9. Neutrino Astronomy

Corso "Astrofisica delle particelle" Prof. Maurizio Spurio Università di Bologna. A.a. 2011/12

Outlook

- Why Neutrino Astronomy?
- Astrophysical Sources of ν_{μ}
- A Numerical example. A Galactic source of neutrinos: neutron star with accretion disk
- Event rate in a underground detector
- Upper Bounds on Neutrino Diffuse Fluxes
- Neutrino telescopes
- ICECUBE, ANTARES, NEMO
- The KM3 project in the Mediterranean sea

See: hep-ph 0906.2634

High-Energy Astrophysics with Neutrino Telescopes

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Abstract

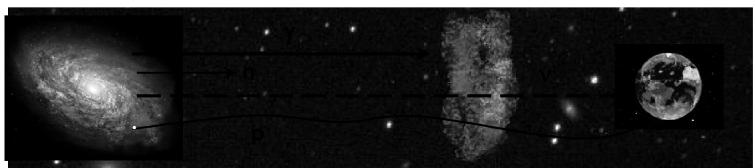
Neutrino astrophysics offers new perspectives on Universe investigation: high energy neutrinos, produced by the most energetic phenomena in our Galaxy and in the Universe, carry complementary (if not exclusive) information about the Cosmos with respect to photons.

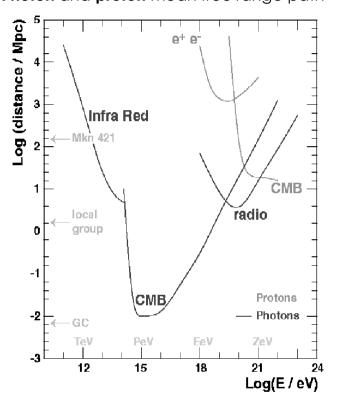
While the small interaction cross section of neutrinos allows them to come from the core of astrophysical objects, it is also a draw-back, as their detection requires a large target mass. This is why it is convenient to place neutrino telescopes in natural locations, like deep underwater or under-ice sites. In order to supply for such extremely hostile environmental conditions, new frontiers technologies are under development.

The aim of this work is to review the motivations for high energy neutrino astrophysics, the physics and the technologies used in underwater/ice Cherenkov experiments, with a special focus on the project of the construction of a km³ scale detector in the Mediterranean Sea.

9.1 Why Neutrino Astronomy? Photon and proton mean free range path

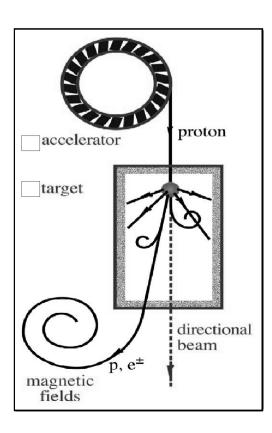
- Neutrino Astronomy is a quite recent and very promising experimental field.
- Advantages:
 - Photons: interact with CMB and matter (r~10 kpc @100 TeV)
 - Protons: interact with CMB (r~10 Mpc @10¹¹ GeV) and undergo magnetic fields (Δθ>1°, E<5·10¹⁰ GeV)
 - Neutrons: are not stable (r~10 kpc @ 10^9 GeV)
- <u>Drawback</u>: large detectors (~GTon) are





Production Mechanisms

 Neutrinos are expected to be produced in the interaction of high energy nucleons with matter or radiation:



$$(N + X \to \pi^{\pm}(K^{\pm}...) + Y \to \mu^{\pm} + \nu_{\mu}(\overline{\nu}_{\mu}) + Y$$

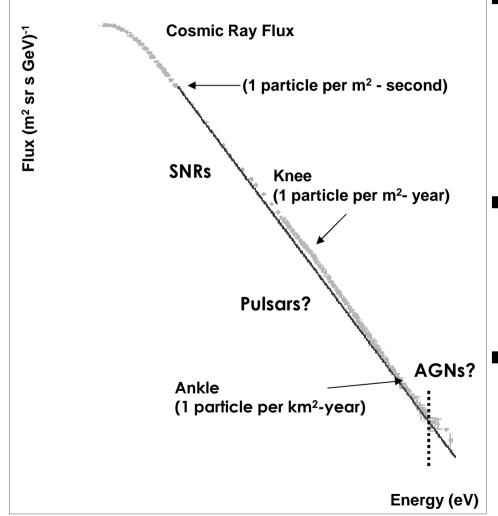
Cosmic rays
$$\downarrow$$
$$e^{\pm} + \overline{\nu}_{e}(\nu_{e}) + \overline{\nu}_{\mu}(\nu_{\mu})$$

•In these scenarios, high energy photons would also be produced:

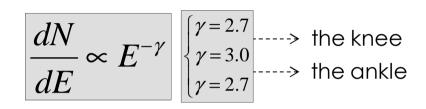
$$N + X \to \pi^0 + Y - \gamma \gamma Y$$

Gamma ray astronomy

Cosmic Rays $\leftarrow \rightarrow$ Neutrinos



 Cosmic rays follow a broken power-law:



 Beyond 6×10¹⁹ eV, the flux should vanish due to the interaction of protons with the CMB (GZK limit)

• High energy neutrinos could give information about the origin of cosmic rays.

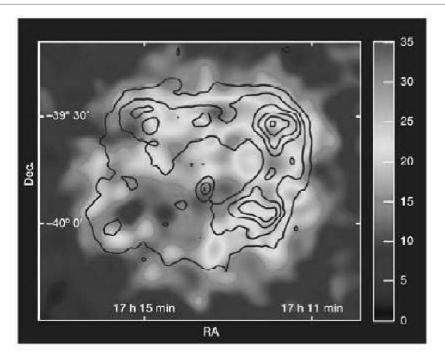
High Energy Photons (see cap. 6)

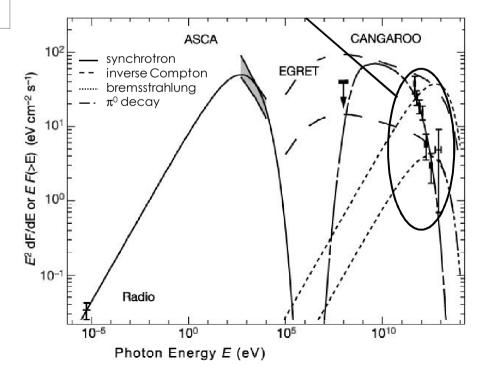
The observation of TeV photons can be explained by

 -leptonic processes (inverse Compton, bremsstrahlung) or
 -the decay of neutral pions produced in <u>hadronic interactions</u> (→neutrino).

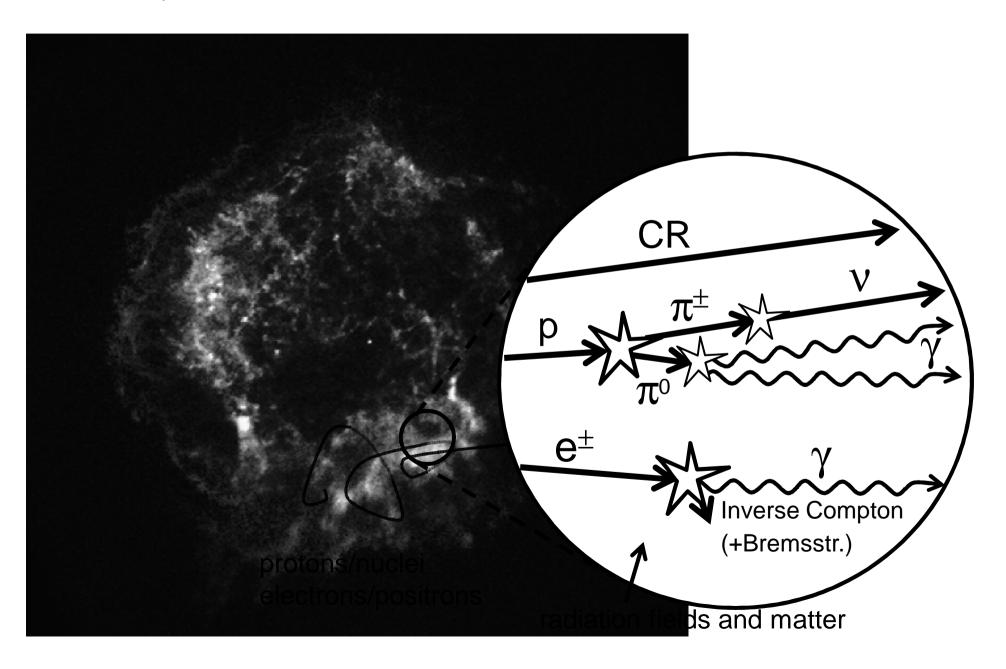
TeV gamma-ray image of RX J1713.7-3946 (H.E.S.S.). The superimposed contours show the X-ray surface brightness as seen by ASCA in the 1-3 keV range.

SNR RX 1713.7-3946 emission better explained by π^0 decay (still controversial)

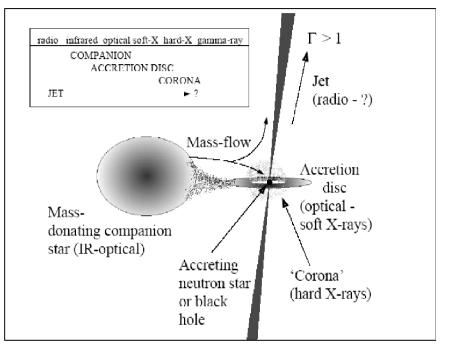




γ and ν in cosmic accelerators



- <u>Galactic sources</u>: these are near objects (few kpc) so the luminosity requirements are much lower.
 - Micro-quasars



- Micro-quasars: a compact object (BH or NS) towards which a companion star is accreting matter.
- Neutrino beams could be produced in the Micro-Qquasar jets.
- Several neutrinos per year could be detected by 1 km3 detector.

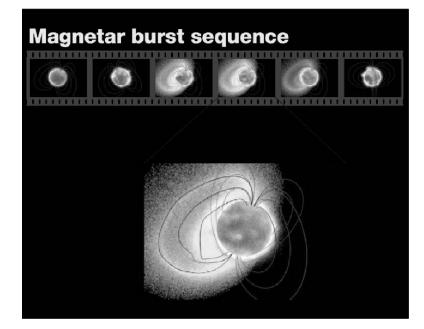
- <u>Galactic sources</u>: these are near objects (few kpc) so the luminosity requirements are much lower.
 - Micro-quasars
 - Supernova remnants



Several scenarios (optimistic?):

- Plerions (center-filled SNRs): 1-14 ev/km³· y.
- Shell-type SNRs: 40-140 ev/km^3 · y.
- SNRs with energetic pulsars: $\sim 100 \text{ ev}/\text{km}^3 \cdot \text{ y}$.

