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# Latest results from IceCube on neutrino properties and flux types

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Bundesministerium  
für Bildung  
und Forschung



Allianz für Astroteilchenphysik

DFG

Deutsche  
Forschungsgemeinschaft

Moriond 2016

Jan Auffenberg



III. Physikalisches  
Institut

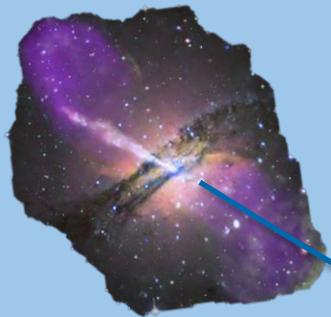
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# Content

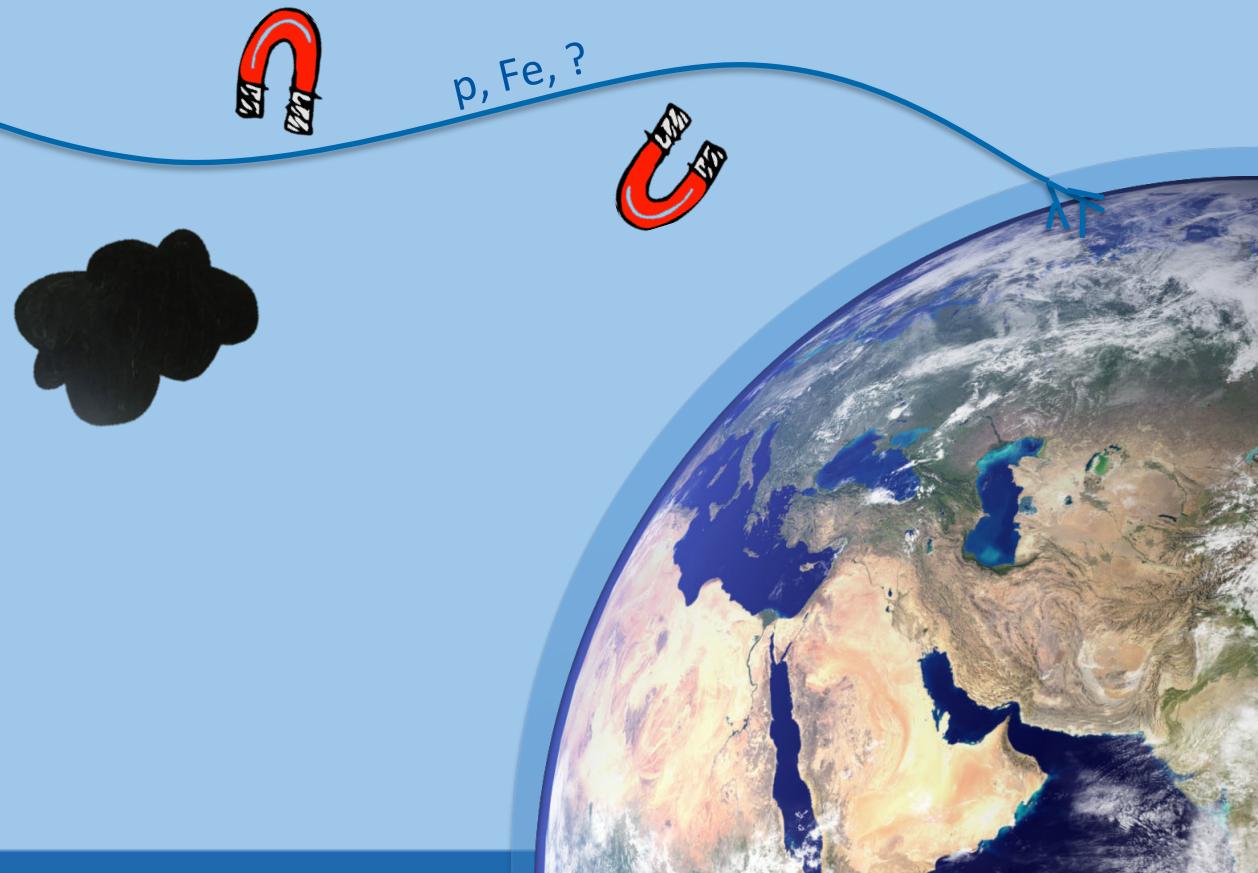


- Introduction
- Astrophysical Neutrino Flux
- Astrophysical Sources
- Atmospheric Neutrino Flux and Neutrino Oscillation
- Dark Matter WIMPs
- Summary

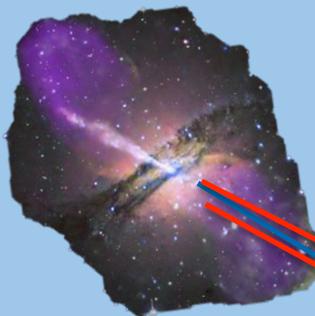
# Introduction



Cosmic-Rays: Unknown origin as they get bent in magnetic fields



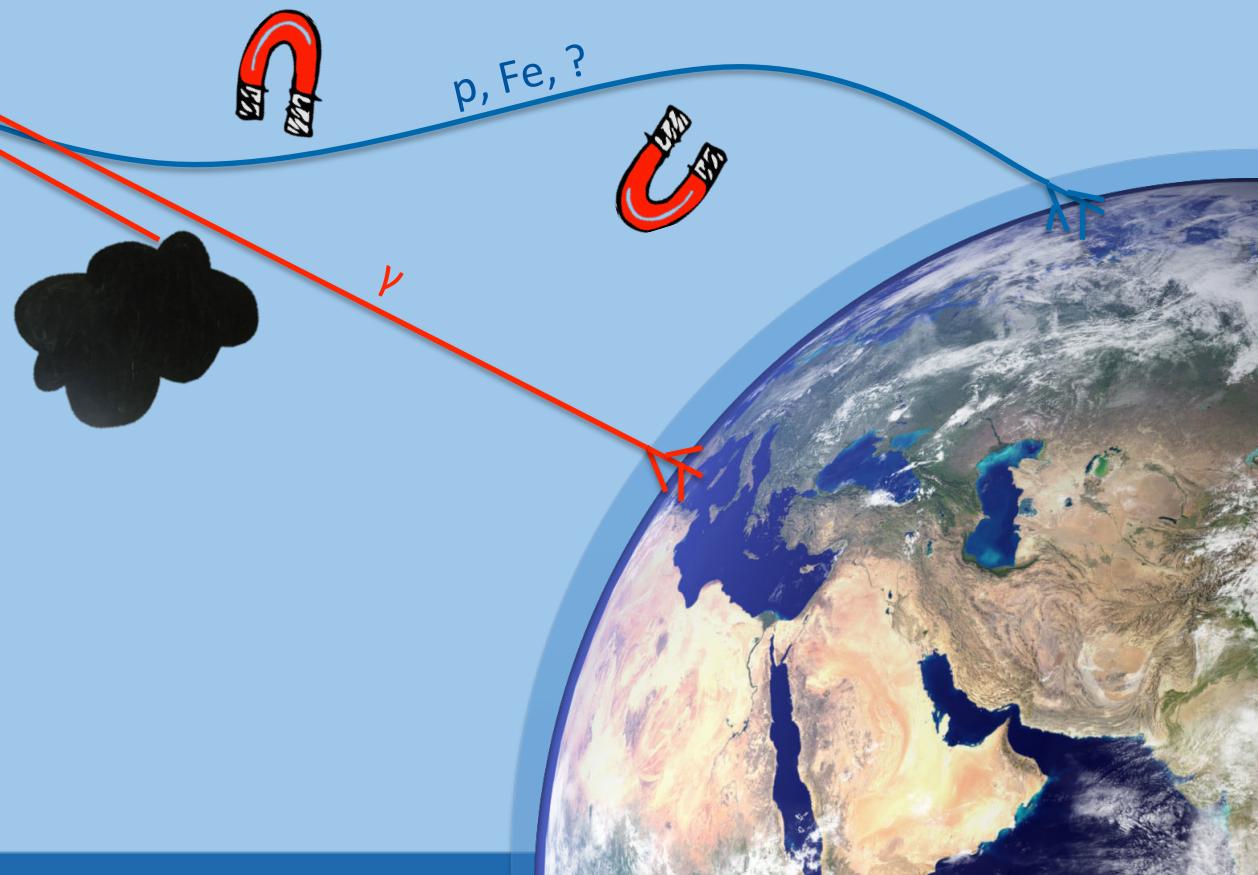
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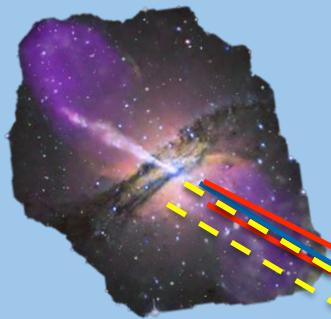
Cosmic-Rays: Unknown origin as they get bent in magnetic fields

Gamma-ray sources:

- not necessarily hadronic
- gammas potentially get absorbed



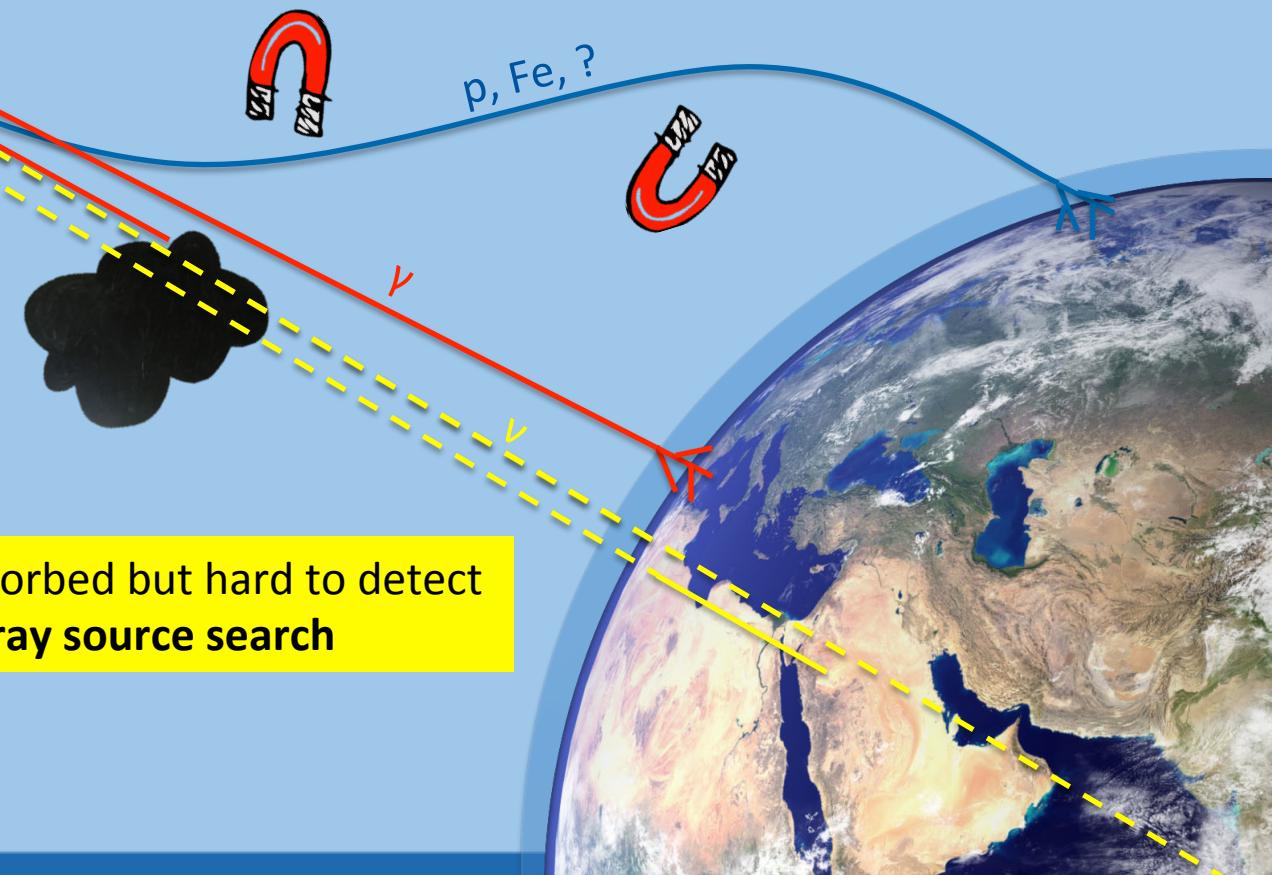
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Gamma-ray sources:

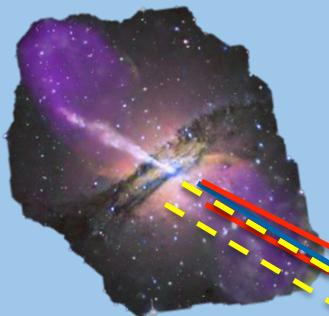
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Neutrinos don't get bent or absorbed but hard to detect

- **Good candidate for cosmic ray source search**

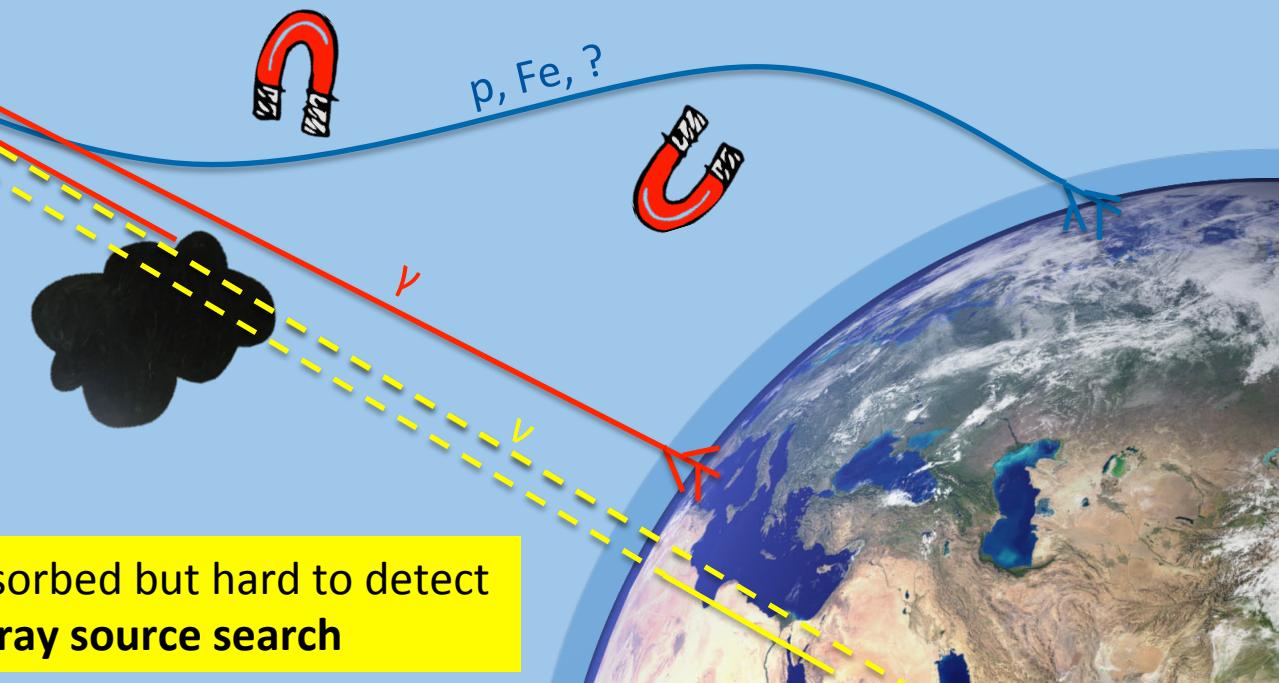
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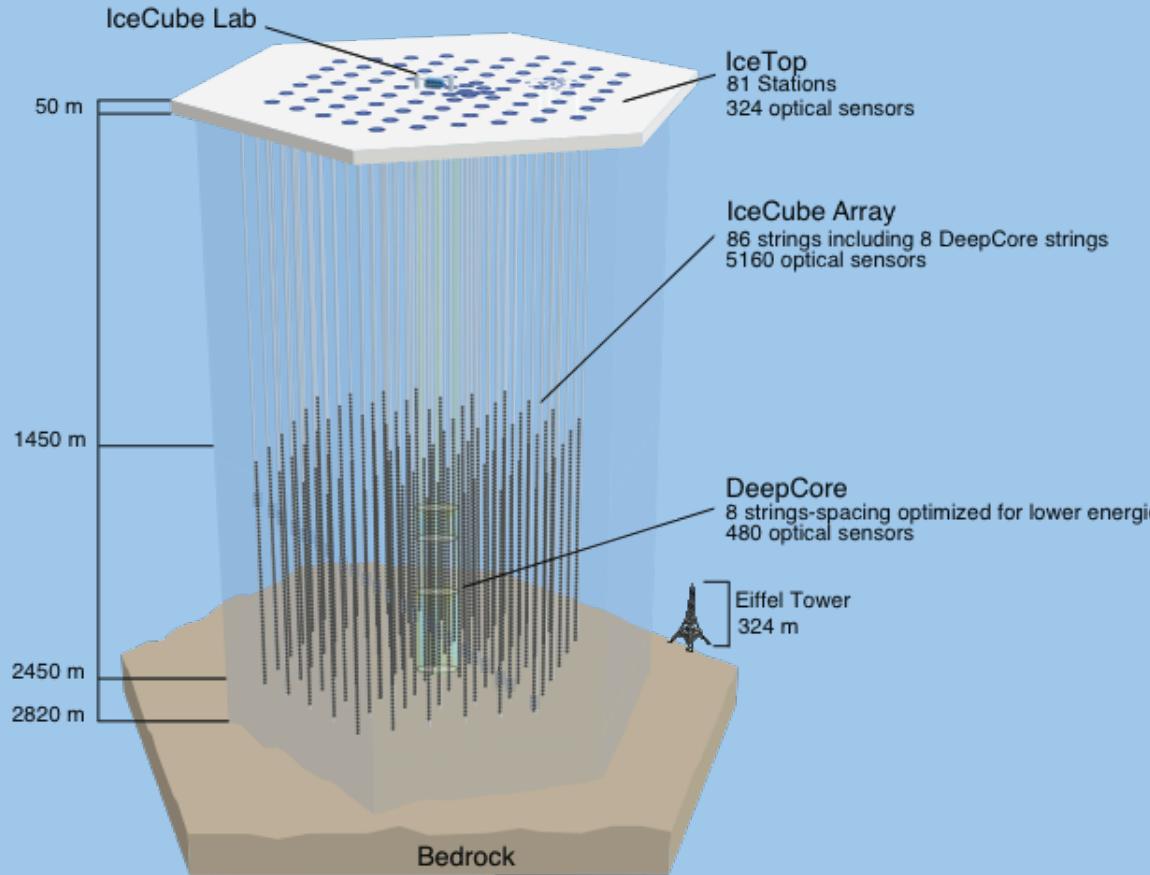


