



Hyper-Kamiokande

Reconstruction in Super & Hyper-K

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I L Λ N C E

International Laboratory for **A**strophysics,
Neutrino and **C**osmology Experiments

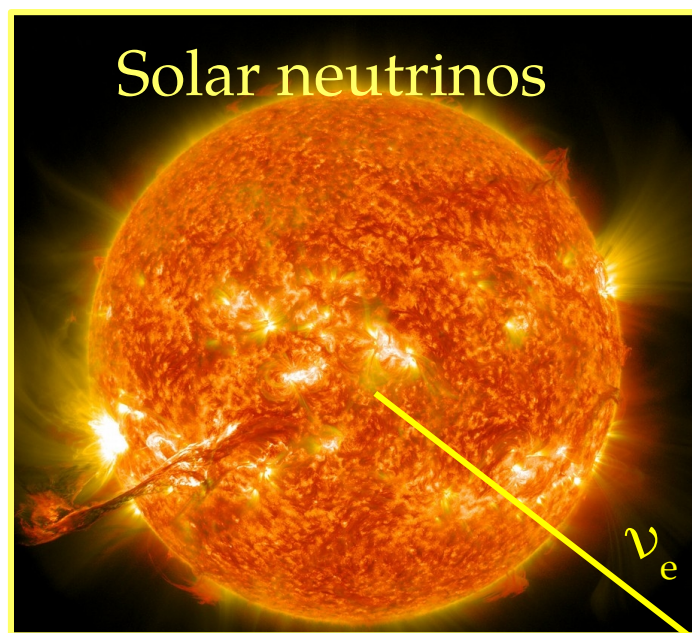


EU Workshop on Water Cherenkov Experiments for Precision
Physics, Krakow, 2025/09/18



I. Physics & reconstruction goals

Solar neutrinos

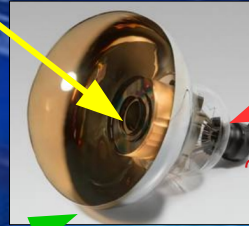


- MSW effect in the Sun
- Non-standard interactions in the Sun.

Physics case

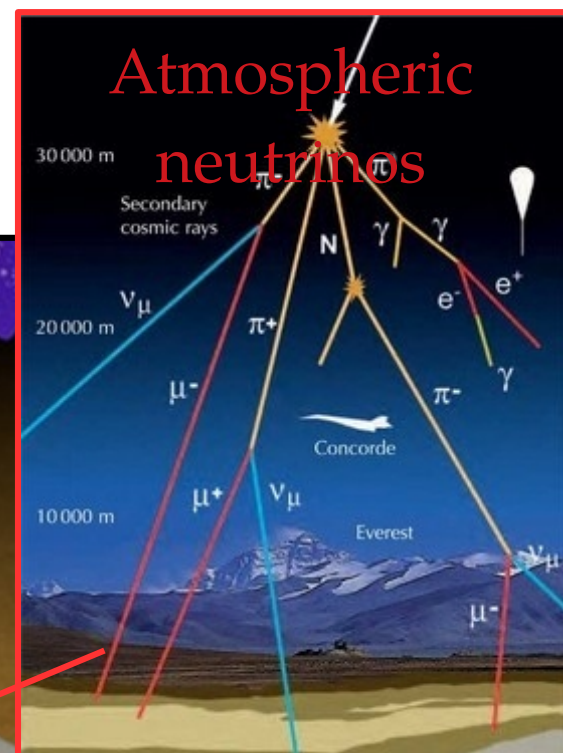
Proton decay

Probe Grand Unified Theories through p-decay (world best sensitivity)



Hit PMT Charge & Time

Atmospheric neutrinos

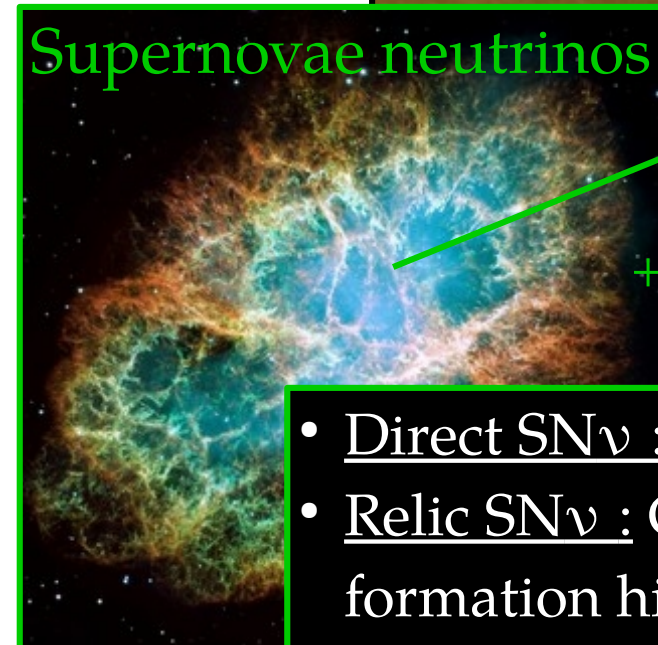


- Observe CP violation for leptons at 5σ
- Precise measurement of δ_{CP} .
- High sensitivity to ν mass ordering.



JPARC accelerator neutrinos

Supernovae neutrinos

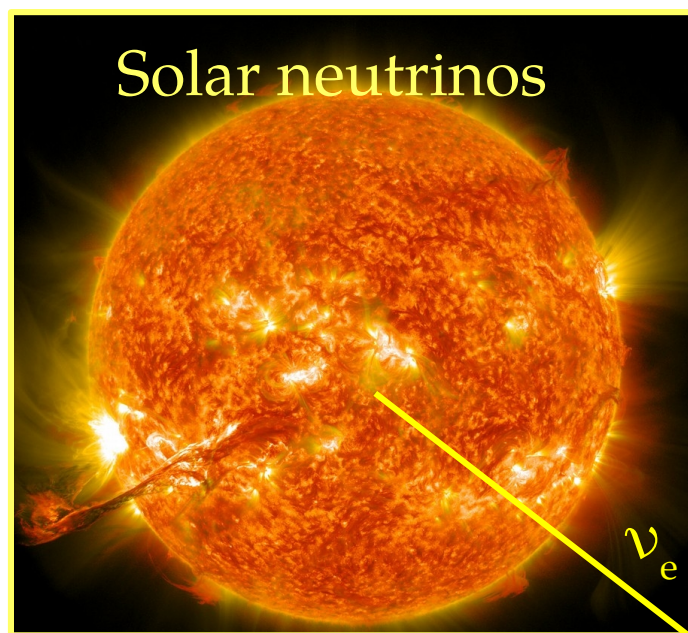


- Direct $SN\nu$: Constrains SN models.
- Relic $SN\nu$: Constrains cosmic star formation history

$\nu_e + (\nu_\mu, \nu_e, \bar{\nu}_\mu)$

Physics case

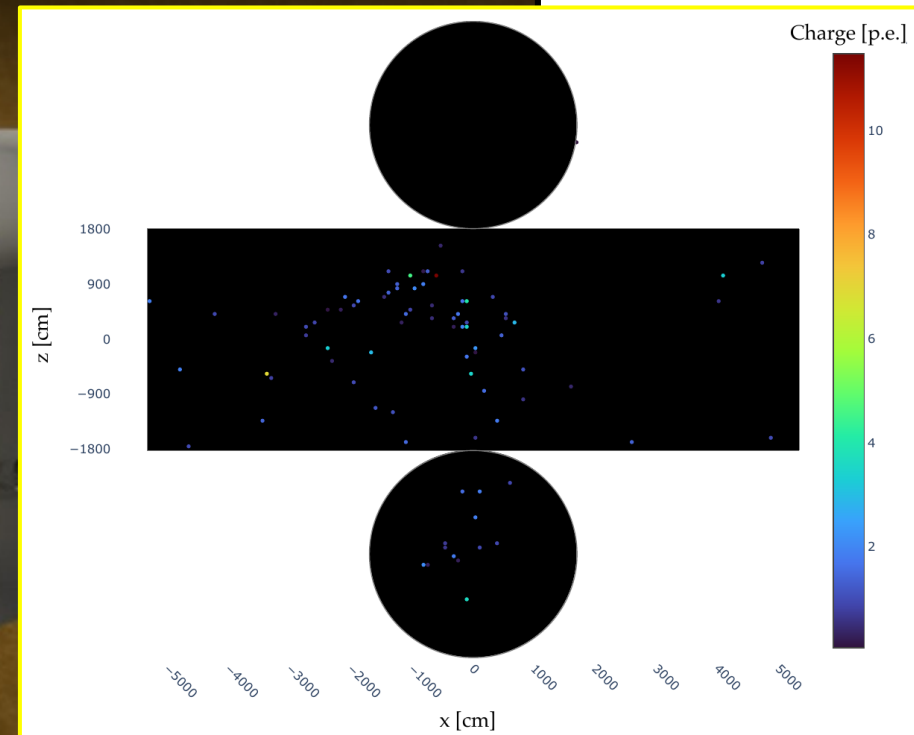
Solar neutrinos



- MSW effect in the Sun
- Non-standard interactions in the Sun.

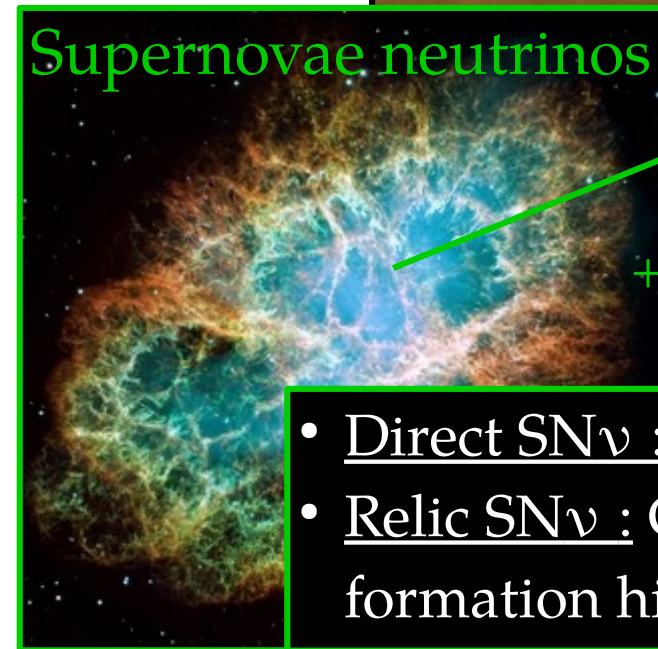
Physics case

10 MeV event



Reconstruct an event with very sparse information

Supernovae neutrinos



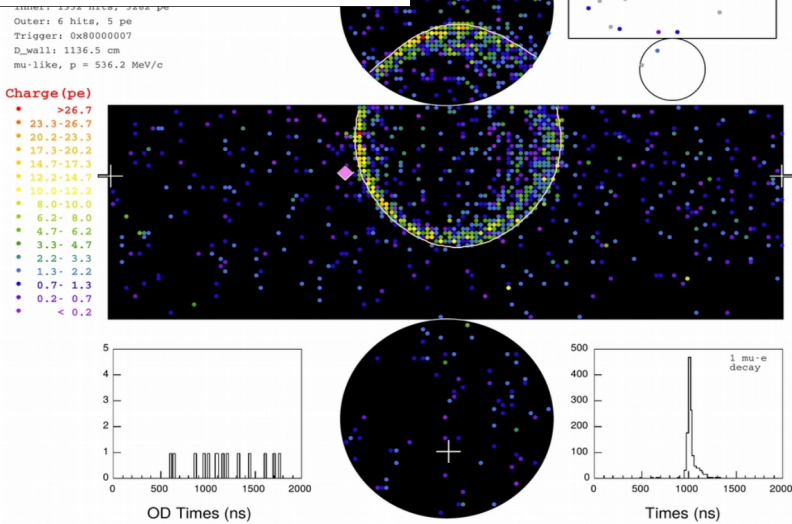
- Direct SN ν : Constrains SN models
- Relic SN ν : Constrains cosmic star formation history

Physics case

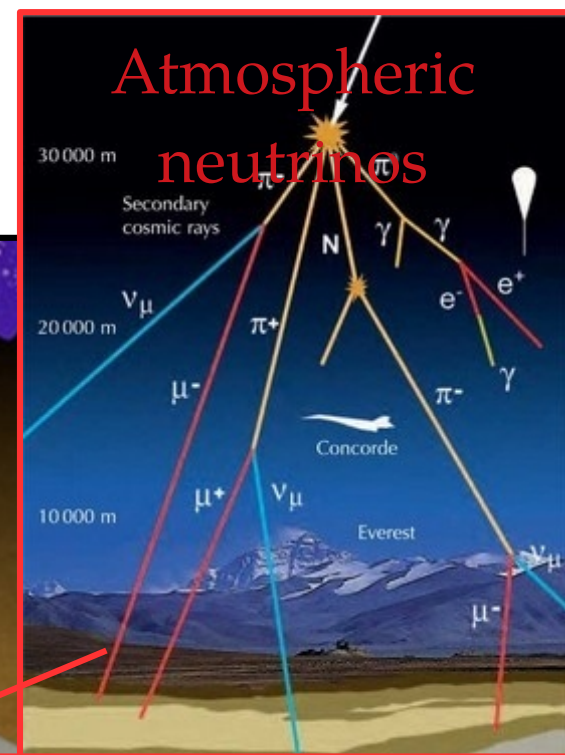
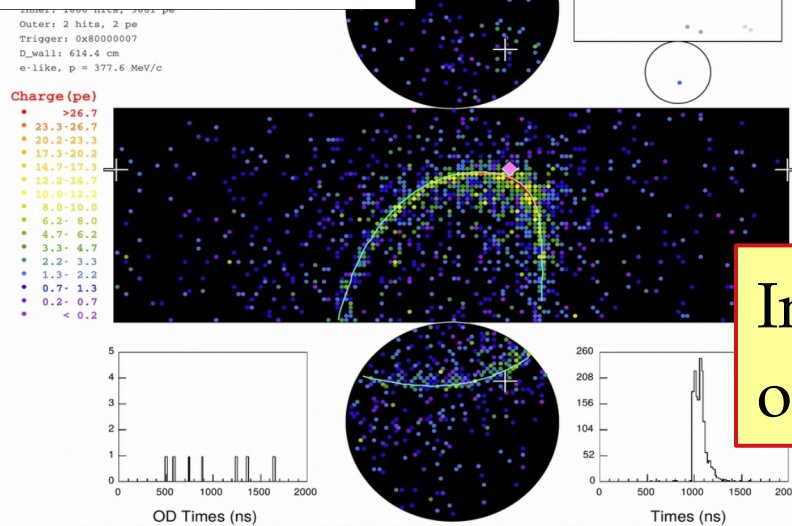
Proton decay

Probe Grand Unified Theories through p-decay (world best sensitivity)

Data μ -like



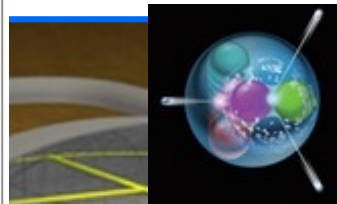
Data e-like



- Observe CP violation for leptons at 5σ
- Precise measurement of δ_{CP}
- High sensitivity to ν mass ordering.

Infer from a large amount of correlated information

JPARC accelerator neutrinos



Principles of reconstruction

Hit PMT Charge & Time
 $\{q_i, t_i, x_i, y_i, z_i\}$

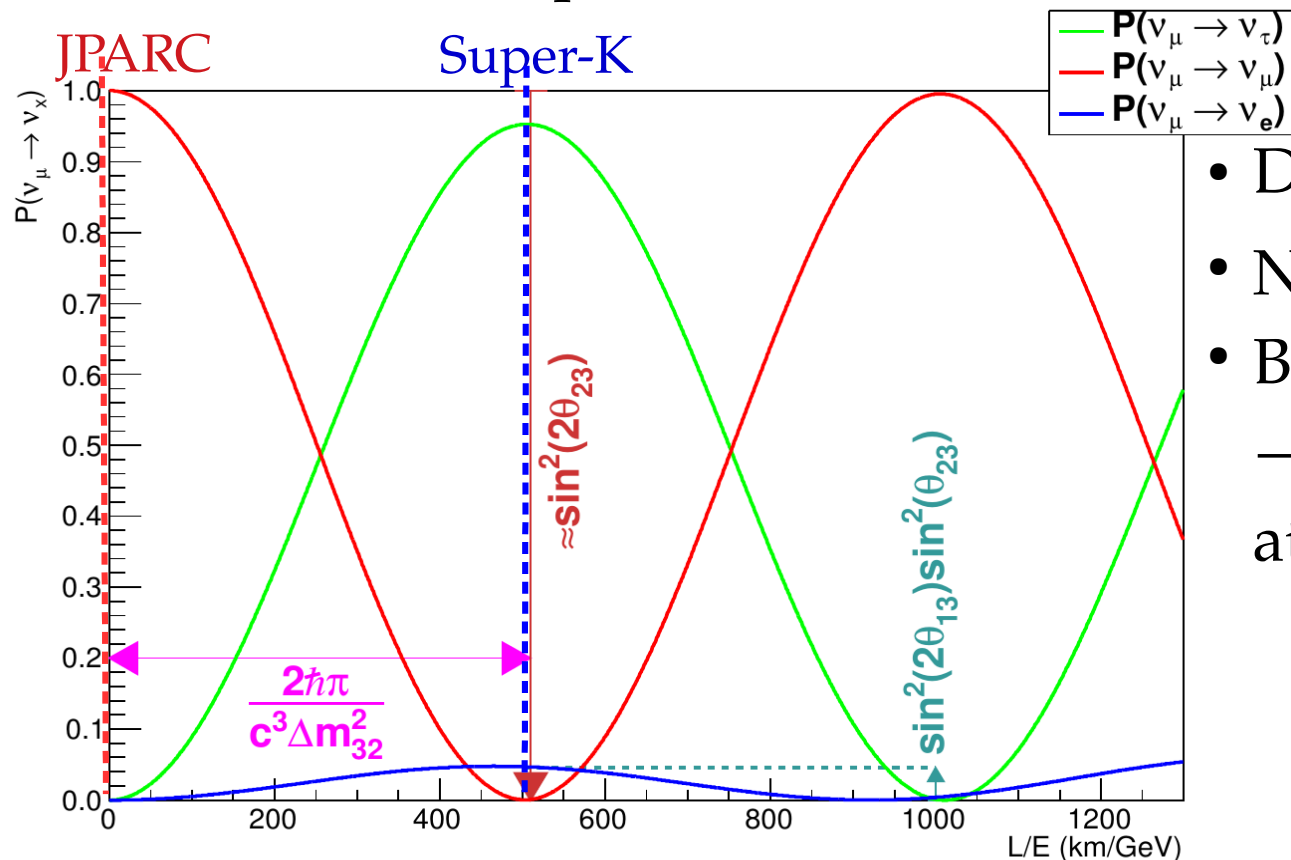
Reconstruction
 Inference

Variables of interest
 for ν physics

What are they ?

- Neutrino oscillates in L/E :

Example of T2K



Need to reconstruct the :

- Detected flavour : ν_e/ν_μ .
- Neutrino energy.
- Baseline L : Fixed for T2K...
 → But variable for solar or atmospheric ν . How to do ?

