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THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

Neutrino-nucleon cross section extraction around the TeV

Rasmi E. Hajjar Muñoz

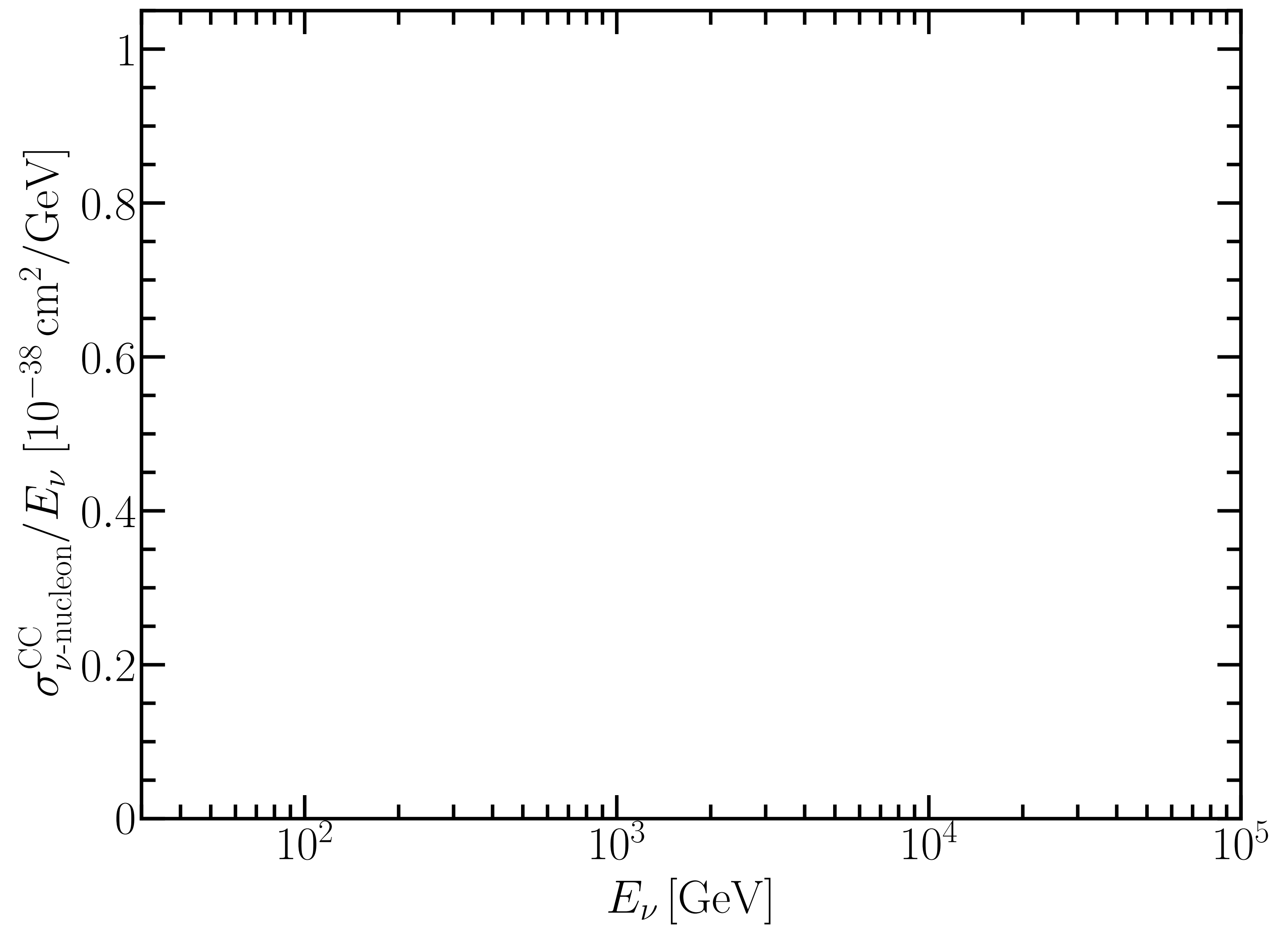


TeVPA 2025

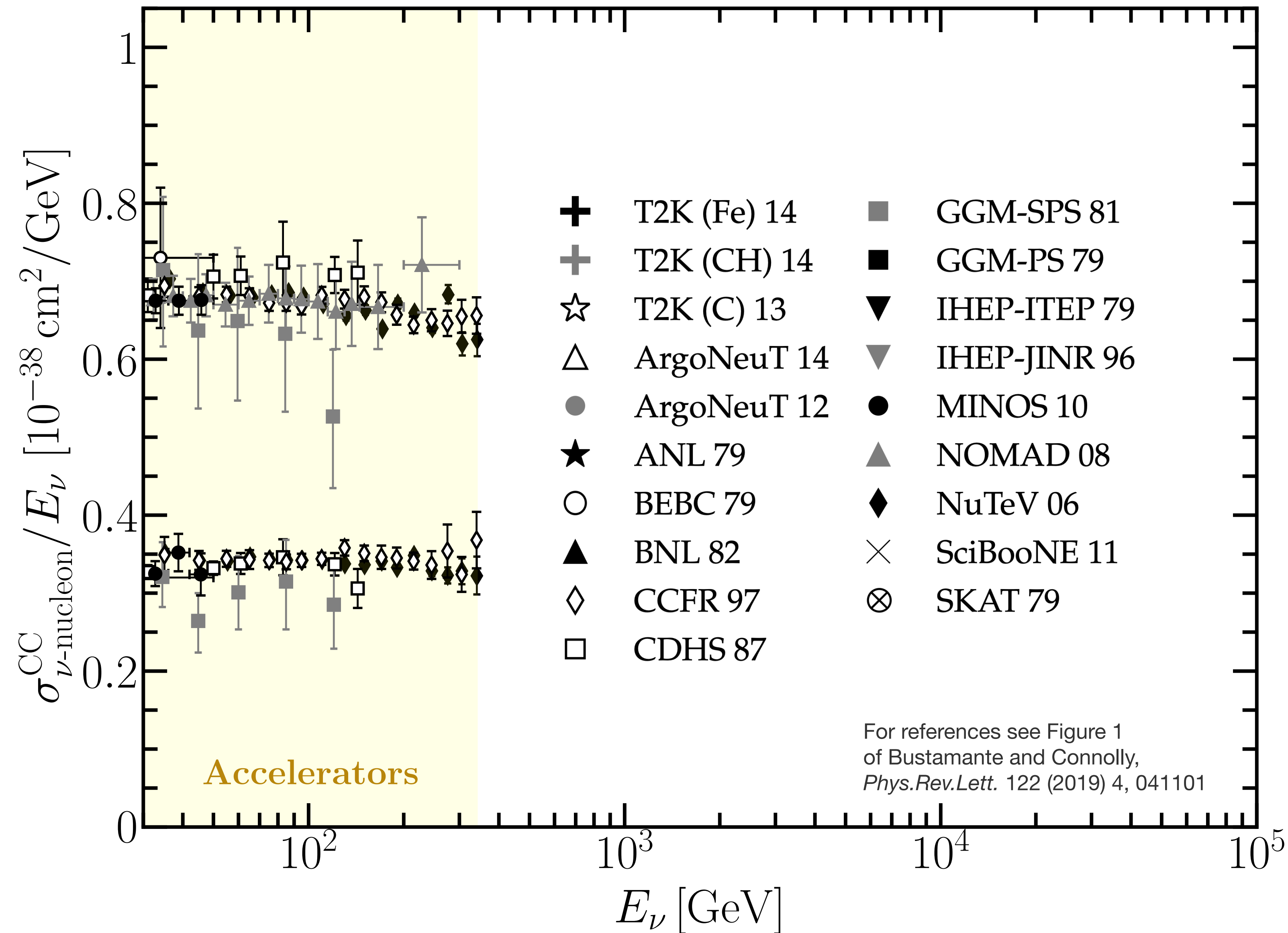
based on arXiv:2511.XXXXX

in collaboration with Sergio Palomares-Ruiz and Mauricio Bustamante

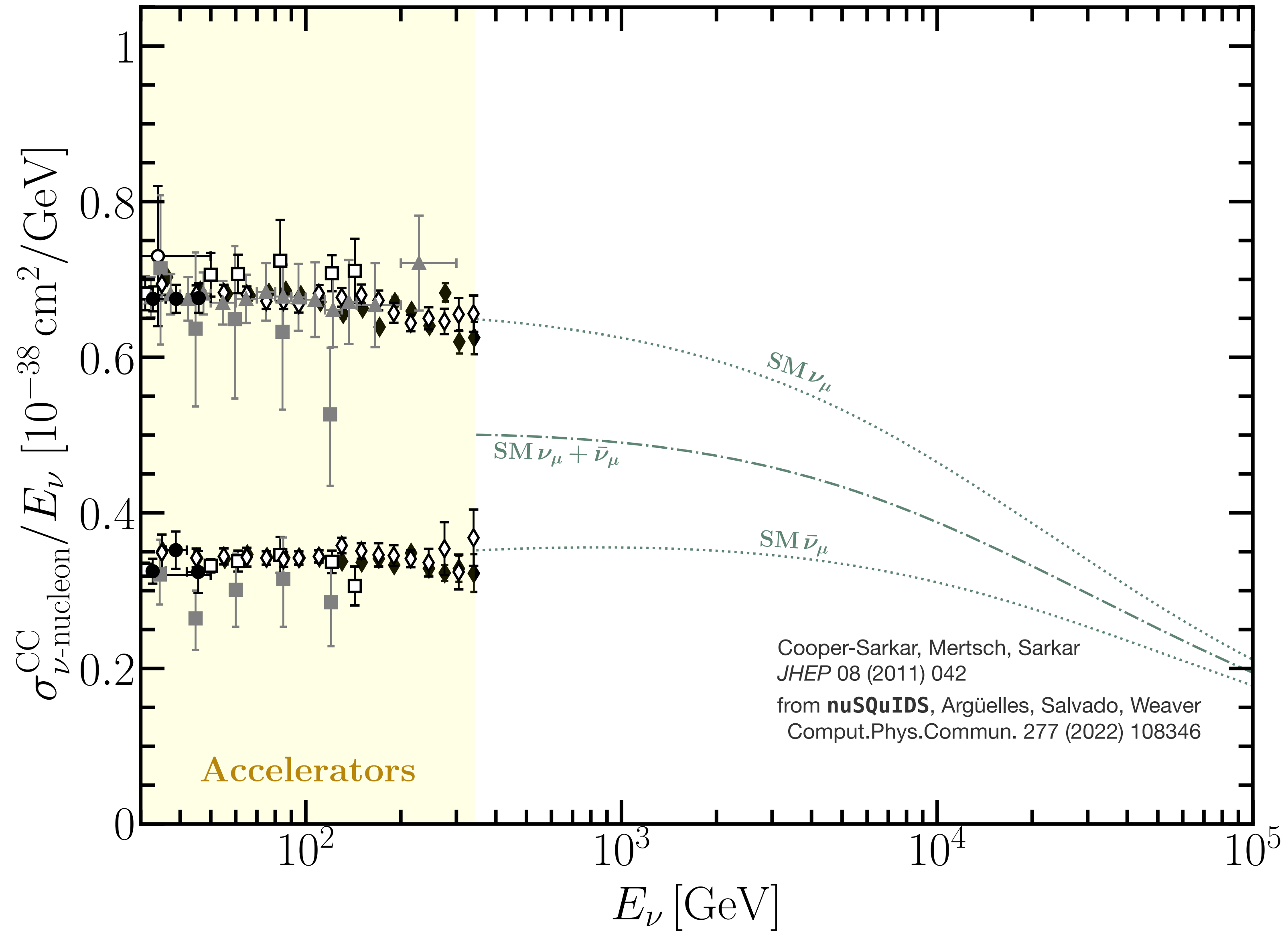
