

# The TAIGA Observatory - a hybrid approach Gamma Astronomy at $>10\text{TeV}$

Ralf Wischnewski / DESY

for the TAIGA-Collaboration

LHAASO Inauguration  
Workshop, 25.-27.4.2019



# The TAIGA Observatory

## *Tunka Advanced Instrument for CR and Gamma Astronomy*

*A multi-component detector for Gamma astronomy and CR physics in the Tunka-Valley, Siberia*

### The collaboration

#### Russia

ISU, Irkutsk  
MSU, Moscow  
MEPhI, Moscow  
INR, Moscow  
JINR, Dubna  
IZMIRAN, Troitsk/Moscow  
Budker INP, Novosibirsk  
NSUniv, Novosibirsk  
IPSM, Ulan Ude

#### Germany

Hamburg Univ.  
DESY, Zeuthen  
MPI, Munich

#### Italy

Torino, INFN

#### Romania

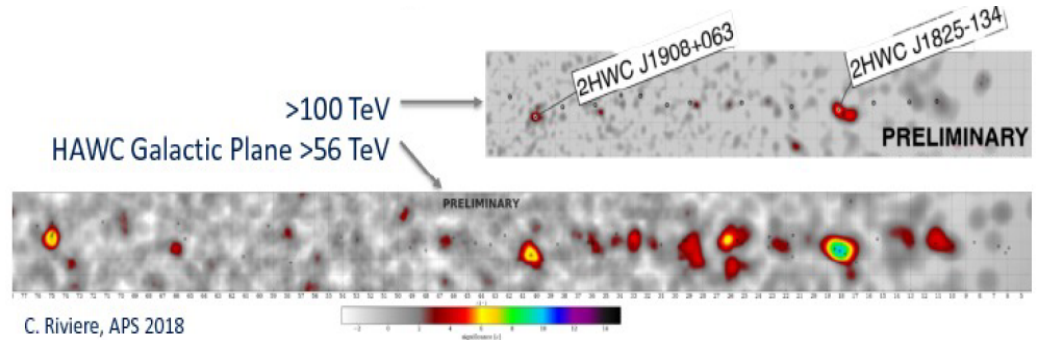
ISS, Bucharest



# Gamma Astronomy above 10 TeV

- > Where are the Galactic Pevatrons? Source-cutoffs? Extended sources, AGN monitoring, MM-observations, surveys, LIV, ...

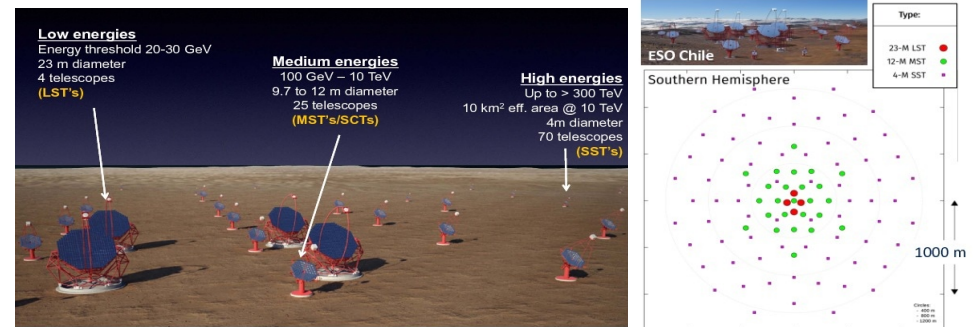
- > HAWC opened the 100TeV sky in 2018:  
2 sources + Crab



- > The CTA detector concept: rely on established IACT technology.

Distribute 70 Imaging SST Telescopes (Small Size Telescopes) over 10 km<sup>2</sup>.

==> SSTs are at ~270 m distance  
(stereo-mode)



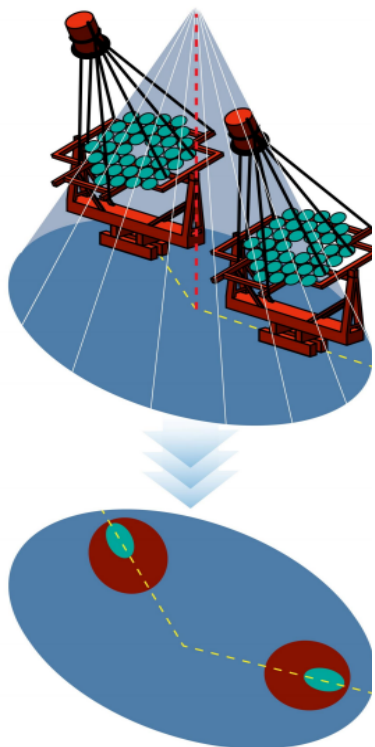
- > To reach instrumented areas beyond 10 km<sup>2</sup> :

*Is there an alternative detector concept, to lower costs significantly ?*

# TAIGA: a new, hybrid Cherenkov detection concept

## IACs in Stereo Mode (standard approach)

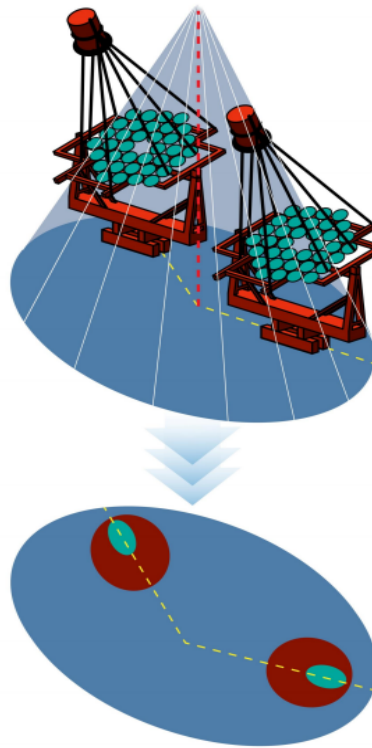
Inter-IAC distance  
~100-300 m



# TAIGA: a new, hybrid Cherenkov detection concept

## IACTs in Stereo Mode (standard approach)

Inter-IACT distance  
~100-300 m

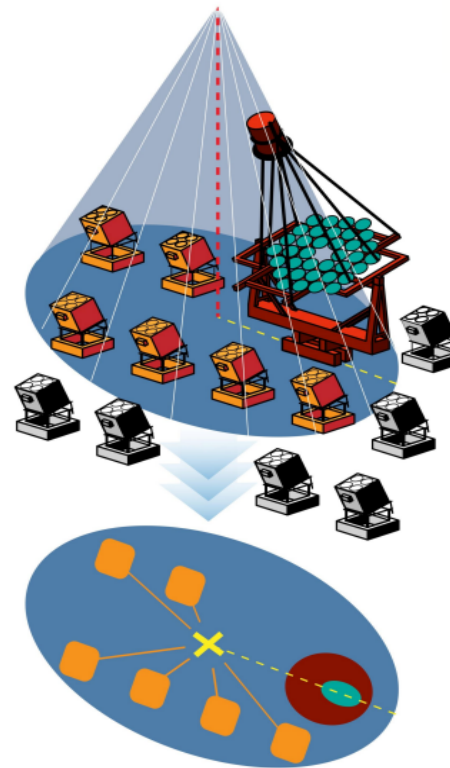


## Single IACT and Timing Array (TAIGA approach)

1. Timing array for  
shower core / direction / energy

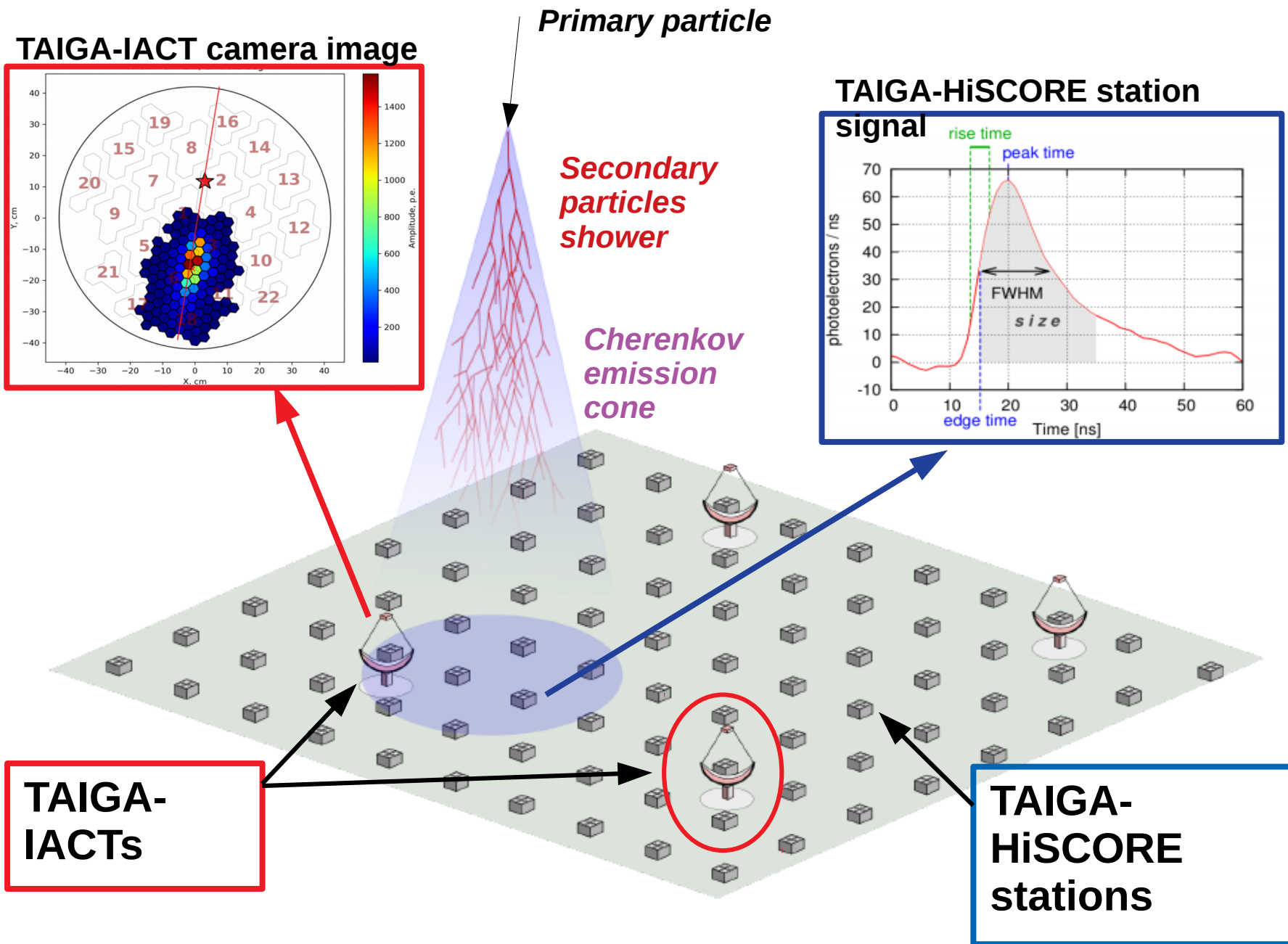
2. IACT in mono mode:  
• g/h separation

600 - 900 m between IACTs  
→ sparse, low-cost IACT array



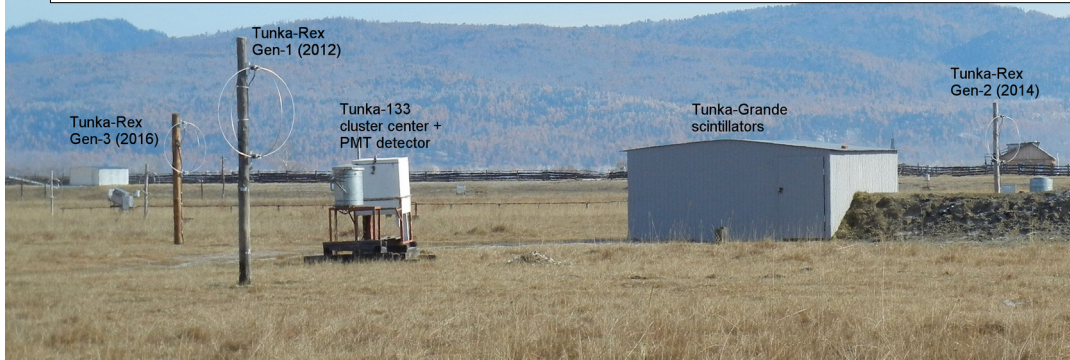
- > Rely on IACTs in mono-mode operation, and supply missing information by wide-aperture timing array
- > Key feature: Large detector area (>10 km<sup>2</sup>) at minimal cost with a Cherenkov hybrid system

# TAIGA Hybrid EAS Cherenkov Detection Concept



# TAIGA at the Astrophysical Facility in the Tunka Valley

**Tunka valley (Russia) – A Facility for CR studies**  
Tunka-133 (2009), Tunka-Rex (2012), Tunka-Grande (2014)



51° 48' 35" N  
103° 04' 02" E  
675 m a.s.l.