Principles of reconstruction

Hit PMT Charge & Time
 $\{q_i, t_i, x_i, y_i, z_i\}$

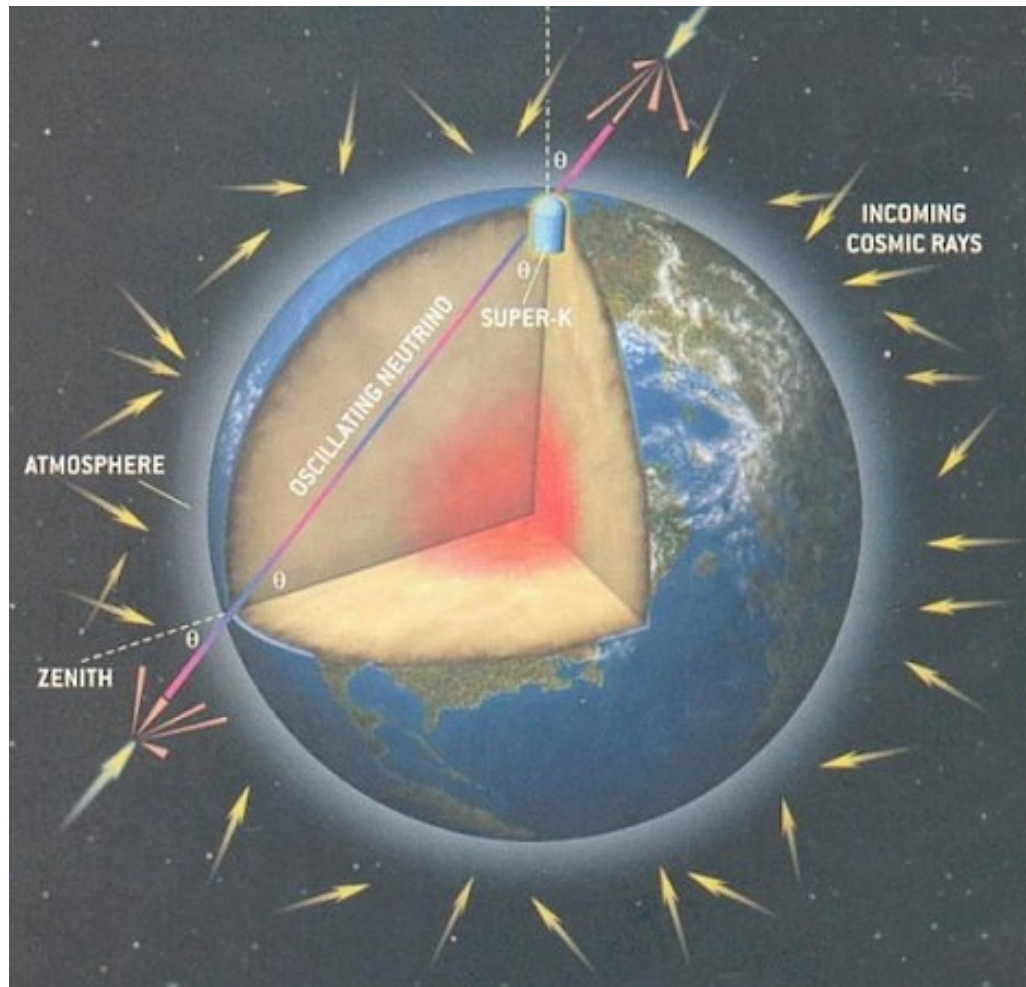
Reconstruction
Inference

Variables of interest
for ν physics

What are
they ?

- Neutrino oscillates in L/E :

Example of atmospheric



Need to reconstruct the :

- Detected flavour : ν_e/ν_μ .
- Neutrino energy.
- Baseline L : Fixed for T2K...
→ But variable for solar or atmospheric ν . How to do ?
→ The ν direction (zenith angle θ) is a proxy for L.

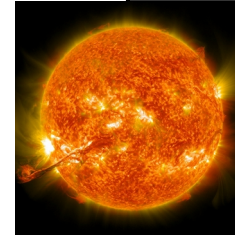
Principles of reconstruction

Hit PMT Charge & Time
 $\{q_i, t_i, x_i, y_i, z_i\}$

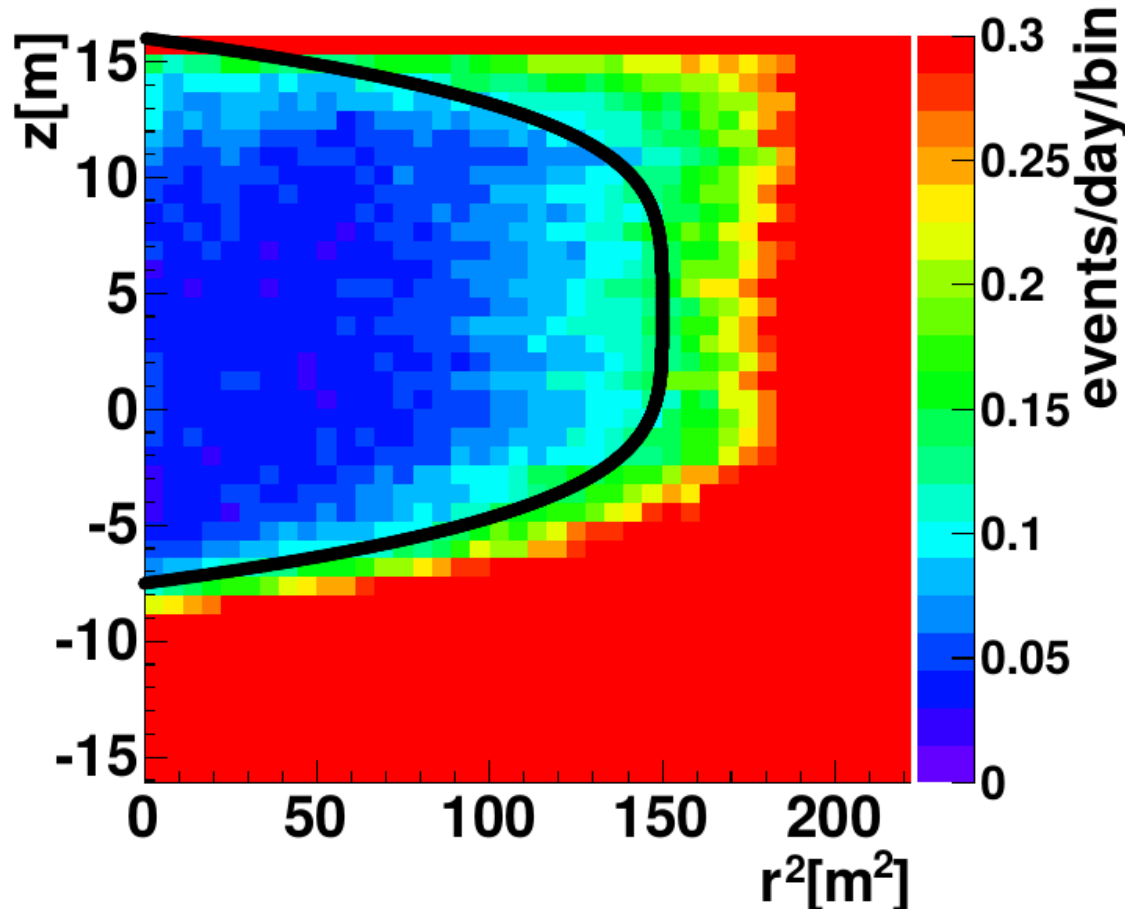
Reconstruction
Inference

Variables of interest
for ν physics

What are
they ?



- Neutrino oscillates in L/E :
Low energy event vertex



Need to reconstruct the :

- Detected flavour : ν_e/ν_μ .
- Neutrino energy.
- Baseline L : Fixed for T2K...
→ But variable for solar or atmospheric ν . How to do ?
→ The ν direction (zenith angle θ) is a proxy for L.
- Interaction vertex (remove bkg etc.)

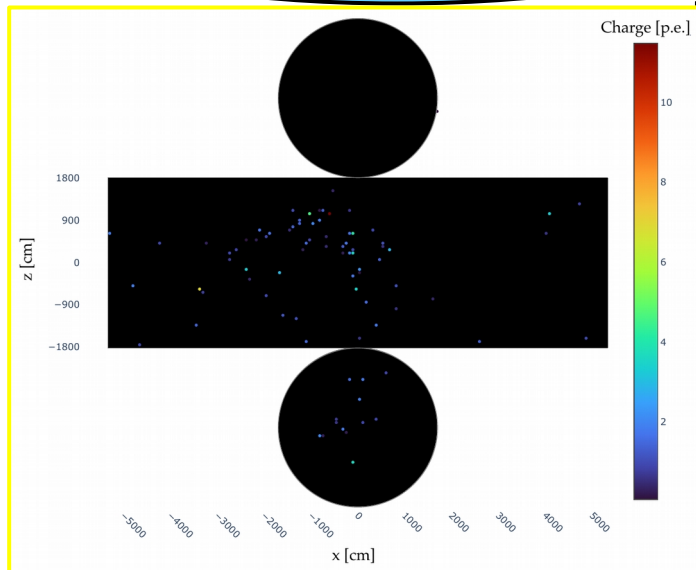
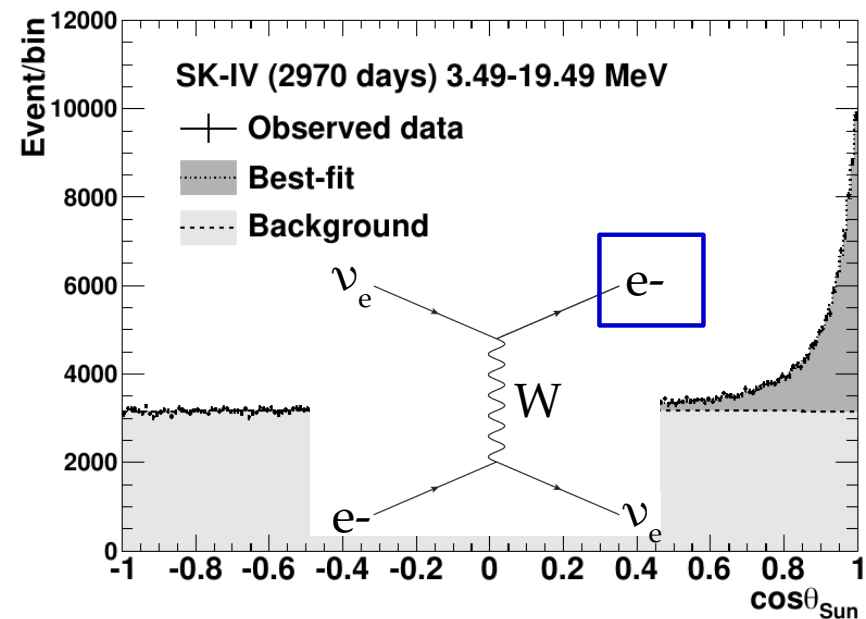
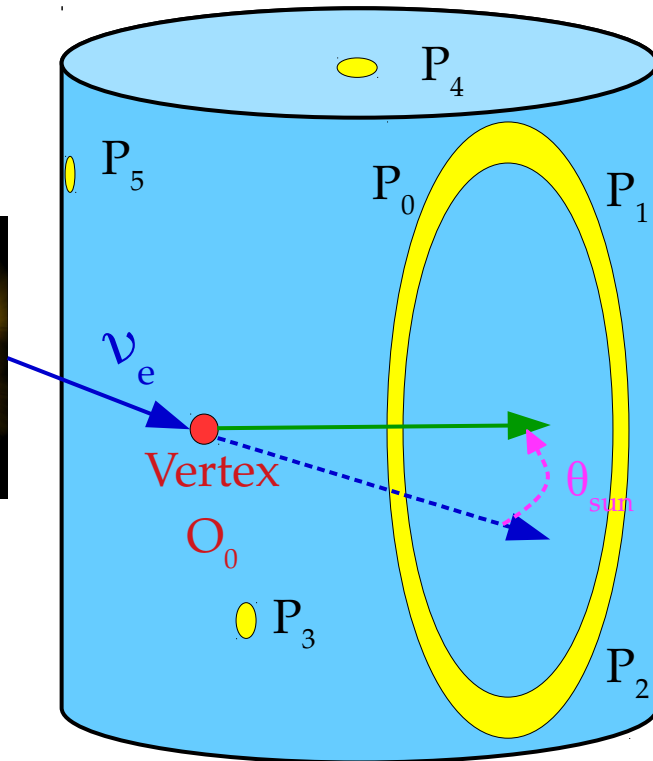
The background of the slide features a visualization of a particle detector's hit pattern. It consists of a dense grid of small, multi-colored squares (red, green, blue, yellow) arranged in a roughly circular or semi-circular shape, suggesting a cross-sectional view of a detector. The squares are more densely packed in the center and become sparser towards the edges. A thin, curved line is visible, possibly representing a particle track or a boundary within the detector structure.

II. Solar ν and electron fitter

Low energy reconstruction

- How to identify solar neutrinos ? ~ 10 events / day.

Rely on elastic scattering : reconstruct θ_{sun} to remove background.



How to reconstruct low E electrons ?

→ Very faint ring.

→ e^- crosses $\leq 5-10$ cm before passing $<$ Cherenkov threshold. Sequential fitter

→ vertex resolution ~ 50 cm

⇒ Light emitted from single point.

Vertex reconstruction

- This single point reconstruction is based on time triangulation \Rightarrow BONSAI

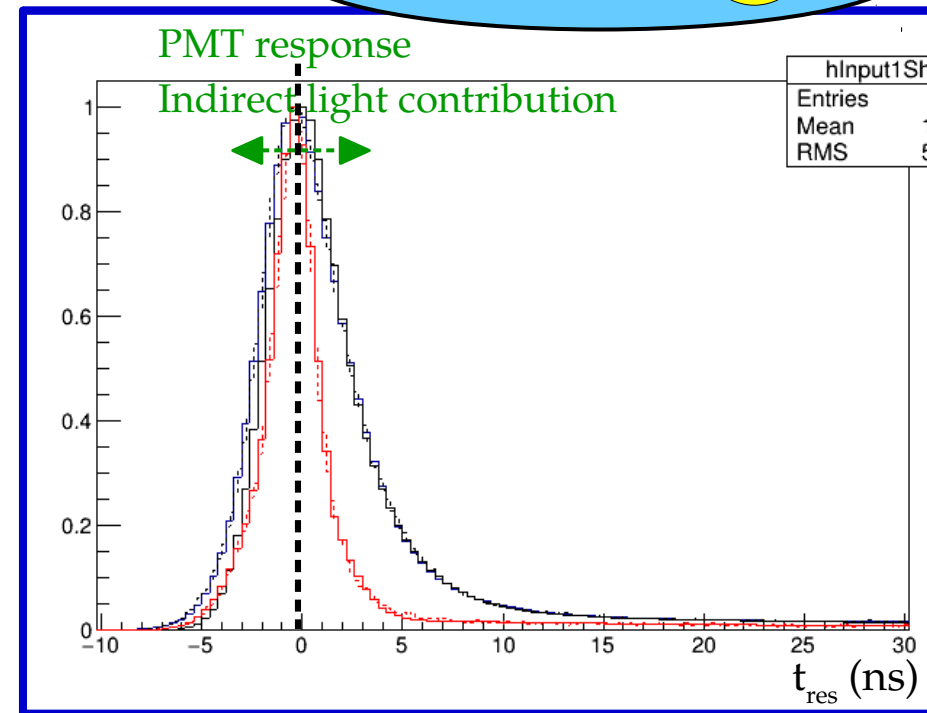
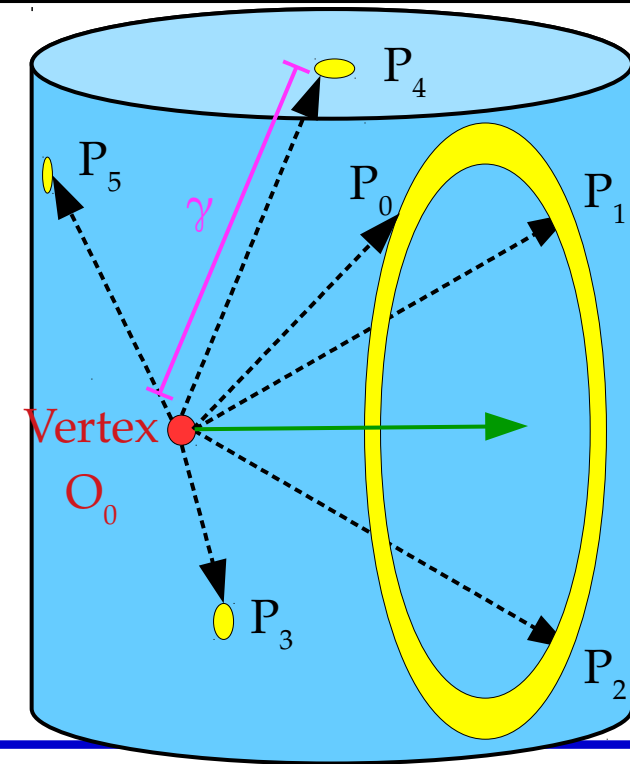
\rightarrow Uses time residual : $t_{\text{res}} = \text{time} - t_{\text{of}} - t_{\text{vertex}}$.

- Vertex finding using the following likelihood :

$$L(Vtx|[hits]) = \prod_{i=0}^{nhits} P([t_{\text{res}}]|Vtx)$$

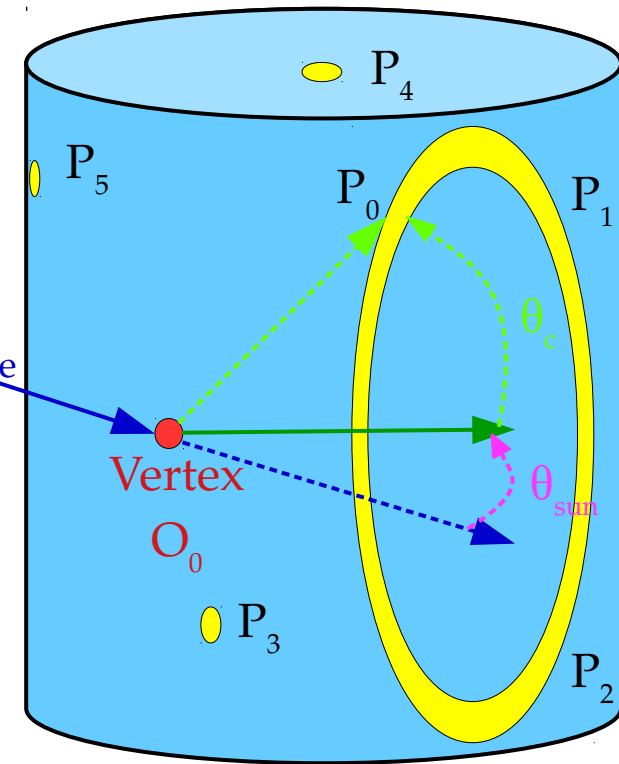
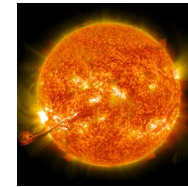
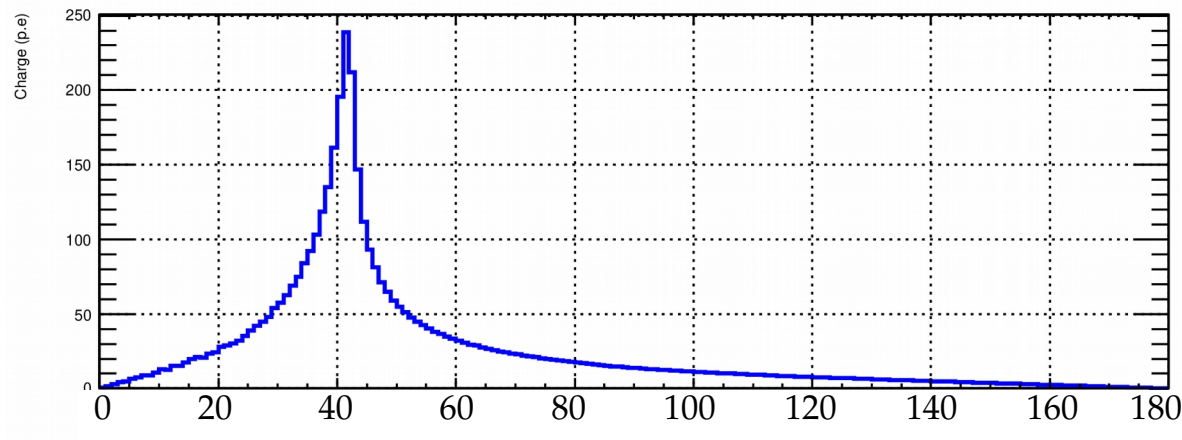
Time residual likelihood

- Likelihood is minimized to find the vertex.



Direction & momentum reconstruction

- Start from the fitted vertex.
- Rely on « charge profile » (θ_c): distribution of vertex-to-hit PMT direction wrt e- direction.

