

Search of Quantum Gravity with High-Energy Astrophysical Neutrino Flavour

高エネルギー天体ニュートリノフレーバーによる量子重力の探索

To be published (2021)

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76th JPS annual meeting (日本物理学会第76回年次大会), Mar. 15, 2021

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Astrophysical high-energy neutrinos

High-energy particles ($\sim 1\text{PeV}$) propagating a long distance ($\sim \text{Gpc}$)
- Neutrinos can probe new physics in the universe



astrophysical
neutrino



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new long-range force

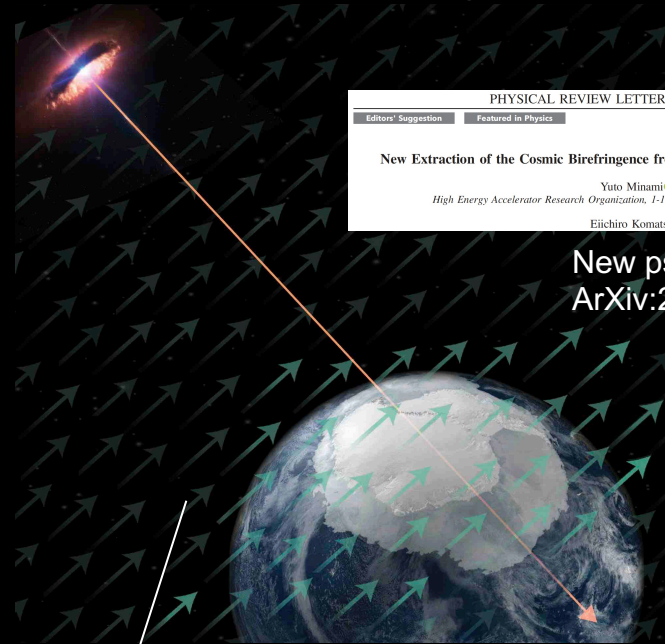
Quantum foam

ArXiv:hep-th/9207103

Lorentz violating field



New pseudoscalar field?
ArXiv:2011.11254



neutrino mixing

New physics

astrophysical neutrino

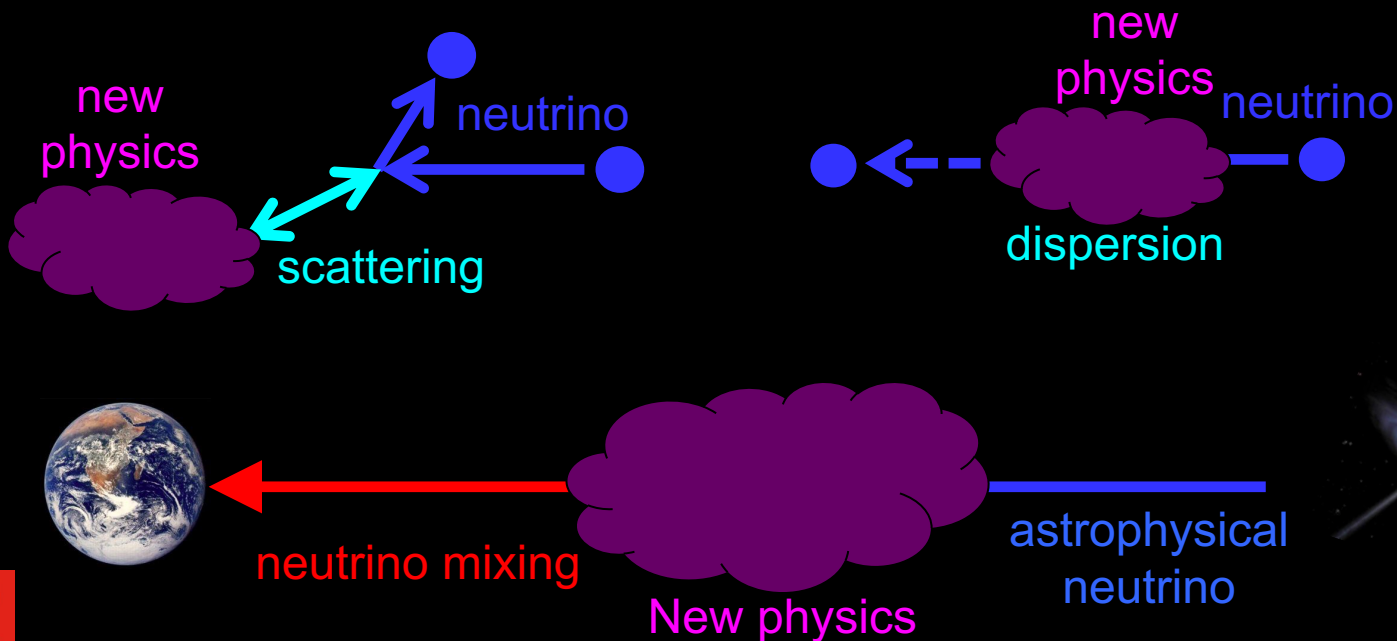
Astrophysical high-energy neutrinos

High-energy particles ($\sim 1\text{PeV}$) propagating a long distance ($\sim \text{Gpc}$)

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New physics search

- New scattering (=spectrum distortion)
- New dispersion (=spectrum distortion)
- New mixing \rightarrow new flavour structure (high sensitivity by quantum effect)



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The highest sensitivity to the **dimension-6 operator**

$$E^3 c_{\alpha\beta}^{(6)} = E^3 \begin{pmatrix} c_{ee}^{(6)} & c_{e\mu}^{(6)} & c_{\tau e}^{(6)} \\ c_{e\mu}^{(6)*} & c_{\mu\mu}^{(6)} & c_{\mu\tau}^{(6)} \\ c_{\tau e}^{(6)*} & c_{\mu\tau}^{(6)*} & c_{\tau\tau}^{(6)} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$h_{eff} \sim \frac{1}{2E} U^\dagger M^2 U + a_{\alpha\beta}^{(3)} - E c_{\alpha\beta}^{(4)} + E^2 a_{\alpha\beta}^{(5)} - E^3 c_{\alpha\beta}^{(6)} \dots$$

this guy \rightarrow

$$\text{dimension-6 operator: } c^{(6)} \sim \frac{1}{M_{Planck}^2} \sim 10^{-38} \text{GeV}^{-2}$$

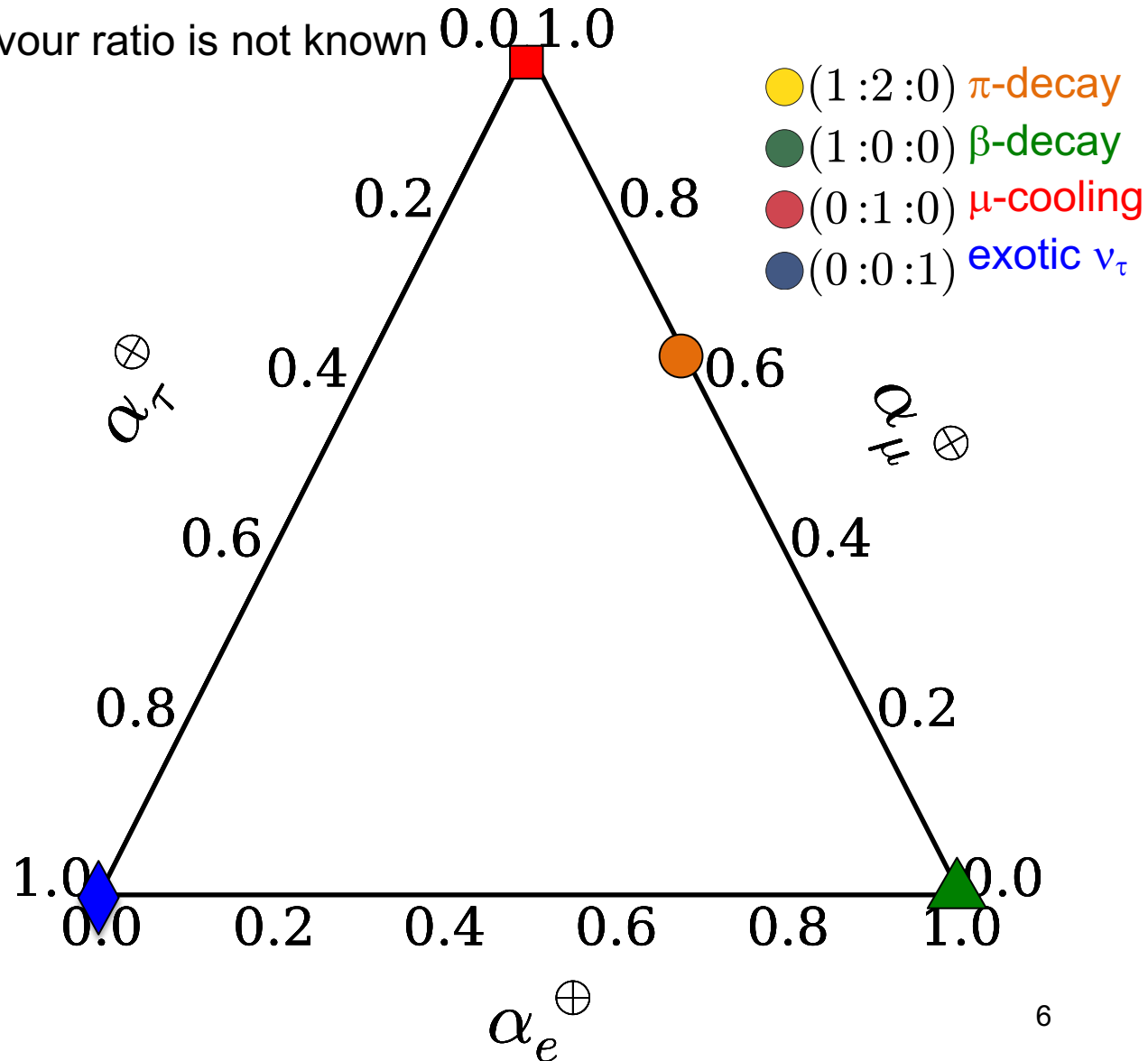
Previous limit (IceCube atmospheric neutrino), $c^{(6)} < 10^{-36} \text{GeV}^{-2}$

The sensitivity of this analysis can reach to the expected signal region

Neutrino flavor ratio ($\nu_e : \nu_\mu : \nu_\tau$)

