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# The IceCube Neutrino Observatory

Tim Ruhe

Lectures Series on Astroparticle Physics, Winter 2019/2020

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# THE ICECUBE COLLABORATION

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Yale University

## FUNDING AGENCIES

Fonds de la Recherche Scientifique (FRS-FNRS)  
Fonds Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek-Vlaanderen  
(FWO-Vlaanderen)

Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBWF)  
German Research Foundation (DFG)  
Deutsches Elektronen-Synchrotron (DESY)

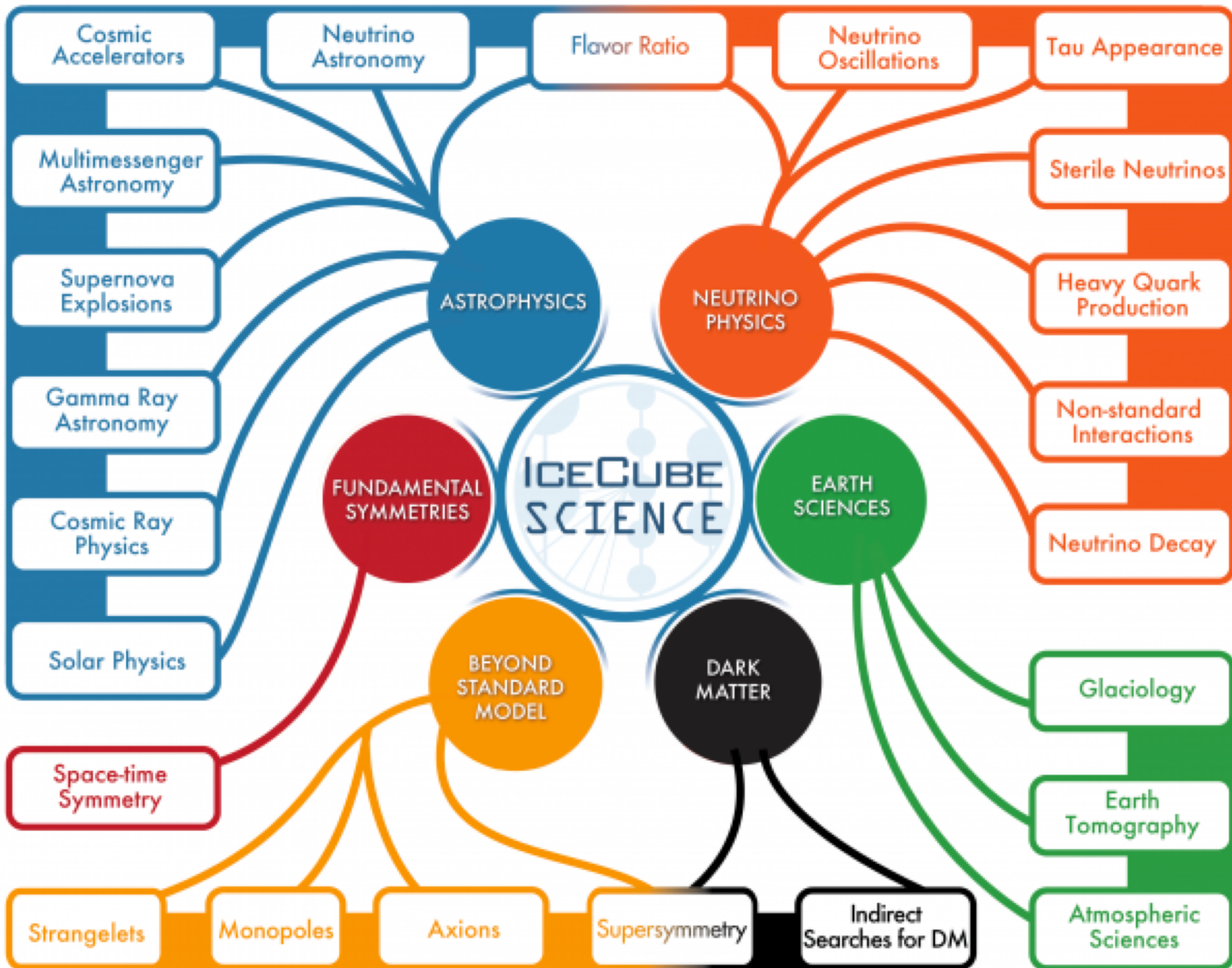
Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS)  
Knut and Alice Wallenberg Foundation  
Swedish Polar Research Secretariat

The Swedish Research Council (VR)  
University of Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation (WARF)  
US National Science Foundation (NSF)



icecube.wisc.edu





## Outline

- Neutrinos, their interactions and IceCube
- High Energy Starting Events
- TXS0506 and Multimessenger Astronomy
- Atmospheric Neutrinos and *Data Science*



# Neutrinos



Bildquelle: particlezoo.net

Neutrinos have very small mass and very small interaction cross section.

# Standard Model of Elementary Particles

	three generations of matter (fermions)			interactions / force carriers (bosons)	
	I	II	III		
mass	$\approx 2.2 \text{ MeV}/c^2$	$\approx 1.28 \text{ GeV}/c^2$	$\approx 173.1 \text{ GeV}/c^2$	0	$\approx 124.97 \text{ GeV}/c^2$
charge	$\frac{2}{3}$	$\frac{2}{3}$	$\frac{2}{3}$	0	0
spin	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	0
	<b>u</b> up	<b>c</b> charm	<b>t</b> top	<b>g</b> gluon	<b>H</b> higgs
	<b>d</b> down	<b>s</b> strange	<b>b</b> bottom	<b>γ</b> photon	
	<b>e</b> electron	<b>μ</b> muon	<b>τ</b> tau	<b>Z</b> Z boson	
	<b>ν<sub>e</sub></b> electron neutrino	<b>ν<sub>μ</sub></b> muon neutrino	<b>ν<sub>τ</sub></b> tau neutrino	<b>W</b> W boson	

**QUARKS** (left side label)

**LEPTONS** (left side label)

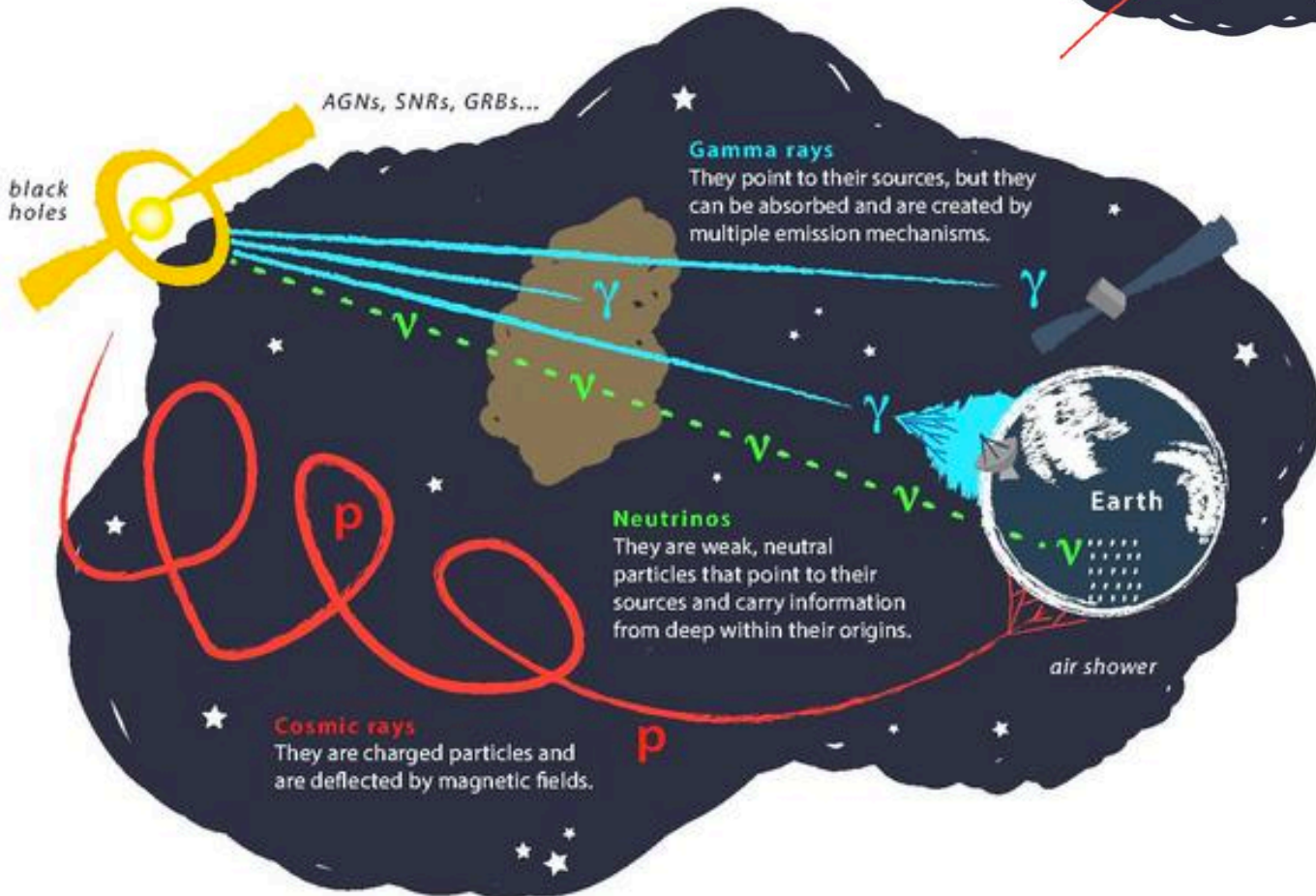
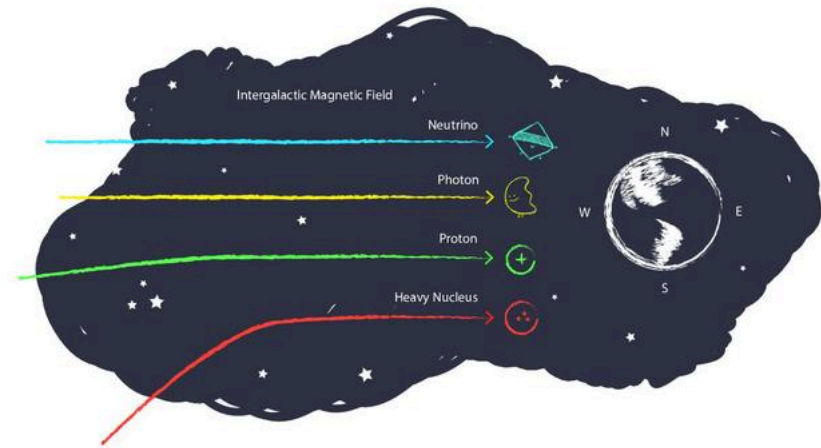
**GAUGE BOSONS VECTOR BOSONS** (bottom right label)

