



6 June 2014  
Beurs van Ber

# Askaryan Radio Array (ARA)

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University of Wisconsin—Madison  
For the ARA Collaboration



**PHYSICS**

# Cosmic Rays and Neutrino Sources

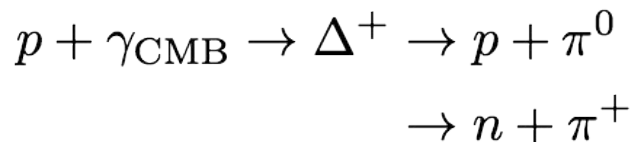
Cosmic rays exist at highest energies:

## The puzzle

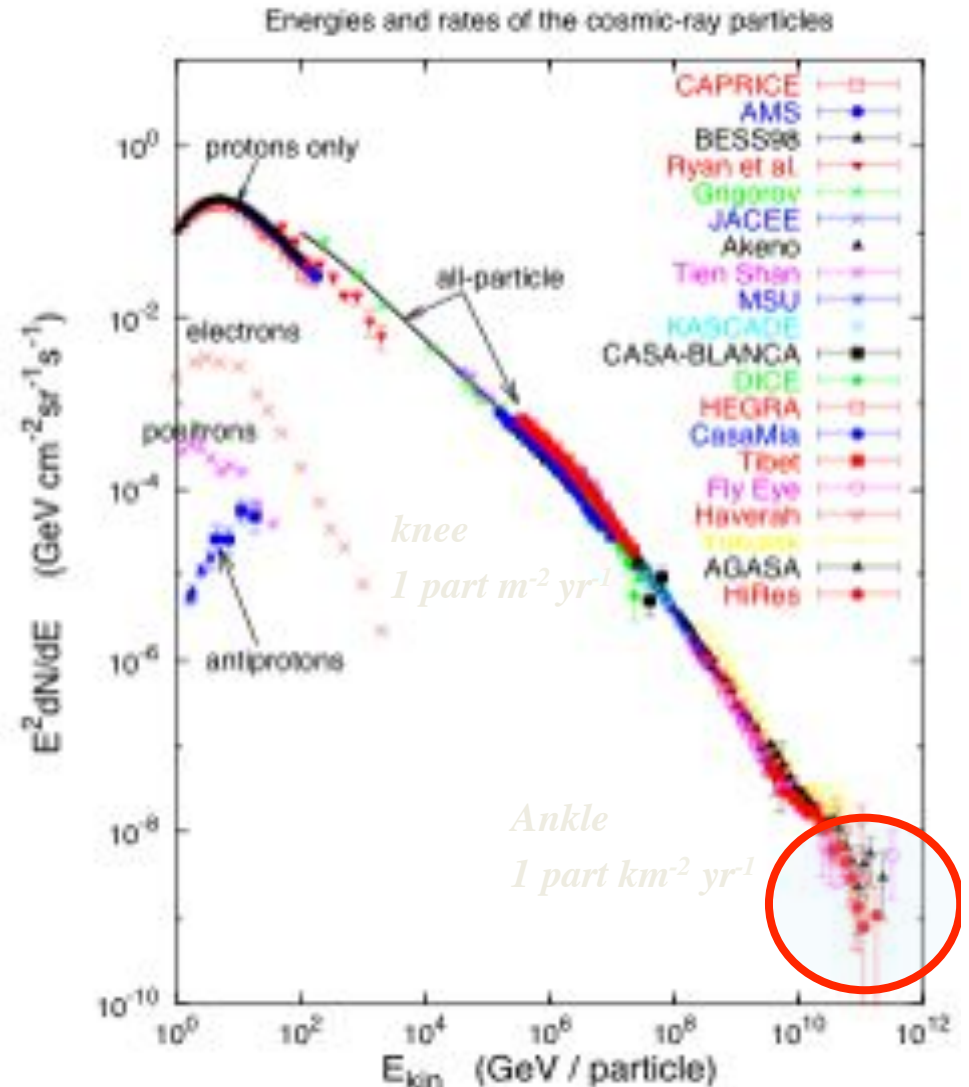
No nearby (<50Mpc) sources observed.  
More distant sources are not observable in cosmic rays due to collisions with microwave background.

Neutrinos above  $10^{17-19}$  eV, GZK or cosmogenic neutrinos are at some level guaranteed.

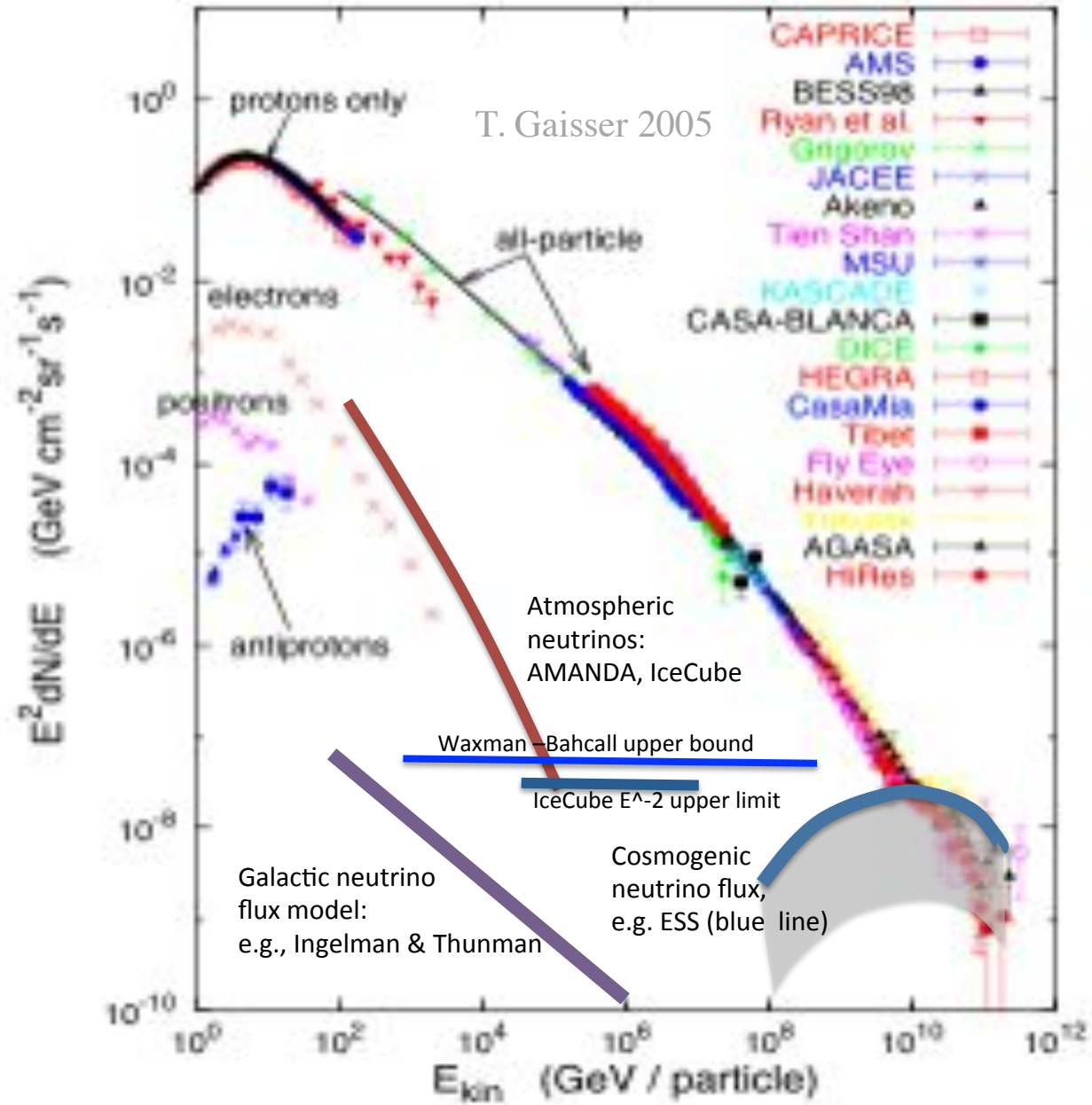
However, fluxes will be small, requires very large detectors



Gaisser 2005

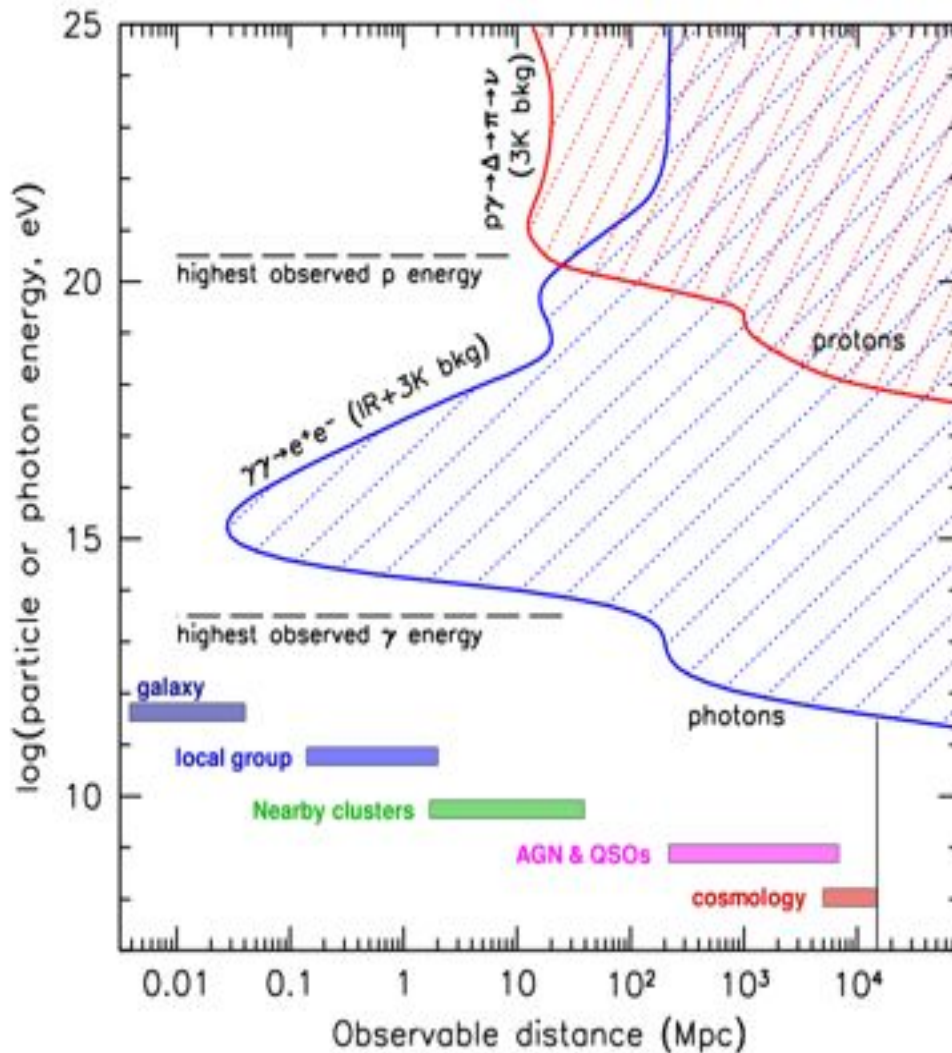


### Energies and rates of the cosmic-ray particles





# Neutrinos as messengers



Study of the highest energy processes and particles throughout the universe requires PeV-ZeV neutrino detectors

