



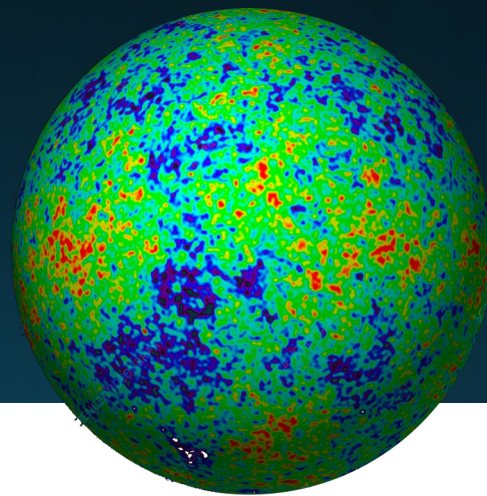
A Combined Fit of Ultra-High-Energy Cosmic Rays and Neutrinos from Pierre Auger and IceCube Observatories

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Source



Intergalactic medium
 10^{-6} protons / cm³
400 photons / cm³

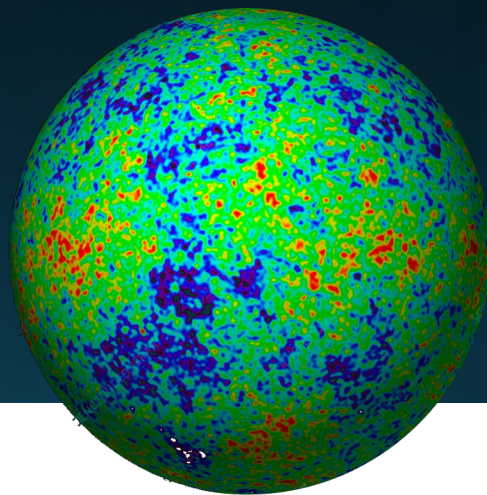


Interstellar medium
1 proton / cm³

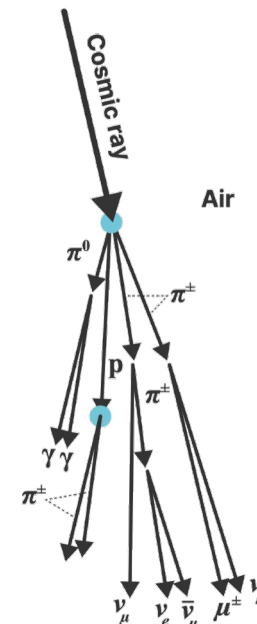
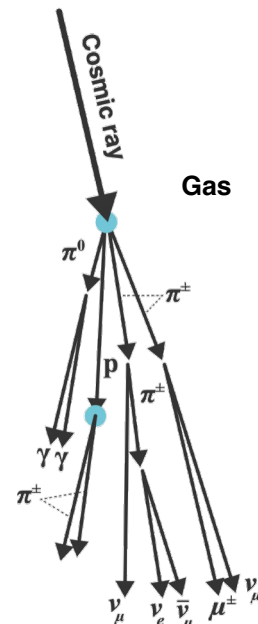
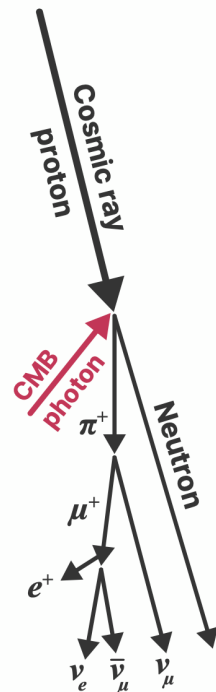
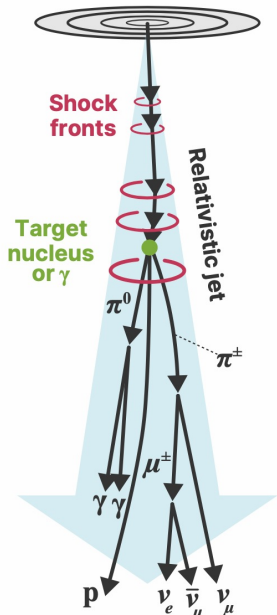


Earth atmosphere
 7×10^{20} proton / cm³

Neutrino production: proton and matter targets

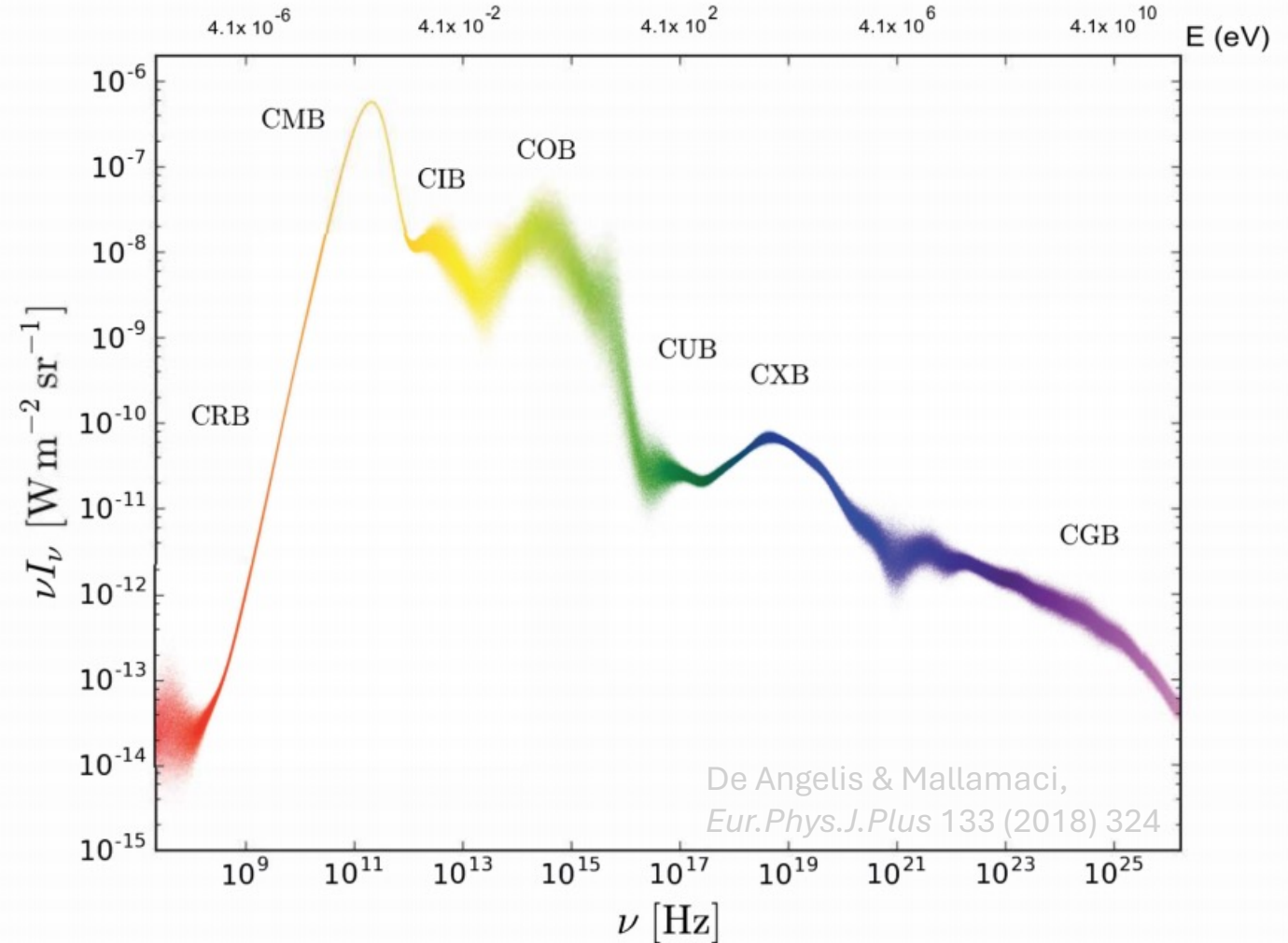


Active galactic nucleus



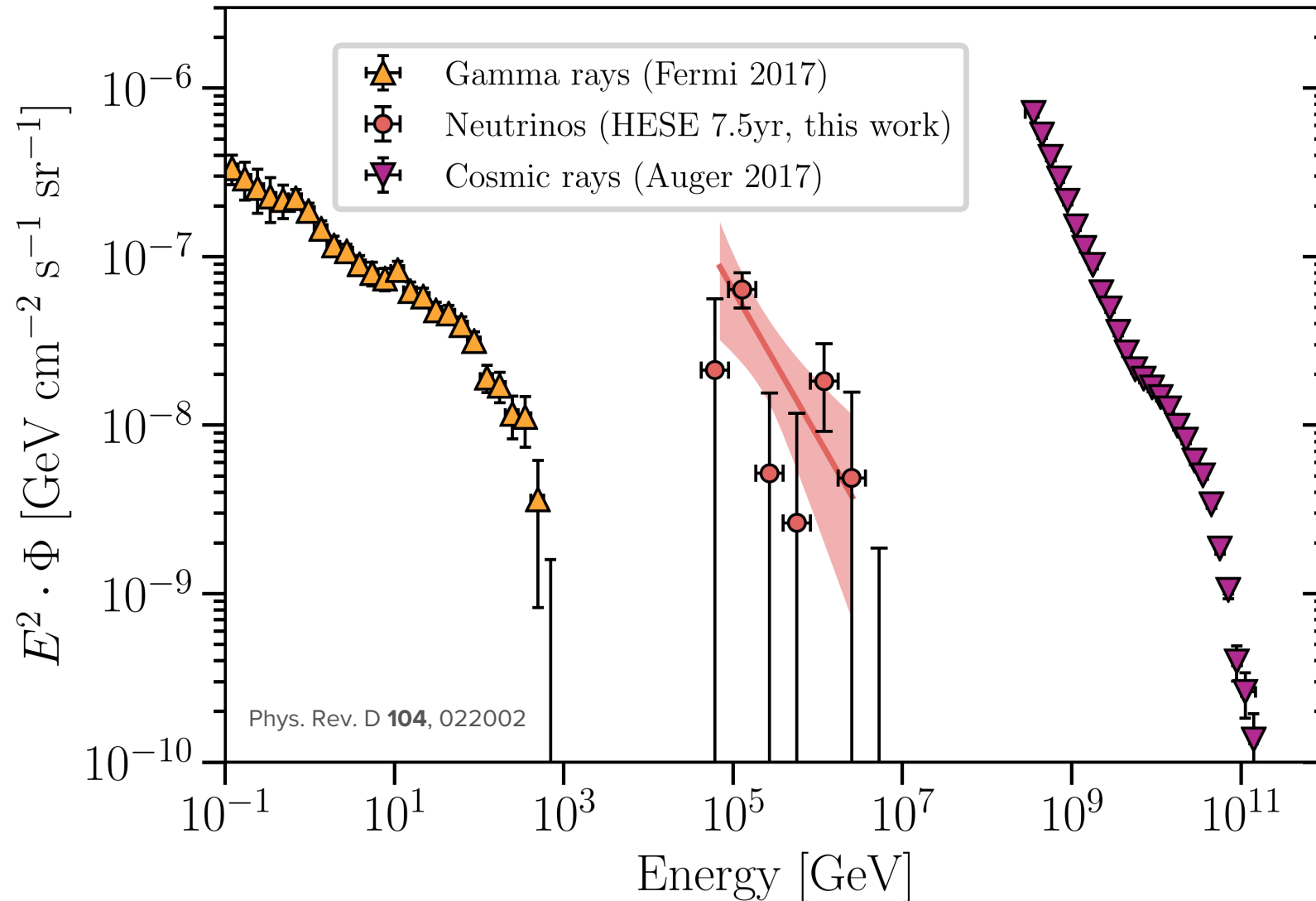
UHE neutrinos: a smoking gun signature

- Photopion produced neutrinos have 1/20 the primary energy-per-nucleon
- CMB target: $10^{19.7}$ eV energy threshold => EeV energy neutrinos
- CIB target: 10^{18} eV energy threshold => **O(10 PeV)** neutrinos
 - **Ambient photons** in source can also serve as target



