

Astrophysical neutrinos with

IceCube



Lutz Köpke, Bolshie Koty, July, 2019



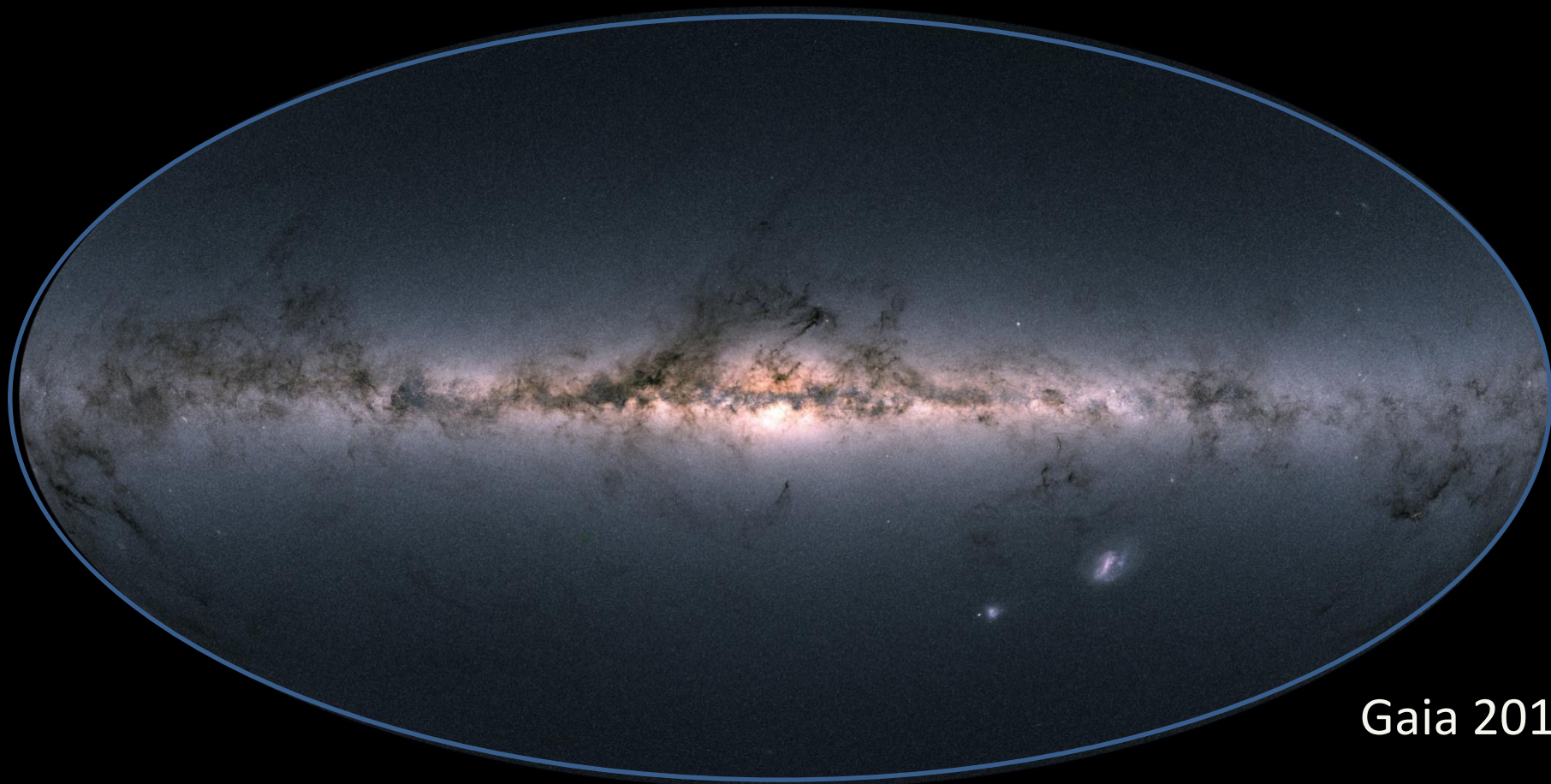
Radio

Infrared

visible
(0.3 μm)

x-ray

Gamma



Gaia 2018

15 Oktaves

Idea Werner Hoffmann



Radio
(mm)

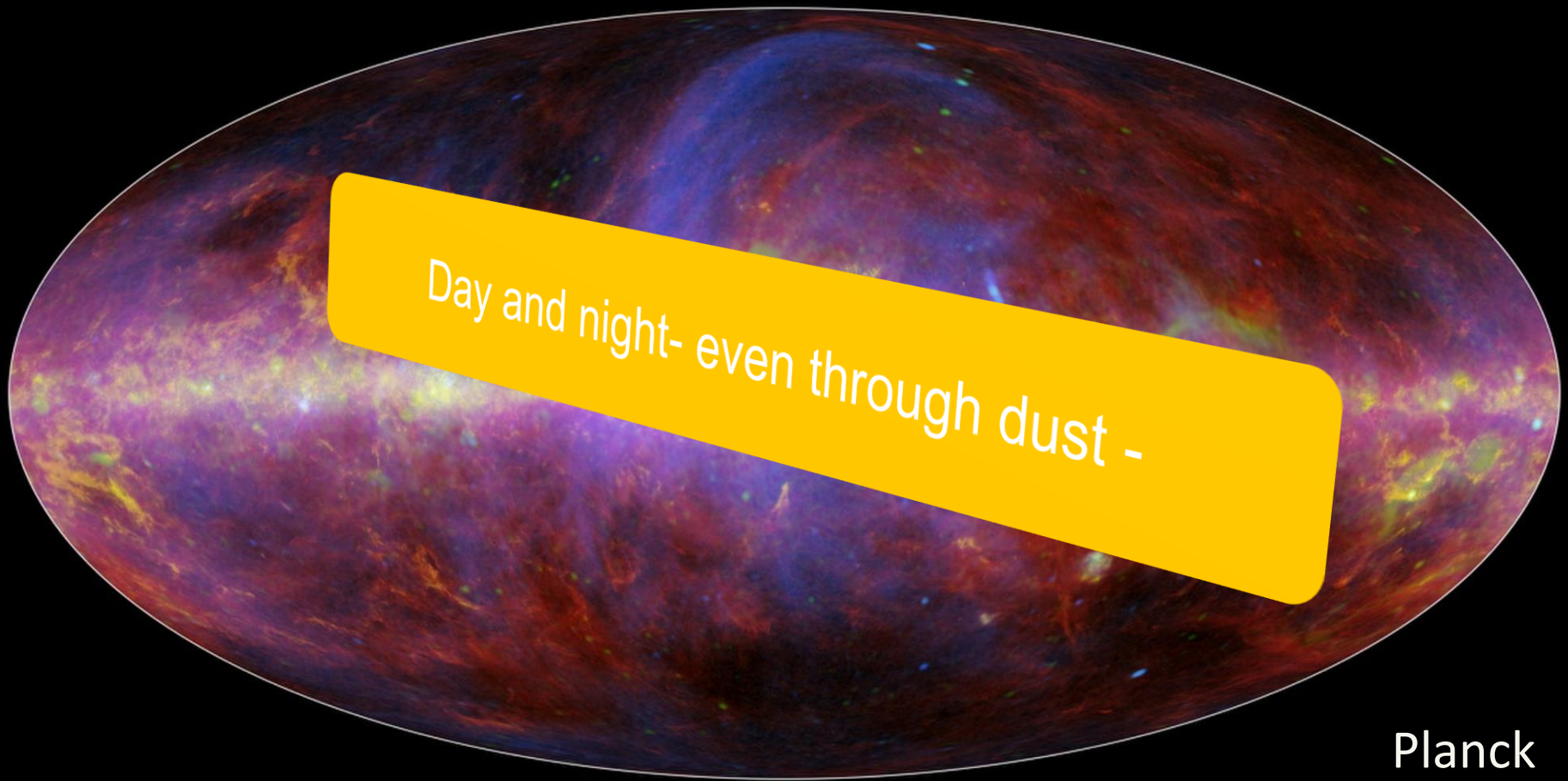
infrared

visible

X-ray

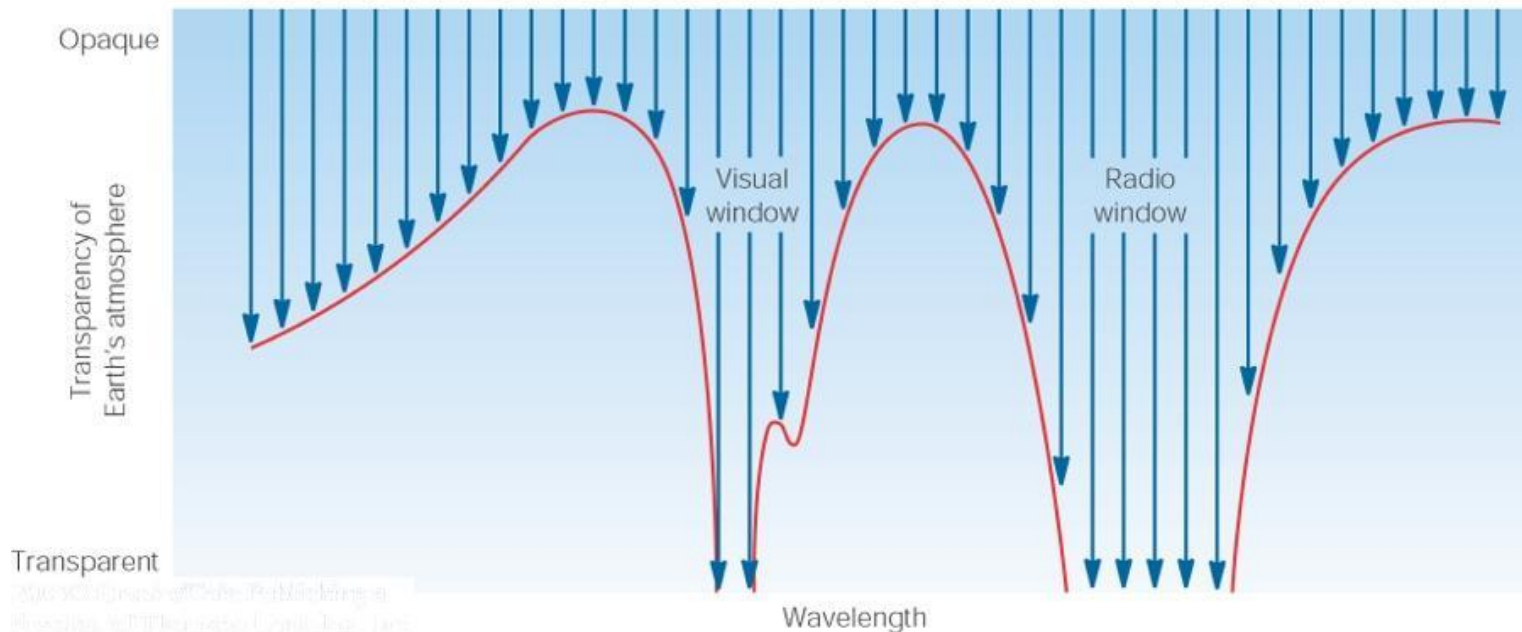
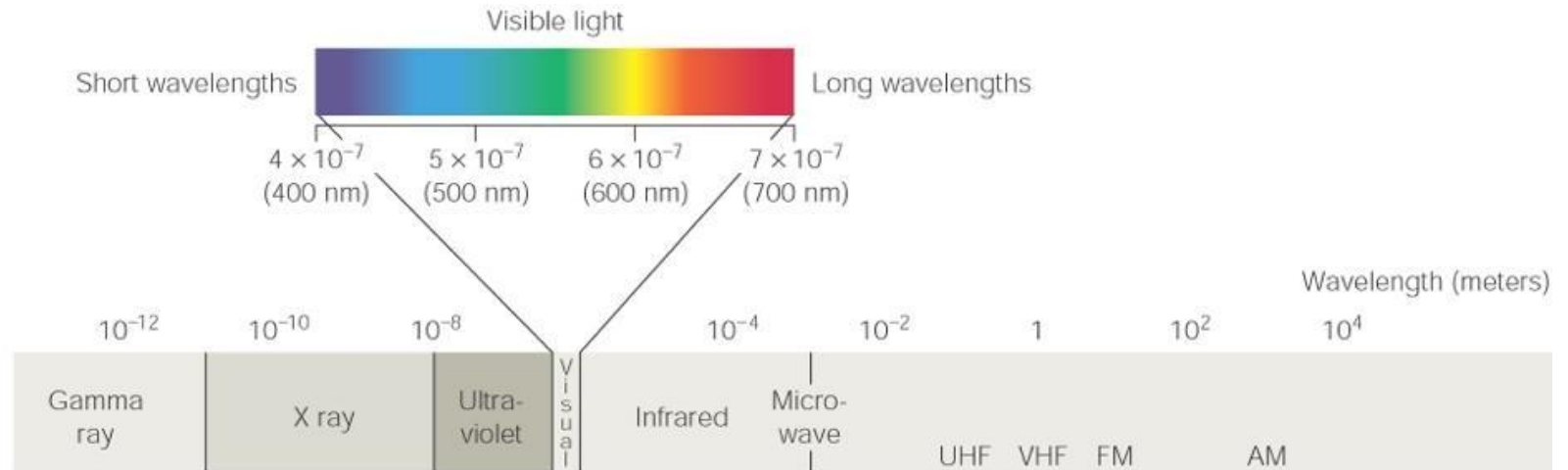
Gamma

Day and night- even through dust -



Planck

Transparency of atmosphere





Radio

infrared

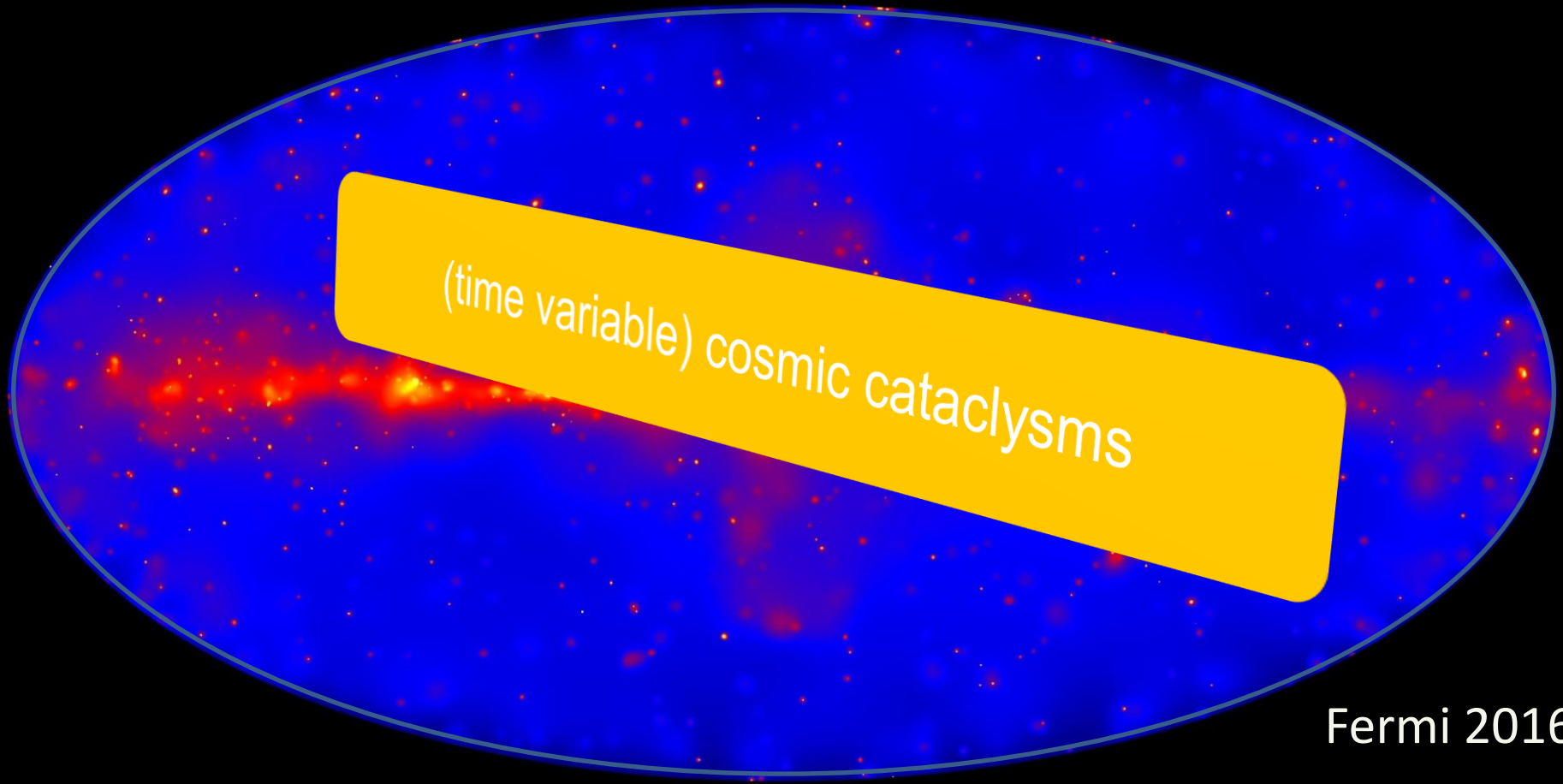
visible

X-ray

Gamma

(time variable) cosmic cataclysms

Fermi 2016



A night sky filled with stars and several bright, reddish-orange streaks of light, likely representing cosmic radiation or neutrinos. In the lower-left foreground, the silhouette of a large satellite dish antenna is visible. A yellow, rounded rectangular text box is positioned diagonally across the center of the image.

Does it need to be light?
→ Cosmic radiation / neutrinos

See 60 Watt „light bulbs“ with speed of light in 40 km distance

Table of content: Part 1

- ② Where are we in the Universe?
 - Messengers and their limitations
- ② Neutrinos
 - Neutrino production
 - Oscillation and decoherence
 - High energy cross sections
 - Detection principle

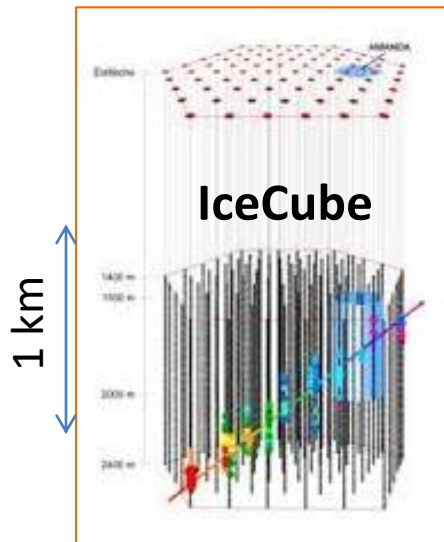
Goal of astroparticle physics: Explore sky
outside of visible electromagnetic band

Messengers and
their limitations ...

Exploring the Sky with Particles

... sensitivity determined by energy range, effective area ...

