



ICECUBE



# Physics informed NN Reconstruction for Muon Neutrino Tracks

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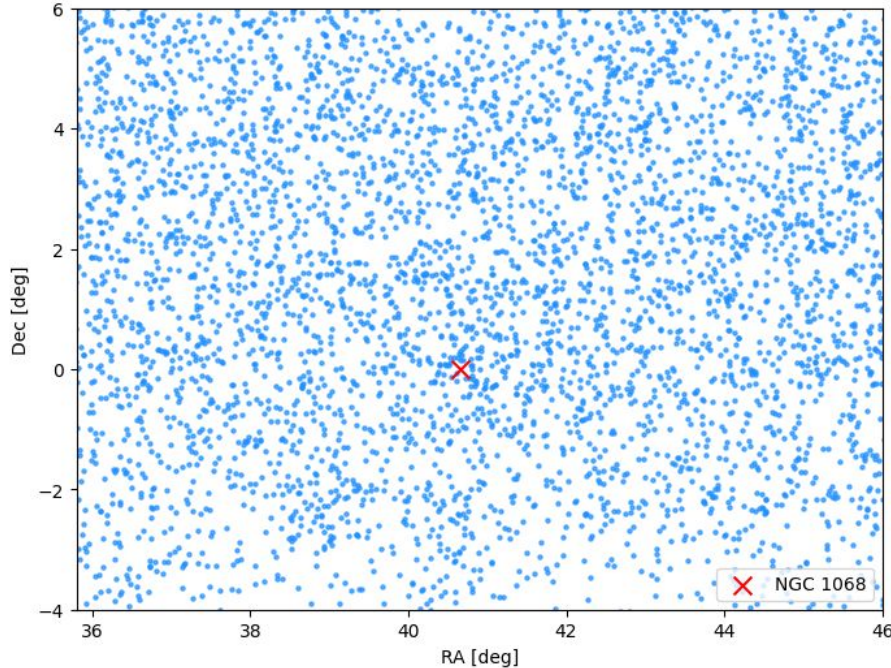
Rishi Babu and Hans Niederhausen

For the IceCube Collaboration

Michigan State University



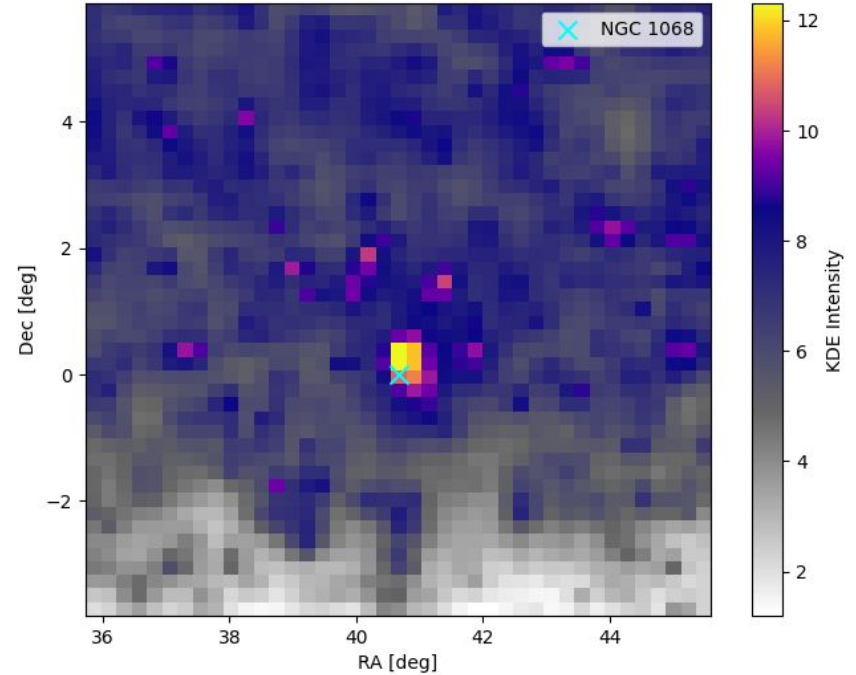
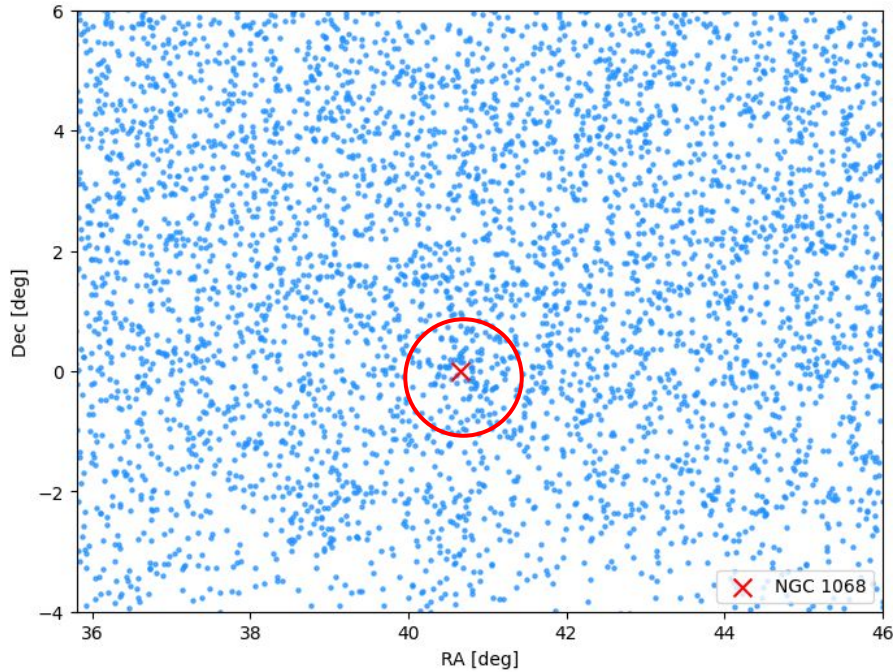
# Detecting Neutrinos from the Universe



- Detecting neutrino is a challenging problem due to their very small interaction cross-section
- As a result the number of neutrinos detected from astrophysical objects are far less.
- ~10 astrophysical neutrinos per year ( > 100 TeV )
- I'm primarily a theoretical astrophysicist
  - Working on MW modeling of gamma-rays and neutrinos
- What I look for is if a few of them cluster near an astrophysical source!

Counts from IceCube NGC 1068 Public data  
DOI:[10.1126/science.abg3395](https://doi.org/10.1126/science.abg3395)

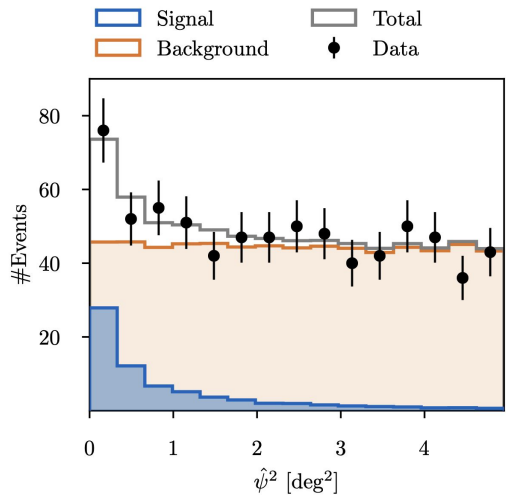
# Detecting Neutrinos from the Universe



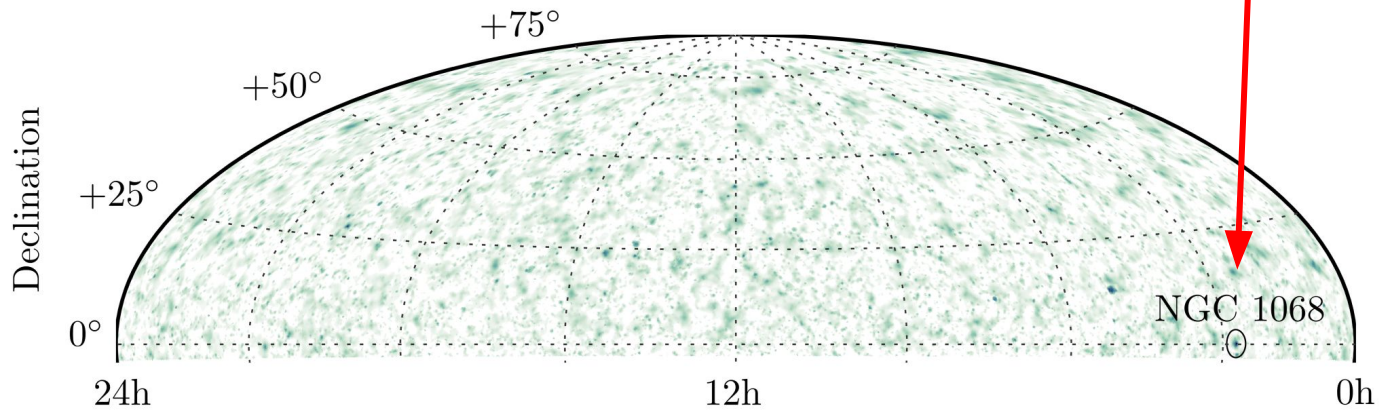
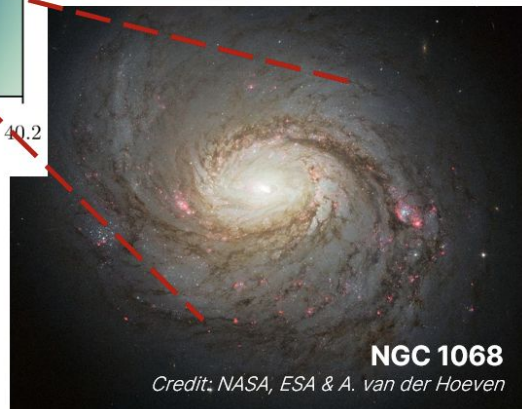
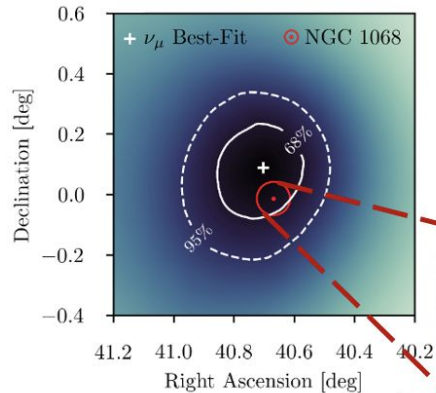
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Event Density Visualization from  
IceCube NGC 1068 Public data

# Neutrino Emission from NGC 1068



- Astrophysical neutrino events: 79
- Evidence for neutrino emission from NGC 1068 with a significance of  $4.2\sigma$  using **neutrino tracks**

