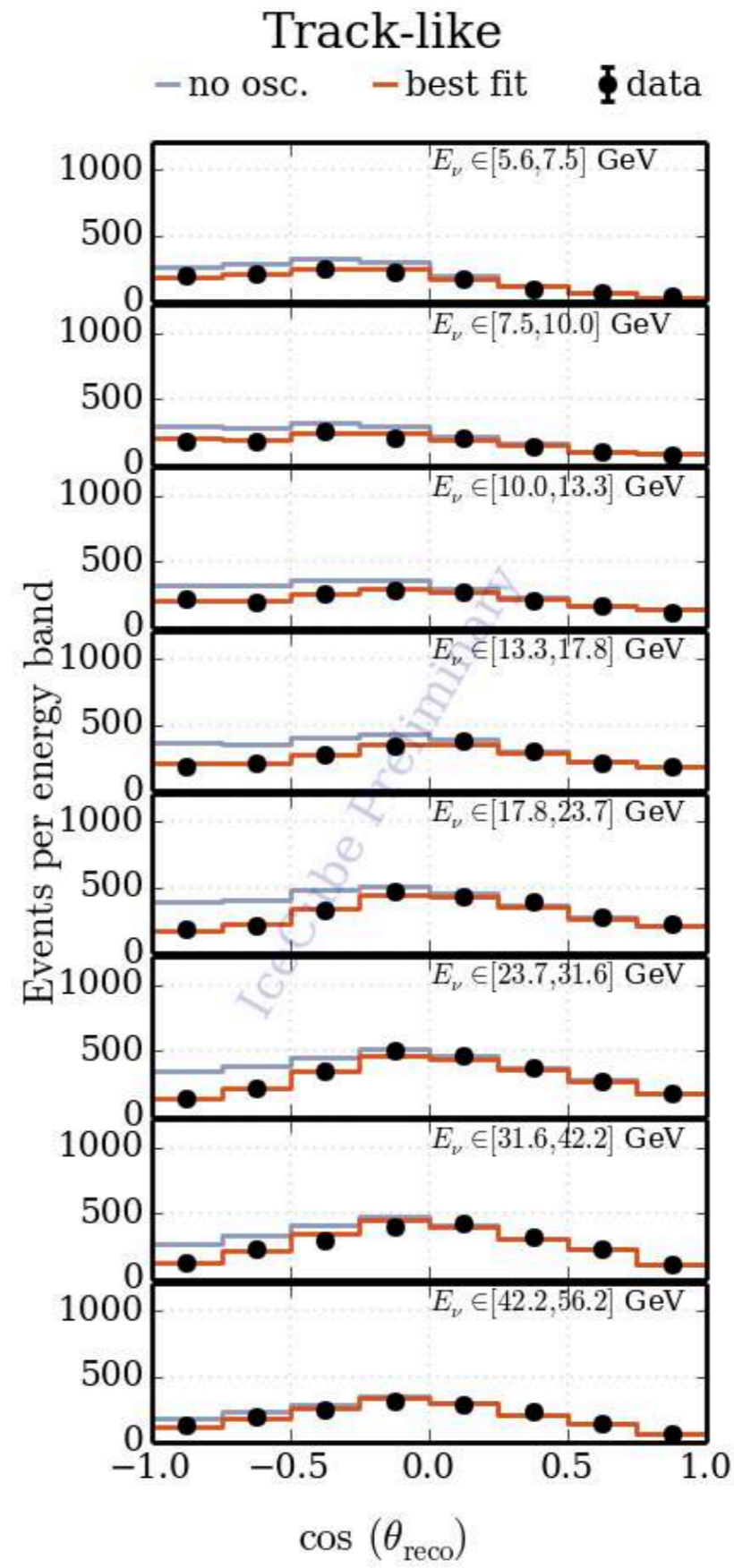
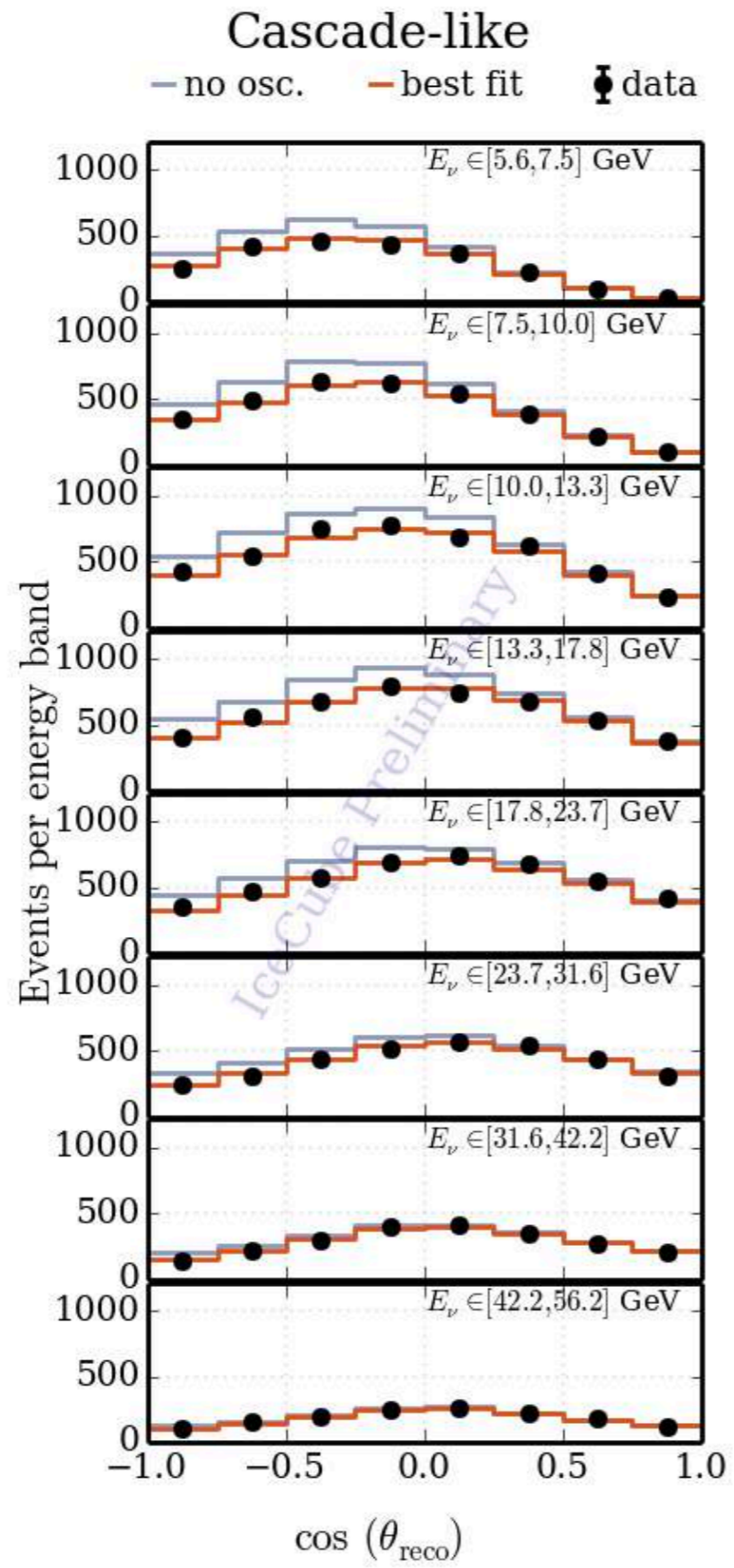
- Up-going events: use Earth as a veto
- Outer layers of IceCube
- Veto cap