Astrophysical neutrino production mechanism is

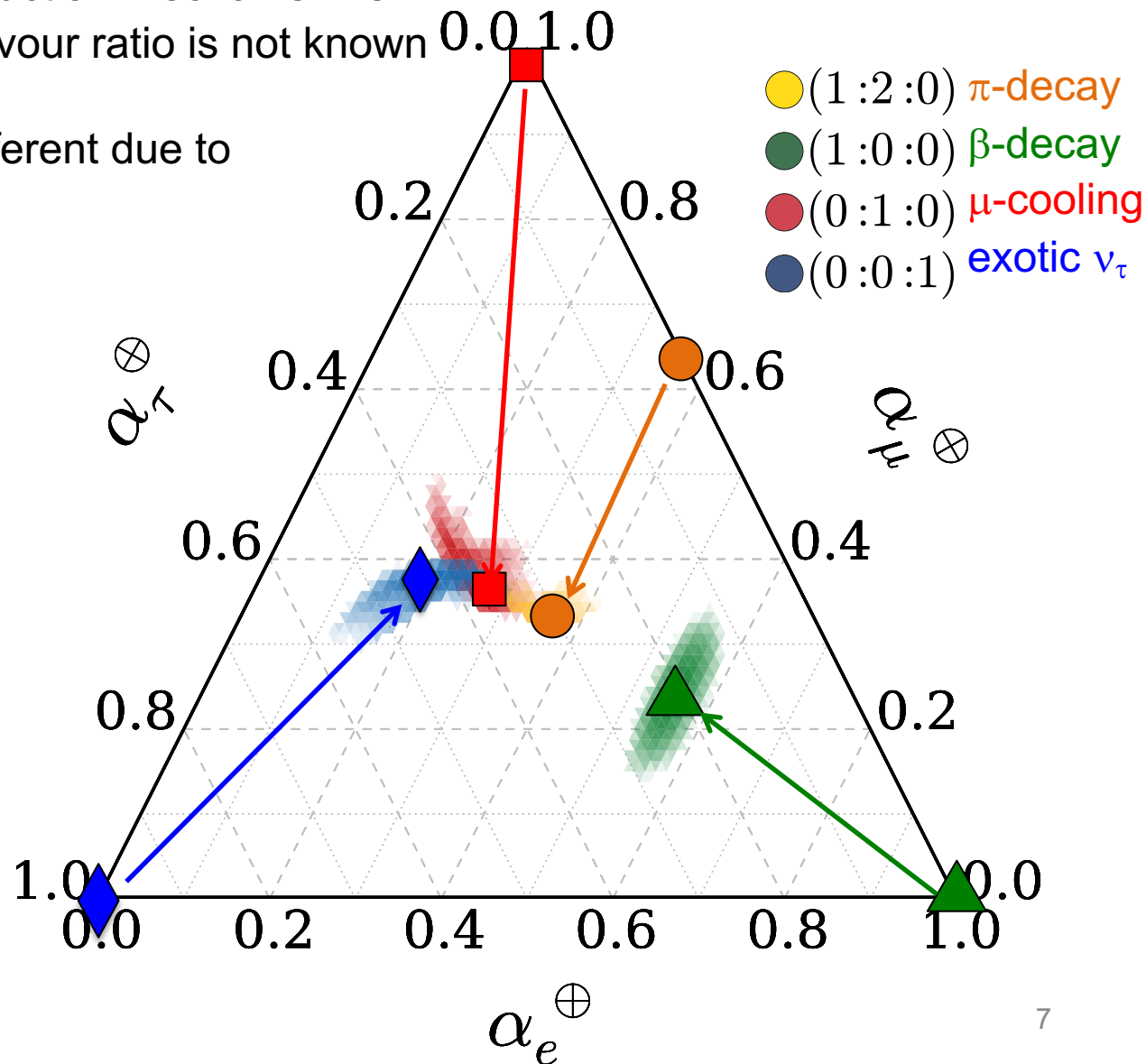
not known \rightarrow production flavour ratio is not known



Neutrino flavor ratio ($\nu_e : \nu_\mu : \nu_\tau$)

Astrophysical neutrino production mechanism is not known \rightarrow production flavour ratio is not known

Flavour ratio on Earth is different due to mixing by neutrino masses

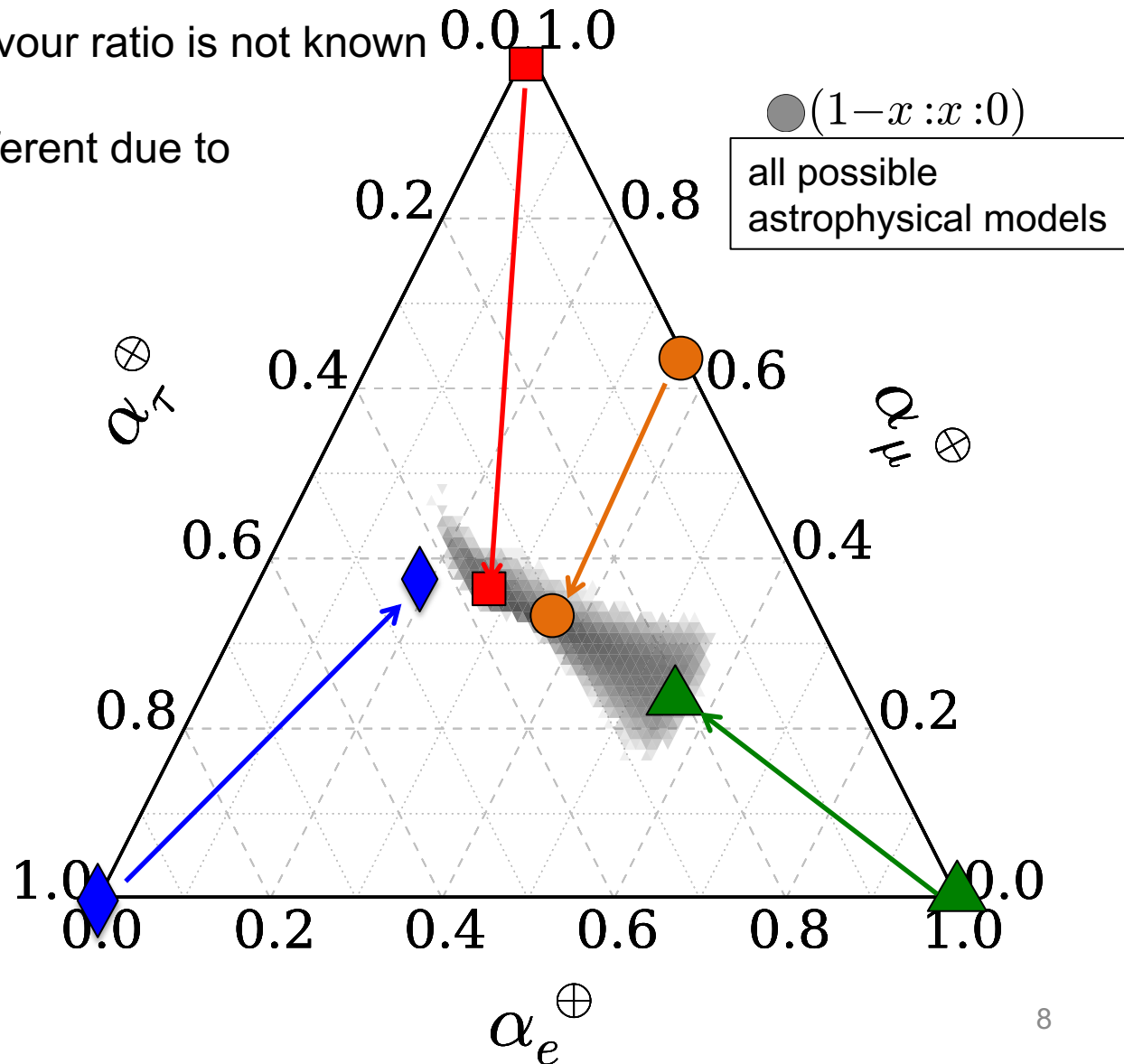


Neutrino flavor ratio ($\nu_e : \nu_\mu : \nu_\tau$)

Astrophysical neutrino production mechanism is not known \rightarrow production flavour ratio is not known

Flavour ratio on Earth is different due to mixing by neutrino masses

All possible flavour ratio is confined in a small space



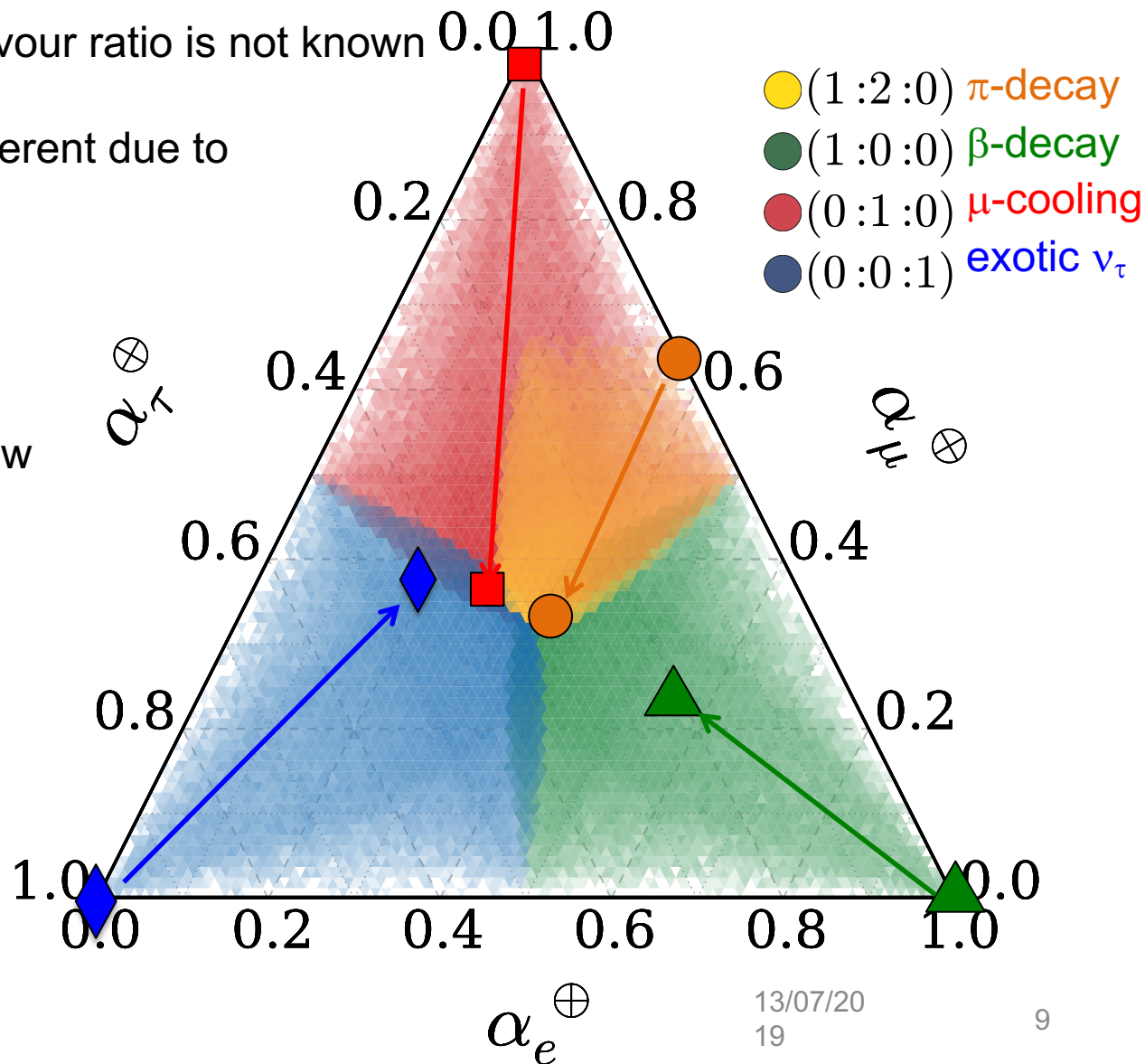
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Astrophysical neutrino production mechanism is not known \rightarrow production flavour ratio is not known