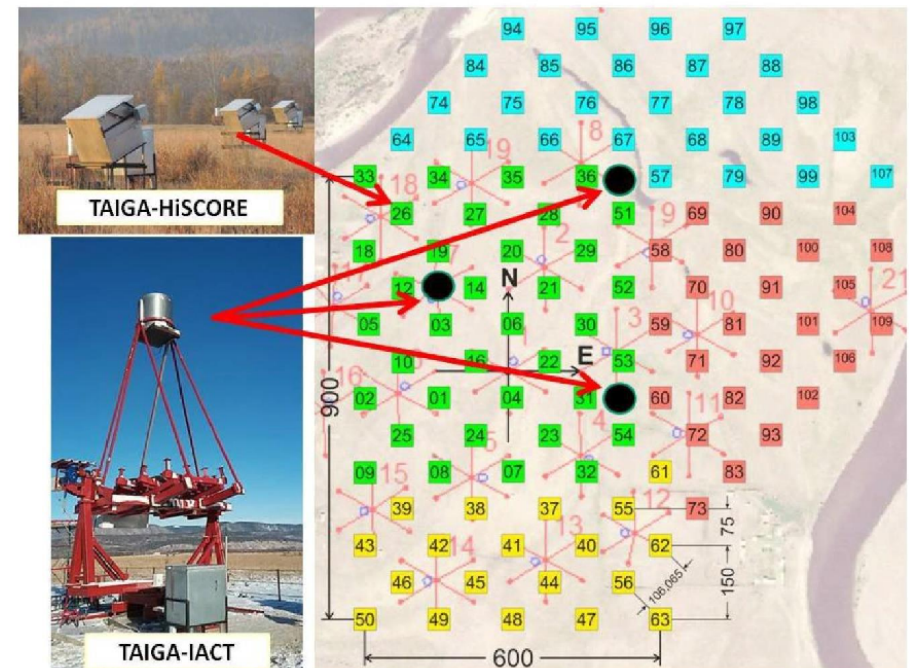


## > TAIGA collaboration started in 2012

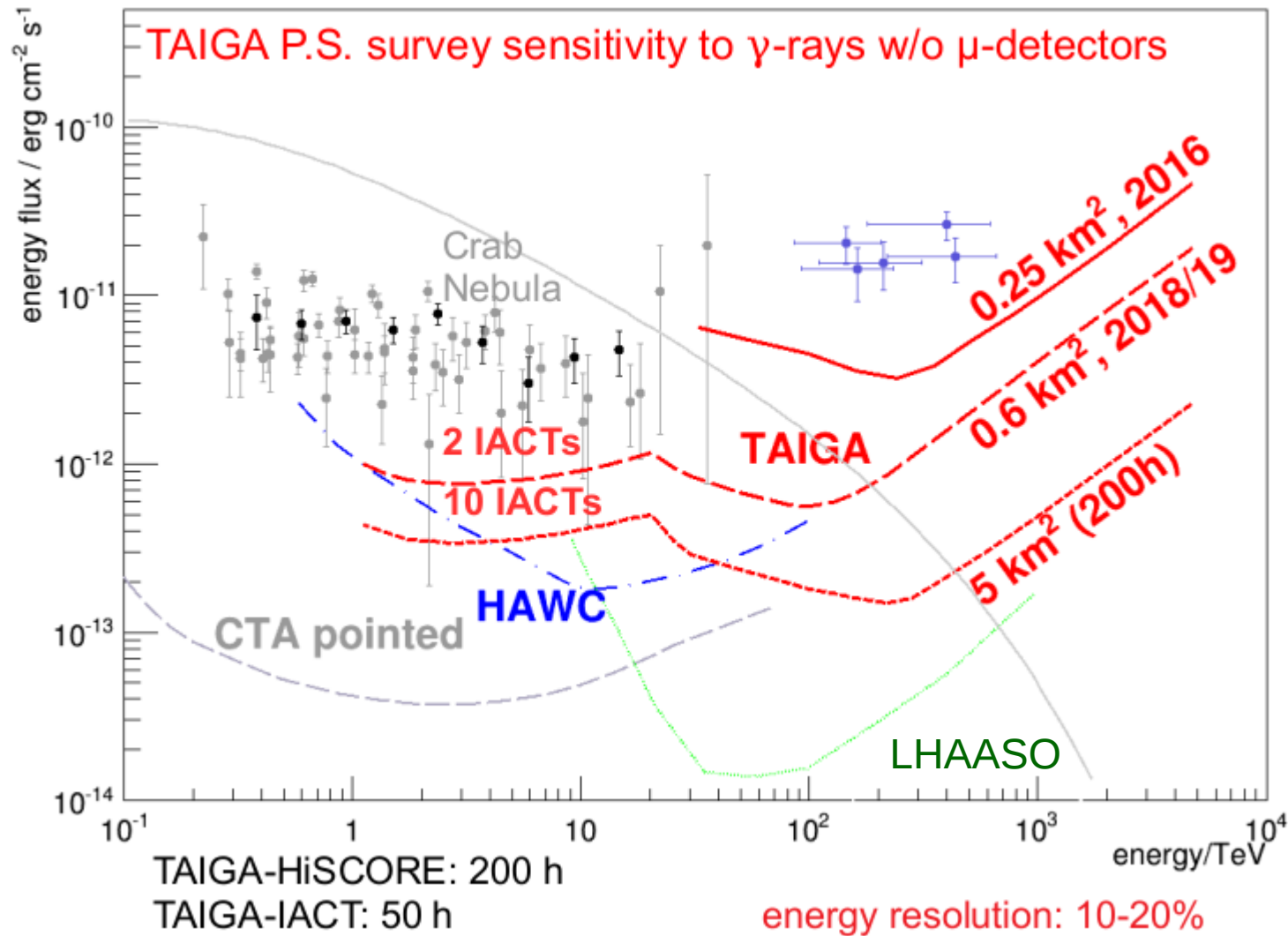
- 2013: 9 HiSCORE stations array (first prototype)
- 2014: 28 HiSCORE station array  $A=0.25 \text{ km}^2$
- 2017: IACT commissioning started
- 2017/18: IACT-HiSCORE joint operations

## > Next: complete the 1 km<sup>2</sup> array by fall 2019

- 120 HiSCORE stations
- 3 IACTs



# TAIGA expected sensitivity

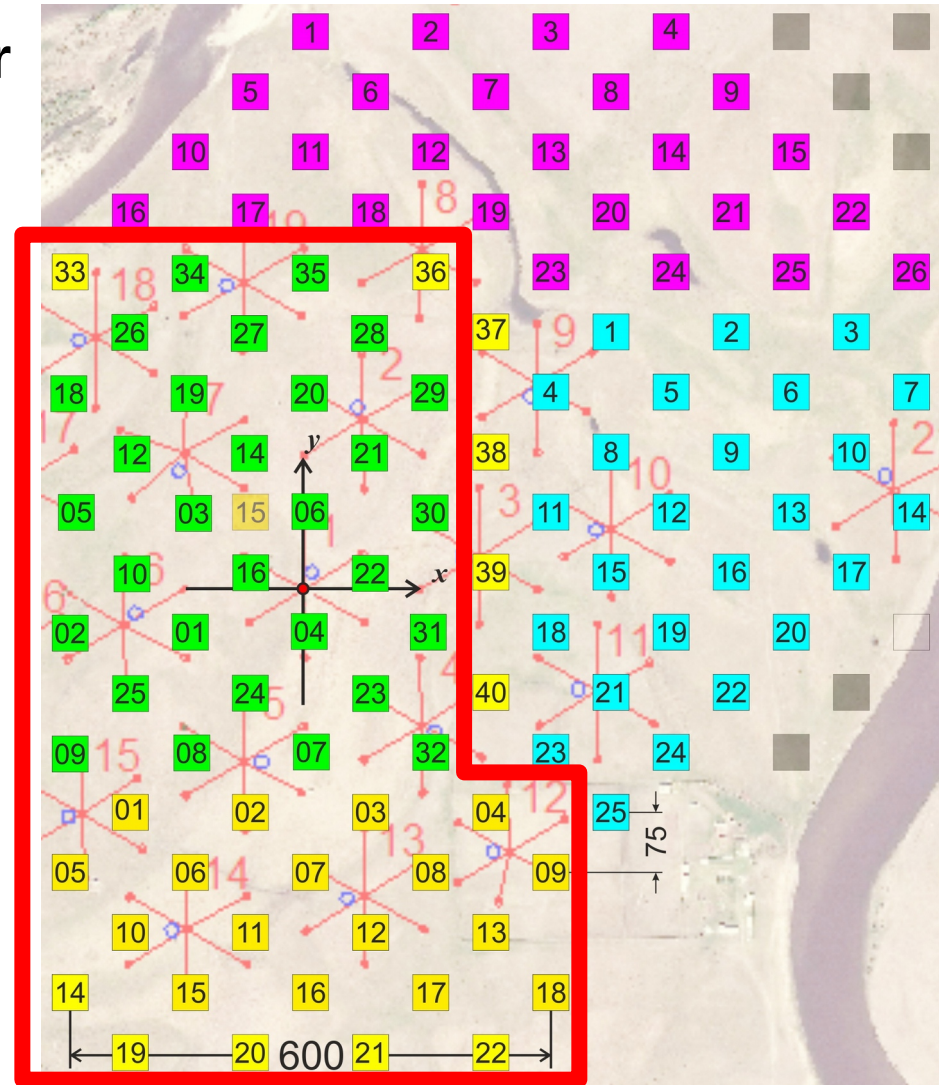




# TAIGA-HiSCORE: the timing array

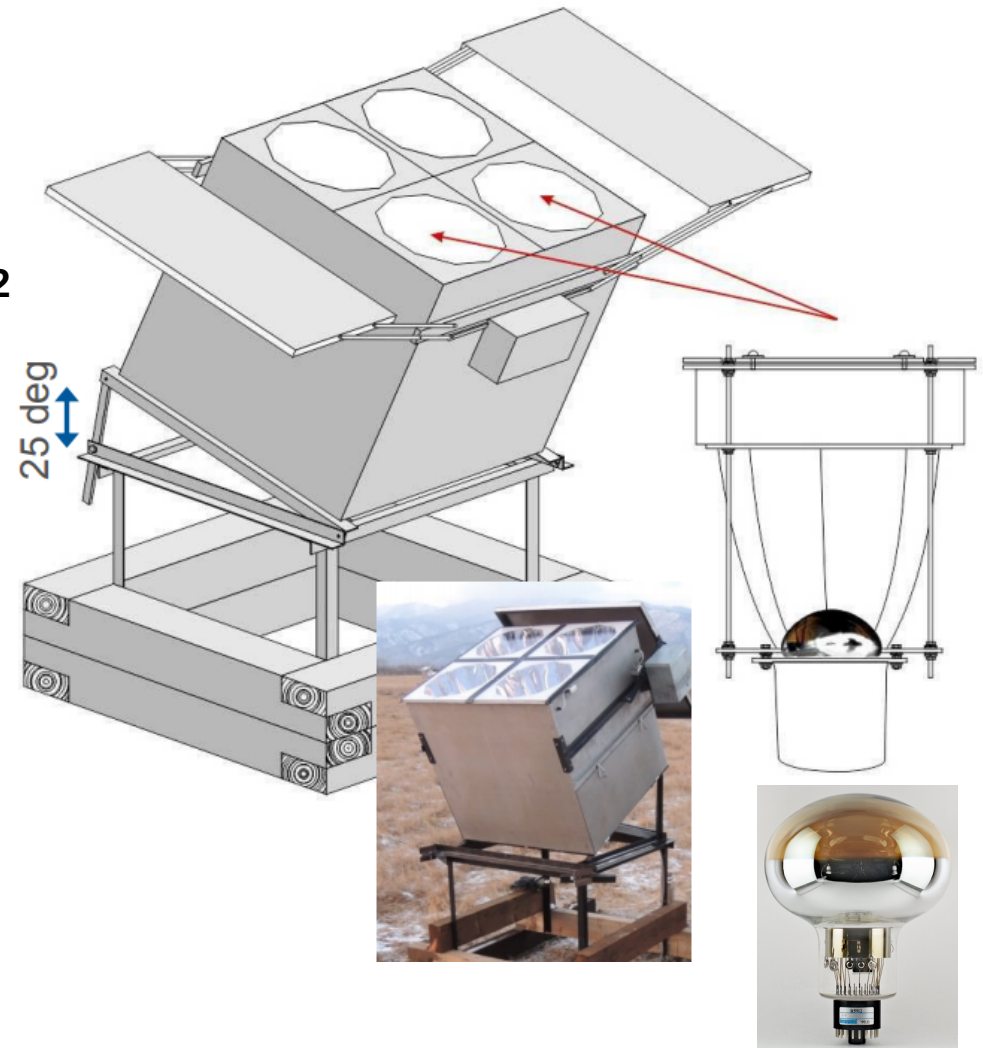
## High Sensitivity Cosmic Origin Explorer

- > 54 optical stations (fall 2018)
- > 0.5km<sup>2</sup> instrumented area
- > Station spacing 106m

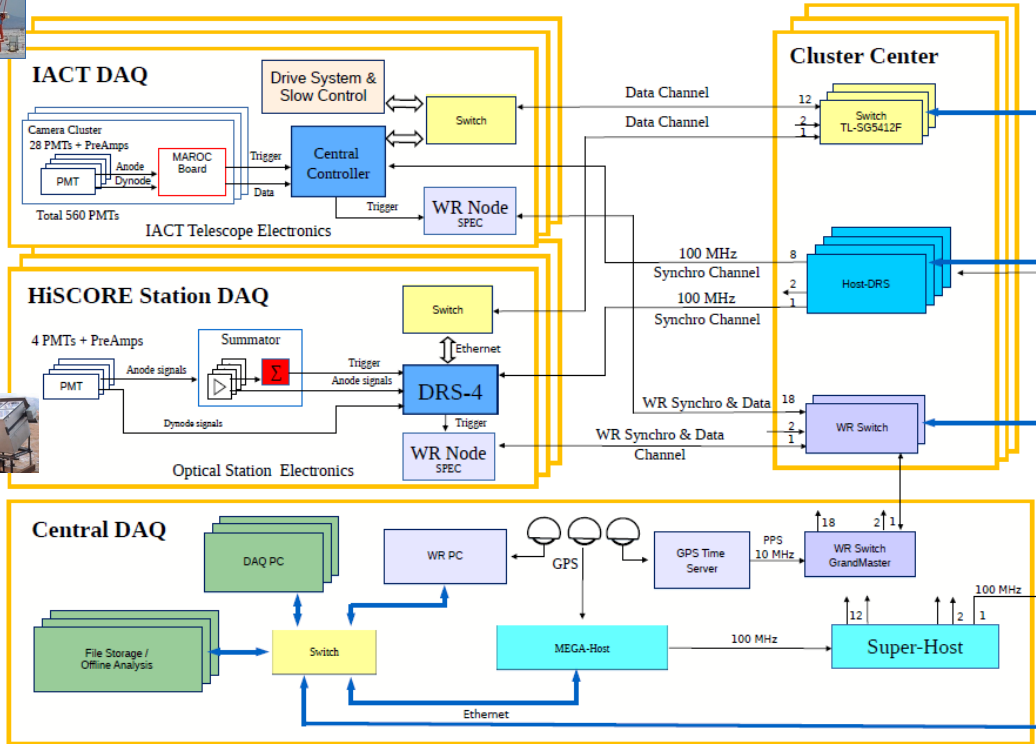


# TAIGA-HiSCORE: detector station

- > Four 8" / 10" PMT per station
- > Winston Cone light collector sensitive area  $\sim 0.5\text{m}^2$
- > FOV  $\sim 0.6\text{sr}$
- > Sky coverage: vertical / tilted mode
- > DAQ system:
  - DRS4-based GHz readout (2GHz sampling)
  - Sub-ns array wide time synchronization
    - Custom 100 MHz fiber (MSU)
    - WhiteRabbit (DESY)

