



## Reconstruction in Super & Hyper-K

Benjamin Quilain (ILANCE, CNRS-IN2P3/The University of Tokyo)

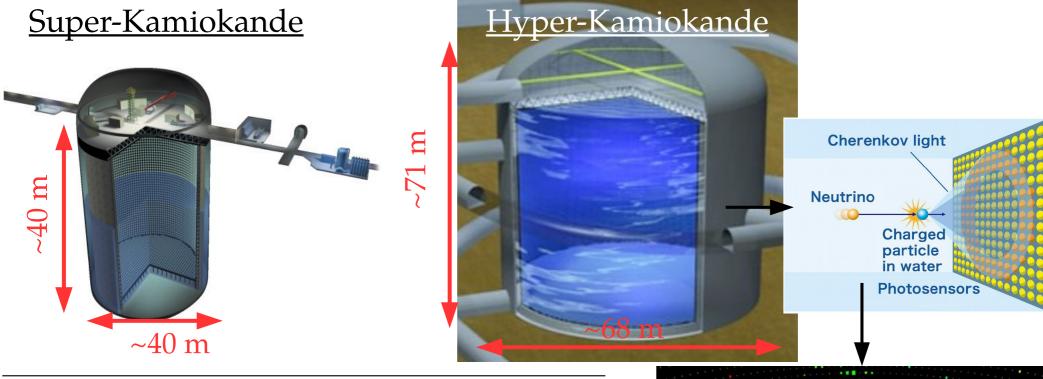


Neutrino Physics and Machine Learning, Tokyo, 2025/10/27

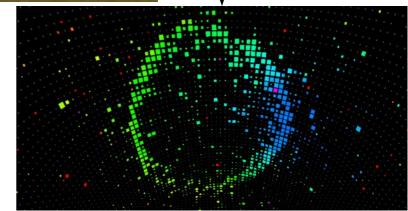
## Super- and Hyper-Kamiokande detectors

Neutrino observatories in Japan, based on water Cherenkov:

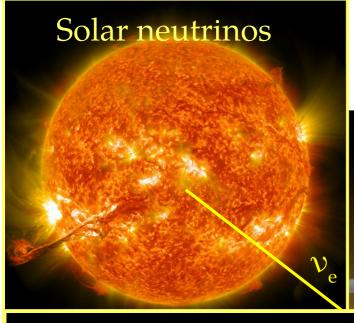
- SK (1996-Now): current generation filled with 50kt of water.
- HK (in construction 2020-28): next generation  $\rightarrow$  Fiducial Mass  $\sim$  8 x SK.



	Super-K	Hyper-K	
Site	Mozumi	Tochibora	
Overburden	2780 m.w.e.	1700 m.w.e.	
Number of ID PMTs	11129	20000	
Photo-coverage	40%	20% (×2 efficiency)	
Mass / Fiducial Mass	50 kton / 22.5 kton 258 kton / 186		



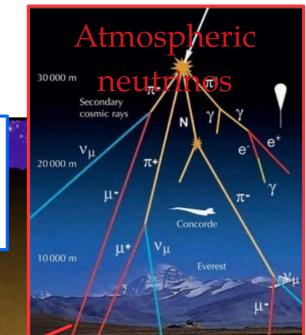
# I. Physics & reconstruction goals



# Physics case

Proton decay

Probe Grand Unified
Theories through p-decay
(world best sensitivity)



• MSW effect in the Sun

Supernovae neutrinos

• Non-standard interactions in the Sun.

Hit PMT Charge & Time

- Observe CP violation for leptons at 5σ
- Precise measurement of  $\delta_{CP}$ .

High sensitivity to  $\boldsymbol{\nu}$  mass ordering.

- Direct SNv: Constrains SN models.
- Relic SNv: Constrains cosmic star formation history

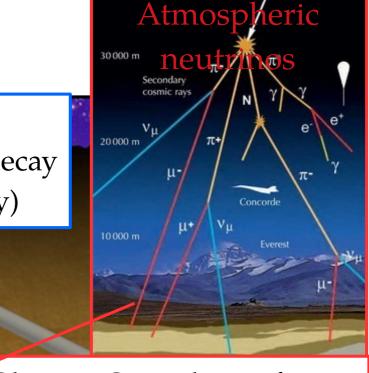


# Physics case Solar neutrinos 10 MeV event Charge [p.e.] • MSW effect in the Sun Non-standard interactions in the Sun. Supernovae neutrinos Reconstruct an event with <u>Direct SNv</u>: Constrains SN models very sparse information Relic SNv: Constrains cosmic star formation history

## Physics case



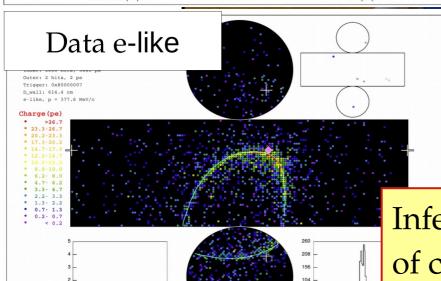
Probe Grand Unified
Theories through p-decay
(world best sensitivity)



 Observe CP violation for leptons at 5σ

• Precise measurement of  $\delta_{CP}$ .

• High sensitivity to  $\nu$  mass ordering.



Times (ns)

Data μ-like

OD Times (ns)

D wall: 1136.5 cm

Infer from a large amount of correlated information

JPARC accelerator neutrinos

#### Principles of reconstruction

Hit PMT Charge & Time  $\{q_i, t_i, x_i, y_i, z_i\}$ 

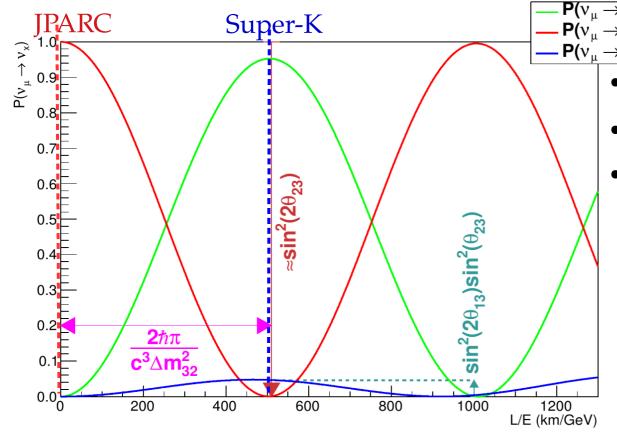
Reconstruction Inference

Variables of interest for  $\nu$  physics

What are they?

Neutrino oscillates in L/E :

Example of T2K



#### Need to reconstruct the:

- Detected flavour :  $v_e/v_u$ .
- Neutrino energy.
- Baseline L : Fixed for T2K...
  - $\rightarrow$  But variable for solar or atmospheric  $\nu$ . How to do ?