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All possible flavour ratio is confined in a small space

e.g.) New physics just below the limit can produce any flavour ratio

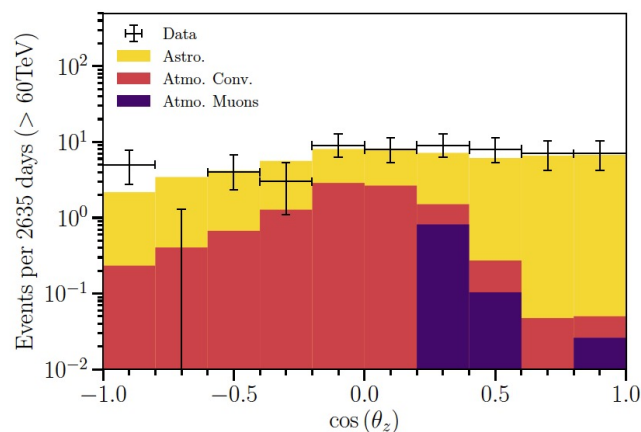
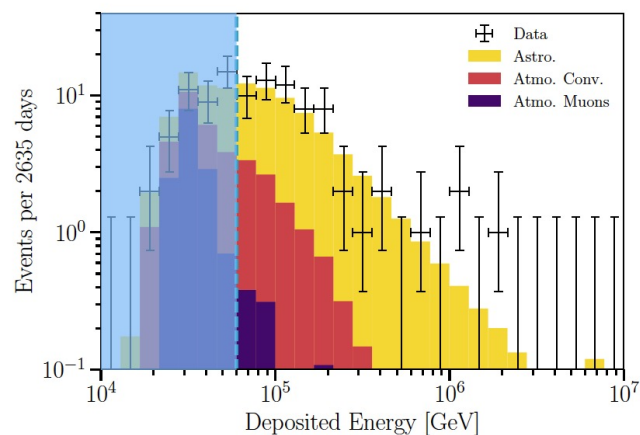
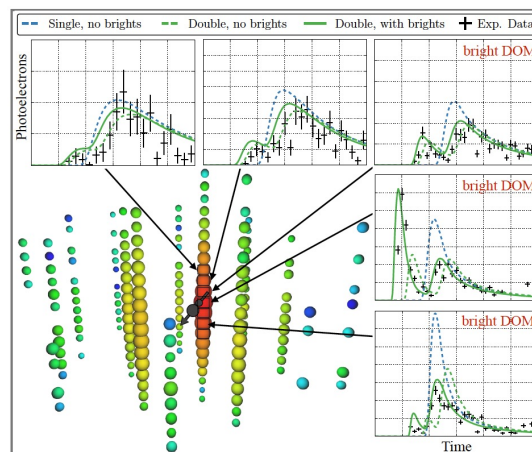
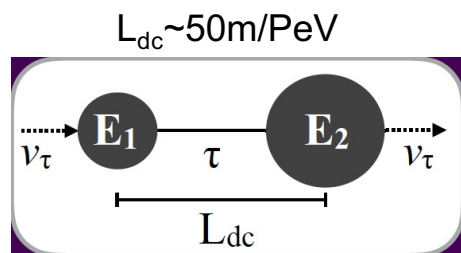


HESE 7.5-yr sample

60 HESE events in 60 TeV – 2 PeV

First identification of tau neutrinos

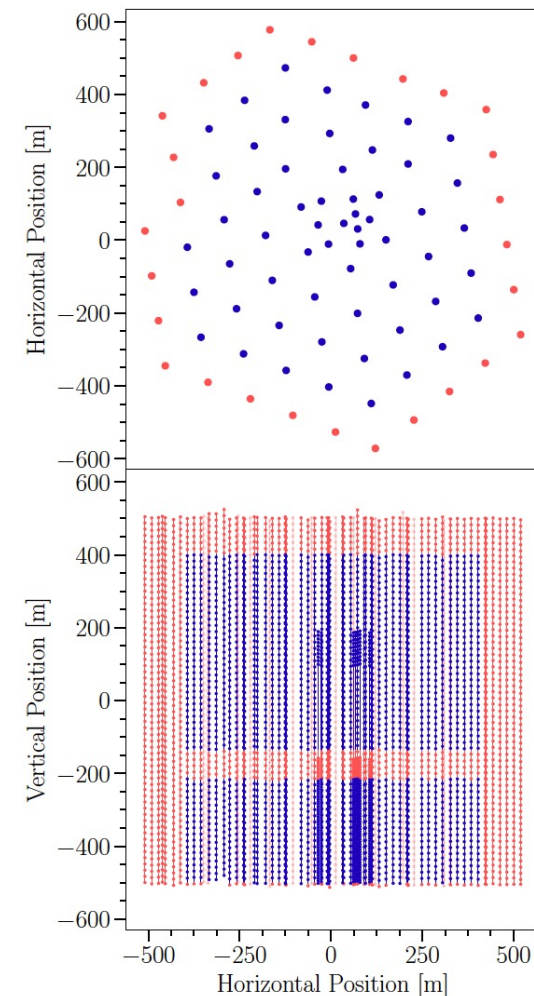
Astrophysical tau neutrino candidate event display



HESE 7.5-yr energy and angular distribution

Parameter	Value
Event start time charge threshold	250 PE
Maximum veto charge	3.0 PE
Maximum DOMs with veto hits	2
Minimum total charge	6000 PE
Trigger time window	3 μ s

IceCube veto



HESE 7.5-yr flavor ratio

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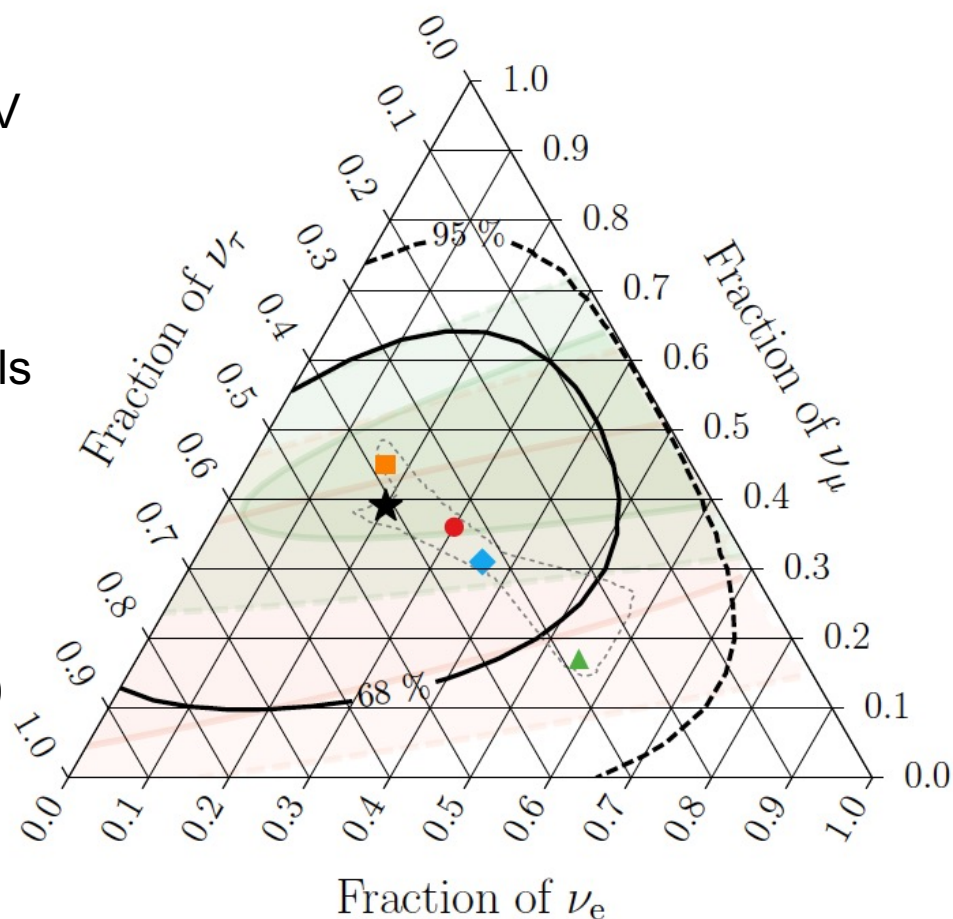
New flavour ratio measurement

- contour is too big, most of models are accepted by data

We will not find new physics

We need;

- higher statistics (IceCube-Gen2)
- better PID (software)



	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
	3ν -mixing 3σ allowed region	1:1:0 \rightarrow 0.36 : 0.31 : 0.33