Neutrinos don't get bent or absorbed but hard to detect

- Good candidate for cosmic ray source search

**Neutrinos point back to their sources !  
As an important part of multi-messenger astro-physics**

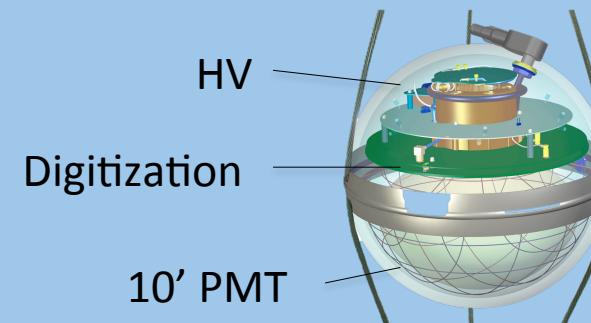
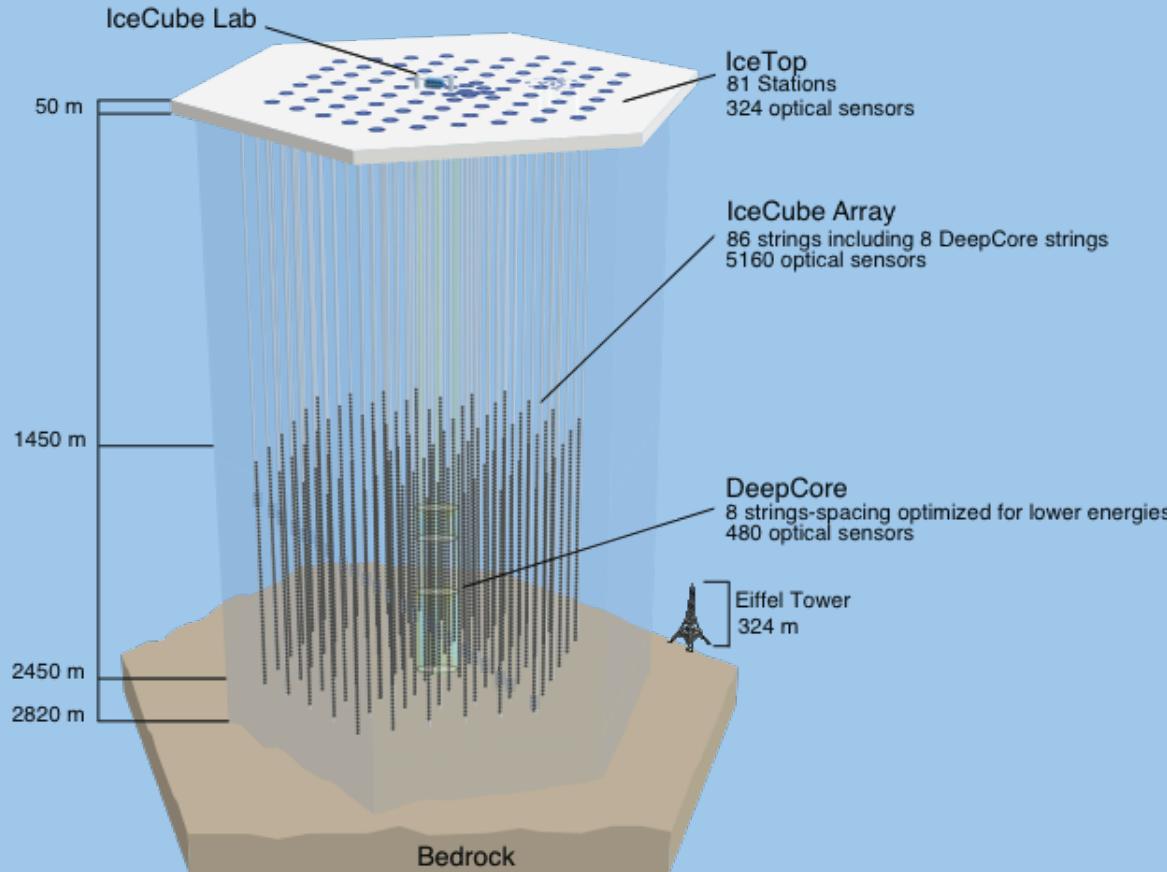
# The IceCube neutrino observatory



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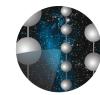


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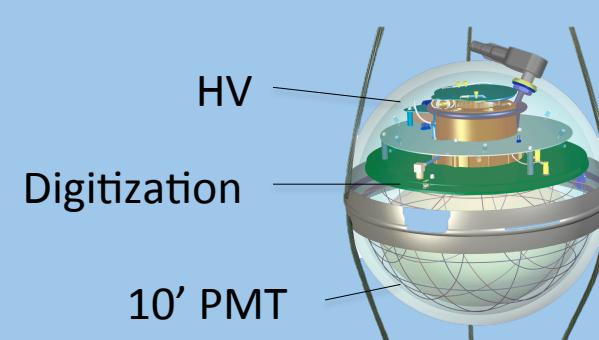
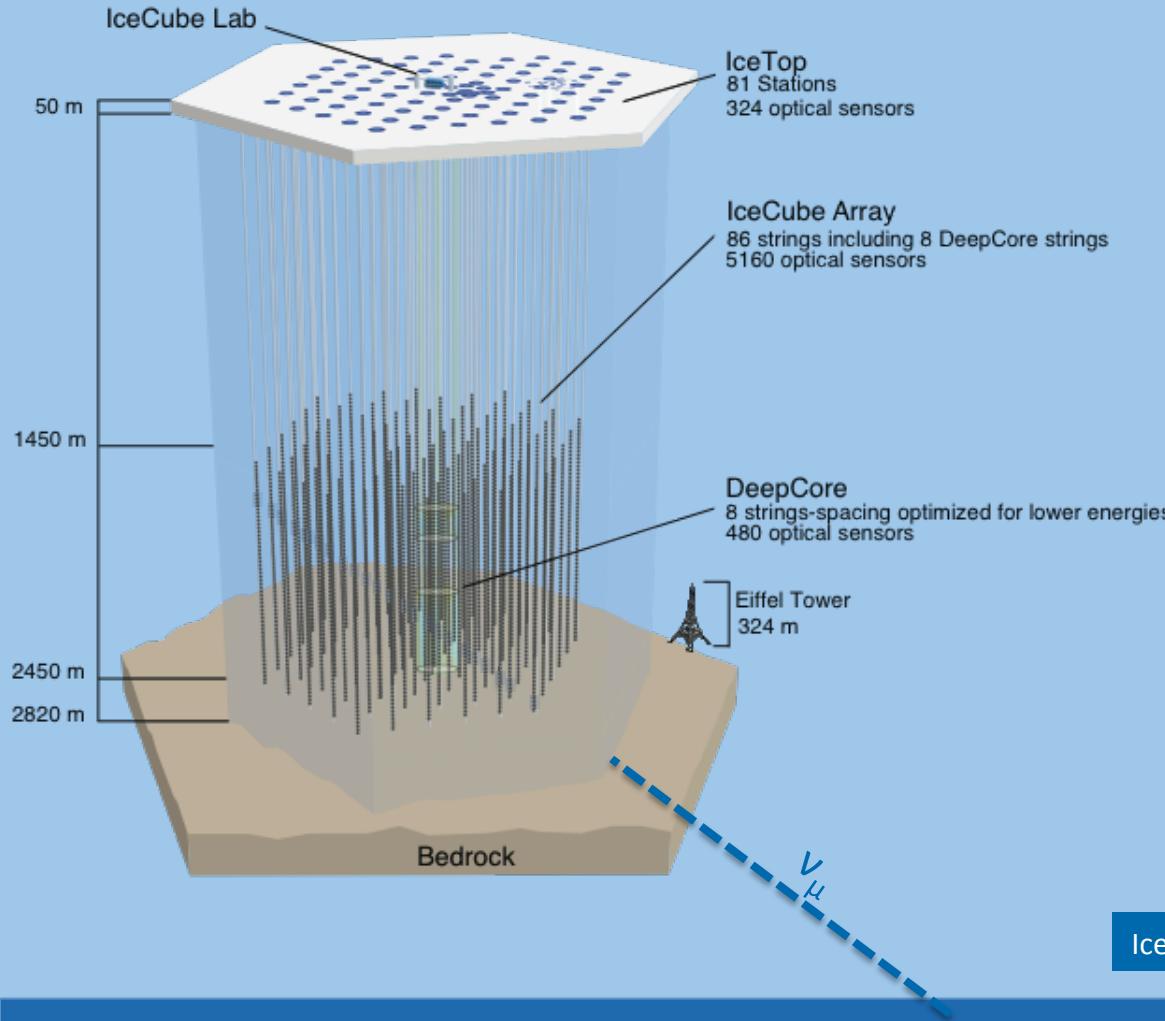


[IceCube et al. Nucl. Inst. Meth. A 618 \(2010\) 139-152](#)

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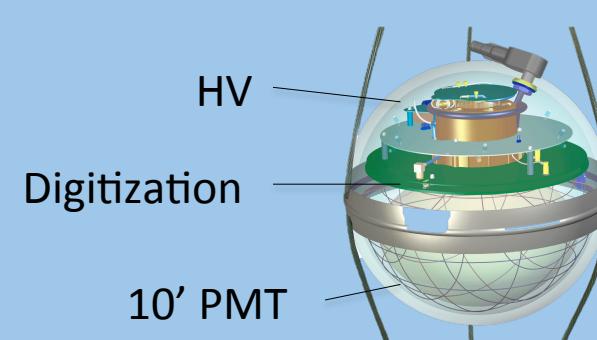
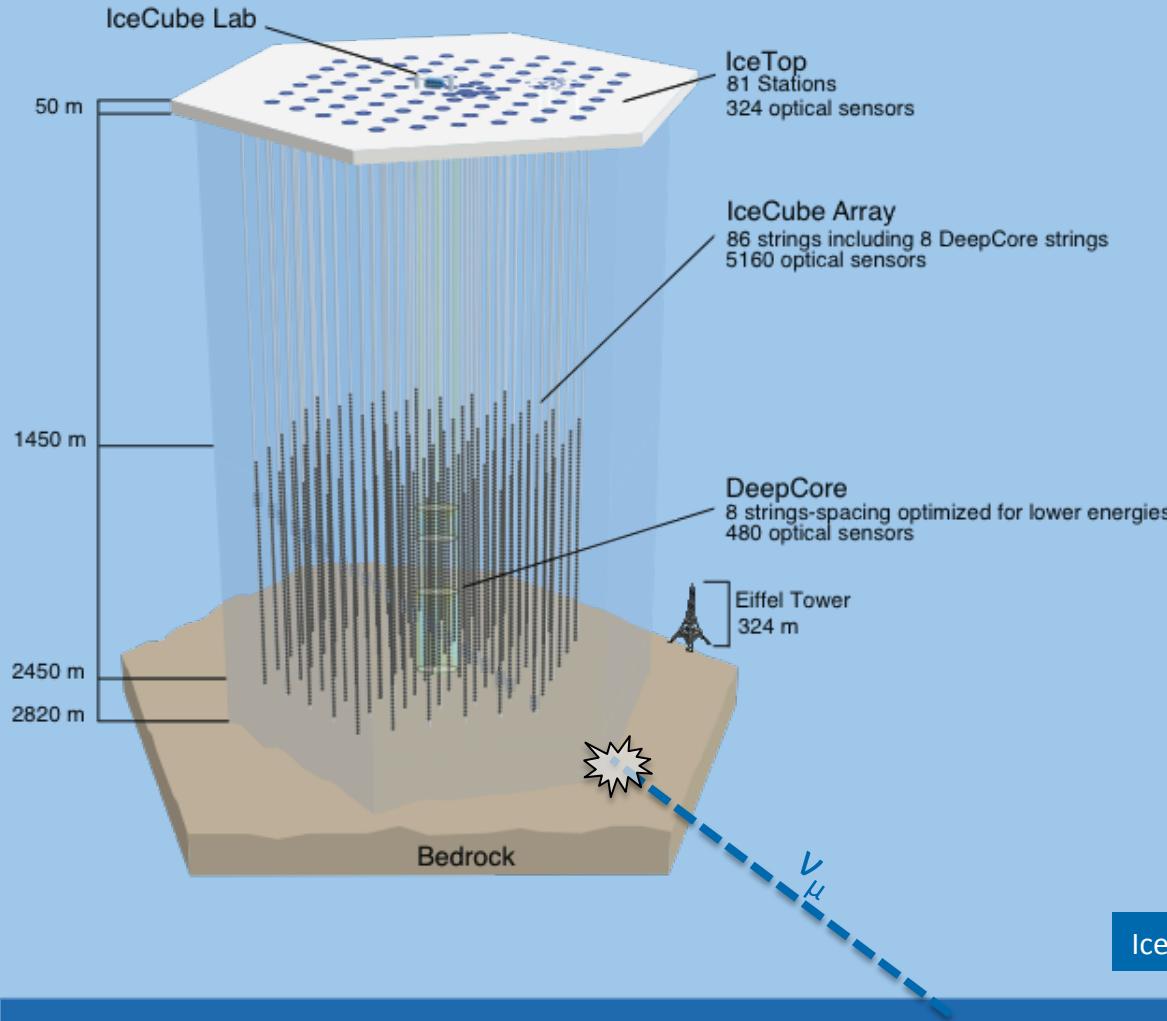


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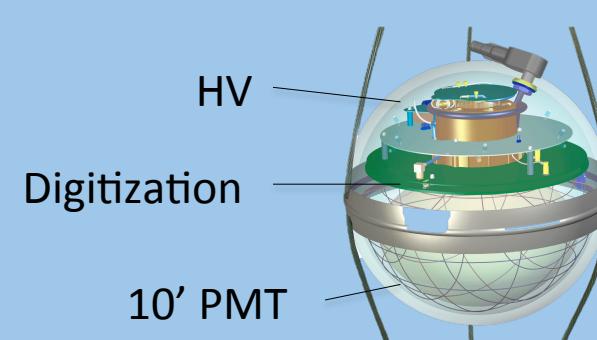
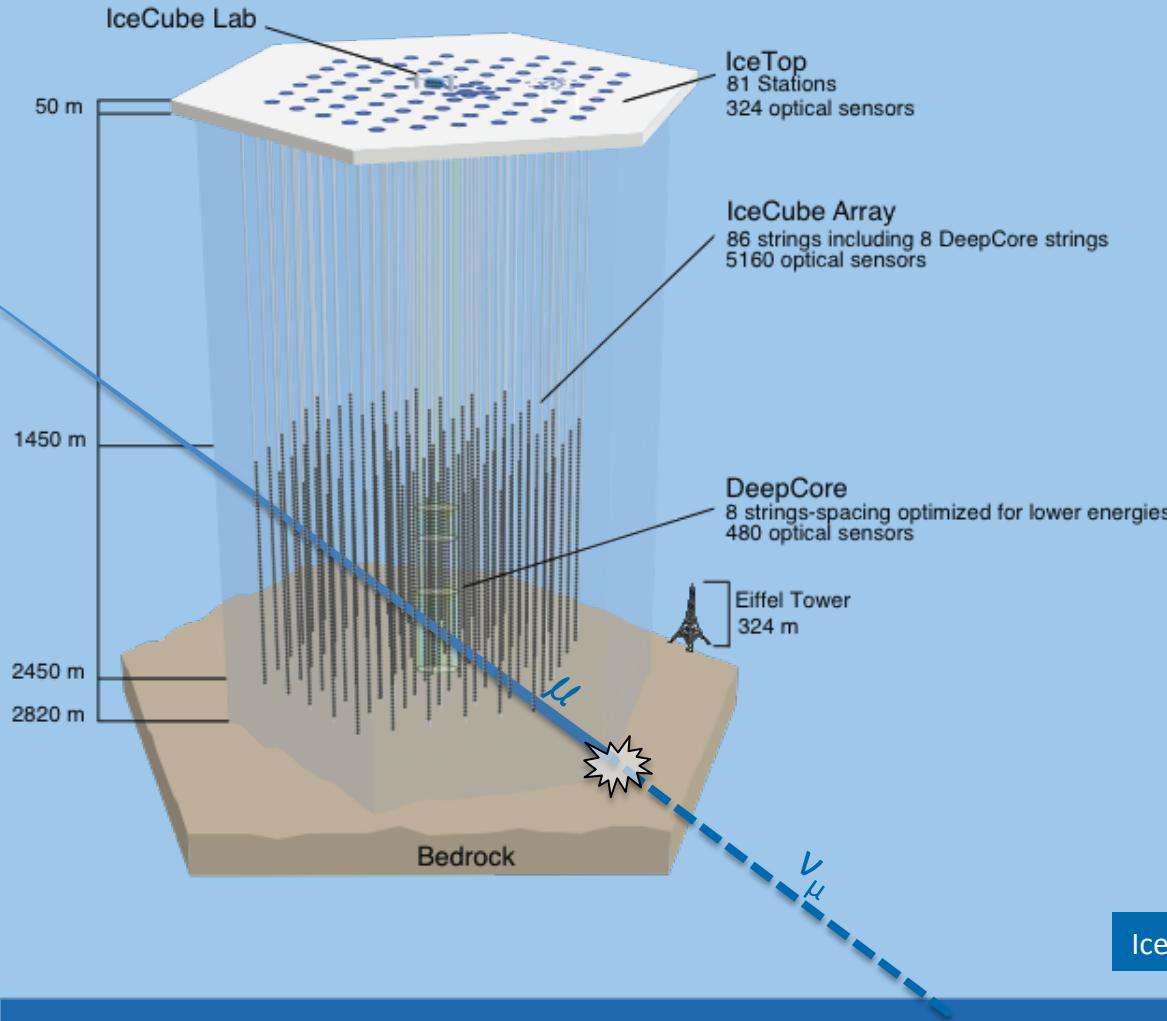