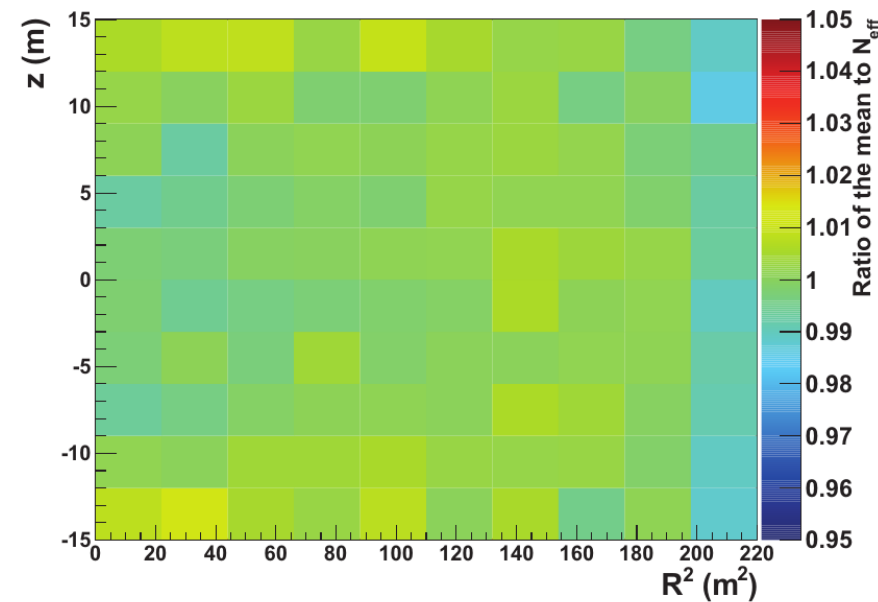


PMT angle from dir (°)

→ Uses unbinned likelihood over all hit PMT :

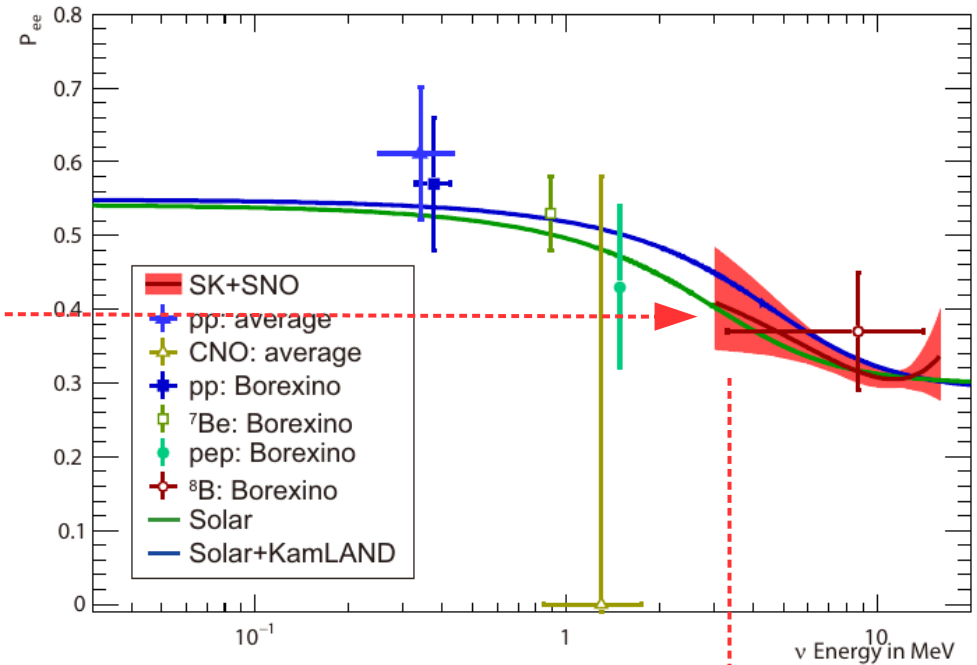
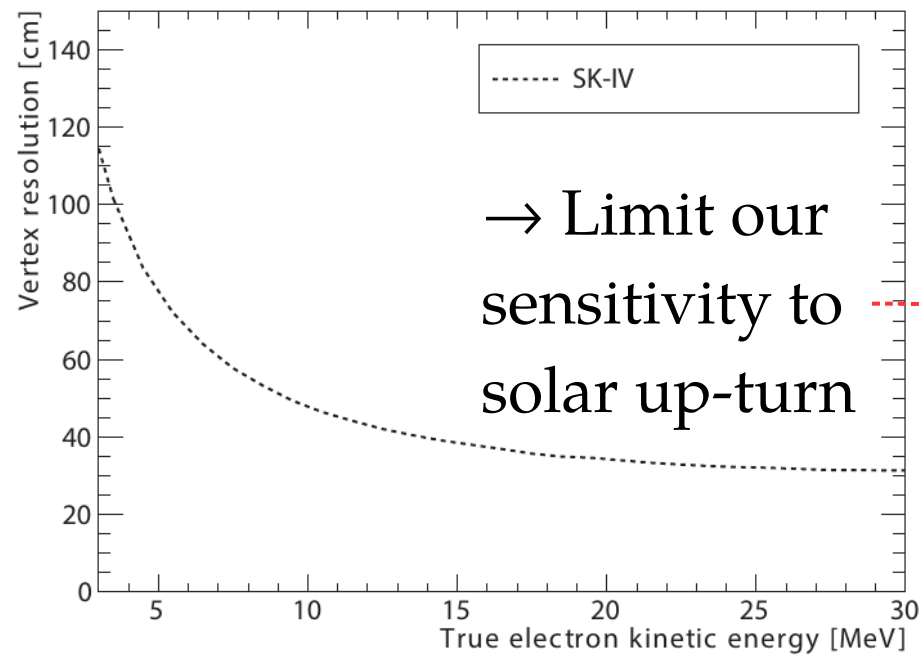
$$L(\vec{d}) = \sum_i^{N_{30}} \log [f(\cos \theta_{\text{dir},i}, E)] \times \frac{\cos \theta_i}{a(\theta_i)}$$

- Momentum inferred from the total number of hits deposited in the detector & in-time wrt vertex.



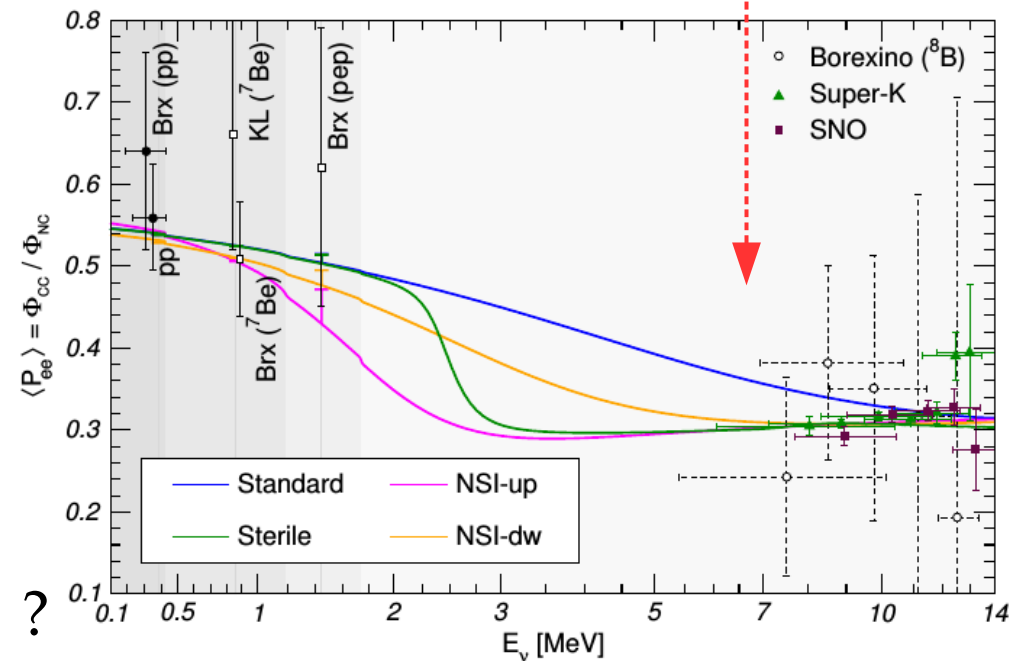
Performances in SK and impact on upturn

- Vertex resolution in SK : Reconstruction threshold @3 MeV



- Up-turn determination :

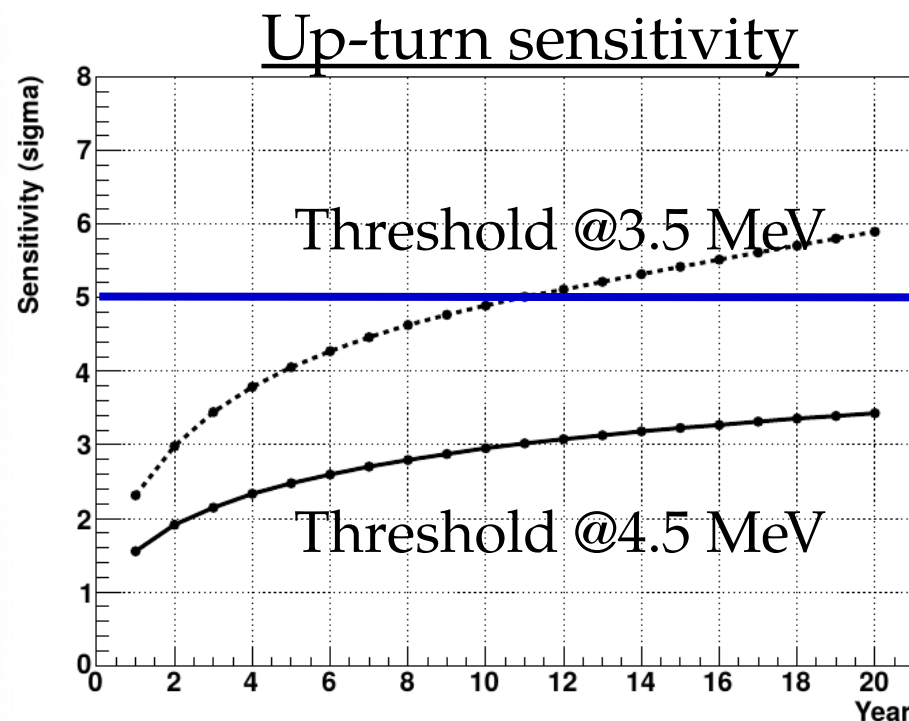
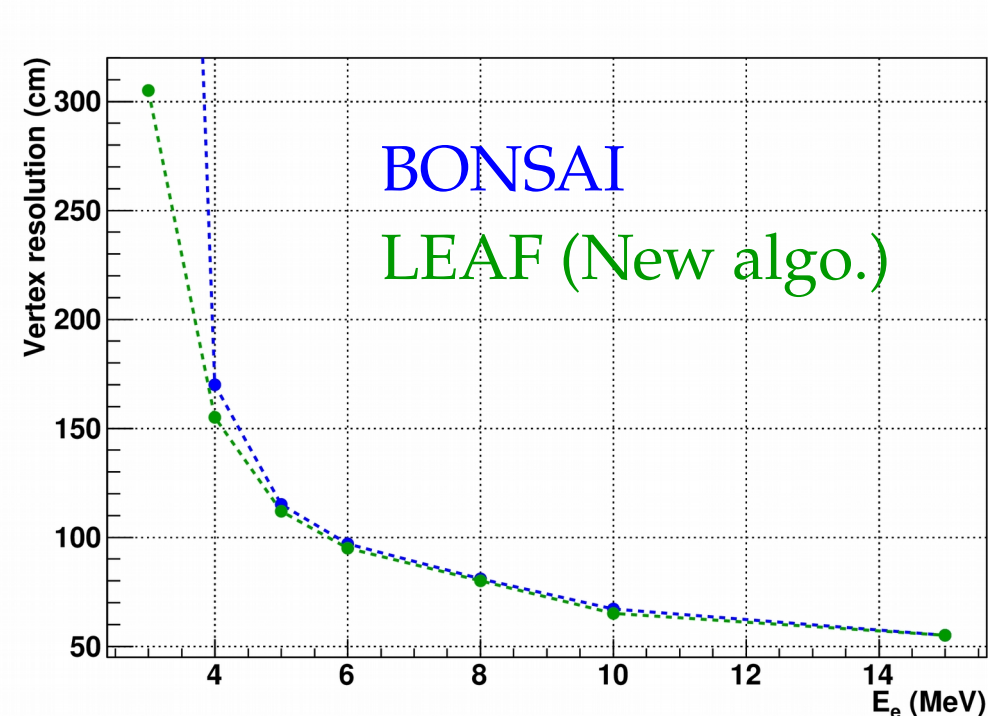
- Solar parameter measurement.
- Light sterile ν ?
- Non-standard interaction in the dense core of the Sun



- Can we do equal or better in HK ?

Performances in HK

- BONSAI ported to HK → At the moment, E threshold $\sim 4.5 \text{ MeV}/c^2$



- Limited sensitivity in upturn determination due to mis-tuning
 - ⇒ Ported BONSAI → LEAF (C++) based on MINUIT minimizer
 - More flexible & improved : ↓ E threshold to @3-3.5 MeV.
 - Work-in progress to reach 2 MeV, using LEAF.
 - Real data will likely be even more tough → Prepare for it.

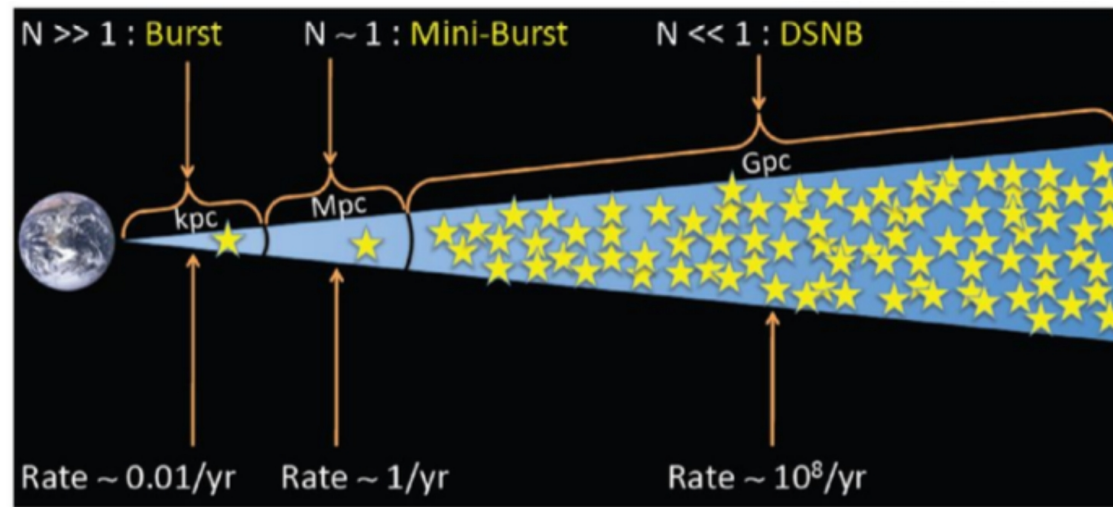
- ML-based algorithm are also developed.



III. DSNB search and n-tagging

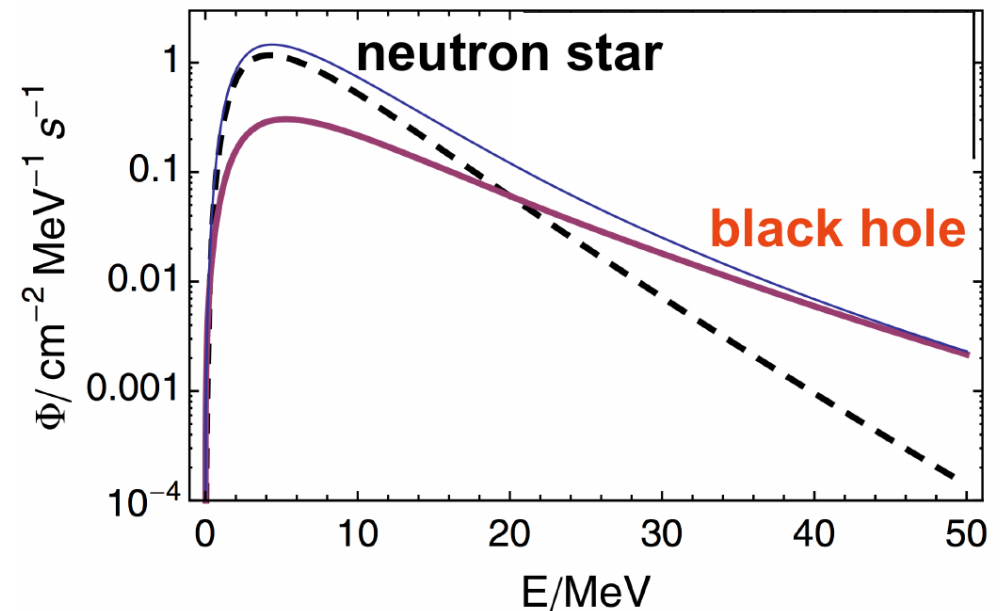
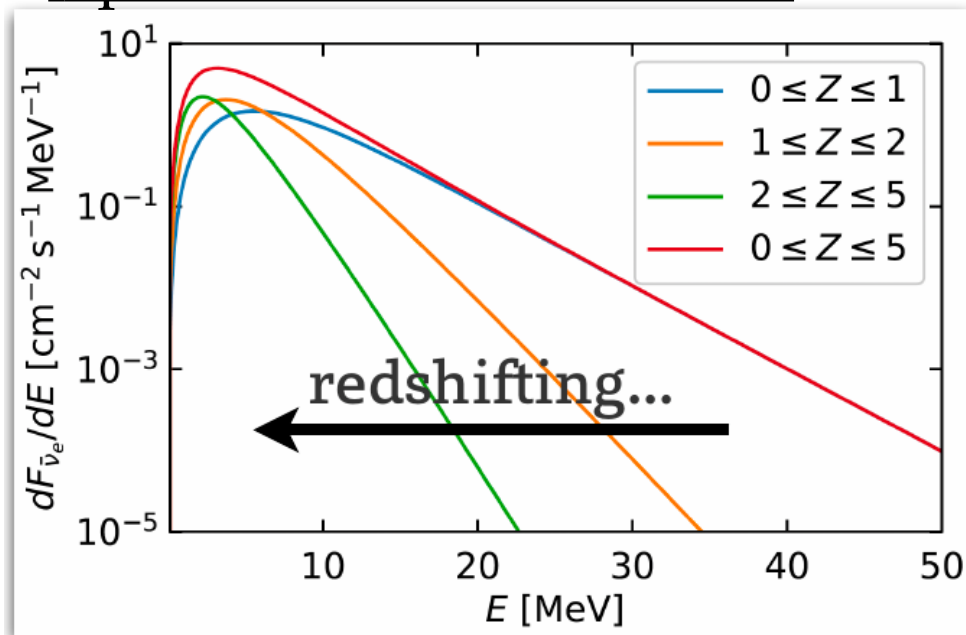
Diffuse Supernovae Neutrino Background

- Background from ν emitted by all SN from the start of the universe.



- 1 SN/s in observable universe
 → Constraint SN spectra.
 → But also, cosmic star history !

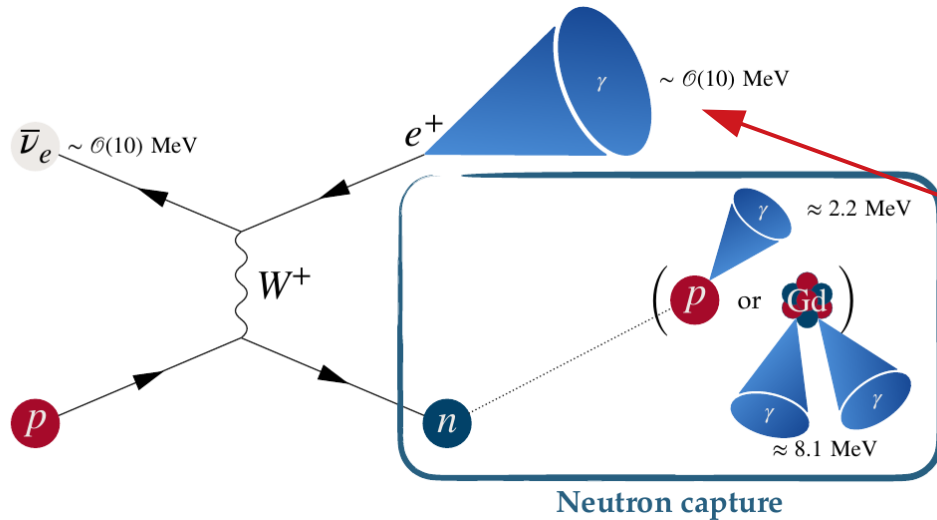
- Spectrum determination: Low energy \leftrightarrow Probe older stars



- SK-Gd, then JUNO & HK are the pioneer experiments of this domain !