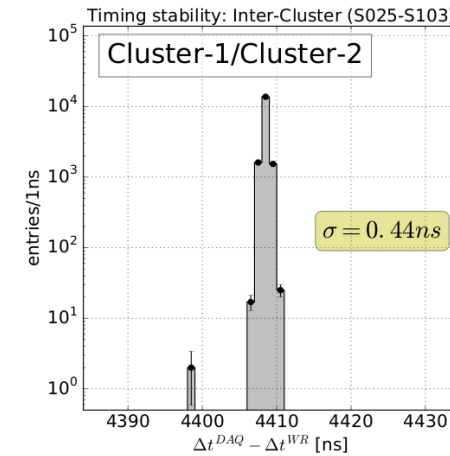
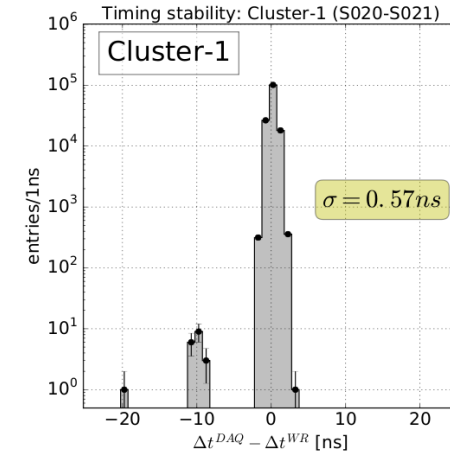
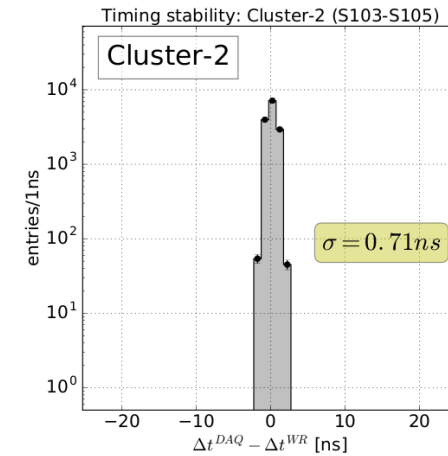
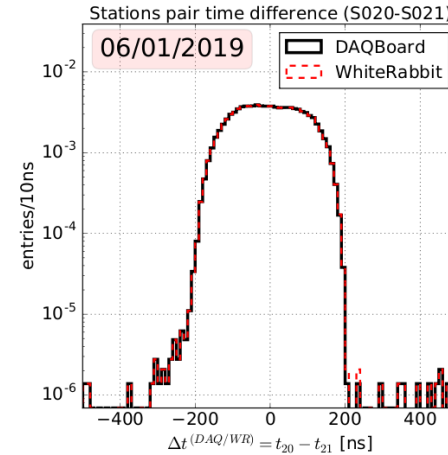


# TAIGA-HiSCORE: Hybrid DAQ system



## > HiSCORE DAQ system

- DRS4 for pulse sampling (2GHz)
  - 8 PMT channels (4 anode + 4 dynode)
- Timing systems (custom fiber MSU + WhiteRabbit)
- > Station readout/trigger independently. Array trigger: offline.
- >  $E_{thr}(gam) \sim 30-50 TeV$



**Intra- and inter-clusters sub-nsec time synchronization between stations is verified by comparing the trigger timestamps from two systems on an event-by-event basis**

# TAIGA-HiSCORE (HiS28)

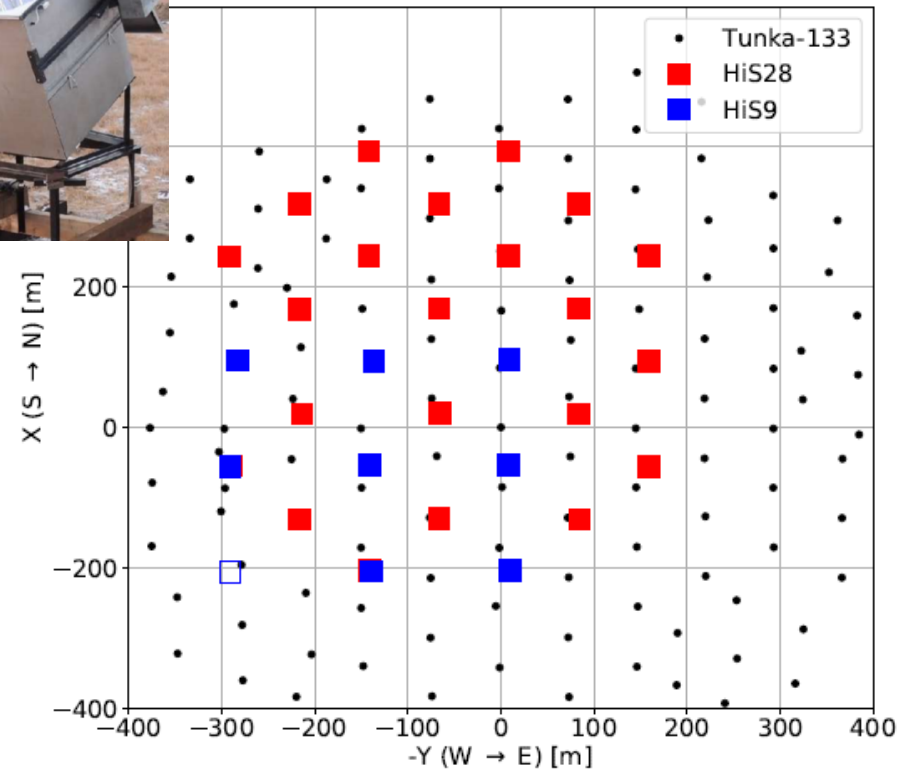
> HiSCORE-9 early prototype (2013)

> HiSCORE-28 (2014) – upgrade to

- 28 stations, 106m spacing
- 25° tilting southward (Crab exposure)

> Goals / Results:

- Verify final detector design
- Event reconstruction – array time calibration, angular resolution estimation
- Verify / Tune MC
- Detection of a standard candle: Crab
  - Crab search with 3 years data (very prelim.)
- Unexpected: ISS CATS-LIDAR detection and analysis
  - Absolute array pointing obtained without a detected PSoure !



# EAS reconstruction

## > Shower core reconstruction:

- First guess: COG Amplitude
- ADF/LDF fit ( $N_{\text{TRG}} \geq 5$ )

## > Shower arrival direction fit

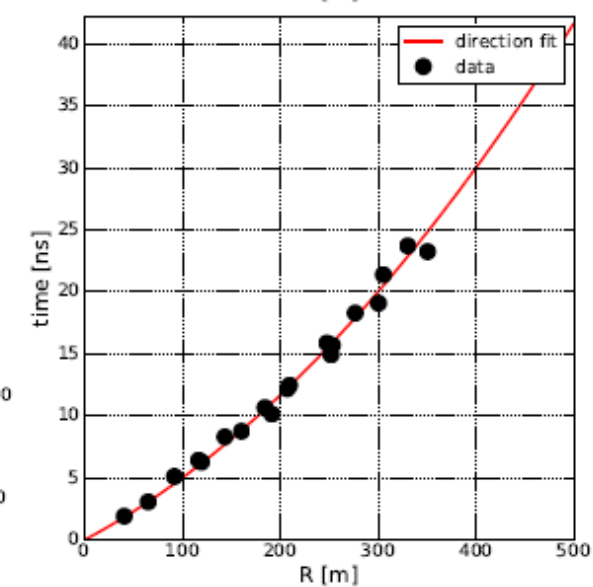
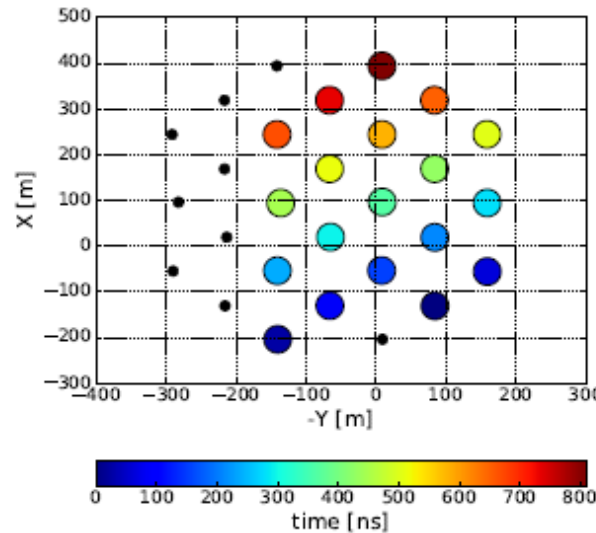
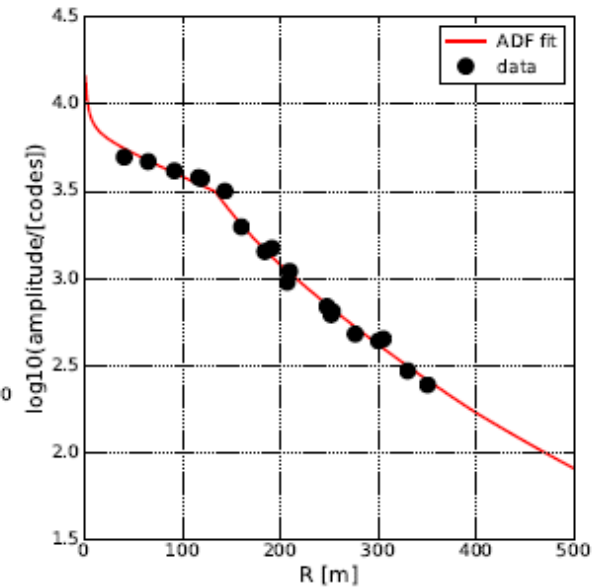
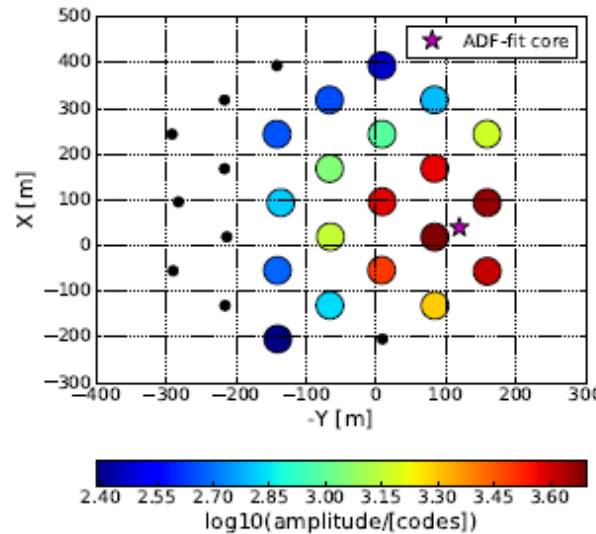
$$t_i = t_i^{\text{PW}}(\theta, \phi, t_0) + Dt(R_i)$$

$$Dt(R_i) = \frac{(R_i + R_c)^2}{cR_s^2}$$

- Station time offsets corrected by combining EAS data and external precise calibration

## > Problem: bad reconstruction for “out-trigger EAS”

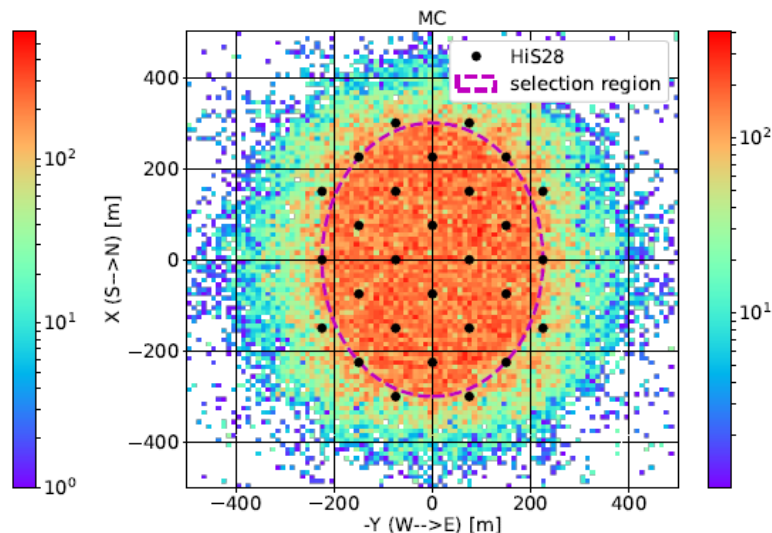
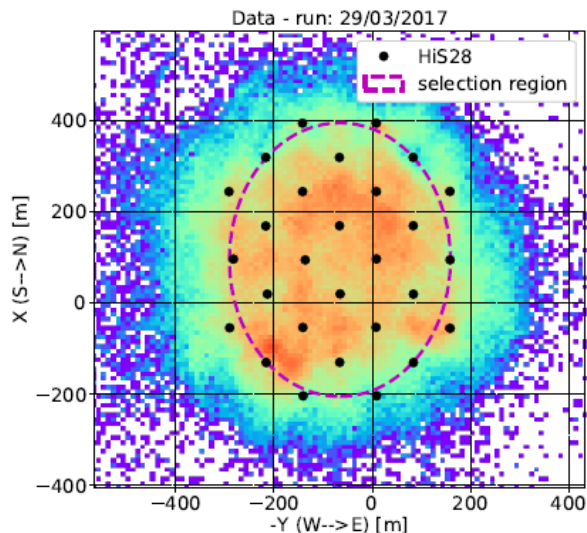
- main source of error for precise direction reconstruction
- special treatment under investigation



