

# Neutrino tomography of Earth

Andrea Donini (IFIC, Valencia)

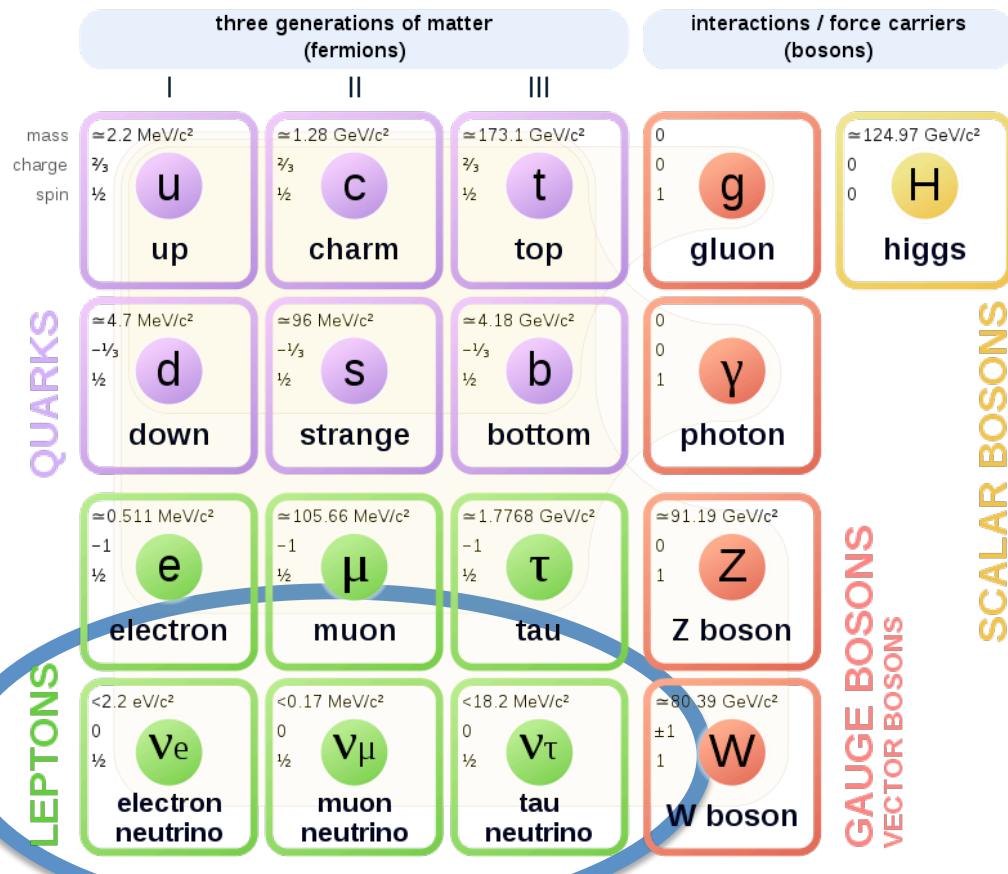
Nature Physics 15 (2019) 37

in collaboration with:  
S. Palomares-Ruiz  
J. Salvadó



# What neutrinos are...

## Standard Model of Elementary Particles



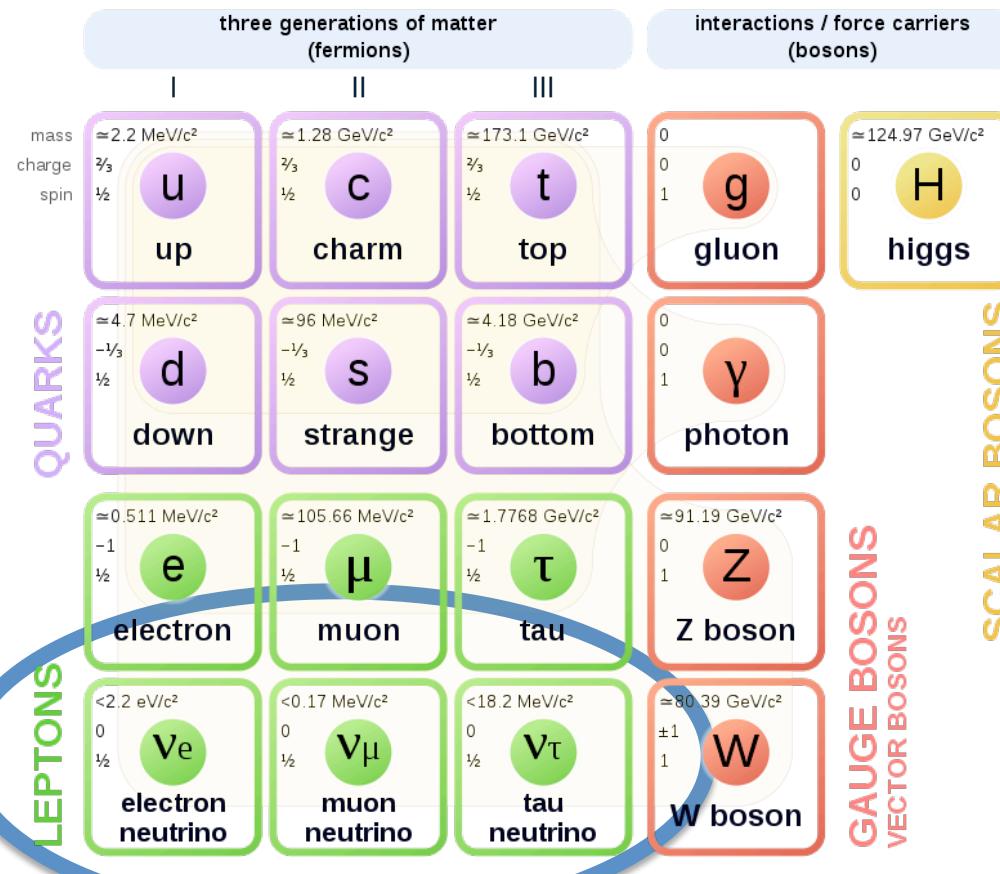
$\beta$ -decay



(radioactivity...)

# What neutrinos are...

## Standard Model of Elementary Particles



$\beta$ -decay

$$n \rightarrow p e^- \bar{\nu}_e$$

(radioactivity...)

Other decays

$$\pi \rightarrow \mu^- \bar{\nu}_\mu$$

$$K \rightarrow \mu^- \bar{\nu}_\mu, e^- \bar{\nu}_e$$

$$\mu \rightarrow \nu_\mu e^- \bar{\nu}_e$$

$$\tau \rightarrow \nu_\tau \mu^- \bar{\nu}_\mu, \nu_\tau e^- \bar{\nu}_e$$

# What you need to know about neutrinos....

Neutrinos only interact **WEAKLY**  
(no electromagnetic interactions, no  
strong interactions)



# What you need to know about neutrinos....



Neutrinos only interact **WEAKLY**  
(no electromagnetic interactions, no  
strong interactions)

(1) Detectors must be gigantic ( $1 \text{ km}^3$ ) !

(2) The absorption length of a 40 TeV  
neutrino is **the Earth's diameter**

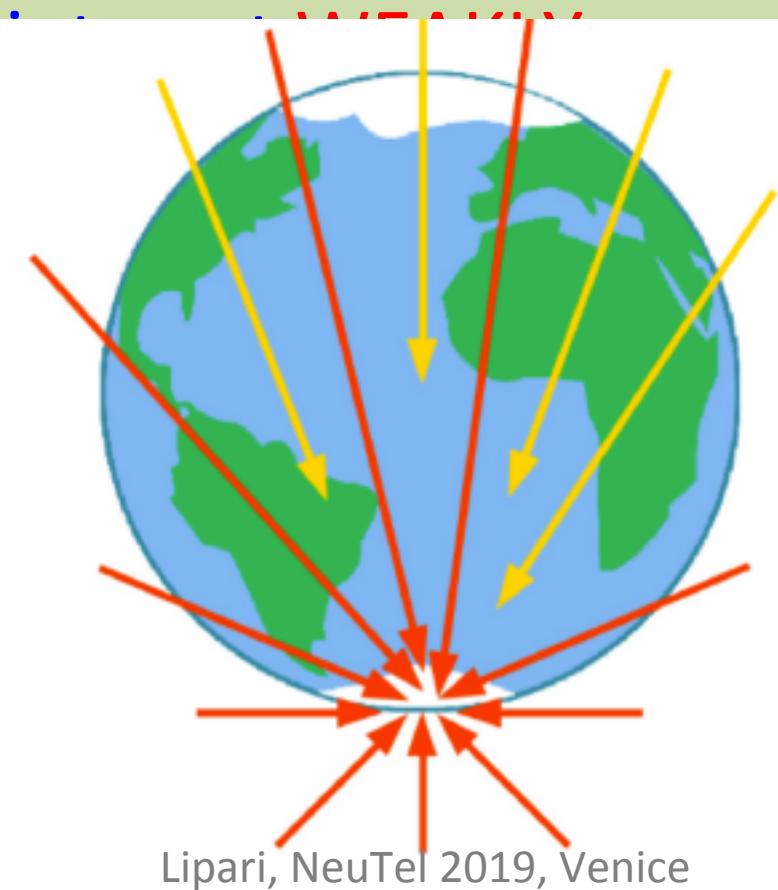


# What you need to know about neutrinos....

Neutrinos only interact via  
(no electromagnetic force)  
strong interaction

(1) Detectors must be...  
near the source

(2) The absorption of a neutrino is the same as that of a photon



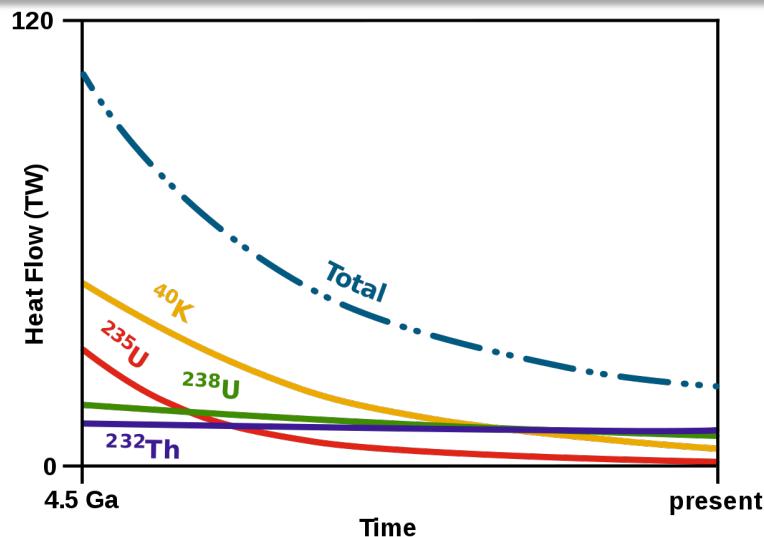
# Neutrinos and geophysics

GEO-NEUTRINOS...  
(radiogenic heat)



# Neutrinos and geophysics

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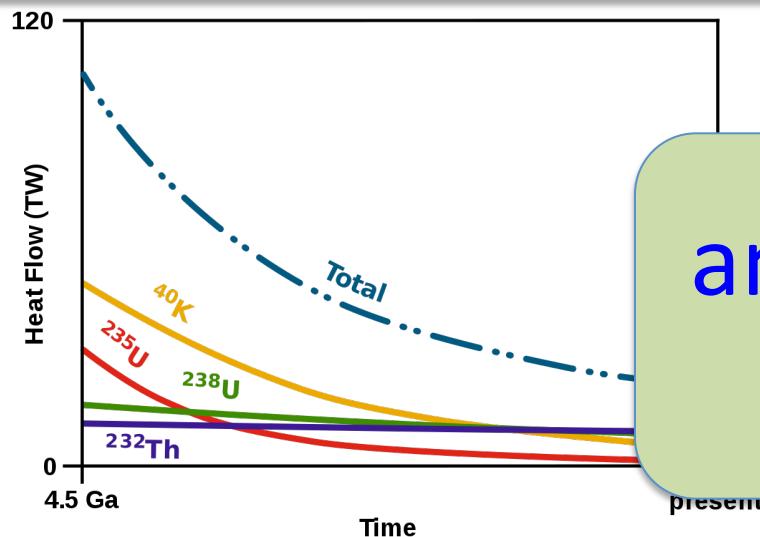


See, for example,  
Dye, Rev. Geophysics 50 (2012)

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Geoneutrino>

# Neutrinos and geophysics

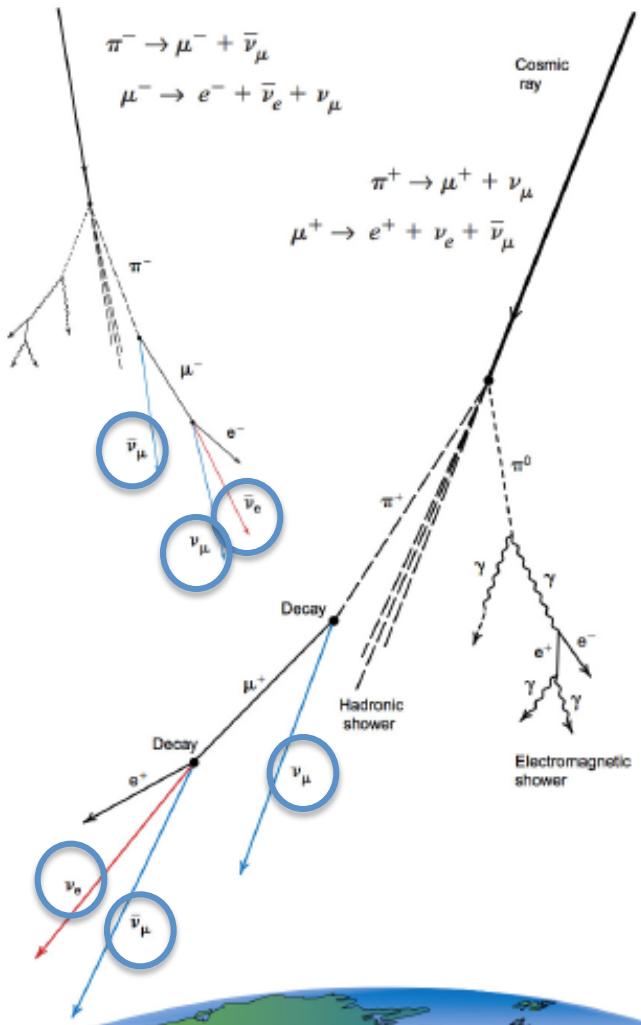
GEO-NEUTRINOS...  
(radiogenic heat)



and ATMOSPHERIC  
NEUTRINOS...

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Geoneutrino>

# Atmospheric neutrinos



Model of Primary Cosmic Ray Flux



Model of the interactions of Cosmic Rays with outer layers of the atmosphere



Atmospheric Neutrino Flux

# Why atmospheric neutrinos?

Using neutrinos to study the Earth's interior is an old idea,  
first mentioned in an unpublished CERN preprint:

A. Placci and E. Zavattini, submitted in Oct 1973 to Nuovo Cimento;  
rejected?... never received?....

and in a talk:

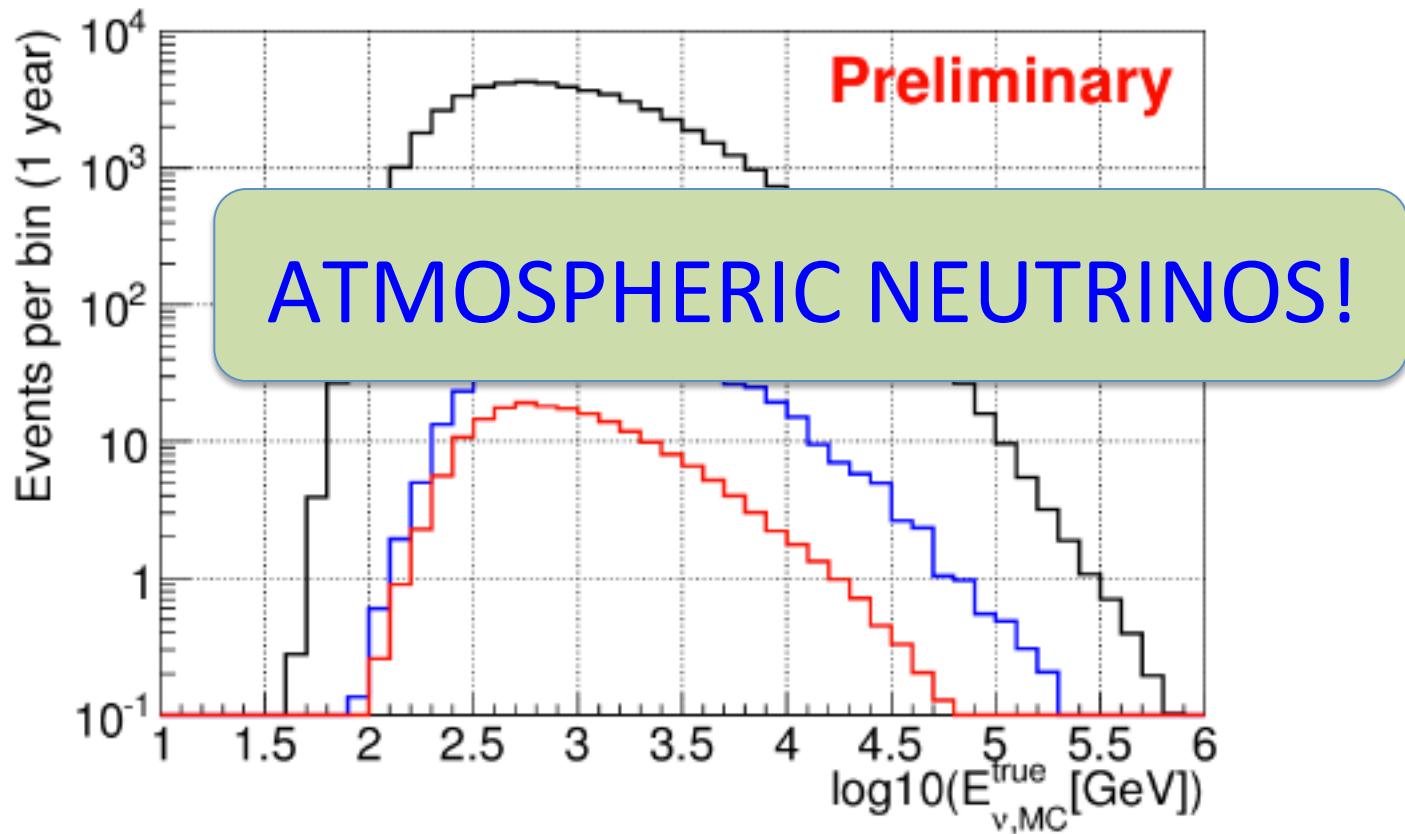
L. V. Volkova and G. T. Zatsepin, Izv. Akad. Nauk. Ser. Fiz. 38N5 (1974)

In short: make a neutrino beam, and shoot far far away!

The idea was premature for the '70s!  
... and for the '80, the '90s and the '00s...



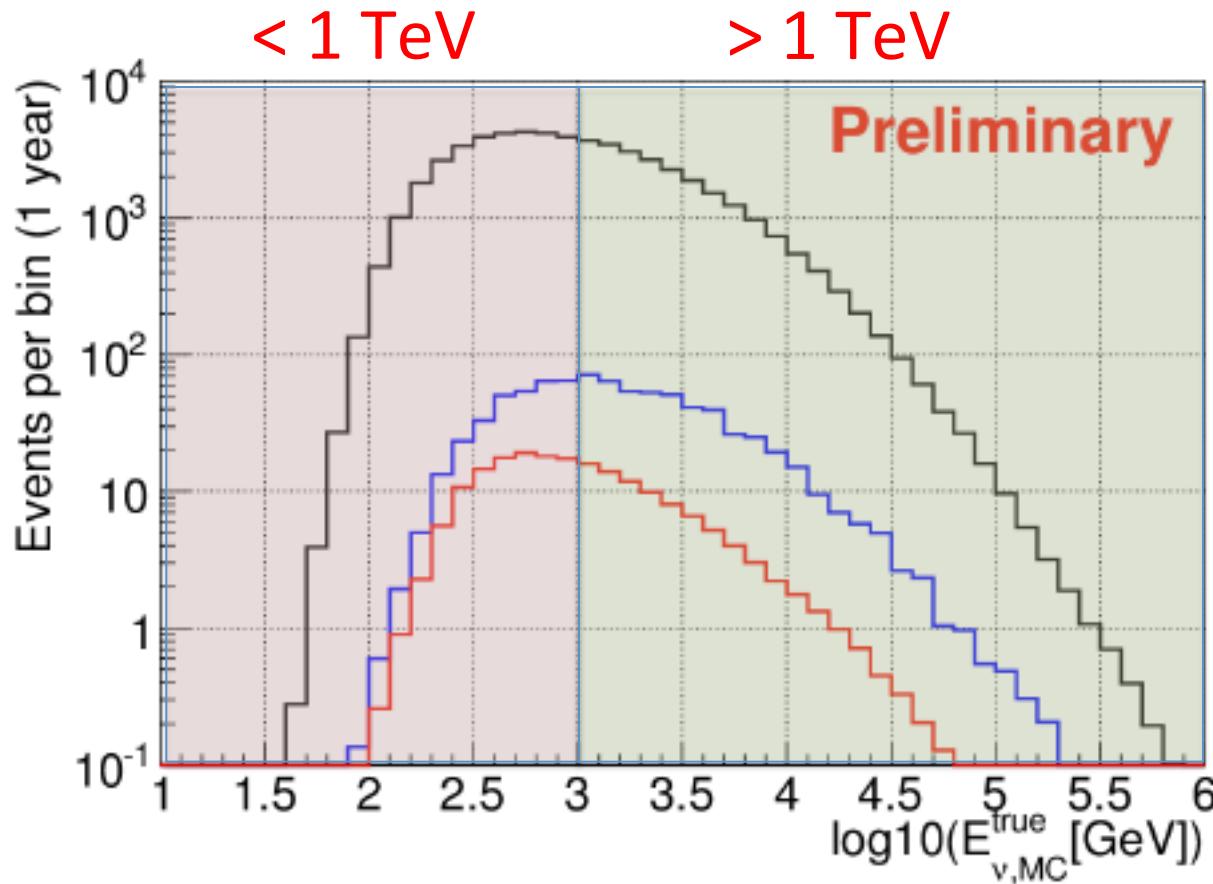
# However: an optimal source exists!