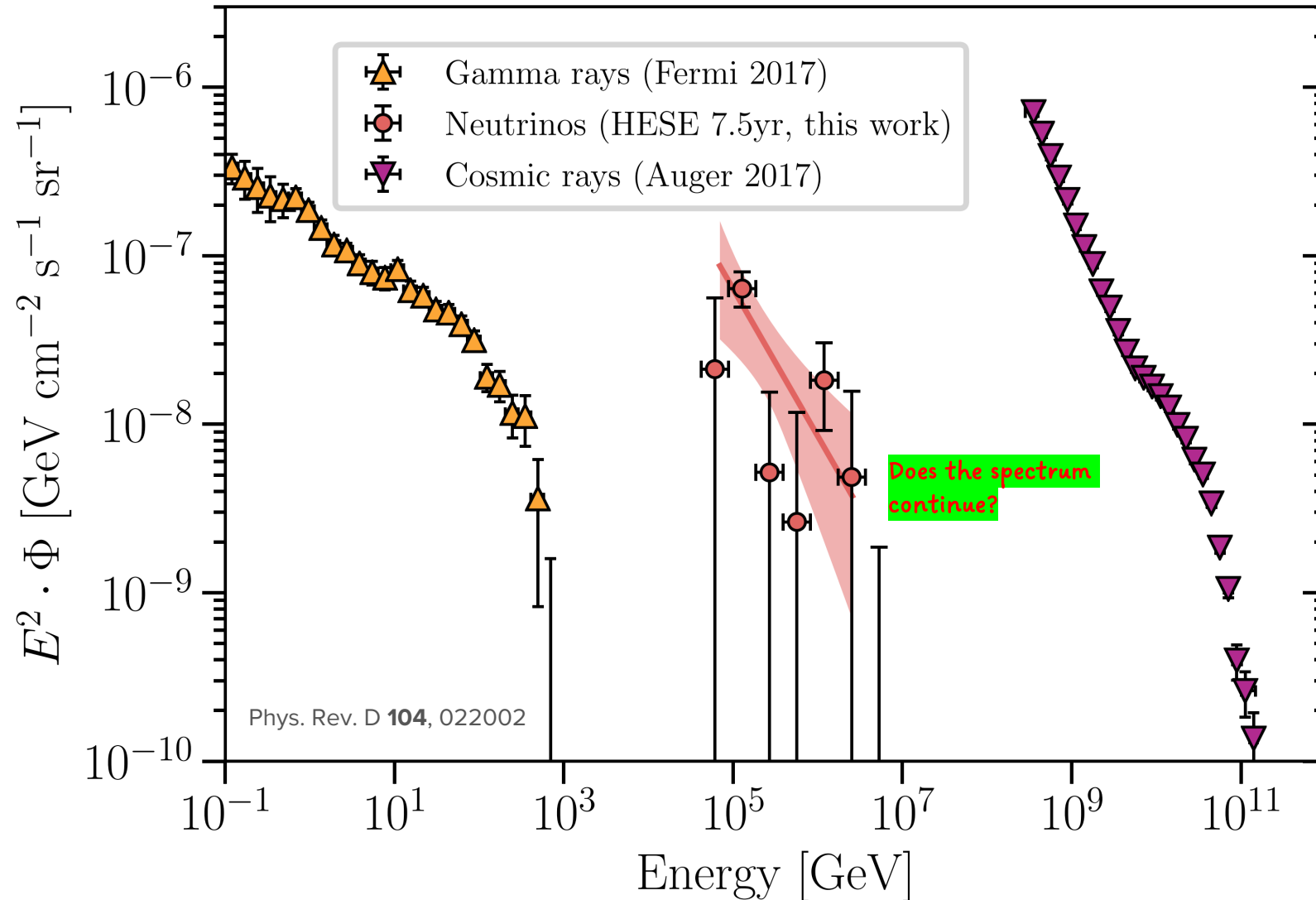
Neutrinos gateway to UHECR puzzle?

Energy generation rates are comparable among three messengers: common origin?

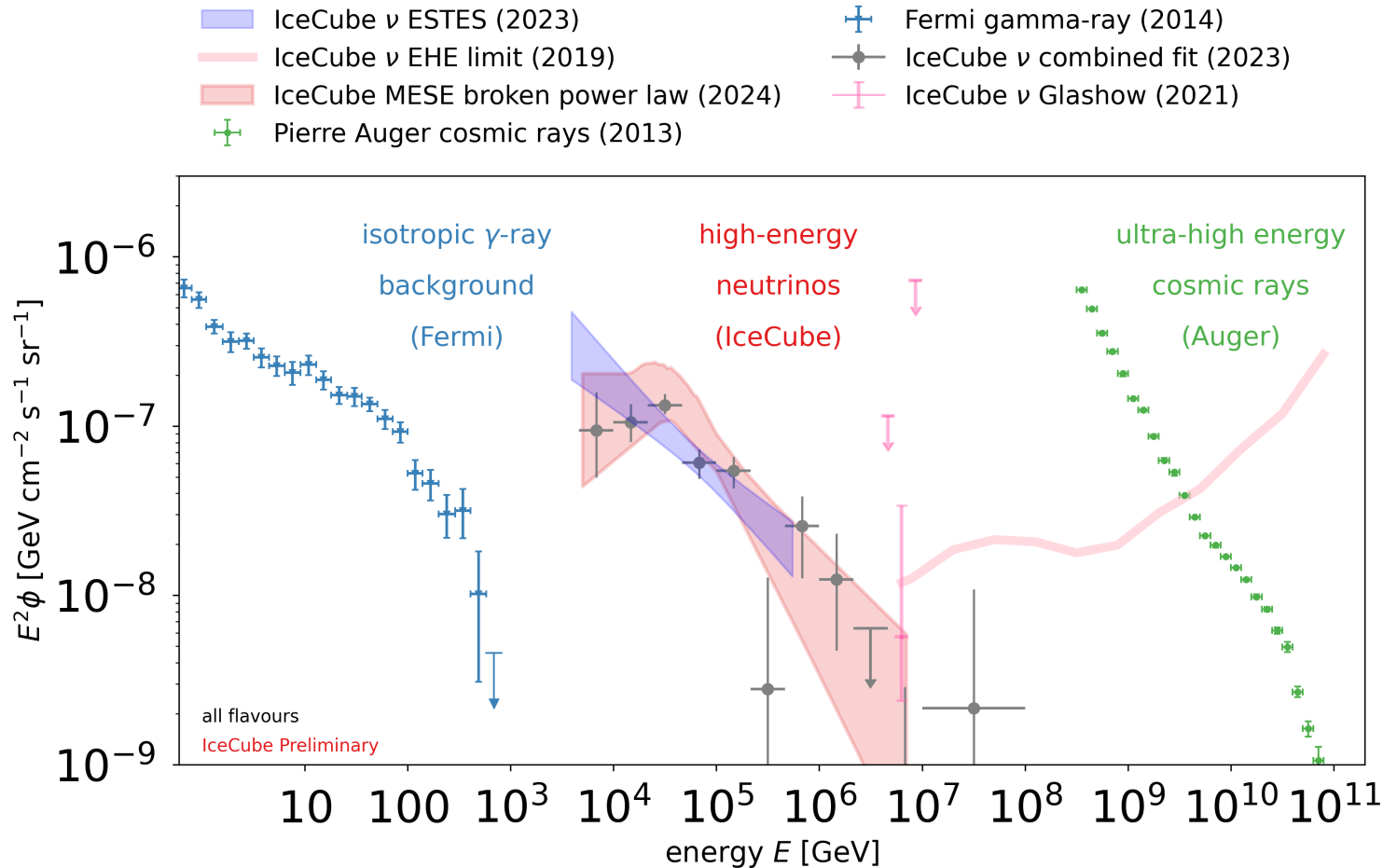


Neutrinos gateway to UHECR puzzle?

Data: Energy generation rates are comparable among three messengers



IceCube data at the highest energies



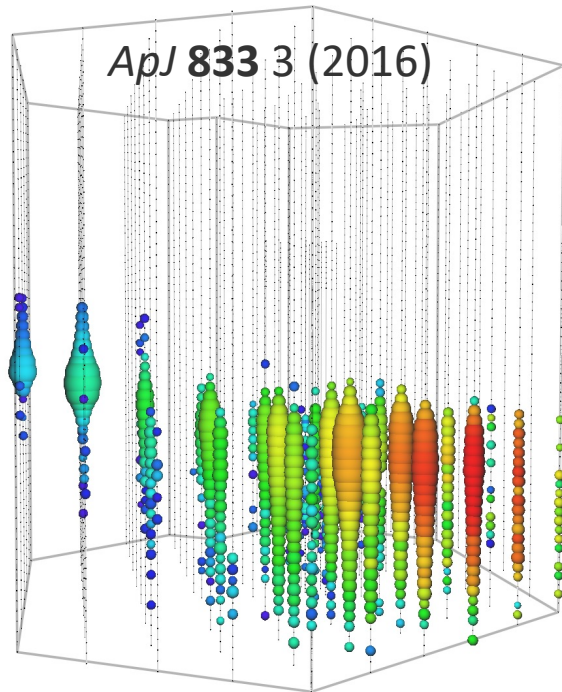
- **Combined fit**
 - Through-going tracks and contained cascades
 - More see Zoe Rechav's talk (Wednesday 4pm)
- **MESE**
 - Starting tracks and contained cascades
 - More see Vedant Basu's (Monday 5:15pm)
- **PEPE**
 - Partially contained cascades

New round of combined fits suggest a broken power law feature with a soft high-energy component