#### Principles of reconstruction

Hit PMT Charge & Time  $\{q_i, t_i, x_i, y_i, z_i\}$ 

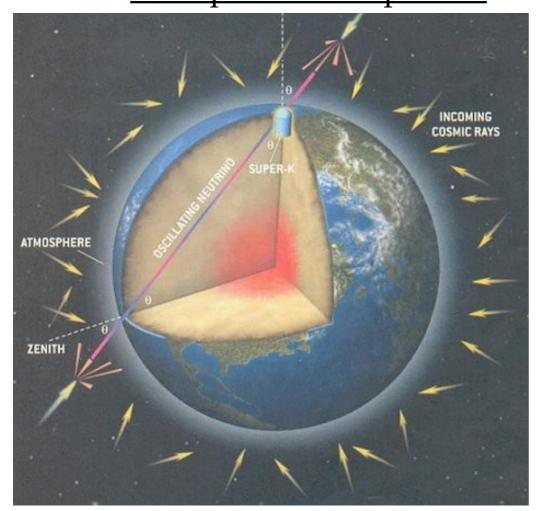
Reconstruction Inference

Variables of interest for  $\nu$  physics

What are they?

• Neutrino oscillates in L/E:

Example of atmospherics



#### Need to reconstruct the:

- Detected flavour :  $v_e/v_\mu$ .
- Neutrino energy.
- Baseline L : Fixed for T2K...
  - $\rightarrow$  But variable for solar or atmospheric  $\nu$ . How to do ?
  - $\rightarrow$  The  $\nu$  direction (zenith angle  $\theta$ ) is a proxy for L.

#### Principles of reconstruction

Hit PMT Charge & Time  $\{q_i, t_i, x_i, y_i, z_i\}$ 

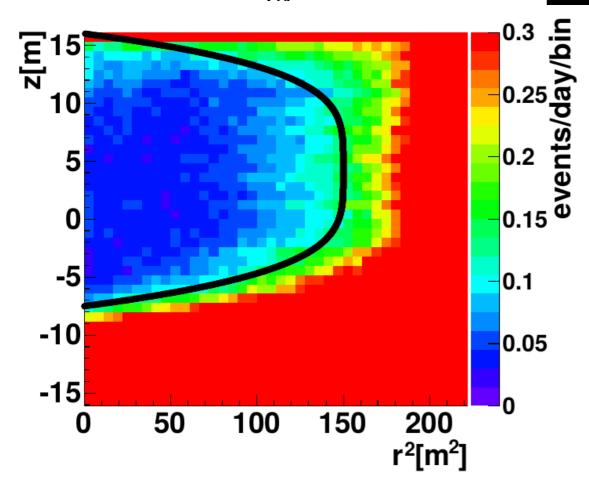
Reconstruction Inference

Variables of interest for  $\nu$  physics

What are they?

• Neutrino oscillates in L/E:

Low energy event vertex



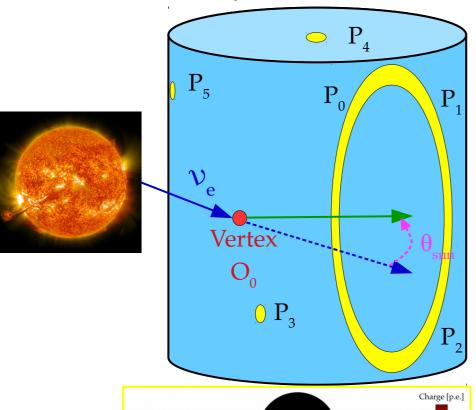
#### Need to reconstruct the:

- Detected flavour :  $v_e/v_\mu$ .
- Neutrino energy.
- Baseline L : Fixed for T2K...
  - $\rightarrow$  But variable for solar or atmospheric  $\nu$ . How to do ?
  - $\rightarrow$  The  $\nu$  direction (zenith angle  $\theta$ ) is a proxy for L.
- Interaction vertex (remove bkg etc.)

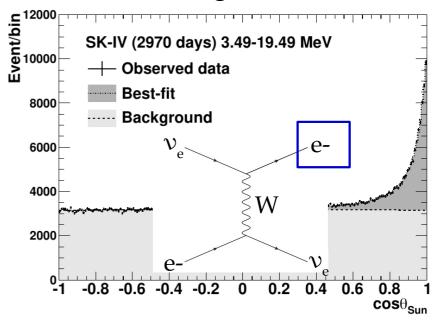
## II. Solar $\nu$ and electron fitter

#### Low energy reconstruction

• How to identify solar neutrinos? ~10 events / day.



Rely on elastic scattering: reconstruct  $\theta_{sun}$  to remove background.



How to reconstruct low E electrons?

- $\rightarrow$  Very faint ring.
- $\rightarrow$  e- crosses  $\leq$  5-10 cm before passing  $\leq$
- Cherenkov threshold. Sequential fitter
- → vertex resolution ~50cm
- ⇒ Light emitted from single point.

#### Vertex reconstruction

- This single point reconstruction is based on time triangulation ⇒ BONSAI

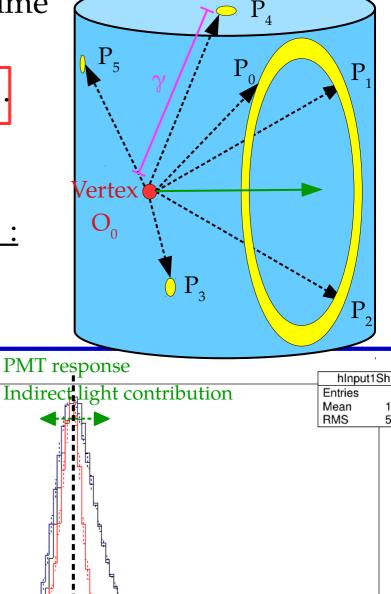
$$\rightarrow$$
 Uses time residual:  $t_{res} = time - tof - t_{vertex}$ .

• Vertex finding using the following likelihood:

$$L(Vtx|[hits]) = \prod_{i=0}^{nhits} P([t_{res}]|Vtx)$$

Time residual likelihood

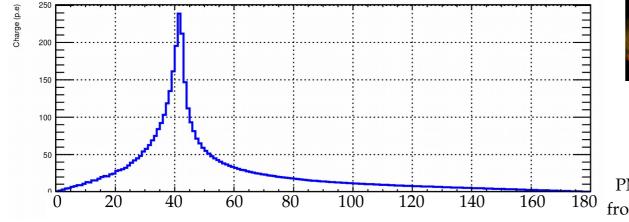
 Likelihood is minimized to find the vertex.



 $t_{res}$  (ns)

#### Direction & momentum reconstruction

- Start from the fitted vertex.
- Rely on « charge profile »  $(\theta_c)$ : distribution of vertex-to-hit PMT direction wrt e- direction.



