

# The present and future of flavor in high-energy cosmic neutrinos

Mauricio Bustamante

Niels Bohr Institute, University of Copenhagen

N3AS Seminar  
March 26, 2024

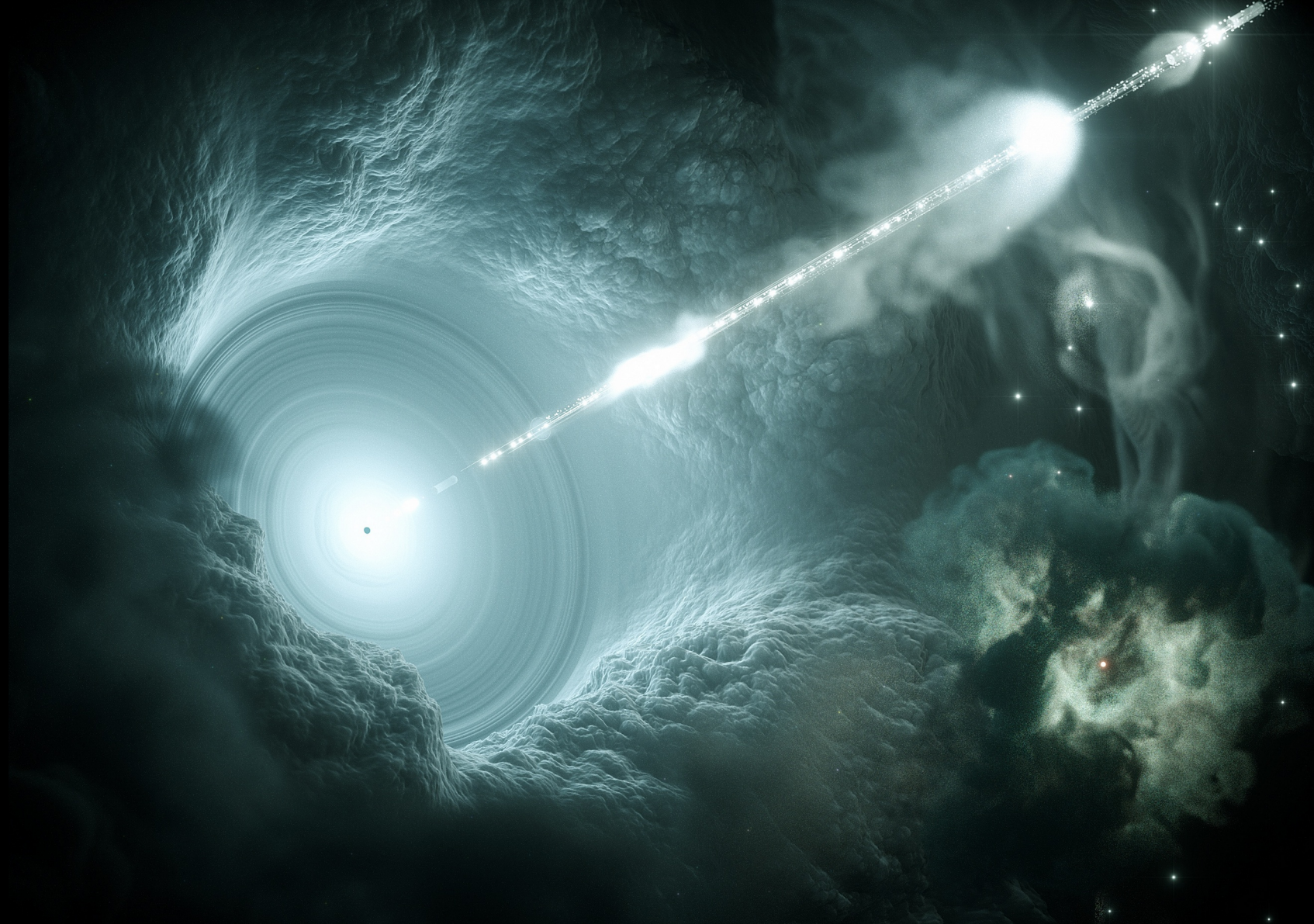
UNIVERSITY OF  
COPENHAGEN



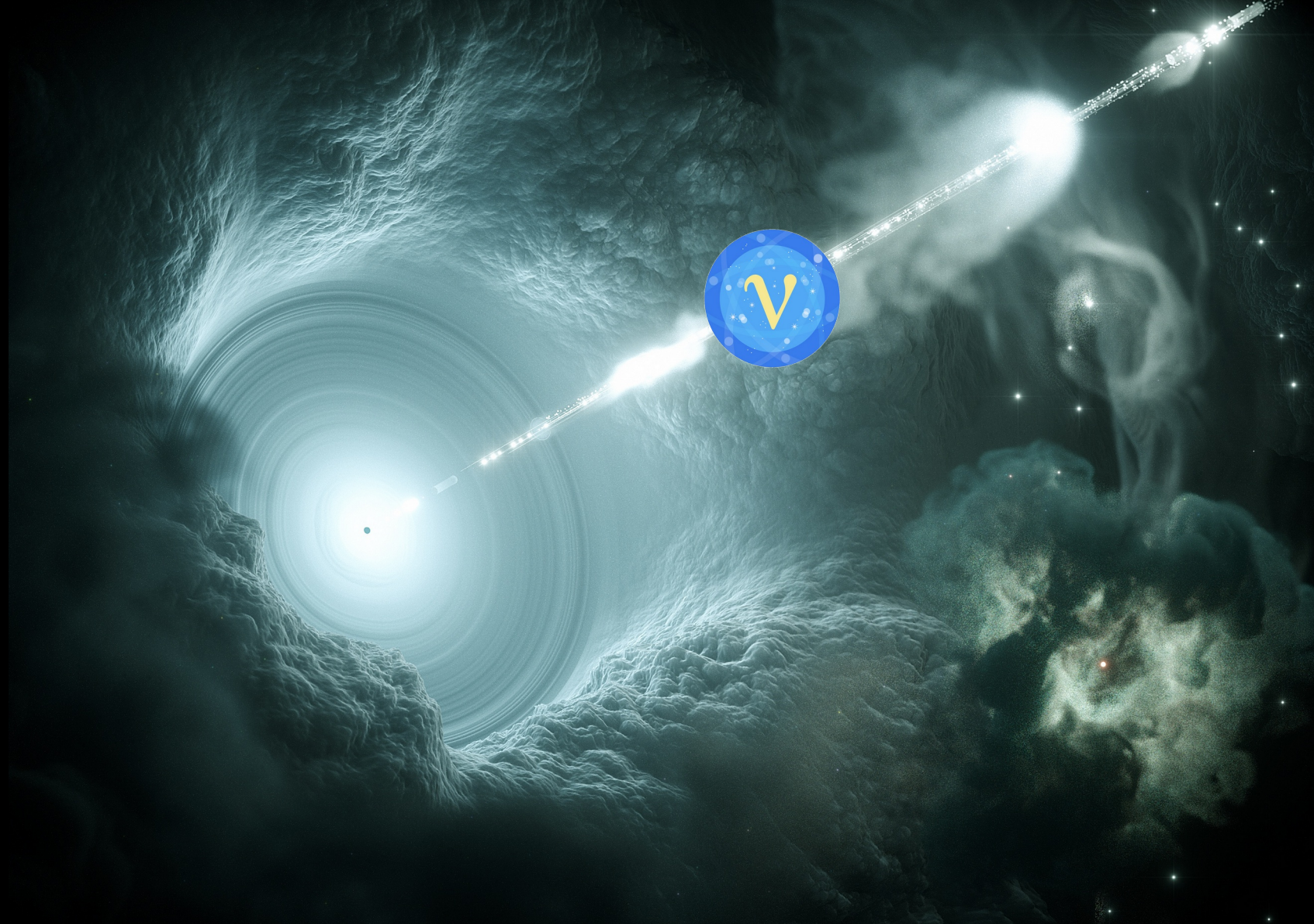
VILLUM FONDEN



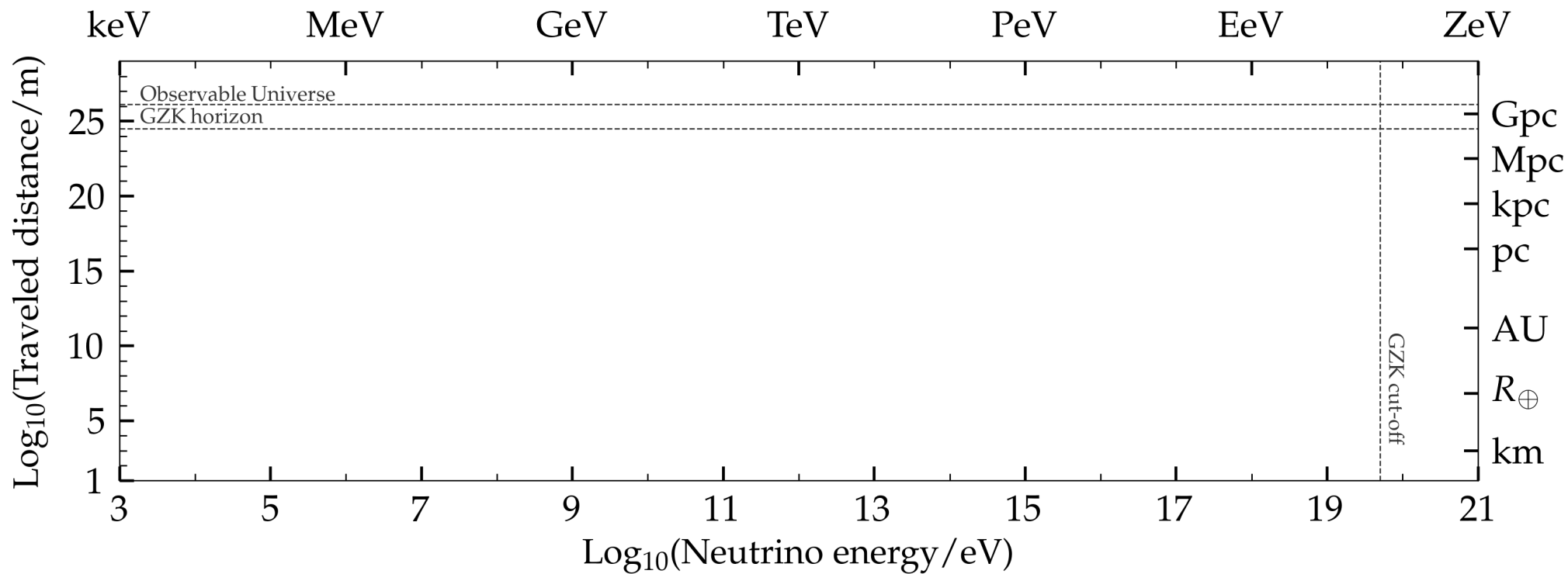




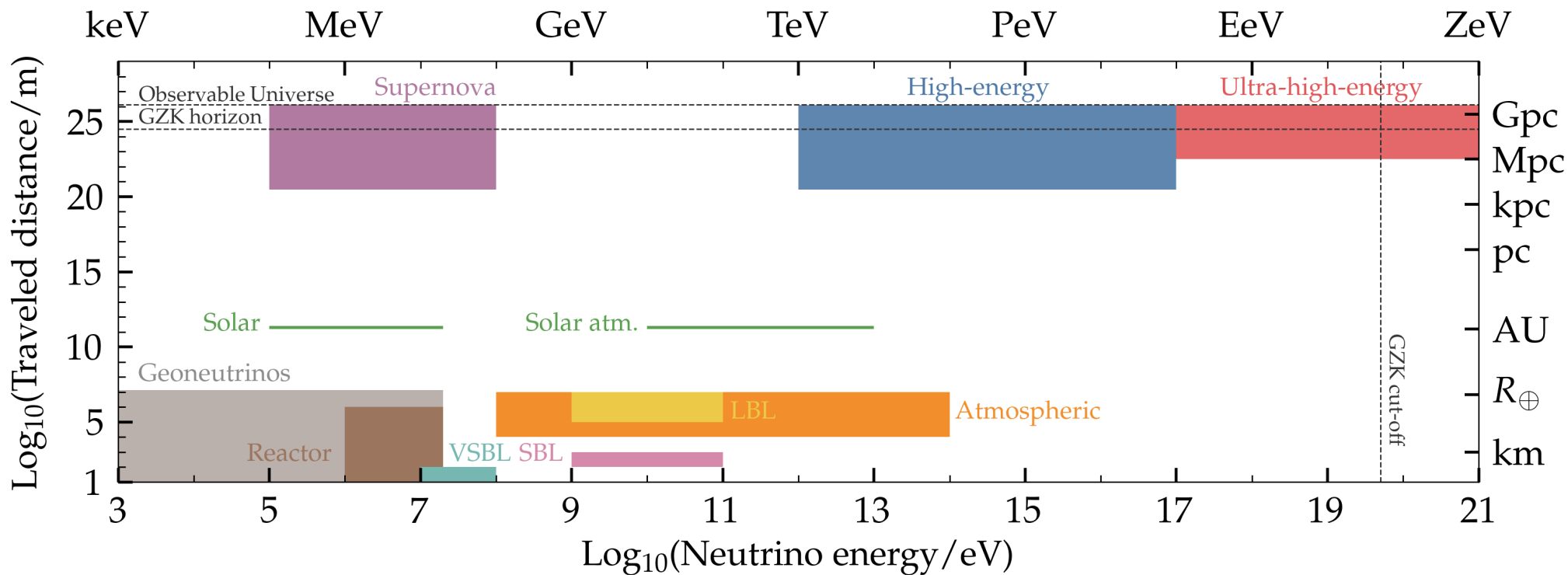






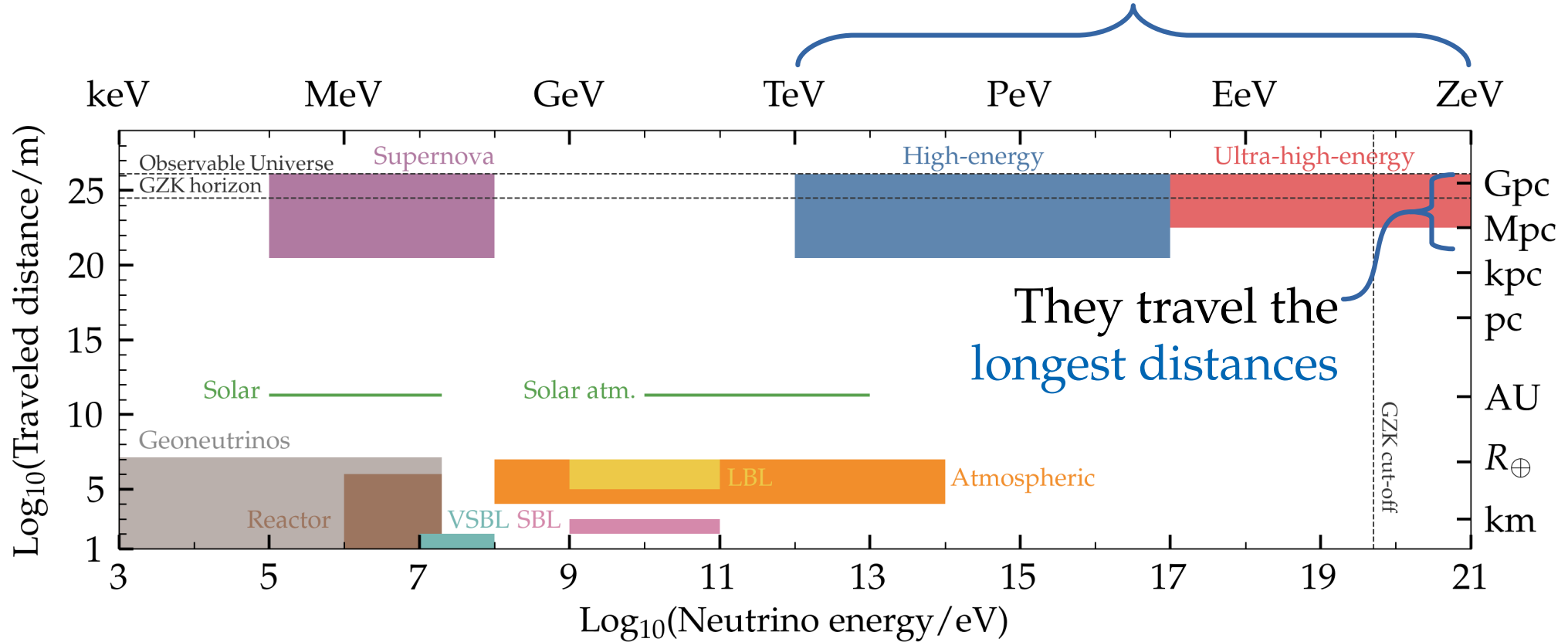




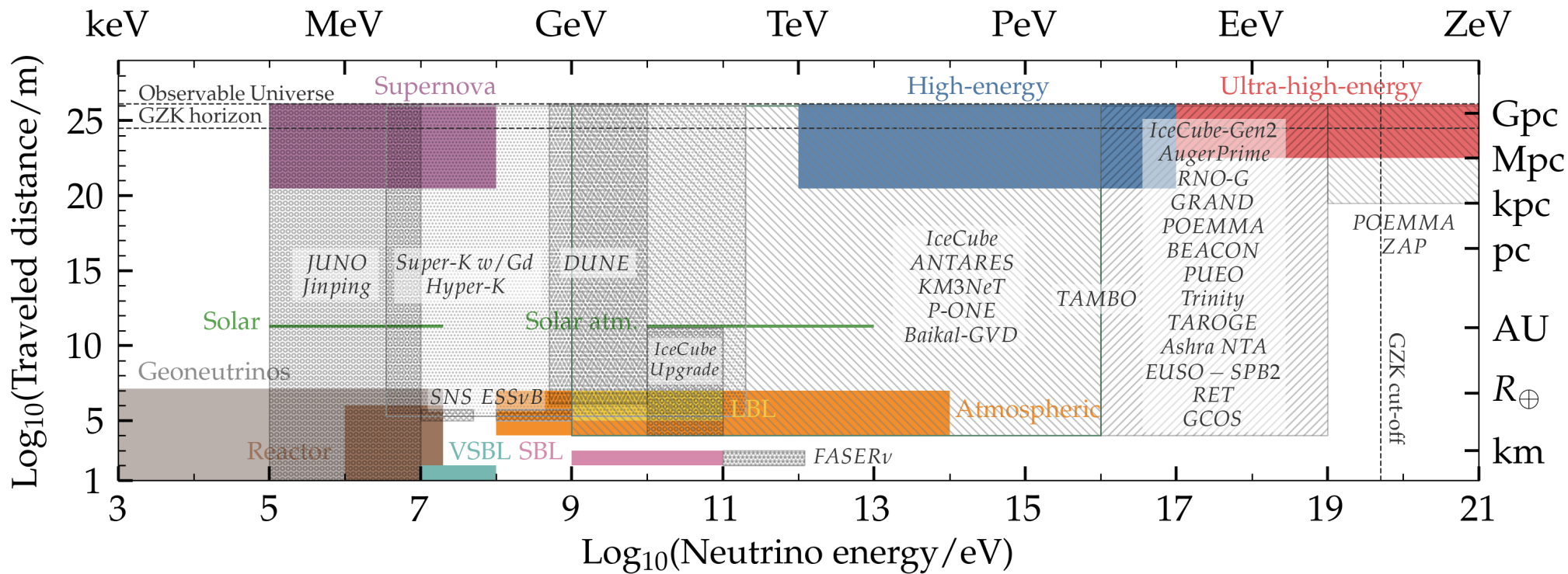


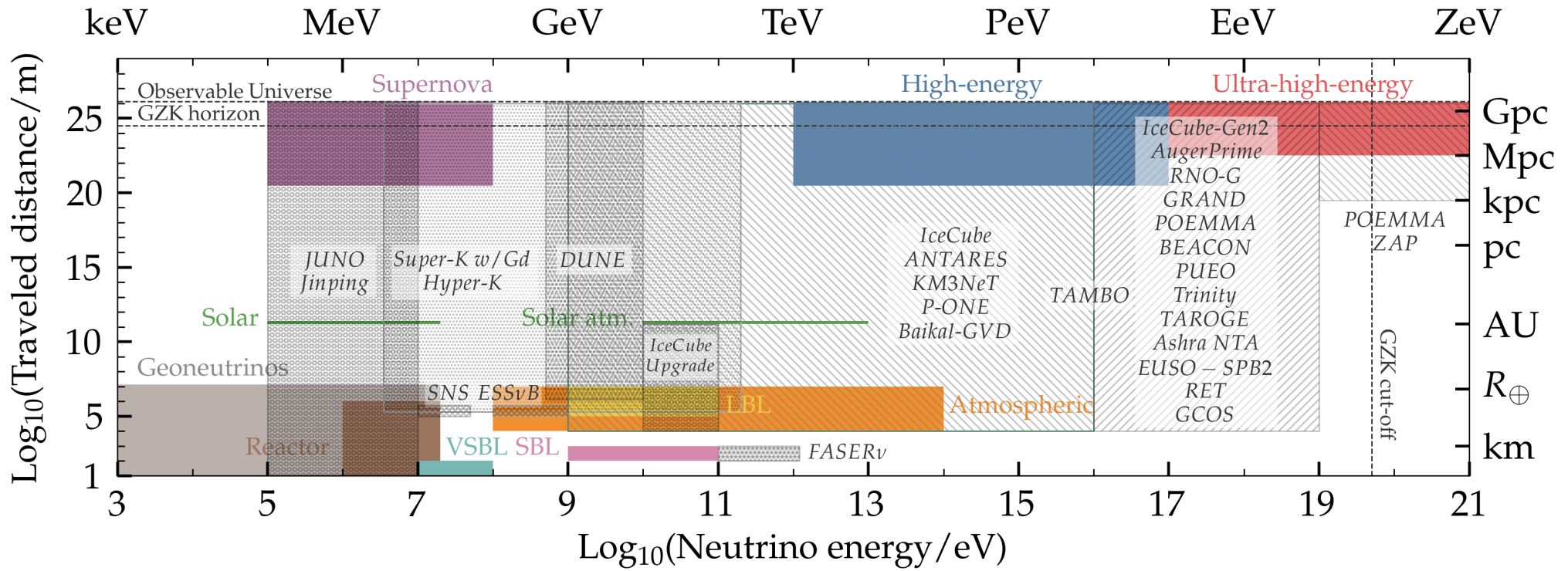


They have the **highest energies**





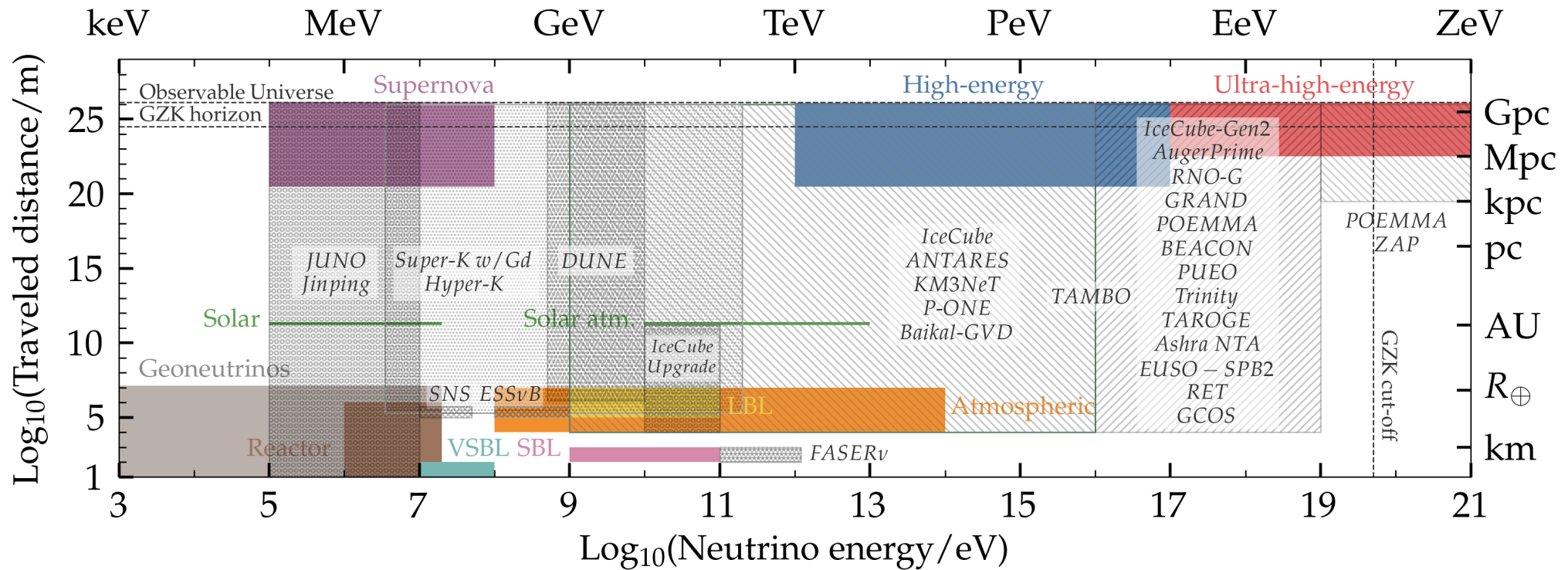




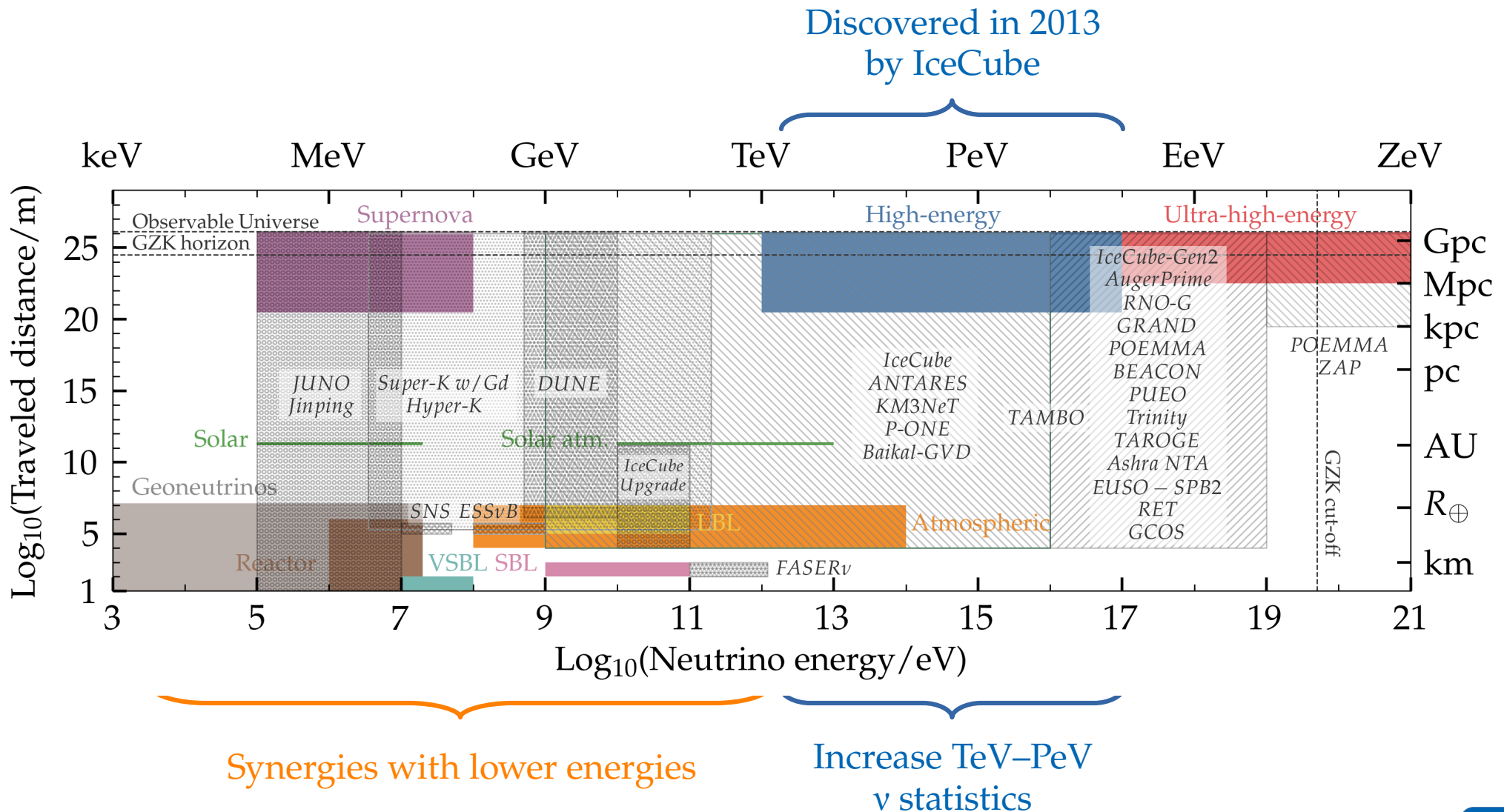
Synergies with lower energies

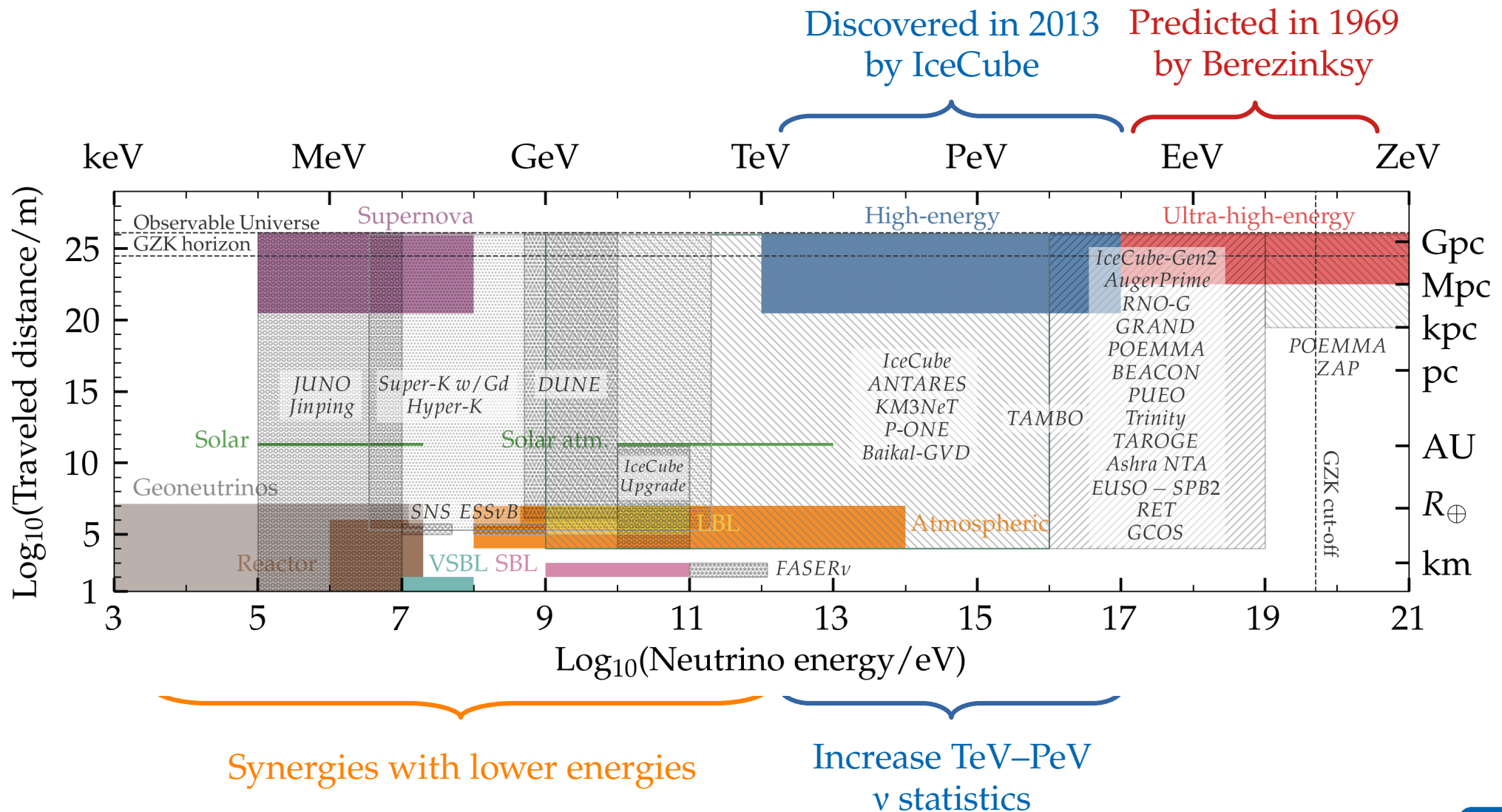


Discovered in 2013  
by IceCube

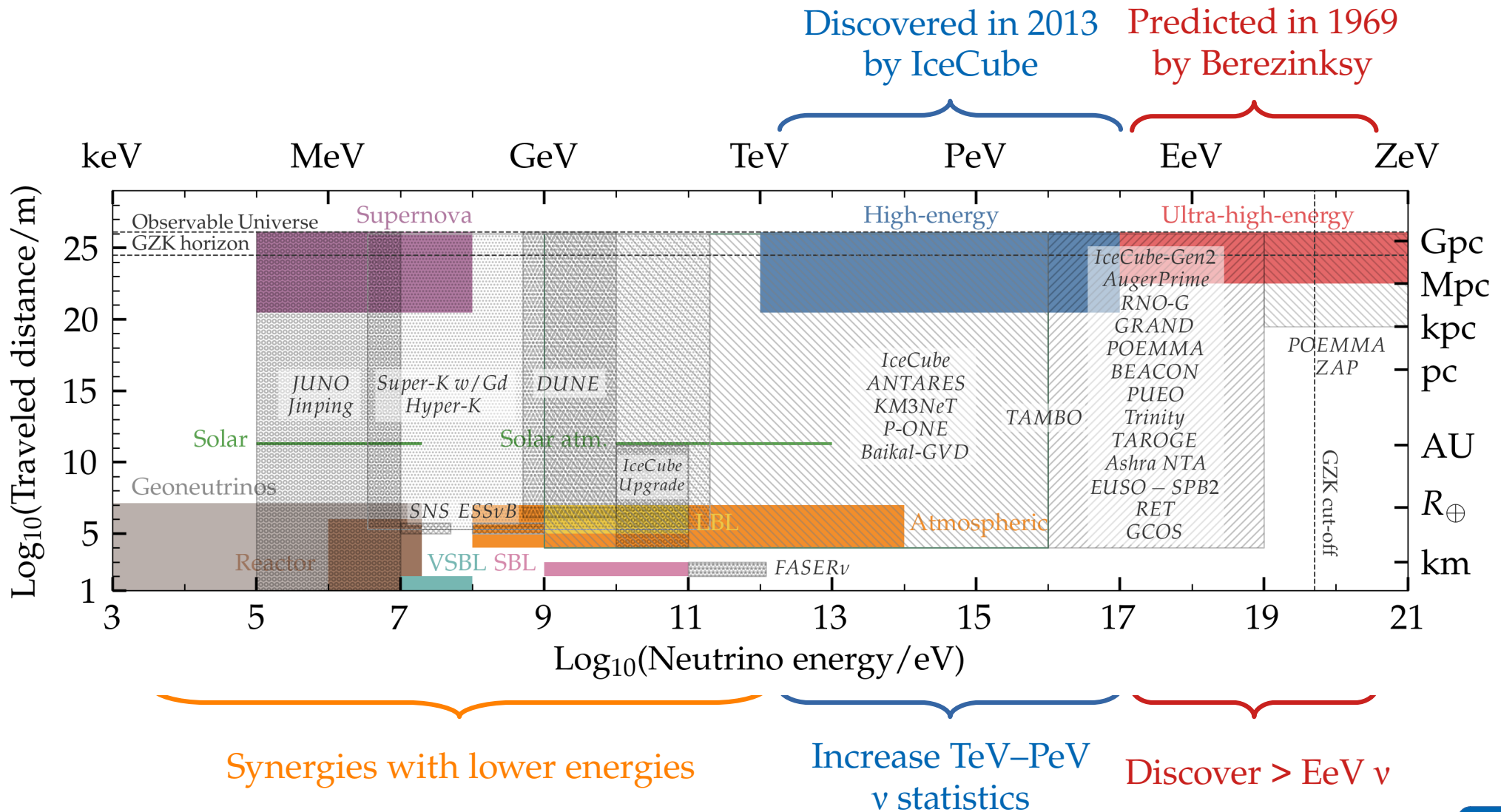


Synergies with lower energies









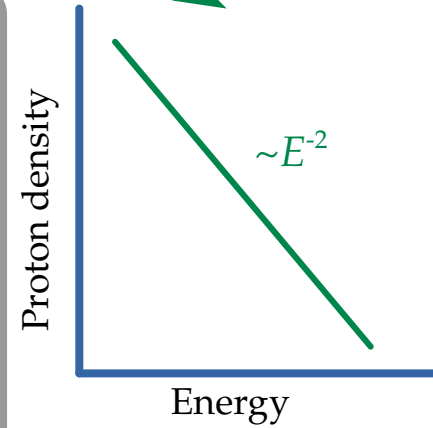
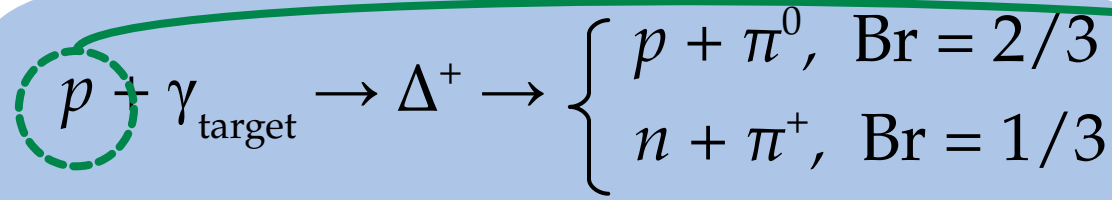
# Making high-energy astrophysical neutrinos: a toy model

(or  $p + p$ )

$$p + \gamma_{\text{target}} \rightarrow \Delta^+ \rightarrow \begin{cases} p + \pi^0, & \text{Br} = 2/3 \\ n + \pi^+, & \text{Br} = 1/3 \end{cases}$$

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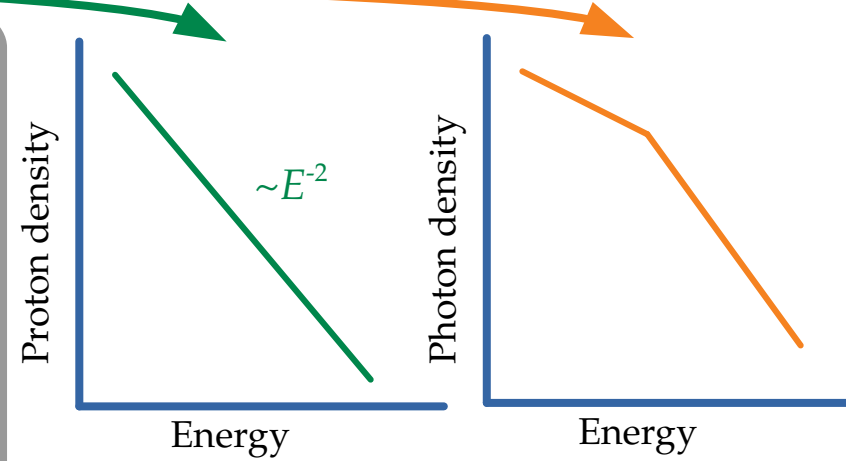
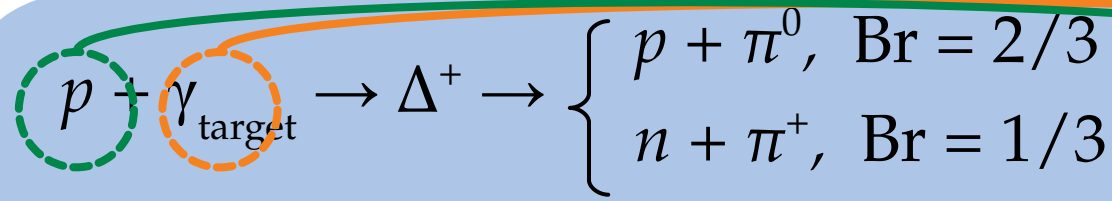
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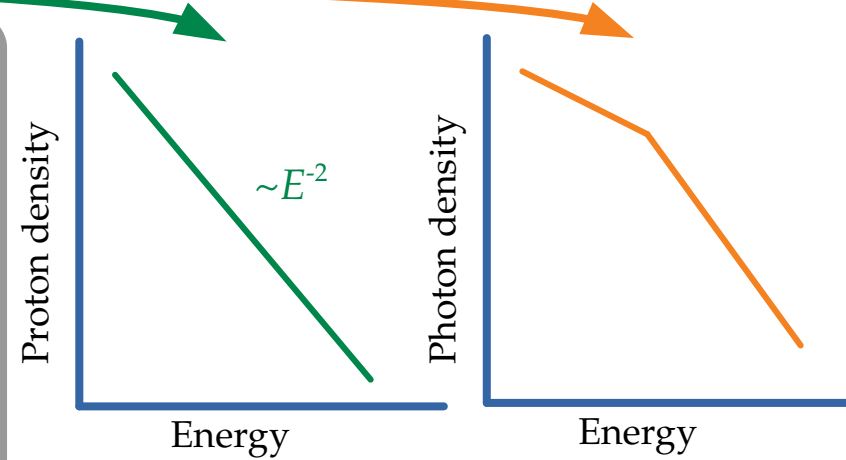
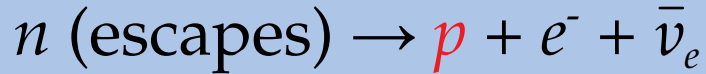
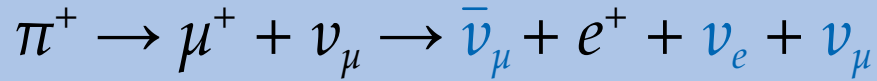
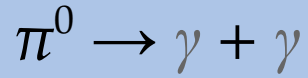
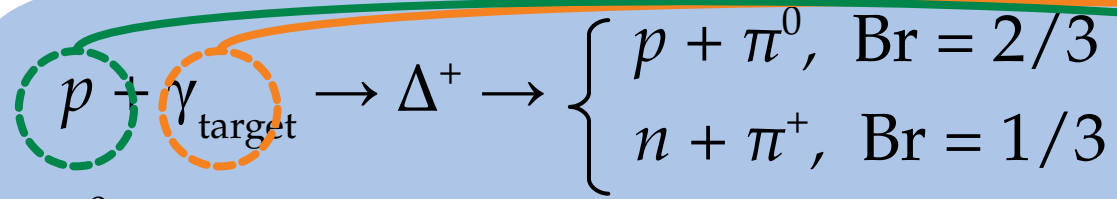
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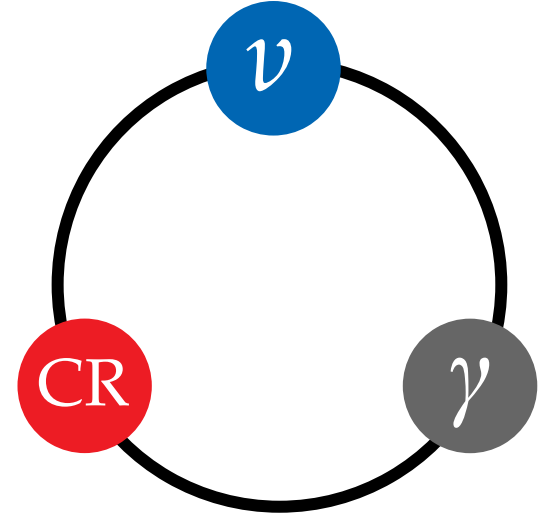
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$$\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma + \gamma$$

$$\pi^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ + \nu_\mu \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_\mu + e^+ + \nu_e + \nu_\mu$$

$$n \text{ (escapes)} \rightarrow \textcolor{red}{p} + e^- + \bar{\nu}_e$$



Neutrino energy = Proton energy / 20

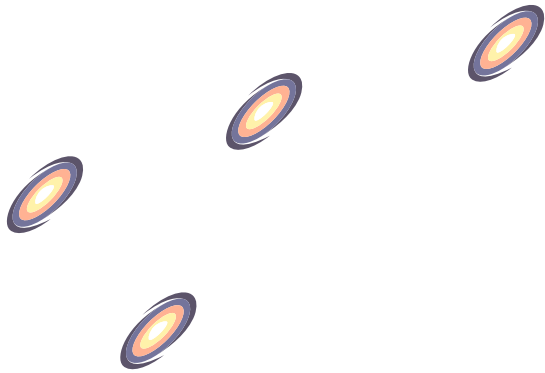
Gamma-ray energy = Proton energy / 10



Redshift

$z = 0$

*Note: v sources can be steady-state or transient*



Redshift

$z = 0$

Discovered

MeV  $\gamma$

PeV  $p$

TeV–PeV  $\nu$

“High-energy”

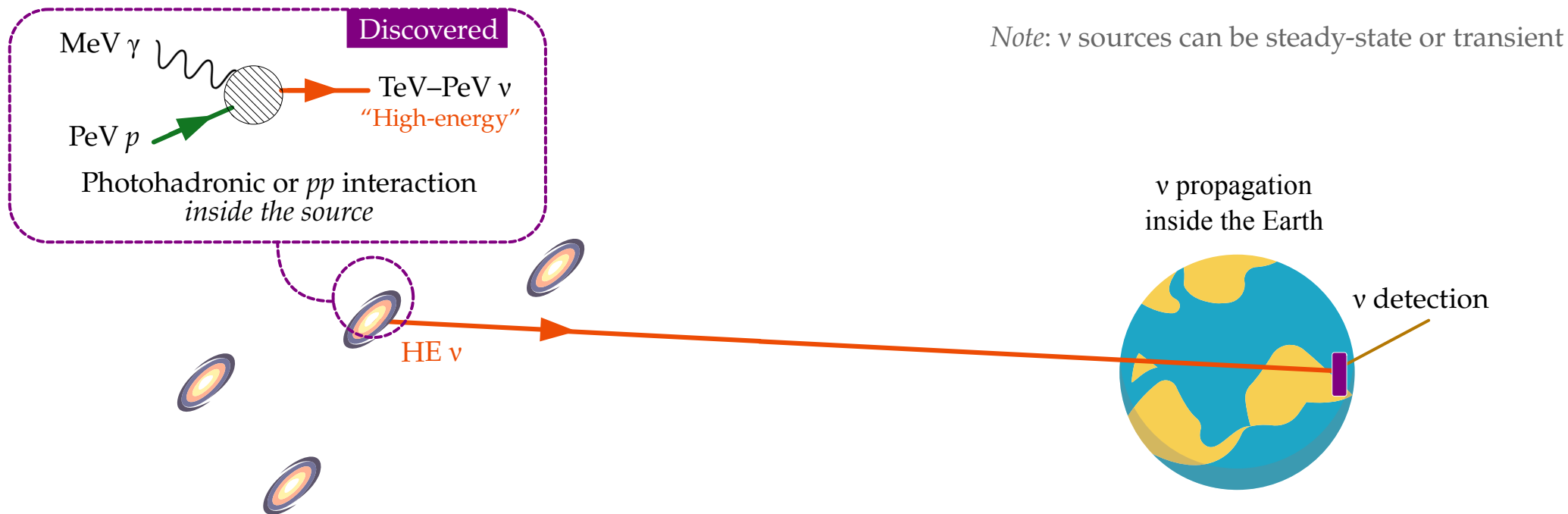
Photohadronic or  $pp$  interaction  
*inside the source*

Note:  $\nu$  sources can be steady-state or transient

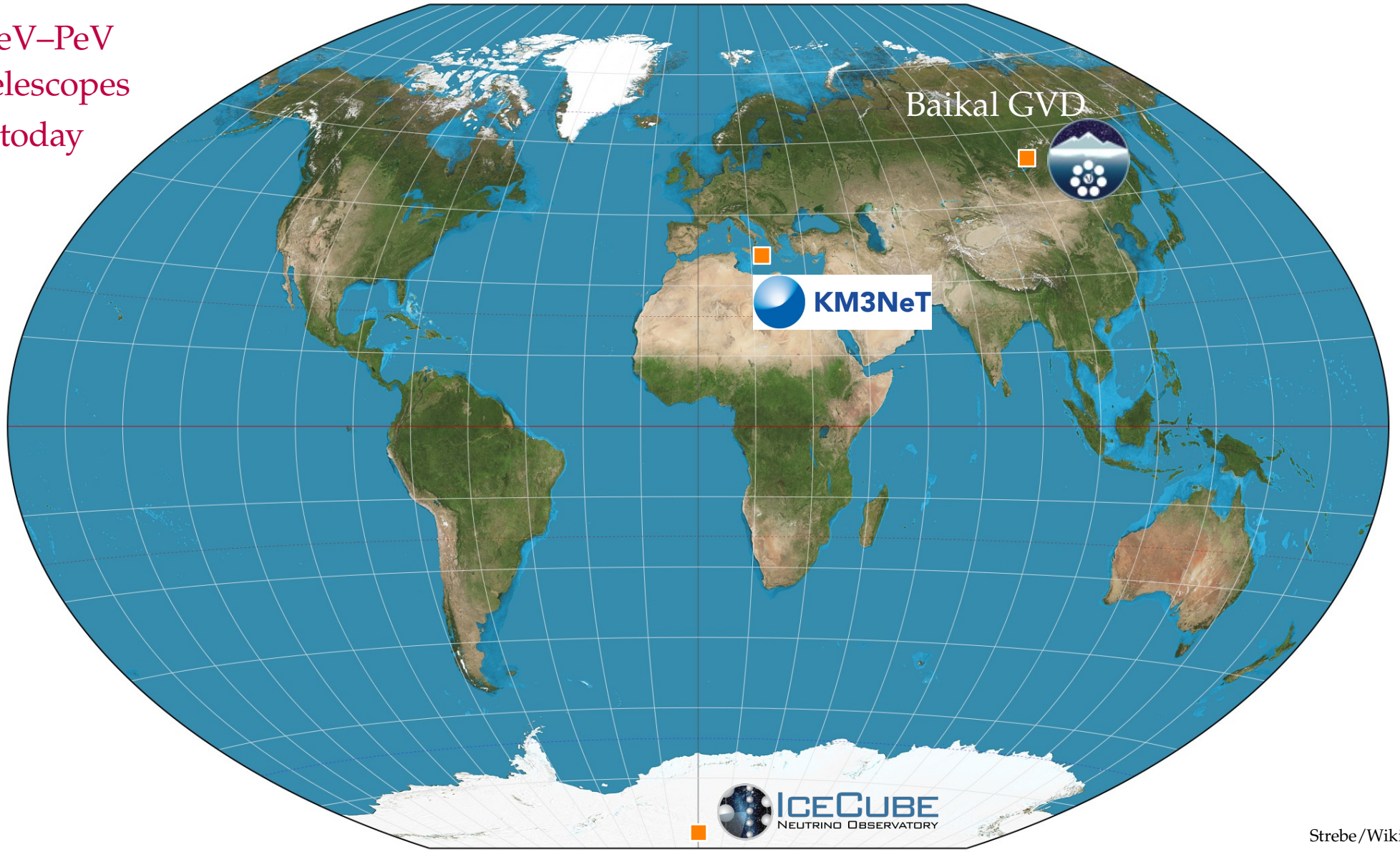
$\nu$  propagation  
inside the Earth

$\nu$  detection

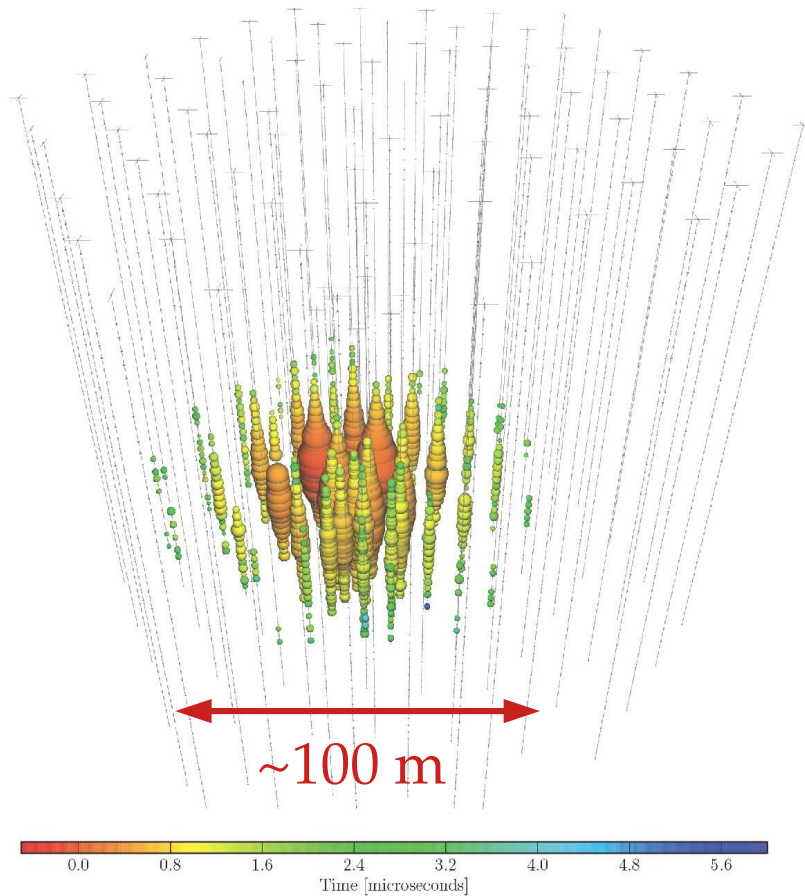
HE  $\nu$



TeV–PeV  
ν telescopes  
today

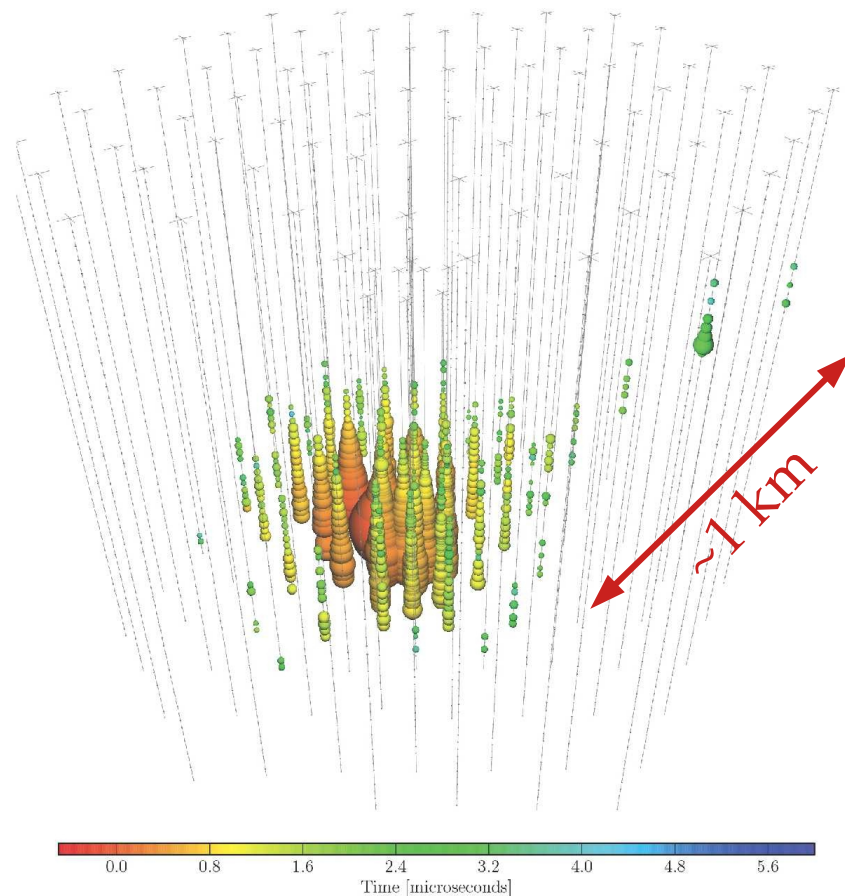


Shower  
(mainly from  $\nu_e$  and  $\nu_\tau$ )



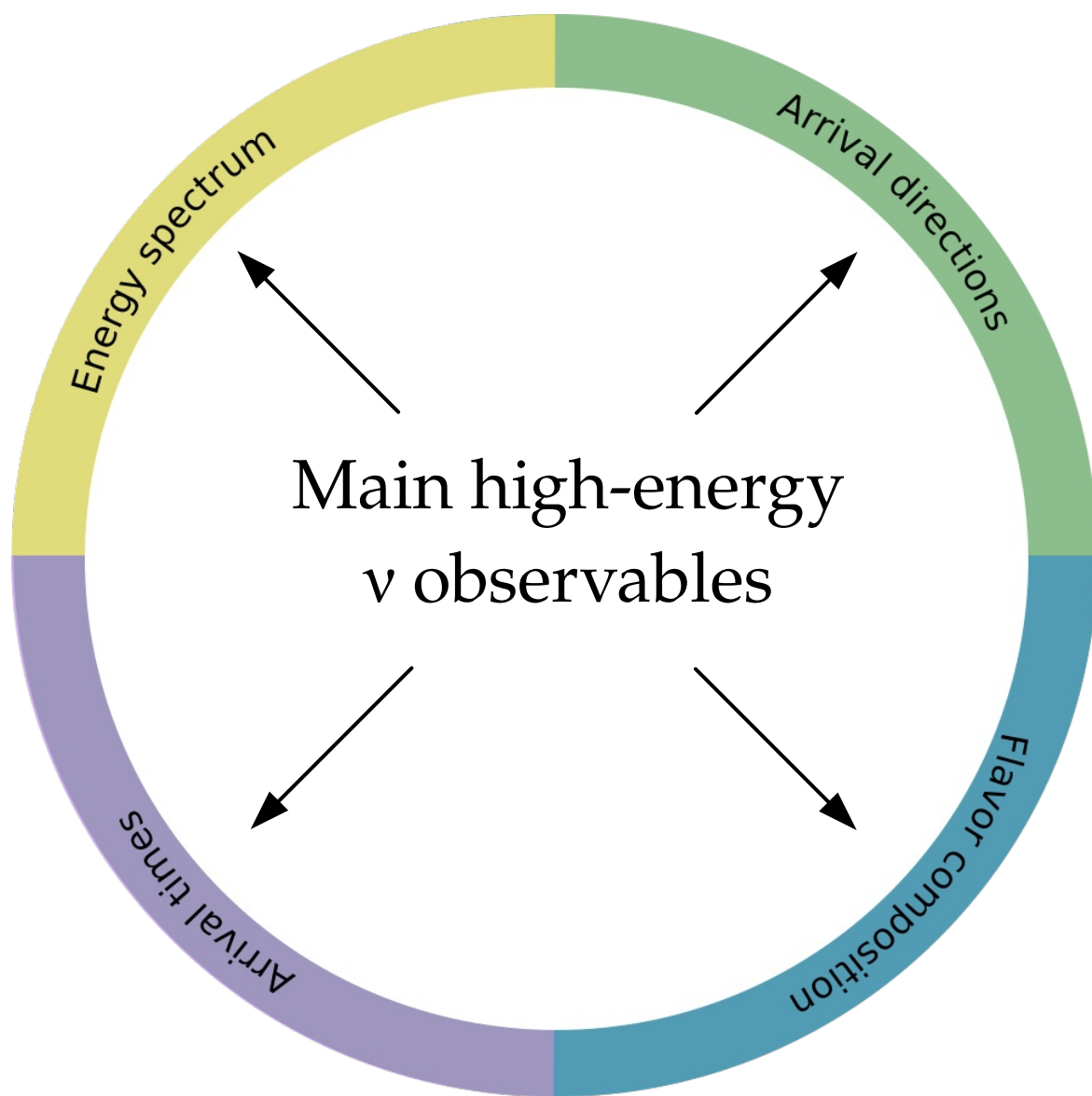
Poor angular resolution:  $\sim 10^\circ$

Track  
(mainly from  $\nu_\mu$ )



Angular resolution:  $< 1^\circ$



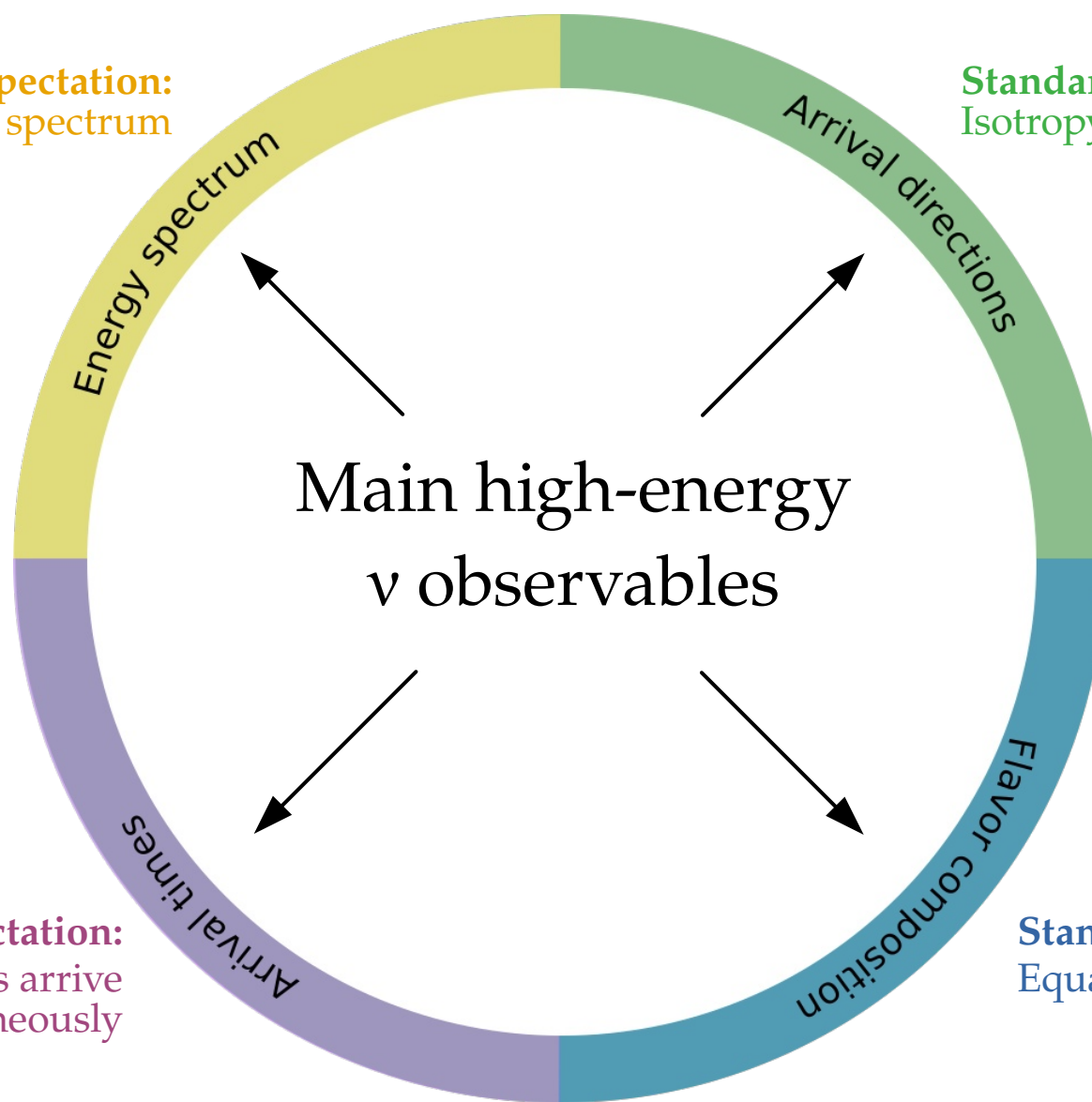


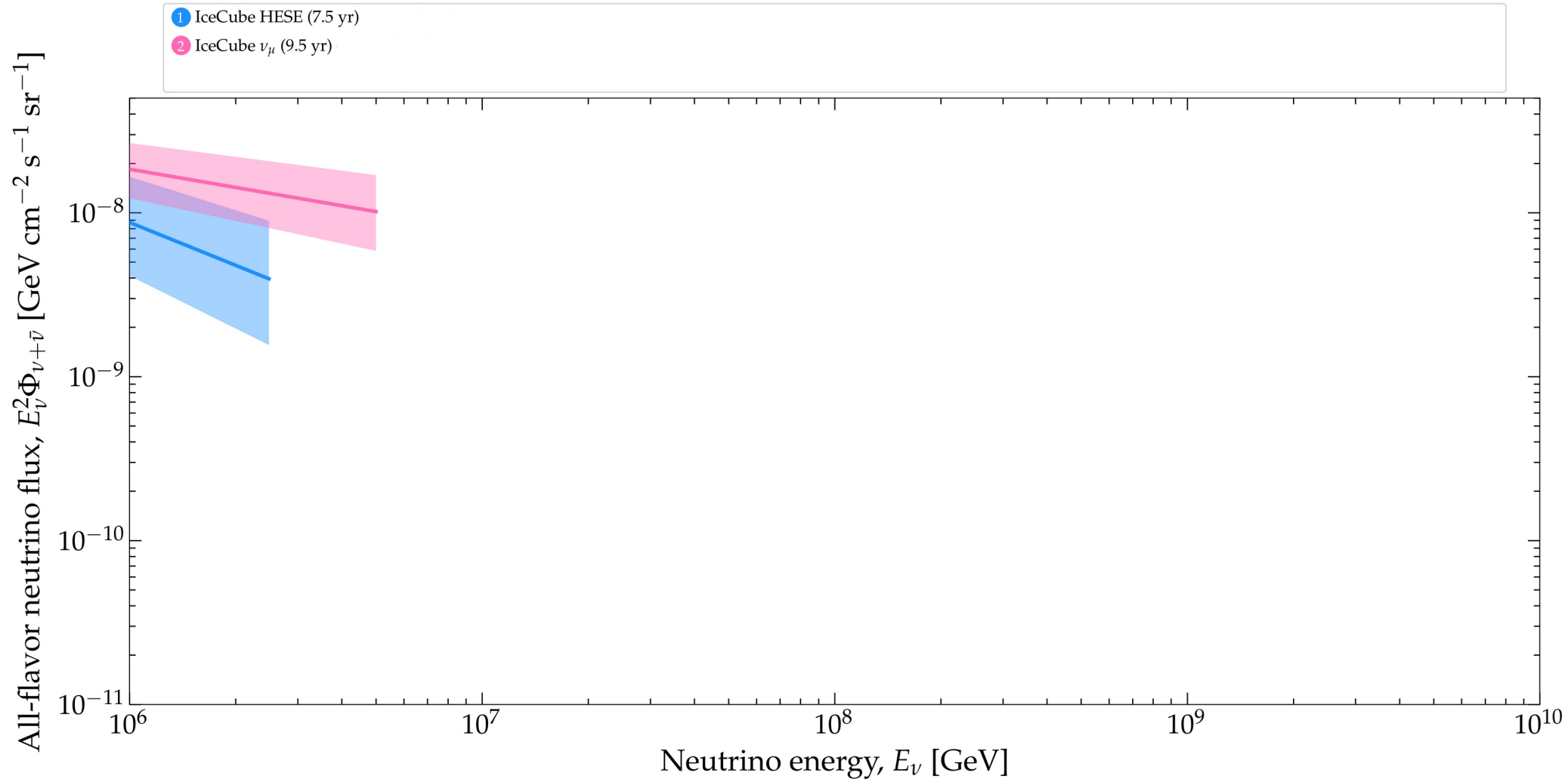
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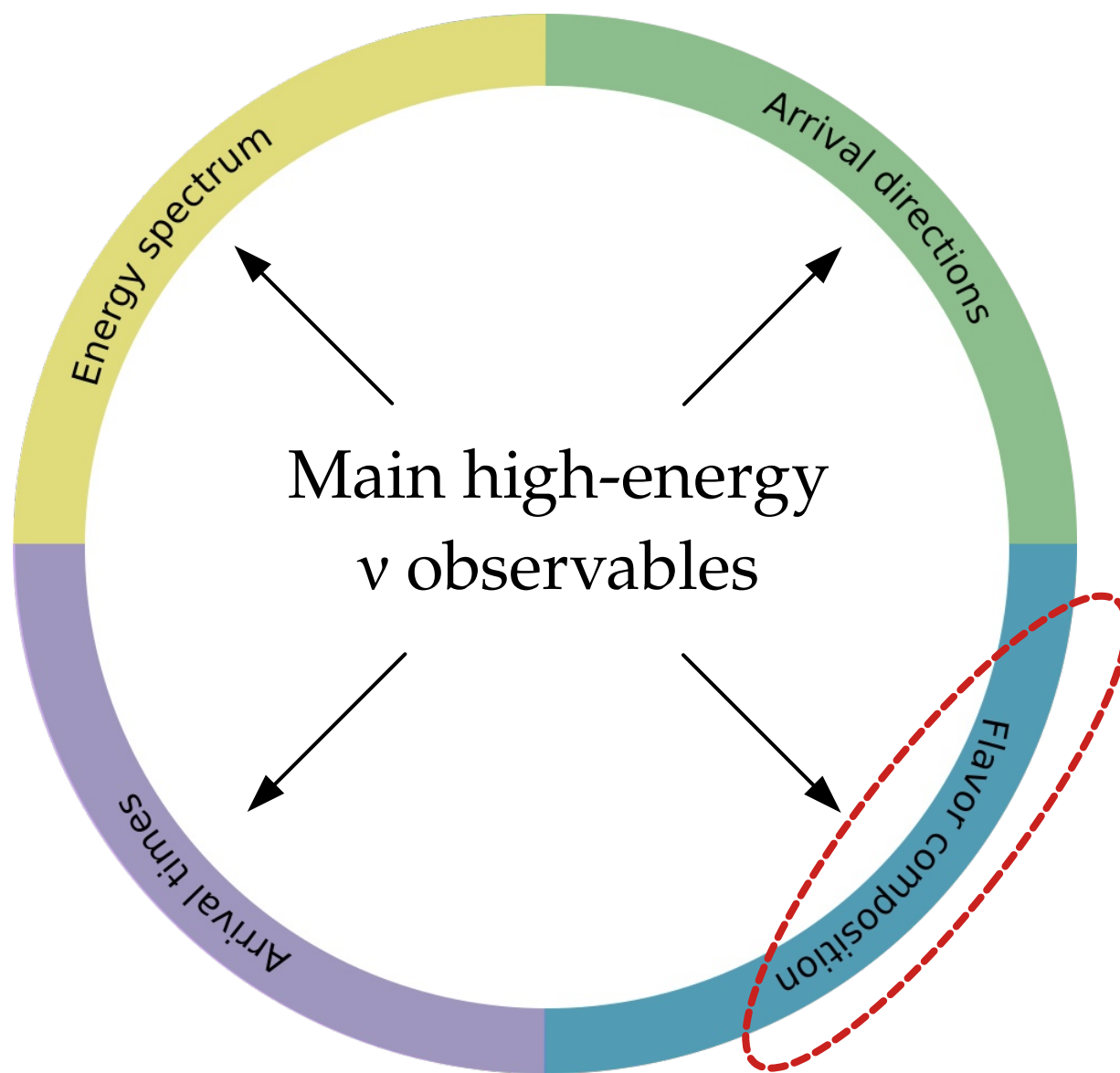
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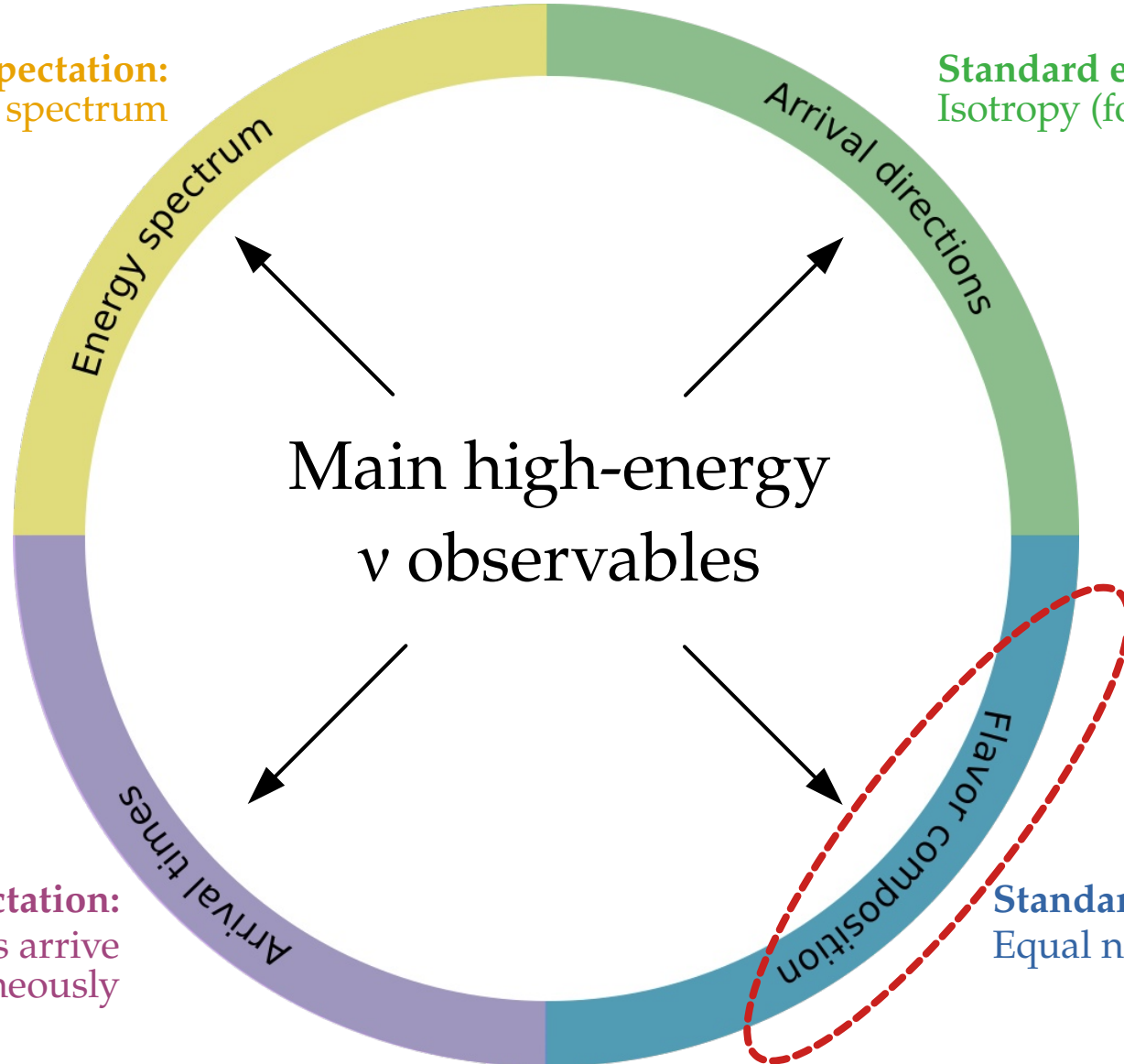


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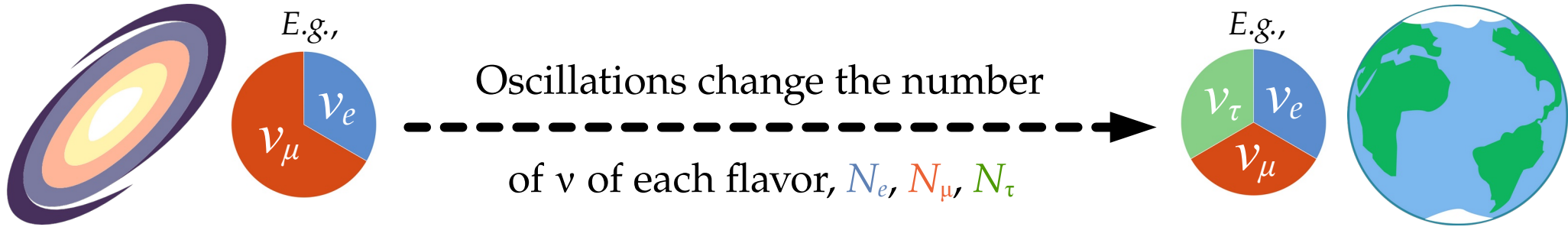
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Astrophysical sources

Earth

Up to a few Gpc



Different production mechanisms yield different flavor ratios:

$$(f_{e,S}, f_{\mu,S}, f_{\tau,S}) \equiv (N_{e,S}, N_{\mu,S}, N_{\tau,S}) / N_{\text{tot}}$$

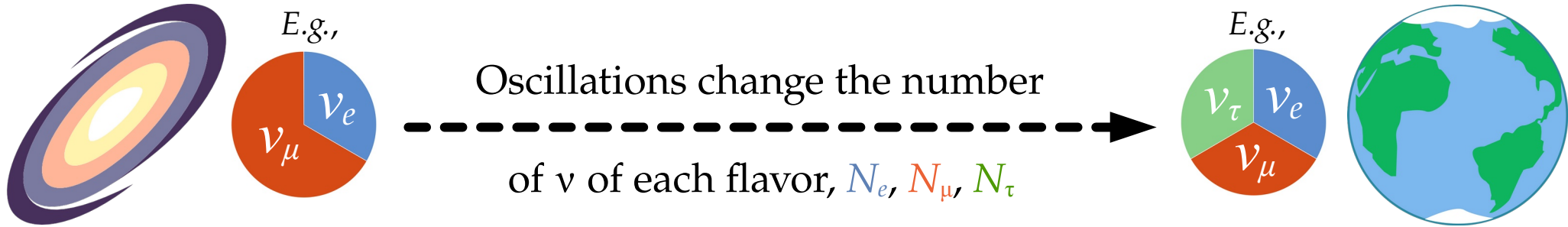
Flavor ratios at Earth ( $\alpha = e, \mu, \tau$ ):

$$f_{\alpha,\oplus} = \sum_{\beta=e,\mu,\tau} P_{\nu_\beta \rightarrow \nu_\alpha} f_{\beta,S}$$

Astrophysical sources

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Standard oscillations  
or  
new physics

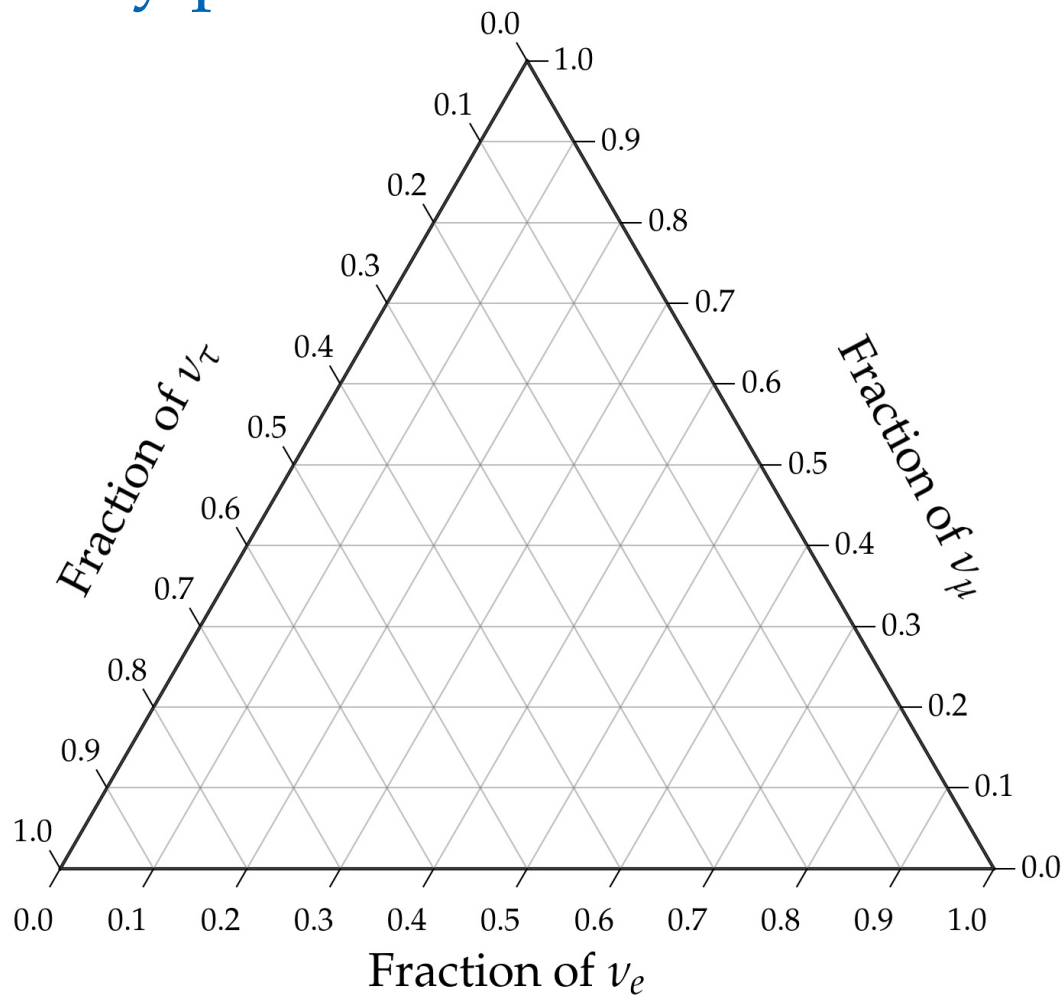
# Quick aside: how to read a ternary plot

Assumes underlying unitarity –  
sum of projections on each axis is 1

How to read it:

Follow the tilt of the tick marks

Always in this order:  $(f_e, f_\mu, f_\tau)$





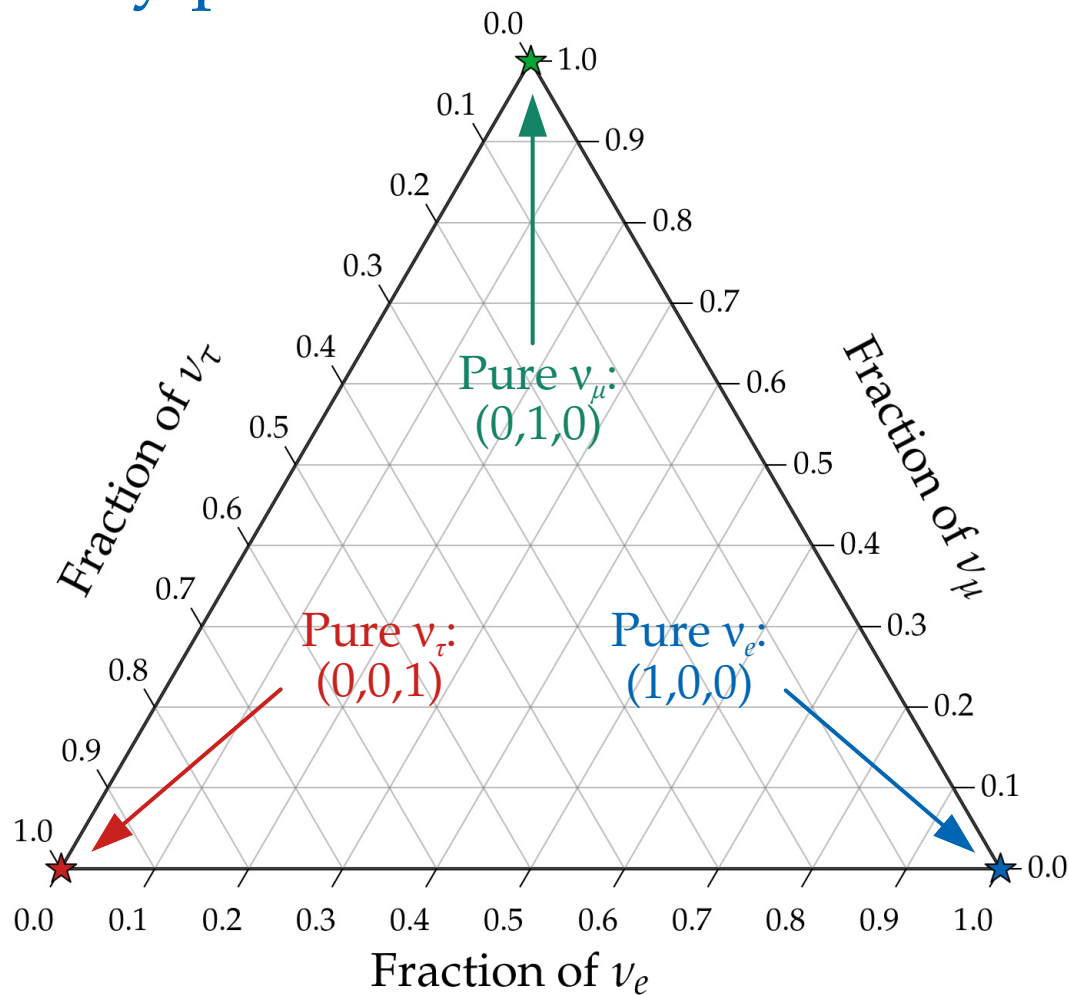
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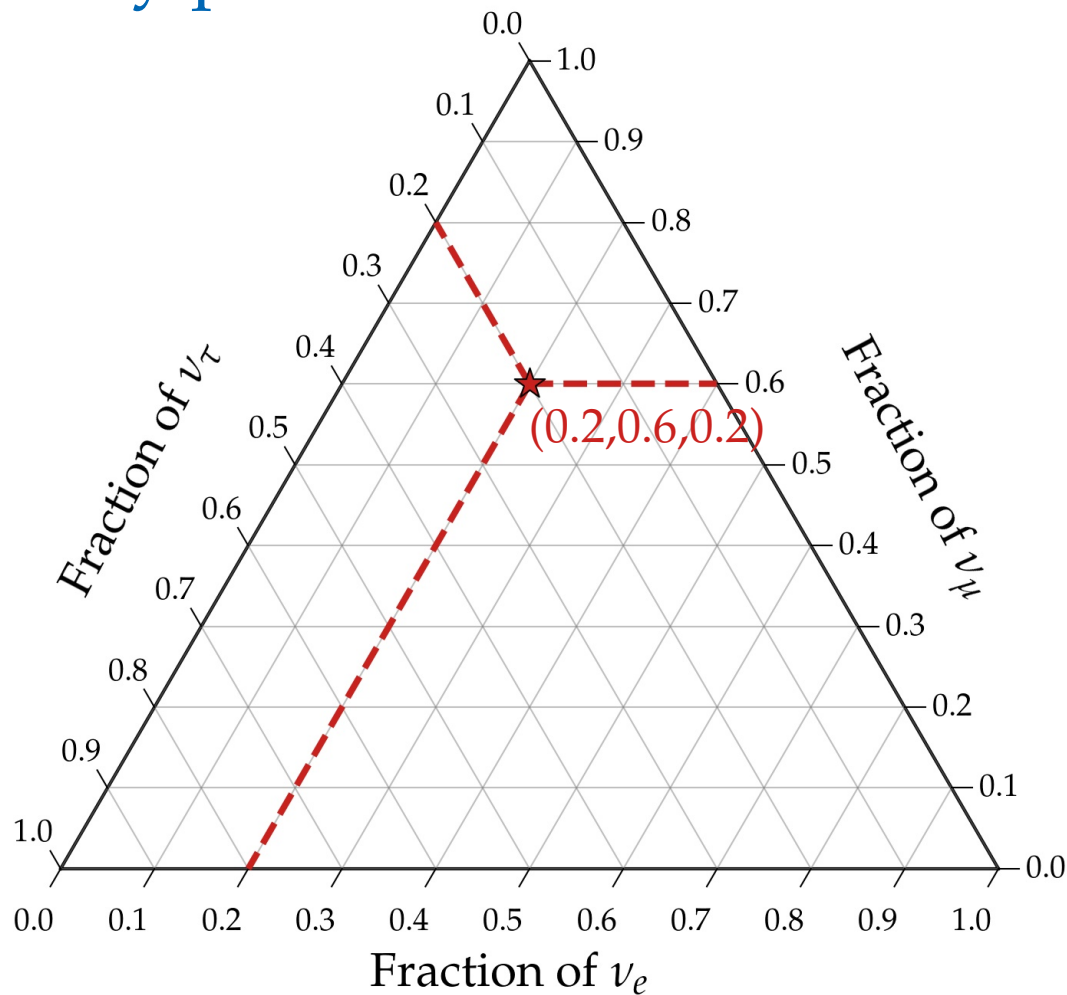
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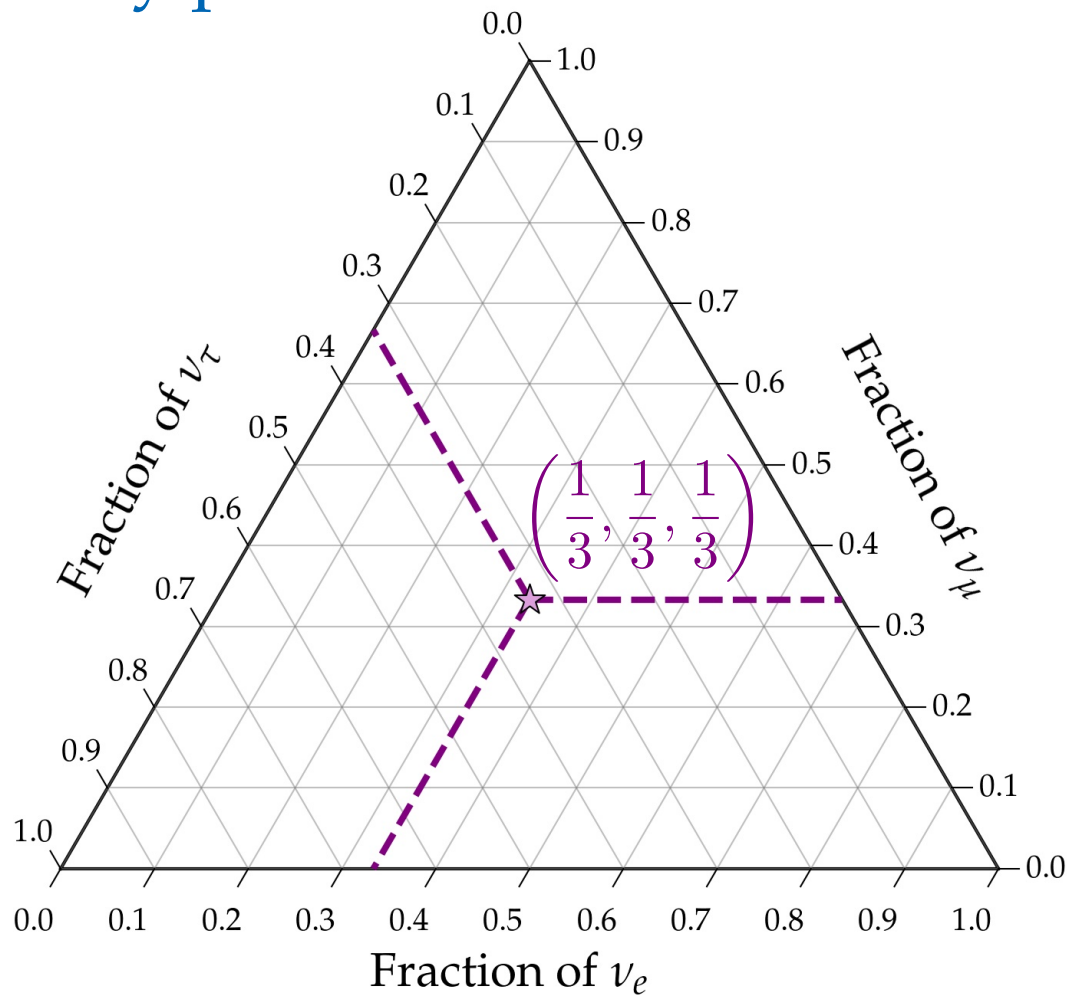
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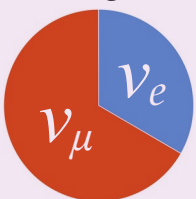


*From sources to Earth:* we learn what to expect when measuring  $f_{\alpha,\oplus}$

Sources



E.g.,



$(f_{e,S}, f_{\mu,S}, f_{\tau,S})$

Oscillations

$(\theta_{12}, \theta_{23}, \theta_{13}, \delta_{CP})$

Earth



$(f_{e,\oplus}, f_{\mu,\oplus}, f_{\tau,\oplus})$



One likely TeV–PeV  $\nu$  production scenario:

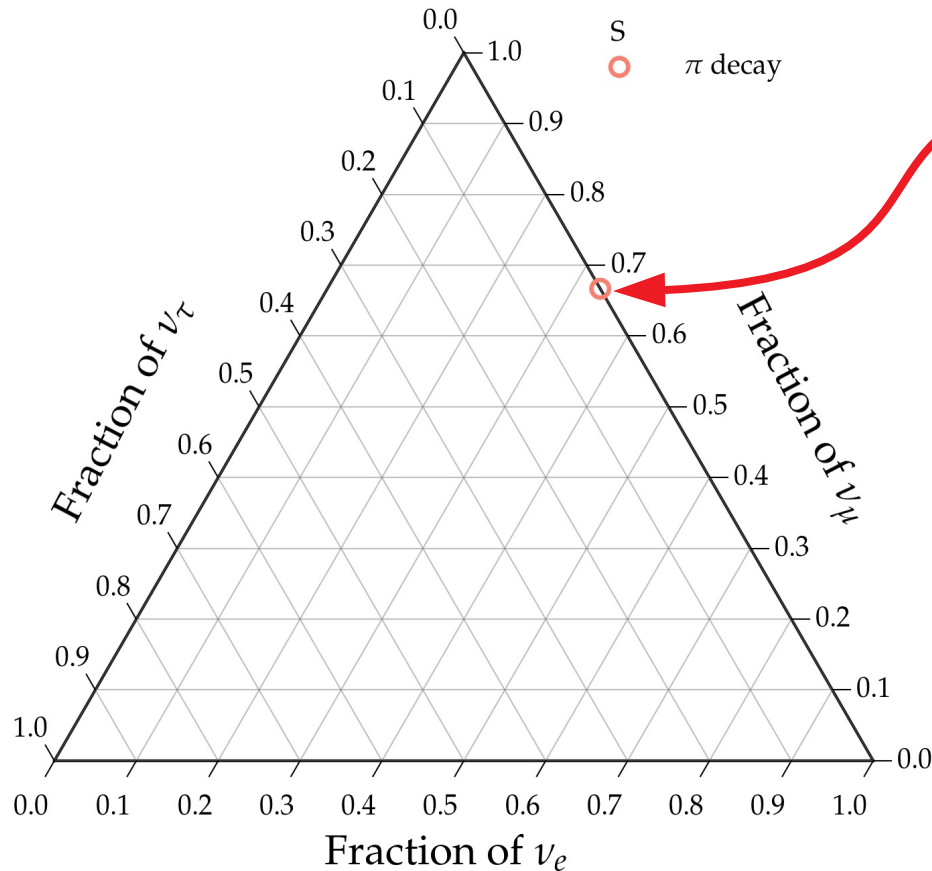
$$p + \gamma \rightarrow \pi^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ + \nu_\mu \text{ followed by } \mu^+ \rightarrow e^+ + \nu_e + \bar{\nu}_\mu$$

