Measuring the high-energy astrophysical flux with IceCube

Carlos Argüelles





In-person KITP Seminar Santa Barbara, USA March 17, 2022

How does the Universe look in neutrinos?









How do high-energy neutrinos behave?

Outline of the rest of this talk:

1. Measuring High-Energy Astrophysical Neutrinos

2. Searching for new forces:

-Measuring the Neutrino-Nucleon cross section

3. Searching for dark matter:

-Neutrino-Dark Matter Interactions

4. Searching for a new symmetry:

-Lorentz Violation Effects on Flavor

5.The future



Outline of the rest of this talk:

1. Measuring High-Energy Astrophysical Neutrinos

2. Searching for new forces:

-Measuring the Neutrino-Nucleon cross section

3. Searching for dark matter:

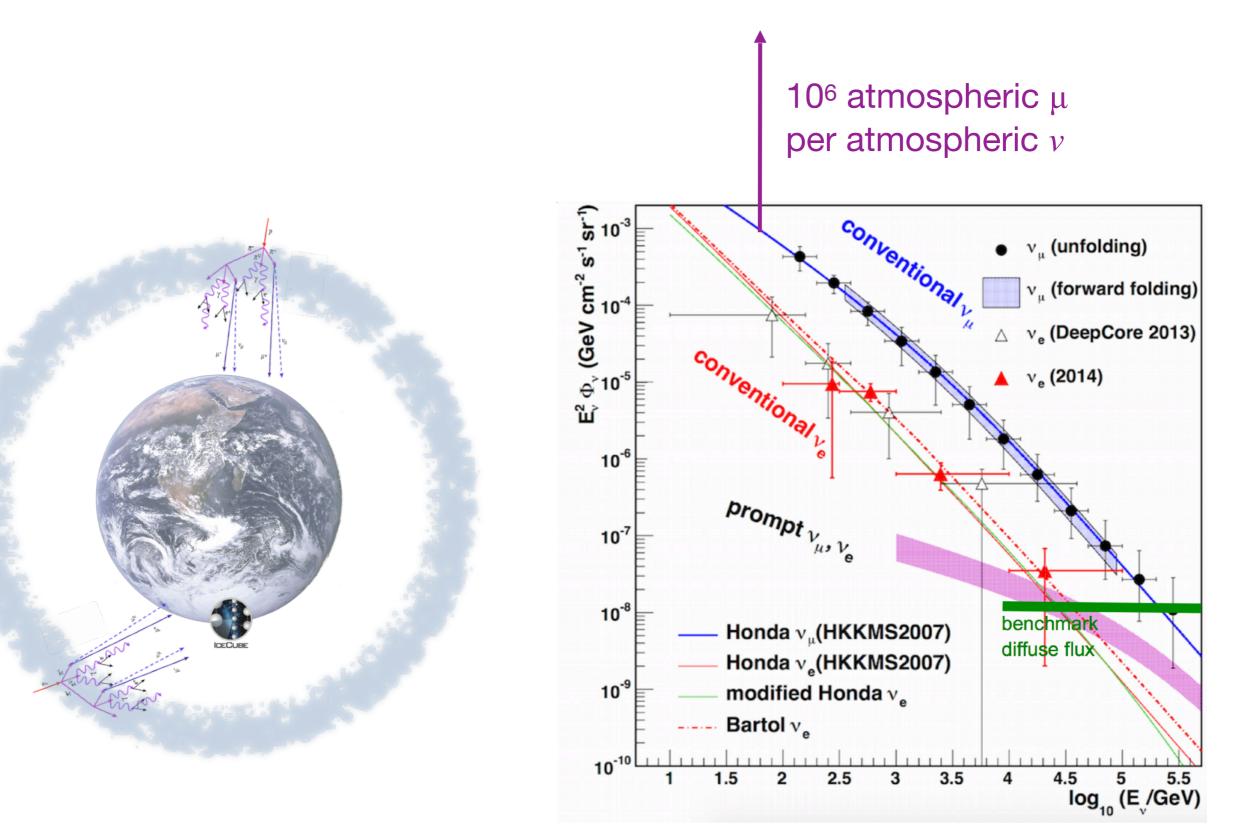
-Neutrino-Dark Matter Interactions

4. Searching for a new symmetry:

-Lorentz Violation Effects on Flavor

5.The future

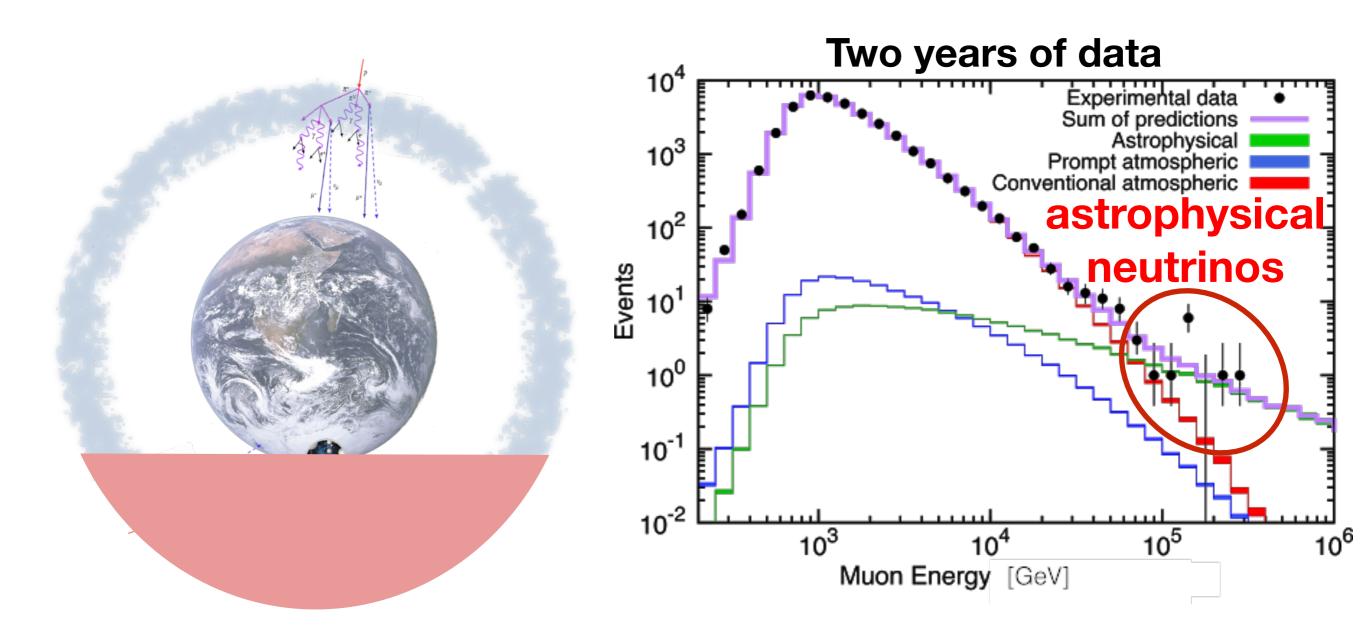




Challenges:

Astrophysical neutrino flux is very small Large atmospheric neutrino and muon backgrounds

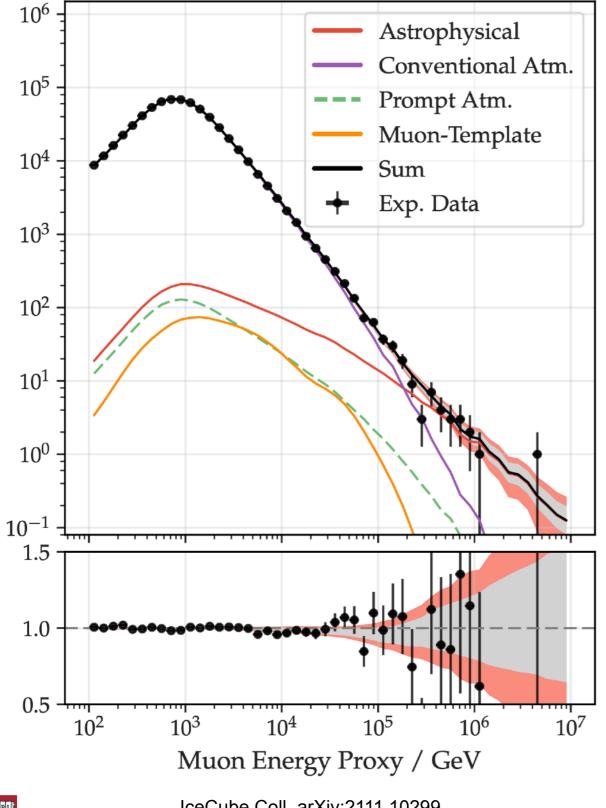
Strategy One: look at the Northern Sky



Strategy:

Use the Earth to block the large atmospheric muon flux
 Look at the highest energy where the atmospheric neutrino flux is smallest

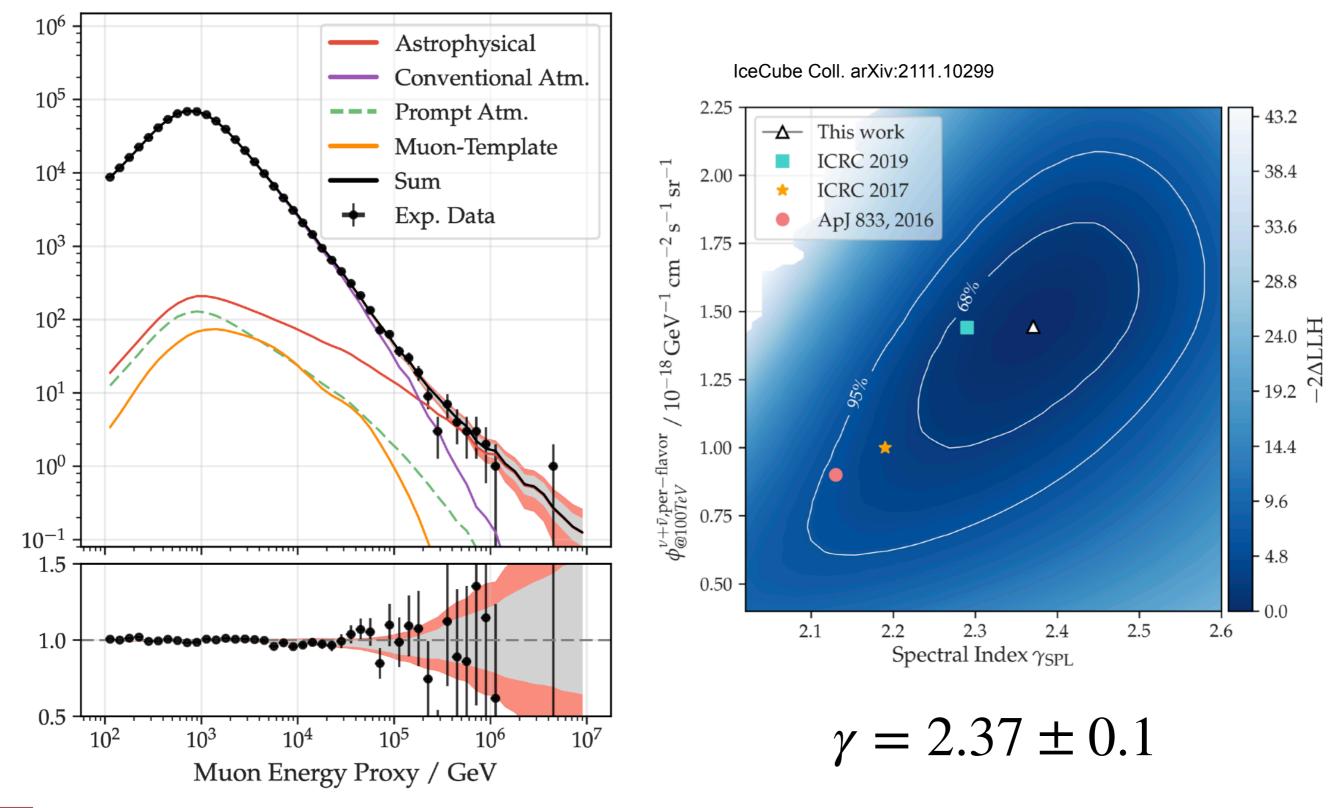
9.5 years of northern-sky neutrinos show consistent excess over atmospheric background



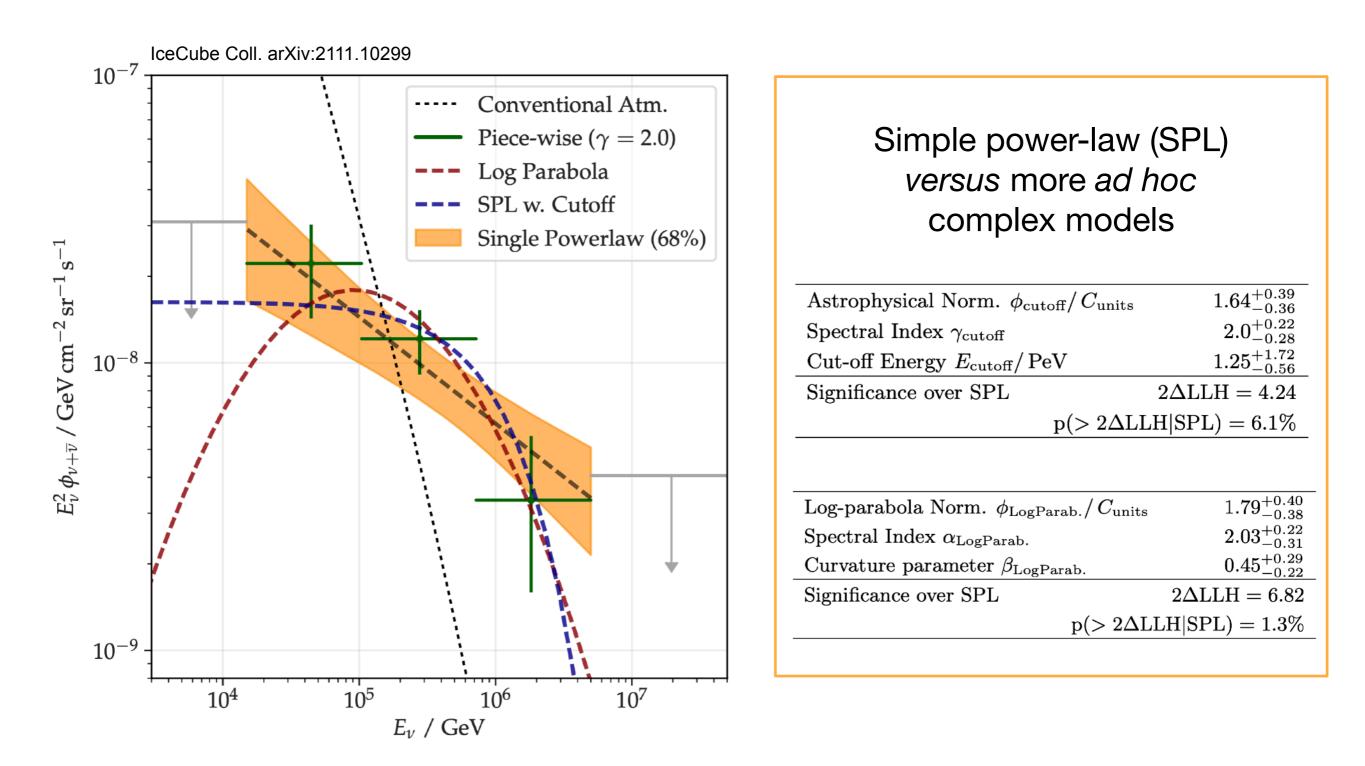


IceCube Coll. arXiv:2111.10299

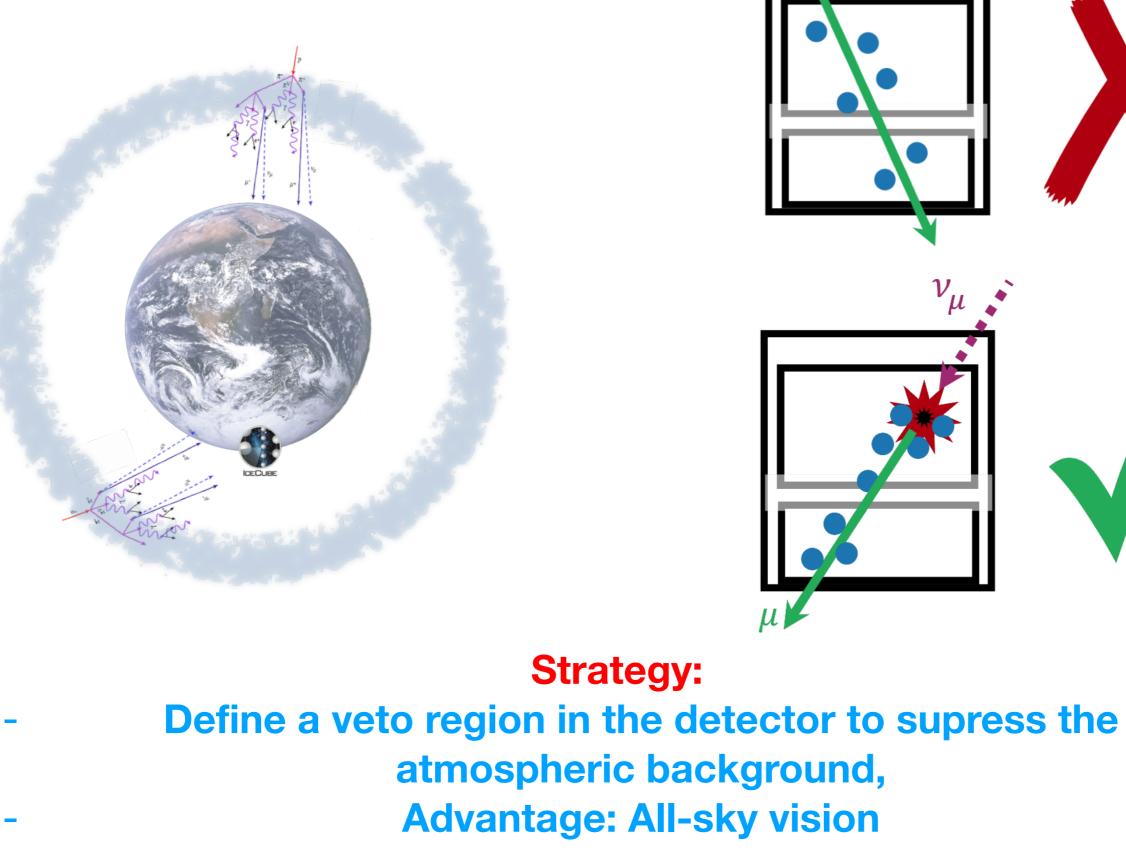
9.5 years of northern-sky neutrinos show consistent excess over atmospheric background



9.5 years of northern-sky neutrinos show consistent excess over atmospheric background



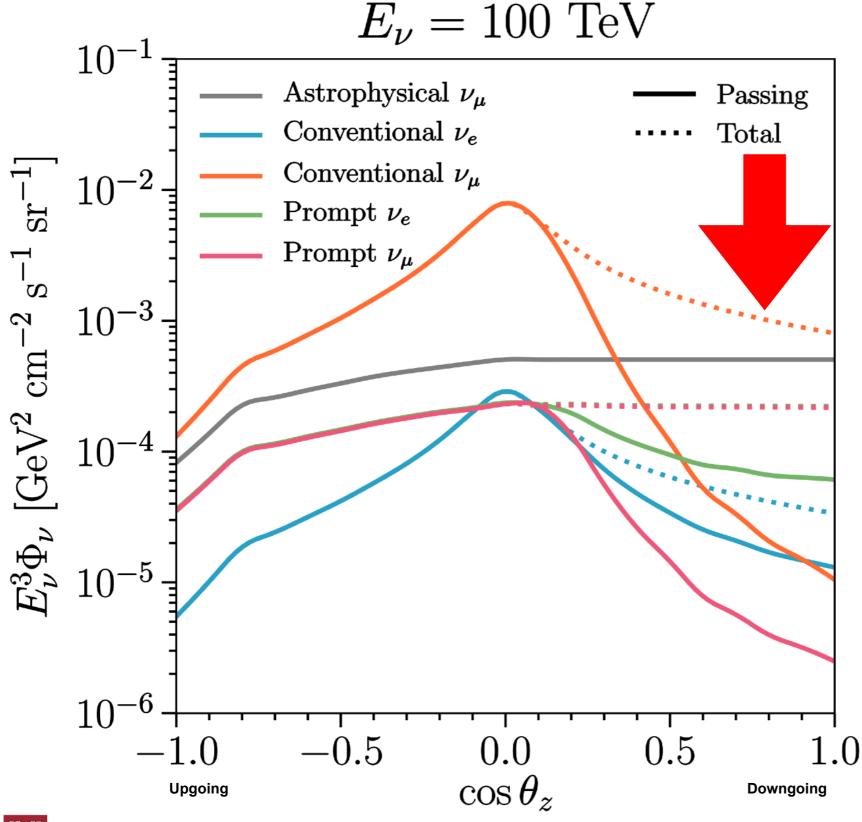
Northern-sky astrophysical neutrino flux is well characterized by single power-law with spectral index: 2.37±0.10



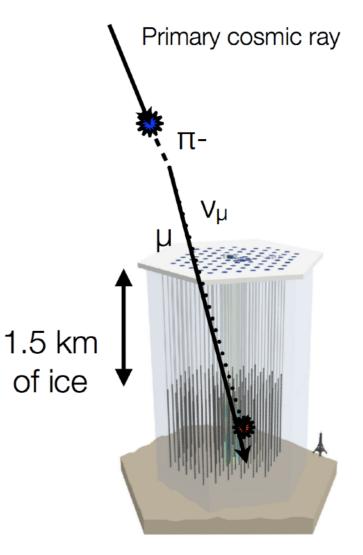
Veto

Strategy Two: Use the other detector as a veto

Coincident muons supress neutrino flux!



An active muon veto removes down-going atmospheric neutrinos.