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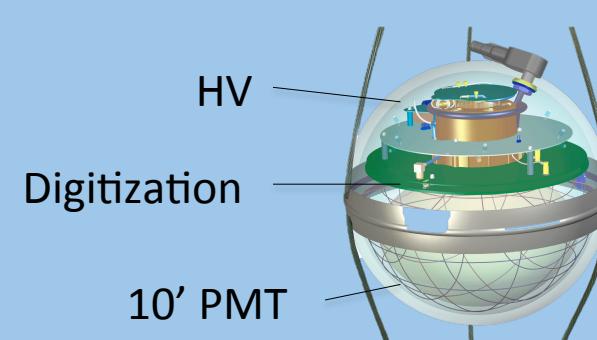
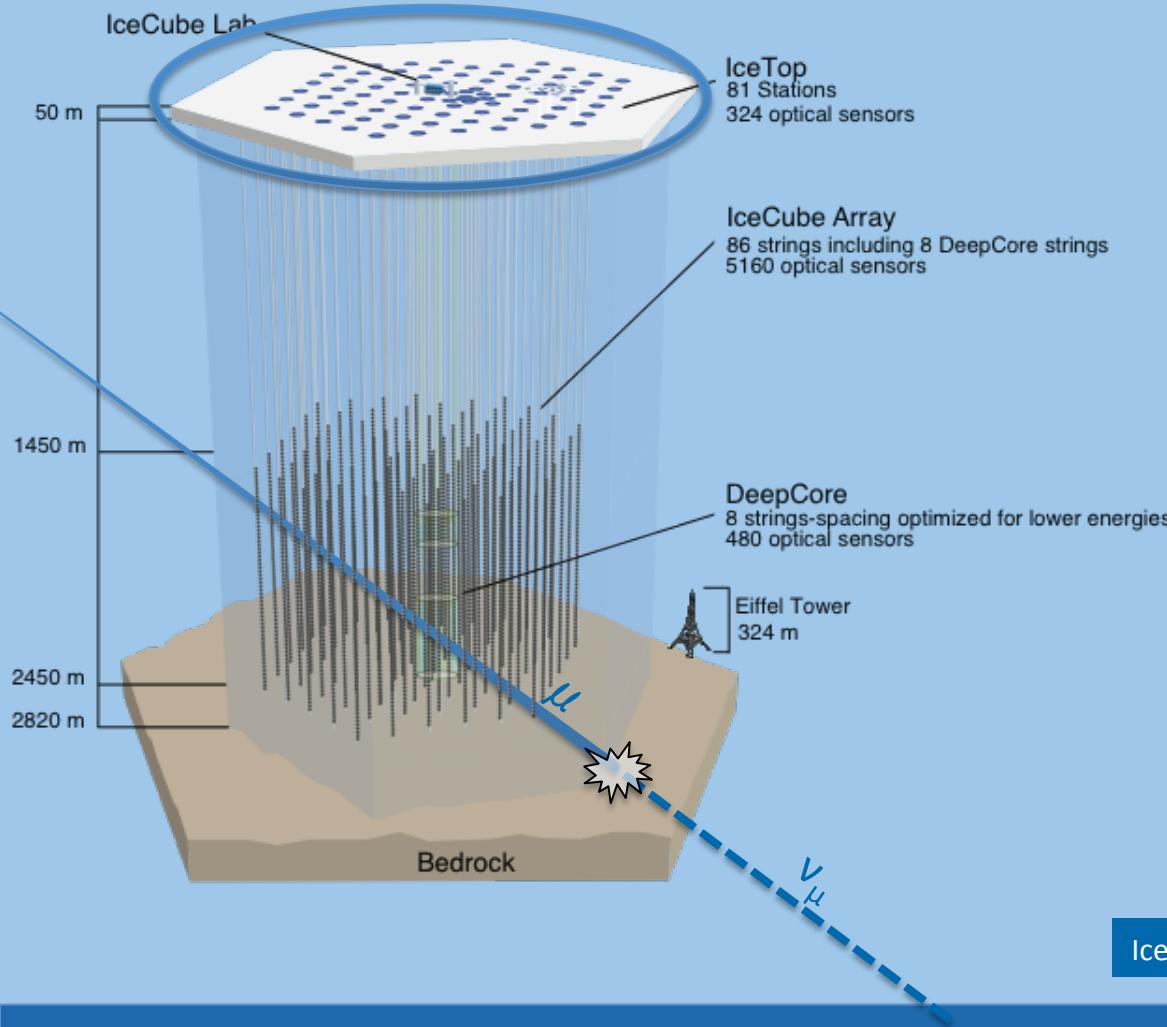


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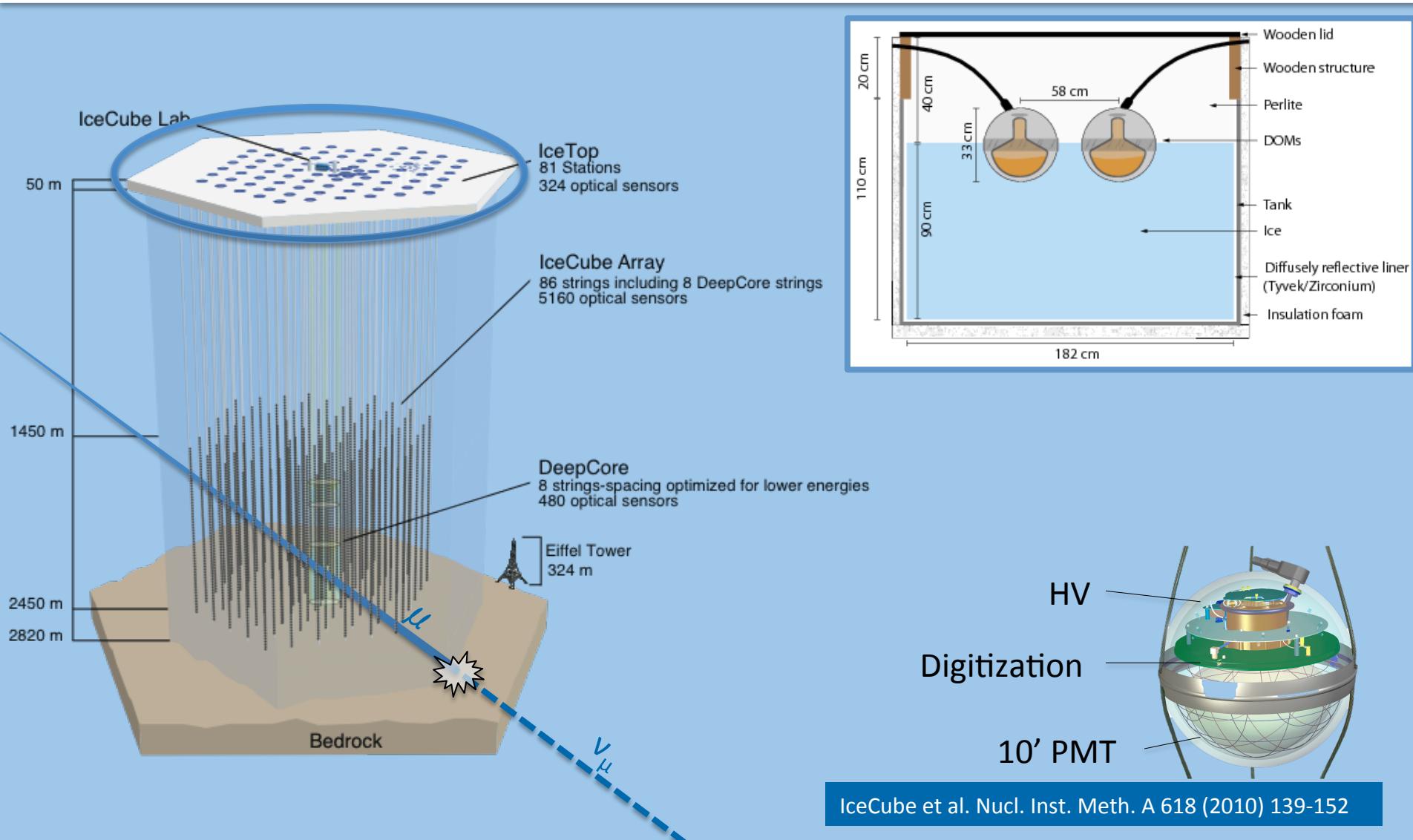


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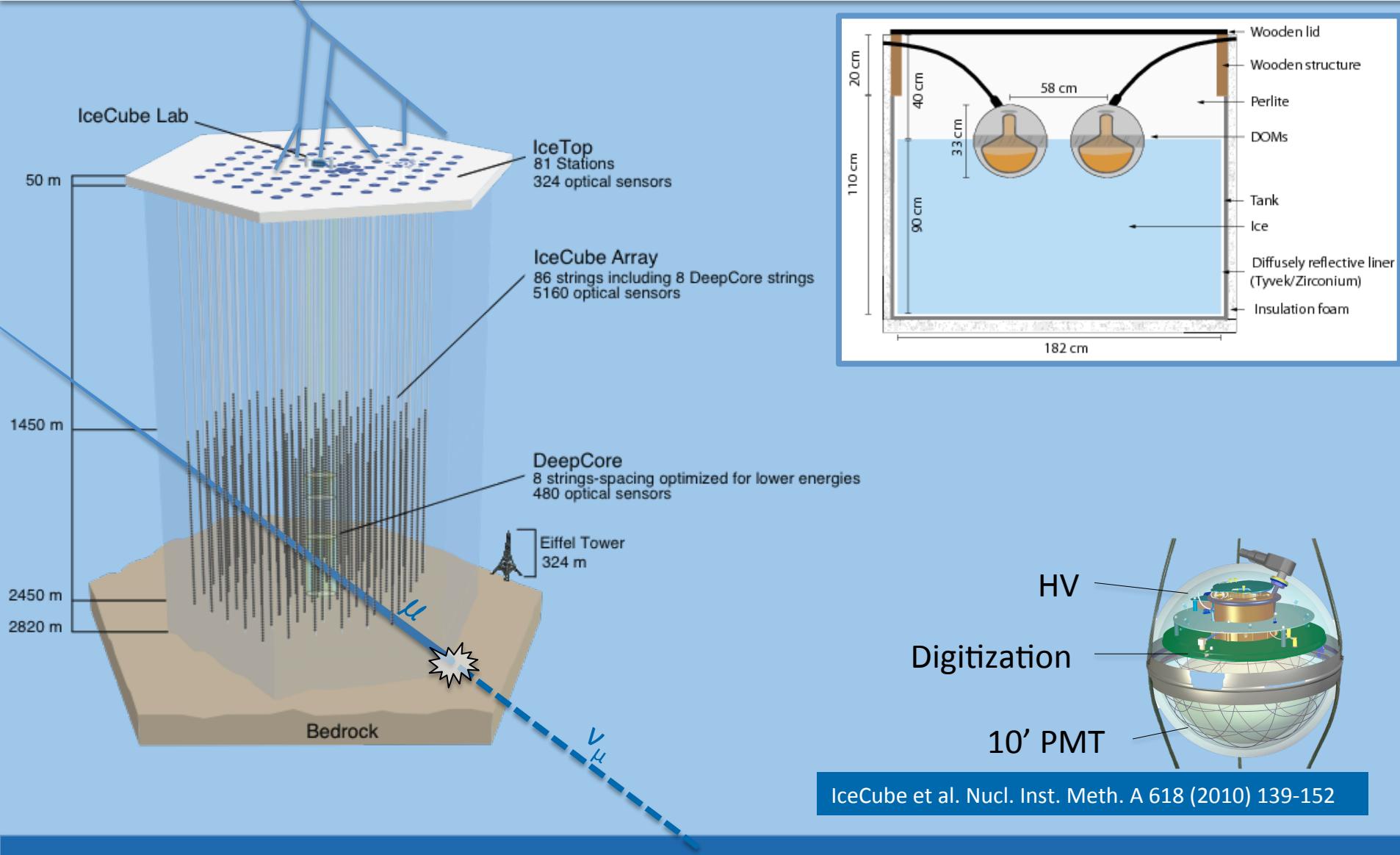
# The IceCube neutrino observatory



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# IceCube today



# Neutrino Signatures



# Neutrino Signatures



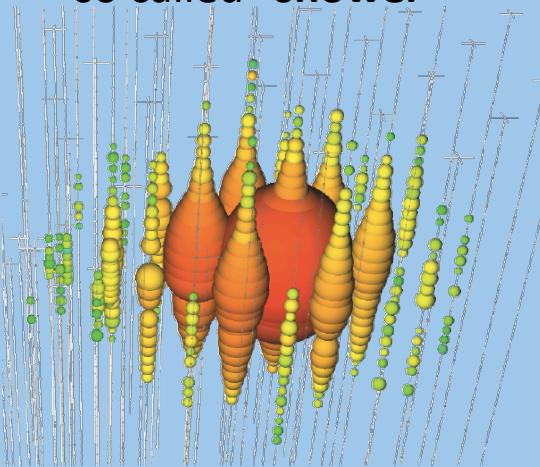
Neutral Current /Electron  
Neutrino  
so called “shower”

# Neutrino Signatures



Neutral Current /Electron  
Neutrino

so called “shower”



$$\nu_e + N \rightarrow e + X$$

$$\nu_x + N \rightarrow \nu_x + X$$

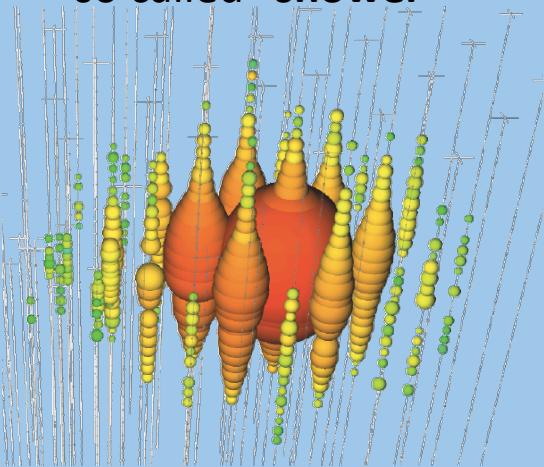
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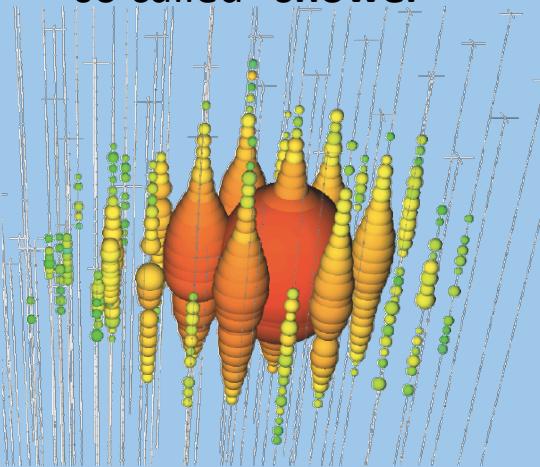
- Good Energy resolution

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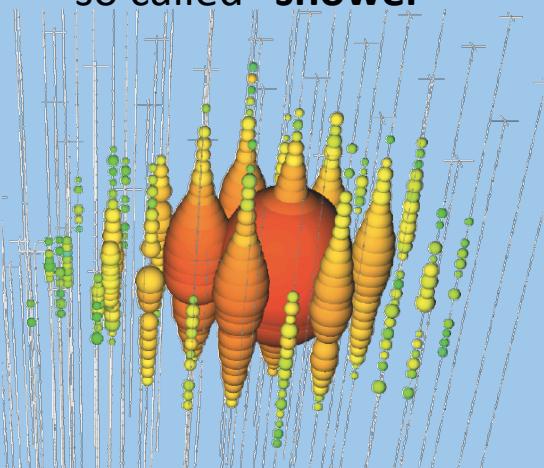
- Good Energy resolution
- angular resolution  
around  $5^\circ$ - $10^\circ$

# Neutrino Signatures



Neutral Current /Electron

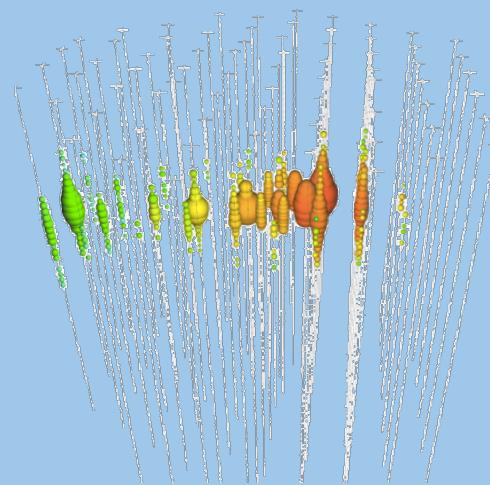
Neutrino  
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$$\nu_e + N \rightarrow e + X$$

$$\nu_x + N \rightarrow \nu_x + X$$

CC Muon Neutrino  
so called “track”



$$\nu_\mu + N \rightarrow \mu + X$$

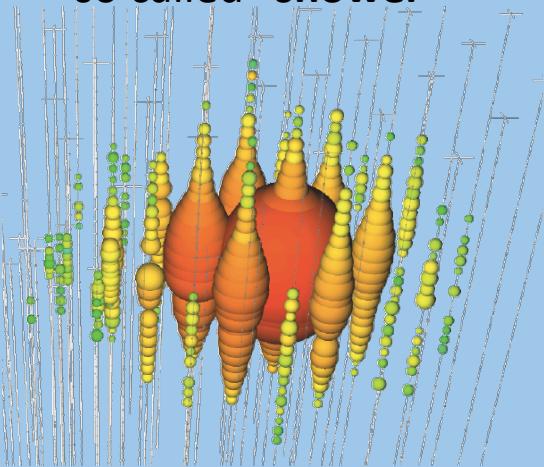
- Good Energy resolution
- angular resolution  
around 5°-10°