### > Starting events with first hits inside fiducial volume

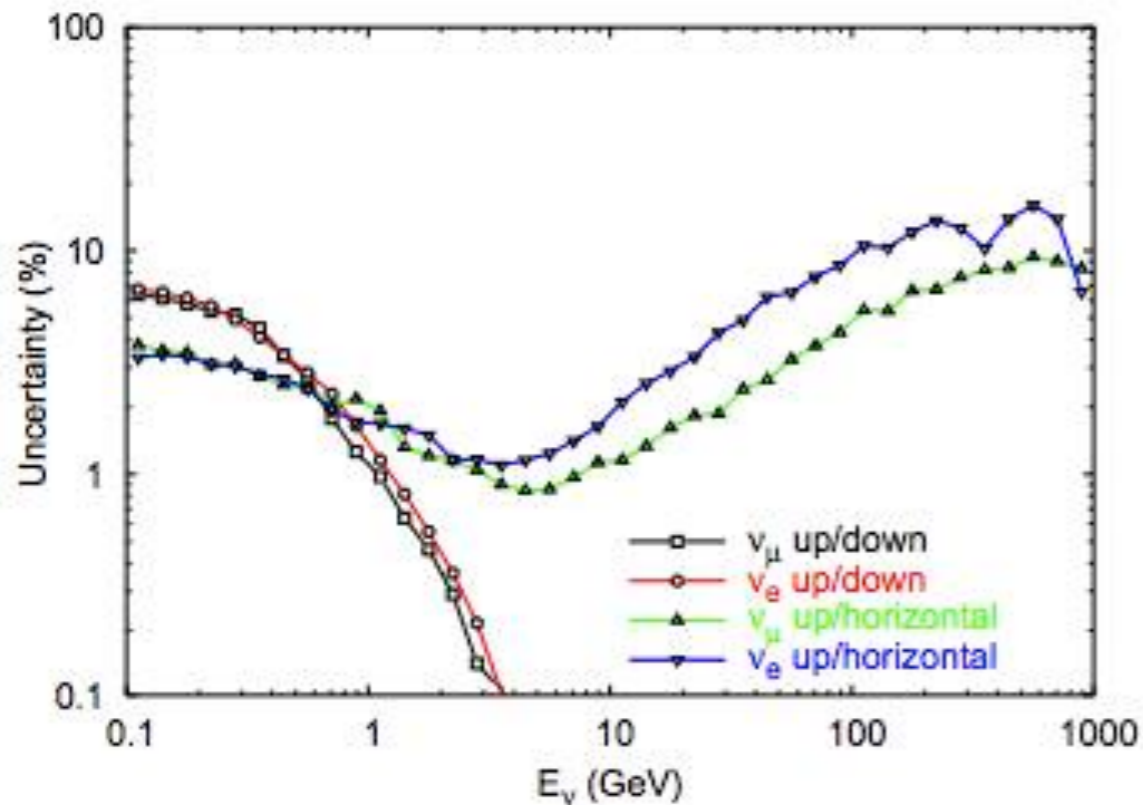
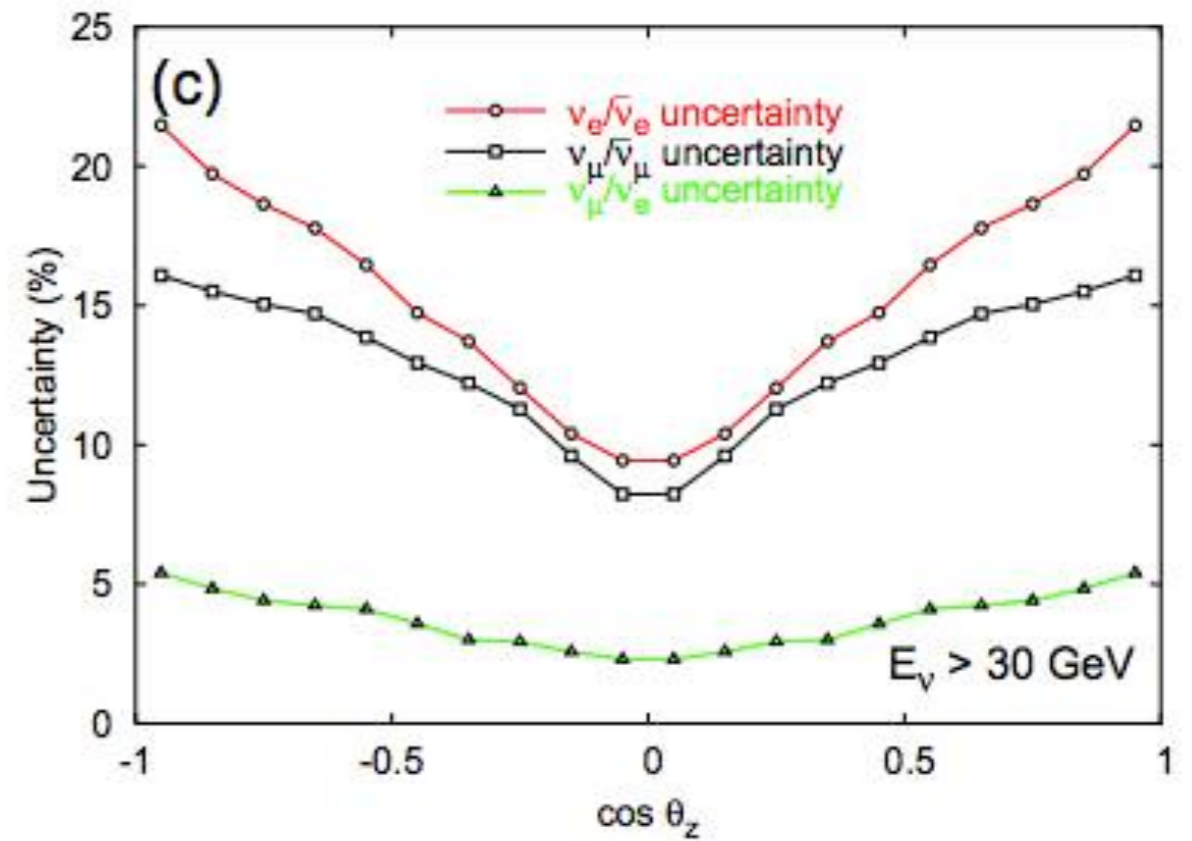
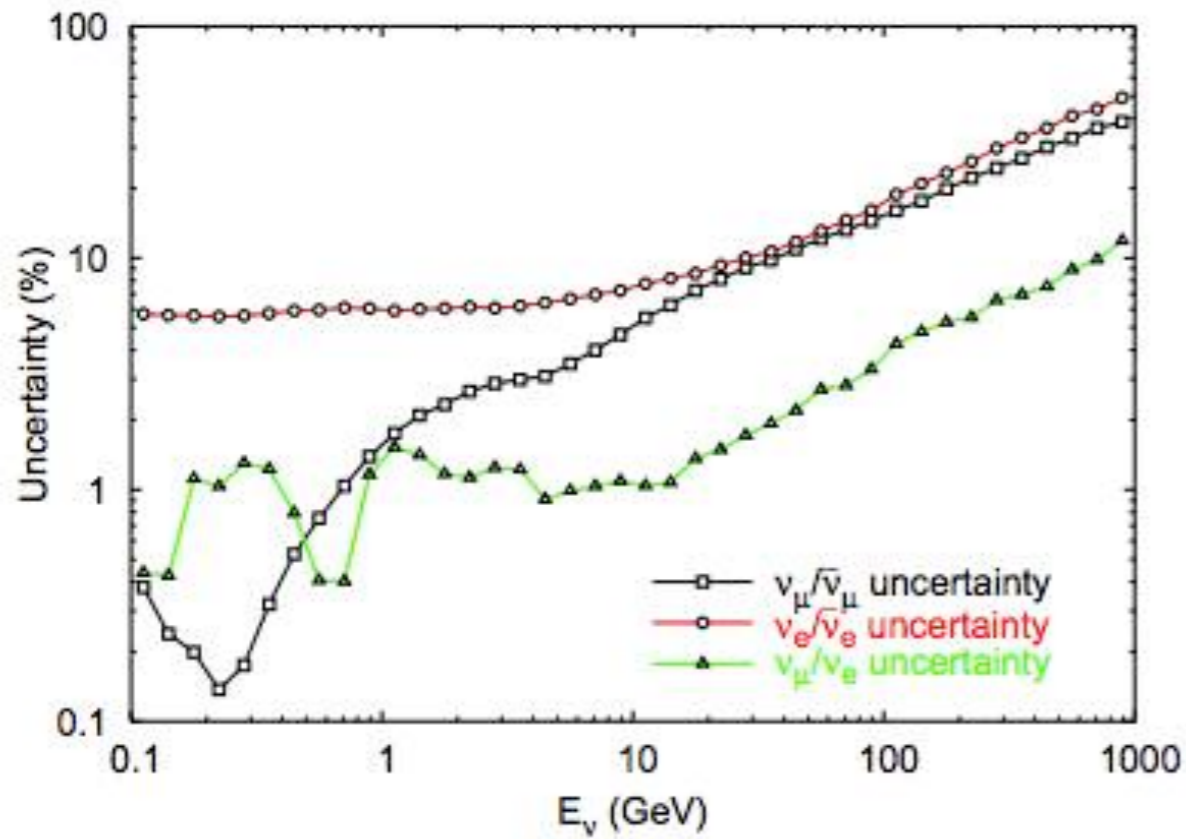
## Final level

$< 1\% \mu$





# Atmospheric flux uncertainties in detail



Uncertainties based on Barr *et al*: <https://arxiv.org/pdf/astro-ph/0611266v1.pdf>



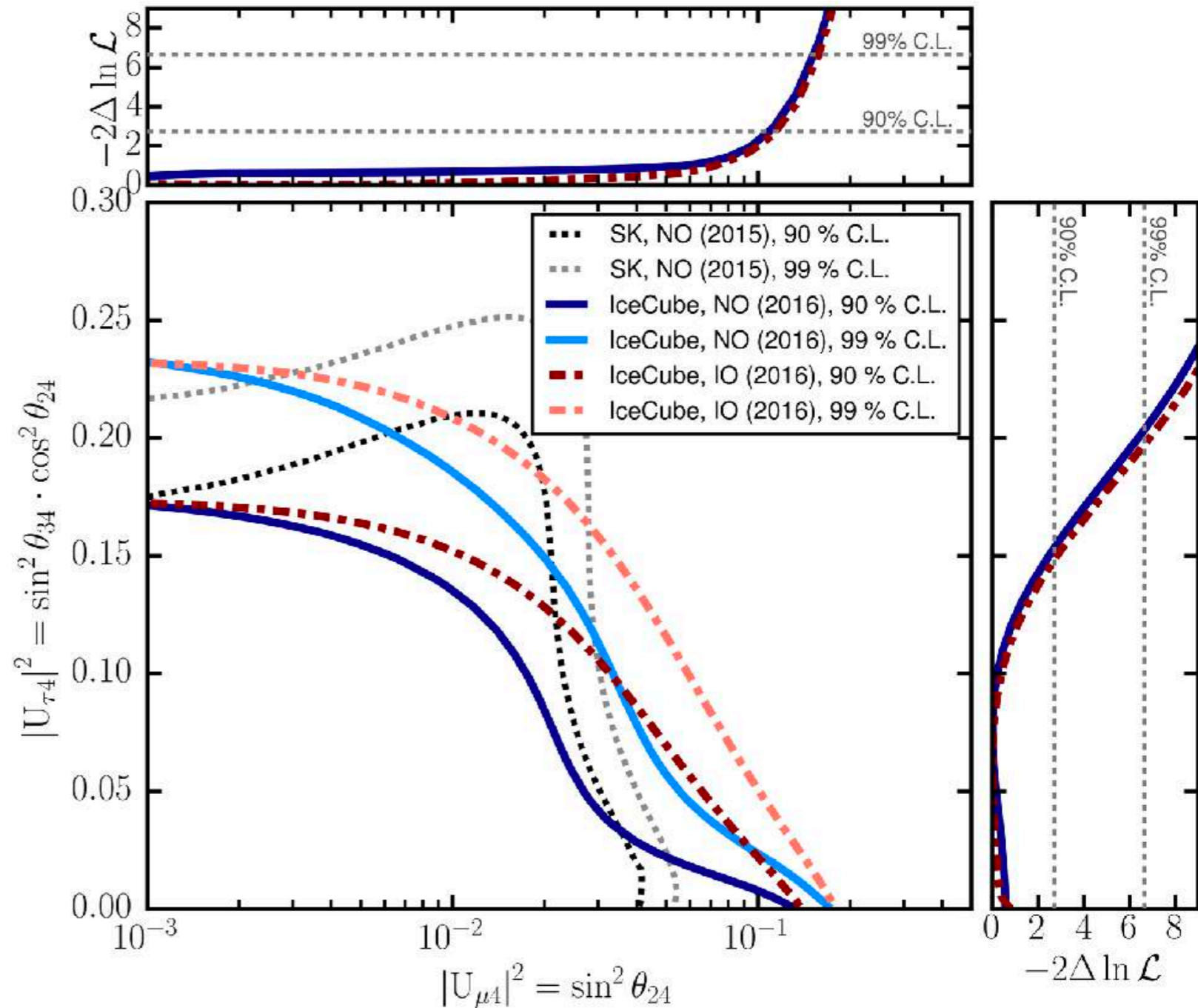
# NuMu Disappearance – best fit point for all parameters

