

# KM3NeT/ORCA: Oscillation Research with Cosmics in the Abyss

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APC, Paris



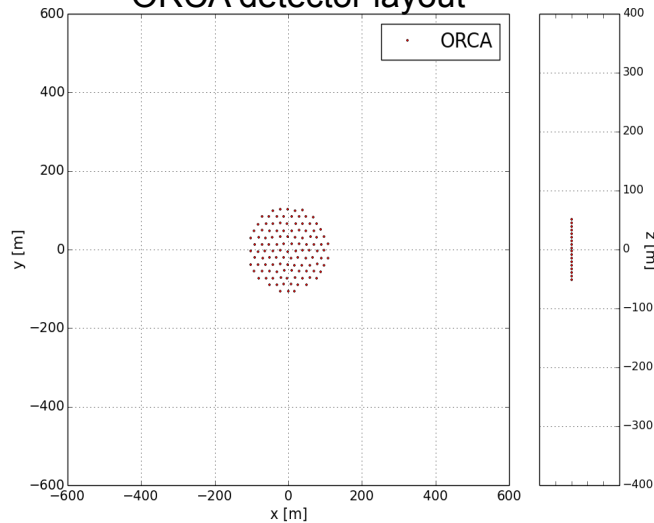
1st International Workshop for Neutrino Oscillation Tomography  
Earthquake Research Institute, Tokyo  
08.01.2016

# The KM3NeT infrastructure

An infrastructure for “Research with Cosmics in the Abyss”

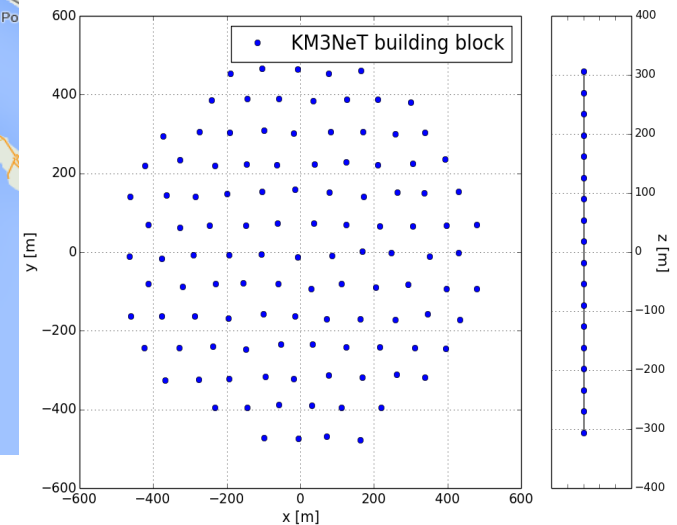
## ORCA

ORCA detector layout



## ARCA

ARCA detector layout (1 building block)



*Both sharing the same technology*

**KM3NeT Detection Unit (DU)**



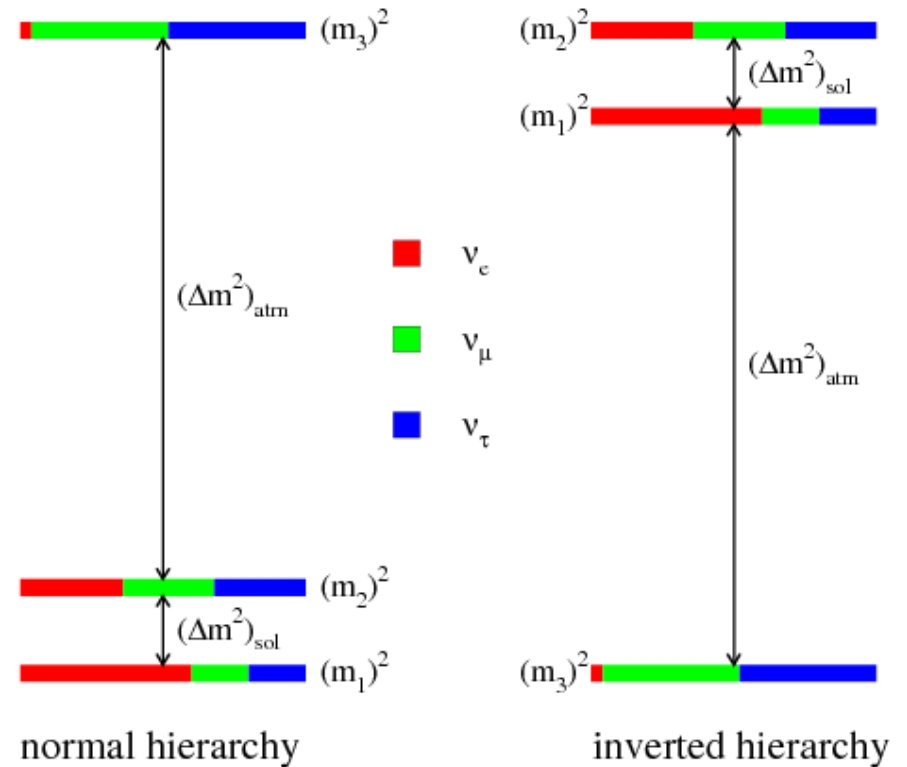
**KM3NeT Optical Module (OM)**

- Neutrino physics: mass hierarchy, dark matter,...
- Optimised for neutrinos from a few GeV up to ~100 GeV
- Will be located offshore the Southern coast of France

- Neutrino astrophysics: newly born after IceCube detection
- Optimised for neutrinos from ~100 GeV on
- Will be located offshore the Southern coast of Italy (Sicily)

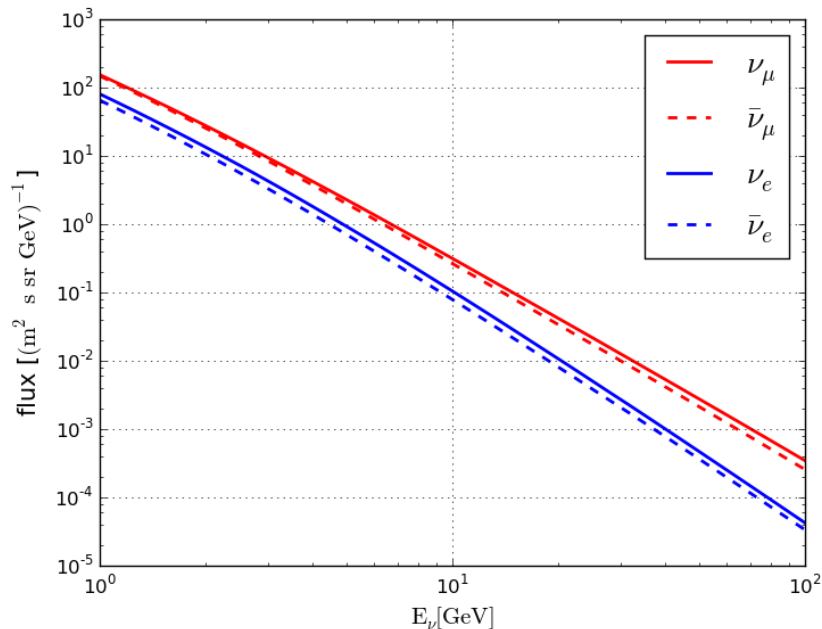
# Neutrino Oscillations and Mass Hierarchy

- Neutrinos can change flavour
- Relevant parameters:
  - Mixing angles  $\theta_{23}, \theta_{13}, \theta_{12}$
  - CP violating phase  $\delta_{CP}$
  - Mass-squared differences:
 
$$\Delta m^2_{ij} = m^2_i - m^2_j$$
 (actual masses are unknown)
- Vacuum oscillation only depends on distance, energy and mass-squared differences: it tells us  $\Delta m^2_{21} \ll |\Delta m^2_{32}|$
- Oscillation is different in matter (MSW-effect): this can be used to measure the neutrino mass hierarchy and for the Earth tomography