# Neutrino Signatures



Neutral Current /Electron

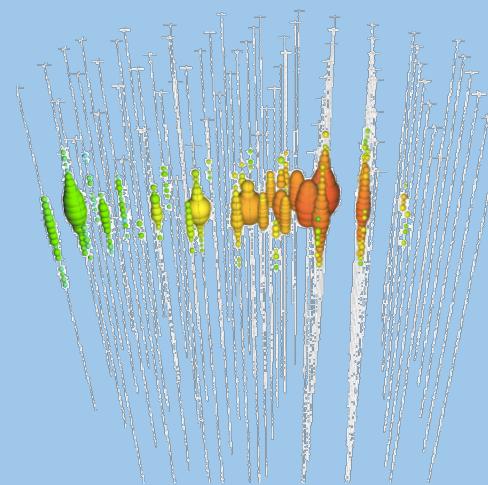
Neutrino  
so called “shower”



$$\nu_e + N \rightarrow e + X$$

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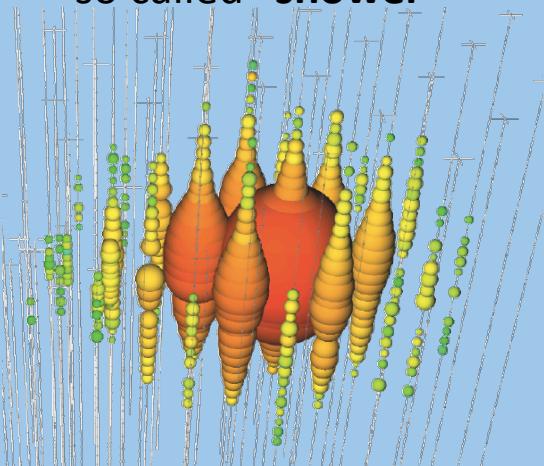
- Good Energy resolution
- angular resolution around 5°-10°
- Energy resolution limited

# Neutrino Signatures



Neutral Current /Electron

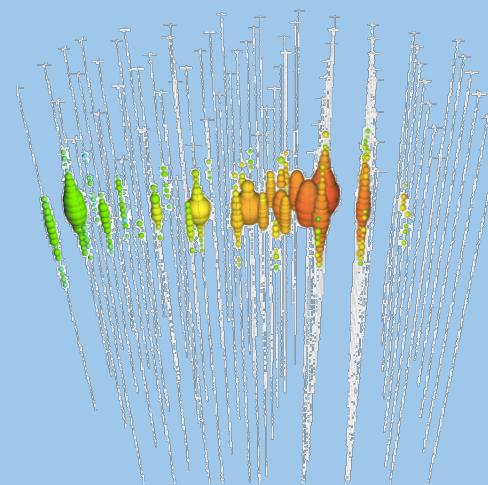
Neutrino  
so called “shower”



$$\nu_e + N \rightarrow e + X$$

$$\nu_x + N \rightarrow \nu_x + X$$

CC Muon Neutrino  
so called “track”



$$\nu_\mu + N \rightarrow \mu + X$$

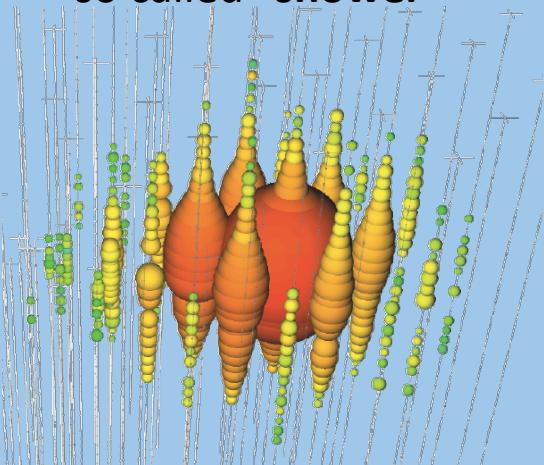
- Good Energy resolution
- angular resolution around 5°-10°
- Energy resolution limited
- **sub degree pointing**

# Neutrino Signatures



Neutral Current /Electron

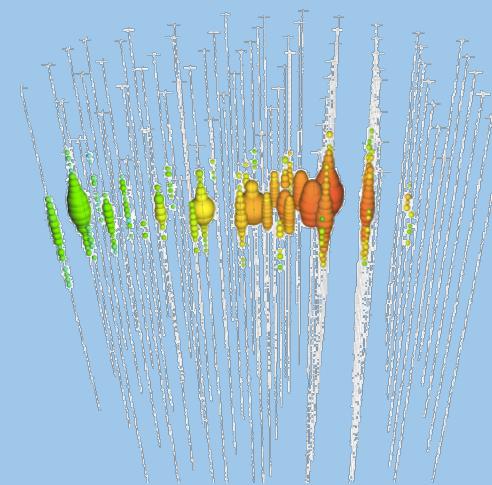
Neutrino  
so called “shower”



$$\nu_e + N \rightarrow e + X$$

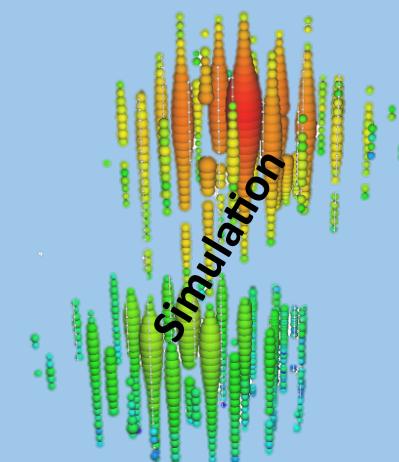
$$\nu_x + N \rightarrow \nu_x + X$$

CC Muon Neutrino  
so called “track”



$$\nu_\mu + N \rightarrow \mu + X$$

CC Tau Neutrino  
so called “Double Bang”



$$\nu_\tau + N \rightarrow \tau + X$$

$$\tau \rightarrow \nu_\tau + X$$

- Good Energy resolution
- angular resolution around 5°-10°

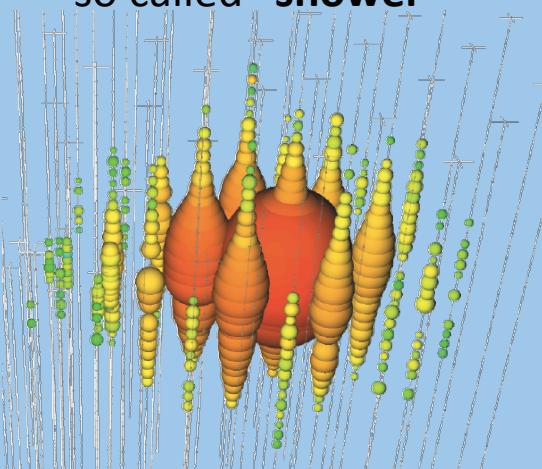
- Energy resolution limited
- sub degree pointing

- **Good Energy resolution**
- **Good angular resolution**

# Neutrino Signatures



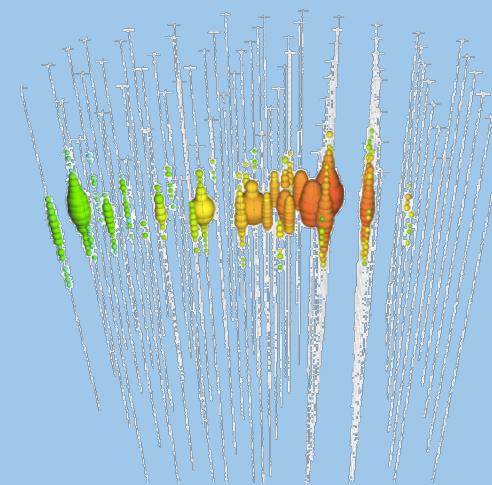
Neutral Current /Electron  
Neutrino  
so called “shower”



$$\nu_e + N \rightarrow e + X$$

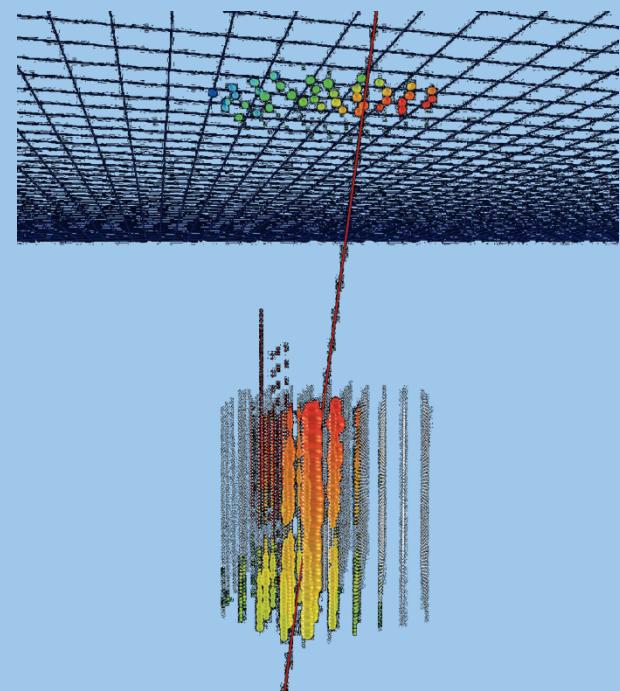
$$\nu_x + N \rightarrow \nu_x + X$$

CC Muon Neutrino  
so called “track”



$$\nu_\mu + N \rightarrow \mu + X$$

Cosmic-Ray background

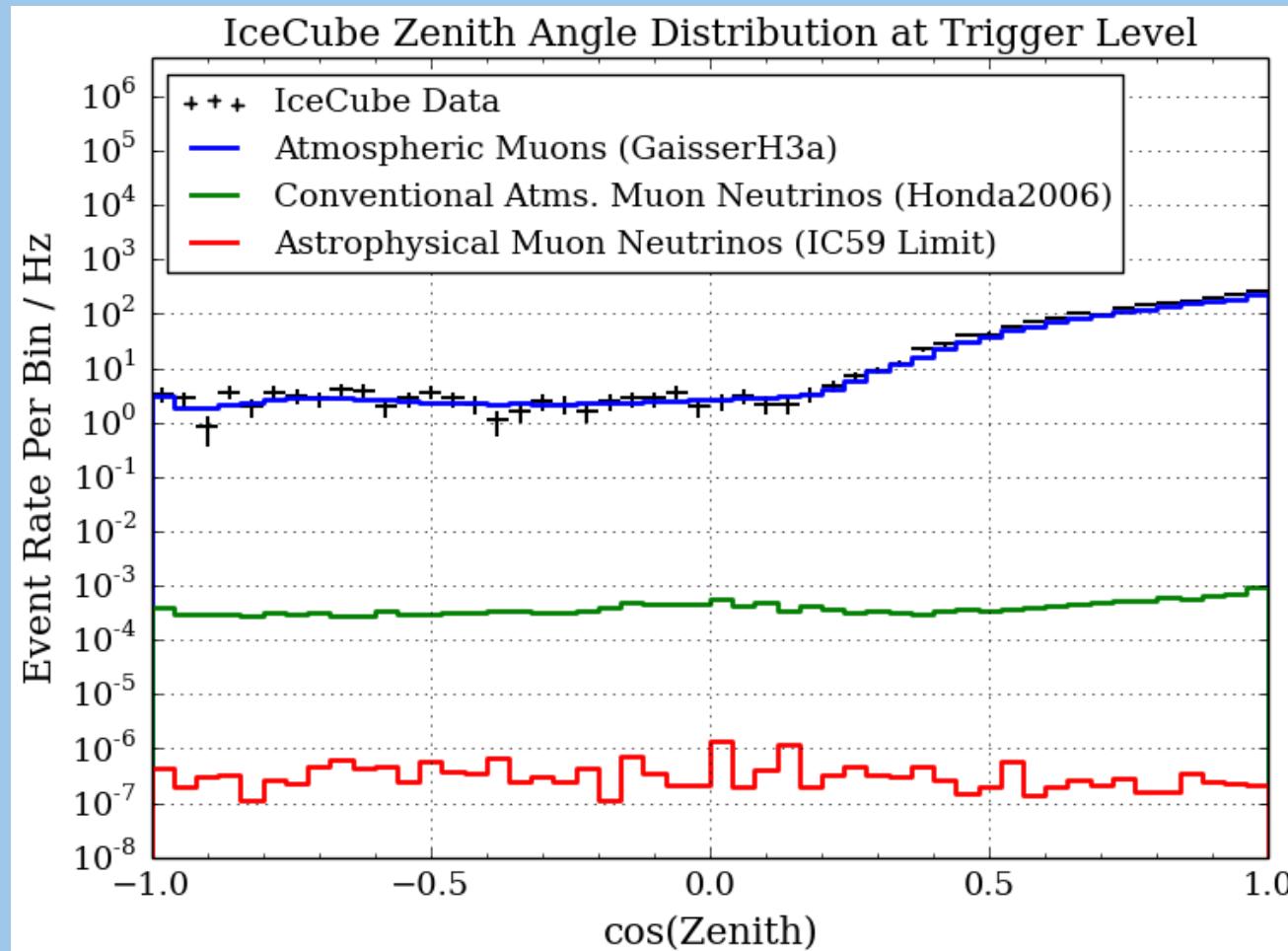


- Good Energy resolution
- angular resolution around 5°-10°

- Energy resolution limited
- sub degree pointing

- Energy resolution weak
- Good angular resolution

# Background for neutrinos

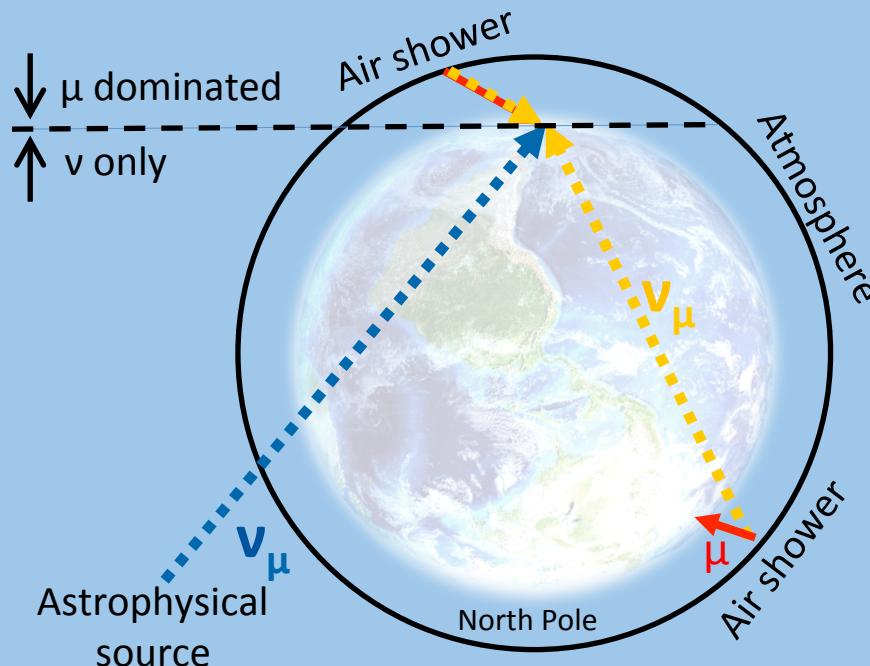


- IceCube triggers at a rate of about 3 kHz
- Dominantly down-going muons produced in cosmic ray air showers