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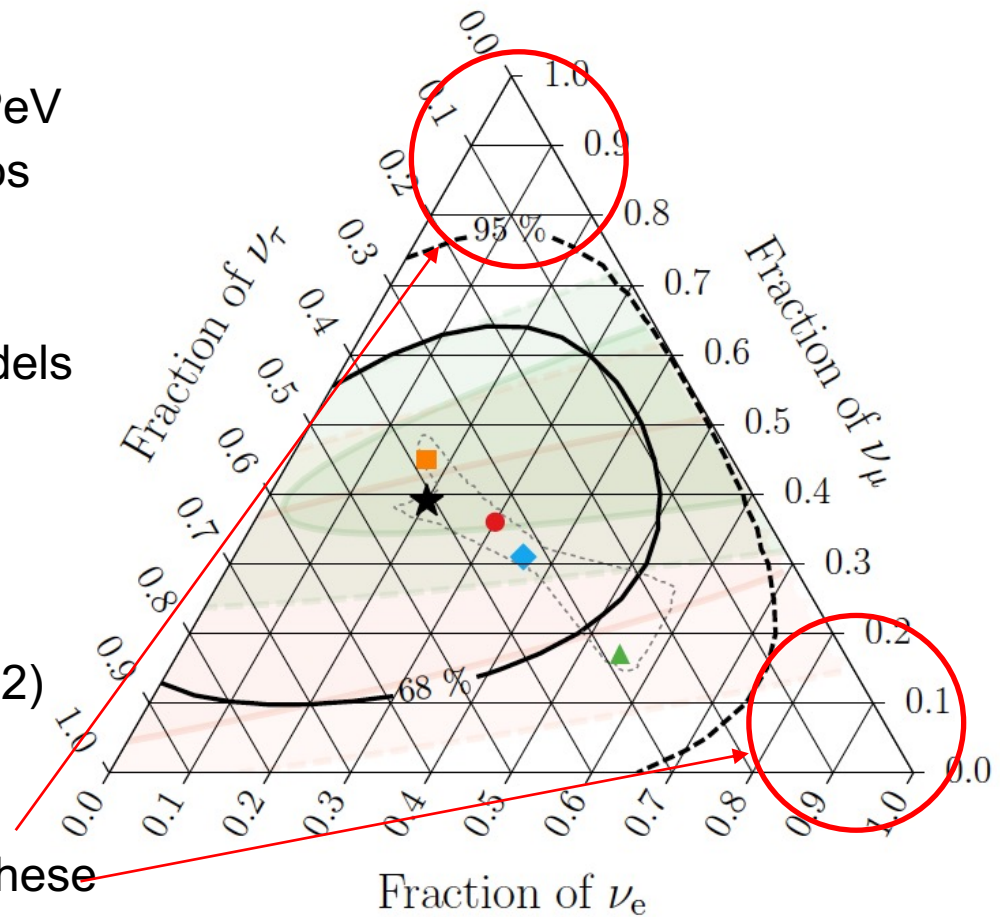
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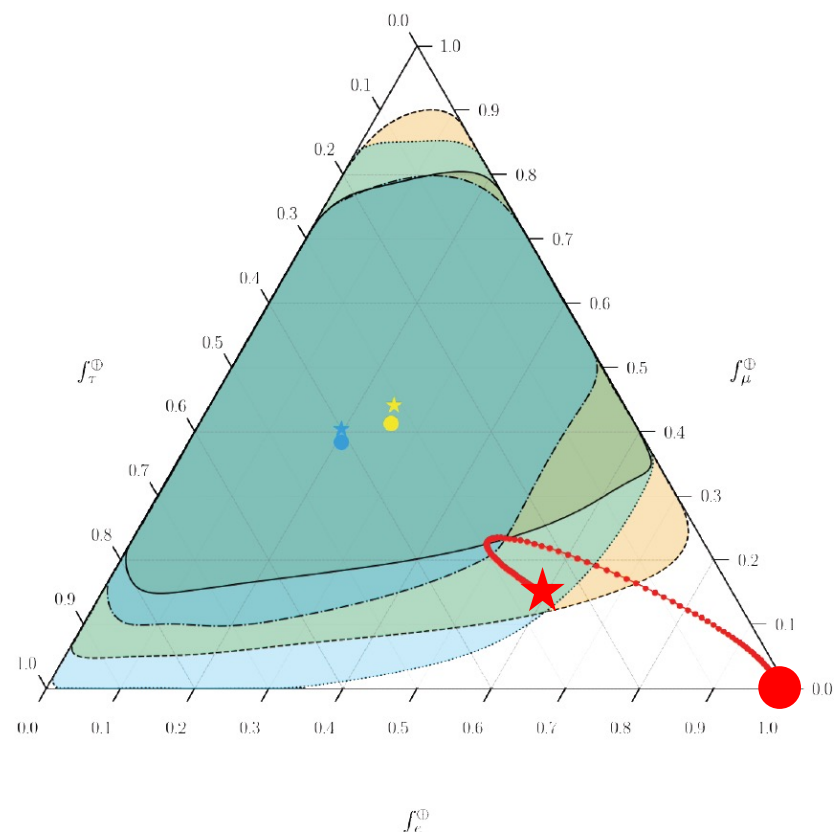
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e.g.) Initial flavour ratio ★ is (1:0:0), and there is nonzero new physics $c_{\mu\tau}^{(6)}$ term (exotic ν_μ - ν_τ mixing). If the new physics term is big, the flavour ratio on Earth is ●

Such model is rejected by current data

HESE 7.5-yr flavor new physics search

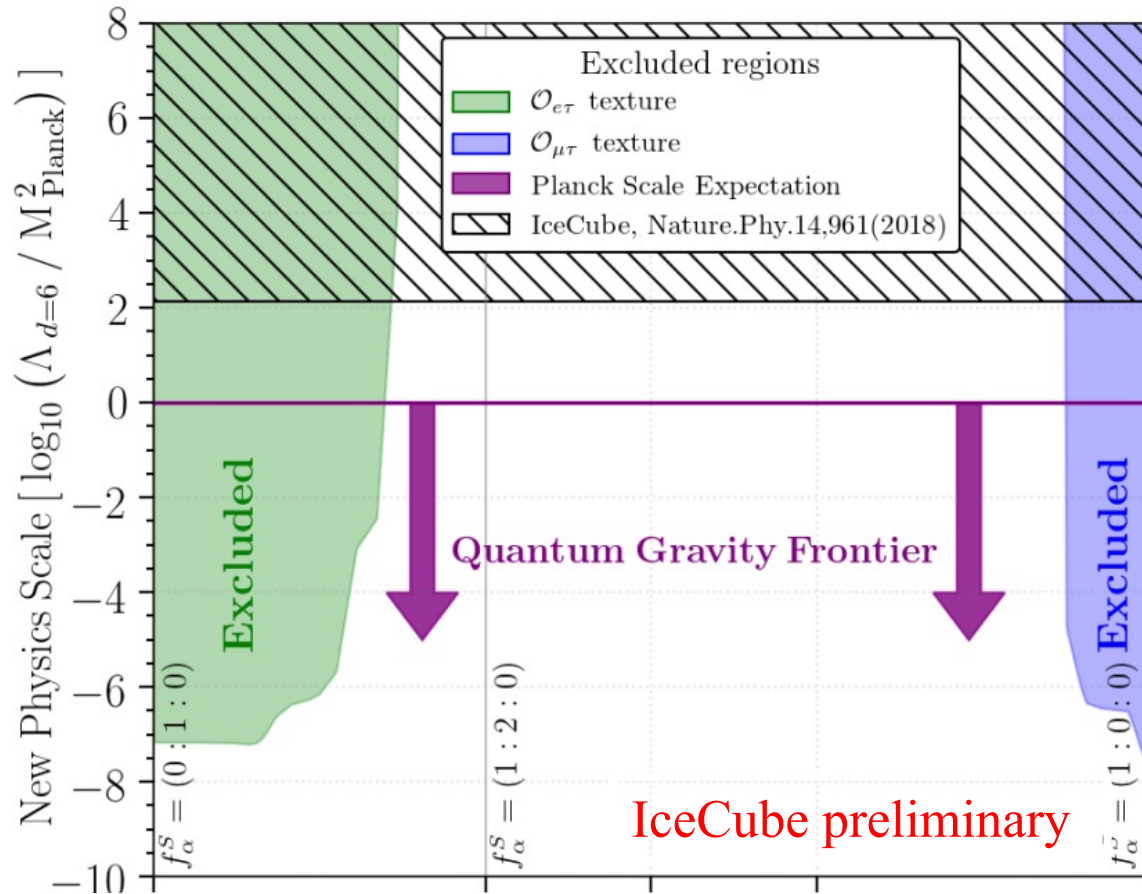
60 HESE events in 60 TeV – 2 PeV

First identification of tau neutrinos

Strong limits for many parameters depending on assumed initial flavour ratio

- dim-3 LV limit $\sim 10^{-26}$ GeV
- dim-4 LV limit $\sim 10^{-32}$
- dim-5 LV limit $\sim 10^{-40}$ GeV⁻¹
- dim-6 LV limit $\sim 10^{-46}$ GeV⁻²
- dim-7 LV limit $\sim 10^{-51}$ GeV⁻³
- dim-8 LV limit $\sim 10^{-58}$ GeV⁻⁴

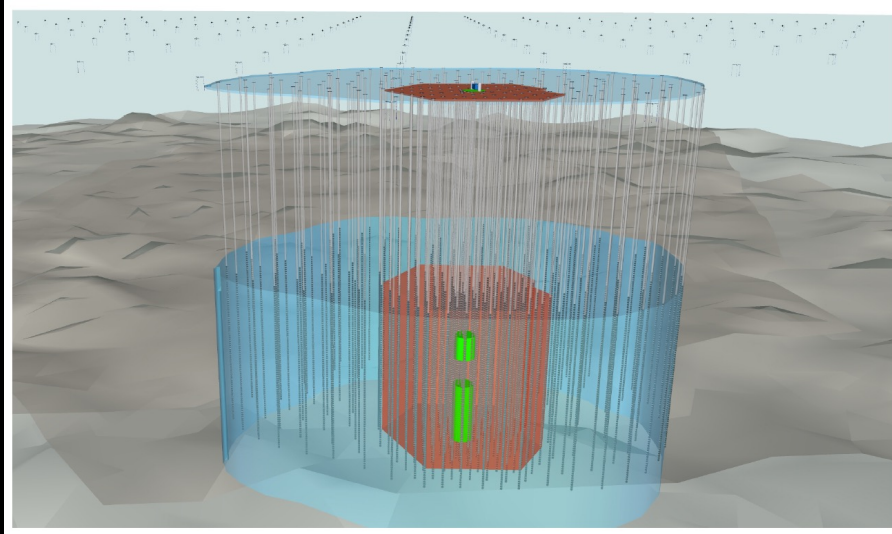
Paper in preparation (2021)



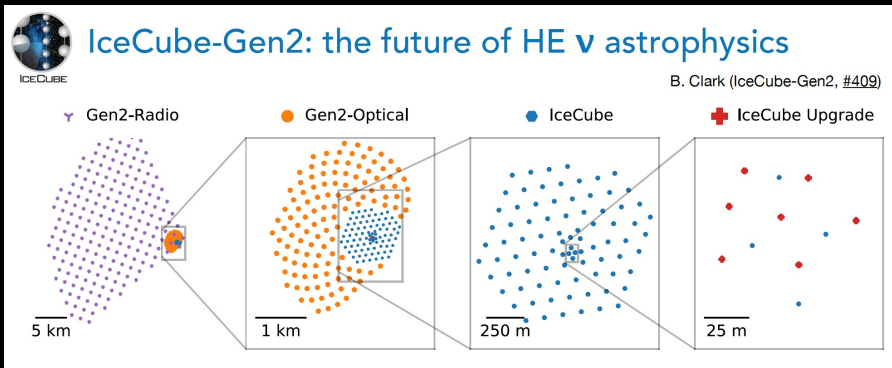
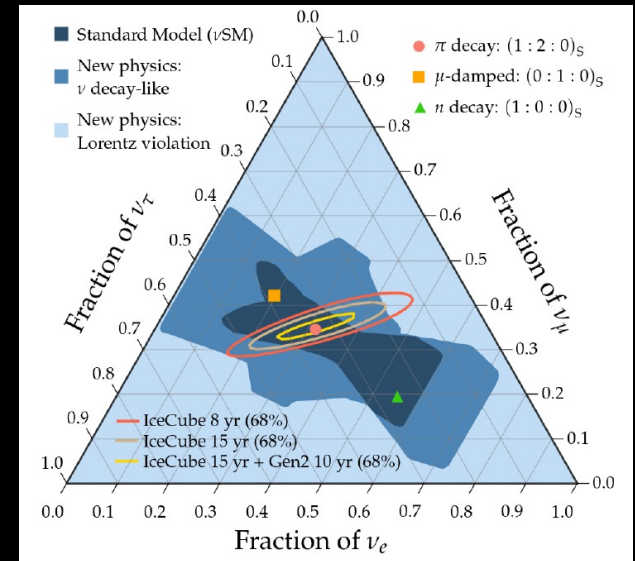


7. IceCube-Gen2

Larger separation (125m \rightarrow \sim 200-300m) to cover larger volume
 - 120 new strings with 100 sensors, 240 m separation, x10 coverage



IceCube-Gen2 flavour ratio sensitivity



The first stage of Gen2 (IceCube upgrade) is approved and ongoing



Conclusion

Quantum gravity may create a new structure in vacuum.