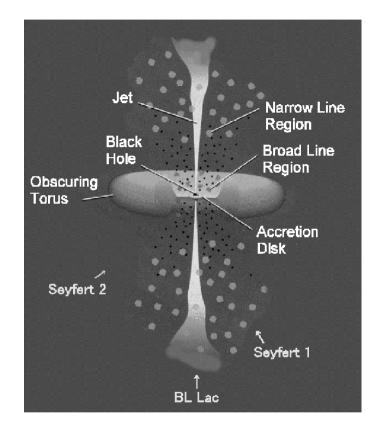
- <u>Galactic sources</u>: these are near objects (few kpc) so the luminosity requirements are much lower.
 - Micro-quasars
 - Supernova remnants
 - Magnetars
 - **.**..



- Isolated neutron stars with surface dipole magnetic fields ~10¹⁵ G, much larger than ordinary pulsars.
- Seismic activity in the surface could induce particle acceleration in the magnetosphere.
- Event rate: ~1 $(0.1/\Delta\Omega)$ ev/km³· y.

- <u>Galactic sources</u>: these are near objects (few kpc) so the luminosity requirements are much lower.
 - Micro-quasars
 - Supernova remnants
 - Magnetars
 - ...

- Extra-galactic sources: most powerful sources in the Universe
 - AGNs



- Active Galactic Nuclei includes Seyferts, quasars, radio galaxies and blazars.
- Standard model: a super-massive (10⁶-10⁸ M_o) black hole towards which large amounts of matter are accreted.
- Detectable neutrino rates (~1-10 ev/year/km³) could be produced.

- <u>Galactic sources</u>: these are near objects (few kpc) so the luminosity requirements are much lower.
 - Micro-quasars
 - Supernova remnants
 - Magnetars
 - **.**..

- Extra-galactic sources: most powerful sources in the Universe
 - AGNs
 - GRBs

- GRB FIREBALL MODEL Afterglow Burst Pre-Burst Formation T = 0 s R = 10⁶ cm R - 3x10¹² cm T - 10² s R - 10¹⁴ cm T - 10⁶ s R - 3x10¹⁶ cm R - 3x10¹⁶ cm
- GRBs are brief explosions of γ rays (often + X-ray, optical and radio).
- In the fireball model, matter moving at relativistic velocities collides with the surrounding material. The progenitor could be a collapsing super-massive star.
- <u>Time correlation</u> enhances the neutrino detection efficiency.

9.3 Recipes for a Neutrino Telescope



M. Markov:

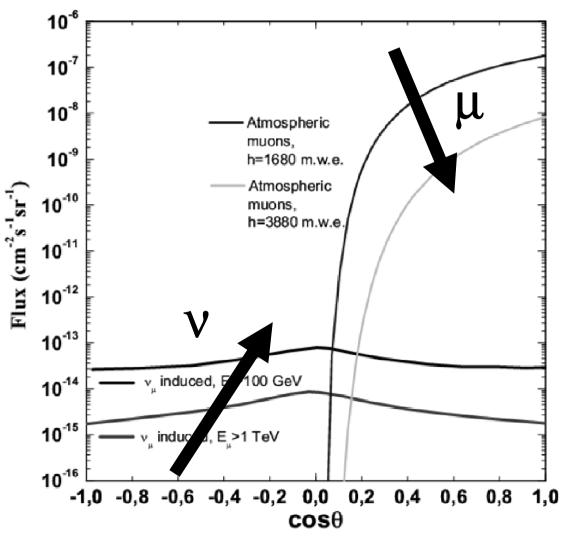
"We propose to install detectors deep in a lake or in the sea and to determine the direction of the charged particles with the help of Cherenkov radiation"

1960, Rochester Conference

Astrofisica con neutrini

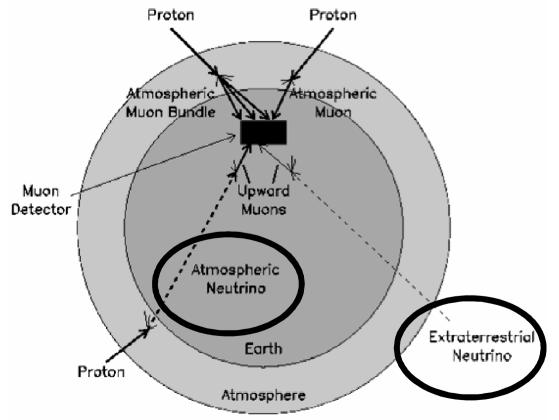
Deep in a transparent medium

- Water or Ice:
 - large (and inexpensive) target
 for ν interaction
 - transparent radiators for Cherenkov light;
 - large deep: protection against the cosmic-ray muon background



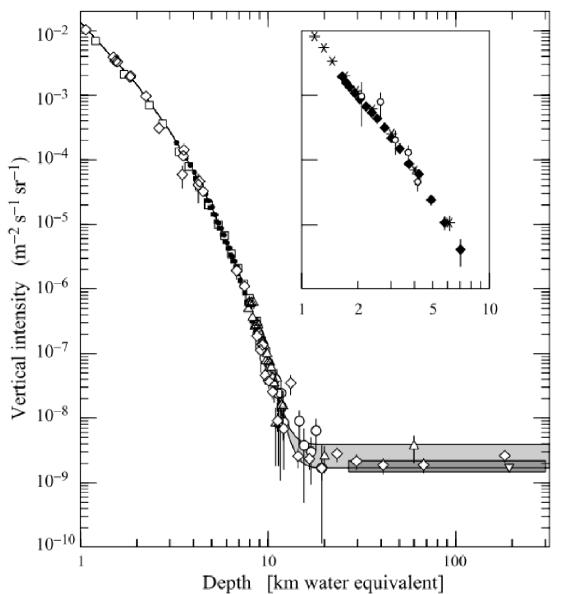
vT: a detector looking to the bottom

- Atmospheric muons dominate by many order of magnitude the neutrino-induced muons.
- \bullet Only upward-going particles are candidate for extraterrestrial ν .



Atmospheric neutrinos represent the irreducible background for NT

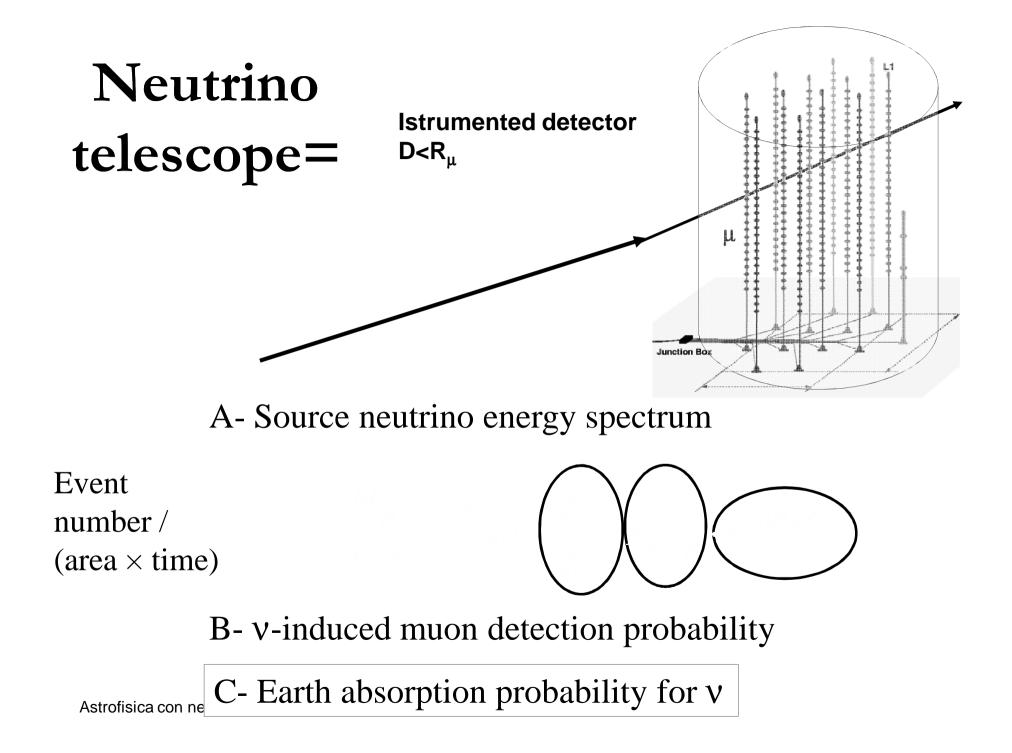
Upward-going muons (or horizontal muons) ARE neutrino-induced!



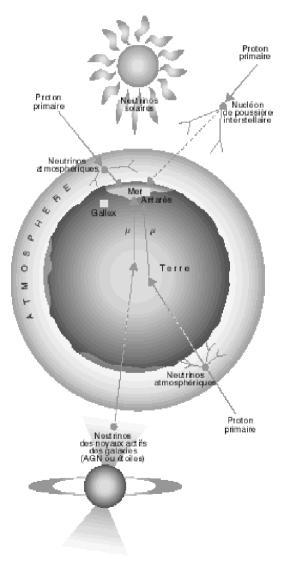
Atmospheric muon flux

Muons cannot cross more than ≈ 15 km.w.e.

Figure 9: Vertical muon intensity vs. depth (1 km.w.e. = 10^5 gcm^{-2} of standard rock). Fig. from [30]. The experimental data are from: the compilations of Crouch \diamond [61], Baksan [62], LVD \circ [63], MACRO \bullet [64], Frejus [65], and SNO \triangle [66]. The shaded area at large depths represents neutrino-induced muons of energy above 2 GeV. The upper line is for horizontal neutrino-induced muons, the lower one for vertically upward muons.



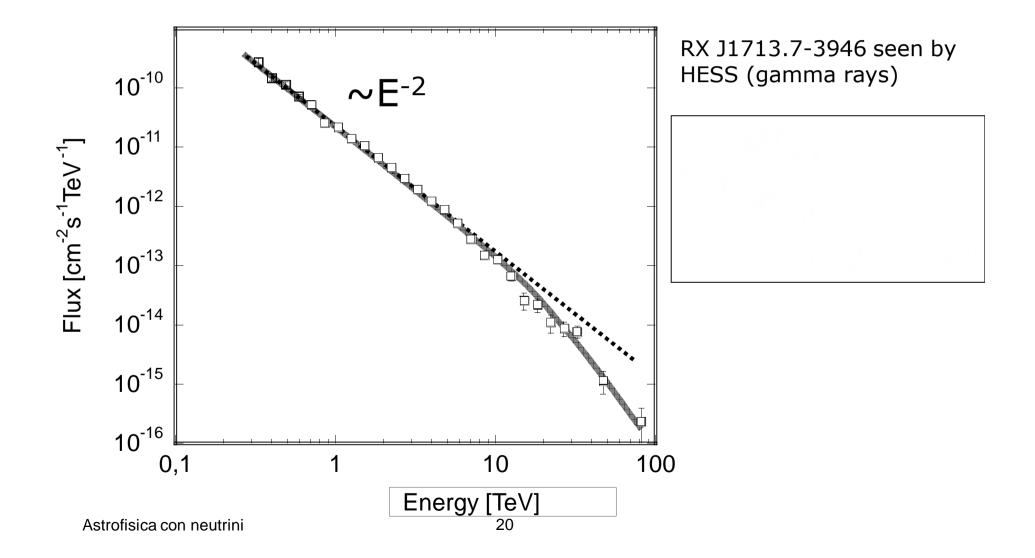
A) Example of a Galactic source of neutrinos.