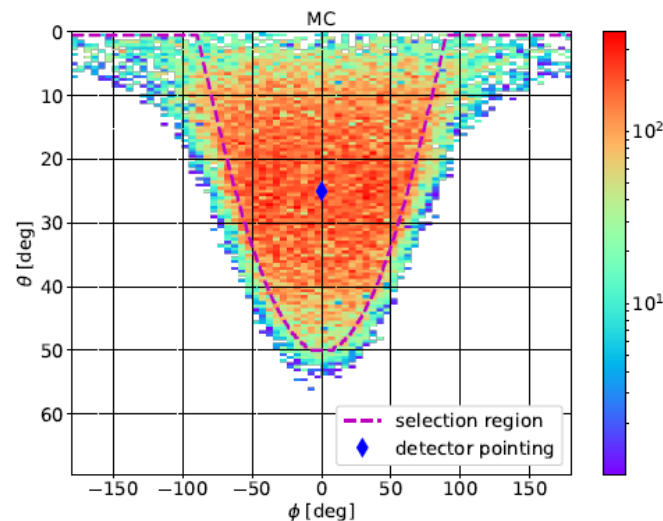
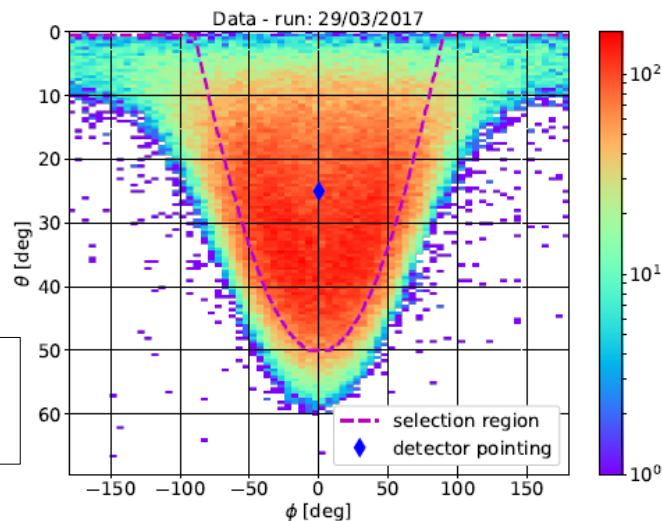
# Detector acceptance: Data / MC comparison

> Reconstructed core and arrival direction distributions: Detector acceptance, Data/MC comparison

Shower core



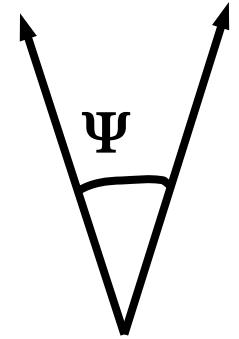
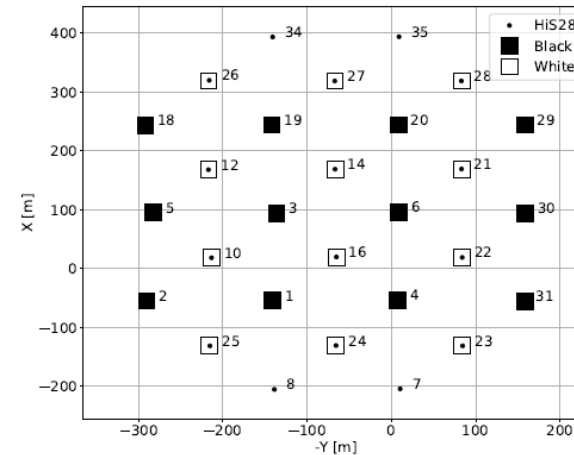
Shower arrival direction



# Angular resolution: chessboard method

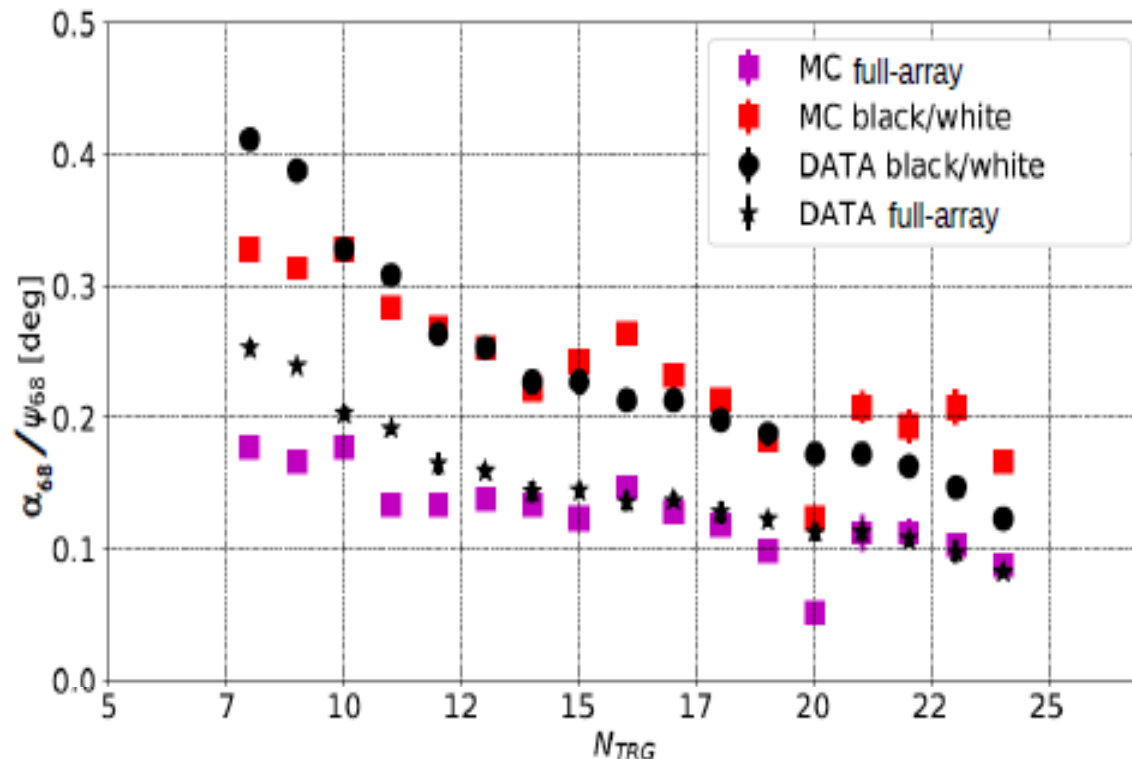
> Chessboard method: determine detector angular resolution from data (see AIROBICC, ARGO-YBJ)

- split array in two sub-arrays: two event reconstructions
- use space angle between the two reconstructed directions ( $\Psi$ ) to estimate the full-array error,  $\alpha$
- Method checked using MC simulation



$$\Psi_{\text{BLACK/WHITE}} = (\text{dir}_{\text{BLACK}} \cdot \text{dir}_{\text{WHITE}})$$

$$\alpha_{\text{TRUE/RECO}} = \Psi_{\text{BLACK/WHITE}} / R$$

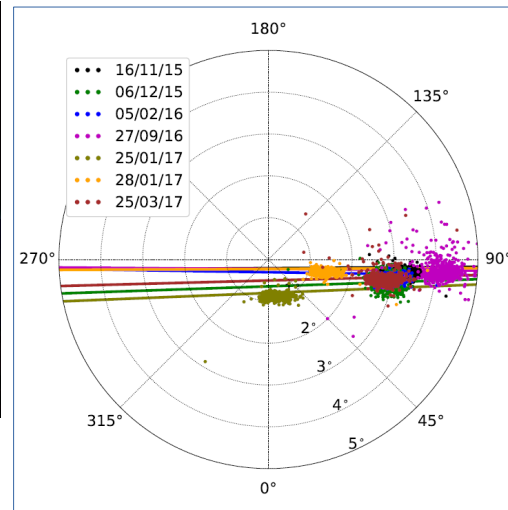


**Conclusion: Full array angular resolution (68% containment)**

$$\alpha_{\text{TRUE/RECO}}^{68} \leq 0.15^\circ @ N_{\text{TRG}} > 10$$

$$\alpha_{\text{TRUE/RECO}}^{68} \leq 0.1^\circ @ N_{\text{TRG}} \geq 20$$

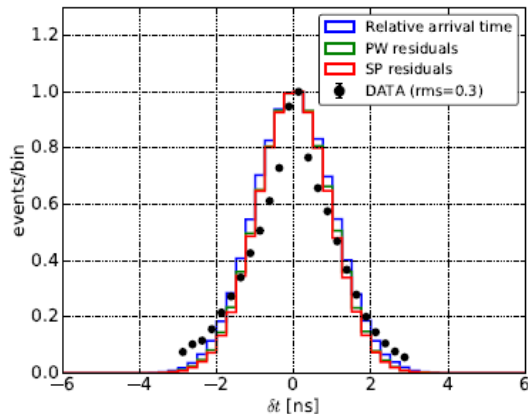
# First HiSCORE source: the ISS



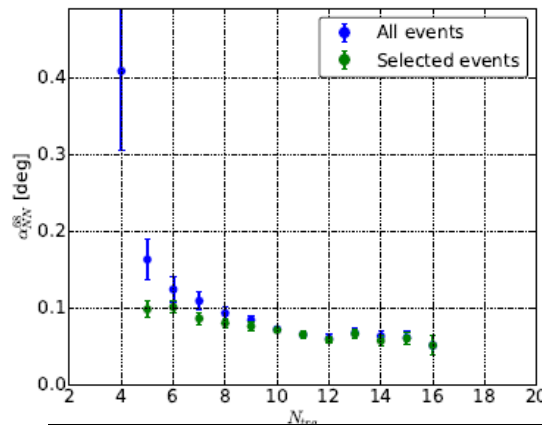
- > The **CATS-LIDAR** on the ISS at 415 km a.s.l.
  - 4 kHz Laser repetition rate
  - 11 passages detected
  - observed at large distance  $\rho$ (km)
- > “ISS-events” reconstructed direction
  - Plane wave fit of light front

Reconstructed “ISS-events” proved to be a unique tool for checking the detector performance:

## 1) Time resolution between stations

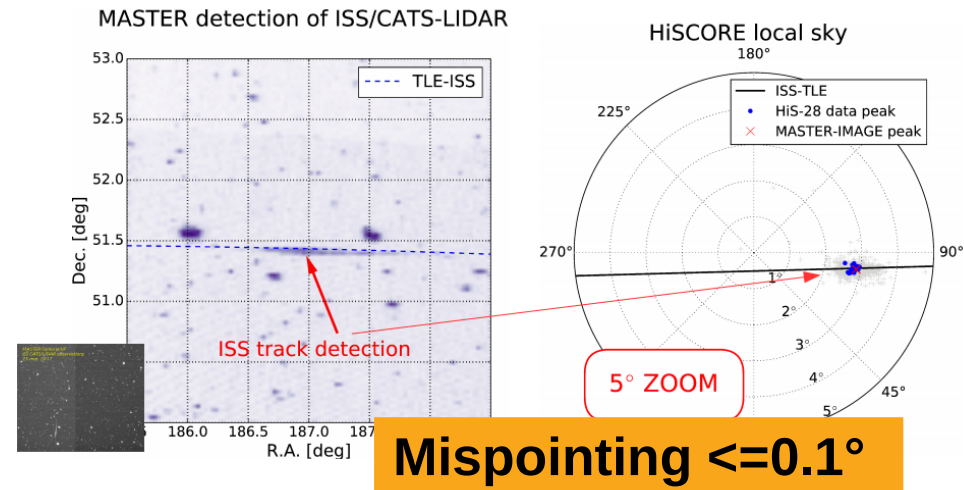


**0.3ns time resolution**



**Angular resolution: < 0.1°**

## 2) Prove correct array time calibration



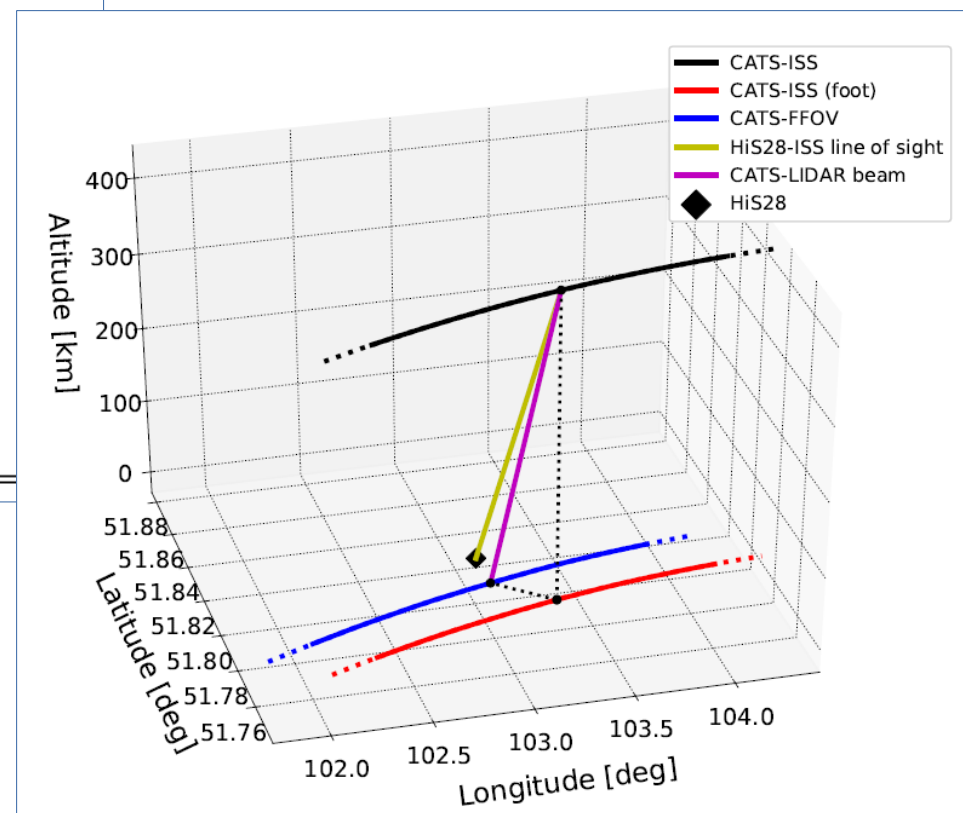


# ISS/CATS-LIDAR: First TAIGA-HiSCORE point source

## 11 passages detected during 2015-2017 observations

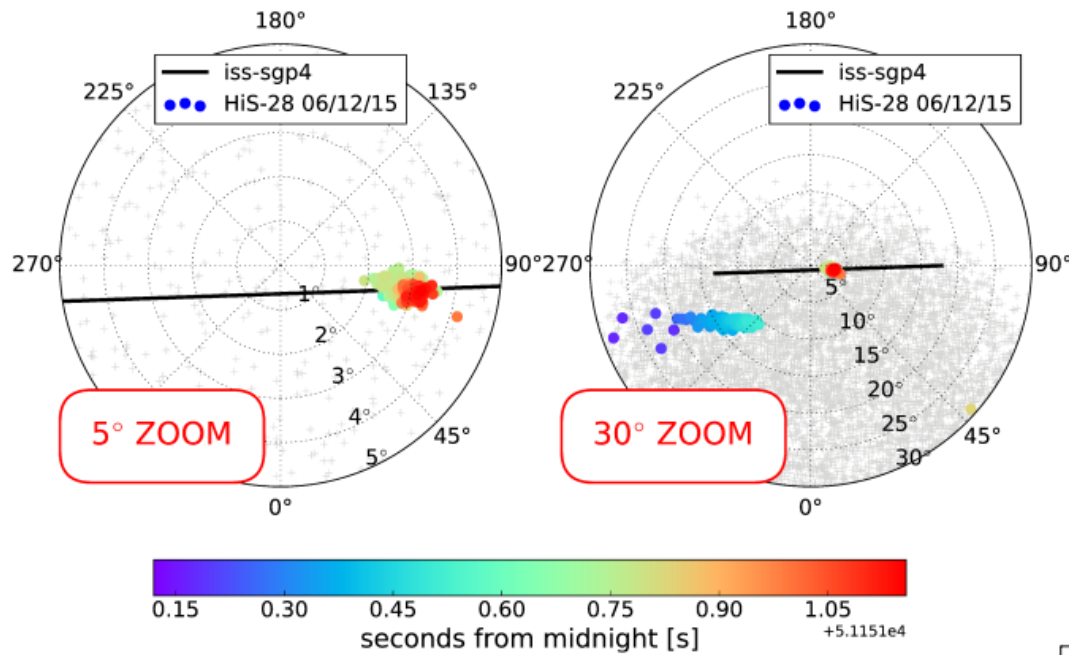
Date	ISS-events (Selected)	CATS data	MASTER Image
16/11/15	2780 (1760)	YES	NO
19/11/15	50 (7)	YES	NO
06/12/15	3830 (1850)	YES	NO
05/02/16	1990 (1320)	YES	NO
08/02/16	3421 (1056)	NO	NO
27/09/16	2040 (1590)	YES	NO
26/11/16	1821 (0)	YES	NO
25/01/17	2300 (1730)	YES	NO
28/01/17	2140 (1300)	YES	NO
25/03/17	2140 (1710)	YES	YES
31/03/17	1780 (13)	YES	NO

**3D passage reconstruction  
using CATS data  
“DIRECT LIGHT” SIGNAL DETECTION**

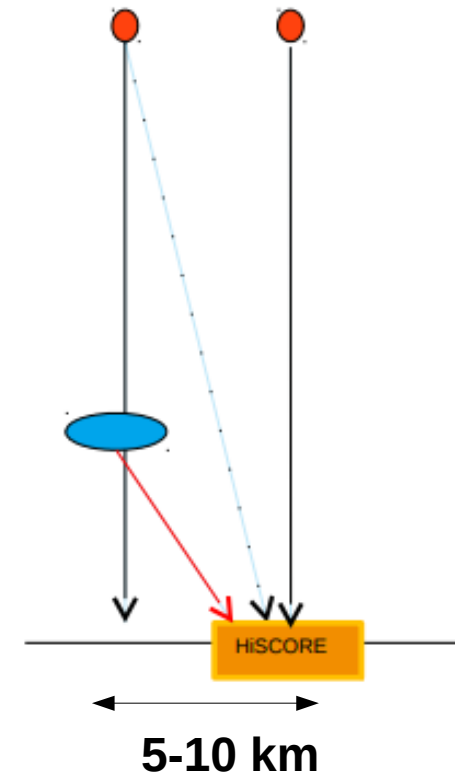


# „ISS Cloud Events“ : Forward scattered LIDAR light by clouds

## > Detection of LIDAR photons scattered by clouds

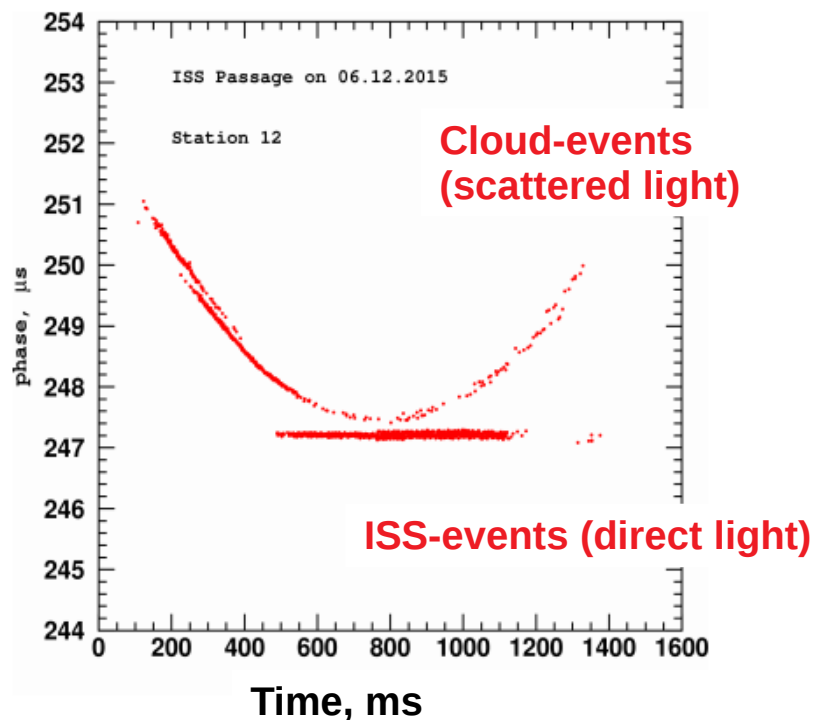


--> ISS (8 km/s at 410 km) -->

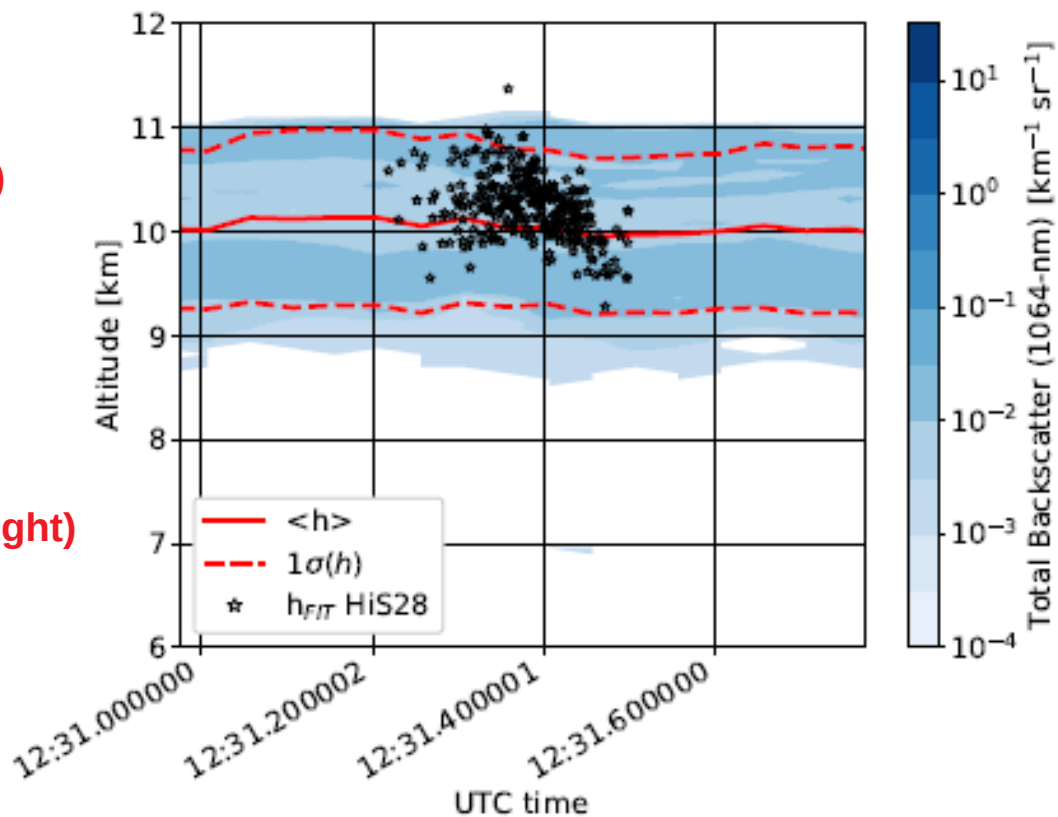


# „ISS Cloud Events” : Measured Cloud location

- > Left: phase analysis w.r.t. 4 kHz : bunch delay by the additional path length from forward scattering
- > Right: inferred cloud height using reconstructed Cloud-events



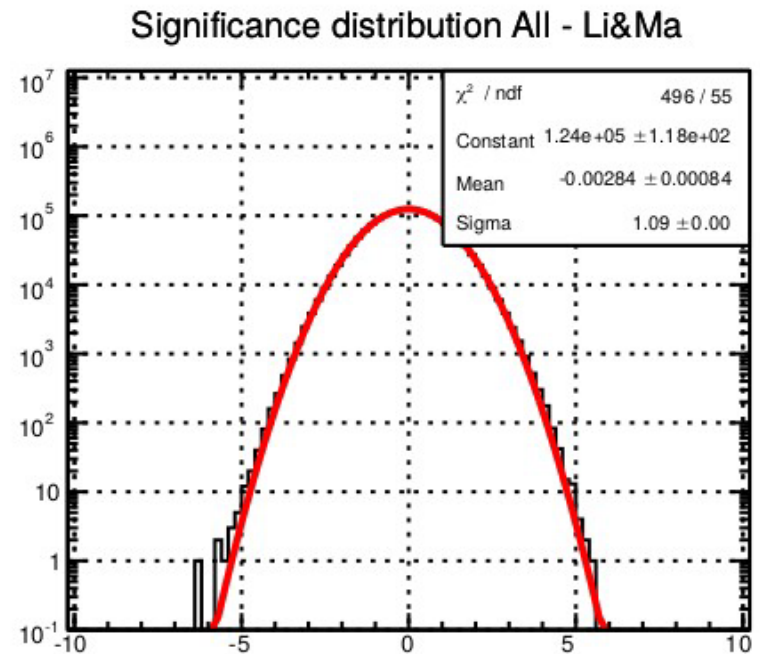
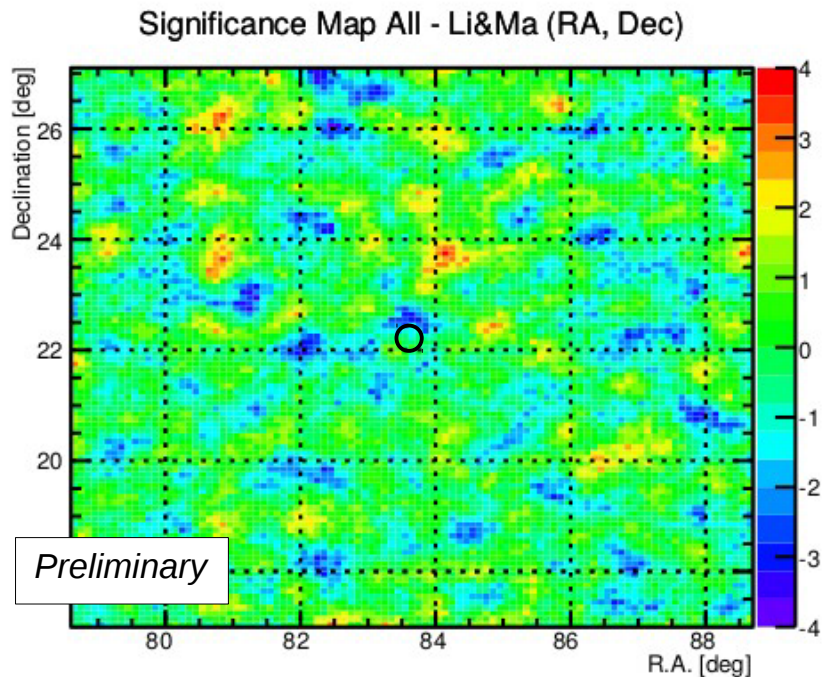
LIDAR-phase analysis



Reconstructed cloud height

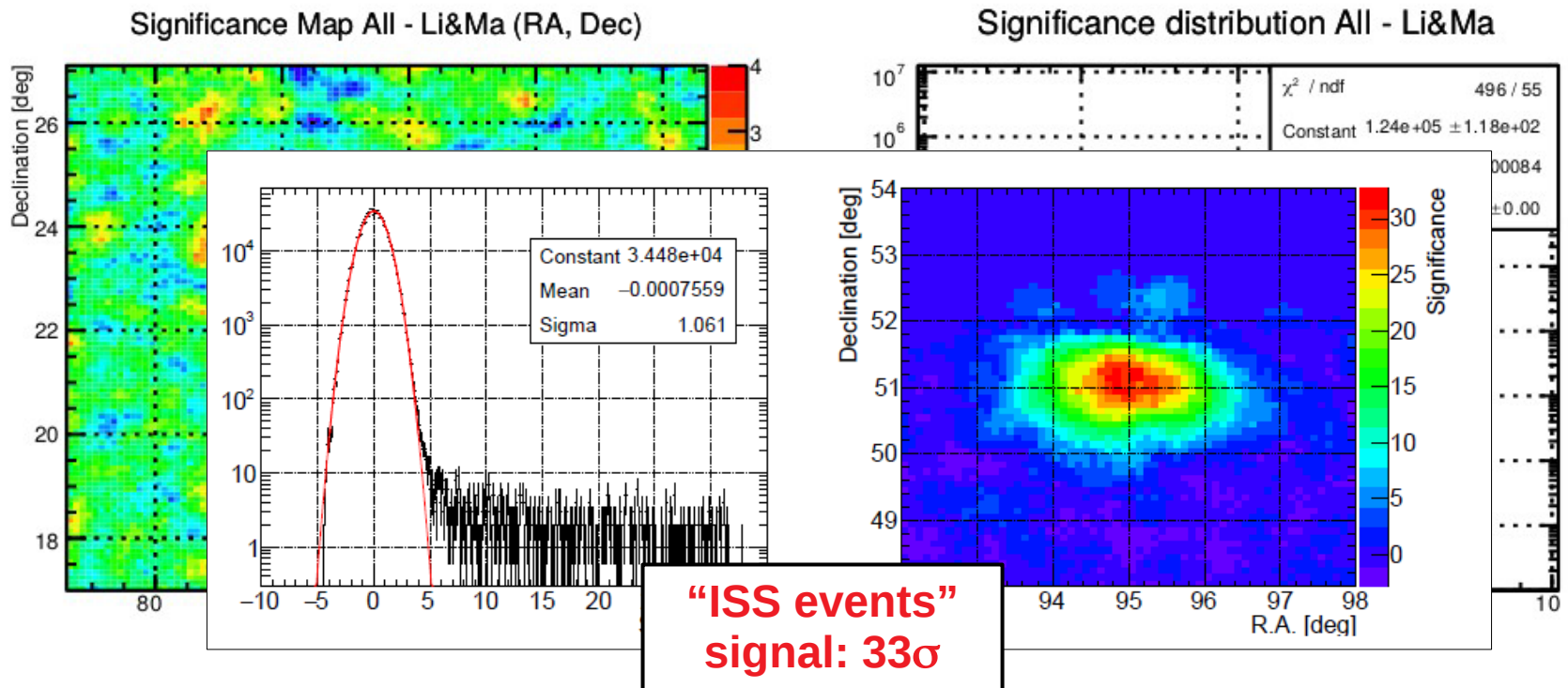
# HiS28: Point source analysis

- > Full sky point source analysis developed TAIGA-HiSCORE in stand-alone mode
- > Background estimation and Significance calculation:
  - Direct Integration (Milagro, HAWC) + Rings (used in IACT analysis)
  - Significance: Li&Ma
- > Analysis:
  - Use only events reconstructed direction (no energy, no g/h separation)
- > No significant signal observed from Crab direction (prelim.)



