

# Spallation background



**Yasuo Takeuchi**  
**Kobe University**

- **Low-energy backgrounds in SK**
- **Spallation BG**
- **Dark rate & Detector resolutions**

(All the energies in this slide are electron total energy)

# Low-energy backgrounds in SK

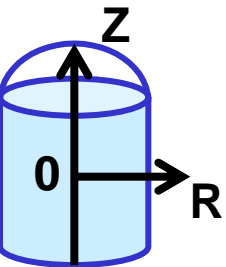
Spallation is dominant BG source in  $\sim 10\text{-}20\text{MeV}$

Misfit

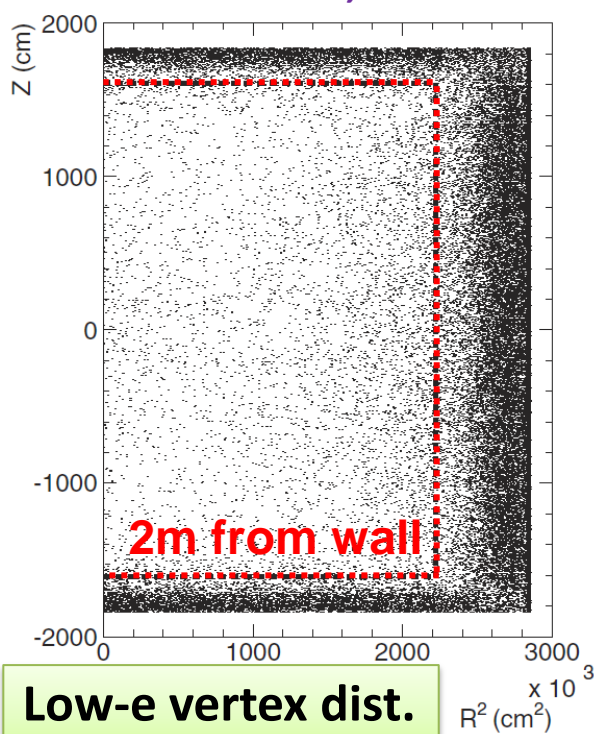
External gamma

Radon, Misfit,  
External gamma, etc.

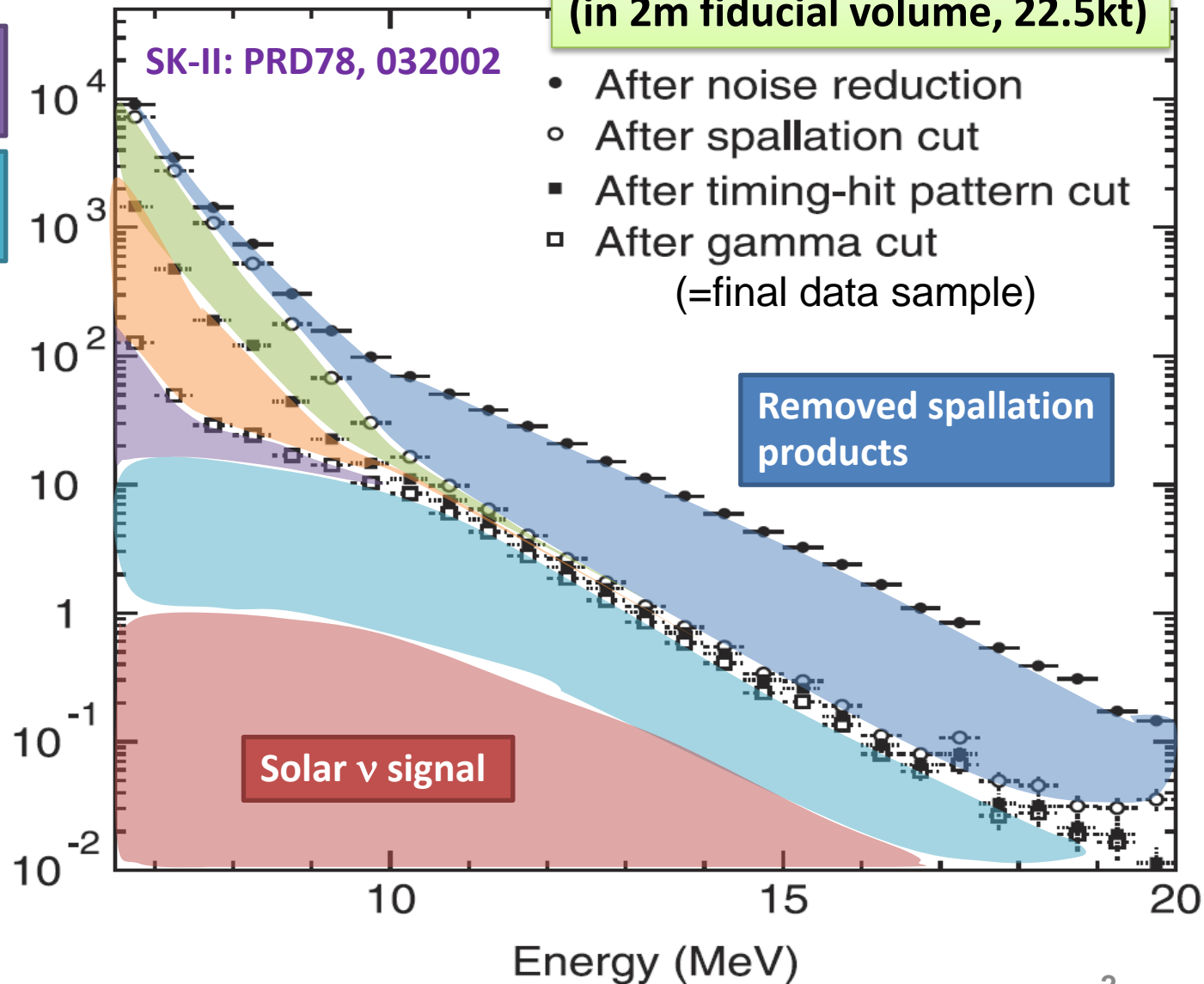
Remaining spallation  
products (probably)



SK-I: PRD73, 112001



Events/day/0.5MeV



# Spallation (in water)

SK SRN: PRD85, 052007

- Cosmic-ray muons interact with oxygen nuclei in the water and produce various radio active isotopes.  
→ **Spallation**
- Correlation with parent muon
  - Time, Position
- Energy up to ~20MeV
  - Overlap with solar  $\nu$  (Y. Koshio)
- **Spallation products will be increased in HK due to high cosmic-ray muon flux.**

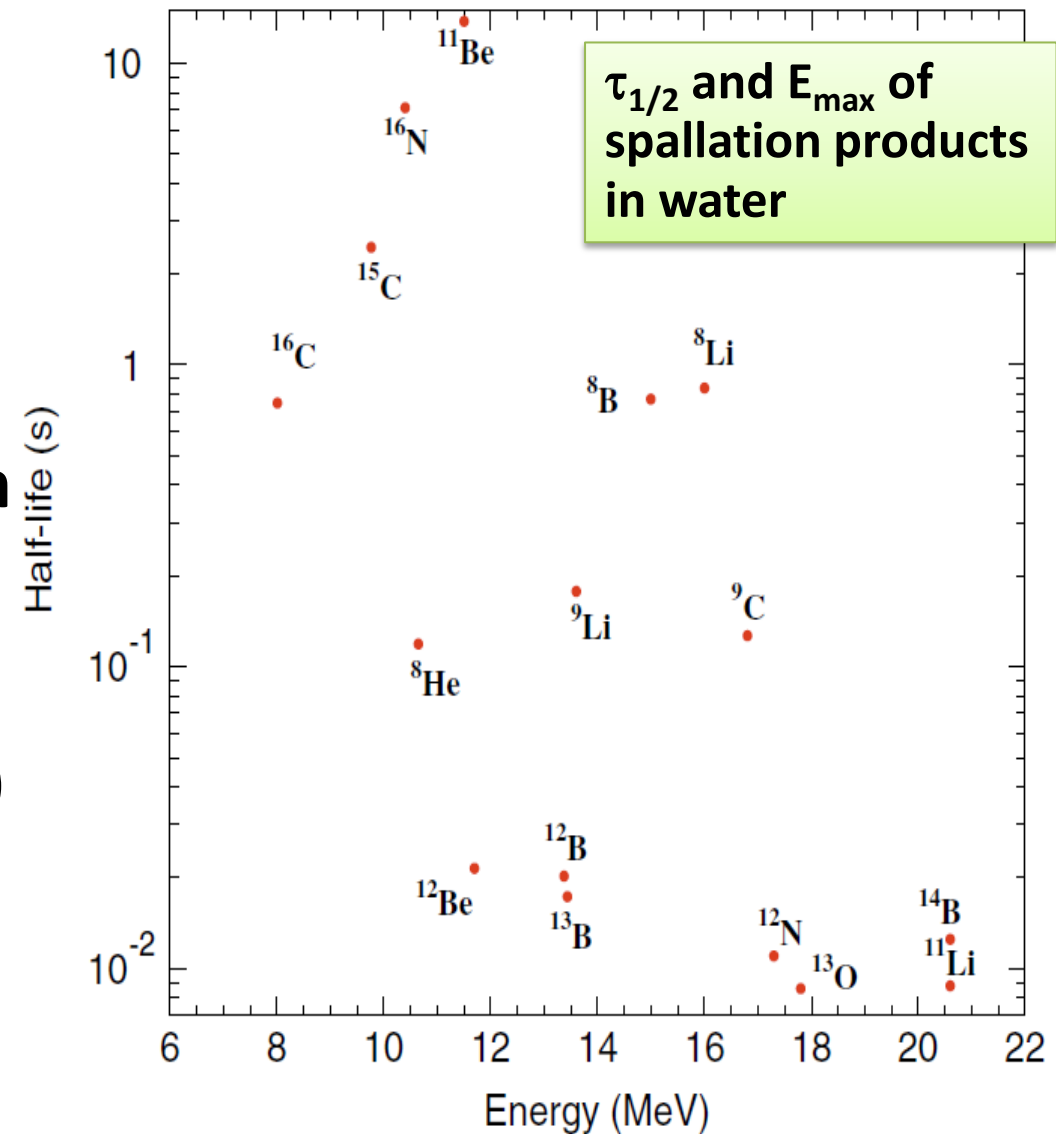


FIG. 5 (color online). Half-lives and event end-point energies of spallation products expected to occur in pure water. Lower energy events trend to longer decay times.

