

Inferring astrophysical neutrino sources from the Glashow resonance

based on 2303.13706

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Content

- **The Glashow resonance and its cross section**
- **Detection of the Glashow resonance**
- **Neutrino sources**
- **Likelihood analysis**
- **Outlook and Conclusions**

The Glashow resonance

PHYSICAL REVIEW

VOLUME 118, NUMBER 1

APRIL 1, 1960

Resonant Scattering of Antineutrinos

SHELDON L. GLASHOW*

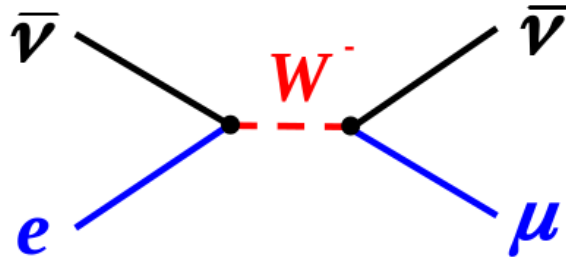
Institute for Theoretical Physics, Copenhagen, Denmark

(Received October 26, 1959)

**Even before Glashow's
contribution to
electroweak theory
(one year later)**

The hypothesis of an unstable charged boson to mediate muon decay radically affects the cross section for the process $\bar{\nu} + e \rightarrow \bar{\nu} + \mu^-$ near the energy at which the intermediary may be produced. If the boson is assumed to have K -meson mass, the resonance occurs at an incident antineutrino energy of $\sim 2 \times 10^{12}$ ev. The flux of energetic antineutrinos produced in association with cosmic-ray muons will then produce two muon counts per day per square meter of detector, independently of the depth and the orientation at which the experiment is performed.

The Glashow resonance



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Resonant Scattering of Antineutrinos

section becomes radically altered. The process will occur by the sequence

$$\bar{\nu} + e \rightarrow Z^- \rightarrow \bar{\nu} + \mu^-,$$

and at some antineutrino energy there will be a resonance, occasioned by the real production of an intermediary boson. The cross section, in this case, assumes a typical resonance form,

$$\sigma = \sigma_0 \frac{E_0^2}{(E - E_0)^2 + \Gamma^2},$$

The hypothesis of an intermediate boson for the process $\bar{\nu} + e \rightarrow \mu^- + \bar{\nu}$ is assumed to have K -meson exchange. The flux of energetic antineutrinos is about 100 counts per day per square meter at the experiment is performed.

**Even before
Glashow's
electroweak theory
(one year later)**

affects the cross section produced. If the boson is produced at an energy of $\sim 2 \times 10^{12}$ ev. The process then produces two muons. The orientation at which

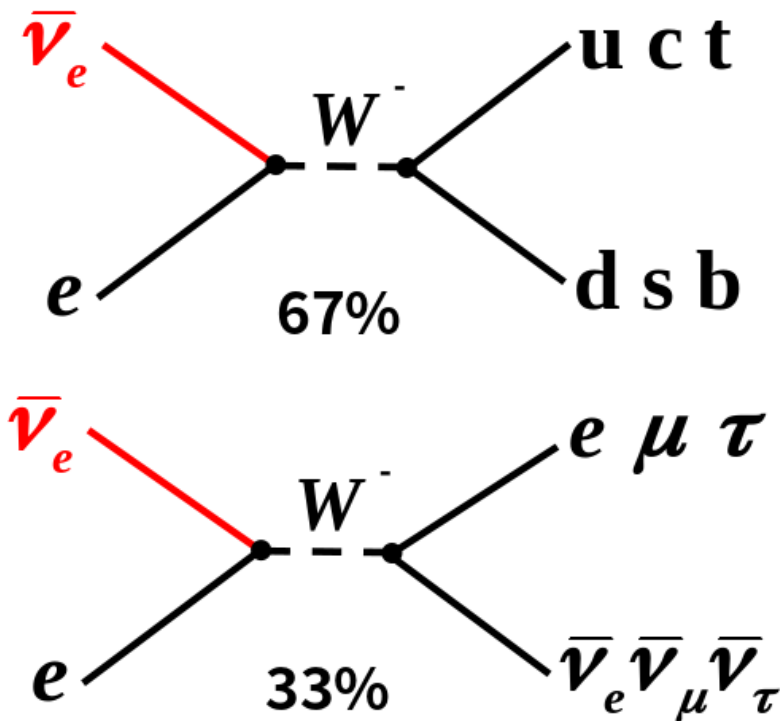
The Glashow resonance

- **Cross section**

$$\sigma^{(0)}(s) = 24\pi\Gamma_W^2 \text{Br}_{W^- \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_e e^-} \frac{s/M_W^2}{(s - M_W^2)^2 + \Gamma_W^2 M_W^2}$$

- **Resonance at**

$$E_\nu \approx \frac{M_W^2}{2m_e}$$



Corrections to the GR cross section: Doppler broadening

Resonant Scattering of Antineutrinos

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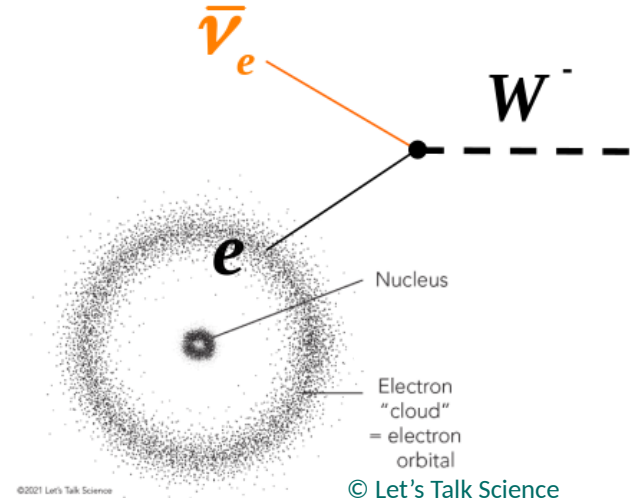
With $m_Z = m_N$, the energy of the incident antineutrino energy at the resonance is 9×10^{11} ev and the width of the resonance is 2×10^6 ev, while with $m_Z = m_K$, $E_0 = 2.3 \times 10^{11}$ ev and $\Gamma = 1.5 \times 10^5$ ev.

