

# The Tau Air-Shower Mountain-Based Observatory

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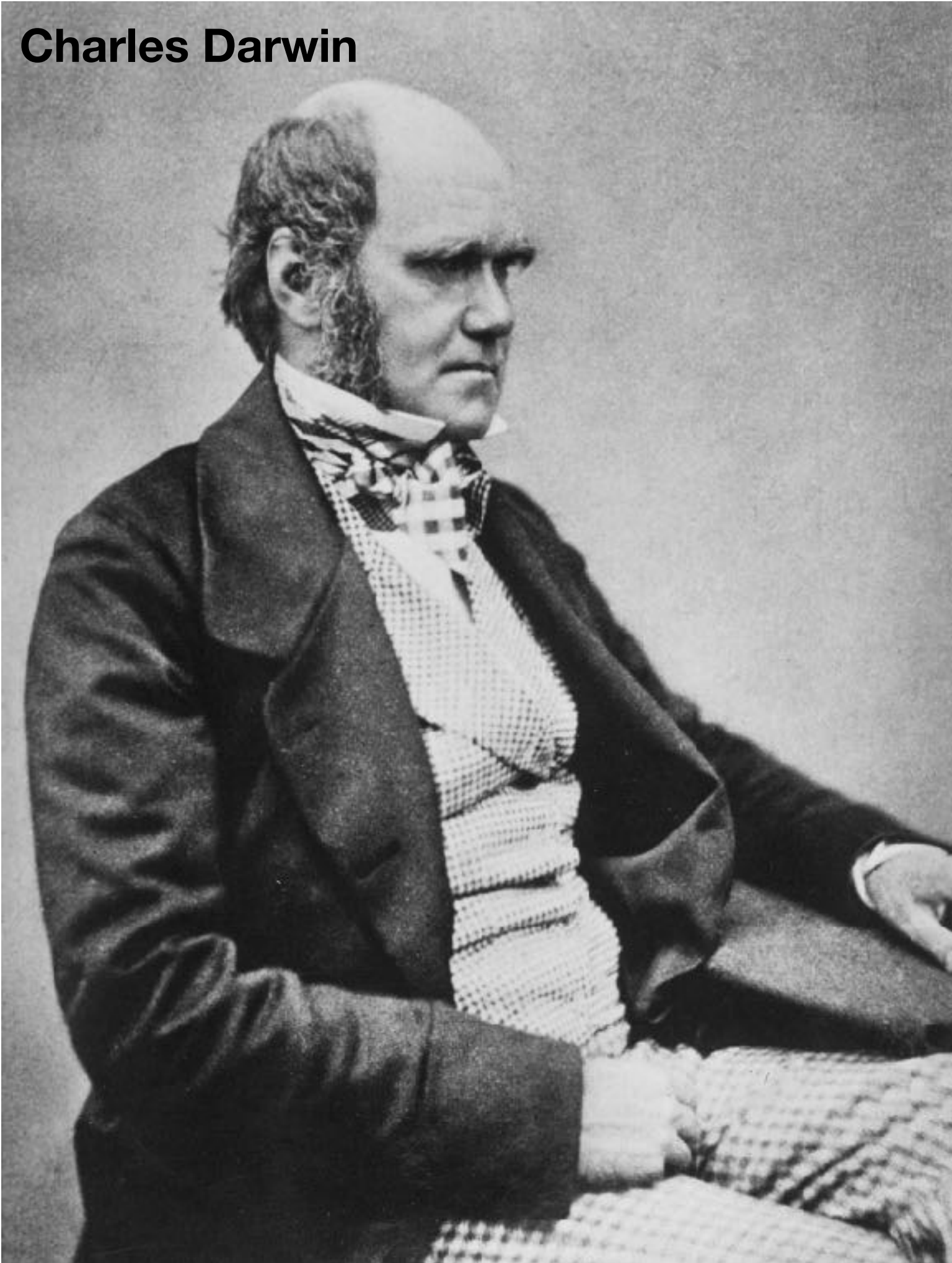


# Roadmap

- A very brief history of neutrino astronomy
- Open questions in neutrino astronomy
- TAMBO overview
- Realizing TAMBO

# How Does the Sun Shine ?

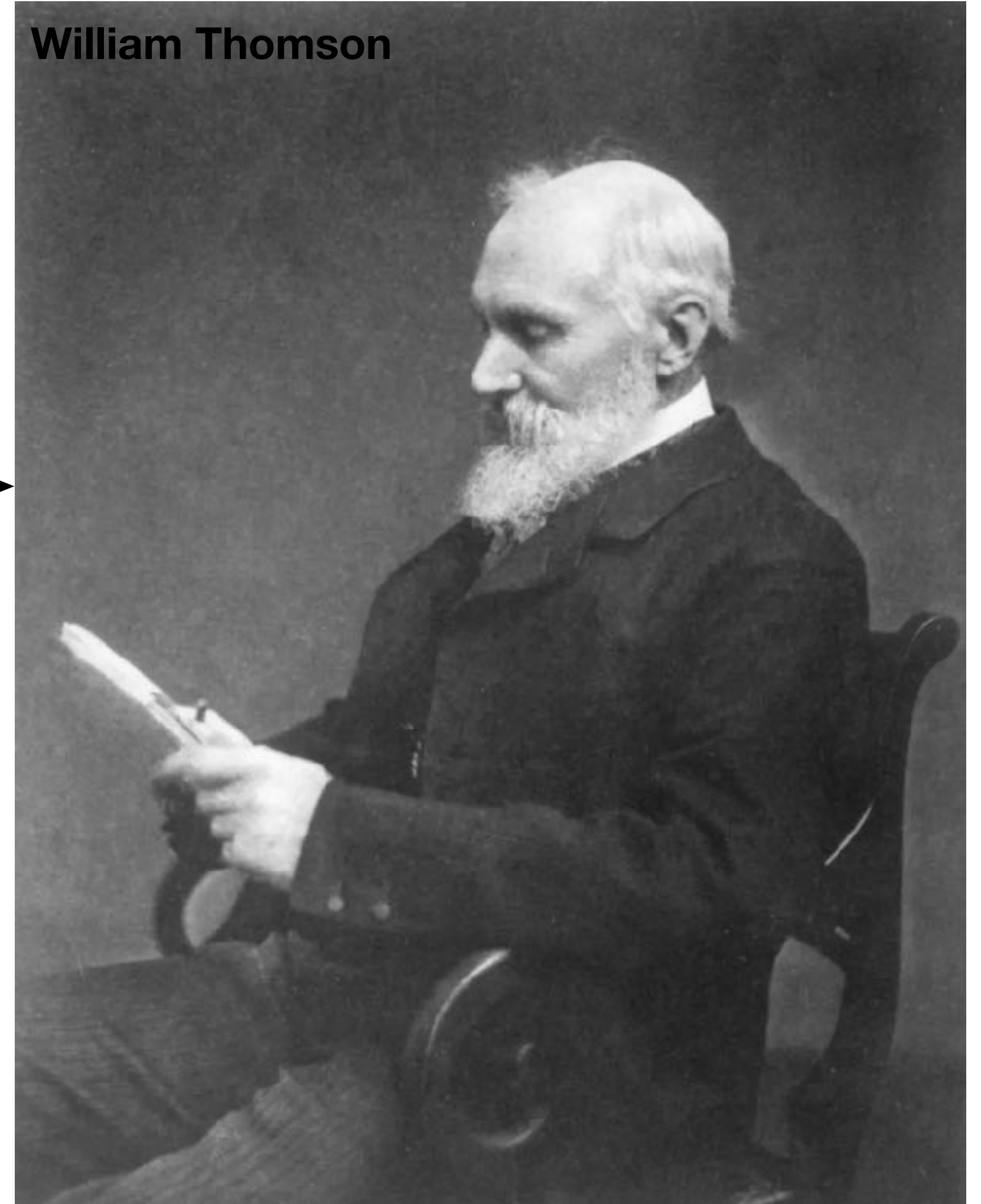
Charles Darwin



The Earth would need to exist for 300,000,000 years to give rise to the diversity of species I've observe. My observations of erosion in the Weald seem to support such a timeline.

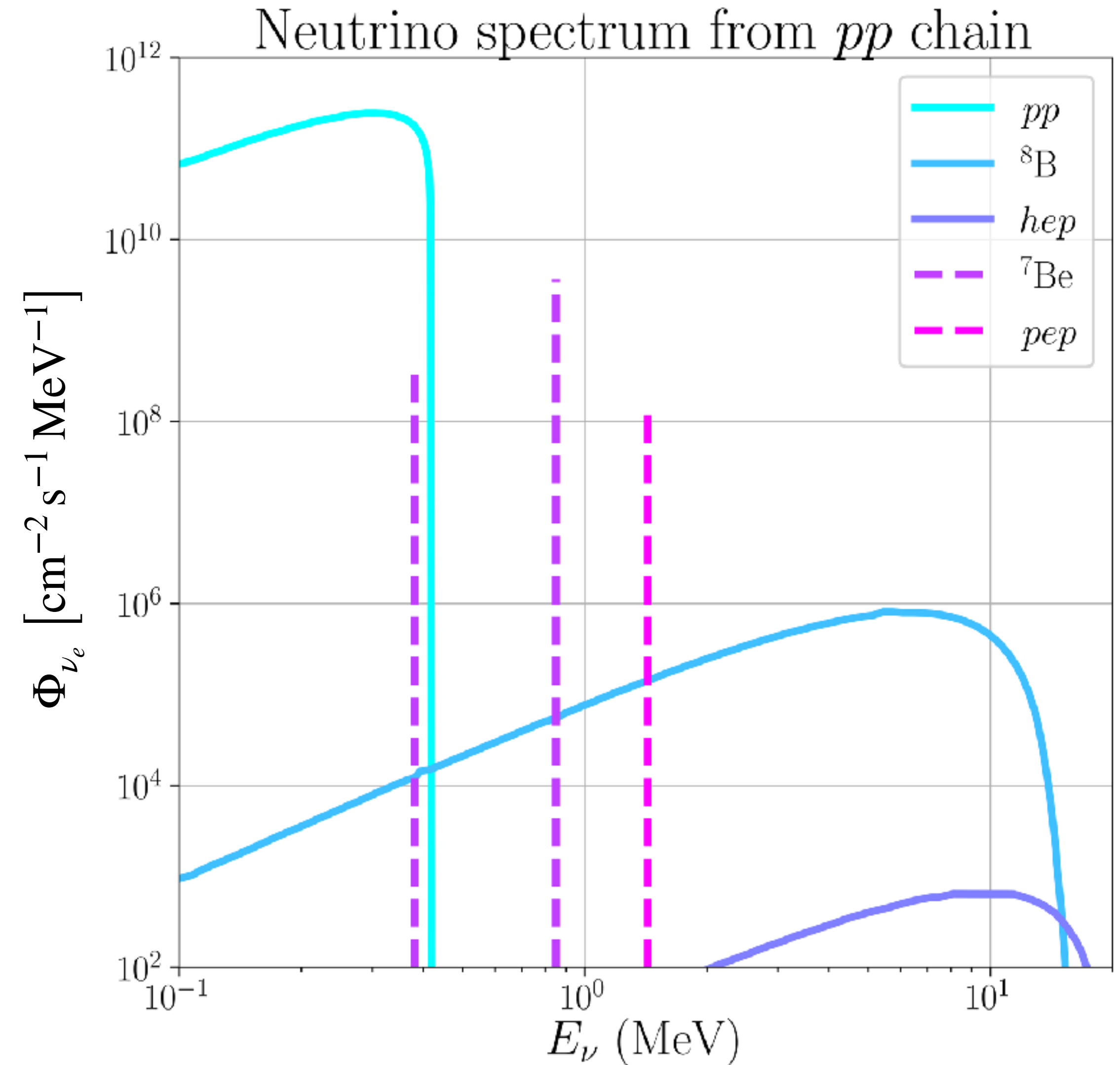
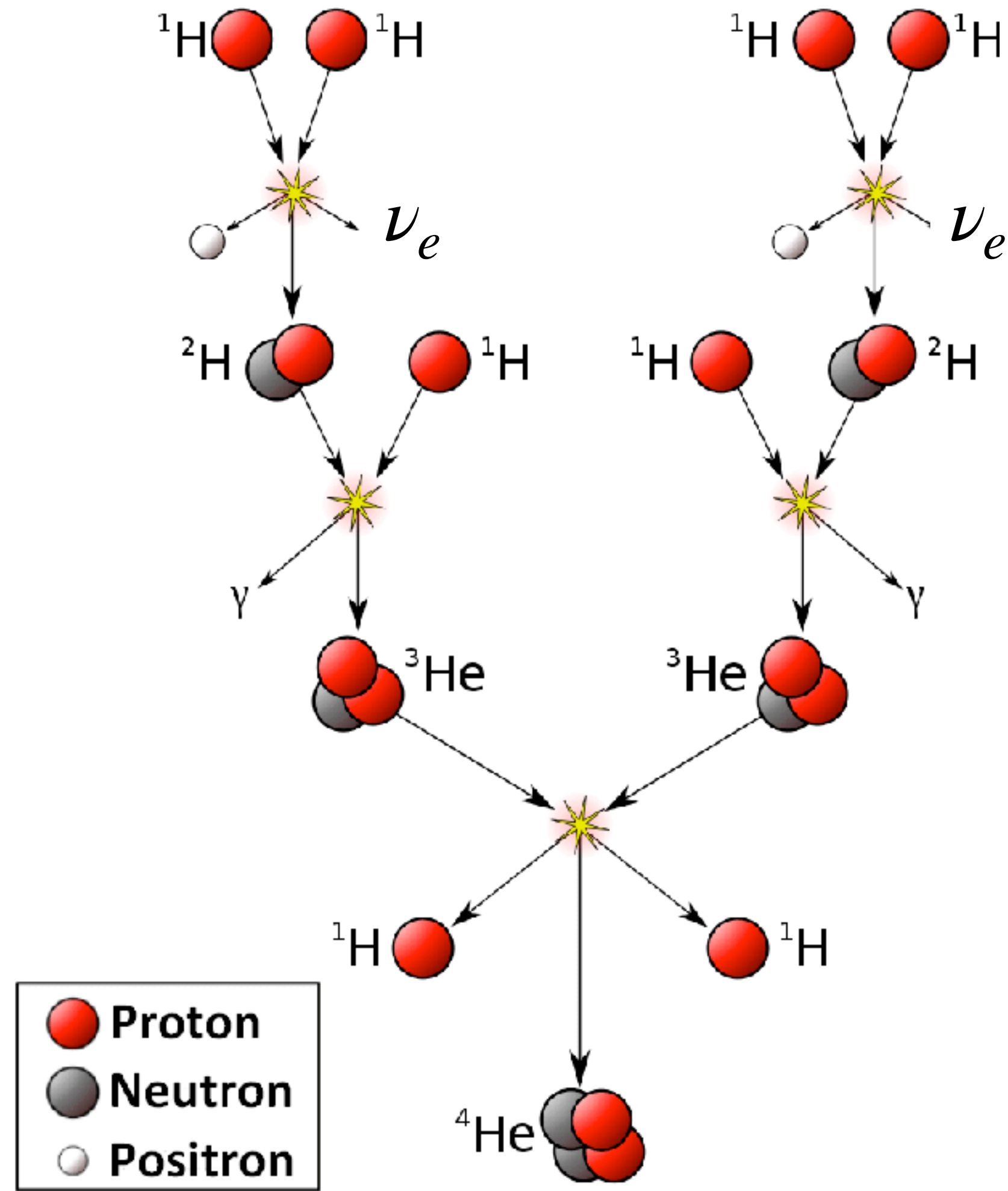
This can't be ! Chemical processes could only power the Sun for 30,000 years and gravitational processes are still well-short.

William Thomson



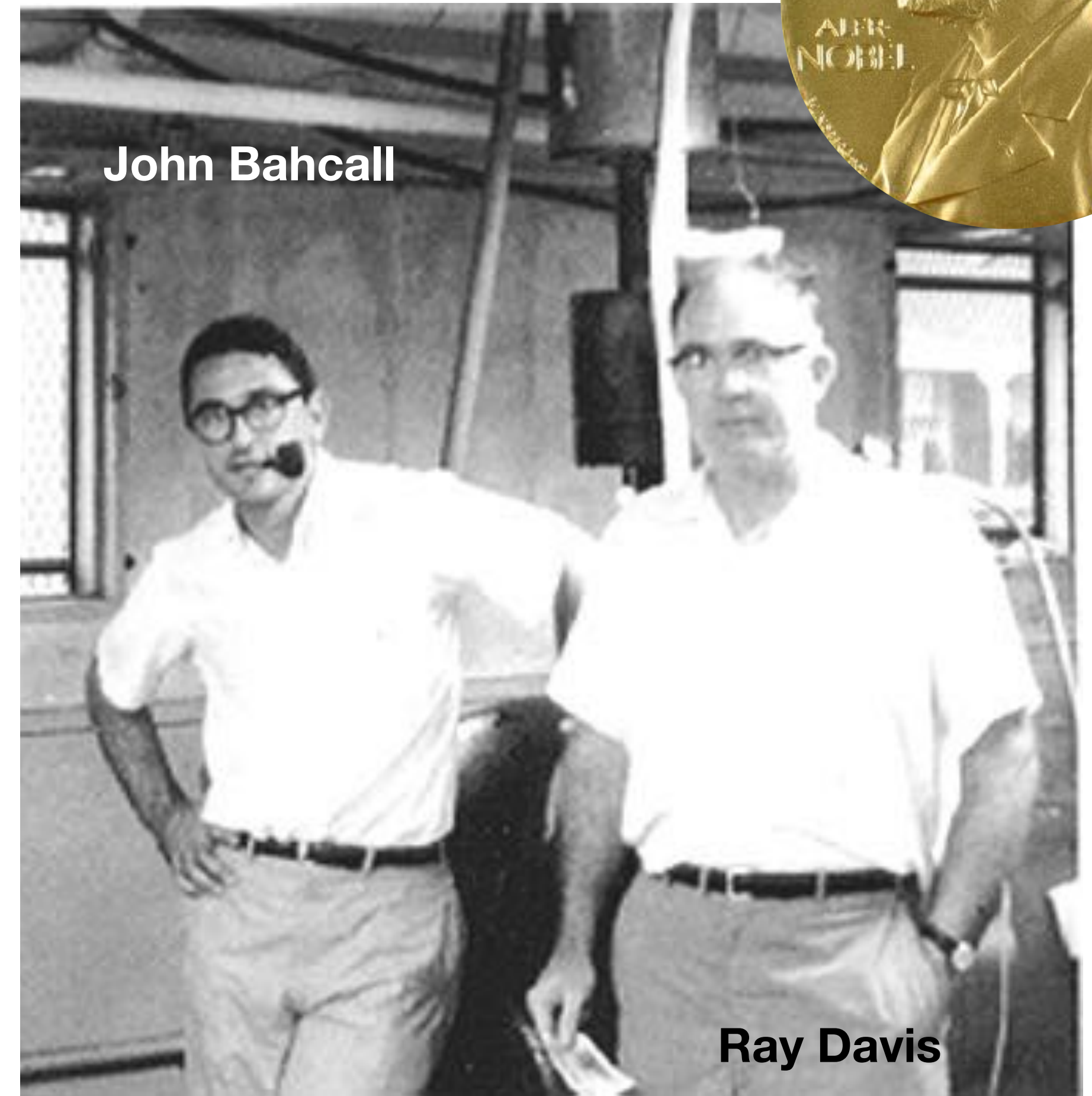
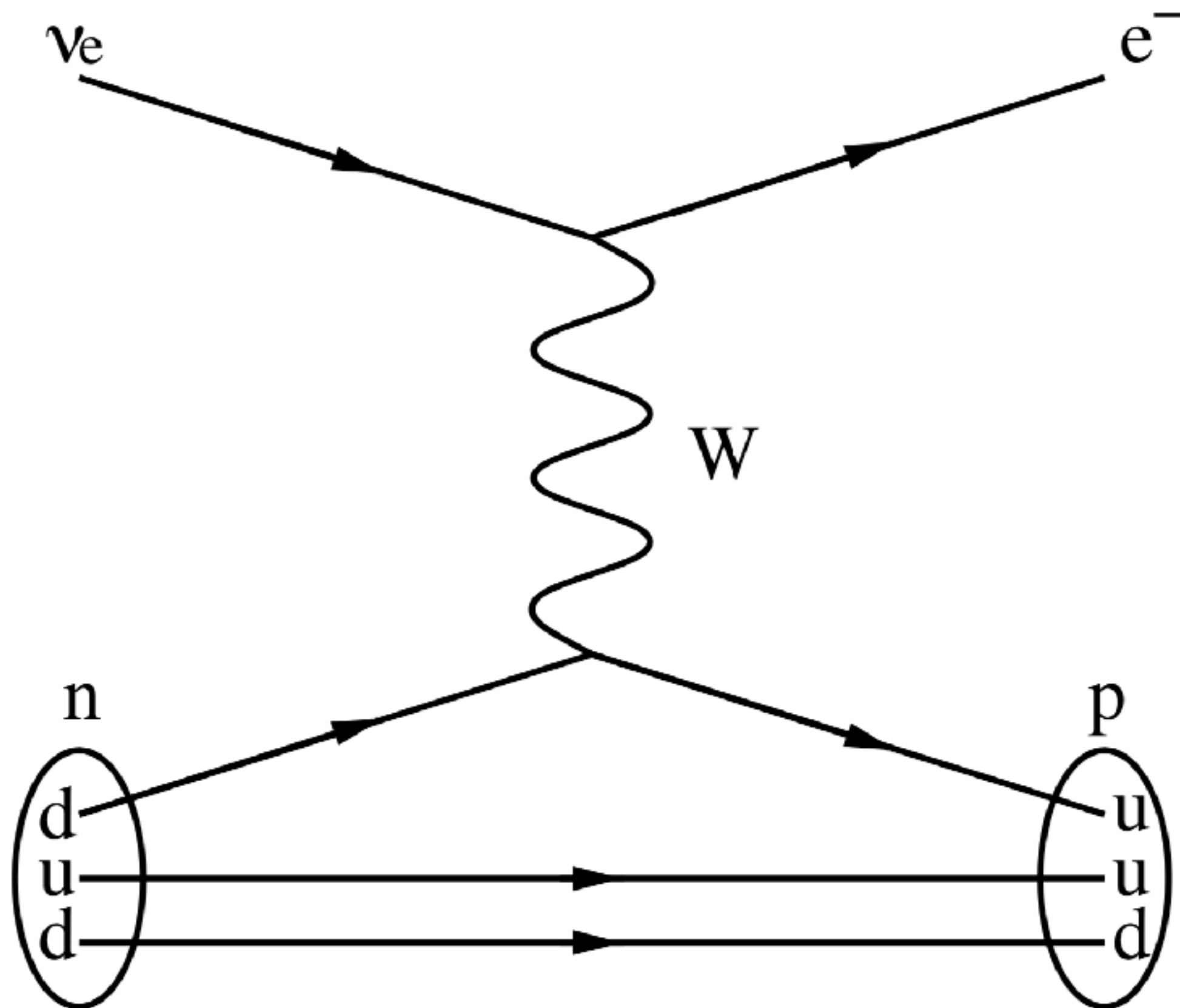
# How Does the Sun Shine ?

If the Sun generates energy from nuclear fusion, it will emit **electron** neutrinos



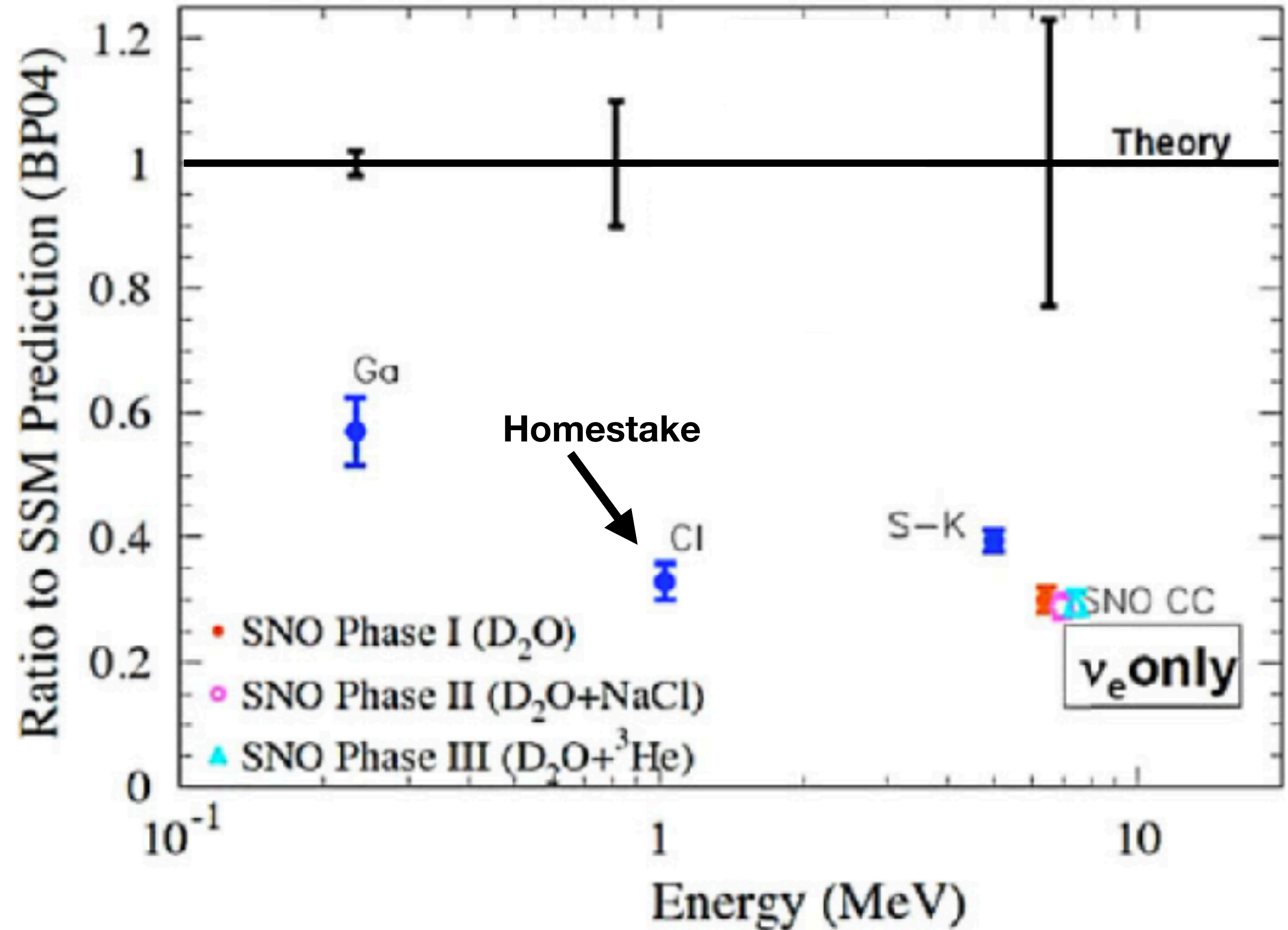
# Staring into the Sun

- Homestake experiment looked for solar  $\nu_e$  via  $^{37}\text{Cl} + \nu_e \rightarrow ^{37}\text{Ar} + e^-$
- First observation of solar neutrinos !



# The Solar Neutrino Problem

- Flux measured by Homestake was in bad agreement with SSM prediction
- Many experiments continued to prod at this discrepancy, while theory is honed
- Discrepancy persisted