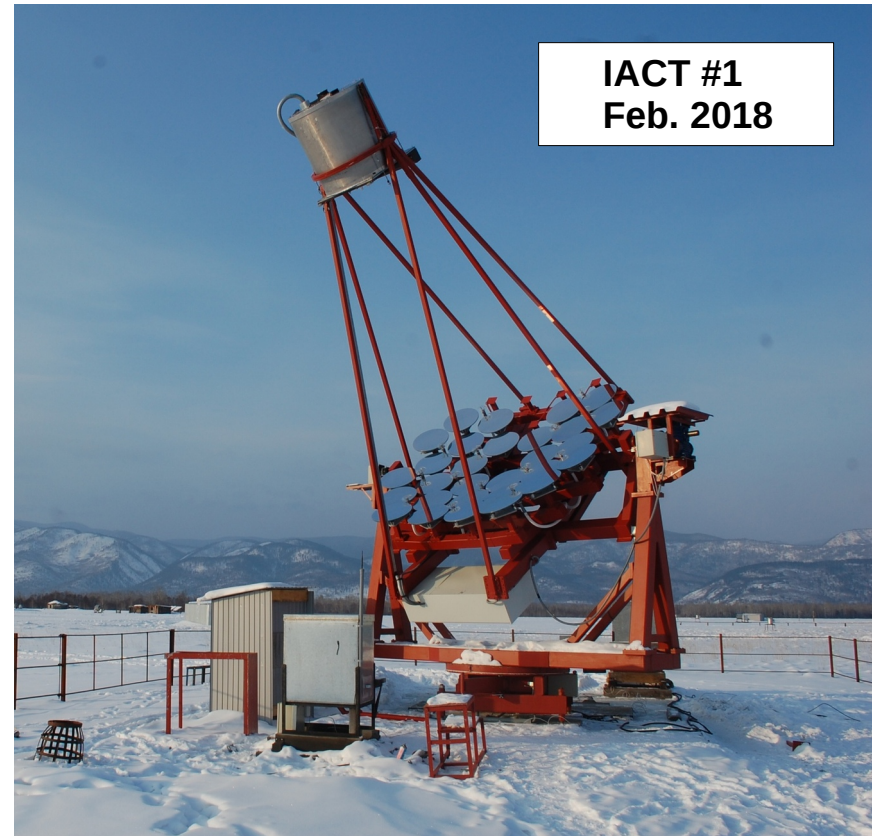
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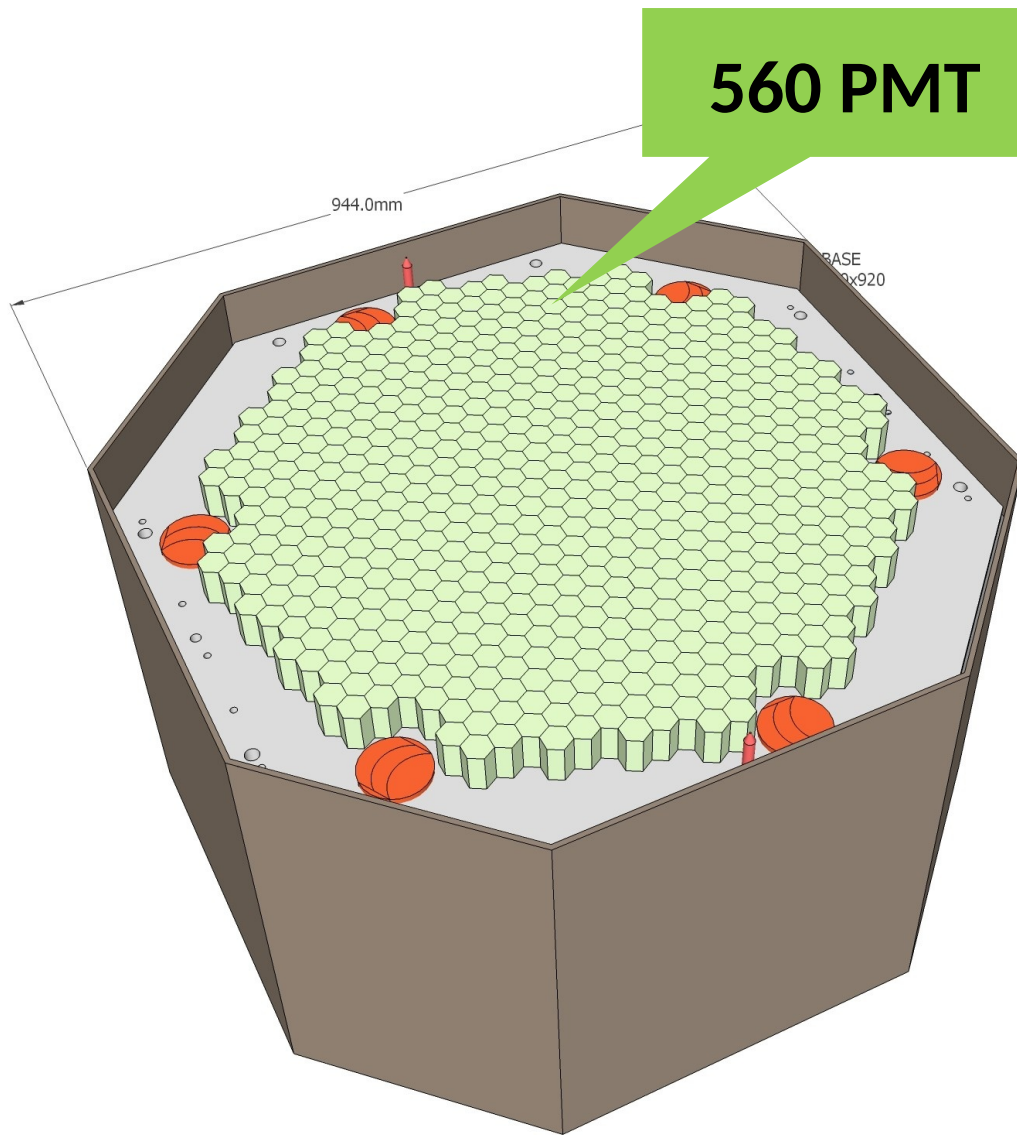


# The first TAIGA-IACT

- > Davies-Cotton Reflector  $\varnothing$ : 4.32m
- >  $f = 4.75\text{m}$
- > FOV  $\sim 9.6$  deg
- > 30 Glass mirrors of  $\varnothing = 60\text{cm}$
- > Camera:
  - 560 PMT XP1911 (15mm photocathode)
  - Winston Cone: 30mm input / 15mm output
  - Pixel-aperture: 0.36 deg
- > Energy threshold  $\sim 1.5$  TeV
- > Pointing accuracy up to  $\sim 0.02^\circ$
- > IACT-Image analysis and IACT-HiSCORE Hybrid analysis are in progress.



# The TAIGA-IACT camera



Camera DAQ is based  
on MAROC3 ASIC



**MAROC3  
64 channel  
F/E board**

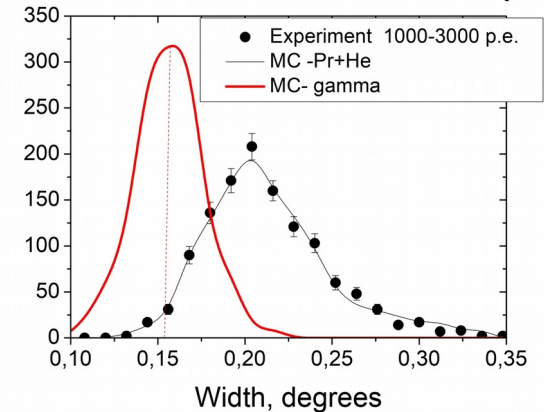
**22 Cluster  
w/ 28 PMTs**

# IACT and HiSCORE: mono and hybrid events

First full TAIGA-IACT operations started in fall 2017

- > IACT mono data: good agreement between reconstructed IACT images and MC prediction
- > Analysis of mono IACT data is in progress

Width distribution: MC/data (mono)



> An example of a TAIGA Hybrid event :

- Image from IACT
- Core, direction, energy by HiSCORE



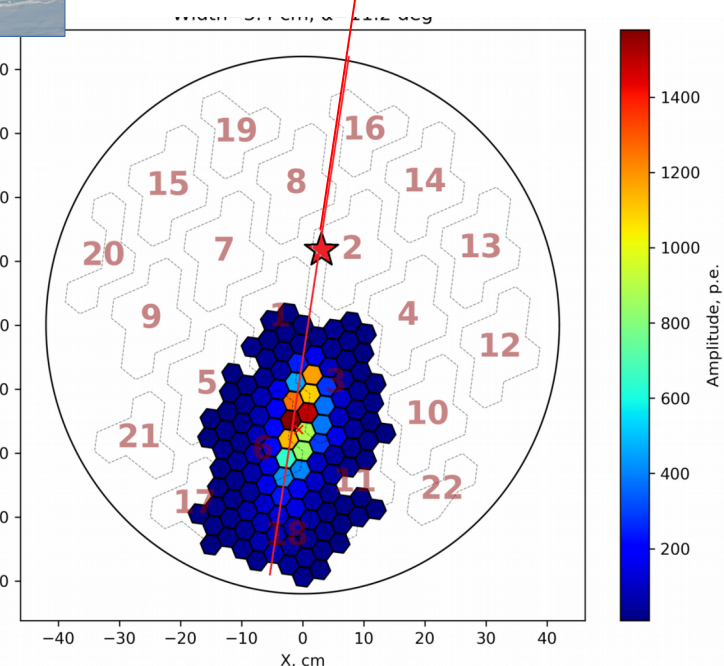
EAS core position  
(by 15 HiS stations)

Crab observation (2017/18):  
- 17000 hybrid events in 50 hours  
(~300 evt in  $0.7^\circ$  around Crab direction)

## A “hadron-like” event

Size = 18500 pe.  
Width =  $0.4^\circ$      $\alpha = 11^\circ$

HiSCORE: full EAS-reco.  
Energy: 840 TeV  
Core: 134m,  
Zen/Az= 30.1 / 33.6 deg

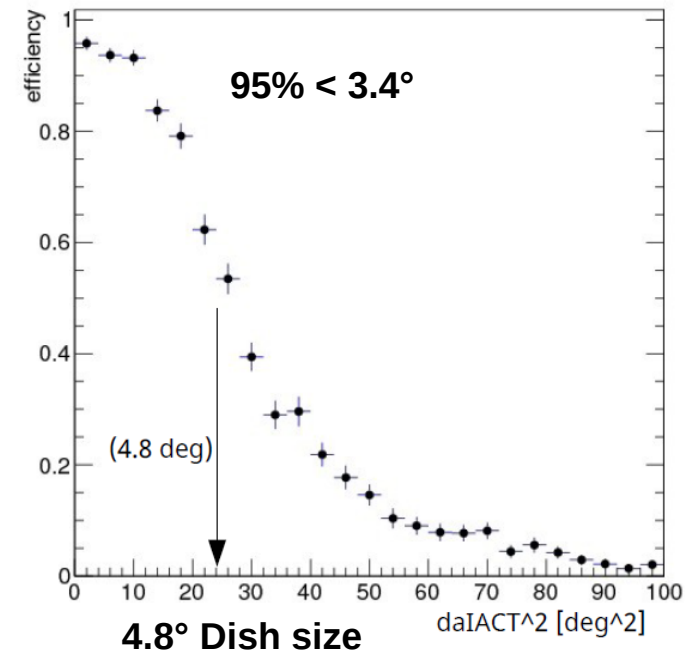
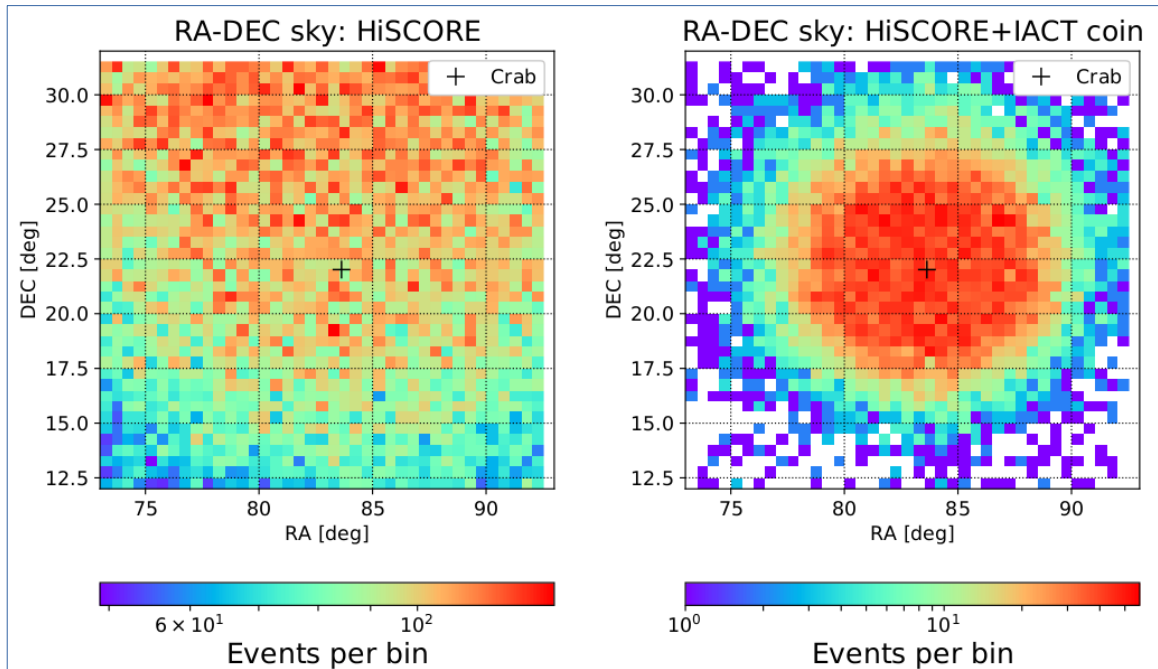
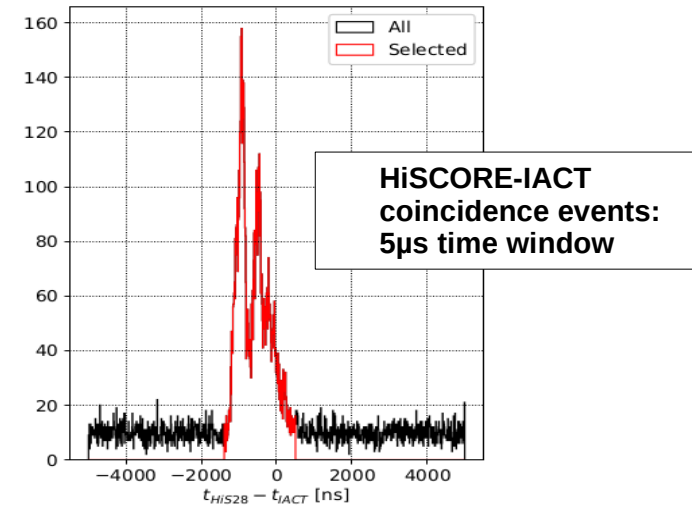


