TAIGA: results and perspectives

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on behalf of the TAIGA Collaboration

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TAIGA (Tunka Advanced Instrument for cosmic rays and Gamma - Astronomy)

Tunka Valley, Republic Buryatia
- 50 km to west
from Lake Baikal.

The main aim of TAIGA project:

Study of very high energy (>30 TeV) gamma rays from Galactic accelerators with large area array (~10 km^2)

TAIGA - collaboration

Germany

Hamburg University(Hamburg)
DESY (Zeuthen)
MPI (Munich)

Italy

Torino University (Torino)

Romania

ISS (Bucharest)

Russia

MSU (SINP) (Moscow)
ISU (API) (Irkutsk)
INR RAS (Moscow)
JINR (Dubna)
MEPhI (Moscow)
IZMIRAN (Moscow)
BINR SB RAS (Novosibirsk)
NSU (Novosibirsk)
ASU (Barnaul)

Content of report

1. High energy gamma-ray astronomy and TAIGA project

2. TAIGA current status

3. The experiment in future

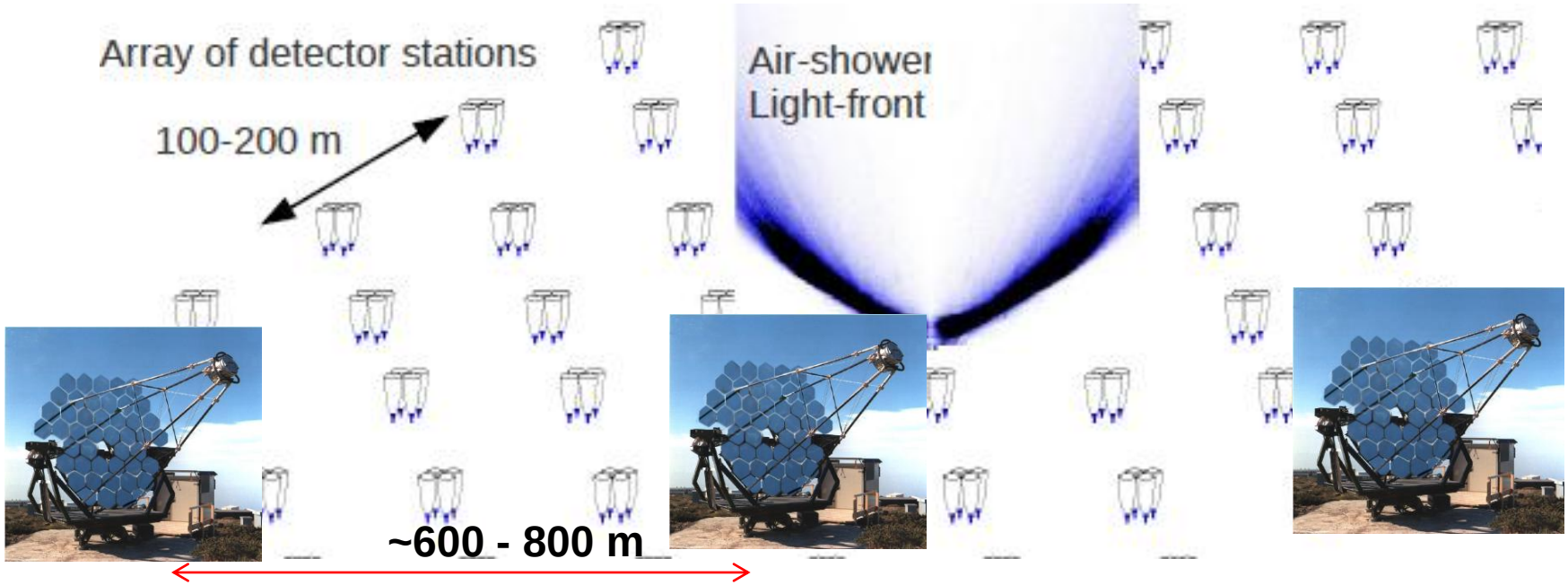
1.High-energy gamma-astronomy and the TAIGA project

The TAIGA experiment - a hybrid detector for very High energy gamma-ray astronomy and cosmic ray physics in the Tunka valley

The main idea: A cost effective approach for construction of large area installation is a joint operation of wide-field-of-view timing Cherenkov detectors (the *non-imaging technique) with a few small-size imaging Air Cherenkov Telescopes.*

The first stage of TAIGA - 1 km^2 area installation with 120 wide-angle timing detectors and 3 IACTs.
Commissioning of installation in 2019

TAIGA : Imaging + non-imaging techniques



TAIGA - HiSCORE: core position, direction and energy
Gamma/ hadron separation - TAIGA-IACT (image form, monoscopic operation)

Scientific Program

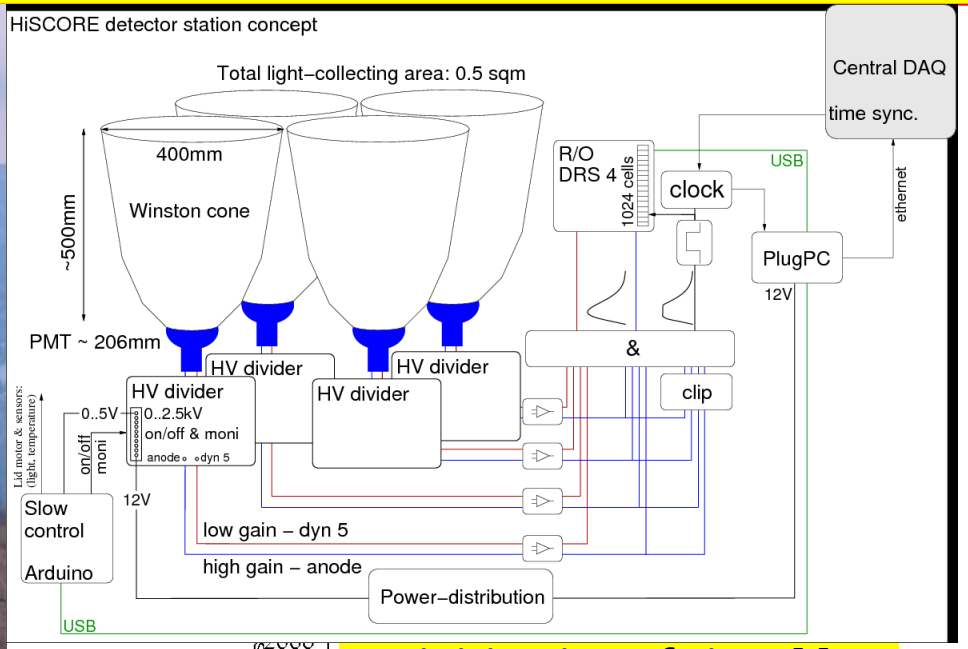
1.Study of high-energy edge of spectrum of galactic gamma-ray sources. Search for Pevatrons

2. Monitoring of the bright extragalactic sources

3.Apply the new hybrid approach (joint operation of IACTs and wide-angle timing array) for study of cosmic rays mass composition in the “knee” region (10^{14} -10^{16} eV)