Neutrino interferometry is a powerful technique to look for new physics.

Astrophysical neutrino mixing sensitivity reaches to naïve expectation of Planck scale physics. We need more statistics and better particle identification algorithm to find quantum gravity motivated physics.

IceCube-Gen2 collaboration

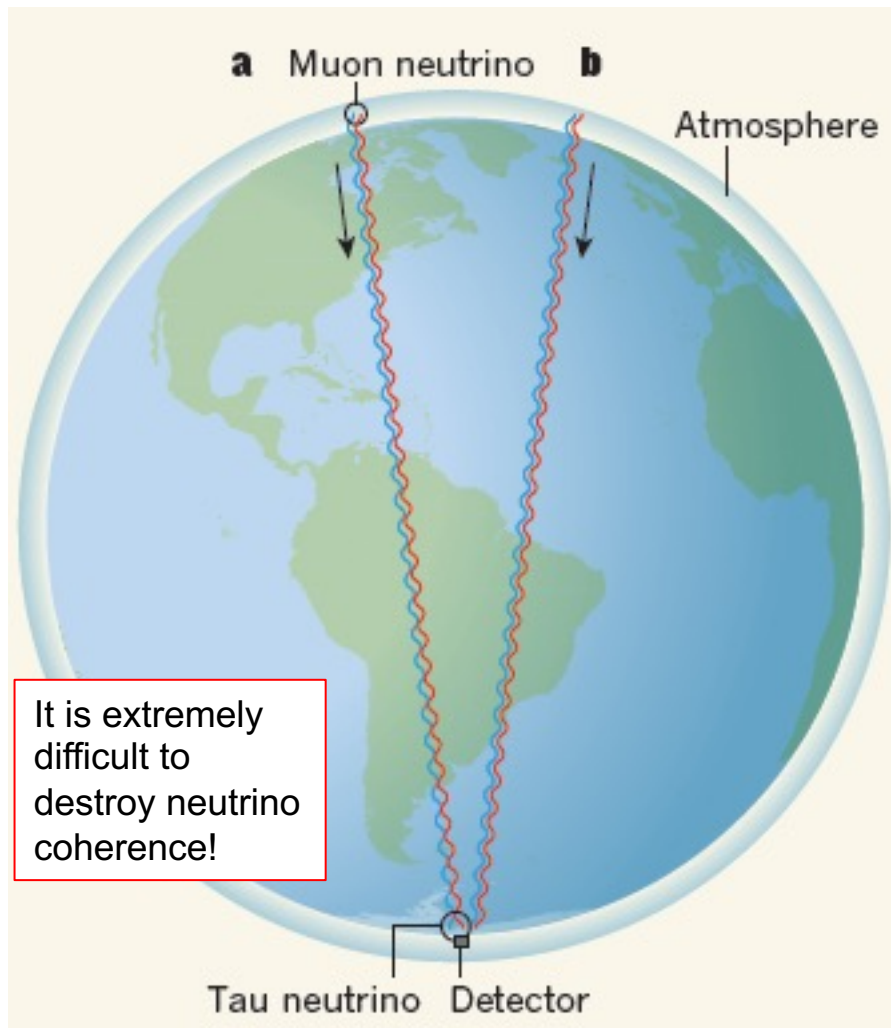


Thank you for your attention!



Backup

Neutrino interferometry – Atmospheric neutrinos

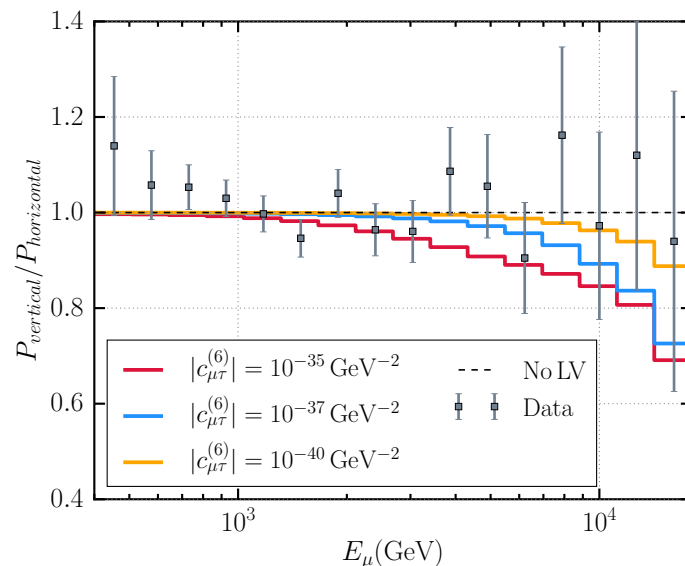


Neutrino oscillation is a nature interferometer. Any extra interactions in the Lagrangian contribute the phase shift

For 20 TeV up-going atmospheric neutrinos ($L \sim 12700\text{km}$), detectable phase shift by neutrino is

$$\bar{\psi} a^\mu \gamma_\mu \psi, \quad a \sim 10^{-24} \text{ GeV}$$

If anomalous coupling with neutrinos in vacuum cause a phase shift in similar order, we can see it from **spectrum distortion of atmospheric neutrinos**



Effective Hamiltonian with new physics operators

$$H \sim \frac{m^2}{2E} + \overset{\circ}{a}^{(3)} - E \cdot \overset{\circ}{c}^{(4)} + E^2 \cdot \overset{\circ}{a}^{(5)} - E^3 \cdot \overset{\circ}{c}^{(6)} \dots$$

Neutrino interferometry – Atmospheric neutrinos

dim.	method	type	sector	limits	ref.
3	CMB polarization	astrophysical	photon	$\sim 10^{-43}$ GeV	[6]
	He-Xe comagnetometer	tabletop	neutron	$\sim 10^{-34}$ GeV	[10]
	torsion pendulum	tabletop	electron	$\sim 10^{-31}$ GeV	[12]
	muon g-2	accelerator	muon	$\sim 10^{-24}$ GeV	[13]
	neutrino oscillation	atmospheric	neutrino	$ \text{Re}(\hat{a}_{\mu\tau}^{(3)}) , \text{Im}(\hat{a}_{\mu\tau}^{(3)}) < 2.9 \times 10^{-24}$ GeV (99% C.L.) $< 2.0 \times 10^{-24}$ GeV (90% C.L.)	this work
4	GRB vacuum birefringence	astrophysical	photon	$\sim 10^{-38}$	[7]
	Laser interferometer	LIGO	photon	$\sim 10^{-22}$	[8]
	Sapphire cavity oscillator	tabletop	photon	$\sim 10^{-18}$	[5]
	Ne-Rb-K comagnetometer	tabletop	neutron	$\sim 10^{-29}$	[11]
	trapped Ca^+ ion	tabletop	electron	$\sim 10^{-19}$	[14]
	neutrino oscillation	atmospheric	neutrino	$ \text{Re}(\hat{c}_{\mu\tau}^{(4)}) , \text{Im}(\hat{c}_{\mu\tau}^{(4)}) < 3.9 \times 10^{-28}$ (99% C.L.) $< 2.7 \times 10^{-28}$ (90% C.L.)	this work
5	GRB vacuum birefringence	astrophysical	photon	$\sim 10^{-34}$ GeV^{-1}	[7]
	ultra-high-energy cosmic ray	astrophysical	proton	$\sim 10^{-22}$ to 10^{-18} GeV^{-1}	[9]
	neutrino oscillation	atmospheric	neutrino	$ \text{Re}(\hat{a}_{\mu\tau}^{(5)}) , \text{Im}(\hat{a}_{\mu\tau}^{(5)}) < 2.3 \times 10^{-32}$ GeV^{-1} (99% C.L.) $< 1.5 \times 10^{-32}$ GeV^{-1} (90% C.L.)	this work
6	GRB vacuum birefringence	astrophysical	photon	$\sim 10^{-31}$ GeV^{-2}	[7]
	ultra-high-energy cosmic ray	astrophysical	proton	$\sim 10^{-42}$ to 10^{-35} GeV^{-2}	[9]
	gravitational Cherenkov radiation	astrophysical	gravity	$\sim 10^{-31}$ GeV^{-2}	[15]
	neutrino oscillation	atmospheric	neutrino	$ \text{Re}(\hat{c}_{\mu\tau}^{(6)}) , \text{Im}(\hat{c}_{\mu\tau}^{(6)}) < 1.5 \times 10^{-36}$ GeV^{-2} (99% C.L.) $< 9.1 \times 10^{-37}$ GeV^{-2} (90% C.L.)	this work
7	GRB vacuum birefringence	astrophysical	photon	$\sim 10^{-28}$ GeV^{-3}	[7]
	neutrino oscillation	atmospheric	neutrino	$ \text{Re}(\hat{a}_{\mu\tau}^{(7)}) , \text{Im}(\hat{a}_{\mu\tau}^{(7)}) < 8.3 \times 10^{-41}$ GeV^{-3} (99% C.L.) $< 3.6 \times 10^{-41}$ GeV^{-3} (90% C.L.)	this work
8	gravitational Cherenkov radiation	astrophysical	gravity	$\sim 10^{-46}$ GeV^{-4}	[15]
	neutrino oscillation	atmospheric	neutrino	$ \text{Re}(\hat{c}_{\mu\tau}^{(8)}) , \text{Im}(\hat{c}_{\mu\tau}^{(8)}) < 5.2 \times 10^{-45}$ GeV^{-4} (99% C.L.) $< 1.4 \times 10^{-45}$ GeV^{-4} (90% C.L.)	this work

TABLE I: Comparison of attainable best limits of SME coefficients in various fields.

Effective Hamiltonian with new physics operators

$$H \sim \frac{m^2}{2E} + \hat{a}^{(3)} - E \cdot \hat{c}^{(4)} + E^2 \cdot \hat{a}^{(5)} - E^3 \cdot \hat{c}^{(6)} \dots$$

When do we find Lorentz violation???