Full  $\pi$  decay chain

$$(1/3:2/3:0)_S$$

*Note:*  $\nu$  and  $\bar{\nu}$  are (so far) indistinguishable  
in neutrino telescopes

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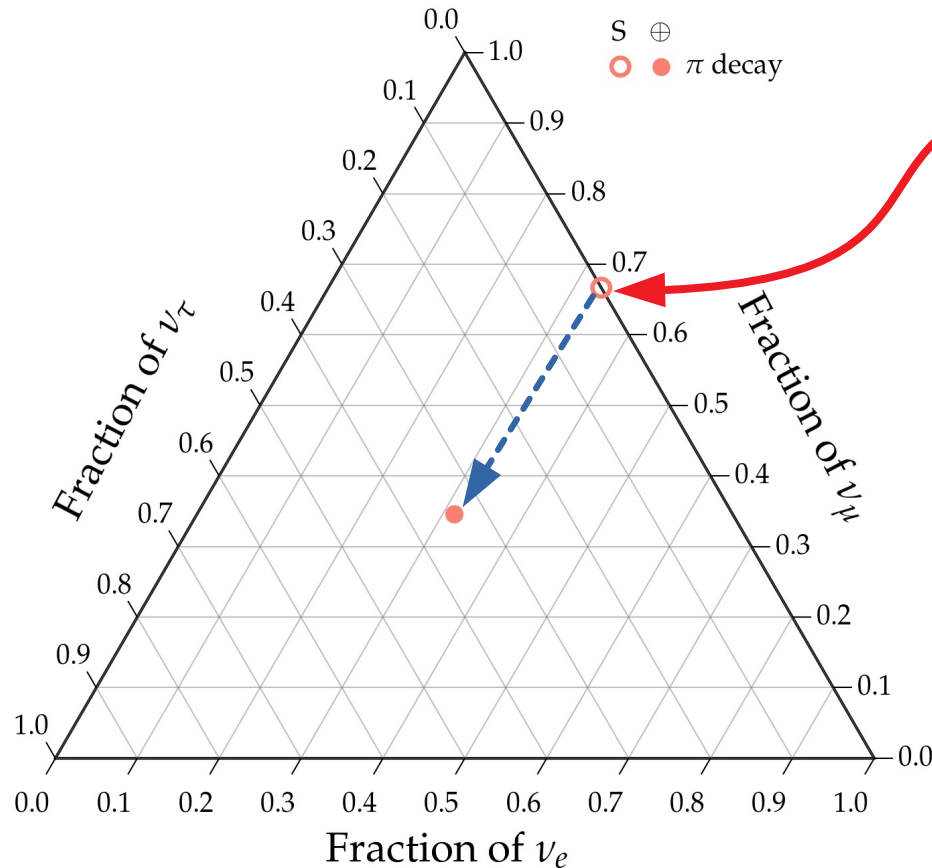
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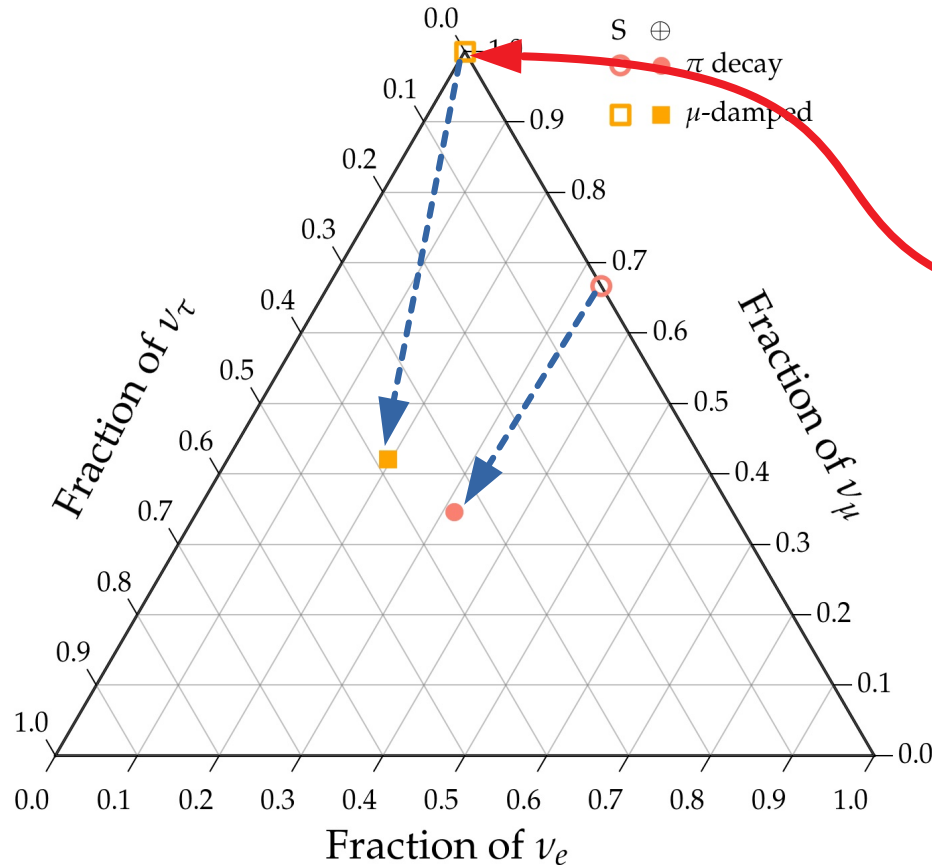


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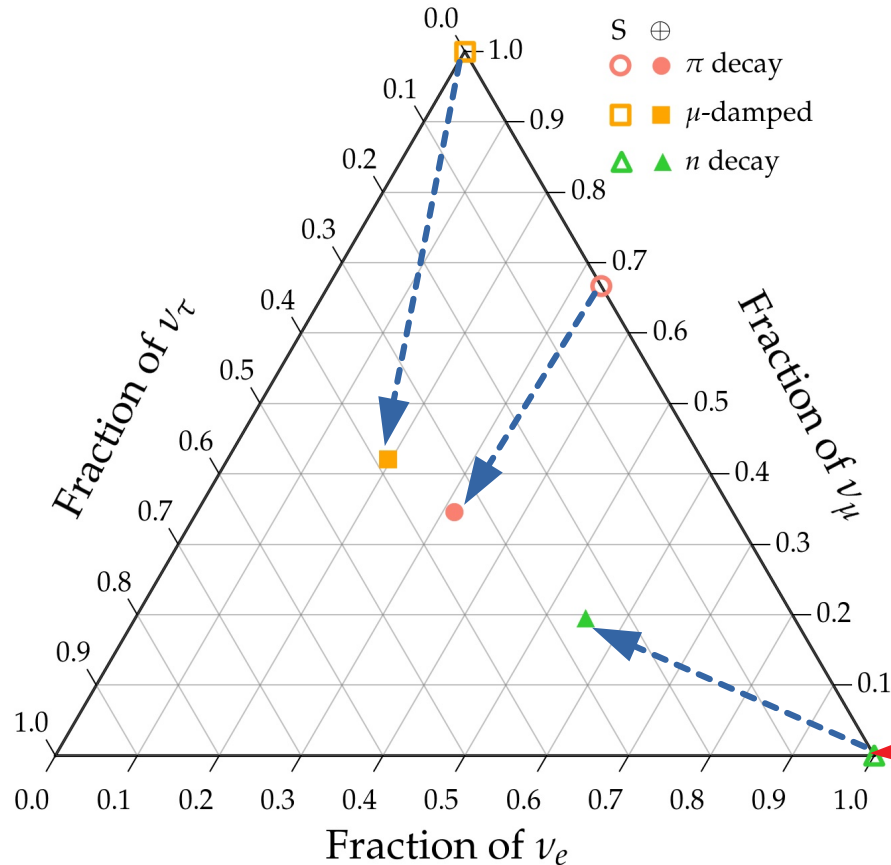
Muon damped

$(0:1:0)_S$

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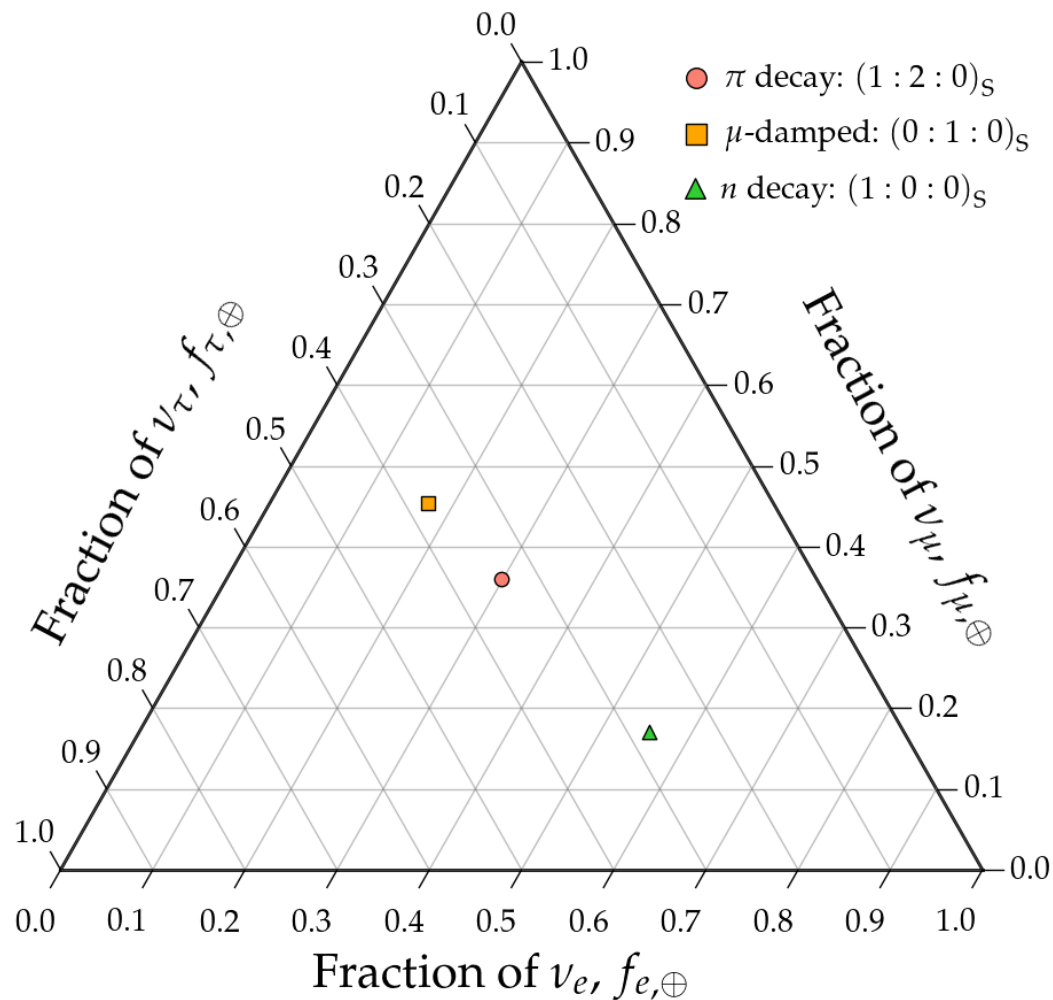
Neutron decay

$(1:0:0)_S$

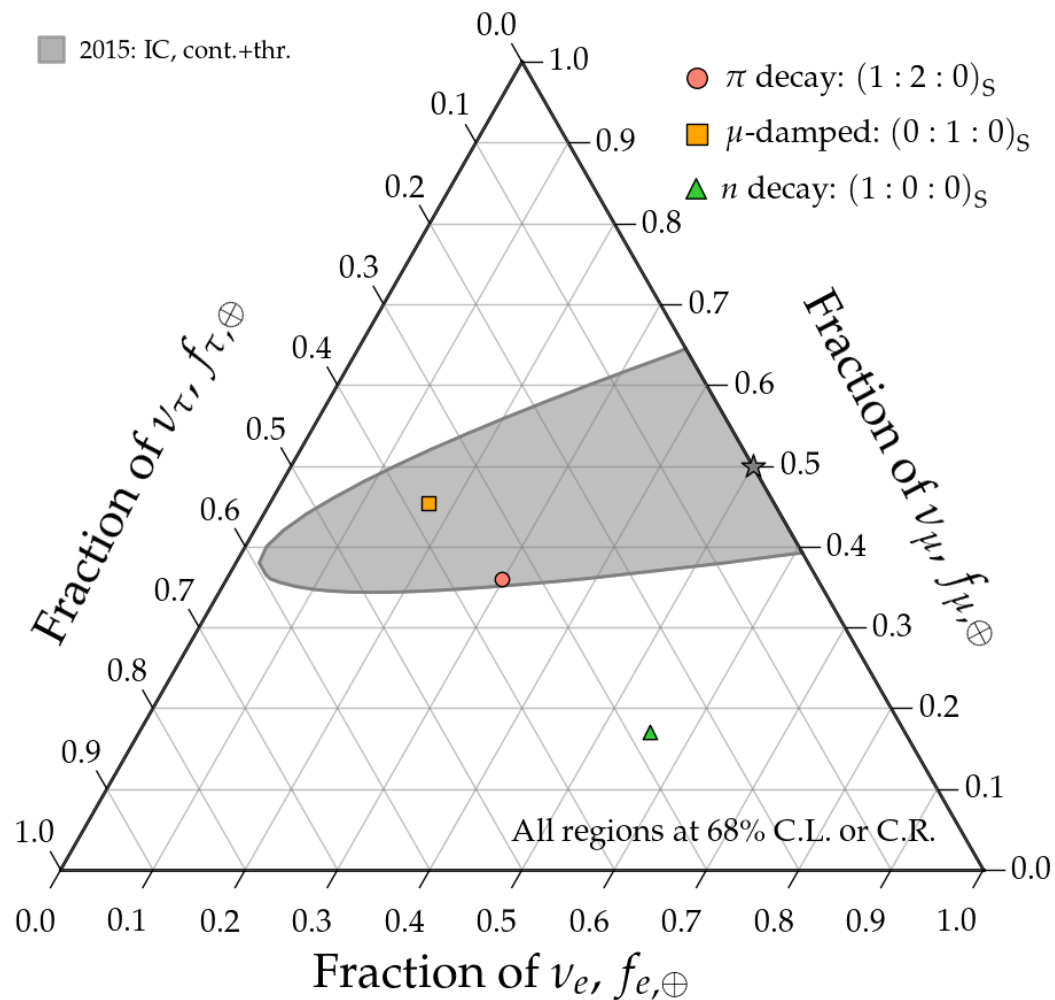
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# Measuring flavor composition: 2015–2020

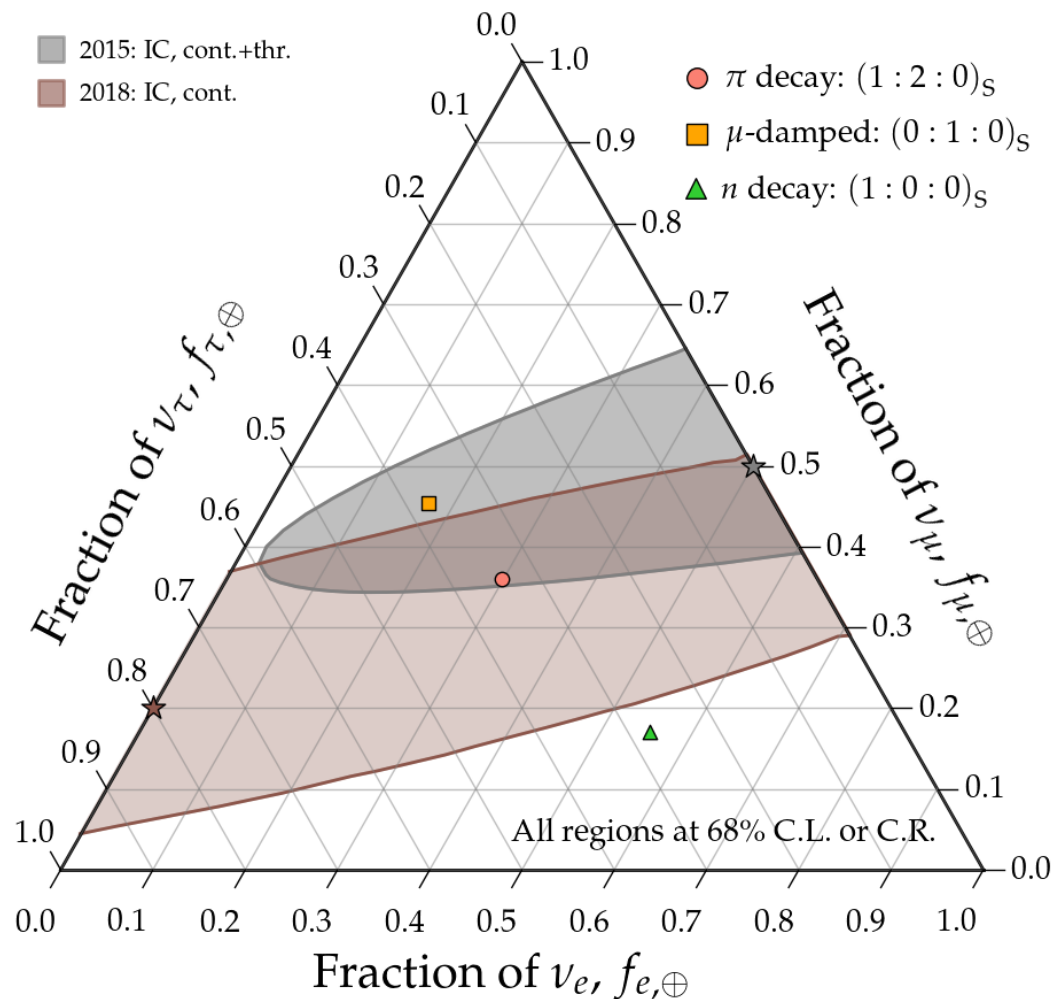
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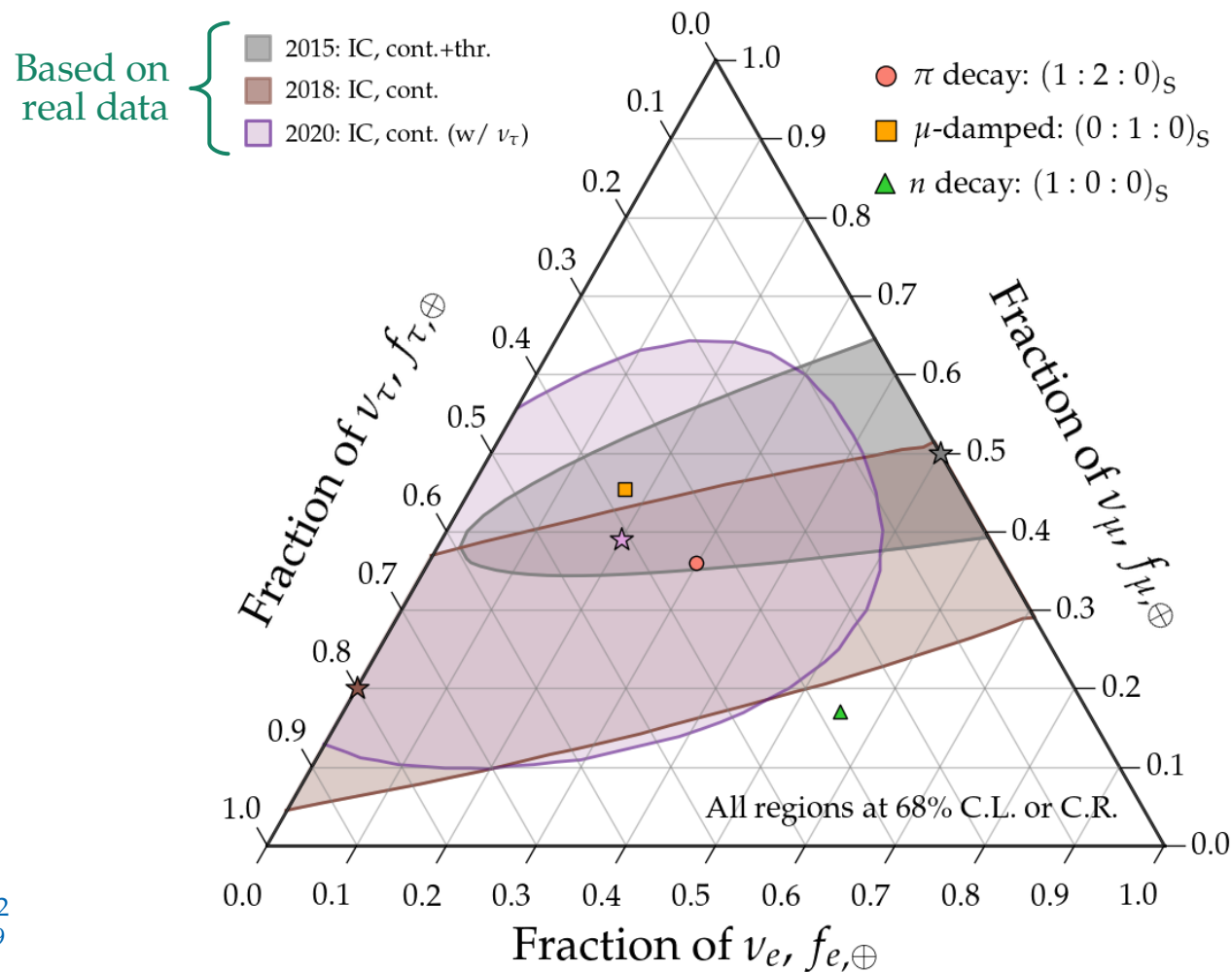


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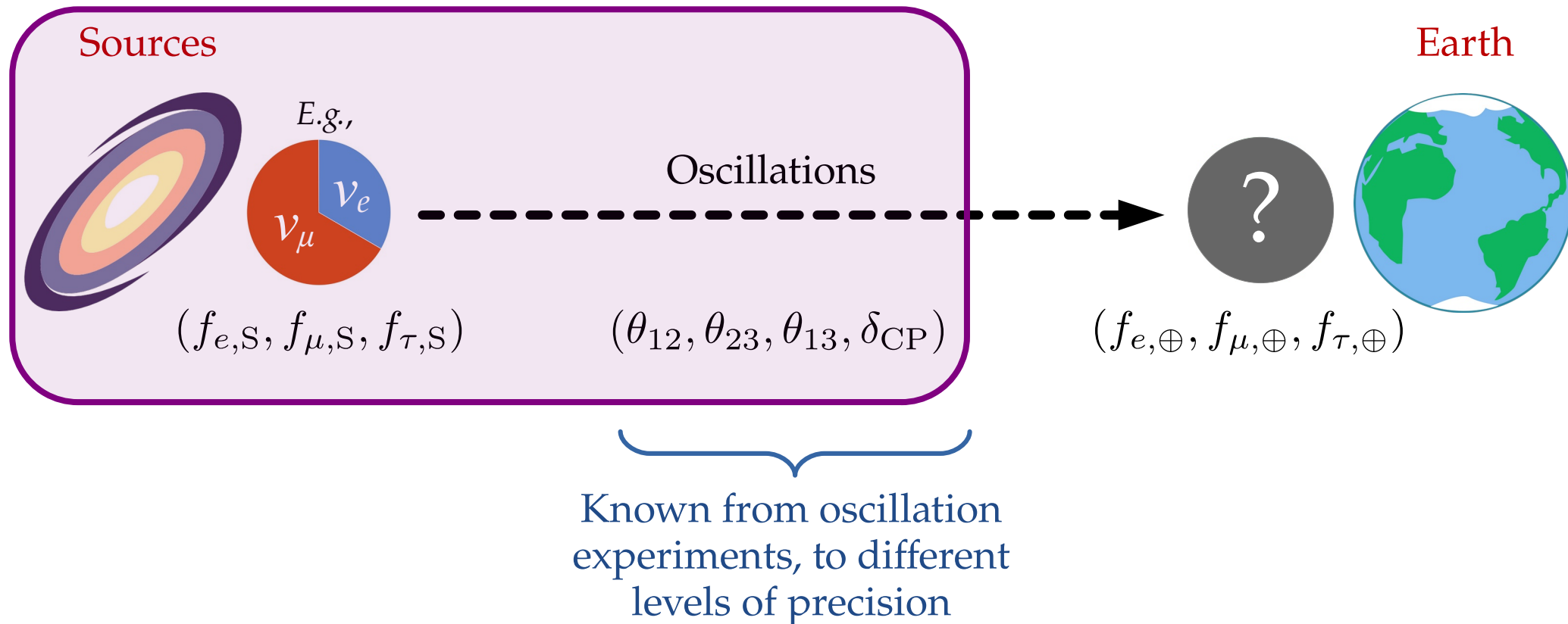




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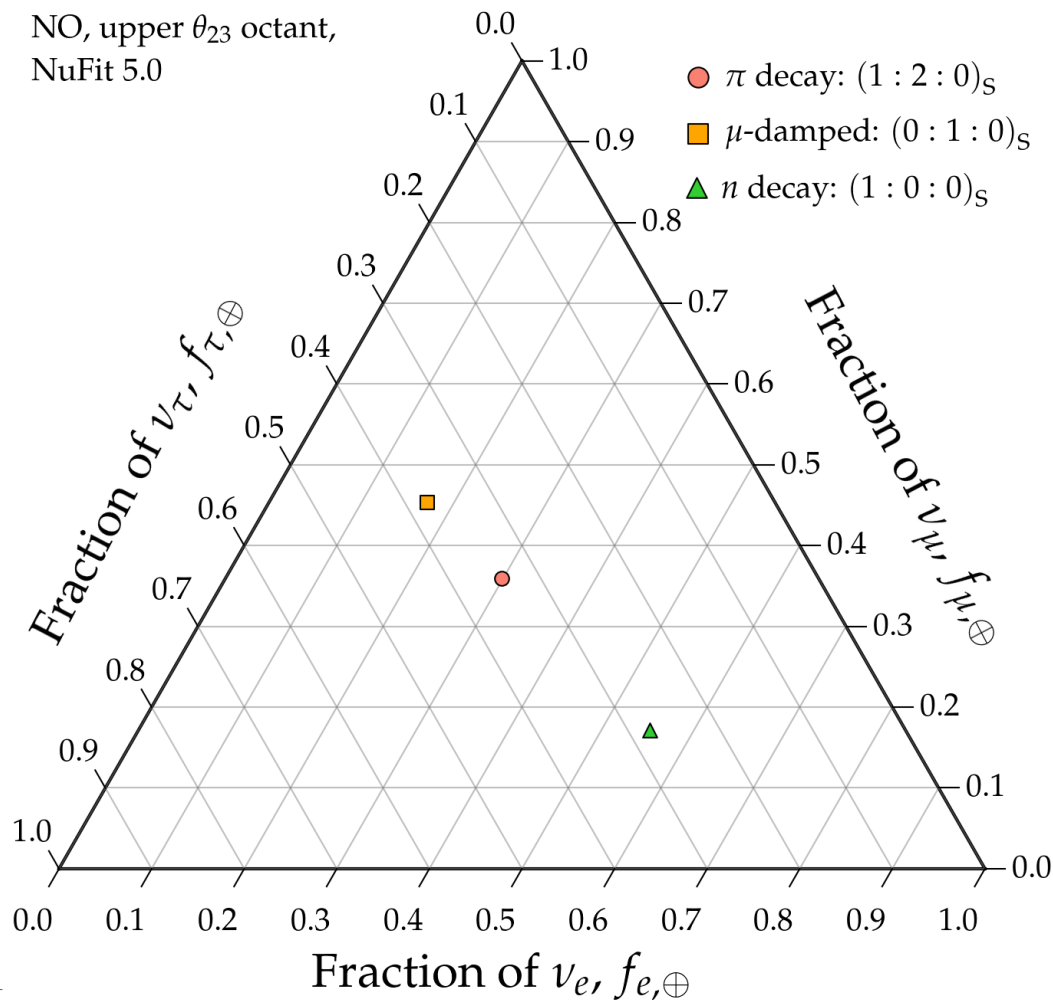


*From sources to Earth:* we learn what to expect when measuring  $f_{\alpha,\oplus}$



# Theoretically palatable regions: today

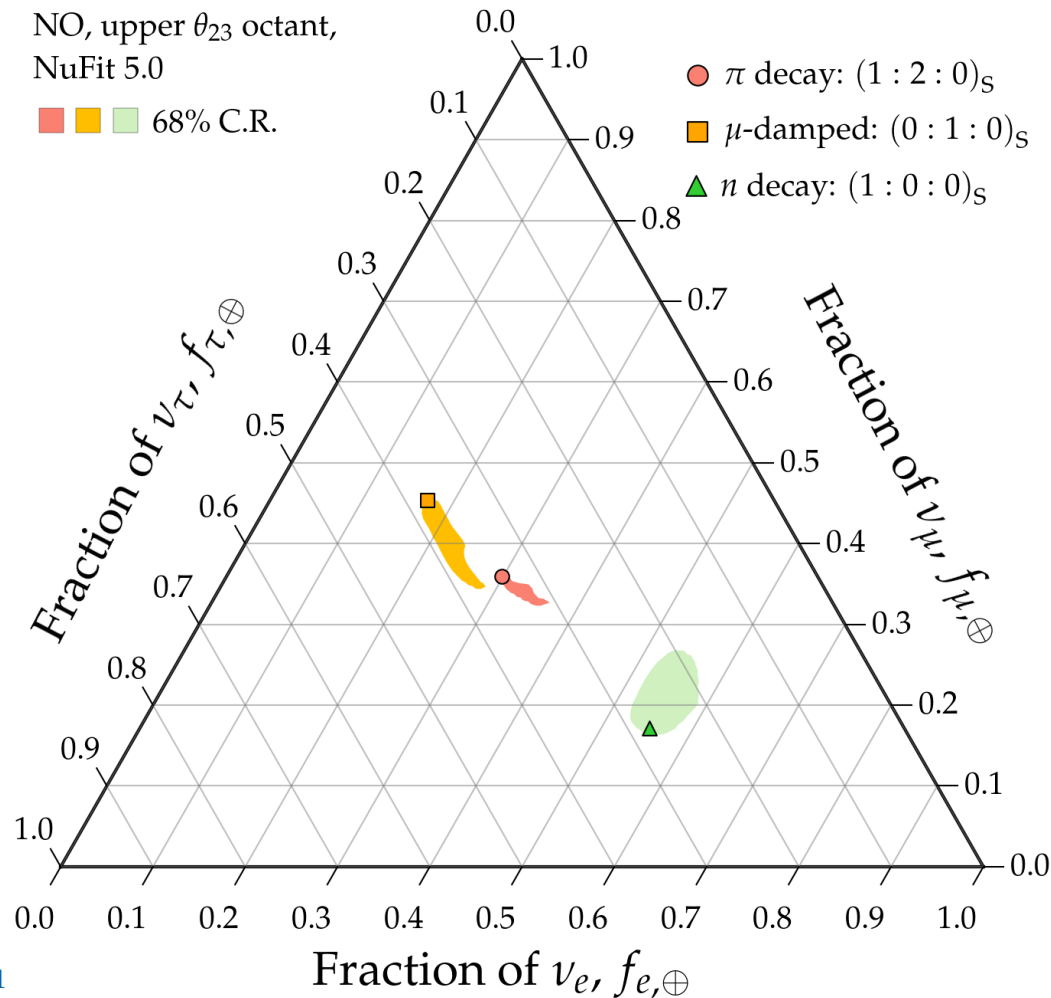
NO, upper  $\theta_{23}$  octant,  
NuFit 5.0



Note:

All plots shown are for normal neutrino mass ordering (NO);  
inverted ordering looks similar

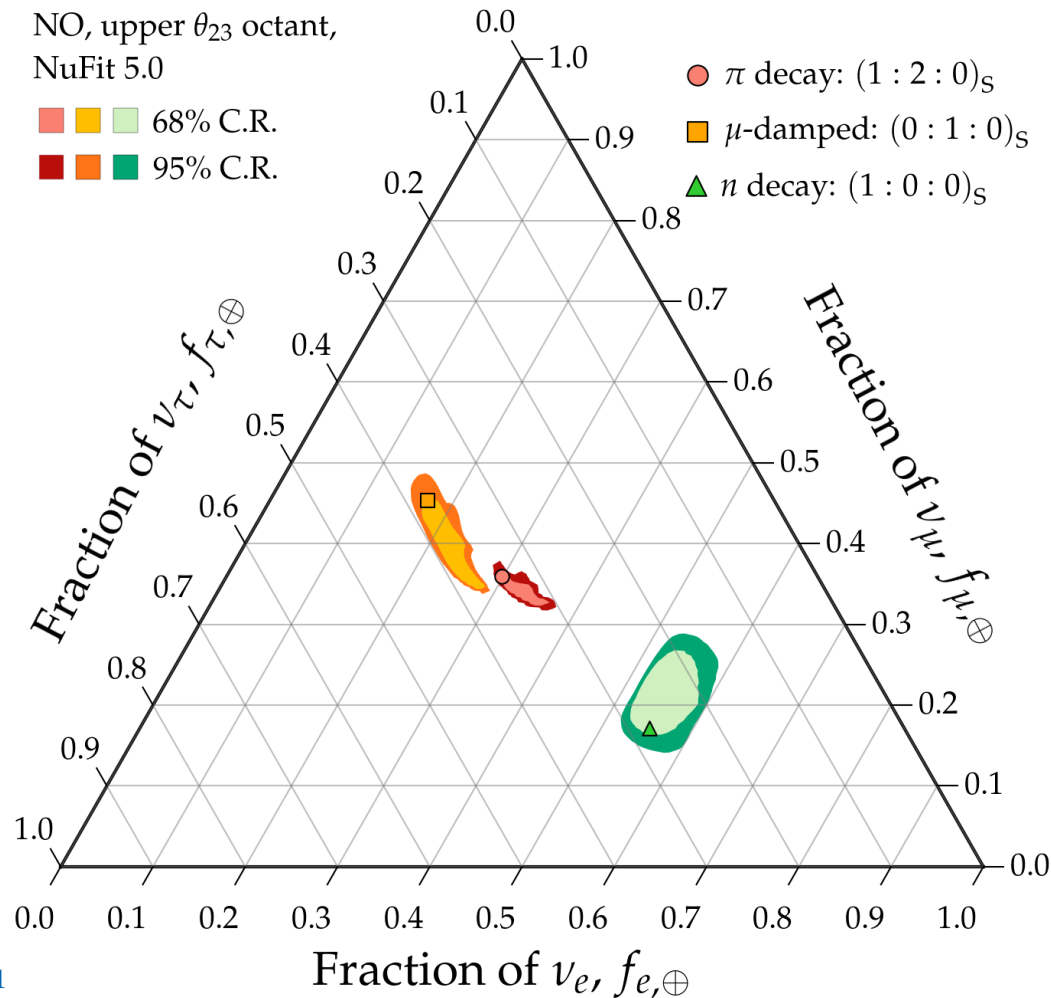
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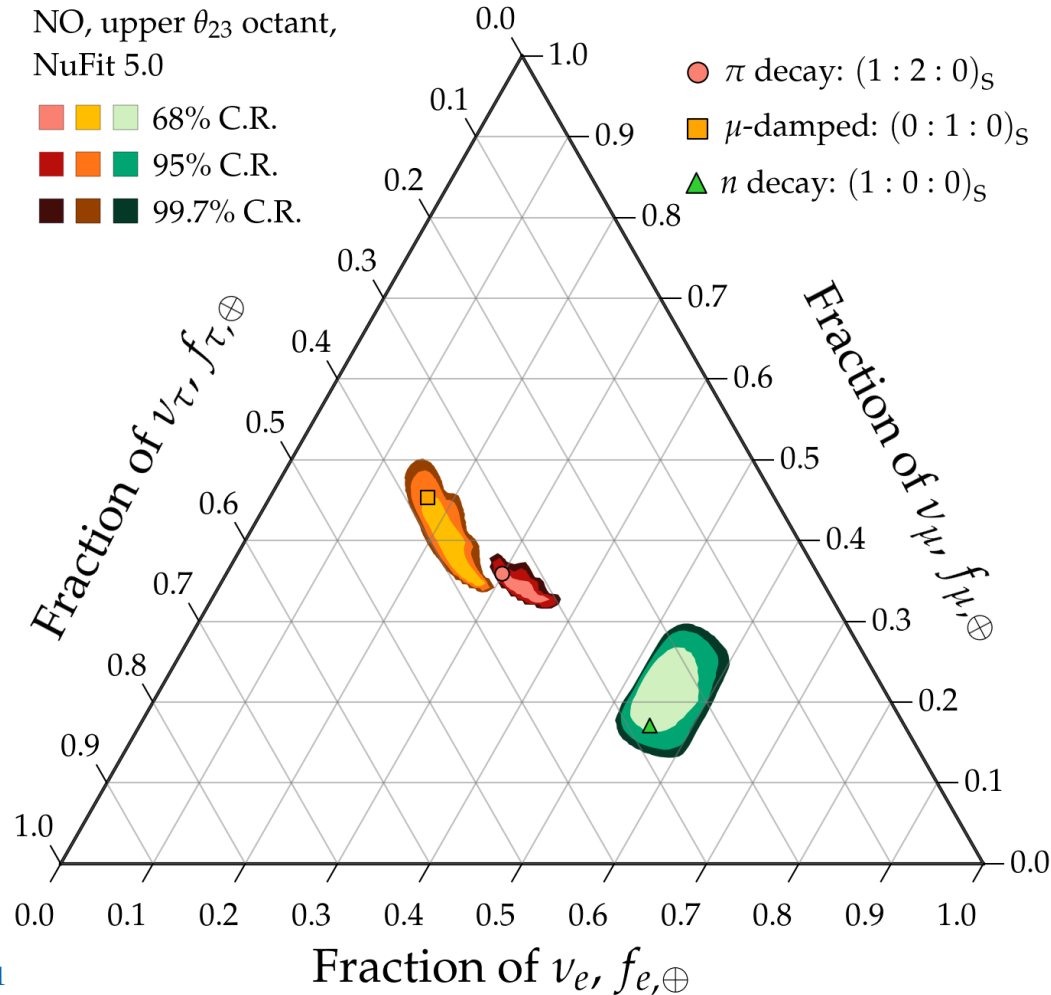


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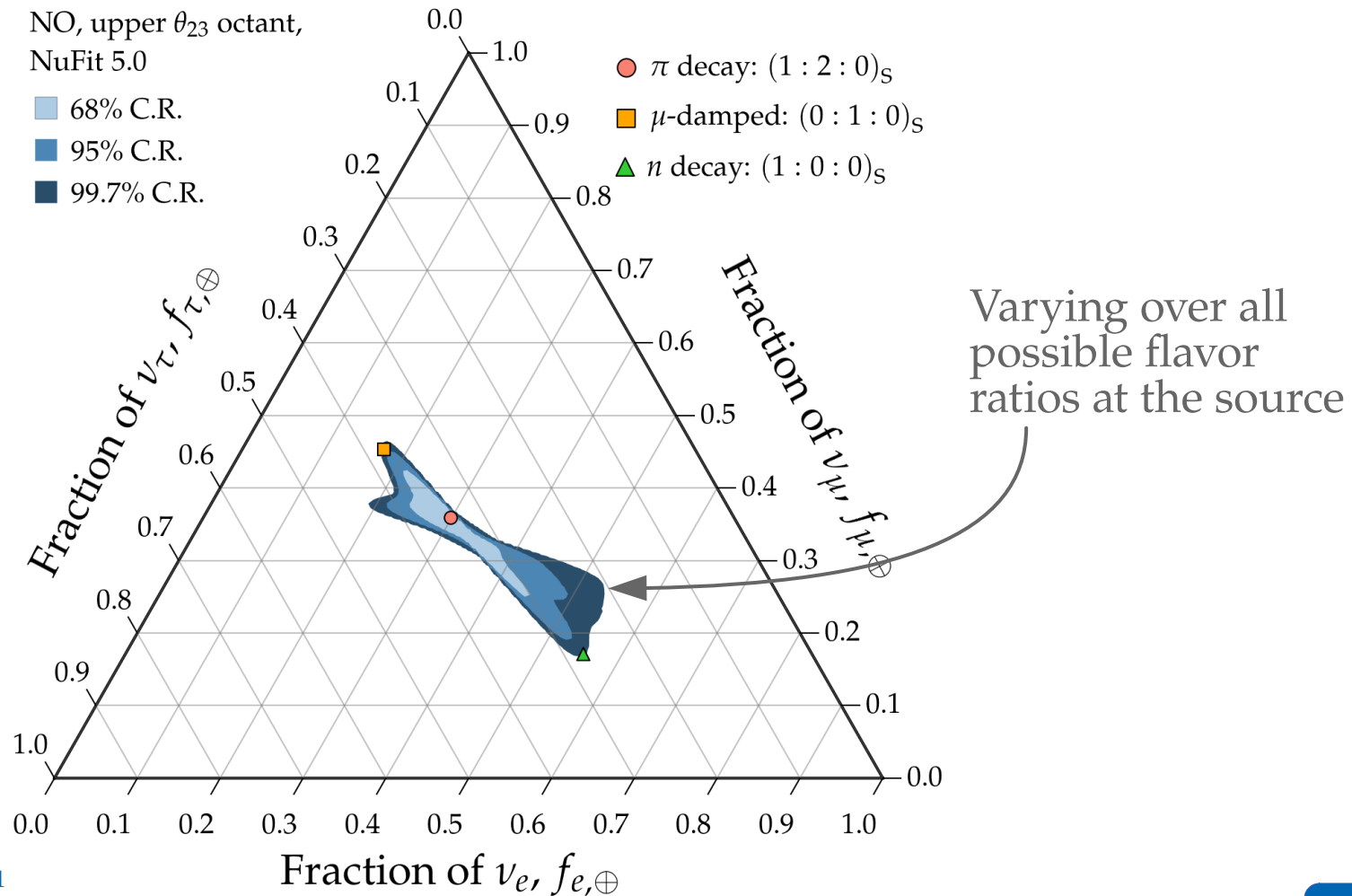
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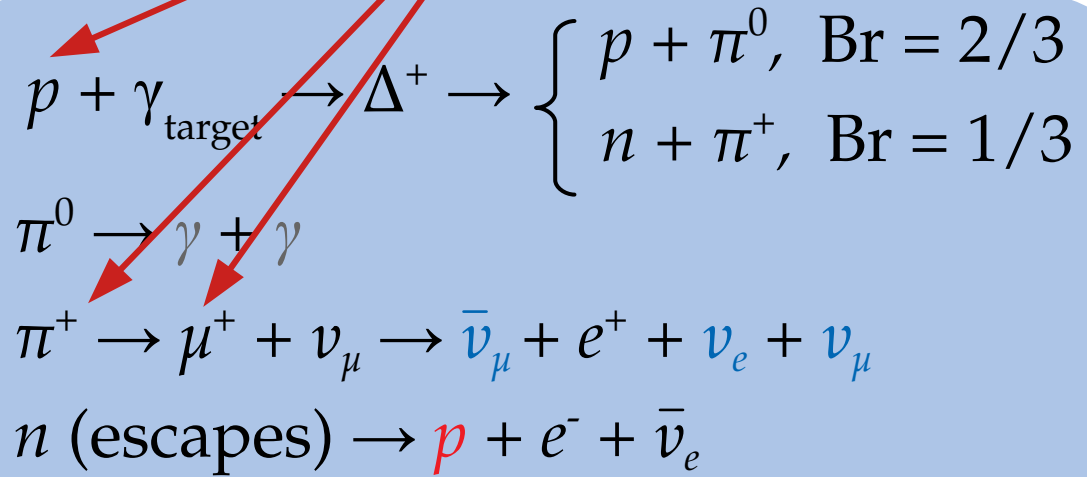
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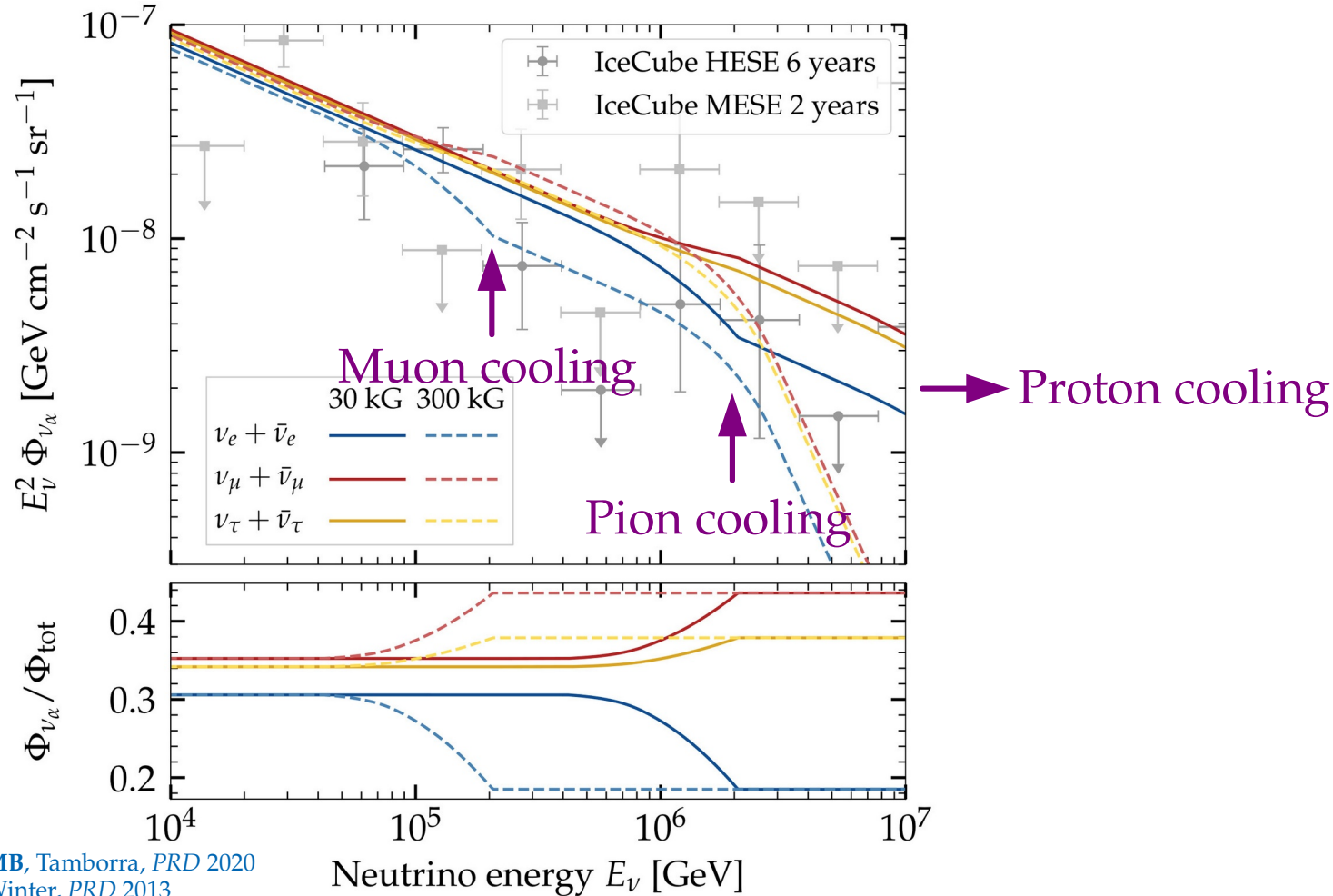
# Using high-energy neutrinos as magnetometers

If sources have strong magnetic fields, charged particles cool via synchrotron:



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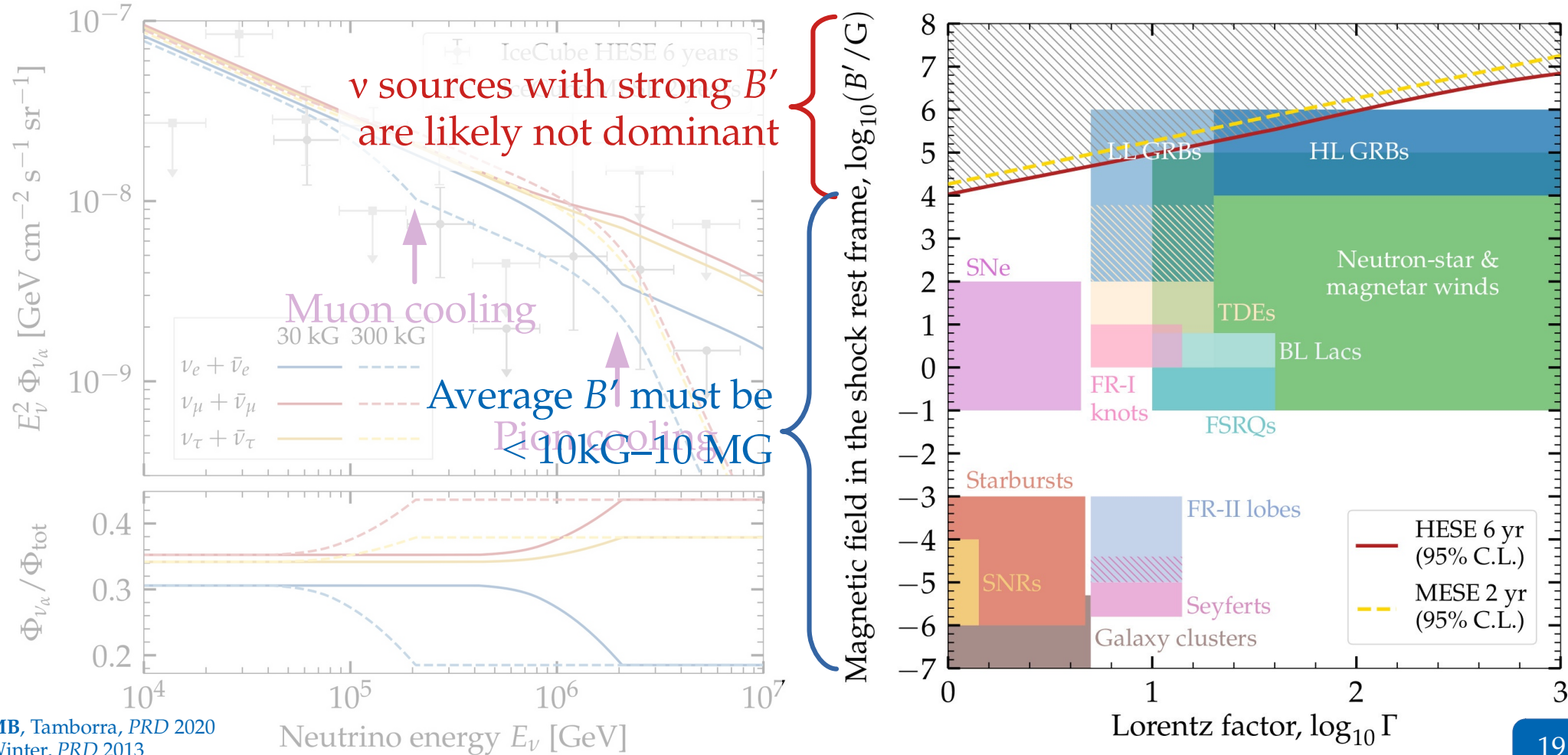
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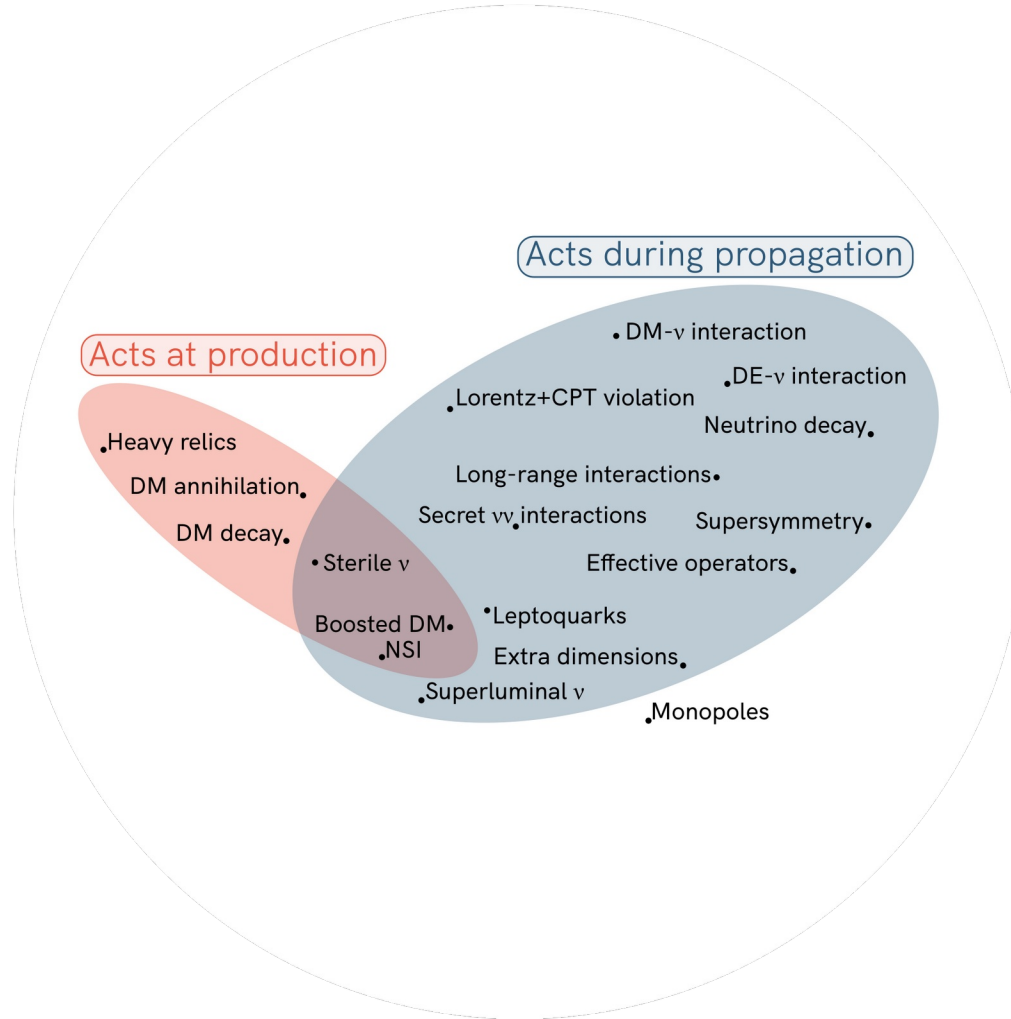




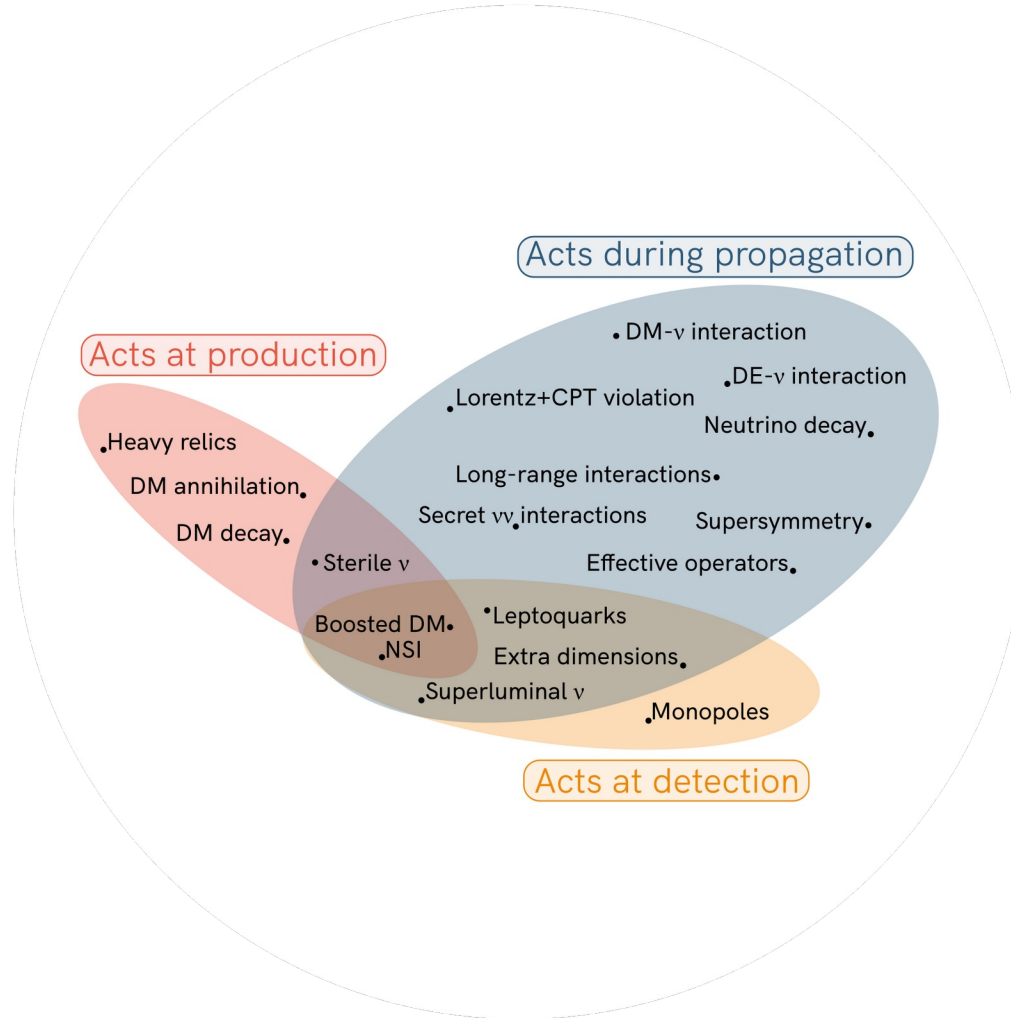
*Note: Not an exhaustive list*



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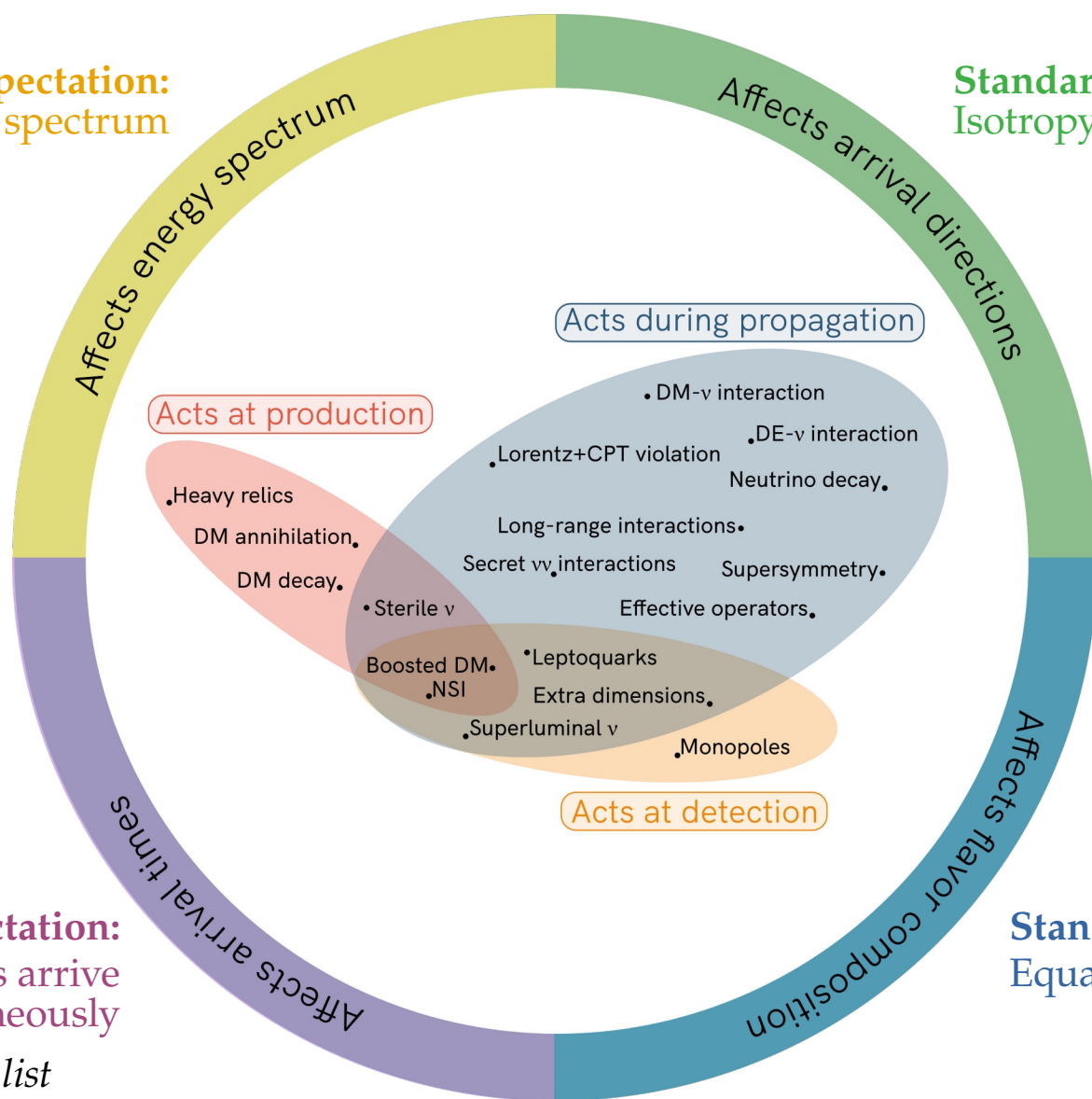
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Power-law energy spectrum

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Equal number of  $\nu_e$ ,  $\nu_\mu$ ,  $\nu_\tau$

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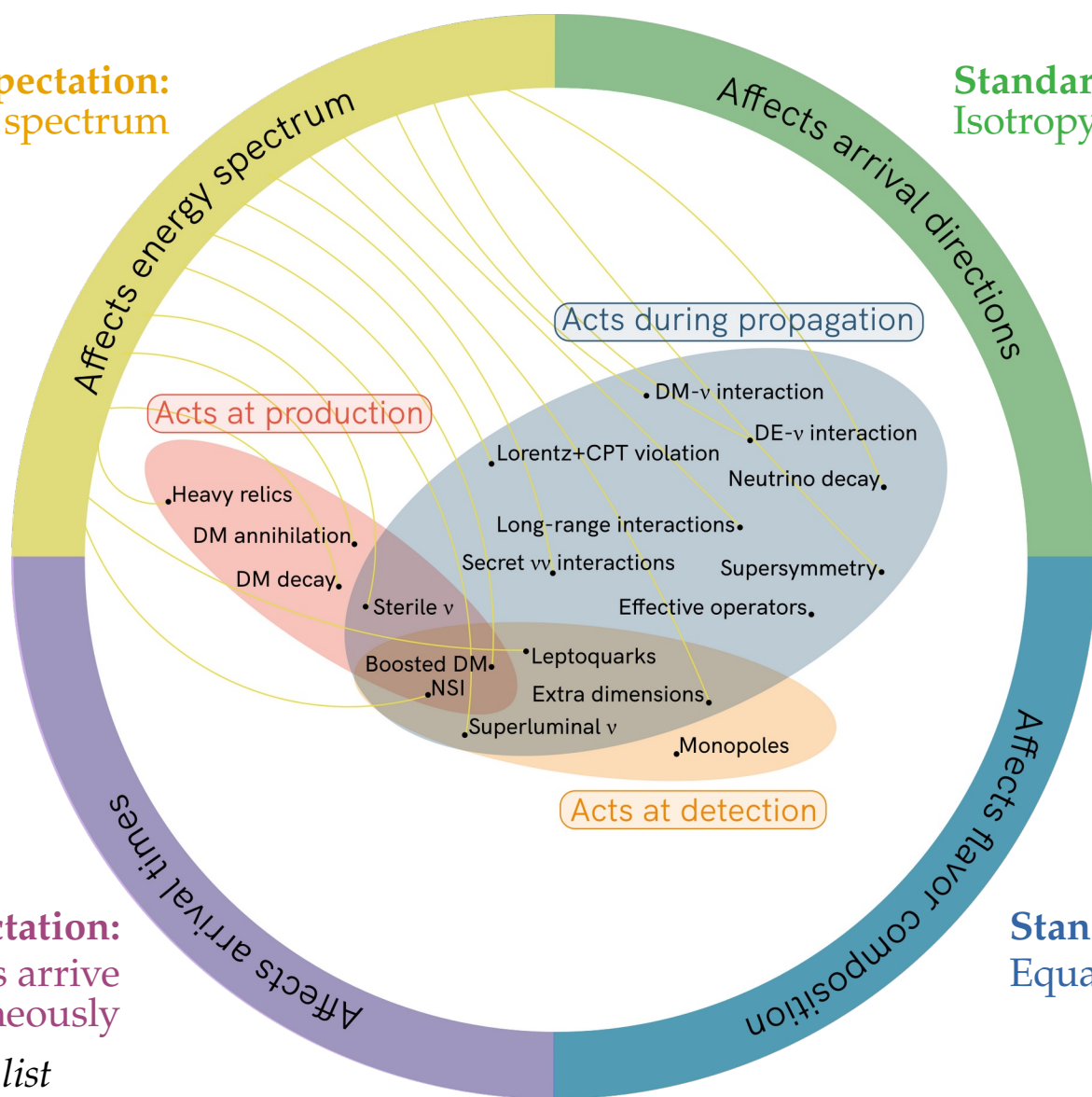
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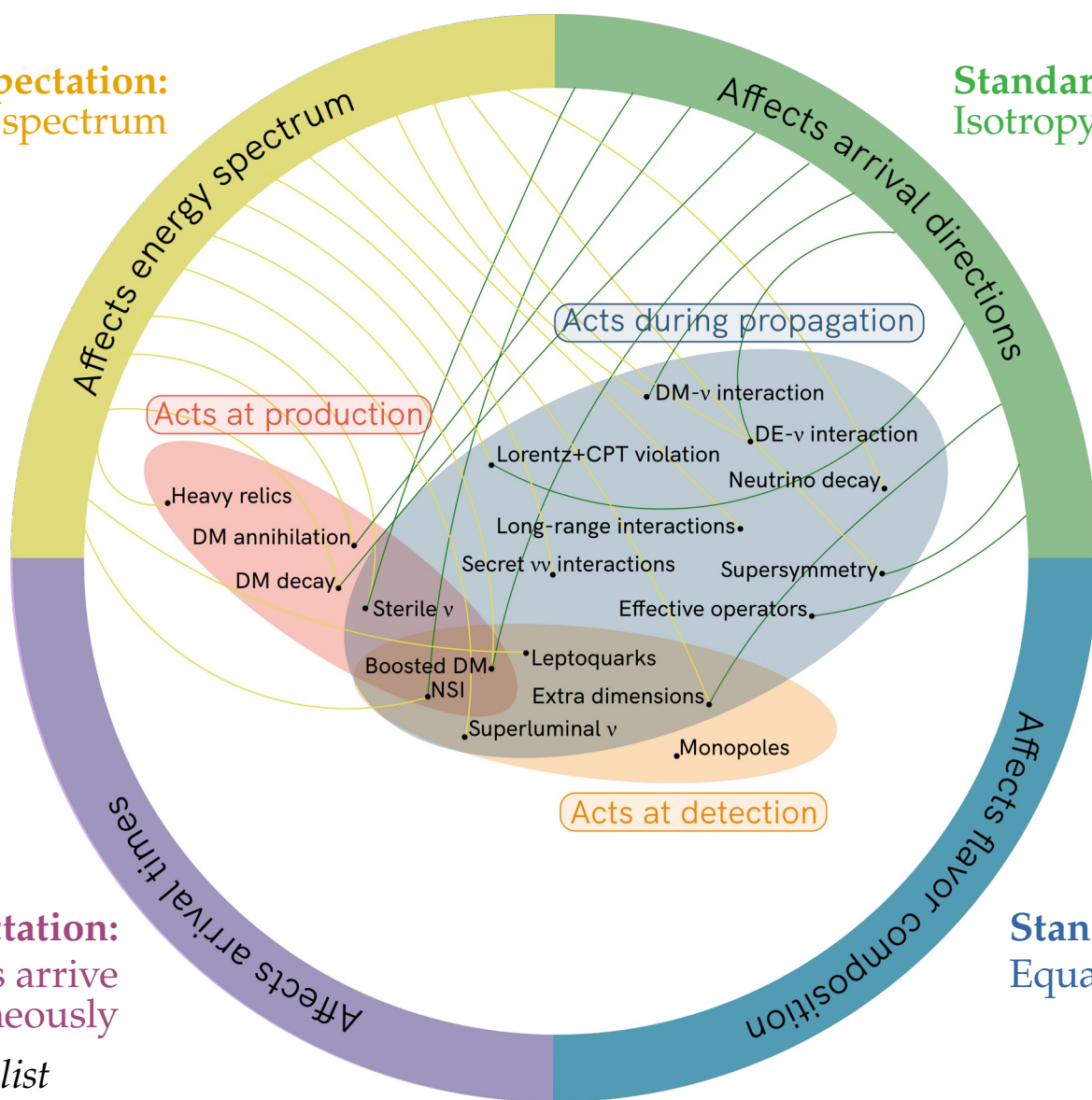
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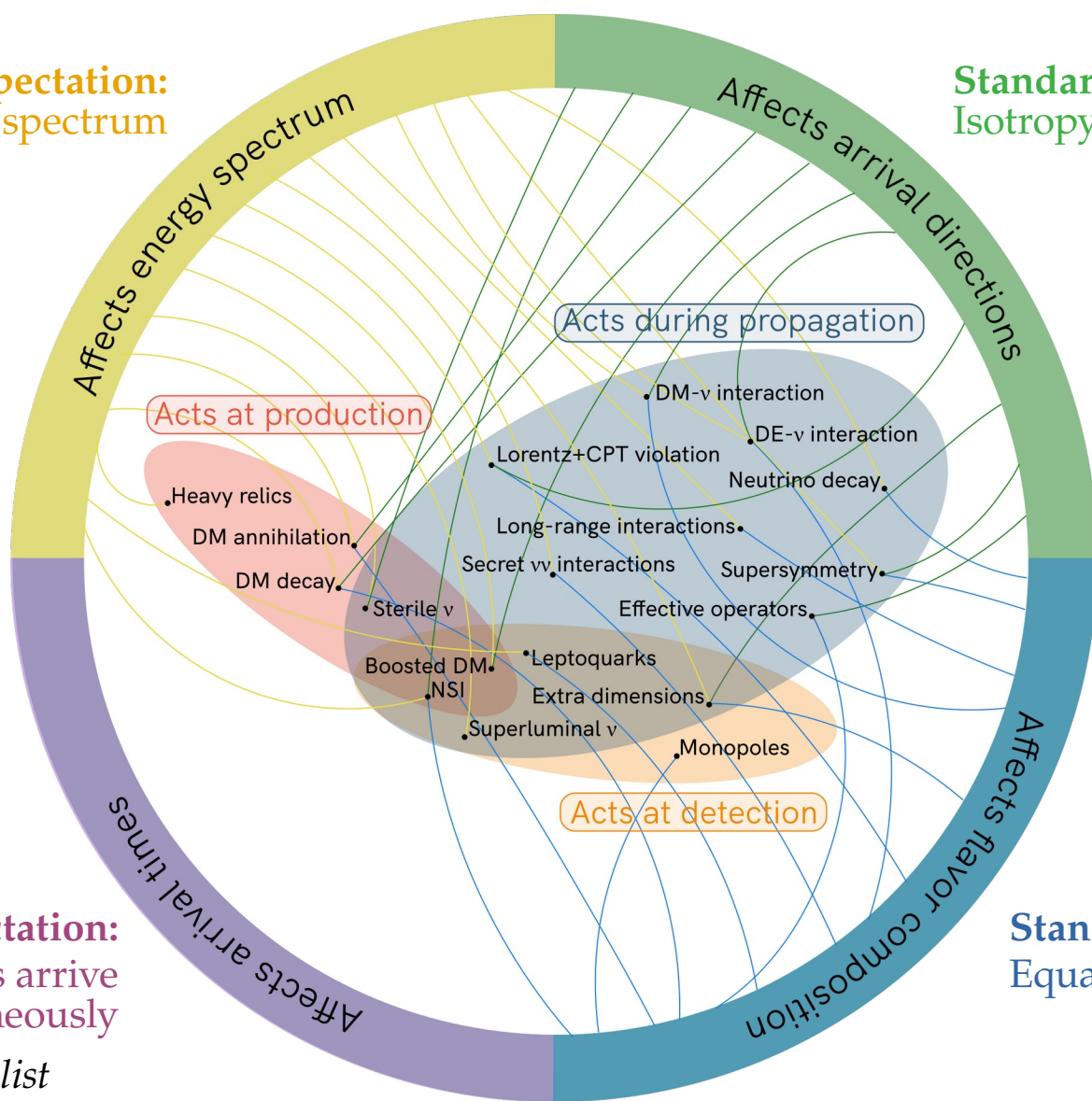
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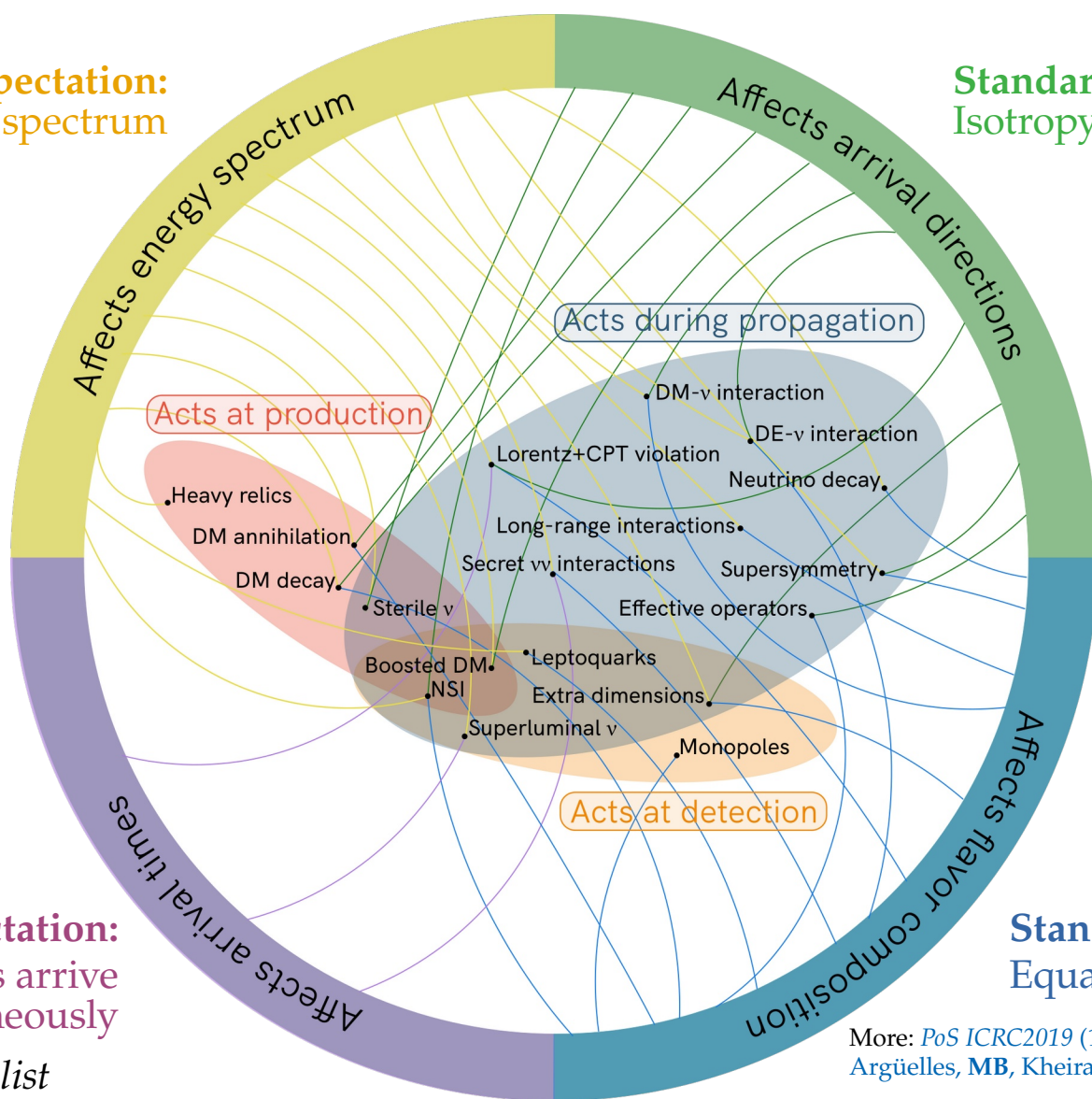
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More: *PoS ICRC2019* (1907.08690)

Argüelles, MB, Kheirandish, Palomares-Ruiz, Salvadó, Vincent



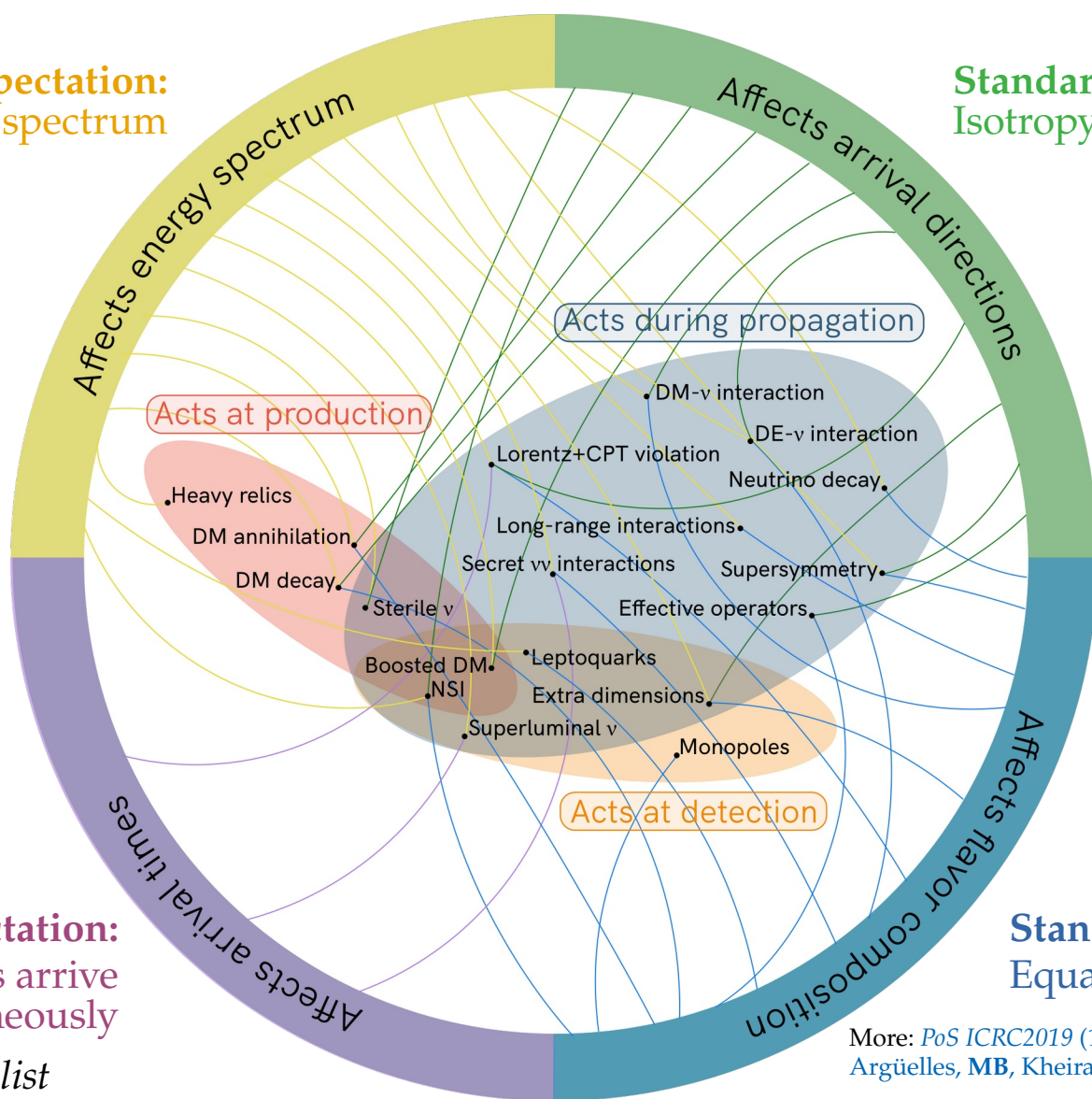
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**Standard expectation:**  
 $\nu$  and  $\gamma$  from transients arrive  
simultaneously

**Standard expectation:**  
Equal number of  $\nu_e$ ,  $\nu_\mu$ ,  $\nu_\tau$

*Note: Not an exhaustive list*



More: *PoS ICRC2019* (1907.08690)

Argüelles, MB, Kheirandish, Palomares-Ruiz, Salvadó, Vincent

Standard expectation:  
Power-law energy spectrum

Standard expectation:  
Isotropy (for diffuse flux)

Reviews:  
Ahlers, Helbing, De los Heros, *EPJC* 2018  
Argüelles, MB, Kheirandish, Palomares-Ruiz, Salvadó, Vincent, *ICRC* 2019 [1907.08690]  
Ackermann, Ahlers, Anchordoqui, MB, et al., *Astro2020 Decadal Survey* [1903.04333]

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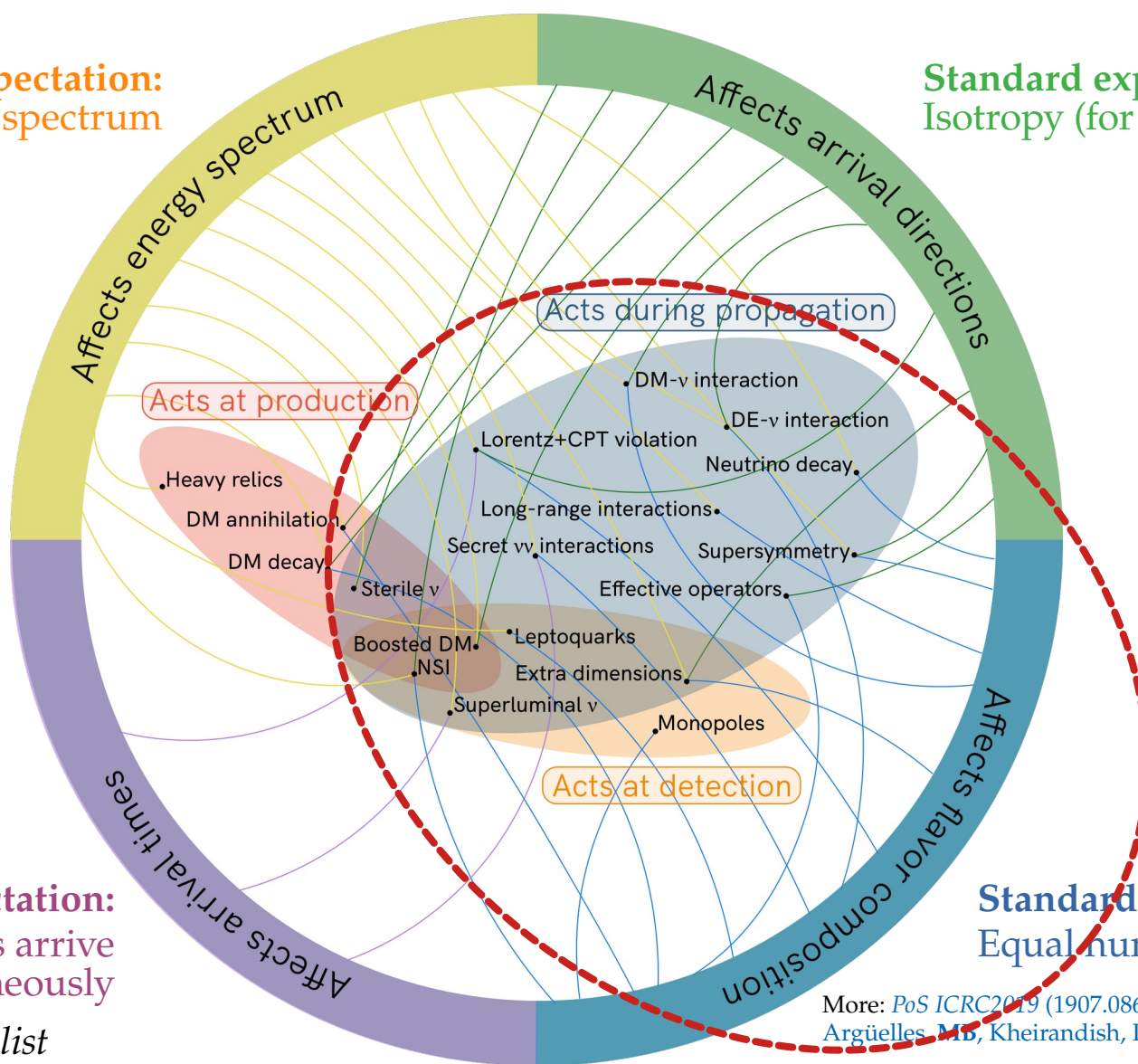
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# New physics in flavor composition

Use the flavor sensitivity to test new physics:

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Reviews:

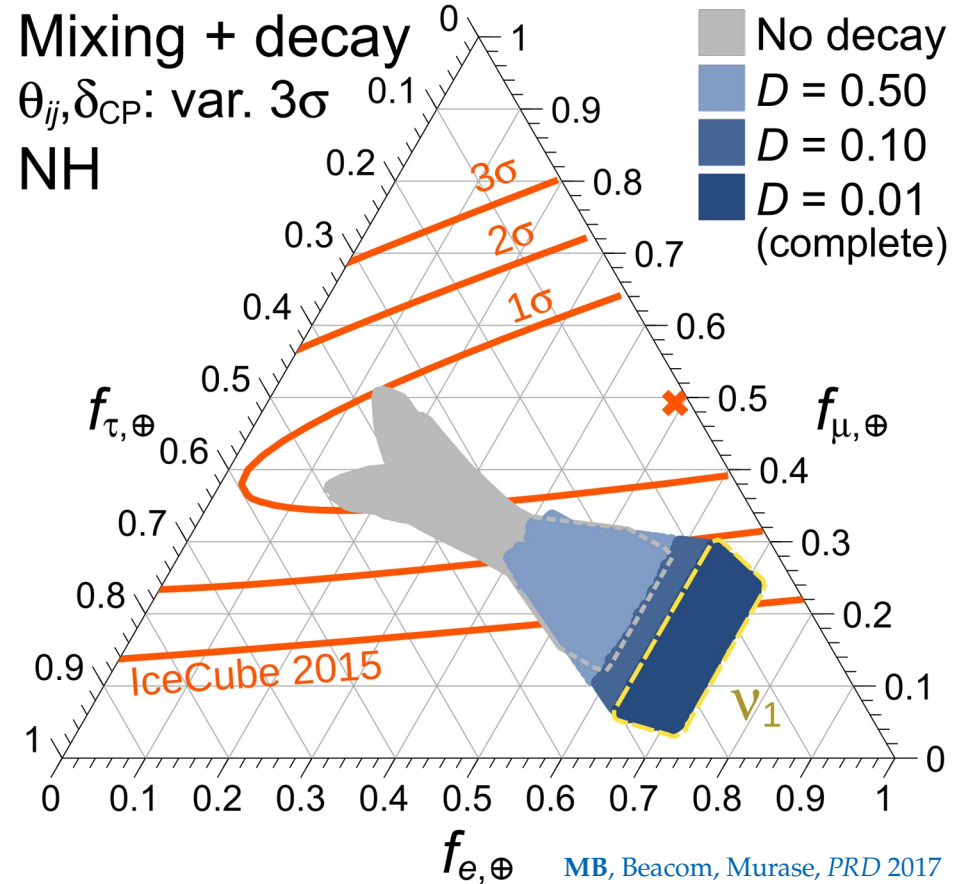
Argüelles *et al.* (inc. **MB**), *EPJC* 2023; Mehta & Winter, *JCAP* 2011; Rasmussen *et al.*, *PRD* 2017

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Use the flavor sensitivity to test new physics:

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[Beacom *et al.*, *PRL* 2003; Baerwald, **MB**, Winter, *JCAP* 2010;  
**MB**, Beacom, Winter, *PRL* 2015; **MB**, Beacom, Murase, *PRD* 2017]



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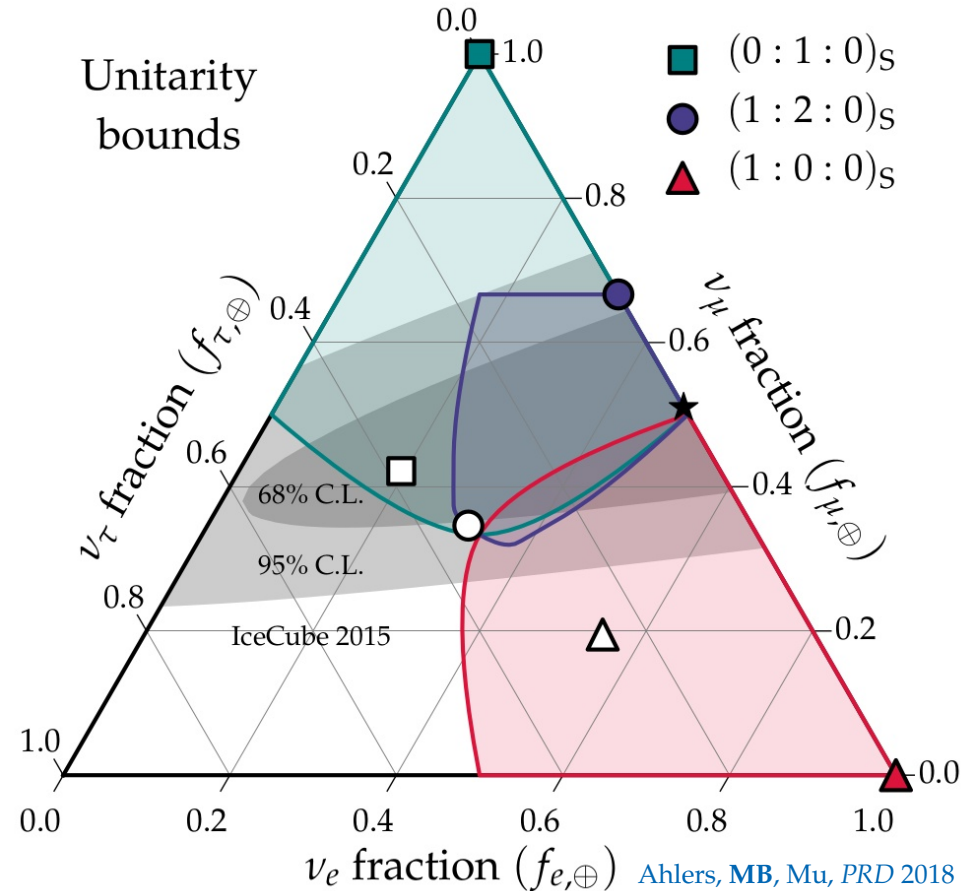
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- Tests of unitarity at high energy