Uncertainties are at large beyond 70 PeV

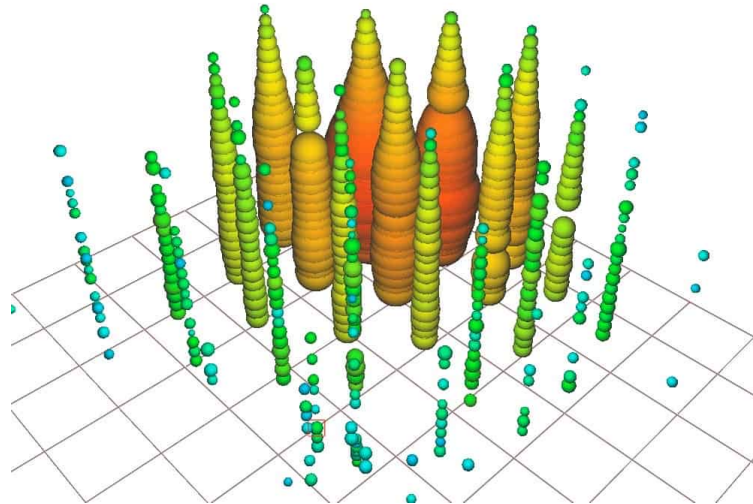
The highest energy neutrinos

- 3 events with neutrino energy > 5 PeV over a decade of data taking



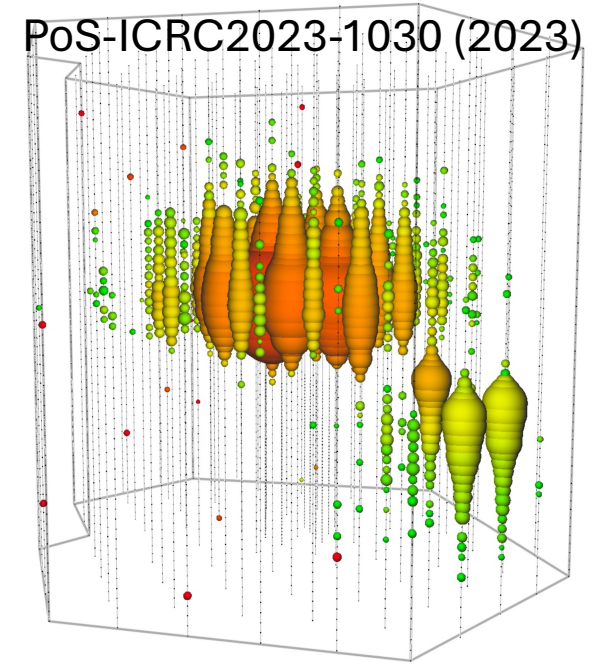
Muon energy: 4.5 ± 1.2 PeV
Nu energy ~ 9 PeV

Nature 591, 220–224 (2021)



Deposited energy: 6.05 ± 0.72 PeV
Nu energy ~ 6.3 PeV

PoS-ICRC2023-1030 (2023)

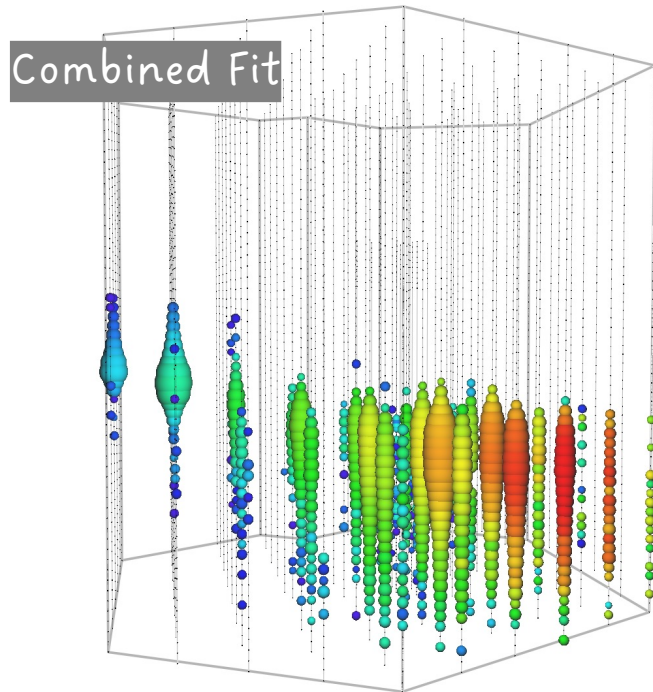


Nu energy $\sim 11.4 \pm 2.5$ PeV

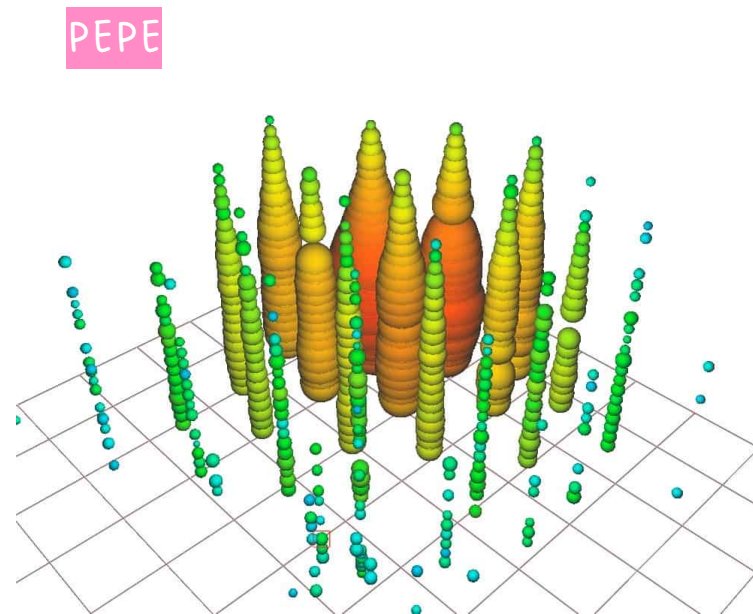
The highest energy neutrinos

Can we make a more conclusive statement on 10 PeV+ neutrino flux with all available datasets?

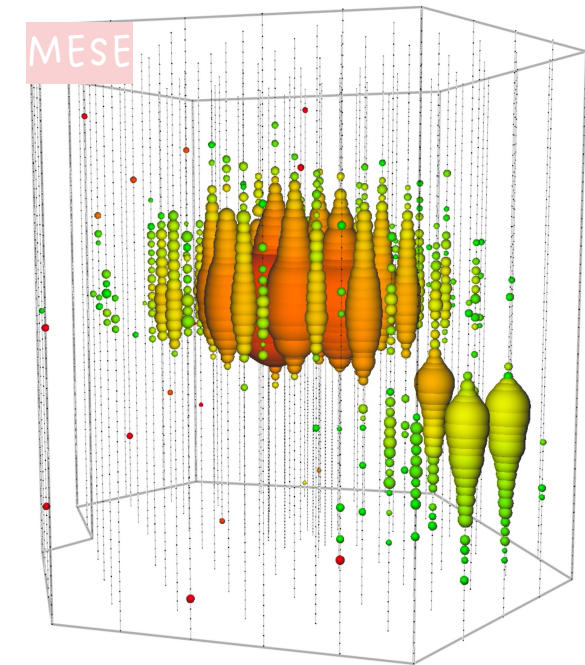
- 3 events with neutrino energy > 5 PeV over a decade of data taking



Muon energy: 4.5 ± 1.2 PeV
Nu energy ~ 9 PeV



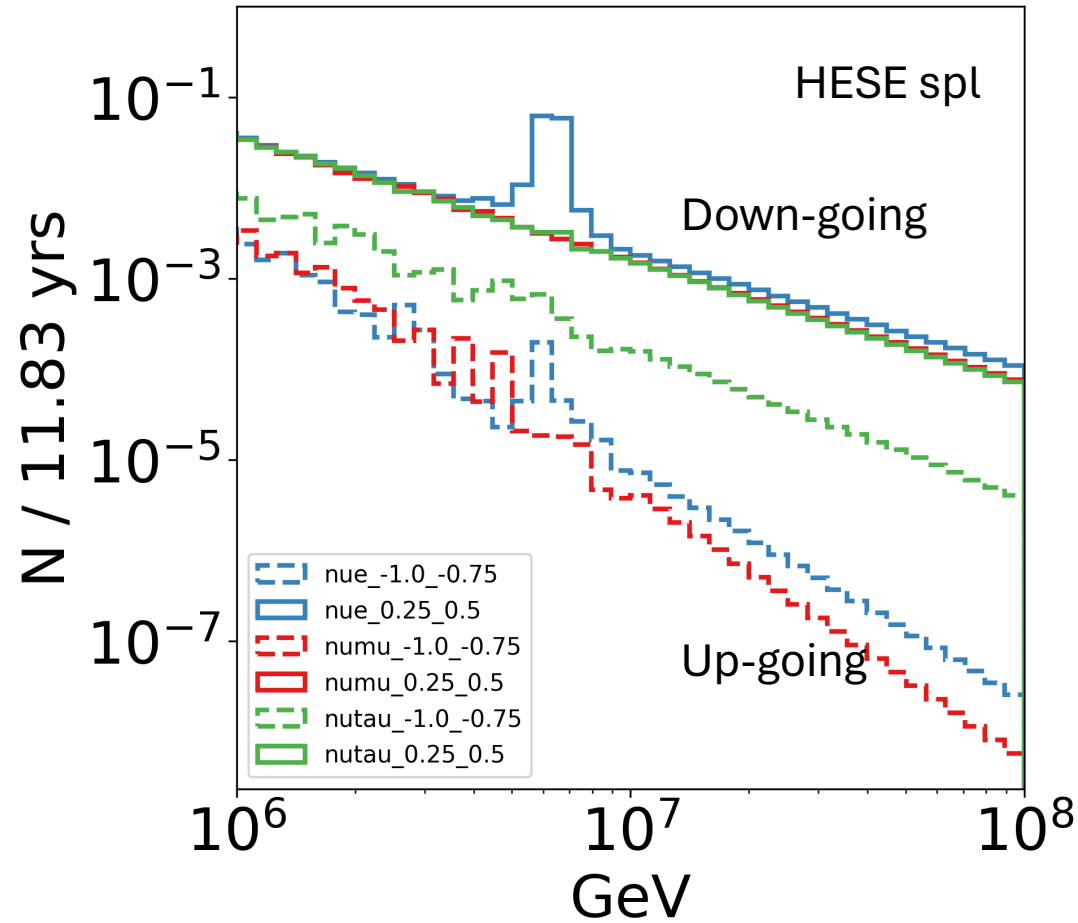
Deposited energy: 6.05 ± 0.72 PeV
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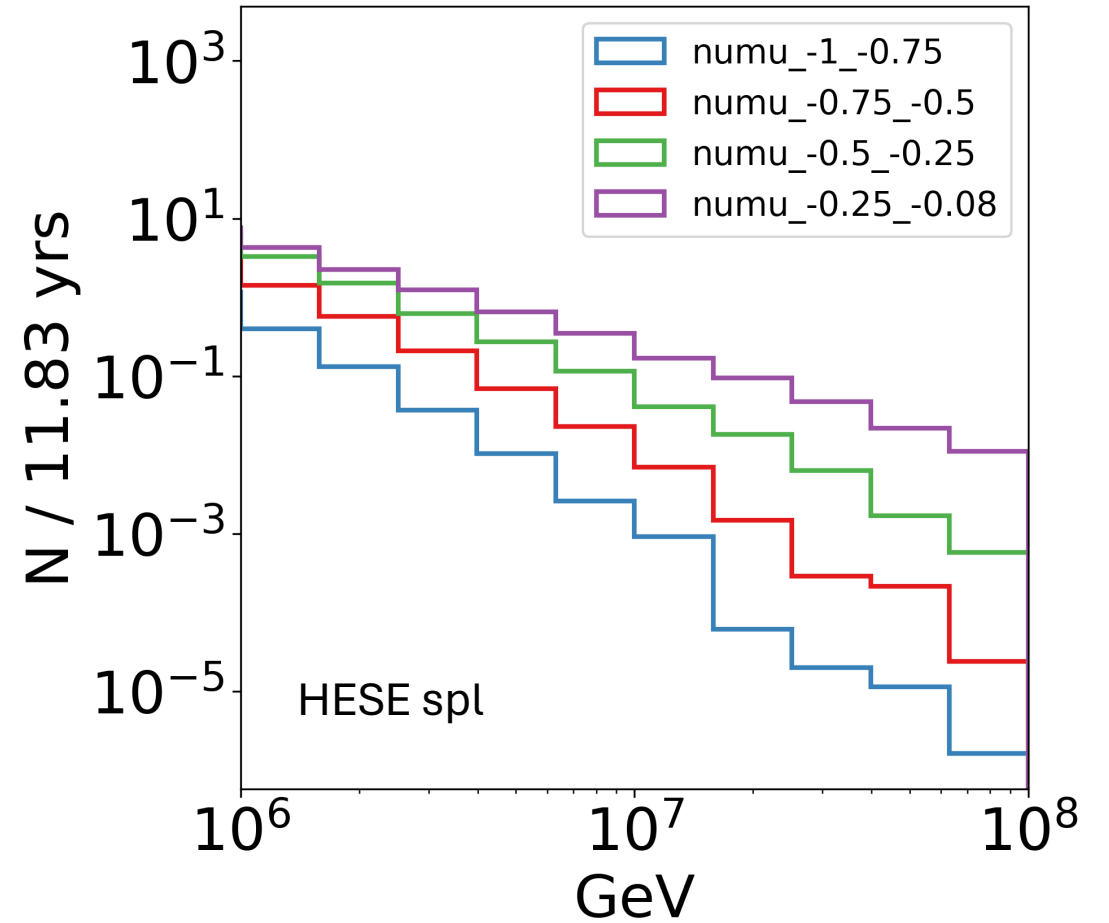
Nu energy $\sim 11.4 \pm 2.5$ PeV