To “guarantee” EeV neutrino detection, **design for the GZK neutrino flux**

Existence of extragalactic neutrinos inferred from CR spectrum, up to  $10^{20}$  eV, and similarly, Galactic up to  $10^{18}$  eV

Need gigaton ( $\text{km}^3$ ) mass (volume) for TeV to PeV detection, and teraton at  $10^{19}$  eV

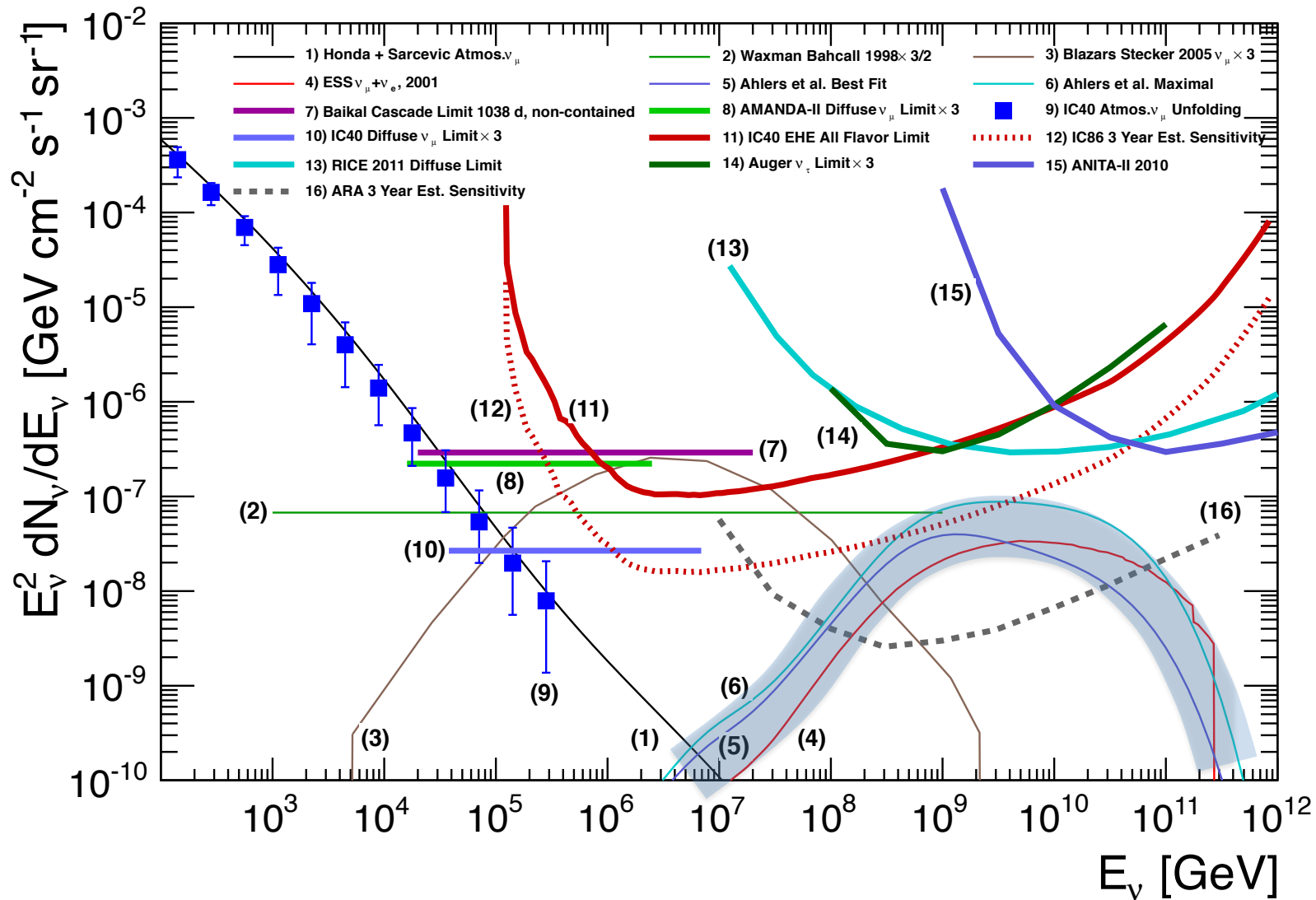
Neutrino detection associated with EM sources will ID the UHECR sources

“EM Hidden” sources may exist, visible only in neutrinos.

Neutrino eyes see farther ( $z > 1$ ), and deeper (into compact objects), than gamma-photons, and straighter than UHECRs, with no absorption at (almost) any energy

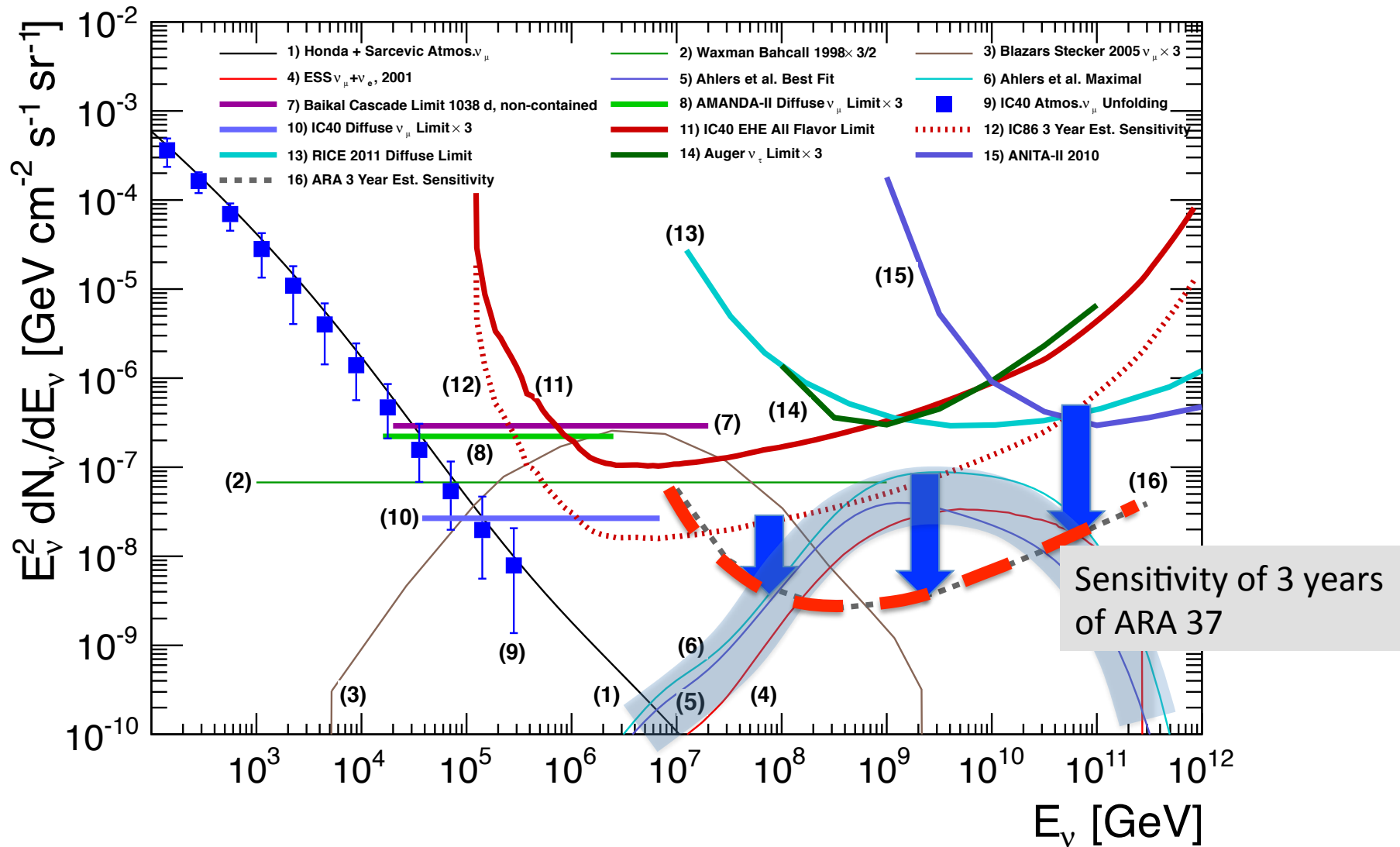
# The cosmic energy frontier, $10^7$ to $10^{11}$ GeV