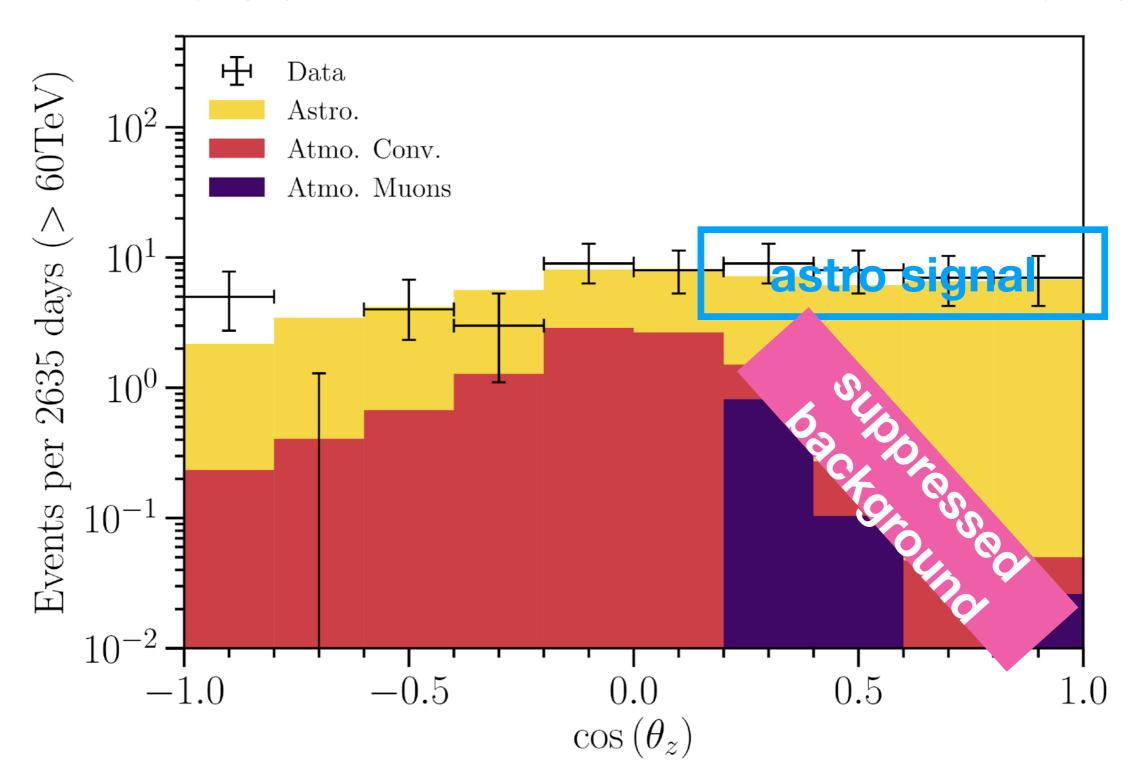


Schönert, Gaisser, Resconi, Schulz Phys. Rev. D 79; 043009(2009) Gaisser, Jero, Karle, van Santen Phys. Rev. D 90; 023009(2014) CA, Palomares-Ruiz, Austin Schneider, Wille, Yuan JCAP 1807 (2018) no.07, 047

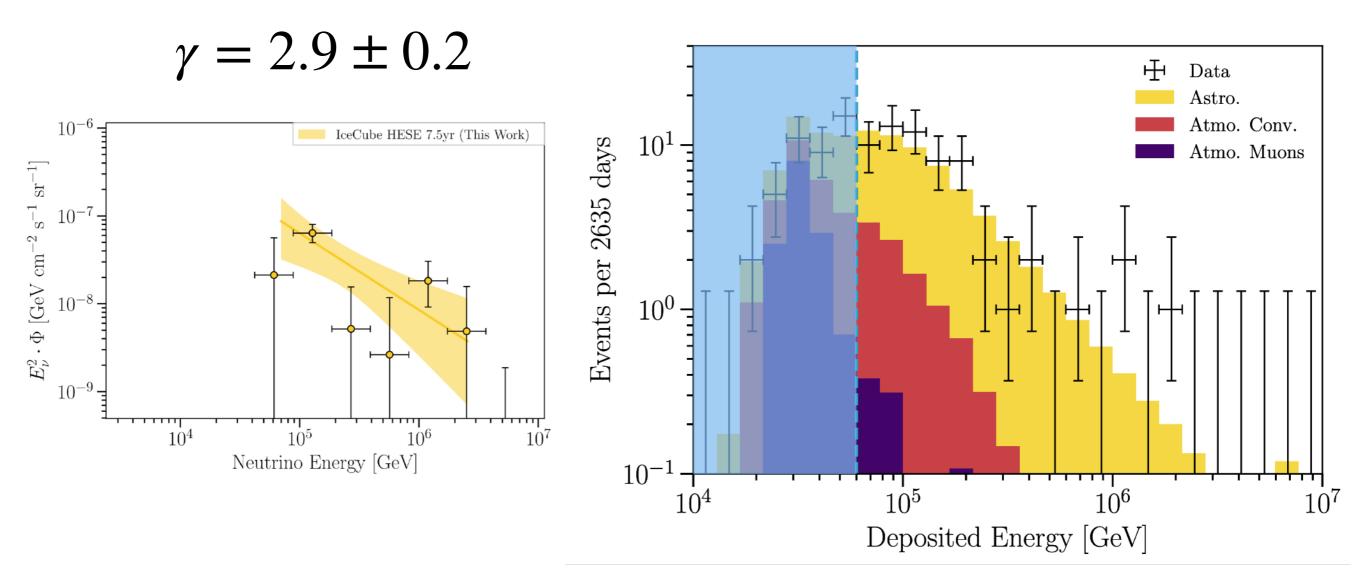
HESE-7.5 years angular distribution

Northern Sky/Up-going

Southern Sky/Down-going



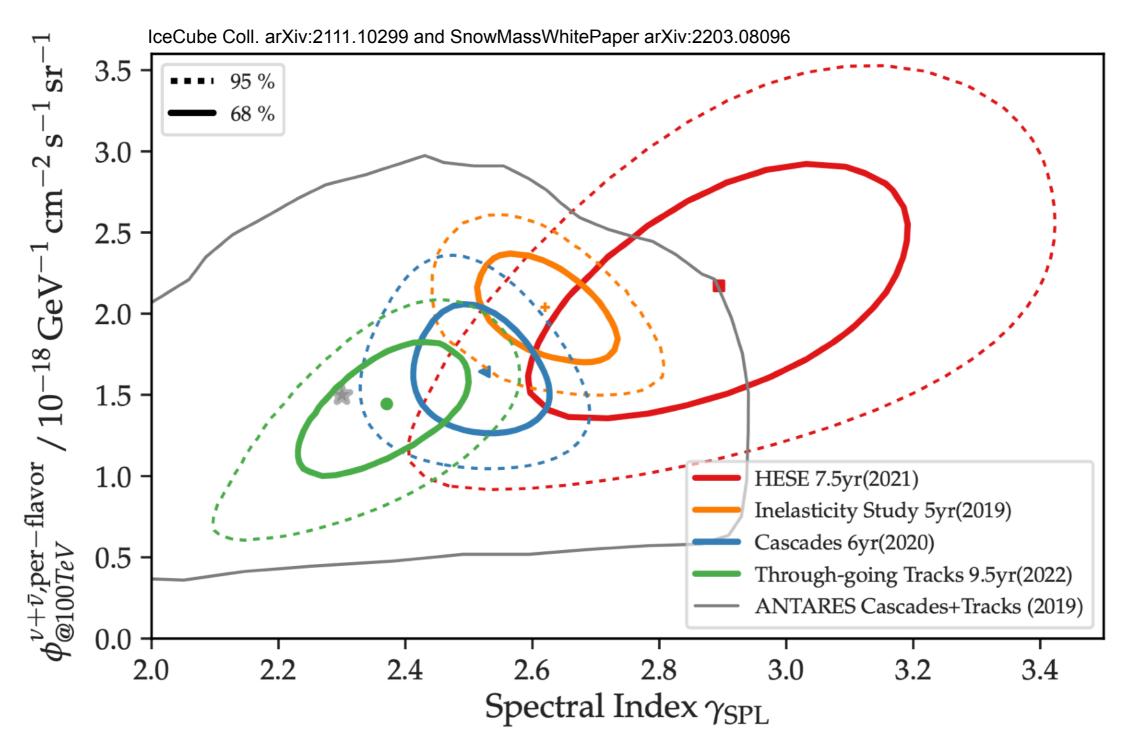
Starting Events Energy Distribution And Inferred Spectrum



High-Energy Starting Events energy distribution is well described by a single power-law,

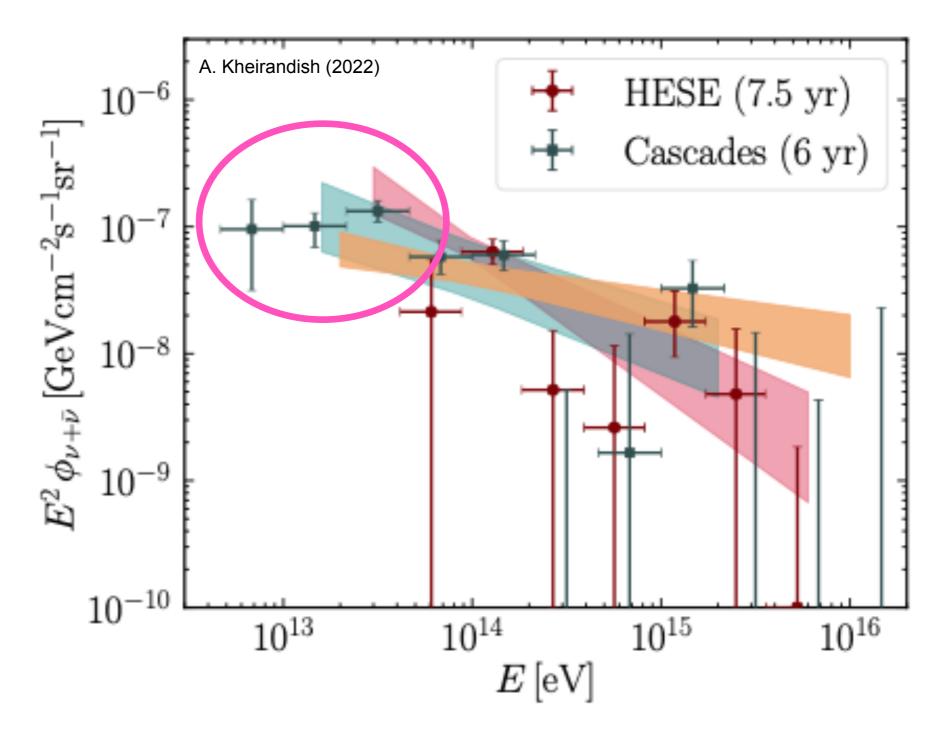
but with a *spectral index softer* than the northern tracks!

Comparison of different single power-law spectra



- Shower power (hep-ph/0409046): Cascade-only event selections also produce very pure astrophysical neutrino samples!
- Multiyear cascade analysis extends to TeV energies, yields a harder spectrum. Restricting this above 60 TeV, HESE spectrum is recovered.
- First hints of a diffuse component in the ANTARES data!

Trying to go beyond a Power Law ...



Sample size is not large enough to infer a specific pattern.
 Small hint of hardening below 60 TeV. LogParabola spectra?

Outline of the rest of this talk:

1. Measuring High-Energy Astrophysical Neutrinos

2. Searching for new forces:

-Measuring the Neutrino-Nucleon cross section

3. Searching for dark matter:

-Neutrino-Dark Matter Interactions

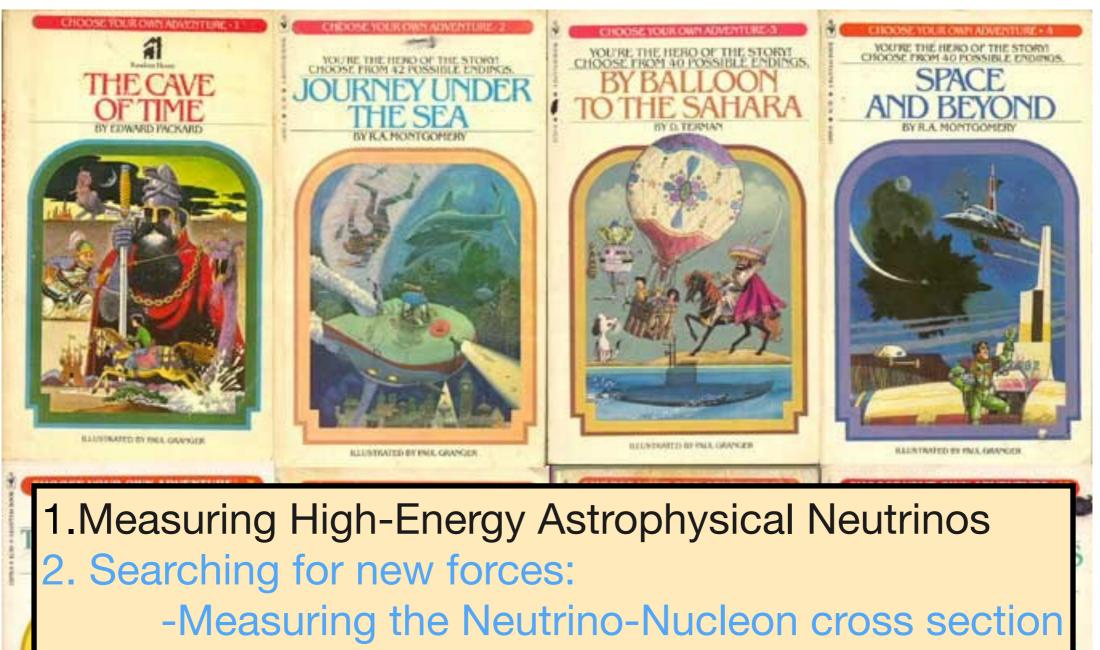
4. Searching for a new symmetry:

-Lorentz Violation Effects on Flavor

5.The future



Choose your own adventure!



- 3. Searching for dark matter:
 - -Neutrino-Dark Matter Interactions
- 4. Searching for a new symmetry:
 - -Lorentz Violation Effects on Flavor
- 5.The future

Outline of the rest of this talk:

1. Measuring High-Energy Astrophysical Neutrinos

2. Searching for new forces:

-Measuring the neutrino cross section

3. Searching for dark matter:

-Neutrino-Dark Matter Interactions

4. Searching for a new symmetry:

-Lorentz Violation Effects on Flavor

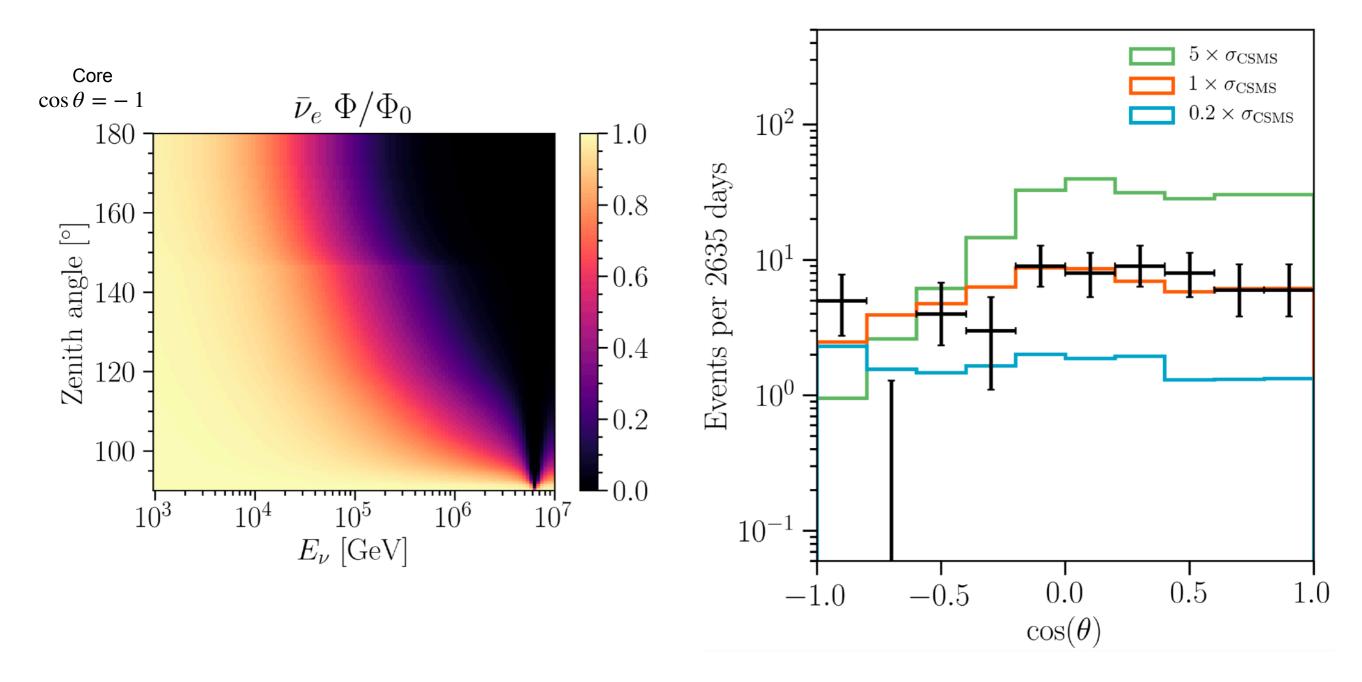
5.The future



20

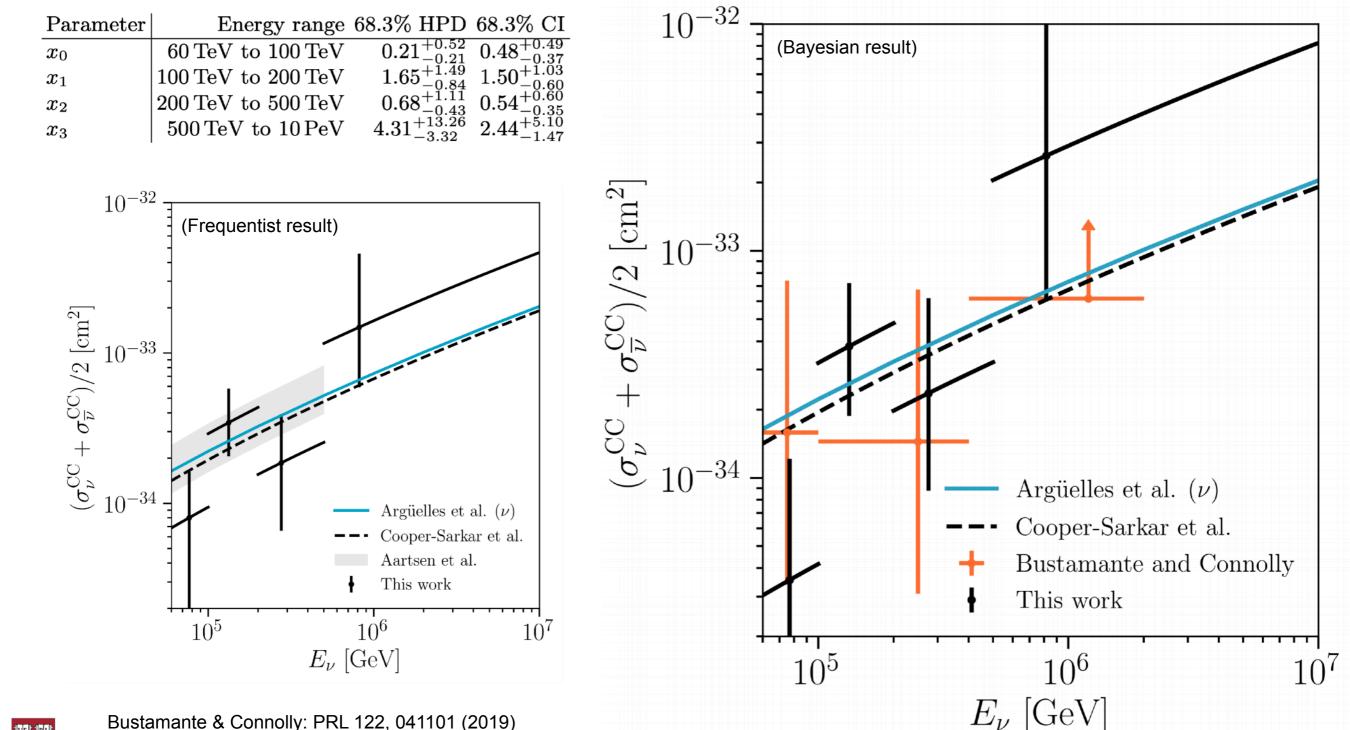
We can use the Earth opacity to infer the neutrino deep-inelastic cross section*

*or the Earth column density see Donini et al Nature Physics 15, 37-40 (2019)



CSMS: is a NLO pQCD reference calculation of the neutrino-nucleon cross section, Cooper-Sarkar et al, JHEP 08 (2011) 042. See also A. Garcia et al JCAP 09 (2020) 025; CA, F. Halzen, L. Wille, M. Kroll, MH Reno, Phys. Rev. D92: 074040 (2015); A. Connolly *et al* Phys. Rev. D83: 113009,2011; R. Gandhi et al. Astropart. Phys. 5: 81-110 (1996).

Measurements of the Neutrino Cross Section With Starting Events



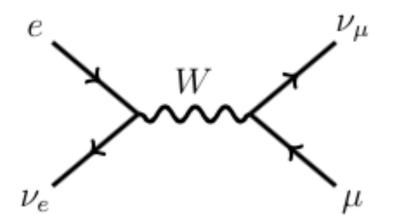
Bustal Argüe Coope

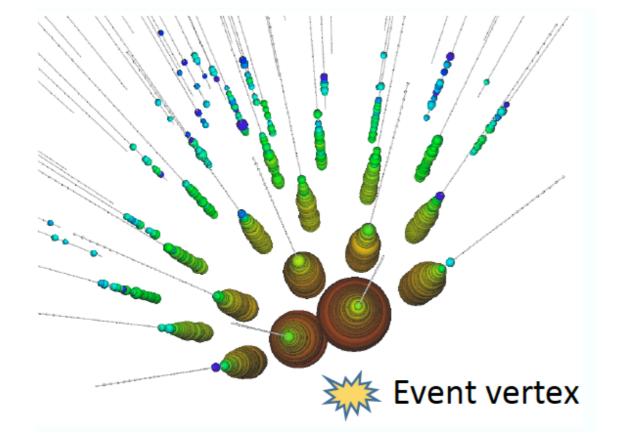
Bustamante & Connolly: PRL 122, 041101 (2019) Argüelles: Phys. Rev. D92: 074040 (2015) Cooper-Sarkar: JHEP 08 (2011) 042

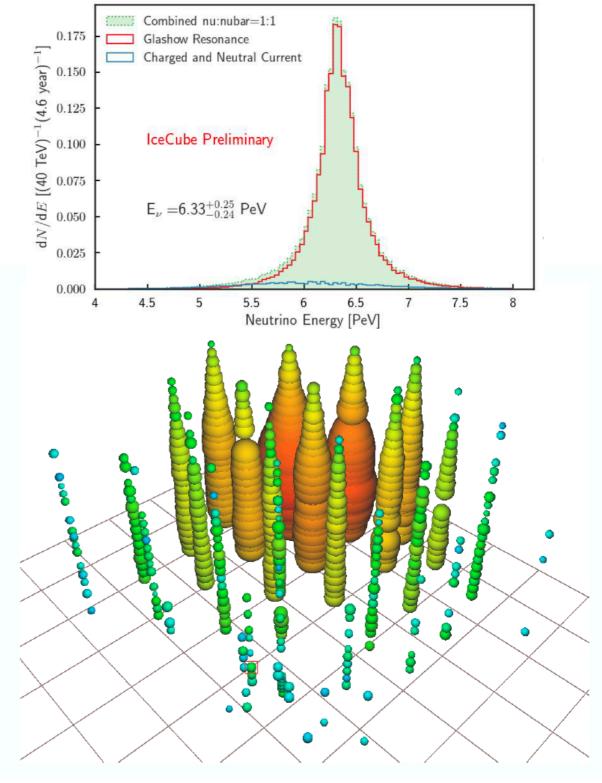
The first Glashow resonance event:

anti- v_e + atomic electron \rightarrow real W at 6.3 PeV

Resonant production of a weak intermediate boson by an anti-electron neutrino interacting with an atomic electron







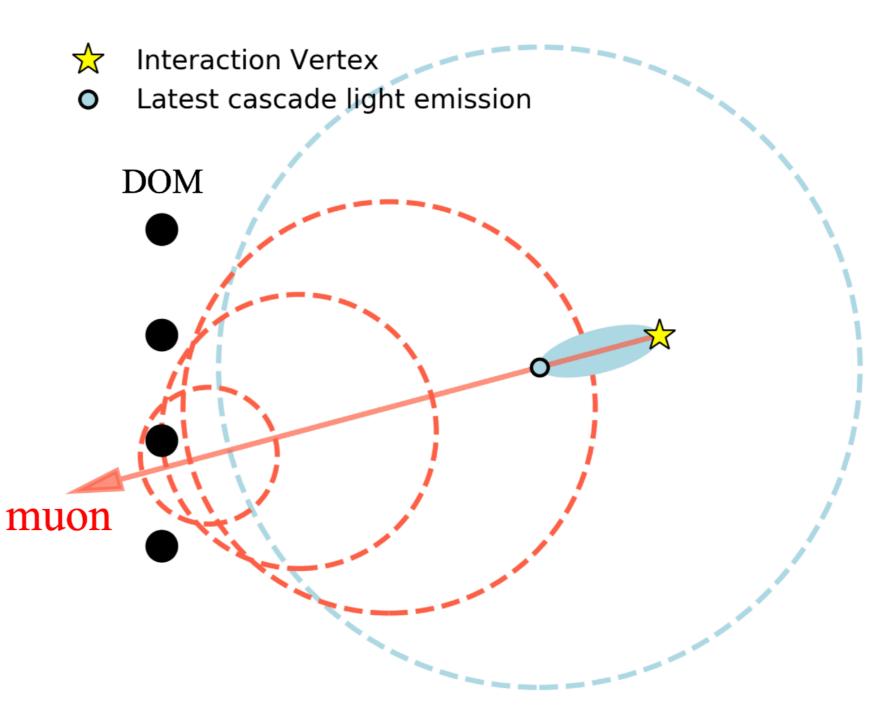
W production or background?