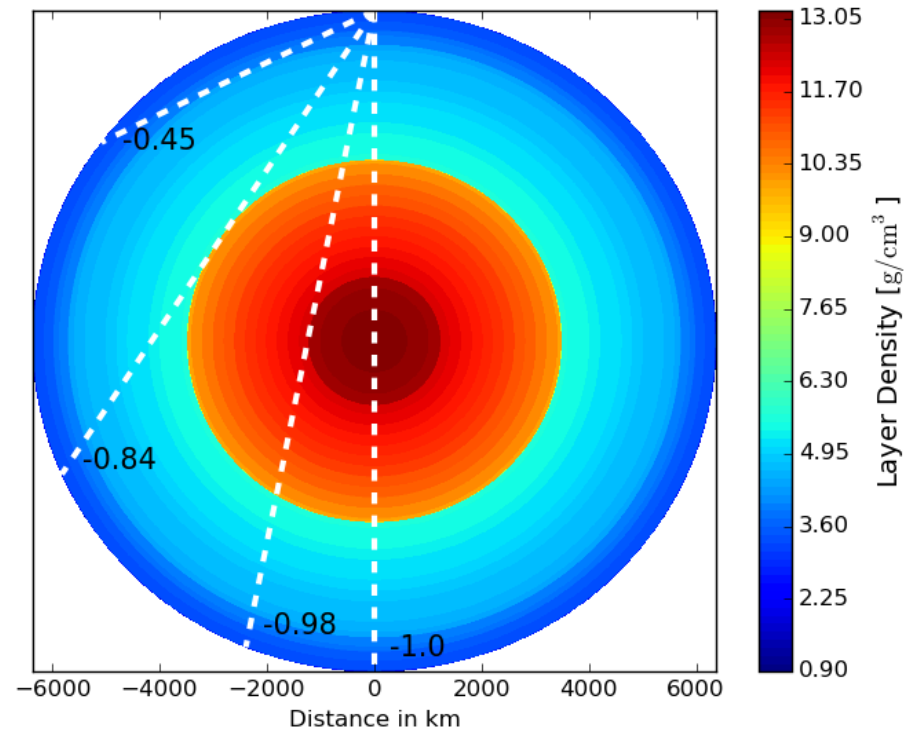


# Atmospheric neutrinos

- Produced by the interaction of cosmic rays with the atmosphere
- A free source of neutrinos with a wide energy range
- $\cos(\text{Zenith})$  defines the propagation length and the density profile



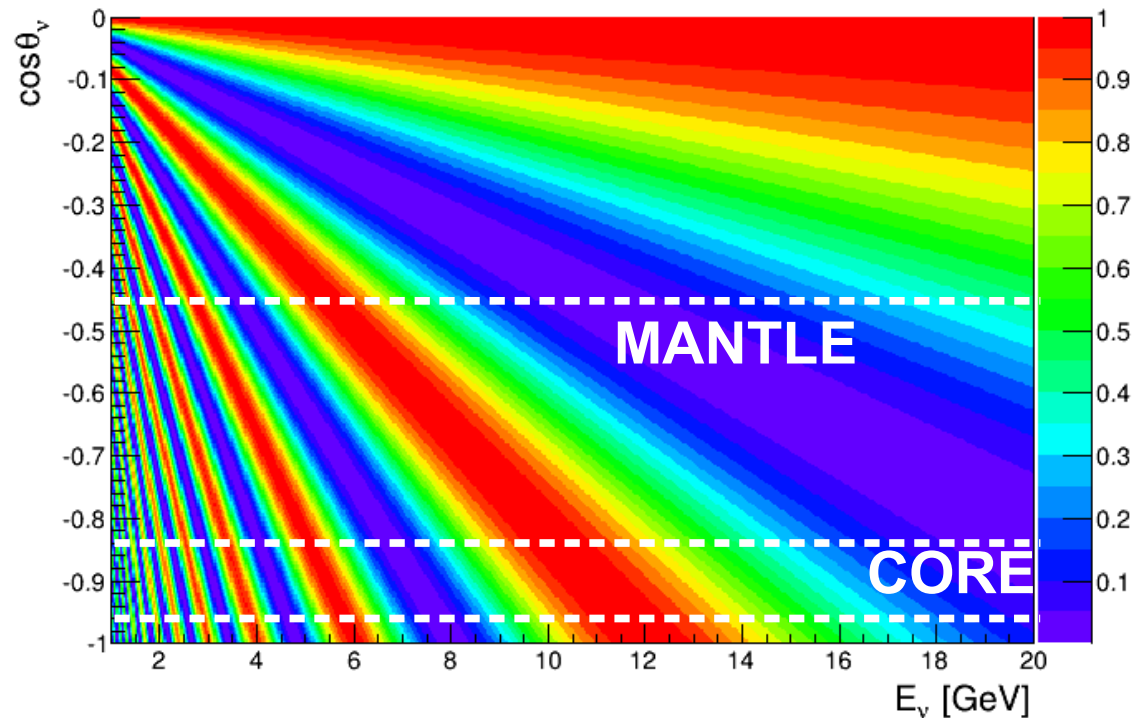
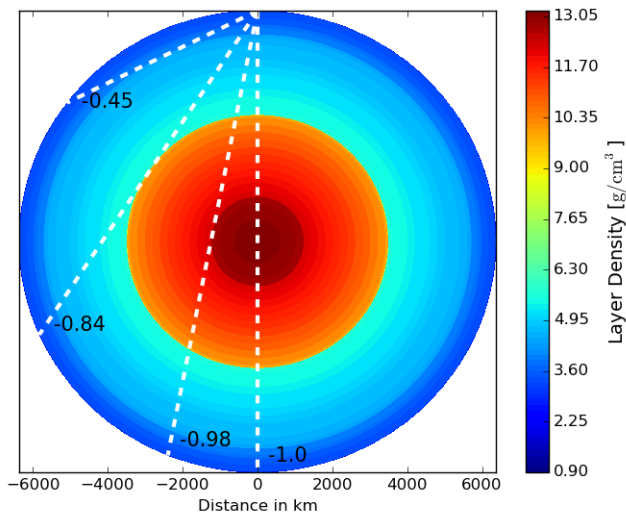
Honda 2014 neutrino flux