[Xu, He, Rodejohann, *JCAP* 2014; Ahlers, **MB**, Mu, *PRD* 2018;  
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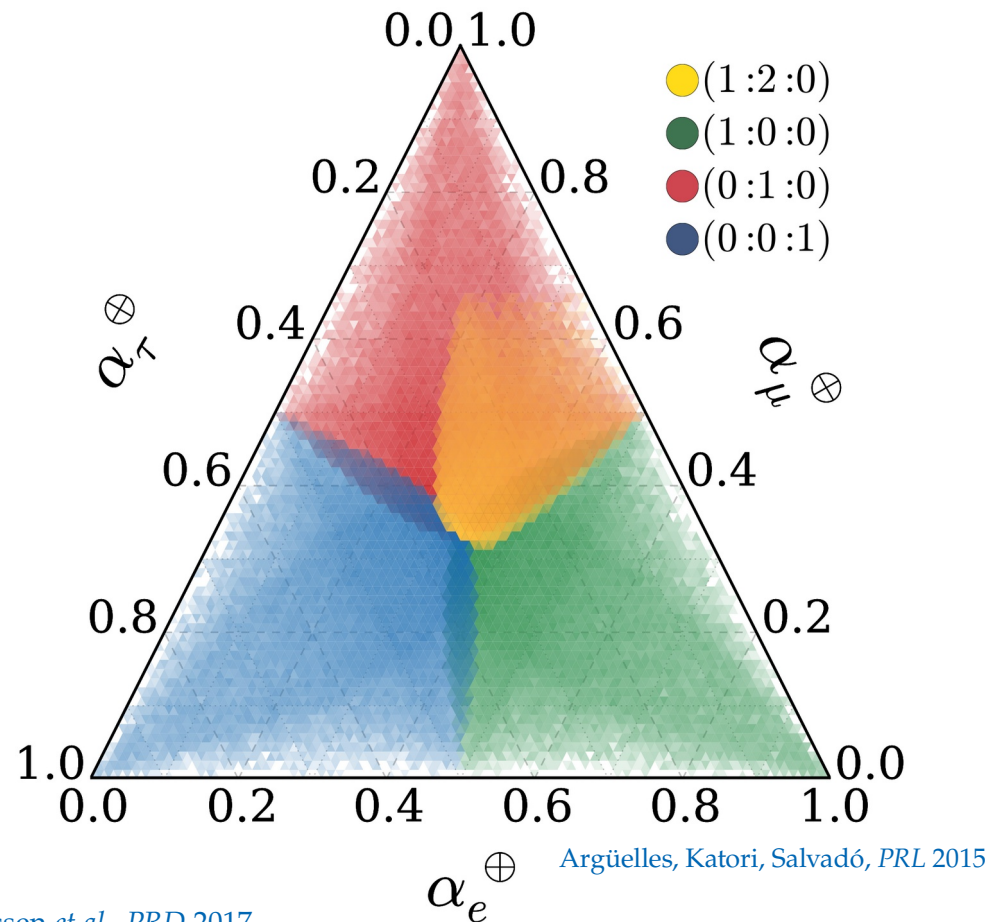
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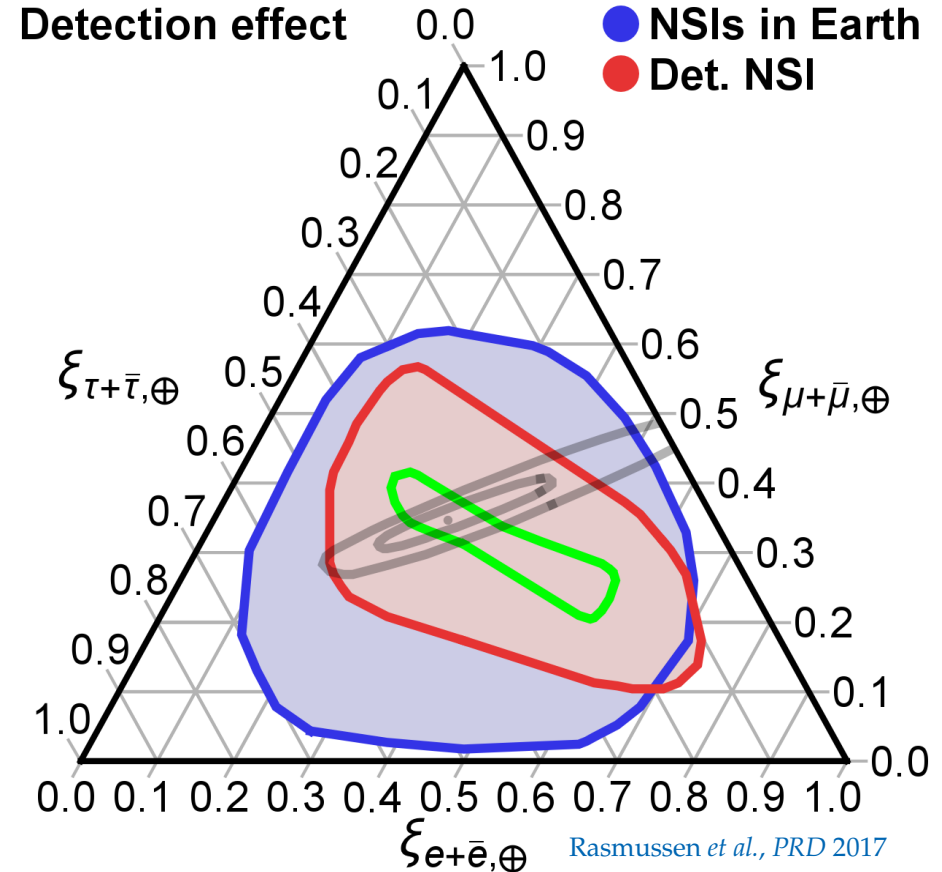
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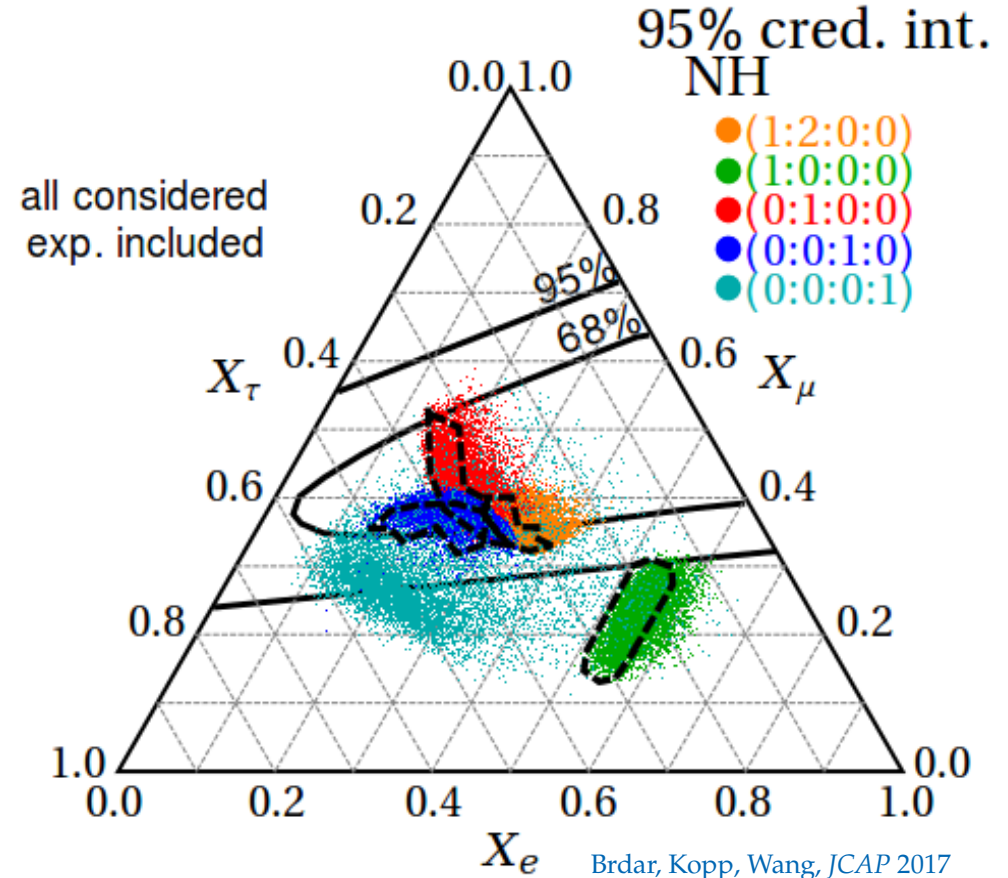
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Reviews:

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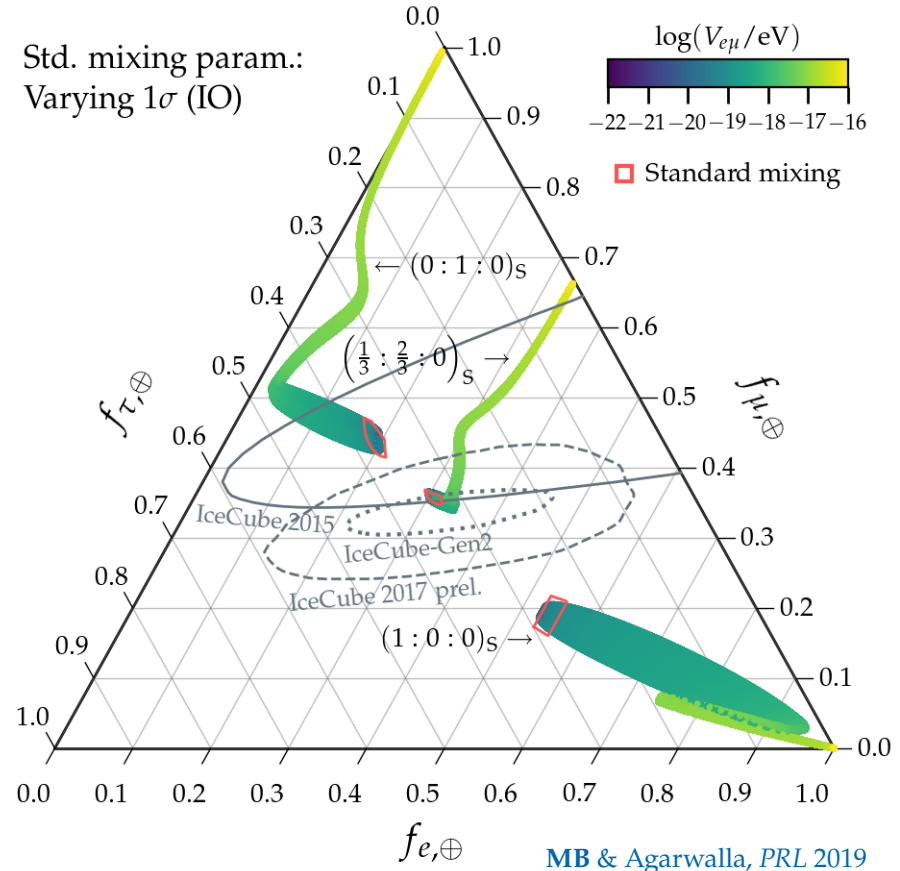
[Aeikens *et al.*, *JCAP* 2015; Brdar, Kopp, Wang, *JCAP* 2017;  
Argüelles *et al.*, *JCAP* 2020; Ahlers, **MB**, *JCAP* 2021]

- Long-range  $e\nu$  interactions

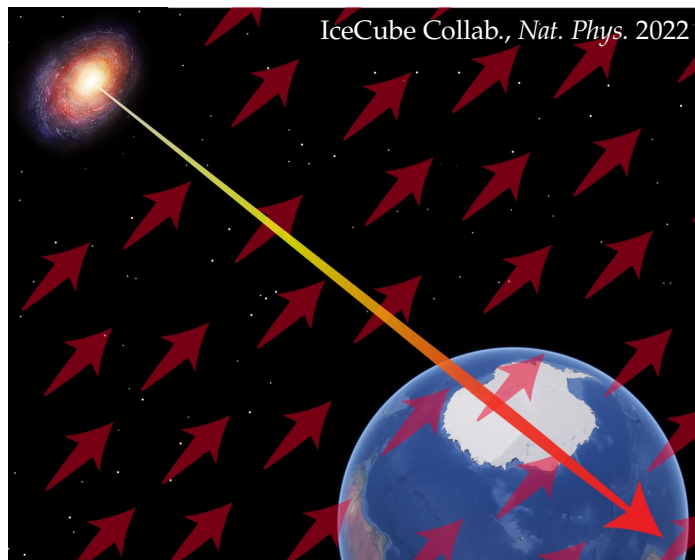
[**MB** & Agarwalla, *PRL* 2019]

Reviews:

Argüelles *et al.* (inc. **MB**), *EPJC* 2023; Mehta & Winter, *JCAP* 2011; Rasmussen *et al.*, *PRD* 2017



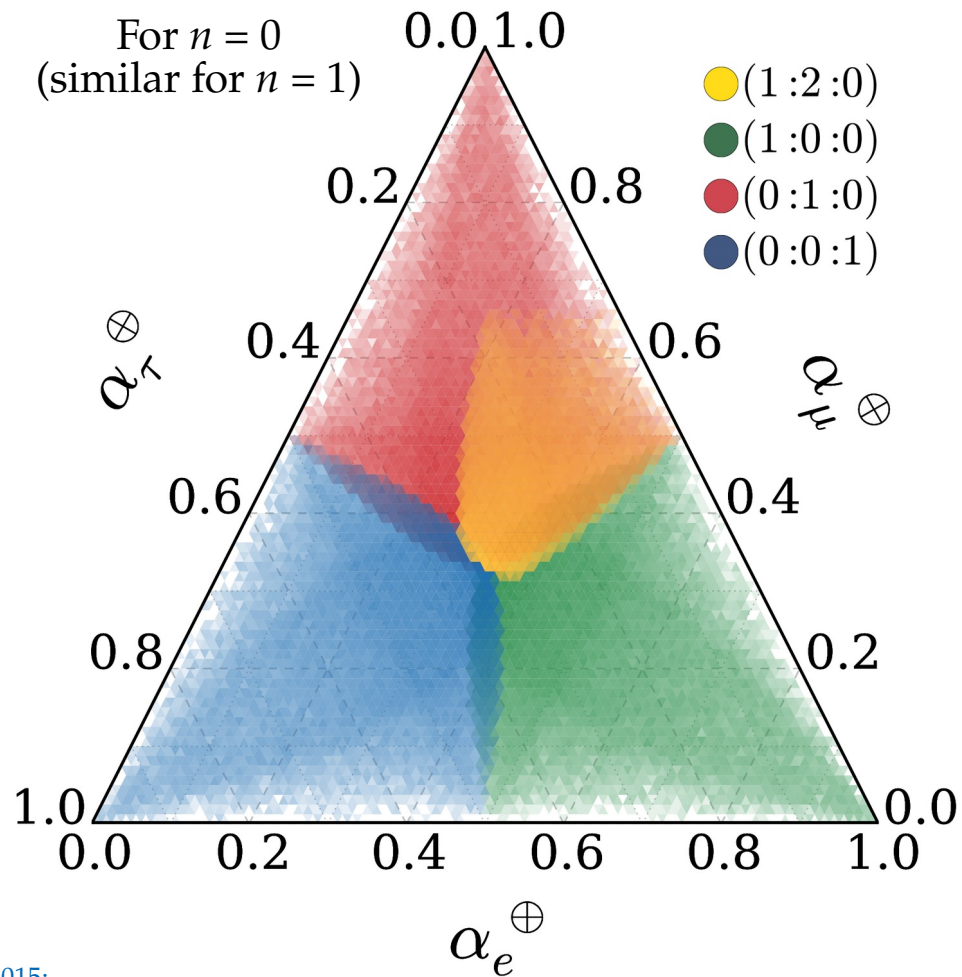
# Lorentz-invariance violation can fill up the flavor triangle



$$H_{\text{tot}} = H_{\text{std}} + H_{\text{NP}}$$

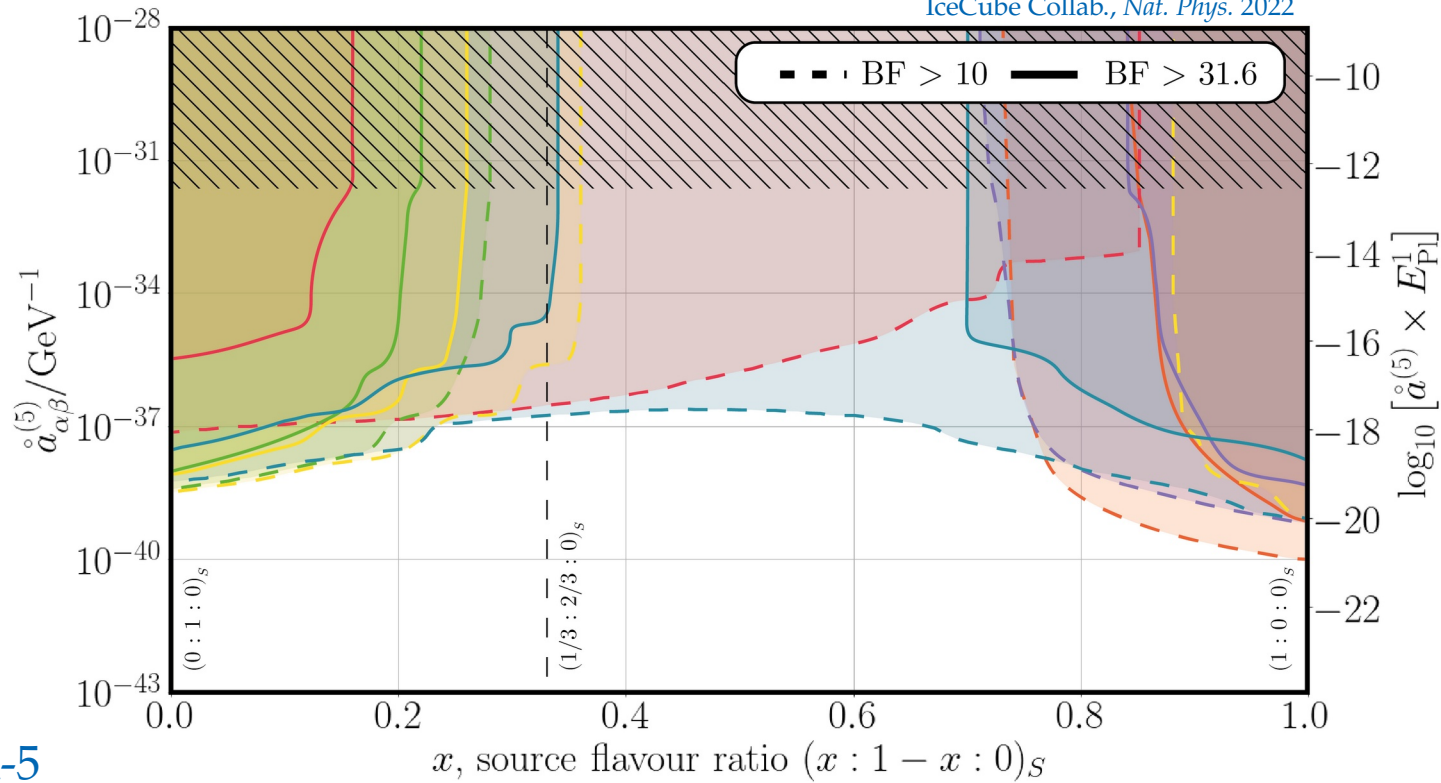
$$H_{\text{std}} = \frac{1}{2E} U_{\text{PMNS}}^\dagger \text{diag} (0, \Delta m_{21}^2, \Delta m_{31}^2) U_{\text{PMNS}}$$

$$H_{\text{NP}} = \sum_n \left( \frac{E}{\Lambda_n} \right)^n U_n^\dagger \text{diag} (O_{n,1}, O_{n,2}, O_{n,3}) U_n$$

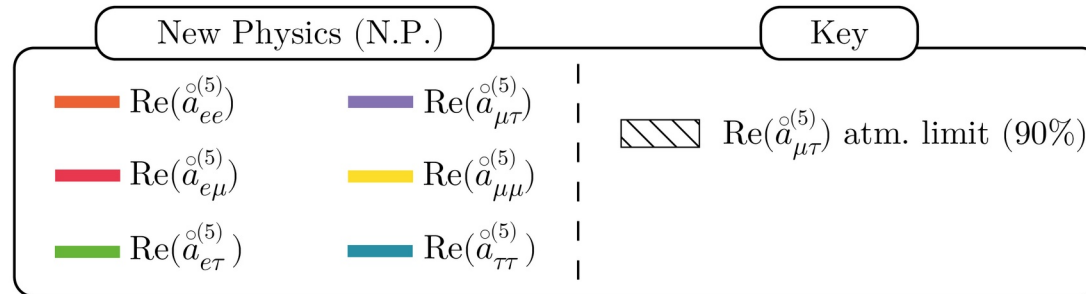


See also: Ahlers, **MB**, Mu, *PRD* 2018; Rasmusen *et al.*, *PRD* 2017; **MB**, Beacom, Winter *PRL* 2015; **MB**, Gago, Peña-Garay *JCAP* 2010; Bazo, **MB**, Gago, Miranda *IJMPA* 2009; + many others

Argüelles, Katori, Salvadó, *PRL* 2015



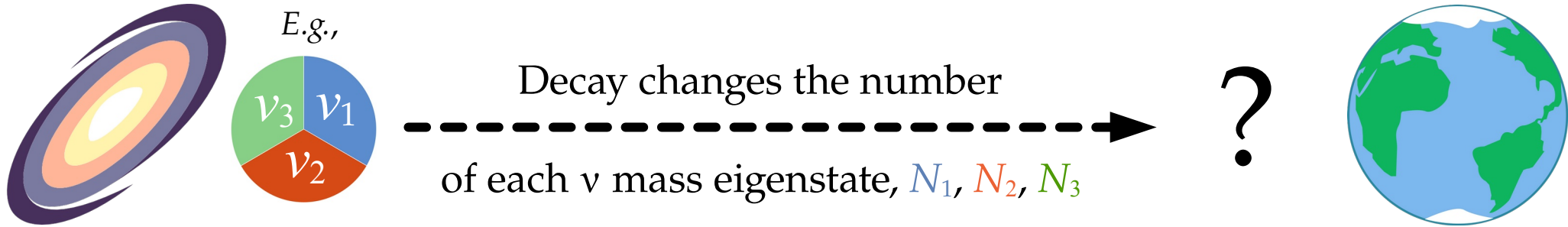
Dimension-5  
 CPT-odd  
 Isotropic  
 Lorentz-invariance  
 -violating  
 coefficient



Astrophysical sources

Earth

$L \sim$  up to a few Gpc



The flux of  $\nu_i$  is attenuated by  $\exp[- (L/E) \cdot (\underbrace{m_i}_{\text{Mass of } \nu_i} / \underbrace{\tau_i}_{\text{Lifetime of } \nu_i})]$

Astrophysical sources

Earth

$L \sim$  up to a few Gpc



Decay changes the number  
of each  $\nu$  mass eigenstate,  $N_1, N_2, N_3$

?



Only sensitive to their ratio

The flux of  $\nu_i$  is attenuated by  $\exp[- (L/E) \cdot \overbrace{(m_i/\tau_i)}^{\text{Mass of } \nu_i \text{ Lifetime of } \nu_i}]$

Astrophysical sources

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?



Lower- $E$   $\nu$  are longer-lived...

The flux of  $\nu_i$  is attenuated by  $\exp[- (L/E) \cdot (m_i/\tau_i)]$

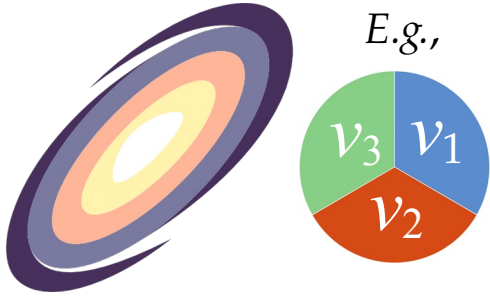
... but  $\nu$  that travel longer  $L$  are more attenuated!



Astrophysical sources

Earth

$L \sim$  up to a few Gpc



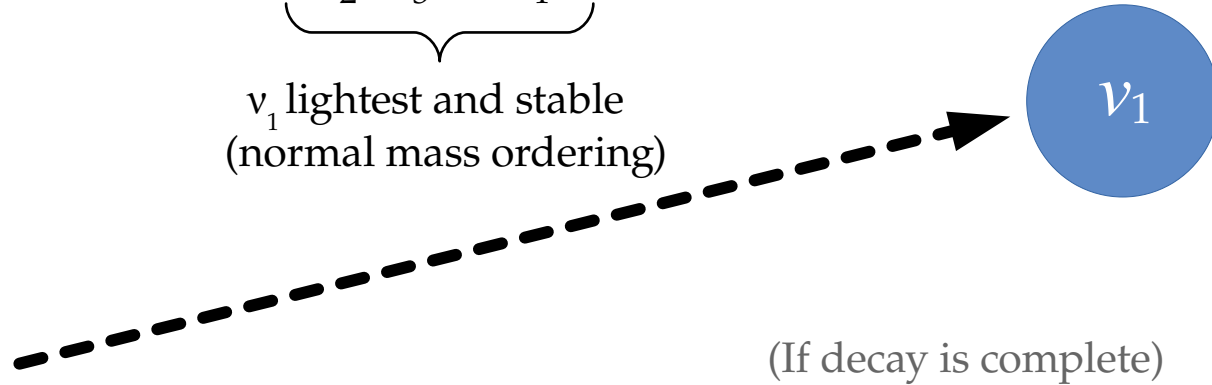
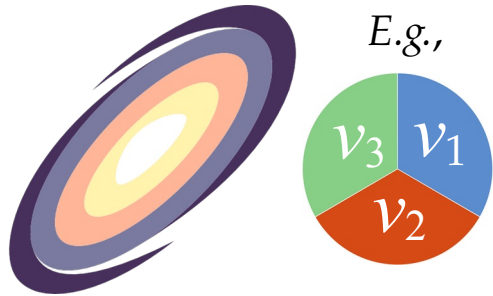
Astrophysical sources

Earth

$L \sim \text{up to a few Gpc}$

$$\nu_2, \nu_3 \rightarrow \nu_1$$

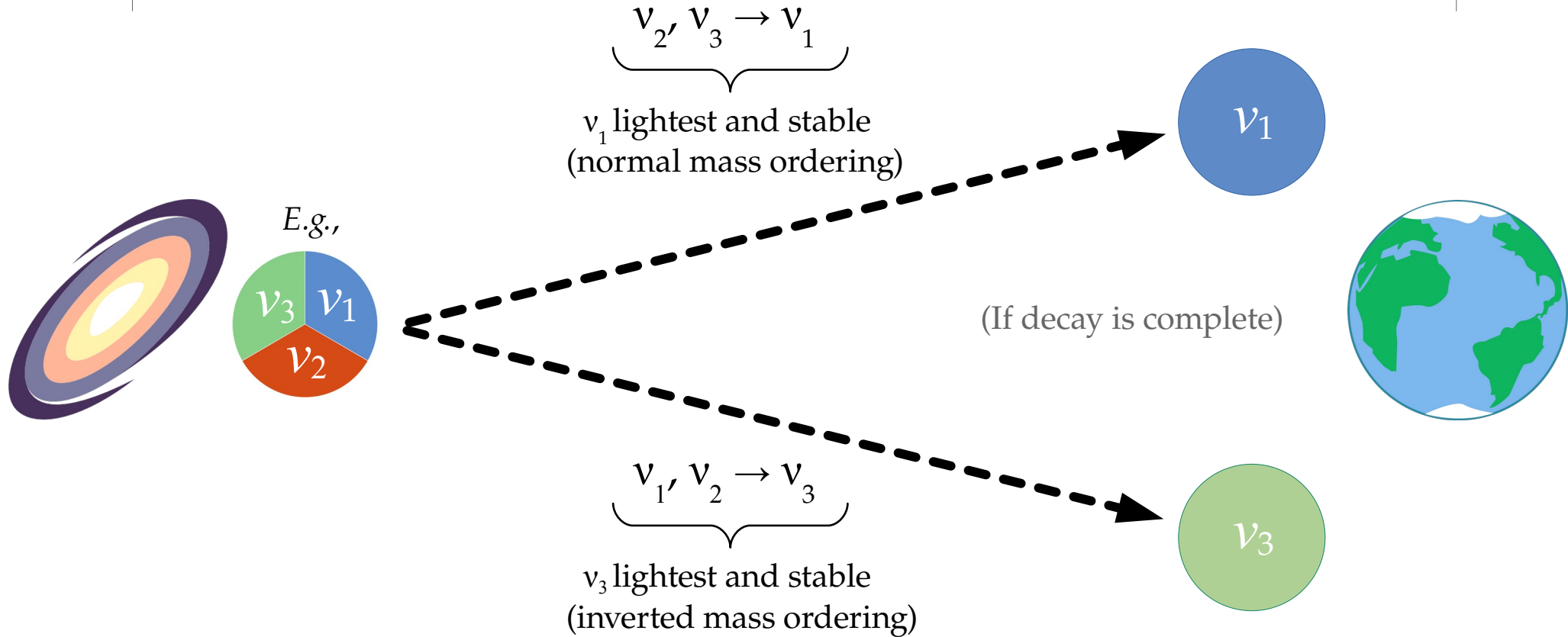
$\nu_1$  lightest and stable  
(normal mass ordering)



Astrophysical sources

Earth

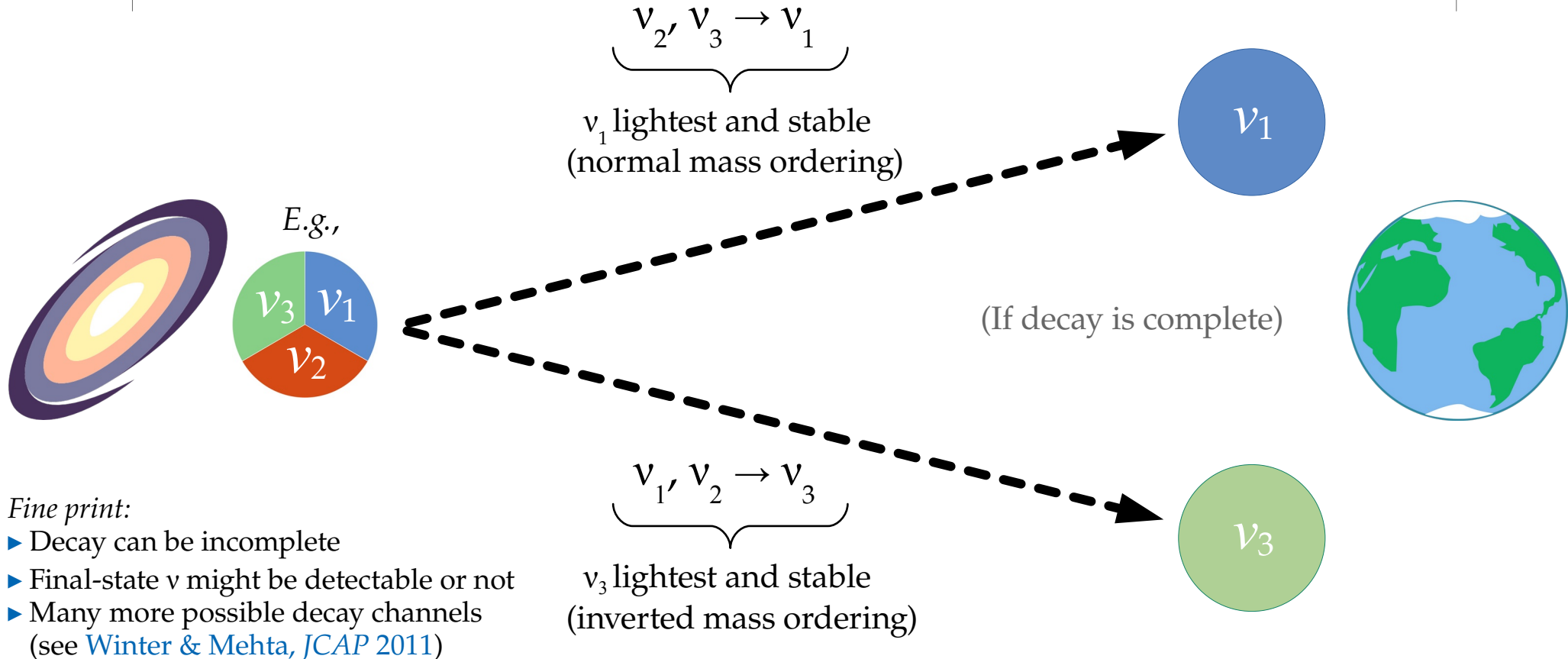
$L \sim \text{up to a few Gpc}$



# Astrophysical sources

Earth

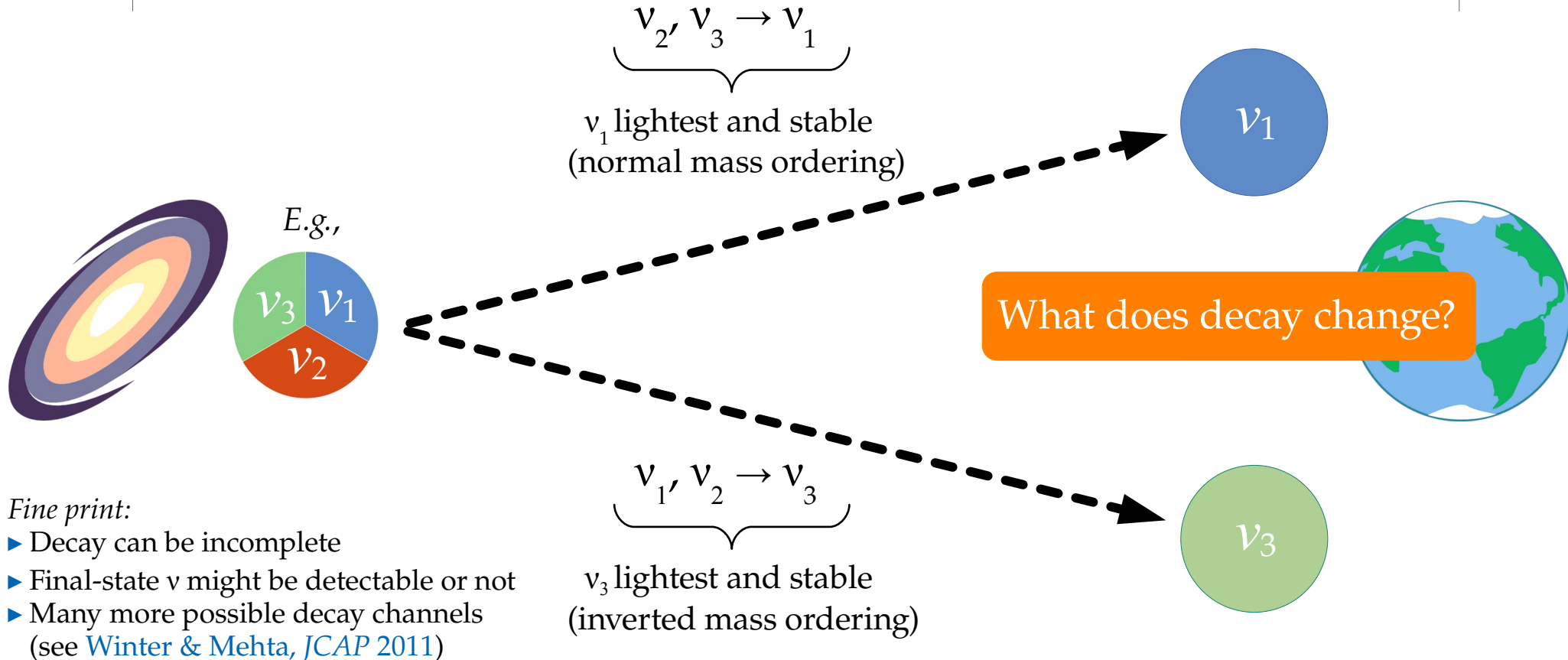
$L \sim \text{up to a few Gpc}$



*Fine print:*

- ▶ Decay can be incomplete
- ▶ Final-state  $\nu$  might be detectable or not
- ▶ Many more possible decay channels  
(see [Winter & Mehta, JCAP 2011](#))

$L \sim \text{up to a few Gpc}$



*Fine print:*

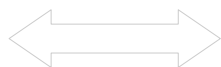
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# What does neutrino decay change?

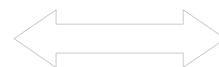
Flavor composition  $\longleftrightarrow$  Spectrum shape  $\longleftrightarrow$  Event rate

# What does neutrino decay change?

Flavor composition



Spectrum shape



Event rate

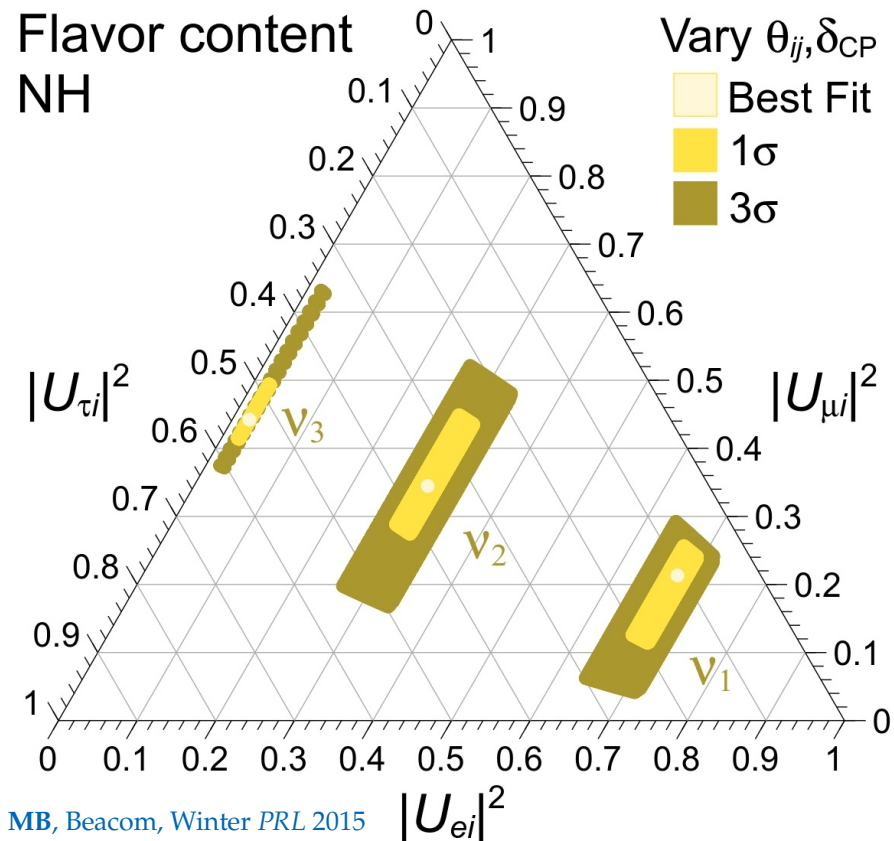
Flavor content of mass eigenstates:

Known to within 2%

$$|U_{\alpha i}|^2 = |U_{\alpha i}(\theta_{12}, \theta_{23}, \theta_{13}, \delta_{\text{CP}})|^2$$

Known to within 8%

Known to within 20%  
(or worse)





# What does neutrino decay change?

Flavor composition



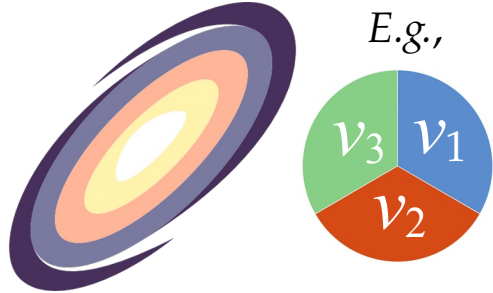
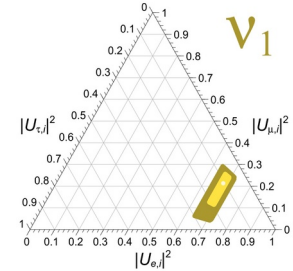
Spectrum shape



Event rate

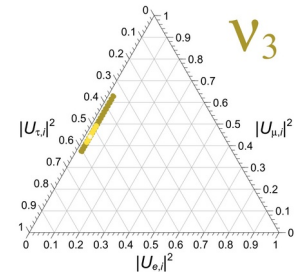
$$\nu_{2'}, \nu_3 \rightarrow \nu_1$$

$\nu_1$  lightest and stable  
(normal mass ordering)



$$\nu_{1'}, \nu_2 \rightarrow \nu_3$$

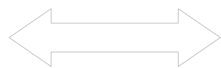
$\nu_3$  lightest and stable  
(inverted mass ordering)



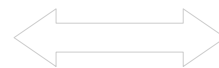
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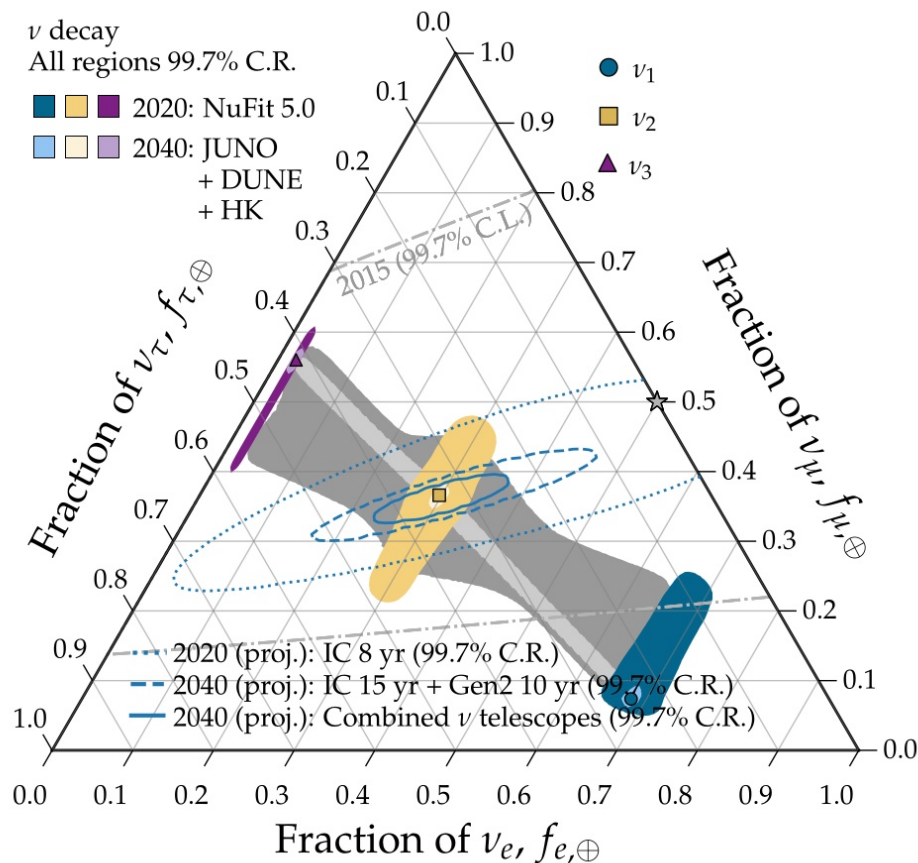
Flavor composition



Spectrum shape



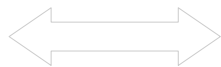
Event rate



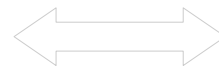
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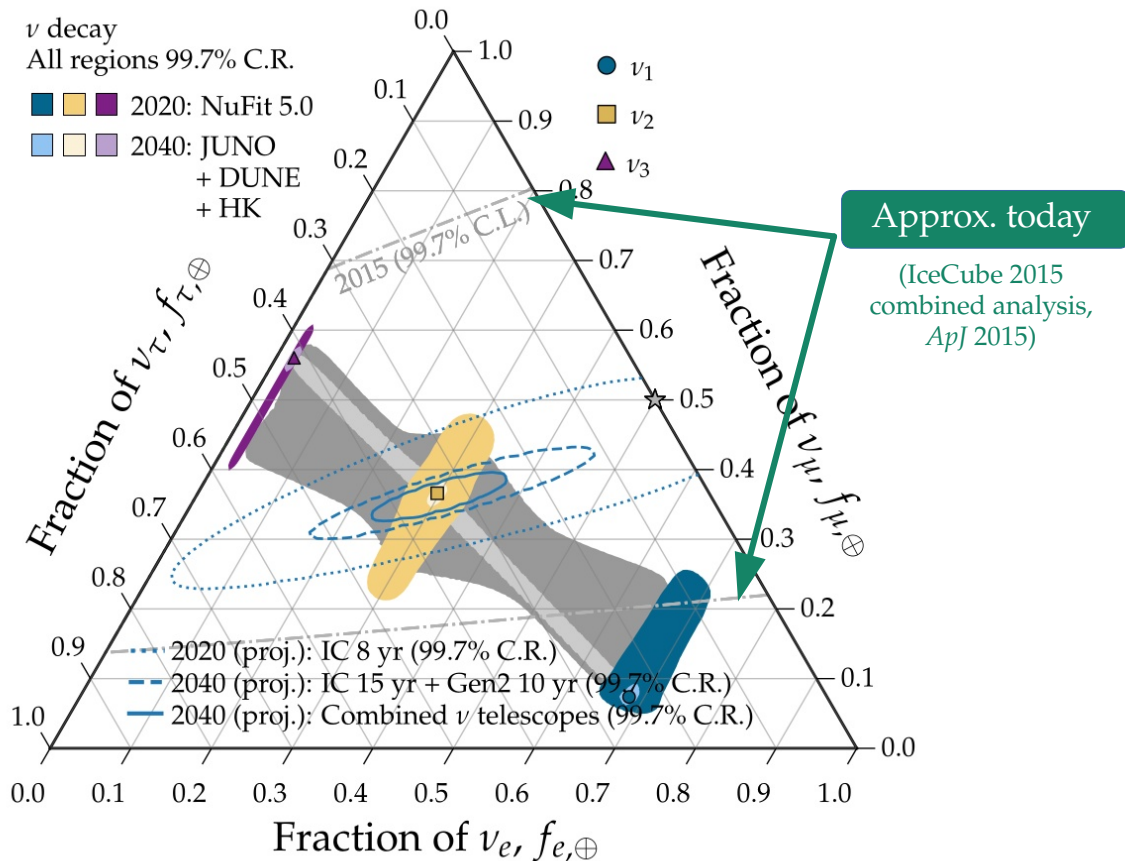
Flavor composition



Spectrum shape



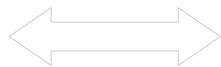
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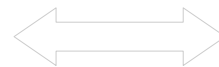
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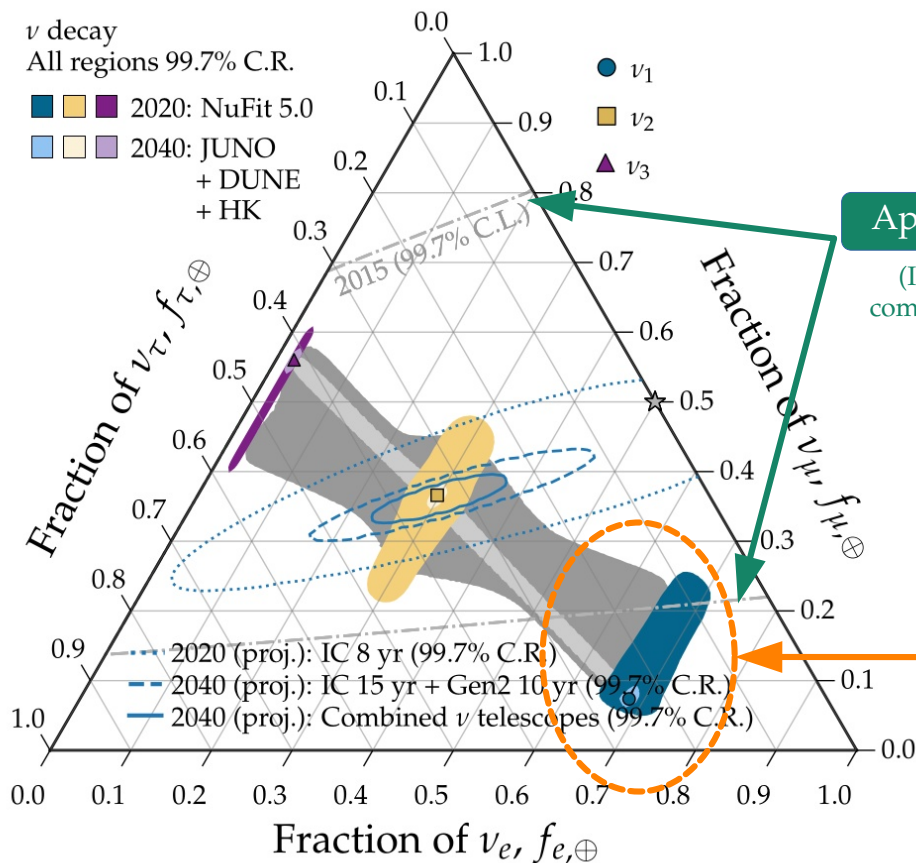
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Event rate



Approx. today

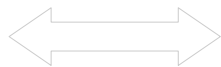
(IceCube 2015  
combined analysis,  
*ApJ* 2015)

Complete decay into  
 $\nu_1$  disfavored by 2015  
IceCube flavor measurement

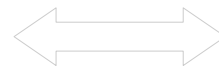
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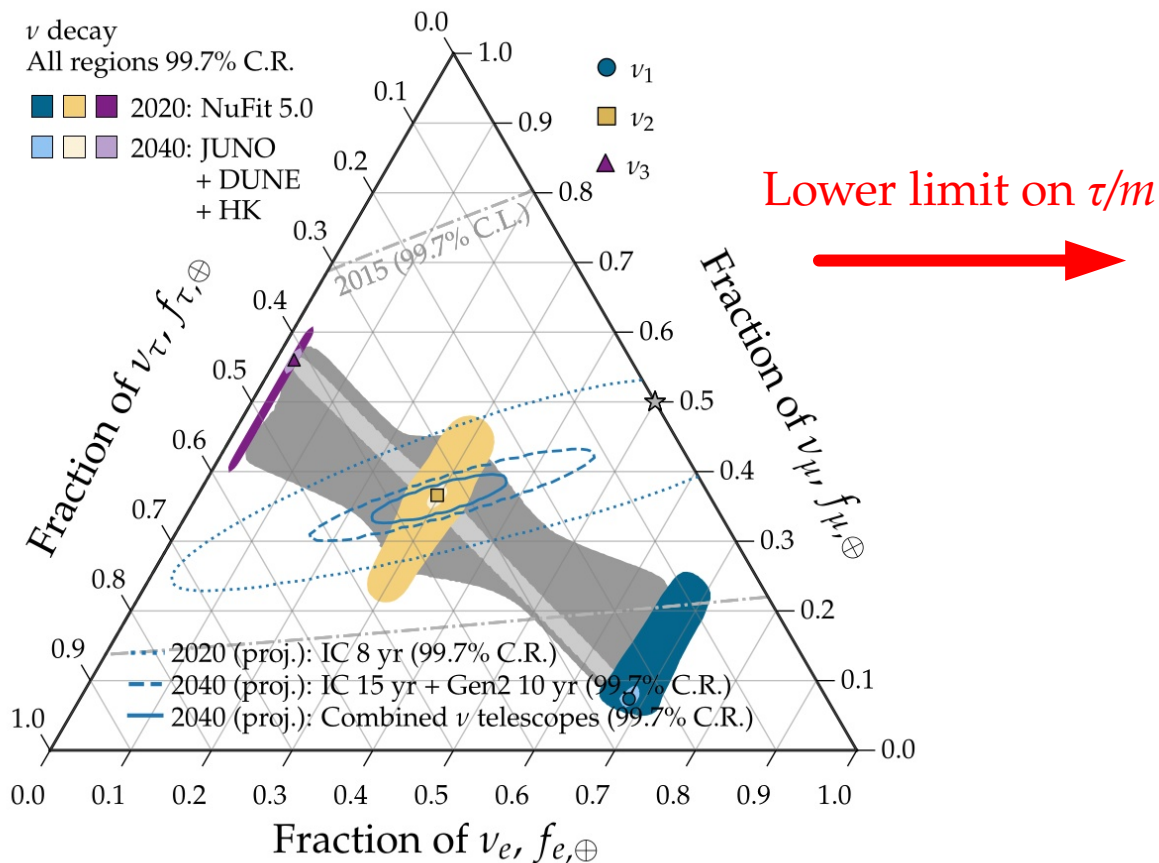
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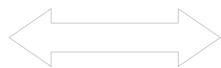
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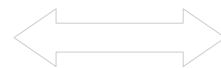
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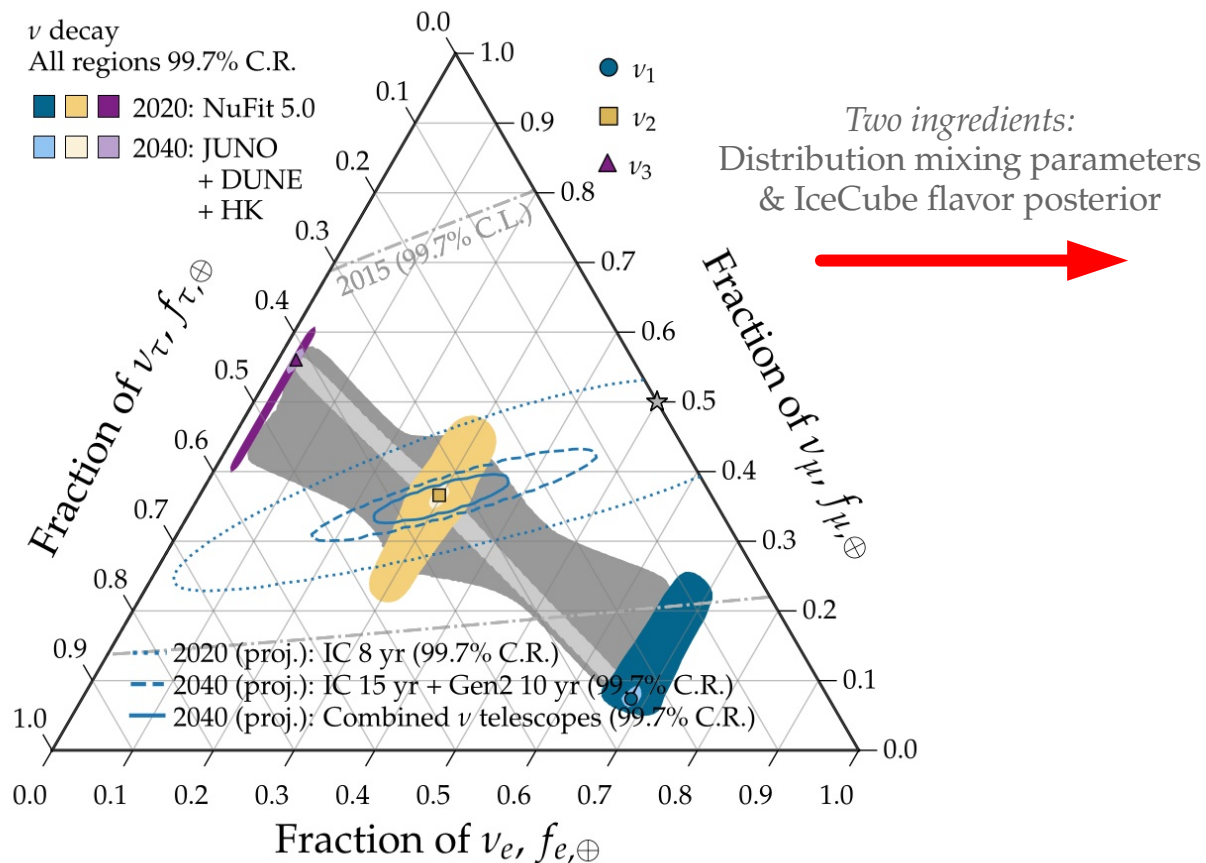
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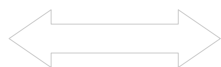




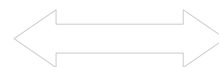
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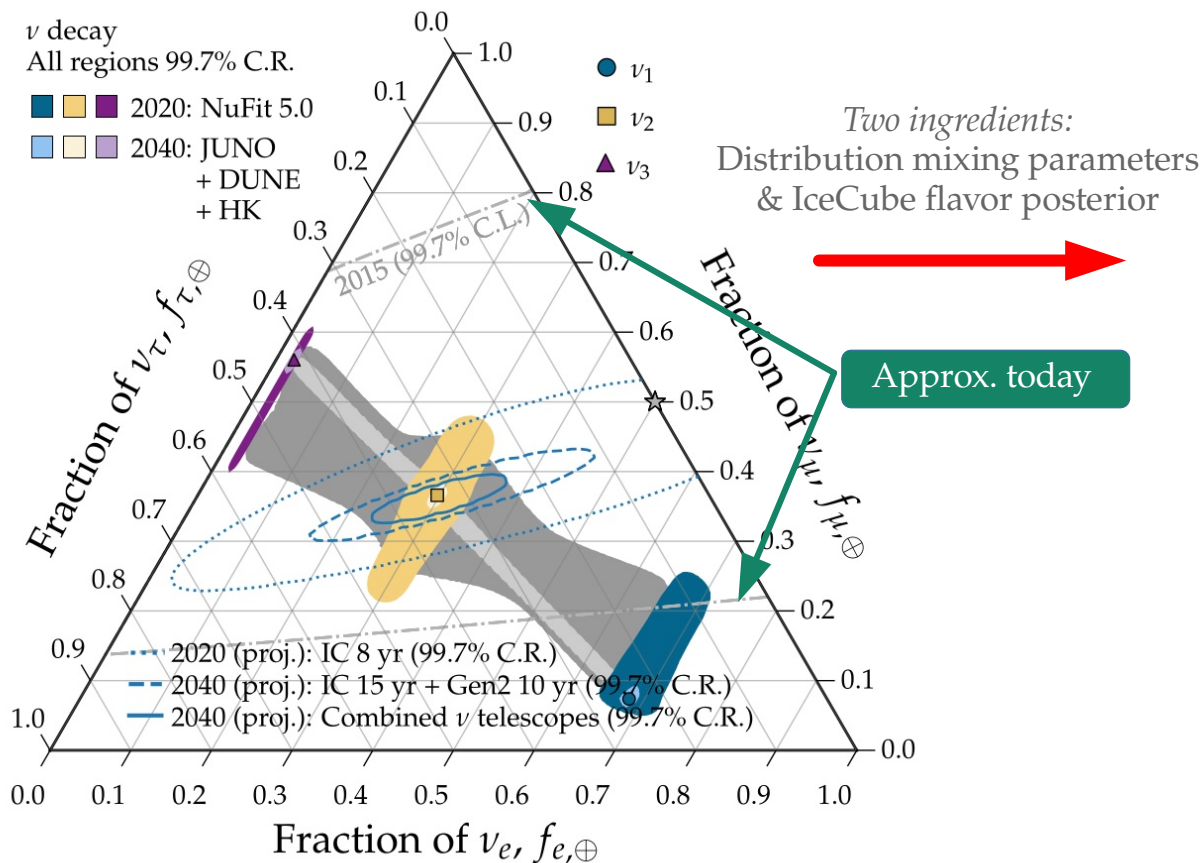
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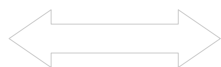




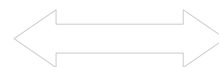
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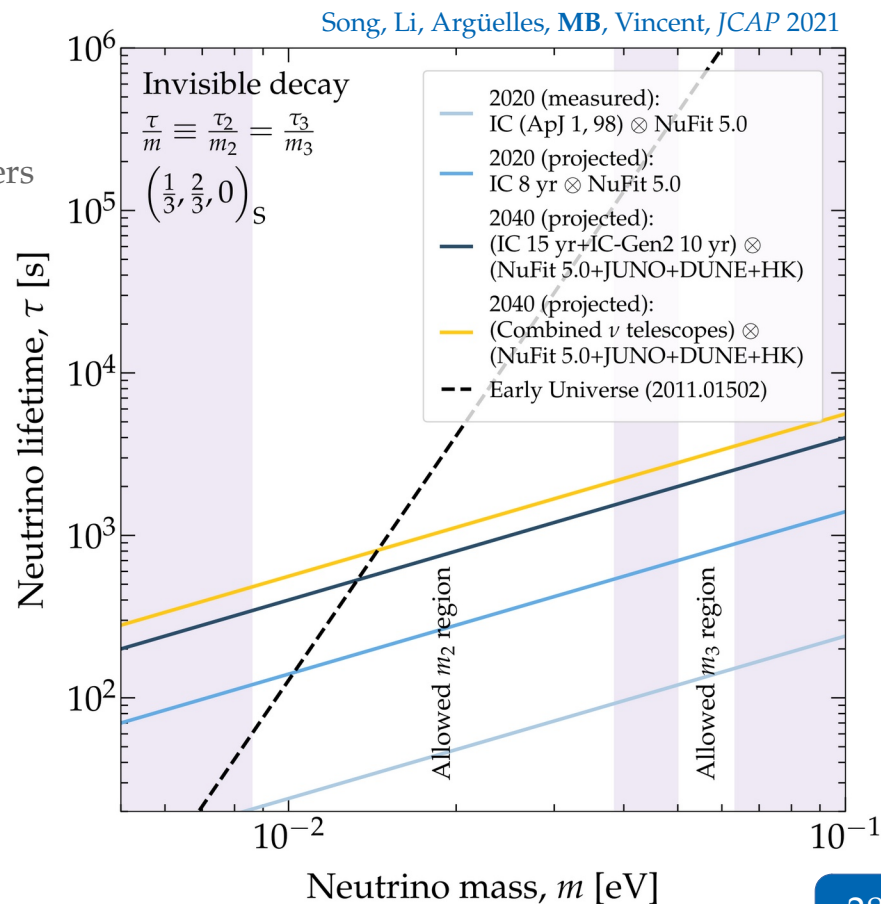
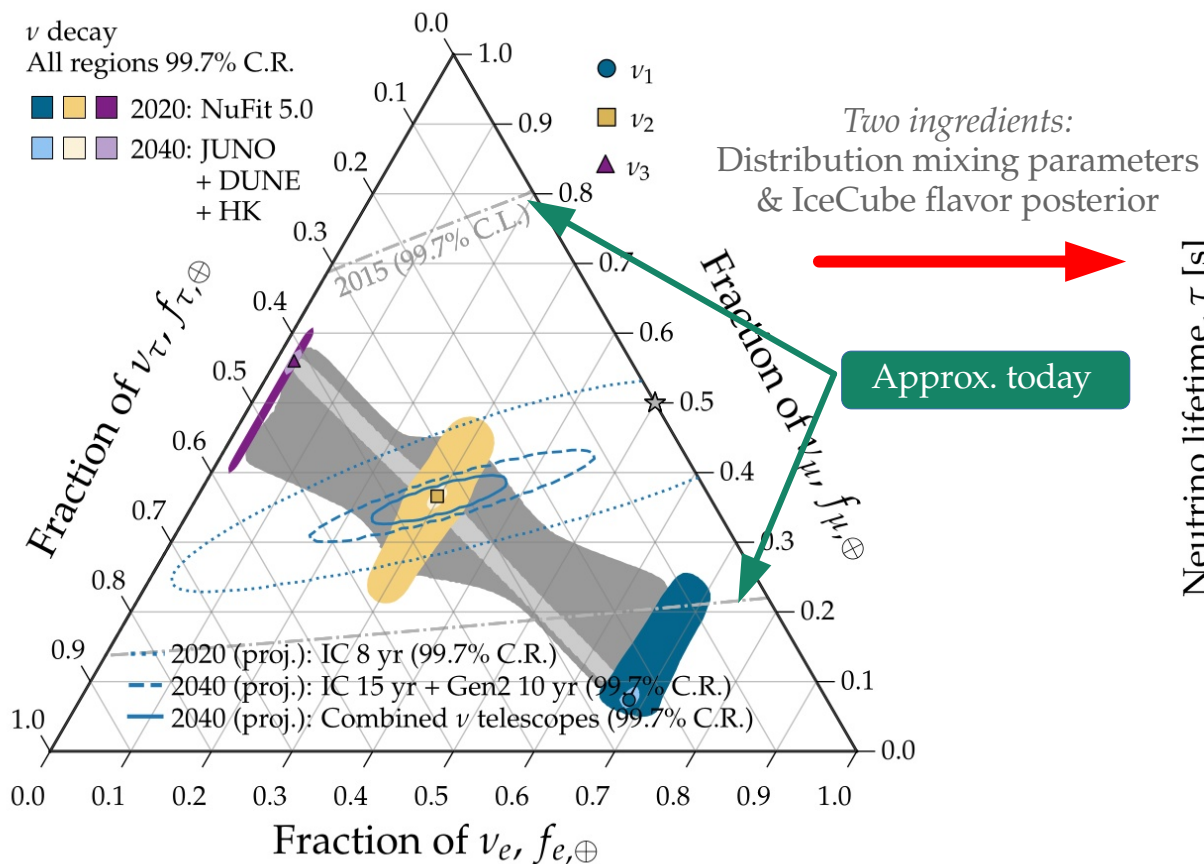
Flavor composition



Spectrum shape



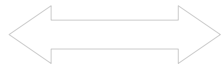
Event rate



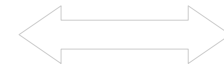
# What does neutrino decay change?

See also: Beacom *et al.*, *PRL* 2002 / Baerwald, **MB**, Winter, *JCAP* 2012 / **MB**, Beacom, Murase, *PRD* 2017 / Rasmussen *et al.*, *PRD* 2017 / Denton & Tamborra, *PRL* 2018 / Abdullahi & Denton, *PRD* 2020 / **MB**, 2004.06844

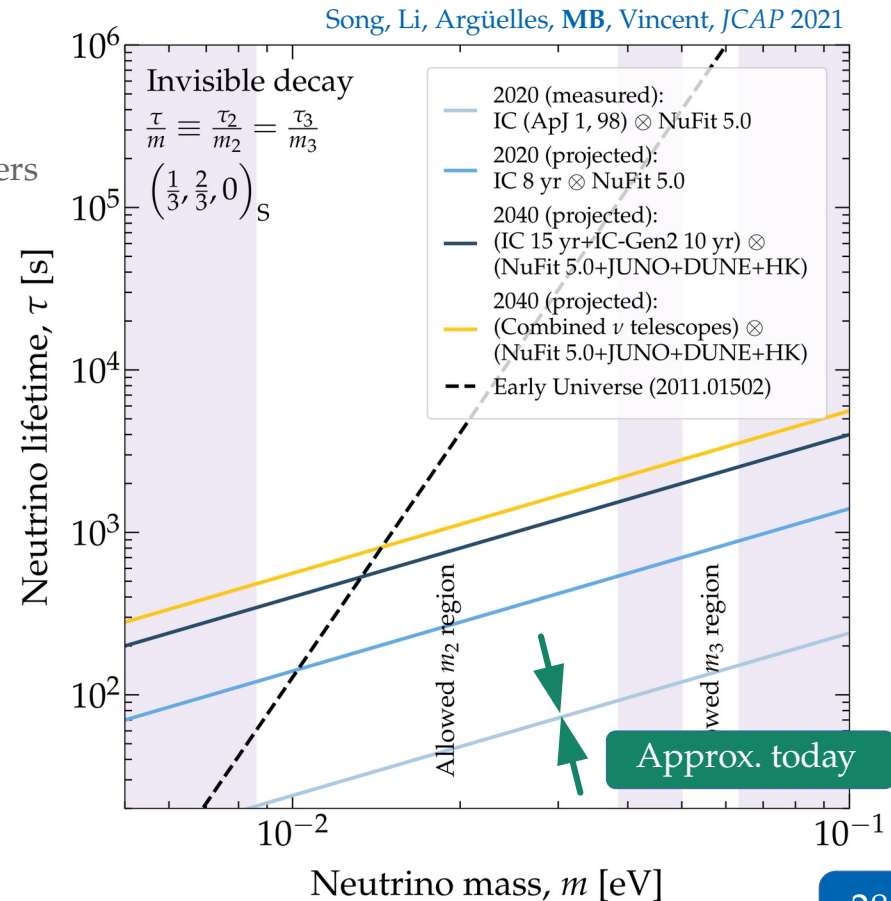
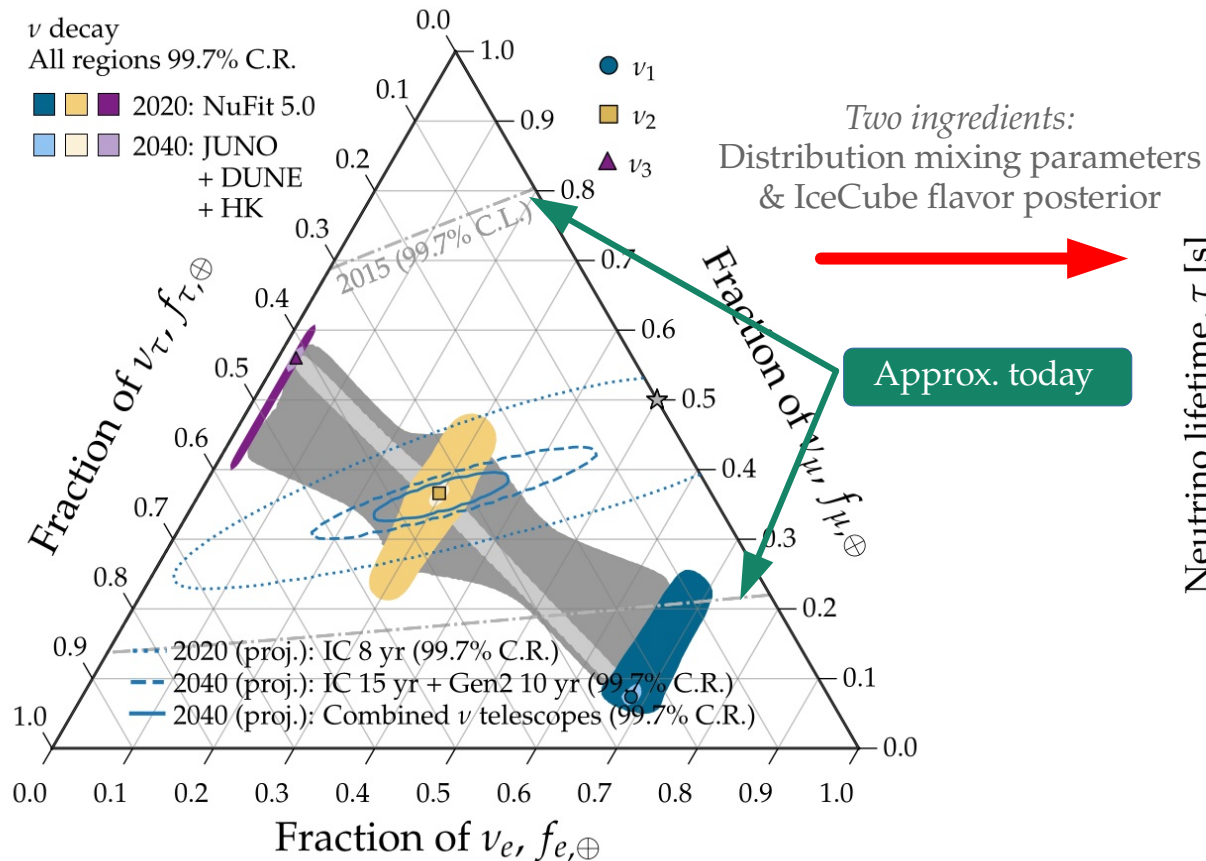
Flavor composition



Spectrum shape



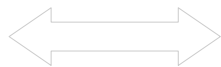
Event rate



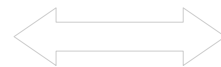
# What does neutrino decay change?

See also: Beacom *et al.*, *PRL* 2002 / Baerwald, **MB**, Winter, *JCAP* 2012 / **MB**, Beacom, Murase, *PRD* 2017 / Rasmussen *et al.*, *PRD* 2017 / Denton & Tamborra, *PRL* 2018 / Abdullahi & Denton, *PRD* 2020 / **MB**, 2004.06844

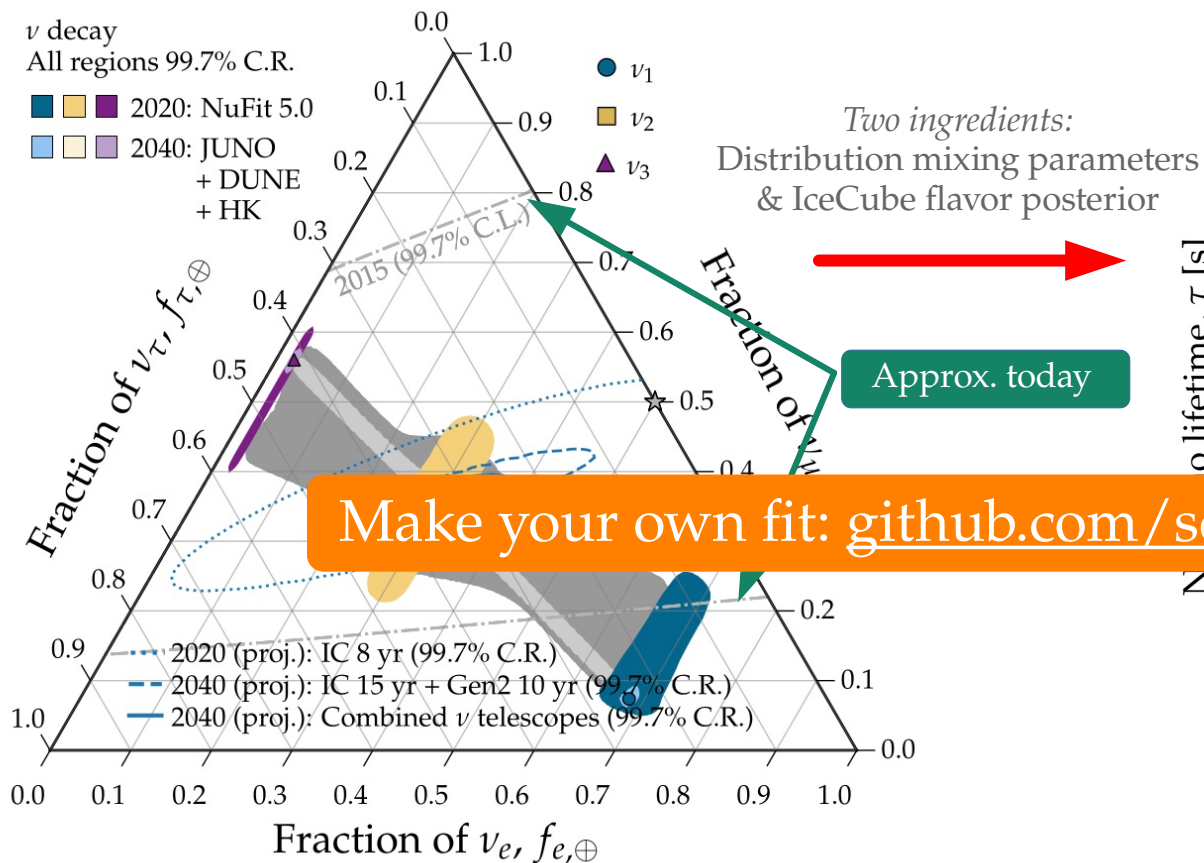
Flavor composition



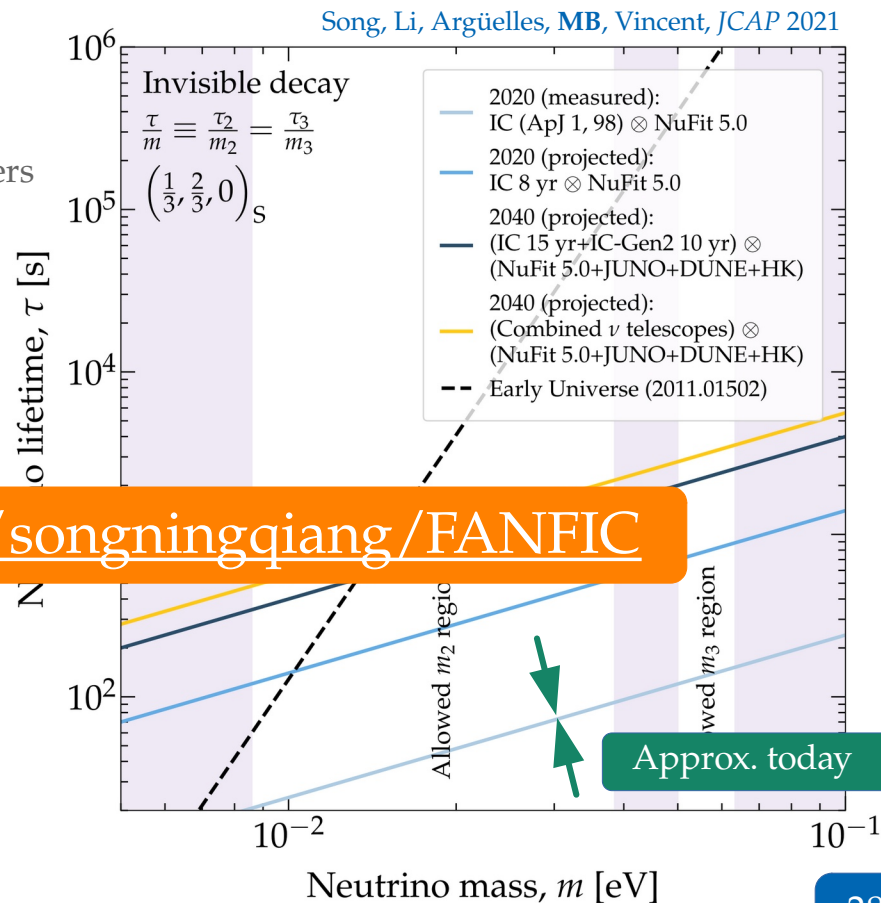
Spectrum shape



Event rate



Make your own fit: [github.com/songningqiang/FANFIC](https://github.com/songningqiang/FANFIC)



Towards  
high statistics



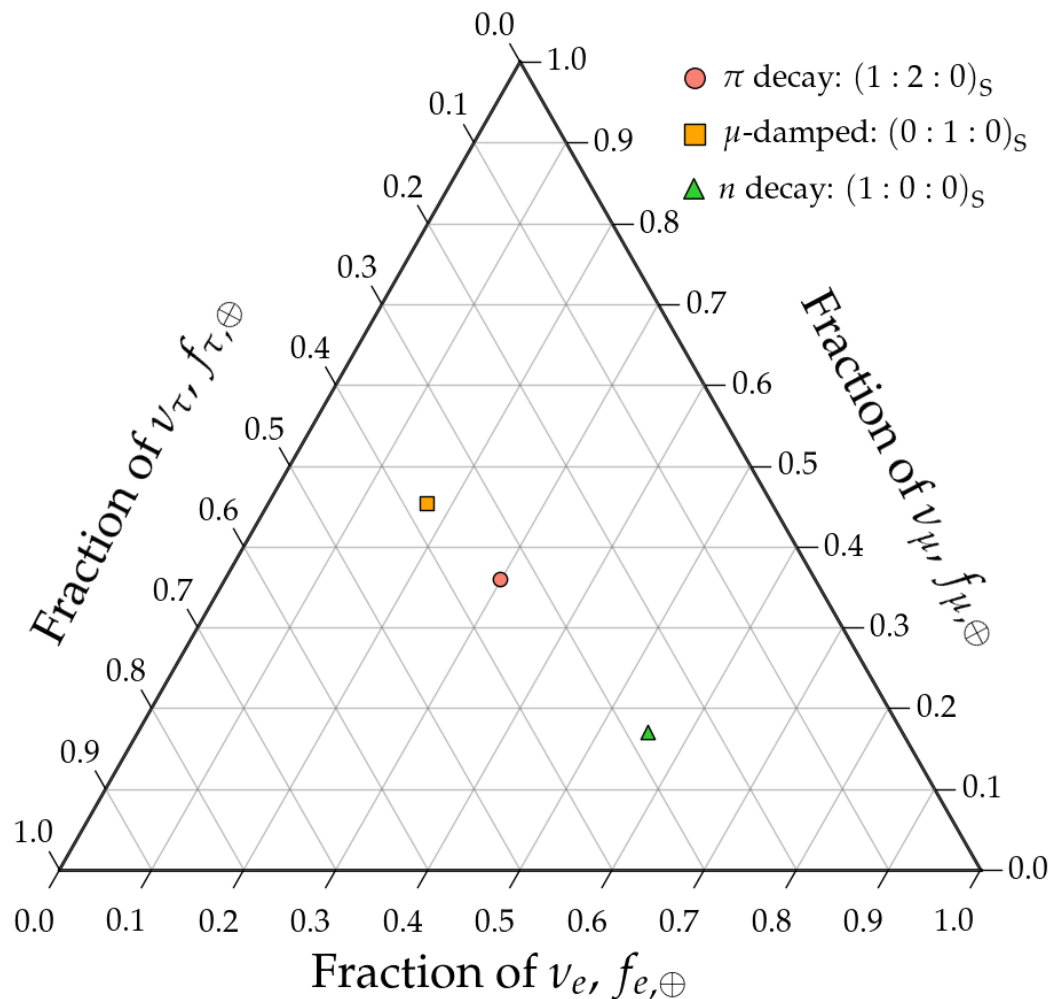
TeV–PeV  
γ telescopes  
2030s



# Measuring flavor composition: 2015–2040

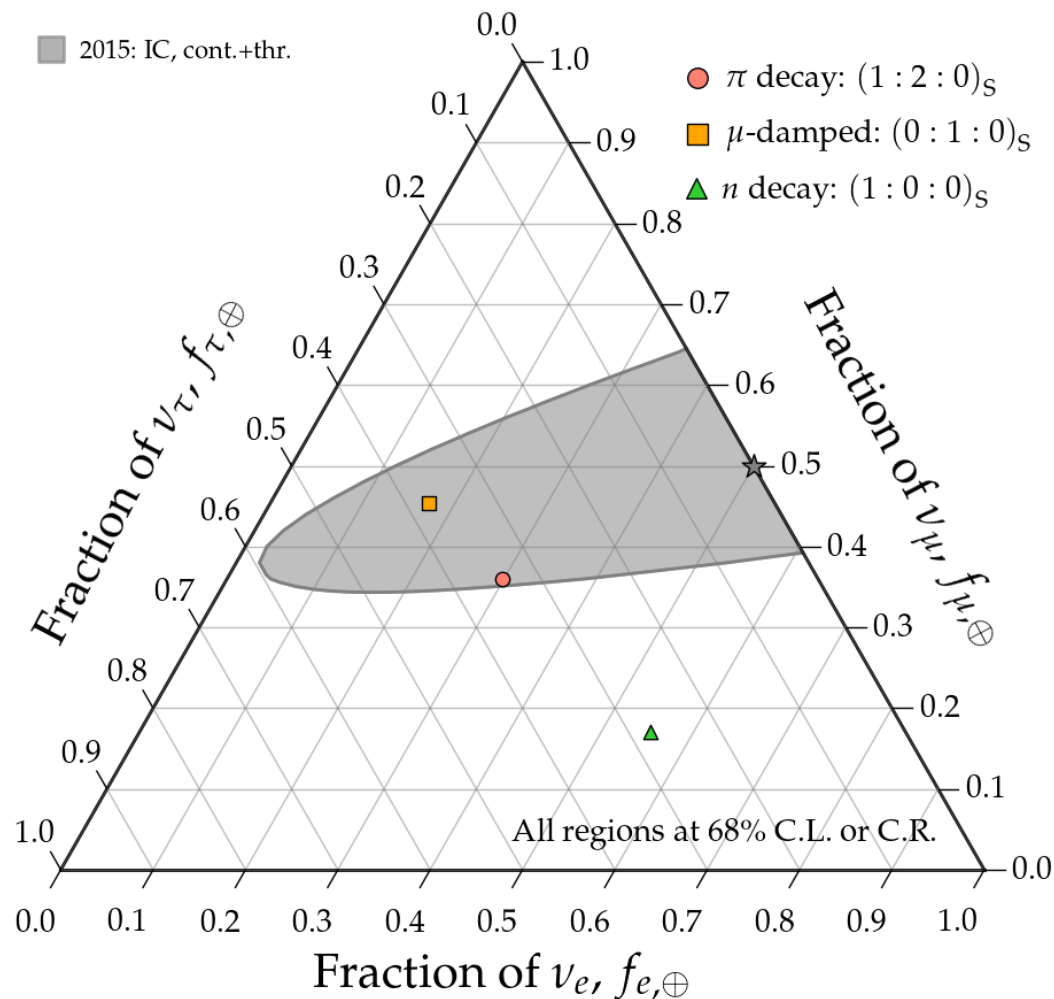
IceCube Collab., *EPJC* 2022  
Song, Li, Argüelles, **MB**, Vincent, *JCAP* 2021  
IceCube Collab., *PRD* 2019  
IceCube Collab., *ApJ* 2015

# Measuring flavor composition: 2015–2040

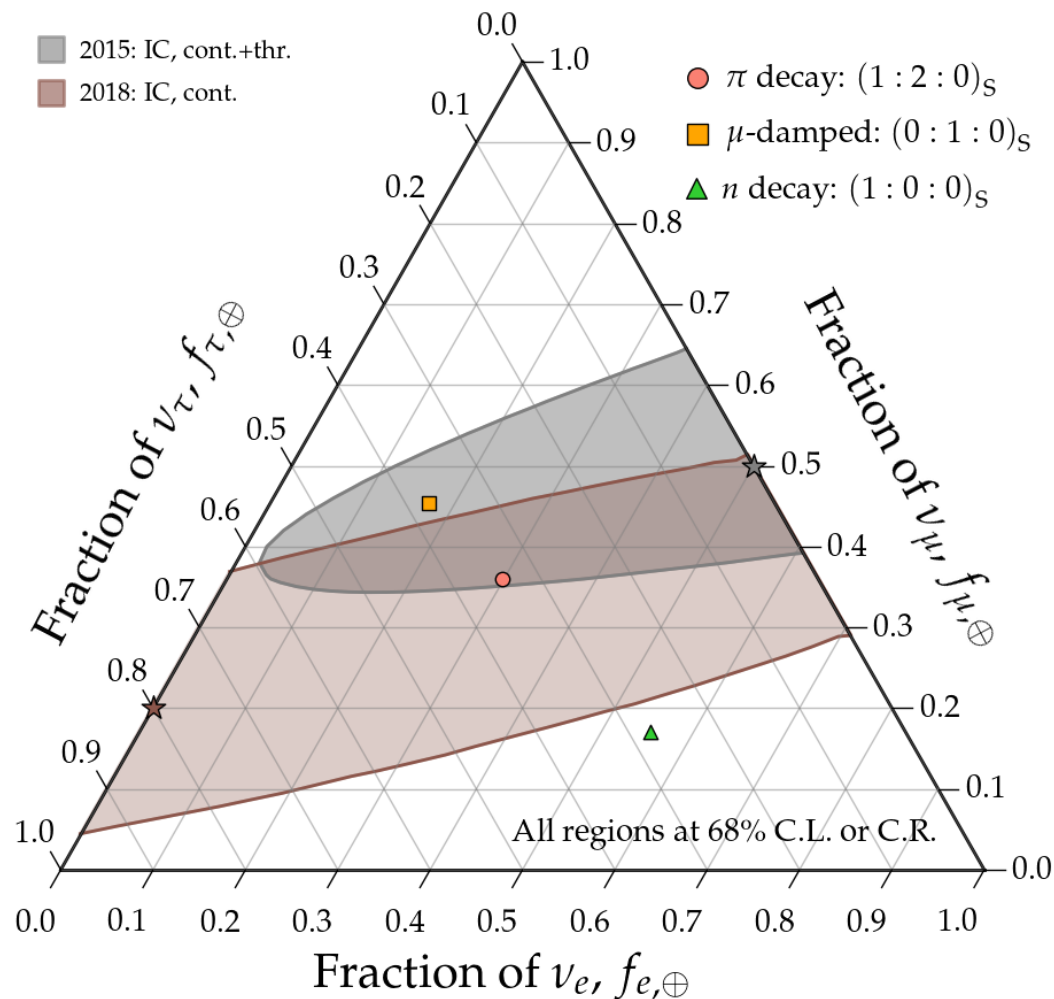




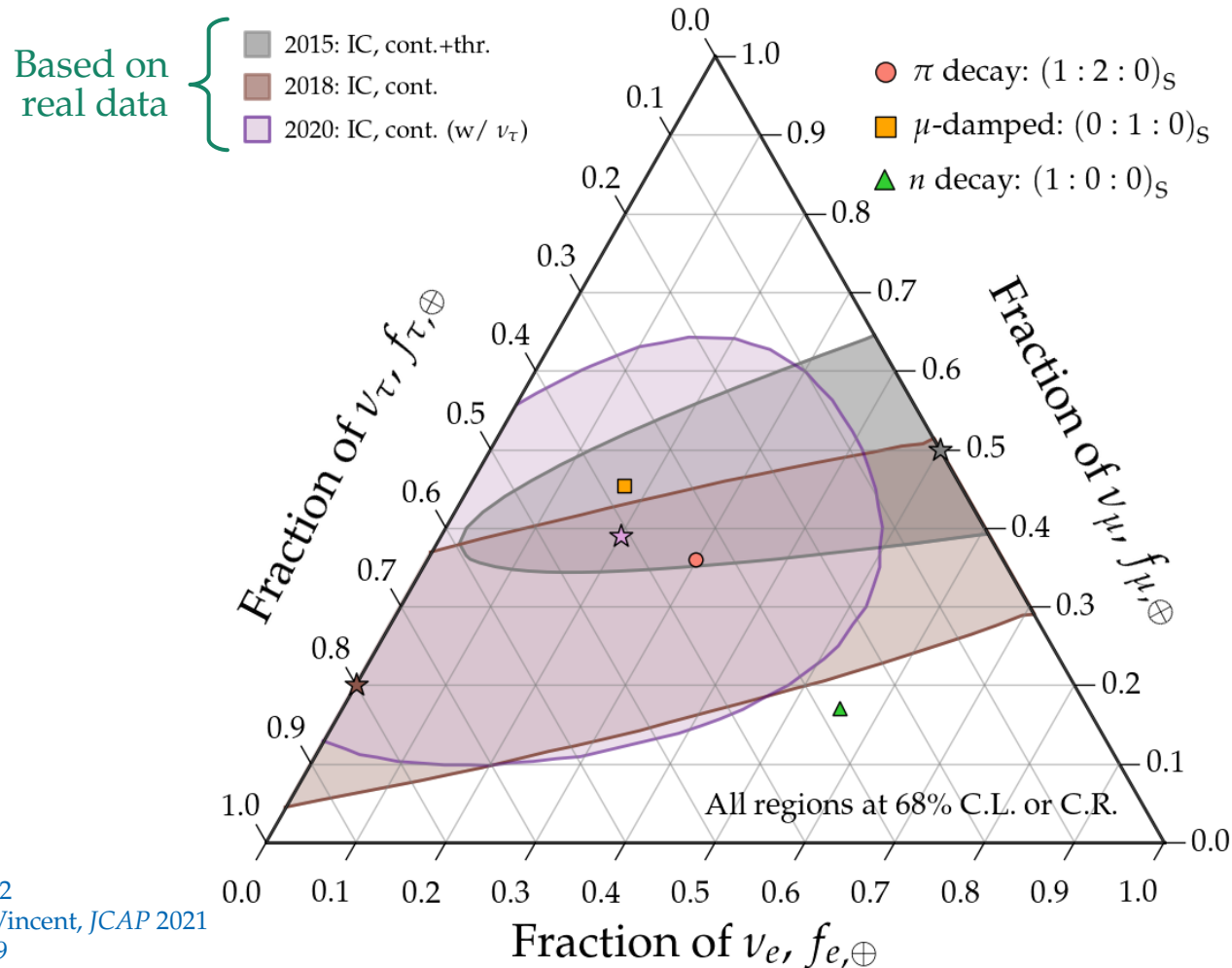
# Measuring flavor composition: 2015–2040



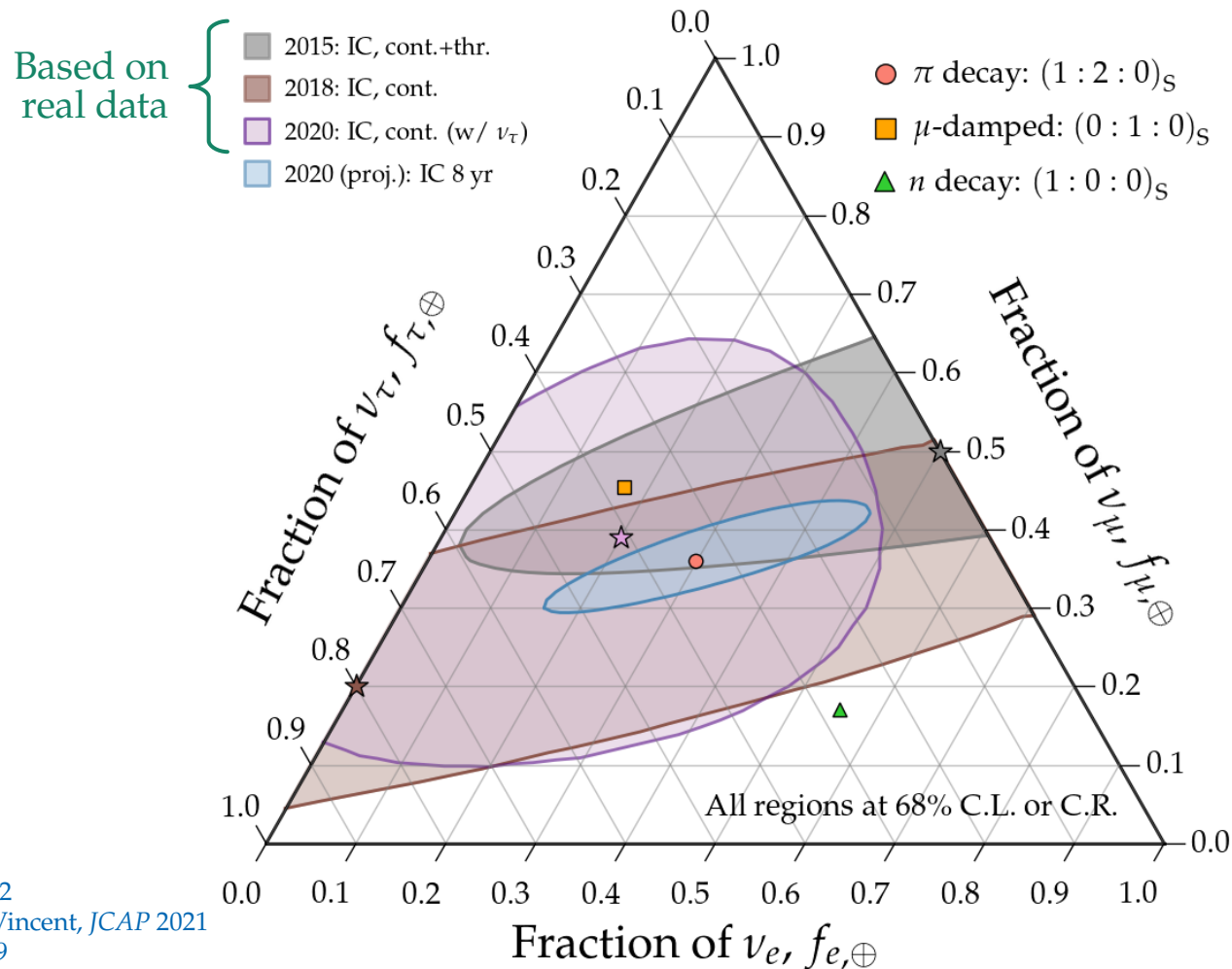
# Measuring flavor composition: 2015–2040



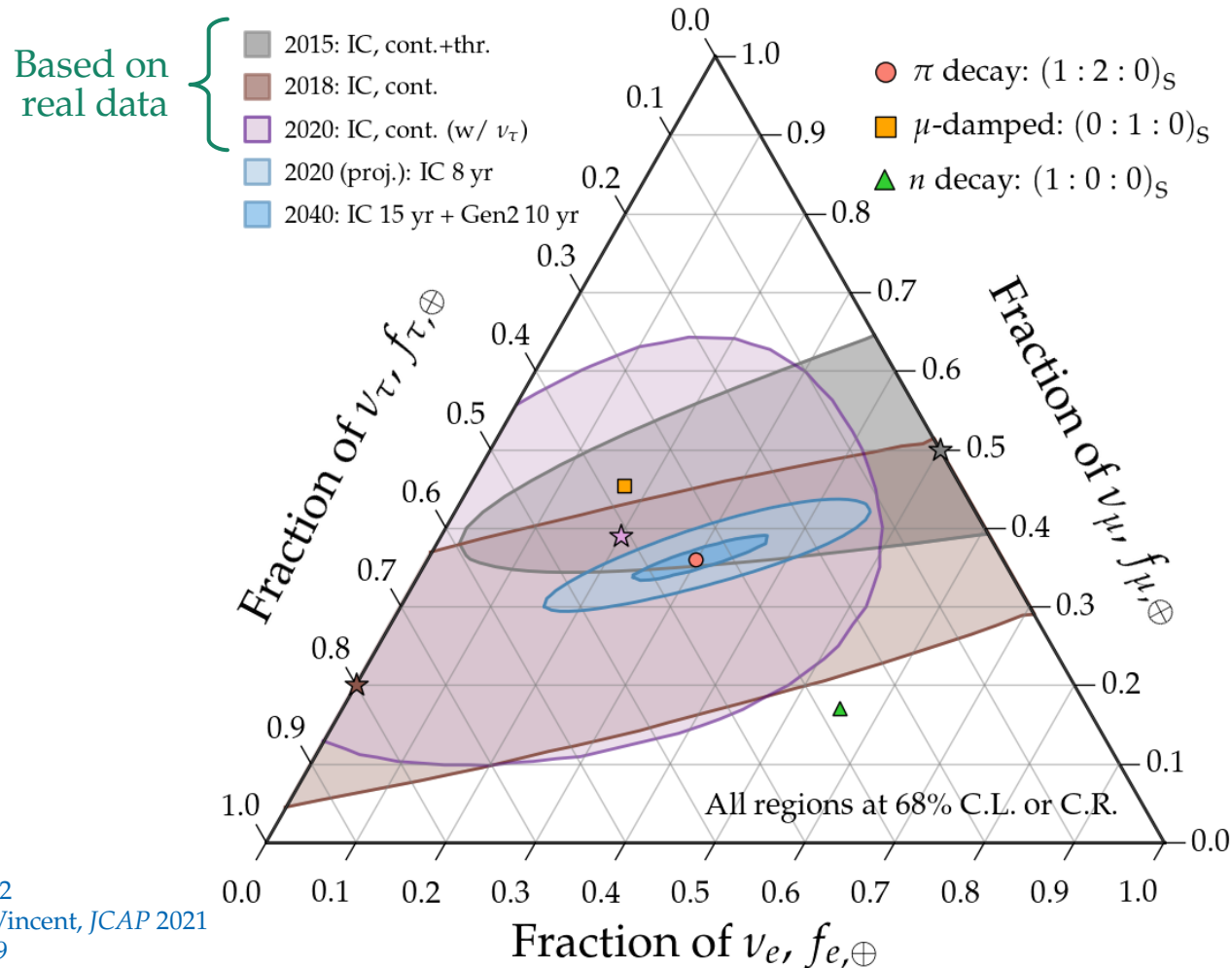
# Measuring flavor composition: 2015–2040



