

Correlation of High-Energy Neutrinos with *Fermi-LAT* Diffuse Galactic Emission

Steve Sclafani
University of Maryland

Fermi Symposium
College Park, MD
September 11, 2024

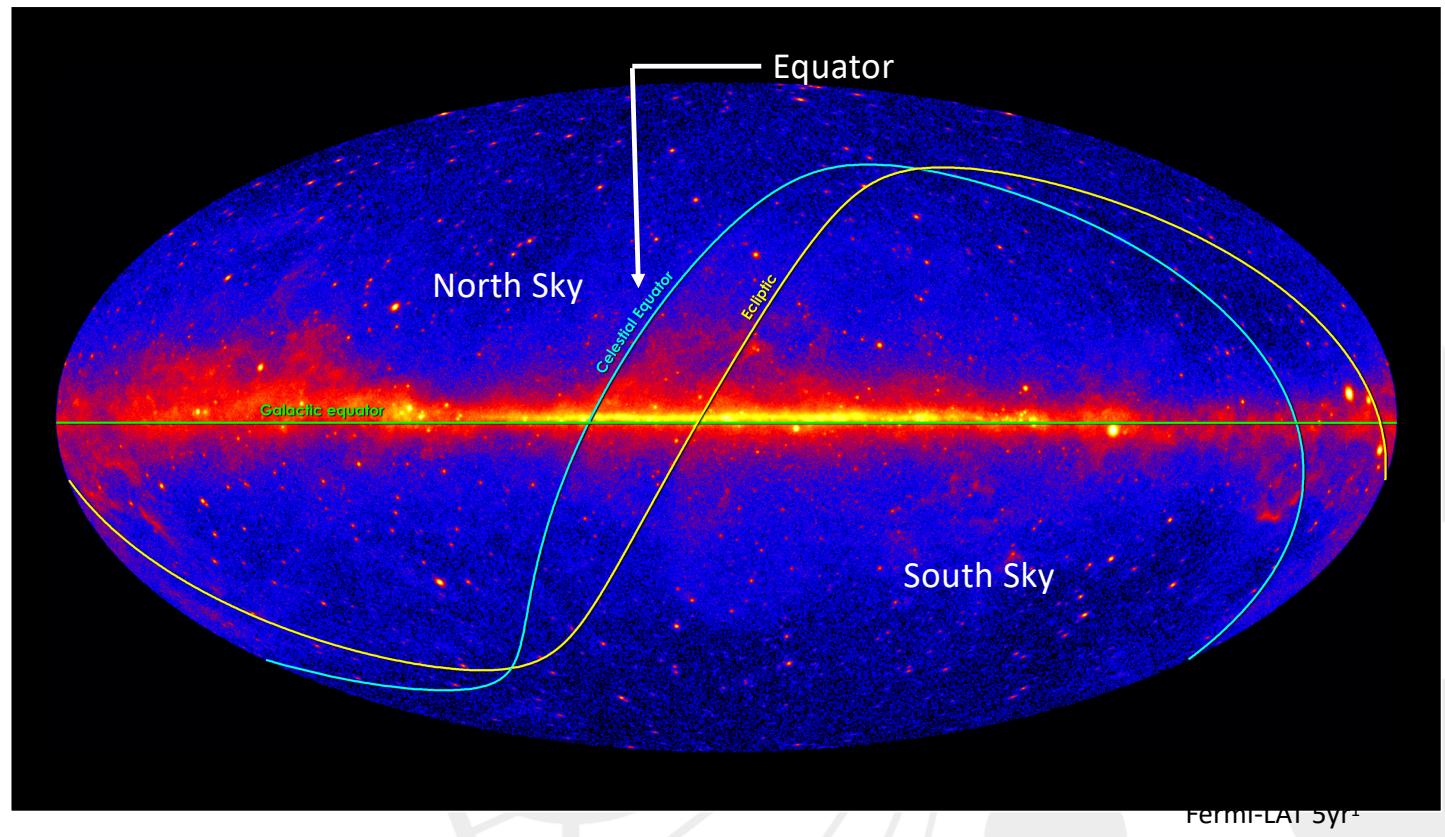
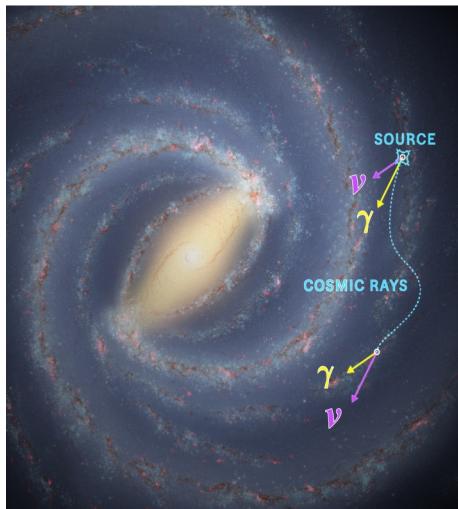