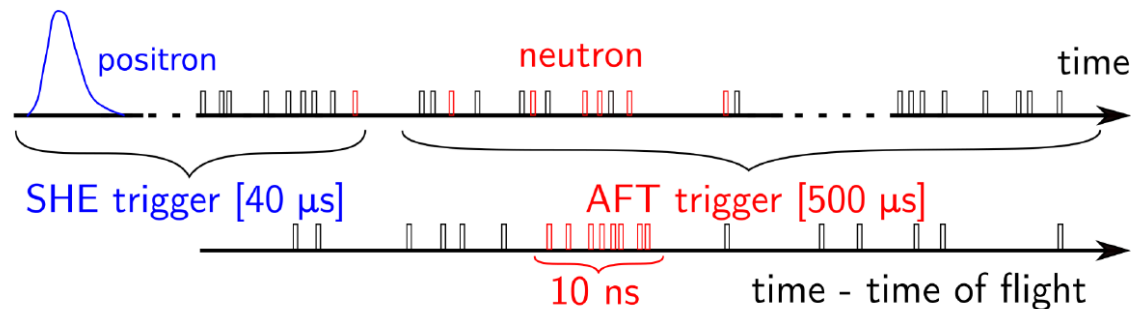
Detection method & neutron tagging

- How to identify DSNB as we expect ~ 3 events/year in SK... ?



- Uses the ν_e IBD channel...
- .. and rely on coincident detection of prompt positron and late neutrons.
→ Neutron capture on H or Gd.
- How to identify neutrons ?

- Search neutrons in a $500 \mu s$ time window after the trigger $[-5, 35 \mu s]$:

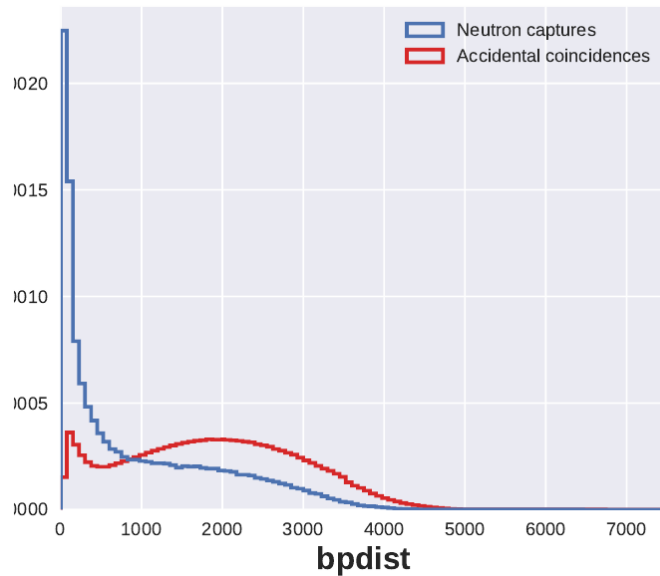


	H-capture	Gd-capture
γ energy	2.2 MeV	8 MeV
Capture time λ	$205 \mu s$	$30 \mu s$

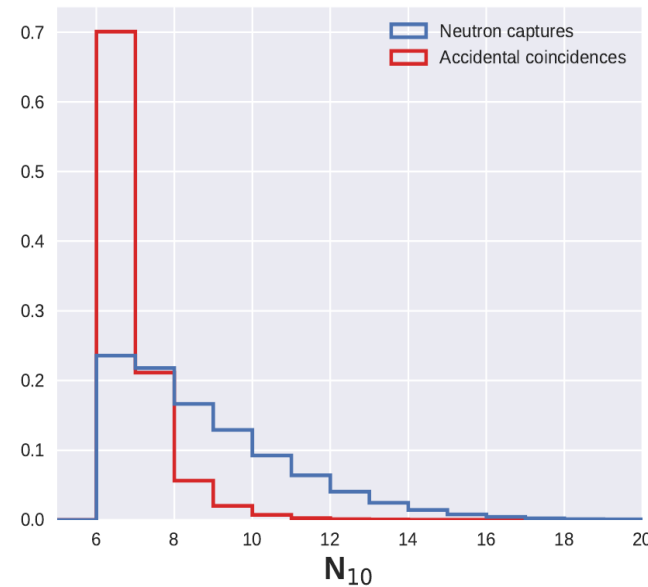
- How to eliminate remaining background after prompt+late detection ?

DSNB reconstruction in SK

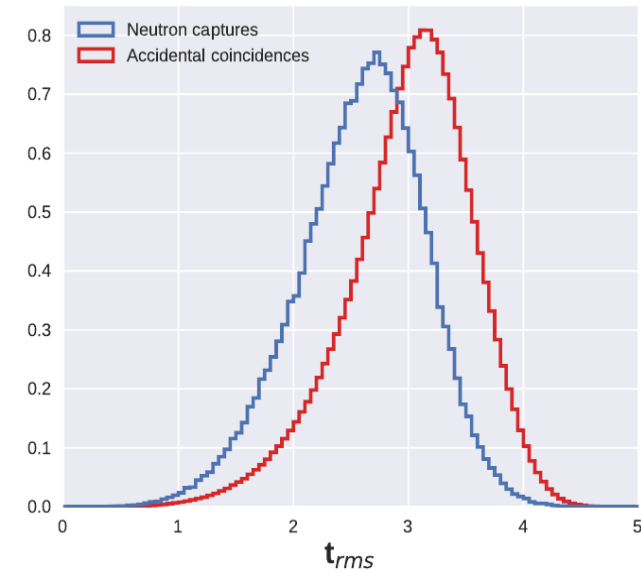
- 22 variables in total : Reconstruct neutron vertex using BONSAI/LEAF.



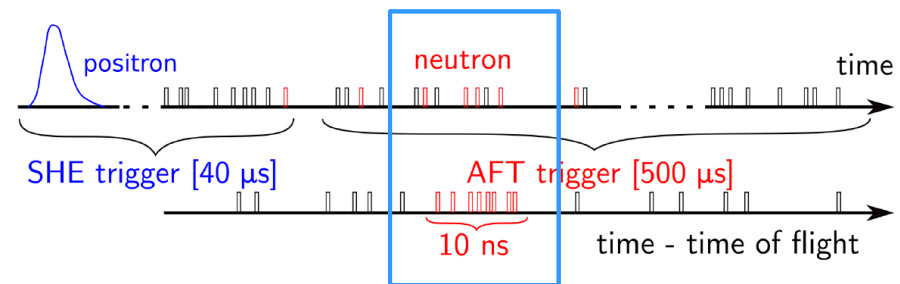
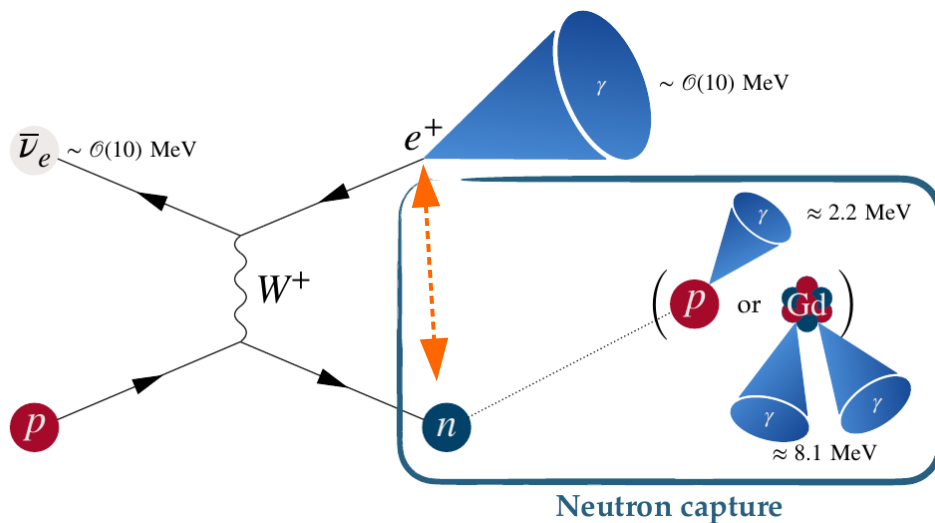
Distance between e^+
& n vertex



Number of hits in
 $\pm 10\text{ns}$ around n-vertex

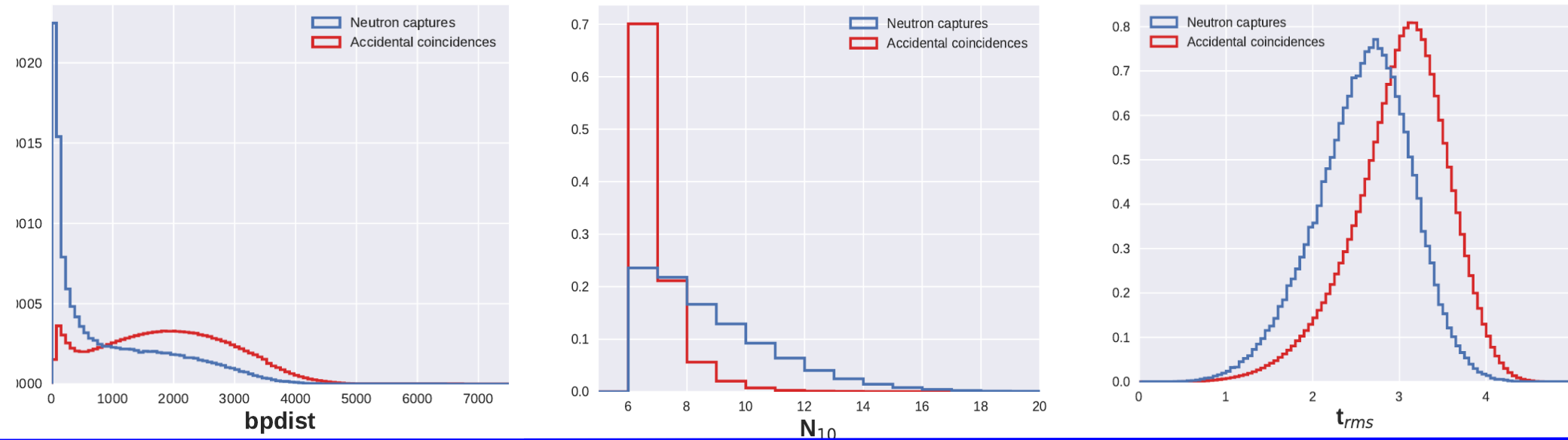


Time spread of hits
around e^+ vertex



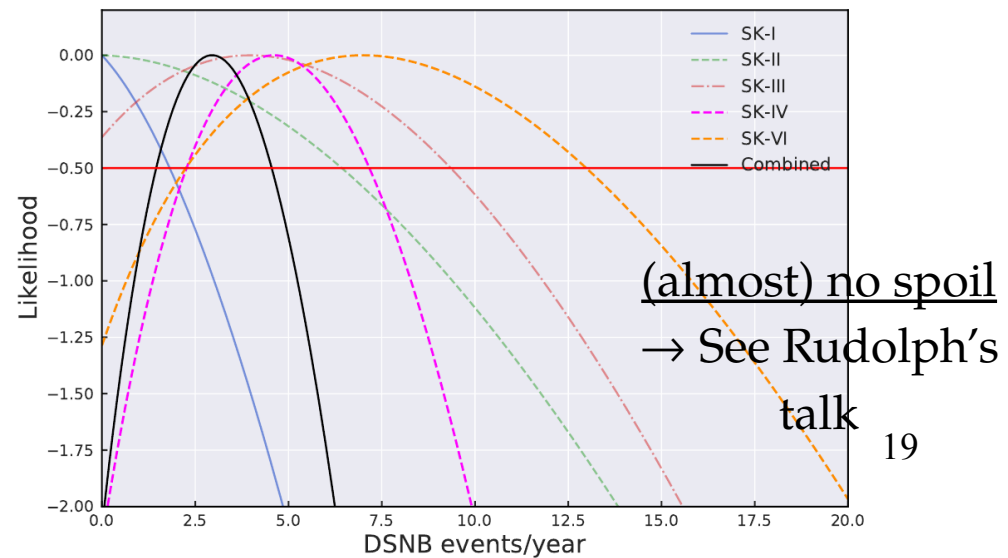
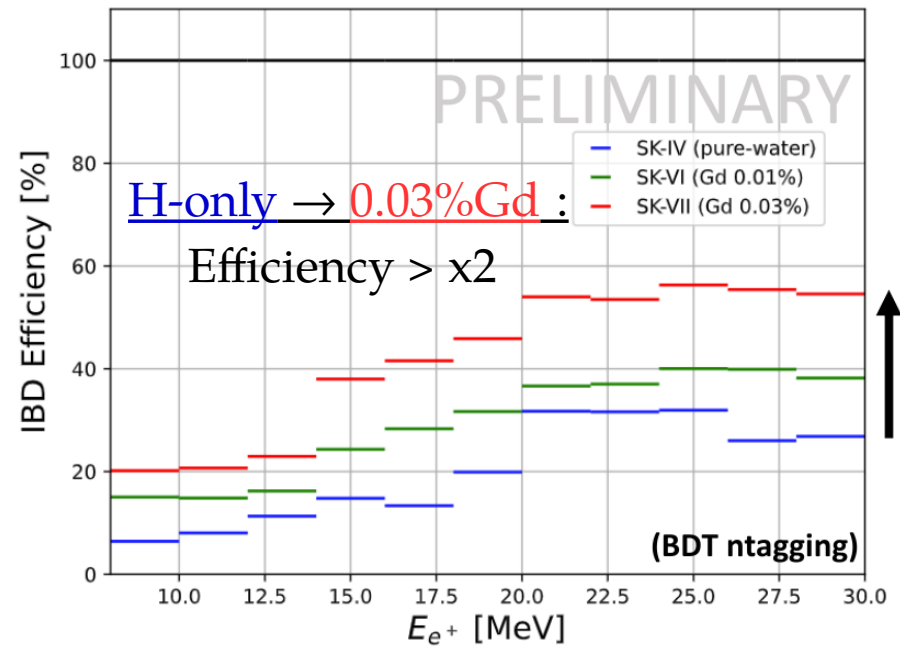
DSNB reconstruction in SK

- How to eliminate remaining background after prompt+late detection ?



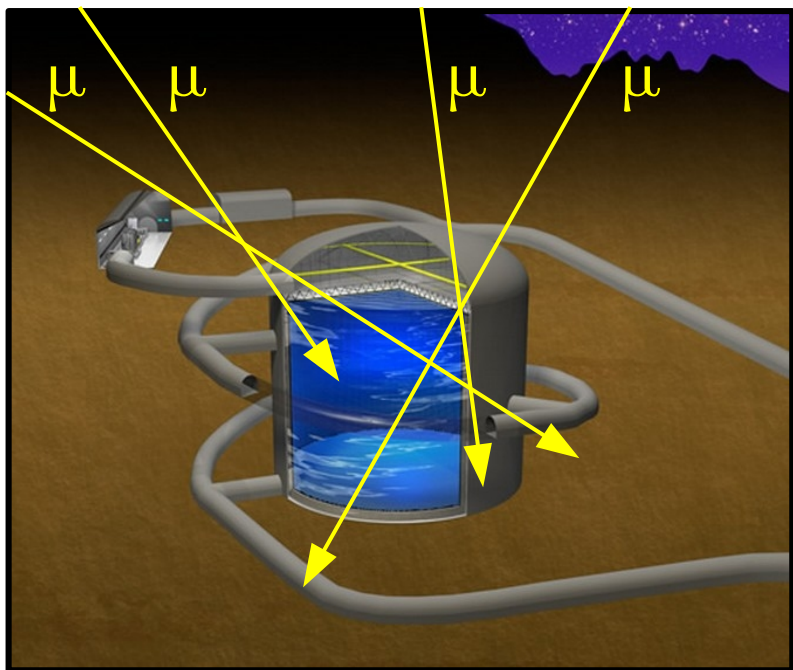
Boosted Decision Tree & Neural Network

World-leading results on DSNB search



DSNB search in HK

- Hyper-K, though having 8x larger volume, will have several limitations



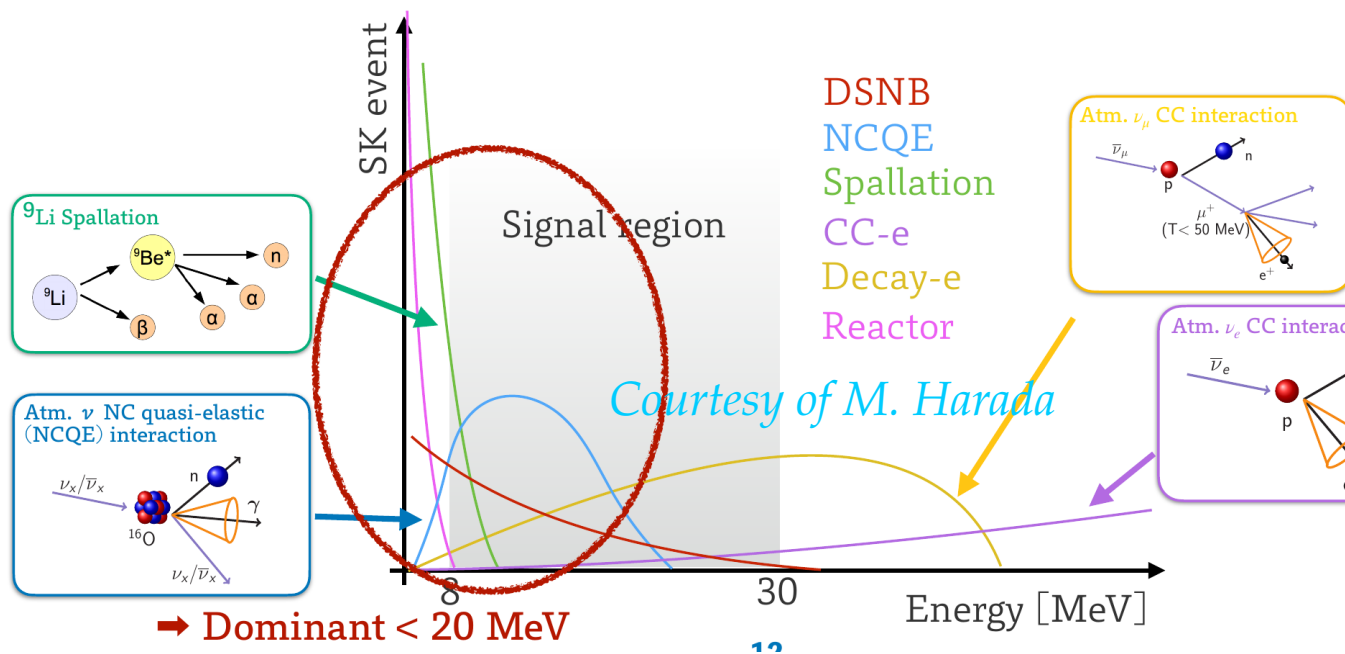
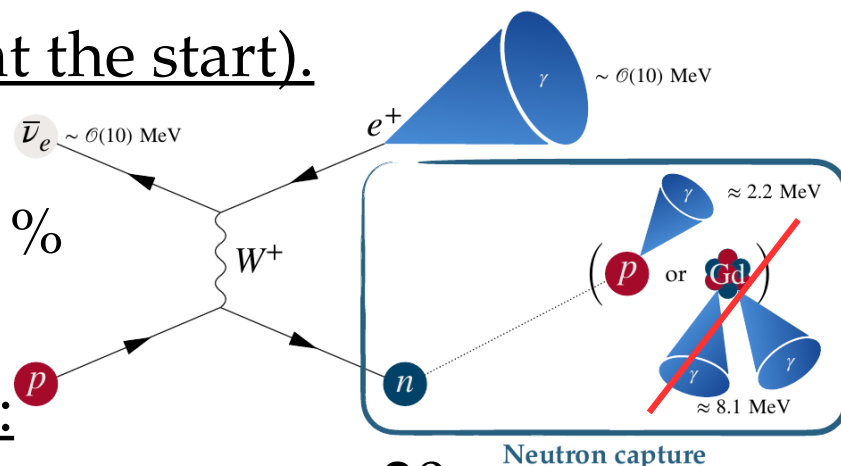
- Water only (at the start).