TABLE I. Table of nuisance parameters along with their associated priors, if applicable. The right two columns show the results from our best fit for normal mass ordering and inverted mass ordering, respectively.

Parameters	Priors	Best Fit	
		NO	IO
Flux and cross section parameters			
Neutrino event rate [% of nominal]	no prior	85	85
$\Delta\gamma$ (spectral index)	$0.00\pm 0.10$	-0.02	-0.02
$M_A$ (resonance) [GeV]	$1.12\pm 0.22$	0.92	0.93
$\nu_e + \bar{\nu}_e$ relative normalization [%]	$100\pm 20$	125	125
NC relative normalization [%]	$100\pm 20$	106	106
$\Delta(\nu/\bar{\nu})$ [ $\sigma$ ], energy dependent [46]	$0.00\pm 1.00$	-0.56	-0.59
$\Delta(\nu/\bar{\nu})$ [ $\sigma$ ], zenith dependent [46]	$0.00\pm 1.00$	-0.55	-0.57
Detector parameters			
overall optical eff. [%]	$100\pm 10$	102	102
relative optical eff., lateral [ $\sigma$ ]	$0.0\pm 1.0$	0.2	0.2
relative optical eff., head-on [a.u.]	no prior	-0.72	-0.66
Background			
Atm. $\mu$ contamination [% of sample]	no prior	5.5	5.6

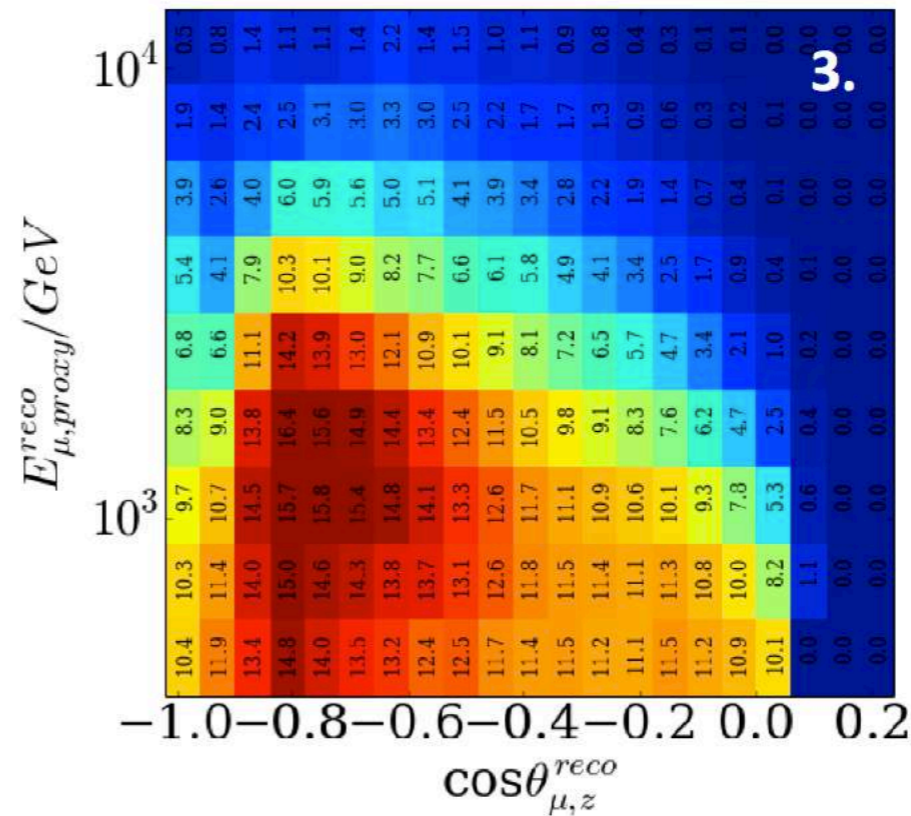
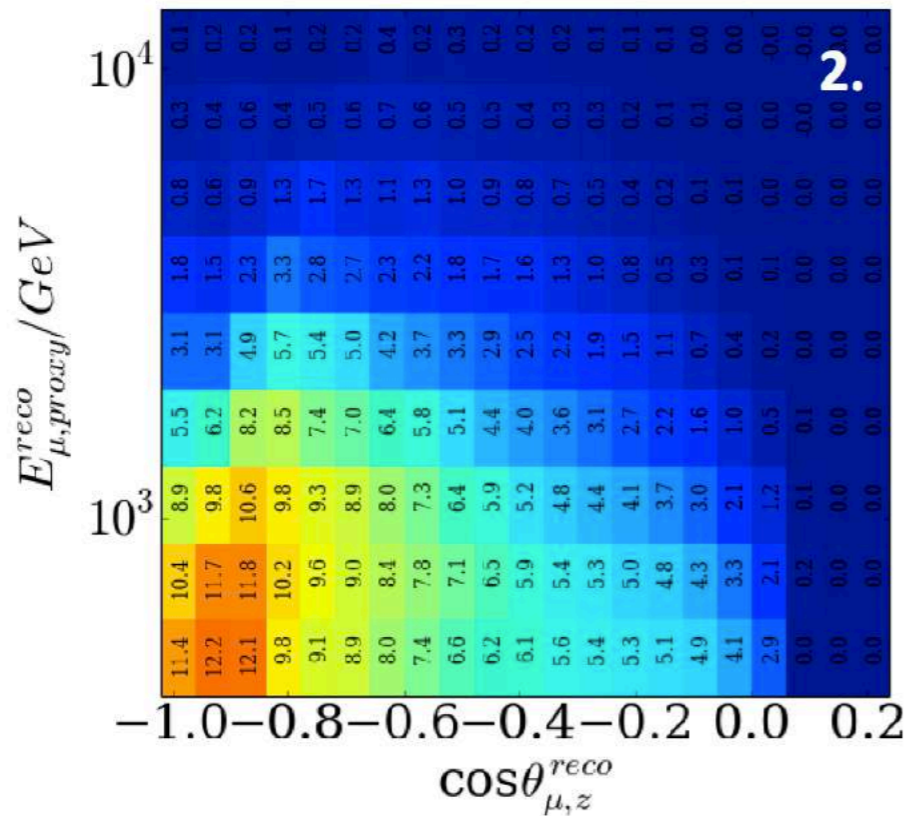
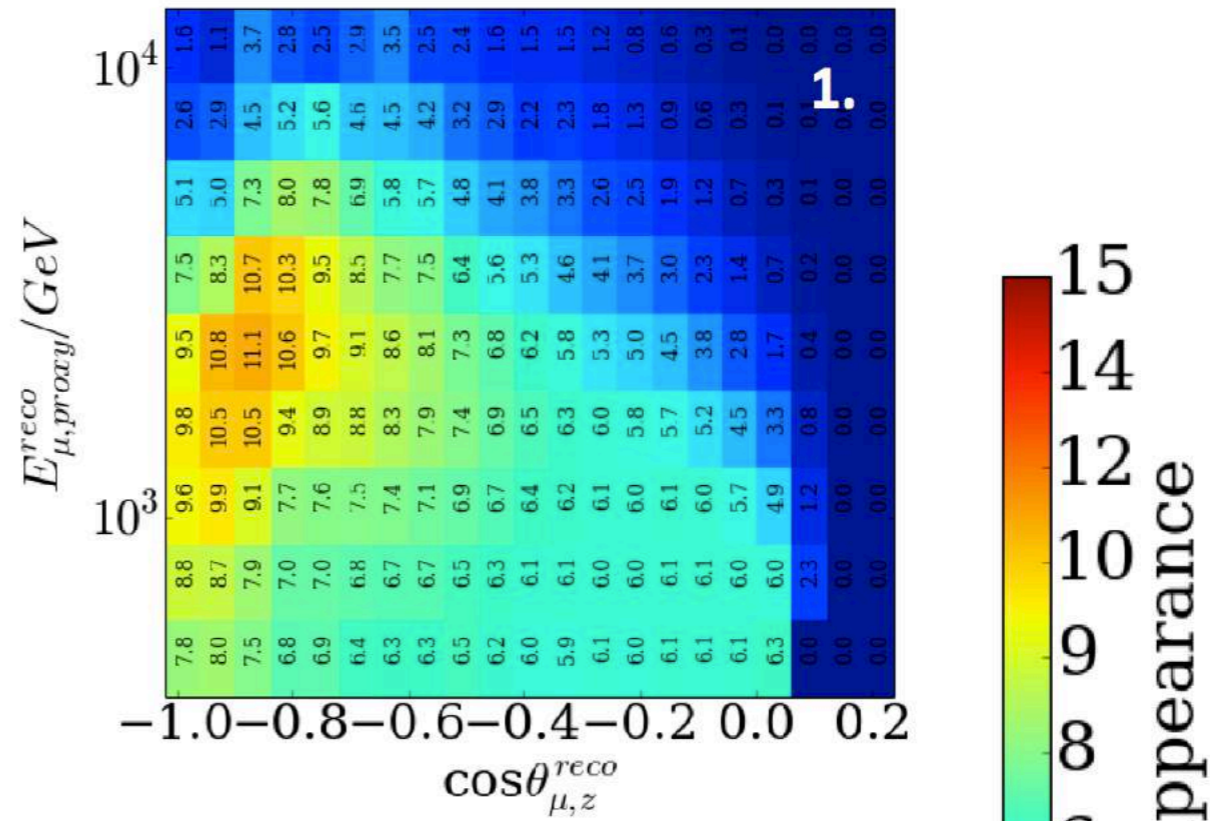
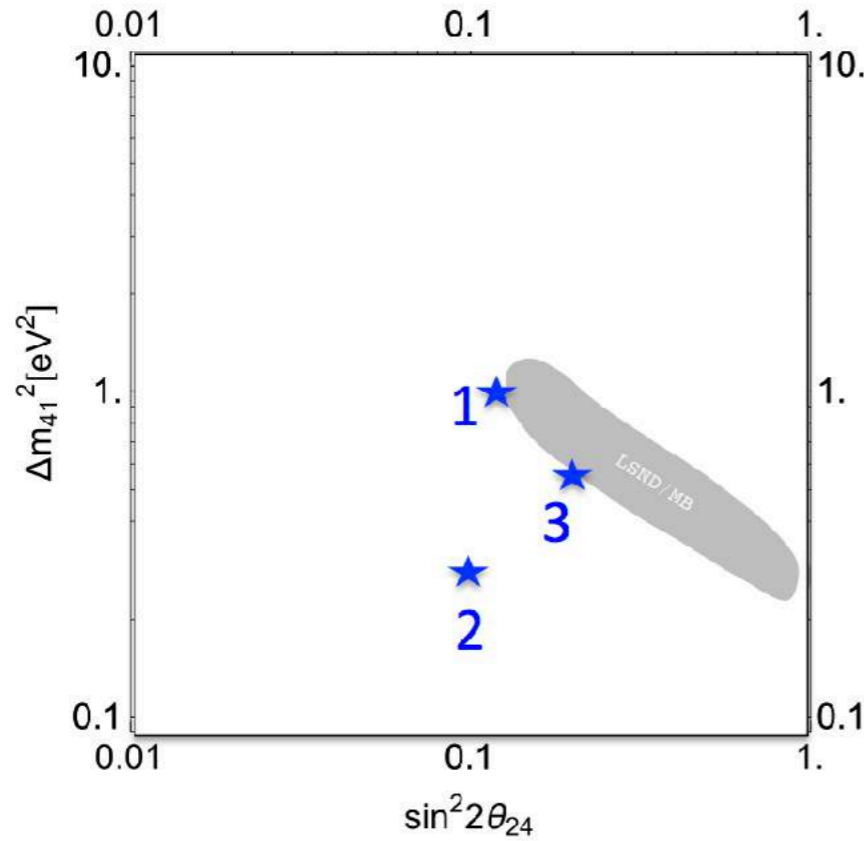
# Sterile neutrinos at low energies