Type	Experiment	E_{typical} [eV]	Effective area
Satellite based	Fermi-LAT	10^6 - 10^9	1 m ²
	Hubble	1	5 m ²
Neutrino telescope	IceCube	10^{10}-10^{15}	5 m²
Cherenkov telescope array	CTA	10^{10} - 10^{13}	10^6 m ²
Cosmic air shower array	AUGER	10^{18} - 10^{20}	3×10^9 m ²



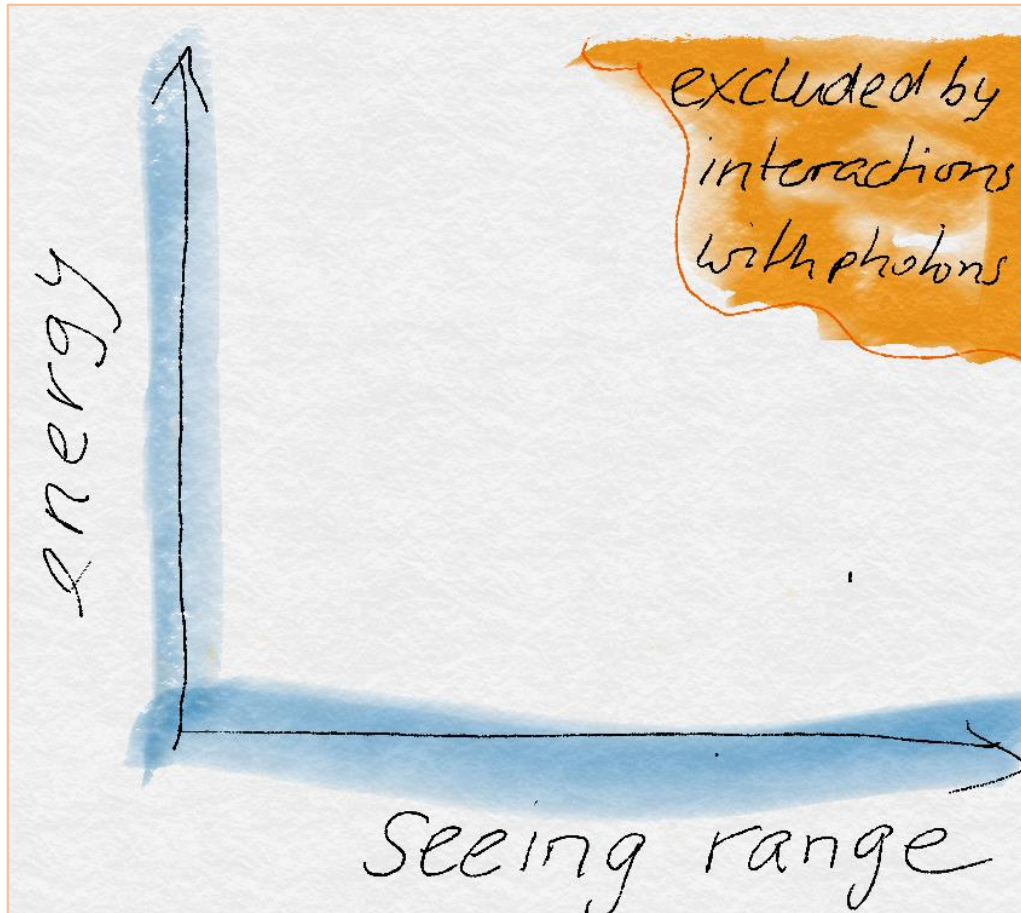
similar effective area
but signal flux $\propto 1/E^2$



*for a serious comparison,
other parameters matter ...*

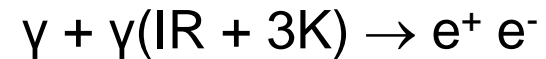
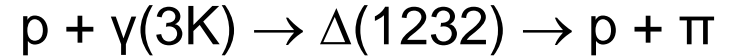
- @ angular coverage
- @ obstruction by matter
- @ magnetic field sensitivity
- @ backgrounds

Transparency of the Universe



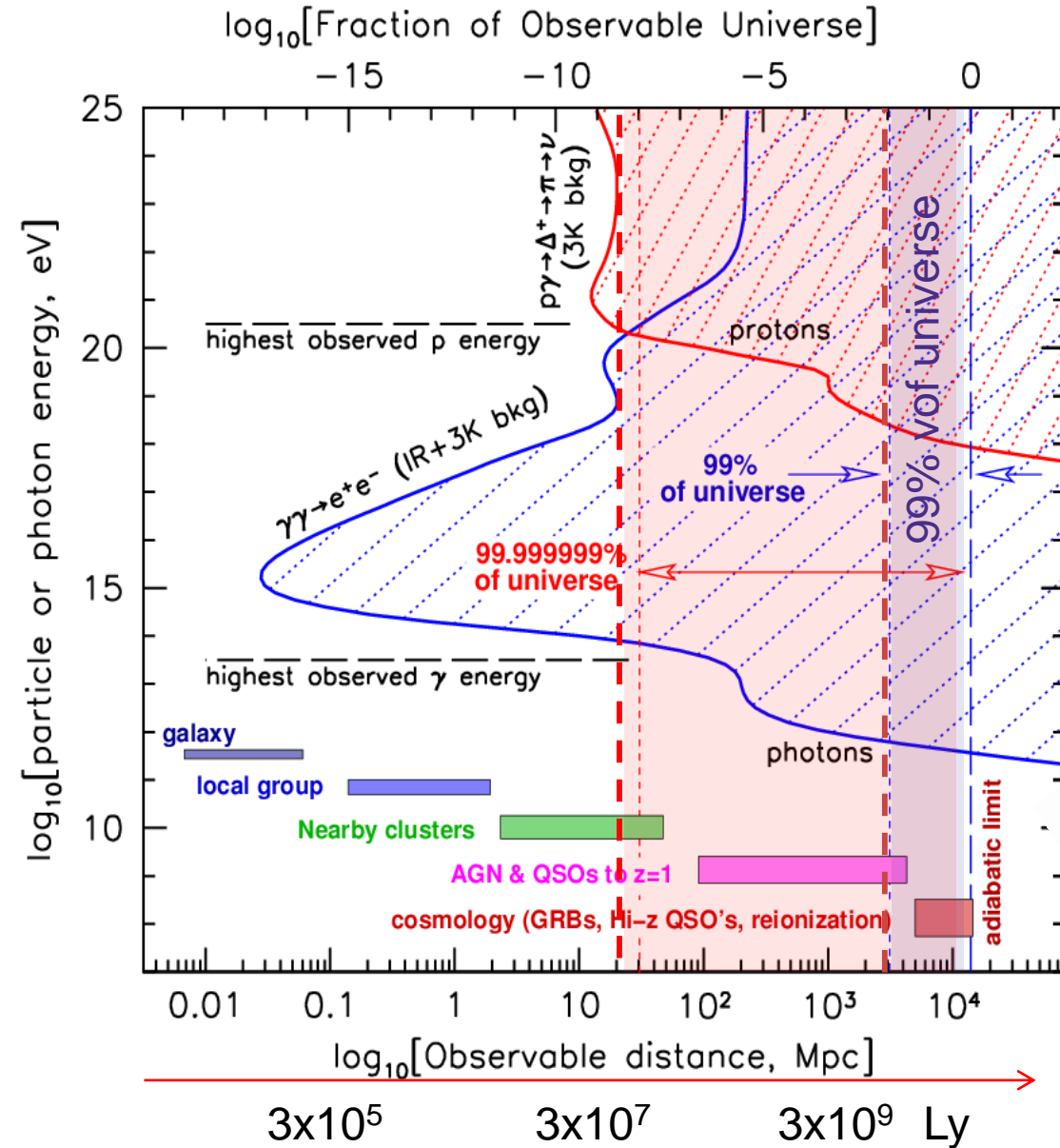
photons of all energies abound in universe (3K \rightarrow visible)

interactions with p and γ :



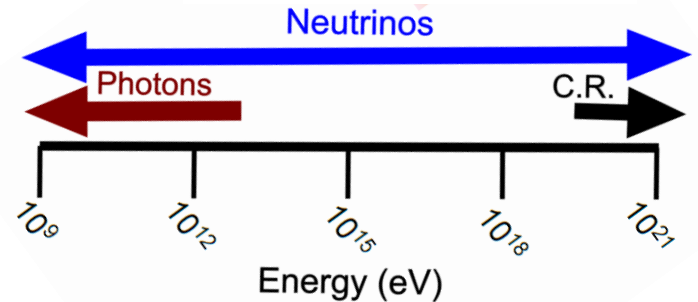
limits „seeing“ range ...

...transparency of the Universe

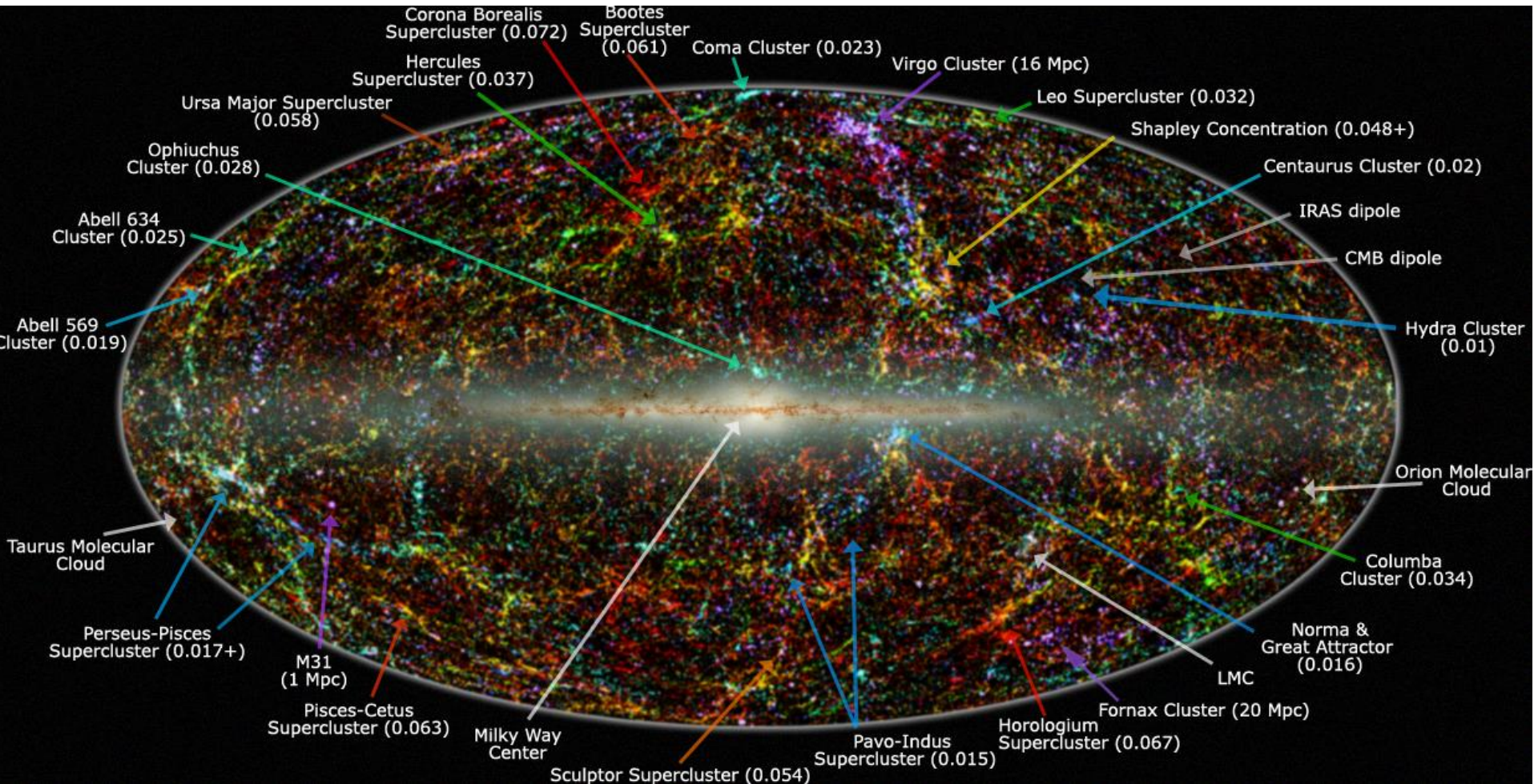


- Only ν 's and GW's can "see" beyond local Universe above 100 TeV
- Only ν 's and GW's can escape from dense environments
- Only ν 's can unambiguously prove hadronic acceleration

useful range for point searches:

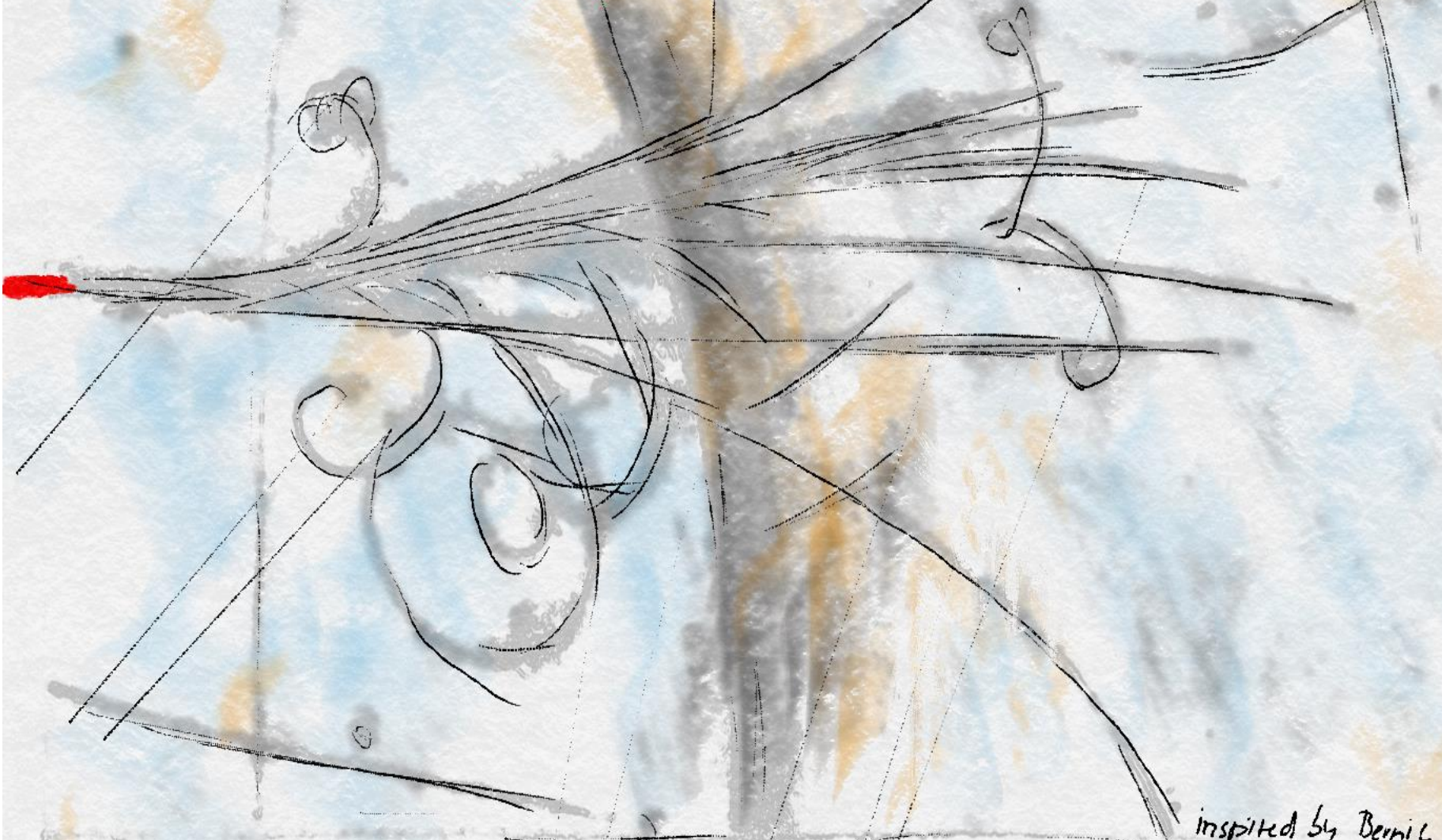


Galaxies and stars within 60 Mly



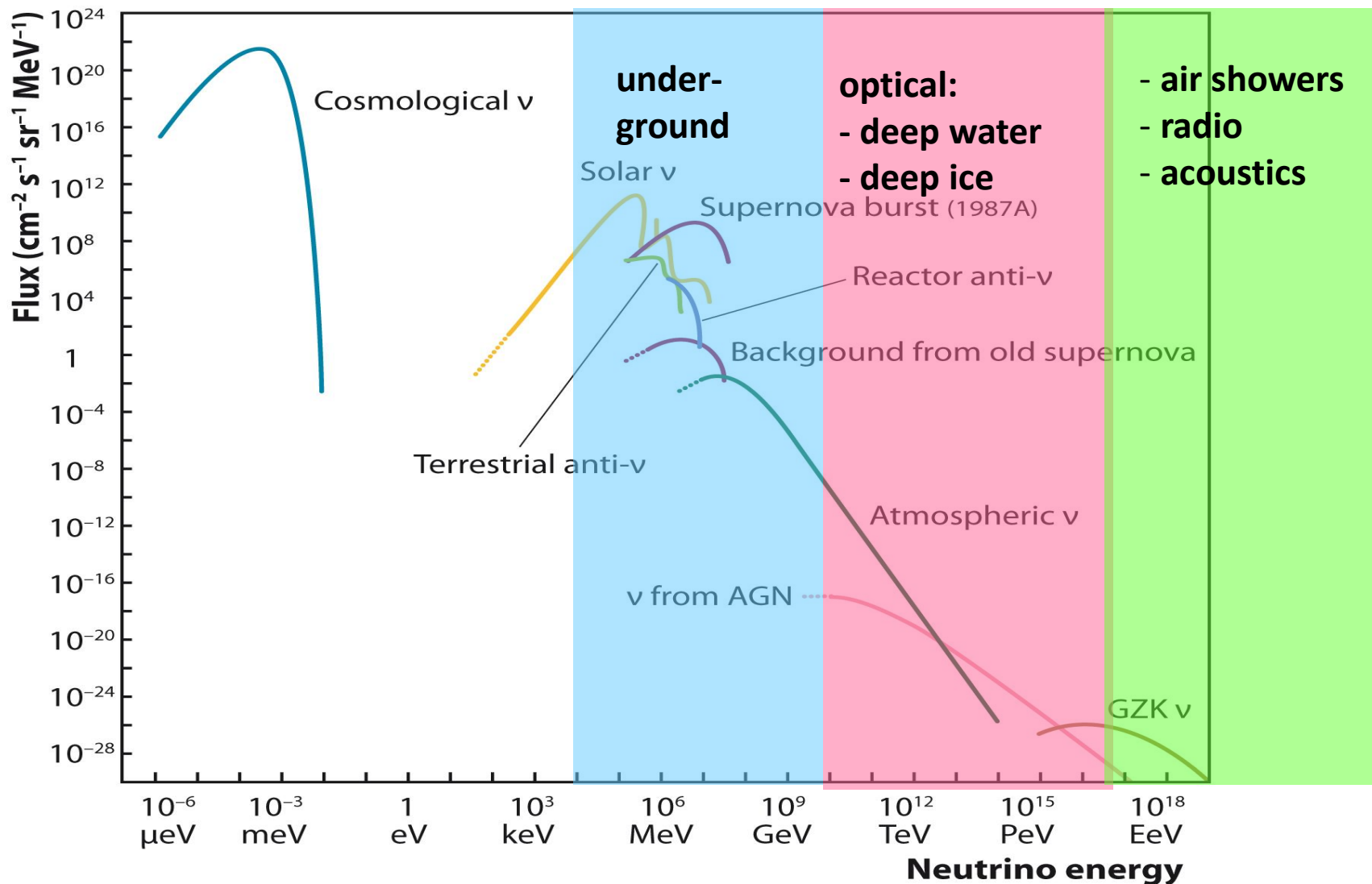
10^{20} eV p, 100 TeV γ : seeing range 60 million light years

Neutrinos



inspired by Berni C '11

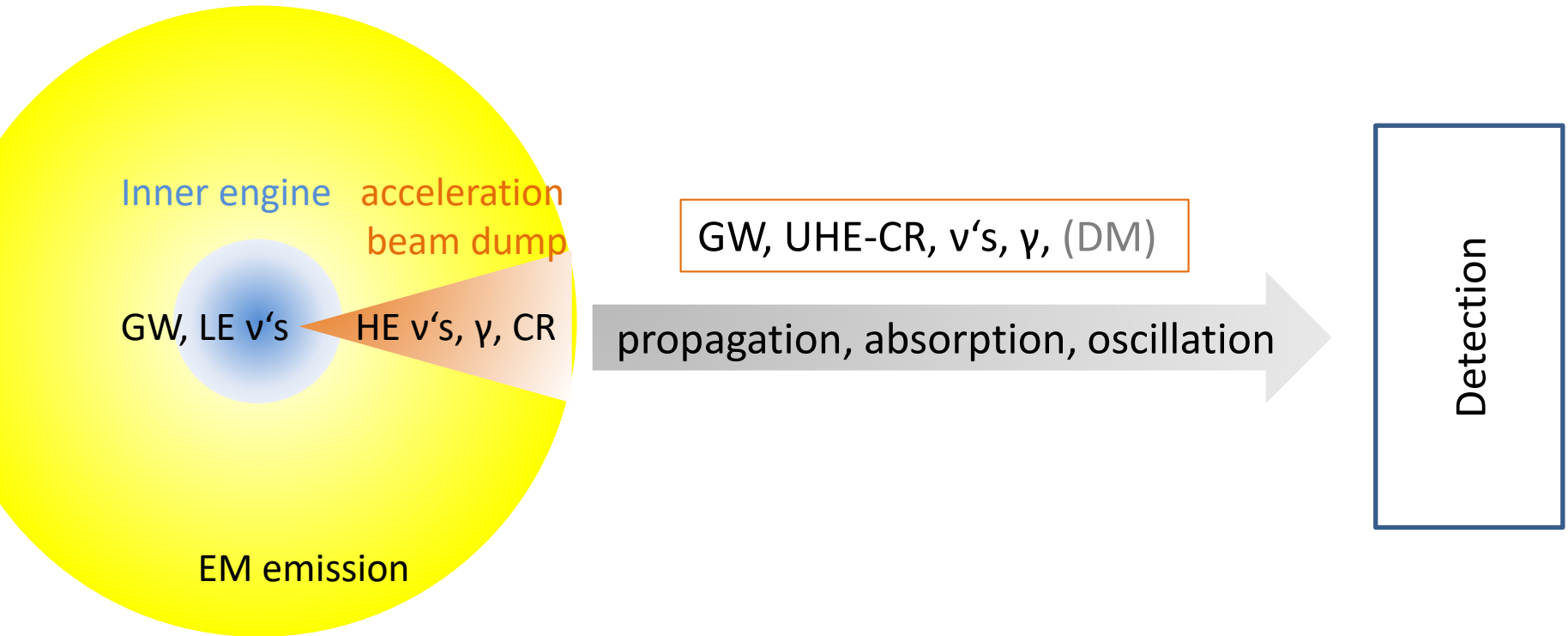
Fluxes of cosmic neutrinos



Kamiokande also uses neutrinos from accelerator beams (e.g. T2K)