IC: Martin Wolf, IceCube/NSF

Gamma Ray Sky



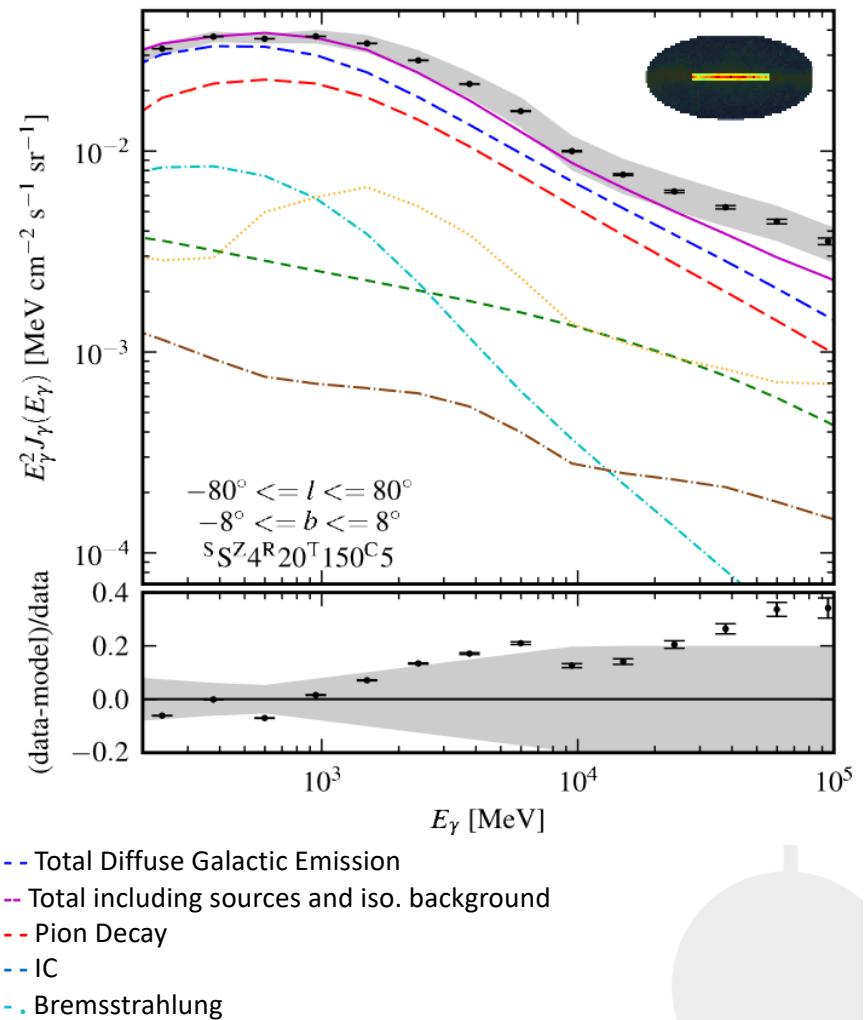
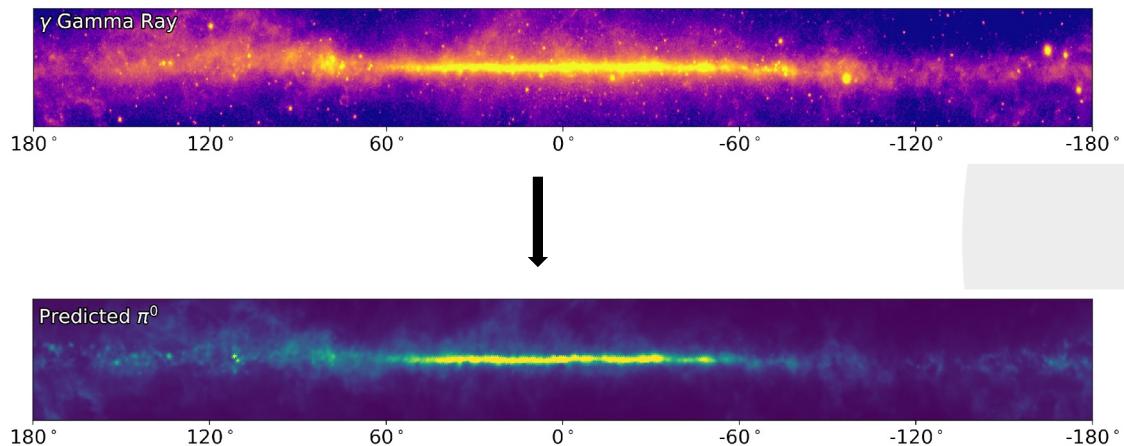
- Gamma-ray sky dominated by Galactic Plane
- Diffuse Galactic emission: From CR interactions with matter



1. NASA/DOE/Fermi LAT Collaboration: <https://svs.gsfc.nasa.gov/11342>

Diffuse Galactic Emission

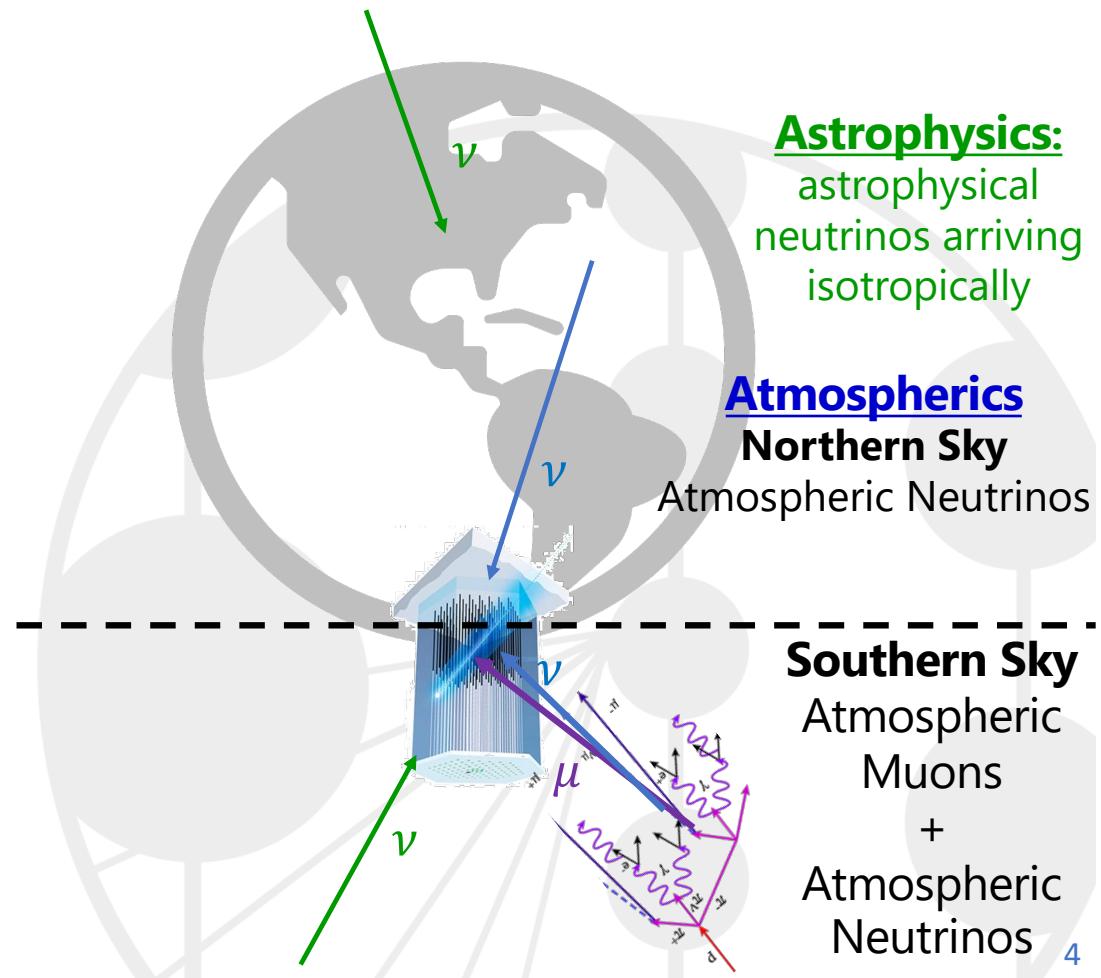
- Diffuse Galactic Emission (DGE) from CR interactions with Milky Way gas
- *Fermi-LAT* measurement in 2012
- Fit DGE based on models and measurements of CR, gas, sources
- DGE at high energies mostly pion decay following an $E^{-2.7}$ spectrum
- Expected Neutrino Counterpart



