

# TAMBO:

## Searching for astrophysical $\nu_\tau$ in the Andes

Pavel Zhelnin for the TAMBO collaboration

TeVPA 2021

Chengdu, China (Virtual)

October 29th, 2021

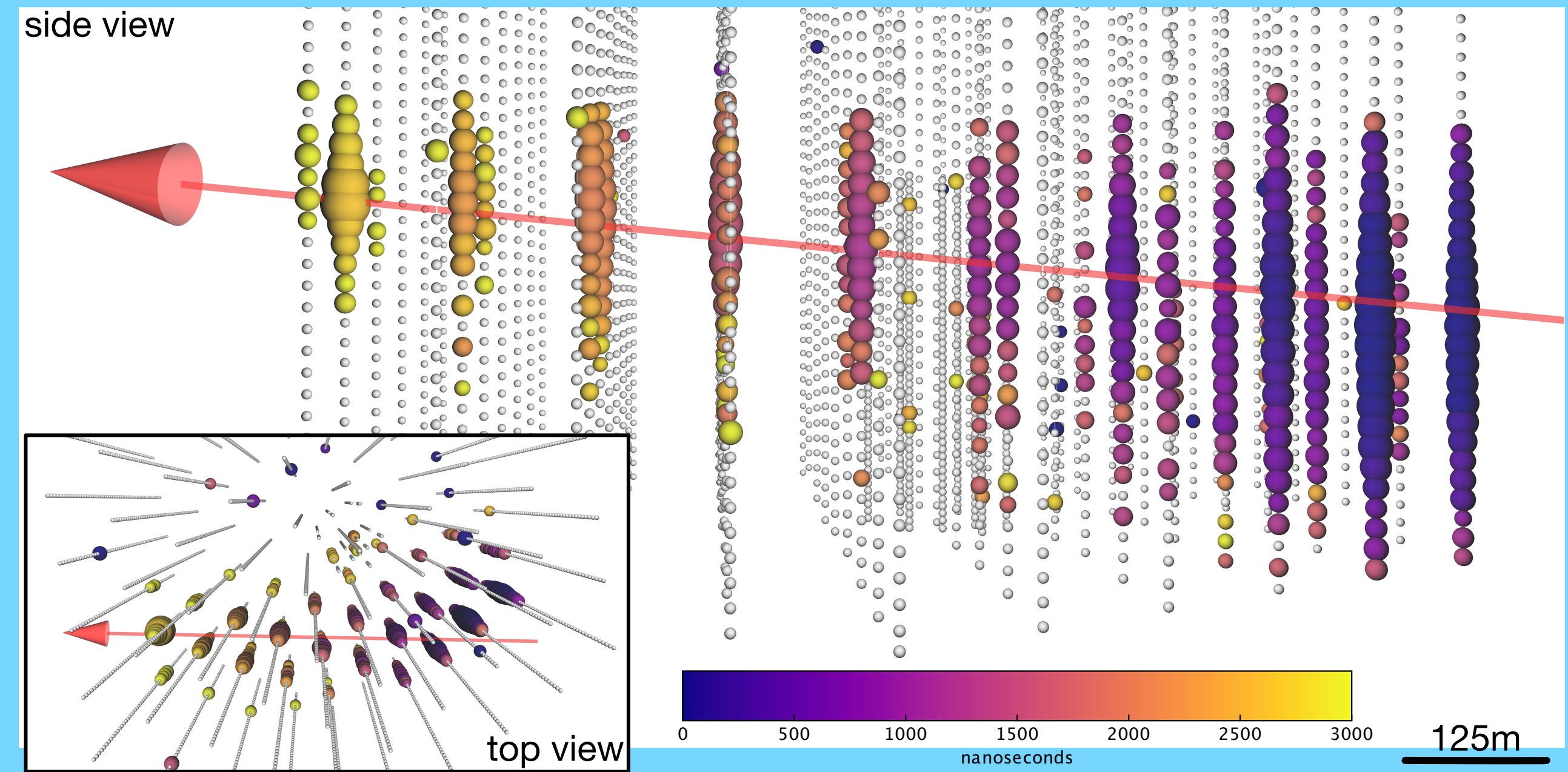
[pzhelnin@g.harvard.edu](mailto:pzhelnin@g.harvard.edu)

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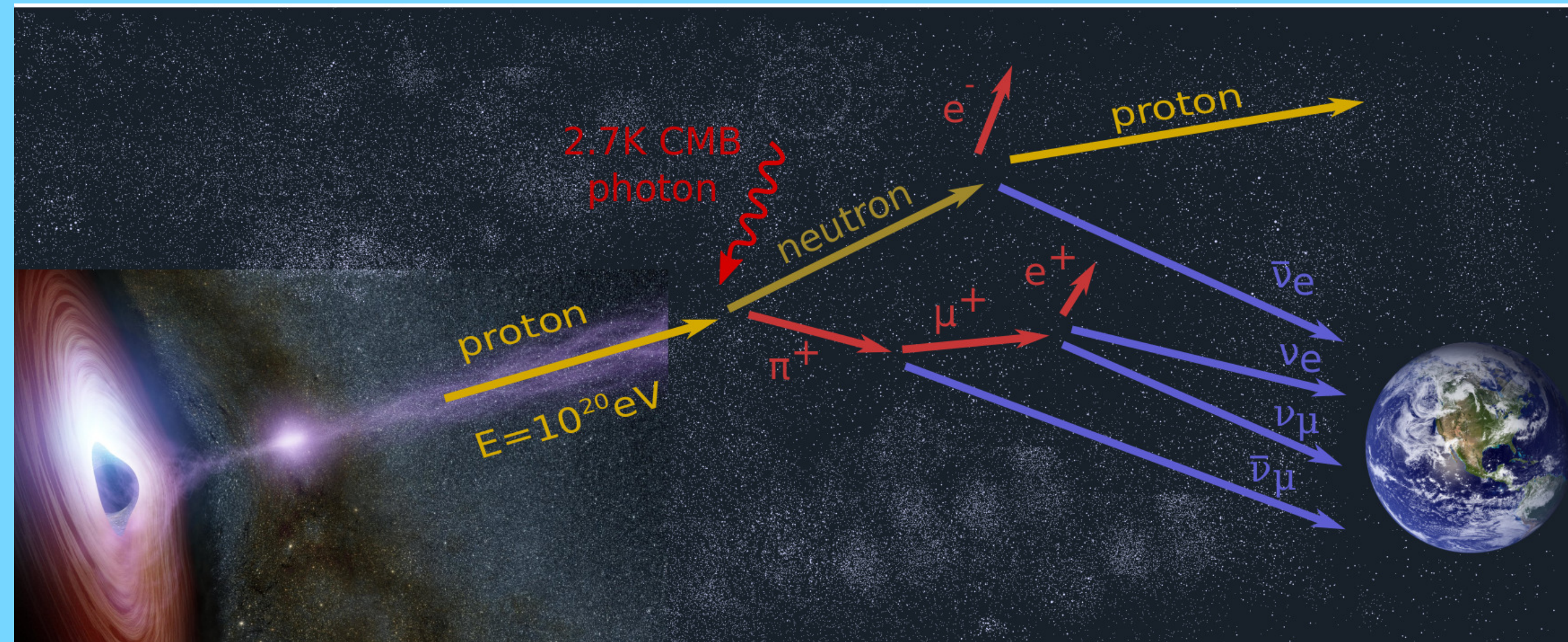


# A Decade of Progress: Astrophysical neutrinos

- Recap:
  - Discovery of diffuse astrophysical neutrino flux
  - Handful of 1-10 PeV neutrinos
  - Extragalactic neutrinos!
  - First hints of neutrino sources.