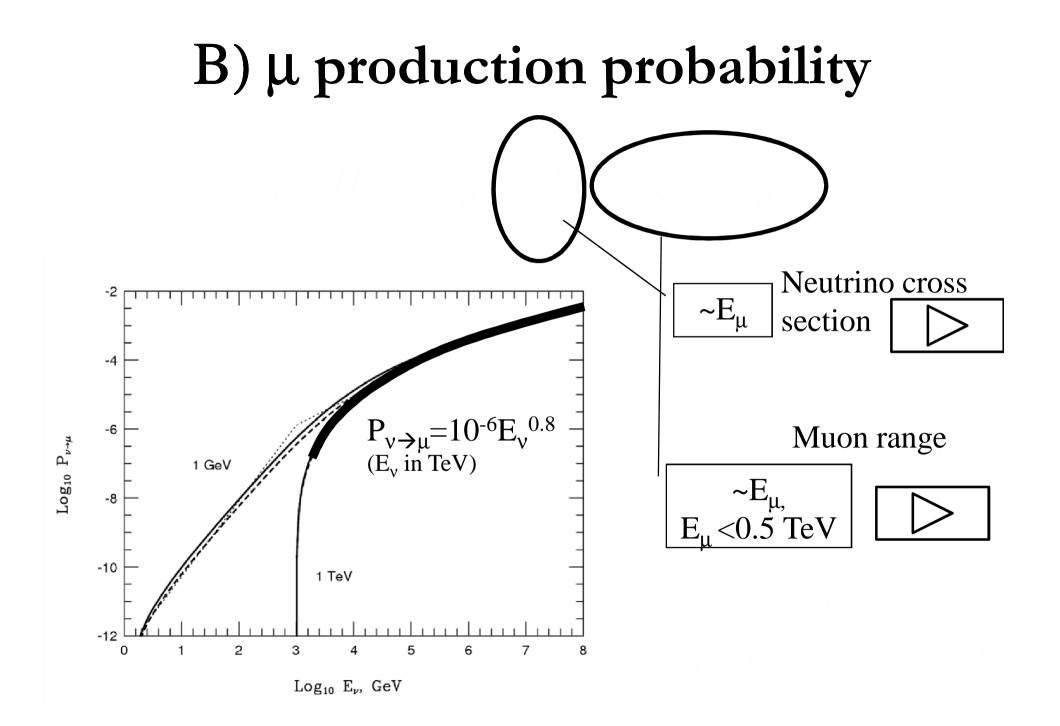


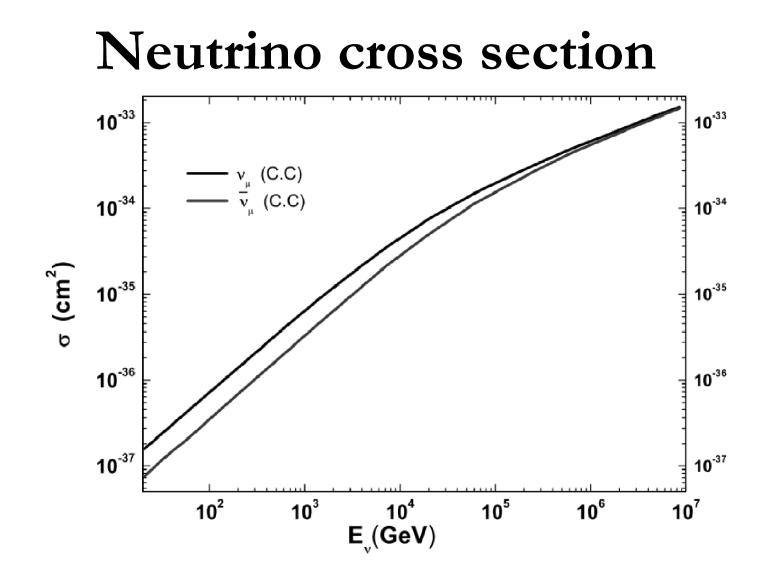
TeV γ -rays and neutrinos can be produced from **hadronic processes**: $p + \gamma \rightarrow \Delta^+ \rightarrow \pi^0 + p$ $p + \gamma \rightarrow \Delta^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ + n$

Neutral mesons decay in <u>photons</u>: $\pi^{o} \rightarrow \gamma \gamma$ charged mesons decay in <u>neutrinos</u>: $\pi^{+} \rightarrow \nu_{\mu} + \mu + \mu + \mu^{+} \rightarrow \nu_{\mu} + \nu_{e} + e^{+}$ $\pi^{-} \rightarrow \nu_{\mu} + \mu^{-} \mu^{-} \rightarrow \nu_{\mu} + \nu_{e} + e^{-}$ # V = # Y

A source candidate: RX J1713.7-3946







Problem: estimate the energy of the neutrino for which the Earth is not anymore transparent

Muon Range

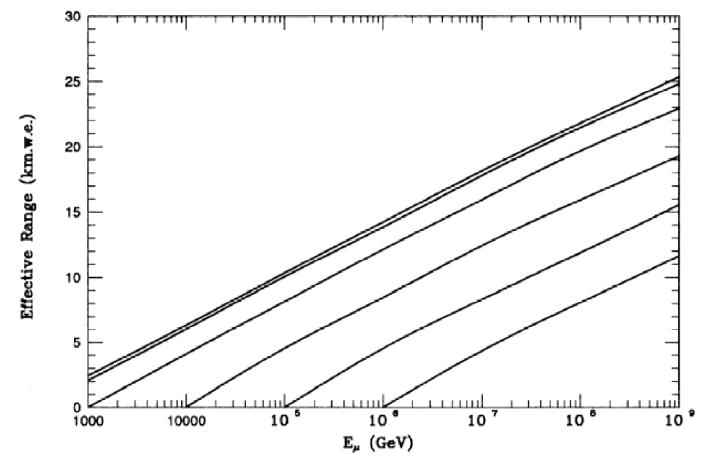
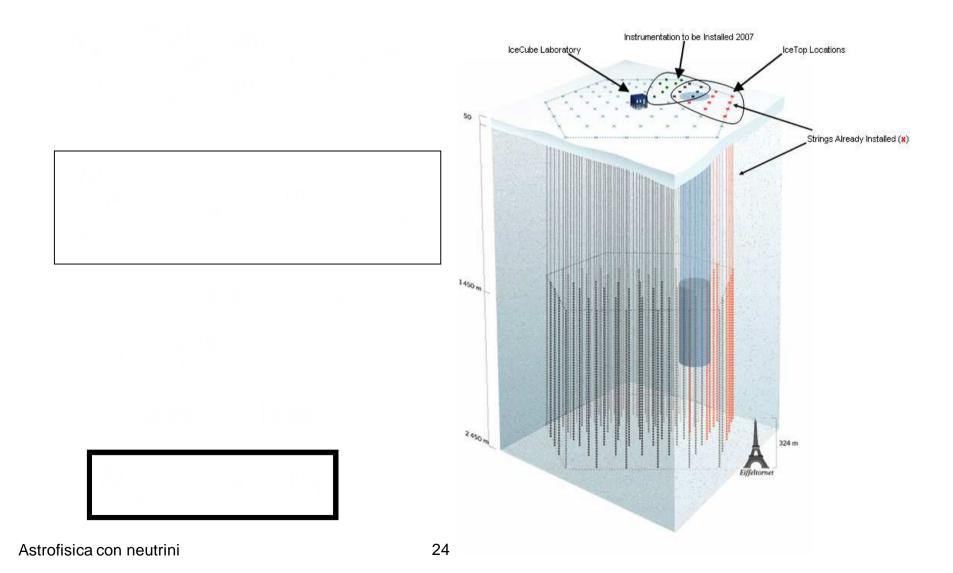


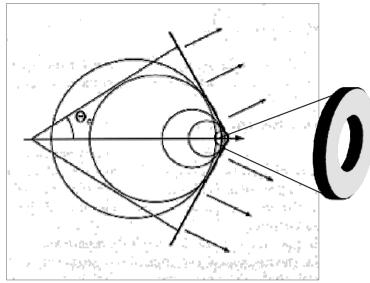
Figure 12: Effective muon range as a function of the initial energy E_o . Curves correspond (from top to bottom) to different threshold energies E_{thr} of the muon arriving at the detector. $E_{thr} = 1, 10^2, 10^3, 10^4, 10^5, 10^6$ GeV. From [69].

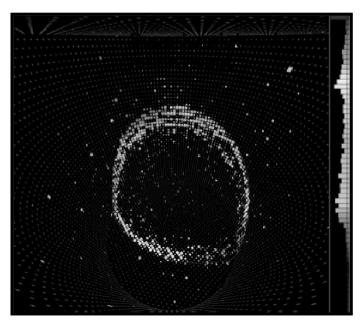


→ Detector size



Cherenkov light emission



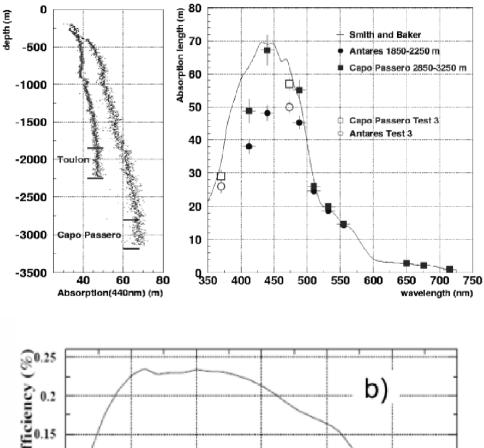


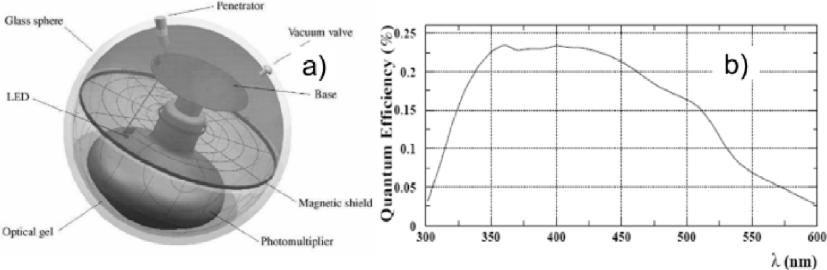
- Cherenkov light emitted by reletivistic particles in a trasparent medium, with : $\beta n(\lambda) > 1$
- Dominant photon emission in the blue-UV band (see cap. 7).
- In the range in which water/ice are most transparent:



Water properties/optical module

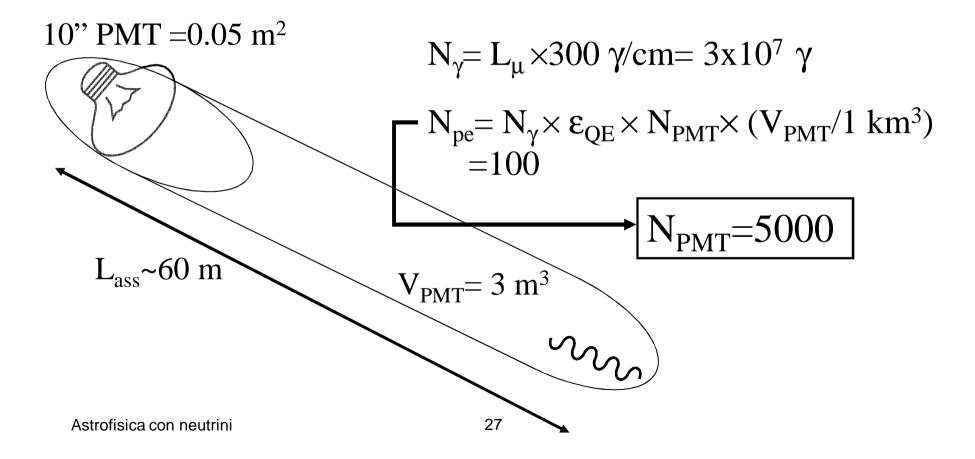
Water absorption length measured in the Toulon (blue) and Capo Passero (red). Left: La(λ) with $\lambda = 440$ nm as function of the depth. Right: various measurement of the absorption length in the two sites as function of the wavelength, compared to the behaviour of pure seawater (solid line).