- Focus now: detect Crab in mono & hybrid mode.

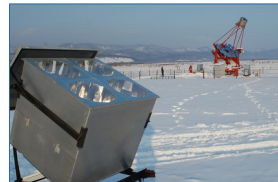


# IACT and HiSCORE: hybrid events

- > Cross-verification of both instruments
- > Analyze the subset of EAS seen by both HiSCORE (complete spatial reconstruction & EAS energy), and by IACT (triggered or reconstructed)
- > 95% efficiency to trigger IACT up to  $3.4^\circ$  from the IACT pointing direction



Hybrid events detected during long Crab-IACT tracking runs  
Left: all, Right: coincident evts



# Summary

- > TAIGA is a prototype installation to test a new technology for gamma astronomy above 10 TeV and CR physics (>100TeV)
  - Large area detector, composed of (sparse) IACT + HiSCORE timing array
  - Field operations in Tunka valley started in 2013
  
- > HiSCORE-28 array (0.25 km<sup>2</sup>) with 3 years of data: well understood, stable operation
  - PSF: 0.1° - 0.2° at E>100 TeV; absolute pointing verified to ~0.1 deg (!)
  - ISS CATS/LIDAR detected as point source ( unique tool for calibration / verification )
  - Crab signal search with HiS28 standalone 3 years data
    - Analysis in progress (w/o g/h separation): no signal seen – compatible with MC; after hybrid gamma detection: reconsider g/h in standalone mode.
  
- > First TAIGA-IACT: commissioning in progress
  - 2017/18 - Hybrid operation HiSCORE-28 + IACT#1
  - exploit gamma / hadron separation from mono-mode IACT
  - coincidence events analysis confirm HiS-operation

# Summary (2)

## > By fall 2019:

A 1 km<sup>2</sup> HiSCORE array + 3 IACT will be installed by fall 2019

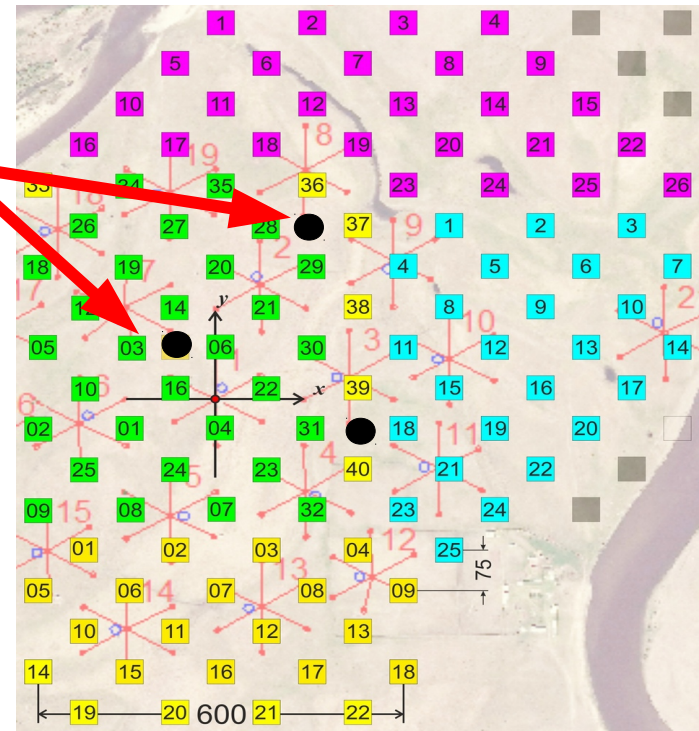
- Point source sensitivity: 300 hr 5  $10^{-3}$  TeV cm<sup>-2</sup> s
- 50-100 hybrid Crab events >40 TeV / 100 hr (1 season)



120 TAIGA-HiSCORE stations



3 TAIGA-IACT



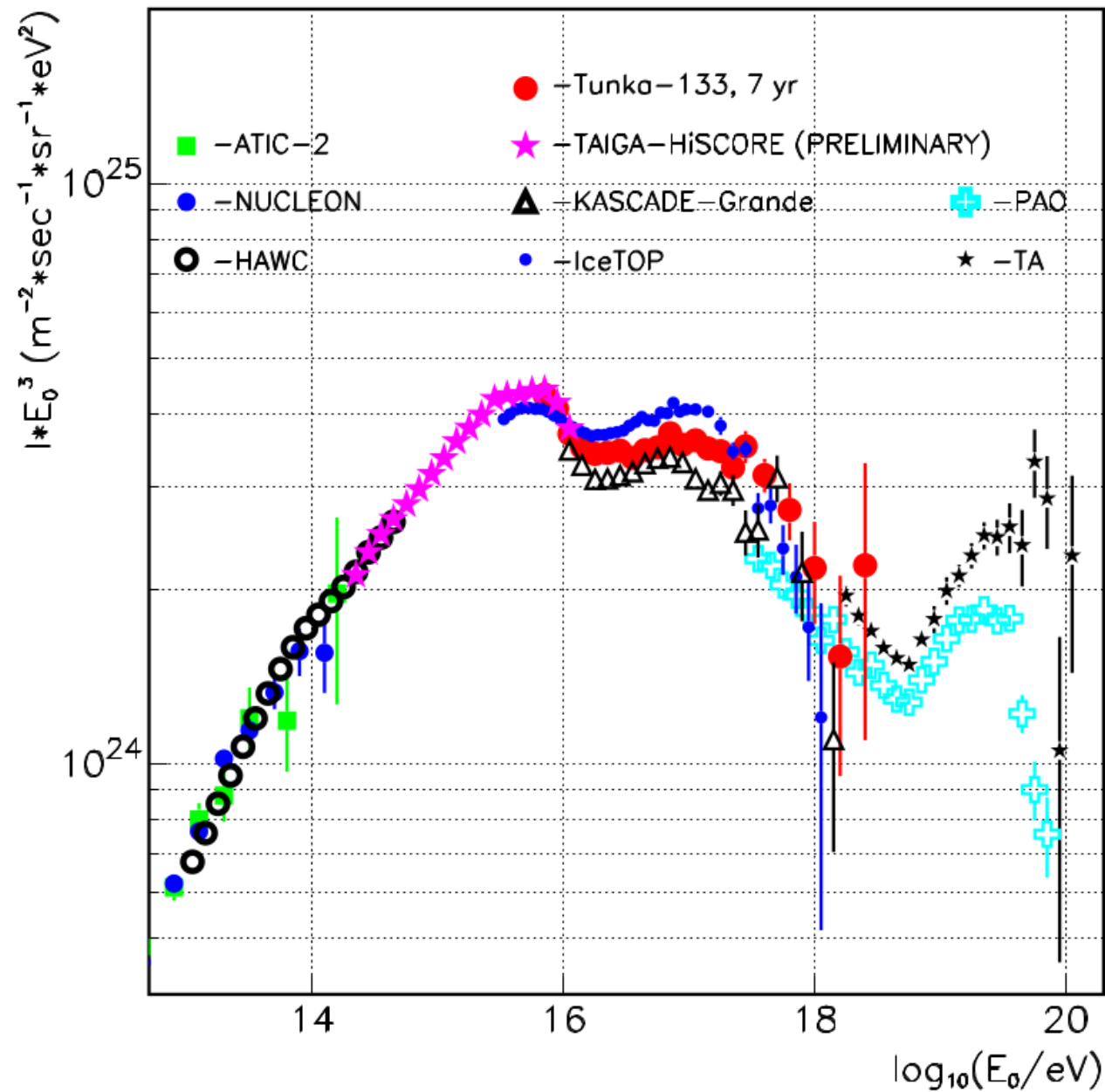
## > Future:

Considering a 10km<sup>2</sup> Gamma detector with 16 IACTs and 1000 stations @2000m a.s.l

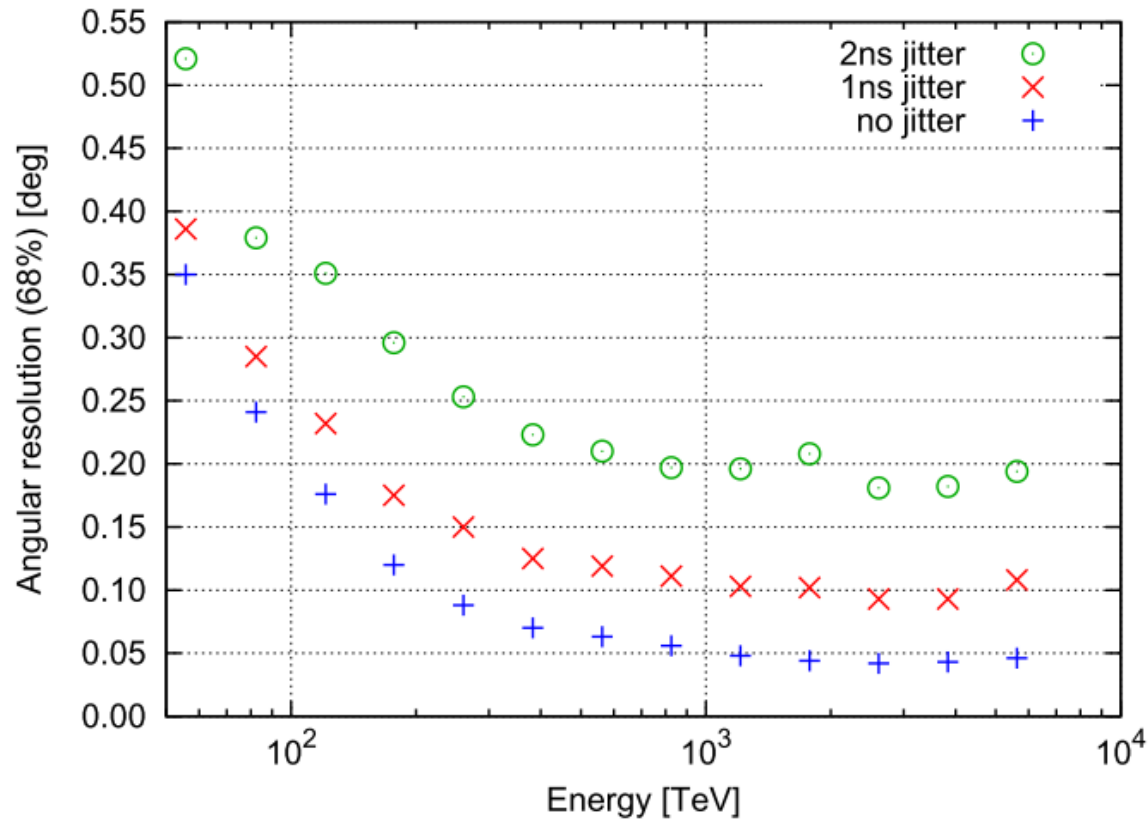
**Thank you**

# Backup slides

# Energy spectrum by HiSCORE (2018)



# Angular resolution: Importance of timing



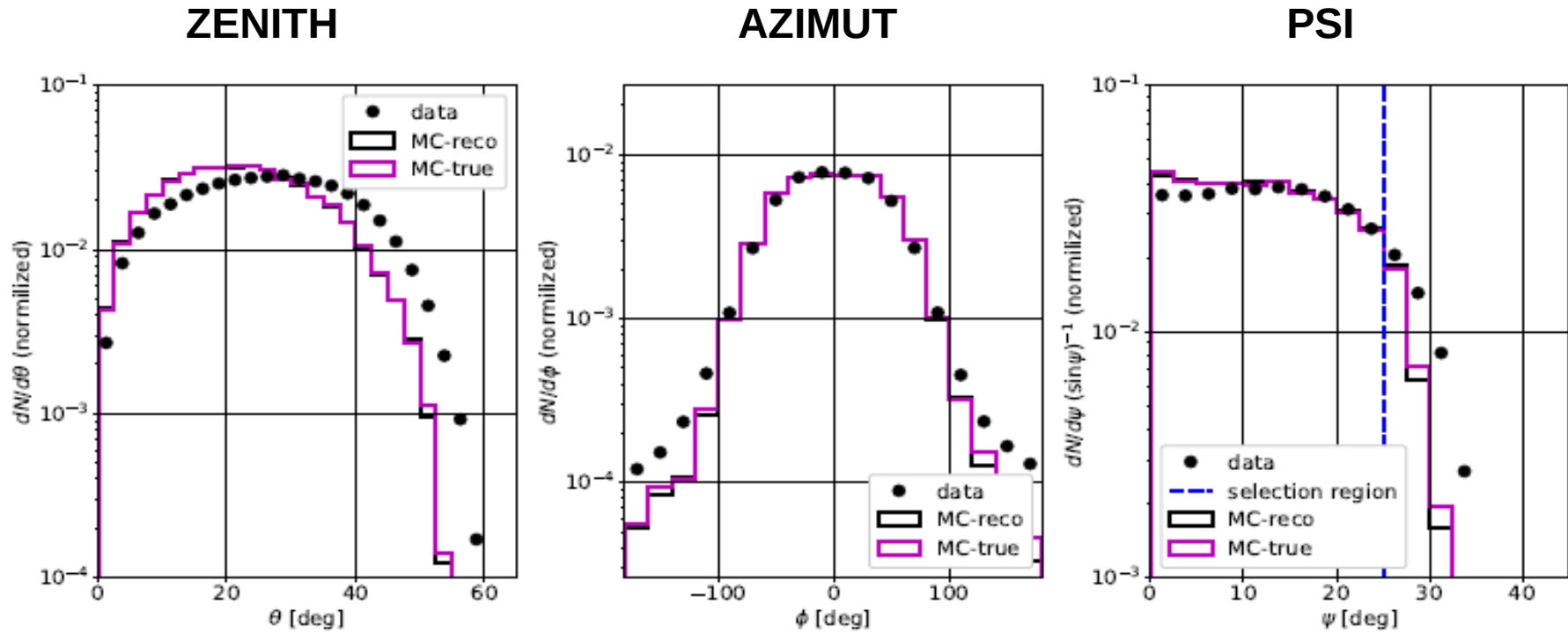
> MC study, varying the time precision

> Crucial for pointing:

- Time synchronization < 1ns: low time jitter [Hampf, 2014]
- Precise array time calibration (systematic mispointing induced by static station time offsets) [see ICRC2017]

# Detector acceptance: Data/MC comparison

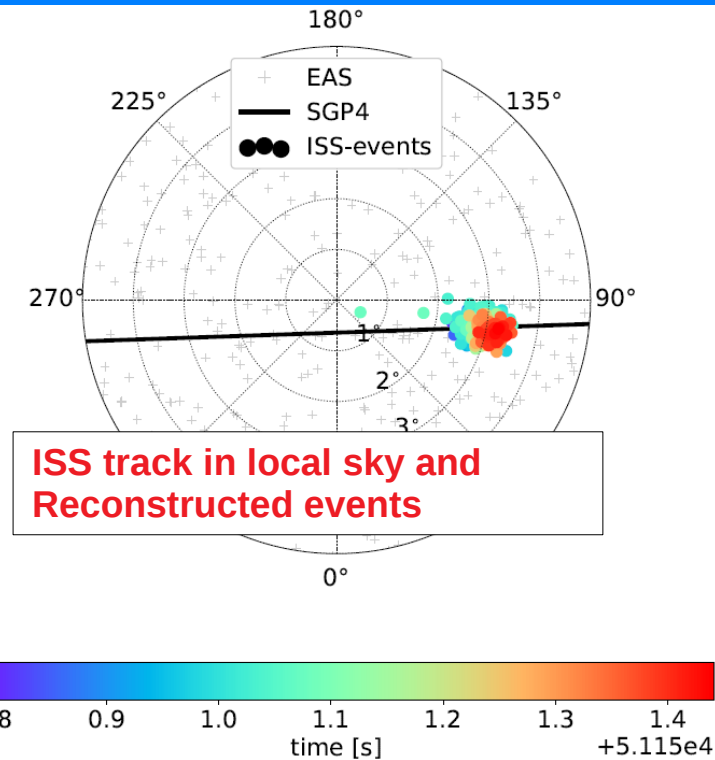
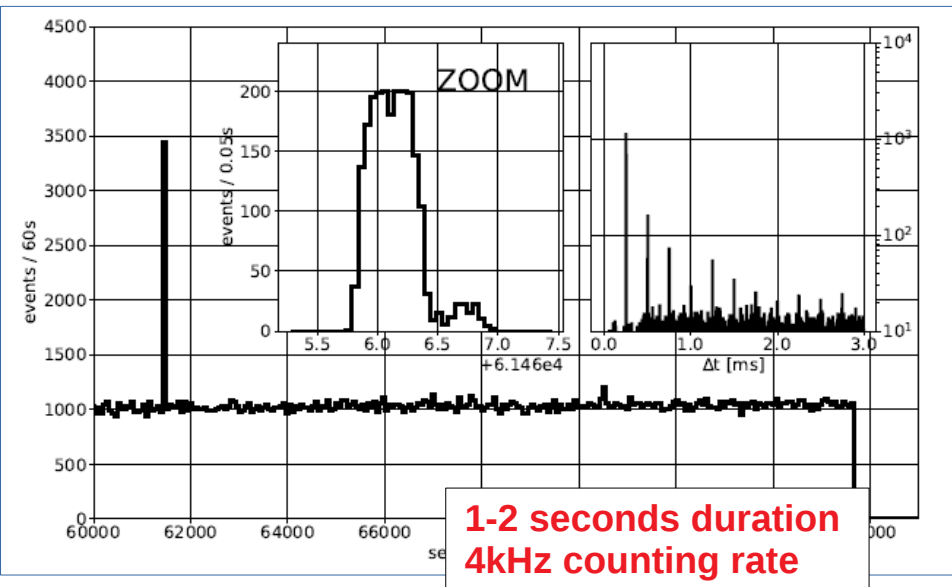
- > Reconstructed arrival direction distributions: Detector acceptance, Data/MC comparison



- > Good Data/MC agreement for detector acceptance
- > Small mismatch for zenith: tune energy threshold (station trigger threshold)
  - Experimental station trigger threshold likely 200-250ph.e.
  - MC station trigger threshold: 180ph.e. (work in progress)



# HiSCORE observation of the ISS/CATS-LIDAR



## > Serendipitous discovery – 2015/16

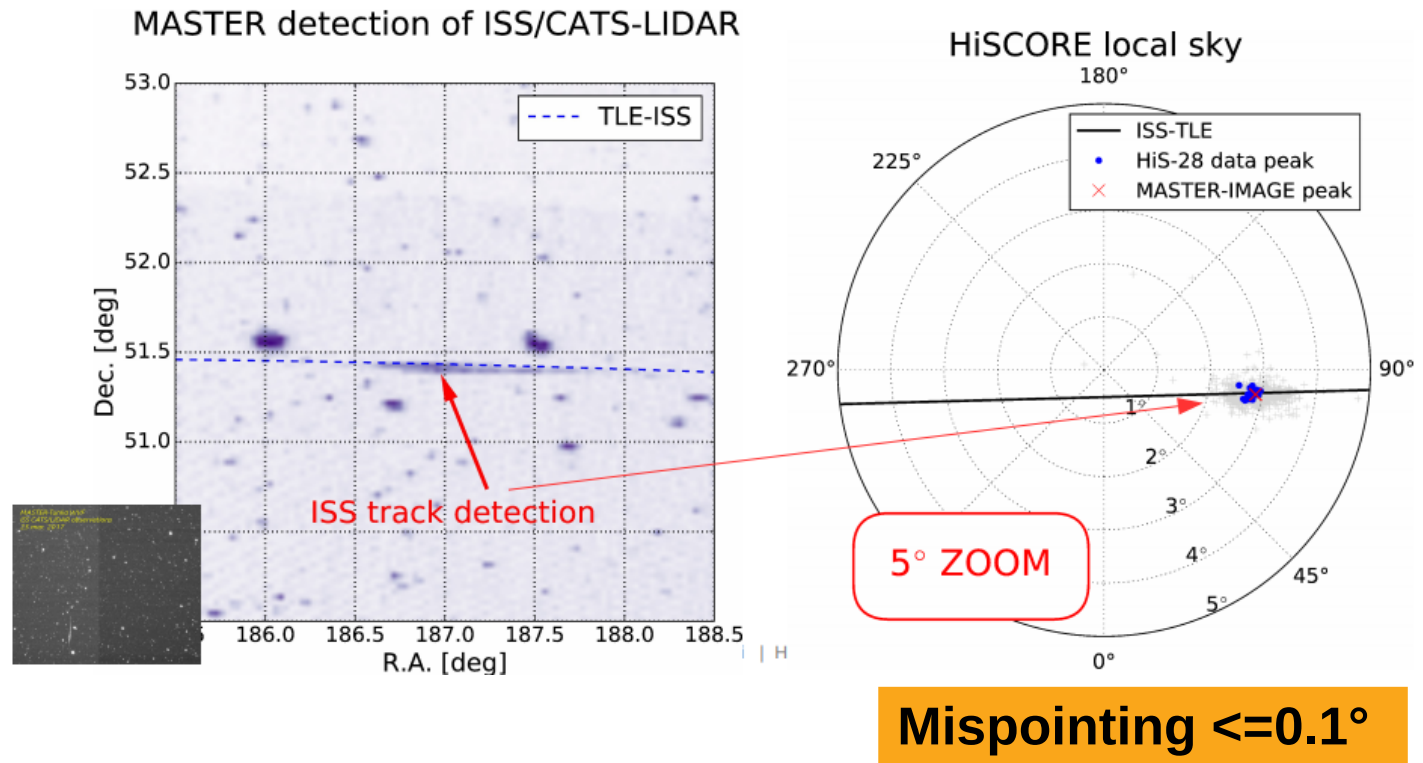
- Several passages observed (and predicted) partially 3/4 days period; also during 2016/17
- Passages must be close to zenith
- Perfect plane wave reconstruction instead of curved EAS profile

## Unique tool for HiSCORE calibration / verification

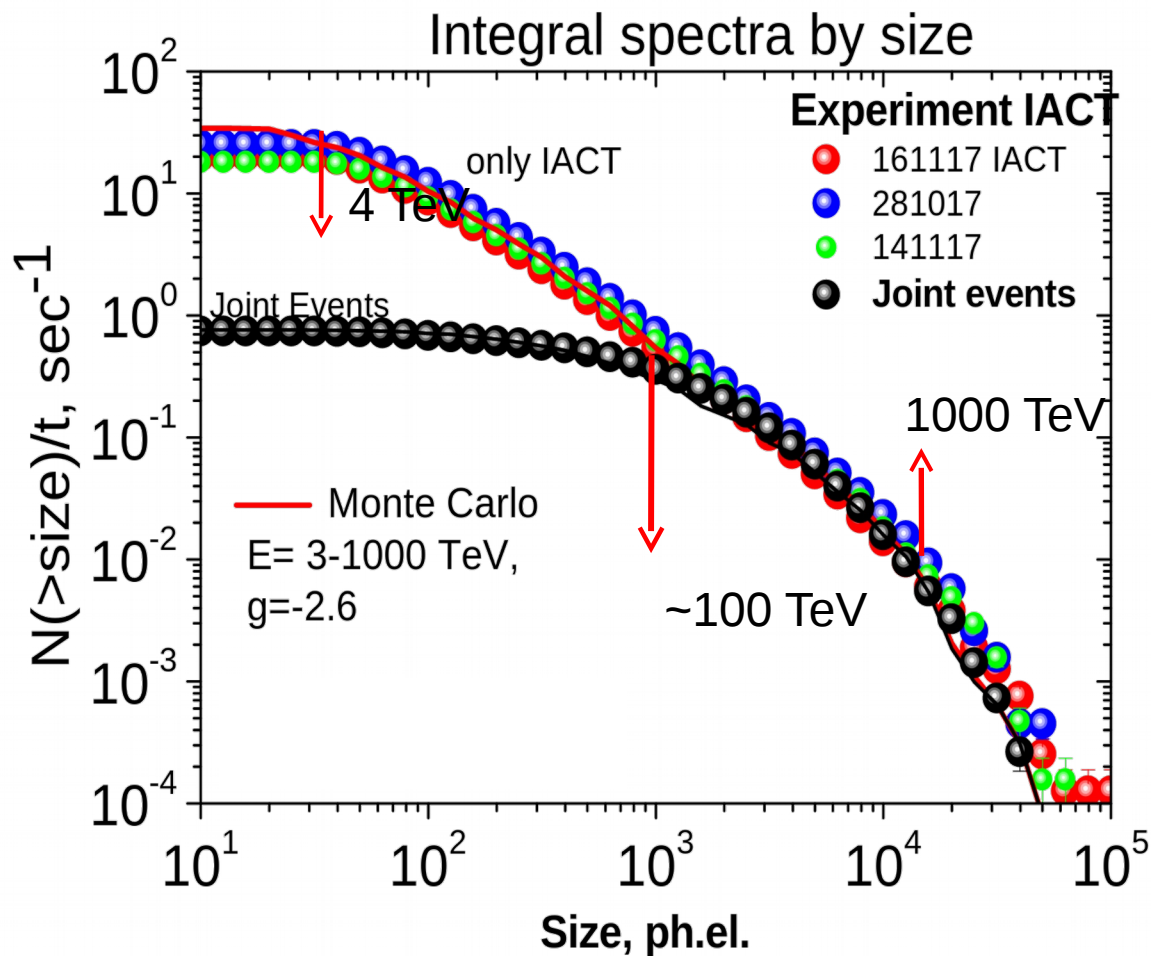
- absolute (astronomical) pointing
- angular resolution (PSF)
- hardware performance, ...

# Absolute pointing: HiSCORE-MASTER combined

- > March 2017: campaign to detect “ISS passage” with the closeby (500m) ‘Tunka-MASTER’ optical telescope. Direct communication with both Tunka-MASTER and CATS/NASA operators
- > 25.03.2017 the ‘Golden event’: we obtained synchronous and independent detection by Tunka-MASTER VWF camera
  - Image analysis: brightest point gives precise position of ISS
  - Compared with brightest ISS-events (largest amplitude) for HiS28 mispointing verification



# Integral Size spectra: IACT and Hybrid events



## HiSCORE energy spectra in linear scale

Peak energy  
 $\sim 100 \text{ TeV}$  – CR  
 $\sim 50 \text{ TeV}$  – gamma