Signal: hadronic (quark-antiquark decay of the W)

Or

Background: electromagnetic shower radiated by a high energy background cosmic-ray muon

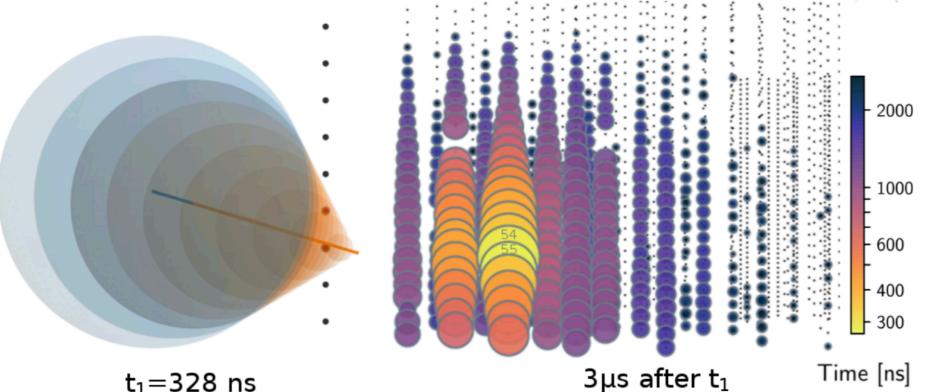
muons from pions (v=c) outrace the light propagating in ice that is produced by the electromagnetic component (v<c)



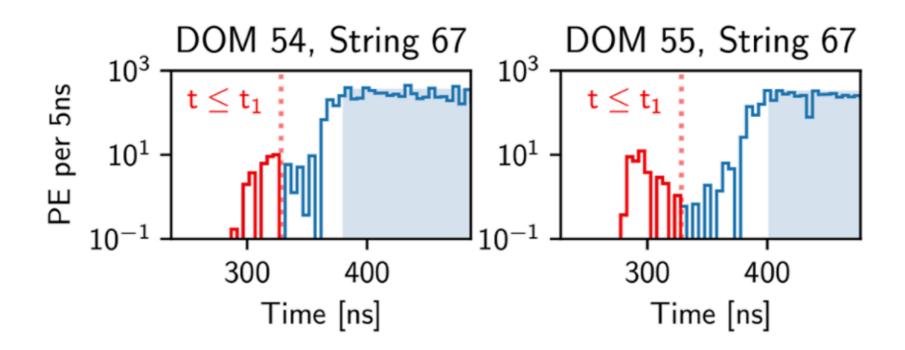


Hadronic shower from W-decay:

Early muons followed by electromagnetic shower



t₁=328 ns



Outline of the rest of this talk:

1. Measuring High-Energy Astrophysical Neutrinos

2. Searching for new forces:

-Measuring the neutrino cross section

3. Searching for dark matter:

-Neutrino-Dark Matter Interactions

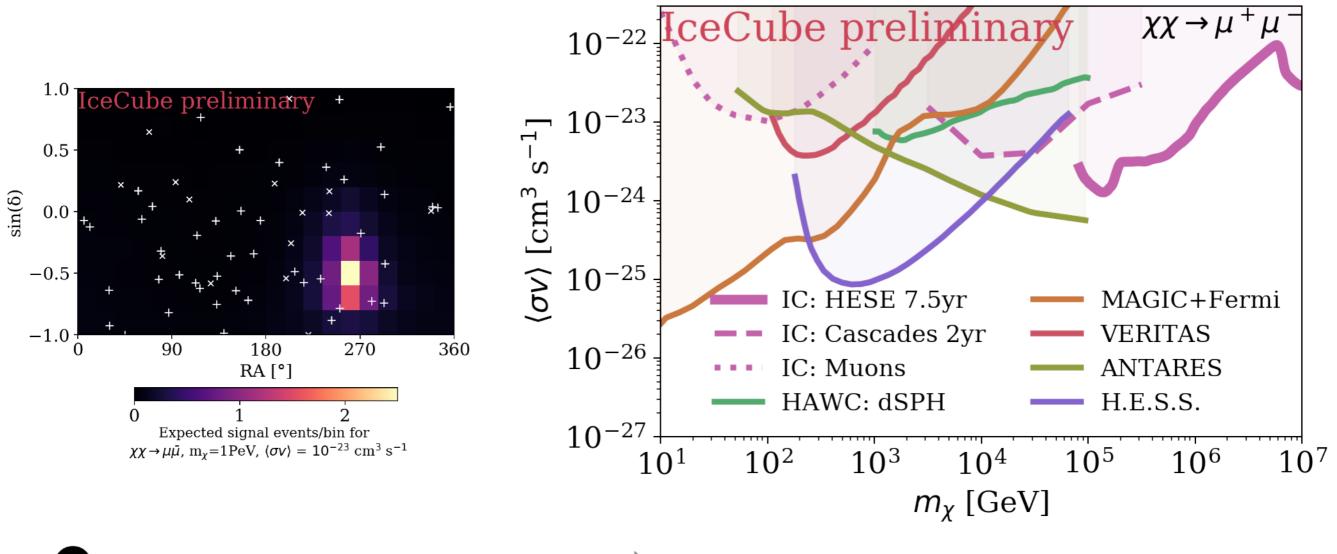
4. Searching for a new symmetry:

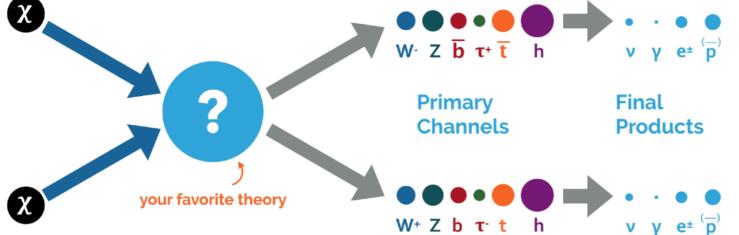
-Lorentz Violation Effects on Flavor

5.The future



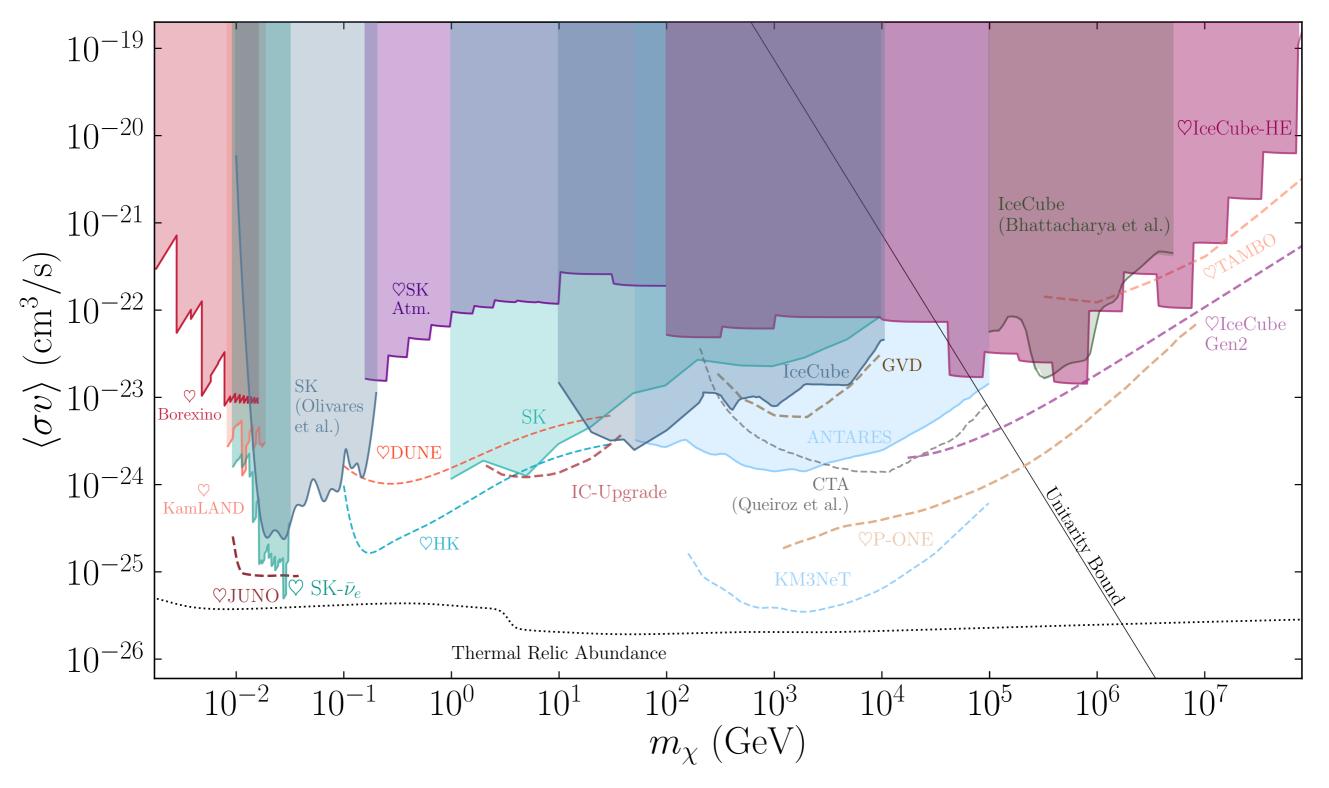
Dark matter annihilation





CA, H. Dujmovic arXiv 1907.11193. See also Dekker et al 1910.12917; Chianese et al. 1907.11222; Sui & Bhupal Dev 1804.04919; Feldstein et al 1303.7320; Murase et al 1503.04663, Murase & Beacom 1206.2595 ...

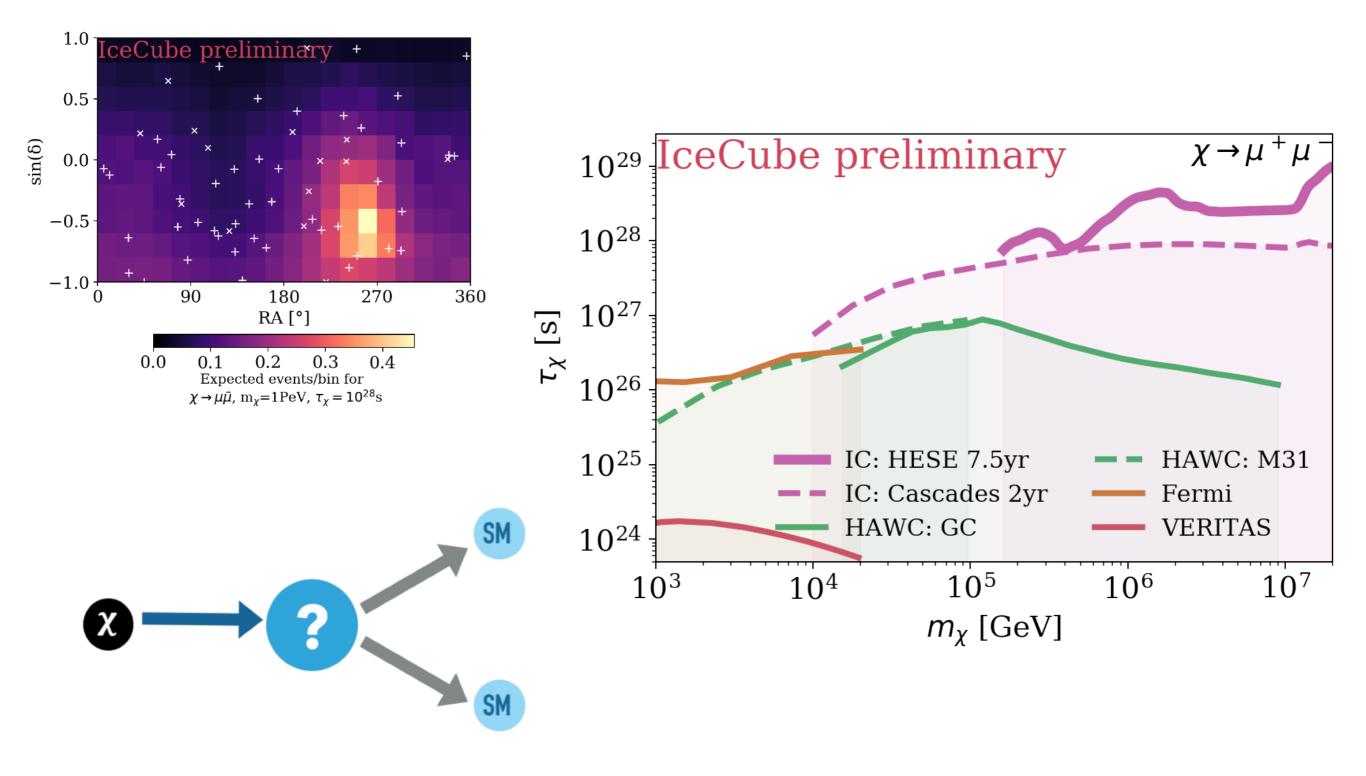
And many more measurements ...



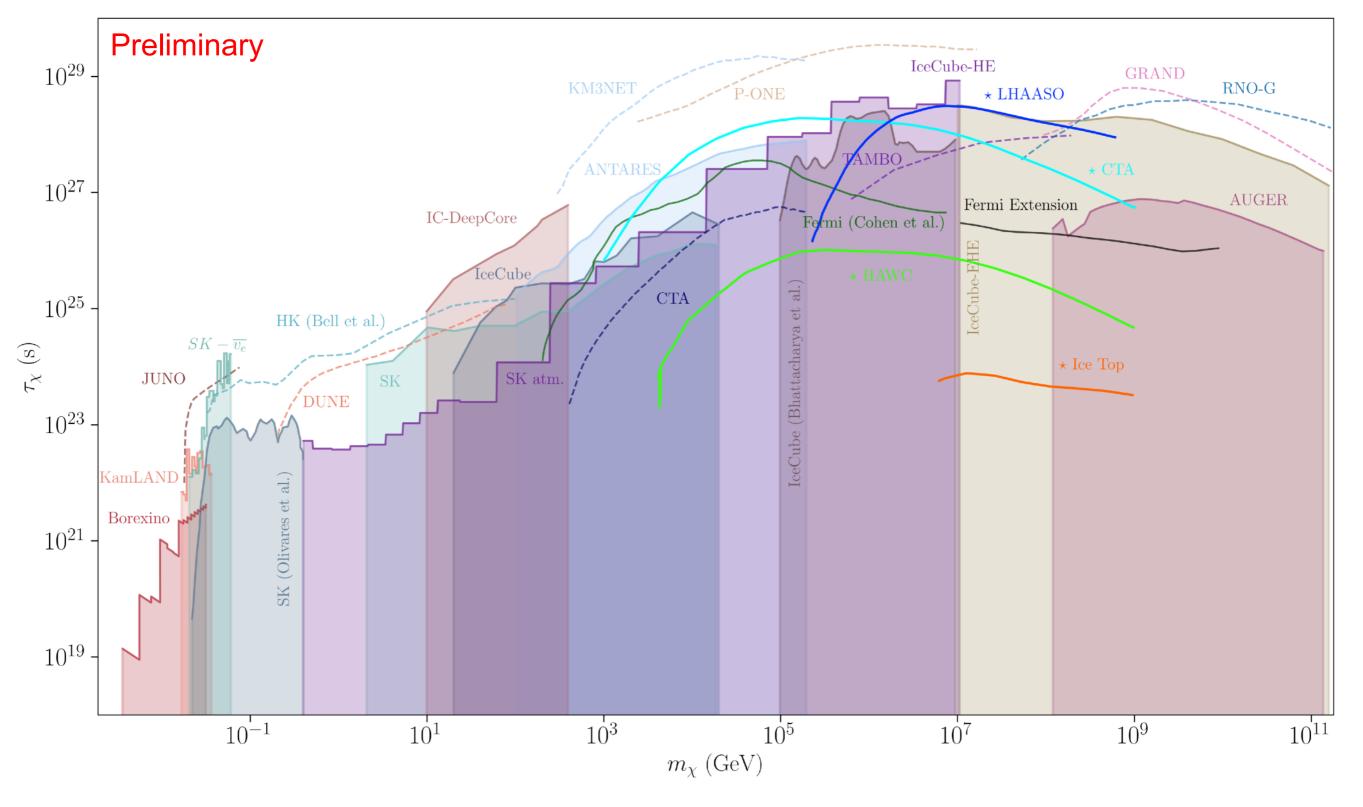
CA, A. Diaz, A. Kheirandish, A. Olivares-Del-Campo, I. Safa, A.C. Vincent *Rev. Mod. Phys.* 93, 35007 (2021); See also Beacom et al. *PRL* 99: 231301, 2007. 29

VERI

Dark matter decay



And many more measurements ...





CA, D. Delgado, A. Friedlander, A. Kheirandish, I. Safa, A.C. Vincent, H. White to appear soon...

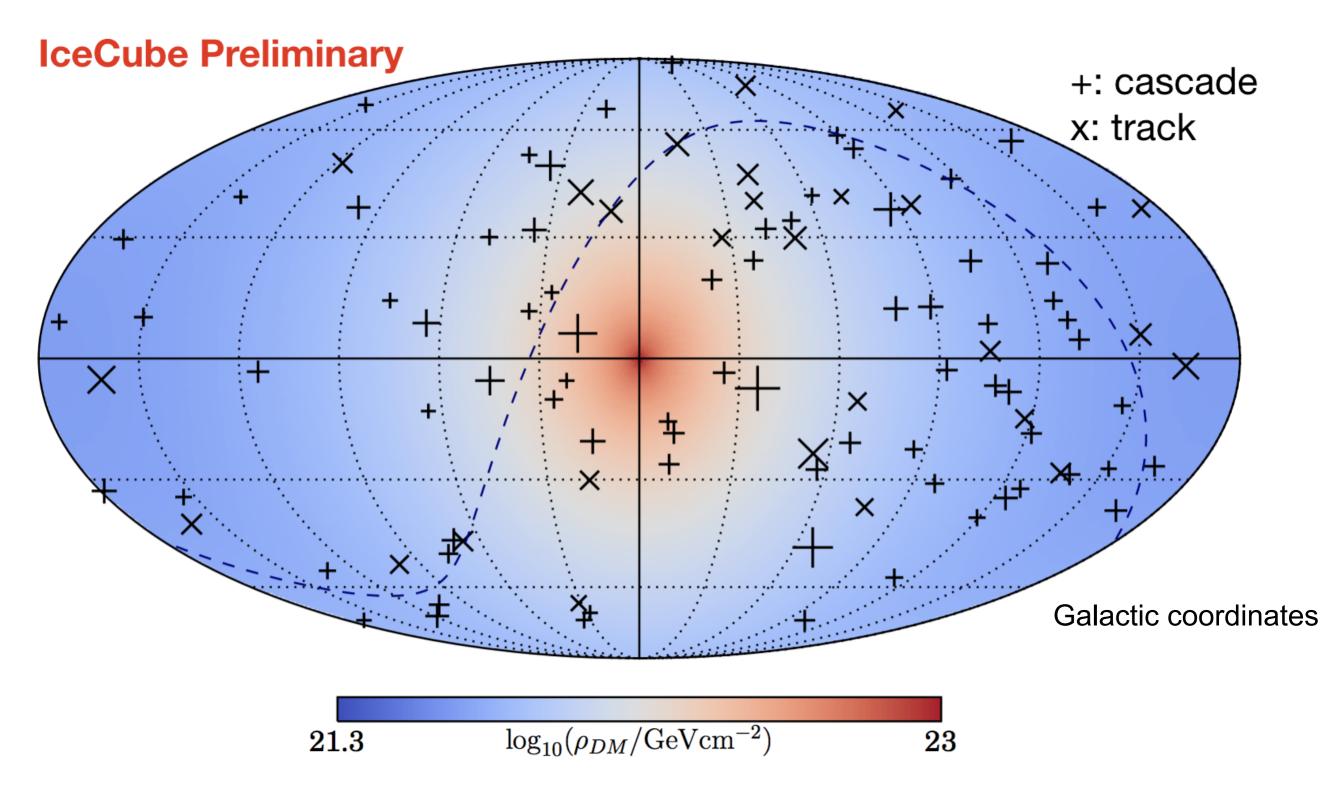
Dark matter neutrino scattering

DM-v interaction will result in scattering of neutrinos from extragalactic sources, leading to *anisotropy* of diffuse neutrino flux.