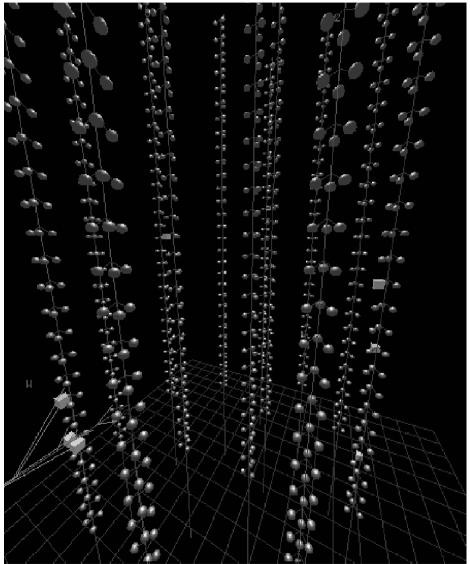


How many light sensors $\rightarrow \in$?

Problem: Let assume a muon track of $L_{\mu}=1$ km. How many PMTs N_{PMT} are needed in 1 km³ detector volume in order to detect ~100 photoelectrons N_{pe} ?



Track reconstruction

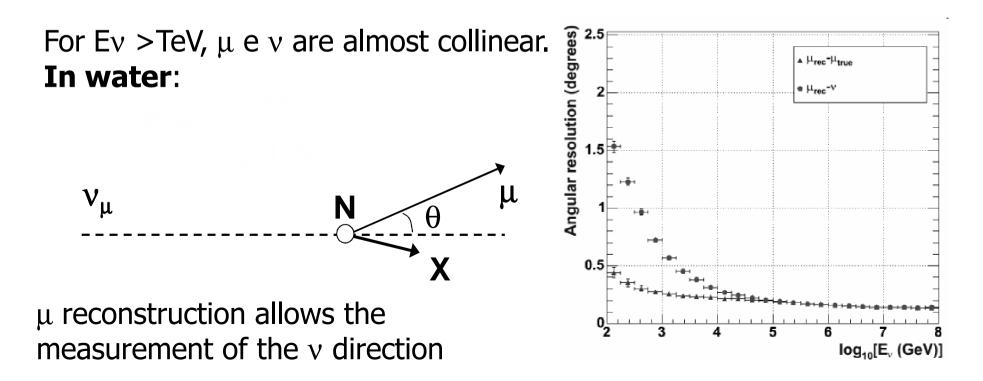


- Cherenkov photons emitted by a μ crossing the detector are correlated in space and time
- μ can be reconstructed looking for time-space correlation between fired PMTs (hits).

Astrofisica con neutrini

Detecting v

- Neutrino detection through CC interaction with production of a charged lepton
- Neutrino astronomy requires the reconstruction of the neutrino *direction* and an estimate of the *energy*



MACRO $(A=1000 \text{ m}^2,$ T=5 y) results: no evidence!

flux limit (GeV cm⁻² s⁻¹)

10~

10⁻⁵

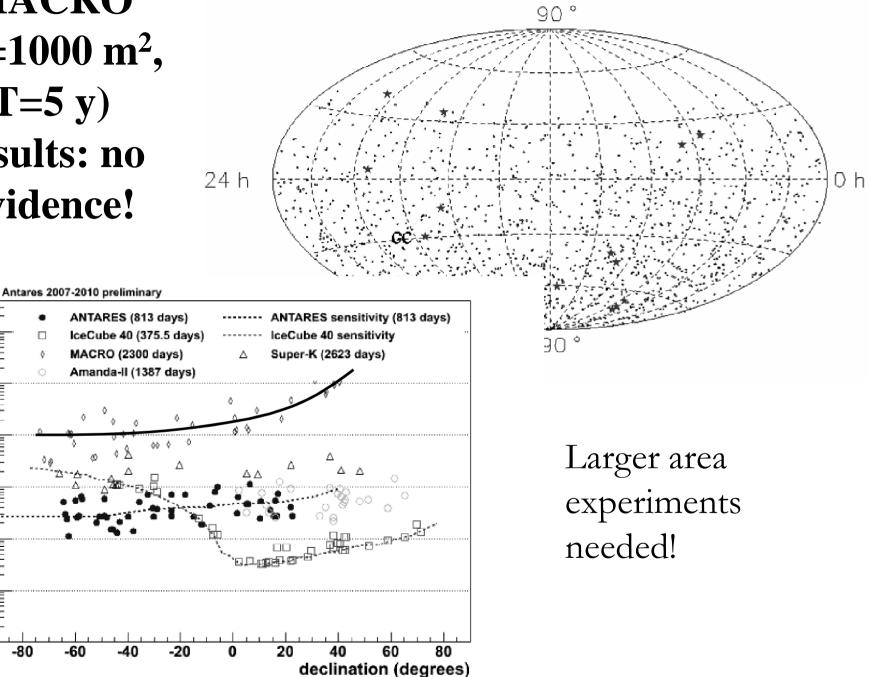
10-6

10⁻⁷

10⁻⁸

10⁻⁹

10⁻¹⁰



9.5 Upper Bounds on Neutrino Diffuse Fluxes

- •Upper bounds from UHE cosmic rays and γ diffuse flux can be established.
- The first limit comes from the isotropic gamma ray background:

 $\Phi_{\nu} \leq \Phi_{\gamma} (\text{MeV-GeV}) \text{ O}_{\gamma}$ $E^2 \, d\Phi/dE < 10^{-6} \text{ GeV cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1} \text{ sr}^{-1}$

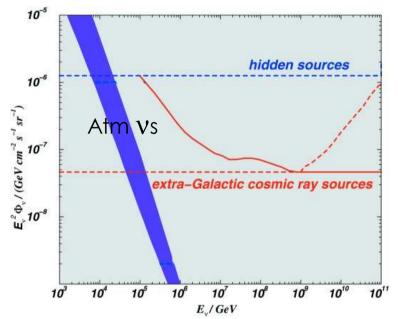
Concerning cosmic rays, it can be established the following relationship:

$$\Phi_{\nu} \leq \Phi_{CR}(E_{CR} = f^{-1}E_{\nu}) K O_n P$$

Waxman-Bahcall

- •Source transparent to HE neutrons ($E_n \sim 10^{19} \text{ eV}$)
- •Spectral shape up to GZK cut-off is $dN/dE \propto E^{-2}$

 $E^2 d\Phi/dE < 4.5 \times 10^{-8} \text{ GeV cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1} \text{ sr}^{-1}$



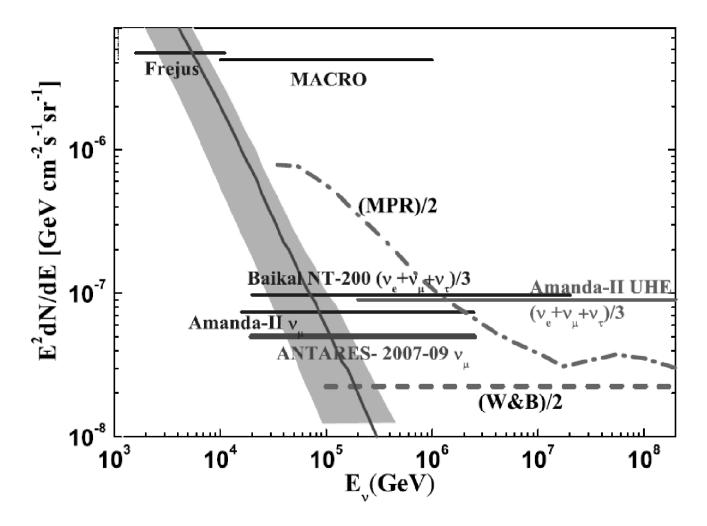
Mannheim-Protheroe-Rachen

•There is no assumption about the opacity and the spectral indexes of the sources.

 $E^2 d\Phi/dE < 2 \times 10^{-6} - 4.5 \times 10^{-8} \text{ GeV cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1} \text{ sr}^{-1}$

Oscillations reduce these limits in a factor two: 1:2:0 \rightarrow 1:1:1

Search for a diffuse flux

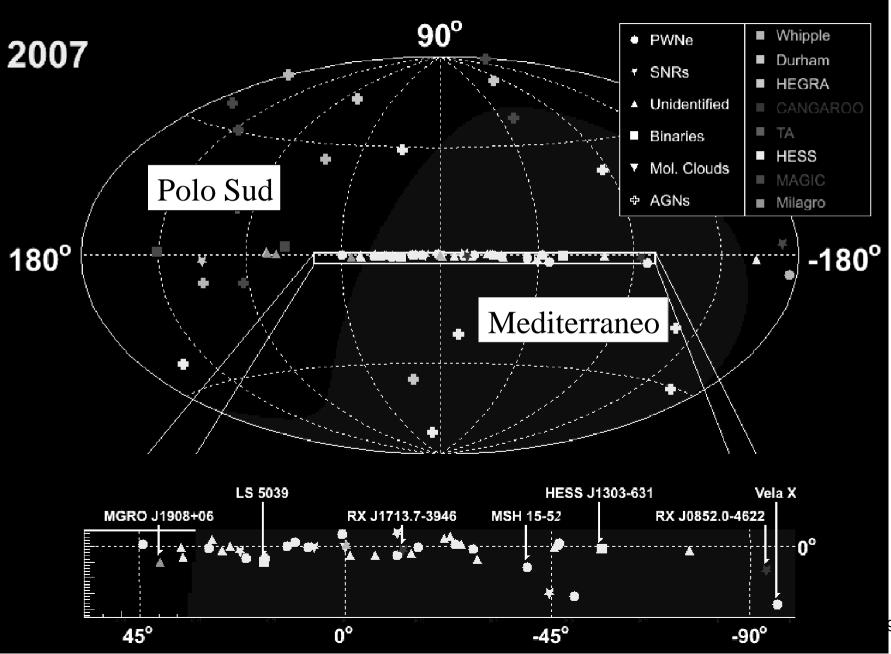


9.6 The neutrino telescope projects

• IceCube (South Pole)