PREM density profile with a few representative neutrino trajectories

# Oscillation probability and matter effects

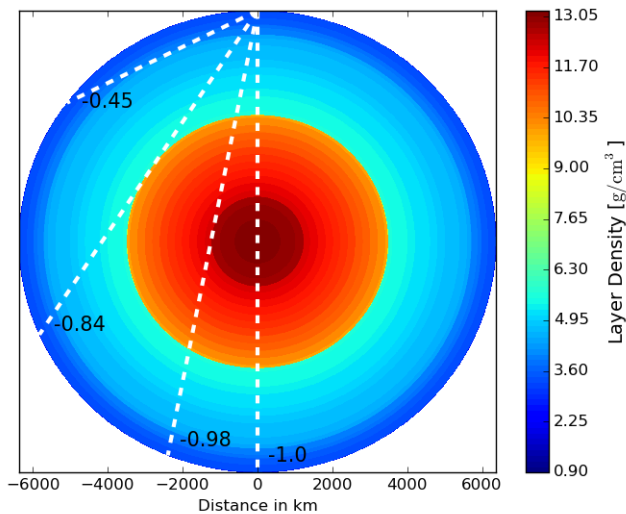
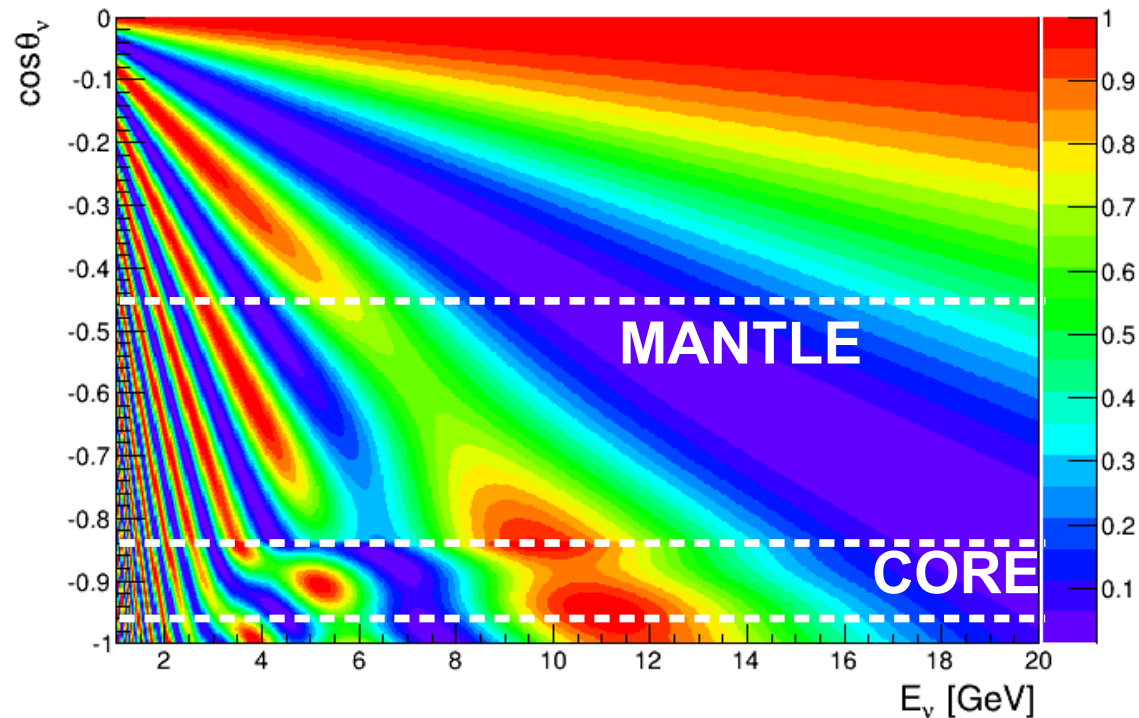
- Here represented as an “oscillogram”  $\cos(\text{Zenith})$  vs Energy
- Resonance conditions for matter effects (or MSW effect):  
 $2.5 < E_\nu < 6$  GeV for mantle and core densities
- Atm. neutrinos in Earth provide a suitable combination



*Probability  $\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_\mu$  (Vacuum)*

# Oscillation probability and matter effects

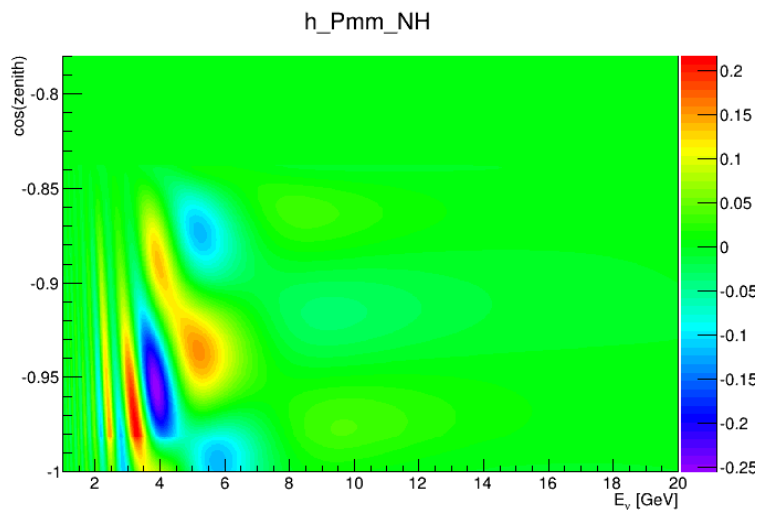
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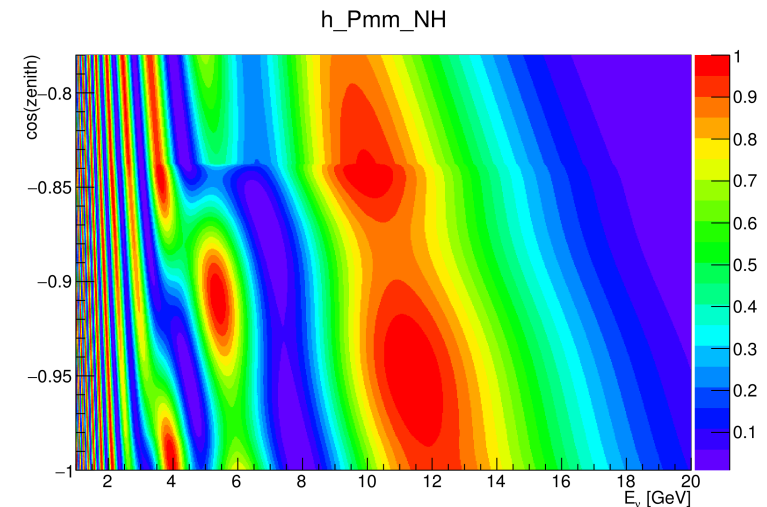
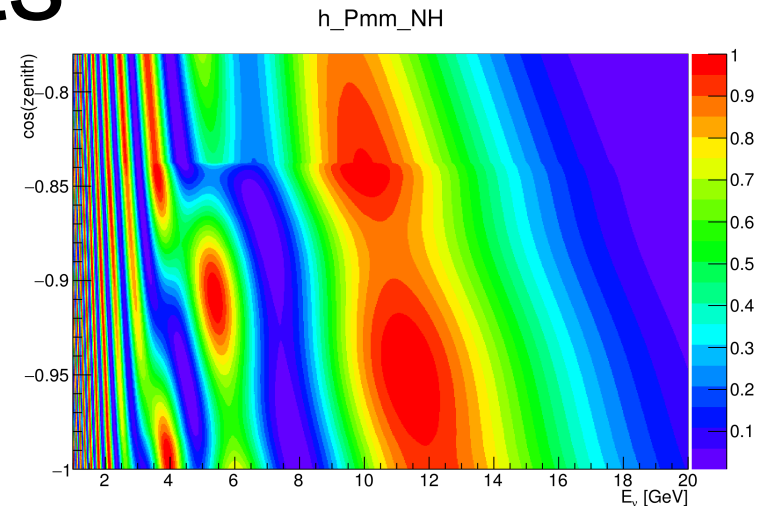
*Probability  $\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_\mu$  (Earth density profile)*

# Oscillation probability and matter effects

- Matter effects are sensitive to the electron density  $n_e \rightarrow$  can access composition of the Earth layers



*Probability difference  
between the two models*



*Probability  $\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_\mu$*

**top:** outer core is only iron  
**bottom:** outer core is iron + 5wt% H



# Neutrino interactions

**Charged Current:**  $\nu_l + X \rightarrow l + \text{hadronic cascade}$

**Neutral Current:**  $\nu_l + X \rightarrow \nu_l + \text{hadronic cascade}$

l = leptonic flavour = e,  $\mu$ ,  $\tau$   
hadronic cascade: from the  
disintegration of the struck nucleus

