

ORCA: Oscillation Research with Cosmics in the Abyss

V. Van Elewyck (APC & Université Paris diderot)

Reminder on the motivations

- ✓ All neutrino mixing parameters known (with fair precision)
- ✓ θ_{13} is « large » !

- ❖ Next steps:
- δ_{CP} phase
 - neutrino mass hierarchy (NMH)

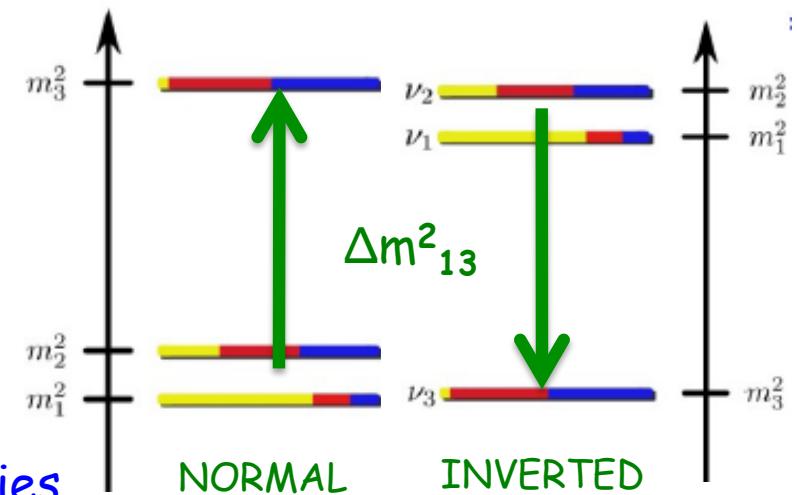
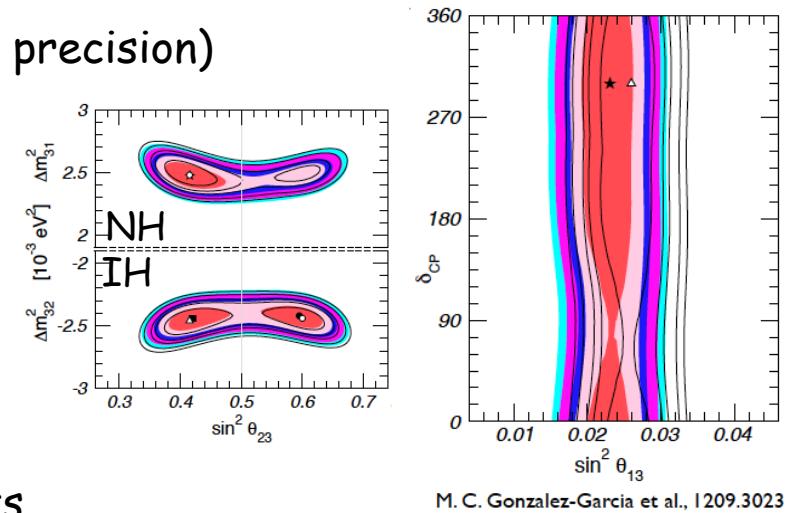
→ neutrino mass pattern, origin of flavour
 → important impact on LBL, $\beta\beta 0\nu$ experiments
 (also for δ_{CP} measurement)

Strategy: probe $\nu_\mu \leftrightarrow \nu_e$ governed by Δm^2_{13}
 + need matter effects

to resolve the sign of Δm^2_{13}
 maximal enhancement at resonant energy

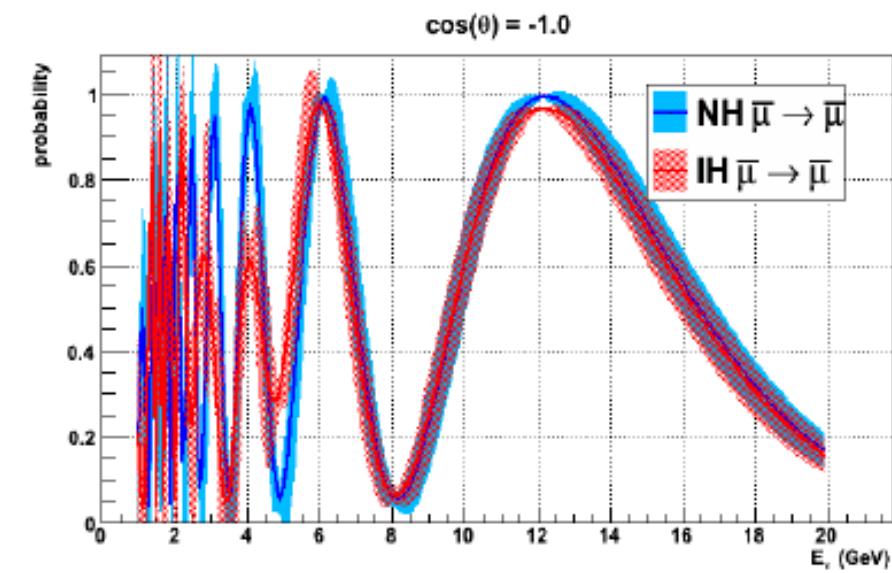
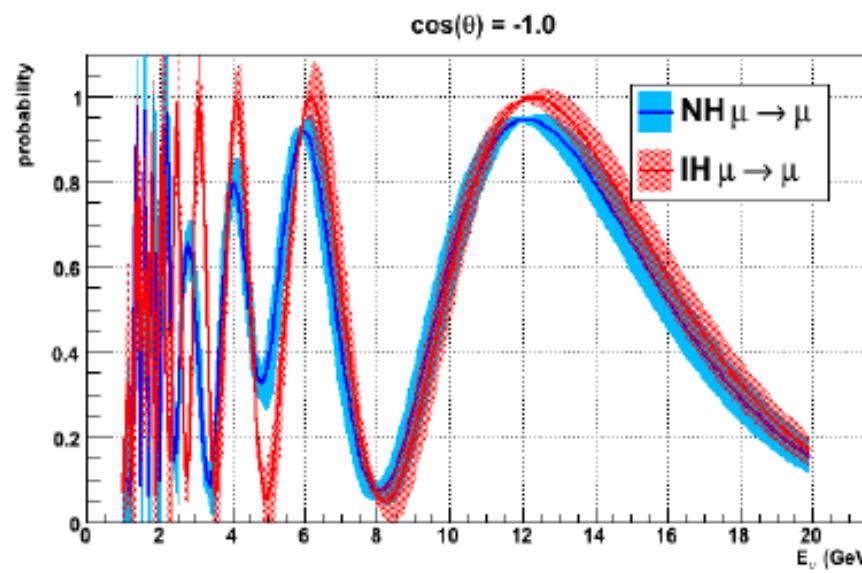
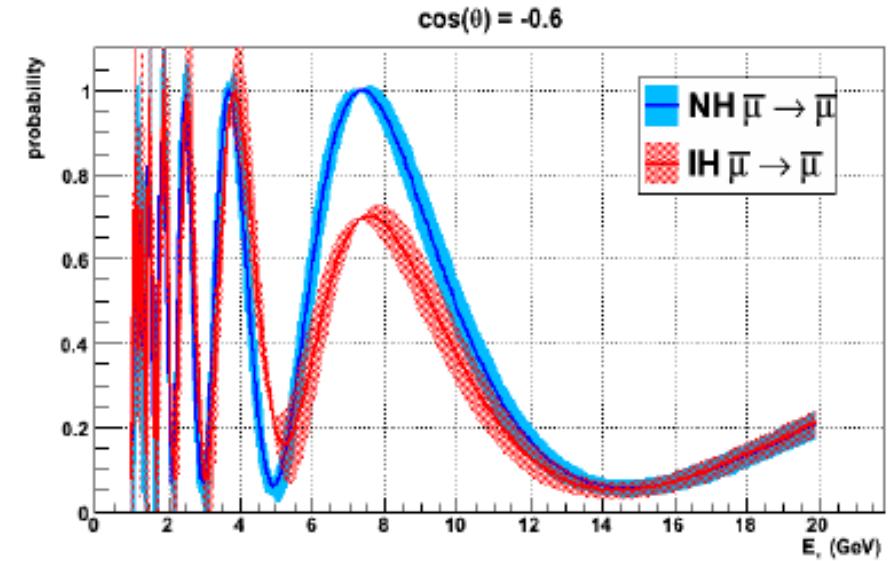
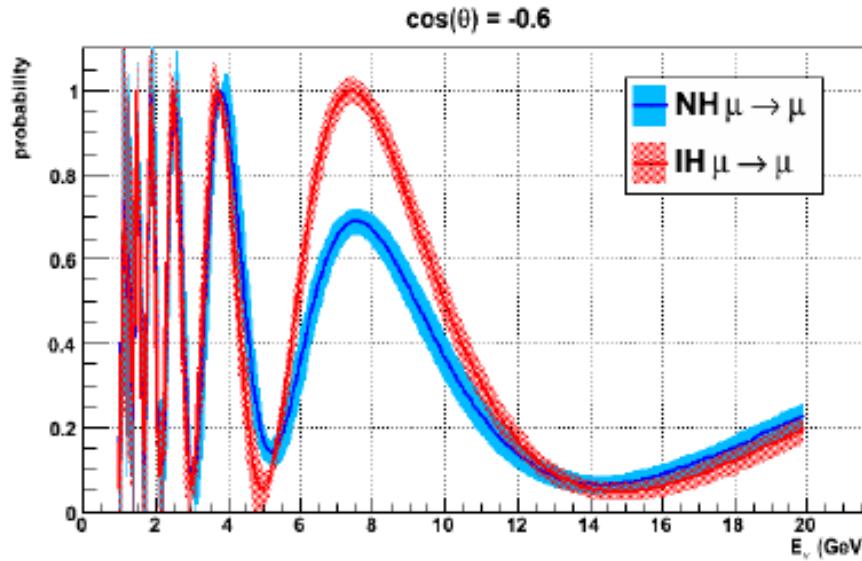
$$E_\nu^{\text{res}} = \pm \frac{\Delta m^2_{13} \cos(2\theta_{13})}{2\sqrt{2}G_F N_e} \approx \text{few GeV for Earth densities}$$

prospects for long-baseline and atmospheric neutrino experiments !



Reminder on the motivations

Main target: muon neutrino disappearance (CC channel: muon tagging)



...need matter effects AND difference in cross-sections (& fluxes) for ν and $\bar{\nu}$!

Reminder on the motivations

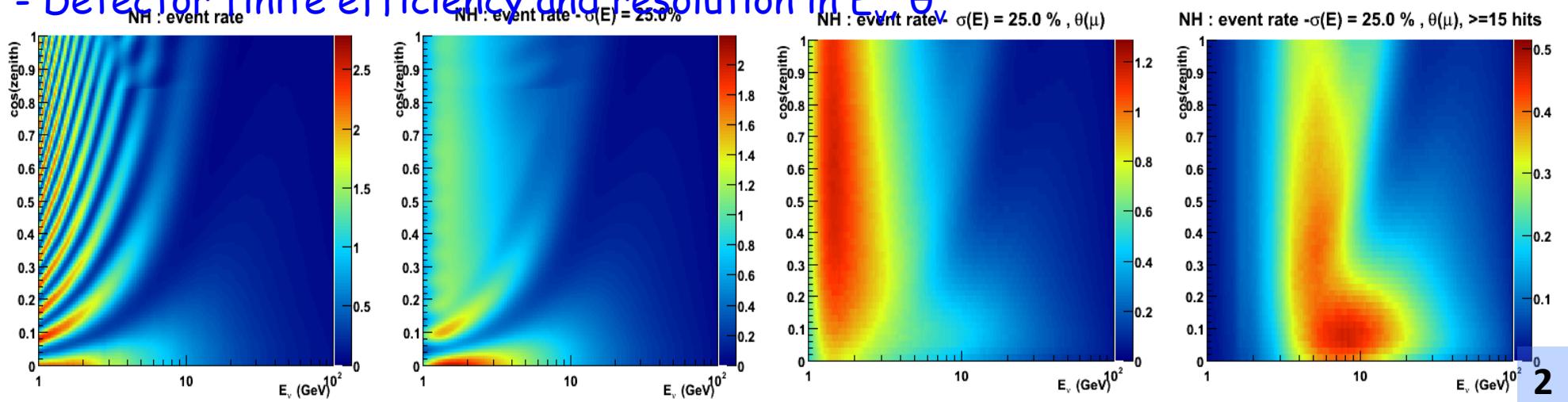
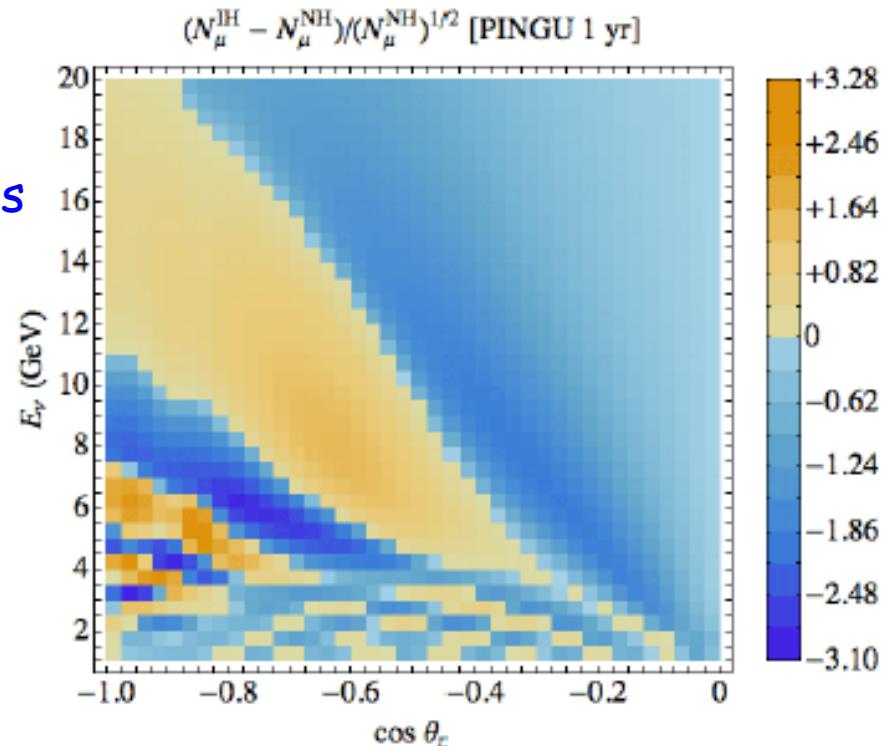
→ differences in (E_ν, θ_ν) oscillograms make it possible to identify NMH in underwater/ice Cherenkov detectors

Example with PINGU-like detector:
(perfect resolution, large effective volume)

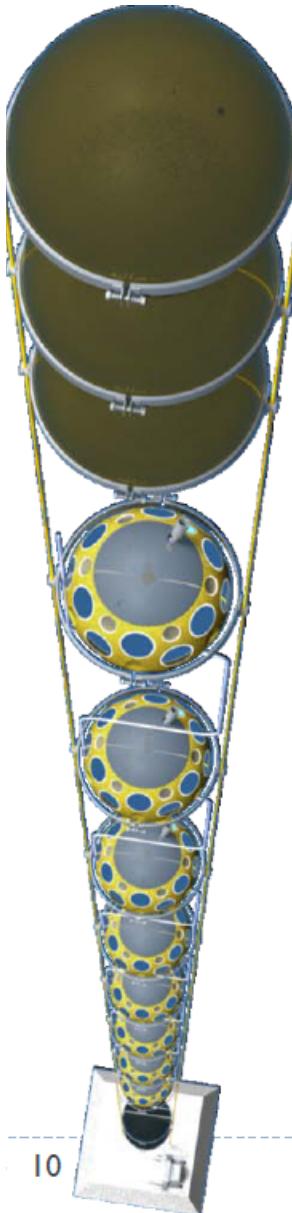
Akhmedov, et al. JHEP 02 (2013) 082

...BUT

- Uncertainties: atmospheric neutrino fluxes
oscillation parameters
Earth matter effects
- Kinematic smearing $\nu \rightarrow \mu$ (few degrees)
- Detector finite efficiency and resolution in E_ν, θ_ν