# Spallation cut in SK

- Likelihood method is used to reduce spallation products in SK
- “Solar spallation cut” (in PRD73, 112001)
  - $Likelihood = PDF(Q_{RES}) * PDF(\Delta T) * PDF(L_{TRANS})$
- “(supernova) relic spallation cut” (in PRD85, 052007)
  - $Likelihood = PDF(Q_{PEAK}) * PDF(\Delta T) * PDF(L_{TRANS}) * PDF(L_{LONG})$
- Improved likelihood function is used in “relic spallation cut”

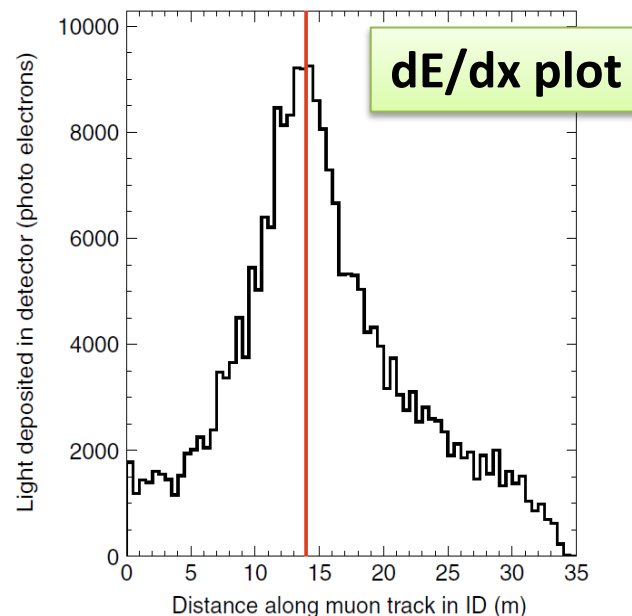
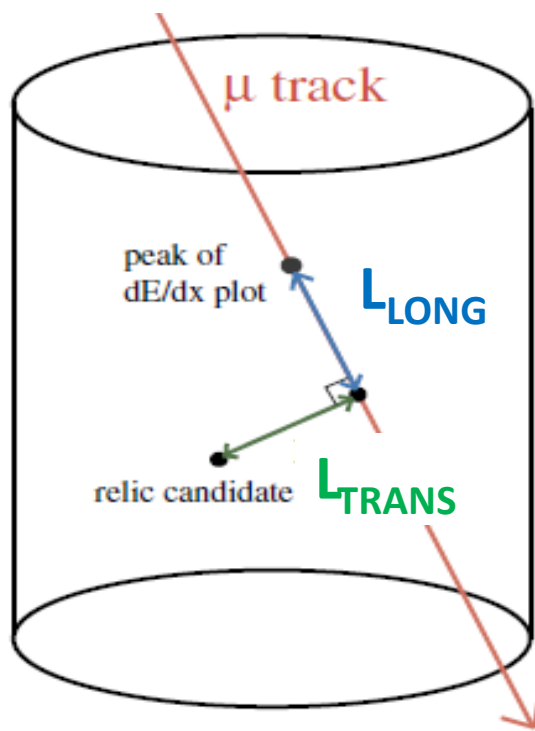


FIG. 2 (color online). Example of a  $dE/dx$  plot. The red line indicates where along the muon track the candidate was reconstructed. This example has particularly good correlation.

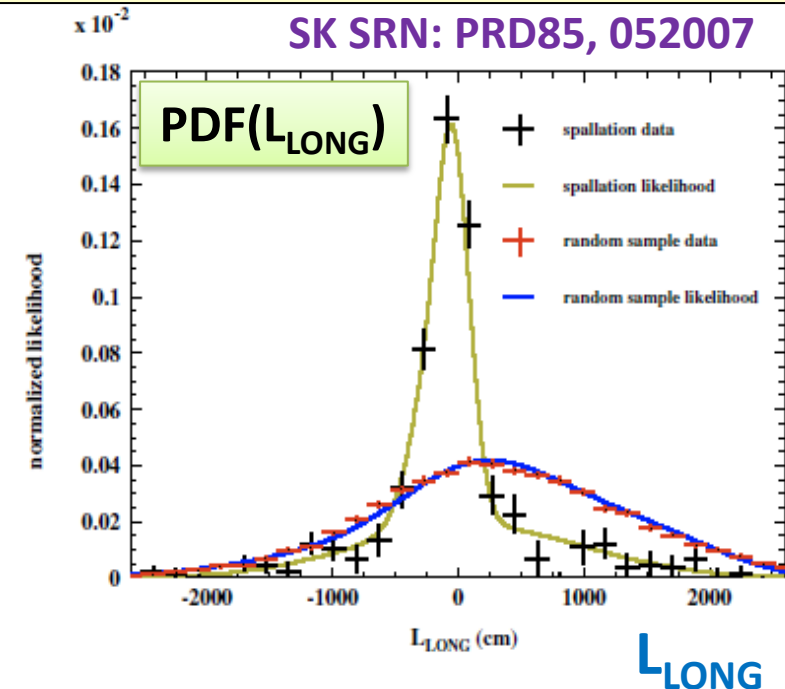


FIG. 4 (color online). SK-I/III data with likelihood functions overlaid for single through-going muons. Top shows transverse distance; bottom shows longitudinal distance.

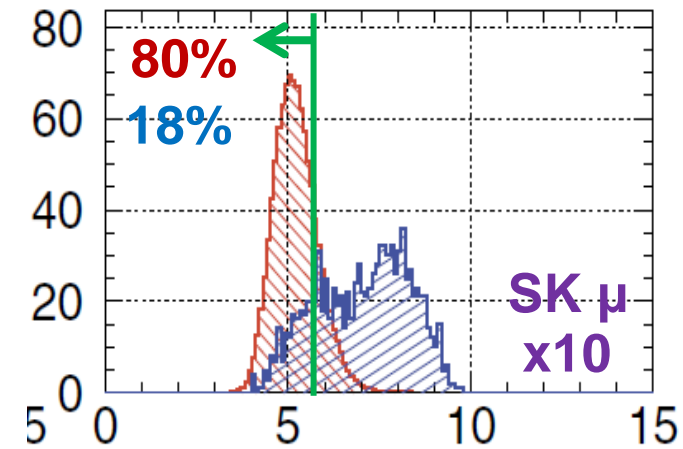
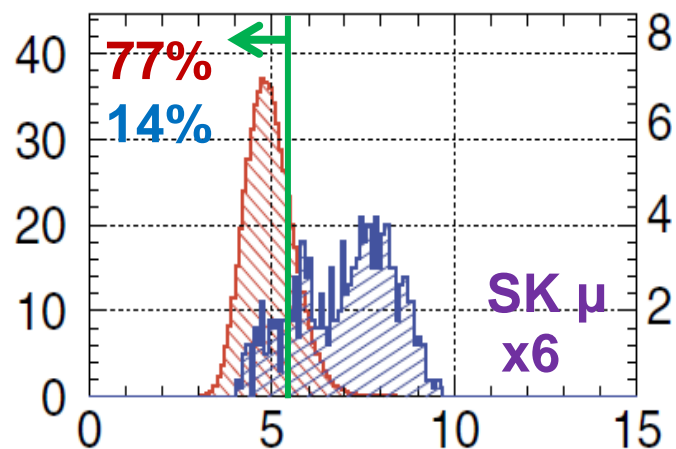
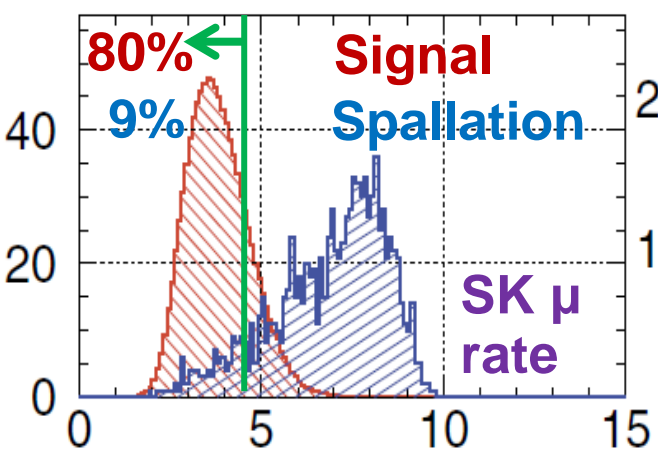
# Our estimation so far

arXiv:1109.3262 (HK LOI)

Poster 34-1 @NEUTRINO2012

Y. Koshio @1<sup>st</sup> HK open meeting

- So far, “**solar spallation cut**” and **SK-I/III data** are used.
  - The density of spallation products: **x6~7**
  - Increase by spallation cut: **x3** at most
  - The density of **the remaining spallation products** will be increased by **a factor of 20 at most** in HK