Although the natural width of the resonance is quite small, a significant broadening is produced by the spread in velocity of the target electrons. In a collision with an electron of velocity βc along the direction of incidence, the resonance occurs at the antineutrino energy

$$E_0' = (1 + \beta)^{-1} E_0.$$

Thus the experimental width of the resonance will be approximately $(\bar{\beta}/137)E_0$, where $\bar{\beta}$ is the mean atomic number of the target material. Upon earth, antineu-

- Discussed by A. Loewy, S. Nussinov & S. Glashow in 1407.4415
- Broadening due to the motion of atomic electrons



Corrections to the GR cross section: Doppler broadening

- Doppler broadened cross section:**

$$\sigma(E_\nu) = \frac{1}{4\pi} \int d\phi \int d\beta F(\beta) \int dx' \sigma^{(0)}[E_\nu(1 - \beta x')]$$

- Electron velocity distribution for ice:**

$$F_{\text{ice}}(\beta) = \frac{2F_{\text{H}}(\beta) + 8F_{\text{O}}(\beta)}{10}$$

- Distribution for an electron with quantum numbers n and l:**

$$f_{nl}(\beta) = m_e \int d\Omega_k k^2 |\Psi_{nl}(k)|^2$$

$$f_{1s}(k) = \frac{32}{\pi} \frac{\mu_{1s}^5 k^2}{(\mu_{1s}^2 + k^2)^4},$$

$$f_{2s}(k) = \frac{32}{3\pi} \frac{\mu_{2s}^5 (3\mu_{2s}^2 k - k^3)^2}{(\mu_{2s}^2 + k^2)^6},$$

$$f_{2p}(k) = \frac{512}{3\pi} \frac{\mu_{2p}^7 k^4}{(\mu_{2p}^2 + k^2)^6},$$

$$f_{3s}(k) = \frac{1024}{5\pi} \frac{\mu_{3s}^7 (\mu_{3s}^3 k - \mu_{3s} k^3)^2}{(\mu_{3s}^2 + k^2)^8},$$

$$f_{3p}(k) = \frac{1024}{45\pi} \frac{\mu_{3p}^7 (5\mu_{3p}^2 k^2 - k^4)^2}{(\mu_{3p}^2 + k^2)^8},$$

$$f_{3d}(k) = \frac{4096}{5\pi} \frac{\mu_{3d}^9 k^6}{(\mu_{3d}^2 + k^2)^8},$$

$$f_{4s}(k) = \frac{512}{35\pi} \frac{\mu_{4s}^9 (5\mu_{4s}^4 k - 10\mu_{4s}^2 k^3 + k^5)^2}{(\mu_{4s}^2 + k^2)^{10}}$$

Corrections to the GR cross section: Doppler broadening

- Doppler broadening

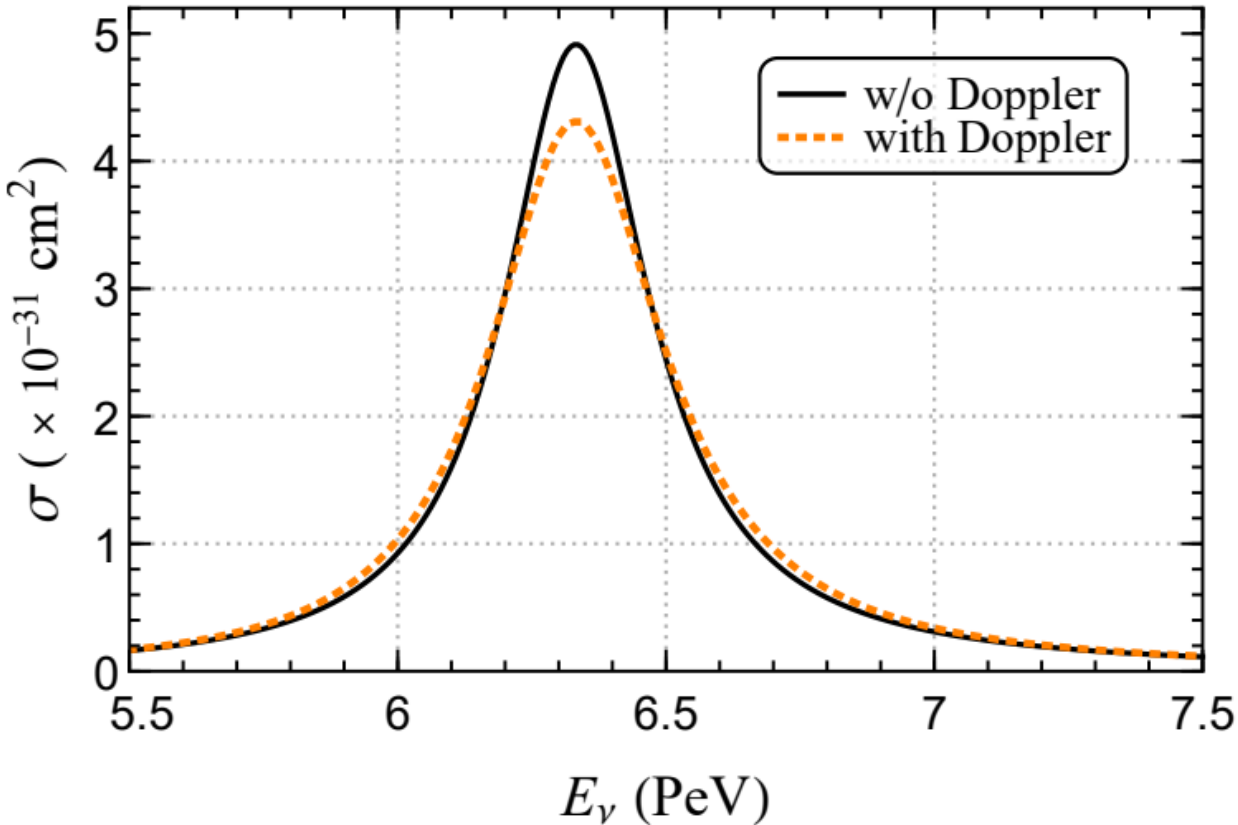
$$\sigma(E_\nu) = \frac{1}{4\pi} \int d\Omega$$