4. Fundamental physics (photon-axion oscillation, indications of Lorentz invariance violation etc).

Wide angle station

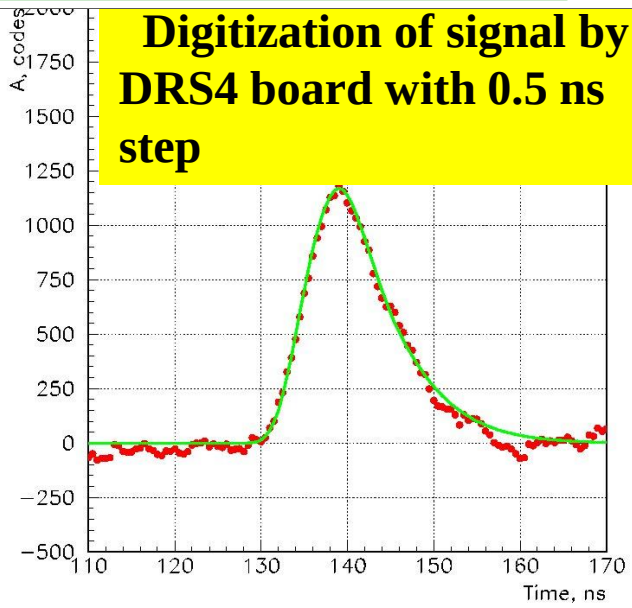


Winston cone and PMT with 20-25 cm photocathode diameter

S tot = 0.5 m^2

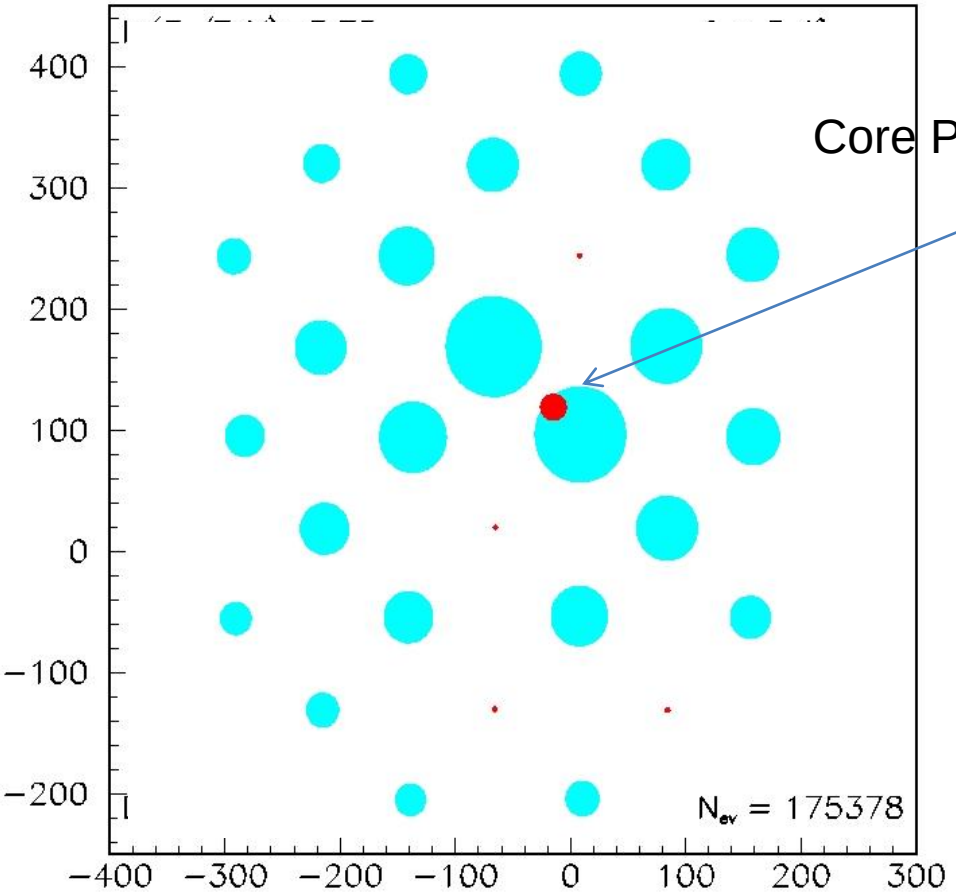
(R5912, R7081, ET9352)

Digitization of signal by DRS4 board with 0.5 ns step



Synchronization and data taking via optical cable

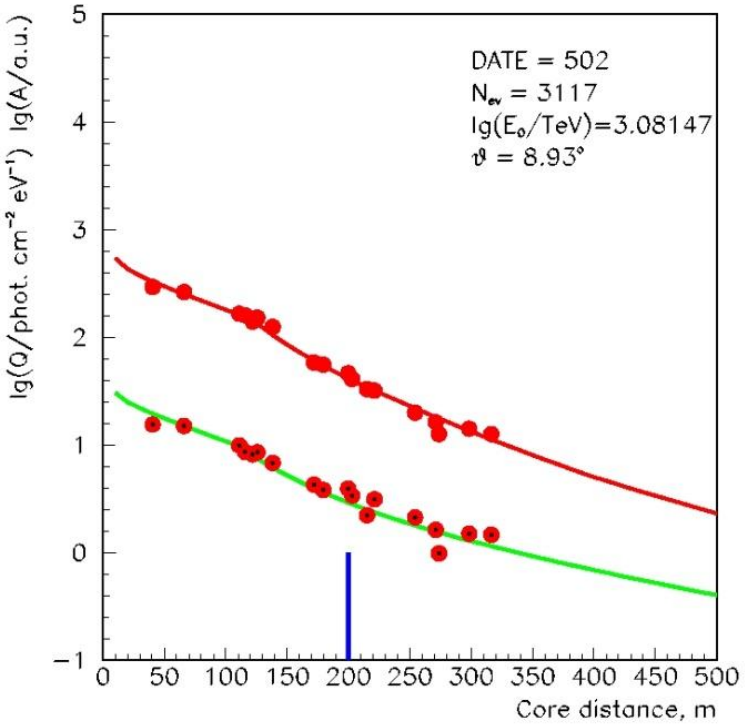
Event example



Core Position

R ~ Lg (Photon flux)

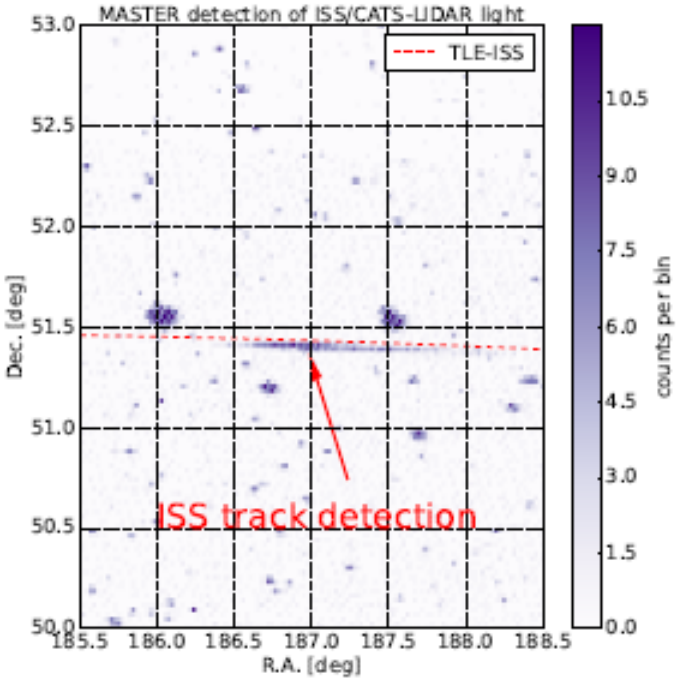
Lateral Distribution Function (LDF)

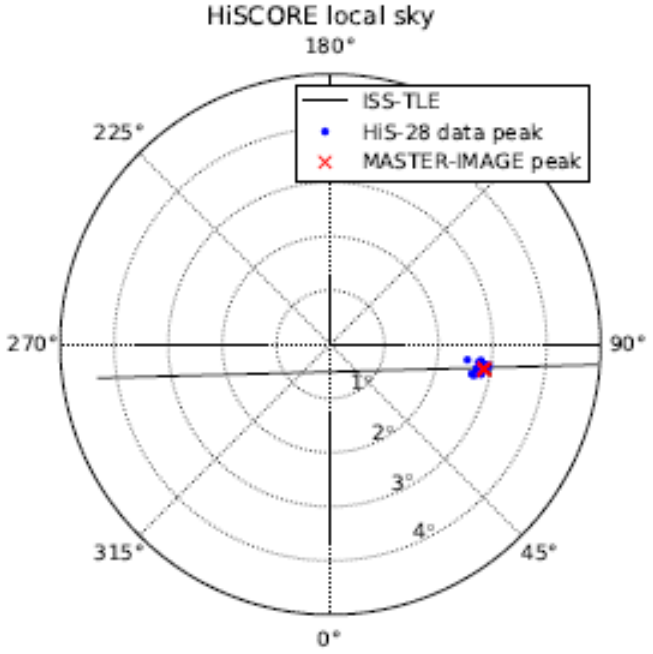


Energy determination:

$$E = C \cdot Q(200)^{094}$$

Common observation of ISS LIDAR by HiSCORE and optical telescope MASTER





Absolute pointing of HiSCORE $\alpha_{miss} \sim 0.1^{\circ}$

TAIGA-IACT

(the Northernmost telescope)