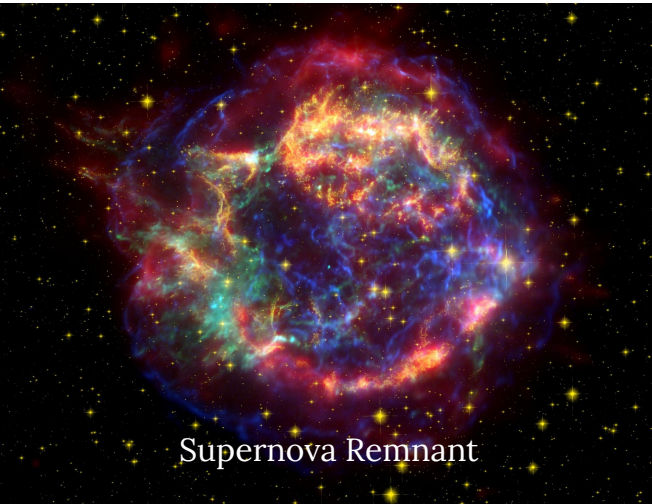
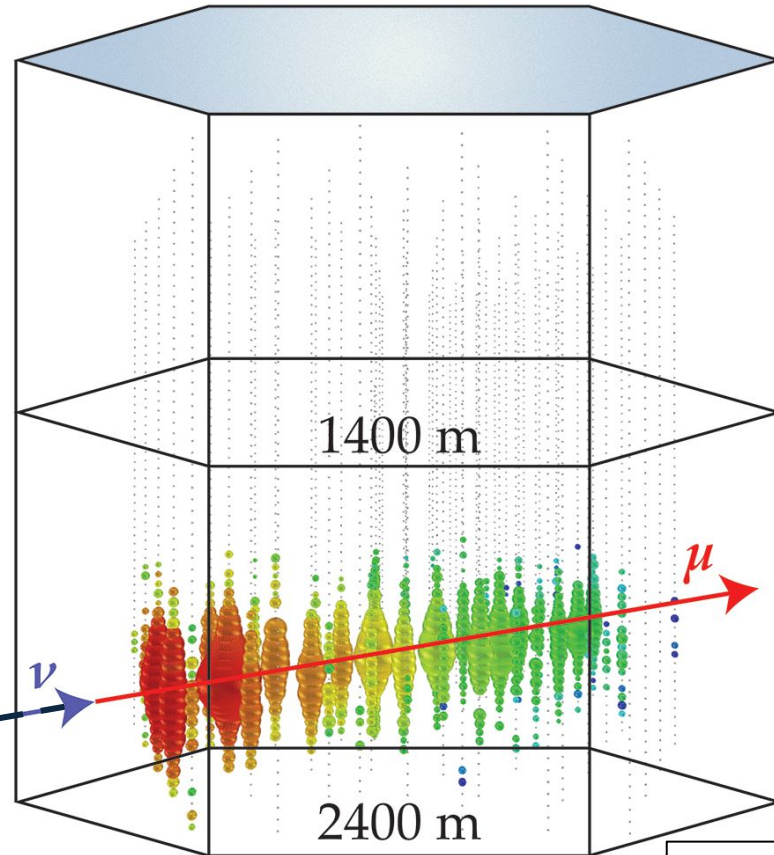


Ref:

**IceCube Collaboration**, "Evidence for neutrino emission from the nearby active galaxy NGC 1068", *Science*, vol. 378, no. 6619, pp. 538–543, 2022.

# IceCube Observatory and a Neutrino Track Event

- Cubic-kilometer Cherenkov Detector in Ice at the South Pole
- Detects neutrinos and atmospheric muons
- Over 5k PMTs stored in DOMs (digital optical modules)
- Active and taking data since 2011



# IceCube Neutrino Tracks

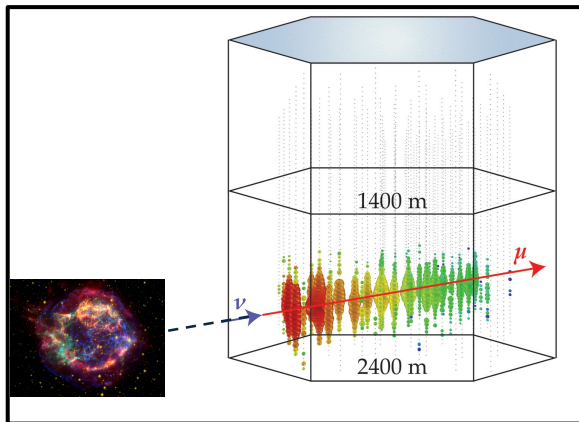
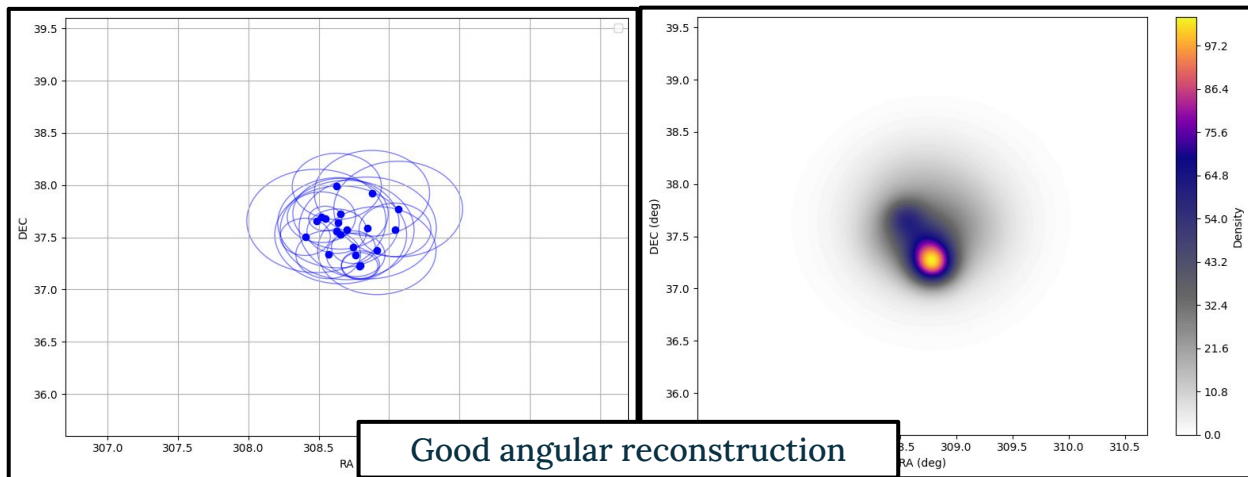
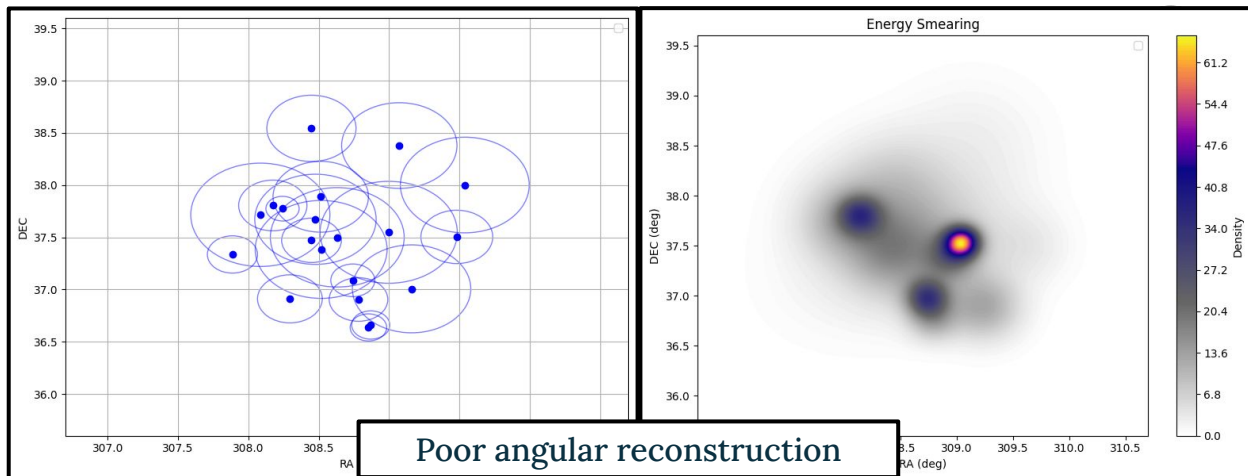
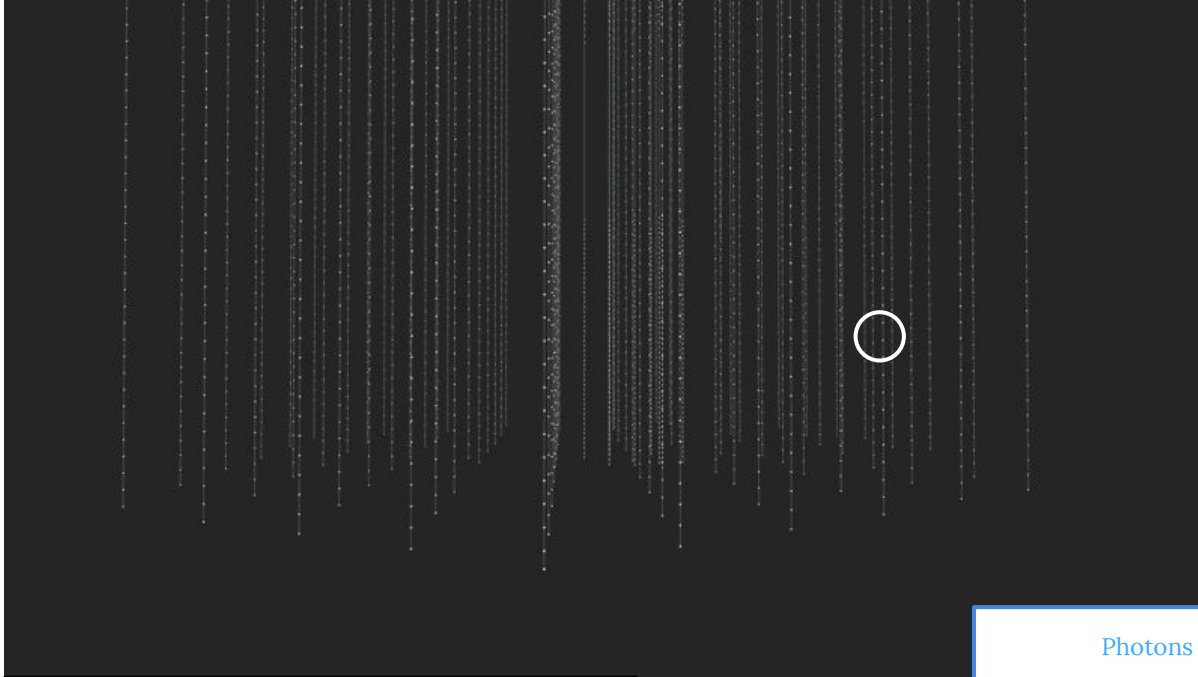


Image Courtesy: APS/Joan Tycko.



# Photon Propagation through Ice



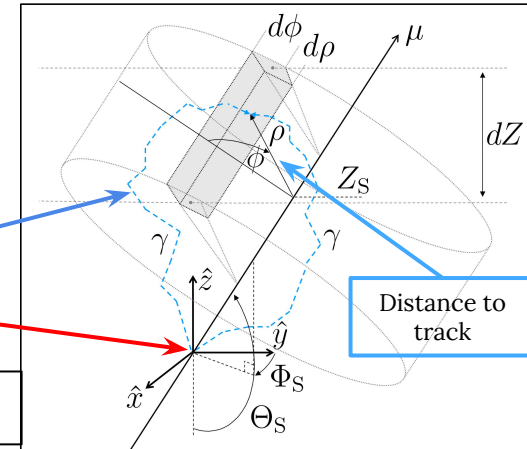
Ref: Chirkin, D. and IceCube Collaboration, "Photon tracking with GPUs in IceCube", Nuclear Instruments and Methods in Physics Research A, vol. 725, Elsevier, pp. 141-143, 2013.

Photons

Point of emission

Image: Stacked searches for high-energy neutrinos from blazars with IceCube  
Kai Schatto (Mainz U.)