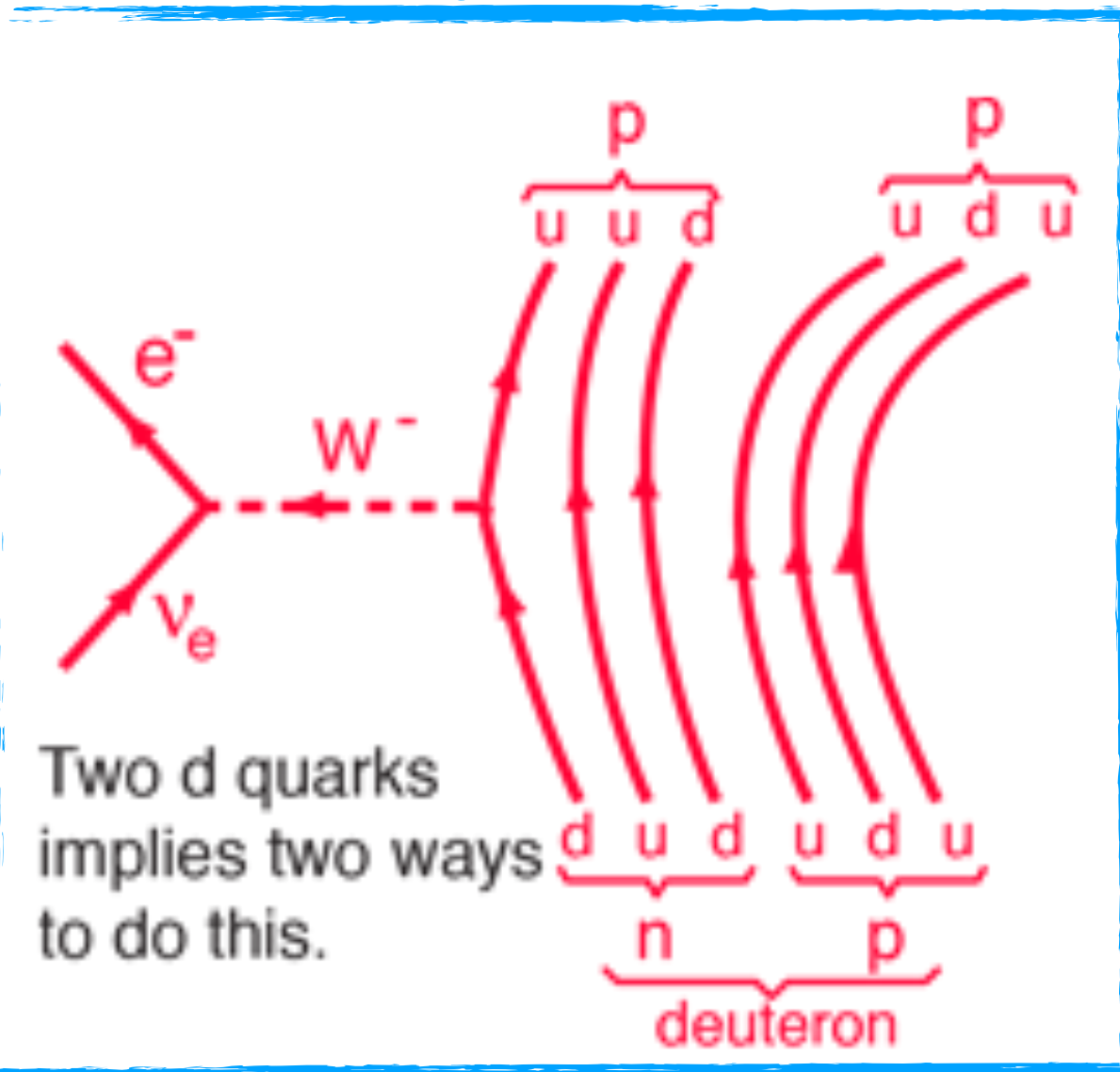


A. McDonald. doi:10.1002/201600031

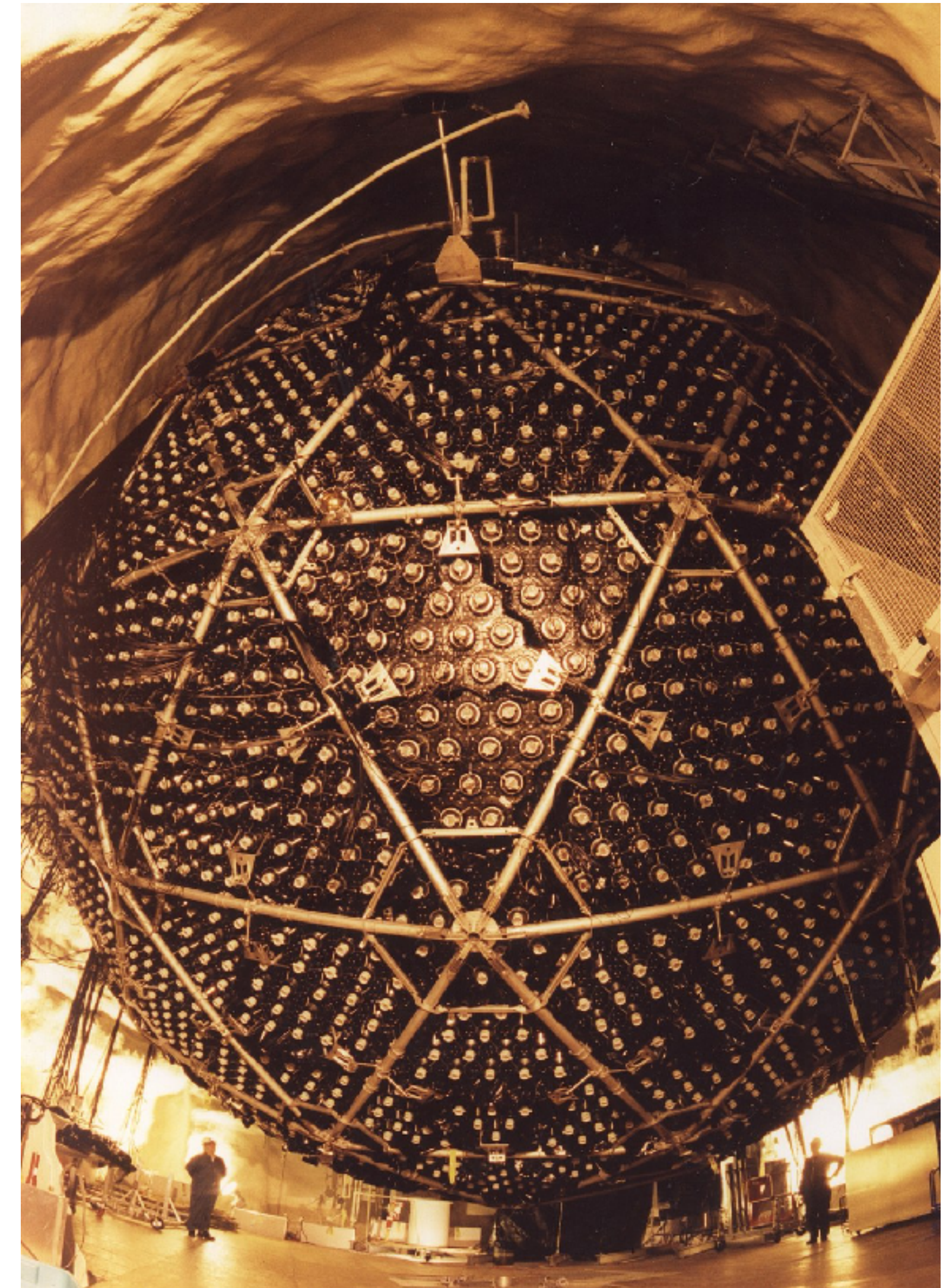
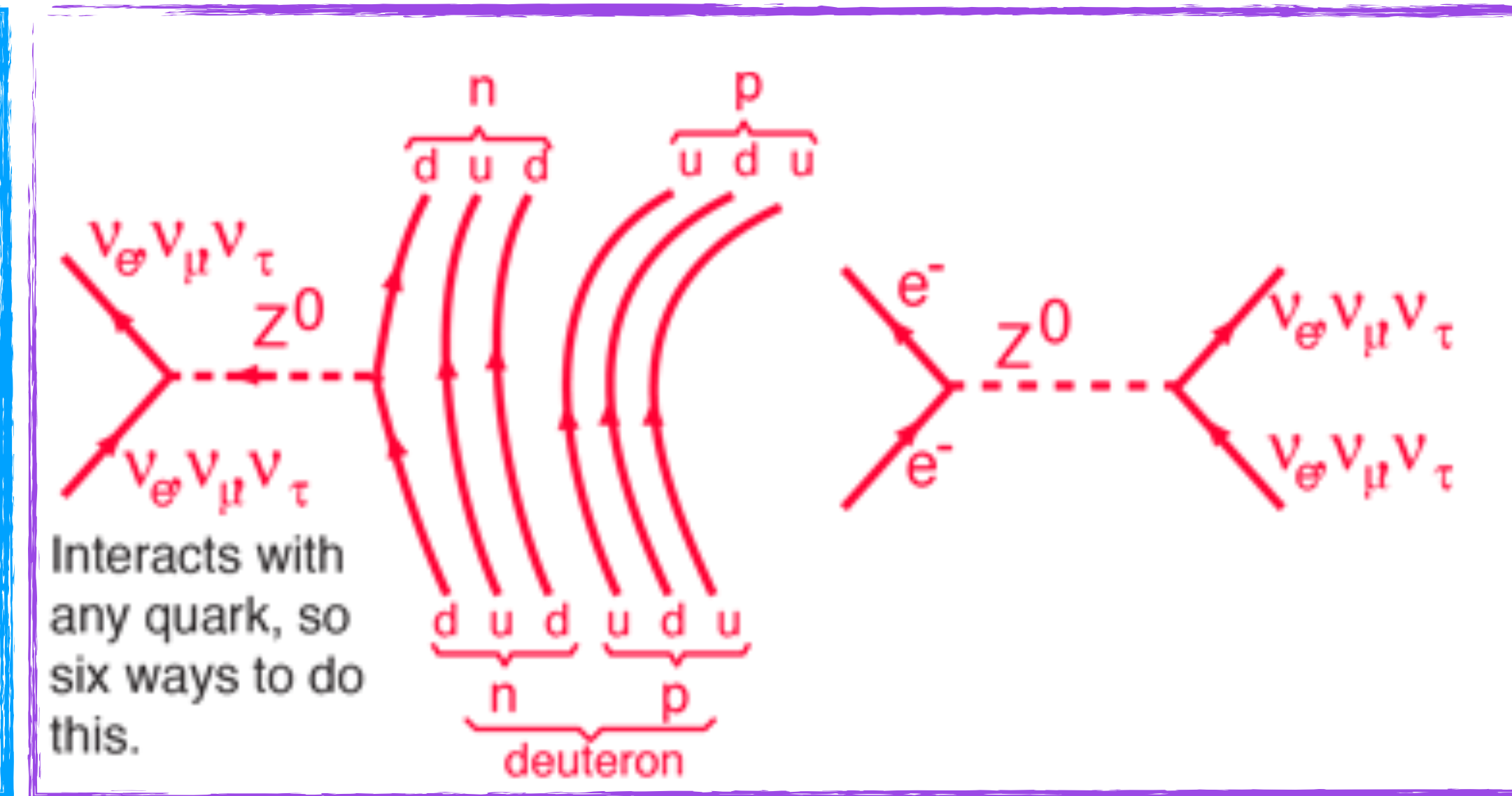
# Looking at New Flavors

- Sudbury Neutrino Observatory used heavy water water ( $D_2O$ ) to measure all-flavor NC processes

$\nu_e$  only

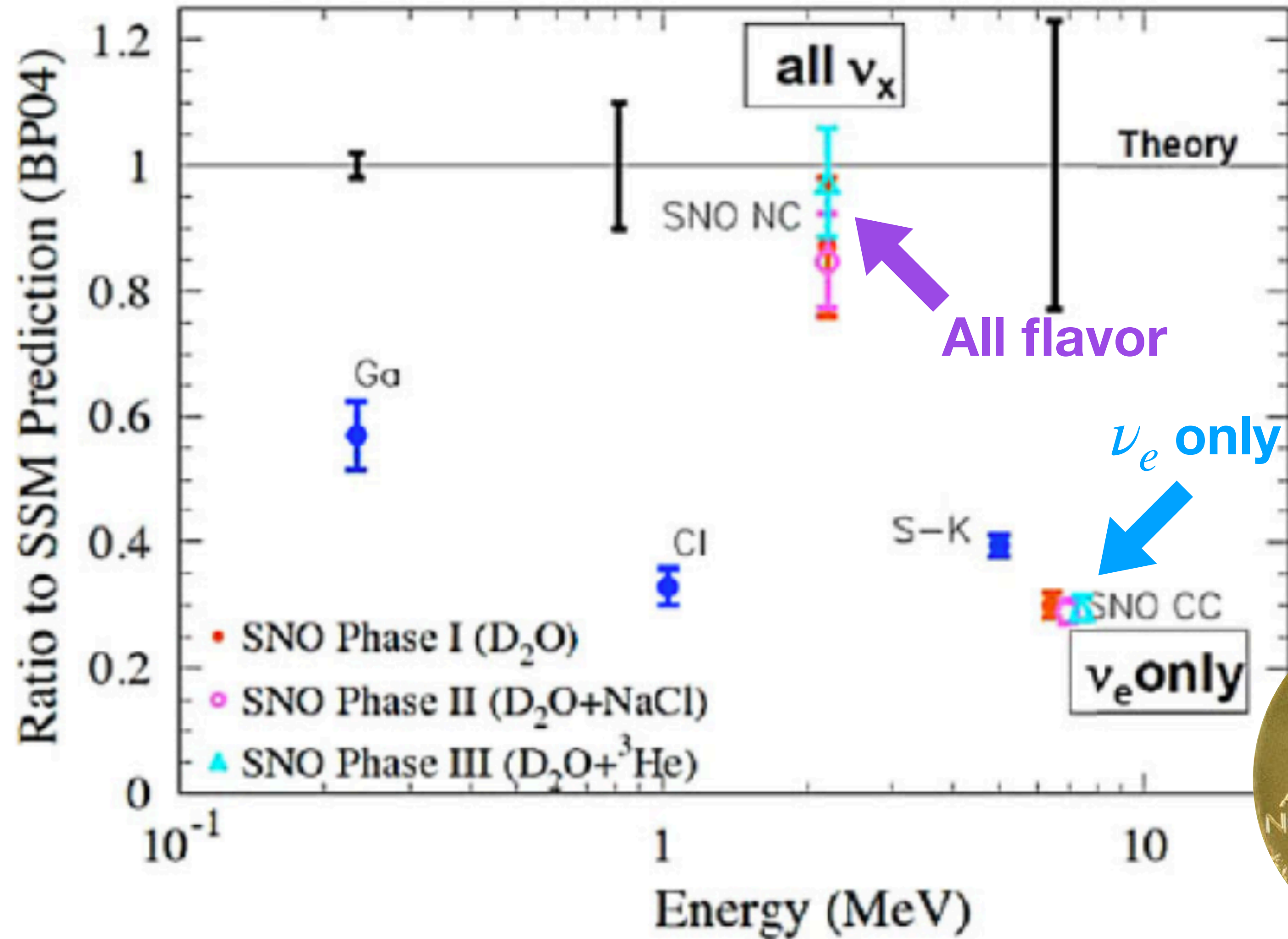


All flavor



<http://hyperphysics.phy-astr.gsu.edu/hbase/Particles/sno.html>

# Looking at New Flavors



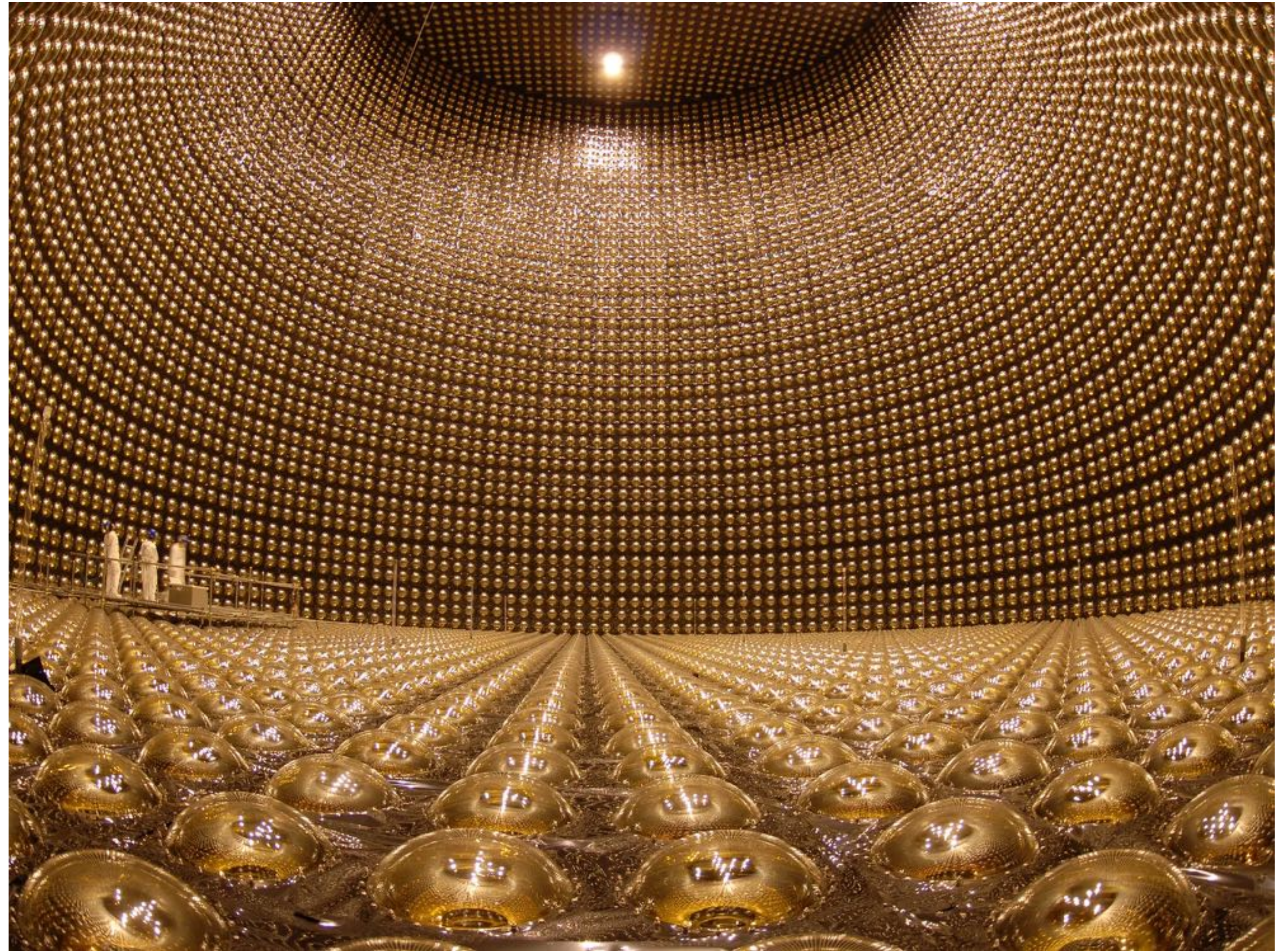
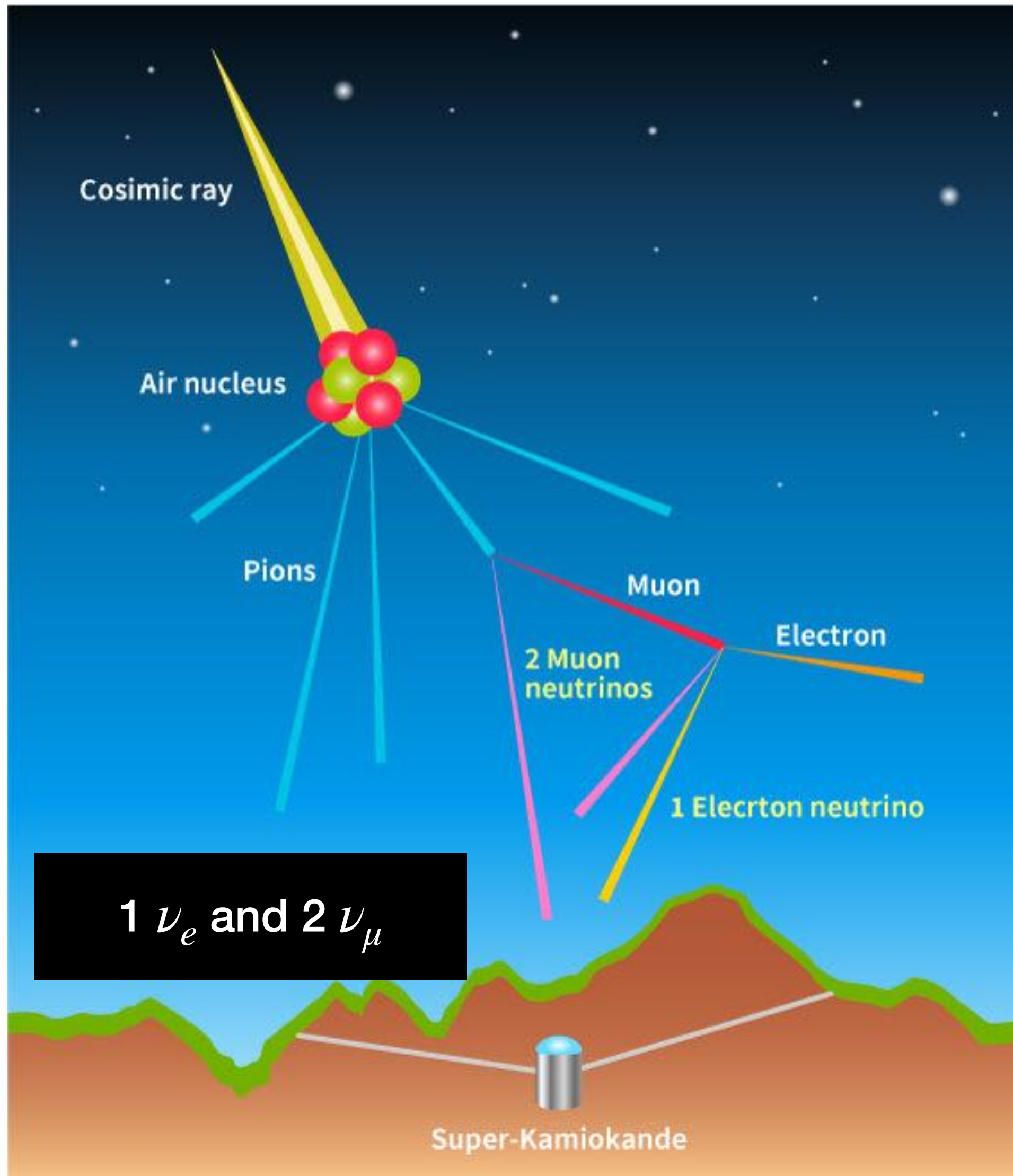
- Discrepancy observed in electron-only measurement
- All flavor measurement in agreement with theoretical predictions



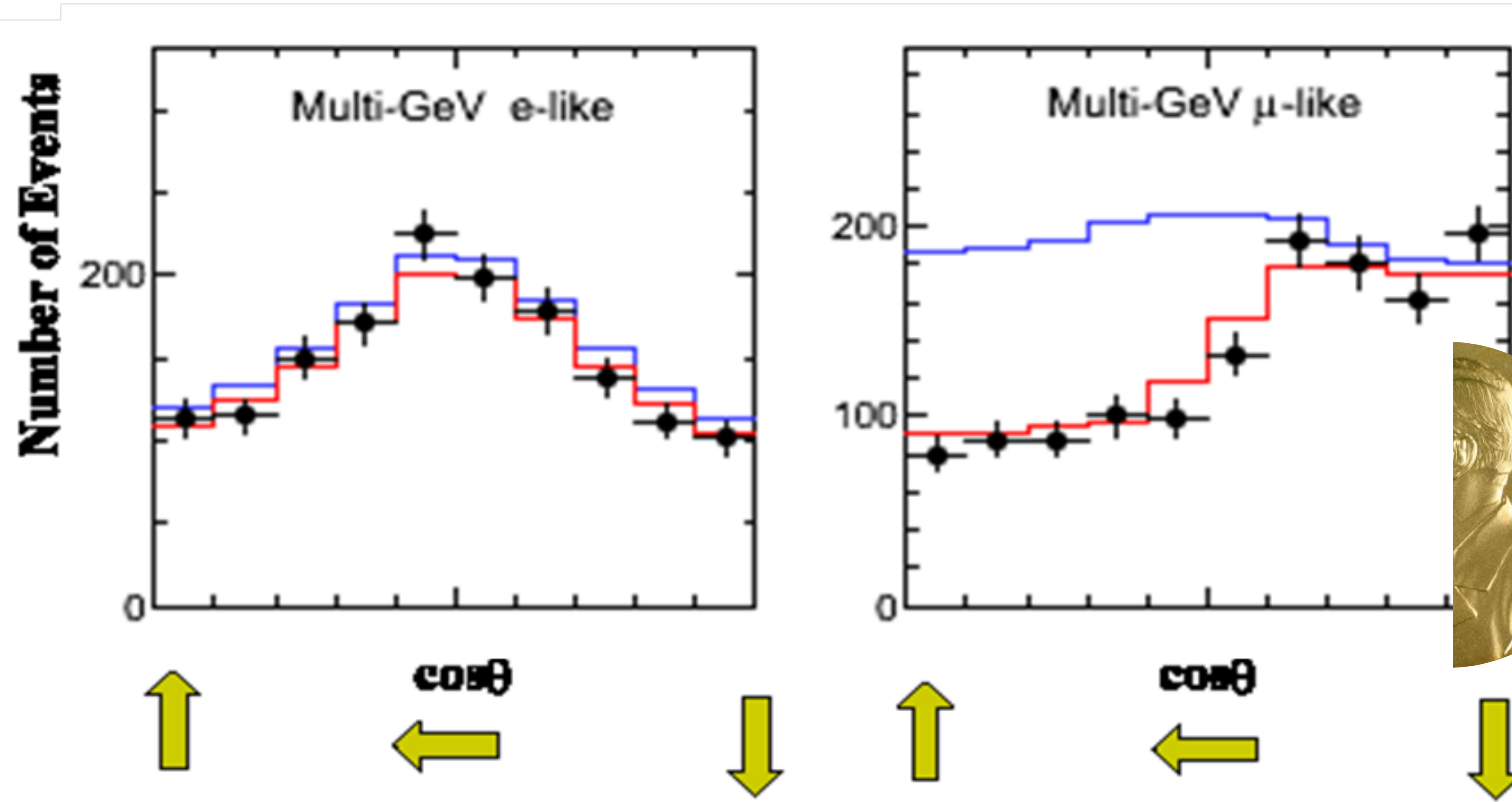
A. McDonald. doi:10.1002/201600031



# Looking at New Sources



# Looking at New Sources



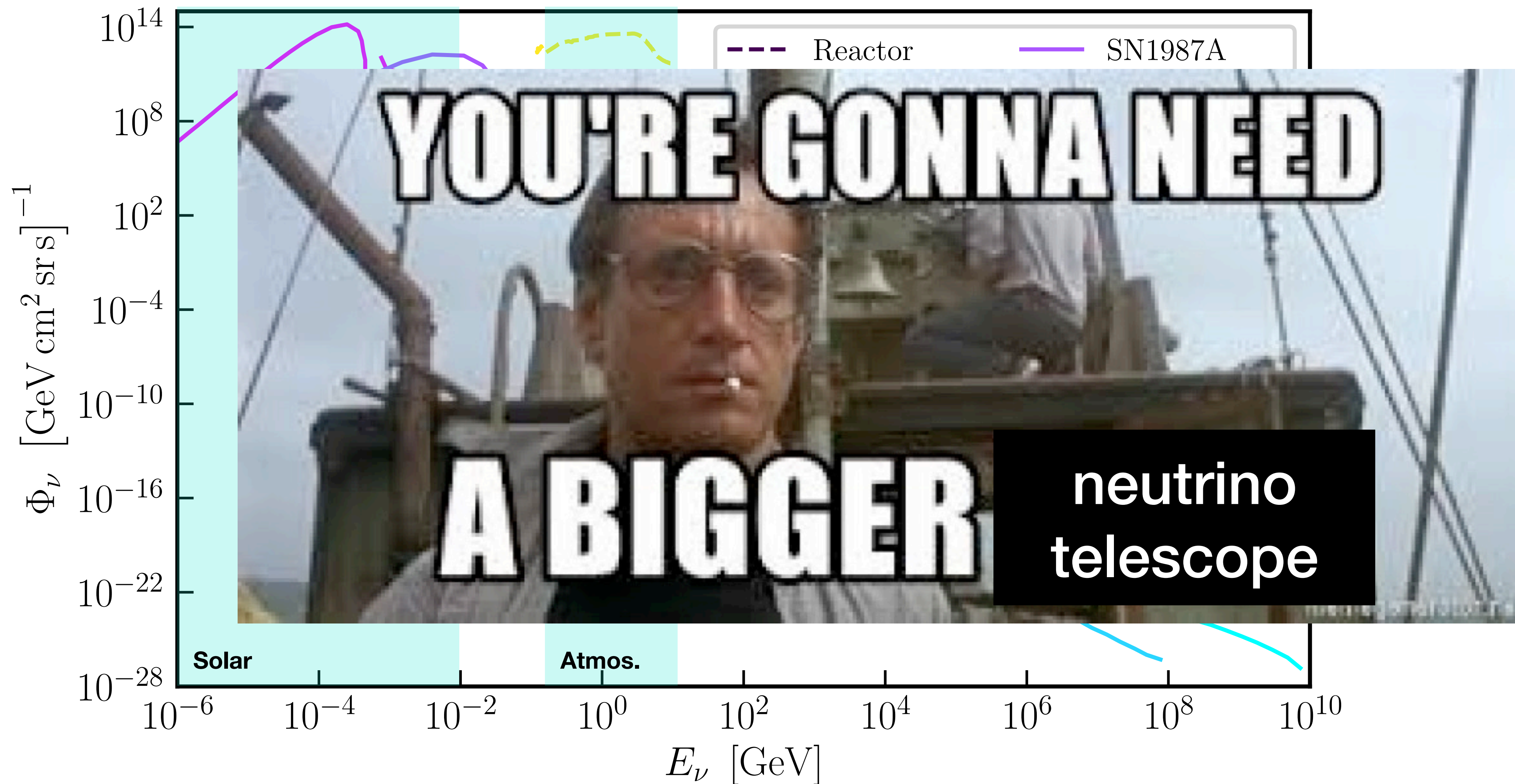
- SuperK saw a deficit of  $\nu_\mu$  coming through the Earth
- This confirmed neutrinos neutrino in-flight flavor change



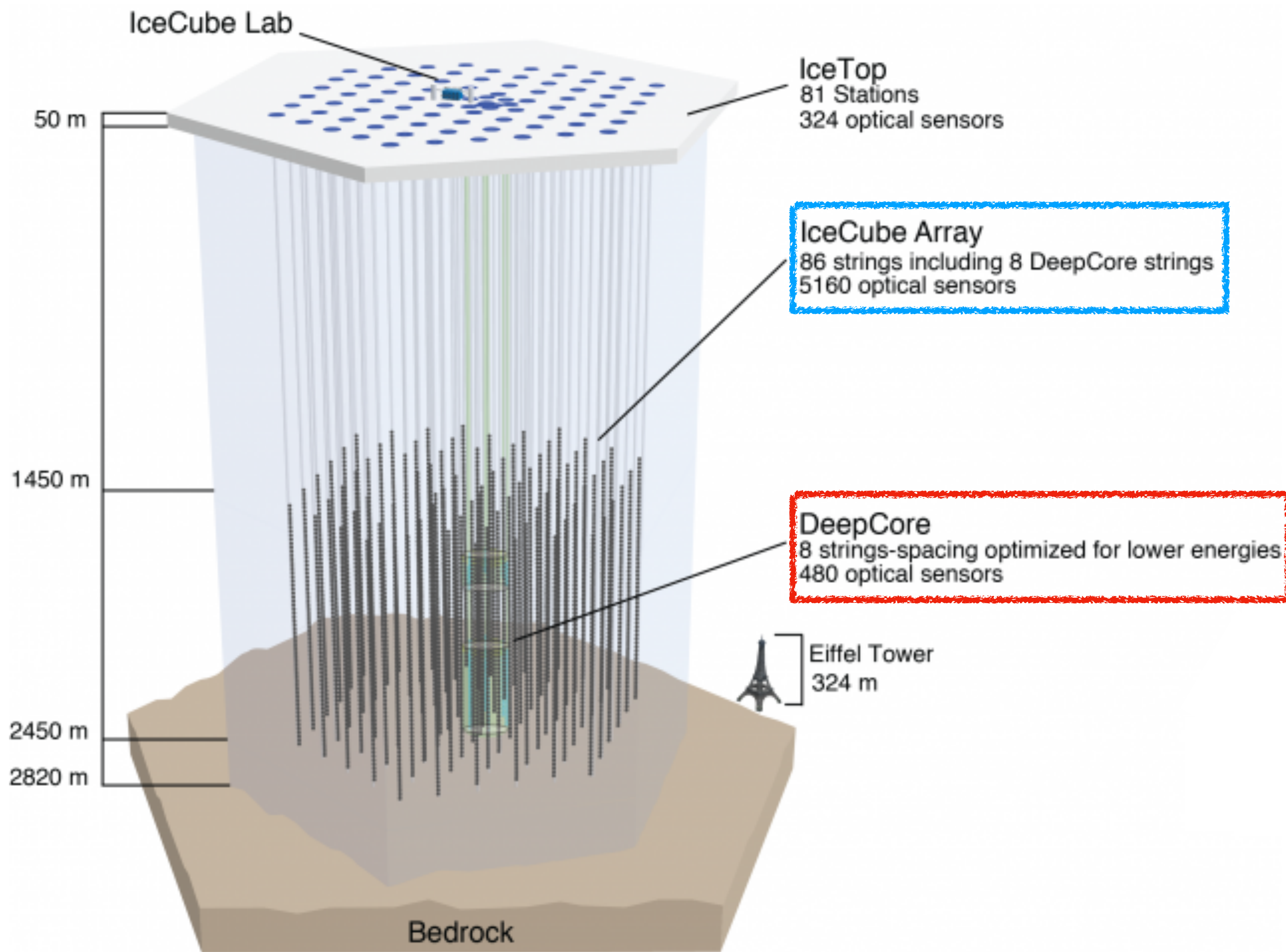
Understanding the *flavor*, *energy*, and *directional* information of non-terrestrial neutrinos have played a pivotal role in shaping our understanding of the Sun, neutrino physics, and the Standard Model more broadly

**So, where do we go from here ?**

Well-understood / measured

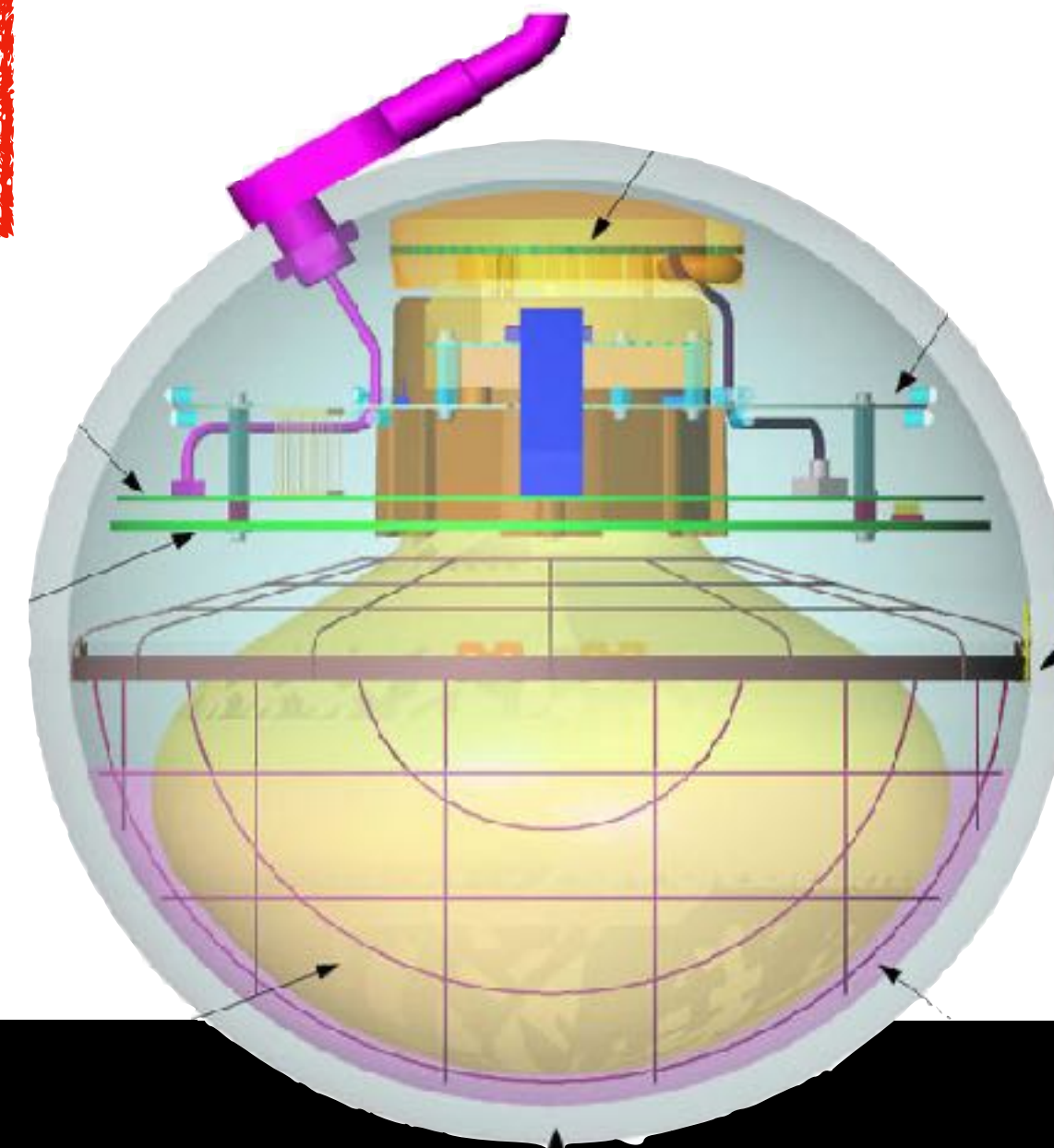


# The IceCube Neutrino Observatory



Gigaton scale detector of 5,160 light detecting digital optical modules (DOMs)