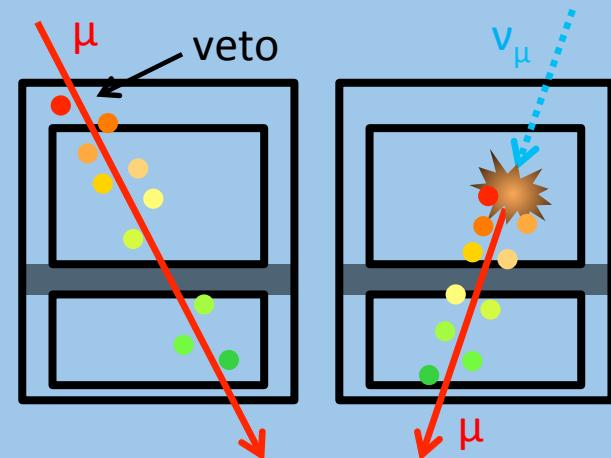
# Neutrino selection in IceCube



## Up-going tracks



## Starting Events

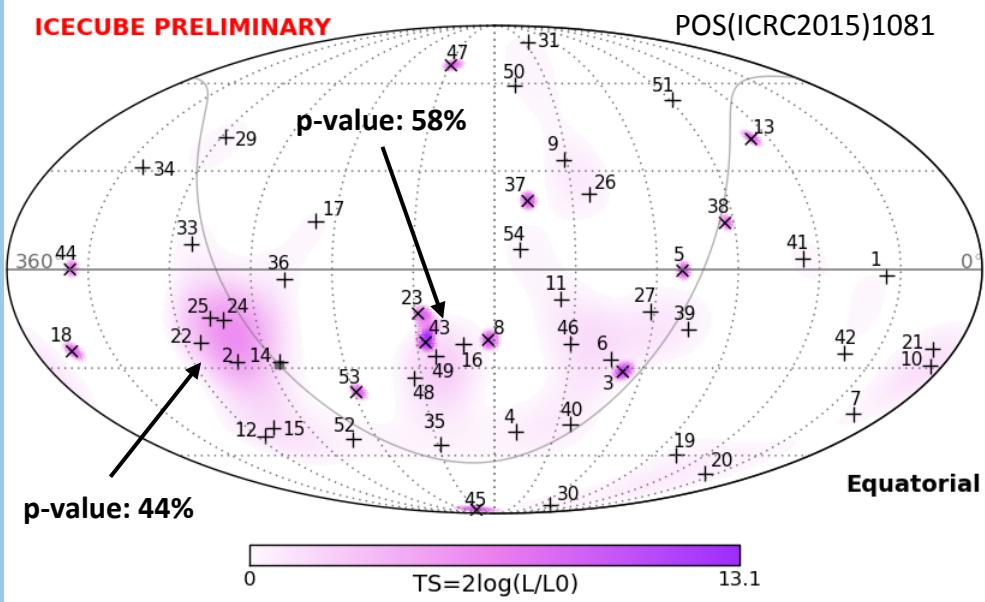
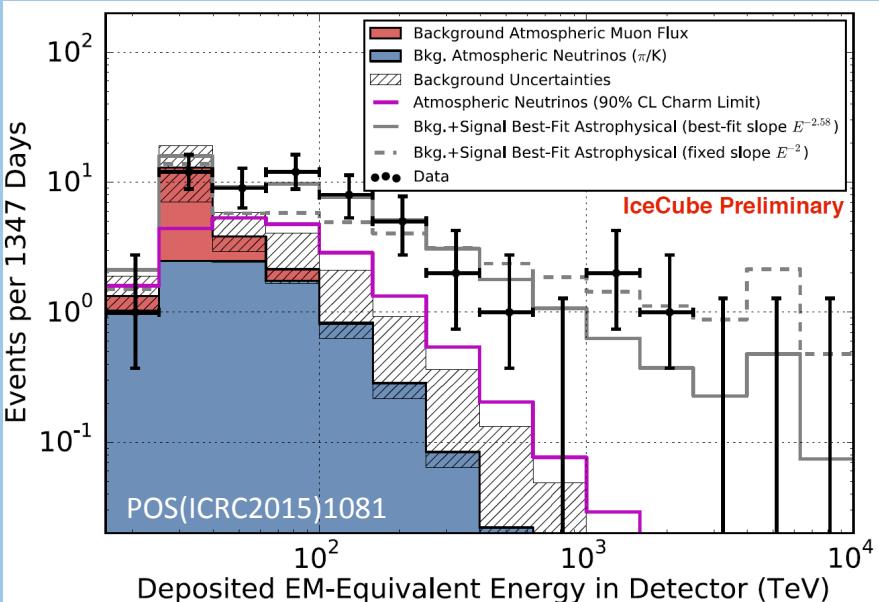


- Selection of events which have passed through Earth
- Effective volume larger than detector
- Sensitive to  $\nu_\mu$  and Northern Hemisphere only
- Selection of events with interaction vertex in detector and no visible entering particles
- Effective volume smaller than detector
- Sensitive to all flavors and full sky

# All-Flavor Neutrinos



Starting events using 4 years (all-sky)



- Analysis of starting events depositing  $> 60\text{TeV}$  using 4 years of data
- Observation of 53(+1) events up to  $\sim 2\text{PeV}$
- Mostly  $\nu_e$  charged current and neutral current interactions, mostly sensitive in the southern sky
- Clear excess over background ( $6.5\sigma$ ), no clear clustering on the sky
- Near future: real time selection of these starting events ( $\sim$  hours)

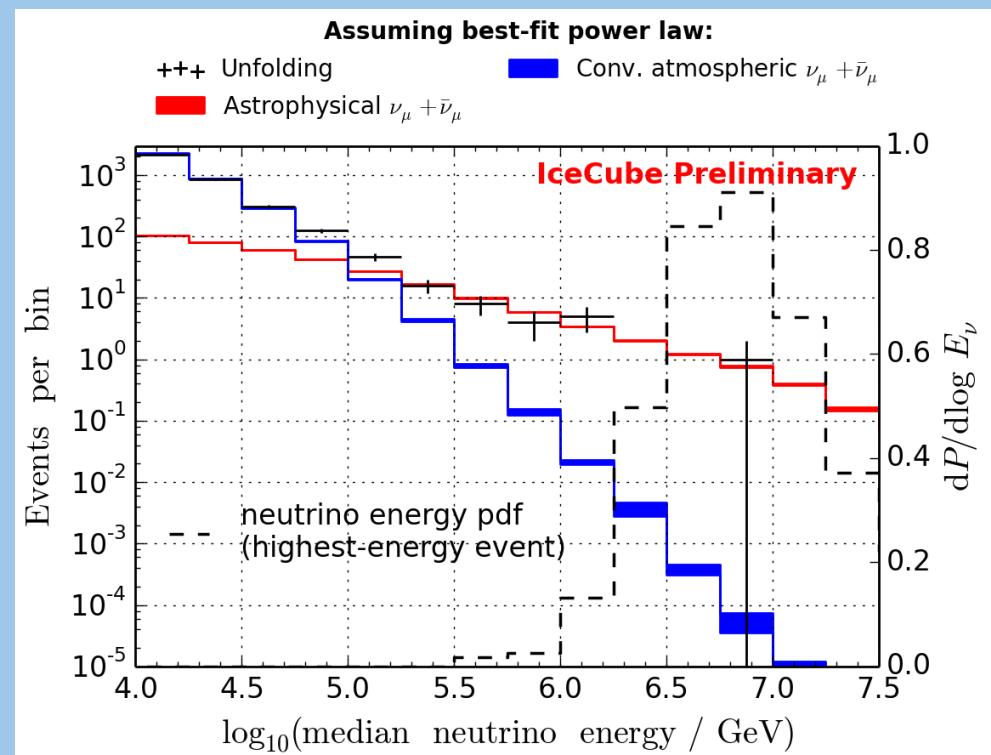
# Diffuse Muon Neutrino Search



- Analysis of up-going track events (northern sky) using 6 years of data,  $\nu_\mu$  charged current only,  $>100$  GeV
- Fit with an unbroken power law

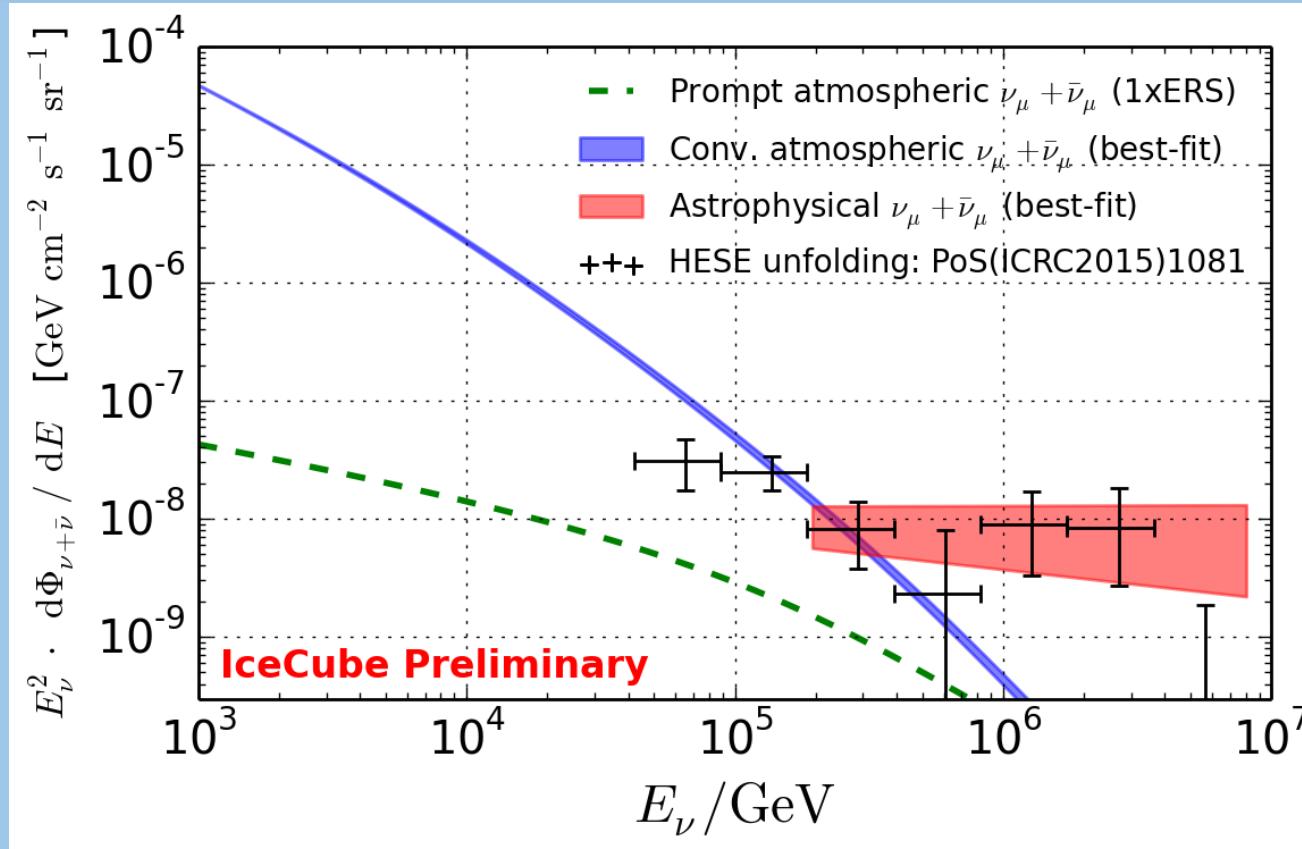
## Results:

- Astrophys. norm @100 TeV:  
 $0.82 +0.3/-0.26 * 10^{-18}$  GeV cm $^{-2}$  s $^{-1}$  sr $^{-1}$
- Spectral index:  
 $\gamma_{\text{astro}} = 2.08 \pm 0.13$
- Energy range:  
220 TeV – 8.3 PeV



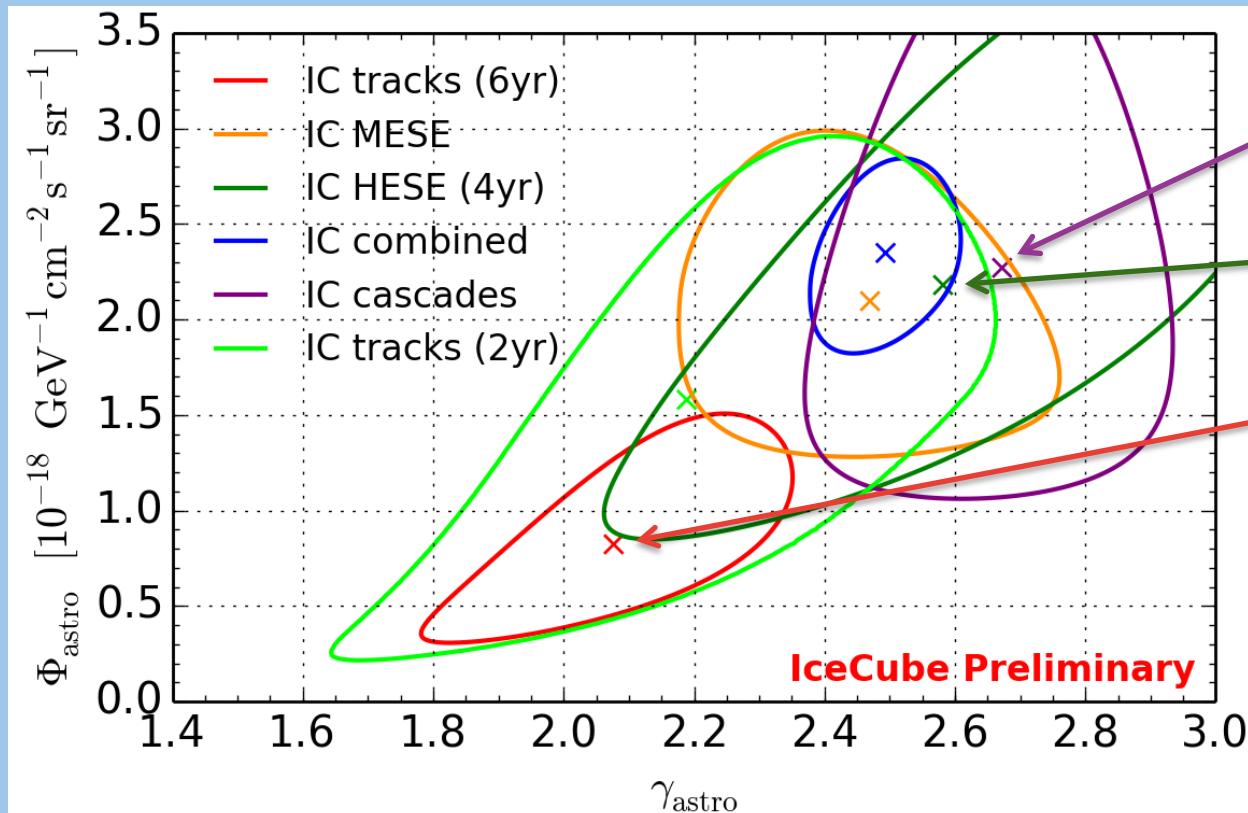
**Atmospheric-only hypothesis excluded by  $5.9\sigma$**

# Measured Astrophysical Neutrino Flux



- Best fit **astrophysical neutrino flux (unbroken power law)** and **conventional atmospheric neutrino flux** predicted by Honda
- HESE unfolding including 4yr data in black crosses

# Summary of diffuse IceCube results



Most sensitive region  
at about  $> 5 \times 10^4$  GeV

Most sensitive region  
at about  $> 10^5$  GeV

Most sensitive region  
at about  $> 2 \times 10^5$  GeV

Slight trend:

- With the energy of the sensitive region shifting to higher energies the fitted spectral index increases
- Might be a first hint for features in the astrophysical neutrino flux

# Flavor Composition at Earth

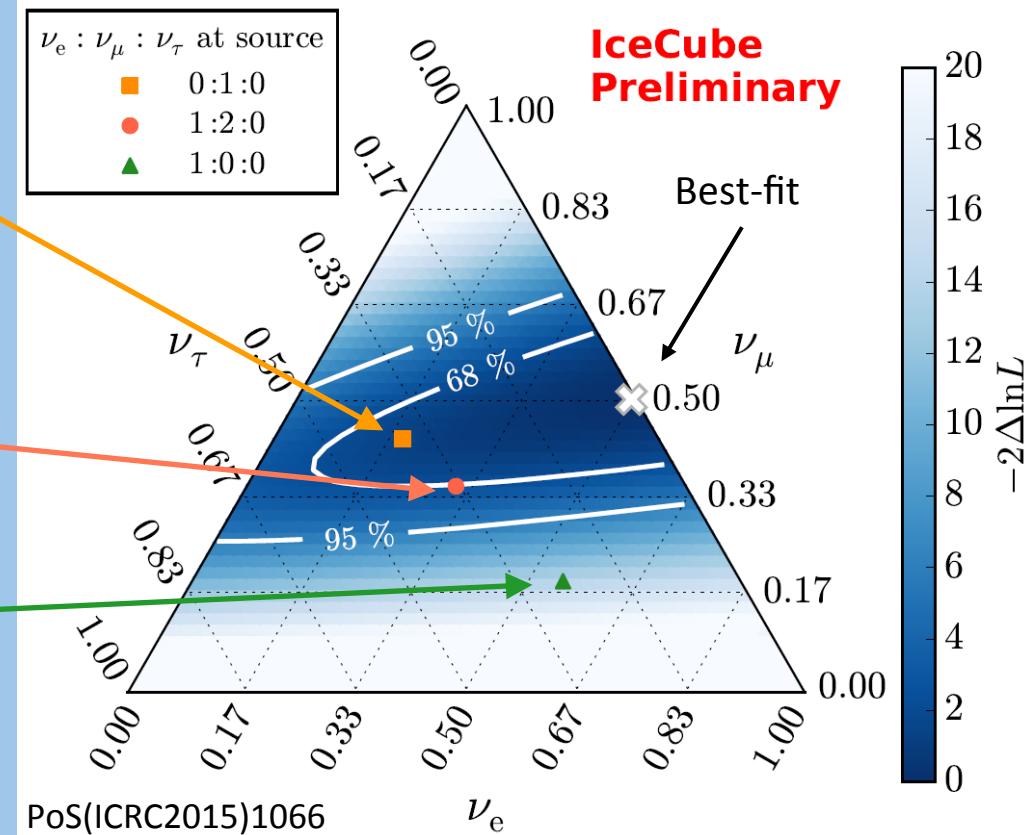


Flavor composition at Earth useful to constrain production mechanism at the source