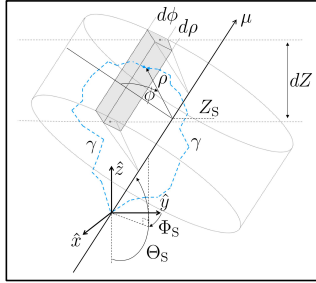
- **Goal:** Reconstruct which direction a muon/neutrino came from in-ice
- Reconstruction requires knowing the expected light arrival time at every sensor
  - Expensive to compute
- For a given position along the track
  - Assume that the Cherenkov photons produced have a cylindrical geometry
  - Sample the arrival time distribution of photons using simulations
  - Stored in photon tables
  - Takes ~100s of GBs storage





# Photon Propagation through Ice: NN

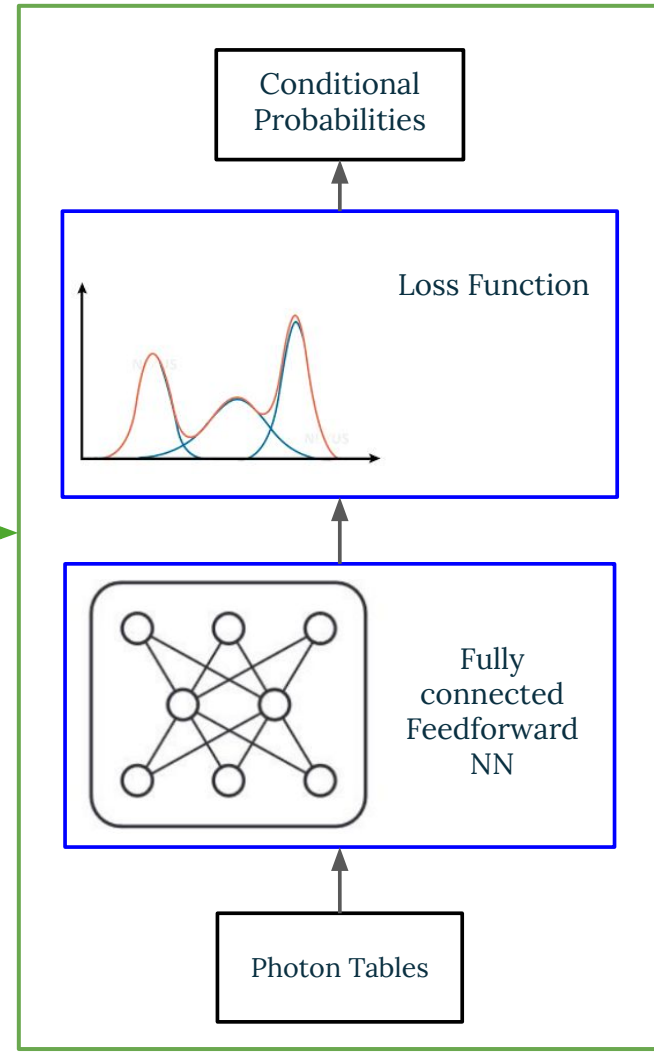
- **Goal:** Reconstruct which direction a muon came from
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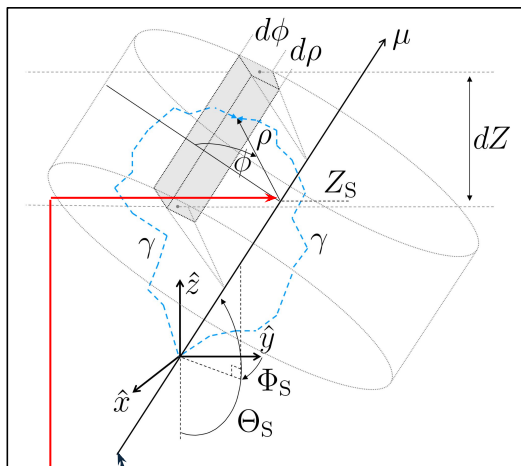
**This work:**  
Use a neural network to predict the track parameters for tracks with different types of geometries

We iterated over multiple names depending on the network combination

We currently call it the **Gupta Network**



# Network Architecture: Inputs



## Data

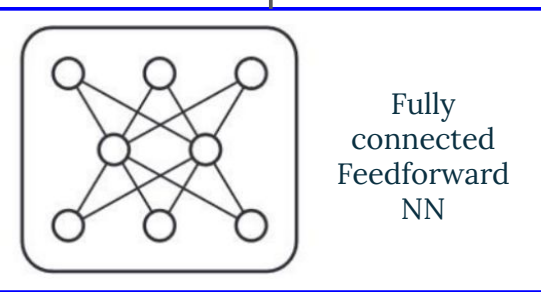
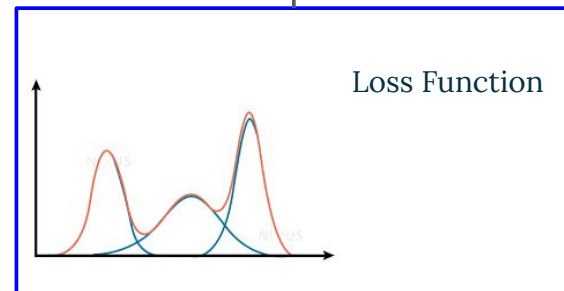
- TFRecords shard batching
- Split: 80/10/10
- Single GPU
- Model: JAX/Equinox
- TensorFlow used only for **data** ingestion, not the model

## 7 Input Parameters (Photon Tables)

- Track zenith
- Track azimuth
- Track depth,  $z$
- Distance to track,  $d$
- Angle around track,  $\rho$

Cylindrical coordinates  
converted to cartesian

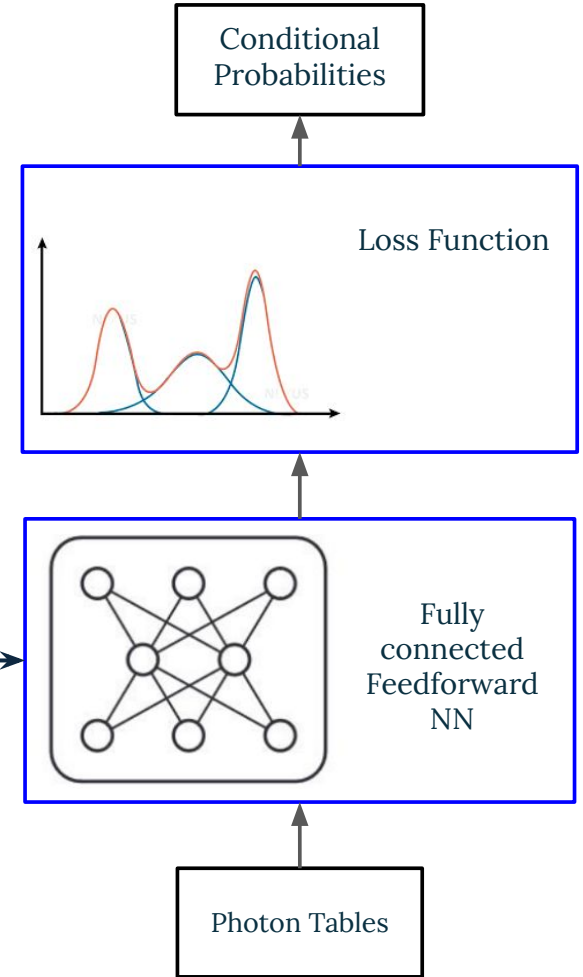
Photon Tables



Conditional  
Probabilities

# Network Architecture: Network

- ResMLP
- Layers = 7
- hidden size = 96
- Input layer
- 5 Residual blocks
- Output later
- Batch = 1024
- Optimizer: Yogi
- Cosine decay learning rate scheduler



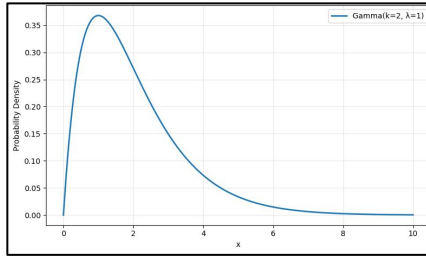
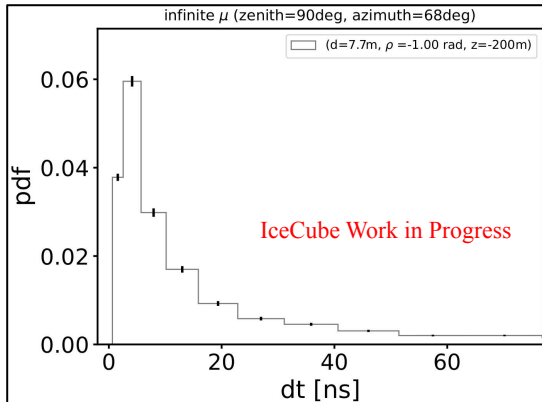
# Network Architecture: Loss Function

Gupta Function

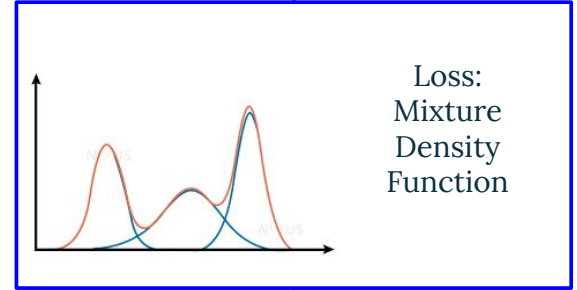
$$P(t_{\text{res}}|\theta) = (1 - e^{-\lambda t_{\text{res}}})^\alpha, \quad (\text{CDF})$$

$$p(t_{\text{res}}|\theta) = P'(t_{\text{res}}|\theta) \\ = \alpha\lambda(1 - e^{-\lambda t_{\text{res}}})^{\alpha-1} e^{-\lambda t_{\text{res}}}, \quad (\text{PDF})$$

Gupta Function (Exponentiated exponential): function behaves similar to the gamma function with a scale and shape parameter



x 4



Conditional Probabilities

Fully connected Feedforward NN

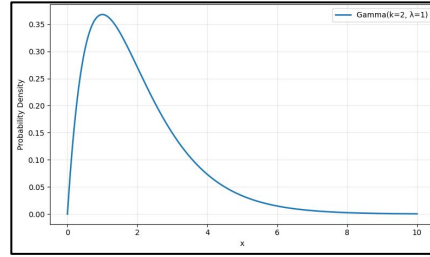
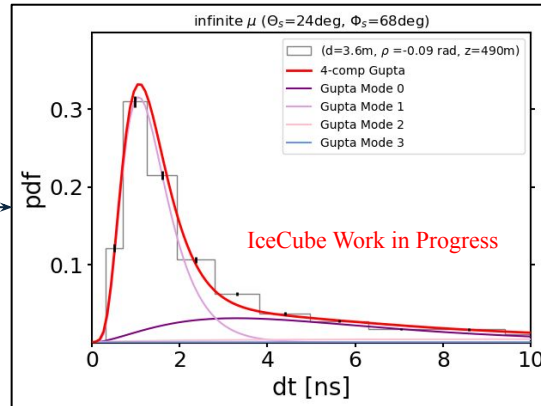
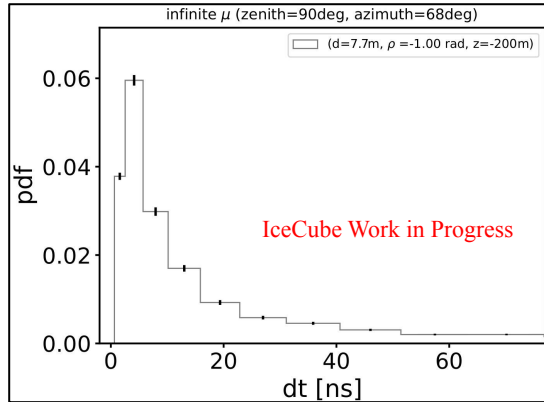
Photon Tables

- Propagation and diffusion of laser light in ice were studied at the Baikal neutrino telescope
- Use gamma functions to represent the PDF for photon arrival times