Solar spallation likelihood

# Updates

This study was  
done by T. Yano

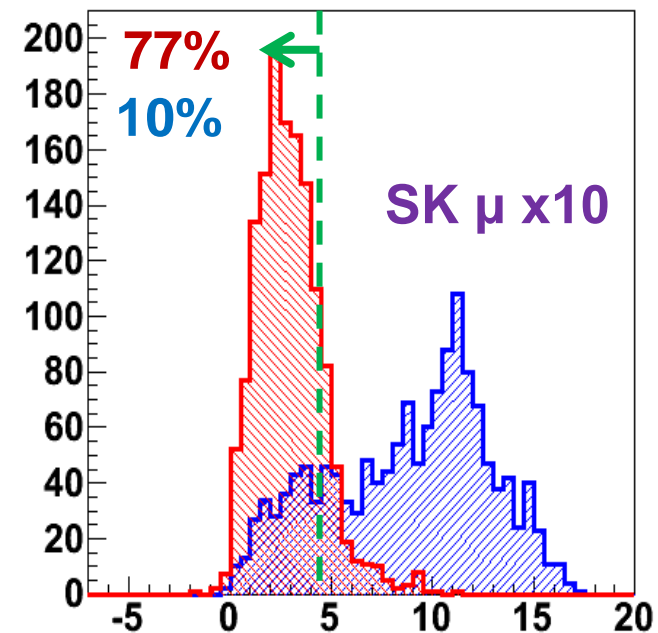
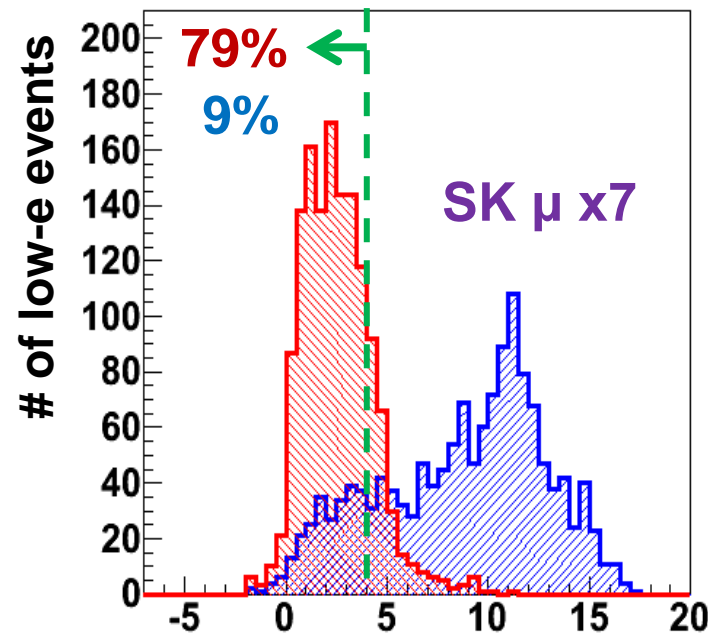
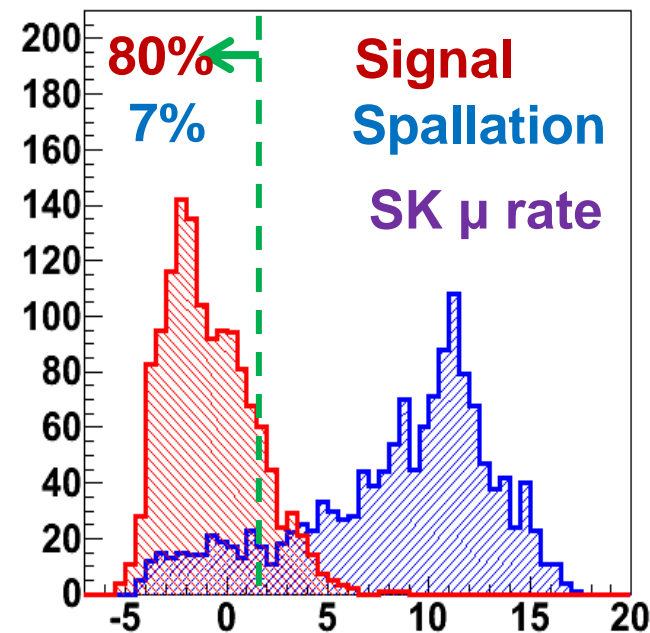
- Use **whole SK-II data** with  $17.5 \text{ MeV} < E < 26 \text{ MeV}$ 
  - **19%** photo coverage
  - Previous: **SK-III** (**40%** coverage),  $E > 12 \text{ MeV}$ , 1 day
- Apply a basic **relic spallation cut** under  $x1 \sim x10$  muons ( $\mu^*1 \sim \mu^*10$ )
  - Just use SK-II likelihood functions and partial cut criteria. Optimization is not done yet.
  - Previous: **solar spallation cut** ( $\mu^*1 \sim \mu^*30$ )

## Note:

1. Unit of the muon rate is the muon flux in SK detector ( $=\mu^*1$ )
2. Assumed current HK site corresponds to  $\mu^*6 \sim 7$ , based on the density of the spallation products, instead of real muon flux in HK site ( $\sim \mu^*10$ )
3. Some non-spallation BG, like solar  $\nu$ , are still remaining.

# Typical likelihood distribution

- SK-II data 17.5-26MeV
- Spallation: SK-II data before spallation cut
- Signal: random combination between low-e & muon events.
- The green lines are not accurate (cut condition is not a line on the plot)



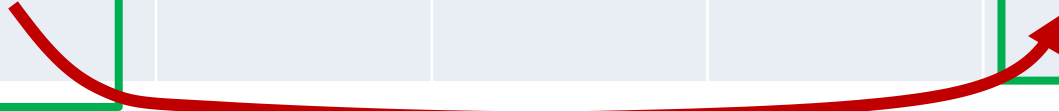
Spallation likelihood



# Remaining spallation events

- **Keep ~80% signal efficiency in 17.5 – 20 MeV**
  - Omit some cuts (Dt, Lt, gof cuts), then just use likelihood distribution.
  - At moment, we assumed <17.5 MeV region is same

	Mu*1	Mu*2	Mu*3	Mu*5	Mu*7	Mu*10
Signal efficiency	80%	79%	78%	78%	79%	77%
Remaining spallation products	7%	7%	8%	9%	9%	10%



**Factor ~1.4 increase**

Stat. errors are ~10%  
Used for Solar study (Y. Koshio)

Cf.: solar spallation cut: factor ~3 increase

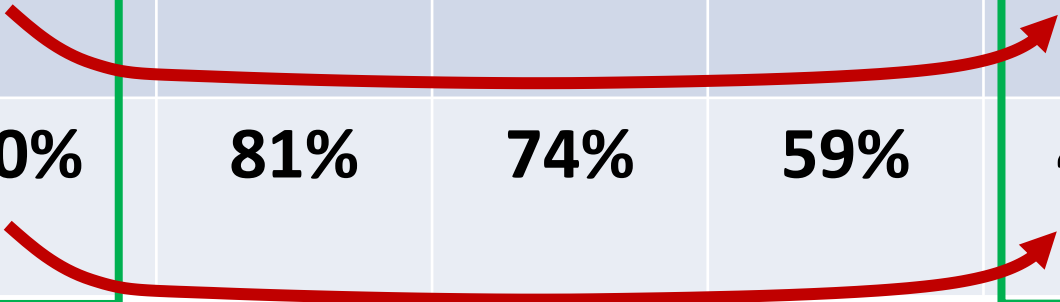


# Signal efficiency

## ■ Keep SK-II cut criteria

- At moment, we assumed the remaining spallation events are negligible in HK (same as SK-II detector)

	Mu*1	Mu*2	Mu*3	Mu*5	Mu*7	Mu*10
17.5-20MeV	81%	65%	52%	33%	21%	11%
20-26MeV	90%	81%	74%	59%	46%	35%



Used for SN relic study (T. Yano)

# Summary of spallation study

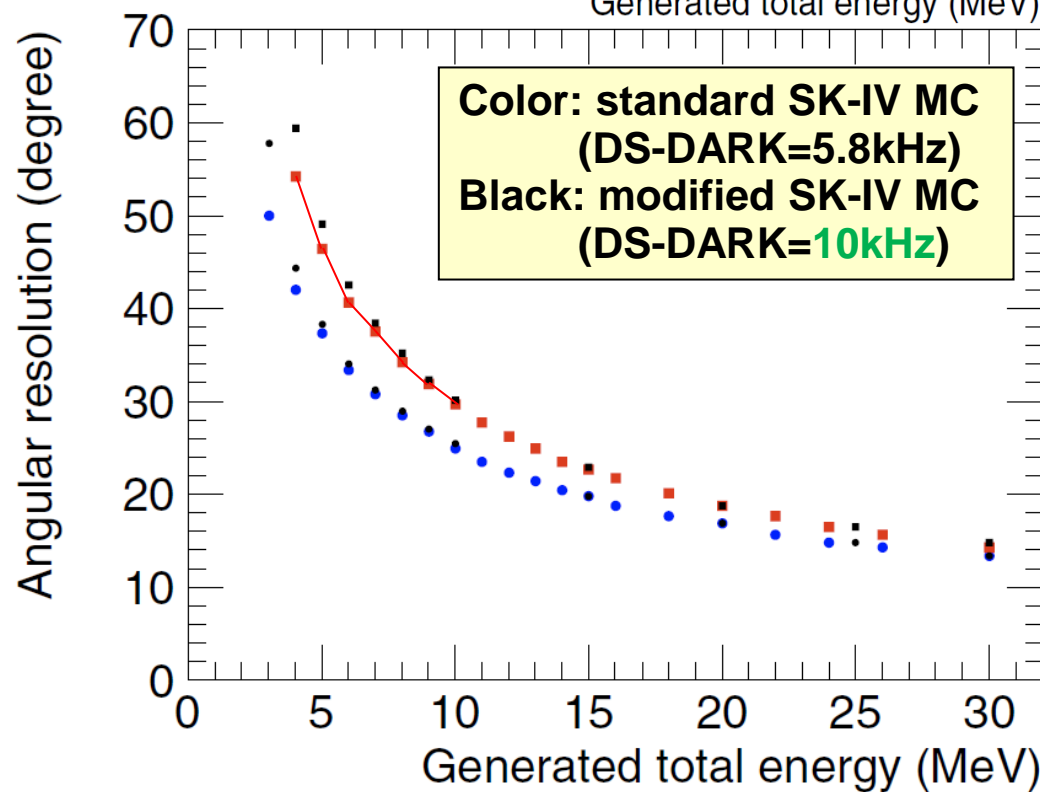
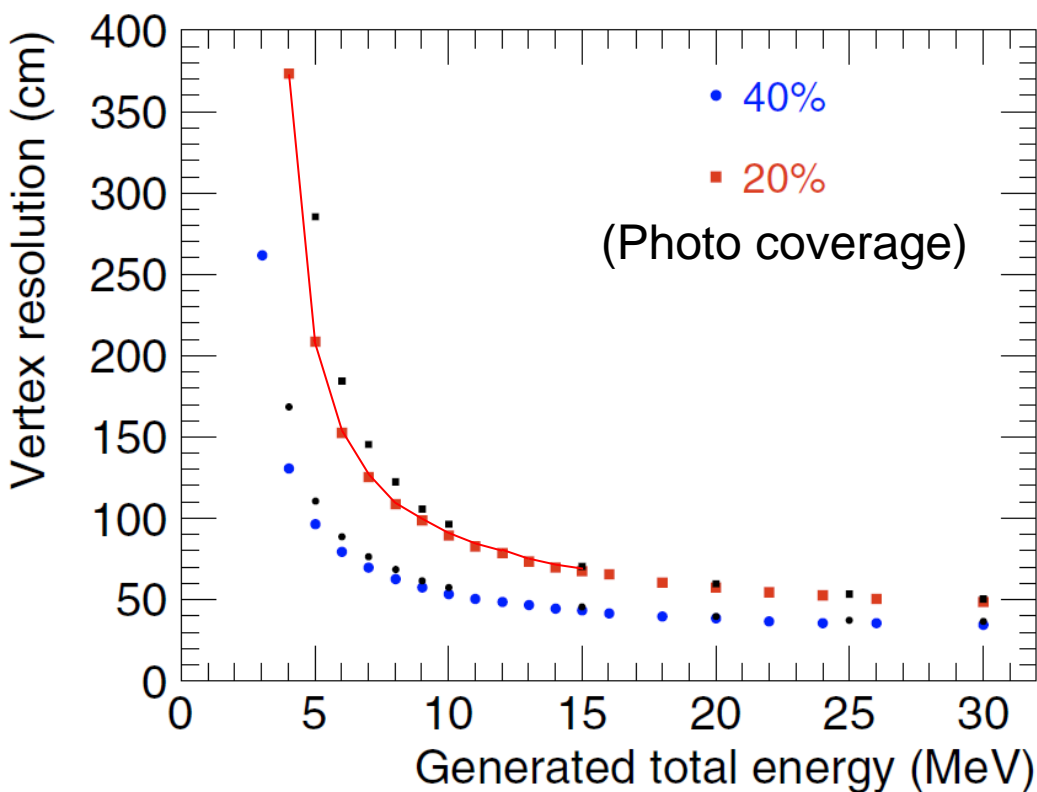
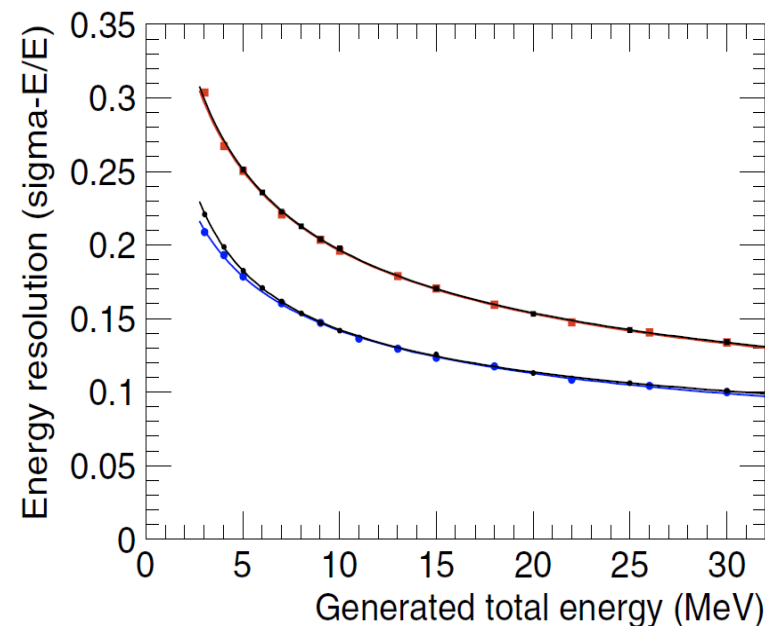
- Expected increase of the spallation background density will be **about 10** (for solar  $\nu$ ).  
(Previous =  $\sim 20$ )
  - The density of spallation products: **x6~7 (same)**
  - Increase by spallation cut: **x1.4 (updated)**

