

The 19<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Topics in Astroparticle and Underground Physics (TAUP2025)

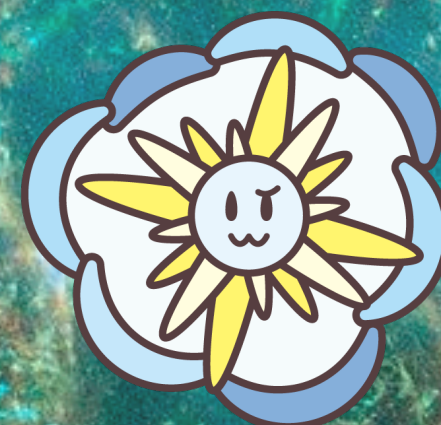
Xichang, China

August 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025

# Dissecting the diffuse supernova neutrino background flux over wide energy range in upcoming era



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Higgstan

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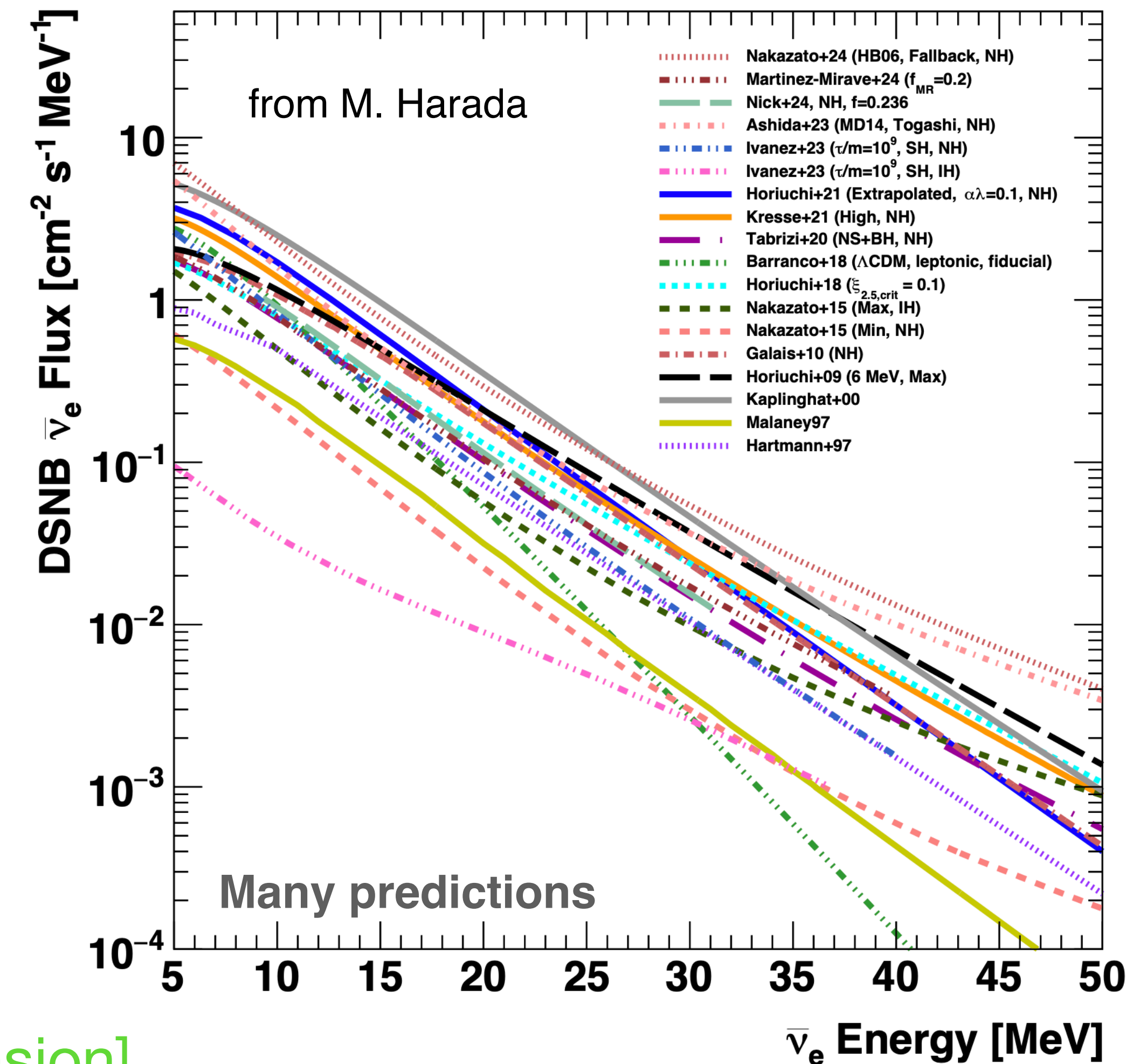
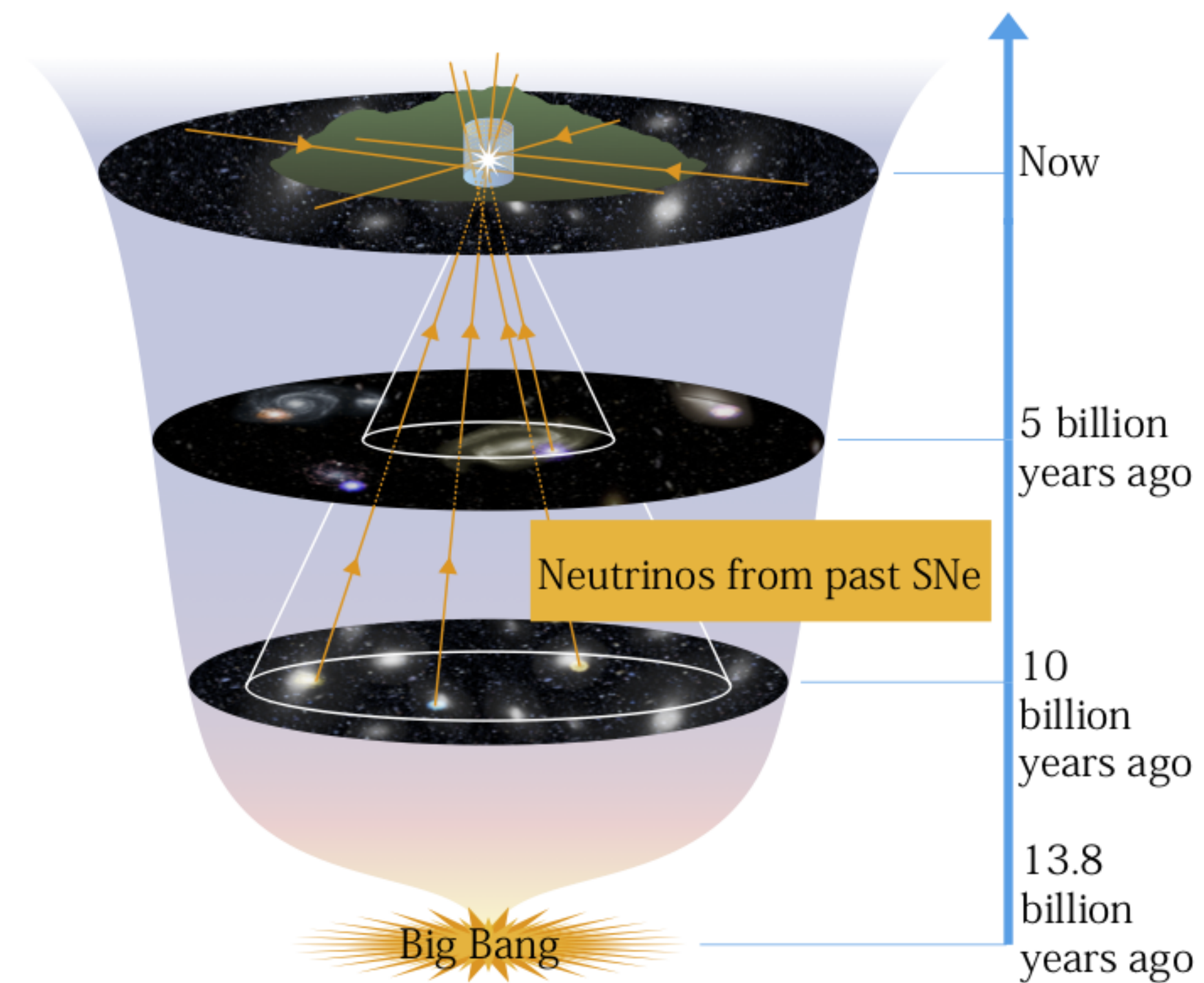


# Message from Stars in the Past

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The accumulated flux of neutrinos released from stellar core collapse over the cosmic history

= **Diffuse Supernova Neutrino Background; DSNB**



$$\Phi = \int [\text{v emission}] \otimes [\text{Star formation}] \otimes [\text{Universe expansion}]$$

# First Hint from Super-K?

- Best-fit DSNB  $\bar{\nu}_e$  flux is  $\sim 1.4 \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ sec}^{-1}$  ( $>17.3 \text{ MeV}$ ).
- Null DSNB hypothesis is disfavored in both pure-water and Gd-water phases and is rejected at  $2.3\sigma$  from the combined analysis.

**They might catch the first hint of DSNB??**

nature

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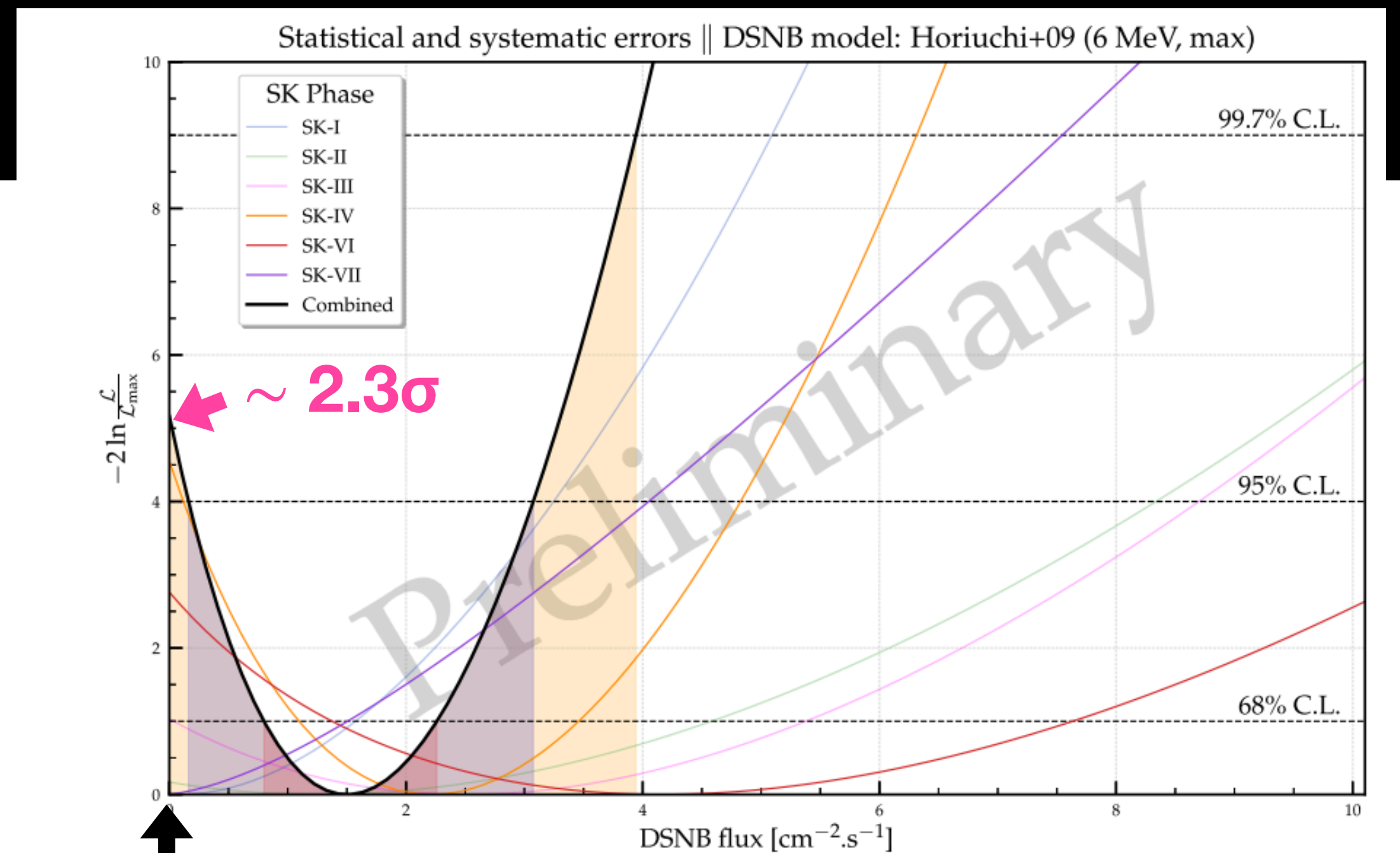
[nature](#) > [news](#) > article

<https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-024-02221-y>

NEWS | 09 July 2024

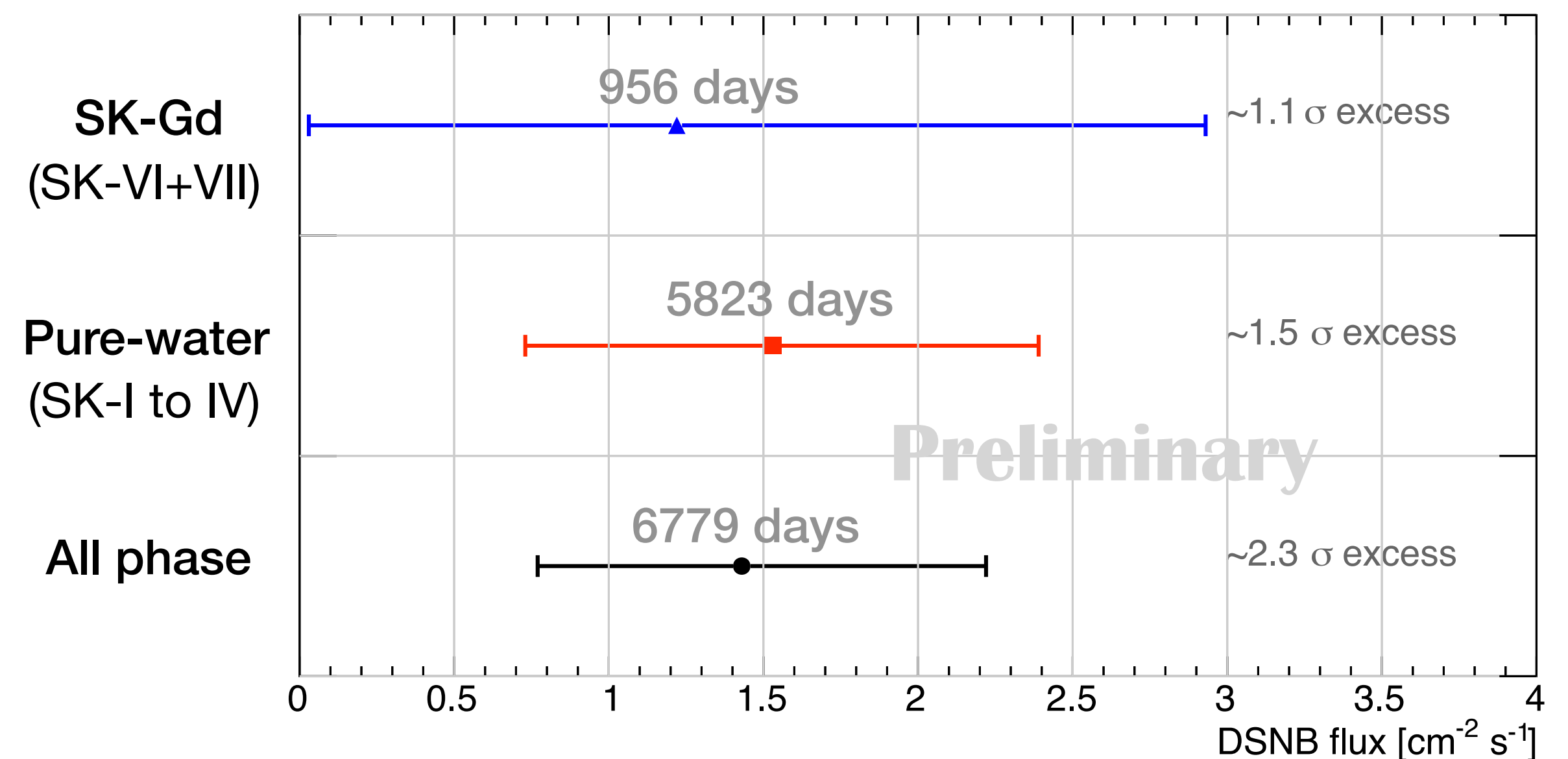
## Huge neutrino detector sees first hints of particles from exploding stars

Japan's Super-Kamiokande observatory could be seeing evidence of neutrinos from supernovae across cosmic history.



