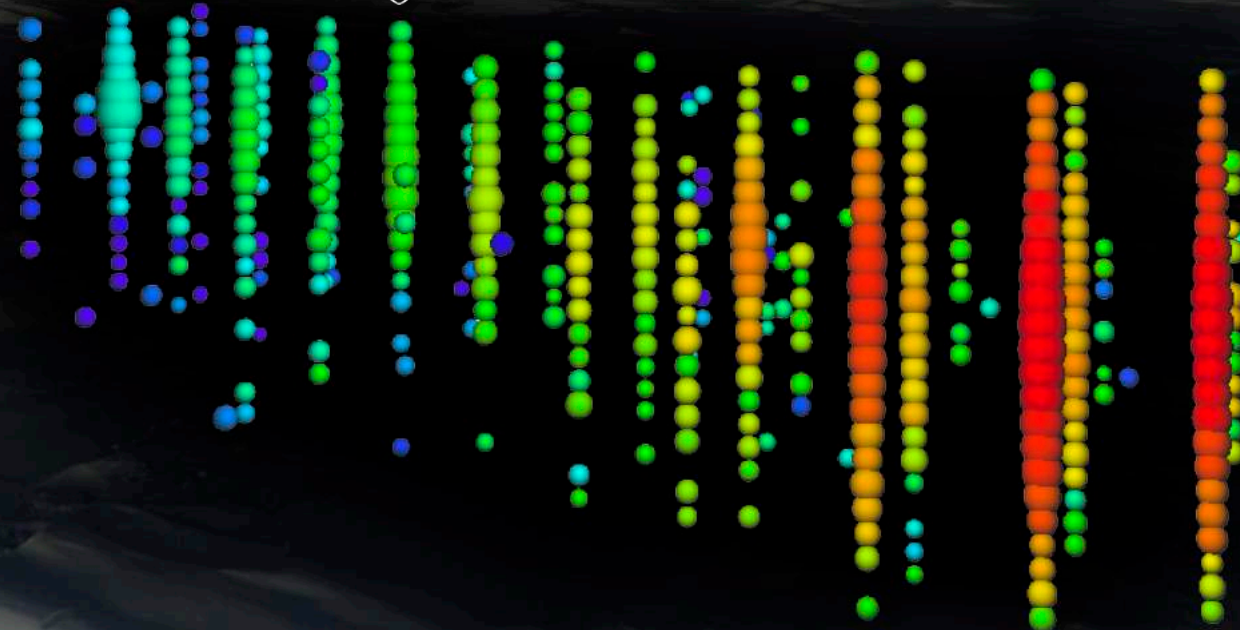
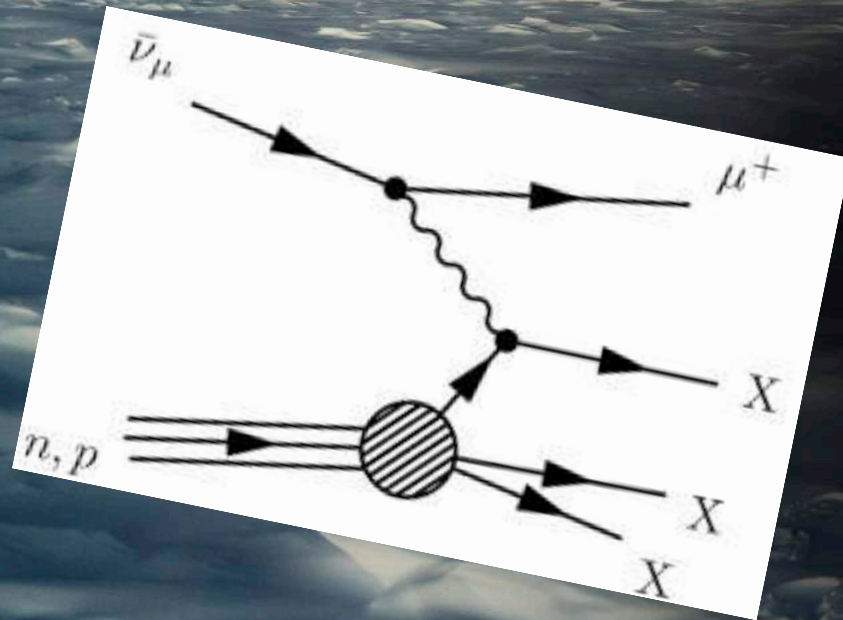


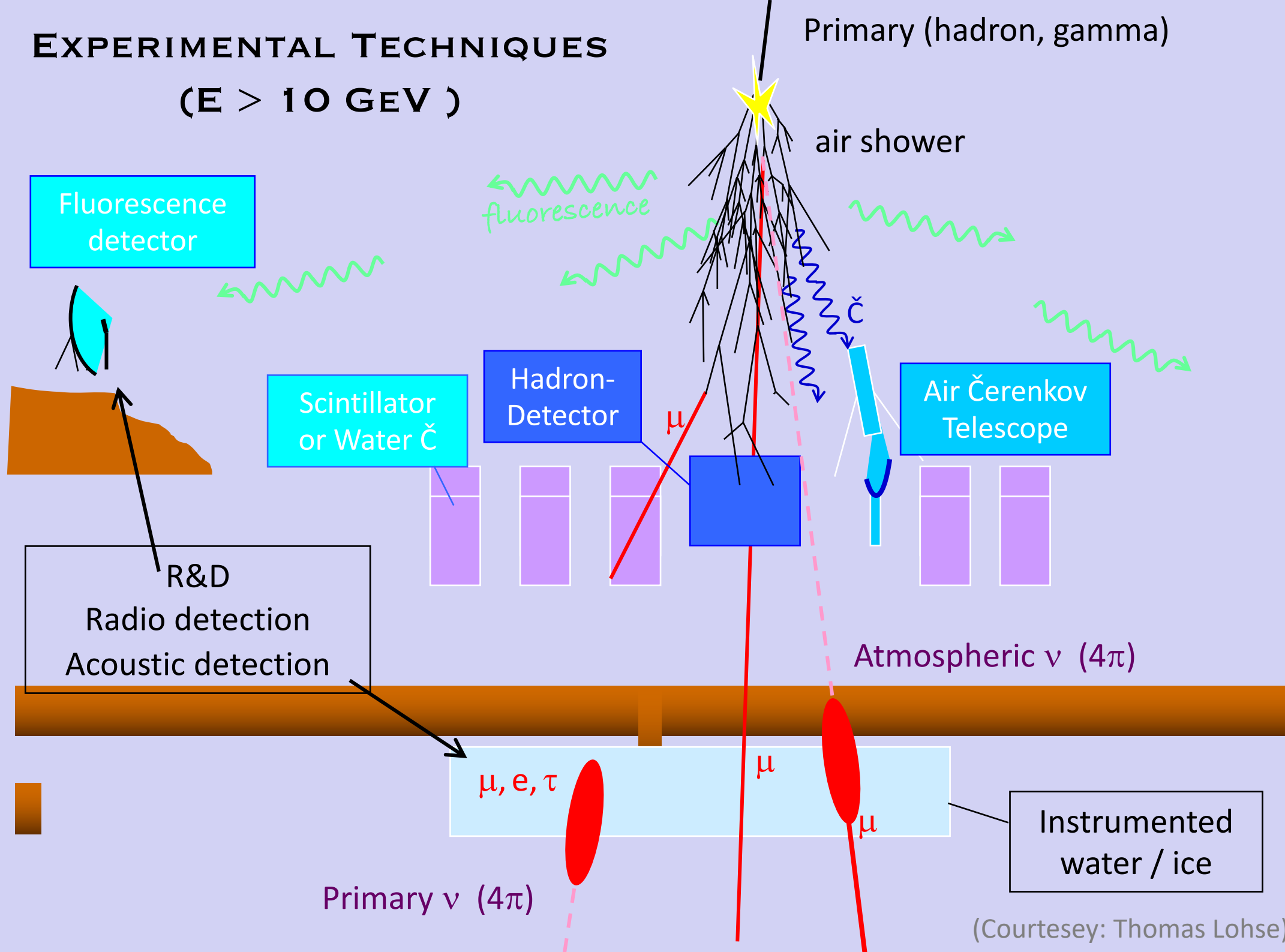


SEEING THE HIGH ENERGY UNIVERSE WITH COSMIC NEUTRINOS

Subir Sarkar



(E > 10 GeV)



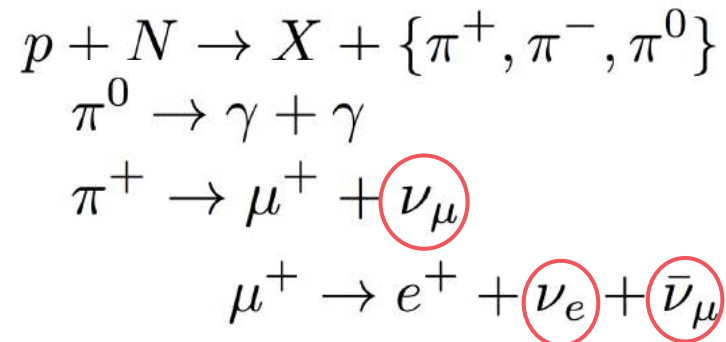
(Courtesy: Thomas Lohse)

THE ORIGIN OF COSMIC RAYS

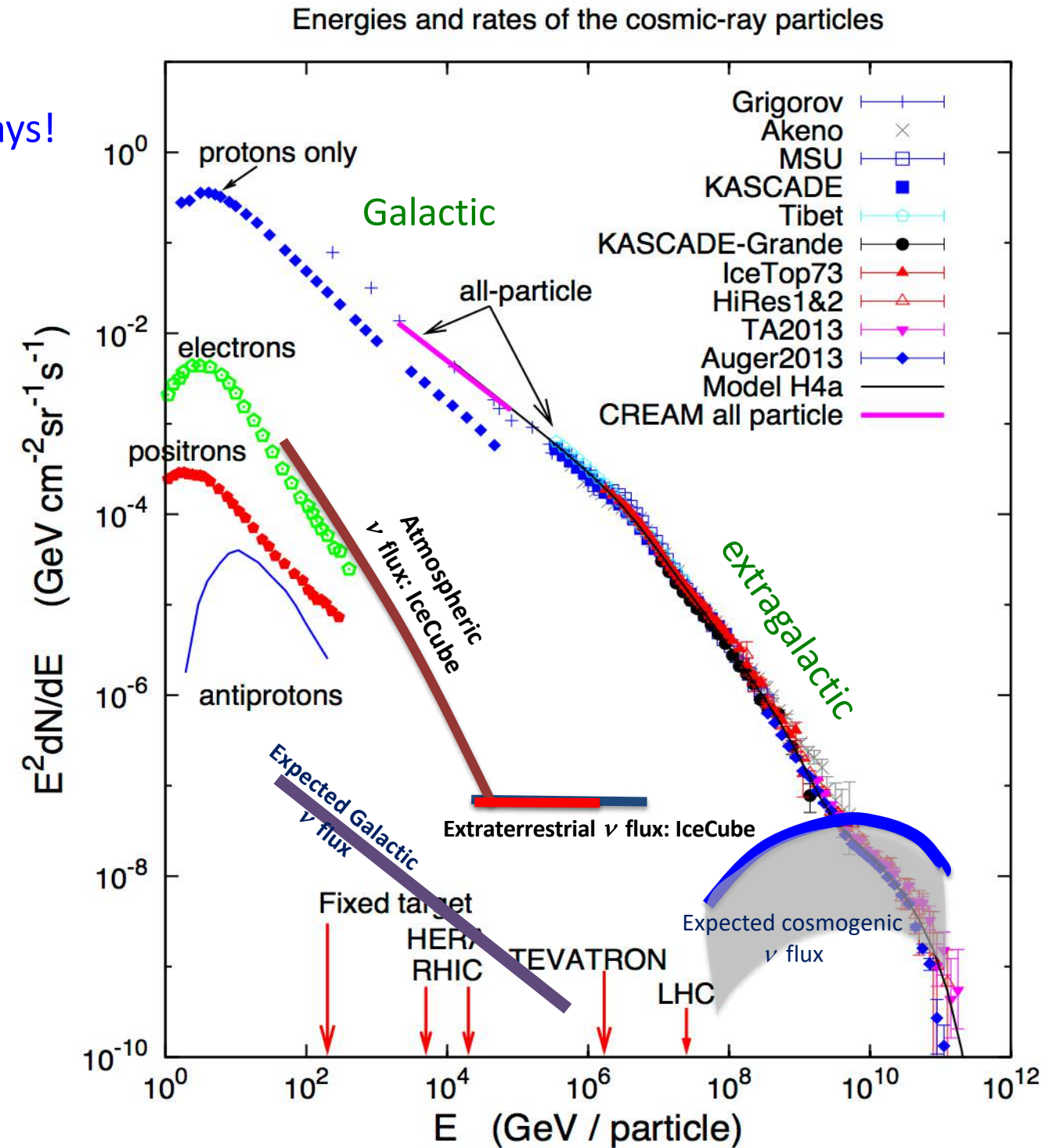
Extraordinary cosmic particle accelerators *somewhere*, but still poorly identified over a century after the discovery of cosmic rays!

- Supernova remnants ✓
- Active galactic nuclei ?
- Gamma ray bursts ?
- Radio galaxy jets ?
- Starburst galaxies ?
- ...

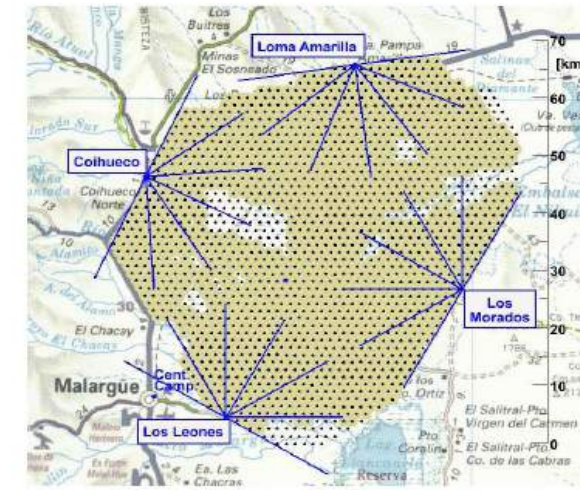
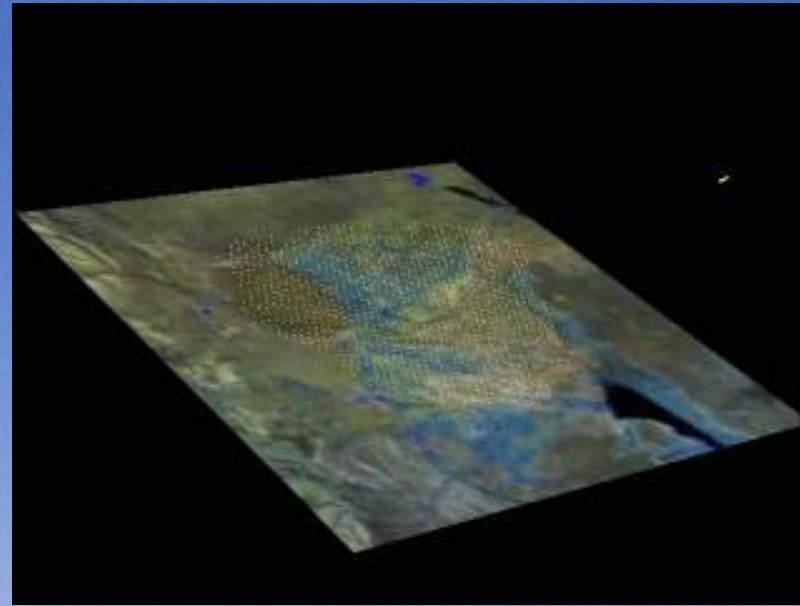
Neutrinos produced by cosmic ray interactions with matter & photons, near source or during propagation:



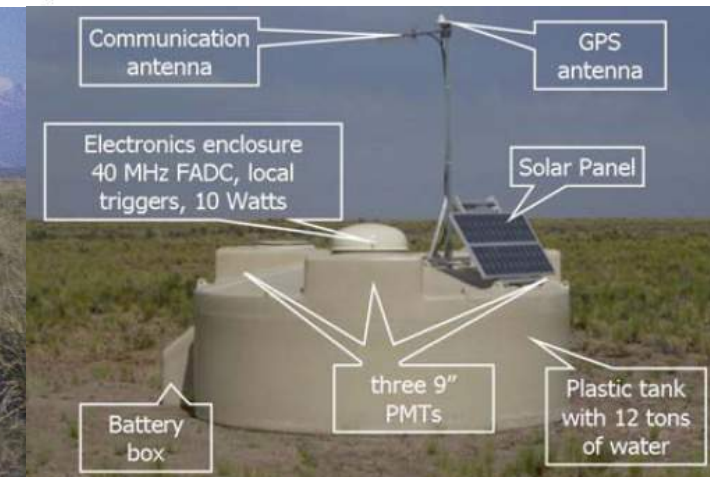
Oscillations en-route to Earth equilibrate flavours
so e.g.: $\nu_e : \nu_\mu : \nu_\tau :: 1 : 1 : 1$ for above decay chain



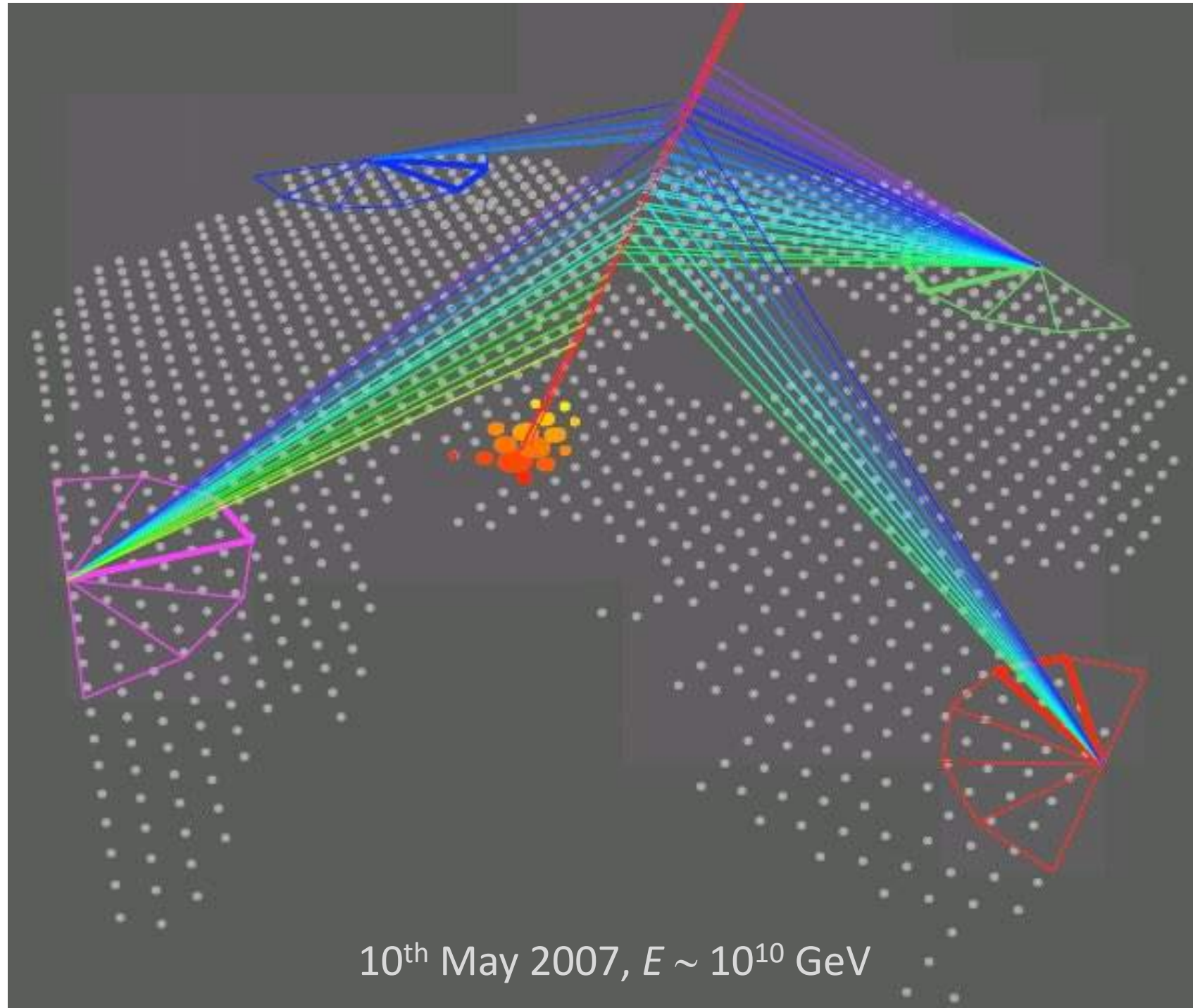
The Pierre Auger Observatory



- 1600 water-cherenkov detectors (≈ 1535 active)
- Aperture $> 7000 \text{ km}^2 \text{ sr yr} \equiv 7000 \text{ Linsley}$
- 4×6 telescopes

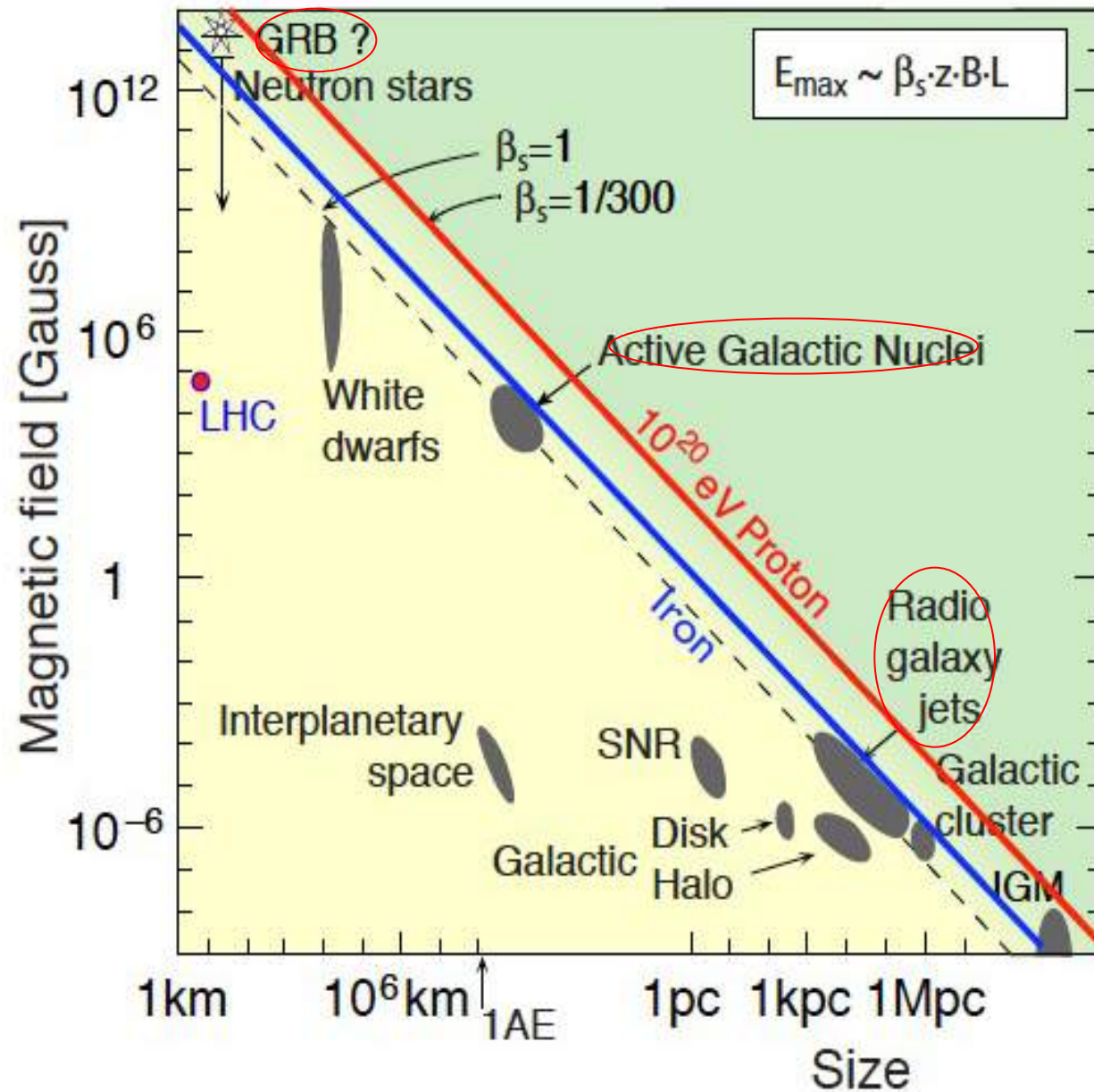


AUGER HAS A 3000 KM² SURFACE ARRAY, OBSERVED BY 4 AIR FLUORESCENCE TELESCOPES



ARE THERE PLAUSIBLE COSMIC ACCELERATORS FOR SUCH ENORMOUS ENERGIES?

