

# Star formation and high energy neutrinos at IceCube: a correlation?

Cecilia Lunardini

Arizona State University



*Kimberly Emig, CL and Rogier Windhorst, JCAP 1512 (2015) 029,  
arxiv:1507.05711 (3 years IceCube data)*

*Greg Vance, Kimberly Emig, CL and Rogier Windhorst, work in progress  
( $\geq 4$  years IceCube data)*

# Contents

Star formation  
and high  
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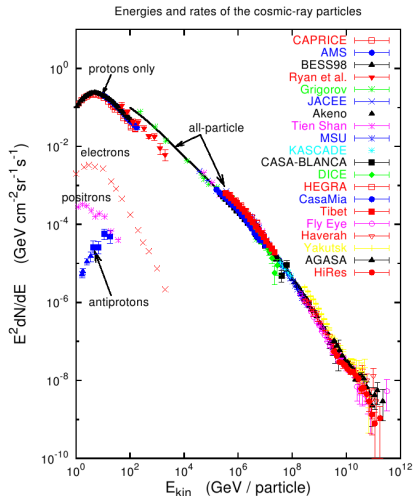
- Introduction: neutrino astrophysics at high energy ( $E \gtrsim 10$  TeV)
- the IceCube data and star formation: positional coincidences?
- discussion

# The highest energy particles: cosmic rays (CR)

Star formation  
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IceCube: a  
correlation?

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- $E \gtrsim 10^9$  GeV  
protons/nuclei
- unknown cosmic  
accelerators



from: Hillas, astro-ph/0607109

# Neutrinos and gamma rays from CR

Star formation  
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- the neutrino-cosmic ray connection: hadronic model

$$p + p \rightarrow \pi^0 + \pi^\pm, \quad p + \gamma \rightarrow n + \pi^+ / p + \pi^0$$

$$\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma + \gamma$$

$$\pi^\pm \rightarrow \mu^\pm + \nu_\mu(\bar{\nu}_\mu), \quad \mu^\pm \rightarrow e^\pm + \nu_e(\bar{\nu}_e) + \bar{\nu}_\mu(\nu_\mu)$$

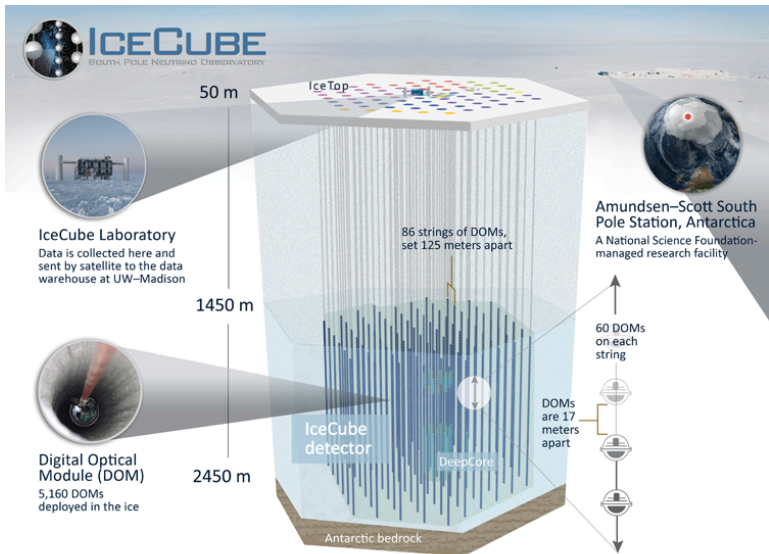
- targets: source itself, intergalactic medium, background photons, Earth's atmosphere
- Neutrino counterpart of gamma rays!

Berezinsky & Zatsepin, PLB28 (1969) 423-424

# The IceCube Neutrino Observatory

Star formation  
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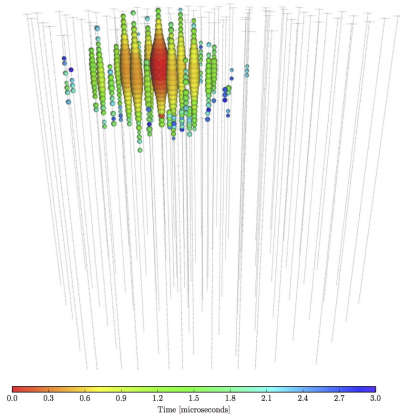
# IceCube 2013 : the discovery

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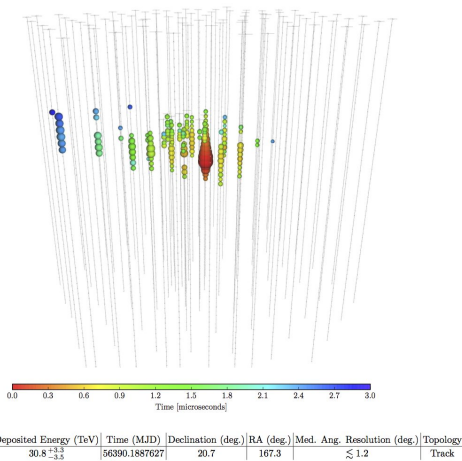
Aartsen et al. [IceCube coll.], PRL 111 (2013) 021103, Science 342 (2013) 1242856, PRL113 (2014) 101101

- “Big bird” :  
shower-like
  - $\nu_{\alpha} + (A, Z) \rightarrow$   
*anything*
- **2 PeV**  
deposited energy



Deposited Energy (TeV)	Time (MJD)	Declination (deg.)	RA (deg.)	Med. Ang. Resolution (deg.)	Topology
$2004^{+236}_{-262}$	56265.1338677	-55.8	208.4	15.9	Shower

- Track-like
  - $\nu_\mu + (A, Z) \rightarrow \mu + \text{anything}$
- observable muon track



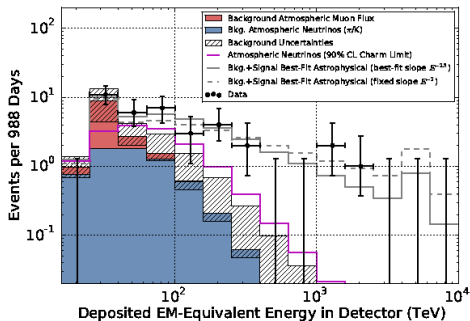


# The 988 days IceCube data: $5.7\sigma$ excess!

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- 37 events ( $\sim 15$  background expected)
- spectrum, normalization compatible with astrophysical origin
  - $\Phi_\nu(E) \propto E^{-k}$  ( $k \sim 2.3 - 2.6$ ) spectrum fit

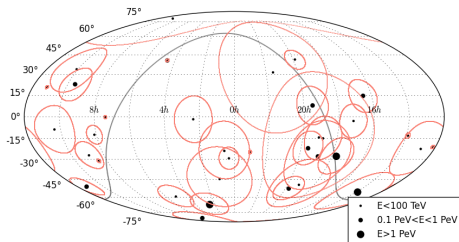


# The first neutrino sky map

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and high  
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Equatorial coordinates J2000, galactic plane shown.



- **28 shower-like** : median angular error  $\sigma \gtrsim 10^\circ$ 
  - # 28 and 35 discarded as background
- **9 track-like**: visible  $\mu^\pm$  track ;  $\sigma \lesssim 1^\circ$ 
  - Consistent with background

# Quest for neutrino emitters: hadronic accelerators

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## What are the sources of the IceCube neutrinos?

- spectrum: comparison with modeled diffuse fluxes
  - $p + p$  a natural fit  $\rightarrow$  starburst galaxies? Galaxy clusters?  
Murase, Ahlers, and Lacki, PRD 88, 2013 121301 ; Murase, arxiv:1410.3680
- arrival direction: search for positional coincidences with known astrophysical objects
  - model-independent: neutrinos are *undeflected* !
  - etherogeneous approaches, mixed results

## References on positional coincidences:

IceCube Coll., ApJ. 796, 2014 , arXiv:1408.0634;

**UHECR:** K. Fang, T. Fujii, T. Linden, and A. V. Olinto, ApJ 794 2014 ; R. Moharana and S. Razzaque, arXiv:1501.05158 (2015); IceCube, Auger and TA coll., JCAP 1601 (2016) 01, 037, arXiv:1511.09408;

**Blazars:** P. Padovani and E. Resconi, MNRAS 443 2014 ; S. Sahu and L. S. Miranda, arXiv:1408.3664 ; F. Krauss, et al., Astron.Astrophys. 566 (2014) ; Fermi-LAT Coll., arXiv:1502.02147 ; Petropoulou, et al., MNRAS 448, 2015 ; ANTARES Coll., Astron. Astrophys. 576 2015 ; A. M. Brown, J. Adams, and P. M. Chadwick, arXiv:1505.00935 (2015) ; IceCube Collaboration, arXiv:1502.03104 (2015); P. Padovani et al., arXiv:1601.06550.

**Star forming galaxies:** L. A. Anchordoqui, et al., Phys. Rev. D 89, 2014

**GRBs:** IceCube coll., Astrophys.J. 805 (2015), arXiv:1412.651

next steps on search for coincidences:

- systematic statistical approach
- synergy with astronomy
- test the star formation hypothesis

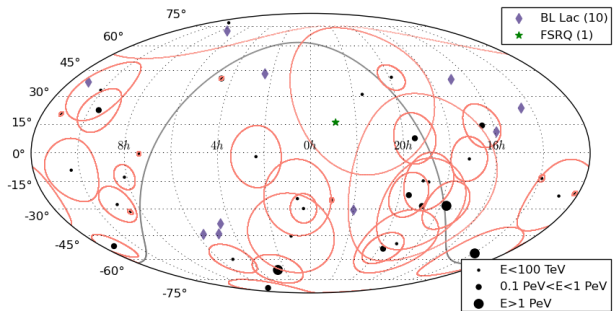
Kimberly Emig, CL and Rogier Windhorst, JCAP 1512 (2015) 029, arxiv:1507.05711

# Spatial coincidence with astrophysical sources

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and high  
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## Causality or randomness?



# Catalogs and selection criteria

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- Fermi-LAT catalog (3FGL,  $E \lesssim 500$  GeV) + TeVCat

Fermi-LAT Coll., arXiv:1501.02003 ; [tevcat.uchicago.edu](http://tevcat.uchicago.edu)

- $E > 100$  TeV observations too sparse, strong absorption
- Infrared Astronomical Satellite (IRAS)

- $\sim 100\mu m$  emission indicator of star formation

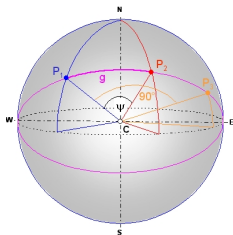
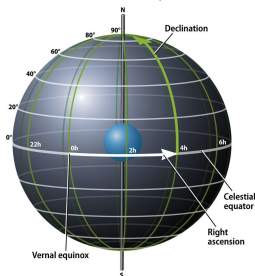
Becker, et al., arXiv:0901.1775 ; Sanders, et al., Astron. J. 126, 2003 16071664

- Create a set of candidates of suitable size:
  - same class/morphology
  - brightest:  $L_\gamma > L_{min}$

# Statistical analysis: the method

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and high  
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- *Normalized angular distance* between neutrino  $i$  (error  $\sigma_i$ ) and candidate  $j$  (error  $\sigma_j \simeq 0$ ):  $R_{ij} = \psi_{ij}/\sigma_i$
- distance of each neutrino to *nearest* candidate:  
 $r_i = \text{Min}_{\{j\}} R_{ij}$
- *coincidence* : when a neutrino overlaps with a source within the error:  $r \leq 1$



- “Null” distribution : the distribution of  $r$  for candidates uniformly distributed in the sky.
  - Monte Carlo: randomization of candidate positions ( $10^5$  iterations)
  - analytics: for  $N$   $\nu$ s and  $M$  candidates
$$d\mathcal{P}(r)/dr = \sum_{i=1}^N \sigma_i (M/2^M) \sin(r\sigma_i) [1 + \cos(r\sigma_i)]^{M-1}$$
- Comparing  $r$ -distribution of data with null:
  - $p$ -value : probability that the null case produces a number of coincidences ( $r \leq 1$ ) equal or larger than the one observed in the data.

H. R. de Ruiter, A. G. Willis, and H. C. Arp, *Astron. Astrophys. Suppl. Ser.* 28 (1977) 211293. ; R. A. Windhorst, R. G. Kron, and D. C. Koo, *Astron. Astrophys. Suppl. Ser.* 58 (1984) 3987 ; W. Sutherland and W. Saunders, *MNRAS* 259 (1992) 413420 ; A. Virmani, et al., *Astropart. Phys.* 17 (2002) 489495 ; R. Moharana and S. Razzaque, *arXiv:1501.05158* (2015)

# Results: Blazars

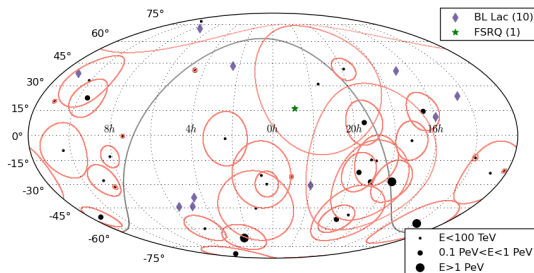
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## Active Galactic Nuclei (AGN), with jet pointing to Earth

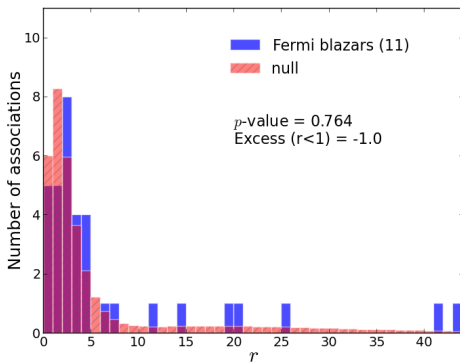
- leptonic scenario favored, hadronic model possible

J. Hinton and W. Hofmann, *Ann. Rev. Astron. Astrophys.* 47 (2009) 523565; J. Holder, *Astropart. Phys.* 39-40 (2012) 6175.



Blazar	3FGL	$F_{10-100\text{GeV}} > 10^{-9} \text{ ph. cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$	11
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... consistent with null

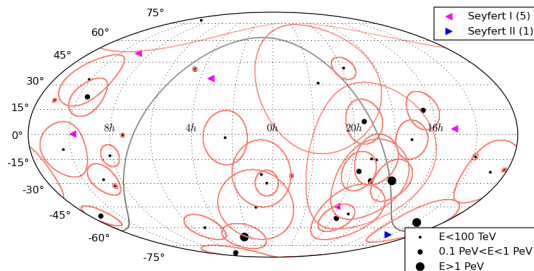


# Seyfert galaxies

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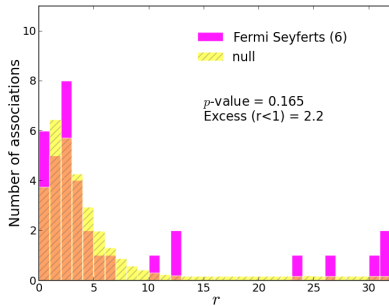
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Weaker AGN emission; active star formation near nucleus



Seyfert	3FGL	Seyfert I & II	6
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non-significant excess (first bin,  $r < 1$ ), consistent with null

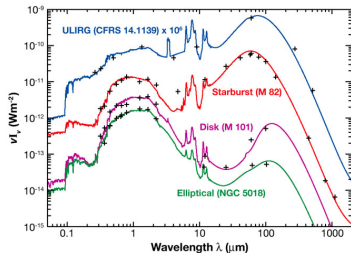


# Starburst galaxies (SBG)

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and high  
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IceCube: a  
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- intense star forming activity
  - formation rate  
 $\sim 0.1 - 100 M_{\odot} \text{ yr}^{-1}$
  - $\gtrsim 0.3$  supernovae/year
- Hadronic jets from SN, SN remnants, superbubbles, etc.
  - CR confined by  $\vec{B}$  fields
- peak at  $\sim 100 \mu\text{m}$ , due to heated dust

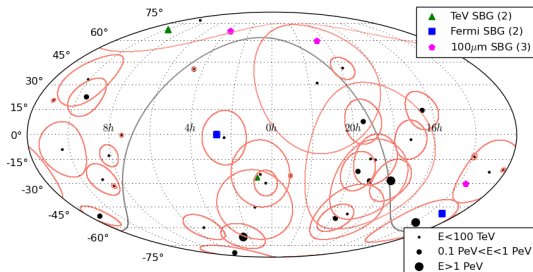


ned.ipac.caltech.edu

A. Loeb and E. Waxman, JCAP 0605 (2006) 003 ; Lacki et al., ApJ. 734 107, 2011 ; K. Murase, M. Ahlers, and B. C. Lacki, PRD 88 2013, 121301 ; R. Y. Liu, et al., PRD 89 2014, 083004 ; I. Tamborra, S. Ando, and K. Murase, JCAP 2014 2014, 043043; X. C. Chang, R. Y. Liu, and X.-Y. Wang, ApJ. 805 2015, 95.

Star formation  
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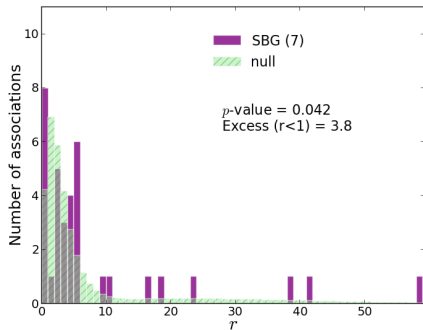
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SBG	TeVCat, 3FGL IRAS 100 $\mu$ m	$L(100\mu\text{m}) \geq 250 \text{ Jy}$	7
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Name	RA	dec	$D$ (Mpc)
NGC 253	00 27 34	-25 17 22	3.1
NGC 1068	02 42 43	-00 01 33	13.7
IC 342	03 46 49	+68 05 46	4.6
M 82	09 55 53	+69 40 46	3.6
NGC 4945	13 05 29	-49 26 03	3.9
M 83	13 37 01	-29 51 57	3.6
NGC 6946	20 34 52	+60 09 13	5.3

some excess of coincidences....





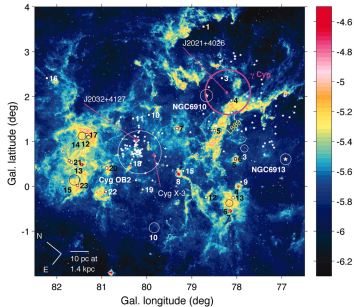
# Superbubbles and star forming regions

Star formation  
and high  
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neutrinos at  
IceCube: a  
correlation?

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## Very intense star formation activity

- Stellar winds and SN
- 85% of core-collapse SN
- 100s per starburst galaxy
  - some *in our galaxy* :  
Cygnus Cocoon, D=2 kpc



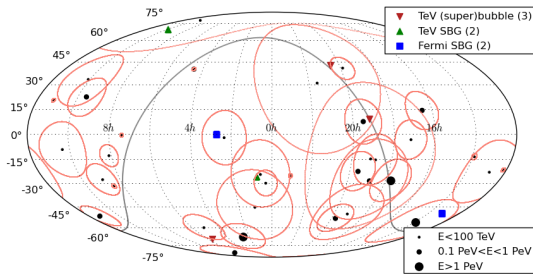
8- $\mu$ m intensity map of the Cygnus X region  
( $W m^{-2} sr^{-1}$ , in log scale). From Ackermann  
et al., Science 334, 2011, 11037

# SBG + superbubbles + star forming regions

Star formation  
and high  
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IceCube: a  
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gamma-ray-observed only



Name	RA	dec	$D$ (Mpc)
NGC 253	00 27 34	-25 17 22	3.1
NGC 1068	02 42 43	-00 01 33	13.7
30 Dor C	05 35 55	-69 11 10	0.05
M 82	09 55 53	+69 40 46	3.6
NGC 4945	13 05 29	-49 26 03	3.9
W 49 A	19 10 27	+09 11 25	0.011
Cygnus Cocoon	20 28 41	+41 10 12	0.002

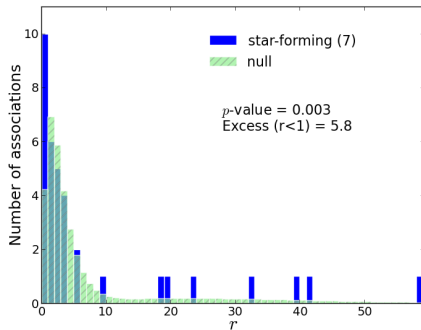
# Indication of correlation?

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*interesting excess!*

0.3% probability of random occurrence



# Post-trial p-value

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minimum pre-trial:  $p_{min} = 0.003$

- J=4 independent trials:

$$P = 1 - (1 - p_{min})^J \simeq Jp_{min} = 0.012$$

- K=8 total trials (not independent):

$$Jp_{min} \lesssim P \lesssim Kp_{min} \simeq 0.024.$$

G. Choudalakis, arXiv:1101.0390

# Are these plausible sources?

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## Sanity checks:

- 1 sufficient flux to produce one event ?
  - assume  $\phi_\nu \sim \phi_\gamma$ , examine gamma ray spectra
- 2 local vs diffuse
  - $N \sim 3 - 6$  coincidences consistent with cosmological flux expected?

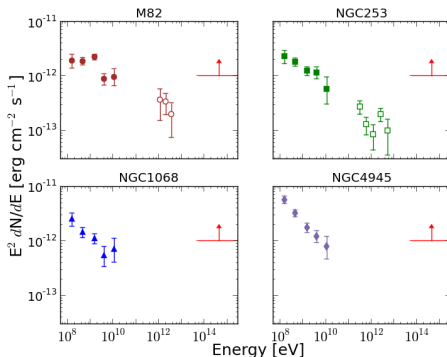
# Gamma ray spectra: SBG

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- Comparison with required  $\nu$  flux : M82, NGC253 disfavored
  - horizontal line:  $\sim 0.1$  events for IceCube exposure

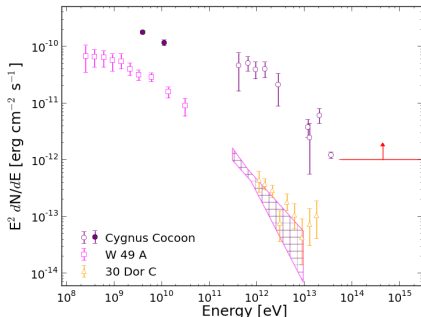
P. Padovani and E. Resconi, MNRAS 443 2014



# Gamma ray spectra: superbubbles, star forming regions

Star formation and high energy neutrinos at IceCube: a correlation?

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- Cygnus cocoon a possibility

Beacom and Kistler, PRD 75 (2007) 083001 ; Gonzalez-Garcia, Halzen, and Mohapatra, Astropart.

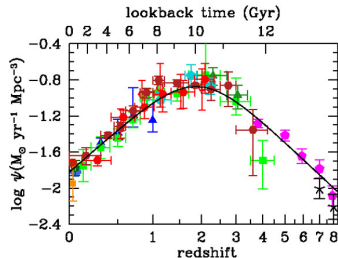
Phys. 31 (2009) 437444 ; Fox, Kashiyama, and Meszaros, ApJ. 774 (2013) 74.

# Local vs. cosmological

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- $\frac{N_{local}}{N_{tot}} \sim \frac{3}{35-17} \sim 0.15$
- only  $\sim 1 - 2\%$  predicted from  $D < 15$  Mpc !
  - enhancement of local star formation?  
Ando, Beacom, and Yuksel, PRL95 (2005)  
171101
  - selection effect?



from: Madau and Dickinson,

Ann.Rev.Astron.Astrophys. 52 (2014) 415-486



# Conclusions : causation or randomness?

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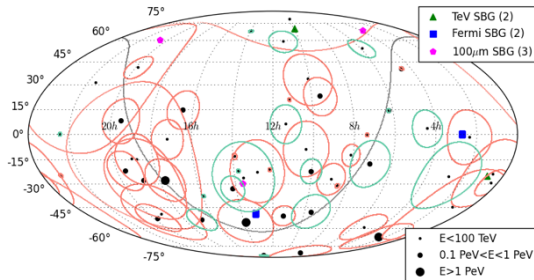
- excess of coincidences with star formation at  $D < 15$  Mpc
  - p-value=0.003 - 0.04
  - robust against variations of inputs
  - soon updated with 4th year data
- if confirmed, then... are local sources anomalously intense?
  - revisit mechanisms/energetics
  - revisit gamma ray absorption in situ
  - investigate selection mechanisms

# Backup: update with 54 IceCube data

Star formation  
and high  
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## Starburst galaxies



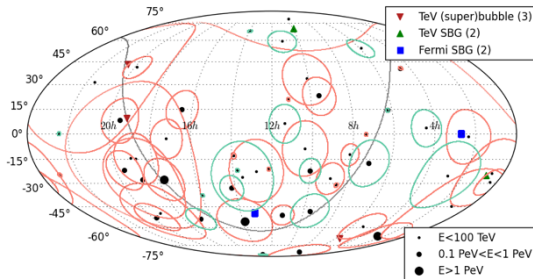
Name	RA	dec	D (Mpc)
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SBG + superbubbles+ star forming regions,  
gamma-ray-observed only



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W 49 A	19 10 27	+09 11 25	0.011
Cygnus Cocoon	20 28 41	+41 10 12	0.002

# Backup: derivation of null distribution

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$$dp/d\Omega = 1/(4\pi)$$

$$dp(\theta) = \frac{1}{2} \sin \theta d\theta . \quad (1)$$

$$q(\theta) = \frac{1}{2}(1 + \cos \theta) . \quad (2)$$

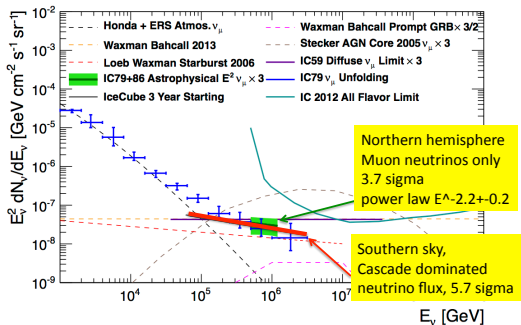
$$dP(\theta) = \frac{M}{2^M} \sin \theta (1 + \cos \theta)^{M-1} d\theta , \quad (3)$$