- $\chi^2/\text{d.o.f.} = 55.2/57$
- Strongest constraint on  $|U_{\tau 4}|^2$
- In regime where  $U_{\tau 4}$  and  $U_{\mu 4}$  are both non-zero, measurement would have sensitivity to standard neutrino mass ordering as well

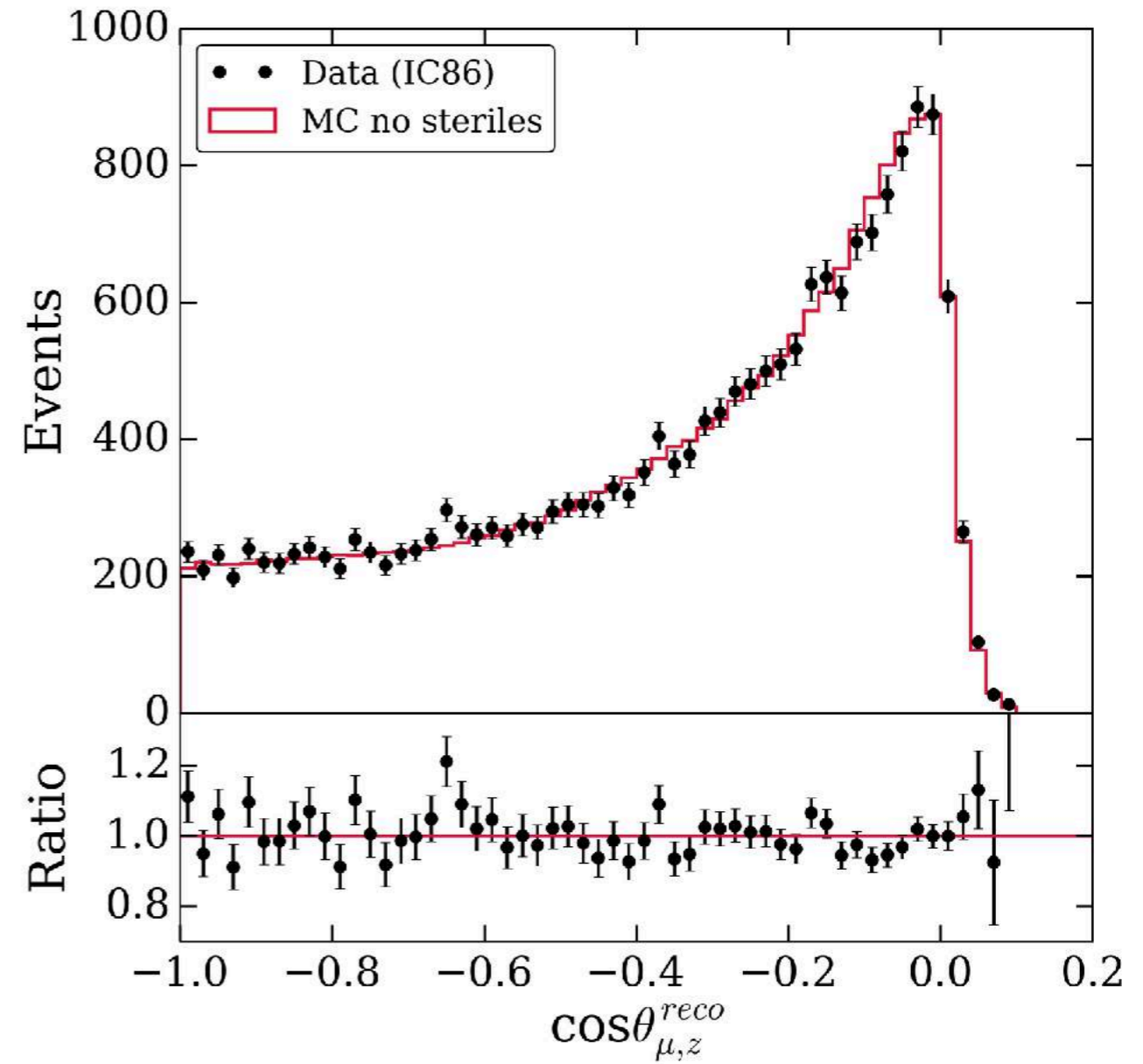
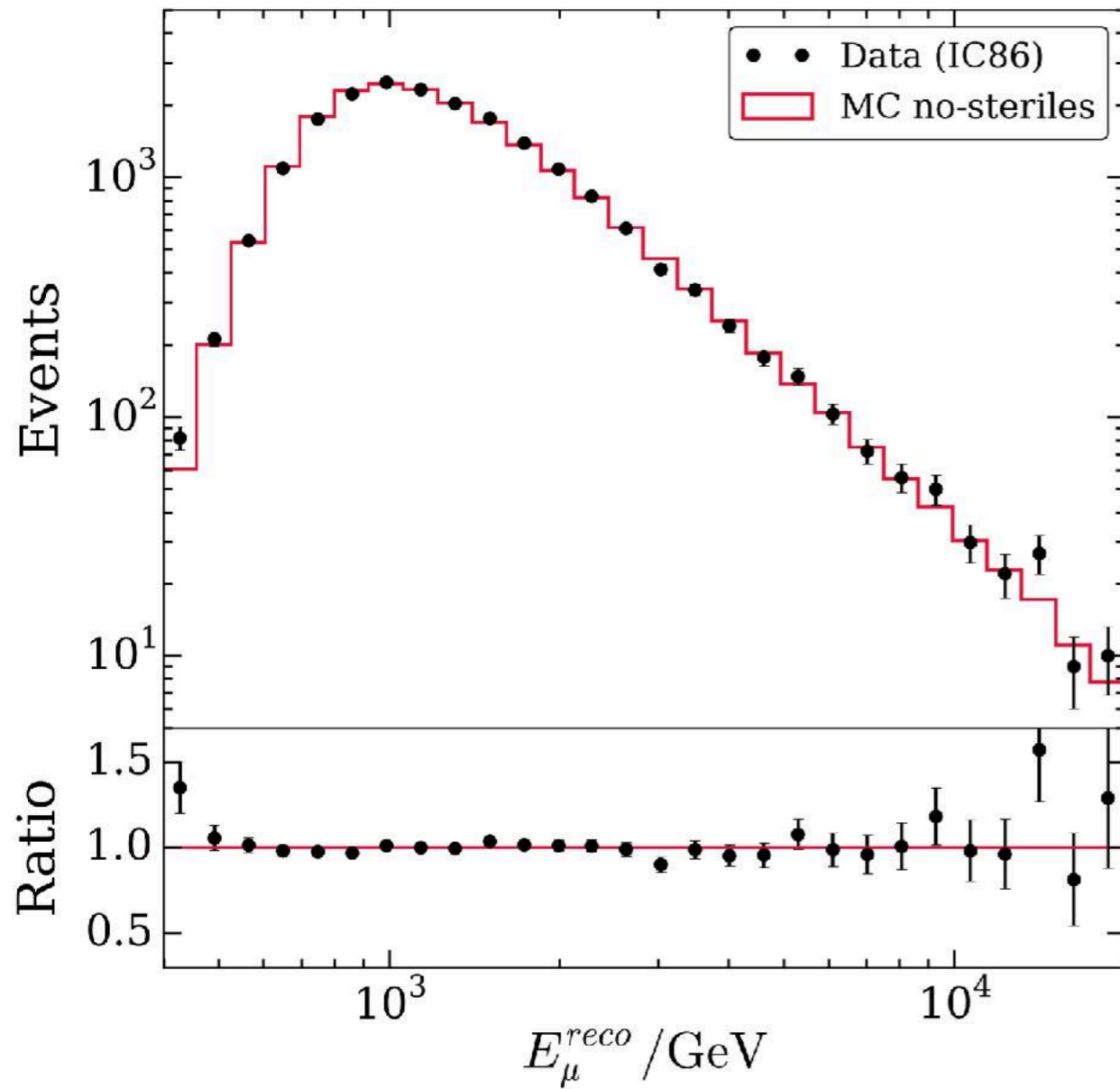