- Electron velocity

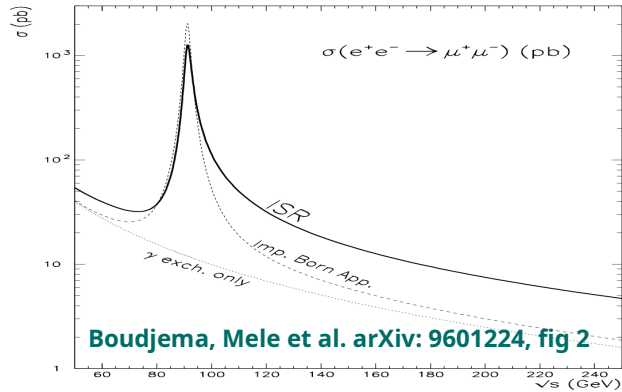
$$F_{\text{ice}}(\beta) = \frac{2F}{\beta}$$

- Distribution with quantum

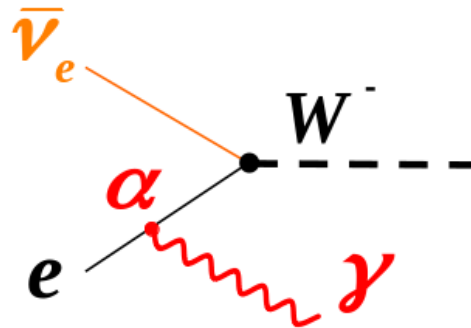
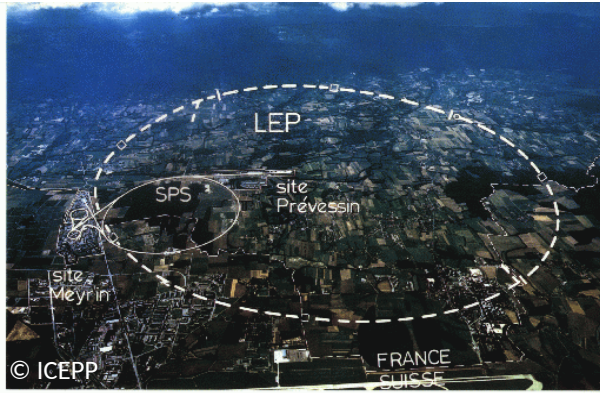
$$f_{nl}(\beta) = m$$



Corrections to the GR cross section: initial state radiation



- Initial state radiation (ISR) also relevant for neutrino telescopes
- ISR cross section near the GR: collinear enhancement