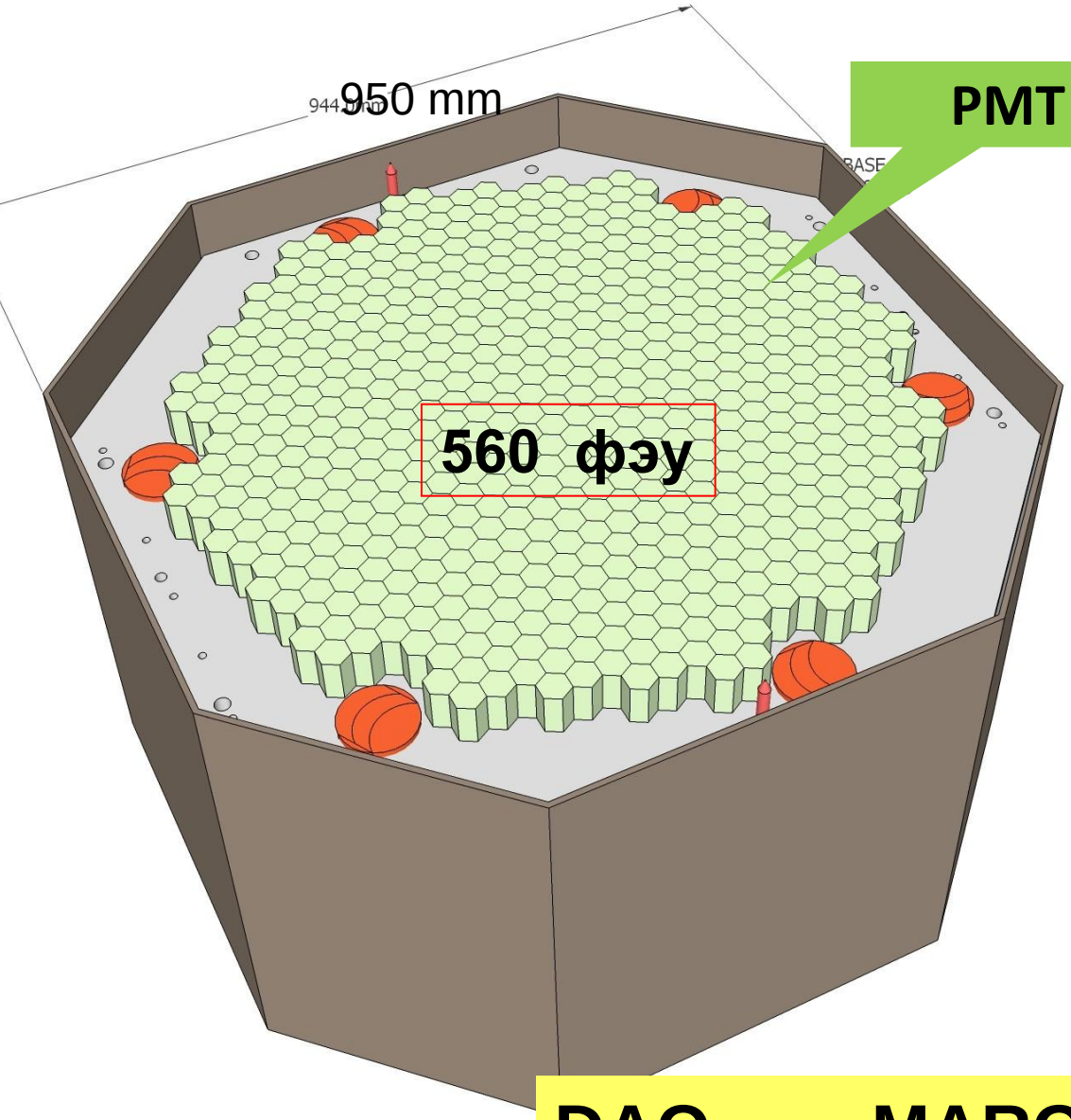
D = 4.32m F = 4.75m

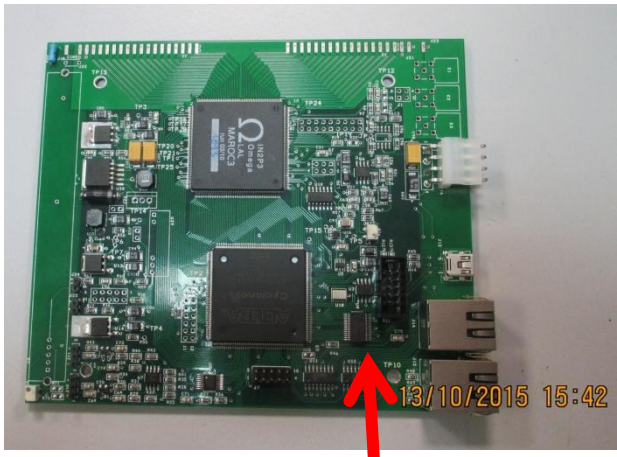
29 glass mirrors of 60 cm diameter

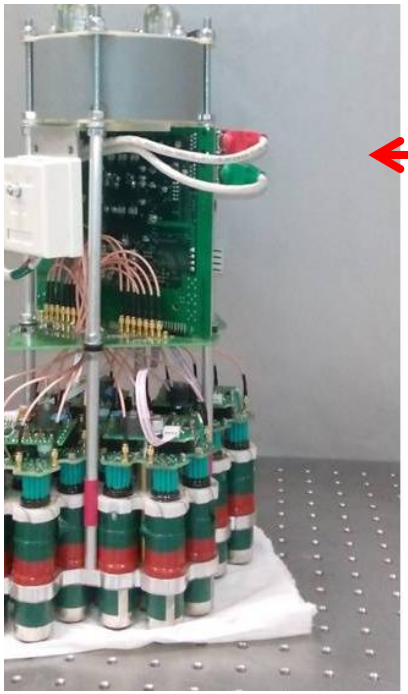
Camera : 560 PMTs (XP 1911) with 15 mm useful diameter of photocathode
Winston cone: 30 mm input size, 15 mm output size
aperture single pixel = 0.36°
FOV diameter ~ 9.6°