## Cosmogenic or *GZK* neutrinos

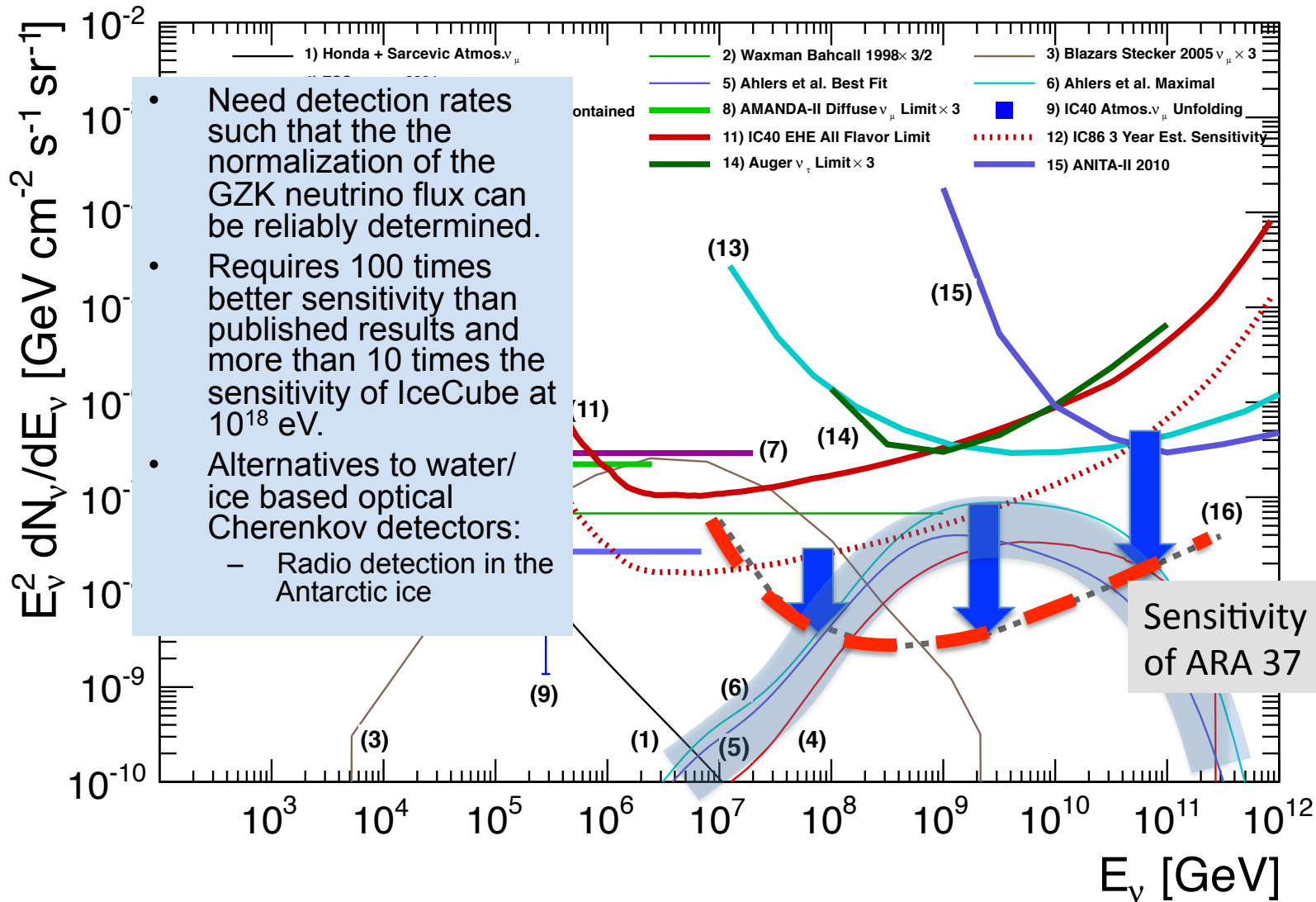


# The cosmic energy frontier, $10^7$ to $10^{11}$ GeV

## Cosmogenic or *GZK* neutrinos



# 10<sup>16</sup> – 10<sup>20</sup> eV energy scale

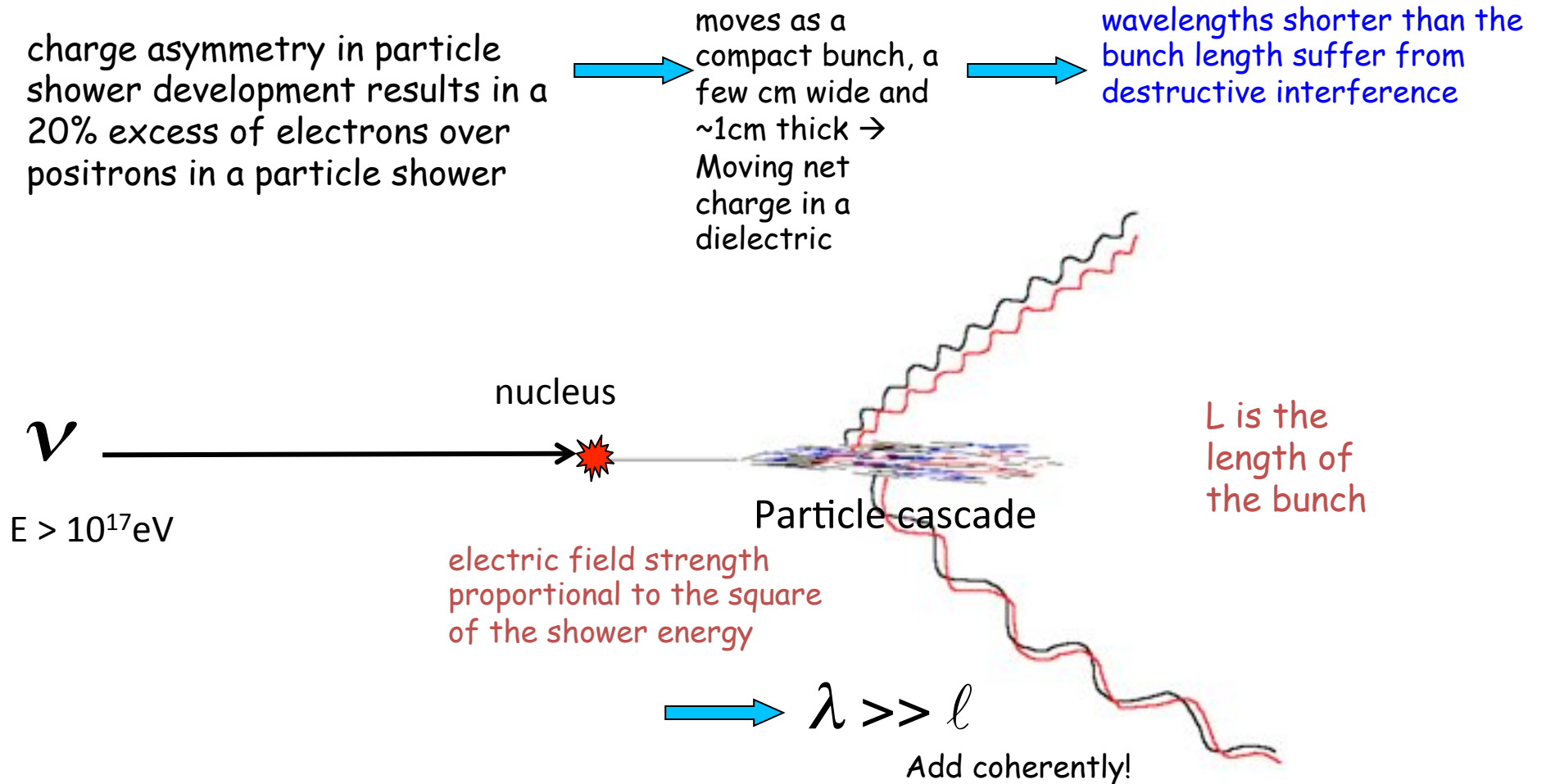
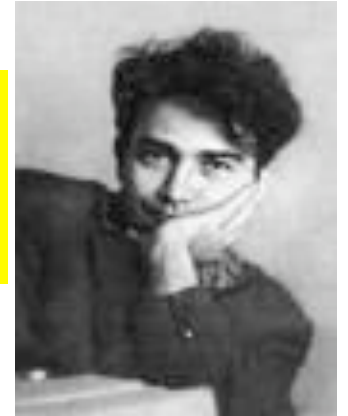






# ASKARYAN EFFECT

Detection mechanism proposed by G. Askaryan (1962):  
 Measure the coherent RF signal generated by neutrino interaction in dielectric media (such as ice)



# Askaryan Effect

In electron-gamma shower in matter, there will be  $\sim 20\%$  more electrons than positrons.

Compton scattering:  $\gamma + e^-_{(\text{at rest})} \rightarrow \gamma + e^-$

Positron annihilation:  $e^+ + e^-_{(\text{at rest})} \rightarrow \gamma + \gamma$

In dense material  $R_{\text{Moliere}} \sim 10\text{cm}$ .

$\lambda \ll R_{\text{Moliere}}$  (optical case), random phases  $\Rightarrow P \propto N$

$\lambda \gg R_{\text{Moliere}}$  (microwaves), coherent  $\Rightarrow P \propto N^2$

$$\frac{dP_{CR}}{d\nu} \propto \nu d\nu$$

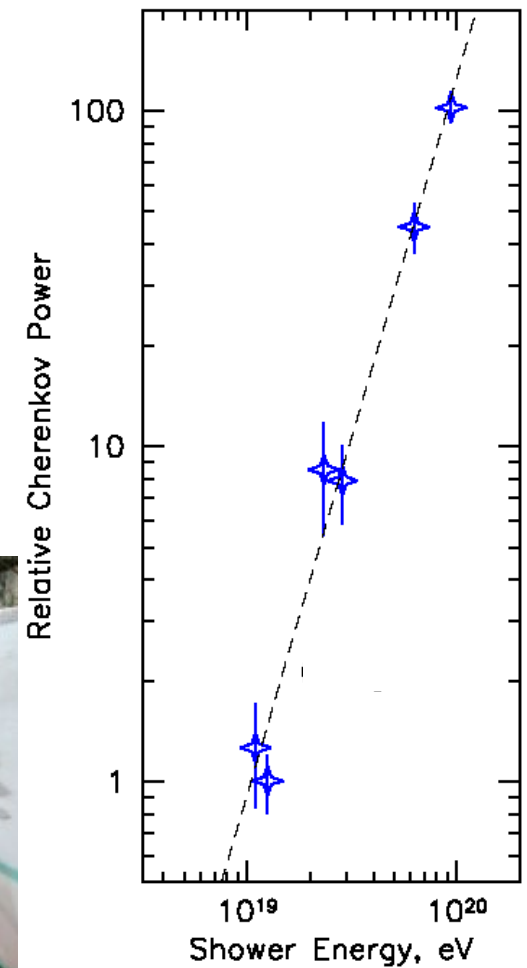
# Validation at SLAC

ANITA I beamtest at SLAC (June06): proof of Askaryan effect in ice

- Coherent (Power  $\sim E^2$ )
- Linearly Polarized



“Little Antarctica”



# Natural target material?

- Lunar regolith (20m attenuation length)  
Parkes Telescope; GLUE; WSRT; ...
- Ice (100-1500m attenuation lengths)  
Forte (satellite); ANITA (balloon); ARA
- Salt (100-500m attenuation lengths)  
SaISA (salt dome concept)
- Air is too thin
- Water is RF lossy, natural, outdoor, sand (as opposed to pure silica) is also lossy



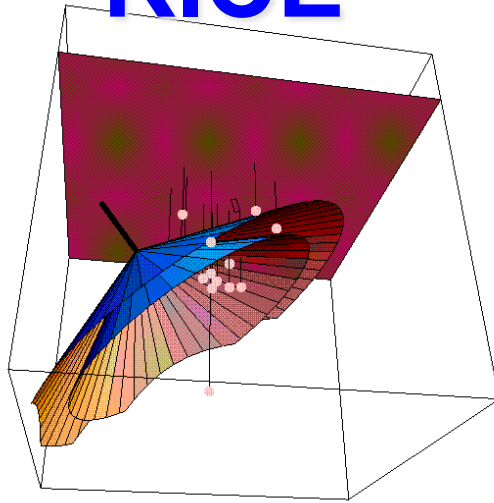
# INSTRUMENTATION



# $10^7$ to $10^{11}$ GeV: Radio ice Cherenkov detection

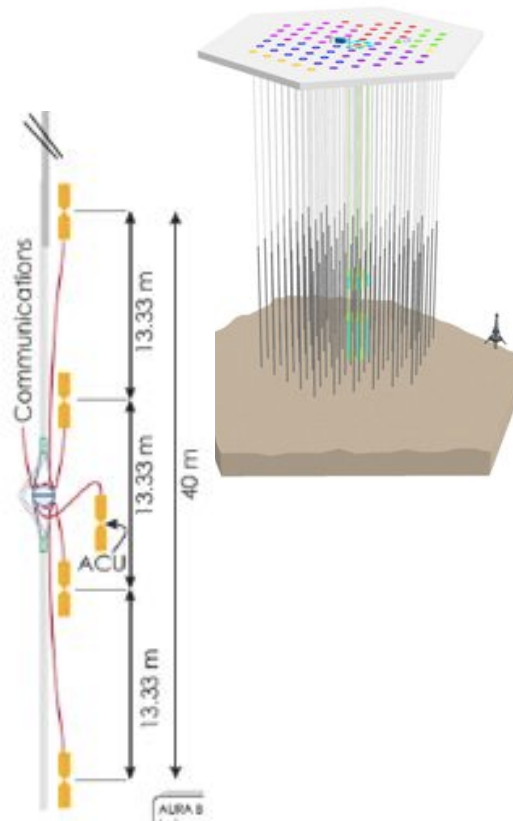
Askaryan Radio Array (ARA) heritage:  
Existing and previous instruments using radio in Polar ice  
*Members of all three efforts are currently involved with ARA*