Higher-dimension operators may be related to new physics

- Dimension-5 operator (unit: GeV^{-1}), example: Majorana mass
- Dimension-6 operator (unit: GeV^{-2}), example: Fermi constant (G_F)

We focus on higher-dimension Lorentz violating operator search

If, Lorentz violation is related to Planck scale physics, it is suppressed inverse of Planck energy, $1/E_{\text{Planck}}^2 \sim 10^{-38} \text{ GeV}^{-2}$
 \rightarrow natural scale of dimension-6 Lorentz violating operator

Limits from this operator by atmospheric neutrino is $\sim 10^{-36} \text{ GeV}^{-1}$

nonrenormalizable
 \rightarrow

SME Lagrangian

$$L = i\bar{\psi}\gamma^\mu\partial_\mu\psi - m\bar{\psi}\psi + \bar{\psi}\gamma^\mu a_\mu^{(3)}\psi + \bar{\psi}\gamma^\mu c_{\mu\nu}^{(4)}\partial^\nu\psi \dots$$

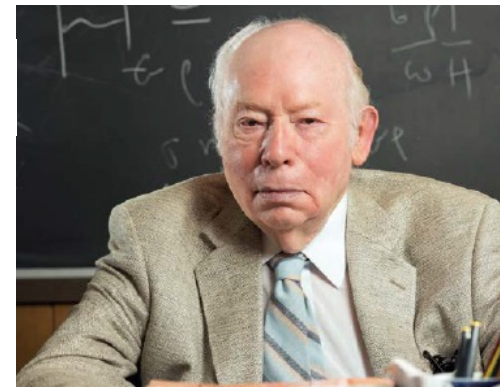
SME motivated effective Hamiltonian for neutrinos

$$h_{eff} \sim \frac{1}{2E} M^2 + V_{CC} + a^{(3)} + E c^{(4)} + E^2 a^{(5)} + E^3 c^{(6)} \dots$$

\rightarrow nonrenormalizable

“In a sense it is beyond the SM, but I would rather say it is beyond the leading terms – the renormalizable, unsuppressed part of the SM,” says Weinberg. “But hell – so is gravity! The symmetries of general relativity don’t allow any renormalizable interactions of massless spin-2 particles called gravitons.”

Steve Weinberg
 (CERN Courier, Nov 2017)



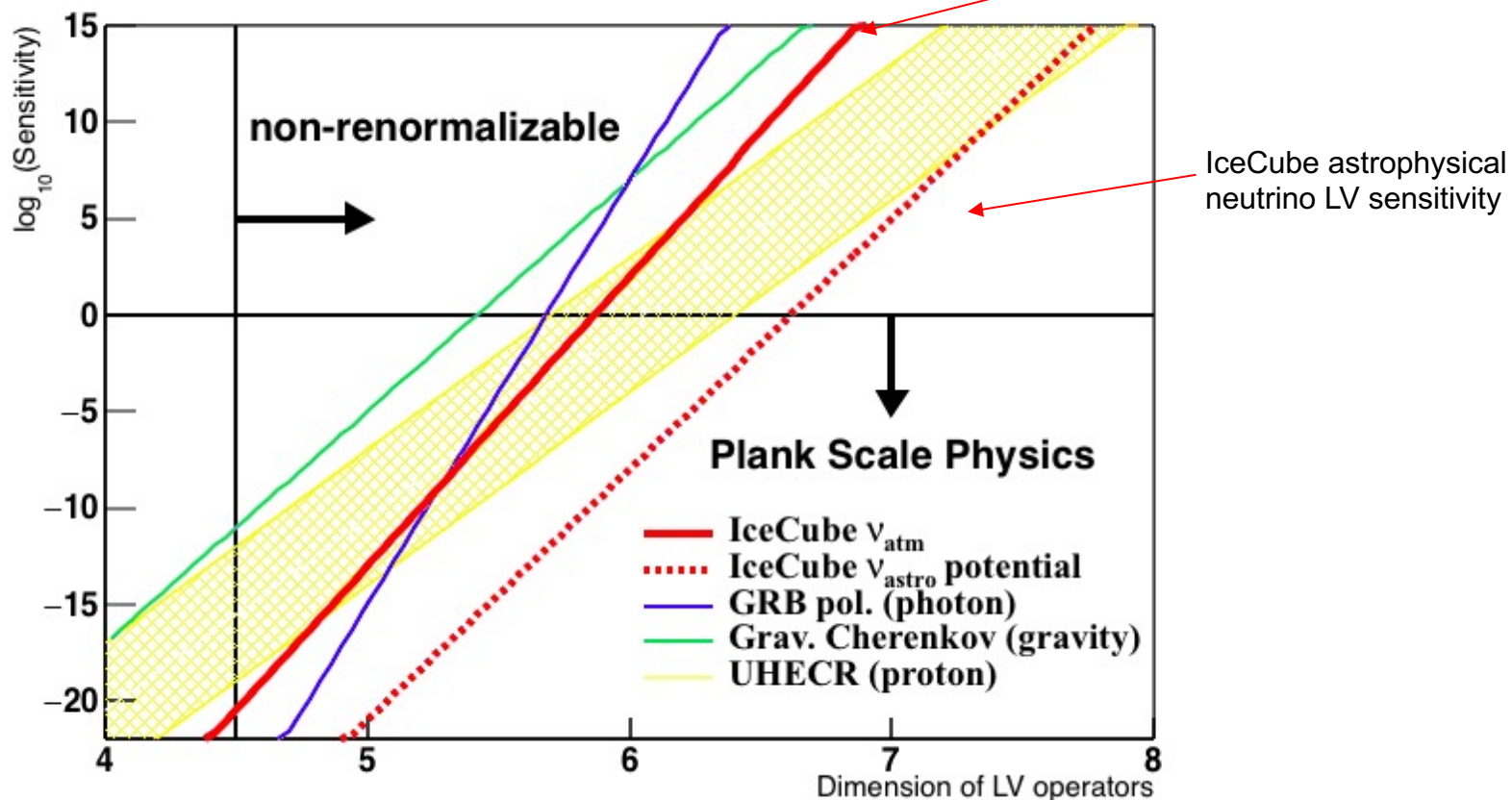
When do we find Lorentz violation???

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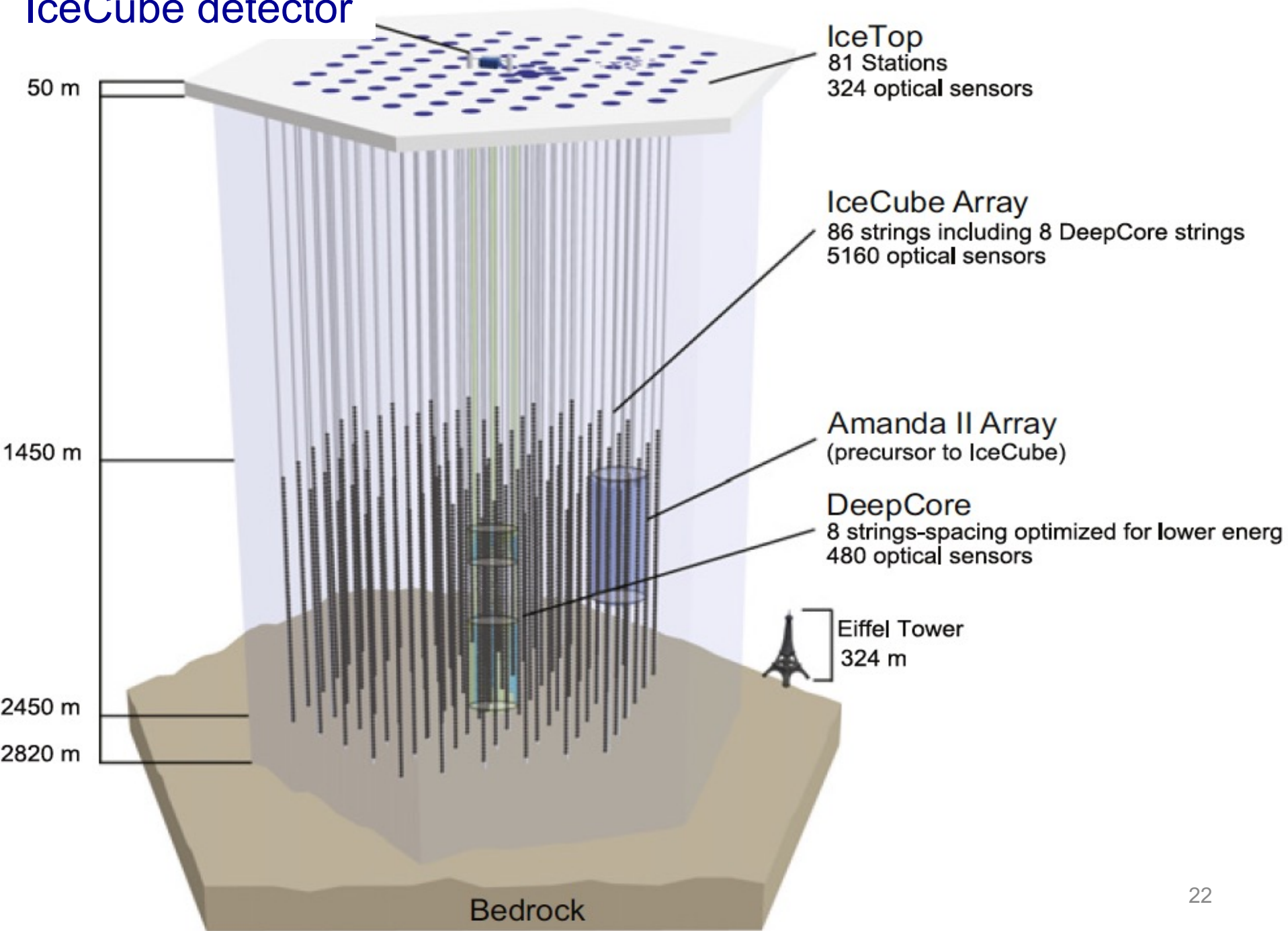
IceCube atmospheric
neutrino LV sensitivity
[Nature Physics 14\(2018\)961](#)