Energy threshold ~1.5 TeV

Camera of the TAIGA-IACT







Maroc-3
64 channel
board

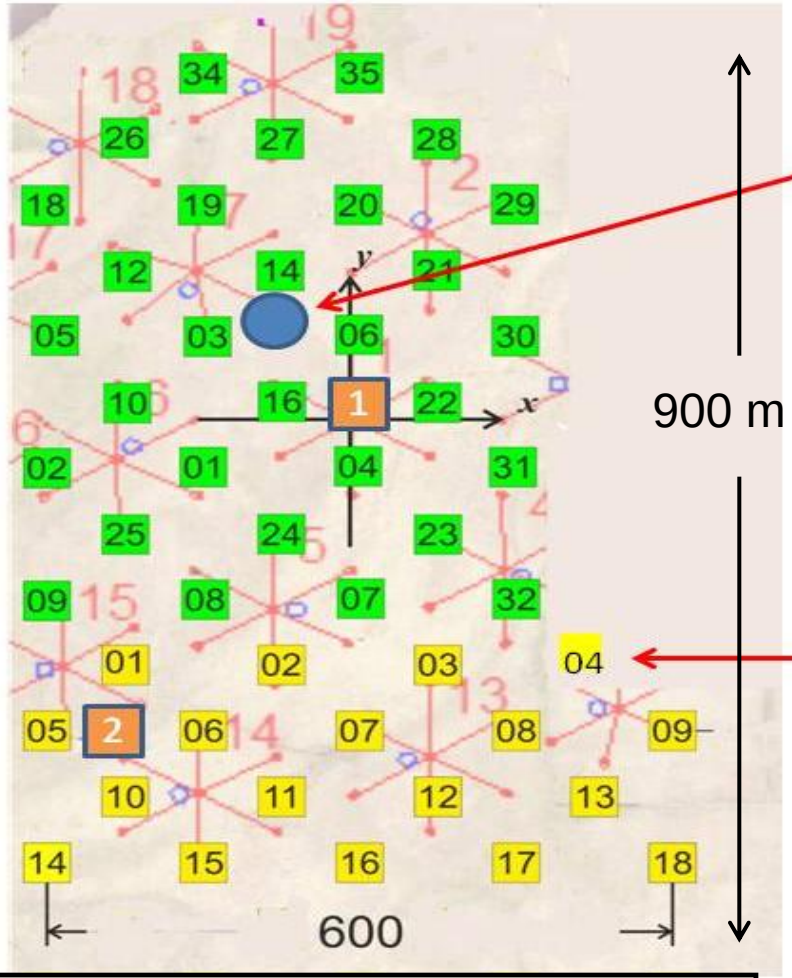
Cluster –
28 PMTs
22 clusters
per camera

DAQ - MAROC3


February, 2018

2. TAIGA current status

Season 2017-2018: layout parameters



IACT:

S of mirrors **8.5 m²**

Focus **4.75 m**

FOV **9.5º**

HiSCORE stations:
43 stations

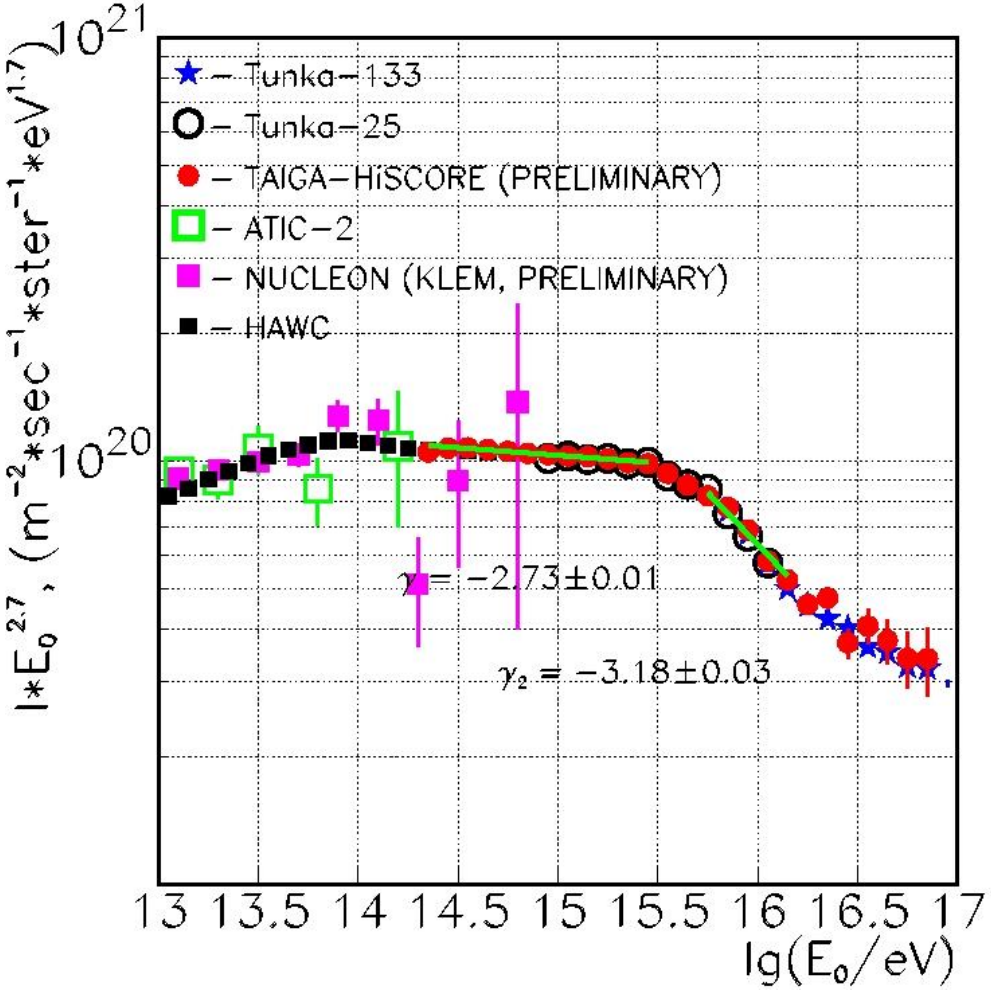
"Tilting" to the South at 25º

Sub-ns array-wide
time synchronization

4 PMTs of 8'' size
with Winston cones
(light collection 0.5 m²)
FoV ~0.6 sr

43 detectors , 106 m spacing, S~0.5 km² (Only green stations were included in analysis) S~0.25 m²

CR energy spectrum 2018



Monitoring of “Test” gamma-ray sources (CraB, Mrk-421) by the IACT in the stand-alone mode

Expectated observation time with 50% good weather time:

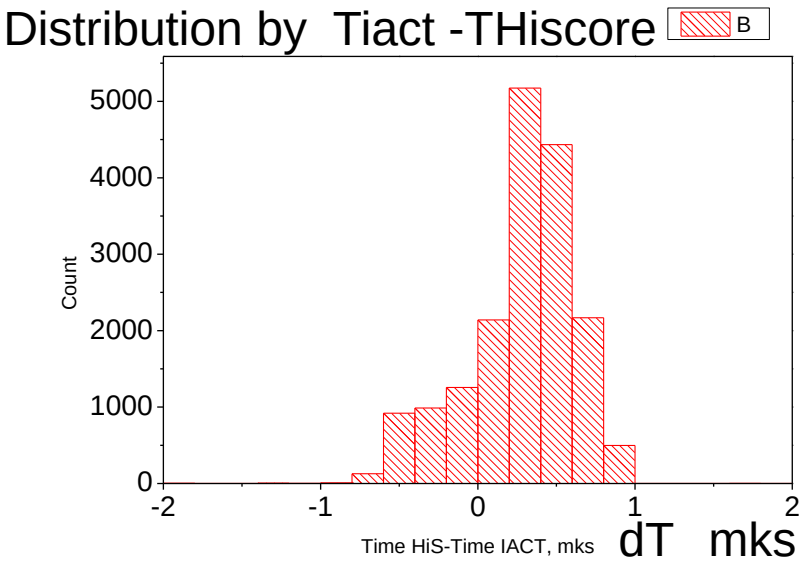
Crab - 130 hr
Mrk-421 - 120 hr
Tycho - 190 hr

Due to abnormally bad weather during this season and a number of technical problems, the monitoring time of the "test" gamma sources (Crab, Mrk-421) was only about 25 hours.

The first results will be presented after 50 hours of observation for the low-energy region and after 100 hours of observation for hybrid events.