IceCube, arXiv:1807.08816v1

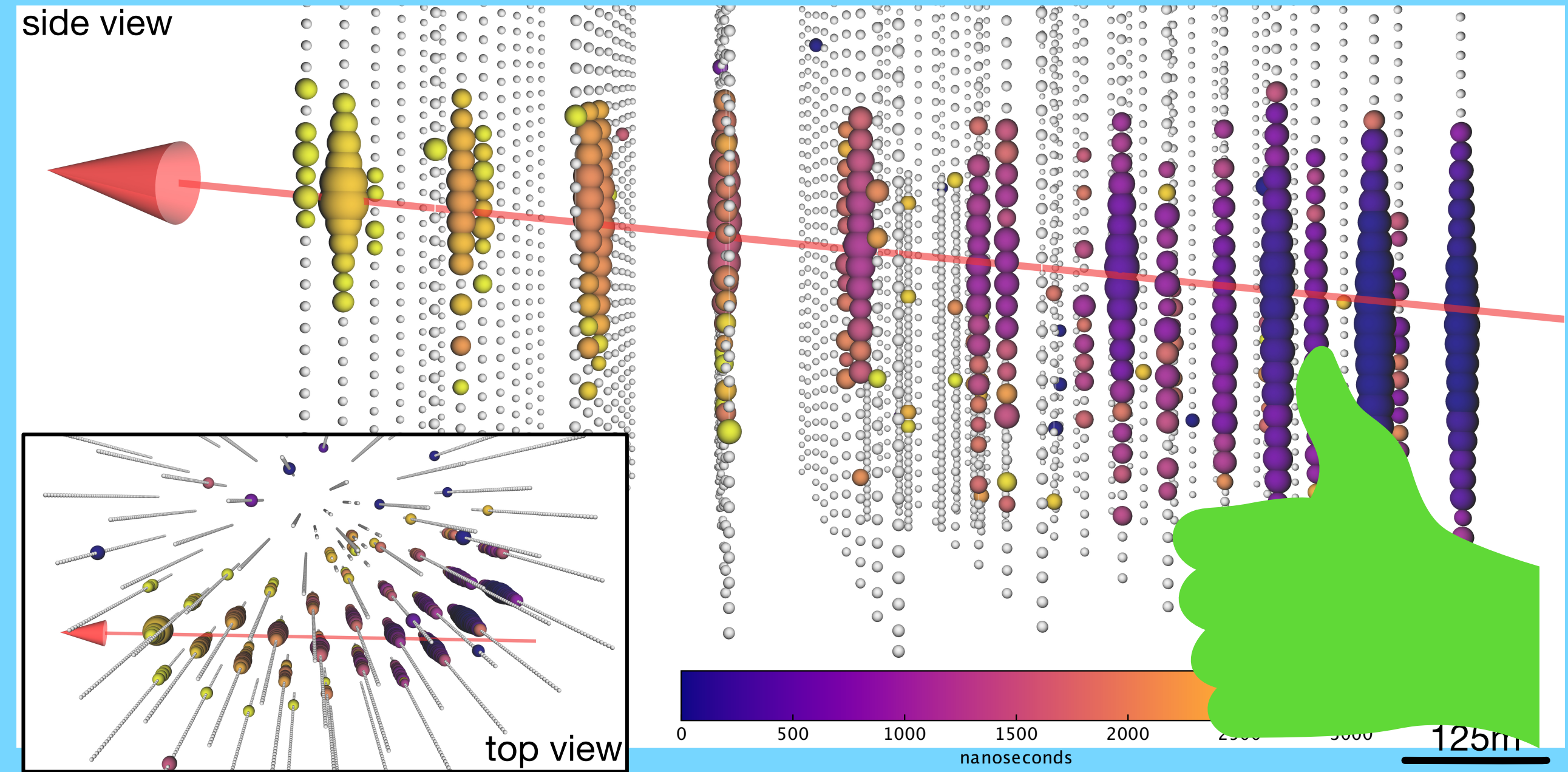


Otte et al., arXiv:1907.08727

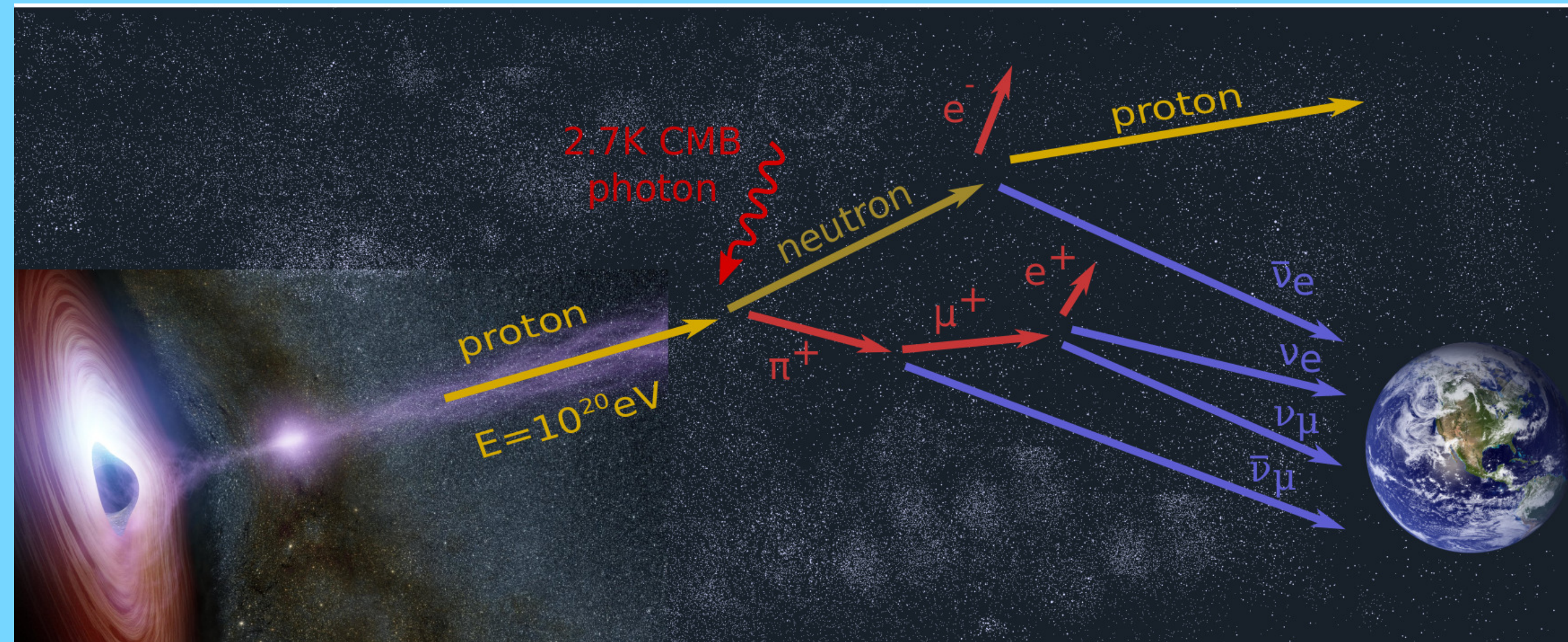


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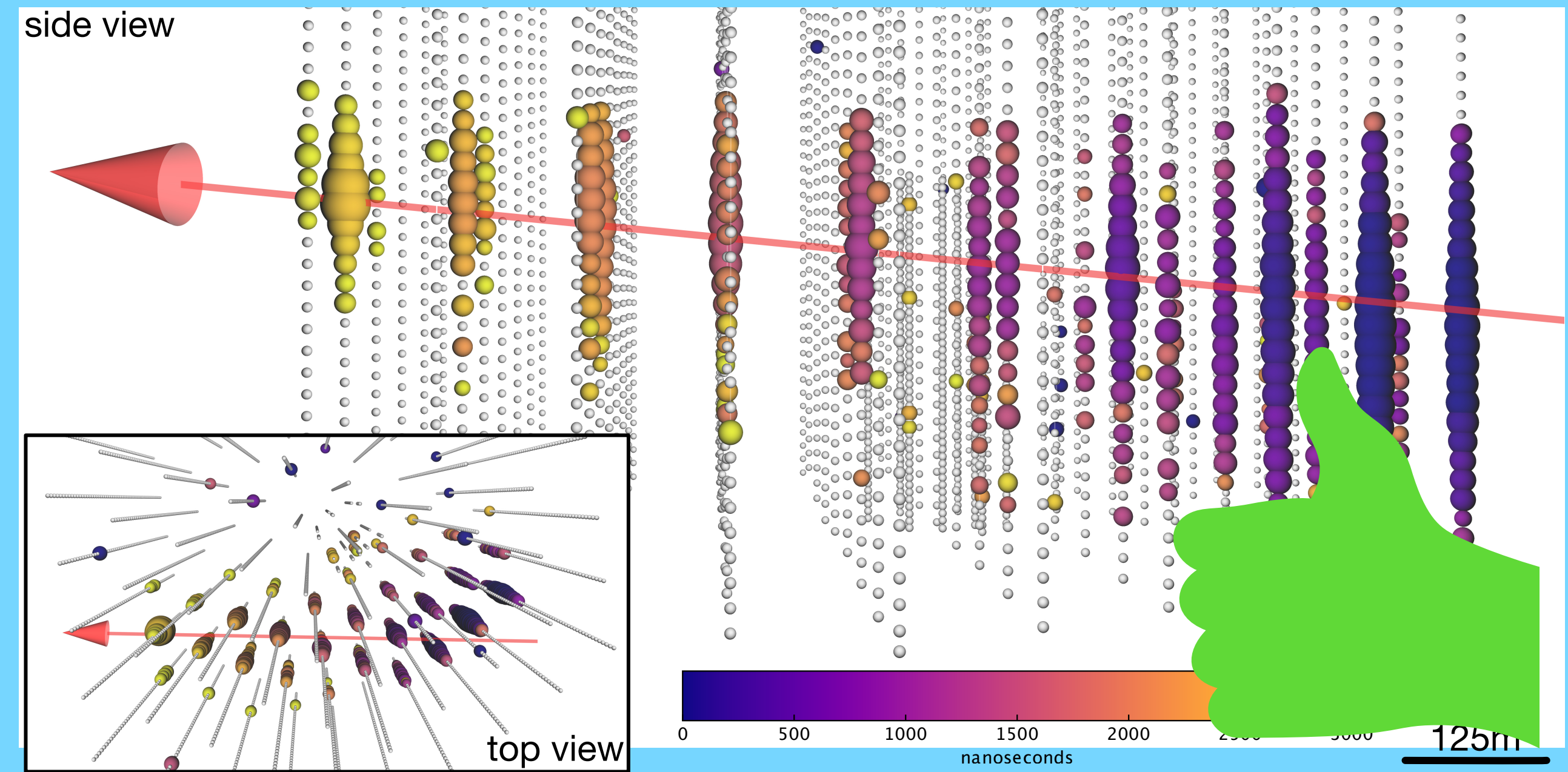


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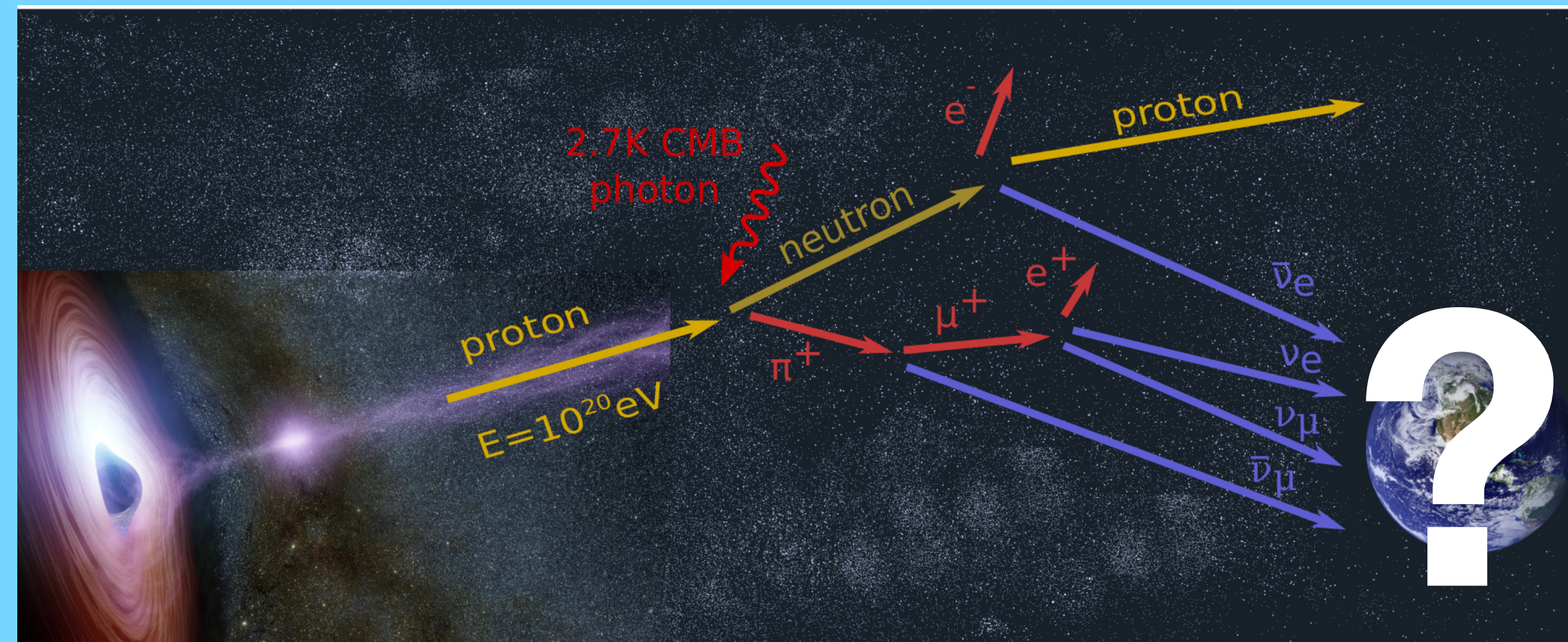


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- Recap:
  - Discovery of diffuse astrophysical neutrino flux
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  - Extragalactic neutrinos!
  - First hints of neutrino sources.
  - Great! but...