## RICE



- array of single dipole antennas deployed between 100 and 300m near the Pole
- much of the instrumentation was deployed in AMANDA holes
- Pioneered technique in the ice

## Special radio detectors and pulsers in IceCube



## ANITA



- balloon payload of horn antennas
- surveys the ice cap from high altitude for RF refracted out of the ice
- → high fidelity data acquisition system >Gs/sec waveform capture

$10^7$  to  $10^{11}$  GeV: Radio ice Cherenkov detection

# Askaryan Radio Array (ARA)

- a very large radio neutrino detector at the South Pole

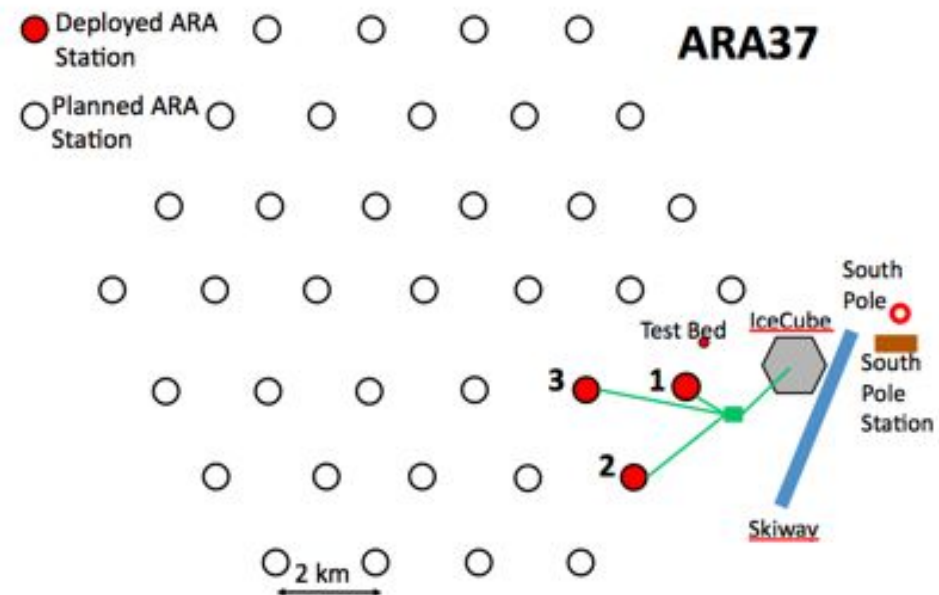
Ref: Allison et al., Astropart.Phys. 35 (2012) 457-477,  
arXiv:1105.2854 (Design and performance paper)

## Scientific Goal:

- Discover and determine the flux of highest energy cosmic neutrinos.
- Understanding of highest energy cosmic rays, other phenomena at highest energies.

## Method:

Monitor the ice for radio pulses generated by interactions of cosmic neutrinos with nuclei of the 2.8km thick ice sheet at the South Pole



Areal coverage:  $\sim 150 \text{ km}^2$

$10^7$  to  $10^{11}$  GeV: Radio ice Cherenkov detection

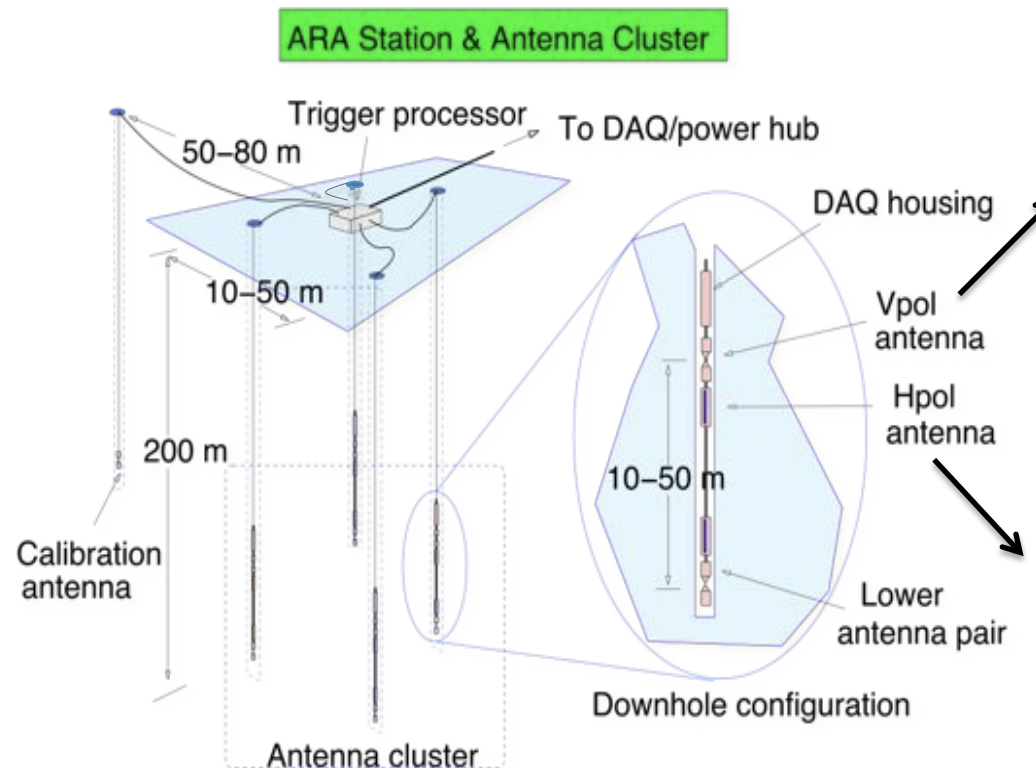
# ARA station geometry

Design goals and choices:

- Every station is a fully functioning detector.
- Lower energy threshold: nearby events (300m) can be reconstructed.

Background rejection:

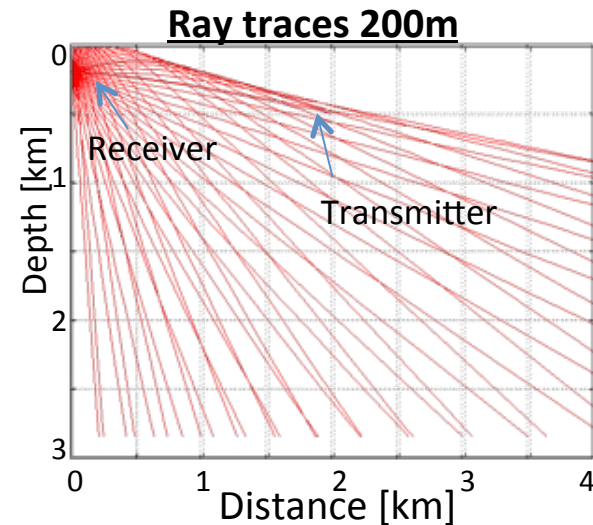
- Embedded strings: Allow good vertex resolution and high vertical resolution for background rejection



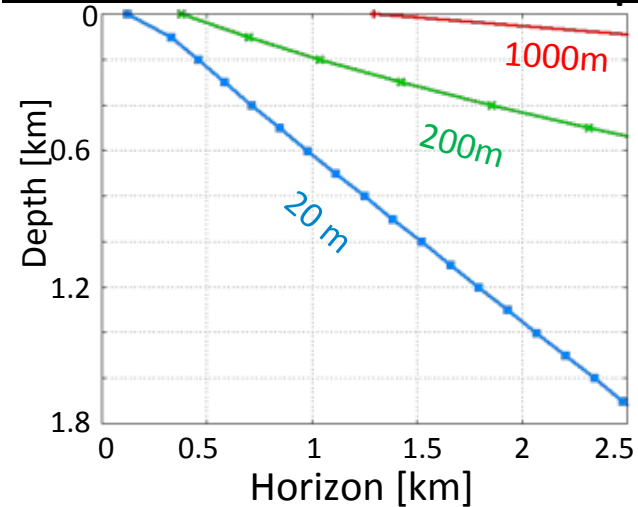
# Why strings?

(rather than surface antennas)

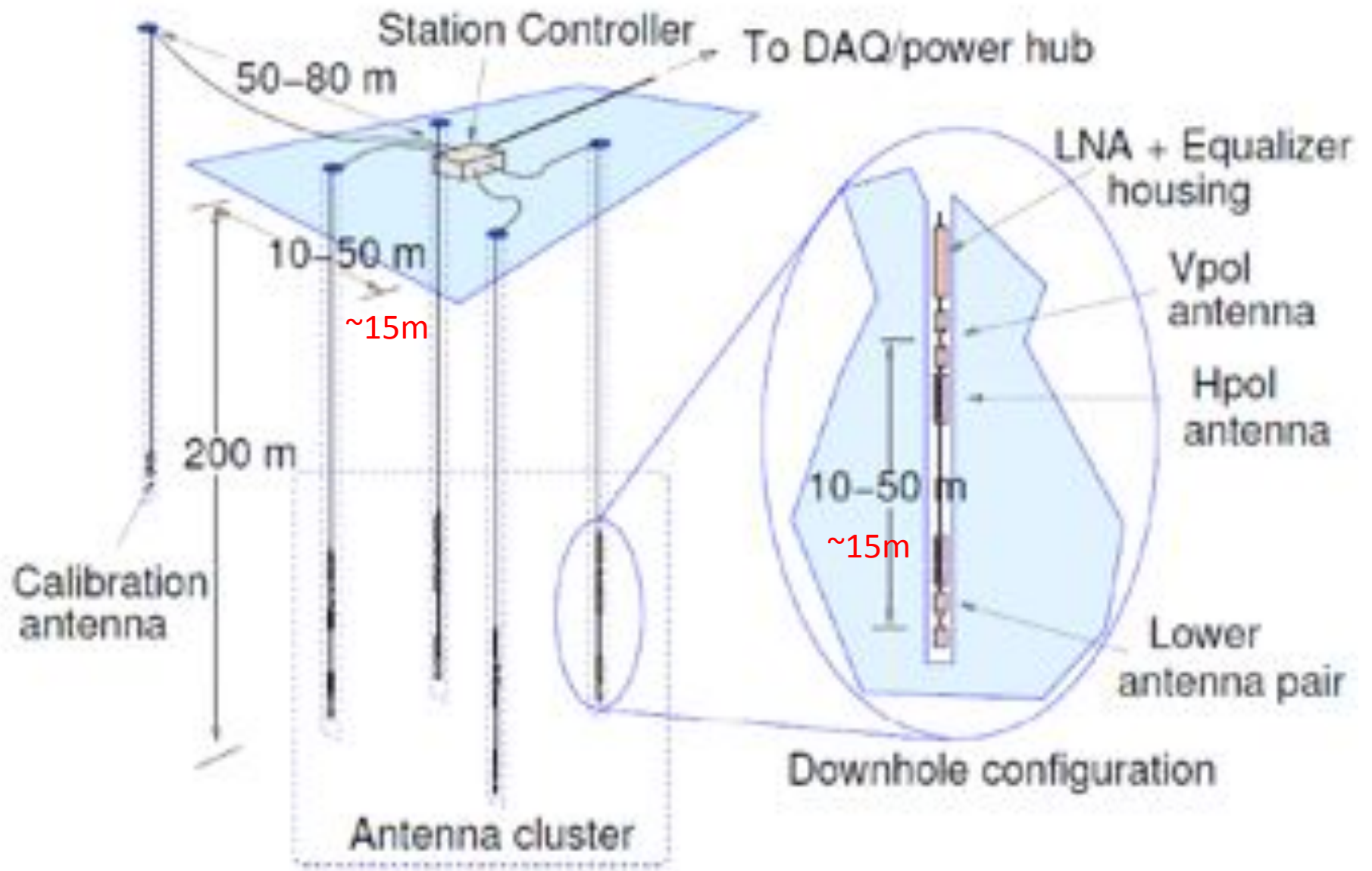
- Acceptance: x2
  - Embedded detectors have larger acceptance due to shadowing caused by gradual change of index of refraction in the upper 200m of ice.
  - Gain at 200m depth compared to surface: > x2 event rate
- Background rejection:
  - Transient backgrounds, man made and natural come from surface!
  - Neutrino events generate vertex in the ice and the signal can be uniquely separated by basic event reconstruction.