# Dark rate & detector resolutions

- By increasing the dark rate artificially, event reconstruction quality were studied.
- 1. Use SK-IV detector simulation
  - Dark rate parameter (DS-DARK) is increased
    - Observed dark rate in SK-IV =  $DS-DARK/1.27$  (kHz)
- 2. Use SK-I data
  - 5 MeV LINAC & background data

# Expected resolutions for an electron

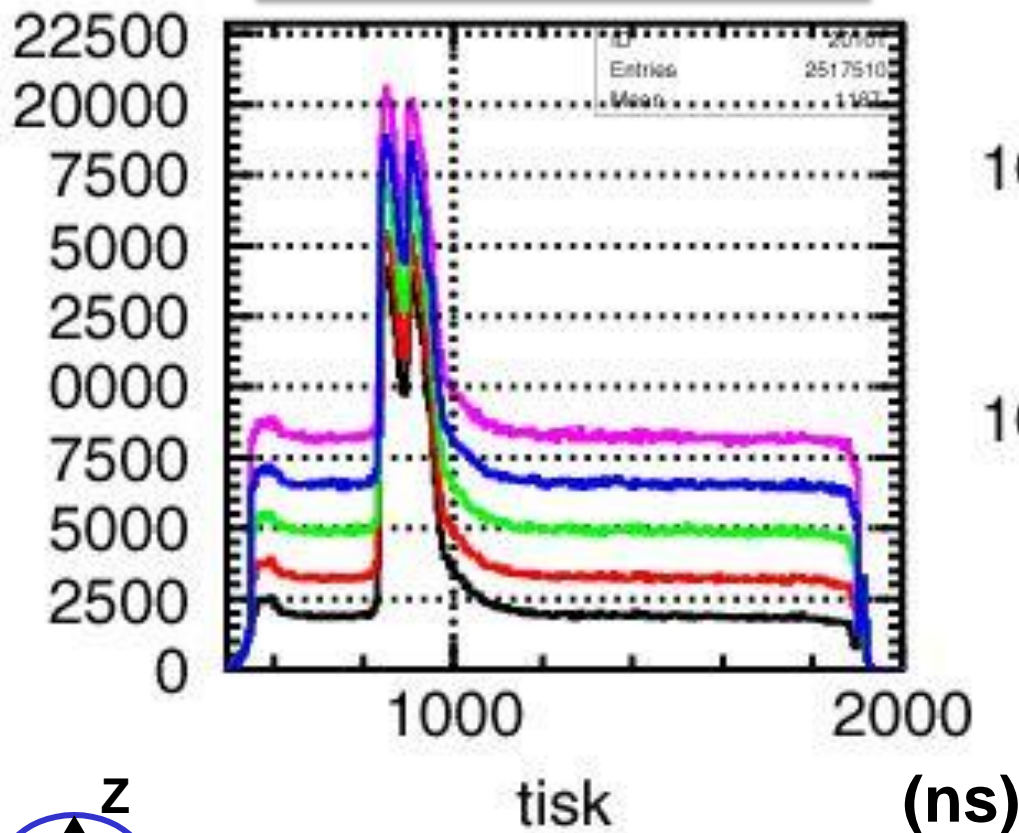
- Use SK-IV detector simulation
- Inside 2m fid. vol.
- Photo coverage was changed by masking about half PMTs in SK-IV
- **Vertex & angular resolutions will be affected by the high dark rate sensors.**



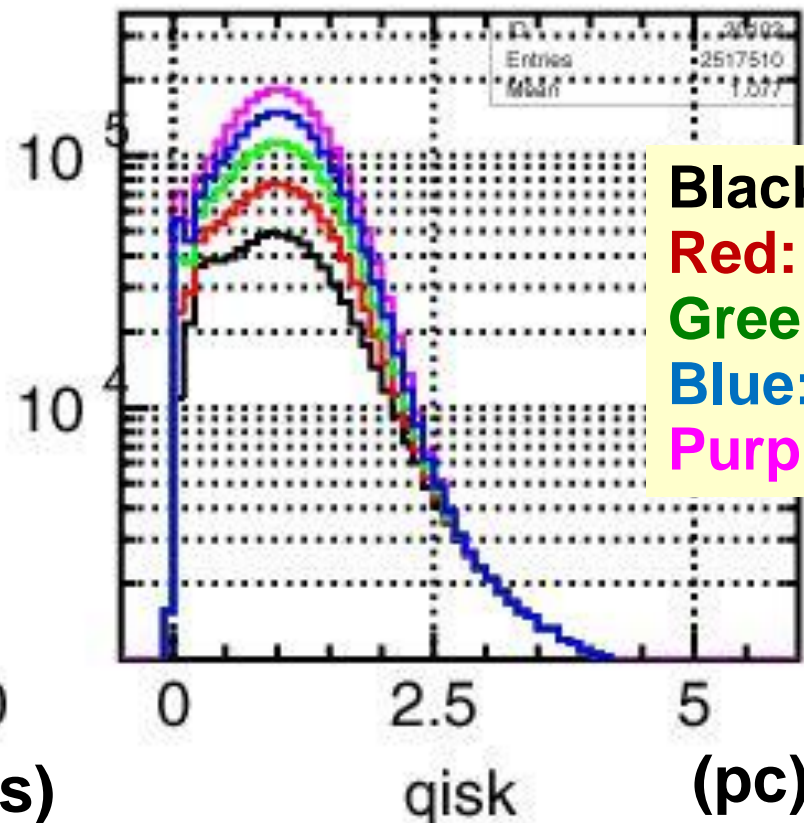
# Effects on event reconstruction

- Dark rate hits in SK-I data are artificially increased.
  - SK-I observed dark rate:  $\sim 3.4\text{kHz}$

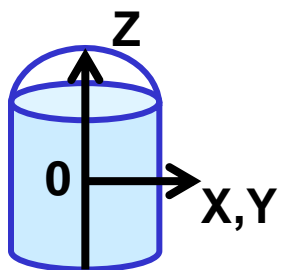
Time of each hit-PMT



Charge of each hit-PMT



Black: original  
Red:  $\sim 1.5$   
Green:  $\sim 2.0$   
Blue:  $\sim 2.5$   
Purple:  $\sim 3.0$



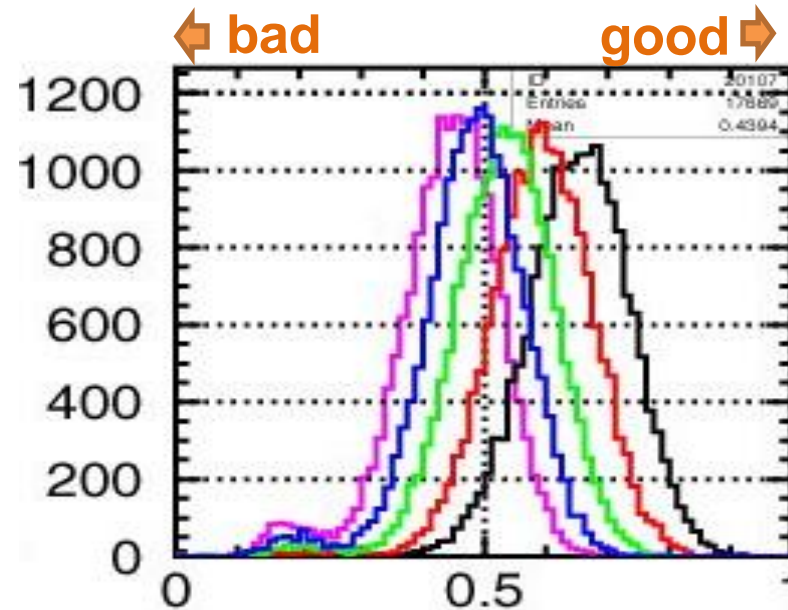
SK-I LINAC data (5 MeV,  $X=-12\text{m}$   $Z=0\text{m}$ )