Production, propagation, detection

... is a complex picture



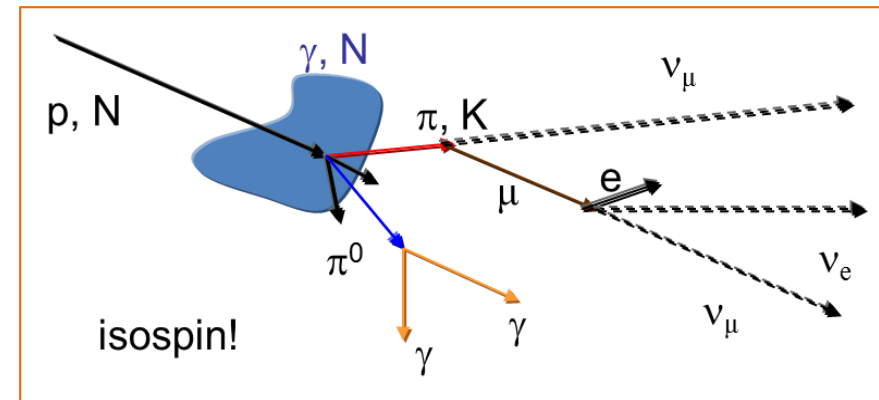
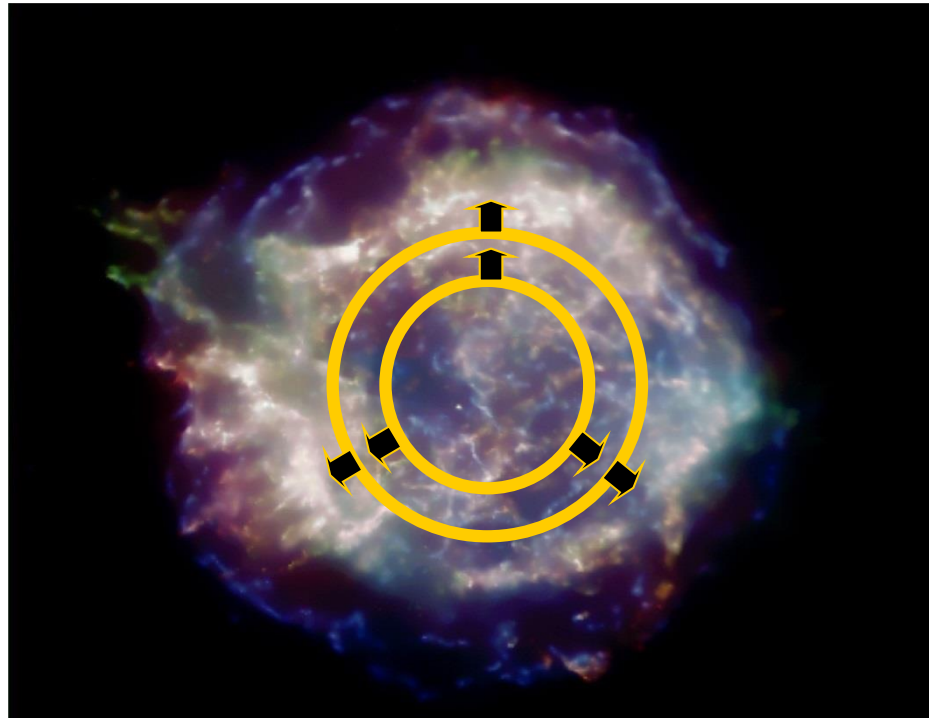
Theory: source distribution, production (L_ν/L_ν ; $v_e/v_\mu/v_\tau$; escapes), radiation and acceleration model, 3d magnetic fields, infrared backgrounds ...

Detection: cross sections, oscillations in matter, observation in natural media

Closer look: neutrino production

example: proton acceleration in supernova remnant shock fronts $v = O(10^6 \text{ m/s})$

- “lucky” particles pass shock fronts frequently, experiencing accelerating “kicks”
- neutrinos (and gammas) created in beam dump made of gas or photon fields



Expect: $\nu_{\mu} : \nu_e : \gamma = 2 : 1 : 1$
energy distributions different

1 PeV $\nu \approx 2 \text{ PeV } \gamma \approx 20 \text{ PeV cosmic ray}$

Electrons: produce bremsstrahlung and synchrotron radiation

Protons: interact with γ 's or protons to produce pions and kaons \rightarrow Waxman-Bahcall limit

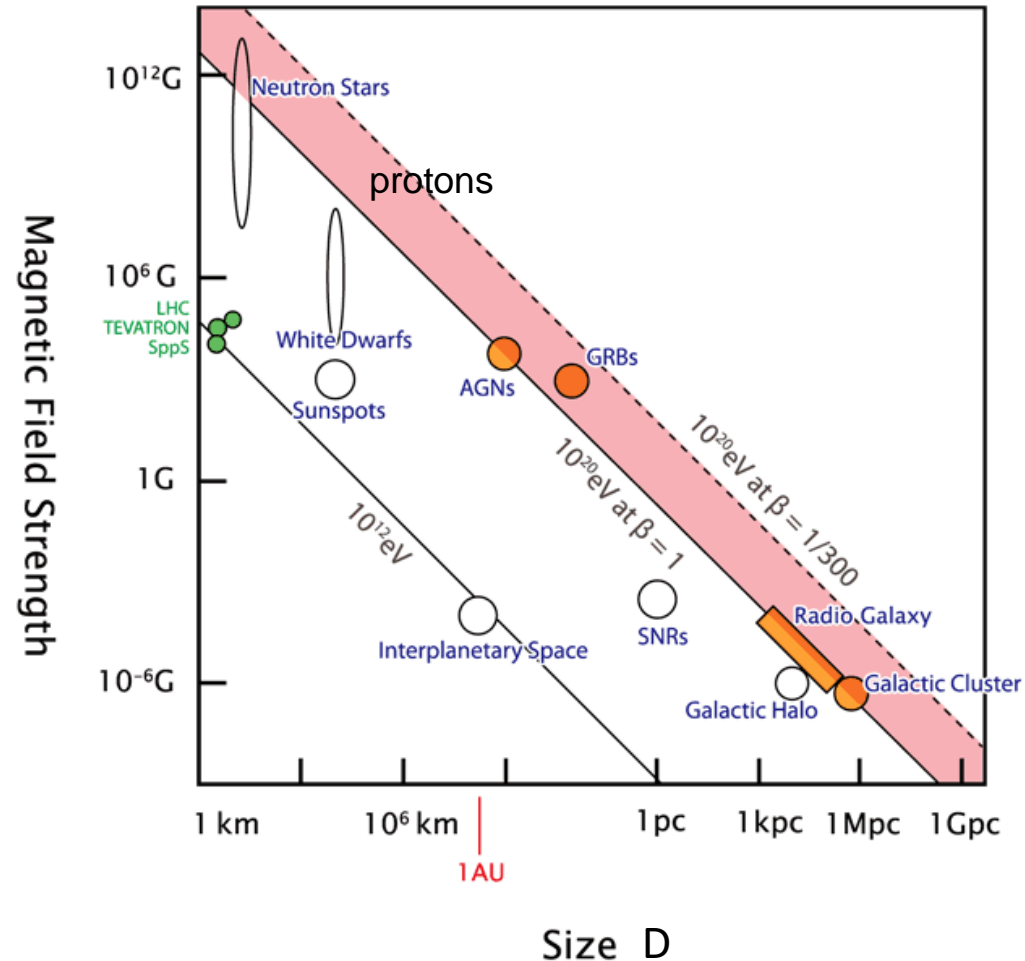
Potential sources of astrophysical neutrinos

- Which object accelerates to what energies?
- Difficult to explain energies $> \sim 10^{21}$ eV for protons
- Easier for heavy nuclei

$$R_{gyro} (= \frac{p}{ZqB}) \leq \beta \frac{D}{2}$$

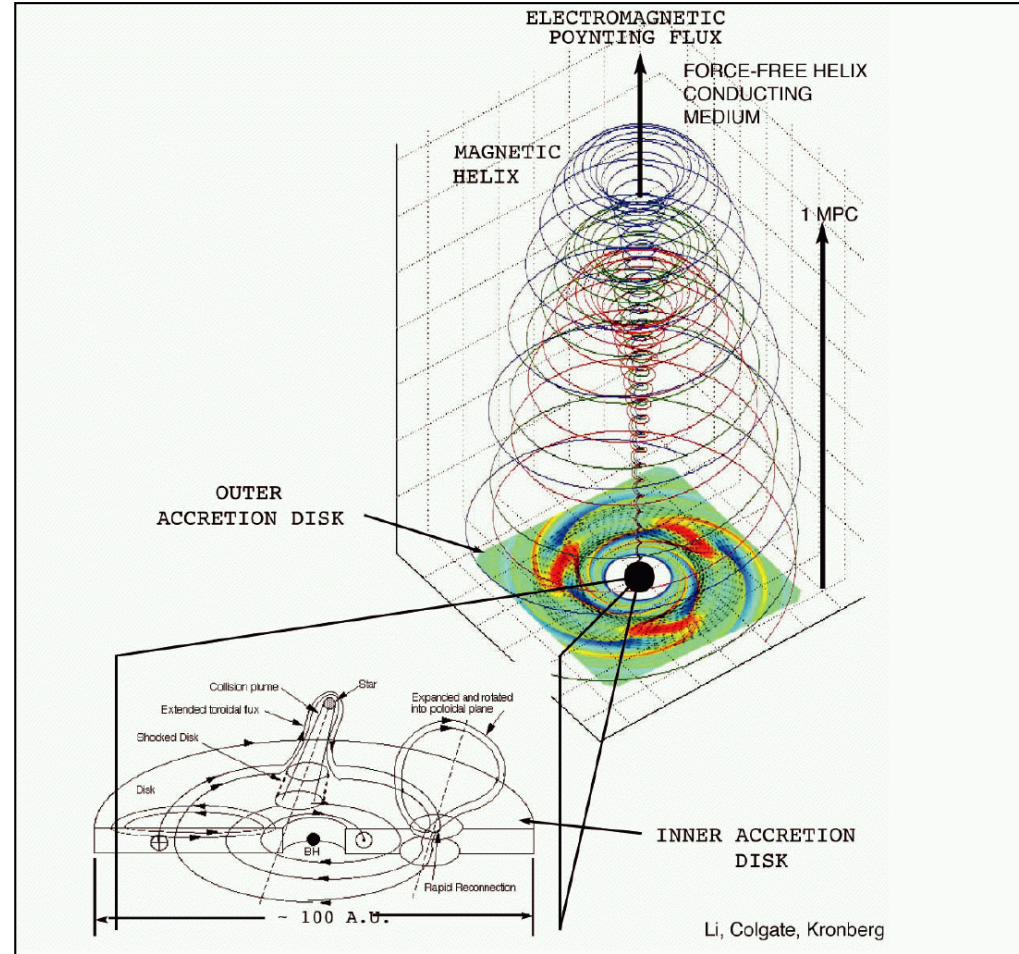
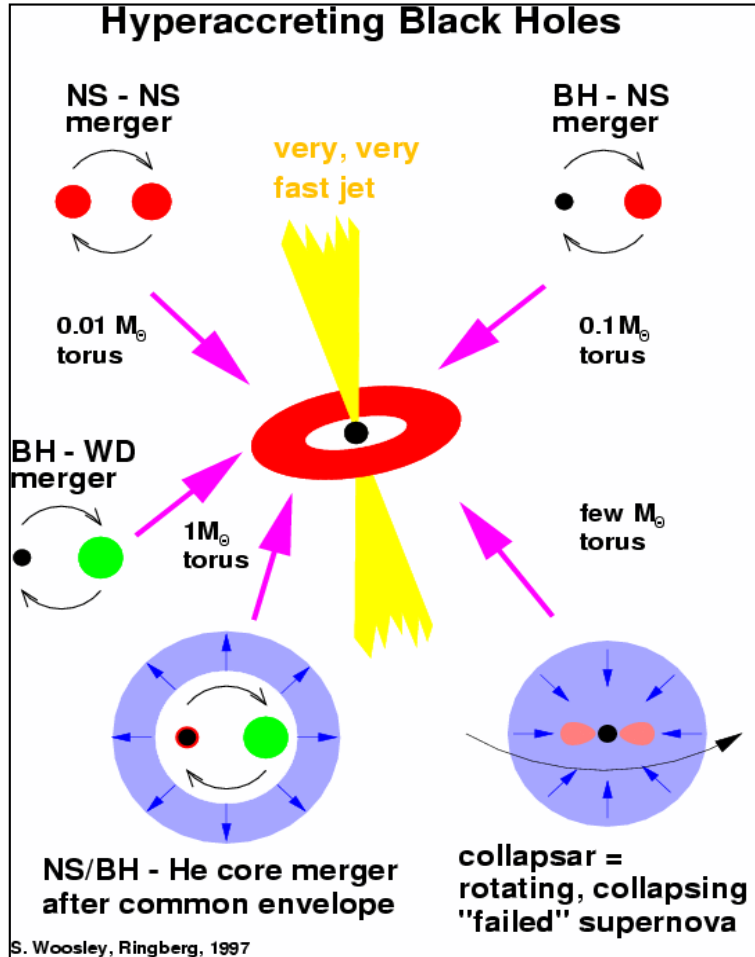
$$p \leq \frac{1}{2} \beta ZqBD$$

$$E \leq \frac{1}{2} c \beta ZqBD$$



βc : velocity of scattering centers \rightarrow transforms $D < 2R_{gyro} \rightarrow D < 2R_{gyro}/\beta$

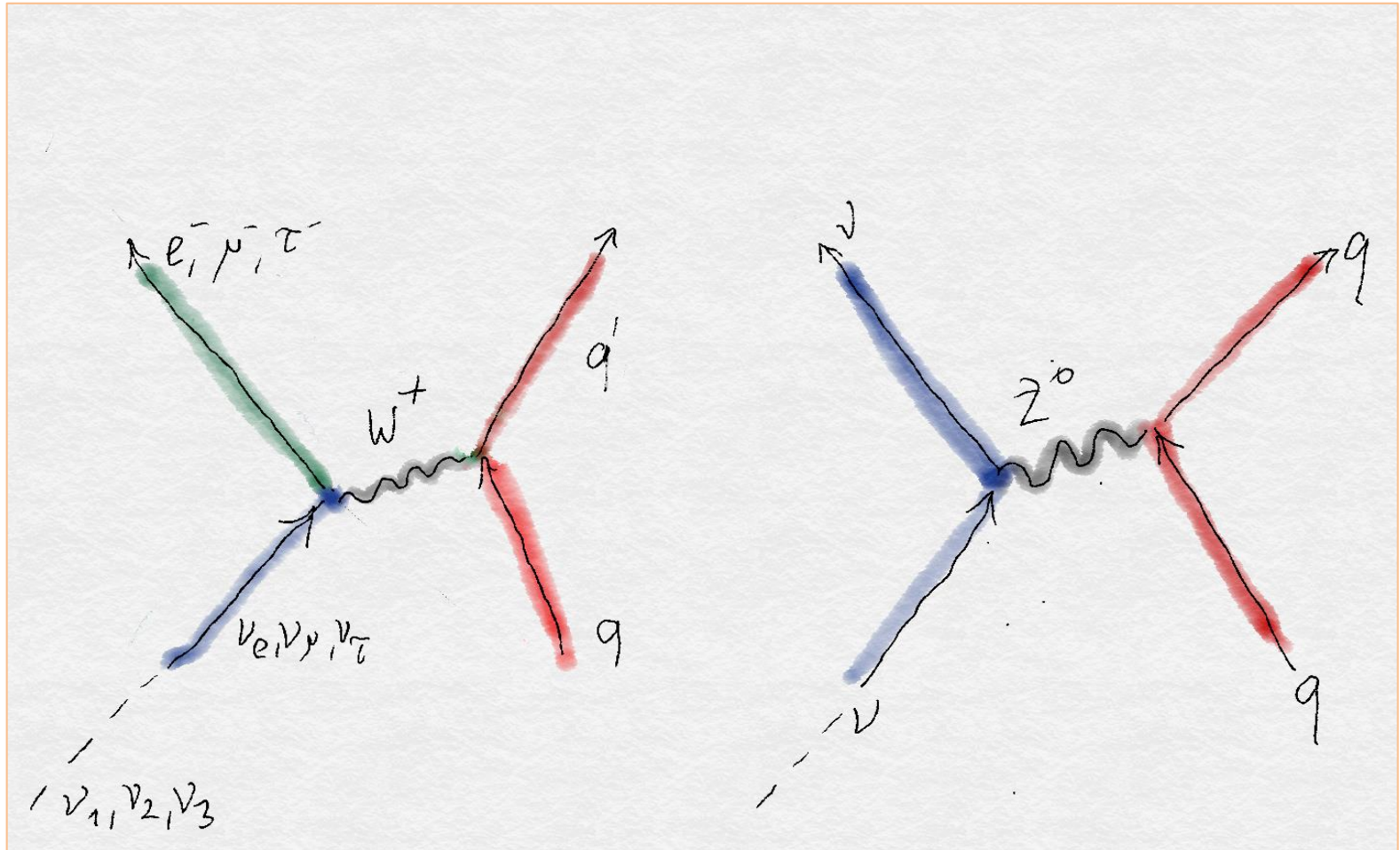
Example: Gamma-Ray bursts



~ 80% of stars in Milky Way multiple!

Source of magnetic field – “dynamo” in accretion disk
Source of jet energy - accretion disk + black hole spin

ν propagation and interaction



Inspired by Nick Berger, Mainz

ν oscillations & decoherence

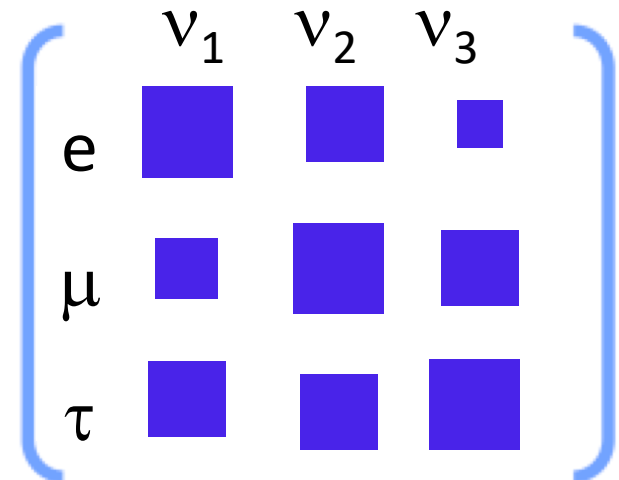
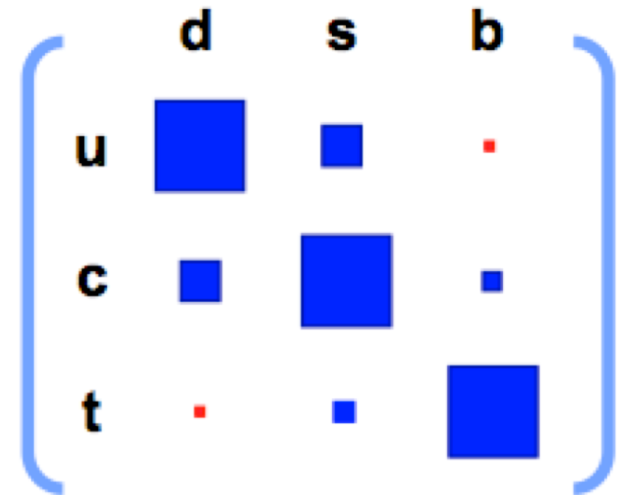
$$\begin{bmatrix} d' \\ s' \\ b' \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} V_{ud} & V_{us} & V_{ub} \\ V_{cd} & V_{cs} & V_{cb} \\ V_{td} & V_{ts} & V_{tb} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} d \\ s \\ b \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \nu_e \\ \nu_\mu \\ \nu_\tau \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} U_{e1} & U_{e2} & U_{e3} \\ U_{\mu1} & U_{\mu2} & U_{\mu3} \\ U_{\tau1} & U_{\tau2} & U_{\tau3} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \nu_1 \\ \nu_2 \\ \nu_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

weak
eigen-
states

CKM or
PMNS matrix

mass
eigen-
states



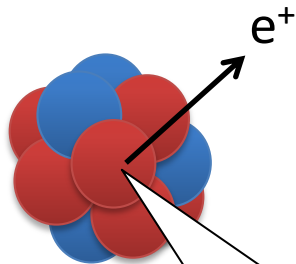
Neutrino oscillations

ν creation

ν propagation

ν detection

e.g β^+ decay



e^+

ν_e

propagates as mass eigenstates

different **neutrino flavor** when detected by weak interaction

ν_1

ν_2

ν_3

ν_4

ν_1

ν_2

ν_3

ν_4

Mixing with non-interacting sterile ν \rightarrow deficit !