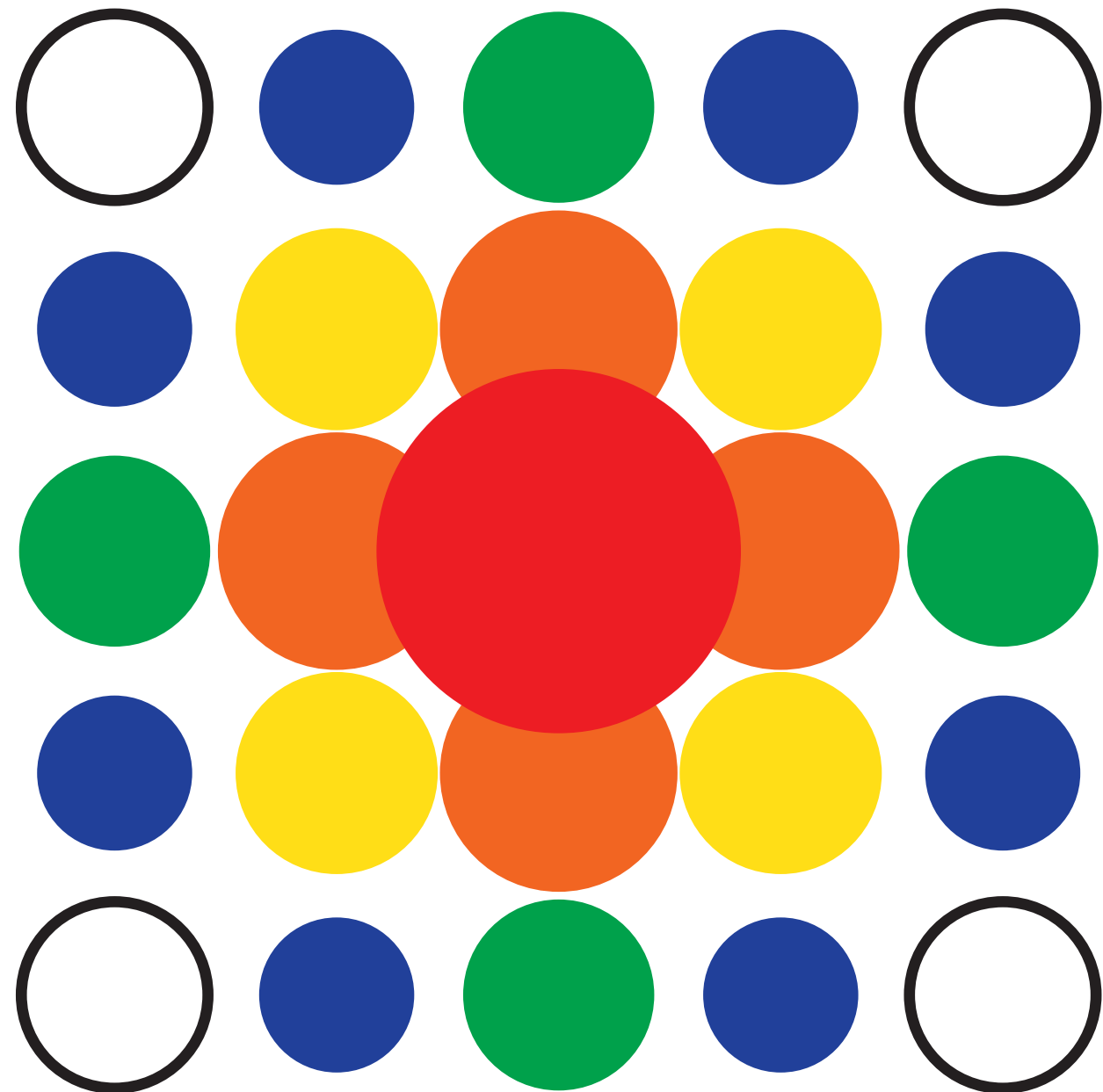
IceCube and DeepCore sensitive to high- and low-energy neutrinos



# Unfolding Light and Time

Cascades

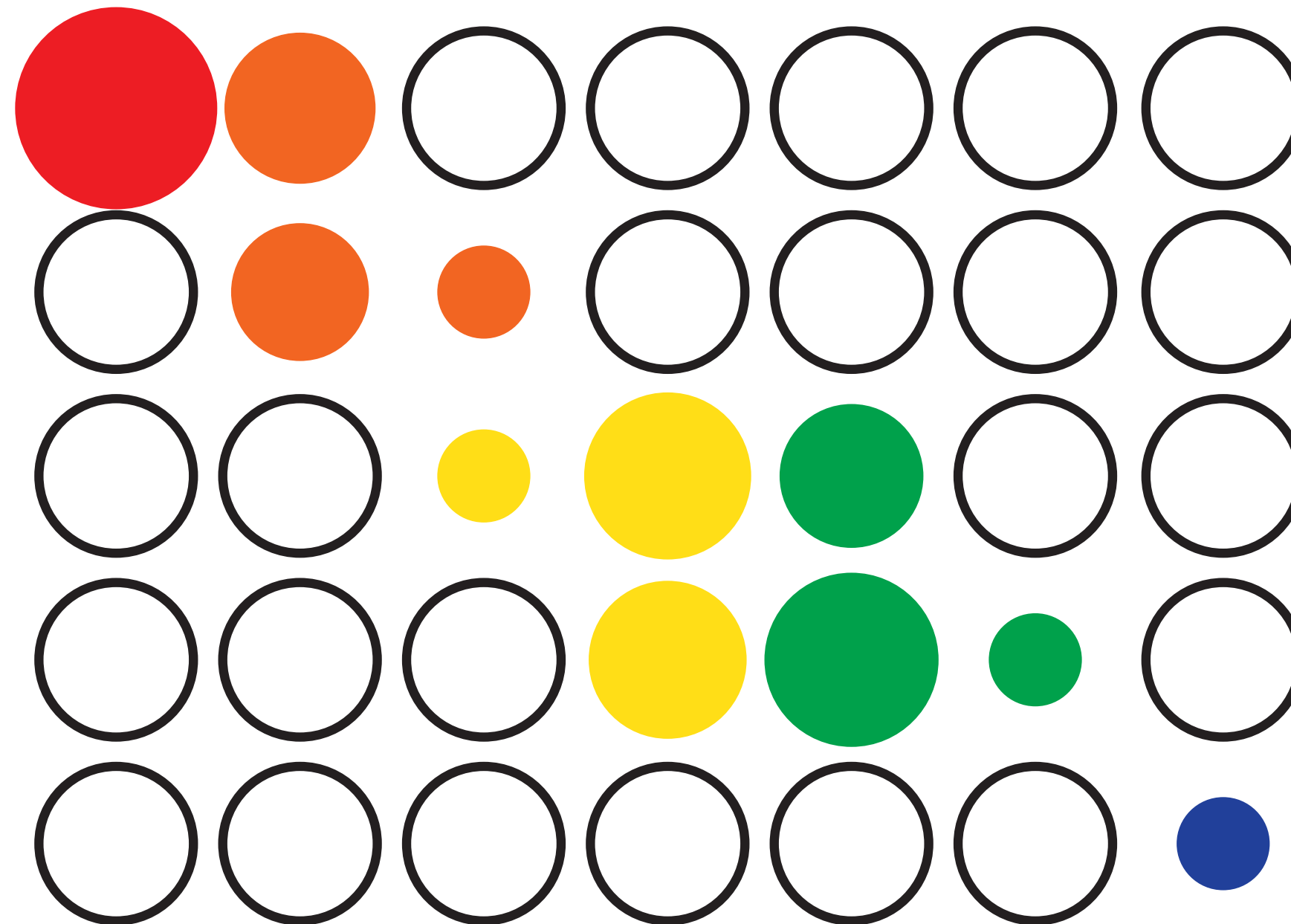
$\nu_e$  CC |  $\nu_\alpha$  NC



Great energy resolution, but angular reconstruction is challenging

Tracks

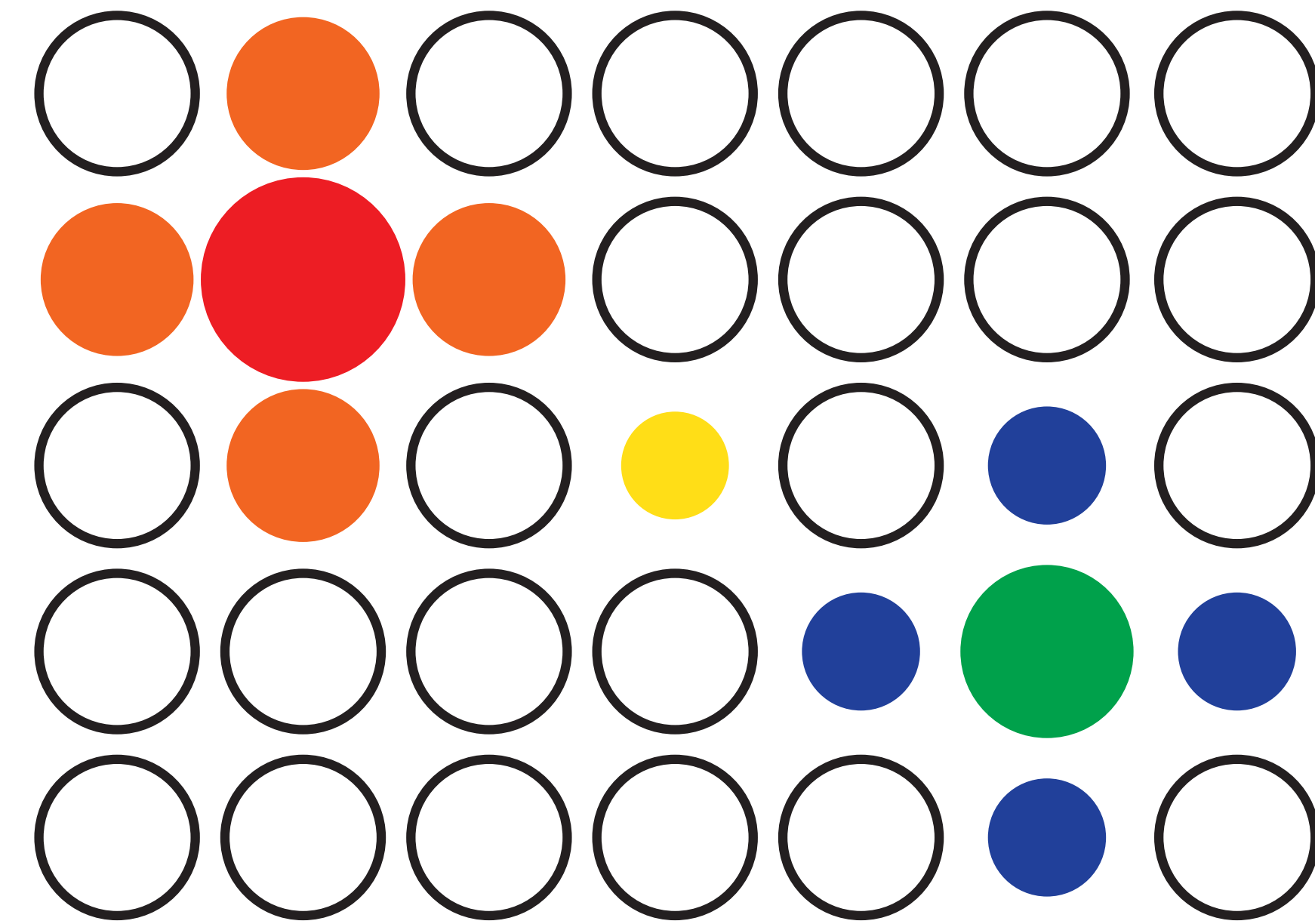
$\nu_\mu$  CC



Great directional resolution, but deposited energy not proportional to  $E_\nu$

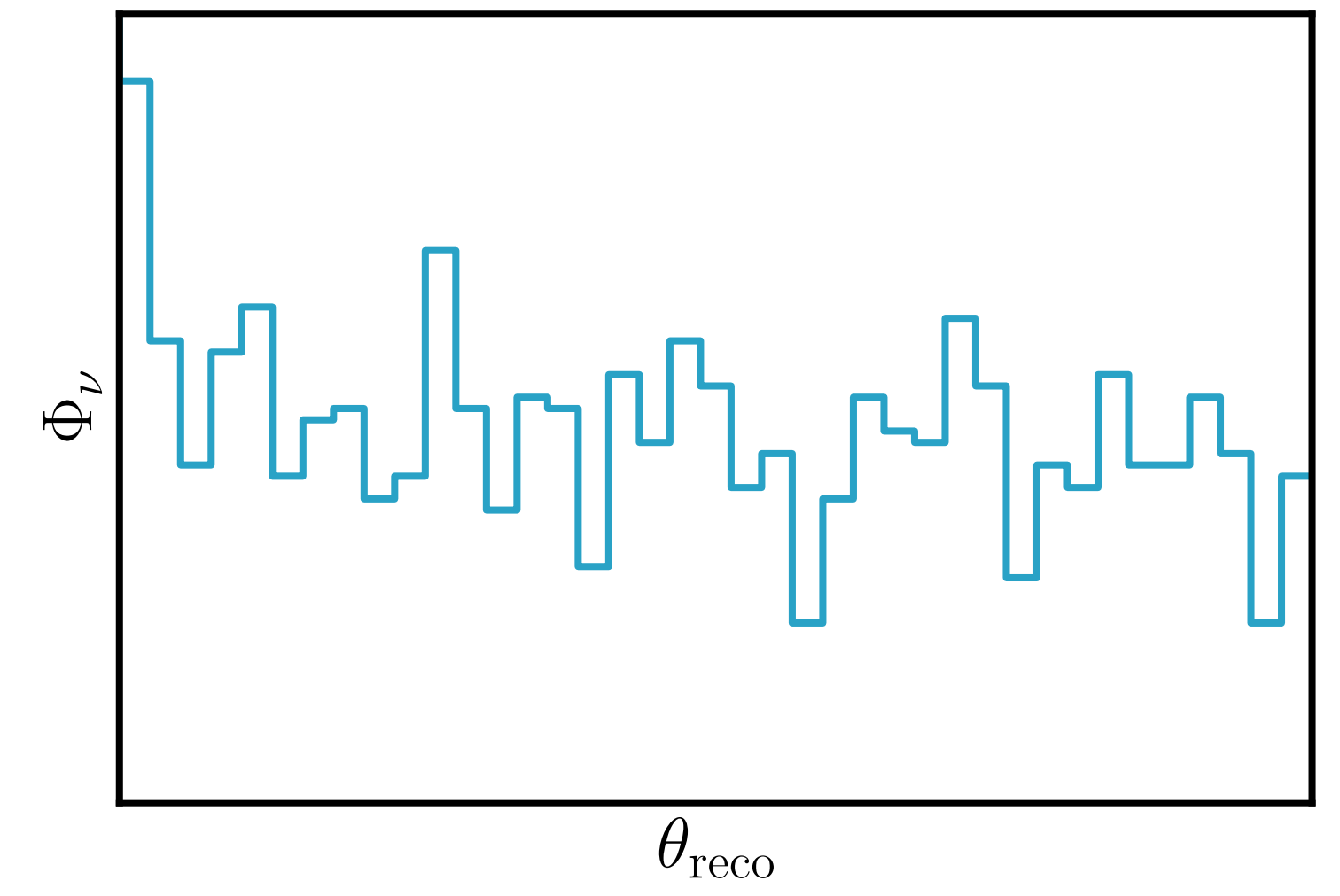
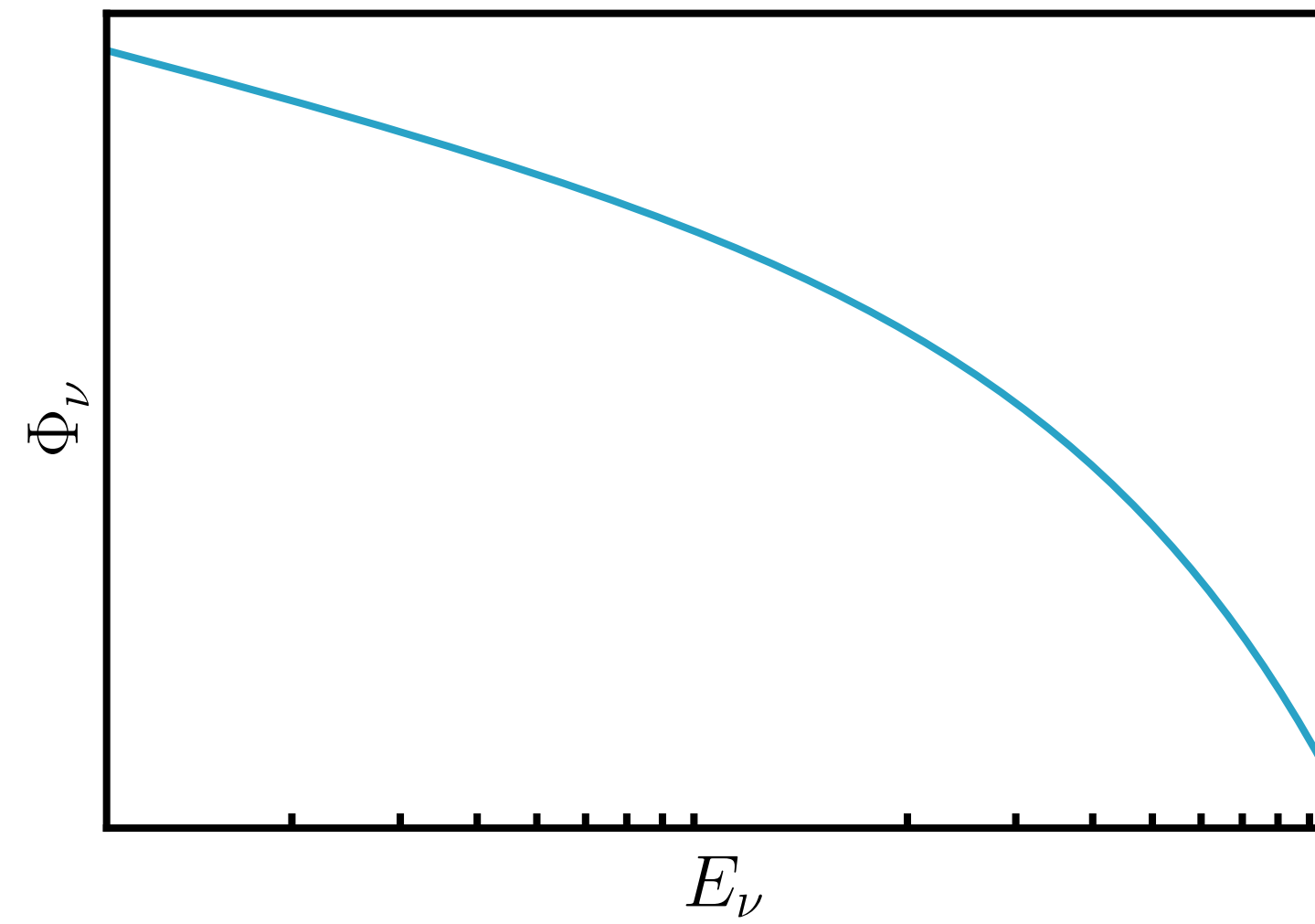
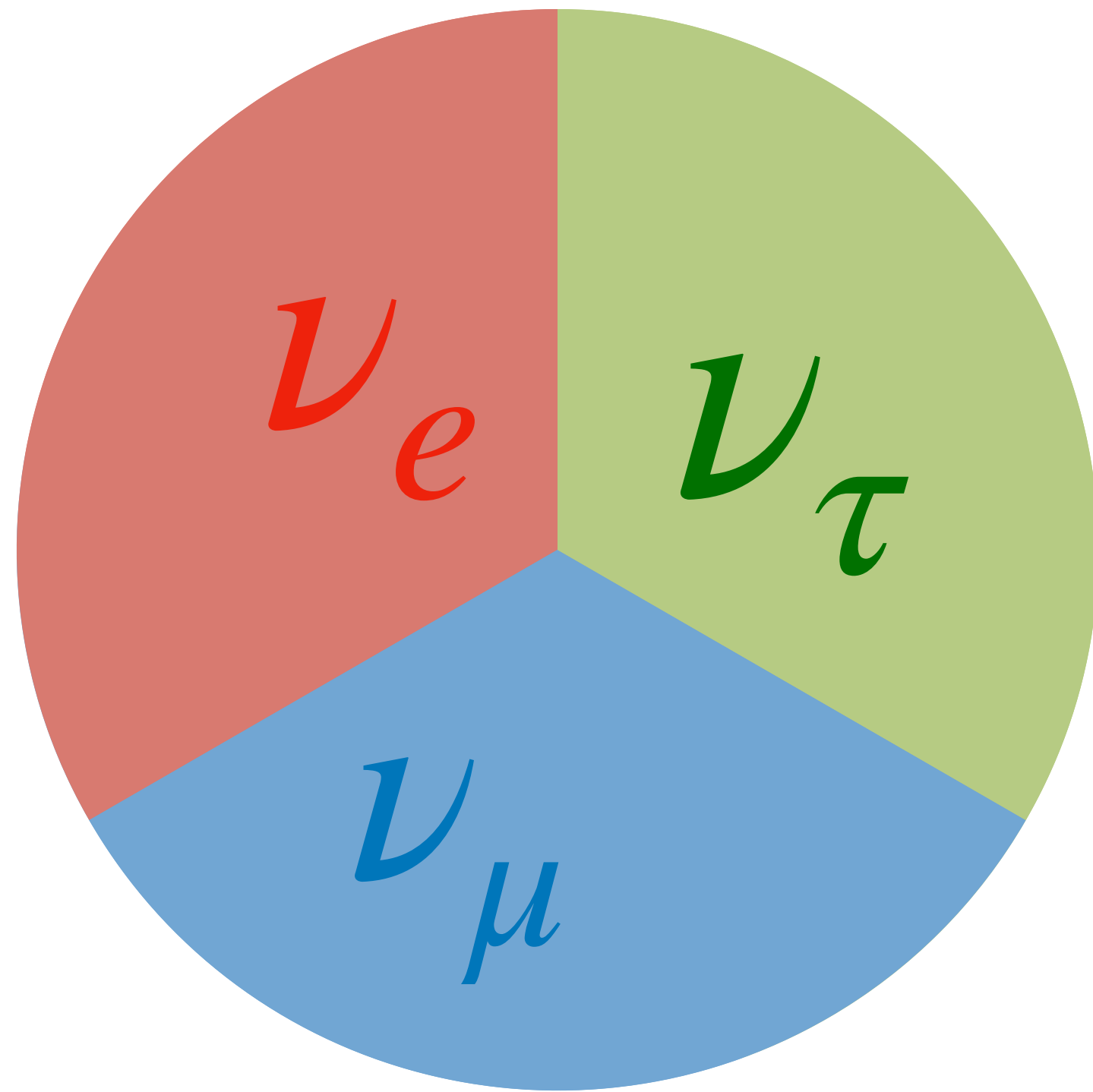
Double bangs

$\nu_\tau$  CC

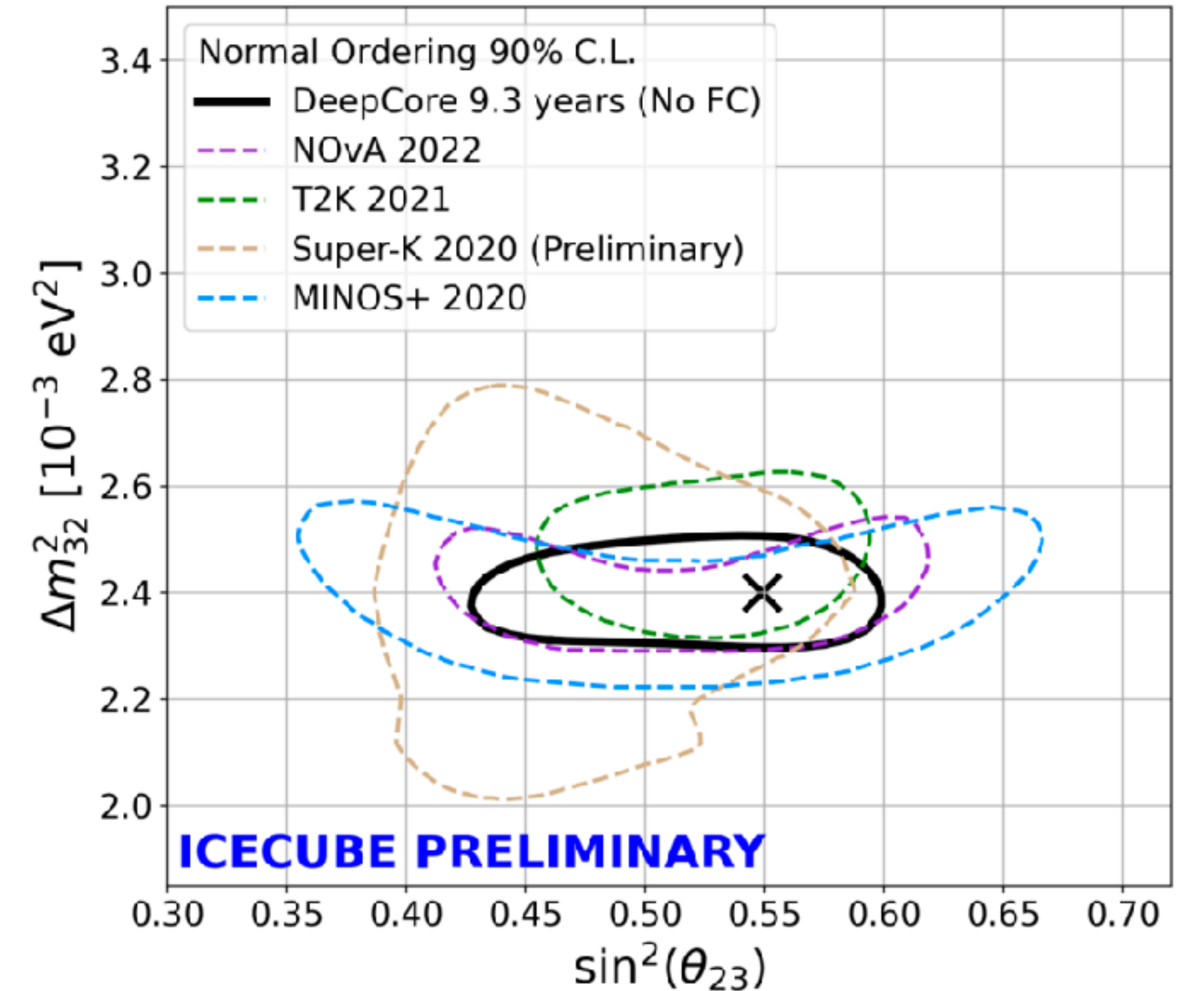
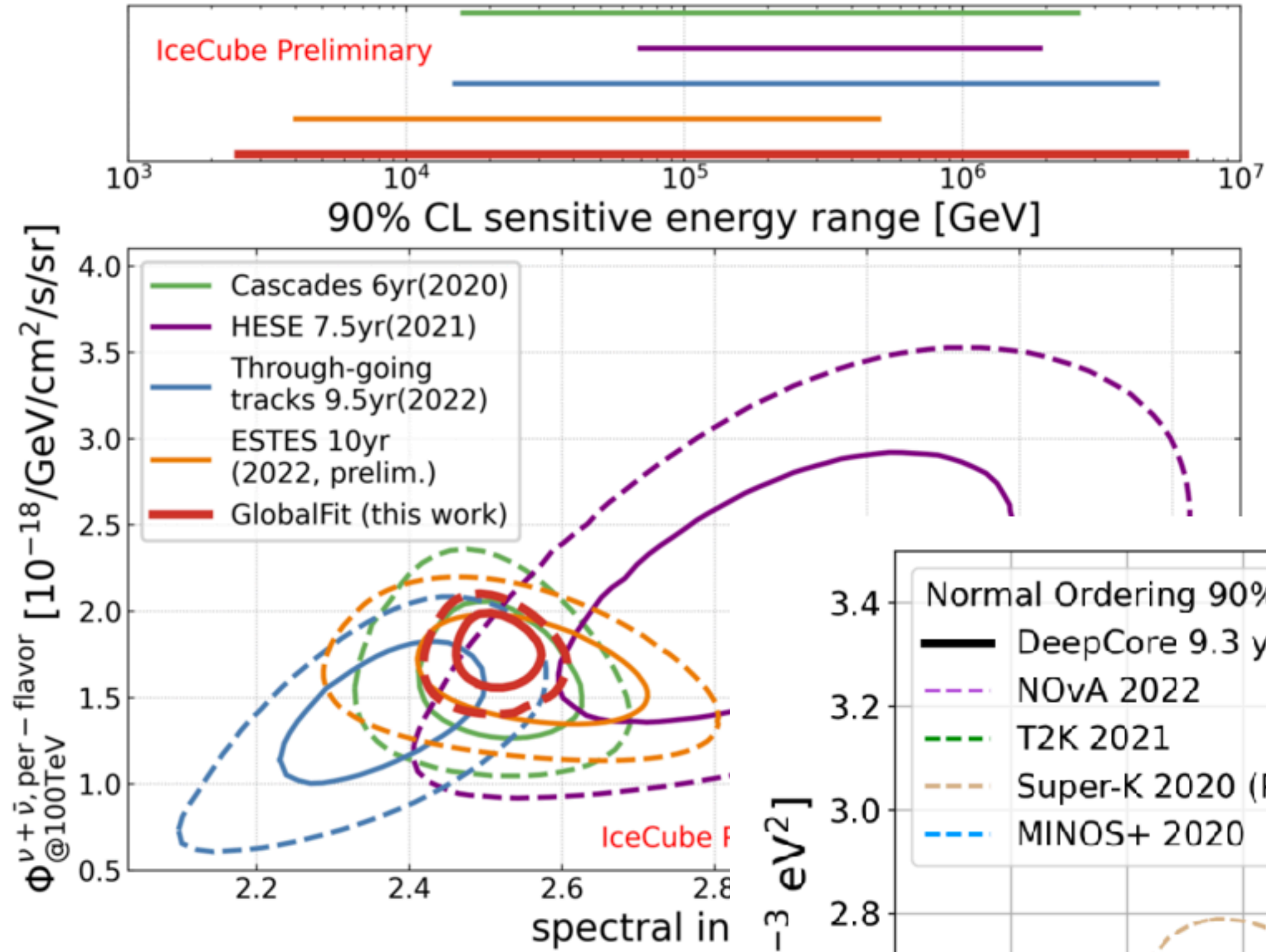
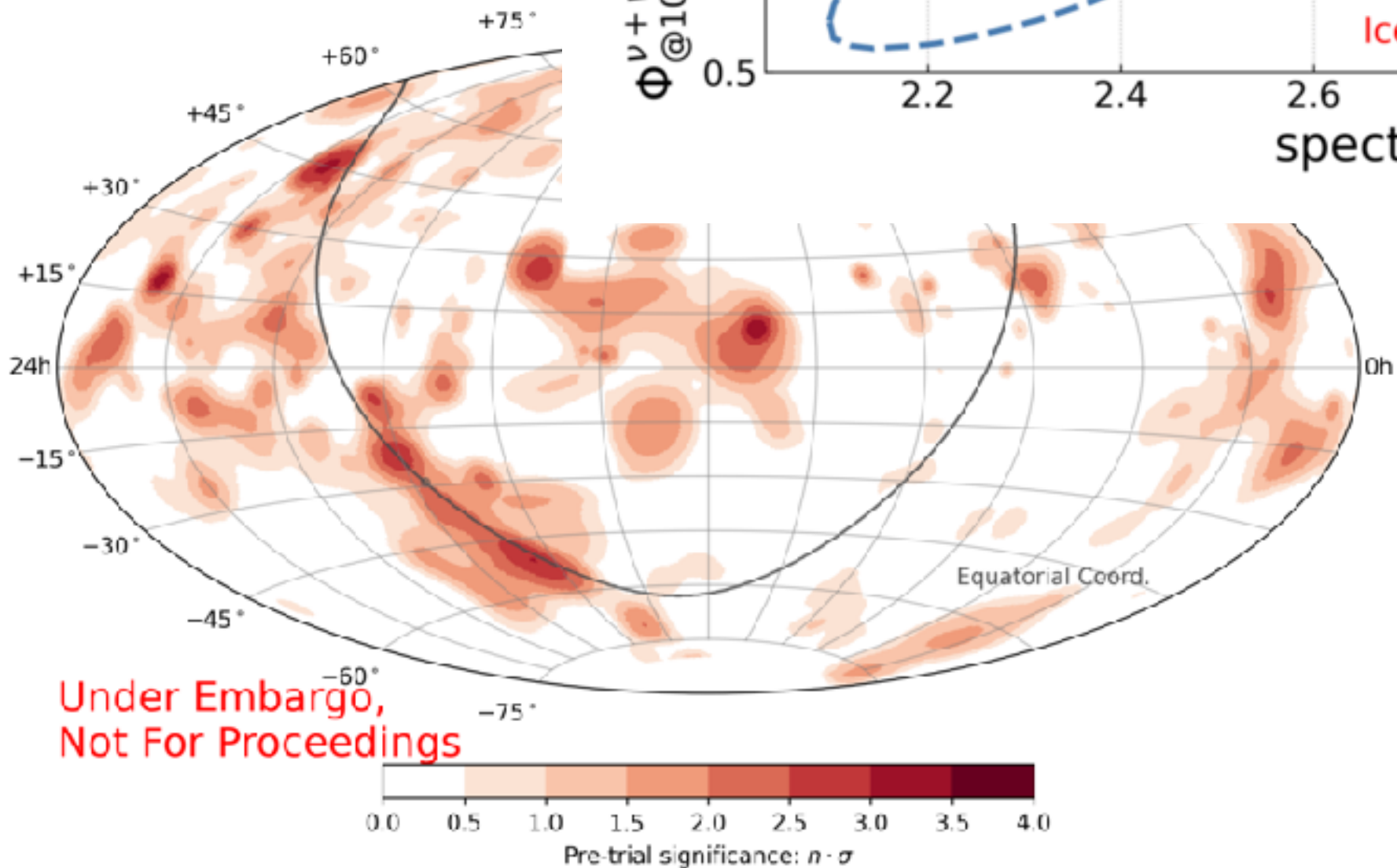
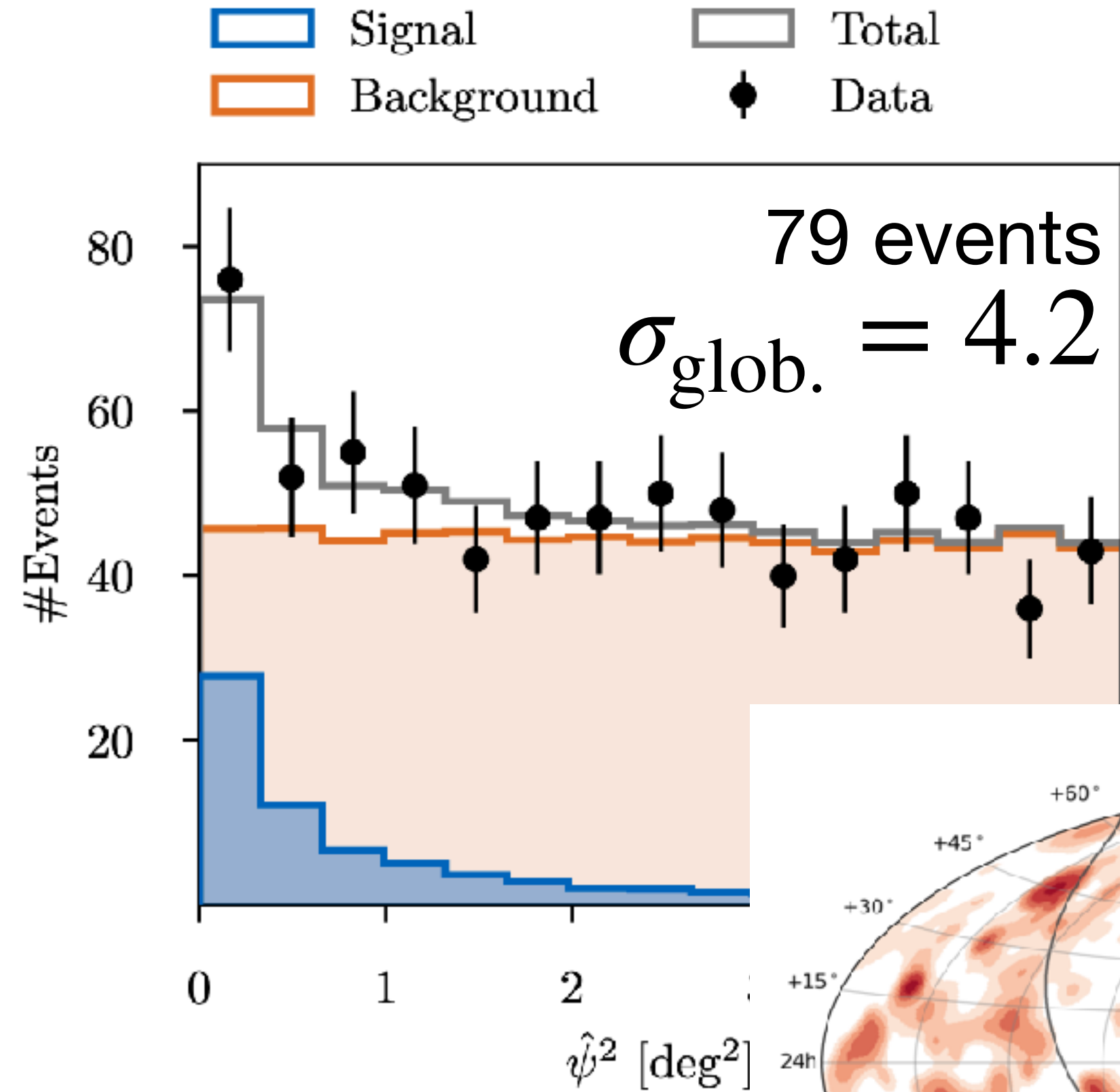