Combining high-energy neutrino samples

HESE (PEPE independently x2 effective area)



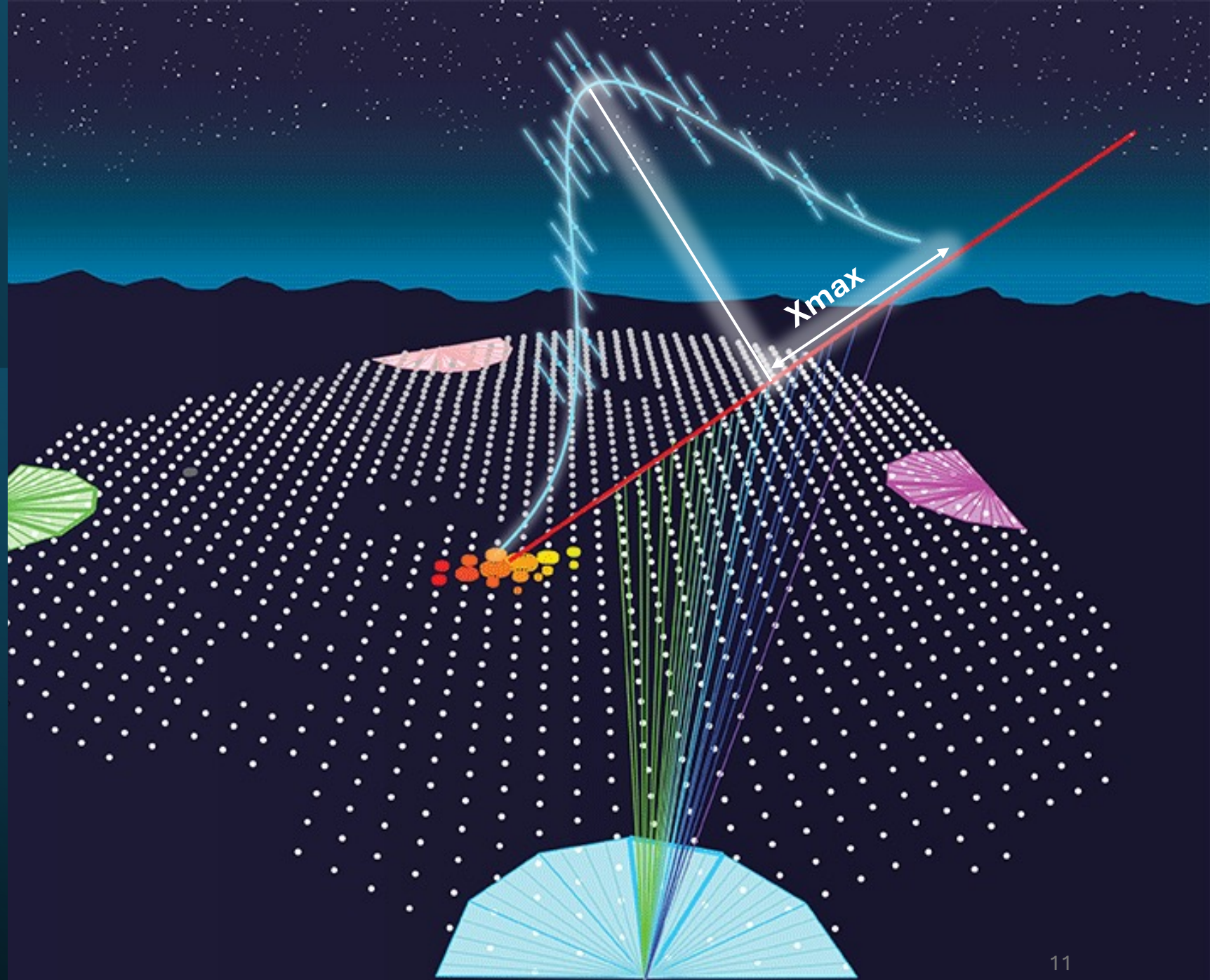
Northern track (through-going)



Hybrid air shower
detections from the
Pierre Auger Observatory
(2004 to now)

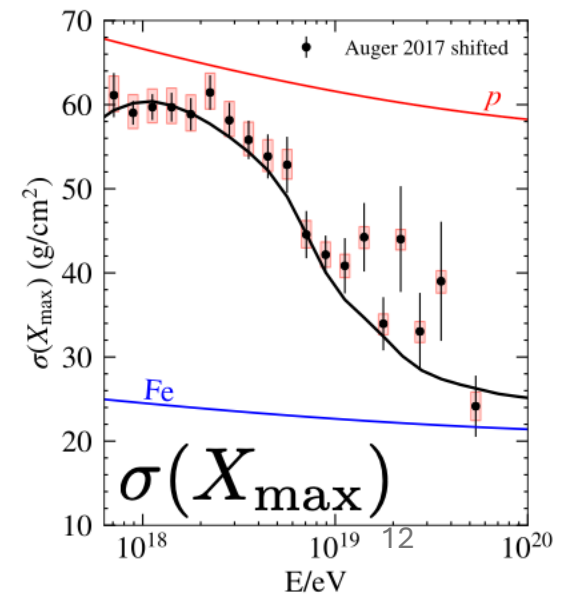
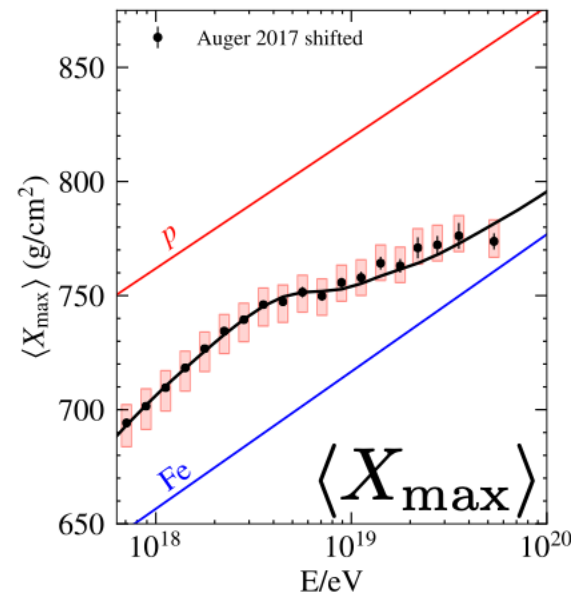
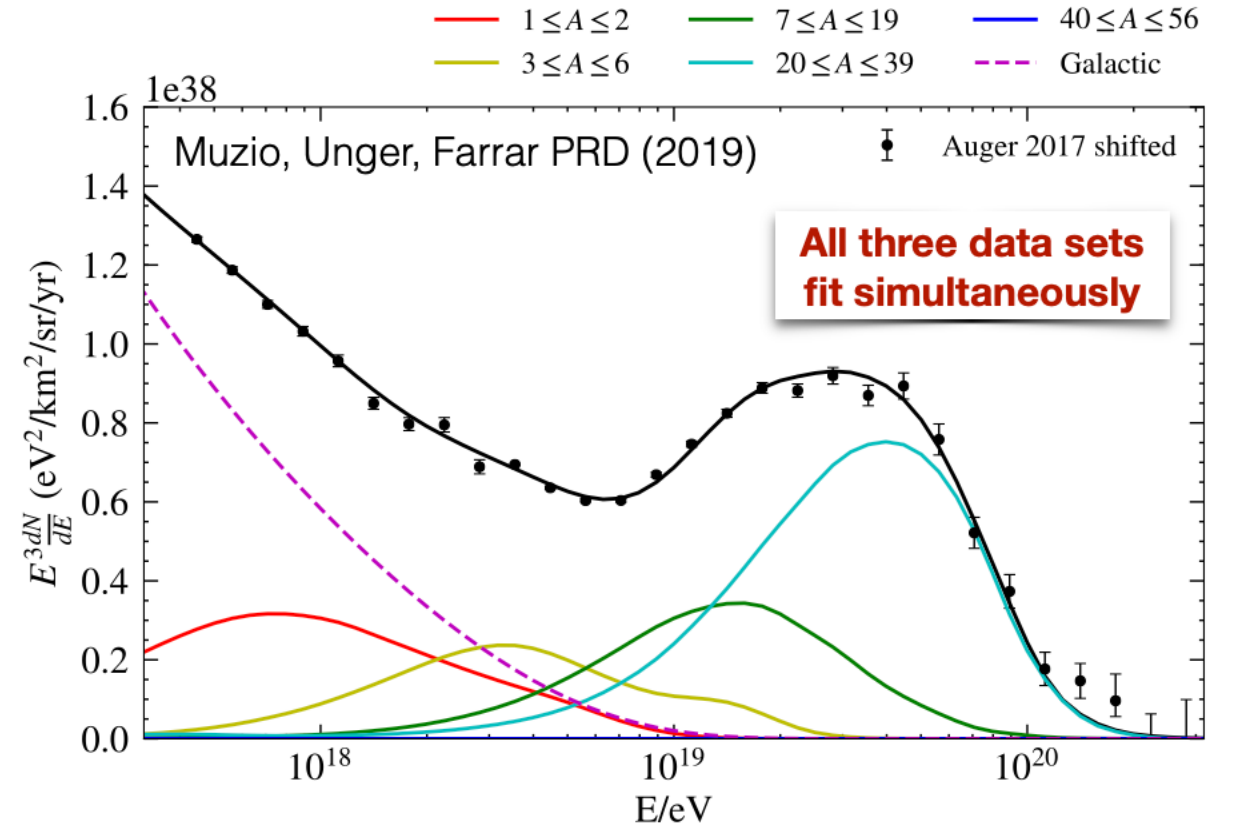
The highest energy cosmic rays

Observables: cosmic ray flux;
mass composition via X_{max}



CR Source Model

- Unger-Farrar-Anchordoqui model (UFA, 2015 PRD):
 1. Inject CRs into source environment
 - 2. CRs processed by *photon* interactions**
 3. CRs escape source environment
 4. CRs propagate to Earth
- Accounts for observed spectrum ($>10^{17.5}$ eV) & composition ($>10^{17.8}$ eV)



