Progress in high-energy atmospheric neutrino flux calculations

Anatoli Fedynitch

High-Energy Theory Group, Institute of Physics, Academia Sinica NEUTRINO 2022, Virtual Seoul, 2022/06/02



Big losses for the field

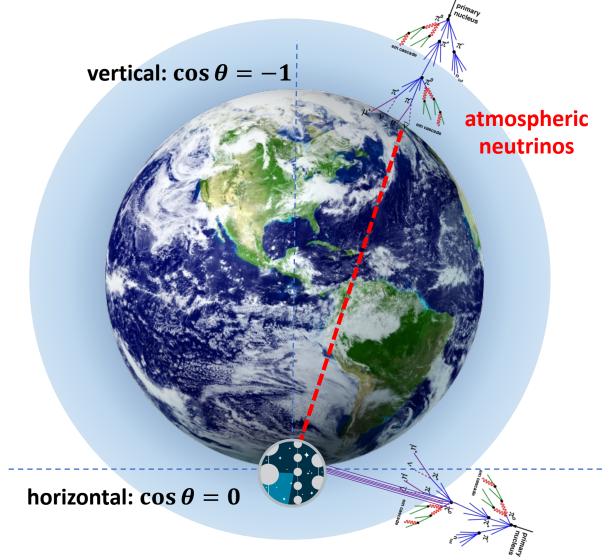


Morihiro Honda



Tom Gaisser

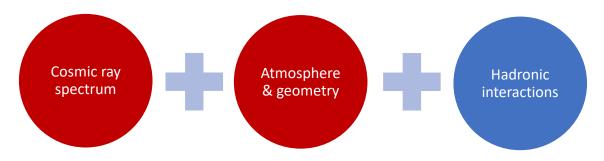
High-energy atmospheric neutrinos



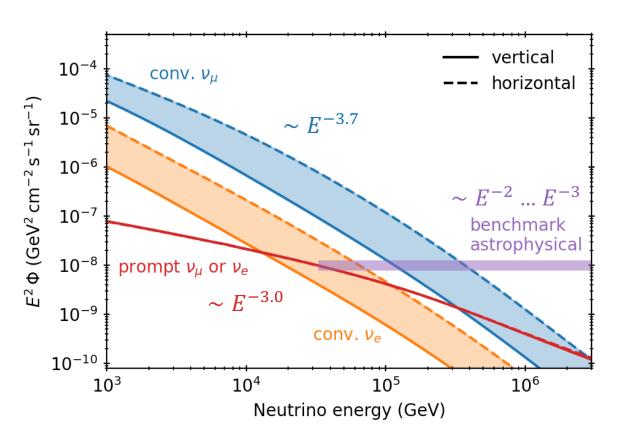
atmospheric muons (from cosmic ray interactions)

- Foreground for studying astrophysical neutrinos
- "Beam" for atmospheric oscillations
- ...and searches for sterile neutrinos
- Probes of very forward particle production phase space (non-perturbative QCD & heavy flavor)

Models entering flux calculations



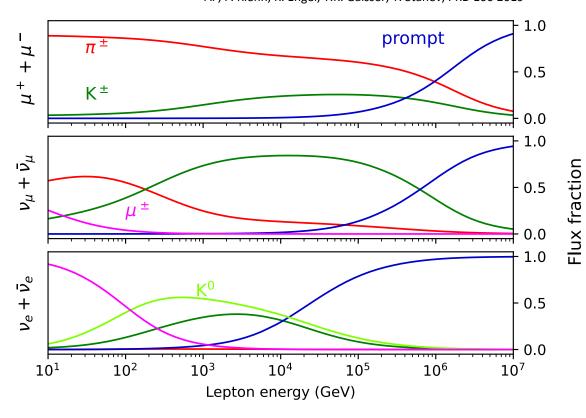
High-energy spectrum



Bands (zenith-enhancement):

- Lower boundary $\cos \theta = 1$, vertical
- Upper boundary $\cos \theta = 0$, horizontal

AF, F. Riehn, R. Engel, T.K. Gaisser, T. Stanev, PRD 100 2019



Different hadronic contributing, due to:

- Hadron production cross sections
- Branching ratio & decay kinematics

Calculation techniques

1D particle cascade Monte Carlo:

- CORSIKA 7: AF, Becker Tjus, Desiati, PRD86 114024 (2012)
- High-energy part of HKKMS and Bartol calculations M. Honda et al., PRD 92, 023004 (2015), Barr et al. PRD 70, 023006 (2004)
- FLUKA: G. Battistoni et al. Astroparticle Physics 12, 315 (1999)

Approximate semi-analytical solutions of cascade equations:

Gaisser, Engel, Resconi book (2016) or e.g., AF, F. Riehn, R. Engel, T.K. Gaisser, T. Stanev, PRD 100 2019

$$\Phi_\ell(E) = \frac{\phi_{\rm N}(E)}{1-Z_{\rm NN}} \sum_{\substack{h=\pi,\\ {\rm K} \ {\rm K}_0^0}} \frac{Z_{{\rm N}h,\gamma} Z_{h\to\ell,\gamma}}{1+B_h E\cos\theta/\varepsilon_h} \stackrel{\phi_N(E): \ {\rm cosmic\ ray\ flux}}{Z_{Nh}: \ {\rm particle\ production\ yields}}_{B_h \ {\rm and\ } Z_{h\to l}: \ {\rm kinematic\ factors}}$$

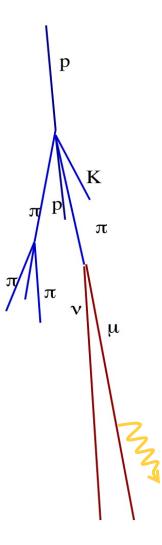
Matrix Cascade Equations (MCEq)

AF, F. Riehn, R. Engel, T.K. Gaisser, T. Stanev, PRD 100 2019

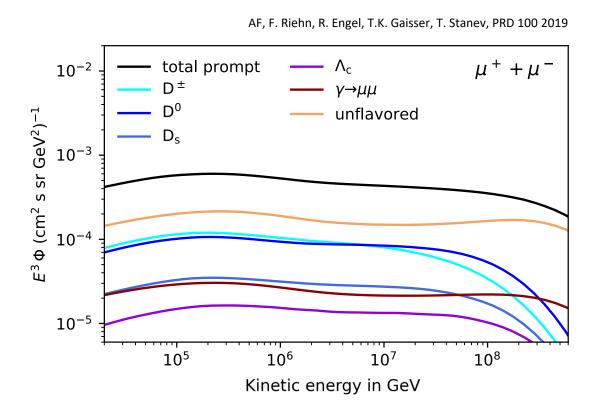
- Iterative solution of coupled cascade equations
- $rac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}X}ec{\Phi} = -ec{
 abla}_E(\mathrm{diag}(ec{\mu})ec{\Phi}) + (-\mathbf{1} + \mathbf{C})oldsymbol{\Lambda}_\mathrm{int}ec{\Phi} + rac{1}{
 ho(X)}(-\mathbf{1} + \mathbf{D})oldsymbol{\Lambda}_\mathrm{dec}ec{\Phi}.$

Very fast and accurate

- Open source https://github.com/afedynitch/MCEq
- Soon in 2D!! (see Poster by Tania Kozynets)

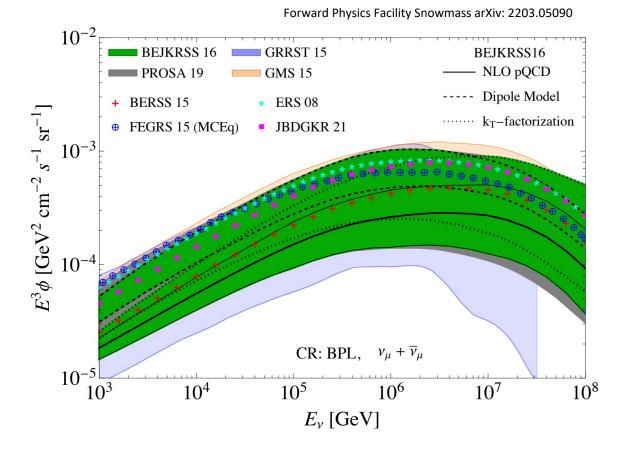


Above 100 TeV: territory of the (undiscovered) prompt muons and neutrinos



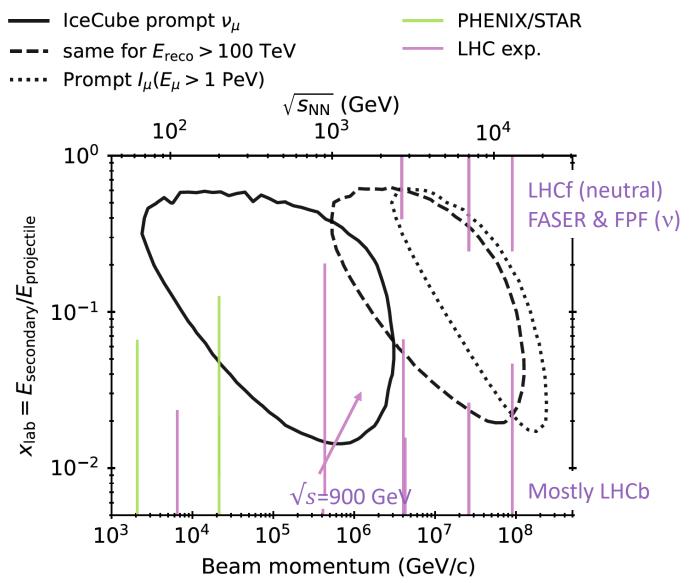
Prompt muons more production channels than prompt neutrinos:

- Rare decays of unflavored mesons e.g., $\eta \to \mu^+ \mu^-$
- EM pair production $\gamma \to \mu^+ \mu^-$



- Large uncertainties from pQCD
- pQCD might be incomplete (intrinsic charm)
- The fragmentation $(c \rightarrow D)$ function is a choice

Charm production cross section inaccessible to present-day colliders



- Each line represents a collider running at fixed \sqrt{s}
- Gap in x between LHC coverage is due to the beam pipe
- Detectors need particle ID capability & sufficient luminosity
- Indirect constraints from new forward detectors like FASER and the proposed FPF (see 2203.05090)
- New insights expected from proton-oxygen collisions in Run3

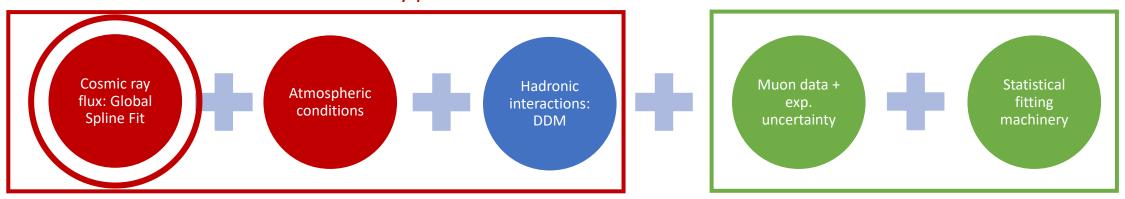
Neutrino contours: 90% events in IceCube

Muon contours: 90% of integral flux

Present challenges for GeV-PeV atmospheric neutrinos

- Modern tools, like MCEq, solve accurately the equations, but flux predictions only as good as the choice of models
- Very difficult to quantify theoretical error
- "Data-driven" models parameterize **data and uncertainty** without imposing a physicsmotivated functional form

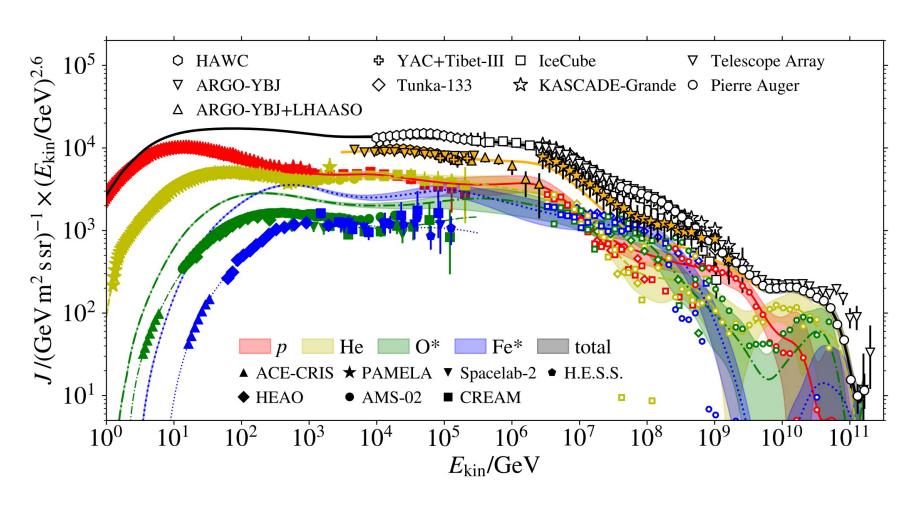
"Flexible" flux model with uncertainty priors from data



Cross-calibration with atmospheric muons

...~5 more bullets for the low-energy fluxes...

The Global Spline Fit (parameterization of CR fluxes)



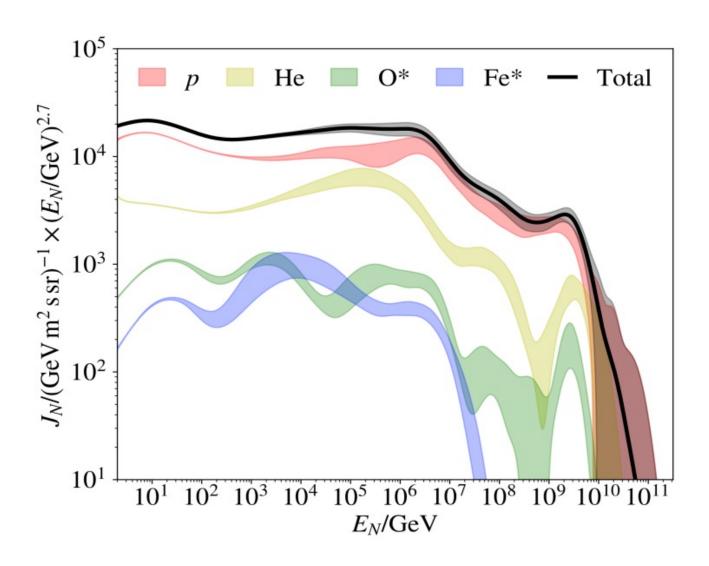
Pros:

- Parameterizes data
- AND uncertainty
- AND covariance matrix
- Can be updated "easily"

Cons:

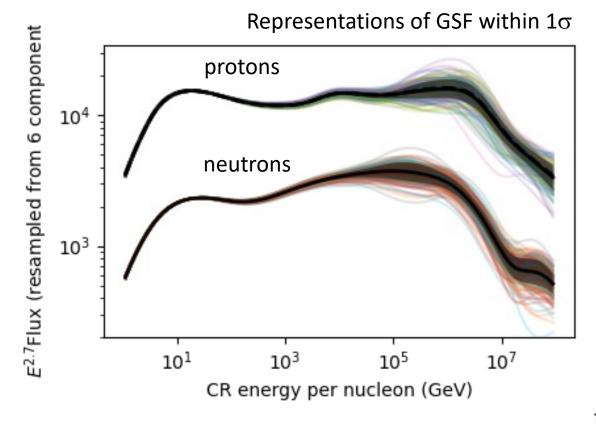
- Many parameters
- ~5 * 20 ©
- Not all equally important for v fluxes
- Splines somewhat sensitive choice

The Global Spline Fit – nucleon fluxes (MCEq input)



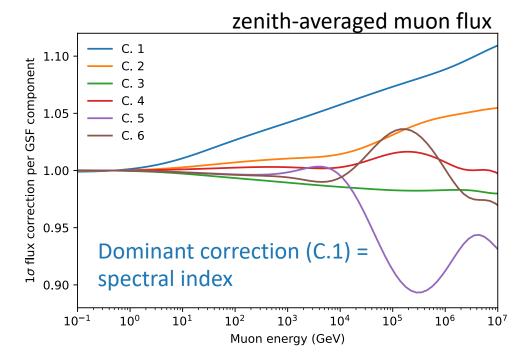
- Most contribution from proton and helium flux
- Correlations between H and He affect
 - CR neutron fraction
 - Muon charge ratio
 - Neutrino/Antineutrino ratio
- → Need to model two correlated components

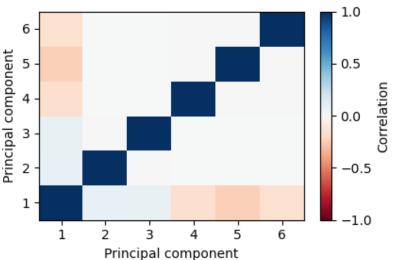
Dimensionality reduction to ~6 parameters



90% of the GSF variance can be explained by 6 components (from PCA)

→ CR nucleon flux represented by weighted sum of 6 weakly base vectors

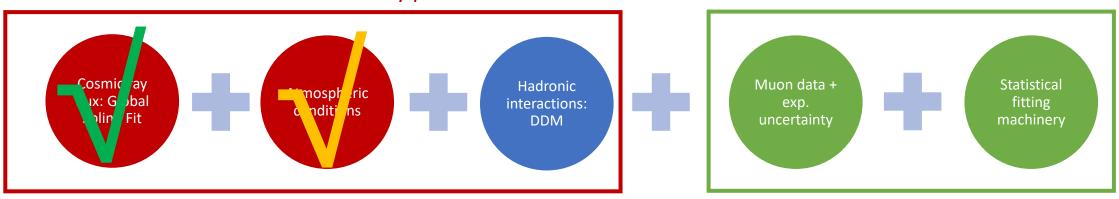




Summary nucleon flux model

- → Data-motivated/-constrained nuissance parameters
- → GSF can be dynamically updated if new data comes in
- → Optimal CR nucleon flux model for neutrino flux calculations

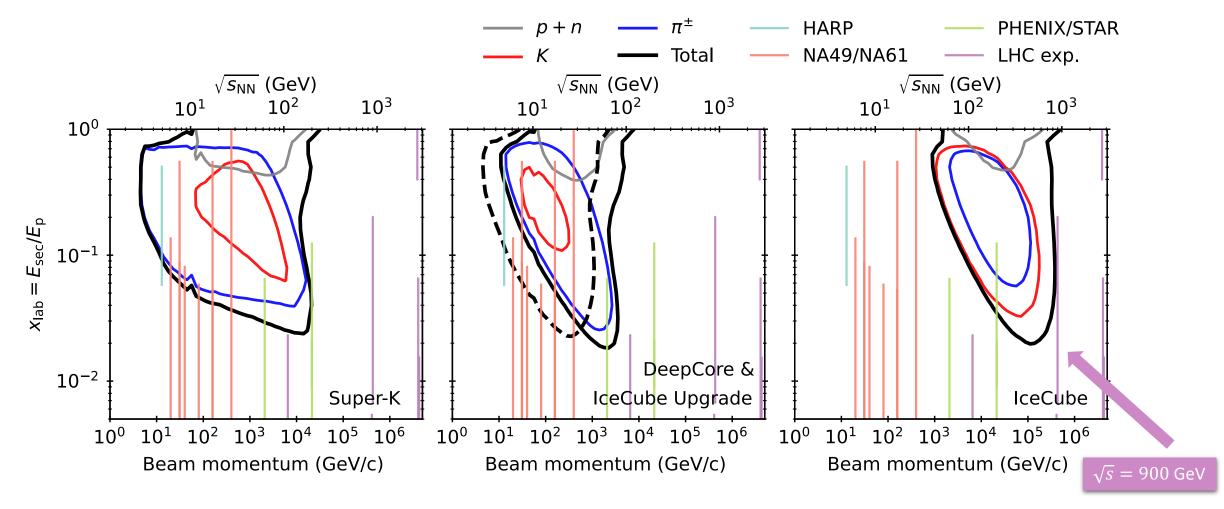
"Flexible" flux model with uncertainty priors from data