The ORCA detector



□ ORCA detector:

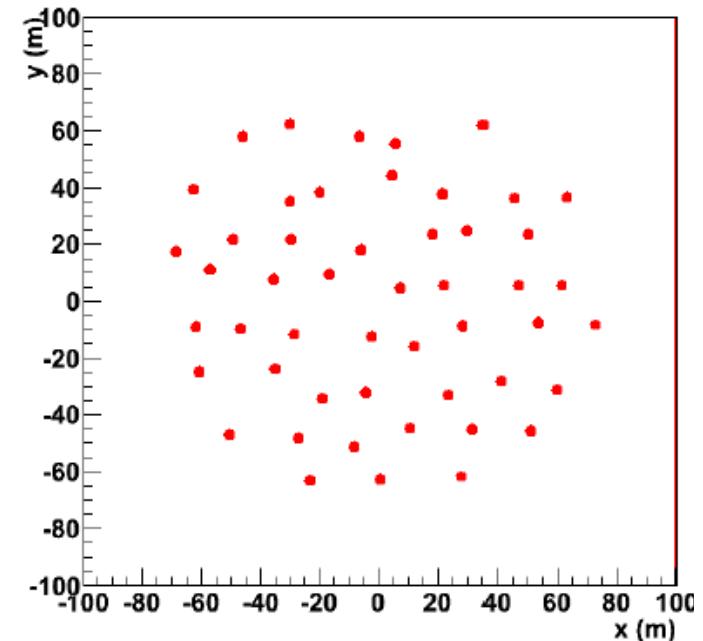
- 50 strings 20m spaced
- 20 DOM/string spaced 6m

Instrumented volume:

$$\Pi \times 70^2 \times 114 = 1.75 \text{ Mt}$$

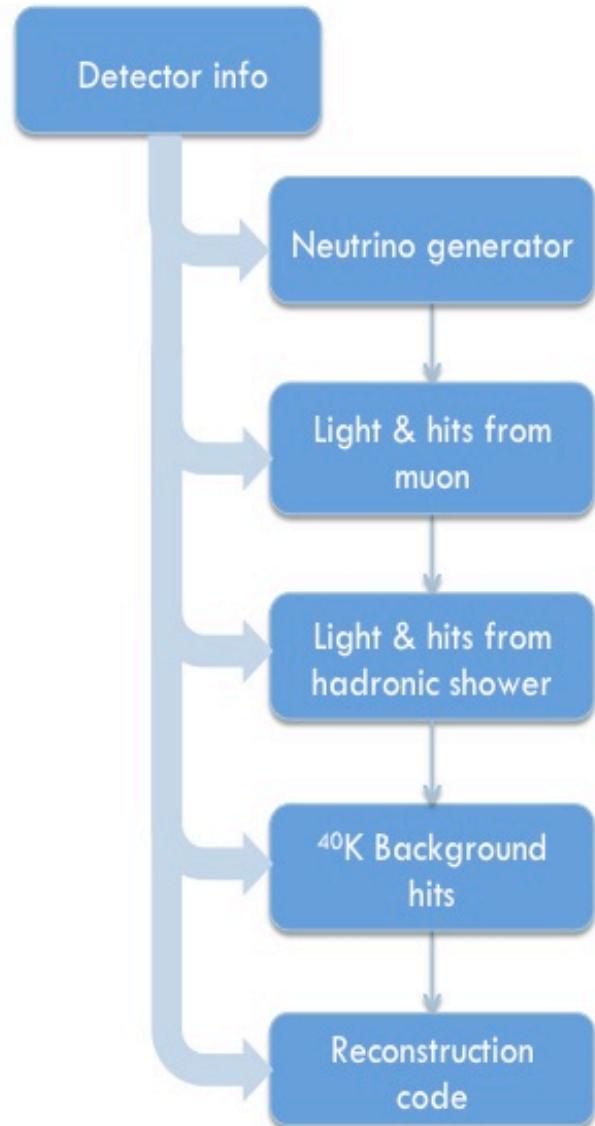


50 strings - PMT pos



- Multi-PMT DOM
- 31 small PMTs
- Almost uniform coverage
- Photon counting
- All electronics inside

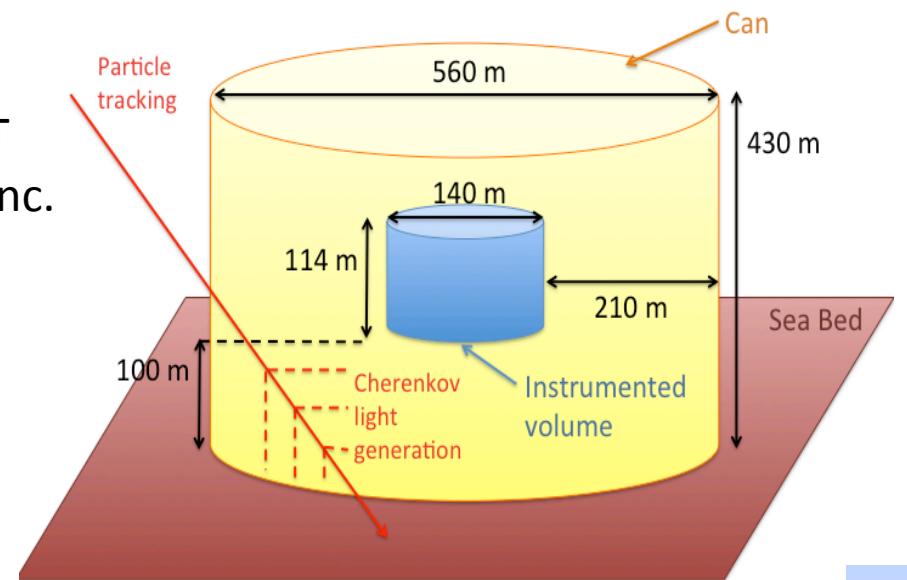
The ORCA detector: simulation chain



atmospheric $\nu_e + \nu_\mu$ (+anti) 1 – 500 GeV (Bartol flux)
neutrino interaction: QE+RES+DIS (GENHEN)

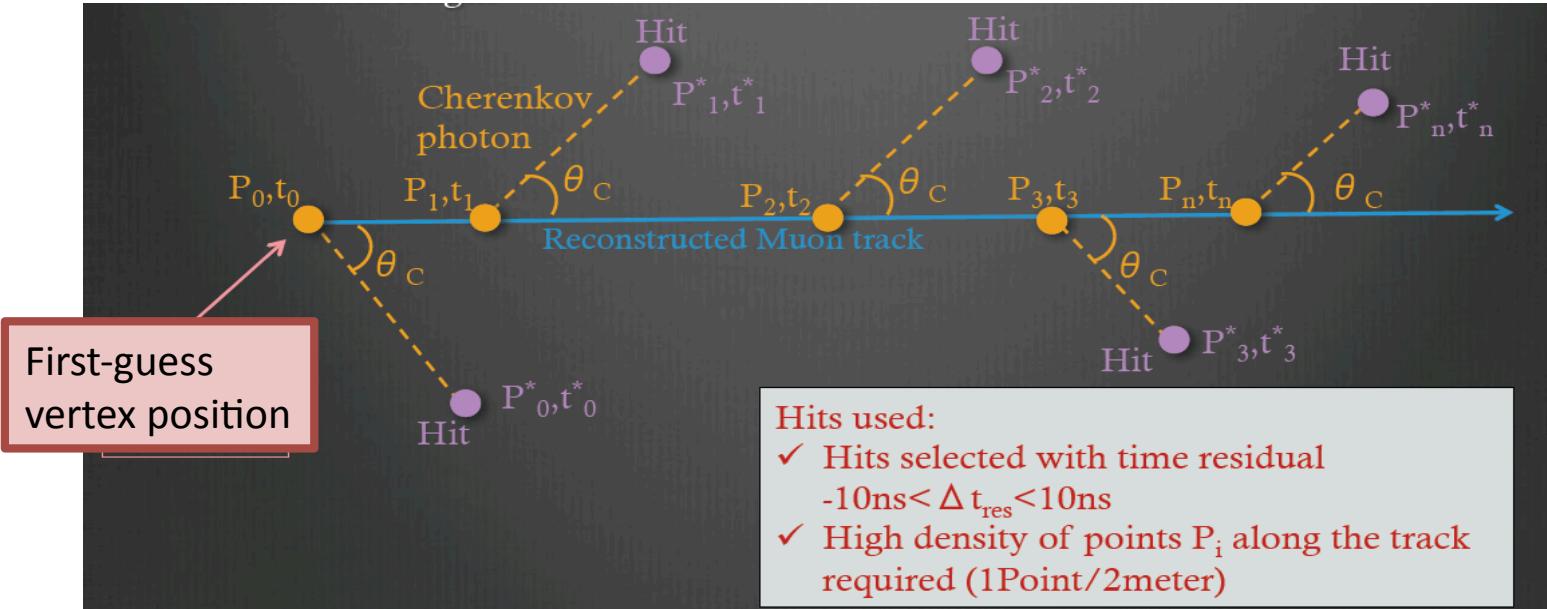
For all particles crossing the can volume:
tracking + Cherenkov light emission
(muons → km3, all others → GEANT3)

Flat noise, 5kHz/PMT
+ 500 Hz in-DOM coinc.
within 20 ns



Reconstruction performances

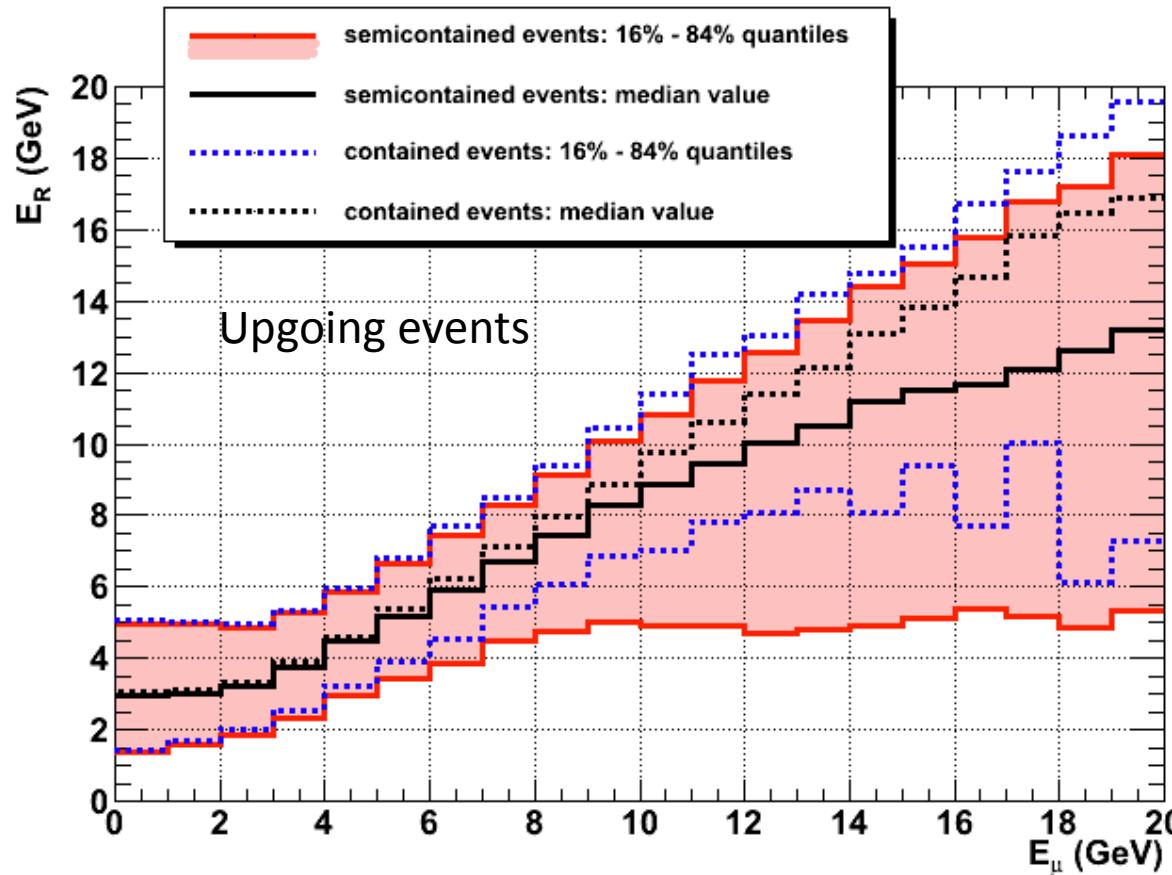
Good energy/angular resolution required
→ focus on ν_μ CC contained events (track + shower)



- 1) Muon track reconstruction
+ track length estimation (first/last emission point)
 - 2) Identification of hits belonging to hadronic shower
 - 3) Re-estimation of vertex position (assuming spherically expanding shower)
- improved vertex identification
→ improved track length estimate

Reconstruction performances

Reconstructed energy E_R vs muon energy E_μ



(bands are 1σ range, black lines are median per energy bin)

Muon energy estimate most reliable for fully contained tracks

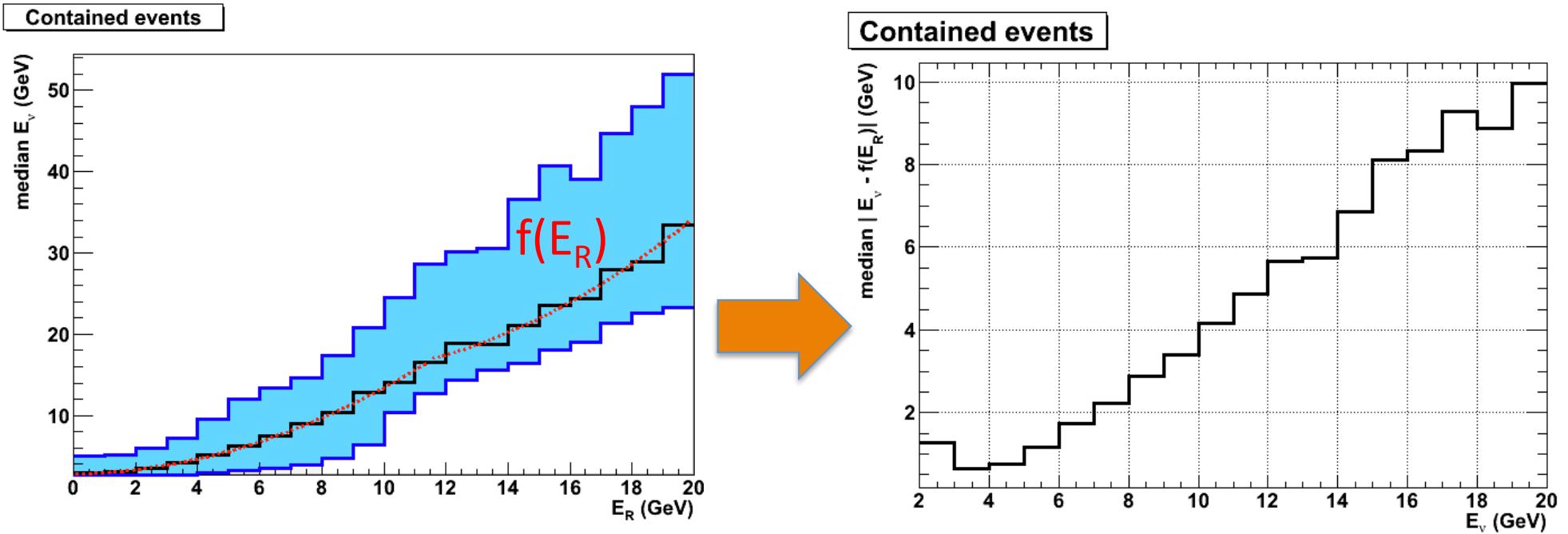
→ need study on containment condition, veto ?