$\nu_?$

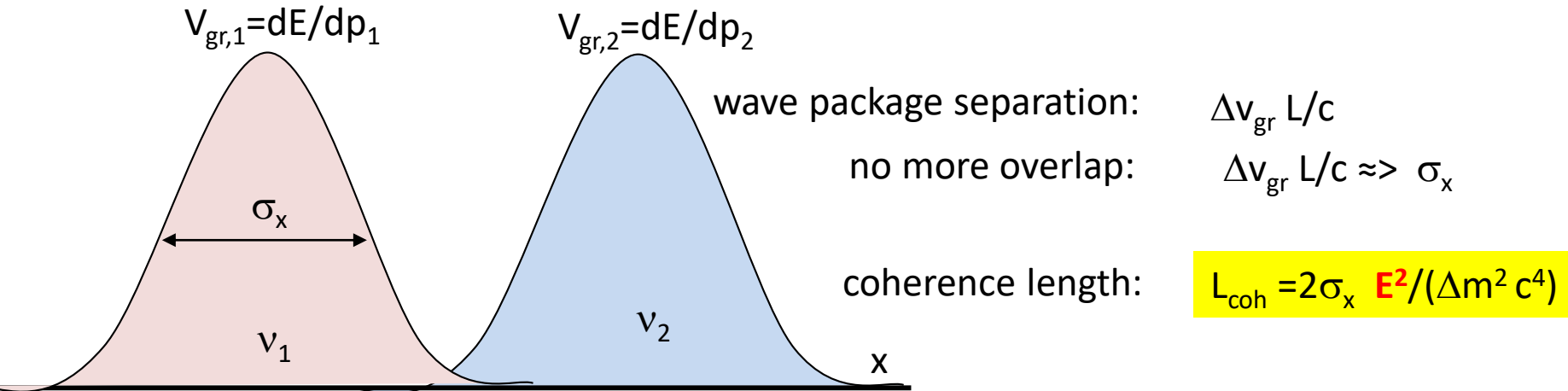
Weak interaction produces neutrino in **flavor state**

Different masses create time and space dependent **phase differences**

$$P_{\alpha \rightarrow \beta} = \left| \langle \nu_\beta | \nu_\alpha(t) \rangle \right|^2 = \left| \sum_i U_{\alpha i}^* U_{\beta i} e^{-im_i^2 L/2E} \right|^2 = f(\theta_{ji}, (m_j^2 - m_i^2) \frac{L}{E_j})$$

Coherence in propagation

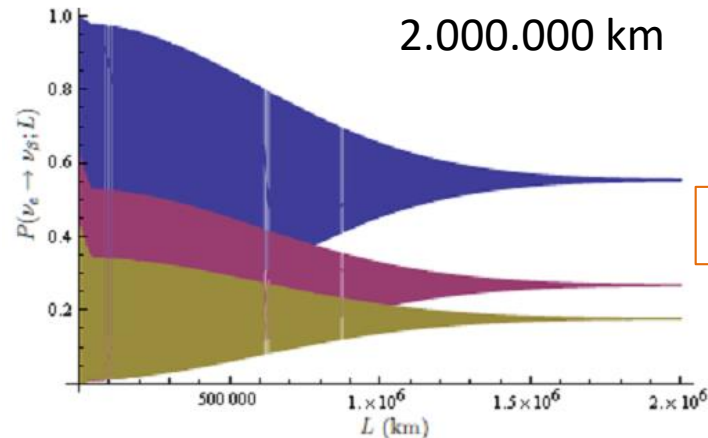
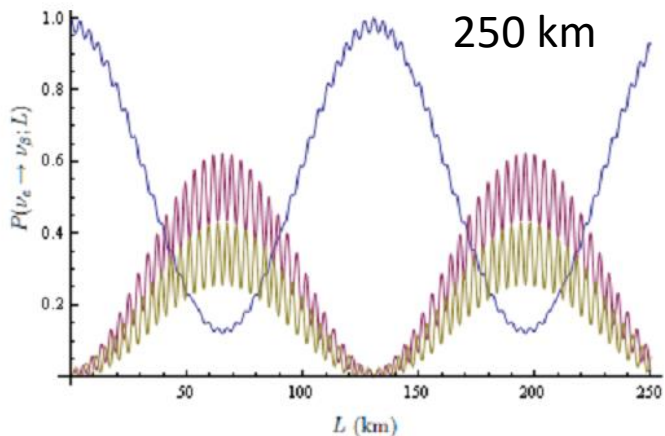
Neutrinos travel as wave package that loose overlap due to group velocity differences Δv_{gr} :



... coherence also determined by conditions of creation and detection ...

Example 4 MeV neutrinos

http://users.jyu.fi/~jojapeil/thesis/coherence_in_neutrino_oscillations_040211.pdf



decoherent!!

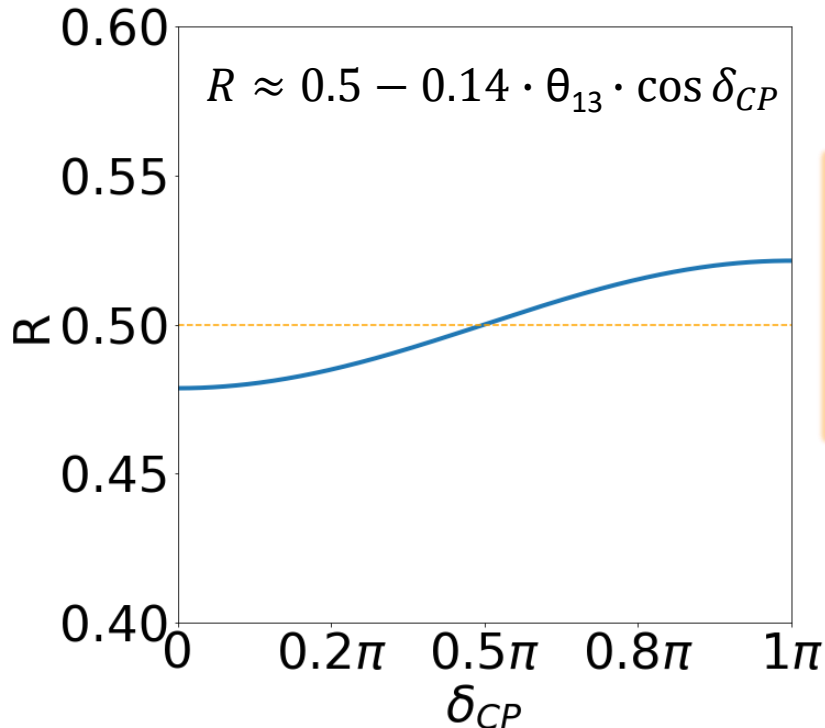
Neutrinos from far away sources

If coherence lost, averaged effect:

$$\bar{P}_{\alpha \rightarrow \beta} = \sum_i |U_{\beta i}|^2 |U_{\alpha i}|^2$$

if $\nu_e : \nu_\mu : \nu_\tau = 1 : 2 : 0$ ($\pi^{+/-}$ decay): **flux at Earth = 1 : 1 : 1**

To be exact, there is some dependence on θ_{13} , θ_{23} and δ_{CP} :



In principle: flavor ratio could be used for CP violation studies!

... if production process were exactly known !!

$$R^{\text{Pion beam}} = \frac{2P_{\mu\mu} + P_{e\mu}}{2P_{\mu e} + P_{ee} + 2P_{\mu\tau} + P_{e\tau}}$$

Neutrino cross sections

$s < 10^4 \text{ GeV}^2$:

$$\frac{d^2\sigma}{dx dy} = \frac{G_F^2}{\pi} s \left[x d(x) + (1-y)^2 x \bar{u}(x) \right]$$

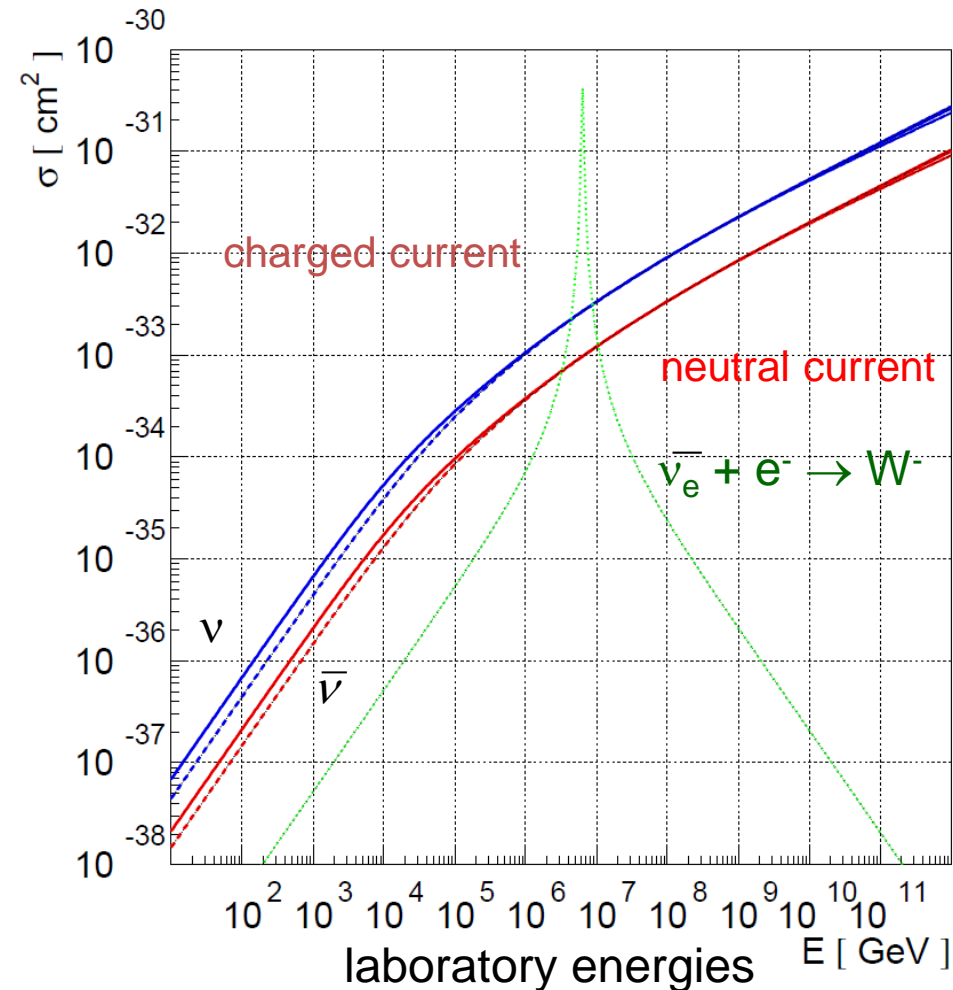
x : fraction nucleon momentum carried by q
 y : fraction E_ν transferred to hadronic state

$x d(x)$ = momentum distribution of d-type quarks

$x u(x)$ = momentum distribution of u-type anti-quarks

Obvious questions:

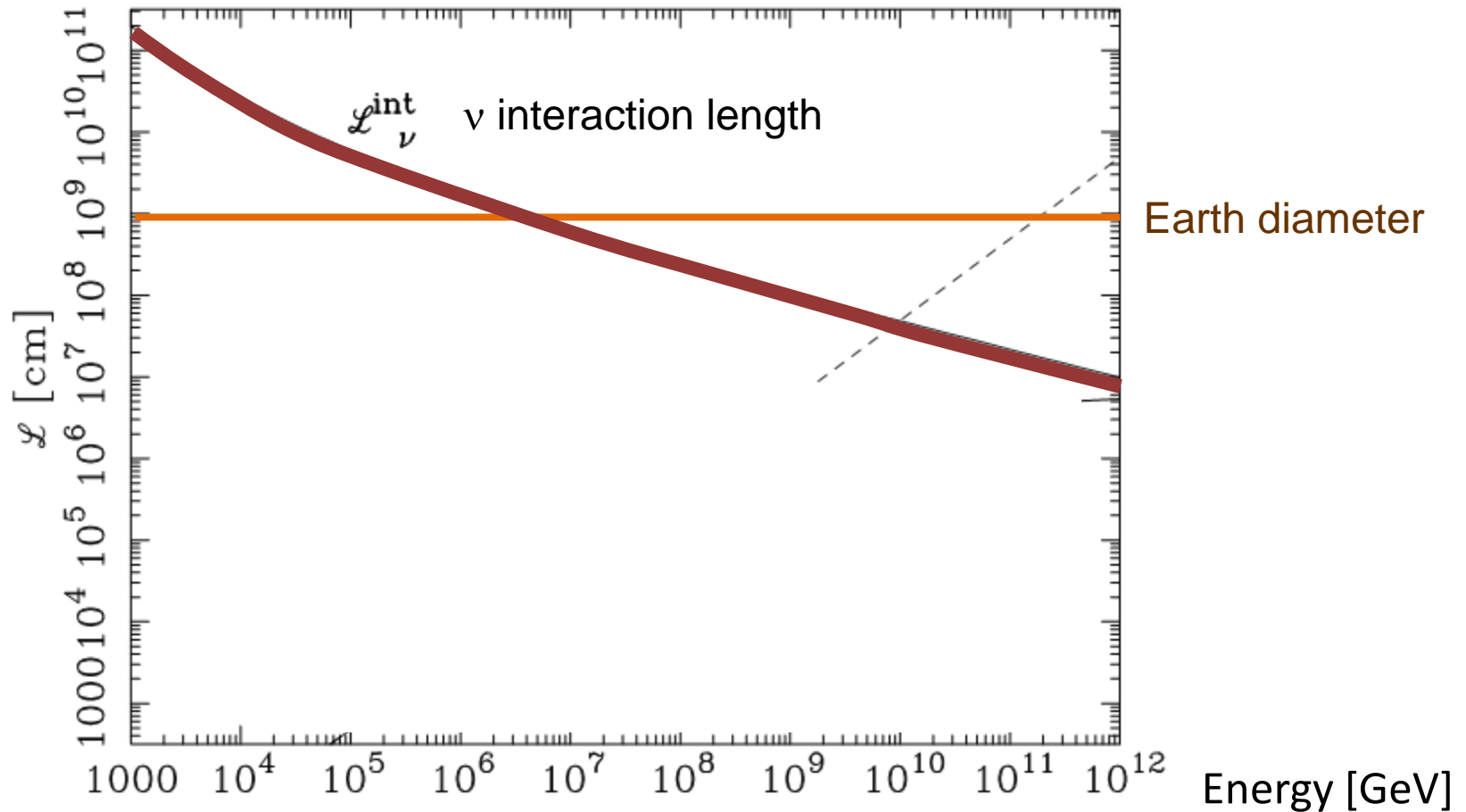
- Why is there a kink?
- Why $\sigma(\text{anti-}\nu)$ lower?
- Why is there a resonance?



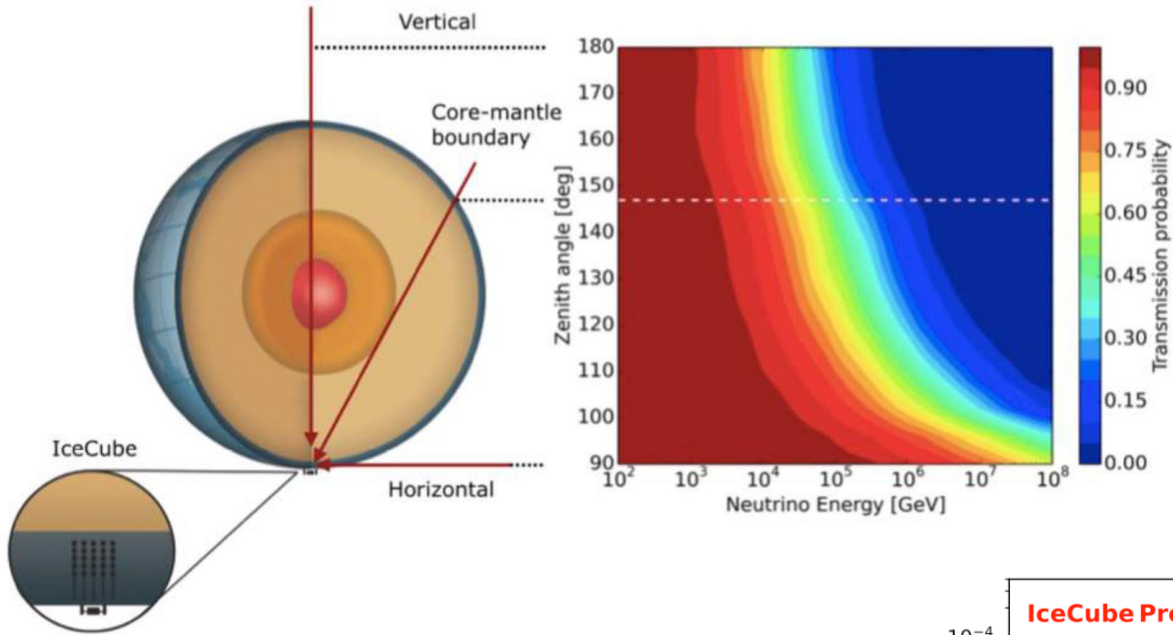
ν interaction length in Earth

path length L_A for A travelling through medium with B with number density ρ_B :

$$L_A = 1 / (\rho_B \sigma_{A \rightarrow B}) \rightarrow \text{larger than universe for } \sigma_\nu(1 \text{ TeV}) = 10^{-39} \text{ m}^2, \rho = 0.4/\text{cm}^3$$