IceCube, arXiv:1807.08816v1



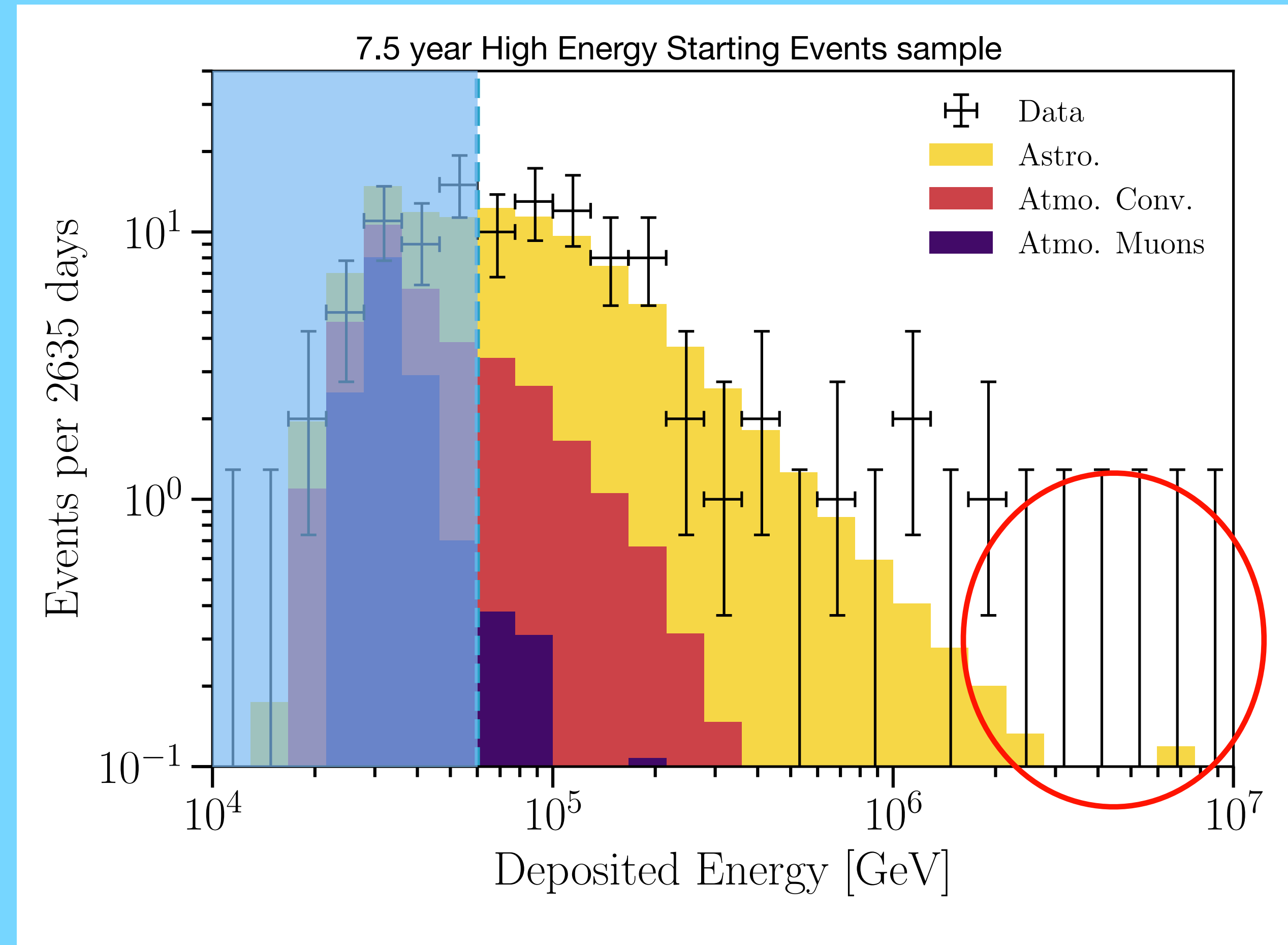
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# What about HE astro $\nu_\tau$ ?

## Shortcomings so far:

- We don't know how the astrophysical flux extends to higher energies
- Low point source sensitivity for  $\nu$  flux
- Low statistics for HE astro  $\nu_\tau$ 
  - Only two candidates in 10 years



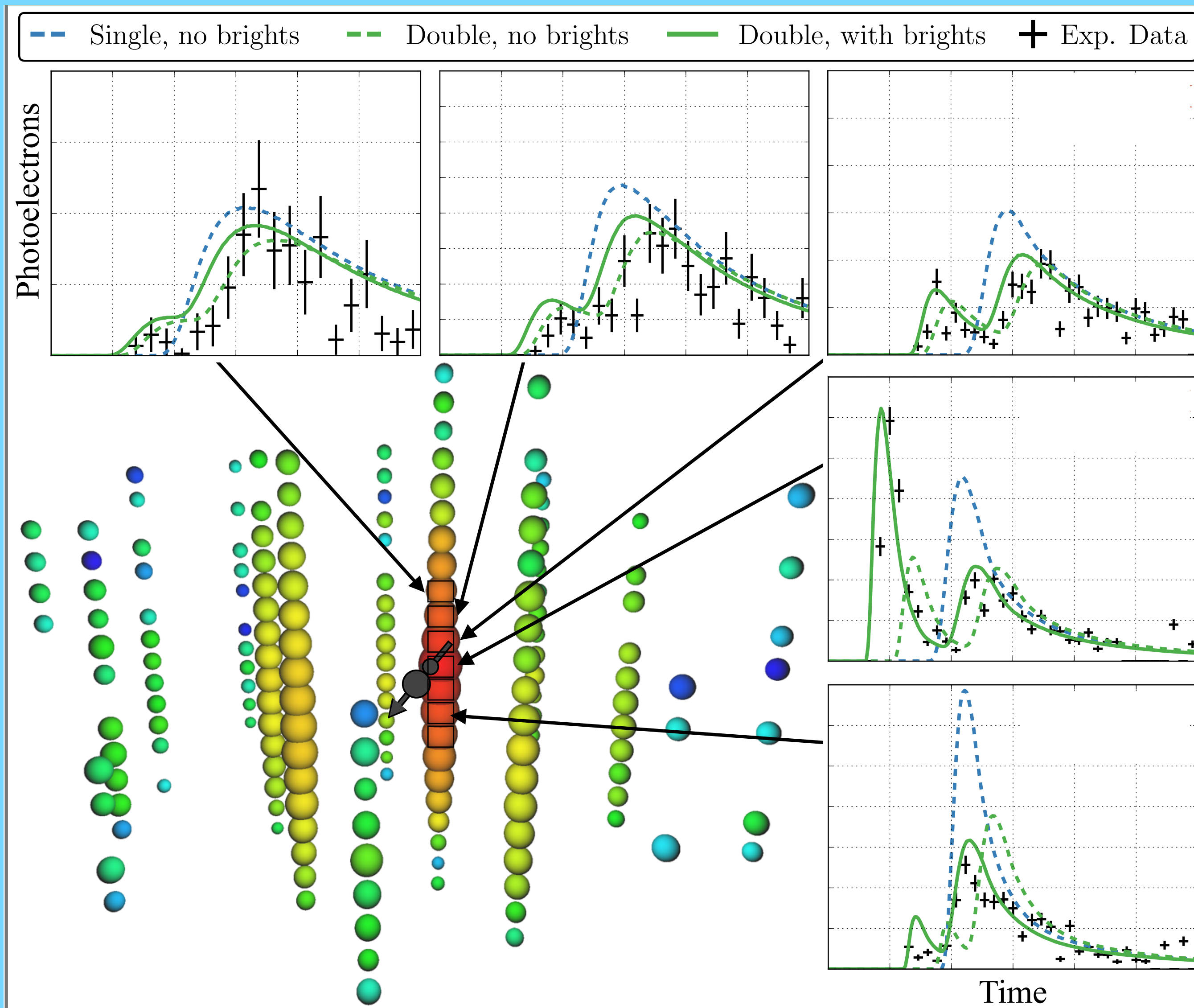
IceCube, arXiv:2011.03545v1



# Problems with detecting $\nu_\tau$

## Limits in morphology:

- IceCube can detect muon events well but electrons/taus are troublesome
  - Muon will create a track = identifiable
  - Tau = double bang
  - Electron = shower
- See talk by Doug Cowen in this session



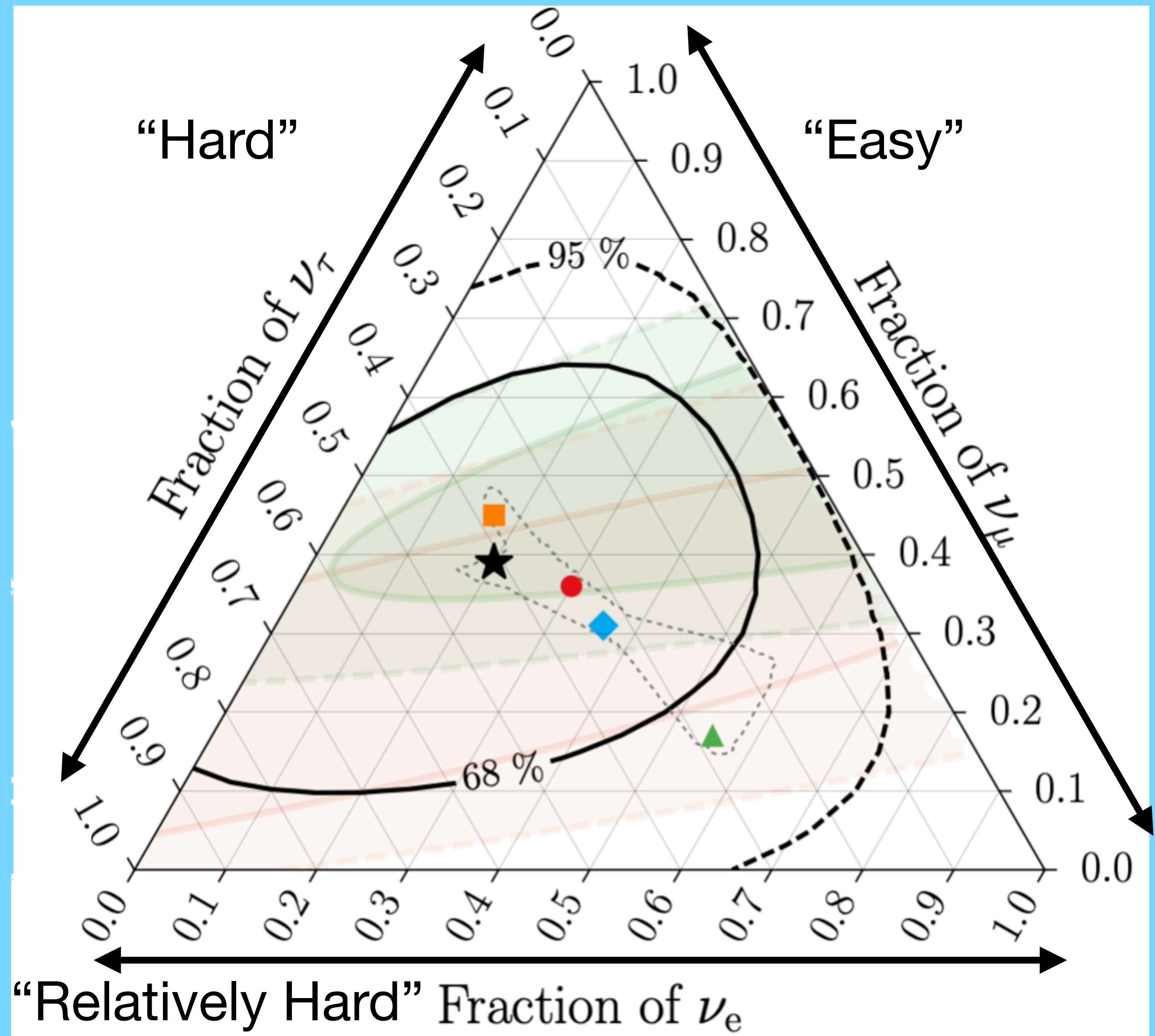
IceCube et al., arXiv:2011.03561



# Why this matters

## HESE Flavor measurement

- SM predicts observable flavor ratio within the butterfly  $\sim (1:1:1)$
- Outside this butterfly indicates new physics
- At the moment, flavor measurement is severely limited by tau fraction