Cross-calibration with atmospheric muons

Hadron production phase space seen by neutrino detectors

AF & M. Huber, arXiv:2205.14766

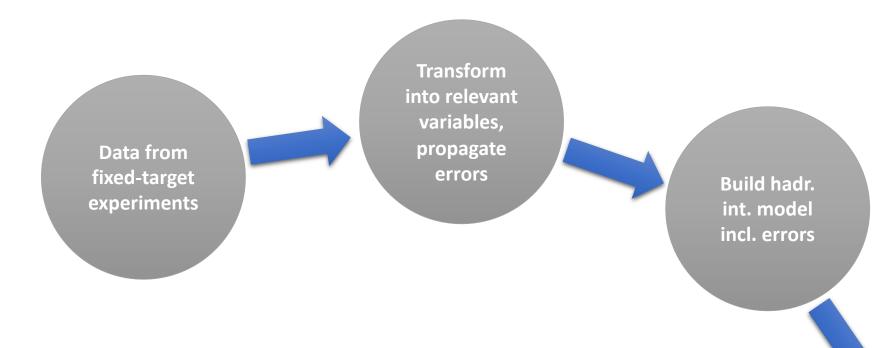


SK: sum of v_{μ} FC and PC

DeepCore : tracks, E_{reco} < 60 GeV (osc.)

IceCube Northern Tracks

Data-Driven Hadronic Interaction Model

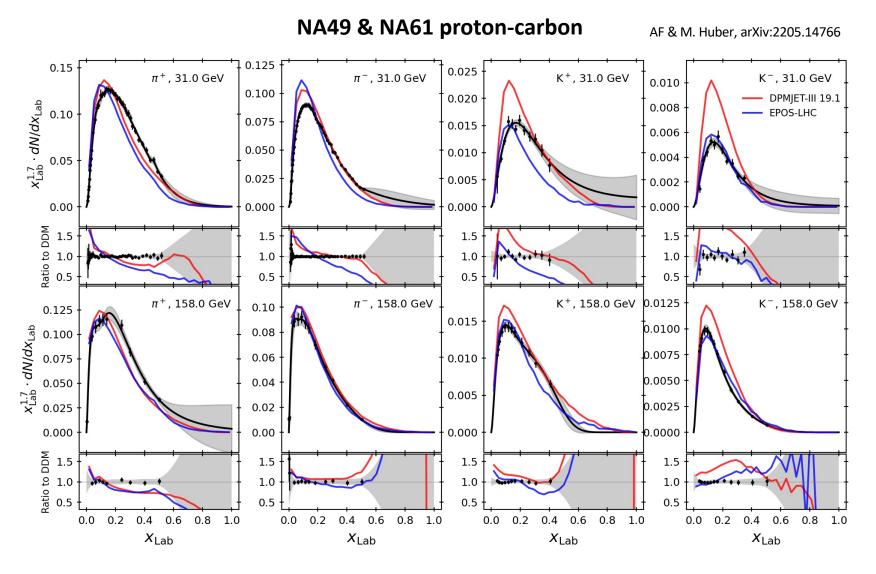


Based on modern proton-carbon data (and pp)

Experiment	beam	$E_{\rm beam}/{\rm GeV}$	Secondaries	Variables
NA49	рC	158	$\pi^{\pm},\stackrel{\scriptscriptstyle(-)}{\mathrm{p}},n$	$x_{\mathrm{F}}, p_{\perp}$
NA49	pp	158	K^{\pm}	$x_{\mathrm{F}}, p_{\perp}$
NA61/SHINE	pC	31	$\pi^{\pm}, K^{\pm}, K_S^0, \Lambda$	p, heta
NA61/SHINE	$\pi^- C$	158, 350	$\pi^{\pm}, K^{\pm}, \stackrel{\scriptscriptstyle(\frown)}{ m p}$	p,p_{\perp}

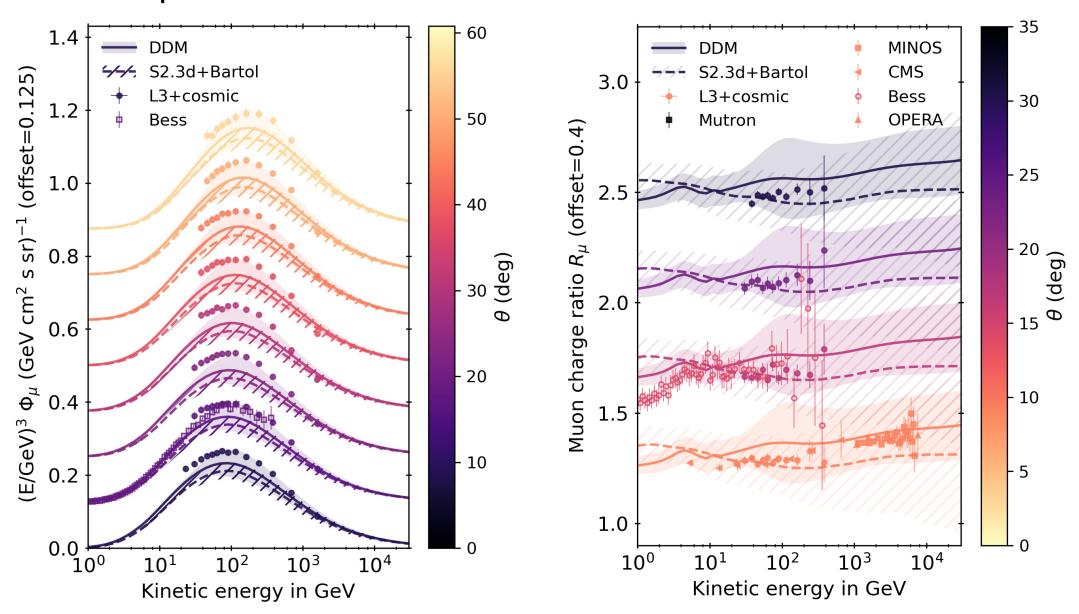
Propagate errors and calculate fluxes

Fits to proton-carbon data and uncertainties



- Uncertainties conservatively scale up in absence of forward data
- K⁺⁻ data at 158 GeV extrapolated from pp→pC
 - \rightarrow + 5-7% error from MC
- Carbon to air correction< 1%
- + proton and neutron secondaries (not shown)
- Neutron and π⁺ projectiles via isospin relations
- K⁰ via isospin

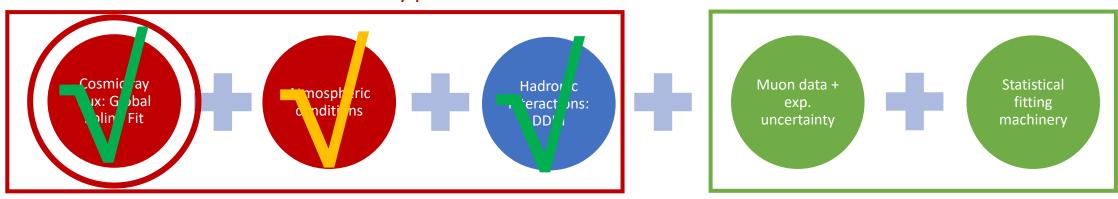
Description of muon data with DDM + GSF



Summary hadronic interaction model

- → Intermediate energy range (100 MeV 200 GeV) well constrained by NA49 (+61) data
- \rightarrow More directly usable data available but requires some extrapolation from e.g., p-Be to p-C

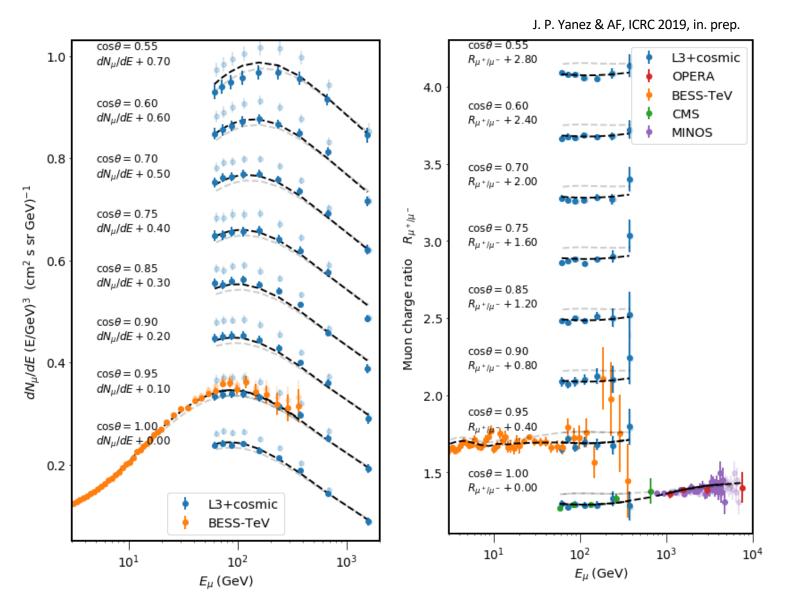
"Flexible" flux model with uncertainty priors from data