Motivation



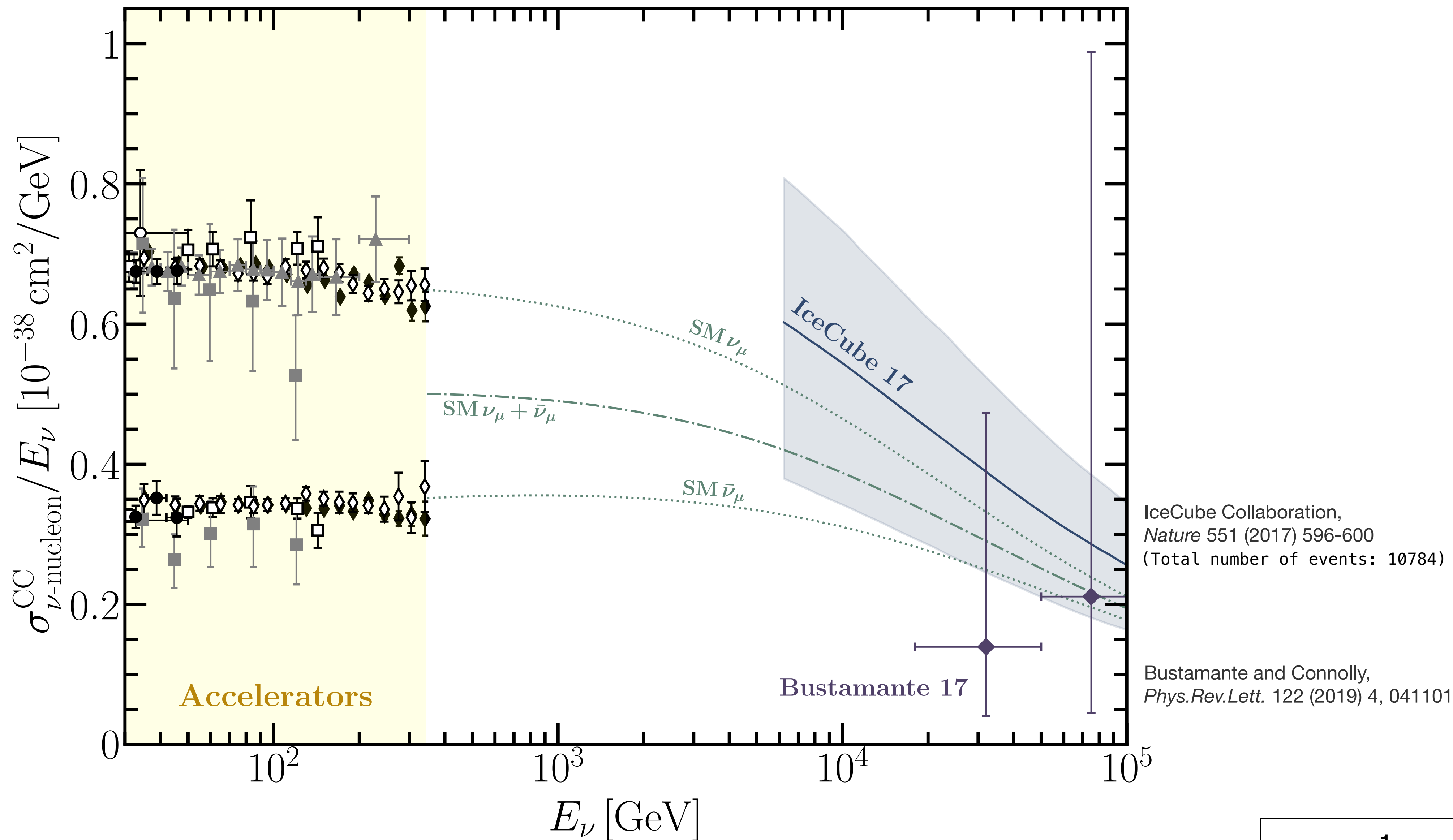
Motivation



Motivation

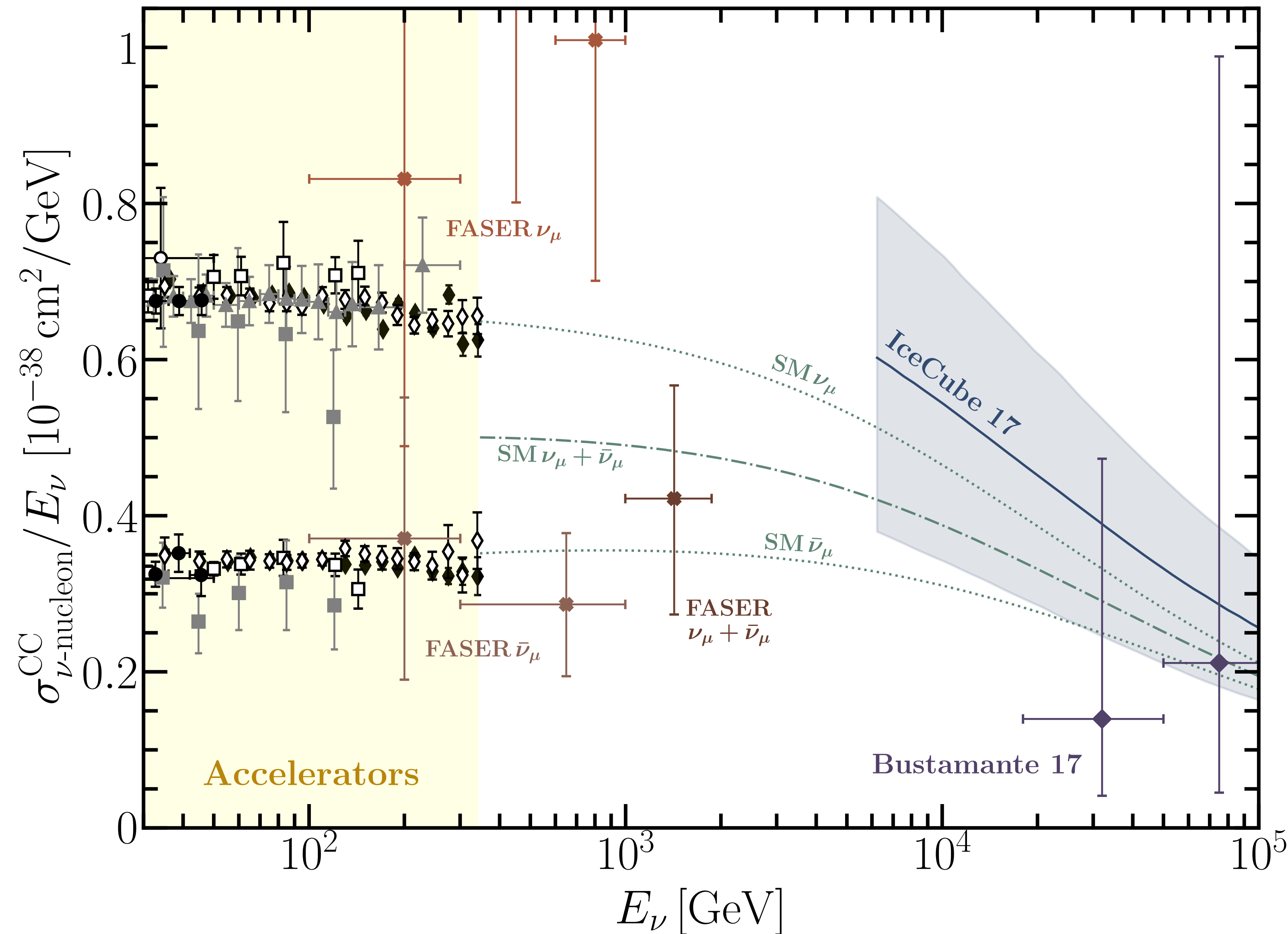


Motivation

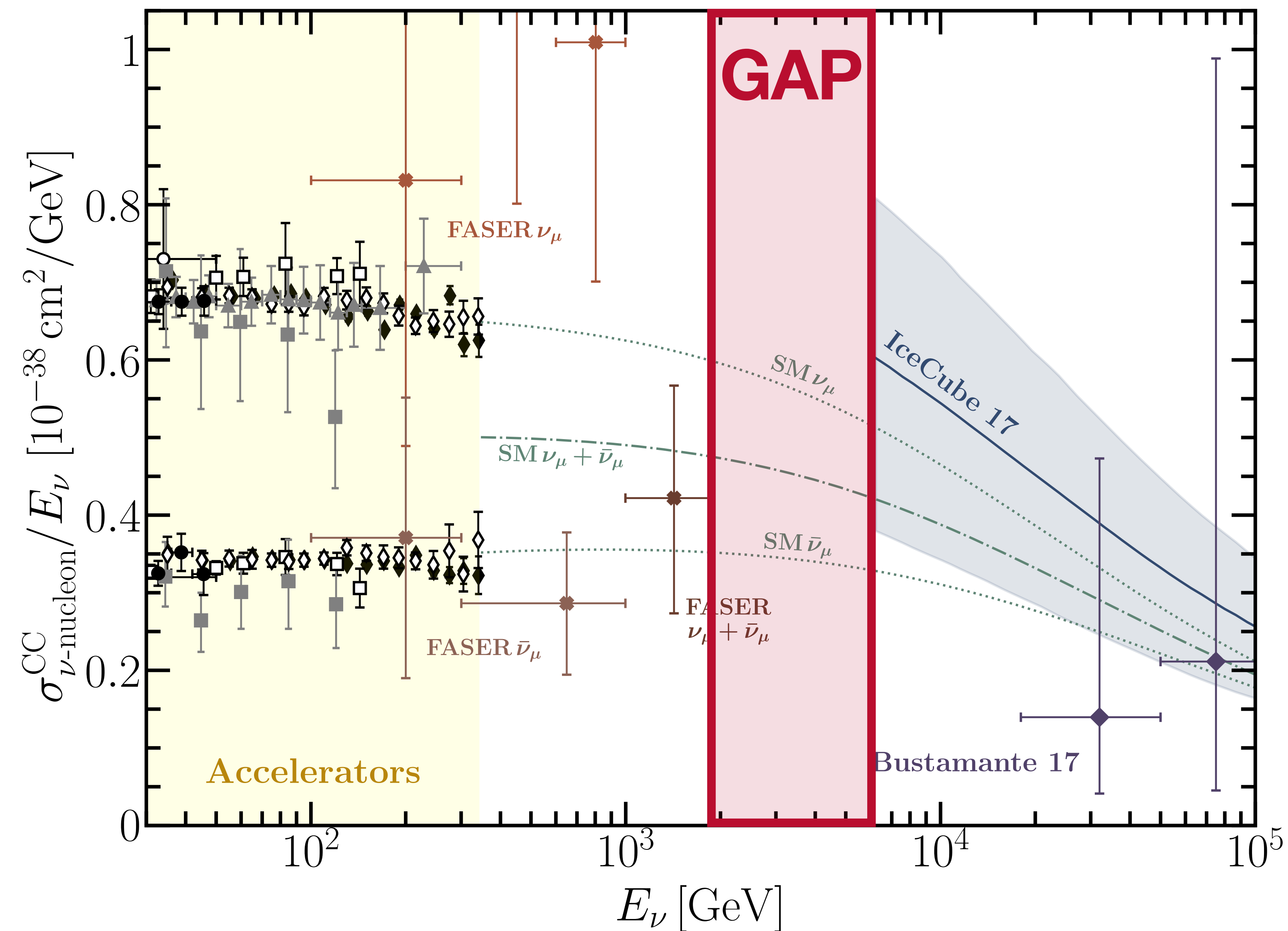


Motivation

FASER Collaboration,
Phys.Rev.Lett. 134 (2025) 21, 211801



Motivation: close the gap



How?
T = 7.6 years

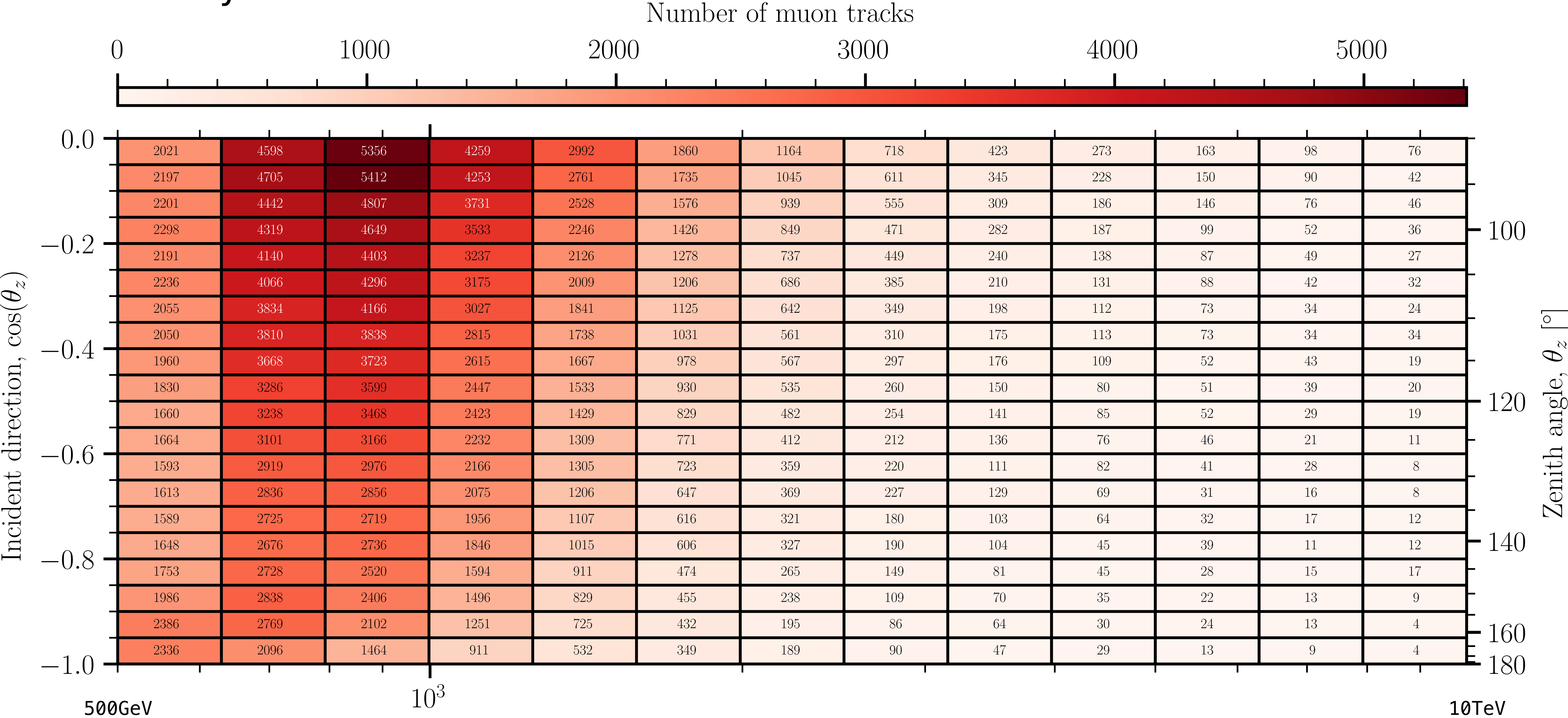
Total number of events: 305735
(x28 IceCube band at higher energies)

How?