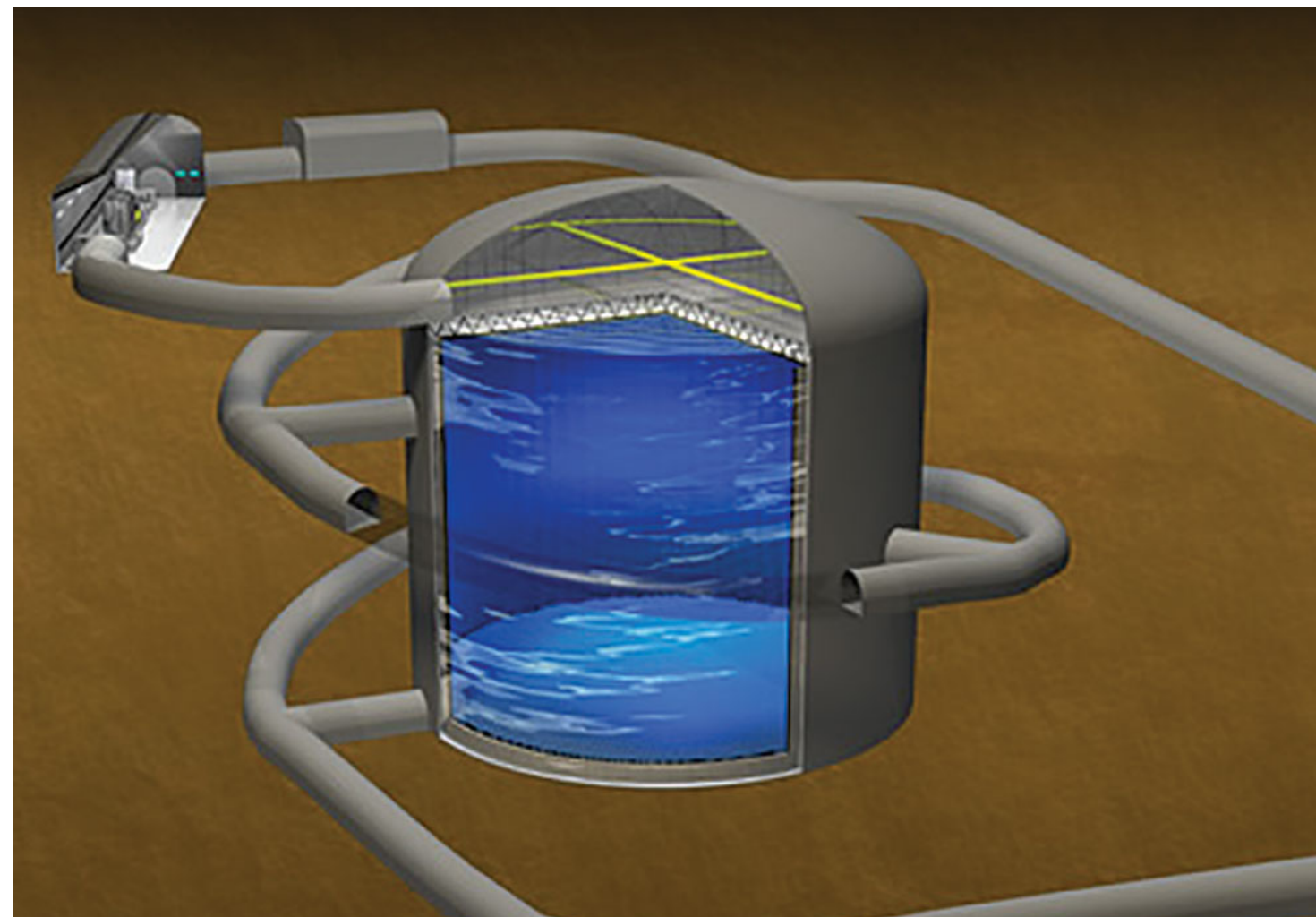
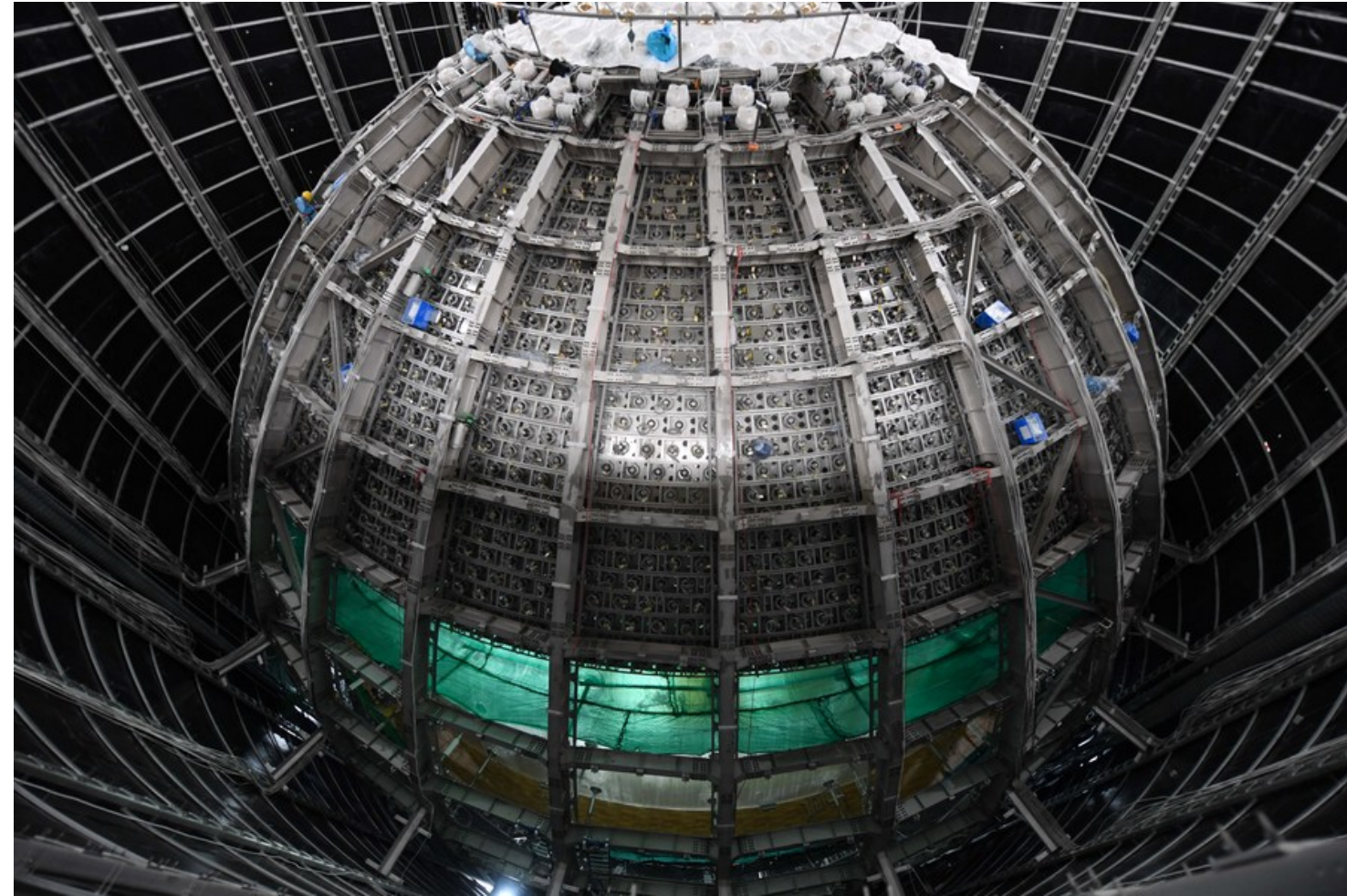
Zero-DSNB assumption

M. Harada at NEUTRINO2024

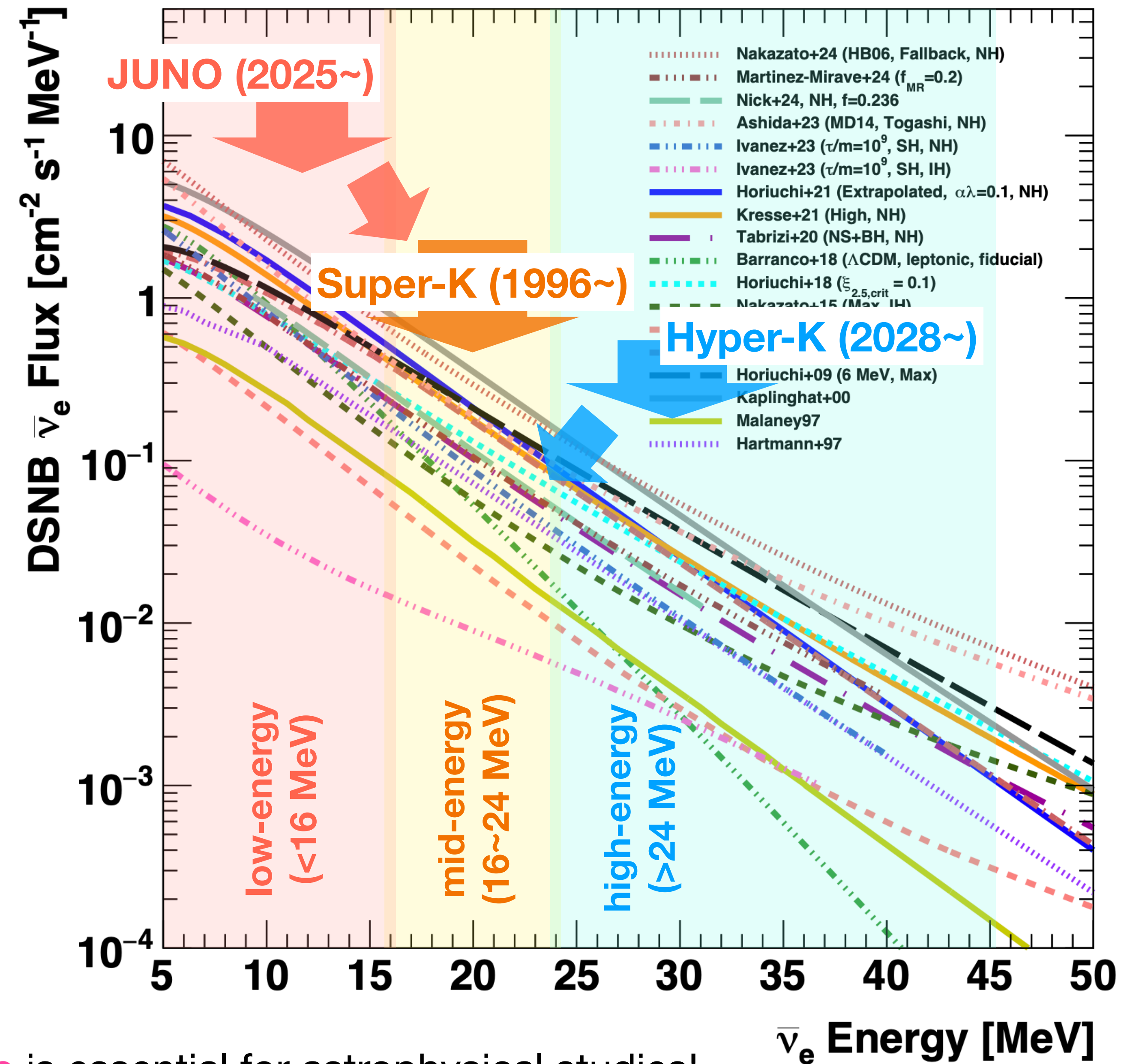




# Next Era



DSNB observation over the wide energy range is essential for astrophysical studies!



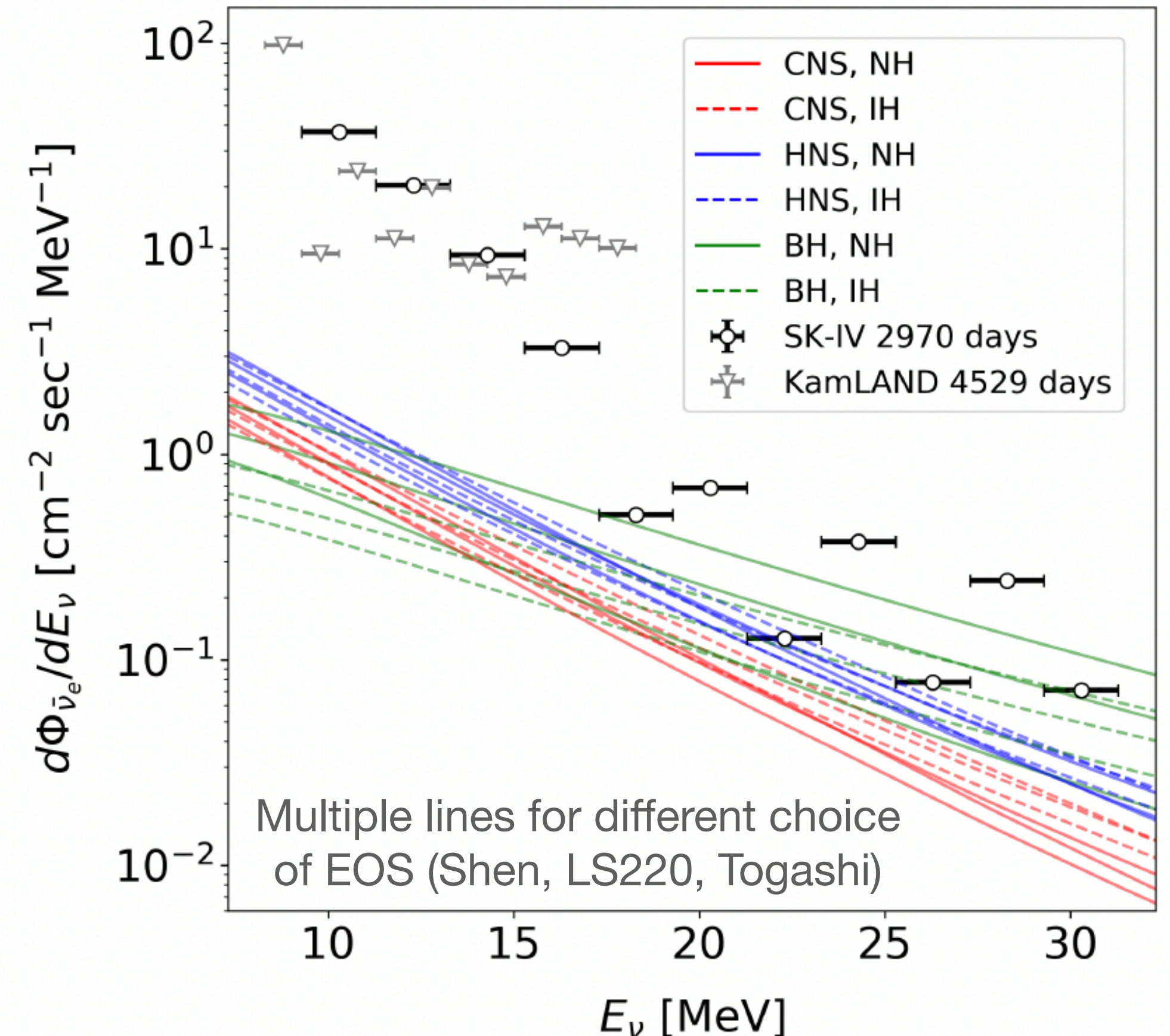
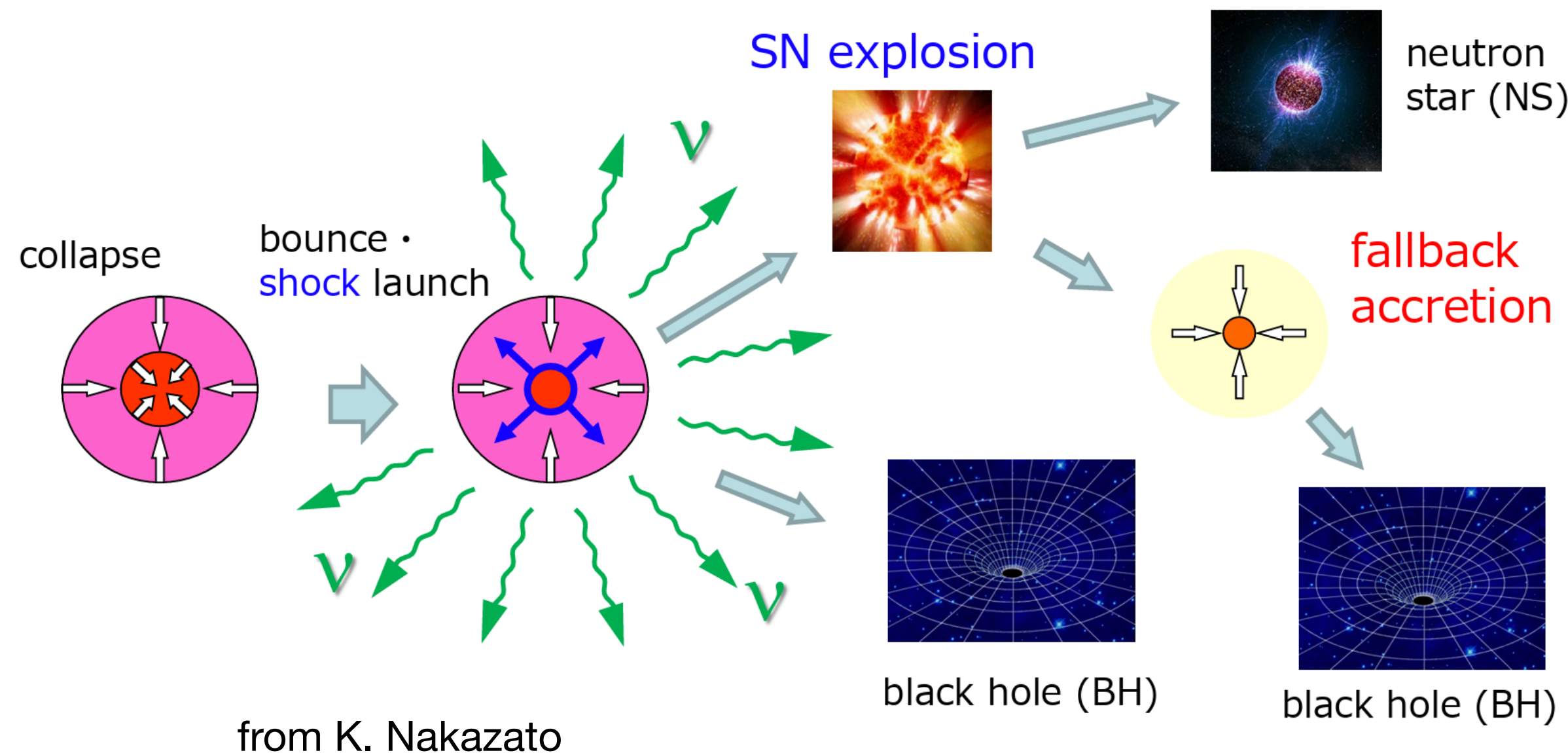