# Vertex (timing) goodness

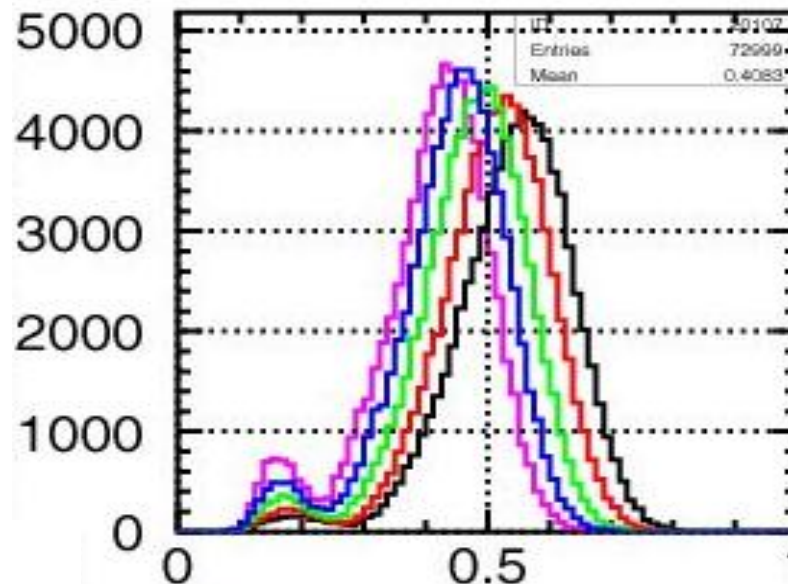
**Signal:**  
SK-I LINAC  
5MeV  
X=-12m Z=0m

**Background:**  
SK-I SLE  
triggered  
events

(without Intelligent  
Trigger filtering)



Poor goodness  
separation under  
high dark rate



**Black:** original  
**Red:** ~1.5  
**Green:** ~2.0  
**Blue:** ~2.5  
**Purple:** ~3.0

Timing goodness (from Bonsai fit)



# Event quality parameters in SK-II

SOLAR NEUTRINO MEASUREMENTS IN SUPER- ...

PHYSICAL REVIEW D 78, 032002 (2008)

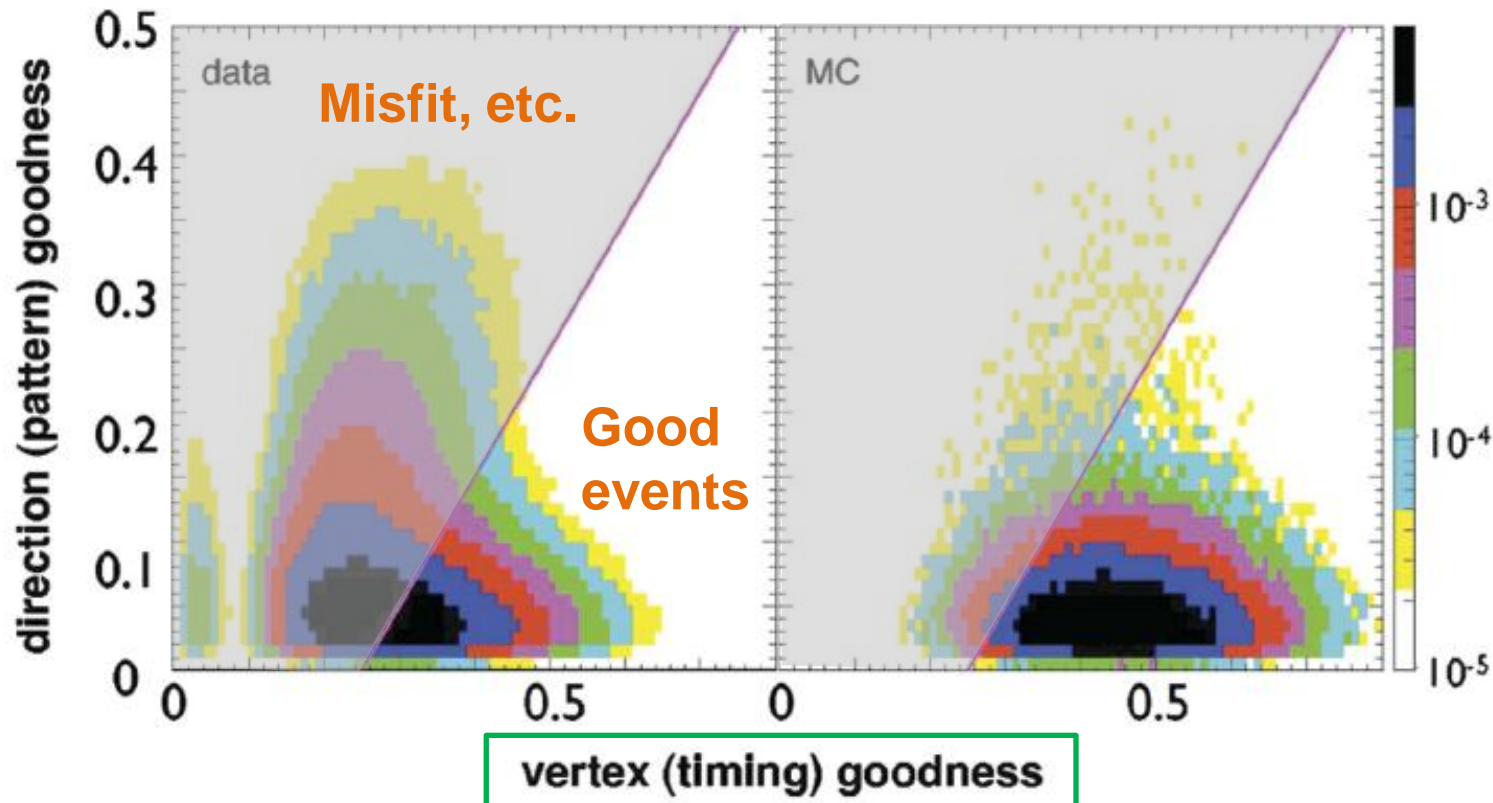


FIG. 9 (color). PMT timing and hit pattern cut. Data (left) show an excess of misreconstructed and non-Cherenkov events to the upper-left of the diagonal cut line. Approximately 78% (8%) of data (MC) events between 7.0–7.5 MeV are rejected by the cut. The color scale is to show the relative (normalized) number of events.

- High dark rate will increase low-e background events
  - Need to estimate



# Summary

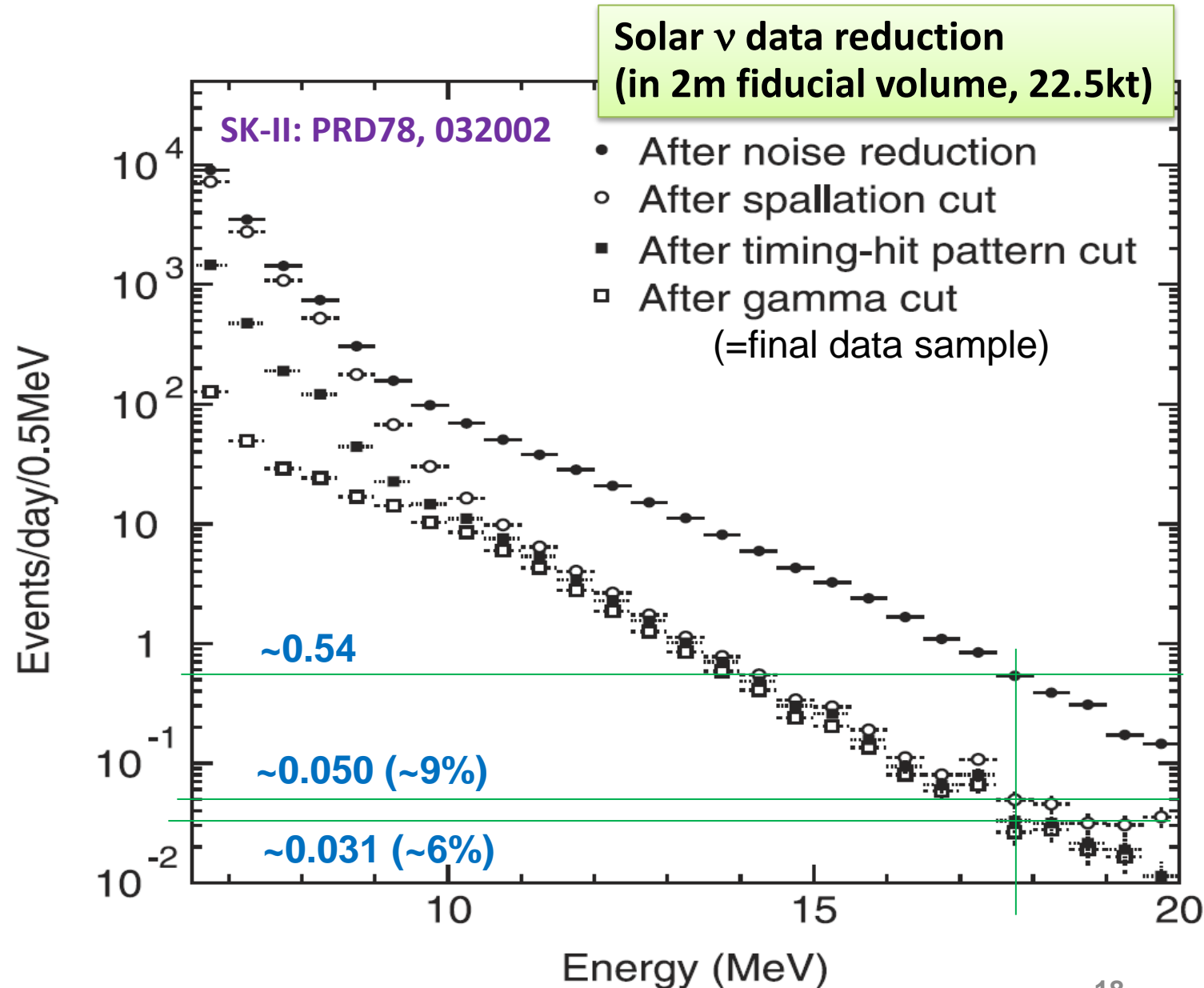
- Expected BG increase for solar neutrinos in HK is factor **about 10** (comparing to SK-II) per unit volume with 80% signal efficiency, under a basic relic spallation cut.
  - Y. Koshio's study
- If we apply a similar cut which removes (almost) all the spallation events in 17.5-26MeV in SK, the signal efficiency in HK becomes **21~46%**.
  - T. Yano's study
- High dark rate will degrade event quality parameters.

# **SUPPLEMENTS**

# Low-energy backgrounds in SK

Those events which reduced by the timing-hit pattern cut may not be spallation products.