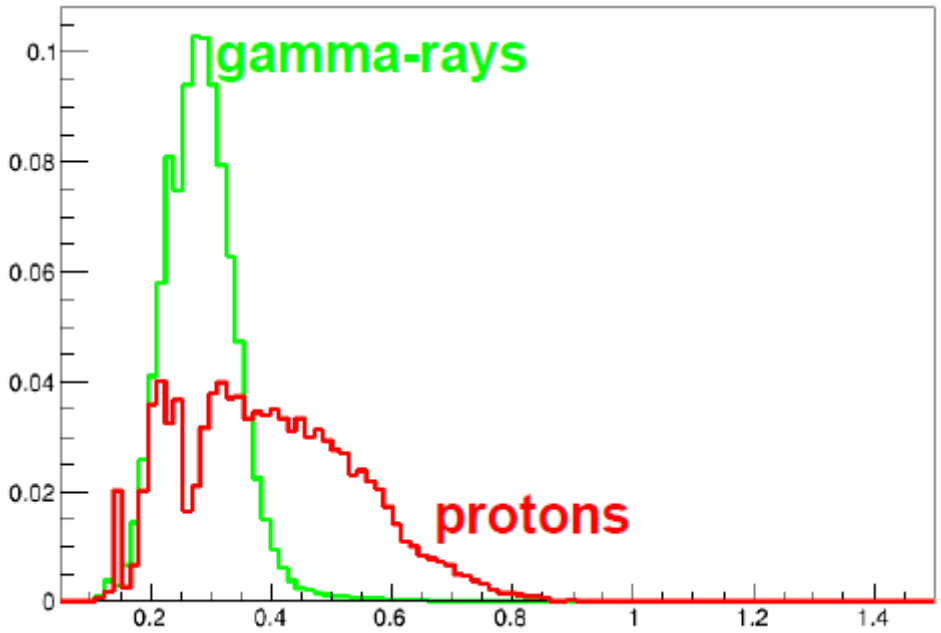
Statistics of Hybrid events

Ψ – the angle between the IACT pointing direction and the shower arrival direction, reconstructed by HiSCORE



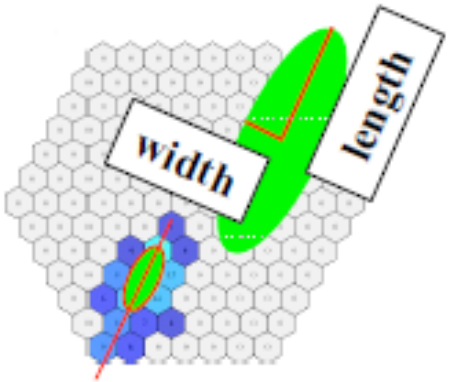
IACT only: effective time 25 hr, Size>60 pe., Npix>4	**95000**
HiSCORE only Ndet ≥ 4, (0.25 km^2)	**1.33 · 10^6**
IACT + HiSCORE joint events	**17000**
Expected estimation of joint events (in IACT FOV)	**15000**
Joint events out of IACT FOV (>5°)	**2000**
Hiscore + IACT in the Crab direction Ψ<1°	**255**

Selection events from gamma-rays by Hillas parameters

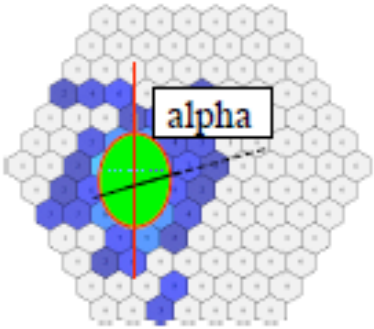


$N\gamma \; / \sqrt{(\text{background})} \longrightarrow N\gamma \times K1 \; / \sqrt{(\text{background})} \times \mathbf{K2}$

Gamma shower
(narrow, points to source)



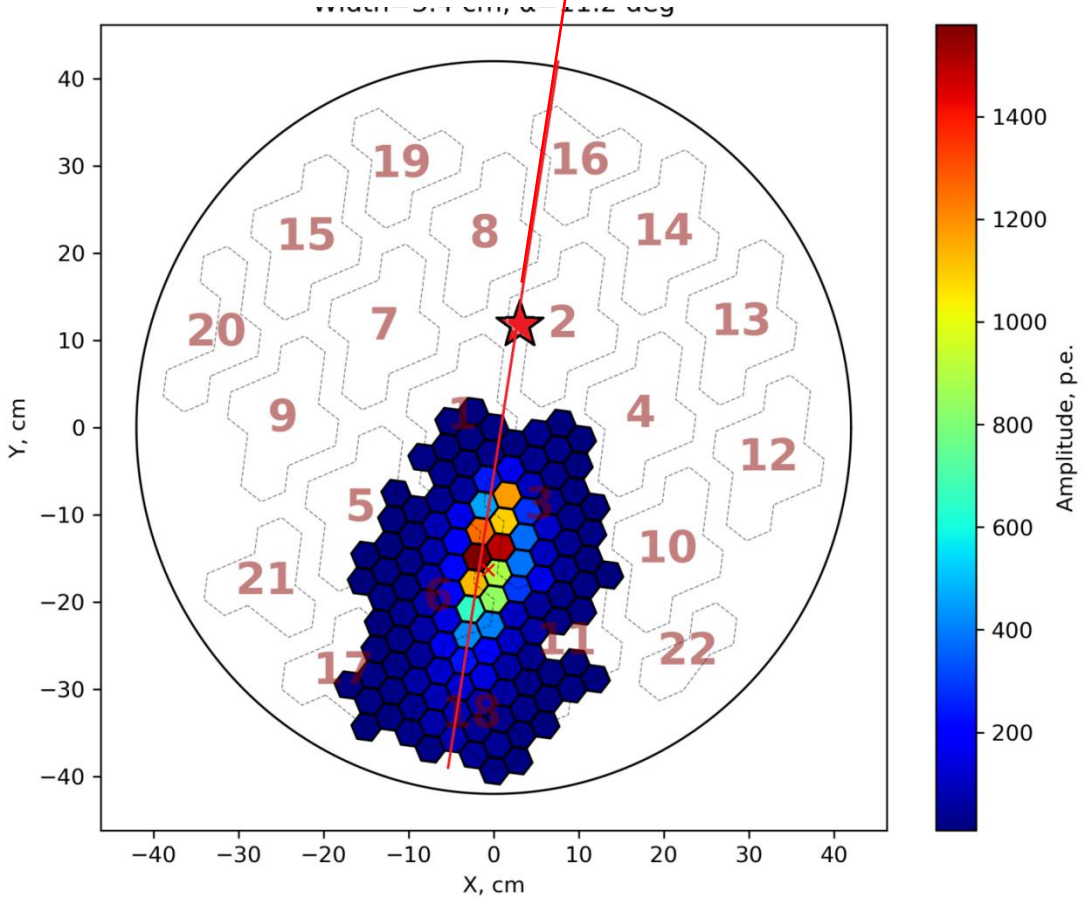
Proton shower
(wide, points anywhere)