**SCALAR BOSONS** (right side label)

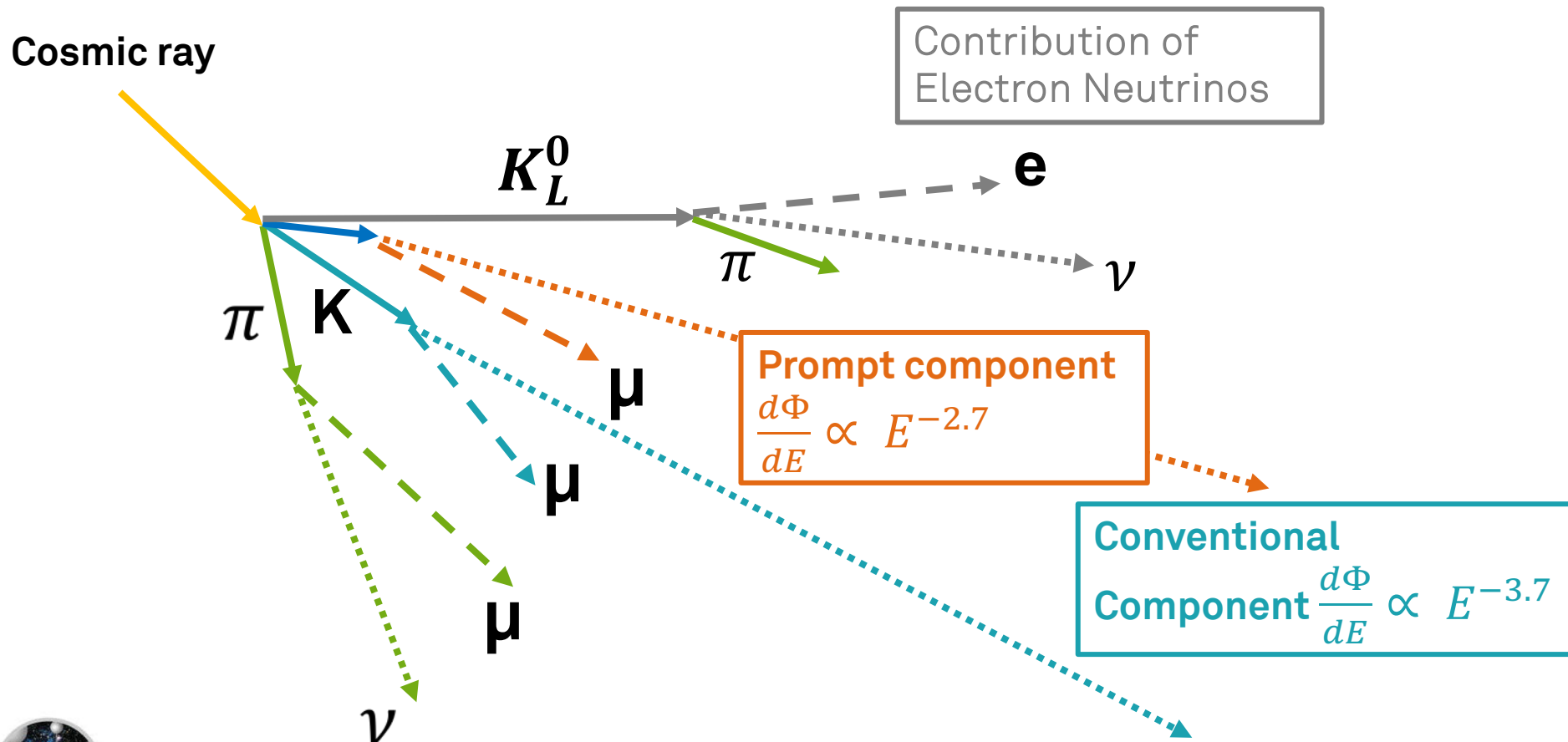




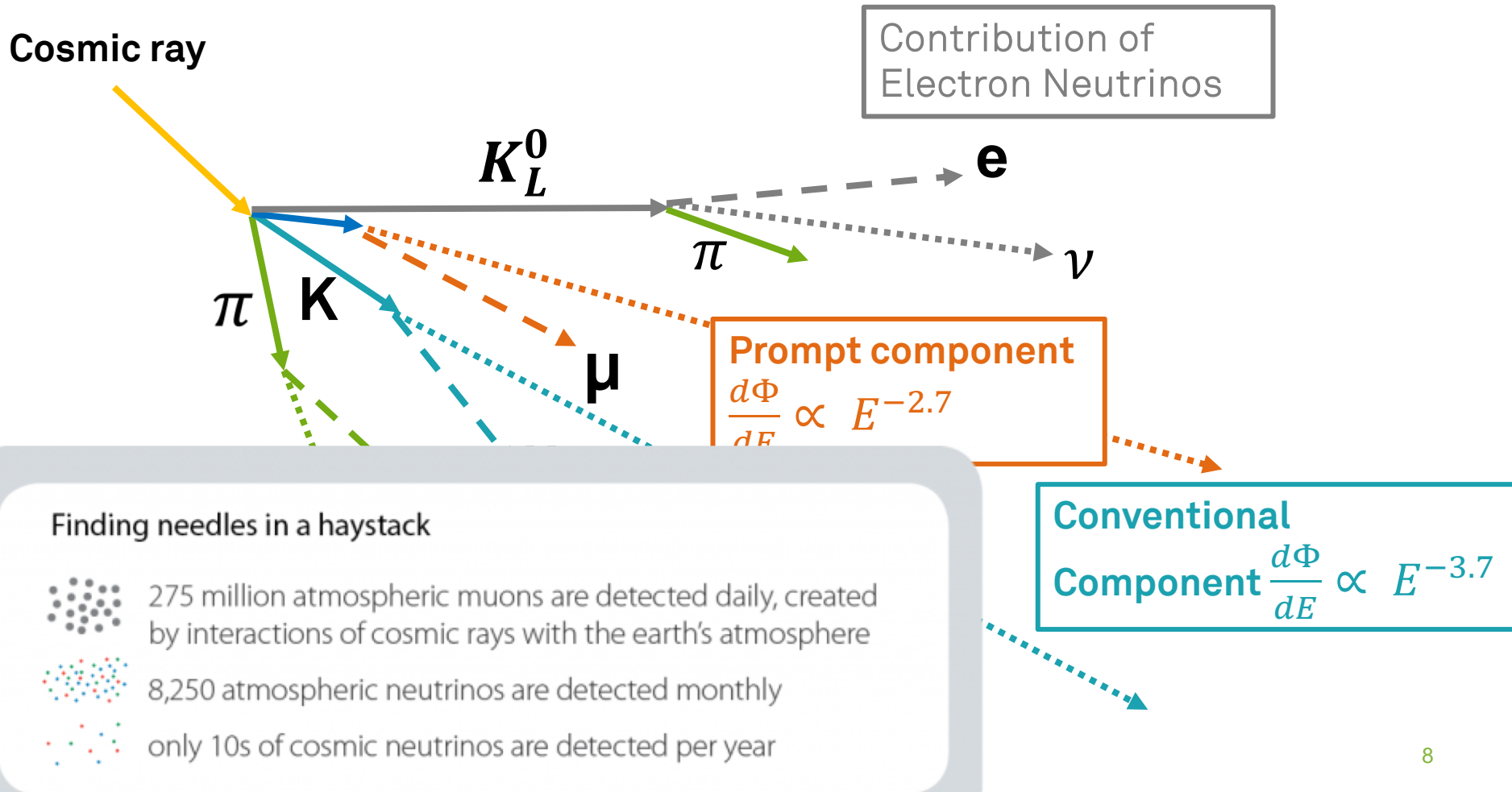
# Neutrino Astronomy



## Atmospheric Neutrinos



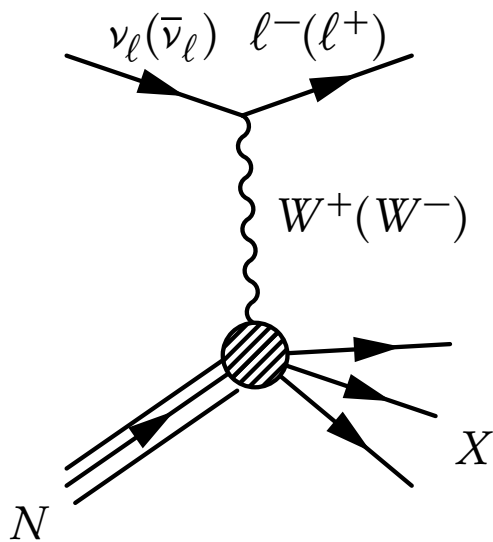
## Atmospheric Neutrinos



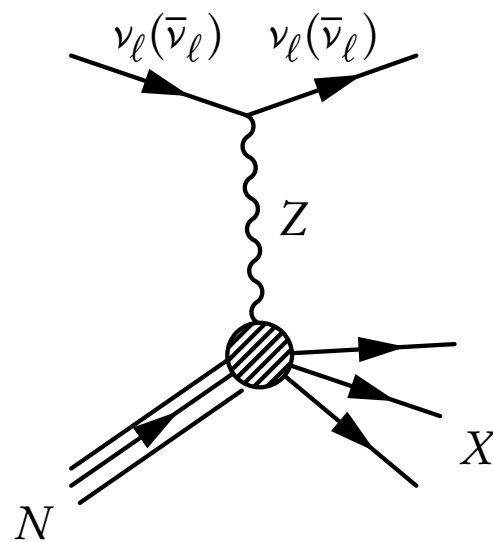


## How neutrinos interact

Charged current interaction (CC)



Neutral current interaction (NC)



Glashow-Resonance ( $E_\nu > 6.3$  TeV)

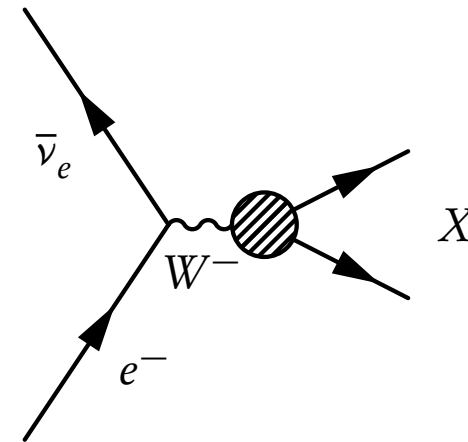
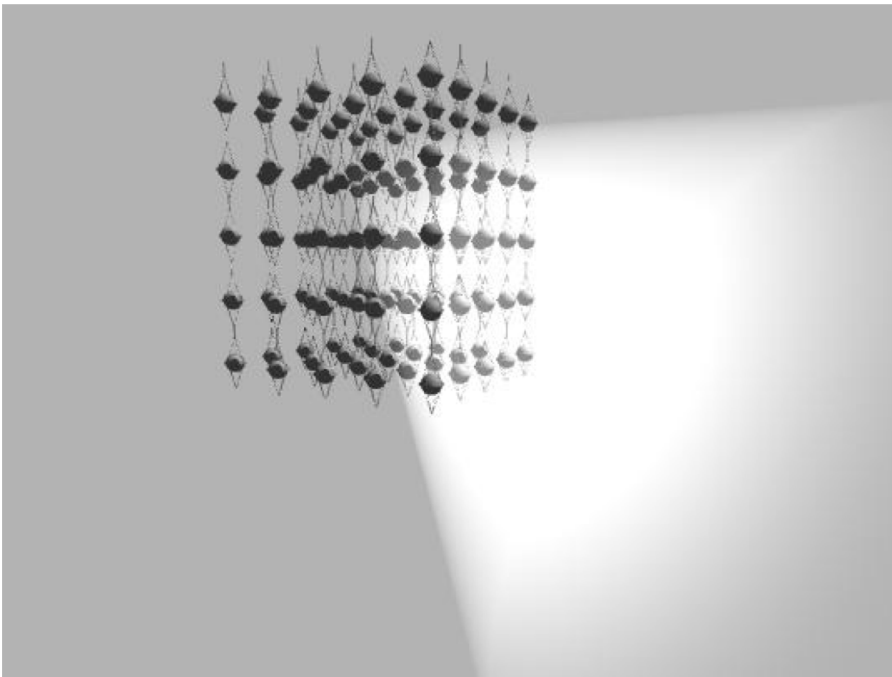
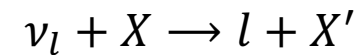


Image: A. Sandrock

## Detection Principle

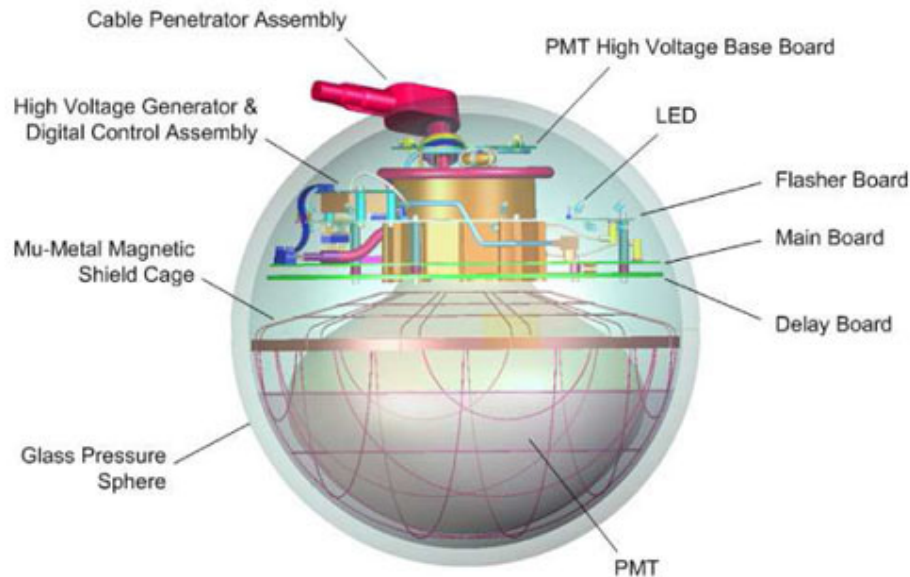


- Neutrino detection via charged leptons:



- Interaction in the ice or the bedrock
- Detection of Cherenkov light by Digital Optical Modules (DOMs)

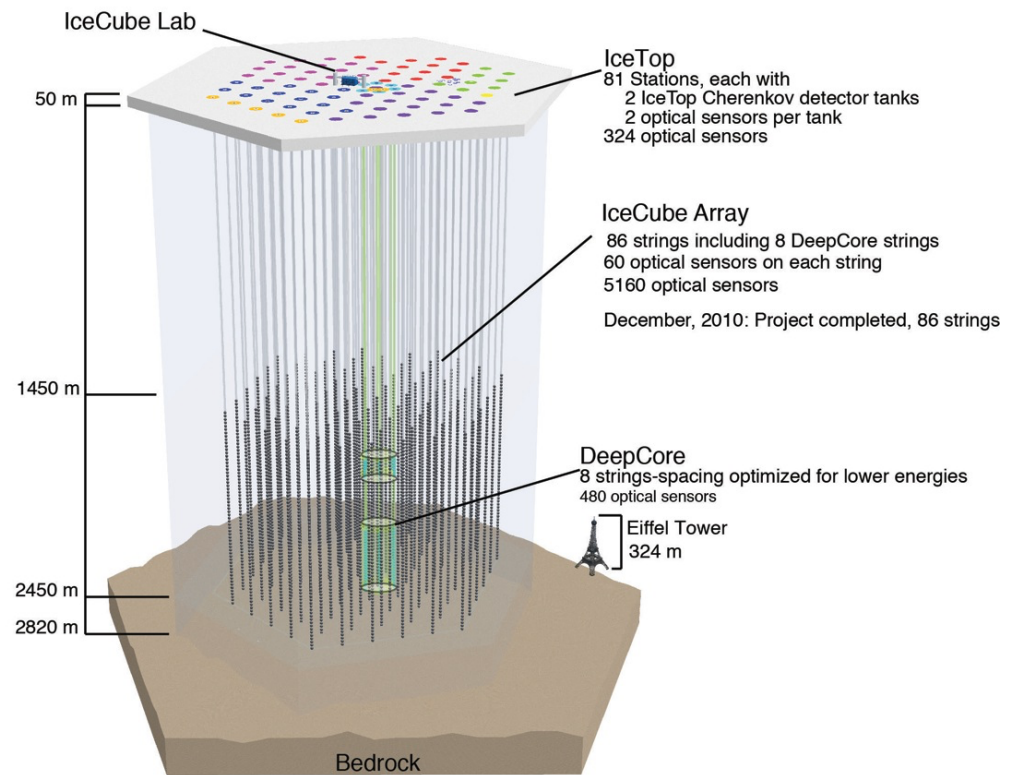
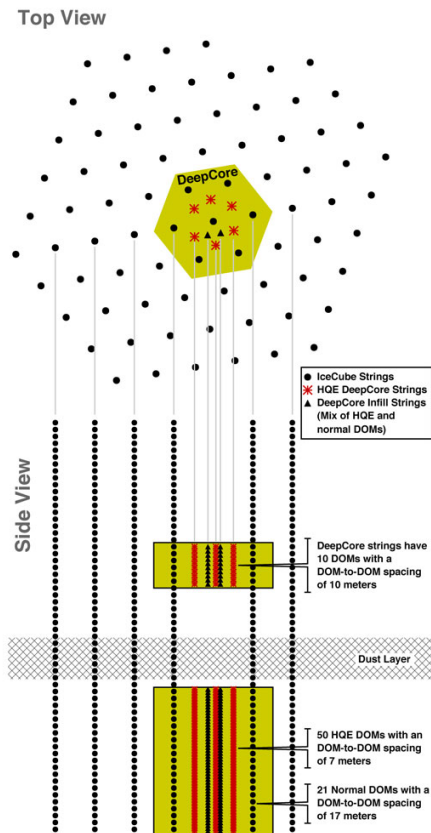
## Digital Optical Modules (DOMs)



- Downward facing 10" PMT (Hamamatsu R7081-02), 25% Peak QE
- High Voltage Supply
- Electronics
- Flasher LEDs
- Higher QE (34%) for DeepCore DOMs (Hamamatsu R7081MOD)
- Very few DOM failures (mostly during deployment)
- Slightly larger fraction of DOMs with *issues* (mostly non-standard Local Coincidence)

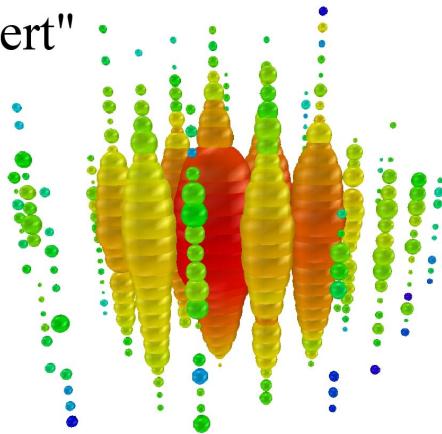


# The IceCube Neutrino Observatory



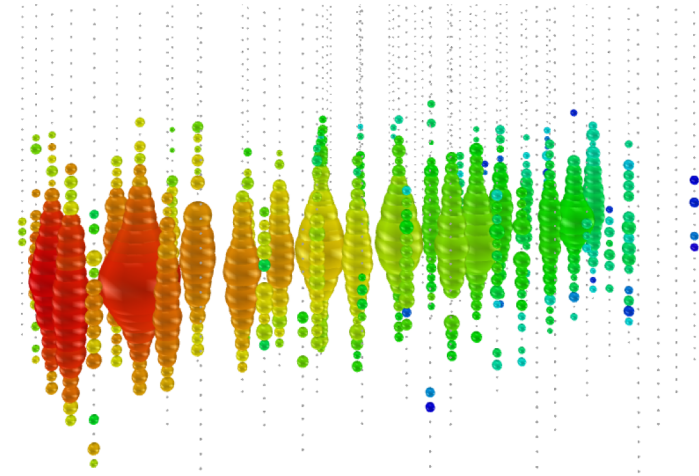
## Event Signatures

"Bert"



Cascade like events:

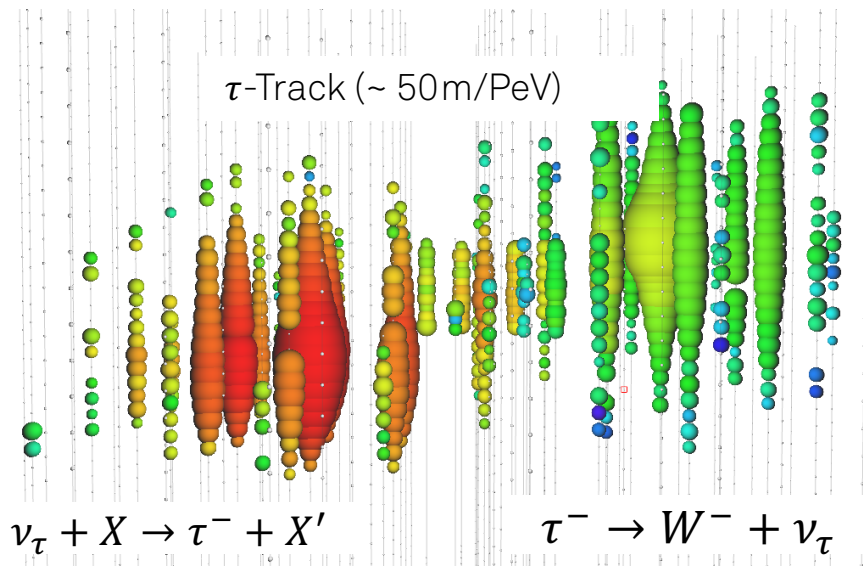
- $\nu_e$  - CC and all flavour NC interactions
- Interaction inside instrumented volume
- Poor angular resolution  $\approx 15^\circ$
- Good energy resolution



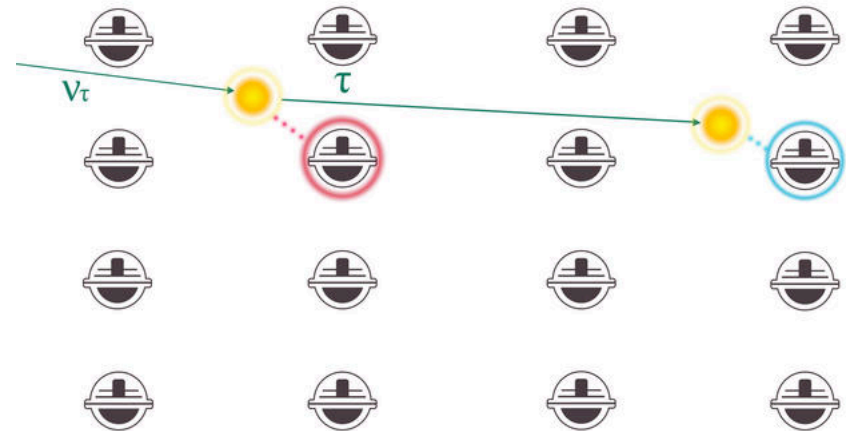
Track like events:

- $\nu_\mu$  - CC interactions
- Interaction may happen outside instrumented volume
- Good angular resolution  $\approx 1^\circ$
- Poor energy resolution

## Tau-Neutrino Signatures



- 2 distinct cascades
- First from tau-neutrino interaction
- Second one from tau-lepton decay
- Connected by track caused by tau-lepton
- Caveat: track length is only 50m/PeV

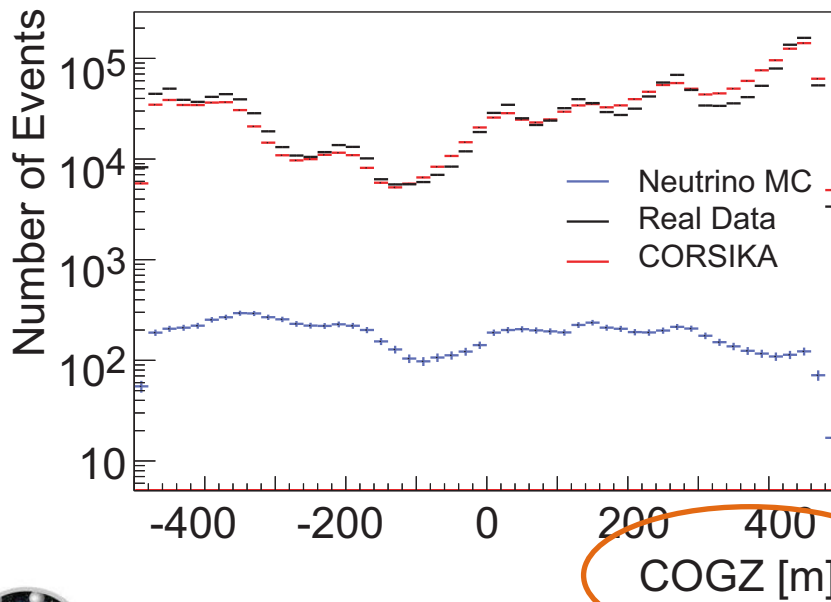
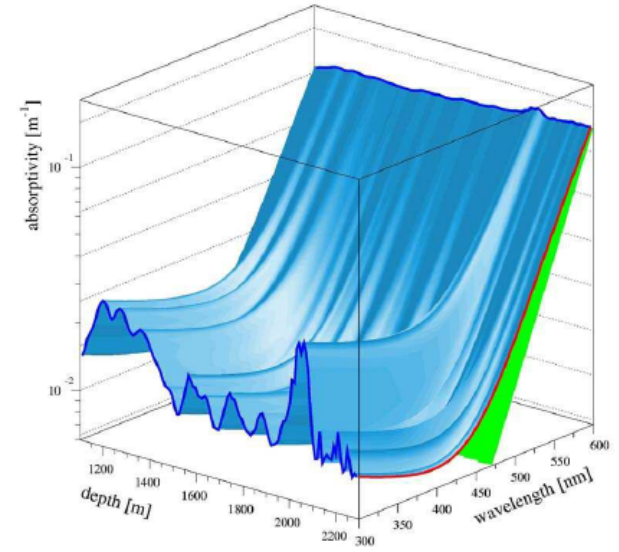




## IceCube's Detection Medium: South Pole Ice

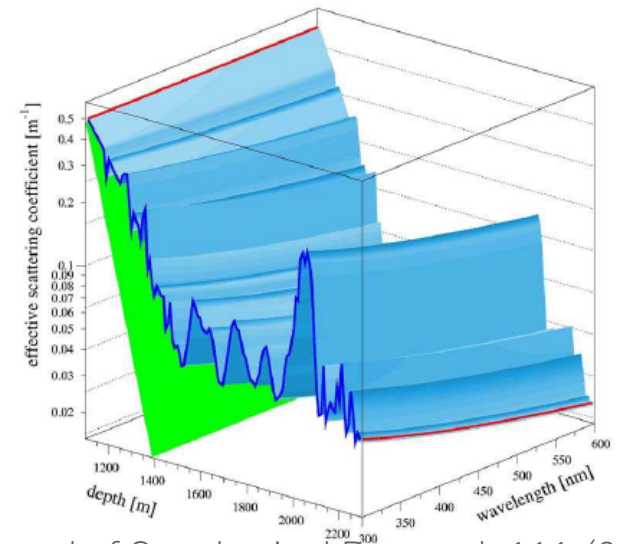
Natural Medium: Lots of inhomogenities, smaller and larger layers of dust.

Absorption



Depth in Detector

Scattering

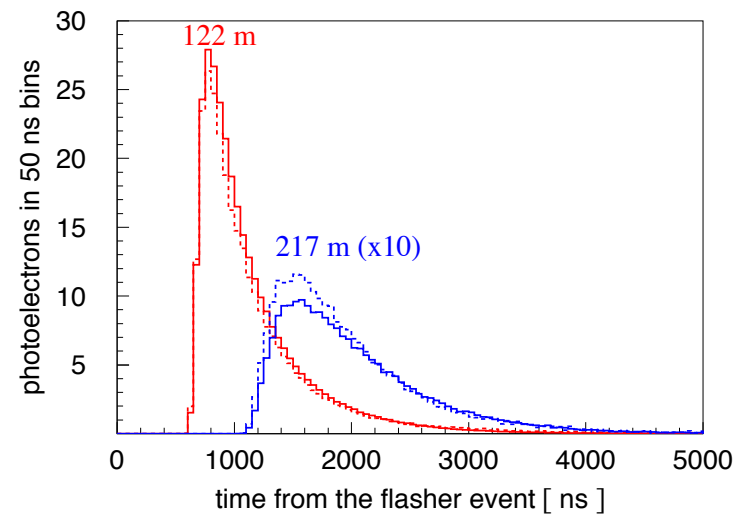
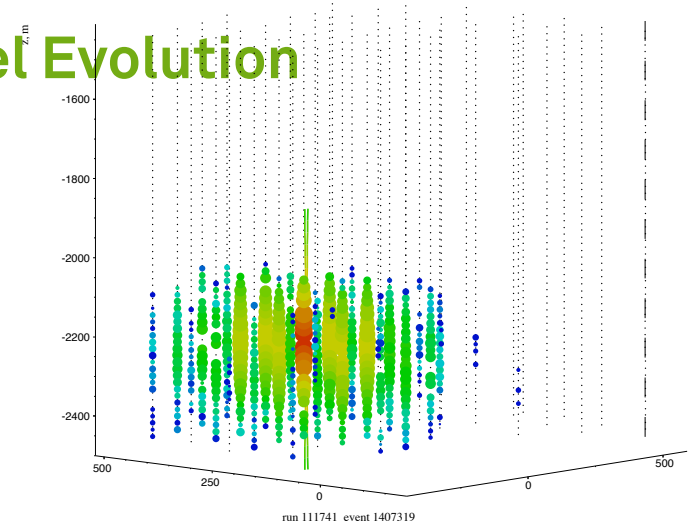


# In Ice Measurements and Ice-Model Evolution



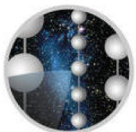
Ice core measurements

In situ measurements using flasher LEDs

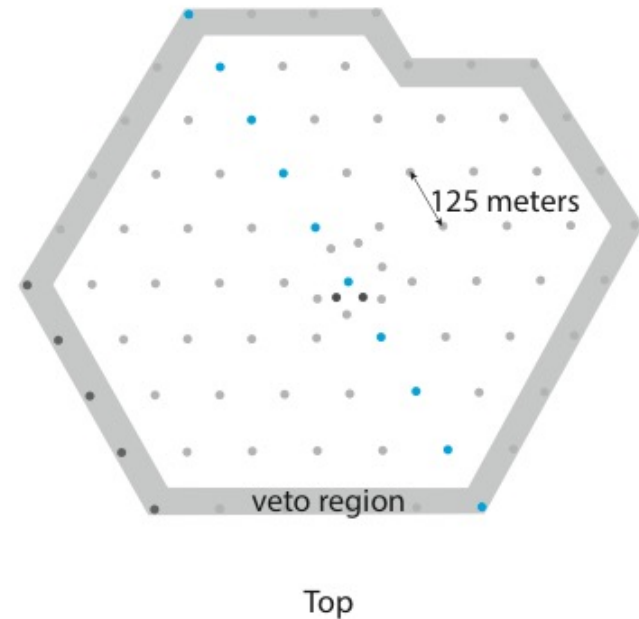
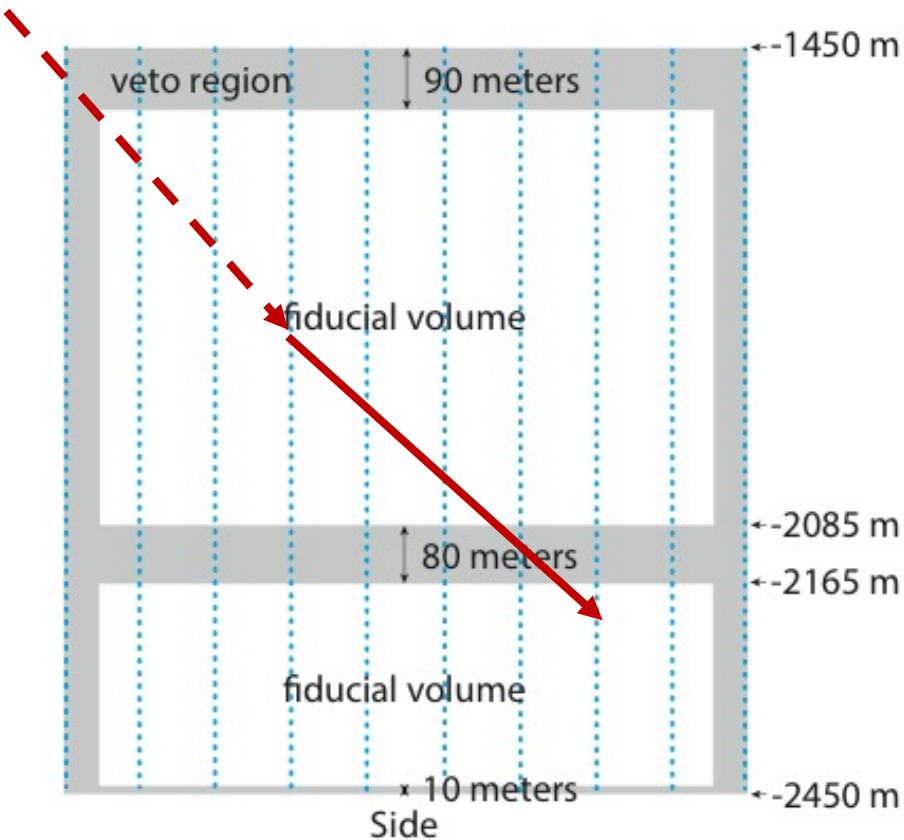


... Aartsen et al., NIMA 711, 73 – 89 (20013)

T. Ruhe, Lecture Series on Astroparticle Physics, Winter 2019/2020



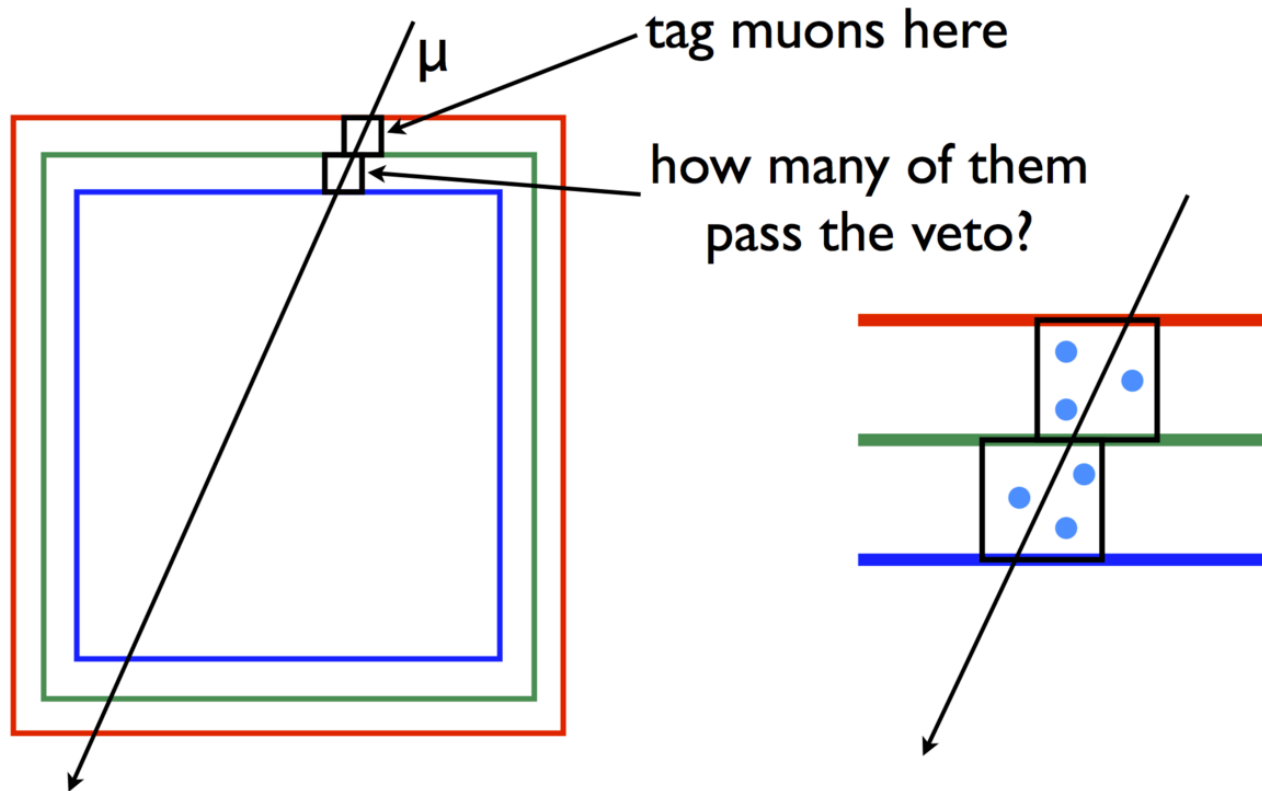
## High Energy Starting Events (HESE)