Low-energy extension for numerical flux calculations

Cross-calibration with atmospheric muons

Calibration with surface muon data



Piece of the correlation matrix: Total 16 fit parameters, 36 incl. exp nuissance parameters

	le_pi+	le_pi-	р	n	GSF_2	he_K-	le_K+	le_K-	he_K+	he_pi-	GSF_5	GSF_6	GSF_4	GSF_1	he_pi+	GSF_3
le_pi+	1.00	-0.11	-0.22	-0.17	0.00	0.00	-0.77	0.06	-0.01	0.21	-0.02	0.01	0.01	-0.02	0.23	0.00
le_pi-	-0.11	1.00	-0.18	-0.43	0.01	0.01	0.35	-0.59	-0.08	0.04	-0.05	0.02	0.02	0.24	-0.05	0.01
р	-0.22	-0.18	1.00	-0.37	-0.01	-0.00	-0.14	0.01	0.01	-0.12	0.04	-0.00	-0.01	0.01	-0.35	-0.00
n	-0.17	-0.43	-0.37	1.00	-0.01	0.03	-0.08	-0.01	-0.06	-0.40	0.09	-0.02	-0.02	-0.16	-0.03	-0.00
GSF_2	0.00	0.01	-0.01	-0.01	1.00	0.02	0.00	0.00	-0.06	-0.01	0.03	-0.01	-0.01	-0.43	0.00	-0.00
he_K-	0.00	0.01	-0.00	0.03	0.02	1.00	-0.03	0.00	0.51	-0.14	-0.13	0.05	0.02	-0.03	-0.07	0.01
le_K+	-0.77	0.35	-0.14	-0.08	0.00	-0.03	1.00	0.06	0.06	0.13	-0.03	0.02	0.01	0.00	0.06	0.00
le_K-	0.06	-0.59	0.01	-0.01	0.00	0.00	0.06	1.00	-0.01	-0.00	0.00	-0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00
he_K+	-0.01	-0.08	0.01	-0.06	-0.06	0.51	0.06	-0.01	1.00	0.32	0.37	-0.14	-0.06	-0.13	0.04	-0.02
he_pi-	0.21	0.04	-0.12	-0.40	-0.01	-0.14	0.13	-0.00	0.32	1.00	0.02	0.03	-0.02	-0.47	0.82	-0.00
GSF_5	-0.02	-0.05	0.04	0.09	0.03	-0.13	-0.03	0.00	0.37	0.02	1.00	0.06	0.04	0.07	-0.02	0.01
GSF_6	0.01	0.02	-0.00	-0.02	-0.01	0.05	0.02	-0.00	-0.14	0.03	0.06	1.00	-0.01	0.24	0.05	-0.00
GSF_4	0.01	0.02	-0.01	-0.02	-0.01	0.02	0.01	0.00	-0.06	-0.02	0.04	-0.01	1.00	-0.11	-0.01	-0.00
GSF_1	-0.02	0.24	0.01	-0.16	-0.43	-0.03	0.00	0.00	-0.13	-0.47	0.07	0.24	-0.11	1.00	-0.56	0.43
he_pi+	0.23	-0.05	-0.35	-0.03	0.00	-0.07	0.06	0.01	0.04	0.82	-0.02	0.05	-0.01	-0.56	1.00	0.00
GSF_3	0.00	0.01	-0.00	-0.00	-0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	-0.02	-0.00	0.01	-0.00	-0.00	0.43	0.00	1.00

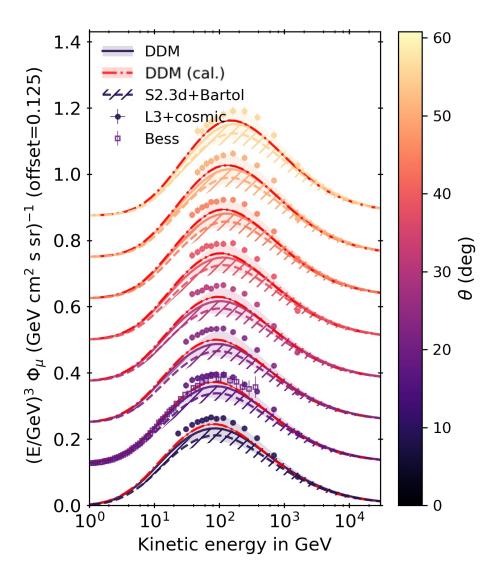
Chi2: ~409 410 dof (approximate)

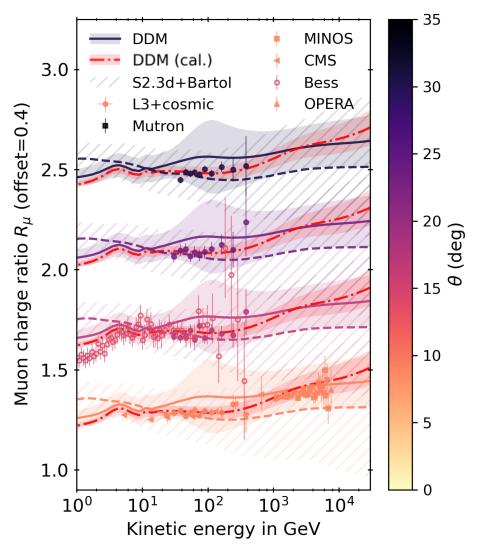
Impact of calibration: muons

hatched area: uncertainty from

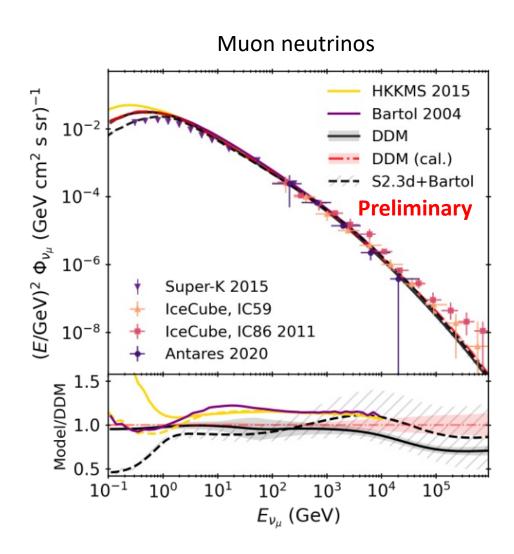
Barr et al. PRD74, 094009 (2006) & AF, Dembinski, Engel, Riehn, Gaisser, Stanev ICRC 2017

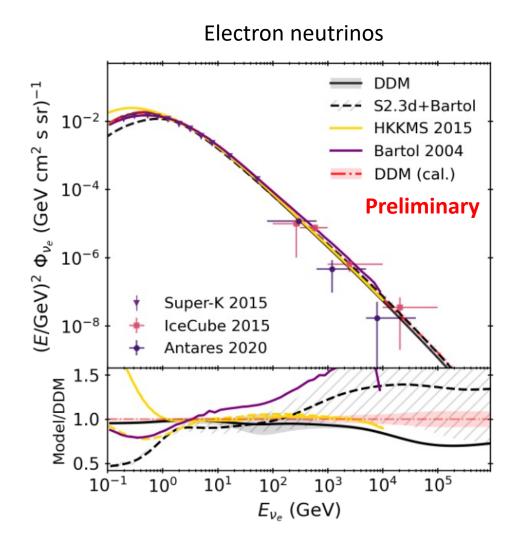
SIBYLL2.3: AF, F. Riehn, R. Engel, T.K. Gaisser, T. Stanev, PRD 100 2019