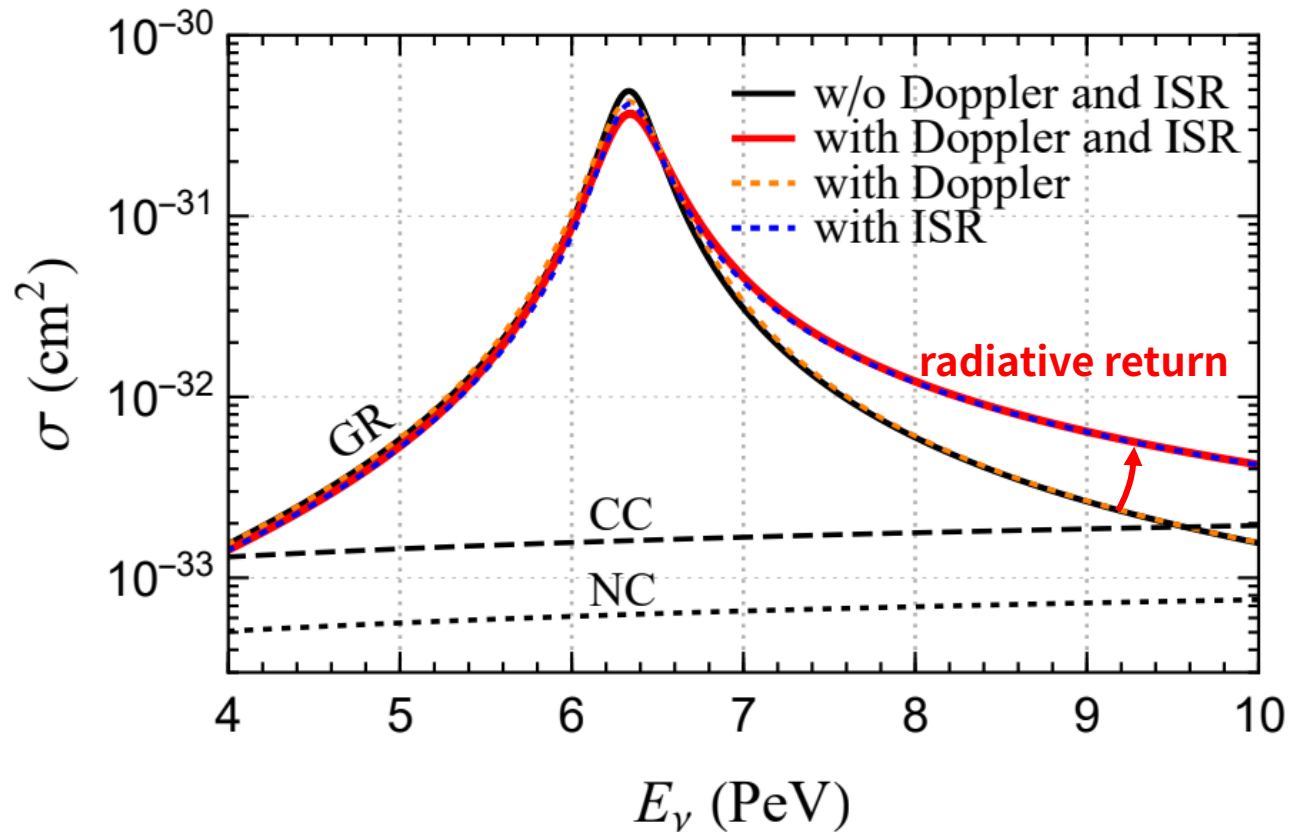


$$\sigma(E_\nu) = \int dx \Gamma_{e/e}(x, Q^2) \sigma^{(0)}(x, Q^2, E_\nu)$$

Structure function

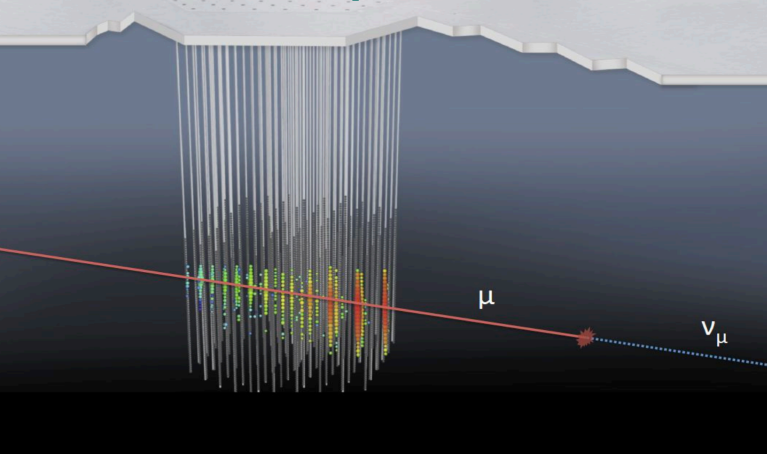
Xsec without ISR

Corrections to the GR cross section

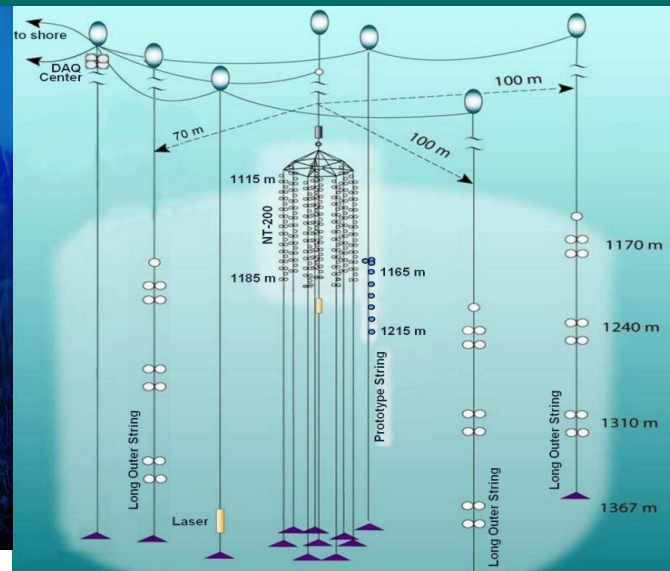


Detection of the Glashow resonance

IceCube, Antarctica

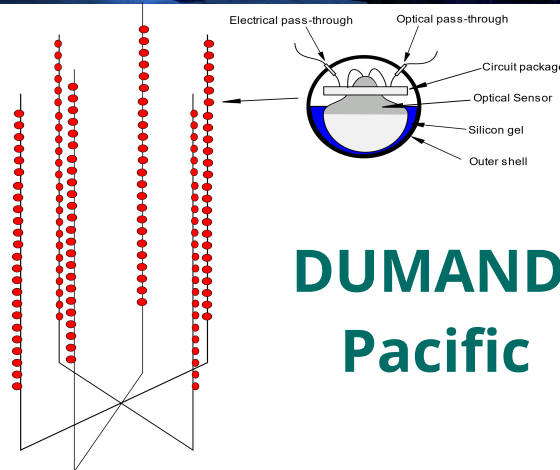
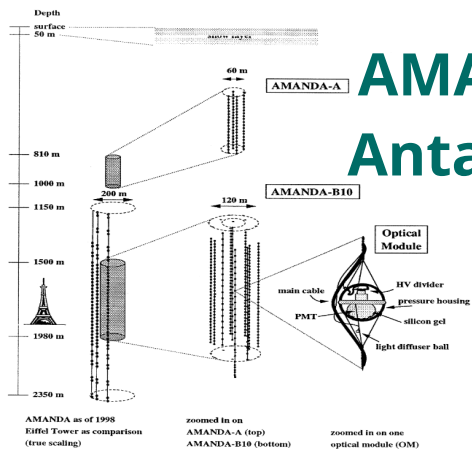