IceCube contribution to ICRC 2015, arXiv:1510.05223



# Why atmo- $\nu$ are an optimal source?



IceCube contribution to ICRC 2015, arXiv:1510.05223



# Two ways to scan the Earth with v's

- Neutrino oscillations (< 1 TeV)

$$P_{ee}^{\pm} = 1 - \left( \frac{\Delta_{23}}{B_{\mp}} \right)^2 \sin^2(2\theta_{13}) \sin^2\left(\frac{B_{\mp} L}{2}\right) - \left( \frac{\Delta_{12}}{A} \right)^2 \sin^2(2\theta_{12}) \sin^2\left(\frac{A L}{2}\right)$$



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W. Winter, Nucl. Phys. B 908 (2016) 250; Km3Net, PoS ICRC2017 (2018) 1020



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- Neutrino flux attenuation (> 1 TeV)

$$\frac{d\phi_{\nu}(E, \tau)}{d\tau} = -\sigma_{tot}(E)\phi_{\nu}(E, \tau)$$



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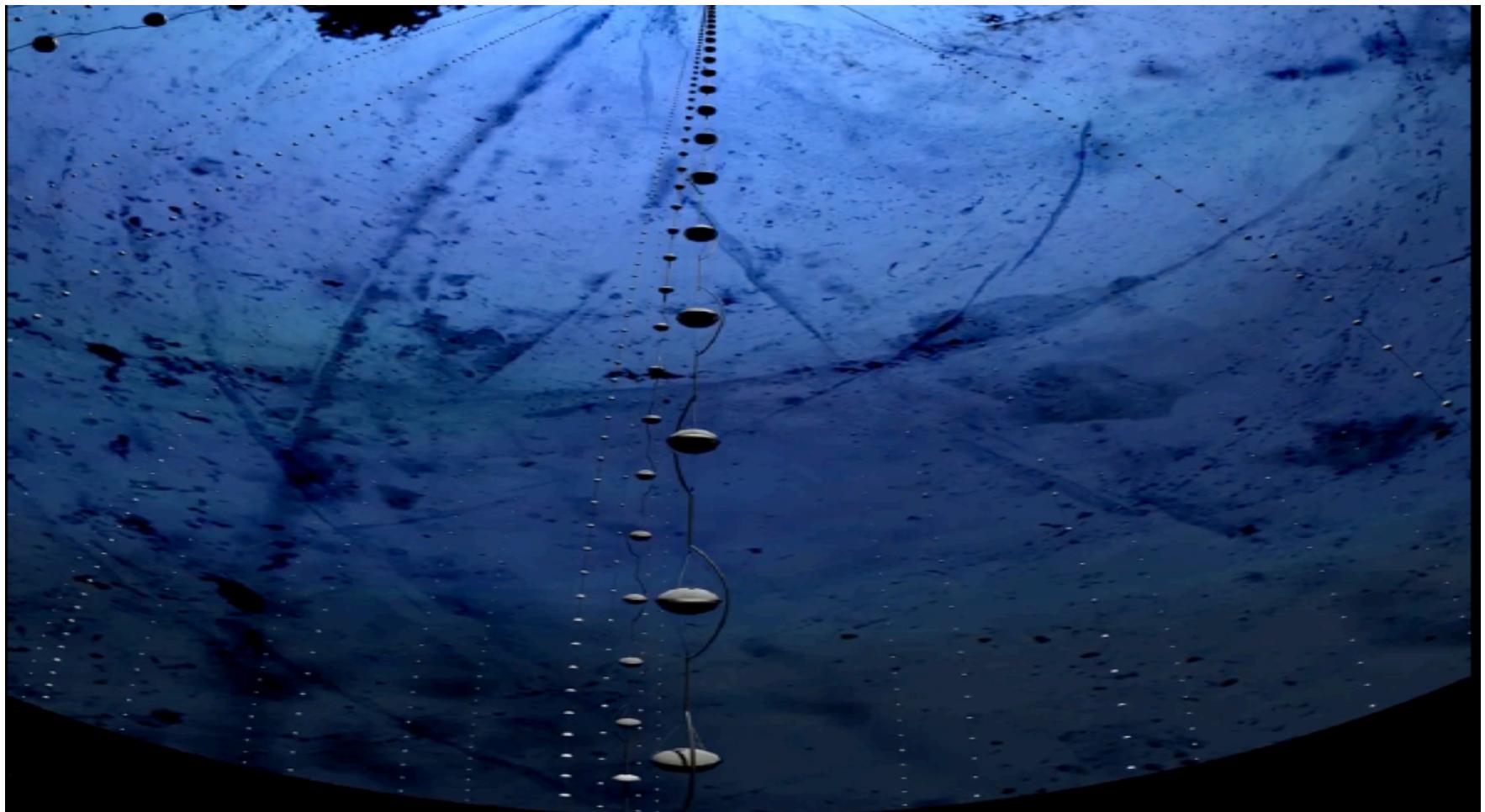
- Neutrino flux attenuation (> 1 TeV)

$$\frac{d\phi_{\nu}(E, \tau)}{d\tau} = -\sigma_{tot}(E)\phi_{\nu}(E, \tau) \quad \sigma_{tot} = \sigma_{vN} \times \rho$$

Gonzalez-García, Halzen, Maltoni, Tanaka, Phys. Rev. Lett. 100 (2008)



# The IceCube Experiment

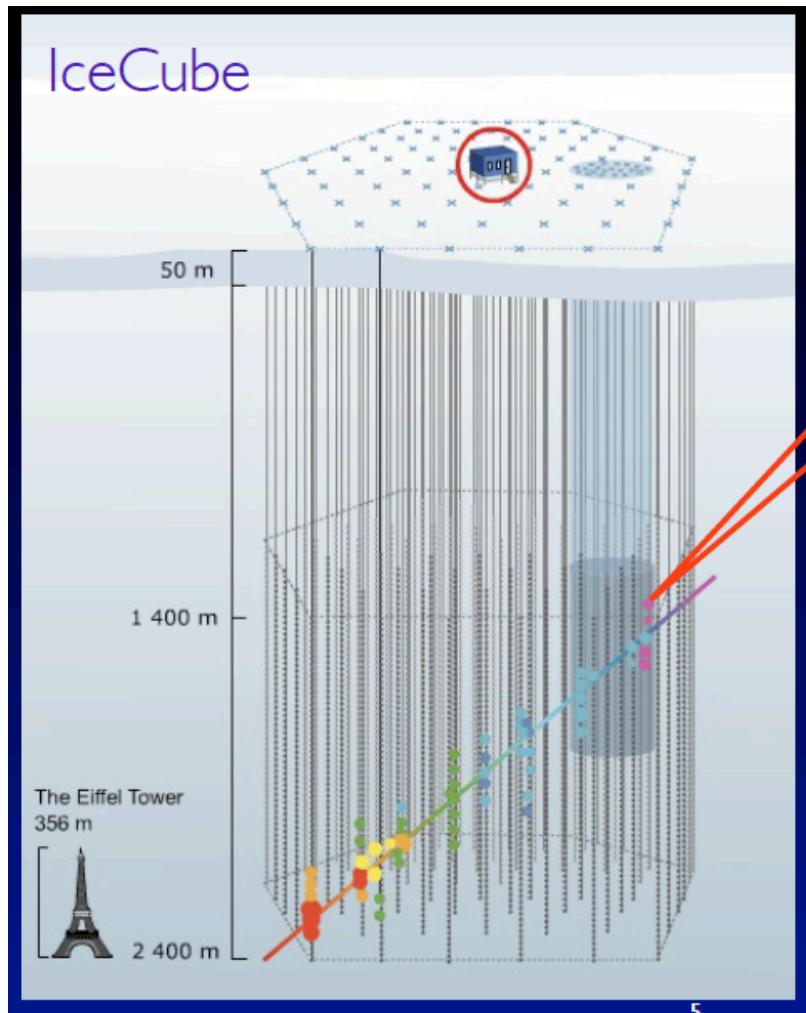


Halzen, NeuTel 2019, Venice

EGU 2019 General Assembly, 9-4-2019

18

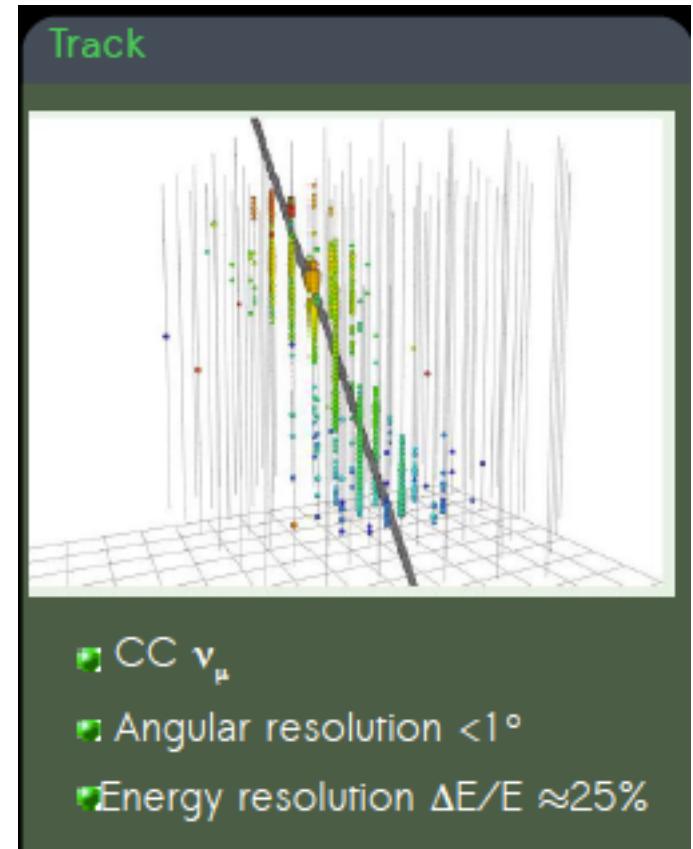
# The IceCube Experiment



- Deployed in glacial ice at the South Pole
- Array size  $1\text{km}^3$ , 86 strings, 60 optical sensors (DOMs) per string

# The IceCube IC86 data sample

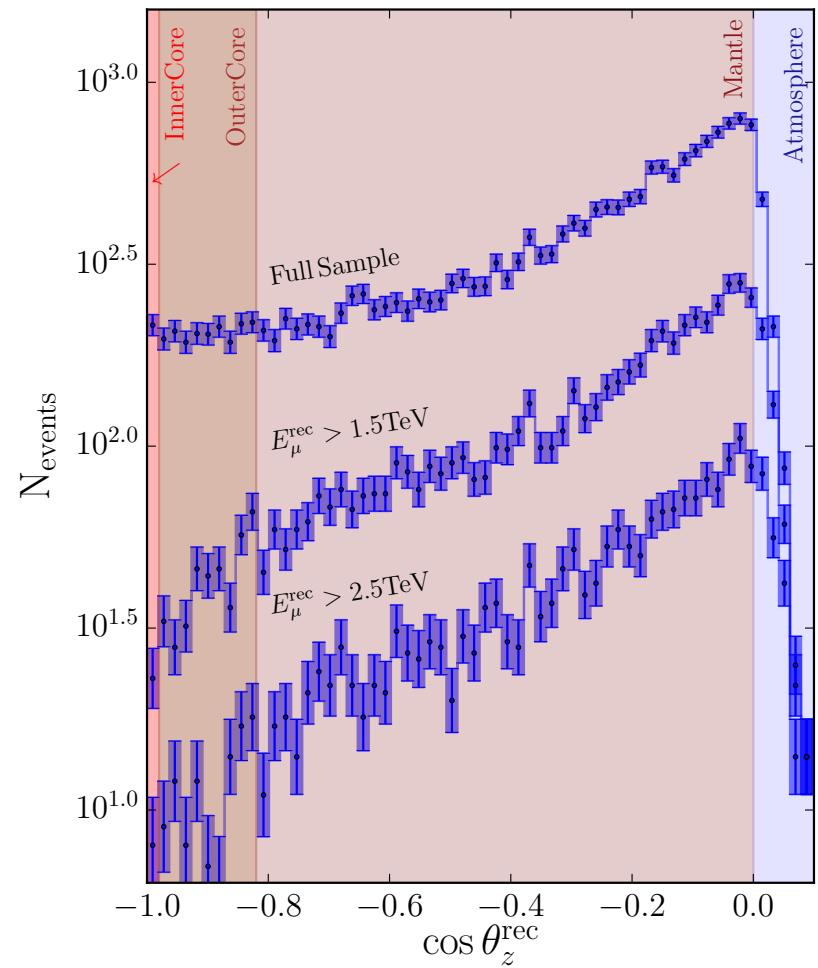
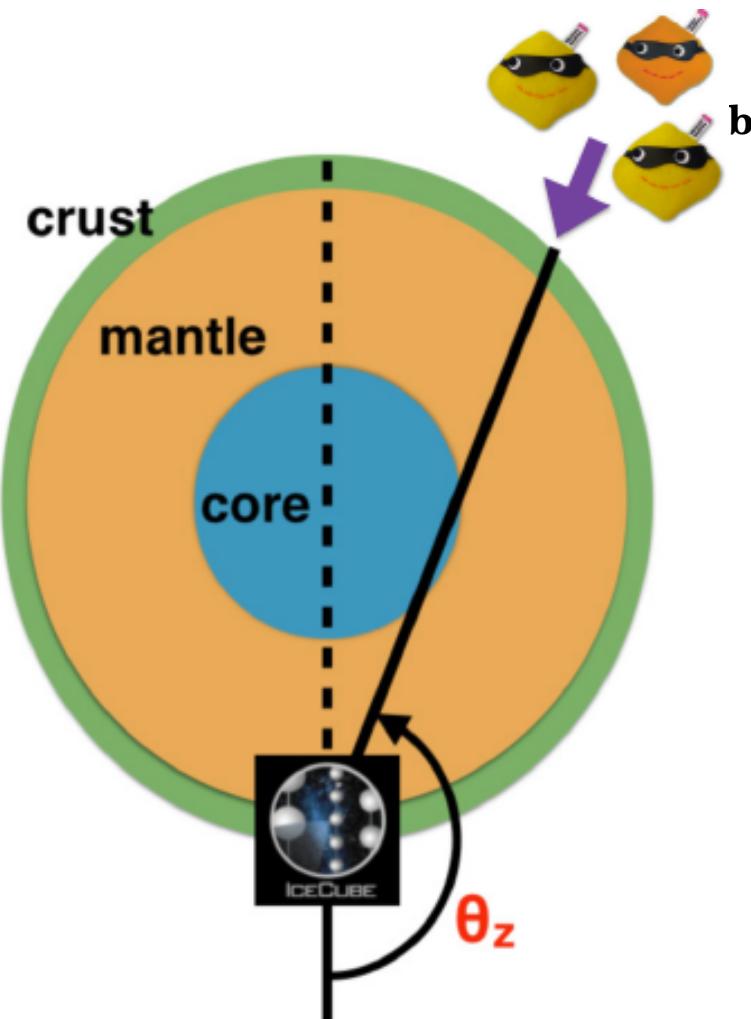
- Data taking: 2011-2012
- 20145 muons
- $E_\mu = [400 \text{ GeV} \div 20 \text{ TeV}]$
- Good reconstruction of  $\nu$  energy and direction
- PUBLICLY AVAILABLE!
- 7 more years of data are not (yet) available.....



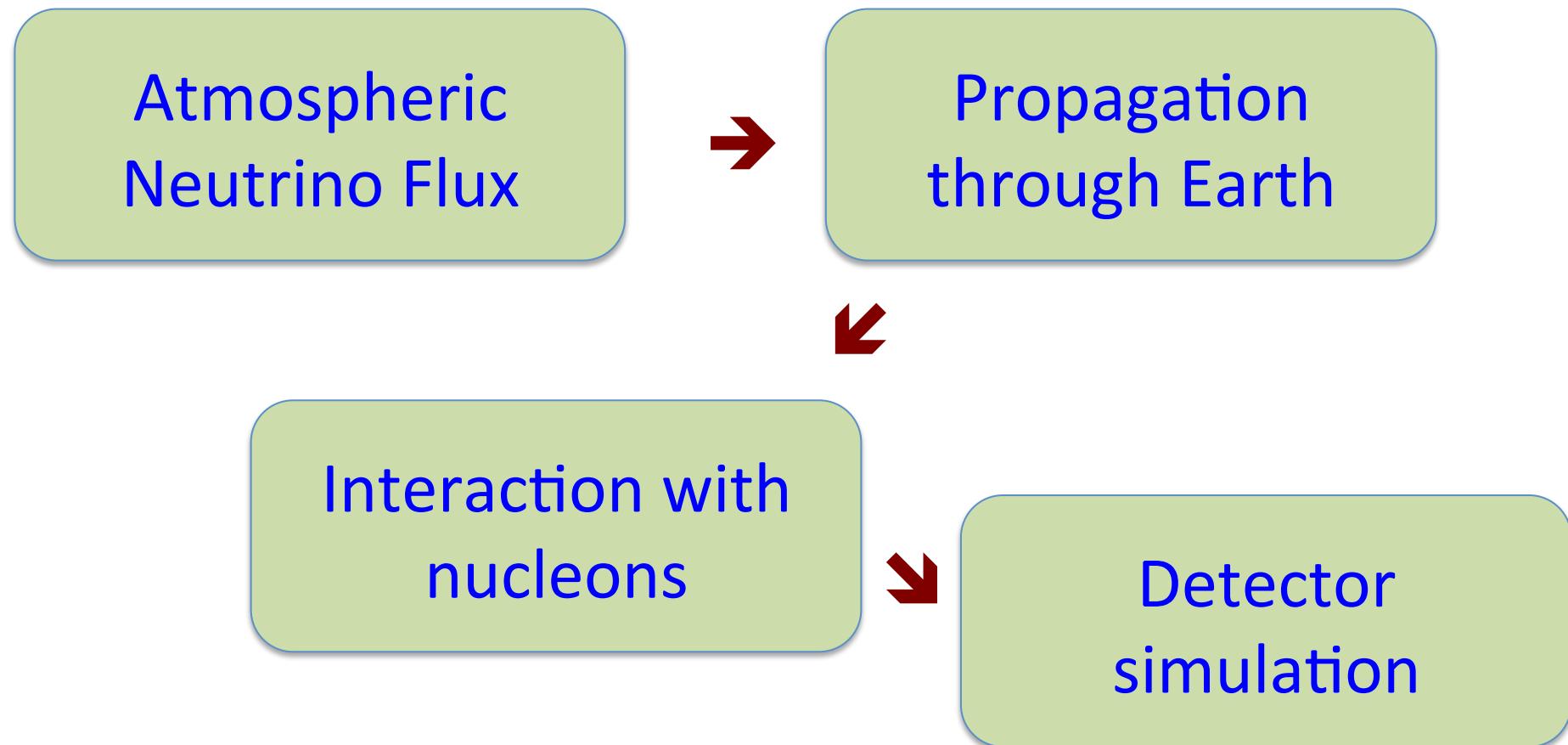
C. de los Heros, NeuTel 2019, Venice



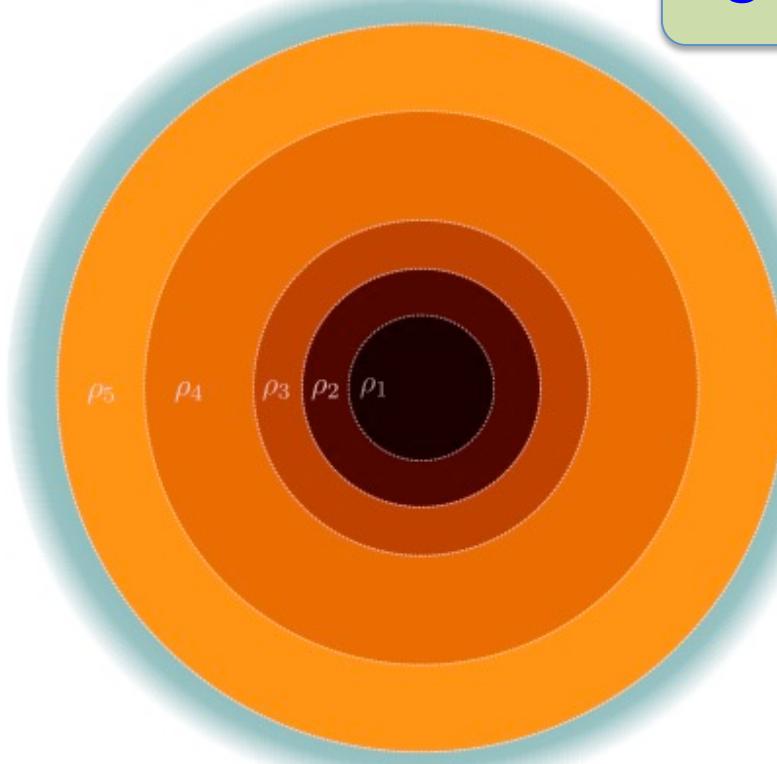
# Raw data as a function of $E_\mu$ and $\theta$