see detector optimisation, background rejection

→ need estimation of shower energy (inelasticity) to obtain neutrino energy

Reconstruction performances

Reconstructed energy E_R vs neutrino energy E_ν



Muon energy estimate most reliable for fully contained tracks

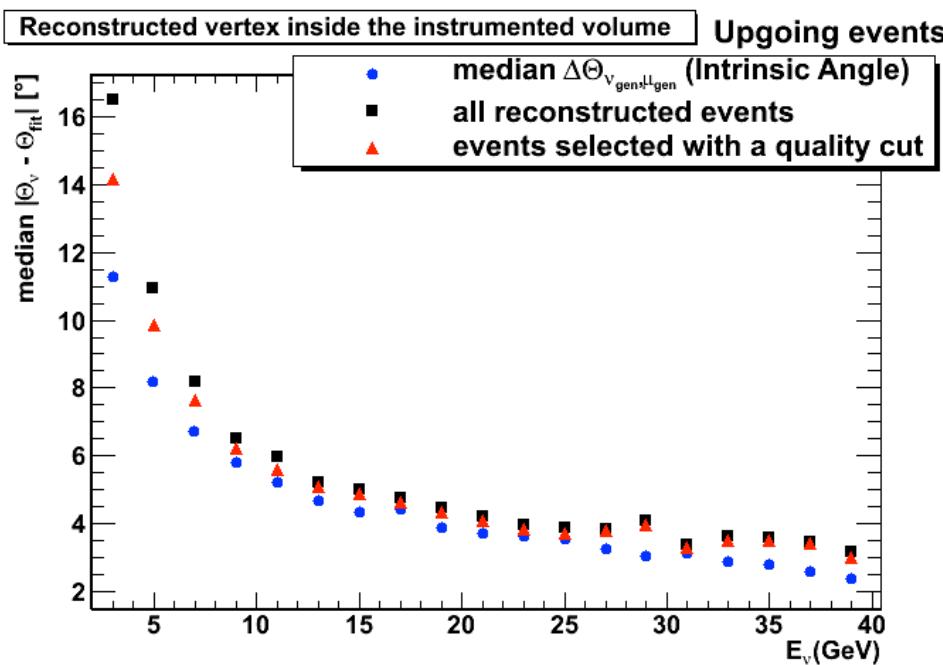
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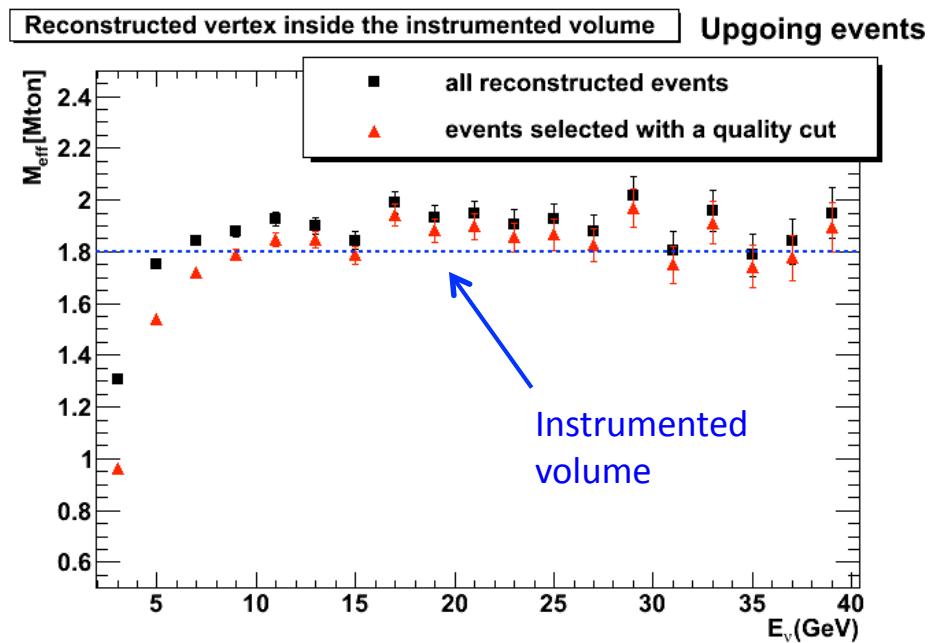
Reconstruction performances

ANGULAR RESOLUTION



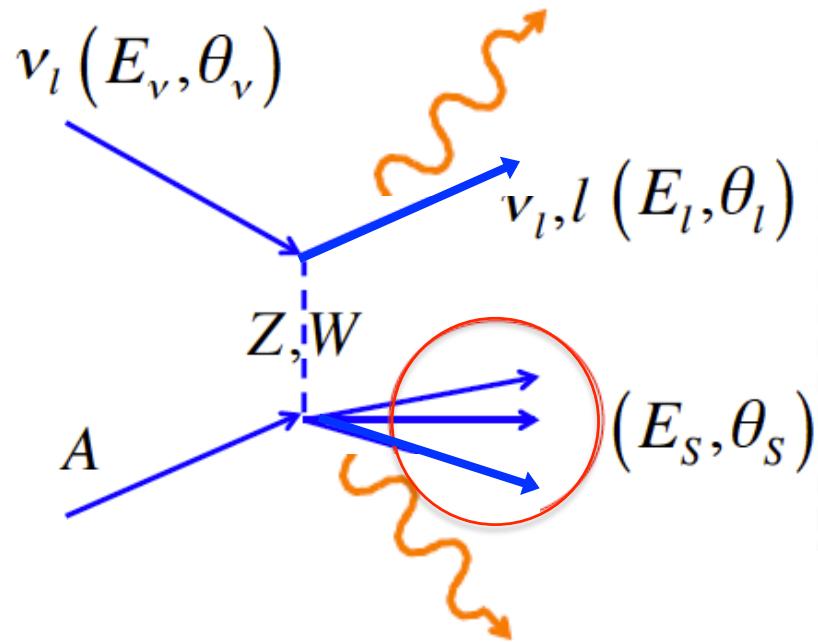
better than 10° for $E_v \geq 5$ GeV

EFFECTIVE VOLUME



almost flat for $E_v \geq 8$ GeV

Intrinsic limitations



Physical processes:

- Vertex physics
- particle propagation
- Cherenkov light emission

...accessible
only via the detected photons:
number ~ energy
direct photons ~ direction

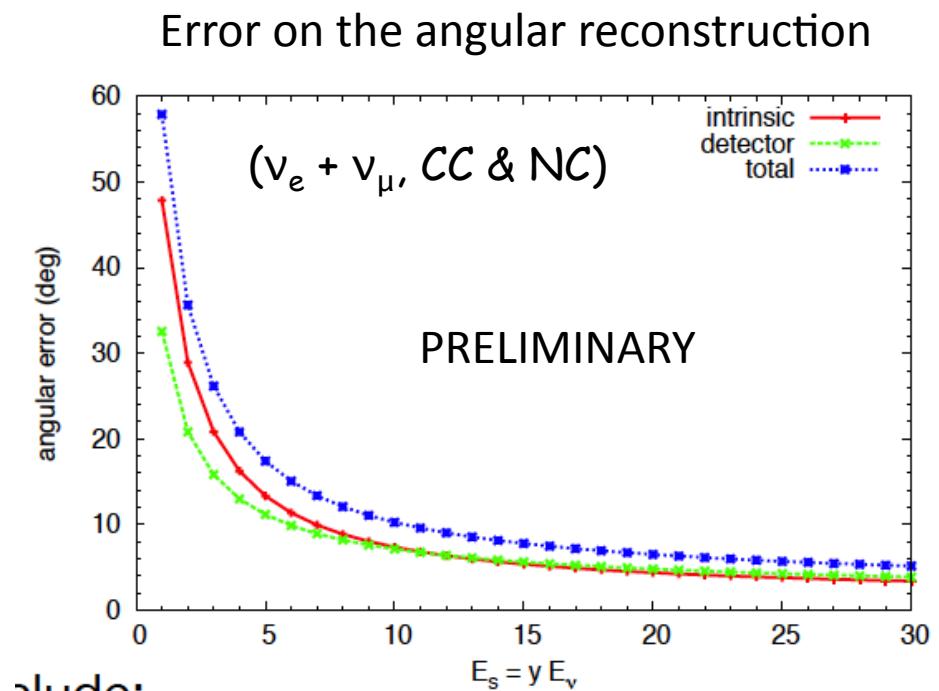
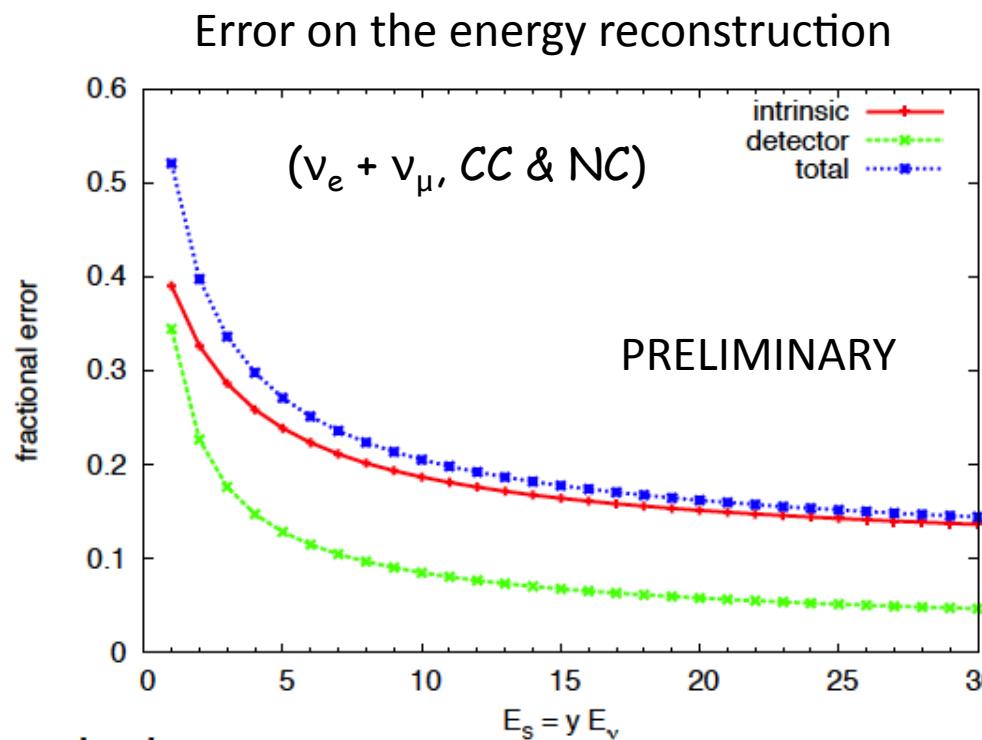
Impact of intrinsic limitations (assuming every photon is detected) ?

- Muons (CC): fluctuations in track length (\rightarrow energy) and direction
- Showers (NC/CC): particle production at vertex, cascade composition, energy/momentum of recoil nucleus...
- fluctuations in Cherenkov yield

Intrinsic limitations

- Muon track length fluctuations (PRELIMINARY):
 - ~ 8% muon energy resolution
 - ~ 4° mean angular deviation at 10 GeV

- Shower-to-shower fluctuations:



Shower energy reconstruction
intrinsically limited: ~ 50% at 1 GeV
~ 20% at 10 GeV

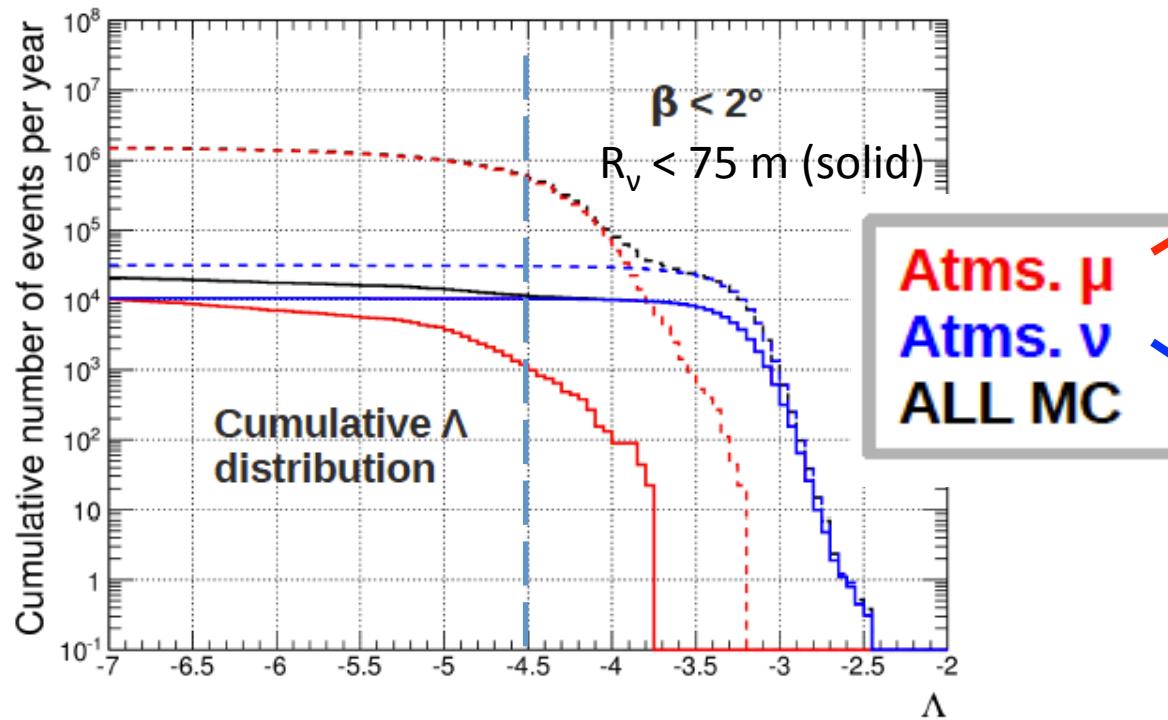
Shower angular reconstruction:
detector efficiency also matters !