Muon-damped pion decay:  
allowed

Pion decay: allowed

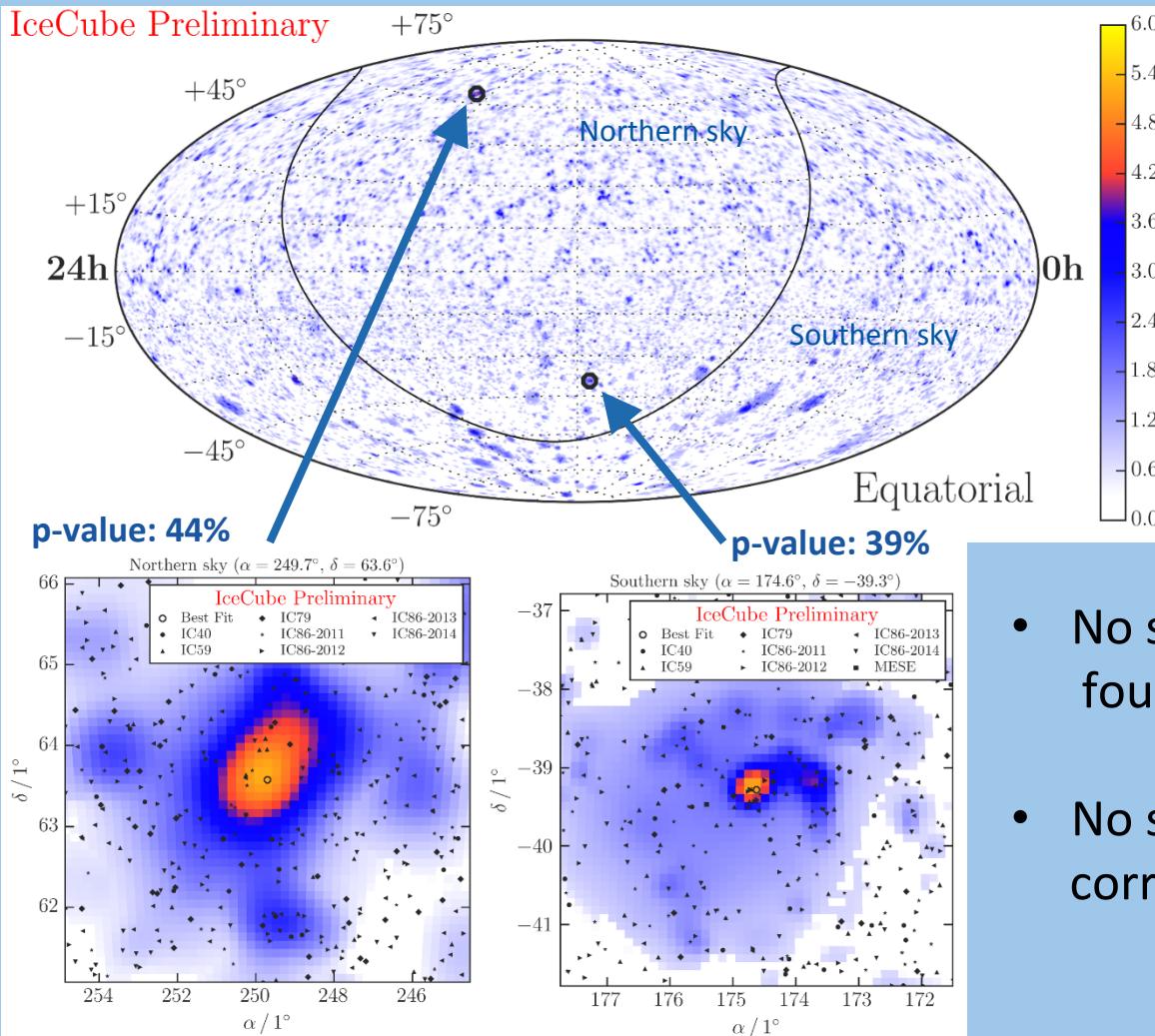
Neutron decay:  
rejected at  $3.7\sigma$



- Contribution of  $\nu_\tau$  nearly unconstrained due to low sensitivity of the  $\nu_\tau$  measurements

# Searches for neutrino sources

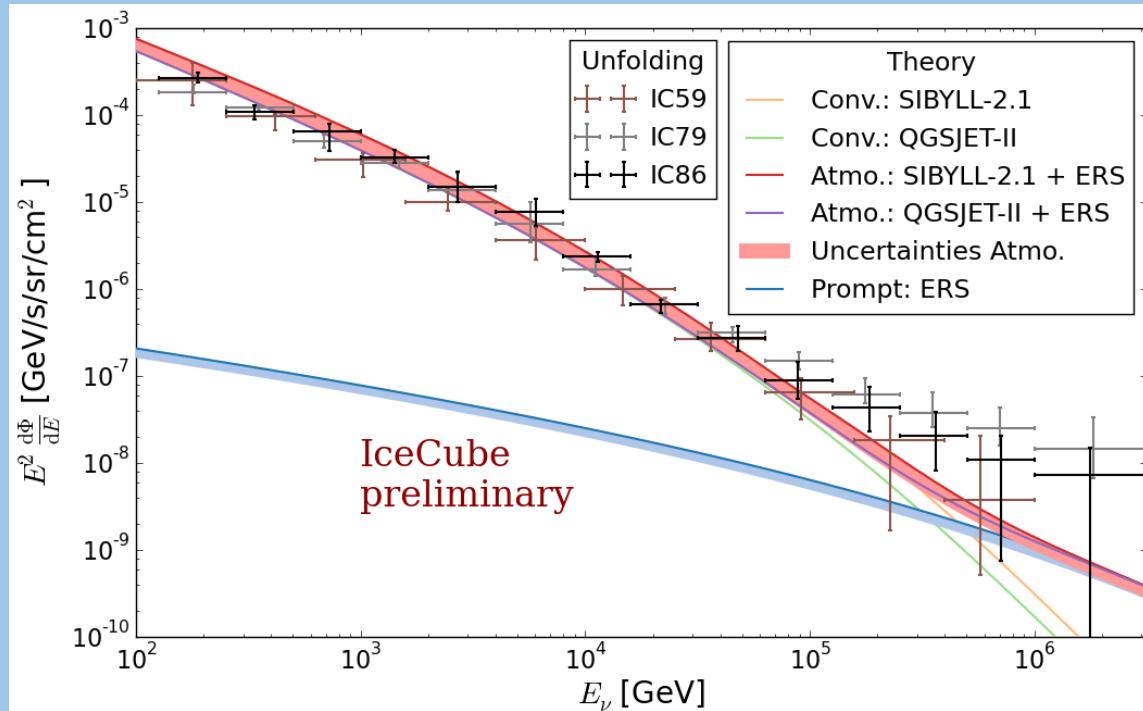
## Point source search using 7 years



- Analysis of track-like events using 7 years of IceCube data
- Northern sky: only  $\nu_\mu$
- Southern sky: mostly  $\mu$  but also  $\nu_\mu$

- No significant point source found yet
- No strong evidence for correlations with the galactic plane

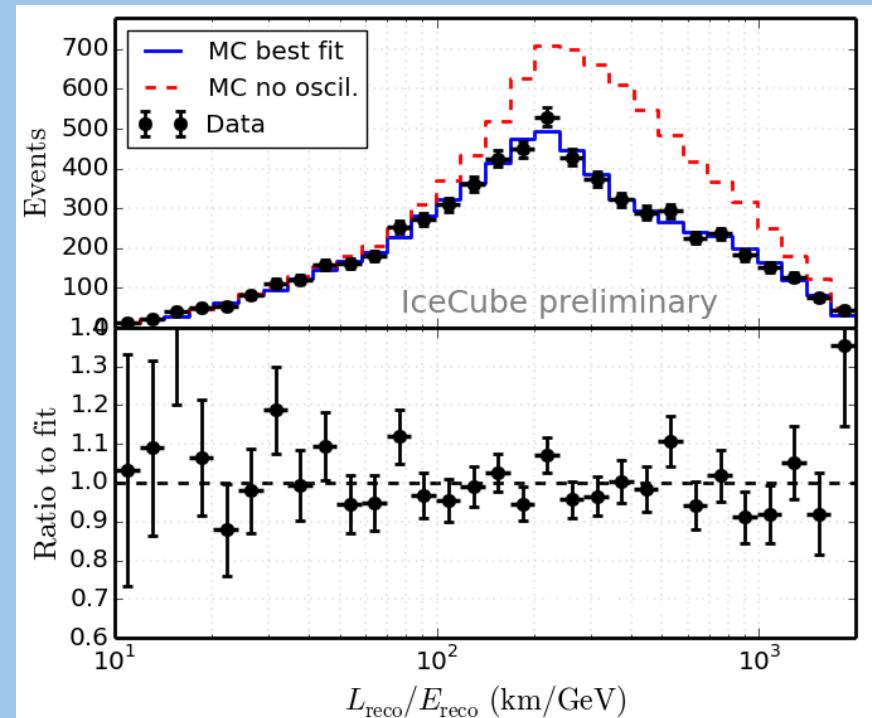
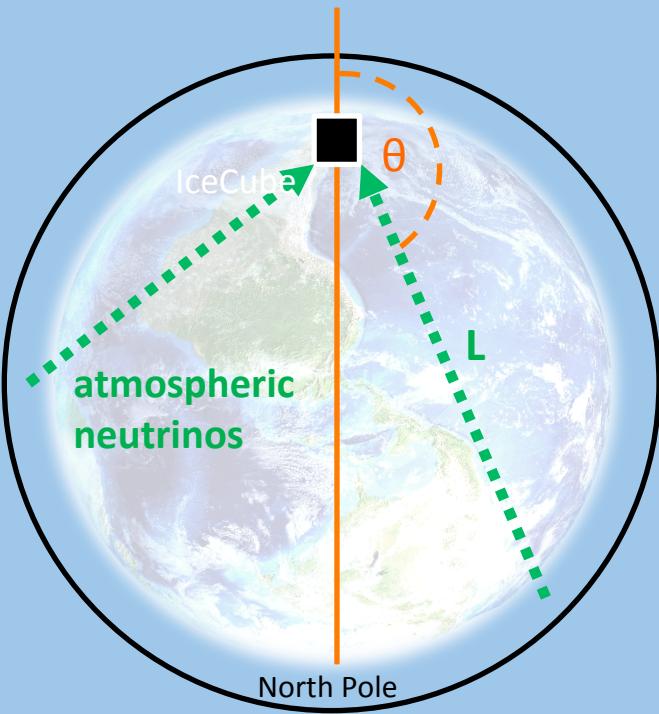
# Energy spectrum of atmospheric muon neutrinos



- Unfolding of muon neutrino energy spectrum  $>100\text{GeV}$  using up-going track events (northern sky) of 3 years of data
- Unfolded spectrum compatible with atmospheric muon neutrino predictions

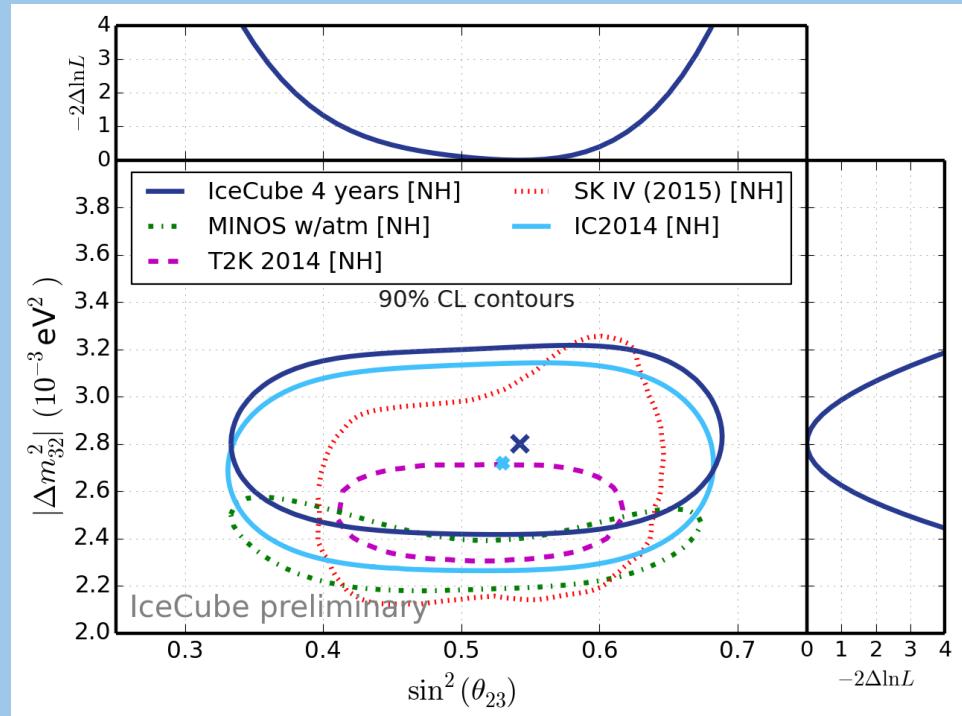
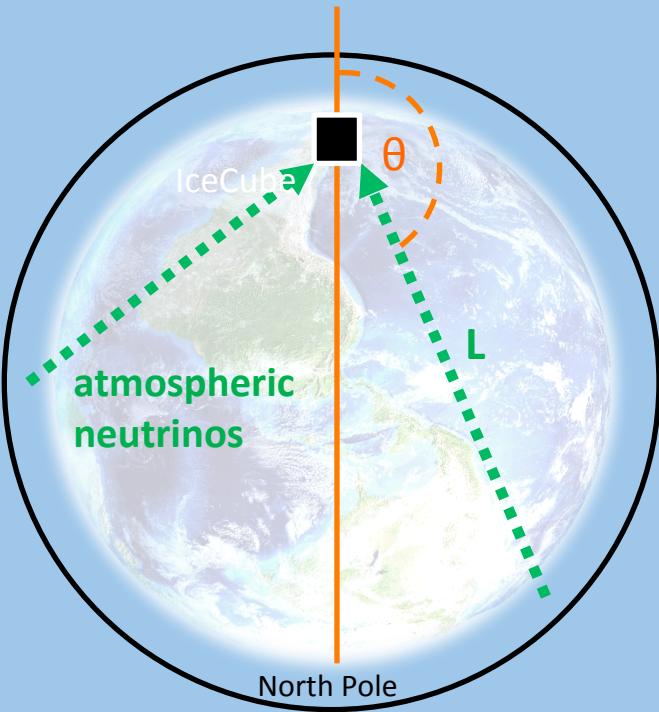
- The over fluctuation at high energy is consistent with current measurements of the astrophysical muon neutrino flux

# Neutrino Oscillation Measurement using DeepCore



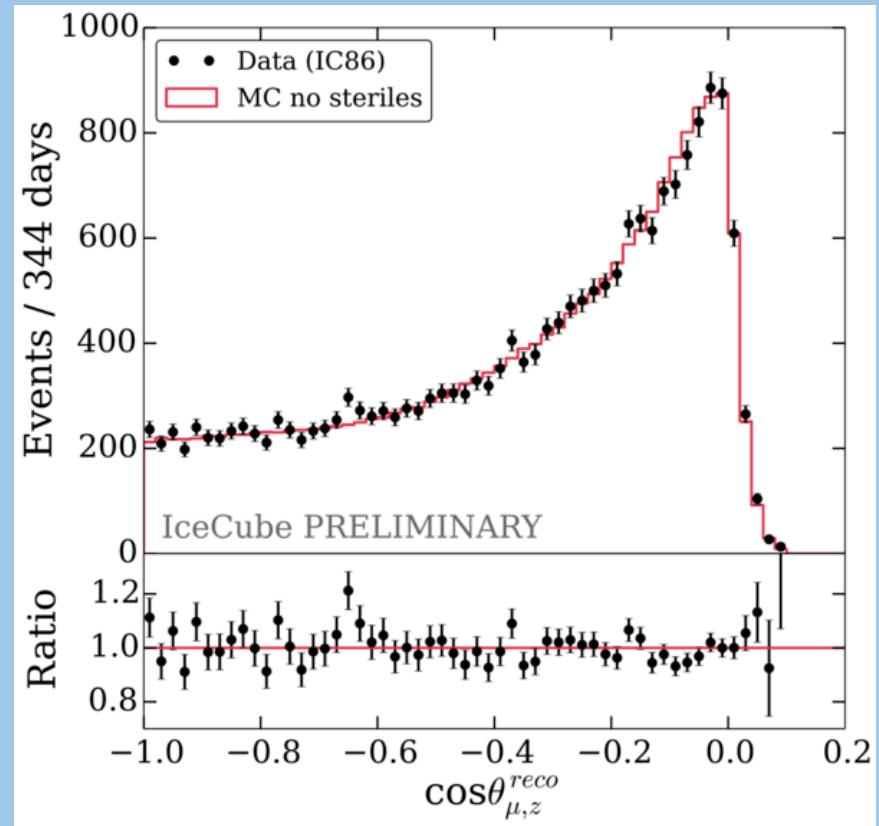
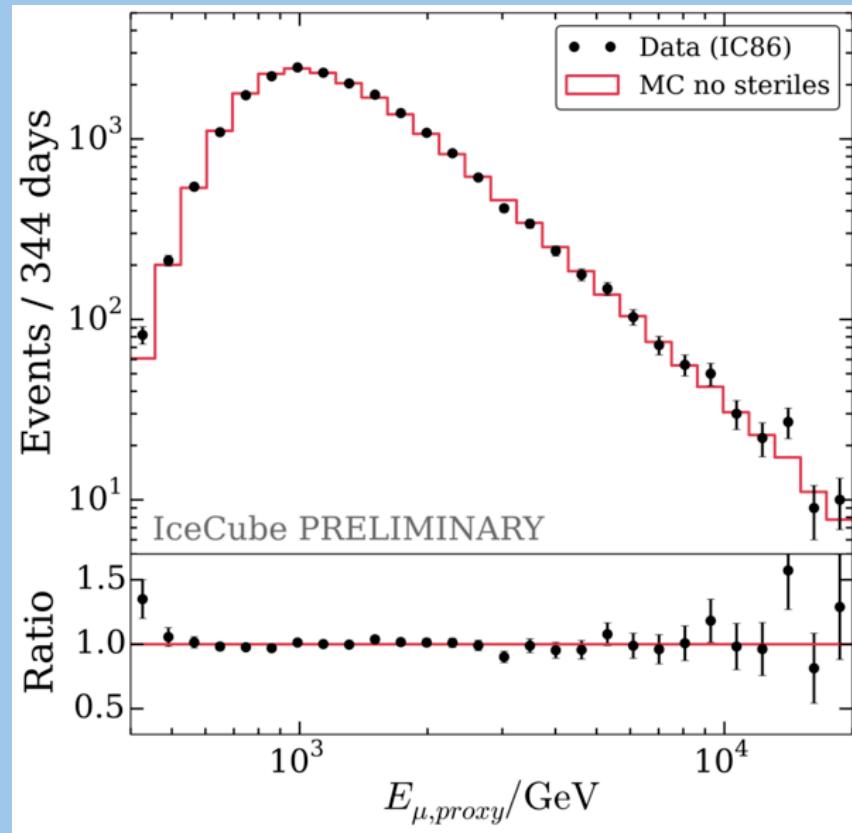
- Disappearance analysis of  $\sim 10 \text{ GeV} - 100 \text{ GeV}$  atmospheric  $\nu_\mu$  with 4 years of data