Diffuse Galactic Neutrinos



- Expect neutrino counterpart
- **Why is it difficult to detect in neutrinos?**
 - IceCube optimal sensitivity for point sources in the northern sky
 - Reduced atmospheric muon background
 - Clustering of signal like events detectable over background
- Galactic plane is:
 - Extended
 - Largely southern sky
 - Softer spectrum
- Challenging region to probe for IceCube



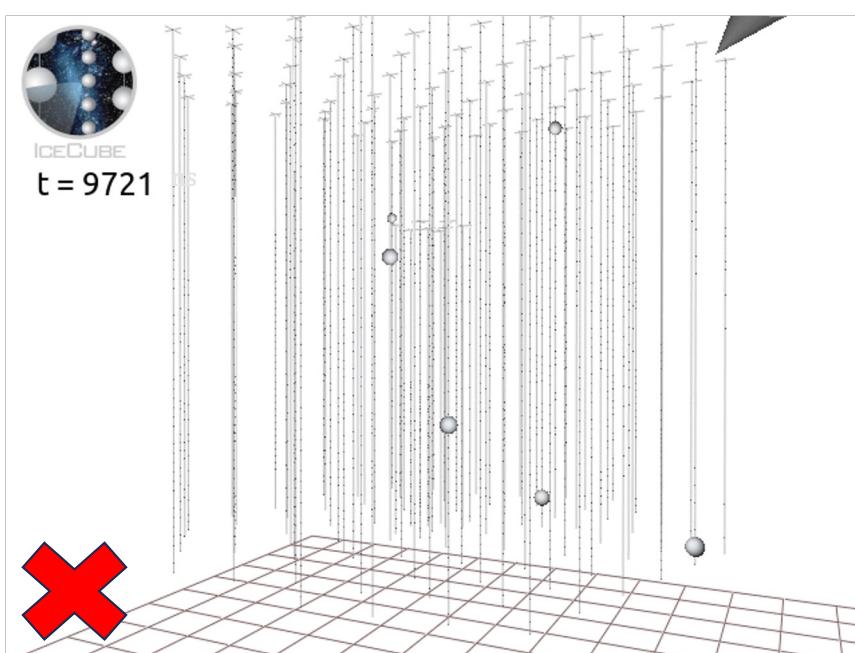
1. NASA/DOE/Fermi LAT Collaboration: <https://svs.gsfc.nasa.gov/11342>

Starting Cascade Events



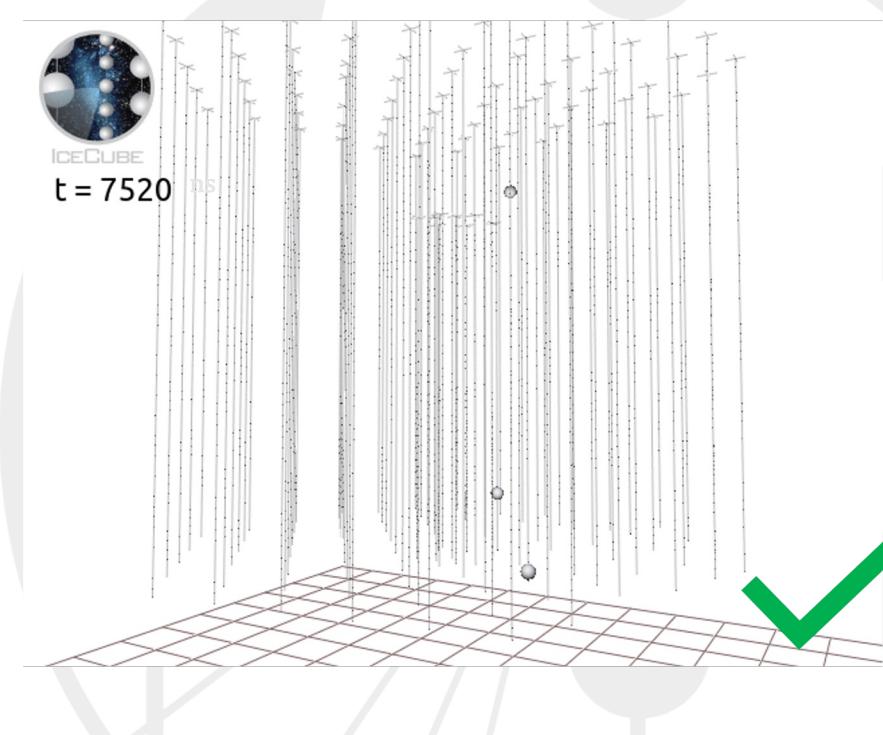
Track: $\nu_\mu + N \rightarrow \mu + X$
(mostly)