# Comparison with expectations



# Our Earth's model



5 spherical layers

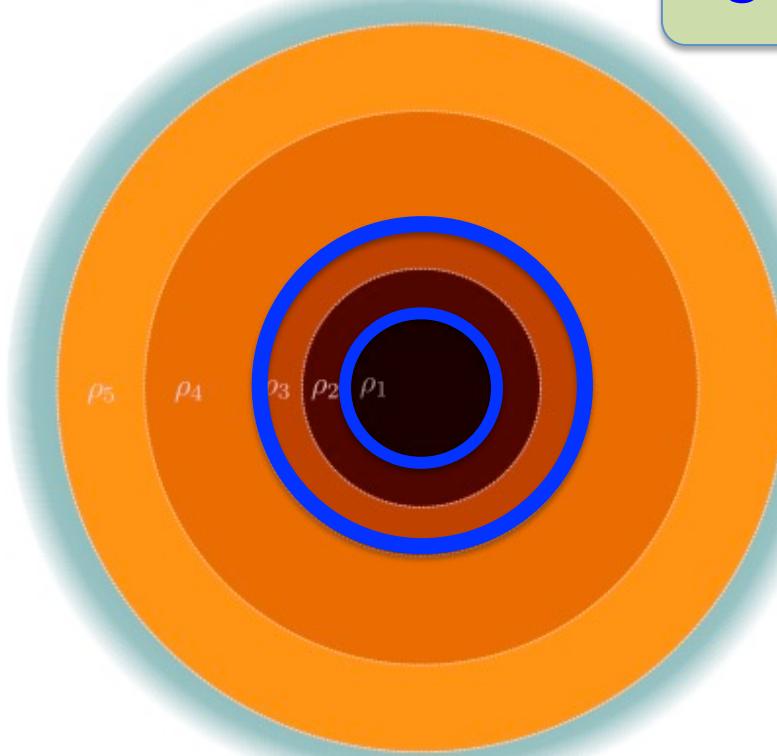
Inner Core, one layer  
 $L_1 = 1242 \text{ km}$

Outer Core, two layers  
 $L_2 = 2373 \text{ km}$ ,  
 $L_3 = 3504 \text{ km}$

Mantle, two layers  
 $L_4 = 4938 \text{ km}$ ,  
 $L_5 = 6371 \text{ km}$

No crust!

# Our Earth's model



5 spherical layers

Inner Core, one layer  
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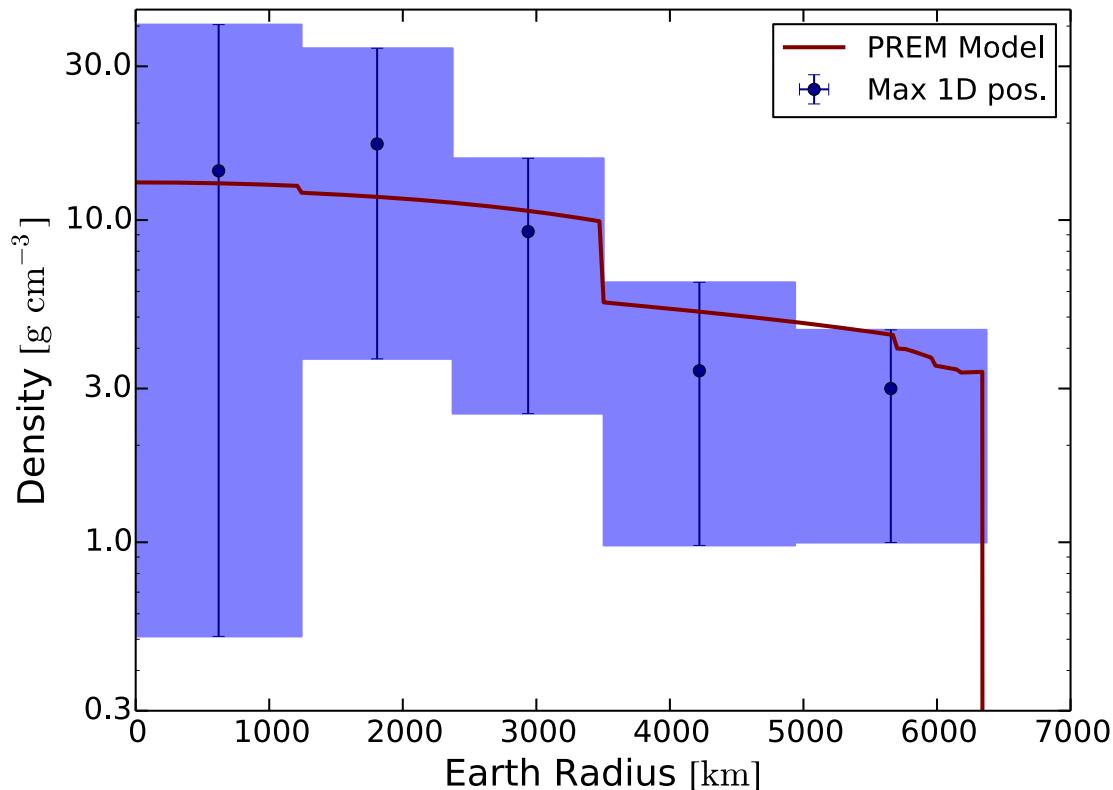
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ICB and CMB fixed!

No crust!

# First 1-d density profile with neutrinos



Analysis performed  
with MultiNest

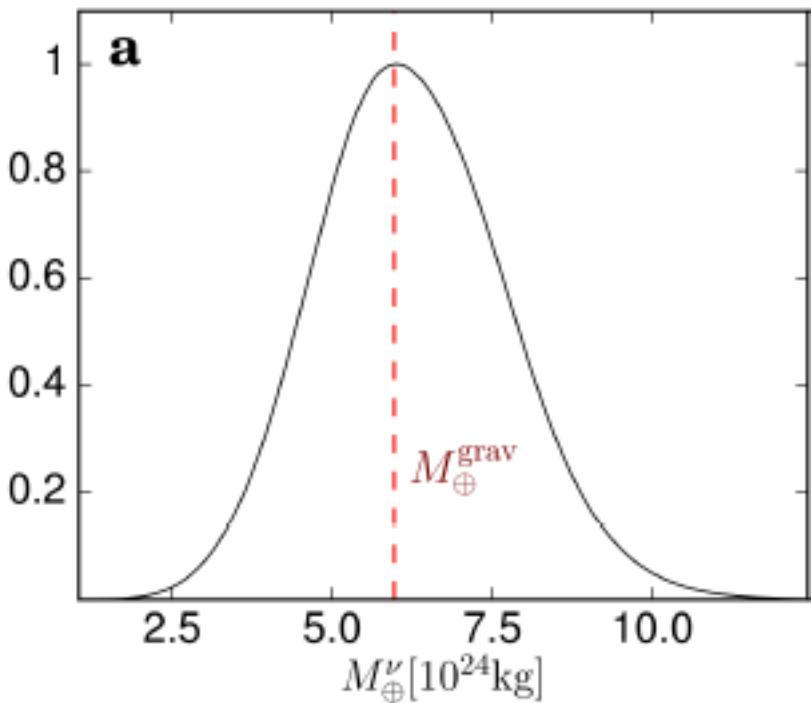
5 Earth layers densities

and

4 systematic errors:

- Flux normalization
- Pion-to-kaon ratio
- Spectral shape
- DOM Efficiency

# The Earth's mass by v's



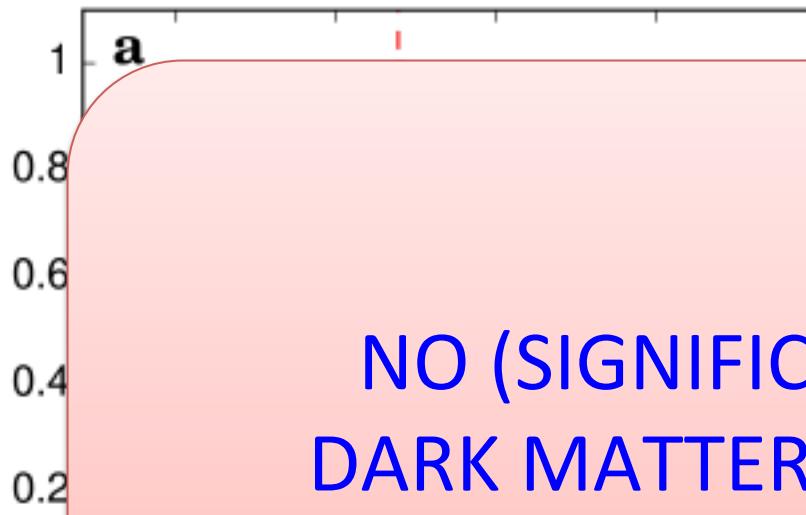
FIRST ELECTROWEAK MEASUREMENT  
OF THE EARTH'S MASS

$$M_{\text{earth-}v} = (6.0^{+1.6}_{-1.3}) \times 10^{24} \text{ kg}$$

Gravitational measurement of the Earth's mass

$$M_{\text{earth-grav}} = (5.9722 \pm 0.0006) \times 10^{24} \text{ kg}$$

# The Earth's mass by v's



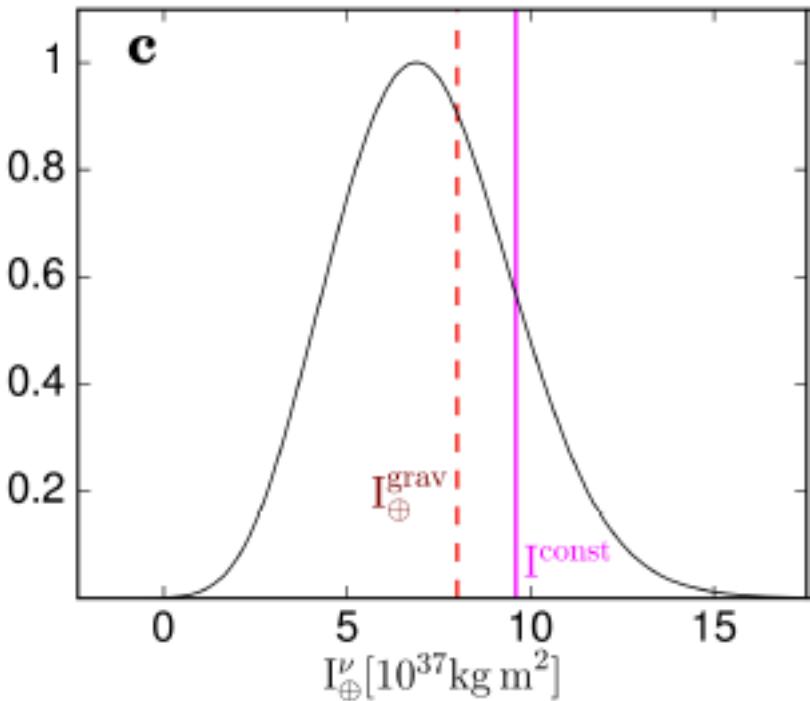
NO (SIGNIFICANT AMOUNT OF)  
DARK MATTER INSIDE THE EARTH!

Gravitational measurement of the Earth's mass

$$M_{\text{earth-grav}} = (5.9722 \pm 0.0006) \times 10^{24} \text{ kg}$$



# The Earth's moment of inertia



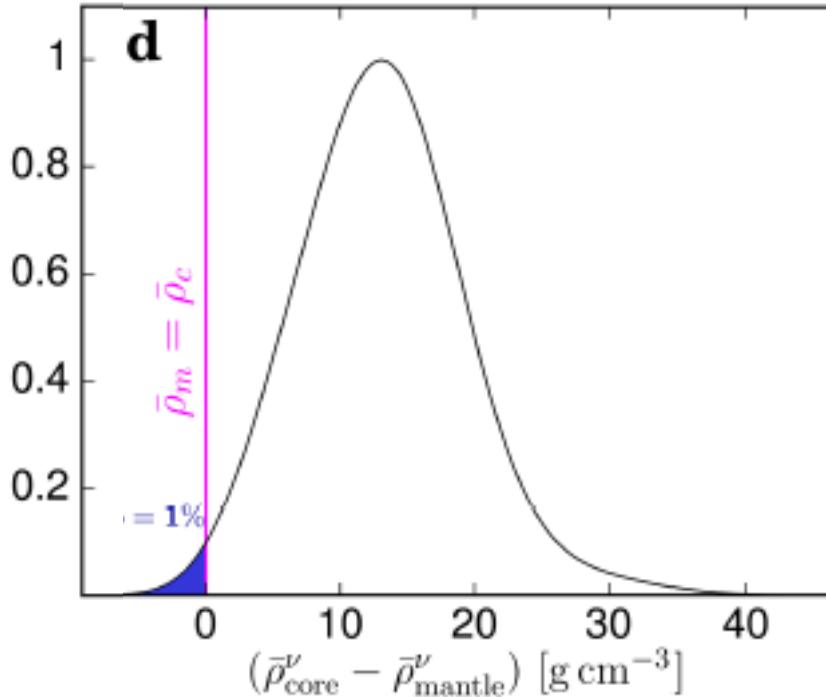
Electro-weak measurement of the Earth's moment of inertia

$$I_{\text{earth-v}} = (6.9 \pm 2.4) \times 10^{37} \text{ kg m}^2$$

Gravitational measurement of the Earth's moment of inertia

$$I_{\text{earth-grav}} = (8.01736 \pm 0.00097) \times 10^{37} \text{ kg m}^2$$

# Earth's non-homogeneity



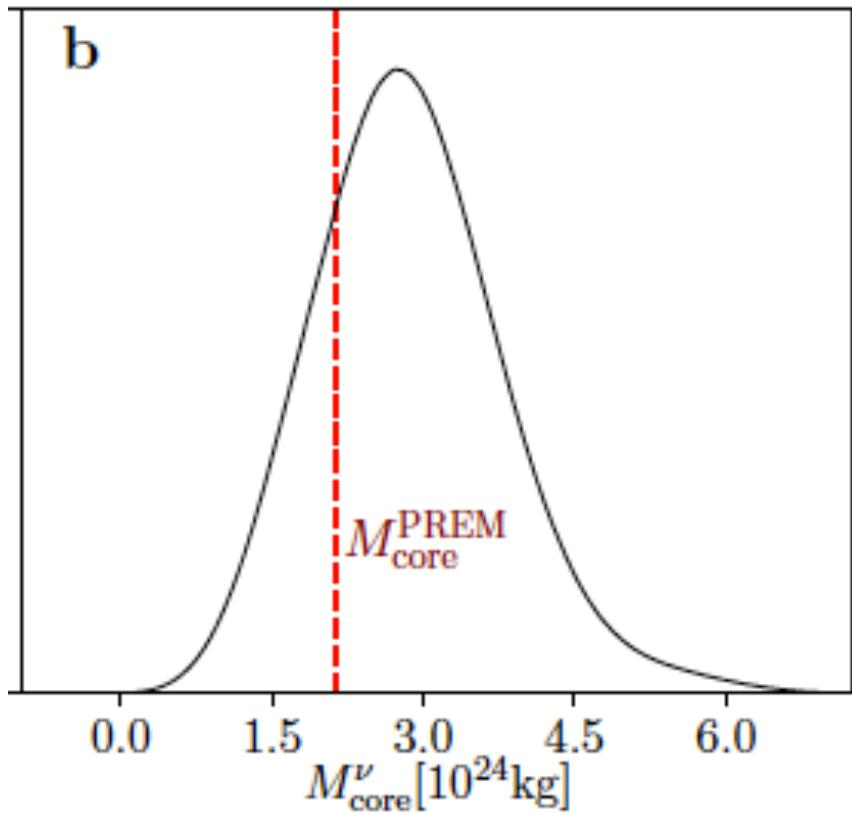
Electro-weak measurement of the Core-Mantle discontinuity

$$\Delta\rho_{\text{CMB}-\nu} = (13 {}^{+5.8}_{-6.3}) \text{ g/cm}^3$$

A homogenous Earth has a p-value  $p = 0.01 !!!$

2008 Claim: IceCube could reject a homogeneous Earth at  $5\sigma$  in ten years

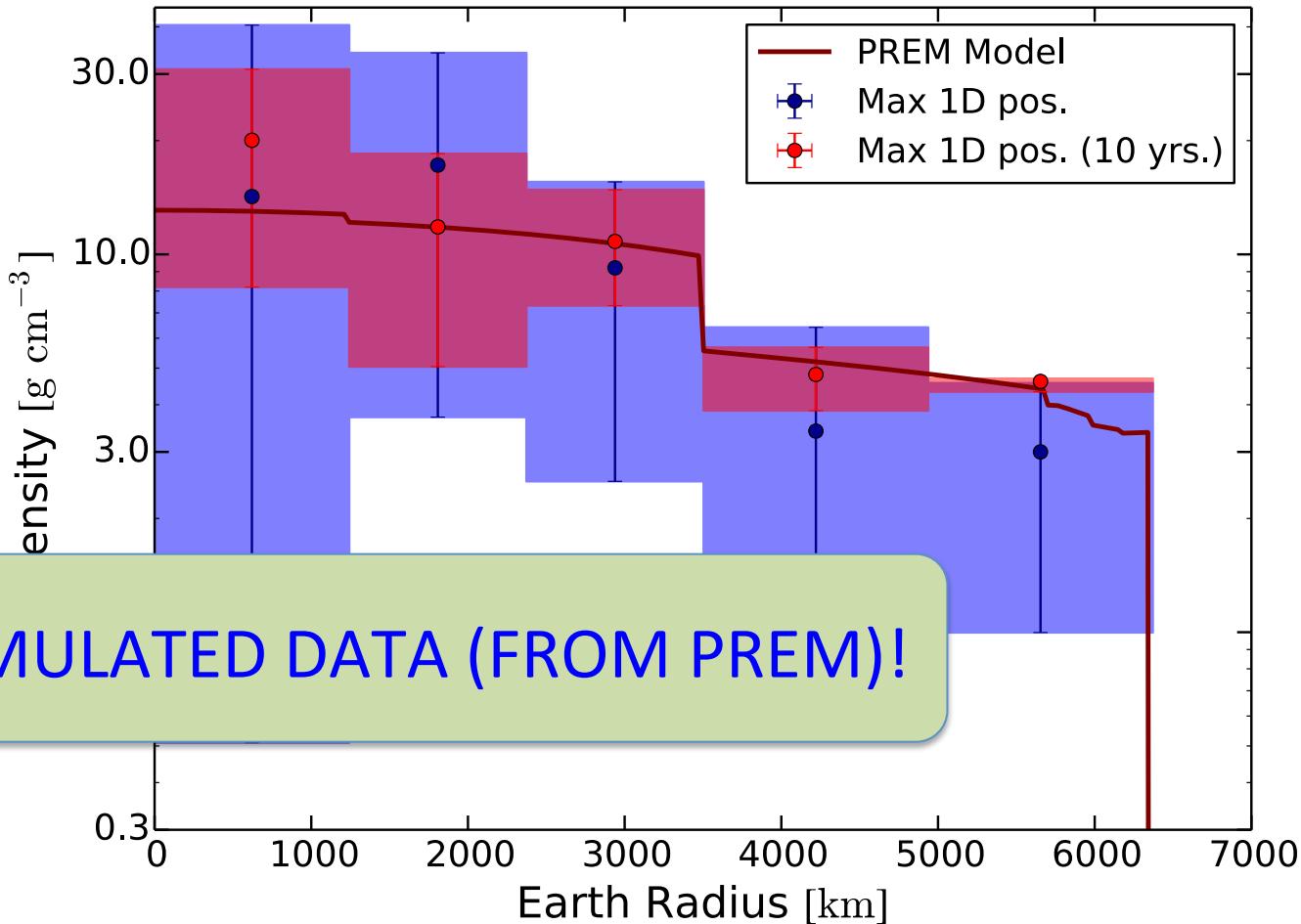
# The Earth's core mass



Electro-weak measurement of  
the Earth's core mass

$$M_{\text{core-}\nu} = (2.7 \begin{array}{l} +1.0 \\ -0.9 \end{array}) \times 10^{24} \text{ kg}$$

# 1-d density profile with 10 years





# Conclusions

AN EPIPHANY:

It is eventually possible to make a neutrino tomography  
of the Earth: first 1-dimensional density profile  
(with just one year of IceCube data)!