- Select events starting inside the detector
- Charge threshold of 6000 pe
- Less than 3 of first 250 pe in veto layer
- ~ 30 TeV deposited inside the detector



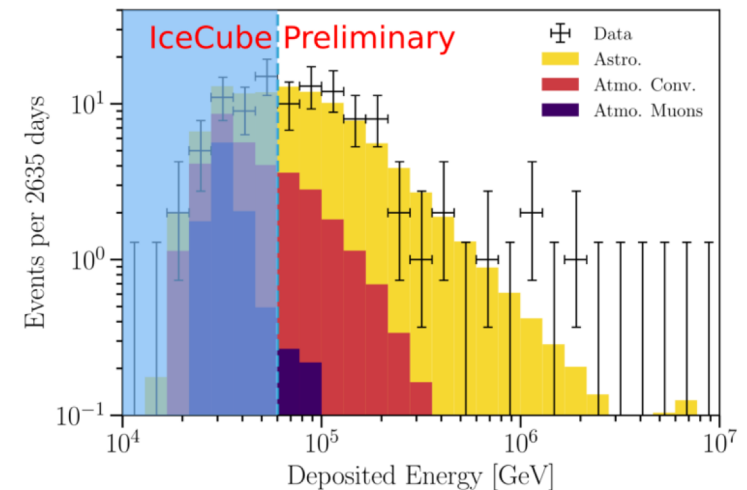
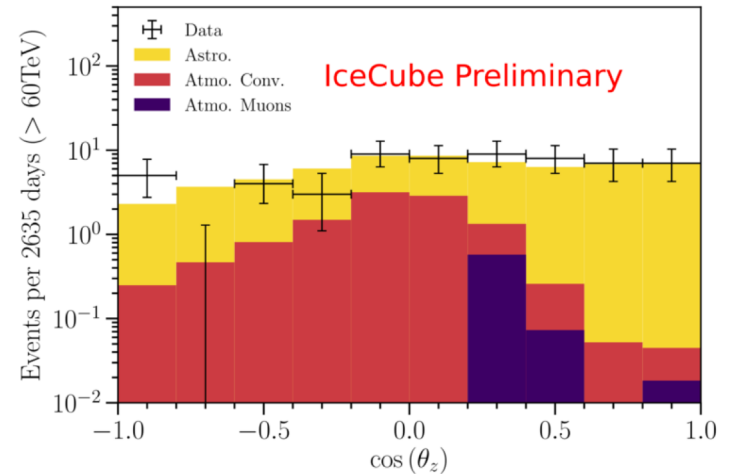
## Muon Background Estimation



## HESE Background Estimation

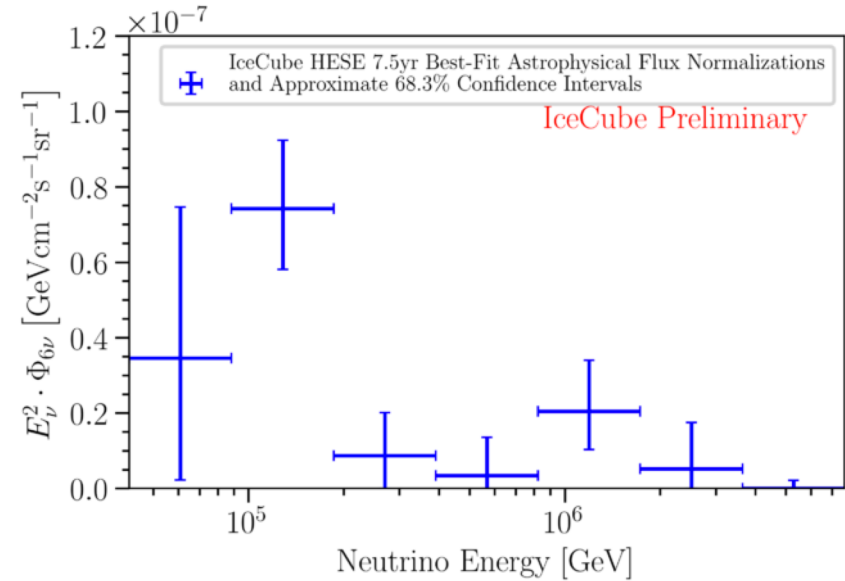
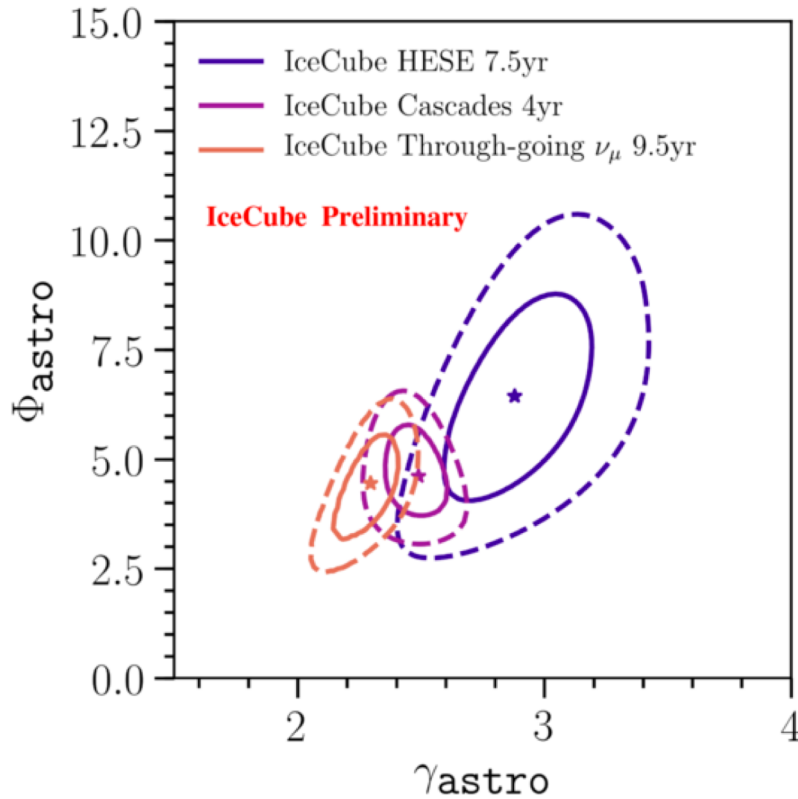
Main backgrounds are:

- Atmospheric muons
  - Estimated in data-driven method
  - 10.3 in 7.5 yrs. of data
  
- Atmospheric neutrinos
  - Strongly disfavored by energy and directional distribution
  - 23.2 events in 7.5 yrs. of data





## HESE Results



Single Power Law Fit:

$$\gamma = 2.89^{+0.19}_{-0.20}$$

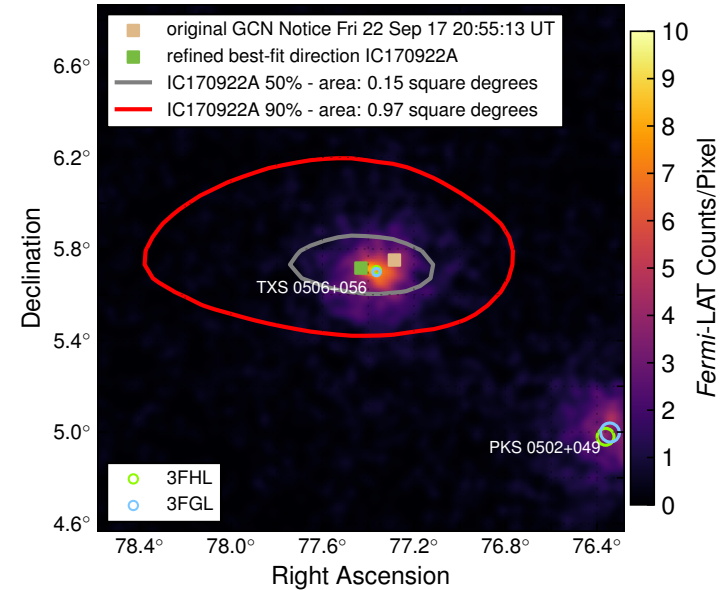
$$\Phi_0 = 6.45^{+1.46}_{-0.46} \times 10^{-18} \text{ GeV}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1} \text{ sr}^{-1}$$



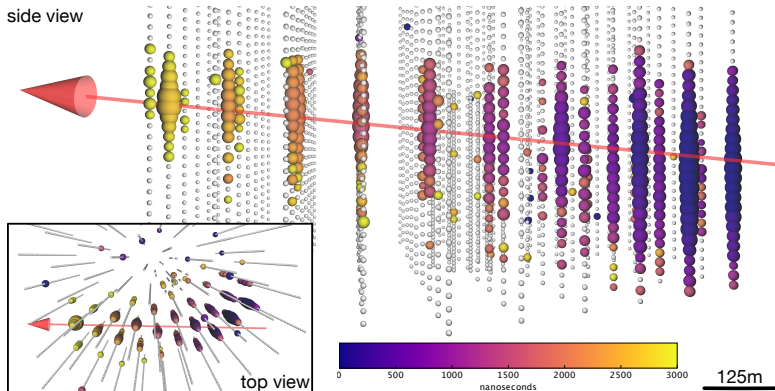
## From IC170922A...

Sep. 22nd 2017:

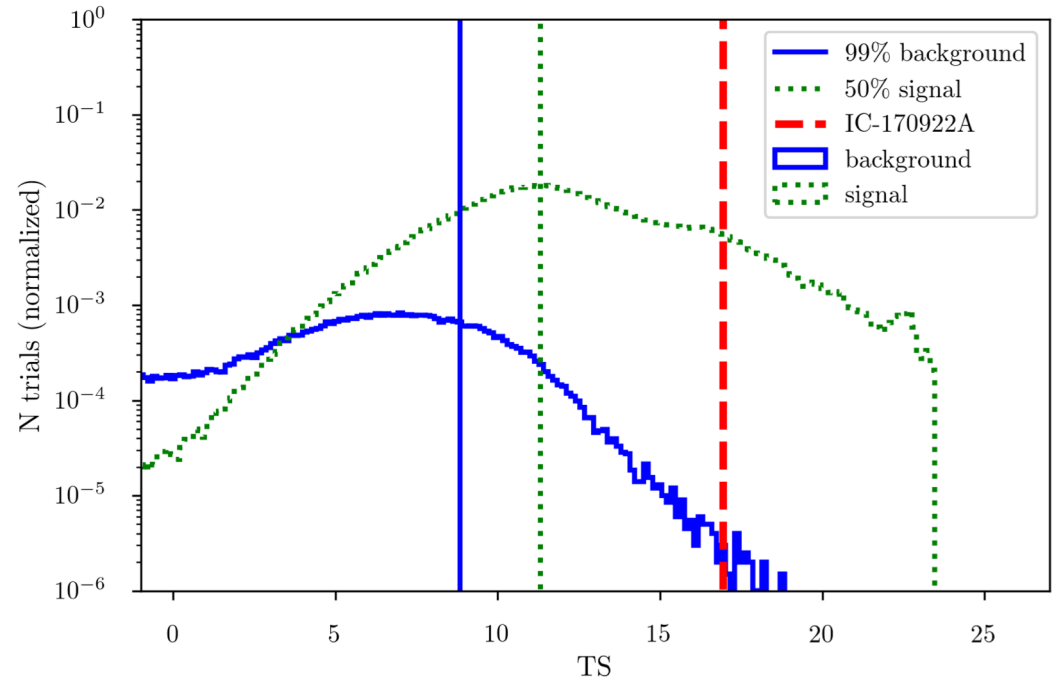
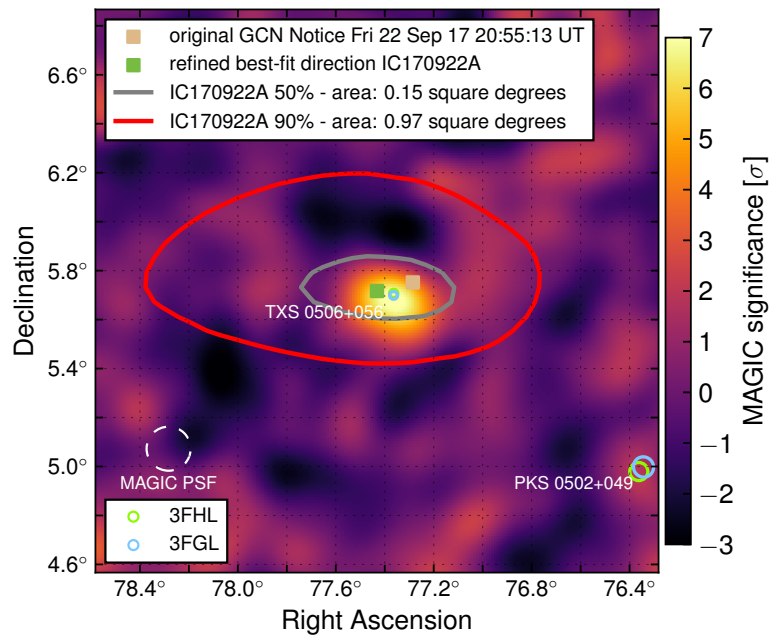
- High energy neutrino event is observed (IC-170922A),
- Energy: 290 TeV, signalness: 56.5%
- Alert issued within ~1 minute



- Event found to originate from direction of known Fermi-LAT source (blazar)
- Source in flaring state for several months