Good Pointing (0.5°)
Large Southern Sky Atmospheric Muon Background



Cascade: $\nu_e/\tau + N \rightarrow e/\tau + X$
 $\nu_x + N \rightarrow \nu_x + X$

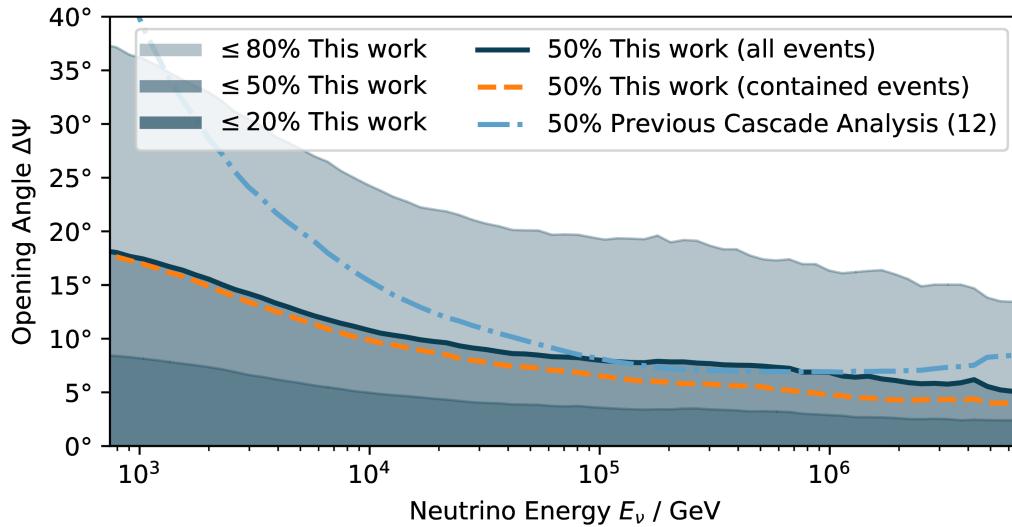
Poor Pointing (10°)
Reduced Atmospheric Background



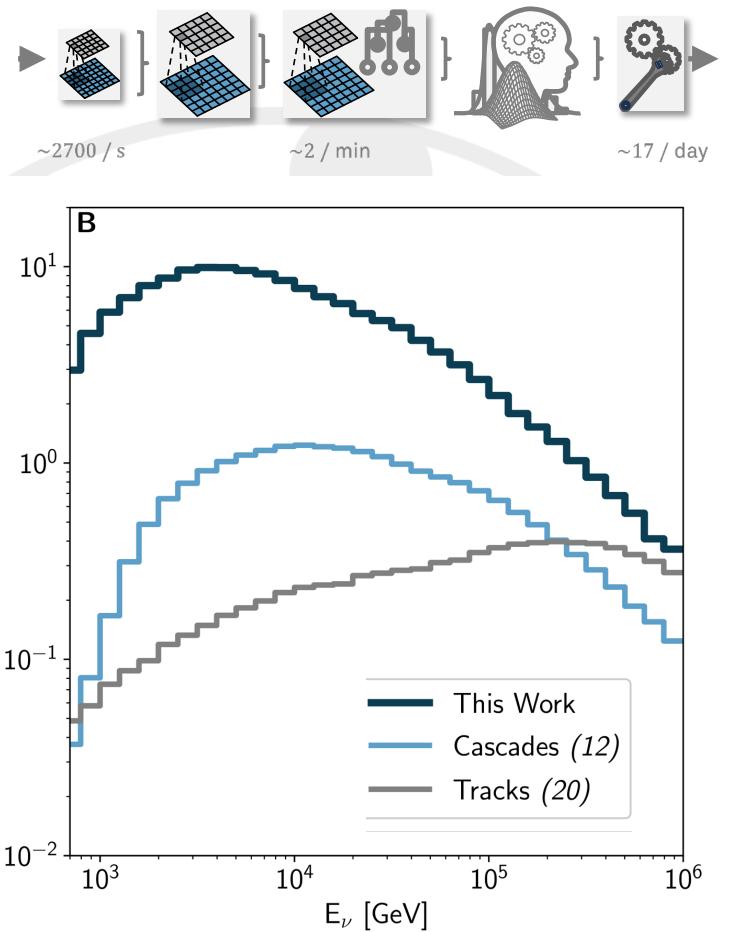
New Cascade Event Sample



- 10 years of cascade-like events
 - 60,000 events
 - 30x more events than previous cascade selection
- Improved angular resolution
- **3-4x Sensitivity**