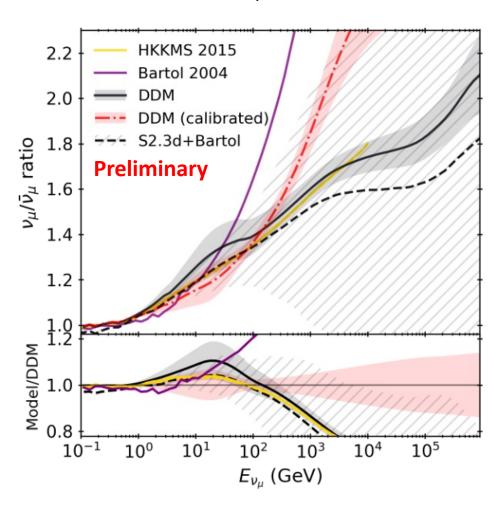
Neutrino fluxes



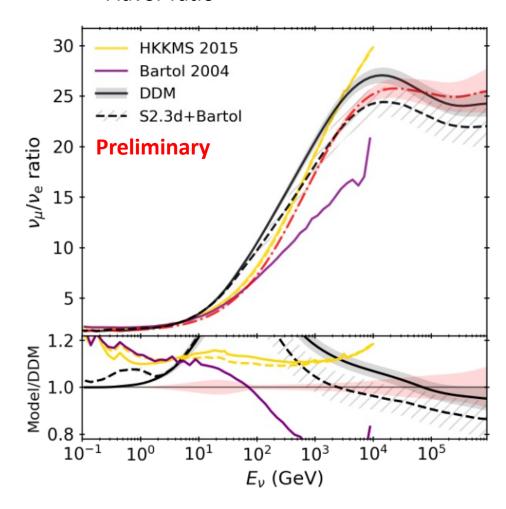


Neutrino ratios

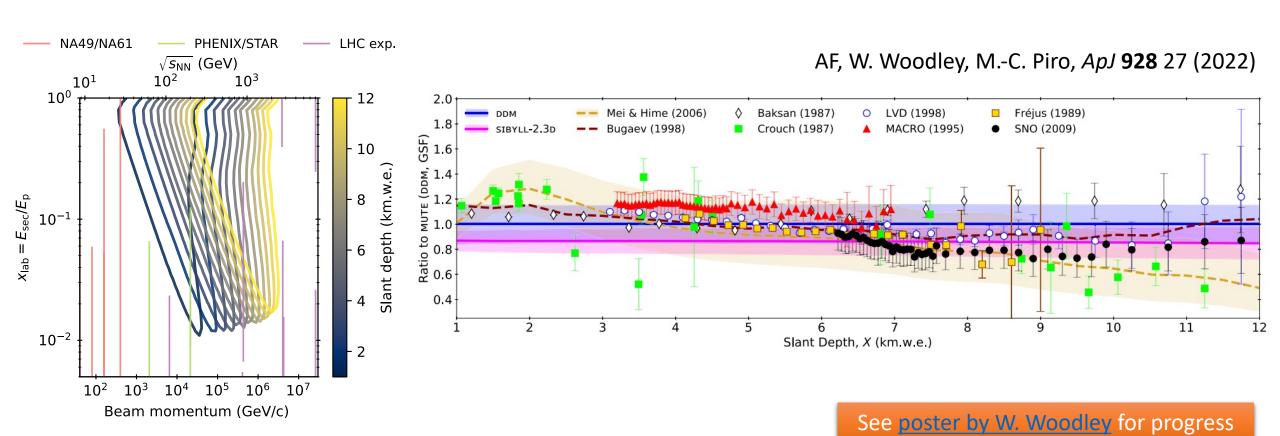
Muon neutrino/antineutrino ratio



Flavor ratio



High energy constraints from deep underground μ

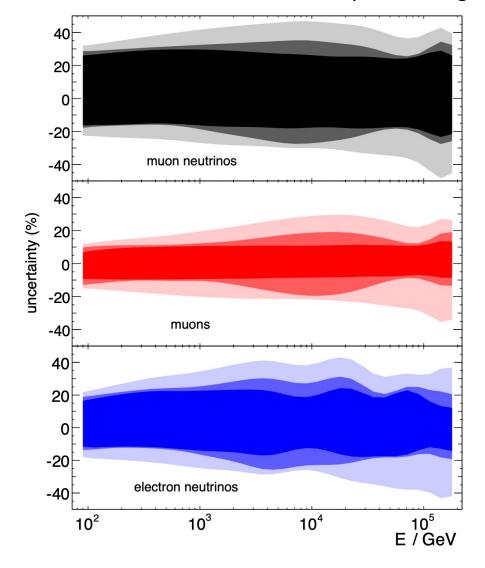


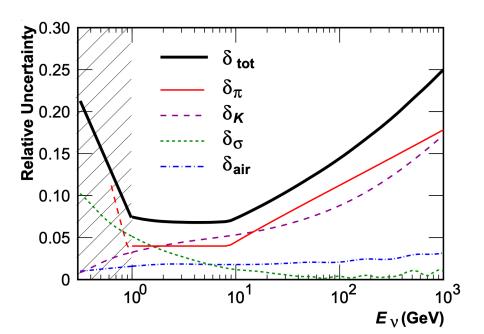
Summary

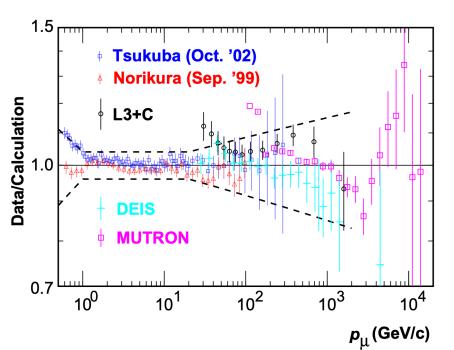
- Step forward made in high-energy flux predictions using data-driven models with uncertainties.
- Validation/calibration via muon surface fluxes challenging. But present results are robust + consistent, since (almost all) muon datasets mutually compatible after correcting for systematic errors.
- D-meson production and CR fluxes will be the dominant uncertainties at higher energies.
- First constraints on prompt neutrino fluxes more likely from neutrino observatories and FASER/FPF.
- Not evident how to use data from colliders in a DDM-like model due to phase space coverage. Collider (LHC) data useful to develop the "physical" models/event generators.
- For high-energy neutrino detectors proton-oxygen runs at 900 GeV center of mass could be very interesting. Higher energies miss the relevant (directly constraining) phase space.
- Global fit of model parameters using fixed-target data, direct + indirect CR data, surface and deep underground muon data will reduce the neutrino flux uncertainty below 10% E < 500 TeV, to <5% below for E < 100 GeV, down from >20—40%

Previous error estimates I

AF et al., PRD, 2012. Choose different models and estimate band by bracketing







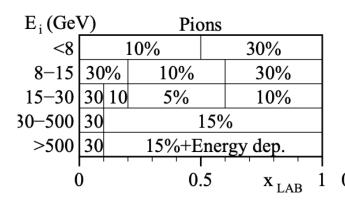
Honda et al. 2006 & Saniki et al. 2007:

Uncertainty from eyeballing the description of muon data, and proportional rescaling to neutrino fluxes.

$$rac{\Delta\phi_{\mu}}{\phi_{\mu}}\simeqrac{\Delta\phi_{
u_{\mu}}}{\phi_{
u_{\mu}}}\simeqrac{\Delta\phi_{
u_{e}}}{\phi_{
u_{e}}}$$

.. This is a crude approximation as one can see on the left plot...

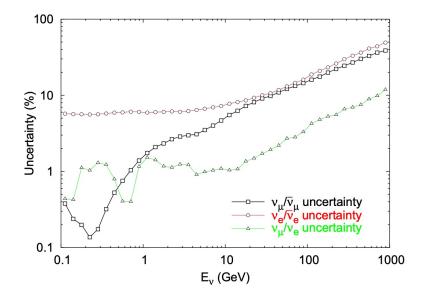
The Bartol scheme and some of its problems



Kaons						
		40%				
		40%				
30	20	10%				
40		30%				
40		30%+Energy dep.				
)		0.5 x_{LAB}	1			

The scheme:

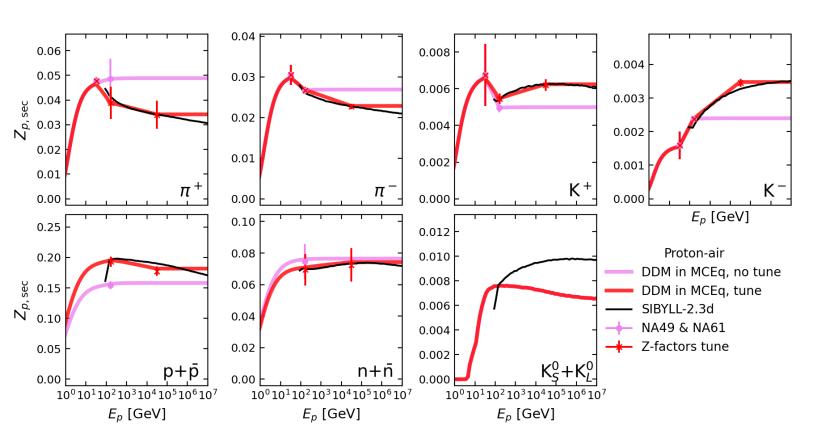
- For the interested, please read carefully page 4-5 of the Barr et al. PRD74, 2006
- Data from accelerators has been scouted carefully
- Experimental errors and an additional error if data disagrees between experiments were collected
- This error has been attached as weight to the Bartol 2004 flux MC calculation in 1D mode
- The calculation propagates the error from (E_proton, E_pion) phase space to the neutrino fluxes
- Similar approach with CR flux



Points to think about:

- The model used in the Bartol calculation never claimed to reproduce the data, and "probably no model ever will"
- Data not entirely checked for correctness, or sufficient completeness (true detector acceptance)
 - Extrapolation errors of the data from e.g. Aluminum
 → Nitrogen assigned by hand
 - No thick/thin target corrections
 - No feed-down corrections... not performed at ISR or anything before the 1990's
- But blew up errors generously → concervative estimate
 → overestimation of errors

Energy inter- and extrapolation



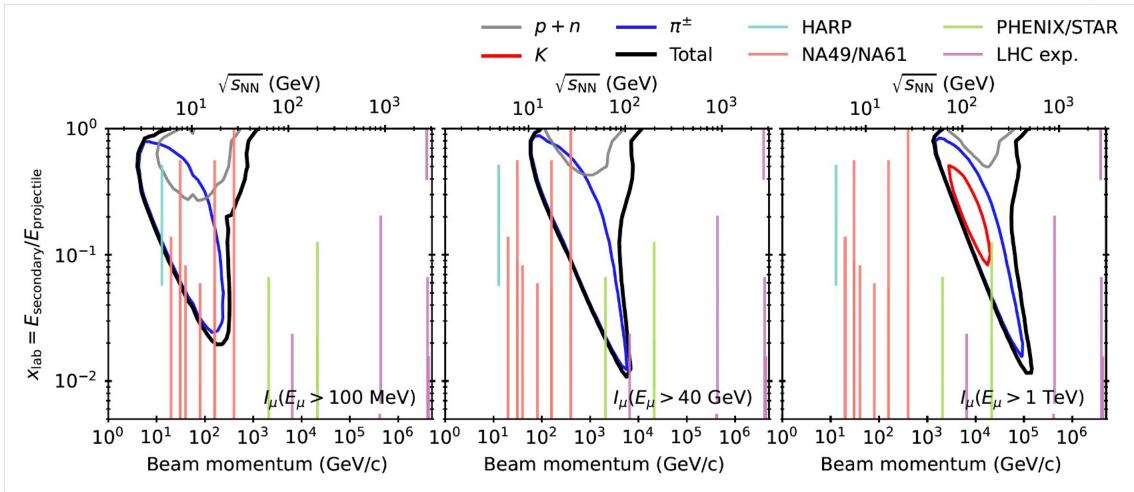
- 1 or 2 cross section "shapes" @31 & 158 GeV
- Interpolates linearly in log(E) between those
- Assumes Feynman scaling (shape of longitudinal spectrum constant)
- More points can be added to complicate energy dependence