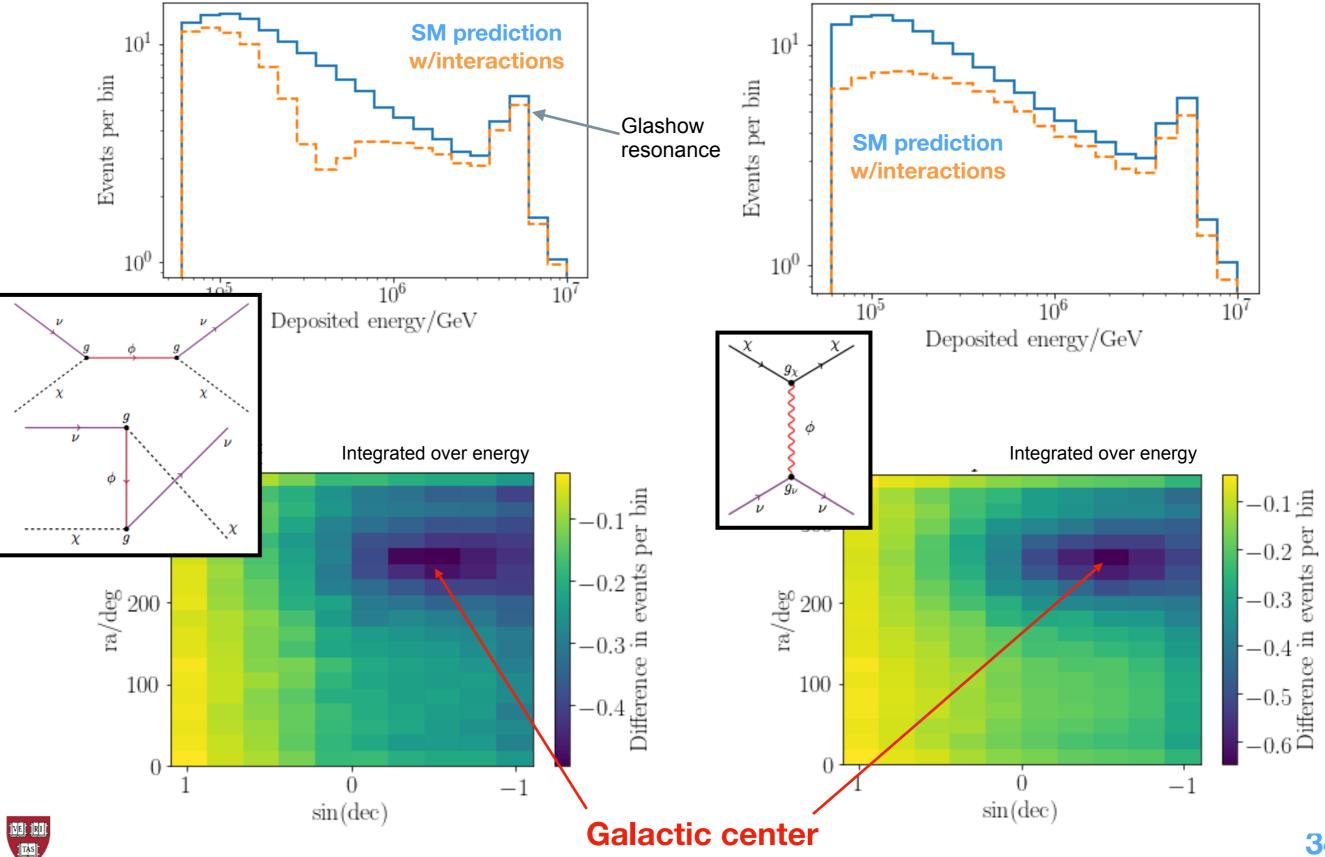


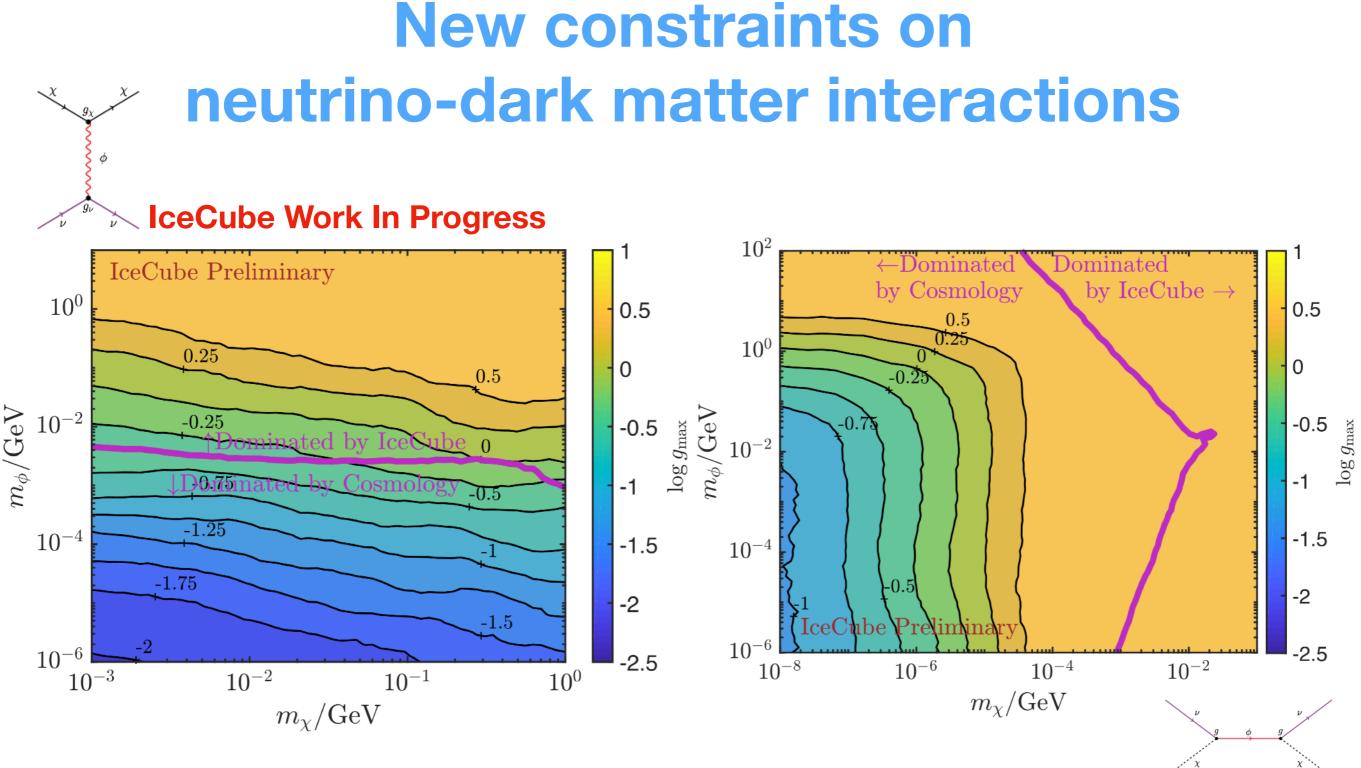
HESE Neutrino skymap



I<u>VE</u>L IRUL I<u>TAS</u> Events are compatible with an isotropic distribution: found no signal!

Also include effects in energy and direction





Color scale is the maximum allowed coupling.

Cosmological bounds using Large Scale Structure from Escudero et al 2016

IVEL IRI ITASIχ

Outline of the rest of this talk:

- 1. Neutrinos in IceCube
- 2. Measuring High-Energy Astrophysical Neutrinos
- 3. Searching for new forces:

-Measuring the Neutrino-Nucleon cross section

4. Searching for dark matter:

-Neutrino-Dark Matter Interactions

5. Searching for a new symmetry:

-Lorentz Violation Effects on Flavor

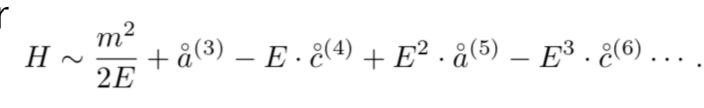
6.The future

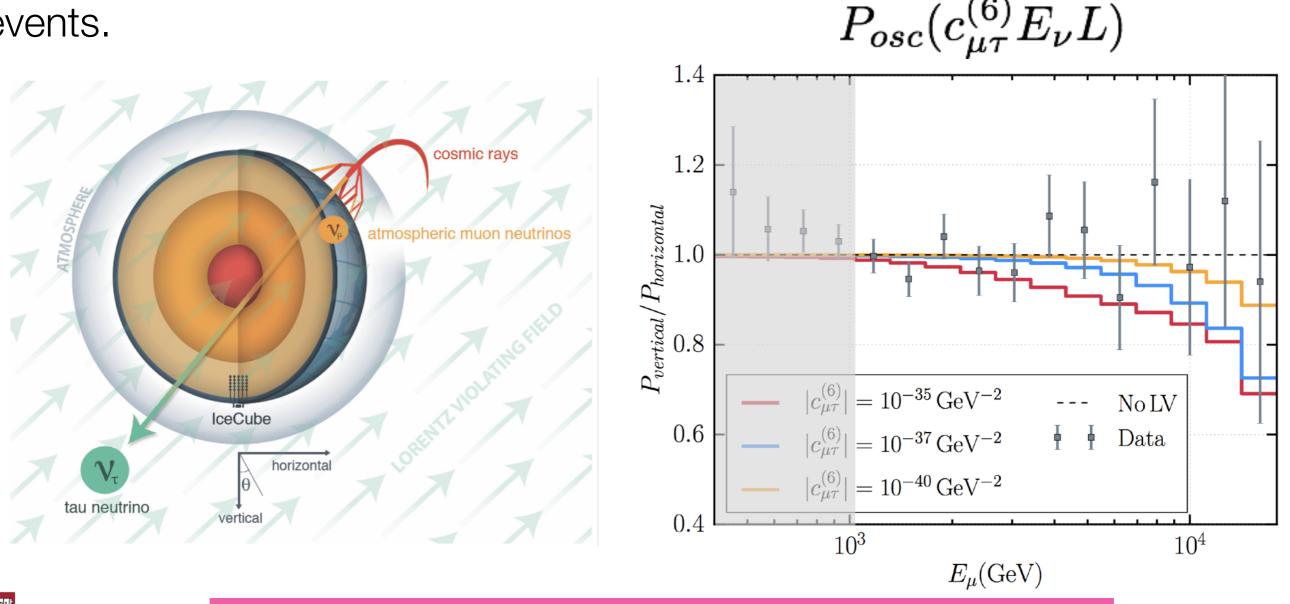


36

Search for Lorentz Violation with High-energy Atmospheric Neutrinos

The analysis sensitivity, especially for high-dimensional operators, is dominated by the highest-energy events.



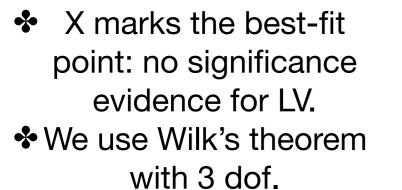


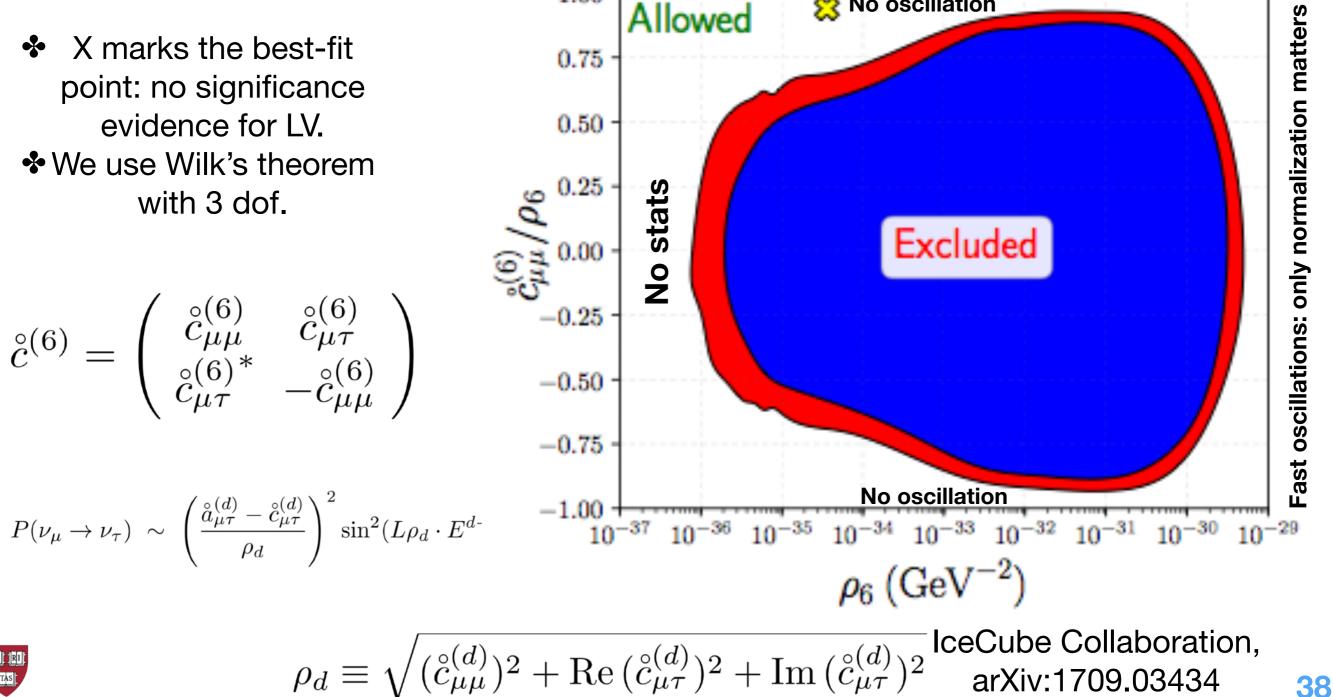
Lorentz violation changes the ratio of horizontal to vertical events.

Anatomy of the dim-6 $H \sim \frac{m^2}{2E} - E^3 \cdot \mathring{c}^{(6)}$ operator constraint

🔀 No oscillation

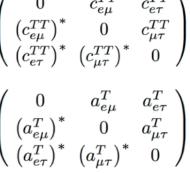
1.00



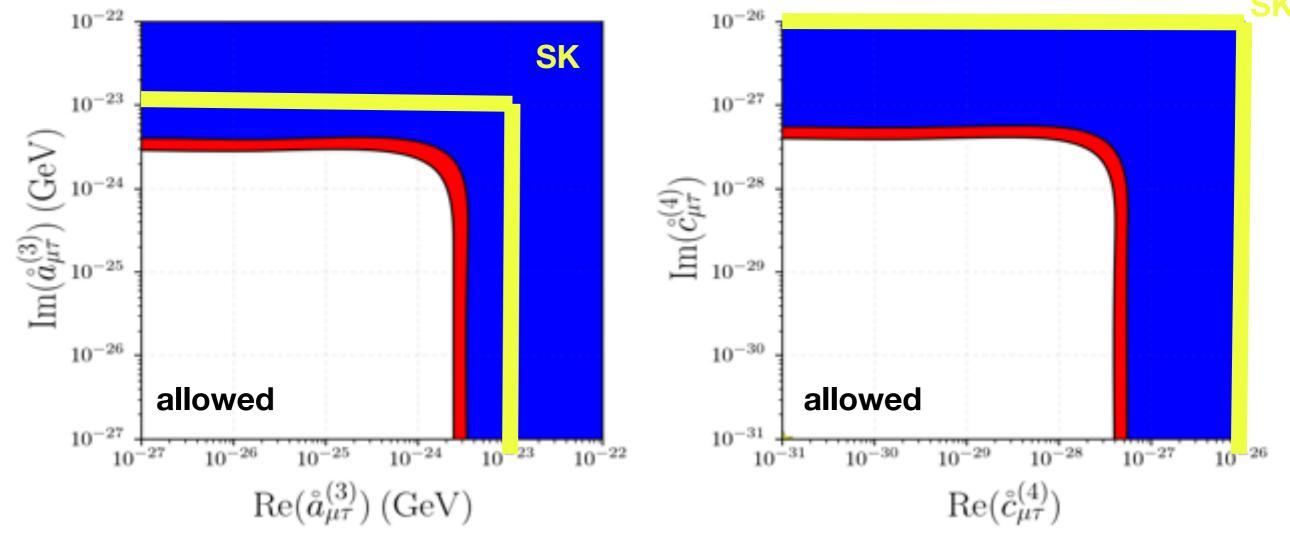


Our results in the maximum-flavor-
violating assumption $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & c_e^T \\ (c_e^TT)^* & c_e^T \end{pmatrix}$

Maximum flavor violation = set diagonal terms to zero. (same assumption as SK)



SuperKamiokande Collaboration. arXiv:1410.4267



Nature Physics (2018) s41567-018-0172-2

White: allowed, red: 90% CL, blue: 99% CL.

é

Leading constraints across several fields of physics

dim.	method	type	sector	limits	ref.
3	CMB polarization	astrophysical	photon	$\sim 10^{-43} { m GeV}$	[6]
	He-Xe comagnetometer	tabletop	neutron	$\sim 10^{-34}~{ m GeV}$	[10]
	torsion pendulum	tabletop	electron	$\sim 10^{-31}~{ m GeV}$	[12]
	muon g-2	accelerator	muon	$\sim 10^{-24} { m GeV}$	[13]
	neutrino oscillation	$\operatorname{atmospheric}$	neutrino	$4 \times 10^{-24} \text{ GeV} (90\% \text{ C.L.})$	this work
4	GRB vacuum birefringence	astrophysical	photon	$\sim 10^{-38}$	[7]
	Laser interferometer	LIGO	photon	$\sim 10^{-22}$	[8]
	Sapphire cavity oscillator	tabletop	photon	$\sim 10^{-18}$	[5]
	Ne-Rb-K comagnetometer	tabletop	neutron	$\sim 10^{-29}$	[11]
	trapped Ca^+ ion	tabletop	electron	$\sim 10^{-19}$	[14]
	neutrino oscillation	$\operatorname{atmospheric}$		$^{\circ}$ (90% C.L.)	this work
5	GRB vacuum birefringence	astrophysical	photon	$\sim 10^{-34} { m GeV^{-1}}$	[7]
	0	astrophysical		$\sim 10^{-22}$ to $10^{-18} \text{ GeV}^{-1}$	[9]
	neutrino oscillation			$\begin{aligned} \operatorname{Re}(\mathring{a}_{\mu\tau}^{(5)}) , \operatorname{Im}(\mathring{a}_{\mu\tau}^{(5)}) &< 2.3 \times 10^{-32} \text{ GeV}^{-1} \text{ (99\% C.L.)} \\ &< 1.5 \times 10^{-32} \text{ GeV}^{-1} \text{ (90\% C.L.)} \end{aligned}$	this work
6	GRB vacuum birefringene	astrophysical	photon	$\sim 10^{-31} { m GeV}^{-2}$	[7]
	8 8 1	astrophysical	-	$\sim 10^{-42}$ to 10^{-35} GeV ⁻²	[9]
	gravitational Cherenkov radiation	astrophysical	gravity	$\sim 10^{-31} { m GeV}^{-2}$	[15]
	neutrino oscillation	$\operatorname{atmospheric}$	neutrino	$ \operatorname{Re}(\mathring{c}_{\mu\tau}^{(6)}) , \operatorname{Im}(\mathring{c}_{\mu\tau}^{(6)}) < 1.5 \times 10^{-36} \text{ GeV}^{-2} (99\% \text{ C.L.}) < 9.1 \times 10^{-37} \text{ GeV}^{-2} (90\% \text{ C.L.})$	this work
7	GRB vacuum birefringence	astrophysical	photon	$\sim 10^{-28} { m GeV^{-3}}$	[7]
	neutrino oscillation	atmospheric	neutrino	$\begin{aligned} \mathrm{Re}(\mathring{a}^{(7)}_{\mu\tau}) , \mathrm{Im}(\mathring{a}^{(7)}_{\mu\tau}) &< 8.3 \times 10^{-41} \mathrm{GeV^{-3}} (99\% \mathrm{C.L.}) \\ &< 3.6 \times 10^{-41} \mathrm{GeV^{-3}} (90\% \mathrm{C.L.}) \end{aligned}$	this work
8	gravitational Cherenkov radiation	astrophysical	gravity	$\sim 10^{-46} { m GeV^{-4}}$	[15]
	neutrino oscillation	atmospheric	neutrino	$ \operatorname{Re}(\overset{\circ}{c}{}^{(8)}_{\mu\tau}) , \operatorname{Im}(\overset{\circ}{c}{}^{(8)}_{\mu\tau}) < 5.2 \times 10^{-45} \text{ GeV}^{-4} (99\% \text{ C.L.}) < 1.4 \times 10^{-45} \text{ GeV}^{-4} (90\% \text{ C.L.})$	this work

Very strong limits on Lorentz Violation induced by dimension-6 operators!



Search for Lorentz Violation via Flavor Morphing

As neutrinos travel from their far away source they can interact with a Lorentz violating field.

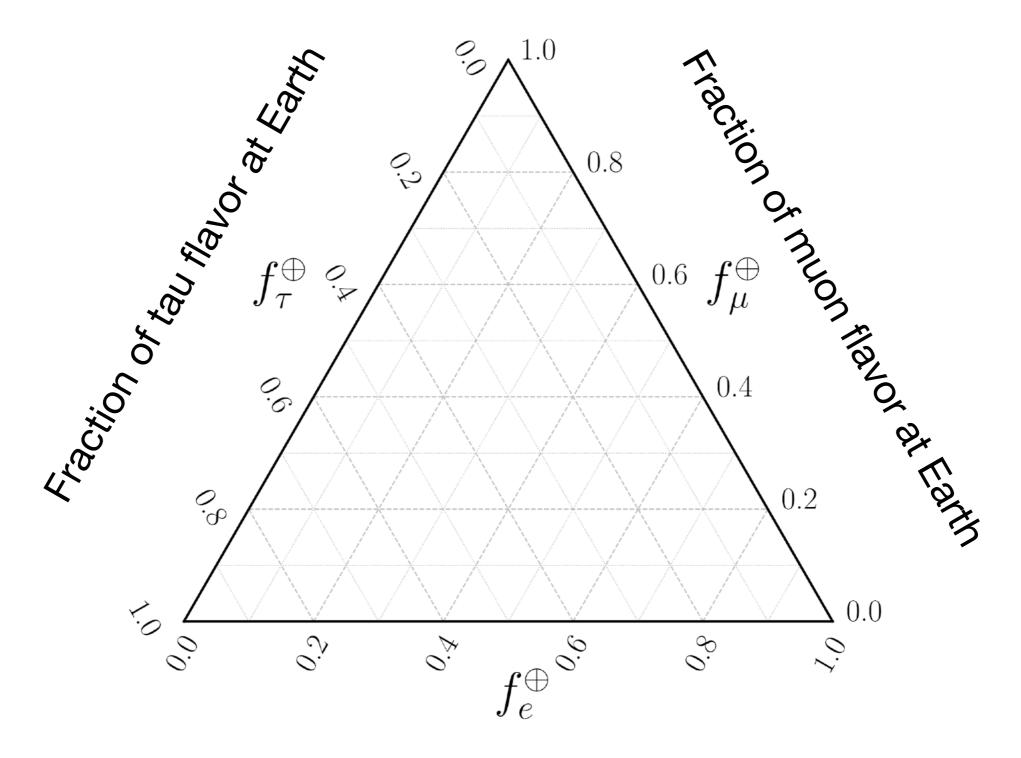
Effects expected at the Planck Scale.