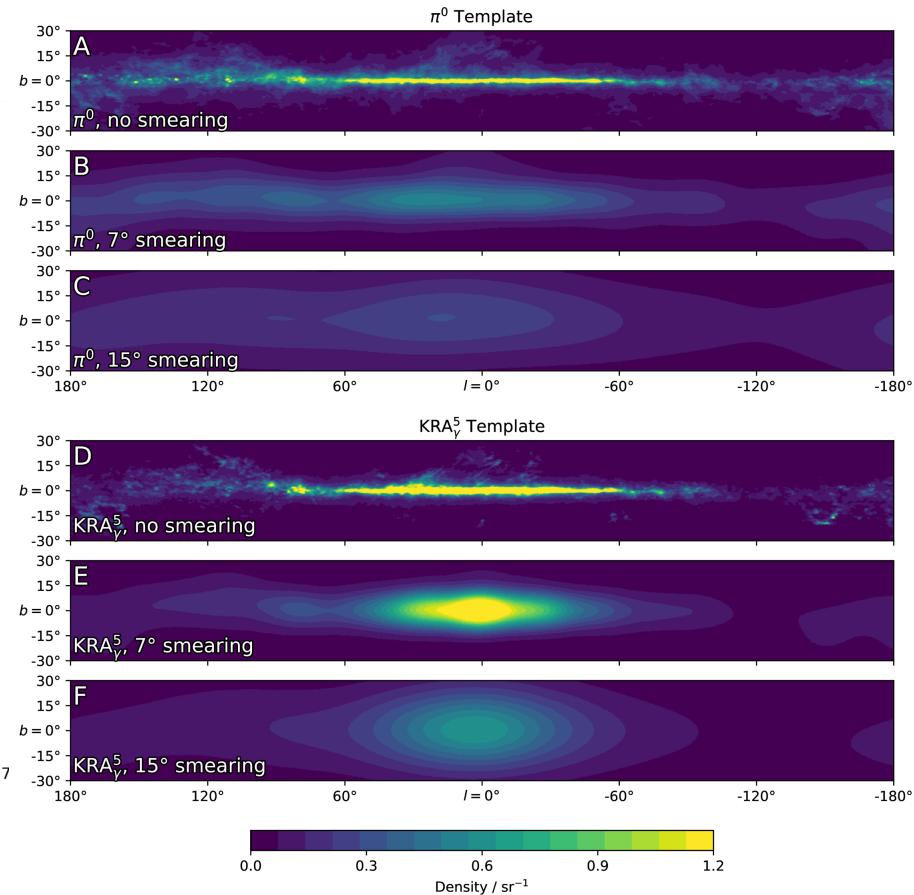
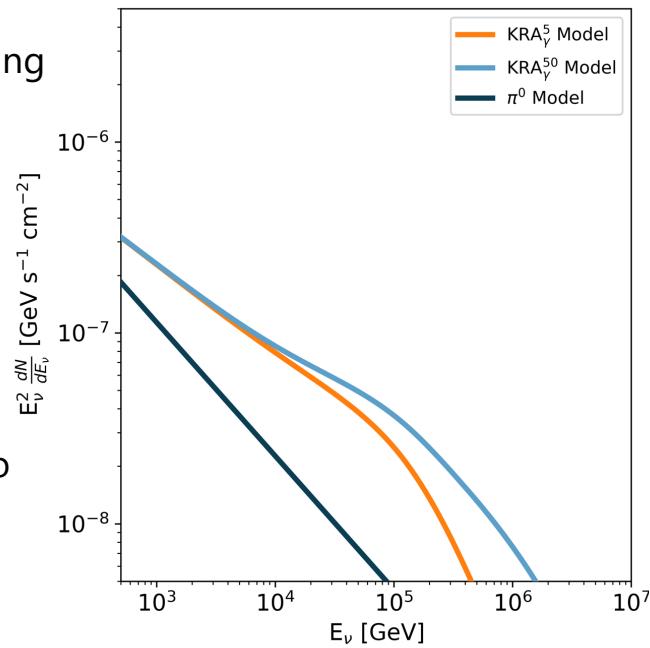
IceCube Collaboration*† *Science* **380**, 6652 1338-1343(2023). DOI: [10.1126/science.adc9818](https://doi.org/10.1126/science.adc9818)
IceCube Collaboration, M. Huenefeld et al. PoS ICRC2021 (2021) 1065



Models of Galactic Emission



- (3) diffuse models as spatial / spectral templates
- Spatial Template accounting for neutrino event uncertainty
 - (1) *Fermi* π^0
 - (2) KRA γ
 - Fixed spectrum
 - Fit for flux normalization
 - Compare with pseudo experiments using data to model background



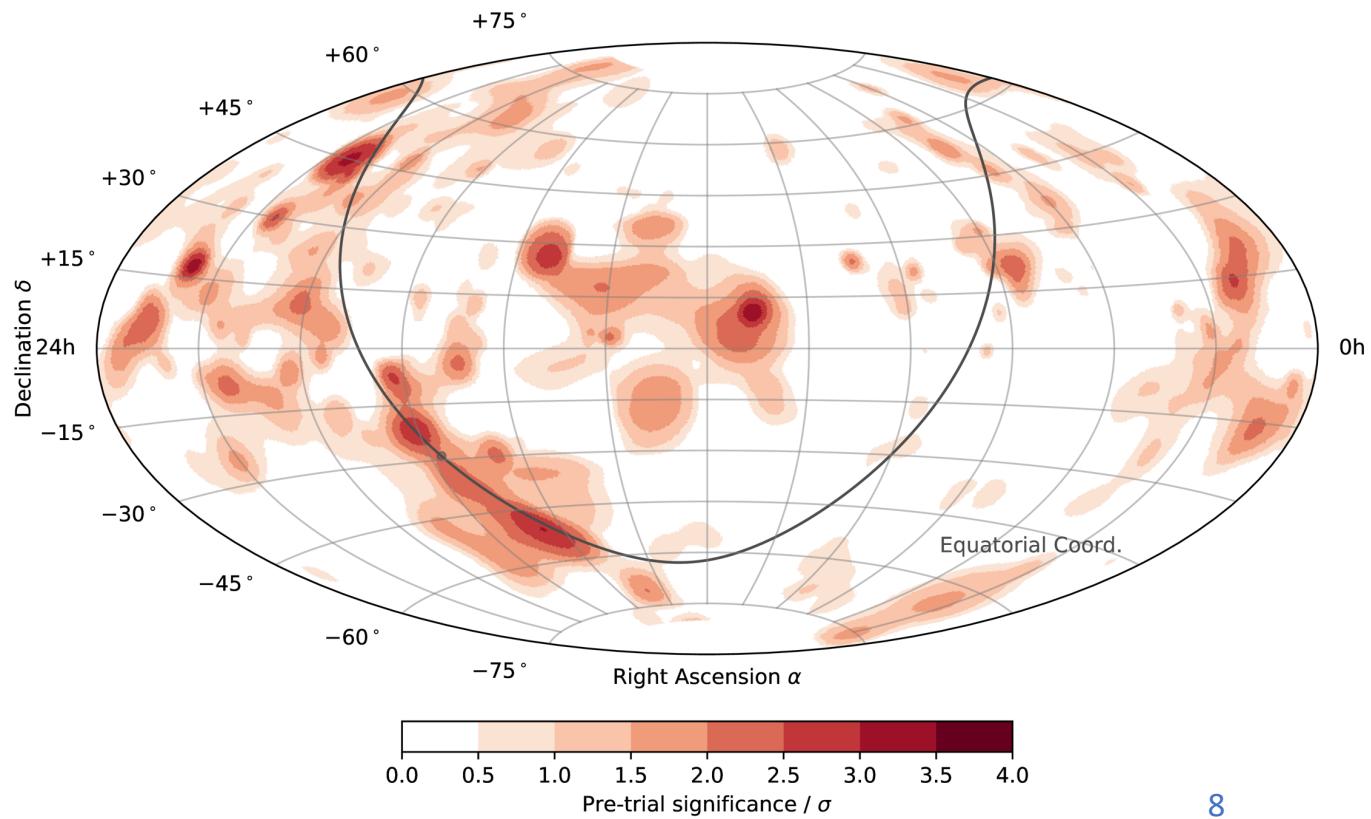
1. Ackermann et al. *The Astrophysical Journal* 750, no. 1 (April 2012): 3. <https://doi.org/10.1088/0004-637X/750/1/3>.
 2. Gaggero et al *The Astrophysical Journal* 815, no. 2 (December 2015): L25. <https://doi.org/10.1088/2041-8205/815/2/L25>.