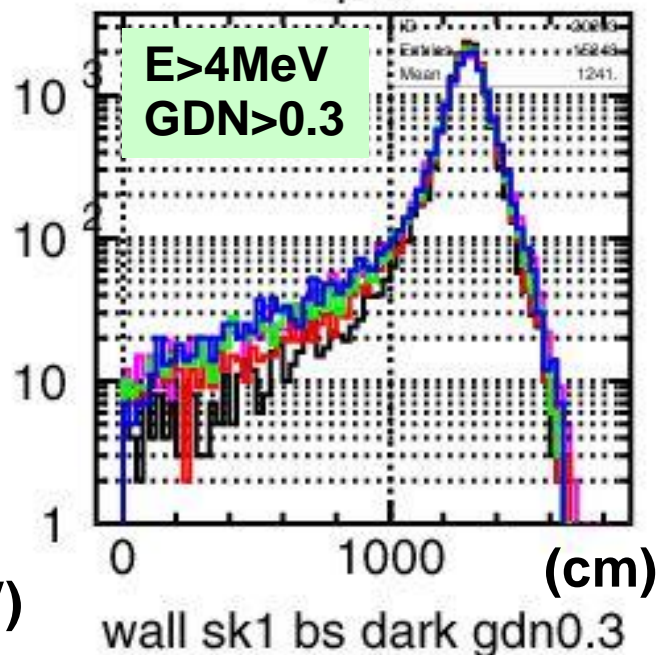
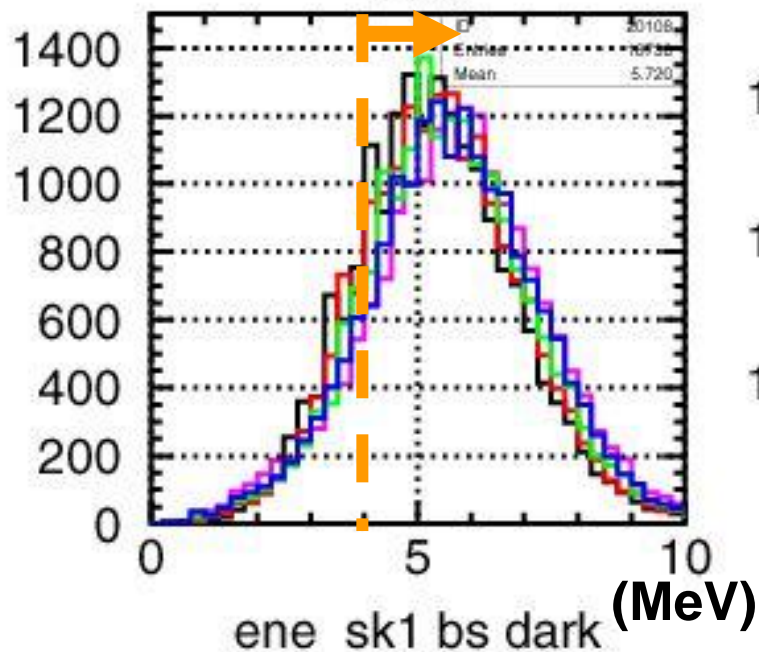
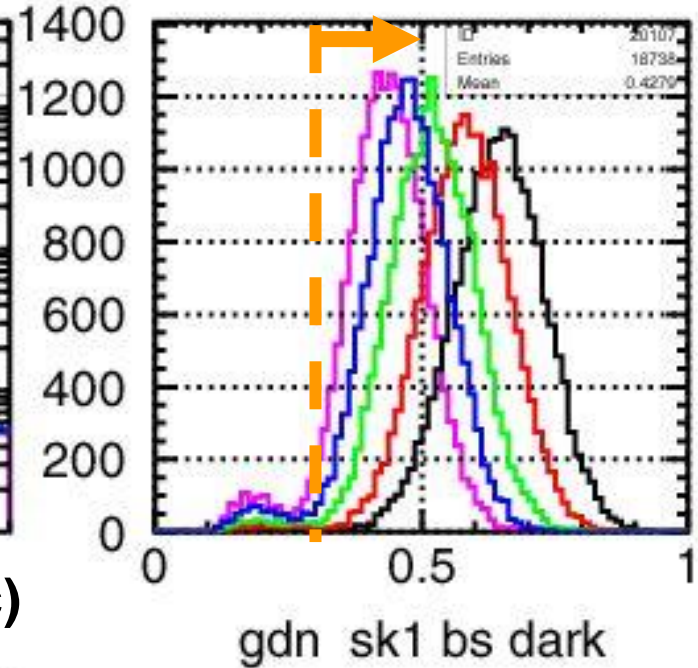
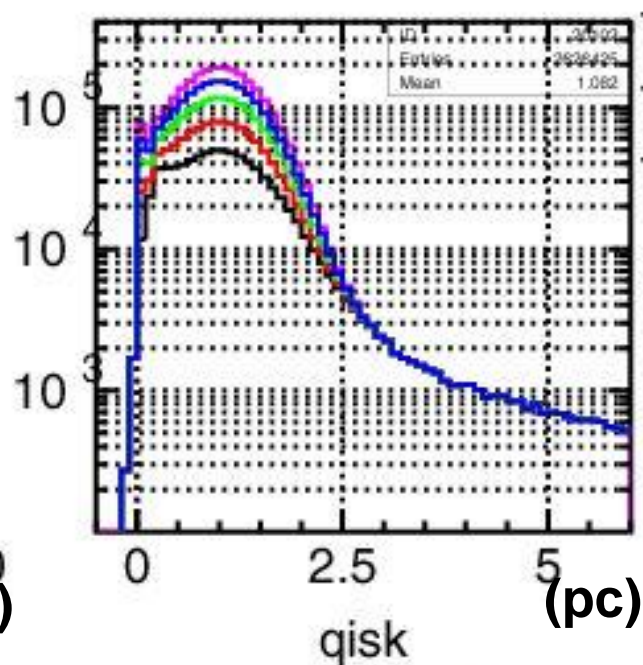
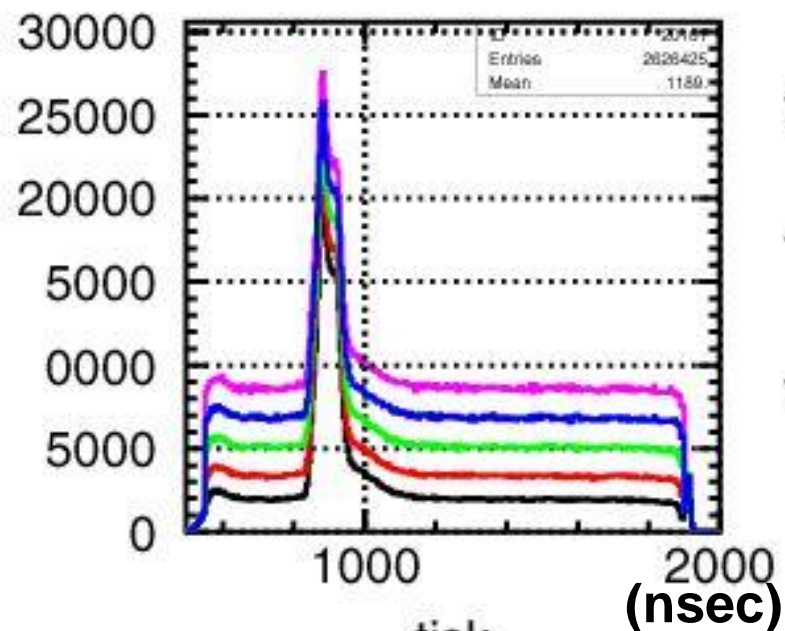
Remaining spallation products in SK-II in 17.5-18.0 MeV looks **6~9%**



# Possible effect of high dark rate in SK

- By increasing the dark rate artificially, event reconstruction quality were studied.
- Used data sample:
  - SK-I pre-scaled rejected events
  - SK-I LINAC data
- Applied factor: dark rate  $\times 1.5 \sim 3.0$
- Method:
  - Increase number of hit by Poisson
  - Generate uniform T and only low Q
  - Apply BONSAI fit