$Q = K1 / \sqrt{\mathbf{K2}}$ - Q -factor

IACT and HiSCORE joint events

EAS core position



17000 joint events in 25 hours

~200 events in 1° around direction on Crab

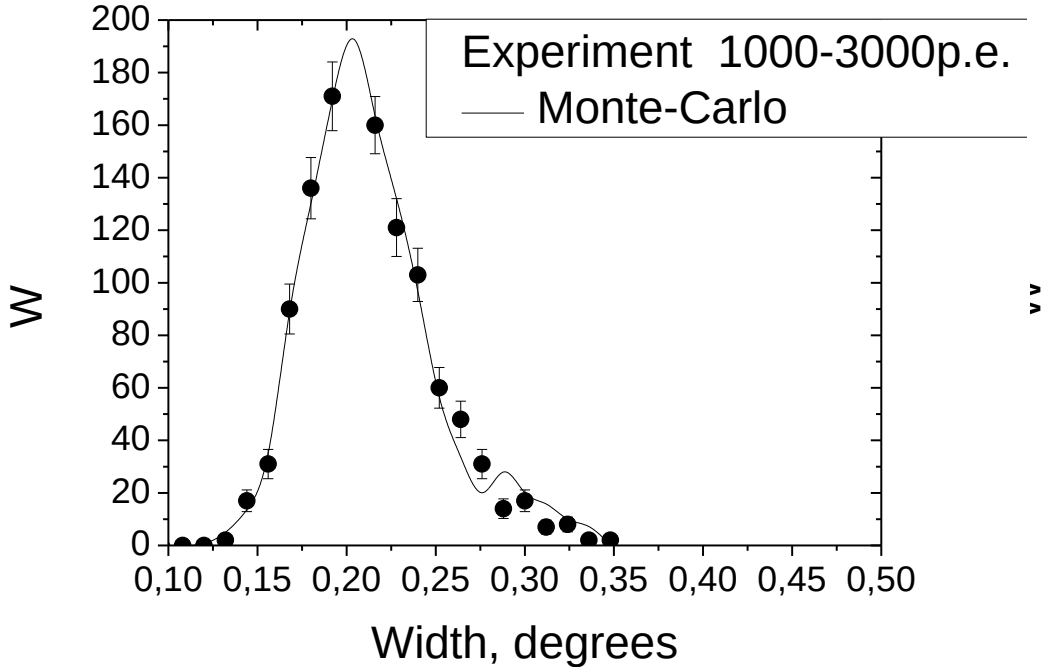
"Hadron –like" event

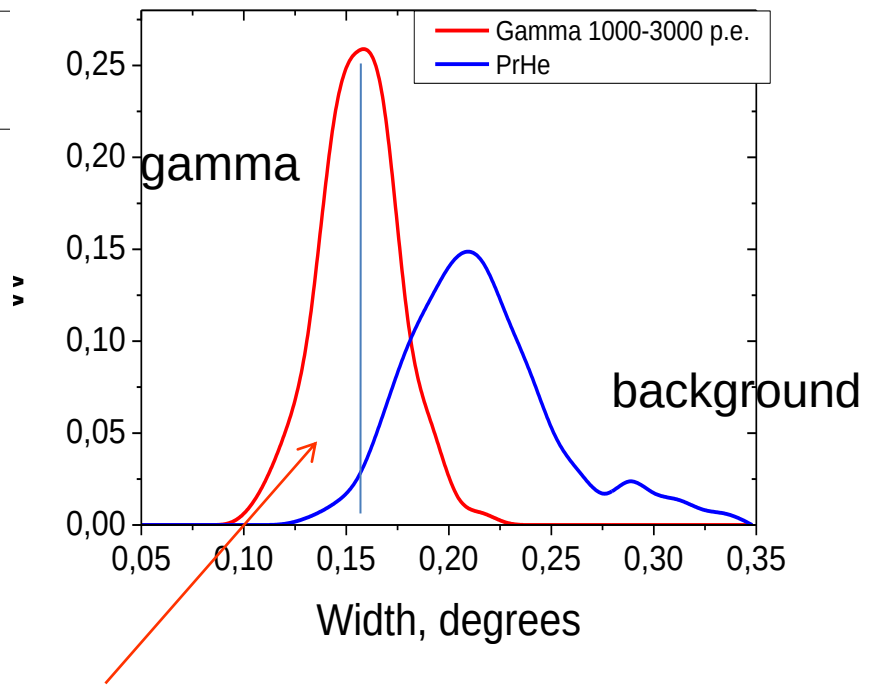
Hillas parameters of image:

Size = 18500 pe.
Width = 0.4° alpha = 11°

Energy from HiSCORE:
840 TeV

width of images : Experiment & MC





Hadron rejection – 0.03
gamma events - 0.6

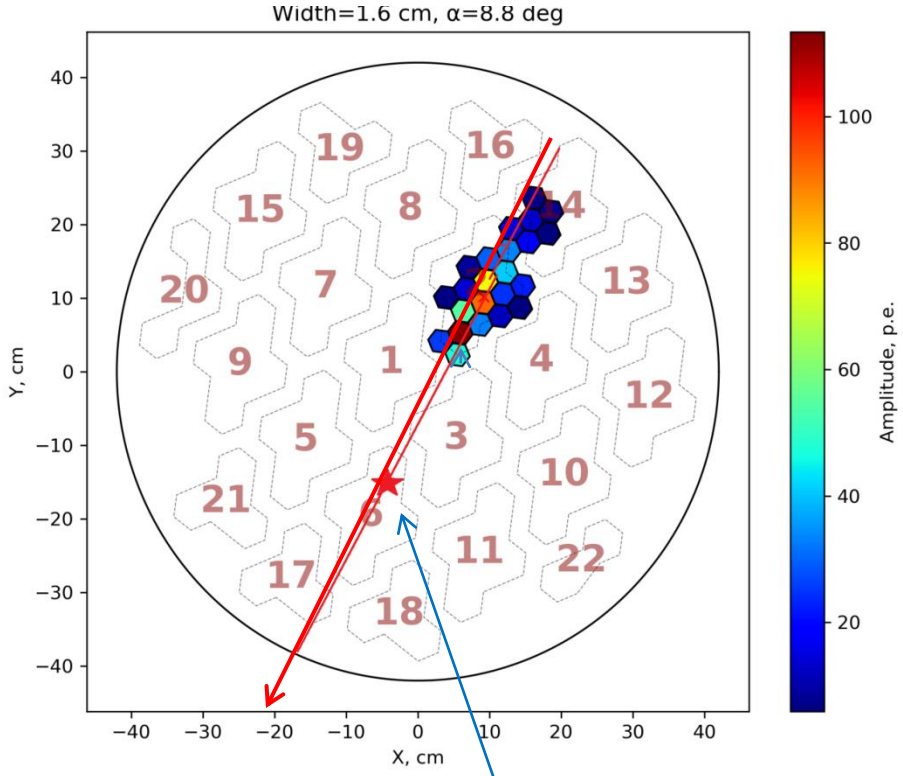
Q~3 .5

MC simulations after tuning successfully describes Hillas parameters for different intervals of Size and distance

FIRST EXAMPLE OF HYBRID "GAMMA-LIKE" EVENT

IACT data

Width=0.13º, length=0.69º, alpha=8.9º, size=709p.e.

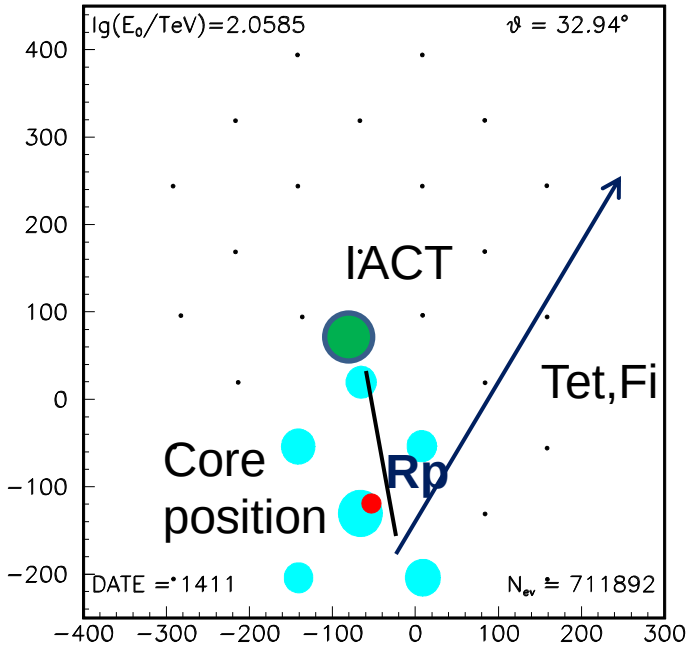


Recalculated core position in IACT plane after introduction of scaling factor Rp' = Rp/1500

HiSCORE data

E = 55 TeV

Tet = 32.9, Fi = 33. 58



Gamma-like events

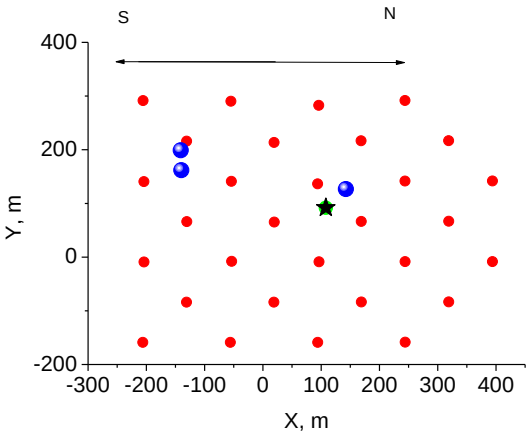
Ψ – the angle (the direction at the Crab, the shower direction by HiSCORE)