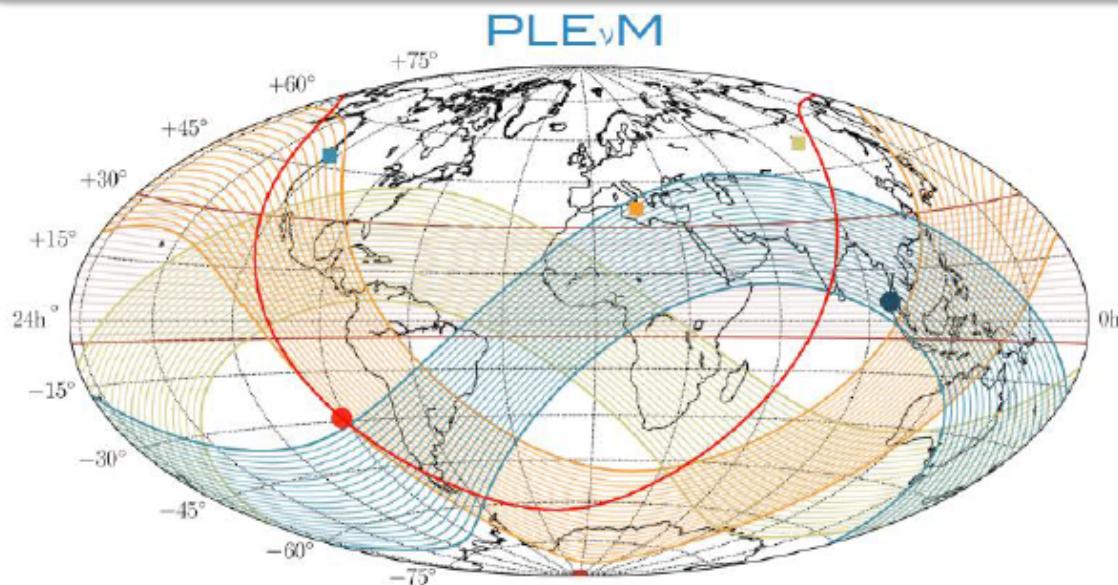
$M_{\text{earth}}$ ,  $I_{\text{earth}}$ ,  $\Delta\rho_{\text{CMB}}$ ,  $M_{\text{core}}$

Precision will hugely increase as soon as  
7 other years of IceCube data will become accessible!  
We hope to present the new results here NEXT YEAR!

# Outlook

New Neutrino Telescopes are under construction:

- 1) Increase in statistics will be  $\sim 10 \times$  faster;
- 2) We will look at the Earth's interior from both emispheres (**test of anisotropies**)



By  $\sim 2030$ :  
6-8 km<sup>3</sup> optical  
detectors in the  
Southern  
and Northern  
emispheres



# Complementarity with Geophysics

Neutrino Physics may provide independent constraints  
on the mass distribution inside the Earth  
that may be used by seismological modeling

Direct testing of the Inner Core: equation of state,  
composition, density jump....

Neutrino Data useful for Earth's Tomography  
will pour out FOR FREE,  
as neutrino telescopes are being built for  
other purposes

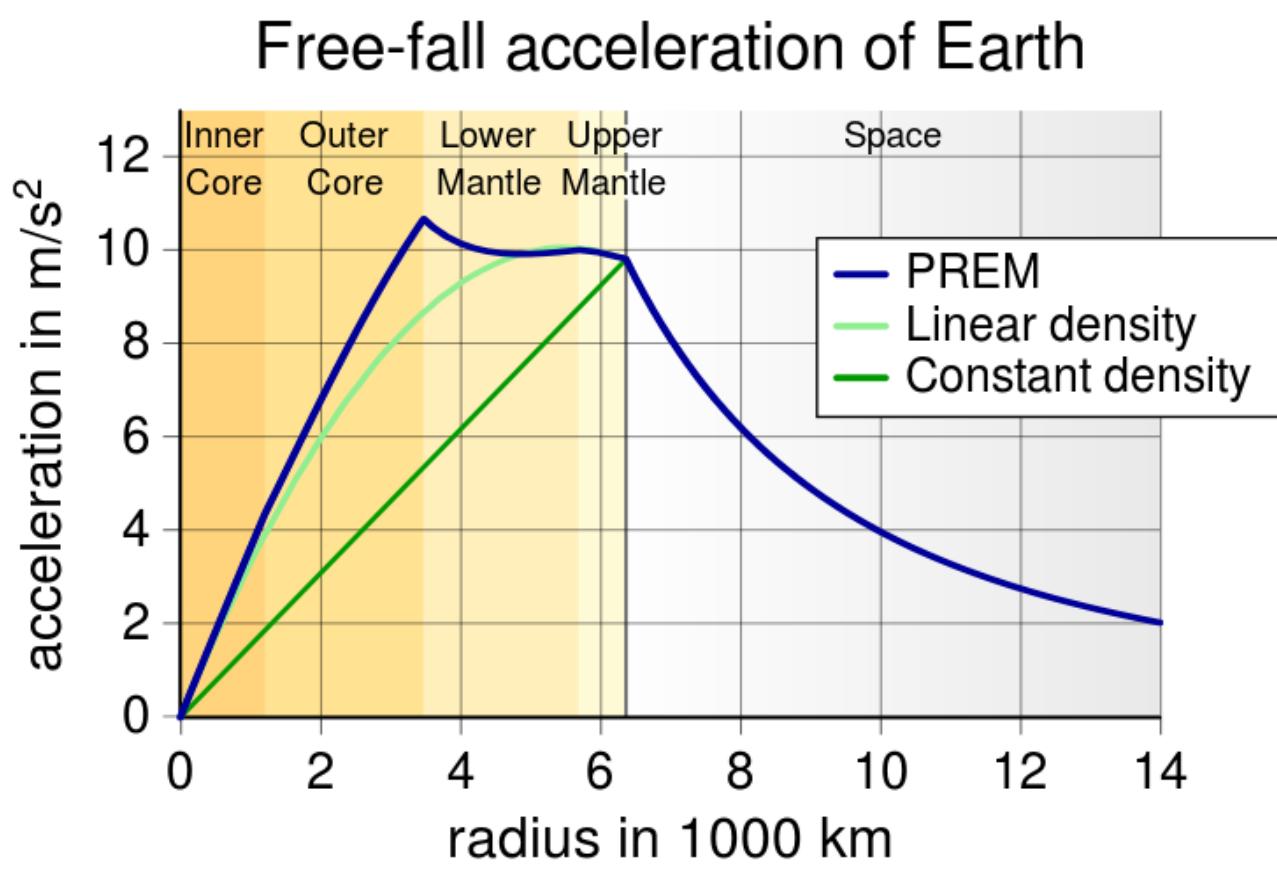


# Backup slides



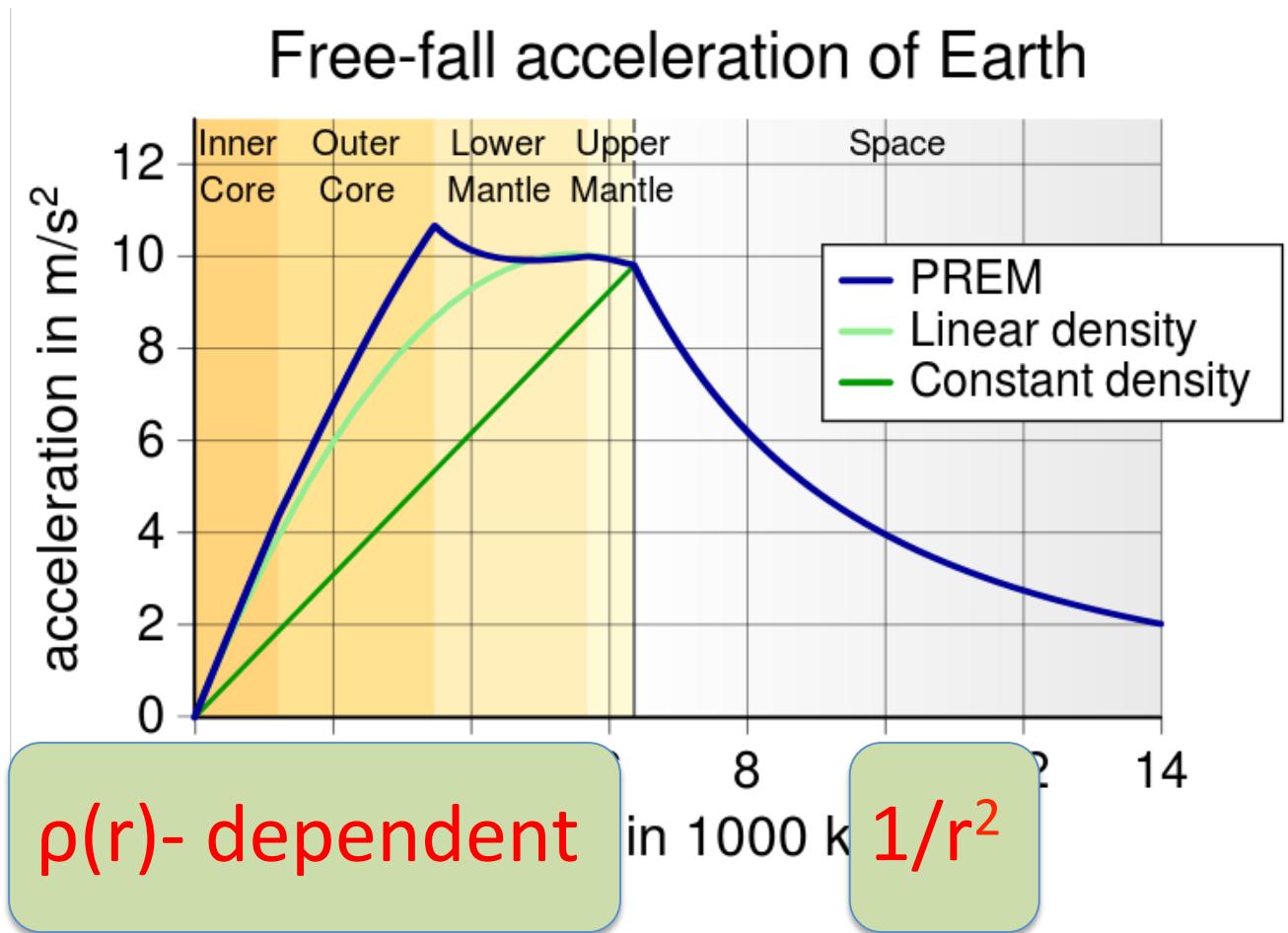
# The Earth's gravitational acceleration profile

# Complement geophysics: $g(r)$



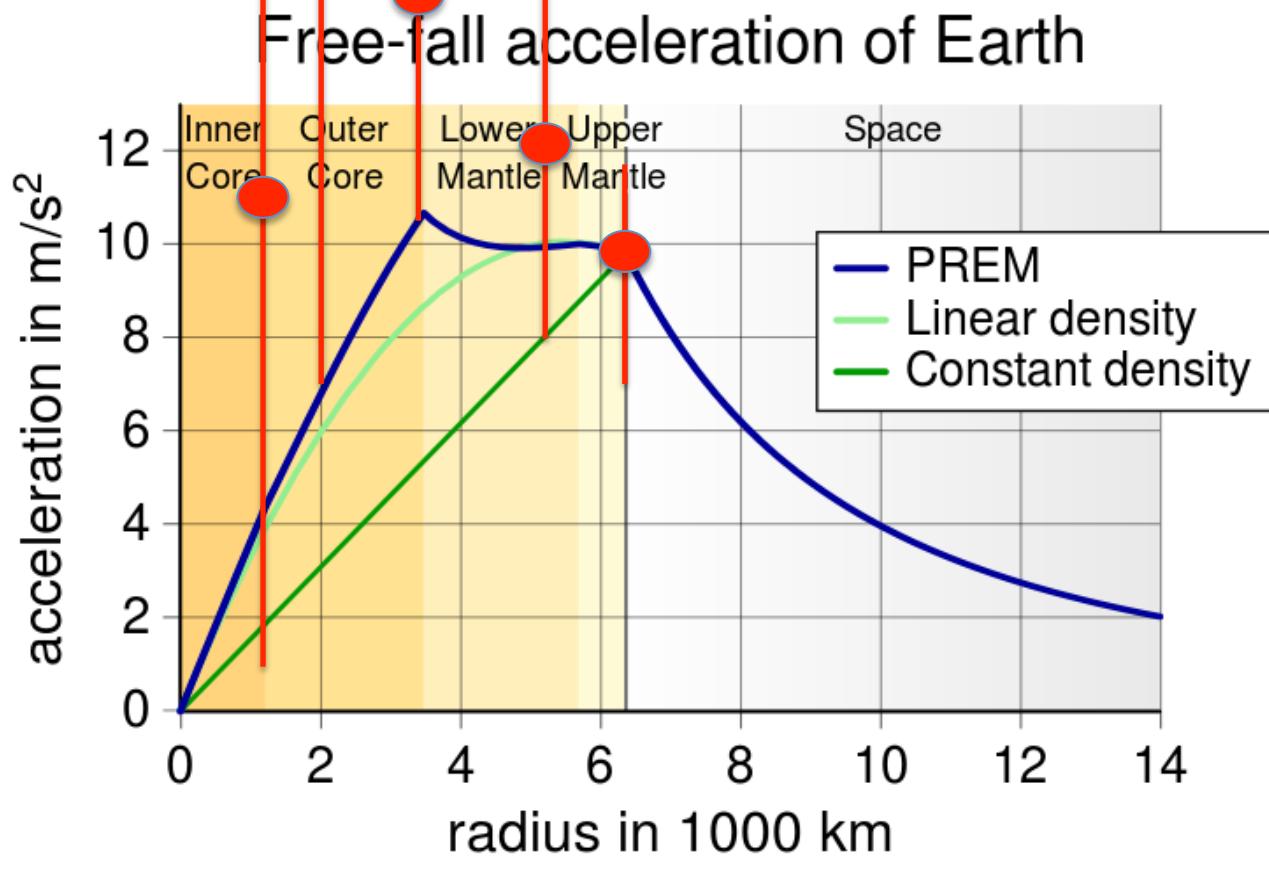
The Earth's gravitational profile is needed to compute  $\rho(r)$  from earthquake waves velocities

# Complement geophysics: $g(r)$



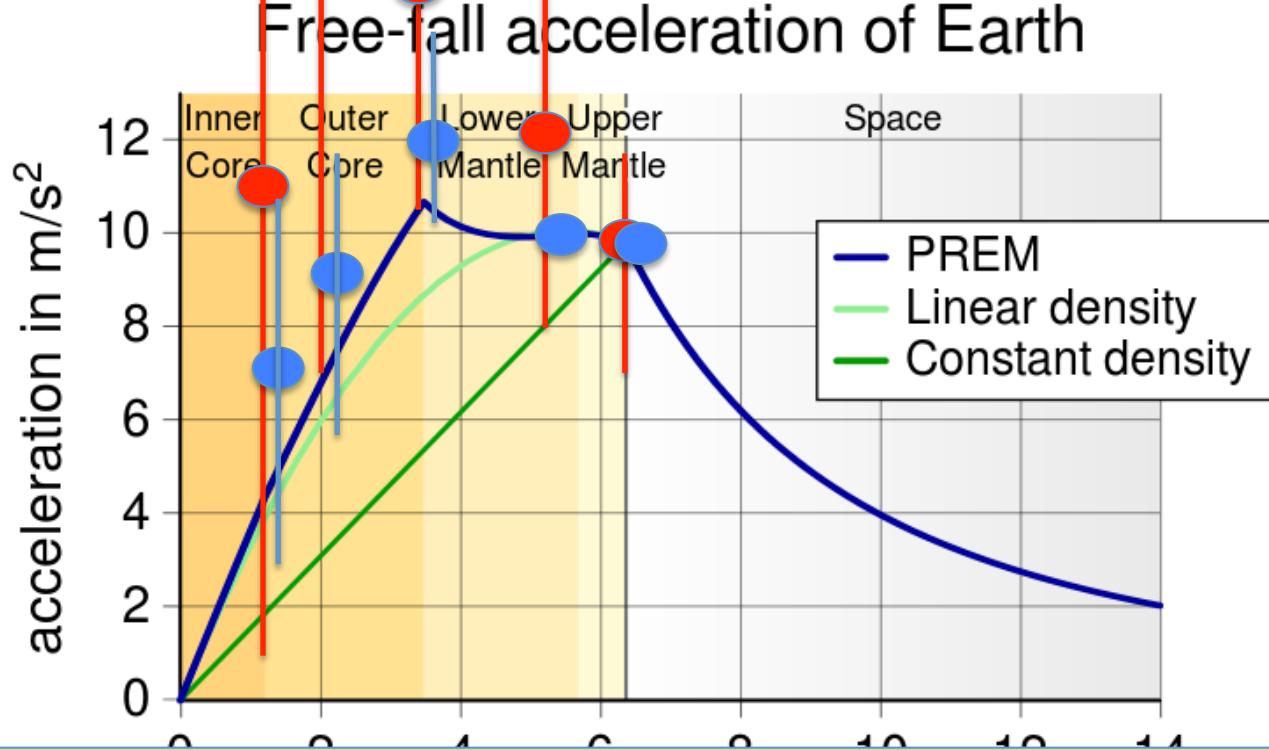
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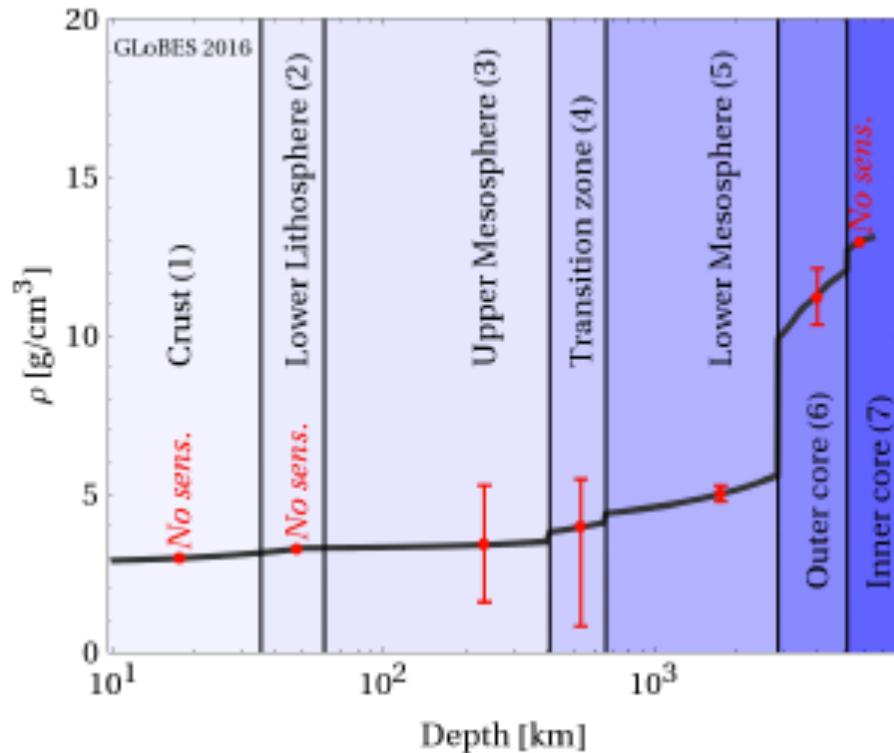
A GOOD NEUTRINO MEASUREMENT OF  $g(r)$  COULD BE ADDED  
TO SEISMOLOGY AS A CONSTRAINT TO REDUCE ERRORS

# Older Forecasts



# “Recent” forecasts, 1

PINGU

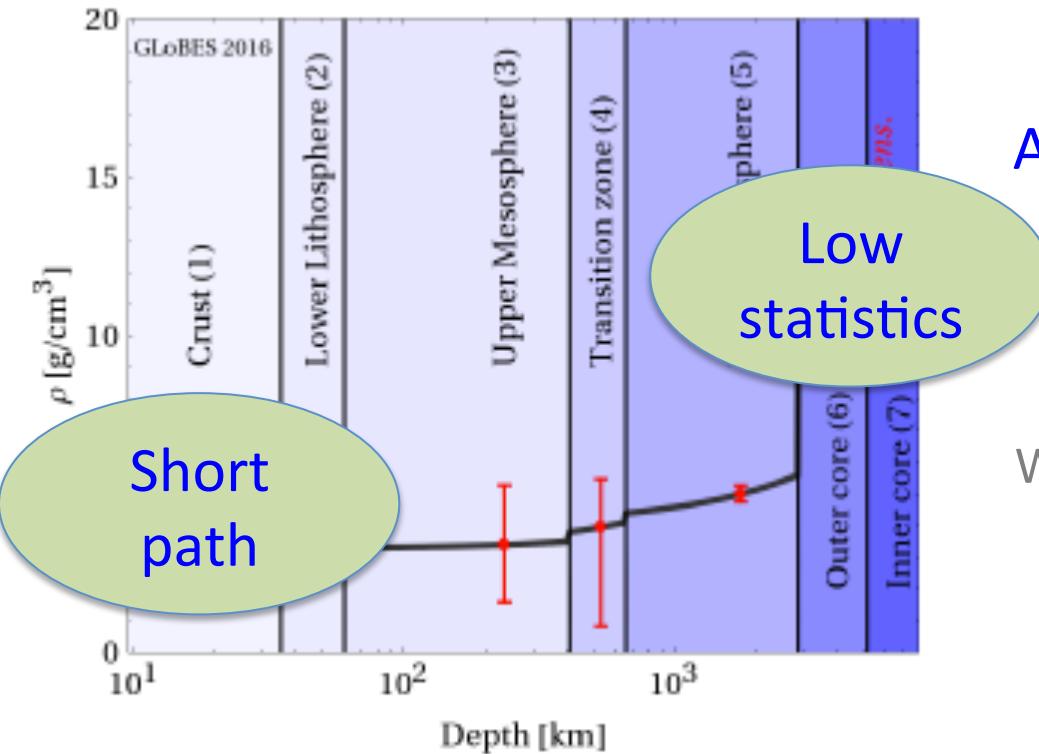


After 10 years of data taking  
at PINGU or ORCA using  
neutrino oscillations

Winter, Nucl. Phys B908 (2016)