# Neutrino Oscillation Measurement using DeepCore



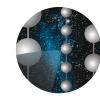
- Neutrino disappearance in the Energy range from about 10 GeV – 100 GeV observed  
Results from normal hierarchy:  $\sin^2 \theta_{23} = 0.53 +0.08/-0.13$   
 $\Delta m_{23}^2 = 2.8 +0.20/-0.16 * 10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2$

# Search for sterile neutrinos

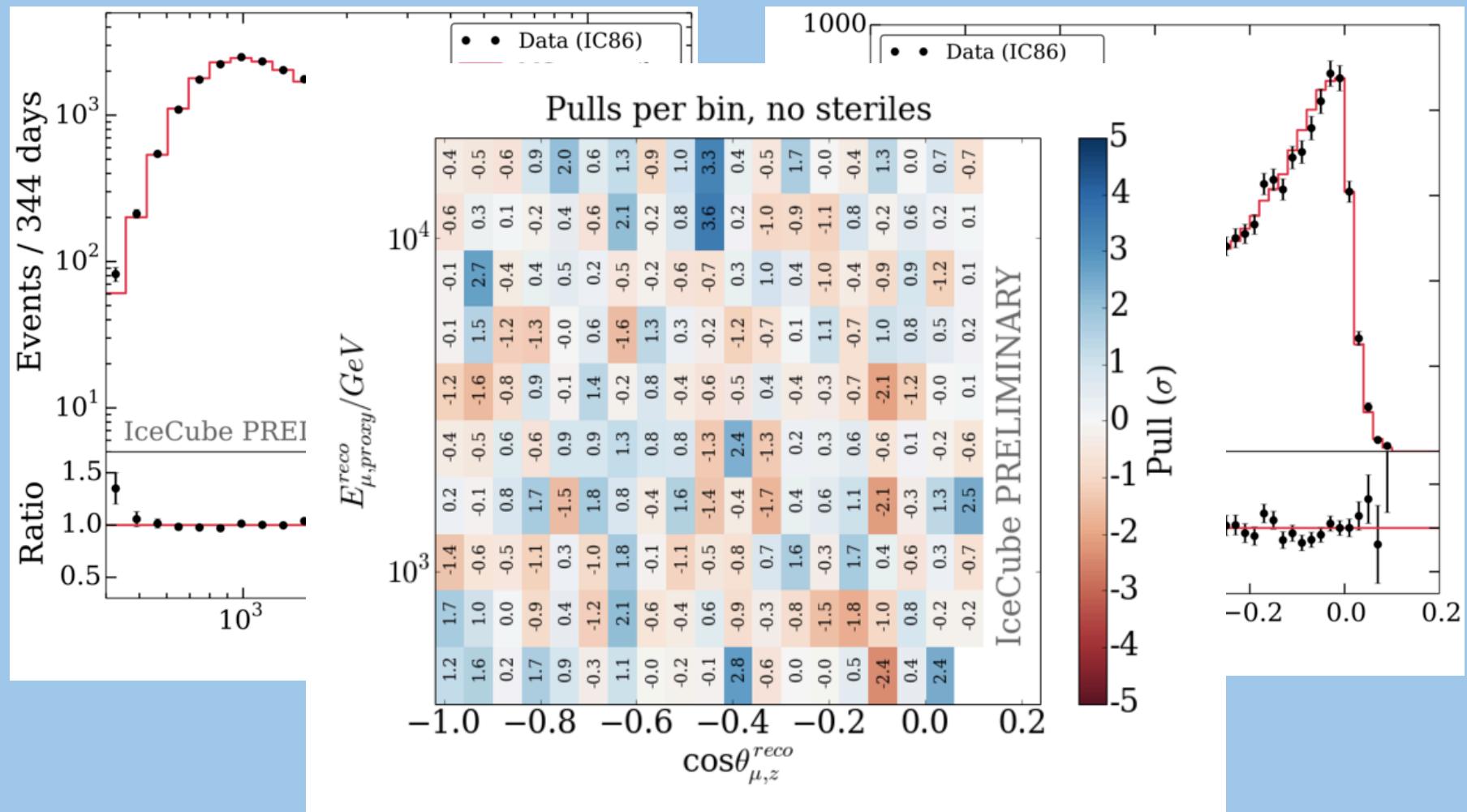


- Disappearance search at higher energy range on top of standard oscillation

# Search for sterile neutrinos

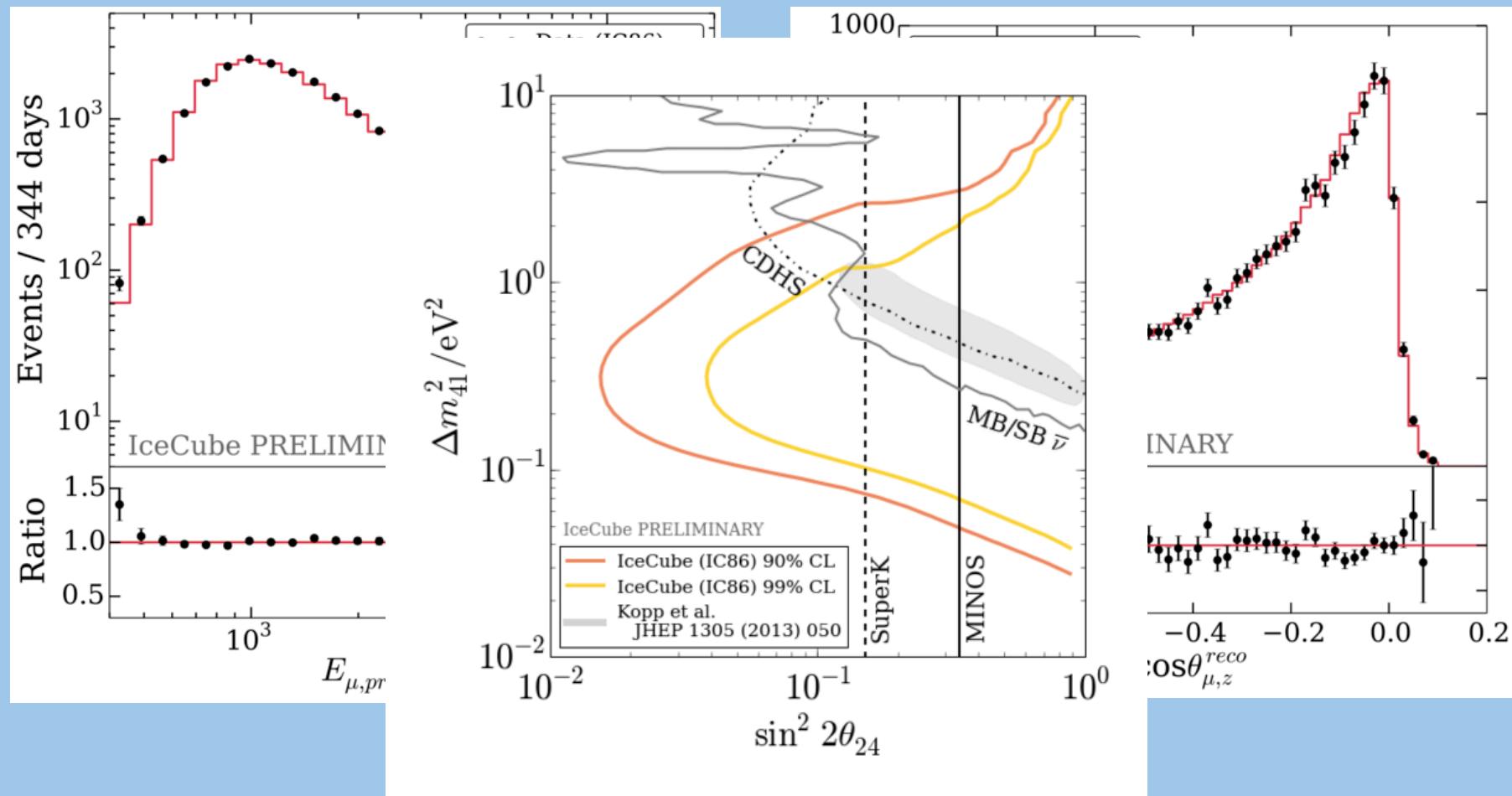


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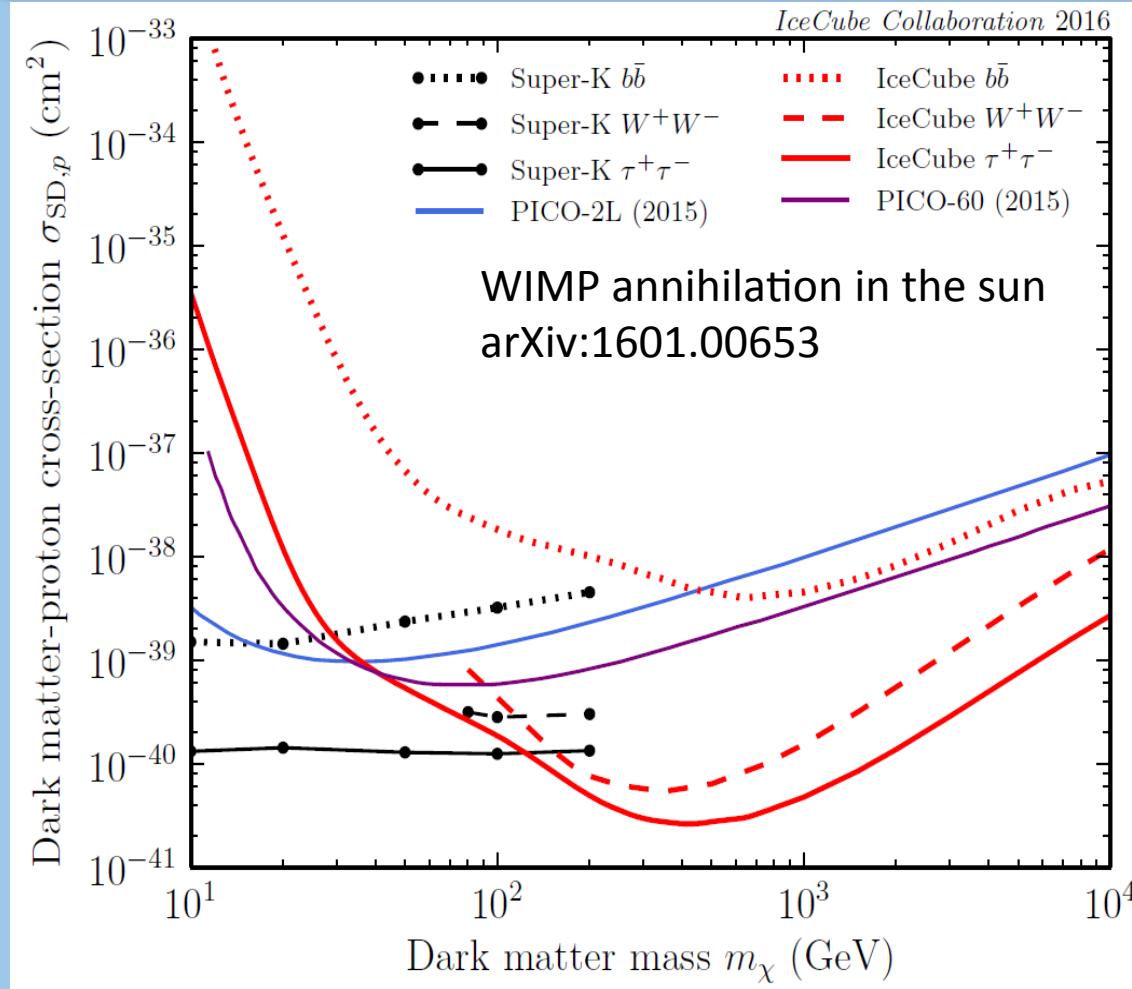
- pulls per bin in the analysis space at the best-fit point. The stat-only p-value is 17%

# Search for sterile neutrinos



- No sterile neutrino signature found.
- Another 5 years of data will lead to even stronger results

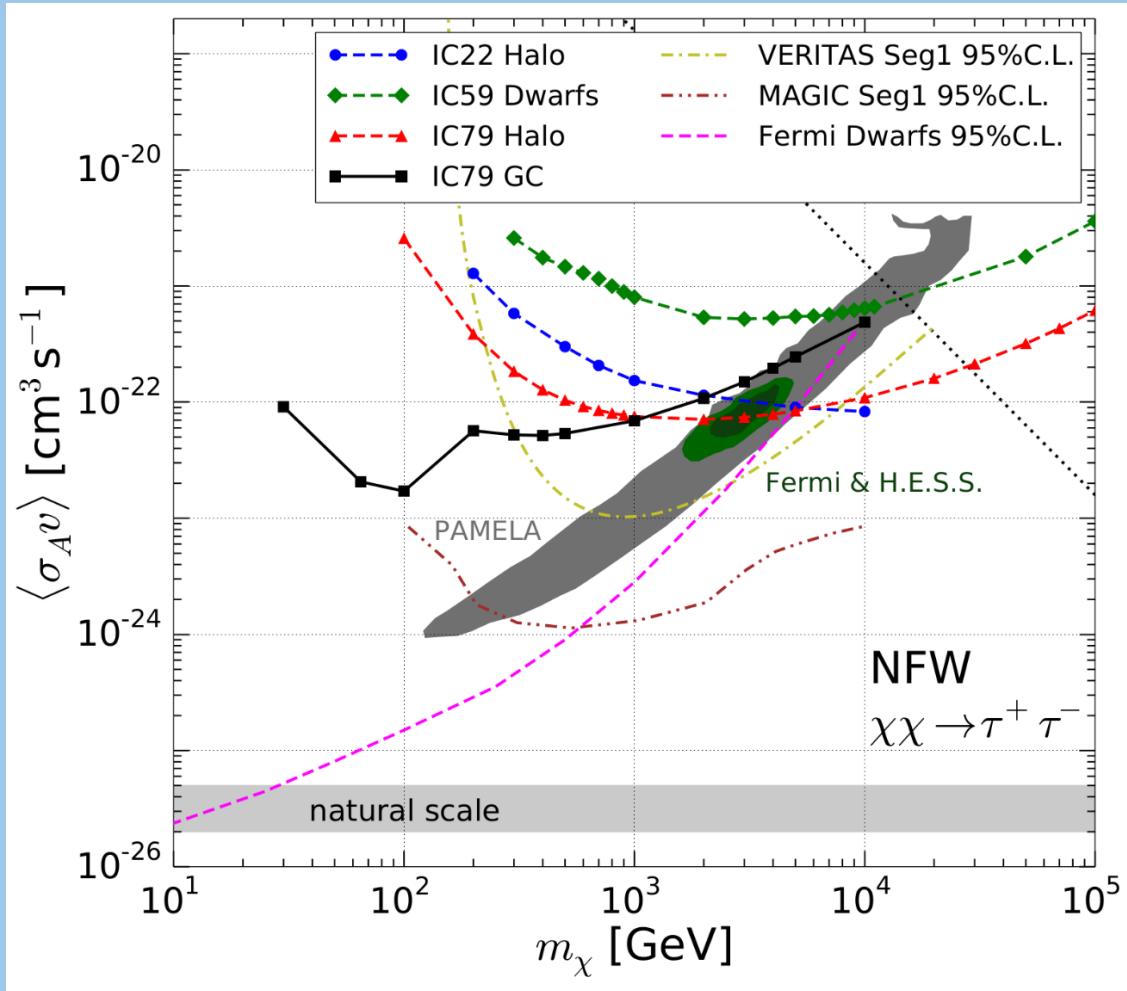
# Dark Matter WIMPs



- Analysis of arrival directions of  $\nu_\mu$  to look for correlation with the expected signature of WIMP annihilations in the sun
- Worlds best constraint on spin-dependent cross section above 100 GeV WIMP mass

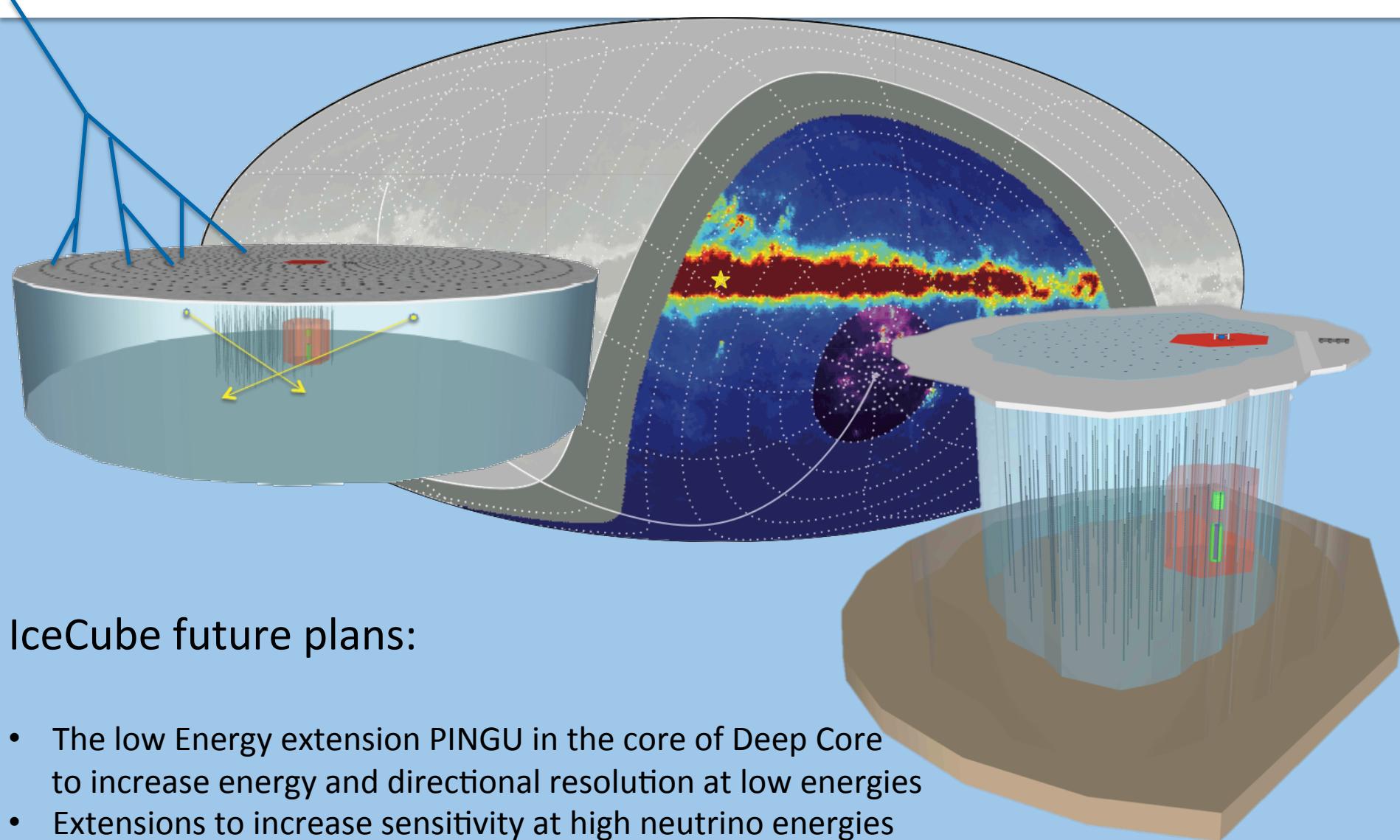
Other neutrinos IceCube may detect from the sun: Solar neutrino flares, **Gwenhaël de Wasseige in the YSF II today evening**