Results

- This work has identified High-Energy neutrinos from the Milky Way galaxy for the first time

- Global significance of 4.5σ
- Skymap no individually significant points but clustering along plane

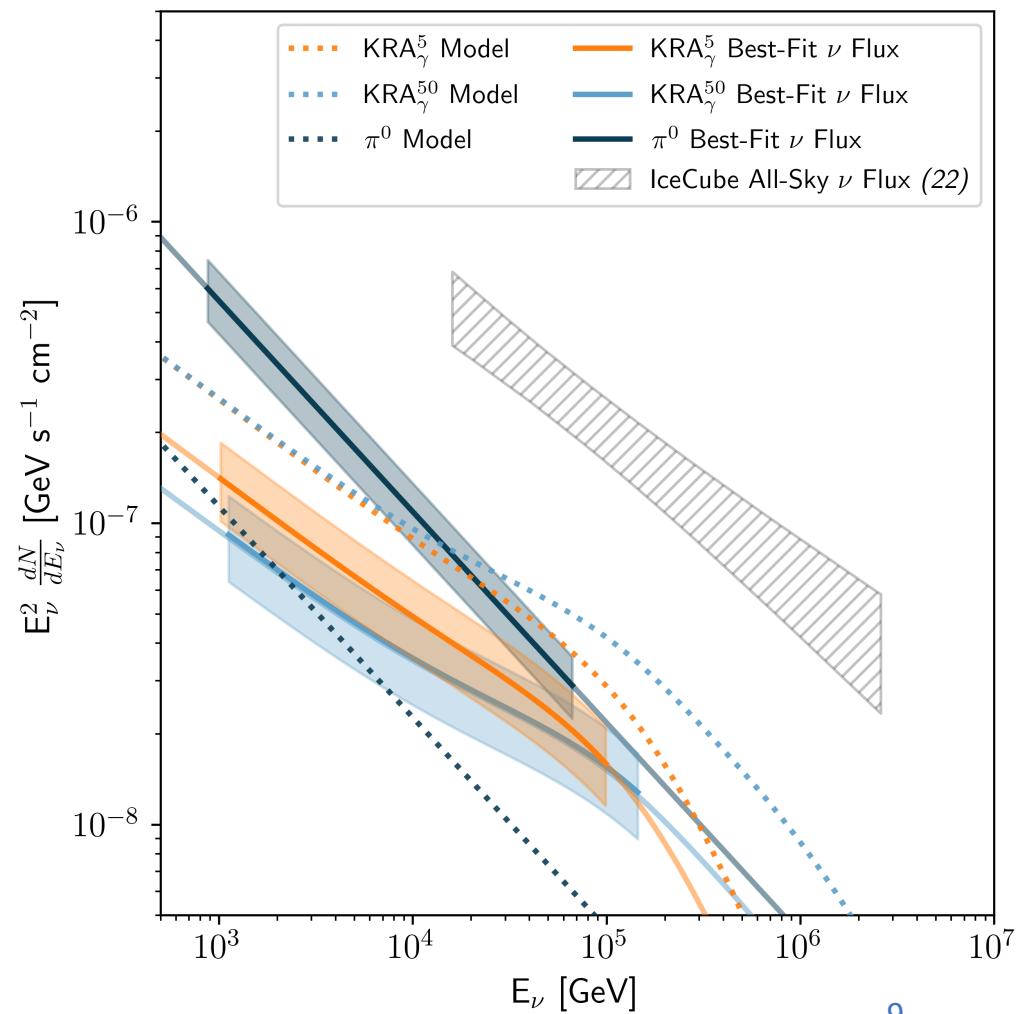
Diffuse Galactic plane analyses	Flux sensitivity Φ	p-value	Best-fitting flux Φ
π^0	5.98	1.26×10^{-6} (4.71σ)	$21.8^{+5.3}_{-4.9}$
KRA $_{\gamma}^5$	$0.16 \times \text{MF}$	6.13×10^{-6} (4.37σ)	$0.55^{+0.18}_{-0.15} \times \text{MF}$
KRA $_{\gamma}^{50}$	$0.11 \times \text{MF}$	3.72×10^{-5} (3.96σ)	$0.37^{+0.13}_{-0.11} \times \text{MF}$