Hillas plot (1984)



Need accelerator of size of Mercury's orbit
to reach 10^{20} eV with LHC technology

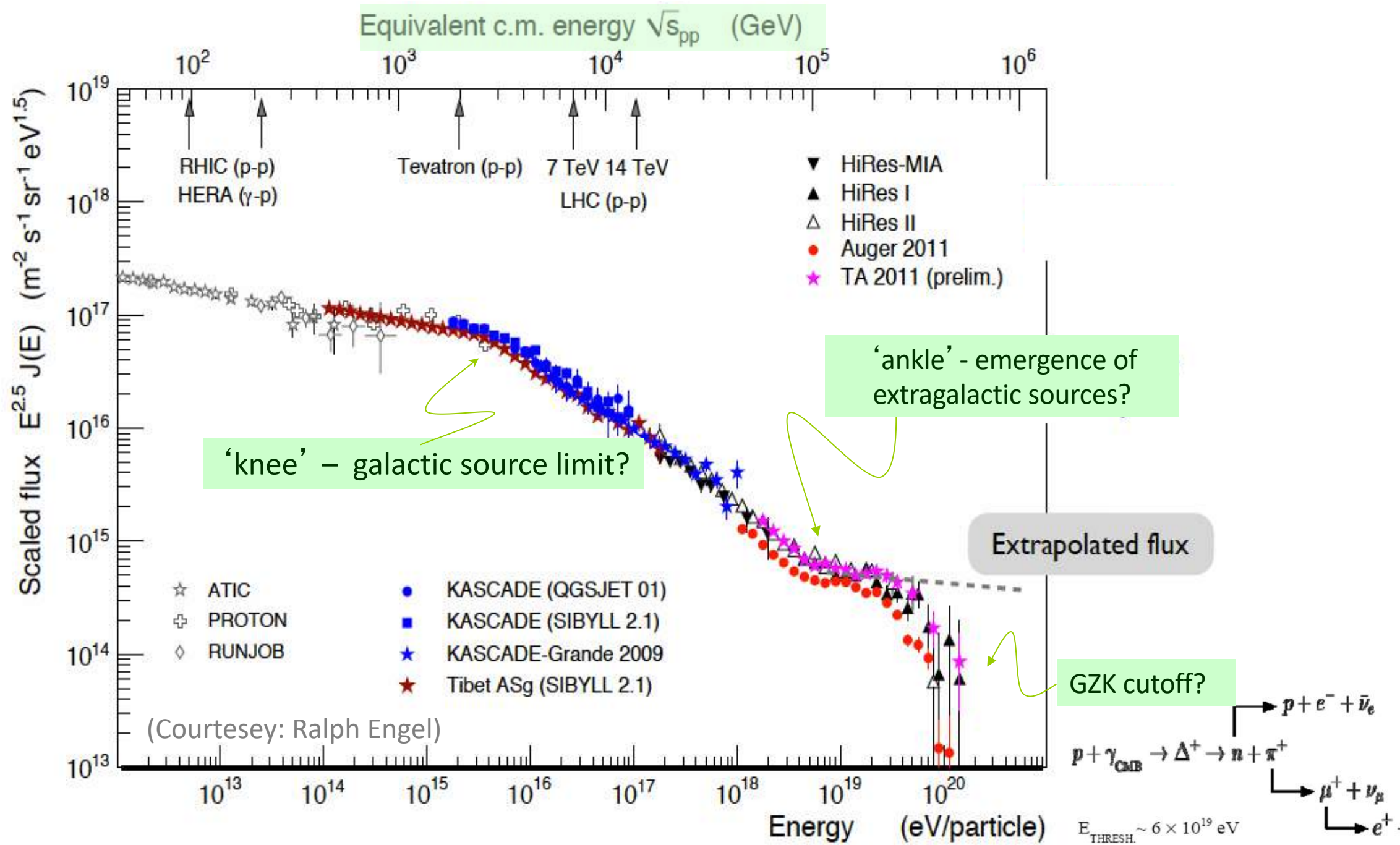


(Courtesy: Ralph Engel)

Realistic constraints more severe

- small acceleration efficiency
- synchrotron & adiabatic losses
- interactions in source region

INTERACTIONS OF UHE COSMIC RAYS & NEUTRINOS PROVIDE A LABORATORY FOR NEW PHYSICS SEARCHES BEYOND THE REACH OF TERRESTRIAL ACCELERATORS



THE SOURCES OF COSMIC RAYS *MUST* ALSO BE NEUTRINO SOURCES

Waxman-Bahcall Bound :

- $1/E^2$ injection spectrum (Fermi shock).
- Neutrinos from photo-meson interactions in the source.
- Energy in ν 's related to energy in **CR's** :

$$[E_\nu^2 \Phi_\nu]_{\text{WB}} \approx (3/8) \xi_Z \epsilon_\pi t_H \frac{c}{4\pi} E_{\text{CR}}^2 \frac{d\dot{N}_{\text{CR}}}{dE_{\text{CR}}}$$

Fraction of CR primary
energy converted to neutrinos

Hubble time

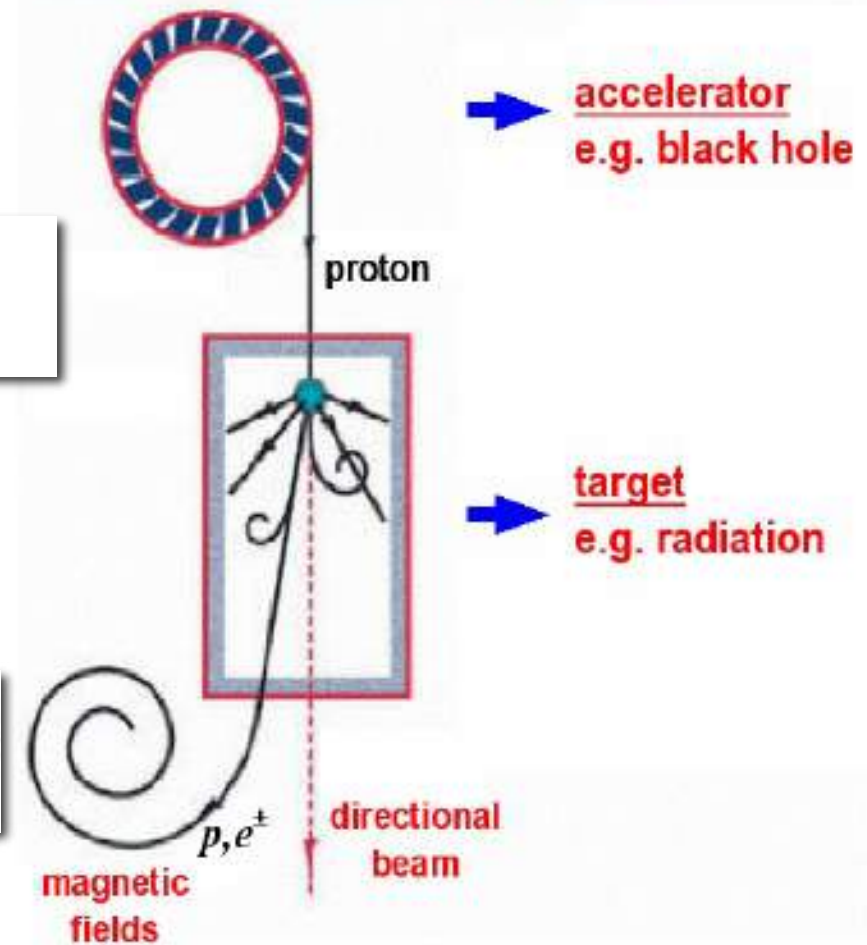
From rate of UHE
CR's (10^{19} - 10^{21} eV)

$$\approx 2.3 \times 10^{-8} \epsilon_\pi \xi_Z \text{ GeV cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1} \text{ sr}^{-1}$$

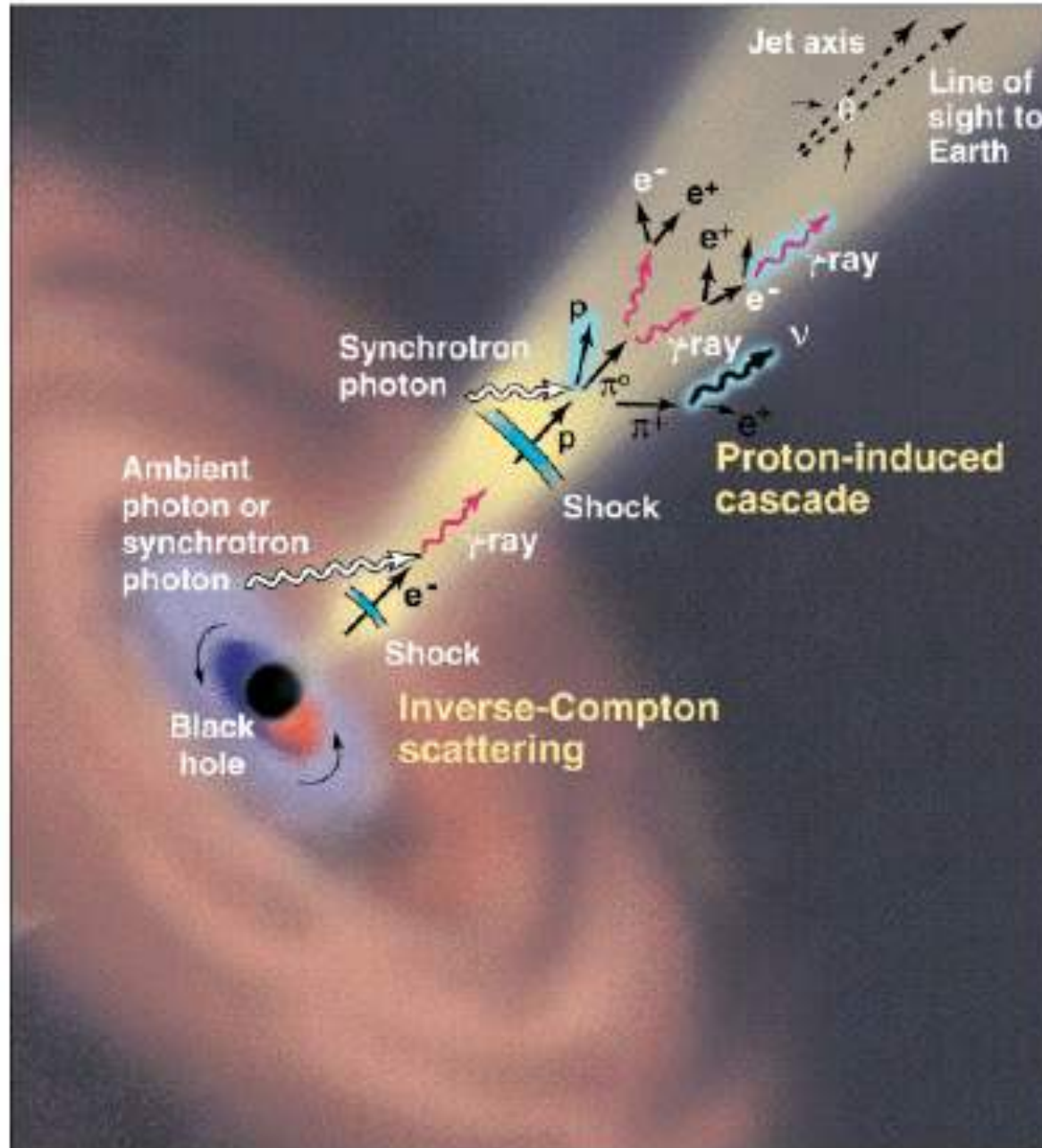
➡ Making a reasonable estimate for ϵ_π allows
this to be converted into a flux prediction

... would be higher if extragalactic cosmic rays
become dominant at energies below the 'ankle'

COSMIC BEAM DUMP : SCHEMATIC



ACTIVE GALACTIC NUCLEI



Current paradigm:

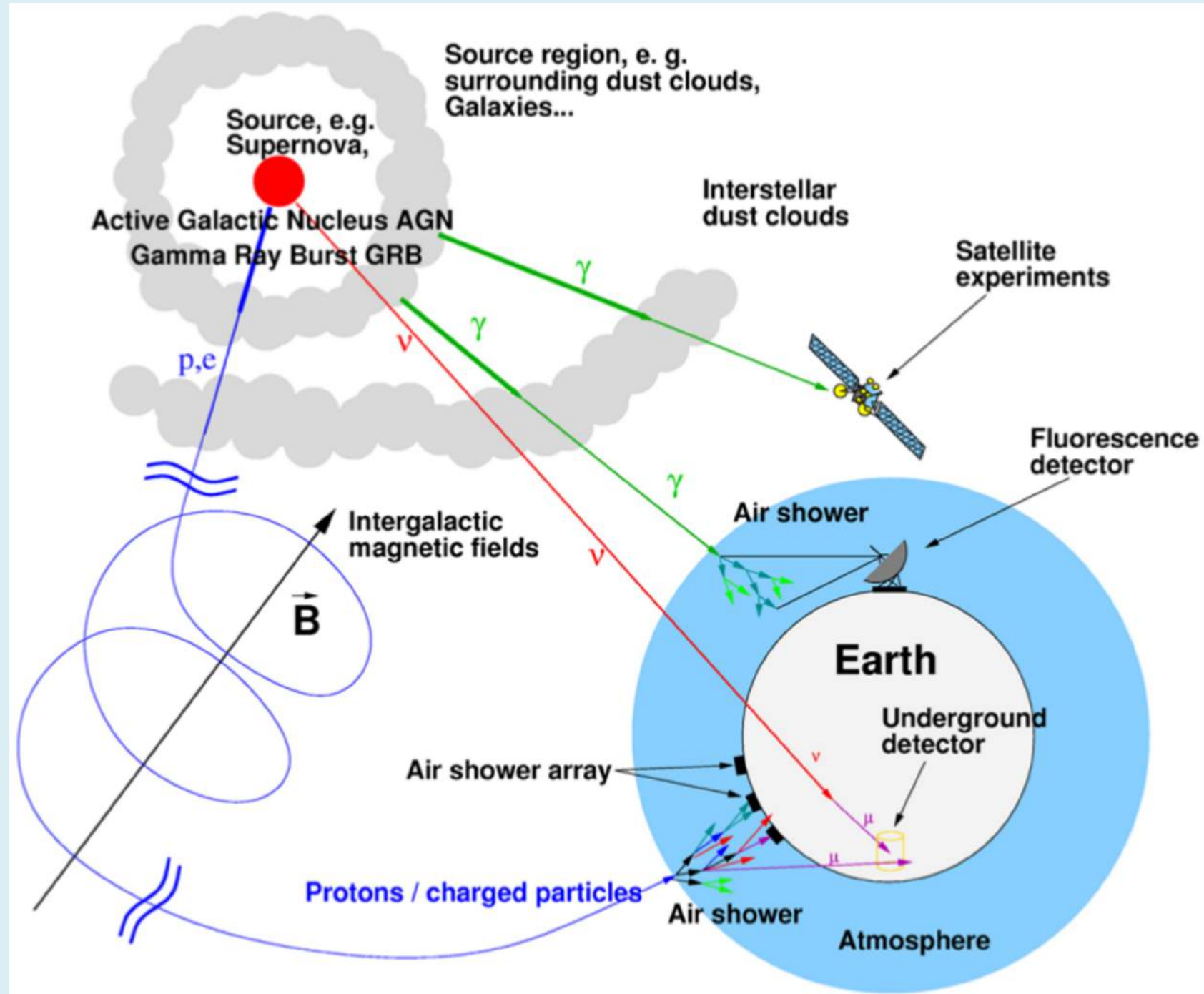
- **Synchrotron Self Compton**
- External Compton
- Proton Induced Cascades
- Proton Synchrotron

■ Energetics, mechanism for jet formation and collimation, nature of the plasma, and particle acceleration mechanisms are still poorly understood.

TeV γ -rays have been seen from AGN, however no *direct* evidence that protons are accelerated in such objects

... there are possible correlations with UHECRs (e.g. 2 Auger events within 3° of Centaurus A) however such associations may be accidental (magnetic deflections are large even at such high energies)

HOWEVER TO SEE *INTO* THE COSMIC ACCELERATORS WE NEED A MESSENGER UNAFFECTED BY INTERVENING DUST, GAS OR MAGNETIC FIELDS: **NEUTRINOS**



TO SEE THE EXPECTED FLUX OF HIGH ENERGY NEUTRINOS REQUIRES A *BIG* DETECTOR!

back-of-the-envelope ($E_\nu \sim 10^{15}$ eV):

• **flux of neutrinos :**

$$\frac{d^2 N_\nu}{dt dA} \sim \frac{1}{\text{cm}^2 \times 10^5 \text{yr}}$$

• **cross section :**

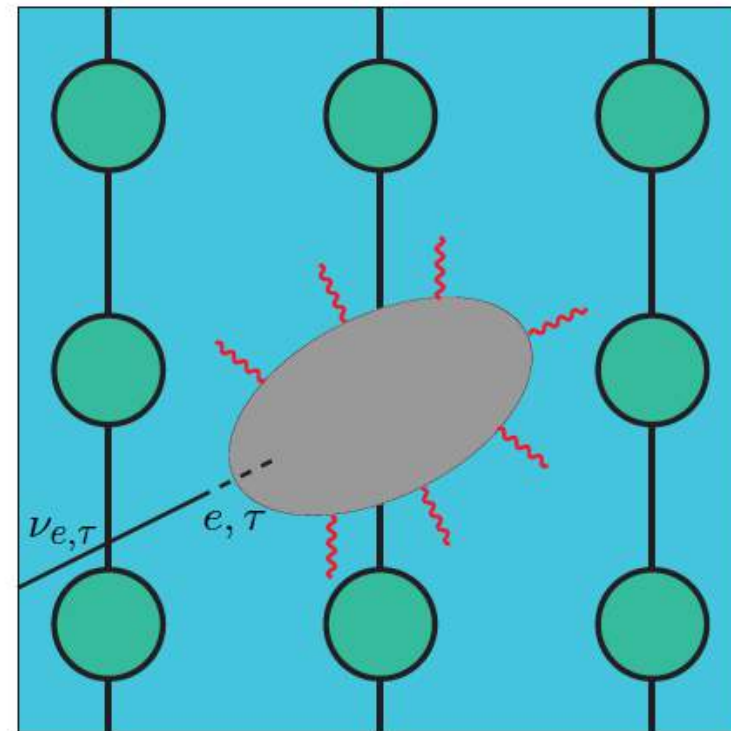
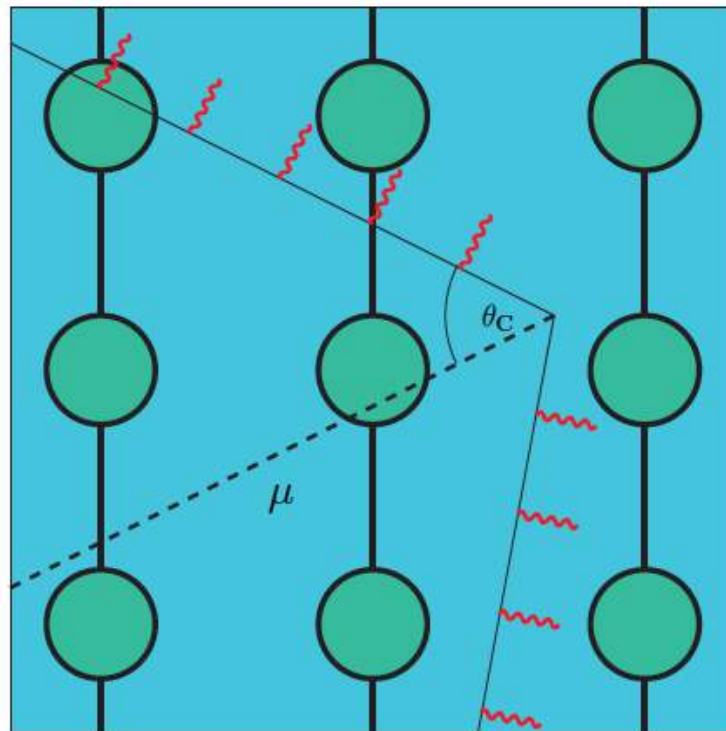
$$\sigma_{\nu N} \sim 10^{-33} \text{cm}^2$$