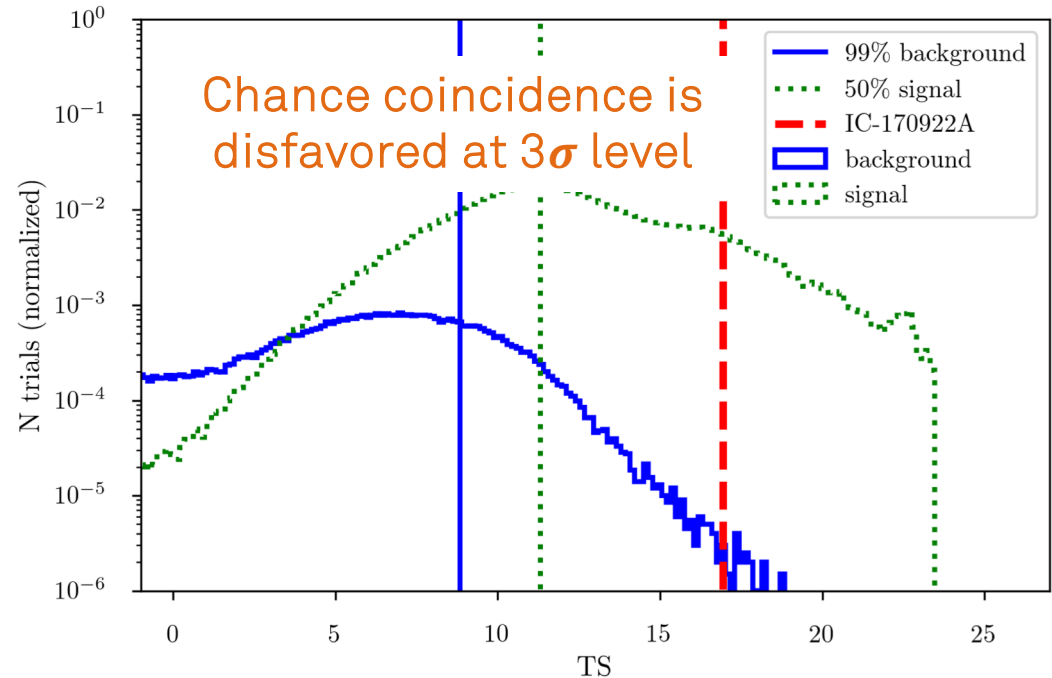
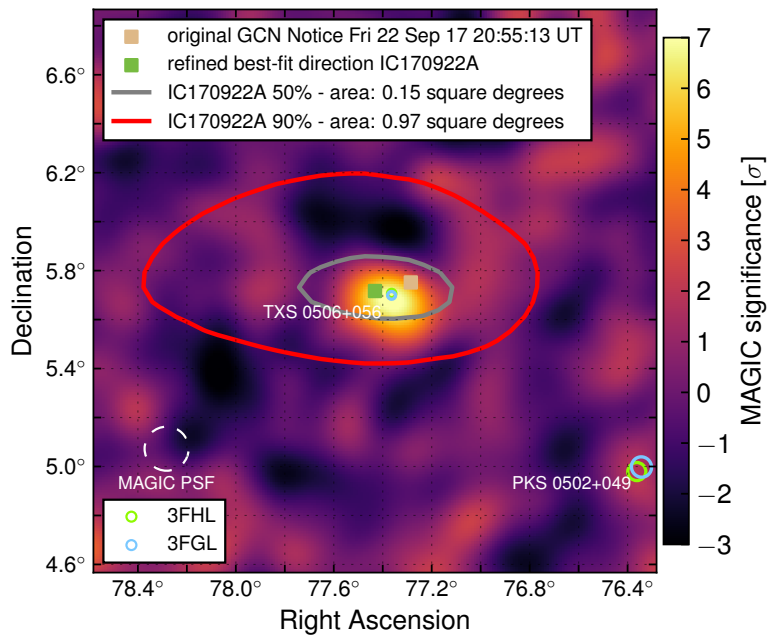
## ... to TXS 0506 + 056



Many, many more follow-up observations at various wavelength by numerous experiments



## ... to TXS 0506 + 056



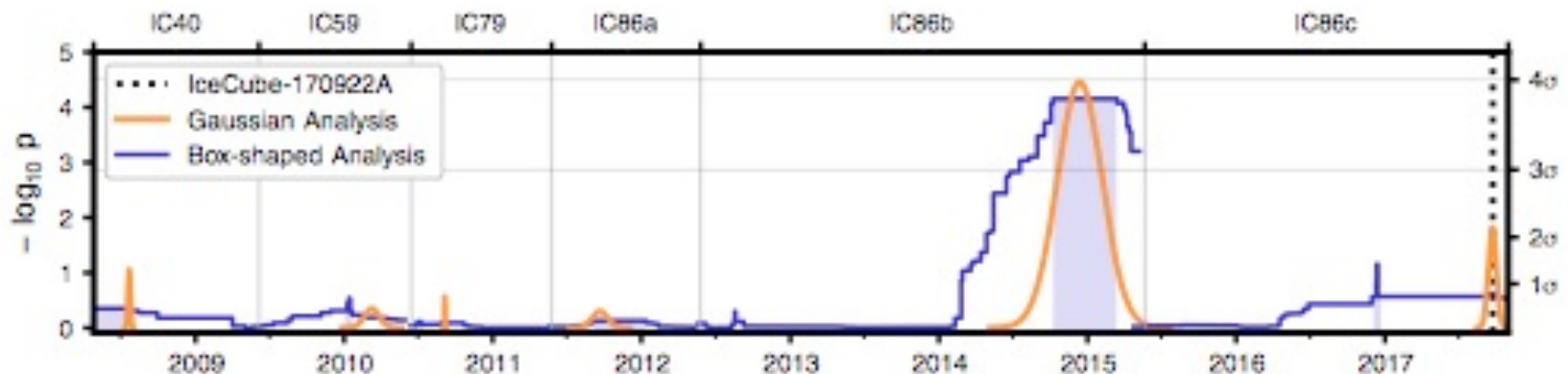
Many, many more follow-up observations at various wavelength by numerous experiments



## TXS Time Dependent Analysis

- Unbinned maximum likelihood technique
- Minimal assumptions about time structure of neutrino emission
- Assumption: Emission clustered around some time  $T_0$  with duration  $T_W$
- Time clustering to identify time dependent signal, no characterization of time structure
- Box-shaped and Gaussian time window

Sample	Start	End
IC40	2008 Apr 5	2009 May 20
IC59	2009 May 20	2010 May 31
IC79	2010 May 31	2011 May 13
IC86a	2011 May 13	2012 May 16
IC86b	2012 May 16	2015 May 18
IC86c	2015 May 18	2017 Oct 31





## Time Dependent Analysis Results

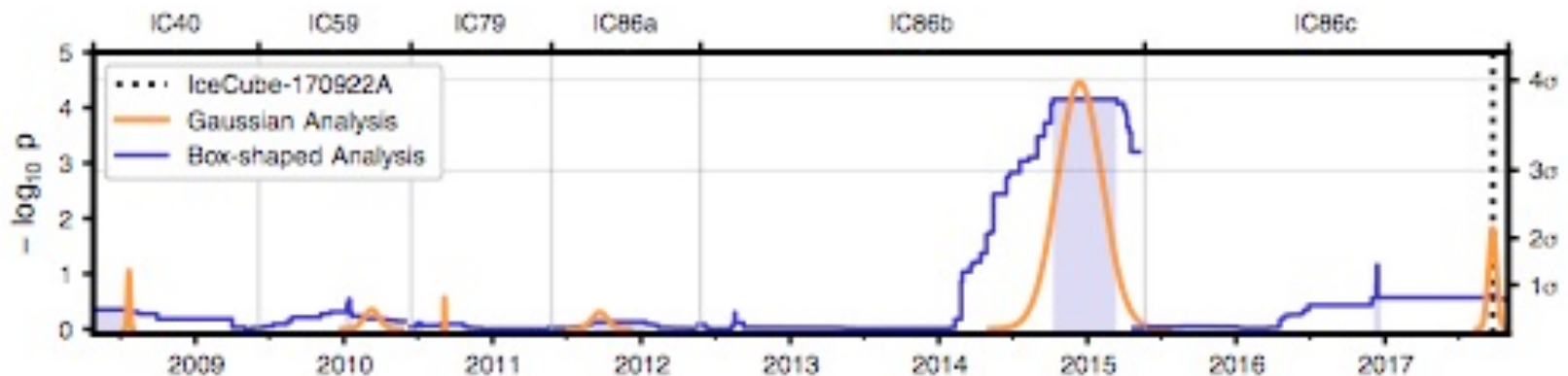
Significant excess of 13 +/- 5 events found in both time windows.

Gaussian Time Window:

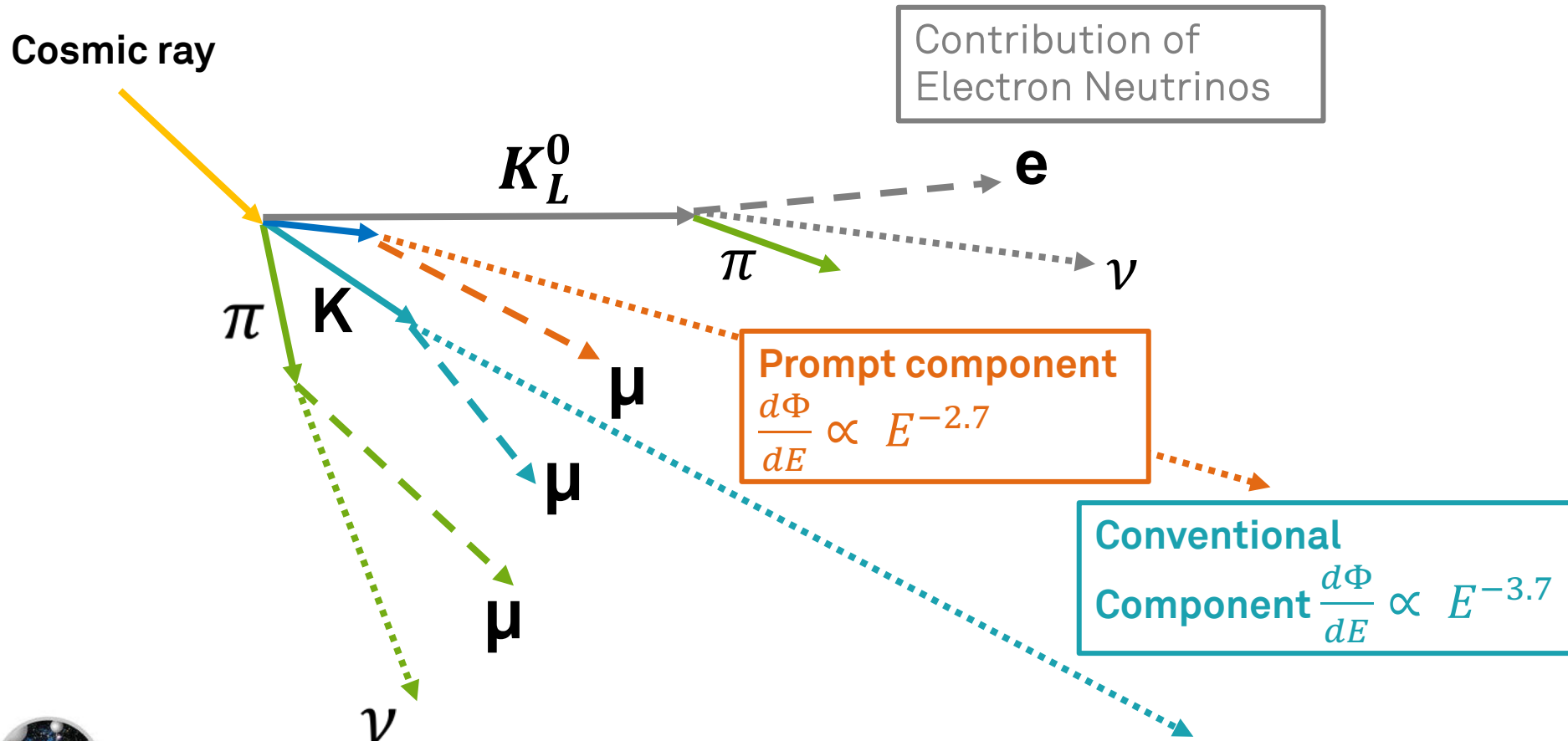
- Centered around Dec. 13th 2014
- Duration:  $110_{-24}^{+35}$  days

Box-Shaped Time Window:

- Centered around Dec. 26th 2014
- Duration: 158 days

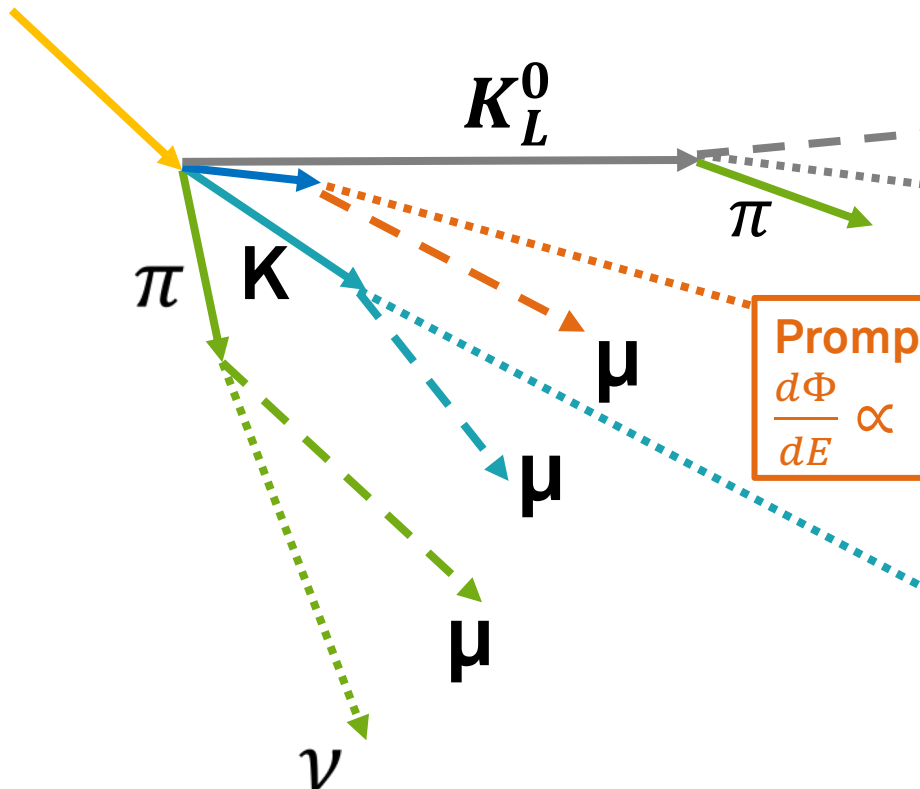


## Atmospheric Neutrinos



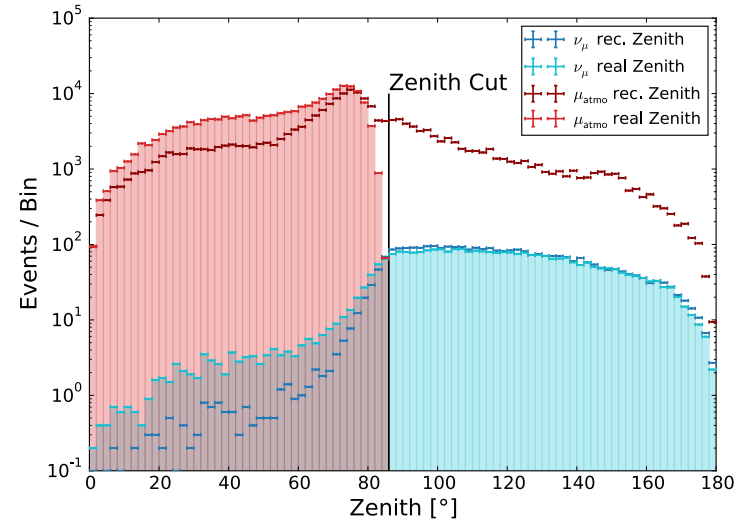
# Atmospheric Neutrinos

Cosmic ray



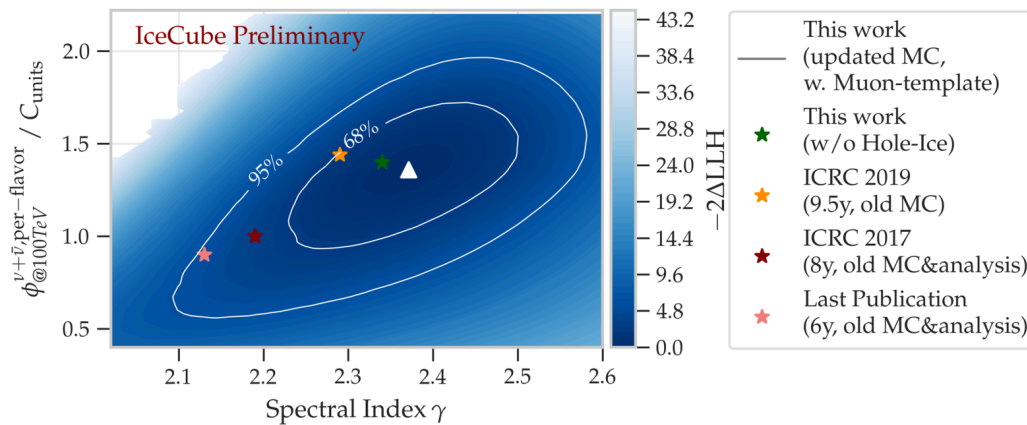
**Prompt component**  
 $\frac{d\Phi}{dE} \propto E^{-2.7}$