8

Diffuse Galactic Flux

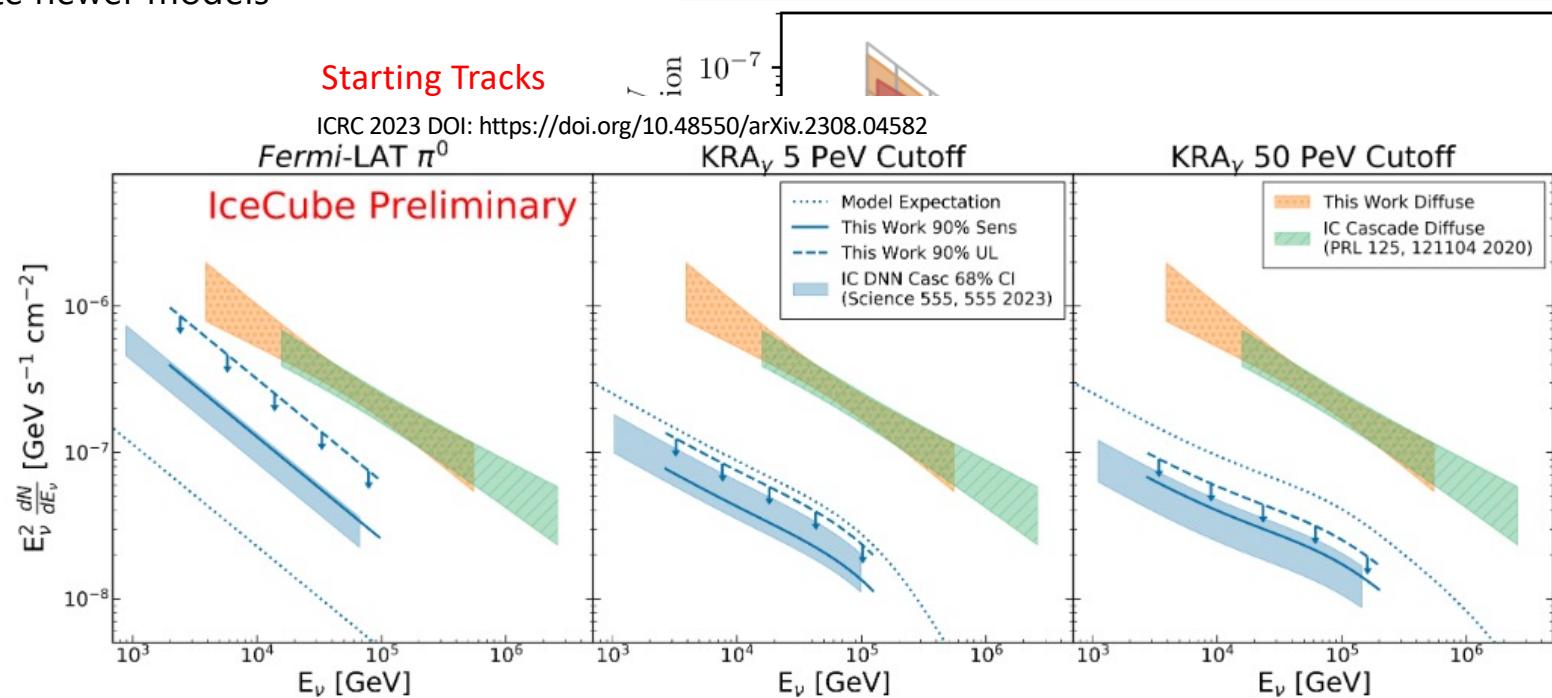
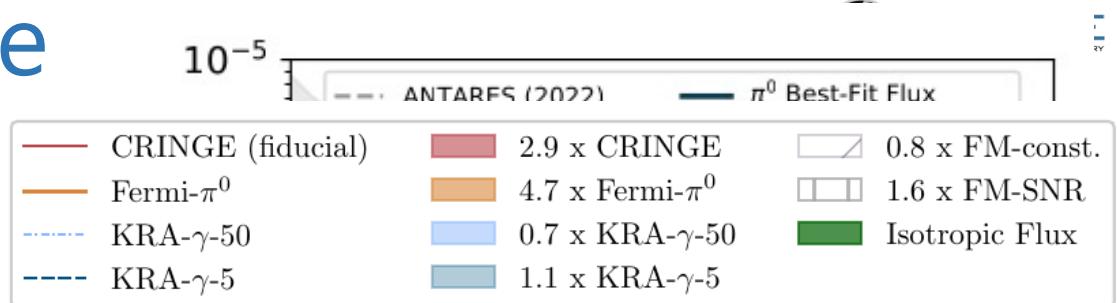
- ~10% of extragalactic flux
- ~5x emission predicted from just extending *Fermi*-LAT pion decay to higher energies, converting γ to ν
 - Source contamination
 - 12-year-old *Fermi*-LAT data
 - Newer models have higher energy data but combine IC + Brems. + pions
- Can be explained by a difference in spectra or emission region



9

A Consistent Picture

- Consistent picture in other datasets /detectors:
- Next Step: Combine all IceCube data¹
- Incorporate newer models



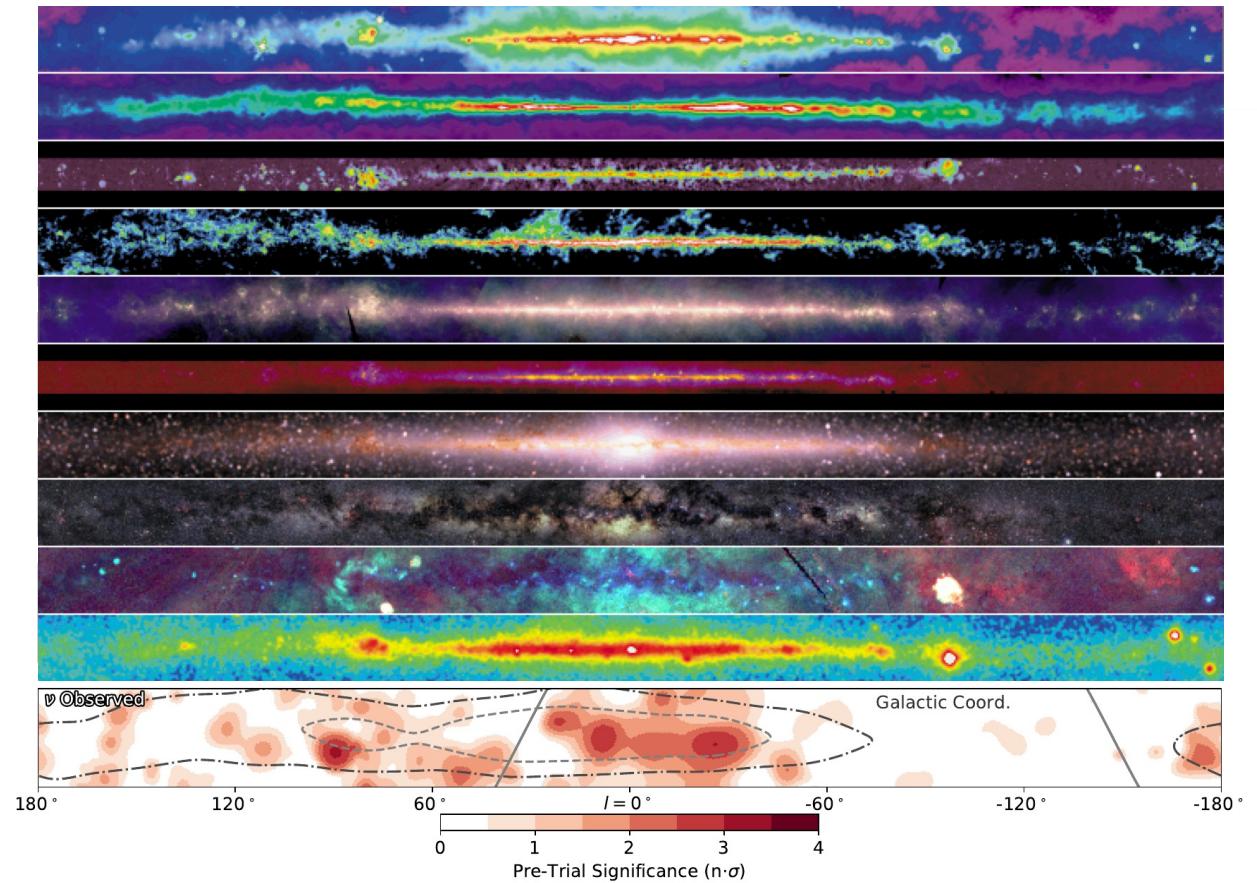
1. ICRC 2023 DOI: <https://doi.org/10.22323/1.444.1010>