Joint UHECR-neutrino likelihood maximization

- High energy neutrinos**
 - Poisson distribution in energy-zenith-flavor bins >5 PeV**
 - Non-observation of neutrinos >15 PeV**
- Ultra high energy cosmic rays
 - Flux $>10^{17.5}$ eV
 - Full Xmax distributions $>10^{18.6}$ eV**
 - Rather than fitting only first two moments

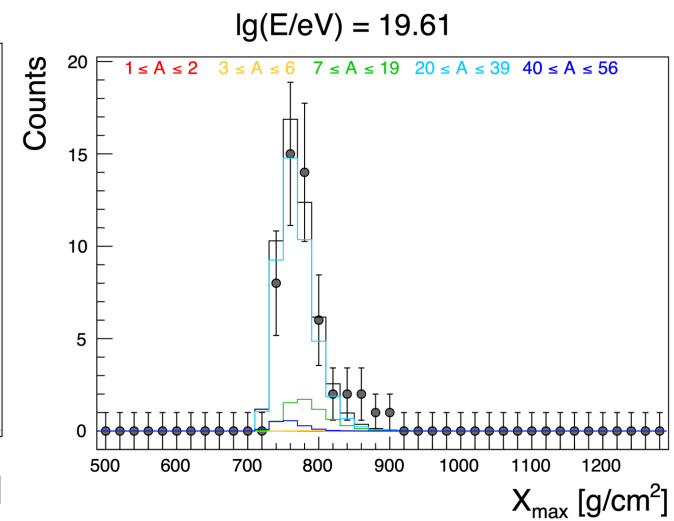
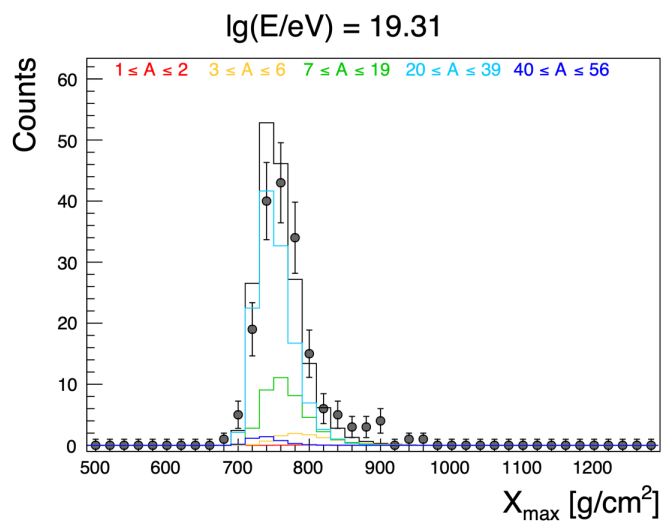
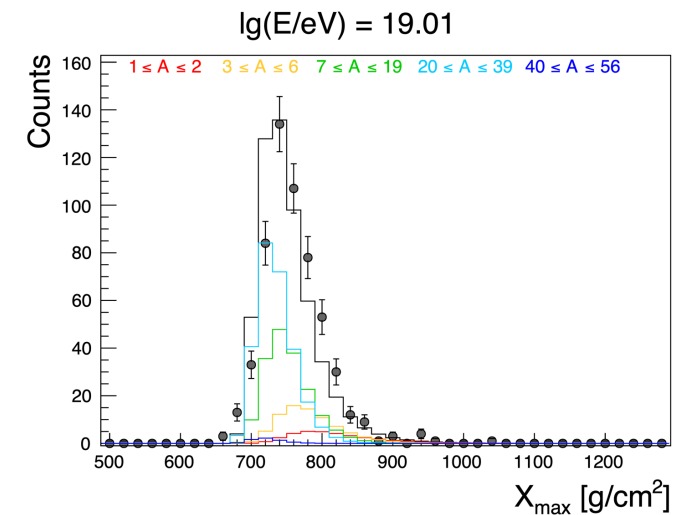
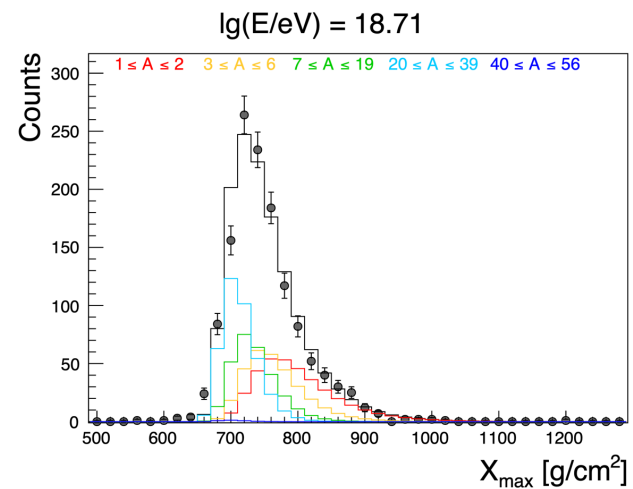
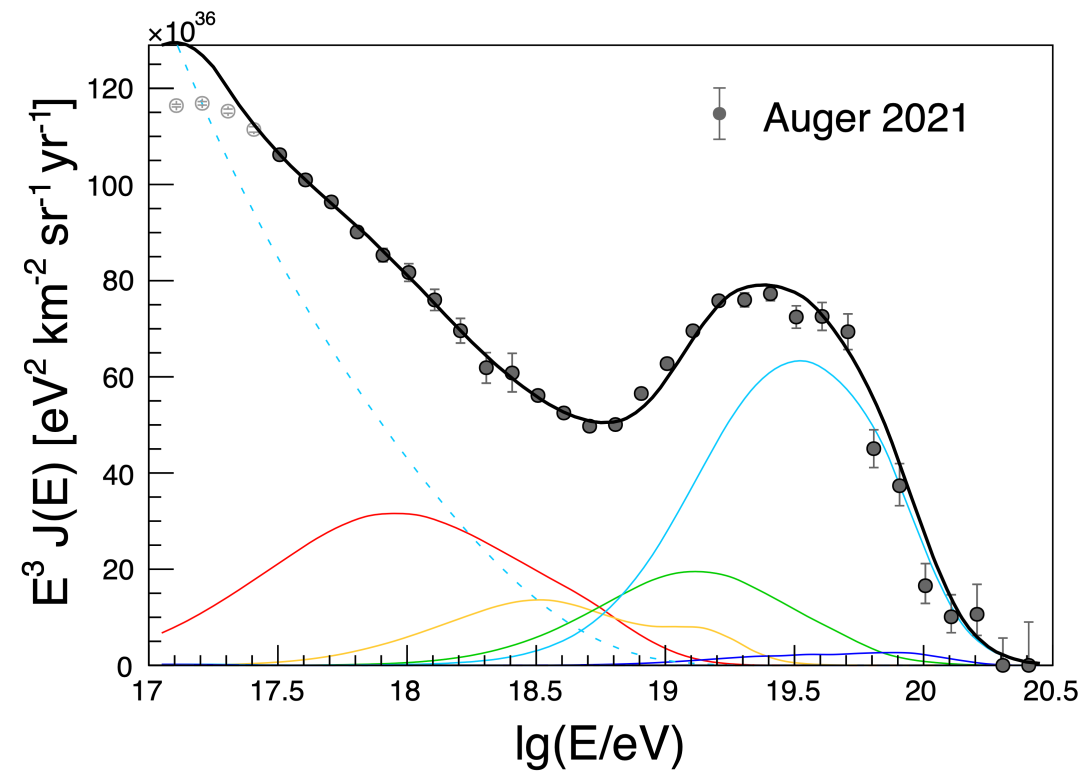
****NEW THIS ANALYSIS**

$$\ln \mathcal{L} = \ln \mathcal{L}_{\text{UHECR}} + \ln \mathcal{L}_{\nu}$$

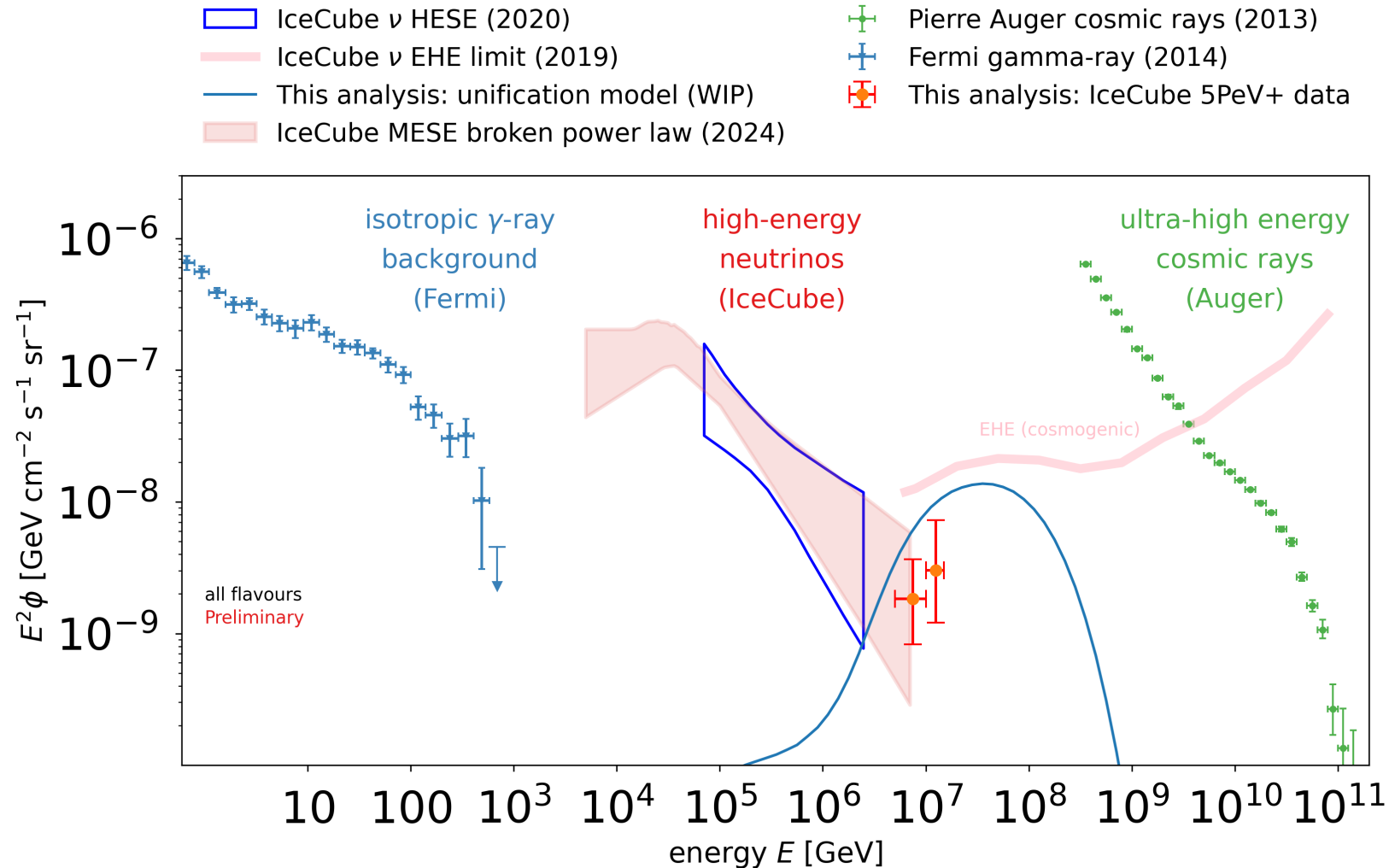
Assumptions: standard sources, SFR source evolution, mixed composition injection, Sibyll2.3d hadronic interaction model, Auger energy scale shifted by $+1\sigma$, Xmax scale by -1σ