Signature of  $\nu_\tau$  CC events

# What Do we look for



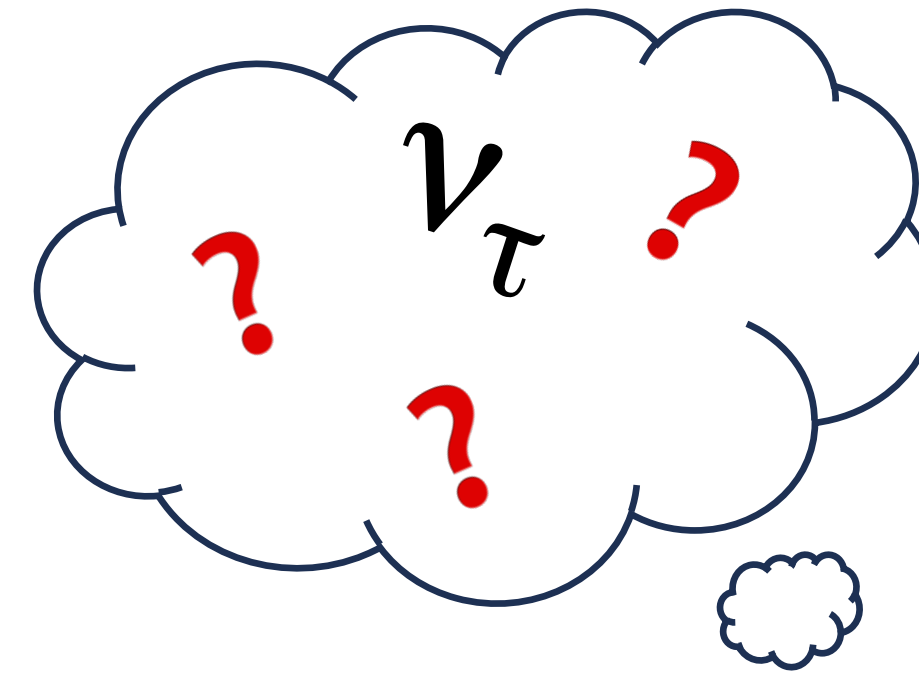
# A Decade of Delivering



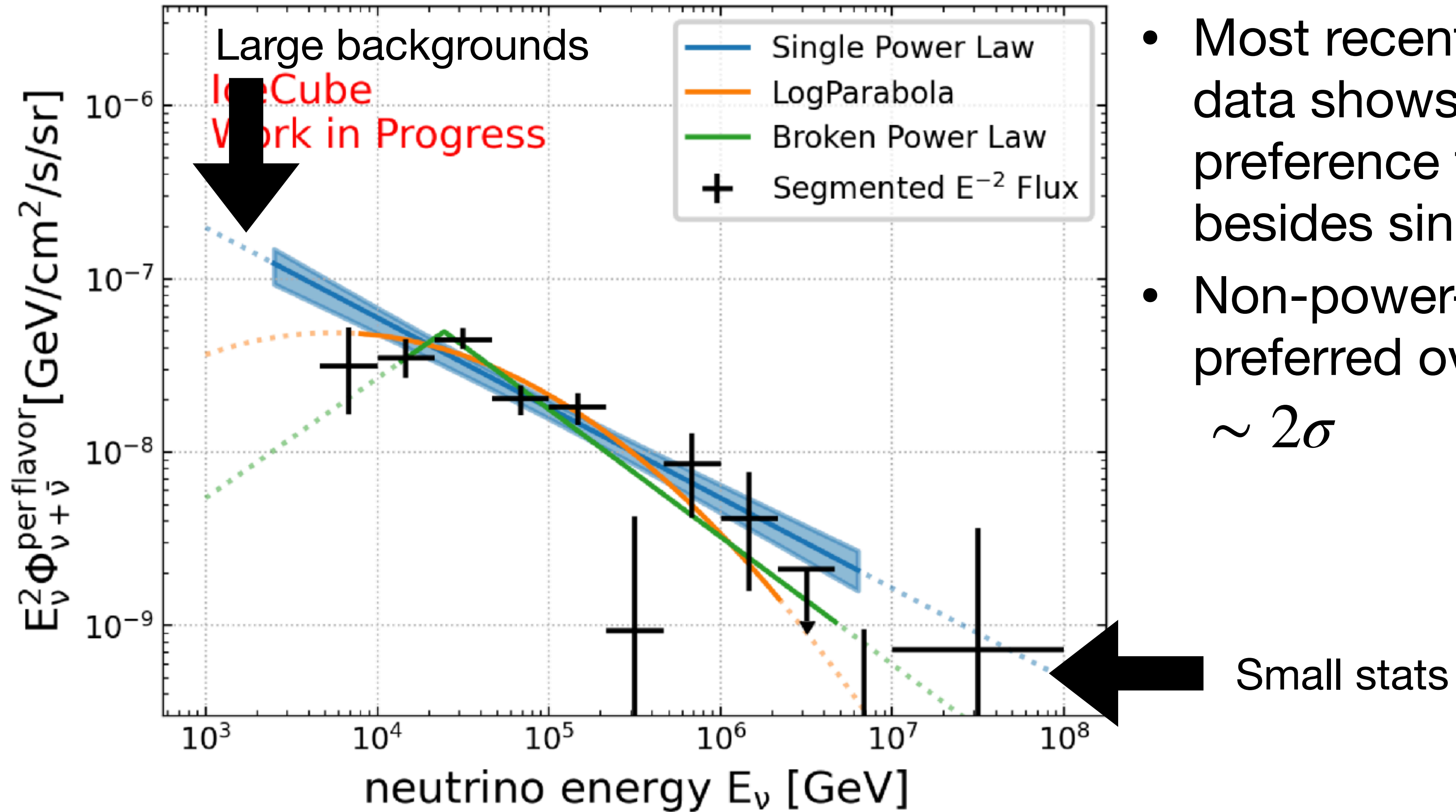


# Roadmap

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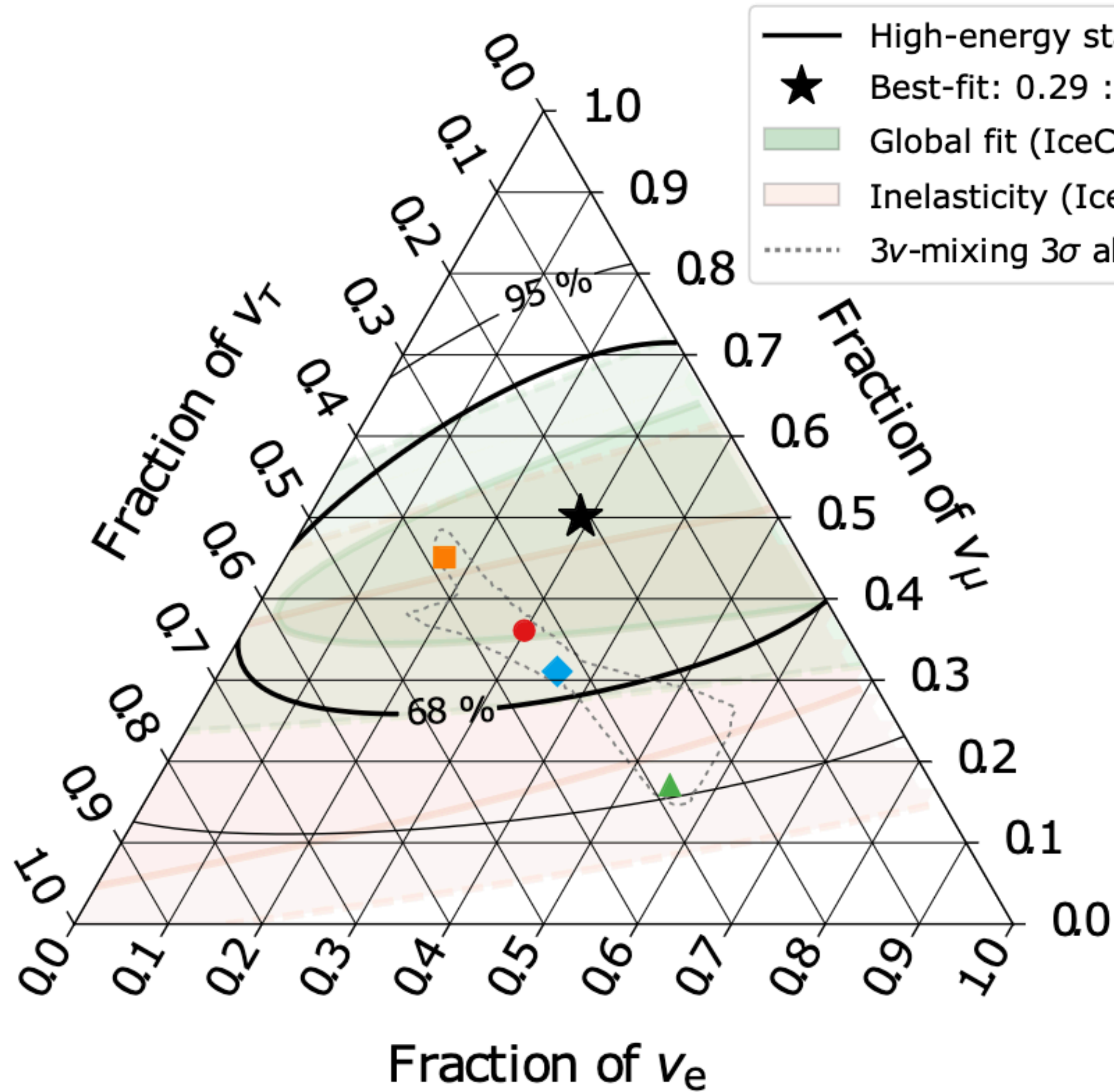


# New Shapes



- Most recent global fit of the data shows a moderate preference flux models besides single power law
- Non-power-law spectra preferred over power law at  $\sim 2\sigma$

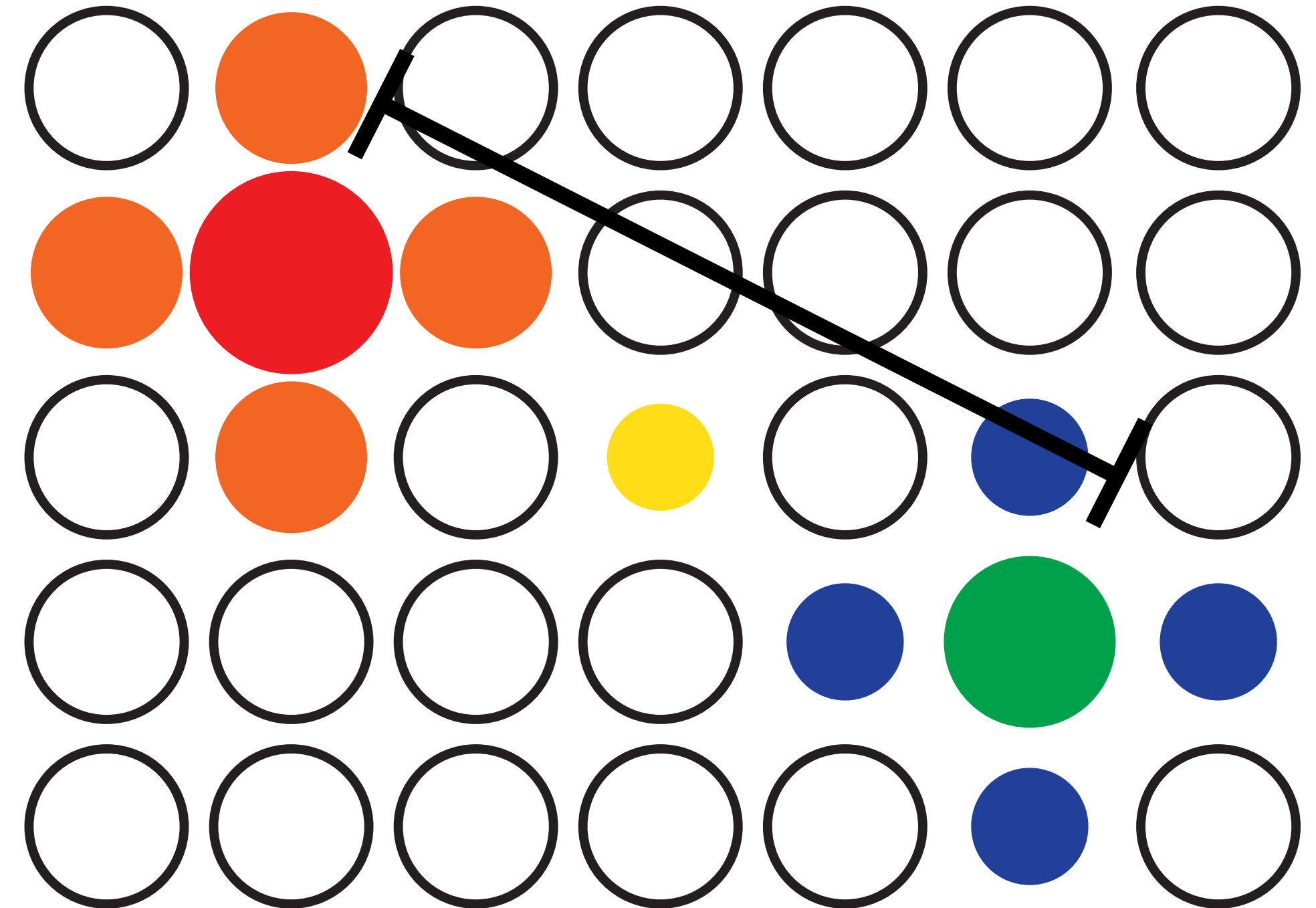
# Flavor Degeneracy



$\nu_e : \nu_\mu : \nu_\tau$  at source  $\rightarrow$  on Earth:

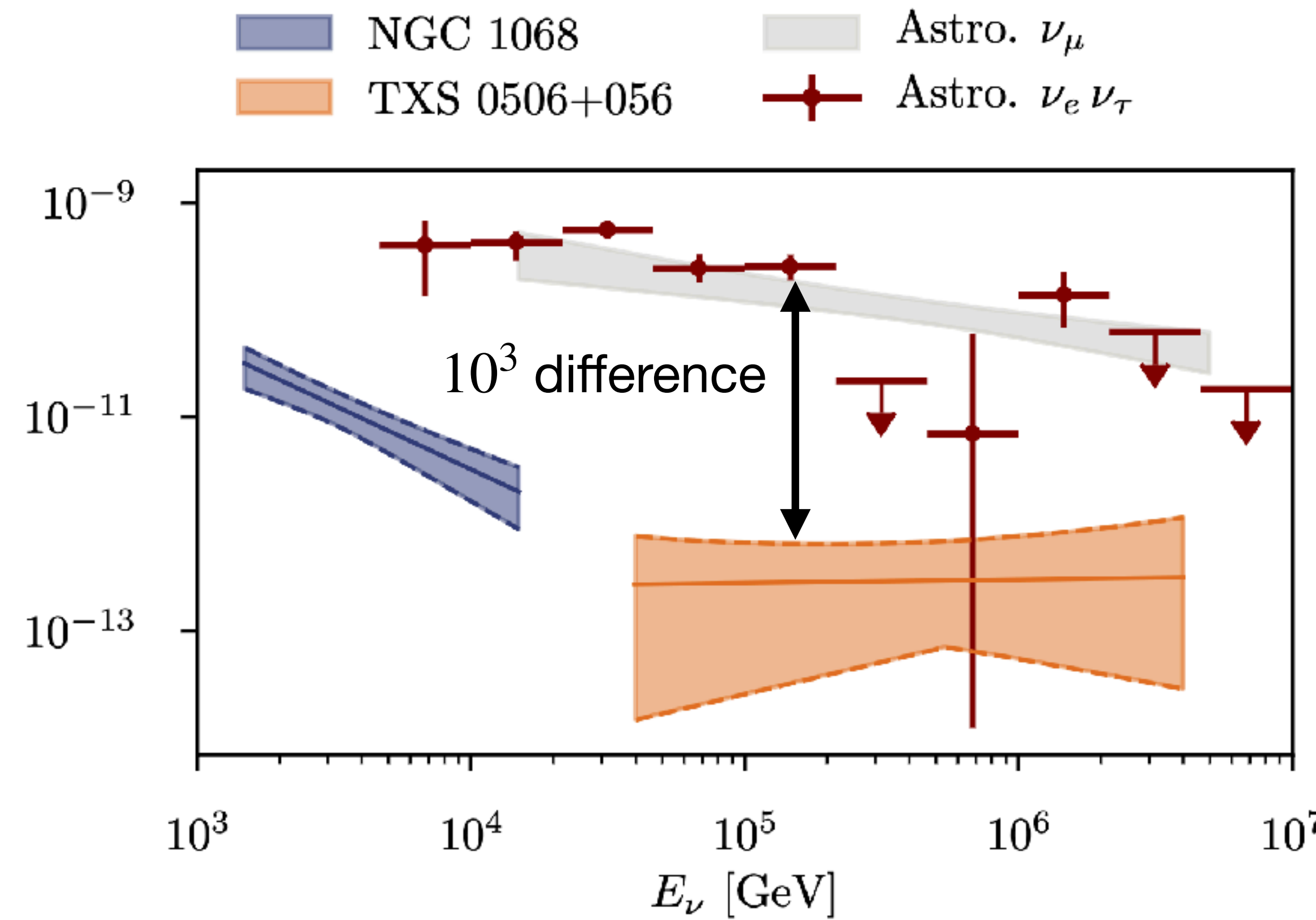
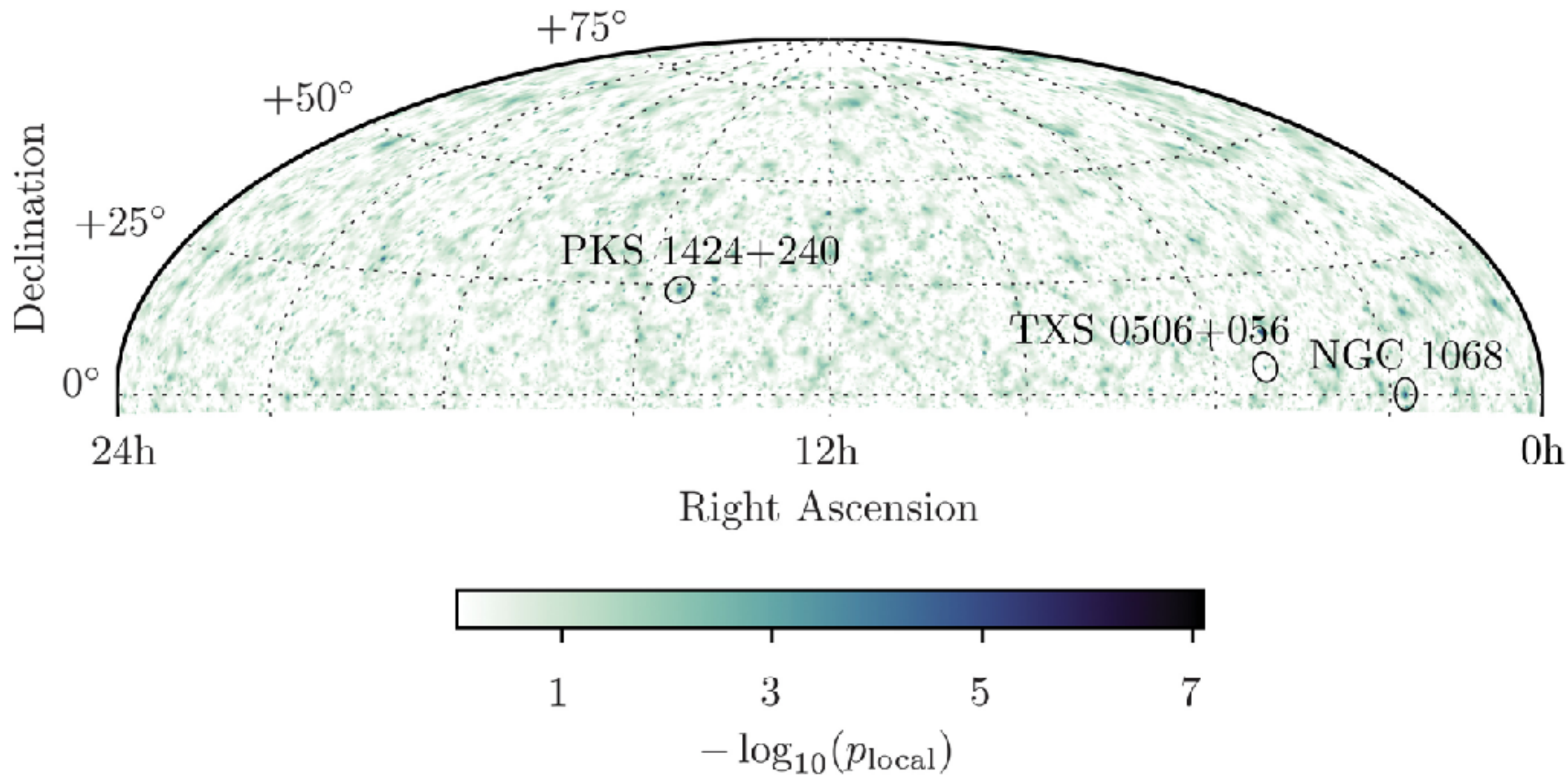
- 0:1:0  $\rightarrow$  0.17 : 0.45 : 0.37
- 1:2:0  $\rightarrow$  0.30 : 0.36 : 0.34
- ▲ 1:0:0  $\rightarrow$  0.55 : 0.17 : 0.28
- ◆ 1:1:0  $\rightarrow$  0.36 : 0.31 : 0.33