—	HESE with ternary topology ID	$\nu_e : \nu_\mu : \nu_\tau$ at source $\rightarrow$ on Earth:
★	Best fit: 0.20 : 0.39 : 0.42	■ 0:1:0 $\rightarrow$ 0.17 : 0.45 : 0.37
■	Global Fit (IceCube, APJ 2015)	● 1:2:0 $\rightarrow$ 0.30 : 0.36 : 0.34
■	Inelasticity (IceCube, PRD 2019)	▲ 1:0:0 $\rightarrow$ 0.55 : 0.17 : 0.28
⋯	$3\nu$ -mixing $3\sigma$ allowed region	◆ 1:1:0 $\rightarrow$ 0.36 : 0.31 : 0.33

IceCube et al., arXiv:2011.03561



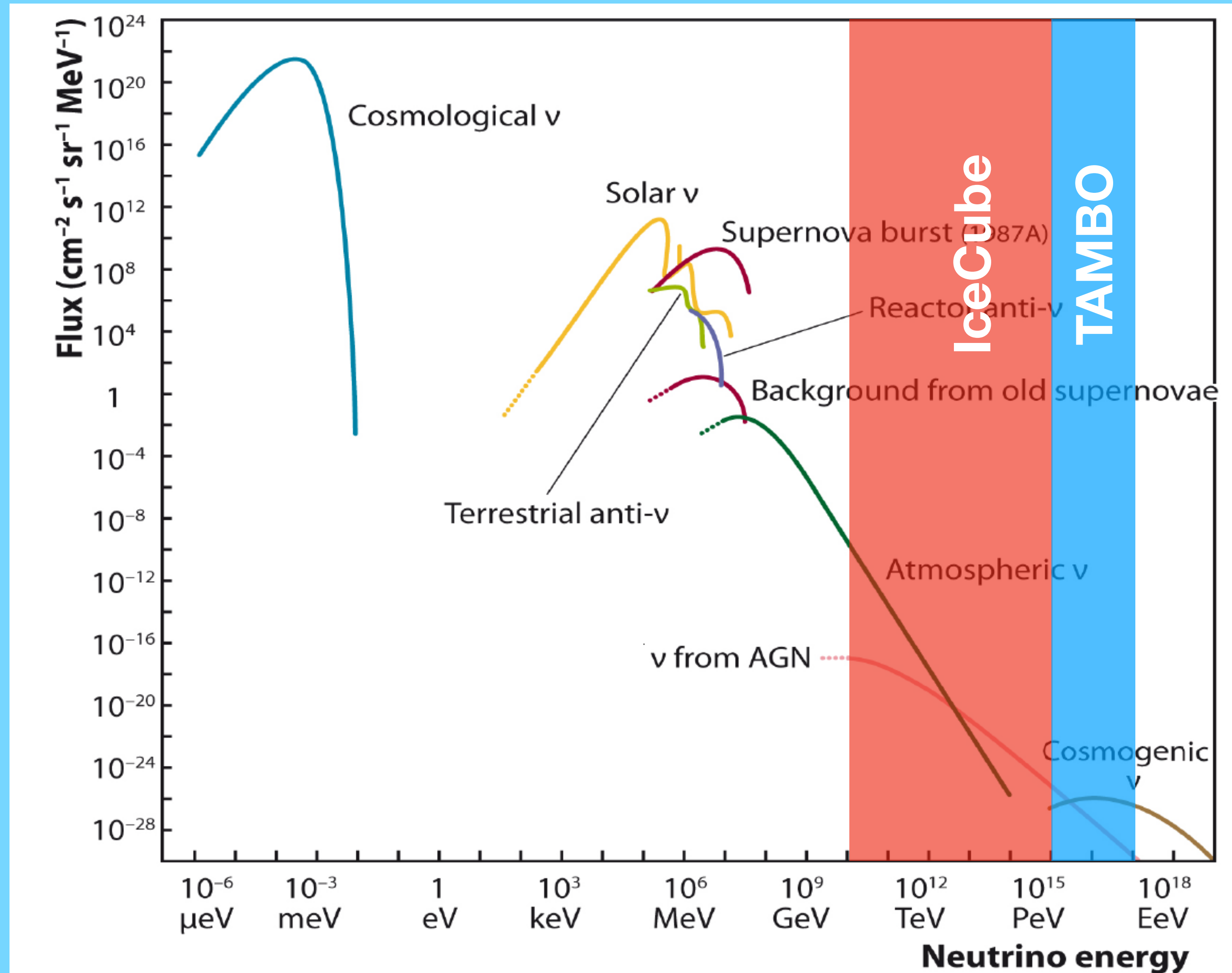
# TAMBO!

## Tau Air Shower Mountain-Based Observatory

- A deep-valley  $\nu_\tau$  detector to be deployed in the Colca Valley in Peru
- $\nu_\tau$  detection in the 1-100 PeV band