# Sterile neutrinos at high energies: e.g. Reco distributions

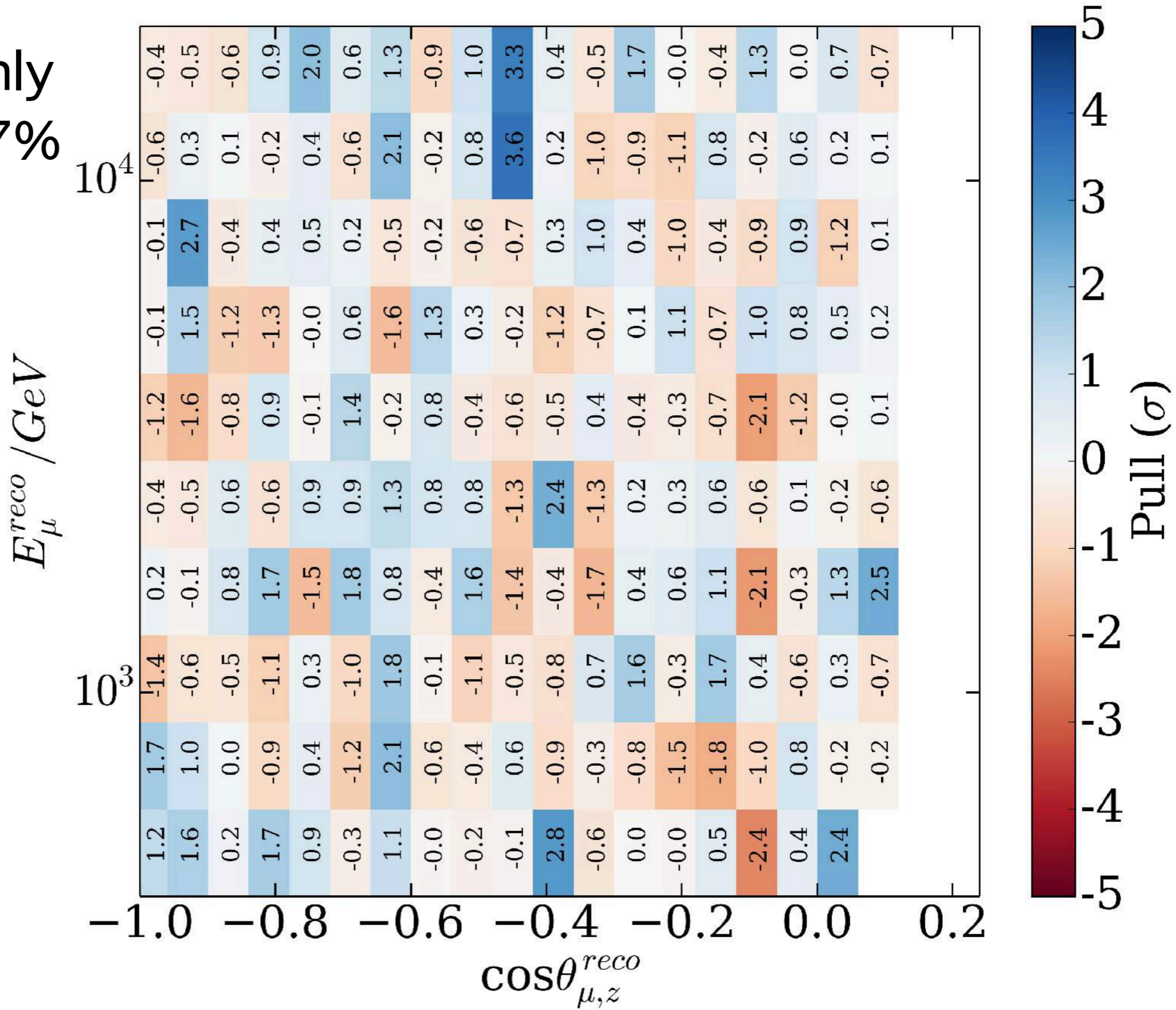


# Sterile neutrinos at high energies



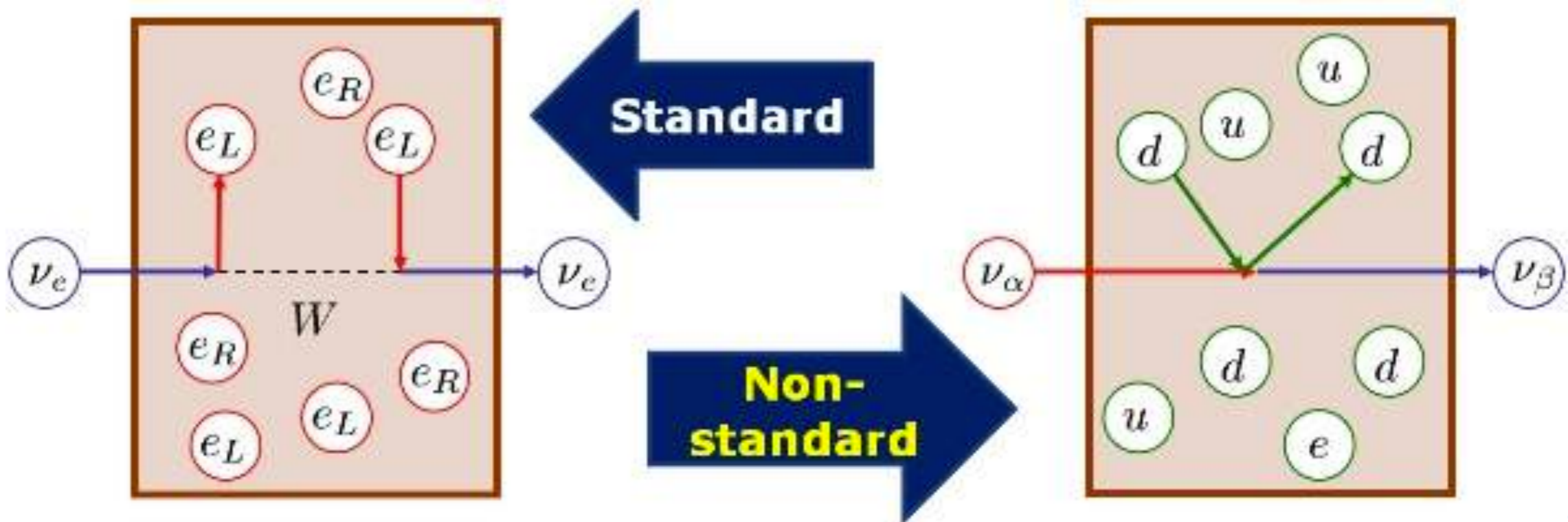
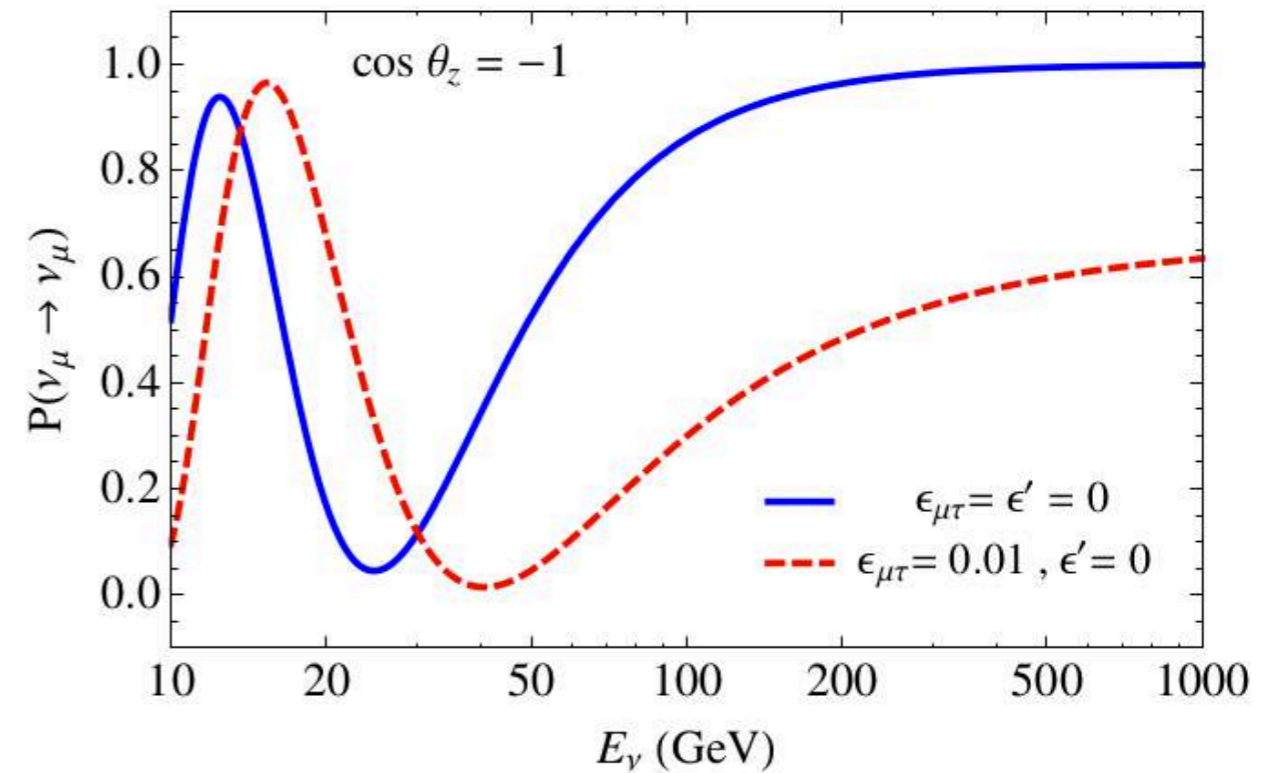
# Sterile neutrinos at high energies