Atm.-flux-relevant phase space → Spectrum-weighted moment:

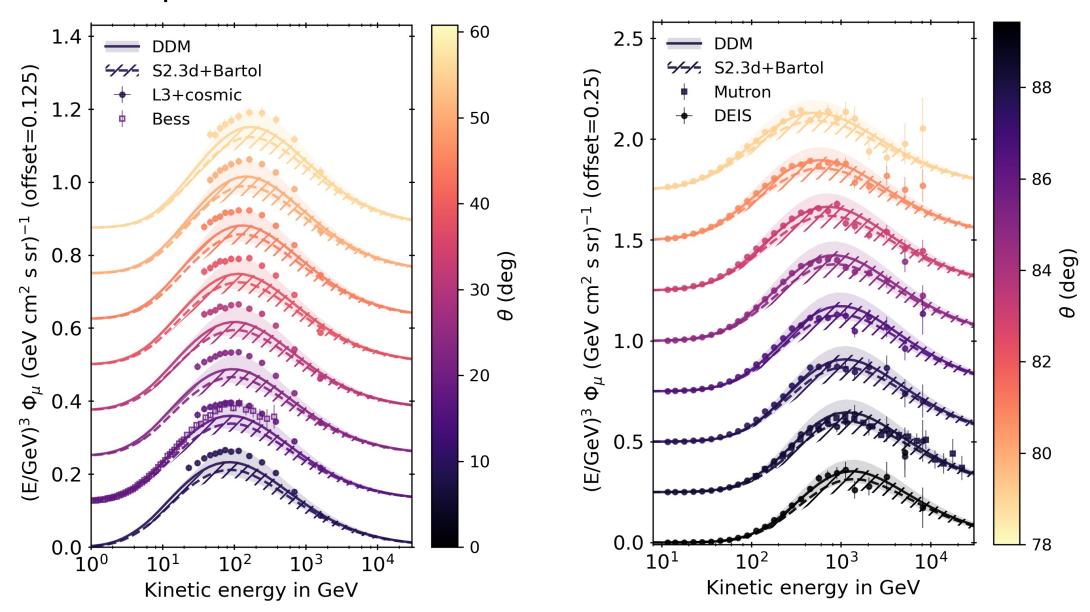
$$Z_{\mathrm{N}h}(E_{\mathrm{N}}) = \int_0^1 \mathrm{d}x_{\mathrm{Lab}} \ x_{\mathrm{Lab}}^{\gamma(E_{\mathrm{N}})-1} \frac{\mathrm{d}N_{\mathrm{N}\to h}}{\mathrm{d}x_{\mathrm{Lab}}} (E_{\mathrm{N}})$$

Phase space seen in surface muon measurements

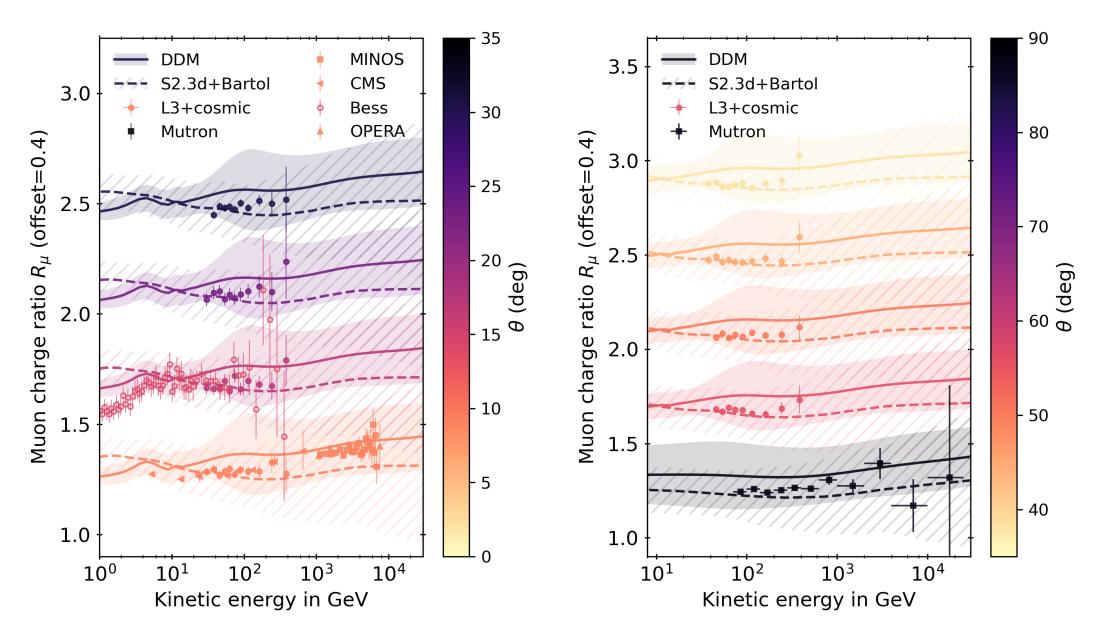
AF & M. Huber, arXiv:2205.14766



Description of muon data with DDM + GSF

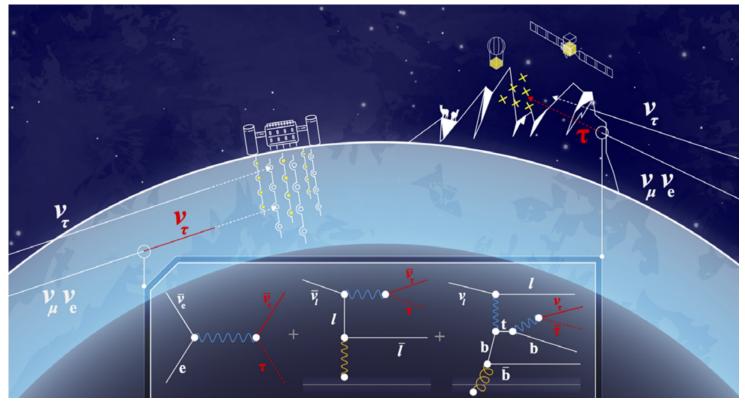


Results from DDM + GSF without muon calibration

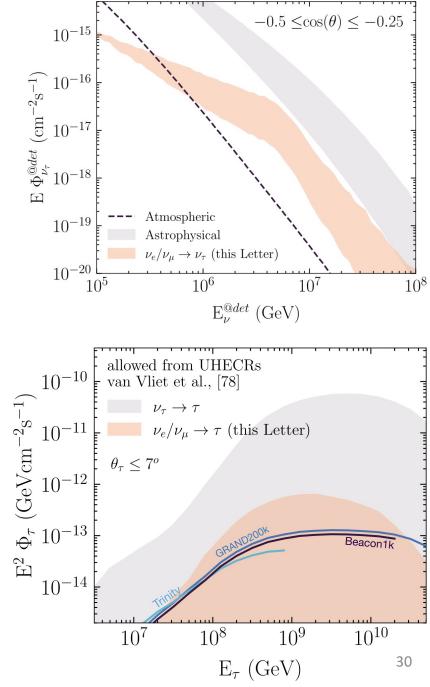


UHE tau neutrinos not entirely background free

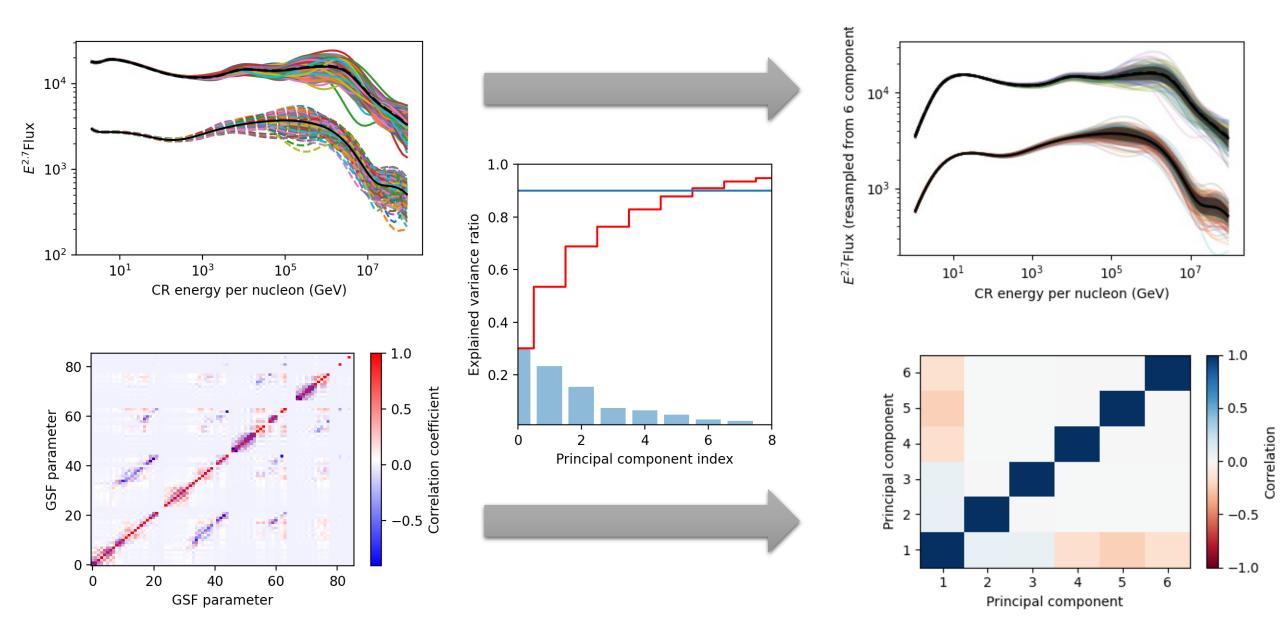
A. Garcia Soto, P. Zhelnin, I. Safa, and C. A. Argüelles, PRL128, 171101 (2022)