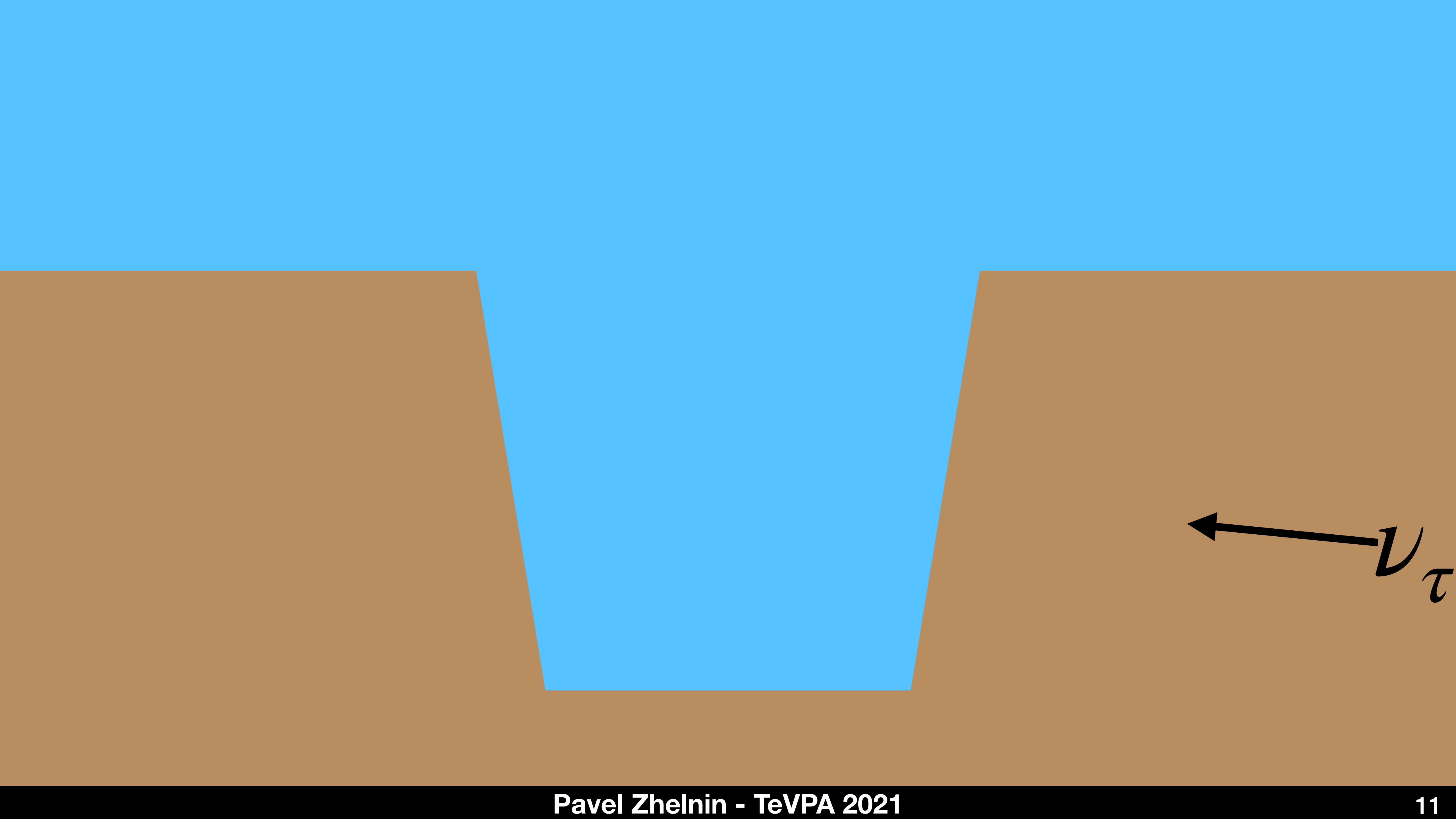




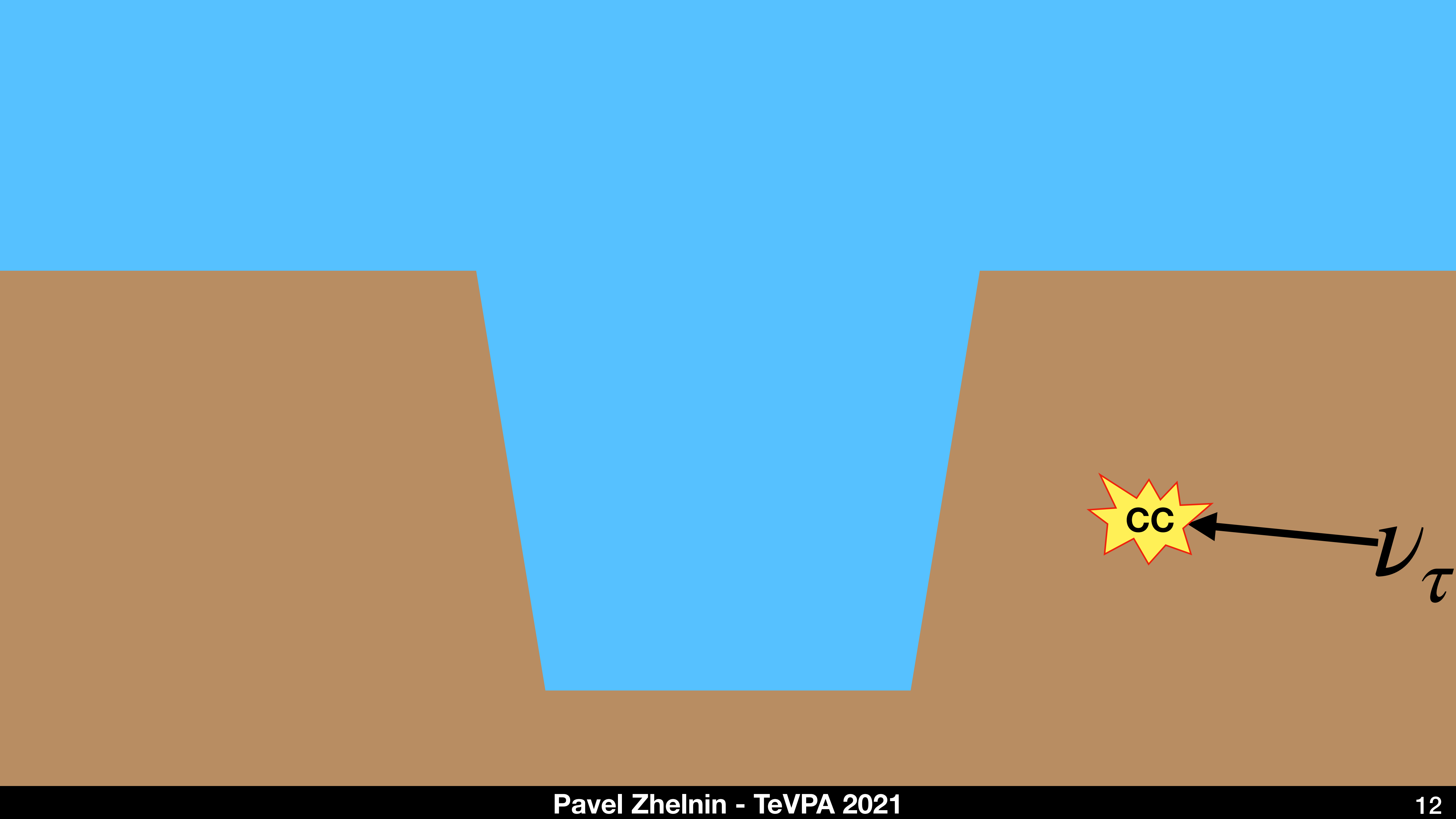


**So how does it work?**

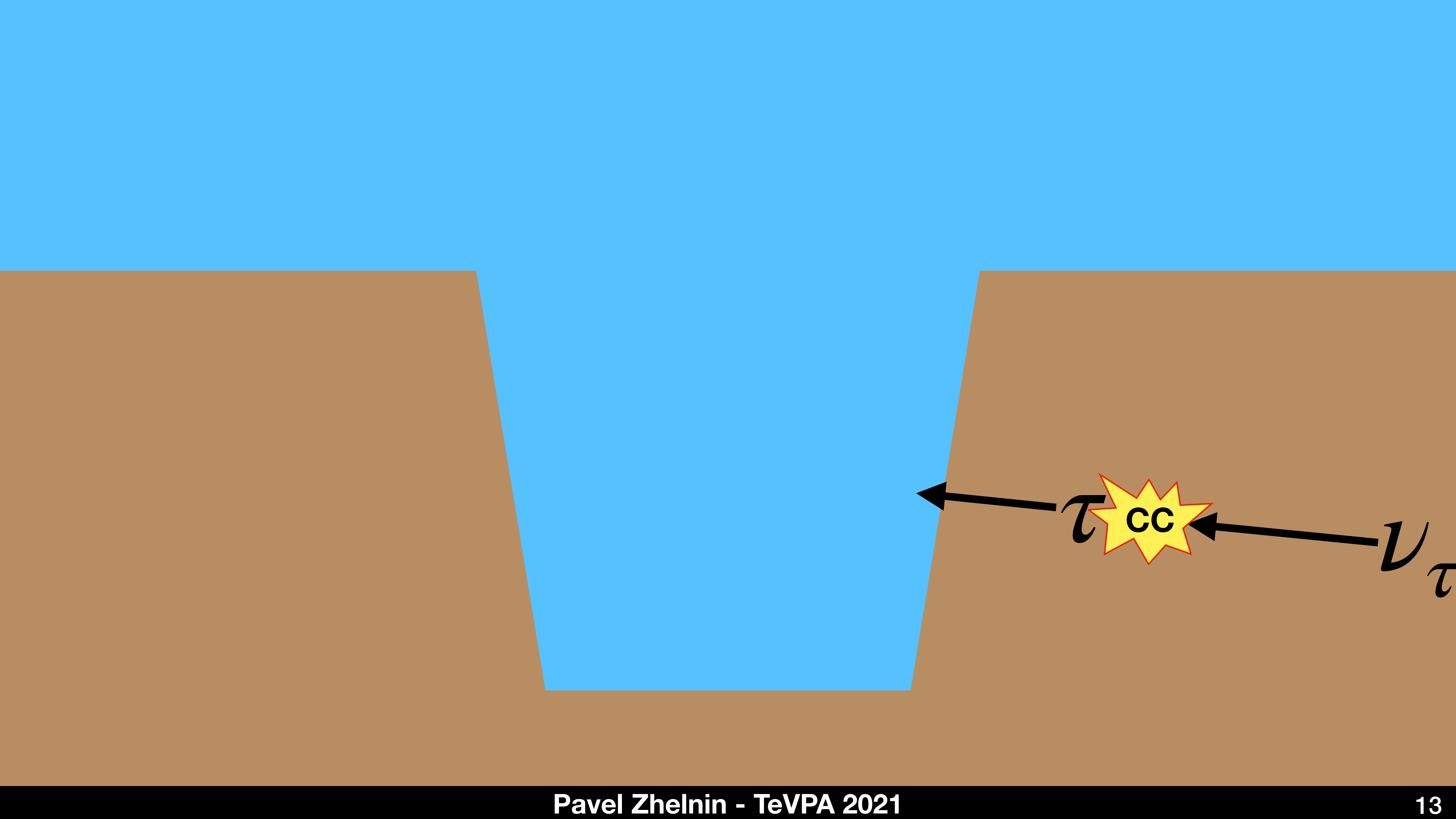




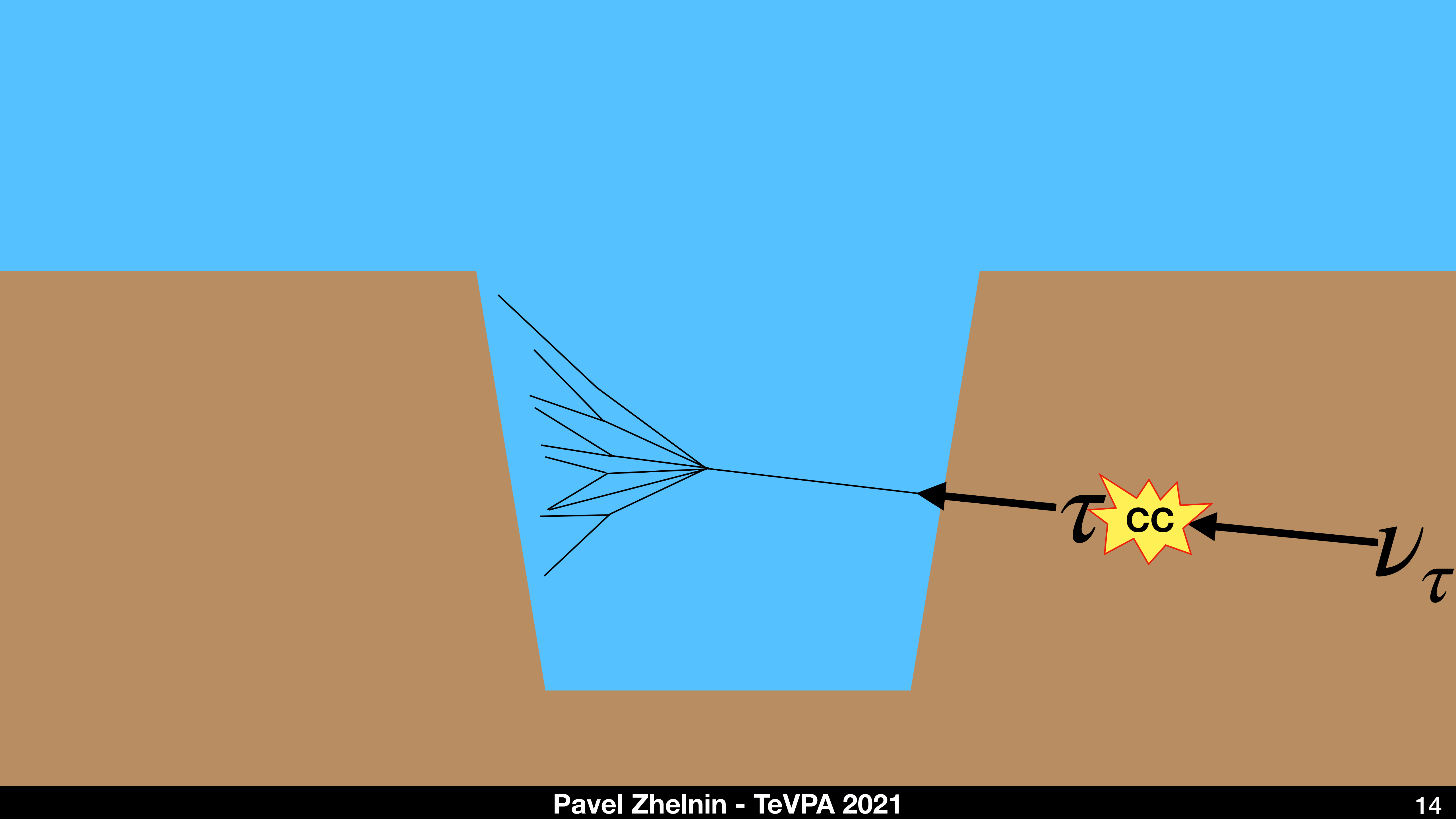




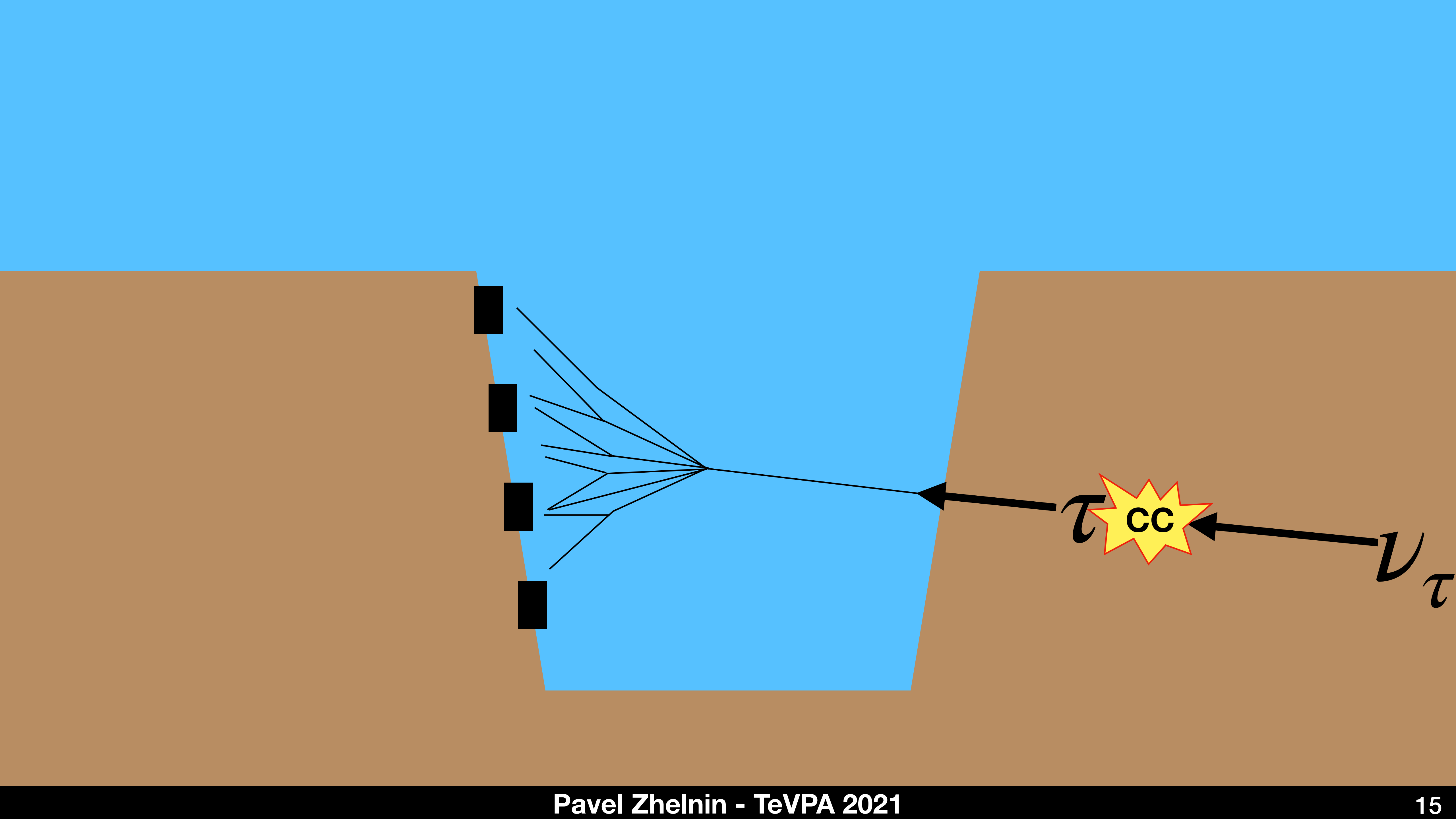






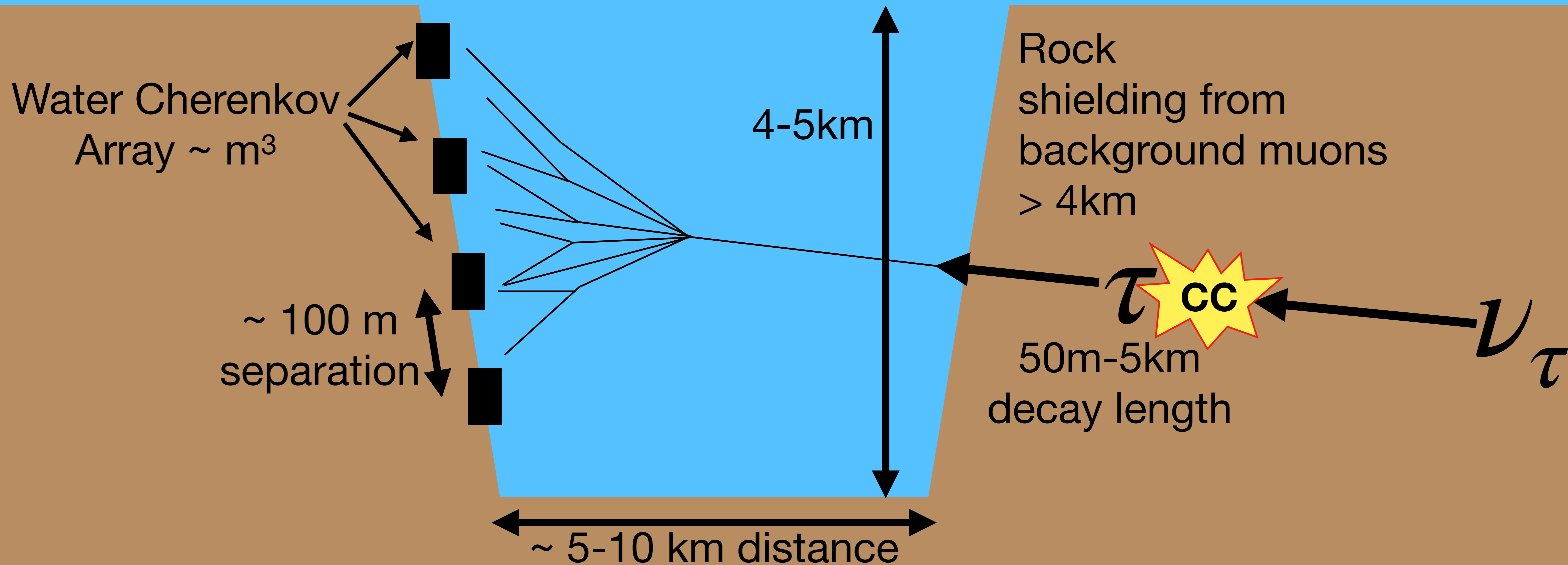






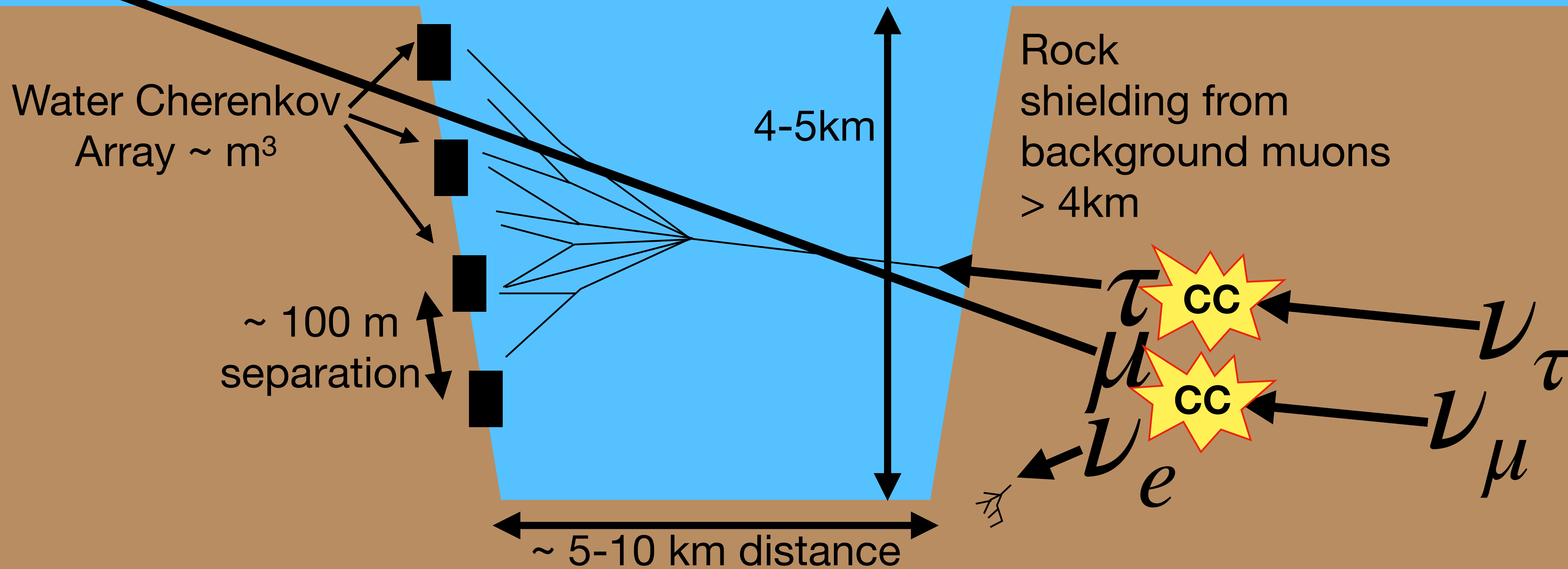