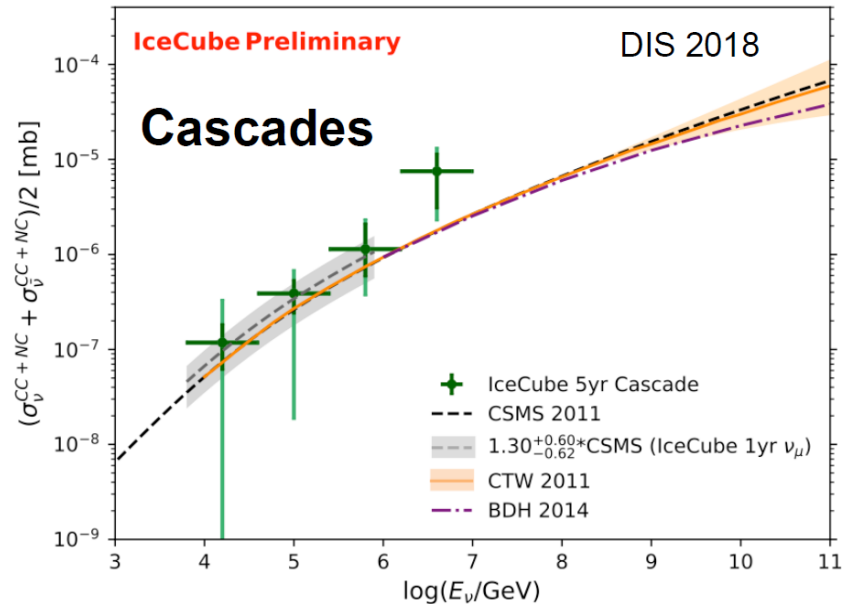


IceCube Measurement

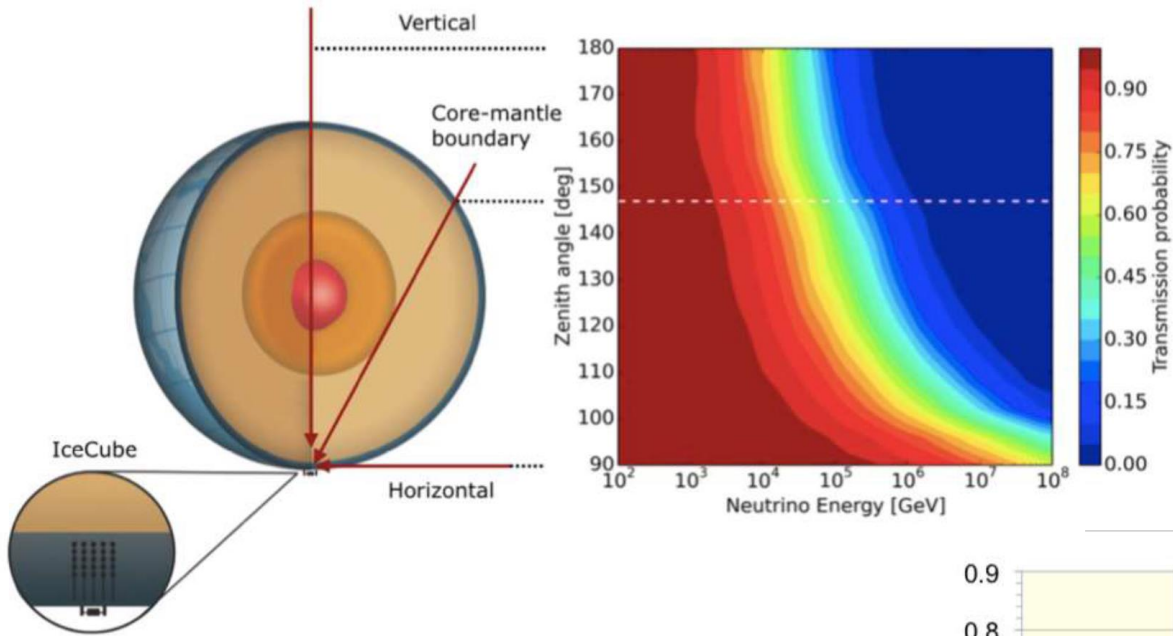


Nature 551 (2017) 596

- Effect of W propagator clearly seen
- Uncertainties still rather high

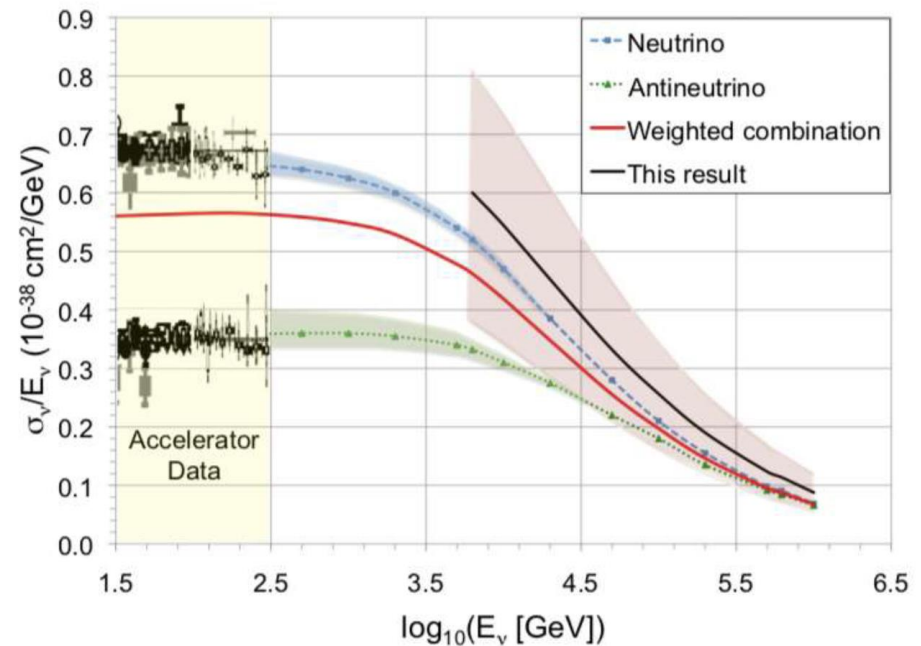


IceCube Measurement

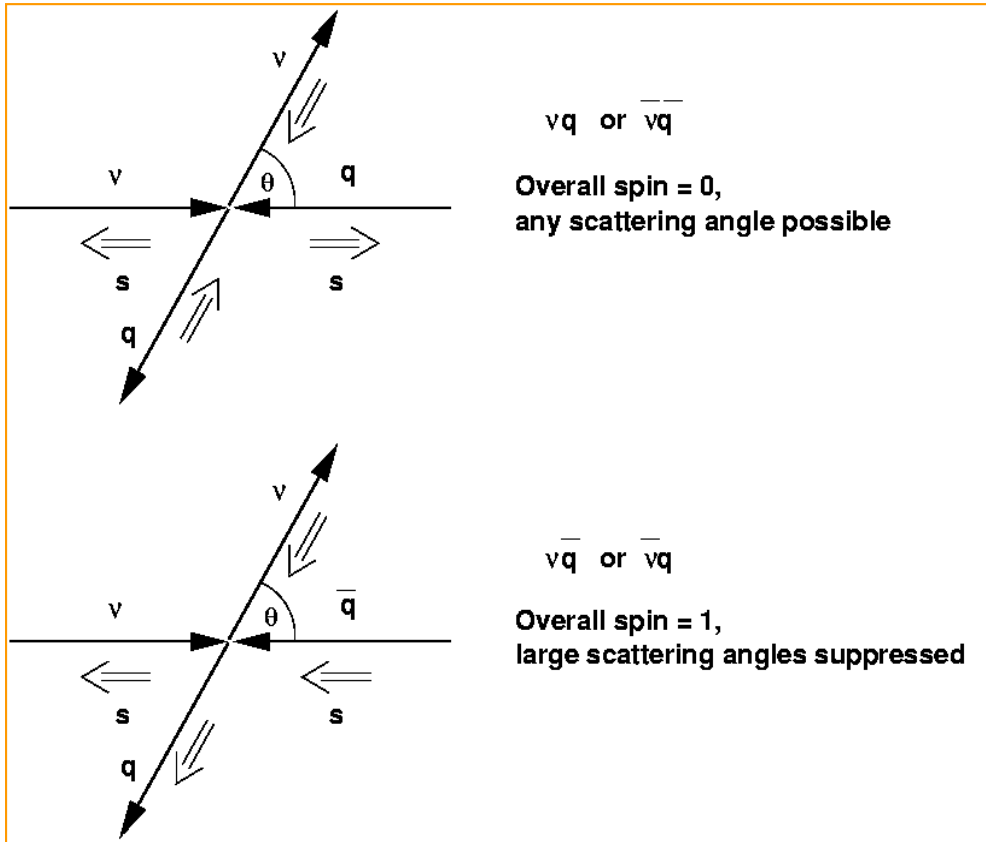


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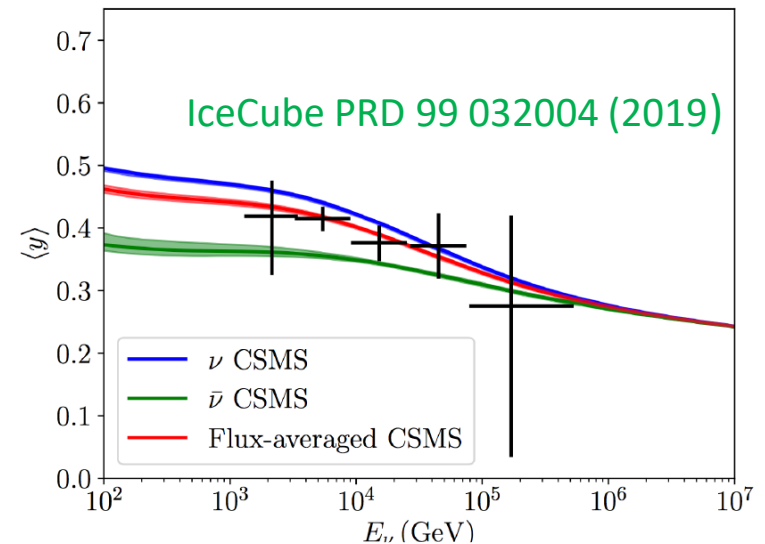


Why are $\sigma(\nu q)$ & $\sigma(\bar{\nu} q)$ different?



- ⊙ neutrino has helicity $-1/2$
- ⊙ quark prefers helicity $-1/2$
- ⊙ spin 0 system has no directional preference
- ⊙ conservation of spin gives $y = E_{\text{had}}/E_\nu$ -dependence for $s=1$

weak interaction couples to left-handed fermions only ...



Effect of the W propagator

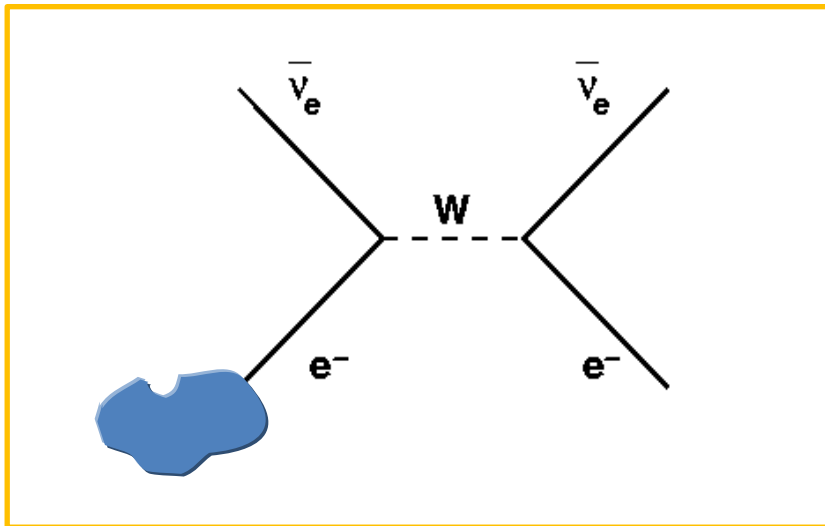
Exchange of massive real W needs to be accounted for energies > 40 TeV

reasonable cross section approximation above W threshold:

$$\sigma_{tot} = 1.2 \times 10^{-32} \text{cm}^2 (E_\nu / 10^{18} \text{eV})^{0.40}$$

... no longer $\sim E_\nu$

Glashow resonance: resonant production of real W^- from $\bar{\nu}_e$ hitting ambient electrons



Resonance parameters:

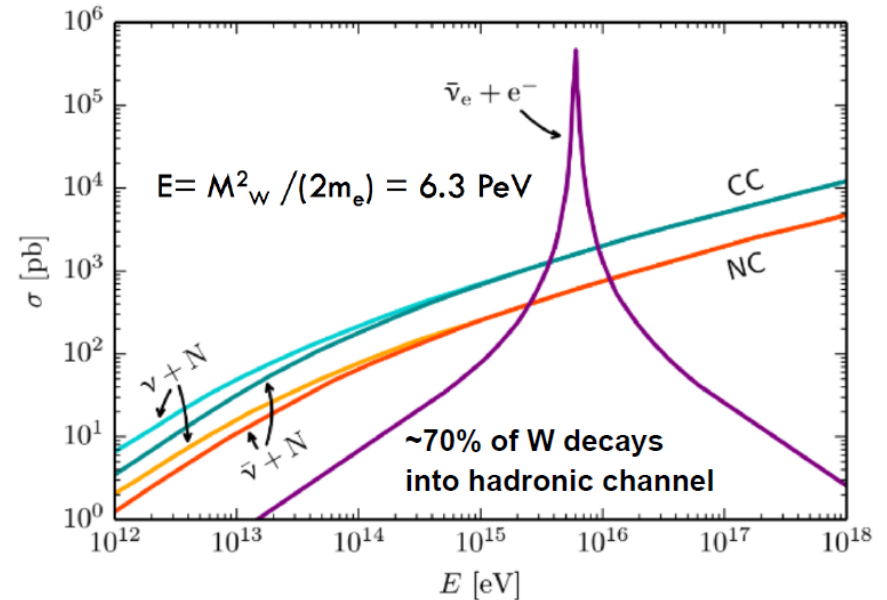
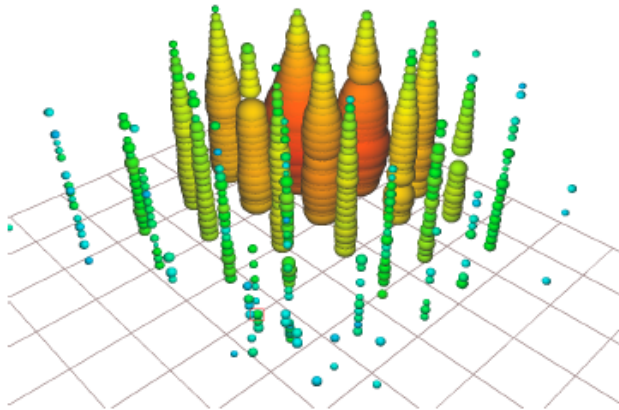
neutrino laboratory energy:	6.7 PeV
resonance width:	± 130 TeV
peak cross section:	$5 \times 10^{-35} \text{m}^2$

„Amplifier“ at very high energies!

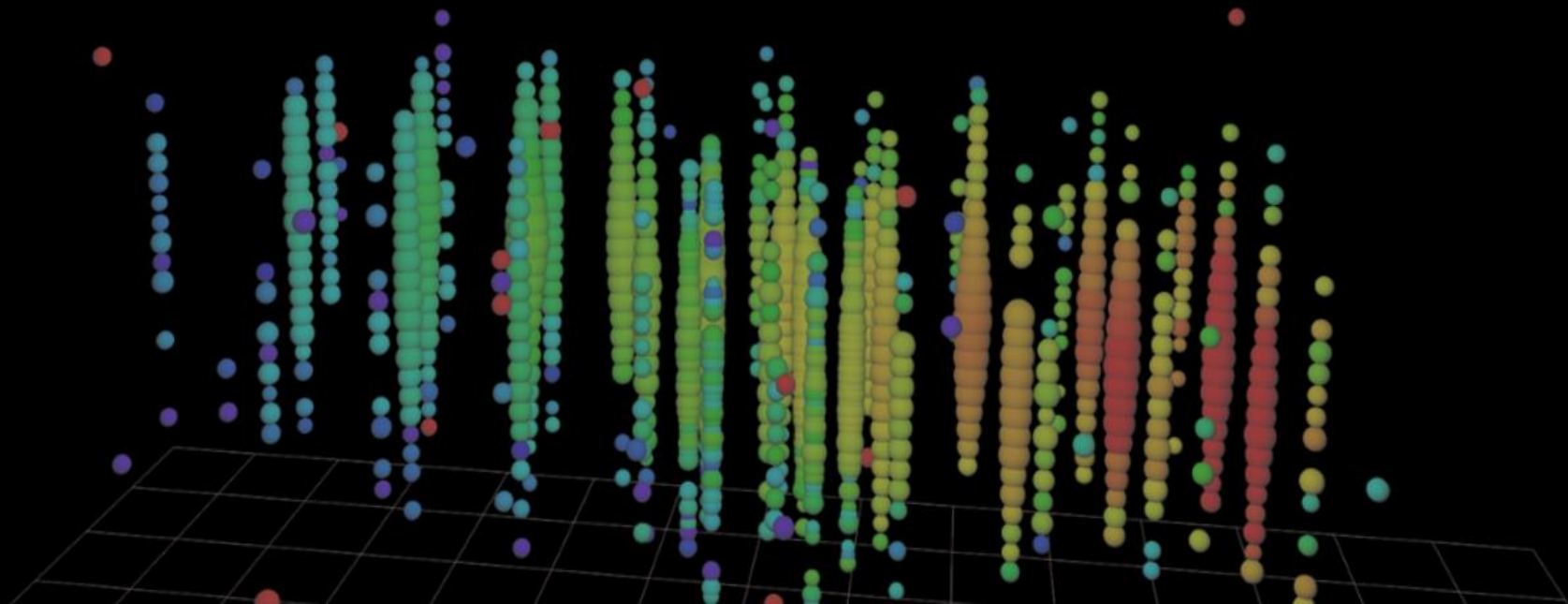
Candidate event?

A new high(est) energy cascade interaction with atomic electron?

- Partly contained event
- Likely neutrino energy $6.35^{+0.30}_{-0.23}$ PeV **PoS (ICRC2017) 1002**
- Consistent with shower containing hadrons („muon tag“)



Detection principle



Main Goals of 1km^3 ν telescopes

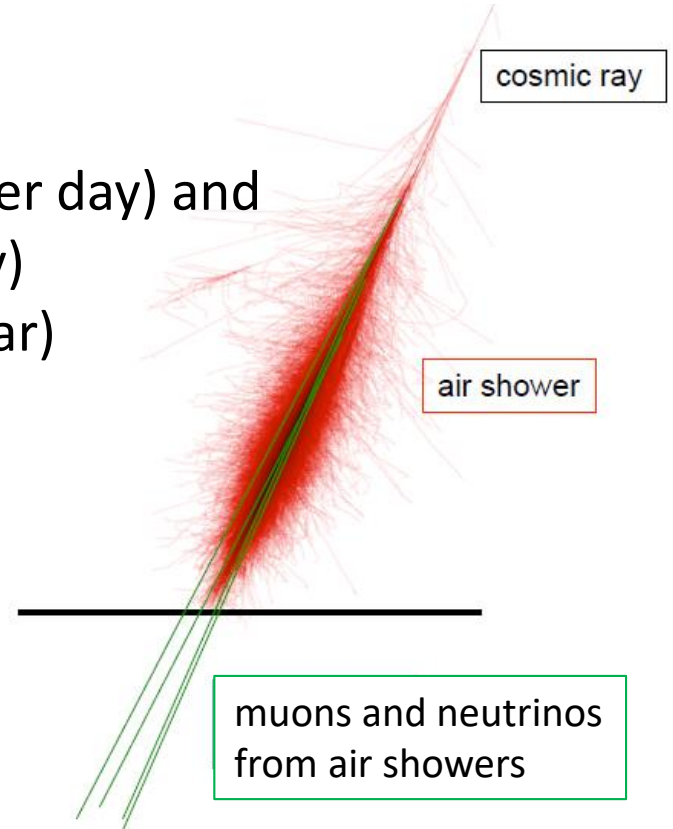
Measure fluxes of

- ④ atmospheric muons (250 million per day) and
- ④ atmospheric neutrinos (> 200 per day)
- ④ astrophysical neutrinos (~ 100 per year)

at higher energies & with better statistics than previous experiments

Any deviations from what is expected is new

- ④ neutrino physics or
- ④ new astrophysics



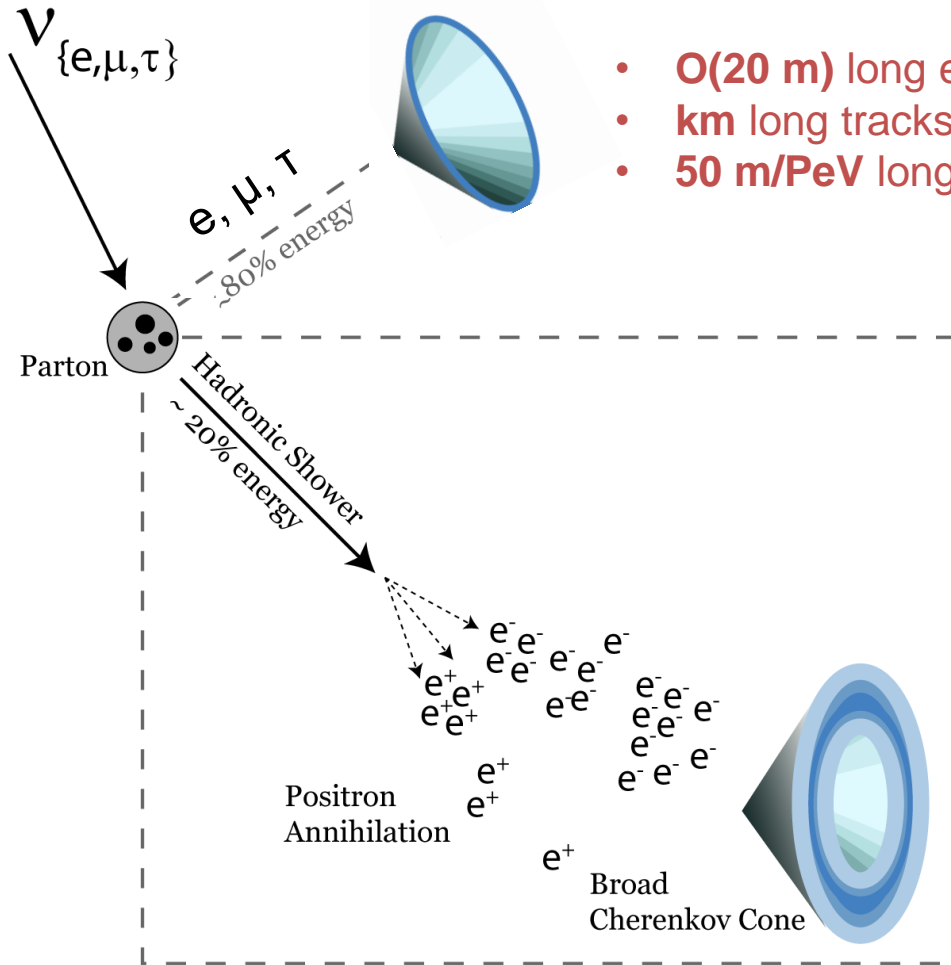
Realistic: Understand more about origin, composition and cosmic ray interactions

Dream: Dark matter, new, rare particle interactions, galactic supernovae, etc.