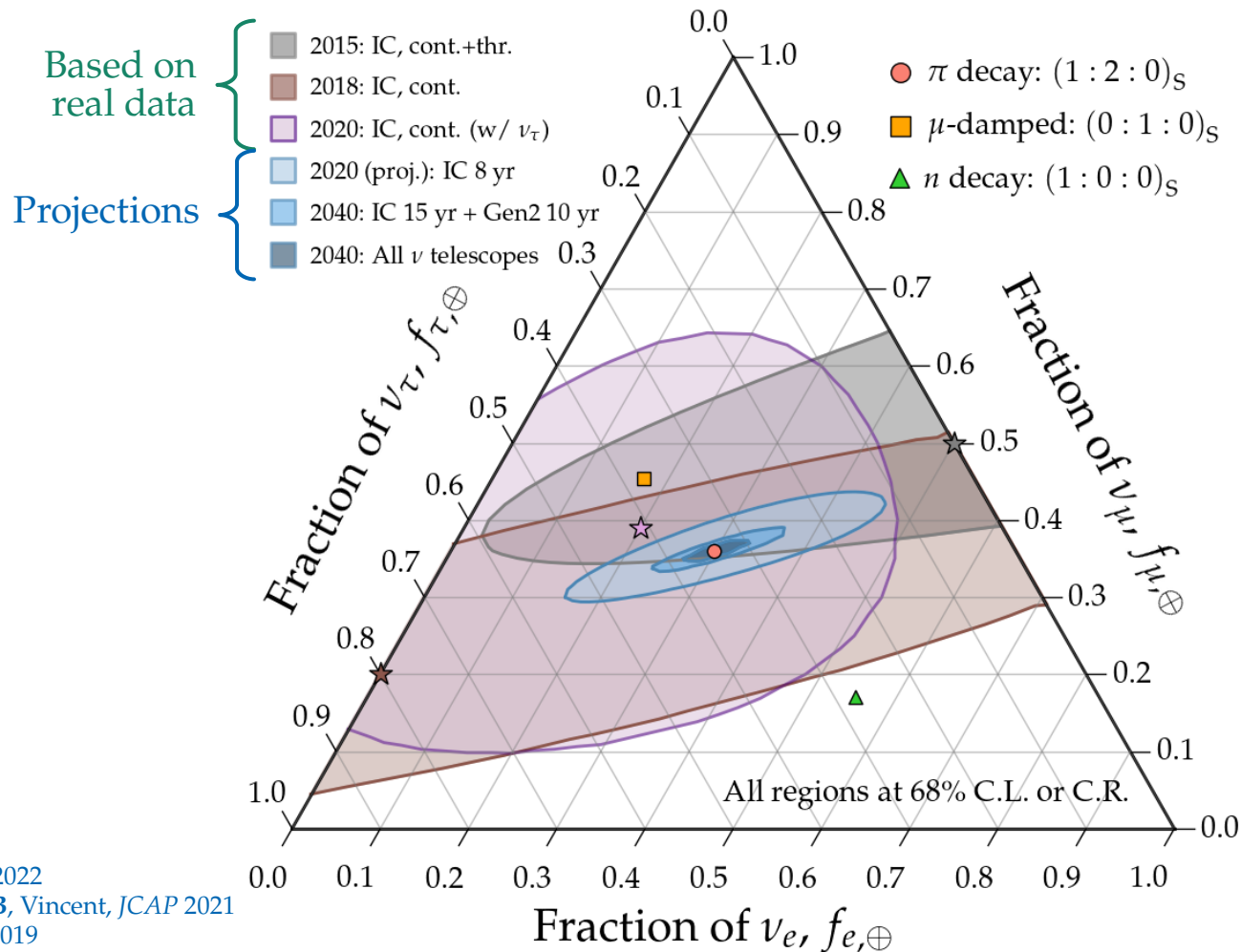
# Measuring flavor composition: 2015–2040



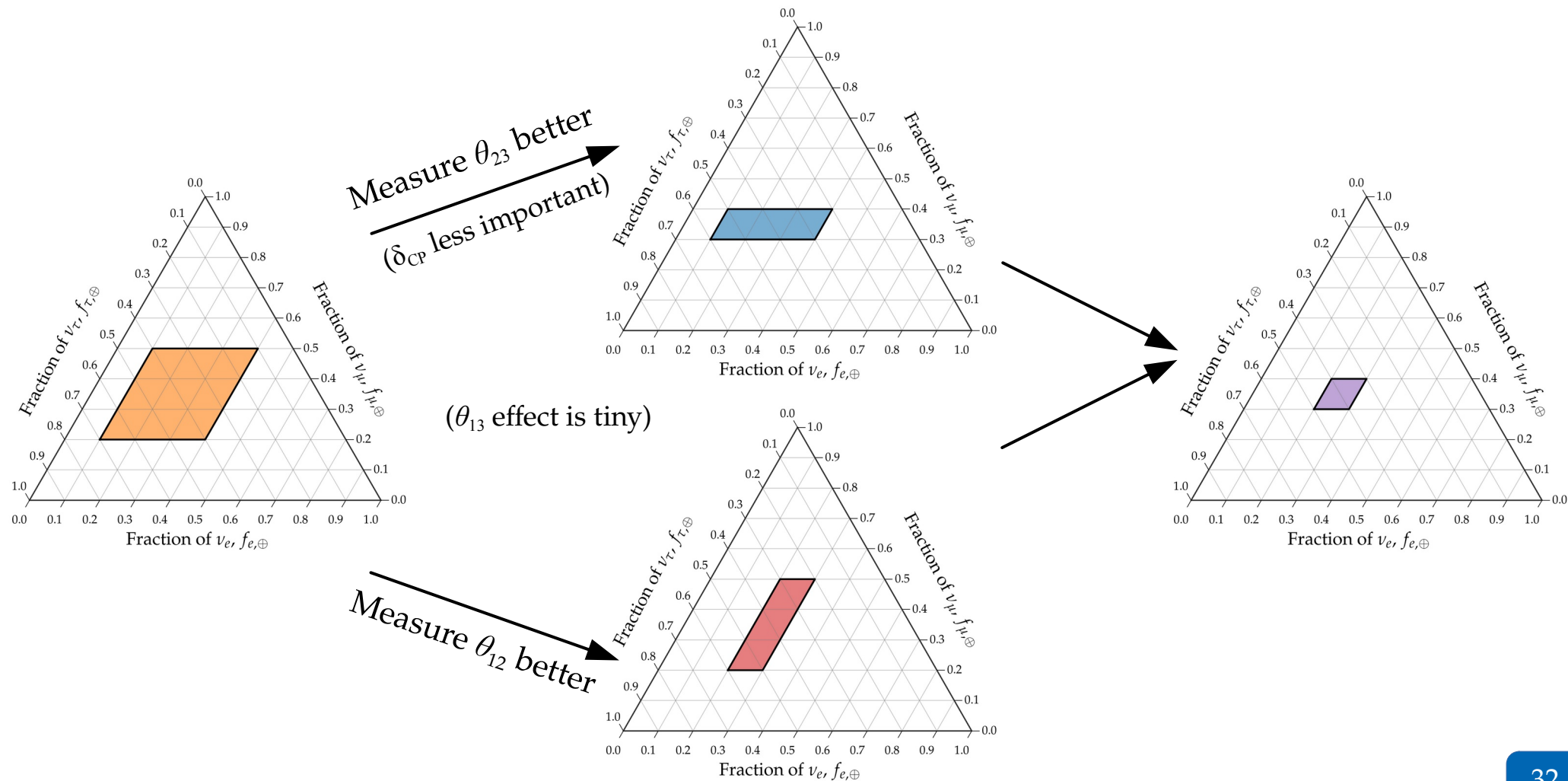
# Measuring flavor composition: 2015–2040



# Measuring flavor composition: 2015–2040



# How knowing the mixing parameters better helps

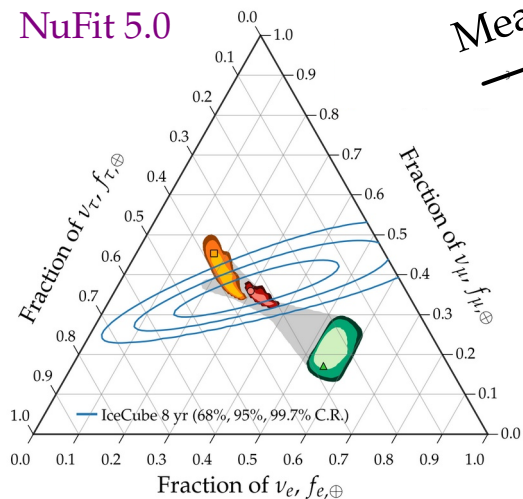




# How knowing the mixing parameters better helps

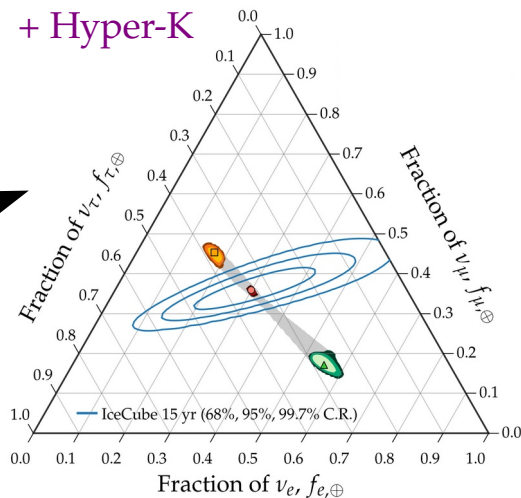
2020

NuFit 5.0

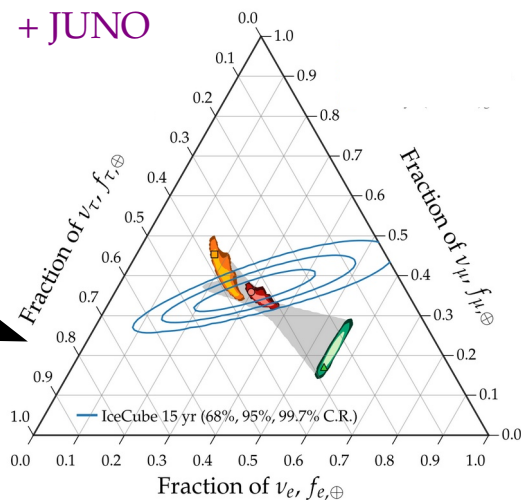


Measure  $\theta_{23}$  better

+ Hyper-K



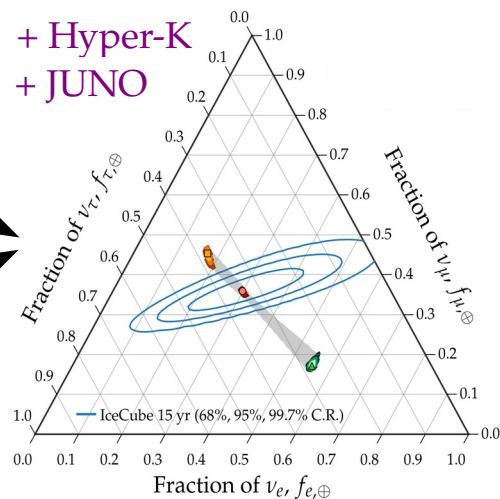
+ JUNO



Measure  $\theta_{12}$  better

~2030

+ Hyper-K  
+ JUNO

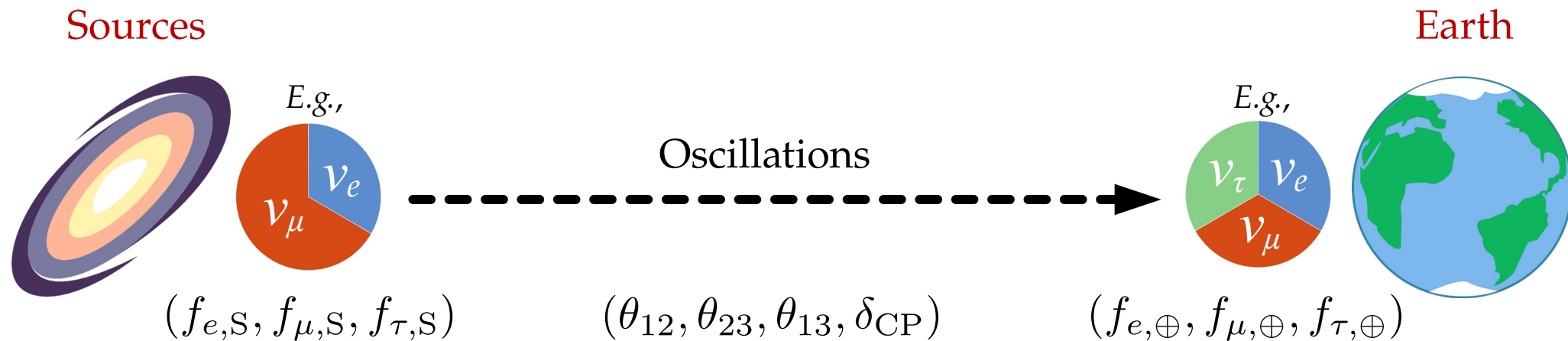


In our results:  
JUNO + Hyper-K + DUNE

Marginal improvement til 2040

*Back to the sources*

*From sources to Earth:* we learn what to expect when measuring  $f_{\alpha,\oplus}$



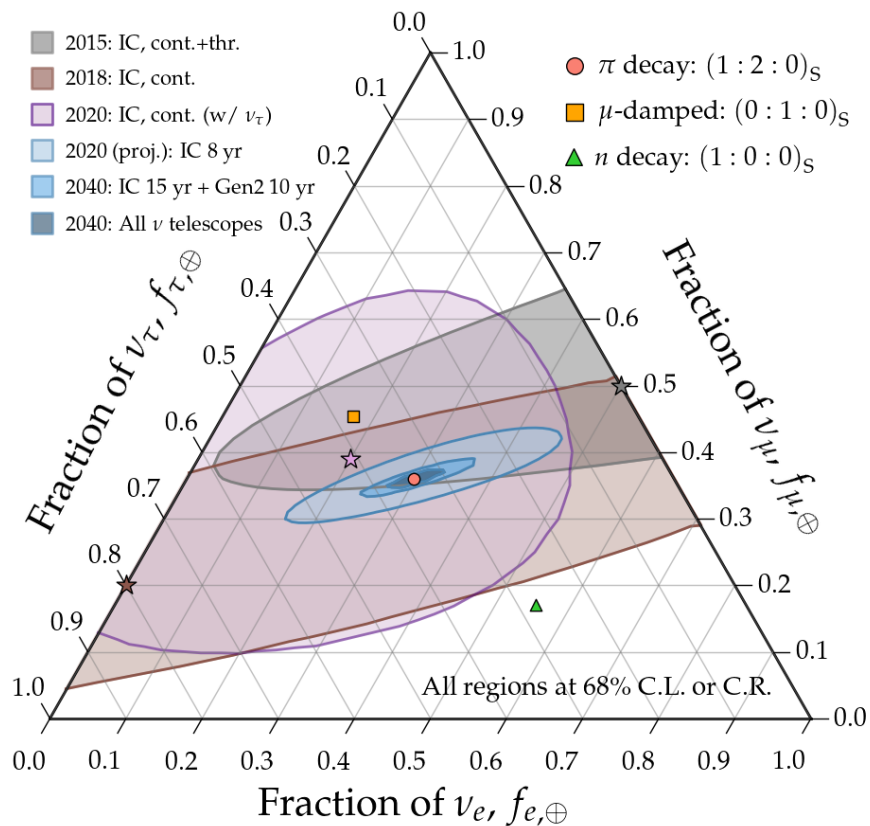
*From Earth to sources:* we let the data teach us about  $f_{\alpha,S}$

# Inferring the flavor composition at the sources

## Ingredient #1:

Flavor ratios measured at Earth,

$$(f_{e,\oplus}, f_{\mu,\oplus}, f_{\tau,\oplus})$$

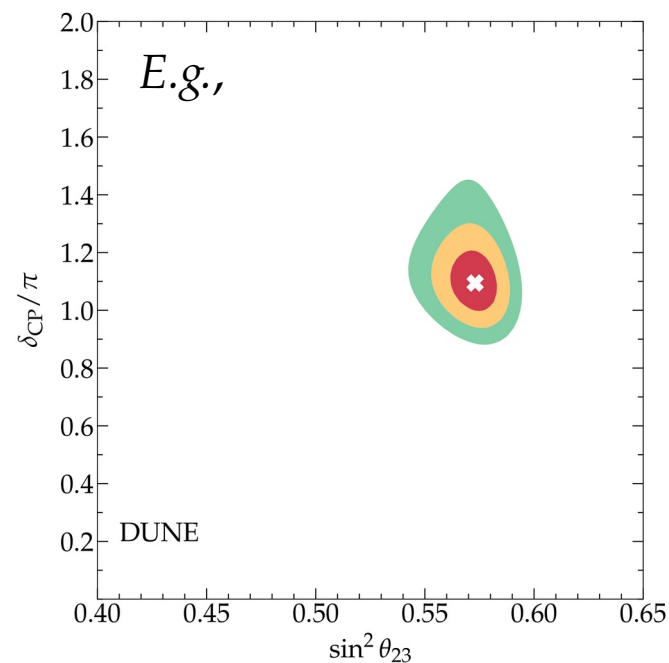


## Ingredient #2:

Probability density of mixing

parameters  $(\theta_{12}, \theta_{23}, \theta_{13}, \delta_{CP})$

$$\mathcal{L}(\vartheta)$$



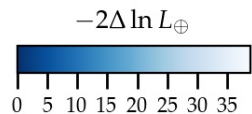
# Inferring the flavor composition at the sources

## Ingredient #1:

Flavor ratios measured at Earth,

$$(f_{e,\oplus}, f_{\mu,\oplus}, f_{\tau,\oplus})$$

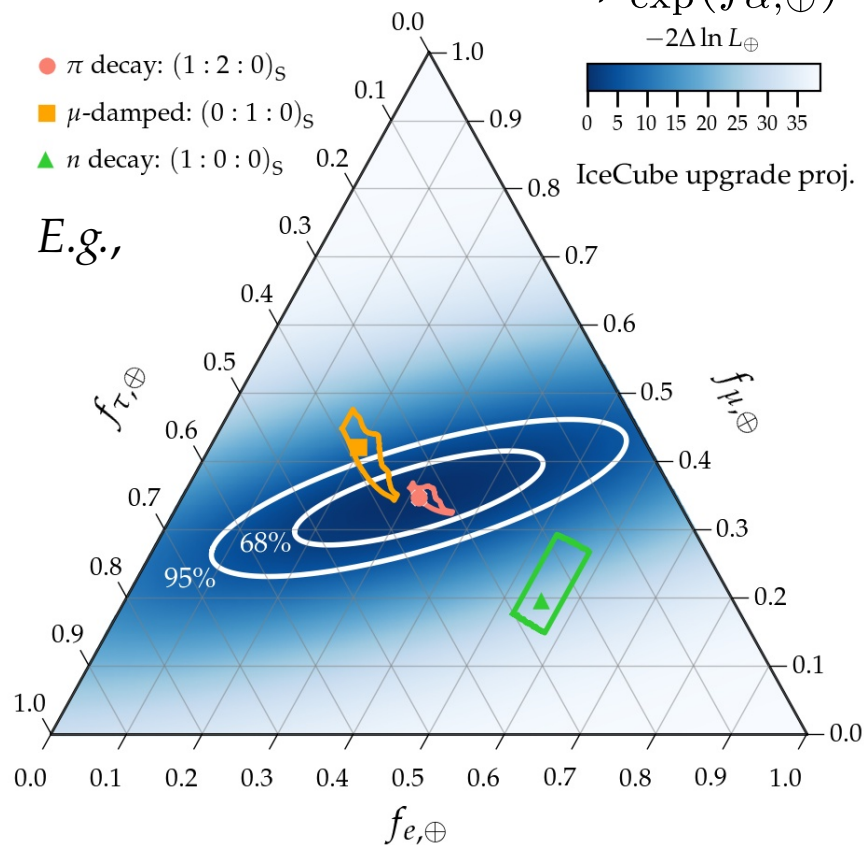
$$\mathcal{P}_{\text{exp}}(f_{\alpha,\oplus})$$



IceCube upgrade proj.

- $\pi$  decay:  $(1:2:0)_S$
- $\mu$ -damped:  $(0:1:0)_S$
- ▲  $n$  decay:  $(1:0:0)_S$

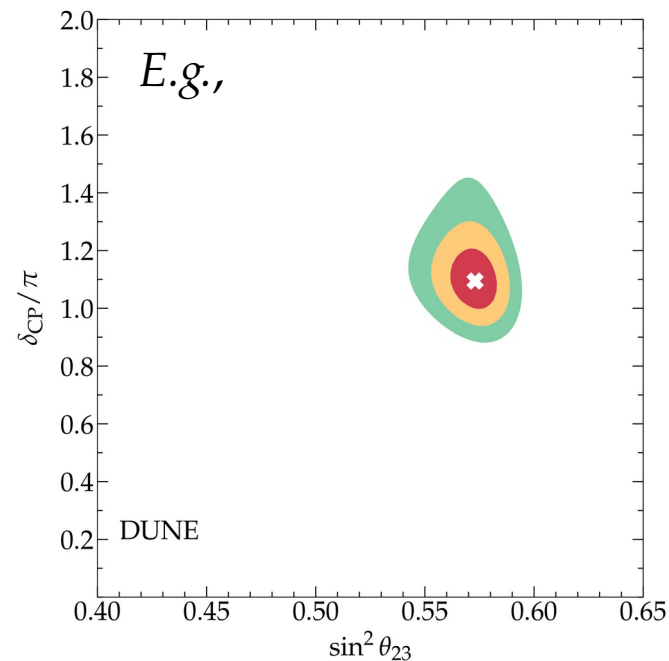
E.g.,



## Ingredient #2:

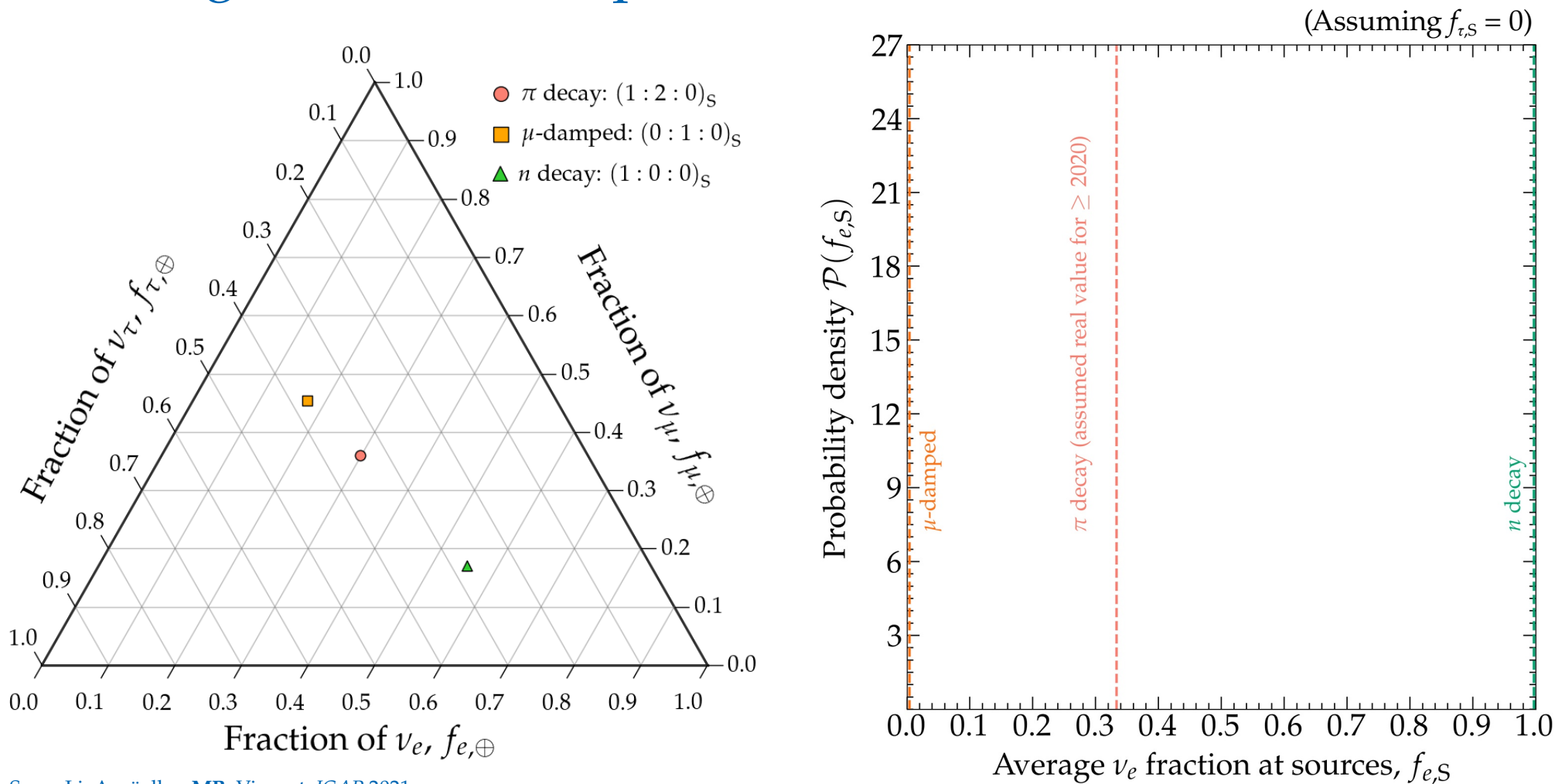
Probability density of mixing parameters  $(\theta_{12}, \theta_{23}, \theta_{13}, \delta_{\text{CP}})$

$$\mathcal{L}(\vartheta)$$



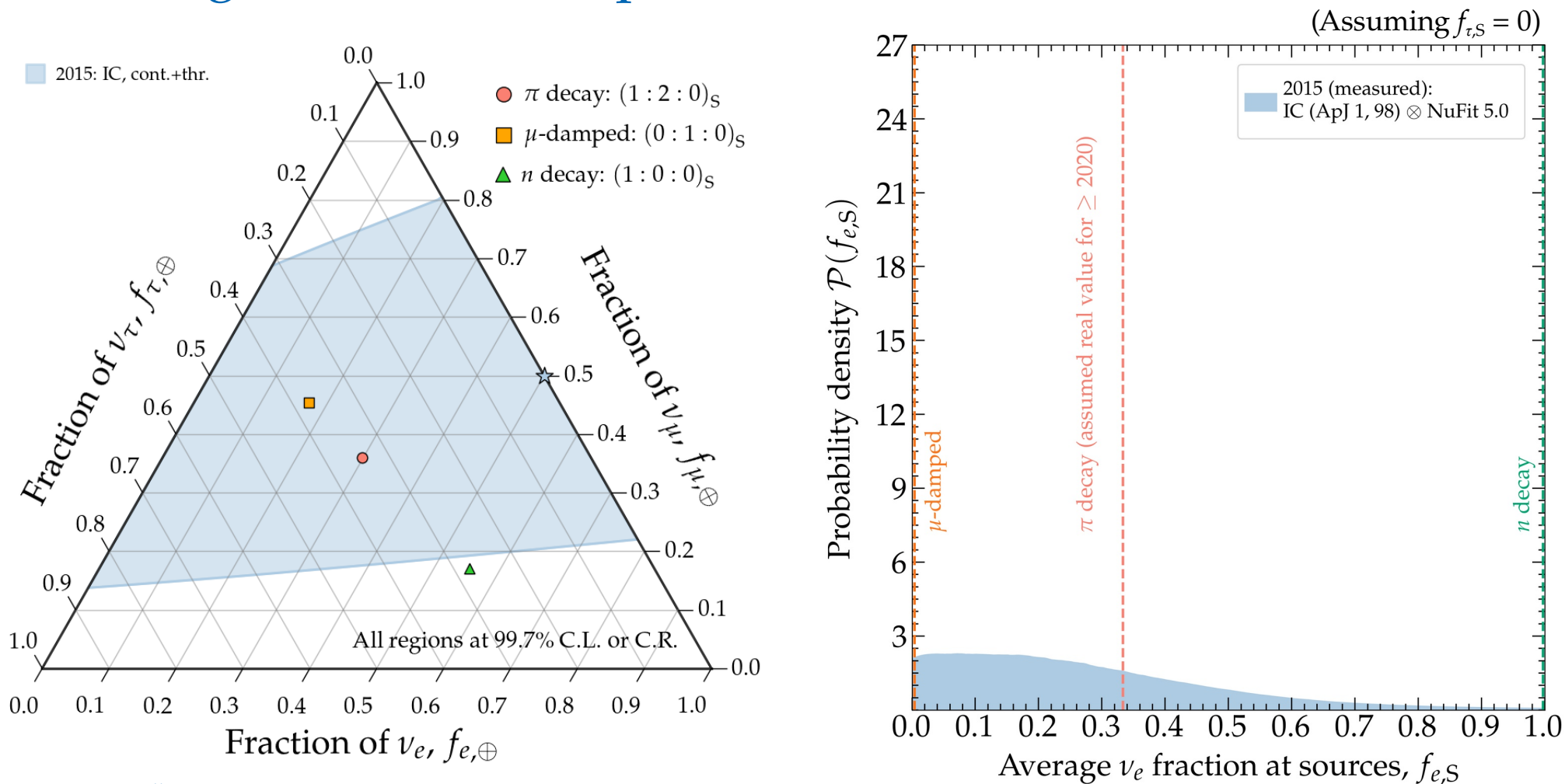
# Inferring the flavor composition at the sources

# Inferring the flavor composition at the sources

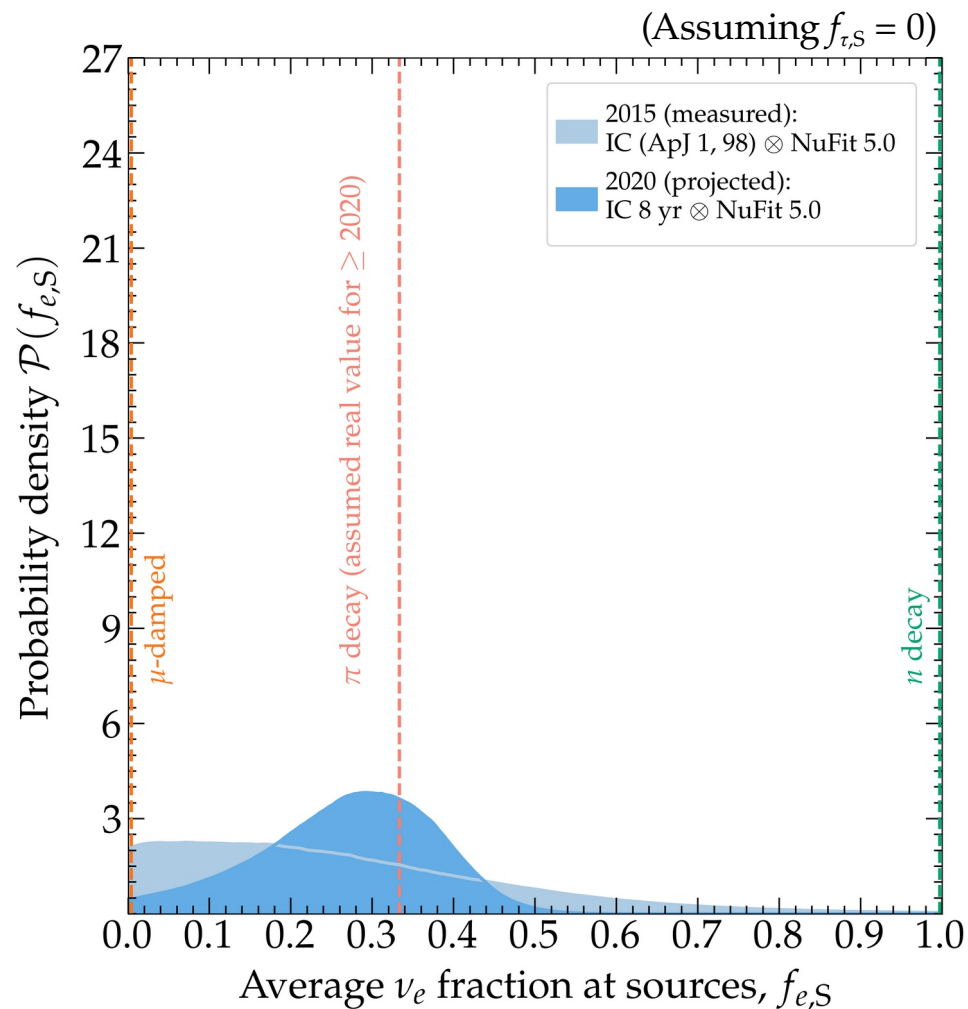
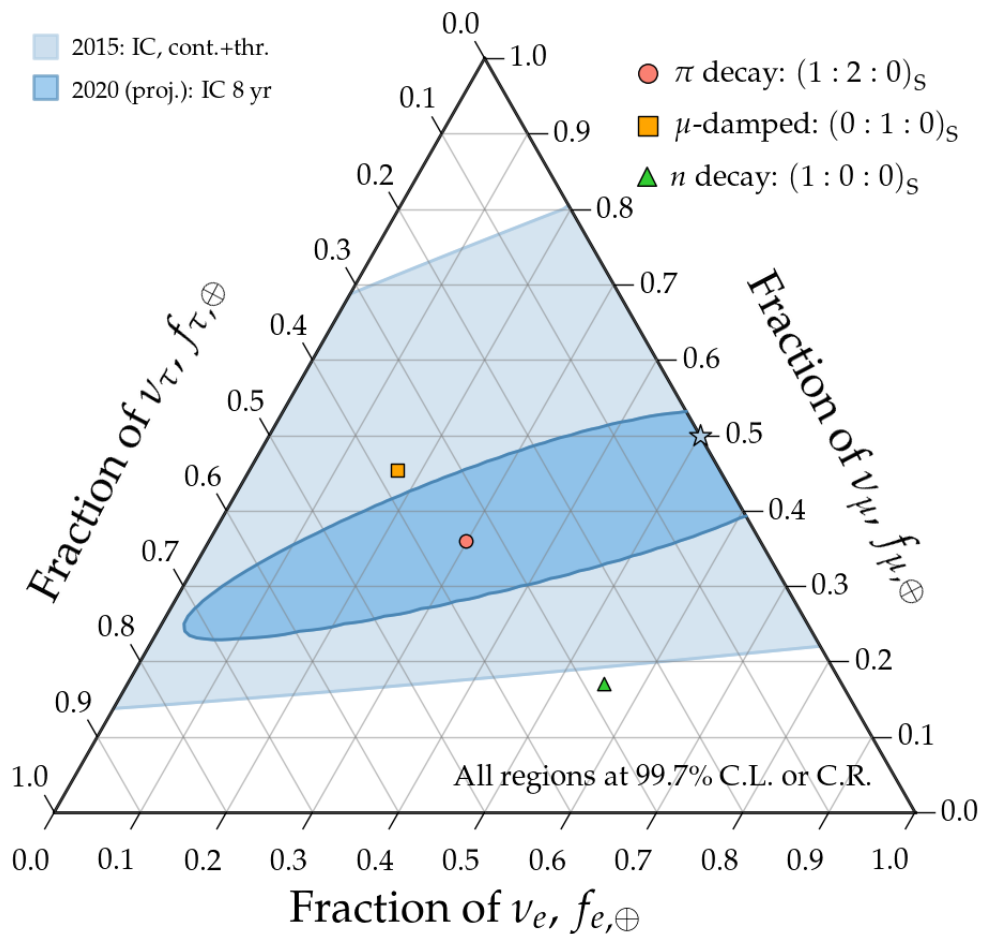




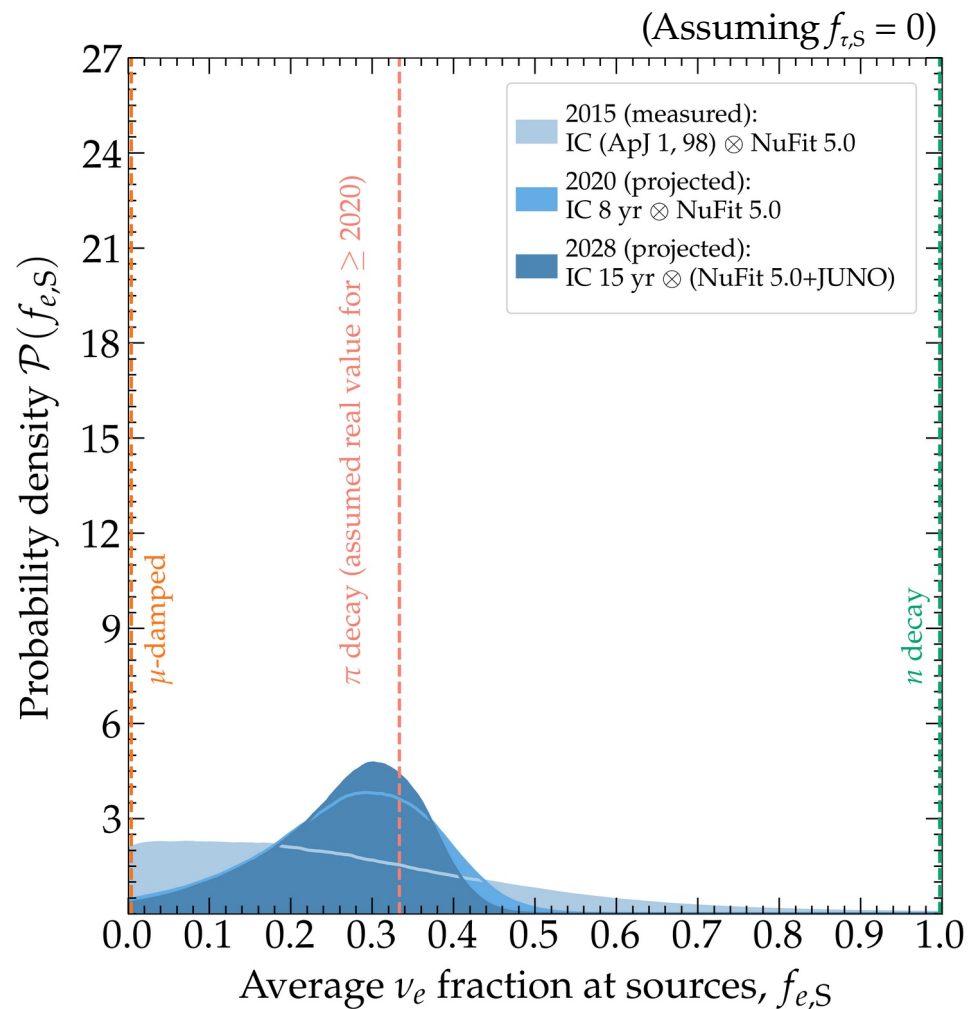
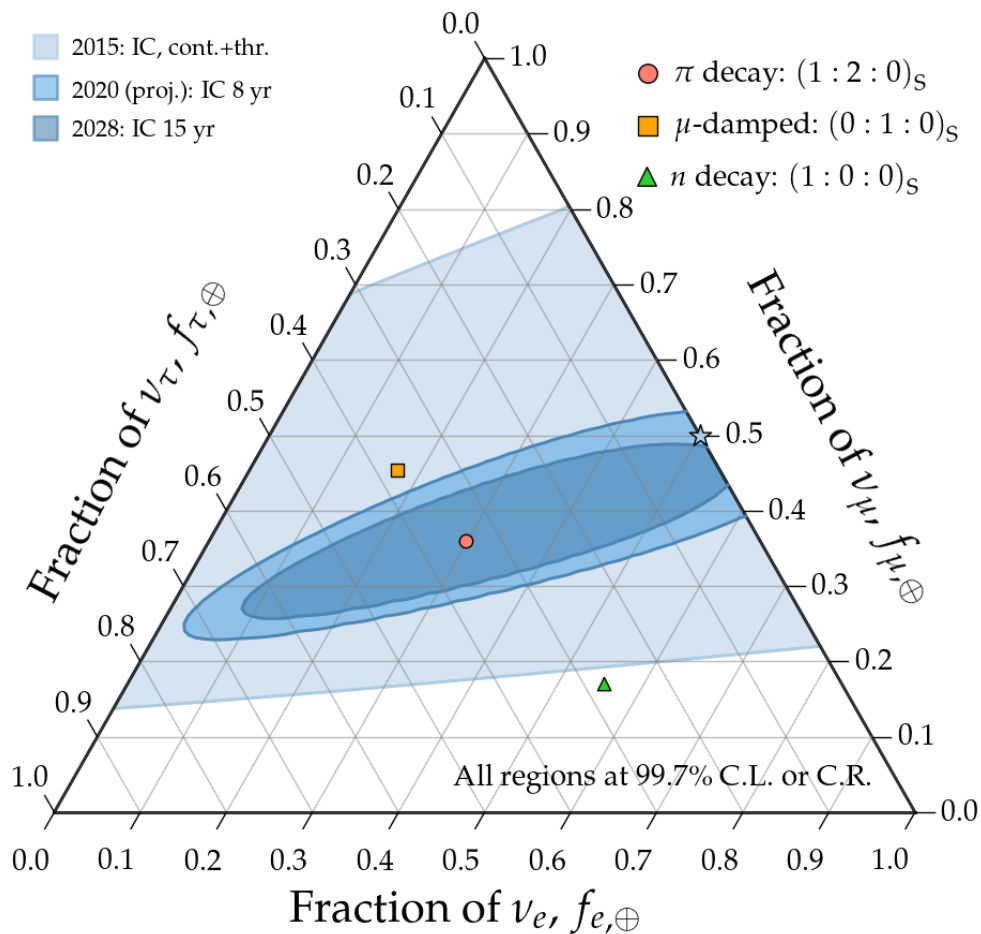
# Inferring the flavor composition at the sources



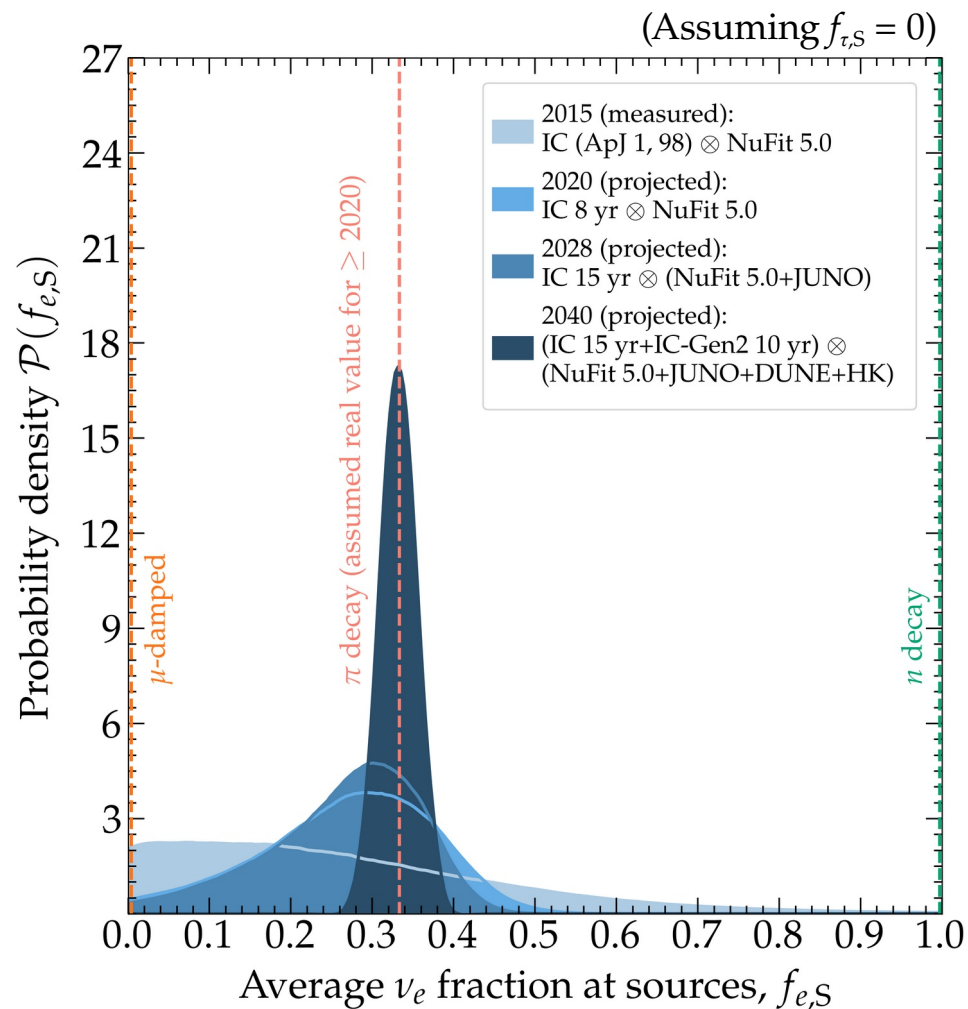
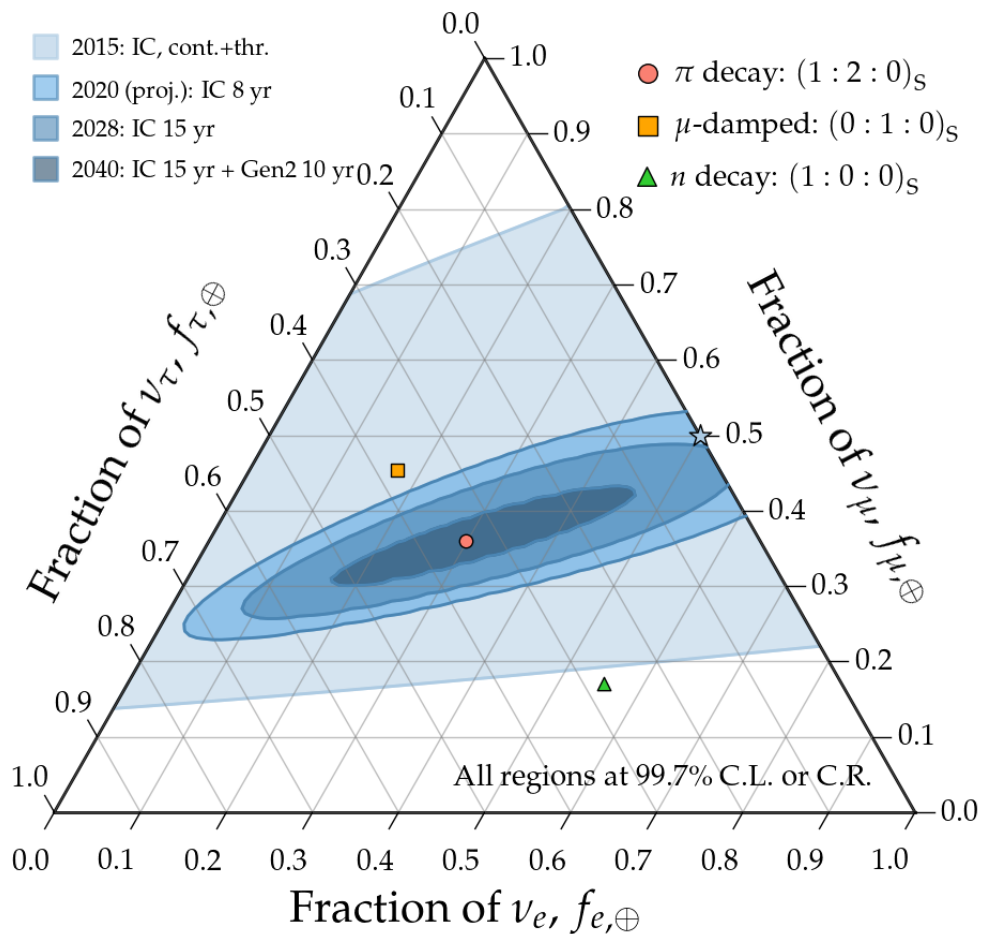
# Inferring the flavor composition at the sources



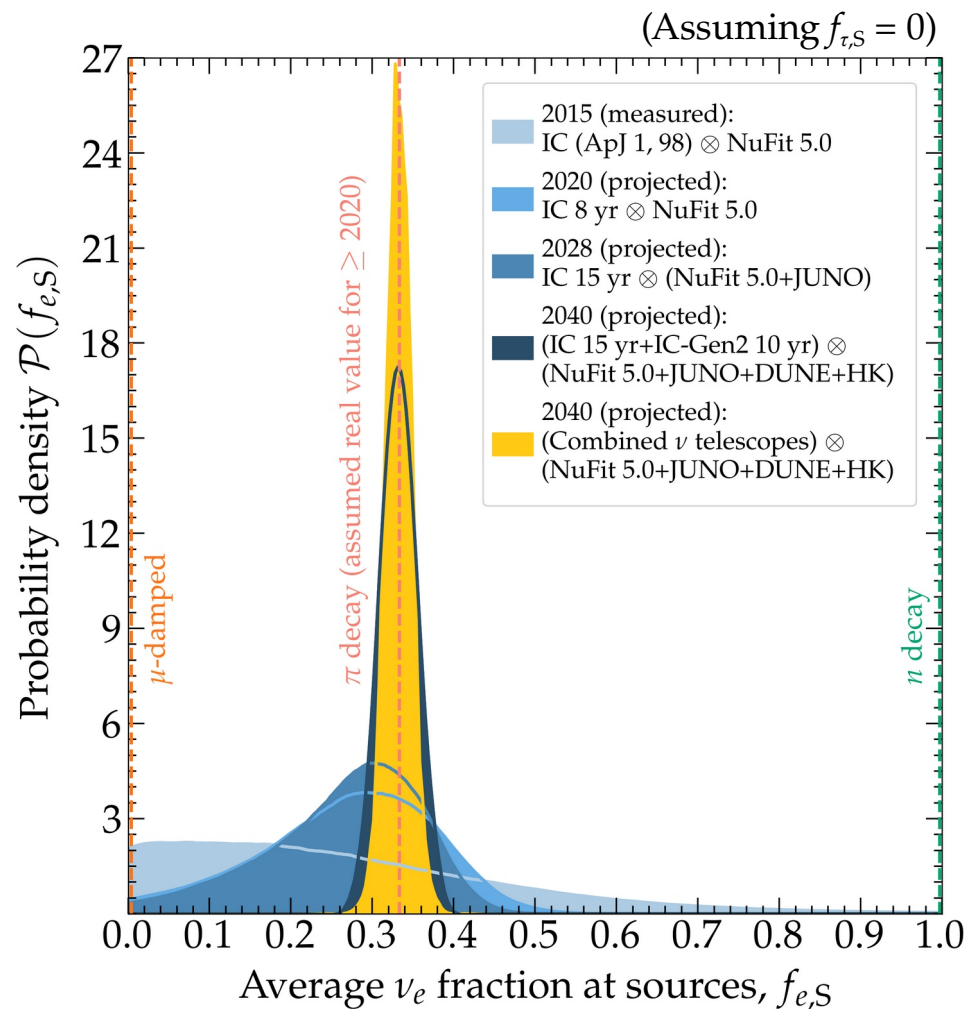
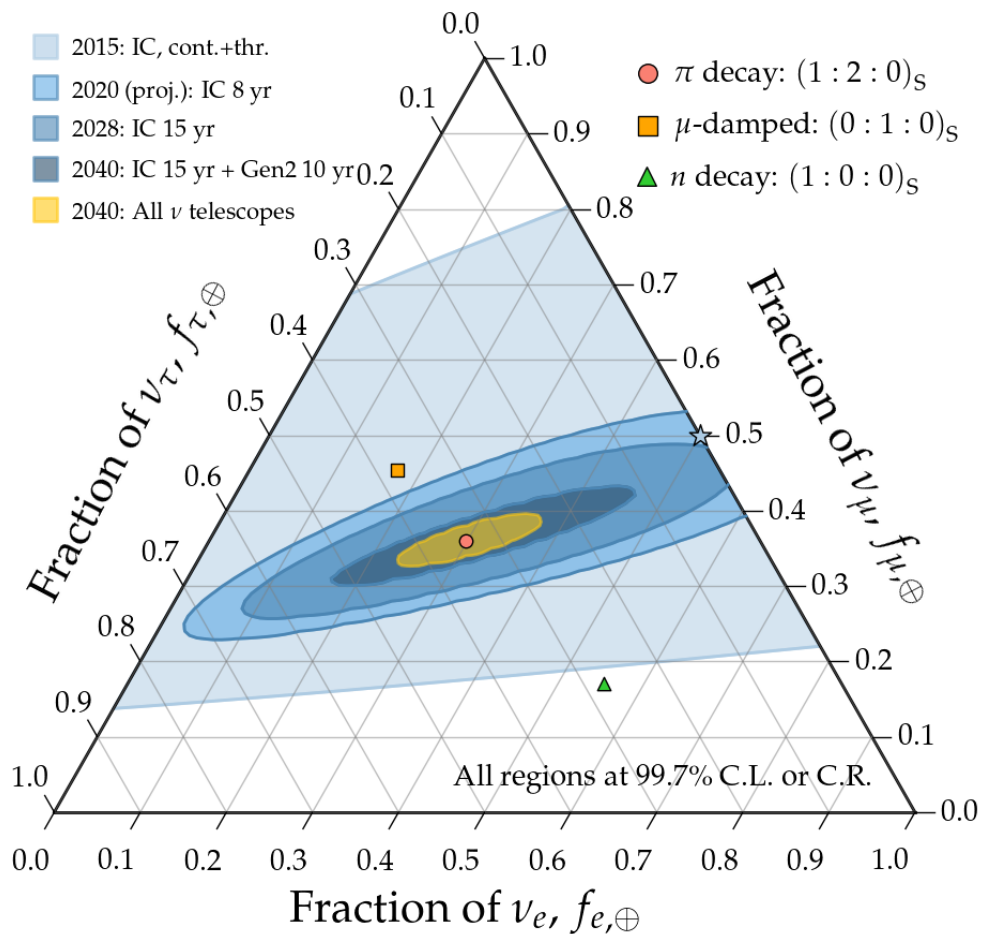
# Inferring the flavor composition at the sources



# Inferring the flavor composition at the sources

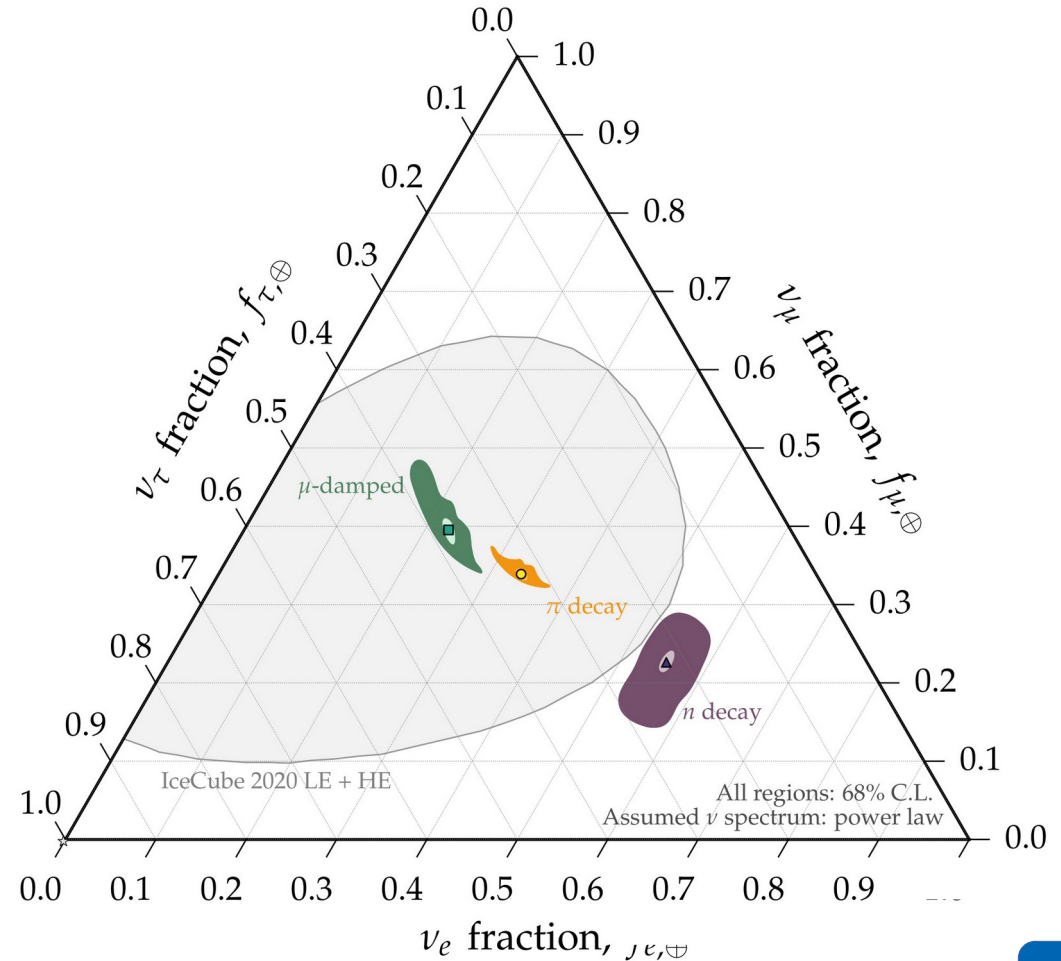


# Inferring the flavor composition at the sources



*Measuring energy-dependent  
flavor composition*

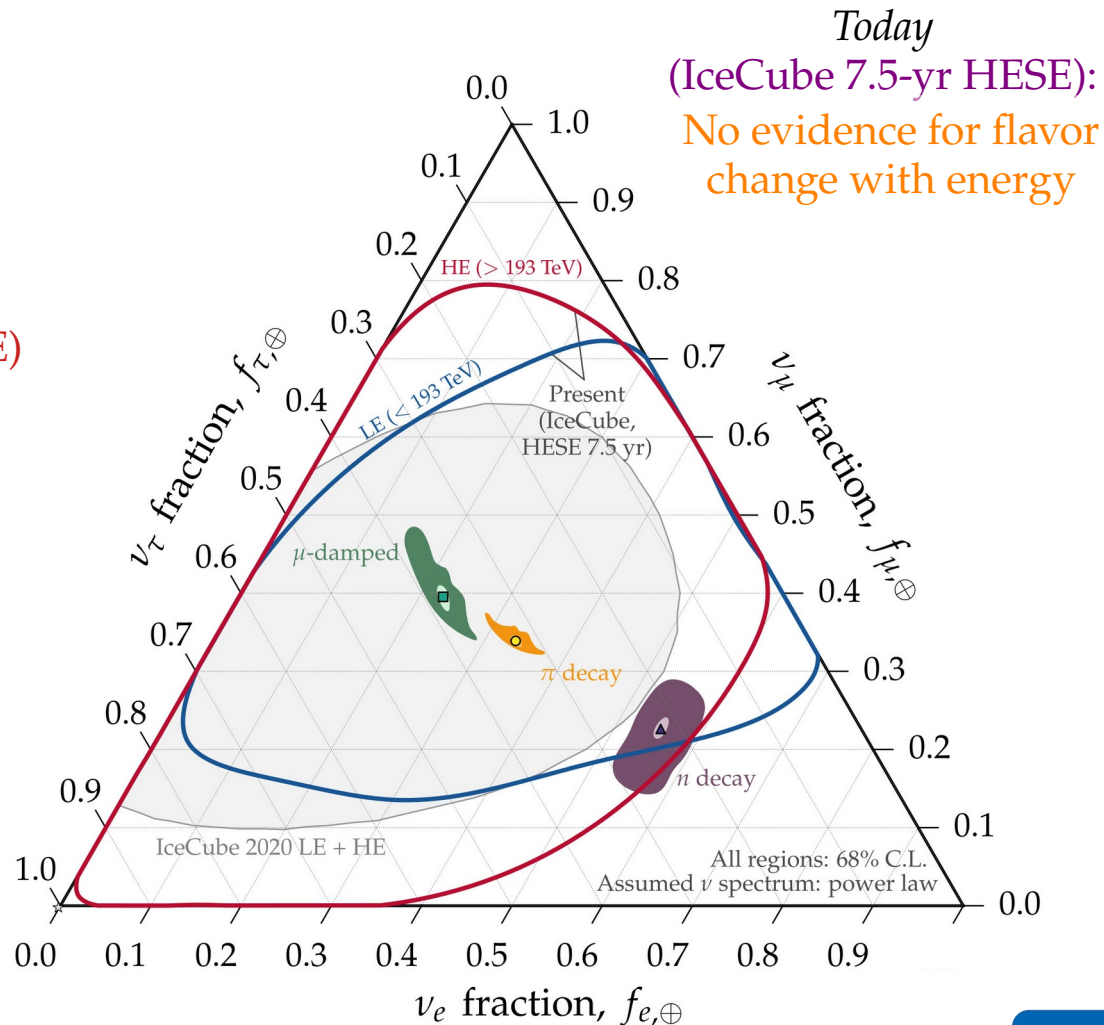
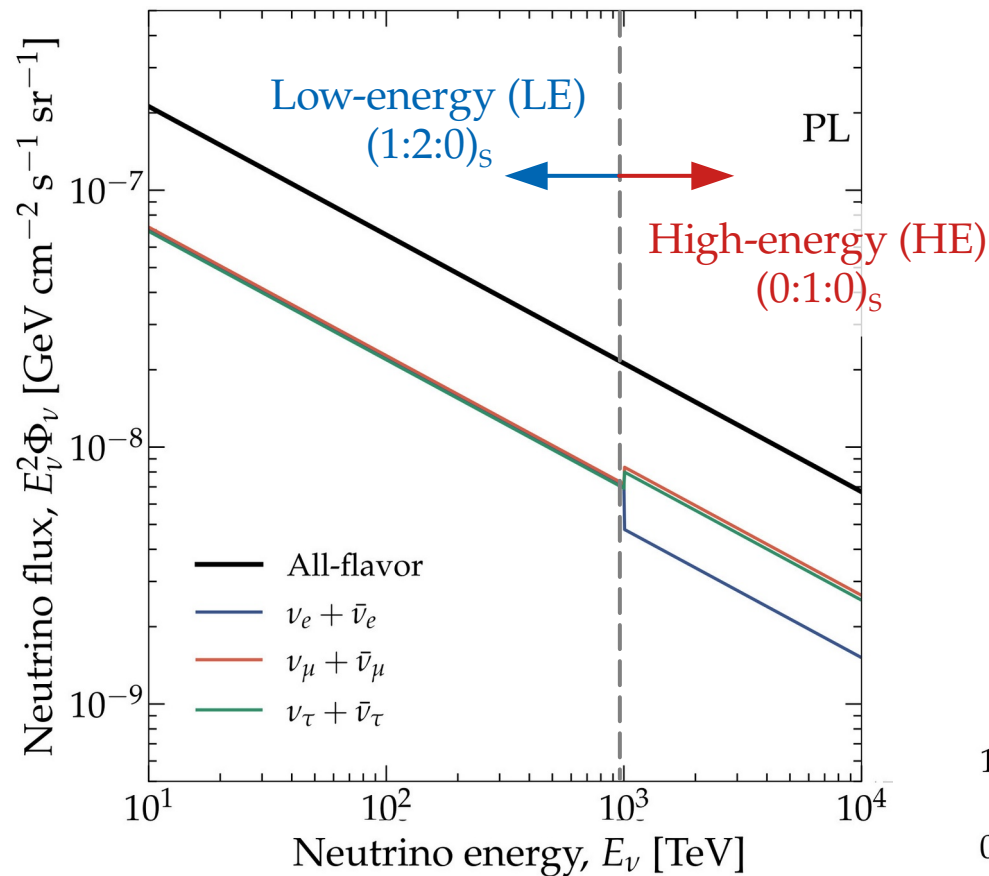
# Flavor composition: measuring the energy dependence





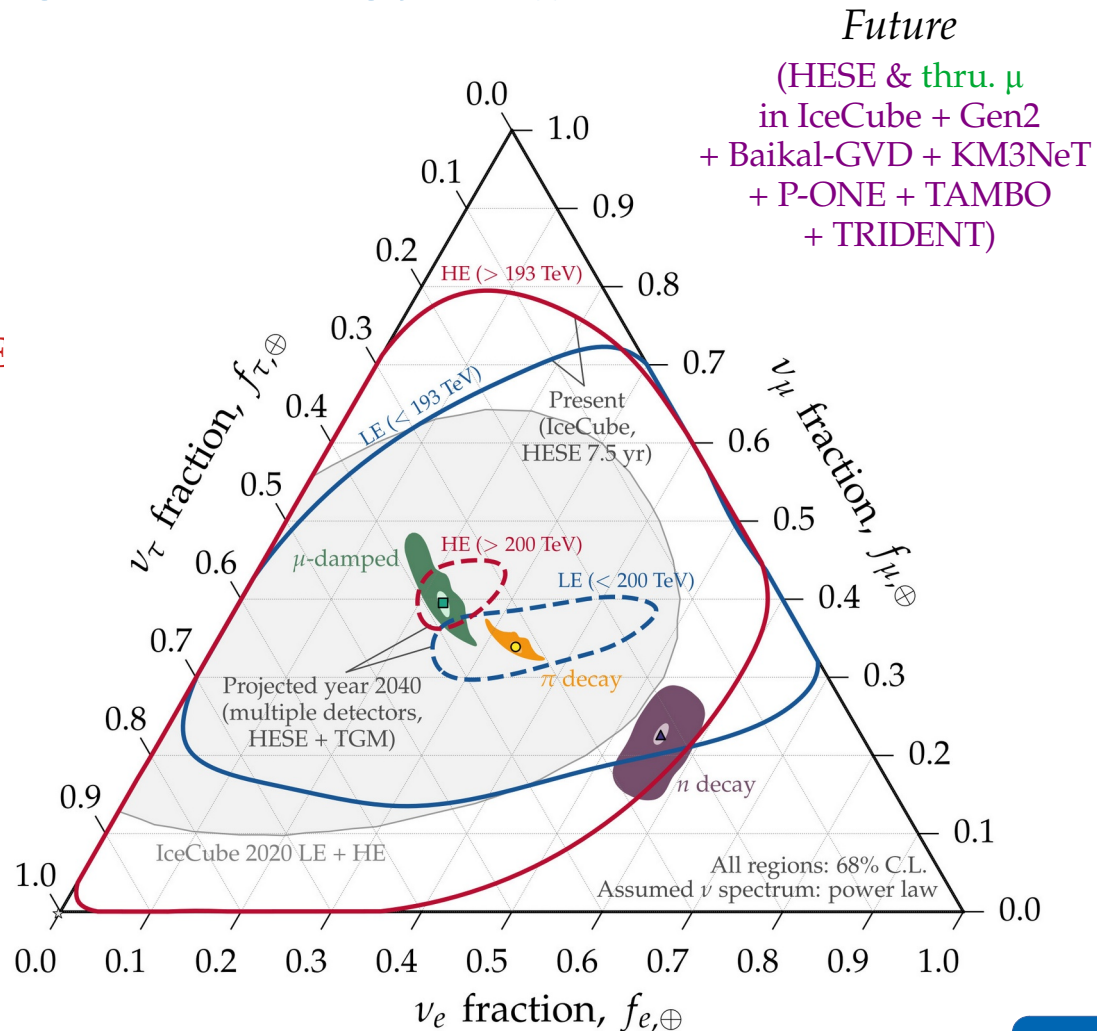
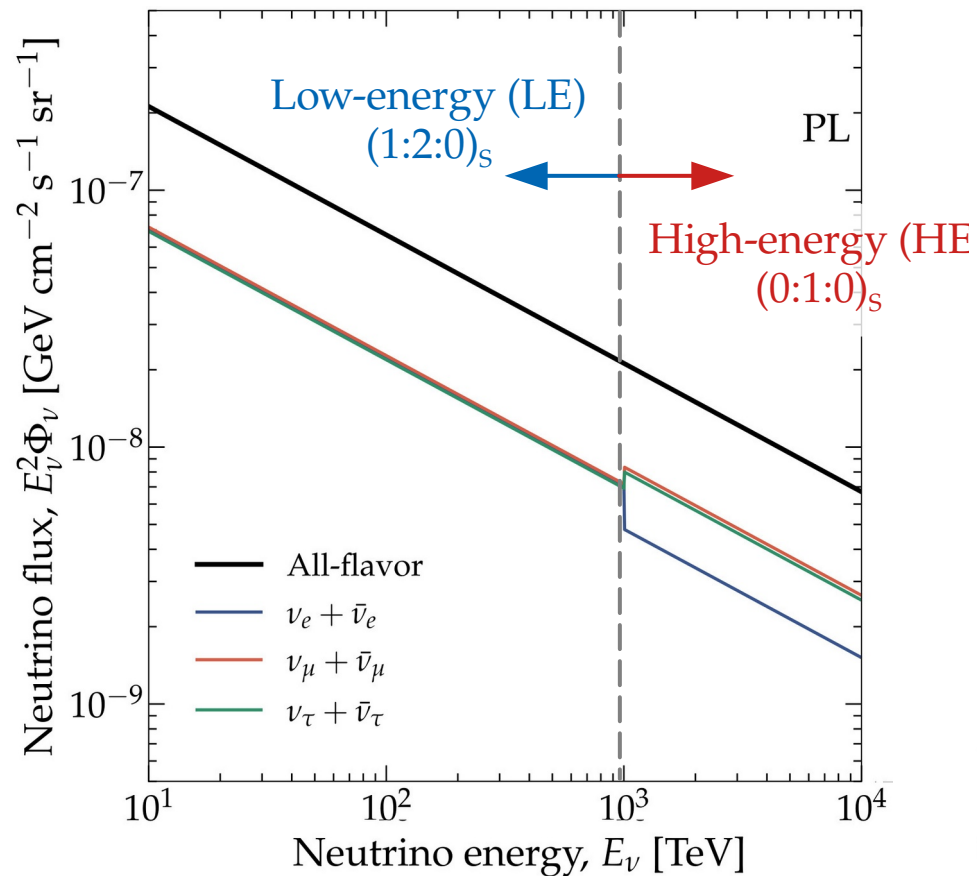
# Flavor composition: measuring the energy dependence

Power-law (PL) diffuse  $\nu$  flux



# Flavor composition: measuring the energy dependence

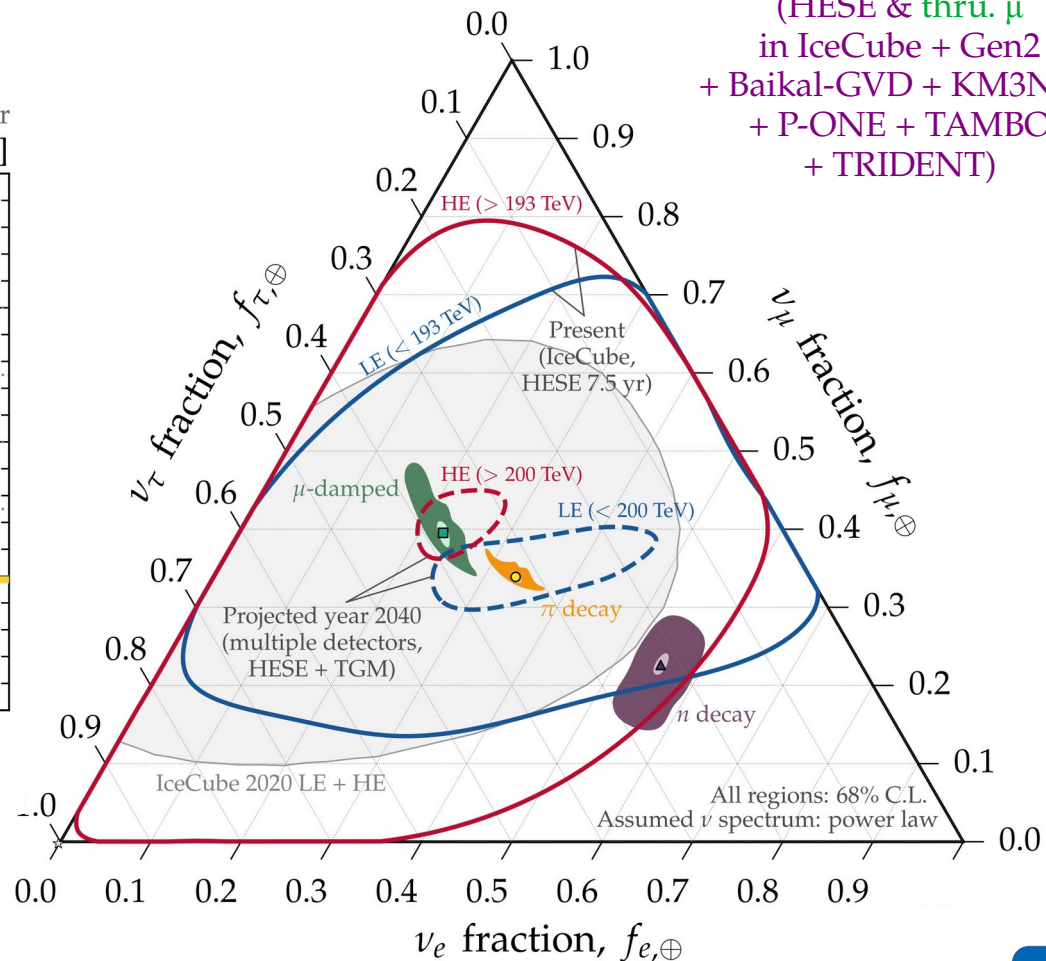
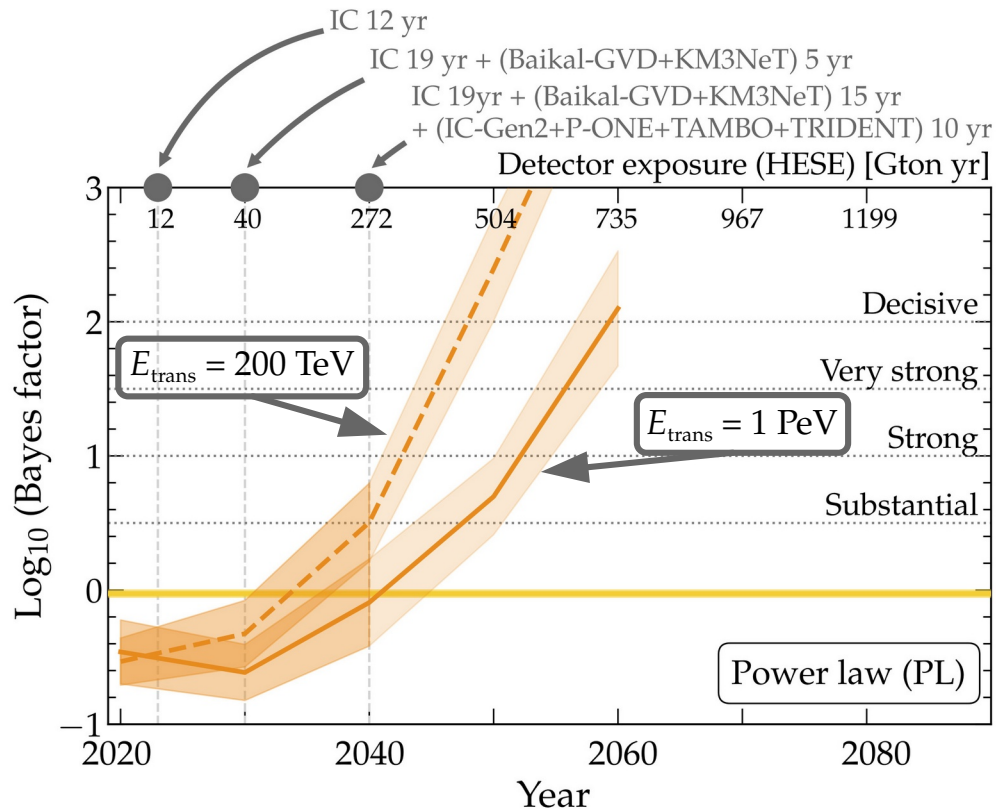
## Power-law (PL) diffuse $\nu$ flux



# Flavor composition: measuring the energy dependence

*Future*

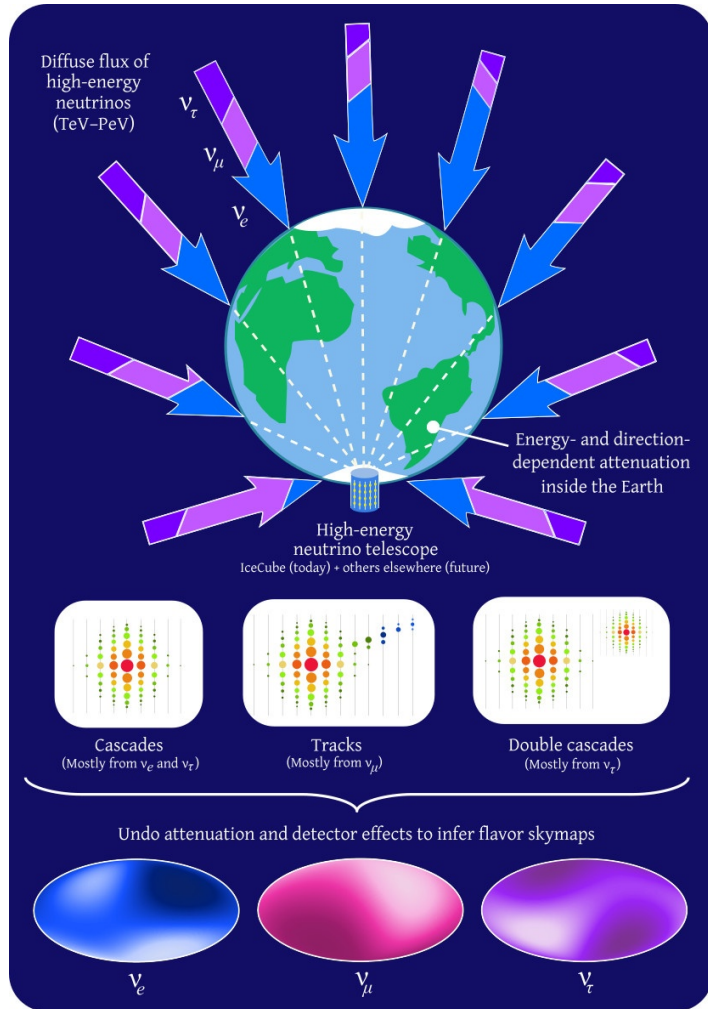
(HESE & thru.  $\mu$   
in IceCube + Gen2  
+ Baikal-GVD + KM3NeT  
+ P-ONE + TAMBO  
+ TRIDENT)



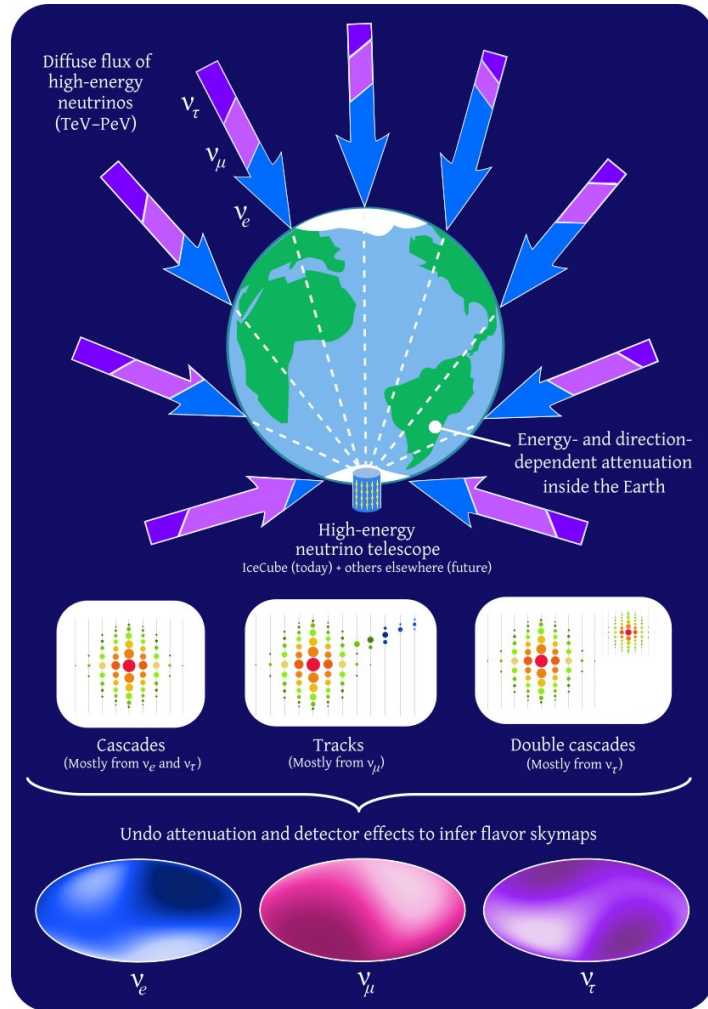
*Measuring flavor anisotropy*

# Flavor anisotropy in the high-energy neutrino sky

*Does the high-energy sky shine equally brightly  
In neutrinos of all flavors?*

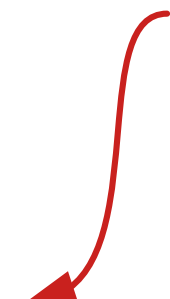


# Flavor anisotropy in the high-energy neutrino sky



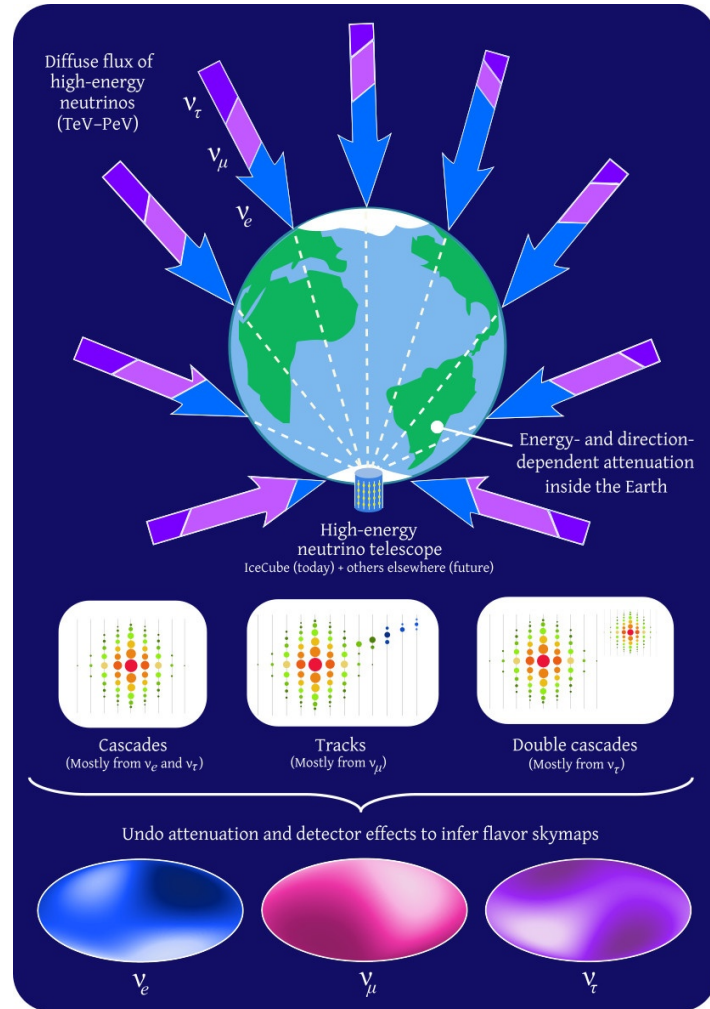
*Does the high-energy sky shine equally brightly  
In neutrinos of all flavors?*

*From the angular distribution of detected  
events in neutrino telescopes  
(HESE cascades, tracks, double cascades) ...*





# Flavor anisotropy in the high-energy neutrino sky



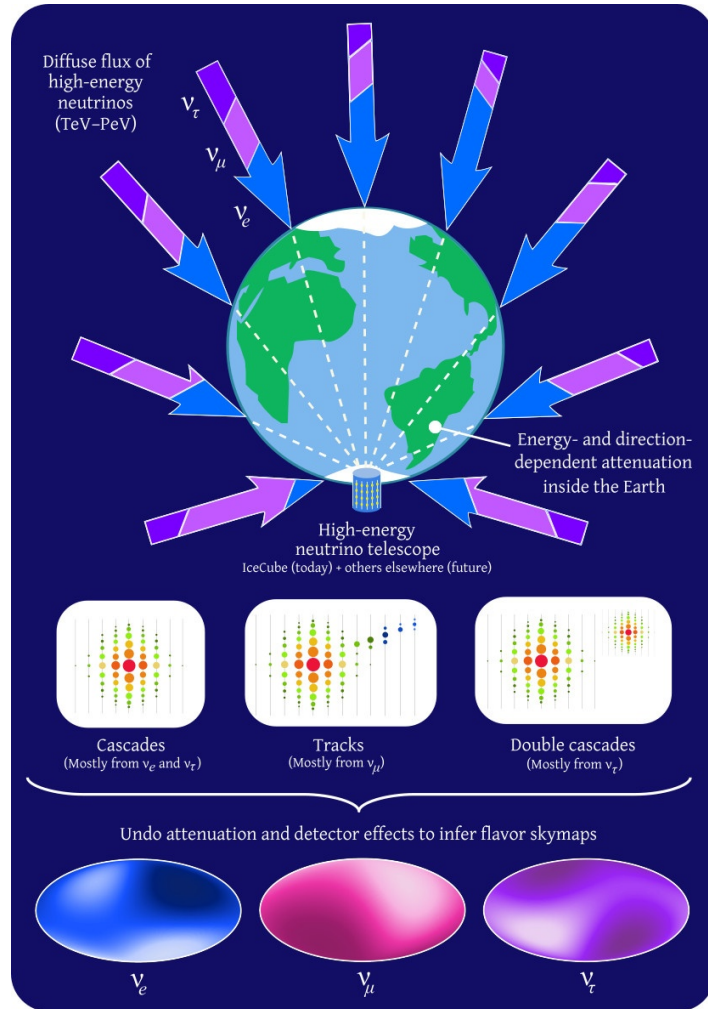
*Does the high-energy sky shine equally brightly  
In neutrinos of all flavors?*

From the angular distribution of detected  
events in neutrino telescopes  
(HESE cascades, tracks, double cascades) ...