# “Recent” forecasts, 1

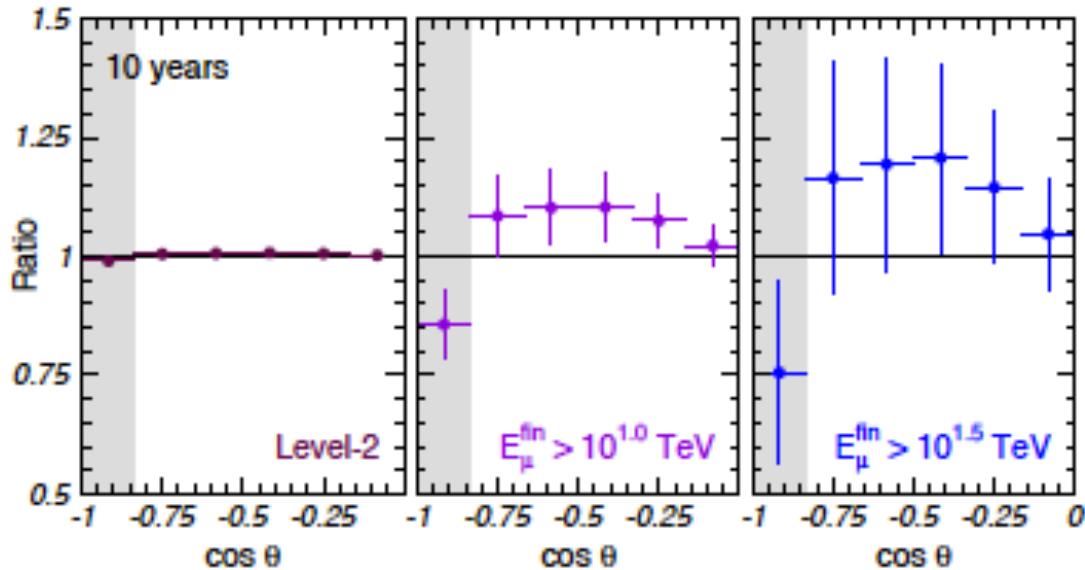
PINGU



After 10 years of data taking  
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Winter, Nucl. Phys B908 (2016)

# “Recent” forecasts, 2

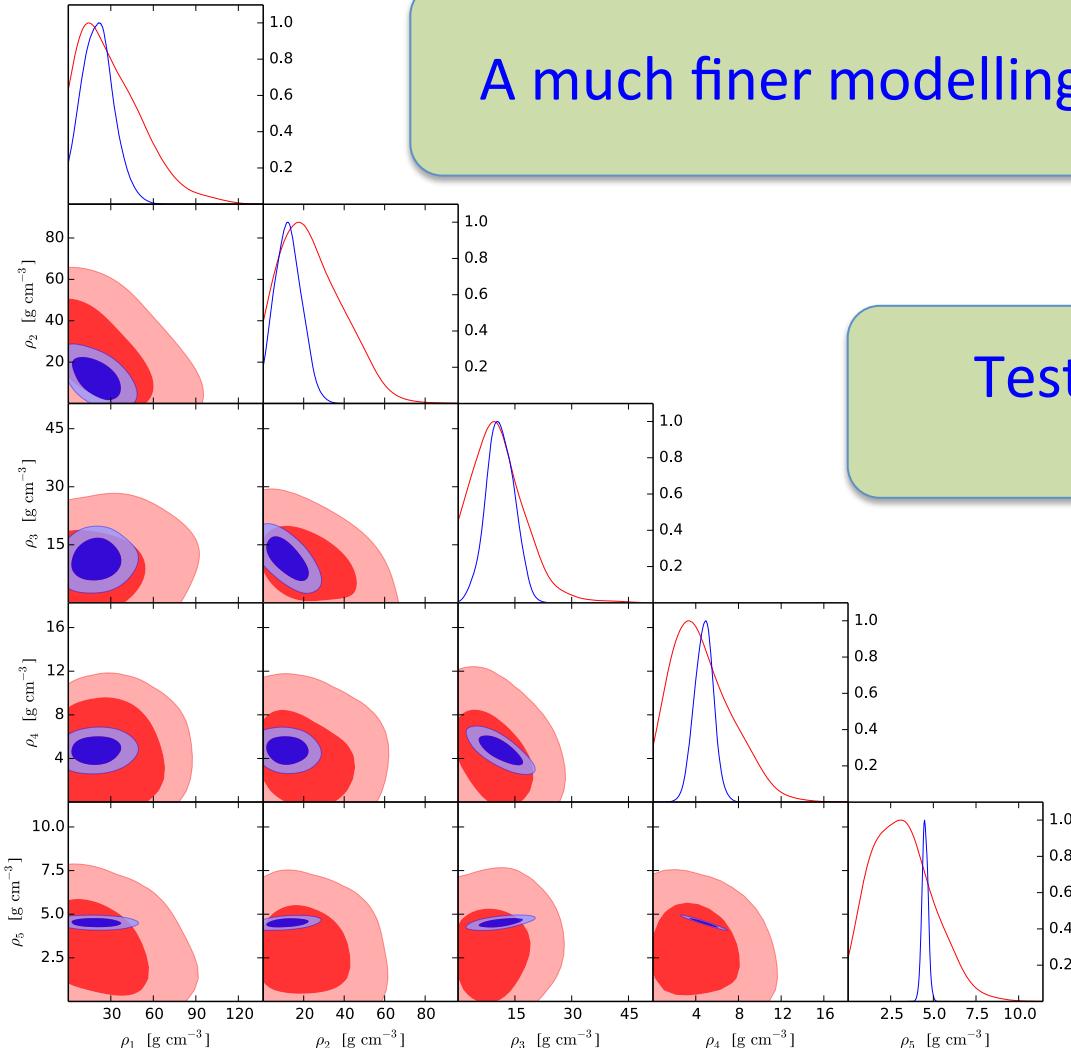


After 10 years of  
data taking  
at IceCube using  
neutrino attenuation

Claim: IceCube could reject a homogeneous Earth at  $5\sigma$  in ten years

Gonzalez-García, Halzen, Maltoni, Tanaka, Phys. Rev. Lett. 100 (2008)

# Our Forecast with 10 years of data



A much finer modelling of the Earth could be done

Test of the Inner-Outer Core  
discontinuity

Independent localization  
of the  
Core-Mantle Boundary

# Data analysis



# Neutrino propagation

## Propagation through the Earth with v-SQuIDs

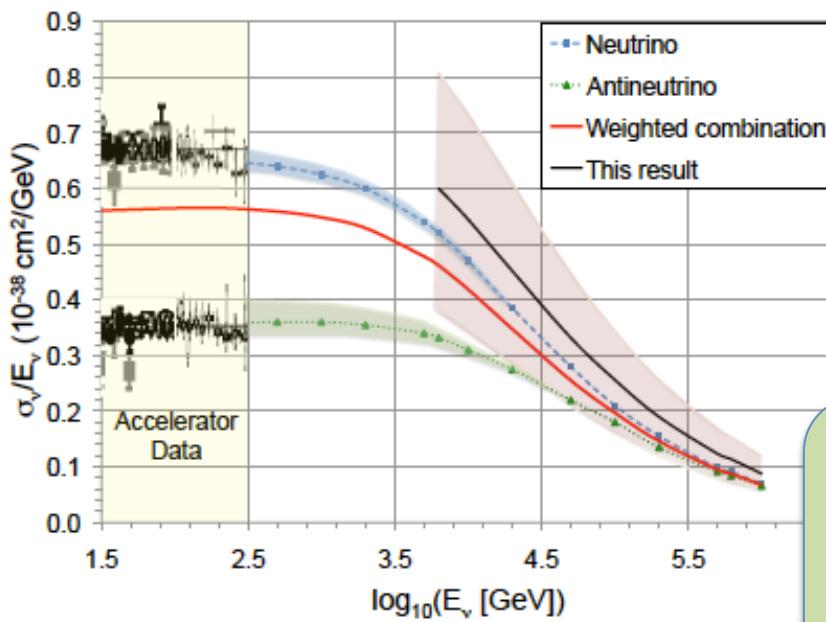
Argüelles Delgado, Salvado & Weaver, Comput. Phys. Commun. 196 (2015)

- Neutrino Oscillations: evolution Hamiltonian in matter  
(dominant below 1 TeV)
- Neutrino Attenuation: inelastic CC and NC interactions with matter  
(dominant above 1 TeV)
- Neutrino regeneration due to tau decays
- Migration to lower energy bins due to NC interactions



# Neutrino-nucleon interaction

Parton distribution functions: HERAPDF

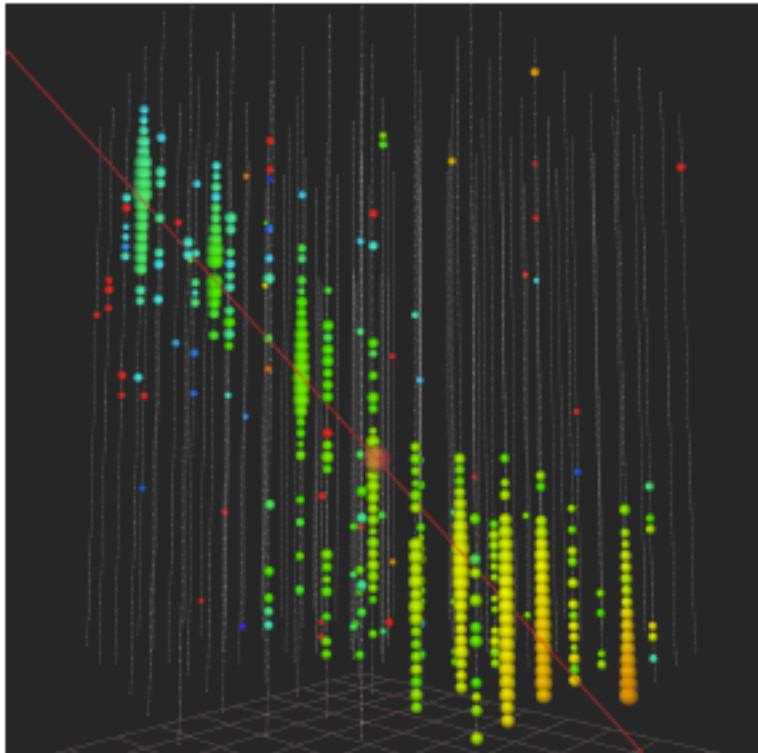


Aarsten et al, Nature 551 (2017)

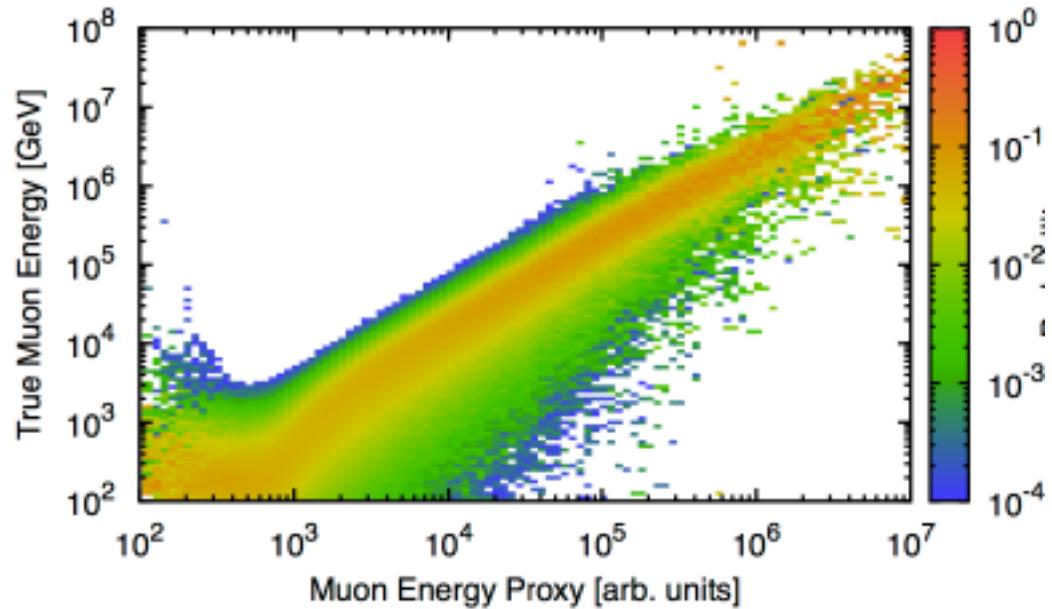
$\nu N$  ( $\bar{\nu} N$ ) cross-sections  
at 2-3% (4-10%) errors

ICECUBE MEASUREMENT  
 $1.30^{+0.21}_{-0.19}$  (stat)  $^{+0.39}_{-0.43}$  (syst)  $\times \sigma_{SM}$

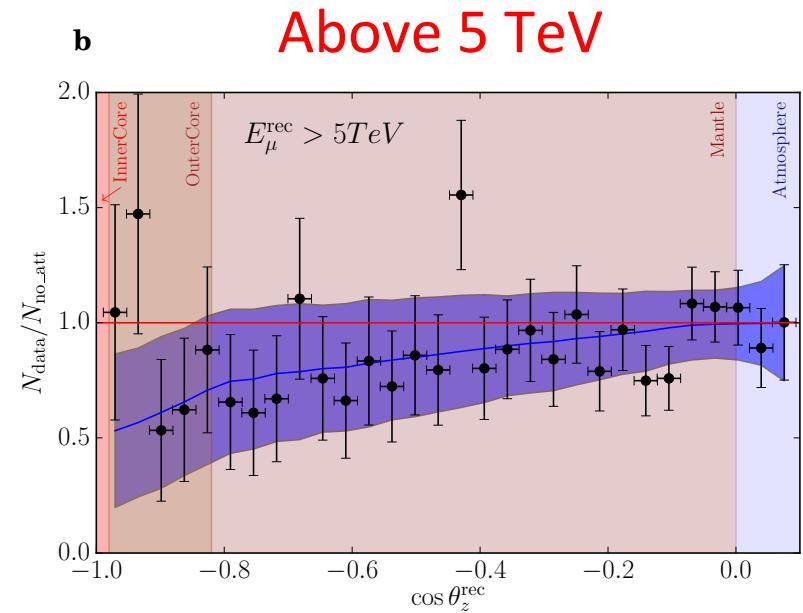
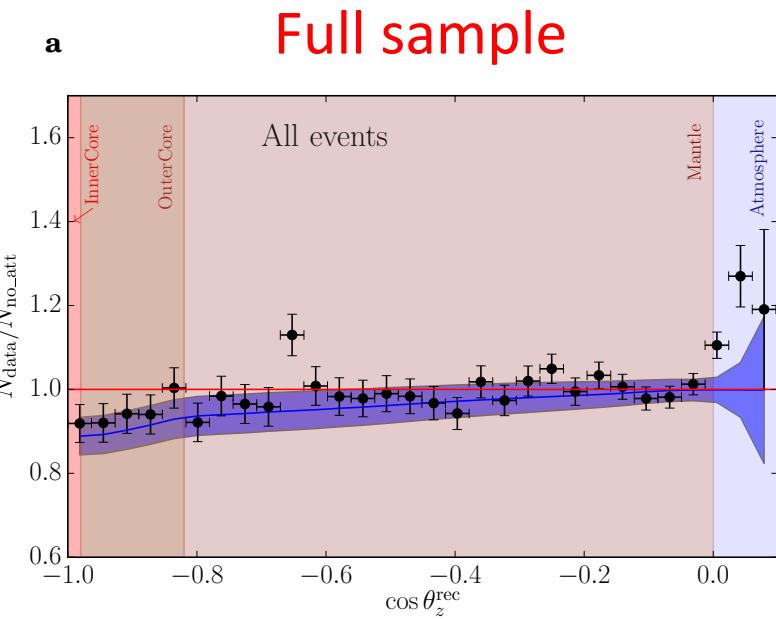
# Detector simulation



We use the official  
IceCube MC to map  
 $E_{\text{obs}}^{\mu}, \theta_{\text{obs}}^{\mu}$  into  $E_{\text{rec}}^{\nu}, \theta_{\text{rec}}^{\nu}$



# The IC86 Data Sample: $N_{\text{data}}/N_{\text{noatt}}$



Full sample  
useful for  
normalization

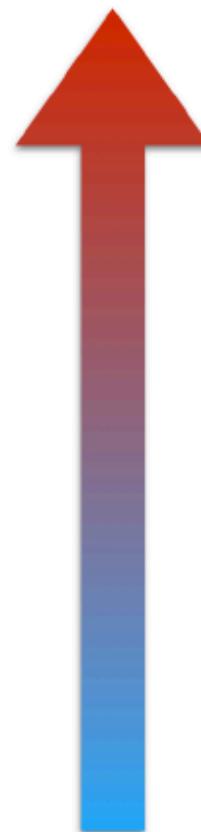
For  $\cos \theta > -0.6$ ,  
attenuation can be  
as large as 50%

# Systematics



# Systematics importance

- ▶ *DOM efficiency*
- ▶ *Flux continuous parameters*
  - ▶ *spectral index*
  - ▶  $\pi/K$  ratio
  - ▶  $\nu/\bar{\nu}$  ratio Full Implementation
- ▶ Air shower hadronic models Marginally irrelevant precise check
- ▶ Primary cosmic ray fluxes Marginally irrelevant precise check
- ▶ Hole Ice Irrelevant
- ▶ Neutrino cross sections Irrelevant
- ▶ Bulk ice scattering/absorption Irrelevant



Important

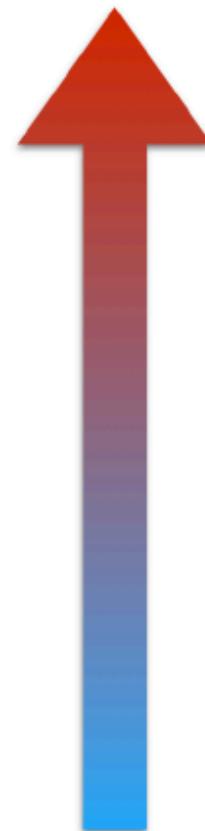
Not important

*continuous systematics*  
discrete systematic

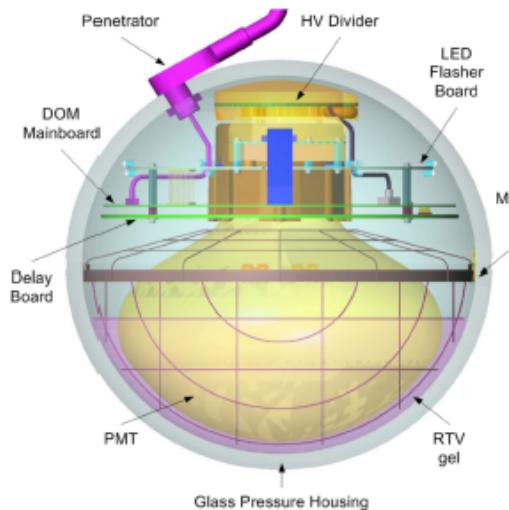
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*continuous systematics*  
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Important



D.O.M.