5m / 100 TeV



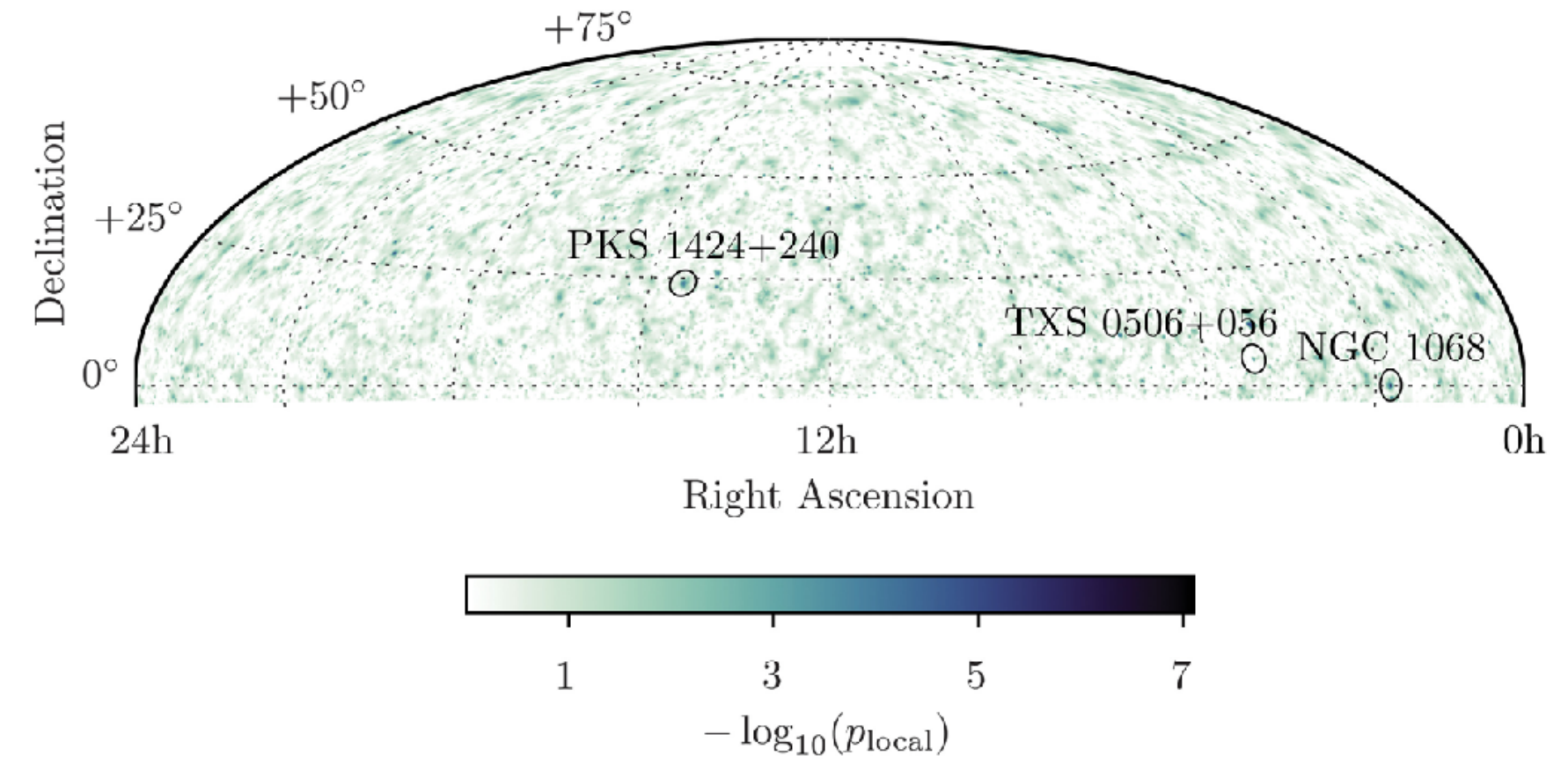
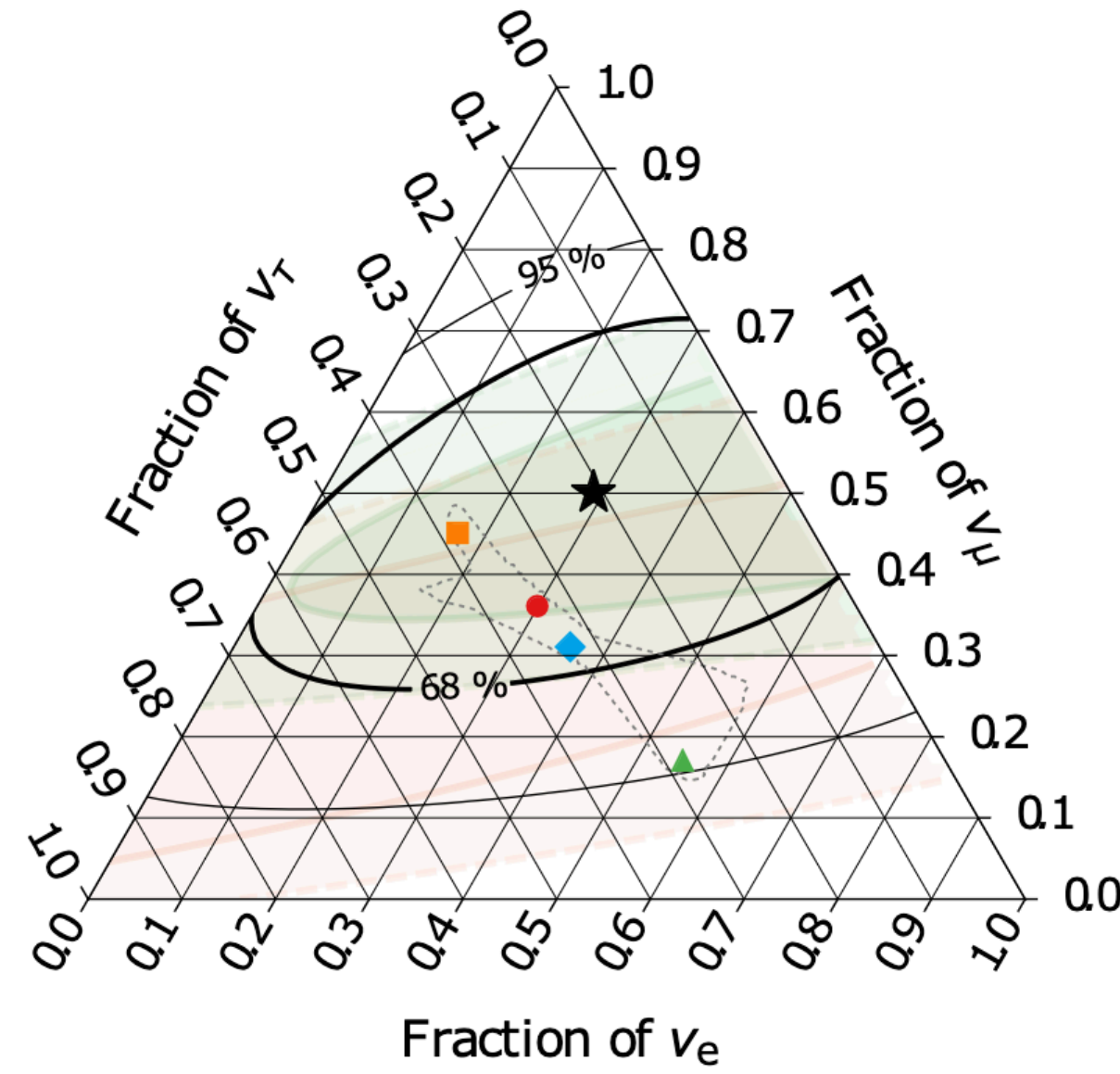
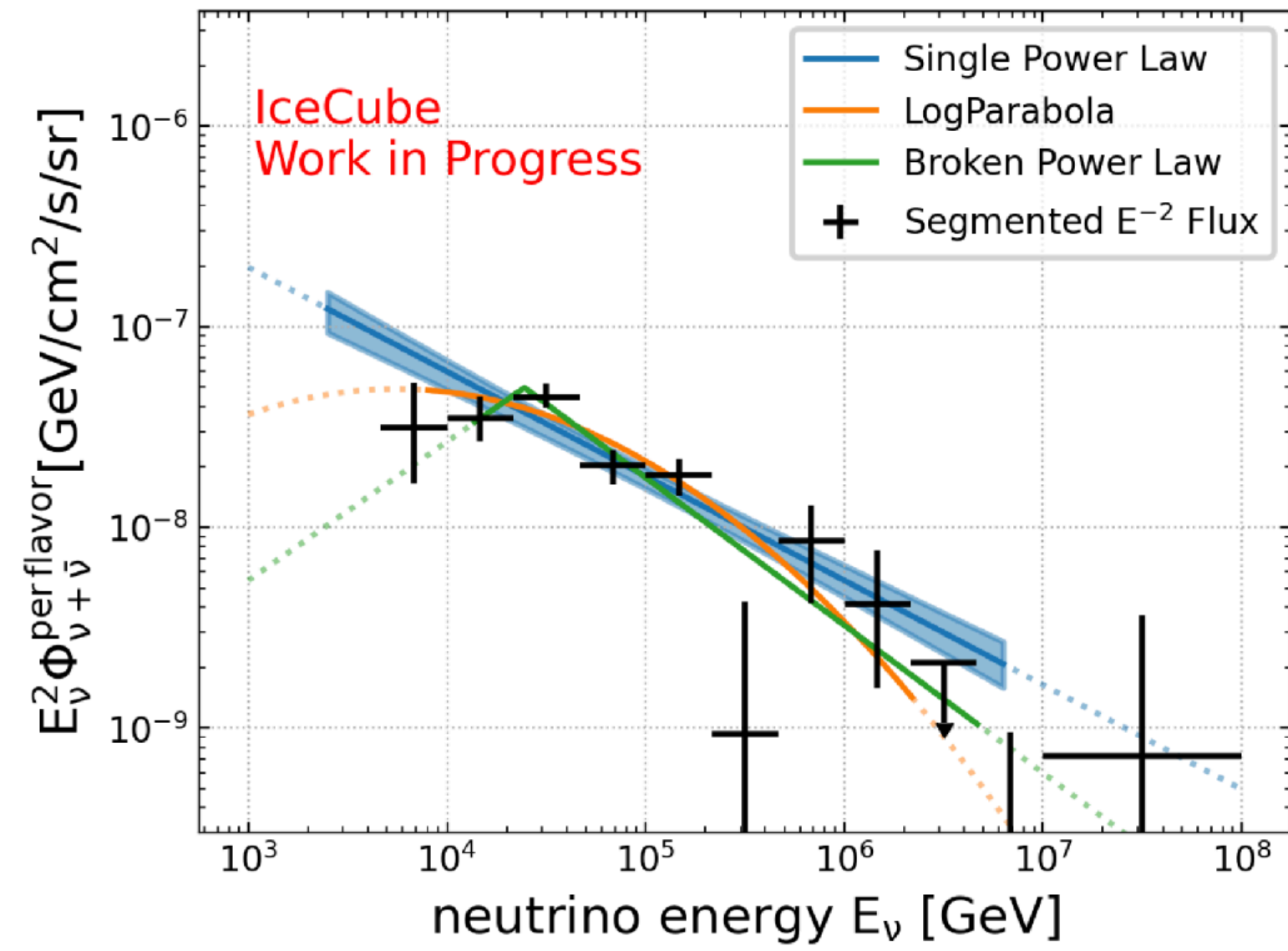
# Where Are the Rest of the Sources ?

Test type	Pre-trial p-value ( $p_{local}$ )	Post-trial p-value ( $p_{global}$ )
Northern Hemisphere scan	$5.0 \times 10^{-8}$ ( $5.3 \sigma$ )	$2.2 \times 10^{-2}$ ( $2.0 \sigma$ )

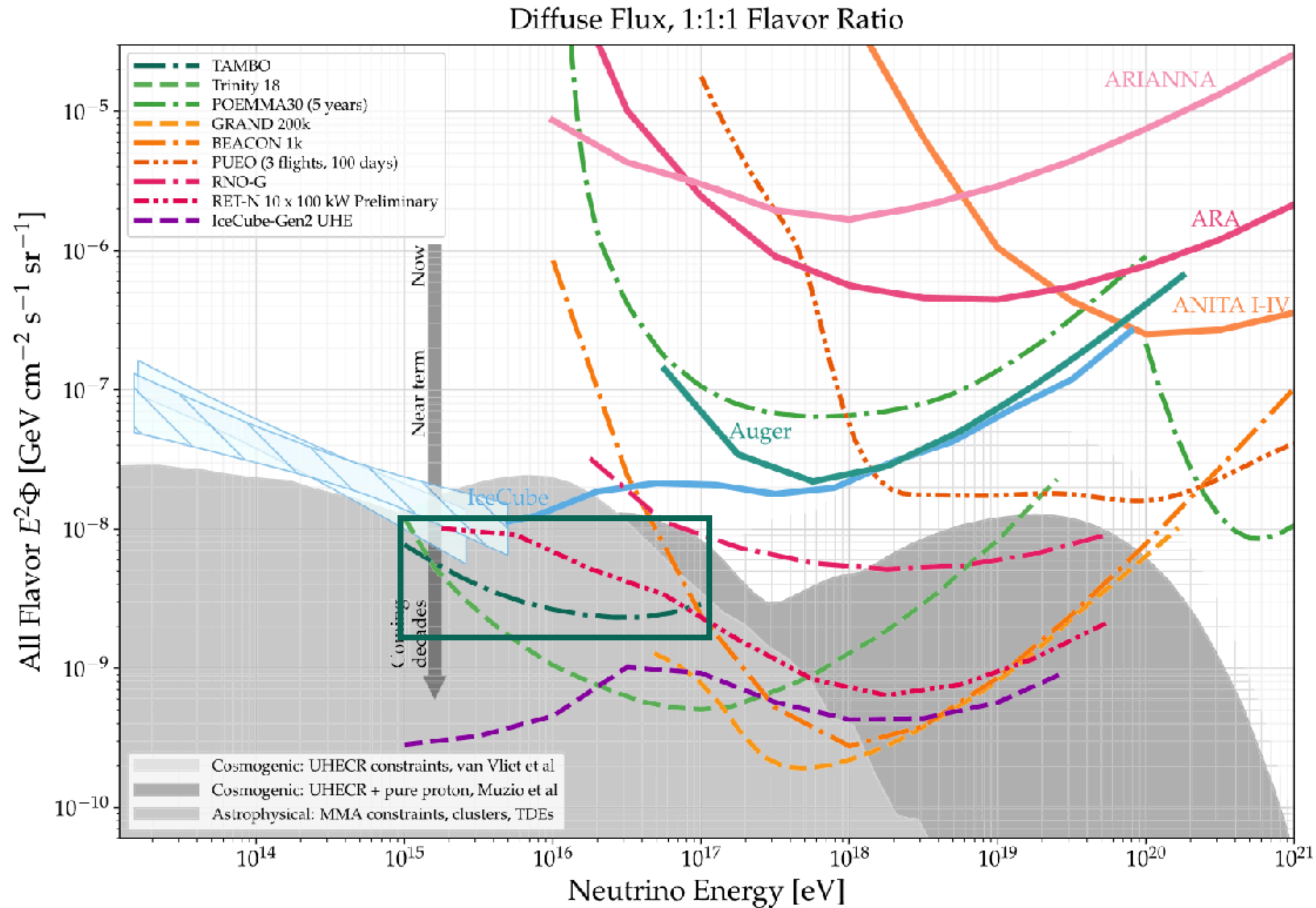


- The number of neutrino sources has increased by  $\infty\%$  in the last six years
- ...But this is only a small fraction of the diffuse flux

# Roadmap towards Future Discoveries



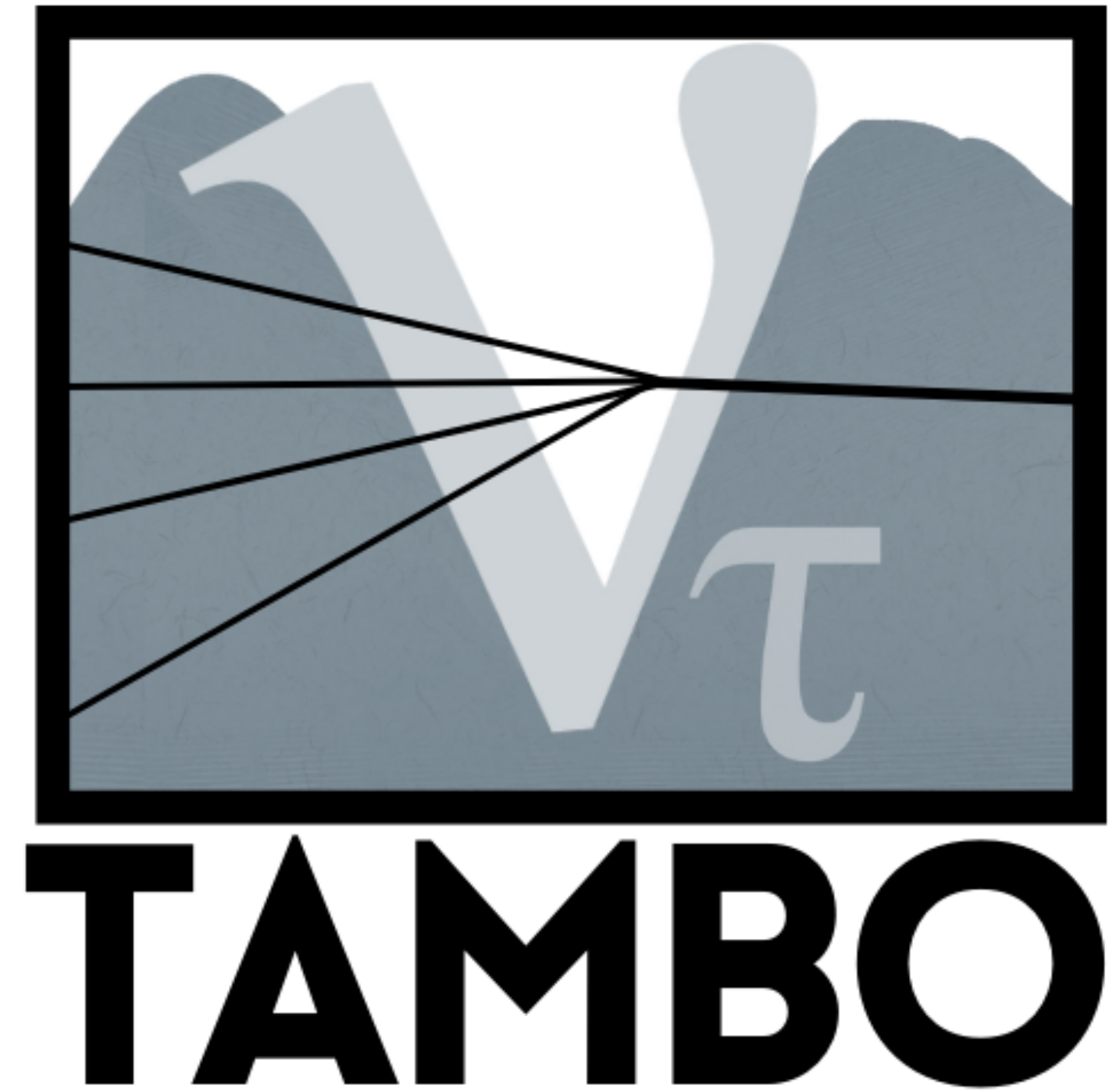
# Next-Generation Prospects

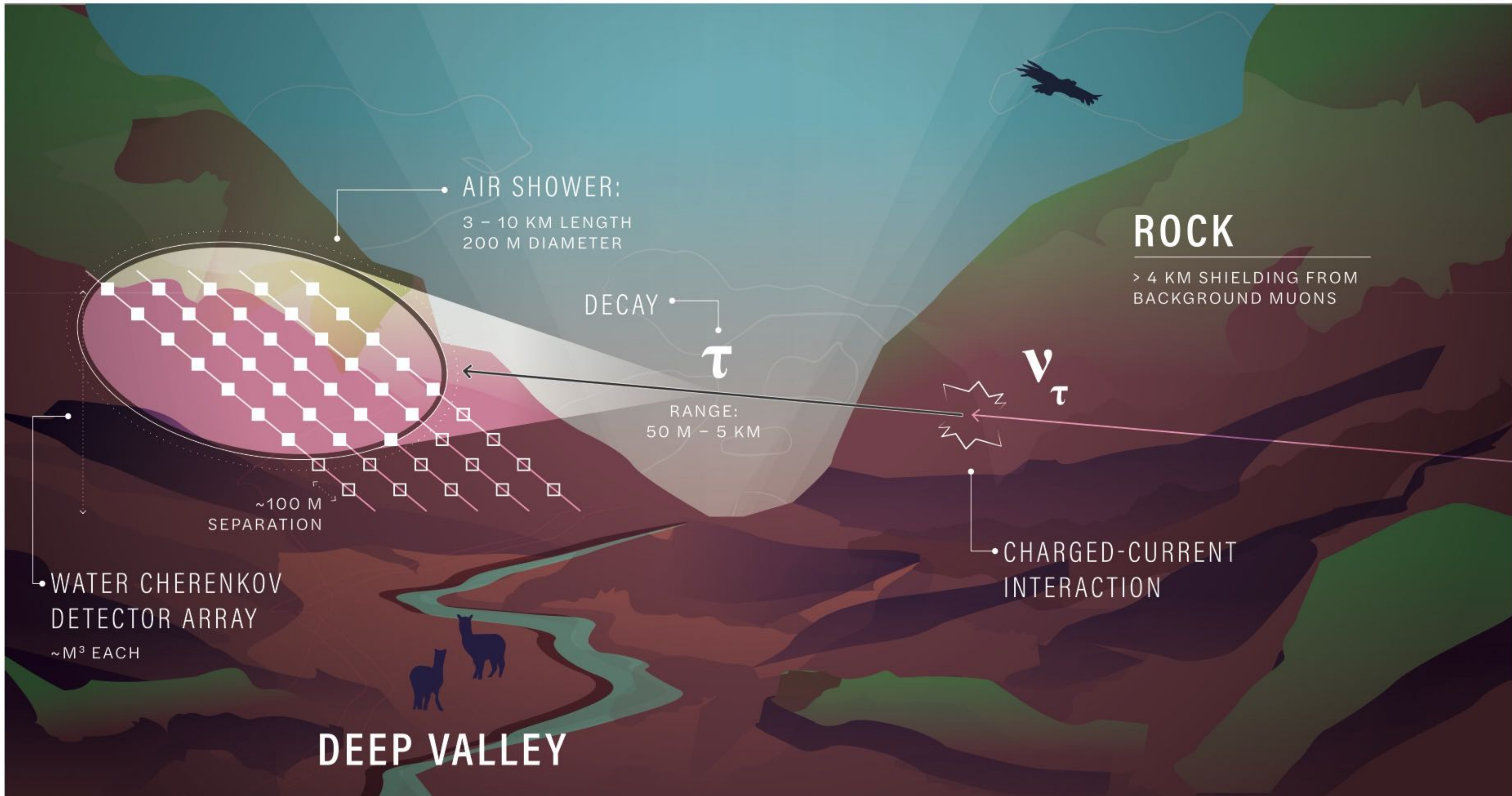


- Many next generation detectors will target 100 TeV to 10 EeV neutrinos
- New technologies and detector principles will enable this push

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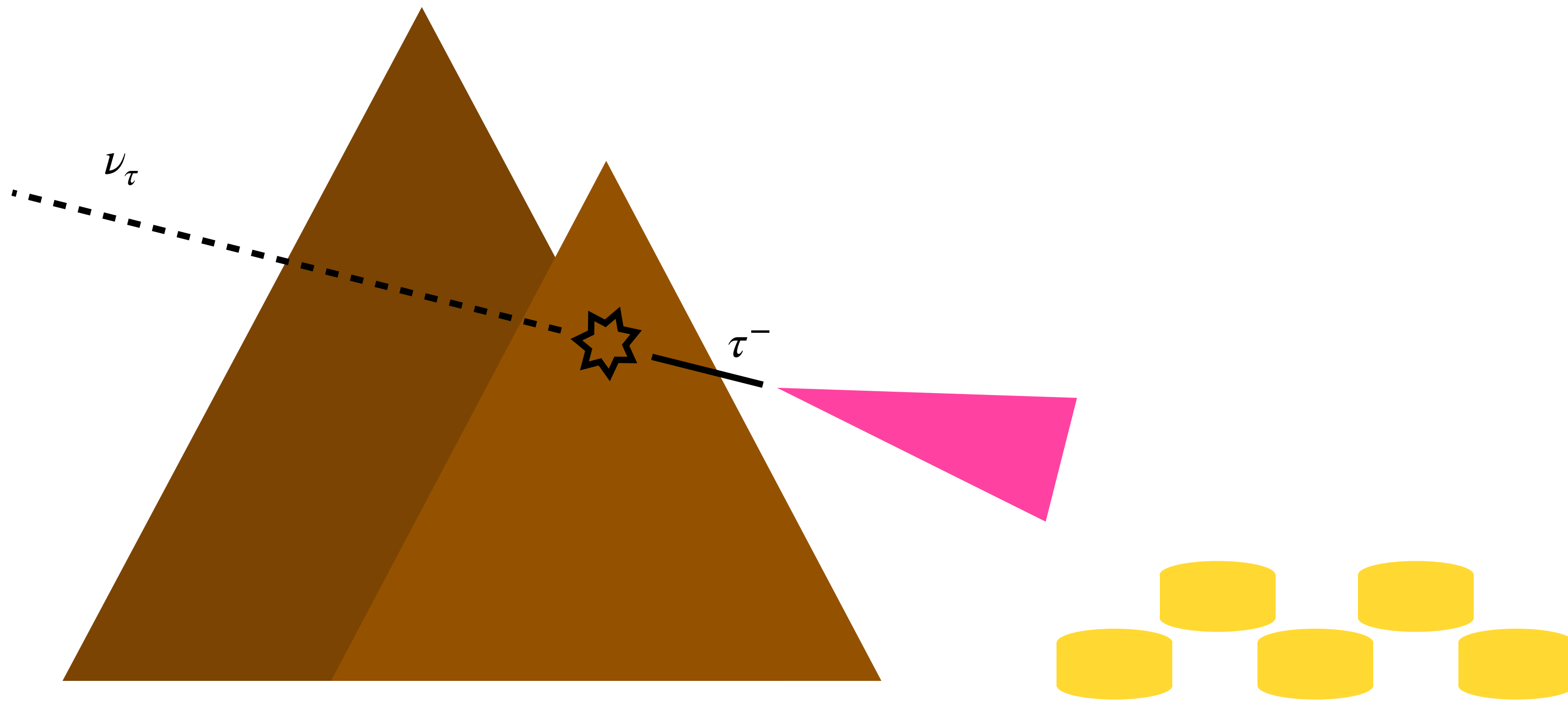