• **targets:**

$$N_N \sim N_A \times V / \text{cm}^3$$

→ **rate of events :**

$$\dot{N}_\nu \sim N_N \times \sigma_{\nu N} \times \frac{d^2 N_\nu}{dt dA} \sim \frac{1}{\text{year}} \times \frac{V}{1 \text{km}^3}$$



Centaurus A – Peculiar Galaxy

Distance: 11,000,000 ly light-years (3.4 Mpc)

Image Size = 15 x 14 arcmin

Visual Magnitude = 7.0



X-Ray: Chandra



Ultraviolet: GALEX



Visible: DSS



Visible: Color ©AAO



Near-Infrared: 2MASS



Mid-Infrared: Spitzer



Far-Infrared: IRAS



Radio: VLA

Estimate
of ν flux
from p - p :

$$\frac{dN_\nu}{dE} \leq 5 \times 10^{-13} \left(\frac{E}{\text{TeV}} \right)^{-2} \text{TeV}^{-1} \text{cm}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1} \sim 0.02\text{-}0.8 \text{ events/km}^2\text{/yr}$$

Halzen & Murchadha [arXiv:0802.0887]

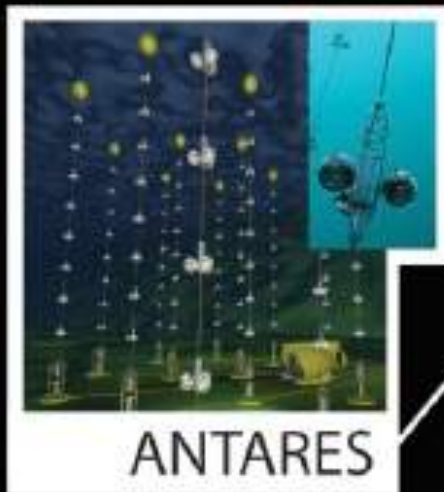
CHERENKOV DETECTORS

...Dumand

Nemo

Baksan

Hyper-K
Super-K

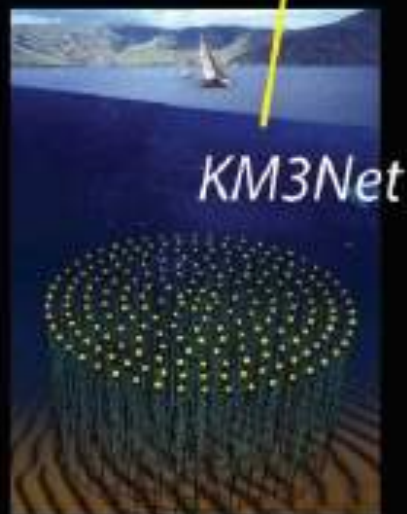


Active

Retired

Prototype

Planned

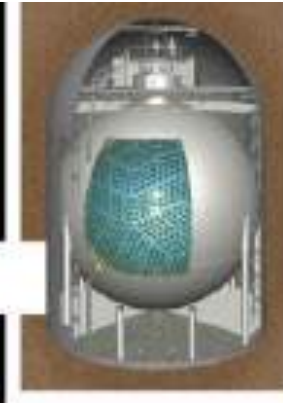


IceCube

AMANDA

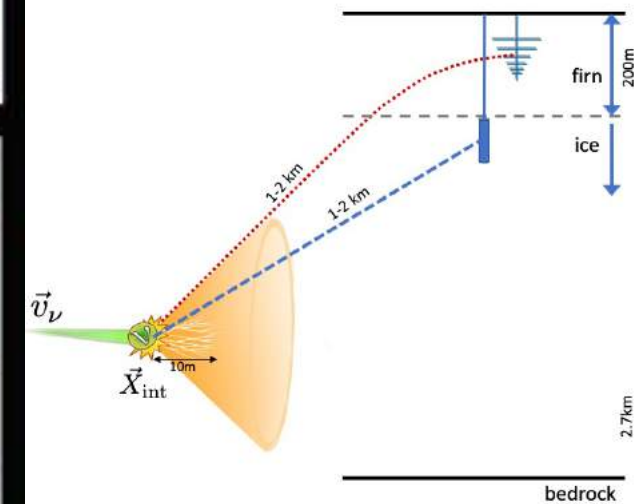


Lake Baikal
GVD

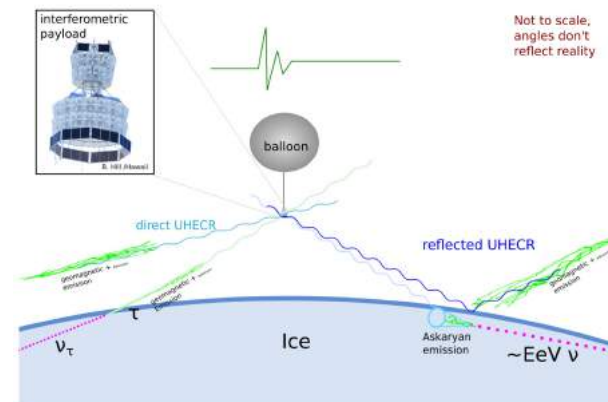


RADIO DETECTION

arXiv:2208.04971



ARIANNA, ARA, RNO-G,
... IceCube-Gen2,



ANITA ... PUEO

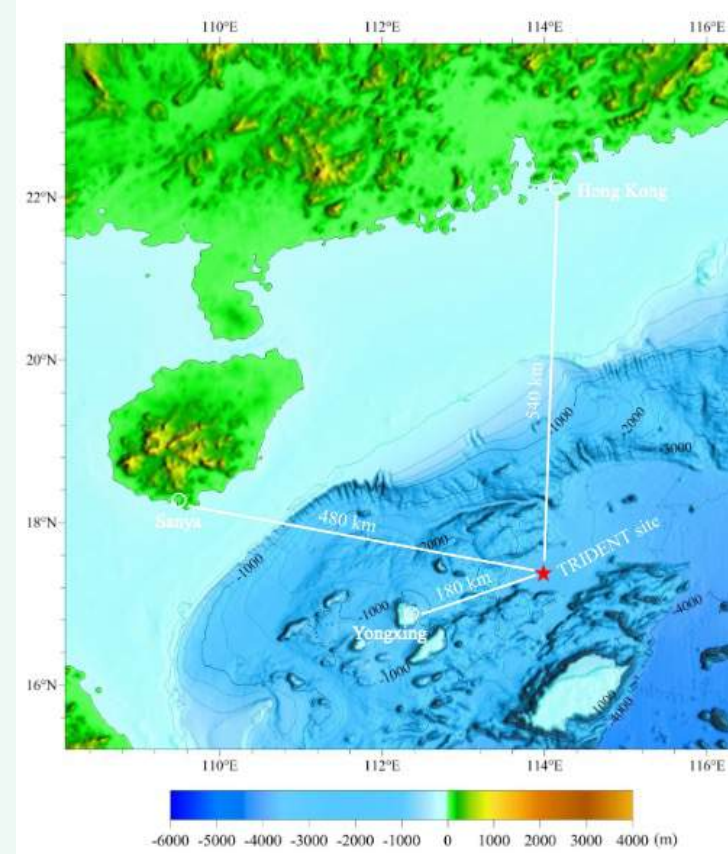
Air shower detection

GRAND, Trinity ...

Under construction: + GVD, P-One, TRIDENT ...

GVD-Baikal

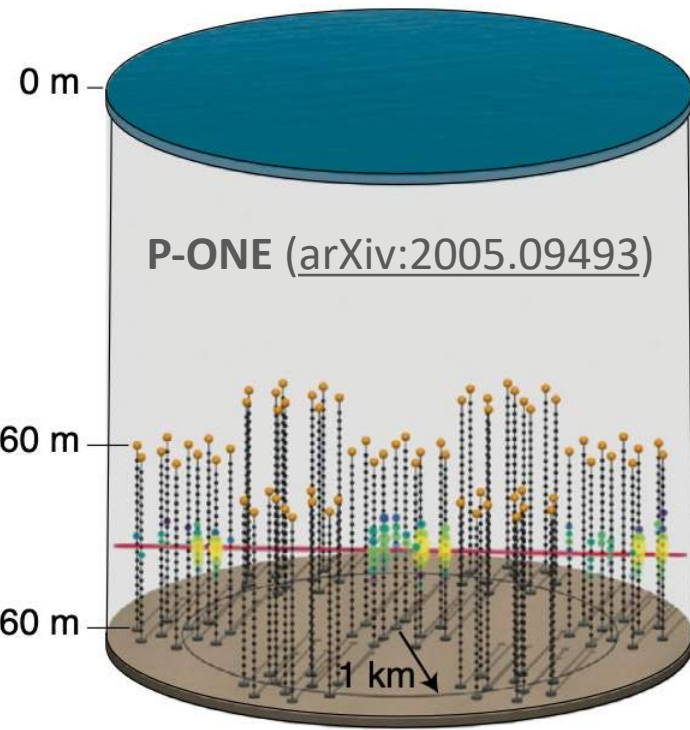
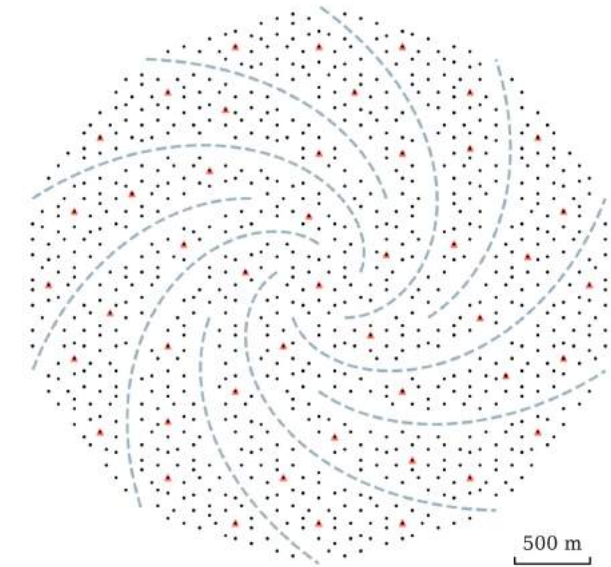
([arXiv:2109.14344](https://arxiv.org/abs/2109.14344))



TRIDENT

([arXiv:2207.04519](https://arxiv.org/abs/2207.04519))

- String
- ▲ Junction box
- ROV path

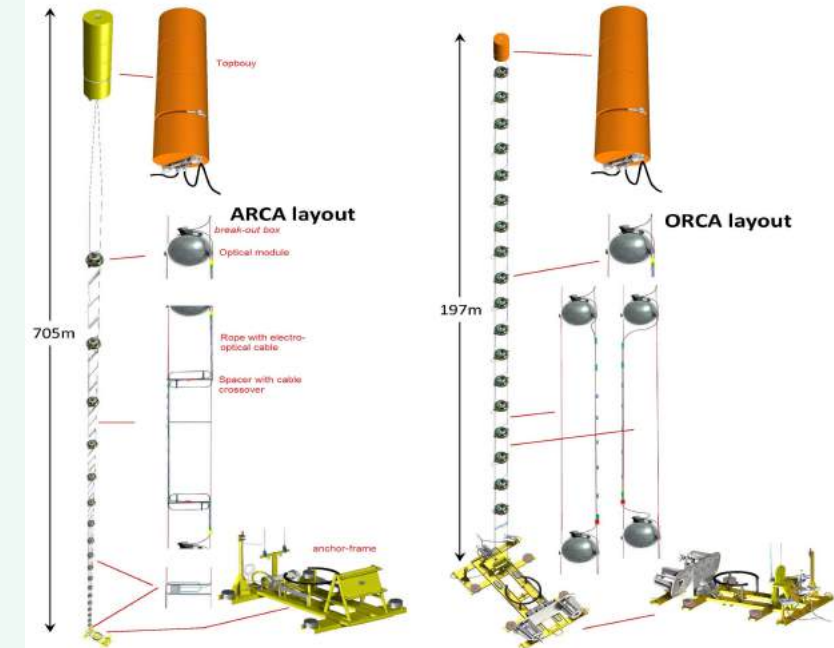


P-ONE

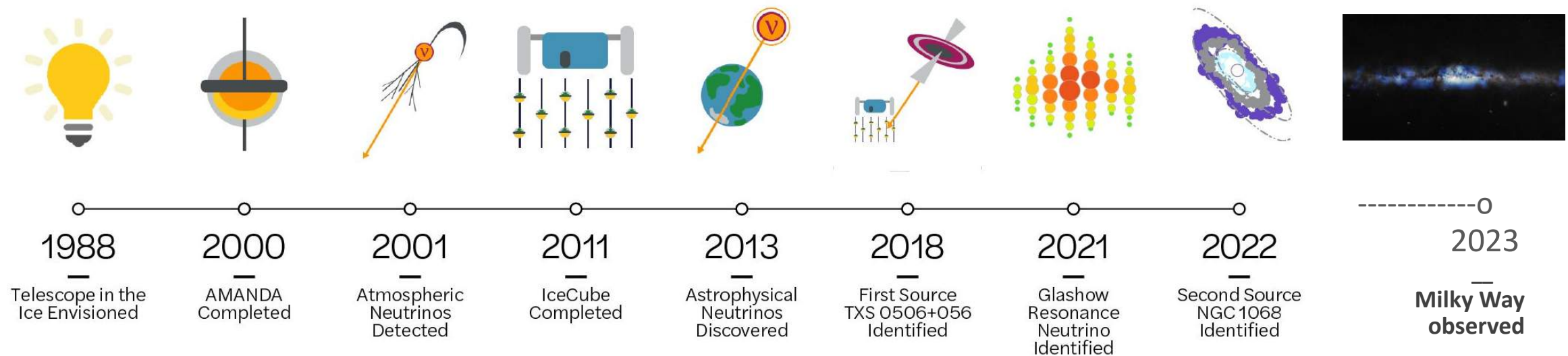
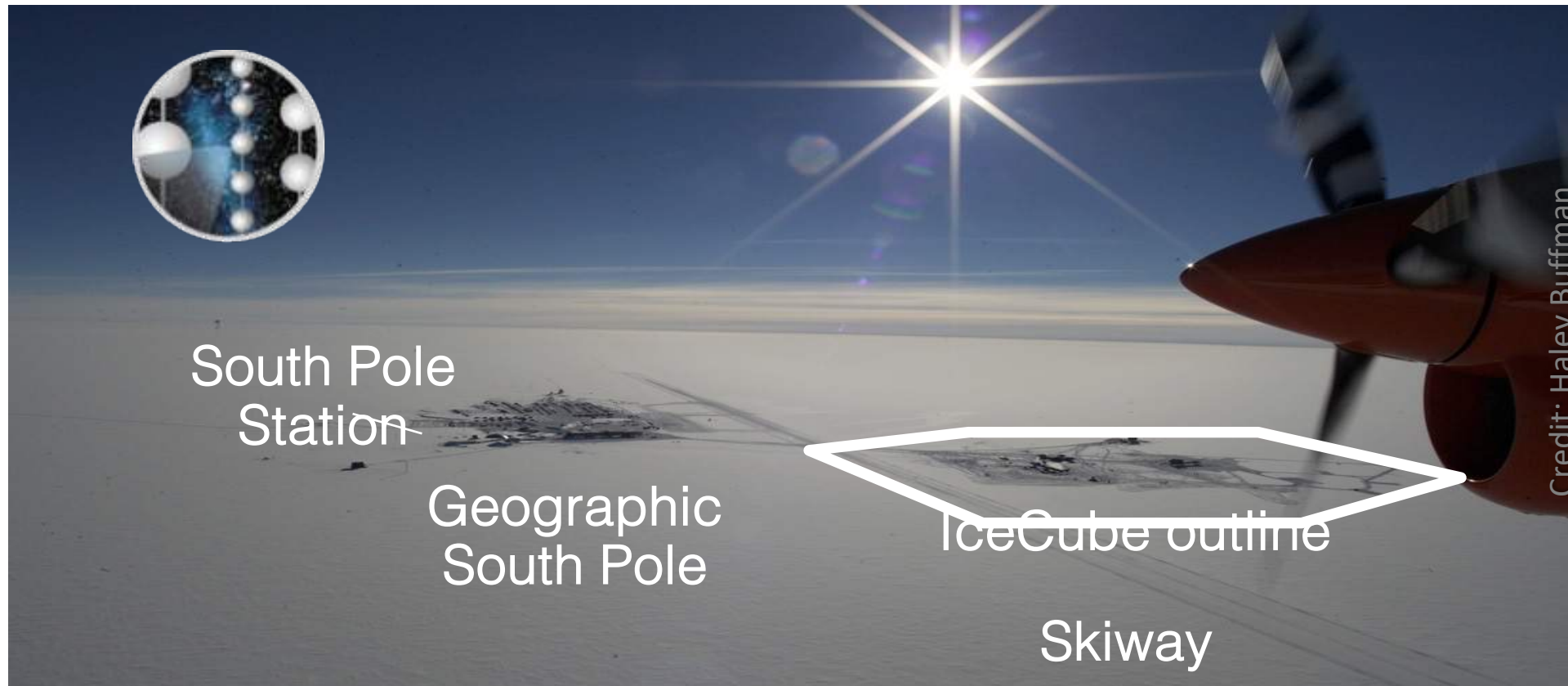
([arXiv:2005.09493](https://arxiv.org/abs/2005.09493))

KM3NeT

([arXiv:2208.07370](https://arxiv.org/abs/2208.07370))



THE ICECUBE NEUTRINO OBSERVATORY



ICECUBE NEUTRINO OBSERVATORY

86 strings (125 m between strings)

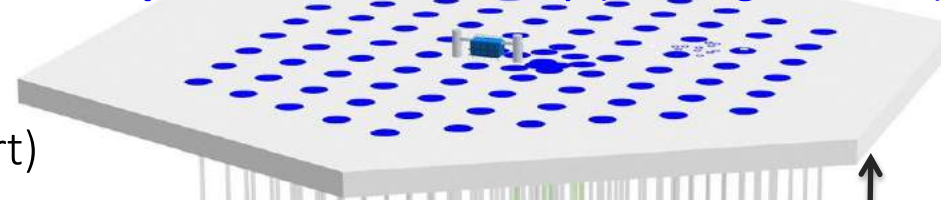
60 Optical Modules per string (17 m apart)

5160 Digital Optical Modules (DOMs) in Ice

1 km³ ⇒ Gton instrumented volume

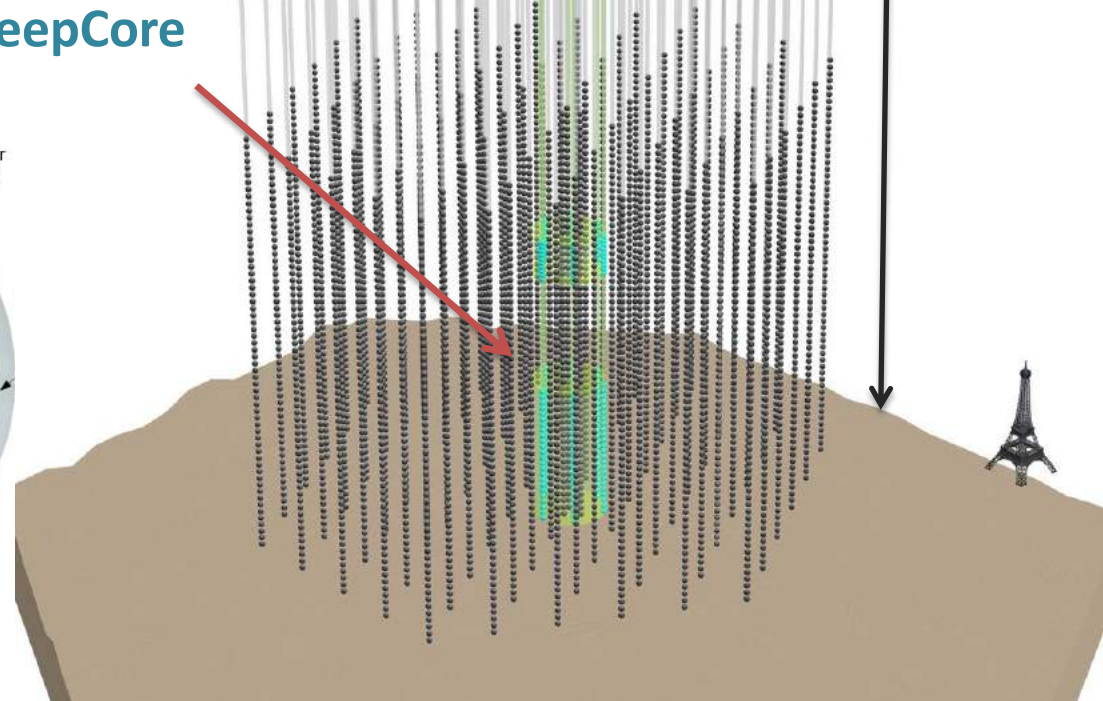
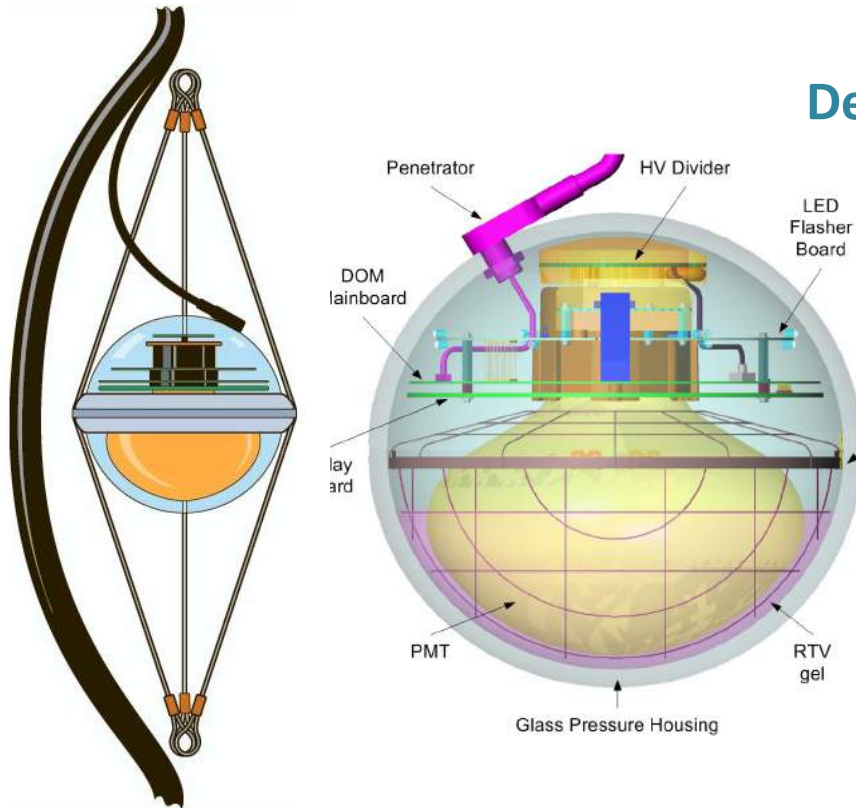
Construction: 2004-11 (by now 10+ yrs of data)