Flavor composition @ source

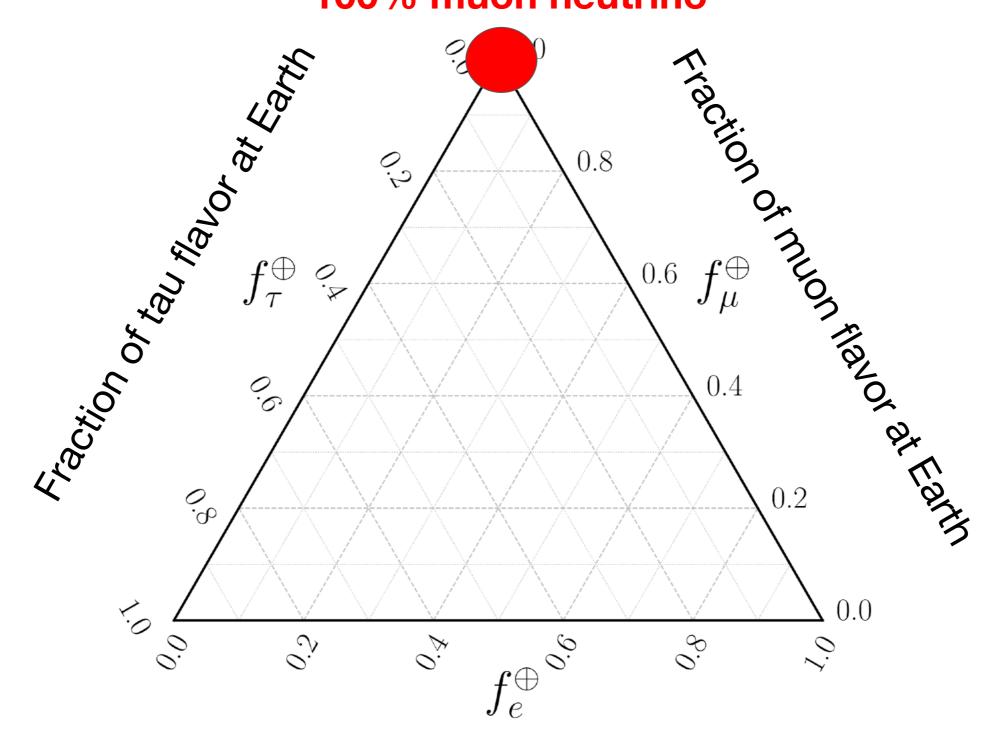
 $(\alpha_e : \alpha_\mu : \alpha_\tau)$ (GRBs, AGNs, blazars, pulsars...) $\pi^+ \to \mu^+ + \nu_\mu$ $\downarrow^+ \to e^+ + \nu_\mu + \bar{\nu}_e$ (1:2:0)Pion Muon-damped $\pi^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ + \nu_{\mu}$ (0:1:0)(1:0:0) $n \rightarrow p + e^- + \bar{\nu}_e$ Neutron

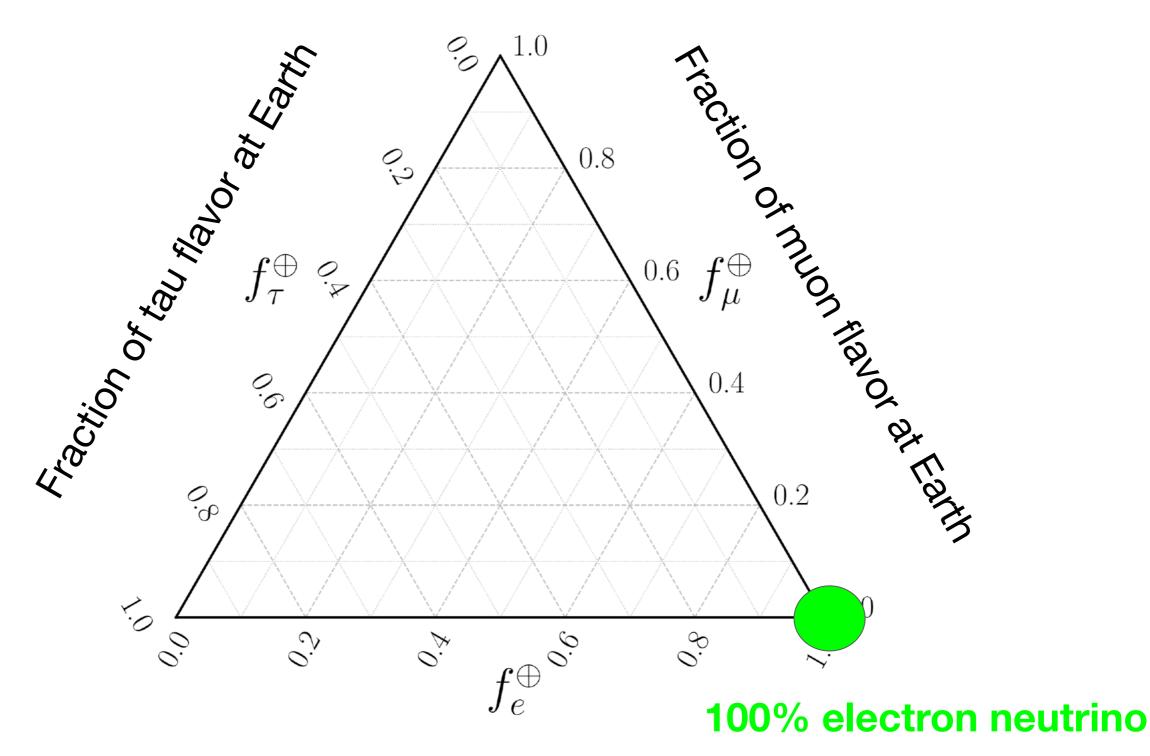


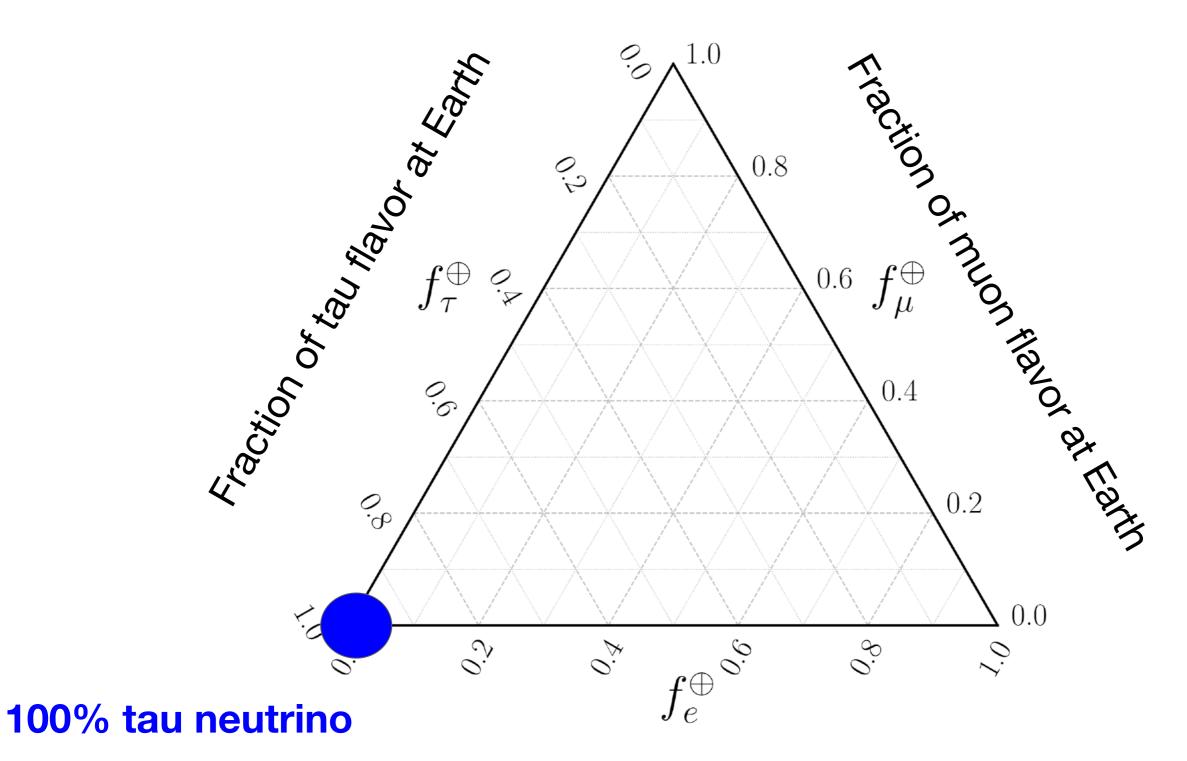




100% muon neutrino



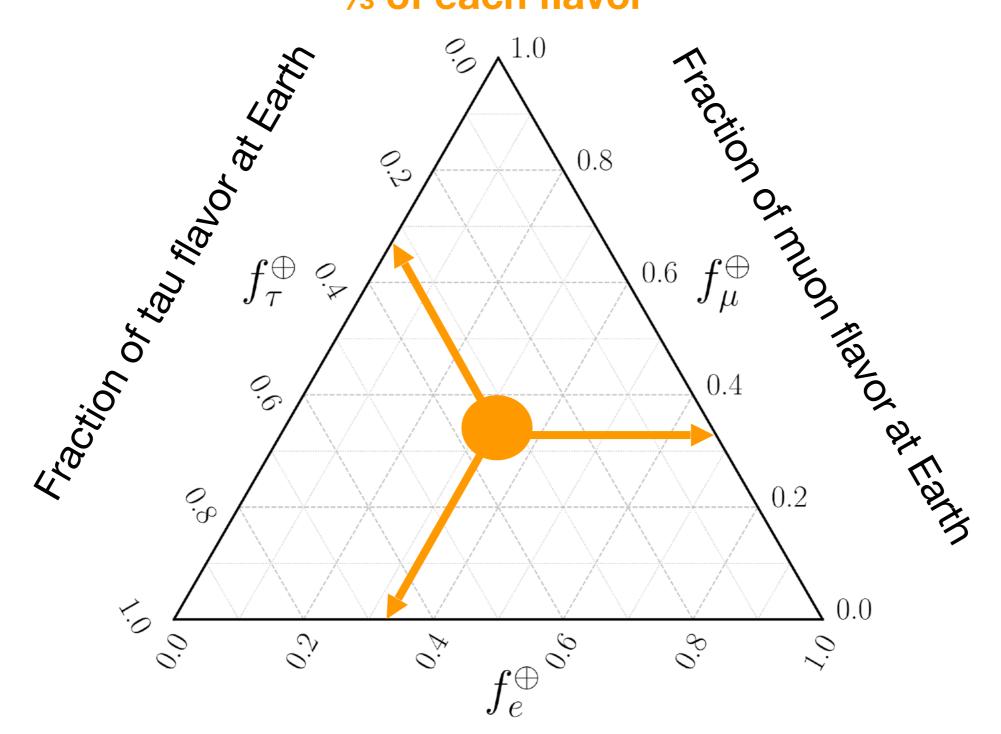




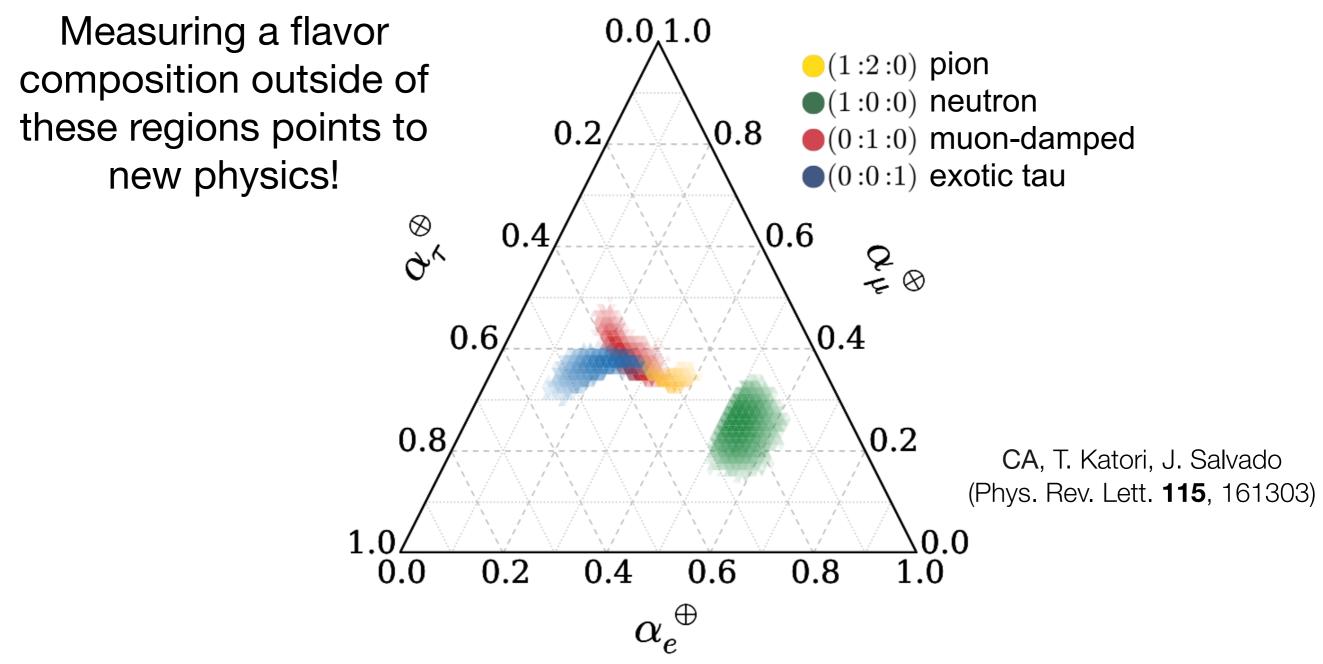
Fraction of electron flavor at Earth

IVEL INIL 1745

1/3 of each flavor



After oscillations where will the different sources end up?



See also Bustamante et al. PRL 115, 161302 (2015); Rasmussen et al. 1707.07684; Palomares-Ruiz 1411.2998; Palladino et al 1502.02923; Bustamante et al 1610.02096; Brdar et al. 1611.04598; Farzan & Palomares-Ruiz 1810.00892; CA et al. 1909.05341; Learned & Pakvasa hep-ph/9405296 ..

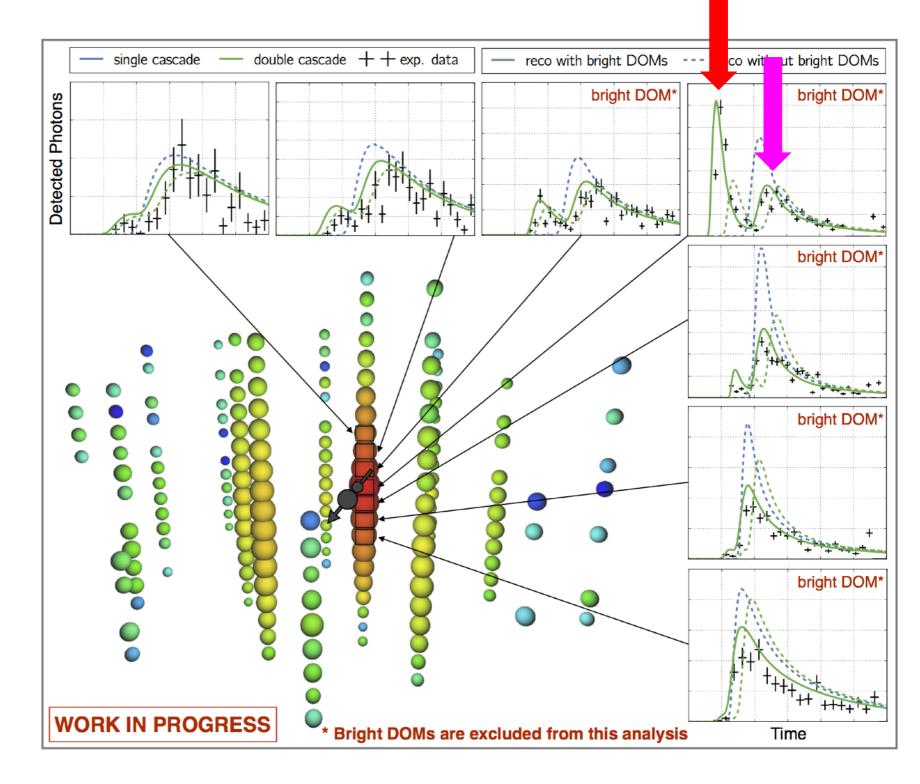
First astrophysical ν_{τ} candidate found!

Total deposited energy ~ 90 TeV.

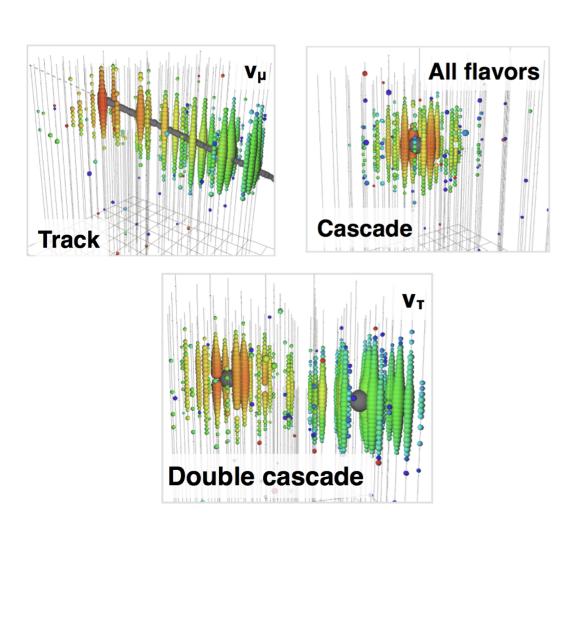
First "bang" in time (shower)

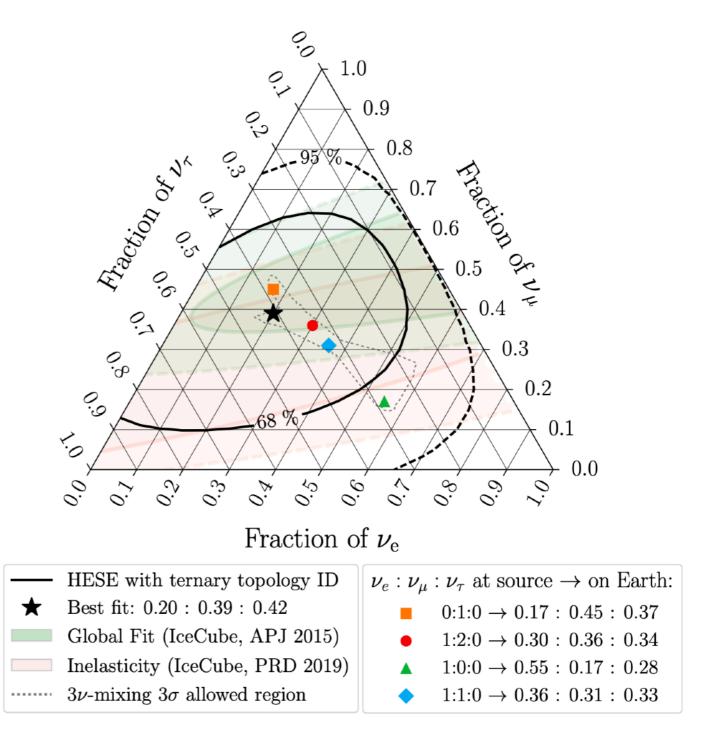
Second "bang" in time (tau decay)

W+



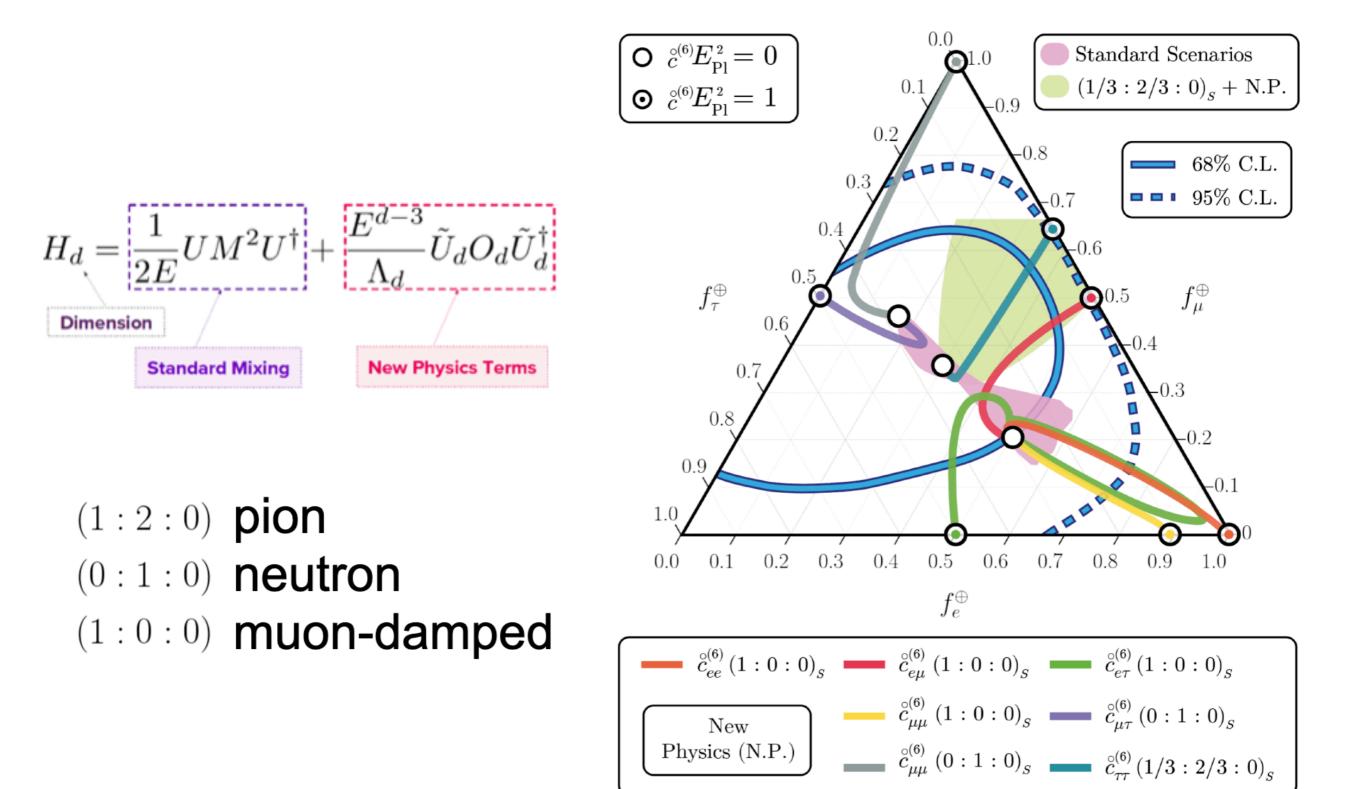
Astrophysical neutrino flavor measurements with High-Energy Starting Events



