

The GNN-internal MANTS meeting

# Status of HUNT

**Mingjun Chen**

Institute of high energy physics, China

Ruhr-University Bochum

March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024

LHAASO's bird view



# Content

- Motivation**
- HUNT project**
- R&D work**
- Summary**

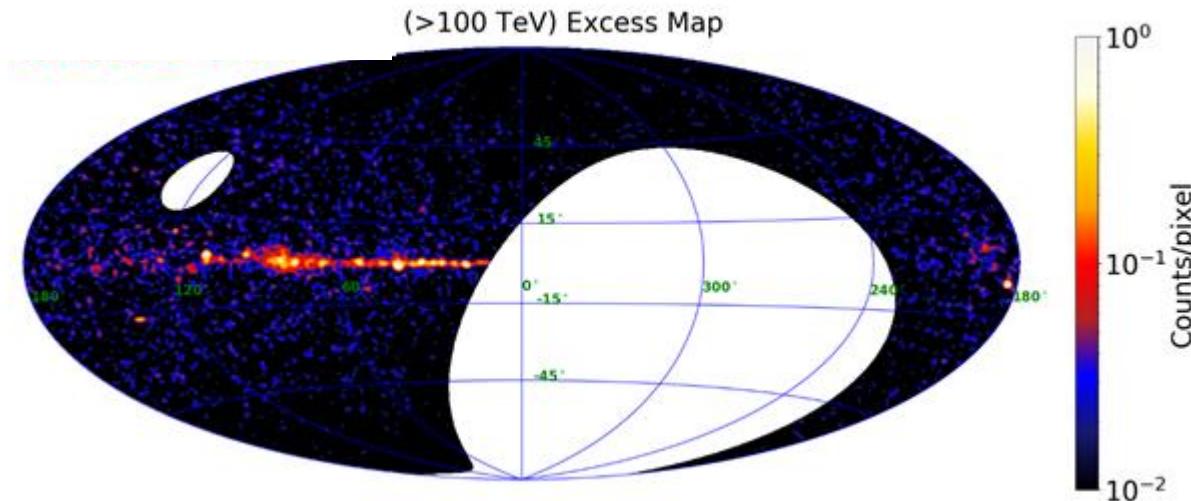
01

# Motivation

# Motivation

**Neutrino observation will decisively solve the problem of the origin of cosmic rays!**

- PeVatrons → neutrinos above 50 TeV & gamma-rays above 100 TeV.
- LHAASO observed tens of gamma-ray sources above 100 TeV.
- Gamma-rays above 100 TeV can be produced in both leptonic and hadronic scenarios.



Main process:

$$p + p \rightarrow N(\pi^+ + \pi^- + \pi^0) + X$$

$$p + \gamma \rightarrow n + \pi^+$$

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

$$\pi^- \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_\mu + \mu^- \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_\mu + (e^- + \nu_\mu + \bar{\nu}_e)$$

$$\pi^0 \rightarrow 2\gamma$$

**1<sup>st</sup> LHAASO Catalog: 43 UHE gamma-ray sources (>4σ).**

\* LHAASO Collaboration, 2021, Nature, 594, 33.

\* LHAASO Collaboration, 2024, ApJS, 271, 25.