IceTop: 1 km² surface array (81 'Auger' tanks)



2.5 km


DeepCore



Cost: 279 M\$ ⇒ 20 pence per ton

THE ICECUBE COLLABORATION

 **AUSTRALIA**
University of Adelaide

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

 **CANADA**
Queen's University
University of Alberta-Edmonton

 **DENMARK**
University of Copenhagen


 **GERMANY**
Deutsches Elektronen-Synchrotron
ECAP, Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg
Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin
Karlsruhe Institute of Technology
Ruhr-Universität Bochum
RWTH Aachen University
Technische Universität Dortmund
Technische Universität München
Universität Mainz
Universität Wuppertal
Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität
Münster

 **ITALY**
University of Padova

 **JAPAN**
Chiba University

 **NEW ZEALAND**
University of Canterbury

 **SOUTH KOREA**
Sungkyunkwan University

 **SWEDEN**
Stockholms universitet
Uppsala universitet

 **SWITZERLAND**
Université de Genève

 **TAIWAN**
Academia Sinica

 **UNITED KINGDOM**
University of Oxford

 **UNITED STATES**
Clark Atlanta University
Columbia University
Drexel University
Georgia Institute of Technology
Harvard University
Lawrence Berkeley National Lab
Loyola University Chicago
Marquette University
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Mercer University

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 Nevada, Las Vegas
University of Rochester
University of Texas at Arlington
University of Utah
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)



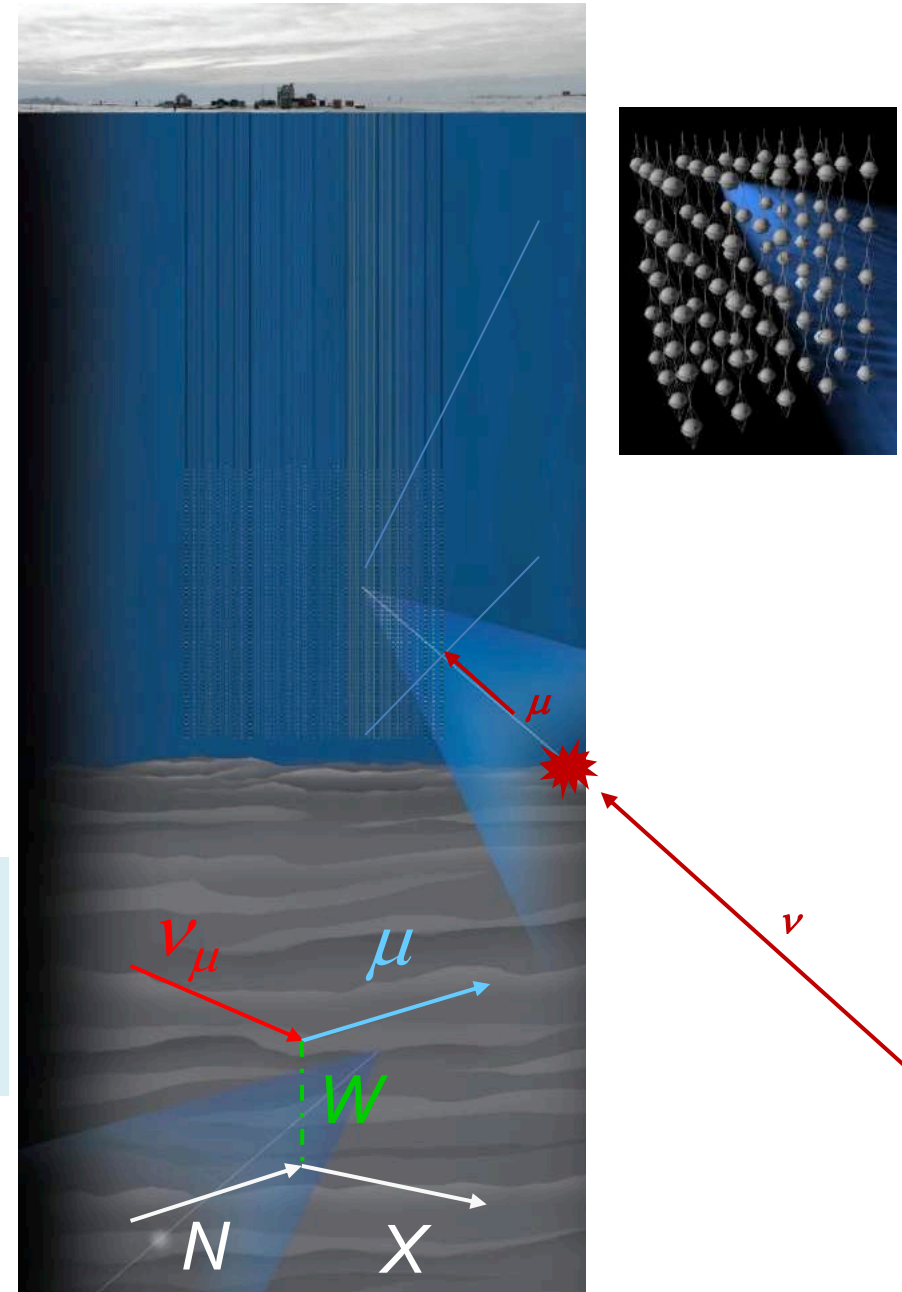
icecube.wisc.edu

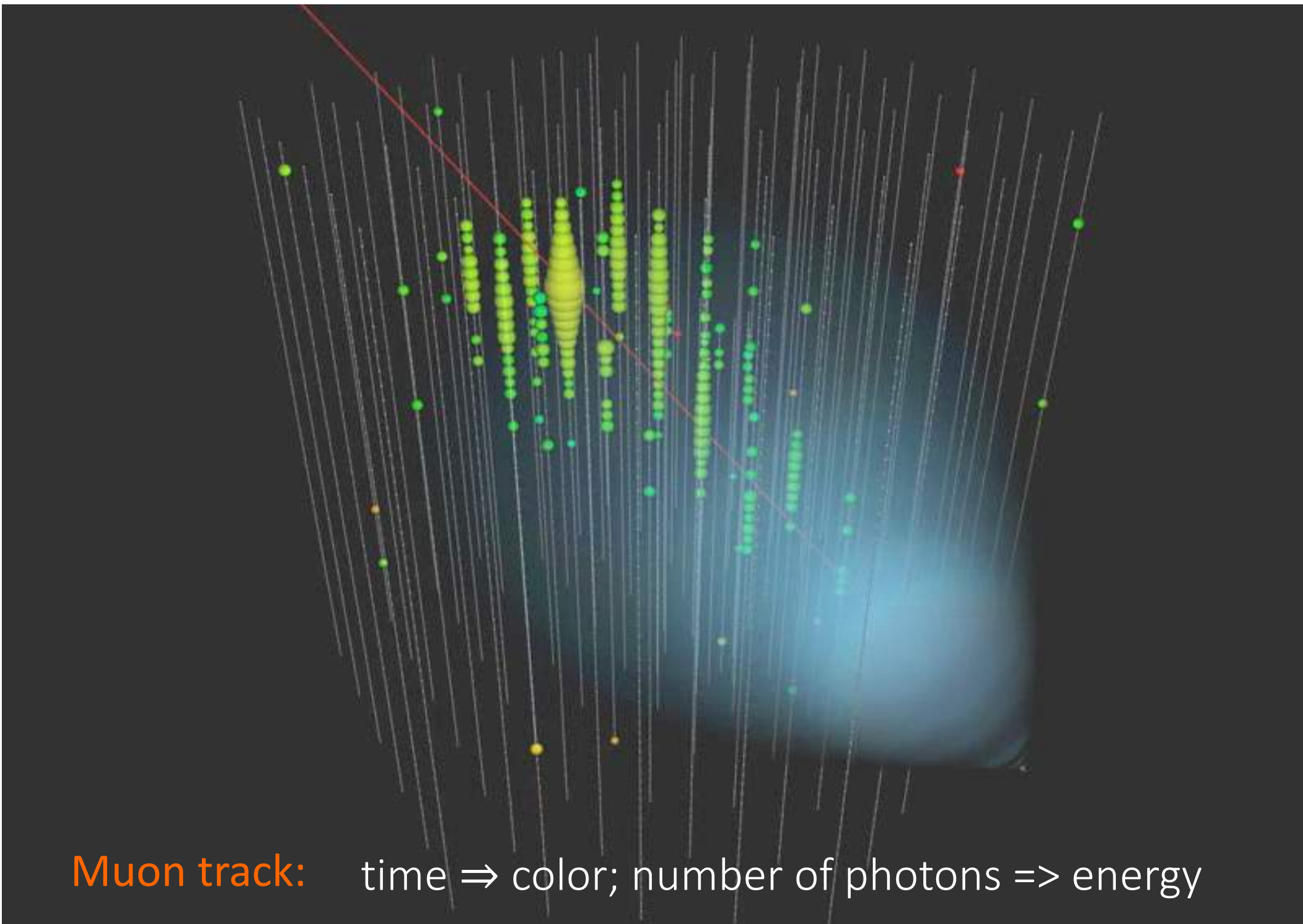
HIGH ENERGY NEUTRINO DETECTION PRINCIPLE

- A ν interacts with a nucleus
... produces a μ (e or τ)
and/or a 'cascade'
- A charged particle moving at *superluminal* speed gives rise to Cherenkov radiation (cone $\angle 40^\circ$)
- This radiation is detected by 3D array of optical sensors

Position, time & amplitude of hits allows reconstruction of tracks using likelihood optimisation (machine learning ...)

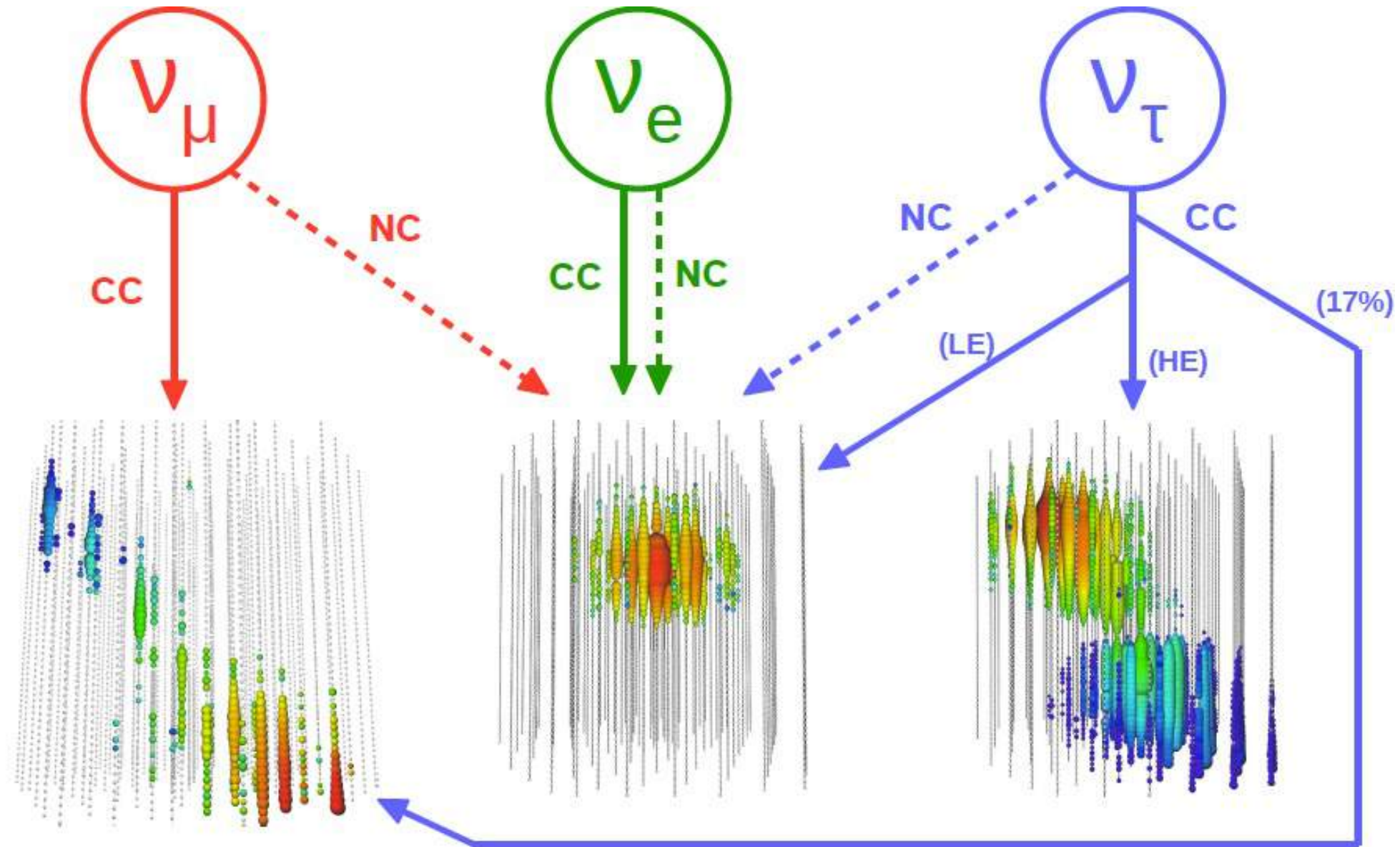
The lepton direction is aligned with the incoming $\nu \rightarrow$ astronomy!





Muon track: time \Rightarrow color; number of photons \Rightarrow energy

NEUTRINO FLAVOUR DISCRIMINATION IN ICECUBE



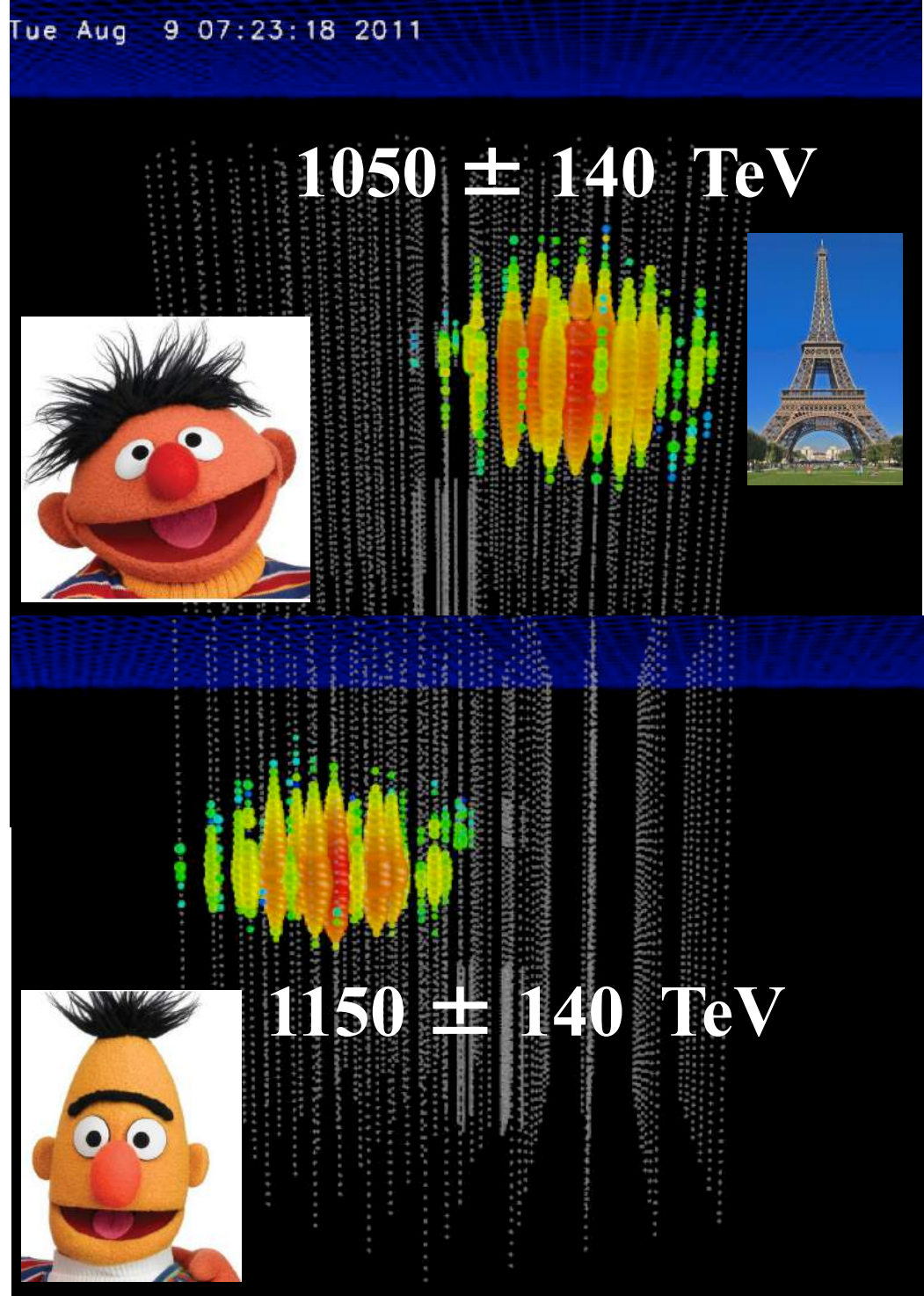
Track topology

Good pointing ($\sim 0.2^\circ - 1^\circ$)
but only lower bound on neutrino energy

Cascade topology

Good energy resolution ($\sim 15\%$)
but poor pointing ($\sim 10^\circ - 15^\circ$)

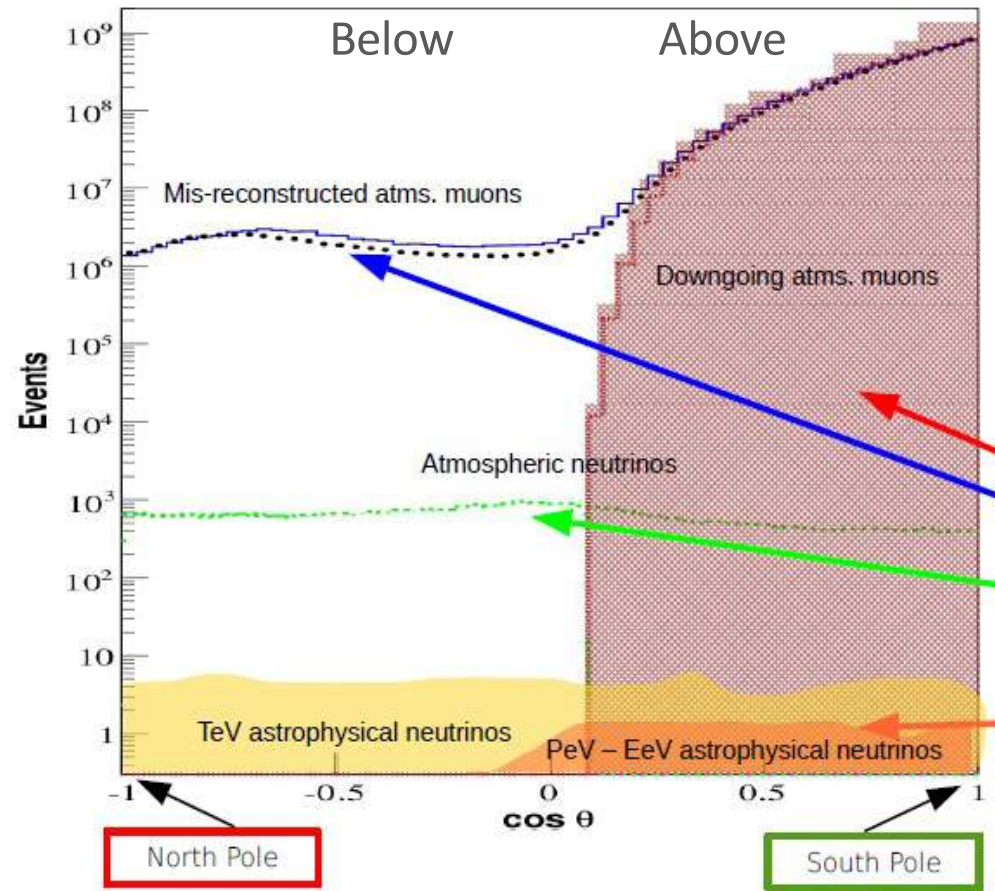
FIRST OBSERVATION OF PEV-ENERGY COSMIC NEUTRINOS



... discovered in search for GZK neutrinos



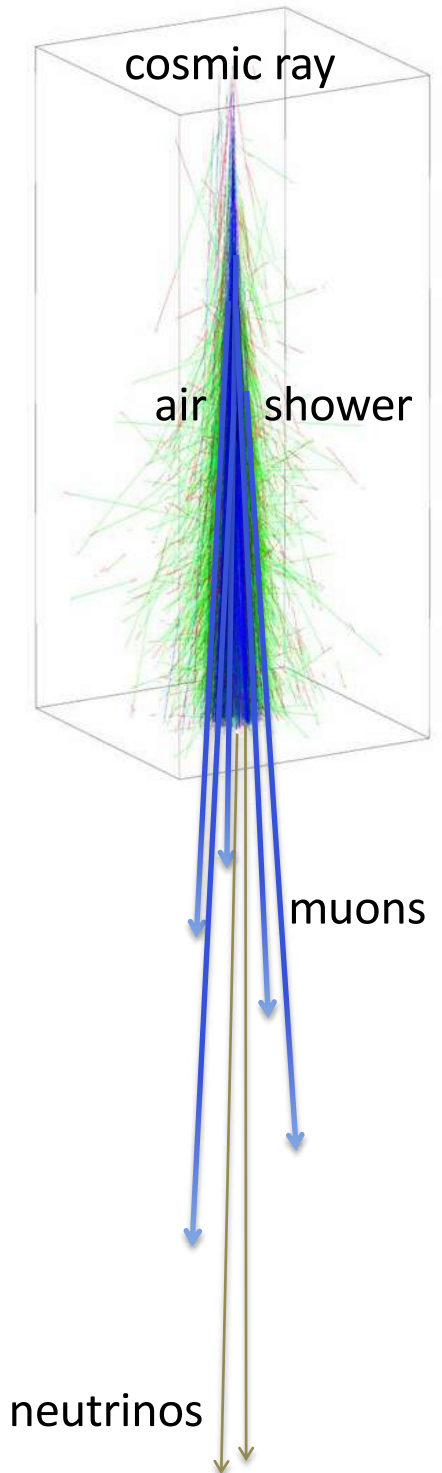
TO SEPARATE THE COSMIC SIGNAL FROM ATMOSPHERIC BACKGROUND IS A CHALLENGE!