Background rejection

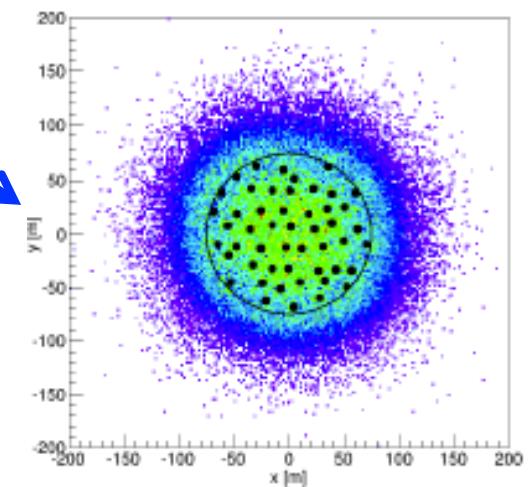
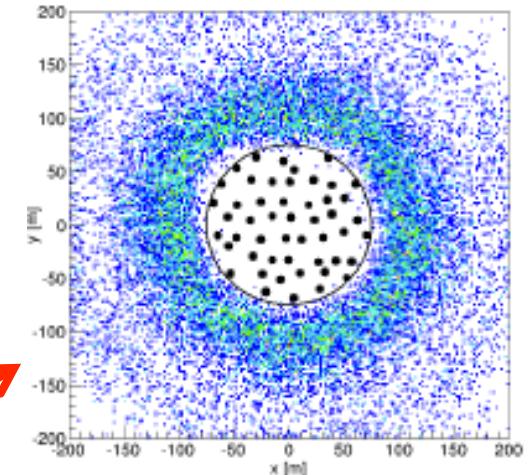
Main background: atmospheric muons misreconstructed as upgoing

Efficiently suppressed by cuts on

- angular error estimate: $\beta < 2^\circ$
- track fit quality parameter: $\Lambda > (-4.5) - (-4.8)$
- reconstructed position of vertex:
 $R_v < 75\text{-}80\text{ m}$ (from detector centre)



10% muon contamination for $R_v < 75\text{ m}$, $\Lambda > -4.5$
(1% for $\Lambda > -4.0$)



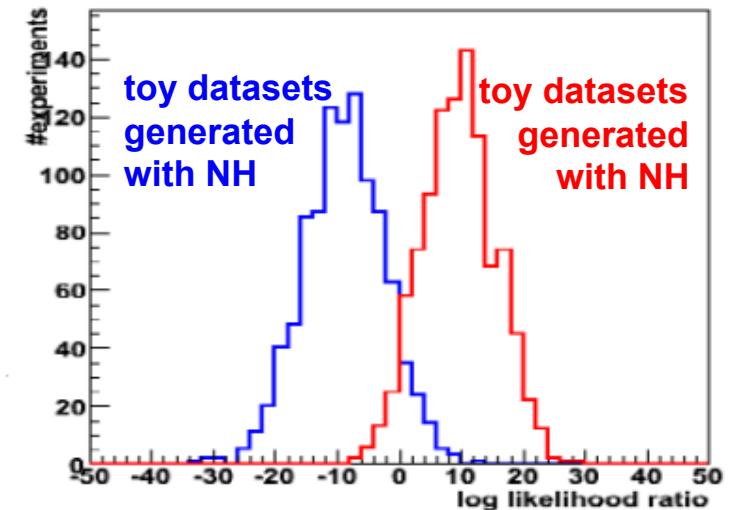
Sensitivity studies

Global fit approach

likelihood ratio test with nuisance parameters:

$$\Delta \log(L^{\max}) = \sum_{\text{bins}} \log P(\text{data}|\hat{\theta}^{\text{NH}}, \text{NH}) - \log P(\text{data}|\hat{\theta}^{\text{IH}}, \text{IH})$$

$\hat{\theta}^H =$ maximum-likelihood estimates for the Δm^2 's and angles using both data and constraints from global fit.
nb: constraints are different for H=IH and H=NH



7

(example shown is for 10 Mt*yr)

the fitting procedure allows to extract
the value of the oscillation parameters !

Eres = 25%, 1-100 GeV

Mton x yr	$\sigma(\Delta m^2_{\text{large}})$ (eV ²)	$\sigma(\theta_{23})$ (deg)	$\sigma(\theta_{13})$ (deg)
0(now)	8.0e-5	1.3	0.45
1	4.3e-05	0.61	0.42
5	2.3e-05	0.32	0.44
10	1.8e-05	0.22	0.39
20	1.4e-05	0.16	0.39
30	1.2e-05	0.13	0.37

current knowledge

Good sensitivity
to $\Delta m^2_{\text{large}}$ & θ_{23} : x2 improvement
with only 1 Mt yr!

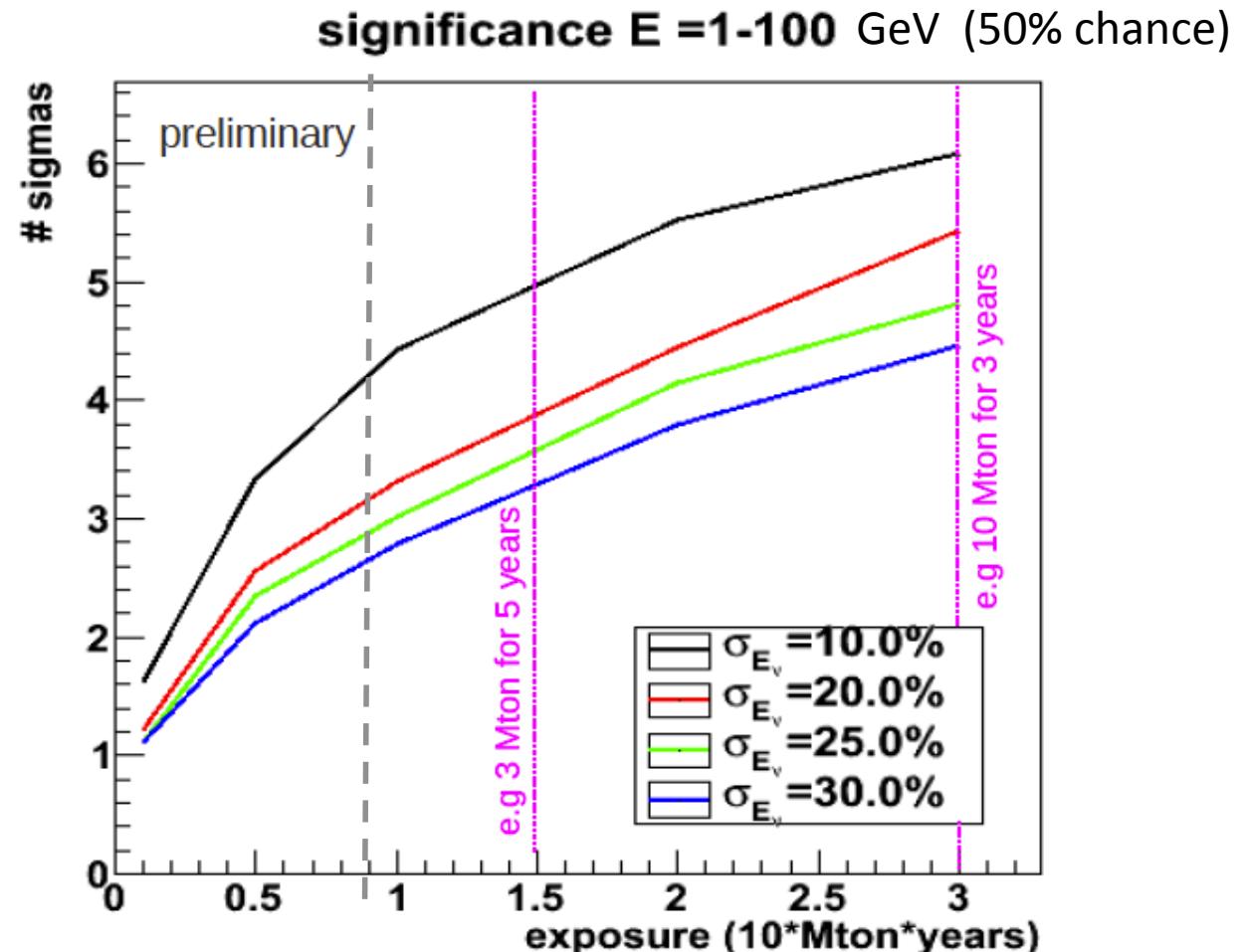
Sensitivity studies

Projected sensitivity:

2.5 → 4 σ in 5 yrs with reference detector
(depending on reconstruction performances)

> 3 σ in 5 years with a 3 Mton detector

With a 10 Mton detector:
3 σ after 1 yr
5 σ after 3 yrs
(provided 20% energy resolution can be achieved)



Estimate made on basis of educated guesses
-- to be reevaluated with actual detector performances !

Sensitivity studies

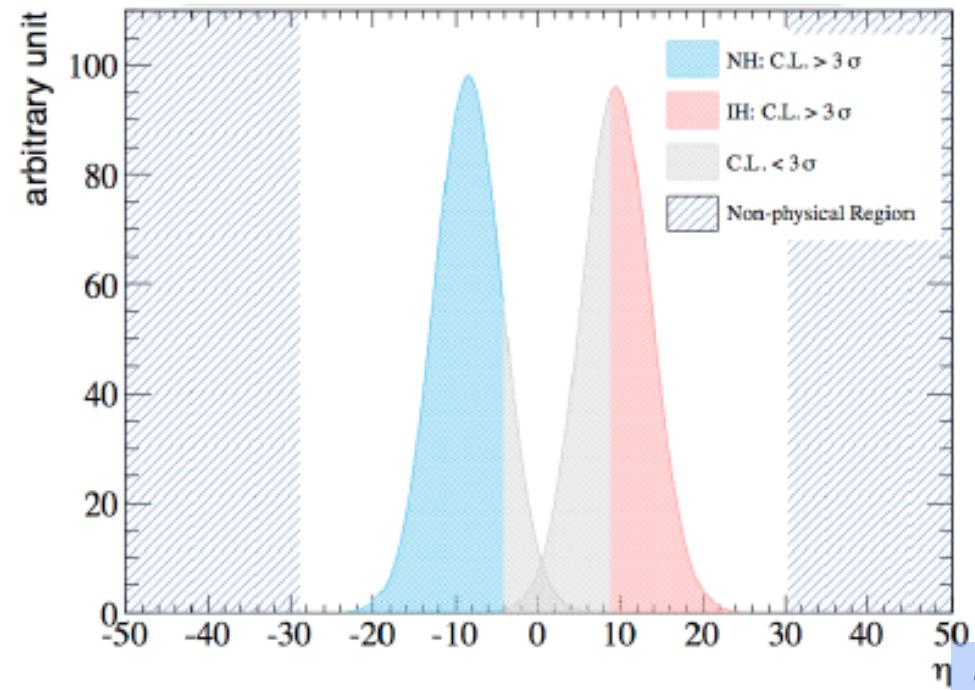
Toy Monte Carlo approach

Statistical method:

- 1) generate pseudo-experiments with a fixed true hypothesis (NH/IH)
- 2) For each test model ($t=IH, NH$) compute **extended unbinned likelihood**
- 3) Compute test statistics $\eta = \log(L_{NH}/L_{IH})$
- 4) p-value for NMH identification
at given C.L. α :
fraction of events complying

$$\frac{N_t(\eta)}{N_{NH}(\eta) + N_{IH}(\eta)} > \alpha$$

(integrated over all η)



Sensitivity studies

Toy Monte Carlo approach

Systematics studied by introducing biases in the distributions

If true/model hypotheses have different parameters

- unphysical results
- false positives: misidentified hierarchy

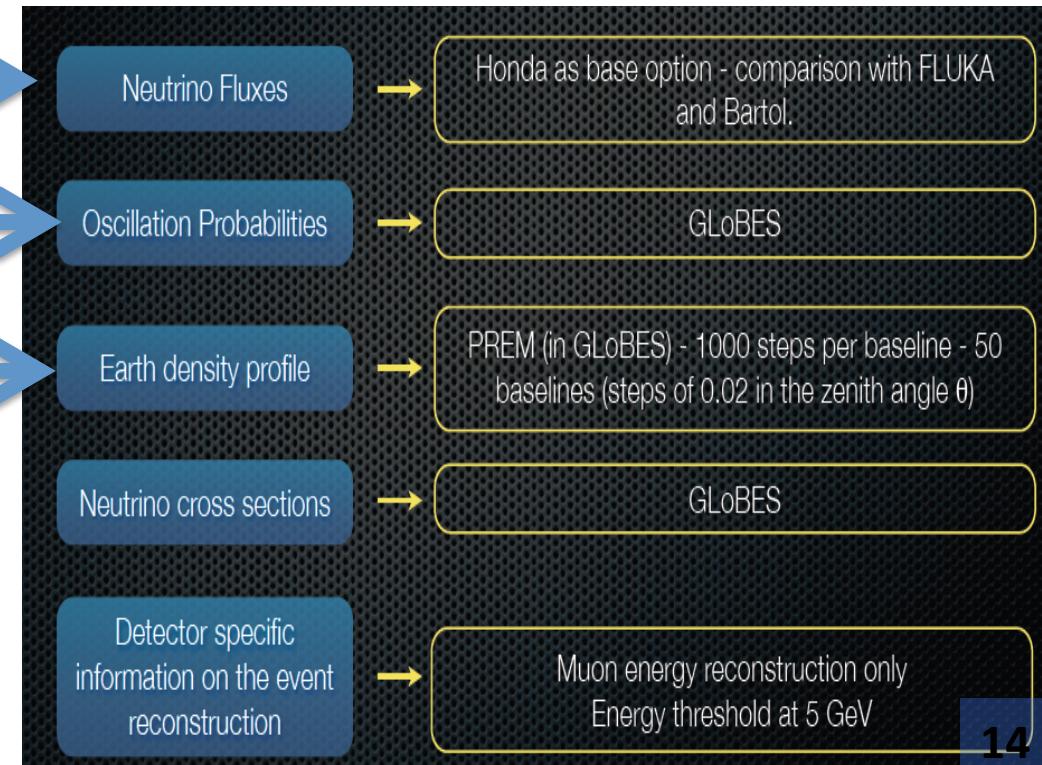
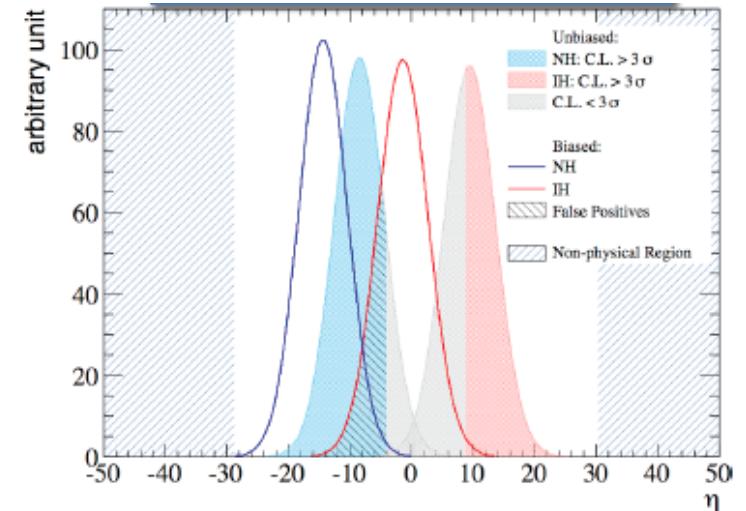
IMPACT of...