ANTARES, Mediterranean Sea



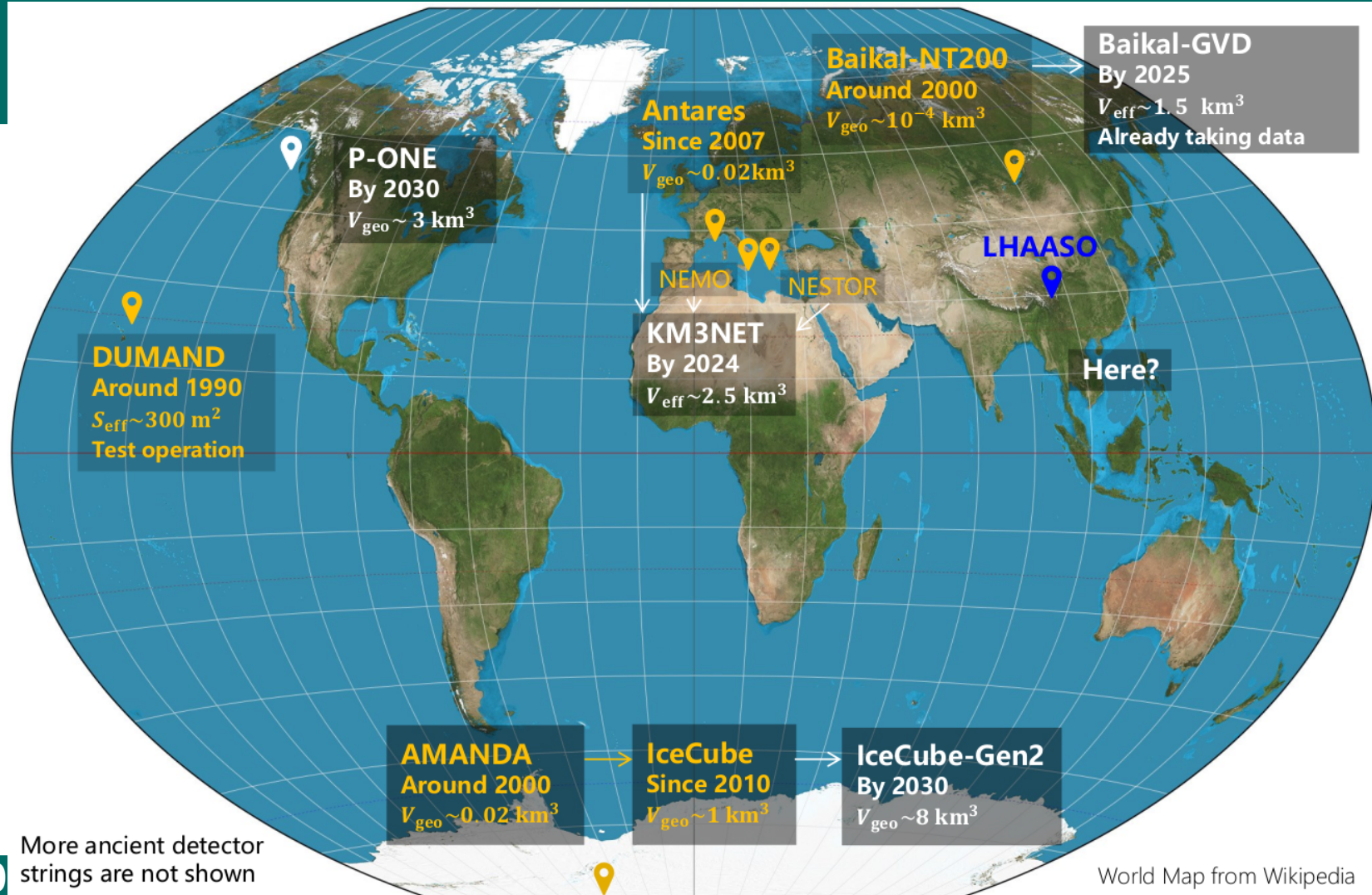
Baikal, Lake Baikal

AMANDA, Antarctica

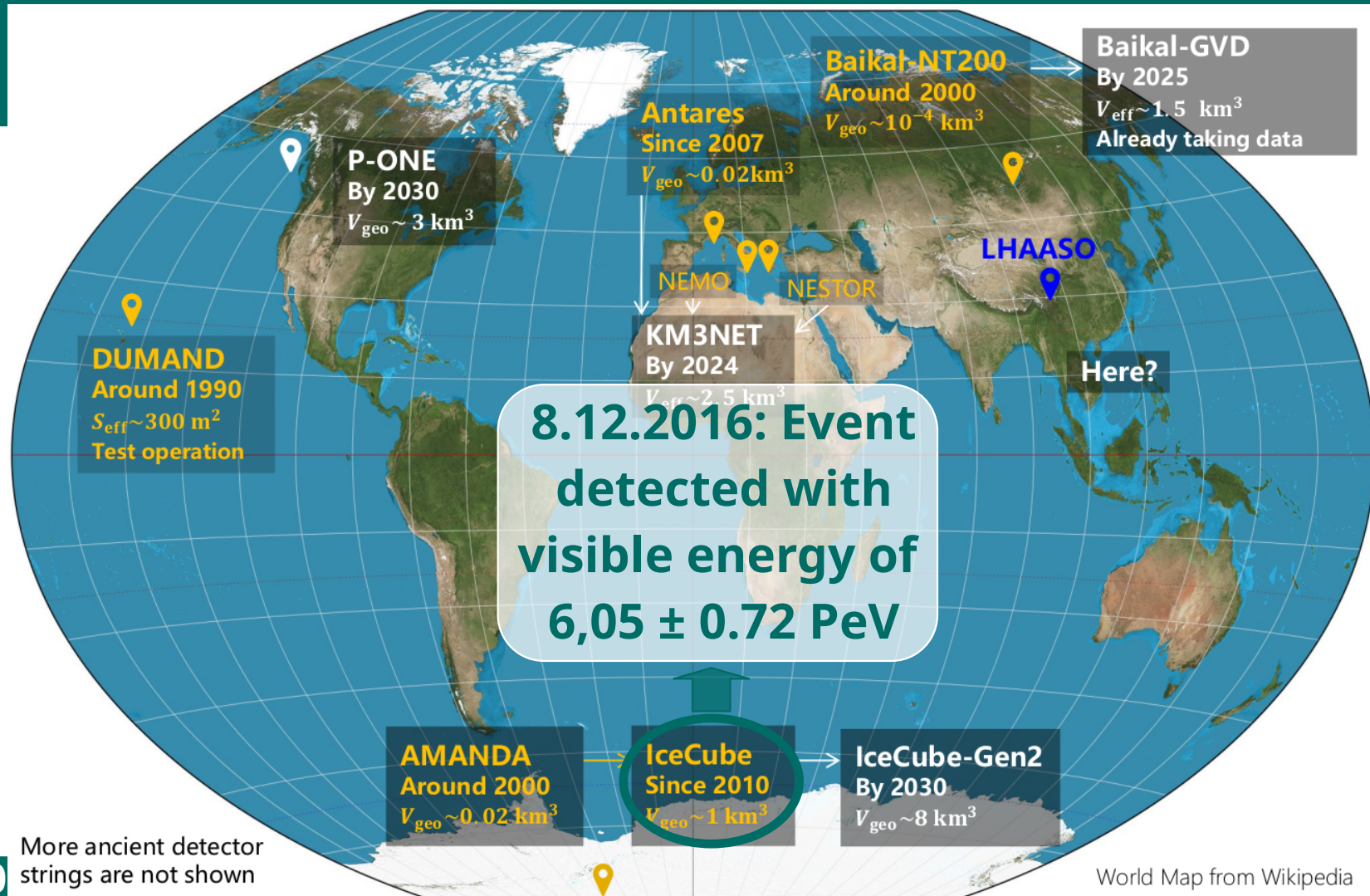


DUMAND, Pacific

Detection of the Glashow resonance



Detection of the Glashow resonance



Neutrino sources we want to distinguish

- **py source**

- cosmic rays collide with photons to produce charged pions (mostly π^+)
- followed by the decays $\pi^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ \nu_\mu$ and $\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+ \bar{\nu}_\mu \nu_e$
- results in more neutrino flux than antineutrino flux (ratio 2:1)

- **pp source**

- nearly equal fractions of π^+ and π^-
- leads to ratio 1:1

- **μ -damped py source**

- muons from pion decay significantly lose energy via synchrotron radiation before decaying, ratio 1:0

Likelihood analysis: flux models

- **Two benchmark flux models**

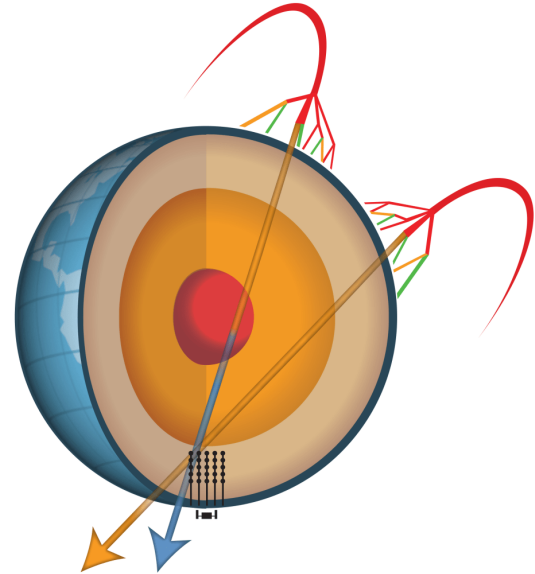
- unbroken single power-law model

$$\frac{d\Phi_{6\nu}}{dE_\nu} = \Phi_0 \left(\frac{E_\nu}{100 \text{ TeV}} \right)^{-\gamma} 10^{-18} \text{ GeV}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1} \text{ sr}^{-1}$$