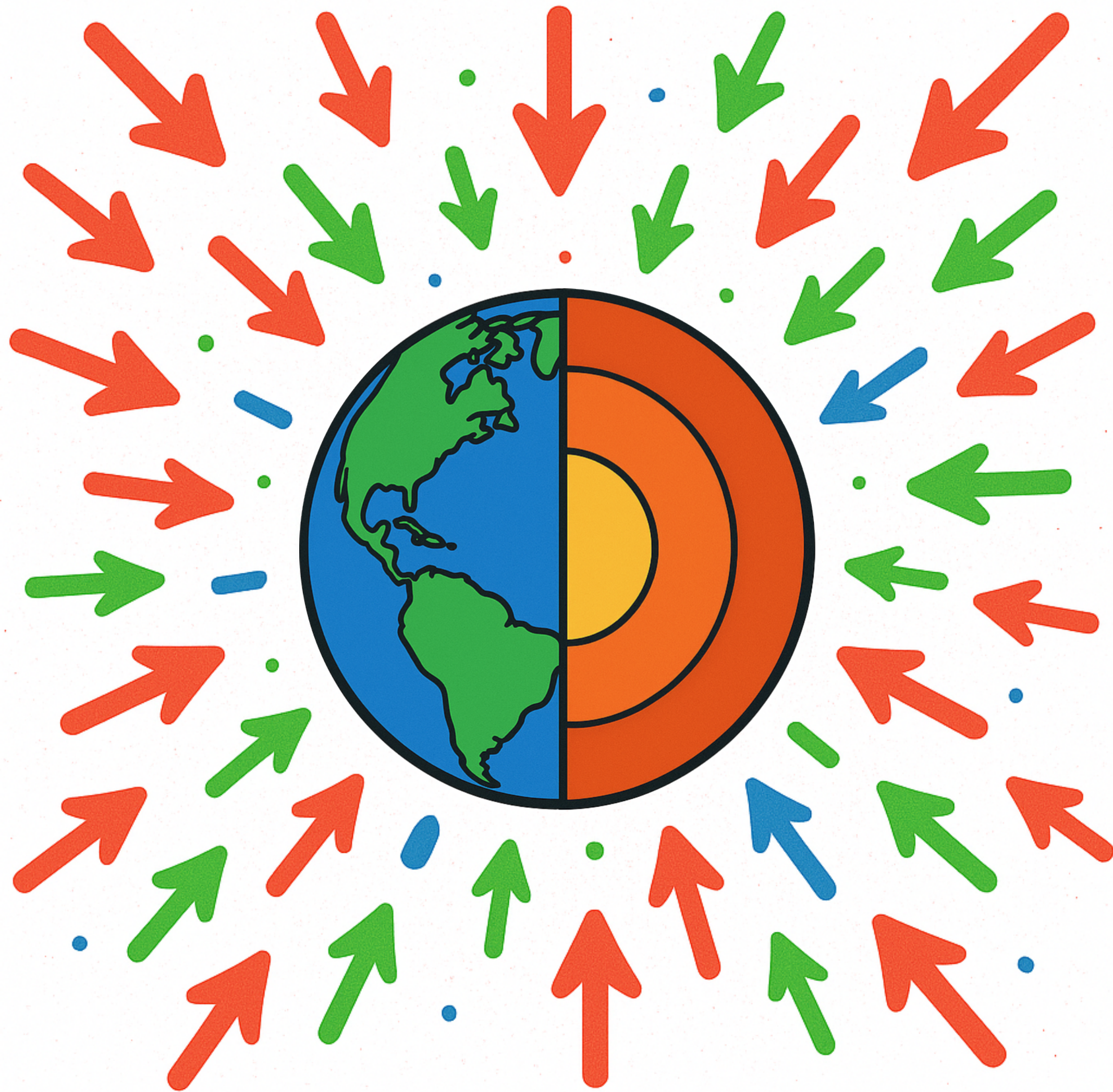
T = 7.6 years

Total number of events: 305735

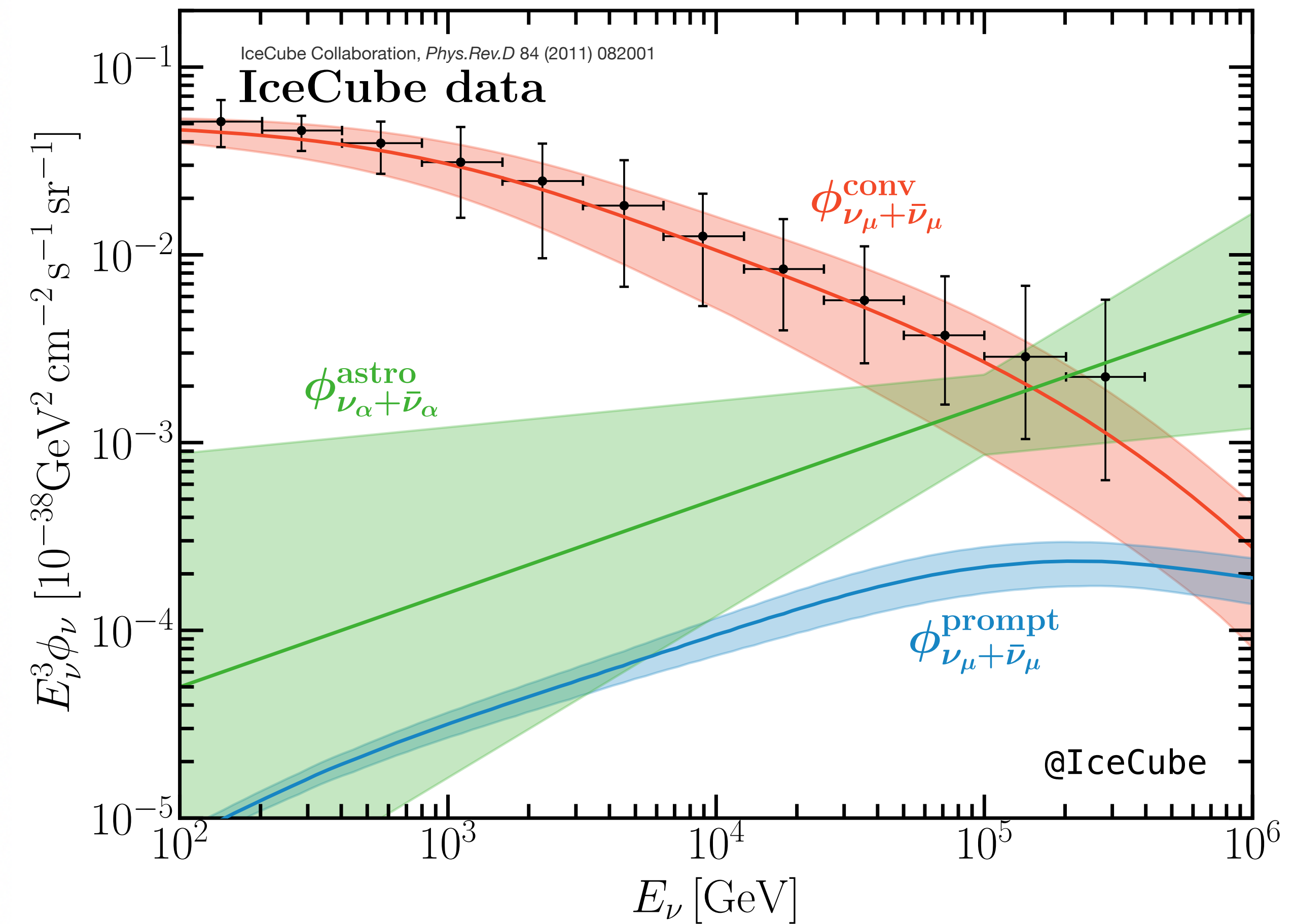
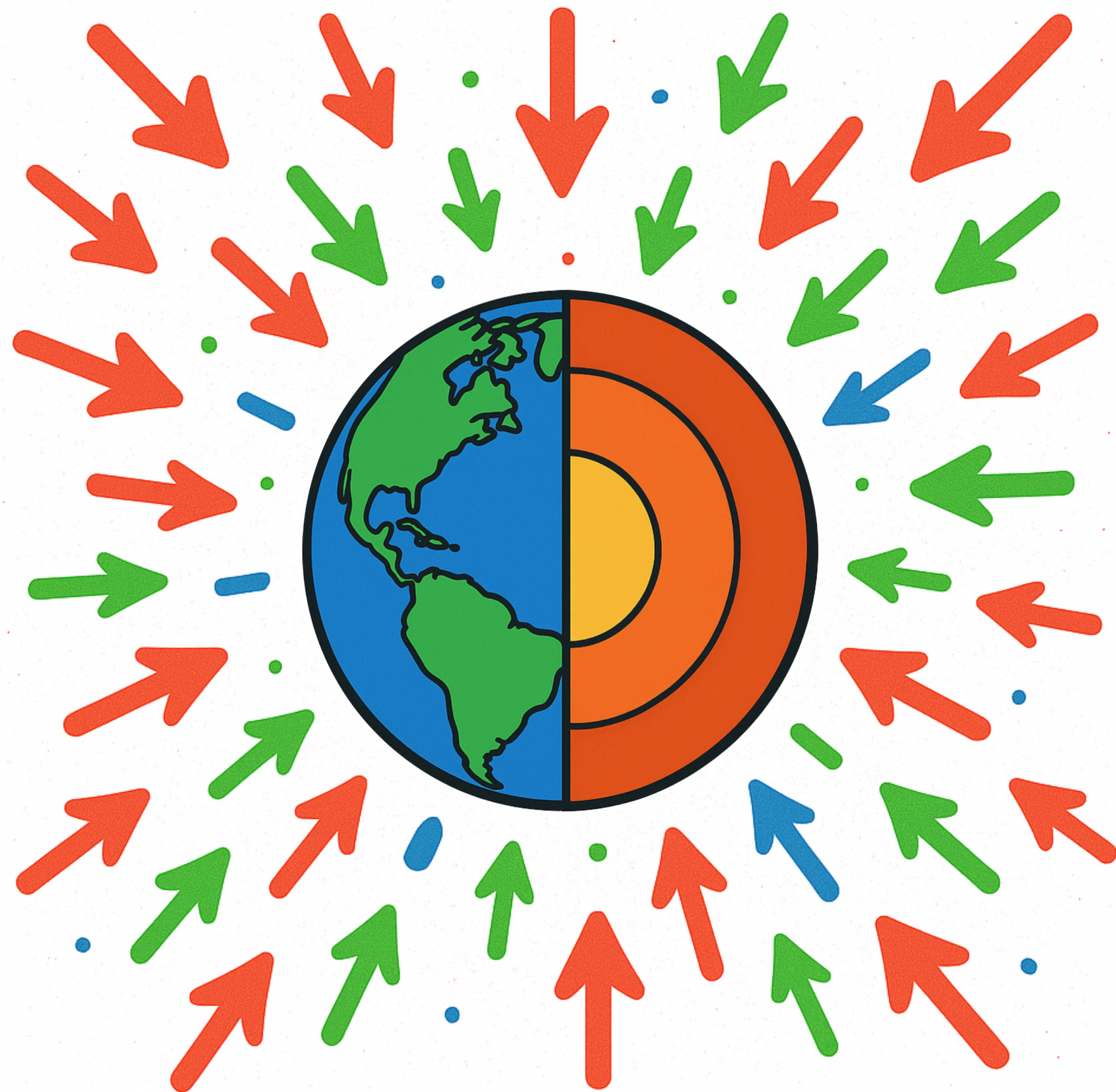
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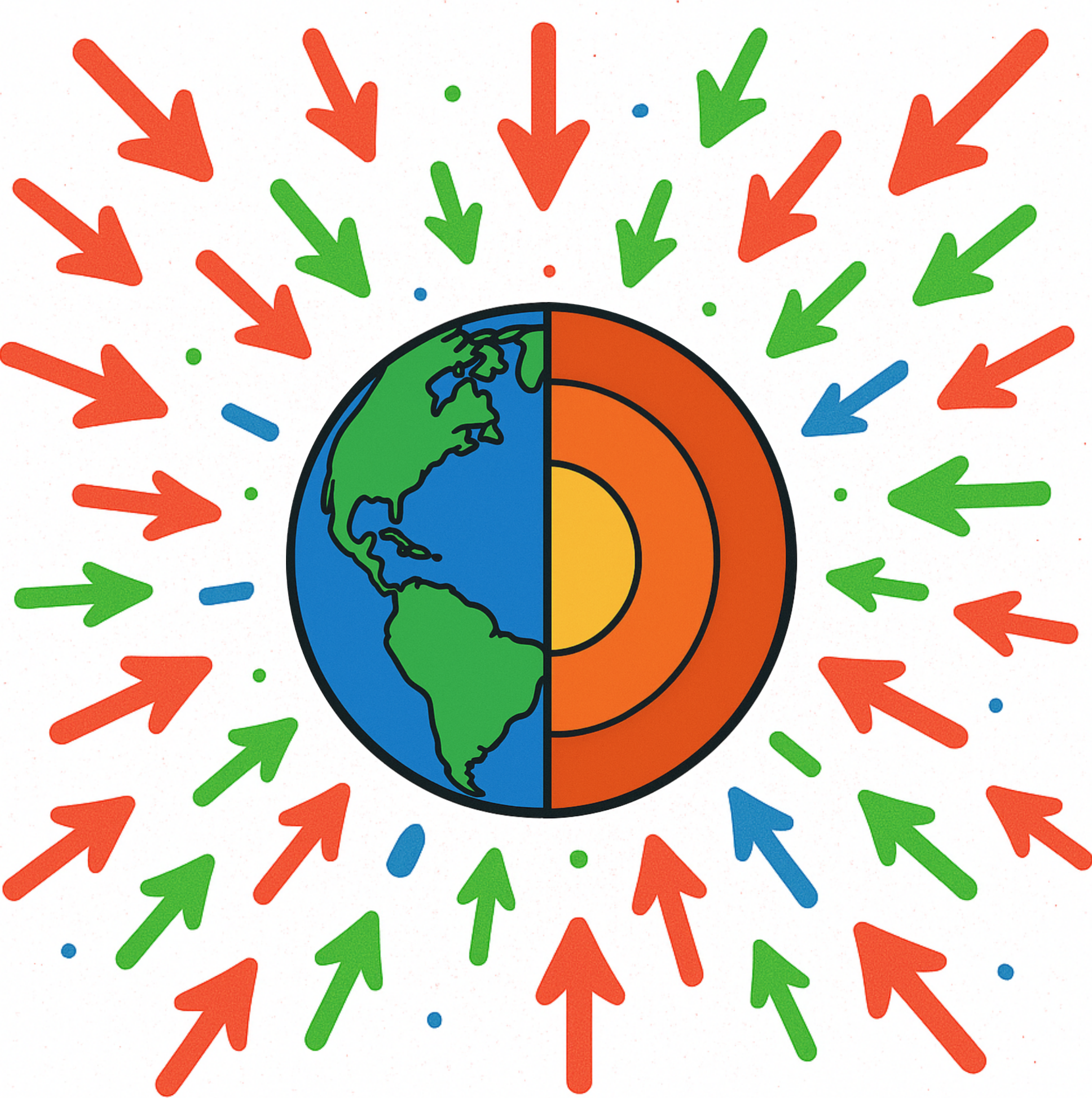
Neutrino journey: generation