What happens in the detector?

Electron, muon or tauon

- **O(20 m)** long electron showers (except for highest energies)
- **km** long tracks, narrow Cherenkov cone for muons
- **50 m/PeV** long faint tau tracks, as Bremsstrahlung $\sim 1/\text{mass}$

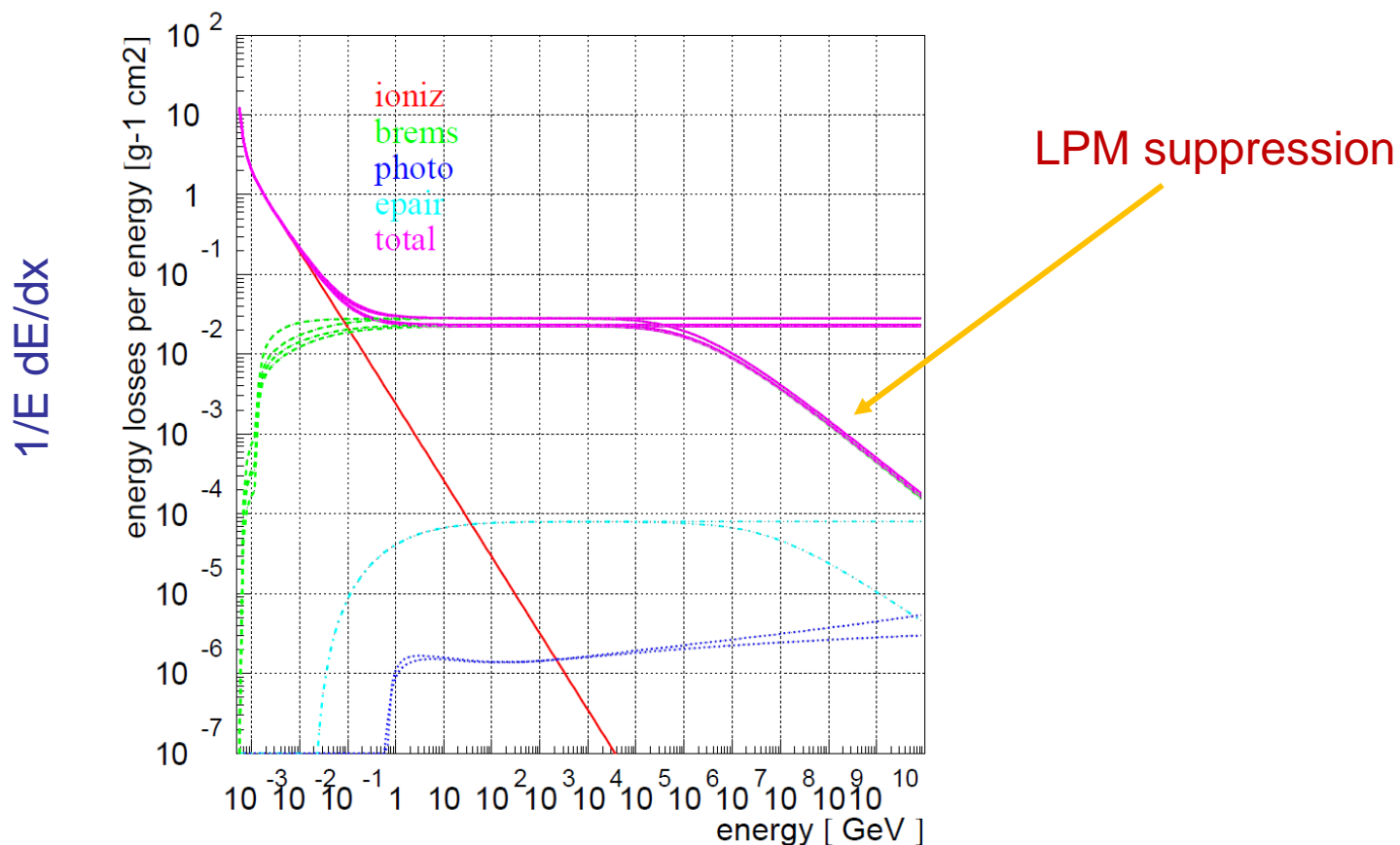


for neutral current interactions:
only hadronic cascade visible!

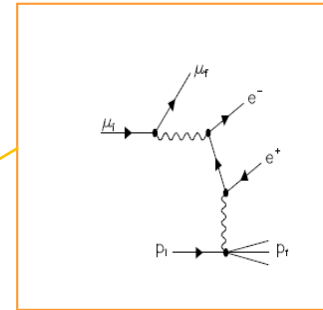
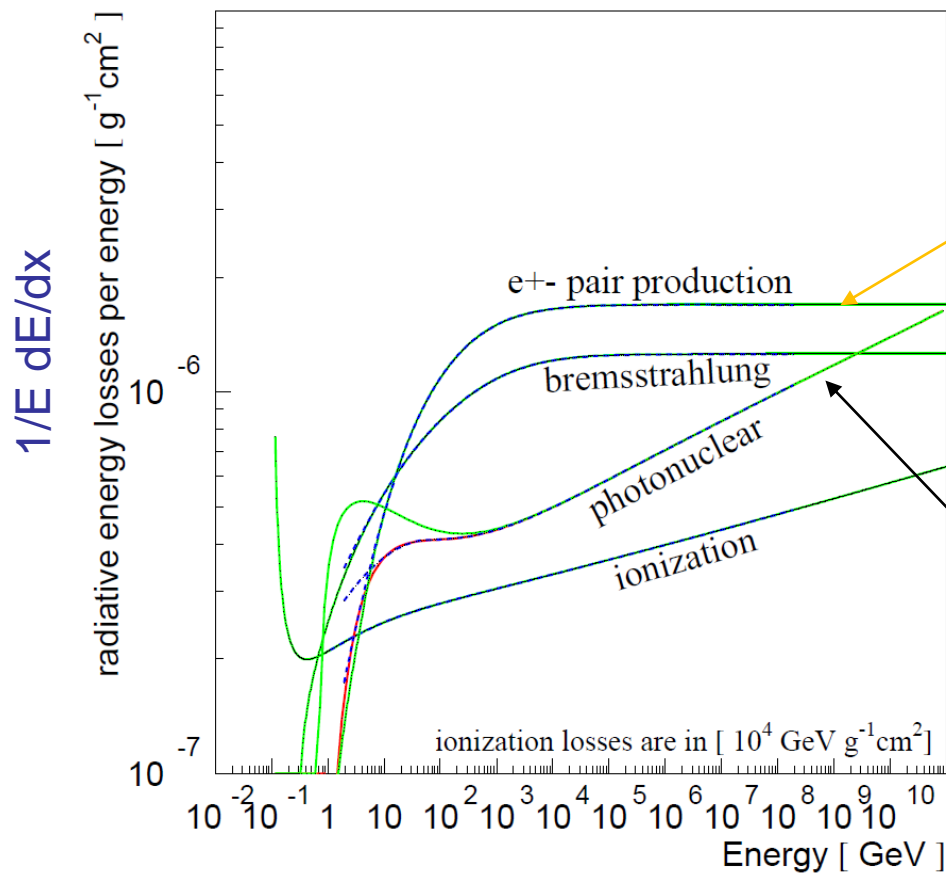
Let's look at the propagation of electrons and muons ...

Electron interactions and propagation

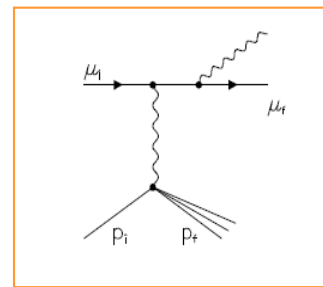
Processes leading to energy loss of electrons:



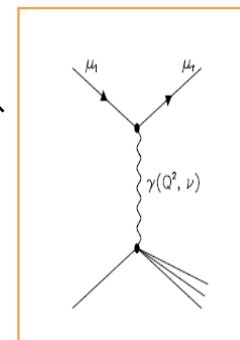
muon energy loss



pair creation
dominant!



bremsstrahlung

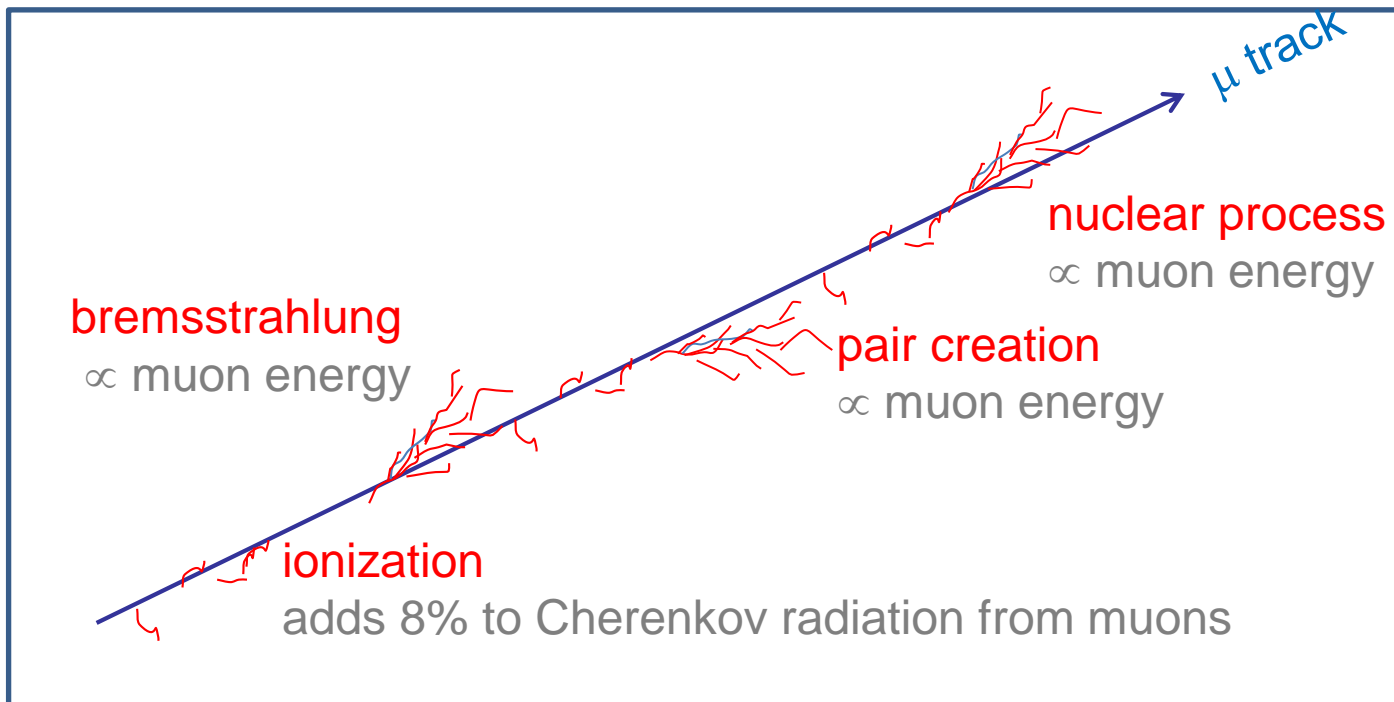


photonuclear

... effect on Cherenkov radiation

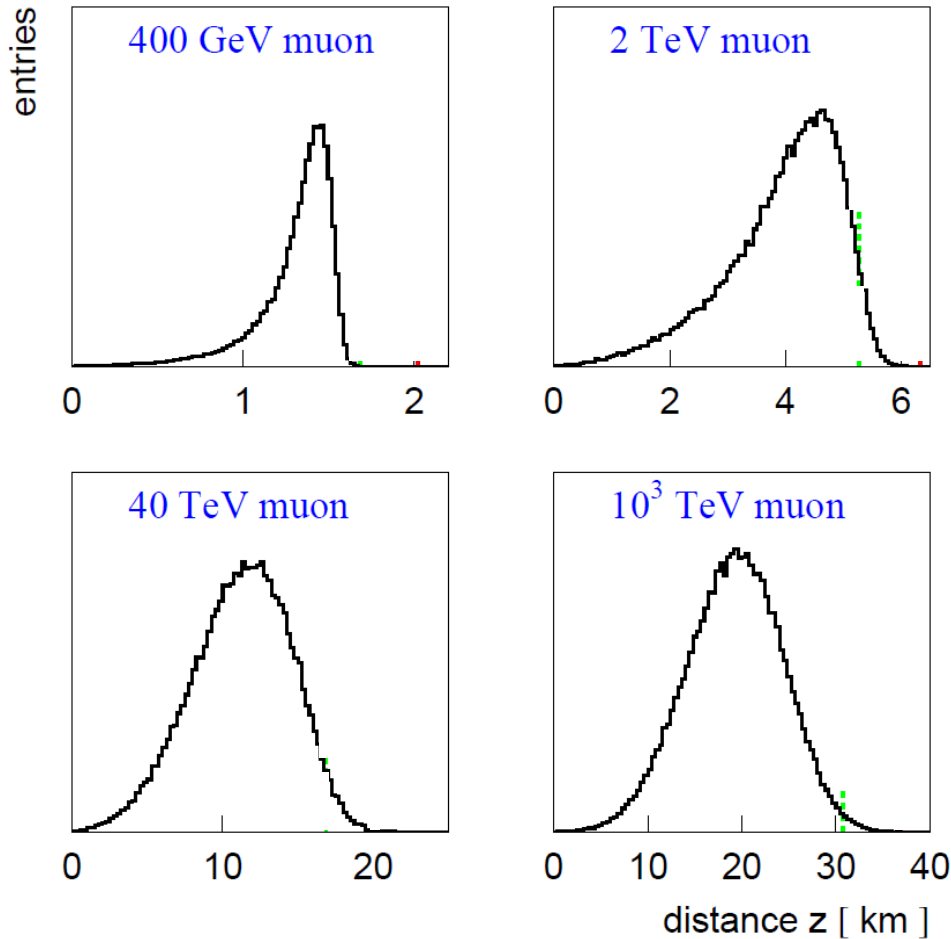
Number of Cherenkov photons:
$$\frac{dN_\gamma}{d\lambda dx} = \frac{2\pi\alpha^2}{\lambda^2} \left(1 - \frac{1}{\beta^2 n_p^2}\right) \int_{300\text{nm}}^{600\text{nm}} \approx 335/\text{cm}$$

Cherenkov angle:
$$\cos \theta_C = \frac{1}{\beta \cdot n_p}$$



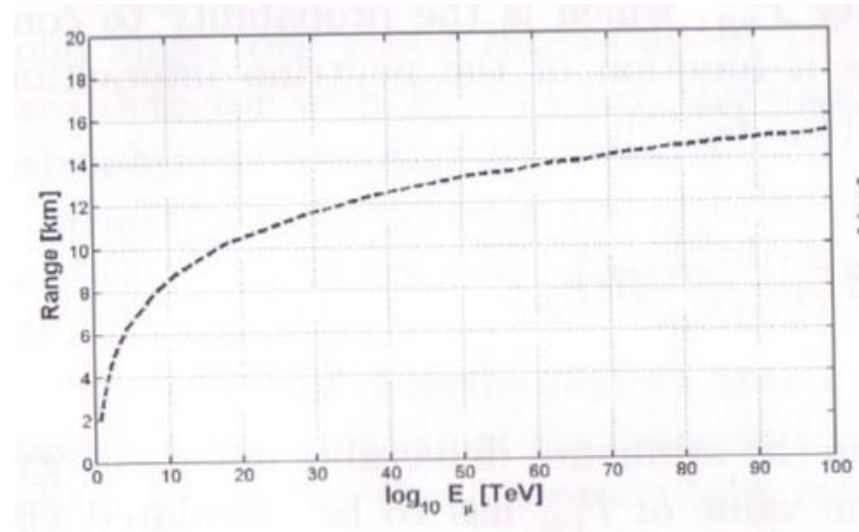
While muon Cherenkov radiation is at fixed angle, widening by showers/ionization

muon range



average range R in ice:

$$R = \int_{E_{\mu}^{\min}}^{E_{\mu}} \frac{1}{\langle dE/dX \rangle} dE = - \int_{E_{\mu}^{\min}}^{E_{\mu}} \frac{1}{a + b \cdot E} dE$$
$$= \frac{1}{b} \log \frac{a/b + E_{\mu}}{a/b + E_{\mu}^{\min}}.$$



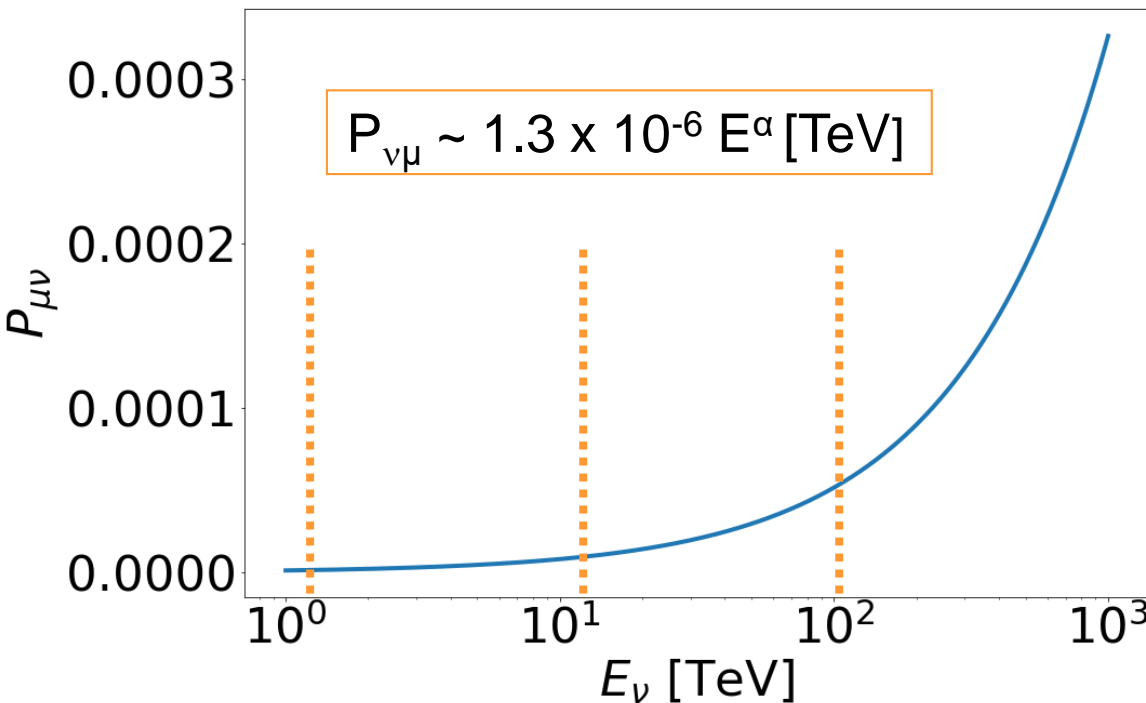
Probability to convert ν into μ

$$P_{\nu\mu} = N_A \rho_N \int_{E_\mu^{\min}}^{E_\nu} \frac{d\sigma}{dE_\mu} dE_\mu R(E_\mu)$$