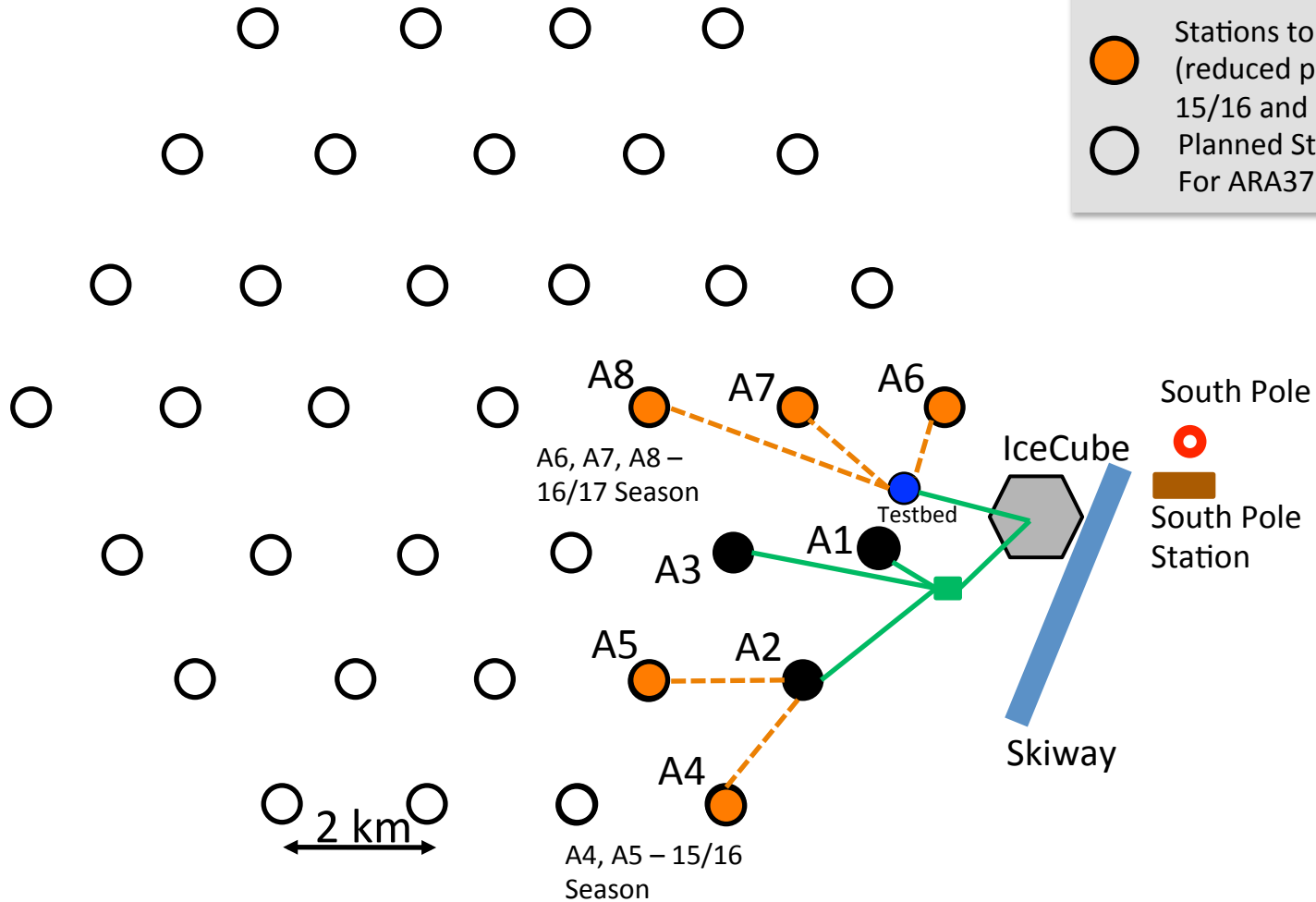
**Horizon for 3 different receiver depths**



# ARA Station & Antenna Cluster



# Askaryan Radio Array



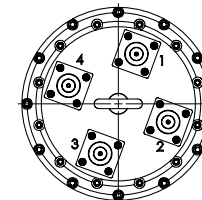
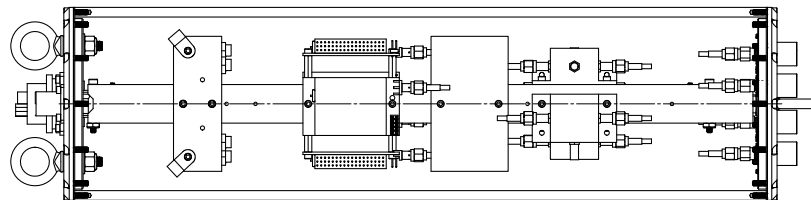
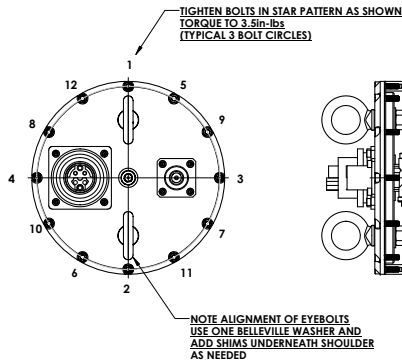
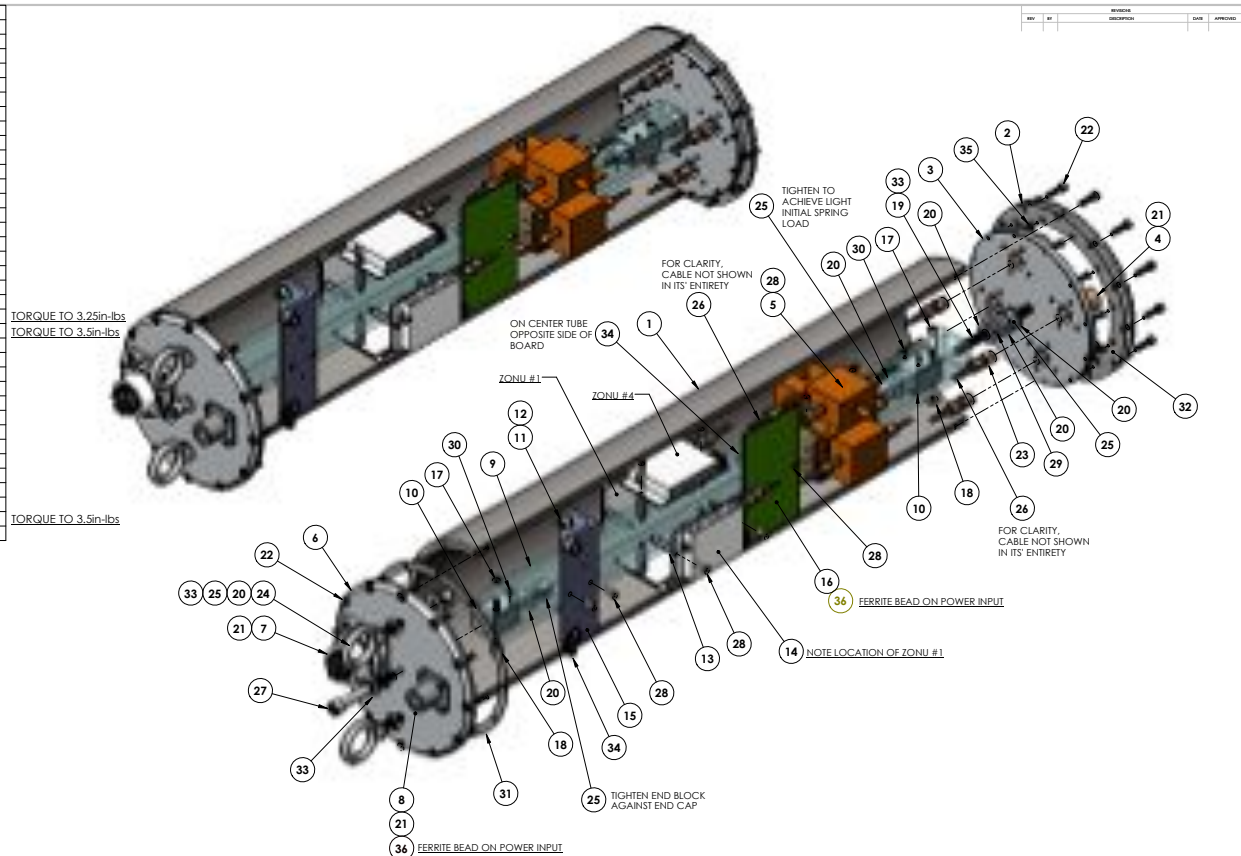


# Signal Chain

- **Physics:** Neutrino interacts in the ice, charged particles generate shower, Askaryan radio pulse
- **Antennas:** Radio pulse wave-front arrives, superimposed on thermal (background) noise
- **LNA:** Amplify the delicate signal with minimum additional noise, close to the antenna
- **RFoF (transmitter & receiver):** Transmit signal to the surface without cable distortions, and then return optical to electrical signal
- **Trigger:** Diode detectors (“square law”) followed by combinatorial logic (e.g., 5/16 or in the future something more complex)
- **Readout:** Analog capacitor storage, triggered readout, digitization, transfer to station computer, fiber to IceCube Lab building, hard drive storage, & satellite to North

