

# Floor of cosmogenic neutrino fluxes above $10^{17}$ eV

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The search for neutrinos with energies greater than  $10^{17}$  eV is being actively pursued. Although normalization of the dominant neutrino flux is highly uncertain, a floor level is guaranteed by the interactions of extragalactic cosmic rays with Milky Way gas. We estimate that this floor level gives an energy flux of  $E^2 \phi_\nu \simeq 10^{-13+0.5}_{-0.5} \text{ GeV cm}^{-2} \text{ sr}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$  at  $10^{18}$  eV, where uncertainties arise from the modeling of the gas distribution and the experimental determination of the mass composition of ultra-high-energy cosmic rays on Earth. Based on a minimal model of cosmic-ray production to explain the mass-discriminated energy spectra observed on Earth above  $5 \times 10^{18}$  eV, we also present generic estimates of the neutrino fluxes expected from extragalactic production that generally exceed the aforementioned guaranteed floor. The prospects for detecting neutrinos above  $10^{18}$  eV remain however challenging, unless proton acceleration to the highest energies is at play in a sub-dominant population of cosmic-ray sources or new physical phenomena are at work.

## Poster prize

Yes

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