Initial fluxes



Initial fluxes

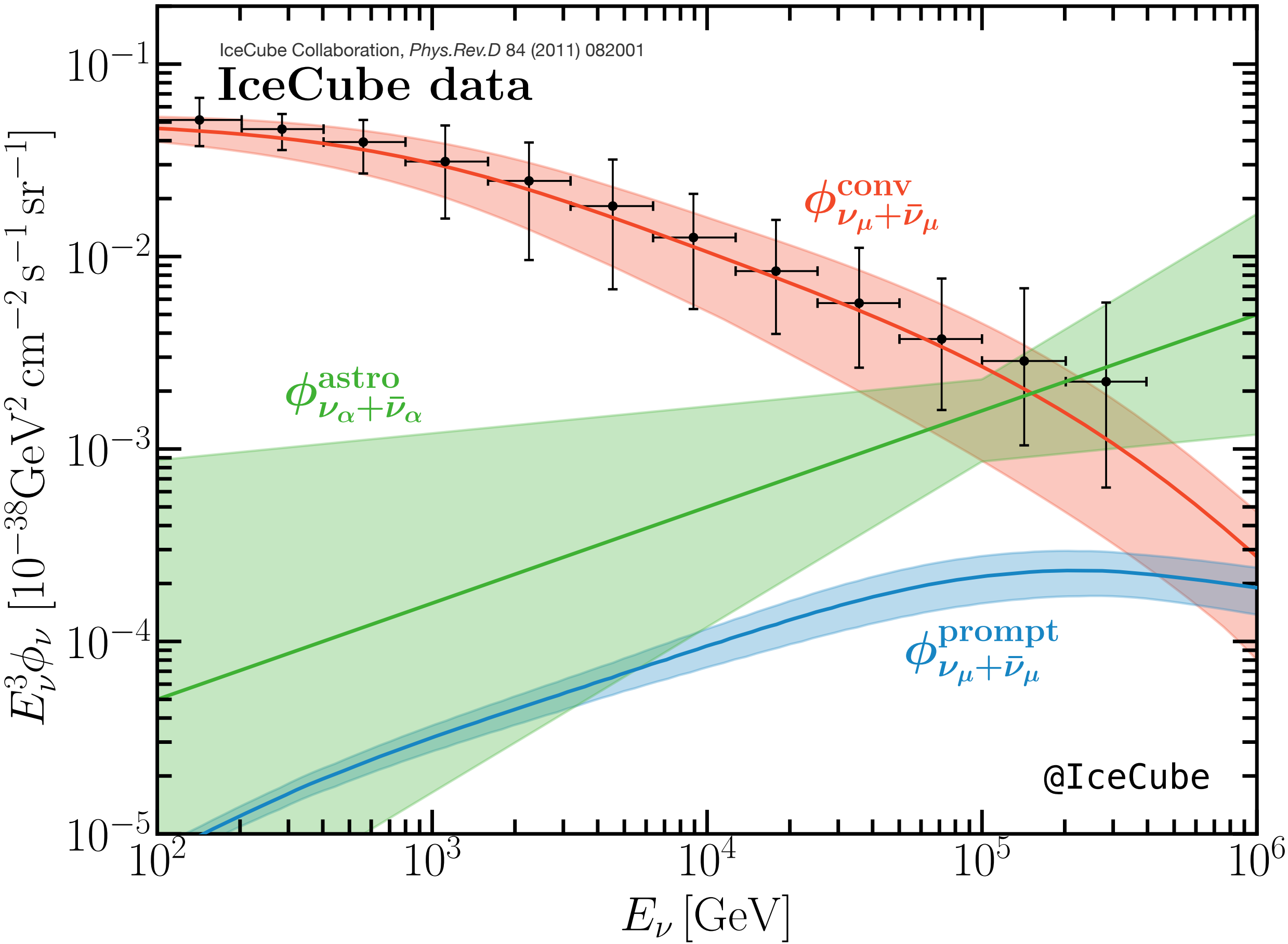


Yañez and Fedynitch,
Phys.Rev.D 107 (2023) 12, 123037

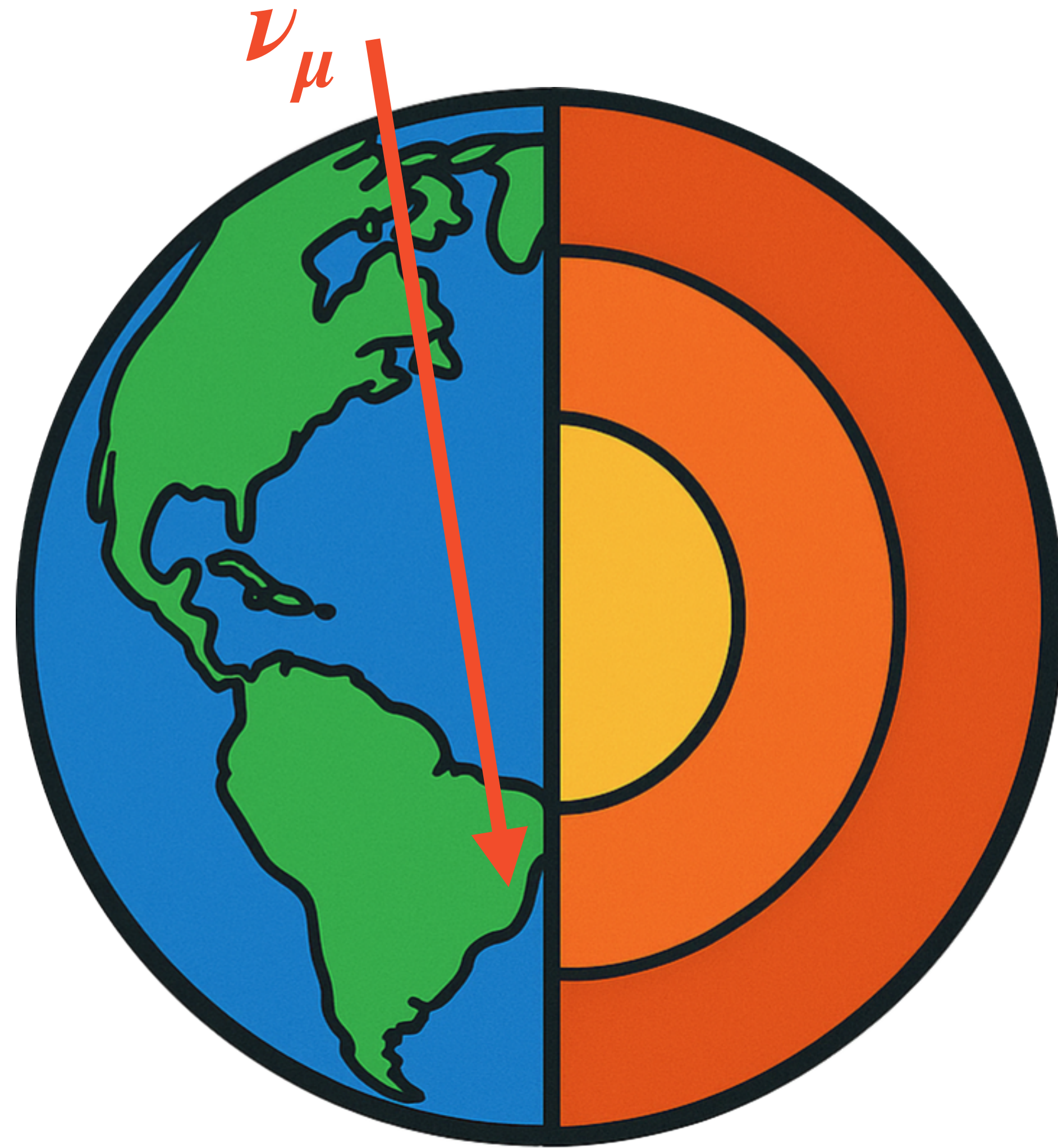
daemonflux

$$\phi_0 \left(\frac{E}{100 \text{ TeV}} \right)^\gamma$$

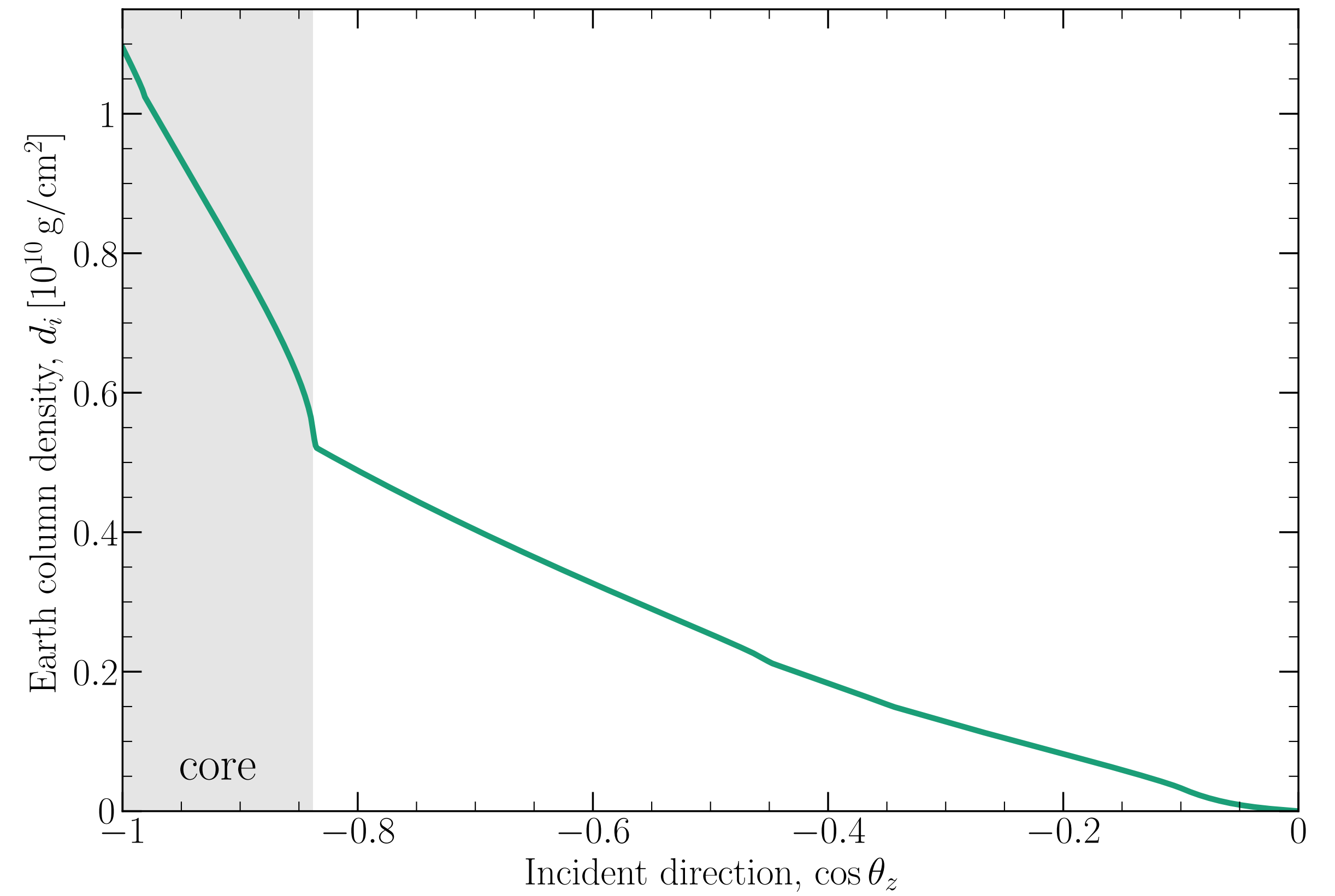
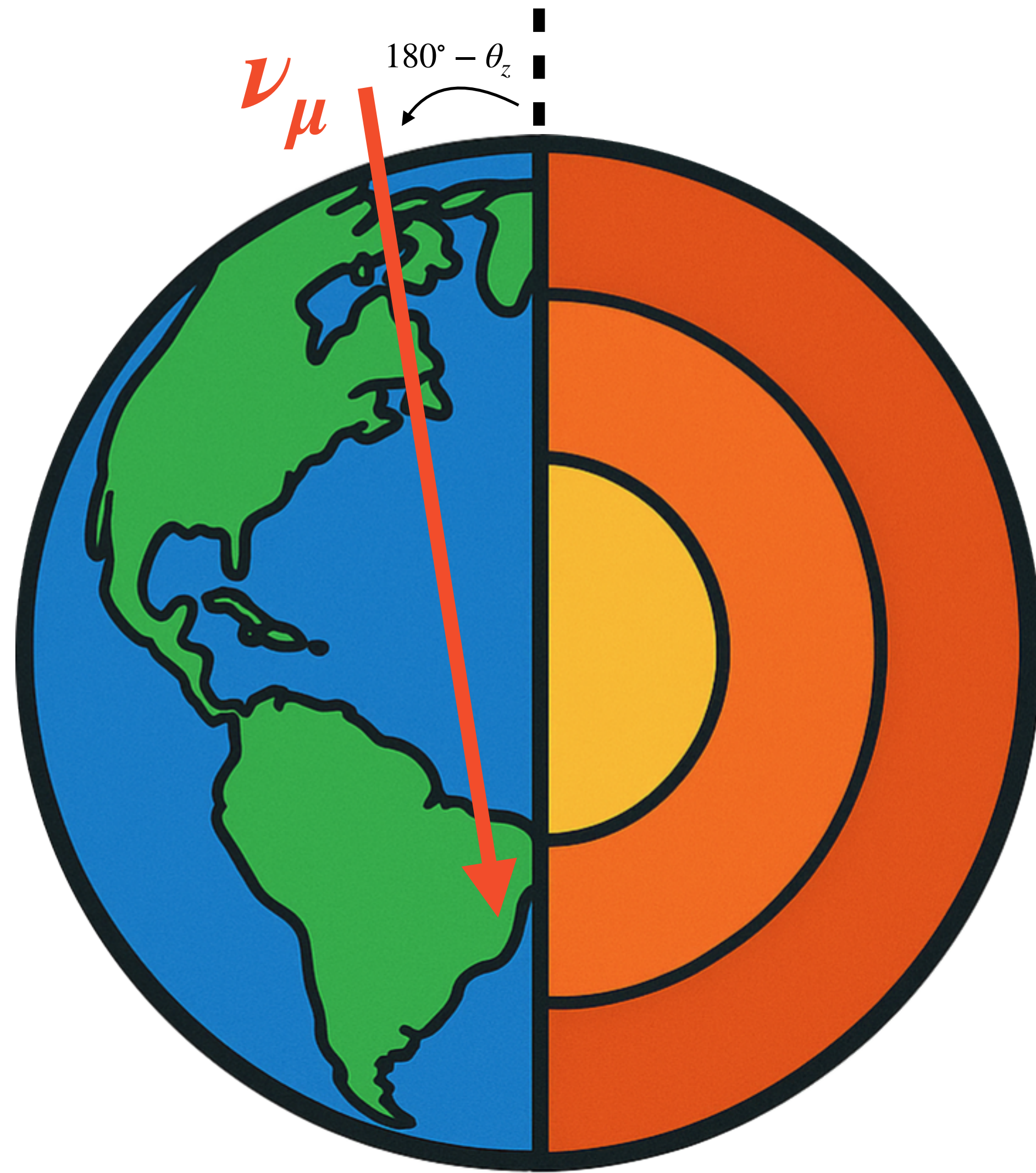
Conventional Prompt Astrophysical



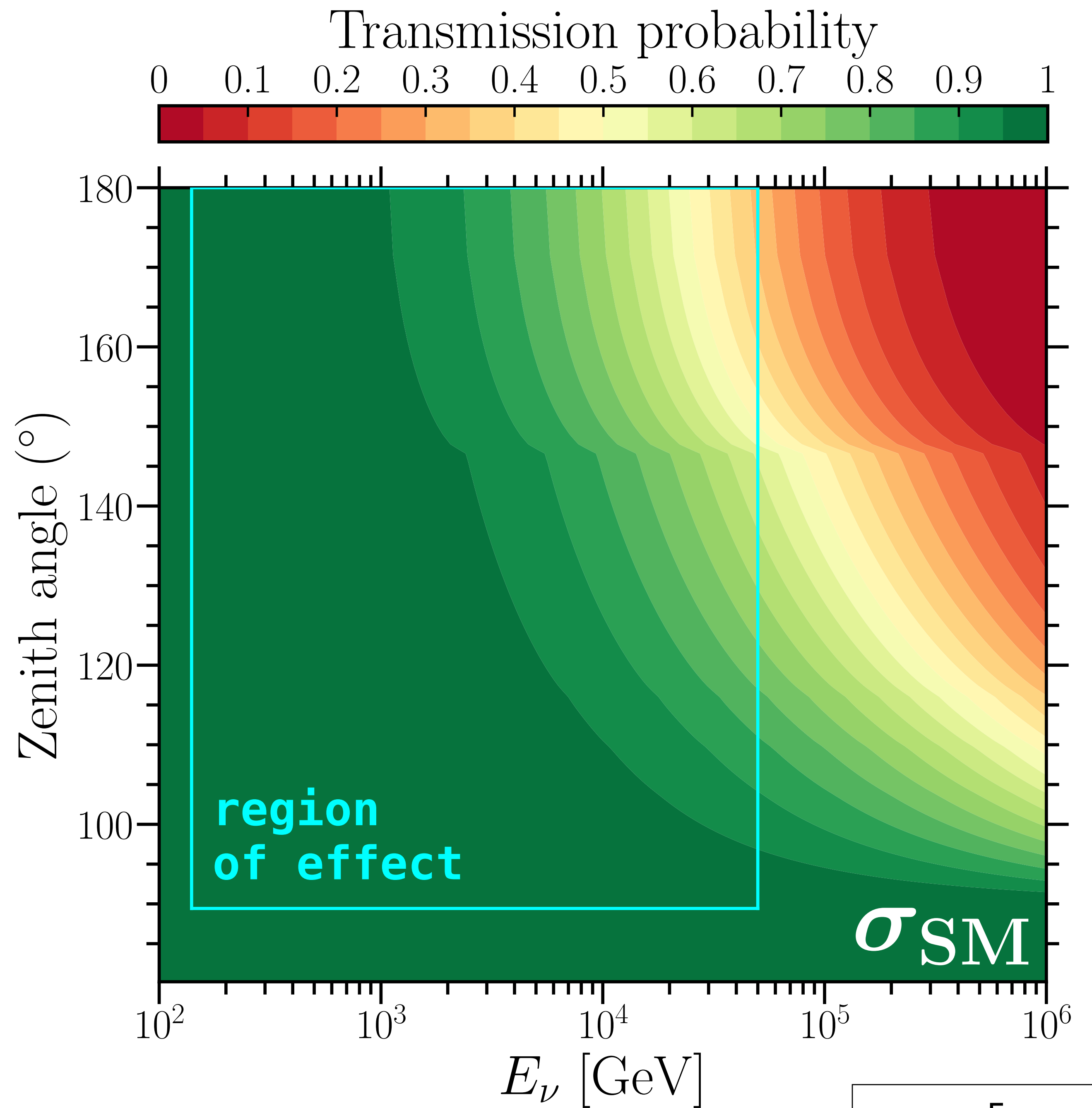
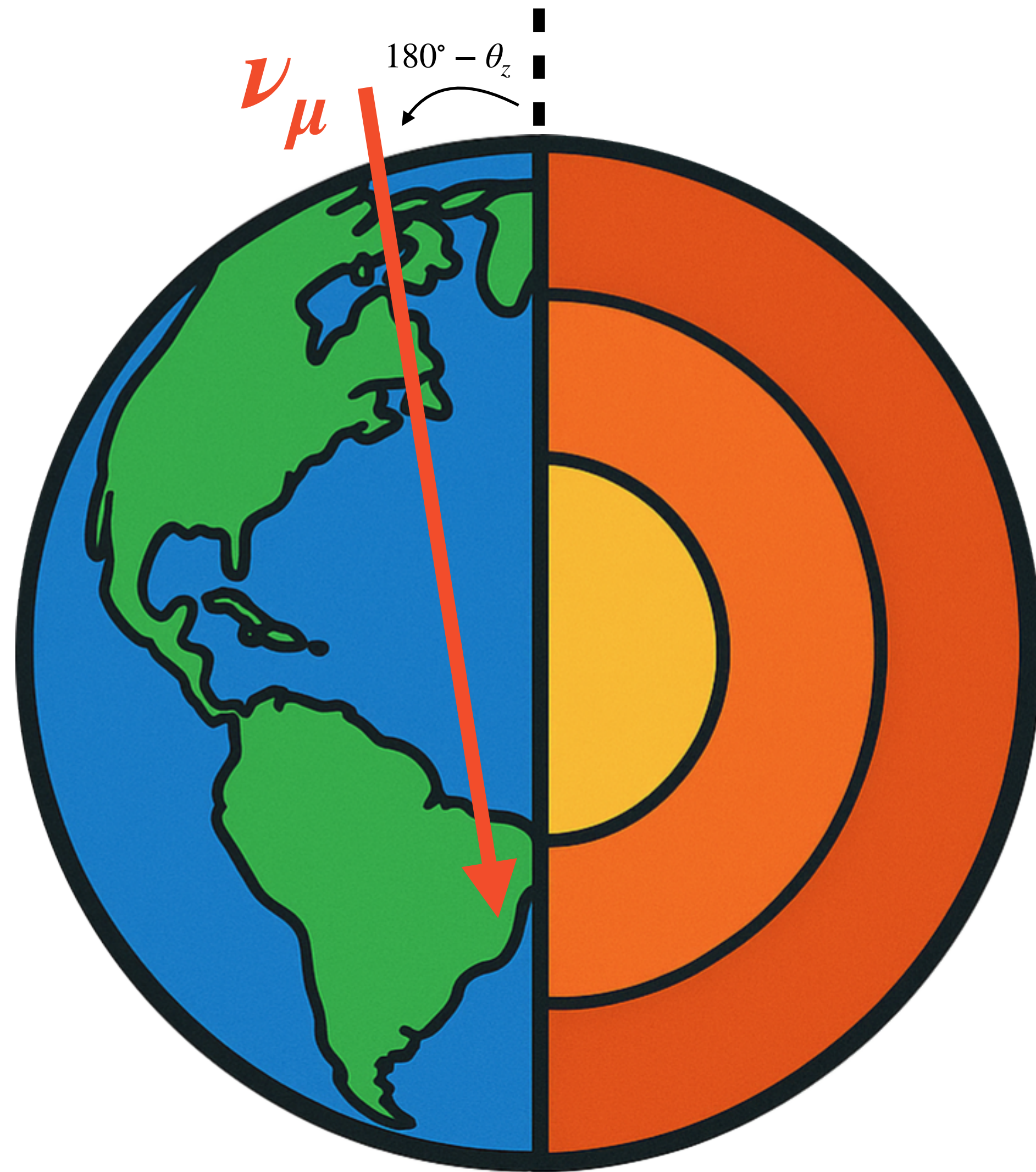
Neutrino journey: transport