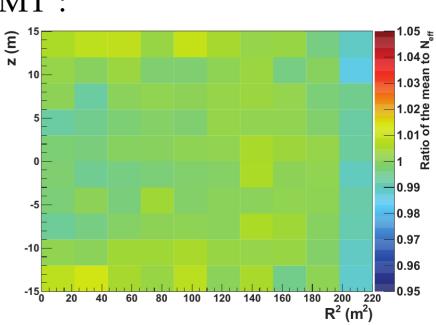
On.

PMT angle

→ Uses unbinned likelihood over all hit PMT :

$$L(\vec{d}) = \sum_{i}^{N_{30}} \log \left[ f(\cos \theta_{\text{dir},i}, E) \right] \times \frac{\cos \theta_i}{a(\theta_i)}$$

 Momentum inferred from the total number of hits deposited in the detector & in-time wrt vertex.

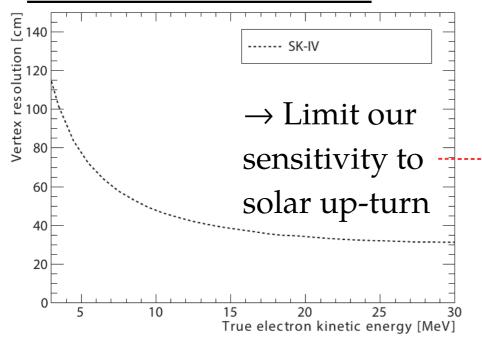


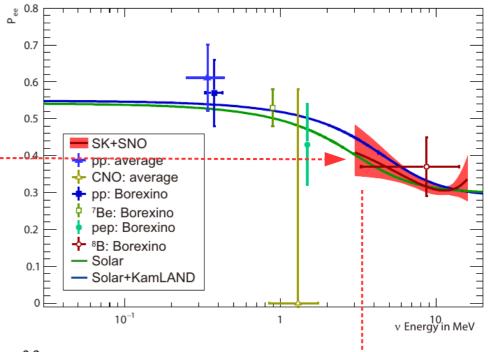
Vertex

 $\sim P_{\Delta}$ 

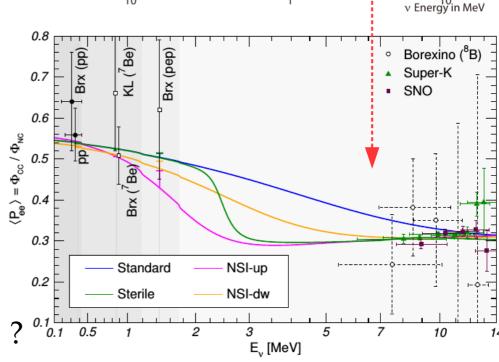
#### Performances in SK and impact on upturn

Vertex resolution in SK: Reconstruction threshold @3 MeV





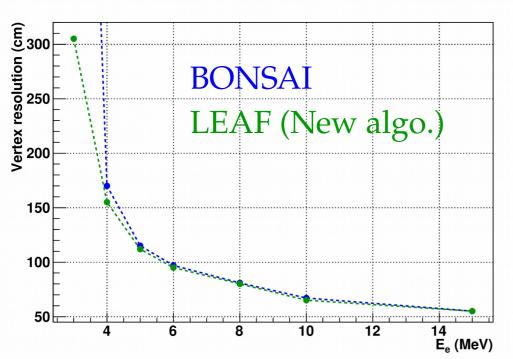
- <u>Up-turn determination</u>:
  - Solar parameter measurement.
  - Light sterile v ?
  - Non-standard interaction in the dense core of the Sun

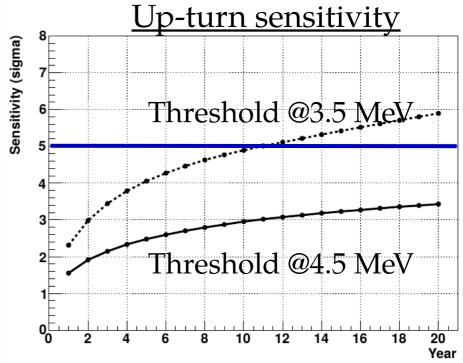


Can we do equal or better in HK ?

#### Performances in HK

• BONSAI ported to HK  $\rightarrow$  At the moment, E threshold ~4.5 MeV/c<sup>2</sup>





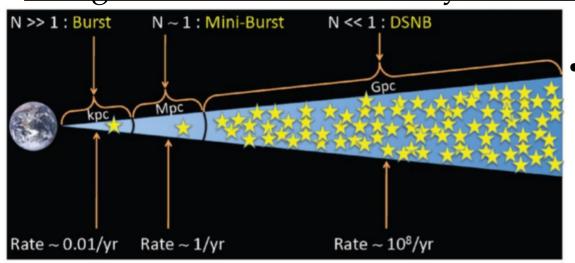
- Limited sensitivity in upturn determination due to mis-tuning
  - $\Rightarrow$  Ported BONSAI  $\rightarrow$  LEAF (C++) based on MINUIT minimizer
  - $\rightarrow$  More flexible & improved :  $\downarrow$  E threshold to @3-3.5 MeV.
  - → Work-in progress to reach 2 MeV, using LEAF.
  - $\rightarrow$  Real data will likely be even more tough  $\rightarrow$  Prepare for it.

• ML-based algorithm are also developed (PETAL...)  $\rightarrow$  L. Almagro's presentation

# III. DSNB search and n-tagging

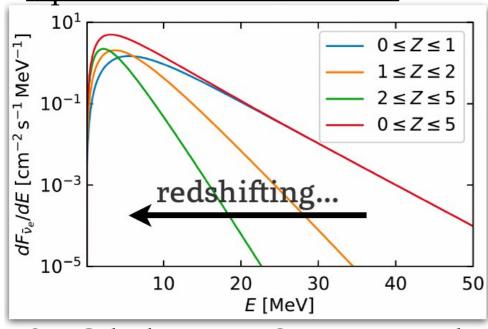
## Diffuse Supernovae Neutrino Background

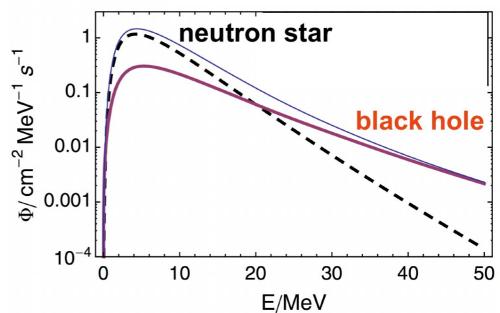
• Background from v emitted by all SN from the start of the universe.



- 1 SN/s in observable universe
  - → Constraint SN spectra.
  - $\rightarrow$  But also, cosmic star history!

•<u>s Spectrum determination</u>: Low energy ↔ Probe older stars

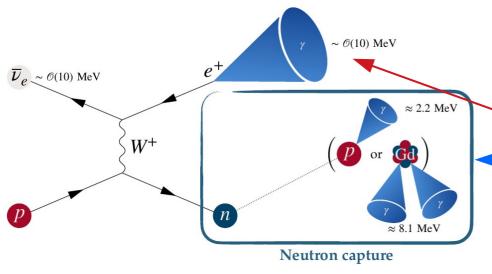




• SK-Gd, then JUNO & HK are the pioneer experiments of this domain!