- Km3 (Mediterranean Sea)
 - ANTARES (subproject)
 - NEMO (subproject)

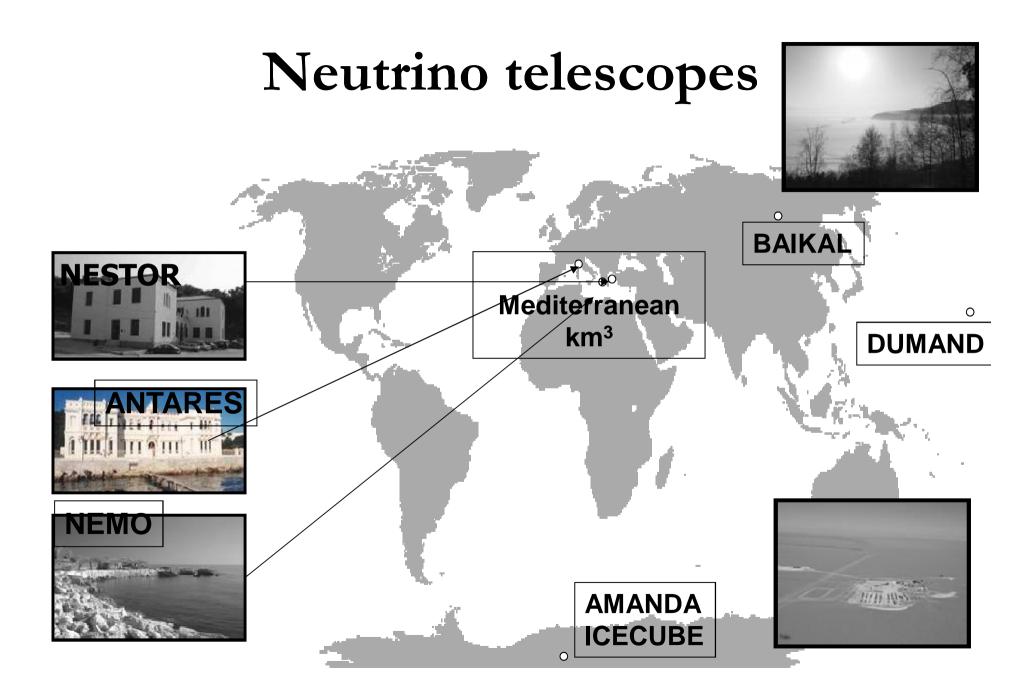
Sky map for NTs



Neutrino-induced muons form cosmic sources in a km³ detector

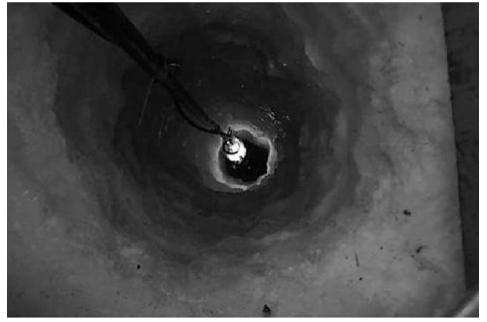
Diffuse Flux		
"UHE" (GZK):		few / year ?
Diffuse, from GRB: (Waxman)		20 / year
Diffuse, from AGN (thin): (Mannheim)		few / year
"	(thick):	>100 / year

GRB (030329): (Waxman) $1 \div 10$ / burstAGN (3C279): (Dermer)few / yeargalactic SNR (Crab-like): (Protheroe)few / year ?Galactic Microquasars :(Distefano) $1 \div 100$ / year



Difference between ice...







... and Mediterranean water

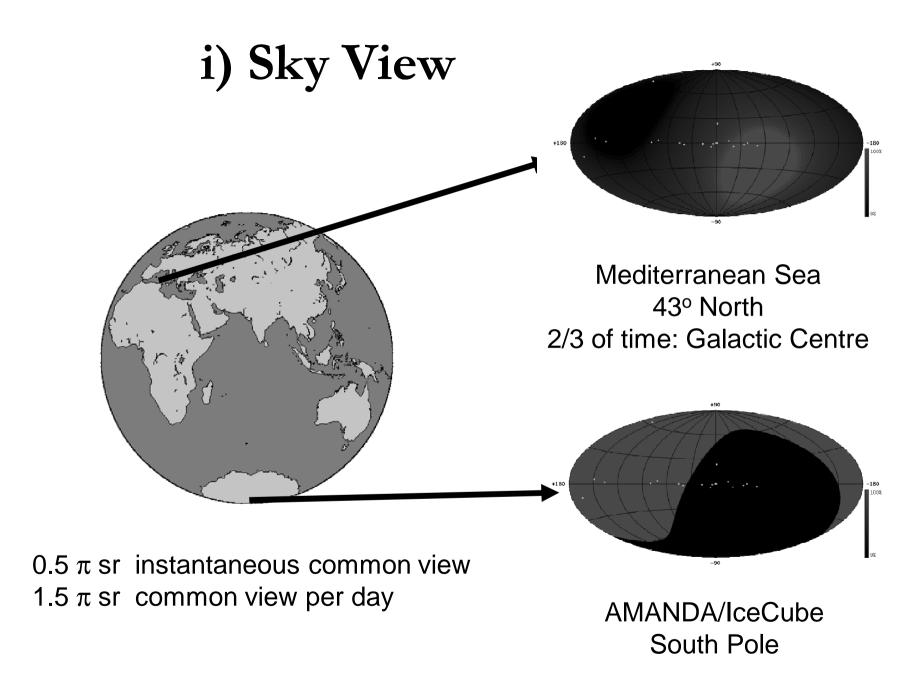












ii) Logistics



iii) Medium optical properties

Il mezzo **assorbe** e **diffonde** i fotoni. Ciò diminuisce il volume sensibile e la precisione nella ricostruzione

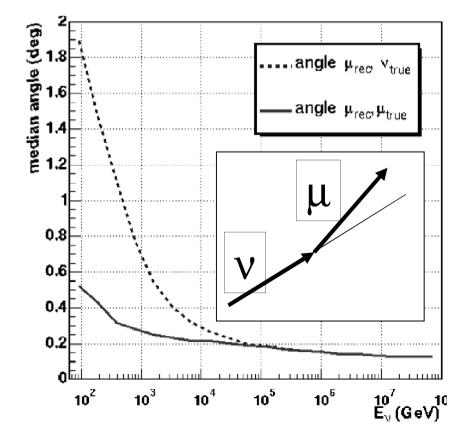
41

• Ghiaccio: maggiore lunghezza di assorbimento \rightarrow miglior V_{PMT}

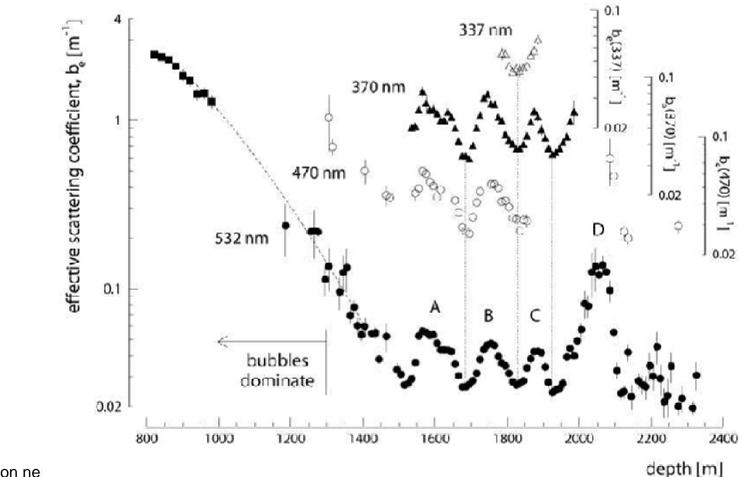
Acqua: minore lunghezza di
 diffusione → migliore ricostruzione

Figura: ANTARES MC

Astrofisica con neutrini

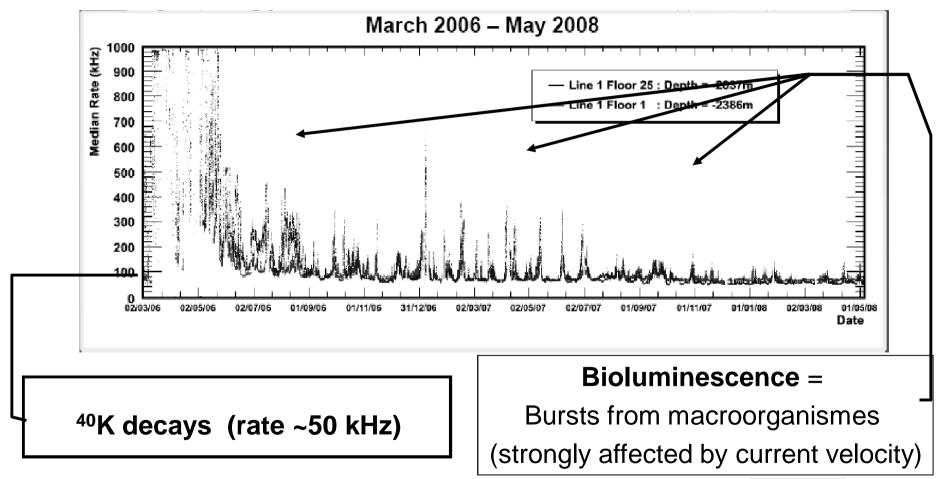


Coefficiente di diffusione (1/L_{diff}) per il ghiaccio. Occorre andare oltre 1400 m per evitare le bolle d'aria. Diversi picchi a diverse profondità dovuti a diversi tipi di polveri
 Opponde di anti a diversi tipi di polveri



Astrofisica con ne

iv) Background (water)