Neutrino journey: transport

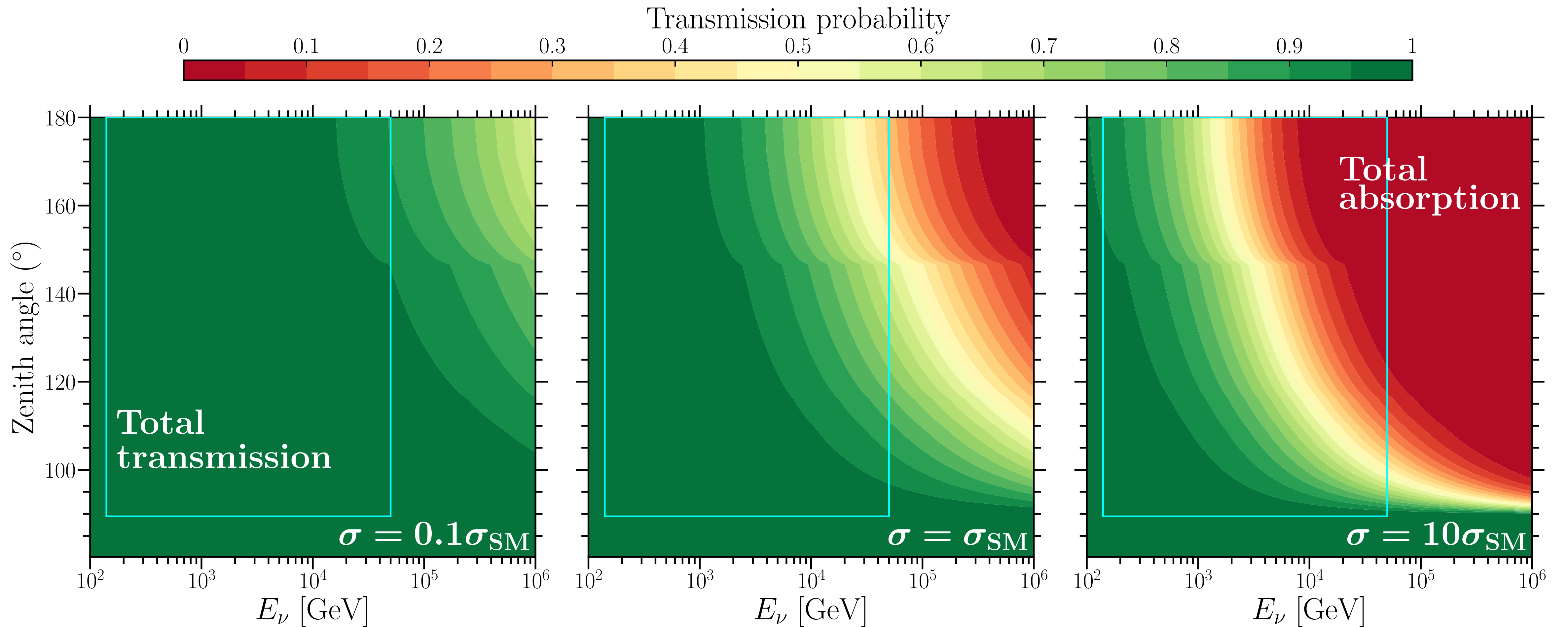


Absorption

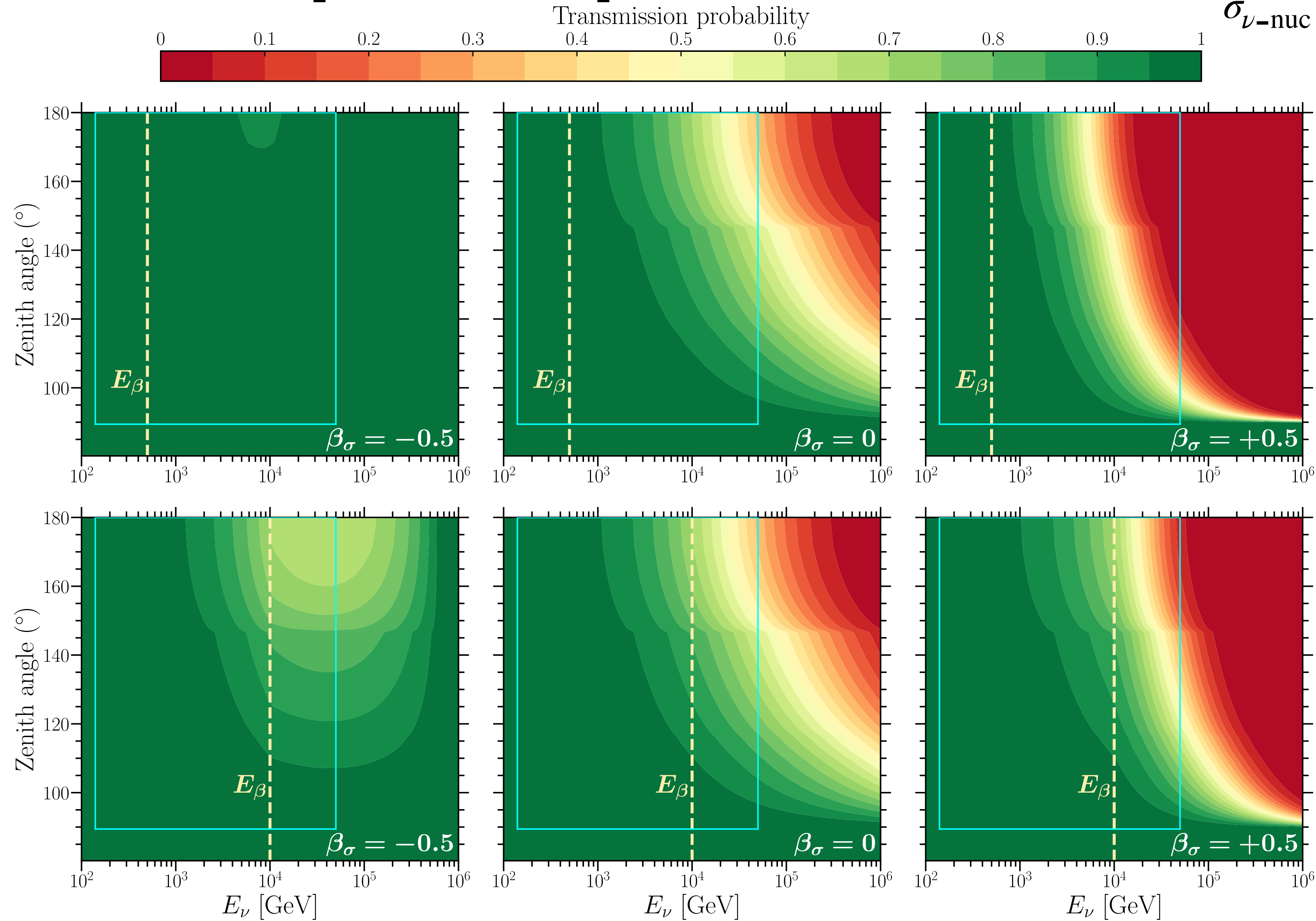


Absorption: normalization

$$\sigma_{\nu\text{-nuc}} = n_{\sigma} \sigma_{\nu\text{-nuc}}^{\text{SM}}$$

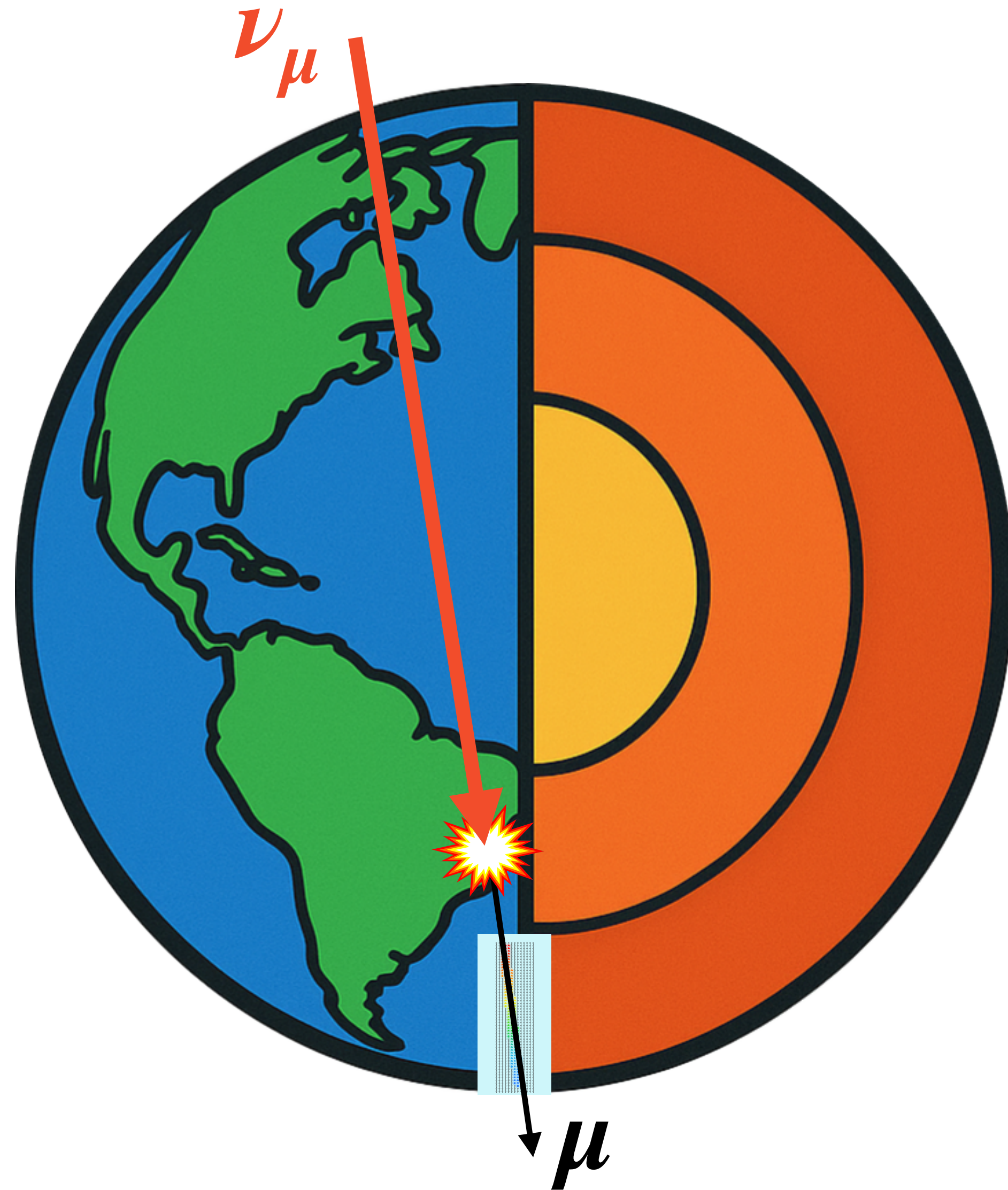


Absorption: spectral shift

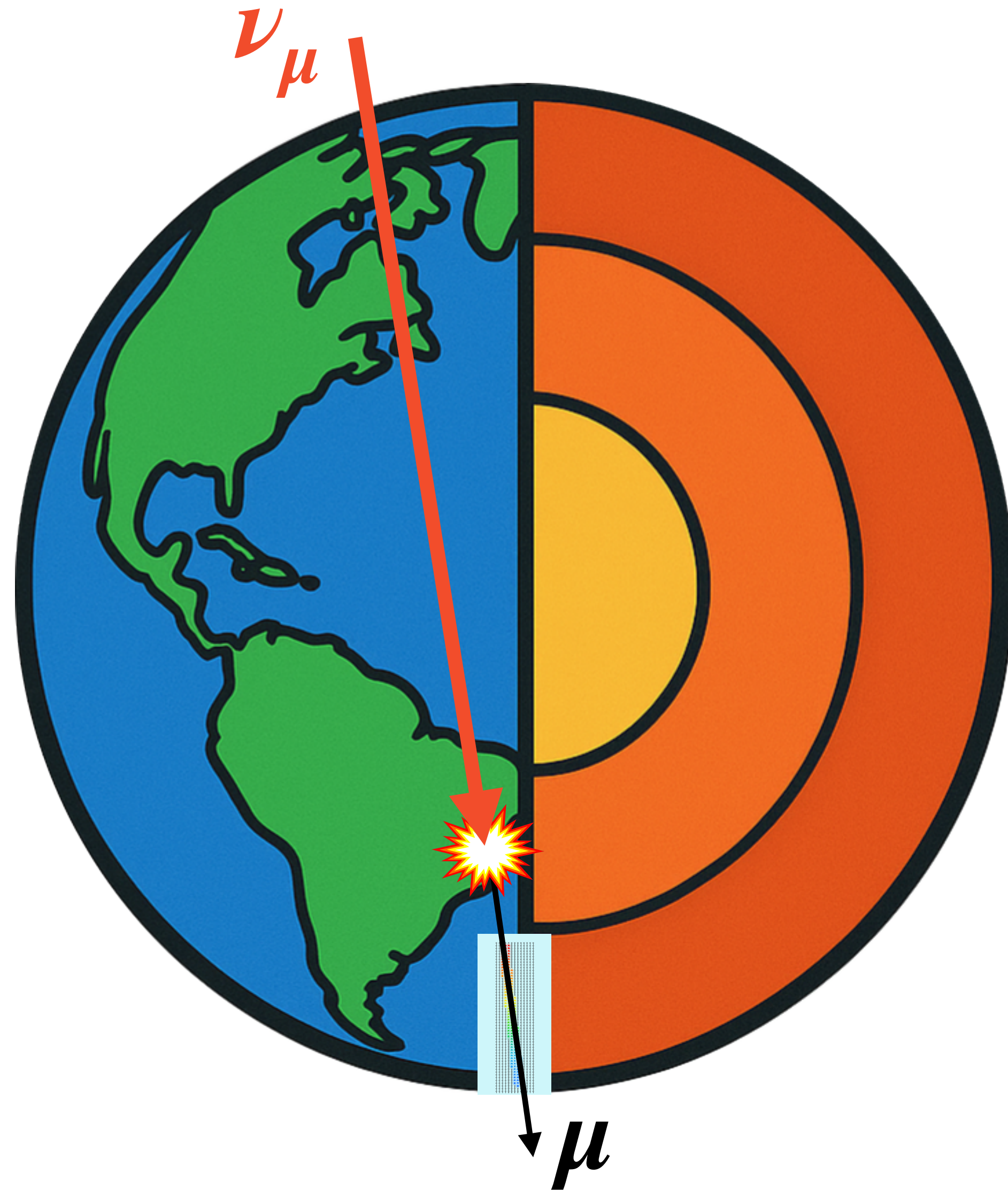


$$\sigma_{\nu\text{-nuc}} = \begin{cases} \sigma_{\nu\text{-nuc}}^{\text{SM}}, & \text{if } E \leq E_{\beta}, \\ \left(\frac{E}{E_{\beta}}\right)^{\beta_{\sigma}} \sigma_{\nu\text{-nuc}}^{\text{SM}}, & \text{if } E > E_{\beta}. \end{cases}$$

Neutrino journey: detection



Neutrino journey: detection

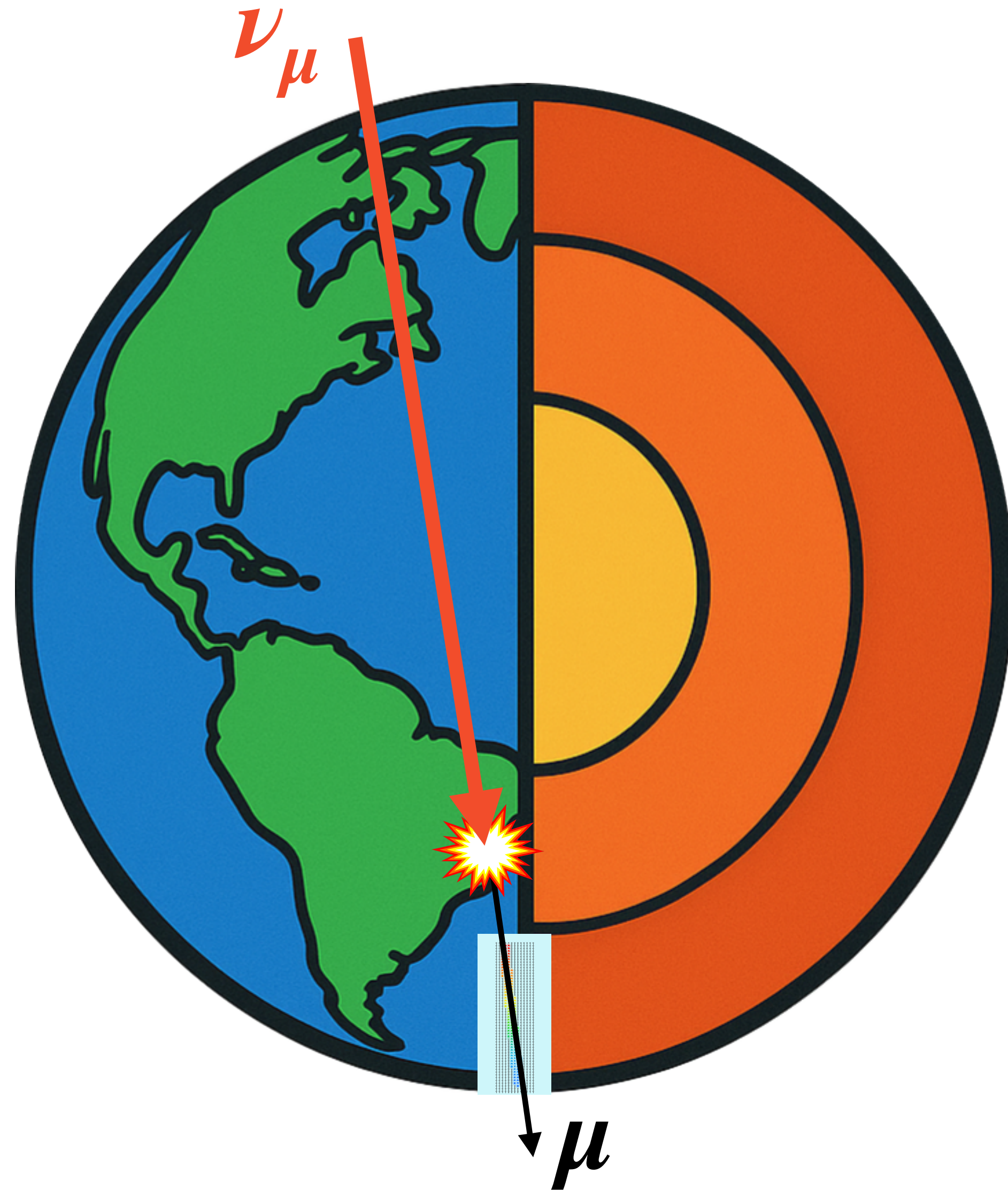


Detection process

$$N_{\text{ev}} \sim T_{\text{obs}} \int d\Omega dE_\nu A_{\text{eff}} \phi_\nu^{\text{ini}}$$

$$N_{\text{ev}}^{\text{MC}} = T_{\text{obs}} \times w_{\text{IC}} \times \phi_\nu^{\text{det}}$$