→ Efficiency
 $\downarrow 50 \% \rightarrow 25 \%$

- Overburden :

1000 mwe \rightarrow 650 mwe. \Rightarrow 20x more

- Larger surface

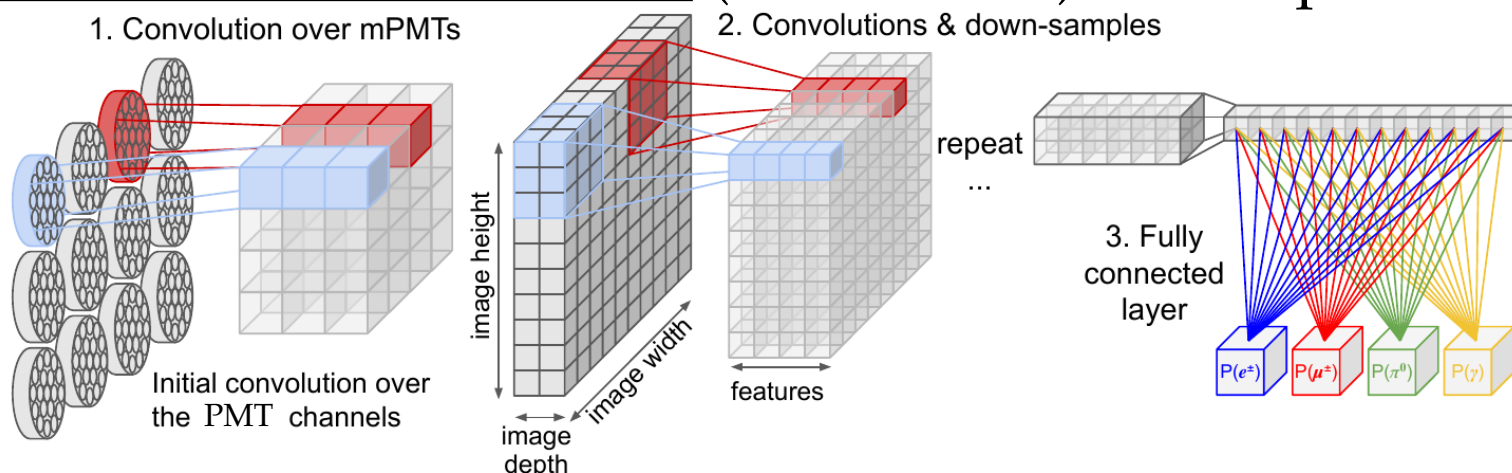


Need to urgently step up in :

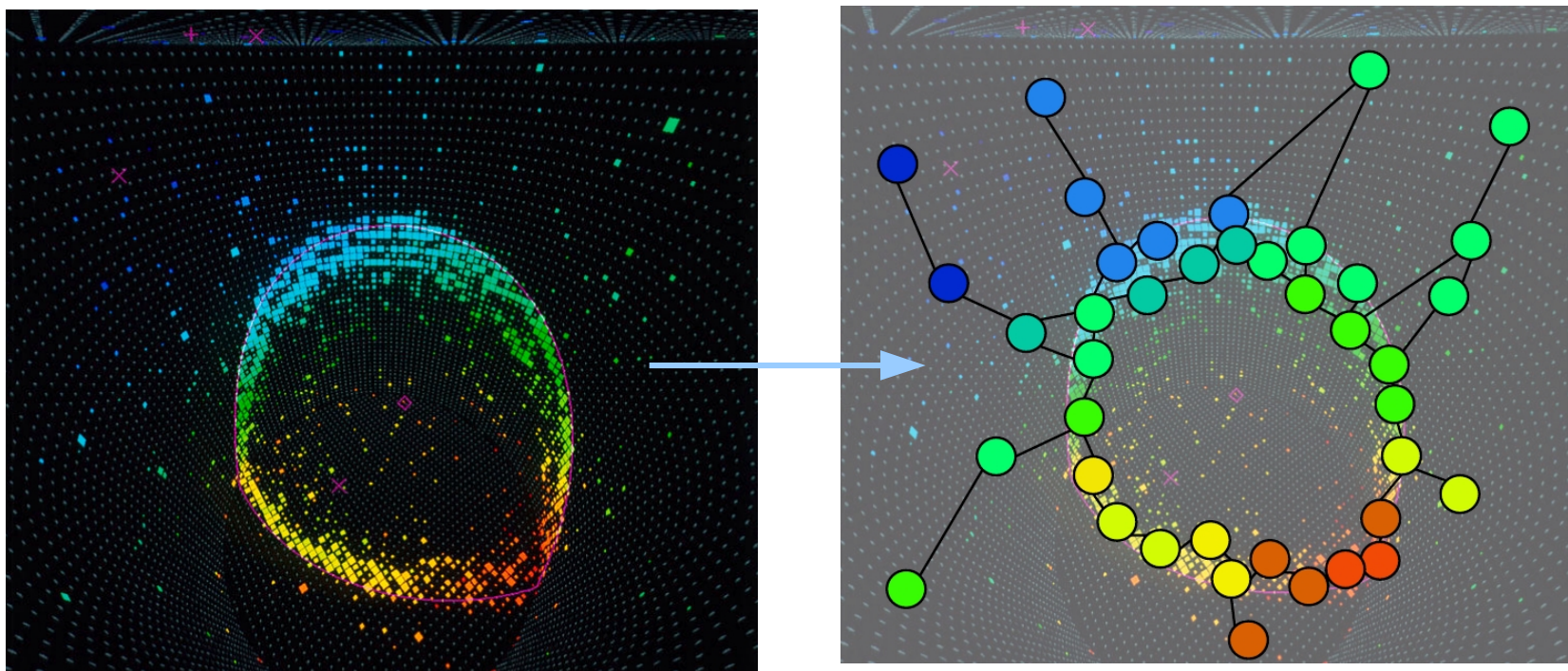
- ↑ neutron detection efficiency on H.
- ↑ spallation model & identification cut²⁰

ML-based reconstruction

- Convolutional neural networks (WatChMaL) → Not presented today.

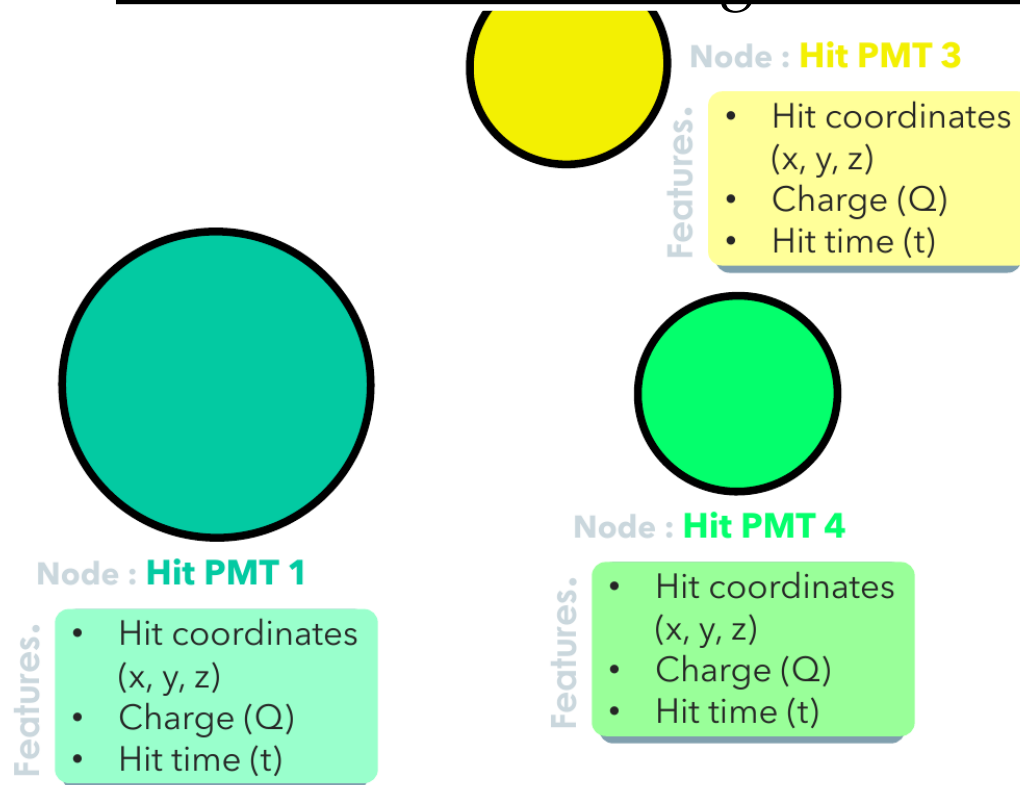
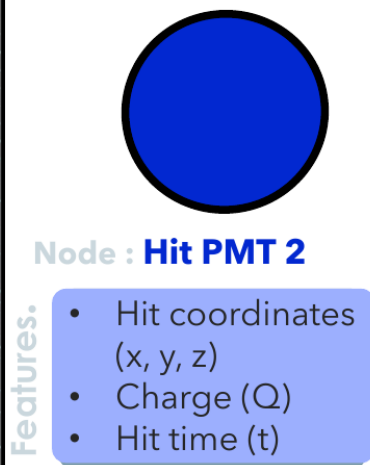
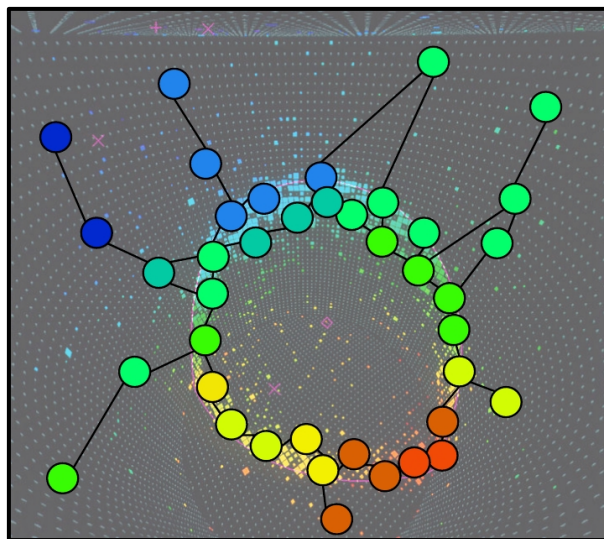


- Graph neural networks [aka GNN] (CAVERNS-WatChMaL)
→ Rely on node & edges : Each hit PMT = a node of the GNN.



Basic principles of GNN

- Use hit PMT informations (position, hit charge&time) to construct a Graph i.e. a connected array of PMTs → To reconstruct the ring or vertex.

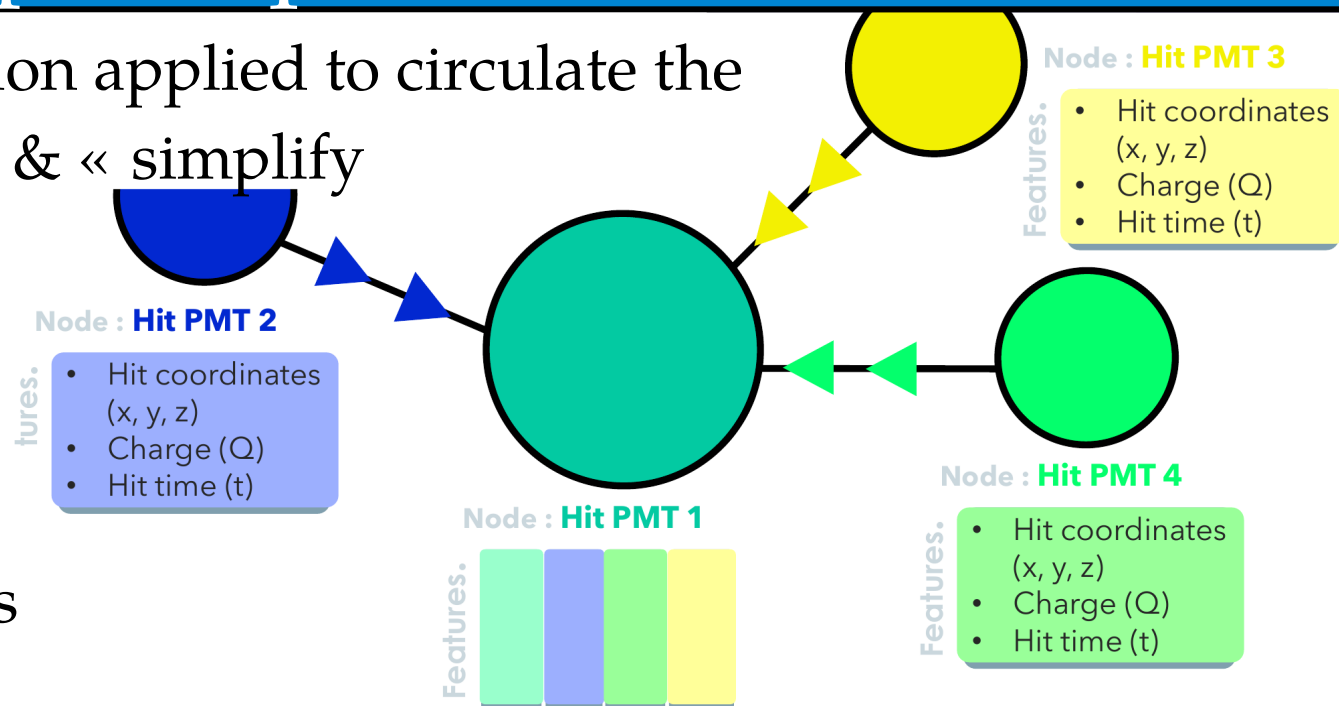


- How to connect the PMTs ?
 - Based on their spatial proximity ?
→ Clear image of a ring.
 - Based on their « charge deposit » proximity ?
 - Based on their hit time proximity ?
→ Great to reconstruct vertex through triangulation.
 - All at once ?

→ **Answers depends on the task we wish to accomplish.**

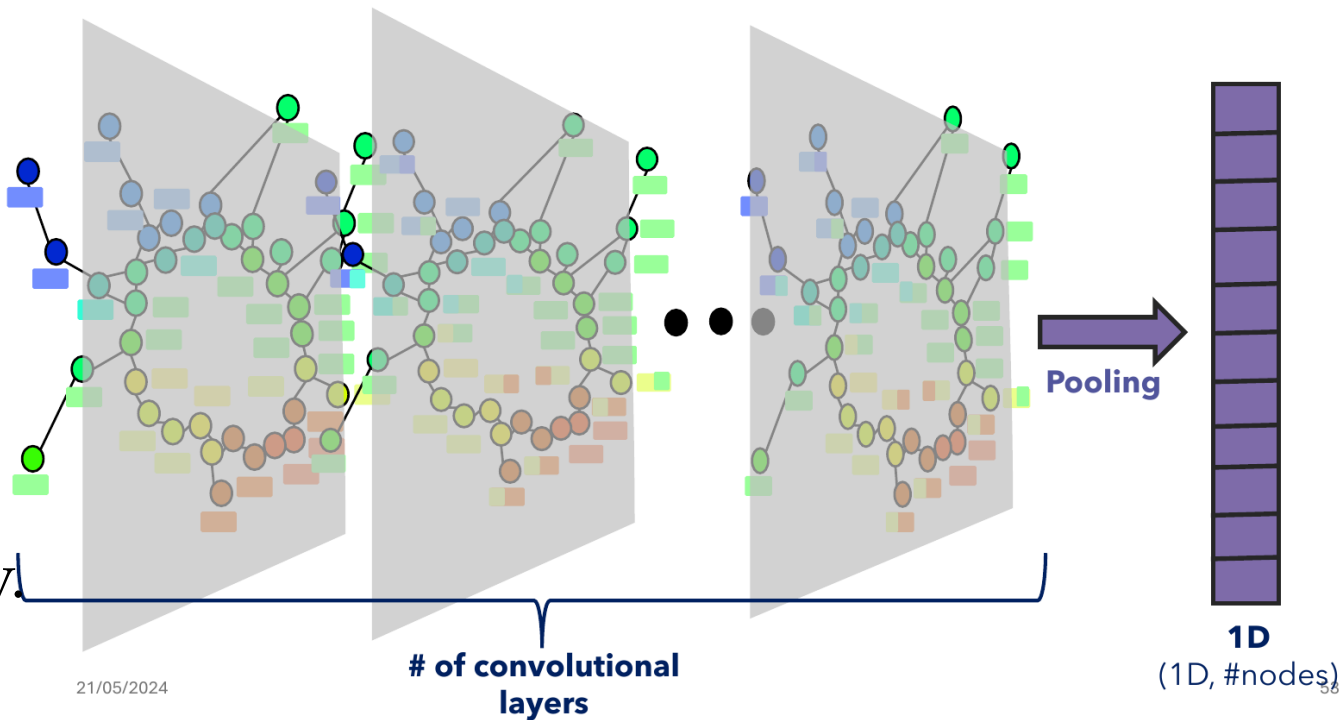
Basic principles of GNN

- Aggregation + Convolution applied to circulate the information along nodes & « simplify it » using convolution.
= a convolutional layer



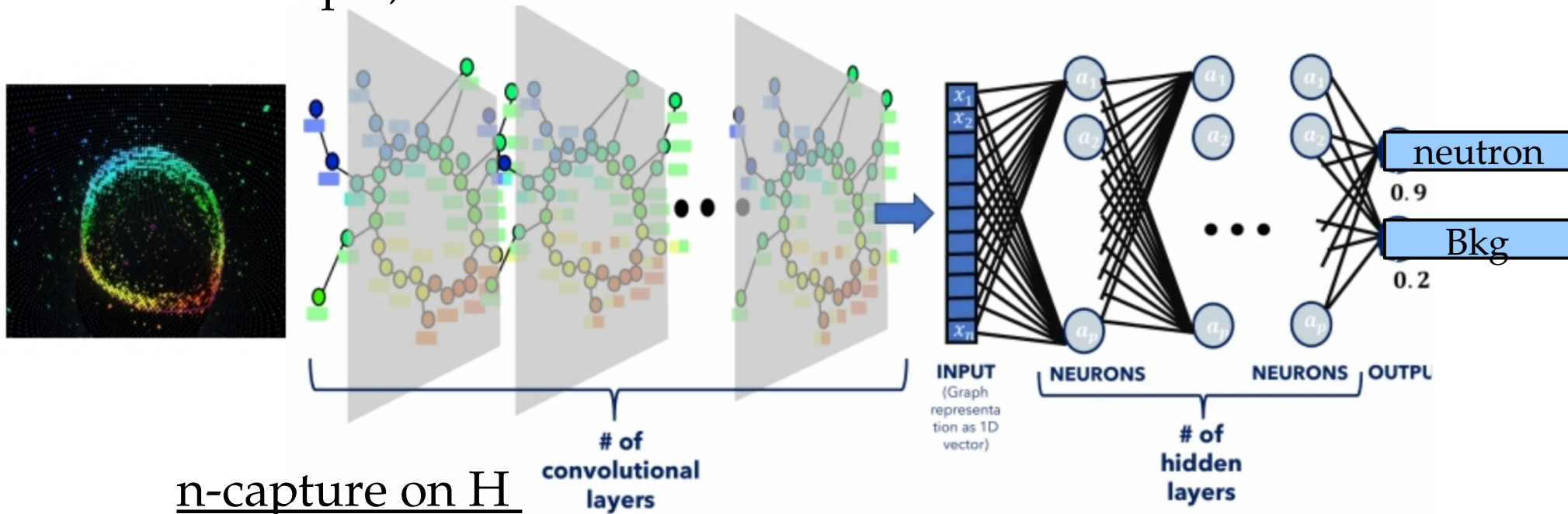
- To optimise : number of connected nodes & layers should be optimized.
→ Problem dependent.
→ Optimized it through minimum gradient descent.

- Graph output is then aggregated in a 1D array.