**Conventional Component**  
 $\frac{d\Phi}{dE} \propto E^{-3.7}$

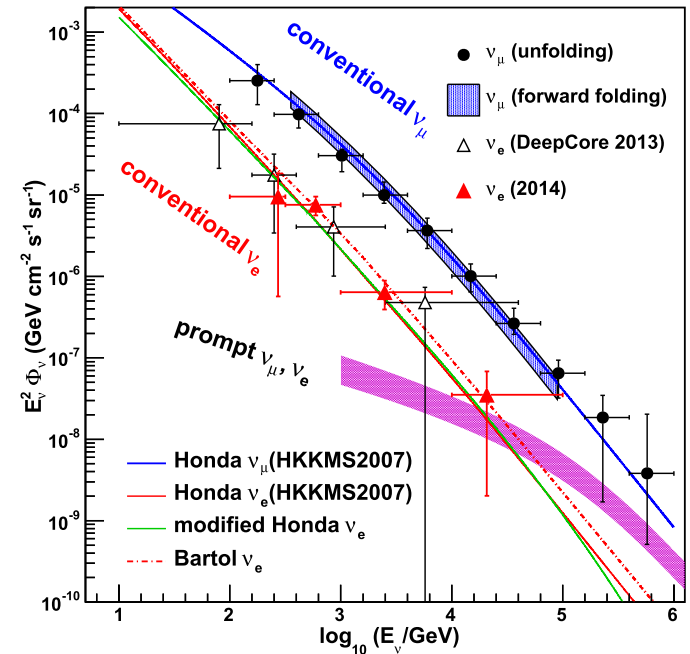


# Two Complementary Approaches to Atmospheric Neutrinos

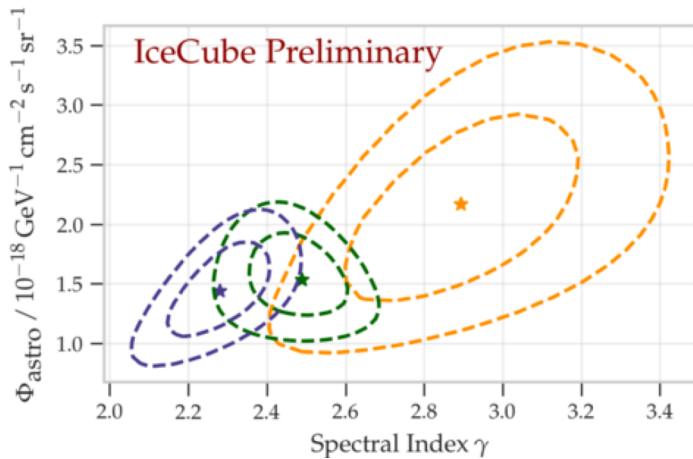
## 1. Likelihood Analysis



## 2. Reconstructed Spectrum



## Llh-Fit



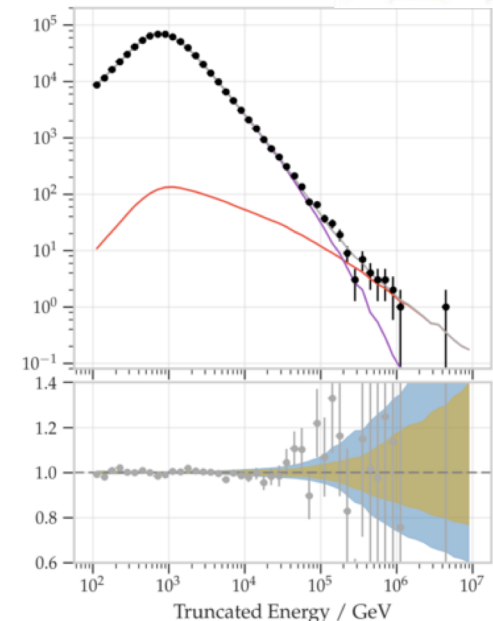
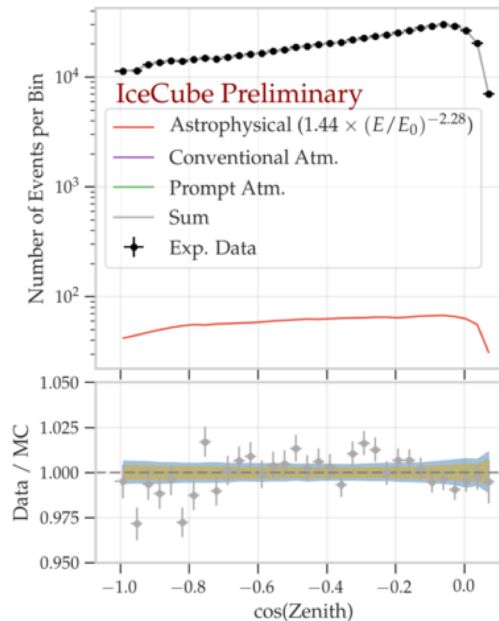
- HESE (7.5y Full-sky) PoS(ICRC2019)1004
- Cascades (4y Full-sky) PoS(ICRC2017)968
- Through-going Muon-Neutrinos (9.5y Northern-hemisphere) This Work

Llh-Fit to extract spectral index and normalization of the different flux components.



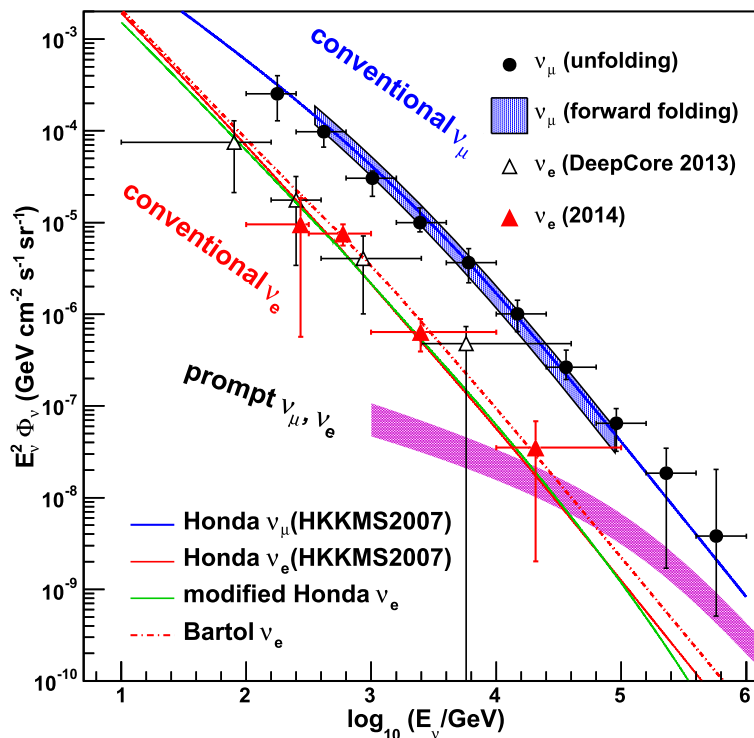
arxiv:1908.09918

Requires more stringent assumptions on the spectral shape (power law).





## Spectral Analysis



- Requires less stringent assumptions on spectral shape (*model independent*)
- Allows for comparison between experiments
- Does not give any answers on flux normalization or spectral index
- Requires the use of deconvolution



## Deconvolution in a Nutshell

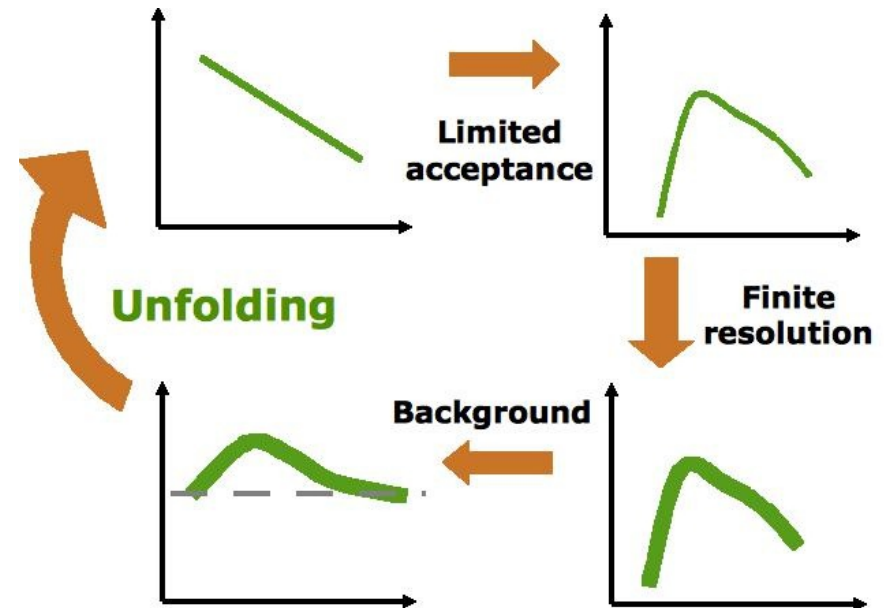
$$\underbrace{\frac{dN_\mu}{dE_\mu}}_{\text{Muon energy spectrum}} = \int_{E_\mu}^{\infty} \underbrace{\left(\frac{dN_\nu}{dE_\nu}\right)}_{\text{Neutrino energy spectrum}} \underbrace{\left(\frac{dP(E_\nu)}{dE_\mu}\right)}_{\text{Physics of neutrino interaction}} dE_\nu$$

Muon energy spectrum

Neutrino energy spectrum

Physics of neutrino interaction

- Production of charged lepton in neutrino interaction is governed by stochastic processes
- Additional smearing, due to several detector effects



Mathematically: Fredholm integral equation of the first kind:

$$g(y) = \int_{E_{min}}^{E_{max}} A(E, y) f(E) dE$$



## Deconvolution in a Nutshell

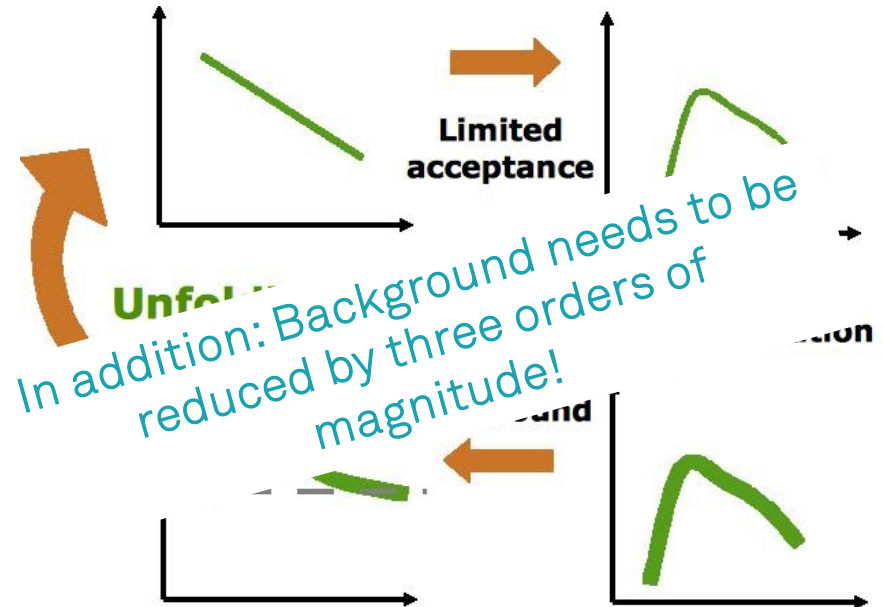
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Muon energy spectrum

Neutrino energy spectrum

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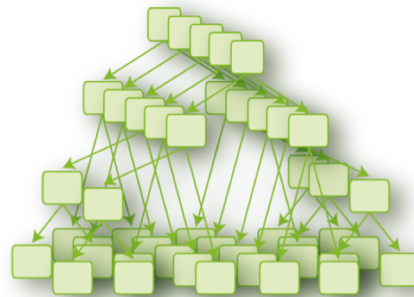
$$g(y) = \int_{E_{min}}^{E_{max}} A(E, y) f(E) dE$$



# General Background Rejection Strategy

### Finding needles in a haystack

-  275 million atmospheric muons are detected daily, created by interactions of cosmic rays with the earth's atmosphere
-  8,250 atmospheric neutrinos are detected monthly
-  only 10s of cosmic neutrinos are detected per year



Picture: CC BY-SA 3.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=14260>

## General Background Rejection Strategy

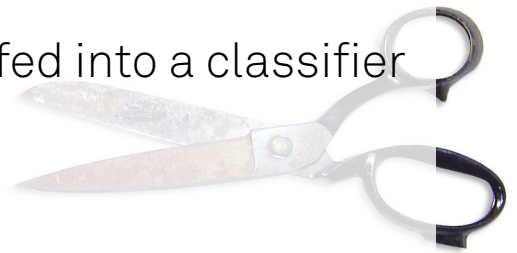
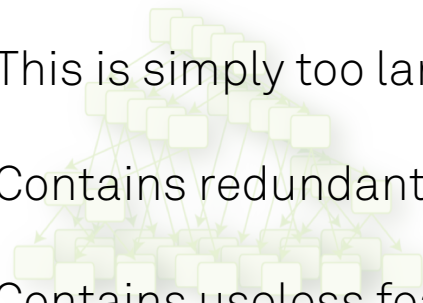
Variable Selection

Classifier Training

Cut on Classifier Output



- This is simply too large to be fed into a classifier
- Contains redundant features
- Contains useless features (e.g. constant)



Picture: CC BY-SA 3.0,  
<https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=14260>



## Feature Selection

Initially	1219
blacklisted	1129
constant & useless	855
Correlation cut	323
Data/MC Clf	311
mRMR	60

- Select features according to relevance and redundancy
- Feature set is built by iteratively adding features that fulfill the following criterion

$$\max_{x_j \in X - S_{m-1}} \left[ I(x_j, c) - \frac{1}{m-1} \sum_{x_i \in S_{m-1}} I(x_i, x_j) \right]$$

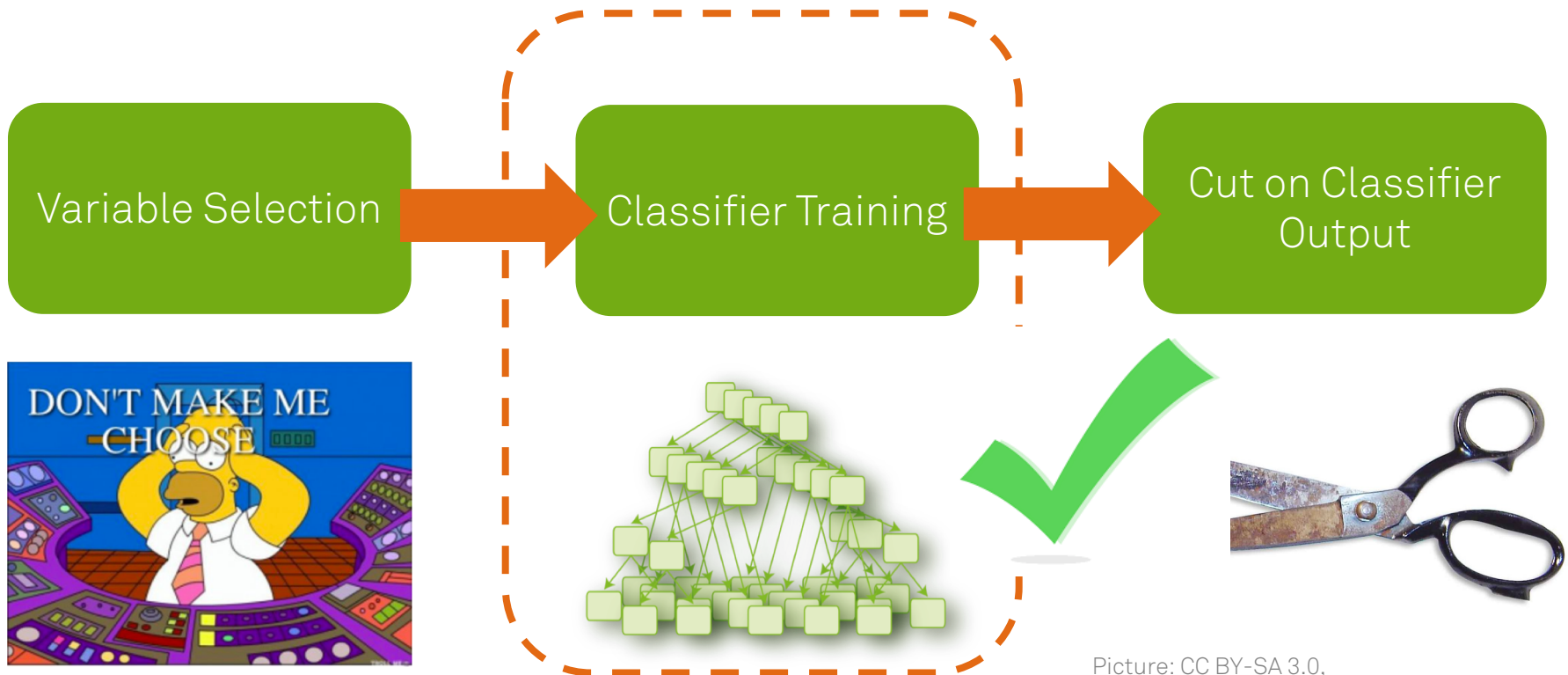
Peng, H.C., Long, F., and Ding, C., IEEE Transactions on Pattern Analysis and Machine Intelligence, Vol. 27, No. 8, pp. 1226–1238, 2005.