Result: UHECR parameters

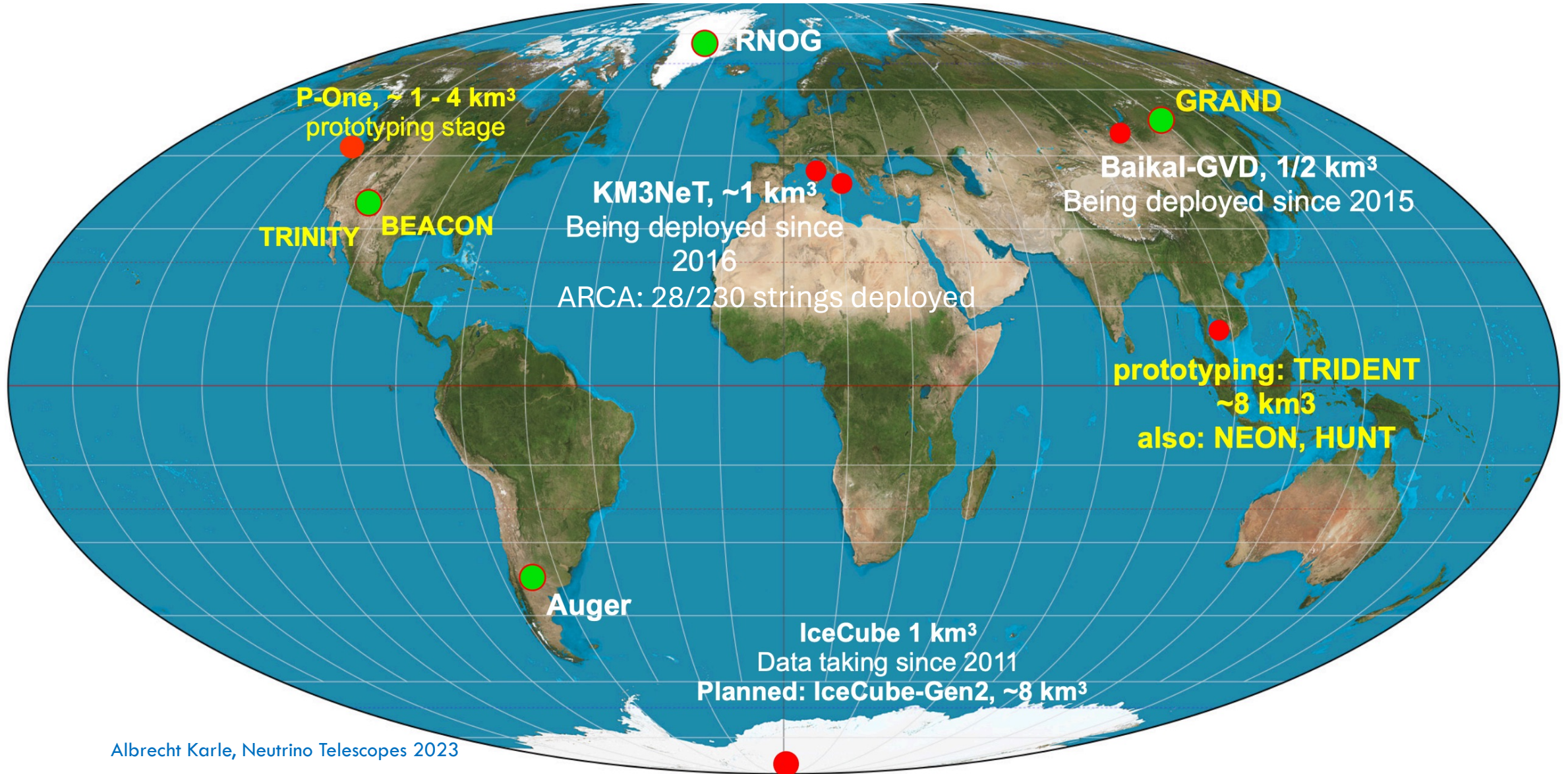
$1 \leq A \leq 2$ $3 \leq A \leq 6$ $7 \leq A \leq 19$ $20 \leq A \leq 39$ $40 \leq A \leq 56$



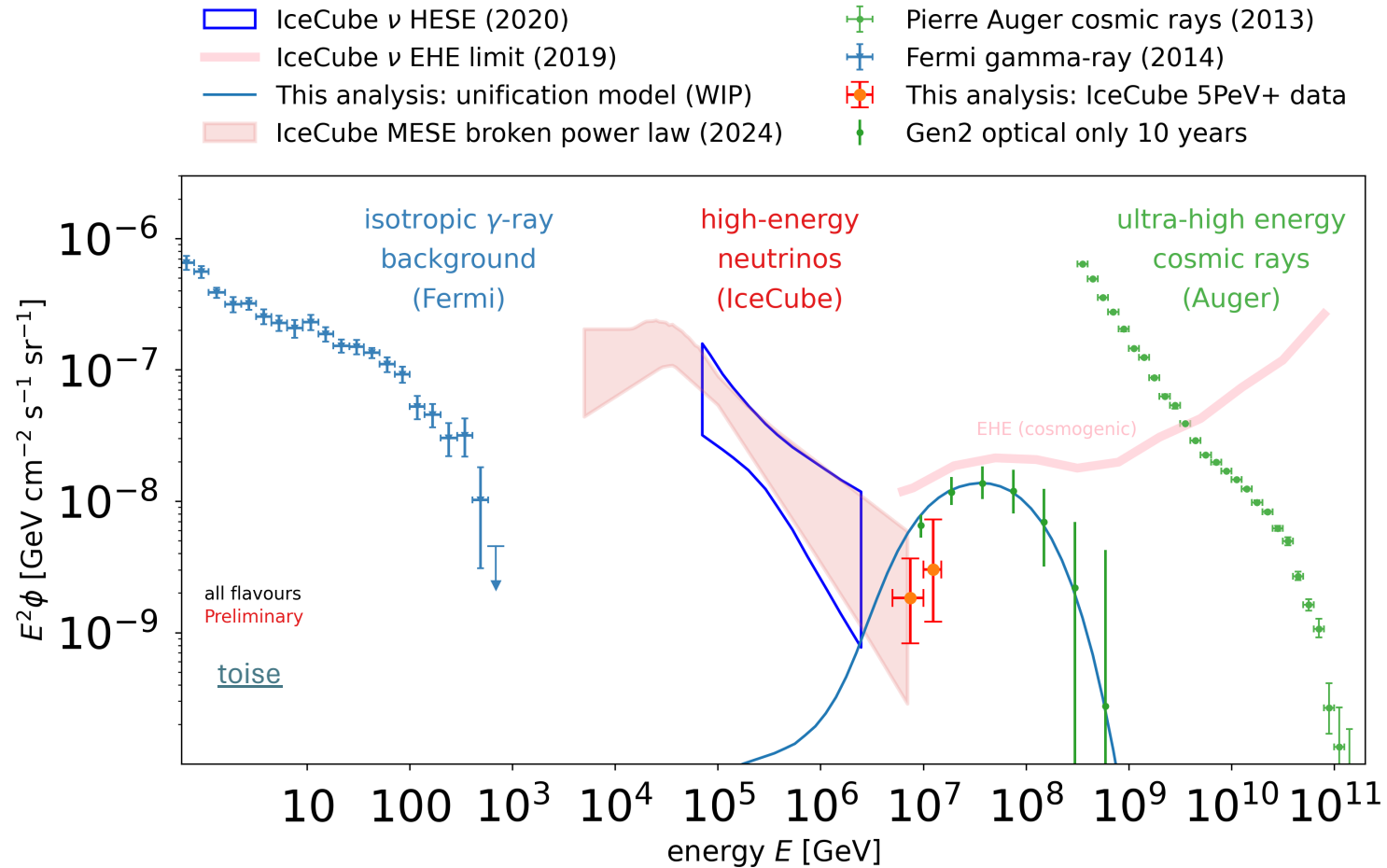
Implication: 10-100 PeV p-gamma bump in diffuse nu from UHECR sources



Current/future neutrino experiment landscape

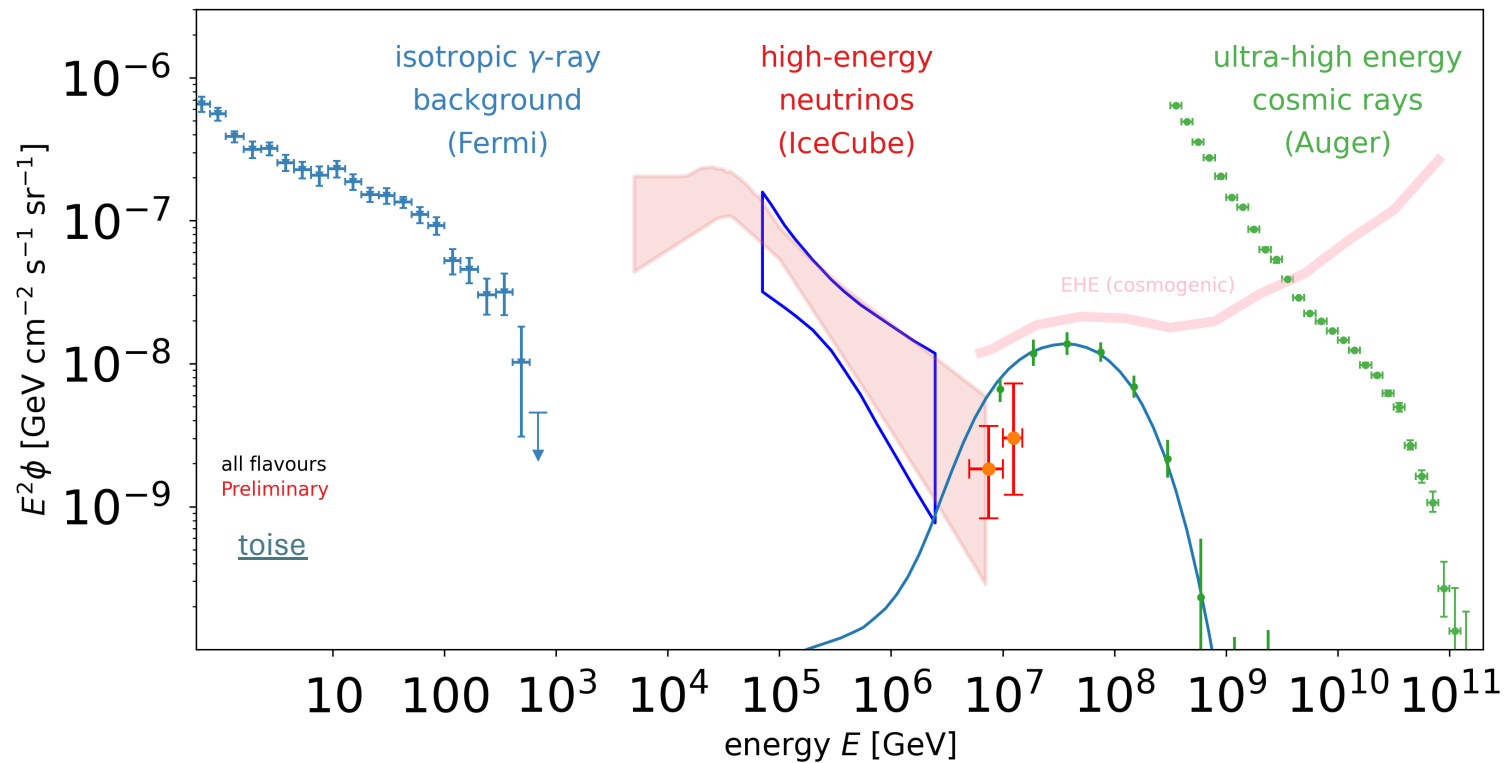


IceCube-Gen2 optical projection (10 yrs)