# RFoF Transmitter

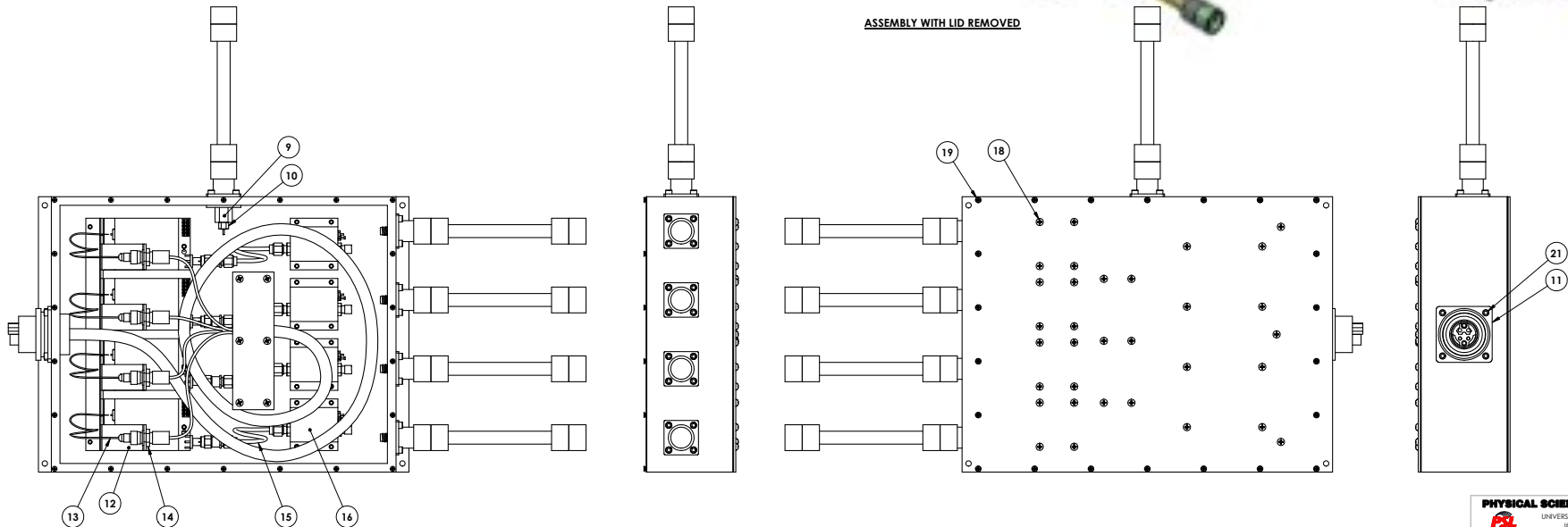
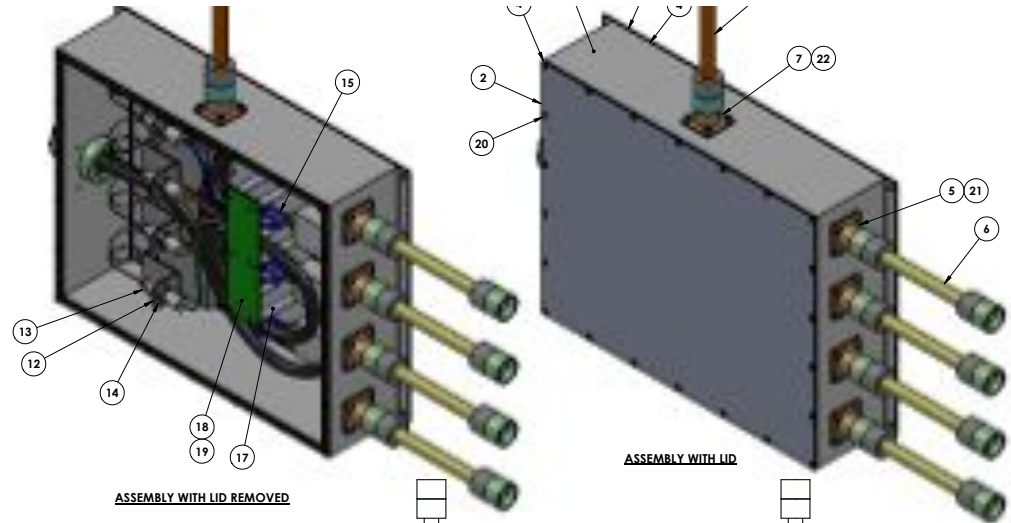
KEY QTY	PART NO	VENDOR	MATERIAL	DESCRIPTION
1	1	7598C20401M	-	6061-T6 ALUMINUM HOUSING
2	1	7598B20402M	-	6061-T6 ALUMINUM RETAINING RING
3	1	7598B20403M	-	6061-T6 ALUMINUM END CAP-NSma
4	4	S14422B	FAIRVIEW MICROWAVE	BULKHEAD RF ADAPTER
5	4	ZFBT-2B2-1.5A+	MINI-CIRCUITS	BIAS-TEE
6	1	7598B20404M	-	6061-T6 ALUMINUM END CAP FIBER
7	1	COTS83526	-	CONNECTOR
8	1	SC9239	-	-
9	1	7598B20405M	-	6061-T6 ALUMINUM CENTER TUBE
10	2	7598A20406M	-	6061-T6 ALUMINUM END BLOCK
11	4	-	-	FIBER BARREL
12	4	-	-	FIBER BARREL NUT
13	8	#91075A105	McMASTER-CARR	18-8 STAINLESS STEEL MALE-FEMALE #4-40 THD STANDOFF
14	4	-	-	FO TRANSMITTER
15	1	7598A20407M	-	6061-T6 ALUMINUM FO ADAPTER BRACKET
16	1	-	-	PCB POWER BOARD
17	2	#92196A155	McMASTER-CARR	18-8 STAINLESS STEEL #6-32 x 1.25 LG SHCAP
18	2	#90101A007	McMASTER-CARR	18-8 STAINLESS STEEL #6-32 NYLON INSERT LOCKNUT
19	1	#8891T550	McMASTER-CARR	316 STAINLESS STEEL EYE BOLT - 1/4-20 x 3" LG
20	7	#90107A029	McMASTER-CARR	316 STAINLESS STEEL 1/4 FLATWASHER
21	24	#92196A108	McMASTER-CARR	18-8 STAINLESS STEEL #4-40 x 3/8 LG SHCAP
22	24	#92196A148	McMASTER-CARR	18-8 STAINLESS STEEL #6-32 x .50 LG SHCAP
23	4	-	-	SMA-SMA CONNECTOR
24	2	#8891T72	McMASTER-CARR	316 STAINLESS STEEL EYEBOLT - 1/4-20 x 1" LG
25	5	#90715A125	McMASTER-CARR	316 STAINLESS STEEL 1/4-20 NYLON INSERT LOCKNUT
26	16	-	-	CABLE
27	1	#92200A550	McMASTER-CARR	316 STAINLESS STEEL 1/4-20 x 2" LG SHCAP
28	22	-	-	18-8 STAINLESS STEEL #4-40 x .250 LG SHCAP
29	1	LC 042GG 03S	LEE SPRING	COMPRESSION SPRING
30	4	#90251A110	McMASTER-CARR	18-8 STAINLESS STEEL #4-40 x 3/16 LG SHSS
31	1	7598A20408M	-	RF GASKET (END CAP FIBER)
32	1	7598A20409M	-	RF GASKET (END CAP NSma)
33	4	#9713K610	McMASTER-CARR	302 STAINLESS STEEL BELLEVILLE DISC SPRING
34	3	-	-	PLASTIC WIRE CLIP
35	12	#92196A110	McMASTER-CARR	18-8 STAINLESS STEEL #4-40 x .50 LG SHCAP
36	2	-	-	FERRITE BEAD



DATE: -	APPROVED: -	DATE: 07/05/2012	SCALE: 1:1.5
ARA	DESIGNED: -	CHECKED: ALP	
FO TRANSMITTER	DRAWN: TJB	APPROVED: MAD	
	SCALE: 1:1.5	SHEET 1 OF 1	

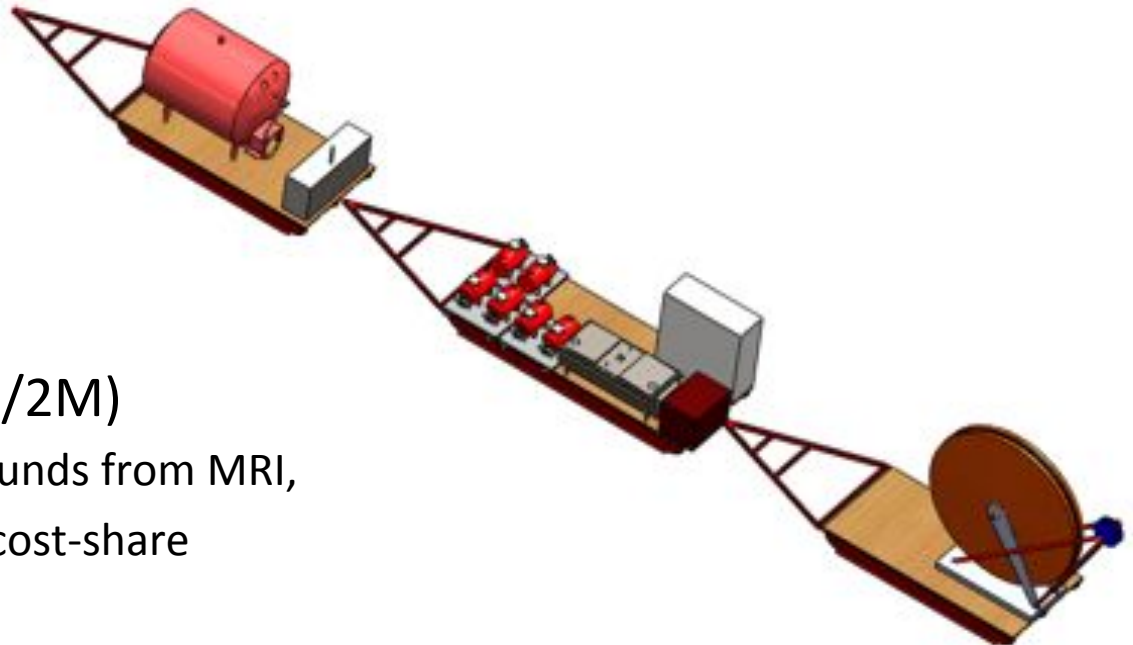
# Receiver boxes

6	4	XXXXC20106M	ANDREW	-	COAX LINK 6	20200
7	1	26FC4PN	COMPAERO	-	POWER BULKHEAD CONNECTOR	20110
8	1	XXXB20106M	-	-	OF POWER CABLE	20300
9	1	-	-	-	FILTER PIN BOX	201XX
10	1	100-100X	COMPAC-RF	-	FILTER PIN	20108
11	1	CPA110211CPAS-2	CABLES PLUS	-	FO BULKHEAD PLUG	20106
12	1	XXXXC20105M	-	6061-T6 ALUMINUM	FIBER STRAIN PLATE	-
13	4	OZ450-LNA	OPTICAL ZONU	-	RF-over-FIBER-RECEIVER	20116
14	4	-	-	-	FIBER BULKHEAD	201XX
15	4	-	UH CUSTOM	-	INTERNAL RF CABLE	20109
16	4	ZKL-1R5	MINI-CIRCUITS	-	2nd STAGE AMPLIFIER	20101
17	6	-	-	18-8 STAINLESS STEEL	POWER DISTRIBUTION BOARD STANDOFF	-
18	1	-	UH CUSTOM	-	POWER DISTRIBUTION BOARD	-
19	39	-	-	18-8 STAINLESS STEEL	#4-40 x 1/4 LG FILLISTER HEAD	-
20	44	-	-	18-8 STAINLESS STEEL	#2-56 X 1/8 LG FLATHEAD	-
21	20	-	-	18-8 STAINLESS STEEL	#4-40 x .250 LG SHCAP	-
22	4	-	-	18-8 STAINLESS STEEL	#4-40 x .375 LG SHCAP	-