There is an enormous background of cosmic ray muons going *down*

(only *misreconstructed* muons apparently going up since muons are all absorbed in the Earth)

Atmospheric neutrinos come from the *same* showers (1 in 10^6 events)



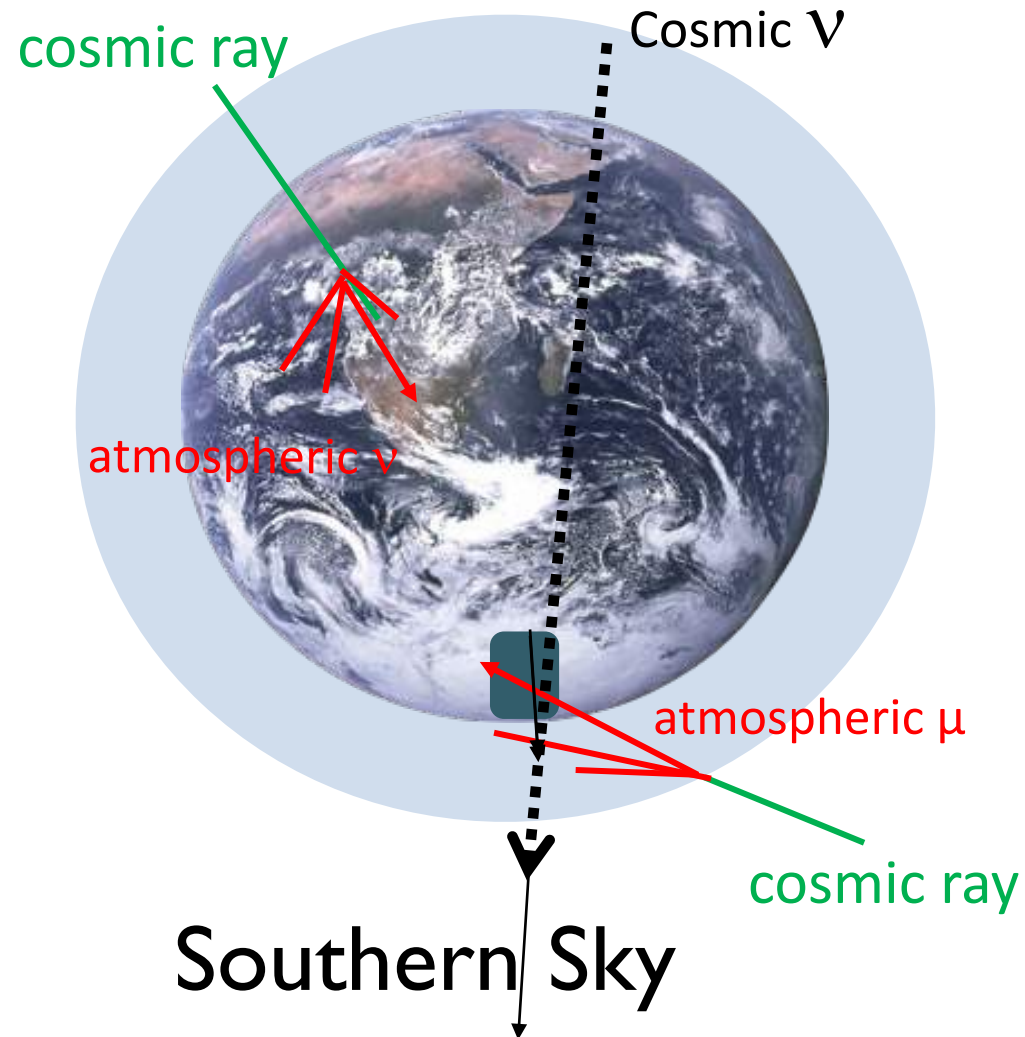
By using a veto for downgoing events, we can remove the atmospheric neutrinos ... because we remove the muons coming from the *same* cosmic ray air shower

What's left: PeV-EeV astrophysical neutrinos coming from above

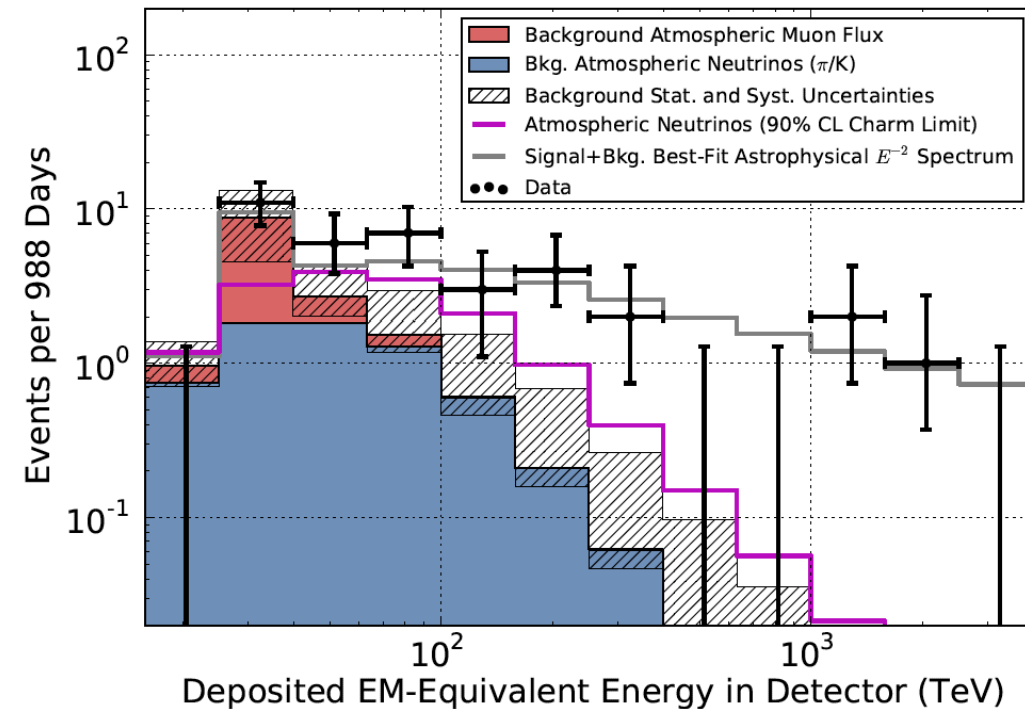
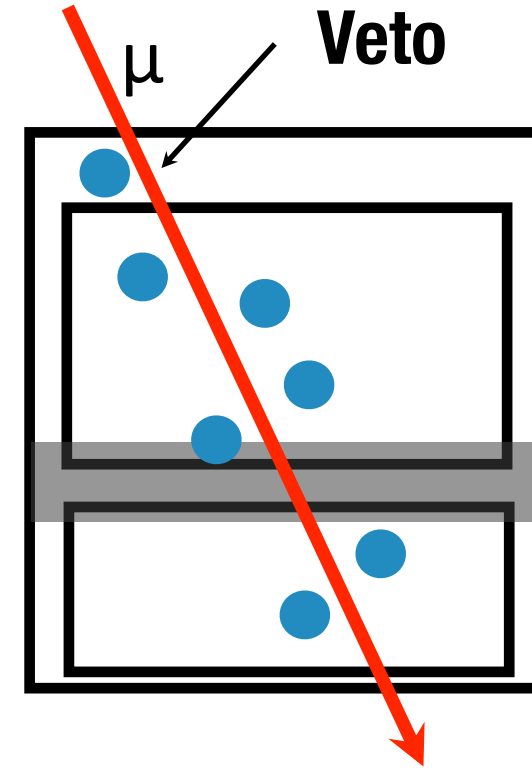
NB: Doesn't work for upgoing, since the Earth absorbed the muons ... so Southern Sky (downgoing events) becomes the best channel.

THE HIGH ENERGY STARTING EVENTS

Northern Sky



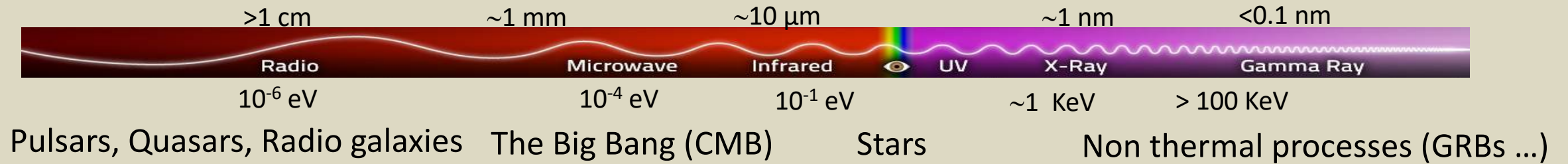
Expected bkgd: 8.4 ± 1.2 atm. μ + $6.6^{+5.9}_{-1.6}$ atm. ν
 $\Rightarrow 5.7\sigma$ rejection of atmospheric origin




IceCube collaboration,
 Science 342:1242856, 2013

MULTI-MESSENGER ASTRONOMY


Photons

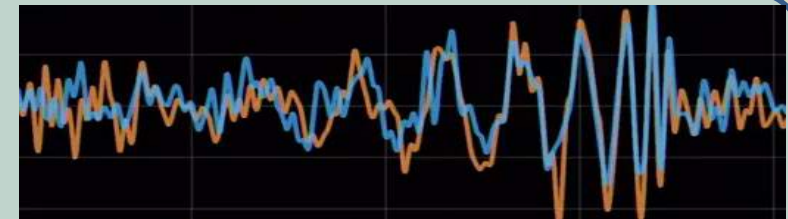


Cosmic Rays


Protons, heavy nuclei, electrons, ... : $10^8 - 10^{20}$ eV – detected (1912)  Origin(s) unknown



Gravitational Waves

Predicted by General relativity – detected (2015) 
BH-BH merger ~410 Mpc away
More events incl. NS-NS mergers + stochastic background (2023)

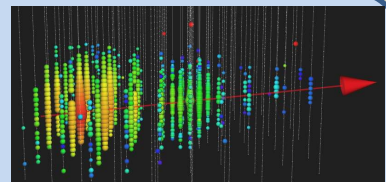


Neutrinos

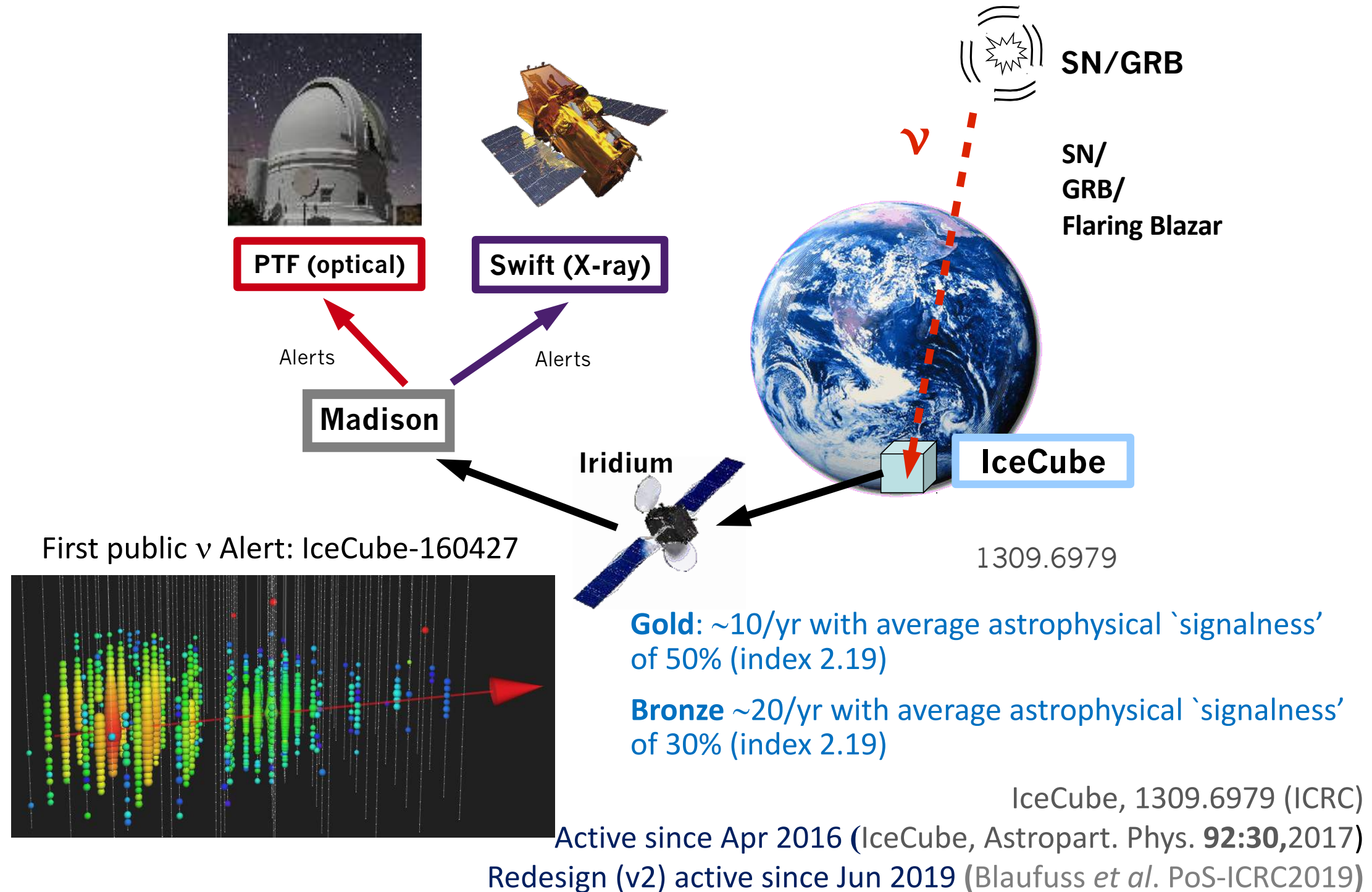
Proposed (1931), detected (1959)  neutral, weakly interacting ... mass < 1 eV, 1 mass > 0.1 eV

Detected from the Sun (1966-)  and Supernova 1987a  @ 10 MeV

Diffuse astrophysical flux @ > 50 TeV (2013), First extragalactic source (2017): flaring blazar 1.7 Gpc away, Milky Way (2023)



ICECUBE PUBLIC REALTIME ν ALERTS



MULTI-MESSENGER ALERTS:

TXS 0506+056

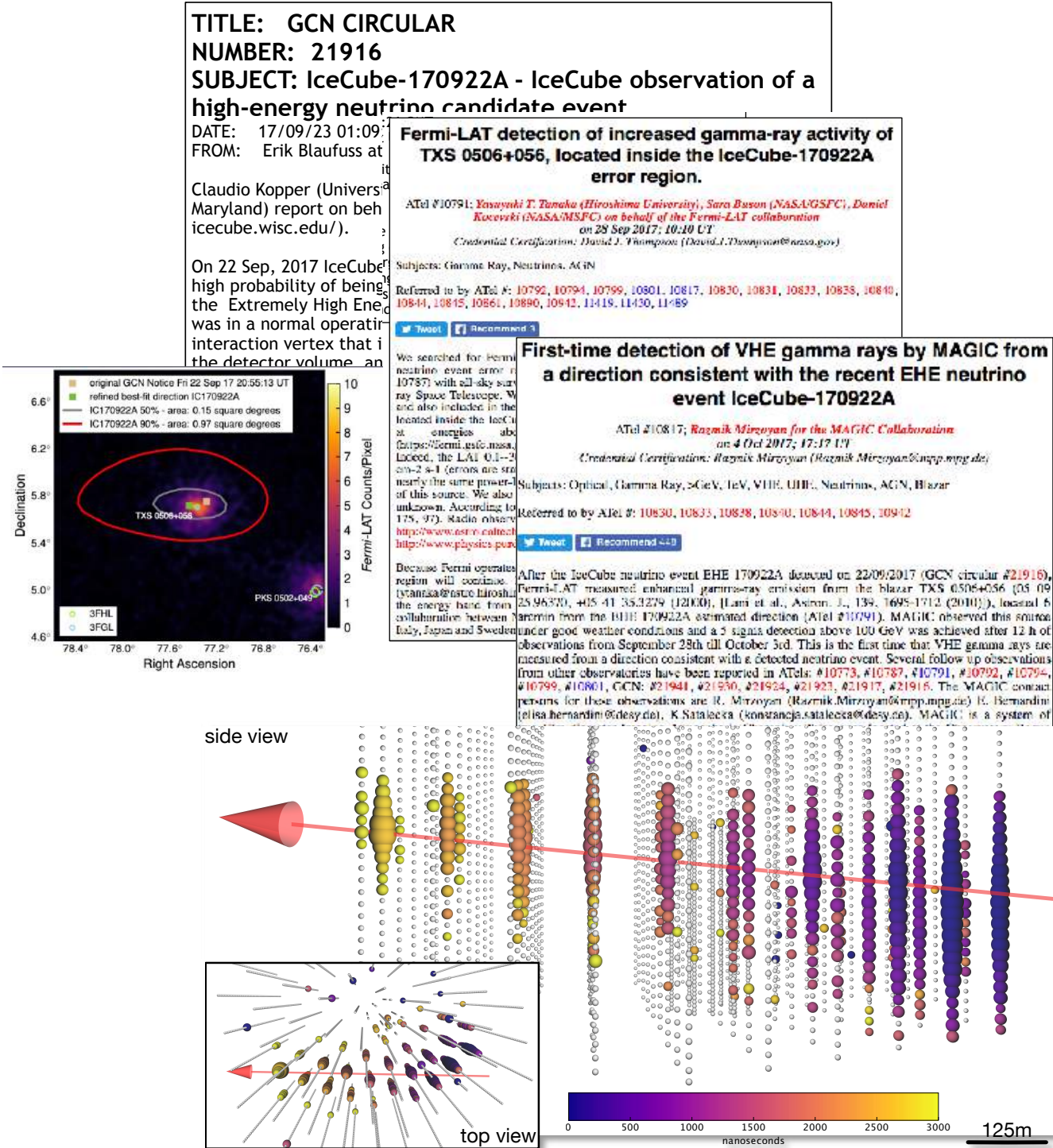
On September 22, 2017, IceCube issued a neutrino alert:

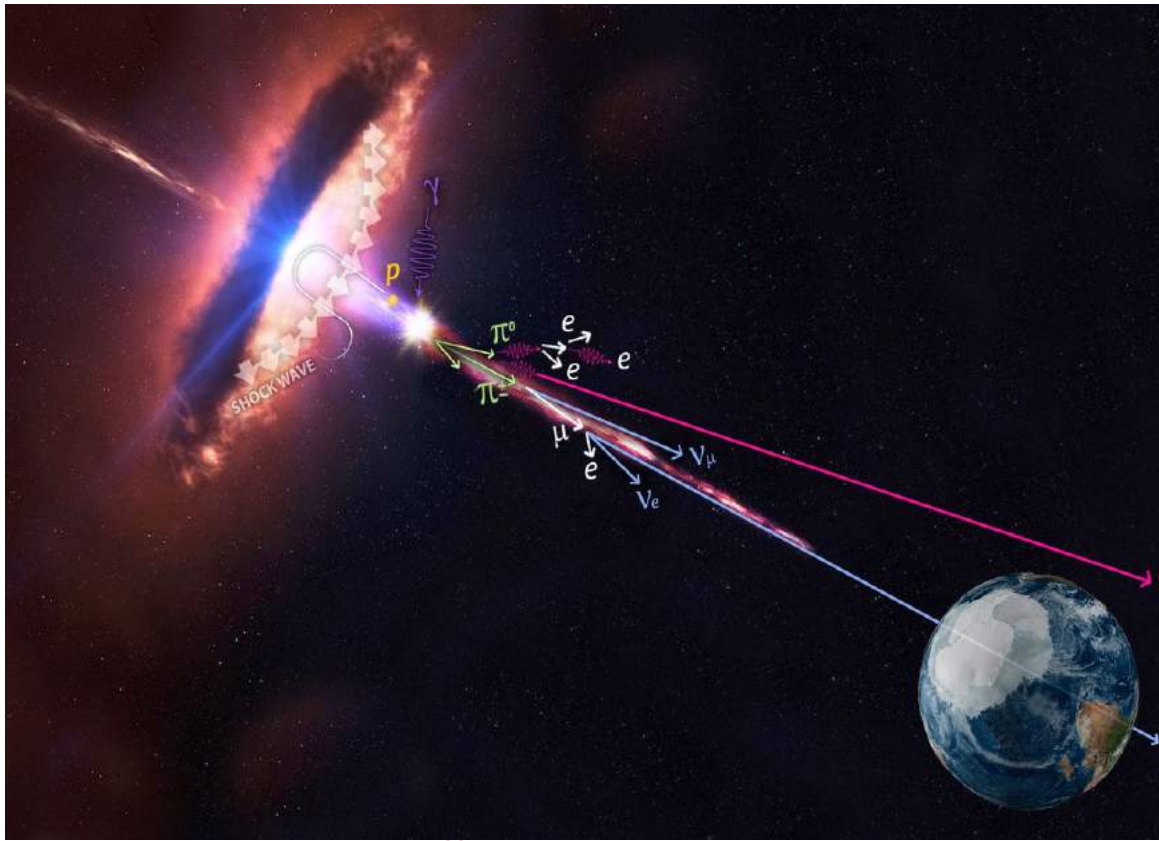
- A muon track event created by a ~290 TeV neutrino (IceCube-170922A)
- Spatially coincident with a blazar (TXS 0506+056) in a flaring state
- Blazar also detected in γ -rays up to 400 GeV by MAGIC after the alert
- Multi-messenger follow-up campaign of observations from