Ding, C., & Peng, H., *Journal of bioinformatics and computational biology*, 3(02), 185-205. (2005)

M. Börner, PhD thesis (2018)



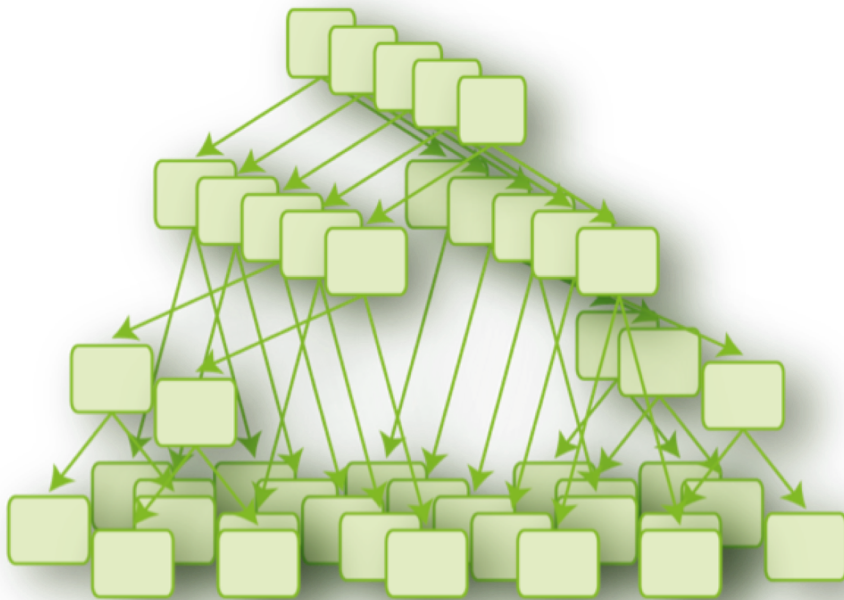
## General Background Rejection Strategy



Picture: CC BY-SA 3.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=14269>

Except for the choice of the classifier, this is fairly straightforward!

## Random Forests (Ensemble Methoden)



- Ensemble of many decision trees
- Every tree is build in a randomized way
- Every tree's classification is independent from all other trees
- Forest Classification is average over classification of individual trees

$$C_{Signal} = \frac{1}{n_{trees}} \sum_i^{n_{trees}} C_i$$

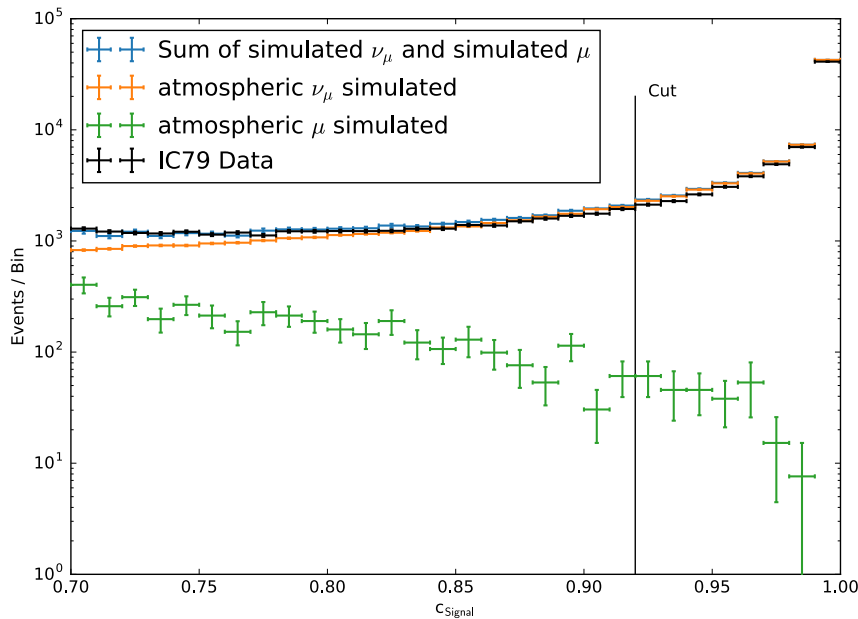
# General Background Rejection Strategy

$$C_{Signal} = \frac{1}{n_{trees}} \sum_i^{n_{trees}} C_i$$

Variable Selection

Classifier Training

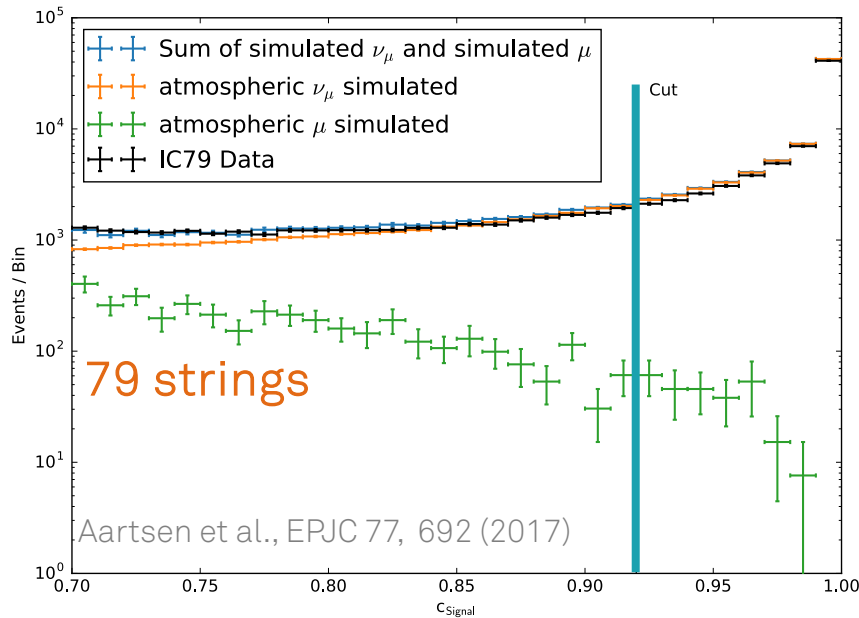
Cut on Classifier Output



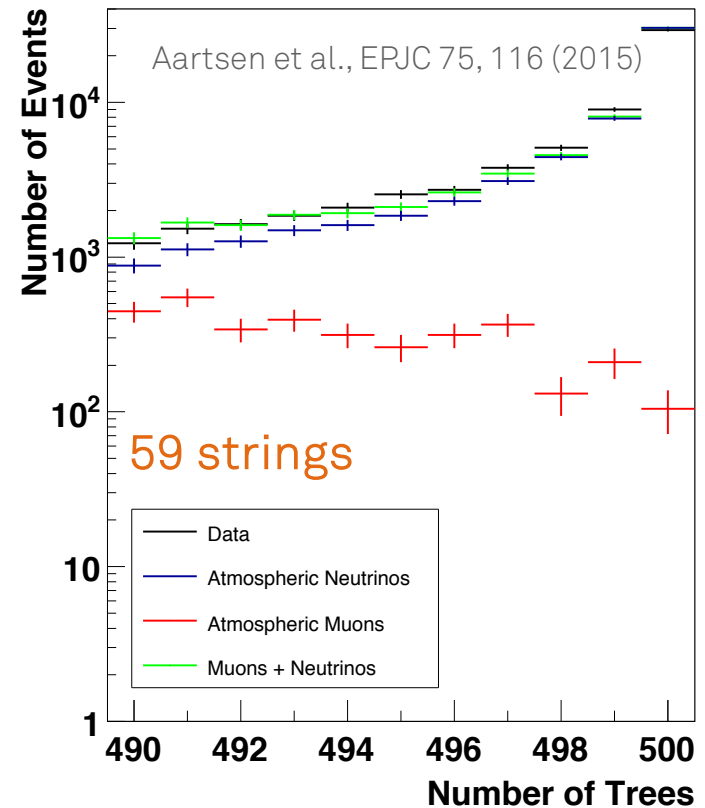
Picture: CC BY-SA 3.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=14260>



## Cut on Classifier Output



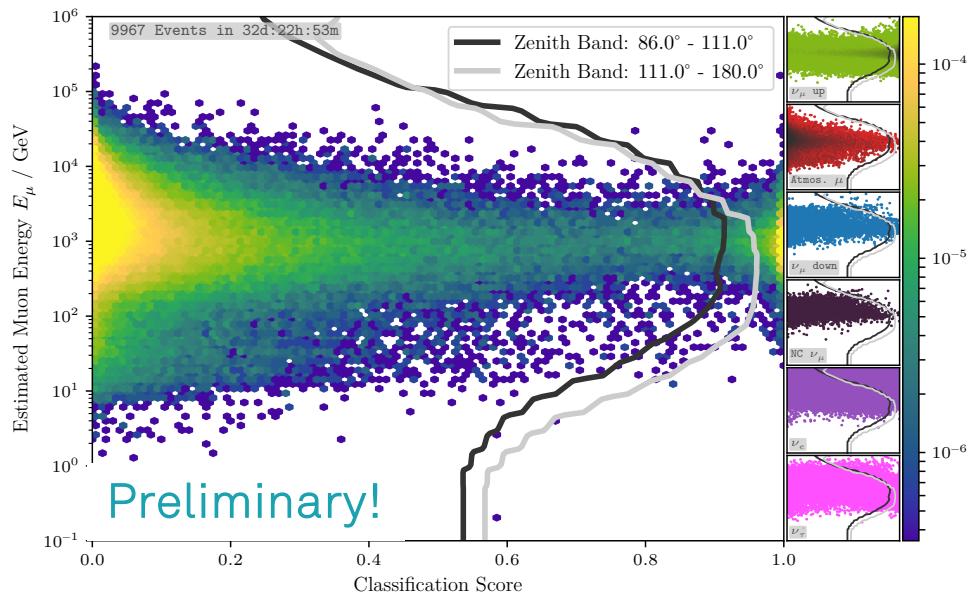
~ 200 neutrino candidates per day



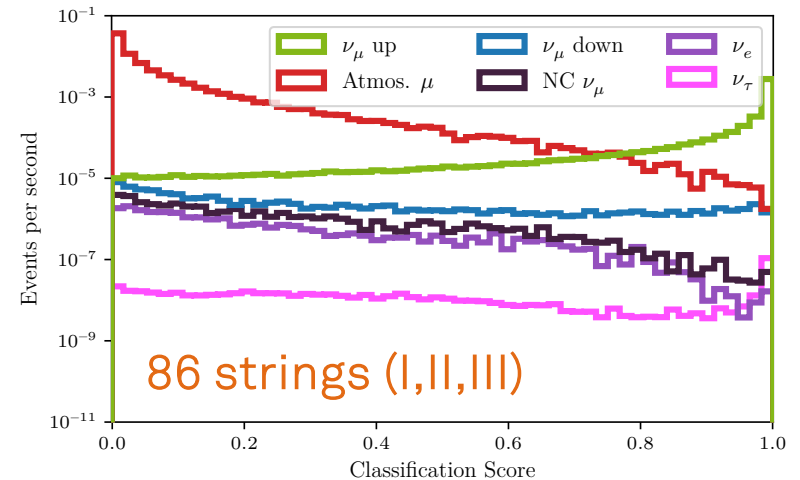
~ 80 neutrino candidates per day



## 2D-Cut on Classifier Output



~ 300 neutrino candidates per day!!!



Classifier output is energy and zenith dependent.

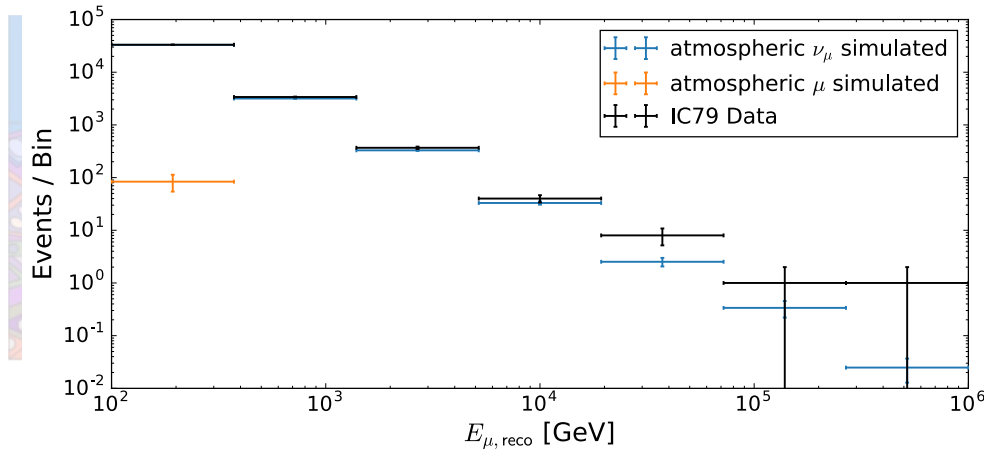
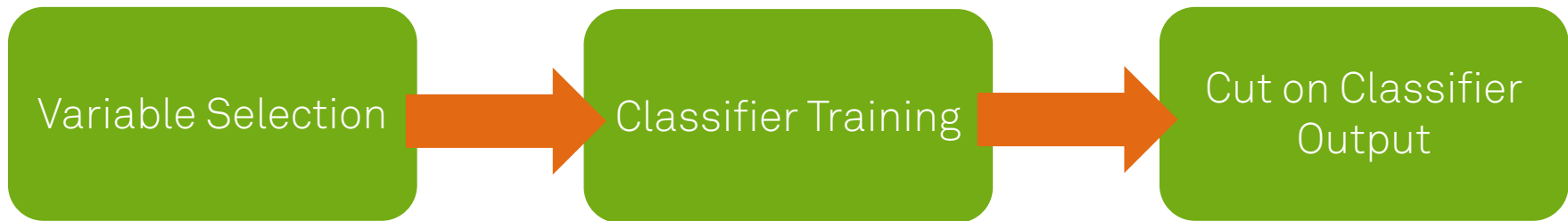
Score cut as a function of energy and zenith.