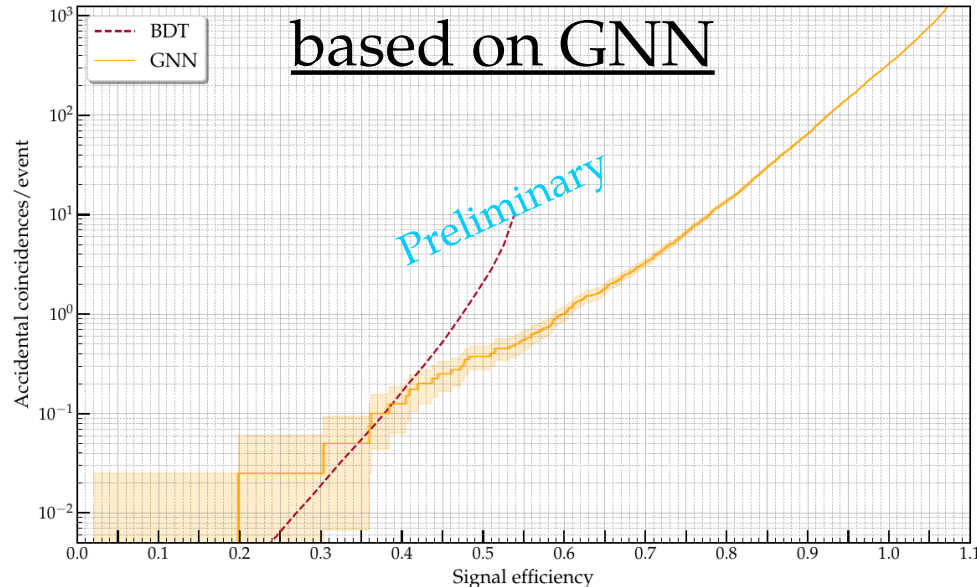


Classification using GNN

- A multi-layer perceptron basically does the final classification task
→ In our example, the neutron identification



n-capture on H
based on GNN

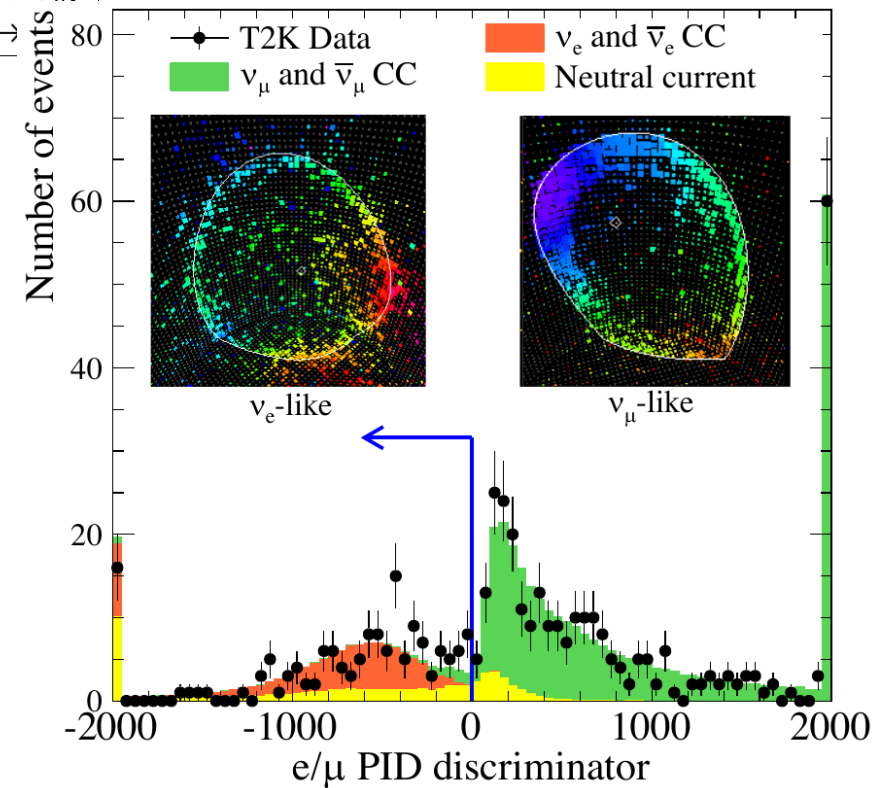
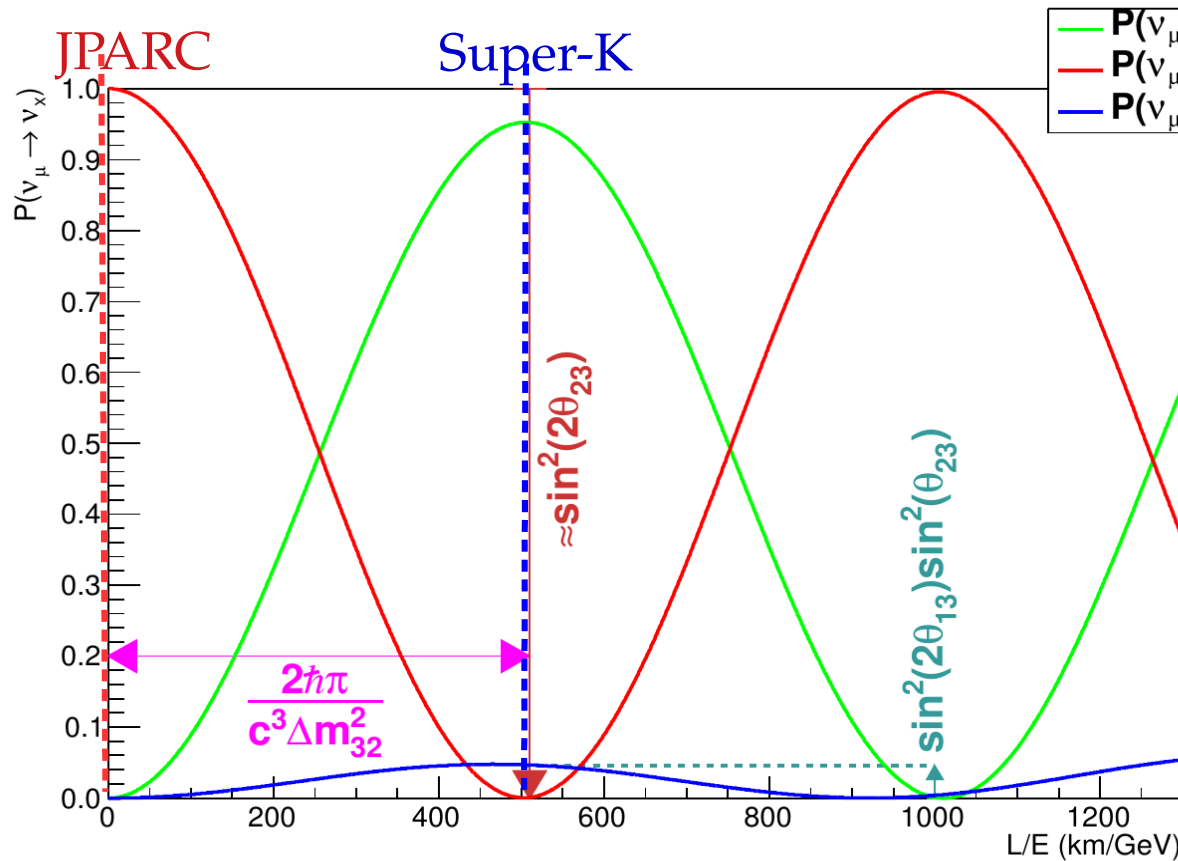


- High background acceptance :
GNN significantly outperforms BDT (+20%).
- Low background acceptance :
GNN performs same as BDT.
→ Starting and on-going effort.

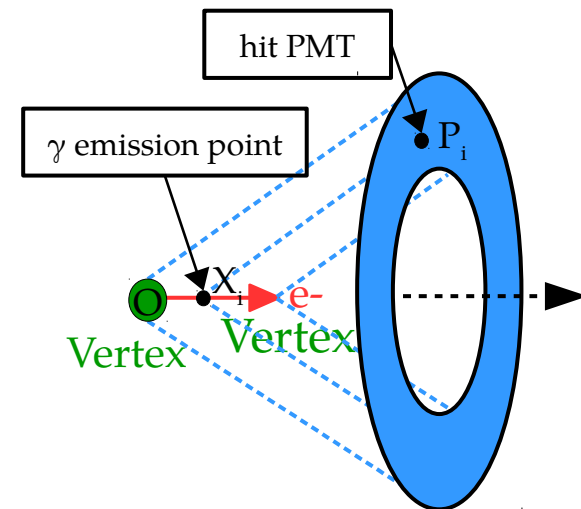


IV. Long-baseline neutrino oscillation

Long-baseline experiment

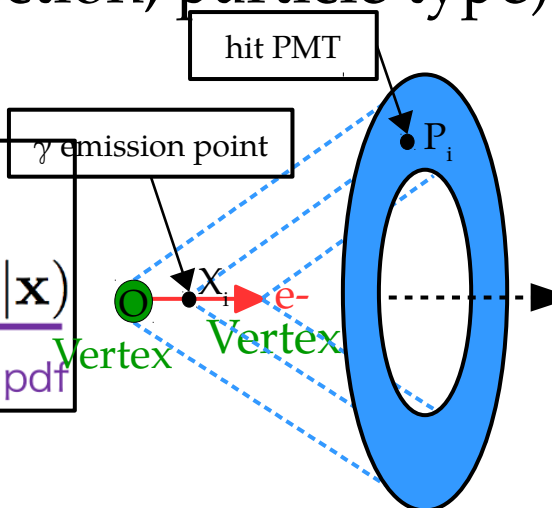


- Need to reconstruct : detected flavour (ν_e/ν_μ) & E.
- Particles cross several meters while emitting Cherenkov light :
 → Not point-like source & correlated parameters.
 → Momentum can be reconstructed using total charge &/or ring-width

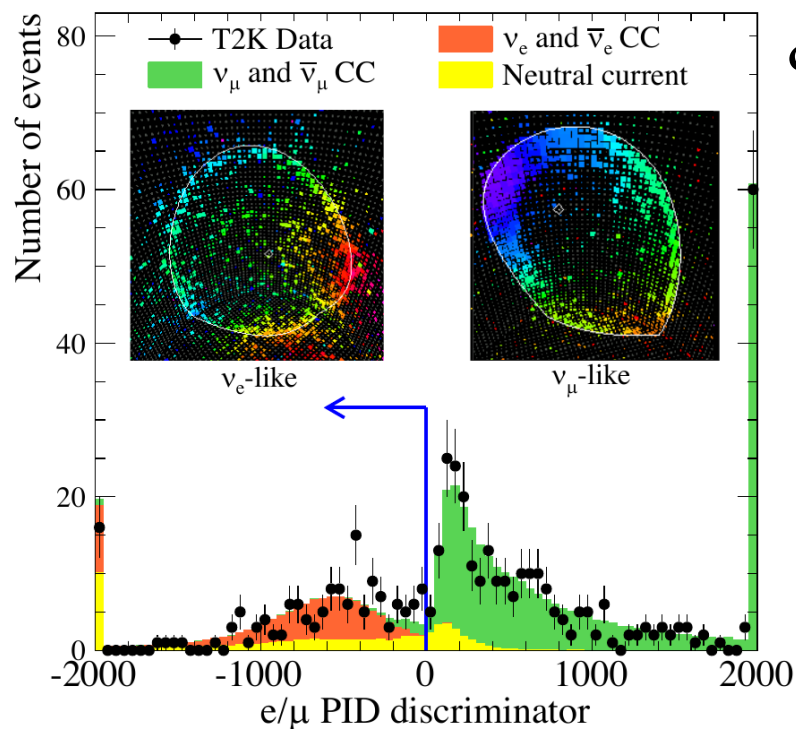


FiTQun high-energy algorithm

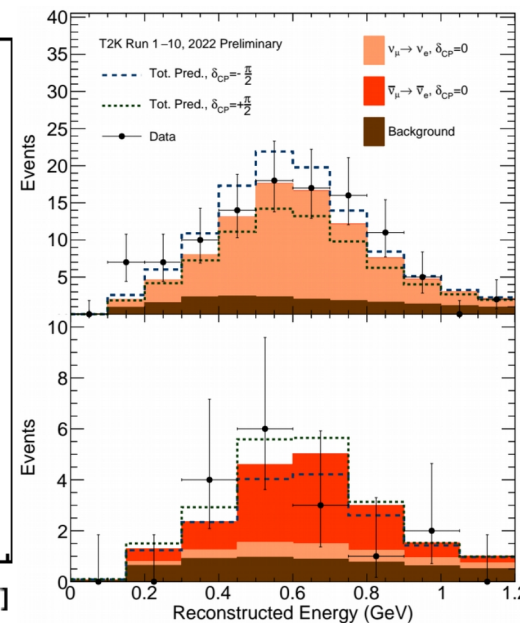
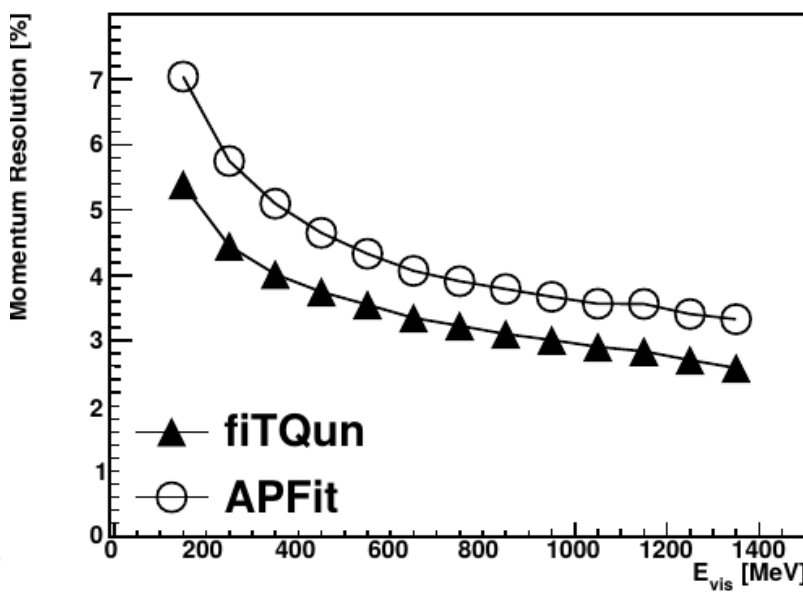
- Simultaneous fit of **8 parameters** using all PMTs **charge&time**:
 $\{X\}_i = (\text{vertex position, vertex time, momentum, direction, particle type})$
- Likelihood-based fitter :

$$L(\mathbf{x}) = \prod_j^{\text{unhit}} \underbrace{P_j(\text{unhit}|\mu_j)}_{\text{PMT unhit probability}} \prod_i^{\text{hit}} \underbrace{\{1 - P_i(\text{unhit}|\mu_i)\}}_{\text{PMT hit probability}} \underbrace{f_q(q_i|\mu_i)}_{\text{PMT charge pdf}} \underbrace{f_t(t_i|\mathbf{x})}_{\text{PMT timing pdf}}$$


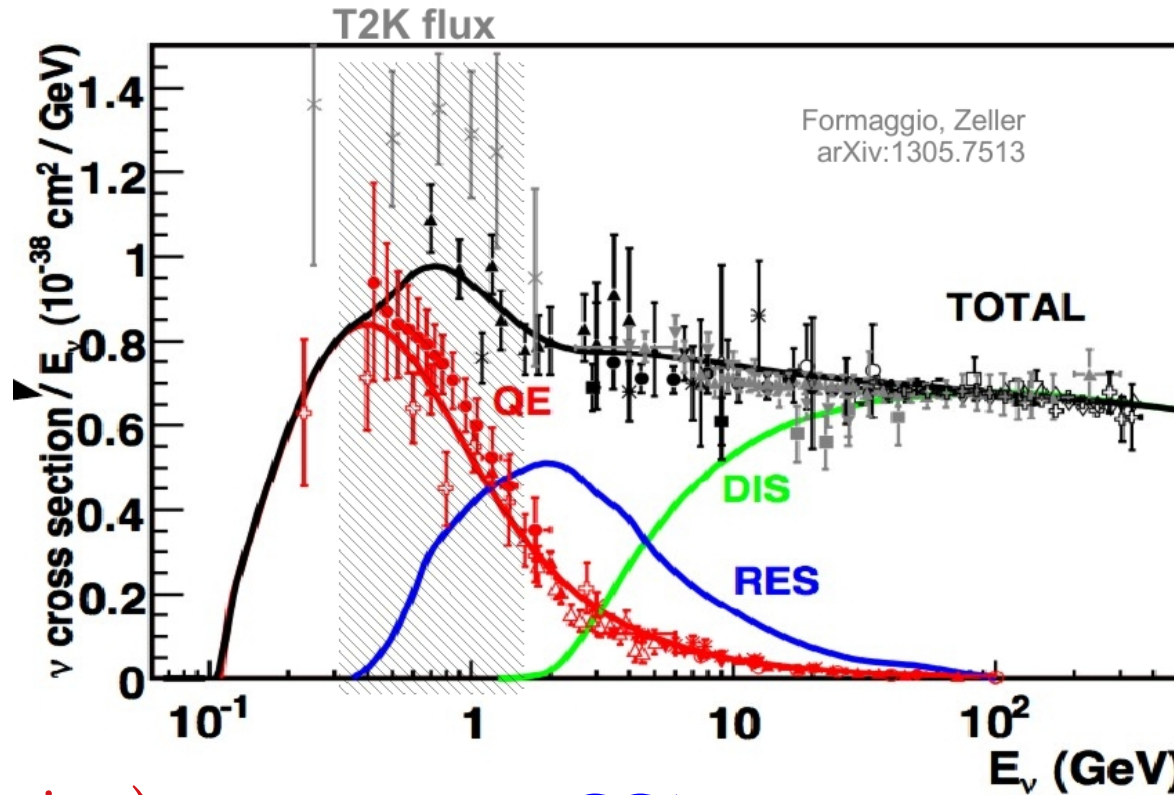
- Excellent e/μ separation (mis-ID < 1%)



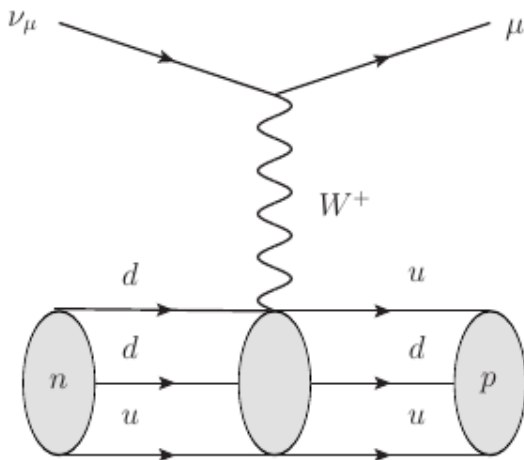
& momentum resolution (<4 % for e^-)



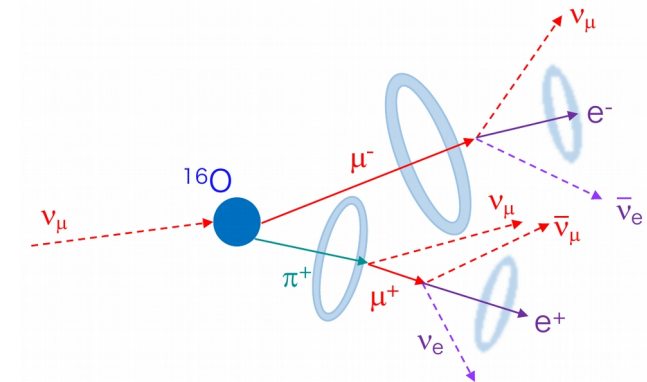
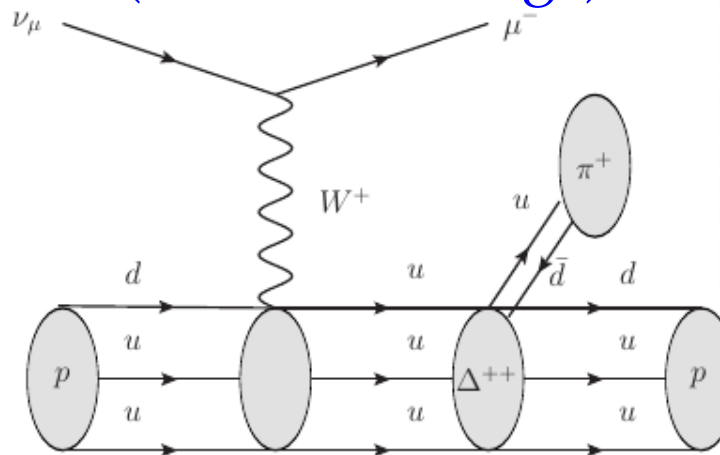
Multiple ring reconstruction