# High dark rate study:1

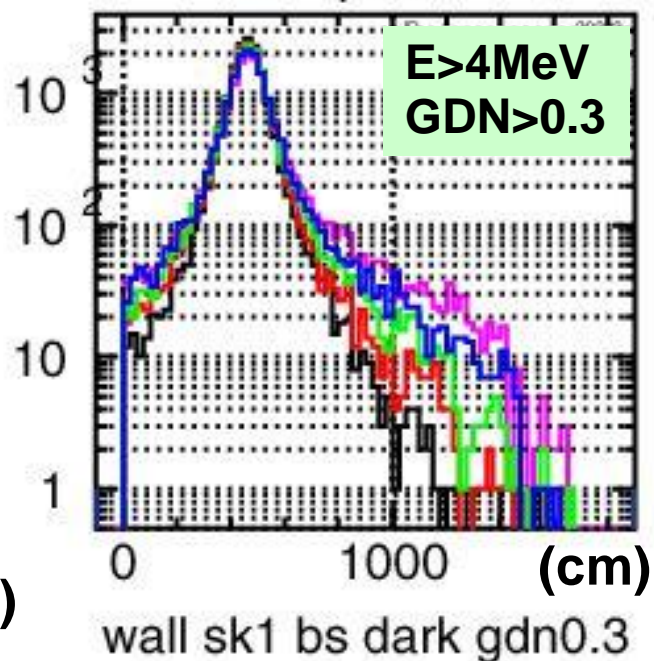
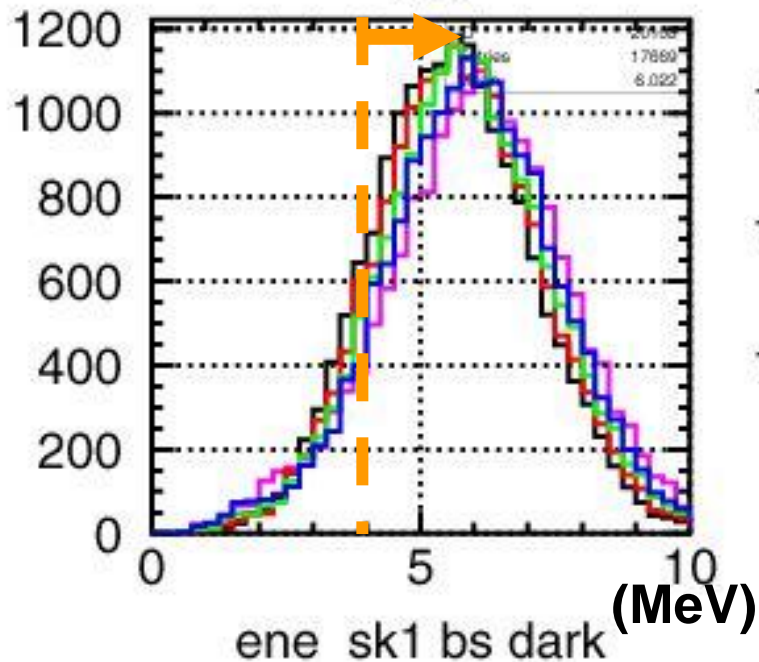
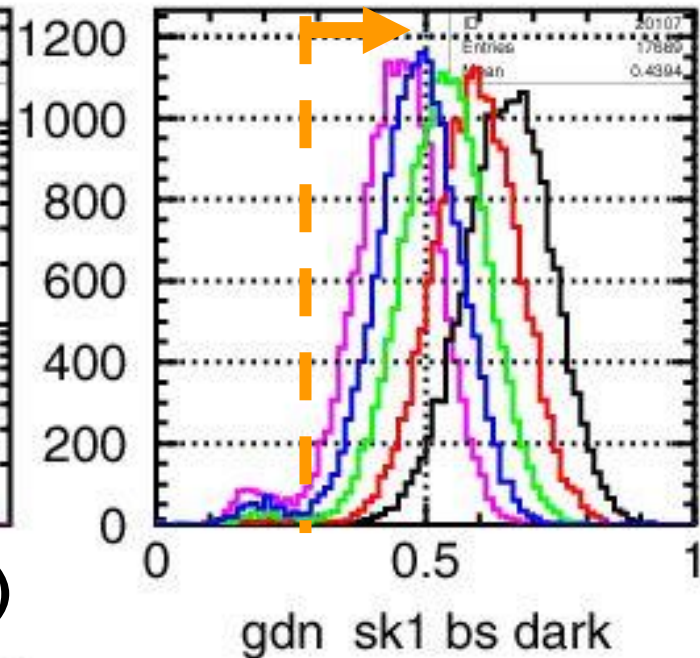
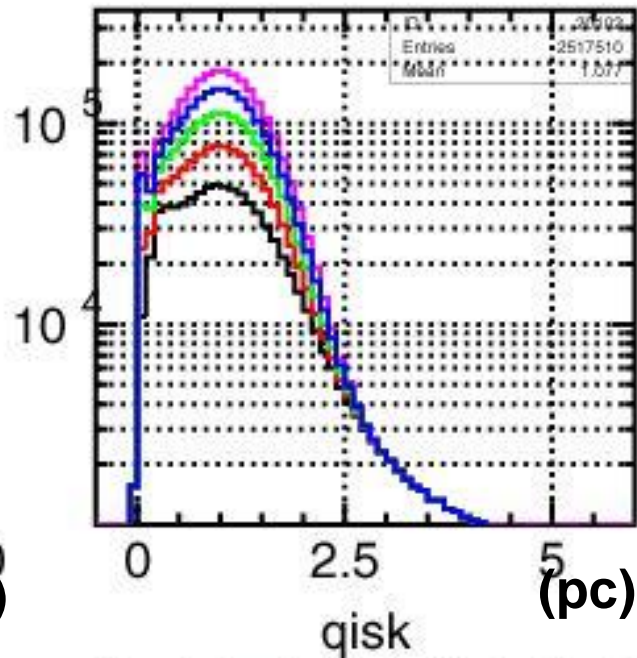
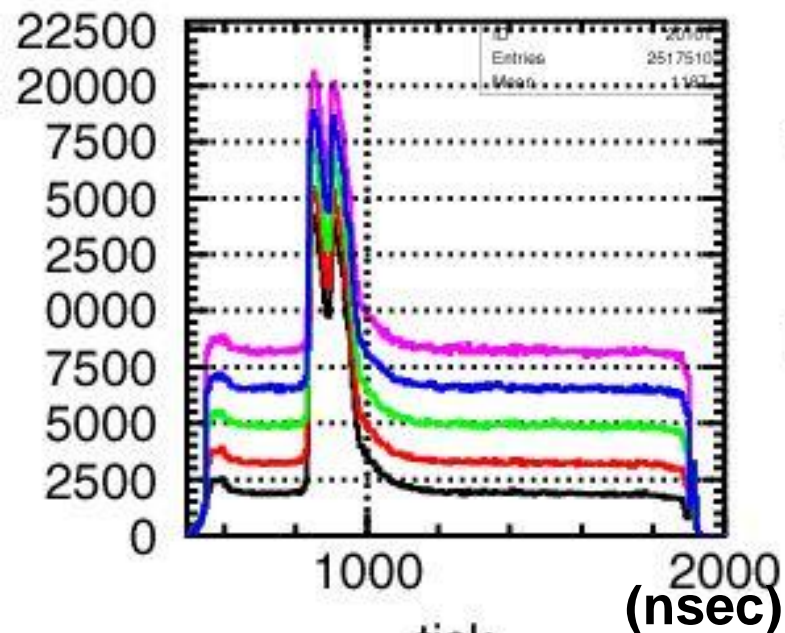