- shape : moderate
- normalization: large
(but can be normalized from data)

- Solar ($\Delta m^2_{\text{small}}$, Θ_{12}), δ_{CP} : weak
- Atmospheric ($\Delta m^2_{\text{large}}$, Θ_{23} , Θ_{13}): large

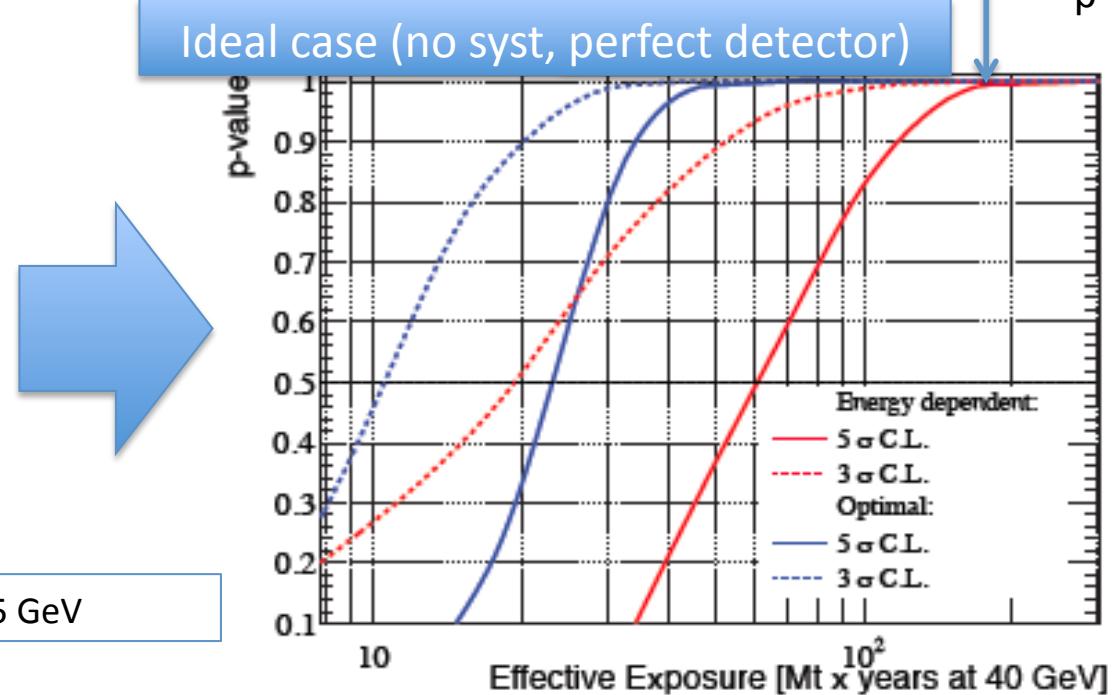
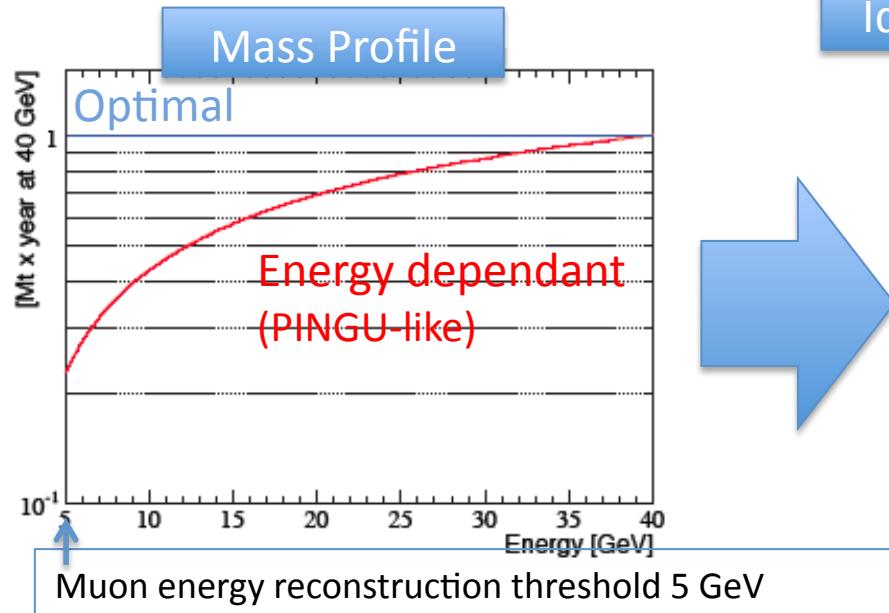
almost negligible

(same conclusions shared by many ORCA groups)

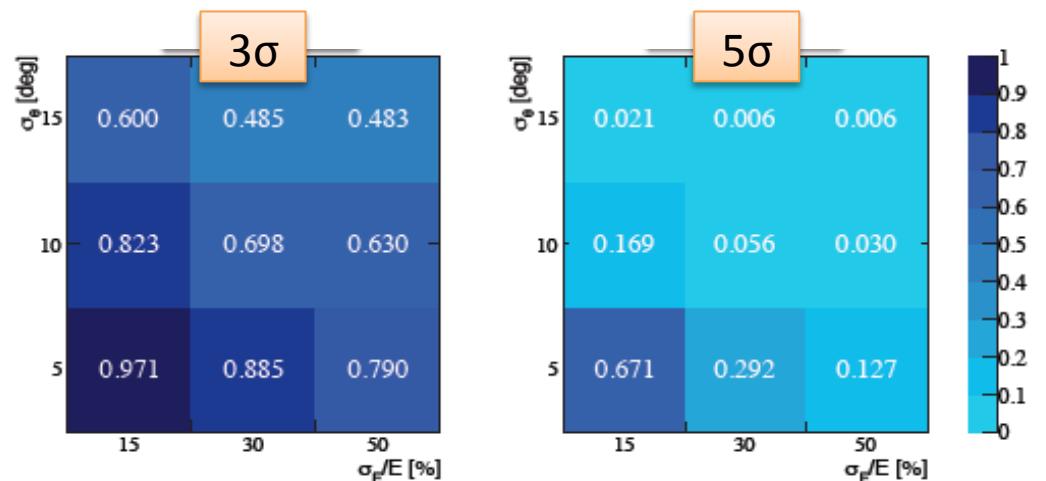


Sensitivity studies

Toy Monte Carlo approach: NMH sensitivity



...BUT degraded by the limited angular/energy resolution of the detector:



Detector optimisation studies

Full simulation with a dense detector with 3x3x3 m spacing:

2181 strings, 51 DOMs per string
(3.4×10^6 PMTs)

Masking of DOMs to simulate less dense detectors
(shadowing effect ignored in 1st stage)

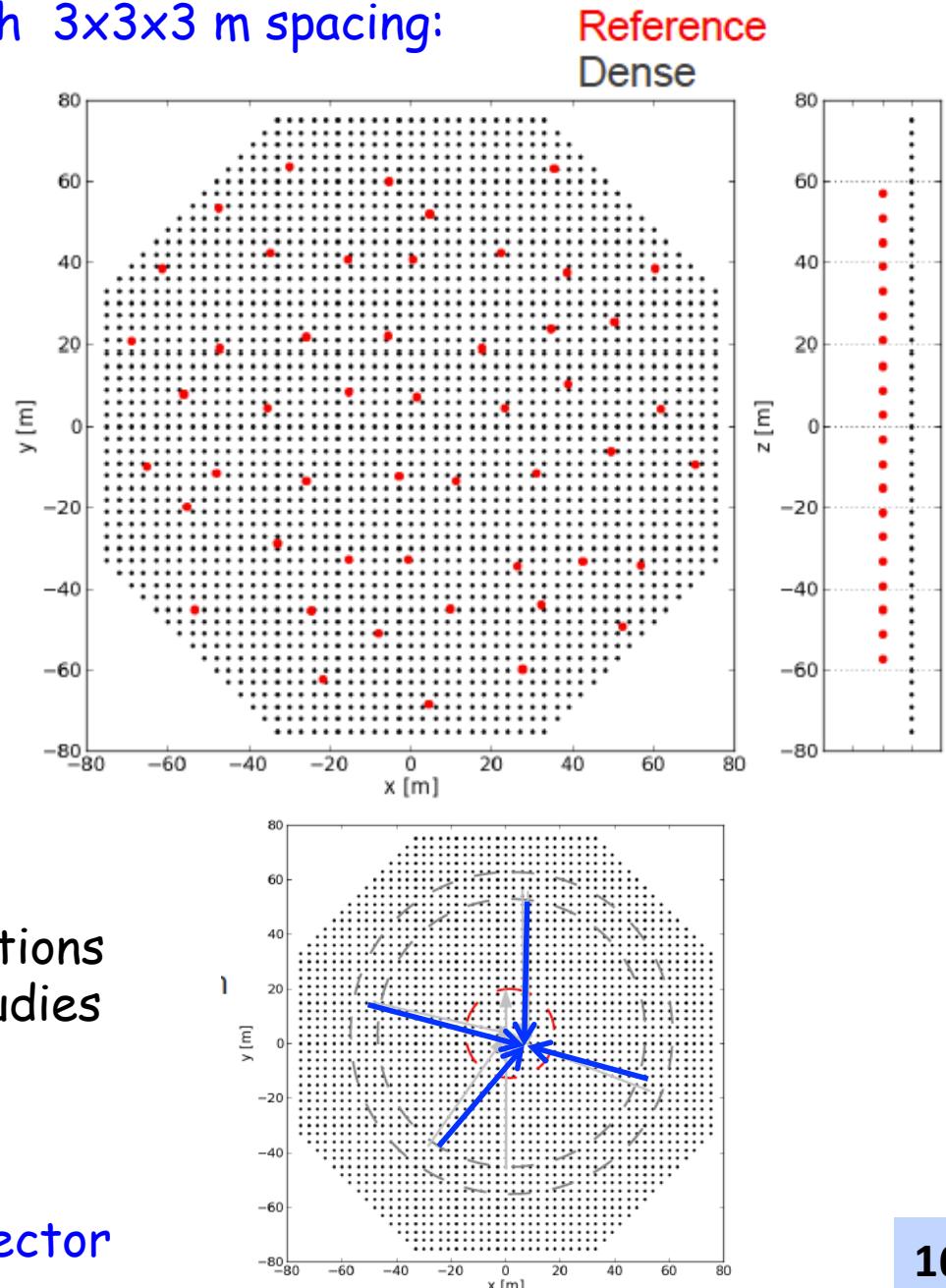
Full physics simulation:

- Bartol flux 1 - 30 GeV
- GENIE for neutrino interaction
- smaller can to save CPU time
- full GEANT4-based particle & photon tracking

Advantages:
- study of various configurations
- (non-)containment/veto studies

BUT CPU-consumptive !

→ concentrate on premium events:
most light produced inside the detector



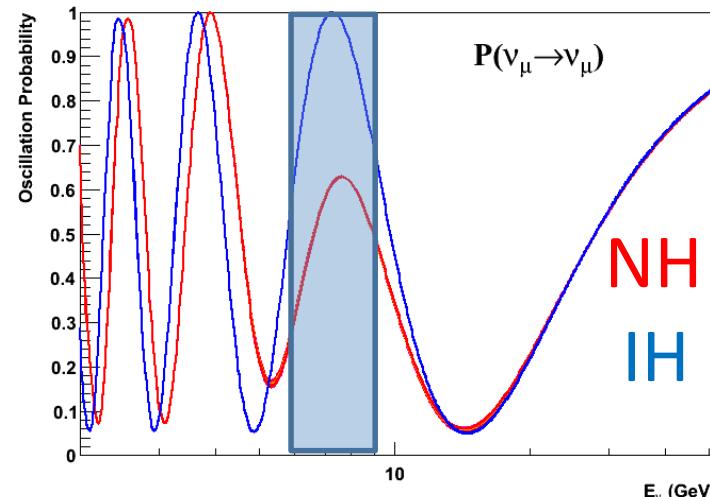
A neutrino beam to ORCA ?

❖ Counting MUONS from a neutrino beam

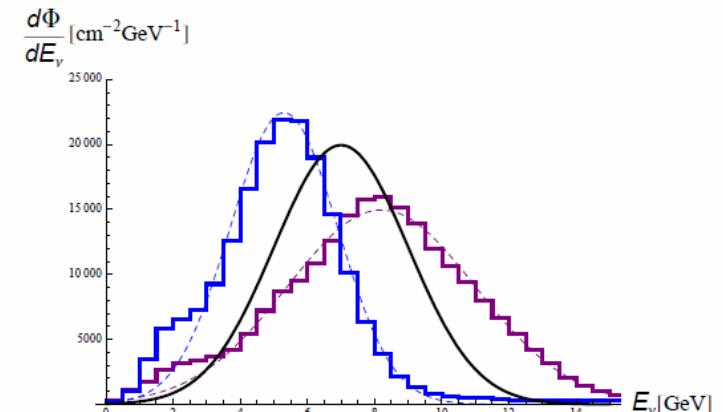
F. Vissani et al., Eur.Phys.J. C73 (2013) 2439

Optimal beamline for NH/IH separation:
7000-8000 km

GLOBES $\cos\theta = 0.6$, baseline = 7645 km
(beam inclination $\sim 37^\circ$)



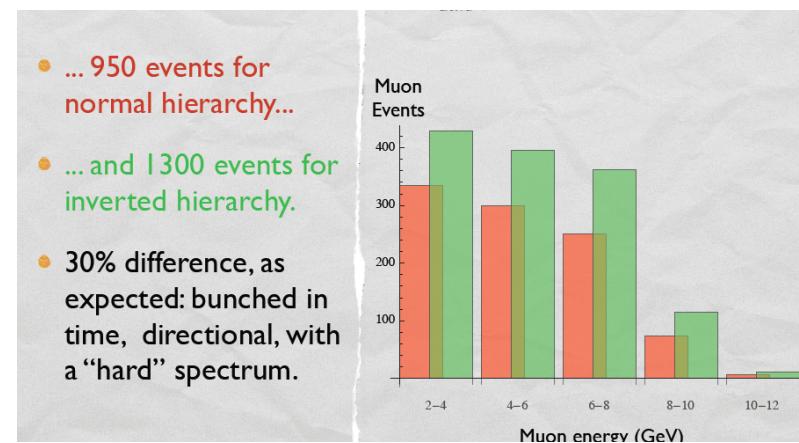
Favoured Option: FermiLab → KM3Net site in Mediterranean Sea
1300 versus 950 events for both mass hierarchy hypotheses in Mton underwater detector (ORCA)



Narrow-band beam 6-9 GeV, 10^{20} pot

	Fermilab	CERN	J-PARC
South Pole	11600	11800	11400
Sicily	7800	1230	9100
Baikal Lake	8700	6300	3300

- ... 950 events for normal hierarchy...
- ... and 1300 events for inverted hierarchy.
- 30% difference, as expected: bunched in time, directional, with a “hard” spectrum.

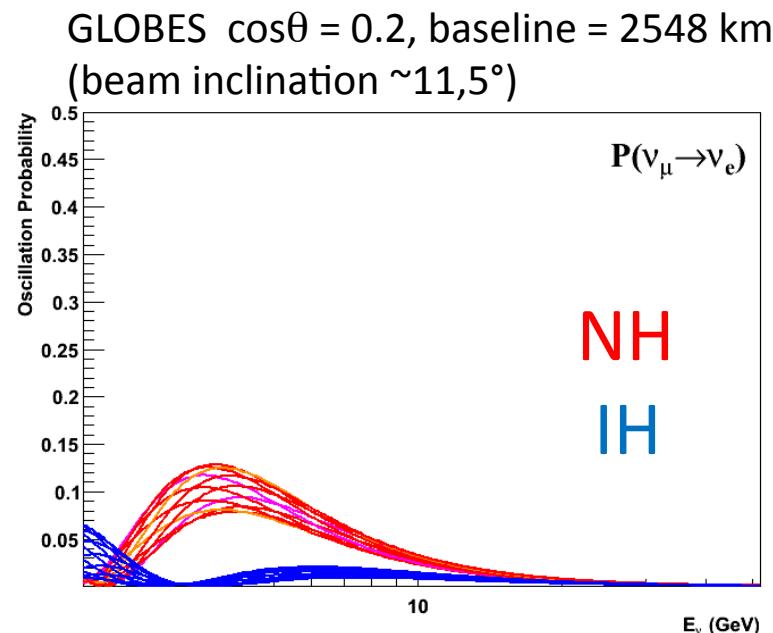


A neutrino beam to ORCA ?

❖ Counting ELECTRONS from a neutrino beam

J. Brunner, arXiv:1304.6230

Optimal beamline for NH/IH separation:
~2600 km (largest difference in event rates)



- moderate inclination
- almost insensitive to δ_{CP}

A possible option: Protvino (Proton Accelerator Complex) → Toulon

L=2588 km, beam inclined 11.7°



need $1.5 \cdot 10^{21}$ pot

From preliminary studies:
 7σ discrimination in 3 yr from event counting only (3σ with 3-4% systematics)

Summary

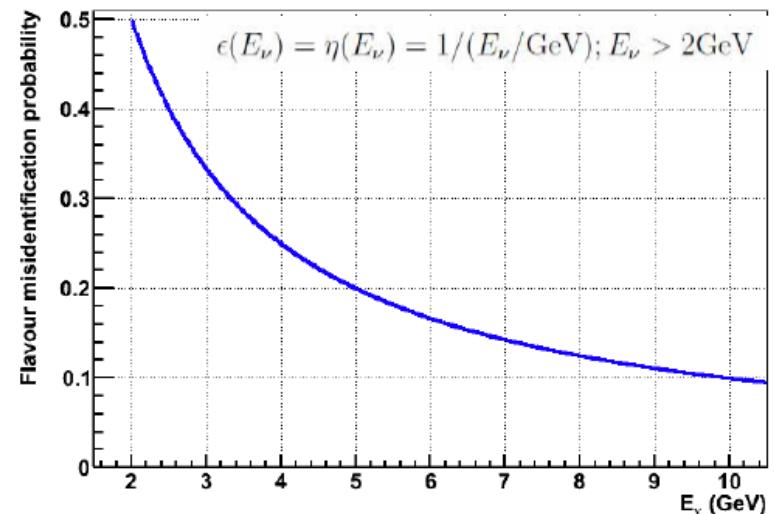
- ❖ Neutrino mass hierarchy measurement with large Cherenkov detectors:
probably tougher than originally thought...but possible
 - need good control of systematics (acceptance, energy/angle measurements, backgrounds, flavour contamination...)
 - with 10 Mton detector: 3σ in one year, 5σ in 3 years
 - also good sensitivity to oscillation parameters $\Delta m^2_{\text{large}}$ and θ_{23} :
 $\times 2$ improvement on current uncertainty with only 1 Mton yr
- ❖ ORCA feasibility study ongoing:
 - encouraging performances achieved with reference detector (1.75 Mton):
energy/angular reconstruction (muon tracks)
atmospheric muon background rejection (\rightarrow no need for veto ?)
flavour discrimination ?
 - detector optimization launched
- ❖ Beam option: complementary to atmospheric measurement
Protvino an option (possible synergy with Modane ? $\sim 4^\circ$ apart...)