Statistics only  
p-value = 17%



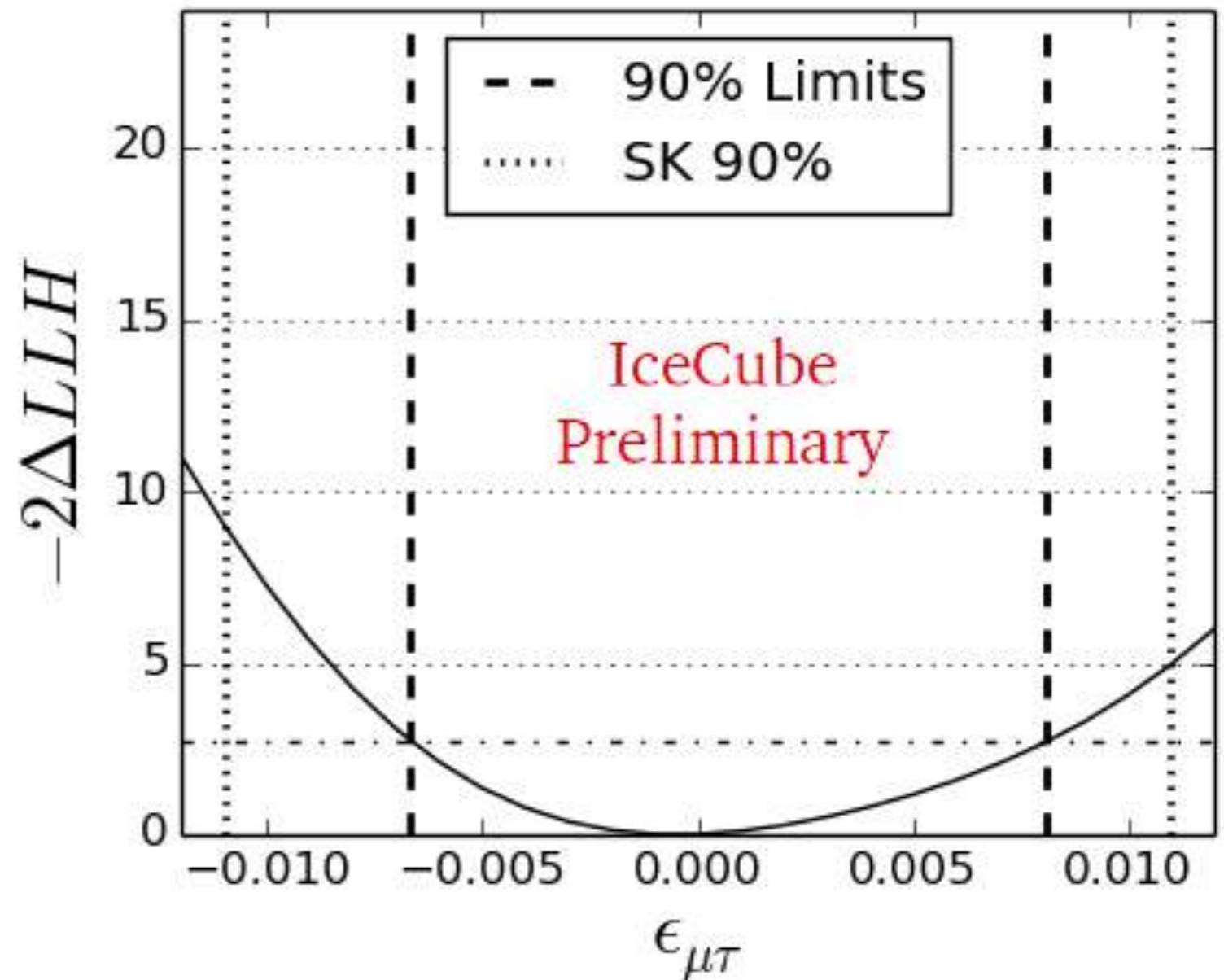
# Non-standard interactions

- > New vector bosons (e.g.  $W'$ ,  $Z'$ ) could mediate weak interaction
- > Impacts effective potential for neutrinos crossing the earth
  - Matter effects



# Non-standard interactions

- Using 3-year low energy up-going track sample
- Data consistent with null-hypothesis
  - Only standard interactions
- Exclusion contour derived for non-standard coupling  $\epsilon_{\mu\tau}$