R_{E_μ} : average muon range

E_μ^{\min} : minimal detectable muon energy

ρ_N : number density



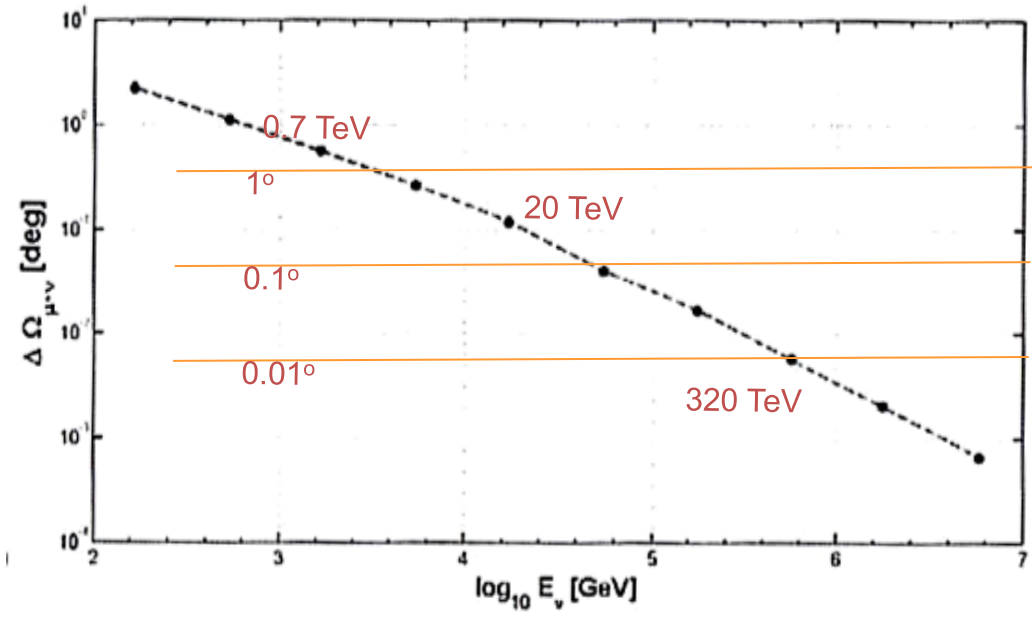
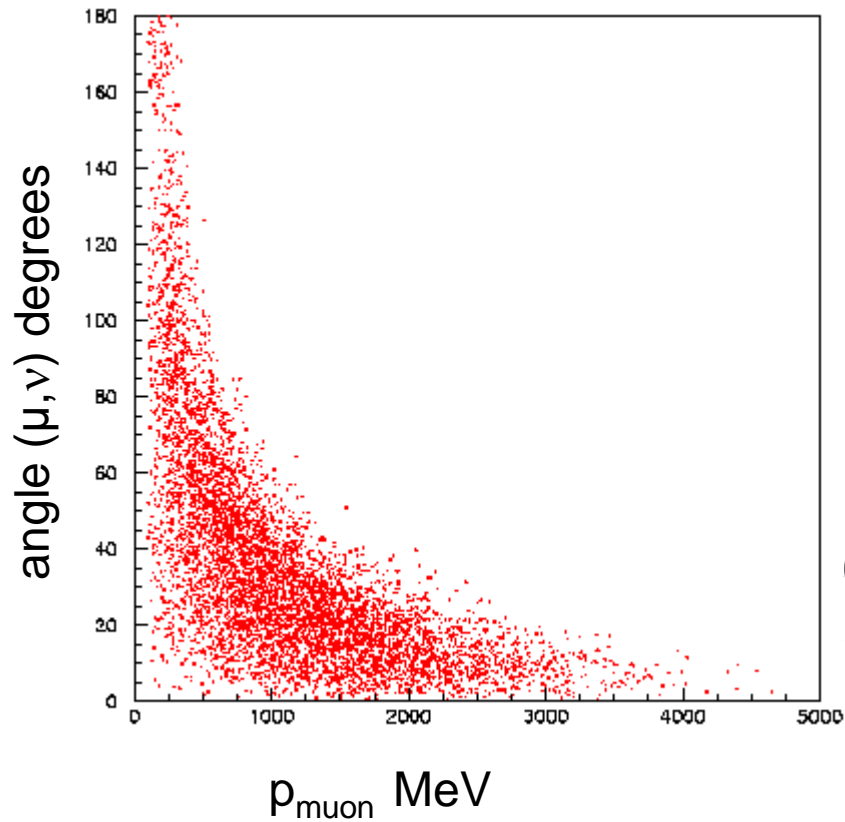
$\alpha \sim 0.8$ for $1 \text{ TeV} < E < 1 \text{ PeV}$

1 TeV: $P_{\nu\mu} \sim 1.3 \times 10^{-6}$

10 TeV: $P_{\nu\mu} \sim 8.2 \times 10^{-6}$

100 TeV: $P_{\nu\mu} \sim 52 \times 10^{-6}$

muon – neutrino angle



average for high energies:
angle = $0.7^\circ / E[\text{TeV}]^{0.6}$

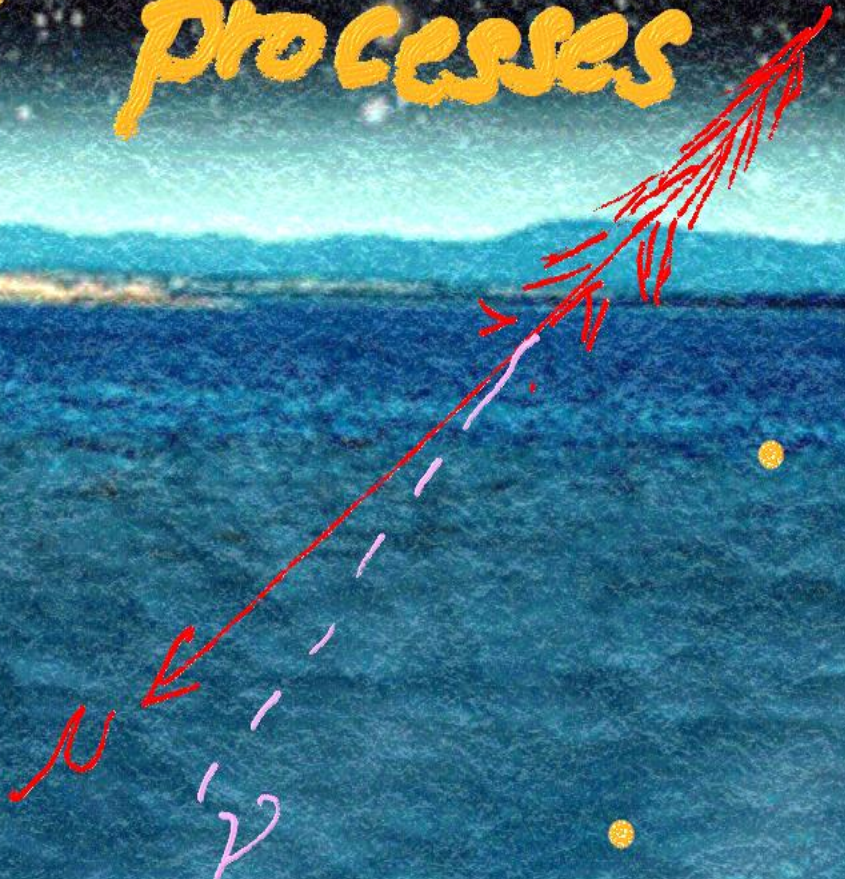
Sub-degree directional resolution makes sense only for $E_\nu > \text{TeV}$

Table of content: Part 2

- ② Background processes
- ② IceCube and its experimental challenges
- ② Point Source searches
- ② Starting track searches
- ② Diffuse searches
- ② Summarizing the results
- ② The future

Make people trust we see astrophysical v's

Background processes



atmospheric μ 's and ν 's

Atmospheric ν : π and K decays

lightest charged mesons only decay via weak interactions:

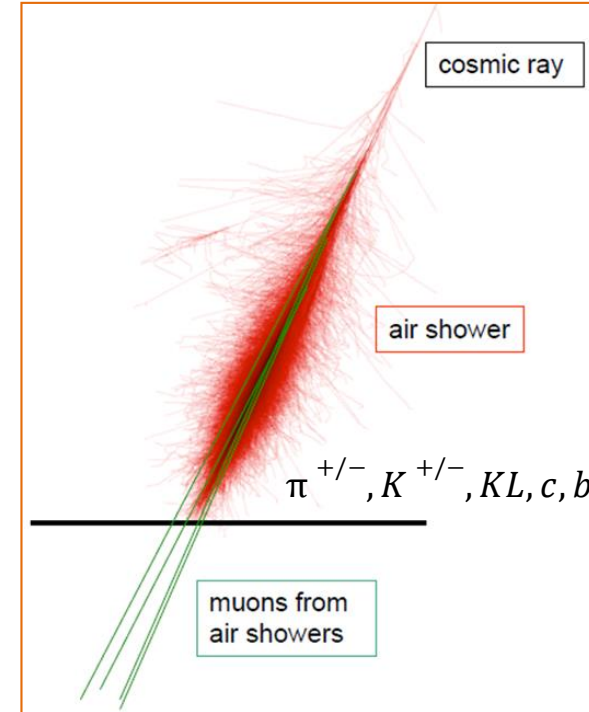
$$\begin{aligned}\pi^+ &= |ud\rangle \rightarrow \mu^+ + \nu_\mu + cc \quad (\sim 100\%) \\ K^+ &= |us\rangle \rightarrow \mu^+ + \nu_\mu + cc \quad (63\%) \end{aligned}$$

Kinematics:

$$\begin{aligned}E_\nu(\text{from } \pi) &< 0.25 \times E_\pi \\ E_\nu(\text{from } K) &< 0.78 \times E_K\end{aligned}$$

Above ~ 100 GeV, interaction length of π and K in atmosphere shorter than their decay length ...

\rightarrow ν energy spectrum $dN/dE \sim E^{-3.7}$

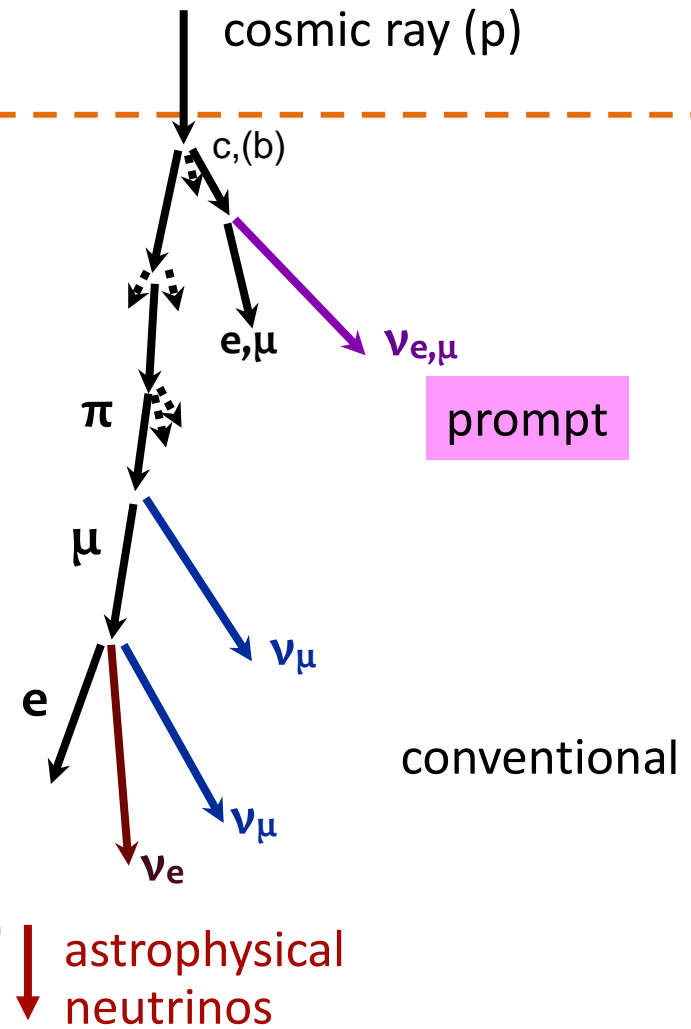
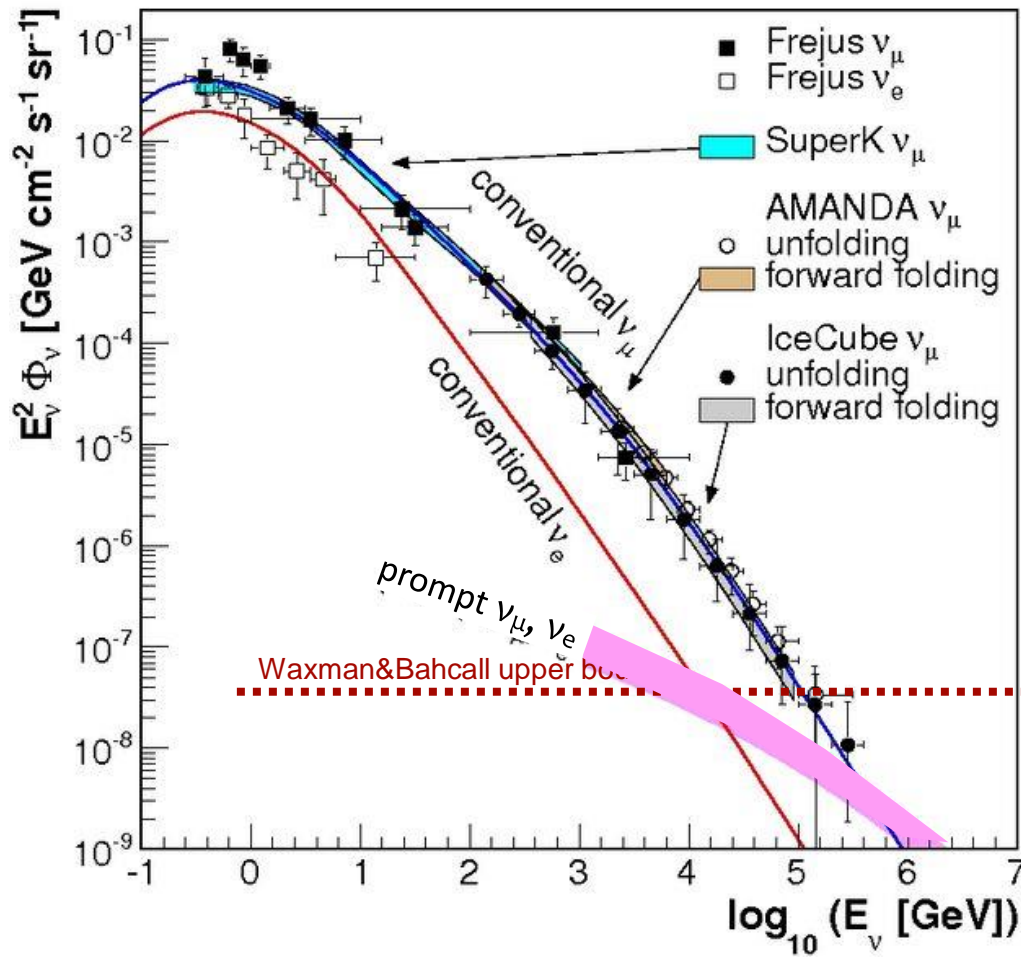


Muons co-produced with neutrinos may decay and produce further neutrinos:

$$\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+ + \nu_\mu + \nu_e \quad \text{and} \quad \mu^- \rightarrow e^- + \nu_\mu + \nu_e$$

at ~ 1 TeV the ν_e / ν_μ flux < 0.1 , ν_e flux actually dominated by K^0_L decays

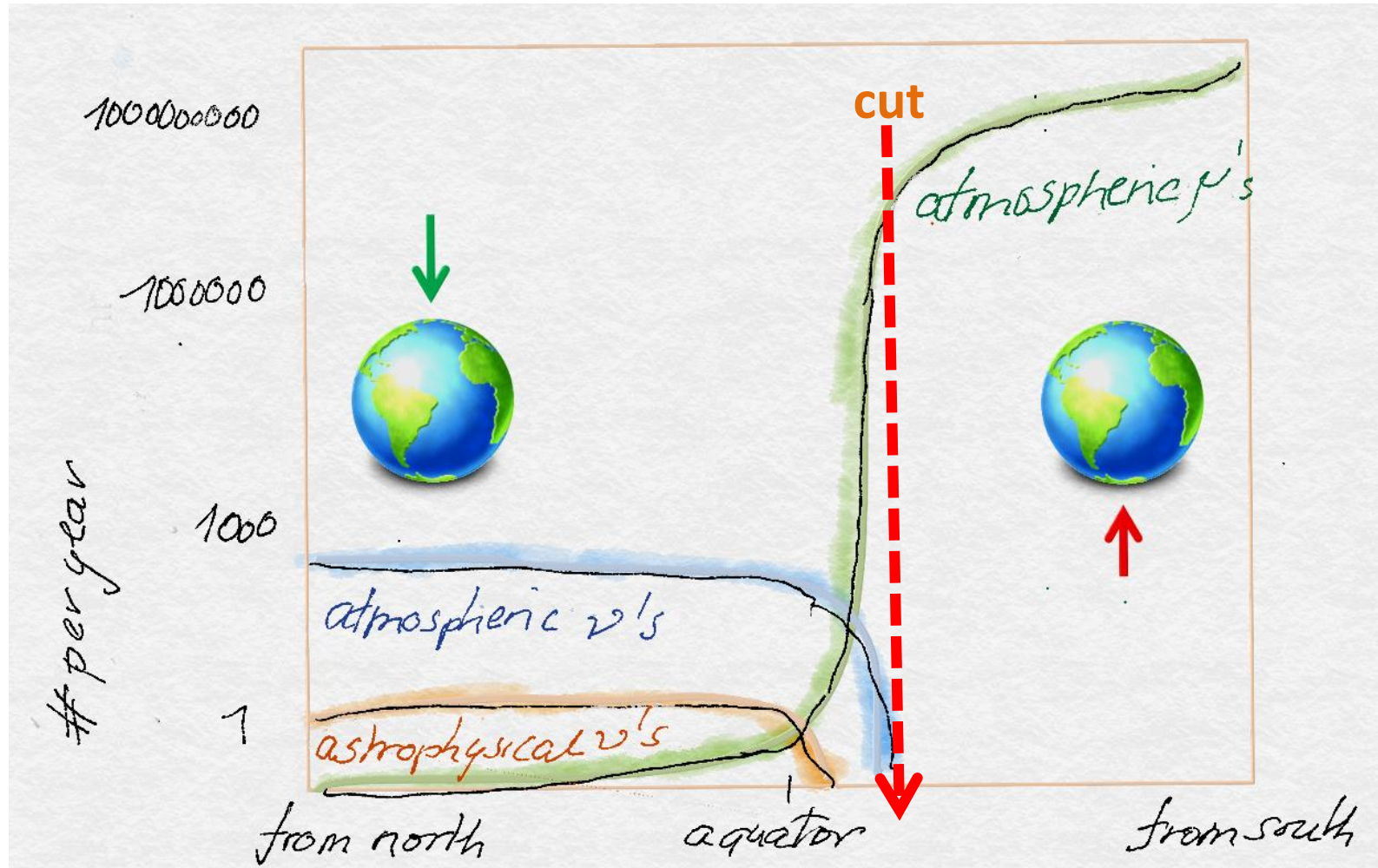
Neutrino fluxes



... less background from atmospheric electron neutrinos !!

The Earth as a shield

40 billion background muons per year ...