BACKUP

A neutrino beam to ORCA ?

From J. Brunner

- ORCA reference detector, vertex inside instrumented volume
- Same function for all CC interaction
- Same light yield for ν_μ and ν_e
- NC evaluated at E/2
- Flavor misidentification probability based on C2GT project
- Event rates for 10^{21} pot (3 years)



Channel	Tracks NH	Tracks IH	Cascades NH	Cascades IH
No oscil	26315		—	
Signal	8990	8735	1134-1547	350-519
Misreco	232-329	47-79	1326	1280
ν_τ	324-332	351-355	978-998	1057-1068
NC	1092	1092	3640	3640
BG Total	1655-1745	1494-1522	5944-5964	5977-5988
Total	10645-10736	10229-10257	7099-7491	6338-6496

7 σ stat. separation

3 σ with 3-4% sys

No assumption on
energy reconstruction

Dark matter

WIMP annihilation in the Sun

Annihilation rate → Fluxes

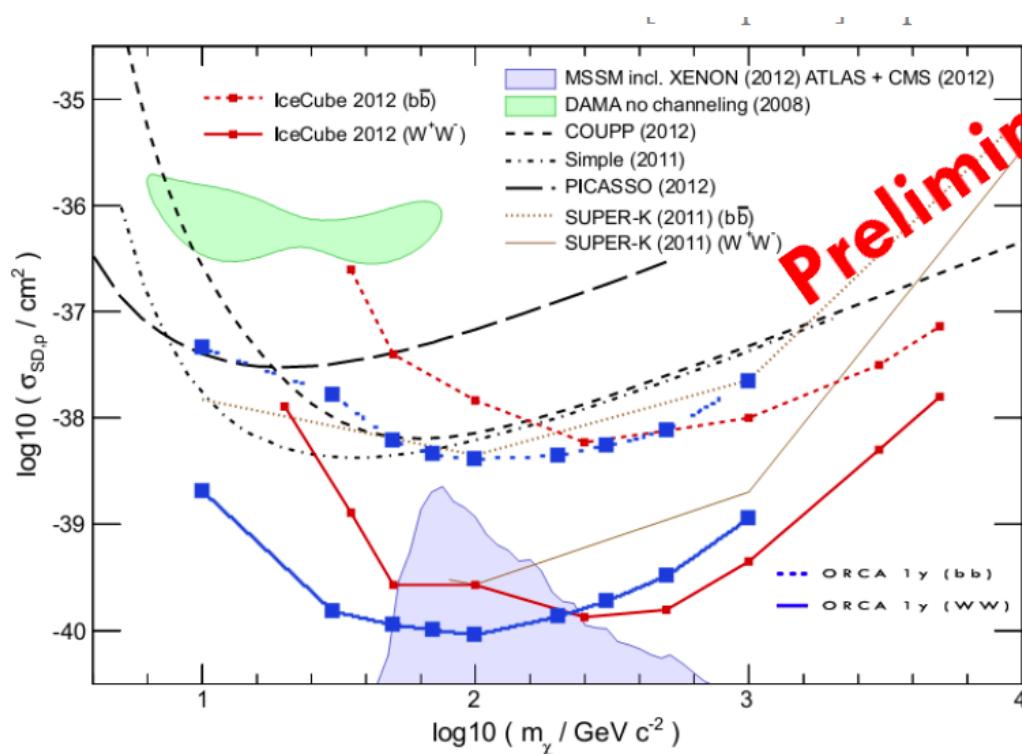
$$\frac{dN_\nu}{dE_\nu} = \frac{\Gamma_A}{4\pi d^2} \sum_f BR_f \frac{dN_f}{dE}$$

$\chi\chi \rightarrow \nu\nu, l\bar{l}, q\bar{q}, W^+W^-, ZZ, \text{Higgses, Higgs + gauge}$

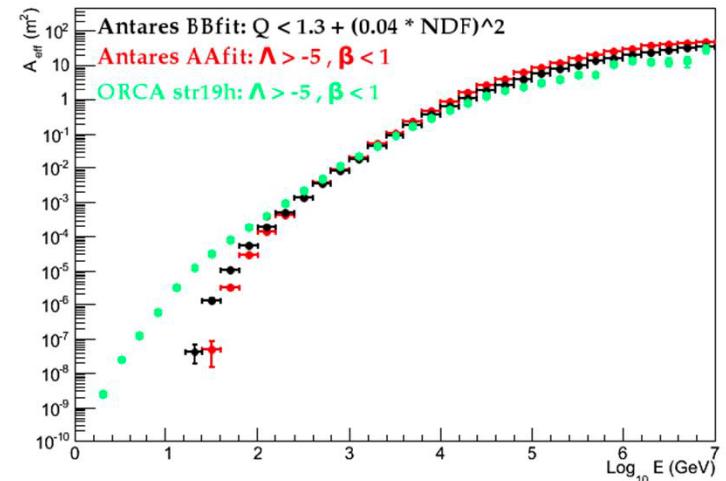
$\chi\chi \rightarrow b\bar{b}$ "soft"

$\chi\chi \rightarrow W^+W^-$ "hard"

$$\left(\frac{d\phi_\nu}{d\varepsilon_\nu}\right)_{90} = \frac{\langle \mu_{90}(b) \rangle}{n_s} \left(\frac{d\phi_\nu}{d\varepsilon_\nu}\right)_{simul}$$



ORCA ref. detector vs ANTARES



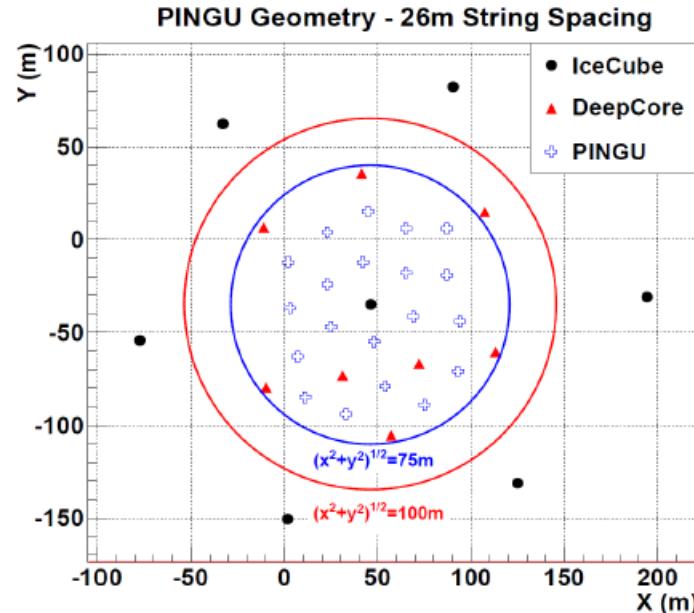
Includes cut to reject atmospheric muons
(Bologna sample)

Study by D. Latuada

PINGU

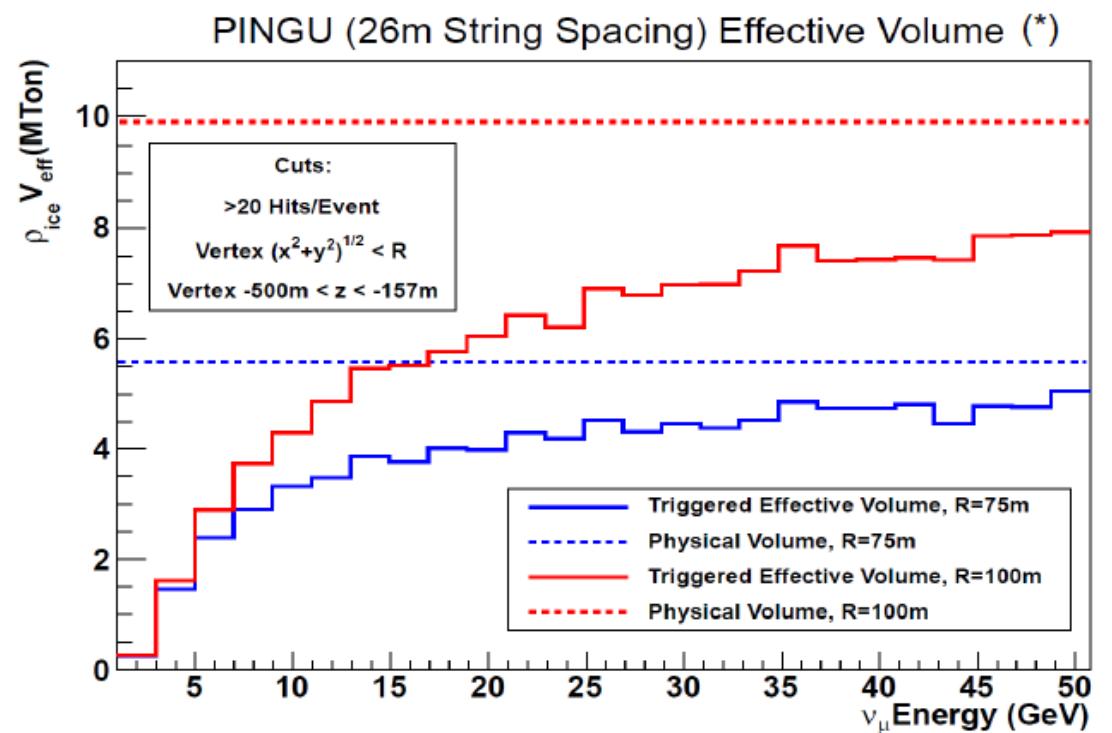
20, 40 string configurations are considered for PINGU.

PINGU string (I/II): 60 / 100 DOMs, spacing: 5 / 3 m



Higher density arrays were also simulated to completely explore the geometry parameter space.

Rezo Shanidze, ORCA meeting, 18/04/2013



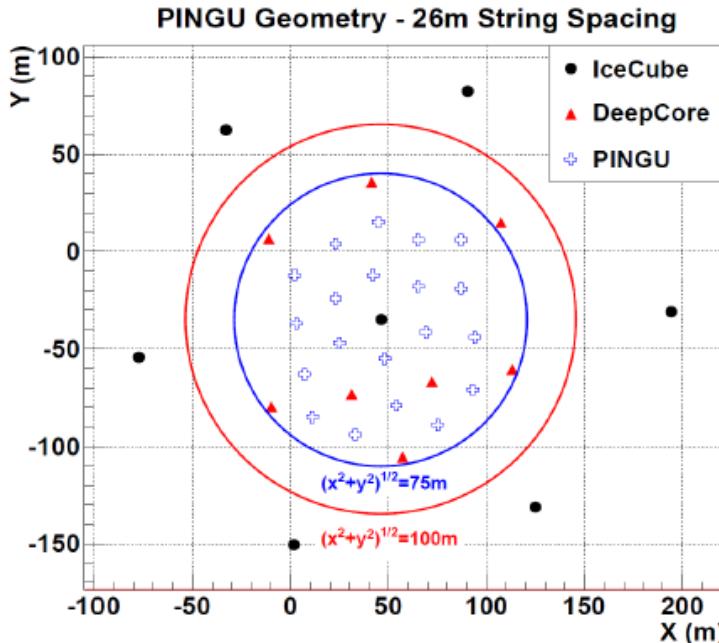
* No reconstruction has been done.

Effective volume will be lower after folding the reconstruction efficiency.