TAU AIR-SHOWER MOUNTAIN-BASED OBSERVATORY (TAMBO) • COLCA VALLEY, PERU

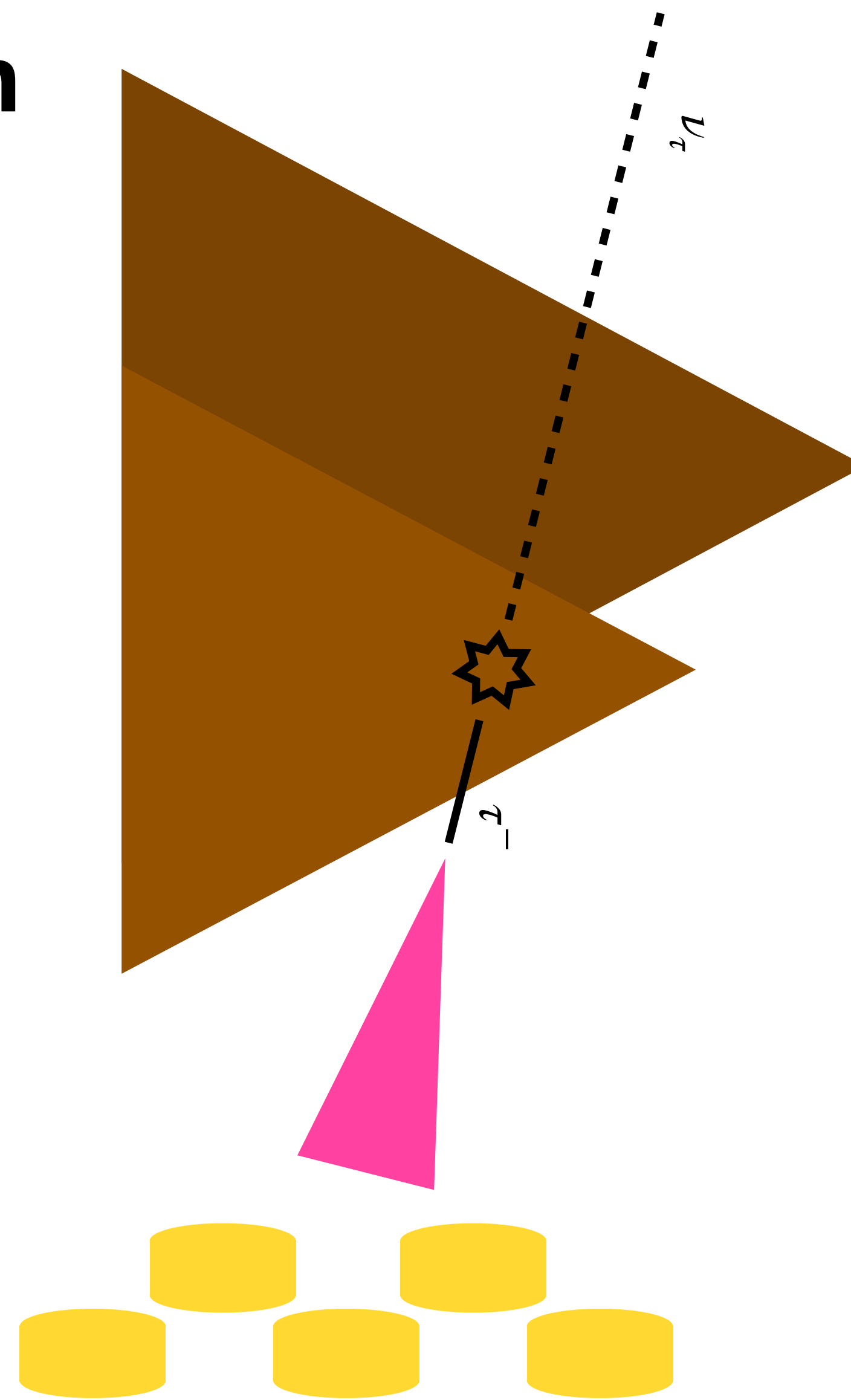


# Why Put a Detector in a Canyon



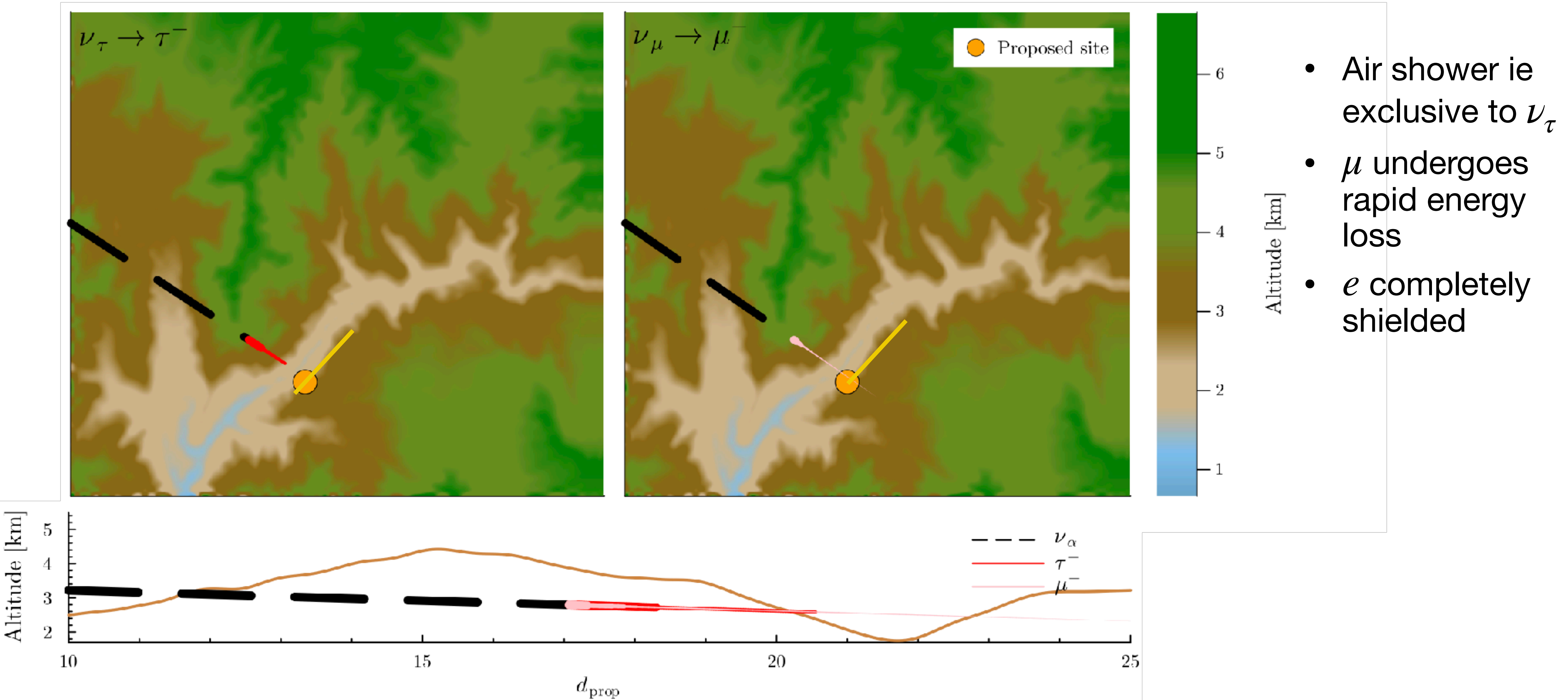
Inherently low geometrical acceptance

# Why Put a Detector in a Canyon

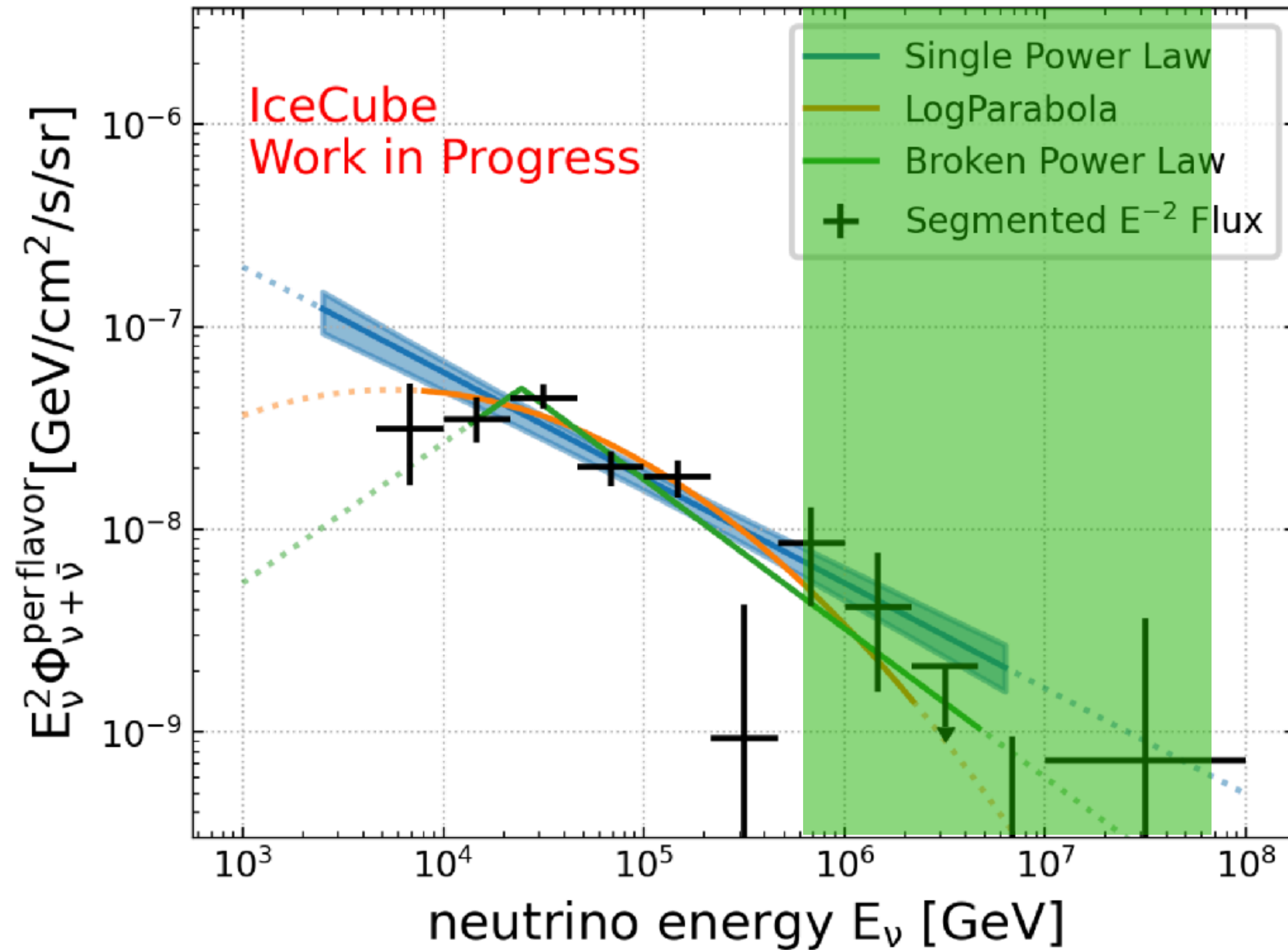


Better for physics, but the engineers are not thrilled

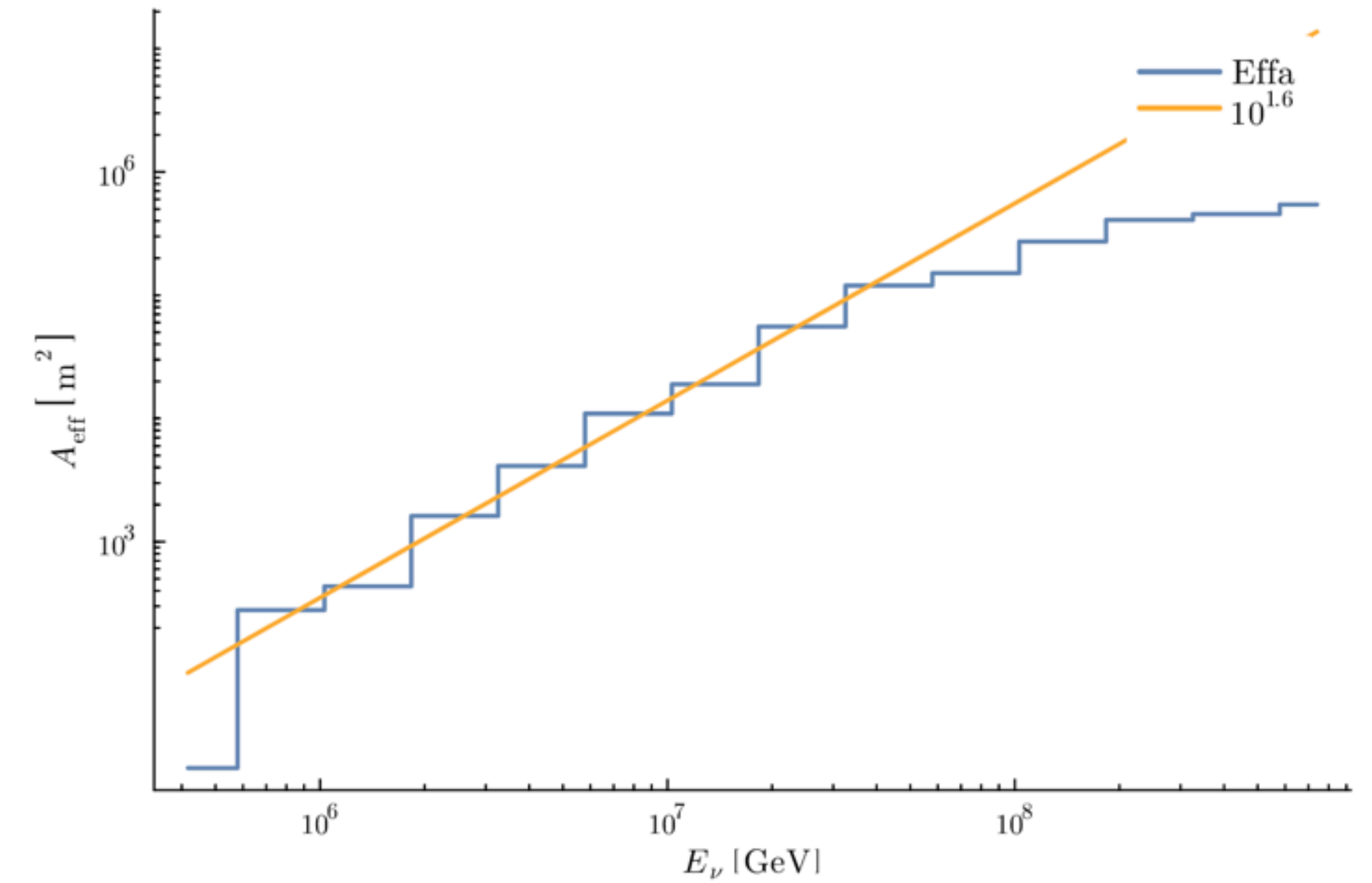
# A $\nu_\tau$ Sieve



# Passing the Energy Baton



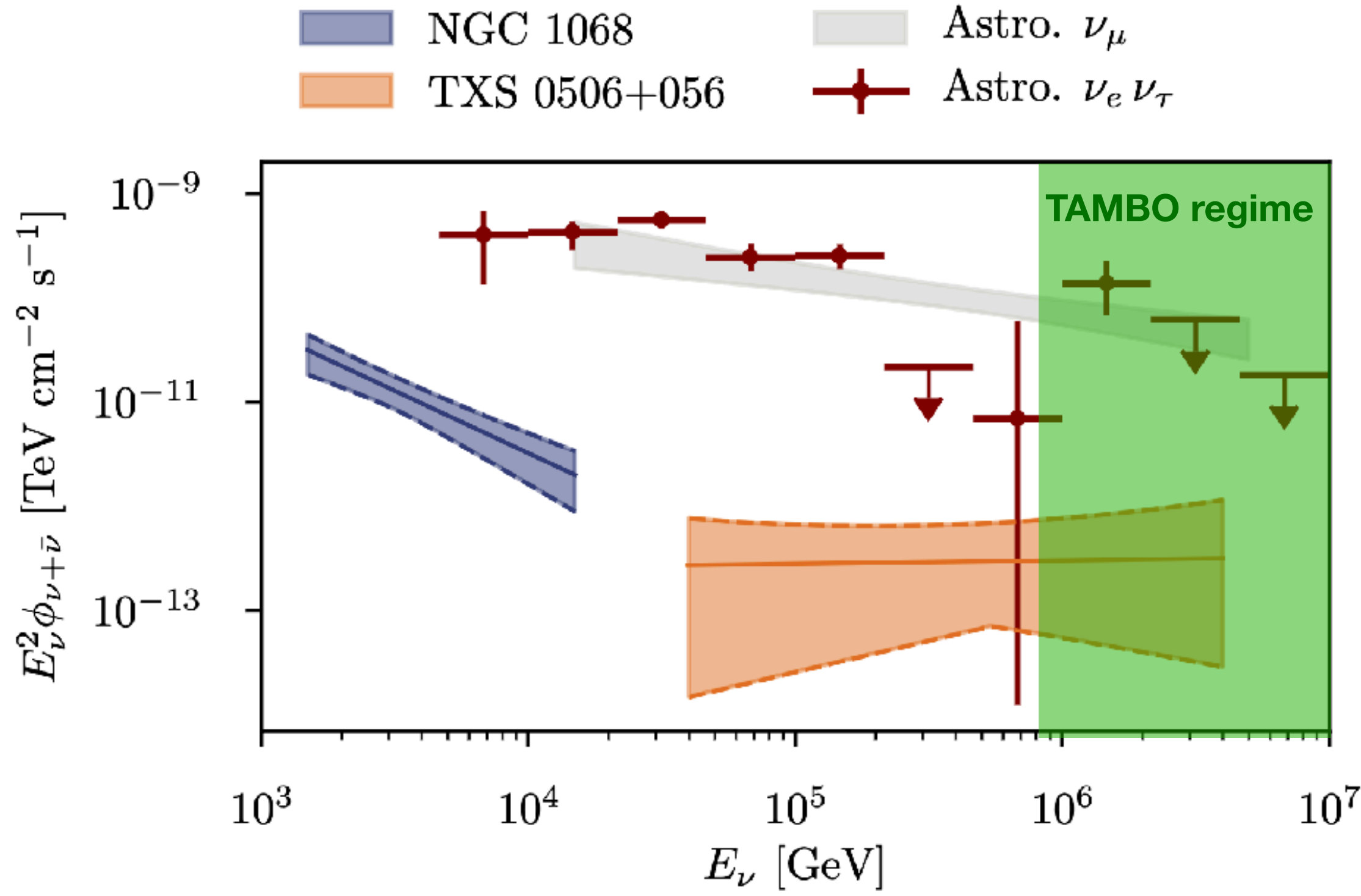
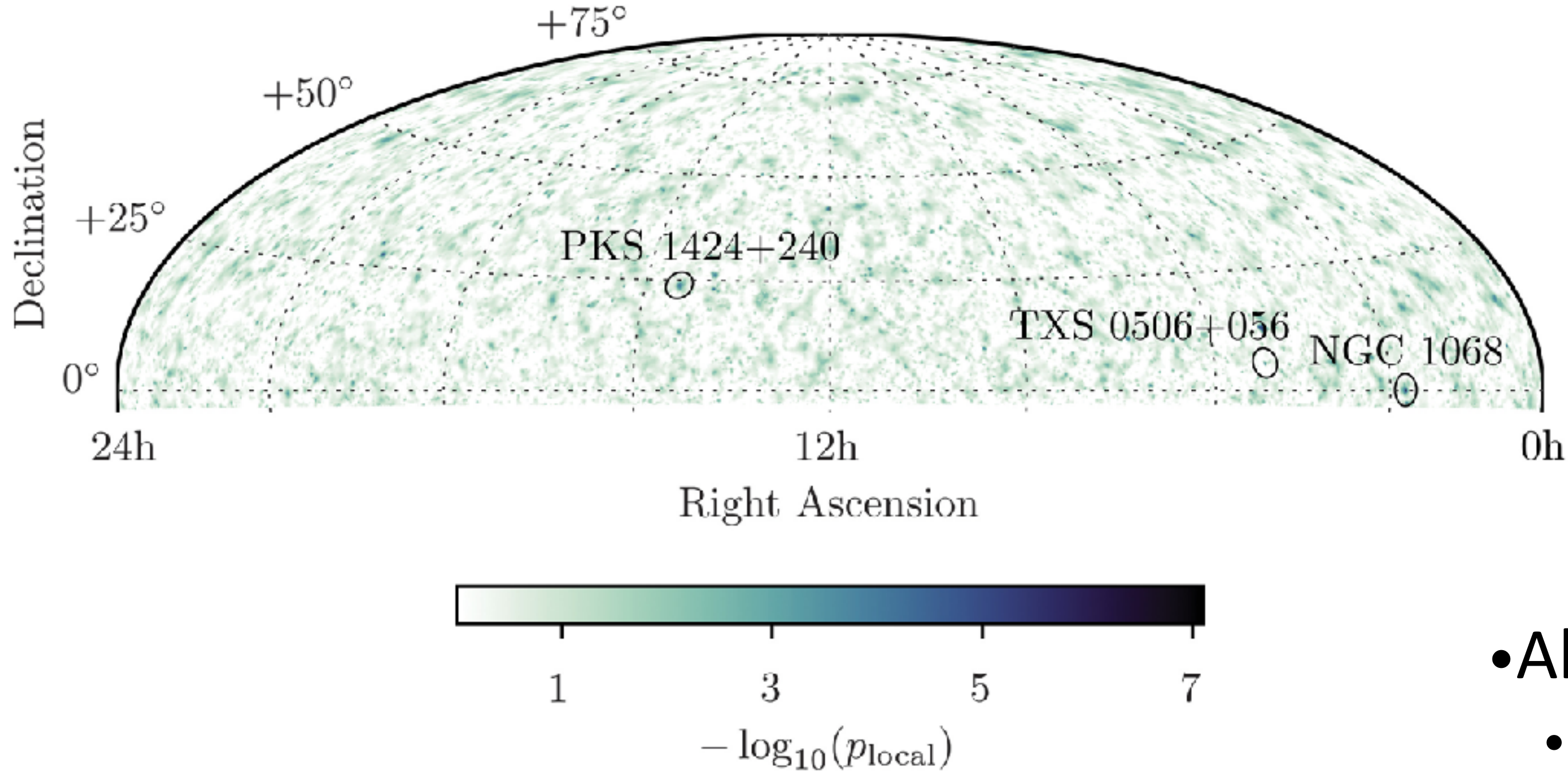
TAMBO regime



TAMBO becomes sensitive right towards the end of IceCube's sensitivity

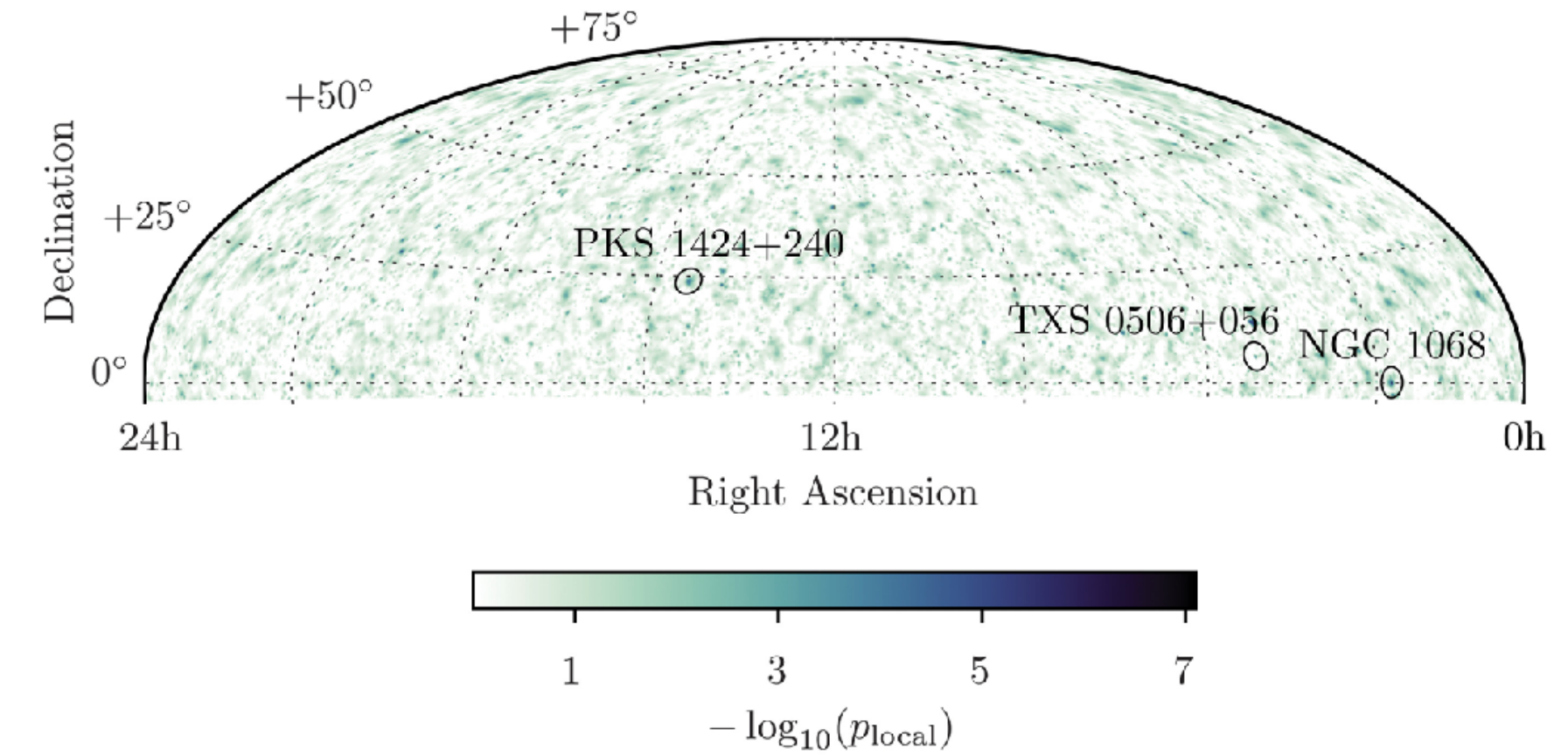
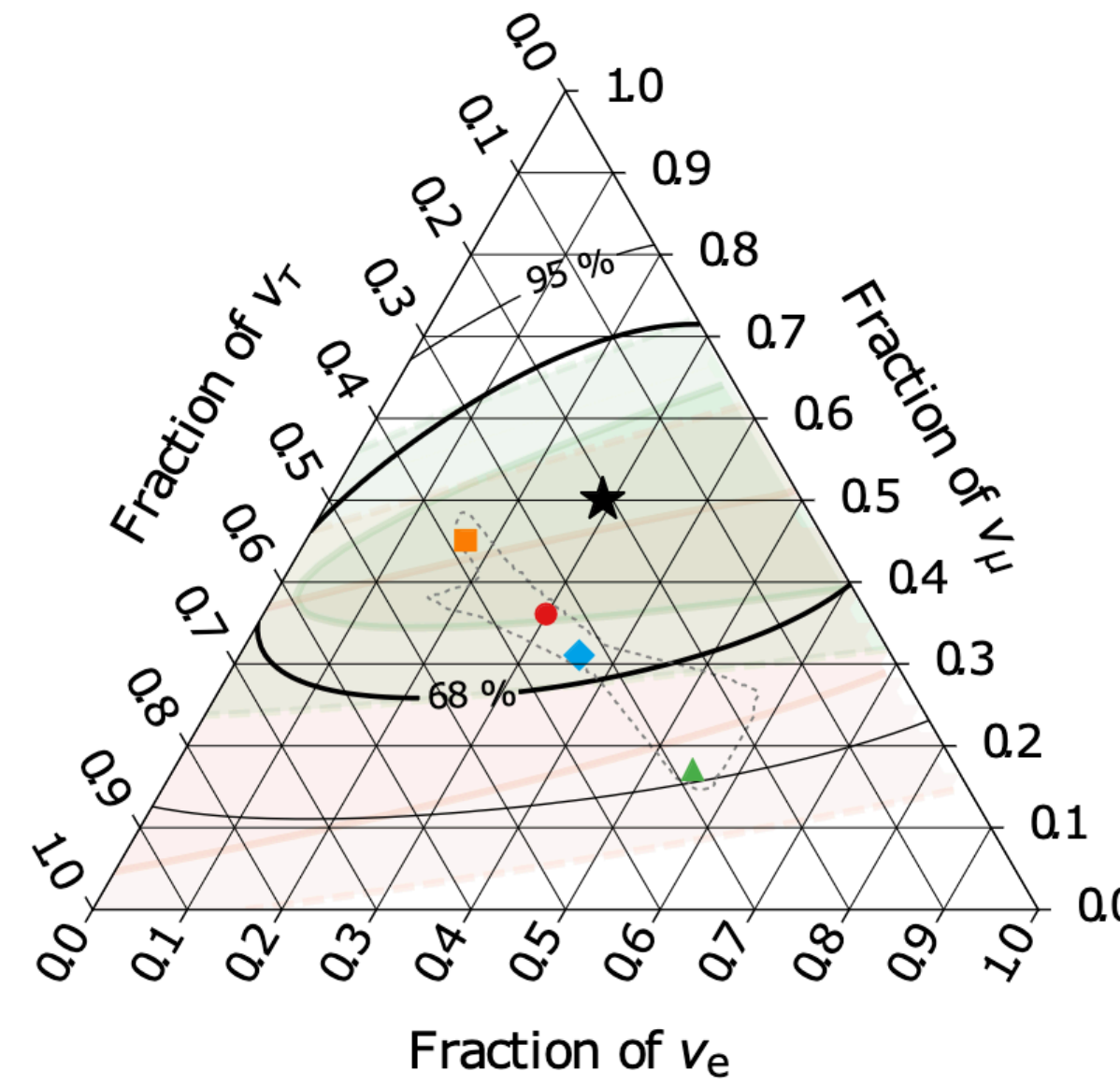
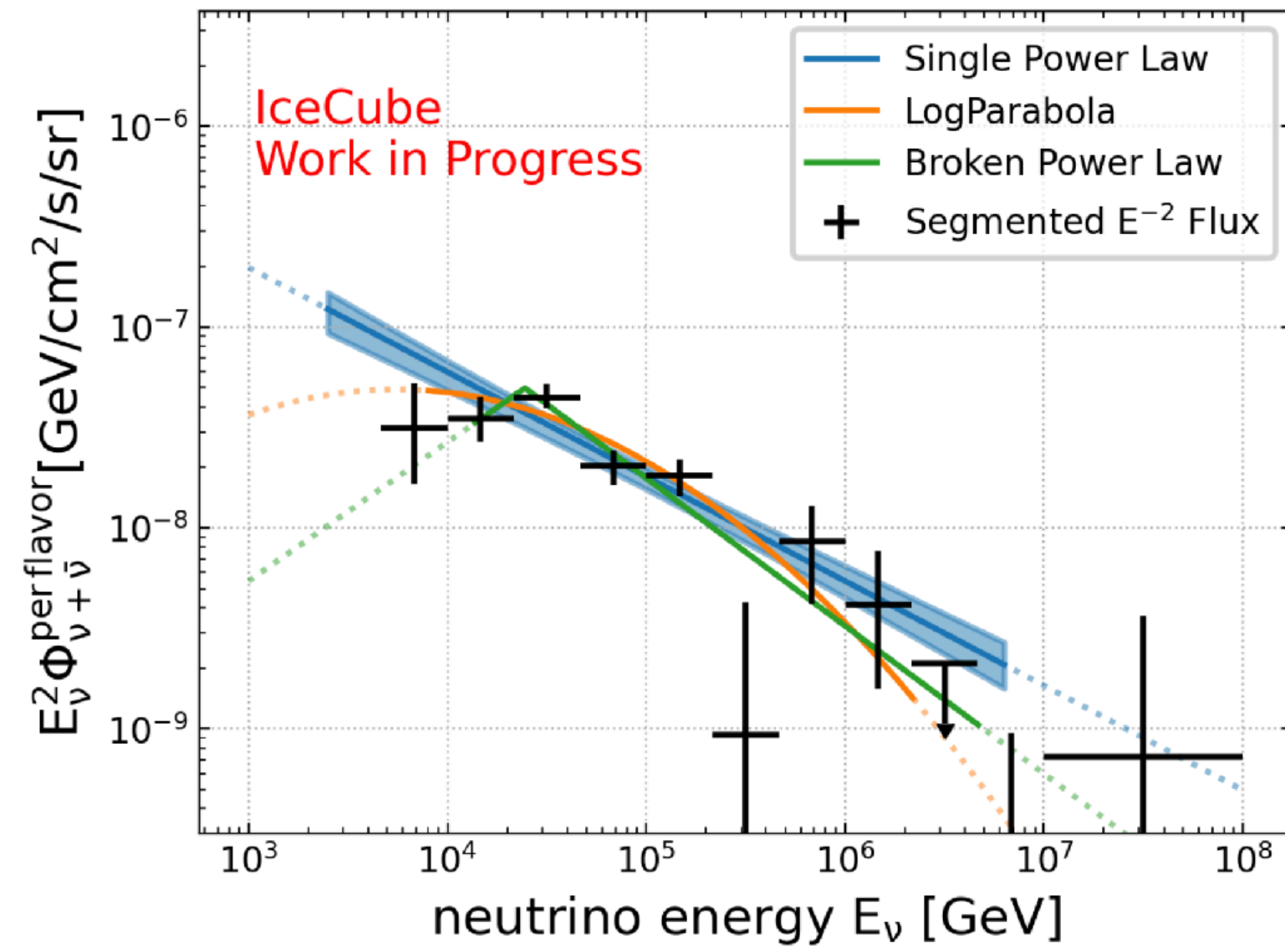
# Removing IceCube's Trials Factor

Test type	Pre-trial p-value ( $p_{local}$ )	Post-trial p-value ( $p_{global}$ )
Northern Hemisphere scan	$5.0 \times 10^{-8}$ ( $5.3 \sigma$ )	$2.2 \times 10^{-2}$ ( $2.0 \sigma$ )



- All-sky search limits IceCube sensitivities
  - What if we knew exactly where to point?
- Low-background  $\nu_\tau$  from TAMBO remove trial factor from IceCube

# Goals of TAMBO



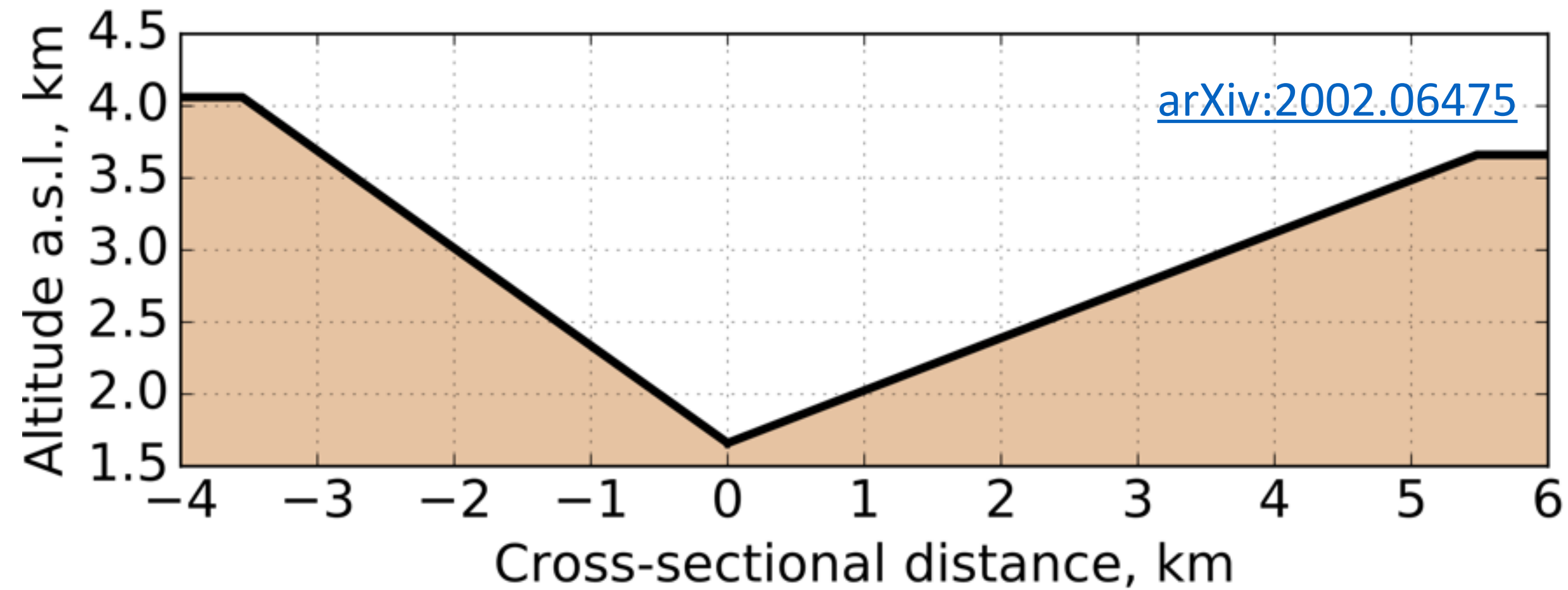
Determine high-energy behavior of diffuse spectrum

Characterize  $\nu_\tau$  component of astrophysical flux

Discover new neutrino point sources

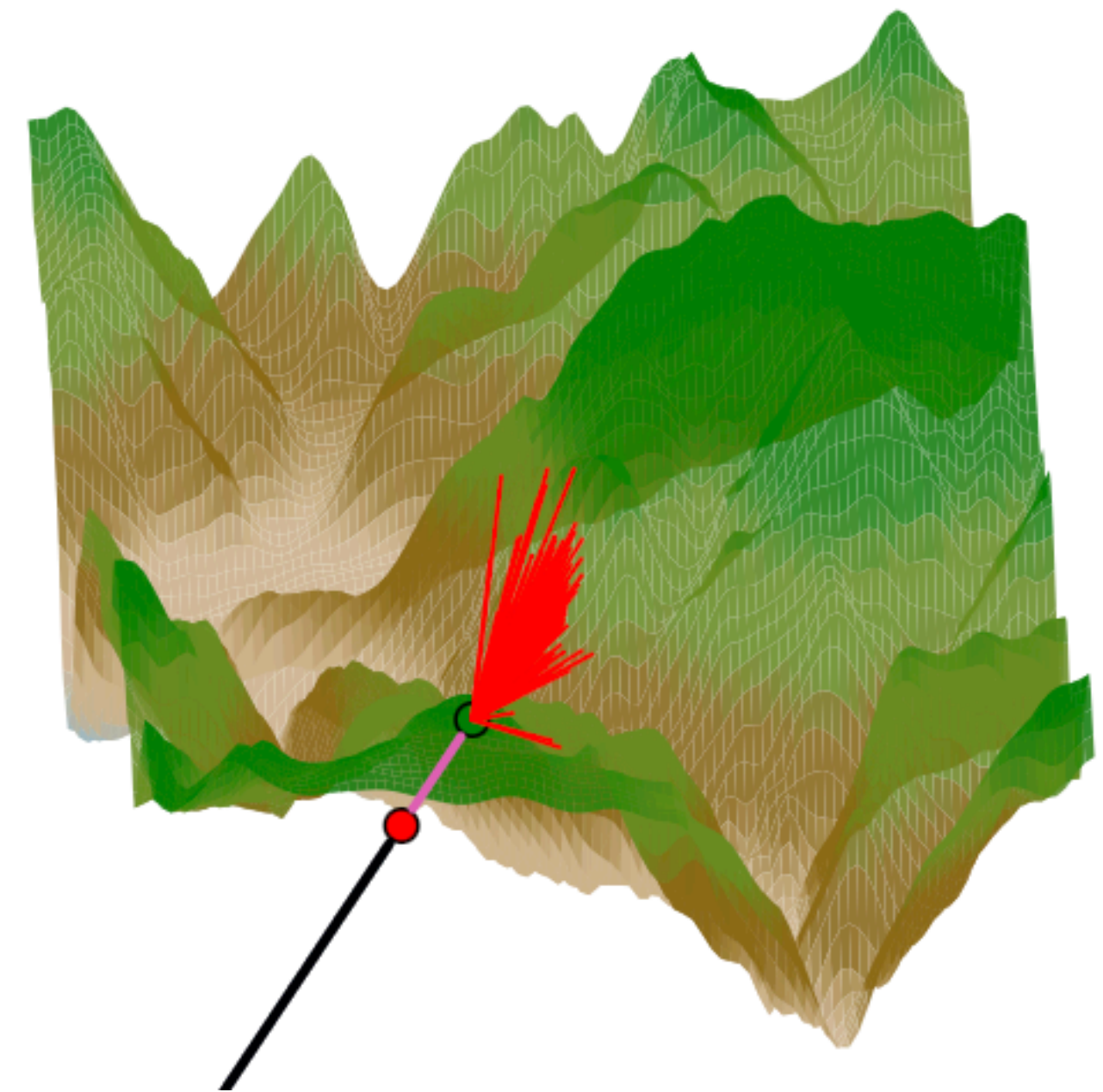
# An Initial Estimation

## Initial Calculation



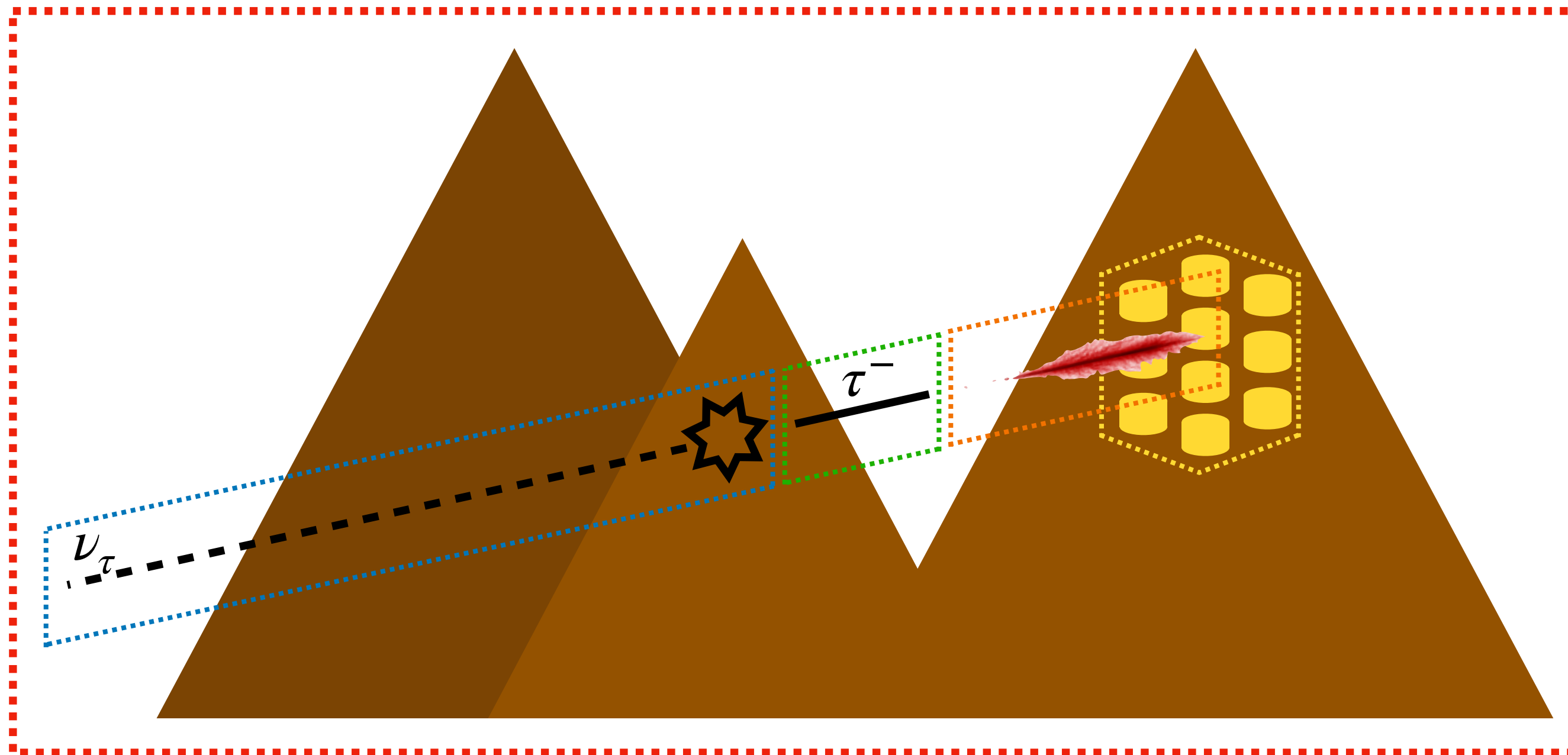
- Simplified geometry
- No treatment of  $\tau^\pm$  energy losses
- Approximation of air-shower physics