**SK-I LINAC**  
X=-4m Z=0m

**Black: original**  
**Red: ~1.5**  
**Green: ~2.0**  
**Blue: ~2.5**  
**Purple: ~3.0**



# High dark rate study:2

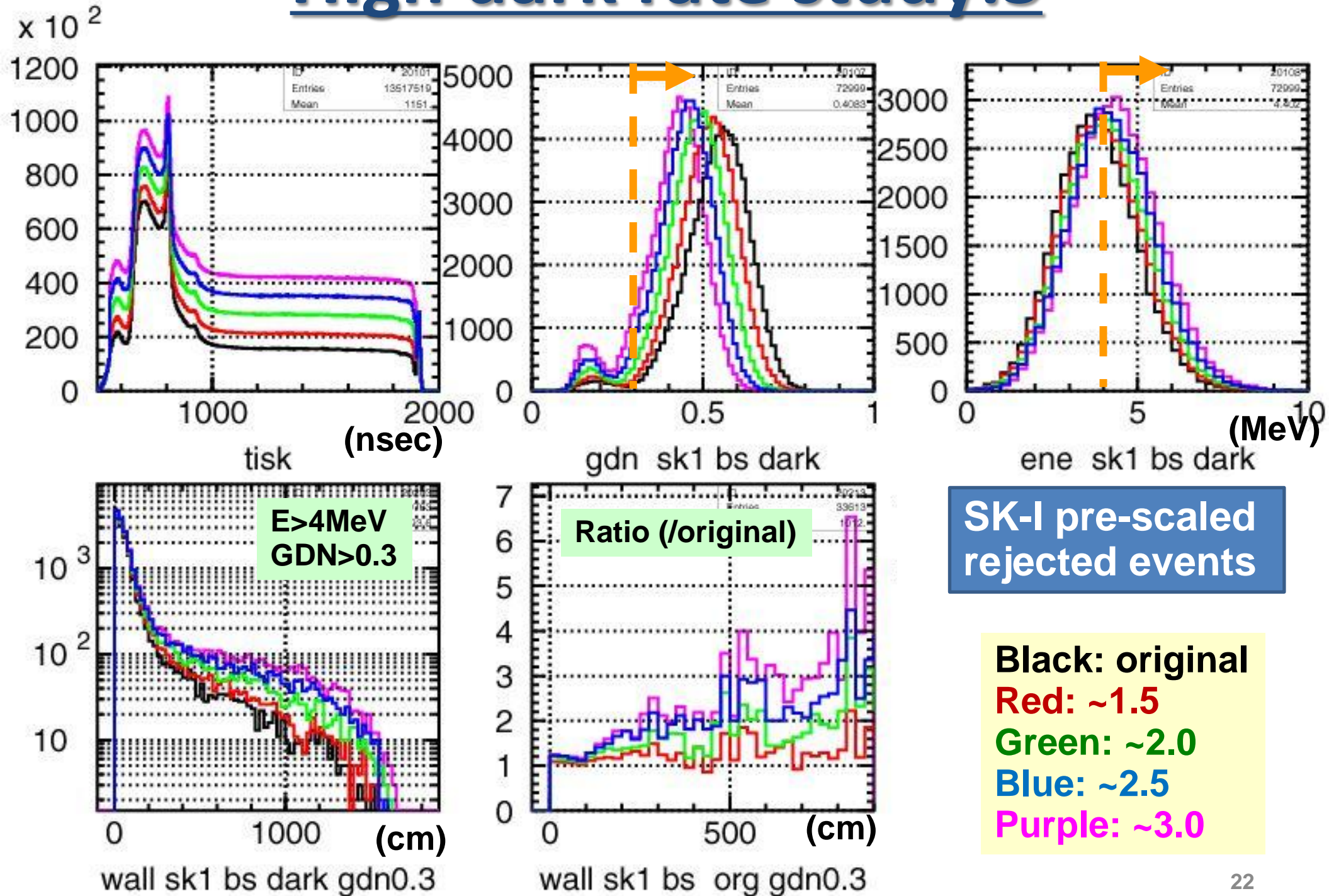


**SK-I LINAC**  
**X=-12m Z=0m**

**Black: original**  
**Red: ~1.5**  
**Green: ~2.0**  
**Blue: ~2.5**  
**Purple: ~3.0**



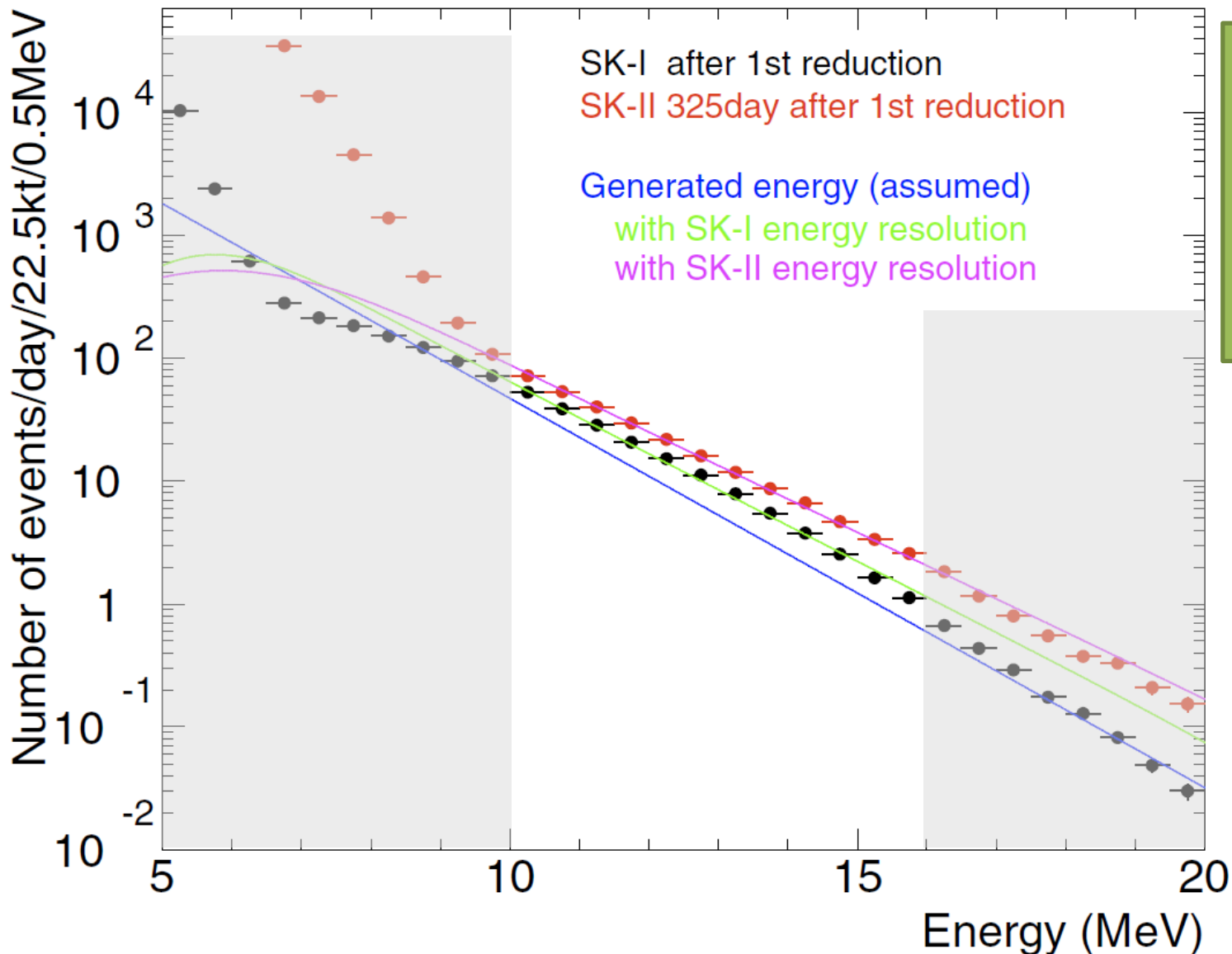
# High dark rate study:3





# After 1<sup>st</sup> reduction

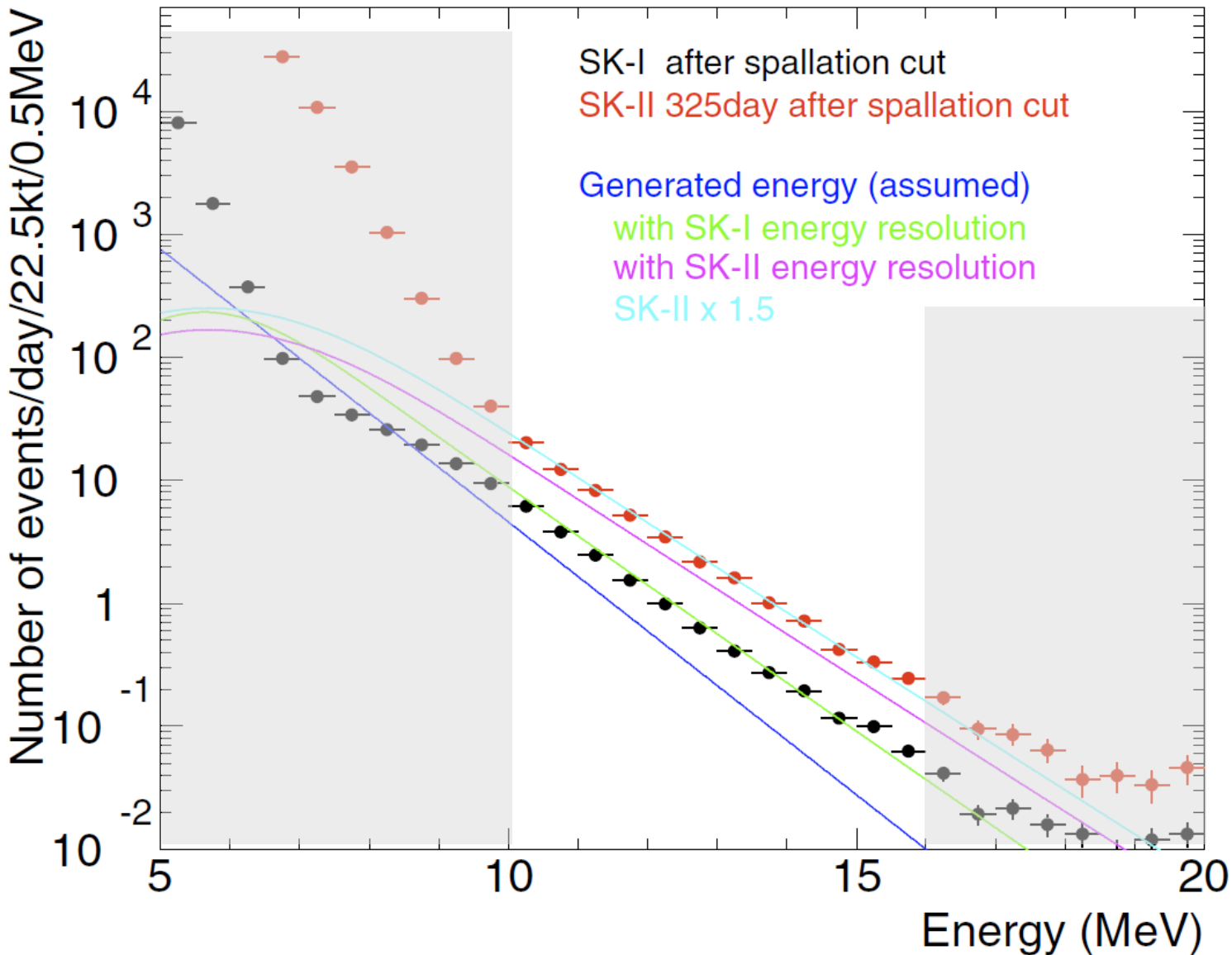
- Partial SK-II data were used in this study
- Cut criteria of SK-II may not be final.



The difference in 10-16MeV region could be explained by the energy resolution difference.

(Trigger efficiency < 8 MeV is not corrected)

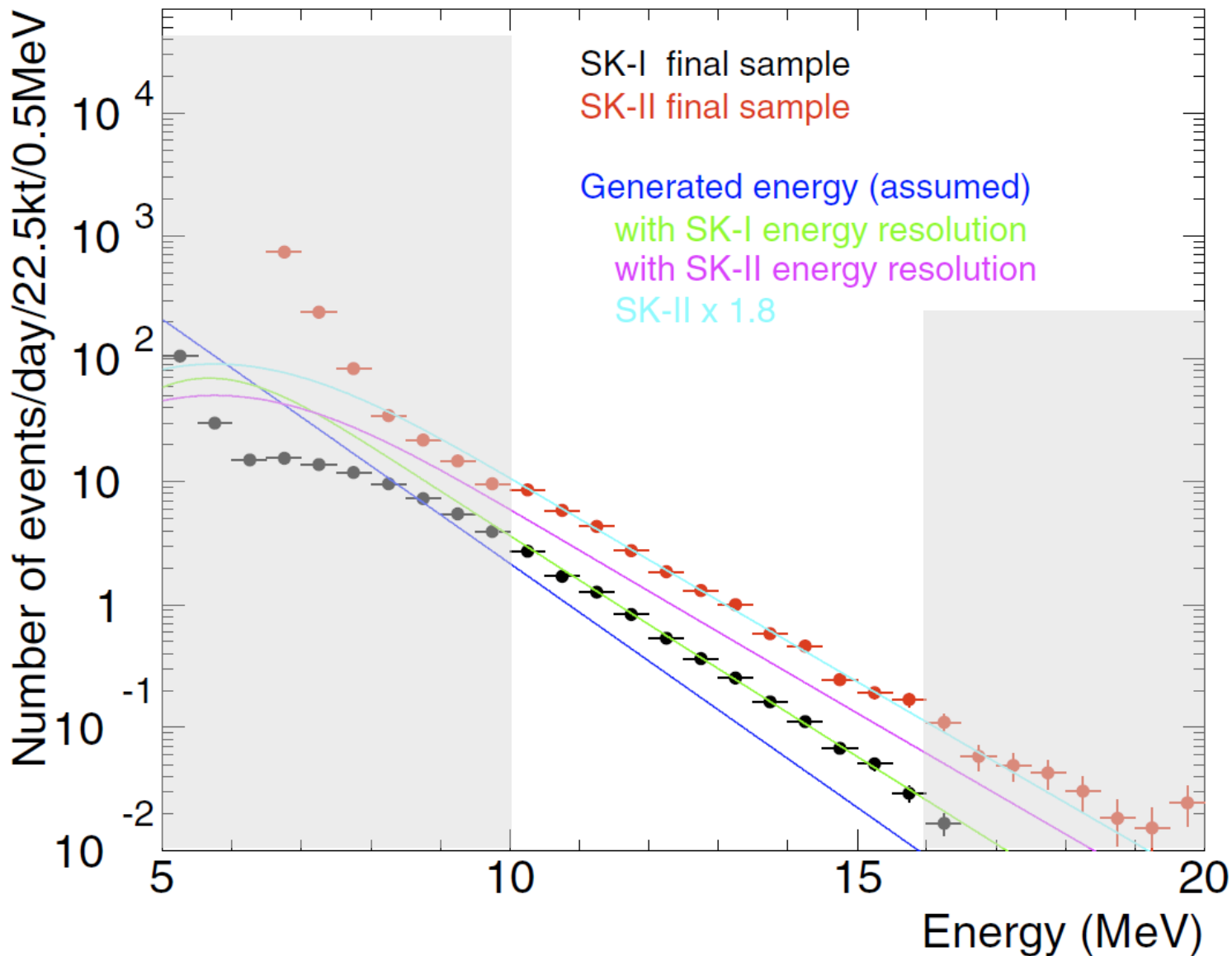
# After (solar) spallation cut



Factor 1.5 larger than  
the energy resolution  
difference.

It might be due to  
the low-energy  
vertex resolution  
difference  
(not confirmed yet)

# Final sample



Factor 1.8 larger than  
the energy resolution  
difference.