# Contribution from Failed Explosion

Y. Ashida & K. Nakazato, ApJ 937, 1 (2022)

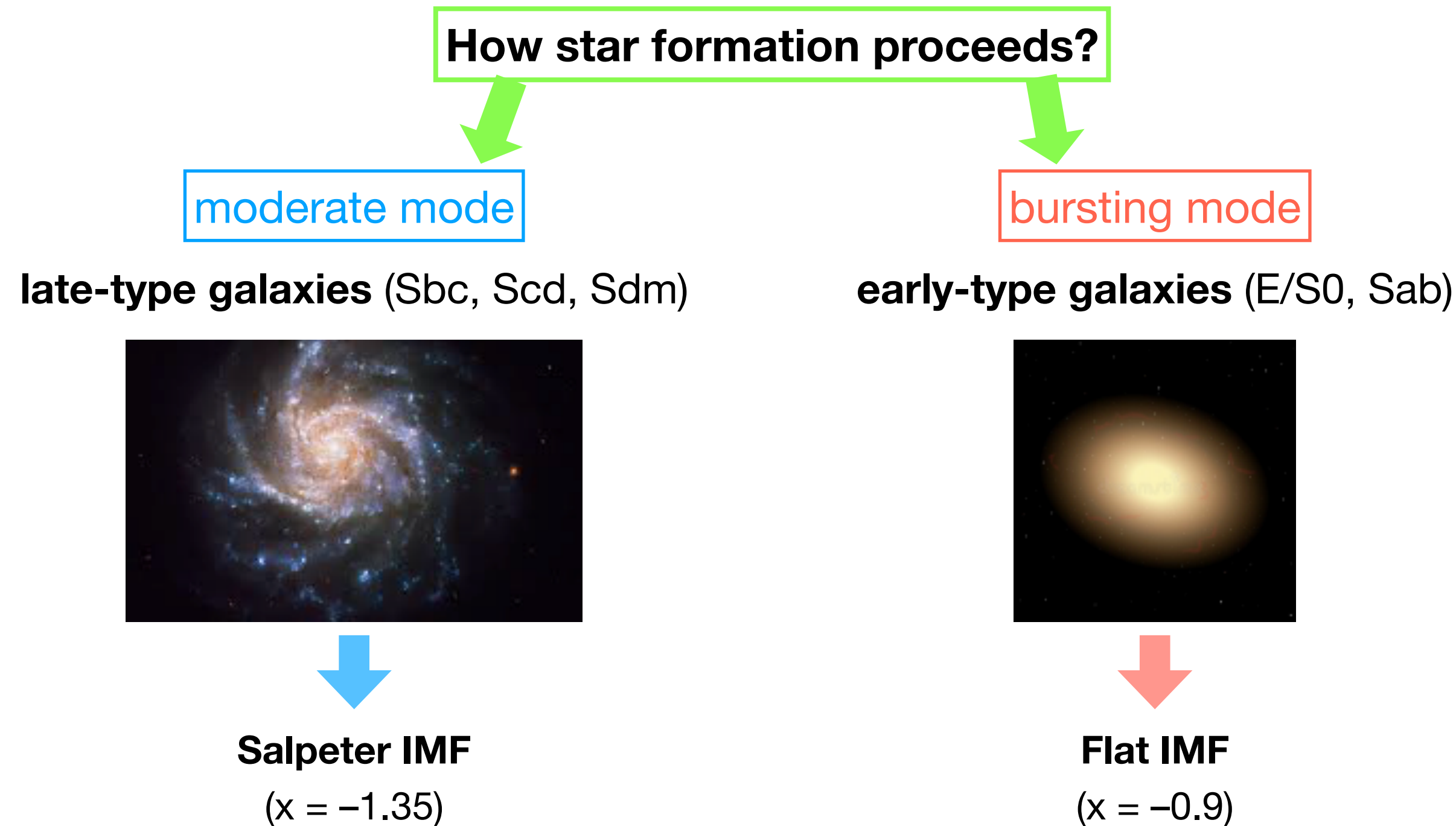
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- Emitted  $\nu$  spectrum is expected to depend on the remnant after core collapse (“*fate*”).
  - Information about the fate are accessible by other observations (pulsar, failed SN monitoring, GW etc).
- Consider three major cases as a fate and calculate DSNB flux for each.
  - Canonical mass neutron stars ( $\sim 1.4 M_{\text{sun}}$ )
  - High mass neutron stars ( $\sim 1.7 M_{\text{sun}}$ )
  - Black holes (failed SNe)

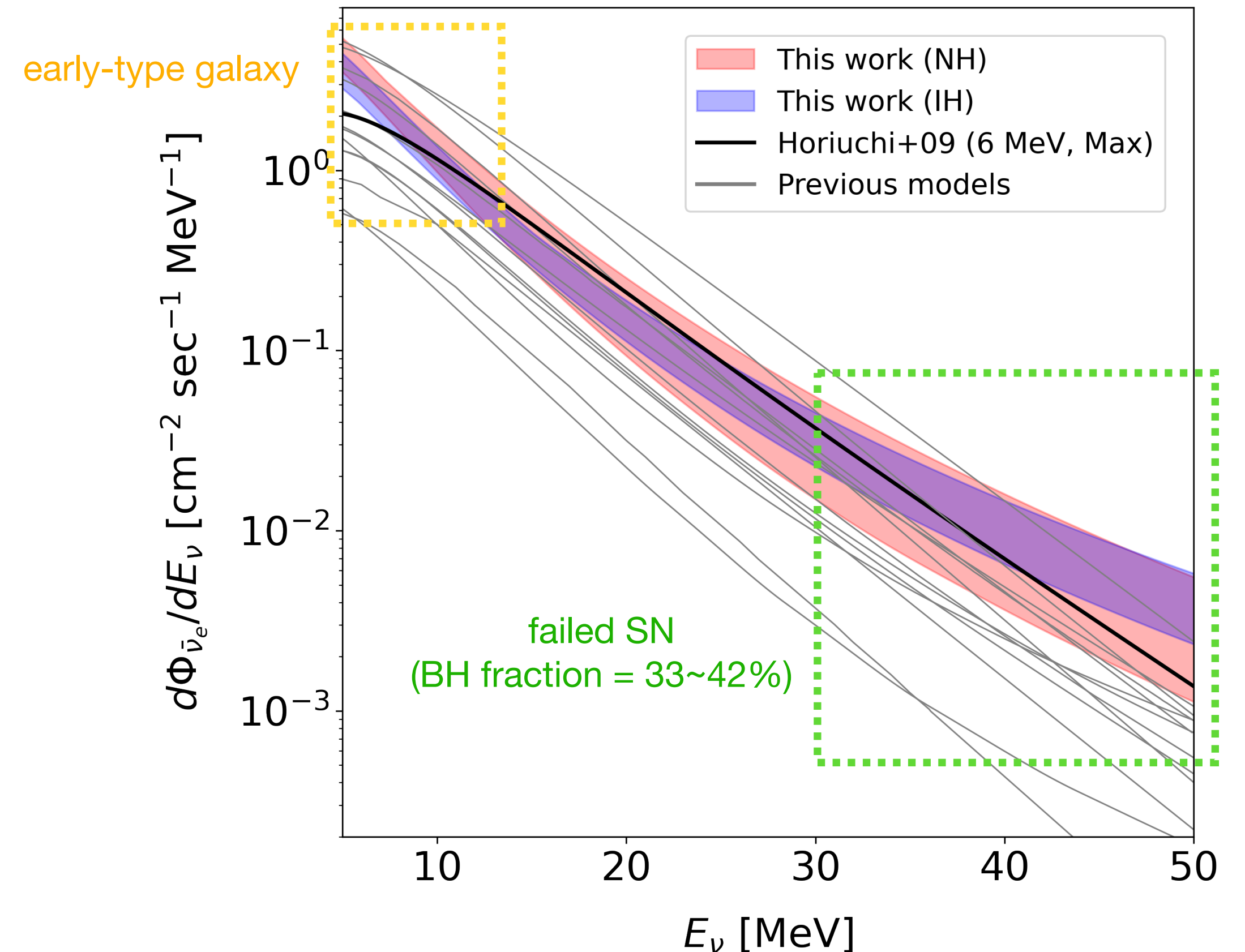




- Set the maximum mass of progenitors for successful explosions to **18M<sub>sun</sub>** from both observational and theoretical findings.
- Proposed a new evolution model to compensate for the discrepancy in chemical abundance; categorize galaxies into five and **assume different initial mass functions (IMF)** depending types.



T. Tsujimoto, MNRAS 518, 3475 (2023)



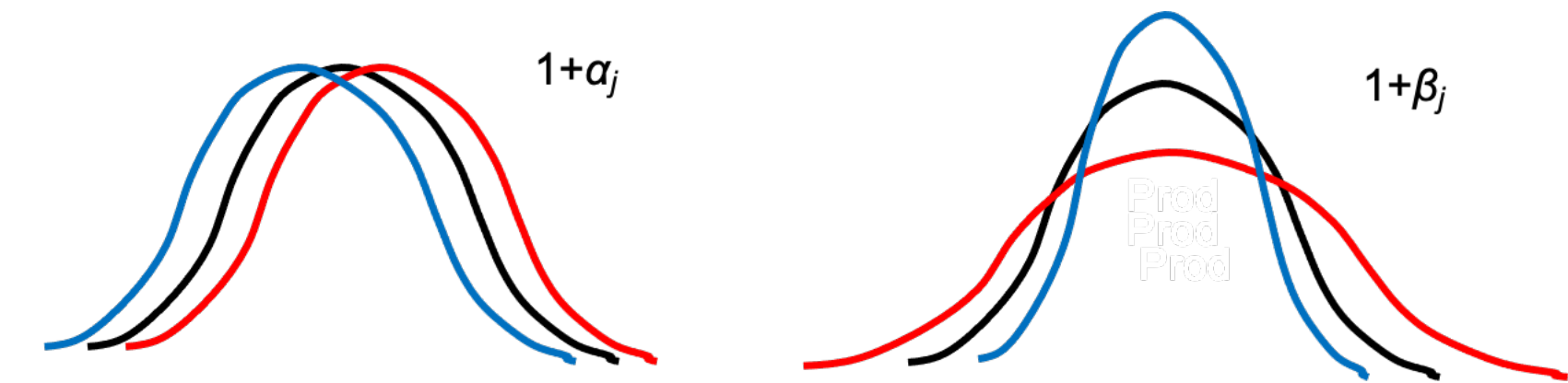


- Need to get prepared for making full use of available dataset from multiple future detectors.
- Another demand comes from the theoretical field as they would like to investigate their models with realistic experimental assumptions.
  - We are developing a dedicated spectral fitting code, *Code for Analyzing Relic NEutrinos* (**CARNE**).
- Philosophy
  - Detector type: **water Cherenkov** & **liquid scintillator** (primarily assume Hyper-K and JUNO)
  - Signal: inverse beta decay of electron antineutrinos
  - Background: realistic background incorporated from each group
  - Code access: **public use for a wide use in the community**; feedback reflected for improvement, **making the code more matured to be referred as a basis for the actual use in future**
  - Extension possibility: **flexible design** for potential extension, e.g., detector, observable

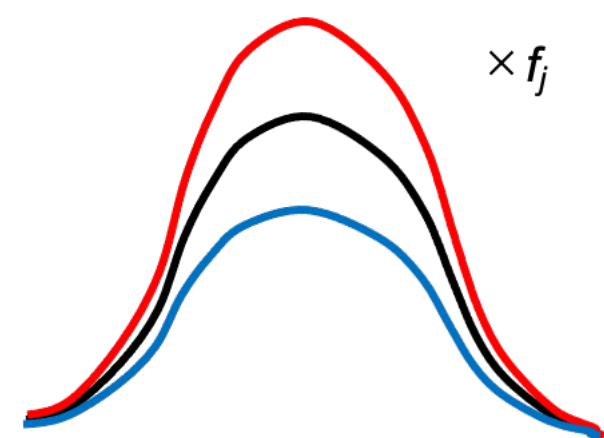




- Statistical model: an extended unbinned likelihood
- Observable: detection energy
- Flow:



1. Prepare probability density functions (PDFs) of each signal and background; apply shift (energy scale) and shape (energy resolution) systematics here.
2. Produce  $N_{\text{obs}}$  events based on PDF, detector size, operation time, and analysis efficiency etc (as a toy dataset); in **background-only hypothesis**,  $N_{\text{obs}} = N_{\text{bkg,nom}}$ .
3. Calculate likelihood for each toy dataset by scanning  $N_{\text{sig}}$  and  $N_{\text{bkg}}$ , and normalize each likelihood by the maximum likelihood to obtain **Test Statistic** (TS).
4. From each toy dataset, obtain upper limits at different confidence levels ( $1\sigma$ :  $\text{TS} \leq 1.00$ ,  $2\sigma$ :  $\text{TS} \leq 3.84$ ,  $3\sigma$ :  $\text{TS} \leq 6.63$  based on Wilks' theorem).



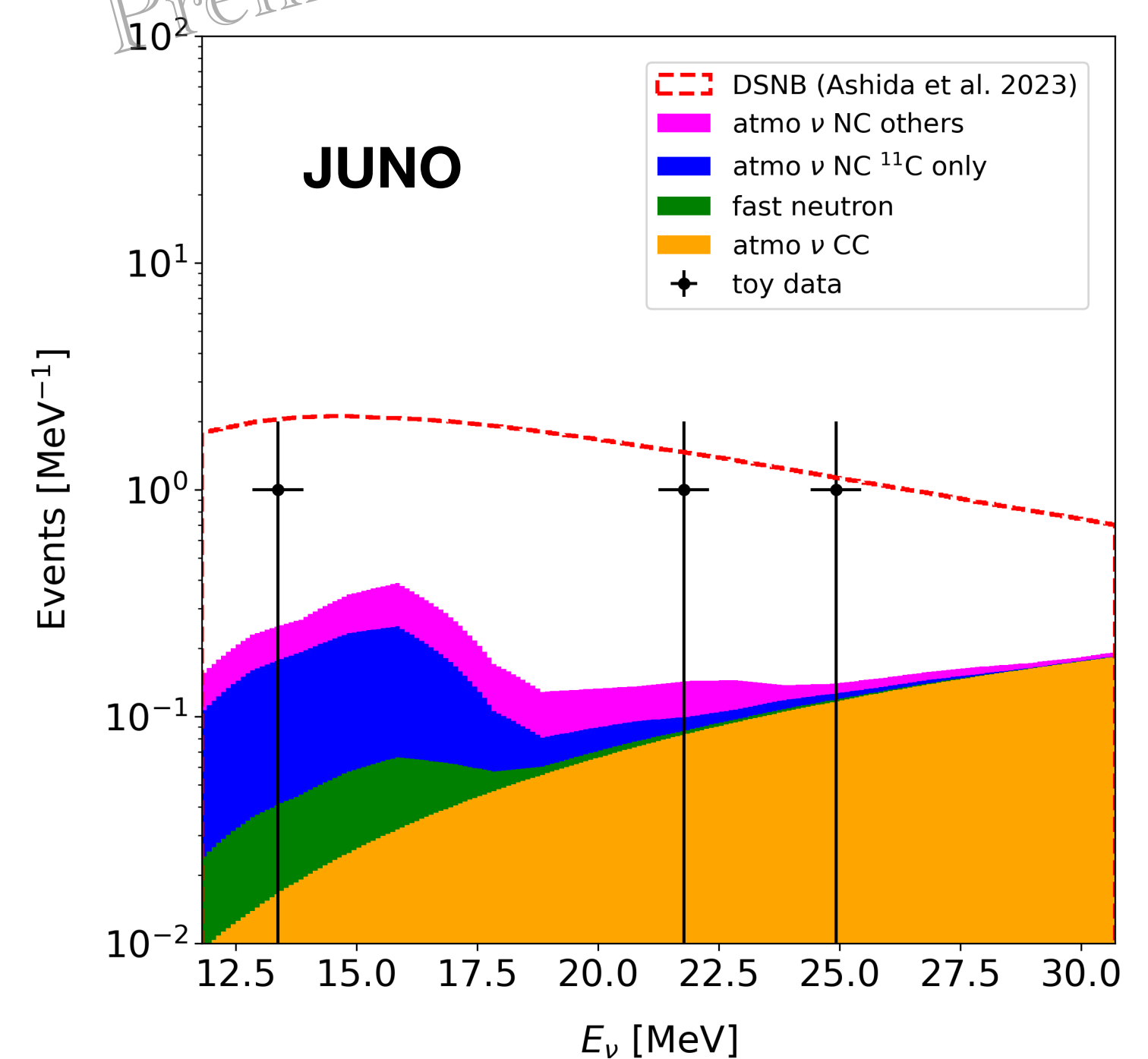
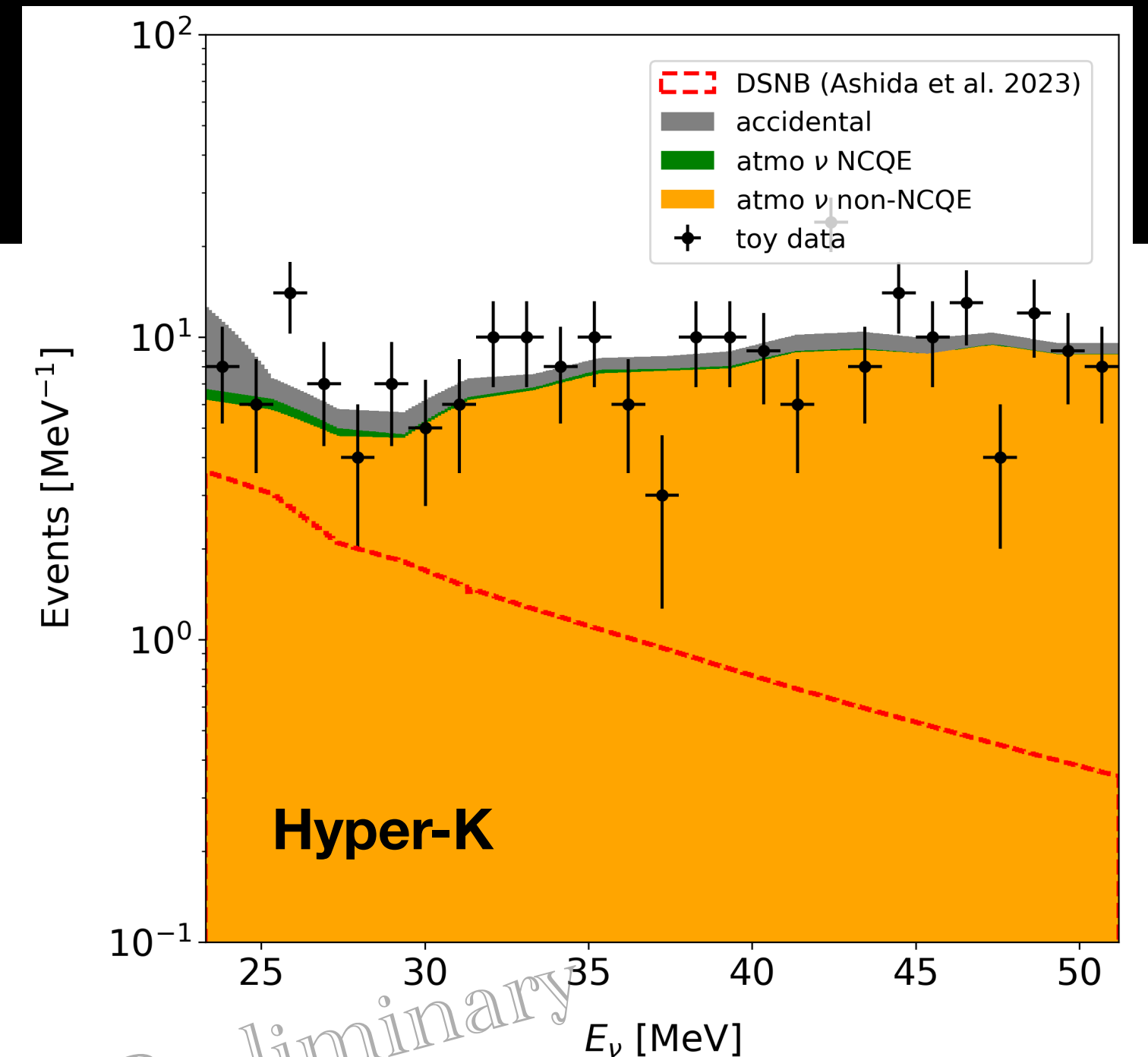
$$L(E_i; N_{\text{sig}}, N_{\text{bkg}}) = \underbrace{\frac{e^{-(N_{\text{sig}}+N_{\text{bkg}})}}{N_{\text{obs}}!} \prod_{i=1}^{N_{\text{obs}}} \{N_{\text{sig}} P_{\text{sig}}(E_i) + N_{\text{bkg}} P_{\text{bkg}}(E_i)\}}_{\text{Poisson term for statistics (i: event ID)}} \times \underbrace{\prod_{\theta} \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\theta - \theta_0}{\sigma_{\theta}} \right)^2 \right\}}_{\text{pull term for systematics } (\theta \sim \alpha_j, \beta_j, f_j: \text{PDF shift/shape, bkg norm etc})}$$