# Colca Valley





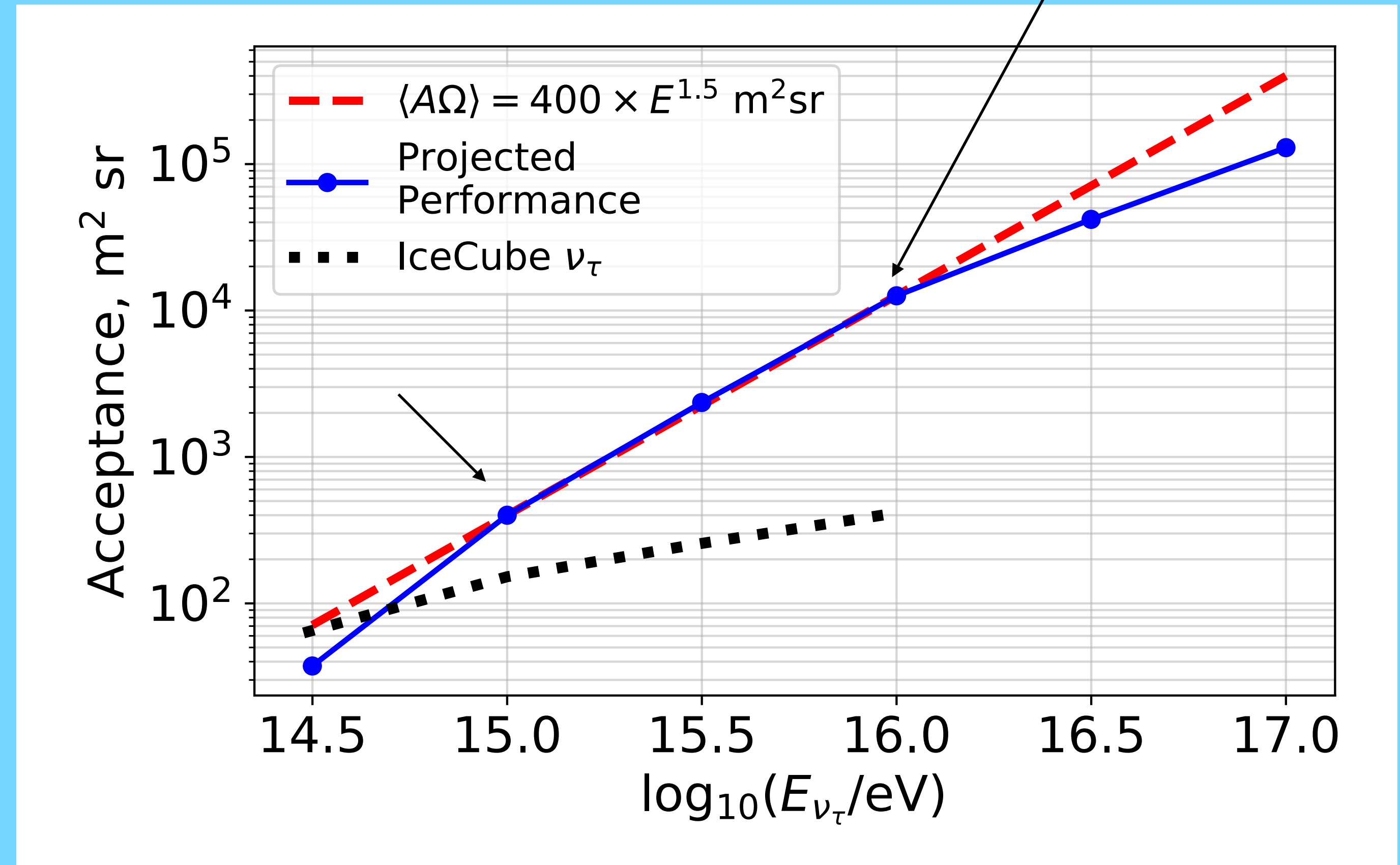
# Colca Valley





# Effective Areas

- Calculated using an array of 22,000 detectors spaced 150m apart
- Reduced acceptance at low energies = showers too small
- Reduced acceptance at high energies = tau range exceeds valley dimensions