- single power-law model with an exponential energy cutoff (add

$$\exp(-E_\nu/E_{\text{cutoff}}))$$

- reachable energy of astrophysical accelerators always features a cutoff due to the Hillas criterion



© IceCube Collaboration

Likelihood analysis

Likelihood analysis of unbinned data

$$L_{\bar{\nu}_e} = \prod_{i=1}^n [\mu_{\text{DIS}} P_{\text{DIS}}(\#i|\Theta) + \mu_{\text{GR}} P_{\text{GR}}(\#i|\Theta)] \times \frac{1}{n!} e^{-(\mu_{\text{DIS}} + \mu_{\text{GR}})}$$


expected event numbers with a deposited energy between 4 and 10 PeV
normalized probability to have an event at #i's energy

$$\mu_{\text{DIS}} = \int_{\text{cut}} dE_{\text{dep}} \cdot \left(\frac{dN_{\nu_e + \bar{\nu}_e}^{\text{CC}}}{dE_{\text{dep}}} + \sum_{\alpha} \frac{dN_{\nu_{\alpha} + \bar{\nu}_{\alpha}}^{\text{NC}}}{dE_{\text{dep}}} \right)$$

$$\mu_{\text{GR}} = \int_{\text{cut}} dE_{\text{dep}} \cdot \left(\frac{dN_{\bar{\nu}_e}^{\text{GR}, jj}}{dE_{\text{dep}}} + \frac{dN_{\bar{\nu}_e}^{\text{GR}, e\nu}}{dE_{\text{dep}}} \right)$$

$$P_{\text{DIS/GR}}(\#i|\Theta) = \int dE_{\text{dep}} P(\#i|E_{\text{dep}}) f_{\text{DIS/GR}}(E_{\text{dep}}|\Theta)$$