$$\text{TS} = -2 \ln \left( \frac{L}{\hat{L}} \right)$$



# Demonstration Setup

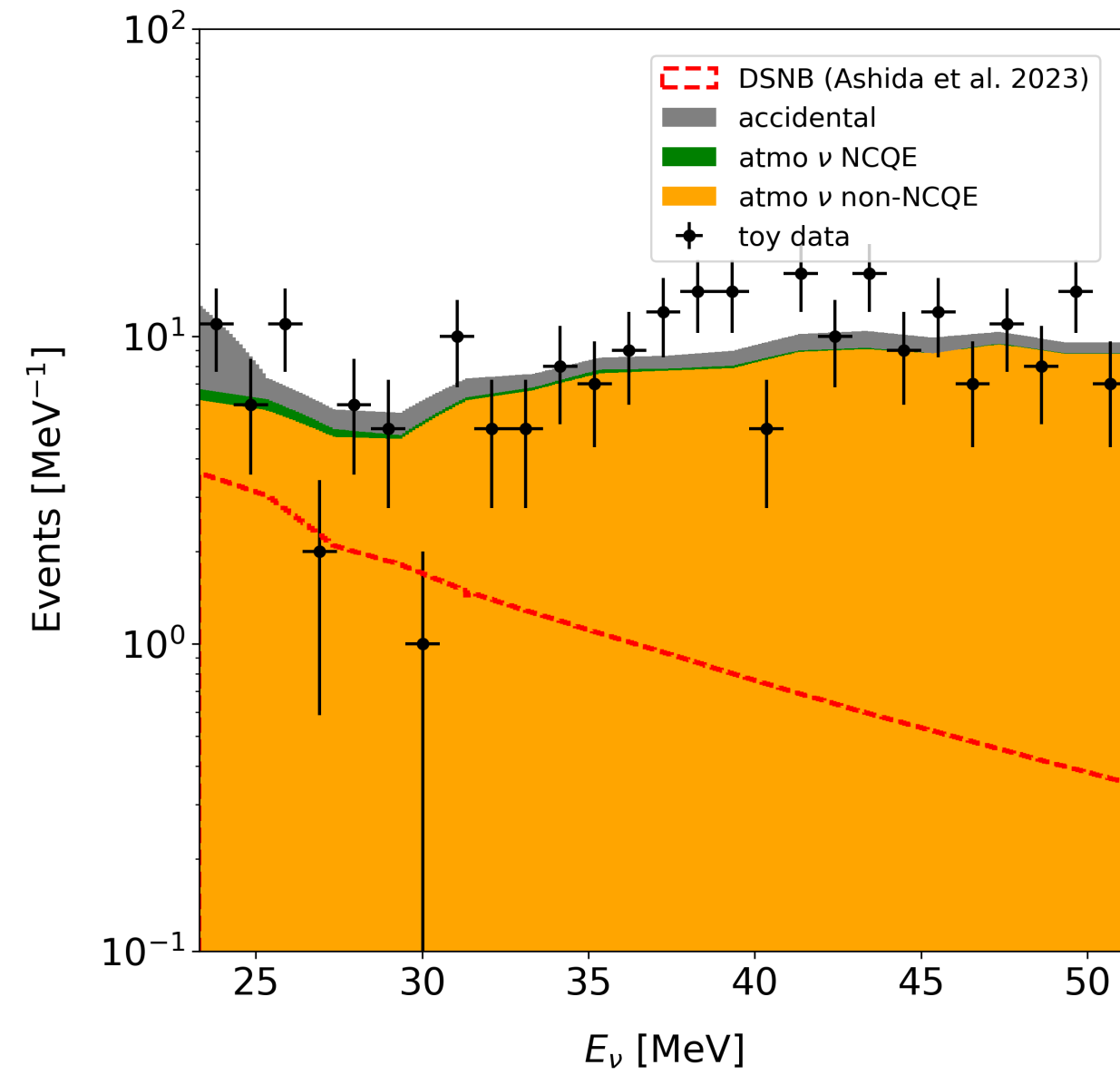
- DSNB model: [Y. Ashida et al., ApJ 953, 2 \(2023\)](#)
- **Hyper-K**, extrapolated from SK-IV [[K. Abe et al., PRD 104, 122002 \(2021\)](#)]
  - Volume: 187 kton
  - Operation time: 7 years (2028~2035)
  - Background: non-NCQE (mainly CCQE), NCQE, accidental coincidence
  - Neutrino energy range: 23.3~51.3 MeV
- **JUNO**, taken from JUNO [[A. Abusleme et al., JCAP 10, 033 \(2022\)](#)]
  - Volume: 14.7 kton (FV1)
  - Operation time: 10 years (2025~2035)
  - Background: CC, NC, fast neutron,  $^9\text{Li}/^8\text{He}$ , reactor
  - Neutrino energy range: 11.8~30.8 MeV
- Systematics
  - 20% on total background scale (no others for now)



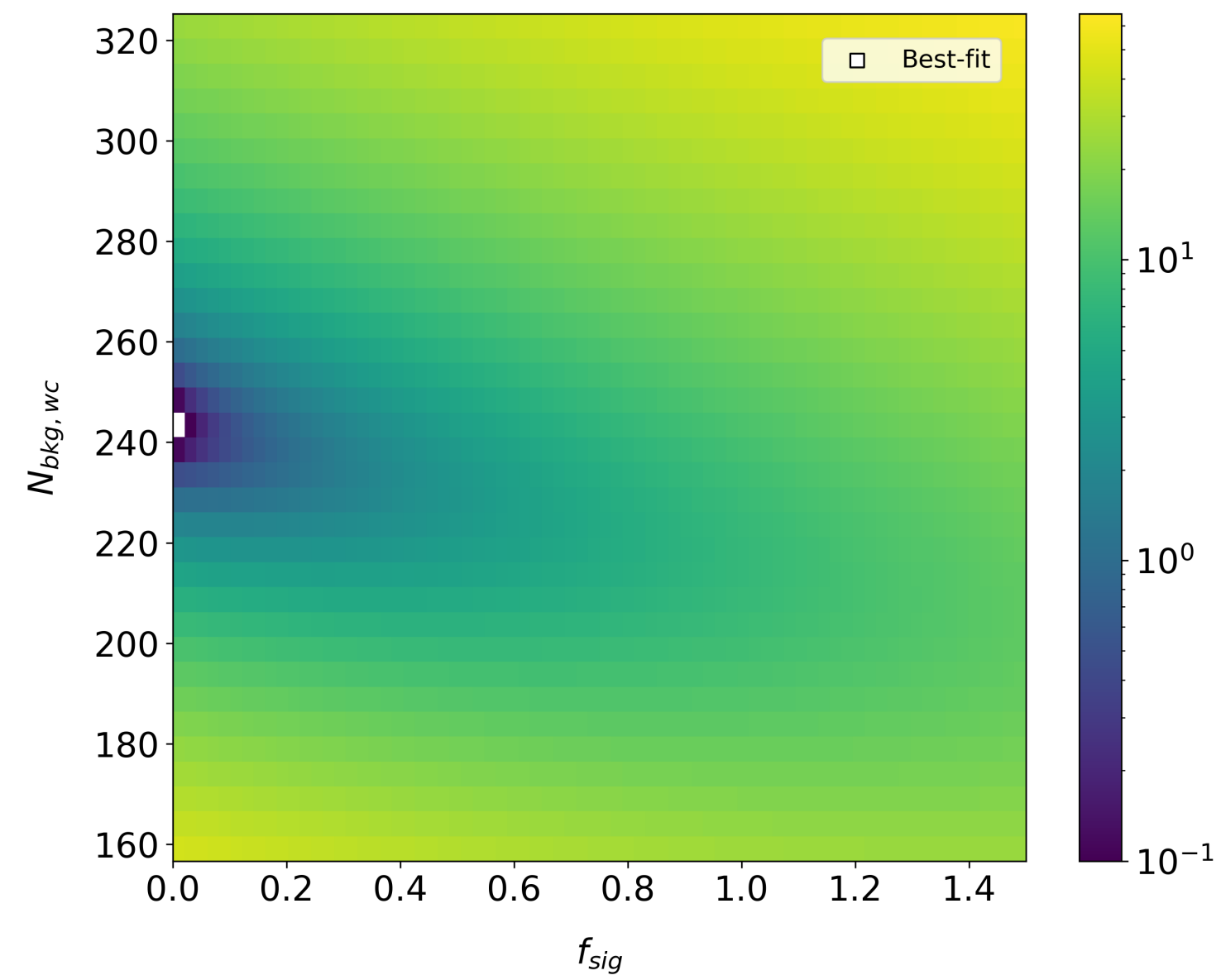


# Example Trials

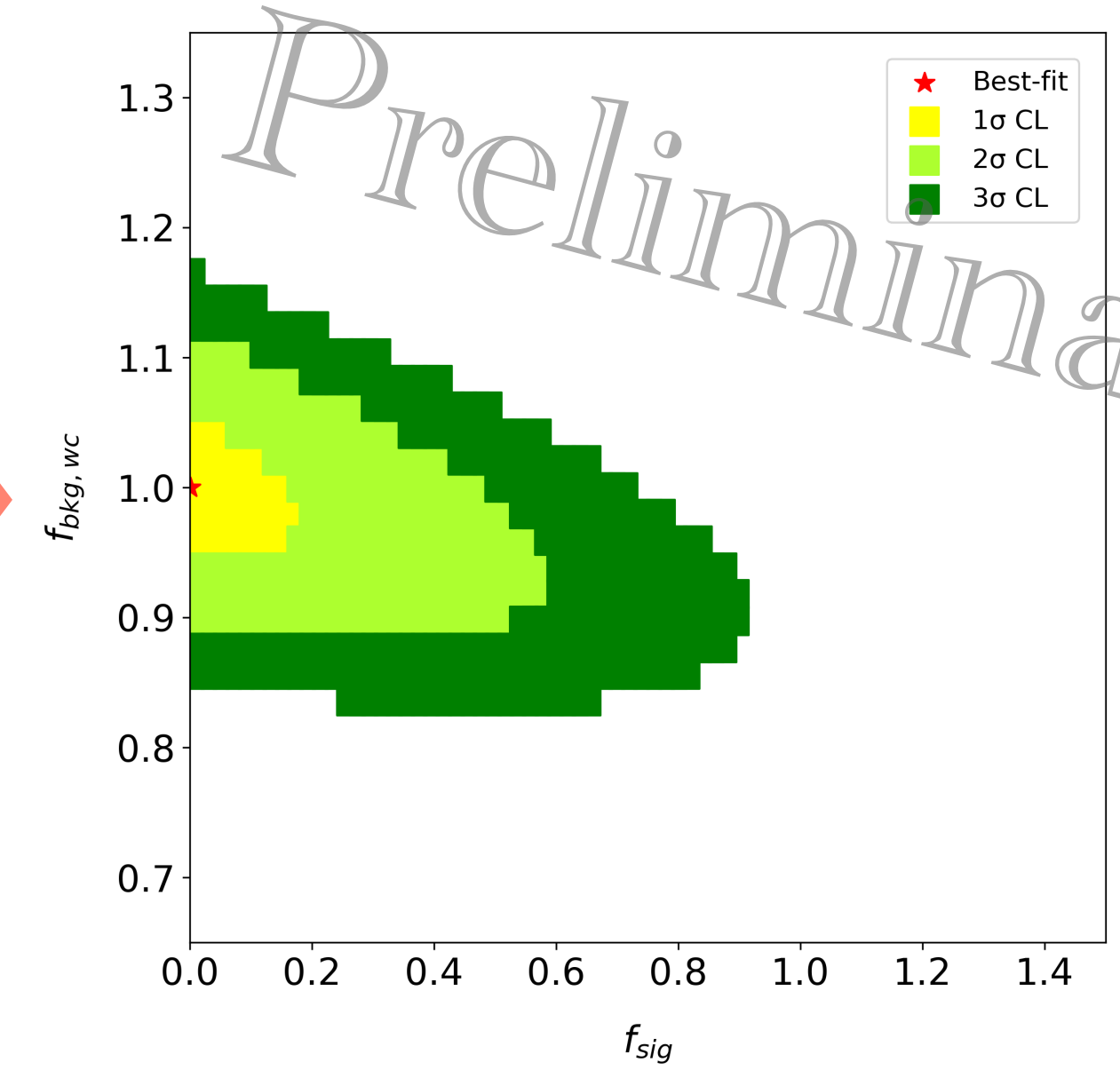
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A certain toy sample with expectations



Test Statistic along scans  
 $f_{\text{sig}}$ : scaling to nominal DSNB  
 $N_{\text{bkg,wc}}$ : background at Hyper-K