New physics limits and projected sensitivity

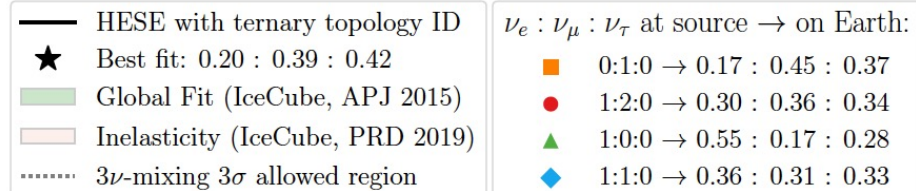
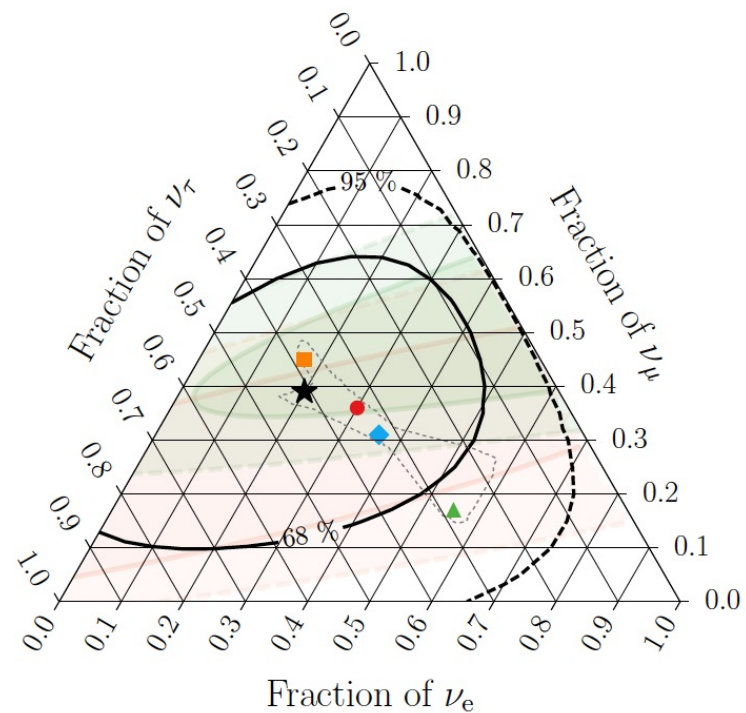
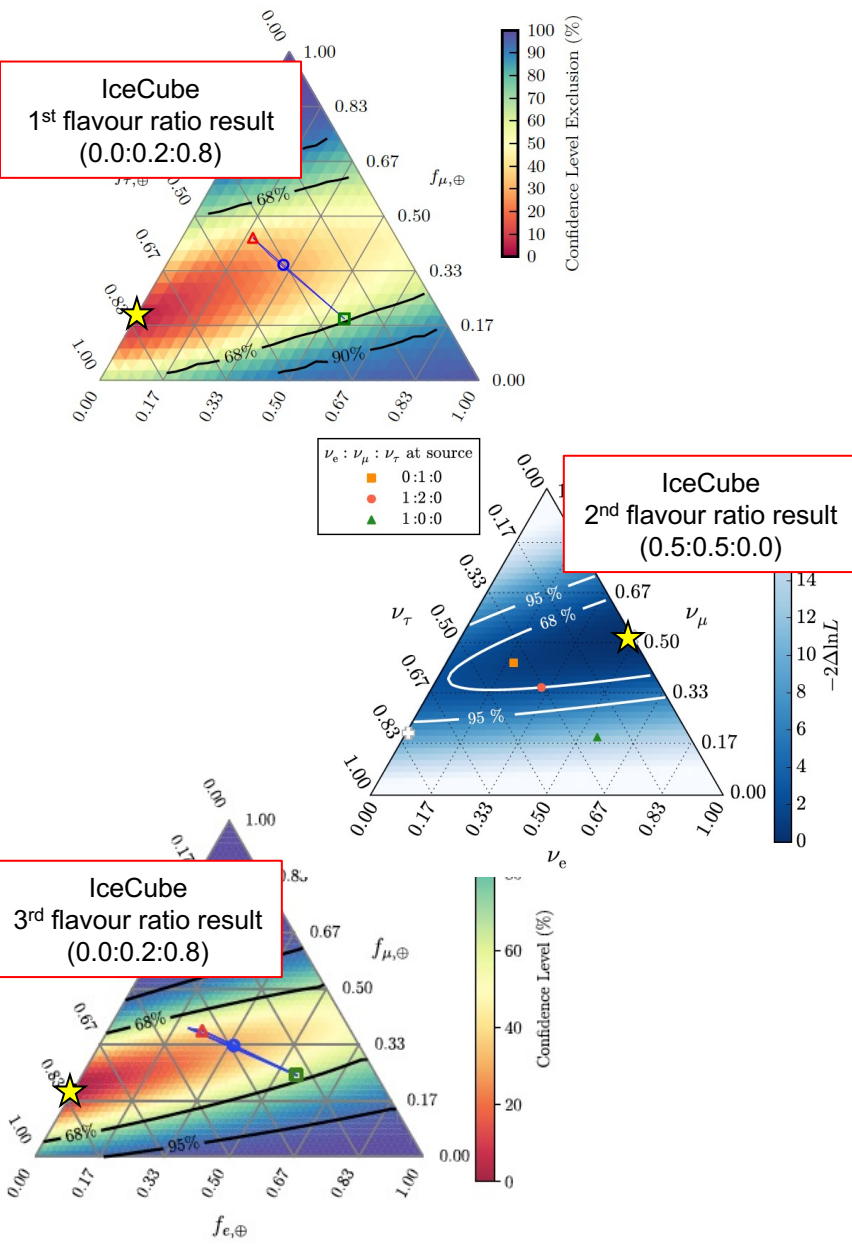


Astrophysical neutrino dim-6 LV operator search can reach quantum gravity motivated region ($\sim 1/M_{\text{Planck}}^2 \sim 10^{-38} \text{ GeV}^{-2}$)

IceCube detector



HESE 7.5-yr data (2018)



New flavour ratio measurement

- Likelihood is very shallow and fit often confuses between ν_e and ν_τ
- New flavour ratio result has some power to distinguish ν_e and ν_τ

Astrophysical neutrino flavor with Lorentz violation

We start from isotropic model of nonminimal SME

$$h_{eff} \sim \frac{1}{2E} U^\dagger M^2 U + a_{\alpha\beta}^{(3)} - E c_{\alpha\beta}^{(4)} + E^2 a_{\alpha\beta}^{(5)} - E^3 c_{\alpha\beta}^{(6)} + E^4 a_{\alpha\beta}^{(7)} - E^5 c_{\alpha\beta}^{(8)} \dots$$

dim-6 isotropic SME (d=6)

$$E^3 c_{\alpha\beta}^{(6)} = E^3 \frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi}} \left(c_{\alpha\beta}^{(6)} \right)_{00} = E^3 \begin{pmatrix} c_{ee}^{(6)} & c_{e\mu}^{(6)} & c_{\tau e}^{(6)} \\ c_{e\mu}^{(6)*} & c_{\mu\mu}^{(6)} & c_{\mu\tau}^{(6)} \\ c_{\tau e}^{(6)*} & c_{\mu\tau}^{(6)*} & c_{\tau\tau}^{(6)} \end{pmatrix}$$

and so on...

We test dim-3 to dim-8 operators one by one to find nonzero scale (or set limit on scale)

$$h_{eff} \sim \frac{1}{2E} U^\dagger M^2 U - E^3 c_{\alpha\beta}^{(6)} = V^\dagger(E) \Delta V(E)$$

$$V(E) = \begin{pmatrix} V_{e1}(E) & V_{e2}(E) & V_{e3}(E) \\ V_{\mu1}(E) & V_{\mu2}(E) & V_{\mu3}(E) \\ V_{\tau1}(E) & V_{\tau2}(E) & V_{\tau3}(E) \end{pmatrix}, \quad \Delta = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1(E) & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2(E) & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \lambda_3(E) \end{pmatrix}$$

Astrophysical neutrino flavor with Lorentz violation

Neutrino oscillation formula is written with mixing matrix elements and eigenvalues

$$P_{\alpha \rightarrow \beta}(E, L) = 1 - 4 \sum_{i>j} \text{Re}(V_{\alpha i}^* V_{\beta i}^* V_{\alpha j} V_{\beta j}) \sin^2 \left(\frac{\lambda_i - \lambda_j}{2} L \right) + 2 \sum_{i>j} \text{Im}(V_{\alpha i}^* V_{\beta i}^* V_{\alpha j} V_{\beta j}) \sin \left((\lambda_i - \lambda_j) L \right)$$

However, astrophysical neutrinos propagate $O(100\text{Mpc}) \rightarrow$ lost coherence

$$P_{\alpha \rightarrow \beta}(E, \infty) \sim 1 - 2 \sum_{i>j} \text{Re}(V_{\alpha i}^* V_{\beta i}^* V_{\alpha j} V_{\beta j}) = \sum_i |V_{\alpha i}|^2 |V_{\beta i}|^2$$

Astrophysical neutrino flux of flavor α at production is $\phi_\alpha^p(E) \sim \phi_\alpha^p \cdot E^{-\gamma}$. Since it's low statistics, we consider energy-averaged flavor composition β on Earth

$$\bar{\phi}_\beta^\oplus = \frac{1}{\Delta E} \int_{\Delta E} \sum_\alpha P_{\alpha \rightarrow \beta}(E, \infty) \phi_\alpha^p(E) dE$$

We take the fraction of this for each flavor.

$$f_\beta^\oplus = \frac{\bar{\phi}_\beta^\oplus}{\sum_{e,\mu,\tau} \bar{\phi}_\gamma^\oplus}$$

HESE 7.5-yr Flavor new physics search

Data, 2635 days HESE sample [IceCube, ArXiv: 2011.03545](#)

- 17 track events, 20 $\log(E)$ bins [60 TeV, 10 PeV], 10 $\cos\theta$ bins [-1.0, +1.0]
- 41 cascade events, 20 $\log(E)$ bins [60 TeV, 10 PeV], 10 $\cos\theta$ bins [-1.0, +1.0]
- 2 double cascades, 20 $\log(E)$ bins [60 TeV, 10 PeV], 10 $\log(L)$ bins [10m, 100m]

Simulation

[Bhattacharya et al., JHEP06\(2015\)110](#)

- Foregrounds, conventional (Honda flux), prompt (BERSS model), muon (CORSIKA)
- Astrophysical neutrinos, simple power law
- Interaction, NLO PDF DIS (CSMS model) [Cooper-Sarkar et al., JHEP08\(2011\)042](#)

Systematics (15 nuisance parameters)

- oscillation parameters (6)
- normalization of flux : conventional (40%), prompt (free), muon (50%), astrophysical (free)
- spectrum index : primary cosmic ray (5%) astrophysical neutrinos (free)
- Ice model : (20%)
- DOM efficiency : overall (10%), angular dependence (50%)