Likelihood analysis

Likelihood analysis of unbinned data

$$L_{\bar{\nu}_e} = \prod_{i=1}^n [\mu_{\text{DIS}} P_{\text{DIS}}(\#i|\Theta) + \mu_{\text{GR}} P_{\text{GR}}(\#i|\Theta)] \times \frac{1}{n!} e^{-(\mu_{\text{DIS}} + \mu_{\text{GR}})}$$

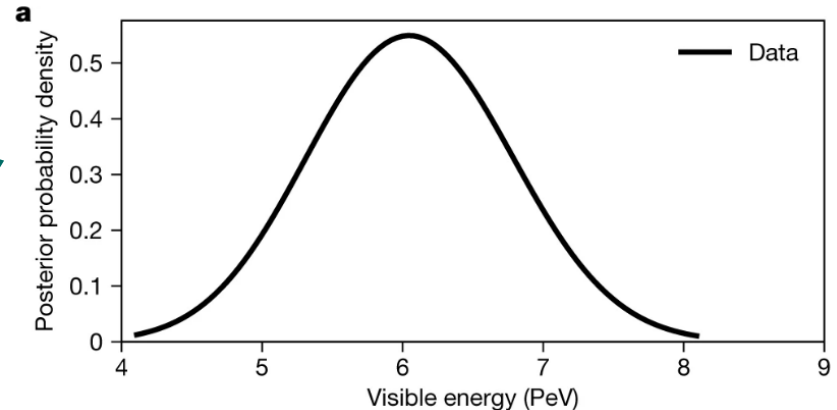
expected event numbers with a deposited energy between 4 and 10 PeV

normalized probability to have an event at #i's energy

$$\mu_{\text{DIS}} = \int_{\text{cut}} dE_{\text{dep}} \cdot \left(\frac{dN_{\nu_e + \bar{\nu}_e}^{\text{CC}}}{dE_{\text{dep}}} + \sum_{\alpha} \frac{dN_{\nu_{\alpha} + \bar{\nu}_{\alpha}}^{\text{NC}}}{dE_{\text{dep}}} \right)$$

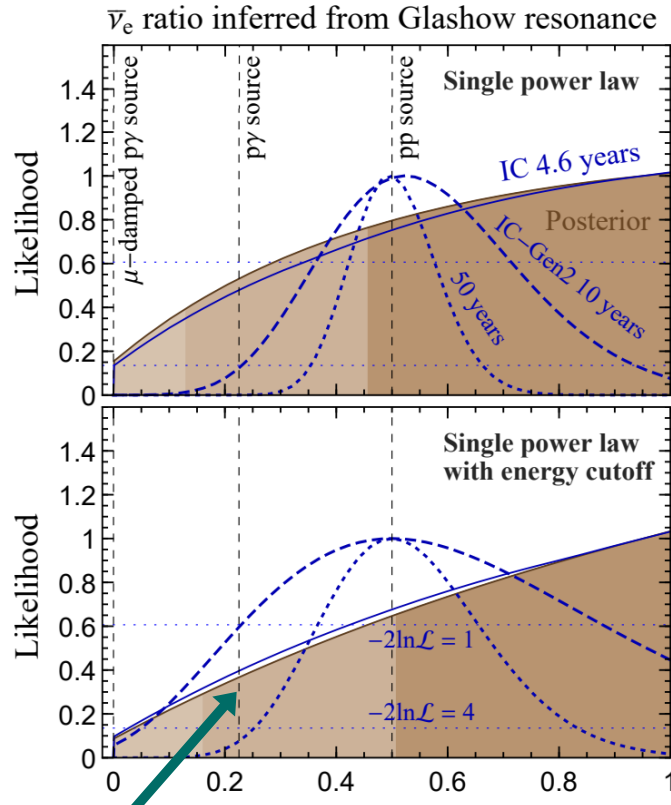
$$\mu_{\text{GR}} = \int_{\text{cut}} dE_{\text{dep}} \cdot \left(\frac{dN_{\bar{\nu}_e}^{\text{GR}, jj}}{dE_{\text{dep}}} + \frac{dN_{\bar{\nu}_e}^{\text{GR}, e\nu}}{dE_{\text{dep}}} \right)$$

$$P_{\text{DIS/GR}}(\#i|\Theta) = \int dE_{\text{dep}} P(\#i|E_{\text{dep}}) f_{\text{DIS/GR}}(E_{\text{dep}}|\Theta)$$



IceCube, Aartsen et al. arXiv:2110.15051, fig. 3a

Likelihood analysis



At earth: $f \approx 0.23$ $f_{\bar{\nu}_e}^{\oplus} \equiv \phi_{\bar{\nu}_e}^{\oplus} / (\phi_{\bar{\nu}_e}^{\oplus} + \phi_{\nu_e}^{\oplus})$

- Both frequentist and Bayesian interpretation
- μ -damped py source is excluded at around 2σ level
- Current IceCube 4.6-year data weakly favor the pp source

Remark: follow-up paper

Probing neutrino production in high-energy astrophysical neutrino sources
with the Glashow Resonance

Qinrui Liu,^{1, 2, 3, *} Ningqiang Song,^{4, 5, †} and Aaron C. Vincent^{1, 2, 3, ‡}

[arXiv: 2304.06068](https://arxiv.org/abs/2304.06068)

- **Very similar to our analysis**
- **Does not include Doppler broadening and ISR**
- **Projected sensitivities based on the combined exposure of planned Cherenkov neutrino telescopes**
- **Claims that pp and py can be distinguished at a 2σ significance level in the next decades**
- **Consider mixed production mechanisms**

Outlook



- Many projects such as IceCube-Gen2, Baikal-GVD, KM3NeT, P-ONE, TAMBO, TRIDENT
- By measuring the spectrum precisely in the future, one may go beyond the assumptions of the single power-law flux model
- In case of the increased statistics: Produce a map of the sky, identify associated PeVatrons