# Drilling: Upgrades 2012

- Substantial upgrades were originally planned for 2013, but 2011/12 experience showed the upgrade was needed to be able to drill to 200m
- Switch to a full recirculation system with water recovery.
- Replaced lost equipment
  - Drill Head
  - Pump
  - Hose
  - Cable
  - Hose reel damaged
- Substantial effort (>\$1/2M)
  - Used redirected some funds from MRI, and located additional cost-share

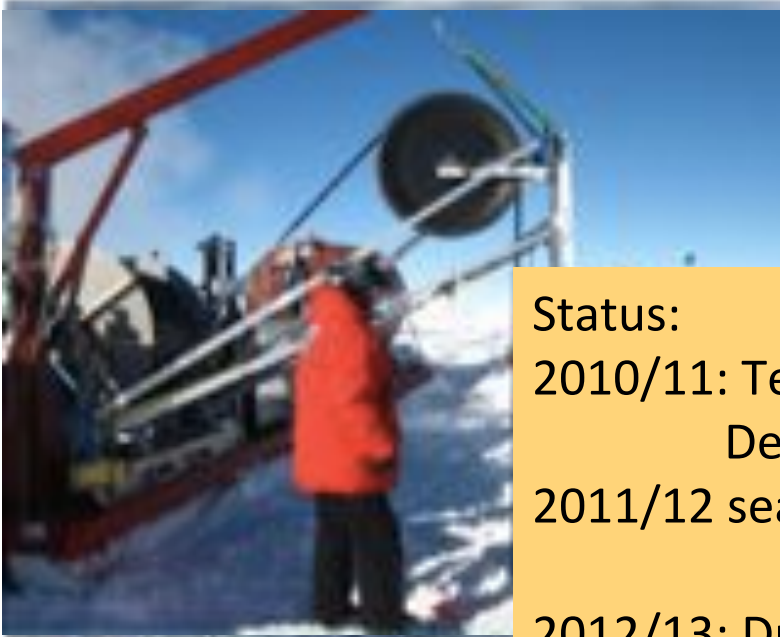


# ARA field activities on the ice





# ARA field activities on the ice



Status:

2010/11: Test detector (Test bed, shallow) deployed  
Deep calibration pulsers deployed with IceCube

2011/12 season: ARA prototype deployed: ~70m  
drill limitations

2012/13: Drill upgrade,

Built and deployed two more stations!

Now 200m depth

→ 3 stations nearing comparable sensitivity of IceCube at  $10^{18}\text{eV}$



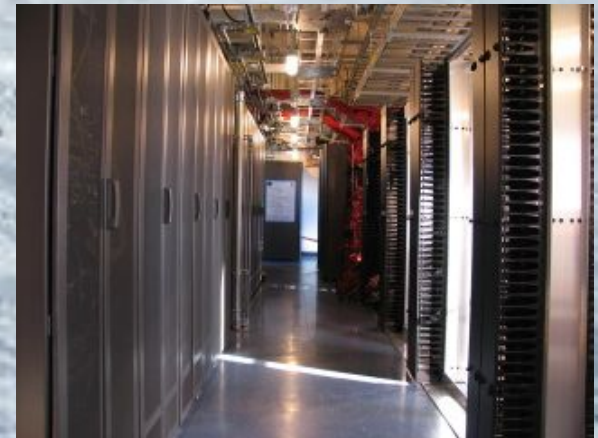


# IceCube Laboratory

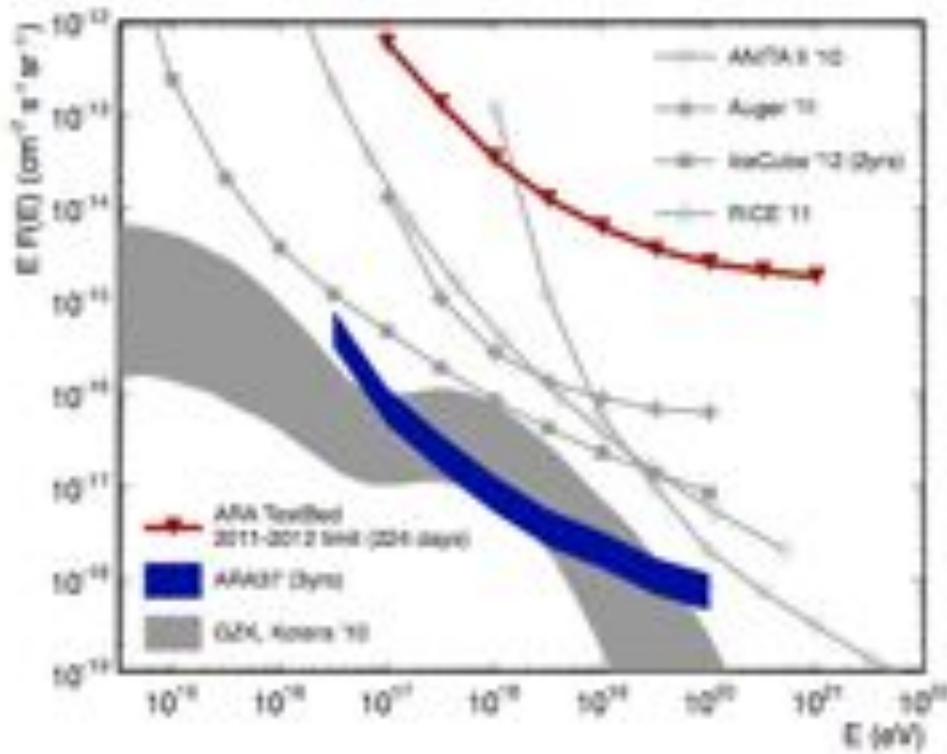
ARA equipment base and shop  
(former IC equipment)

IceCube infrastructure  
helpful as a lab to host the ARA DAQ  
and facilitate ARA operations  
(similar data flow mechanisms)

Two IceCube winter-overs



# First science: TestBed-only limit



- Arxiv/1404.5285
- Proof of concept of the analysis chain
- TestBed analysis has  $\sim 1/16$  sensitivity of full ARA station trigger
- More results with station\*years

# The Future...

- Slowed deployment, just cabling this year
- Looking ahead for a four year deployment push to complete the ARA-37 design
  - Electronics updates
  - Better trigger algorithms
  - Data reduction at on-line & off-line
- Farther out, plans for an even larger detector...

# ARA- Collaboration

- ARA is an international Collaboration
  - 14 institutions
  - ~50 authors



## Design and Initial Performance of the Askaryan Radio Array Prototype EeV Neutrino Detector at the South Pole

P. Allison,<sup>1</sup> J. Auffenberg,<sup>2</sup> R. Bard,<sup>3</sup> J. J. Beatty,<sup>1</sup> D. Z. Besson,<sup>4</sup> S. Böser,<sup>5</sup> C. Chen,<sup>6</sup> P. Chen,<sup>6</sup> A. Connolly,<sup>1</sup> J. Davies,<sup>7</sup> M. DuVernois,<sup>2</sup> B. Fin,<sup>8</sup> P. W. Goetham,<sup>8</sup> E. W. Grathorn,<sup>1</sup> K. Hanson,<sup>9</sup> J. Haugen,<sup>2</sup> K. Helbing,<sup>10</sup> B. Hill,<sup>8</sup> K. D. Hoffman,<sup>3</sup> M. Huang,<sup>6</sup> M. H. A. Huang,<sup>6</sup> A. Ishihara,<sup>11</sup> A. Karle,<sup>12</sup> D. Kennedy,<sup>4</sup> H. Landman,<sup>2</sup> A. Landrie,<sup>2</sup> T. C. Liu,<sup>8</sup> L. Macchiarulo,<sup>8</sup> K. Mase,<sup>11</sup> T. Meures,<sup>9</sup> R. Meyharden,<sup>8</sup> C. Miki,<sup>8</sup> R. Mose,<sup>8</sup> M. Newcomb,<sup>2</sup> R. J. Nichol,<sup>7</sup> K. Ratzlaff,<sup>13</sup> M. Richman,<sup>3</sup> L. Rimer,<sup>8</sup> B. Rorer,<sup>8</sup> P. Sandstrom,<sup>2</sup> D. Seckel,<sup>14</sup> J. Touret,<sup>3</sup> G. S. Varner,<sup>8</sup> M. -Z. Wang,<sup>6</sup> C. Weaver,<sup>12</sup> A. Wendroff,<sup>4</sup> S. Yoshida,<sup>11</sup> and R. Young<sup>13</sup>  
(ARA Collaboration)



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<sup>4</sup>Dept. of Physics and Astronomy, Univ. of Kansas, Lawrence, KS 66045, USA.  
<sup>5</sup>Dept. of Physics, Univ. of Bonn, Bonn, Germany.  
<sup>6</sup>Grad. Inst. of Astrophys., & Leung Center for Cosmology and Particle Astrophysics, National Taiwan Univ., Taipei, Taiwan.  
<sup>7</sup>Dept. of Physics and Astronomy, Univ. College London, London, United Kingdom.  
<sup>8</sup>Dept. of Physics and Astronomy, Univ. of Hawaii, Manoa, HI 96822, USA.  
<sup>9</sup>Dept. of Physics, Univ. Libre de Bruxelles, Belgium.  
<sup>10</sup>Dept. of Physics, Univ. of Wuppertal, Wuppertal, Germany.  
<sup>11</sup>Dept. of Physics, Chiba University, Tokyo, Japan.  
<sup>12</sup>Dept. of Physics, Univ. of Wisconsin Madison, Madison, WI, USA.  
<sup>13</sup>Instrumentation Design Laboratory, Univ. of Kansas, Lawrence, KS 66045, USA.  
<sup>14</sup>Dept. of Physics, Univ. of Delaware, Newark, DE 19716.