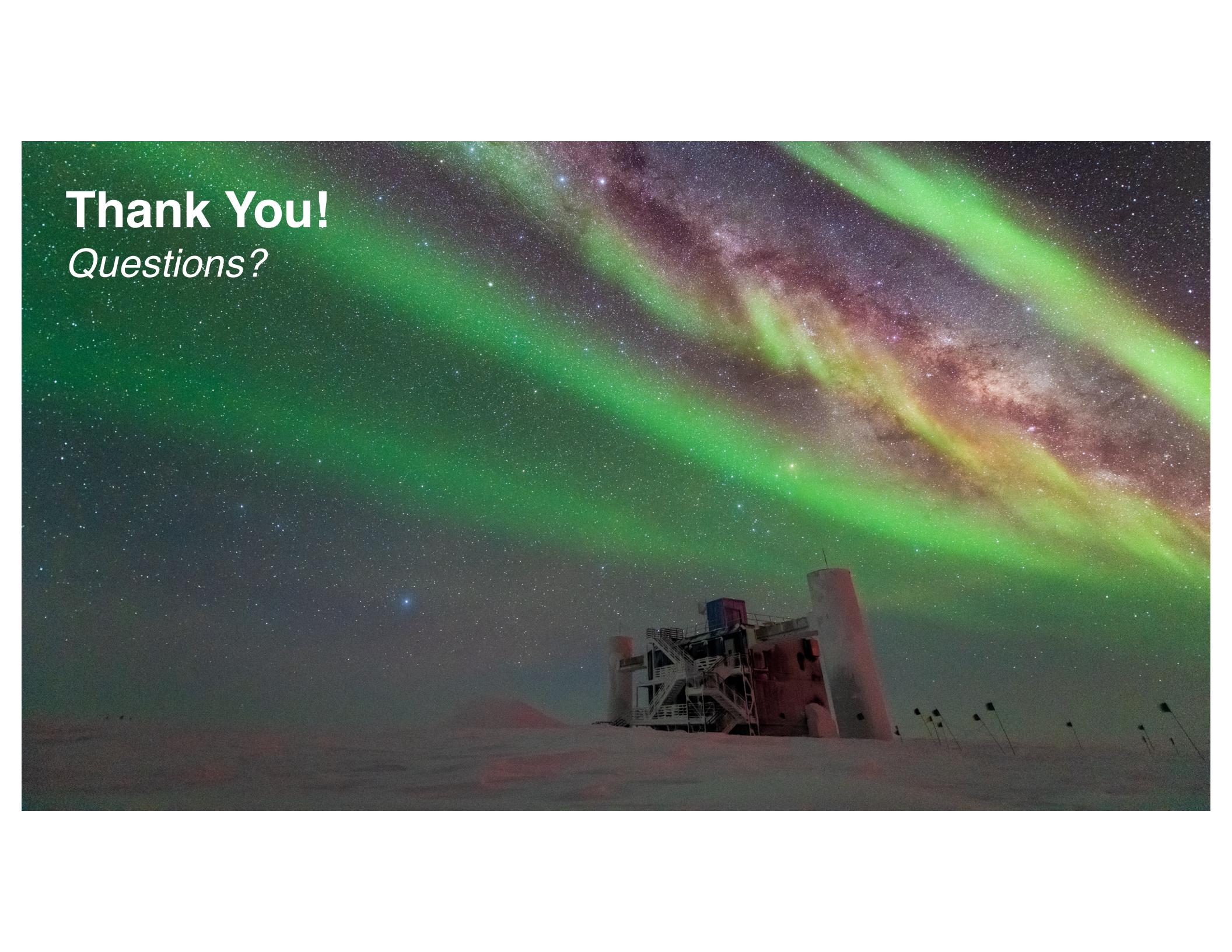
ICRC 2023 DOI: <https://doi.org/10.22323/1.444.1046>

Conclusion



- Observation Galactic Plane in Neutrinos made possible by leveraging *Fermi*-LAT data
- Need newer models for emission
- Future of Diffuse Galactic Emission measurements including neutrinos



A wide-angle photograph of the Aurora Borealis (Northern Lights) in the night sky. The aurora displays vibrant green, yellow, and purple bands against a dark background of stars. In the foreground, a white research building with a red cylindrical tower and several small black flags is visible, partially buried in snow. The ground is covered in a layer of snow.

Thank You!
Questions?