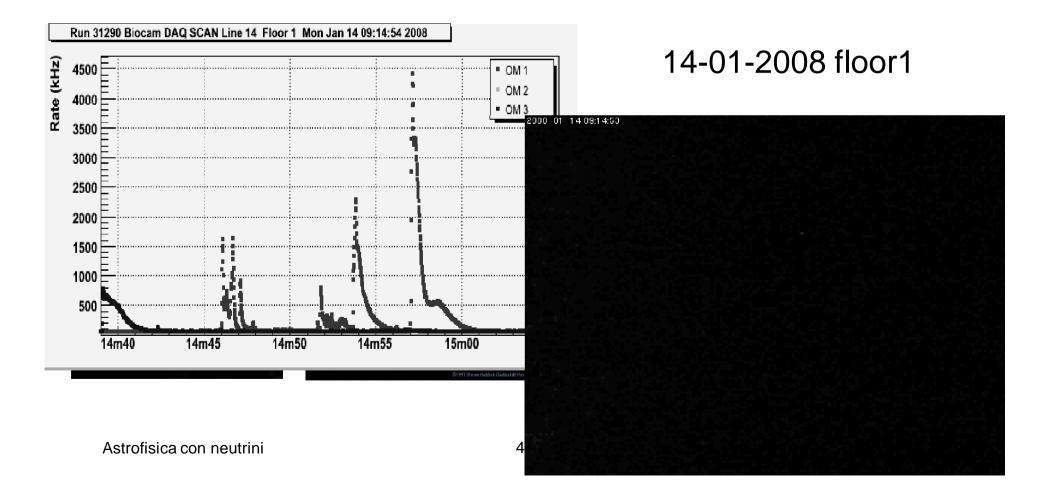




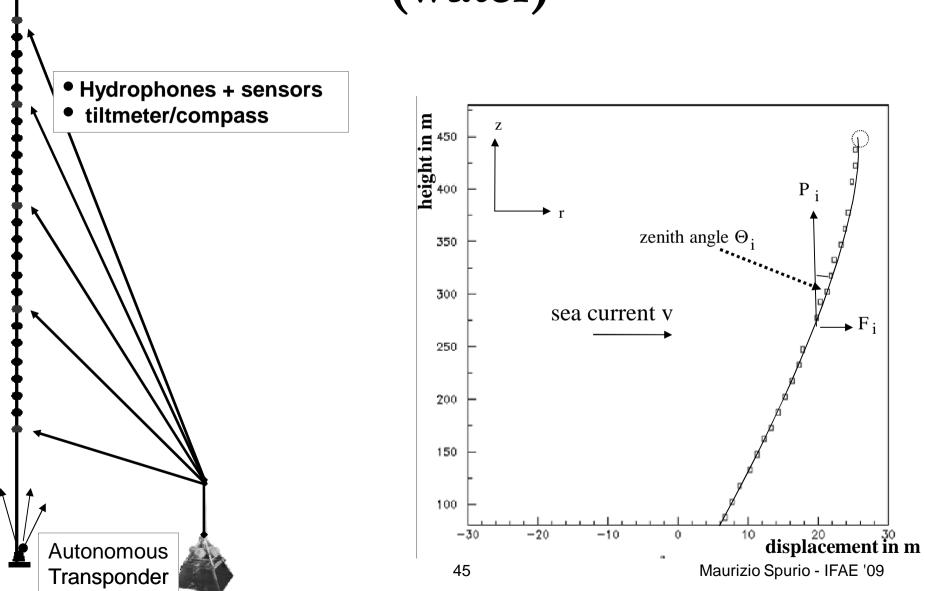
Astrofisica con neutrini

Life in the deep sea (ANTARES)

• Commercial IR Video Camera in "self triggering mode"

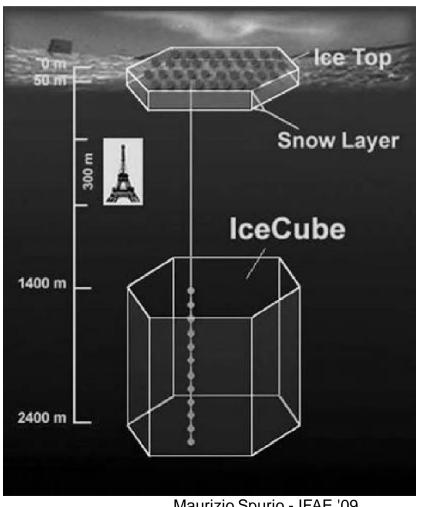


v) OM positioning (water)

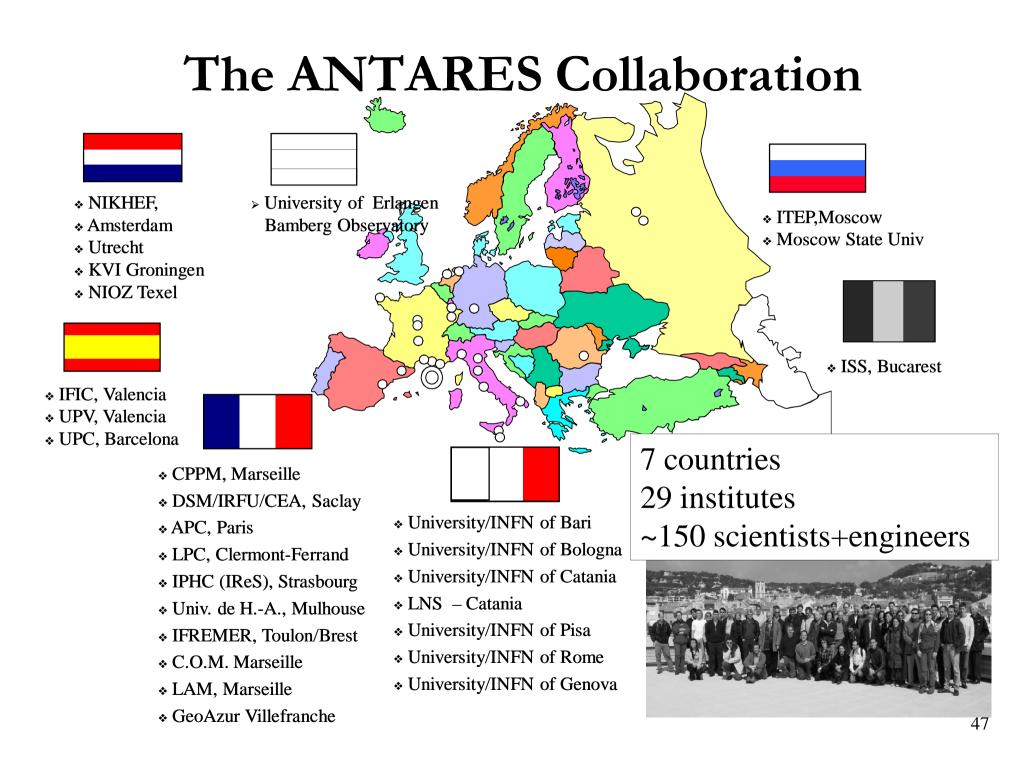


IceCube at the South Pole

- Rivelatore in fase di costruzione in Antartide:
- 80 stringhe (60 PMT/stringa)
- 4800 10" PMT (verso il basso)
- 125 m distanza tra stringhe
- 16 m distanza tra PMT sulla stringa
- Volume istrumentato: 1 km3
- Completed (2012)

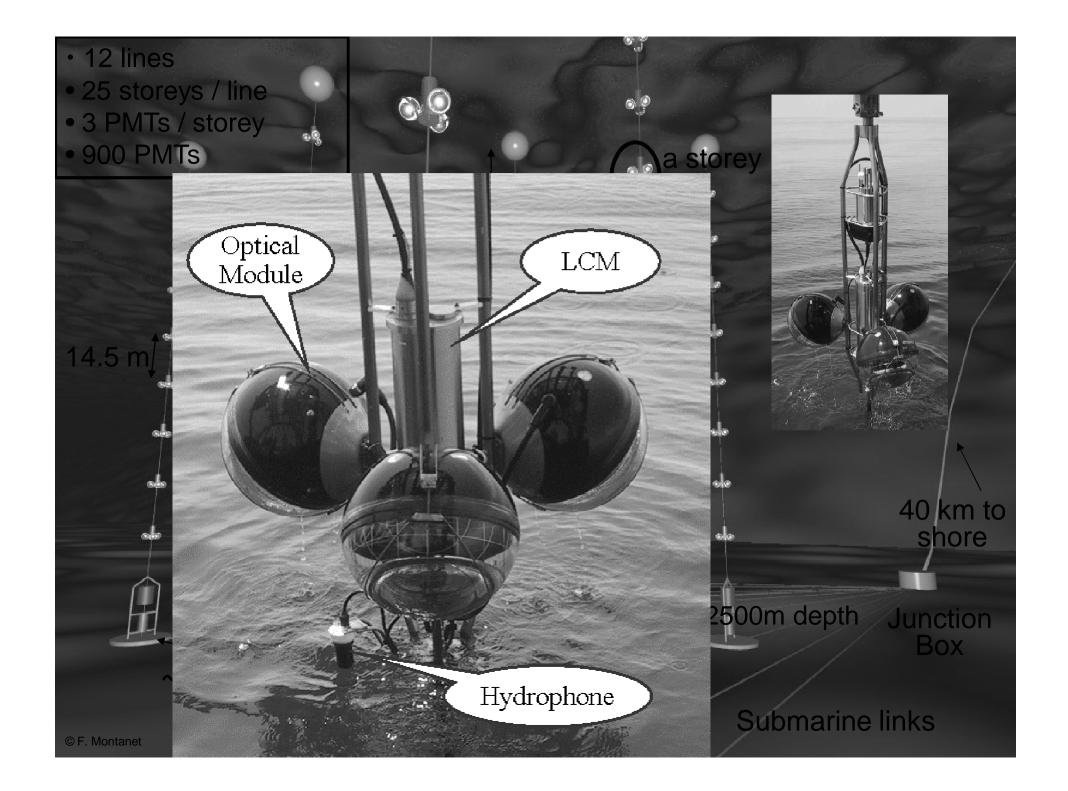


Astrofisica con neutrini



The site





Deployment of a line

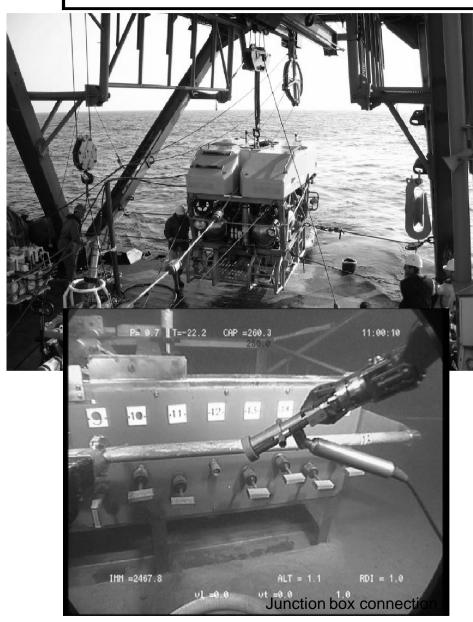




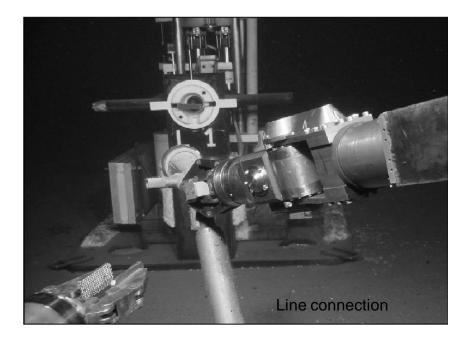


- DP boat « Castor 02 »
- Line positioning on sea bed within 1m
- 7 hours of operations