Not important

2

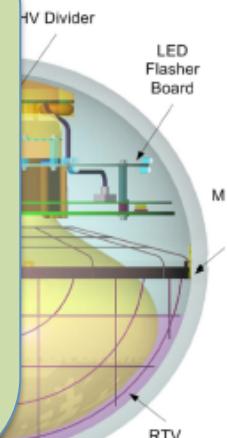
# Systematics importance

- ▶ DOM efficiency
- ▶ Flux continuous parameters

Important

- ▶ Solid angle
- ▶ Scintillation light yield
- ▶ Light collection efficiency
- ▶ Air shower energy  
Irrelevant
- ▶ Primary particle energy  
Irrelevant
- ▶ Hole size
- ▶ Neutral pion energy
- ▶ Bulk ice temperature
- ▶ Irrelevant

Not taken into account:  
**OPTICAL PROPERTIES OF THE ICE**

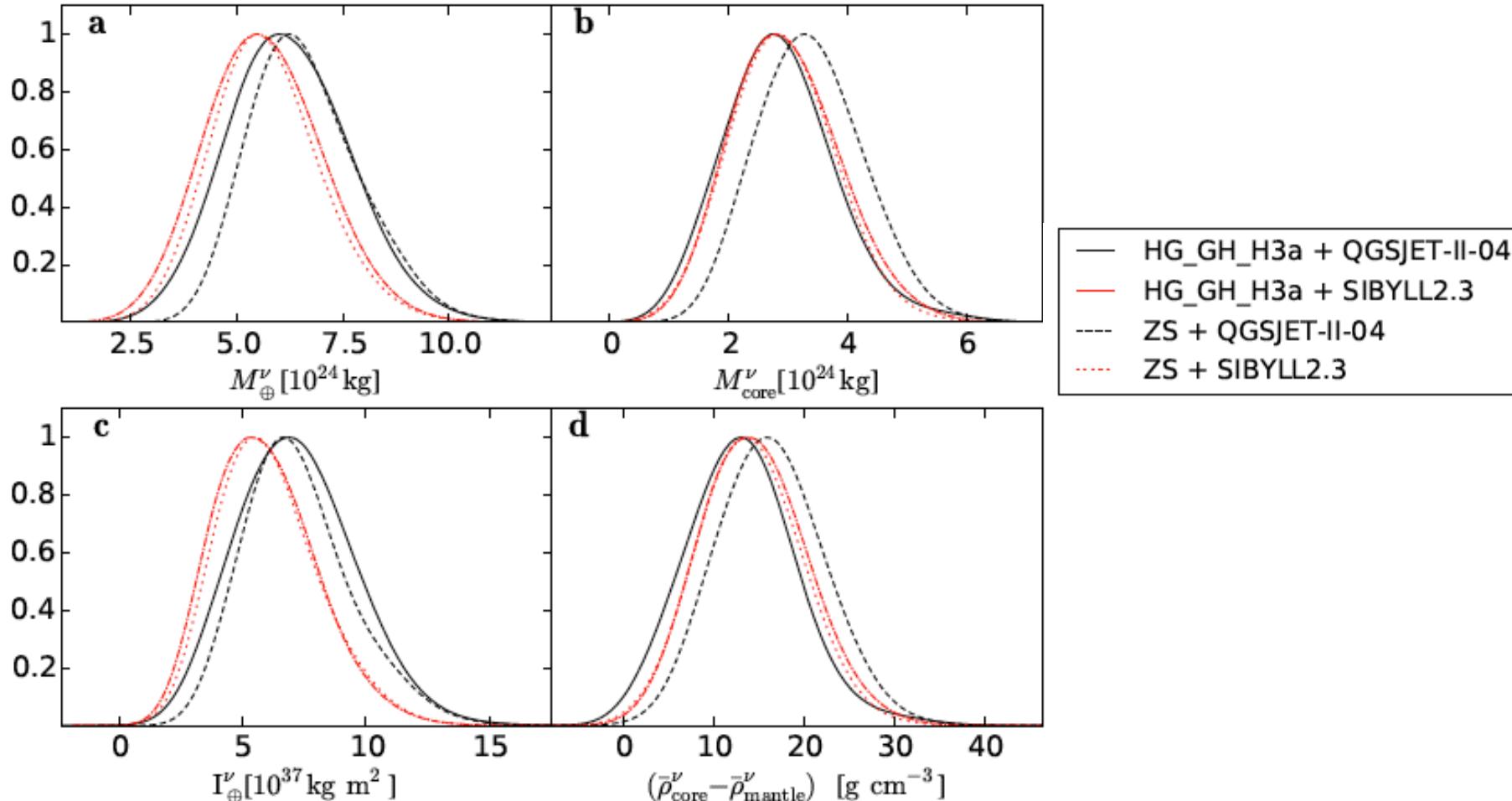


D.O.M.

**Not important**

*continuous systematics*  
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# Flux dependence, IC86

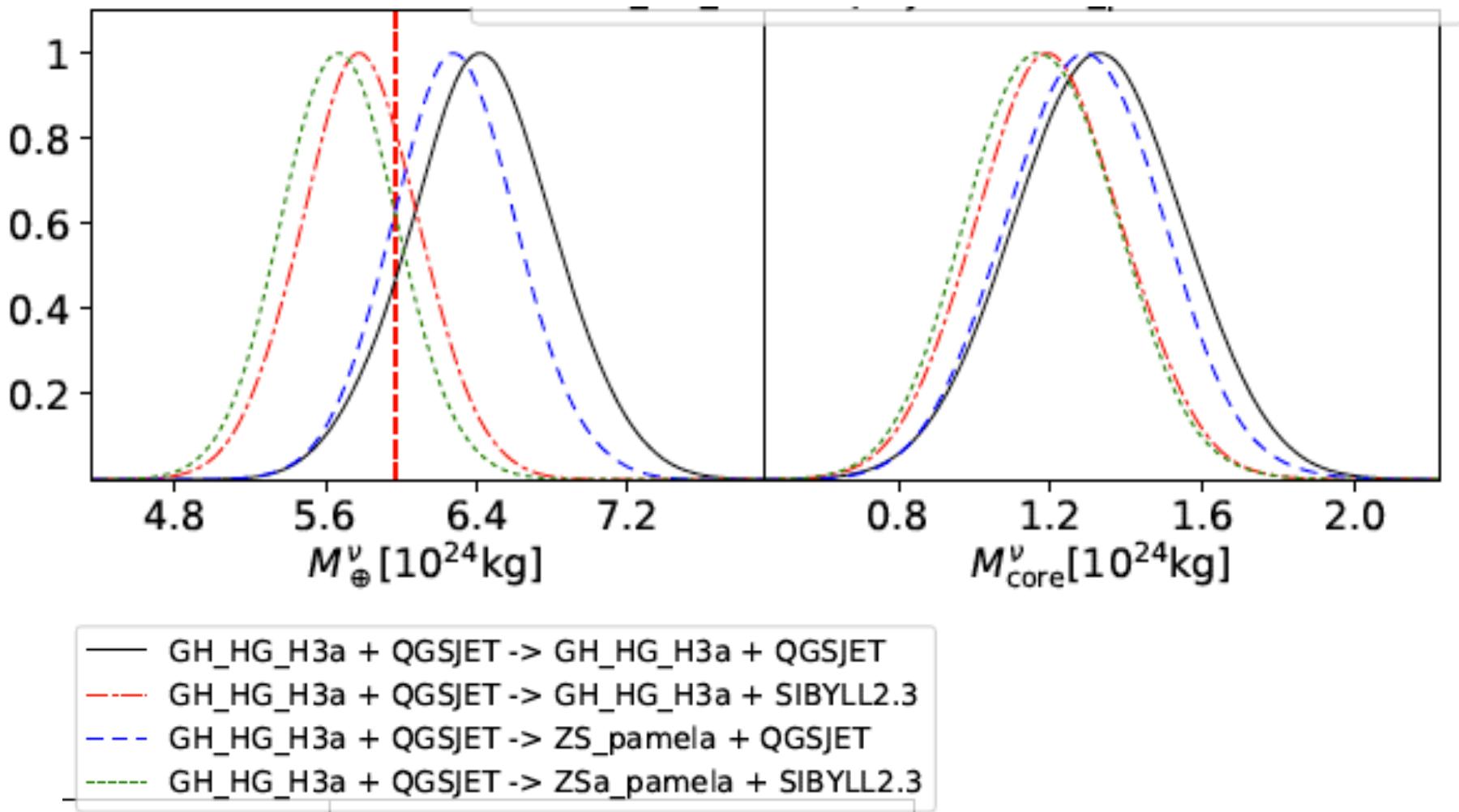


# Results for different models

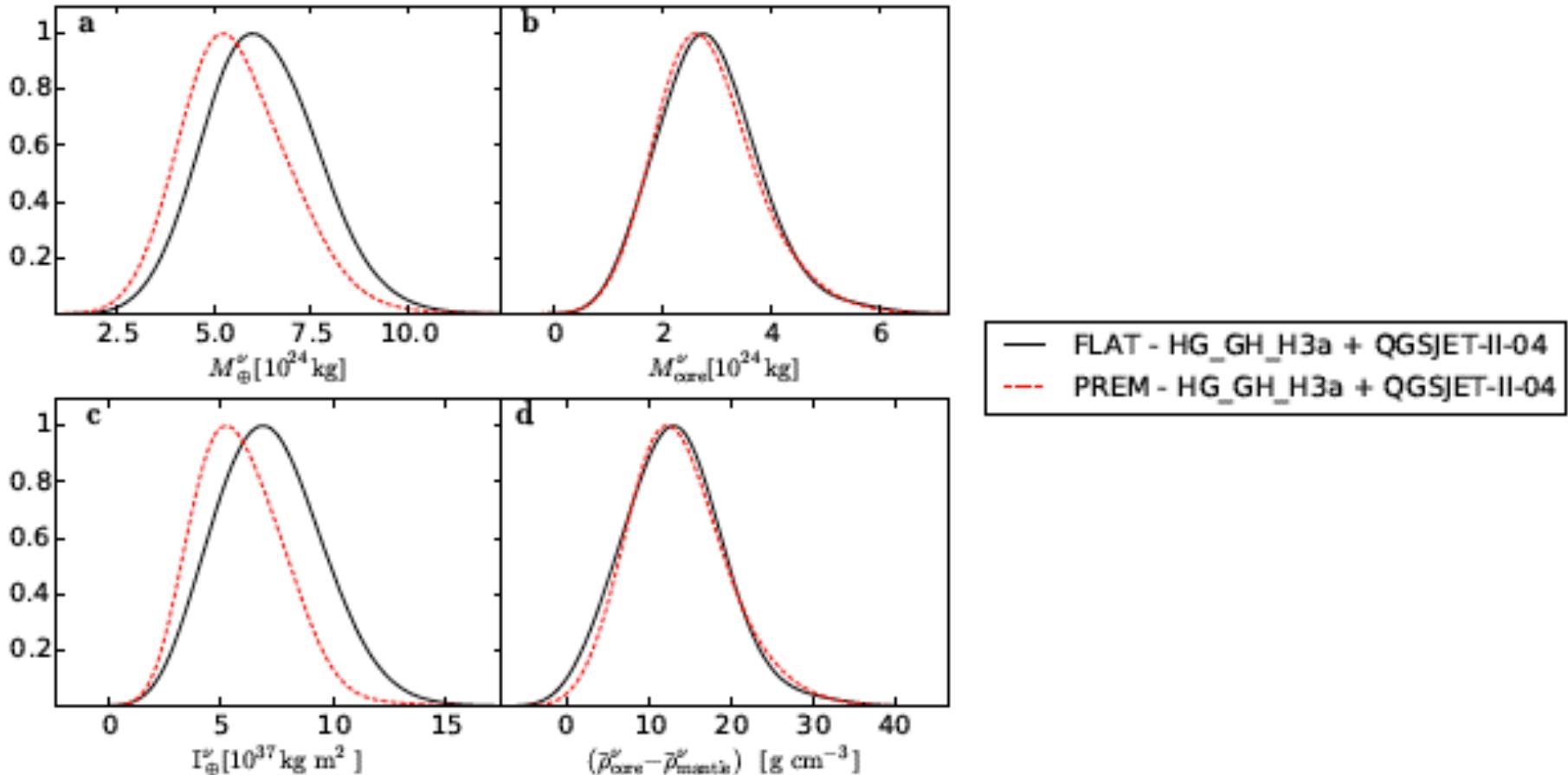
	Piecewise flat Earth's profile				PREM Earth's profile
	HG-GH-H3a + QGSJET-II-04	HG-GH-H3a + SIBYLL2.3	ZS + QGSJET-II-04	ZS + SIBYLL2.3	HG-GH-H3a + QGSJET-II-04
$M_{\oplus}^v [10^{24} \text{ kg}]$	$6.0^{+1.6}_{-1.3}$	$5.5^{+1.5}_{-1.3}$	$6.2^{+1.4}_{-1.2}$	$5.5^{+1.3}_{-1.2}$	$5.3^{+1.5}_{-1.3}$
$M_{\text{core}}^v [10^{24} \text{ kg}]$	$2.72^{+0.97}_{-0.89}$	$2.79^{+0.98}_{-0.85}$	$3.27^{+0.92}_{-0.89}$	$2.84^{+0.89}_{-0.88}$	$2.62^{+0.97}_{-0.84}$
$I_{\oplus}^v [10^{37} \text{ kg cm}^2]$	$6.9 \pm 2.4$	$5.4^{+2.3}_{-1.9}$	$6.7^{+2.3}_{-2.0}$	$5.5^{+2.2}_{-1.9}$	$5.3^{+2.3}_{-1.7}$
$\bar{\rho}_{\text{core}}^v - \bar{\rho}_{\text{mantle}}^v [\text{g/cm}^3]$	$13.1^{+5.8}_{-6.3}$	$14.0^{+6.0}_{-5.9}$	$15.9^{+6.0}_{-5.9}$	$13.5^{+6.1}_{-5.5}$	$12.3^{+6.3}_{-5.4}$
$p - \text{value}$ mantle denser than core	$1.1 \times 10^{-2}$	$2.4 \times 10^{-3}$	$9.4 \times 10^{-4}$	$4.6 \times 10^{-3}$	$3.8 \times 10^{-3}$



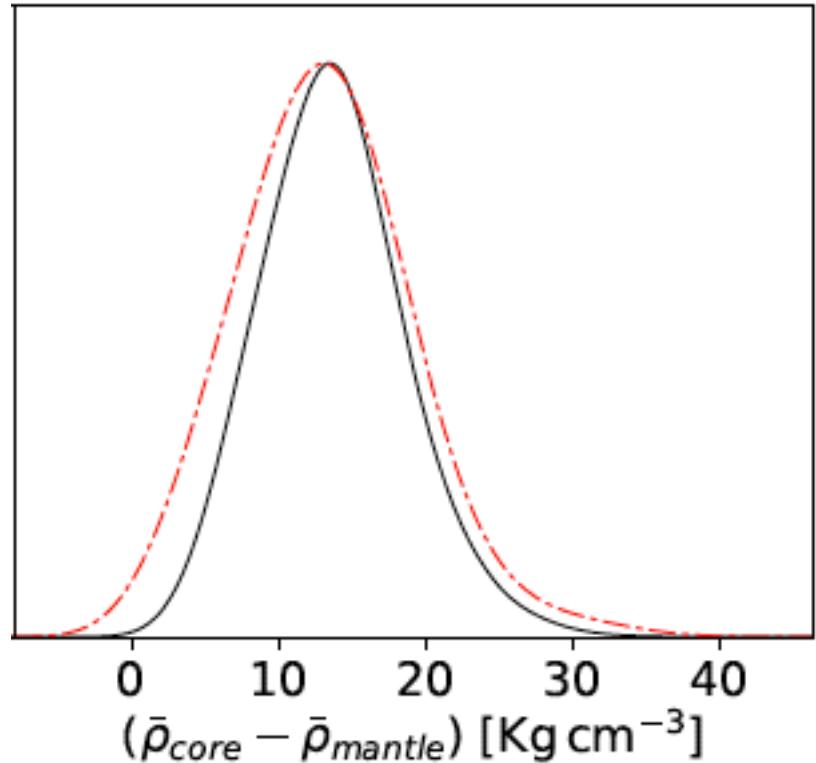
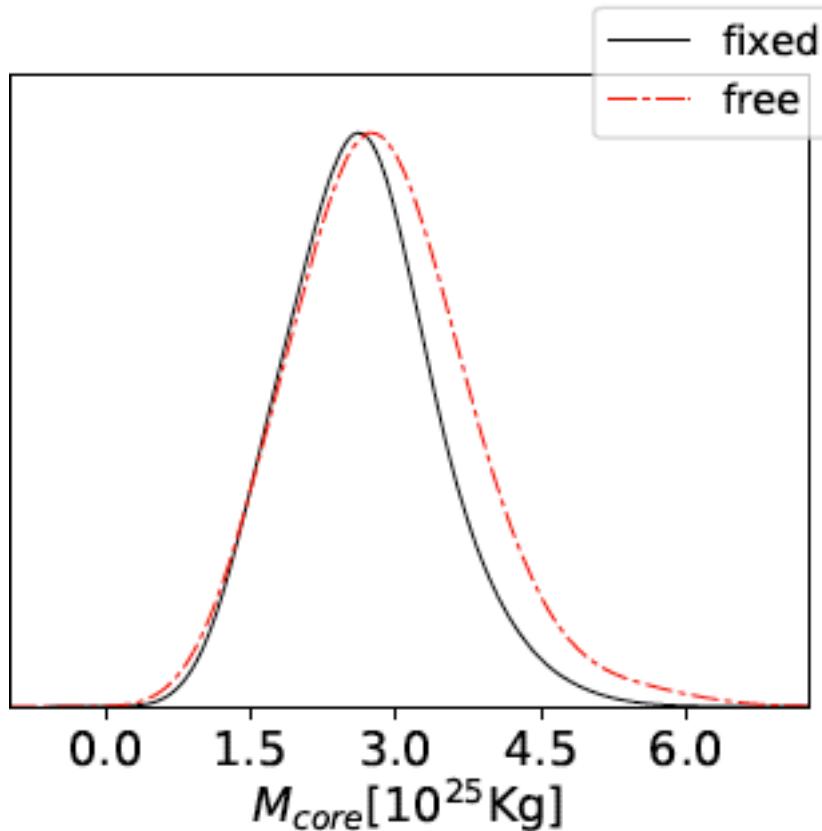
# Flux dependence, 10 years forecast



# Earth's profile dependence, IC86



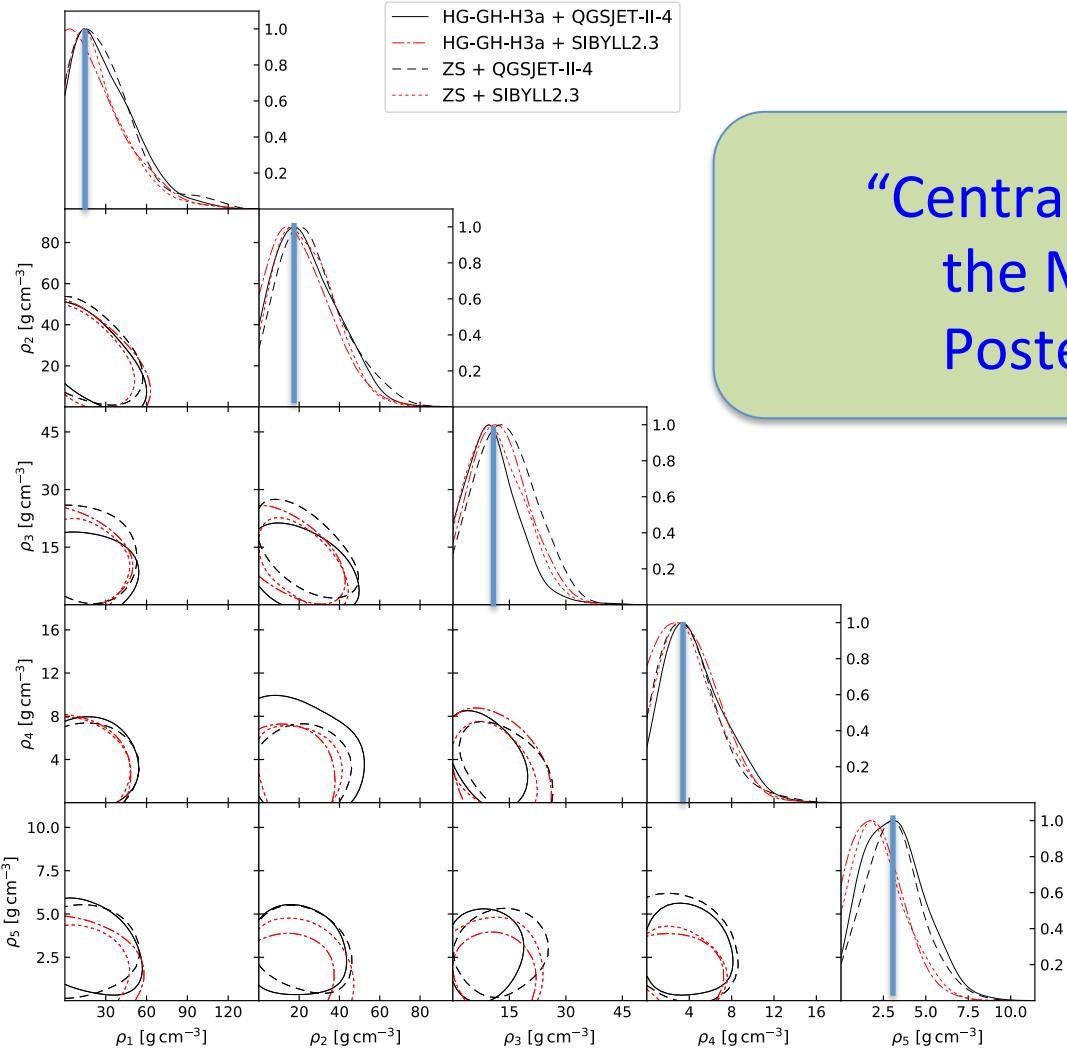
# Impact of systematics on the error



# Errors

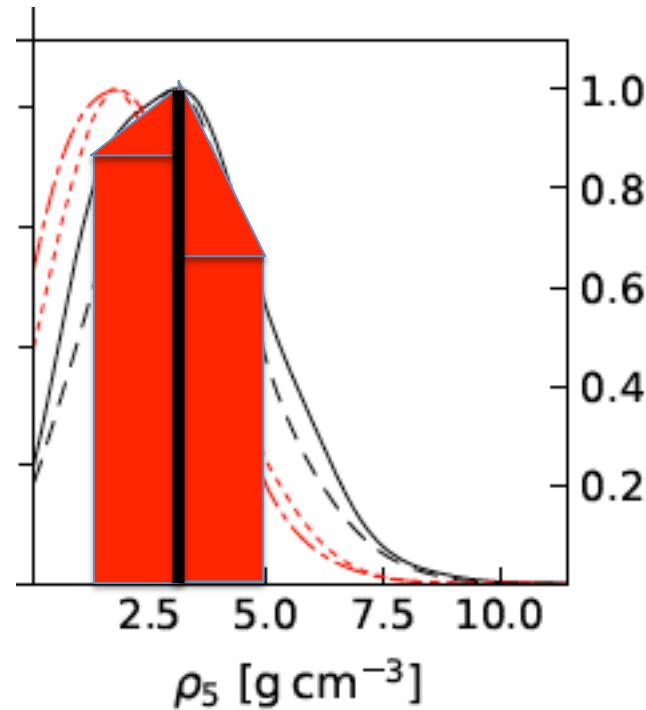
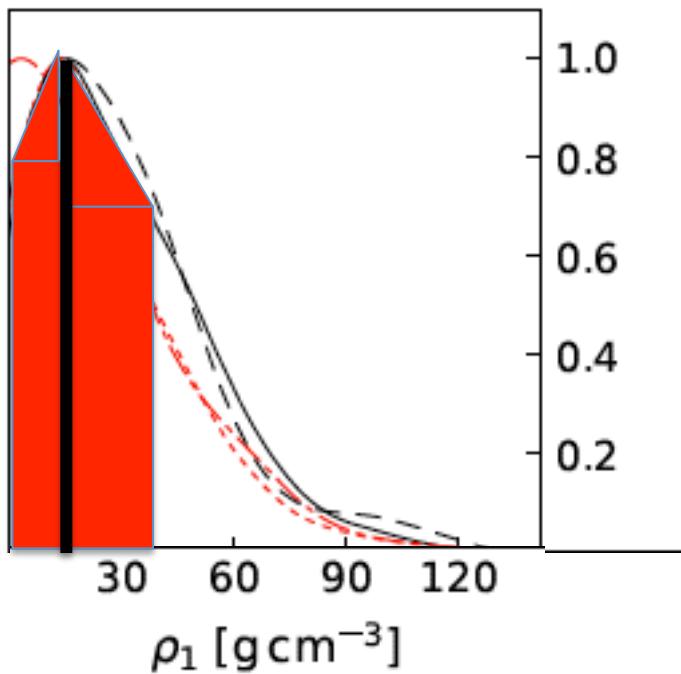