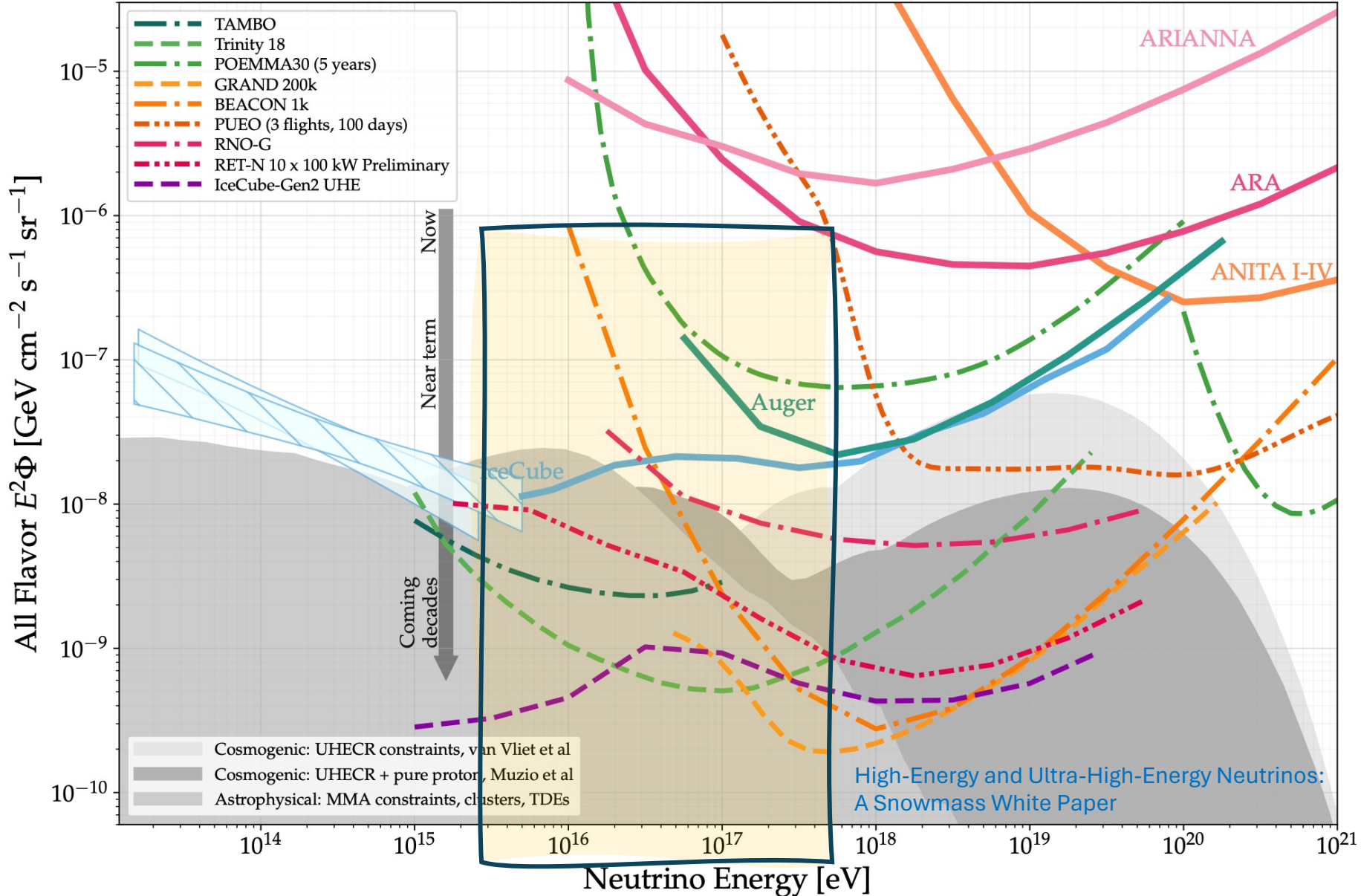


IceCube-Gen2 optical+radio projection (10 yrs)

- IceCube ν HESE (2020)
- IceCube ν EHE limit (2019)
- This analysis: unification model (WIP)
- IceCube MESE broken power law (2024)
- Pierre Auger cosmic rays (2013)
- Fermi gamma-ray (2014)
- This analysis: IceCube 5PeV+ data
- Gen2 optical+radio 10 years



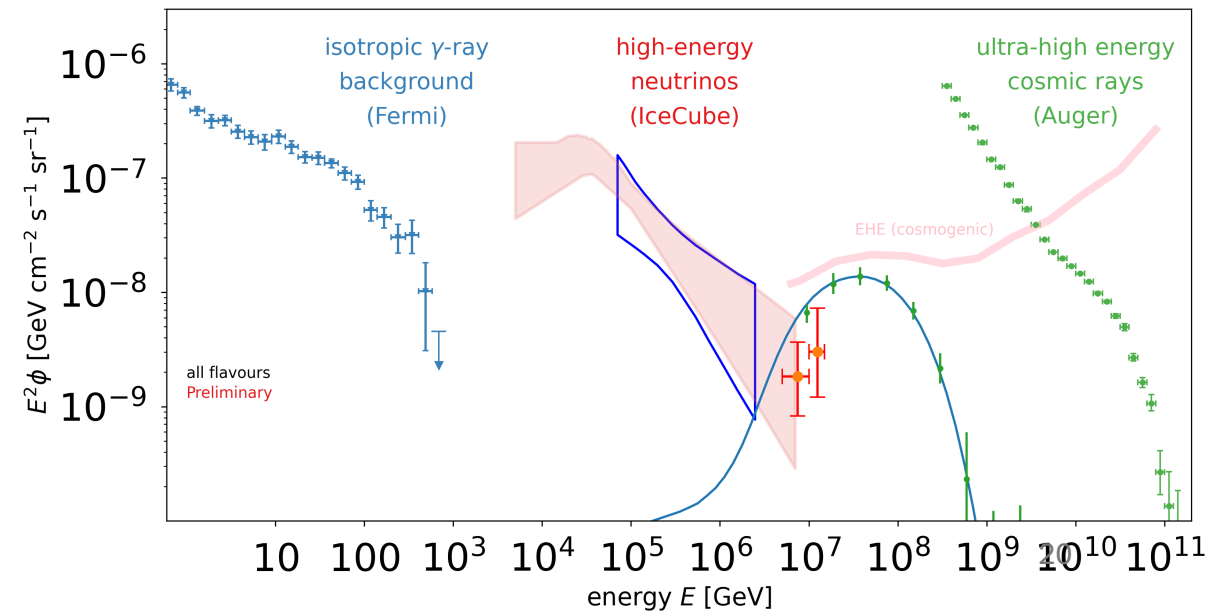
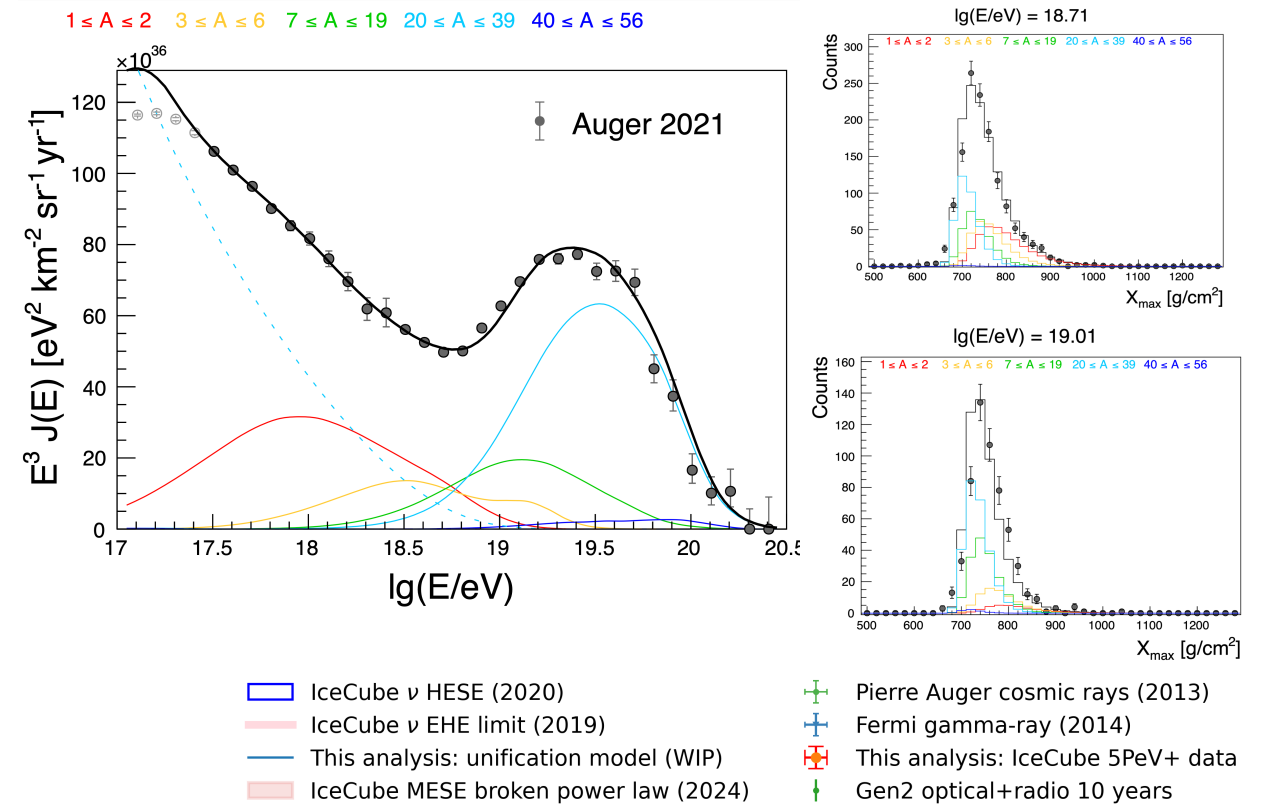
Diffuse Flux, 1:1:1 Flavor Ratio