Effective Time – 25 hours

Full number of events with Gam <1° 255 events

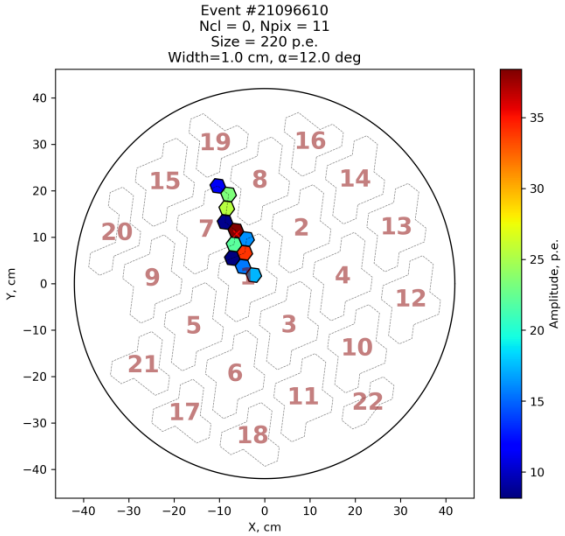
Criteria for Hillas parameters:

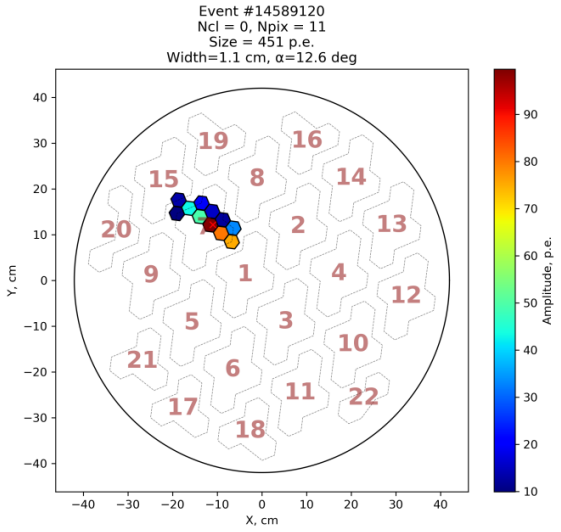
width < 0.16, alfa < 18° 7 events

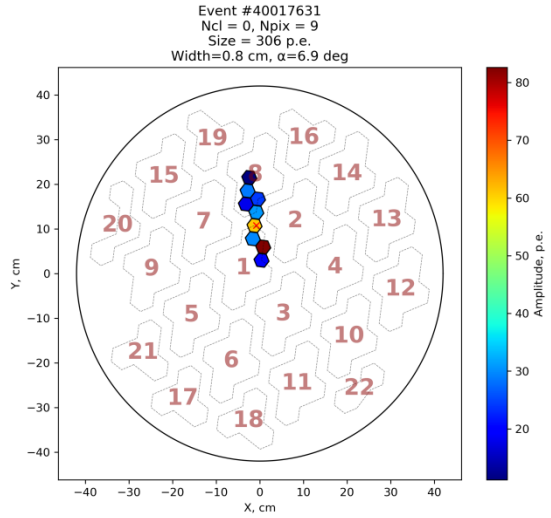


Energy gamma ~ 50-60 TeV

Distances ~ 50 m, 299 m, 270 m





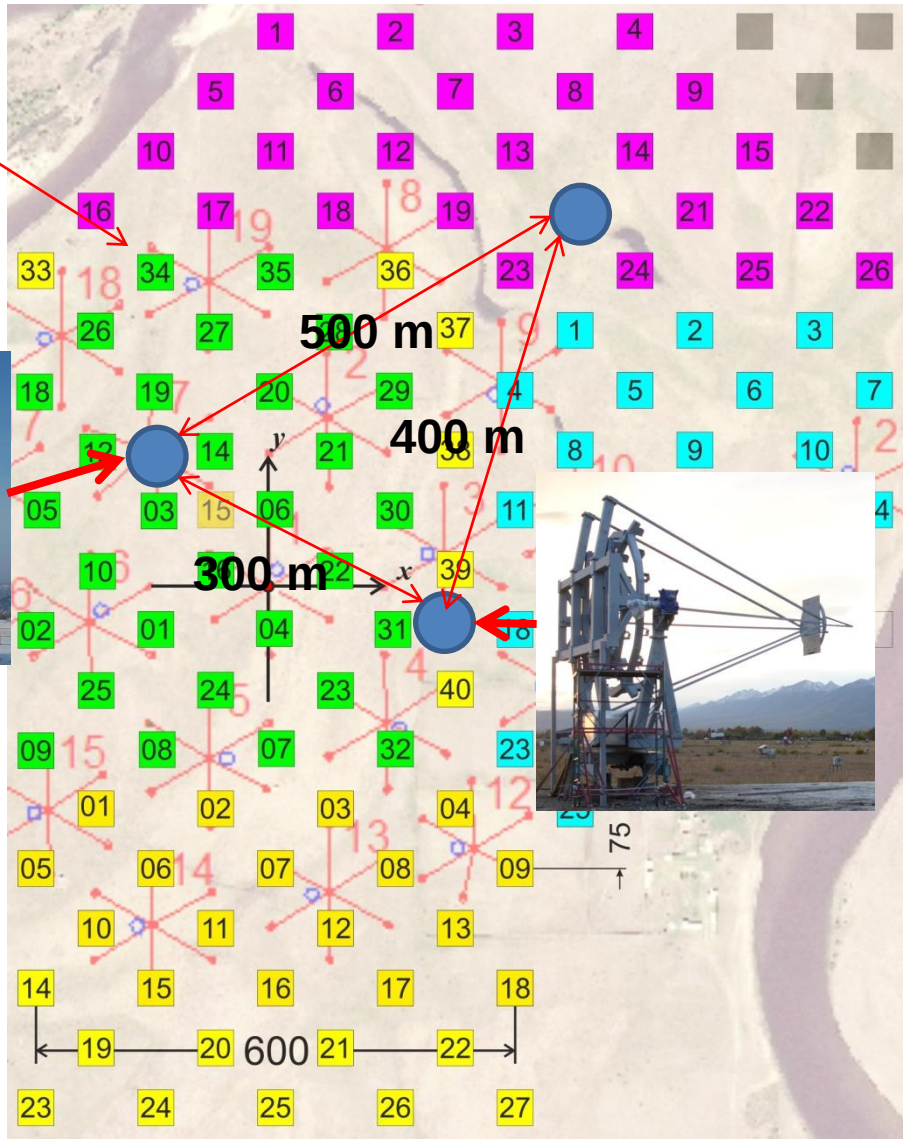


Expected number with energy Eg>50 TeV ~ 5-10 events

3. The future of experiment

Plan for 2018-19

120 stations



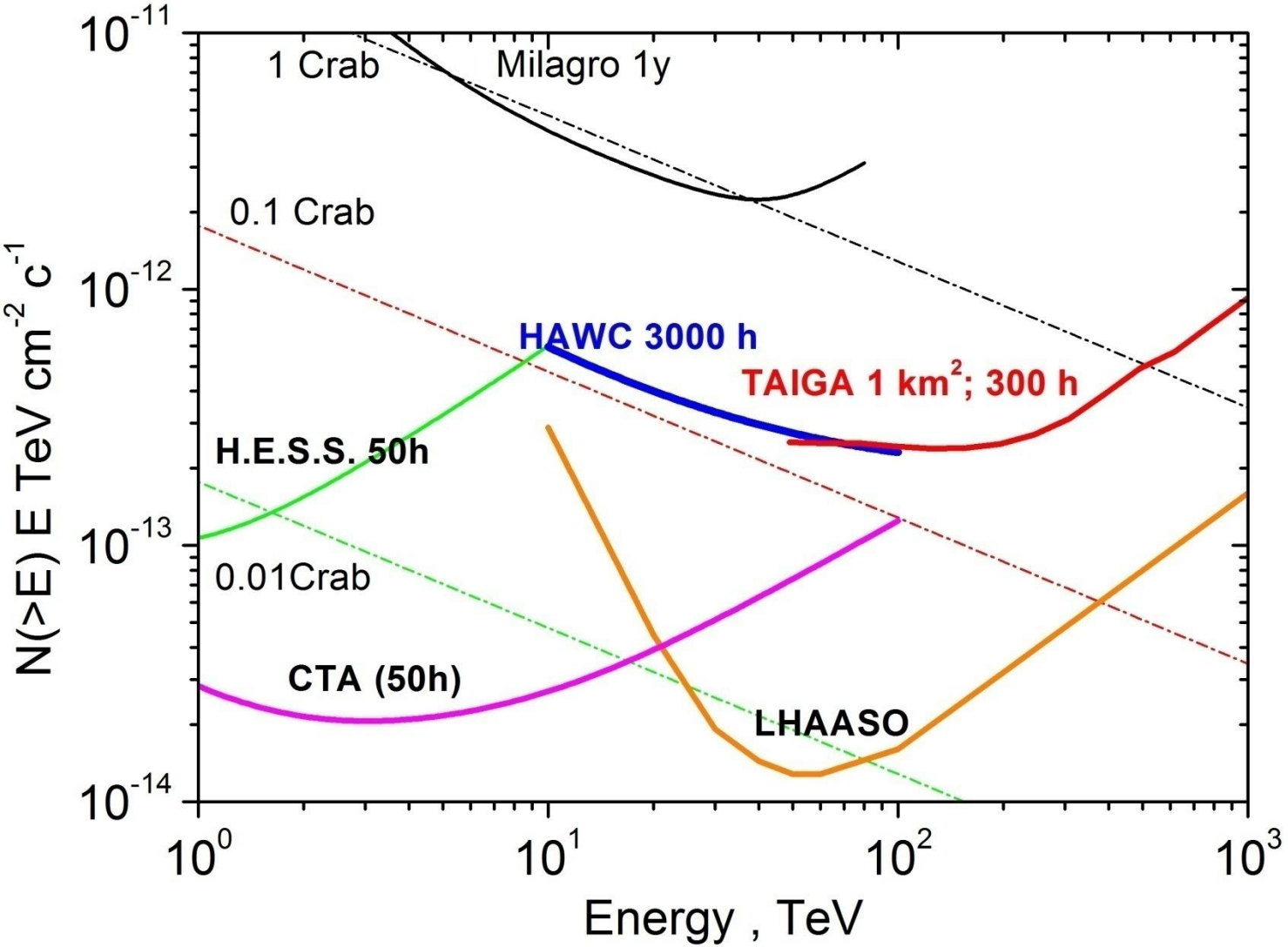
For 100 hours

$3 \cdot 10^5$ hybrid events (CR mass composition)

50-100 hybrid events from Crab (E ≥.40 TeV)

Mirrors and camera
In April 2019

Integral sensitivity to local sources



Long term plan for TAIGA

- **1000 wide angle optical station on the 10 km^2 area, energy threshold 30 TeV**

- **15-20 IACTs (10 m^2 mirrors).**

- **Muon detectors with total area 3.0 10^3 m^2.**

Conclusion