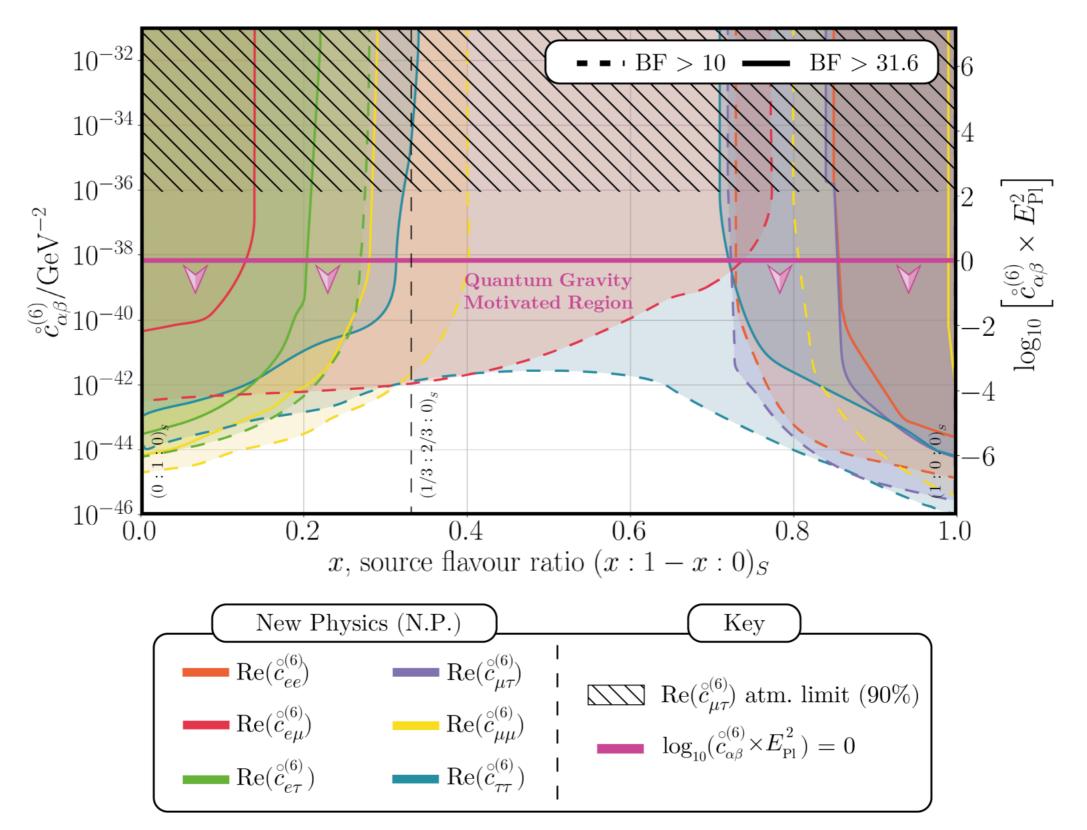


IceCube Collaboration, https://arxiv.org/abs/2011.03561

Trajectories in the flavor triangle in the presence of Lorentz Violation (LV)



Results on high-dimensional LV operators



Outline of the rest of this talk:

- 1. Neutrinos in IceCube
- 2. Measuring High-Energy Astrophysical Neutrinos
- 3. Searching for new forces:

-Measuring the Neutrino-Nucleon cross section

4. Searching for dark matter:

-Neutrino-Dark Matter Interactions

5. Searching for a new symmetry:

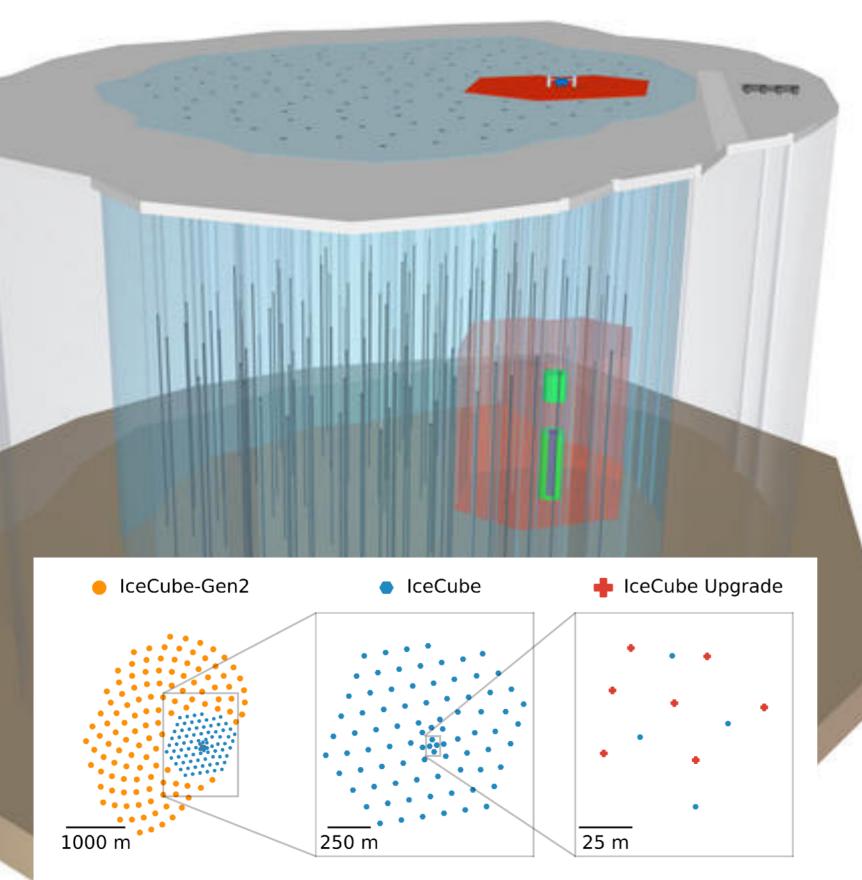
-Lorentz Violation Effects on Flavor

6.The future



53

The IceCube Upgrades

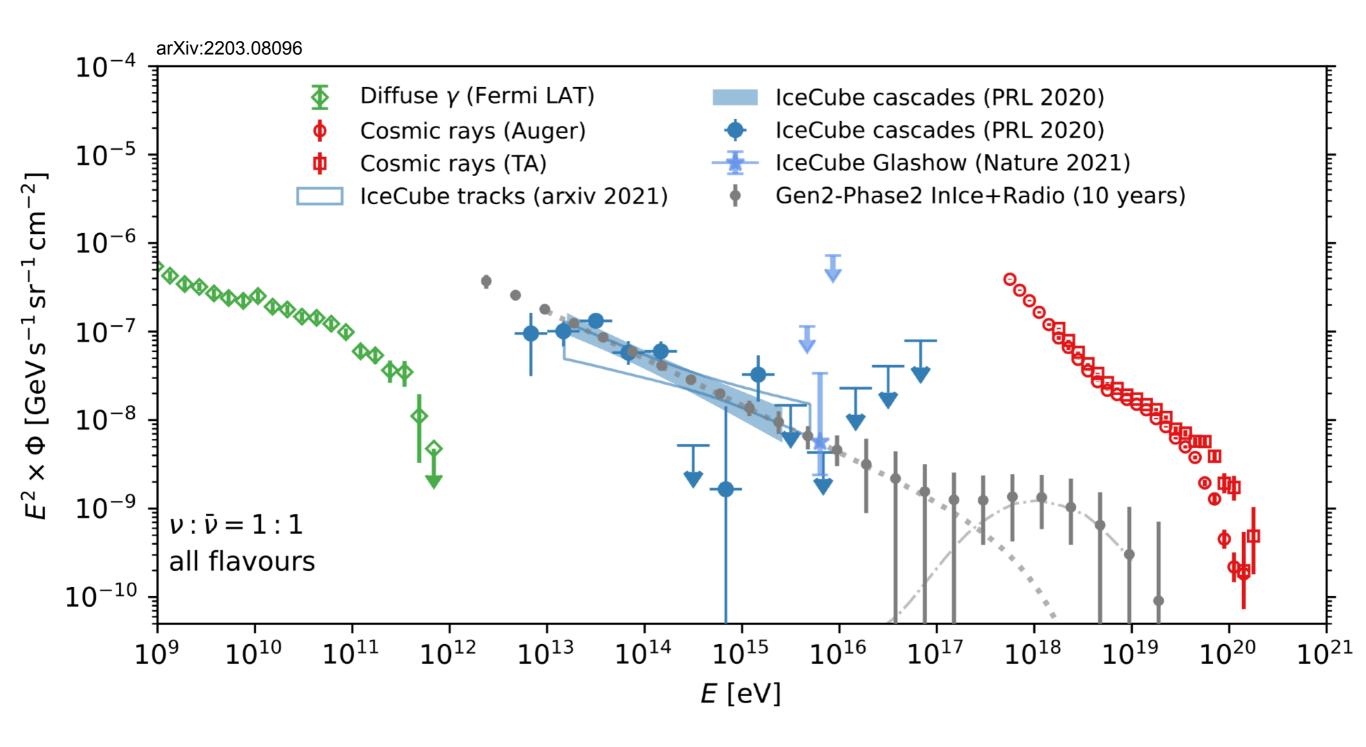


Phase 1: 7 new, highprecision strings in the central, densely instrumented region. Funded, installation in 2024-2026.

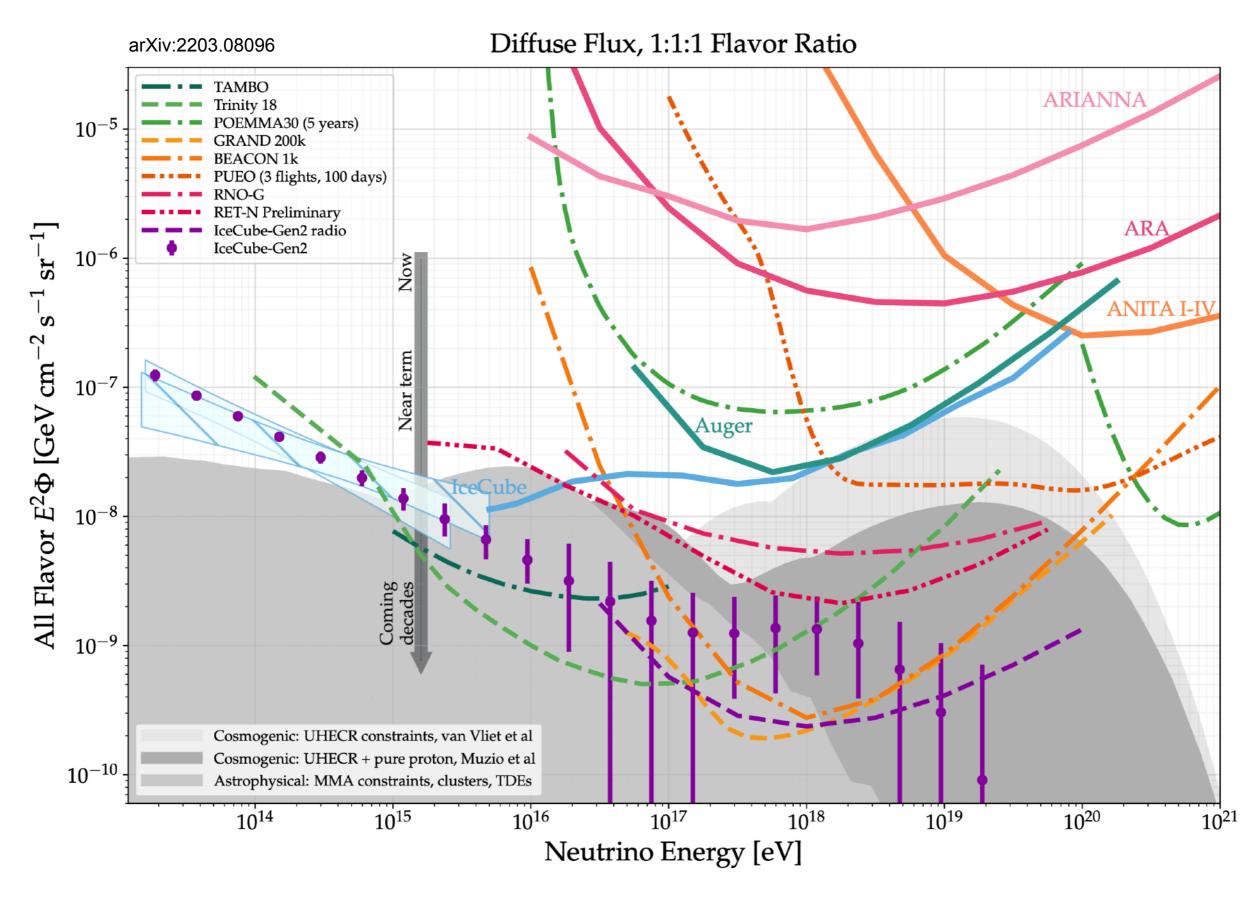
Phase 2: x10 the volume of present IceCube, plus additional detectors.

IceCube-Gen2

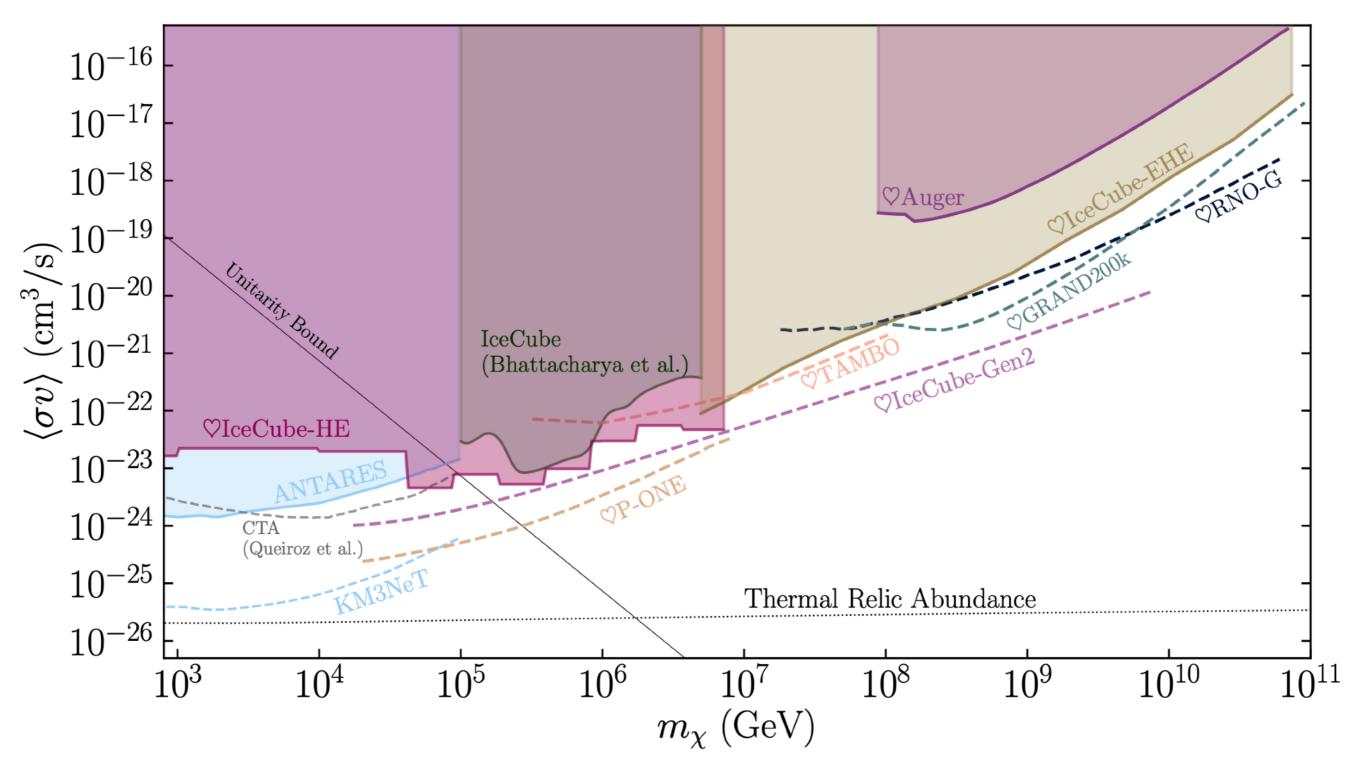
Expected Measurement of Astrophysical Flux



Next Generation Experiments Flux Sensitivity

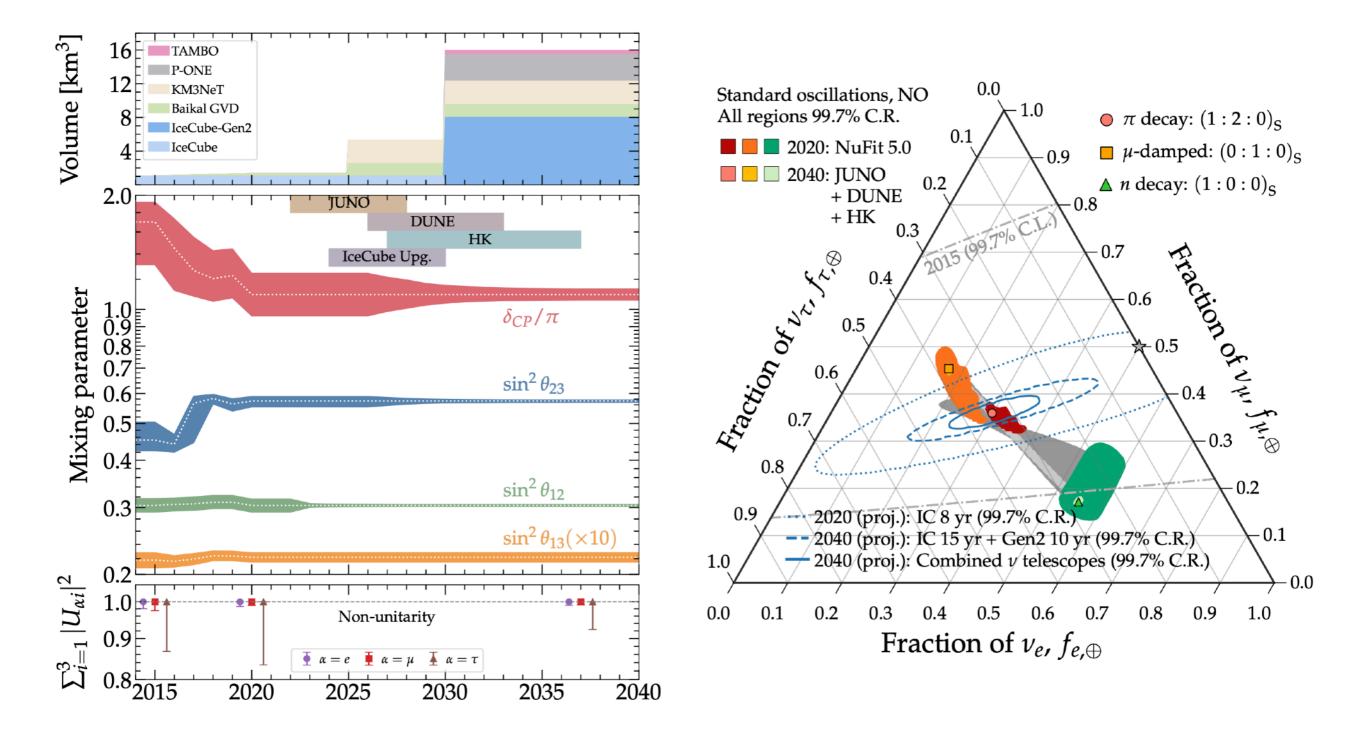


Next Generation Dark Matter Searches



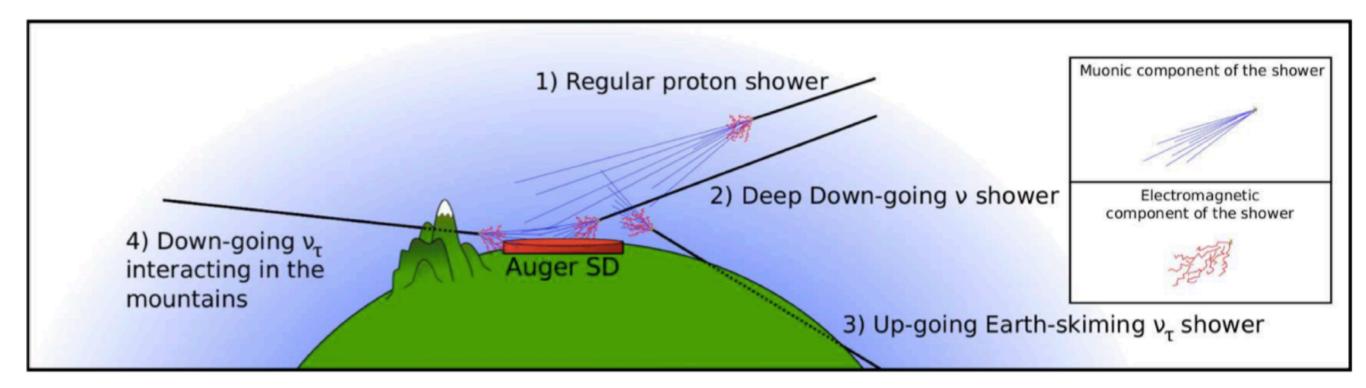
CA, A. Diaz, A. Kheirandish, A. Olivares-Del-Campo, I. Safa, A.C. Vincent *Rev. Mod. Phys.* 93, 35007 (2021); See also Beacom et al. *PRL* 99: 231301, 2007. 57

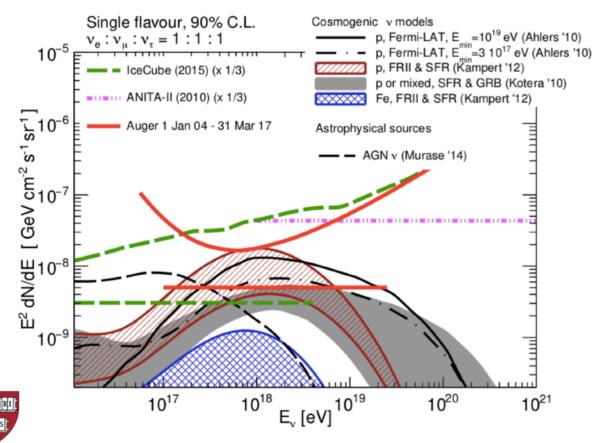
Projected Upgrade Flavor Measurement



N. Song, S. Li, CA, M. Bustamante, A. Vincent (arXiv:2012.12893)

Earth-skimming neutrino detectors

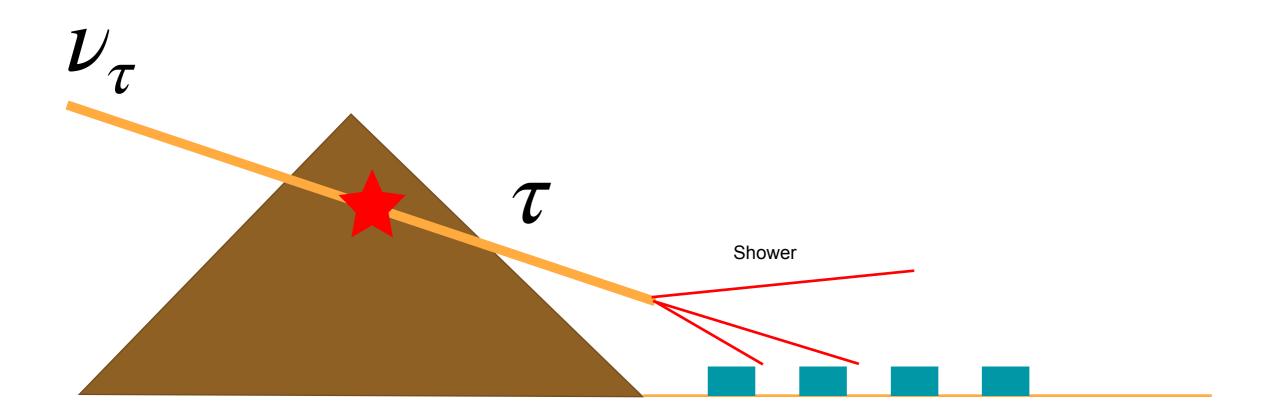




Earth-skimming neutrino detection uses mountains as the neutrino target and then detects the tau shower using Cherenkov detectors (Auger) or radio antennas (GRAND, proposed).