Neutrino journey: detection

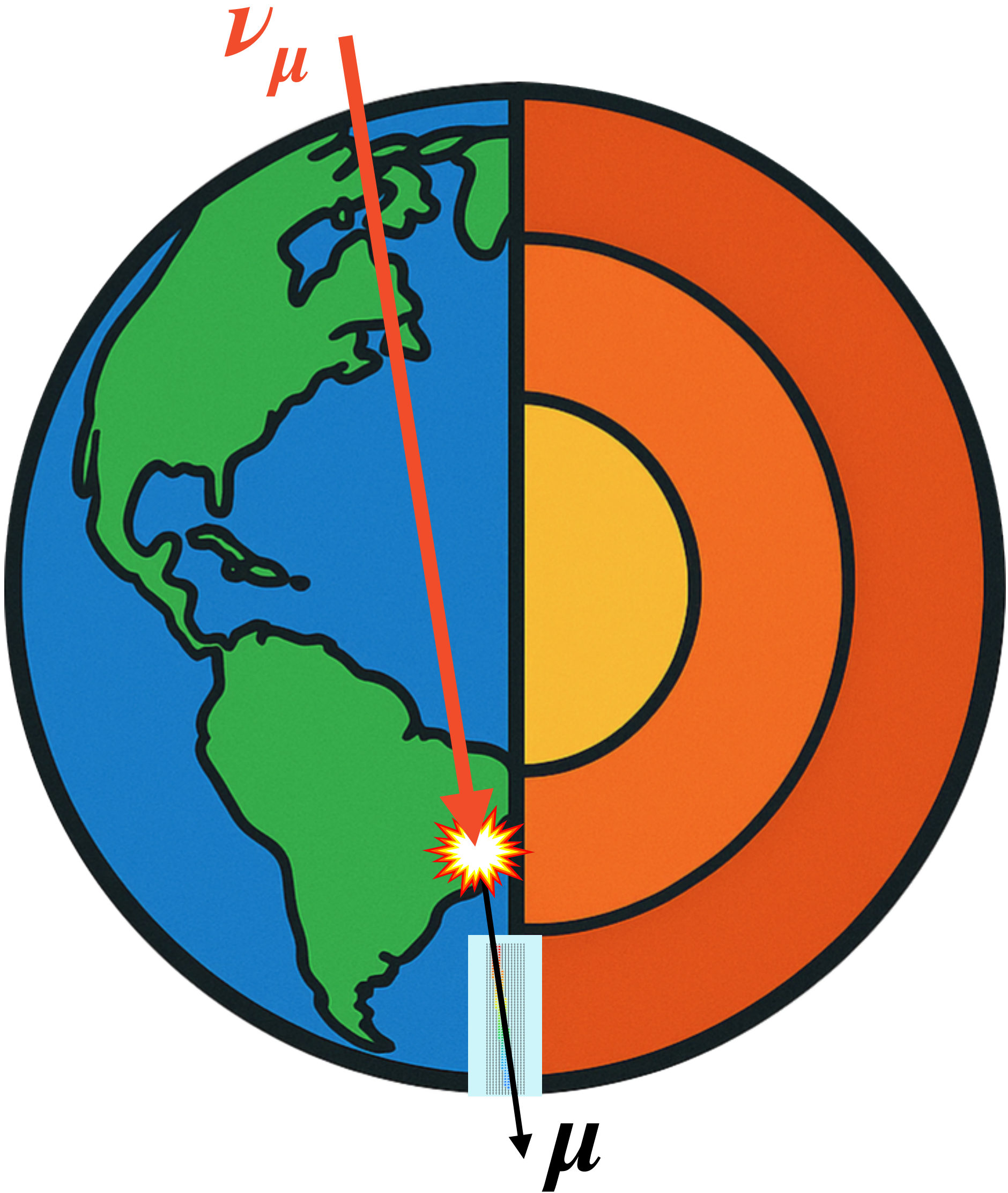


Detection process

$$N_{\text{ev}} \sim T_{\text{obs}} \int d\Omega dE_\nu \mathcal{D}_{\text{det}} \phi_\nu^{\text{det}} \sigma_{\nu\text{-nuc}}$$

$$N_{\text{ev}}^{\text{MC}} = T_{\text{obs}} \times w_{\text{IC}} \times \phi_\nu^{\text{det}}$$

Neutrino journey: detection



Detection process

$$N_{\text{ev}} \sim T_{\text{obs}} \int d\Omega dE_{\nu} \mathcal{D}_{\text{det}} \phi_{\nu}^{\text{det}} \sigma_{\nu\text{-nuc}}$$

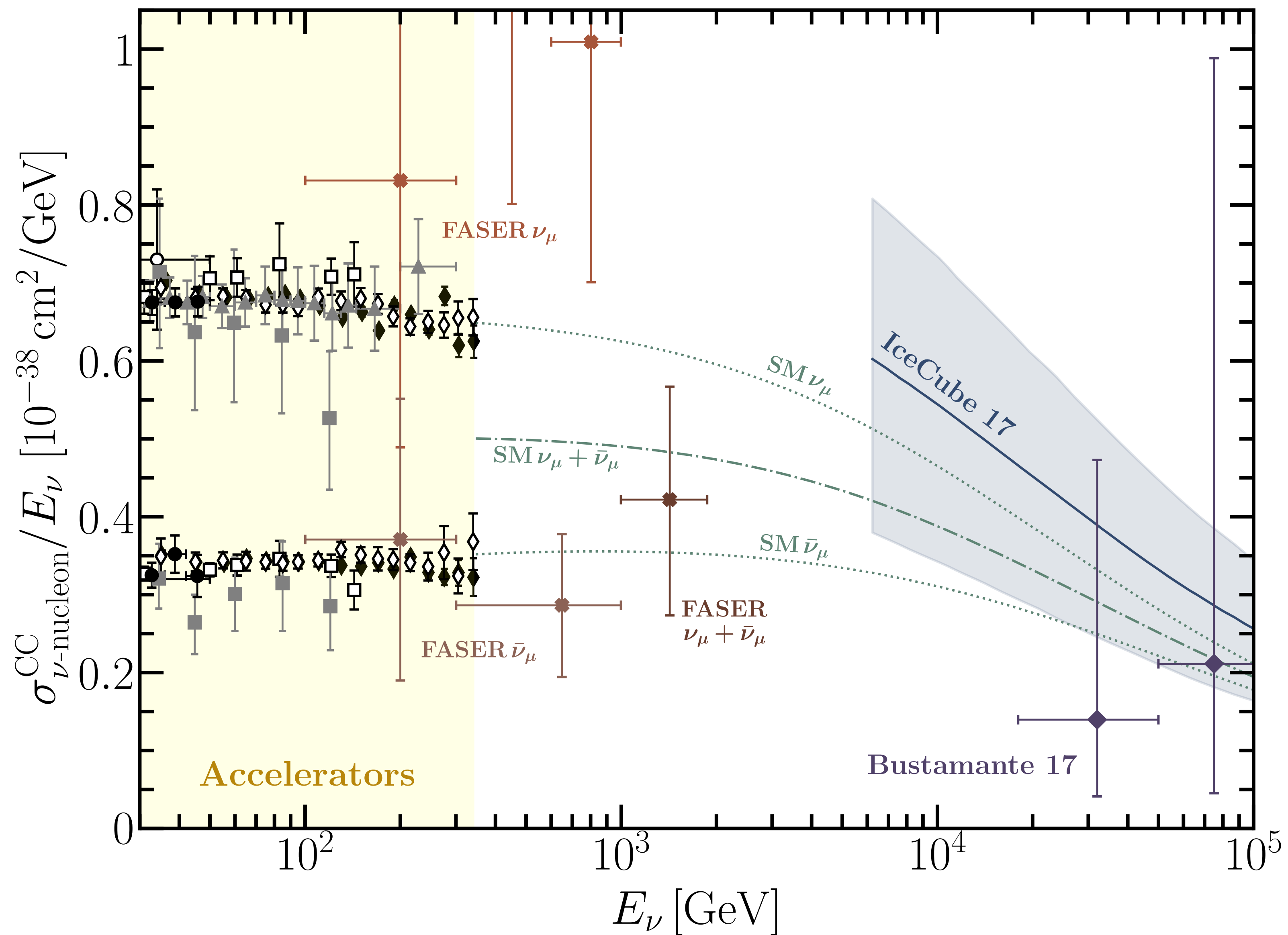
$$N_{\text{ev}}^{\text{MC}} = T_{\text{obs}} \times w_{\text{IC}} \times \phi_{\nu}^{\text{det}}$$

IceCube data release ($\mathcal{D}_{\text{det}}$)

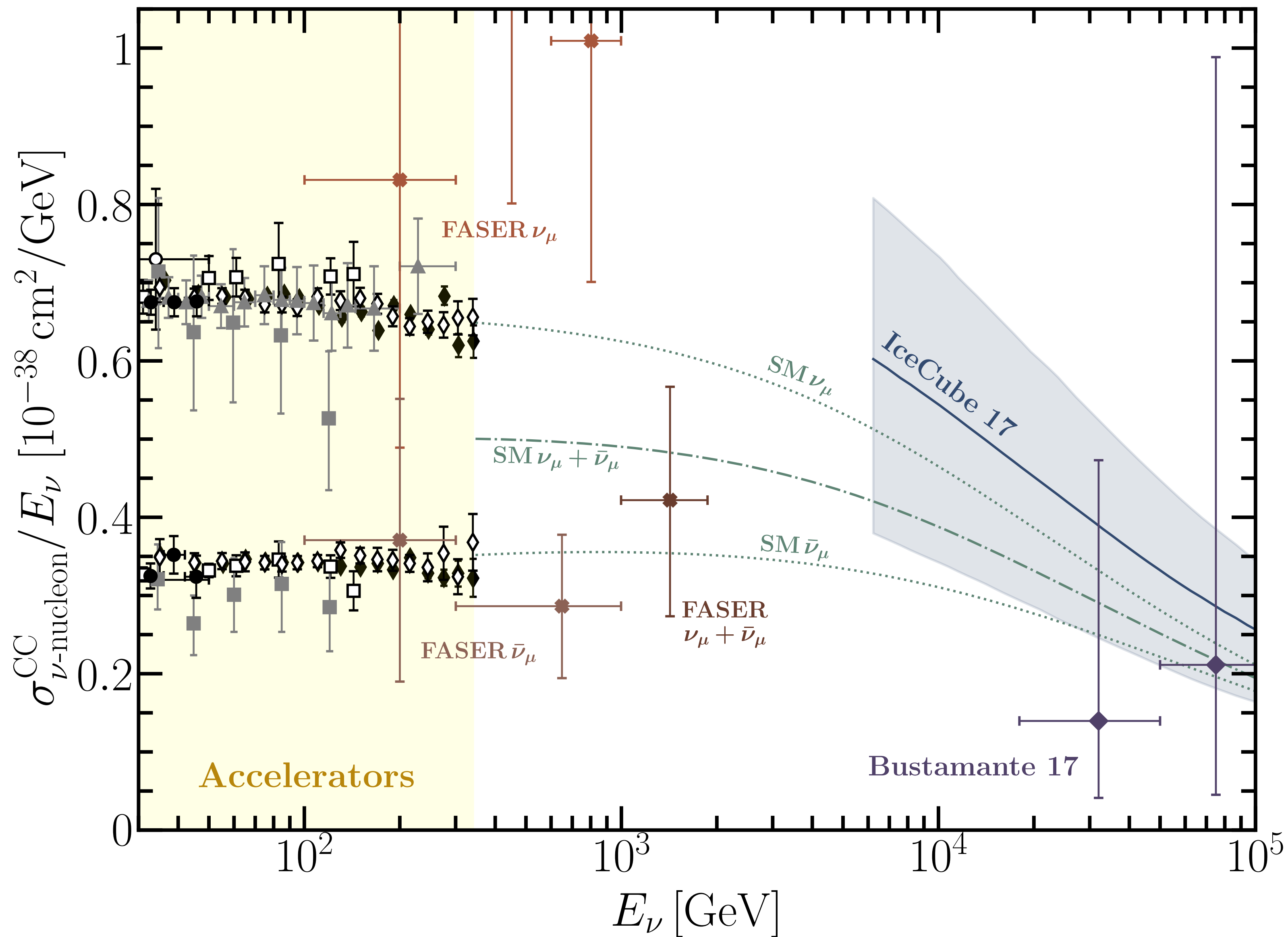
IceCube Collaboration, Nature Phys. 20 (2024) 6, 913-920

Parameter	Prior	Value at Best Fit ($n = 0$)	
		Phase Perturbation	State Selection
Detector Parameters			
DOM Efficiency	0.97 ± 0.10	0.96	0.96
Bulk Ice Gradient 0	$0.0 \pm 1.0^*$	-0.08	-0.07
Bulk Ice Gradient 1	$0.0 \pm 1.0^*$	0.58	0.60
Forward Hole Ice (p_2)	-1.0 ± 10.0	-3.32	-3.30