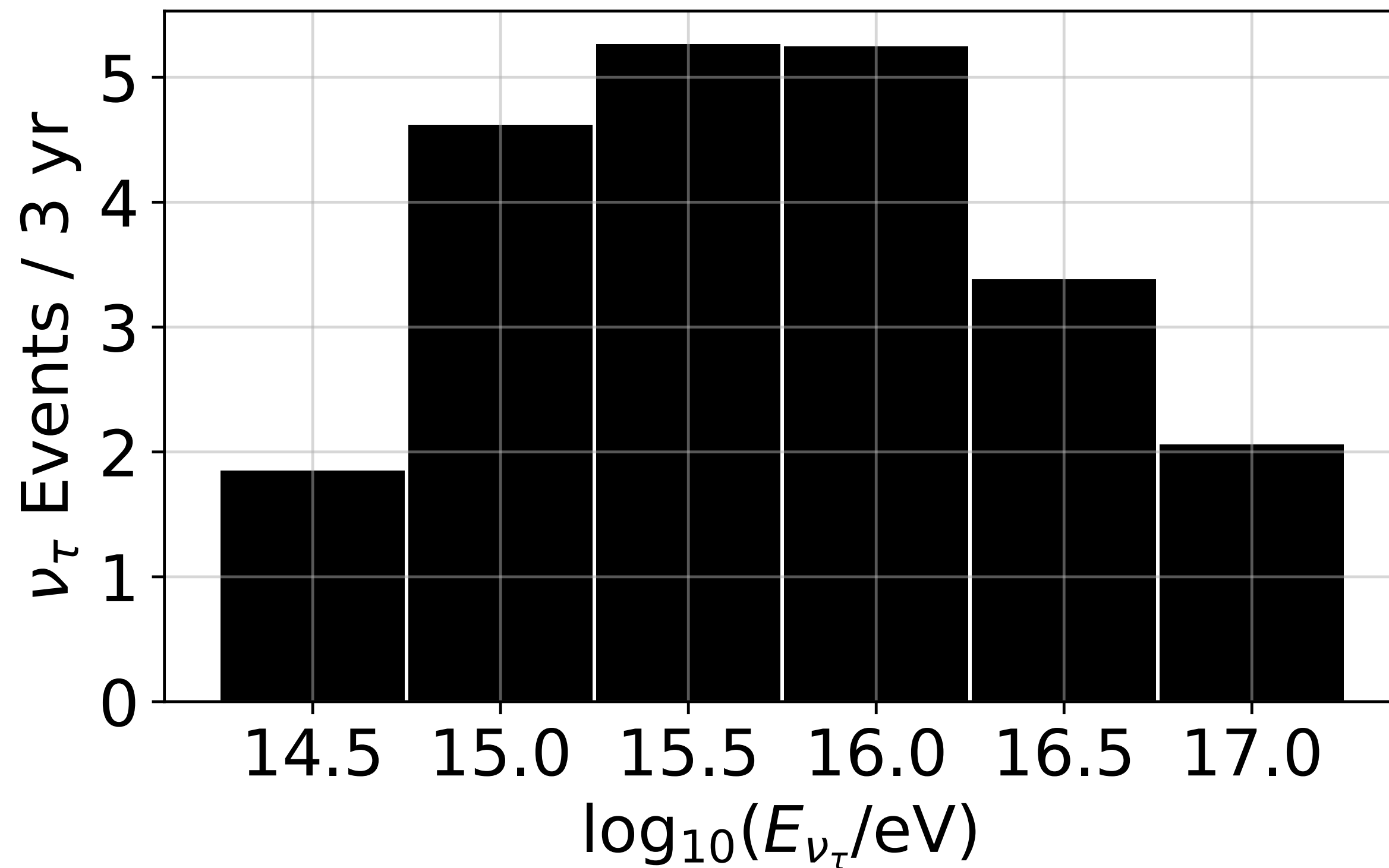


Romero-Wolf et al., arXiv:2002.06475v1



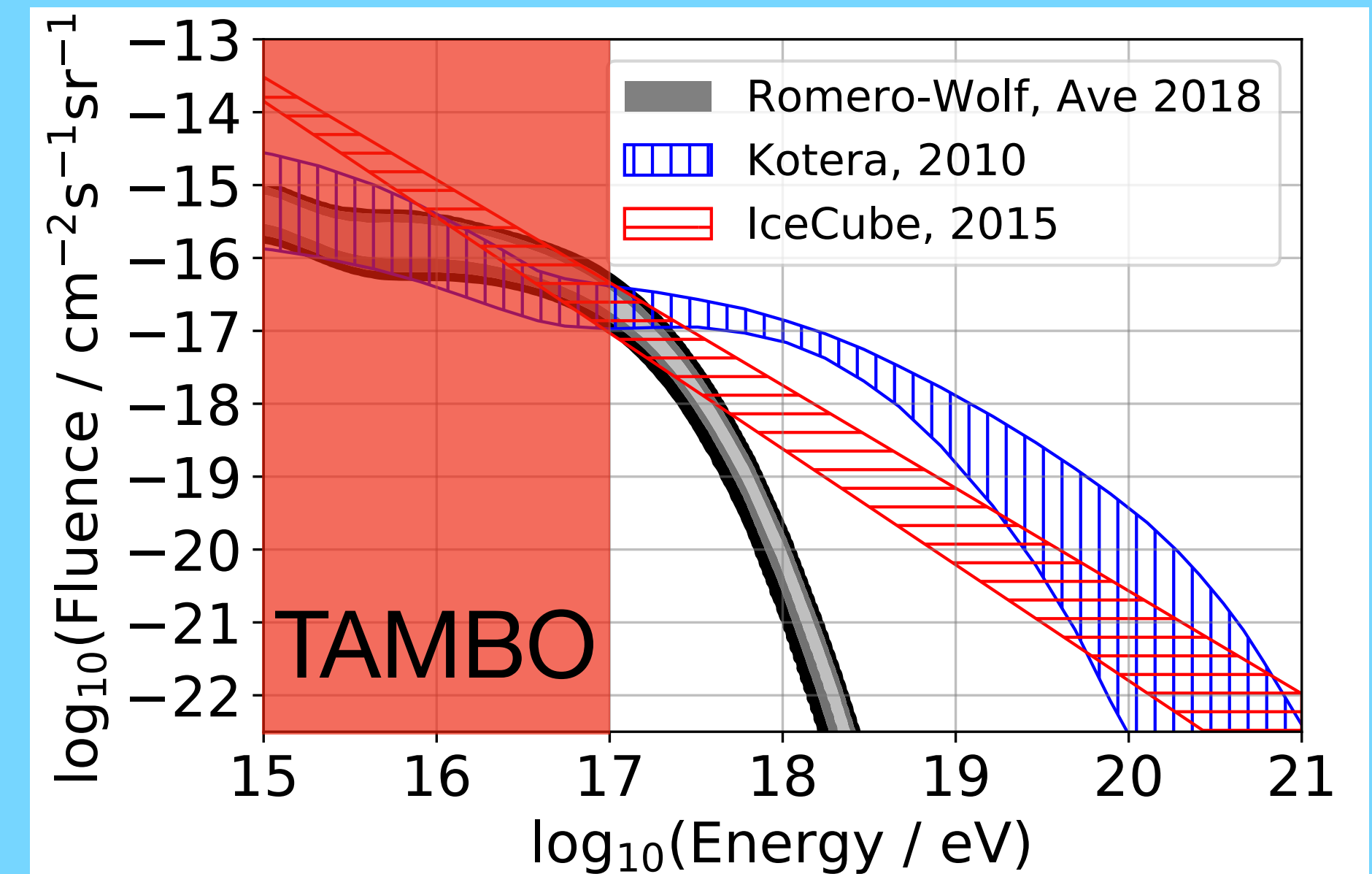
# Expected Performance

$$\phi = \phi_0 E^{-2.5}$$



Romero-Wolf et al., arXiv:2002.06475v1

- Optimized for PeV energies to improved measurements of astrophysical flux
- 21 events per 3 years of operation with a peak at 3 PeV



Romero-Wolf et al., arXiv:2002.06475v1

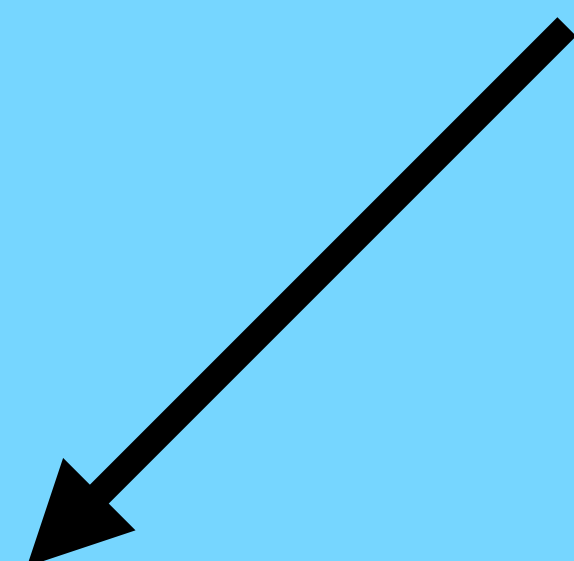


# MC Details

- **TauRunner** -> run  $\nu_\tau$  propagation through Earth, simulate  $\nu_\tau$  interaction,  $\tau$  propagation in the atmosphere
- **CORSIKA** ->  $\tau$  decay air showers
- **GEANT4** -> detector effects of measuring showers