# What are the dots in the 1d profile?

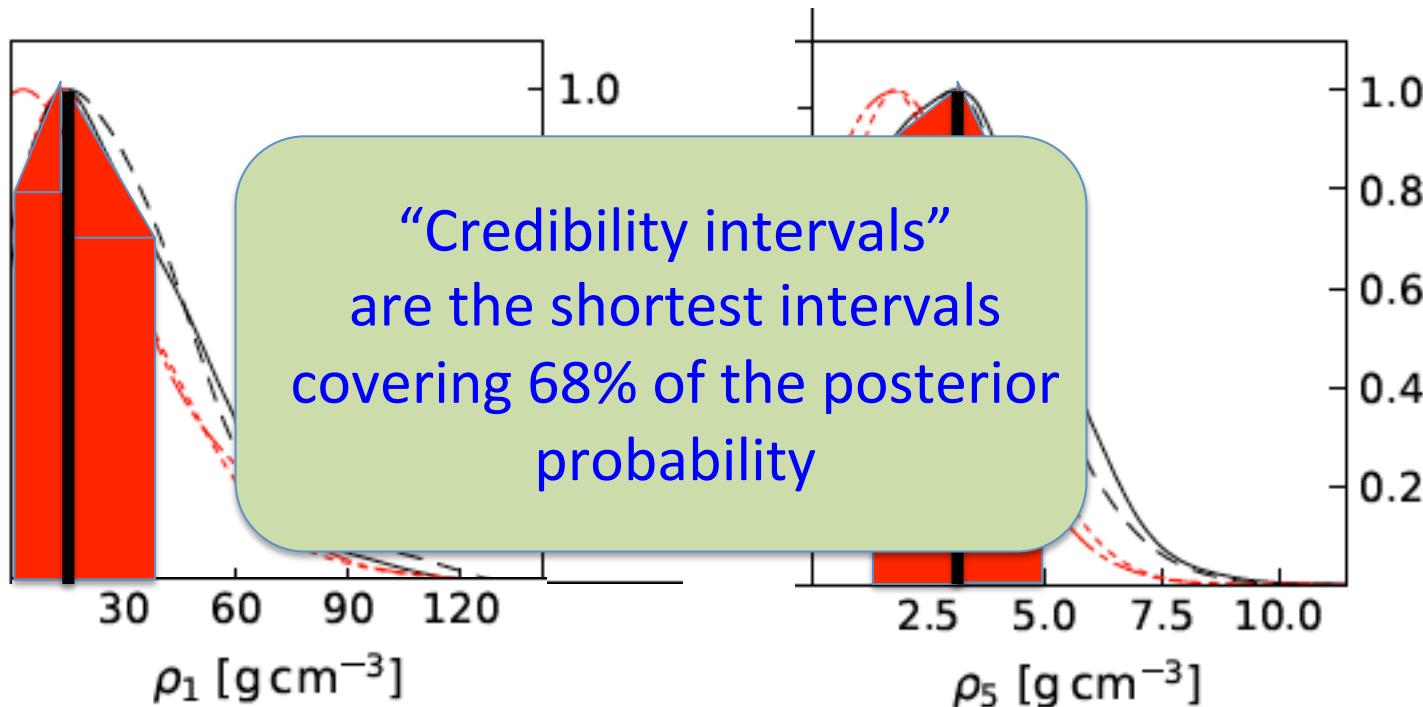


“Central values” represent  
the Maximum of the  
Posterior Probability

# Asymmetric credibility intervals



# Asymmetric credibility intervals



# Constrained fits



# Impact of external constraints

- Gravitational measurement of the Earth's mass

$$M_{\oplus} = \frac{4\pi}{3} \int_0^{R_{\oplus}} dr r^2 \rho(r) = 5.972 \times 10^{24} \text{ kg}$$

- A derived quantity: Earth's mean moment of inertia

$$I_{\oplus} = \frac{8\pi}{3} \int_0^{R_{\oplus}} dr r^4 \rho(r) = 0.3307144 M_{\oplus} R_{\oplus}^2$$

A constant density would give  $I_{\oplus}(\rho(r) = \rho_0) = 0.4 M_{\oplus} R^2$ .



# Impact of external constraints

Adding the gravitational Earth's mass as an external constraint, results in fixing the mantle density:

$$\rho_5 = [1.22-4.78] \text{ g/cm}^3 \rightarrow [4.43-4.79] \text{ g/cm}^3$$

Rather small impact on the core density, instead:

$$\rho_{\text{core}} = [10.2-20.8] \text{ g/cm}^3 \rightarrow [9.7-18.6] \text{ g/cm}^3$$

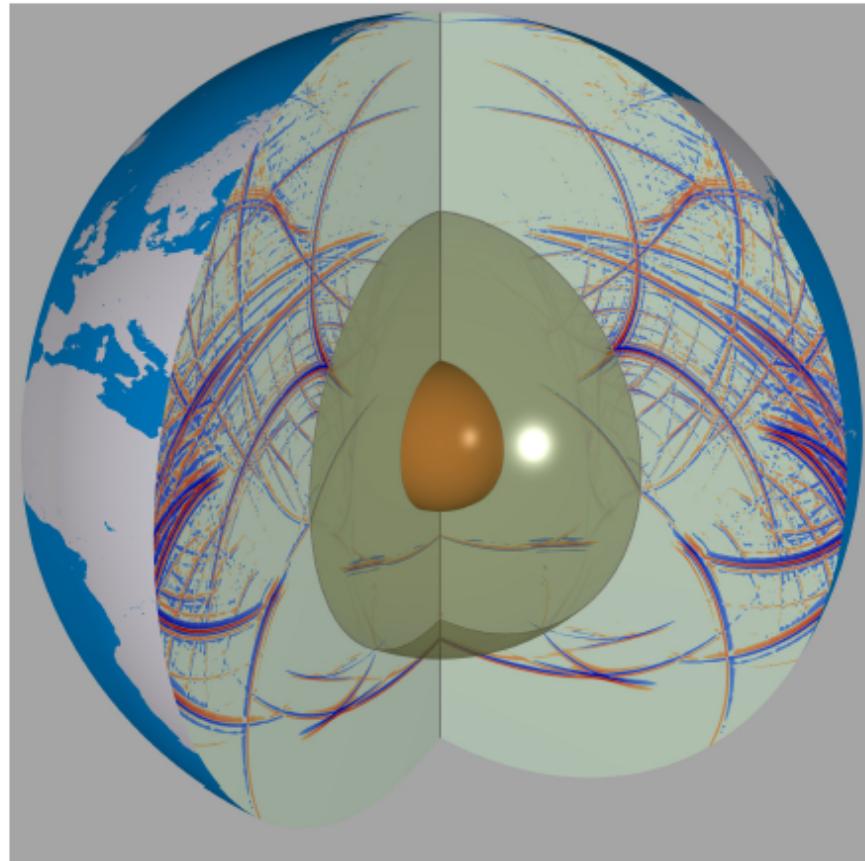
# What I know about seismology



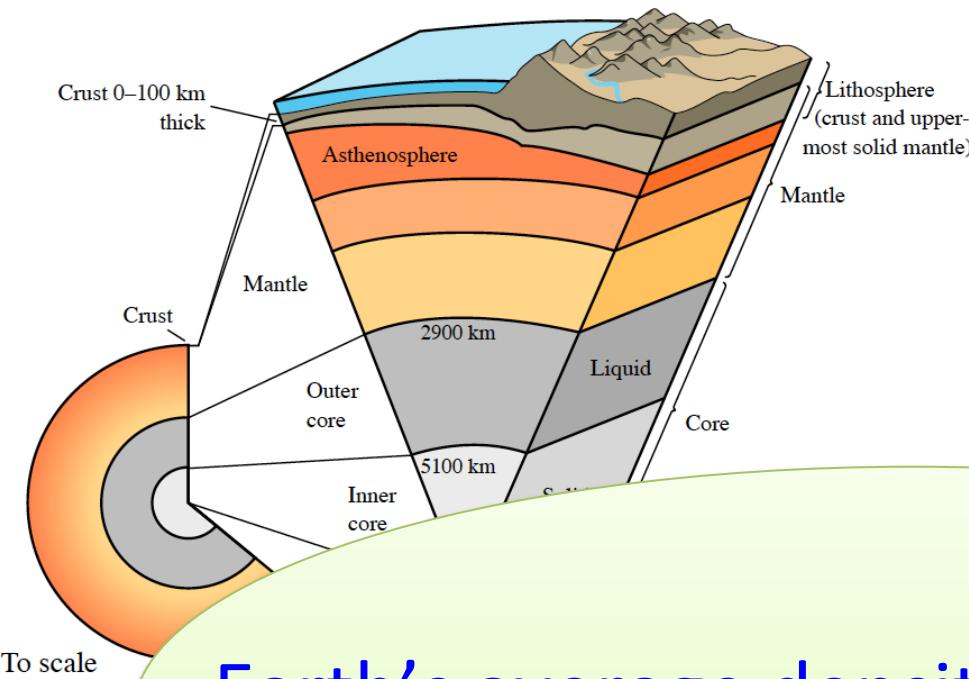
# How densities are measured?

seismology

O(100)/year earthquakes  
with magnitudo  
larger than 6



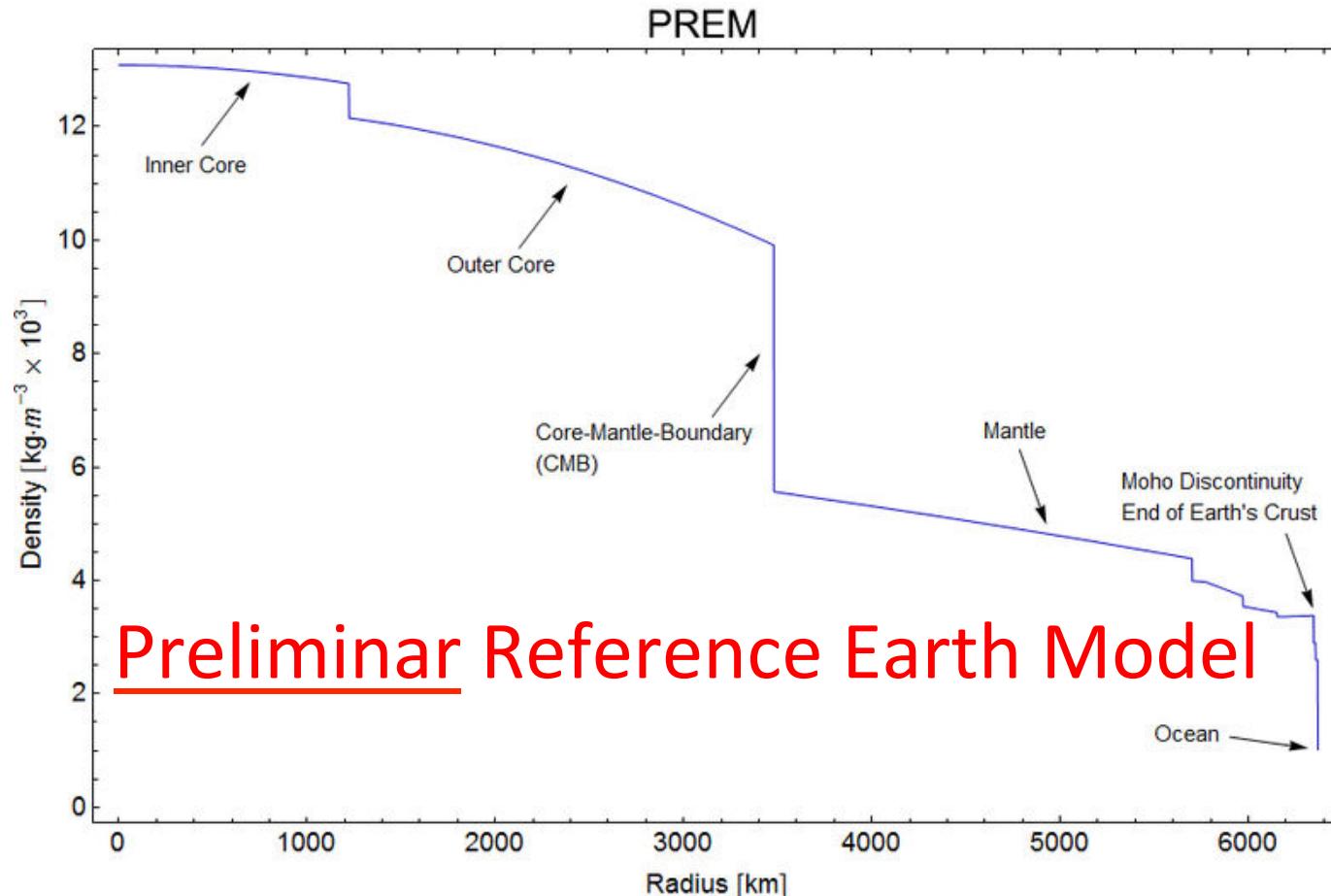
# Density at different depths



Depth [10 <sup>3</sup> ] km	Component layer	Density g/cm <sup>3</sup>
0–60	Lithosphere [n 14]	—
0–35	Crust [n 15]	2.2–2.9
35–60	Upper mantle	3.4–4.4
35–2890	Mantle	3.4–5.6
2890–5100	Asthenosphere	—
5100–6371	Outer core	9.9–12.2
6371	Inner core	13.1

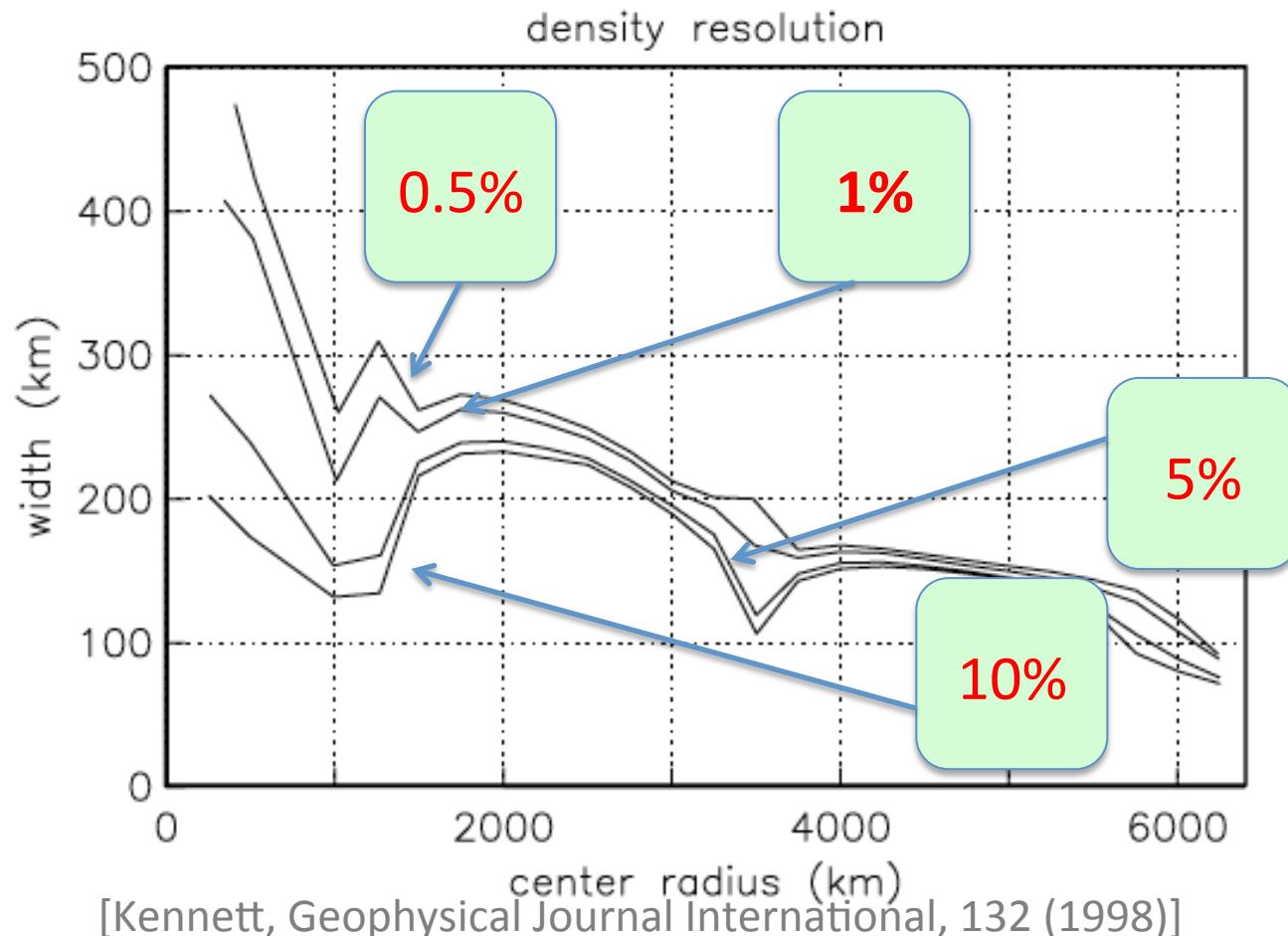
Earth's average density:  $\rho = 5.5148 \text{ g/cm}^3$   
(granite density is  $2.7 \text{ g/cm}^3$ )