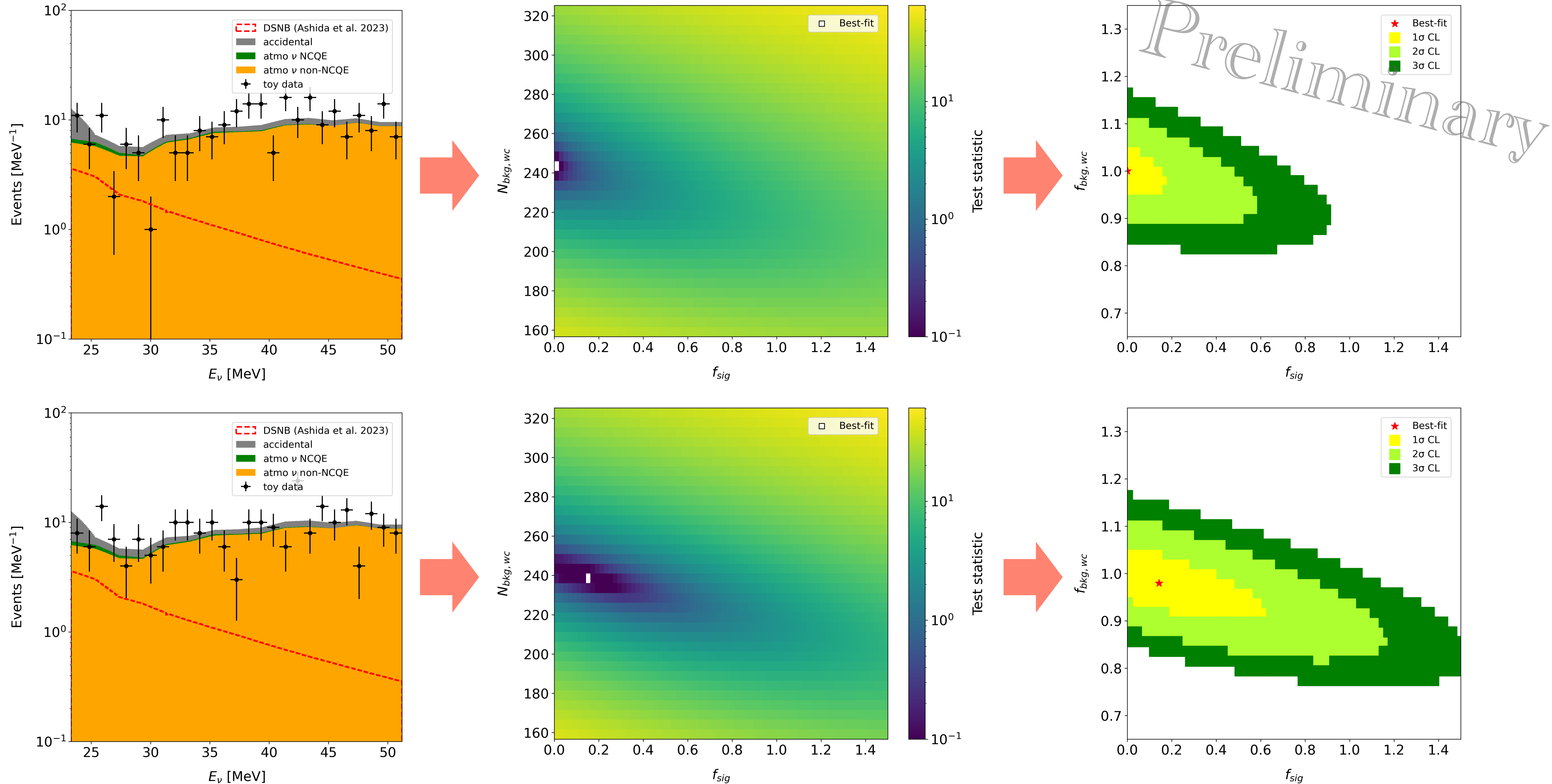


Allowed region based on TS



# Example Trials

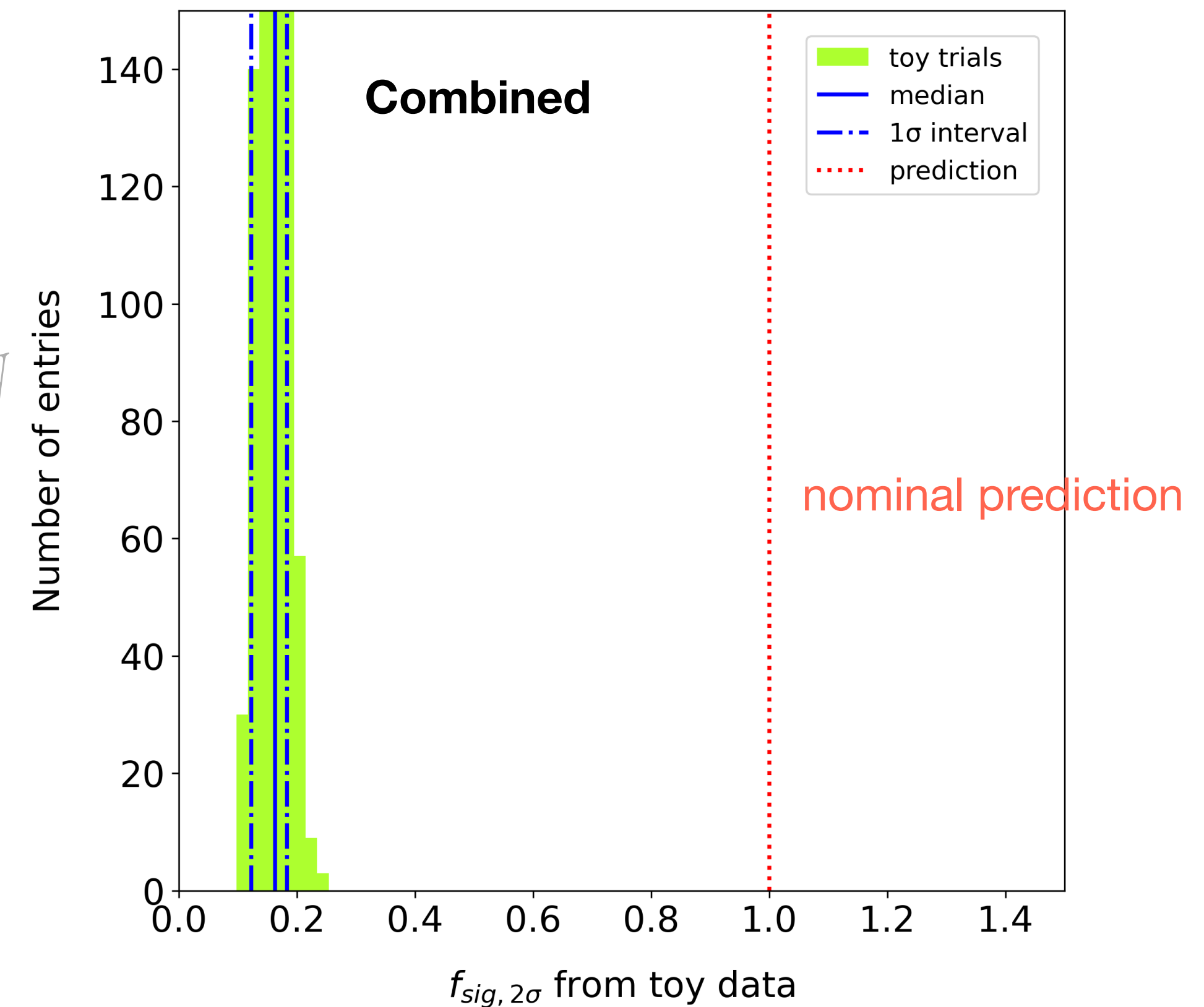
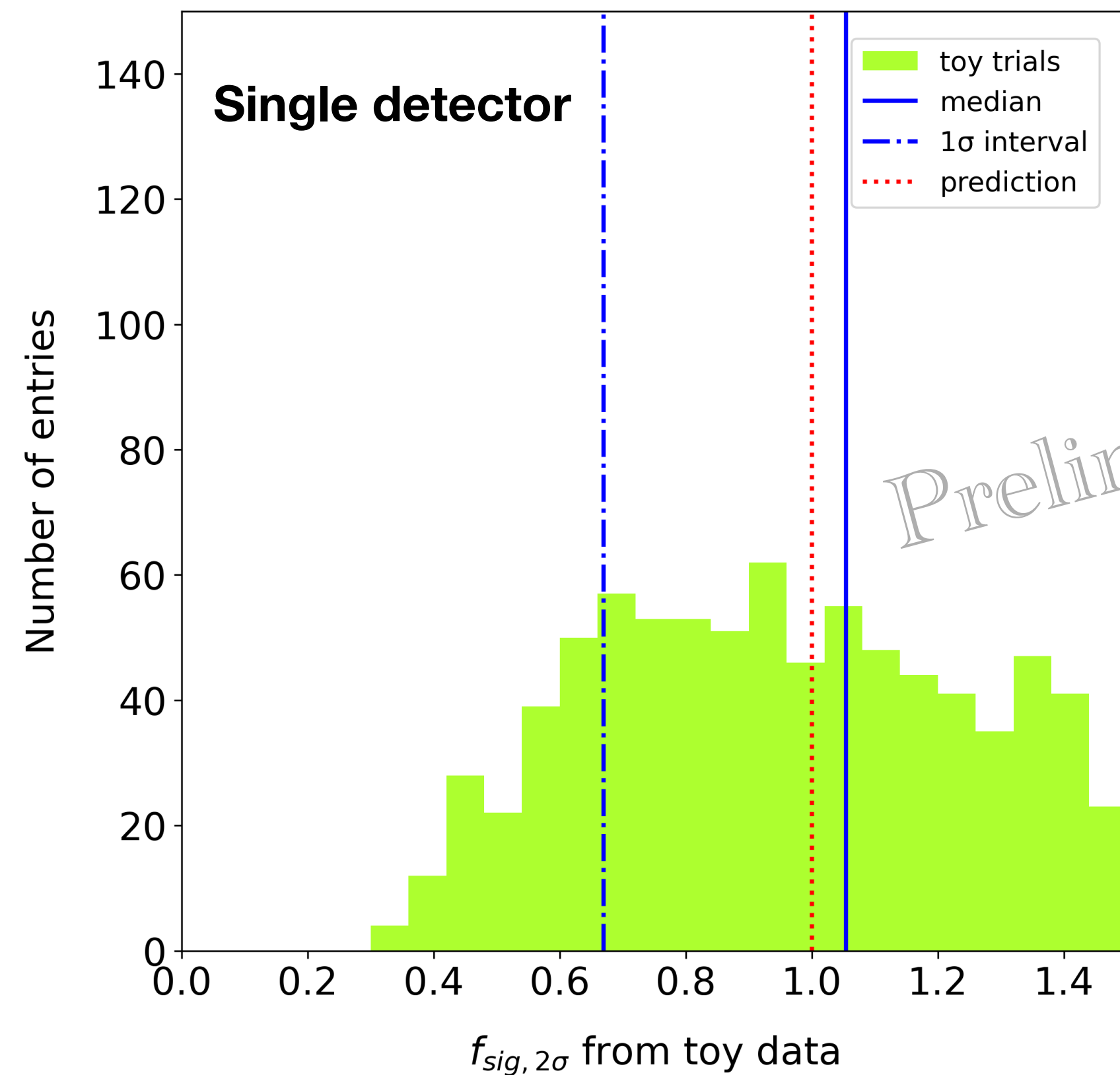
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# Expected Sensitivity

- Single detector cases are compared with a combined detector case.
- Multiple detector utilization provides a better sensitivity as expected.

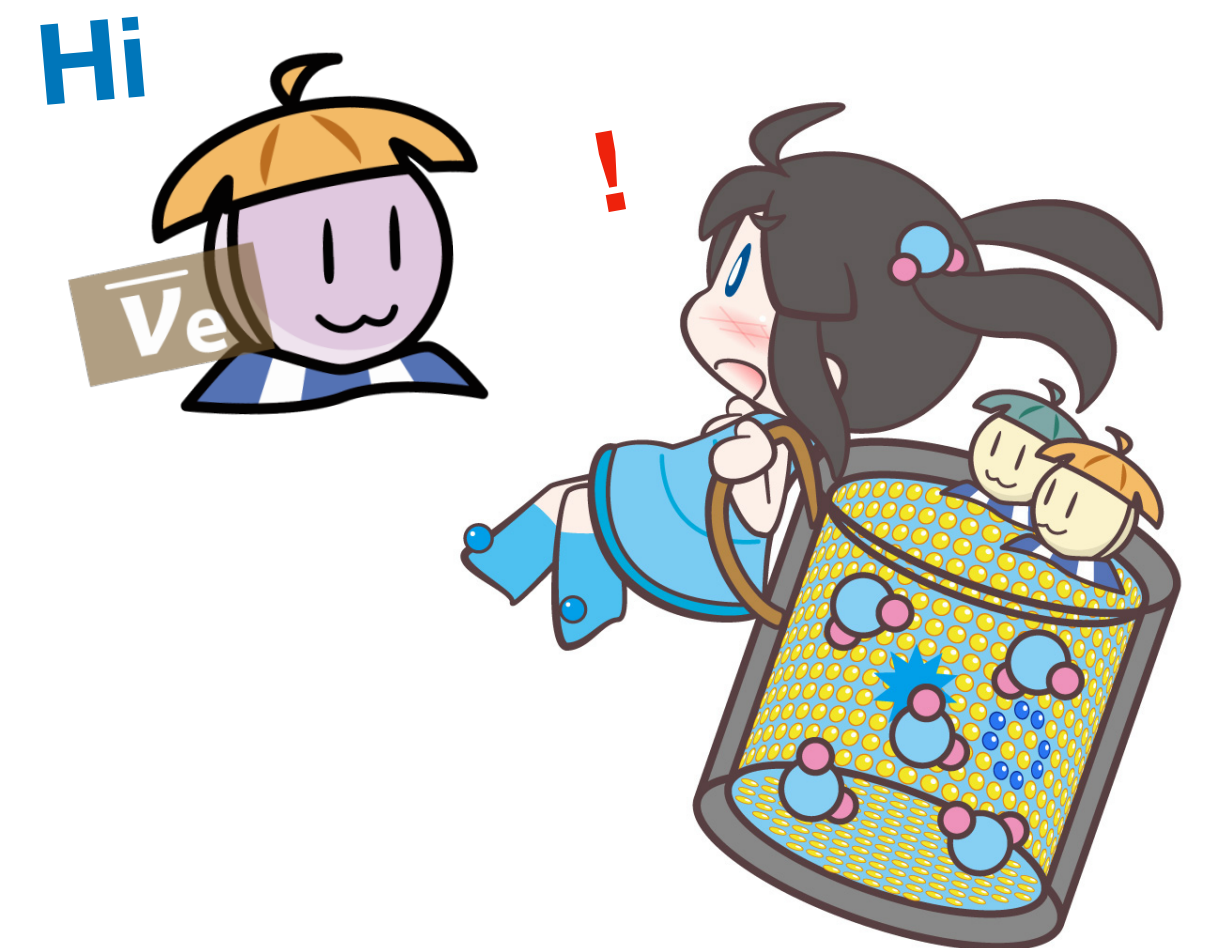


**NOTE:** This is one test case. Please do not take them as official sensitivities from these detectors! We will check more on quantity!



- DSNB is a unique probe of astrophysics and its discovery has been awaited for long.
- Next-generation detectors are operating soon with their own search window.
- Making full use of available data from multiple detectors is essential for astrophysical studies.
- We are developing a dedicated spectral fitting code CARNE for the future DSNB studies.
- An initial demonstration result is shown.
- Will sophisticate the code, aiming its public release of this year.