<https://github.com/icecube/TauRunner>

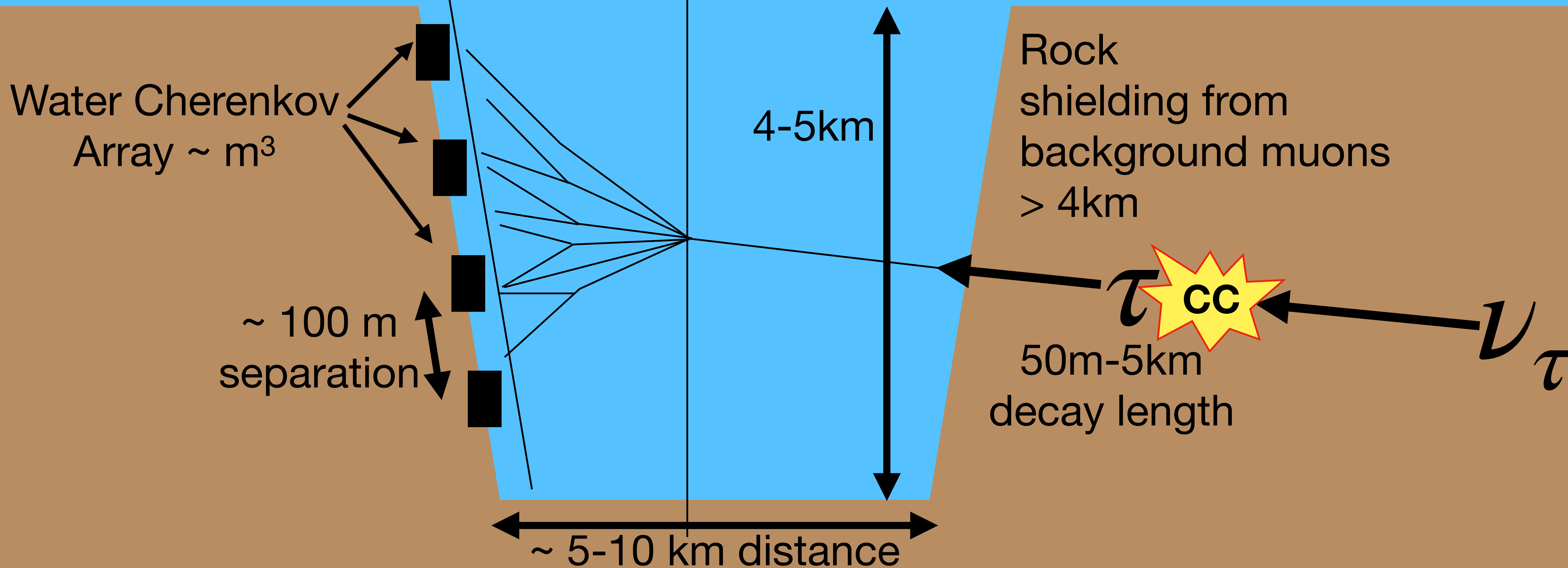


Go check out Ibrahim Safa's talk later



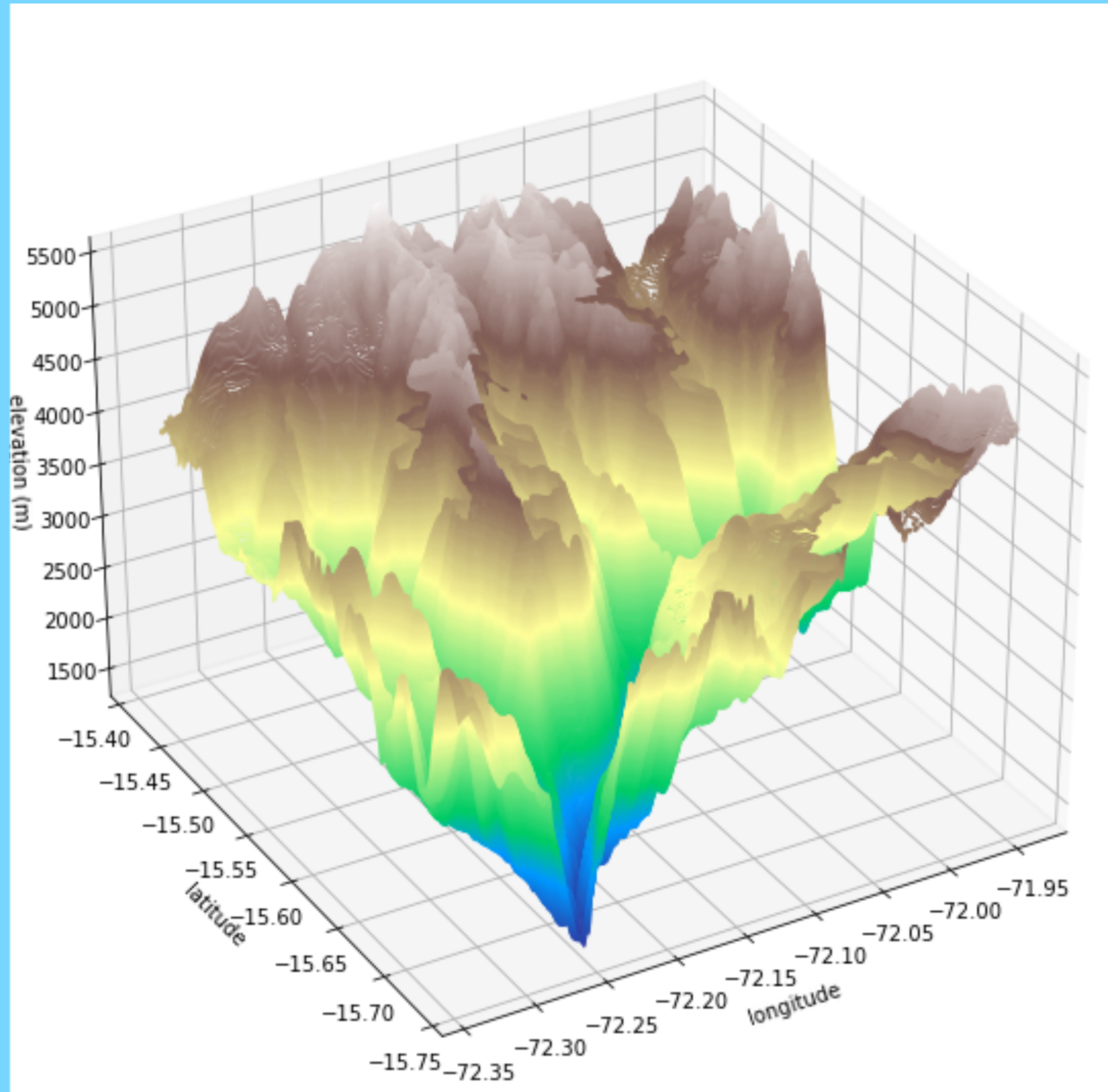


CORSIKA



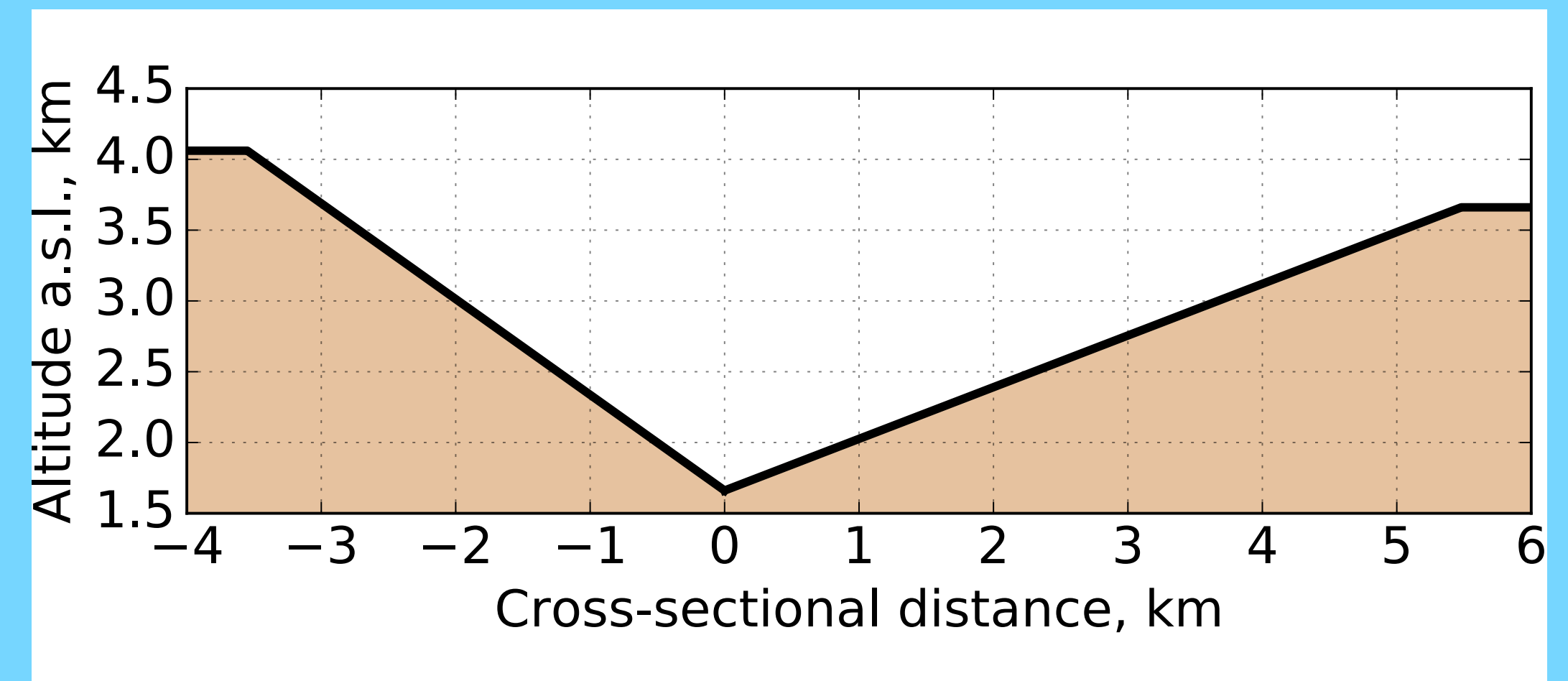


# First Stage / Current Work



<https://www.gpsvisualizer.com/elevation>

- Updating topographical models
- Previous estimations for prelim figures used simple geography
- Update propagation MC to include more complex geometries
- Plastic scintillators vs. Water Cherenkov



Romero-Wolf et al., arXiv:2002.06475v1



# Summary + Outlook

- TAMBO aims to achieve:
  - Increased  $\nu_\tau$  sensitivity at 1-10 PeV
  - Aid point source flux  $\nu_\tau$  constraints
- TAMBO uses already well proven technology
- There is a hole in the tau neutrino spectrum







$\nu_\tau$  spectrum  
1 PeV - 100 PeV

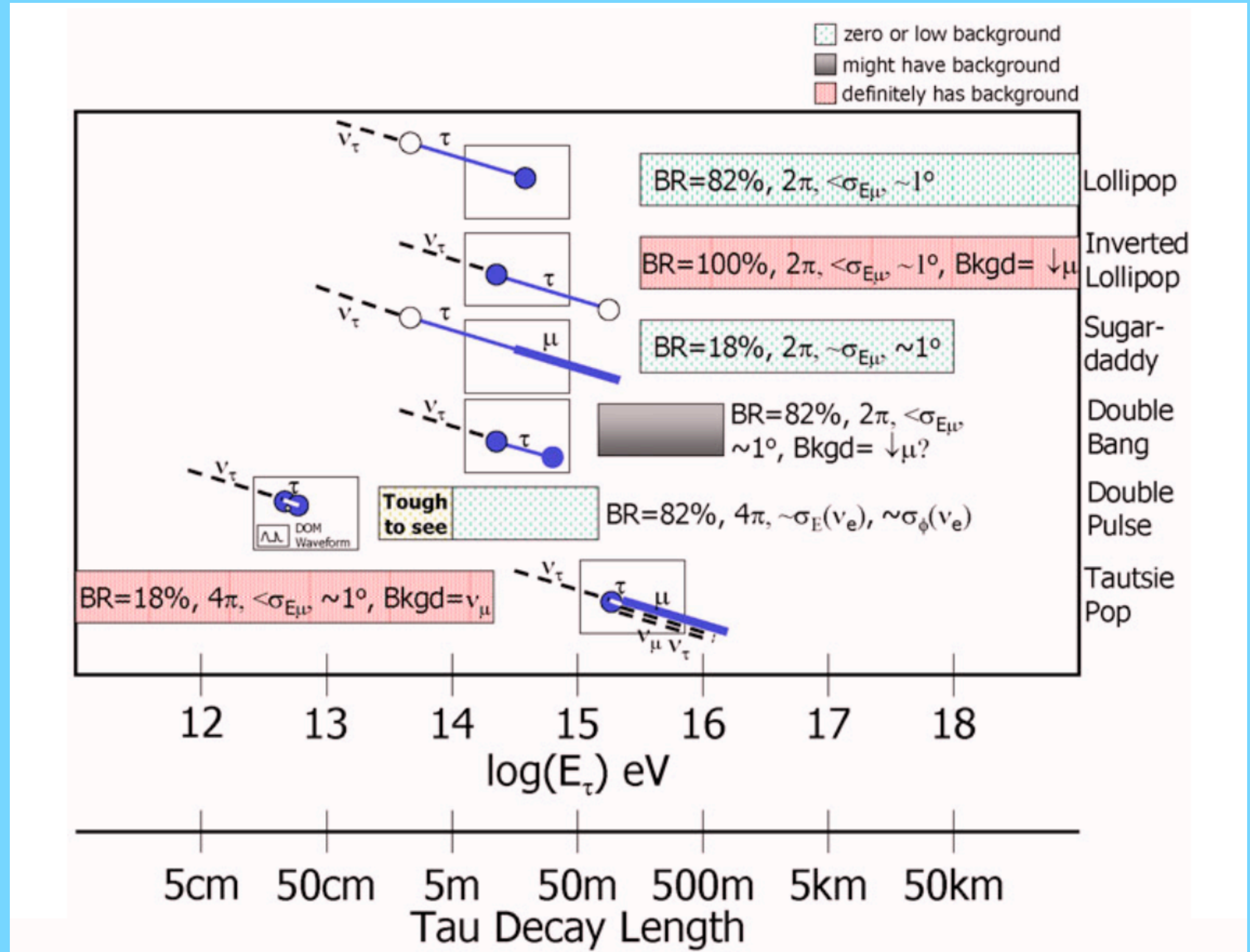
**TAMBO**

**Thank you! Questions?**



# Backup

## Different Tau Morphologies





# Dark Matter too