Line connection by ROV



ROV «VICTOR 6000» from IFREMER
ODI link equipped with wet mateable connector (4 optical, 2 electrical contacts)



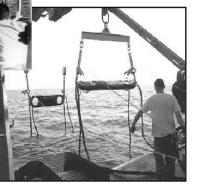
ANTARES milestones

- ✤ 1996: birth of Antares
- ✤ 1996-2000: R&D
 - Site measurements (optical background, foulir absorption length, sea current,...)with autonomol
 Demonstrator line in 2000
- ✤ 2001-2003: Prototype lines
 - > Main Electro-optical cable in 2001
 - ➤ Junction Box in 2002
 - Prototype Sector Line (PSL) & Mini Instrumentation Line (MIL) in 2003



Cable installation

- ✤ 2004-2008: construction of the 12 lines detector
- ✤ 2007- 2013...: detector operation



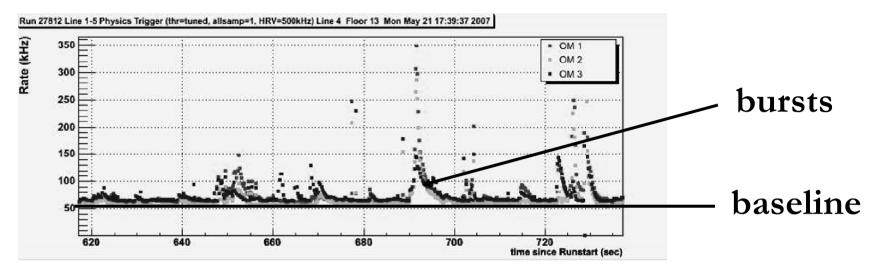
Autonomous line

Demonstrator line



Junction Box

Optical background

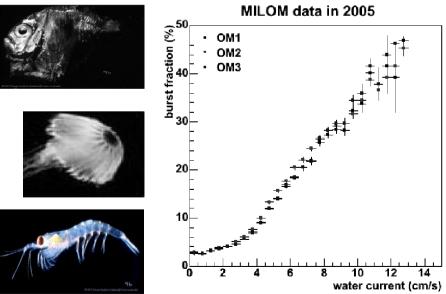


Baseline:

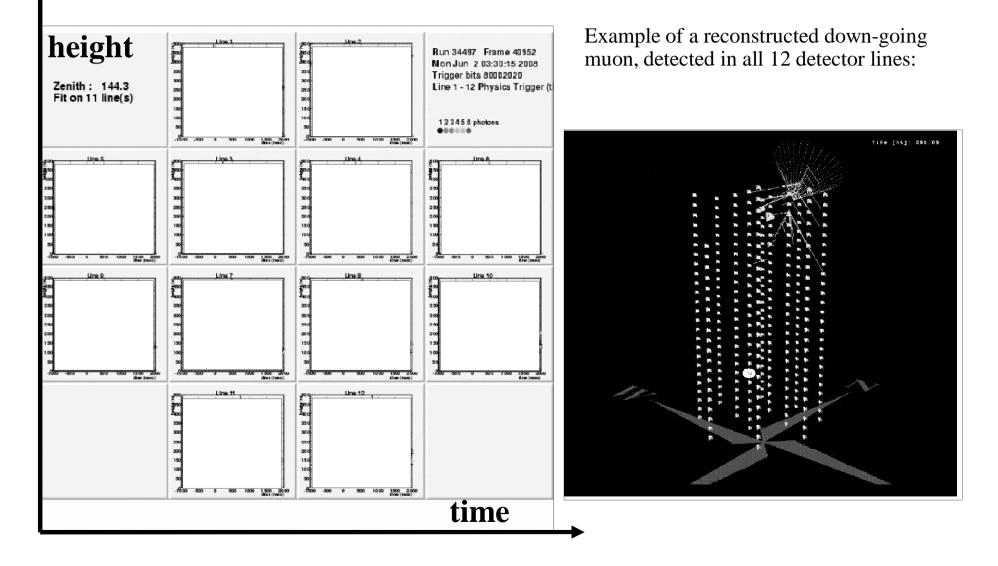
⁴⁰K decays + bacteria luminescence

Bioluminescence bursts:

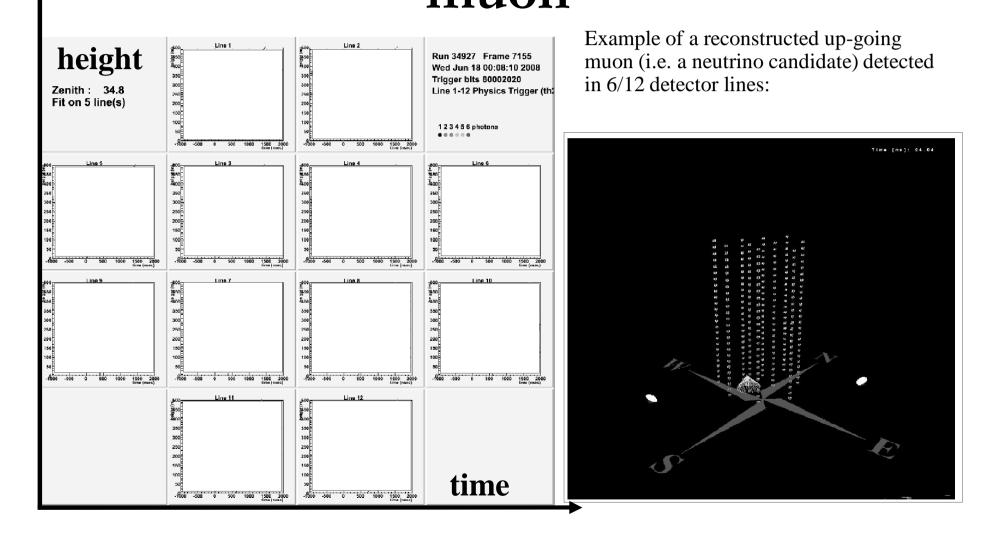
Animal species which emit light by flashes, spontaneous or stimulated around the detector.



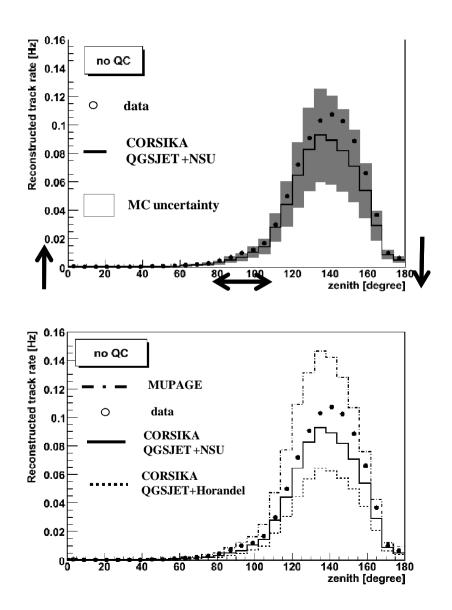
Event Display: Atmospheric Muons

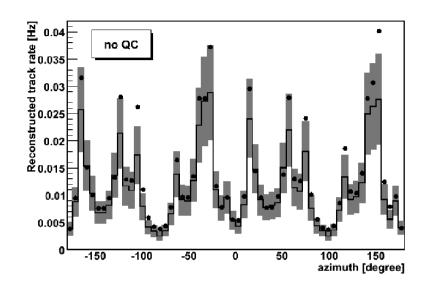


Event Display: Neutrino-induced muon



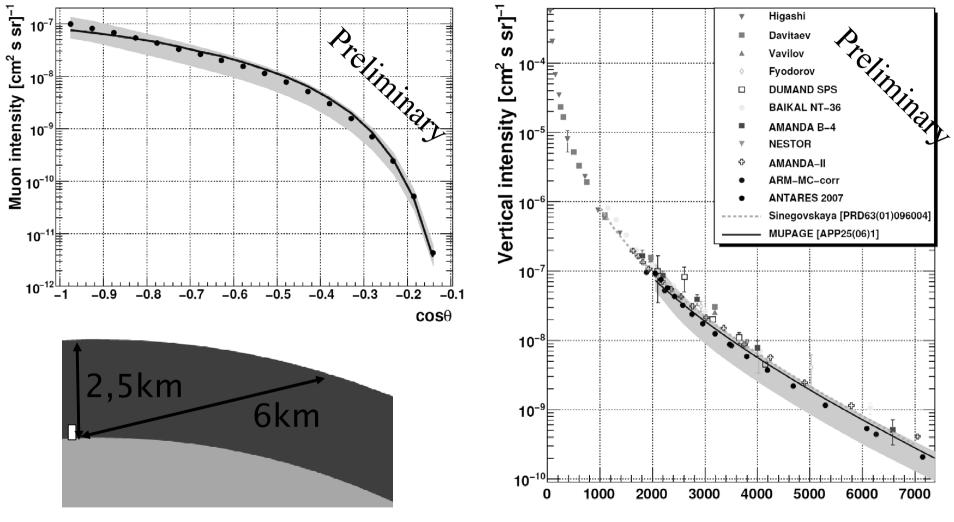
Downgoing Muons (5-lines)





• Agreement within (substantial) theoretical + MC uncertainty • Main experimental errors stem from OM efficiency and acceptance and optical water properties (λ_{abs} λ_{scatt})

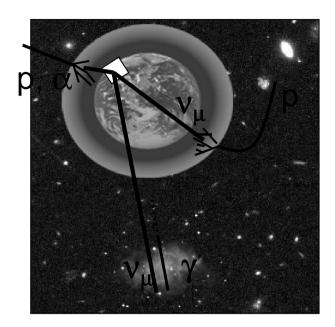
5 lines (2007): Depth vs. Intensity

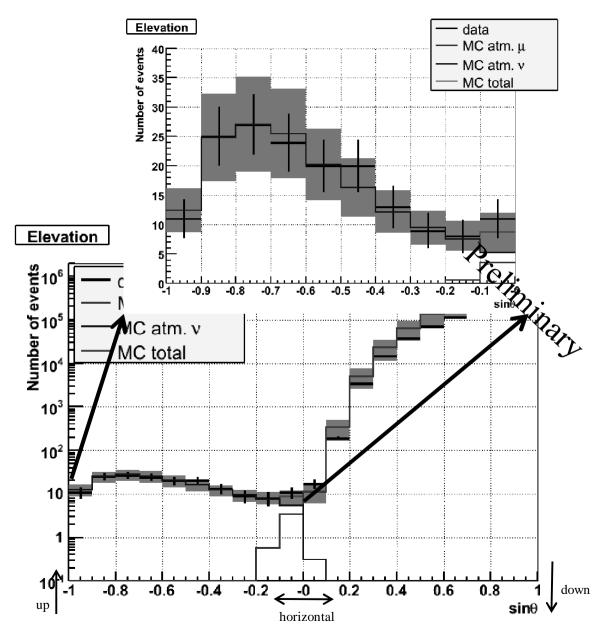


Depth [m water equivalent]