**Thanks for your attention!**

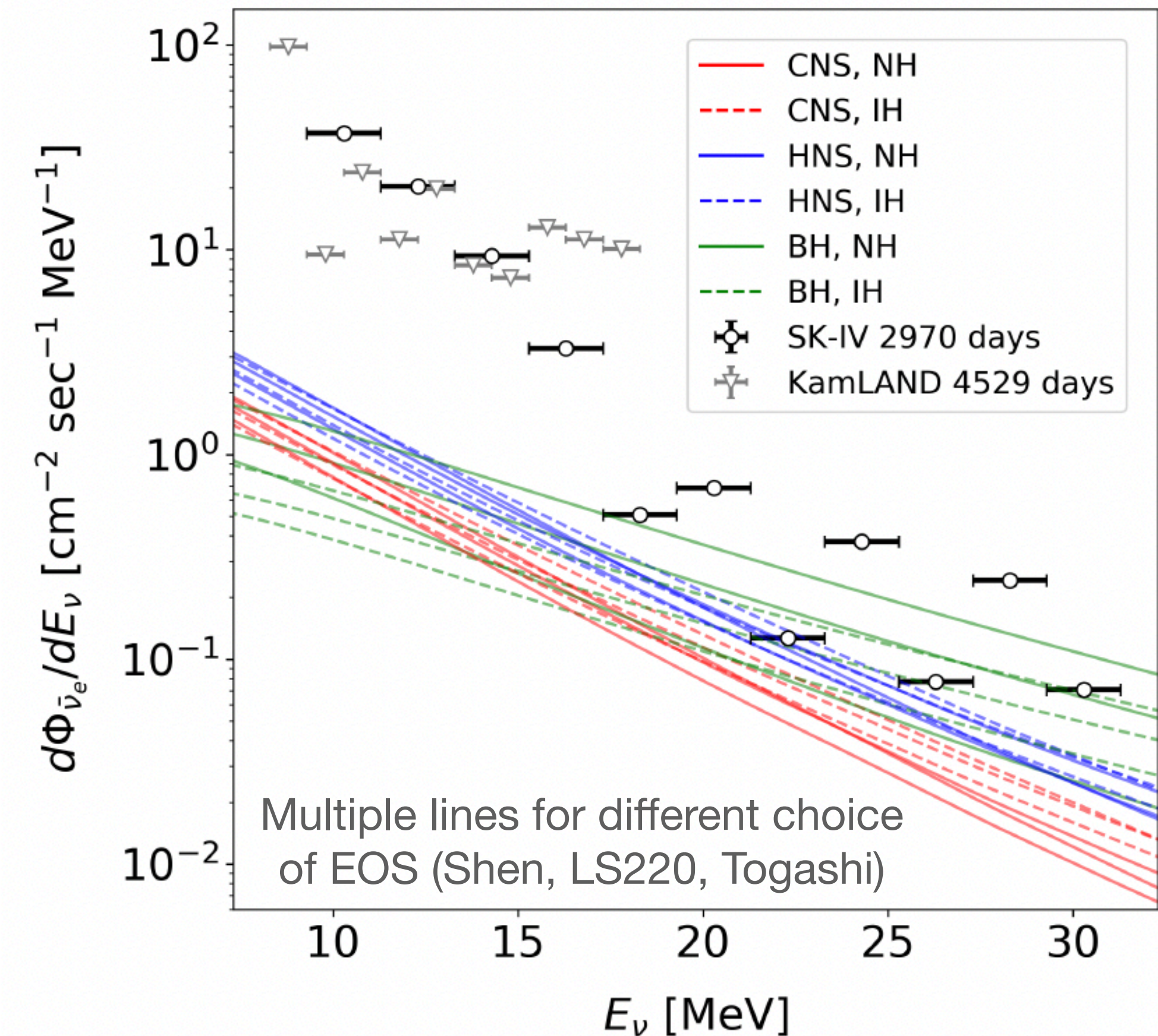
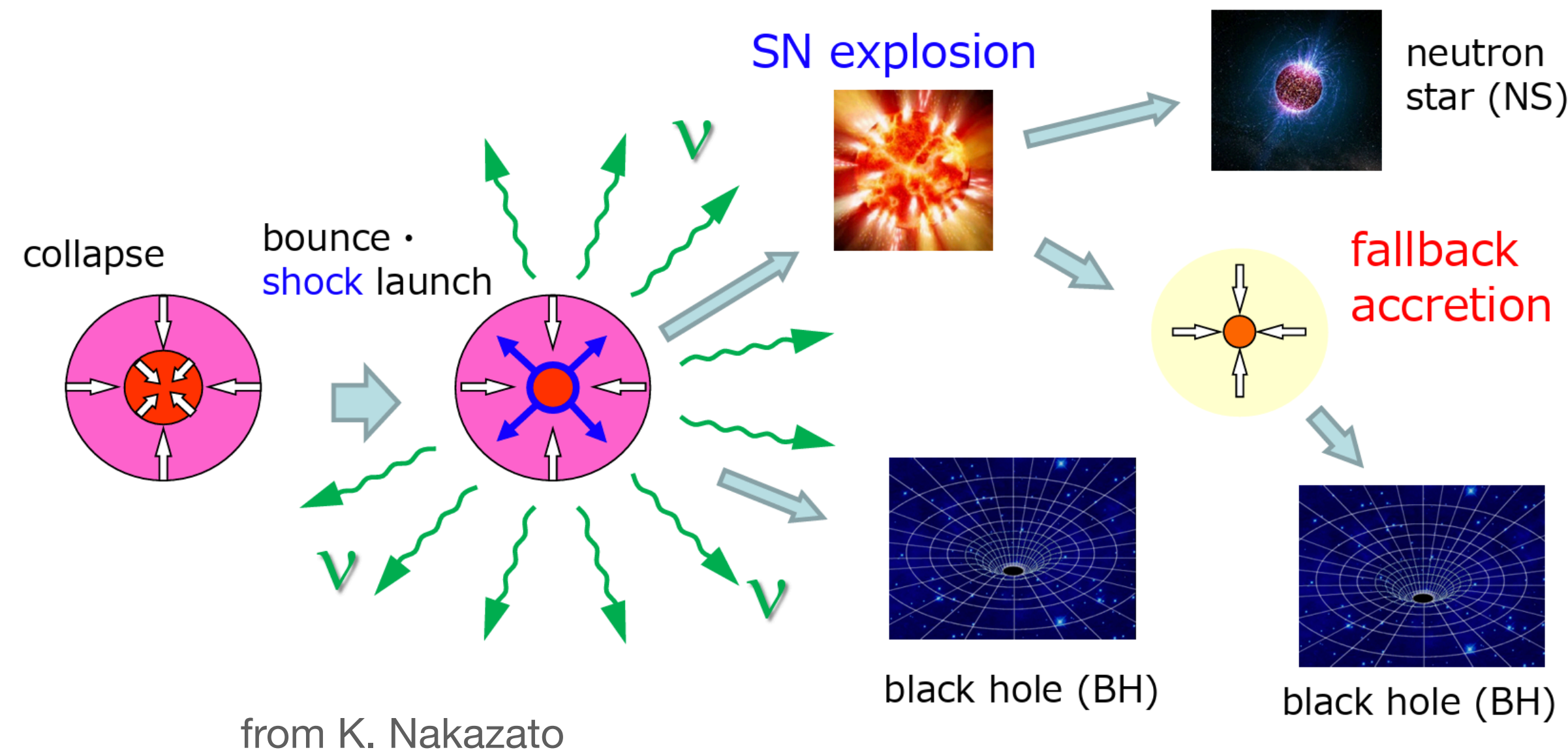




# Supplements



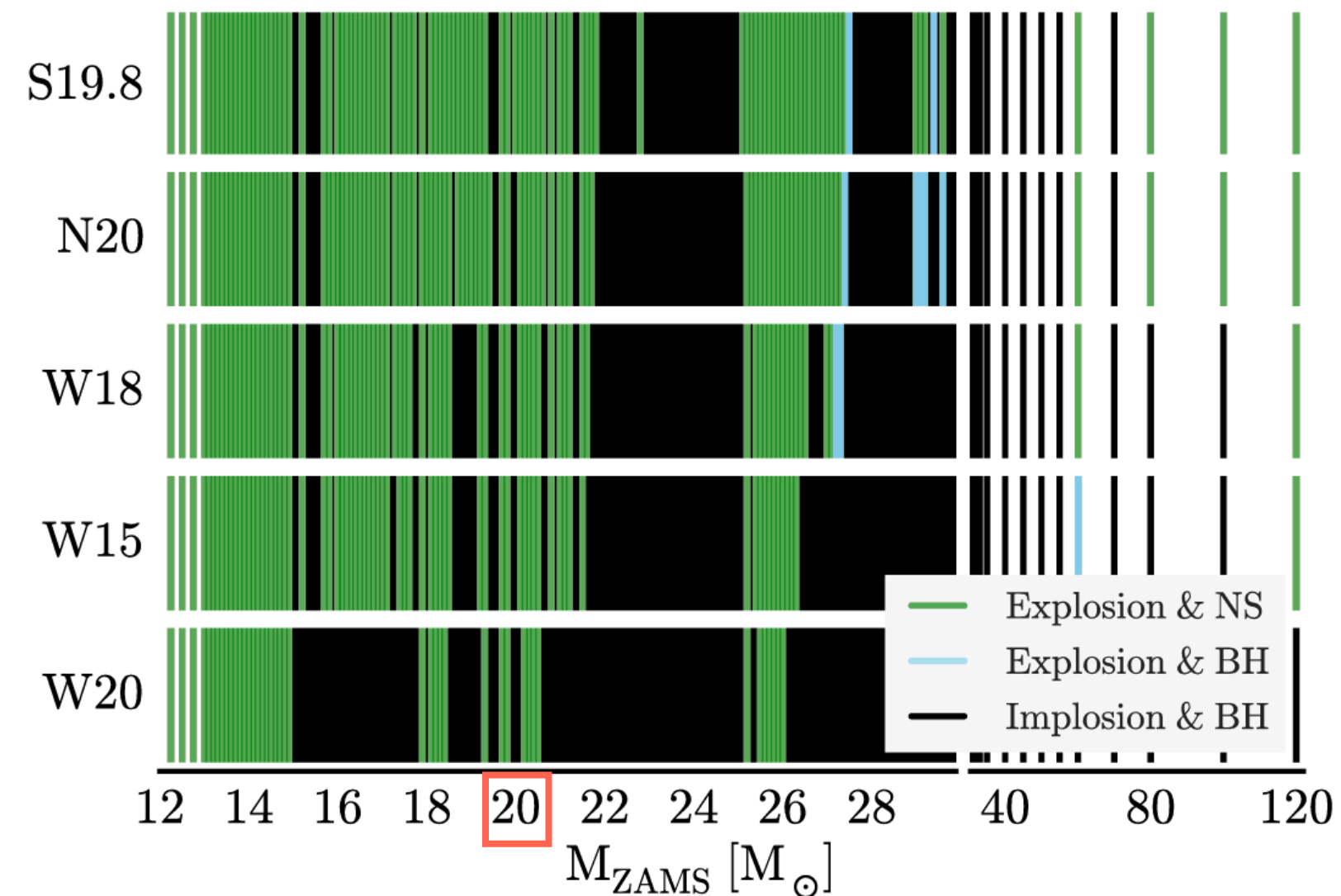
- Emitted  $\nu$  spectrum is expected to depend on the remnant after core collapse (“*fate*”).
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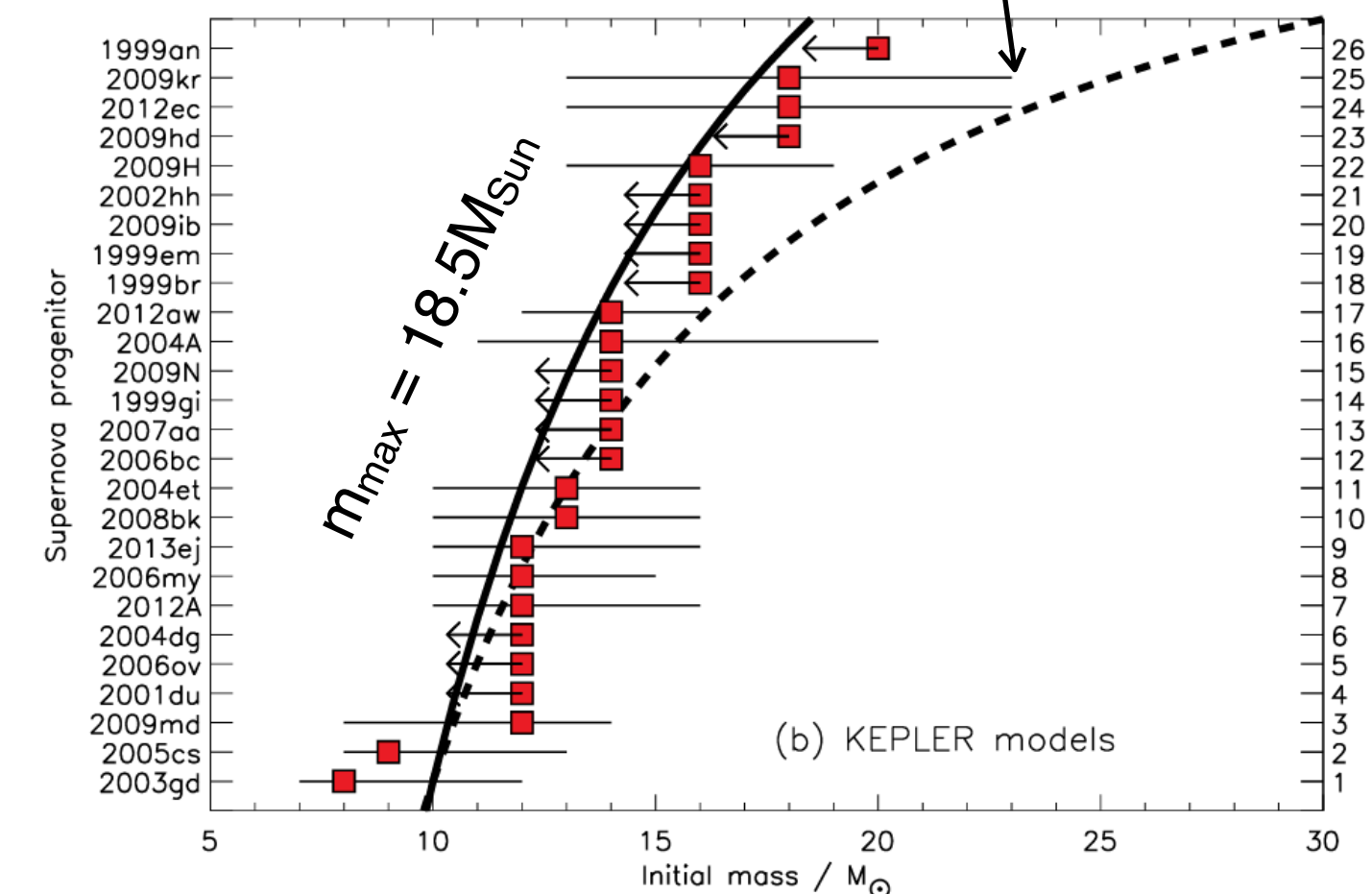
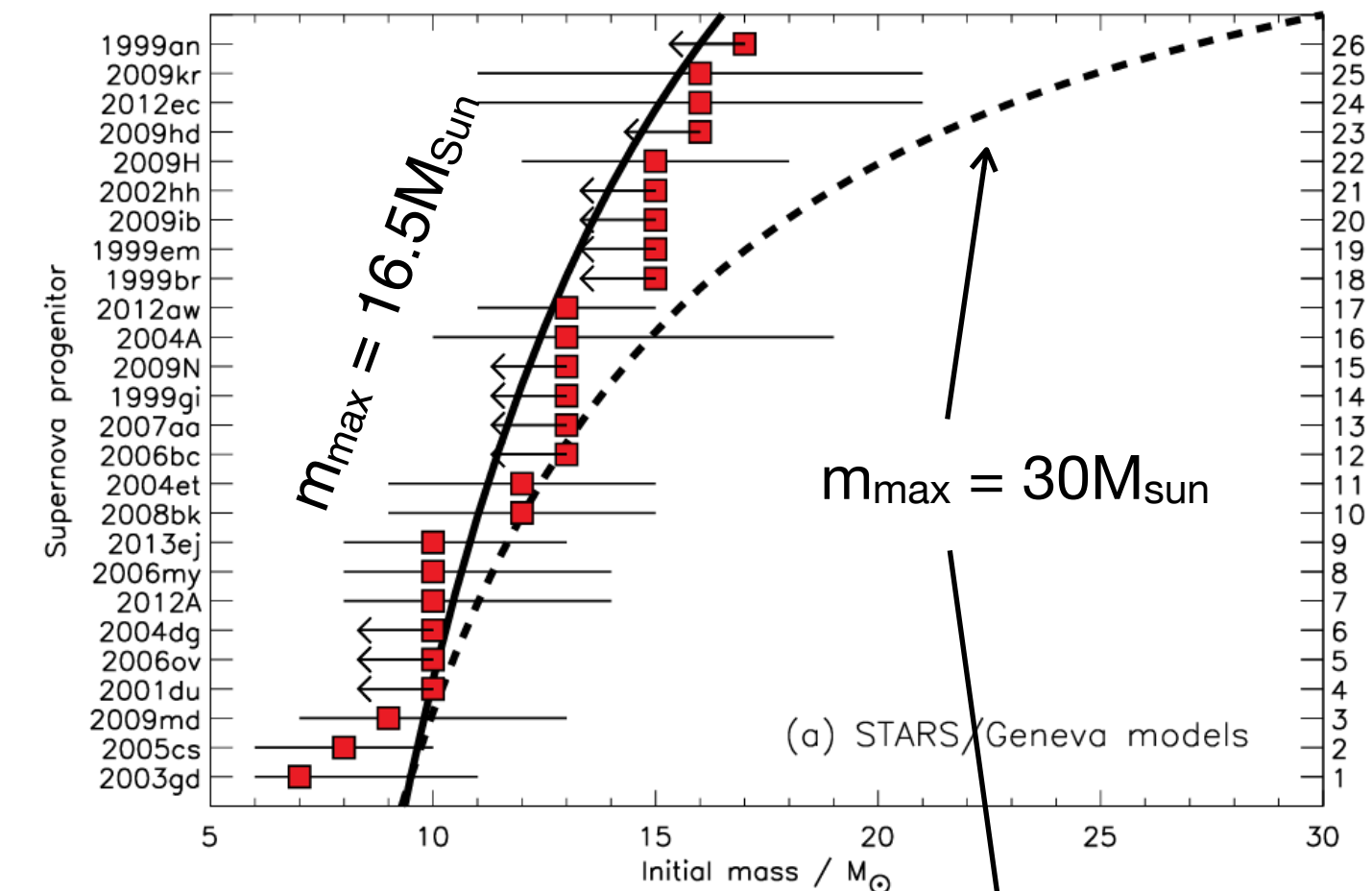


- Set the maximum mass of progenitors for successful explosions to  $18M_{\text{Sun}}$ .
  - Observationally,  $m_{\text{min}} \sim 8M_{\text{Sun}}$  and  $m_{\text{max}} \sim 18M_{\text{Sun}}$  are supported.
  - There is a theoretical work that implies failed SNe above  $\sim 20M_{\text{Sun}}$ .
- Many galactic chemical evolution schemes adopt a high  $m_{\text{max}}$  ( $50\sim 100M_{\text{Sun}}$ ).
  - Our  $m_{\text{max}} = 18M_{\text{Sun}}$  assumption reduces the number of CCSNe to  $\sim 70\%$ .
  - Accordingly, the total amount of heavy elements is reduced to  $\sim 50\%$ .

T. Sukhbold et al., ApJ 821, 38 (2016)

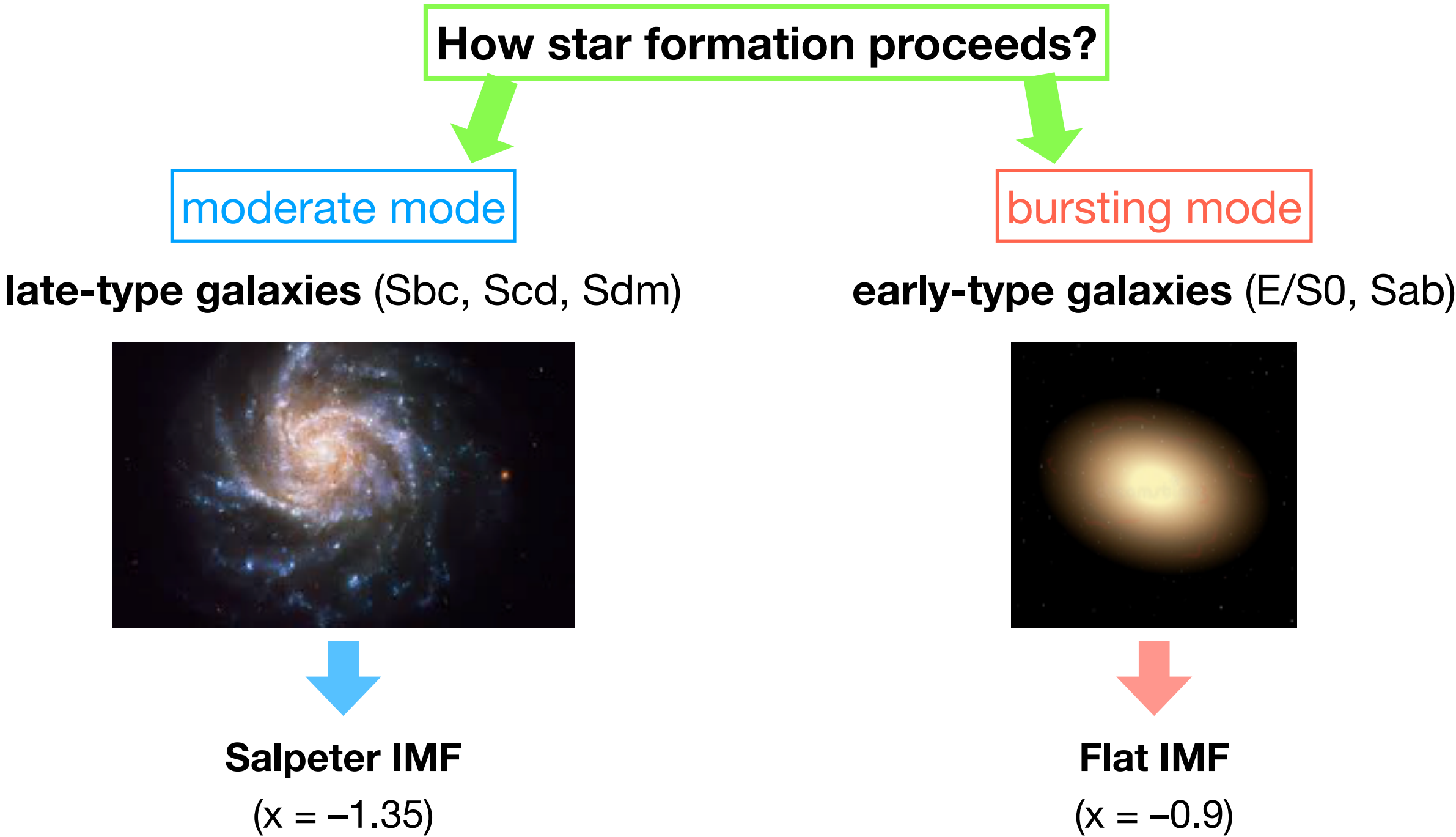


S. J. Smartt, PASA 32 (2015)

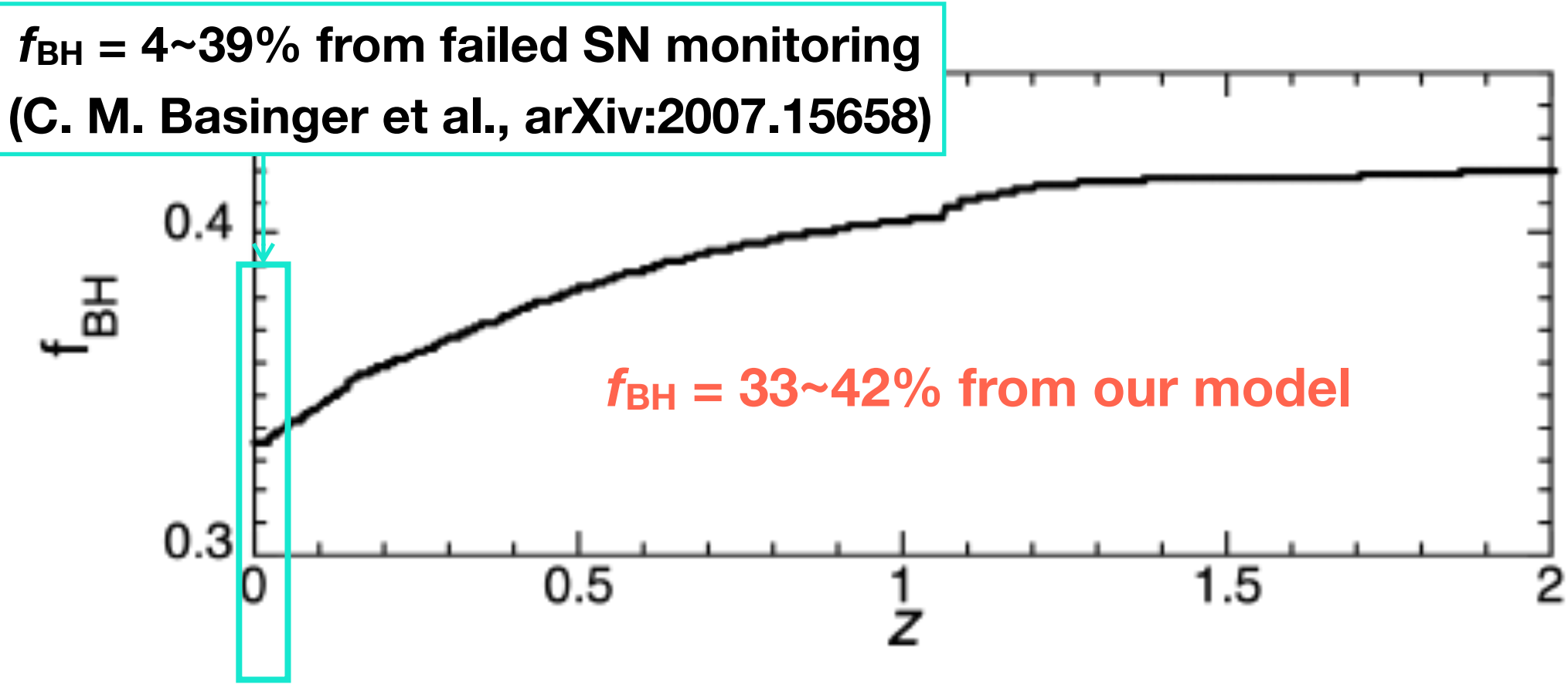




- Proposed a new evolution model to compensate for the discrepancy in chemical abundance.
- Categorize galaxies into five and assume different initial mass functions (IMF) depending types.
- The fraction for BH formation from this model is 33~42% (higher rate than many other DSNB models).



T. Tsujimoto, MNRAS 518, 3475 (2023)

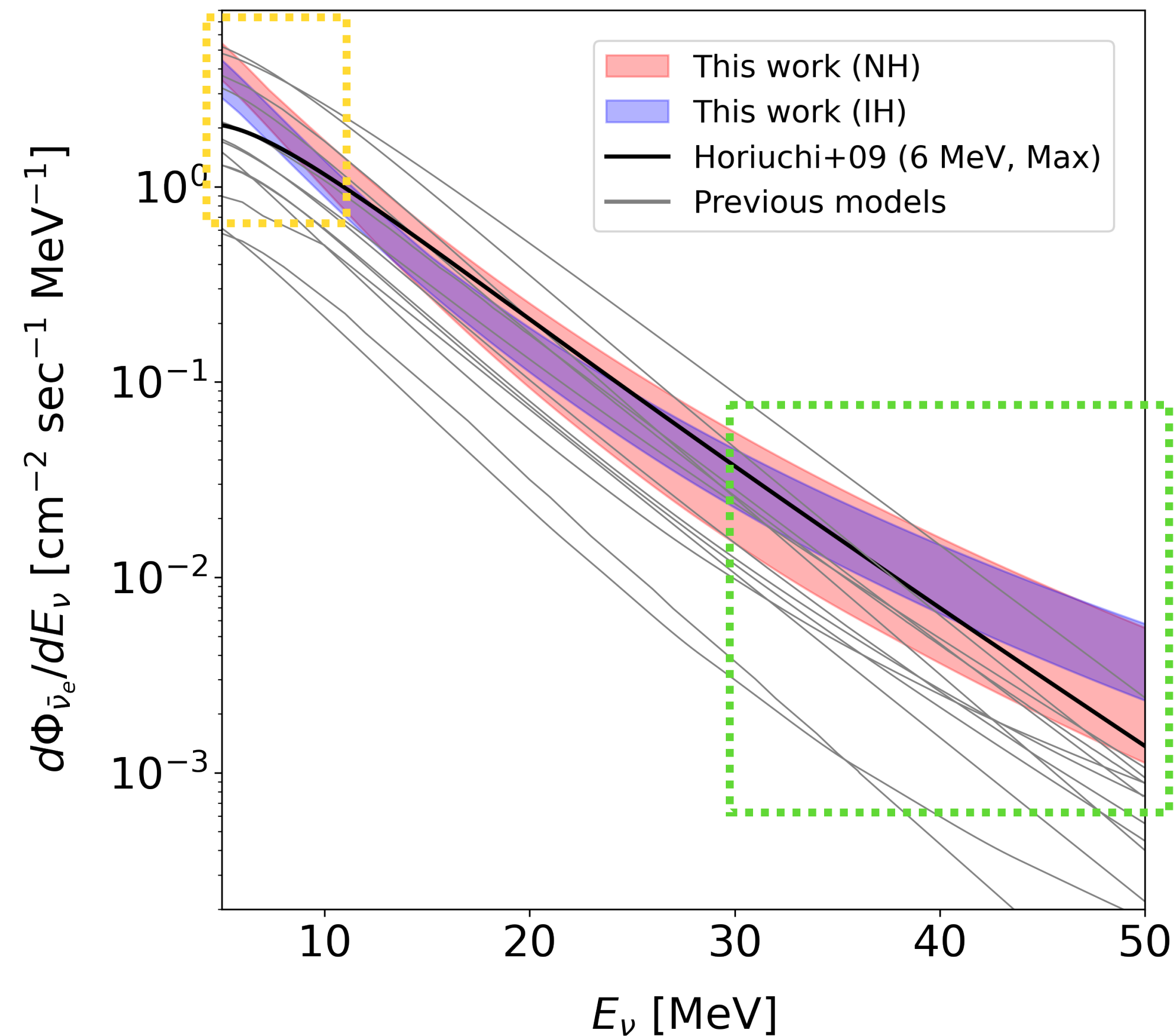


Our model nomenclature		
Name	IMF form	BH treatment
GDIMF-wBH (ref.)	Variable	BHs for $18\text{--}100M_{\odot}$
GDIMF-noBH	Variable	No BH
SalIMF-wBH	Salpeter	BHs for $18\text{--}100M_{\odot}$
SalIMF-noBH	Salpeter	No BH

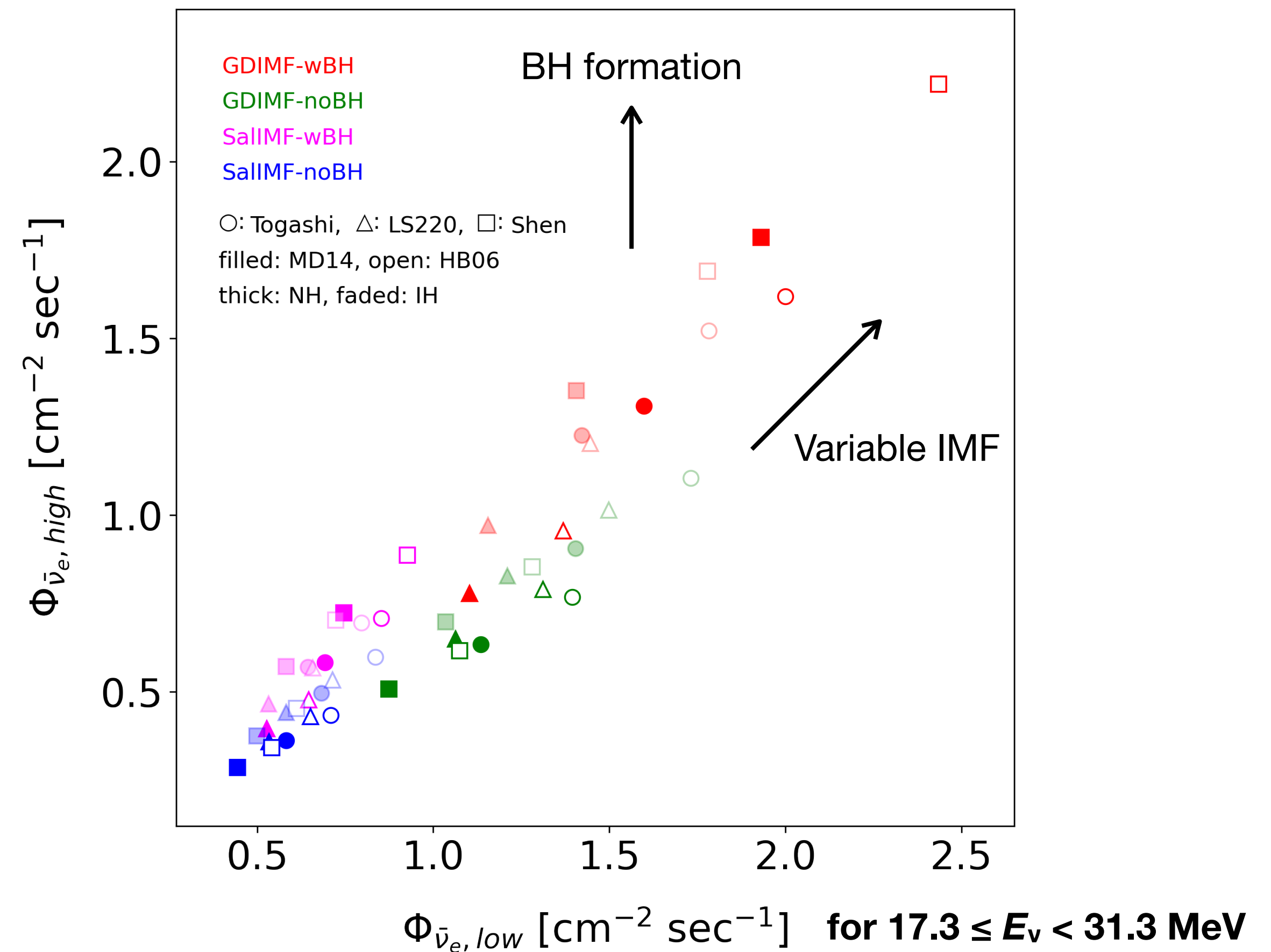


# Resulting DSNB Flux

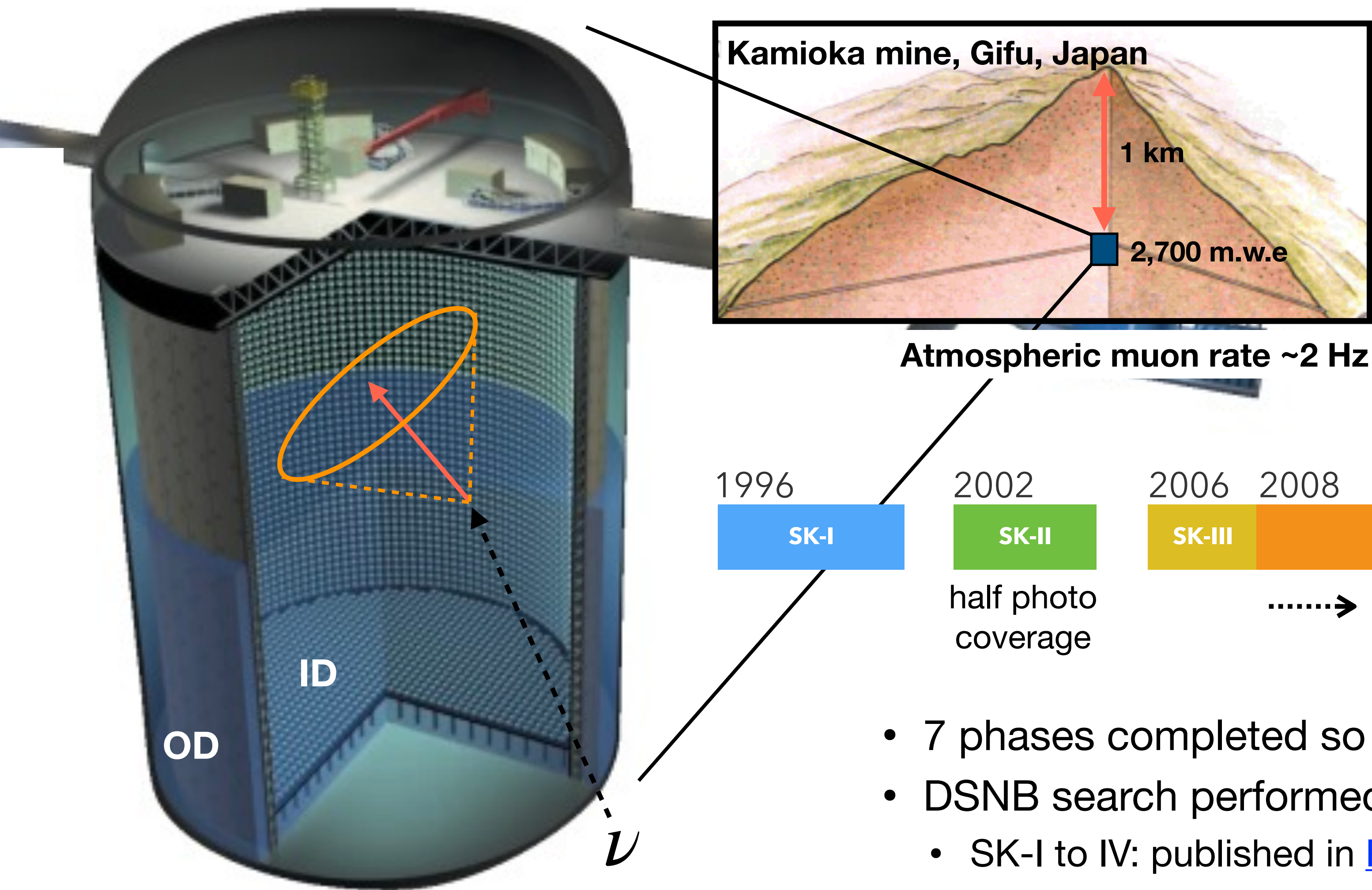
- Our model shows DSNB flux enhancements at high and low energies.
- High energy ( $>30$  MeV): Large contribution from BH formation.
- Low energy ( $<10$  MeV): Redshifted neutrinos from early-type galaxies with large CCSN rates.