# Dark Matter WIMPs



- Analysis of arrival directions of  $\nu_\mu$  to look for correlation with the expected signature of WIMP annihilations in the Galactic halo, Galactic center or Dwarf galaxies
- IceCube is competitive at high WIMP masses

# A slide on IceCube extensions



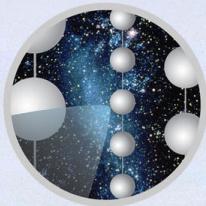
IceCube future plans:

- The low Energy extension PINGU in the core of Deep Core to increase energy and directional resolution at low energies
- Extensions to increase sensitivity at high neutrino energies

# Summary



- IceCube observed an astrophysical  $\nu$  flux with more than  $5\sigma$  in two different detection channels
- There are hints for features in the astrophysical flux
- Sources of this flux remain unknown
- Observed flavor ratio on Earth constrains neutrino production mechanisms at sources
- IceCube observed neutrino oscillations and produces competitive results
- First sterile neutrino analyses of IceCube sets stringent limits
- IceCube provides complementary constraints for the search of Dark Matter WIMPs



# The IceCube Collaboration



## Funding Agencies

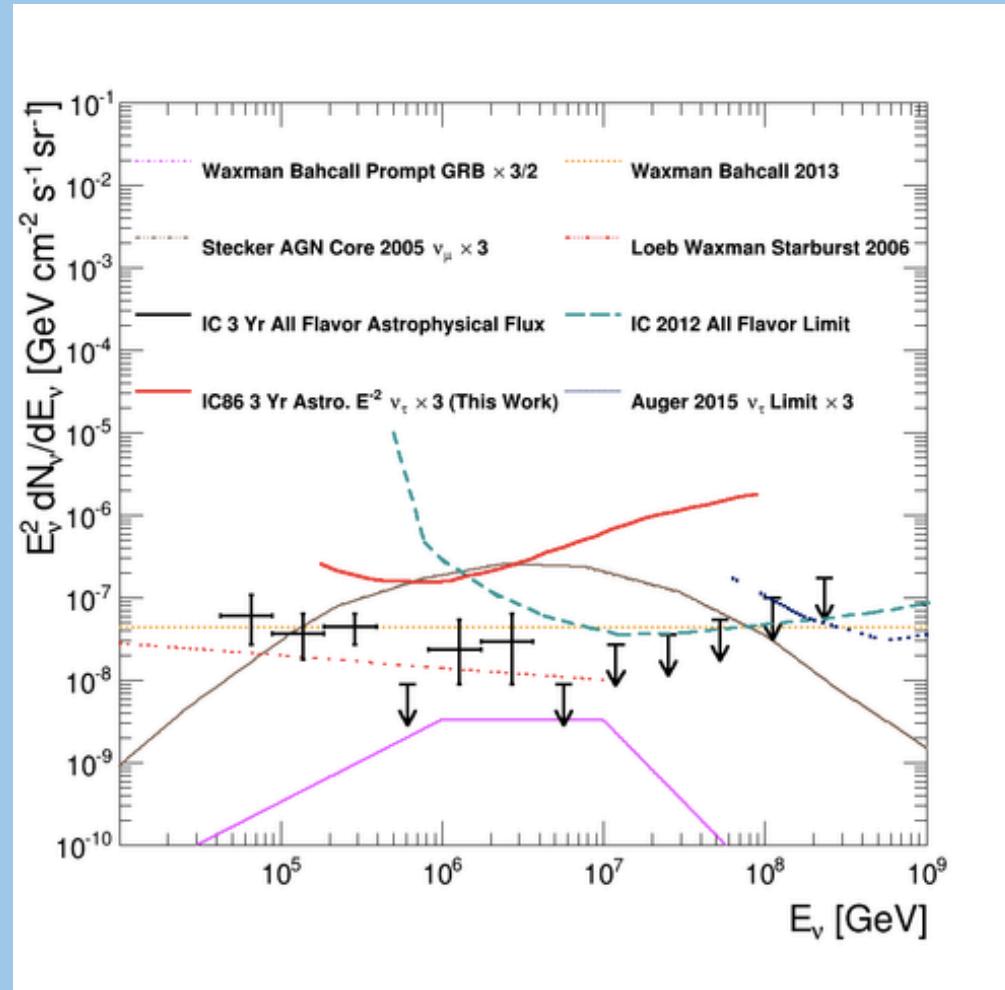
Fonds de la Recherche Scientifique (FRS-FNRS)  
Fonds Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek-Vlaanderen (FWO-Vlaanderen)  
Federal Ministry of Education & Research (BMBF)  
German Research Foundation (DFG)

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)

**Thank you for your attention!**

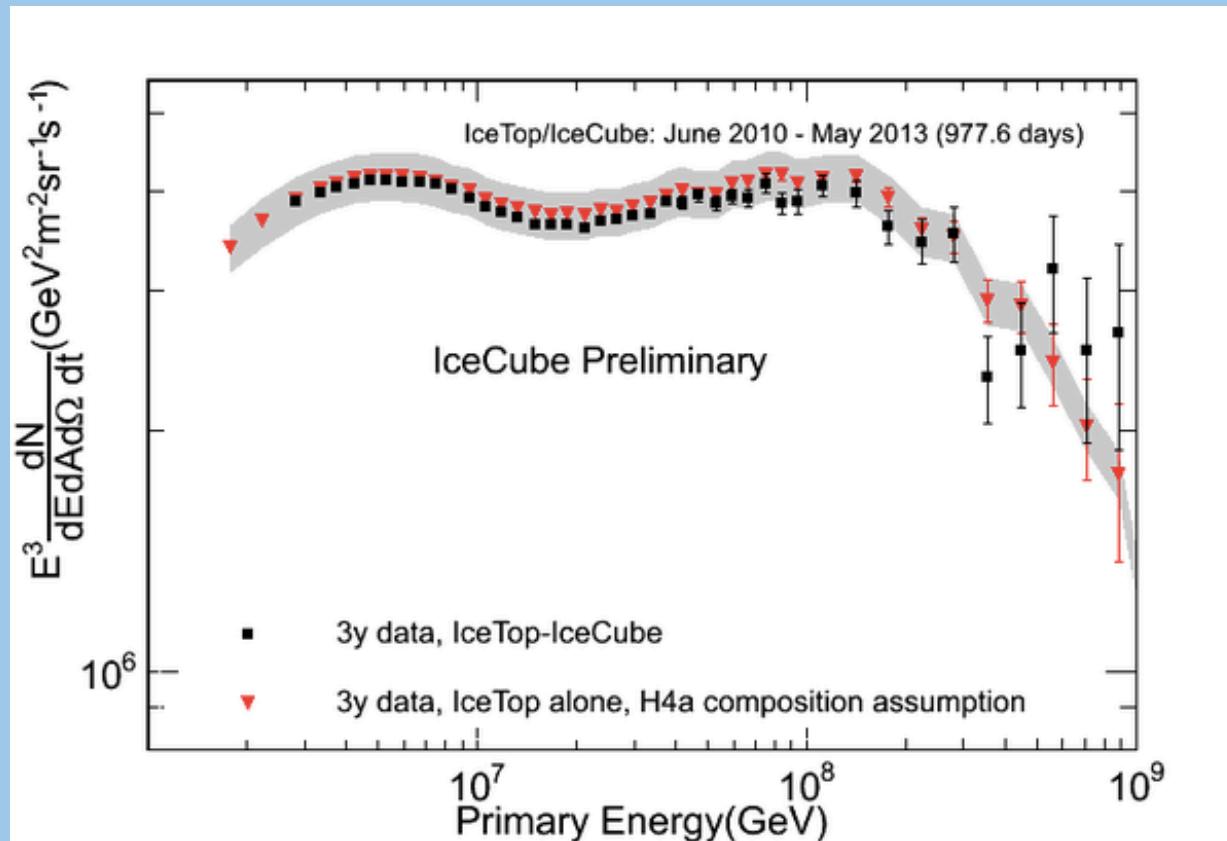
# Tau search in IceCube



# CR Spectrum with IceCube and IceTop



ICECUBE

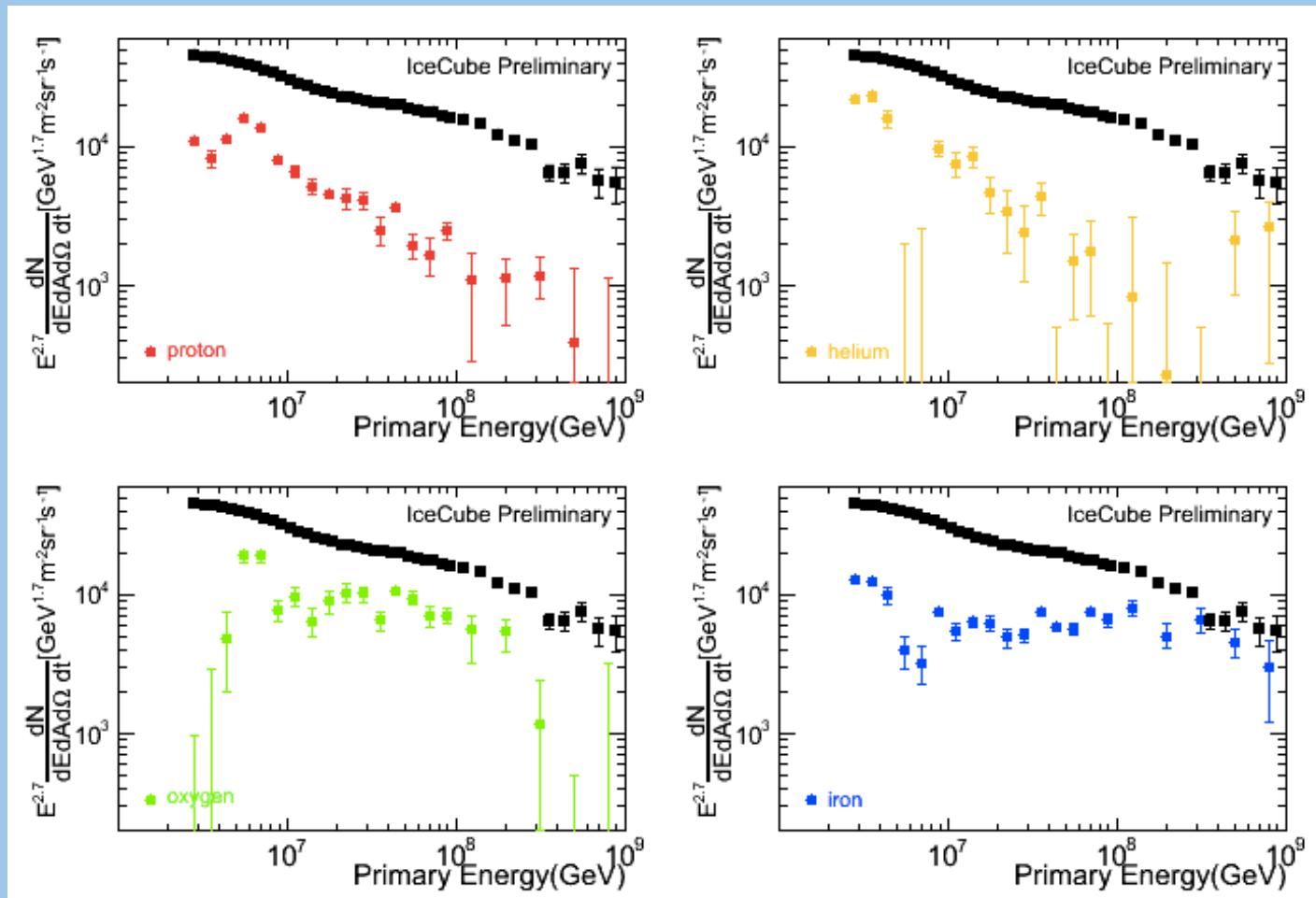


- Cosmic ray spectrum with IceTop and IceCube data show consistent results
- The spectrum shows clear features
- May be a hint for different source classes and/or composition

# CR Spectrum with IceCube and IceTop

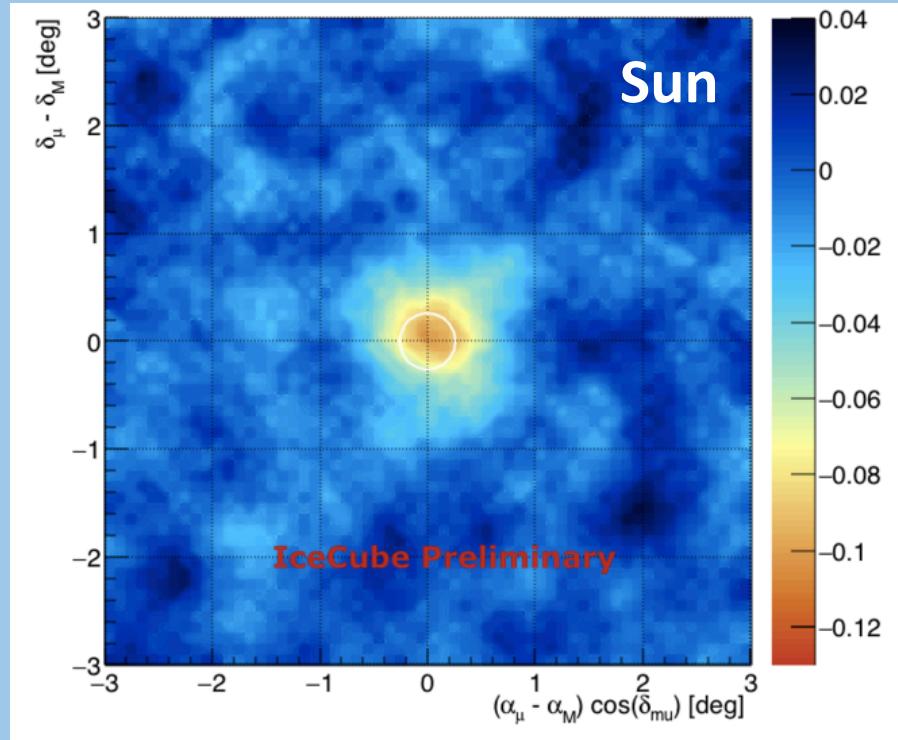
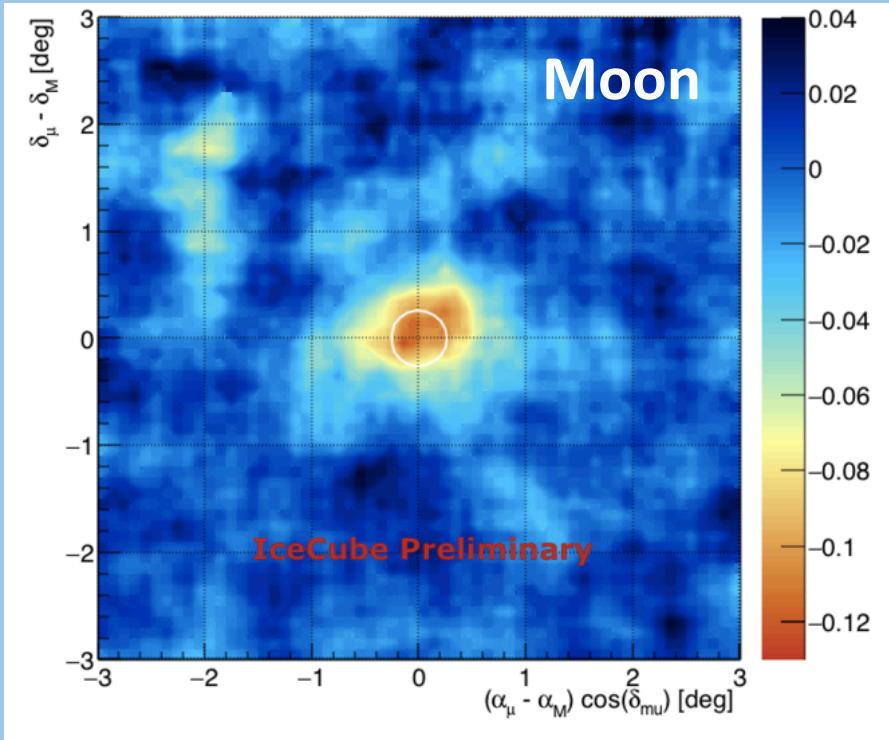


ICECUBE



- Evidence for a heavier composition at higher energies

# Calibration with Cosmic Rays



- Cosmic ray absorption by the moon and sun
- Width of deficit used to verify the uncertainty on the angular resolution (better than 1°)
- Amplitude of sun shadow is expected to correlate to sun activity