Results



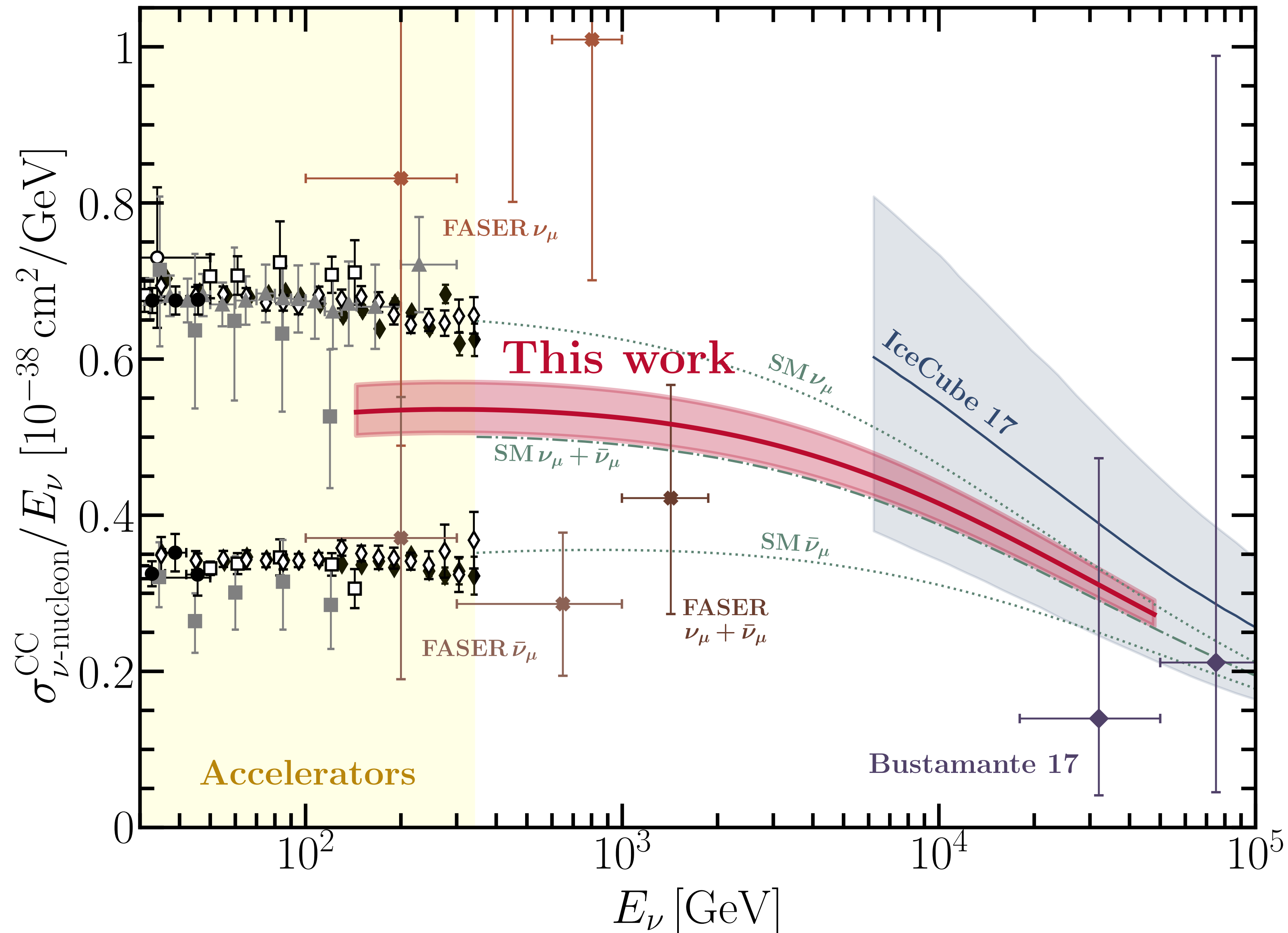
Results: norm



CASE NORM

$$\sigma_{\nu\text{-nuc}} = n_\sigma \sigma_{\nu\text{-nuc}}^{\text{SM}}$$

Results: norm

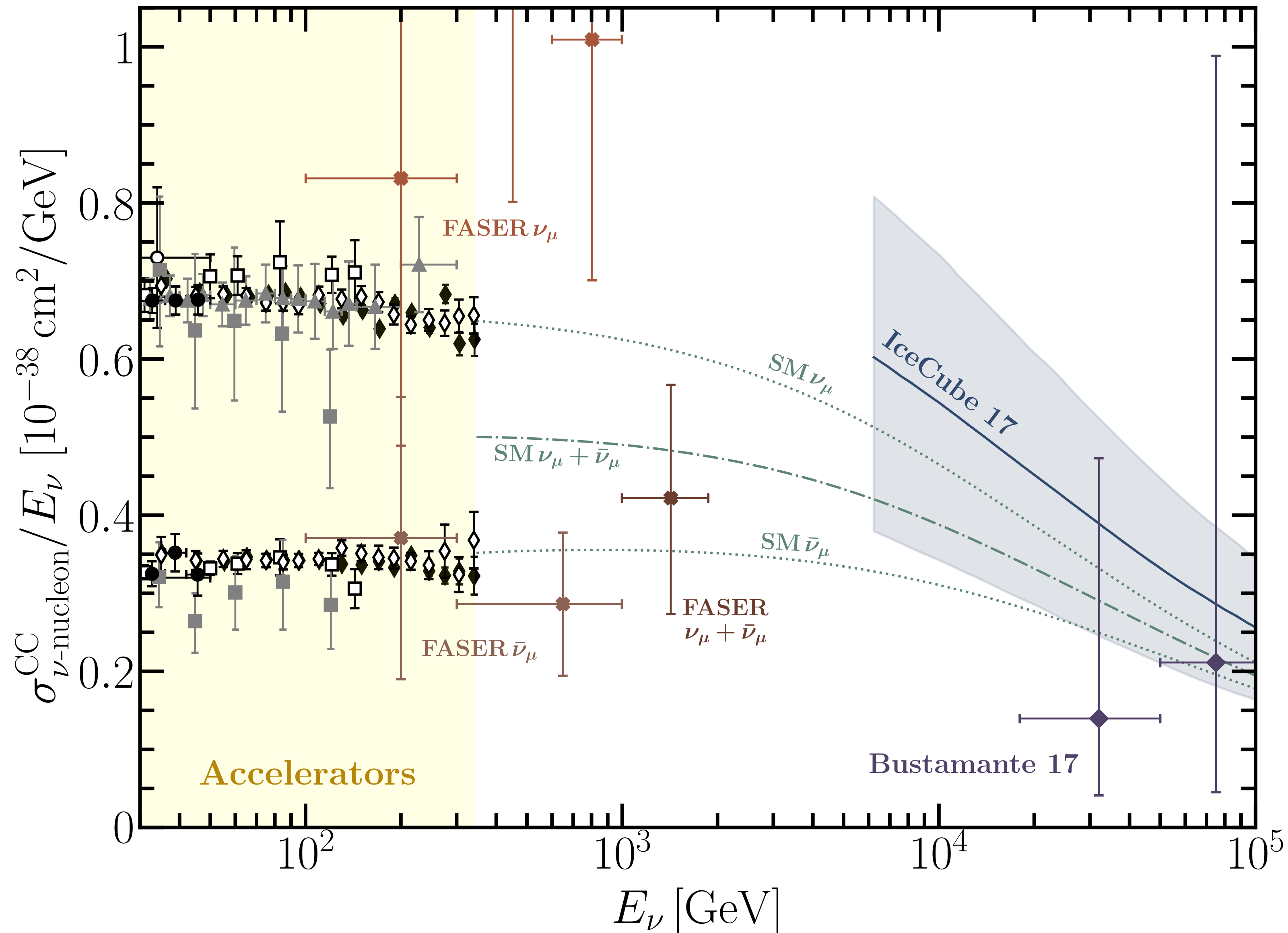


CASE NORM

$$\sigma_{\nu\text{-nuc}} = n_\sigma \sigma_{\nu\text{-nuc}}^{\text{SM}}$$

$$n_\sigma = 1.07^{+0.07}_{-0.06}$$

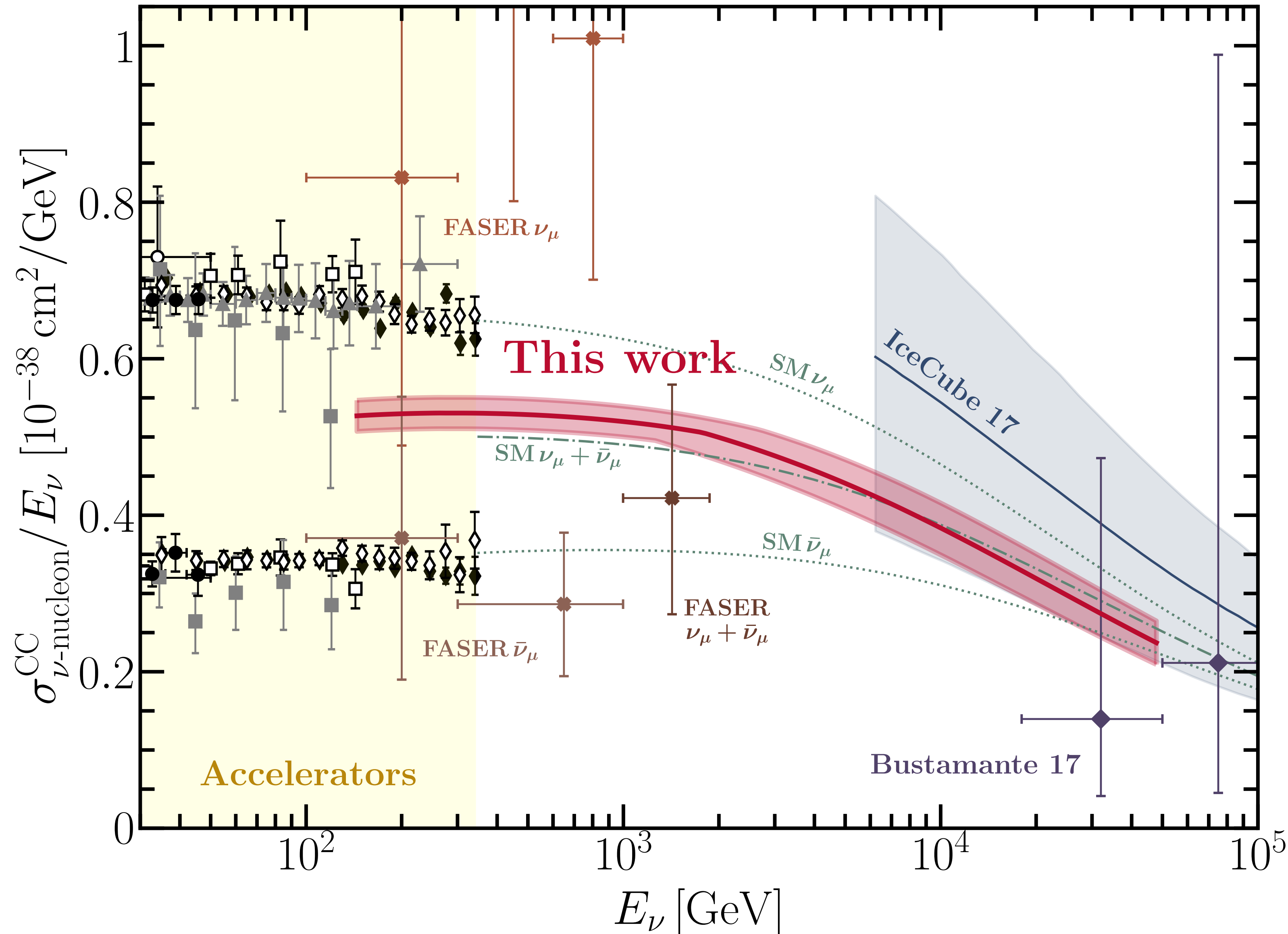
Results: norm + tilt



CASE NORM+TILT

$$\sigma_{\nu\text{-nuc}} = \begin{cases} n_\sigma \sigma_{\nu\text{-nuc}}^{\text{SM}}, & \text{if } E \leq E_\beta, \\ n_\sigma \left(\frac{E}{E_\beta} \right)^{\beta_\sigma} \sigma_{\nu\text{-nuc}}^{\text{SM}}, & \text{if } E > E_\beta. \end{cases}$$

Results: norm + tilt



CASE NORM+TILT

$$\sigma_{\nu\text{-nuc}} = \begin{cases} n_\sigma \sigma_{\nu\text{-nuc}}^{\text{SM}}, & \text{if } E \leq E_\beta, \\ n_\sigma \left(\frac{E}{E_\beta} \right)^{\beta_\sigma} \sigma_{\nu\text{-nuc}}^{\text{SM}}, & \text{if } E > E_\beta. \end{cases}$$

$$n_\sigma = 1.06^{+0.04}_{-0.04}$$

$$\beta_\sigma = -0.04^{+0.02}_{-0.02}$$

$$\log_{10} \left(\frac{E_\beta}{\text{TeV}} \right) = 0.28^{+0.15}_{-0.18}$$

Take home message

Determined the neutrino-nucleon cross section around TeV.

muon data range $\sim [500 \text{ GeV} - 10 \text{ TeV}]$

neutrino influence range $\sim [150 \text{ GeV} - 50 \text{ TeV}]$

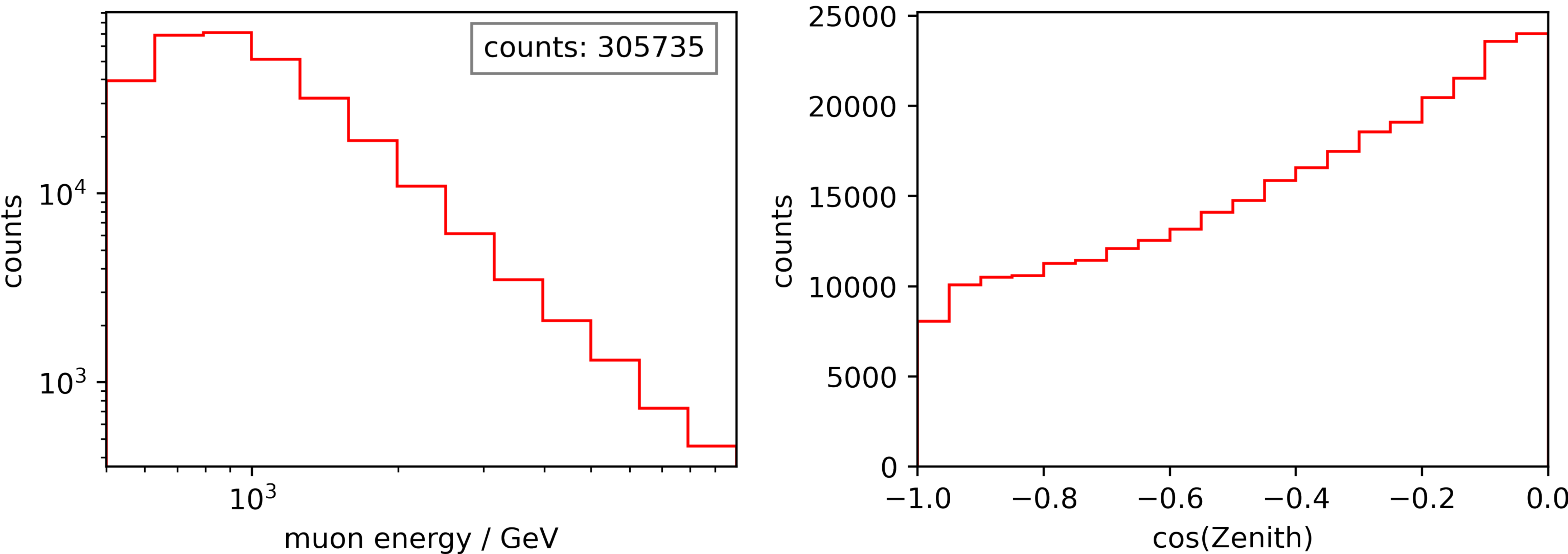
Closed the unknown energy gap!

Competitive precision for the TeV energy range.