## Detection method & neutron tagging

• How to identify DSNB as we expect ~3 events/year in SK...?



- Uses the  $v_e$  IBD channel...
- .. and rely on coincident detection of <a href="mailto:prompt positron">prompt positron</a> and <a href="mailto:late.neutrons.">late neutrons.</a>
- $\rightarrow$  Neutron capture on H or Gd.
- How to identify neutrons?

• Search neutrons in a 500 μs time window after the trigger [-5, 35 μs] :

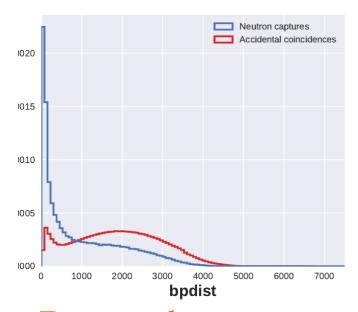
positron	neutron	time
SHE trigger [40 µs]	AFT trigger [	500 μs]
	10 ns tim	e - time of flight

	H-capture	Gd-capture	
γ energy	2.2 MeV	8 MeV	
Capture	205 μs	30 μs	
time λ			

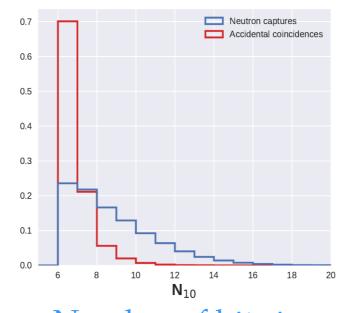
• How to eliminate remaining background after prompt+late detection?

#### DSNB reconstruction in SK

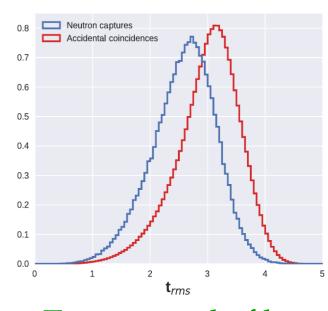
• 22 variables in total: Reconstruct neutron vertex using BONSAI/LEAF.



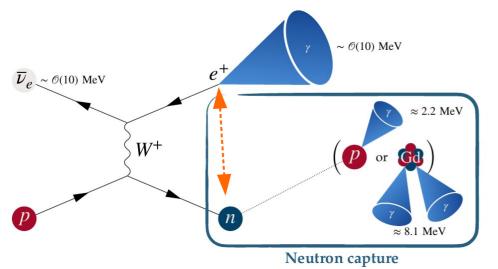
Distance between e+ & n vertex

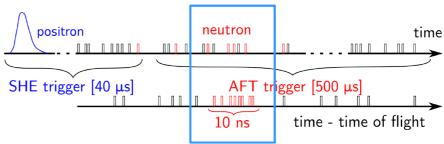


Number of hits in ±10ns around n-vertex



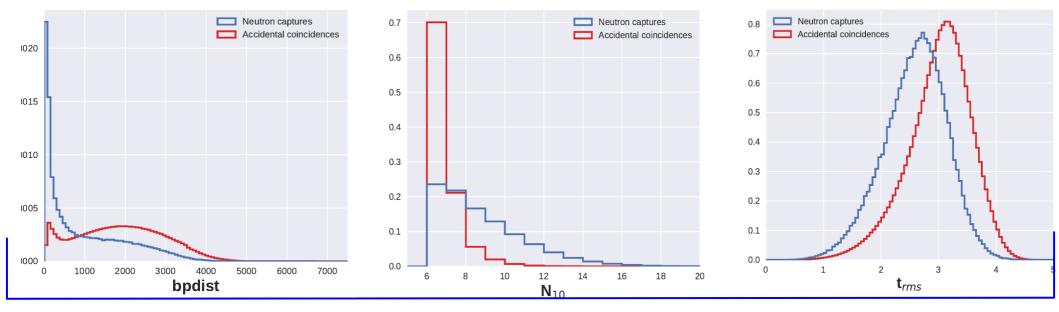
Time spread of hits around e+ vertex



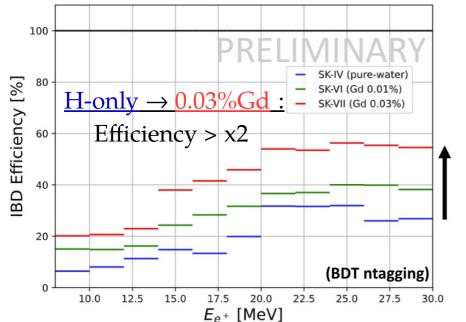


#### DSNB reconstruction in SK

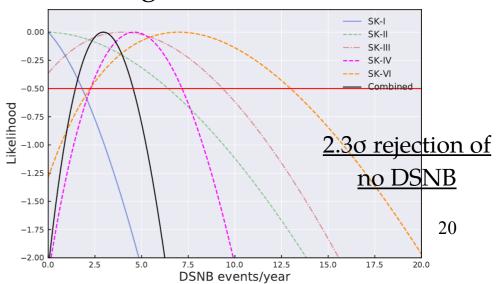
• How to eliminate remaining background after prompt+late detection?