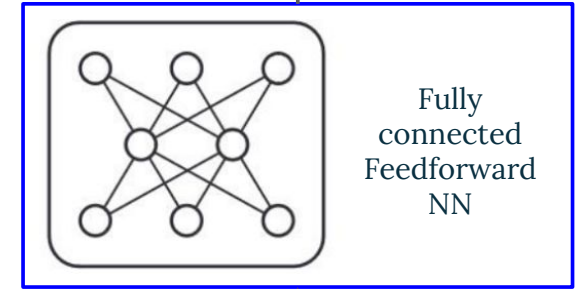
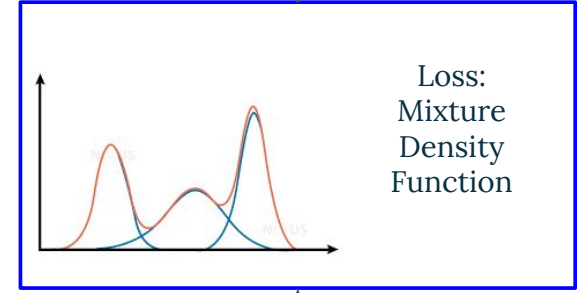
- Fit 4 Gupta functions to the photon arrival time pdf
- Loss: Minimize the difference between the sum of 4 Gupta function fit and the time histogram

# Network Architecture: Outputs

- For the [7] input  $\rightarrow$  [12] **Network Outputs**, with the 12 decomposing as [4, 4, 4] for the mixture weights
- Weight/Gupta component Mode weights x 4
- Gupta component rates x 4
- Gupta component shape x 4



x 4

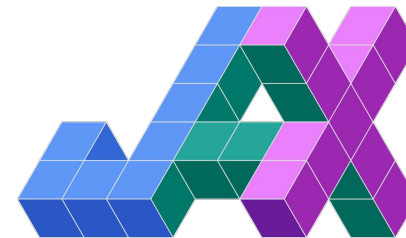


Conditional Probabilities

Photon Tables

# Training

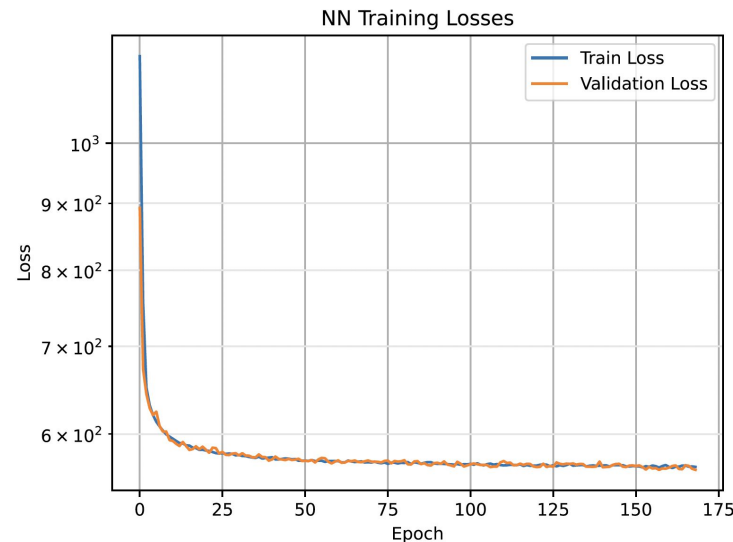
- The entire workflow is written using TensorFlow + JAX integration
  - => Input photon tables through **tensorflow**
  - => Network Initialized - **JAX**
  - => All computations for training vectorized - **JAX**
  - => Training and gradient propagations - **JAX**



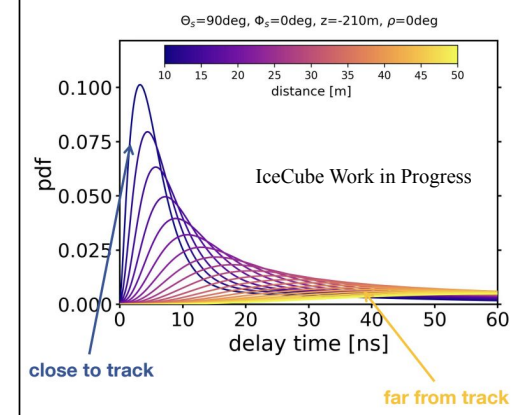
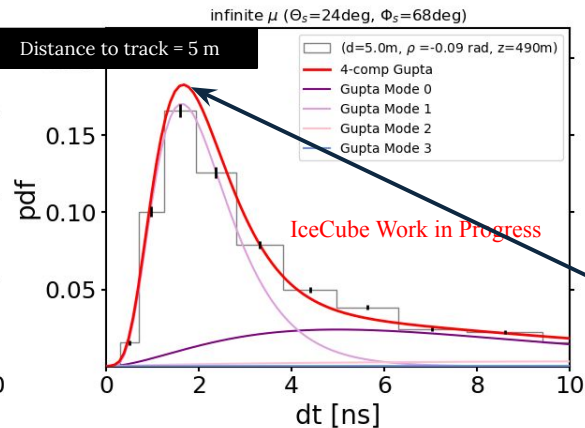
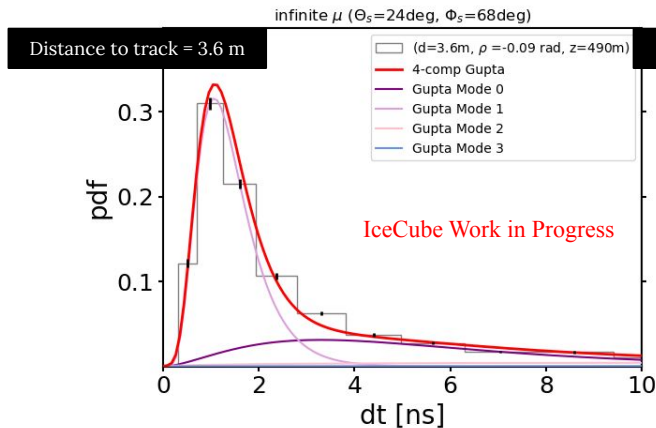
- **What we gain:** Massive gpu parallelism and gradient tracking
- **NVIDIA RTX 4090:** Training the network parameters per batch ~ **100 ms**
- **NVIDIA H200:** Training the network parameters per batch ~ **1 ms**

In the following slides, showing early results of training with photon simulations with the latest (SpiceFTRv3) icemodel

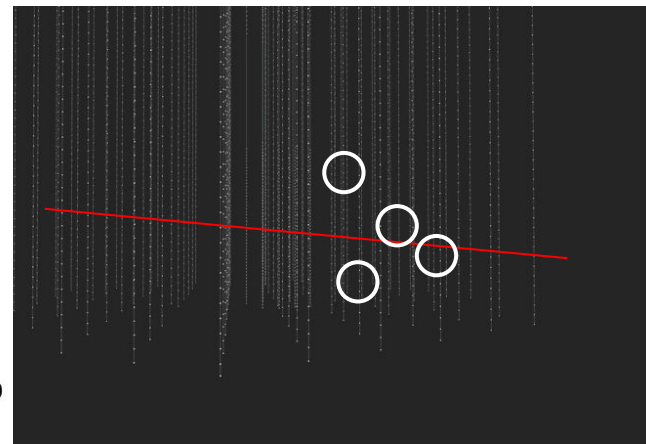
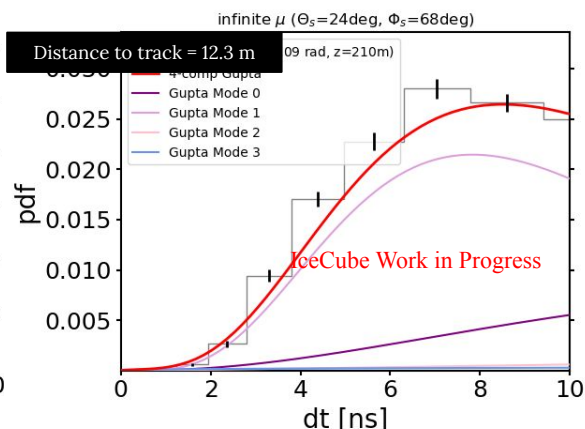
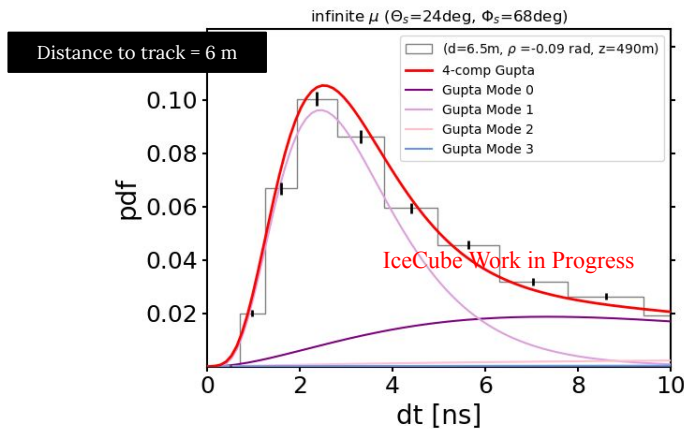
- Preliminary results
- 255 epochs
  - Single H200 GPU
  - Wall time: 6 hrs



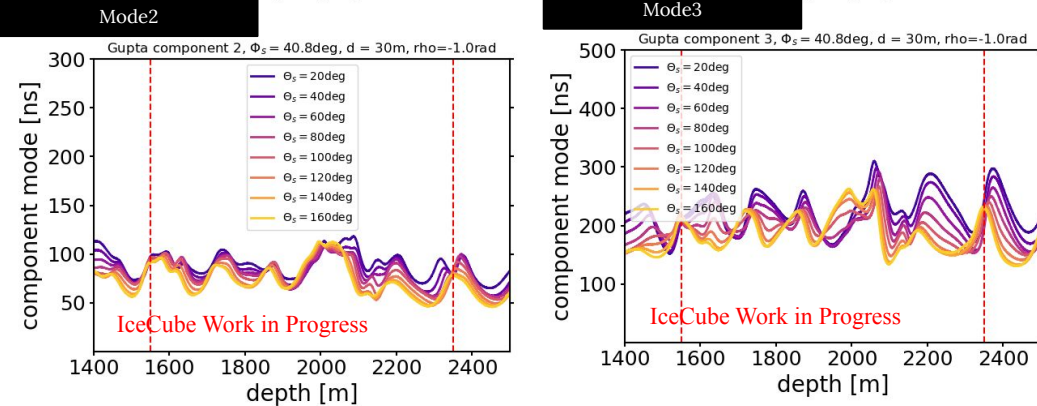
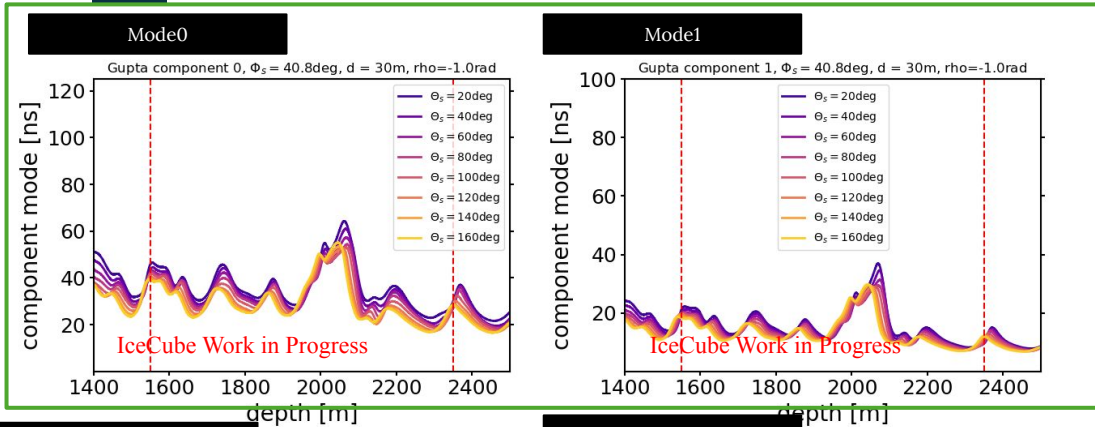
# Gupta Mixture Model Network Fits to PDFs