See talk: M. Bazzotti, 8/7/09, HE340^{Work} on reducing systematics is ongoing

5 line data (2007): NEUTRINOS





168 active days 168 upward events (multi-line fit)

The NEMO collaboration

Bari, Bologna, Catania, Genova, LNF, LNS, Napoli, Pisa, Roma Università Bari, Bologna, Catania, Genova, Napoli, Pisa, Roma *"La Sapienza"*



CNR

Istituto di Oceanografia Fisica, La Spezia Istituto di Biologia del Mare, Venezia Istituto Sperimentale Talassografico, Messina





Istituto Nazionale di Geofisica e Vulcanologia (INGV)

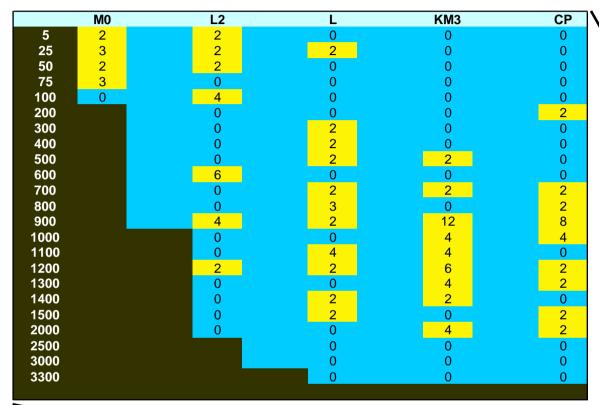
Istituto Nazionale di Oceanografia e Geofisica Sperimentale (OGS)



Istituto Superiore delle Comunicazioni e delle Tecnologie dell'Informazione (ISCTI)

More than 70 researchers from INFN and other italian institutes

The NEMO Site



• In a six years activity the NEMO collaboration has selected a deep sea site offshore Capo Passero (Sicily) with optimal oceanographycal and environmental properties

• The site has been proposed in january 2003 to ApPEC as a candidate for the km3 intallation

•Depths of 3500 m reached at 100 km from the shore • Optimal water optical properties (La $\approx 70 \text{ m}$ (a) $\lambda = 440 \text{ nm}$) • Low optical backgroung from bioluminescence bacteria •Stable water characteristics • Low and stable deep sea water currents (3 m/s avg., 10 cm/s peak) SICILY ●CT2

•D1

●F1 ●M0 ●L2

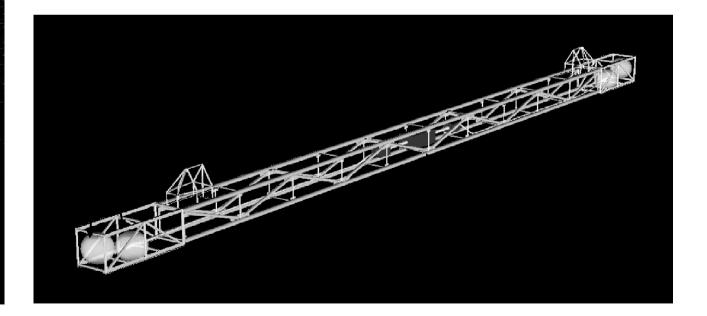
●L

●KM3

●KM4

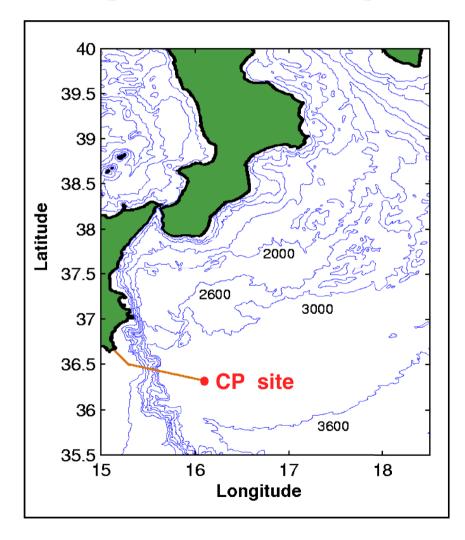
The NEMO "tower"

- Mechanical structures for the km³ studied in order to optimize the detector performance
- •Modular structure composed by a sequence of 15 m long storeys interconnected by tensioning cables. Full height 750 m.
- •Power and data cables are kept separated from the tensioning ones



The NEMO Phase 2 project

A deep sea station on the Capo Passero site



OBJECTIVES

- Realization of an underwater infrastructure at 3500 m on the CP site
- Test of the detector structure installation procedures at 3500 m
- Installation of a 16 storey tower
- Long term monitoring of the site

INFRASTRUCTURE UNDER CONSTRUCTION

- Shore station in Portopalo di Capo Passero
- 100 km electro optical cable
- Underwater infrastructures

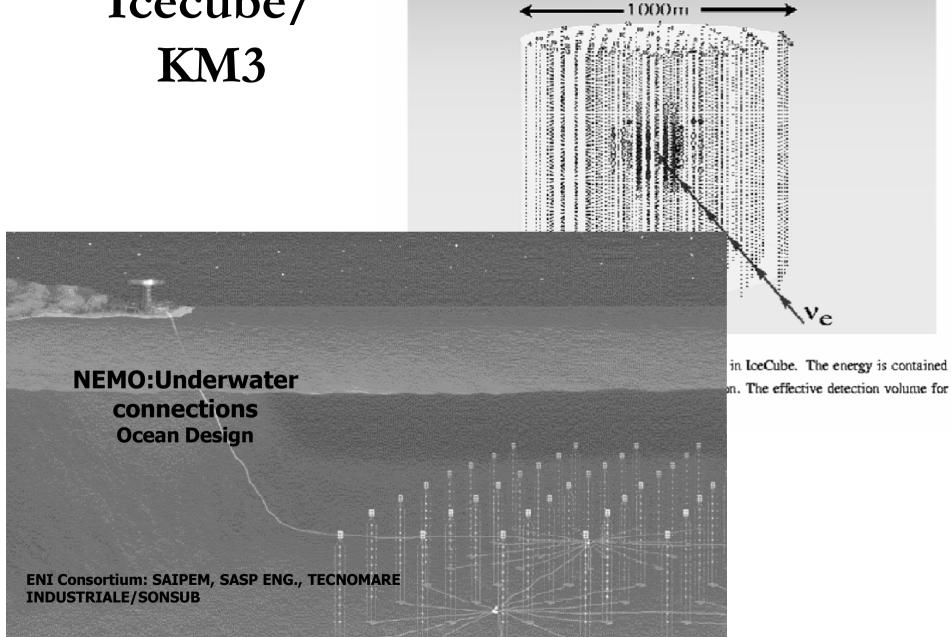
STATUS

- Purchase of the electro-optical cable (>50 kW) under way
- A building (1000 m²) located inside the harbour area of Portopalo has been acquired. It will be renovated to host the shore station
- Project completion planned in 2008

View of the cable landing area



Icecube/ **KM3**



IceCube

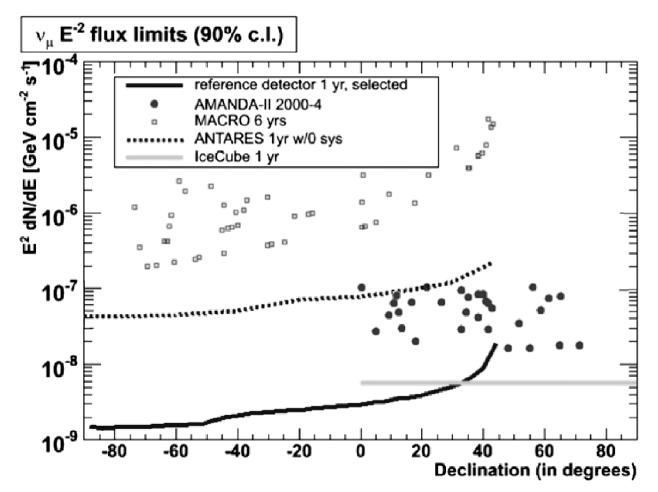


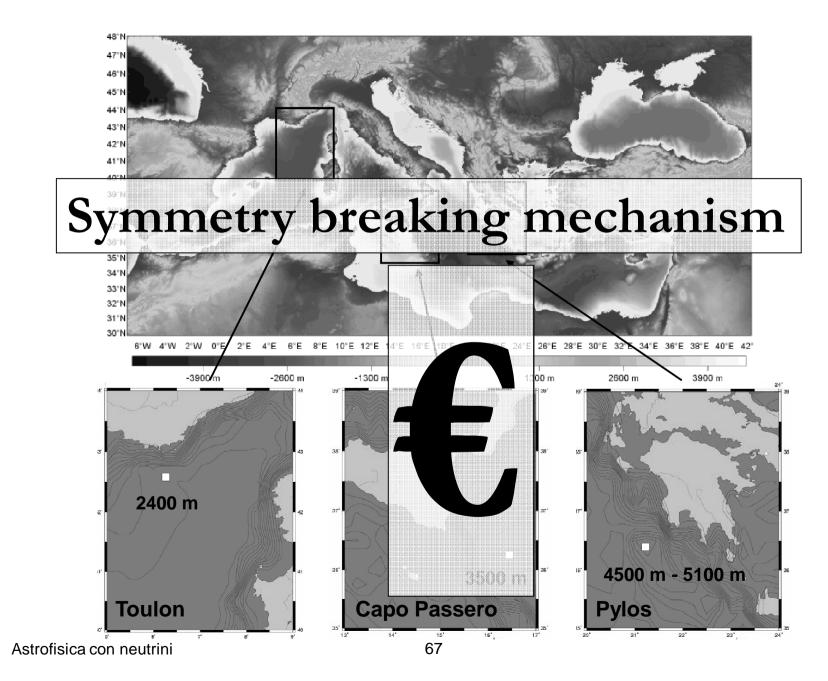
KM3NeT

- Consortium between the Institutes that developed and support the pilot projects in the Mediterranean
 - 40 Institutes from 10 EU Countries (Cyprus, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, The Netherlands, Rumania, Spain, U.K.)
- Large European Research Infrastructure, included in the ESFRI roadmap
- Design Study project (under the 6th FP)
 - 3 year project started in 2006 funded by the EC for 9 M€
 - Conceptual Design Report Published in 2008, TDR in 2009
- Preparatory Phase project (under the 7th FP)
 - 3 year project started in 2008 funded by the EC for 5 M€
 - Coordinated by INFN

KM3neT reference detector

- Factor ~3 more sensitive than IceCube
 - larger photocathode area
 - better direction resolution
- Study still needs refinements





Summary

- All calculations show that we need km3scale detectors for neutrino astronomy
- Compelling scientific arguments for neutrino astronomy and the construction of large neutrino telescopes
- It is essential to complement IceCube (South Pole) with a km3 scale neutrino telescope in Northern Hemisphere
- Joint effort of ANTARES, NEMO and NESTOR to realize such a detector in the Mediterranean Sea
 EU funded KM3NeT Design Study (2006–2009) is well on its way
- Cost: order of 100-200 M€