PINGU

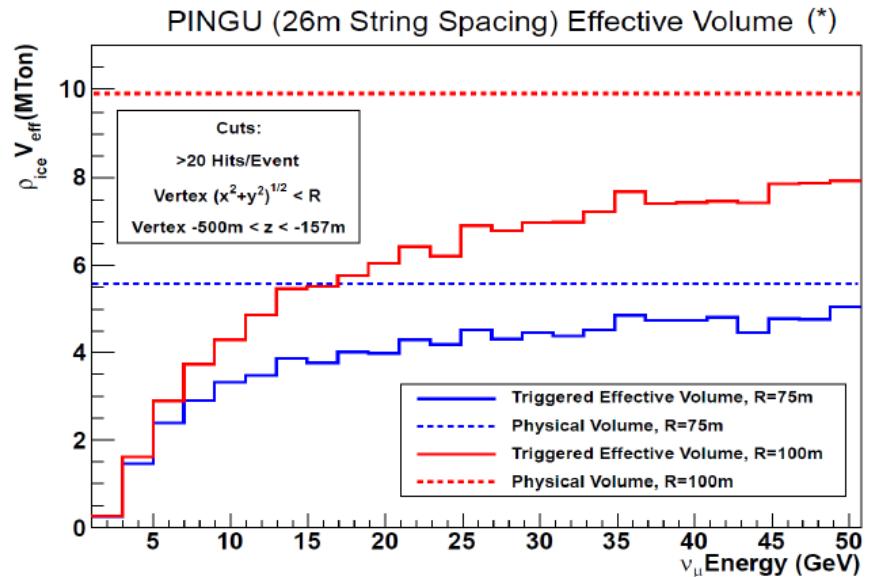
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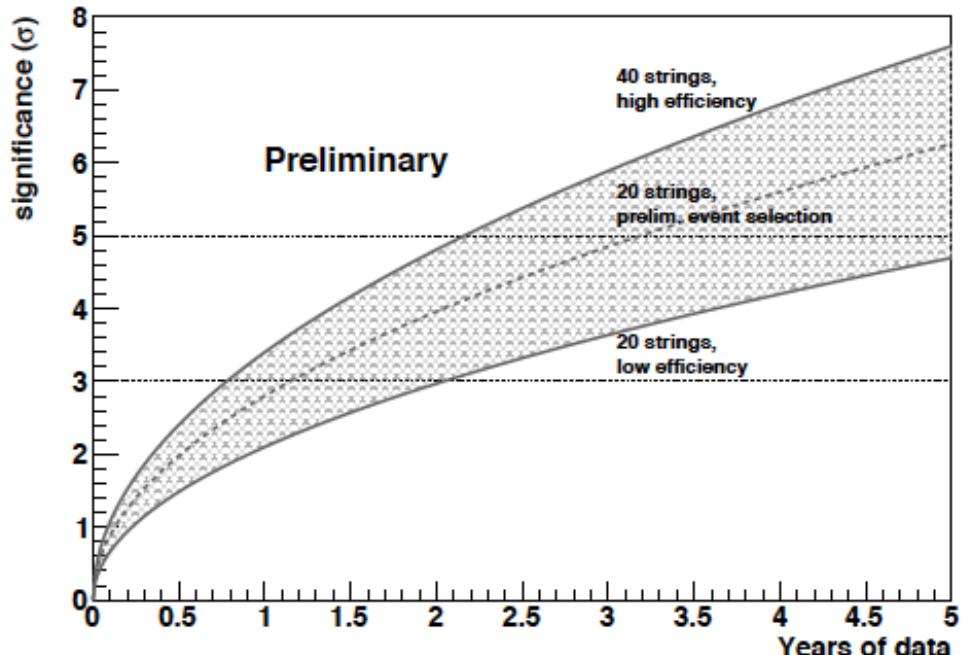
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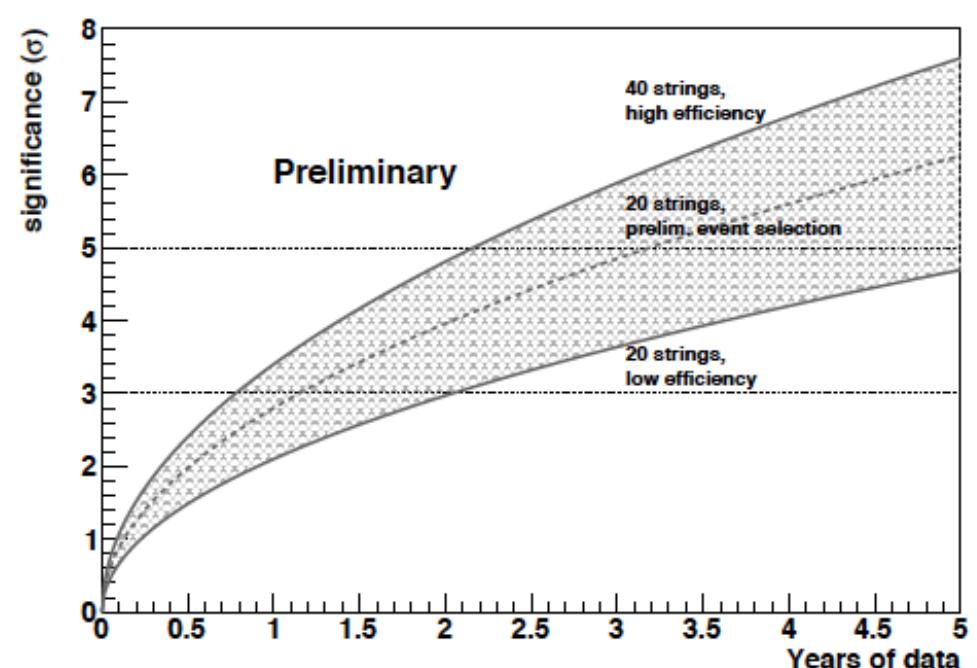
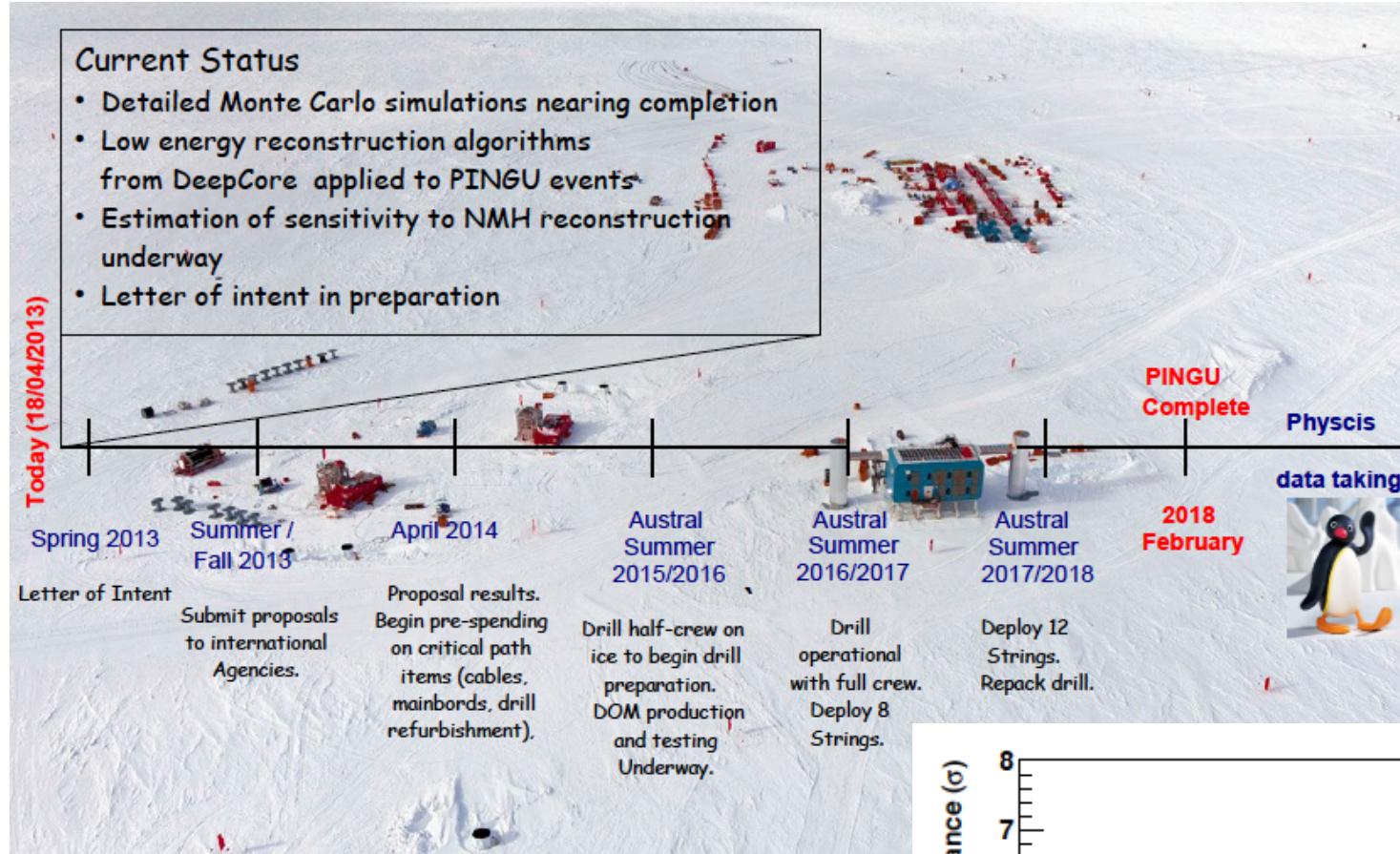
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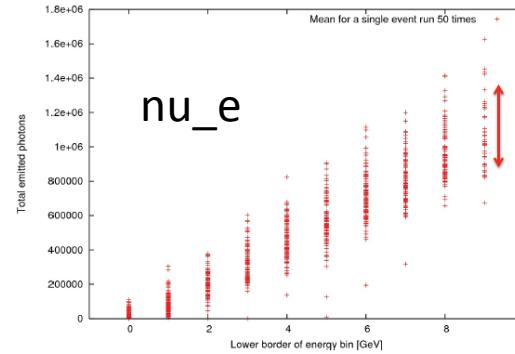




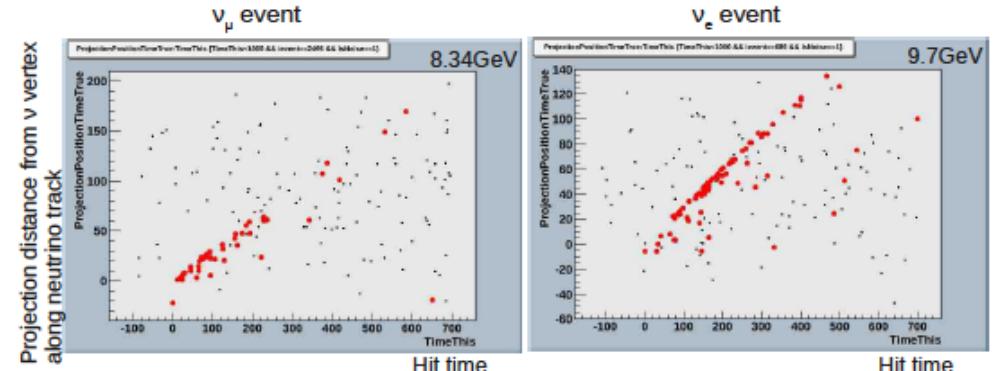
Detector performance studies

Other ongoing/planned studies

- ❖ Shower-to-shower fluctuations
(both nu_mu and nu_e)
 - intrinsic fluctuations in vertex physics induce 15-20% fluctuations in expected N_{photons} ...



- ❖ Flavor identification & contamination
impact of nu_e misreconstructed as nu_mu ?
 - evaluate contamination rate
 - evaluate impact on NMH sensitivity
(Toy MC Tool)



- ❖ Trigger studies

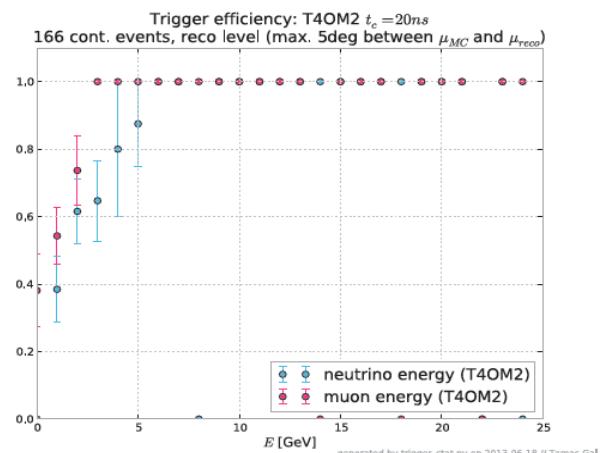
TnOMm

Trigger condition:

at least 'n' OMs with 'm' L0 ($> 0.3\text{pe}$) pulses correlated in **space** (neighbouring or next-to neighbouring PMTs) and **time** ($< 20\text{ns}$).

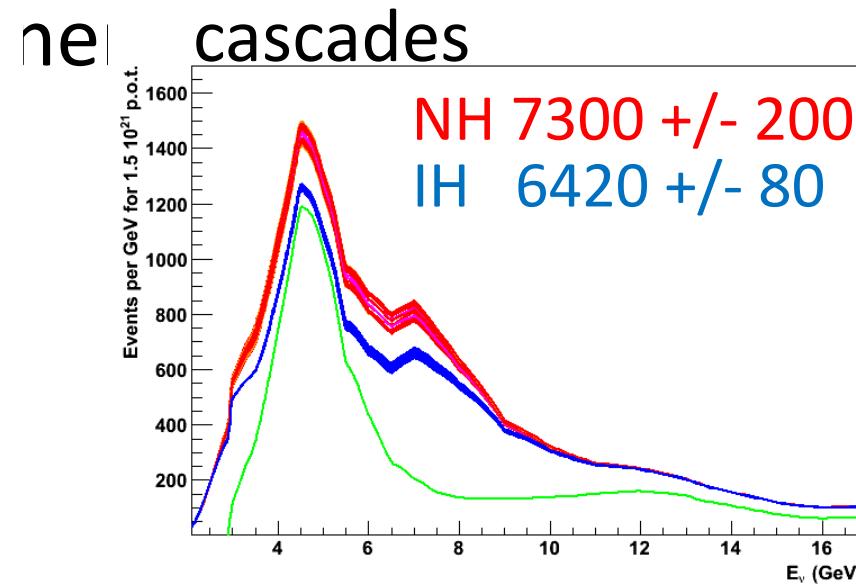
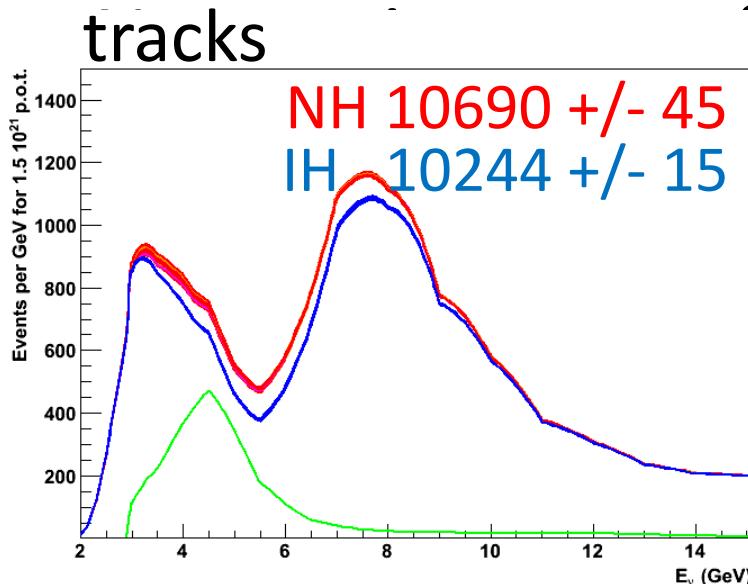
Example: T4OM2 → good performance for fully contained tracks

- ❖ Muon background evaluation: just started

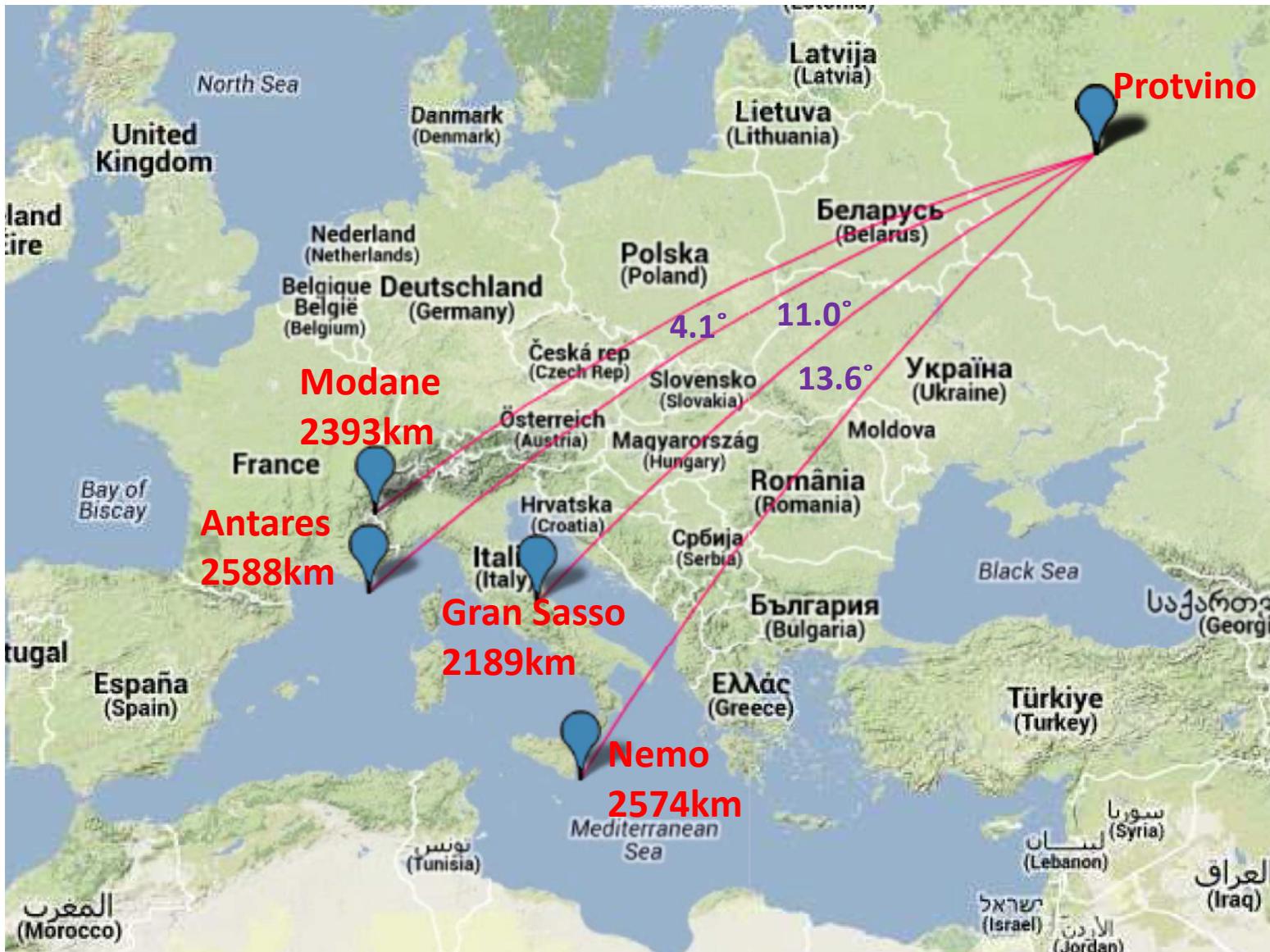


Event rates – All Flavours & Mis-ID

- Event numbers for $1.5 \cdot 10^{21}$ pots
- 9-18% difference for NH/IH
- 7 σ statistical separation of MH hypotheses
- Can allow for 3-4 % syst. uncertainty