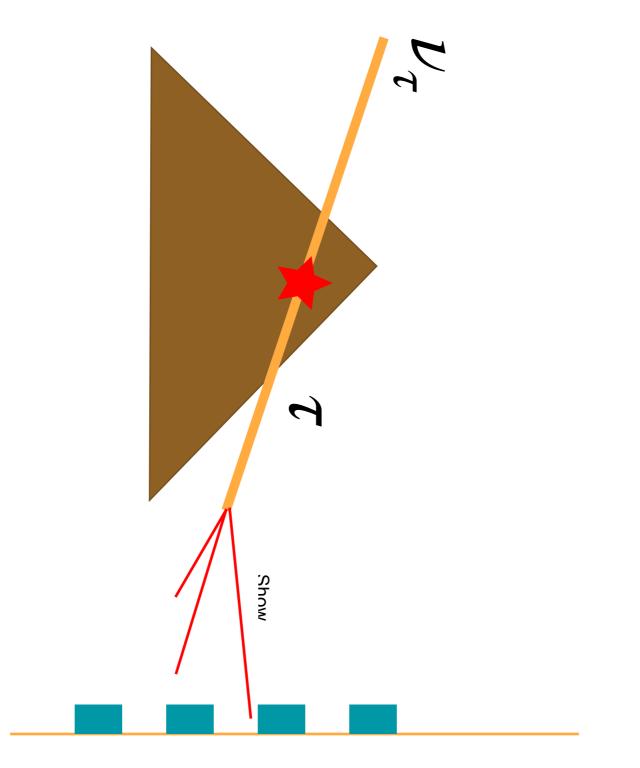
Angular acceptance is limited.

Thinking about Earth-skimming neutrino detectors



The geometry here is key for the acceptance of neutrino detection

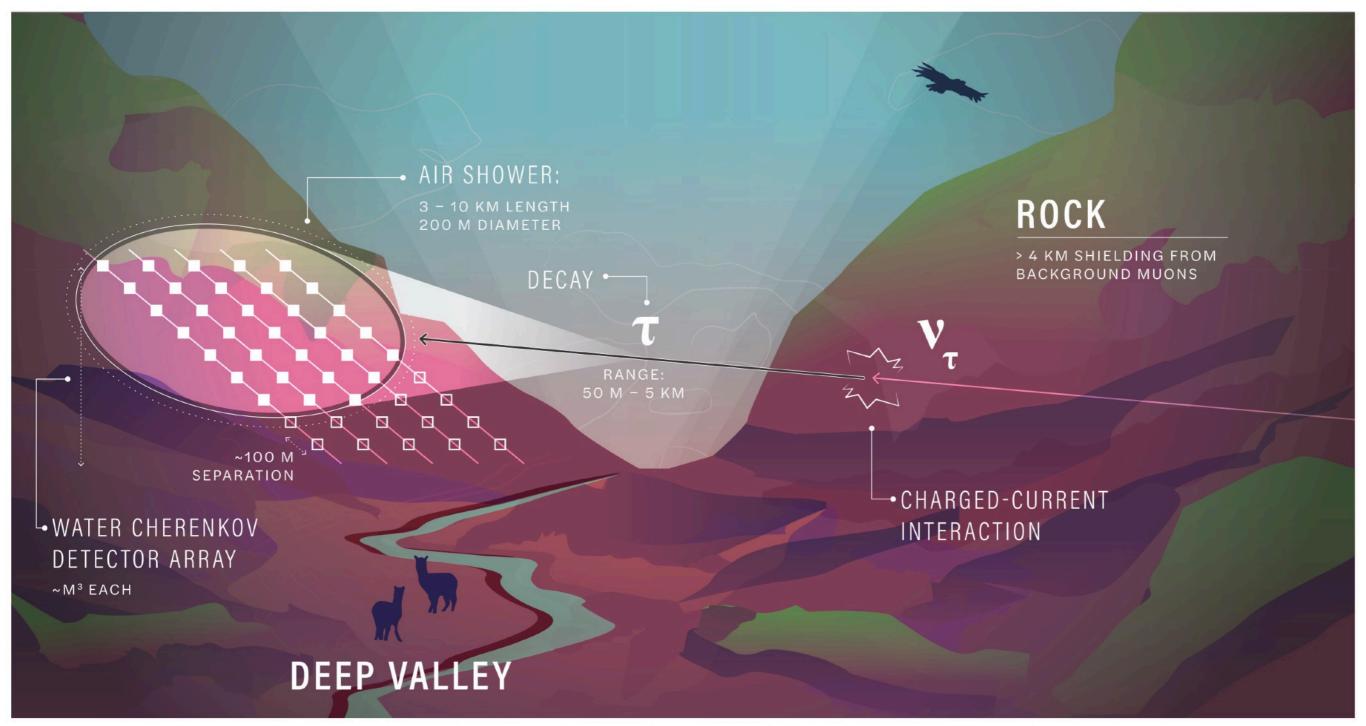
Thinking about Earth-skimming neutrino detectors



The geometry here is key for the acceptance of neutrino detection

This would be a more ideal scenario, but can't put mountain over detector

Solution: TAMBO*!

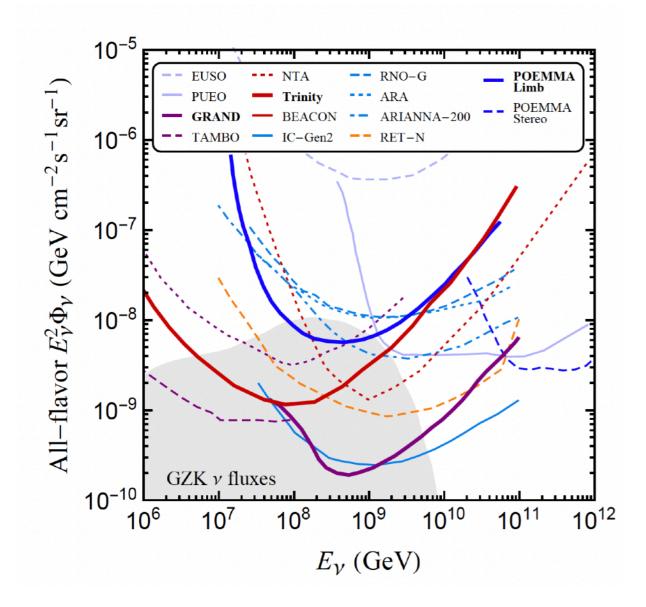


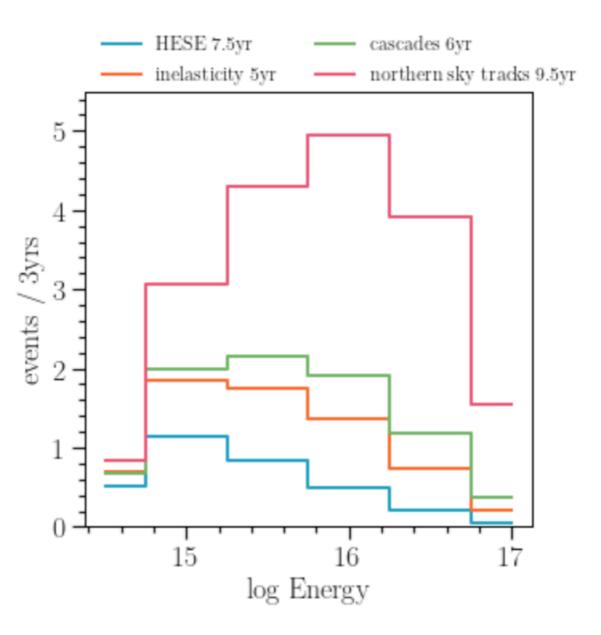
TAU AIR-SHOWER MOUNTAIN-BASED OBSERVATORY (TAMBO) · COLCA VALLEY, PERU

Romero-Wolf et al https://arxiv.org/abs/2002.06475

*TAMBO means house or inn in Quechua.

Preliminary Sensitivities



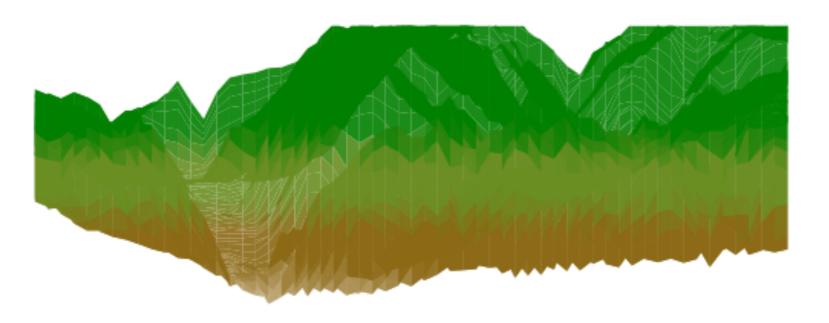


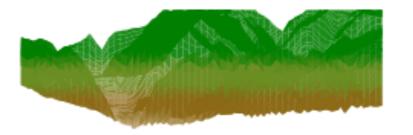
Sensitivities to E_{ν}^{-2} flux for next generation experiments: Note that almost the entire energy range from 10^6 GeV to 10^{11} GeV can be optimally covered by TAMBO and IceCube-Gen2

Event rates for several IceCube fluxes: Event rates for several of the best-fit fluxes of IceCube analyses. Pink line is closest to spectrum assumed plot on left



Currently working on simulation with detailed geography of the Colca valley





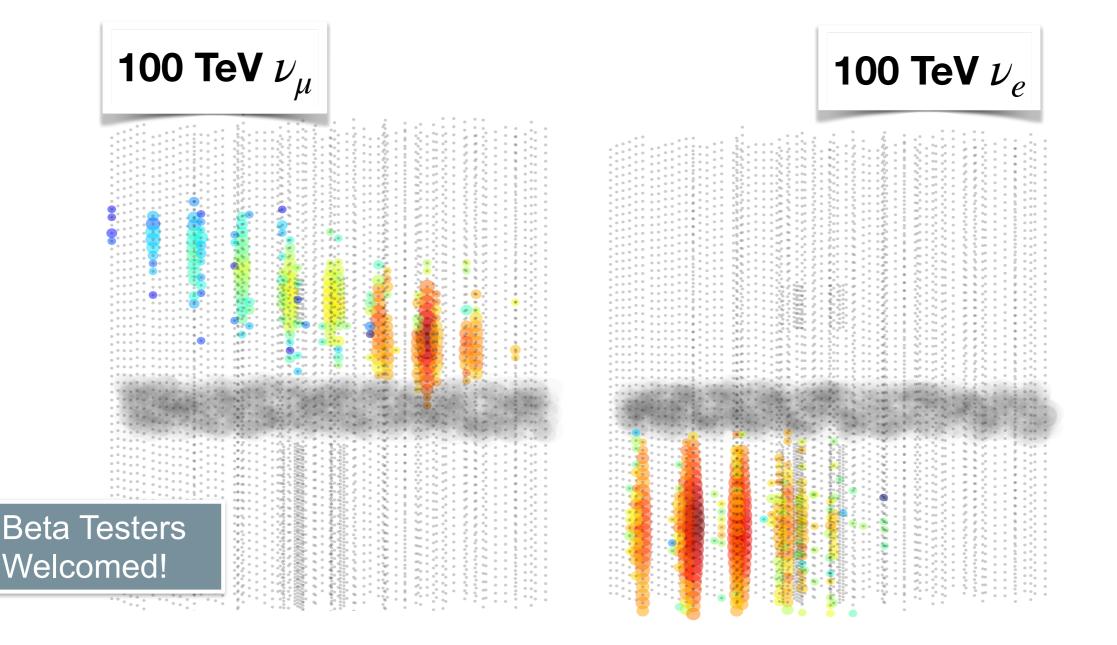


- Initial simulation of u_{τ} in Colca valley is complete
- Working on connecting to CORSIKA to simulate air shower
- TauRunner will serve as neutrino injector
- All being written in Julia



PROMETHEUS: Open-Source Neutrino Telescope Simulation

- Open-source simulation of neutrino telescopes from event injection to weighting
- You give it a physics scenario, it gives you times of photons arriving at the given optical modules
- These events can then be weighted to give the rate at the detector
- Can also be used to find effective areas for a given neutrino telescope



Conclusion

Neutrino Physics is truly in the midst of interesting times:

- -First candidate astrophysical neutrino sources have been detected.
- -Spectral measurements of the high-energy diffuse spectra start to give hint of structure.
- -We are studying neutrino properties at PeV energies!
- -We have the Dark Matter problem that maybe related to neutrinos.
- -We have reached extreme regimes that lets us explore into the Planck scale.

We also have great possibilities for the future:

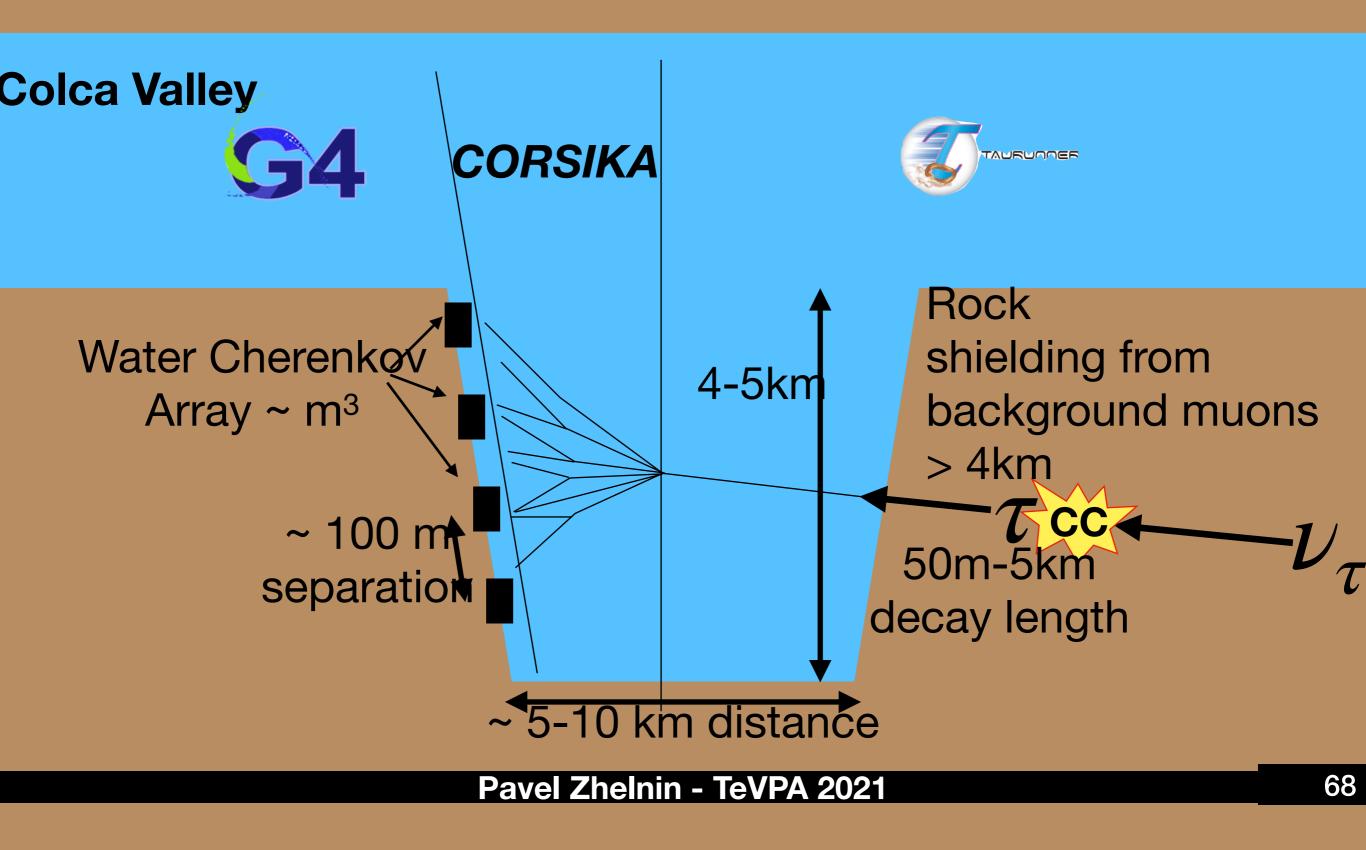
-Combination of IceCube measurements

- -New results from Km3NeT and GVD-Baikal
- -Next generation neutrino observatories will provide a *nu* picture of the Universe.

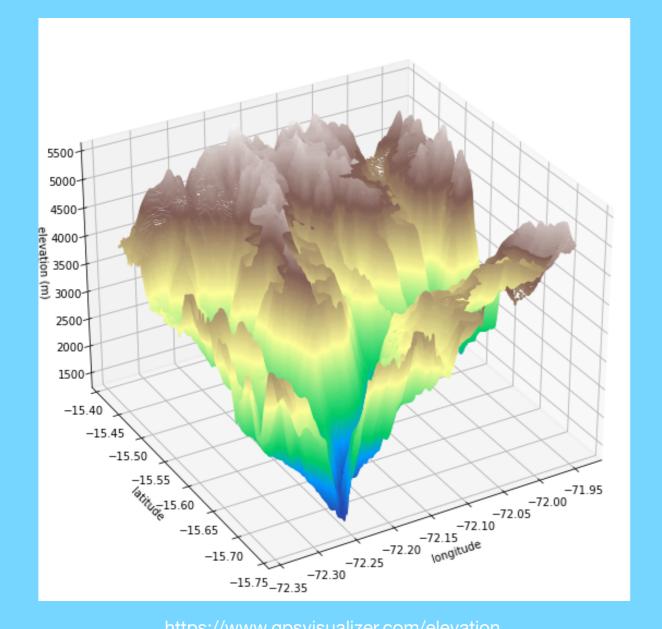




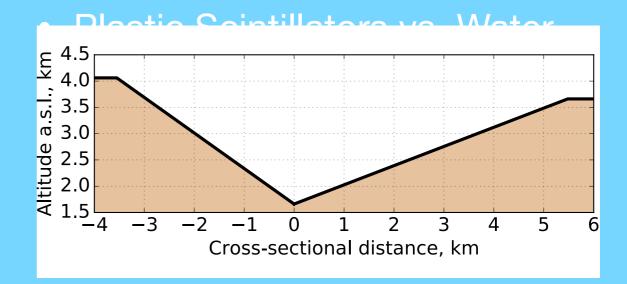




First Stage / Current Work



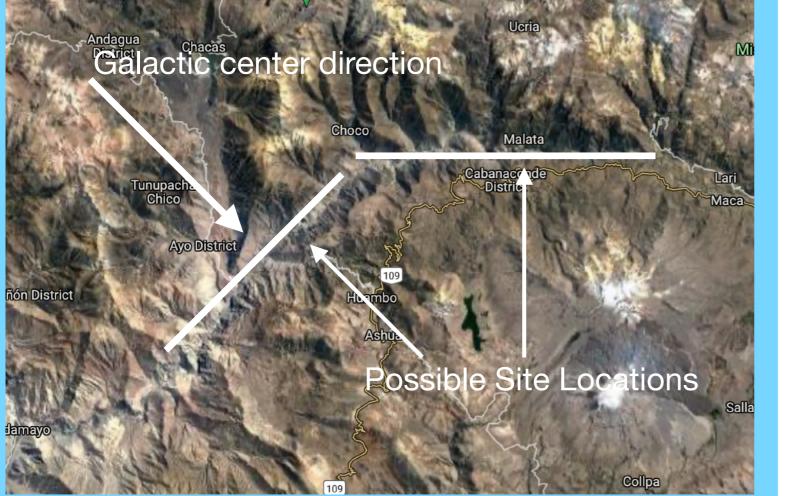
- Updating topographical models
- Previous estimations for prelim figures used simple geography
- Update propagation MC to include more complex geometries

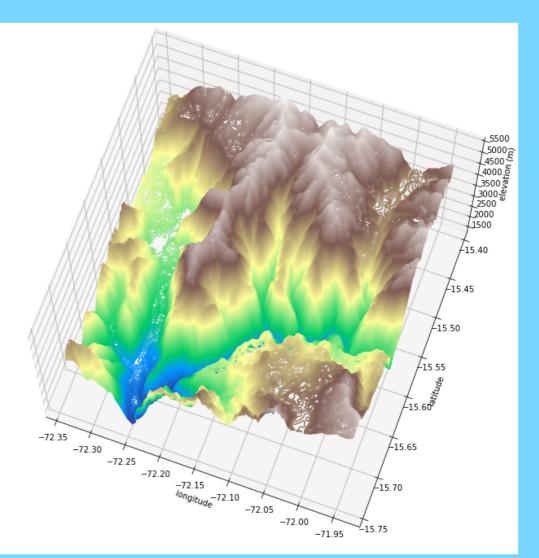


Romero-Wolf et al., arXiv:2002.06475v1

Pavel Zhelnin - TeVPA 2021

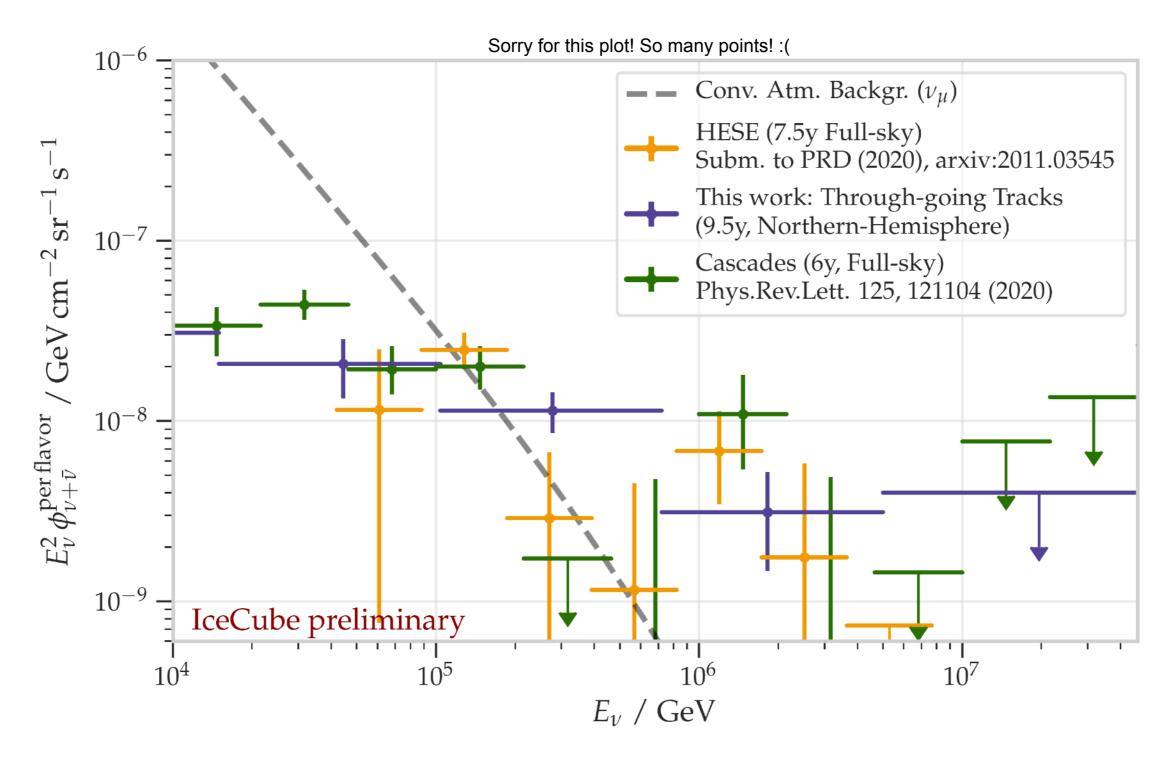
Dark Matter too





Pavel Zhelnin - TeVPA 2021

Trying to go beyond a Power Law ...