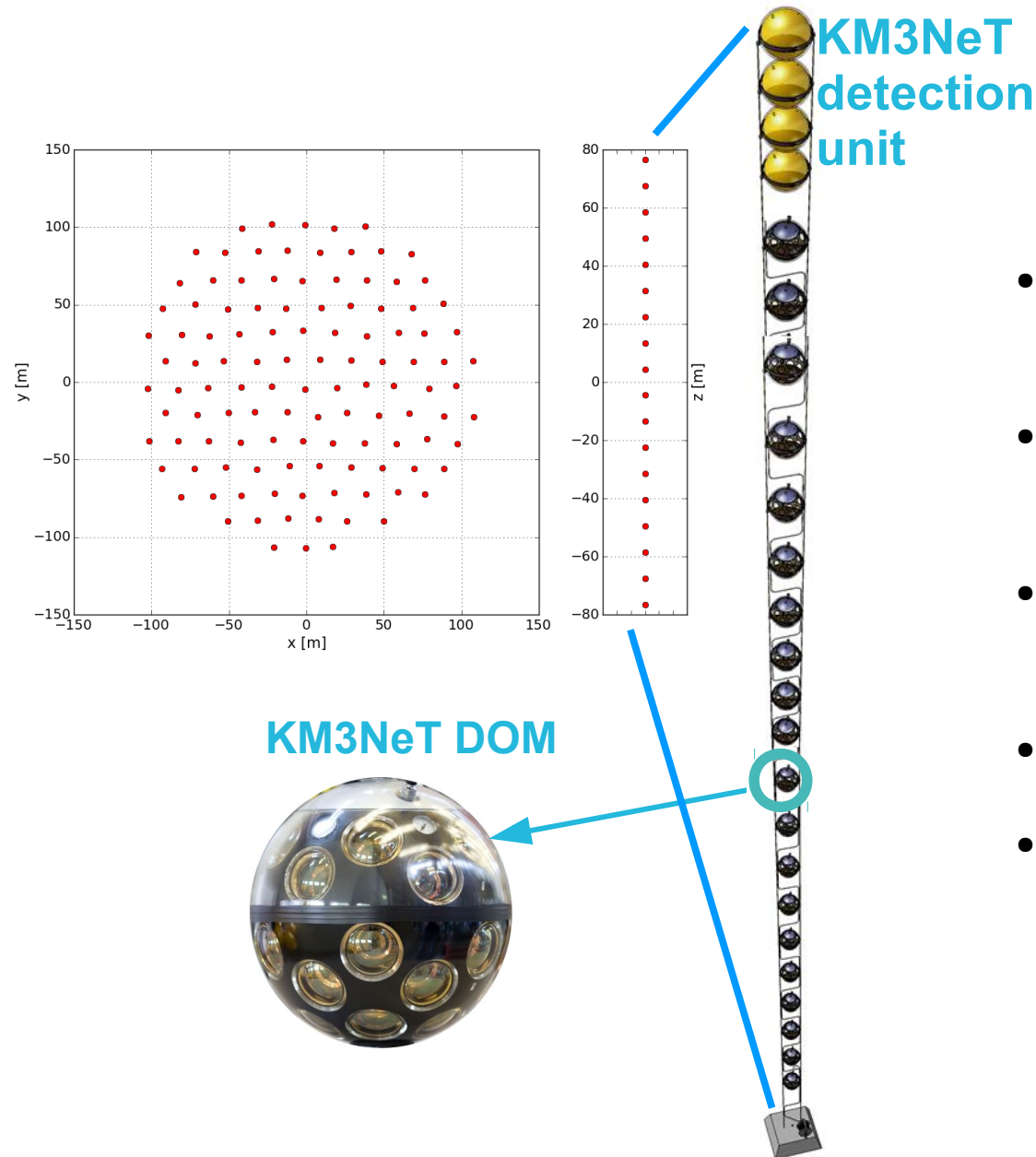
## Corresponding event topologies:

- **track:** all events with a muon in the final state, i.e.  $\nu_\mu$ CC and 17% of  $\nu_\tau$ CC
- **showers:**  $\nu_e$ CC, 83% of  $\nu_\tau$ CC and all flavours NC

With our PID we can distinguish between these two topologies



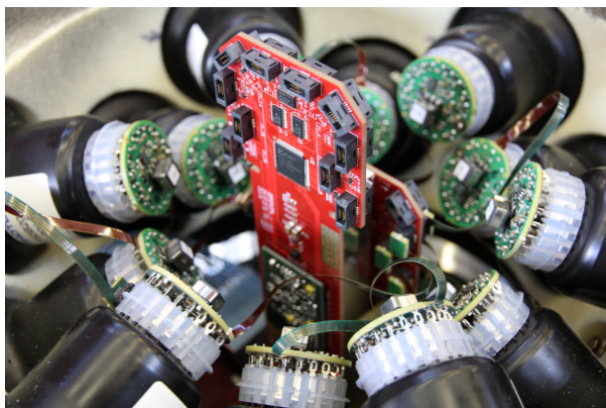
# The ORCA detector



- 115 detection units, 20m spaced horizontally
- 18 Optical Modules (DOMs) per detection unit
- 9m vertical distance between DOMs
- Instrumented volume: ~5.7Mtons
- Estimated cost ~40 M€ (additional)

# The KM3NeT DOM

- 17 inch pressure resistant glass sphere
- Hosting 31 photomultipliers, 3 inch each
- Single photon counting
- Maximises photocathode area



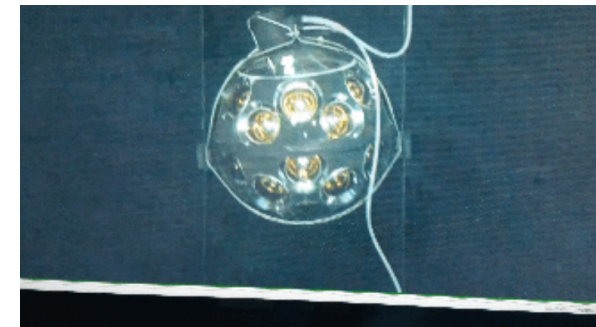
*The interior of the DOM*



*Picture of the multi-PMT  
Digital Optical Module (DOM)*

# Current status

- First KM3NeT string successfully deployed last 3/12/2015 @ the ARCA site
- The string is healthy, takes data and reconstructs
- 3 prototypes already deployed and tested
- Another string should be deployed “soon” (few months) @ the ORCA site
- Six ORCA strings already funded

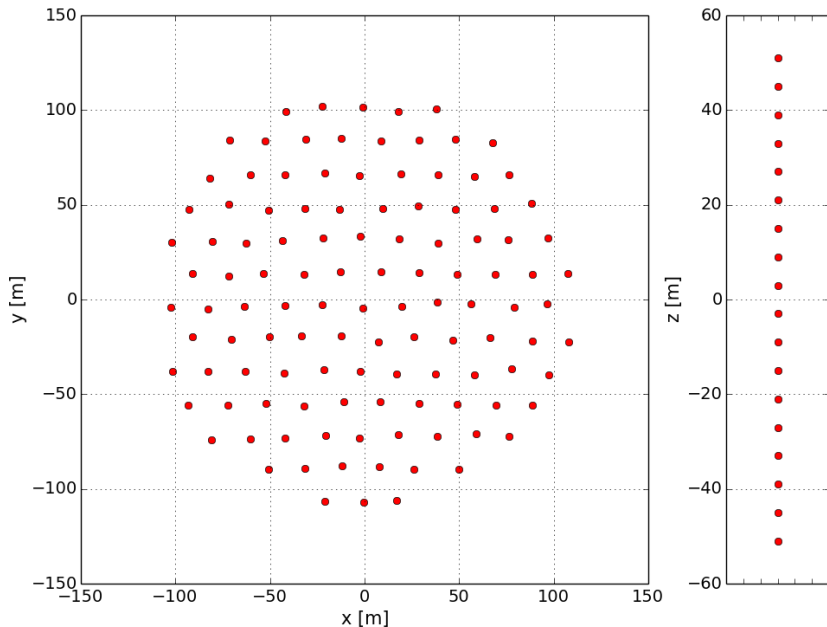


*Phases of the deployment of the first ARCA string*

# Performance evaluation for ORCA

- Evaluated using Monte Carlo simulations
- Relevant quantities for event reconstruction
  - Direction and energy resolution
  - Effective mass
  - Particle identification
  - Atmospheric muon background rejection

# Simulation chain



*Footprint and z profile of the detector used for this study.*

*Nota bene: vertical spacing between DOMs is 6m, whereas optimization studies lead to chose 9m (more about this in forthcoming Lol).*

- Atmospheric  $\nu_e \nu_\mu \nu_\tau$  (+ anti)  $\rightarrow$  1–100 GeV
- Neutrino interactions: GENIE, both charged and neutral currents
- For all particles sufficiently close to the detector: tracking + Cherenkov light emission
- Down-going atmospheric muons generated using MUPAGE parameterization (*Carminati et al., Comput. Phys. Commun. 179 (2008) 915-923*)
- Optical  $^{40}\text{K}$  background: 10kHz/PMT flat noise + 500 Hz/PMT time correlated
- Realistic trigger applied

# Track reconstruction

## Direction:

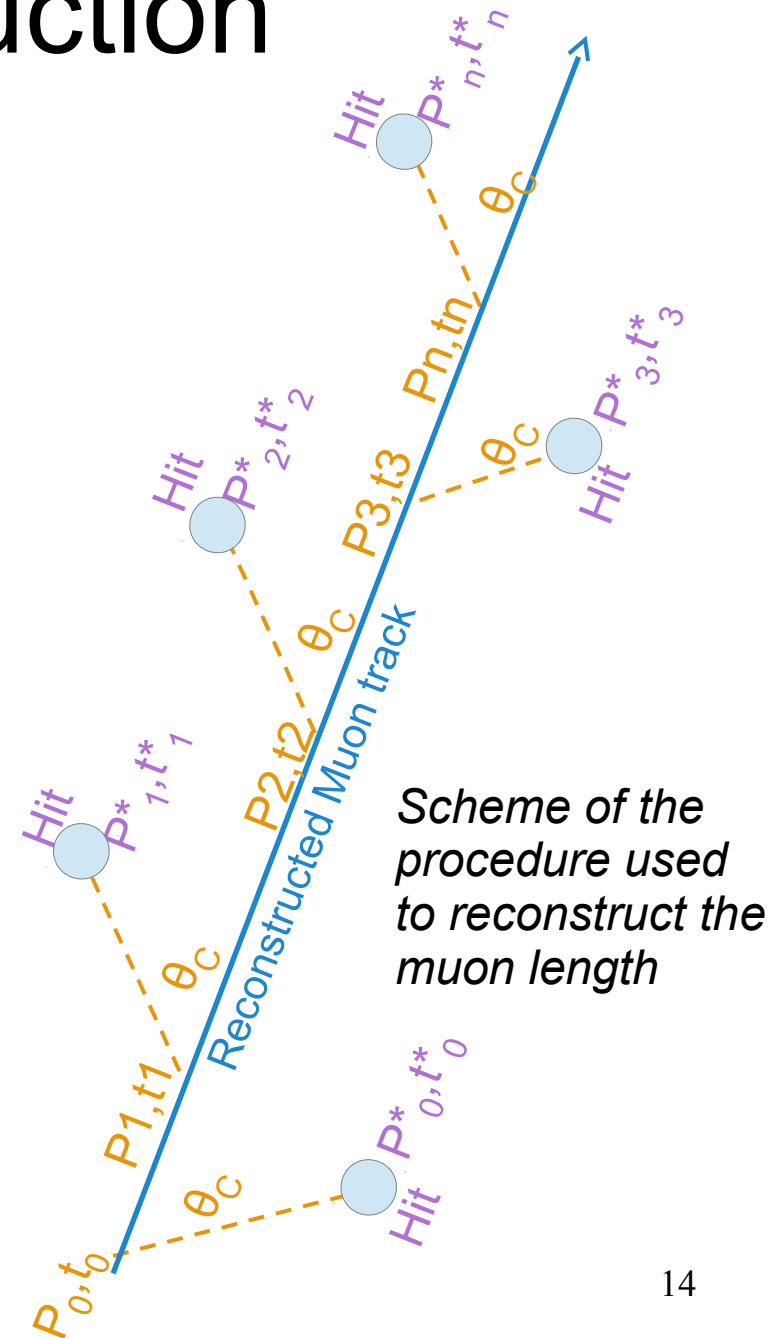
- Scan 7200 directions, chose the best
- Increase precision using a refined PDF of the time residuals (maximum likelihood fit)
- Finds the direction of the outgoing muon

## Energy and vertex

- First find the vertex and the muon length, thus  $E_\mu$  (see figure)
- Obtain the neutrino energy using  $E_\mu$  and  $N_{\text{hits}}$

## Bjorken $y$ (inelasticity)

- Use a PDF of the time residuals



# Track reconstruction

## Direction:

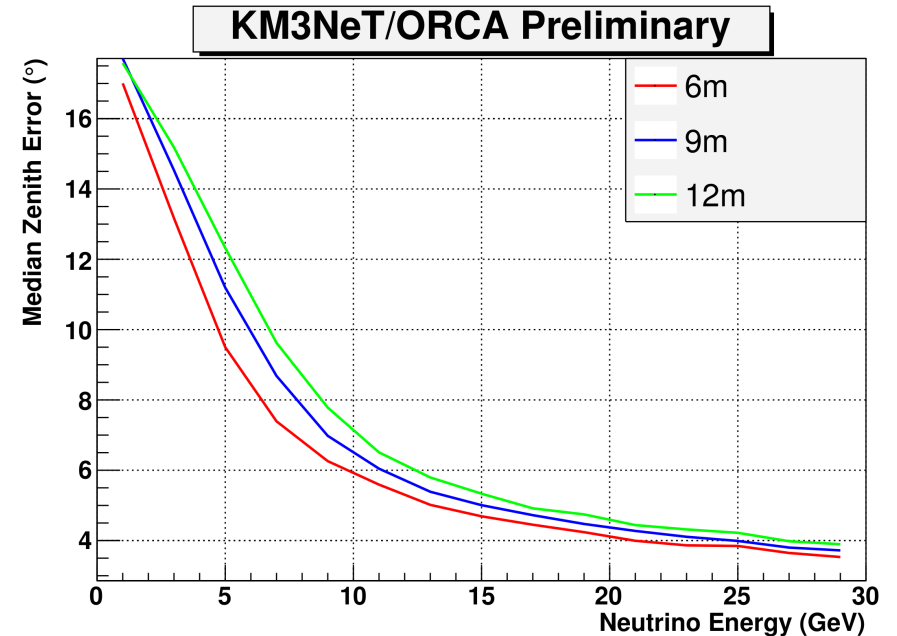
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*Zenith resolution obtained for  $\nu_\mu$ -CC, as a function of the neutrino energy. Around  $10^\circ$  in the relevant energy range for tomography.*