Synergies between potential Sites



Sensitivity studies

Global fit approach

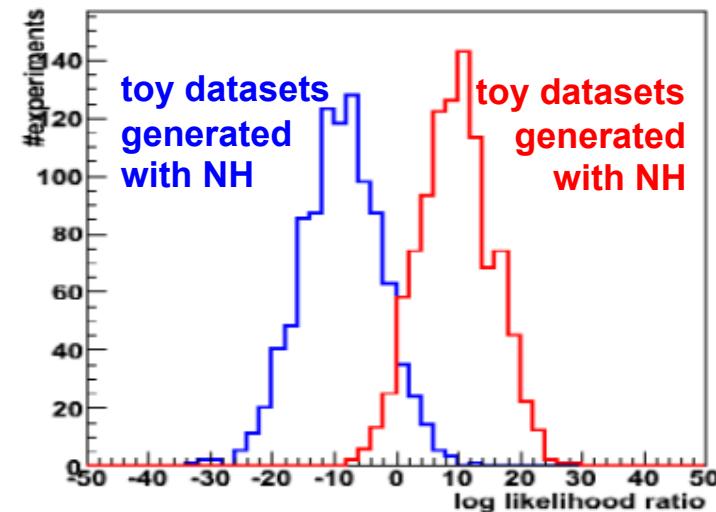
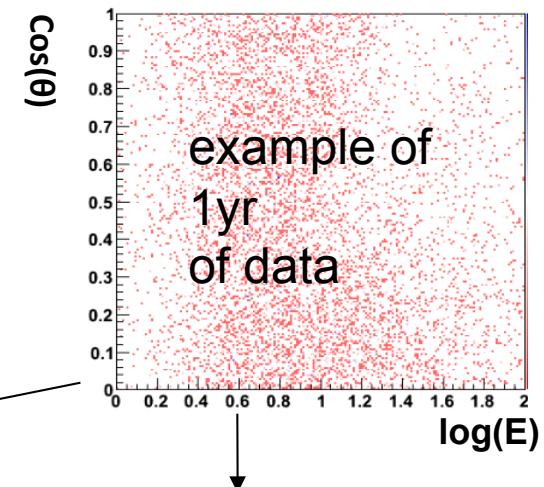
to optimally distinguish between IH and NH:
 likelihood ratio test *with nuisance parameters*
 (\rightarrow deal with degeneracies by fitting)

$$\Delta \log(L^{\max}) = \sum_{\text{bins}} \log P(\text{data} | \hat{\theta}^{\text{NH}}, \text{NH}) - \log P(\text{data} | \hat{\theta}^{\text{IH}}, \text{IH})$$

$\hat{\theta}^H =$ maximum-likelihood estimates for the Δm^2 's and angles using both data and constraints from global fit.
 nb: constraints are different for H=IH and H=NH

- 1) fit mixing parameters assuming NH
- 2) fit mixing parameters assuming IH
- 3) compute $D\log L = \log(L(\text{NH}) / L(\text{IH}))$

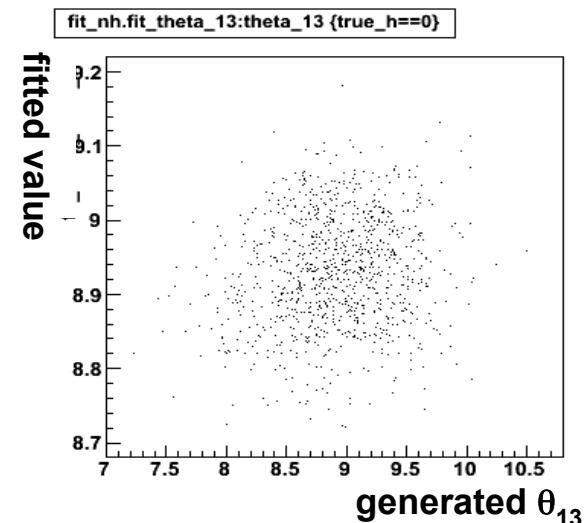
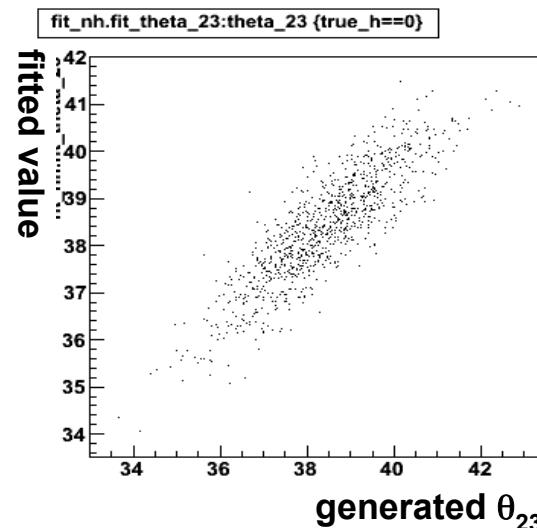
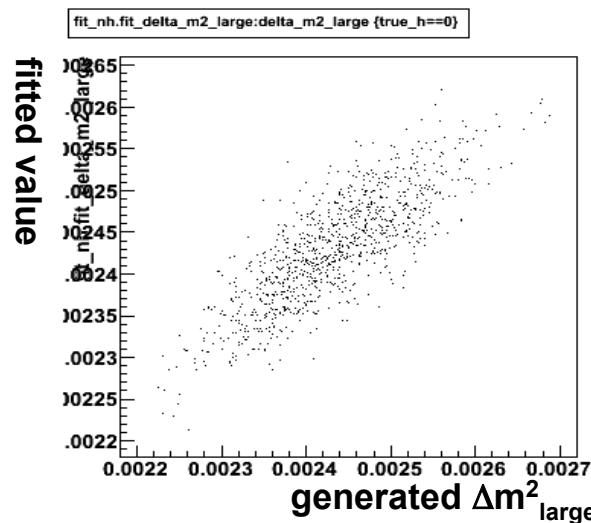
(example shown is for 10 Mt*yr)



Sensitivity studies

Global fit approach

1 Mton*year (NH true, NH fit)



Eres = 25%, 1-100 GeV

Mton x yr	$\sigma(\Delta m^2_{\text{large}})$ (eV ²)	$\sigma(\theta_{23})$ (deg)	$\sigma(\theta_{13})$ (deg)
0(now)	8.0e-5	1.3	0.45
1	4.3e-05	0.61	0.42
5	2.3e-05	0.32	0.44
10	1.8e-05	0.22	0.39
20	1.4e-05	0.16	0.39
30	1.2e-05	0.13	0.37

current knowledge

Good sensitivity
to $\Delta m^2_{\text{large}}$ & θ_{23}

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Sensitivity studies

Toy Monte Carlo approach

Systematics studied by introducing biases in the distributions

If true/model hypotheses have different parameters

- unphysical results
- false positives: misidentified hierarchy

IMPACT of...

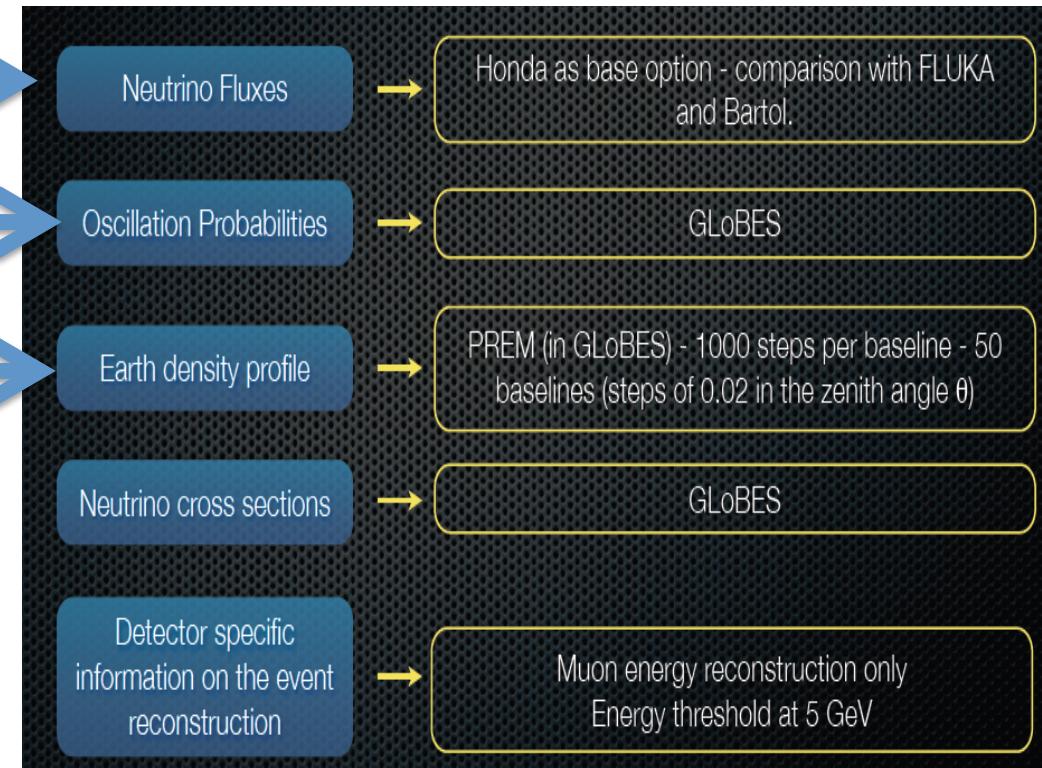
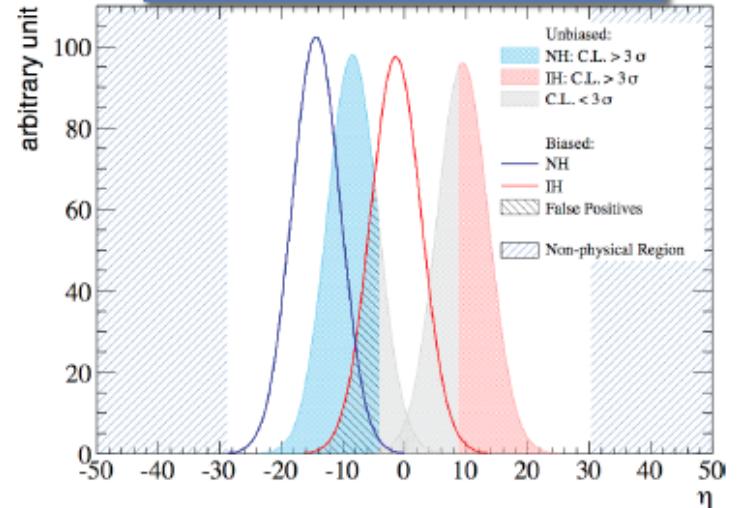
- shape : moderate
- normalization: large
(but can be normalized from data)

- Solar ($\Delta m^2_{\text{small}}$, Θ_{12}), δ_{CP} : weak

- Atmospheric ($\Delta m^2_{\text{large}}$, Θ_{23} , Θ_{13}):
large

almost negligible

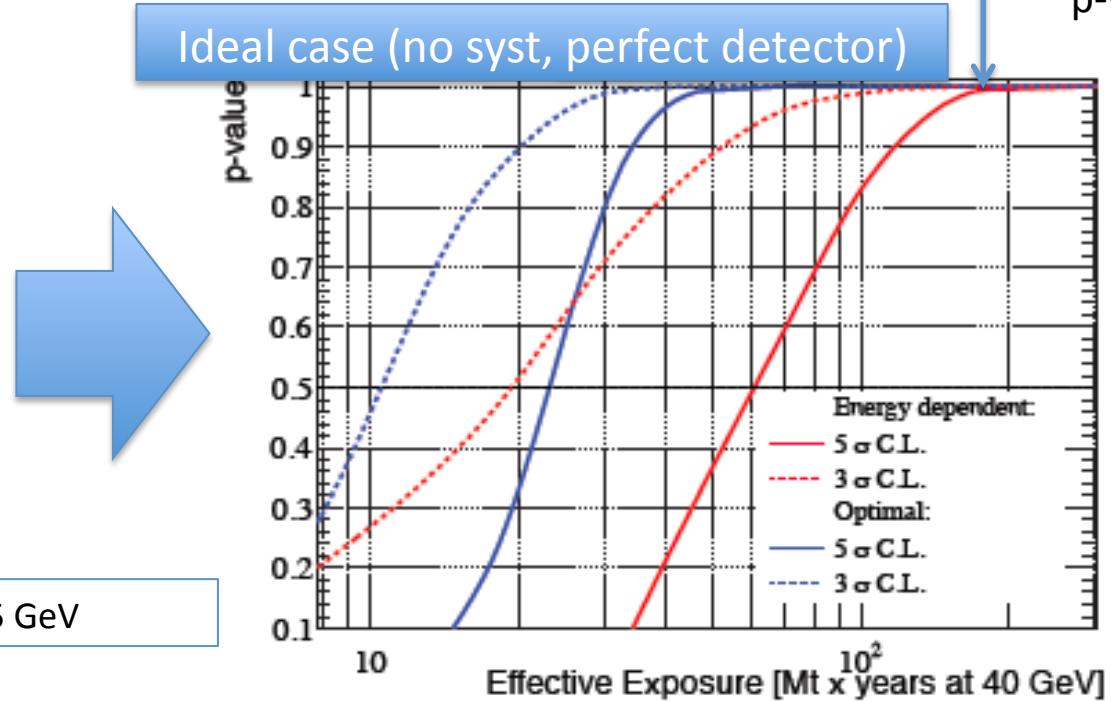
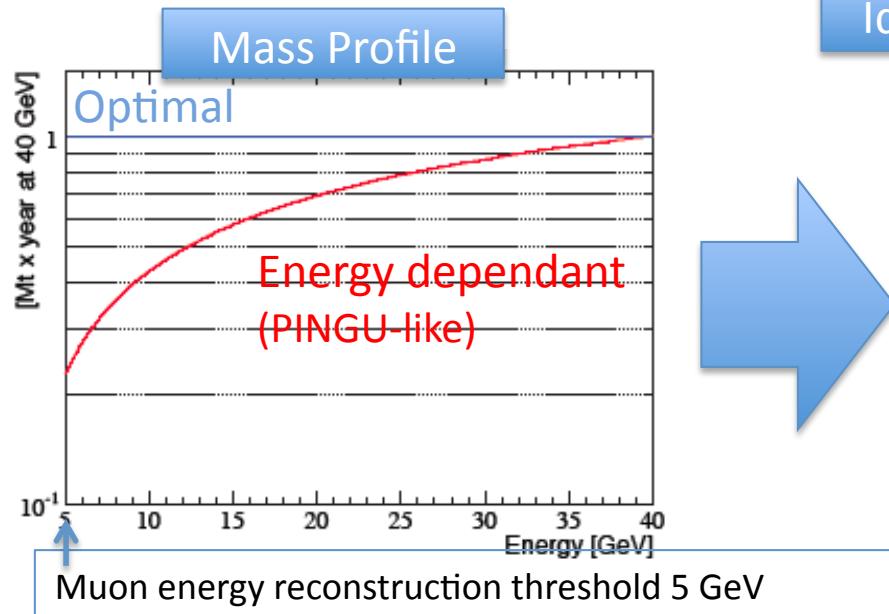
(same conclusions shared by
many ORCA groups)



Sensitivity studies

Toy Monte Carlo approach: NMH sensitivity

Reference point
for further studies
 $p\text{-value} \sim 1$



...BUT degraded by the limited angular/energy resolution of the detector:

