A satellite-style map of the Baikal-GVD region, showing the dark blue lake of Baikal in the center, surrounded by green and yellow terrain with a network of rivers and streams. The text is overlaid on this map.

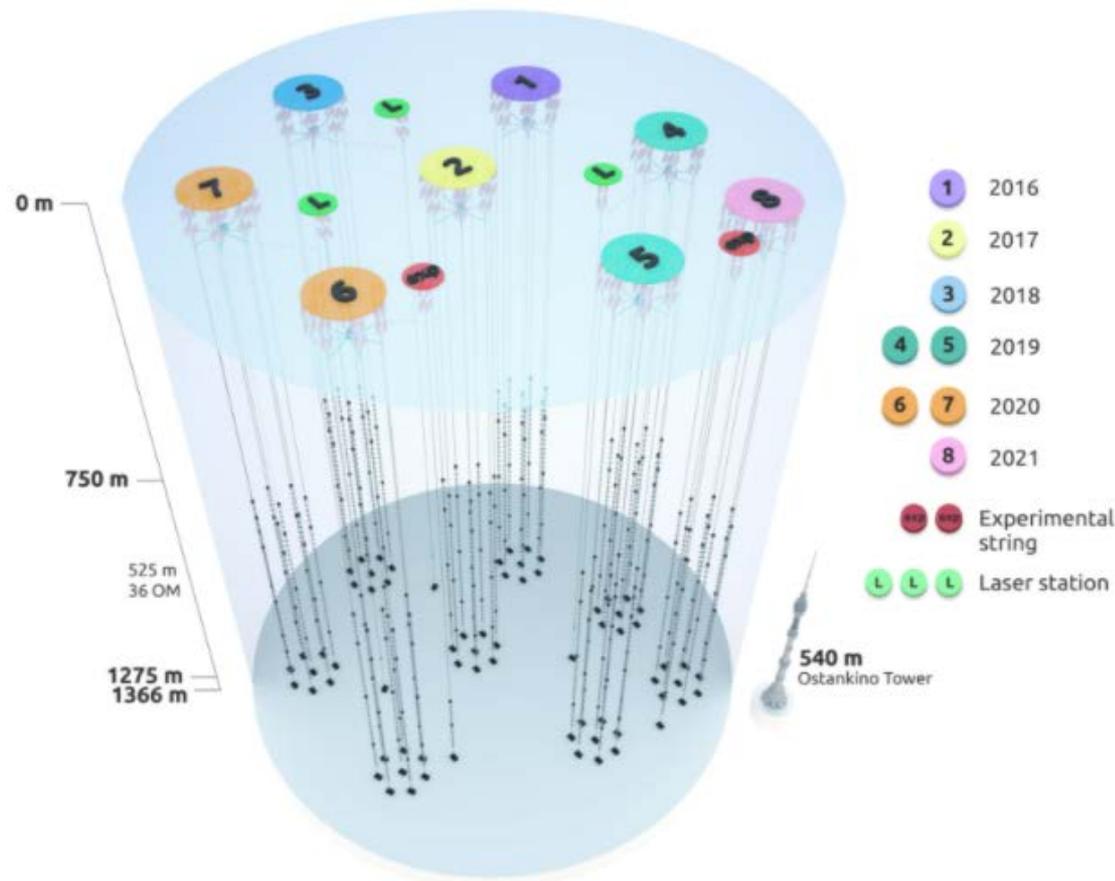
The Baikal-GVD neutrino telescope: search for high-energy cascades

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for the Baikal Collaboration
ICRC2021, July 16, 2021**



Baikal-GVD construction status and schedule

Status 2021: 8 clusters, 3 laser stations, experimental



Deployment schedule

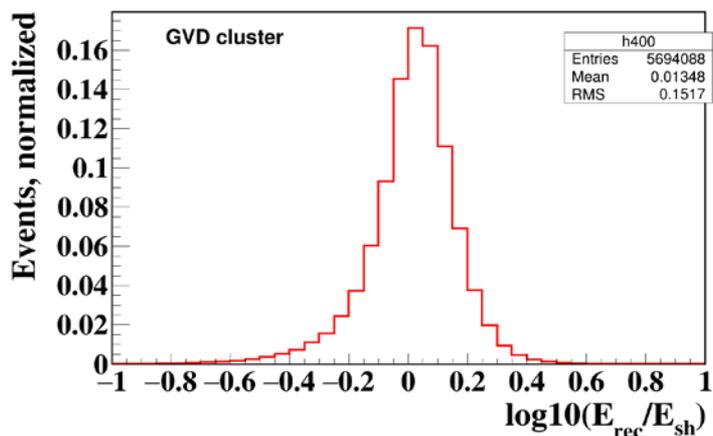
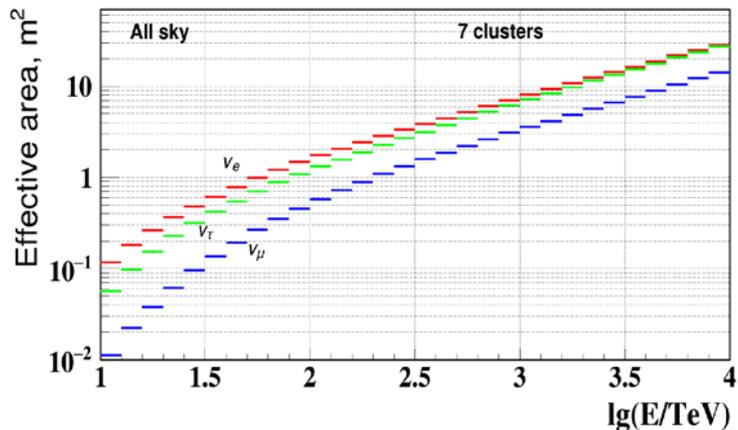
Year	Number of clusters	Number of OMs
2016	1	288
2017	2	576
2018	3	864
2019	5	1440
2020	7	2016
2021	8	2304
2022	10	2880
2023	12	3456
2024	14	4032

Effective volume 2021: 0.40 km^3 (cascade mode $E > 100 \text{ TeV}$)



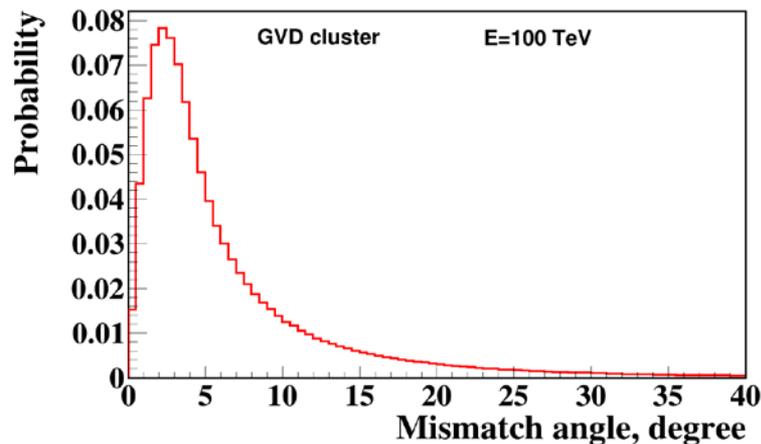
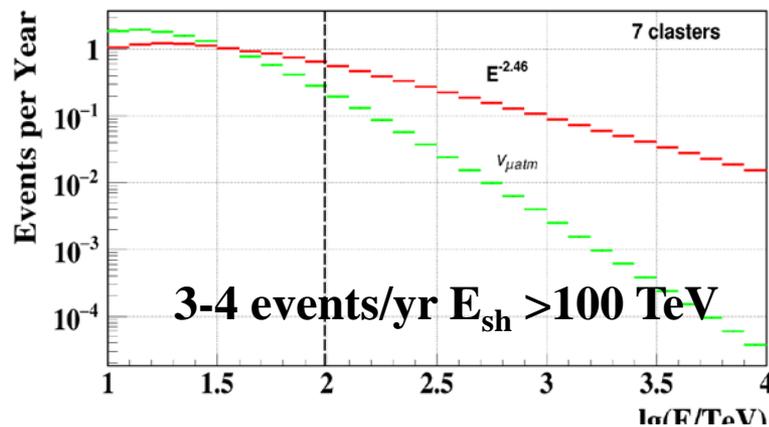
Cascades detection with GVD Cluster

Neutrino Effective Area for 7 GVD Clusters



Energy resolution : $\delta E/E \sim 10\%-30\%$

Expected number of events in 7 GVD Clusters from astrophysical neutrinos for 1 yr.



Directional resolution for cascades:
 $2^\circ - 4^\circ$ - median value of mismatch angles



Preliminary!

High energy cascades (data and MC)

Data from 2019-2020 , **lifetime: 2915 days** (in terms of one cluster)

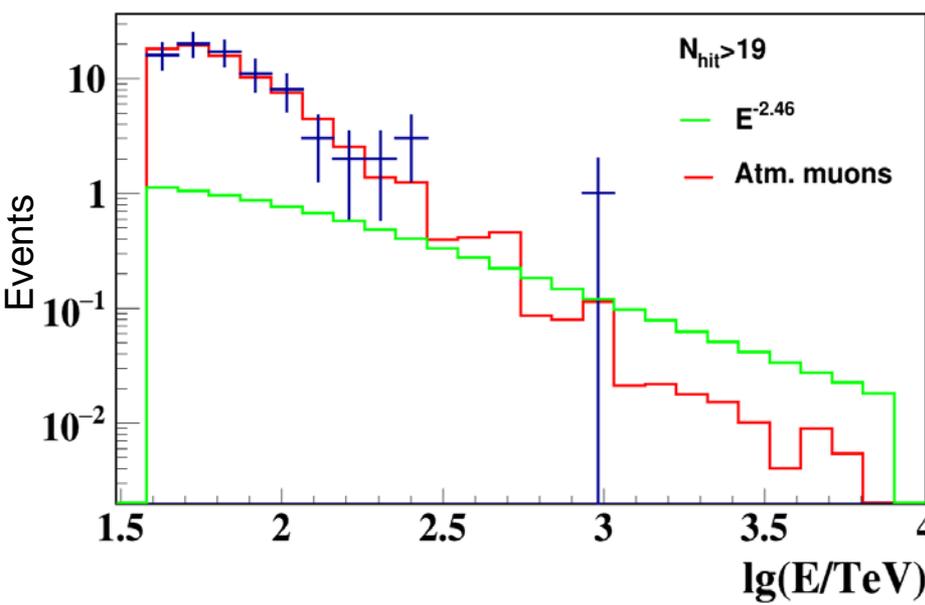
MC atmospheric muons - Corsika 7.74, Sybill 2.3c, protons, $E_p > 100$ TeV

Thanks to Jakob van Santen for modification of DYNSTACK CORSIKA.

72 events with $E > 40$ TeV and $N_{hit} > 19$

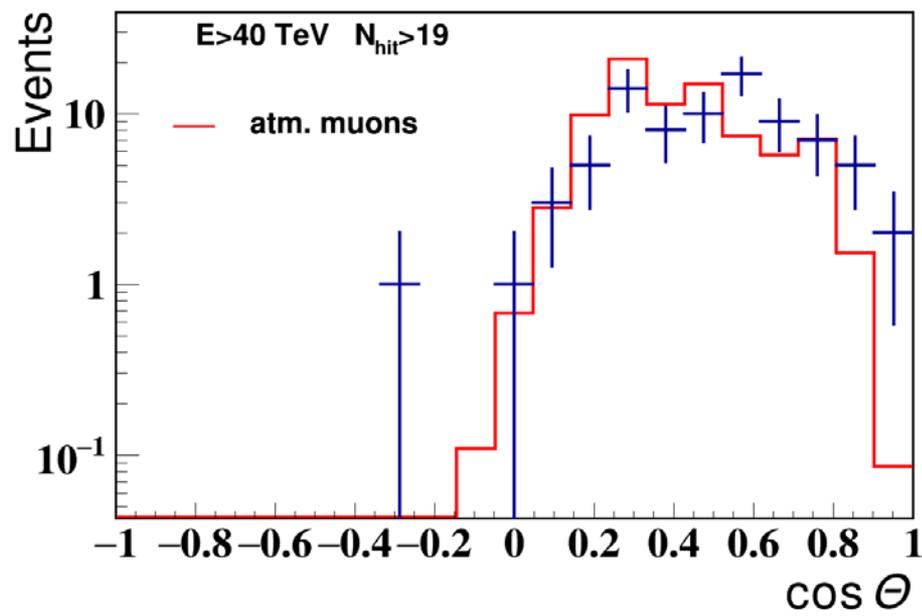
10 events with $E > 100$ TeV and $N_{hit} > 19$:

Energy distribution



One upgoing cascade: $E \approx 91$ TeV

Cosine of zenith angle





Final selection requirements:

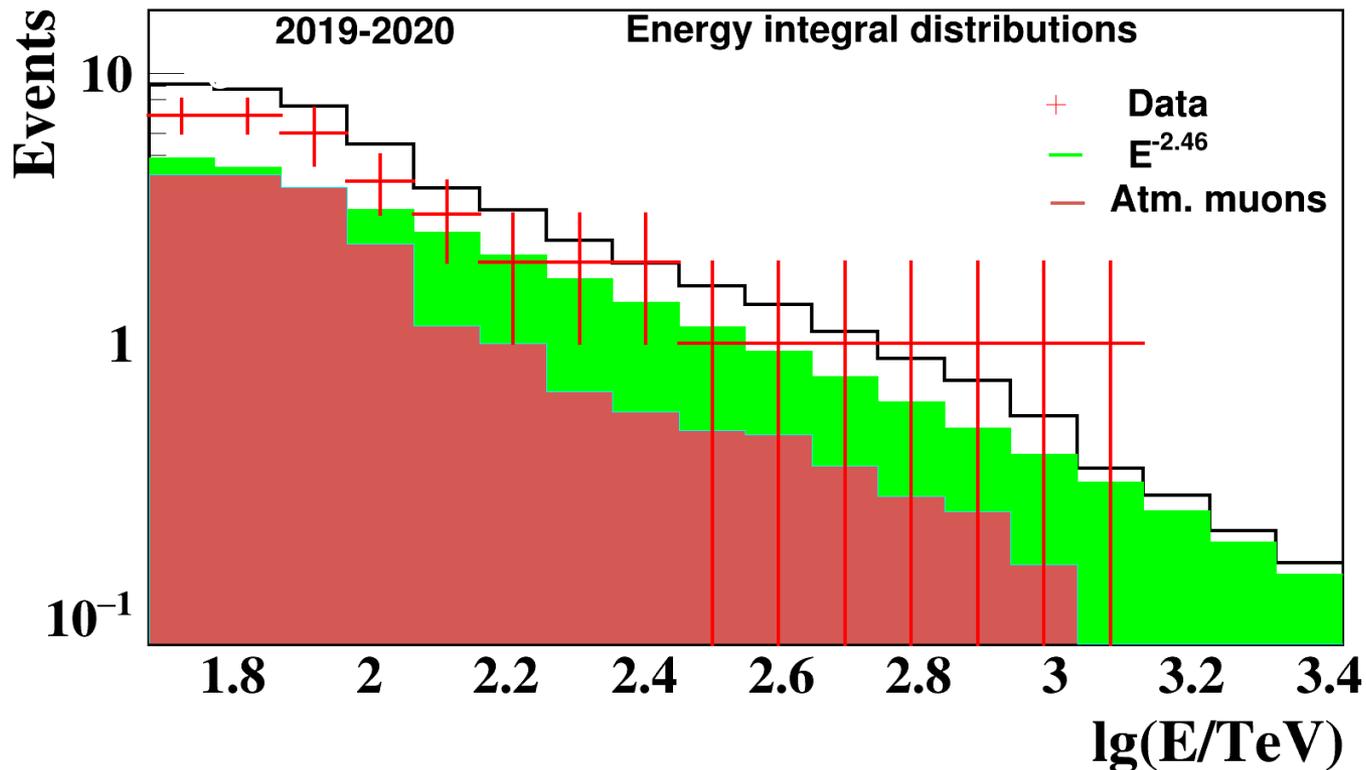
$(N_{\text{Type}_2} = 0, E_{\text{rec}} \geq 60 \text{ TeV})$ or $(N_{\text{Type}_2} = 1, E_{\text{rec}} \geq 100 \text{ TeV})$

7 data events have been selected.

4 events are expected from atm. muons

5 events are expected from $E^{-2.46}$ astrophys. flux with IC normalization

Cumulative distributions of data and events from atm. muons and astrophys. flux after final cuts





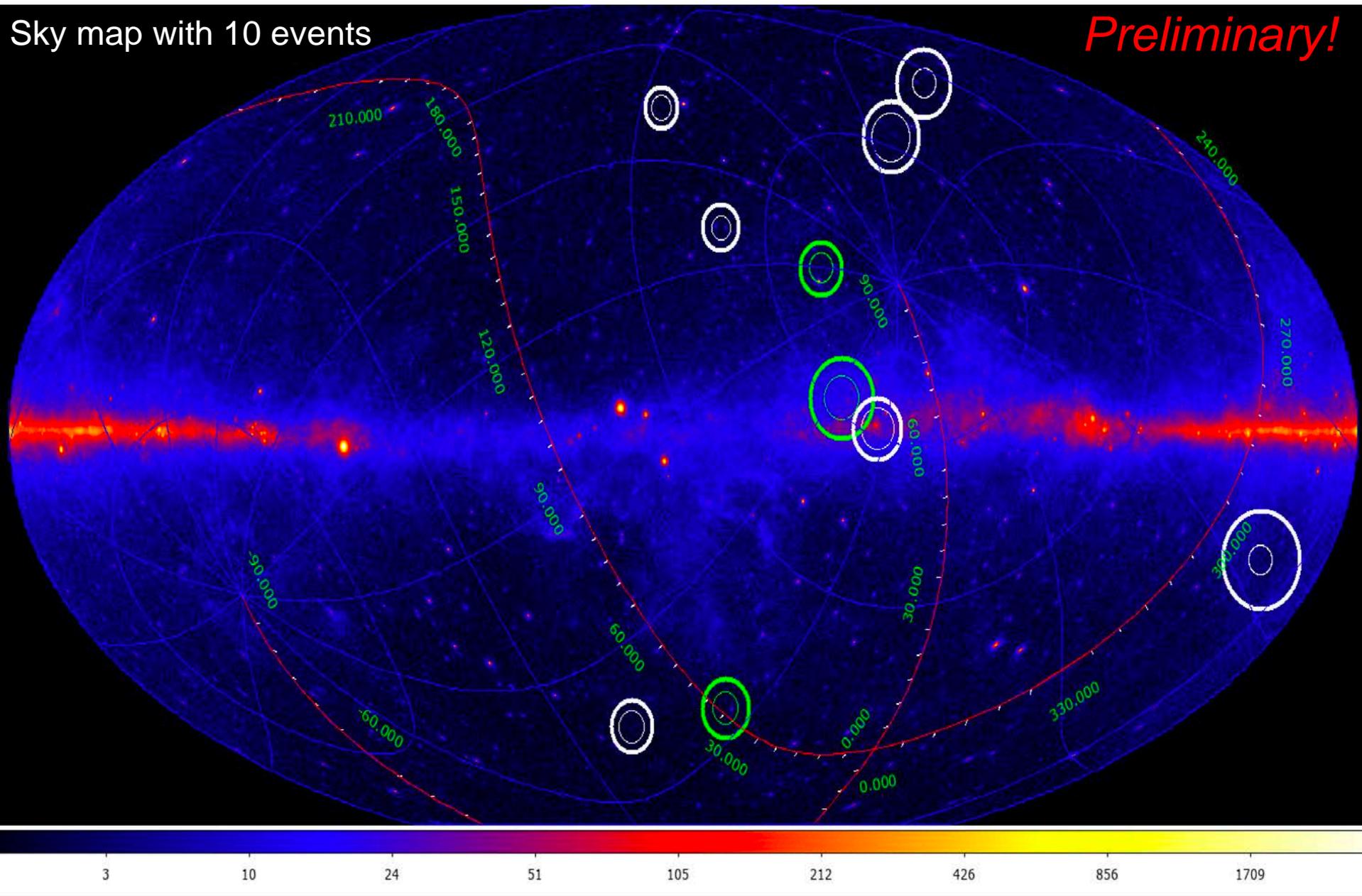
Preliminary!

Parameters of 10 selected events (2018-2020)

	E, TeV	θ_z, degree	φ, degree	R.A.	Dec
GVD2018_354_N	105	37	331	118.2	72.5
GVD2018_383_N	115	73	112	35.4	1.1
GVD2018_656_N	398	64	347	55.6	62.4
GVD2019_112_N	1200	61	329	217.7	57.6
GVD2019_114_N	91	109	92	45.1	-16.7
GVD2019_663_N	83	50	276	163.6	34.2
GVD2019_153_N	129	50	321	33.7	61.4
GVD2020_175_N	110	71	185	295.3	-18.9
GVD2020_332_N	74	92	9	223.0	35.4
GVD2020_399_N	246	57	49	131.9	50.2

Sky map with 10 events

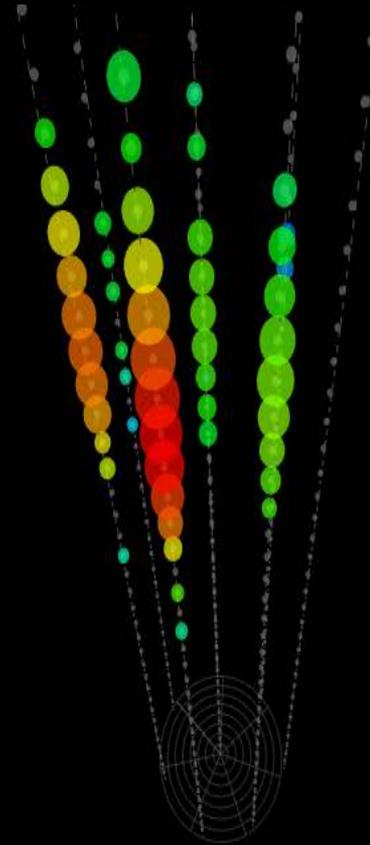
Preliminary!



GVD_2019_112_N

Preliminary

Energy $E = 1200 \text{ TeV } (\pm 30\%)$;
distance from central string $r = 91 \text{ m}$;
Zenith angle = 61°

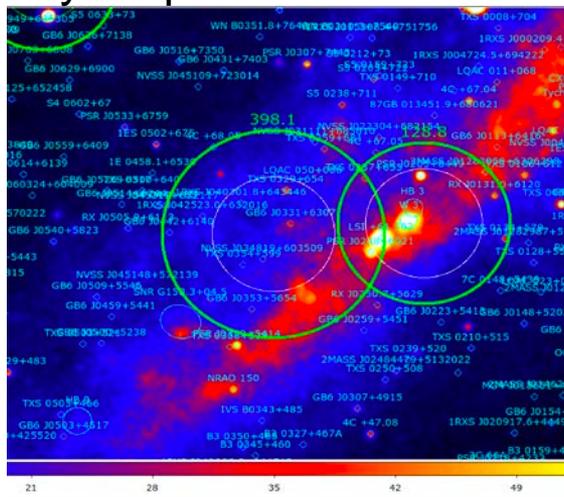




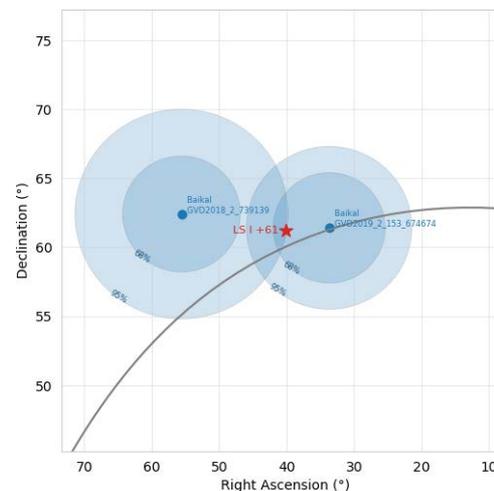
Preliminary!

Two close events at distance 10.3°: GVD_2018_656_N & GVD_2019_153_N

Sky map of Fermi sources



LSI +61 303 and two events



LSI +61 303 – at 3.1° and 7.4° from GVD_2019_153_N and GVD_2018_656_N

LSI +61 303 – γ -ray active microquasar

Using PSFs of all 10 events chance probability to observe such configuration was estimated:

p-value = 0.007 or 2.7 σ ! (conservative, preliminary!!!)



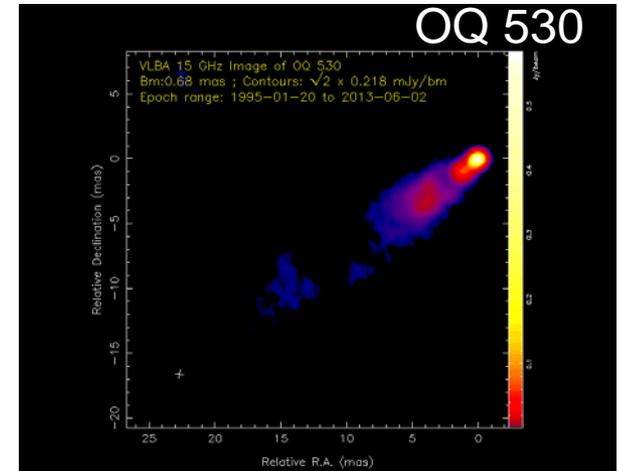
Radio-loud blazars – promising neutrino sources

A. Plavin et al., ApJ 894, 101 (2020)

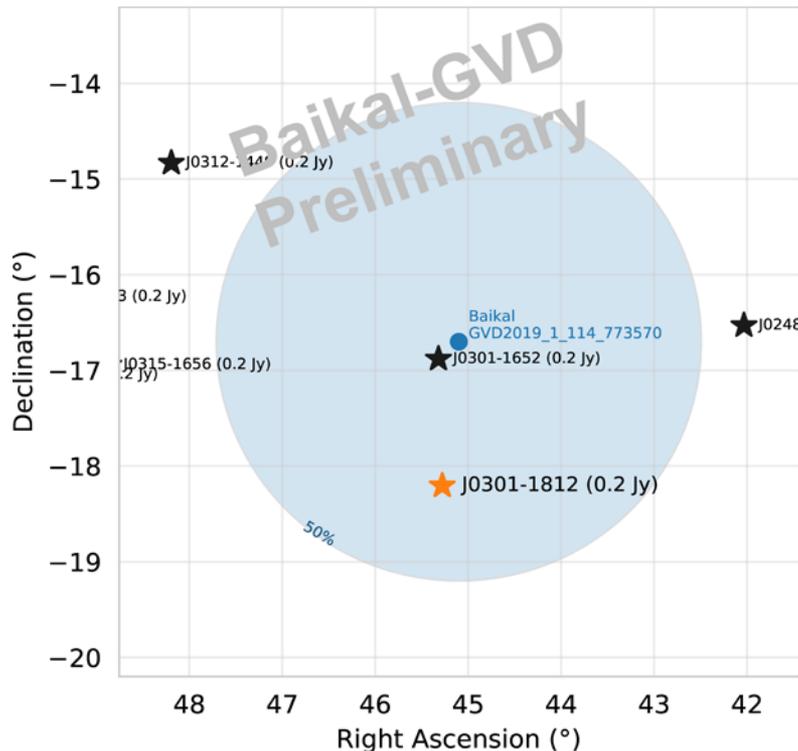
A. Plavin et al., ApJ 908, 157 (2021)

GVD2019_1_114_N

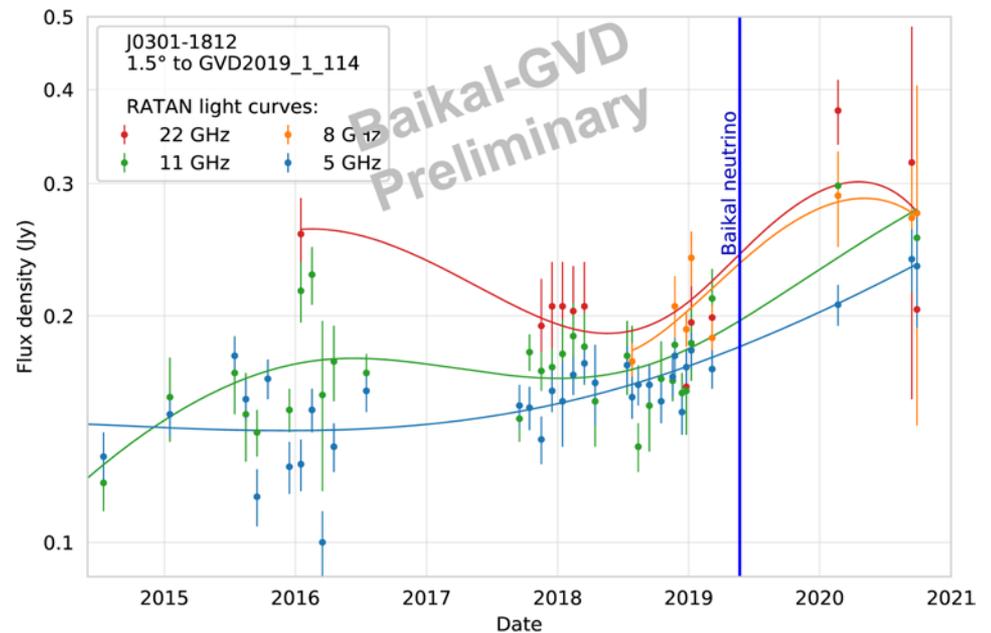
Radio blazar J0301-1812



Sky plot of radio-bright blazars nearby neutrino event



Light curves of J0301-1812 measured by RATAN-600





Conclusion

- Baikal-GVD is now the largest neutrino telescope in the Northern Hemisphere: 0.4 km^3 and growing
- Modular structure of GVD design allows a search for HE neutrinos and multimessenger studies at the early phases of array construction.
- Ten cascade-like events were selected from 2018-2020 data sample – first candidates for events from astrophysical neutrinos