# 1-dimensional density profile

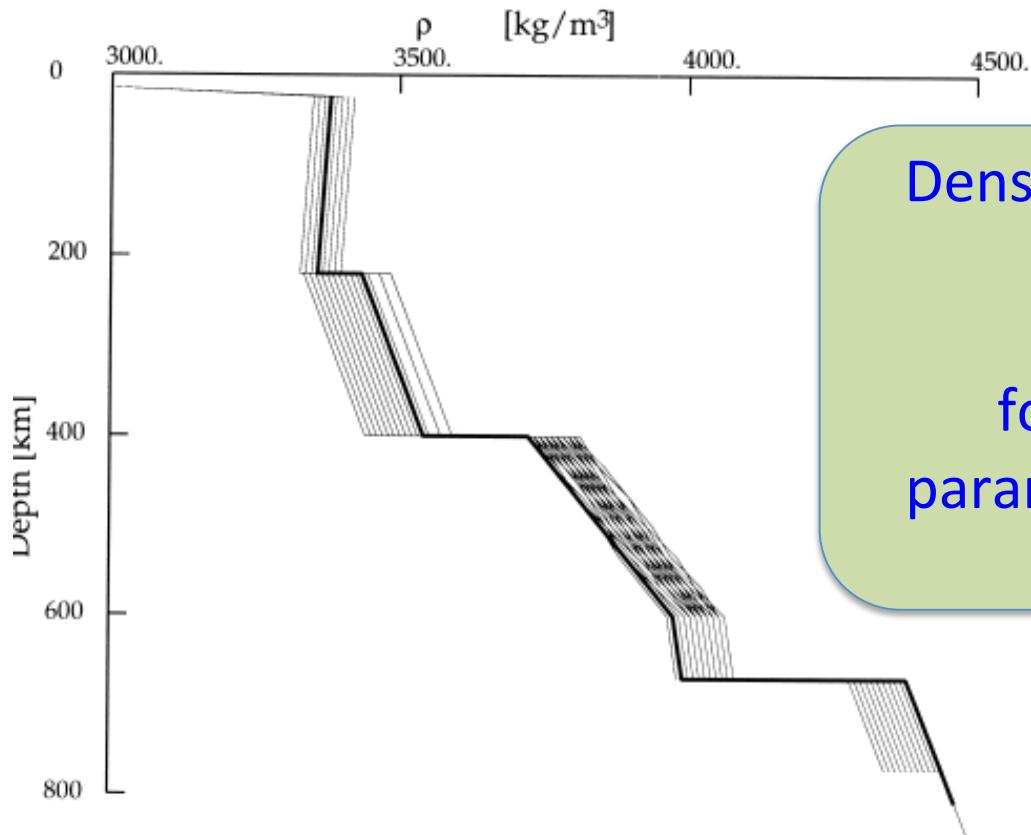


[Dziewonski and Anderson, Physics of the Earth and Planetary Interiors, 25 (1981)]

# Uncertainties on the core density...



# Uncertainties on the crust density...



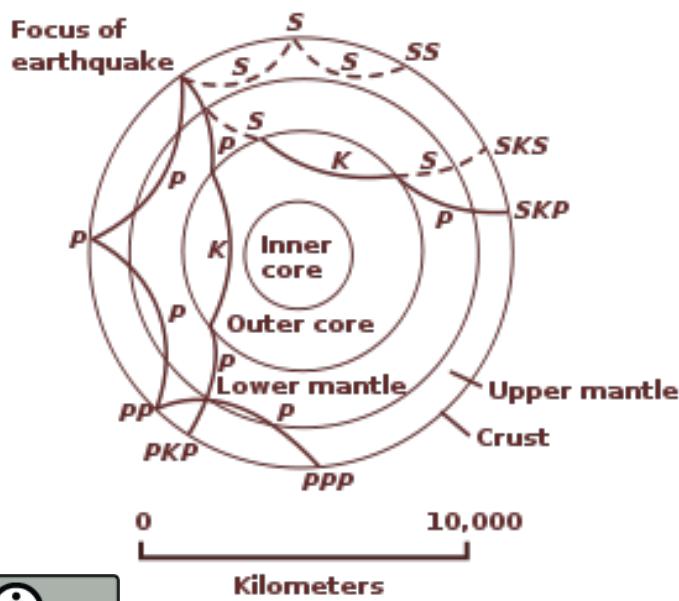
Density variation in  
the  
CRUST  
for different  
parameter choices:  
3-5%

[Kennett, Geophysical Journal International, 132 (1998)]

# The Earth's core

The OUTER CORE IS LIQUID,  
whereas  
the INNER CORE IS SOLID  
(source of the geodynamo)

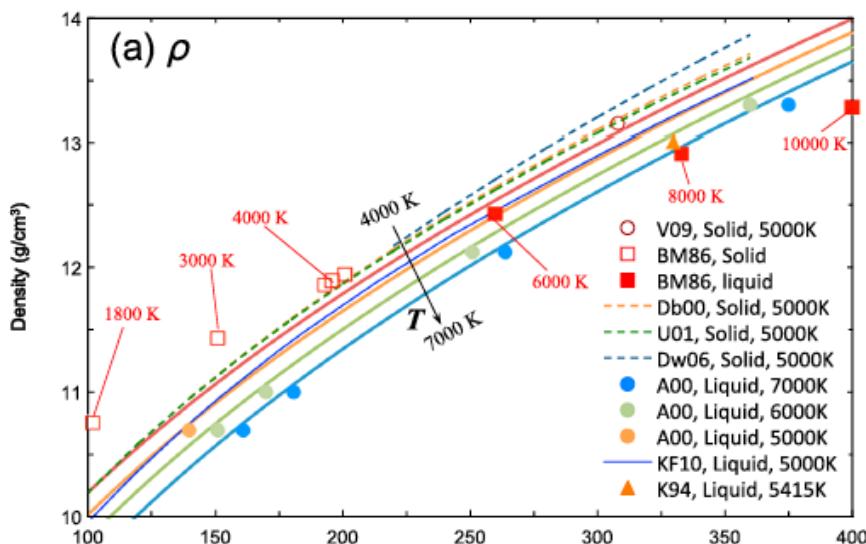
IT IS VERY DIFFICULT TO  
HAVE DIRECT  
INFORMATIONS from the  
INNER CORE



Mostly through global constraints  
and extrapolations

# Inner Core equation of state dependence

Strong dependence of the IC density  
on temperature, pressure and  
composition



Estimated temperature range still  
very large: 4000-10000 K

Composition guessed  
(iron-nickel?)

Missing Xenon problem

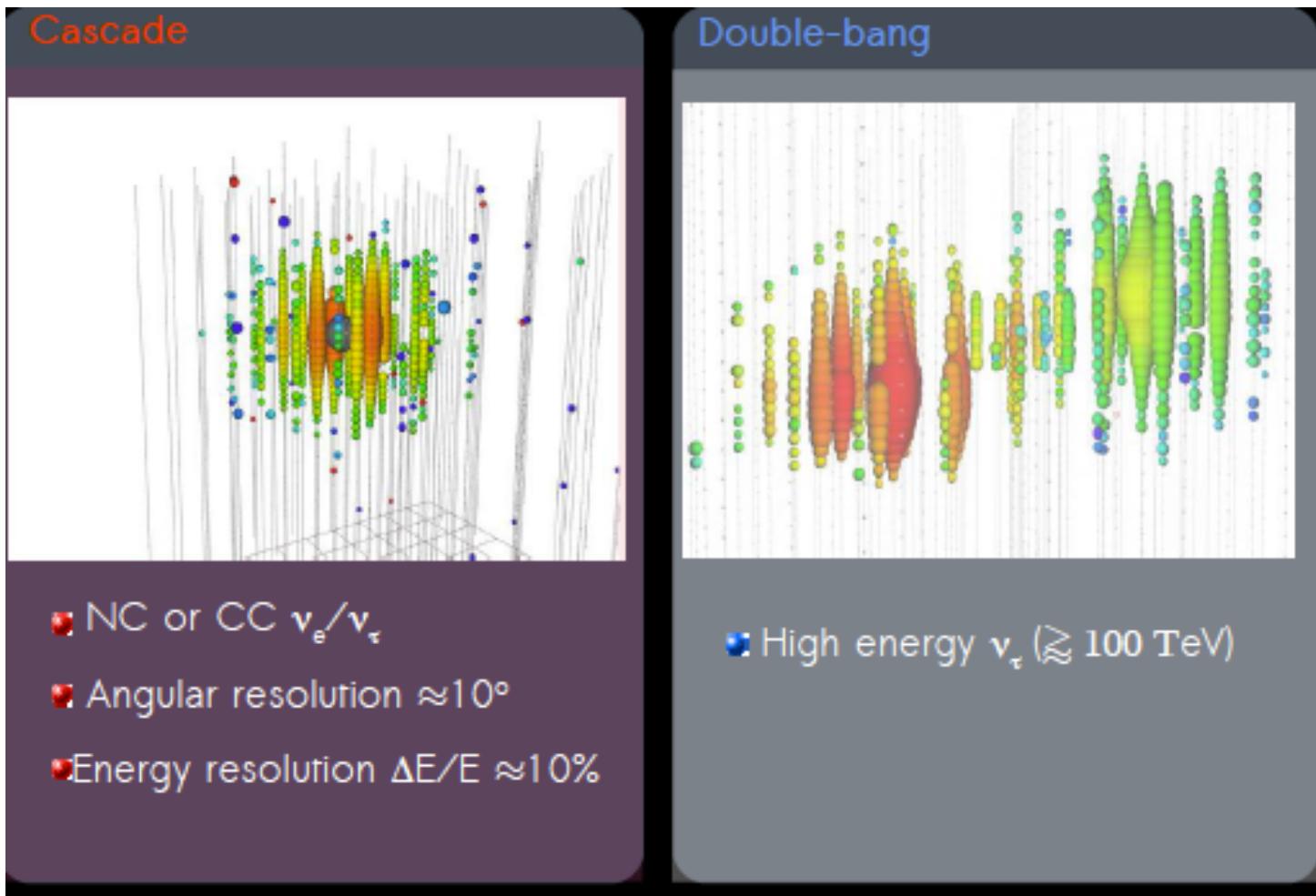
Ishikawa, Tsuchiya, Tange, J. GeoPhys. Res. (Solid Earth) 119 (2014)



# Nice pictures



# Events at IceCube



de los Heros, NeuTel 2019, Venice

EGU 2019 General Assembly, 9-4-2019

# THE ICECUBE UPGRADE



Near-term improvements to calibration  
and low-energy sensitivity



Kopper, NeuTel 2019, Venice

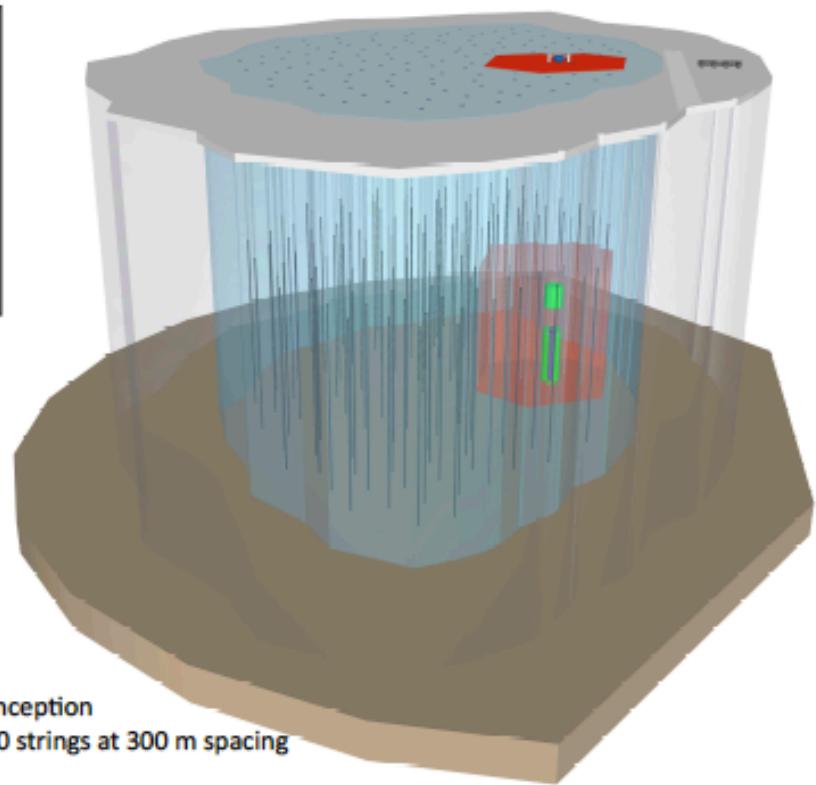
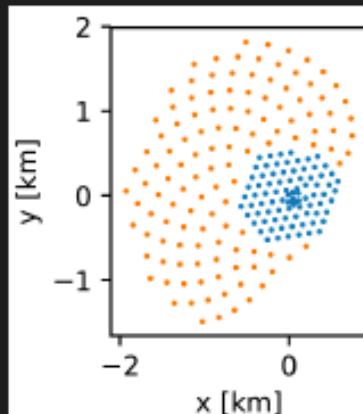
# ICECUBE-GEN2

A wide band neutrino observatory (MeV - EeV) using several detection technologies - optical, radio, and surface veto

IceCube has provided an amazing sample of events, but is still limited by the small number of events

few 10's of astrophysical neutrinos per year

The IceCube-Gen2 High-Energy Array will instrument up to an order of magnitude larger volume

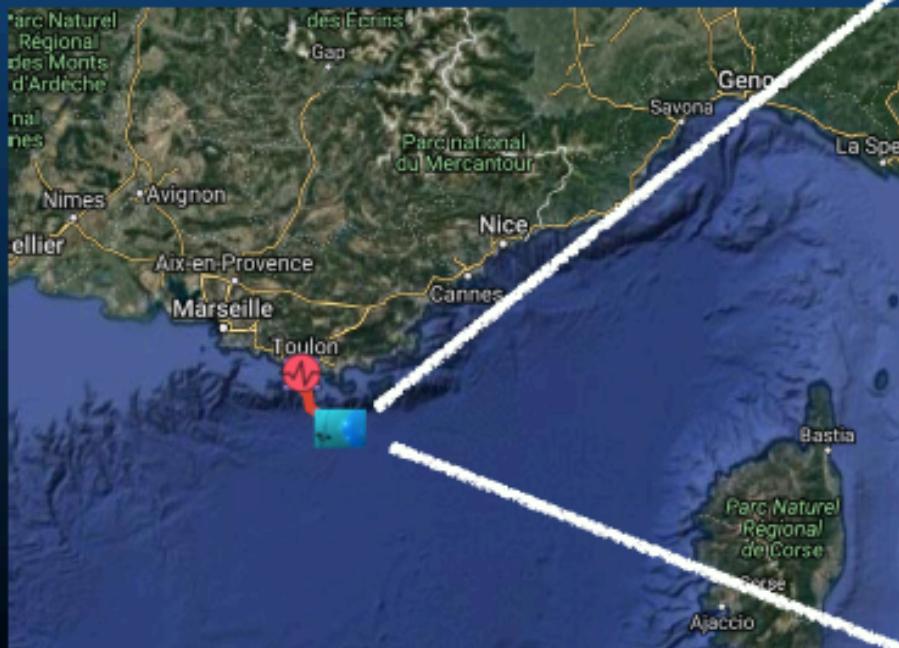


Artist conception  
Here: 120 strings at 300 m spacing

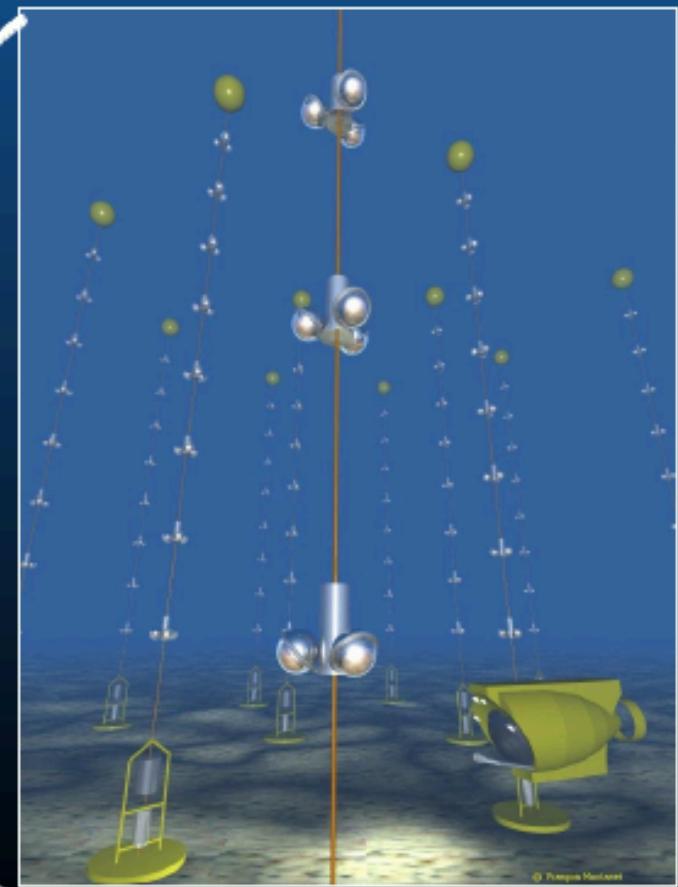
Kopper, NeuTel 2019, Venice

# ANTARES

Largest underwater neutrino telescope  
running since 2007 (complete 2008) in the  
Mediterranean Sea.



12 lines -> 350 m height  
surface area 0.1 km<sup>2</sup>

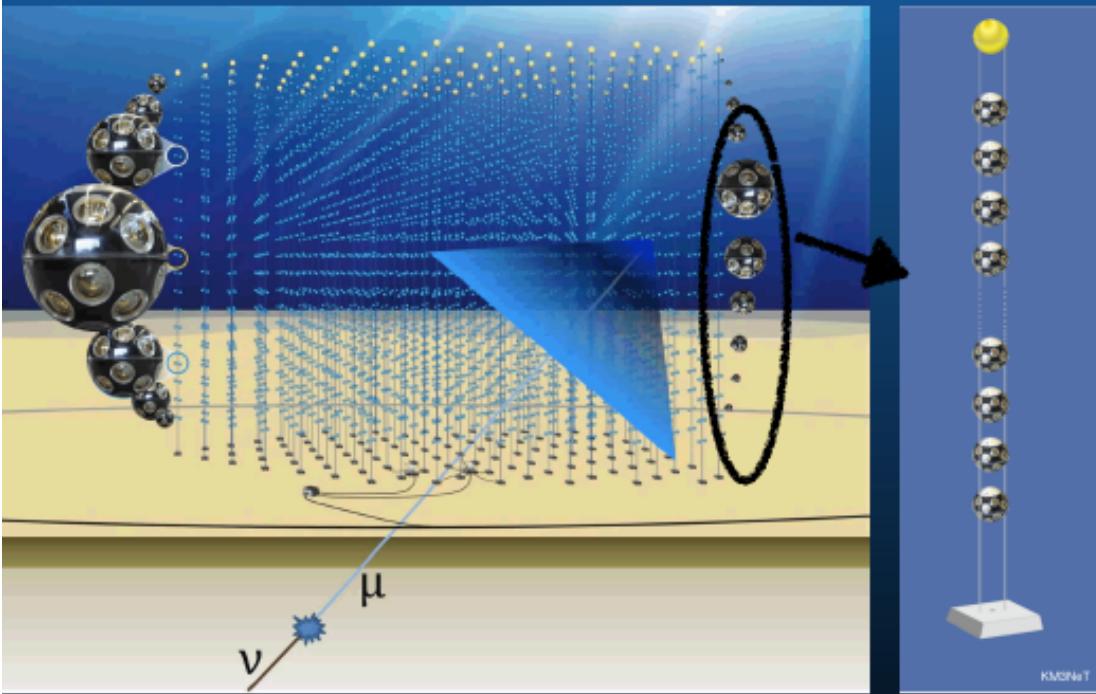


Domi, NeuTel 2019, Venice

EGU 2019 General Assembly, 9-4-2019

# KM3NeT: ORCA & ARCA

Ref: KM3NeT LoI - J.Phys. G43 (2016) no.8, 084001



## ORCA:

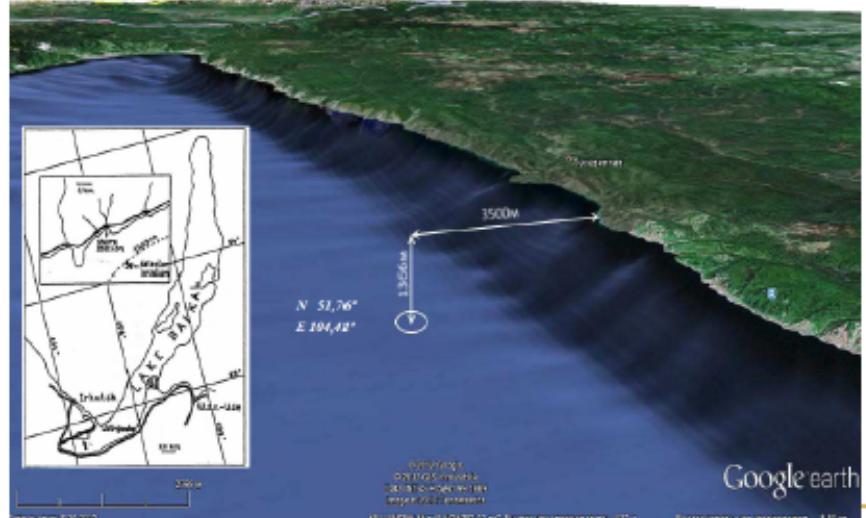
1 DENSE BUILDING BLOCK  
OPTIMISED FOR INTERMEDIATE  
ENERGIES (1-100 GEV)

## ARCA:

2 SPARSE BUILDING BLOCKS  
OPTIMISED FOR HIGH ENERGIES (>1  
TEV)

Domi, NeuTel 2019, Venice

## Ice campus view



Suvorova, NeuTel 2019, Venice