... we infer the directional dependence of  
the diffuse fluxes of  $\nu_e$ ,  $\nu_\mu$ ,  $\nu_\tau$



# Flavor anisotropy in the high-energy neutrino sky



*Does the high-energy sky shine equally brightly  
In neutrinos of all flavors?*

*From the angular distribution of detected  
events in neutrino telescopes  
(HESE cascades, tracks, double cascades) ...*

*How? Undo detection effects  
(use public IceCube  
HESE Monte Carlo)*

*... we infer the directional dependence of  
the diffuse fluxes of  $\nu_e$ ,  $\nu_\mu$ ,  $\nu_\tau$*

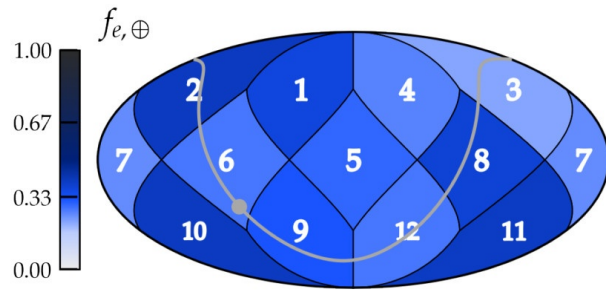
Directional high-energy astrophysical neutrino flavor composition: IceCube HESE (7.5 yr)

Real, public data

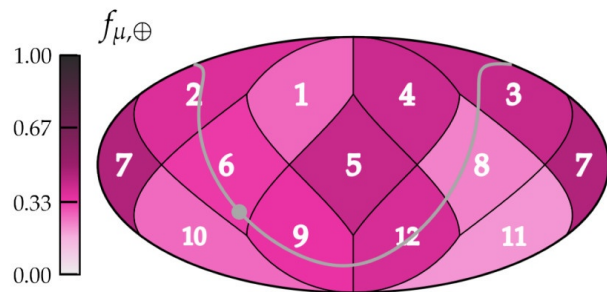
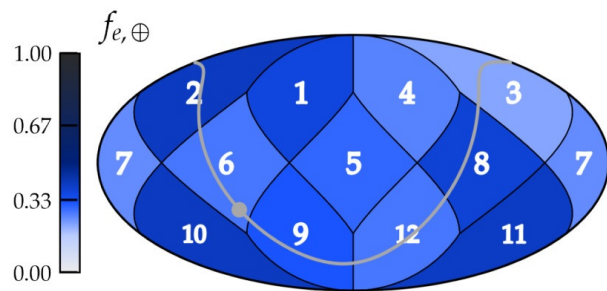


Directional high-energy astrophysical neutrino flavor composition: IceCube HESE (7.5 yr)

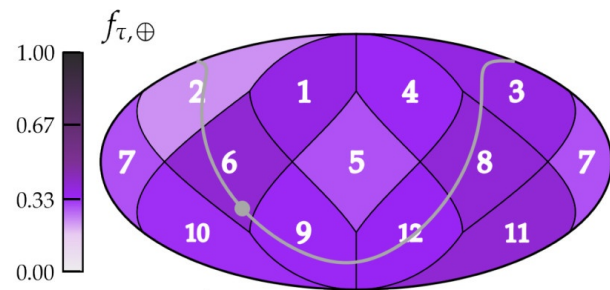
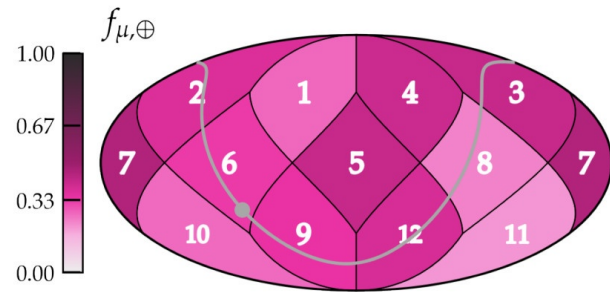
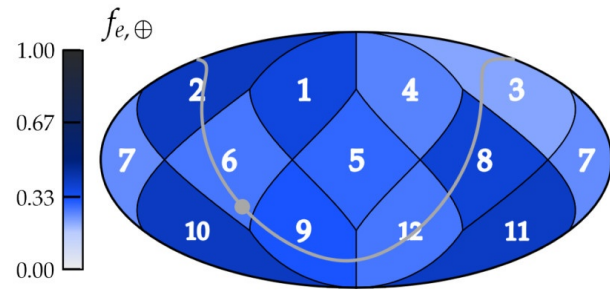
# Directional high-energy astrophysical neutrino flavor composition: IceCube HESE (7.5 yr)



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# Directional high-energy astrophysical neutrino flavor composition: IceCube HESE (7.5 yr)



Equatorial

Telalovic, MB, 2310.15224

# Directional high-energy astrophysical neutrino flavor composition: IceCube HESE (7.5 yr)

This work:

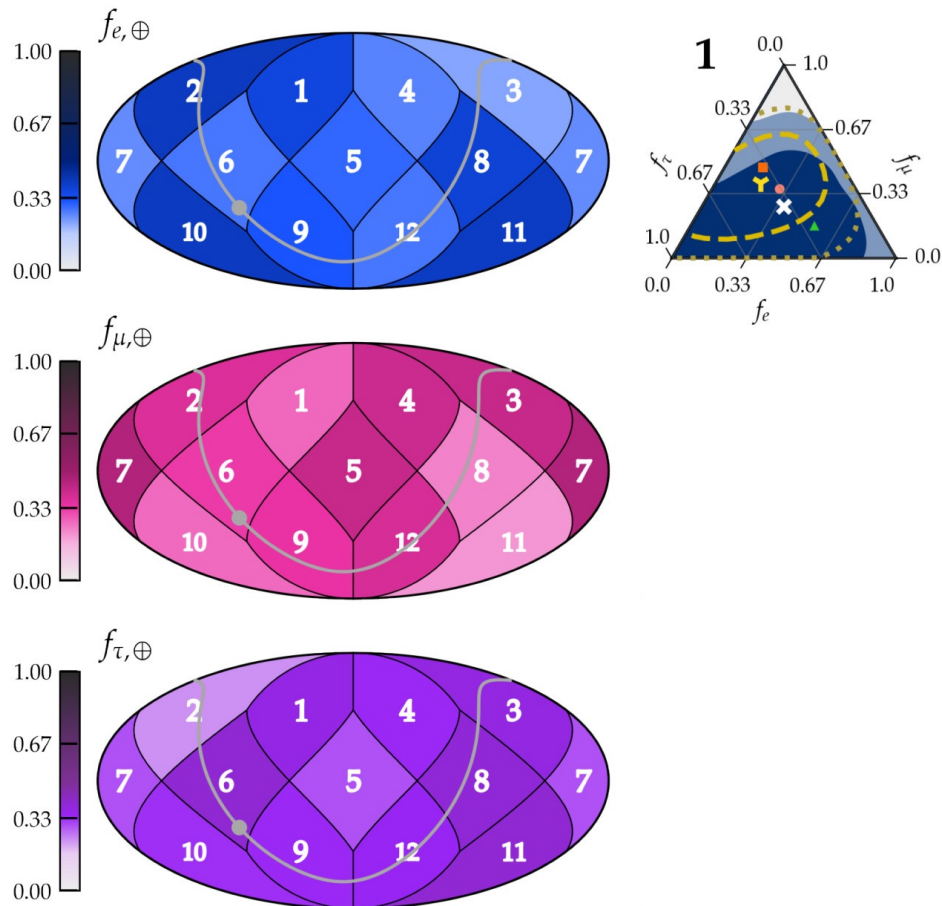
⊗ Best fit   ■ 1σ   ■ 2σ   □ 3σ

IceCube 2020 all-sky:

⌞ Best fit   - - 1σ   ··· 2σ

Benchmarks:

●  $\pi^\pm$  decay: (1:2:0)<sub>S</sub>   ■  $\mu$ -damped: (0:1:0)<sub>S</sub>   ▲  $n$  decay: (1:0:0)<sub>S</sub>



Equatorial

Telaviv, MB, 2310.15224



# Directional high-energy astrophysical neutrino flavor composition: IceCube HESE (7.5 yr)

This work:

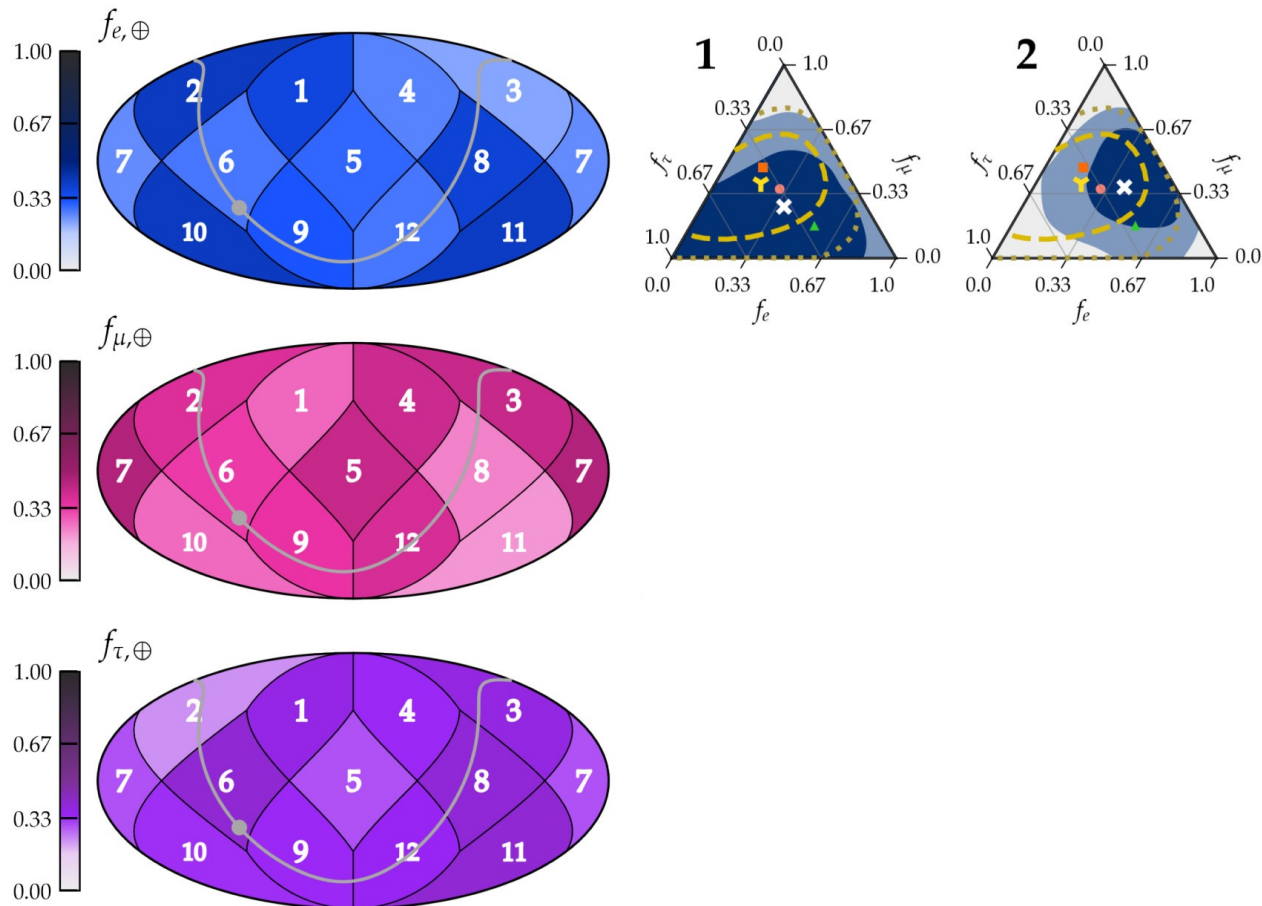
✂ Best fit   ■ 1 $\sigma$    ■ 2 $\sigma$    □ 3 $\sigma$

IceCube 2020 all-sky:

Y Best fit   - - 1 $\sigma$    ··· 2 $\sigma$

Benchmarks:

●  $\pi^\pm$  decay: (1:2:0)<sub>S</sub>   ■  $\mu$ -damped: (0:1:0)<sub>S</sub>   ▲  $n$  decay: (1:0:0)<sub>S</sub>



Equatorial

Telalovic, MB, 2310.15224

# Directional high-energy astrophysical neutrino flavor composition: IceCube HESE (7.5 yr)

This work:

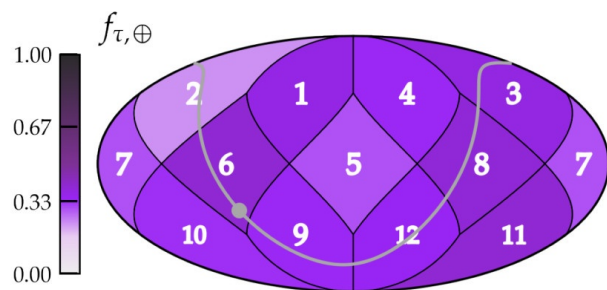
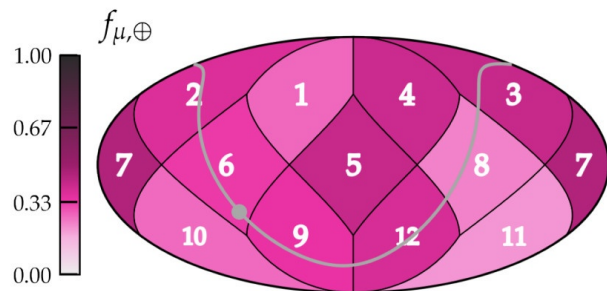
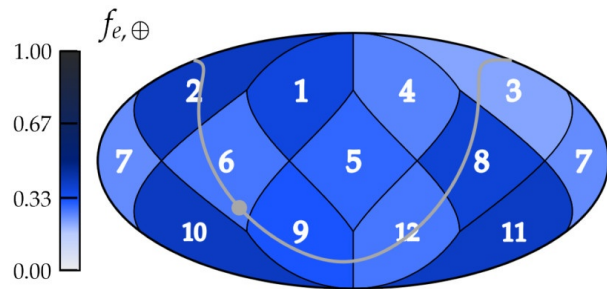
✂ Best fit   ■ 1 $\sigma$    ■ 2 $\sigma$    □ 3 $\sigma$

IceCube 2020 all-sky:

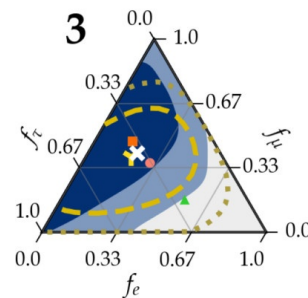
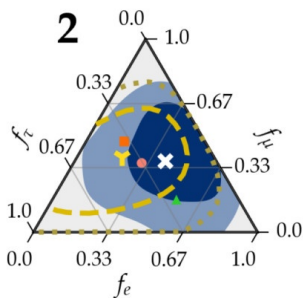
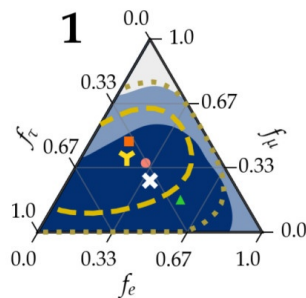
✂ Best fit   - - 1 $\sigma$    ··· 2 $\sigma$

Benchmarks:

●  $\pi^\pm$  decay: (1:2:0)<sub>S</sub>   ■  $\mu$ -damped: (0:1:0)<sub>S</sub>   ▲  $n$  decay: (1:0:0)<sub>S</sub>



Equatorial



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This work:

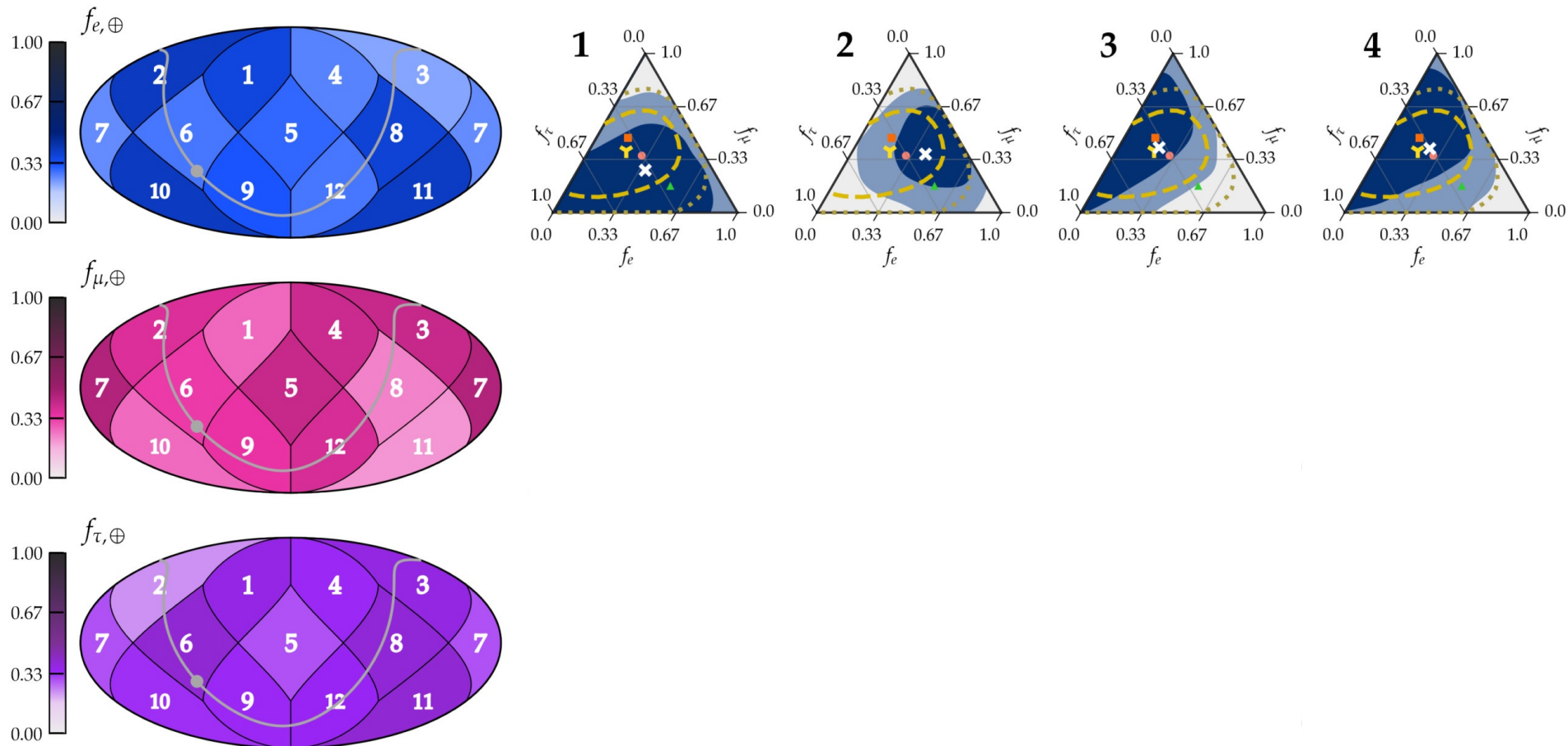
⊗ Best fit   ■ 1σ   ■ 2σ   □ 3σ

IceCube 2020 all-sky:

Y Best fit   - - 1σ   ··· 2σ

Benchmarks:

●  $\pi^\pm$  decay: (1:2:0)<sub>S</sub>   ■  $\mu$ -damped: (0:1:0)<sub>S</sub>   ▲  $n$  decay: (1:0:0)<sub>S</sub>



Equatorial

Telalovic, MB, 2310.15224

# Directional high-energy astrophysical neutrino flavor composition: IceCube HESE (7.5 yr)

This work:

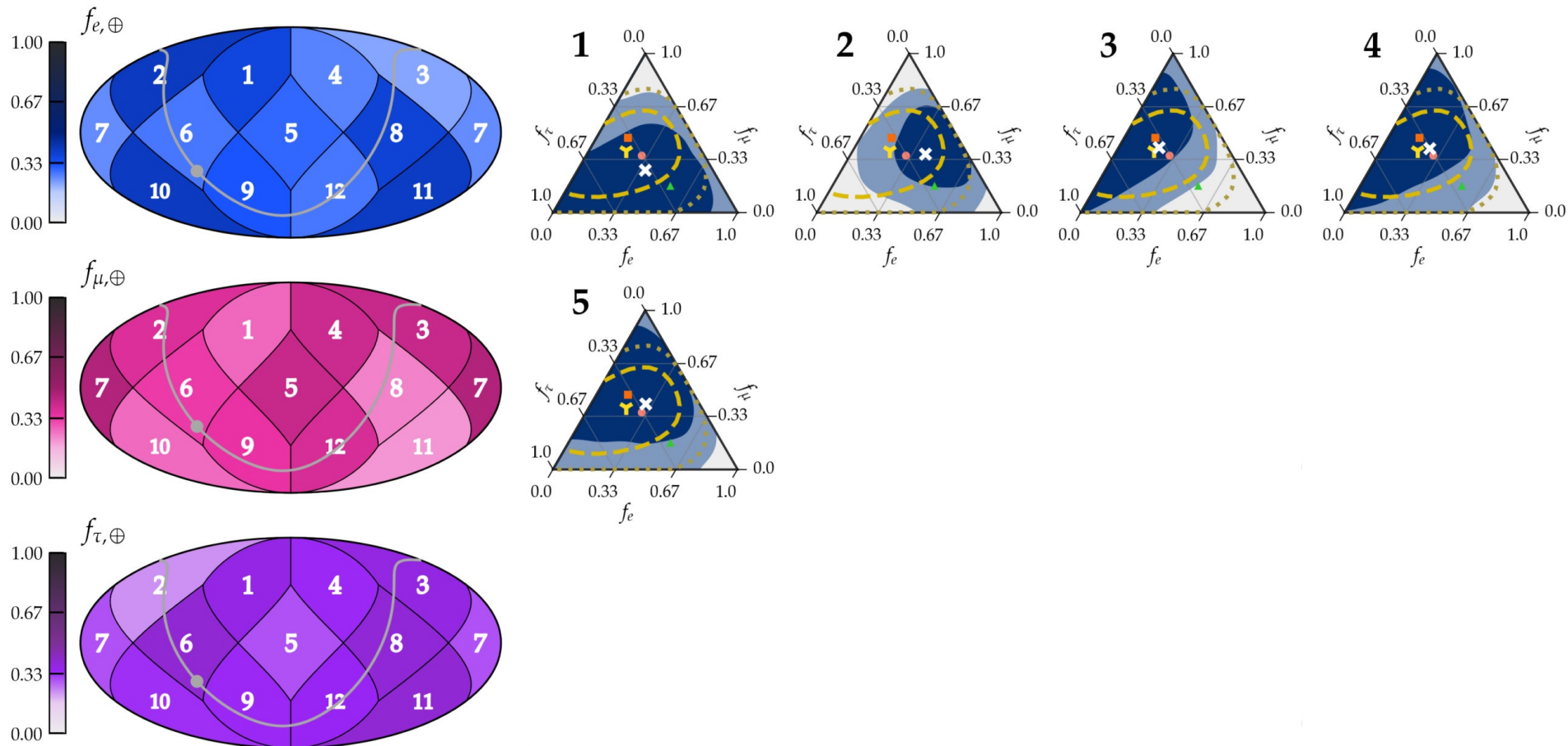
✂ Best fit   ■ 1 $\sigma$    ■ 2 $\sigma$    □ 3 $\sigma$

IceCube 2020 all-sky:

Y Best fit   - - 1 $\sigma$    ··· 2 $\sigma$

Benchmarks:

●  $\pi^\pm$  decay: (1:2:0)<sub>S</sub>   ■  $\mu$ -damped: (0:1:0)<sub>S</sub>   ▲  $n$  decay: (1:0:0)<sub>S</sub>



Equatorial

Telalovic, MB, 2310.15224



# Directional high-energy astrophysical neutrino flavor composition: IceCube HESE (7.5 yr)

This work:

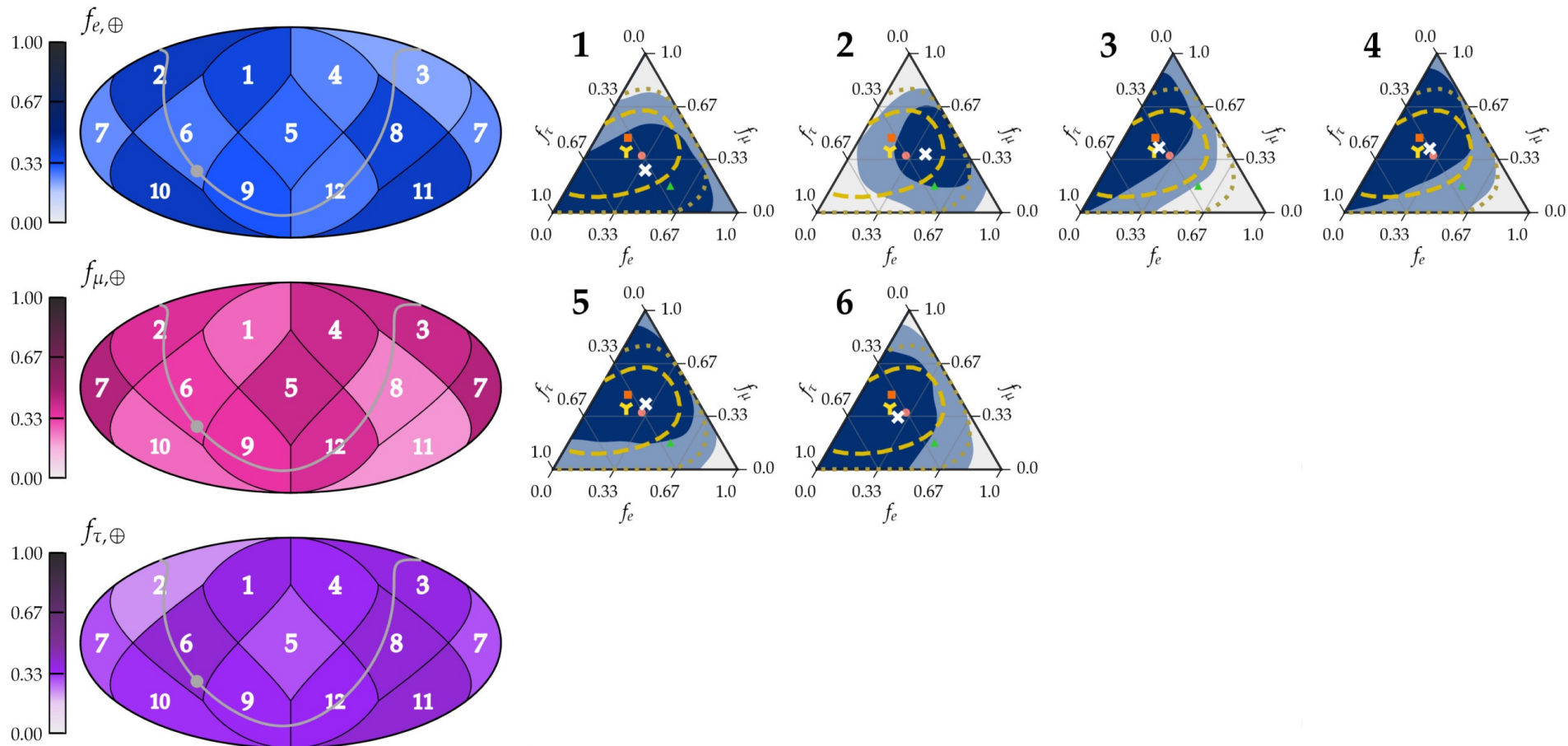
✂ Best fit   ■ 1 $\sigma$    ■ 2 $\sigma$    □ 3 $\sigma$

IceCube 2020 all-sky:

Y Best fit   - - 1 $\sigma$    ··· 2 $\sigma$

Benchmarks:

●  $\pi^\pm$  decay: (1:2:0)<sub>S</sub>   ■  $\mu$ -damped: (0:1:0)<sub>S</sub>   ▲  $n$  decay: (1:0:0)<sub>S</sub>



Equatorial

Telalovic, MB, 2310.15224

# Directional high-energy astrophysical neutrino flavor composition: IceCube HESE (7.5 yr)

This work:

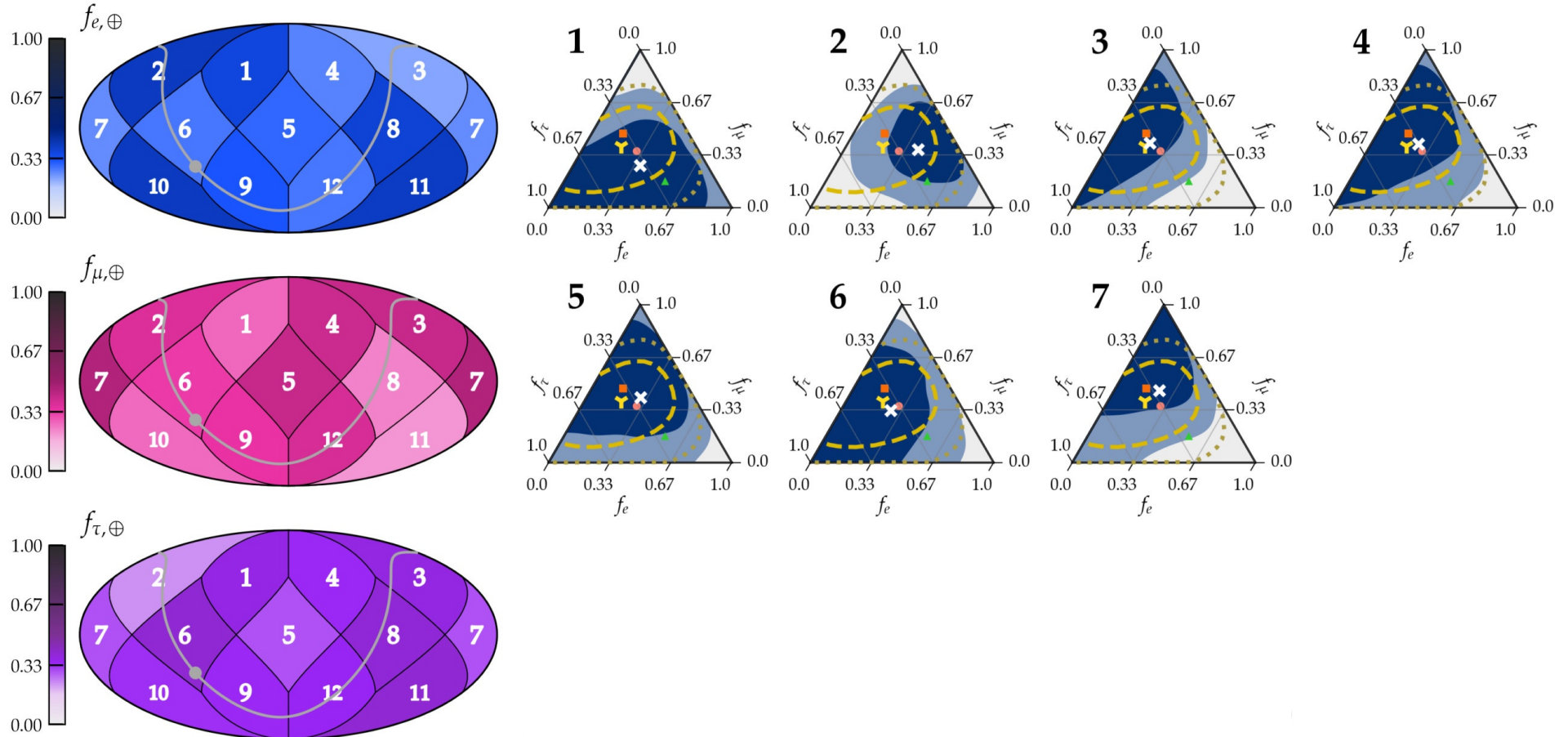
✖ Best fit   ■ 1 $\sigma$    ■ 2 $\sigma$    □ 3 $\sigma$

IceCube 2020 all-sky:

✖ Best fit   - - 1 $\sigma$    - - - 2 $\sigma$

Benchmarks:

●  $\pi^\pm$  decay: (1:2:0)<sub>S</sub>   ■  $\mu$ -damped: (0:1:0)<sub>S</sub>   ▲  $n$  decay: (1:0:0)<sub>S</sub>



Equatorial

Telalovic, MB, 2310.15224

# Directional high-energy astrophysical neutrino flavor composition: IceCube HESE (7.5 yr)

This work:

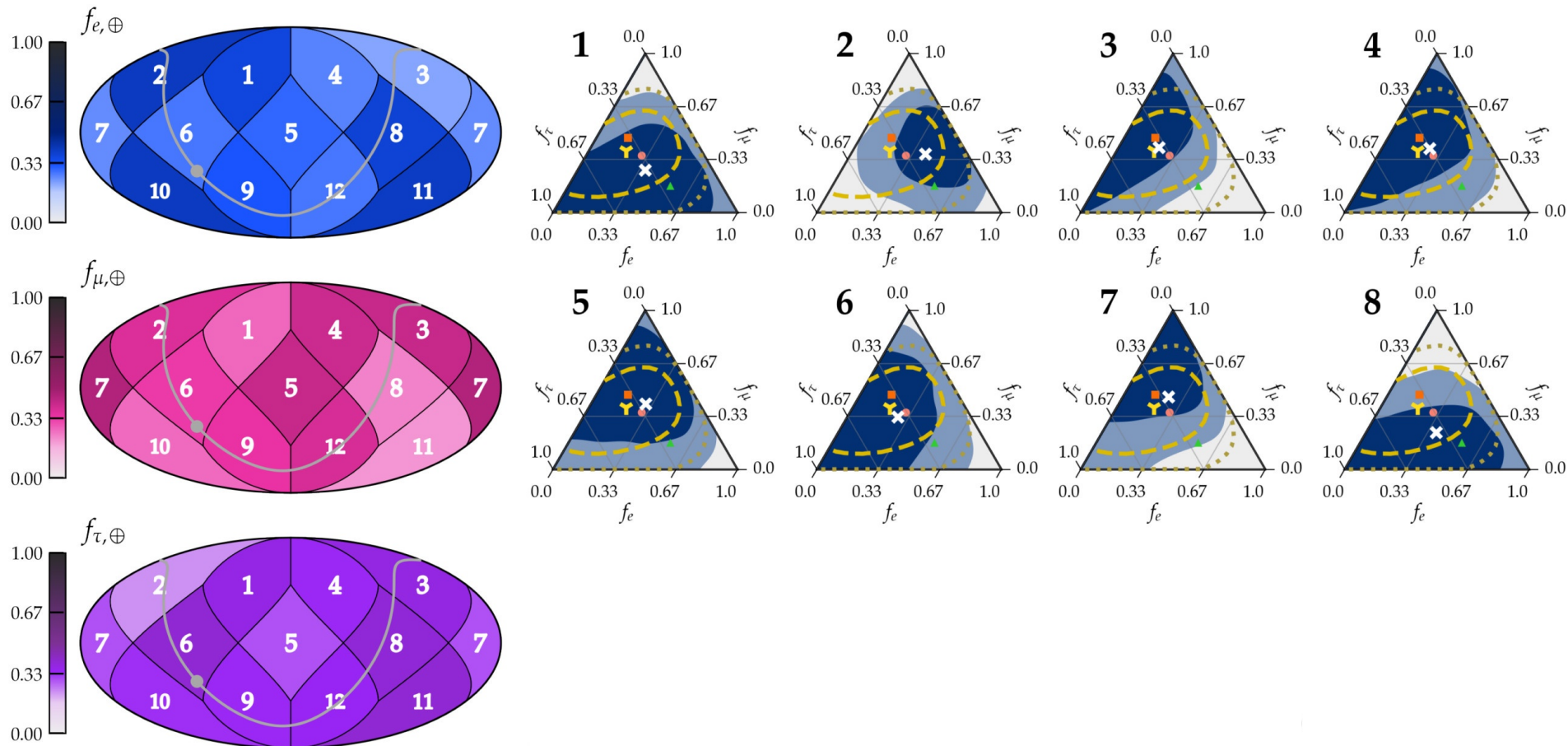
✖ Best fit   ■ 1 $\sigma$    ■ 2 $\sigma$    □ 3 $\sigma$

IceCube 2020 all-sky:

✖ Best fit   - - 1 $\sigma$    - - - 2 $\sigma$

Benchmarks:

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Equatorial

Telalovic, MB, 2310.15224



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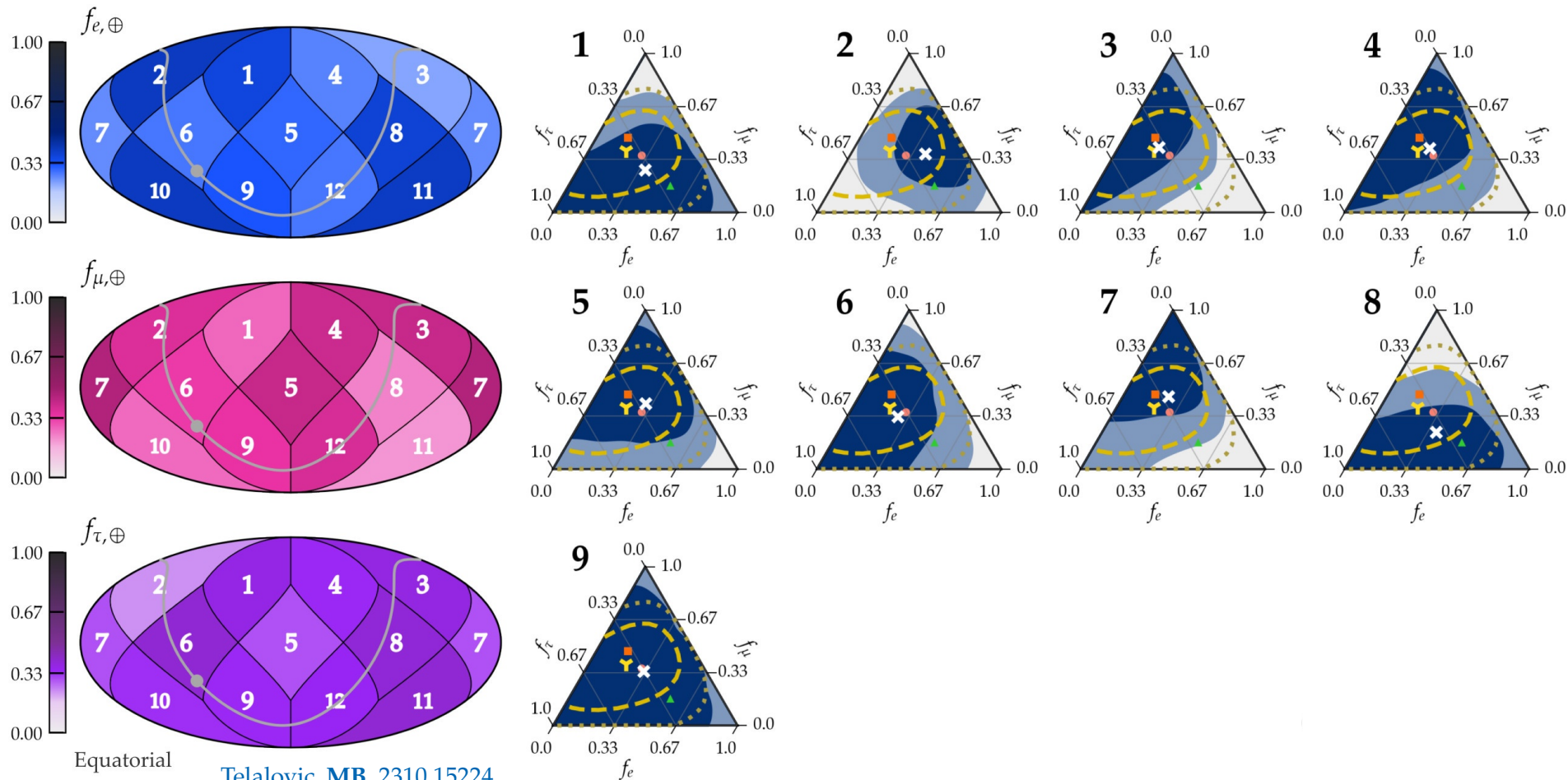
✖ Best fit   ■ 1 $\sigma$    ■ 2 $\sigma$    □ 3 $\sigma$

IceCube 2020 all-sky:

✖ Best fit   - - 1 $\sigma$    - - - 2 $\sigma$

Benchmarks:

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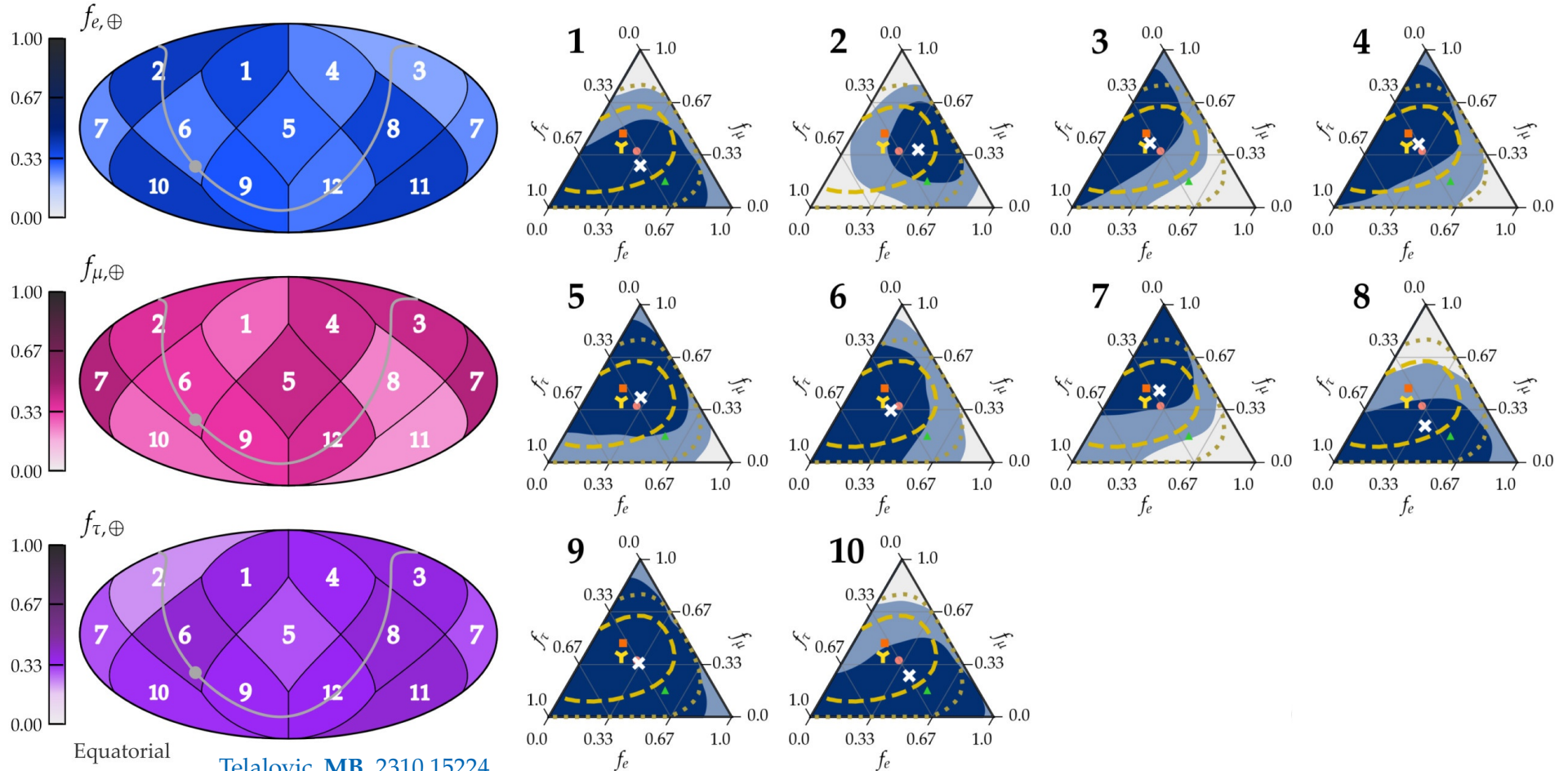
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Equatorial

Telalovic, MB, 2310.15224

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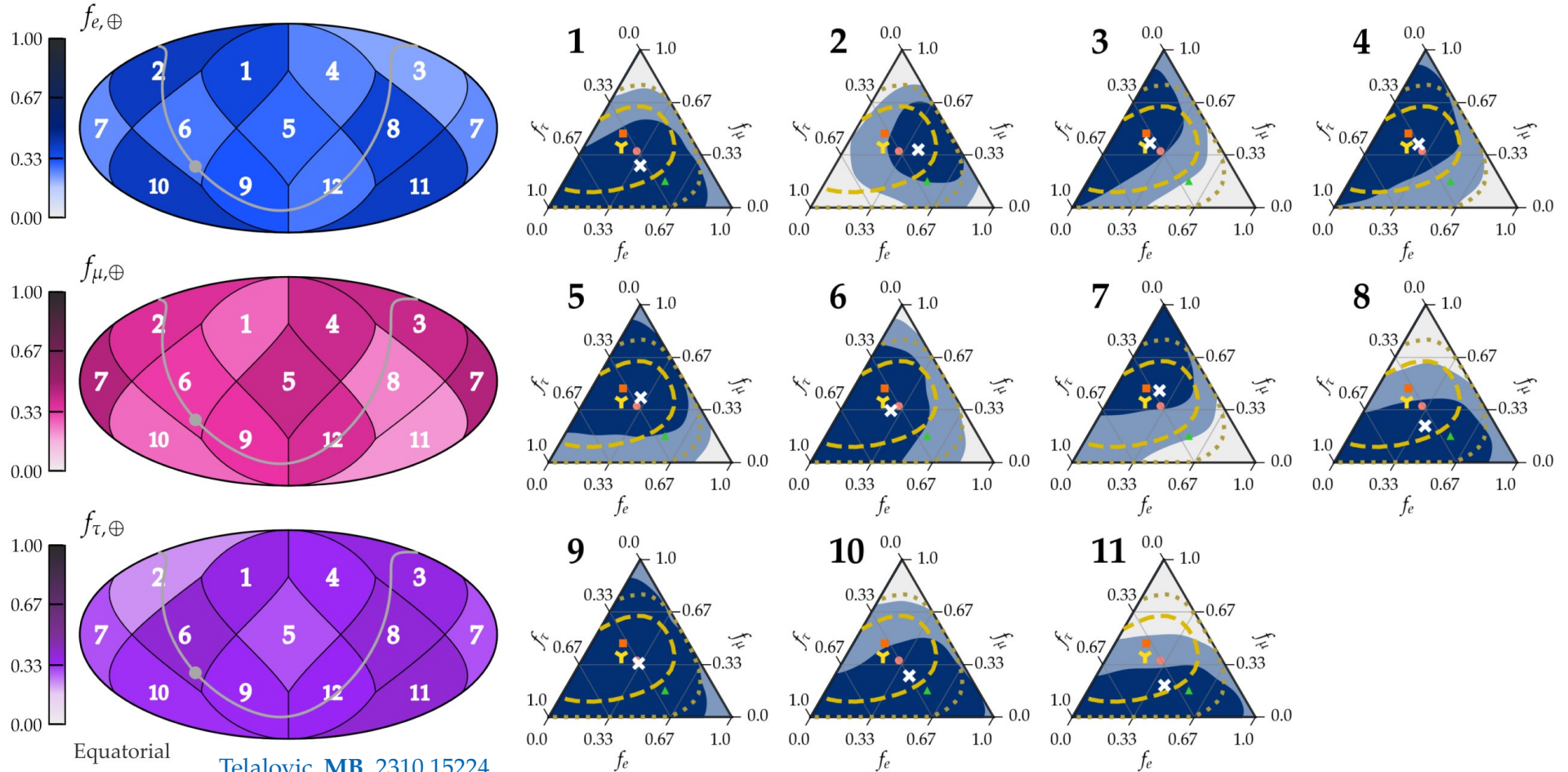
✖ Best fit   ■ 1 $\sigma$    ■ 2 $\sigma$    □ 3 $\sigma$

IceCube 2020 all-sky:

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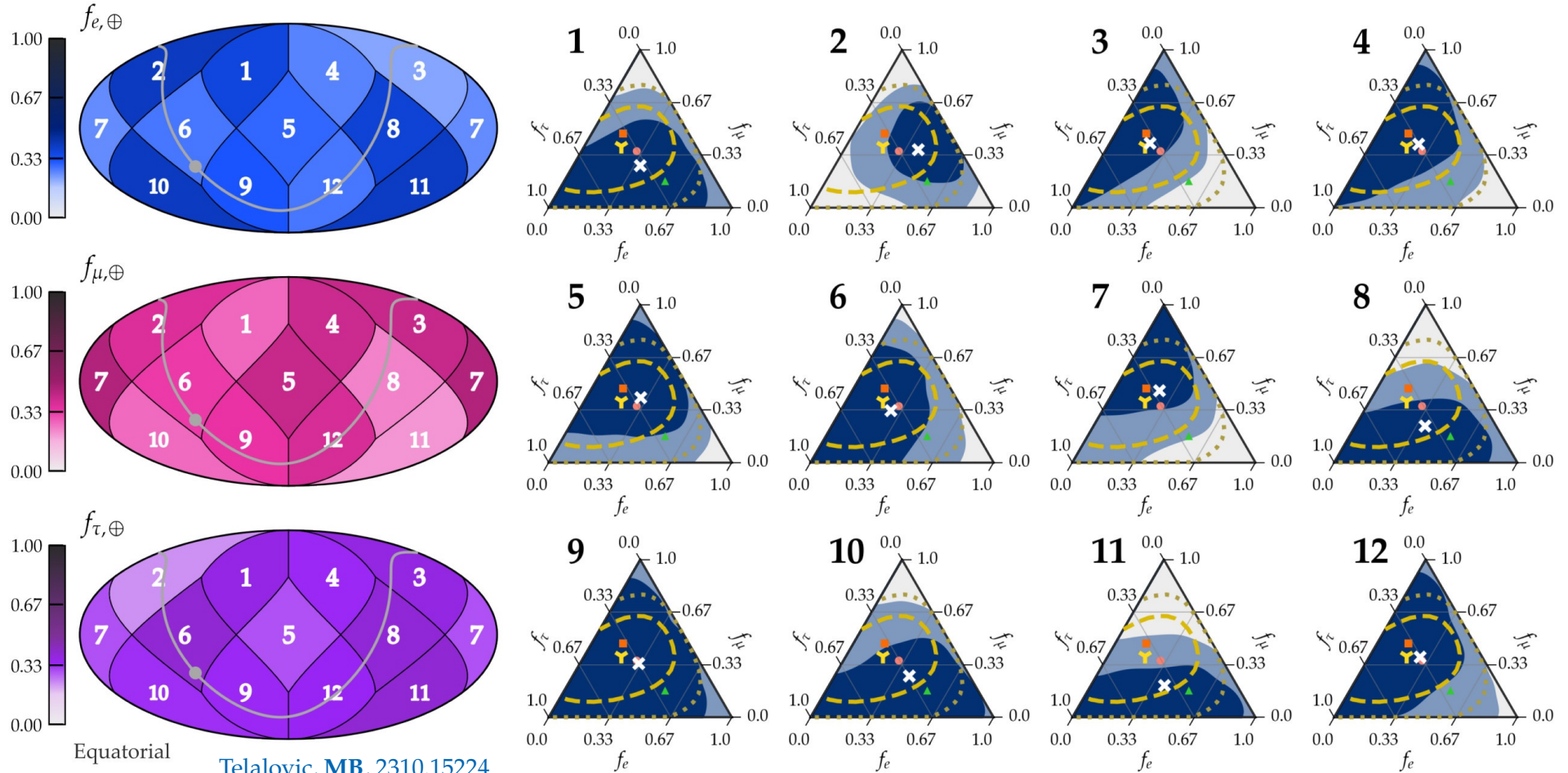
✖ Best fit   ■ 1 $\sigma$    ■ 2 $\sigma$    □ 3 $\sigma$

IceCube 2020 all-sky:

Y Best fit   - - 1 $\sigma$    - - - 2 $\sigma$

Benchmarks:

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Equatorial

Telalovic, MB, 2310.15224

# Directional high-energy astrophysical neutrino flavor composition: Anisotropic (2040, all detectors)

This work:

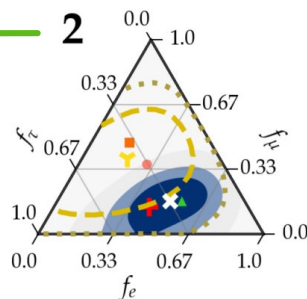
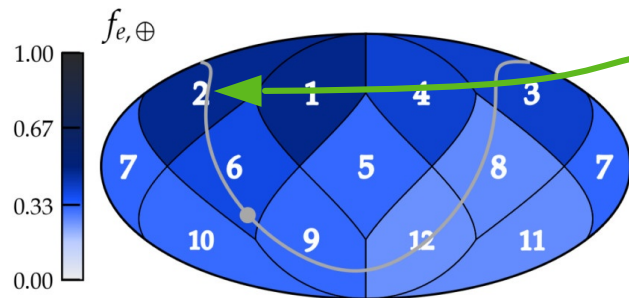
⊗ Best fit   + True   ■ 1σ   ▒ 2σ   □ 3σ

IceCube 2020 all-sky:

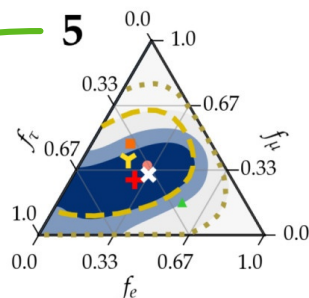
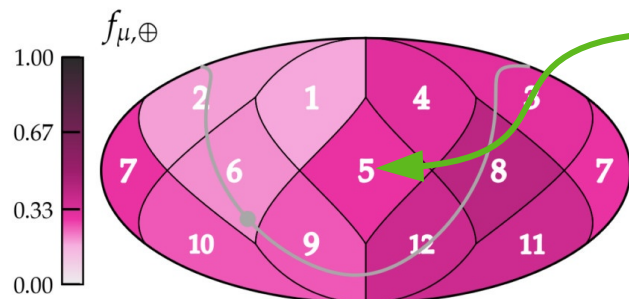
Y Best fit   - - 1σ   ··· 2σ

Benchmarks:

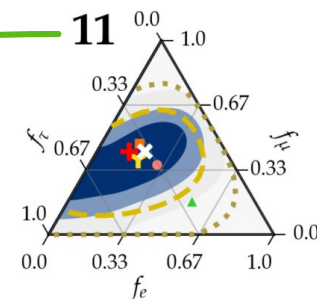
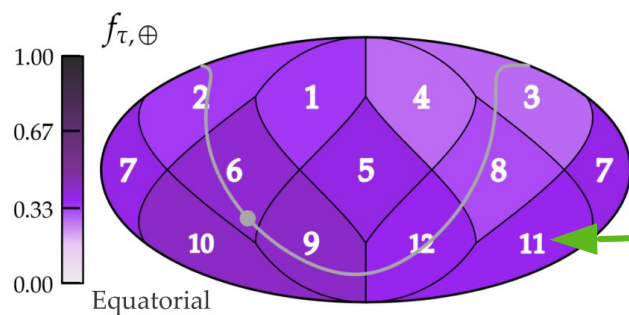
●  $\pi^\pm$  decay: (1:2:0)<sub>S</sub>   ■  $\mu$ -damped: (0:1:0)<sub>S</sub>   ▲  $n$  decay: (1:0:0)<sub>S</sub>



High  $\nu_e$  content:  
Production by neutron decay



About the same for all flavors:  
Production by full pion decay chain



High  $\nu_\mu$  content:  
Muon-damped

This work:

⊗ Best fit ■ 1σ ■ 2σ □ 3σ

IceCube 2020 all-sky:

✦ Best fit - - 1σ ... 2σ

Benchmarks:

●  $\pi^\pm$  decay: (1:2:0)<sub>s</sub> ■  $\mu$ -damped: (0:1:0)<sub>s</sub> ▲  $n$  decay: (1:0:0)<sub>s</sub>

There is no sign of flavor anisotropy  
in present-day IceCube data  
(Bayes factor is  $\sim 1$ )

We place the first constraints on  
the flavor neutrino angular power  
spectrum *à la* CMB

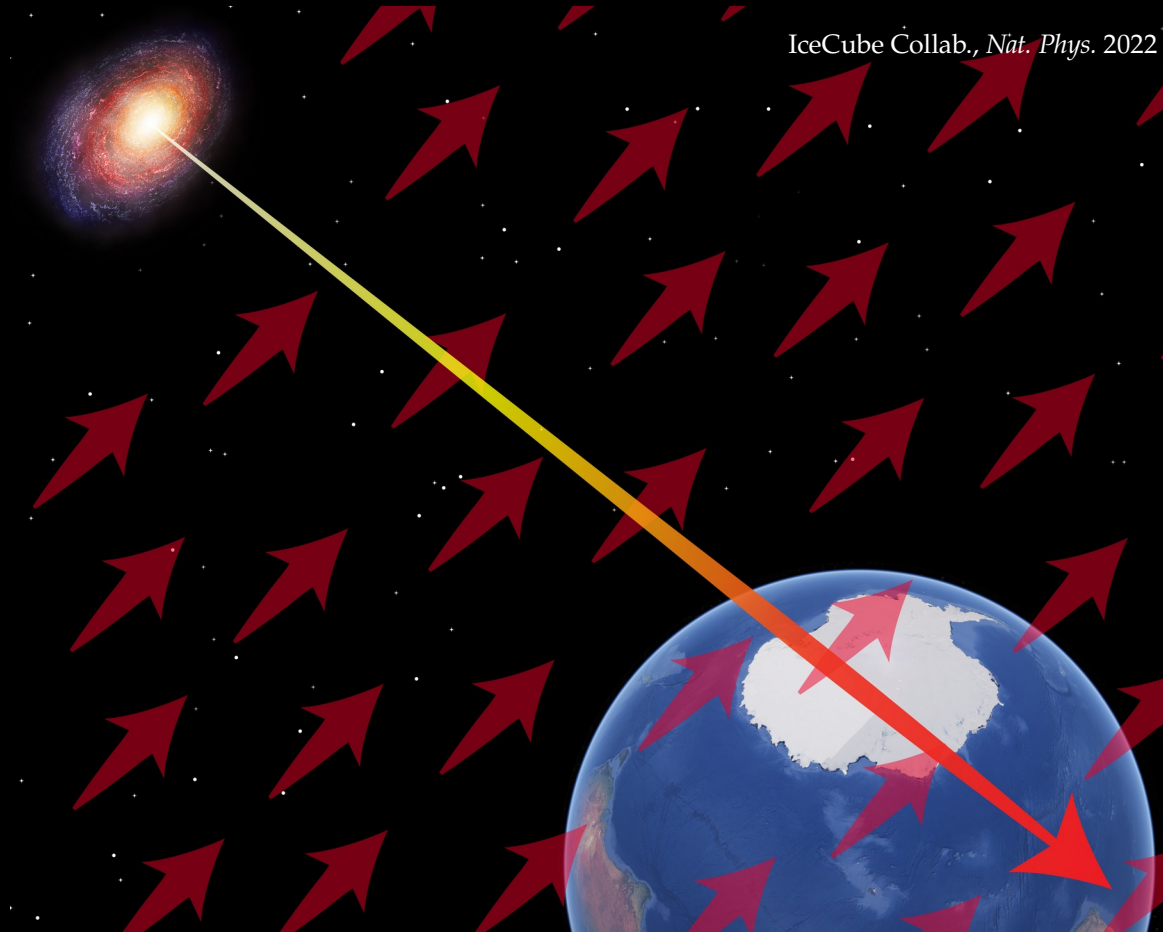


Work led by  
Bernanda  
Telalovic



# Why is this interesting for neutrino physics?

Because new physics can introduce preferred directions for different flavors





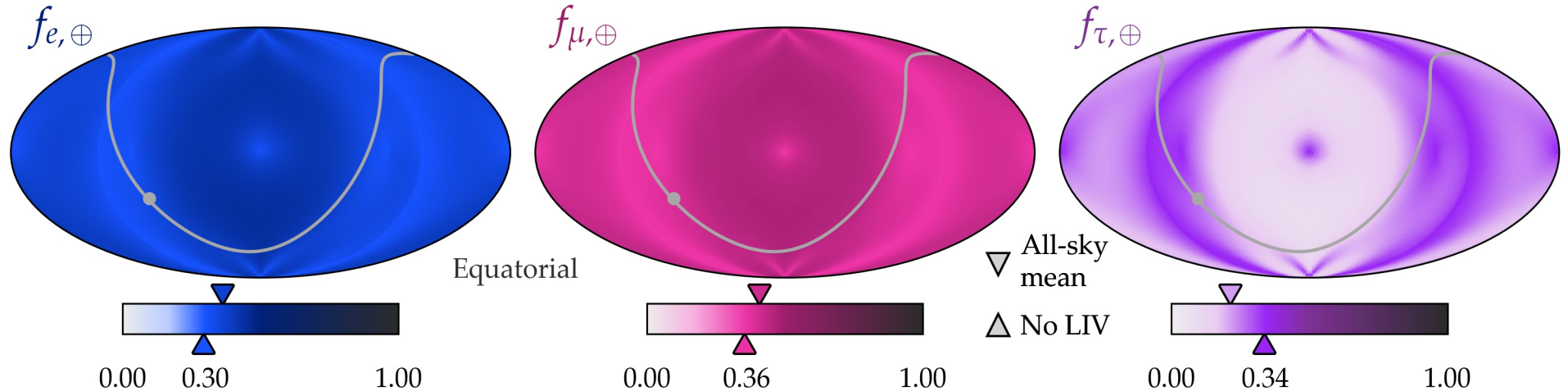
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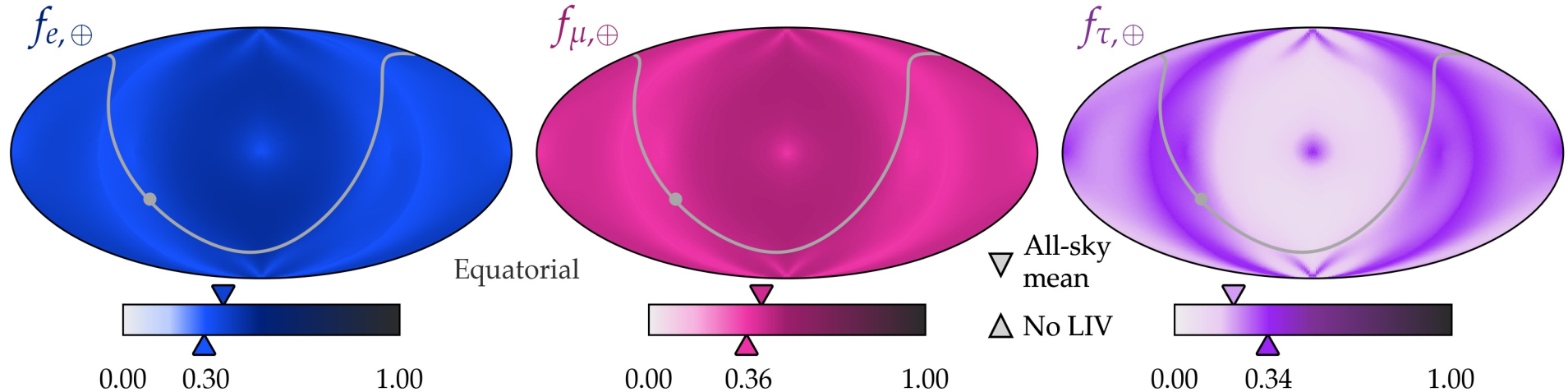
*E.g., compass asymmetries from Lorentz-invariance violation*



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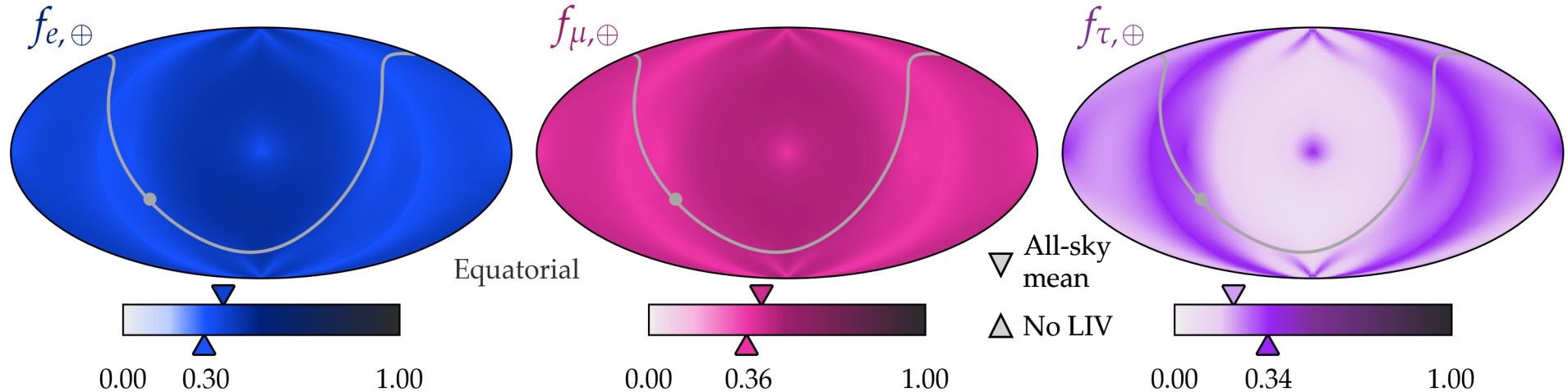
Upper limits from accelerator  $\nu$  (MINOS):  $< 10^{-20} - 10^{-15} \text{ GeV}^{-1}$

For dimension-5  
CPT-odd LIV coefficient

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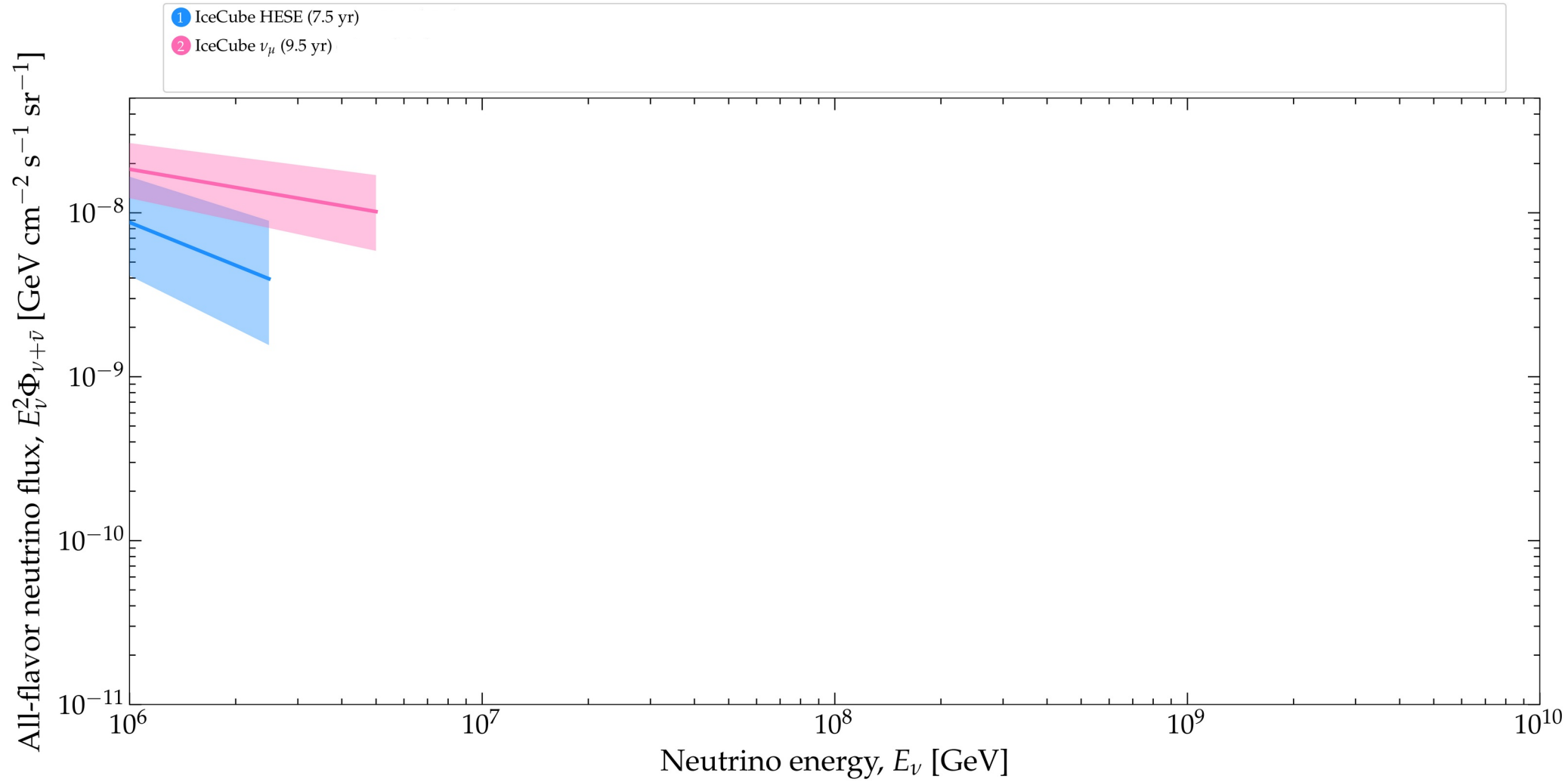


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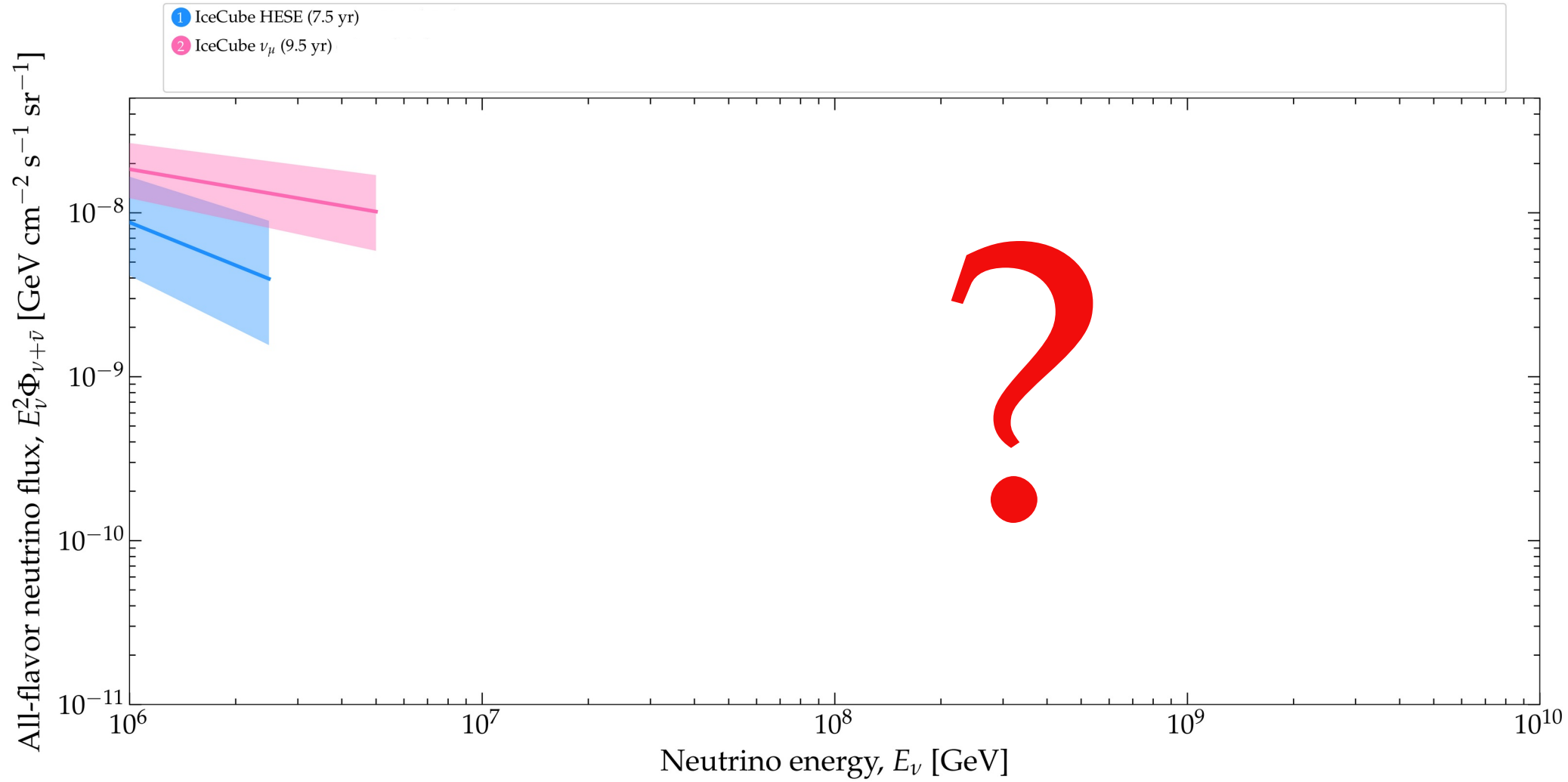
Upper limits from 7.5-year HESE:  $< 10^{-34} \text{ GeV}^{-1}$

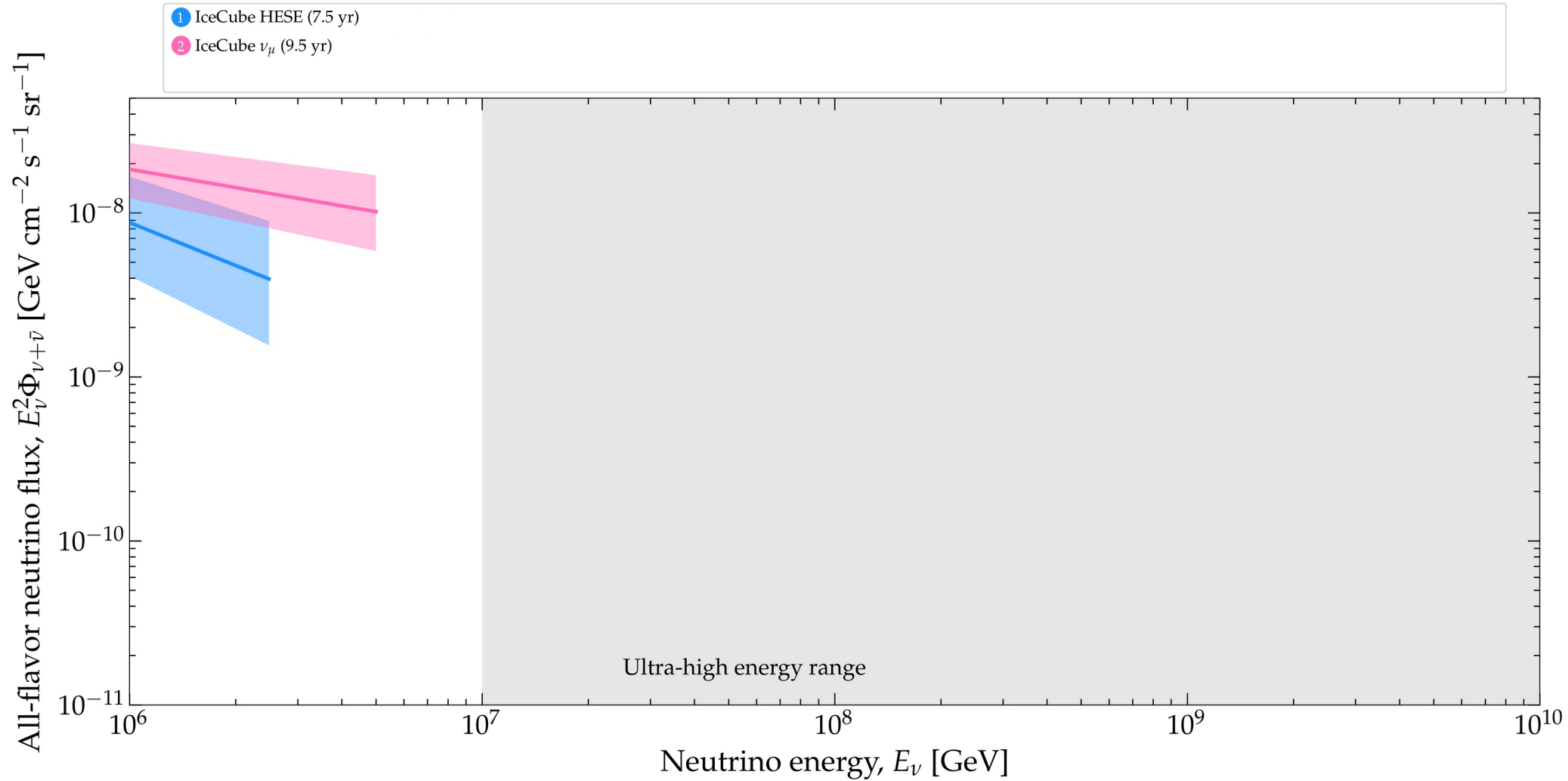
For dimension-5  
CPT-odd LIV coefficient

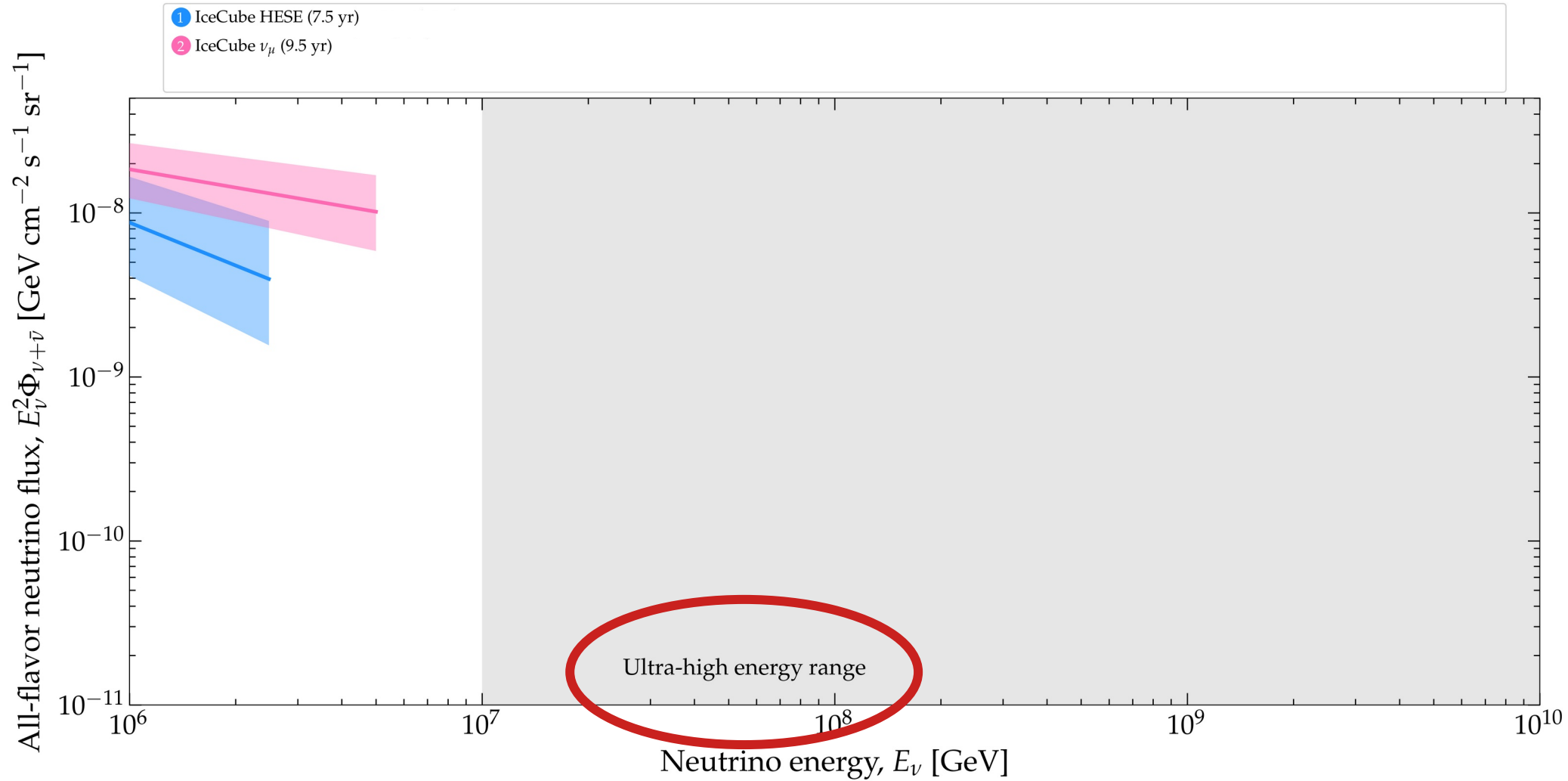
Towards  
ultra-high energies

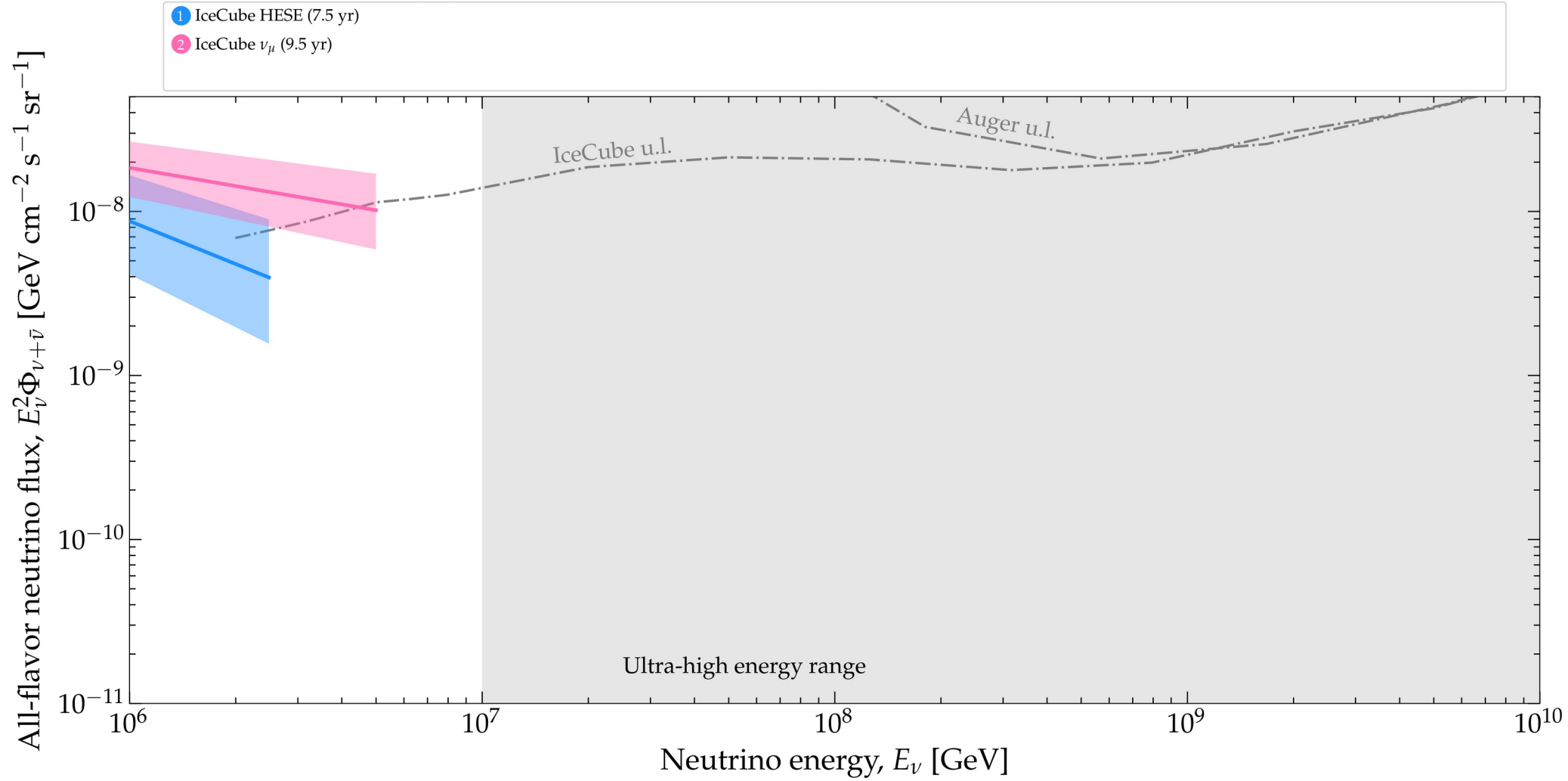












Redshift

$z = 0$

Discovered

MeV  $\gamma$

PeV  $p$

TeV–PeV  $\nu$

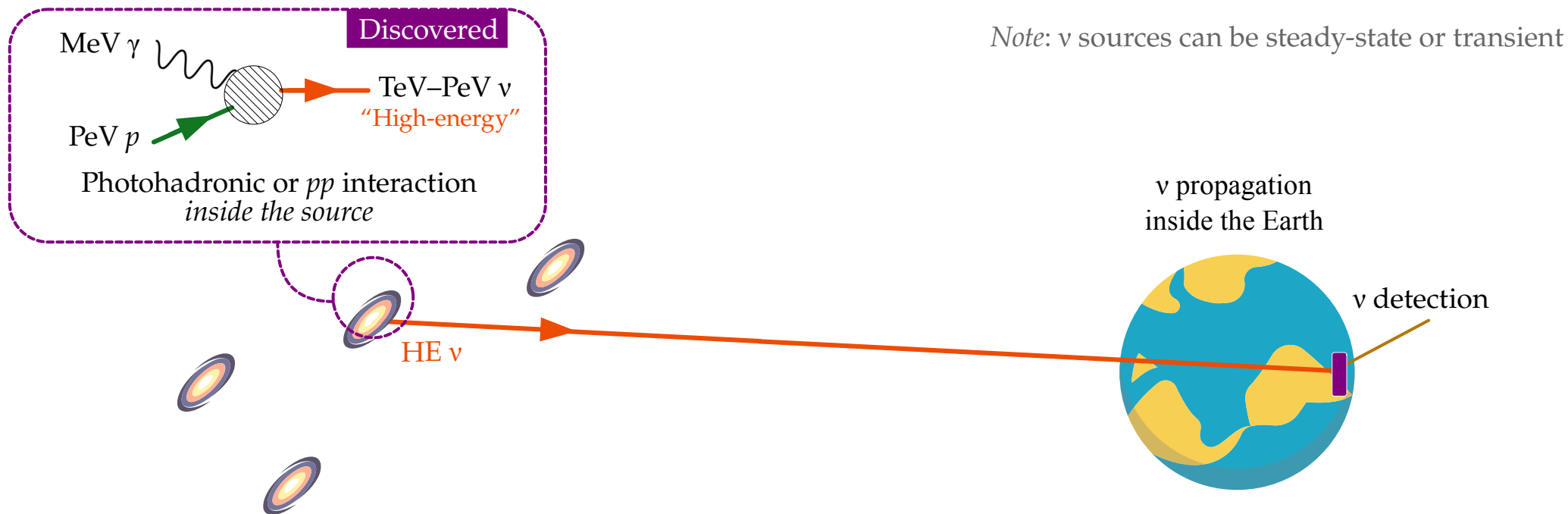
“High-energy”

Photohadronic or  $pp$  interaction  
*inside the source*

Note:  $\nu$  sources can be steady-state or transient

$\nu$  propagation  
inside the Earth

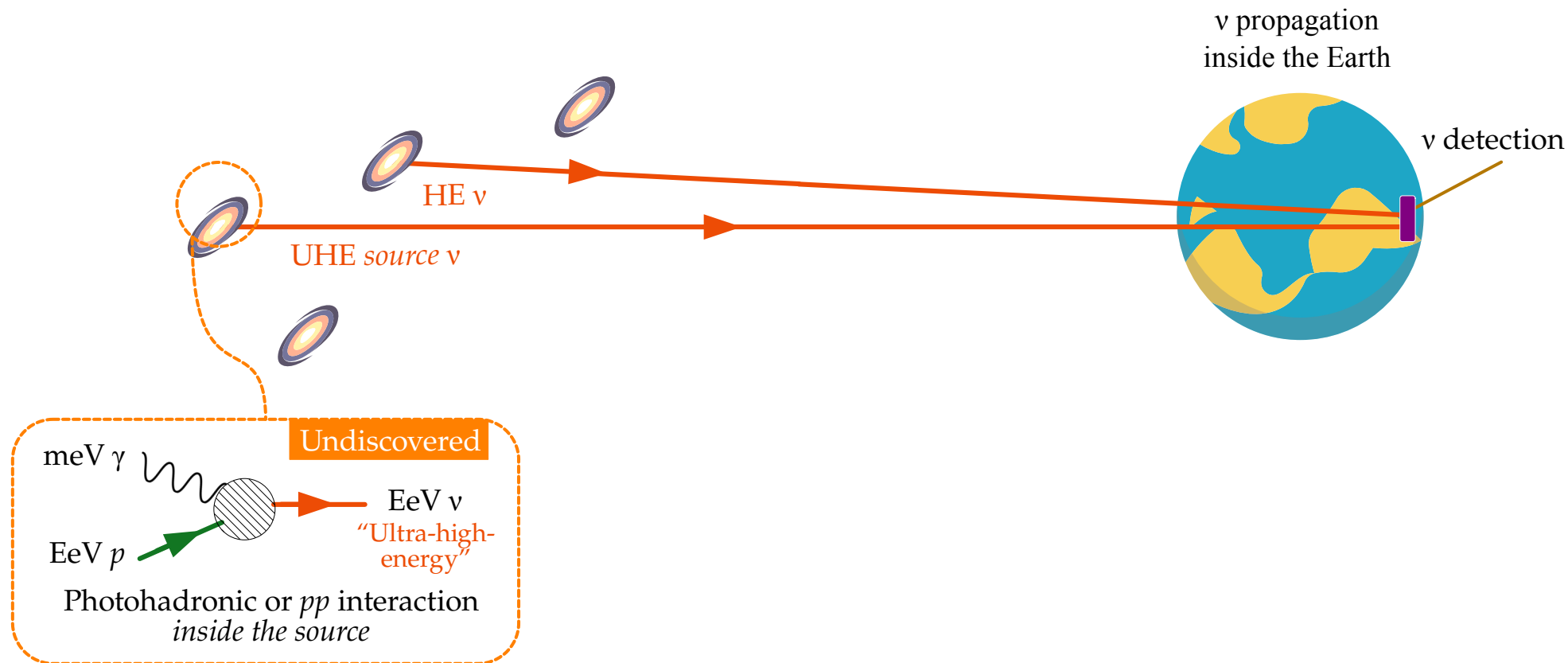
$\nu$  detection



Redshift

$z = 0$

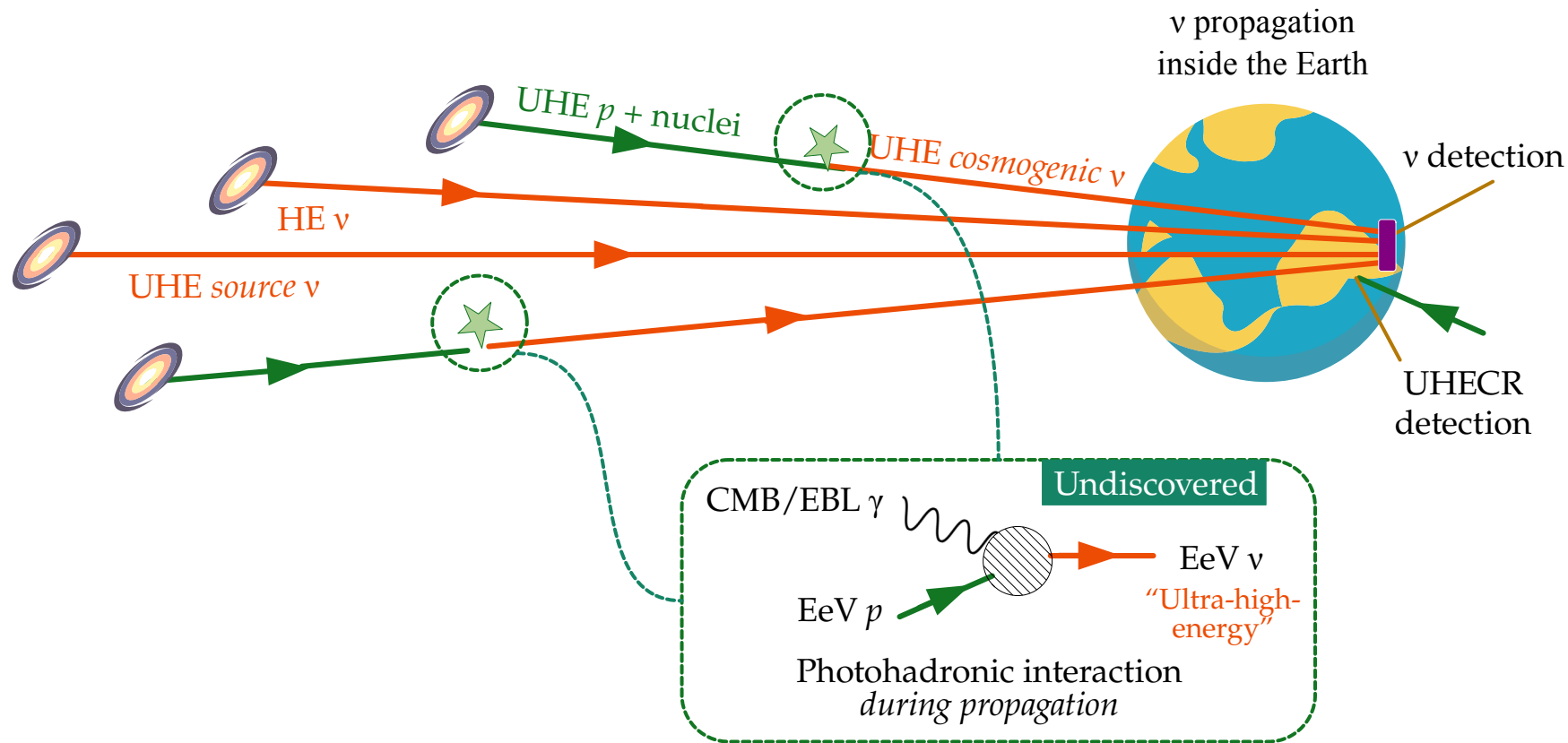
*Note:  $\nu$  sources can be steady-state or transient*





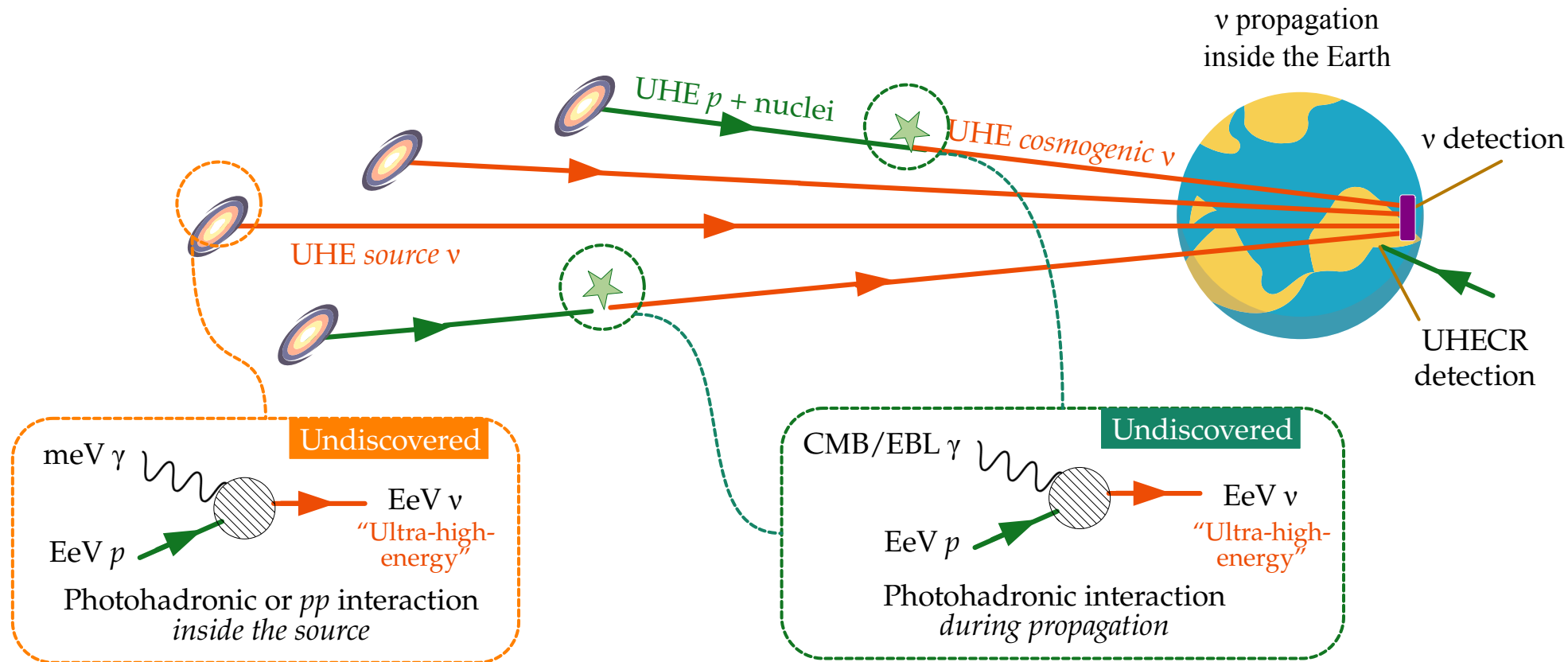
Redshift ←  $z = 0$

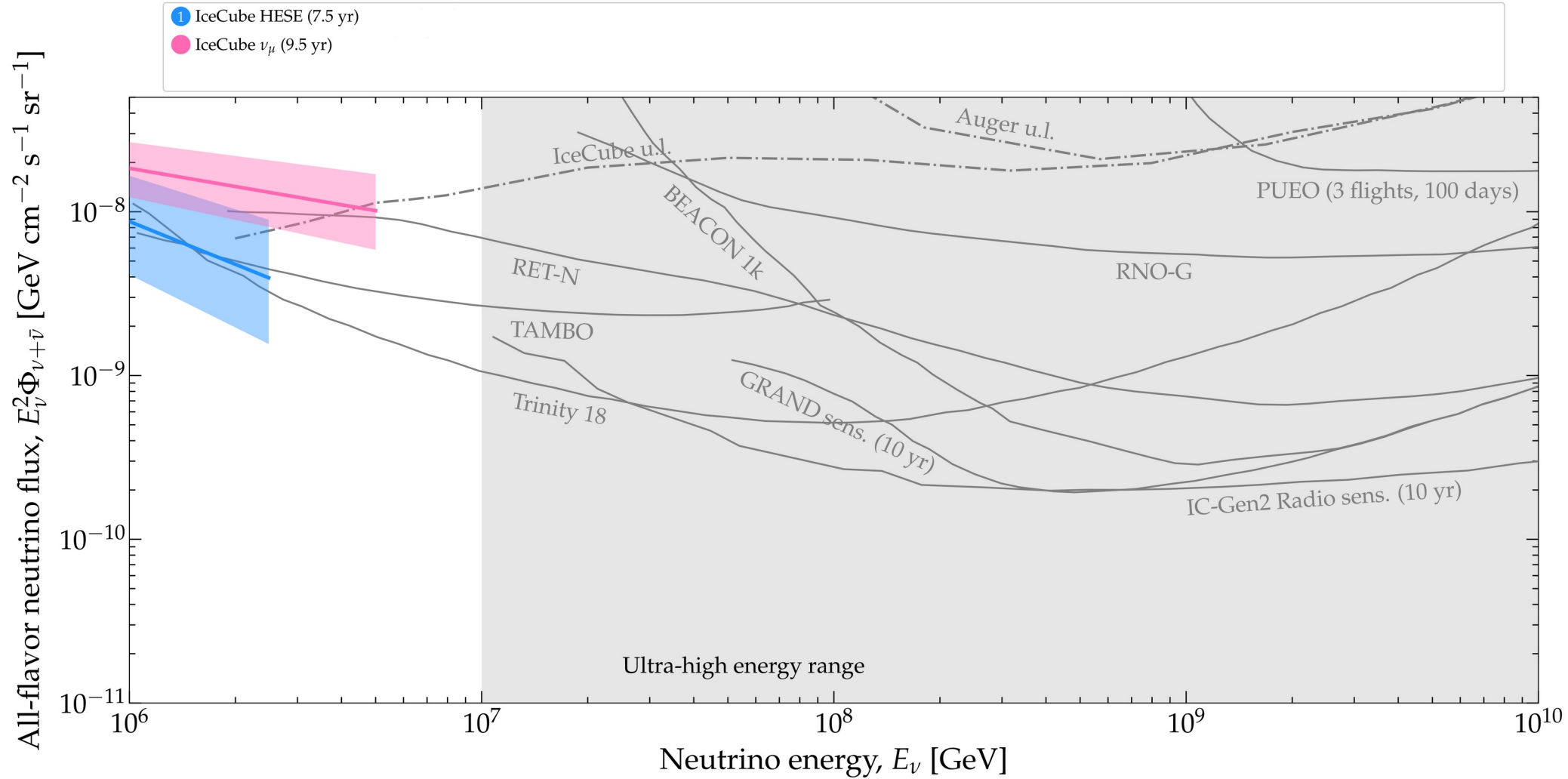
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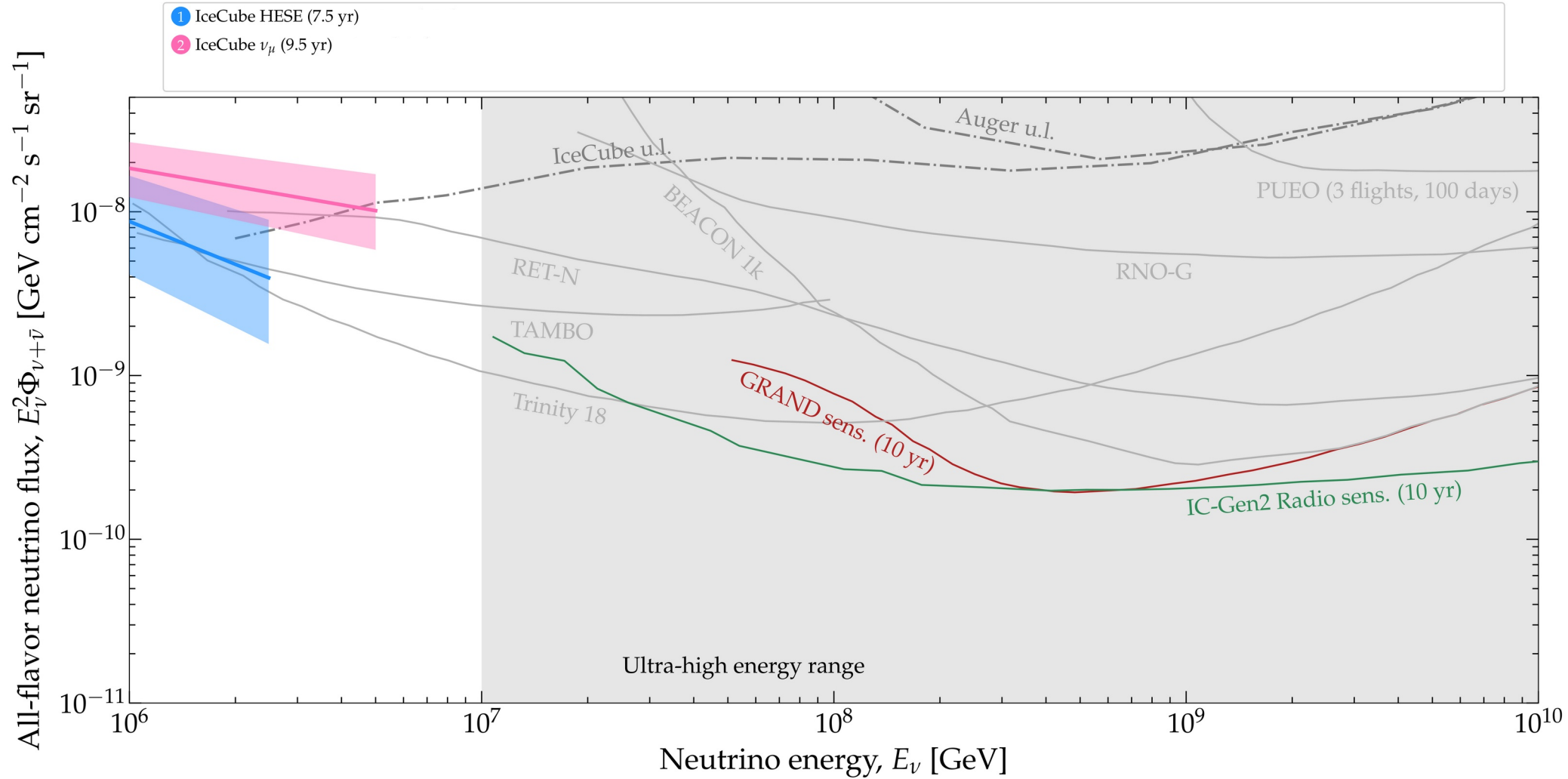