# Track reconstruction

## Direction:

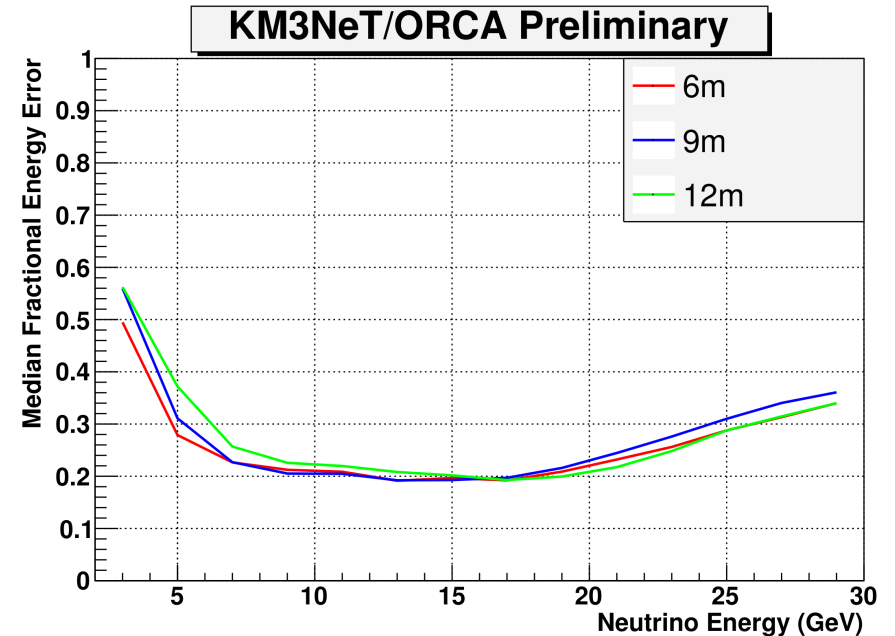
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*Energy resolution obtained for  $\nu_\mu$ -CC, as a function of the neutrino energy. Around 30% in the relevant energy range for tomography.*

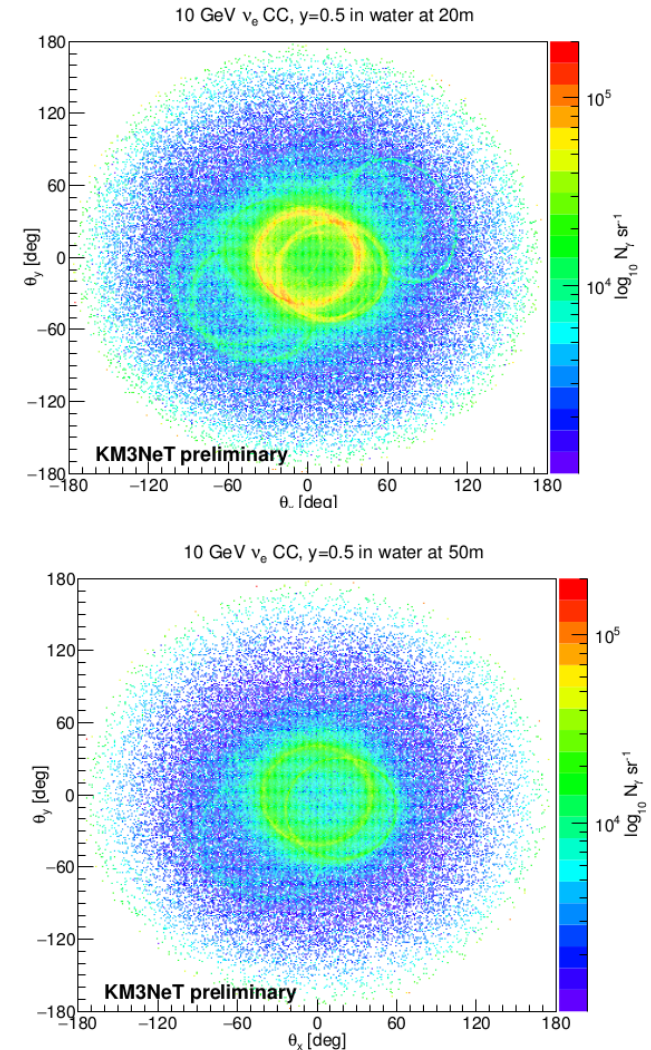
# Shower reconstruction

## Vertex:

- Maximum likelihood fit based on hit times PDF

## Direction, energy and Bjorken $y$

- Joint PDF depending on the number of hits and their distribution in the detector
- Looks for the Cherenkov rings of the electron and/or the hadronic shower (see figures below)
- Reconstructs the direction of the electron (when present)



*Figure: photon distribution from  
a  $\nu_e \text{CC}$  event with  $y = 0.5$   
top: at 20m  
bottom: at 50 m*

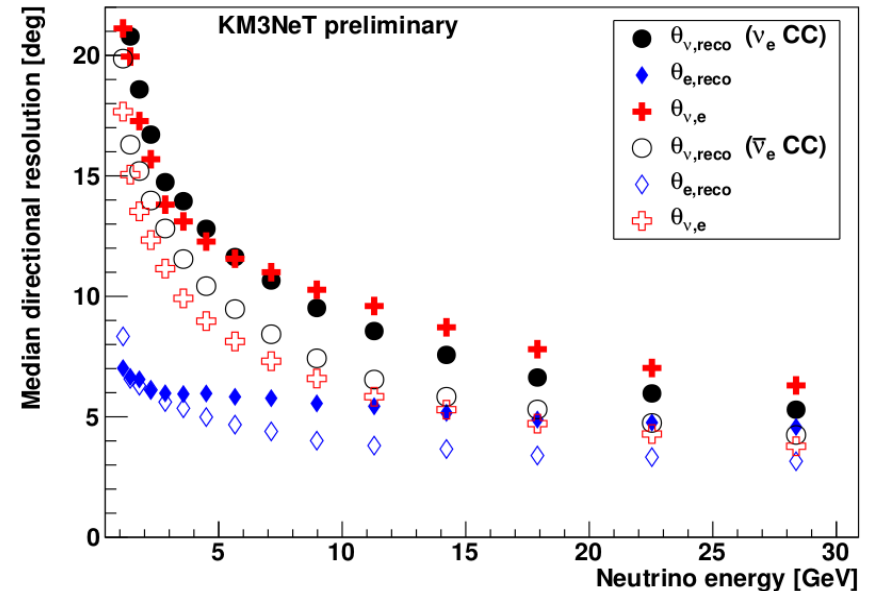
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- Joint PDF depending on the number of hits and their distribution in the detector
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*Angular resolution obtained for  $\nu_e$ -CC, as a function of the neutrino energy. Around  $10^\circ$  in the relevant energy range.*

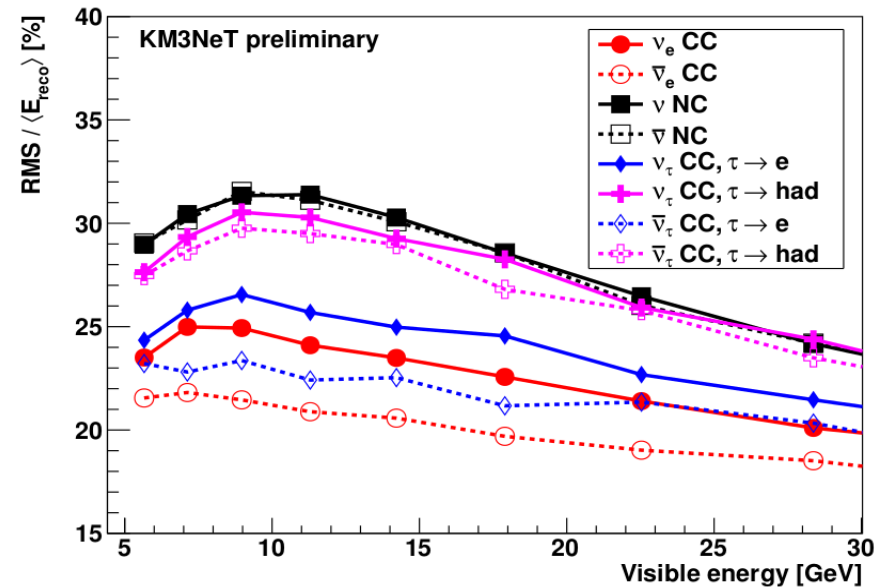
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## Vertex:

- Maximum likelihood fit based on hit times PDF

## Direction, energy and Bjorken $y$

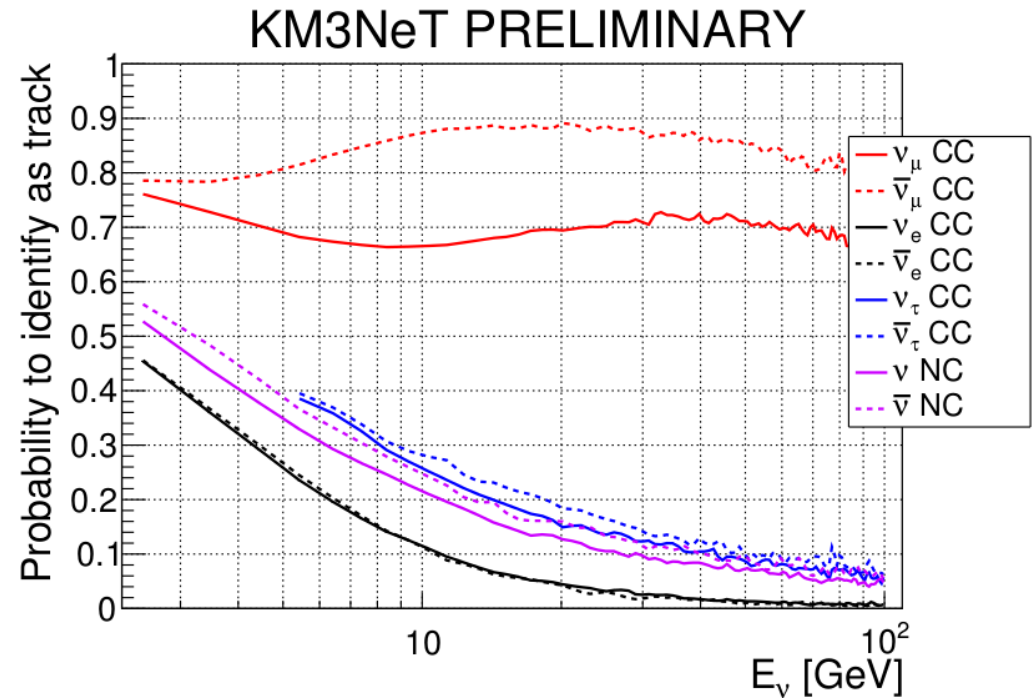
- Joint PDF depending on the number of hits and their distribution in the detector
- Looks for the Cherenkov rings of the electron and/or the hadronic shower (see figures below)
- Reconstructs the direction of the electron (when present)



*Energy resolution obtained for shower events, as a function of the neutrino energy. Around 25% in the relevant energy range.*

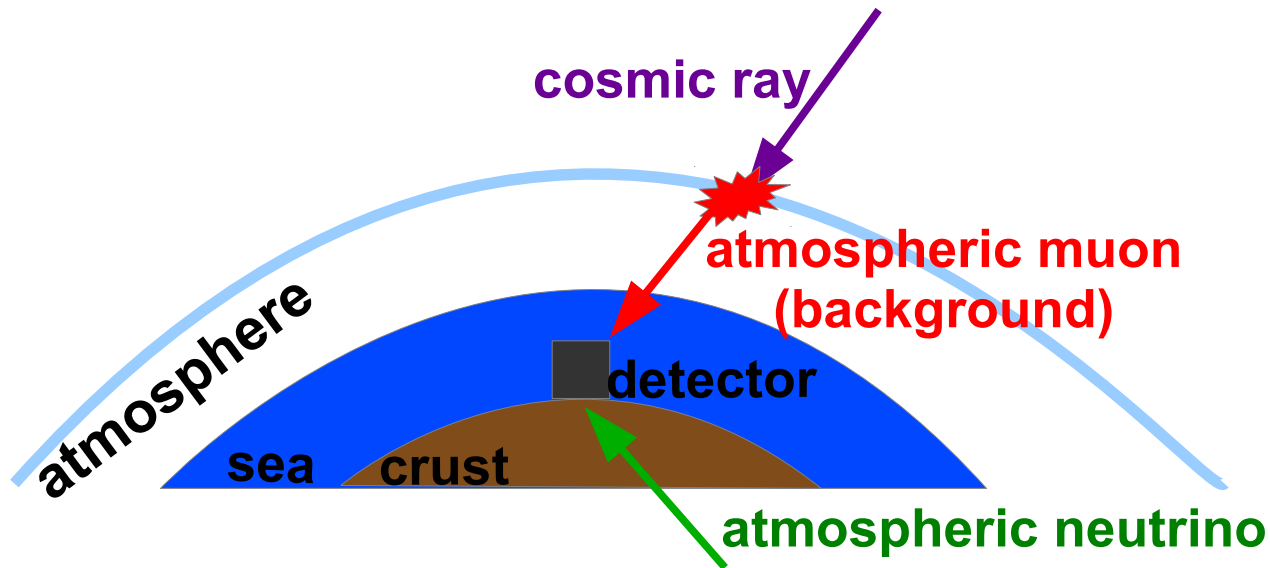
# Particle Identification

- Discern between track and shower-type events
- Random Decision Forest trained on MC events
- e-like CC events better than 80% above 6 GeV
- $\mu$ -like CC events around 80% (better for anti- $\nu_\mu$ )

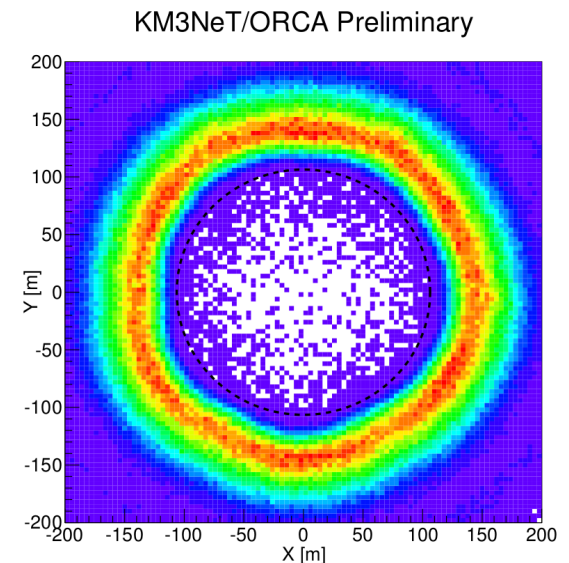
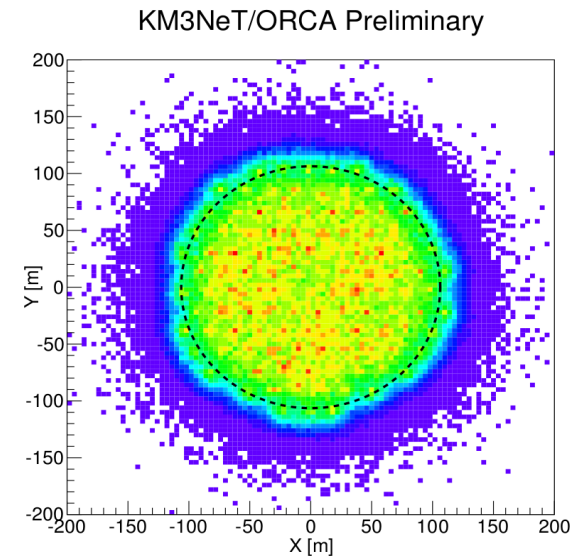


*Probability that the PID algorithm identifies an event as a track as a function of the true neutrino energy. The lines denote different interaction types.*