# Preliminary timeline - Gen2



# New optical module designs

mDOM



36 cm

- Directional information
- More sensitive area per module

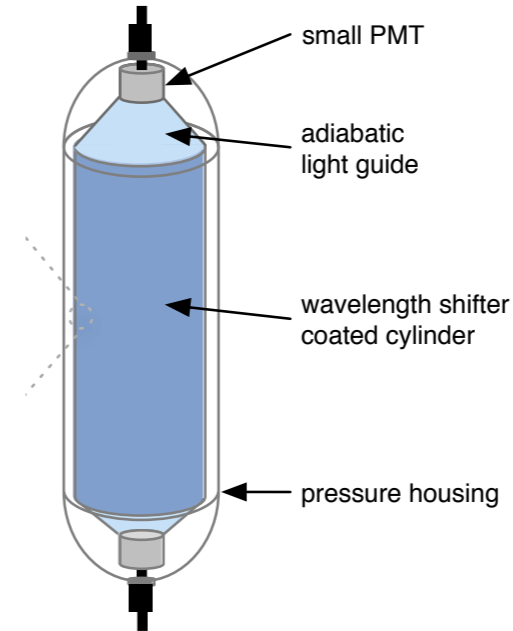
D-Egg



30 cm

- Directional information
- More sensitive area per module
- Smaller geometry

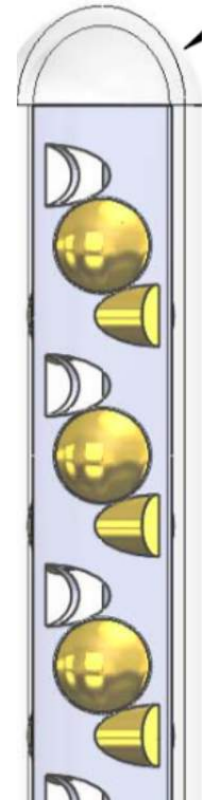
WOM



11 cm

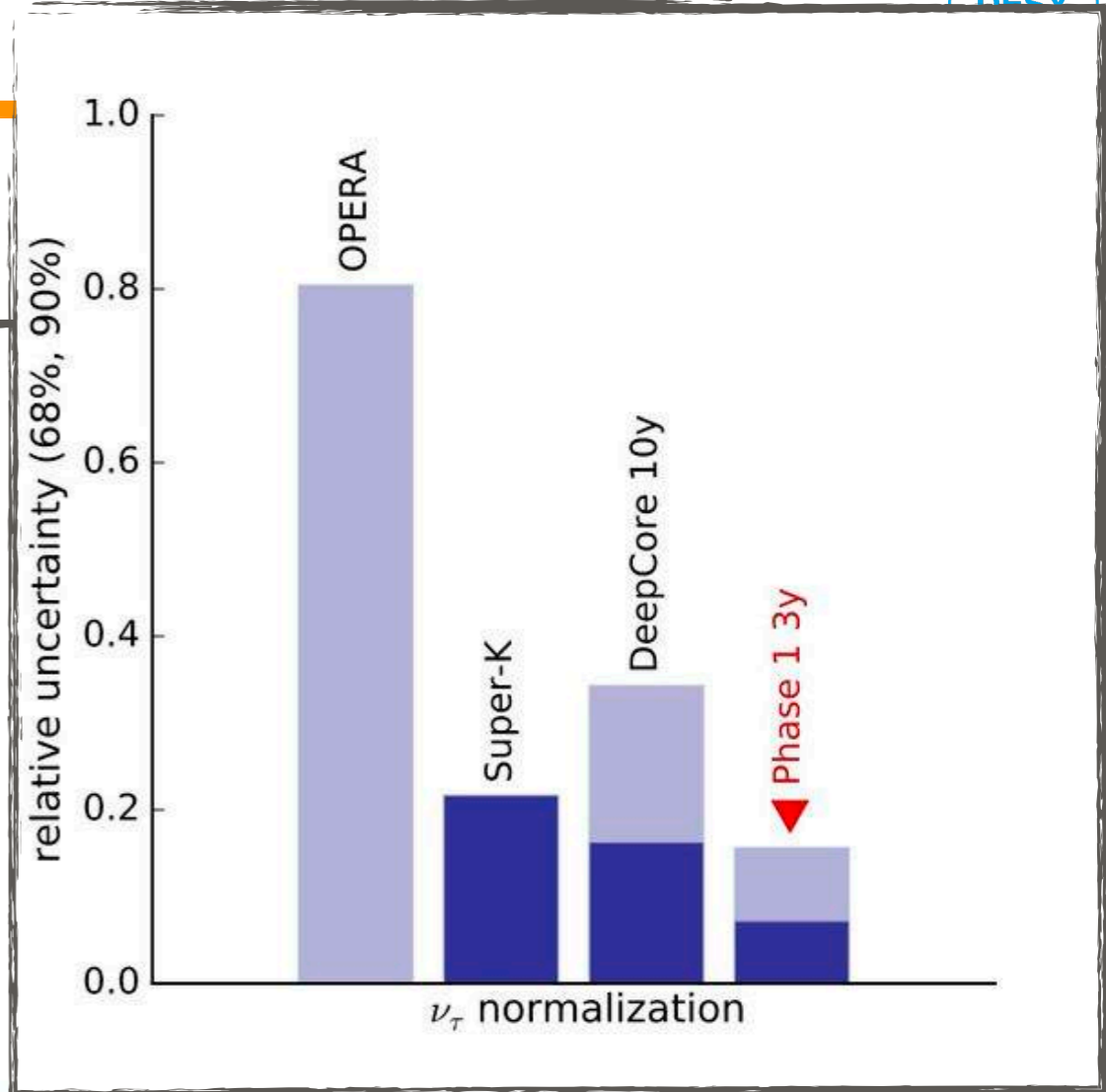
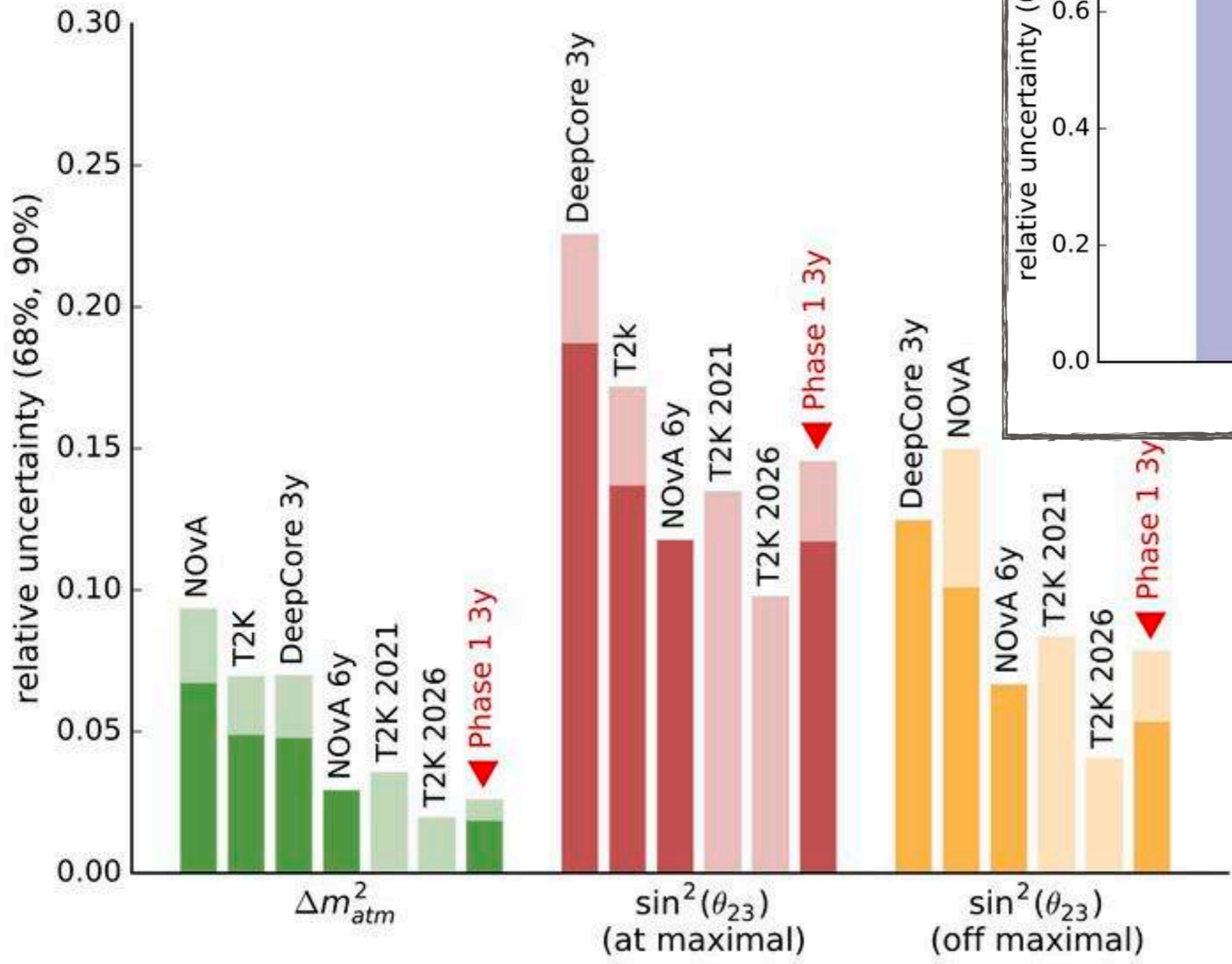
- more sensitive area per \$
- Small diameter
- Lower noise rate