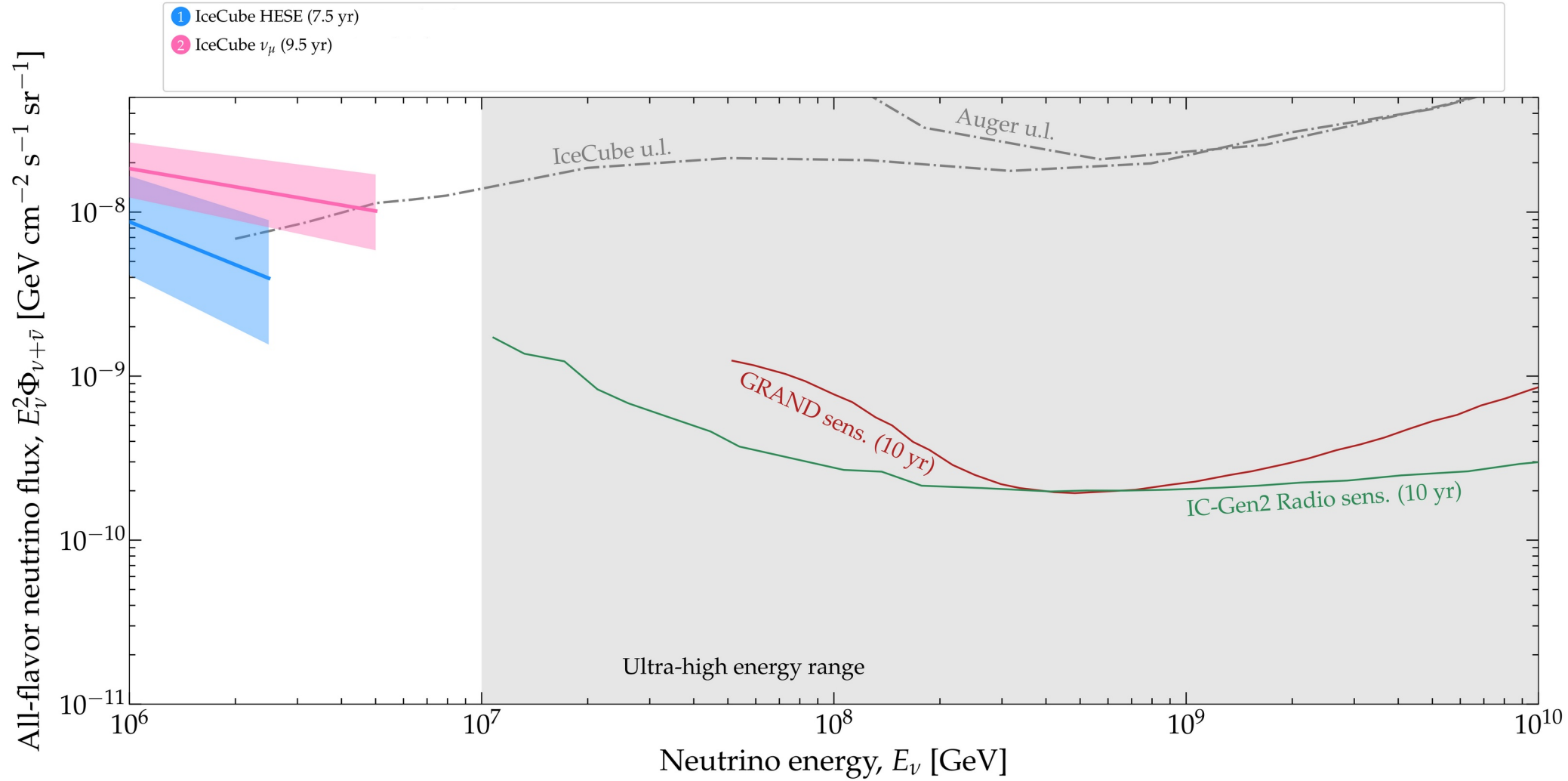
Redshift ←  $z = 0$

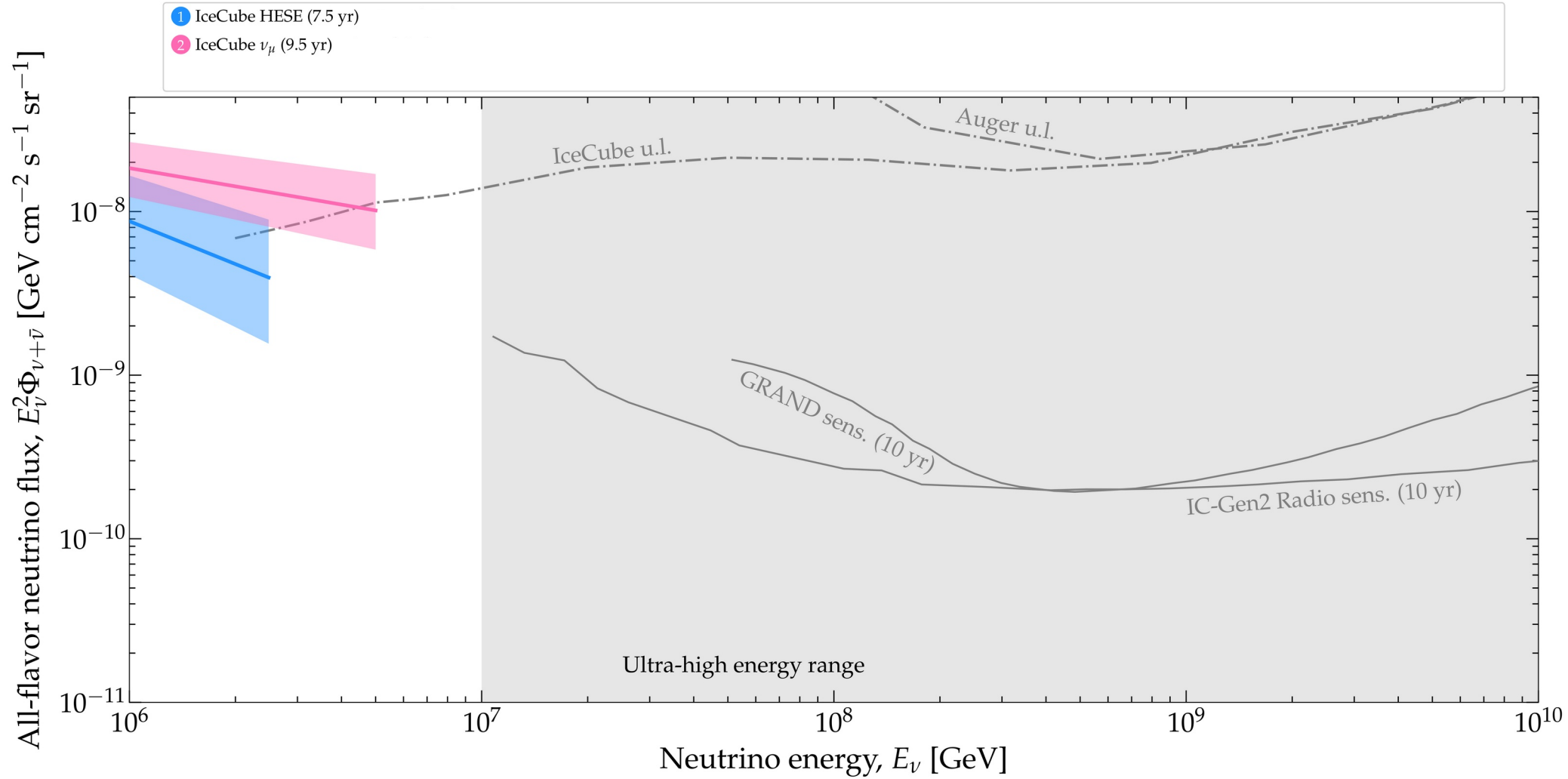
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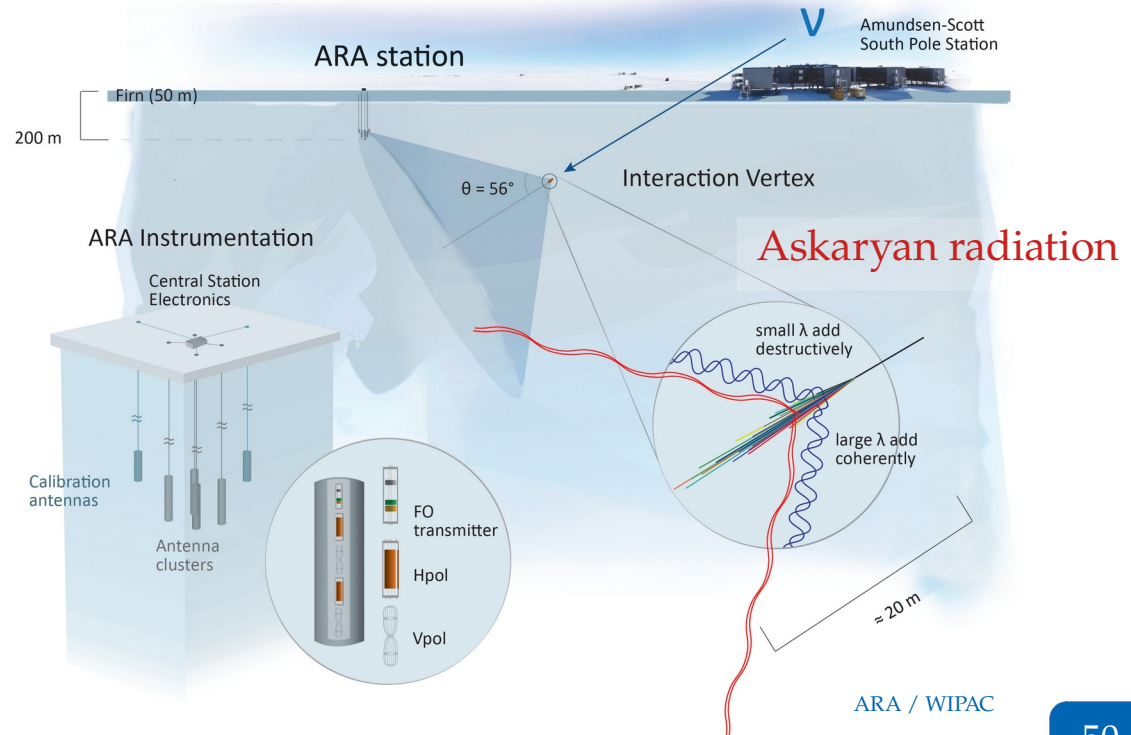
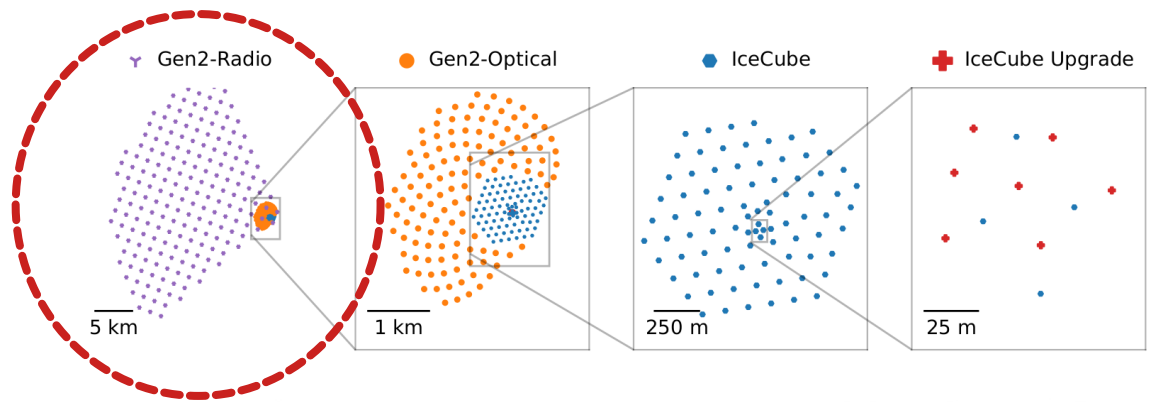
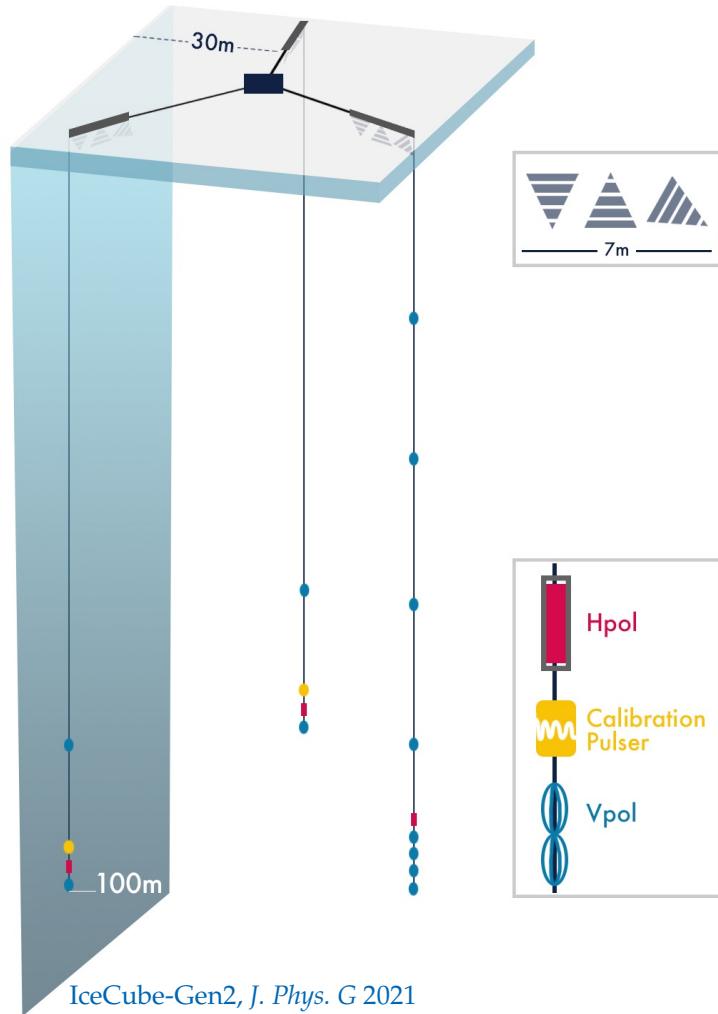








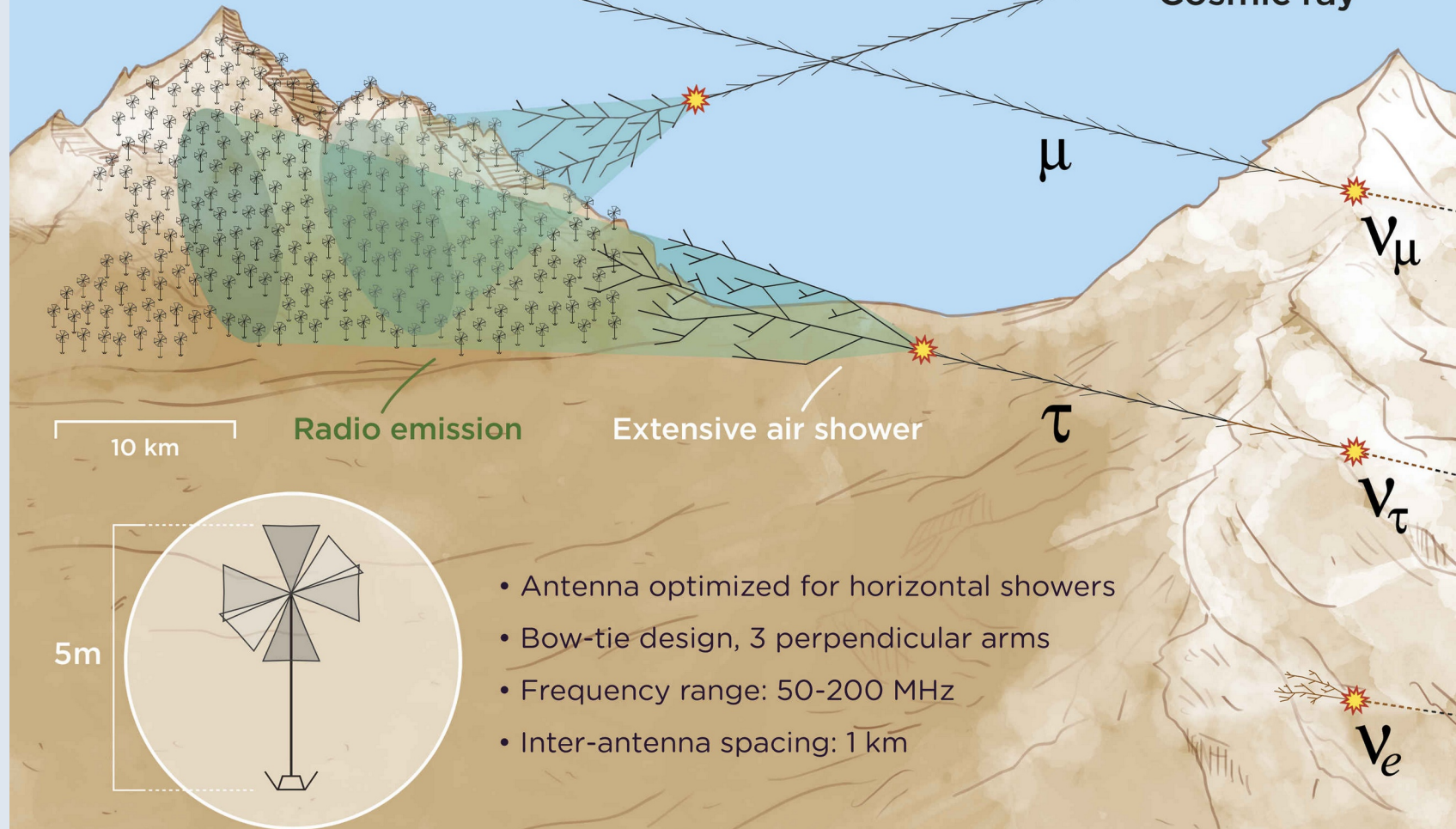
# IceCube-Gen2 Radio







# Giant Radio Array for Neutrino Detection



Cosmic ray

$\mu$

$\nu_\mu$

$\tau$

$\nu_\tau$

$\nu_e$

10 km

Radio emission

Extensive air shower

5m

- Antenna optimized for horizontal showers
- Bow-tie design, 3 perpendicular arms
- Frequency range: 50-200 MHz
- Inter-antenna spacing: 1 km



# Giant Radio Array for Neutrino Detection

Cosmic ray



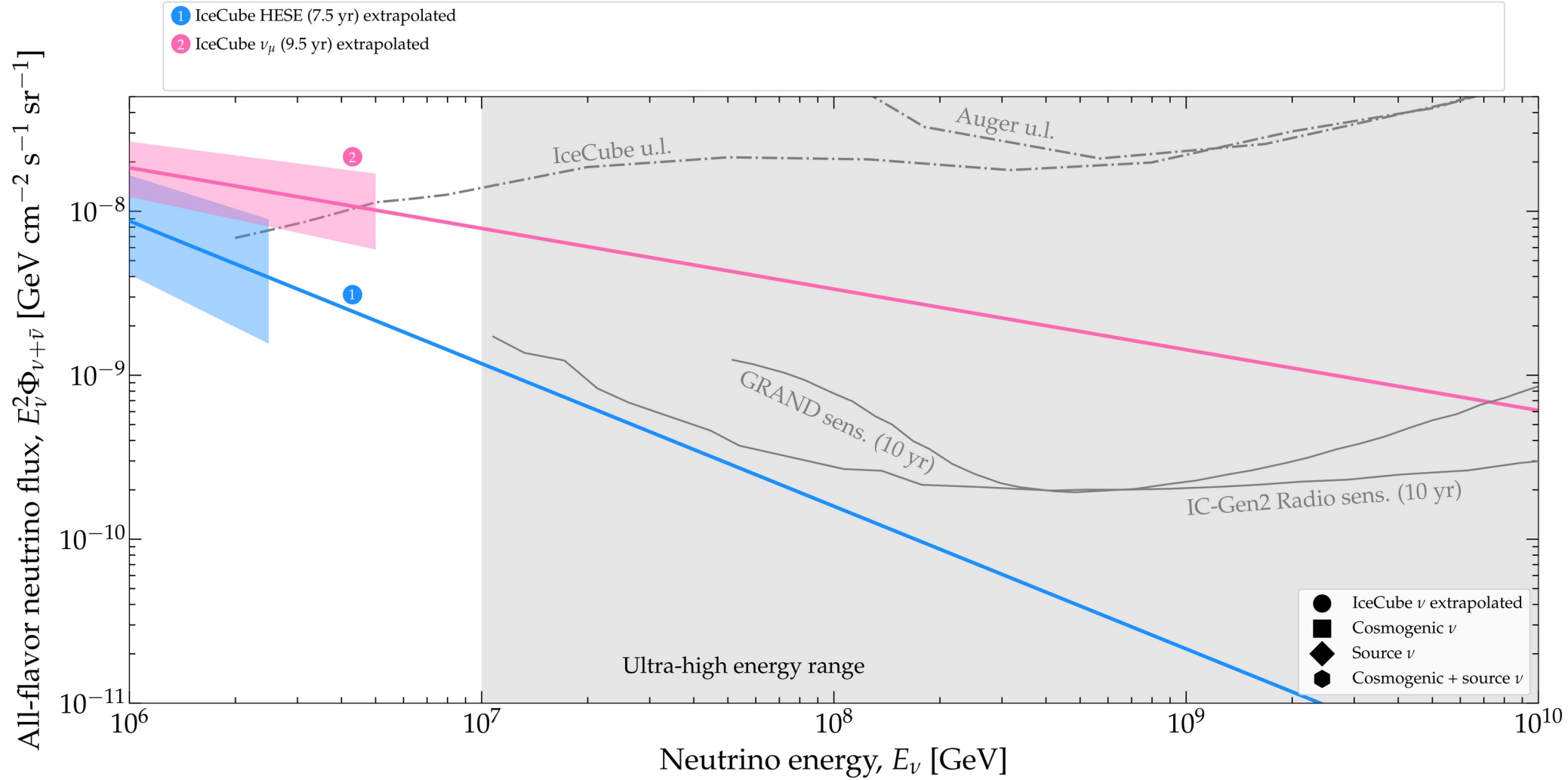
GRANDProto300 campaign Oct 2023

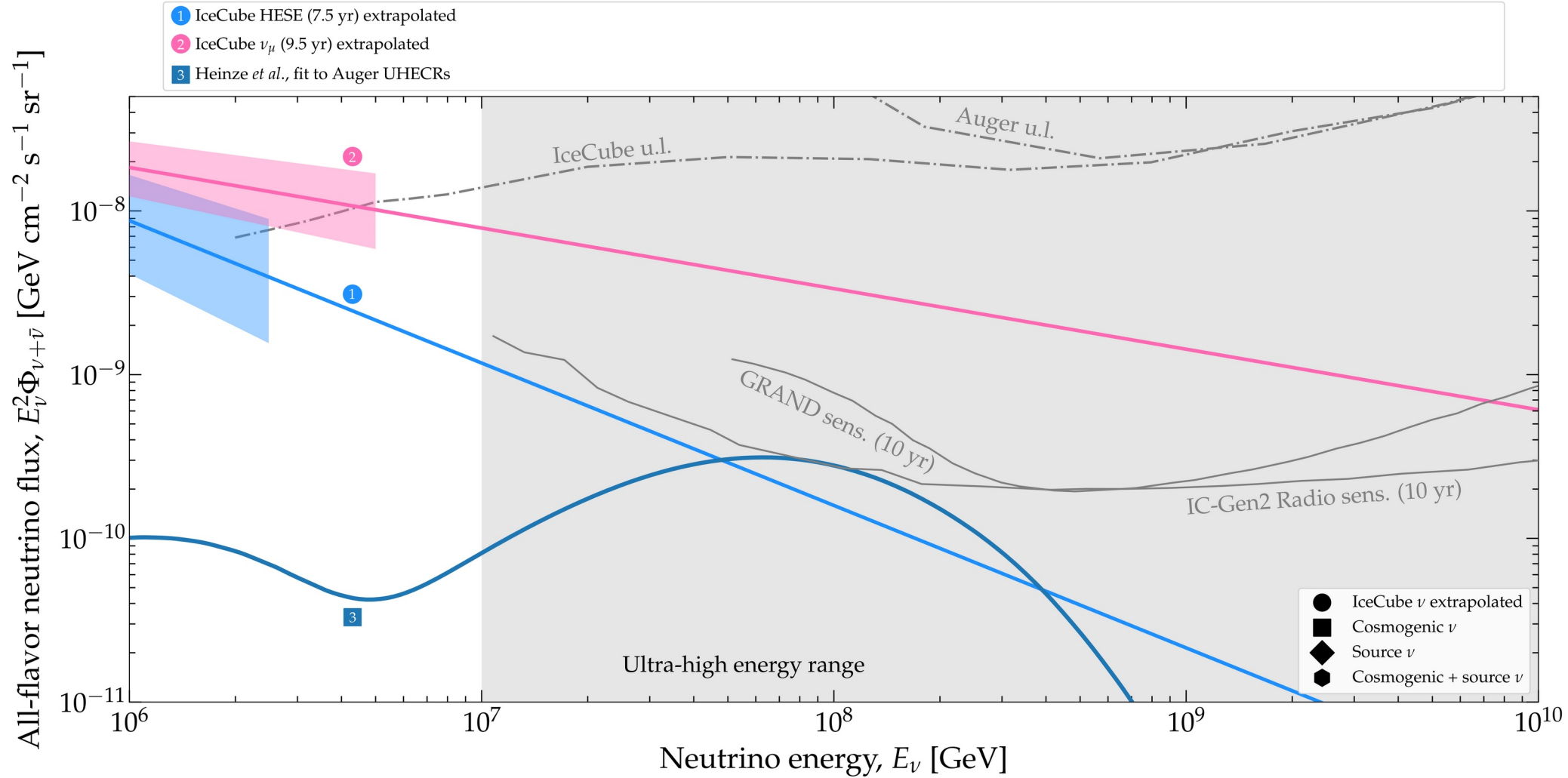


• Inter-antenna spacing: 1 km

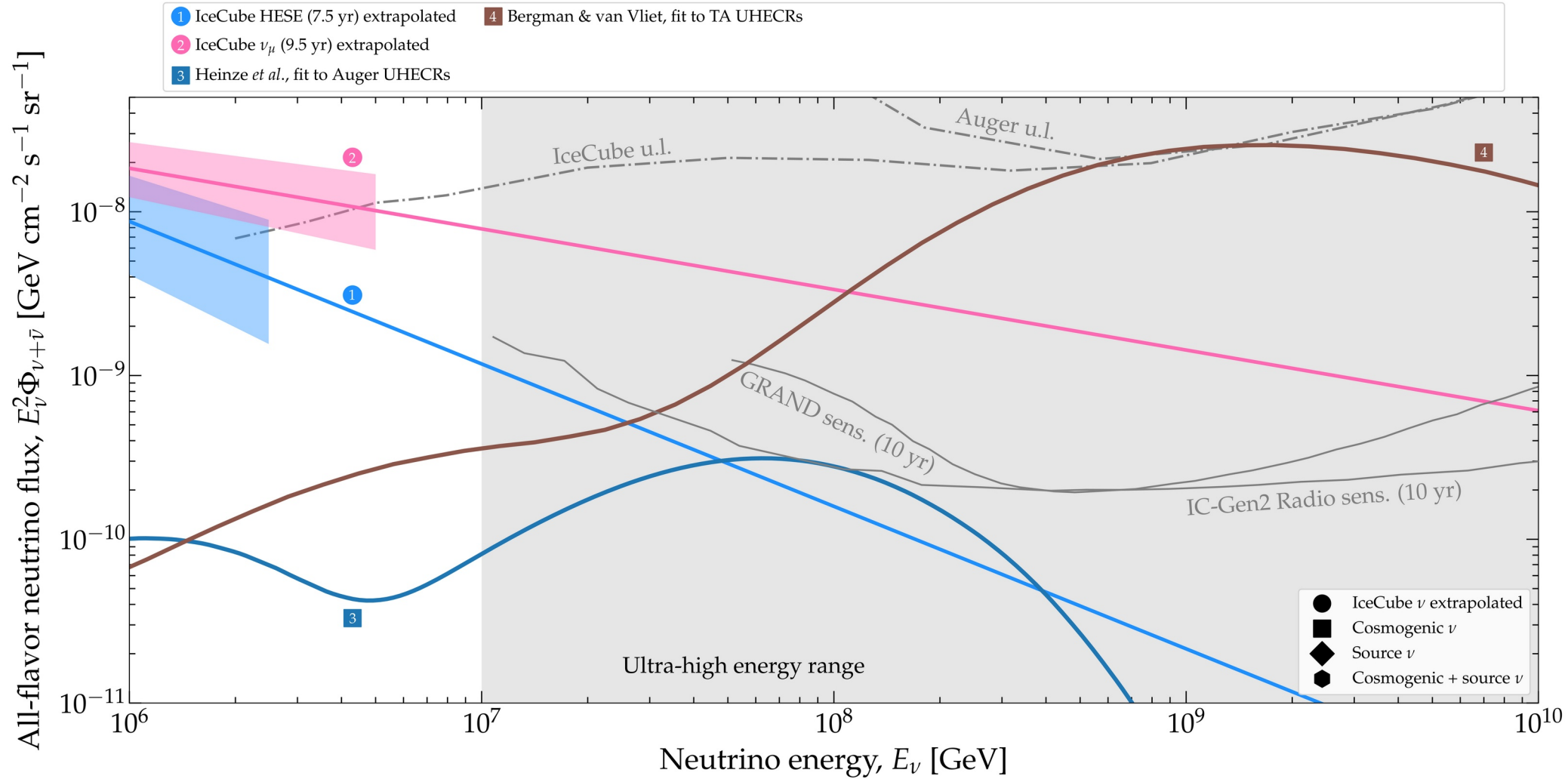


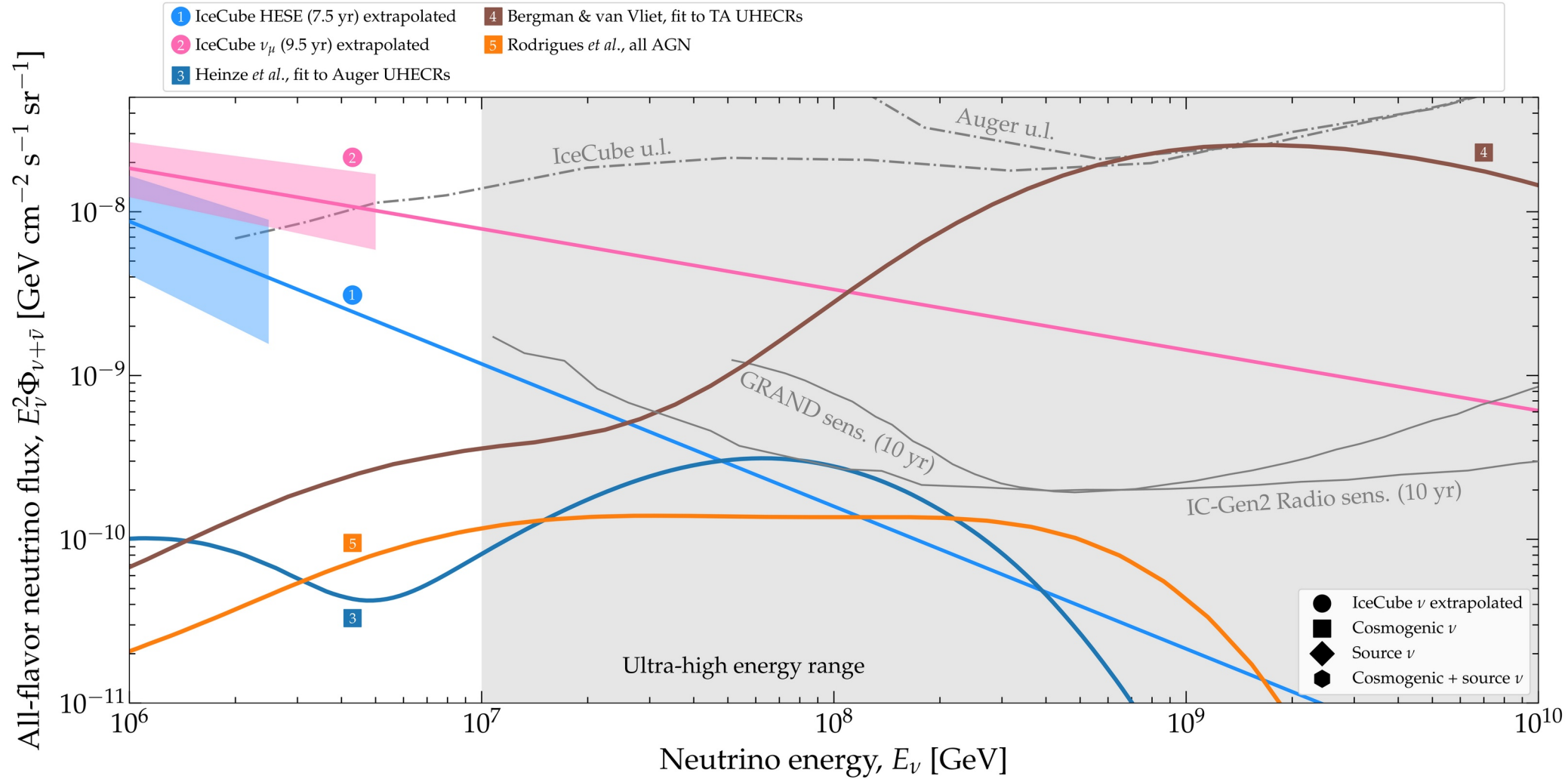
$\nu_e$





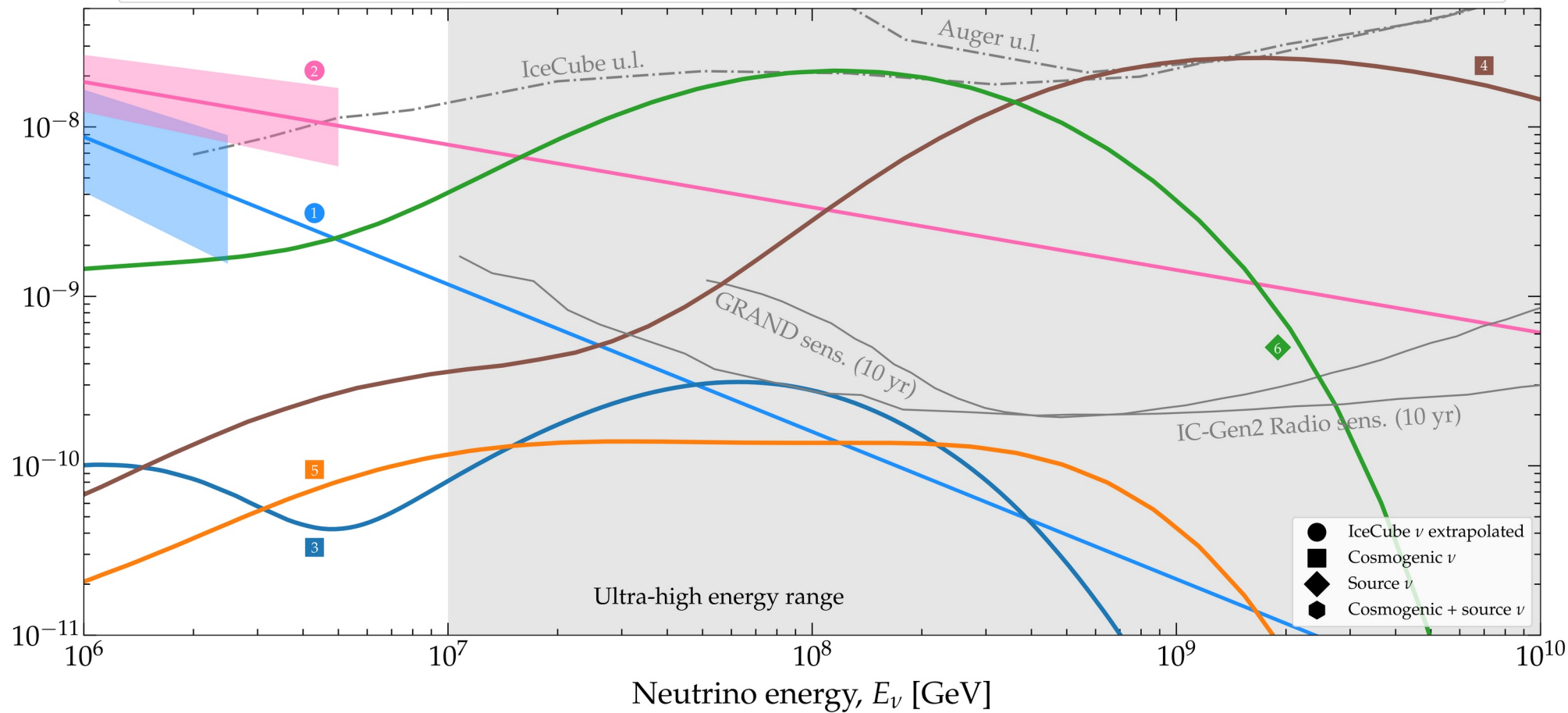




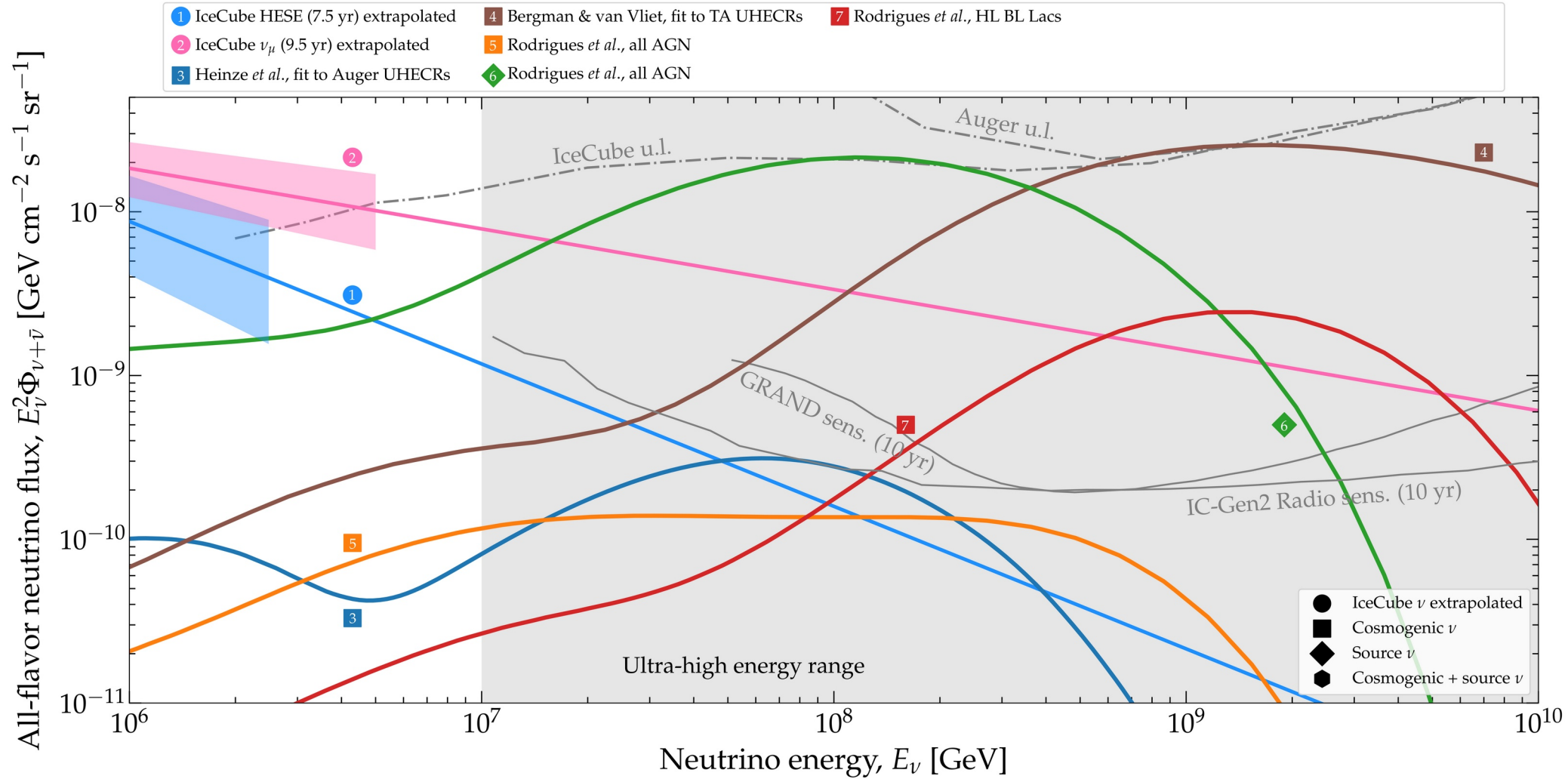


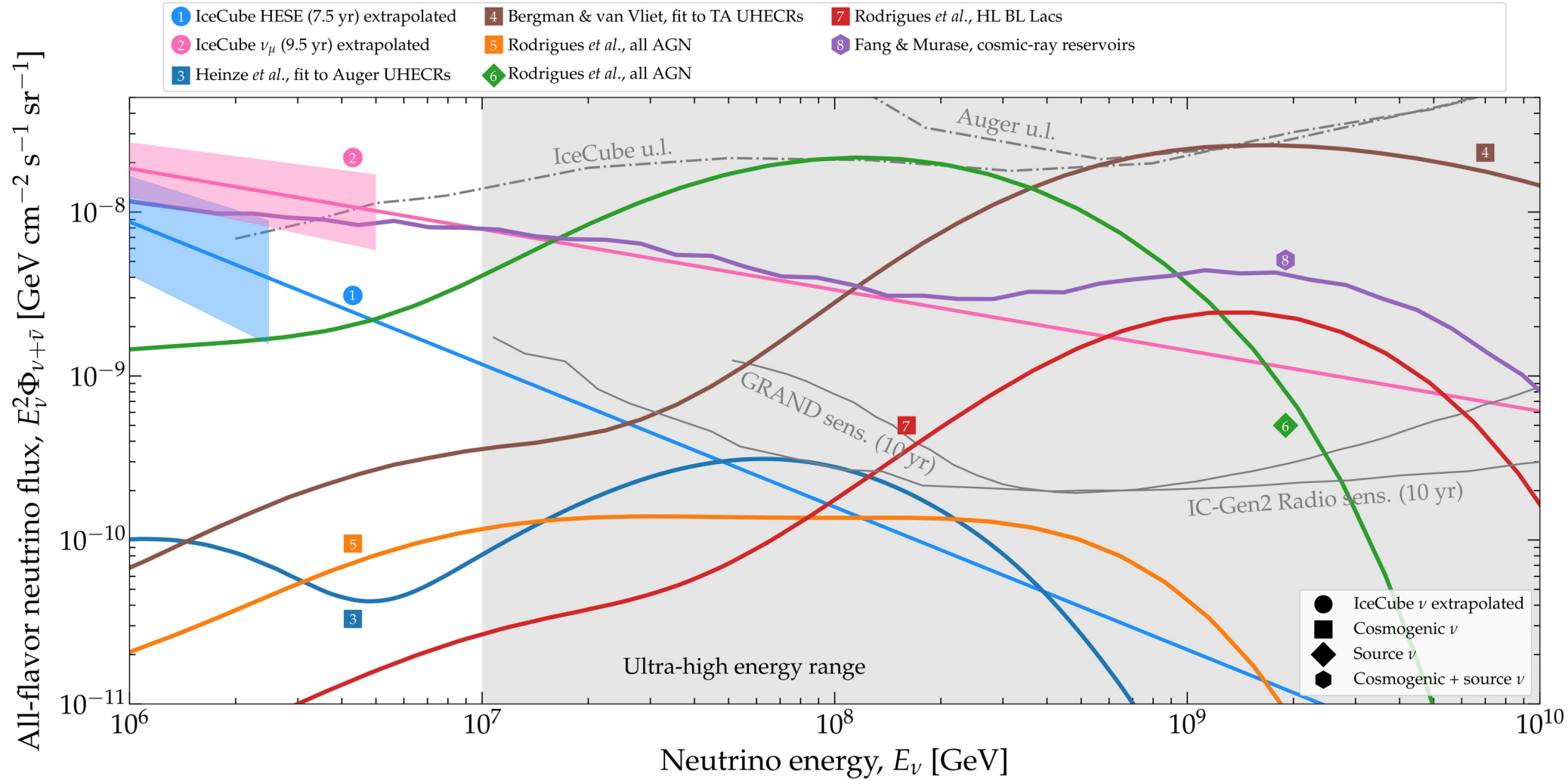
All-flavor neutrino flux,  $E_\nu^2 \Phi_{\nu+\bar{\nu}}$  [ $\text{GeV cm}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1} \text{sr}^{-1}$ ]

- 1 IceCube HESE (7.5 yr) extrapolated
- 2 IceCube  $\nu_\mu$  (9.5 yr) extrapolated
- 3 Heinze *et al.*, fit to Auger UHECRs
- 4 Bergman & van Vliet, fit to TA UHECRs
- 5 Rodrigues *et al.*, all AGN
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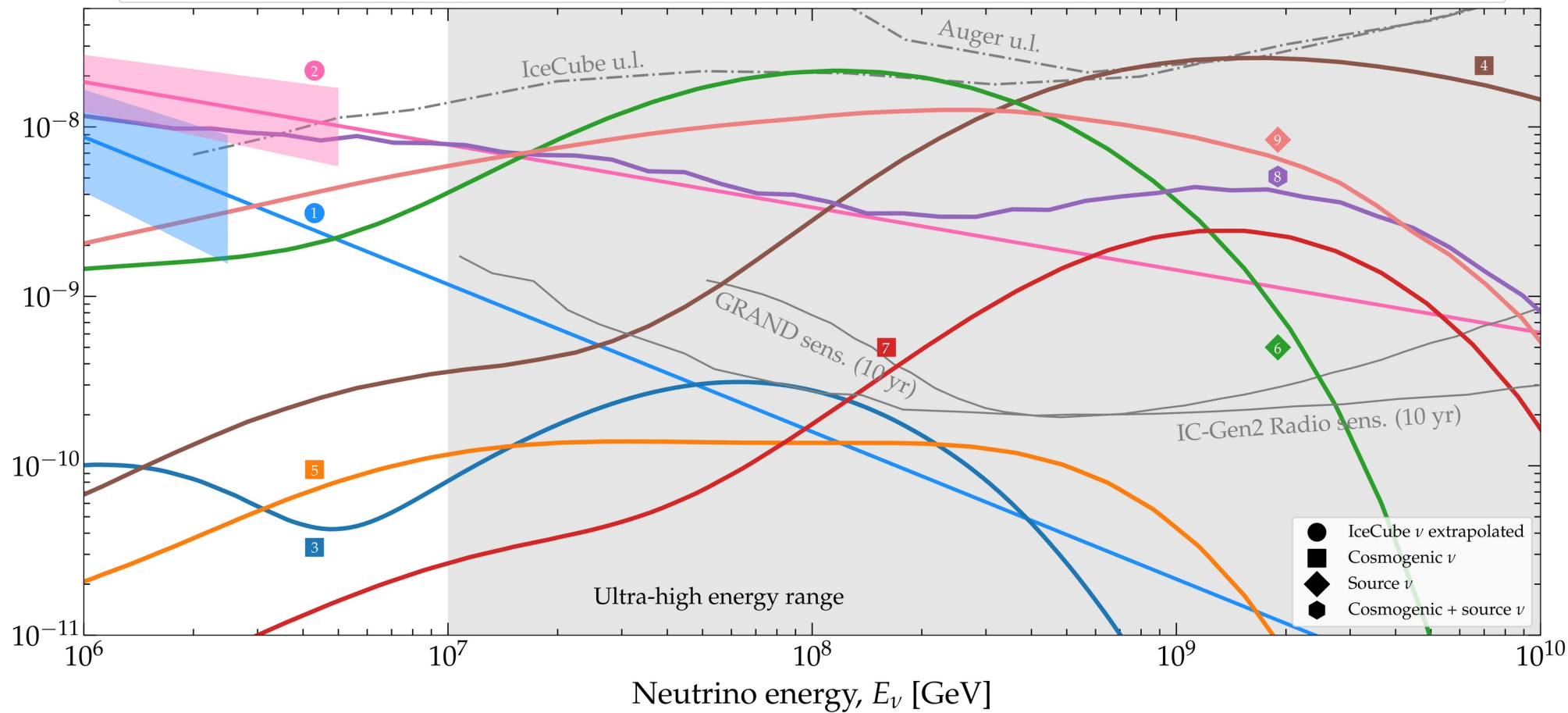


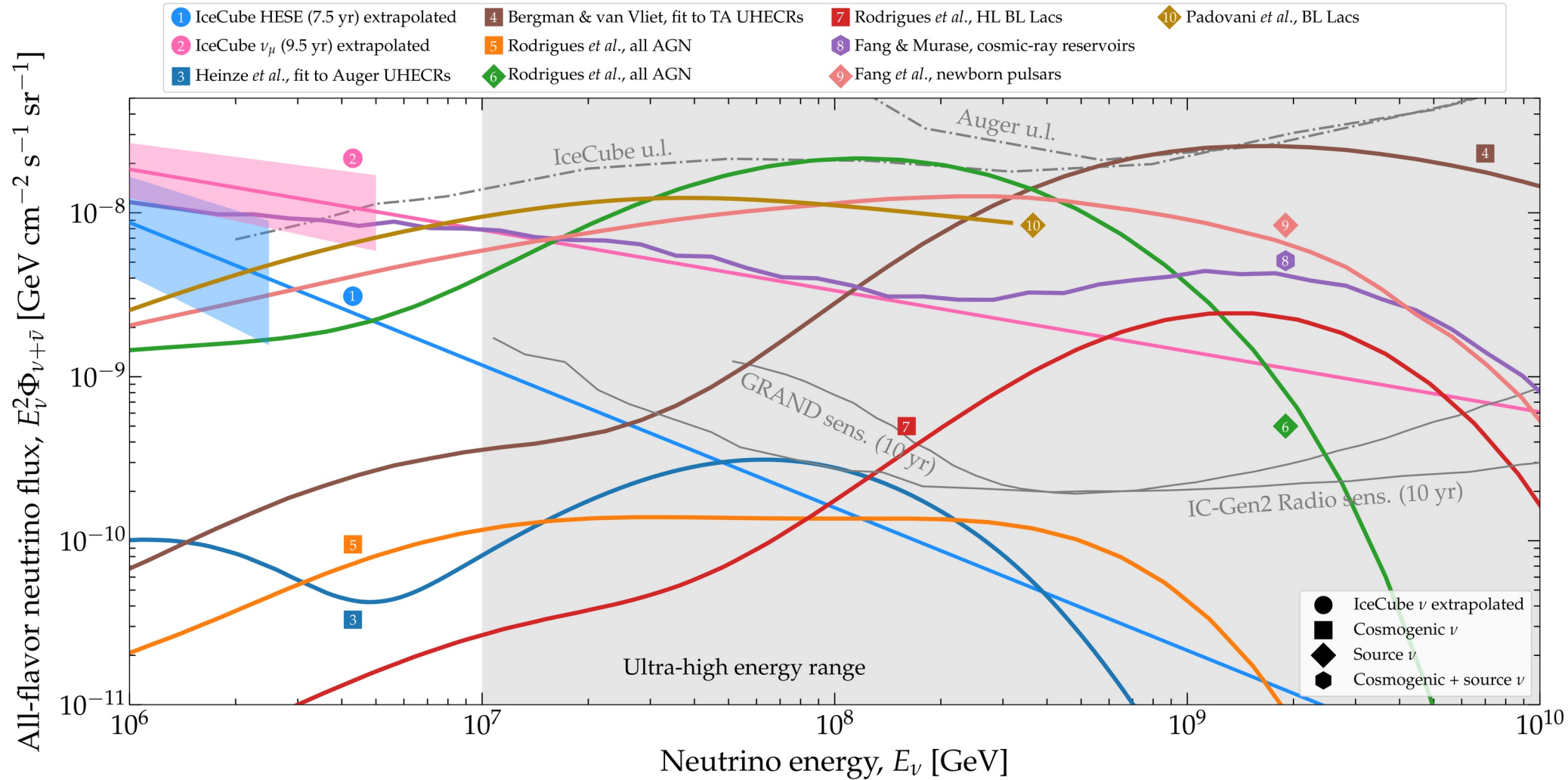




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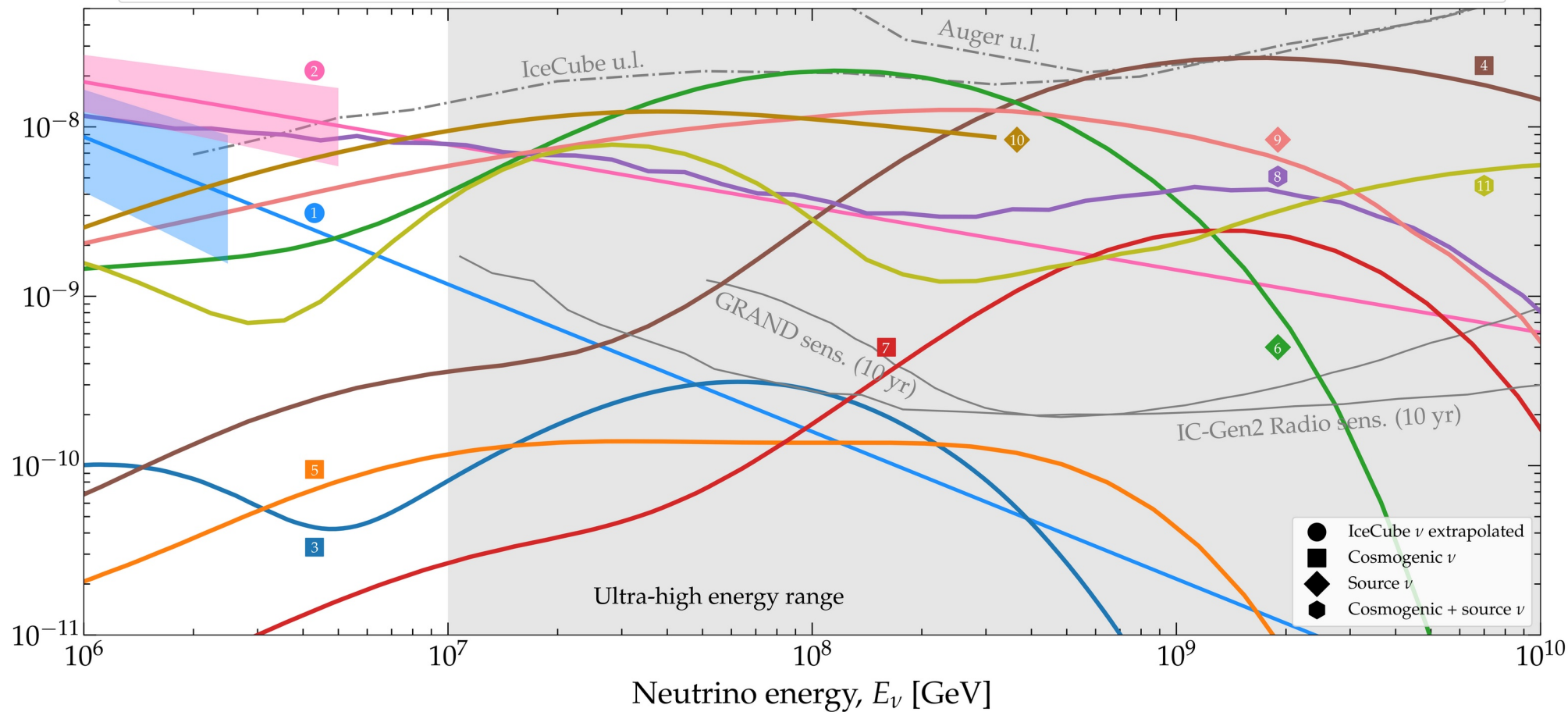


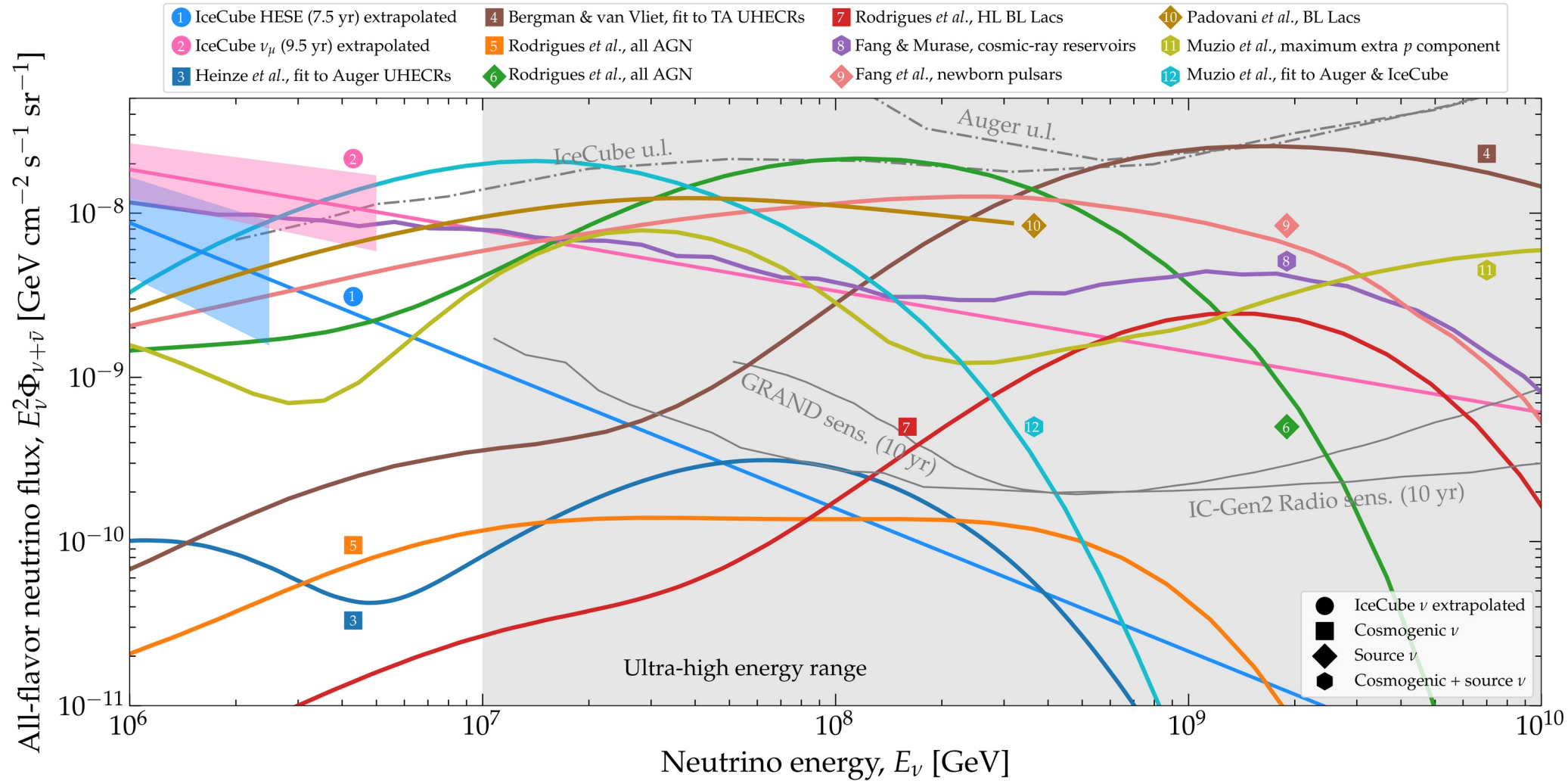




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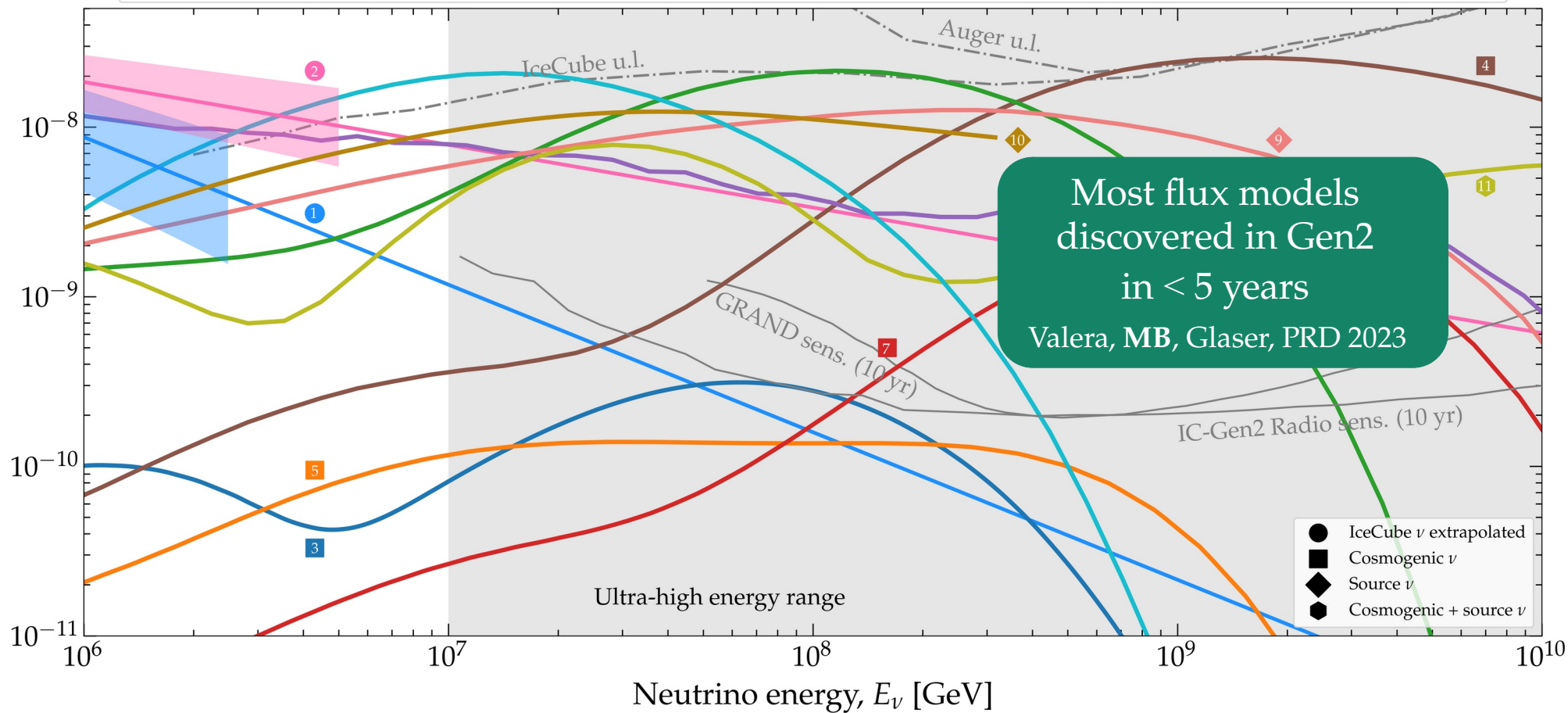
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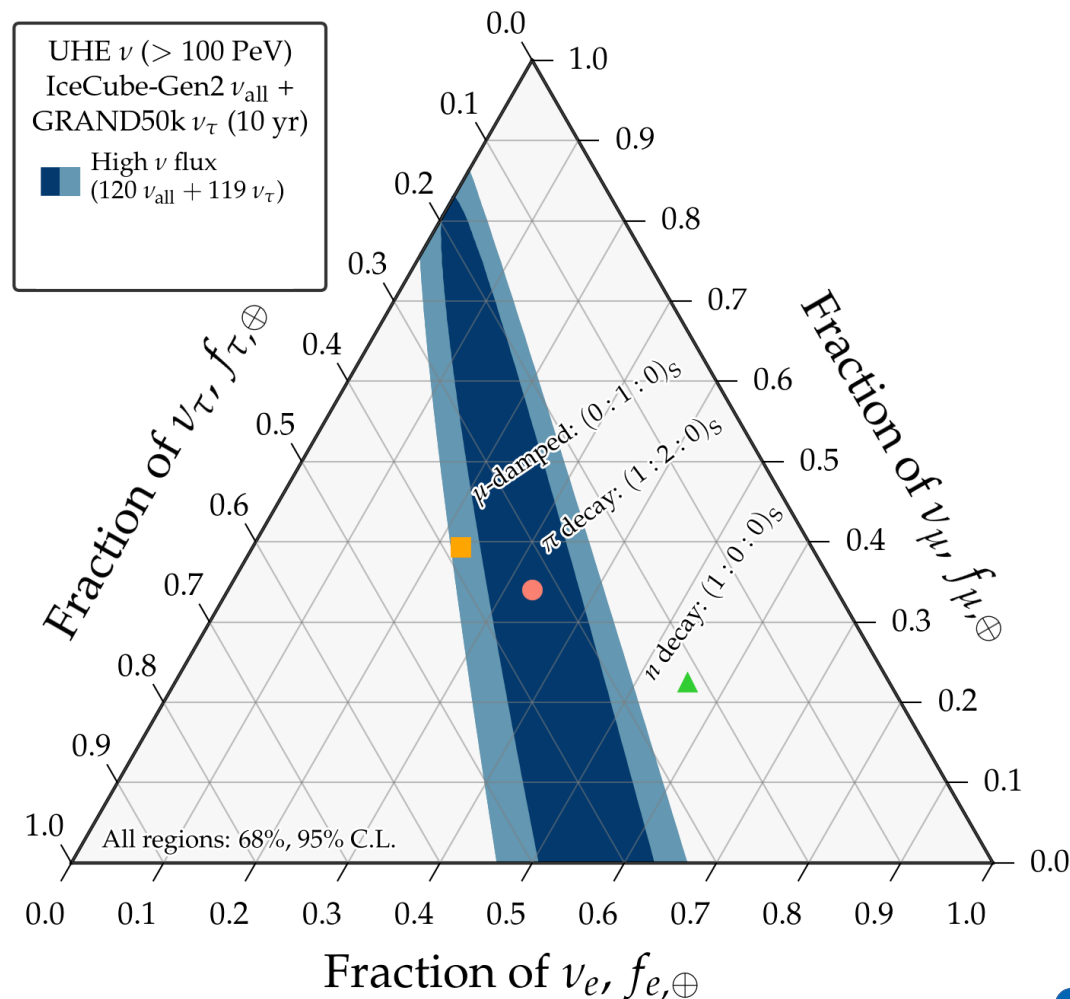




# Manufacturing UHE flavor sensitivity with two detectors

What if future UHE radio-detection neutrino telescopes cannot see flavor?

Then we combine two detectors:

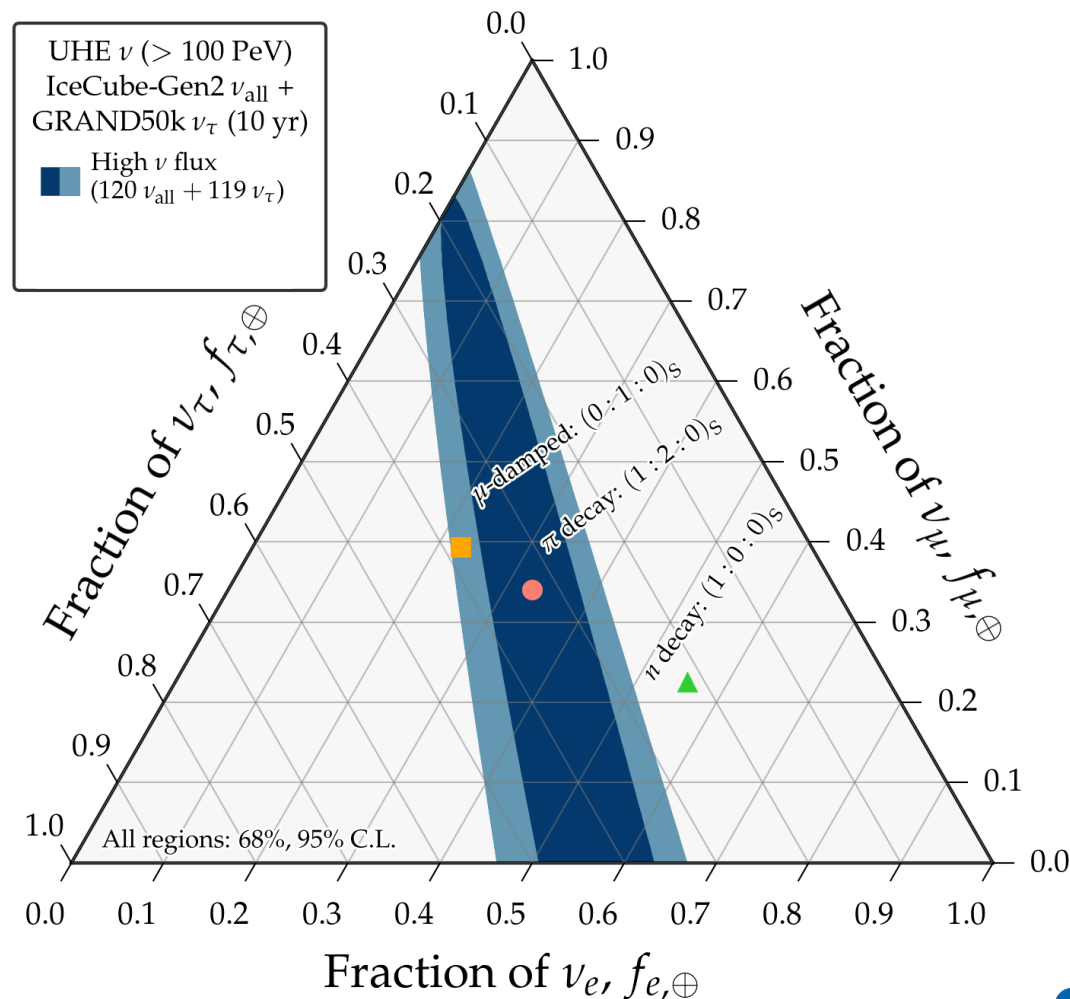


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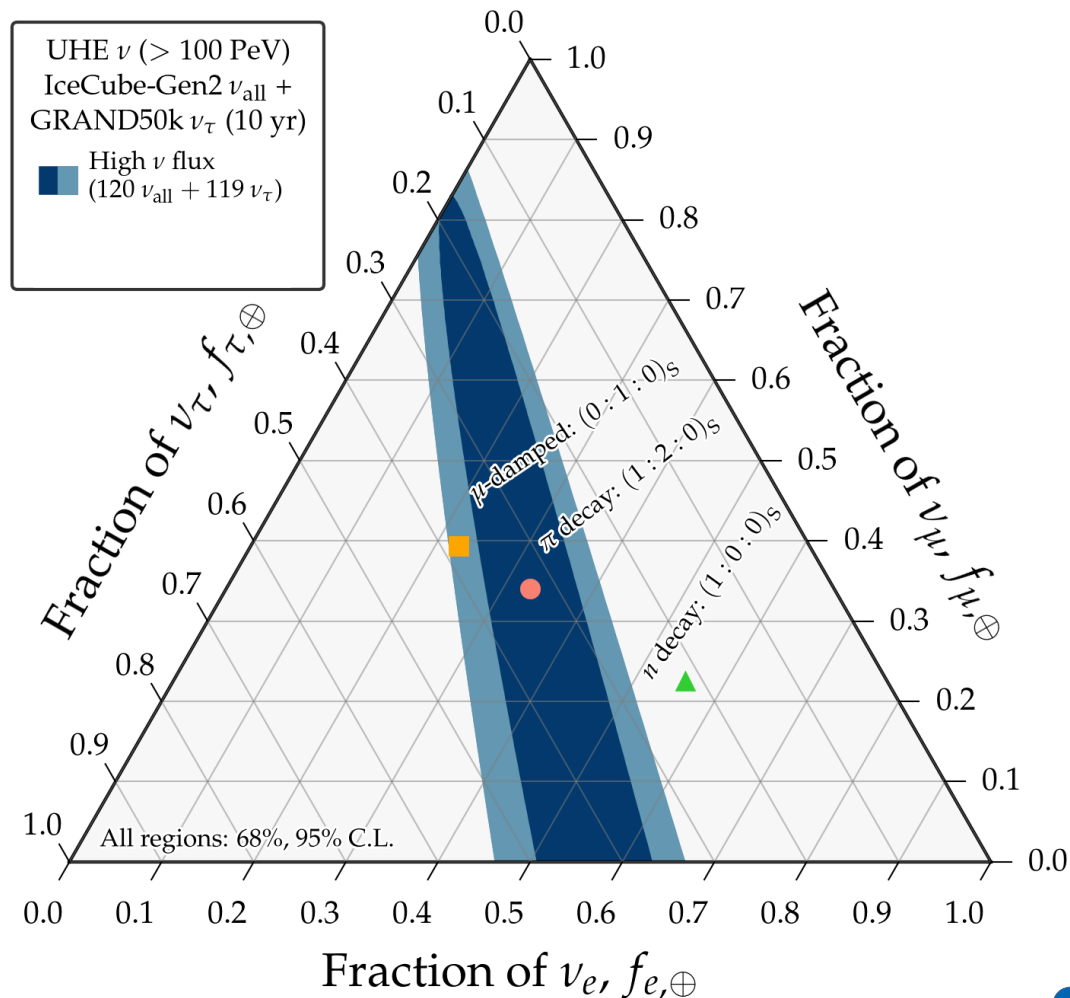
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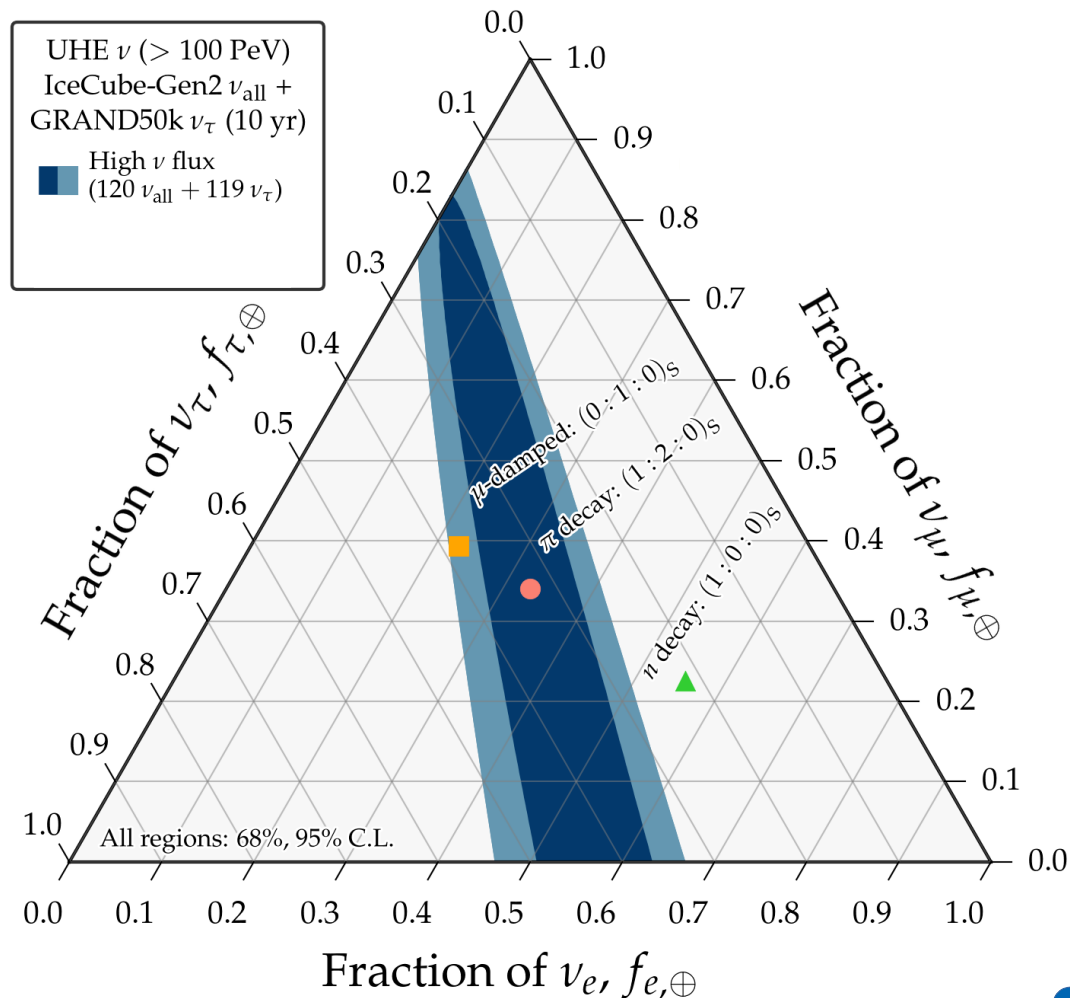
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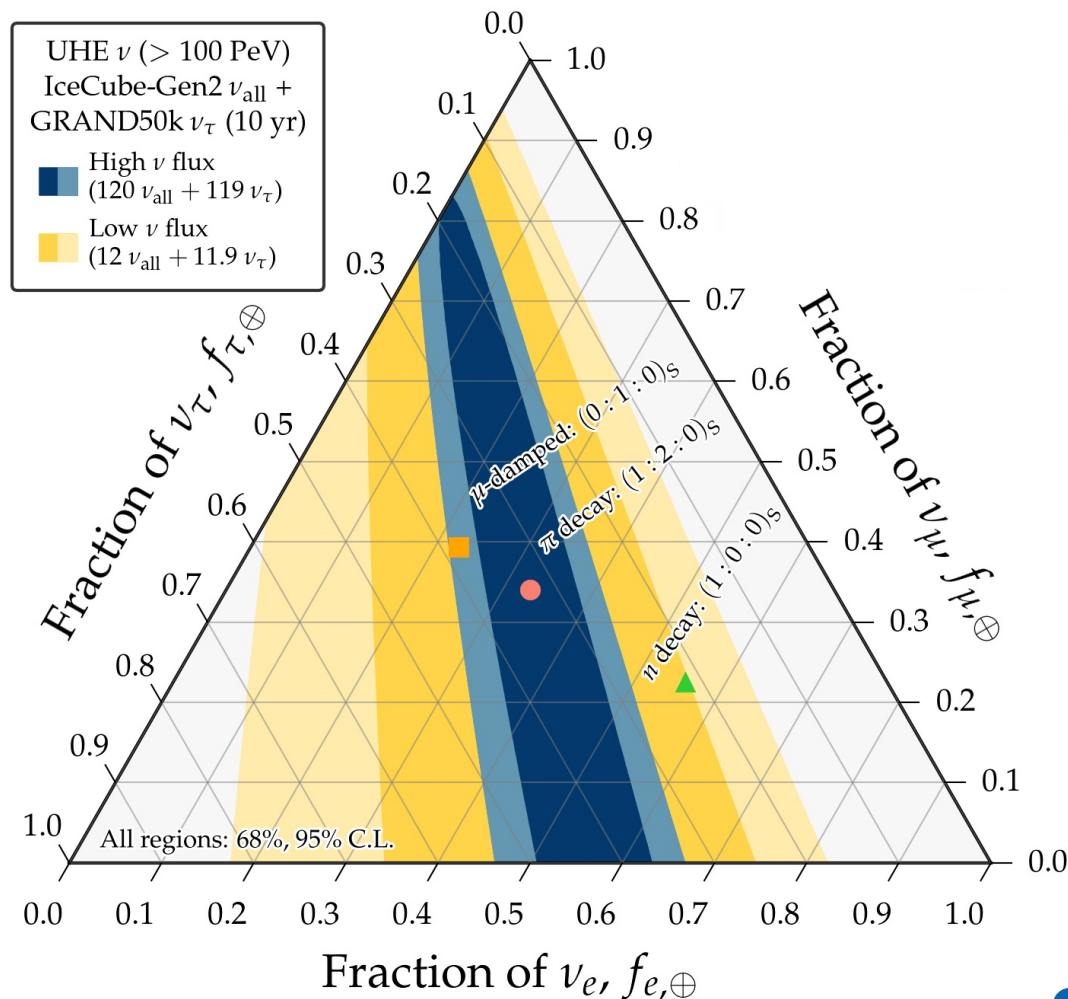
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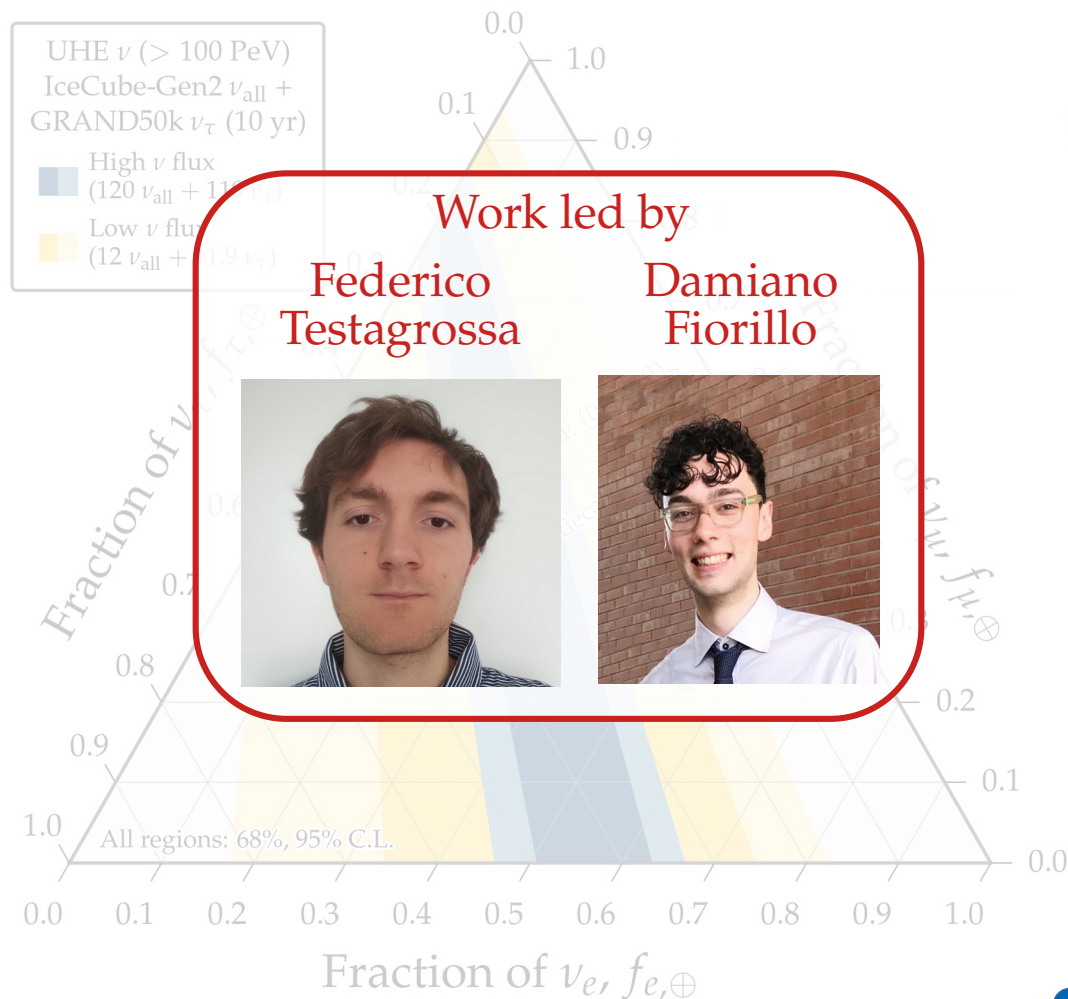
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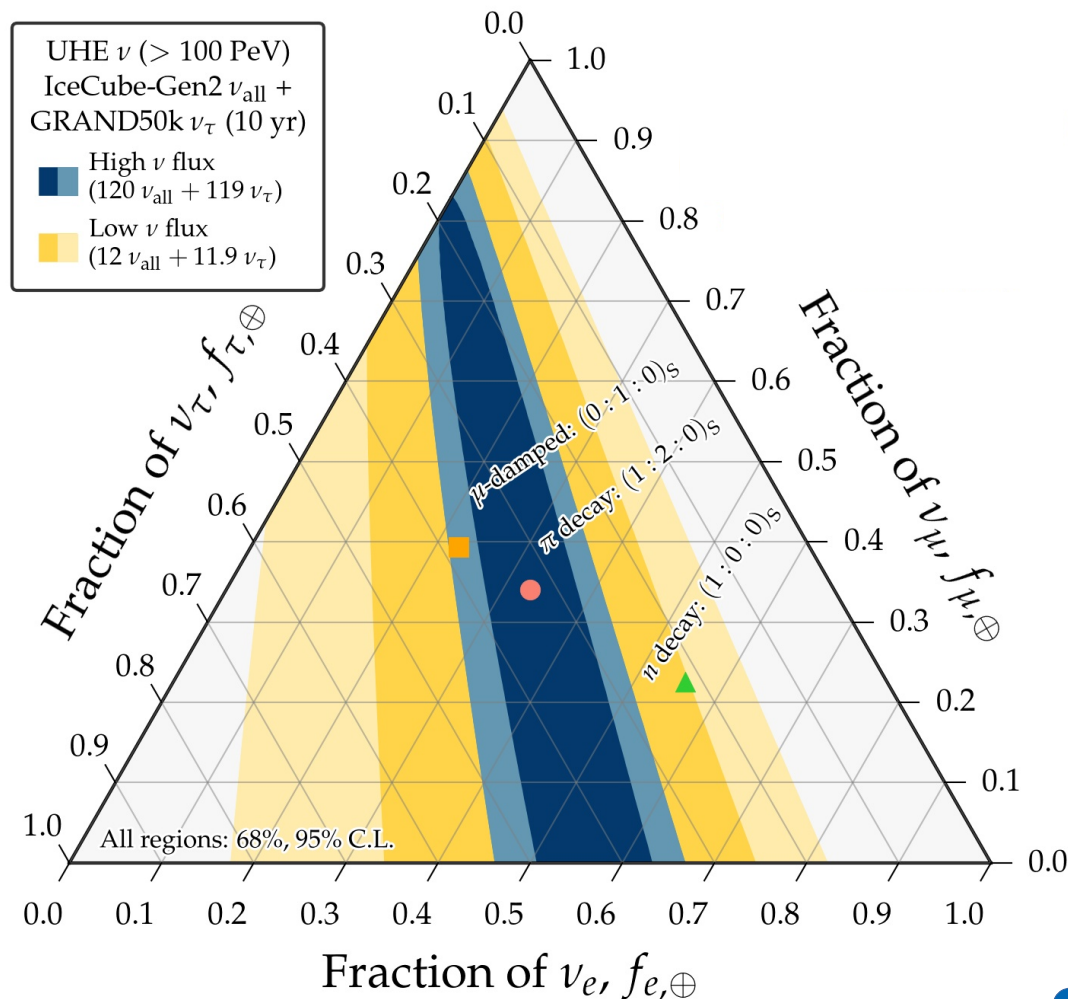
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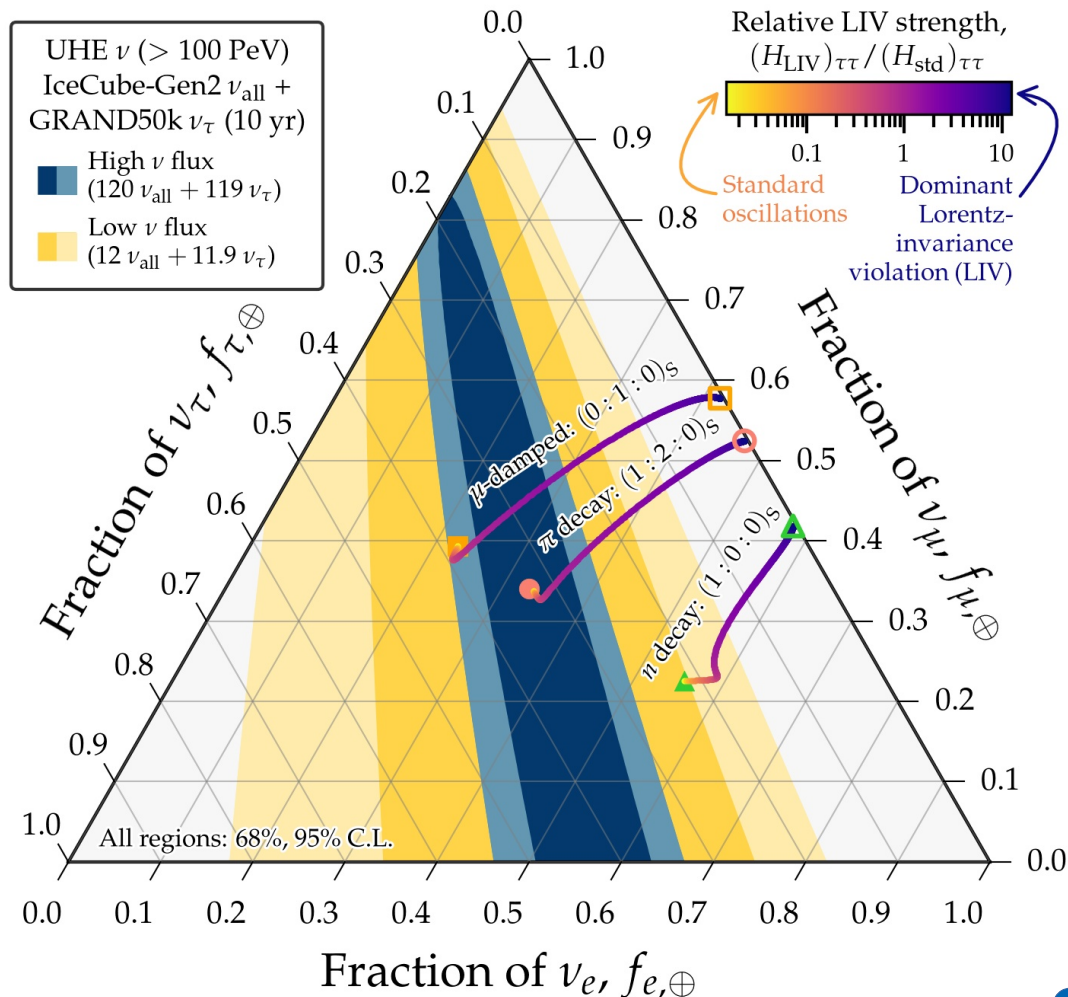
indistinct detection of all flavors  
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+

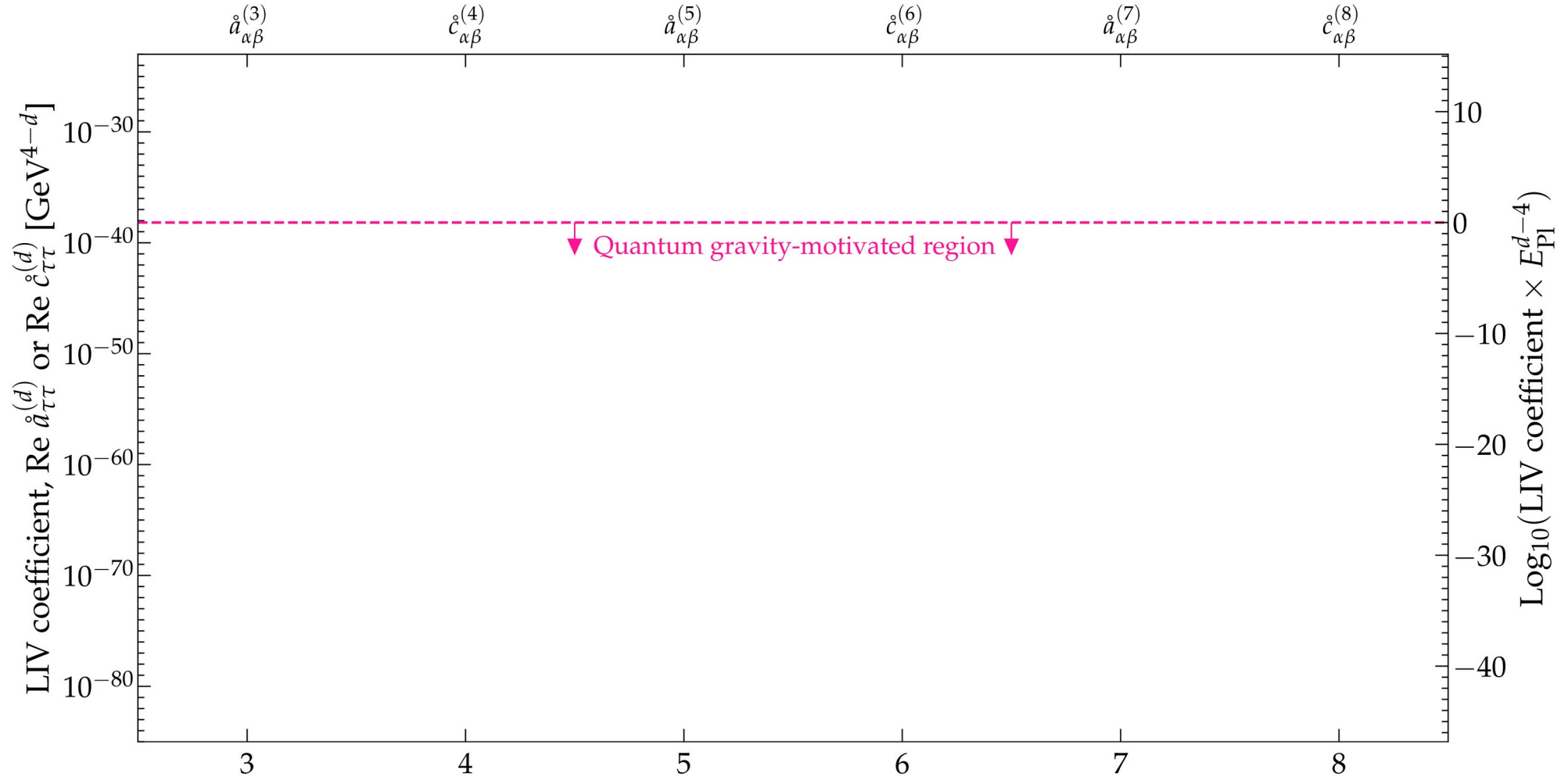
predominant detection of  $\nu_\tau$   
by GRAND