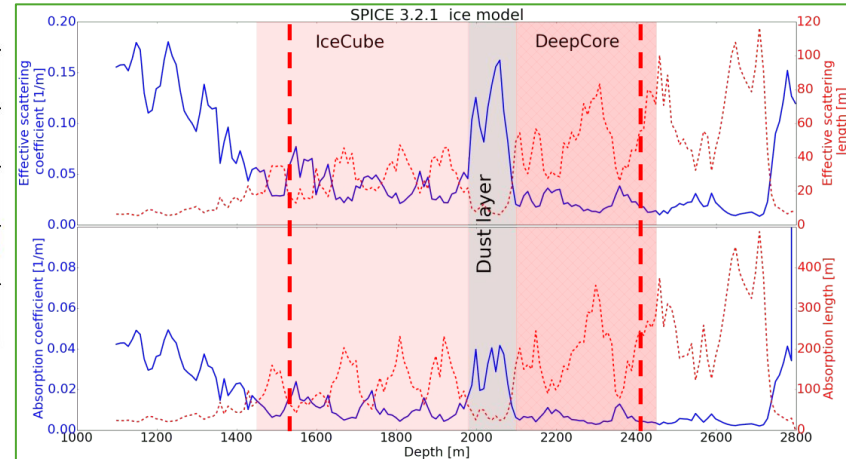
- 4 Gupta function fits capture the PDF
- Gupta component Mode 1 captures the leading edge well
- Leading edge determines the vertex position of the track



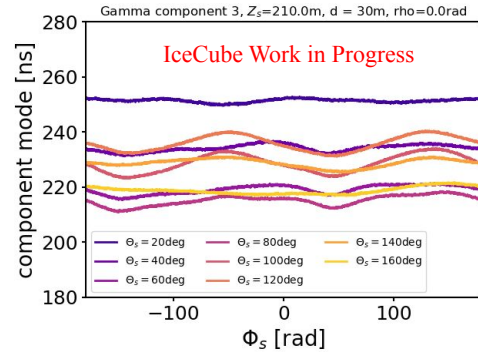
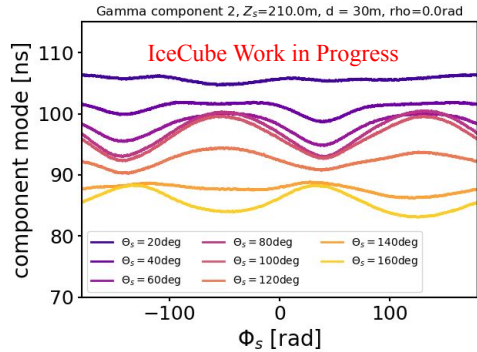
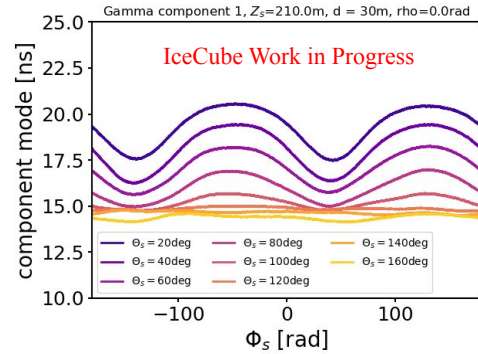
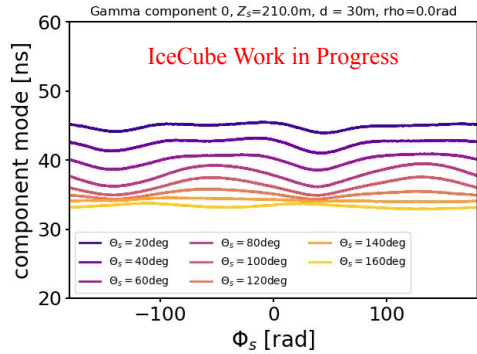
# Gupta Component Modes - Depth Variations



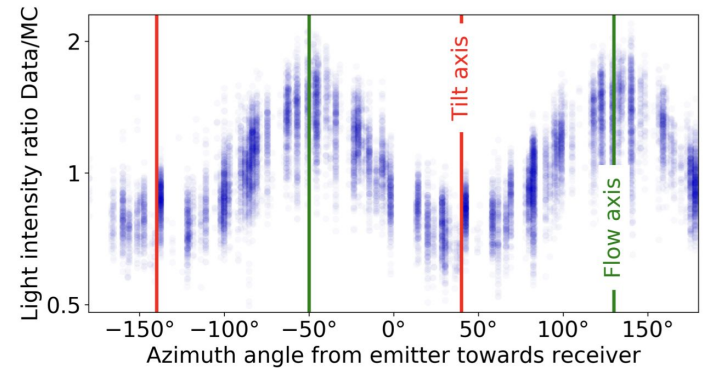
- Distribution of each weight components of the 4 Gupta Mixture model vs depth
- Mode 0 and 1, capture the leading edge of the PDF and the maximum amplitude of the PDF
  - Learn the distribution of dust layers in ice faster than the trailing modes
- Network even sees the small variations in the dust present in the icelayers at South pole



# Gupta Component modes - Azimuthal variations



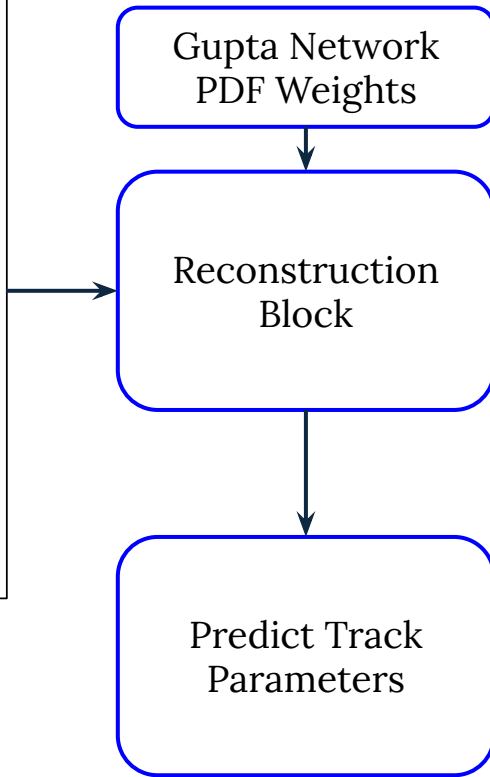
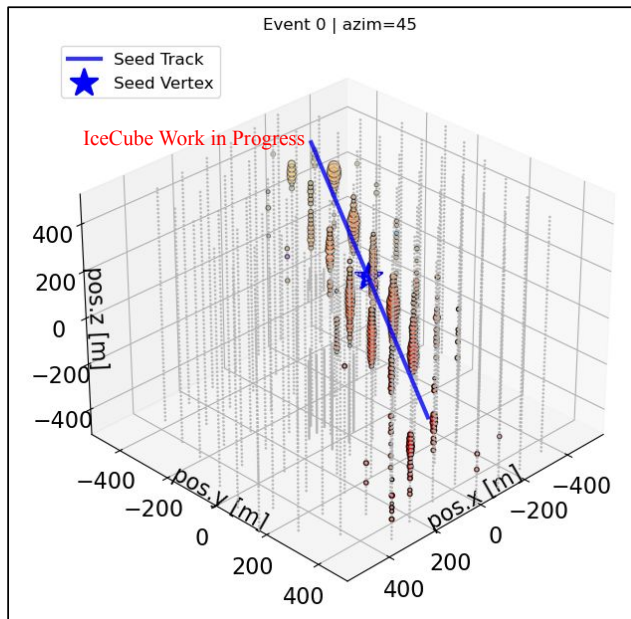
- Distribution of each components of the 4 Gupta Mixture model vs azimuth
- Mode 0 and Mode 1, capture the ice optical anisotropy
  - We see the birefringent property of the ice
- Modes/Weights capture the light propagation properties in ice for both depth and azimuth
- **Network learns the underlying physics of photon propagation**



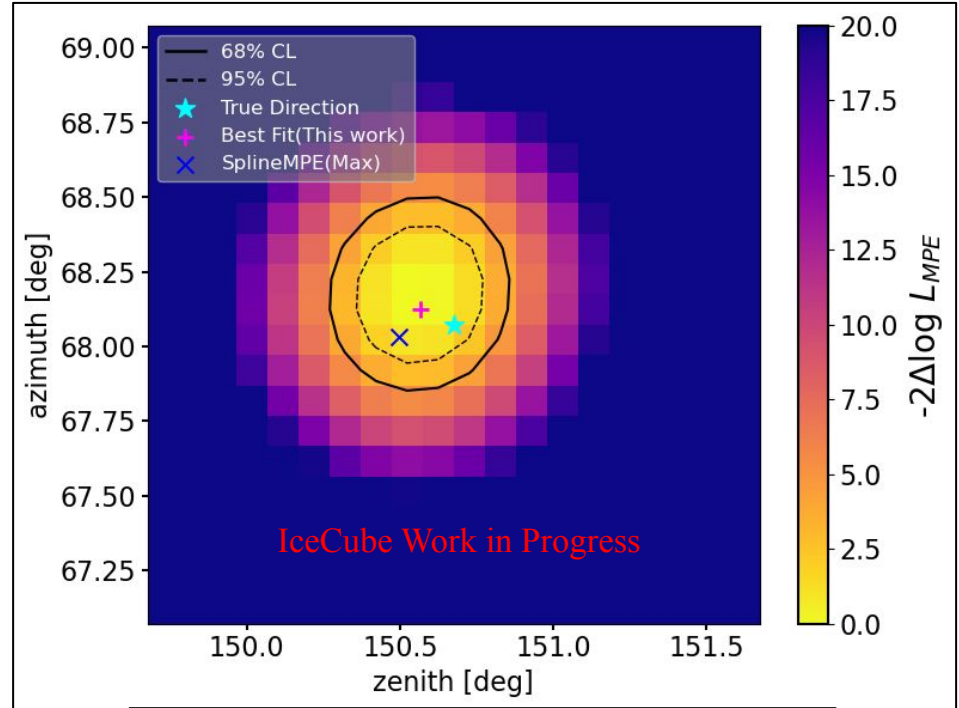
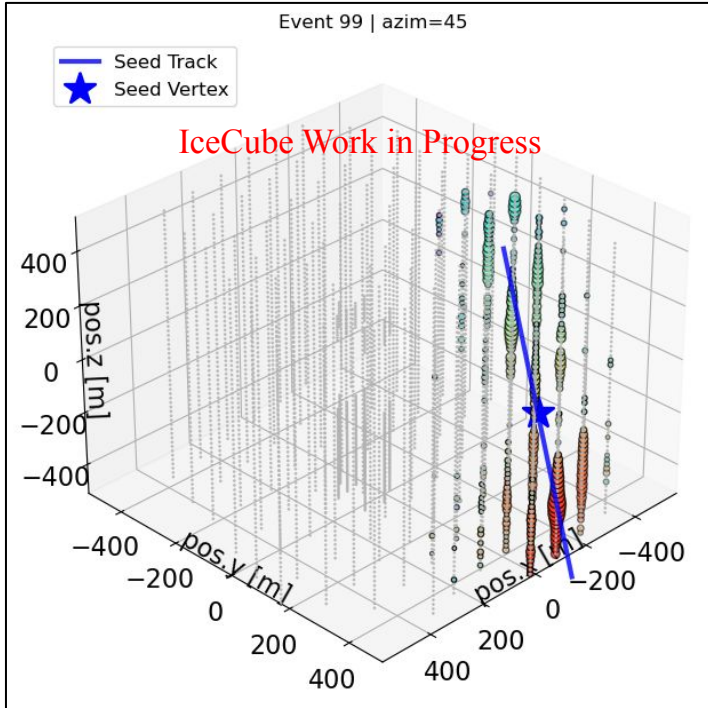
# Neutrino Track Reconstruction