#### Boosted Decision Tree & Neural Network

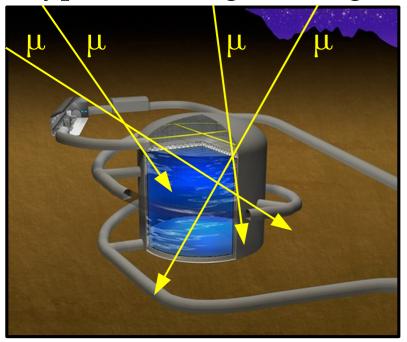


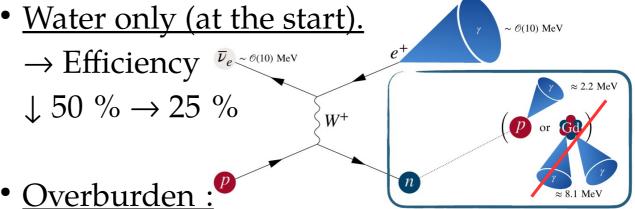
World-leading results on DSNB search



#### DSNB search in HK

• Hyper-K, though having 8x larger volume, will have several limitations

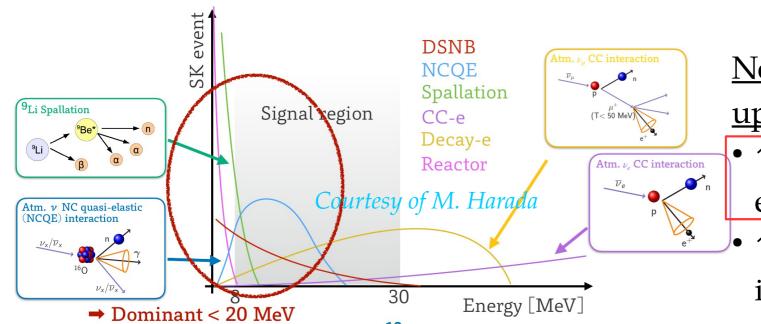




- 1000 mwe  $\rightarrow$  650 mwe.
- Larger surface

spallation

 $\Rightarrow 20x \frac{\text{Neutron capture}}{\text{more}}$ 

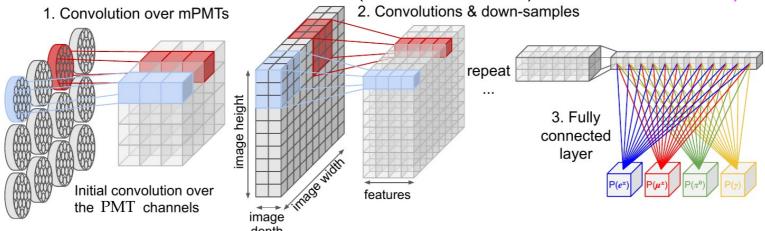


Need to urgently step up in :

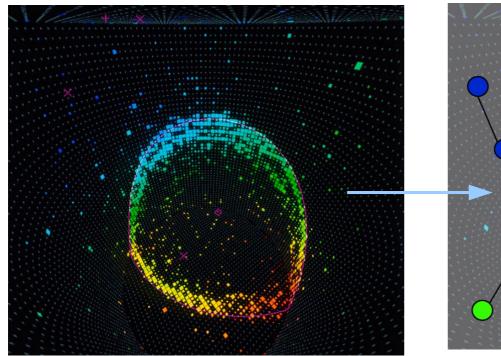
- ↑ ↑ neutron detection efficiency on H.
- ↑ spallation model & identification cut¹¹

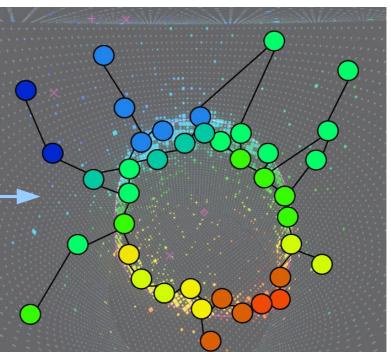
#### ML-based reconstruction in SK/HK

Convolutional neural networks (WatChMaL)  $\rightarrow$  A. Atta, K. Joseph, N. Prouse



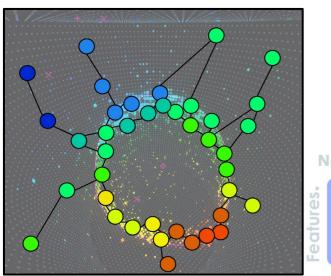
- Graph neural networks (CAVERNS-WatChMaL)  $\rightarrow$  E. Le Blevec, M. Ferey
  - $\rightarrow$  Rely on node & edges: Each hit PMT = a node of the GNN.





#### Basic principles of GNN

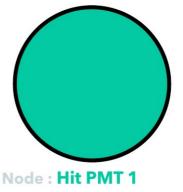
• Use hit PMT informations (position, hit charge&time) to construct a Graph i.e. a connected array of PMTs  $\rightarrow$  To reconstruct the ring or vertex.

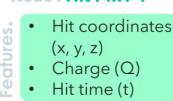


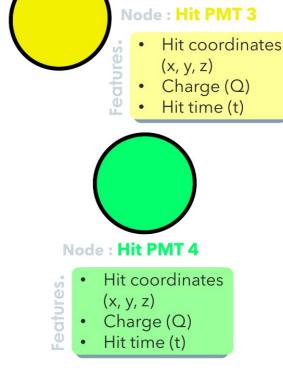


#### Node: Hit PMT 2

- Hit coordinates (x, y, z)
- Charge (Q)
- Hit time (t)
- How to connect the PMTs?
  - 1. Based on their spatial proximity?
  - $\rightarrow$  Clear image of a ring.
  - 2. Based on their « charge deposit » proximity ?
  - 3. Based on their hit time proximity?
  - → Great to reconstruct vertex through triangulation.
  - 4. All at once?







→ Answers depends on the task we wish to accomplish.

Basic principles of GNN

• Aggregation + Convolution applied to circulate the information along nodes & « simplify it » using convolution.

Node: Hit PMT 2

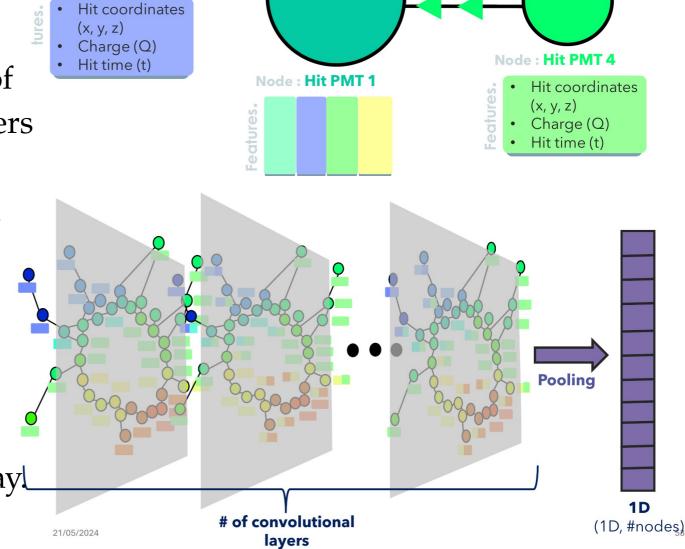
= a convolutional layer

• <u>To optimise</u>: number of connected nodes & layers should be optimized.

→ Problem dependent.

→ Optimized it through minimum gradient descent.

 Graph output is then aggregated in a 1D array.