=

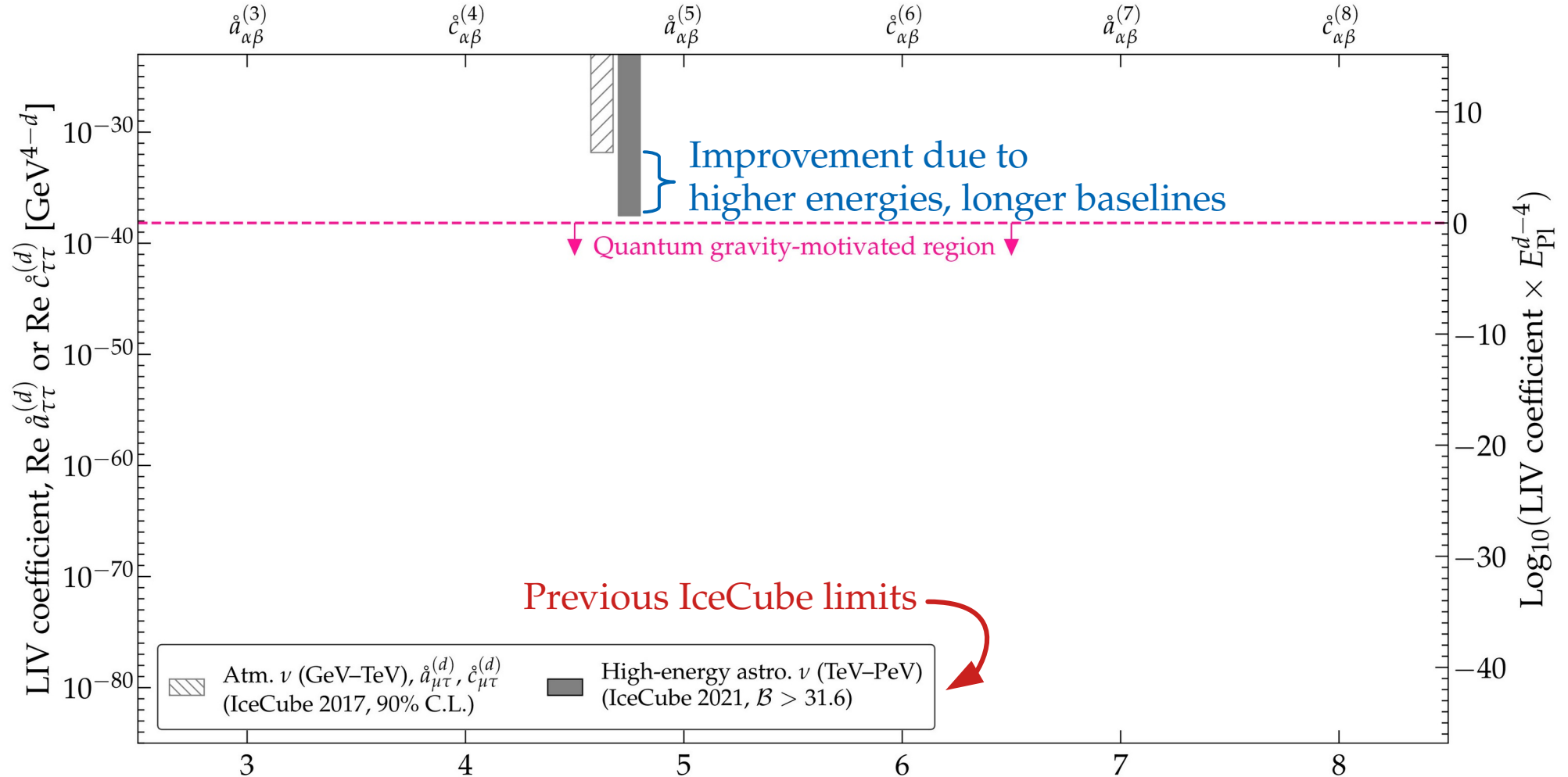
sensitivity to the fraction of UHE  $\nu_\tau$



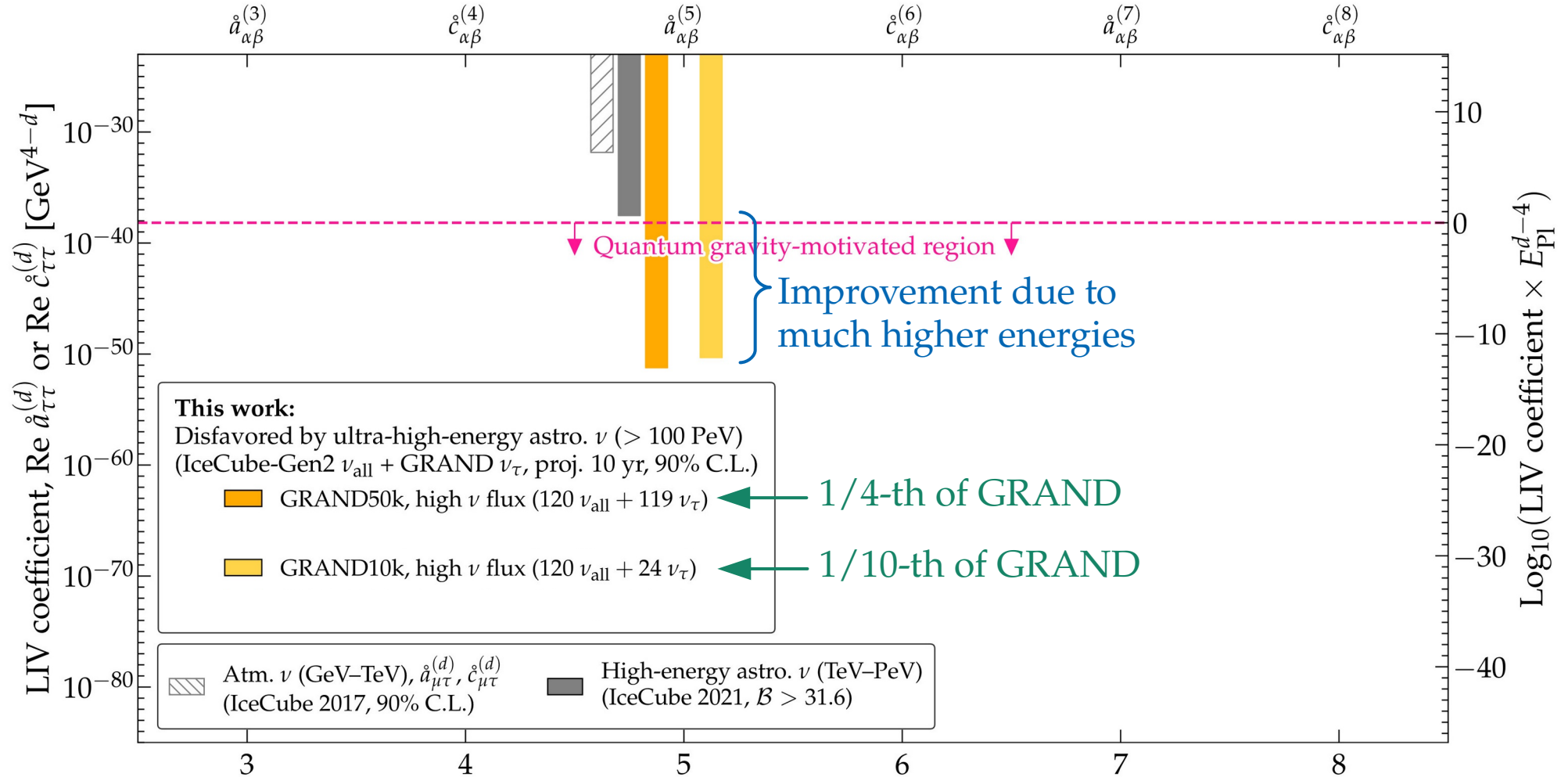
# Lorentz-invariance violation at ultra-high energies



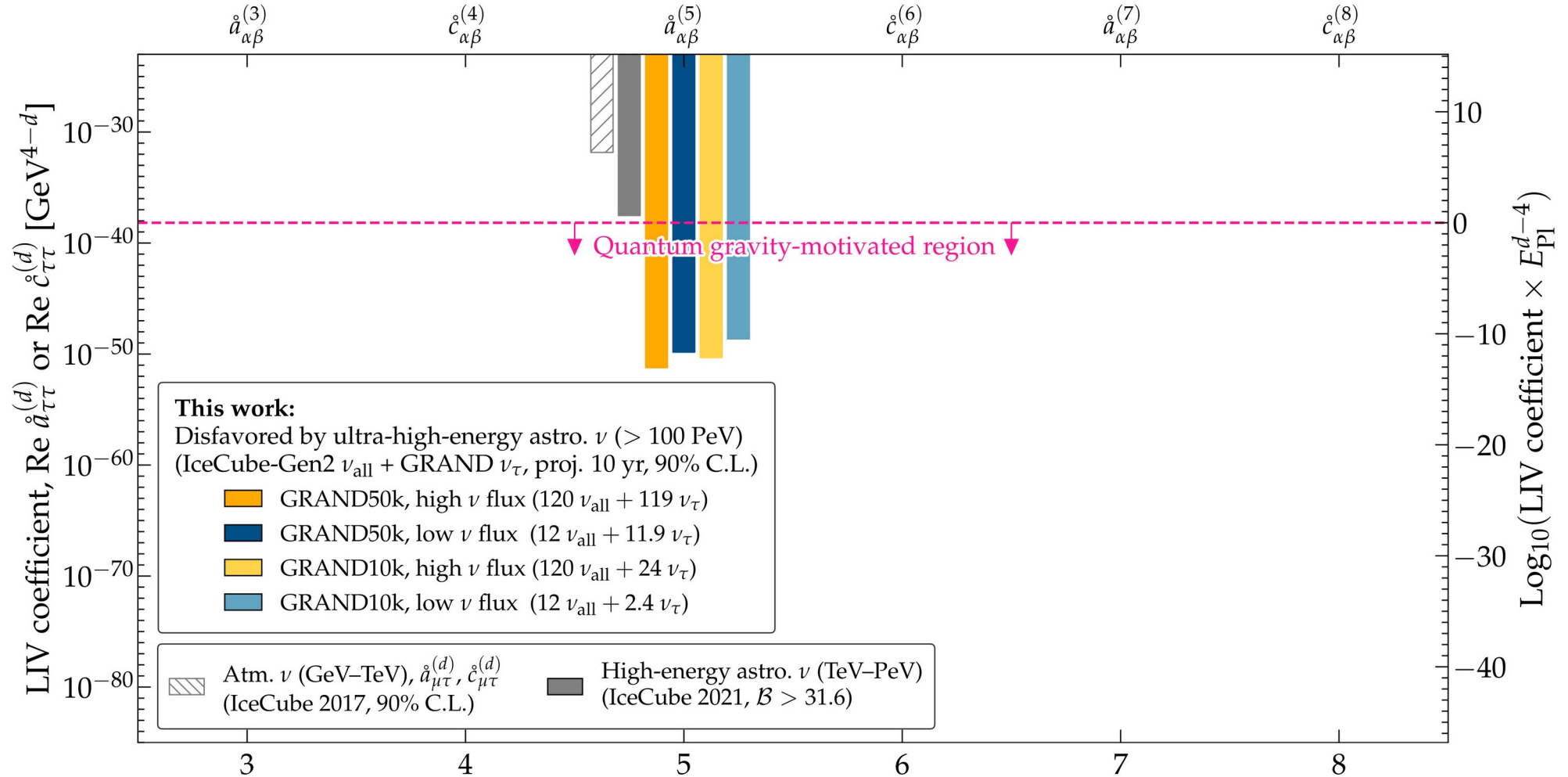
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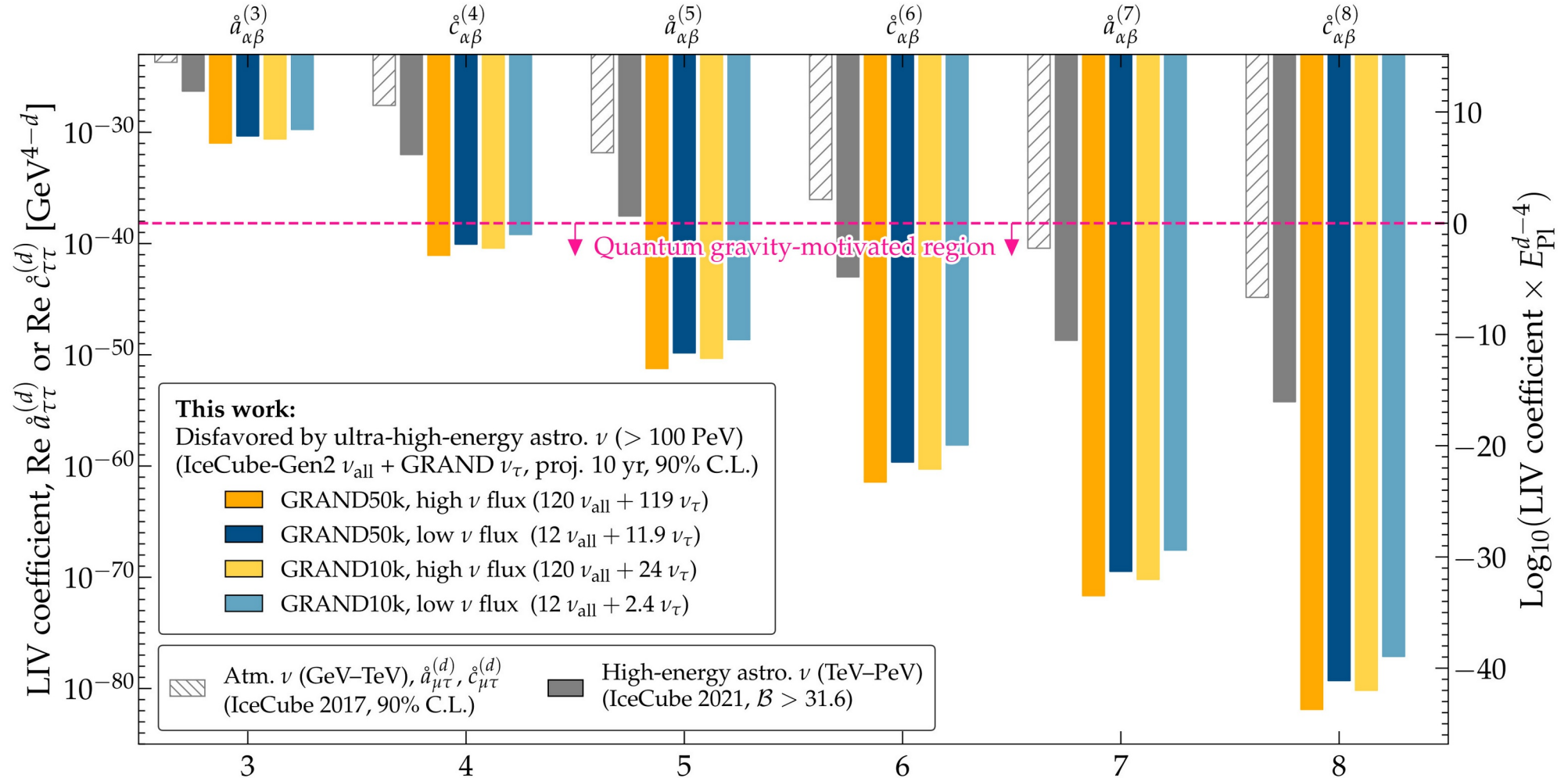


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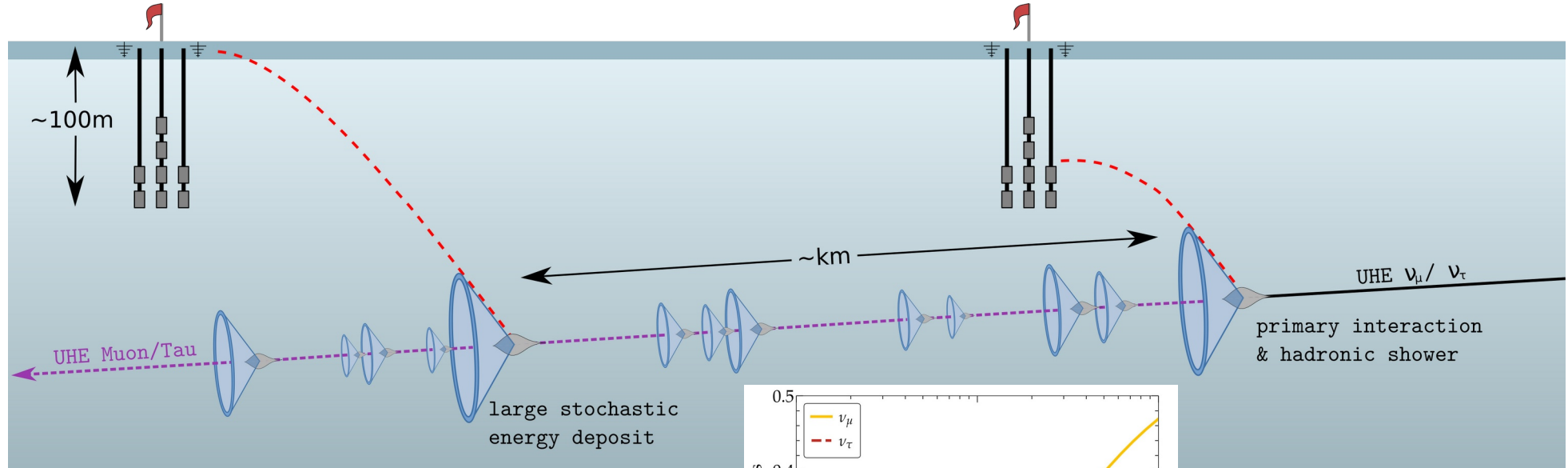




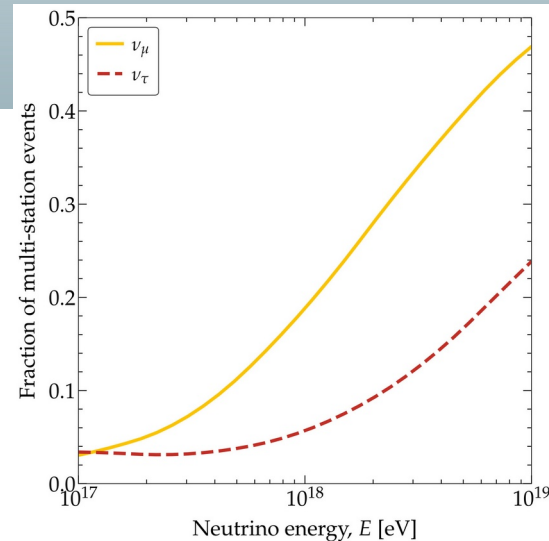
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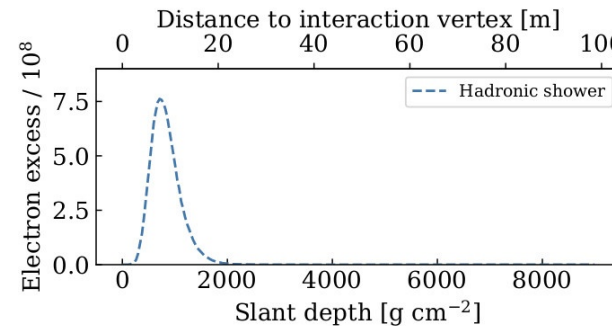
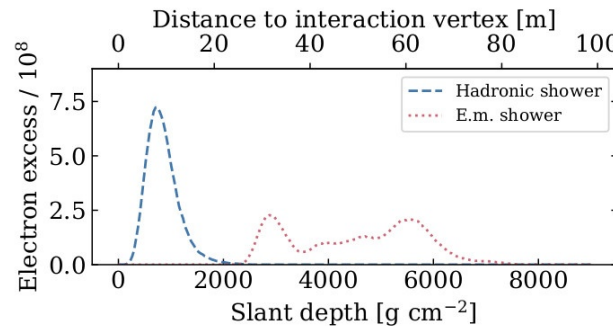
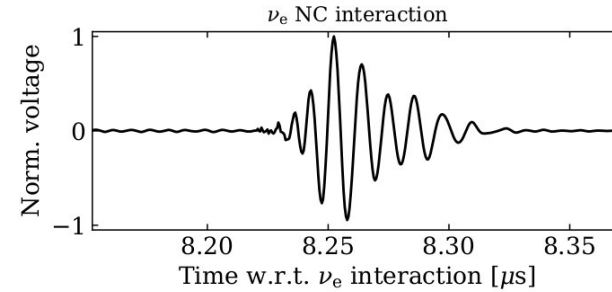
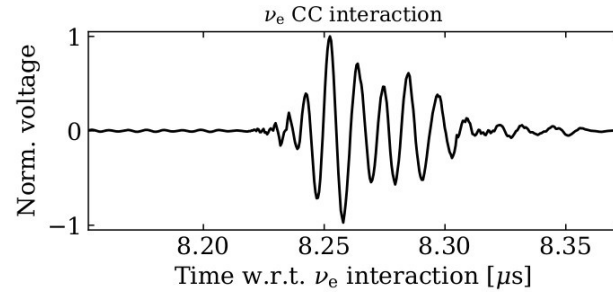
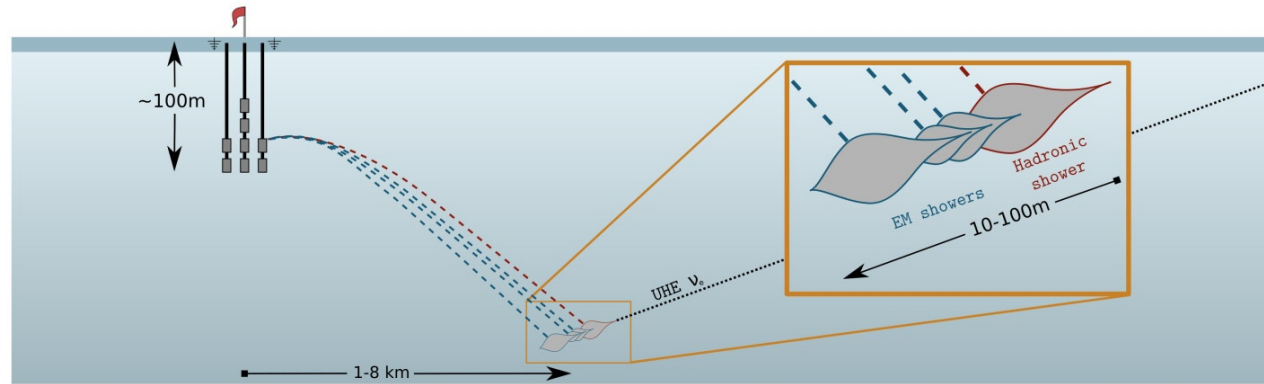
# Multi-shower events from $\nu_\mu + \nu_\tau$ in IceCube-Gen2 (radio)



Coleman, Ericsson, MB, Glaser, 2402.02432

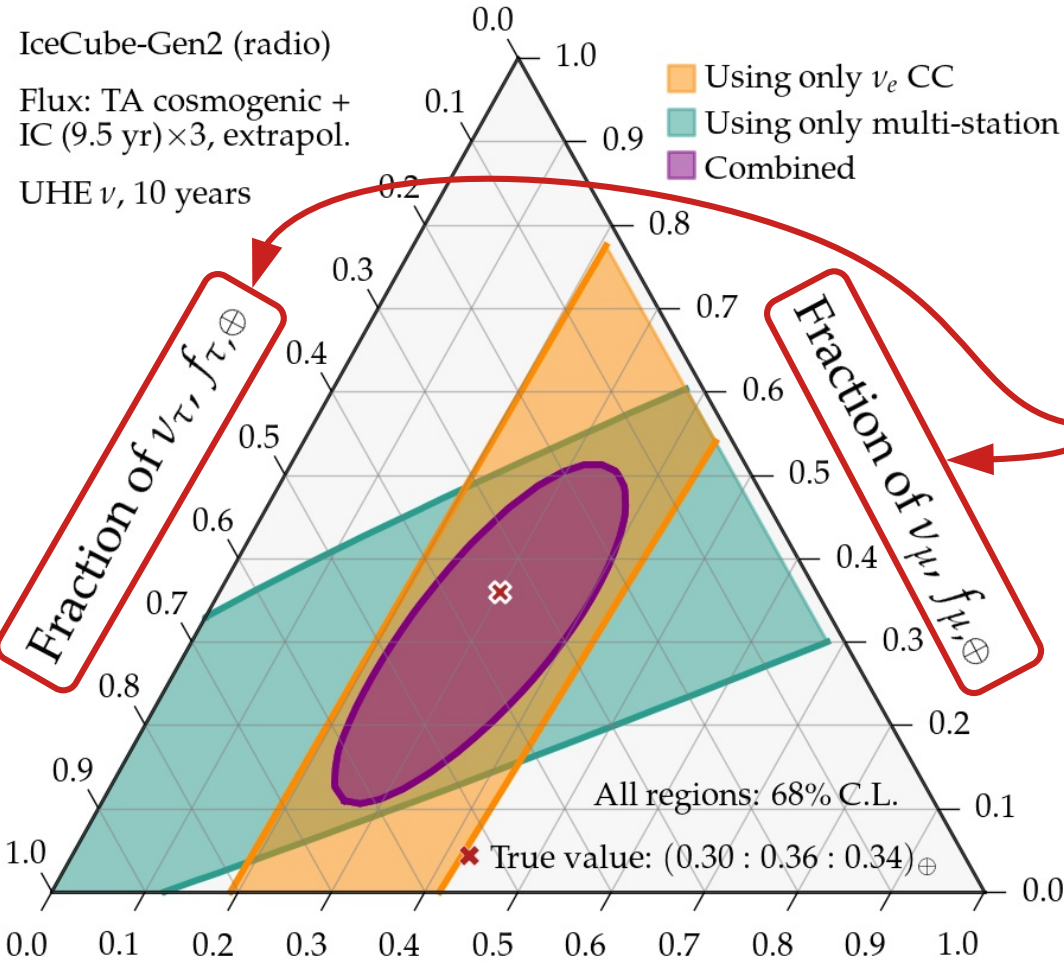


# Multi-shower $\nu_e$ CC interactions in IceCube-Gen2 (radio)



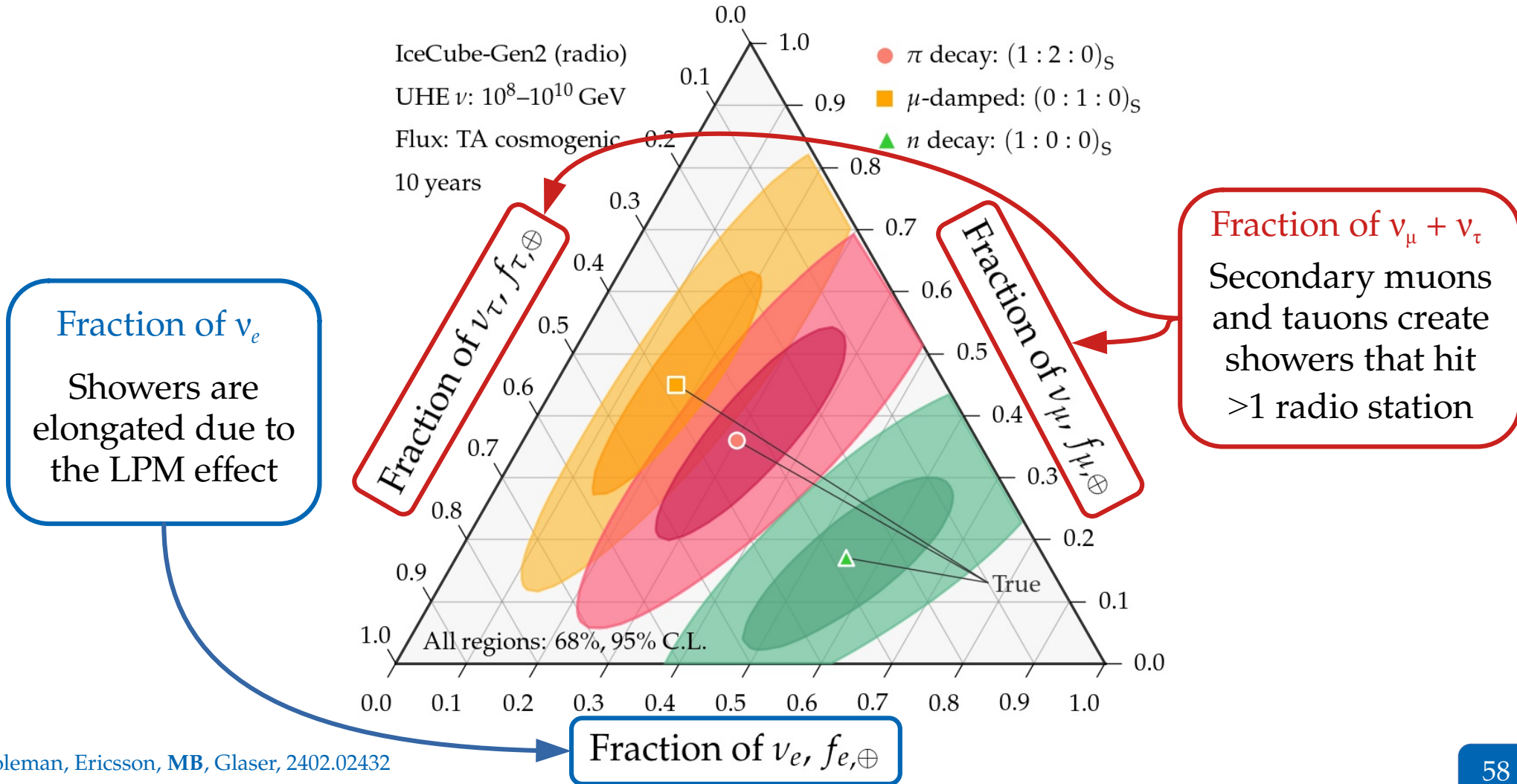
Coleman, Ericsson, MB, Glaser, 2402.02432

# IceCube-Gen2 (radio) alone might measure flavor



Fraction of  $\nu_e, f_{e,\oplus}$

# IceCube-Gen2 (radio) alone might measure flavor

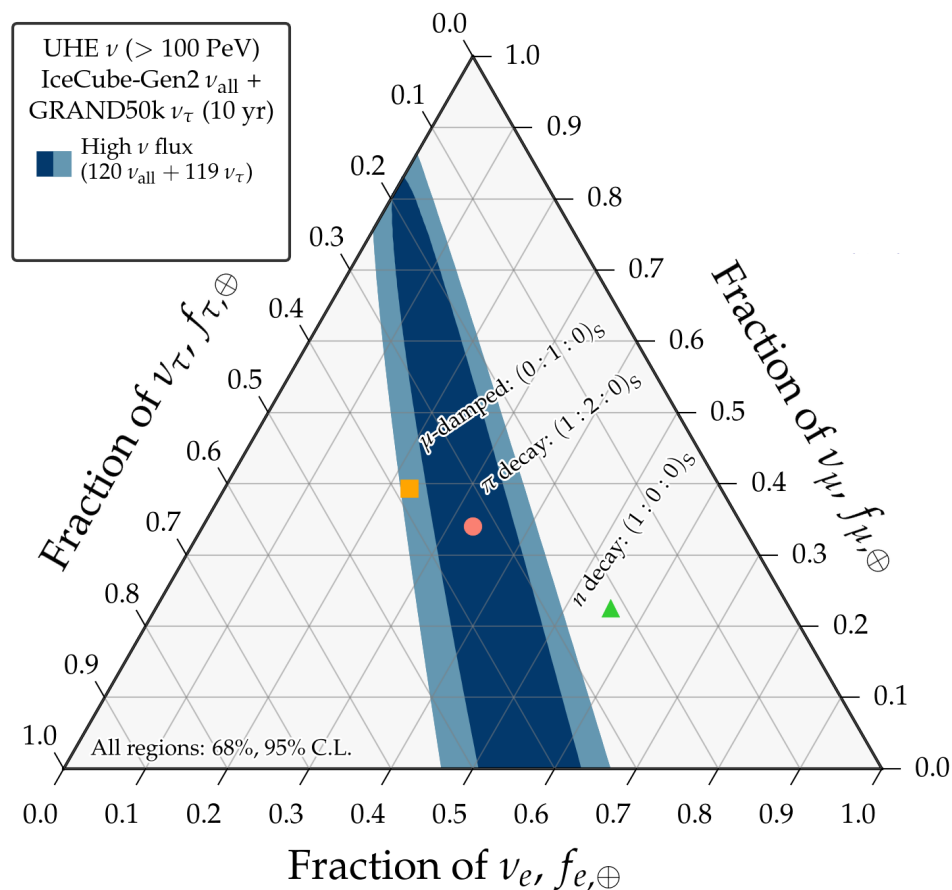




# Accessing the full UHE flavor information

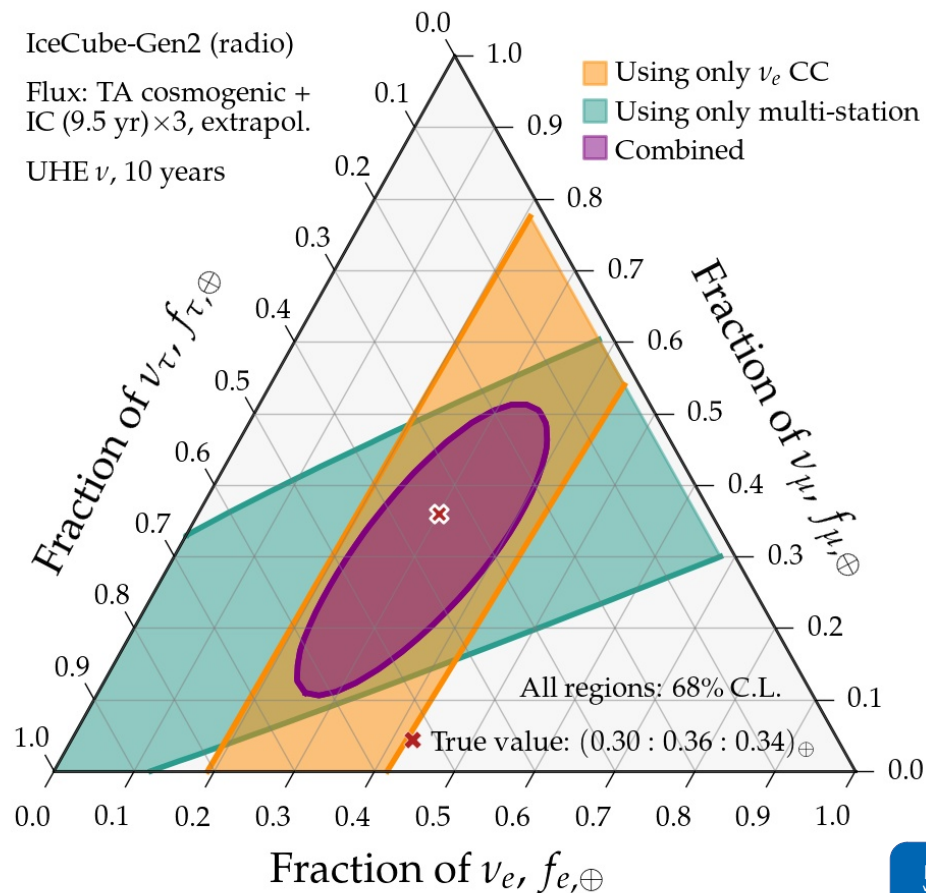
IceCube-Gen2 (no flavor-id) + GRAND:

Access to  $\nu_\tau$  fraction



IceCube-Gen2 (with flavor-id):

Access to  $\nu_e$  fraction and  $\nu_\mu + \nu_\tau$  fraction







# The future

Build bigger

Build different

Work together

Backup slides

# How does IceCube see TeV–PeV neutrinos?

## Deep inelastic neutrino-nucleon scattering

Neutral current (NC)

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

Charged current (CC)

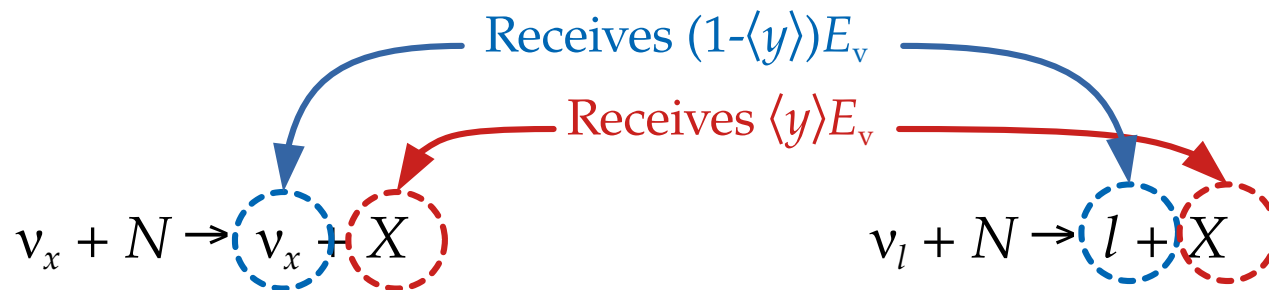
$$\nu_l + N \rightarrow l + X$$

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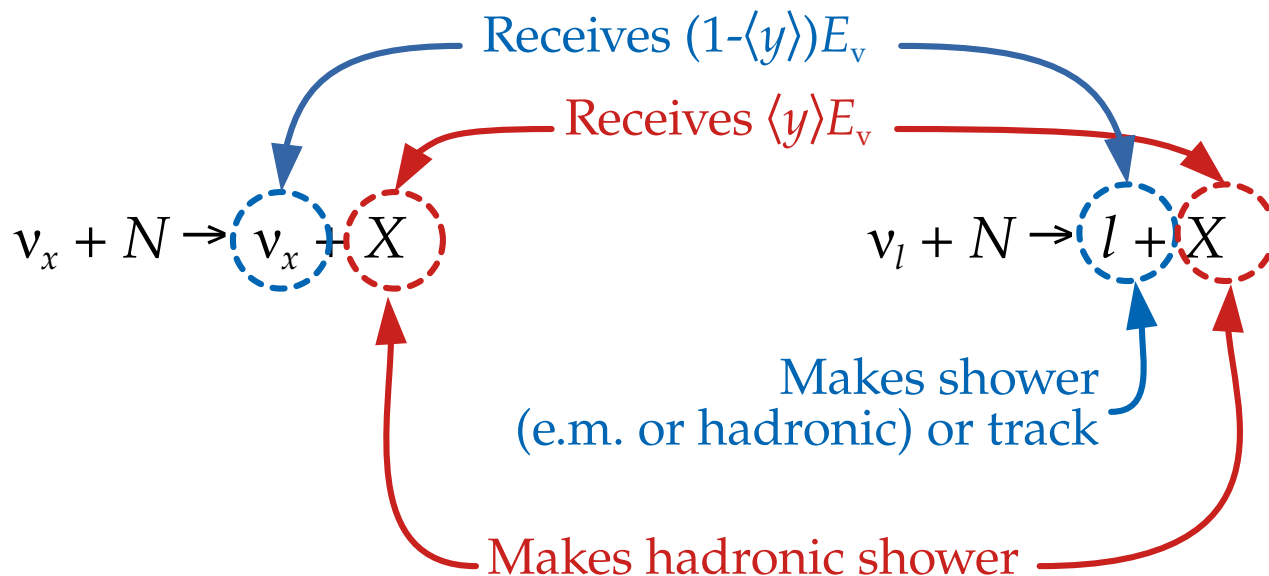
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# Flavor at the Earth: *theoretically palatable regions*

*Theoretically palatable flavor regions*

≡

MB, Beacom, Winter, PRL 2015

Allowed regions of flavor ratios at Earth derived from oscillations

*Note:*

The original palatable regions were  
frequentist [MB, Beacom, Winter, PRL 2015];  
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$$(f_{e,S}, f_{\mu,S}, f_{\tau,S})$$

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*or*

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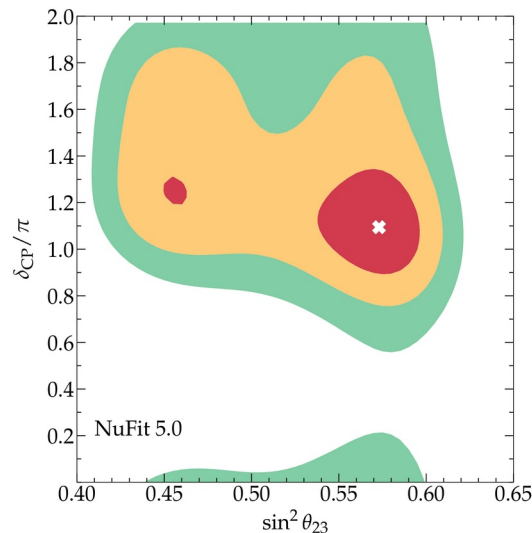
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2020: Use  $\chi^2$  profiles from  
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Esteban *et al.*, *JHEP* 2020  
[www.nu-fit.org](http://www.nu-fit.org)



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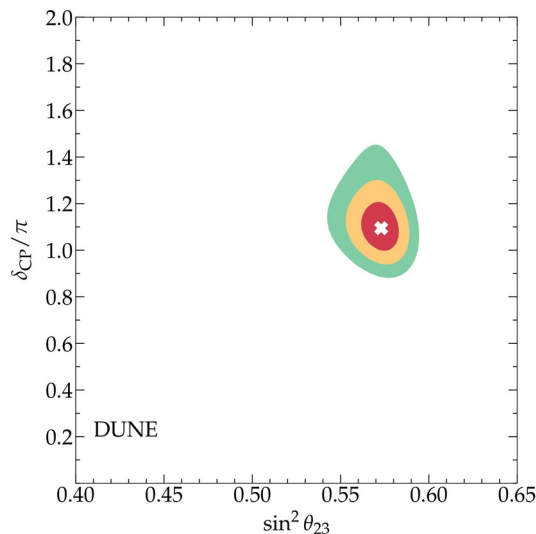
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Esteban *et al.*, *JHEP* 2020  
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Post-2020: Build our own profiles using simulations of JUNO, DUNE, Hyper-K

An *et al.*, *J. Phys. G* 2016  
DUNE, 2002.03005

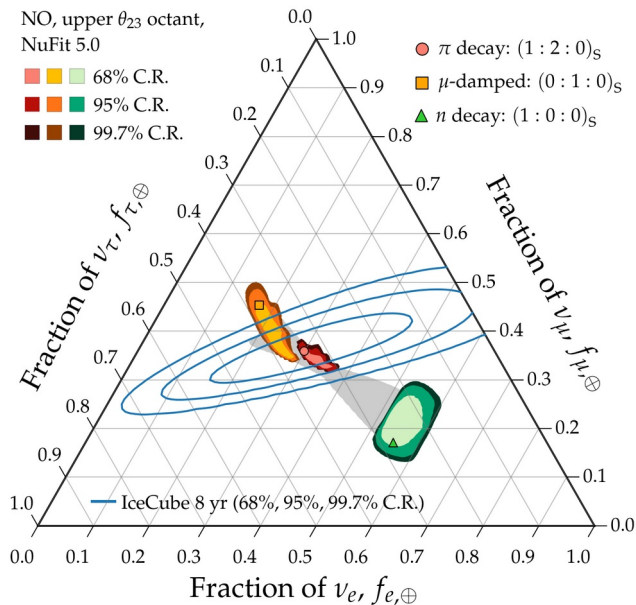
Huber, Lindner, Winter, *Nucl. Phys. B* 2002



Theoretically palatable regions: 2020  $\rightarrow$  2030  $\rightarrow$  2040

# Theoretically palatable regions: 2020 $\rightarrow$ 2030 $\rightarrow$ 2040

2020



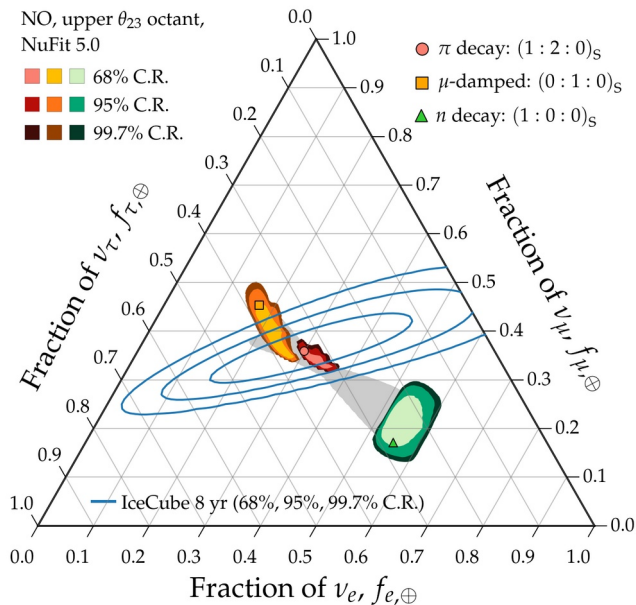
Allowed regions: overlapping

Measurement: imprecise



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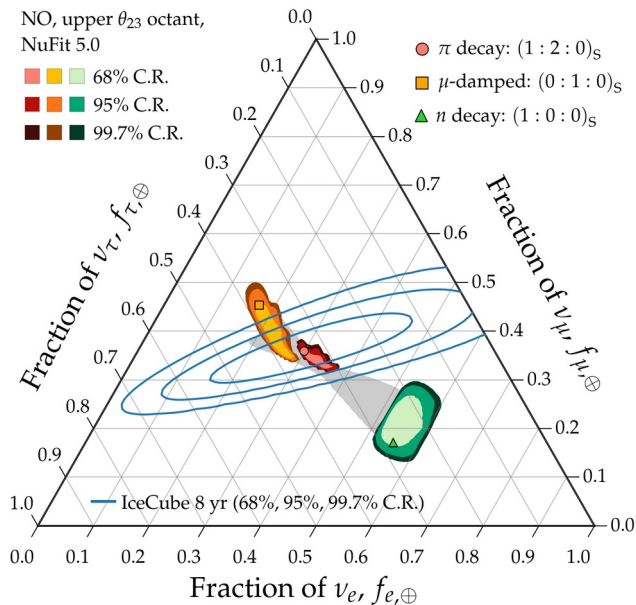
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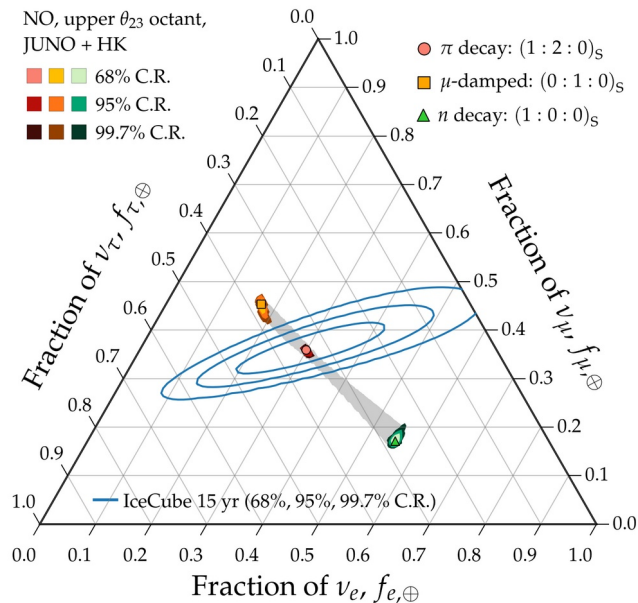


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2030

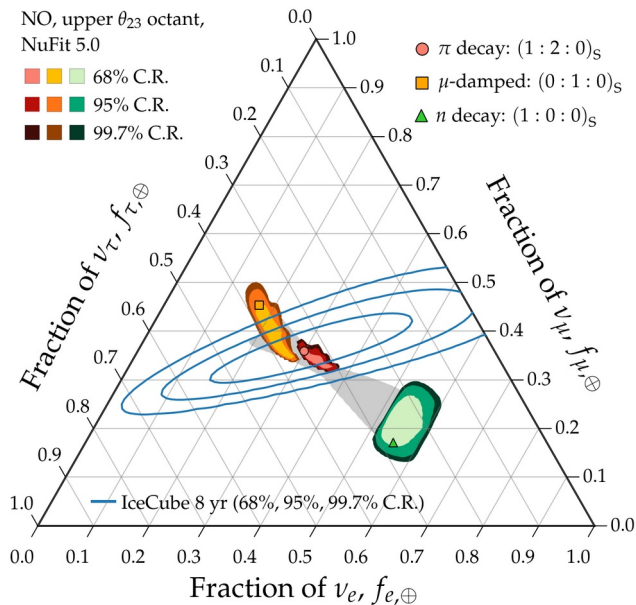


Allowed regions: well separated

Measurement: improving

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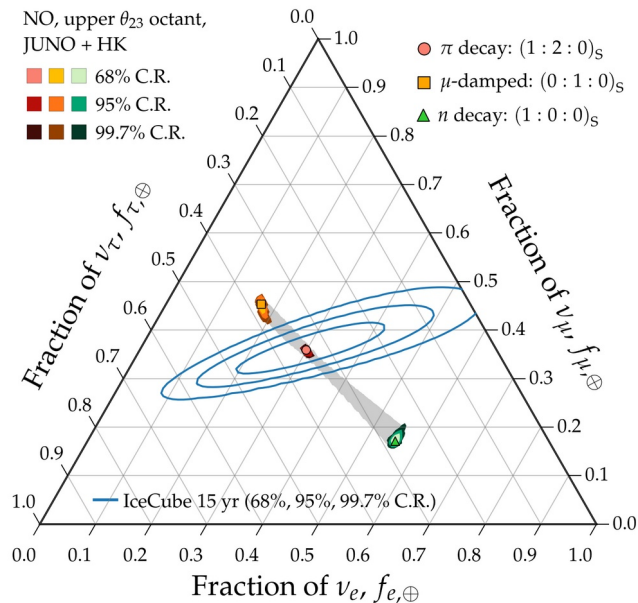


Allowed regions: overlapping

Measurement: imprecise

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2030



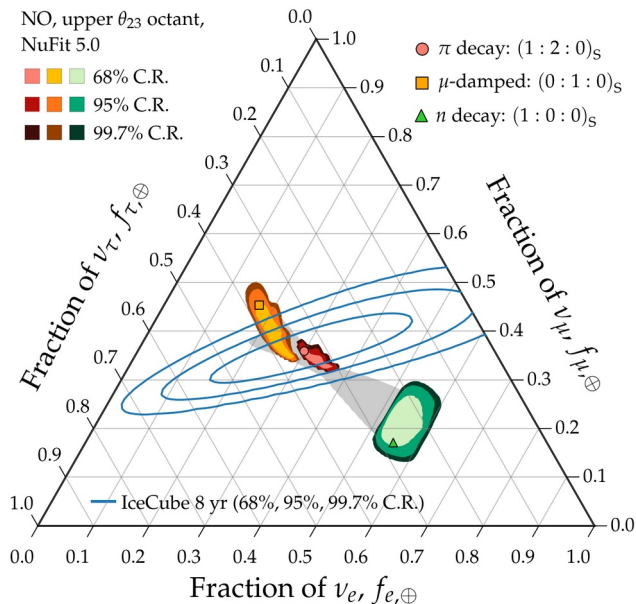
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Measurement: improving

*Nice*

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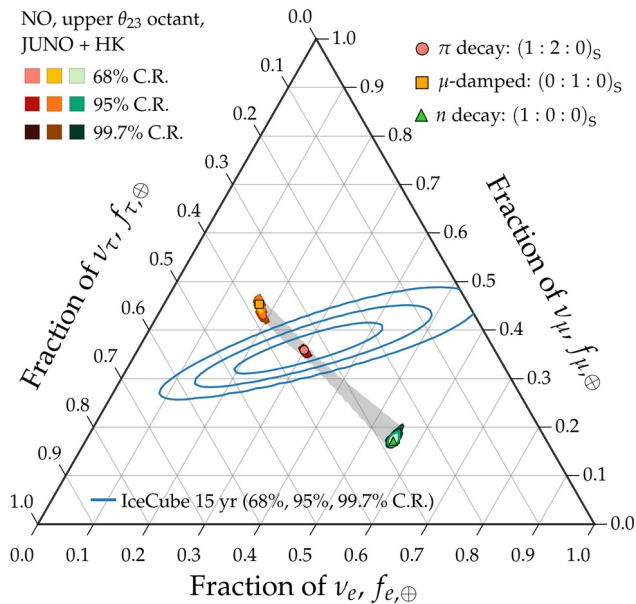
2020



Allowed regions: overlapping  
Measurement: imprecise

*Not ideal*

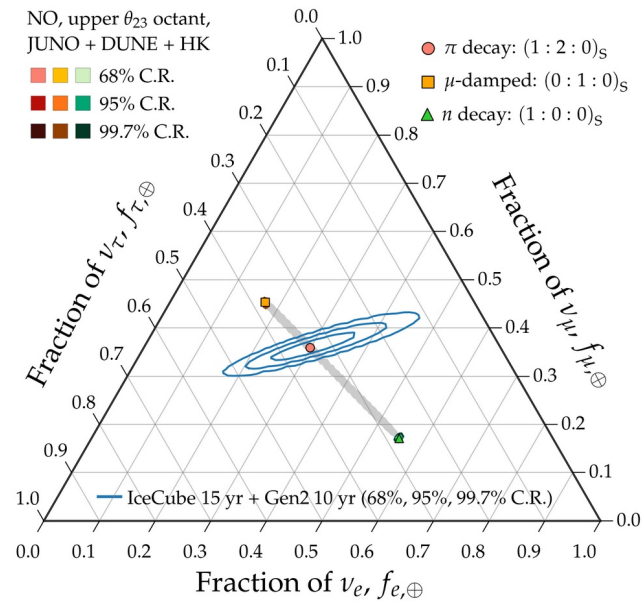
2030



Allowed regions: well separated  
Measurement: improving

*Nice*

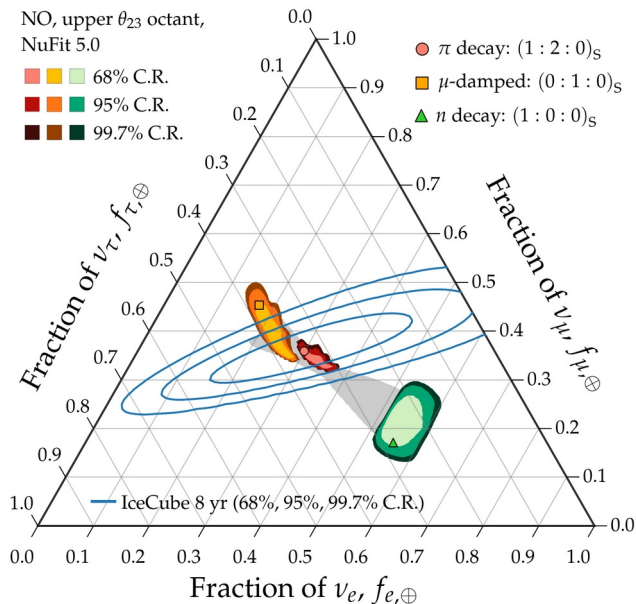
2040



Allowed regions: well separated  
Measurement: precise

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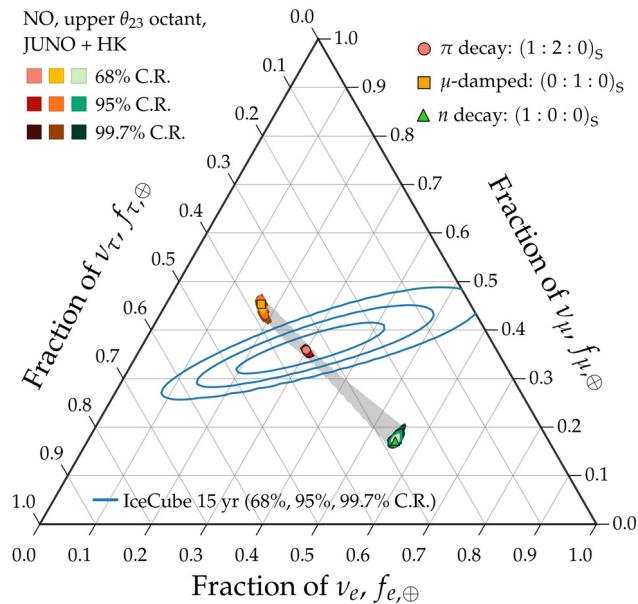
2020



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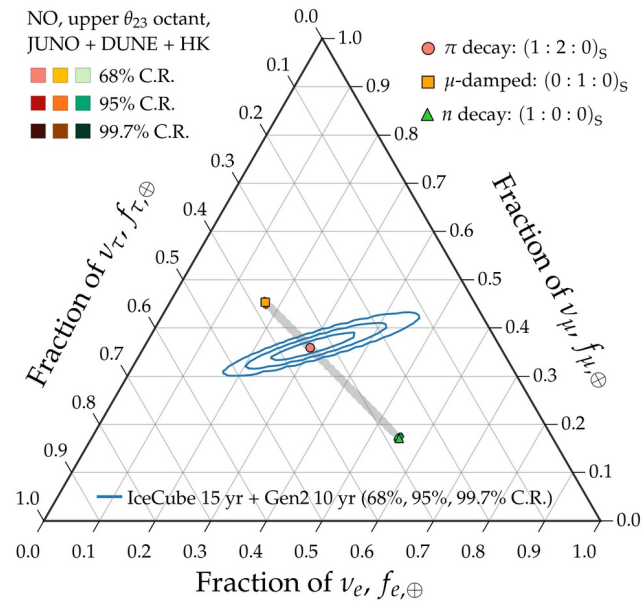
2030



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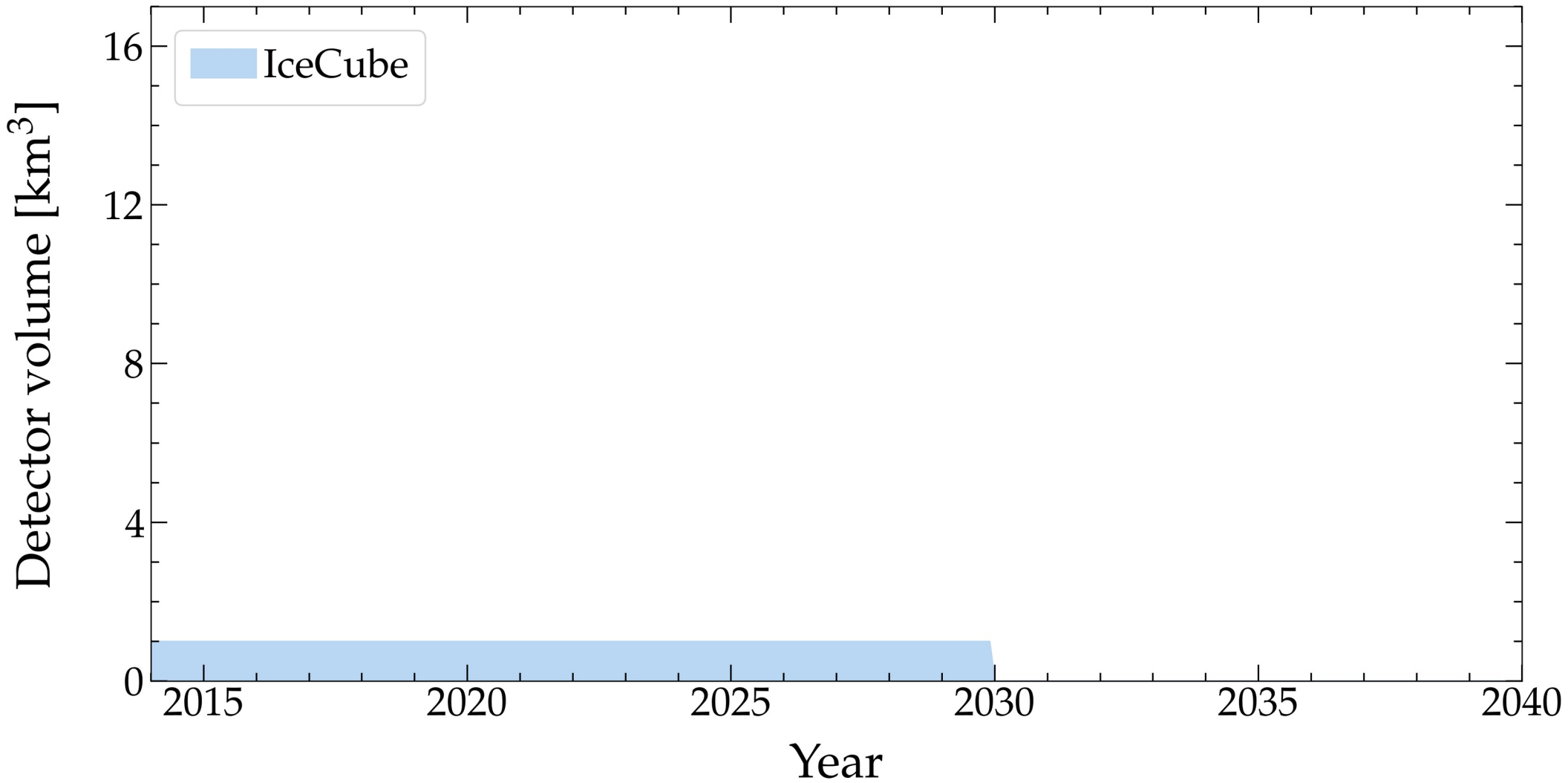
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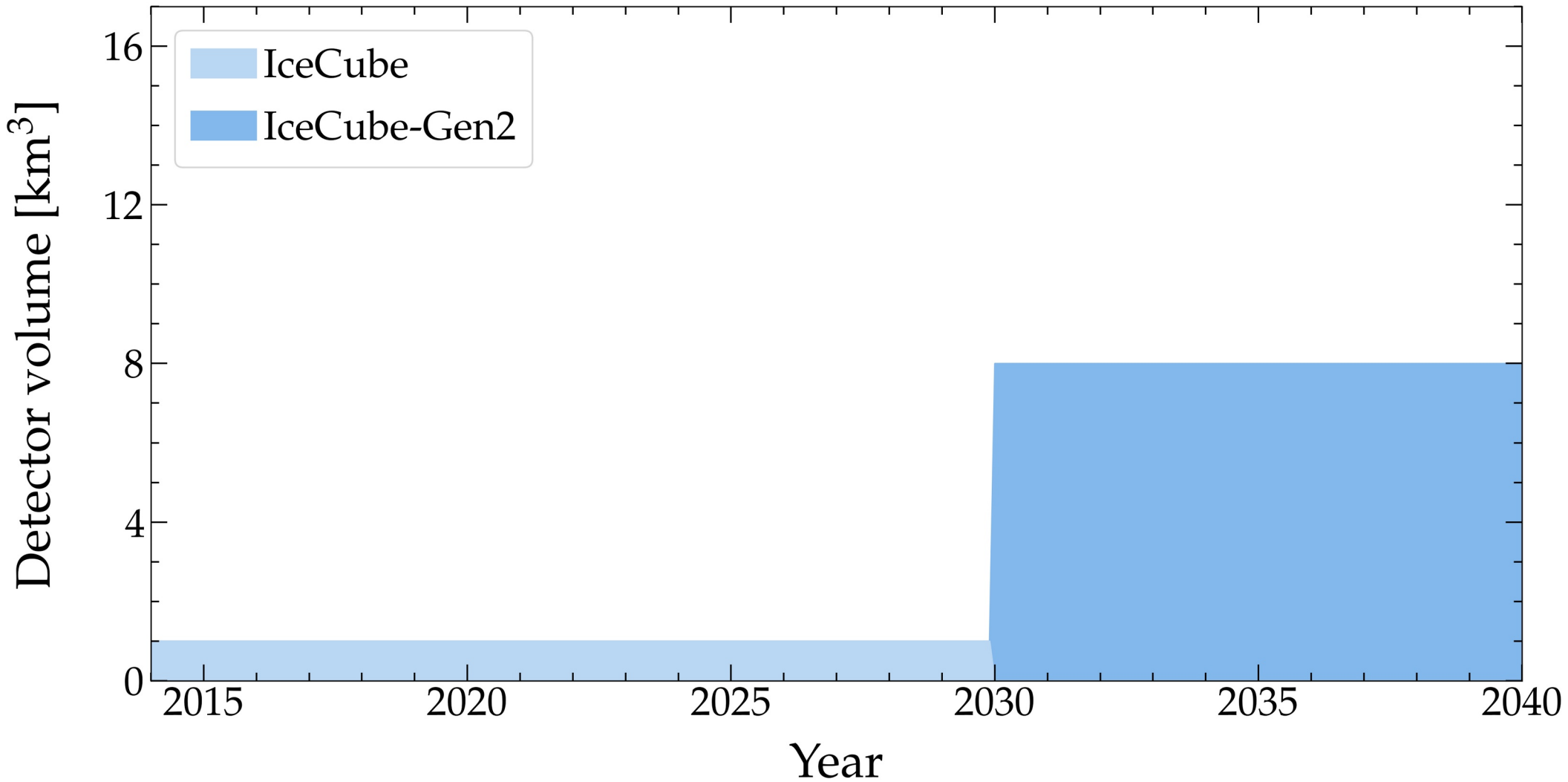
2040



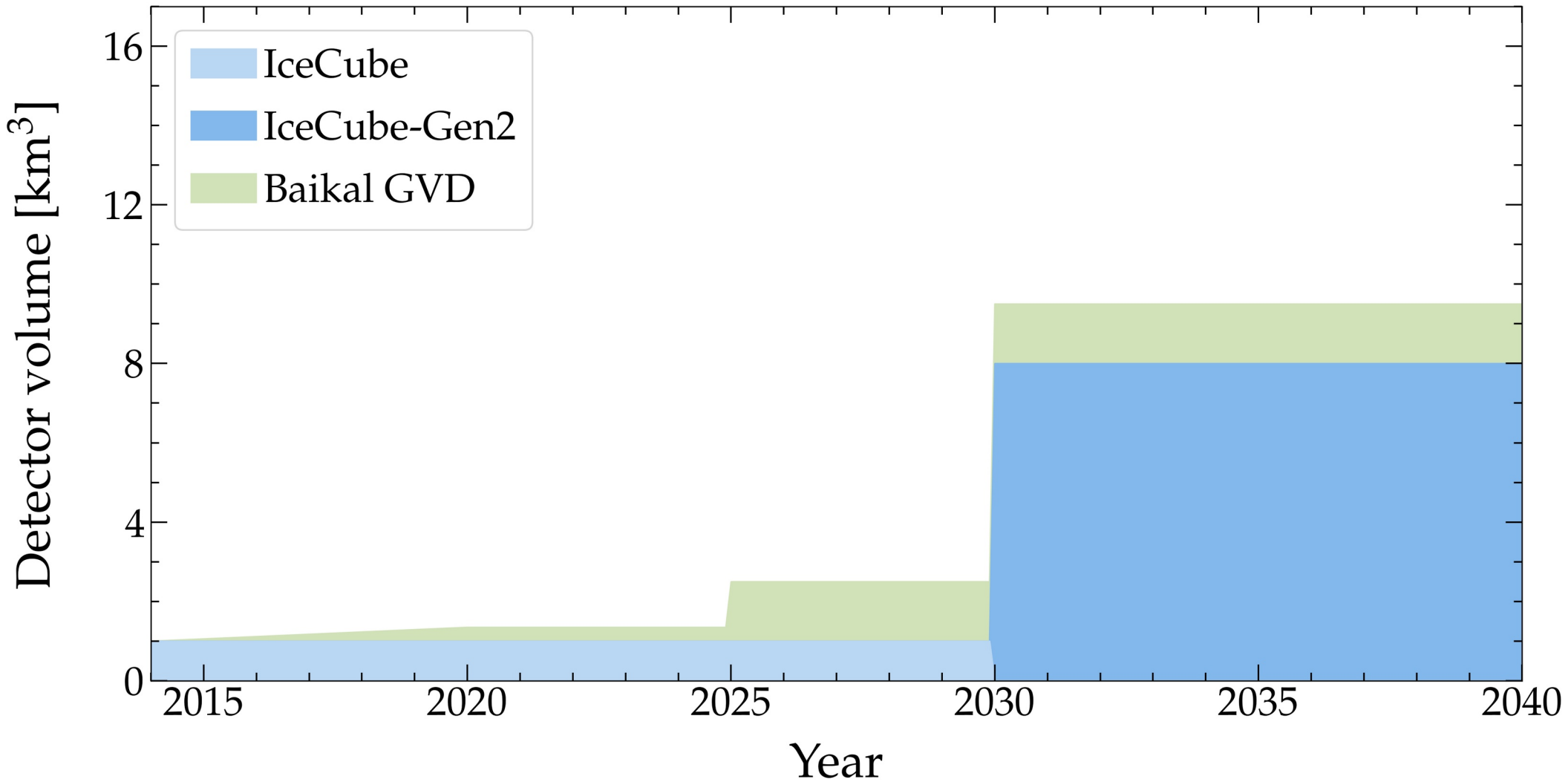
Allowed regions: well separated  
Measurement: precise

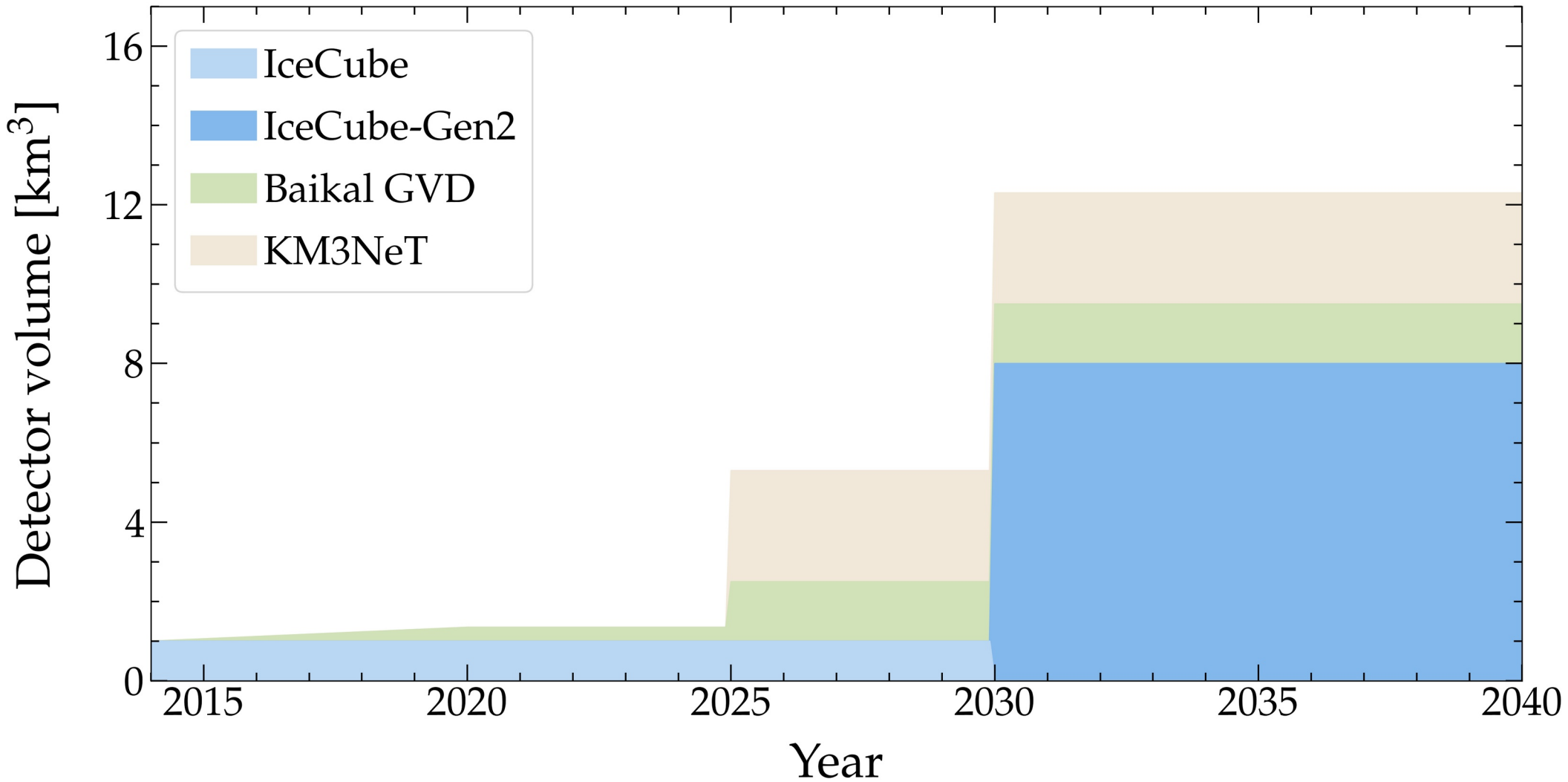
*Success*

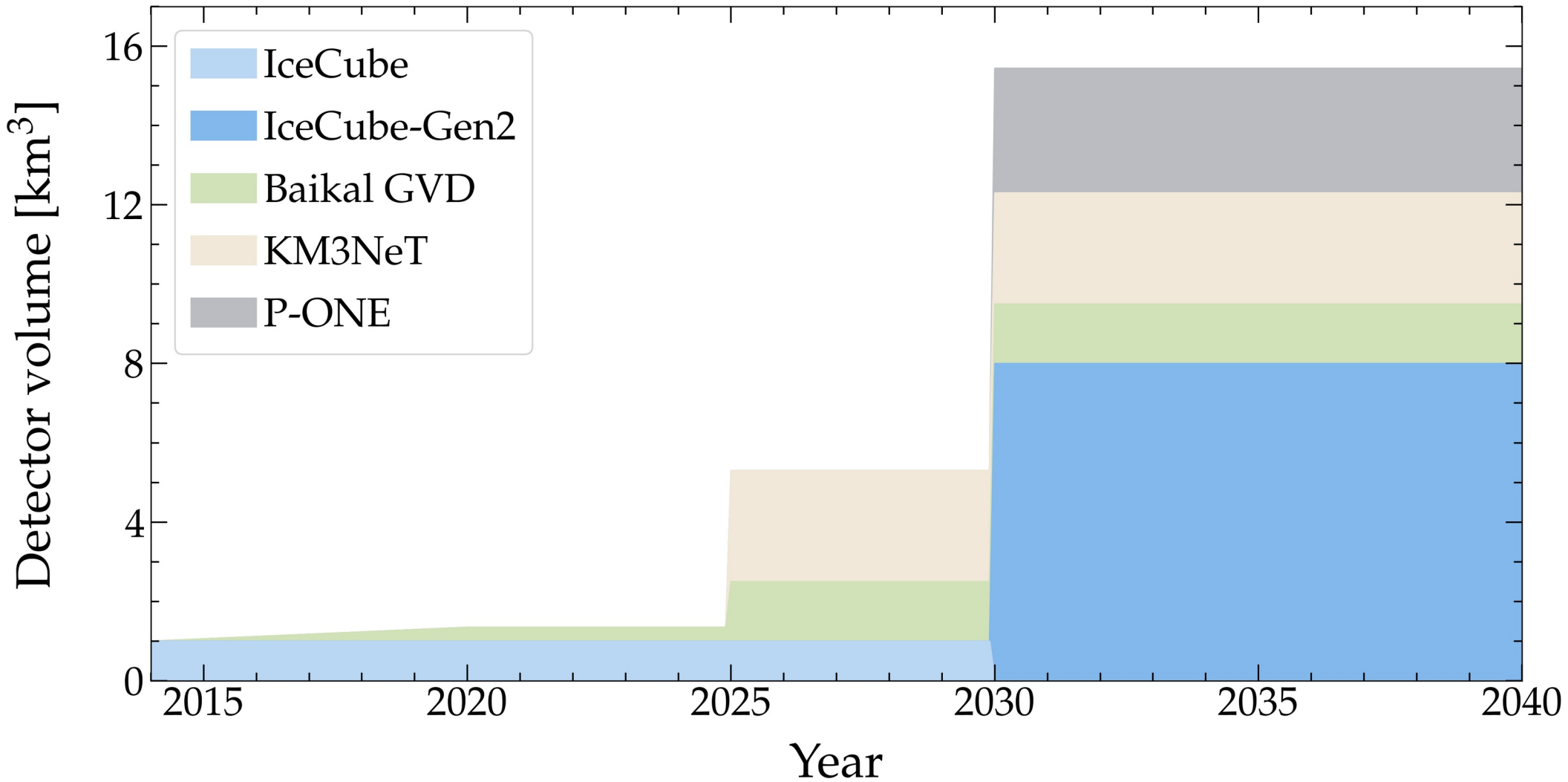


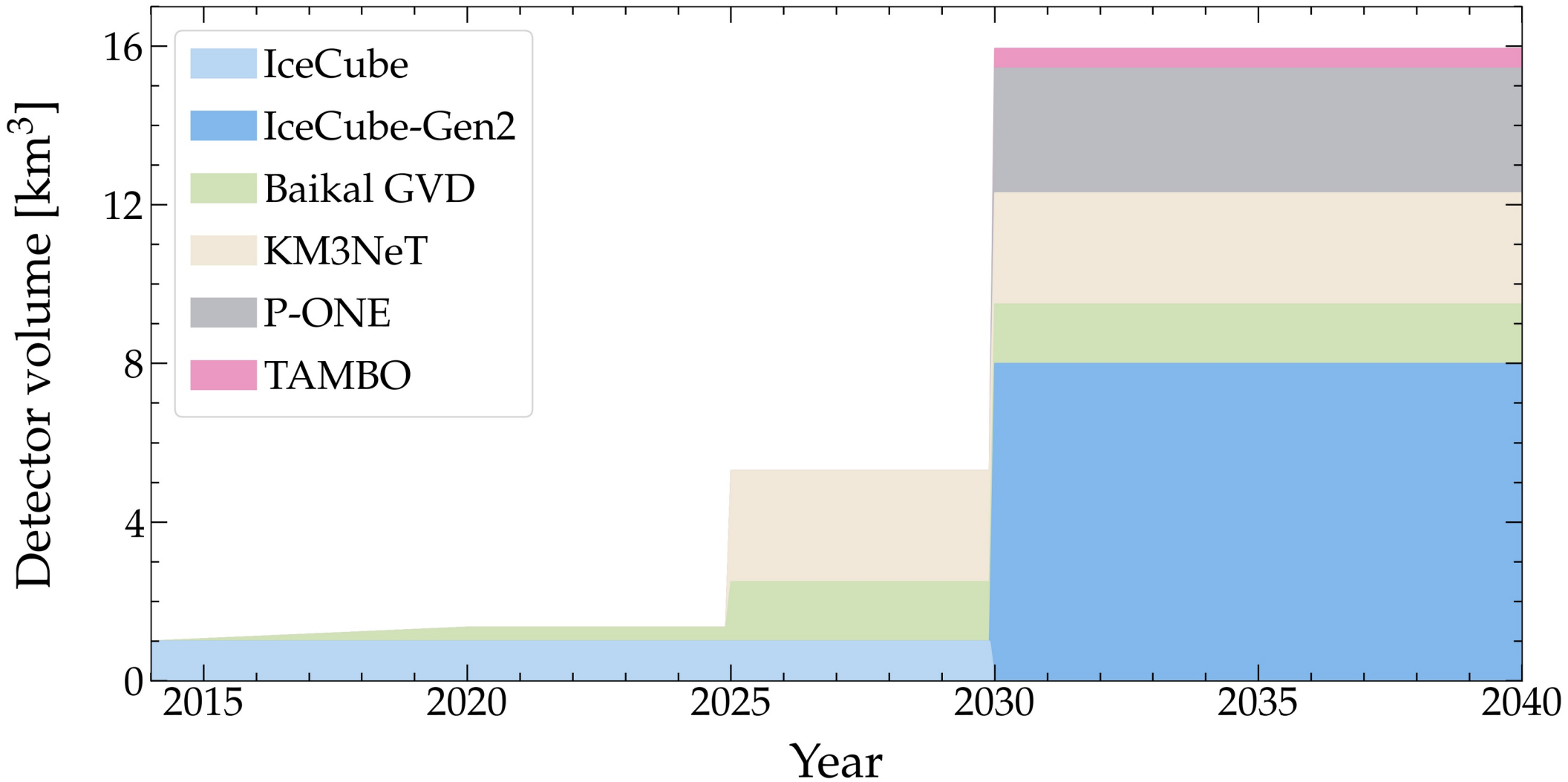


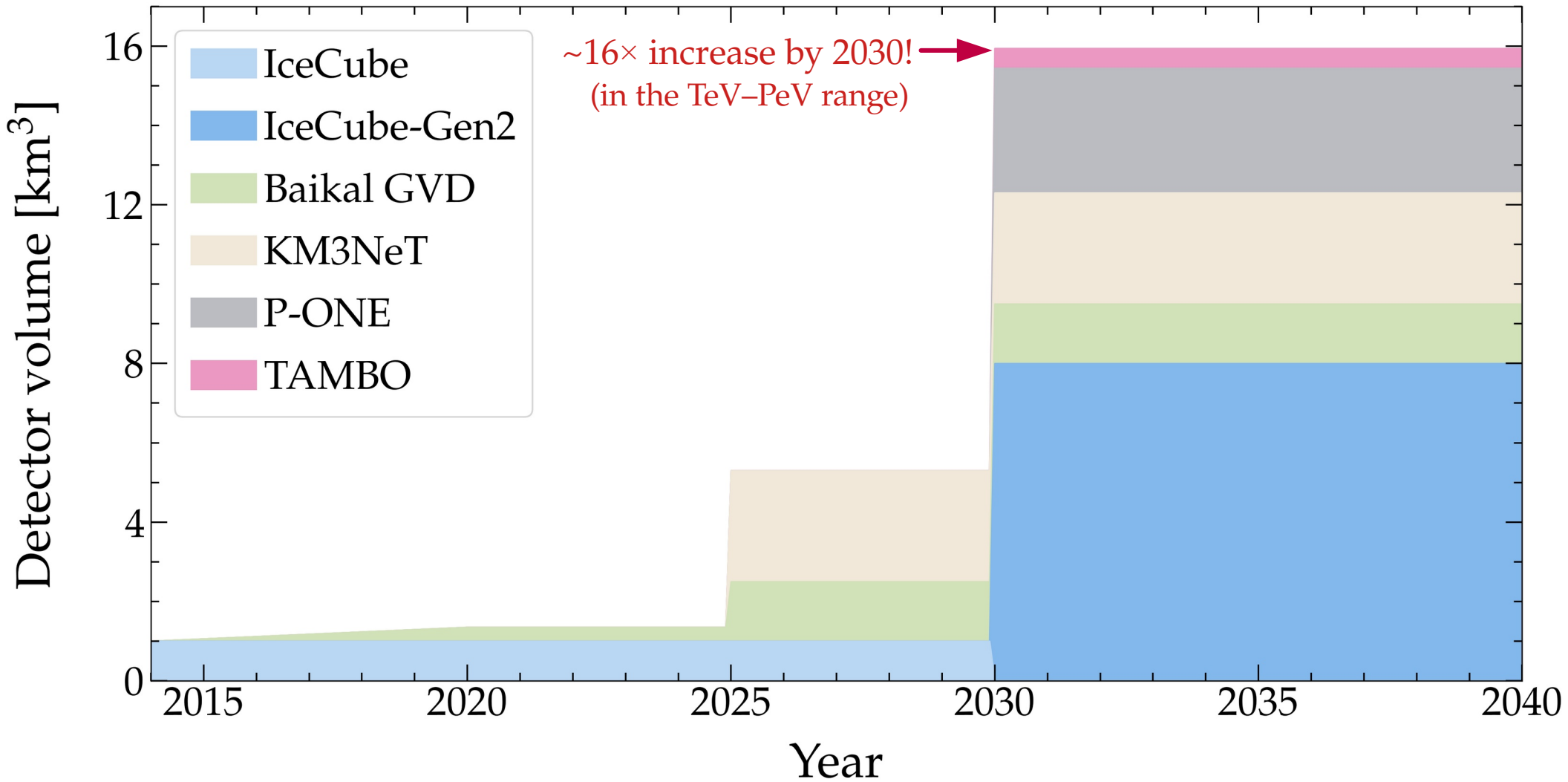












# Fundamental physics with high-energy cosmic neutrinos

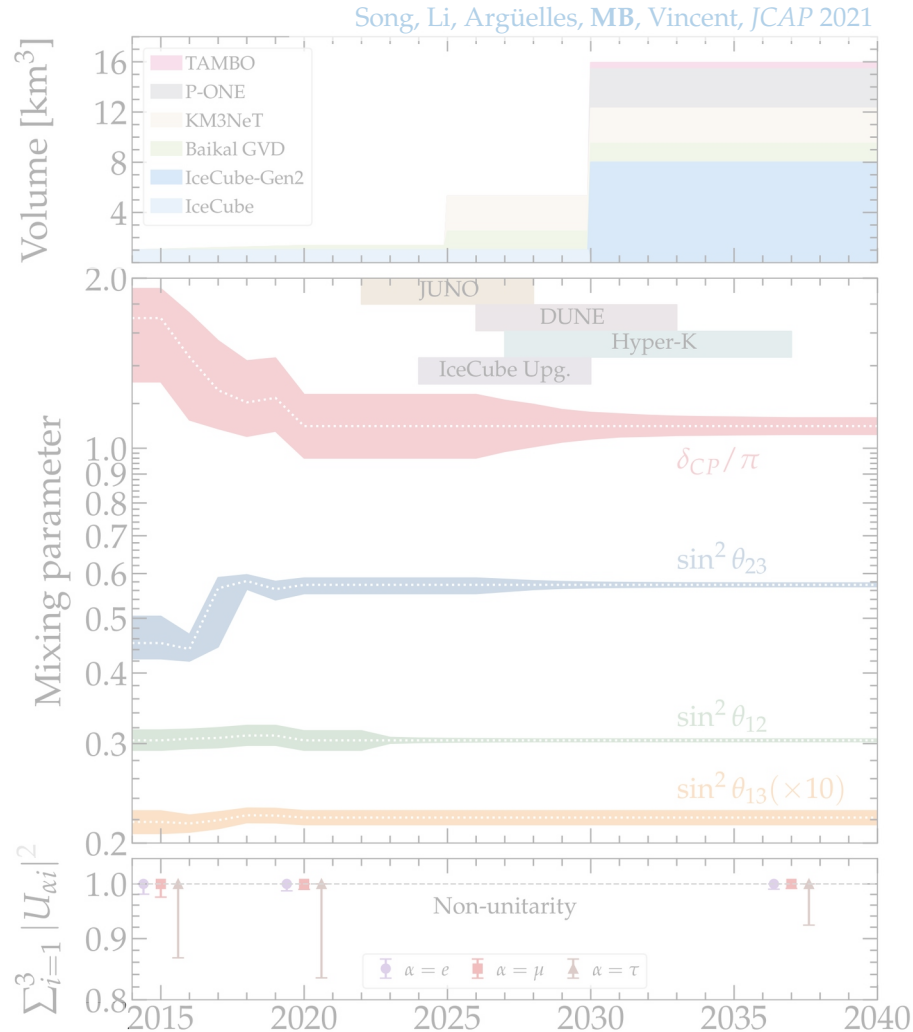
- ▶ Numerous new  $\nu$  physics effects grow as  $\sim \kappa_n \cdot E^n \cdot L$
- ▶ So we can probe  $\kappa_n \sim 4 \cdot 10^{-47} (E/\text{PeV})^{-n} (L/\text{Gpc})^{-1} \text{PeV}^{1-n}$
- ▶ Improvement over limits using atmospheric  $\nu$ :  $\kappa_0 < 10^{-29} \text{PeV}$ ,  $\kappa_1 < 10^{-33}$

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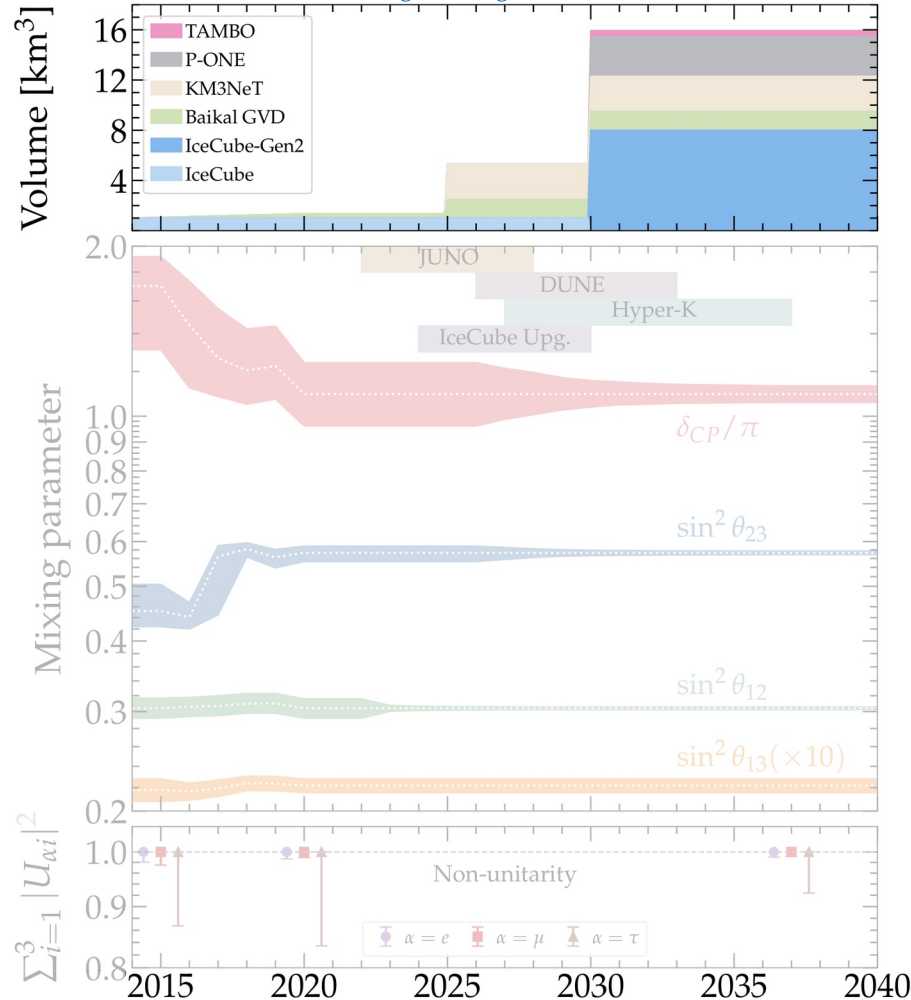


# Three reasons to be excited



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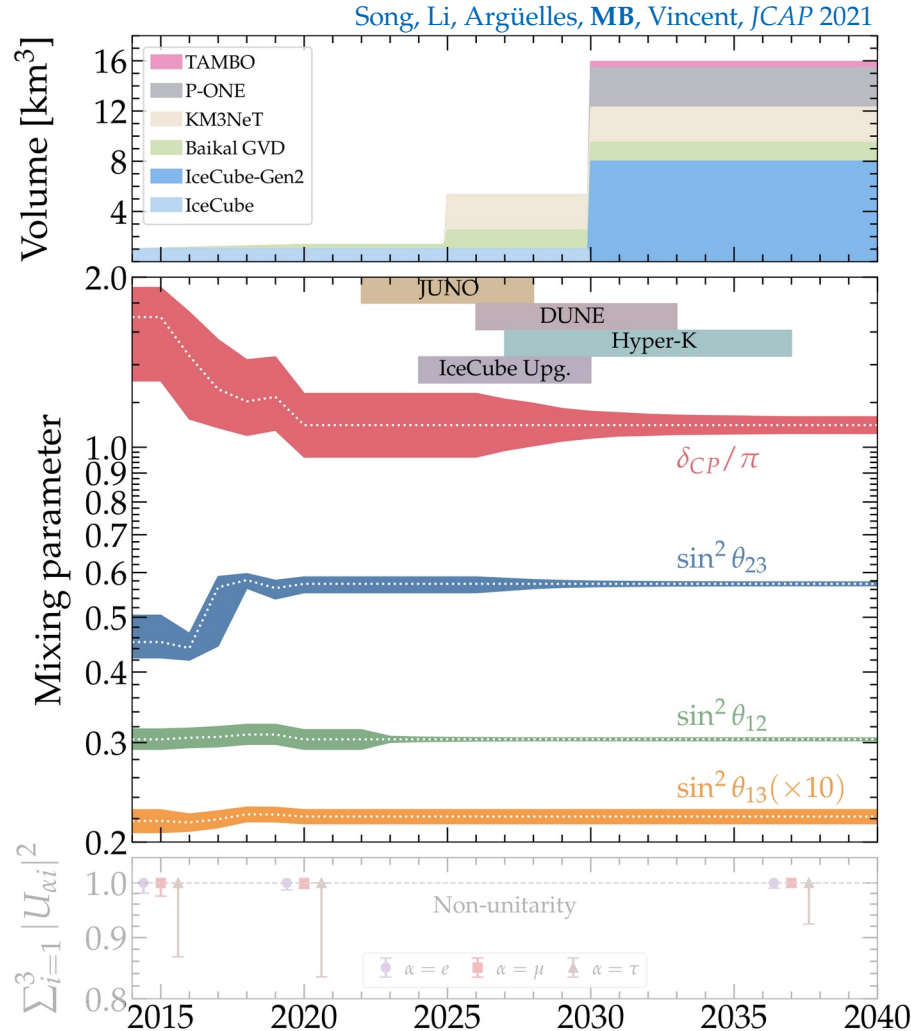
Song, Li, Argüelles, MB, Vincent, JCAP 2021



*Flavor measurements:*

New neutrino telescopes = more events, better flavor measurement

# Three reasons to be excited



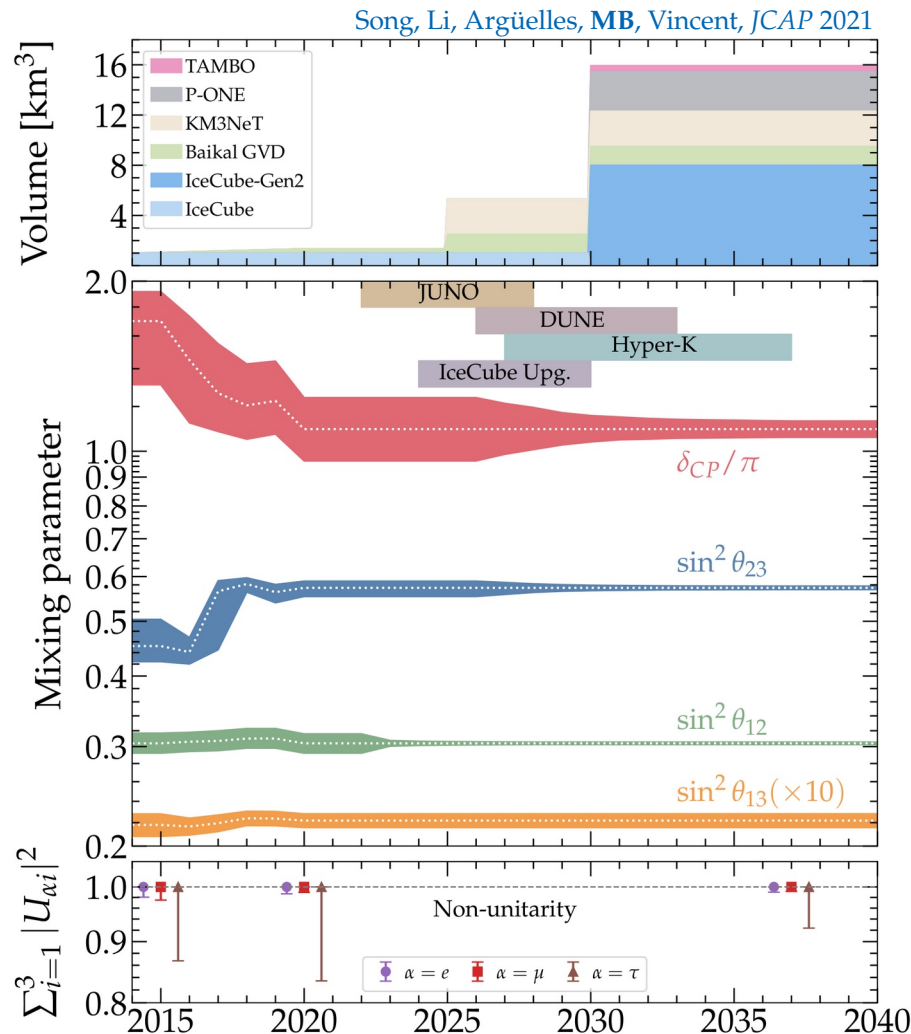
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## Oscillation physics:

We will know the mixing parameters better (JUNO, DUNE, Hyper-K, IceCube Upgrade)

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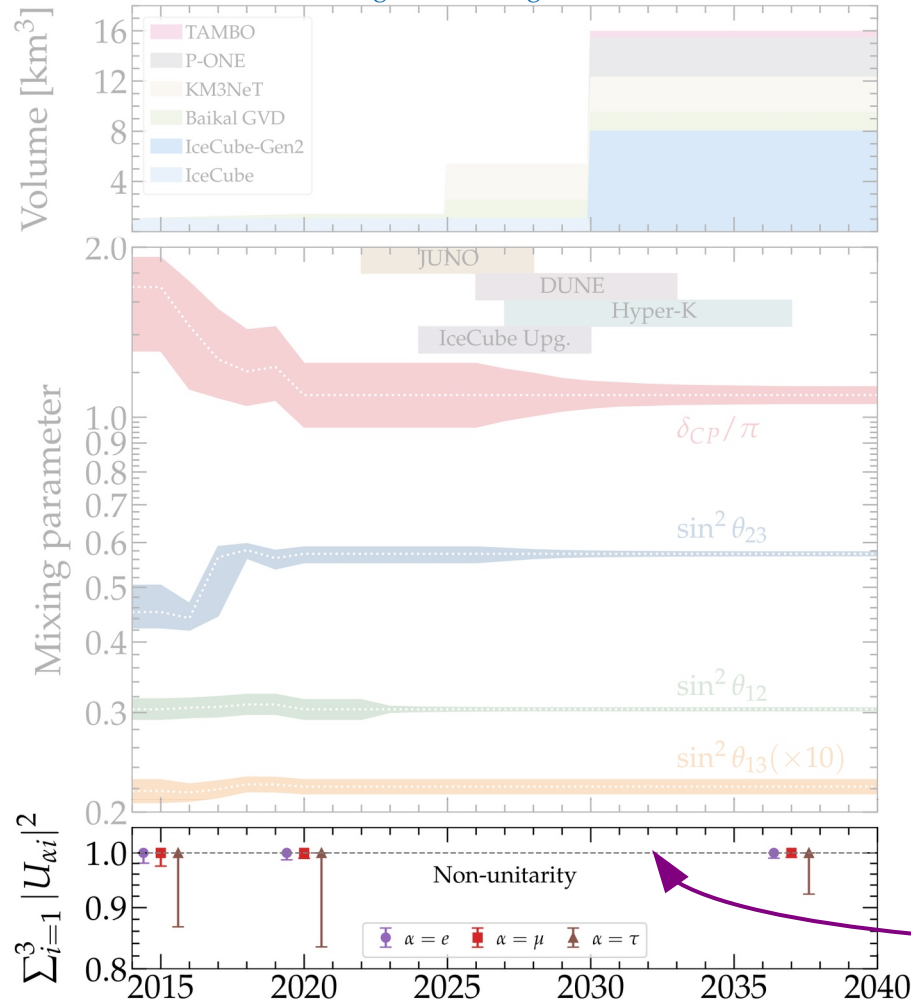
We will know the mixing parameters better (JUNO, DUNE, Hyper-K, IceCube Upgrade)

## Test of the oscillation framework:

We will be able to do what we want even if oscillations are non-unitary

# No unitarity? *No problem*

Song, Li, MB, Argüelles, Vincent, 2012.XXXXX



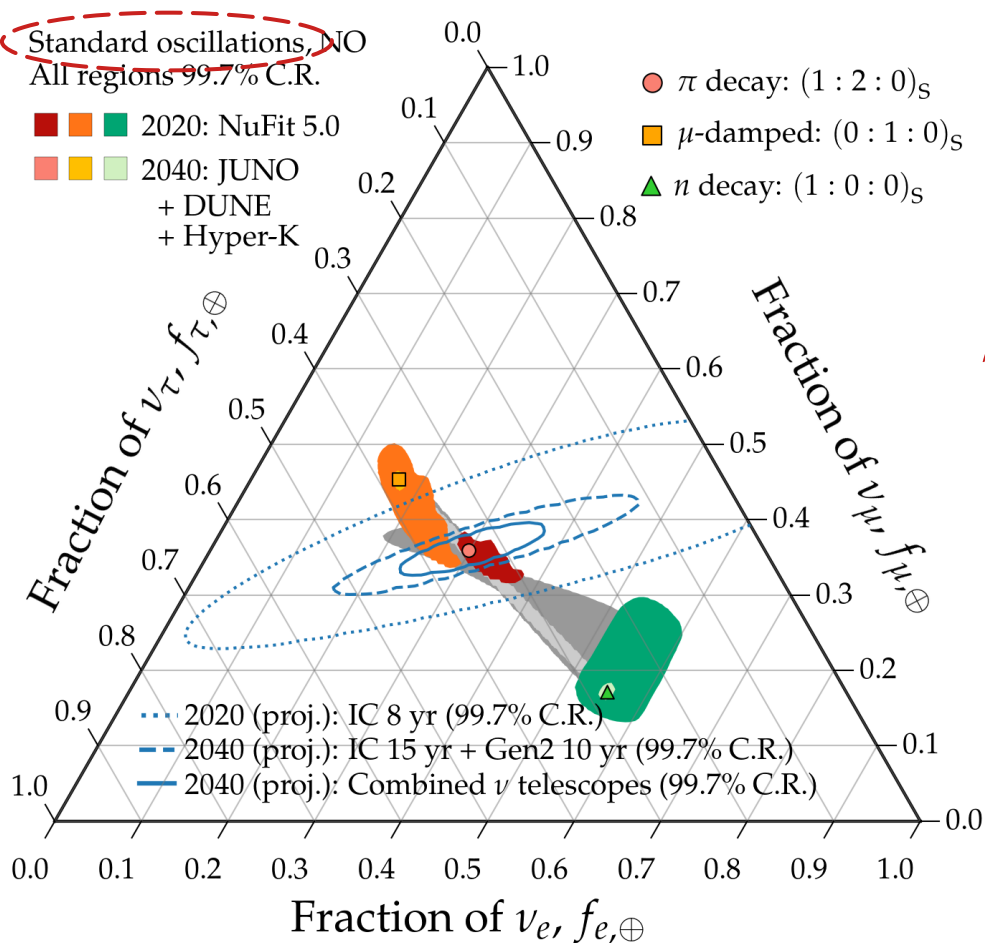
The  $3 \times 3$  active mixing matrix is a non-unitary sub-matrix of a bigger one:

$$U = \begin{pmatrix} \text{Active flavors} & \text{Additional sterile flavors} \\ U_{e1} & U_{e2} & U_{e3} & \cdots \\ U_{\mu 1} & U_{\mu 2} & U_{\mu 3} & \cdots \\ U_{\tau 1} & U_{\tau 2} & U_{\tau 3} & \cdots \\ \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & \ddots \end{pmatrix}$$

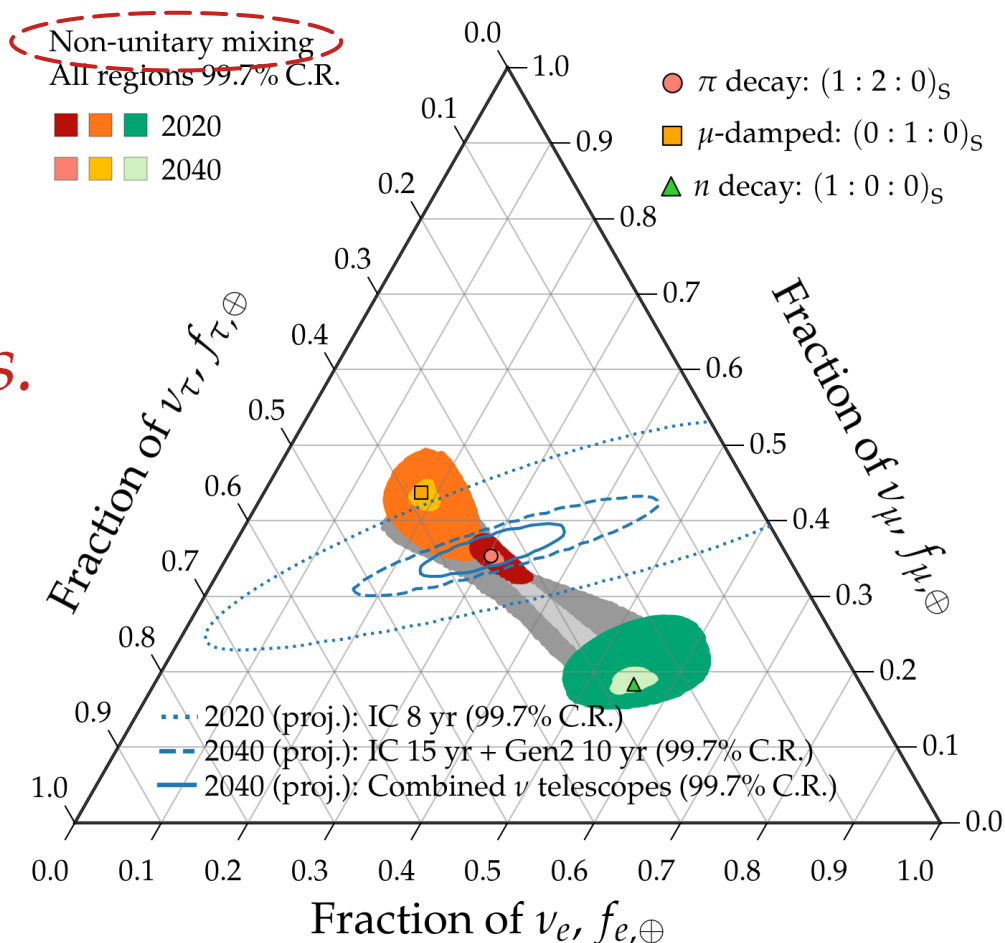
The elements  $|U_{\alpha i}|^2$  for active flavors can be measured *without* assuming unitarity

Because the sub-matrix is not-unitary ( $U_{3\nu}^\dagger U_{3\nu} \neq 1$ ), the “row sum” may be  $< 1$

# No unitarity? No problem



vs.