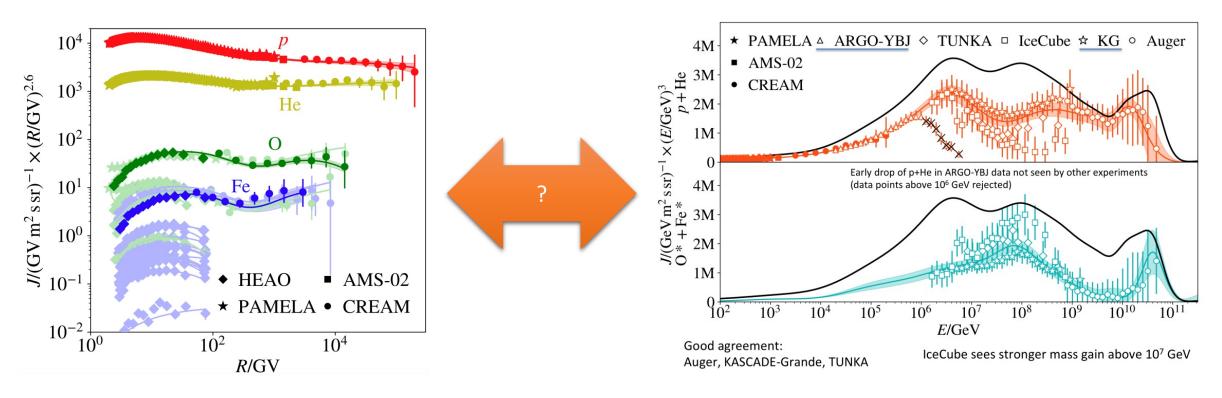
Atmospheric ν_τ production via "Glashow-resonance-like" processes from astrophysical ν_μ and ν_e



Dimensionality reduction to ~6 parameters



Parameterization of cosmic ray data – Global Spline Fit

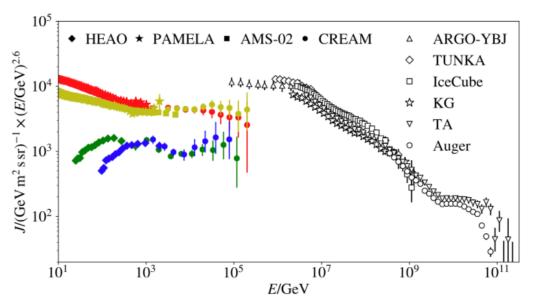


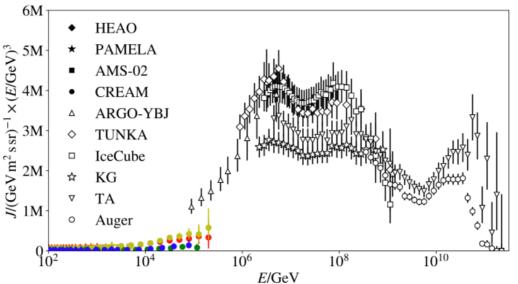
- Uses B-splines to fit 4 mass groups from GeV to 100 EeV
- Interpolates direct sattelite/balloon element data at low energies
- Fits mass groups to indirect experimental data
- Takes into account systematics carefully → only experiments with systematics

Combined fit to mass group flux and energy scale

Original data

H. Dembinski, AF, T. Gaisser PoS(ICRC2017)533





- The determination of energy scale in air-shower experiments is uncertain
- This is caused by inconsistencies of hadronic interaction models
- Fit finds energy scales within systematic uncertainties of the experiment

$$\tilde{J}(\tilde{E}) = J(E) \frac{\mathrm{d}E}{\mathrm{d}\tilde{E}} = J\left(\frac{\tilde{E}}{1+z_E}\right) \frac{1}{1+z_E}$$

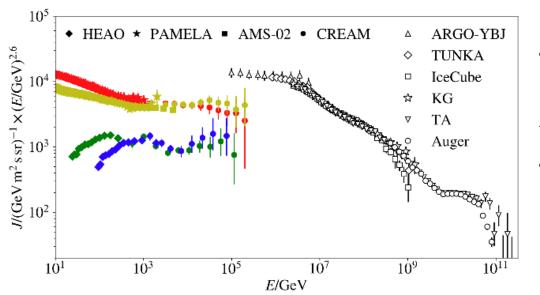
Flux distortion caused by energy-scale offset z_F

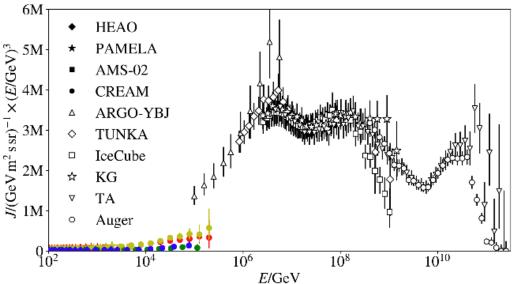
$$S = \sum_{i} z_i^2 + \sum_{j} \left(\frac{z_{Ej}}{(\sigma[E]/E)_j} \right)^2$$

Combined fit to mass group flux and energy scale

Adjusted data

H. Dembinski, AF, T. Gaisser PoS(ICRC2017)533





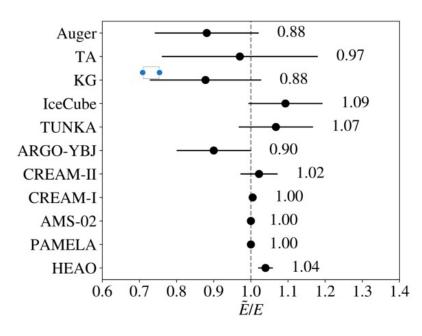
- The determination of energy scale in air-shower experiments is uncertain
- This is caused by inconsistencies of hadronic interaction models
- Fit finds energy scales within systematic uncertainties of the experiment

$$\tilde{J}(\tilde{E}) = J(E) \frac{\mathrm{d}E}{\mathrm{d}\tilde{E}} = J\left(\frac{\tilde{E}}{1+z_E}\right) \frac{1}{1+z_E}$$

Flux distortion caused by energy-scale offset z_F

$$S = \sum_{i} z_i^2 + \sum_{j} \left(\frac{z_{Ej}}{(\sigma[E]/E)_j} \right)^2$$

Combined fit to mass group flux and energy scale



Fitted energy-scale offsets compatible with reported systematic uncertainties

GSF energy scale fixed by direct measurements

- The determination of energy scale in air-shower experiments is uncertain
- This is caused by inconsistencies of hadronic interaction models
- Fit finds energy scales within systematic uncertainties of the experiment

$$\tilde{J}(\tilde{E}) = J(E) \frac{\mathrm{d}E}{\mathrm{d}\tilde{E}} = J\left(\frac{\tilde{E}}{1+z_E}\right) \frac{1}{1+z_E}$$

Flux distortion caused by energy-scale offset z_F

$$S = \sum_{i} z_i^2 + \sum_{j} \left(\frac{z_{Ej}}{(\sigma[E]/E)_j} \right)^2$$

MCEq code inputs

Model building:

Hadronic interaction model sibyll 2.3c and inclusive lepton fluxes Anatoli Fedynitch (DESY, Zeuthen), Felix Riehn (LIP, Lisbon and KIT, Karlsruhe, IKP), Ralph Engel (KIT, KIT, KIT, IKP), Ral	#6, IKP), <u>Thomas</u>
□ pdf ② DOI □ cite	€ 67 citation
Hadronic interaction model Sibyll 2.3d and extensive air showers	#9
Felix Riehn (Santiago de Compostela U., IGFAE and LIP, Lisbon and Delaware U. and KIT, Karlsruhe, IKP), Ralg Karlsruhe, IKP), Anatoli Fedynitch (Tokyo U., ICRR and DESY, Zeuthen and KIT, Karlsruhe, IKP), Thomas K. Ga U., Bartol Inst.), Todor Staney (Delaware U., Bartol Inst.) (Dec 6, 2019) Published in: <i>Phys.Rev.D</i> 102 (2020) 6, 063002 • e-Print: 1912.03300 [hep-ph]	
☐ pdf ② DOI ☐ cite	€ 67 citation
Data-driven model of the cosmic-ray flux and mass composition from 10 GeV to 10^{11} GeV Hans Peter Dembinski (Heidelberg, Max Planck Inst.), Ralph Engel (KIT, Karlsruhe), Anatoli Fedynitch (DESY, Ze Thomas Gaisser (Delaware U., Bartol Inst.), Felix Riehn (LIP, Lisbon) et al. (Jul 28, 2017) Published in: PoS ICRC2017 (2018) 533 • Contribution to: ICRC 2017, 533 • e-Print: 1711.11432 [astro-ph.Hell pdf	euthen),
Hadronic uncertainties of inclusive atmospheric lepton fluxes from fixed-target experiments Anatoli Fedynitch (Tokyo U., ICRR), Matthias Huber (Munich, Tech. U.) (2021) Published in: PoS ICRC2021 (2021) 1227 • Contribution to: ICRC 2021, 1227	#3
且 pdf ② DOI	→ 1 citation

Equations solved, open-source code published:

Calculation of conventional and prompt lepton fluxes at very high energy

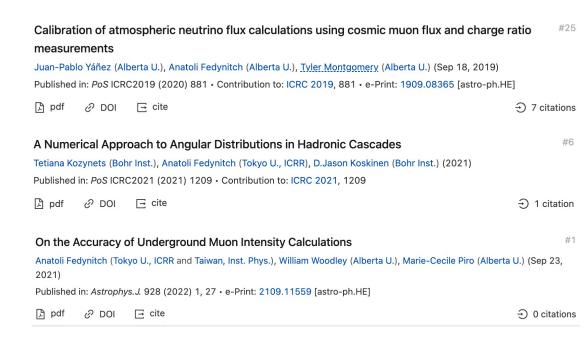
Anatoli Fedynitch (KIT, Karlsruhe and KIT, Karlsruhe, Dept. Phys. and CERN), Ralph Engel (KIT, Karlsruhe and KIT, Karlsruhe, Dept. Phys.), Thomas K. Gaisser (Delaware U., Bartol Inst.), Felix Riehn (KIT, Karlsruhe and KIT, Karlsruhe, Dept. Phys.), Todor Stanev (Delaware U., Bartol Inst.) (Mar 2, 2015)

114 citations

Published in: EPJ Web Conf. 99 (2015) 08001 • Contribution to: ISVHECRI 2014 • e-Print: 1503.00544 [hep-ph]

Dol ⊡ cite

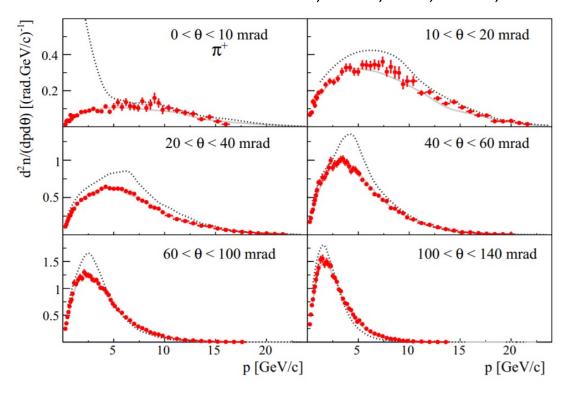
Some ongoing MCEq projects

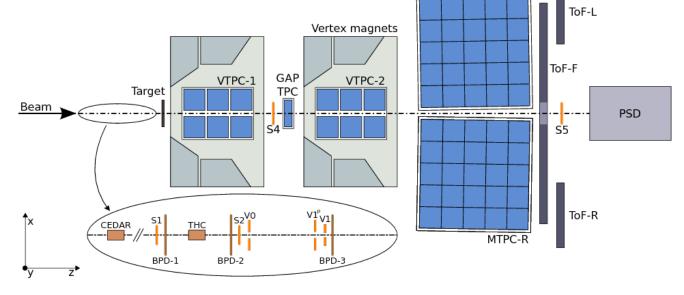


NA49/NA61/SHINE fixed-target exp.



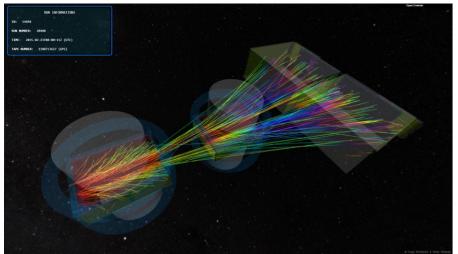






~13 m

MTPC-L



How do the accelerators enter?

For atmospheric leptons

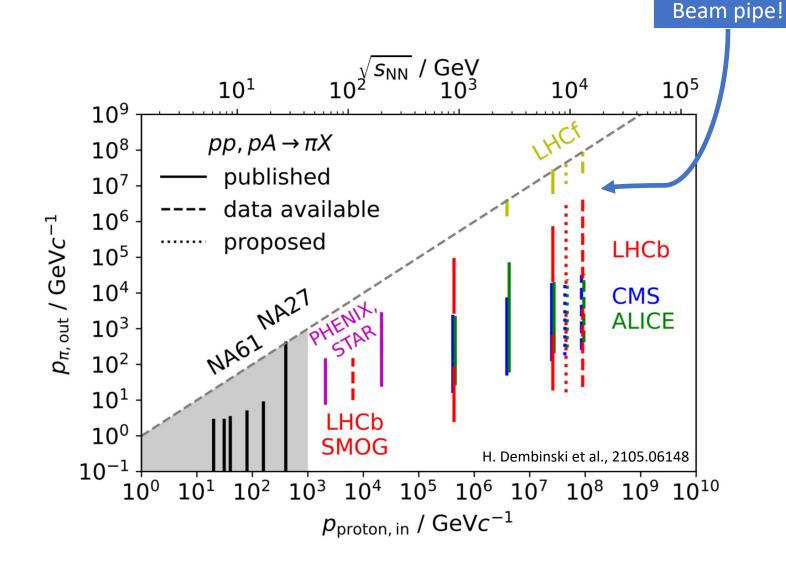
$$p_z \sim \text{TeV} - \text{PeV}$$

 $p_T \sim \text{few GeV}$

$$\theta \sim \mu \text{rad}$$

$$x_{
m lab} = rac{E_{
m secondary}}{E_{
m primary}} pprox rac{p_{z,
m secondary}}{E_{
m primary}}$$

$$x_{\rm lab} > 0.1, \quad \eta \to \infty$$

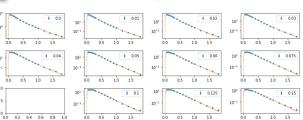


Building the DDM

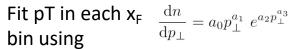
NA49 proton-carbon @ 158 GeV 1.6 1.4 1.2 $p_7[GeV]$ 0.8 10-1 0.6 0.4

Sample from $x_F = pz/sqrt(s)$ and convert into $x_L = E_{secondary}/E_{proj}$

$$x_{Lab} = \frac{E_c}{E_a} = \frac{\gamma \sqrt{m_c^2 + \frac{1}{4} x_F^2 E_{c.m.}^2 + p_{c,T}^{*2}} + \frac{1}{2} \gamma \beta x_F^2 E_{c.m.}}{E_a}$$



bin using



Included data

0.1 0.2 0.3 0.4 0.5

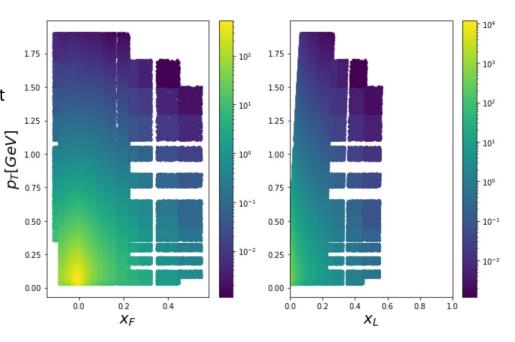
 X_F

0.2

-0.1 0.0

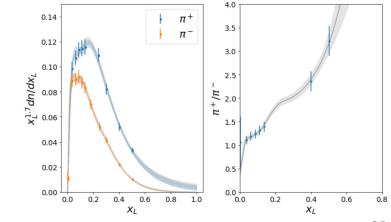
Experiment	beam	$E_{\rm beam}/{\rm GeV}$	Secondaries	Variables
NA49	рC	158	$\pi^{\pm},\stackrel{\scriptscriptstyle(\frown)}{\mathrm{p}},n$	$x_{\rm F}, p_{\perp}$
NA49	pp	158	K^{\pm}	$x_{ m F}, p_{\perp}$
NA61/SHINE	pC	31	$\pi^{\pm}, K^{\pm}, K_S^0, \Lambda$	p, θ
NA61/SHINE	$\pi^{-}C$	158, 350	$\pi^{\pm}, K^{\pm}, \stackrel{\scriptscriptstyle(-)}{ m p}$	p,p_{\perp}

(In the next iteration we would like to include new results from NA61 and old results from NA59 that require Be->C extrapolation.

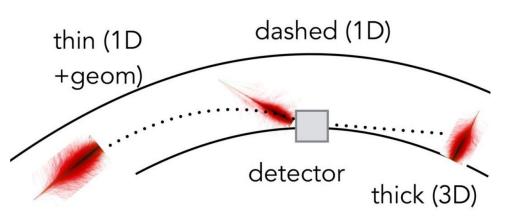




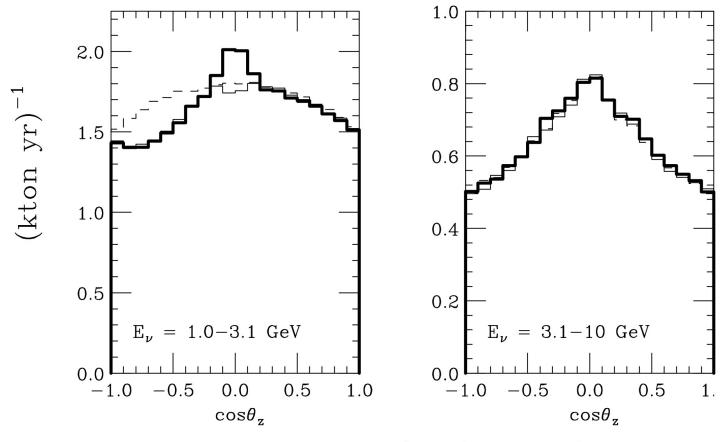
Fit dn/dx, with splines, get covariance matrix



Bartol and HKKM calculations focus on low energy and 3D



There's an appreciable difference between the $\cos \theta_z$ distributions in 1D vs 3D calculations at <3 GeV.



 * Lipari 2000, u_μ -CC rate at the North Magnetic Pole

Groups involved in modeling atmospheric neutrinos