Conclusions

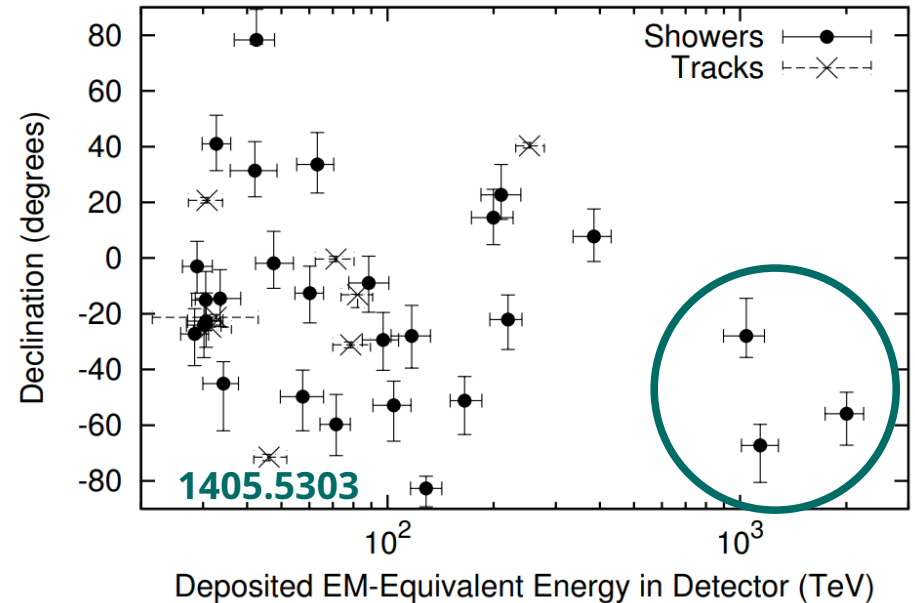
- The observation of the Glashow resonance provides information about neutrino sources
- We introduced secondary modifications of the leading cross section which become more important once more Glashow resonance events are detected
- The candidate event observed by IceCube can already rule out the μ -damped $p\gamma$ source at 2σ level; currently pp source weakly favoured



**Thank you for
your attention!**

Backup: energy cuts

- One PEPE event with an energy deposition of 6.05 ± 0.72 PeV
- Three HESE events below 3 PeV
- When calculating the expected event numbers, the event cut is $E_{\text{dep}} \in [4, 10]$ PeV



Backup: flux parameters - likelihood

- To confine the flux parameters we use the likelihood

$$-2 \ln \mathcal{L}_{6\nu} = \frac{(\Phi_0 - \Phi_0^{\text{bf}})^2}{\sigma(\Phi_0)^2} + \frac{(\gamma - \gamma^{\text{bf}})^2}{\sigma(\gamma)^2}$$

and results from IceCube, R. Abbasi et al., Phys. Rev. D 104 (2021) 022002, arXiv: 2011.03545

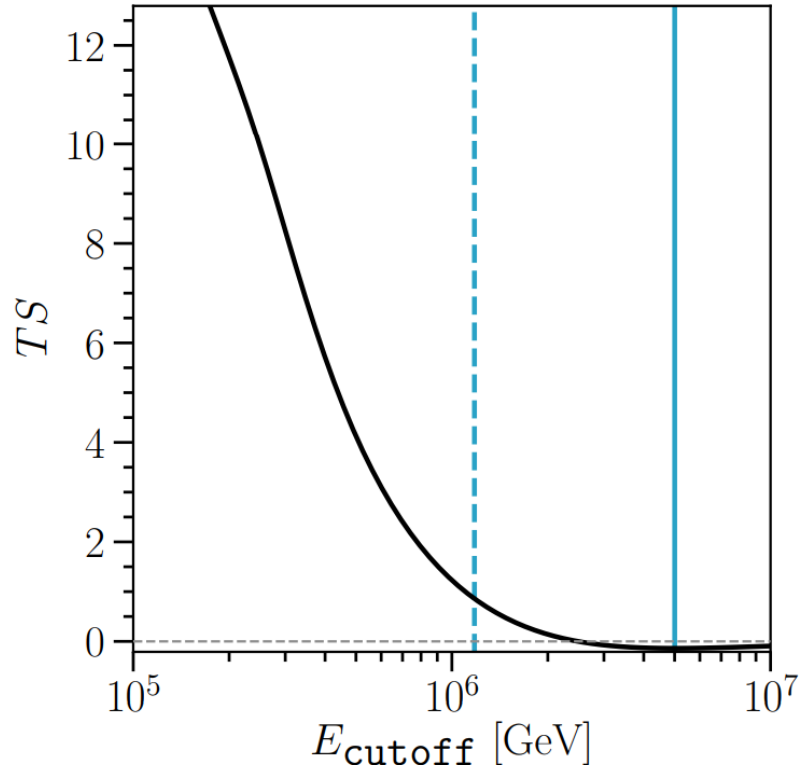
- Best-fit values

$$\Phi_0^{\text{bf}} = 6.37 \text{ and } \gamma^{\text{bf}} = 2.87$$

- 1σ errors

$$\sigma(\Phi_0) = 1.54 \text{ and } \sigma(\gamma) = 0.2$$

Backup: flux parameters - E_{cutoff}



- For the cutoff model we further derive the likelihood for E_{cutoff} from the plot on the left

FIG. VI.9. *Cutoff model comparison using frequentist test-statistic.* The test-statistic comparing the cutoff hypothesis and the single power-law hypothesis is plotted as the black curve. The gray dashed line indicates where the cutoff model's test-statistic and the single power-law model are equal; there is a slight preference for the cutoff scenario in the several PeV region, although this is not statistically significant. We also report the results of parameter estimation for the cutoff model in this plot. The best-fit value for the cutoff energy, E_{cutoff} , is shown as the solid blue line and the dashed blue line indicates the boundary of the 68.3% confidence interval.