# Atmospheric muon rejection



- Atmospheric muons can be reconstructed as upgoing  $\rightarrow$  background to the neutrino sample
- Rejection:
  - Select upgoing events
  - Apply quality cuts from reconstruction
  - Pseudo-vertex position (see plots on the right)
  - Boosted Decision Tree
- **A %-level contamination can be achieved without losing too much signal**



*Reconstructed vertex position*  
*top: neutrinos*  
*bottom: atmospheric muons*

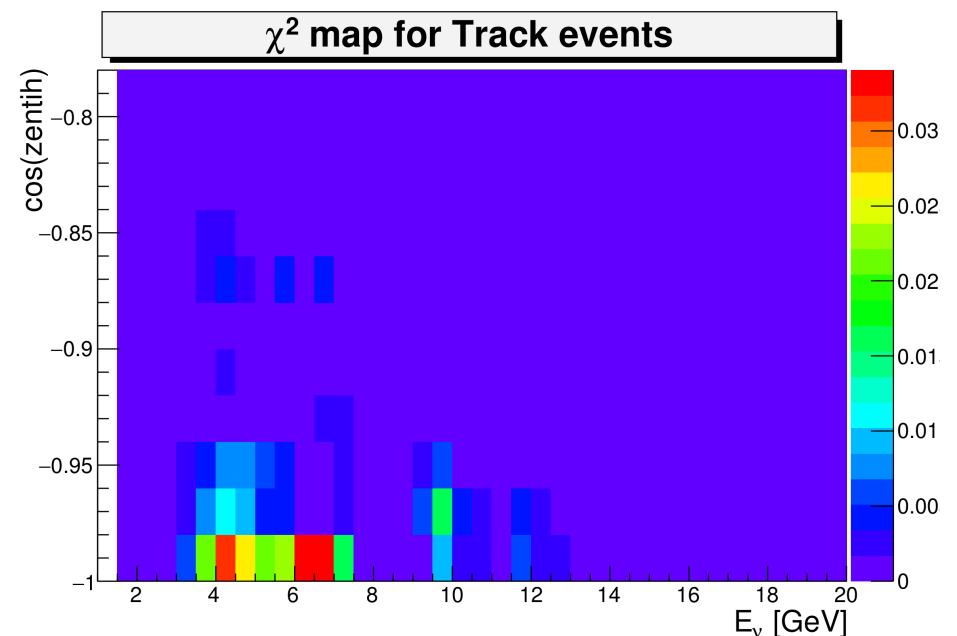
# Application to the Earth tomography

- Used a toy MC tool that can easily create oscillograms of interacting atmospheric neutrinos:
  - Honda flux + GENIE cross sections + GloBES probabilities
  - Applies ORCA resolutions, efficiencies and PID
- Modified PREM Z/A ratios of outer core and compared to the pure iron case

$\chi^2$  map for Track events in the case that:

Model A = pure iron ( $Z/A = 0.4656$  )

Model B = pure iron + 5wt% H ( $Z/A = 0.4920$  )





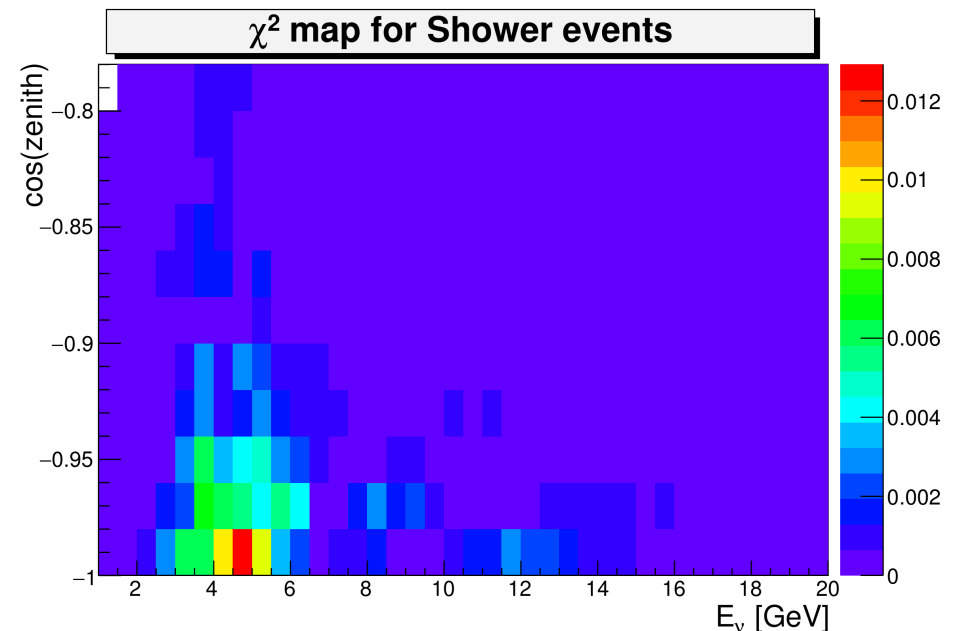
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$\chi^2$  map for Shower events in the case that:

Model A = pure iron ( $Z/A = 0.4656$  )

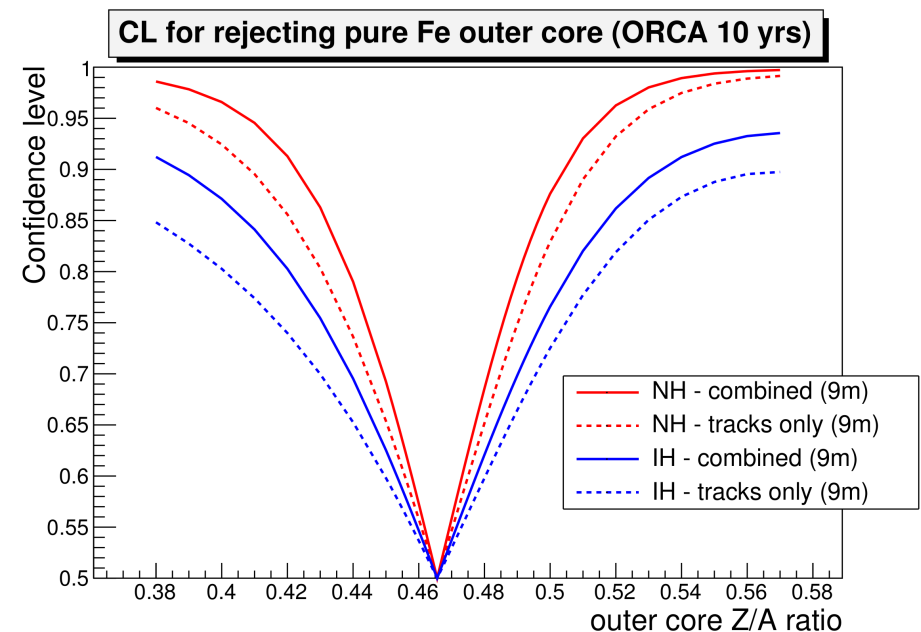
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Oscillation parameters from:  
Gonzalez-Garcia, M.C. et al. JHEP  
1212 (2012) 123 arXiv:1209.3023



# Summary

- The forthcoming KM3NeT/ORCA will study neutrino oscillations and will have some potential for conducting Earth tomography studies
- The current framework is preliminary and will be improved in the next future: one PhD student (Simon Bourret) and one post-doc (Joao Coelho) on this subject at APC!
  - Implement a new type of analysis based on pseudo experiments
  - Add systematic uncertainties
- Finding out plausible models on the market that can be potentially excluded: also exotic ones, non  $\phi$ -symmetric, etc.
- Will continue working on this also in collaboration with our colleagues geologists from IPGP in Paris