CCQE (1 ring)
dominant channel



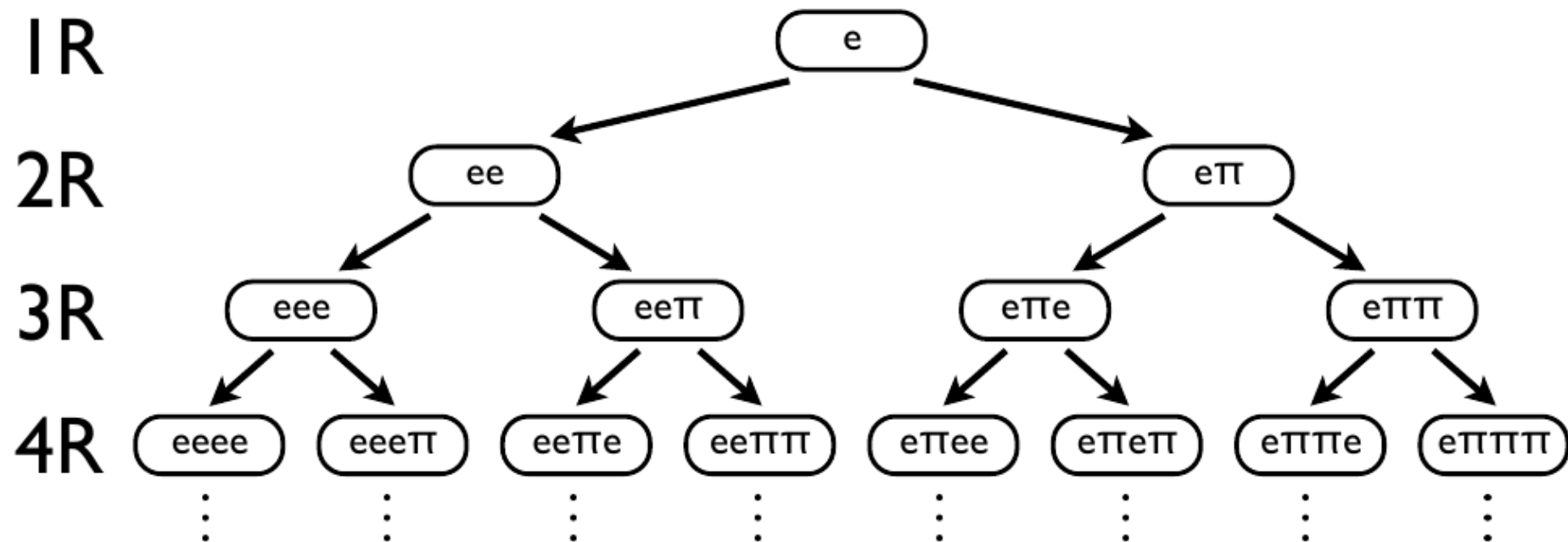
CC1 π
(1 or multi-rings)



How the new ring is accepted/rejected

Let's assume that the real event is $e+\pi$

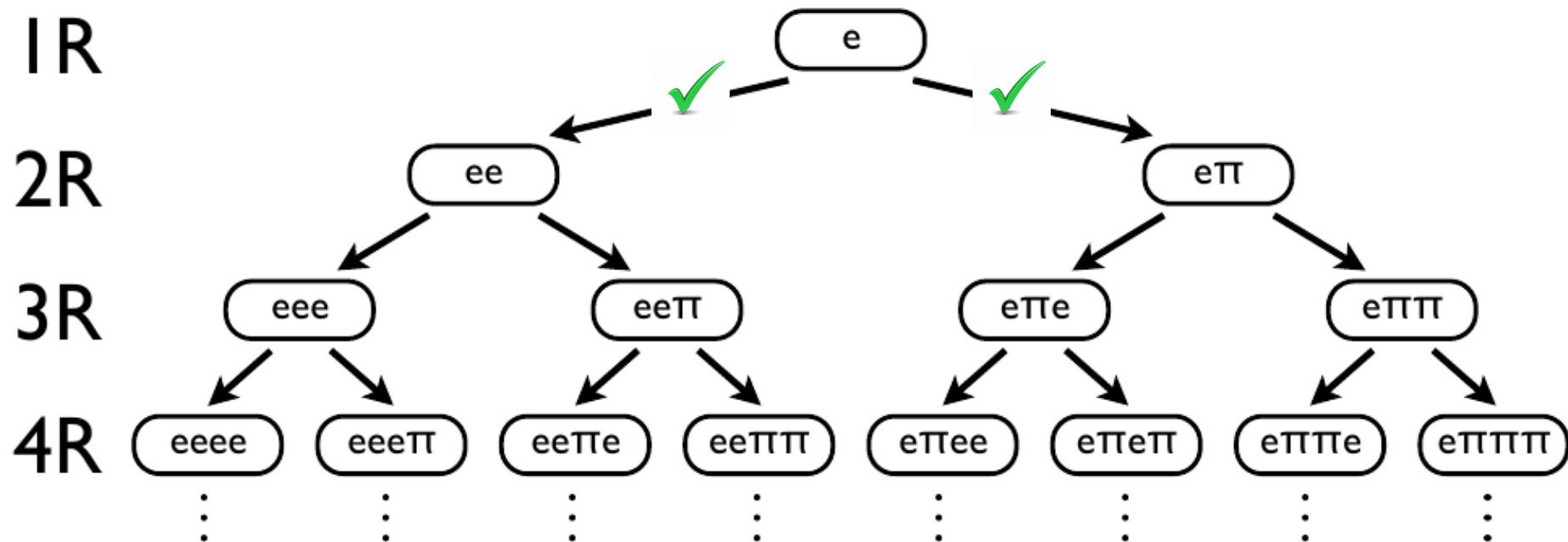
1. First ring fitted as e-like & π -like (π -like not shown here)



How the new ring is accepted/rejected

Let's assume that the real event is $e+\pi$

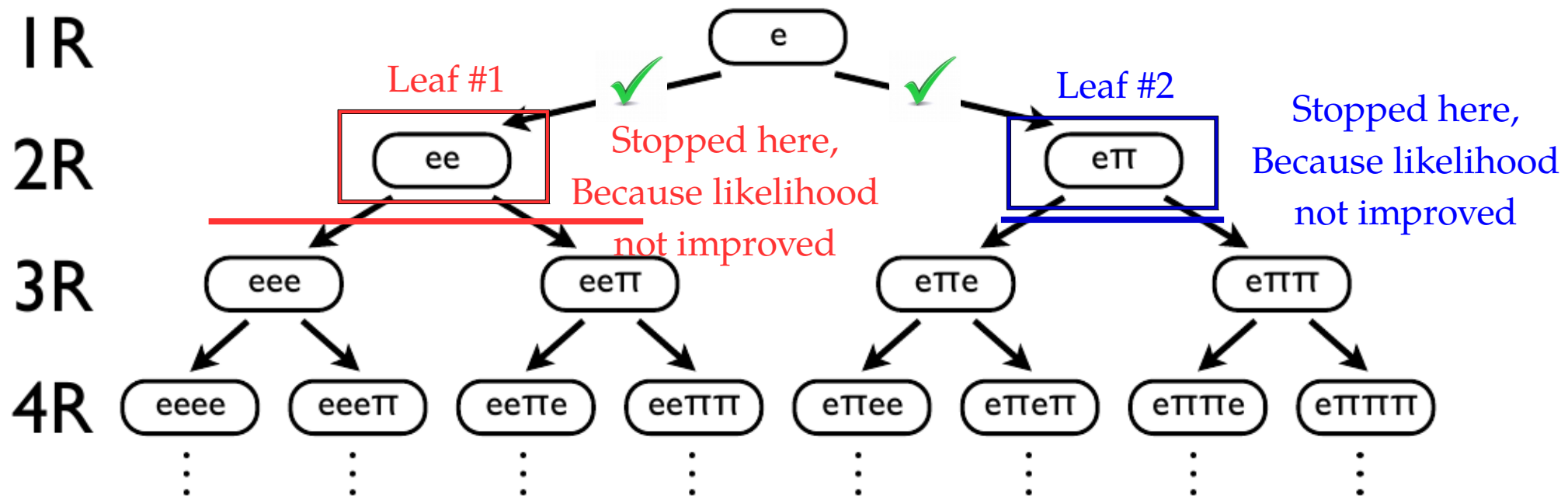
1. First ring fitted as e-like & π -like (π -like not shown here)
2. Let's focus on 1st ring e-like. 2nd ring fitted as e-like & π -like
→ Let's assume both hypotheses pass the cut (Likelihood improved)



How the new ring is accepted/rejected

Let's assume that the real event is $e+\pi$

1. First ring fitted as e-like & π -like (π -like not shown here, but same).
2. Let's focus on 1st ring e-like. 2nd ring fitted as e-like & π -like
→ Let's assume both hypotheses pass the cut (Likelihood improved)
3. 3rd ring is fitted as e-like & π -like
→ Let's assume that no 3 ring hypothesis pass the cut.



→ The fit is stopped here.

How the new ring is accepted/rejected

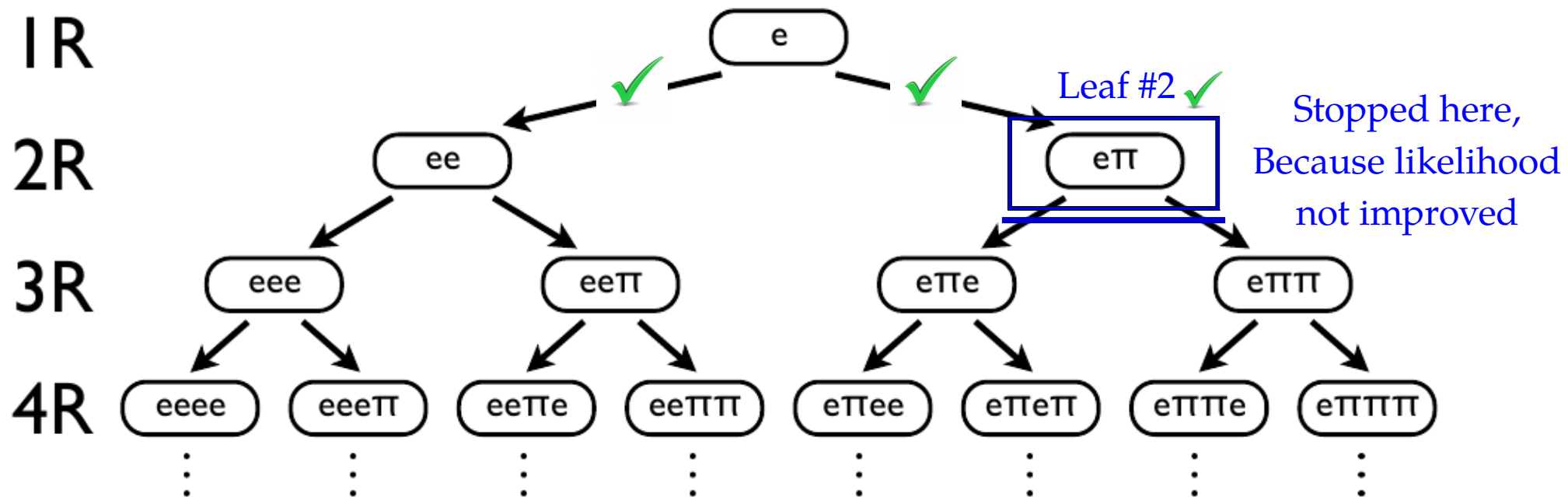
4. The Likelihood of the 2 leaves are compared

→ The higher becomes the fit result.

→ If everything works well, the winner should be **Leaf #2**.

5. Note that we have not shown the graph where 1st ring is π -like

⇒ More leaves in this case in reality ⇒ **Very time consuming !**



High-energy reconstruction in HK

- fiTQun is powerful and has been ported to HK... but is relatively slow

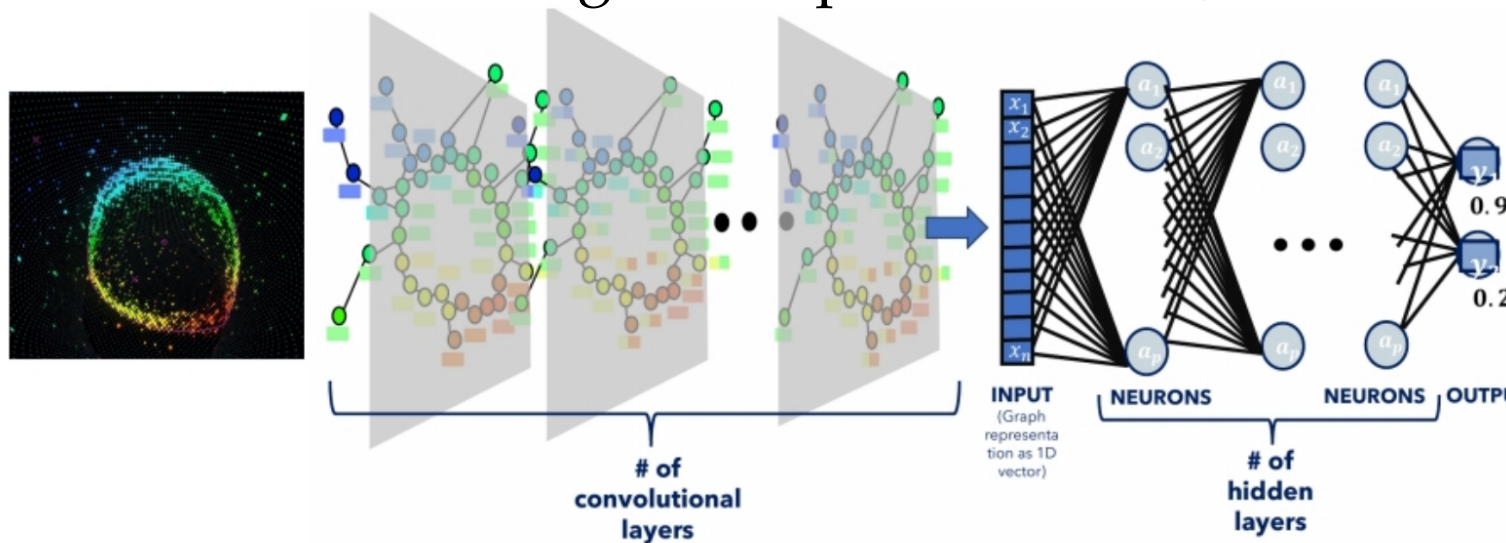
	1 ring e/ μ	1 ring e/ π^0	Multi-ring atmospheric
CPU time / event	30s	50s	up to 600s

- For HK : aim to reach $\leq 1\%$ stat. and syst. uncertainties
 \Rightarrow Huge data processing & large MC generation to constrain our syst.
 \Rightarrow Need a faster algorithm (and potentially more physics powerful).

- 3 efforts are on-going :

- Improve fiTQun efficiency.
- Port fiTQun to GPU : computation time \downarrow by 12.
- Machine learning development : CNN, Visual transformers, GNN

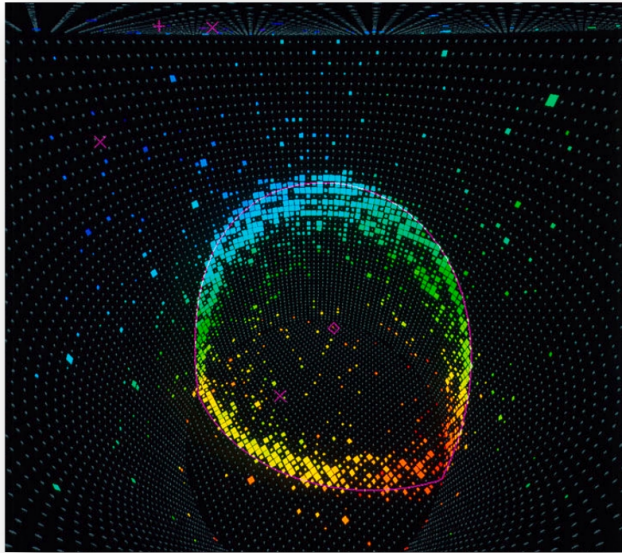
Work in-progress before
officialization



- PID e/ μ
- PID e/ π^0
- E-reconstruction
- Vertex reconstruction

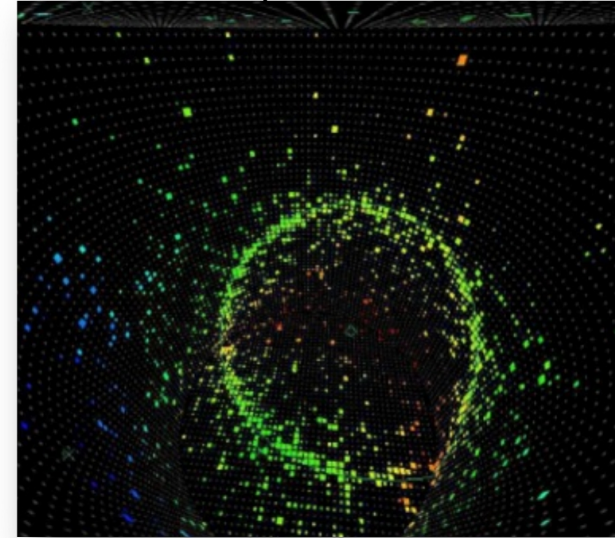
Basic classifier : e/ μ separation

- e/ μ is THE SK most fundamental PID : remove ν_μ from ν_e sample.