M. Börner, PhD thesis (2018)





## General Background Rejection Strategy



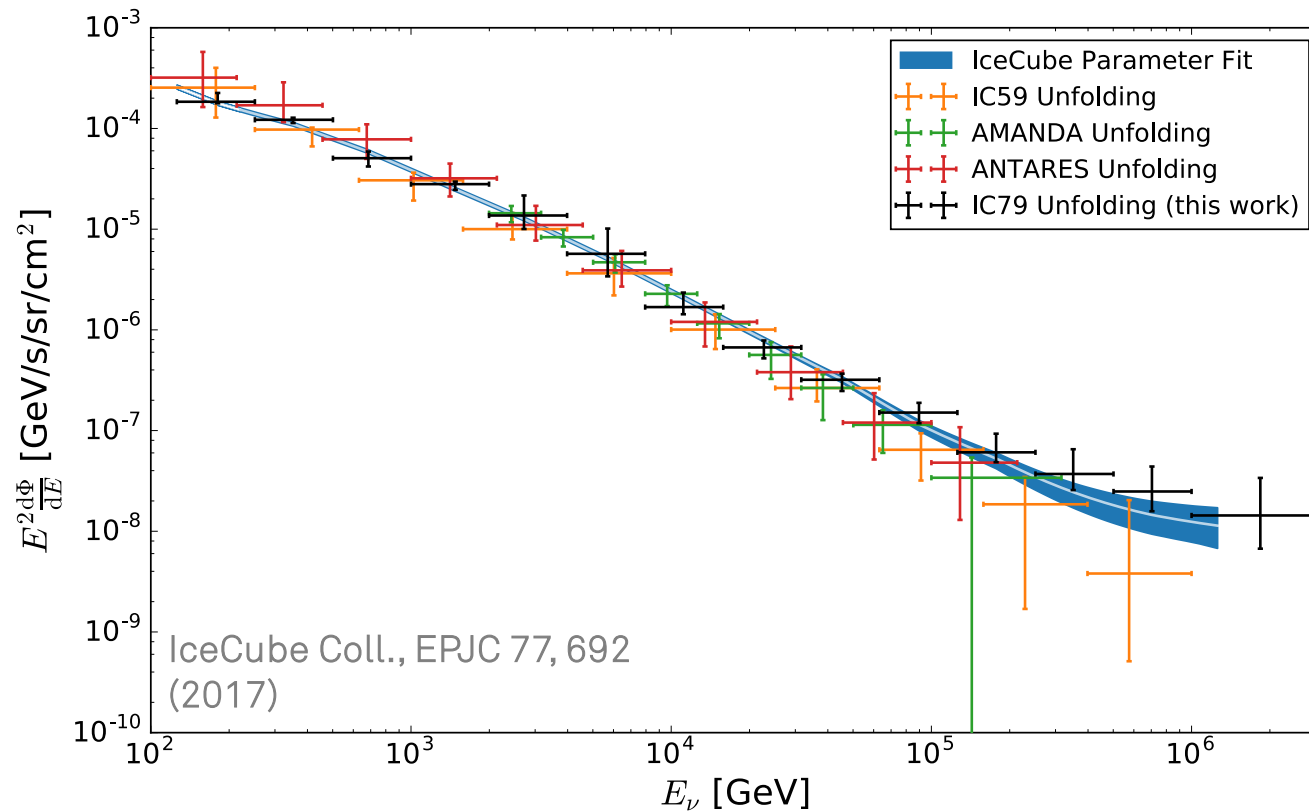
Purity generally above 99%.

**Even more important:** Make sure there are no muons in bins with small statistics.

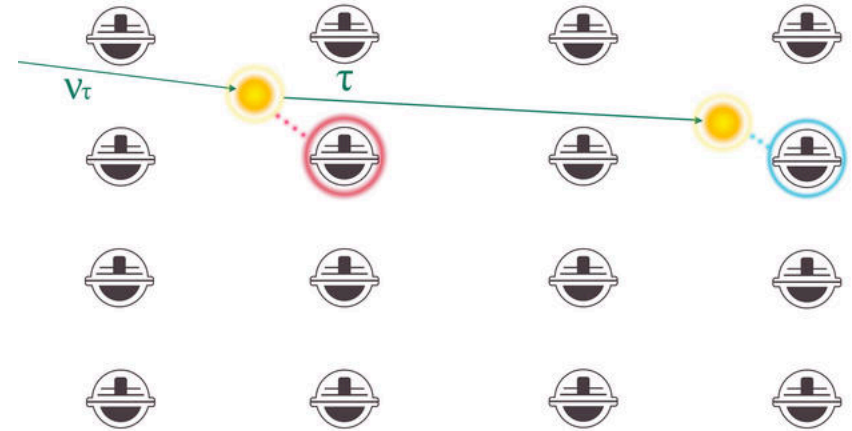
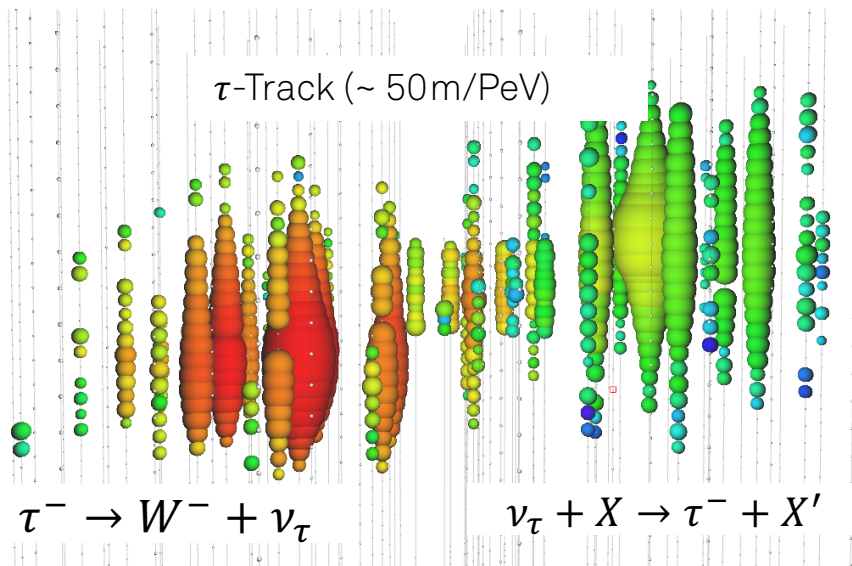
Picture: CC BY-SA 3.0,  
<https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=14260>



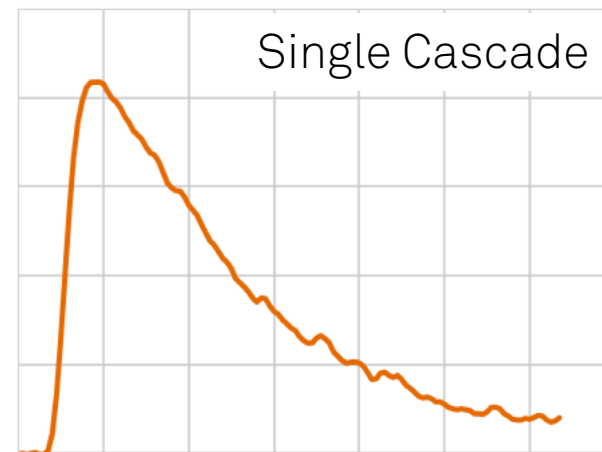
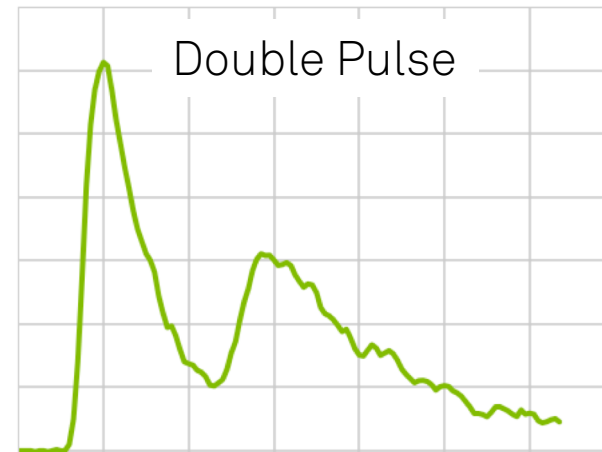
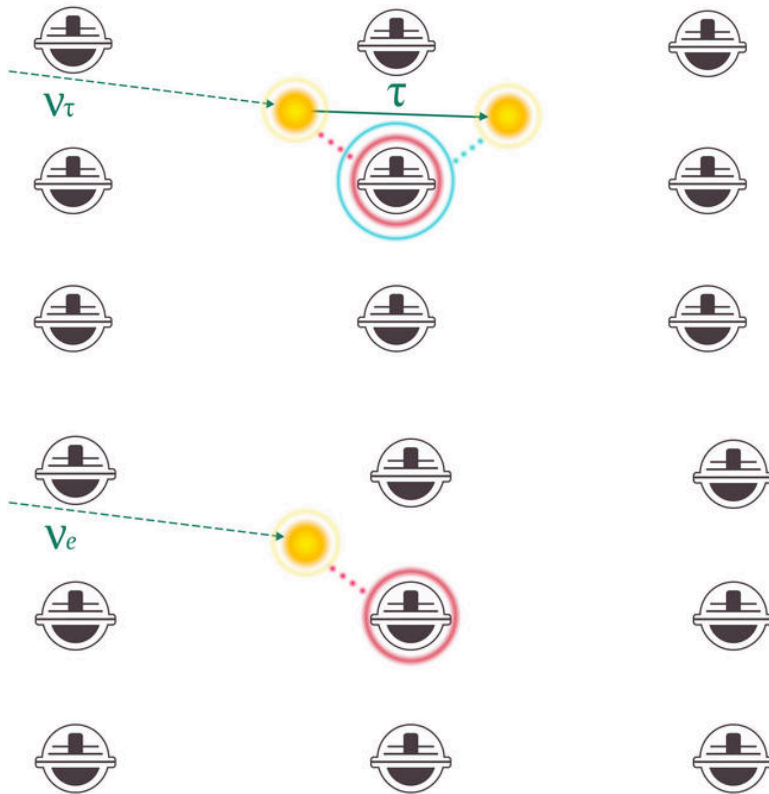
## Atmospheric Neutrino Spectra



## Tau-Neutrino Signatures, Double Cascade

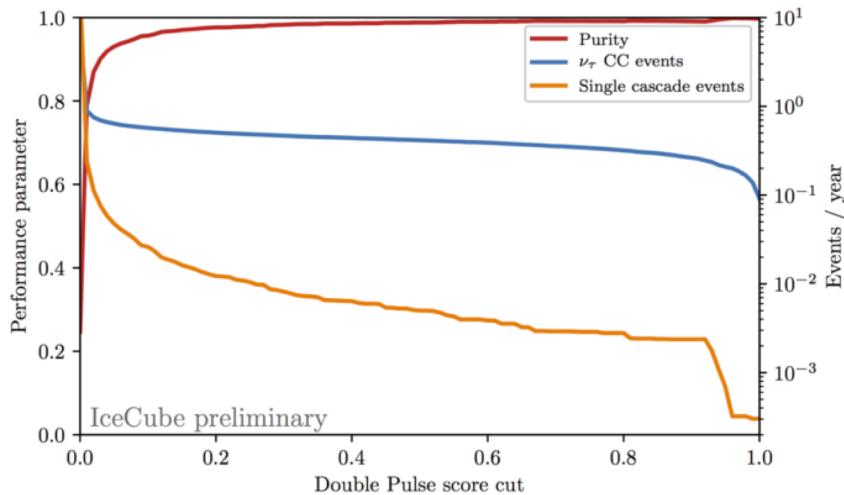


## Single- and Double-Pulses

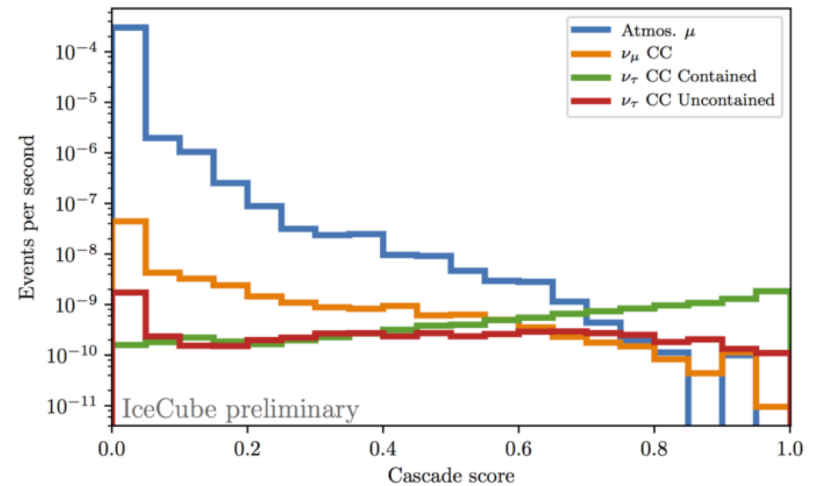


# Tau-Neutrino Search with Machine Learning

Random Forest #1



Random Forest #2



Score Cut: 0.2

Purity increases to 97%

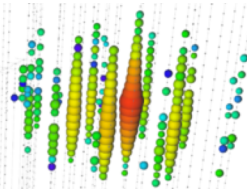
Score Cut: 0.62 (optimized via Model Rejection Factor)

2 Events survive both cuts



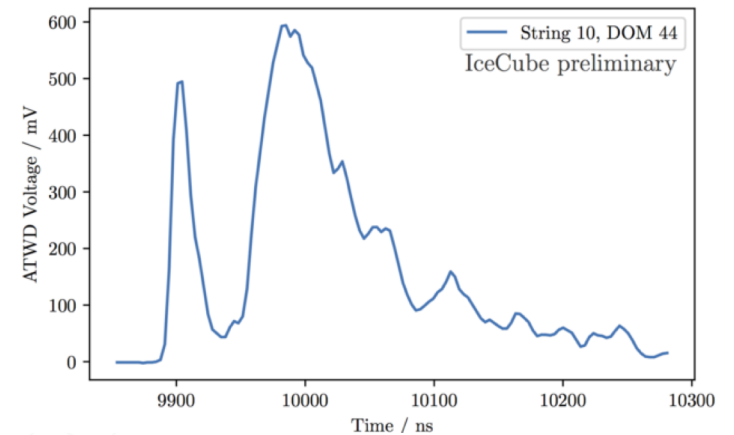
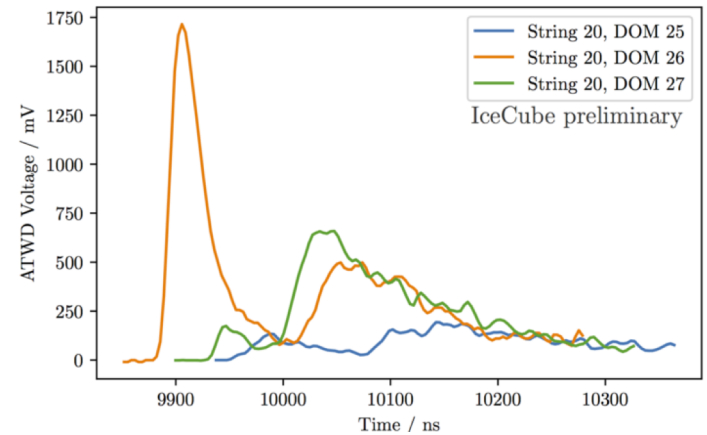
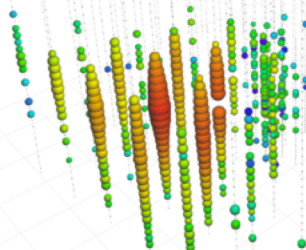
# Tau-Neutrino Search with Machine Learning

Double Pulse Score: 0.92  
p-value: 0.035



IceCube Preliminary

Double Pulse Score: 0.565  
p-value: 1.0





# Summary