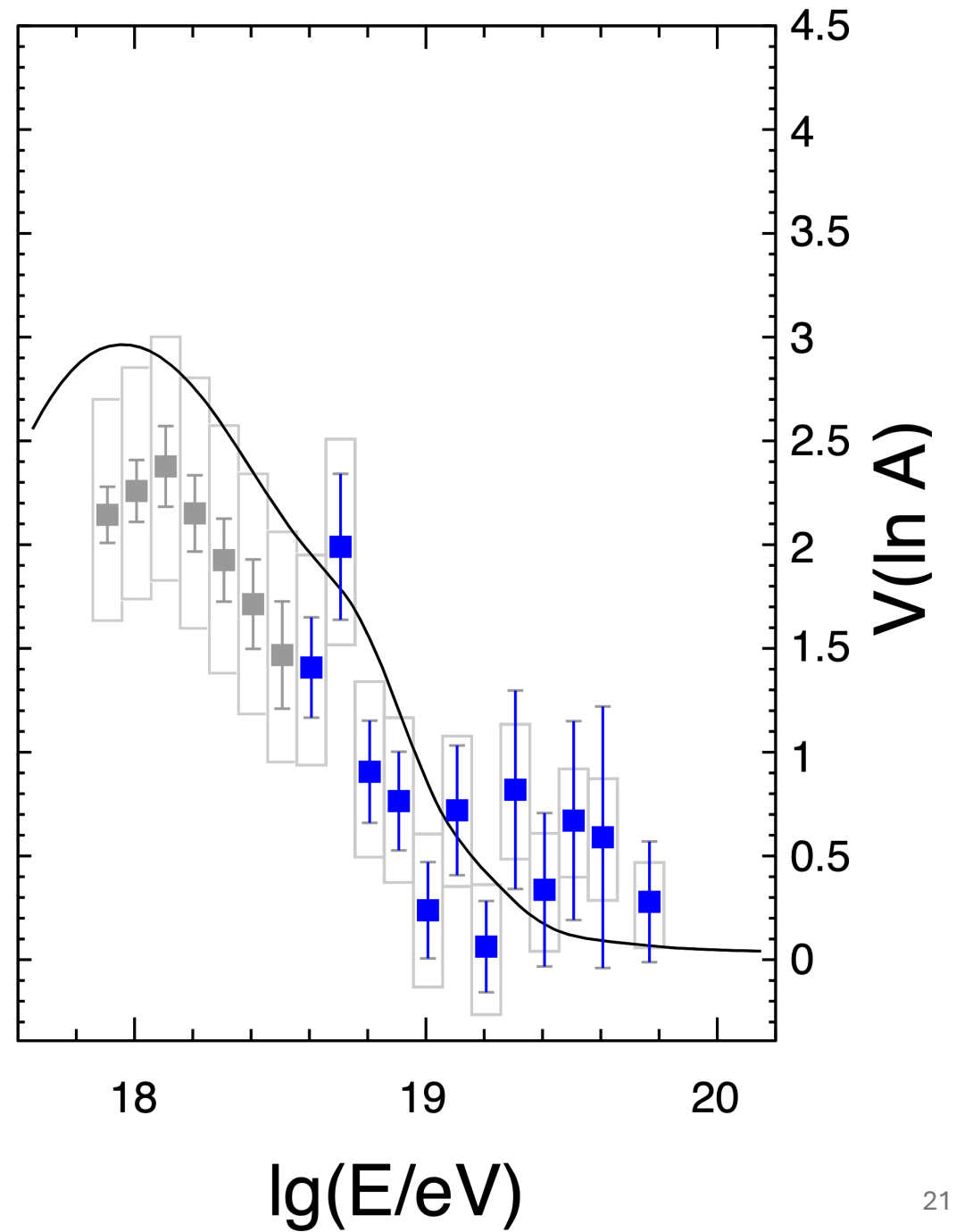
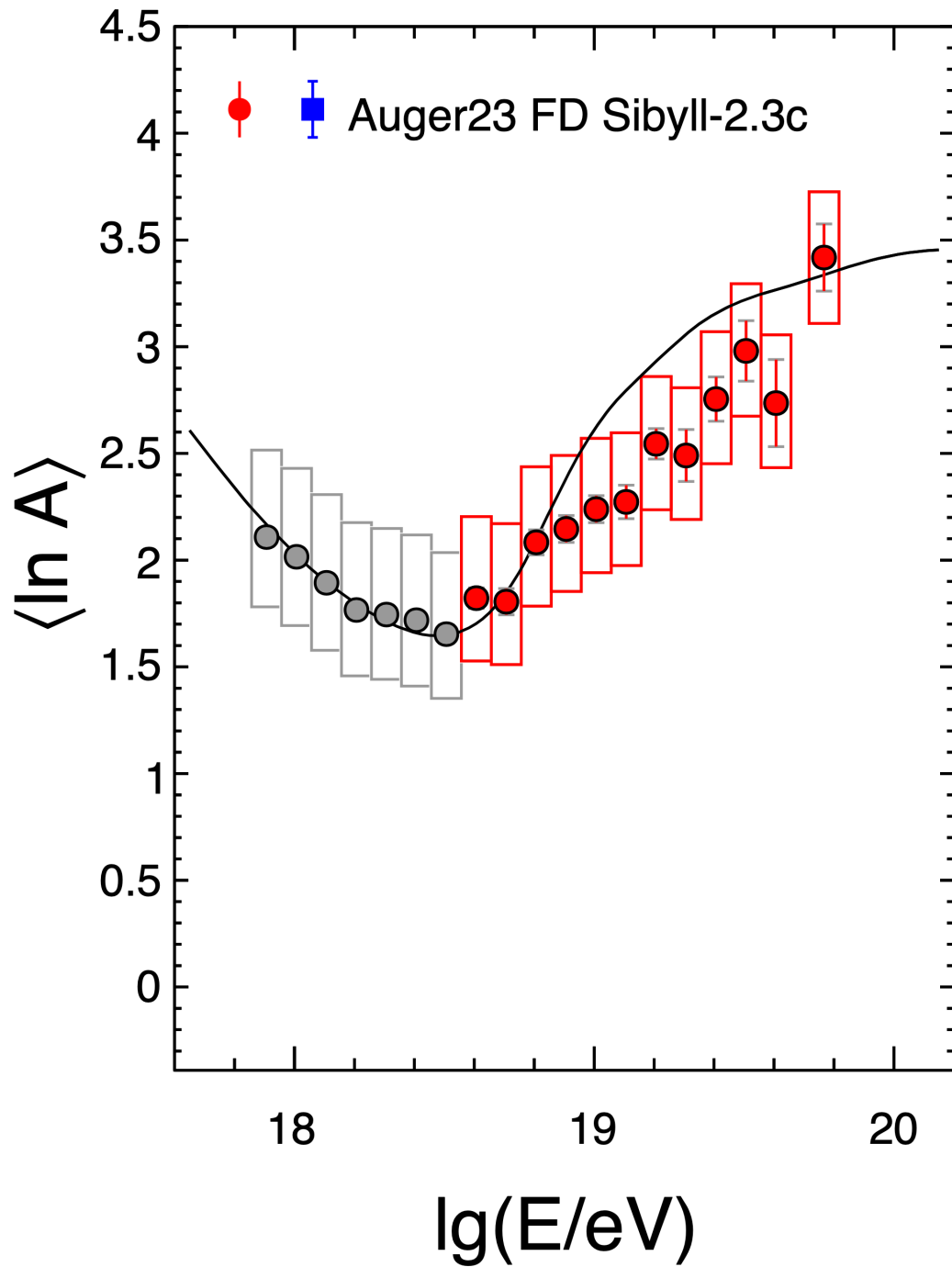


Trinity
 TAMBO
 IceCube-Gen2
 ...

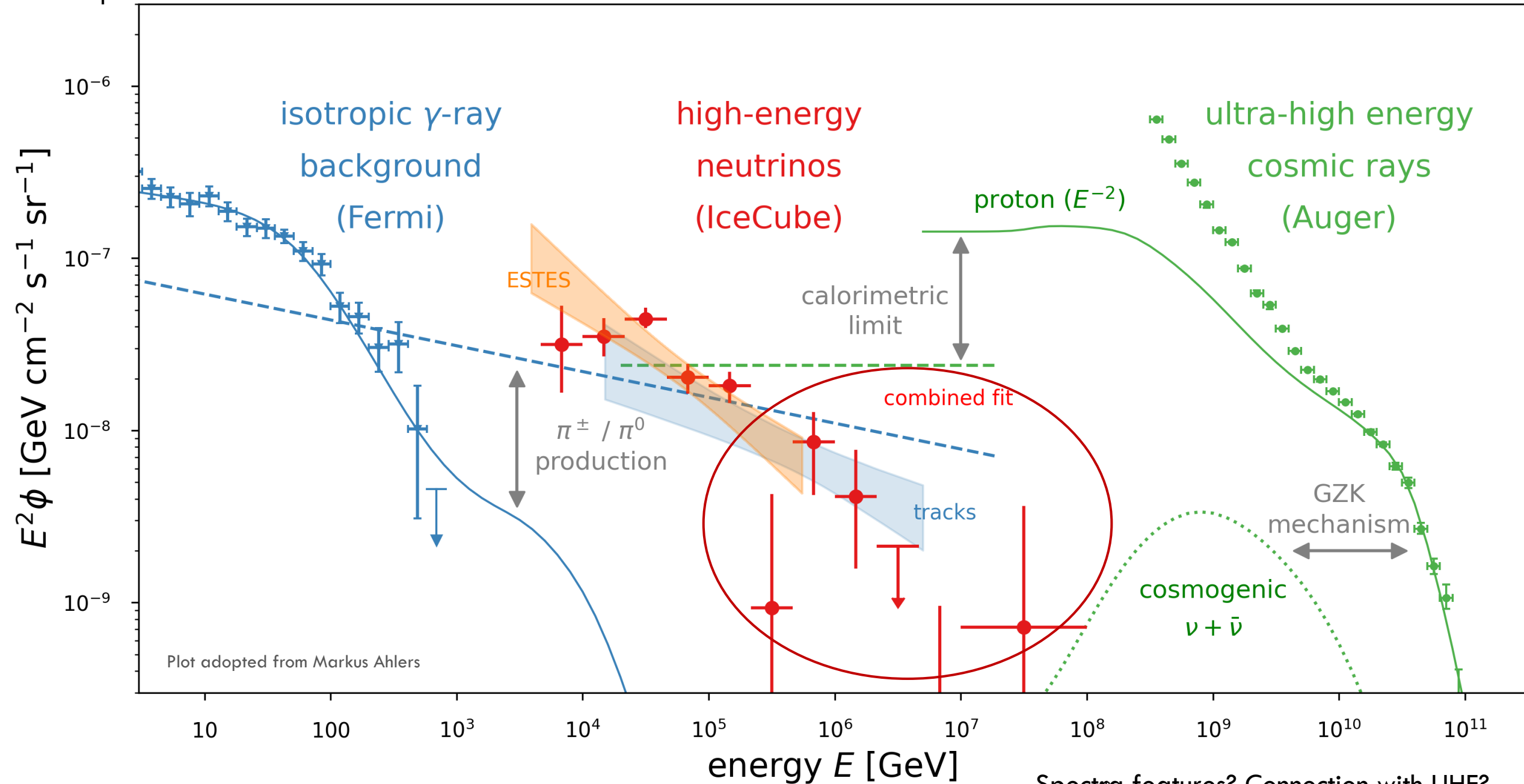
Conclusion

- Performed joint fit to UHECR spectrum & X_{\max} data along with >5 PeV neutrinos
- > 10 PeV neutrino spectrum predicted by realistic UHECR source models
 - Production mainly in-source photon fields
 - Secondary through UHECR x CIB
- Hints of the 10 PeV neutrino recovery from IceCube & KM3Net?
- Next-generation detectors required to robustly detect recovery
 - Smoking gun source identification





backup



Plot adopted from Markus Ahlers

Spectra features? Connection with UHE?

Km3net – an intriguing event

See ICHEP [talk](#) from Paschal Coyle

Potentially with muon energy $\gg 10$ PeV. Background probability, angular and energy uncertainties under study