## Updated Simulation



- Realistic geometry
- Full treatment of  $\tau^\pm$  energy losses
- Air-shower simulation with CORSIKA 8

# Developing a Full Monte Carlo Chain



**Initial neutrino injection:** Select initial neutrino properties, *i.e.* energy, direction, interaction vertex, *etc.*

**Charged lepton propagation:** Propagate outgoing charged lepton, accounting for energy losses and decay, to find decay point

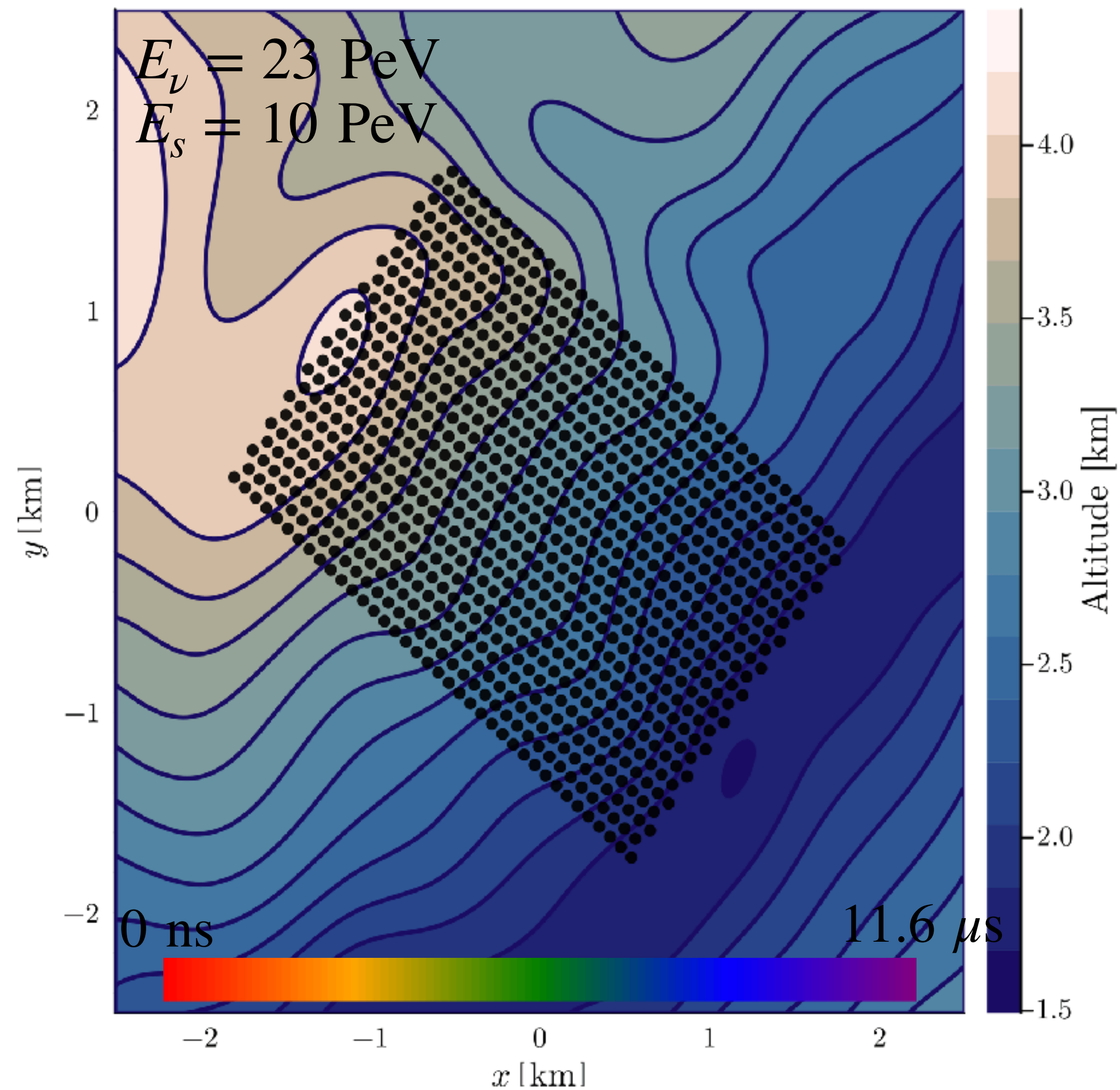
**Air-shower simulation:** Model shower development from lepton decay

**Detector response:** Simulate internal hardware to model what we will see

**Event weighting:** Remove unphysical remnants from selection of initial neutrino properties

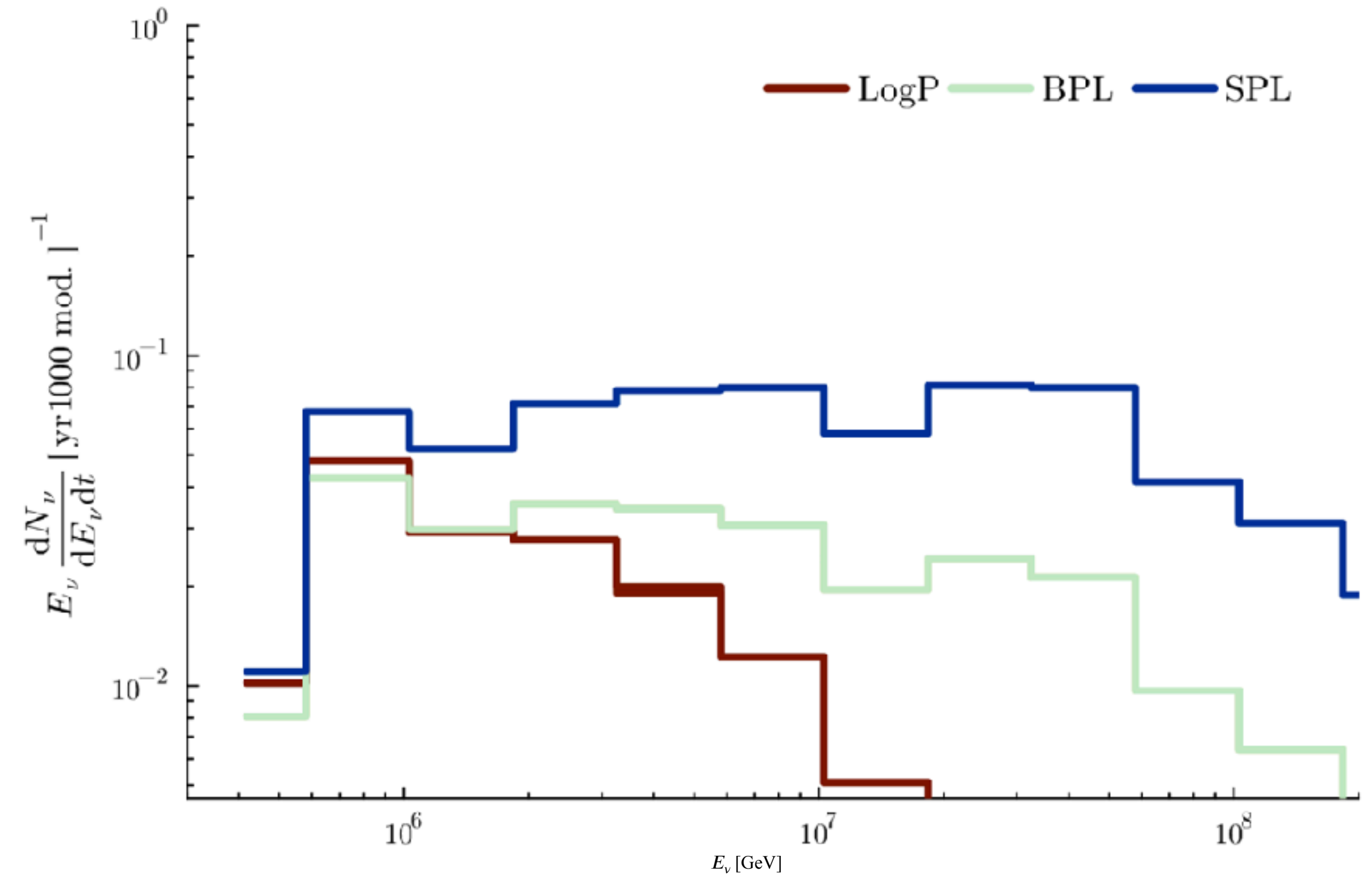
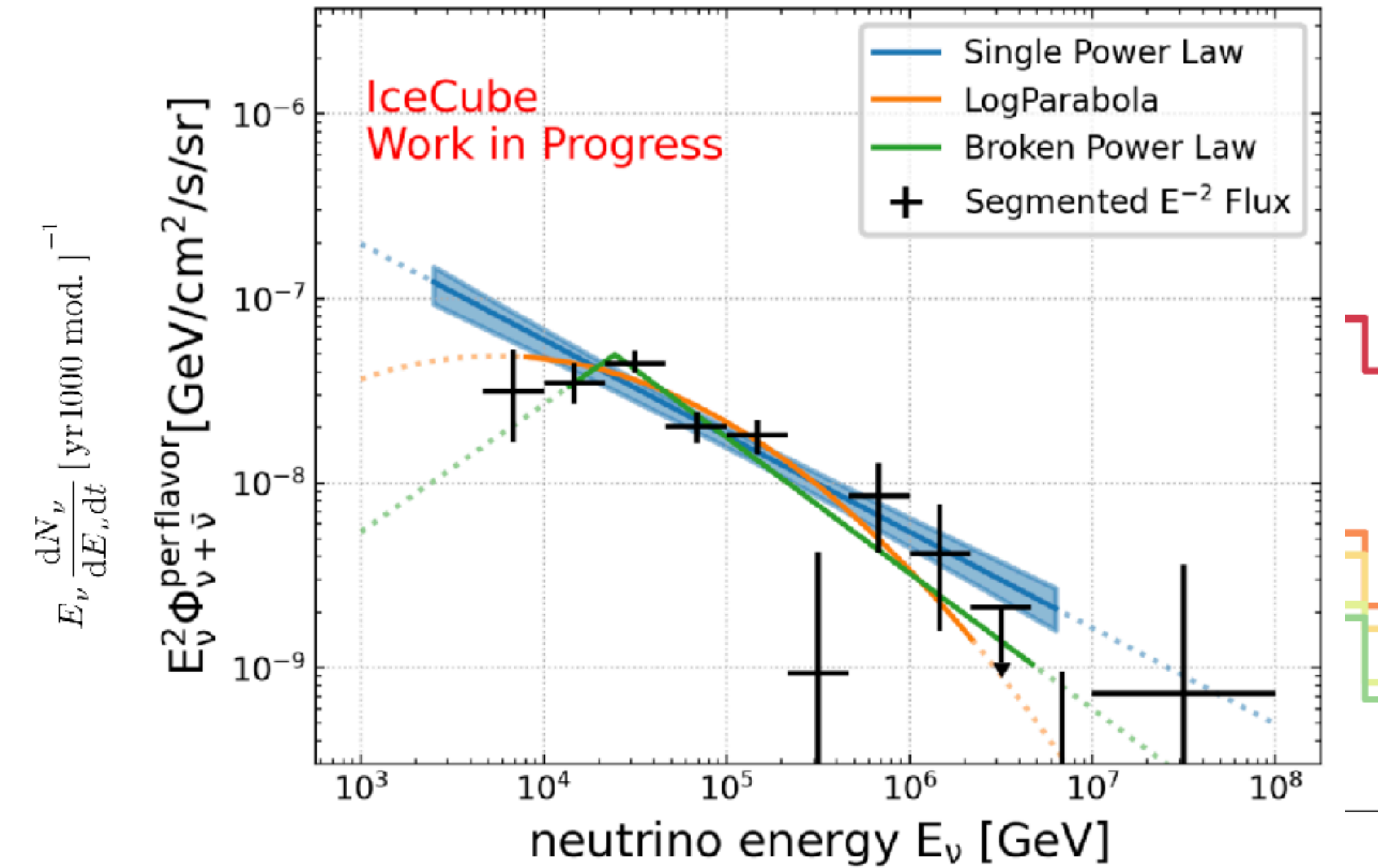


# Full Timing Information



- Full MC gives timing information
- We are currently working with GraphNeT team to reconstruct event directions

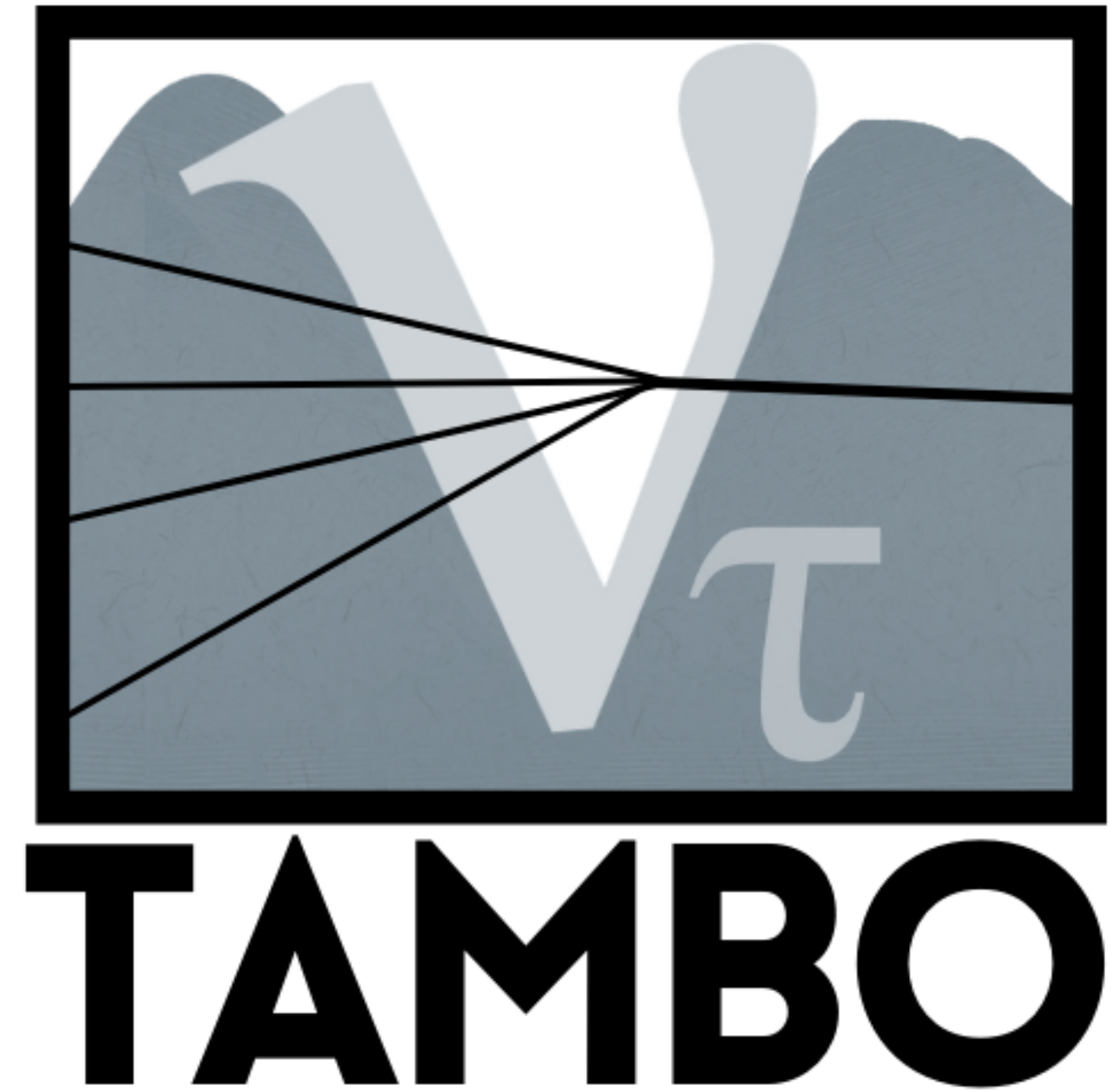
# Expected Event Rates



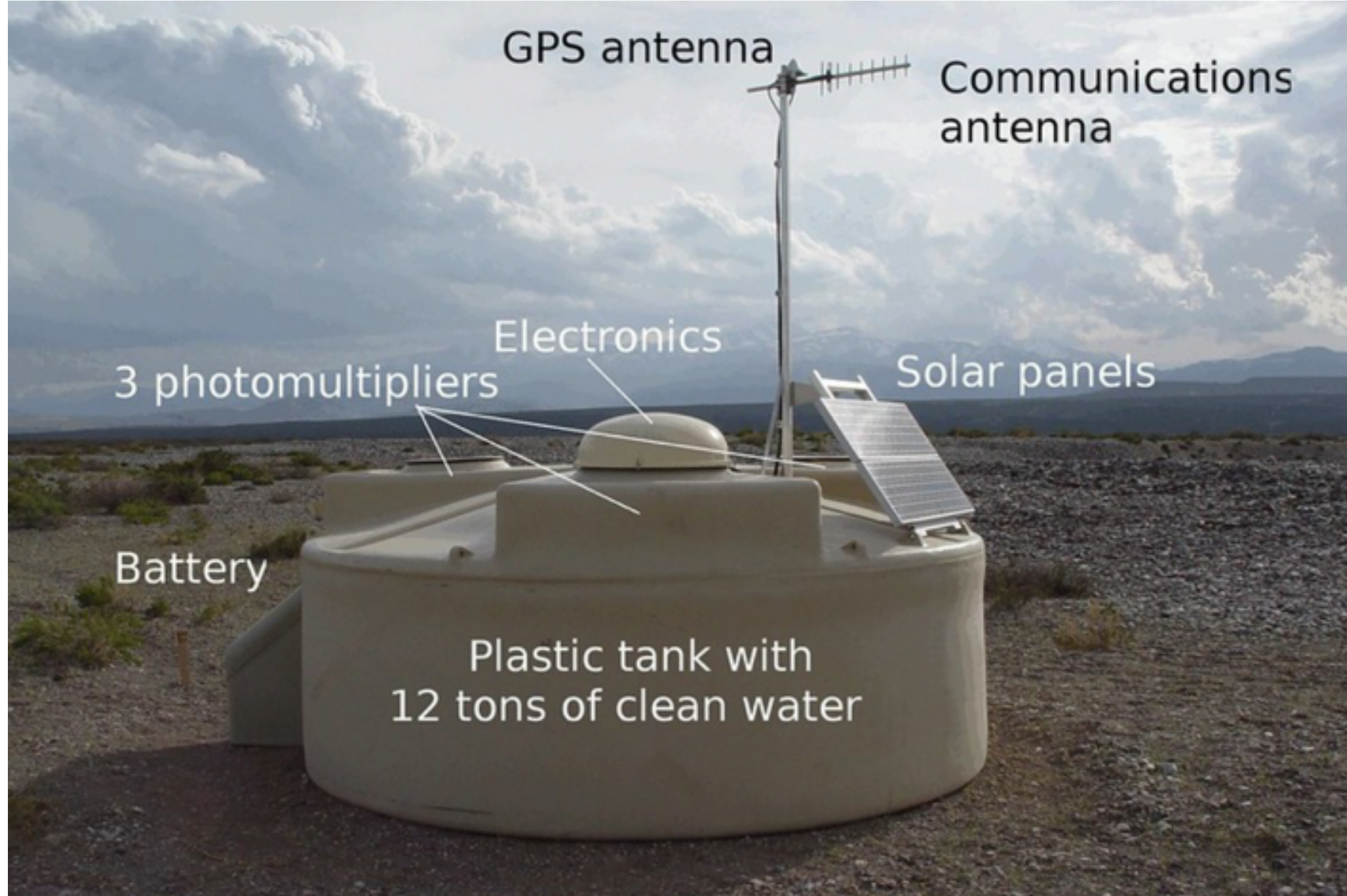
- Updated Simulation shows 2x-3x improvement in rate
- $>3\sigma$  ability to reject single power law with 5,000 and 3 years of data

# Roadmap

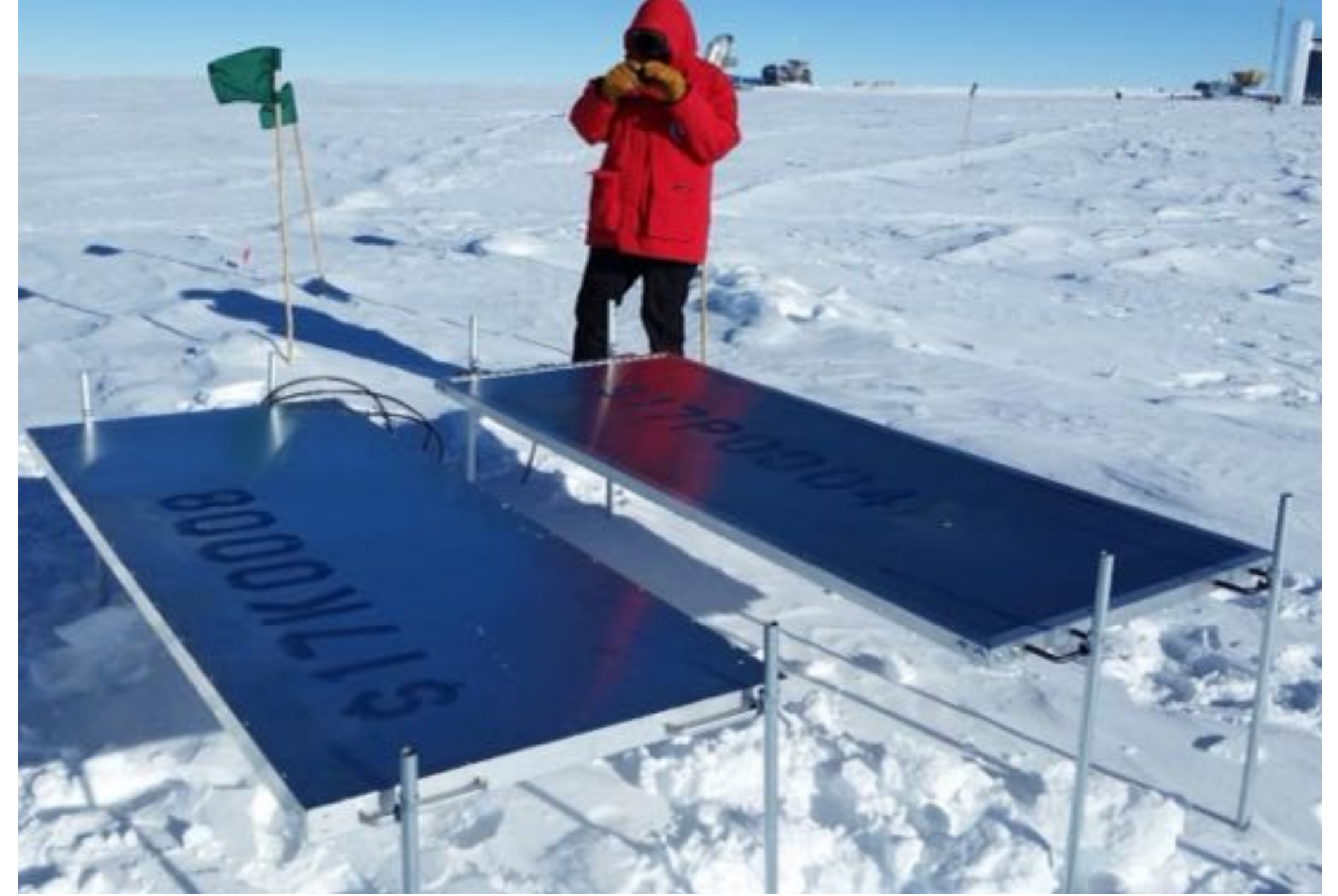
- A very brief history of neutrino astronomy
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# Detector Development



[Pierre Auger Collaboration, ICRC\(2021\)](#)

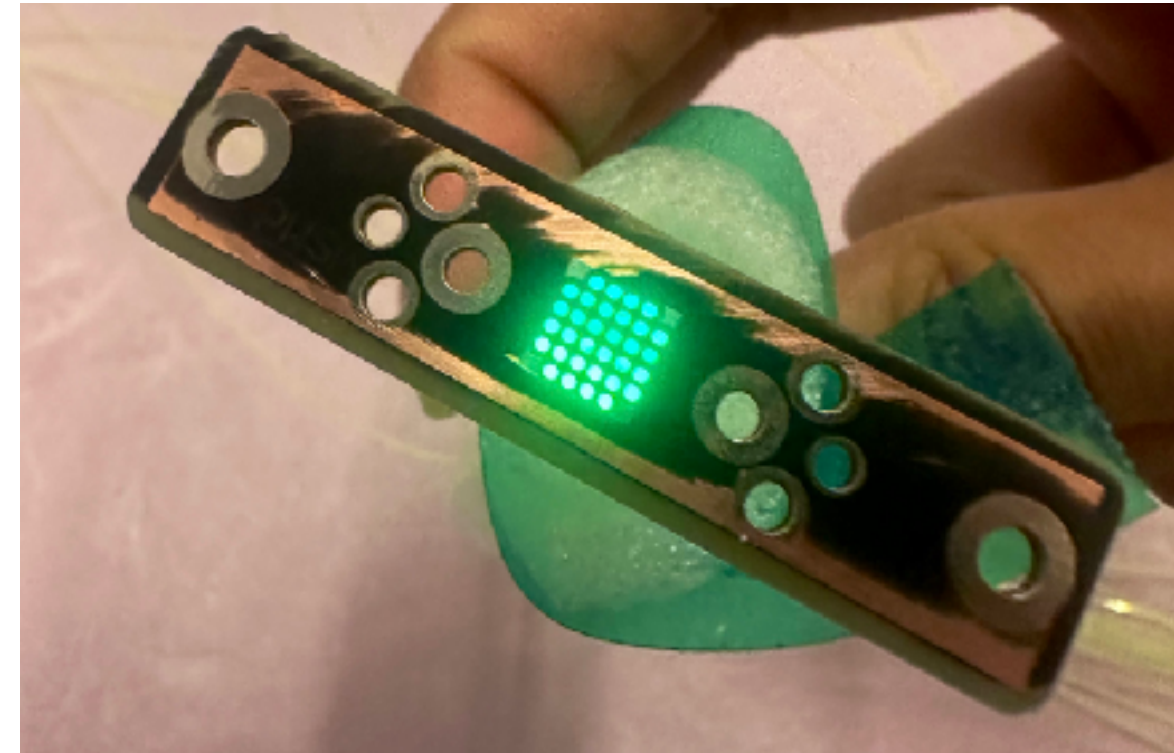


[IceCube Collaboration, EPJ Web Conf. 210 \(2019\)](#)

- Observatory is an array of thousands of individual detectors
- Two designs under consideration:
  - Water Cherenkov tanks → very well understood but heavy and expensive
  - Plastic scintillator panels → less well understood but 20x lighter and 2x cheaper

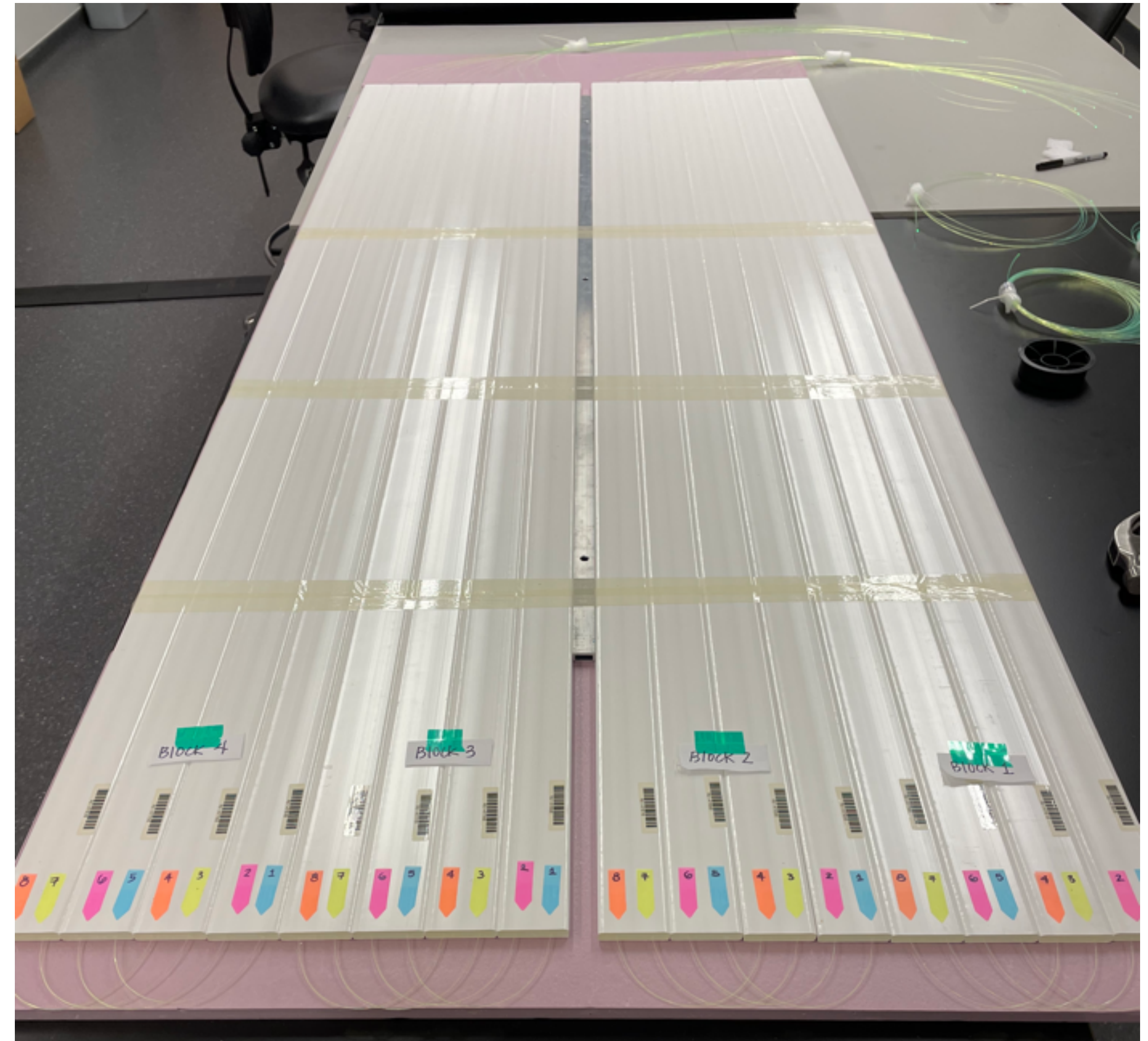
# Detector Development

- Harvard group currently constructing test scintillator panels
- Allows to test fabrication speed and DAQ system