- Perform reconstruction using the 4 Gupta network parameters
- Use the photon PDF to compute the likelihood of the track direction
- **Network/Gradients: fp32 precision (speed)**
- **Likelihood minimization: fp64 precision (accuracy)**
- Using **Optax**,
  - Gradient calculation and optimization library for JAX for likelihood profiling
- BFGS minimizer
- Reconstruction performed in tensorflow batches
- SplineMPE - current most accurate reconstruction method in IceCube
  - Uses splines, piecewise polynomial functions, sampled from the photon tables to fit the photon PDF
- **Results from the Gupta Network is compared to SplineMPE in the following slides**



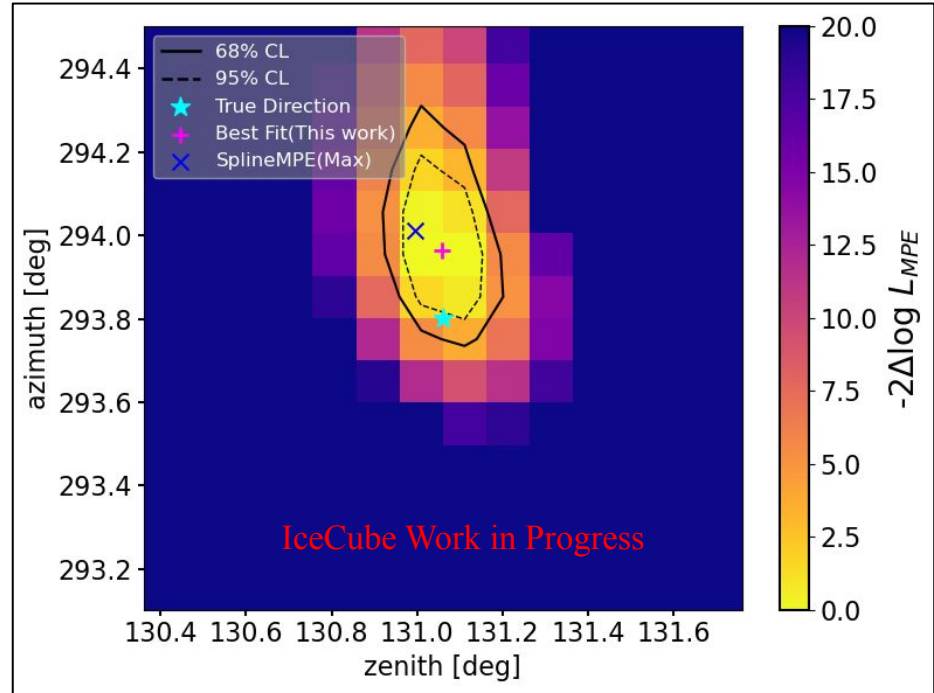
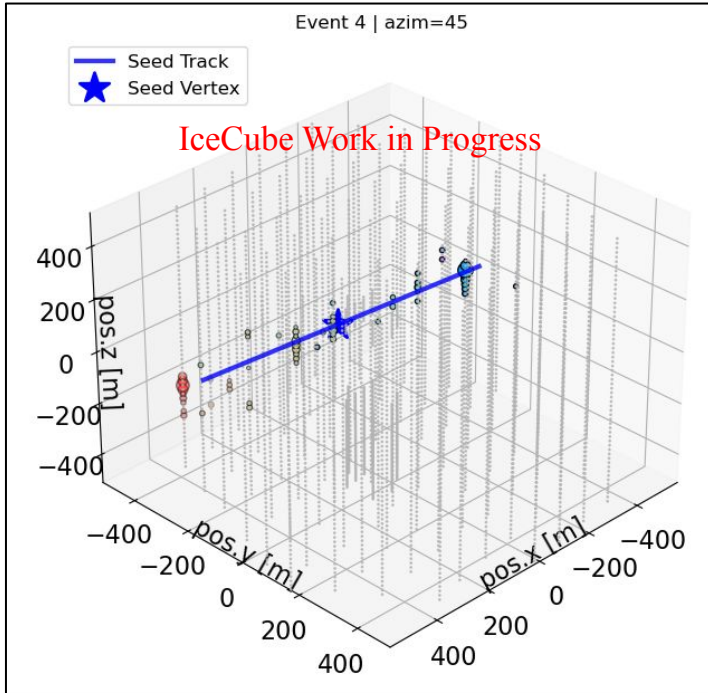
# Event Alpha: High Energy, Large Number of PMT Hit



True Neutrino energy : 4805.7 TeV  
Distance from Gupta Network pred to Truth: 0.11 deg  
Distance from SplineMPE to Truth : 0.18 deg

Likelihood profile scans

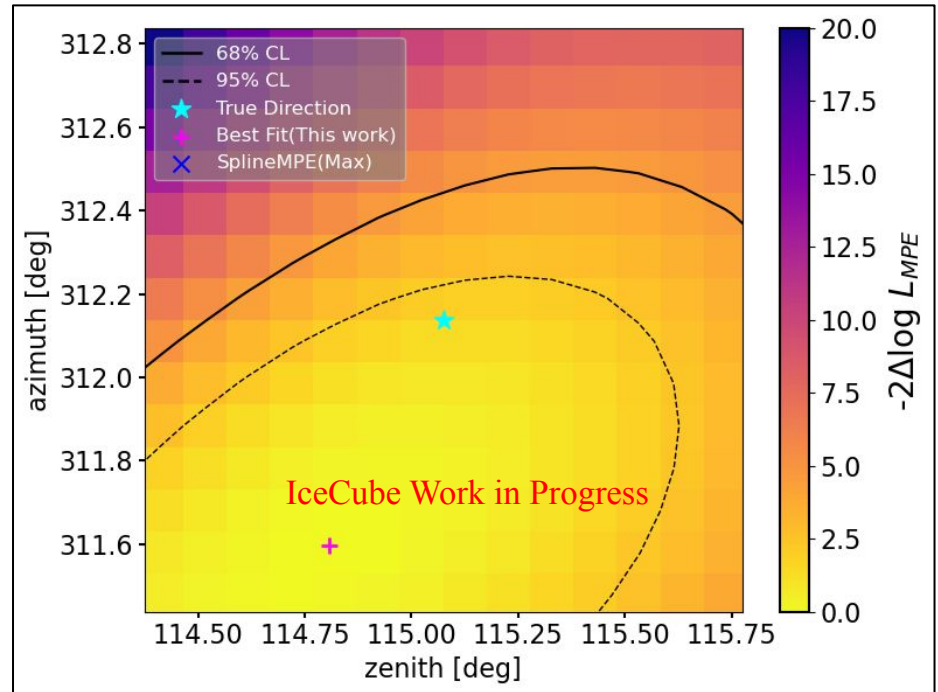
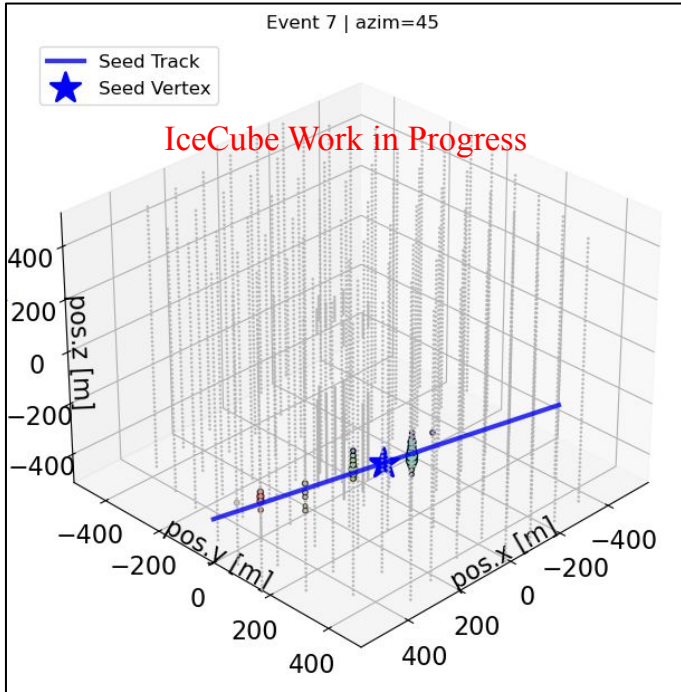
# Event Beta: High Energy, Small Number of PMT Hit



True Neutrino energy : 4911.1 TeV  
Distance from Gupta Network pred to Truth: 0.12 deg  
Distance from SplineMPE to Truth : 0.17 deg

Likelihood profile scans

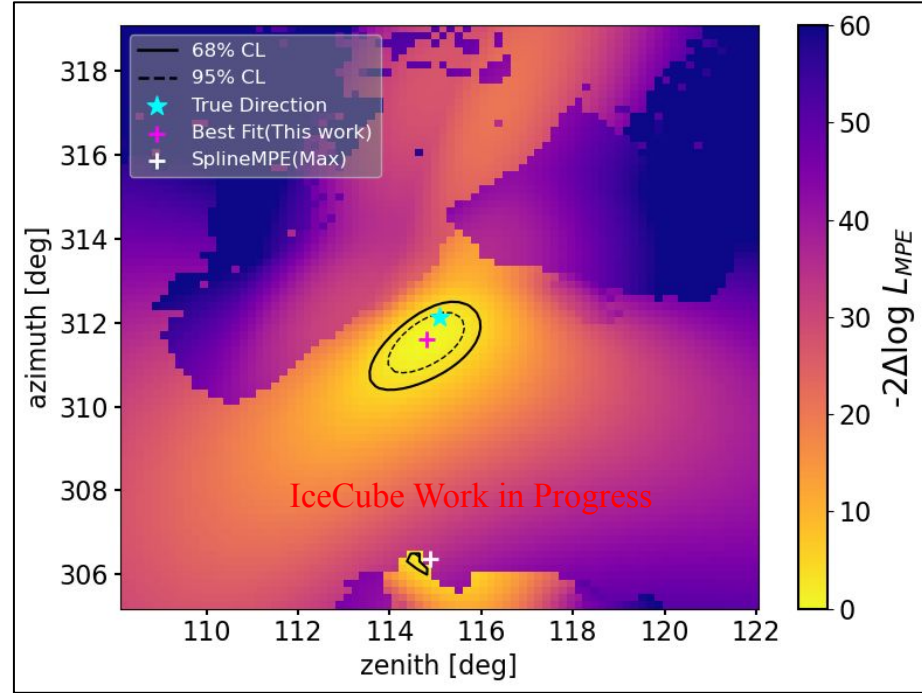
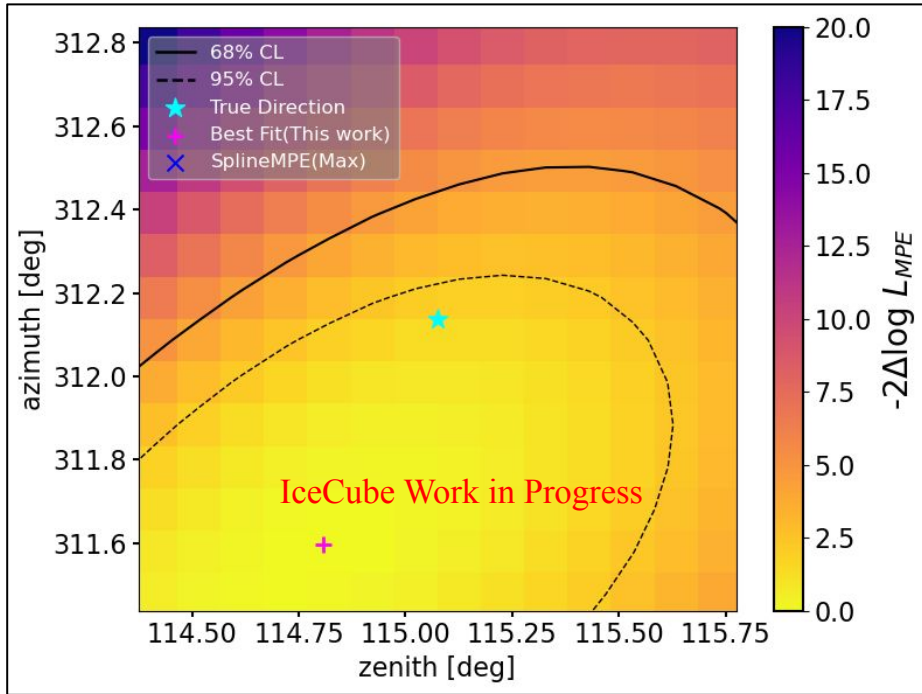
# Event Gamma: Low Energy, Small Number of PMT Hit