Limits

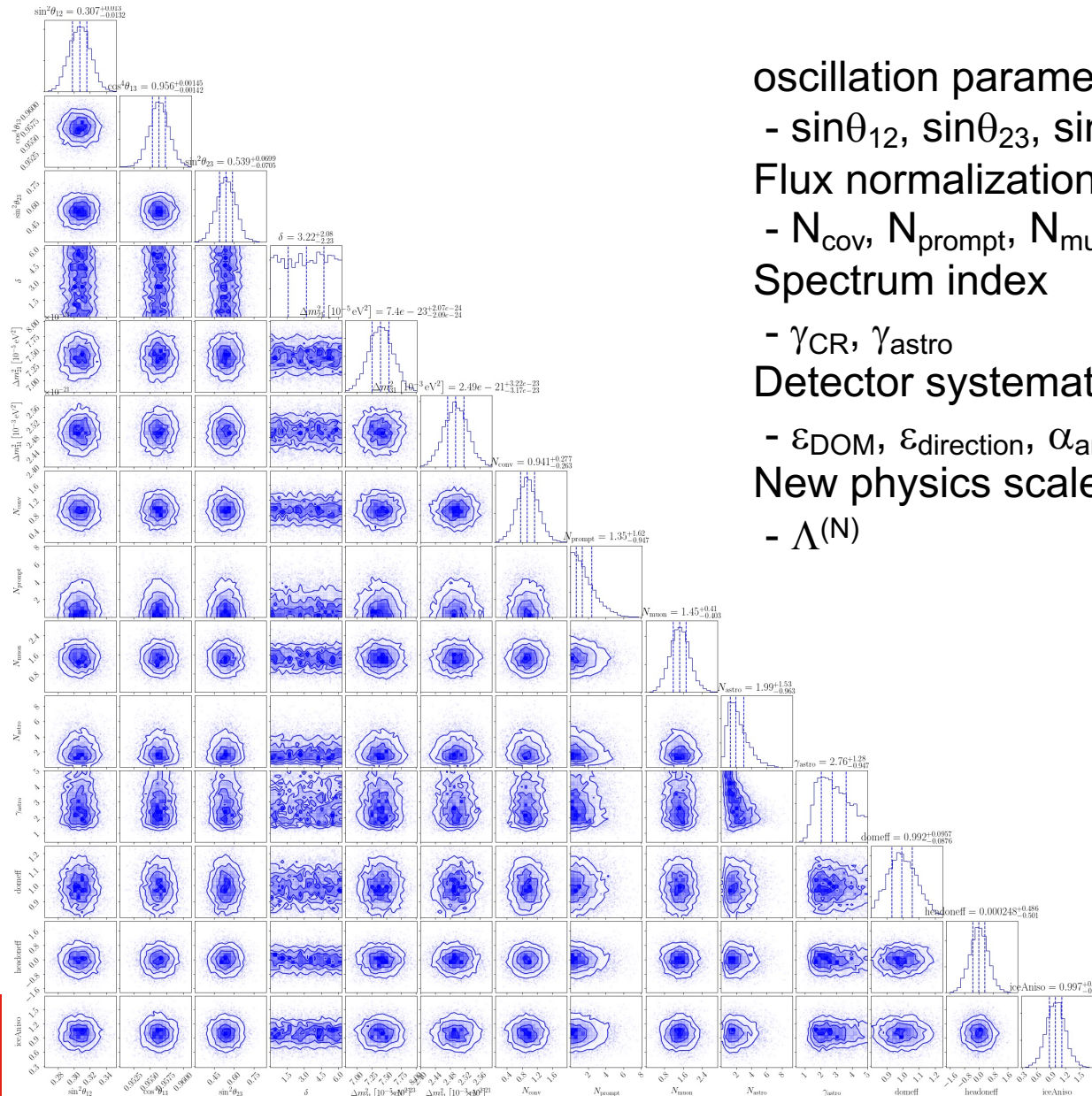
[Feroz et al., Mon. Not. Roy. Astron. Soc. 398,1601\(2009\)1601](#)

- Bayesian: MCMC with Multinest, Bayes factor with Jefferey' scale “strong” limit
- Frequentist: Wilks' theorem

Systematic errors

Parameter	Prior (constraint)	Range	Description
Astrophysical neutrino flux:			
Φ_{astro}	-	$[0, \infty)$	Normalization scale
γ_{astro}	-	$(-\infty, \infty)$	Spectral index
Atmospheric neutrino flux:			
Φ_{conv}	1.0 ± 0.4	$[0, \infty)$	Conventional normalization scale
Φ_{prompt}	-	$[0, \infty)$	Prompt normalization scale
$R_{K/\pi}$	1.0 ± 0.1	$[0, \infty)$	Kaon-Pion ratio correction
$2\nu/(\nu + \bar{\nu})_{\text{atmo}}$	1.0 ± 0.1	$[0, 2]$	Neutrino-anti-neutrino ratio correction
Cosmic-ray flux:			
$\Delta\gamma_{\text{CR}}$	0.0 ± 0.05	$(-\infty, \infty)$	Cosmic-ray spectral index modification
Φ_{μ}	1.0 ± 0.5	$[0, \infty)$	Muon normalization scale
Detector:			
ϵ_{DOM}	0.99 ± 0.1	$[0.80, 1.25]$	Absolute energy scale
$\epsilon_{\text{head-on}}$	0.0 ± 0.5	$[-3.82, 2.18]$	DOM angular response
a_{s}	1.0 ± 0.2	$[0.0, 2.0]$	Ice anisotropy scale

Fit example, large new physics in $c_{e\tau}$ (6)



oscillation parameters

- $\sin\theta_{12}$, $\sin\theta_{23}$, $\sin\theta_{13}$, Δm_{12} , Δm_{23} , δ

Flux normalization

- N_{cov} , N_{prompt} , N_{muon} , N_{astro}

Spectrum index

- γ_{CR} , γ_{astro}

Detector systematics

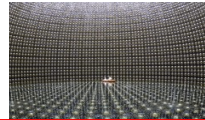
- ϵ_{DOM} , $\epsilon_{\text{direction}}$, $\alpha_{\text{anisotropy}}$

New physics scale

- $\Lambda(N)$

Test of Lorentz violation with neutrinos

Spectral distortion



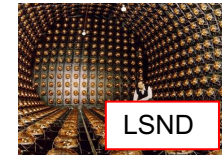
Super-Kamiokande

PRD91(2015)052003



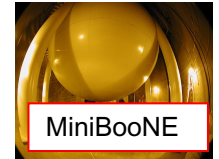
Daya Bay

PRD98(2018)092013



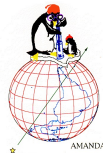
LSND

PRD72(2005)076004



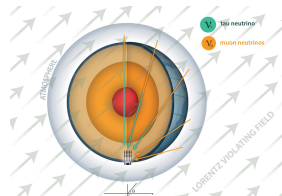
MiniBooNE

PLB718(2013)1303



AMANDA

PRD79(2009)102005



IceCube

Nature Physics
14(2018)961



MINOS ND

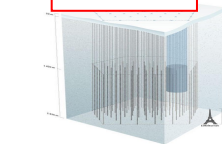
PRL101(2008)151601



MINOS FD

PRL105(2010)151601

IceCube



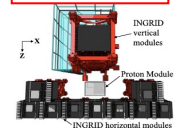
PRD82(2010)112003



Double Chooz

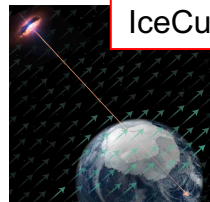
PRD86(2013)112009

T2K ND



PRD95(2017)111101

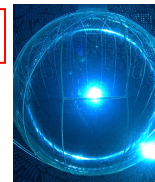
Flavor ratio



IceCube

To be published

SNO



PRD98(2018)112013

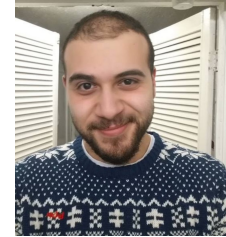
Seasonal variation

HESE 7.5-yr data (2018)

New data release of high-energy starting event (HESE) data set.

- 60 events in 60 TeV to 2 PeV (big bird)
- 41 track, 17 cascade, and 2 double cascades

Kareem Farrag
(Queen Mary → JSPS)



Austin Schneider
(UW-Madison → MIT)



Juliana Stachurska
(DESY, Germany)



Carlos Argüelles
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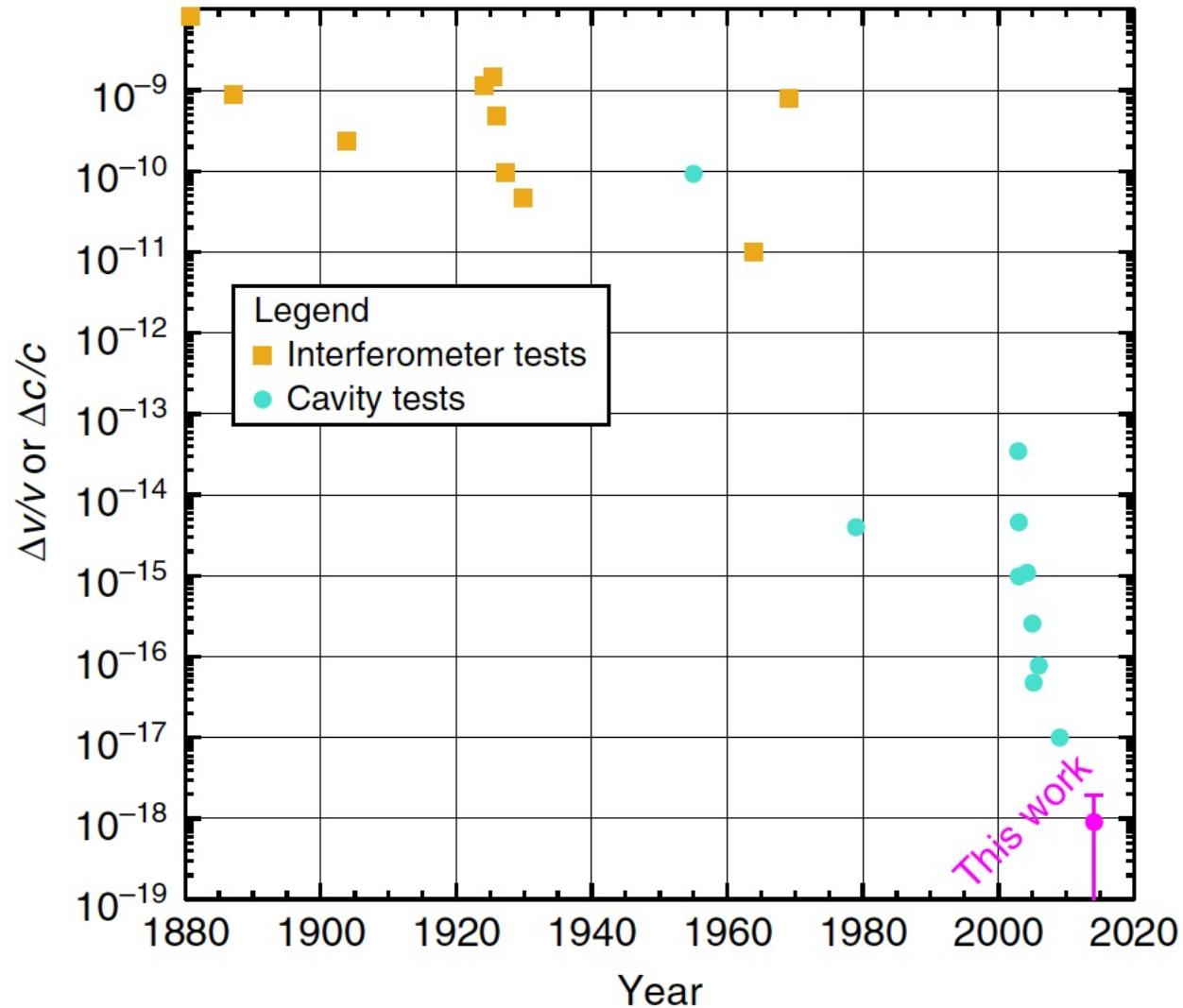
Hrvoje Dujmovic
(Sungkyunkwan, S.Korea)



Nancy Wandkowsky
(UW-Madison)



History of Michelson-Morley experiment



Energy dependence of flavor ratio