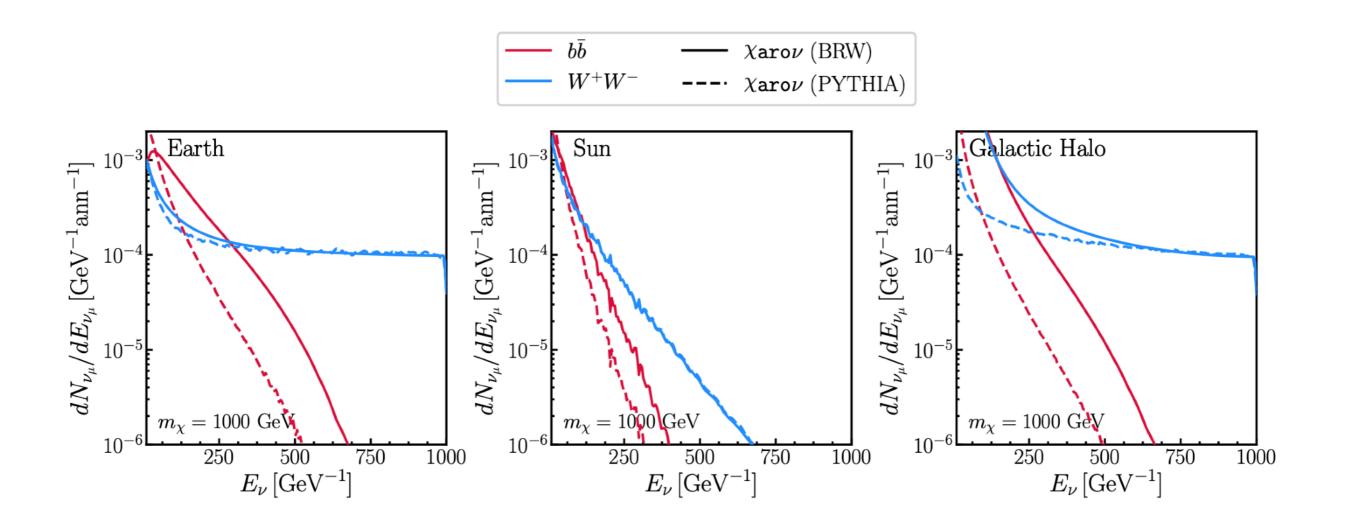


Sample size is not large enough to infer a specific pattern.
 Small hint of hardening below 60 TeV. LogParabola spectra?

For good limits, we need good predictions!



https://github.com/lceCubeOpenSource/charon



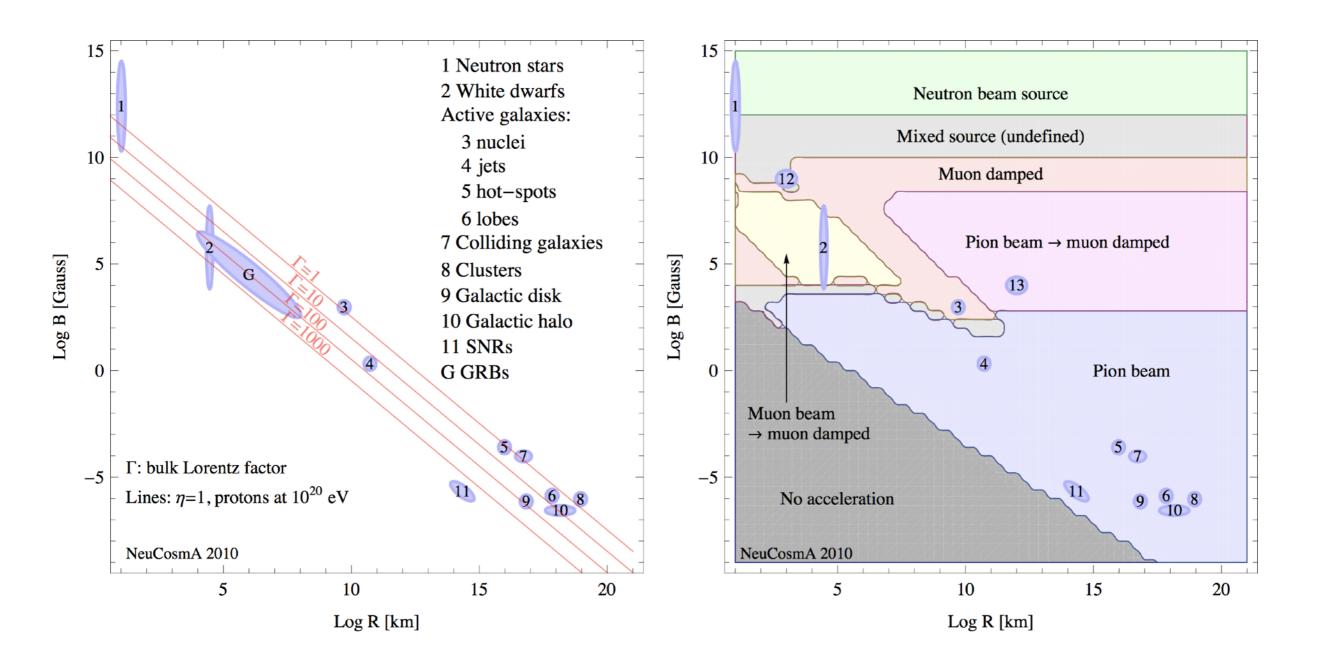
IceCube results with updated calculations to appear soon!



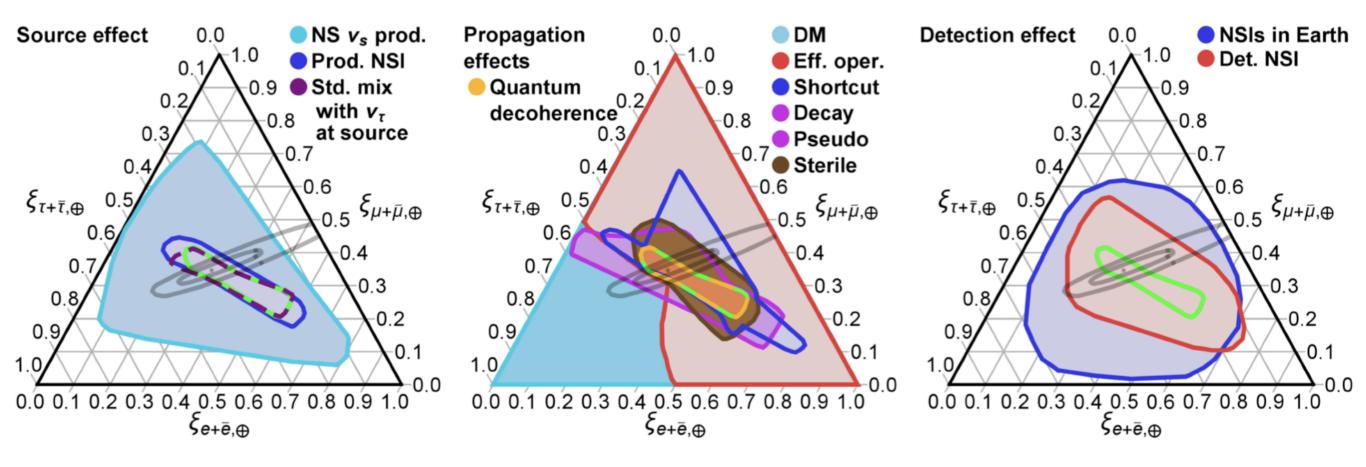
Q. Liu & J. Lazar *et al* 2007.15010

Bauer, Rodd & Webber et al 2007.15001

Sources of Astrophysical Neutrinos

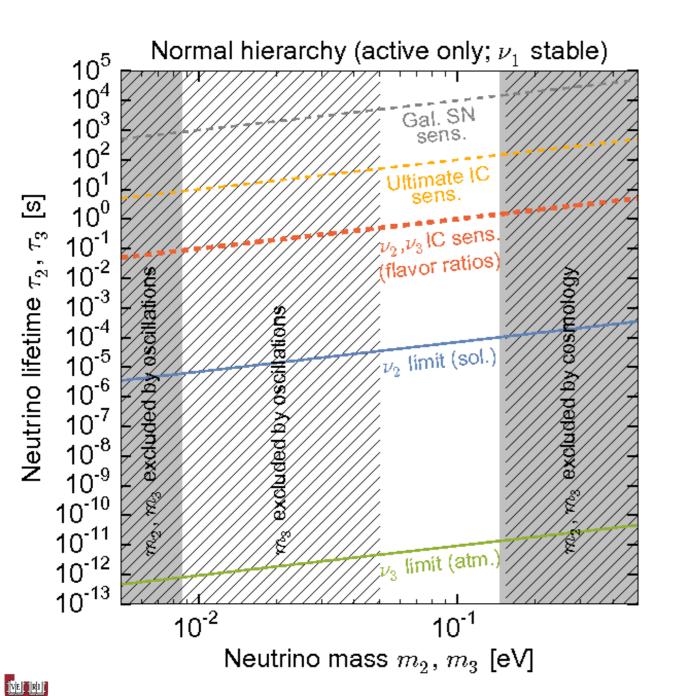


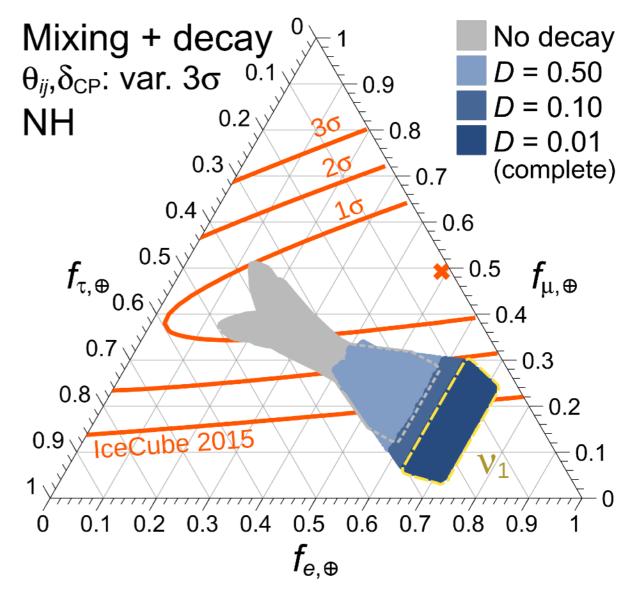
(arXiv:1007:0006)

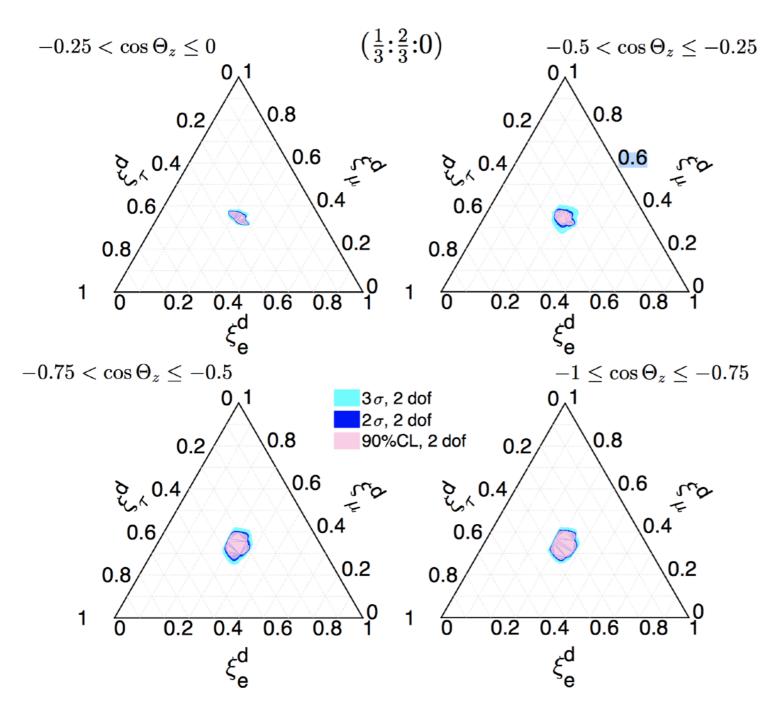




Rasmussen et al Phys. Rev. D 96, 083018 (2017) arXiv:1707.07684

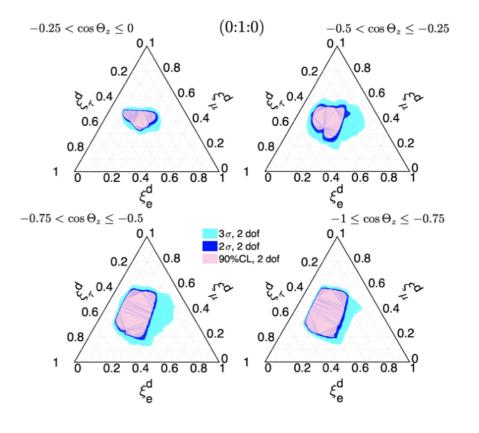




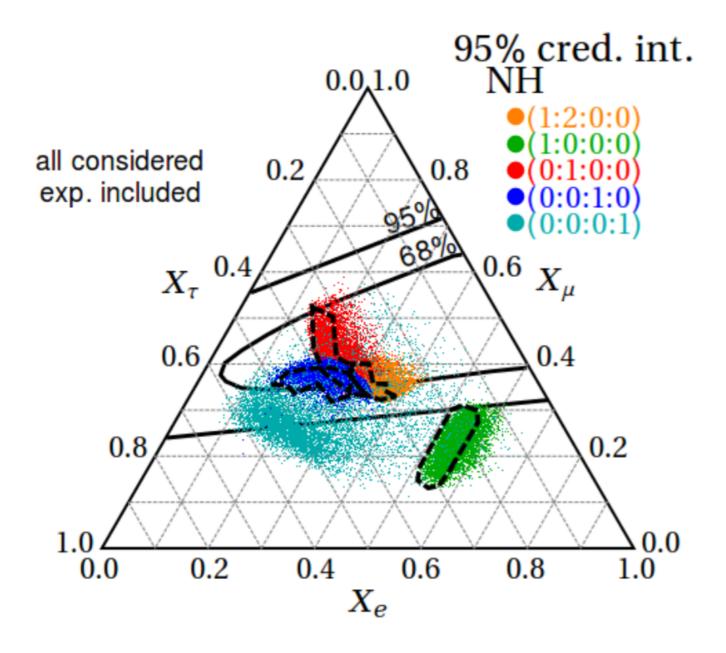


In the pion scenario NSI effects are small.

This is not the case for other initial flavor ratios.







- Sterile neutrinos effect is small on propagation.
- Large change only if the sources are shooting sterile neutrinos

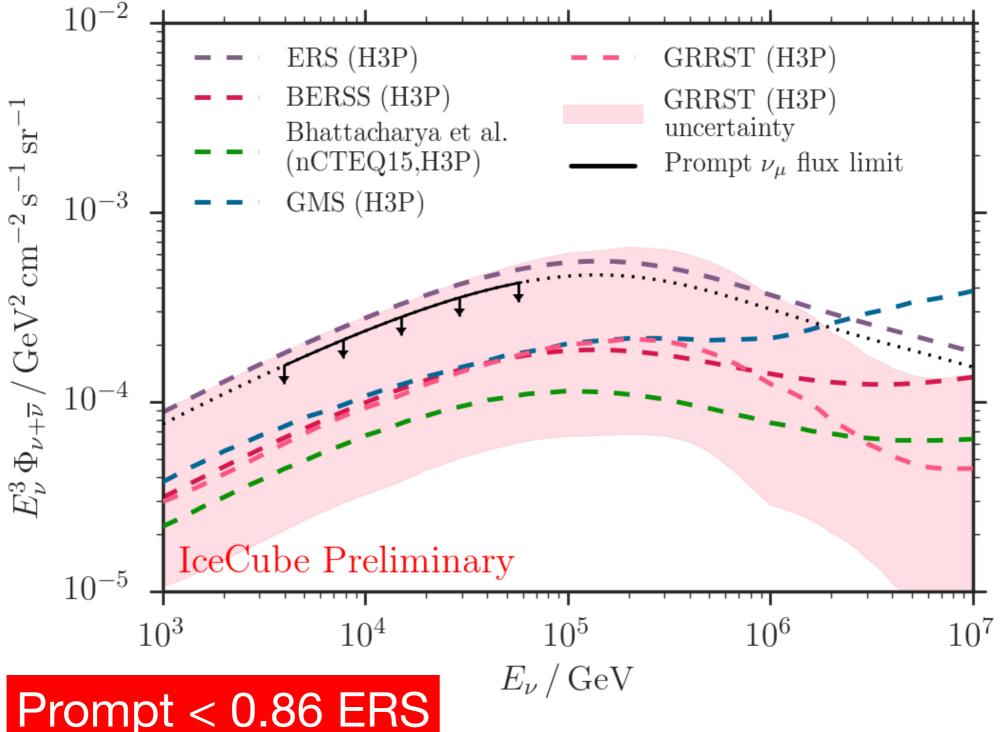
Brdar et al. JCAP 1701 (2017) no.01, 026

Also, constraints from the Northern Sky

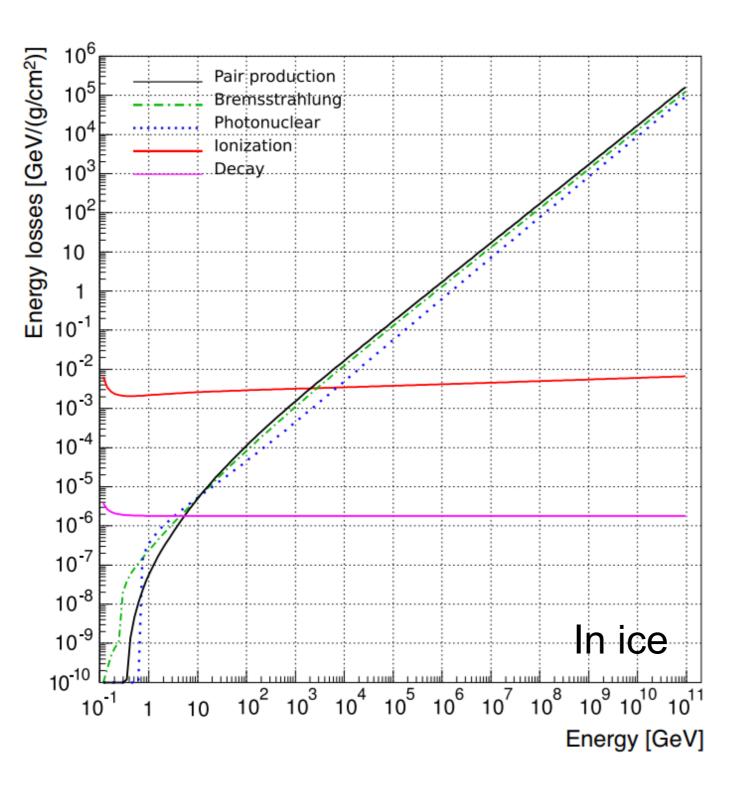
Limits from 8 years of through-going muons

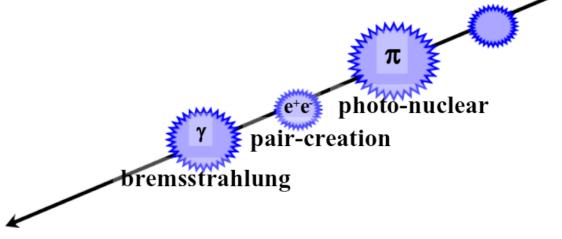
No prompt yet!





Muon losses and ranges





Mean energy losses are well described by

$$-\frac{dE}{dx} = \left(\frac{dE}{dx}\right)_I + \left(\frac{dE}{dx}\right)_B + \left(\frac{dE}{dx}\right)_P + \left(\frac{dE}{dx}\right)_N$$

$$-\frac{dE}{dx} = a_I(E) + b(E) \cdot E$$

with $b(E) = b_B(E) + b_P(E) + b_N(E)$

Mean muon range

$$x_f = \log(1 + E_i \cdot b/a)/b$$

<u> </u>						
medium	$a, \frac{\text{GeV}}{\text{mwe}}$	<i>b</i> , $\frac{10^{-3}}{\text{mwe}}$				
ice	0.268	0.470				



Muon losses are stochastic processes

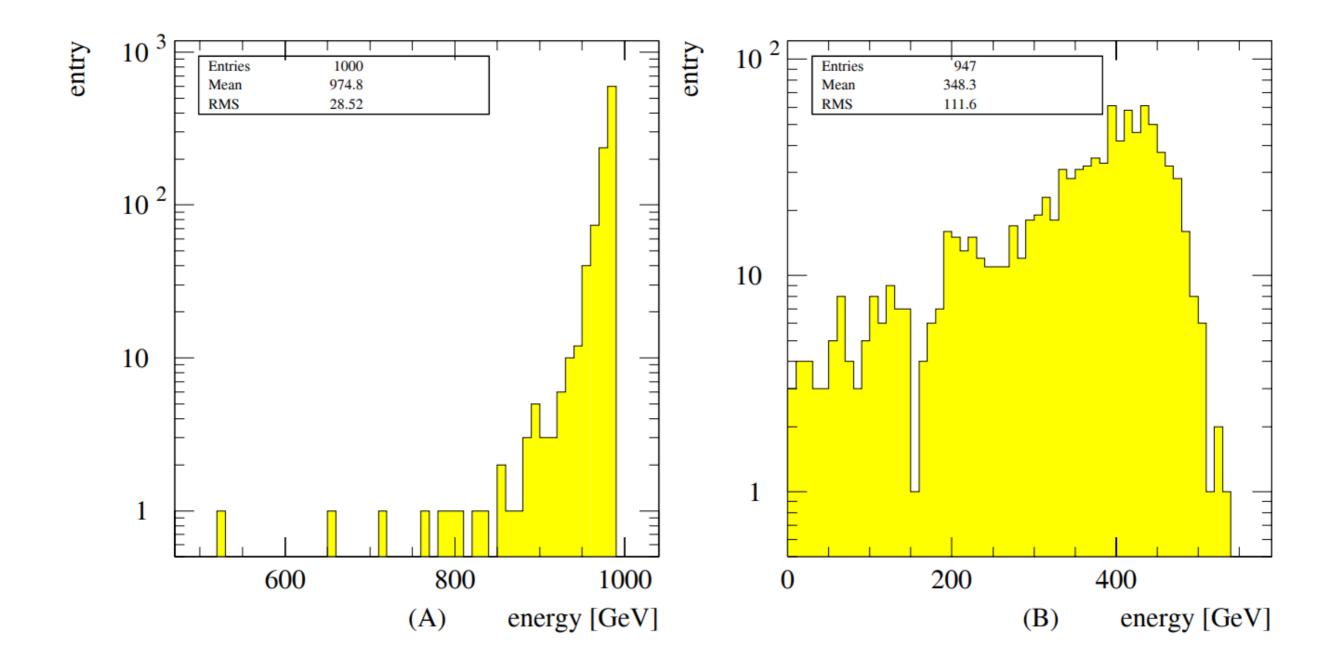


Figure 3.12: Stochastic character of muon energy loss The picture shows distributions of the final energy of 1000 simulated muons (initial energy 1TeV) after passing (A) 50m and (B) 1500m of fresh water, simulated with GEANT (section 6.2)