1 TAIGA - 10 km^2 hybrid array 1000 wide-angle stations and 15-20 IACTs). The sensitivity for local sources in the energy range 30 -200 TeV is expected be **– 10^{-13} TeV cm^{-2} sec^{-1} (for 500 h observation)**

2. Deployment of the full scale TAIGA prototype -120 wide-angle stations and three IACTs is planned for 2019.

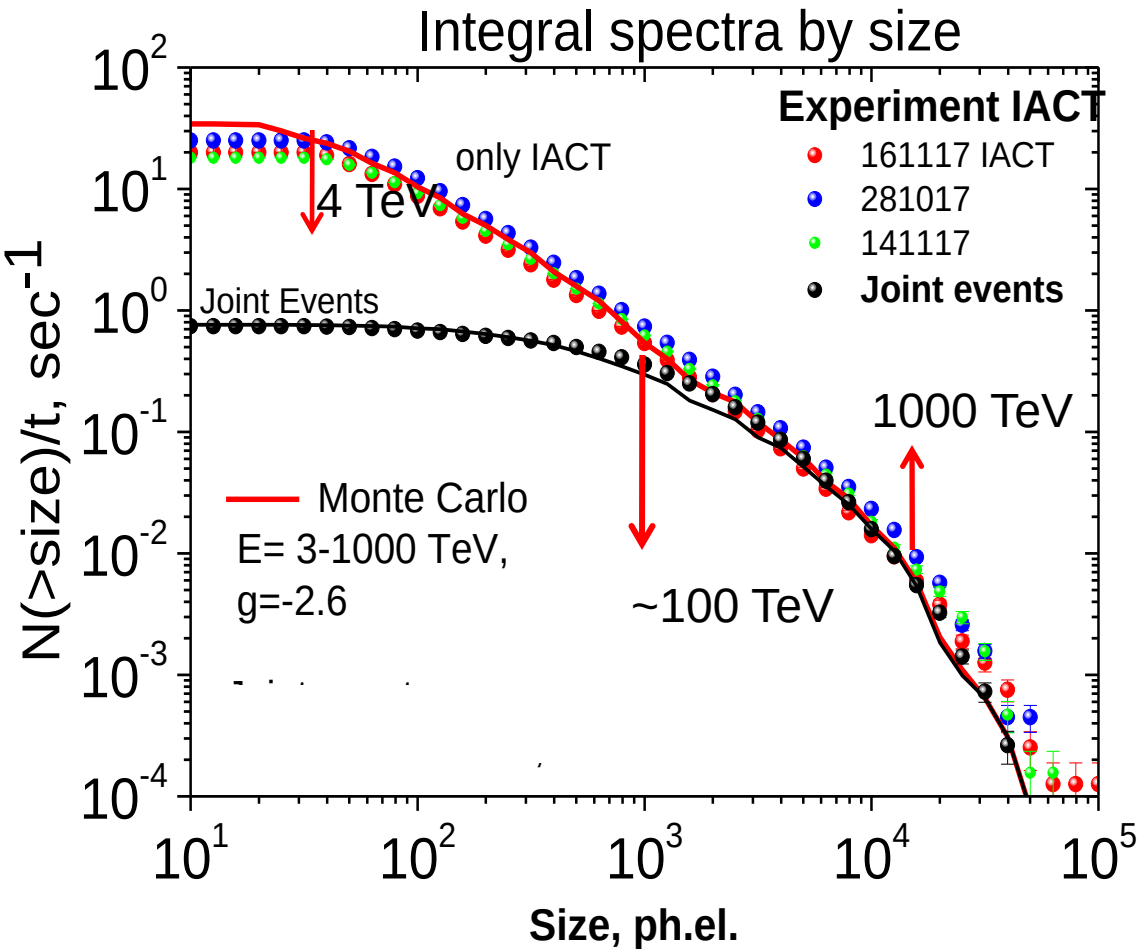
The expected sensitivity for 300 hours source observation with this array in the range 30 – 200 TeV is about **2.5 10^{-13} TeV/(cm^2 sec),** extending the energy range of existing and planned experiments to the ultra-high energy range.

3. The first commission seasons were successful:

- found out and removed bugs in hardware and software
- CR energy spectrum below the knee
- Lidar on board ISS – light calibration source for TAIGA
- First results from joint operation of HiSCORE and IACT

Thank you

Integral spectra by size for the IACT events and joint events



HiSCORE energy spectra In linear scale

Peak energy
~100 TeV – CR
~ 50 TeV – gamma