for  $13.3 \leq E_\nu < 17.3$  MeV







- 50 kton water (**22.5 kton** for analysis)
- **11,129** 20-inch PMTs (Inner Detector)  
→ Physics event of interest
- **1,885** 8-inch PMTs (Outer Detector)  
→ Background veto (muon etc)



- 7 phases completed so far, and SK-VIII is on-going now.
- DSNB search performed multiple times.
  - SK-I to IV: published in [Physical Review D 104, 122002 \(2021\)](#)
  - SK-VI & VII: presented at [NEUTRINO 2024](#) (paper in prep)
  - SK-I through VIII: study in progress

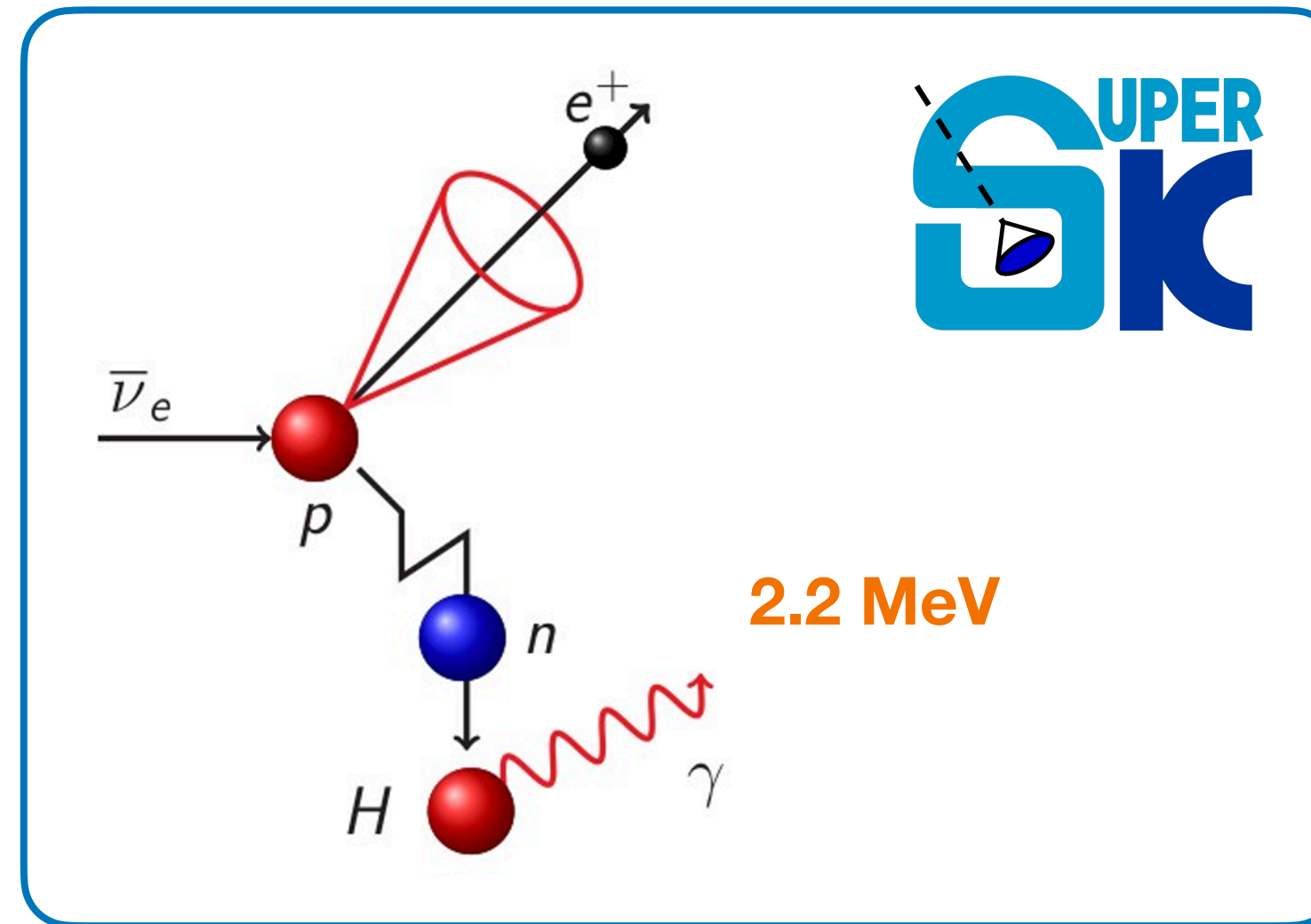
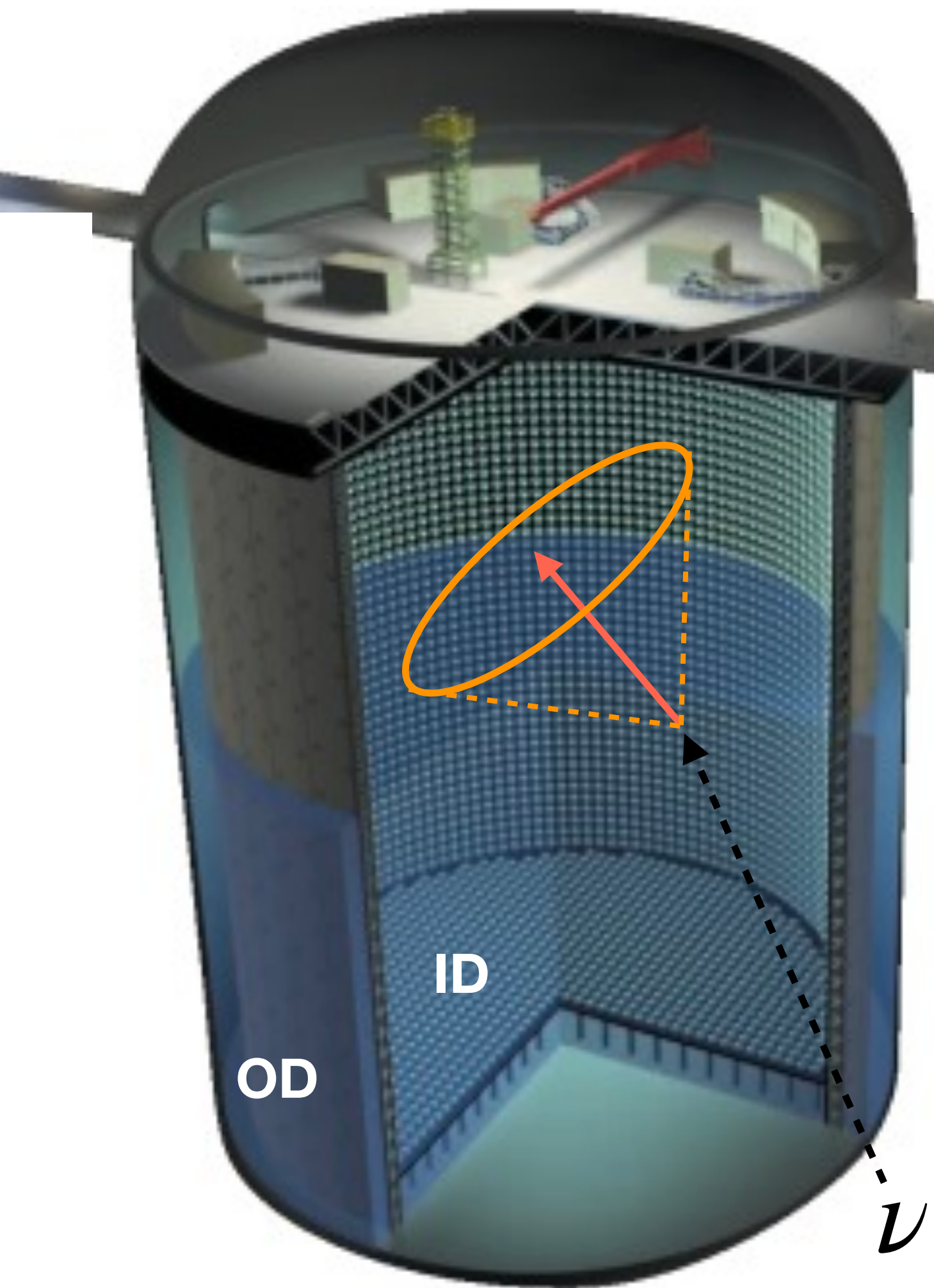


# Super-Kamiokande with Gadolinium

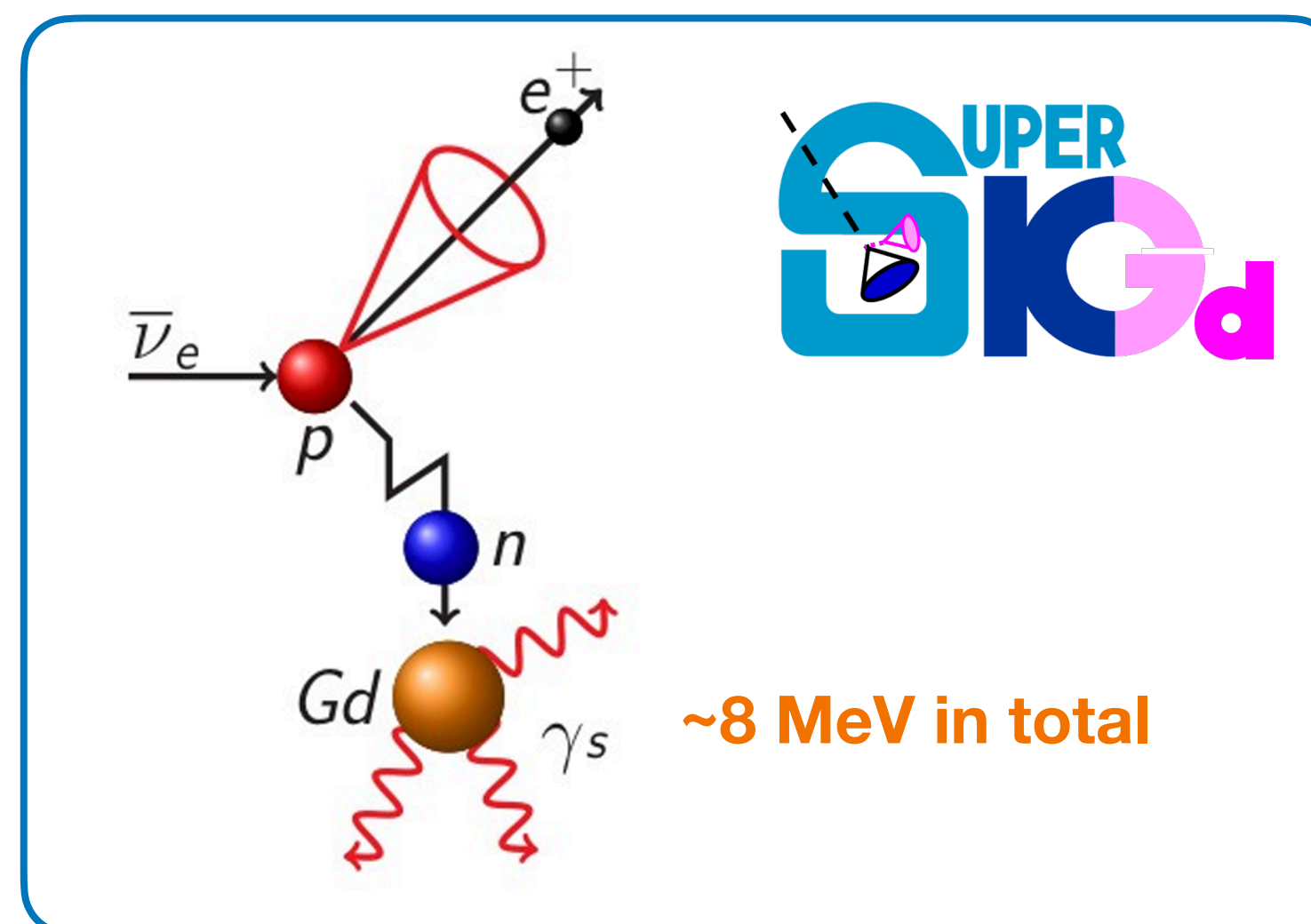
K. Abe et al. (SK Collaboration), NIMA 1027, 166248 (2022) **20**

M. Harada et al. (SK Collaboration), ApJL 951, L27 (2023)

K. Abe et al. (SK Collaboration), NIMA 1065, 169480 (2024)

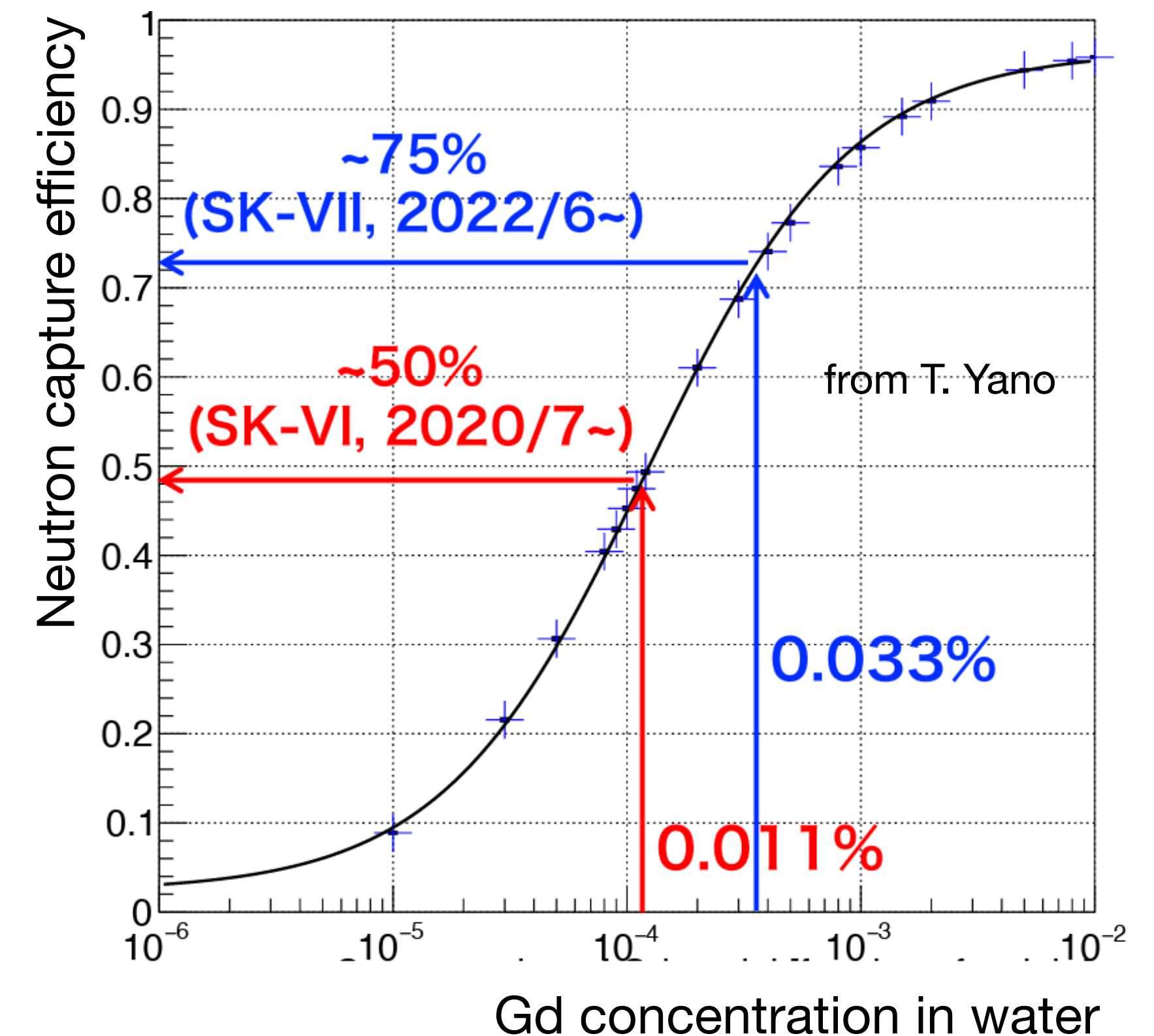


Upgrade



Gd loaded to improve neutron detection.

- Capture Xsec: 0.33 barn  $\rightarrow$   **$\sim 49$  kbarn**
- $\gamma$  energy: 2.2 MeV  $\rightarrow$   **$\sim 8$  MeV**
- 0.011% (SK-VI), 0.033% (SK-VII~)





# Signal and Background

- Signal = **inverse beta decay (IBD)**,  $\bar{\nu}_e + p \rightarrow e^+ + n$  (dominant channel)
  - $e^+$  = “*prompt*” signal (main energy range: **8~30 MeV**)
  - $n$  = “*delayed*” signal via  **$\gamma$ -ray(s)** from thermal capture on hydrogen or gadolinium
- Many types of backgrounds mimicking this signature.
  - Atmospheric neutrinos (NCQE, CC)
  - Radioactive isotopes produced by atmospheric muons
  - Solar neutrinos
  - Reactor neutrinos