# Are neutrinos forever?

- ▶ In the Standard Model (vSM), neutrinos are essentially stable ( $\tau > 10^{36}$  yr):
    - ▶ One-photon decay ( $\nu_i \rightarrow \nu_j + \gamma$ ):  $\tau > 10^{36} (m_i/\text{eV})^{-5}$  yr
    - ▶ Two-photon decay ( $\nu_i \rightarrow \nu_j + \gamma + \gamma$ ):  $\tau > 10^{57} (m_i/\text{eV})^{-9}$  yr
    - ▶ Three-neutrino decay ( $\nu_i \rightarrow \nu_j + \nu_k + \bar{\nu}_k$ ):  $\tau > 10^{55} (m_i/\text{eV})^{-5}$  yr
- » Age of Universe ( $\sim 14.5$  Gyr)
- ▶ BSM decays may have significantly higher rates:  $\nu_i \rightarrow \nu_j + \phi$
  - ▶ We work in a model-independent way:  
the nature of  $\phi$  is unimportant if it is invisible to neutrino detectors



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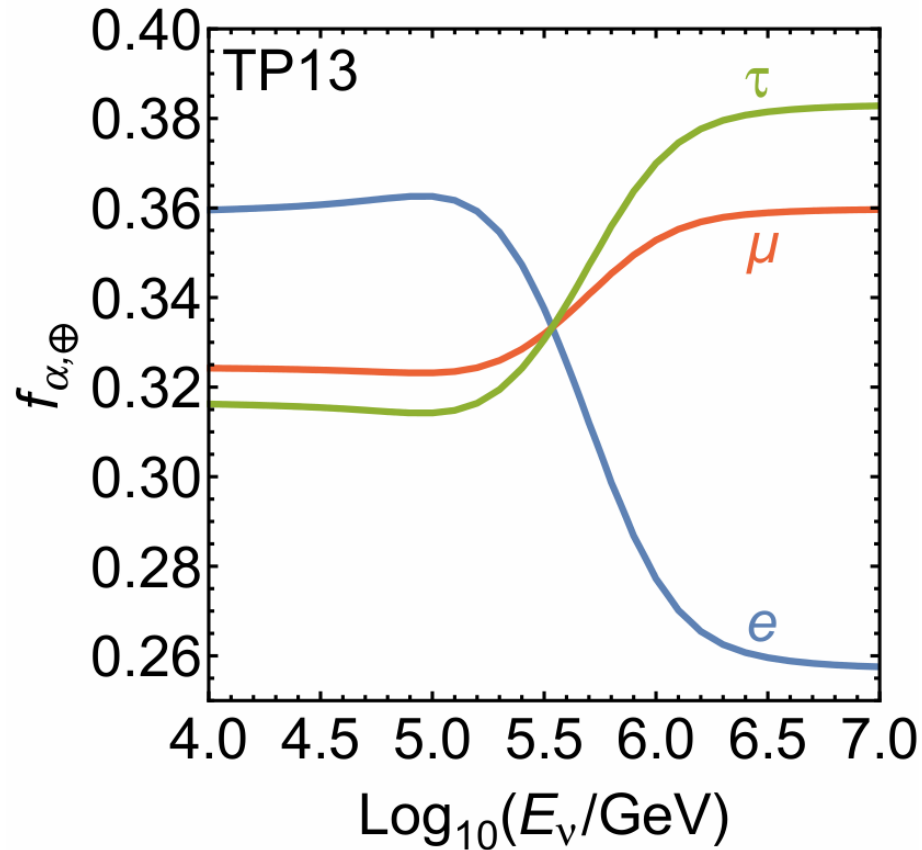
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Nambu-Goldstone  
boson of a broken  
symmetry

- ▶ We work in a model-independent way:  
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# Flavor composition: measuring the energy dependence

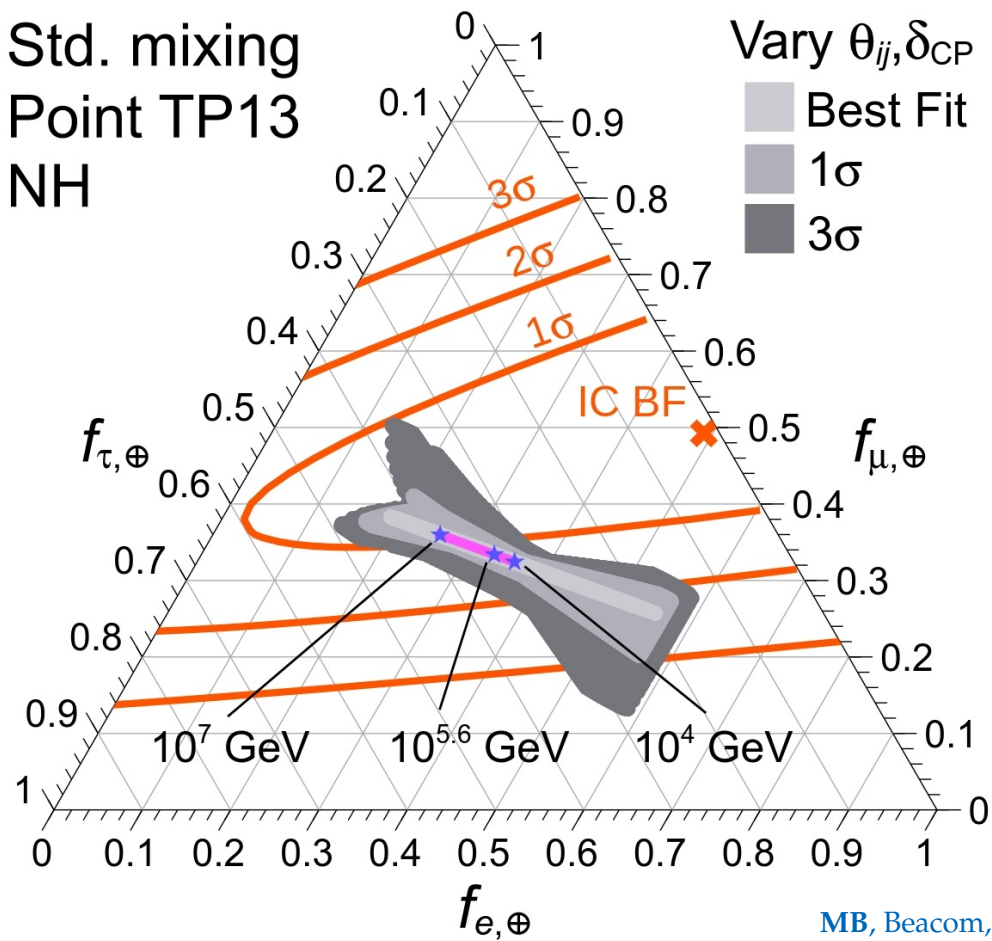
Expected from astrophysical processes



## Flavor composition: measuring the energy dependence

Expected from astrophysical processes

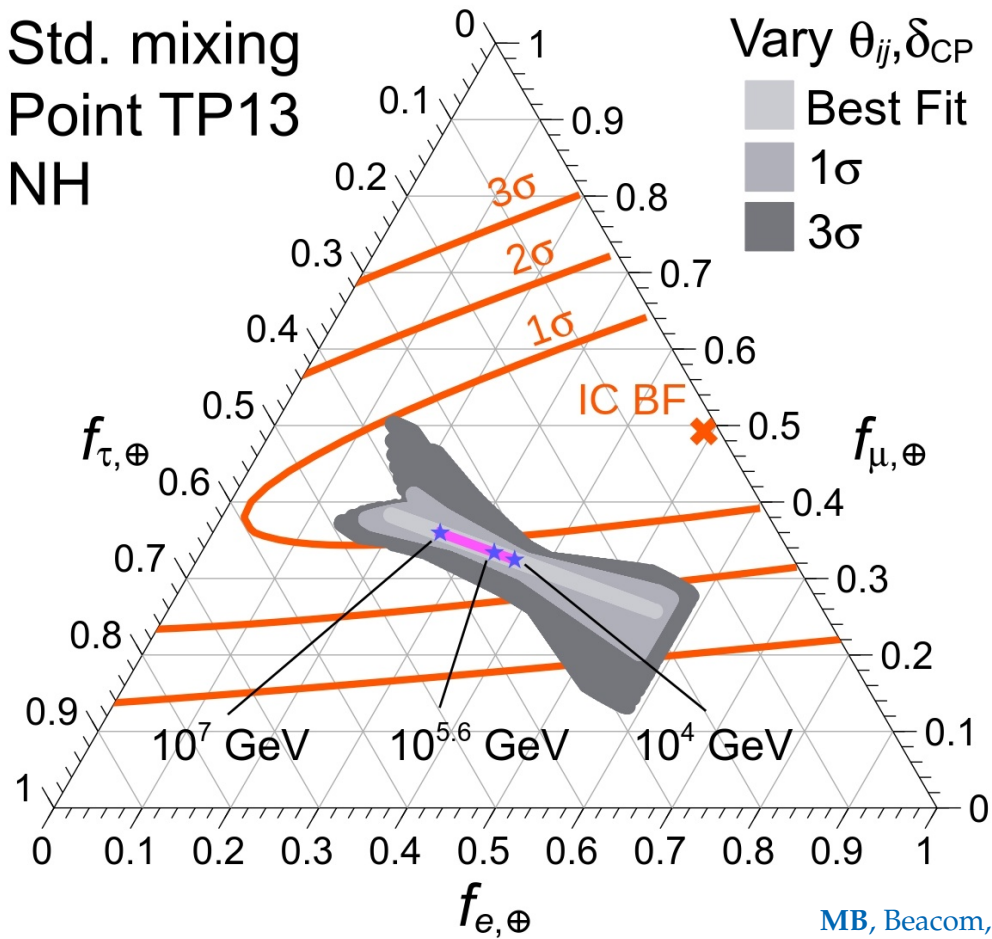
Std. mixing  
Point TP13  
NH



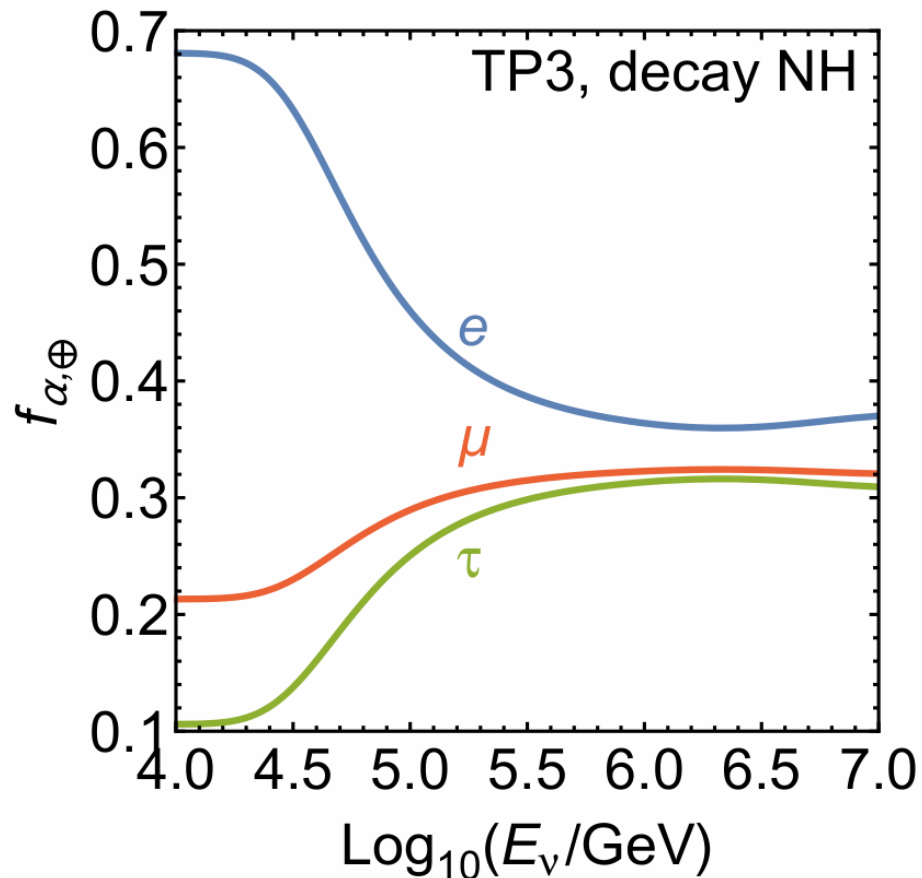
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Expected from astrophysical processes

Std. mixing  
Point TP13  
NH



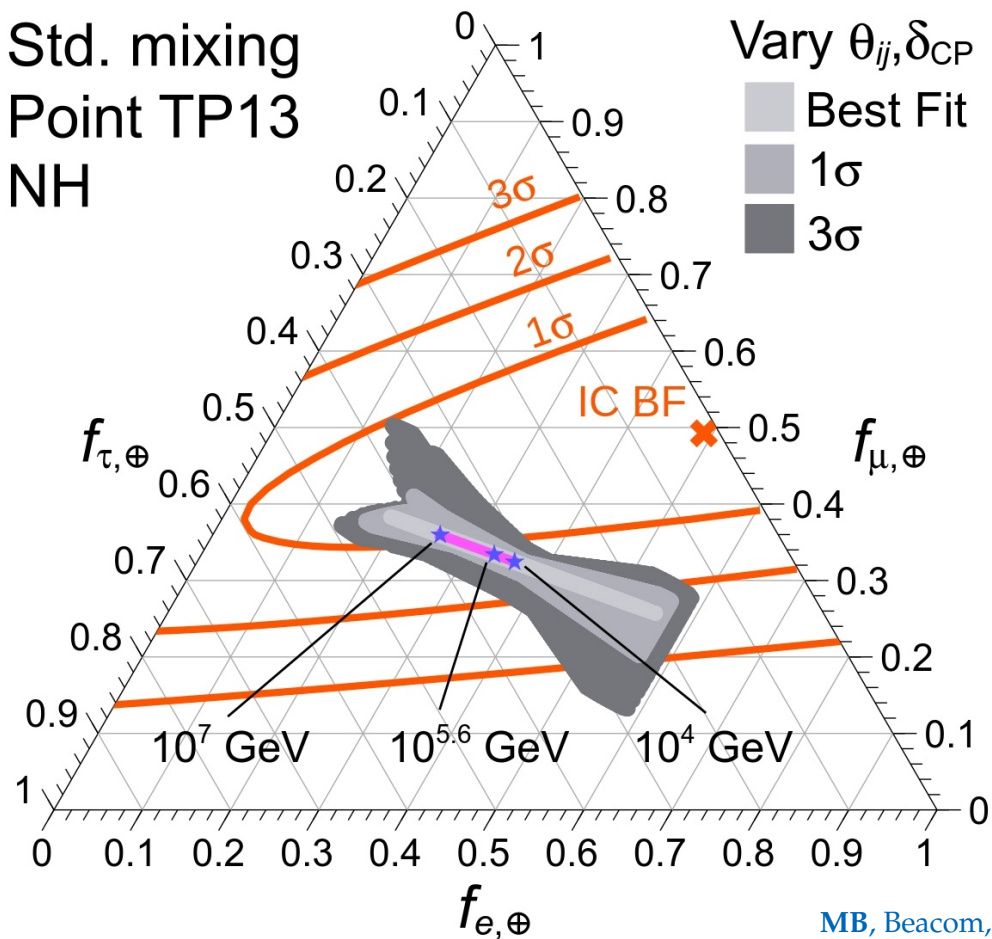
Expected from new physics (e.g.,  $\nu$  decay)



# Flavor composition: measuring the energy dependence

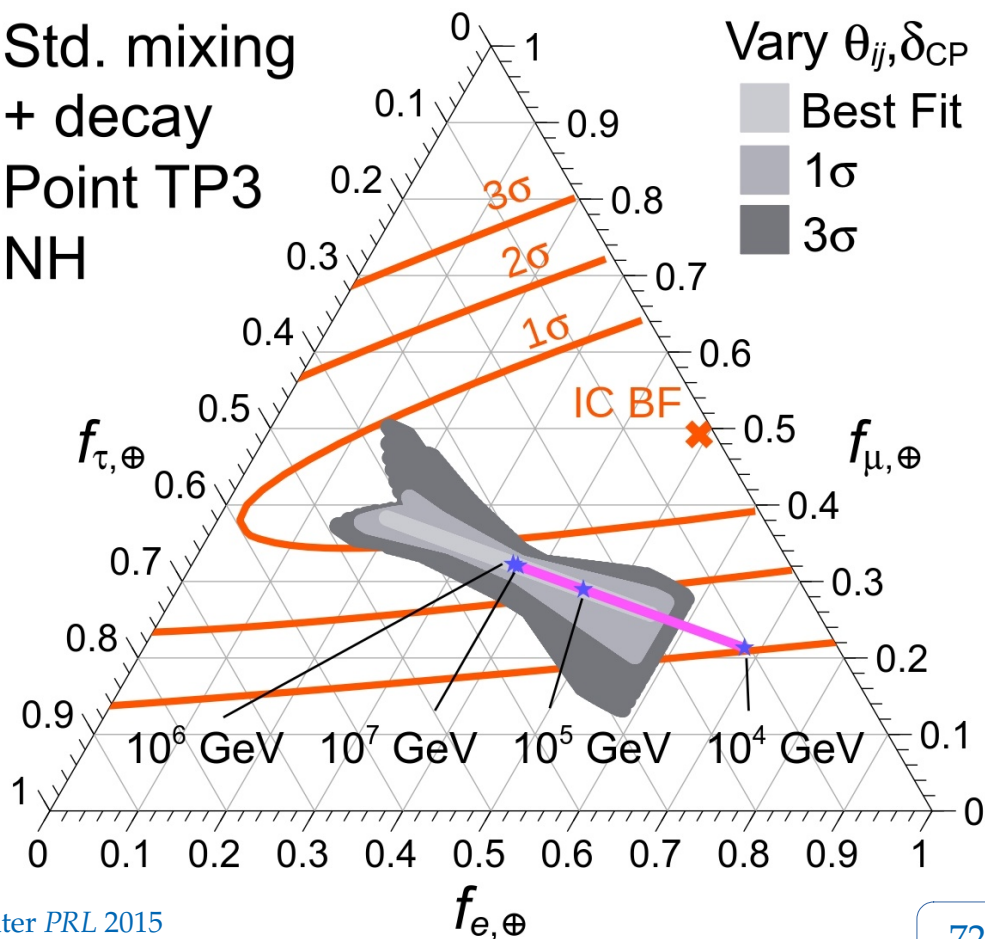
Expected from astrophysical processes

Std. mixing  
Point TP13  
NH



Expected from new physics (e.g.,  $\nu$  decay)

Std. mixing  
+ decay  
Point TP3  
NH



# More than one production mechanism?

Can we detect the contribution of multiple  $\nu$  production mechanisms?

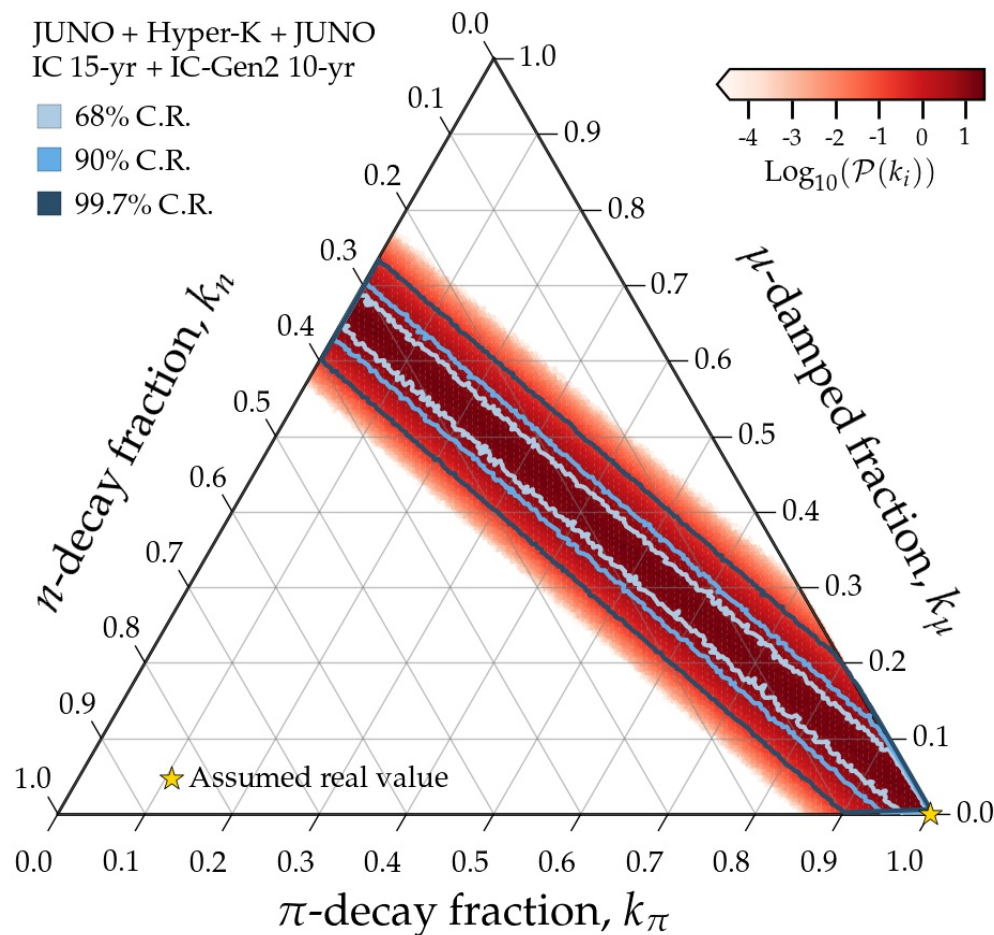
$$\mathbf{f}_S = k_\pi \underbrace{\mathbf{f}_S^\pi}_{\text{\color{red}\pi decay: (1/3, 2/3, 0)}} + k_\mu \underbrace{\mathbf{f}_S^\mu}_{\text{\color{brown}\mu damped: (0, 1, 0)}} + k_n \underbrace{\mathbf{f}_S^n}_{\text{\color{teal}n decay: (1, 0, 0)}}$$

Propagate to Earth  
 $\downarrow$   
 $\mathbf{f}_\oplus$

Assume real value  $k_\pi = 1$  ( $k_\mu = k_n = 0$ )

*By 2040, how well will we recover the real value?*

[Adding spectrum information (not shown) will likely help]





# More than one production mechanism?

Can we detect the contribution of multiple  $\nu$  production mechanisms?

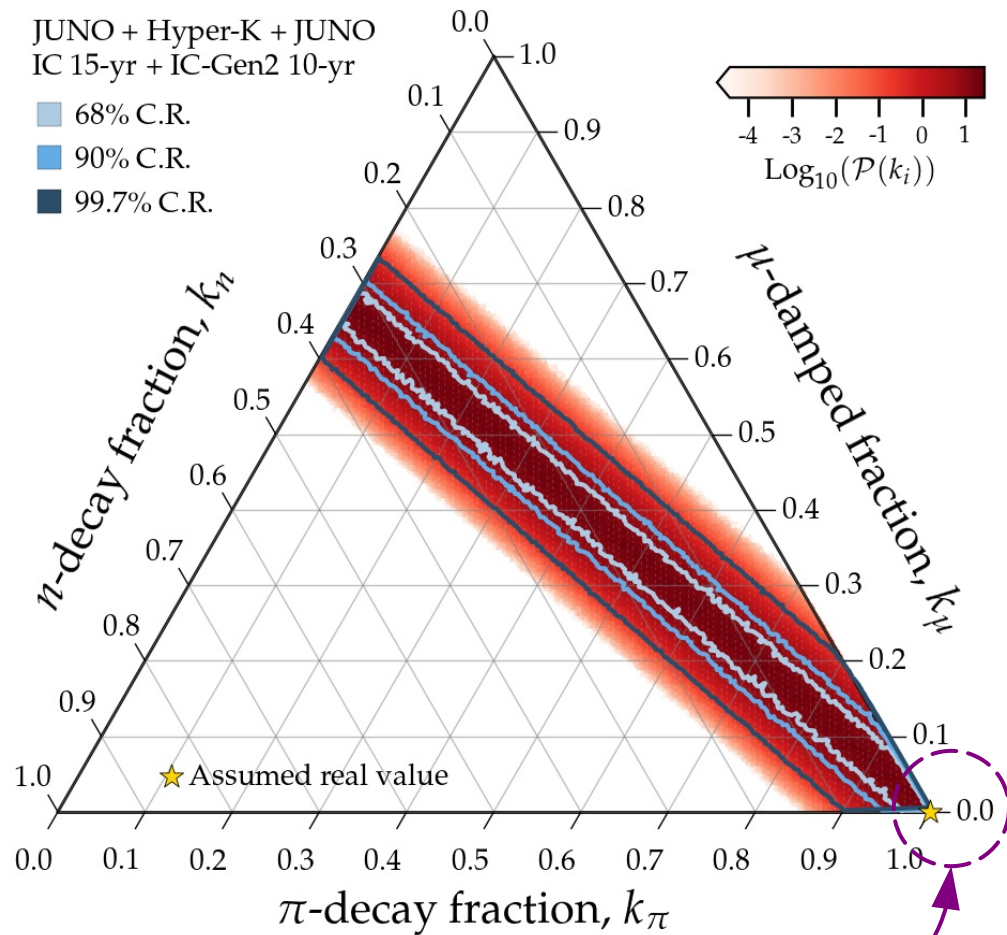
$$\mathbf{f}_S = k_\pi \underbrace{\mathbf{f}_S^\pi}_{\text{\color{red}\pi decay: (1/3, 2/3, 0)}} + k_\mu \underbrace{\mathbf{f}_S^\mu}_{\text{\color{brown}\mu damped: (0, 1, 0)}} + k_n \underbrace{\mathbf{f}_S^n}_{\text{\color{teal}n decay: (1, 0, 0)}}$$

Propagate to Earth  
 $\downarrow$   
 $\mathbf{f}_\oplus$

Assume real value  $k_\pi = 1$  ( $k_\mu = k_n = 0$ )

*By 2040, how well will we recover the real value?*

[Adding spectrum information (not shown) will likely help]



We do recover the real value



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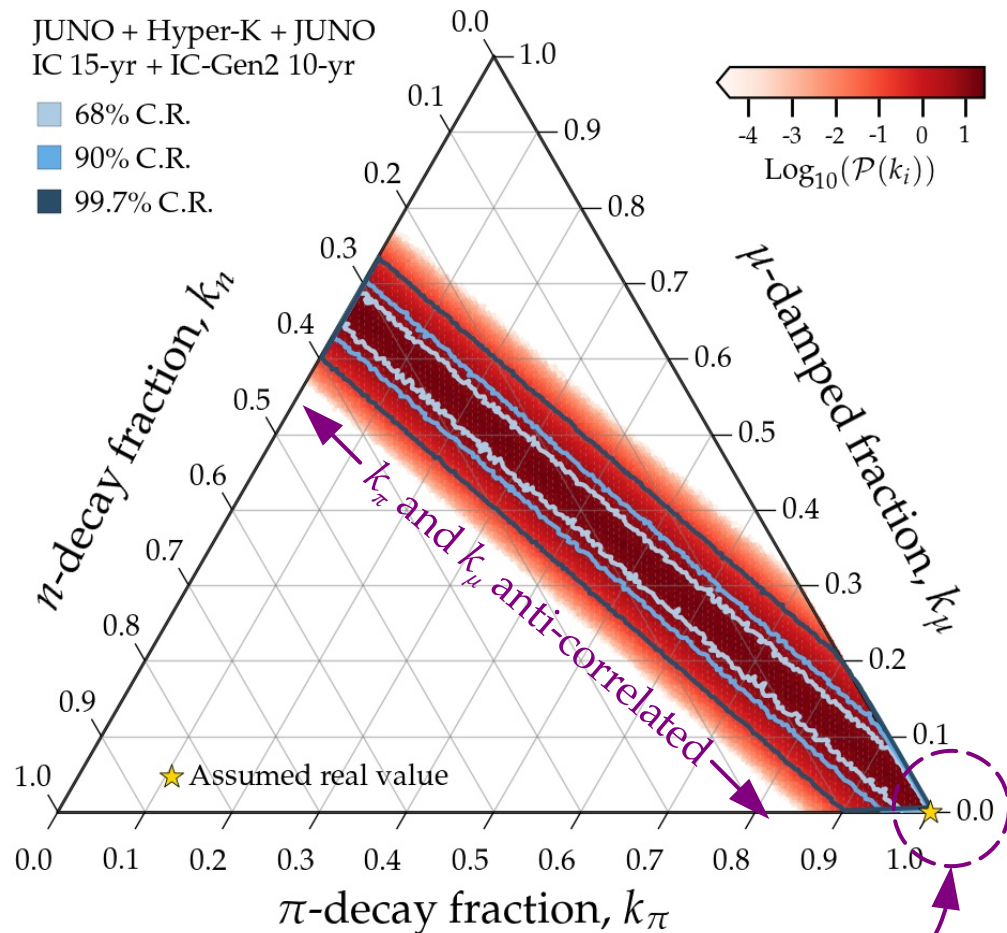
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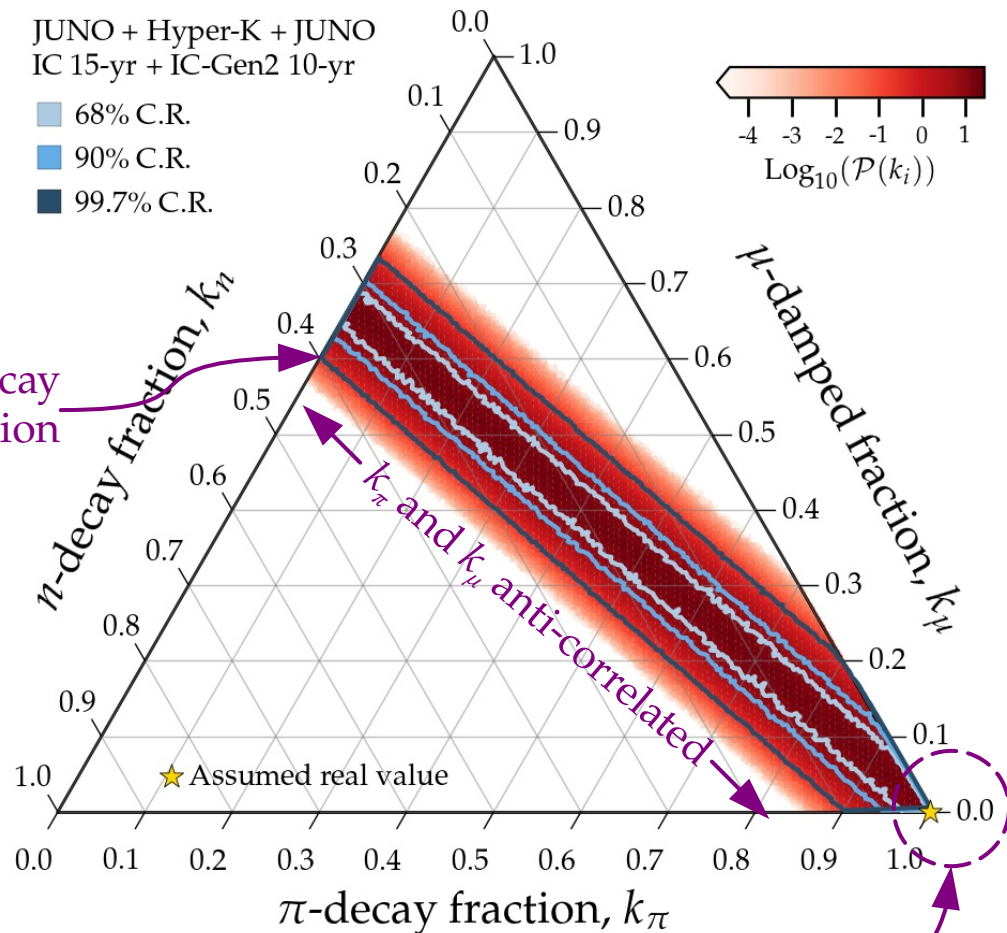
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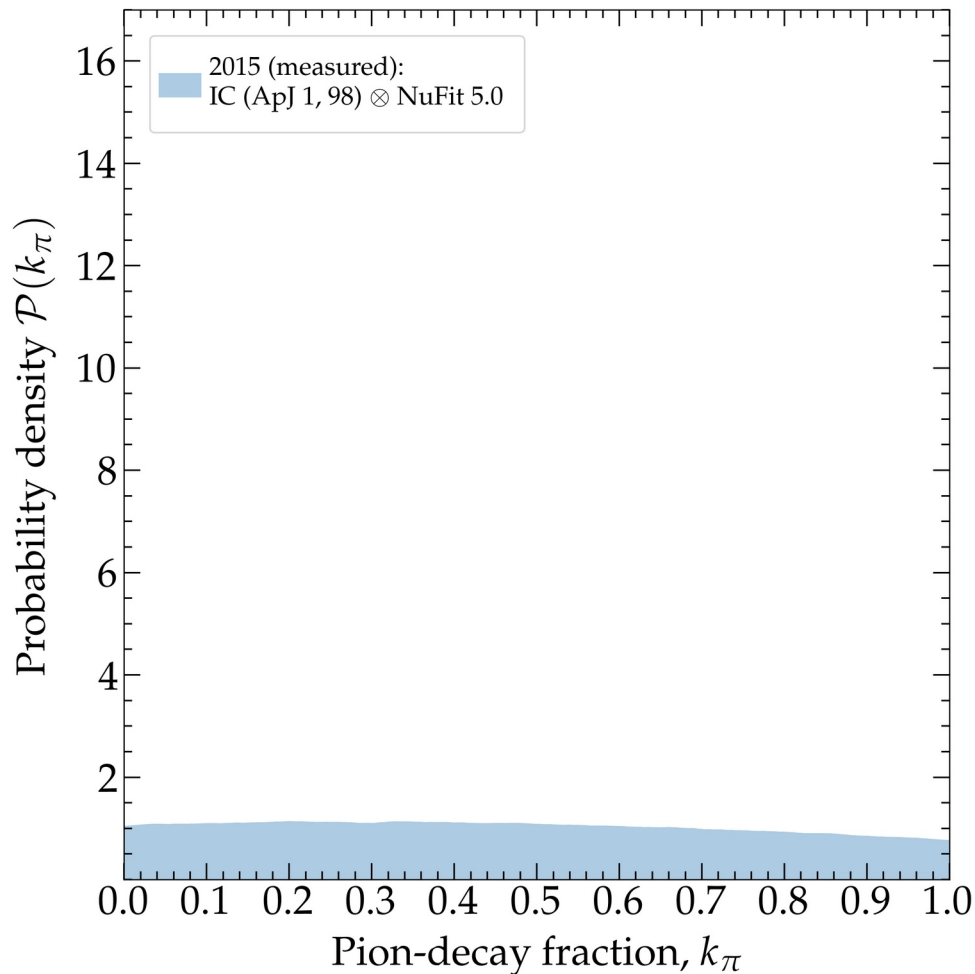
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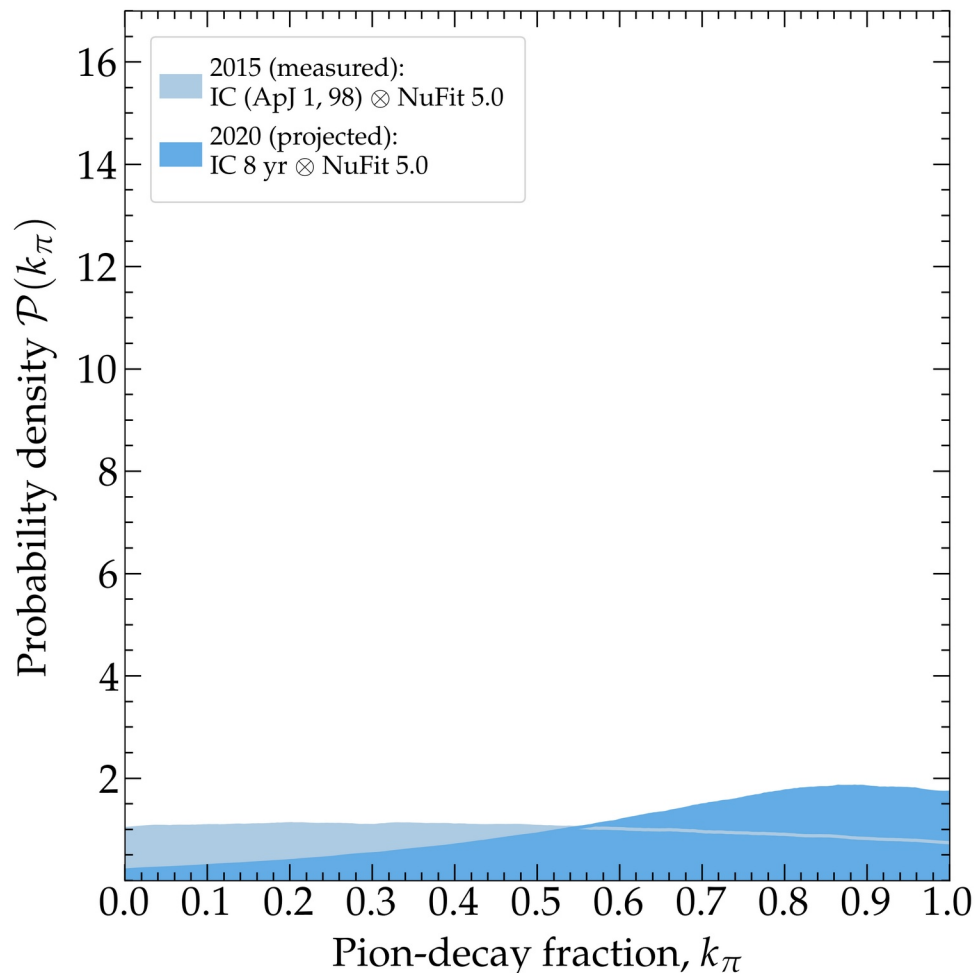
$$f_S = k_\pi \underbrace{f_S^\pi}_{\text{\color{red}\pi decay: (1/3, 2/3, 0)}} + k_\mu \underbrace{f_S^\mu}_{\text{\color{orange}\mu damped: (0, 1, 0)}} + k_n \underbrace{f_S^n}_{\text{\color{teal}n decay: (1, 0, 0)}}$$

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↓  
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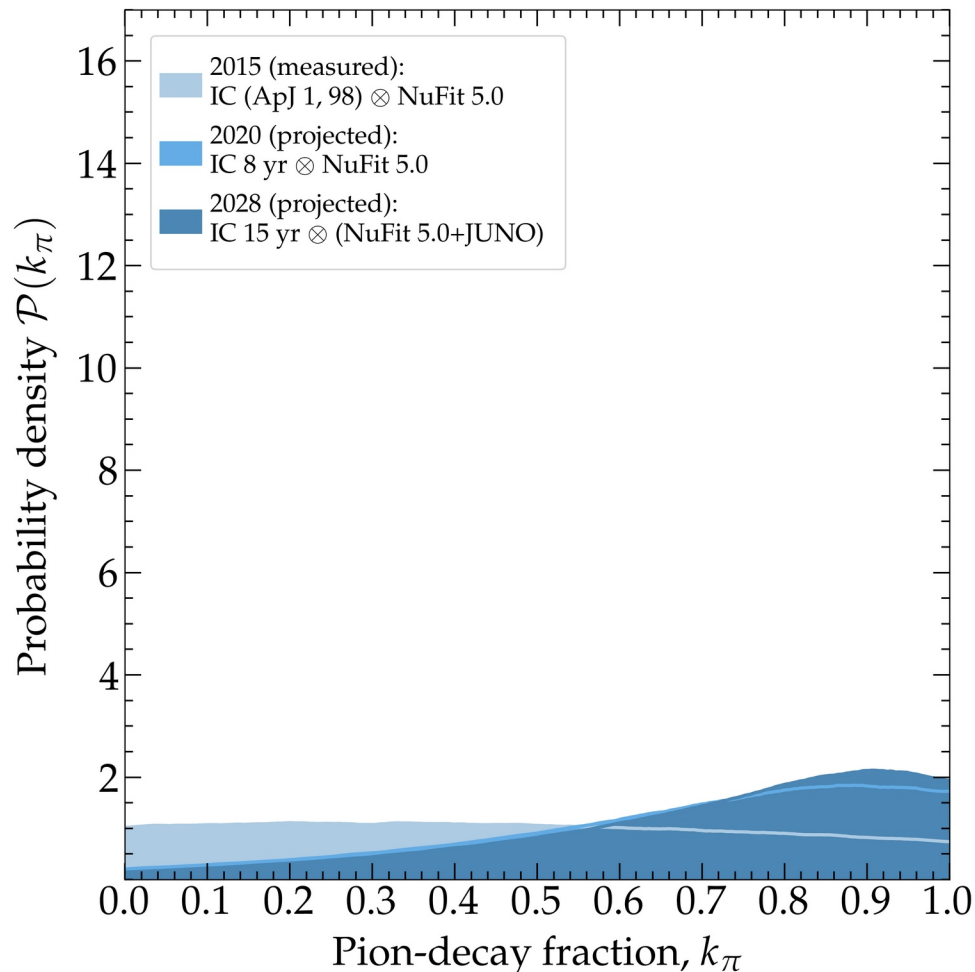
Propagate to Earth

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$$f_\oplus$$

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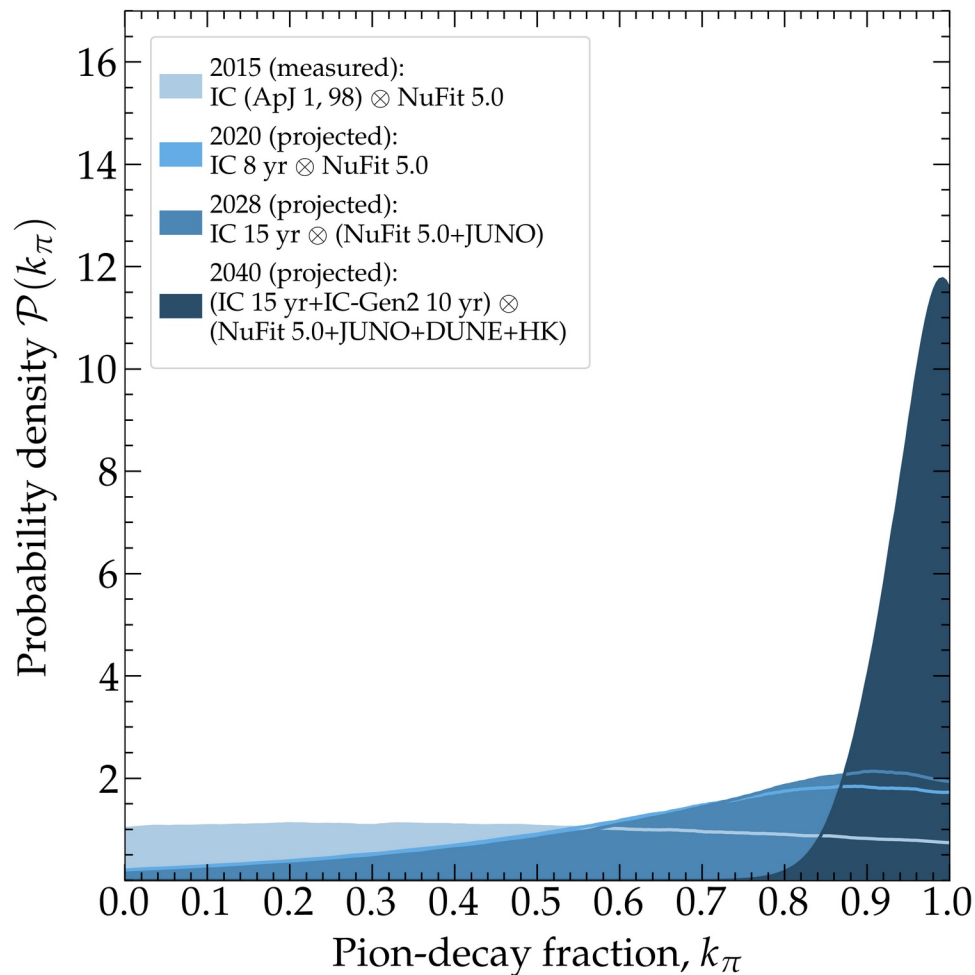
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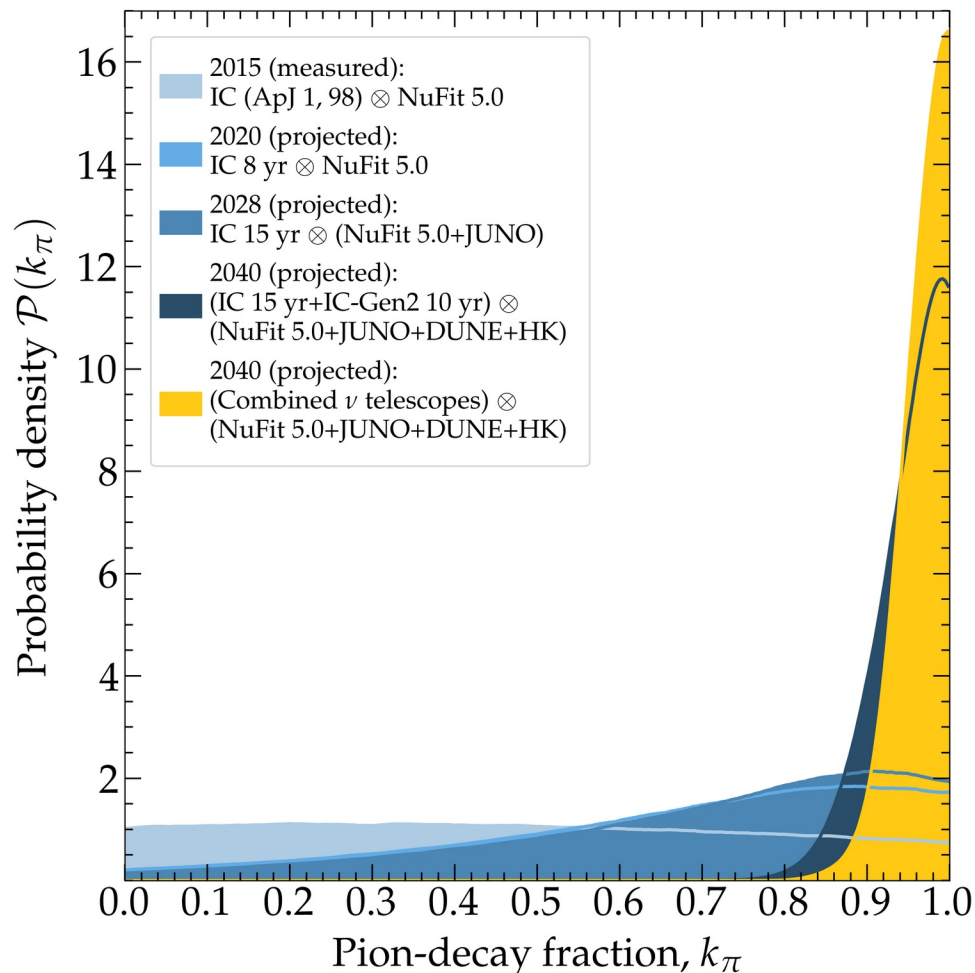
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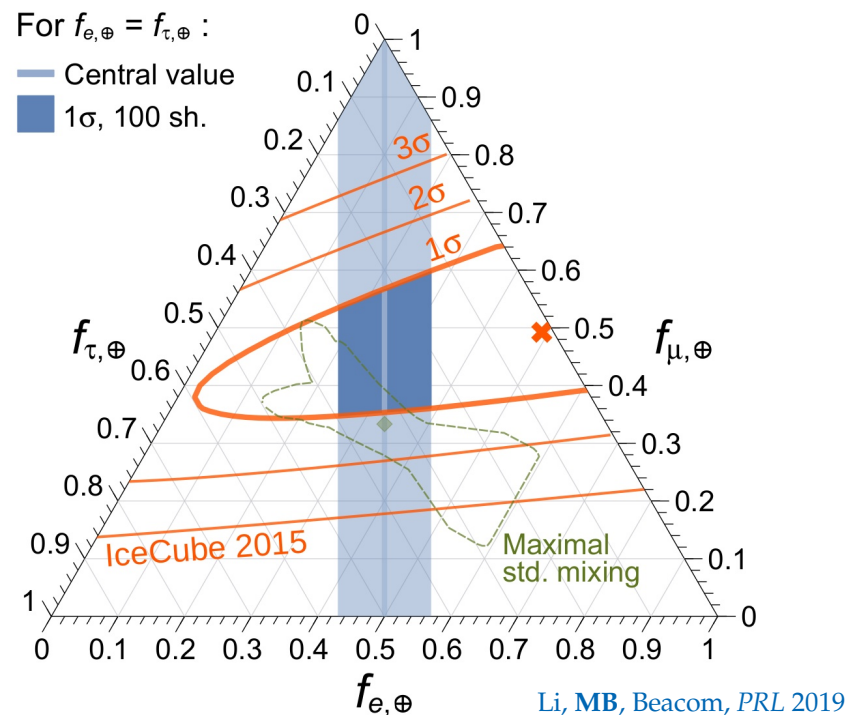
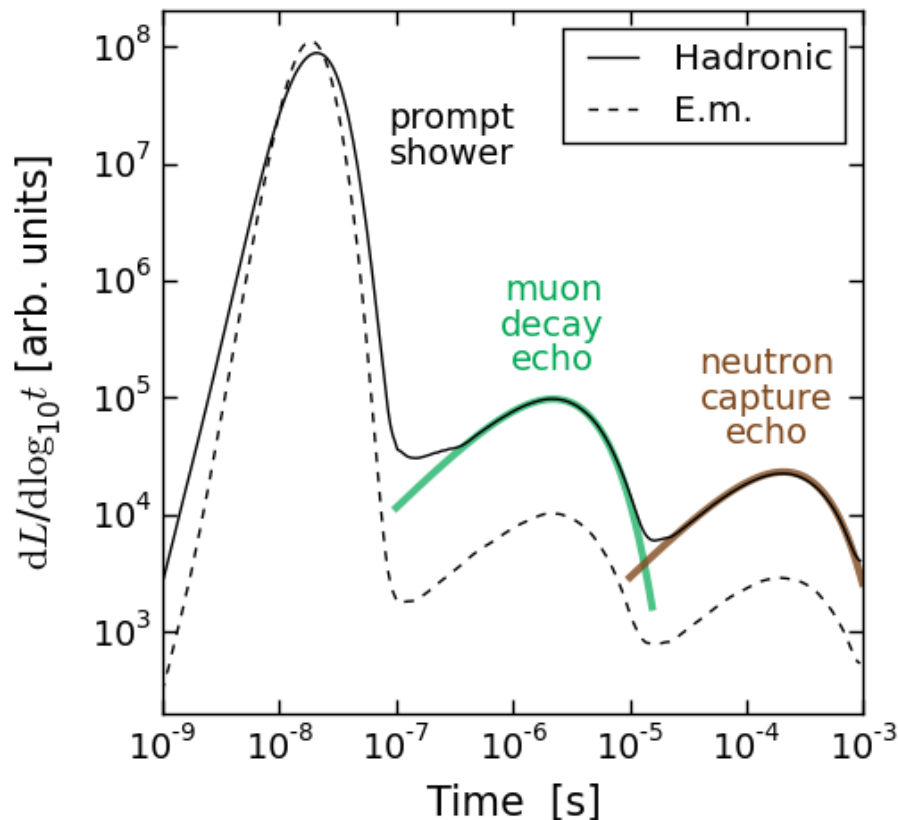
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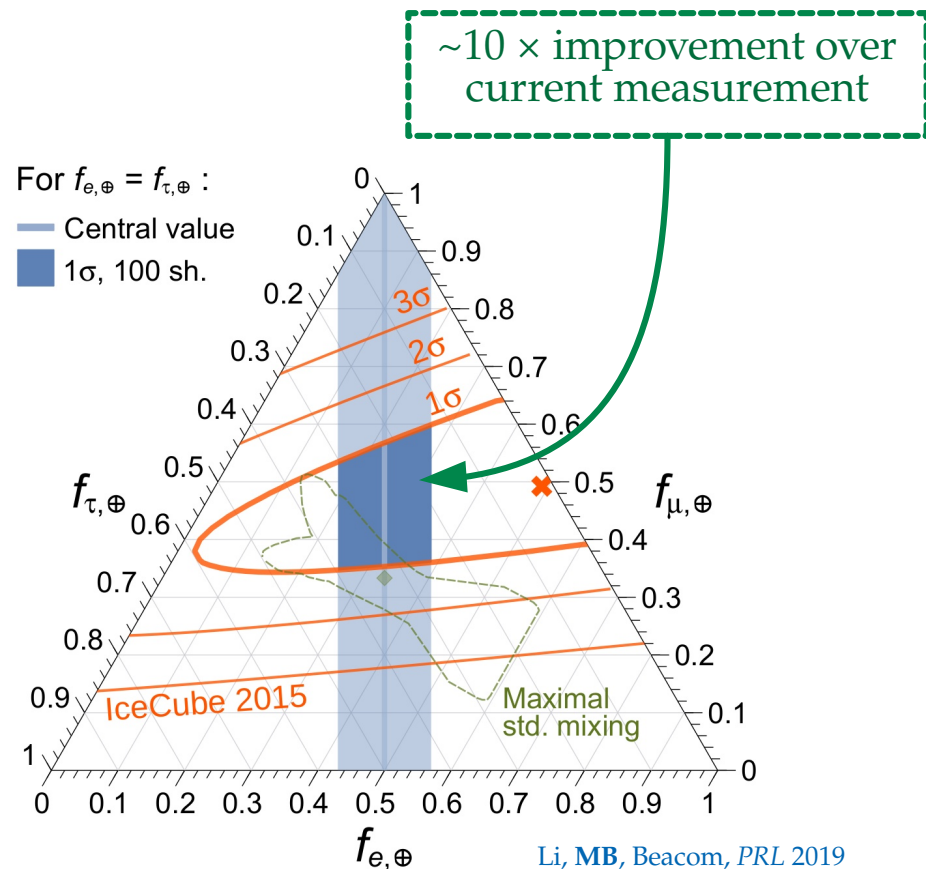
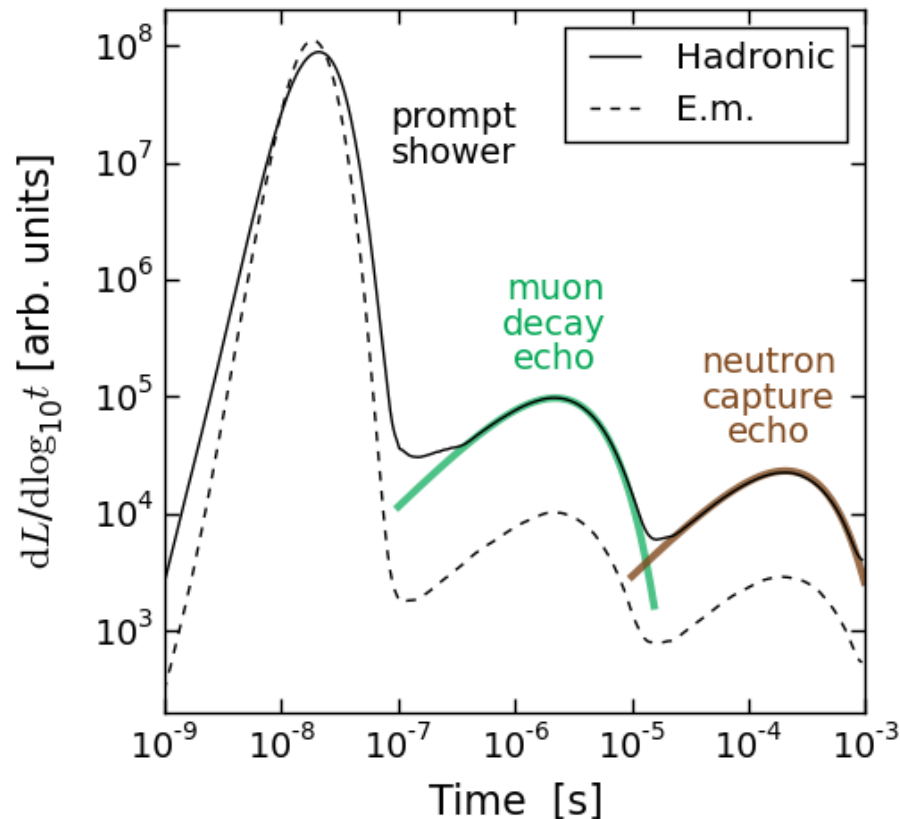
## Side note: Improving flavor-tagging using *echoes*

Late-time light (*echoes*) from muon decays and neutron captures can separate showers made by  $\nu_e$  and  $\nu_\tau$  –



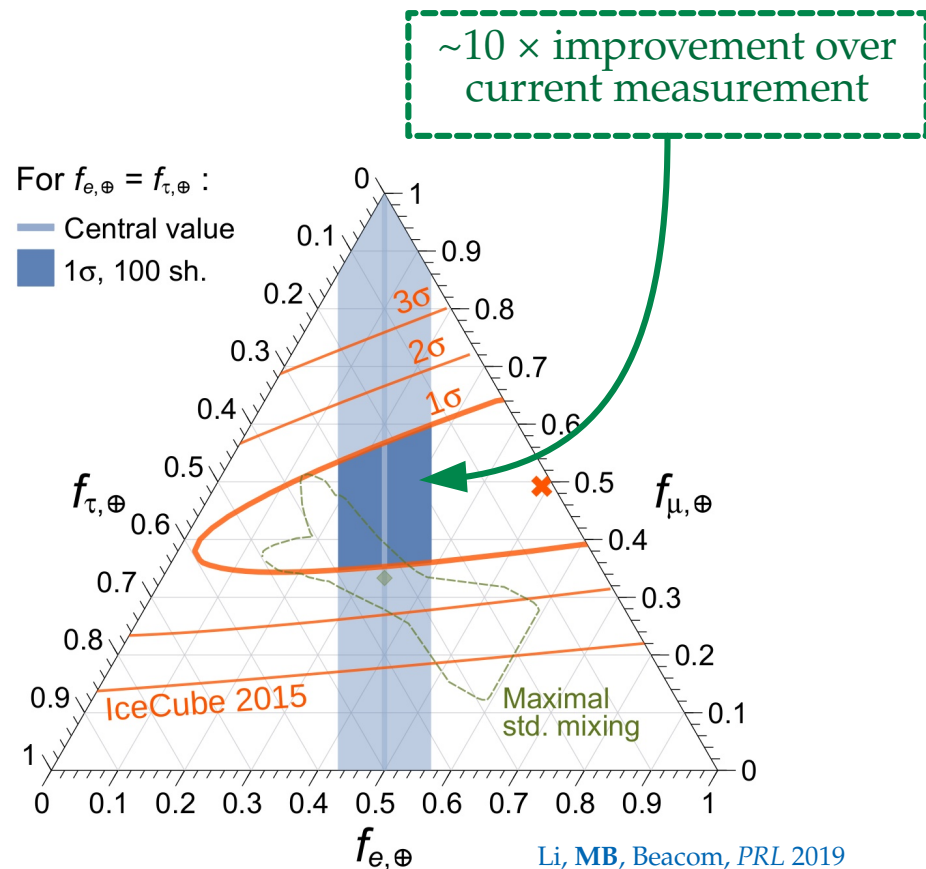
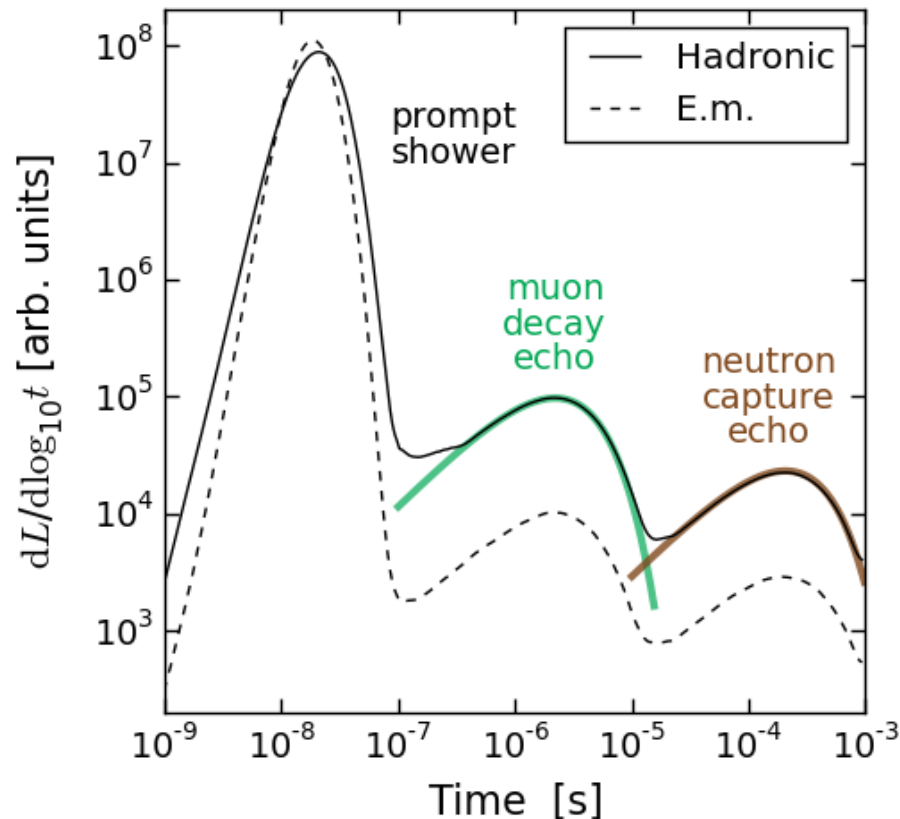
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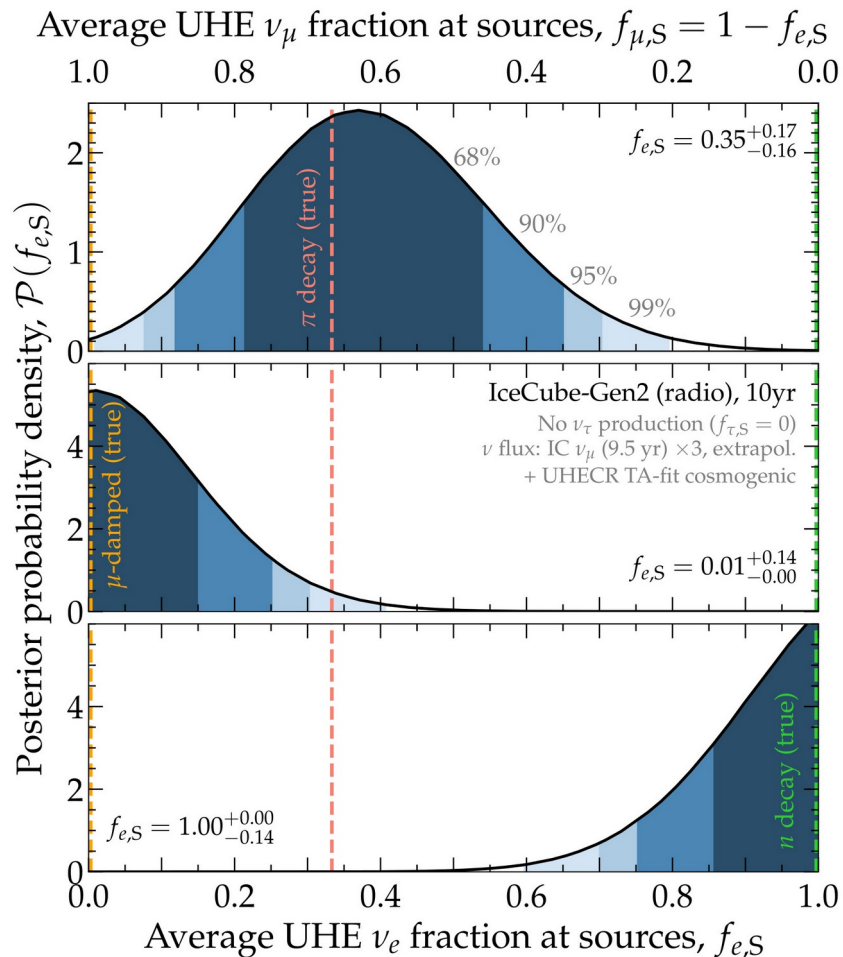
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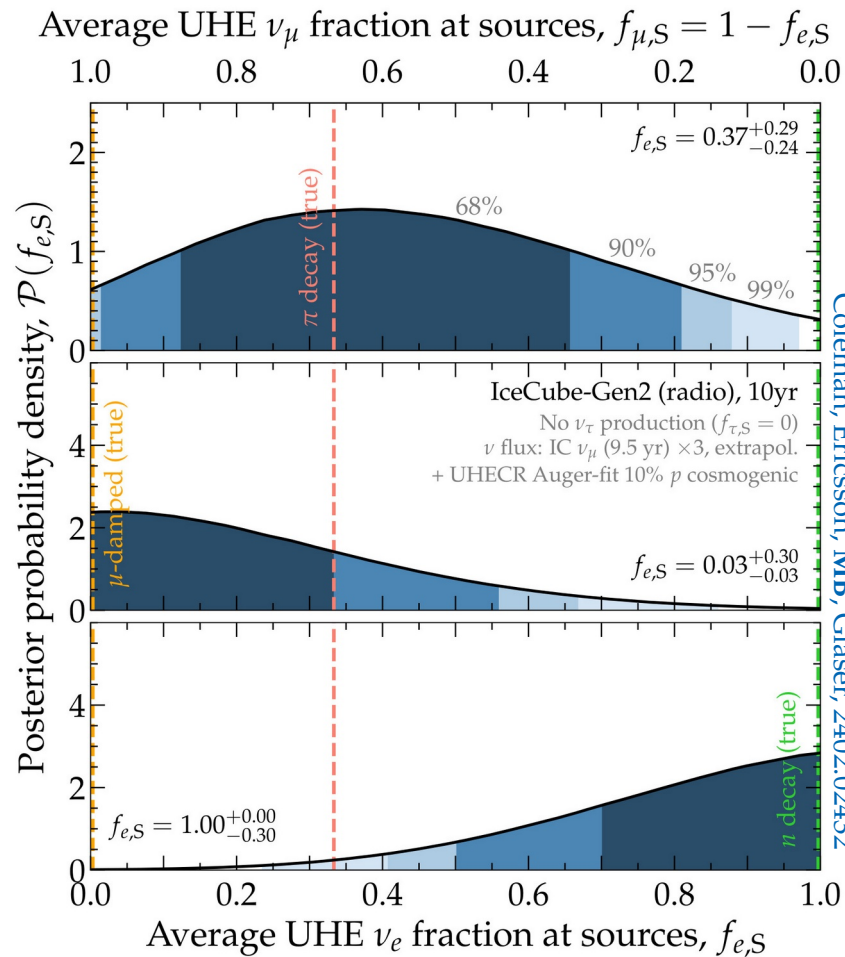


# Inferring the UHE flavor composition at the sources (1/2)

Assuming a high UHE flux



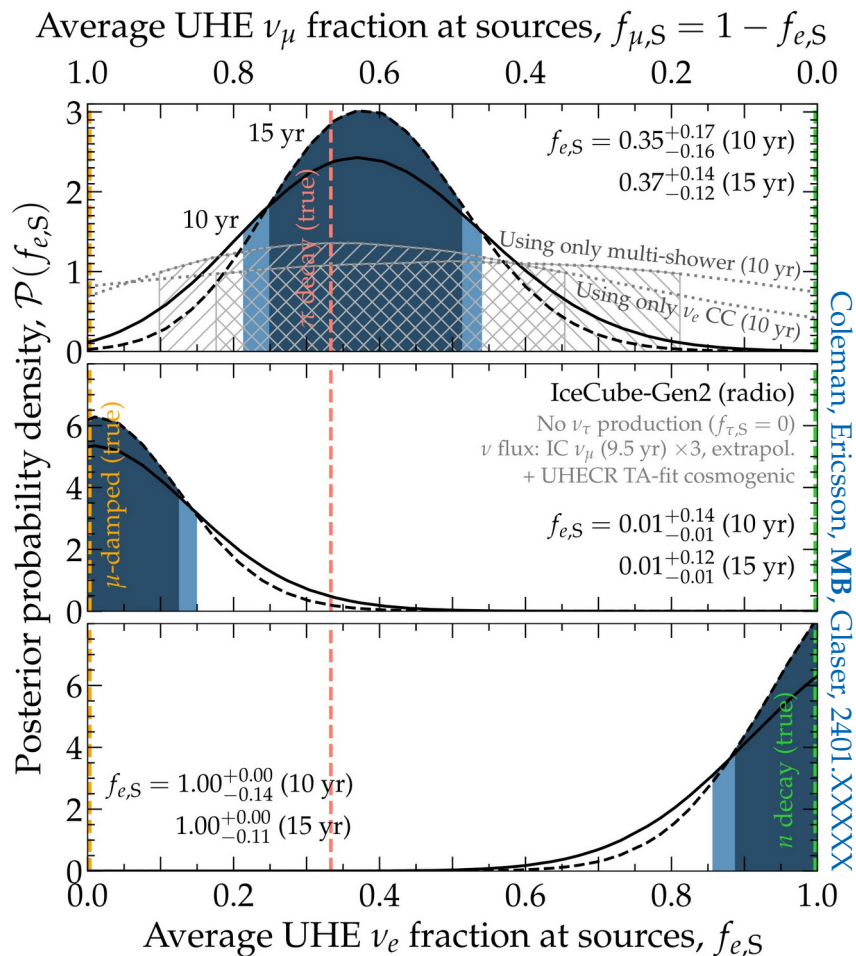
Assuming a low UHE flux



Coleman, Ericsson, MB, Glaser, 2402.02432

# Inferring the UHE flavor composition at the sources (2/2)

## 10 yr vs. 15 yr, individual channels



Coleman, Ericsson, MB, Glaser, 2401.XXXXX



# Flavor composition: measuring the energy dependence

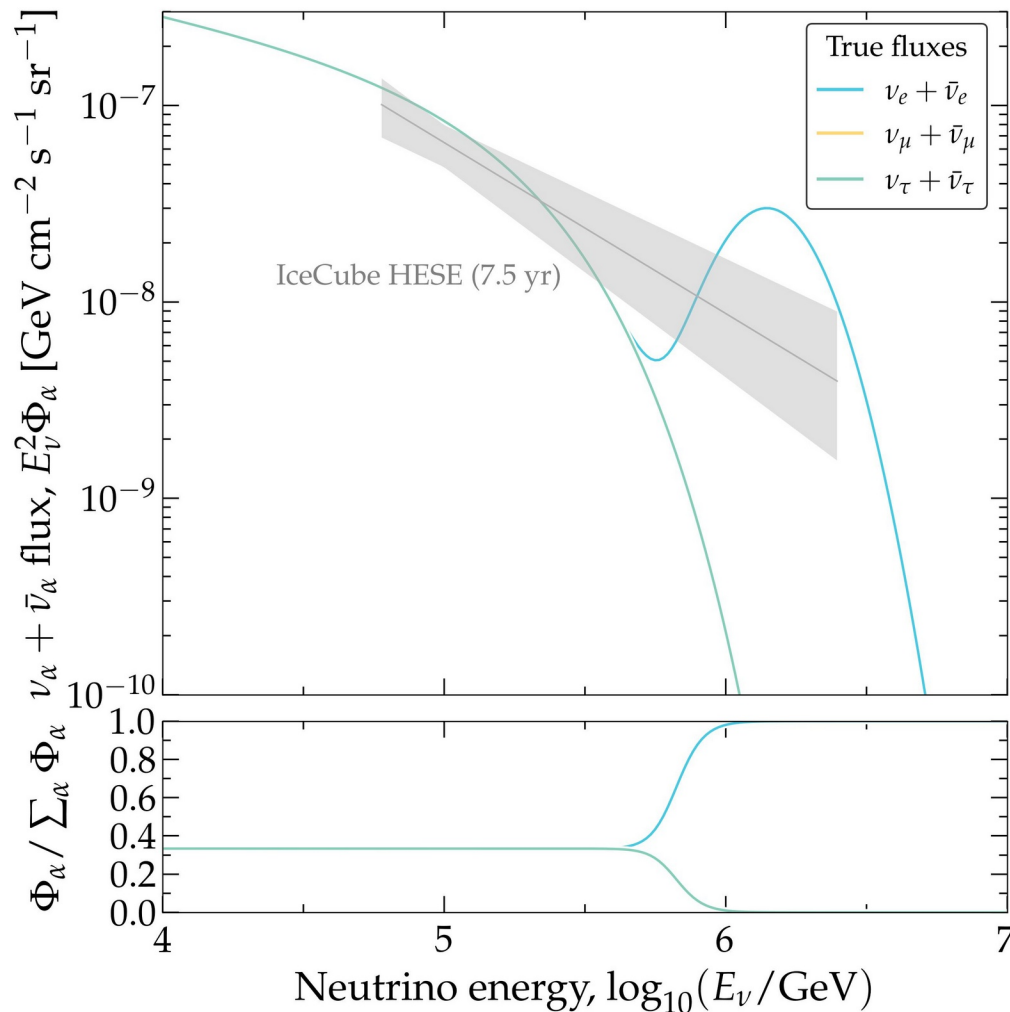
*Can we do better?*

*Maybe*

—If we do not try  
to pinpoint the energy  
of flavor transition

*How?*

—Infer the spectrum of  
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# Flavor composition: measuring the energy dependence

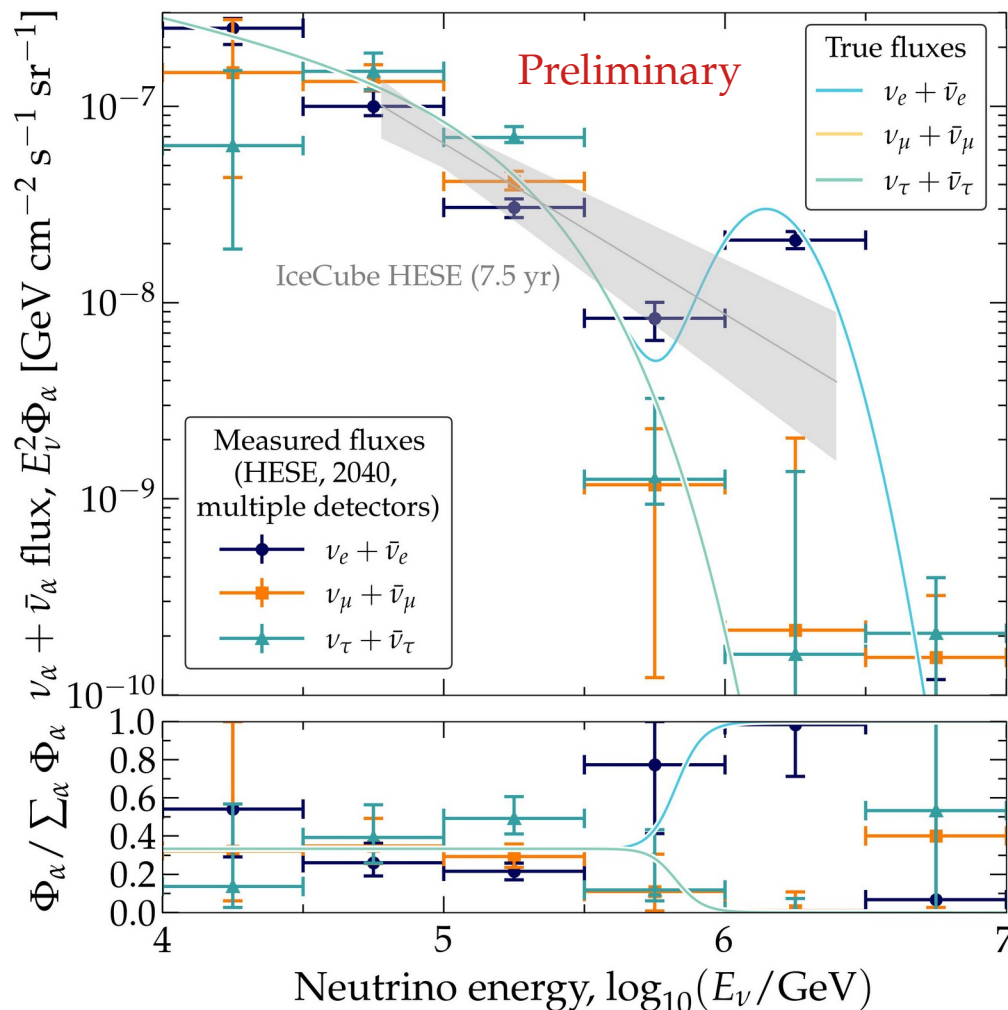
*Can we do better?*

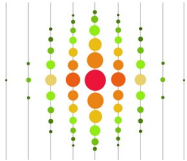
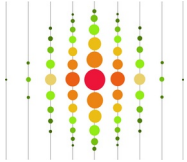
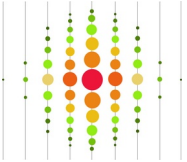
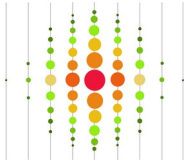
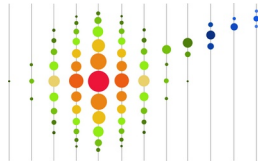
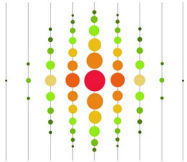
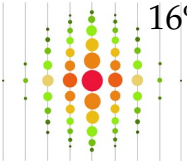
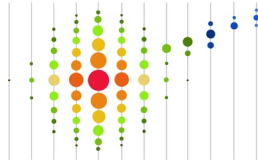
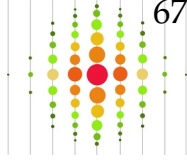
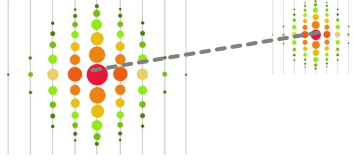
*Maybe*

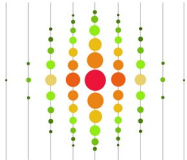
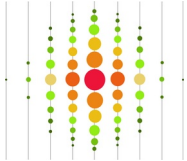
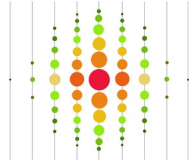
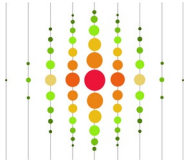
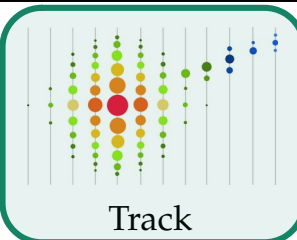
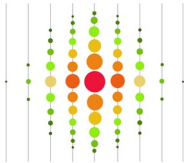
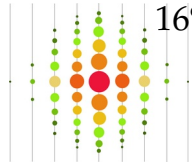
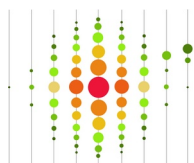
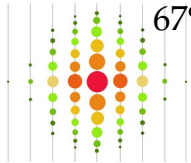
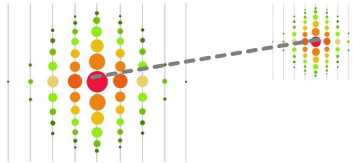
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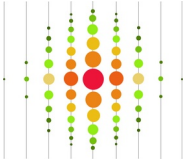
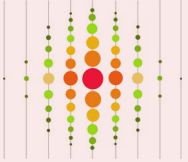

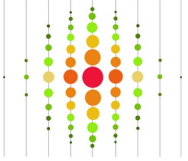

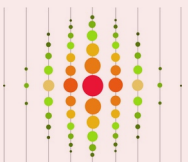
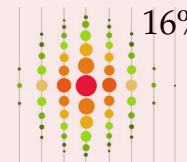

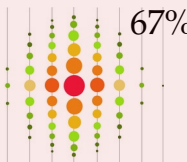
*How?*

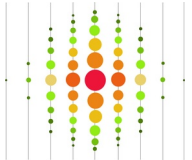
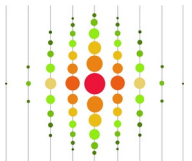

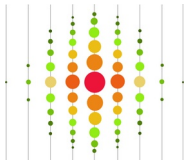
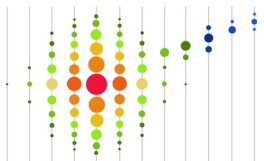
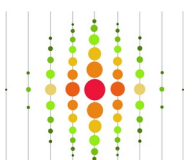
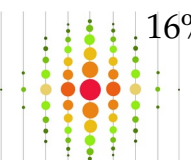

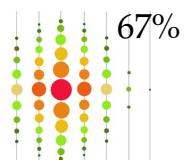
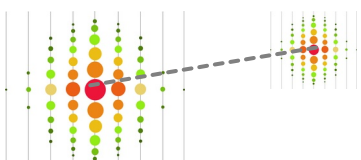
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$\nu_x + \bar{\nu}_x$ NC	 Hadronic X shower				
$\nu_e + \bar{\nu}_e$ CC	 Hadronic X shower	+	 E.m. shower		
$\nu_\mu + \bar{\nu}_\mu$ CC	 Hadronic X shower	+	 Track		
$\nu_\tau + \bar{\nu}_\tau$ CC	 Hadronic X shower	+	 E.m. shower	16% or  Track	17% or  Hadronic shower
					67%  Double pulse/bang

$\nu_x + \bar{\nu}_x$ NC	 Hadronic X shower								
$\nu_e + \bar{\nu}_e$ CC	 Hadronic X shower	+	 E.m. shower	<div><math>\nu_\mu</math>: easy to identify the outgoing track</div>					
$\nu_\mu + \bar{\nu}_\mu$ CC	 Hadronic X shower	+	<div> Track</div>						
$\nu_\tau + \bar{\nu}_\tau$ CC	 Hadronic X shower	+	 E.m. shower	16% or	 Track	17% or	 Hadronic shower	67%	 Double pulse/bang

$\nu_x + \bar{\nu}_x$ NC	 Hadronic X shower
$\nu_e + \bar{\nu}_e$ CC	<div>  +  </div> <div>Hadronic X shower      E.m. shower</div> <div> <math>\nu_e</math> and <math>\nu_\tau</math>: difficult to distinguish, both make showers </div>
$\nu_\mu + \bar{\nu}_\mu$ CC	<div>  +  </div> <div>Hadronic X shower      Track</div>
$\nu_\tau + \bar{\nu}_\tau$ CC	<div>  +  16% </div> <div>Hadronic X shower      E.m. shower</div> <div> or  17% </div> <div> or  67% </div> <div> Hadronic shower      Double pulse/bang </div>

$\nu_x + \bar{\nu}_x$ NC	 Hadronic X shower			
$\nu_e + \bar{\nu}_e$ CC	 Hadronic X shower	+	 E.m. shower	<div> The occasional track (weakly) breaks the <math>\nu_e / \nu_\tau</math> degeneracy </div>
$\nu_\mu + \bar{\nu}_\mu$ CC	 Hadronic X shower	+	 Track	
$\nu_\tau + \bar{\nu}_\tau$ CC	 Hadronic X shower	+	 E.m. shower	<div> 16% or   Track 17% or   Hadronic shower 67%   Double pulse/bang </div>