True Neutrino energy : 405.8 TeV  
Distance from Gupta Network pred to Truth : 0.56 deg  
Distance from SplineMPE to Truth : 5.25 deg

Likelihood profile scans

# Event Gamma improvements over SplineMPE



Distance from Gupta Network pred to Truth : 0.56 deg  
Distance from SplineMPE to Truth : 5.25 deg

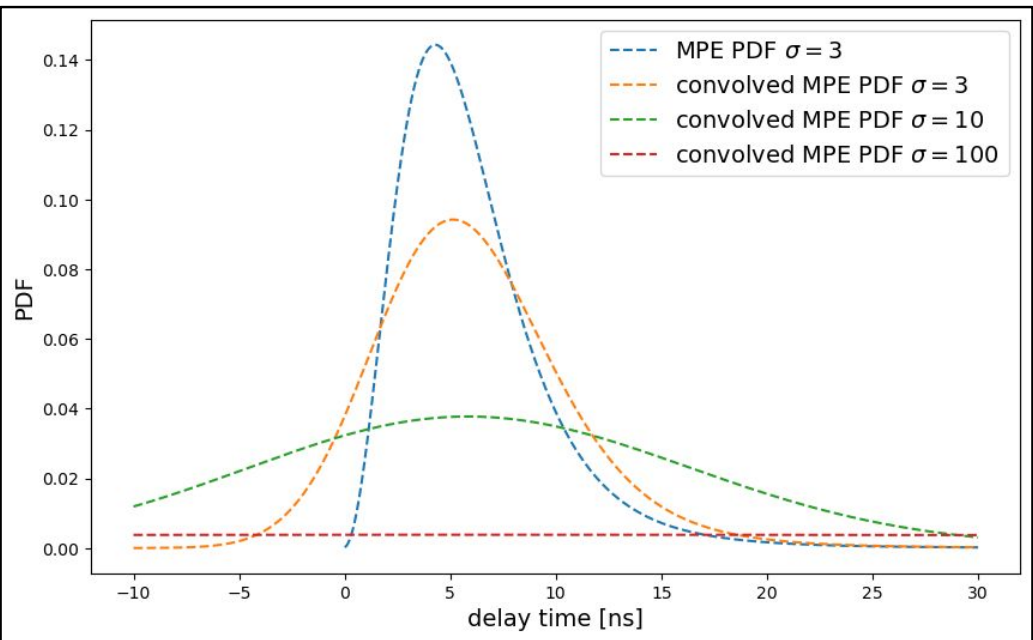
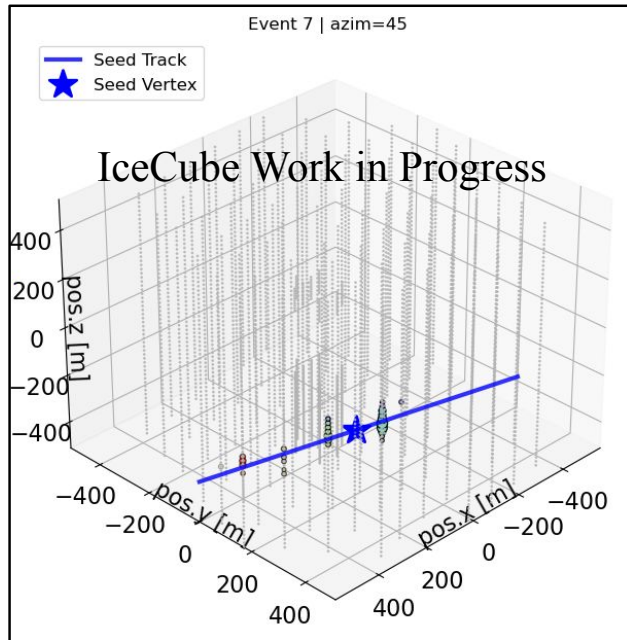
For the improvement:

- Need to account for uncertainties in timing resolution from PMT Jitter
- Help the minimizer get unstuck at local minima

# Gaussian Convoluted Network PDFs

We account for the uncertainties in timing resolution, PMT Jitter  
For the improvement:

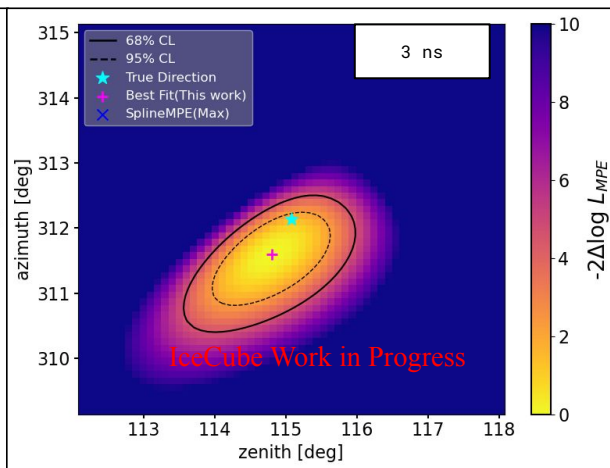
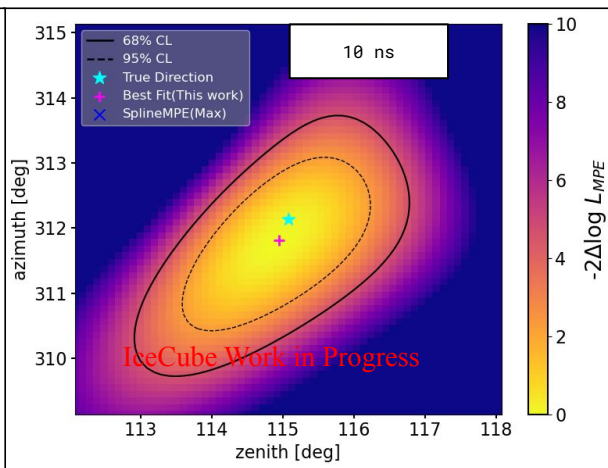
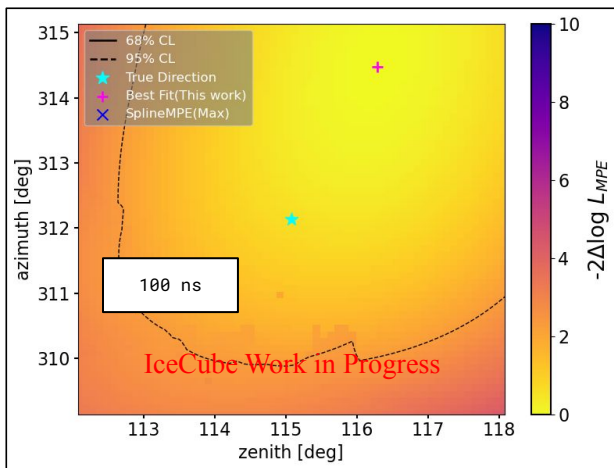
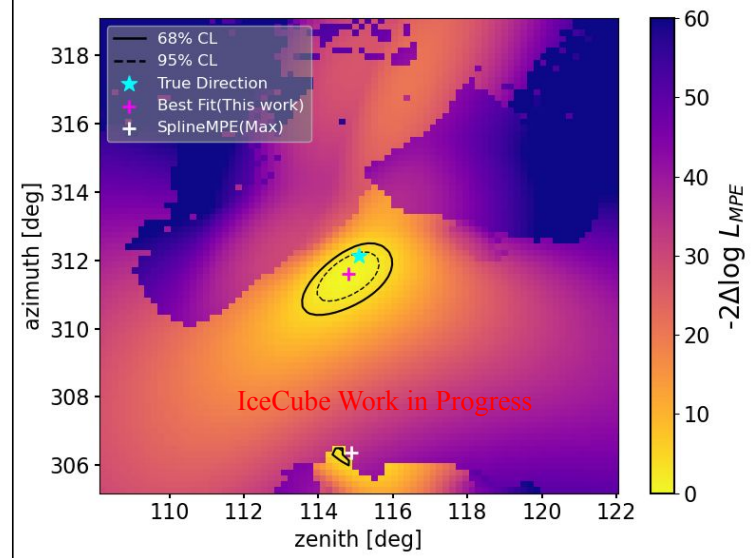
- Compute the time smearing of the PDFs using gaussian convolution
  - Convolve individual PDFs with a gaussian



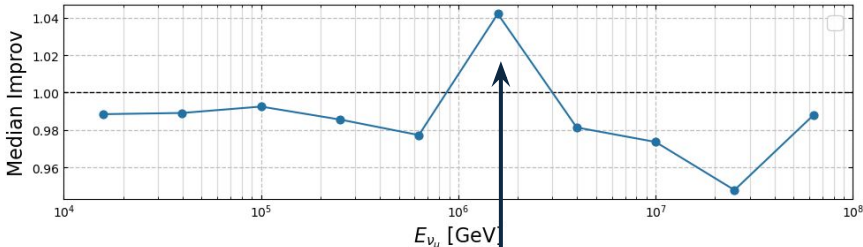
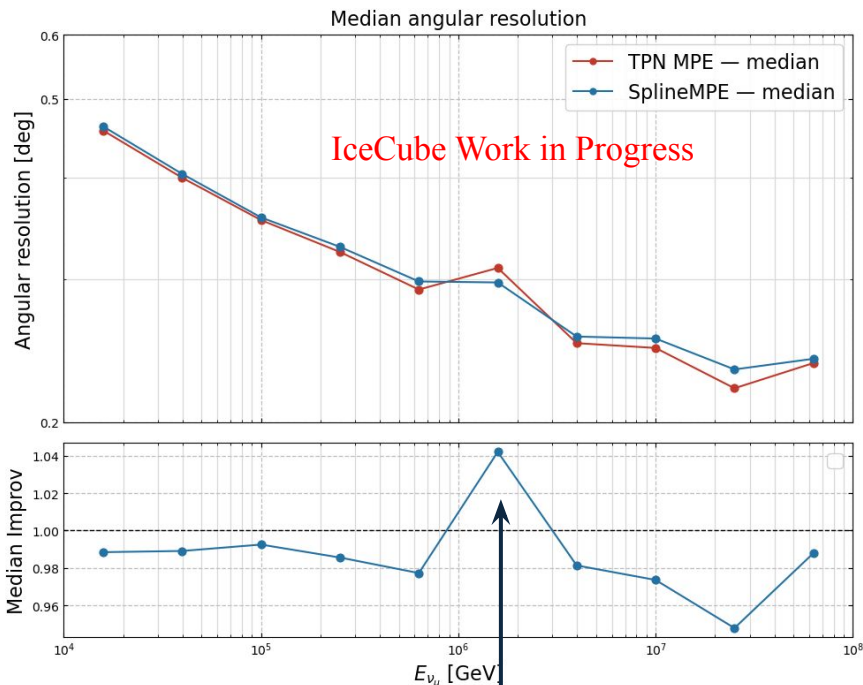
# Event Gamma: Time Smearing