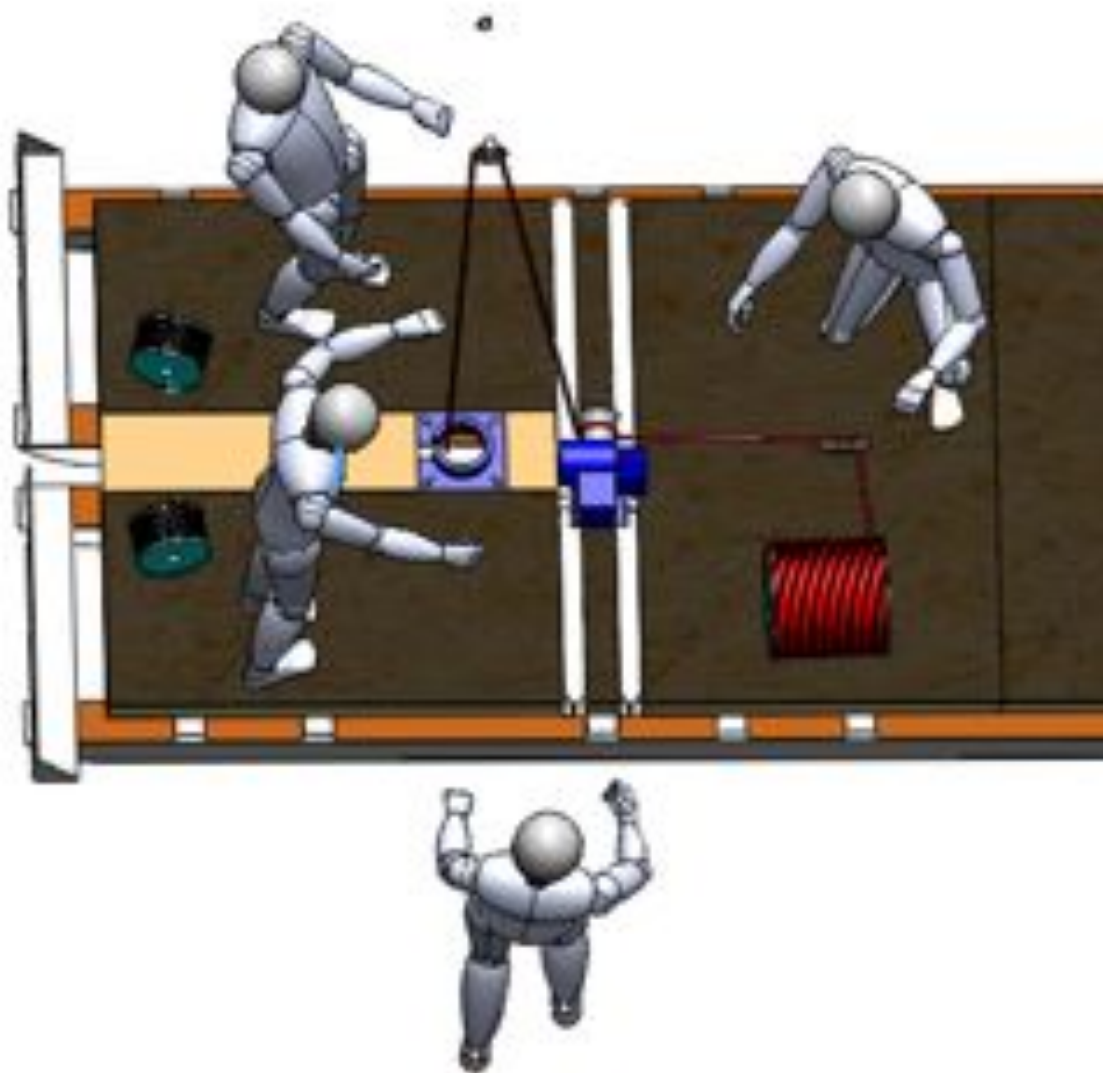




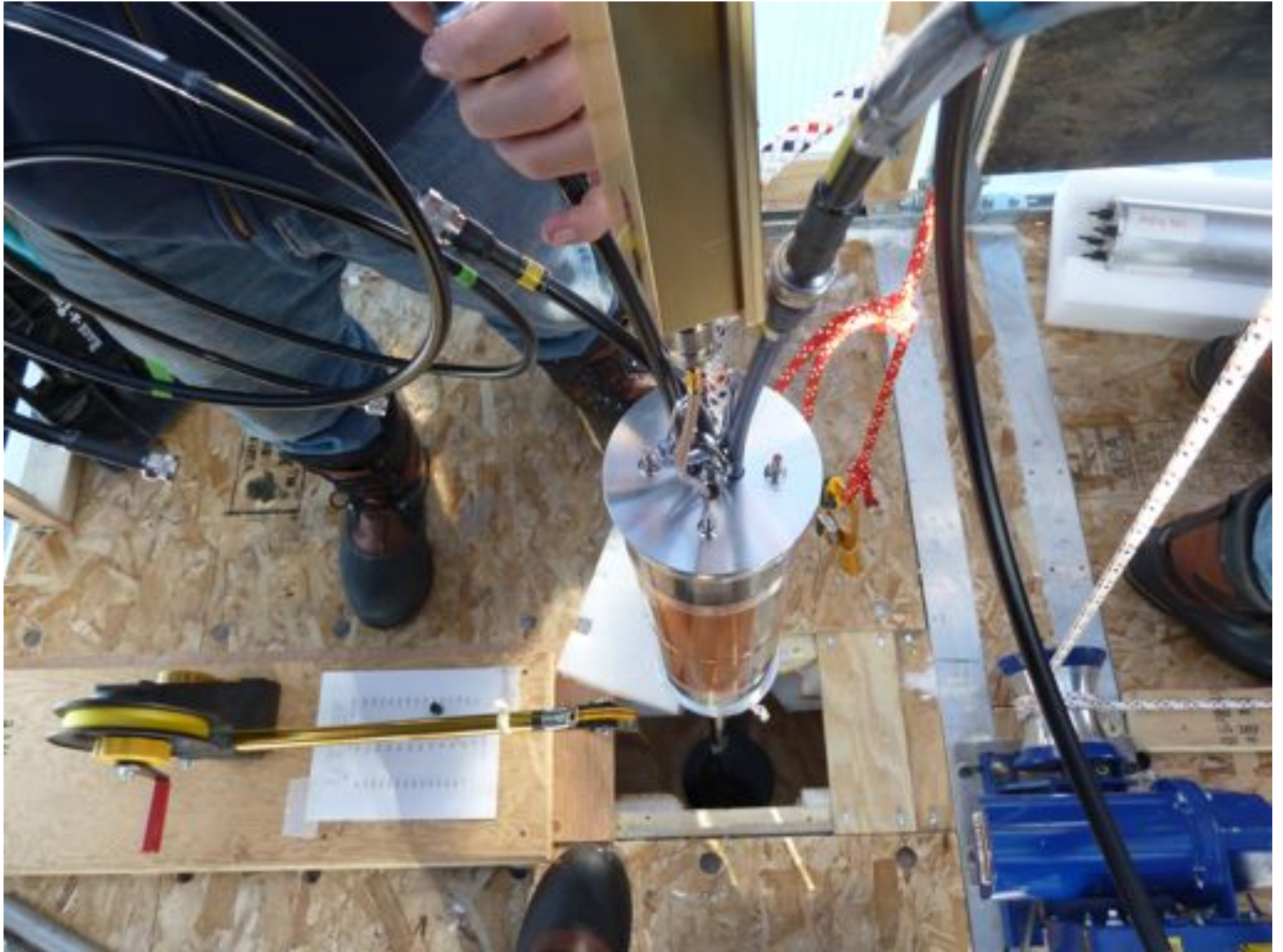
**BACKUP SLIDES**



# Deployment setup

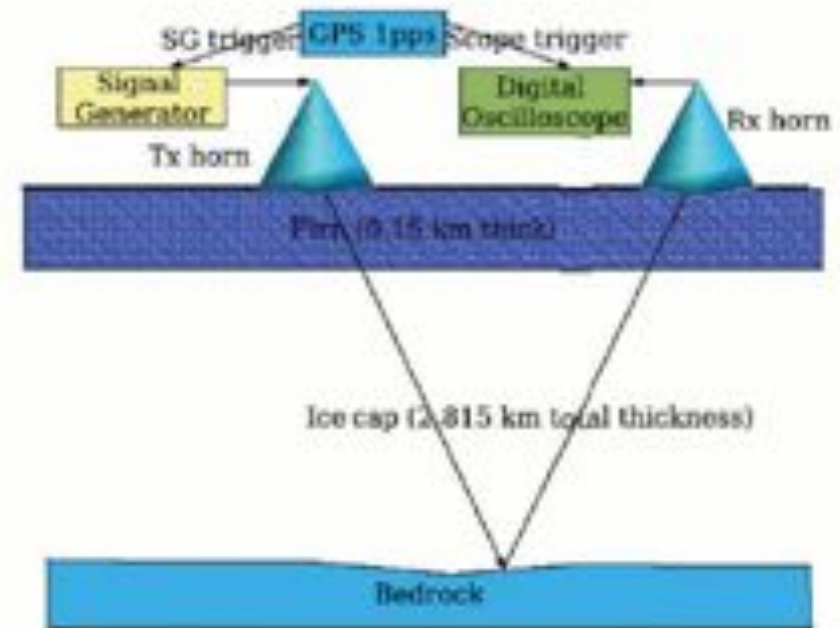
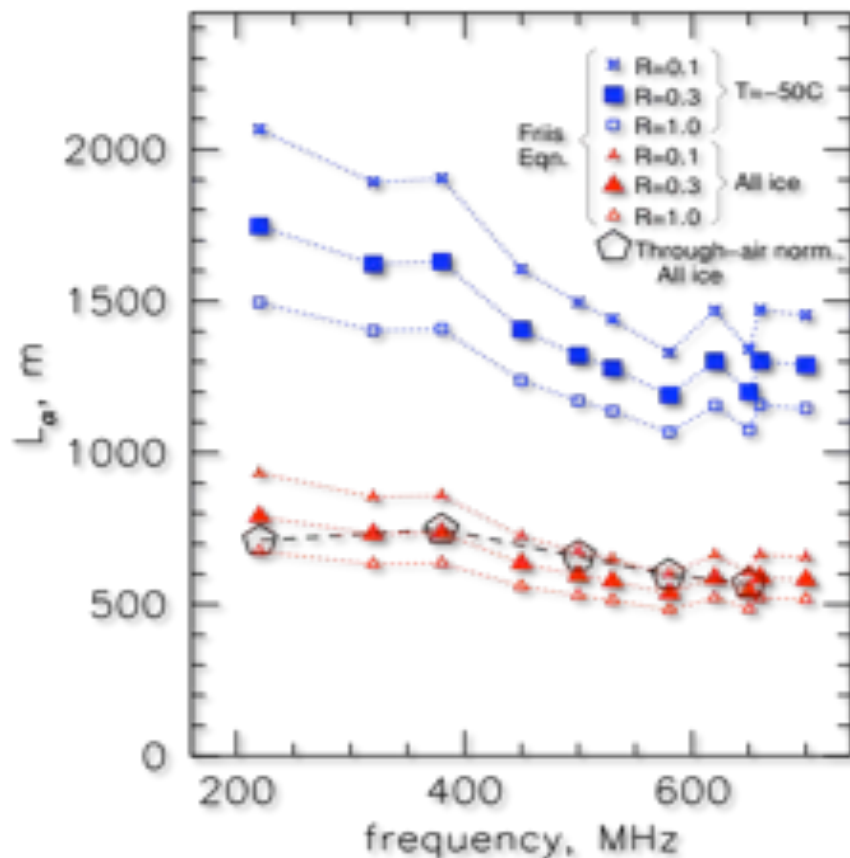






# Ice Attenuation Length

- Most radio transparent material on Earth!
- Depends on ice temperature. Colder ice at the top.
- Reflection Studies (2004) (Down to bedrock, 200-700MHz): “normalize” average attenuation according to temperature profile.



Besson et al. *J. Glaciology*, 51,173,231,2005