'05/2024

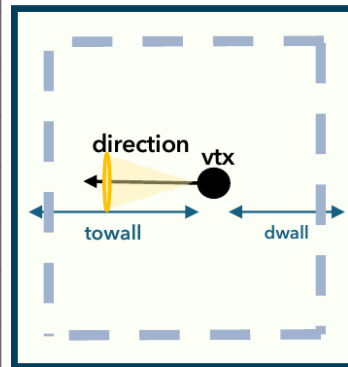
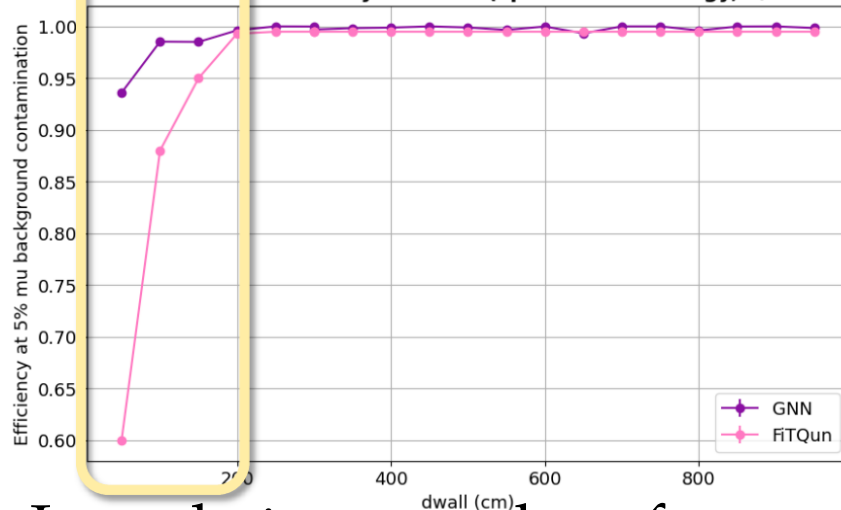
Sharp ring



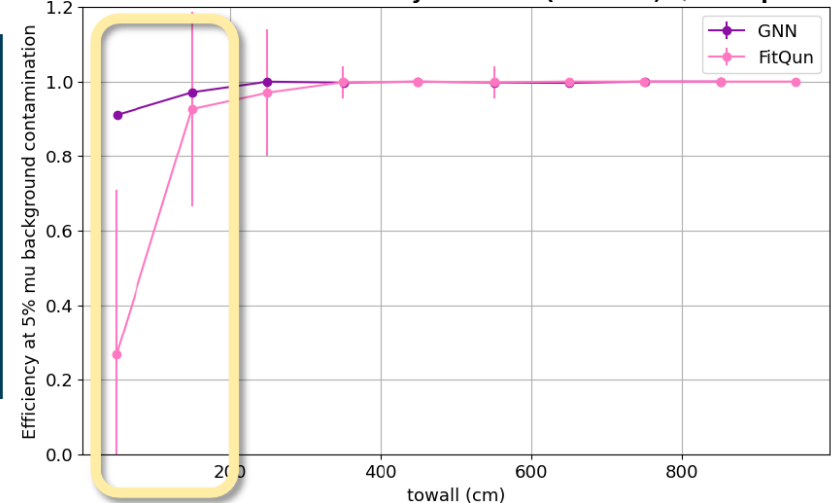
Fuzzy ring

- GNN : > 99% e-efficiency for 5% μ contamination \rightarrow As fitQun

Electron identification efficiency vs dwell (spectrum of energy, e/ μ separation)



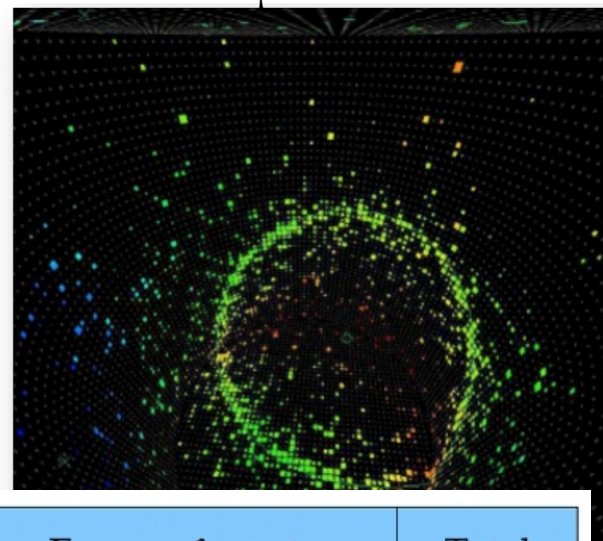
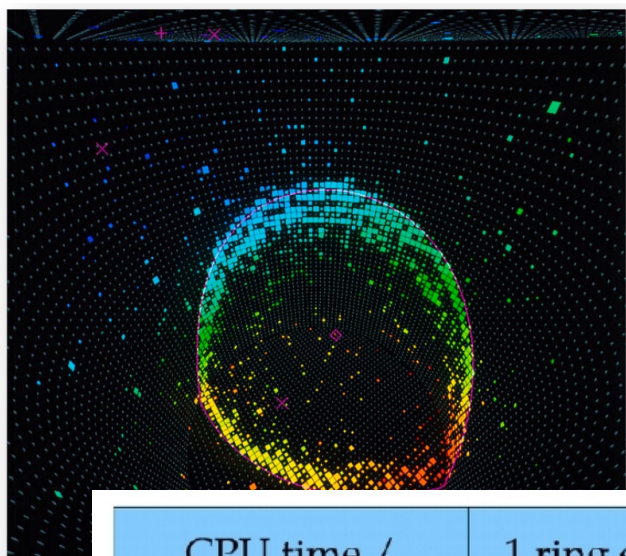
Electron identification efficiency vs toward (500 MeV, e/ μ separation)



- Largely improved performances out of FV \rightarrow Enlarge FV & statistics !

Processing time

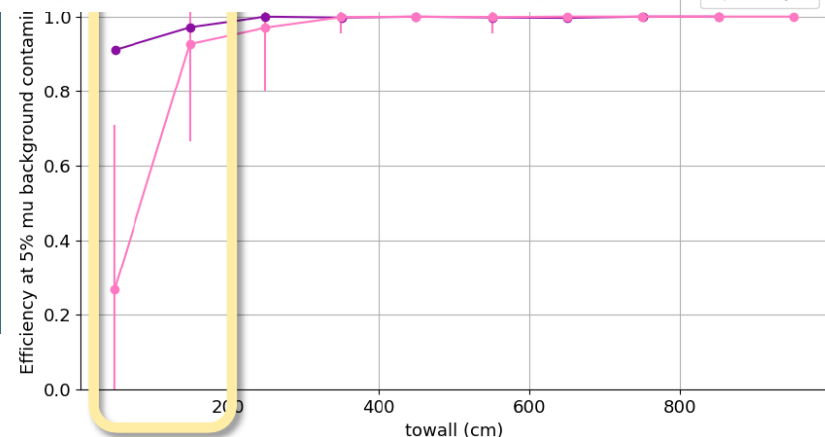
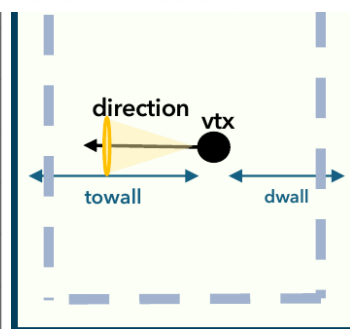
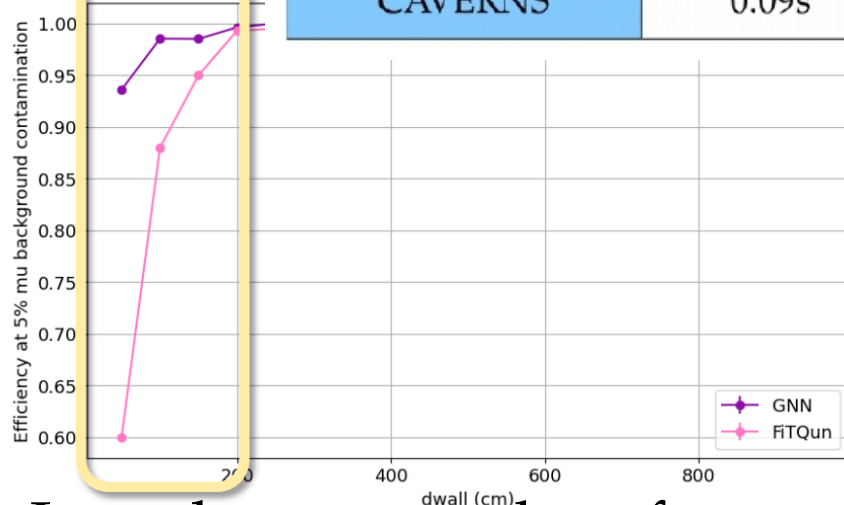
- e/μ is THE SK most fundamental PID : remove ν_μ from ν_e sample.



CPU time / event	1 ring e/μ PID	1 ring e/π^0 PID	Energy & vertex reco.	Total
fiTQun	30s	50s	Simultaneous to PID	80s
CAVERNS	0.09s	0.07s	0.05s	0.11s

- GNN : >

Electron identification



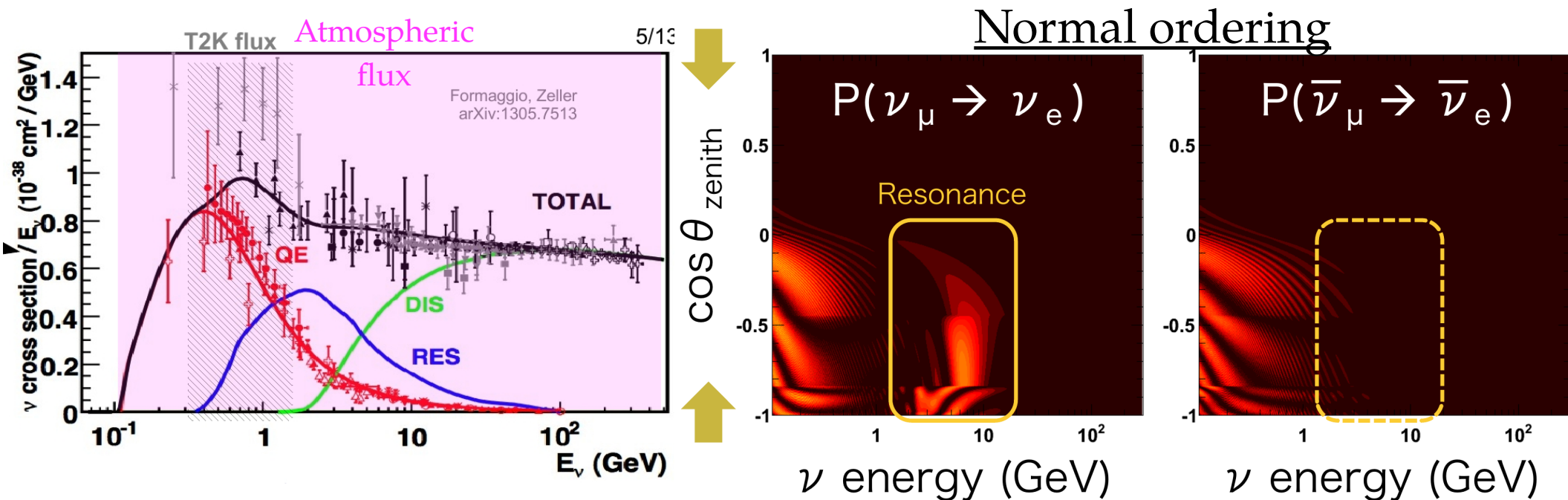
- Largely improved performances out of FV → Enlarge FV & statistics !



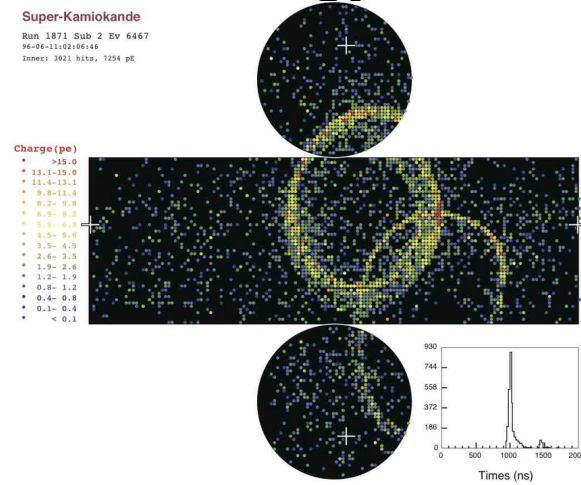
IV. Atmospheric neutrino oscillations

Atmospheric neutrinos

- Very broad spectrum ranging from few MeV to TeV.
- Mass ordering dominantly determined with upward-going multi-GeV ν_e sample : \rightarrow CC-resonant and DIS dominates \Rightarrow Multi-ring domain.

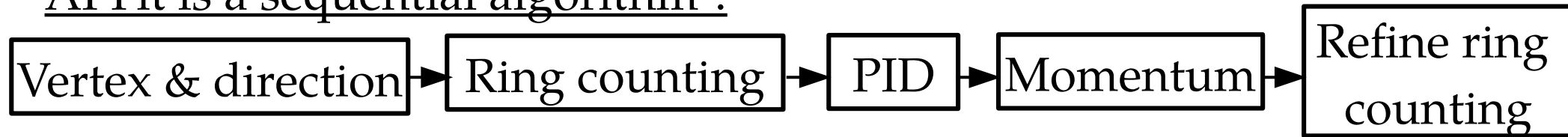


- A fast and reliable ring counting algorithm is the key for atmospheric neutrino
 \rightarrow Historical Super-K fitter : APFit



The APFit algorithm

- APFit is a sequential algorithm :

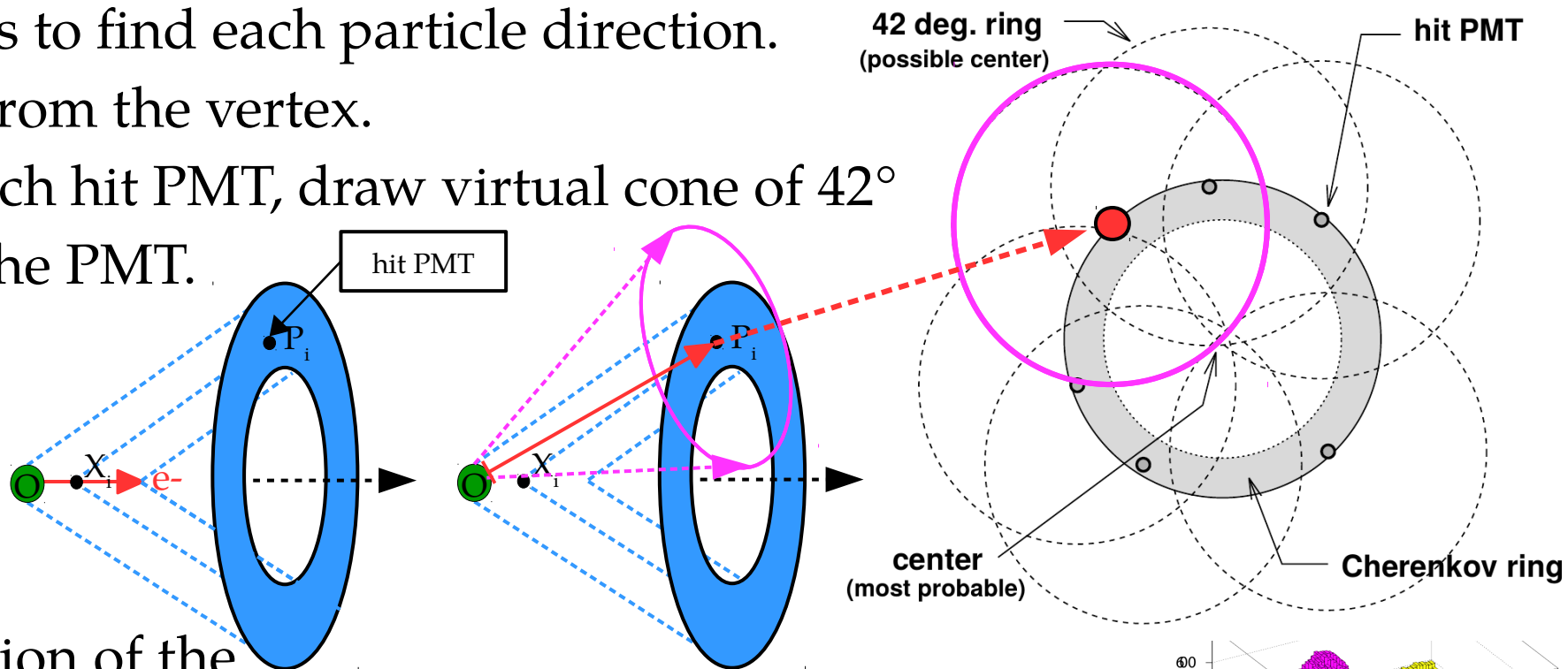


- Ring counting much faster than fiTQun, based on Hough transform

→ Goal is to find each particle direction.

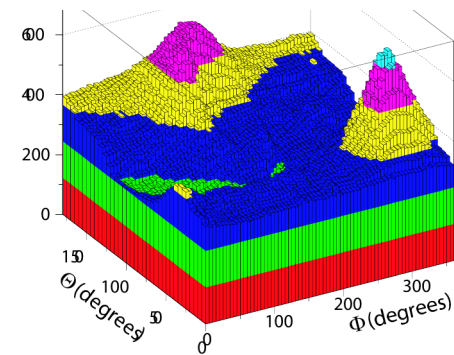
→ Start from the vertex.

→ For each hit PMT, draw virtual cone of 42° around the PMT.



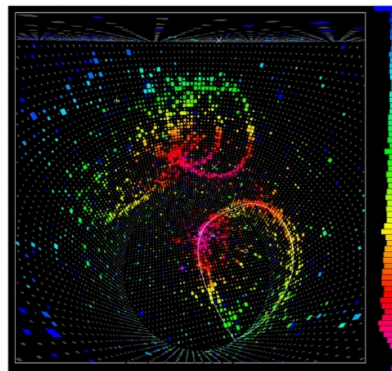
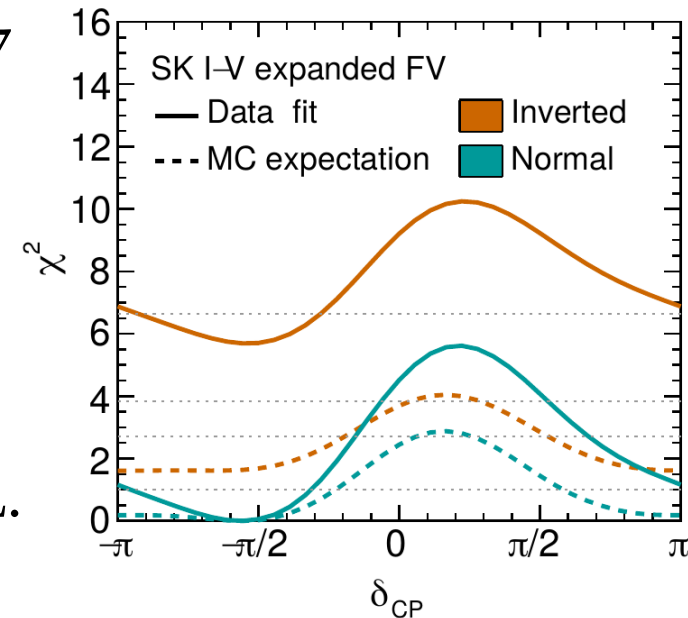
→ Direction of the particle is region with higher density virtual cone.

- PID is based on charge distribution only



Perspectives of improvement

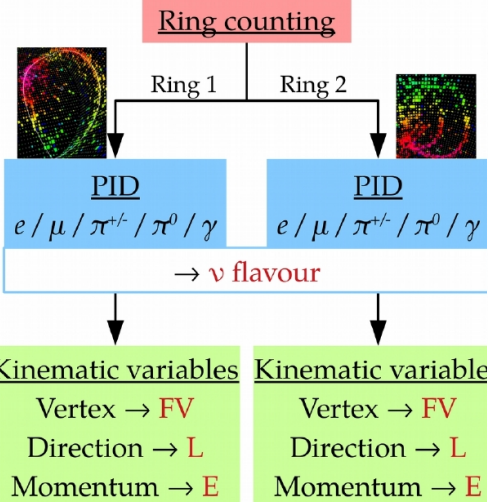
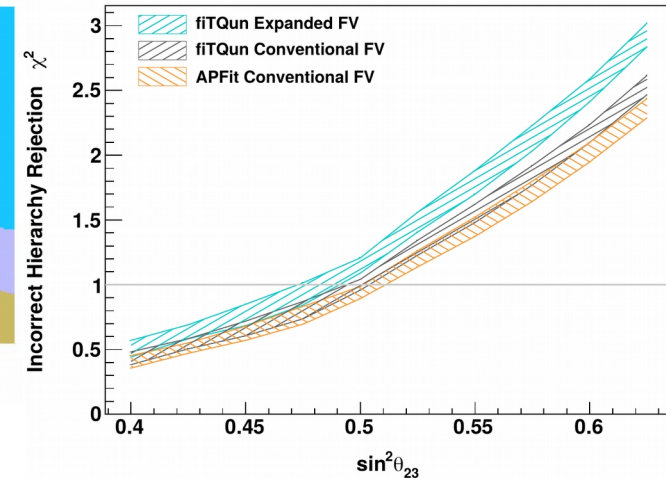
- Provide mass-ordering determination : $\Delta\chi^2 = 5.7$
- Perspective for improvement :
 - Adapt fiTQun to atmospheric ν (now only SK-IV) \rightarrow More performant in FV-size & PID.
 - Develop a ring counting algorithm using ML.



(a) Image



(b) Semantic segmentation



Conclusions

- Super- and Hyper-K covers a large range of physics : MeV \rightarrow TeV
 - \rightarrow At low energy : reconstructed event from a sparse&noisy information
 - \rightarrow At high-energy : reconstructed very correlated information.
- Significant challenges ahead of us, esp. for Hyper-K (but useful and developed for Super-K)
 - \rightarrow Low energy, especially for DSNB search, will be very challenging.
 - \Rightarrow Improve our n-tag algorithm performances.
 - \rightarrow At high-energy : \downarrow computational time while \uparrow physics performances.
 - \rightarrow Very active development of existing algorithm to push them beyond their current performances.
- In parallel, there is an effort to develop and test ML-based algorithm
 - \rightarrow Developed as a complementary approach to our existing algorithms.
 - \rightarrow Can also learn from the pattern they find to feed « traditional » reconstruction.



Additional slides

DSNB search with pre-selection cuts