We account for the uncertainties in timing resolution, PMT Jitter  
For the improvement:

- Compute the time smearing of the PDFs using gaussian convolution
  - Convolve individual PDFs with a gaussian
- Method: Perform 3 likelihood fits with different gaussian widths (100ns, 10ns, 3ns)
  - Completed in 2s with JAX



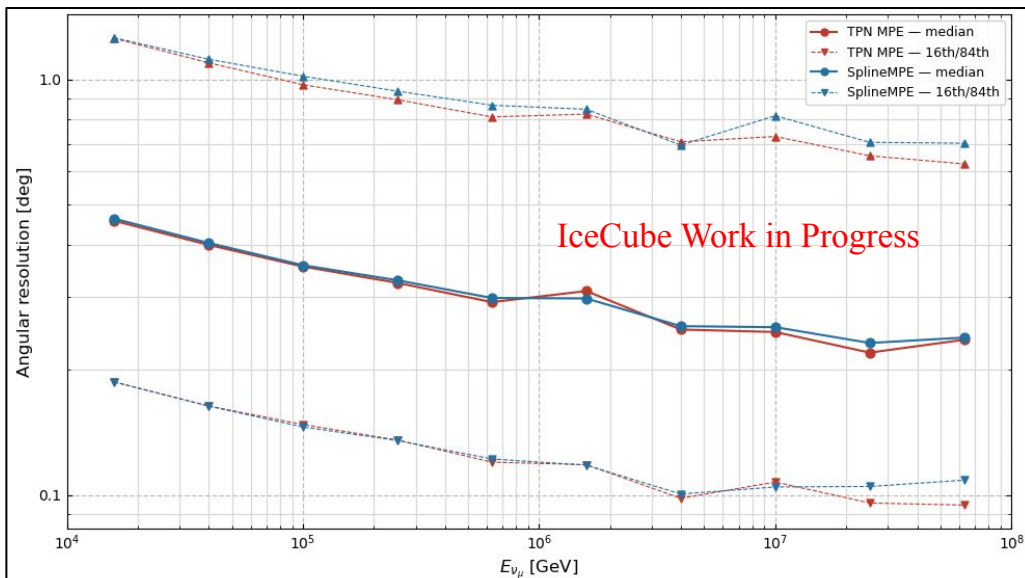
# Preliminary Performance compared to Current Reconstruction



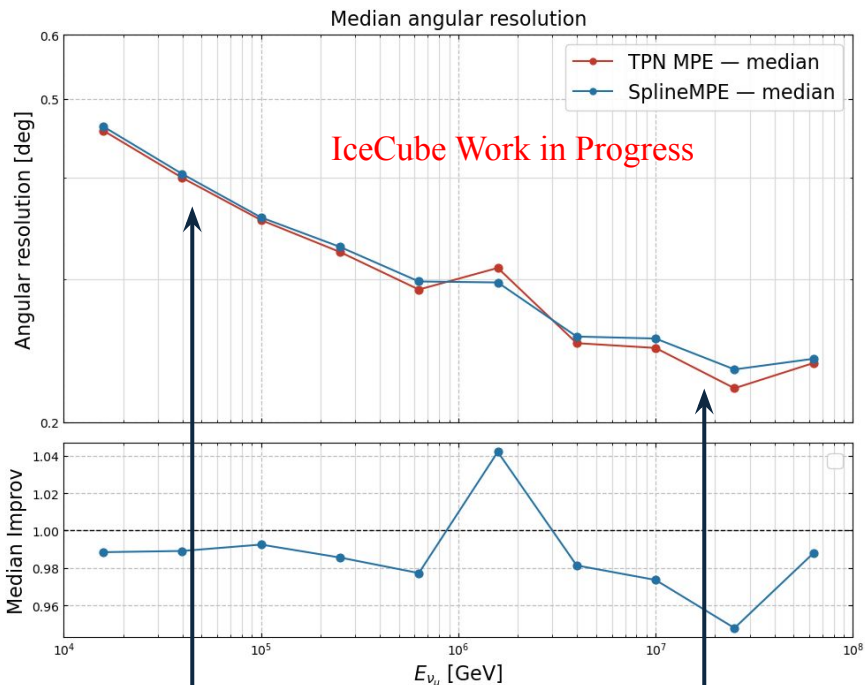
Dataset transition spike due to very low number of events

Total number of events: 118898  
(Reconstructed in cumulative total wall time ~ 10 hrs)

- Minimizer seems to be stable
- Caveats: Performing 3 likelihood fits
- Slight improvement over SplineMPE over the full energy range

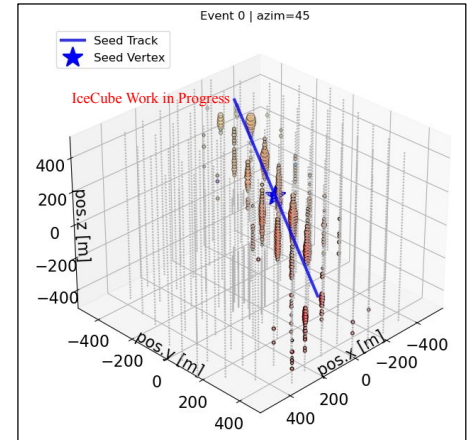
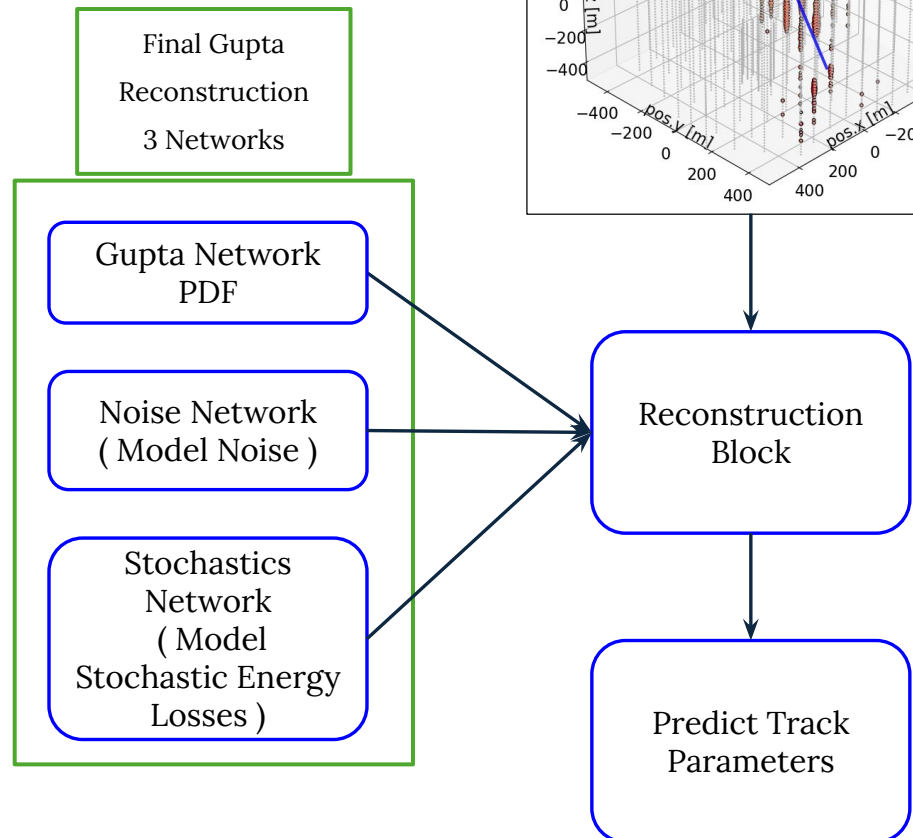


# On-going Improvements



Single PE regime  
(Noise Dominated)

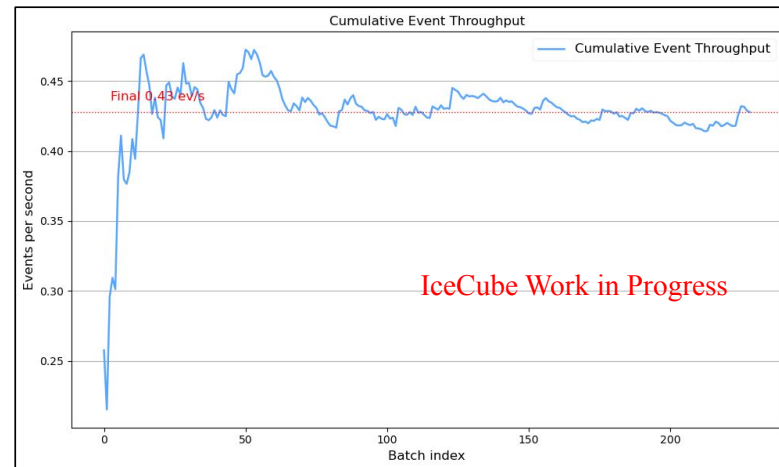
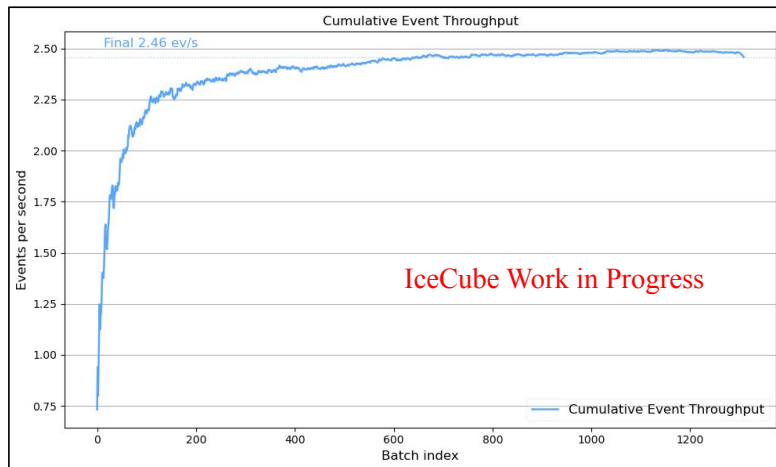
High Multi PE  
regime  
(Stochastics  
Dominated)



# Computational Performance: Single H200 GPU

- Simulation event energies: **10 TeV to 1 PeV**
  - **Low DOM hits per event**
- Reconstruction in batches
  - 115k events completed in 6 hrs  
(parallel computation on HPC cluster)
- Mean runtime per event reconstruction: **400ms**

- Simulation event energies: **1 PeV to 100 PeV**
  - **Higher DOM hits per event**
- Reconstruction in batches
  - 5k events completed in 2.5hrs  
(parallel computation on HPC cluster)
- Mean runtime per event reconstruction: **2.3 s**



# Outlook:



- This study shows improvement of Gupta Network over the current implementation of track reconstruction SplineMPE
- Additional Improvements we are working on are
  - Addition of noise models
  - Implementing a new neural network to model the stochastic energy losses for very high energy neutrinos
- First full implementation of a **blazingly fast JAX implementation** of track reconstructions based on the Gupta PDFs
- Addition of JAX to this project improved the computational performance by an order of 15 times compared to its conception



MICHIGAN STATE  
UNIVERSITY

Rishi, Hans, Brandon, Mehr  
Development of the entire  
reconstruction scripts and the  
stochastic loss network



Matti

Working on MPE PDFs and  
theoretical limit of the MPE  
Reconstruction Resolution



Chang, Minji

Development of noise models  
and optimization schemes for  
the training network