Node: Hit PMT 3

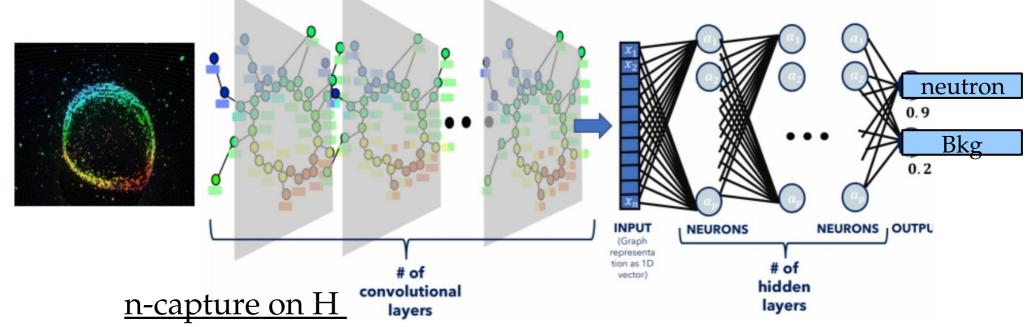
(x, y, z) Charge (Q) Hit time (t)

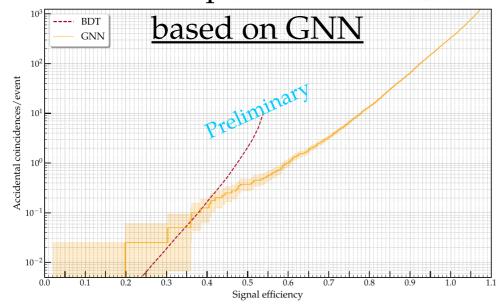
Hit coordinates

## Classification using GNN

• A multi-layer perceptron basically does the final classification task

 $\rightarrow$  In our example, the neutron identification

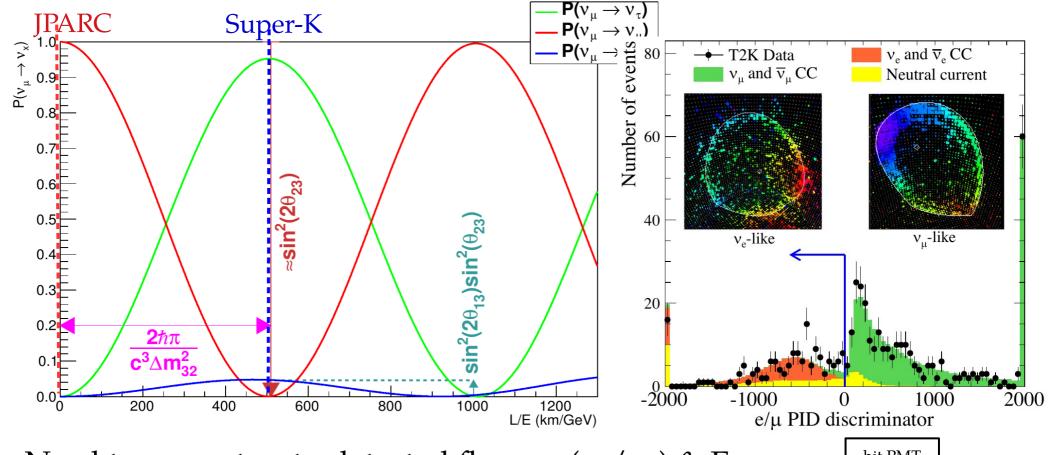




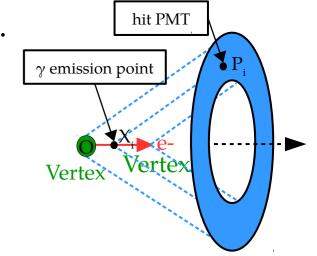
- High background acceptance:
  GNN signficantly outperforms BDT (+20%).
- <u>Low background acceptance :</u> GNN performs same as BDT.
  - $\rightarrow$  Starting and on-going effort.

# IV. Long-baseline neutrino oscillation

#### Long-baseline experiment



- Need to reconstruct : detected flavour  $(v_e/v_\mu)$  & E.
- <u>Particles cross several meters while emitting</u> <u>Cherenkov light:</u>
  - → Not point-like source & correlated parameters.
  - → Momentum can be reconstructed using total charge &/or ring-width



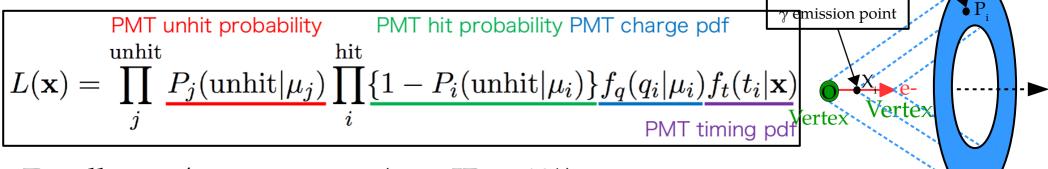
## FiTQun high-energy algorithm

• Simulatenous fit of 8 parameters using all PMTs charge&time:

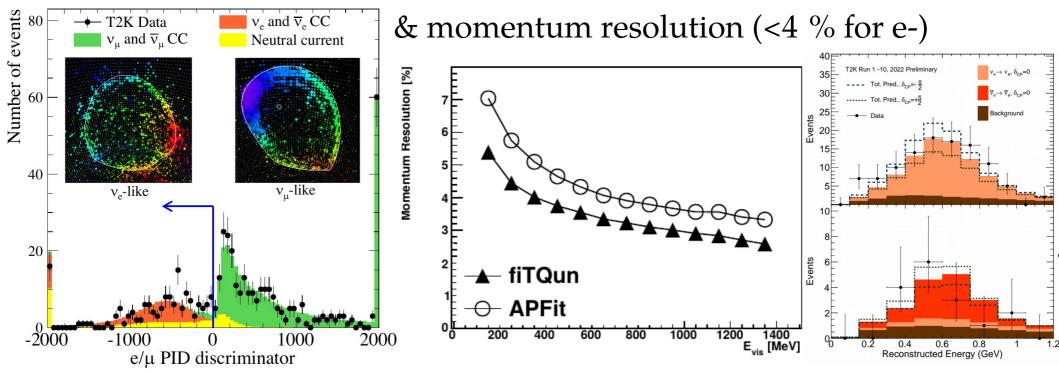
 $\{X\}_i = (vertex position, vertex time, momentum, direction, particle type)$ 

hit PMT

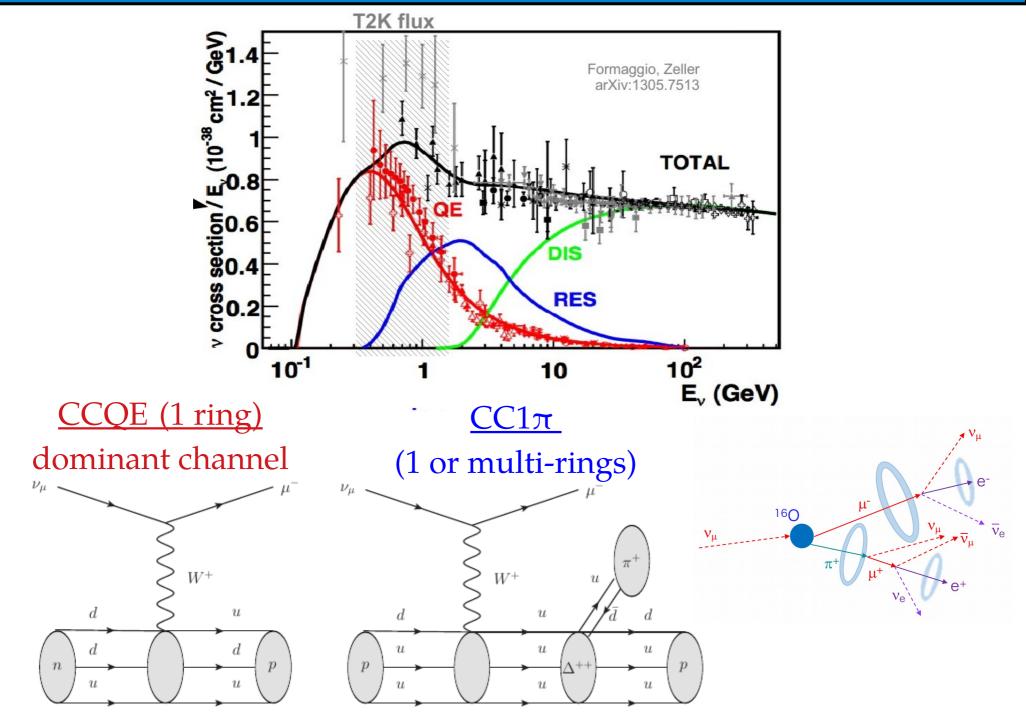
• Likelihood-based fitter:



• Excellent  $e/\mu$  separation (mis-ID < 1%)

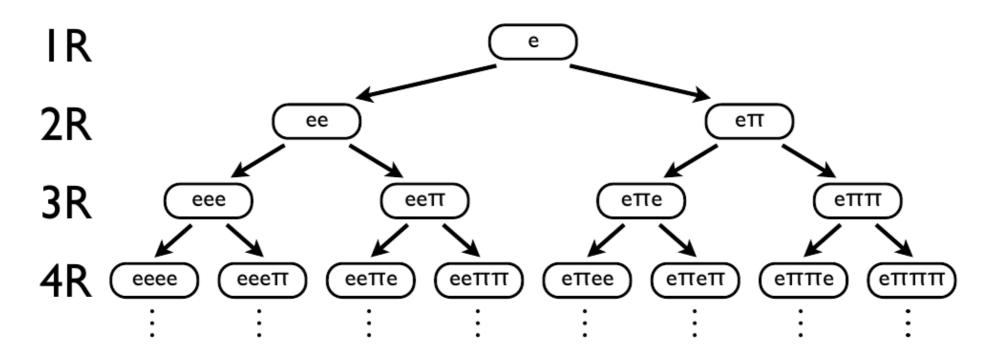


#### Multiple ring reconstruction



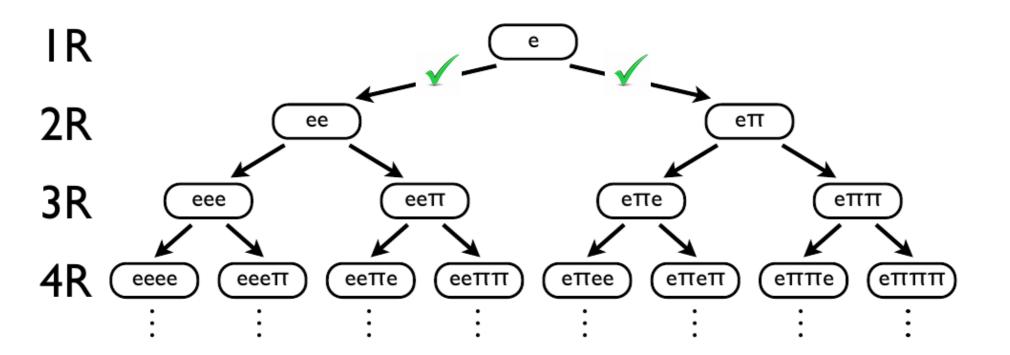
#### Let's assume that the real event is $e+\pi$

1. First ring fitted as e-like &  $\pi$ -like ( $\pi$ -like not shown here)



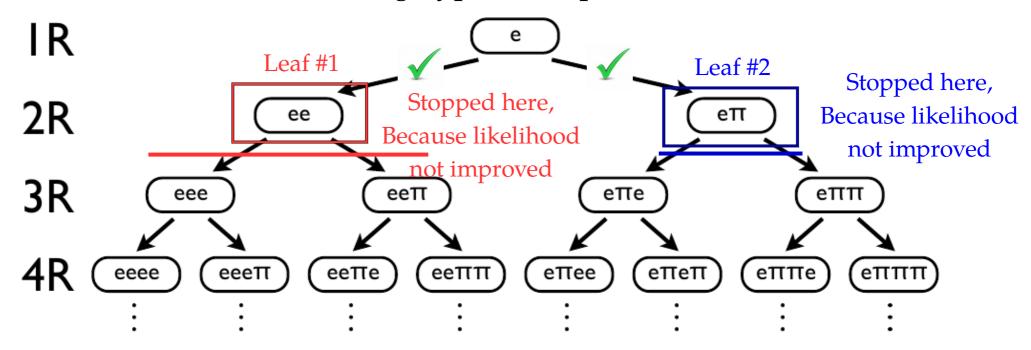
#### Let's assume that the real event is $e+\pi$

- 1. First ring fitted as e-like &  $\pi$ -like ( $\pi$ -like not shown here)
- 2. Let's focus on 1st ring e-like. 2nd ring fitted as e-like &  $\pi$ -like
- → Let's assume both hypotheses pass the cut (Likelihood improved)



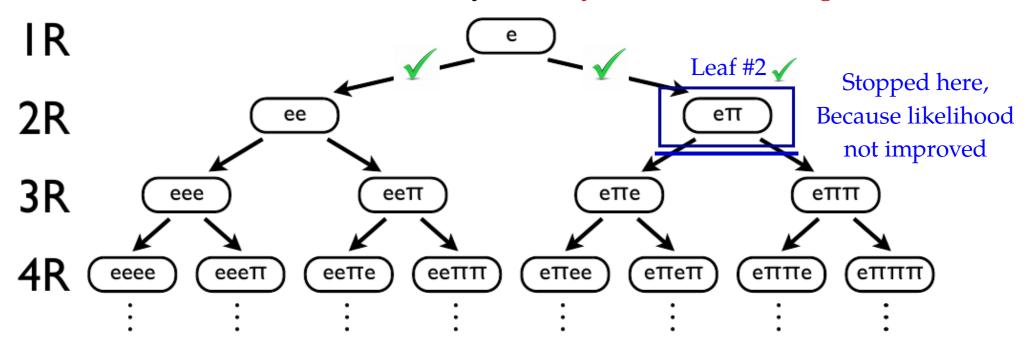
#### Let's assume that the real event is $e+\pi$

- 1. First ring fitted as e-like &  $\pi$ -like ( $\pi$ -like not shown here, but same).
- 2. Let's focus on 1st ring e-like. 2nd ring fitted as e-like &  $\pi$ -like
- → Let's assume both hypotheses pass the cut (Likelihood improved)
- 3. 3rd ring is fitted as e-like &  $\pi$ -like
- $\rightarrow$  Let's assume that no 3 ring hypothesis pass the cut.