LOM



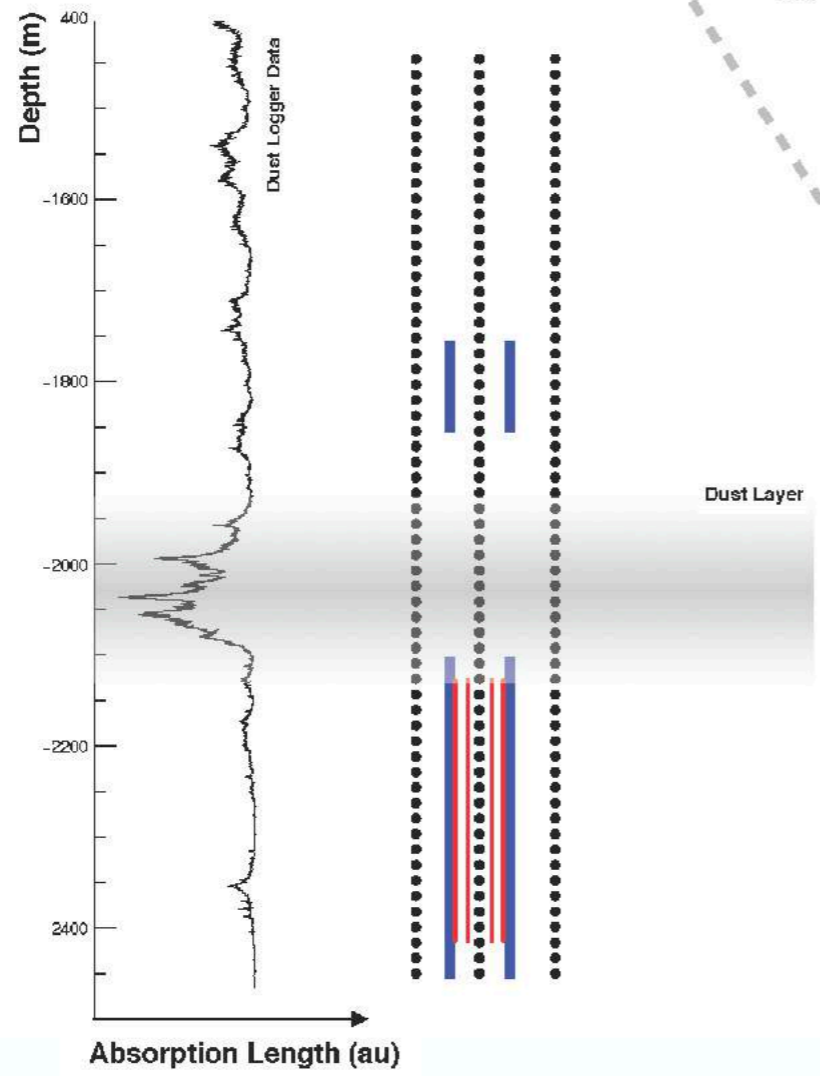
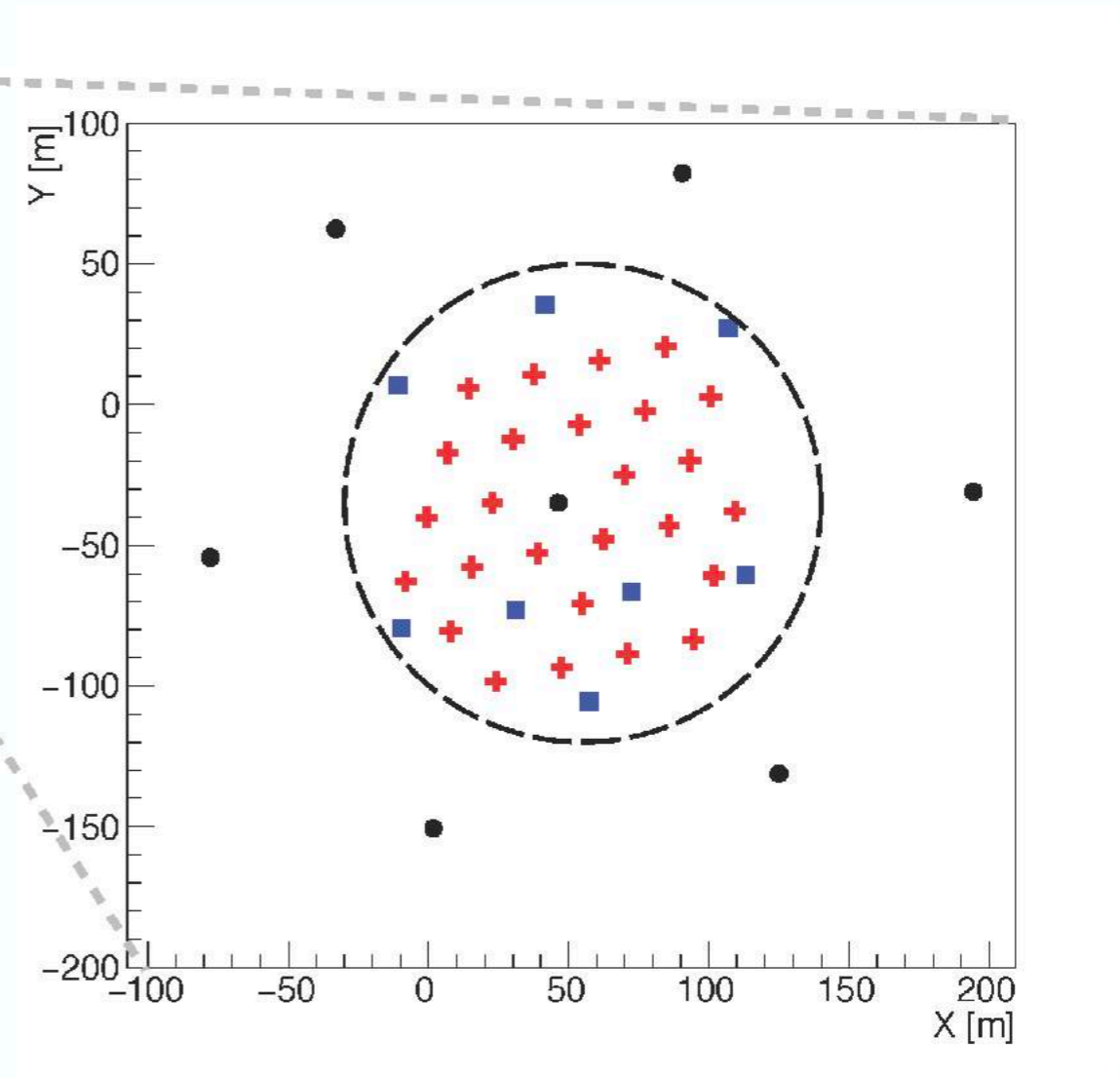
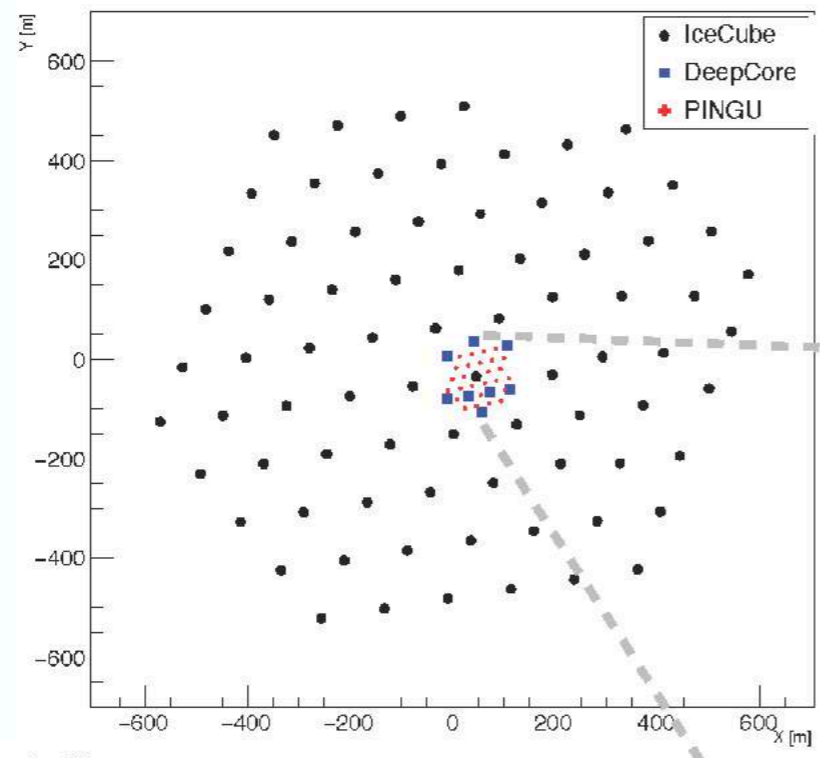
- Small diameter
- Directional info.
- More area per module

# IceCube Gen2-Phase1





# PINGU



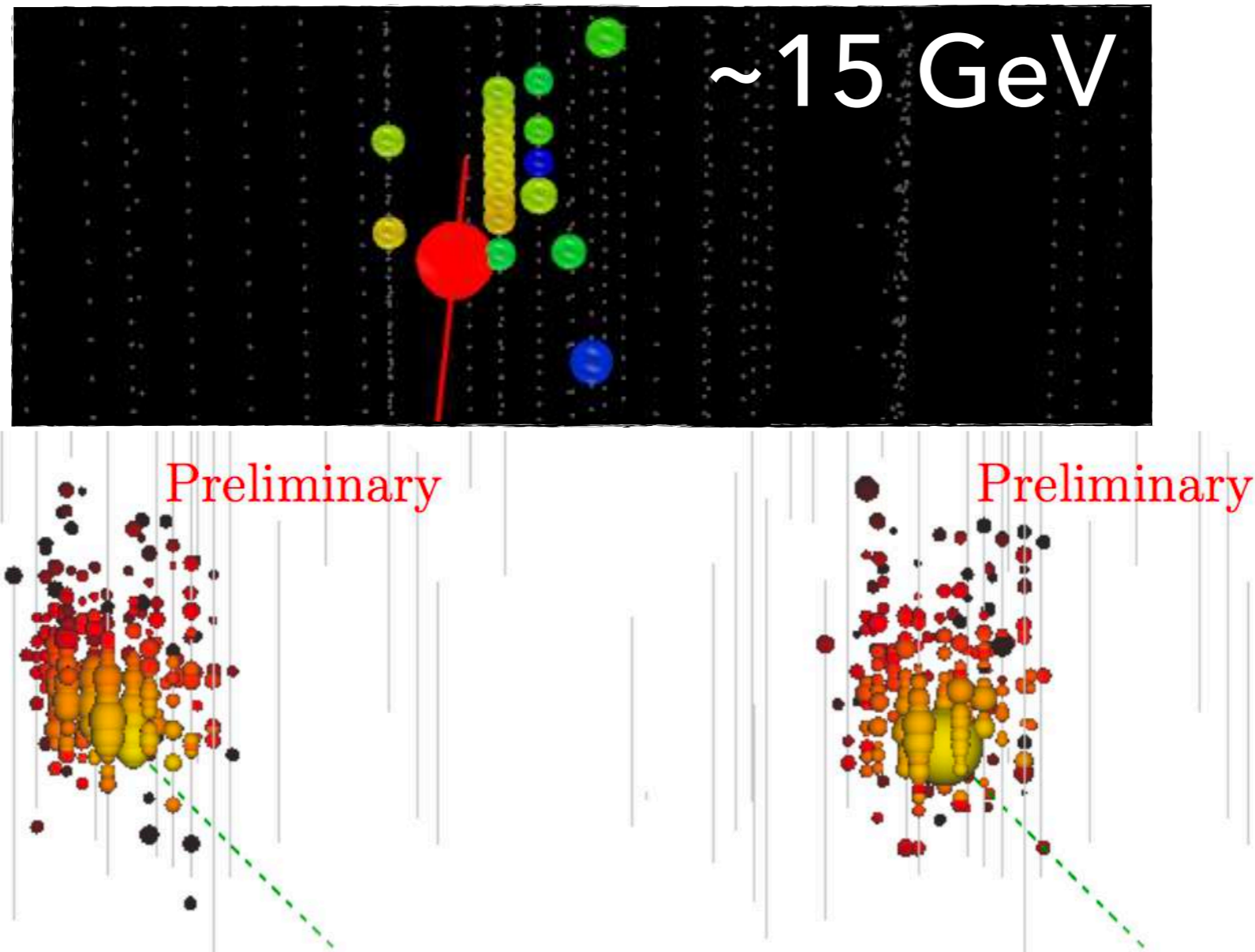


Figure 9: Event displays of a CC  $\nu_\mu$  (left) and a CC  $\nu_e$  (right) event. The spheres indicate the DOMs which recorded photons where the total amount of charge is indicated by the size of the sphere. The color indicates the time when the DOM observed the first photon, while the dashed line shows the true neutrino direction. In both panels are shown 12 GeV CC  $\nu$  producing a 10 GeV lepton ( $\mu$  or  $e$ ) crossing the detector leaving several groupings of hits on consecutive strings in a short time interval. In both cases the interaction vertex and direction is identical to make the comparison between events easier. We can distinguish the CC  $\nu_\mu$  and CC  $\nu_e$  events by comparing if the charge is extended in the diagonal (which happens in CC  $\nu_\mu$  events) or more concentrated around the vertex (which indicates no  $\mu$  is present in the event).

# PINGU – neutrino mass ordering

- Ordering of mass states 3 and 1 (2) not known
- Matter effects induce resonance for
  - Neutrinos for normal ordering
  - Anti-nu's for inverted ordering
- Difference in flux & cross section