Redshift measured:
 $z = 0.3365 \pm 0.0010$

IceCube collaboration,
Science **361**:146,2018

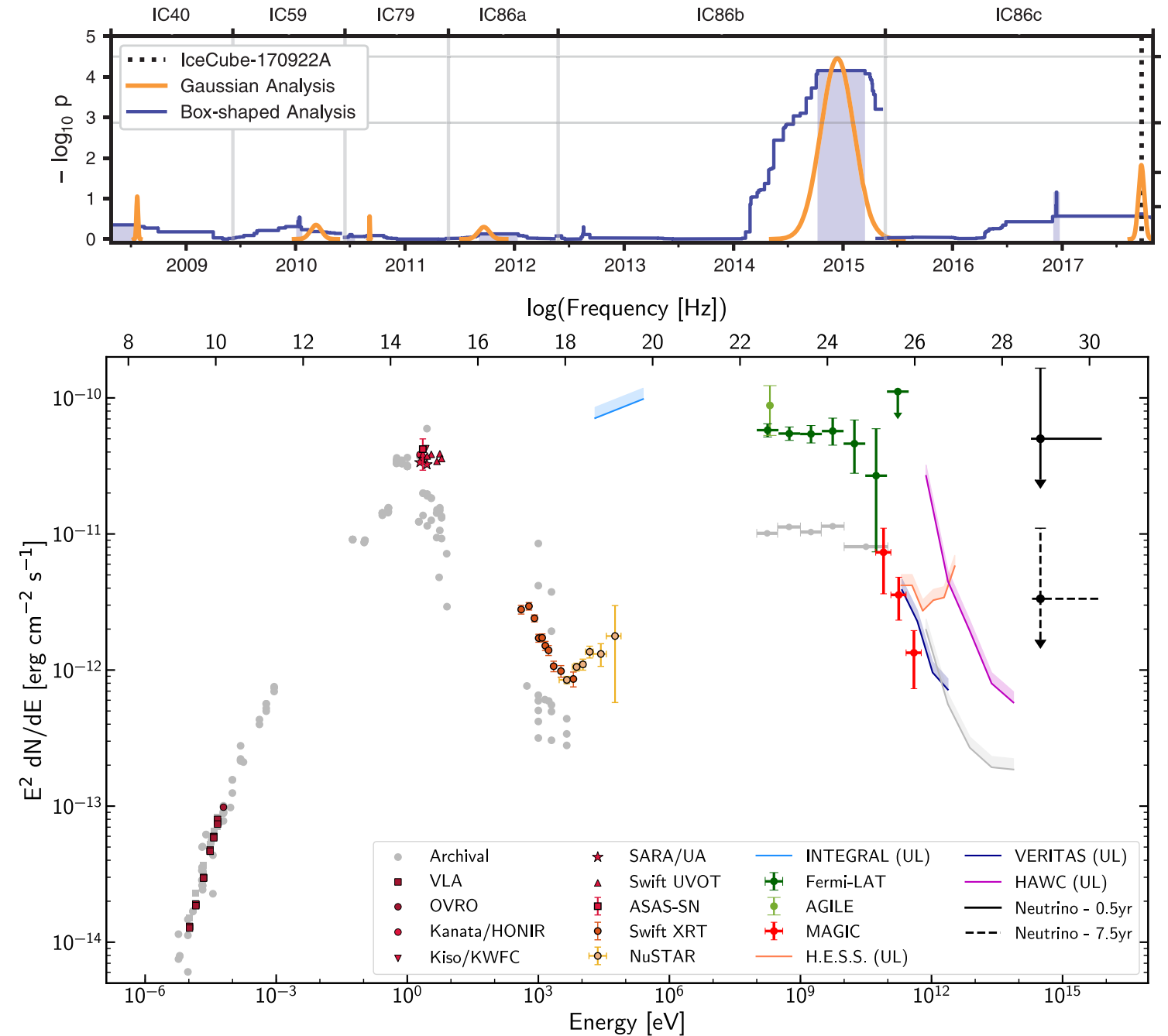




Many questions still remain

- Why TXS 0506+056?
 - A distant (~ 4 Bly) and very luminous blazar ... why not closer blazars?
- What other objects are out there like TXS 0506+056?
 - Ongoing investigations with MM partners to resolve this ...
 - Continued issuing of alerts

ARCHIVAL RECORDS SHOW THAT TXS 0506+056 IS INDEED A SOURCE OF HIGH ENERGY ASTROPHYSICAL VS



HOWEVER NO NEUTRINOS HAVE YET BEEN OBSERVED FROM γ -RAY BURSTS

GRB 221009A

Brightest of all time (@ $z = 0.151$)

Observed by a plethora of instruments

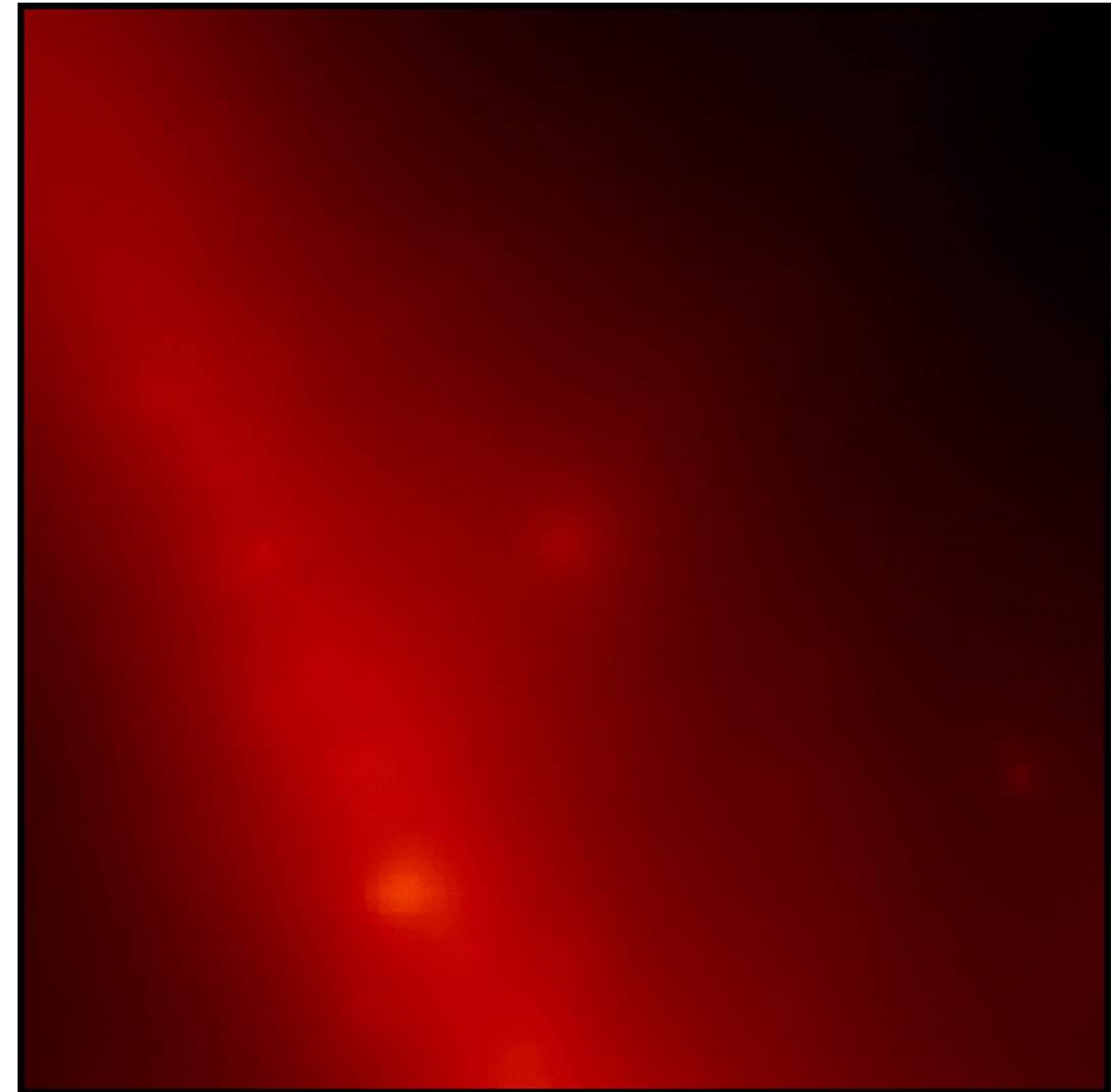
Highest energy photon (LHAASO) ~ 18 TeV
(Huang *et al.* GCN 32677)

Initial IceCube response via Fast Response Analysis

No neutrino emission found in -1 day +2 days
(Thwaites *et al.* GCN Circular 32665)

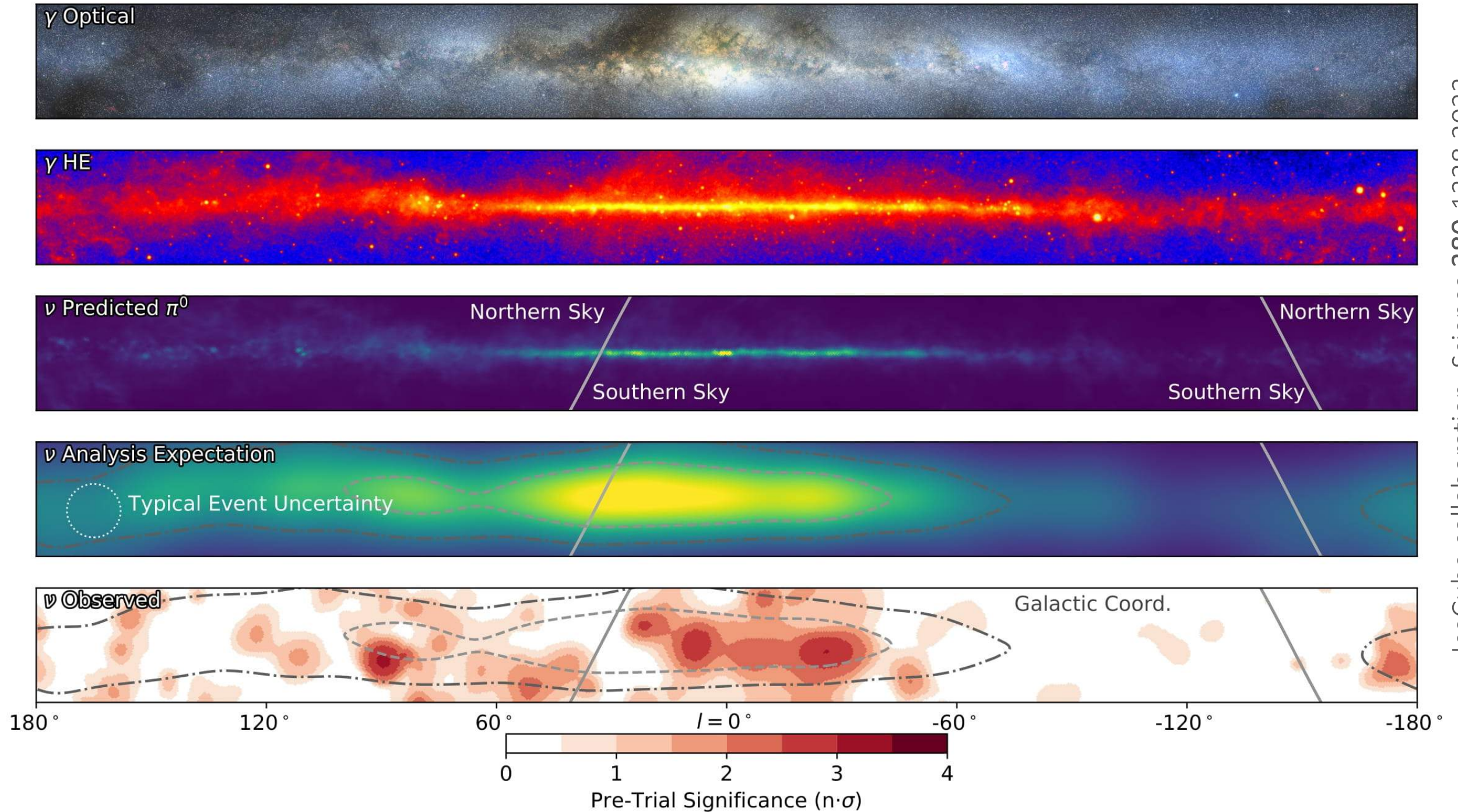
Severe constraints on theoretical models!

IceCube collaboration, [ApJL 946:L26,2023](#)



10-hour time lapse – Fermi LAT

CNNs applied to 10 years of IceCube data helped to identify @ 4.5σ , neutrino emission from the Galactic plane due to interaction of cosmic rays with interstellar matter



To do this we need a precise *theoretical* understanding of neutrino interactions
(at energies far exceeding those achieved with neutrino beams at accelerators)

Above a few GeV energy, neutrinos interact dominantly via ν - N **deep inelastic scattering**
... a process that is well-understood in the **Standard Model** of particle physics

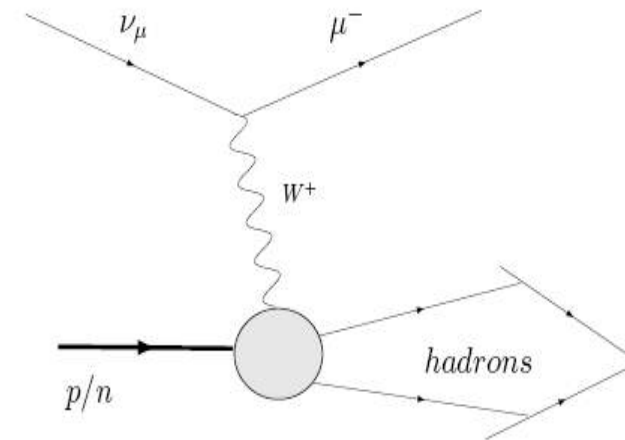
$$\frac{\partial^2 \sigma_{\nu, \bar{\nu}}^{CC, NC}}{\partial x \partial y} = \frac{G_F^2 M E}{\pi} \left(\frac{M_i^2}{Q^2 + M_i^2} \right)$$

$Q^2 \uparrow \Rightarrow$ propagator \downarrow

$$\left[\frac{1 + (1 - y)^2}{2} F_2^{CC, NC}(x, Q^2) - \frac{y^2}{2} F_L^{CC, NC}(x, Q^2) \right.$$

$Q^2 \uparrow \Rightarrow$ parton distribution functions \uparrow

$$\left. \pm y \left(1 - \frac{y}{2} \right) x F_3^{CC, NC}(x, Q^2) \right]$$



Most of the contribution to #-secn comes from:

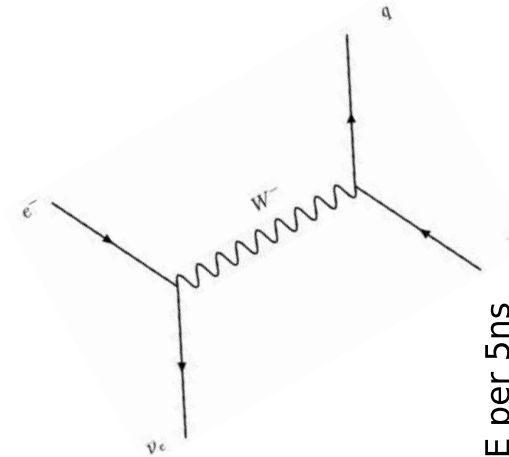
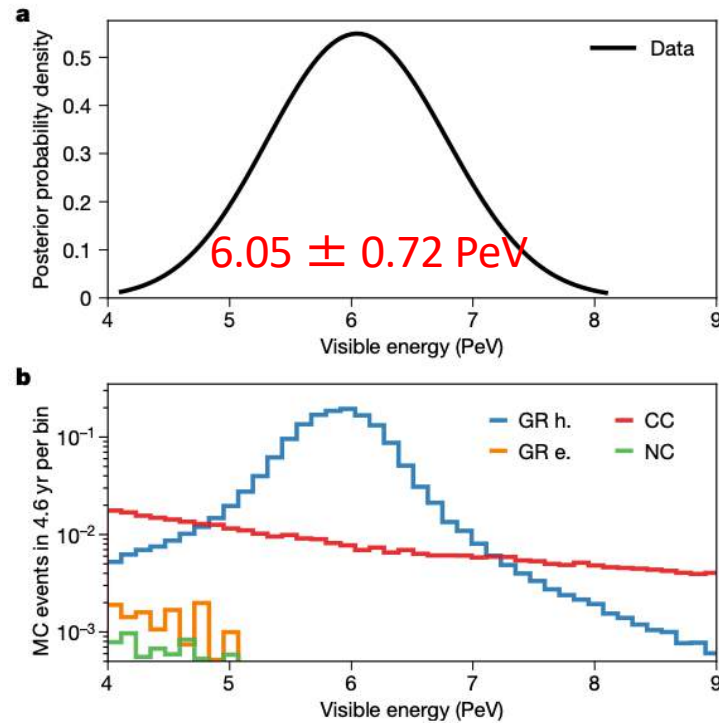
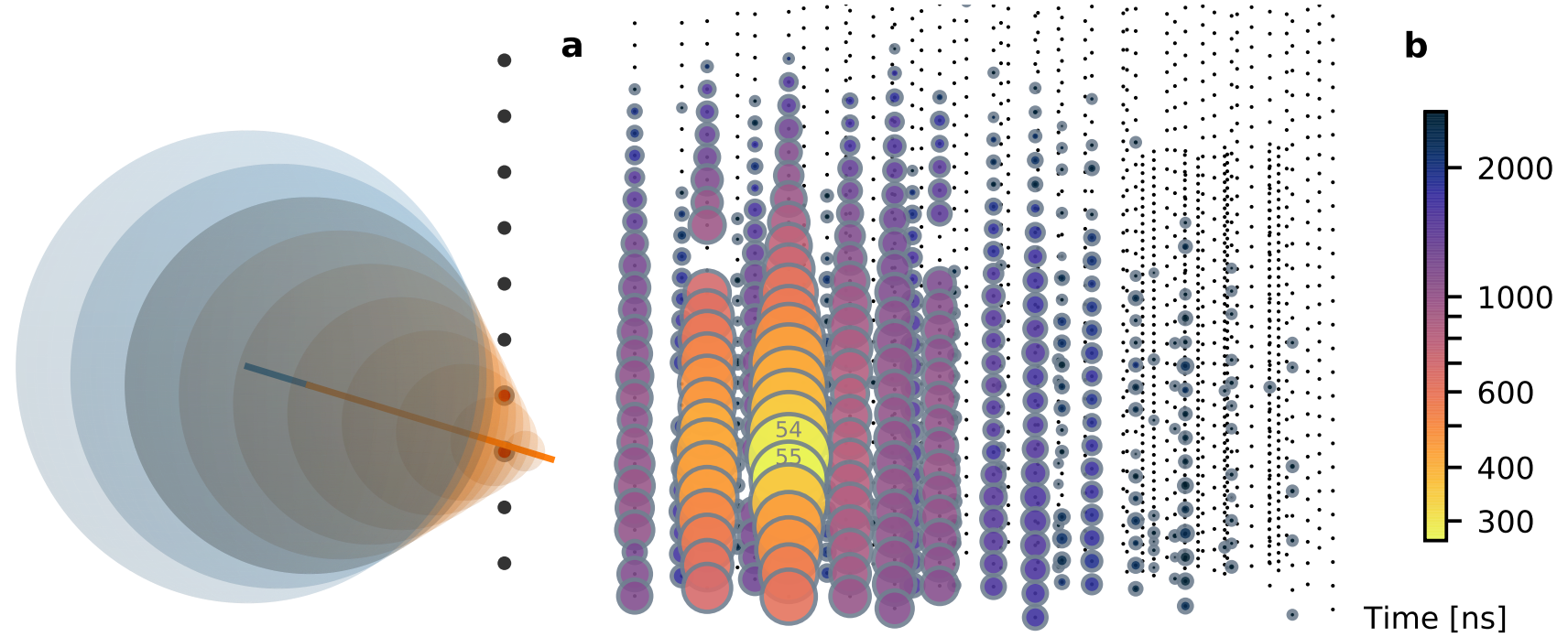
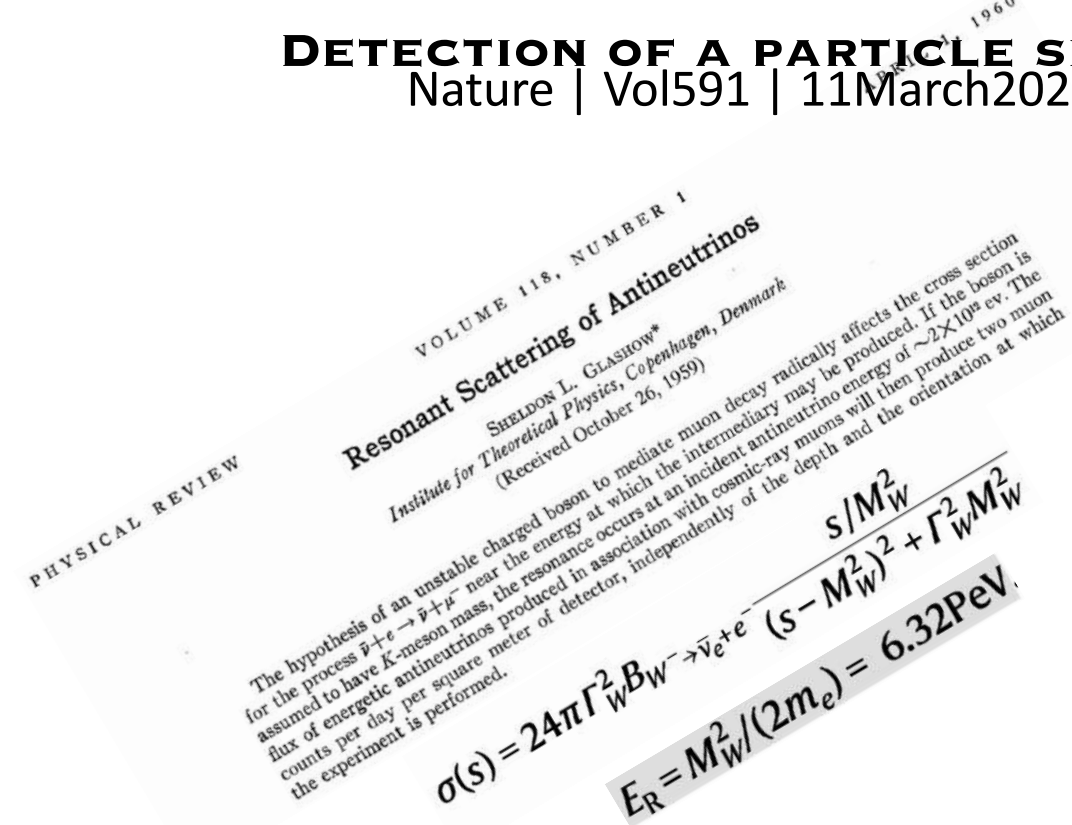
$$Q^2 \sim M_W^2 \text{ and } x \sim \frac{M_W^2}{M_N E_\nu}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{At leading order (LO) : } F_L &= 0, & F_2 &= x(u_v + d_v + 2s + 2b + \bar{u} + \bar{d} + 2\bar{c}), \\ xF_3 &= x(u_v + d_v + 2s + 2b - \bar{u} - \bar{d} - 2\bar{c}) = x(u_v + d_v + 2s + 2b - 2\bar{c}) \end{aligned}$$

Can calculate numerically at Next-to-Leading-Order (NLO) ... *no* significant further change at NNLO