 $\rightarrow$  The fit is stopped here.

- 4. The Likelihood of the 2 leaves are compared
- $\rightarrow$  The higher becomes the fit result.
- $\rightarrow$  If everything works well, the winner should be Leaf #2.
- 5. Note that we have not shown the graph where 1st ring is  $\pi$ -like
- $\Rightarrow$  More leaves in this case in reality  $\Rightarrow$  Very time consuming!



## High-energy reconstruction in HK

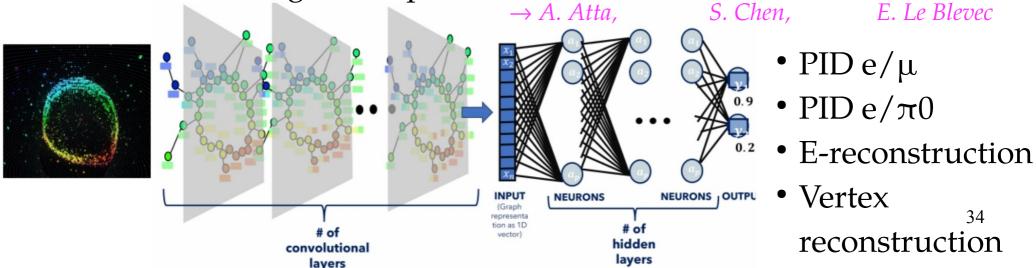
• fiTQun is powerful and has been ported to HK... but is relatively slow

	1 ring e/μ	1 ring e/π0	Multi-ring atmospheric
CPU time / event	30s	50s	up to 600s

- <u>For HK</u>: aim to reach ≤ 1% stat. and syst. uncertainties
  - ⇒ Huge data processing & large MC generation to constrain our syst.
  - ⇒ Need a faster algorithm (and potentially more physics powerful).
- 3 efforts are on-going:
  - Improve fiTQun efficiency.
  - Port fiTQun to GPU: computation time \$\psi\$ by 100. officialization

• Machine learning development : CNN, Visual transformers, GNN

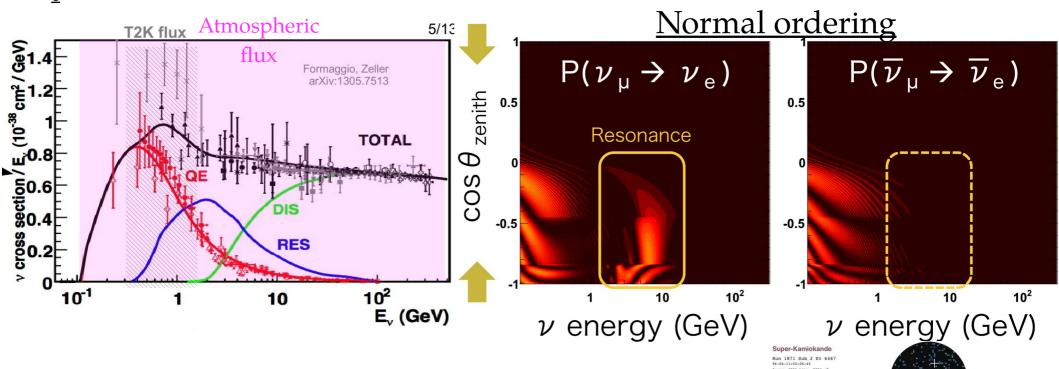
Work in-progress before



# IV. Atmospheric neutrino oscillations

#### Atmospheric neutrinos

- Very broad spectrum ranging from few MeV to TeV.
- Mass ordering dominantly determined with upward-going multi-GeV  $\underline{v}_{\rho}$  sample :  $\rightarrow$  CC-resonant and DIS dominates  $\Rightarrow$  Multi-ring domain.



- A fast and reliable ring counting algorithm is the key for atmospheric neutrino
  - → Historical Super-K fitter : APFit

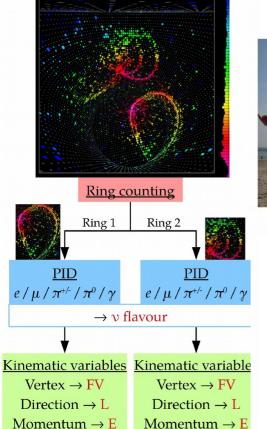
## The APFit algorithm

• APFit is a sequential algorithm: Refine ring Vertex & direction → Ring counting → PID → Momentum counting • Ring counting much faster than fiTQun, based on Hough transform  $\rightarrow$  Goal is to find each particle direction. 42 deg. ring hit PMT (possible center)  $\rightarrow$  Start from the vertex.  $\rightarrow$  For each hit PMT, draw virtual cone of 42° around the PMT. hit PMT center Cherenkov ring (most probable) → Direction of the particle is region with higher density virtual cone.

• PID is based on charge distribution only

## Perspectives of improvement

- Provide mass-ordering determination :  $\Delta \chi^2 = 5.7$
- Perspective for improvement :
  - Adapt fiTQun to atmospheric  $\nu$  (now only SK-IV)  $\rightarrow$  More performant in FV-size &PID.
  - Develop a ring counting algorithm using ML.

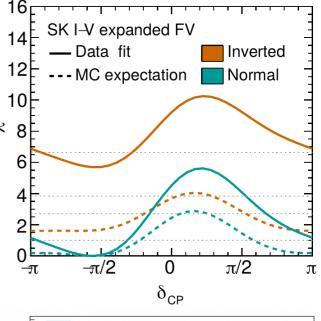


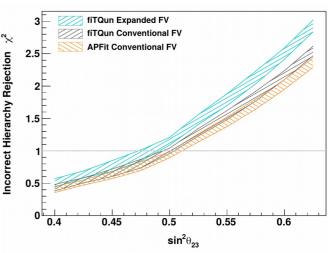






(b) Semantic segmentation





#### Conclusions

- Super- and Hyper-K covers a large range of physics: MeV → TeV
  - → At low energy: reconstructed event from a sparse&noisy information.
  - → At high-energy : reconstructed very correlated information.
- Significant challenges ahead of us, esp. for Hyper-K
  - → Low energy, especially for DSNB search, will be very challenging.
  - ⇒ Improve our n-tag algorithm performances.
  - $\rightarrow$  At high-energy :  $\downarrow$  computational time while  $\uparrow$  physics performances.
- ML-based algorithms are a new key to open these doors.
  - → Many developments on SK/HK presented after this talk.
  - → They are not the sole keys : developed as a complementary approach to our existing algorithms.
  - → A complementary approach helps to learn from ML-algorithm to feed
  - « traditional »reconstruction, and vice-versa.
  - → Hope NPML could be an ideal place for these fruitful discussions.

# Additional slides

## DSNB search with pre-selection cuts