$$r = \theta/\sigma$$

# Backup: data vs diffuse flux models

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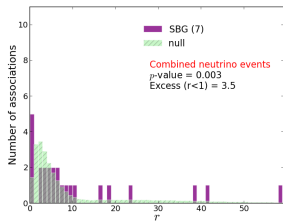
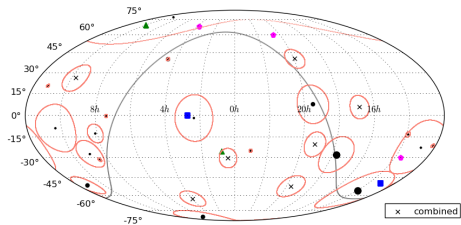


from : A. Karle (IceCube coll.), talk at TAUP 2015

# Backup: SBG and combined neutrinos

Star formation  
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IceCube: a  
correlation?

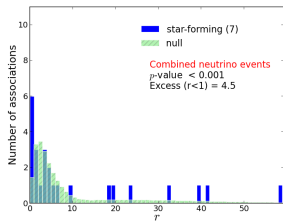
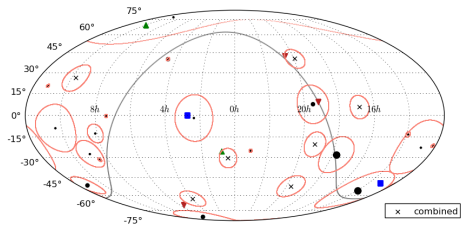
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# Backup: star form. and combined neutrinos

Star formation  
and high  
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IceCube: a  
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# Backup: full summary table

Star formation  
and high  
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neutrinos at  
IceCube: a  
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Candidate	Catalog(s)	Selection Criteria	Cand. number	count ( $r \leq 1$ )	Excess	$p$ -value ( $r \leq 1$ )
Blazar	3FGL	$F_{10-100\text{GeV}} > 10^{-9} \text{ ph. cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$	11	5 [1]	-1.0 [-1.2]	0.764 [0.938]
Seyfert	3FGL	Seyfert I & II	6	6 [2]	2.2 [0.7]	0.165 [0.368]
Starburst	TeVCat, 3FGL	starburst	4	6 [4]	3.3 [3.1]	0.046 [0.001]
Starburst	TeVCat, 3FGL IRAS 100 $\mu\text{m}$	$L(100\mu\text{m}) \geq 250 \text{ Jy}$	7	8 [5]	3.8 [3.5]	0.042 [0.003]
Starburst	TeVCat, 3FGL IRAS 100 $\mu\text{m}$	same as above, randomize with $ b  > 10^\circ$	7	8 [5]	3.9 [3.6]	0.034 [0.002]
Star form.	TeVCat, 3FGL	starburst, superbubble, star form. region	7	10 [6]	5.8 [4.5]	0.003 [<0.001]



# Backup: full candidates list

Star formation  
and high  
energy  
neutrinos at  
IceCube: a  
correlation?

Cecilia  
Lunardini

Name	RA (J2000)	dec (J2000)	Class	$D_L$ [Mpc]	$\nu$ ID
NGC 253	00 27 34	-25 17 22	sbg	3.1	7, 10, 21
NGC 1068	02 42 43	-00 01 33	sbg	13.7	1
[IC 342]	03 46 49	+68 05 46	sbg	4.6	31
30 Dor C	05 35 55	-69 11 10	superbbl	0.05	19
M 82	09 55 53	+69 40 46	sbg	3.6	31
NGC 4945	13 05 29	-49 26 03	sbg	3.9	35
[M 83]	13 37 01	-29 51 57	sbg	3.6	16
W 49 A	19 10 27	+09 11 25	sfr	0.011	25, 33, 34
Cygnus C.	20 28 41	+41 10 12	superbbl	0.002	29, 34
[NGC 6946]	20 34 52	+60 09 13	sbg	5.3	34