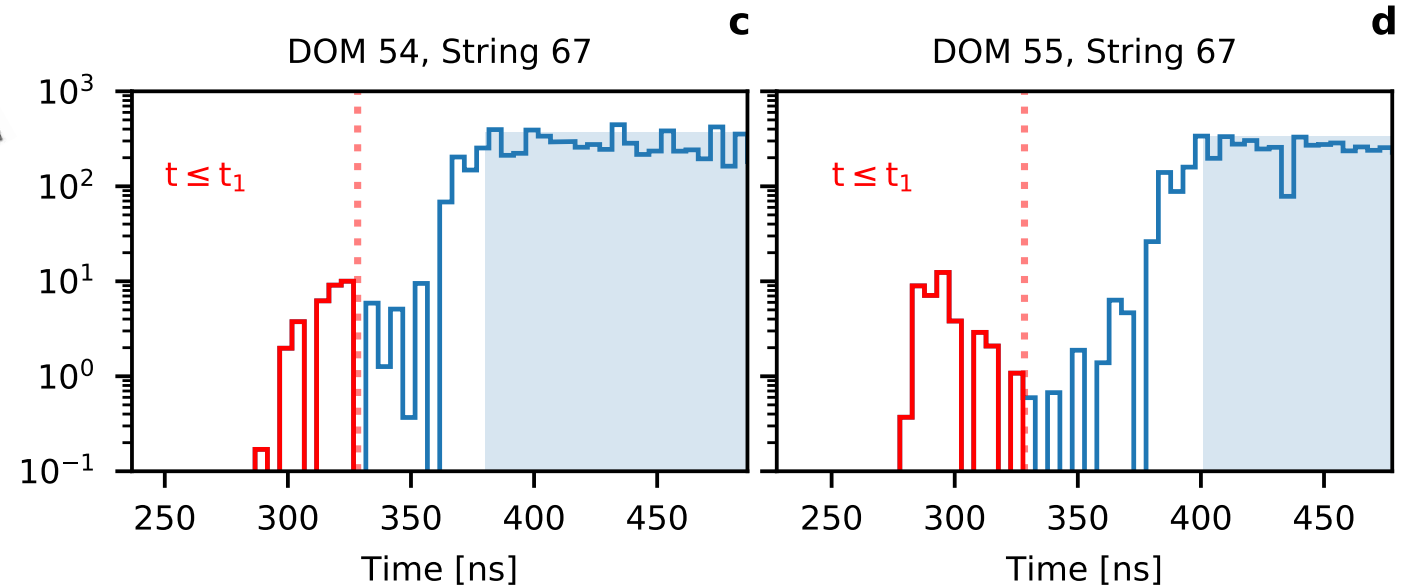
DETECTION OF A PARTICLE SHOWER AT THE GLASHOW RESONANCE WITH ICECUBE

Nature | Vol591 | 11 March 2021

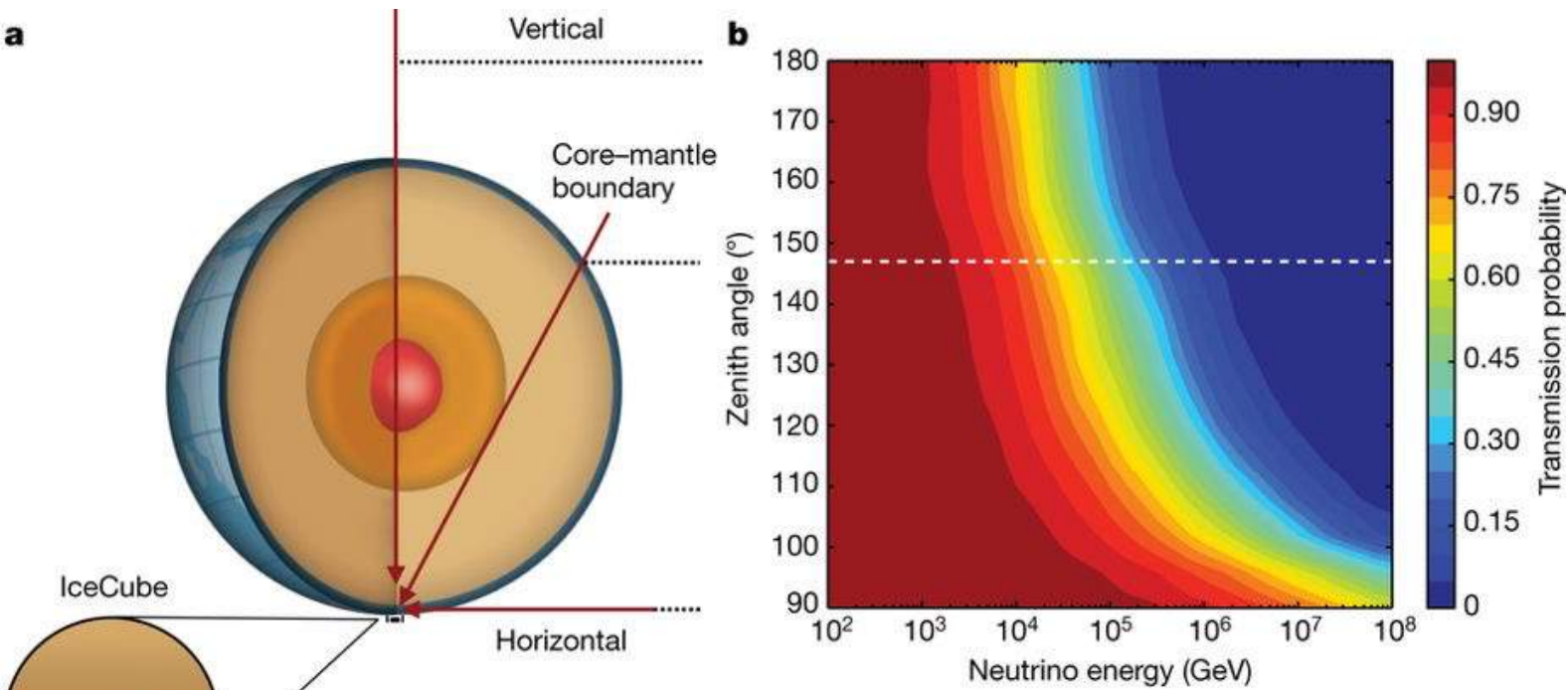


$t_1 = 328 \text{ ns}$

3ms after t_1



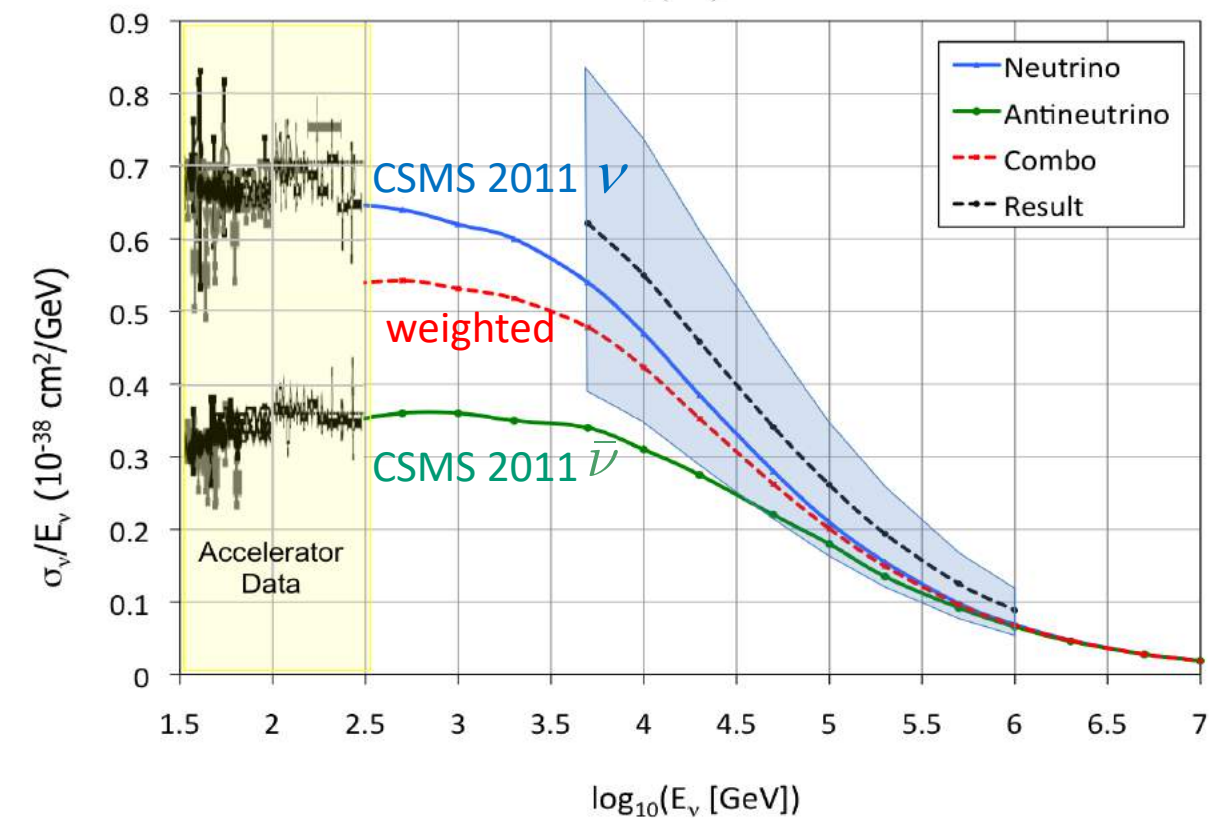
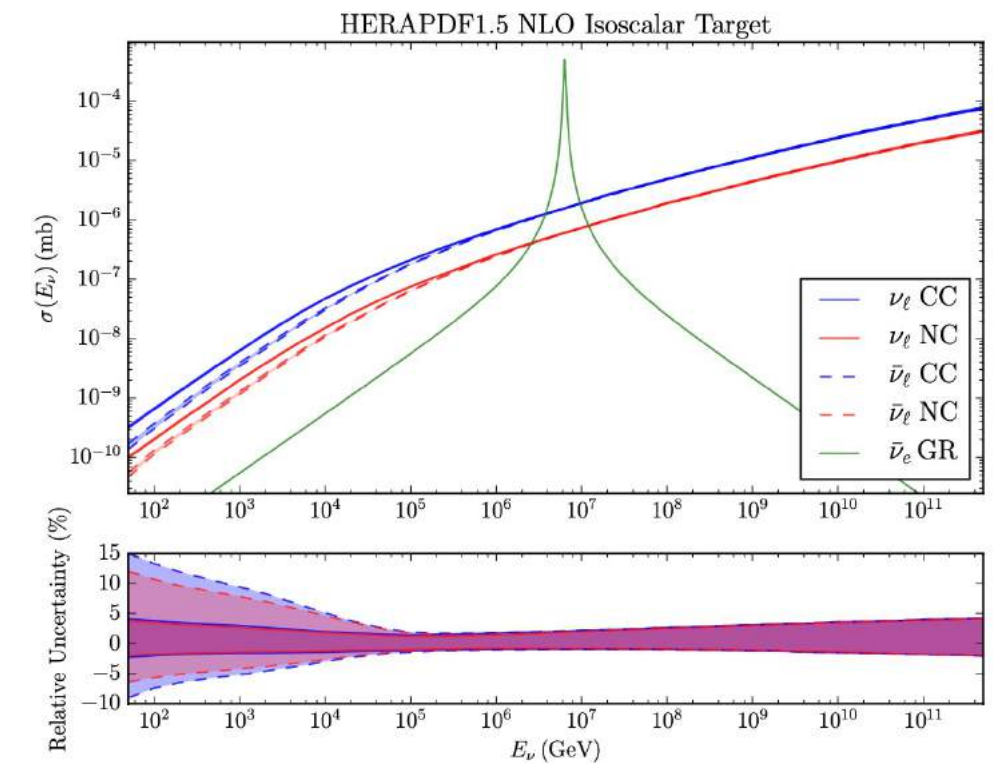
THE PREDICTED UHE ν - N CROSS-SECTION USING PDFs CAN BE TESTED BY STUDYING ν ABSORPTION IN THE EARTH



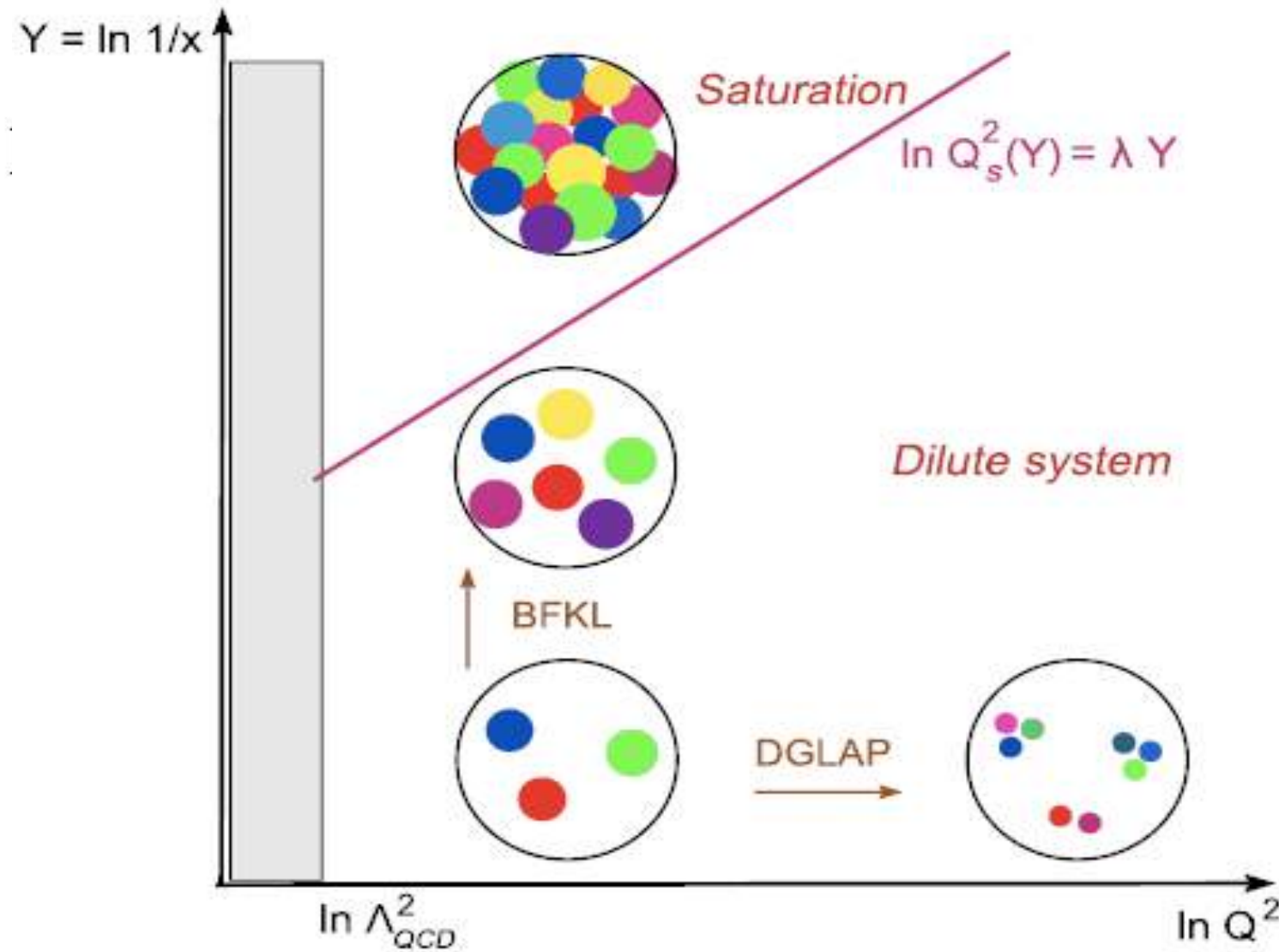
Preliminary Reference Earth Model (PREM)
Earth diameter = interaction length at $E_\nu \sim 40$ TeV

IceCube Collaboration, Nature **551**:596,2017

NB: The angular dependence of the flux of atmospheric neutrinos (which dominates up to $\sim 10^5$ GeV) is known ... the extra-terrestrial flux is \sim isotropic (since the Galactic component is $<18\%$)



AS THE GLUON DENSITY RISES AT LOW x , NON-PERTURBATIVE EFFECTS MUST BECOME IMPORTANT ... A **COLOUR GLASS CONDENSATE** HAS BEEN POSTULATED TO EXIST (AND HAS SOME SUPPORT FROM RHIC AND ALICE DATA)

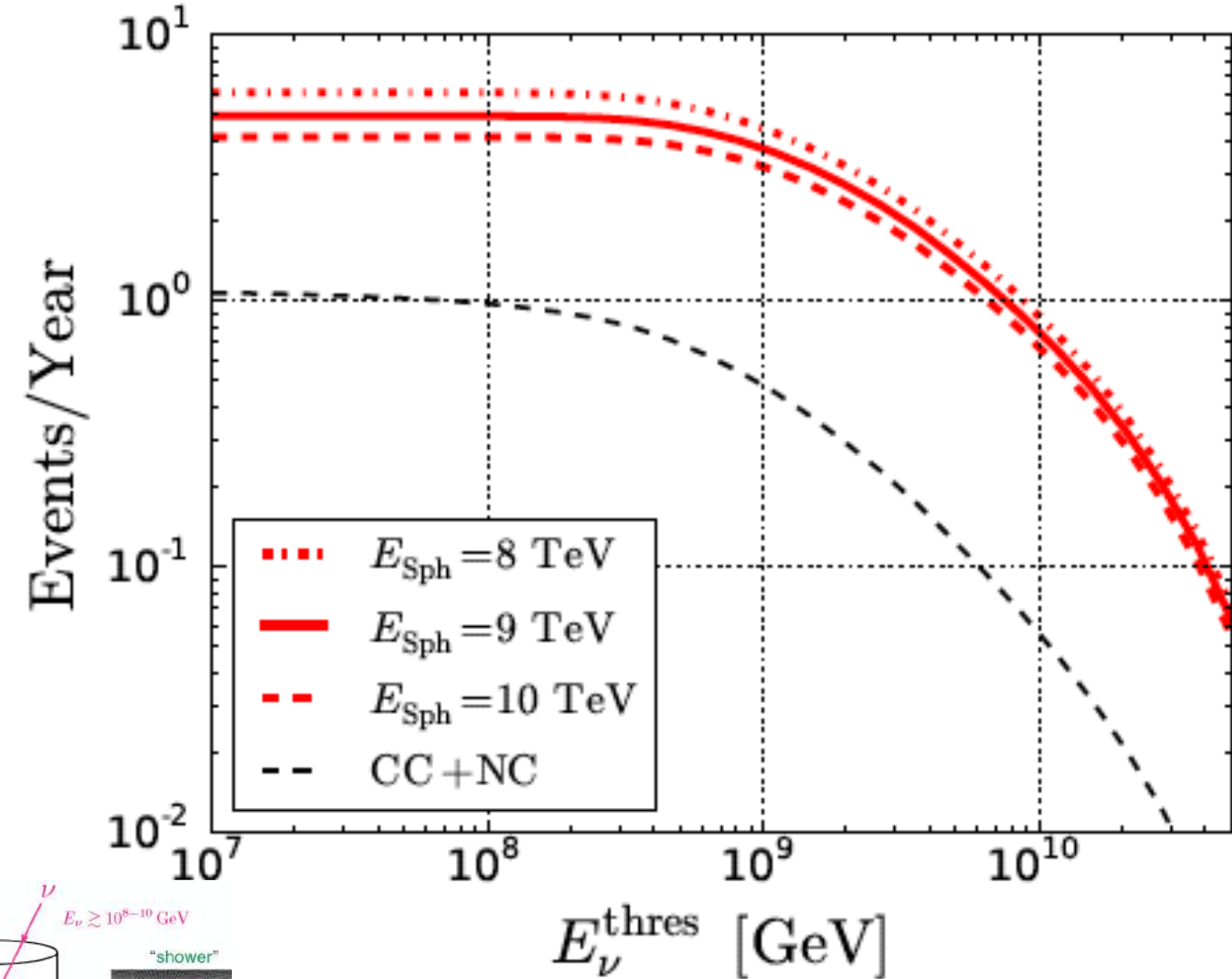
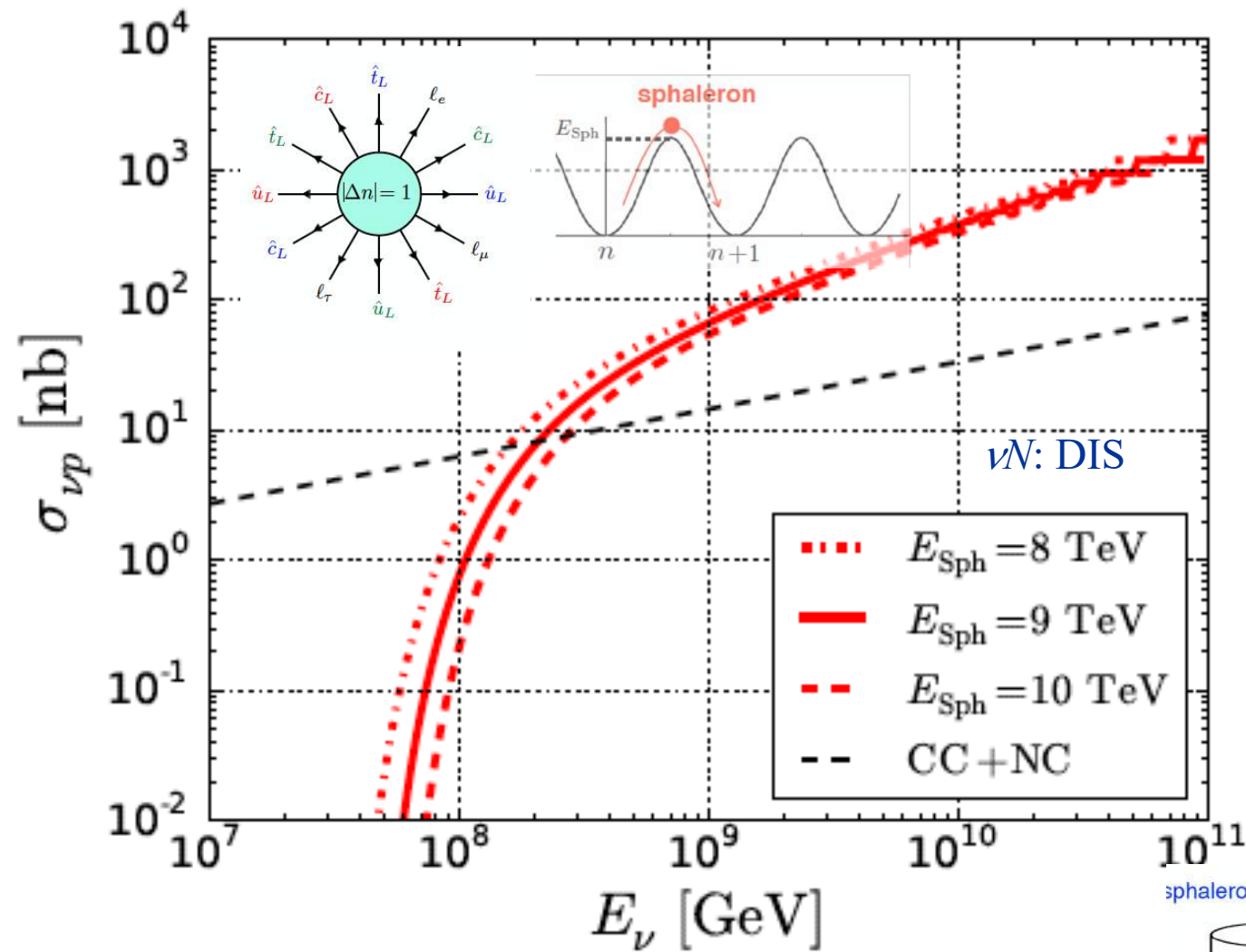


This would strongly suppress the ν - N #-secn below its (unscreened) SM value
... can we test this experimentally with UHE cosmic neutrinos?