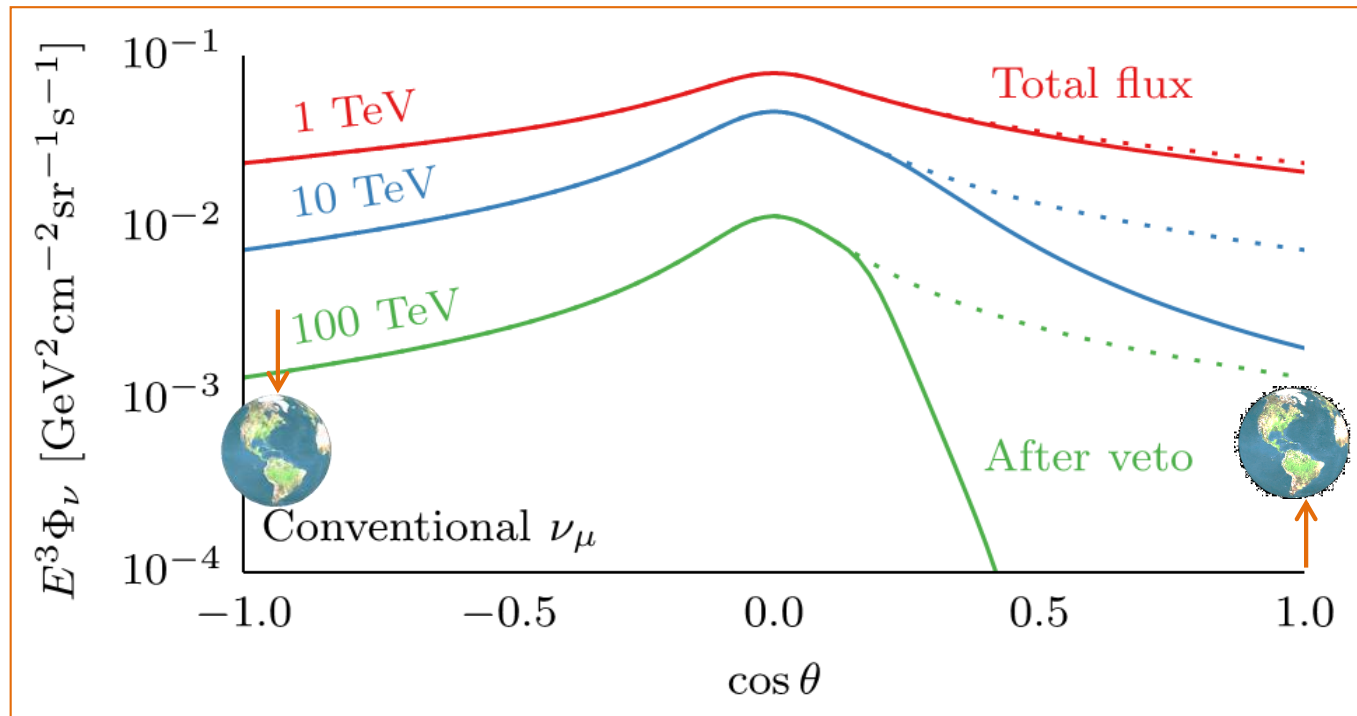


Stupid to see only half of the sky ... can one do better?

Can one reduce atmospheric ν 's?

Phys. Rev. D.79(4):043009, 2009, Phys. Rev. D 90, 023009, 2014.

atmospheric neutrinos from pion and kaon decays accompanied by muon
Downgoing atmospheric neutrinos can be **partly** vetoed !!!!



can veto muon with surface detector or in detector boundary

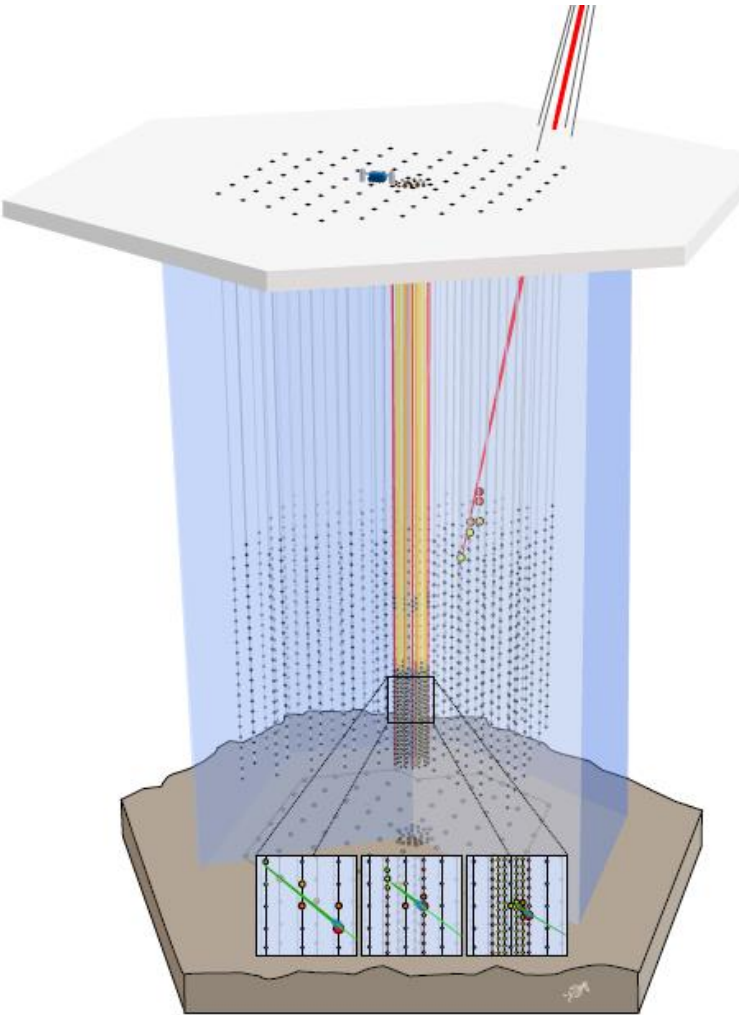
The IceCube observatory



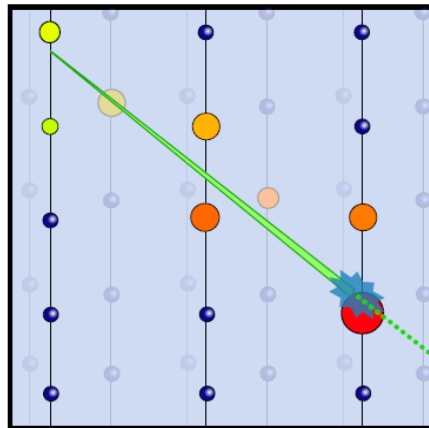
Location: Amundsen-Scott Station
@ geographic South Pole

*...data taking with complete
detector from May 2011*

IceCube detector



*Plot includes envisaged „Pingu“
low energy extension“*



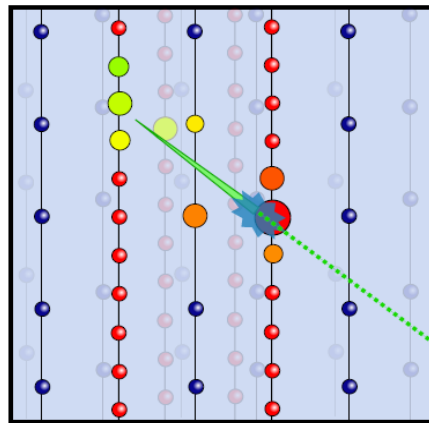
IceCube only

5160 sensors (optical modules)
on 86 strings

→ 1 km³ sensitive volume

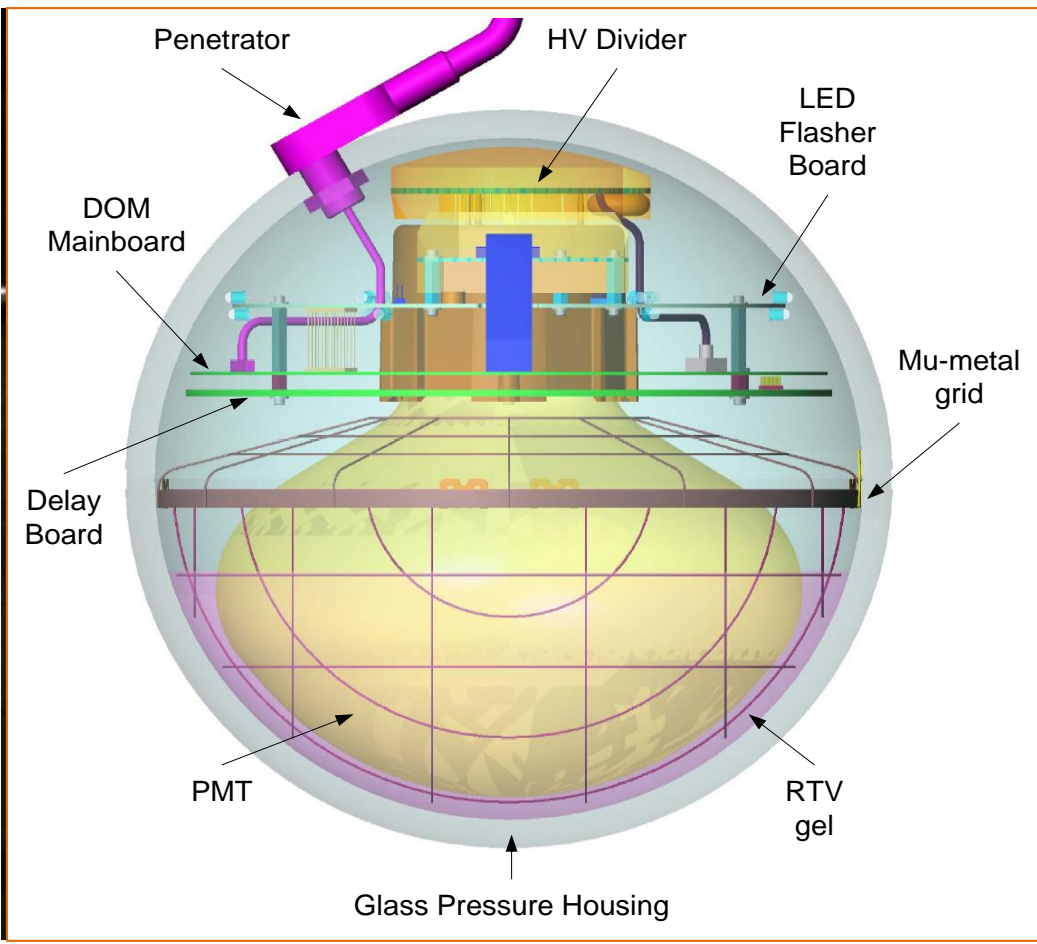
~98% of all sensors working

~99.7% data taking efficiency
.... 365 days of the year

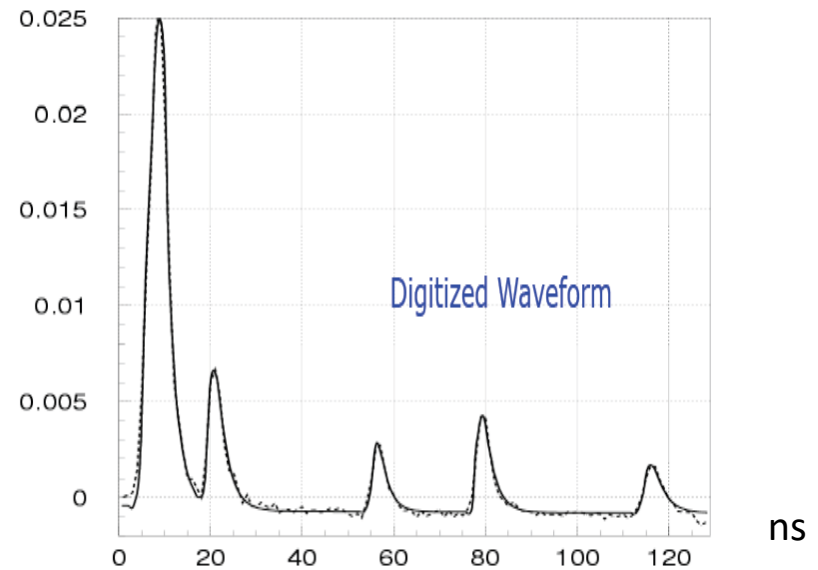


IceCube w/ DeepCore
>few 10 GeV

The IceCube Digital Optical Module

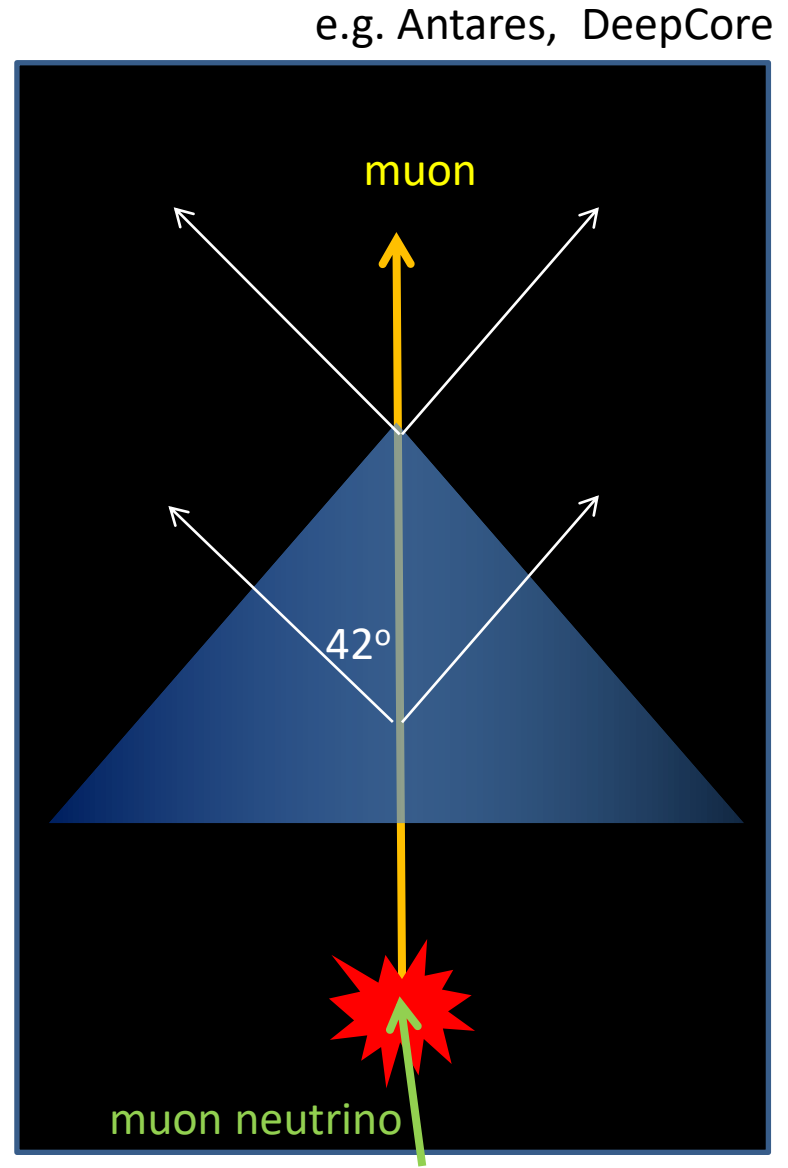
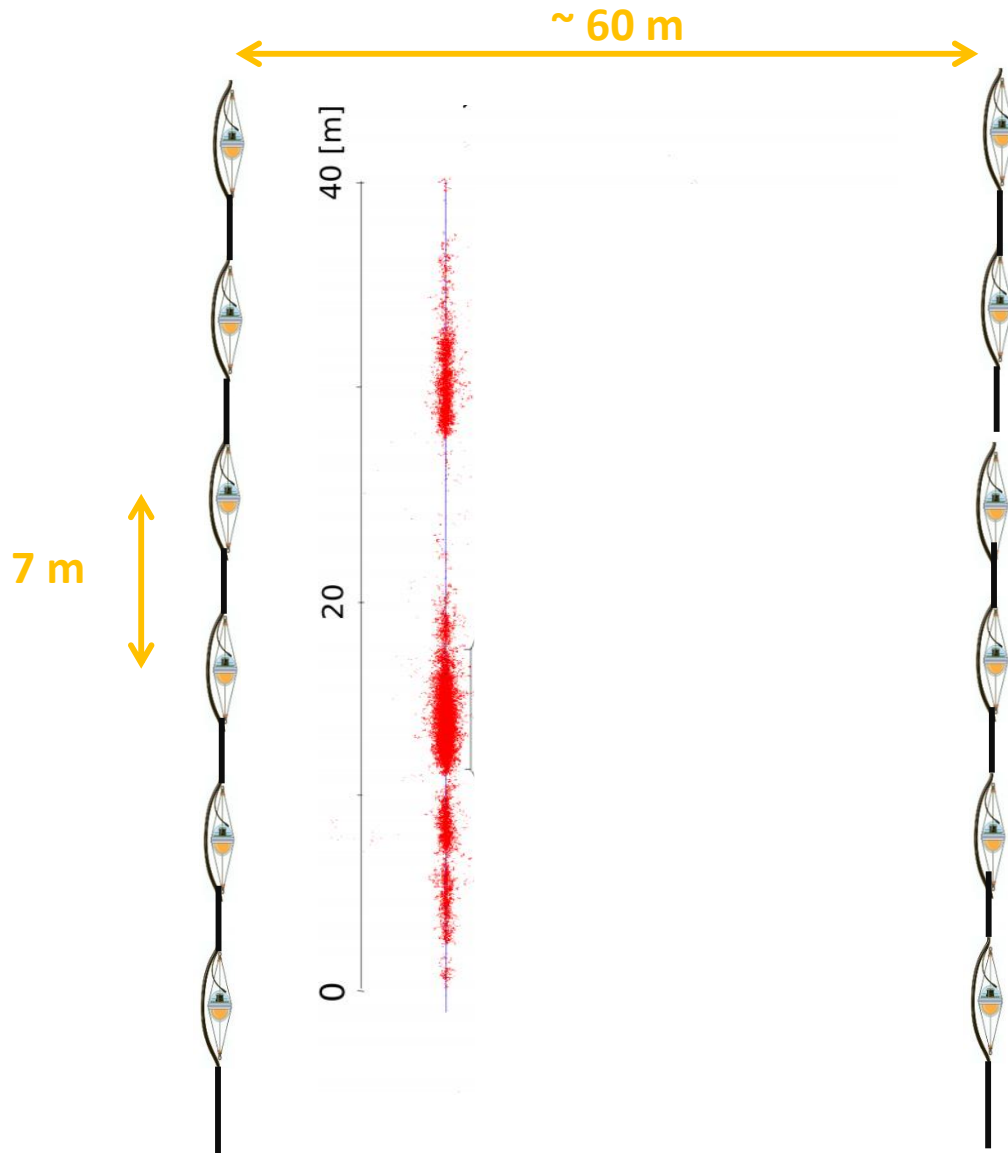


- On board HV, 330 MHz digitization, and rate measurements (1.6ms bins)
- Low power: 3.75 W
- Low noise: ~ 540 Hz
- Fast timing: betw. DOMs: $\Delta t < 5$ ns
- Large dynamic range:
 - 10^3 pe / 10 ns
 - 10^4 pe / 1 μ s



Coarse lattice of DOMs to maximize size
→ essentially no redundance

Coarse detectors to maximize volume






Technical and support issues

- ~60 kW power to electronics
- 90 GB/day filtered out and sent on satellite
- 2 winterovers
- summer population (around 5-7 pop Dec - Jan)

Collaboration map

 **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
ECAP, Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg
Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin
Ruhr-Universität Bochum
RWTH Aachen University
Technische Universität Dortmund
Technische Universität München
Universität Mainz
Universität Wuppertal
Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität
Münster

 **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 California, Los Angeles
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

THE ICECUBE COLLABORATION



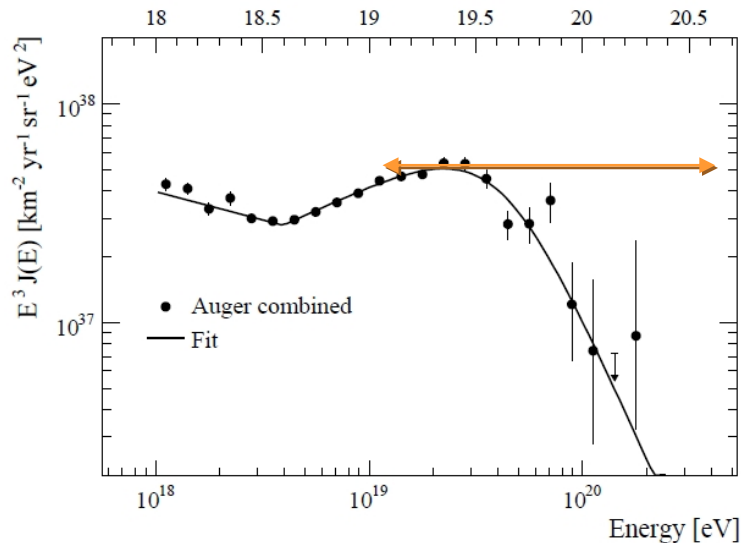


new station operating at least until 2035



Waxman-Bahcall upper limit

Idea: constrain possible neutrino flux from extragalactic cosmic ray intensity



power required over 10^{10} years to produce measured cosmic ray flux:

$$\dot{\epsilon} \leq 2 \times 10^{45} \frac{\text{GeV}}{\text{MLy}^3 \text{year}}$$

Nucleons interacting in surrounding material by $p\gamma$ (and pp , pn) interaction

→ pions and kaons → neutrinos

Many assumptions:

- „optically thin sources“
- E^{-2} flux for extrapolation to lower energy ...
- Cosmological evolution with maximal rate ...

Benchmark for building detector

$$\text{for } p\gamma \rightarrow \Delta^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ n : \phi_{\bar{\nu}_\mu + \nu_\mu}^{p\gamma} < \frac{1.9 \times 10^{-8}}{E_\nu^2} \frac{\text{GeV}}{\text{cm}^2 \text{s}^{-1} \text{sr}^{-1}}$$