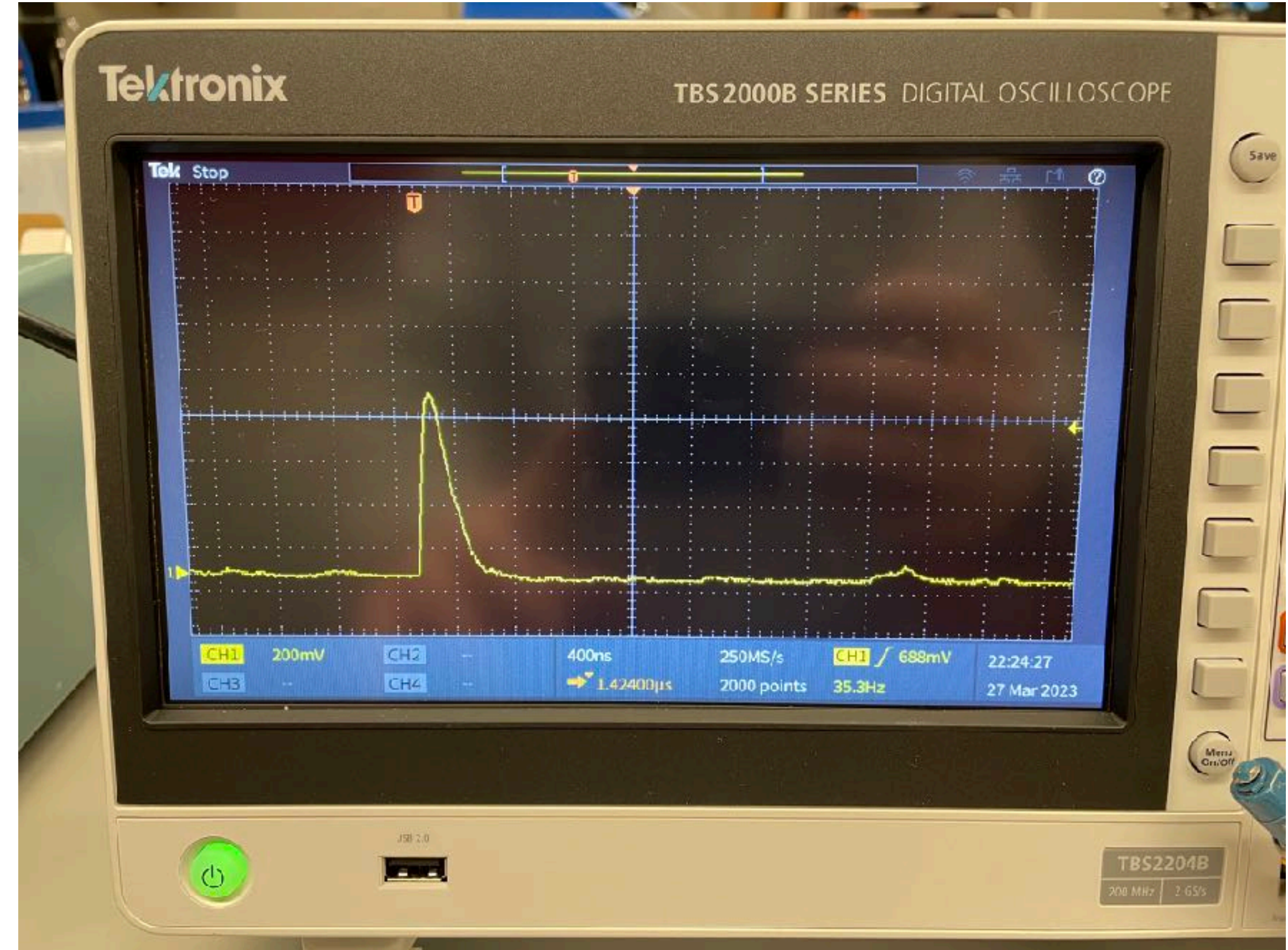
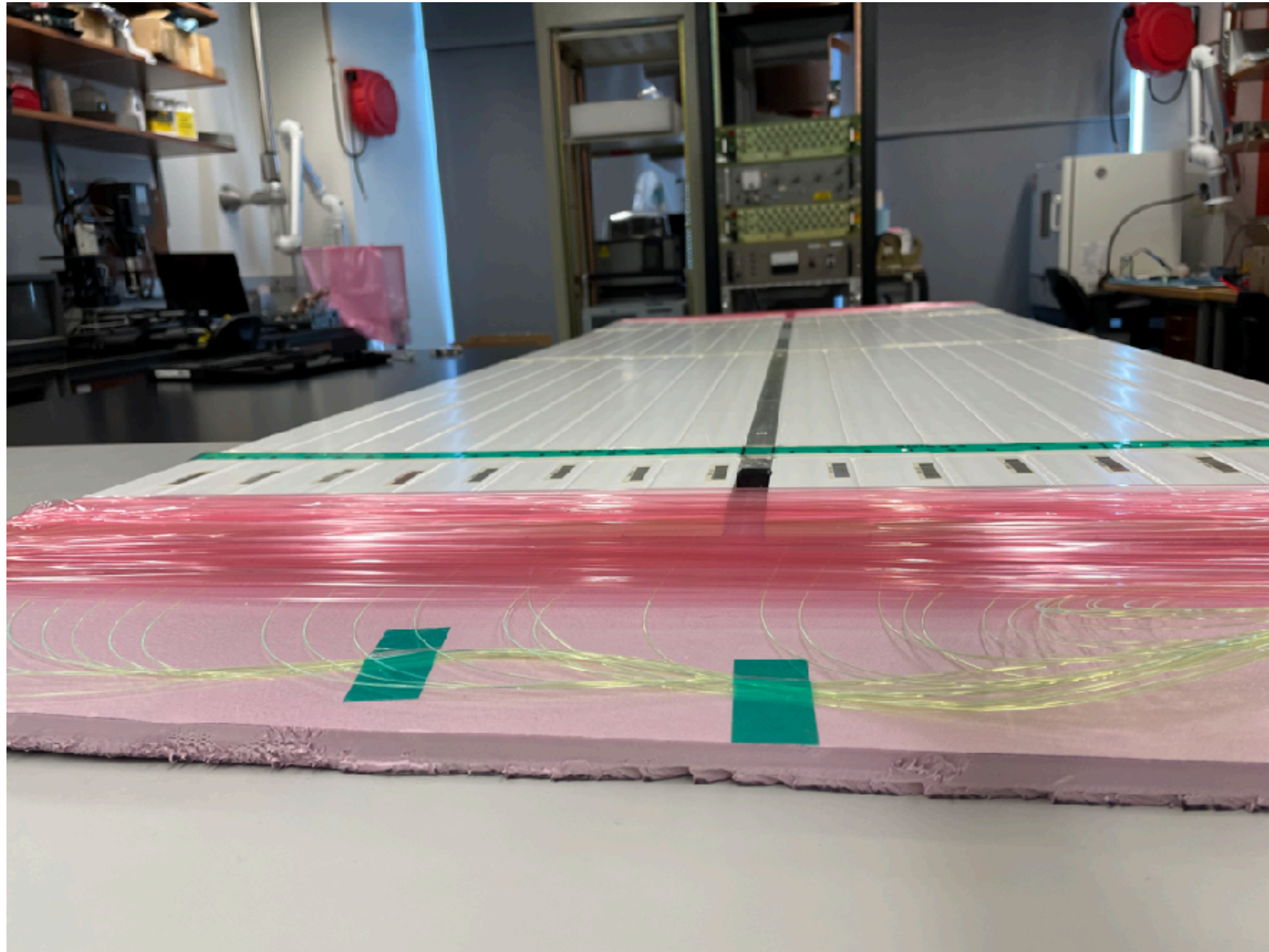


Diyaselis Delgado

William Thompson



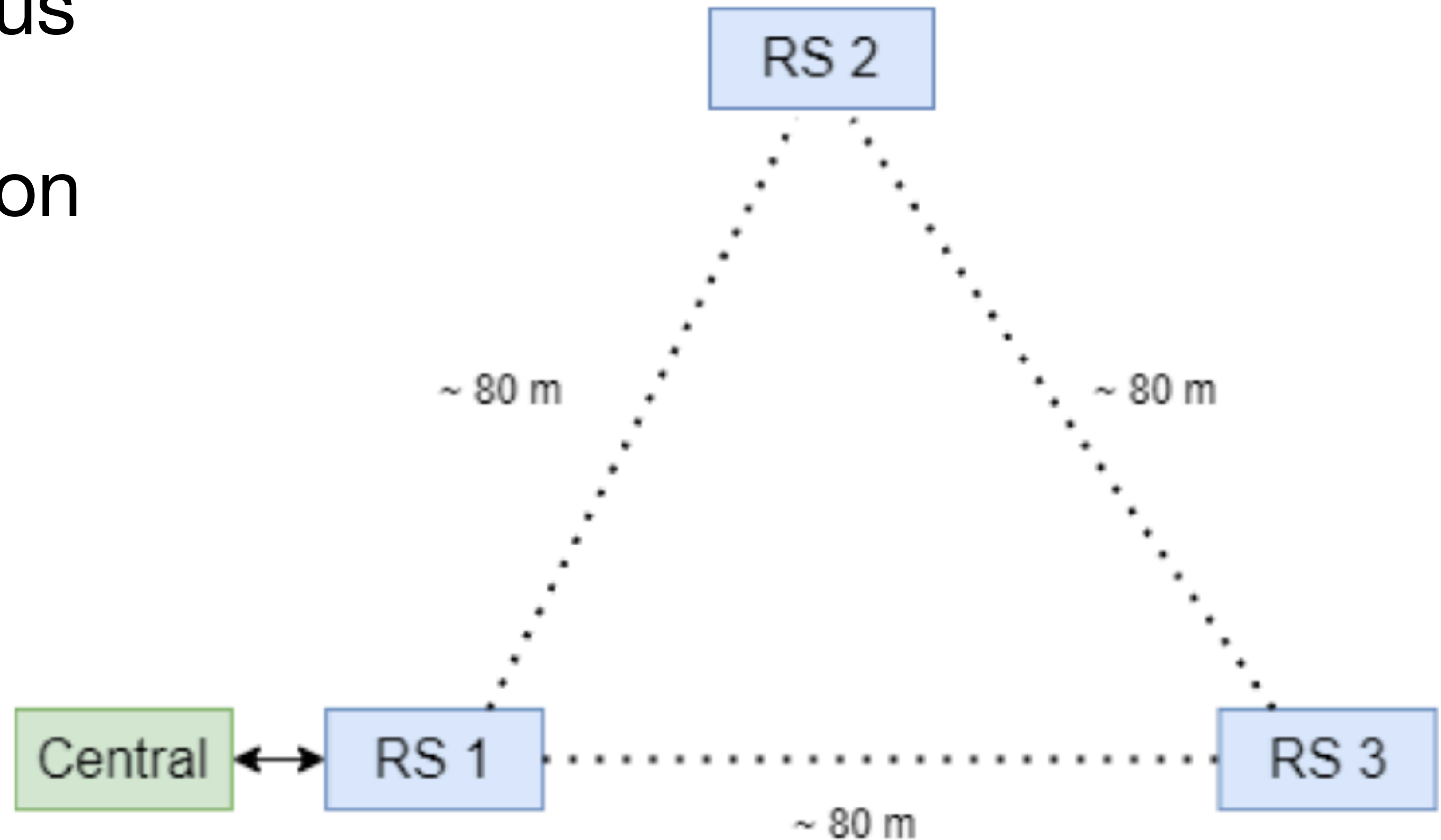
# First Light from Cosmic Muons



- First light from scintillator panels
- Enough material to build 10 panels in total, which we expect to have by the end of the year

# Proof-of-Concept Test Array

- PUCP group developing three station deployment will allow us to test:
  1. Inter-module communication
  2. Synchronisation protocol
  3. Data acquisition and management
- We may identify air showers with this set up



# Site Selection Trip



Photo Credit: Universidad Nacional de San Agustin de Arequipa

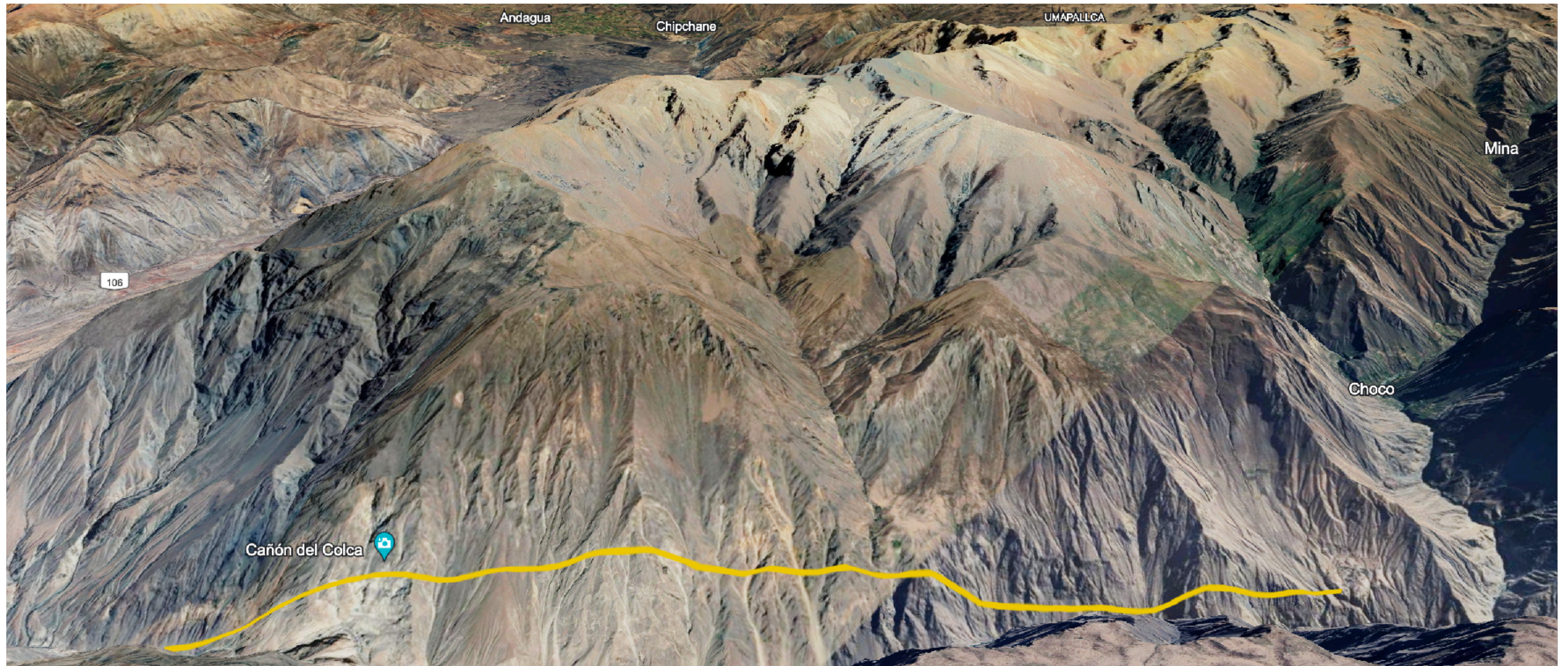
Travelled to Peru to meet with officials and visit potential sites



# Potential Test and Main Array Location



# Main Array Candidate Site





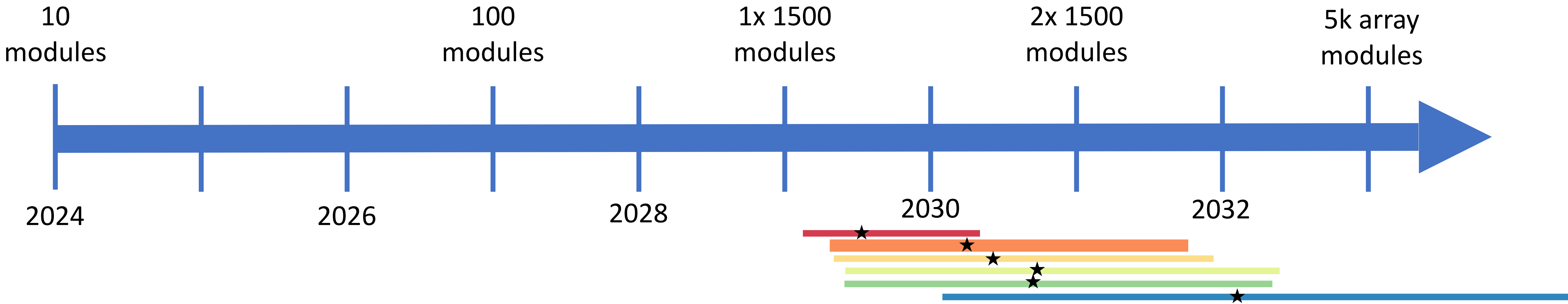
# Societal Impact

- We want local community to embrace not just accept
- First steps: met with mayor of Chivay and held a workshop with Peruvian social scientists and officials



# Tentative Timeline

- Initially deploy ~10 modules followed by ~100 modules for R&D
- Full array could be deployed in 1500-module segments
- Expect to see neutrinos in <2 years

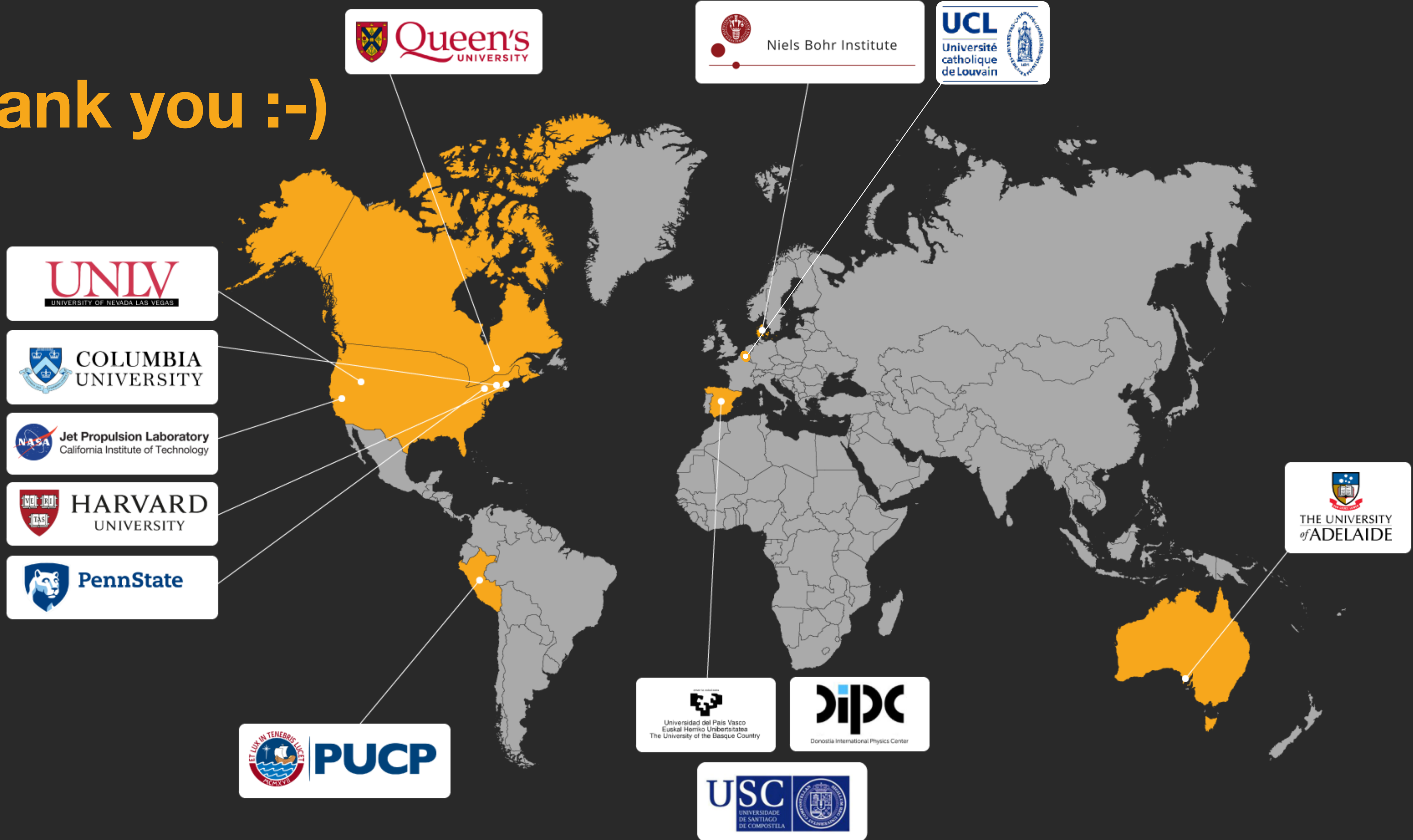


# Conclusions

- TAMBO will:
  - Bridge gap between HE and UHE neutrino telescopes
  - Enable the discovery of hidden neutrino sources
- Fully-featured simulation nearing completion
- Development of prototype detectors underway
- Interested in joining? Contact (Will Thompson || Carlos Argüelles || Mauricio) at [will\\_thompson@g.harvard.edu](mailto:will_thompson@g.harvard.edu), [carguelles@g.harvard.edu](mailto:carguelles@g.harvard.edu)

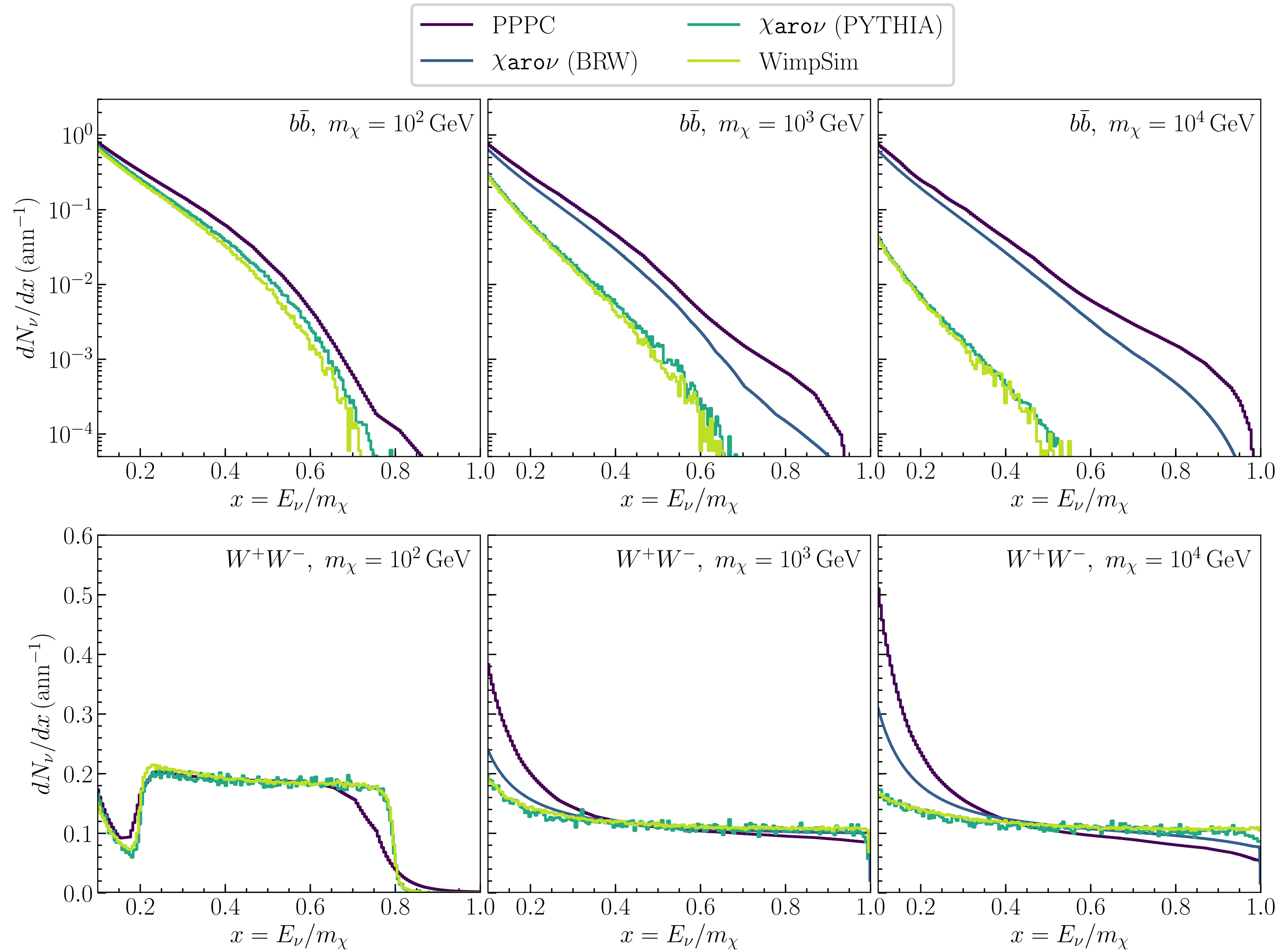


# Thank you :-)

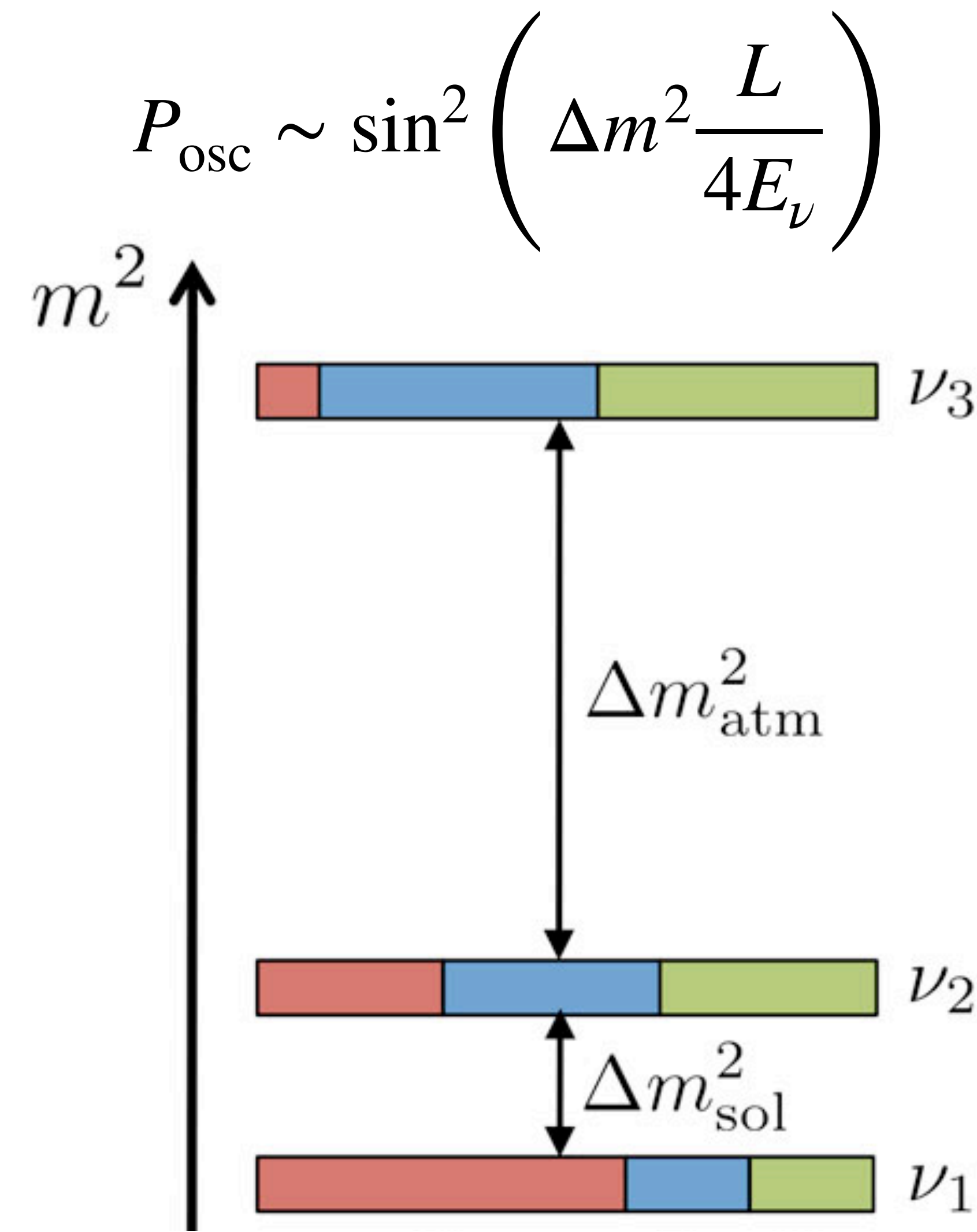
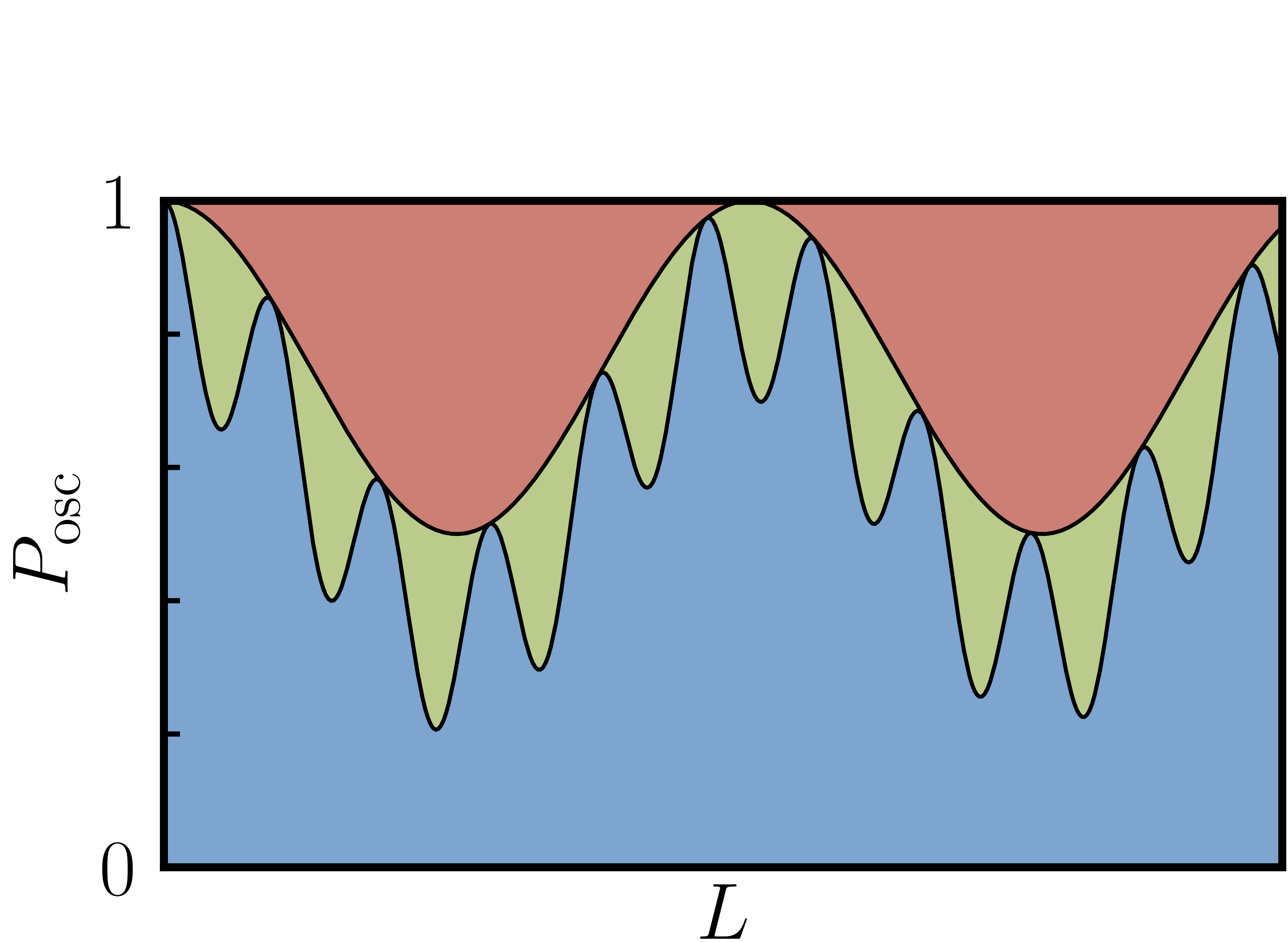


# Backups





Reaction	Label	Flux ( $\text{cm}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ )
$p + p \rightarrow {}^2\text{H} + e^+ + \nu_e$	<i>pp</i>	$5.95 \times 10^{10}$
$p + e^- + p \rightarrow {}^2\text{H} + \nu_e$	<i>pep</i>	$1.40 \times 10^8$
${}^3\text{He} + p \rightarrow {}^4\text{He} + e^+ + \nu_e$	<i>hep</i>	$9.3 \times 10^3$
${}^7\text{Be} + e^- \rightarrow {}^7\text{Li} + \nu_e$	${}^7\text{Be}$	$4.77 \times 10^9$
${}^8\text{B} \rightarrow {}^8\text{Be}^* + e^+ + \nu_e$	${}^8\text{B}$	$5.05 \times 10^6$



Thank you :-)