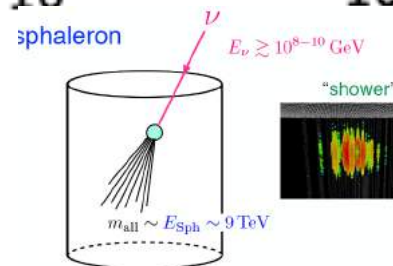
ELECTROWEAK INSTANTON-INDUCED INTERACTIONS IN THE SM

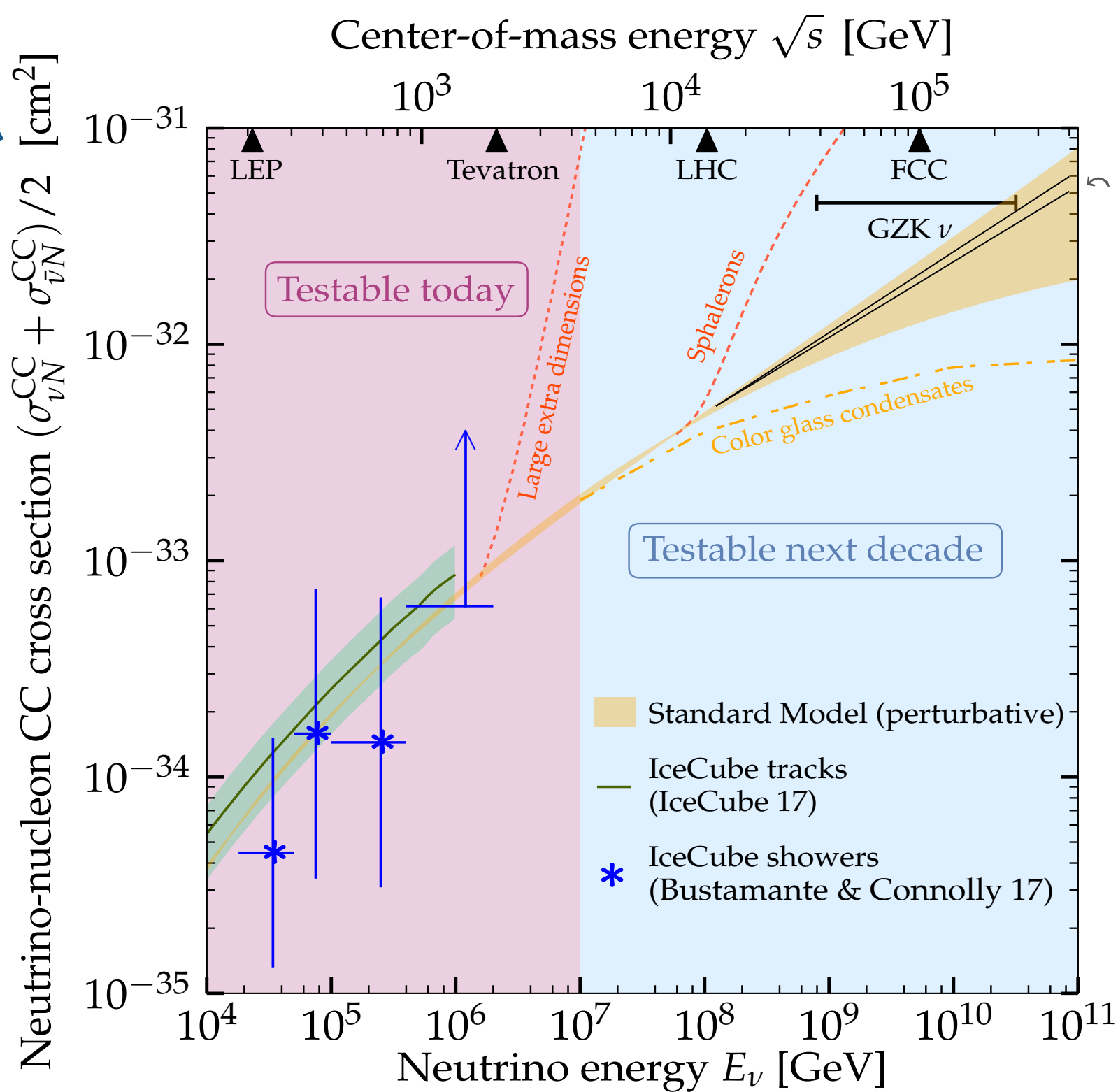
Non-perturbative transitions between degenerate $SU(2)$ vacua (with different $B+L$ #) are *exponentially* suppressed below the “sphaleron” mass: $\sim M_W/\alpha_W \simeq 9$ TeV ... *large* cross-sections predicted for ν - N scattering at higher cms energies:

$$E_\nu \geq E_{\text{sph}}^2/2xm_N \simeq 4 \times 10^7/x \sim 10^{9-11} \text{ GeV} \quad \text{Han \& Hooper, PLB 582:21,2004}$$



IceCube has sensitivity to sphalerons comparable to that of the LHC!





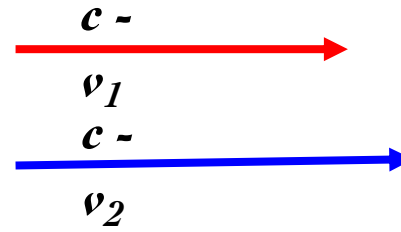
Cooper-Sarkar et al, *JHEP* **08**:042,2011

Powerful test of new physics beyond the SM (e.g. leptoquarks, new dimensions, sphalerons, colour glass condensate etc)

... should be able to probe up to $\sim 10^{10-11}$ GeV using flux of cosmogenic ν - with **IceCube-Gen2**

NEW PHYSICS EFFECTS CAN BE PROBED IN *VERY* LONG BASELINE NEUTRINO OSCILLATIONS

- Violation of Lorentz invariance (in string theory ...)
(e.g. Carroll *et al* 2001; Colladay & Kostelecký 1998)

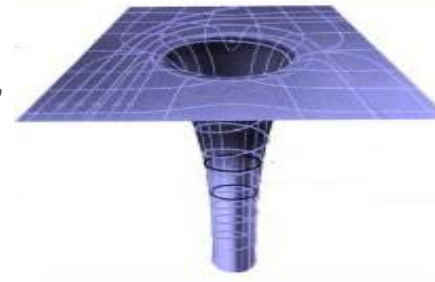


IceCube Collaboration, *Nature Physics* **18**:1287,2022
Nature Physics **14**:961,2018

- Violations of the equivalence principle (different gravitational coupling) (e.g. Gasperini 1989)



- Interaction of particles with space-time structure → quantum decoherence of flavour states (e.g. Anchordoqui, Goldberg, Gonzalez-Garcia, Halzen, Hooper, Sarkar, Weiler 2005)

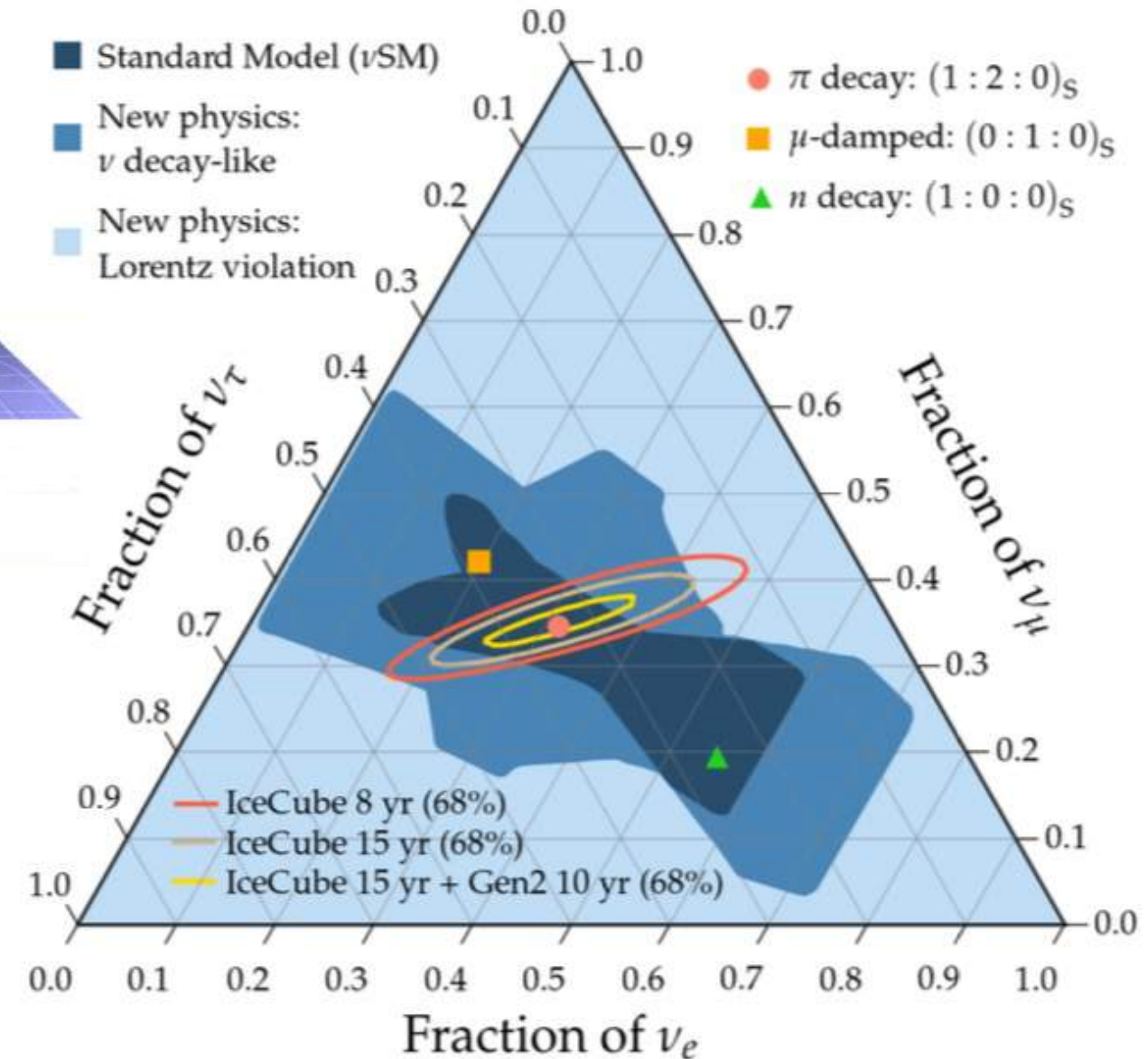


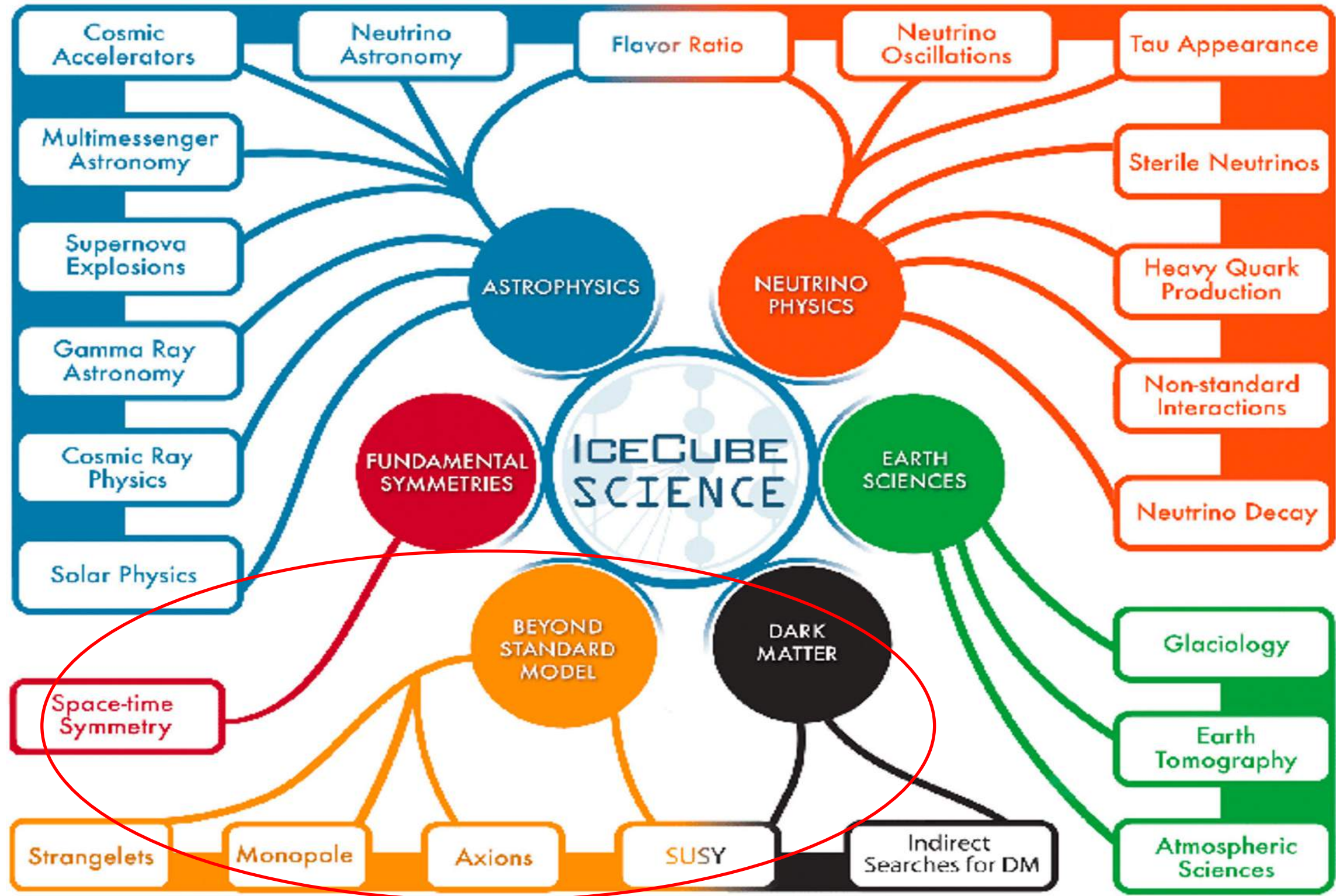
- Neutrino decay (e.g. Beacom, Bell, Hooper, Pakvasa, Weiler 2003; Mehta & Winter 2011)

- Non-standard interactions (e.g. Argüelles, Katori, Salvado 2015; de Salas, Lineros, Tórtola 2016)

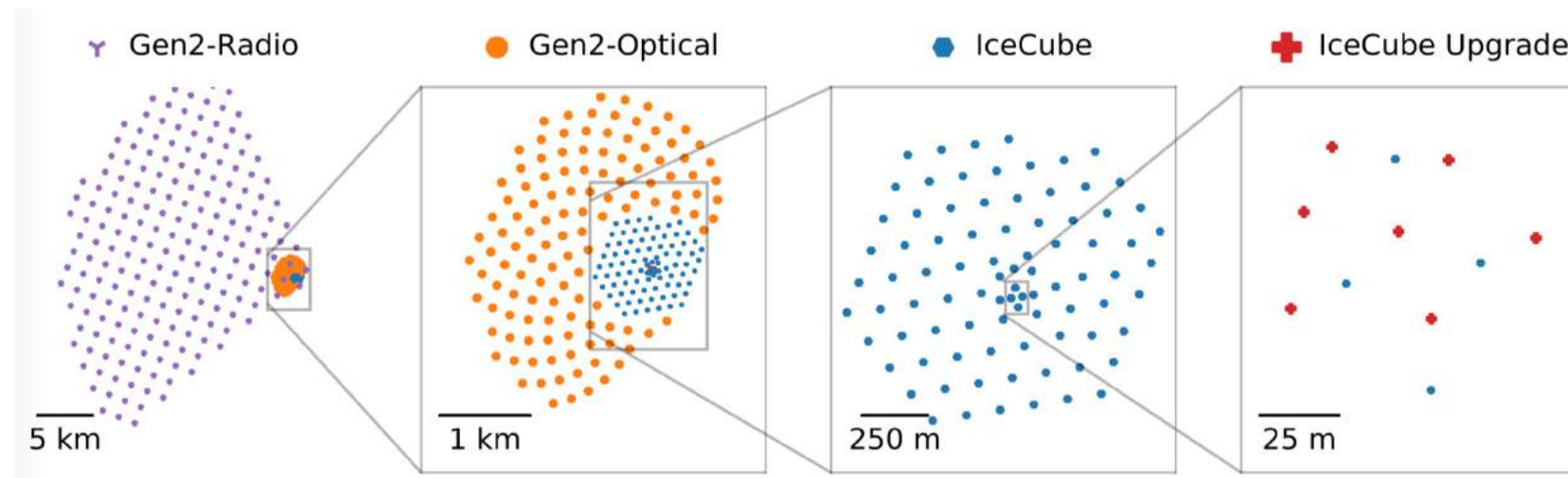
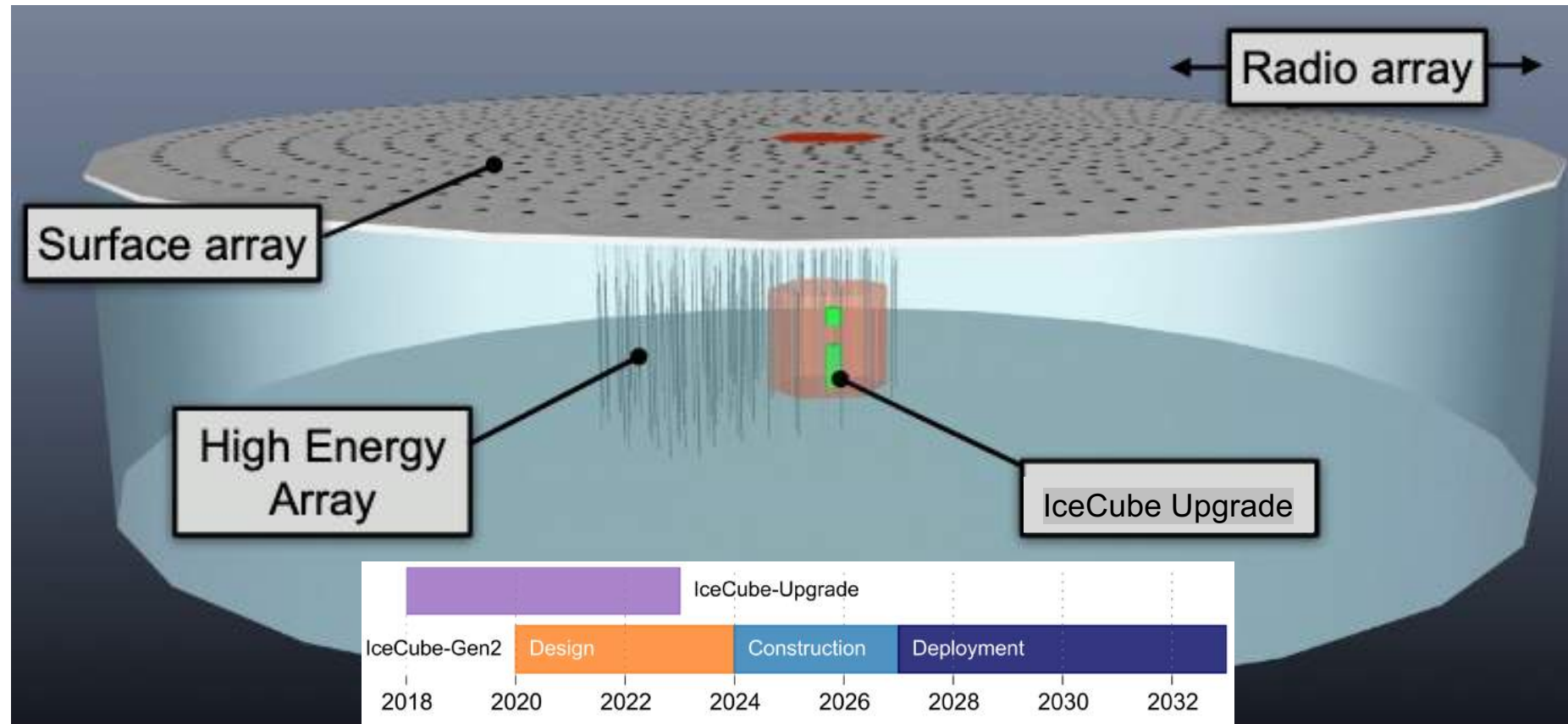
- Sterile neutrinos (e.g. Bdrar, Kopp, Wang 2017)

- New long-range flavoured forces (e.g. Bustamante & Agarwalla 2019)





TO DO ASTRONOMY AND PARTICLE PHYSICS WITH COSMIC NEUTRINOS WE MUST THINK BIG!



SUMMARY

- Neutrino telescopes have already measured the ν DIS cross-section up to cms energies ~ 10 times higher than are attainable at the LHC ... finding *no* deviation from the SM
 - **This sets constraints on BSM physics that can increase the cross-section e.g. new TeV-scale dimensions, leptoquarks, ...**
(... admittedly ruled out already in Run II – but with cosmic ν can go much further)
- There may be *non*-perturbative SM processes which can affect the ν DIS cross-section at higher energies, e.g. electroweak sphalerons and QCD colour glass condensate - to probe this will require studying the highest energy (GZK) cosmic neutrinos at $\sim 10^{10}$ GeV
- The measured ν flavour ratio is sensitive to any process that can affect the coherence of neutrino oscillations over astronomical baselines, e.g. ν decay or non-standard interactions, or even LI-violation and ‘space-time foam’ at the Planck scale

To probe the cosmic energy frontier we *must* think **big** (IceCube-Gen2, KM3NeT, ...)

*The real voyage of discovery consists not in seeking new lands
but in seeing with new eyes - Marcel Proust*

Thank You



You're welcome, Earth!