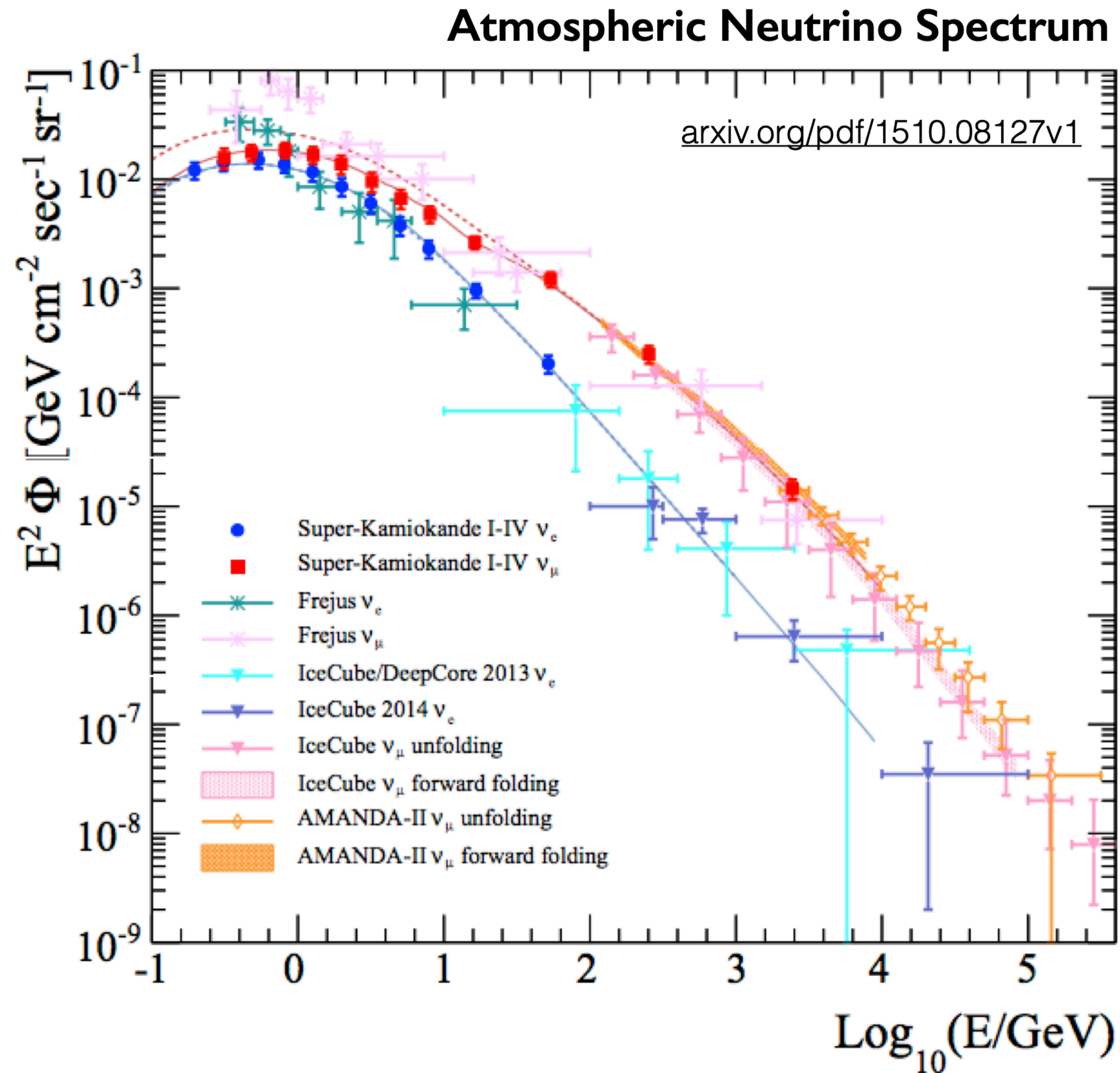
Neutrino-nucleon cross section extraction around the TeV

Backup slides

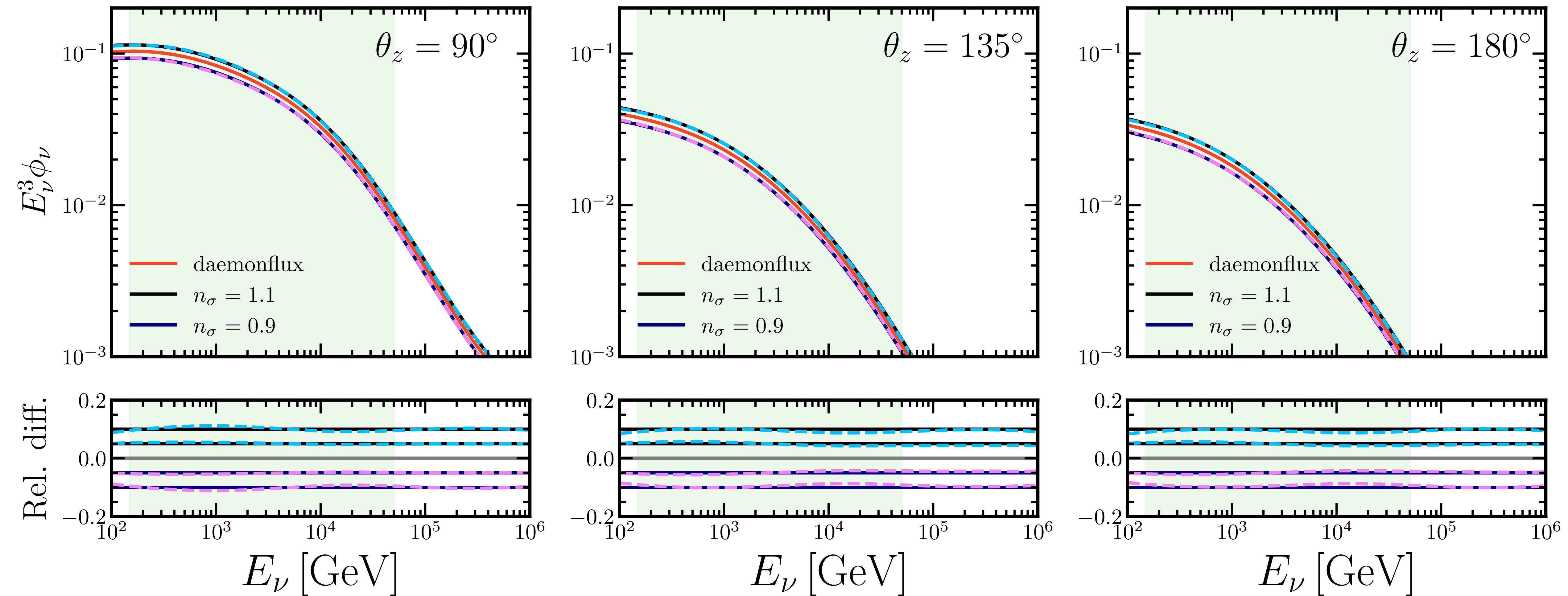
1D distribution of data



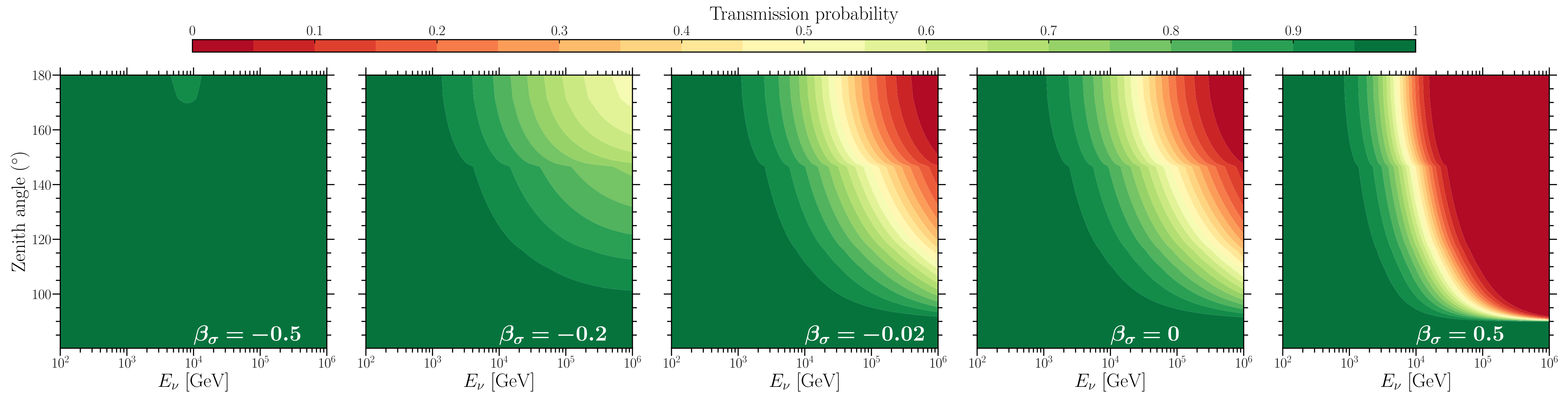
Flux: neutrino measurements



Flux: effective normalizations



Absorption: tilt pattern



Analysis: Priors

Data Release analysis priors

IceCube Collaboration, Nature Phys. 20 (2024) 6, 913-920

Parameter	Prior	Value at Best Fit ($n = 0$)	
		Phase Perturbation	State Selection
Detector Parameters			
DOM Efficiency	0.97 ± 0.10	0.96	0.96
Bulk Ice Gradient 0	$0.0 \pm 1.0^*$	-0.08	-0.07
Bulk Ice Gradient 1	$0.0 \pm 1.0^*$	0.58	0.60
Forward Hole Ice (p_2)	-1.0 ± 10.0	-3.32	-3.30
Conventional Flux Parameters			
Normalization($\Phi_{conv.}$)	1.0 ± 0.4	1.10	1.10
Spectral Shift ($\Delta_{conv.}$)	0.00 ± 0.03	0.07	0.07
Atmospheric Density	0.0 ± 1.0	-0.10	-0.11
Barr WM	0.00 ± 0.40	-0.01	-0.00
Barr WP	0.00 ± 0.40	0.01	0.01
Barr YM	0.00 ± 0.30	-0.06	-0.06
Barr YP	0.00 ± 0.30	-0.04	-0.04
Barr ZM	0.00 ± 0.12	-0.01	-0.01
Barr ZP	0.00 ± 0.12	-0.02	-0.02
Astrophysical Flux Parameters			
Normalization($\Phi_{astro.}$)	$0.79 \pm 0.36^*$	0.84	0.84
Spectral Shift ($\Delta_{astro.}$)	$0.00 \pm 0.36^*$	-0.02	-0.01
Cross sections			
Cross section ($\sigma_{\nu\mu}$)	1.00 ± 0.03	1.00	1.00
Cross section ($\sigma_{\bar{\nu}\mu}$)	1.00 ± 0.075	1.01	1.01
Kaon re-interaction (σ_{KA})	0.0 ± 1.0	-0.16	-0.14

Our priors

Parameter	Symbol [unit]	Prior	Boundaries
ν -nucleon cross section			
Normalization of σ_{SM}	n_σ	$\mathcal{U}[0.05, 20]$	[0.05, 20]
Spectral shift of σ_{SM}	β_σ	$\mathcal{U}[-2, 2]$	[-2, 2]
Pivot point of σ_{SM}	E_β [TeV]	$\mathcal{U}[0.1, 50]$	[0.1, 50]
daemonflux atmospheric flux			
K^+ node at 158 GeV	$K_{158\text{G}}^+$	$\mathcal{N}[0, 1]$	[-2, 2]
K^- node at 158 GeV	$K_{158\text{G}}^-$	$\mathcal{N}[0, 1]$	[-2, 2]
π^+ node at 20 TeV	$\pi_{20\text{T}}^+$	$\mathcal{N}[0, 1]$	[-2, 2]
π^- node at 20 TeV	$\pi_{20\text{T}}^-$	$\mathcal{N}[0, 1]$	[-2, 2]
K^+ node at 2 PeV	$K_{2\text{P}}^+$	$\mathcal{N}[0, 1]$	[-2, 2]
K^- node at 2 PeV	$K_{2\text{P}}^-$	$\mathcal{N}[0, 1]$	[-1.5, 2]
π^+ node at 2 PeV	$\pi_{2\text{P}}^+$	$\mathcal{N}[0, 1]$	[-2, 2]
π^- node at 2 PeV	$\pi_{2\text{P}}^-$	$\mathcal{N}[0, 1]$	[-2, 2]
proton node at 2 PeV	$p_{2\text{P}}$	$\mathcal{N}[0, 1]$	[-2, 2]
neutron node at 2 PeV	$n_{2\text{P}}$	$\mathcal{N}[0, 1]$	[-2, 2]
Cosmic ray spectrum 1	GSF_1	$\mathcal{N}[0, 1]$	[-4, 4]
Cosmic ray spectrum 2	GSF_2	$\mathcal{N}[0, 1]$	[-4, 4]
Cosmic ray spectrum 3	GSF_3	$\mathcal{N}[0, 1]$	[-4, 4]
Cosmic ray spectrum 4	GSF_4	$\mathcal{N}[0, 1]$	[-4, 4]
Cosmic ray spectrum 5	GSF_5	$\mathcal{N}[0, 1]$	[-4, 4]
Cosmic ray spectrum 6	GSF_6	$\mathcal{N}[0, 1]$	[-4, 4]
Conventional atmospheric flux			
Atmospheric density	ρ_{atm}	$\mathcal{N}[0, 1]$	[-3, 3]
Kaon reinteraction	$\sigma_{K\text{-Air}}$	$\mathcal{N}[0, 1]$	[-3, 3]
Astrophysical diffuse flux			
Astro normalization	$\Phi_{\text{astro}} [10^{-18}/\text{GeV}/\text{sr}/\text{s}/\text{cm}^2]$	$\mathcal{N}[0.79, 0.36]$	[0, 3.0]
Astro spectral shift	$\Delta\gamma_{\text{astro}}$	$\mathcal{N}[0, 0.36]$	[-2, 2]
Detector response			
DOM Efficiency	ϵ_{dom}	$\mathcal{N}[0.97, 0.1]$	[0.94, 1.03]
Bulk Ice Gradient 0	b_0	$\mathcal{N}[0, 1]$	[-3, 3]
Bulk Ice Gradient 1	b_1	$\mathcal{N}[0, 1]$	[-3, 3]
Forward Hole Ice	p_2	$\mathcal{N}[-1, 10]$	[-5, 3]

Analysis: Priors

Latest IceCube analysis priors

IceCube Collaboration, Phys.Rev.D 110 (2024) 9, 092009

Nuisance parameter	Central value	1 σ width of prior	Allowed range	Pull Null Fit (σ)	Pull Best Fit (σ)	Pull Difference Null-Best Fit (σ)	
Overall normalization (Sec. III C)							
Norm	1.00	0.2	0.10,3.00	-0.05	0.41	0.46	
Local response of DOMs (Sec. III F)							
DOM efficiency	1.00	0.10	0.97,1.06	0.02	0.03	0.01	
Forward hole ice	-1.00	10.00	-5.35,1.85	0.28	0.27	0.01	
Bulk ice (Sec. III E)							
Amplitude 0	0.00	1.00	-3.00,3.00	0.64	0.69	0.05	
Amplitude 1	0.00	1.00	-3.00,3.00	1.36	1.19	0.17	
Amplitude 2	0.00	1.00	-3.00,3.00	1.35	1.42	0.07	
Amplitude 3	0.00	1.00	-3.00,3.00	0.74	0.75	0.01	
Amplitude 4	0.00	1.00	-3.00,3.00	1.12	1.16	0.04	
Phase 1	0.00	1.00	-3.00,3.00	-1.60	-1.67	0.07	
Phase 2	0.00	1.00	-3.00,3.00	-0.59	-0.54	0.05	
Phase 3	0.00	1.00	-3.00,3.00	-0.21	-0.08	0.13	
Phase 4	0.00	1.00	-3.00,3.00	0.10	0.27	0.17	
Conventional flux (Sec. III A)							
Atm. density (ρ_{atm})	0.00	1.00	-3.00,3.00	-0.48	-0.55	0.07	
Kaon energy loss ($\sigma_{\text{K-Air}}$)	0.00	1.00	-3.00,3.00	0.66	0.51	0.15	
Hadronic production	K_{158G}^+	0.00	1.00	-2.00,2.00	0.93	0.89	0.04
	K_{158G}^-	0.00	1.00	-2.00,2.00	0.29	0.24	0.05
	π_{20T}^+	0.00	1.00	-2.00,2.00	0.15	-0.06	0.21
	π_{20T}^-	0.00	1.00	-2.00,2.00	0.17	-0.03	0.20
	K_{2P}^+	0.00	1.00	-2.00,2.00	0.28	0.09	0.19
	K_{2P}^-	0.00	1.00	-1.50,2.00	0.24	0.01	0.23
	π_{2P}^+	0.00	1.00	-2.00,2.00	-1.50	-1.23	0.27
	π_{2P}^-	0.00	1.00	-2.00,2.00	-1.08	-0.85	0.23
	p_{2P}	0.00	1.00	-2.00,2.00	-0.25	-0.18	0.07
	n_{2P}	0.00	1.00	-2.00,2.00	-0.17	-0.15	0.02
CR spectrum	GSF ₁	0.00	1.00	-4.00,4.00	-0.33	0.10	0.43
	GSF ₂	0.00	1.00	-4.00,4.00	-0.12	-0.28	0.16
	GSF ₃	0.00	1.00	-4.00,4.00	-0.12	-0.05	0.07
	GSF ₄	0.00	1.00	-4.00,4.00	-0.13	-0.25	0.12
	GSF ₅	0.00	1.00	-4.00,4.00	1.82	2.24	0.42
	GSF ₆	0.00	1.00	-4.00,4.00	-1.17	-1.31	0.14
Non-conventional flux (Sec. III B)							
$\Phi^{\text{HE}}/10^{-18}\text{GeV}^{-1}\text{sr}^{-1}\text{s}^{-1}\text{cm}^{-2}$	0.787	0.36	0.00,3.00	0.25	0.61	0.36	
$\log_{10}$ of pivot energy, $E_{\text{break}}^{\text{HE}}/\text{GeV}$	-	-	4.00,6.00	*4.25	*4.31	N/A, see caption	
$\Delta\gamma_1^{\text{HE}}$, tilt from -2.5	0.00	0.36	-2.00,2.00	2.62	2.39	0.23	
$\Delta\gamma_2^{\text{HE}}$, tilt from -2.5	0.00	0.36	-2.00,2.00	-0.22	0.10	0.21	
Neutrino attenuation (Sec. III D)							
ν attenuation	1.00	0.10	0.82, 1.18	0.12	-0.14	0.26	
$\bar{\nu}$ attenuation	1.00	0.10	0.82, 1.18	0.04	-0.02	0.06	

Our priors

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Spectral shift of σ_{SM}	β_{σ}	$\mathcal{U}[-2, 2]$	[-2, 2]
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