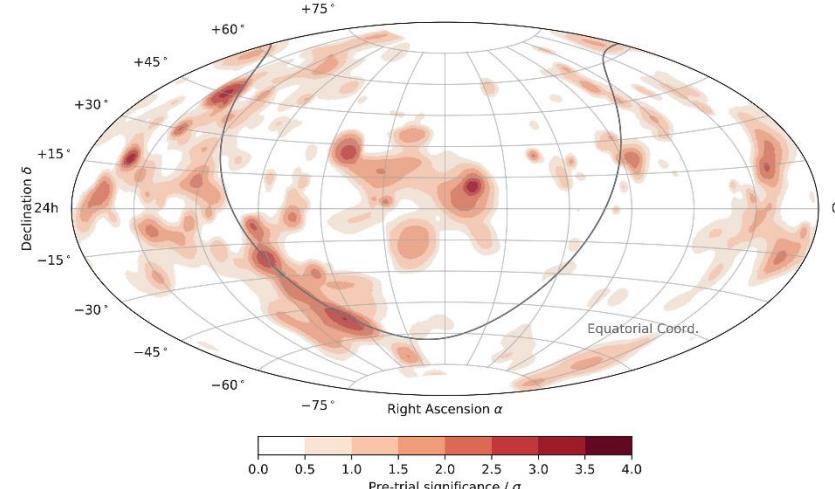
# Status of neutrino astronomy

- **2013 The first discovery of astrophysical high-energy neutrinos.**

2018 First hint of association between neutrino excess and blazar TXS 0506+056 ( $3.5\sigma$ ).

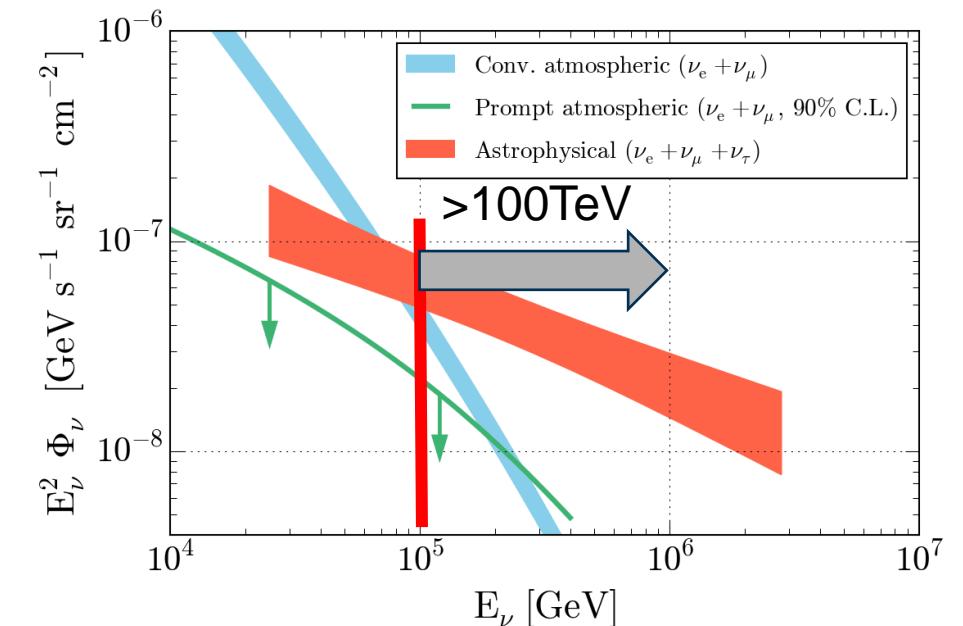
2019 The neutrinos from Seyfert II Galaxy NGC 1068 exceed the background at the level of  $2.9\sigma$ .

- **2023 Signs of diffuse neutrinos in the milky way ,  $\sim 4\sigma$ .**



All-sky point source search with ten years data.

\* IceCube Collaboration, 2023, Nature, 380, 6652

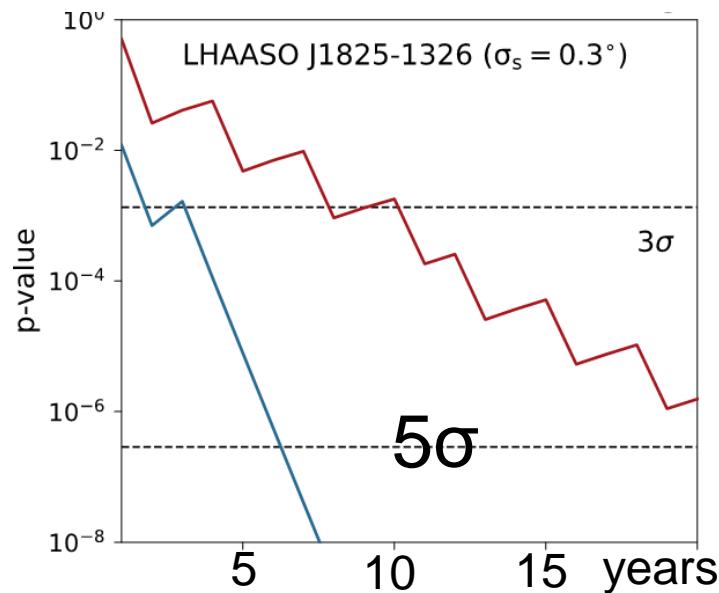


Energy spectrum of the astrophysical neutrino flux.

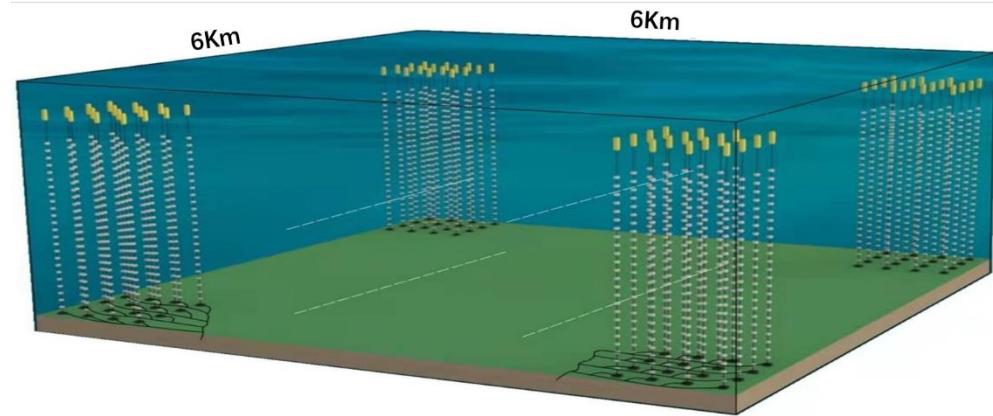
# Detector Design

## A ~30 km<sup>3</sup> neutrino telescope with 2,300 strings

Discover the neutrino sources (> 100 TeV) in a couple of years.



Expected neutrino flux:  $\sim 10^{-12}$  TeV/cm<sup>2</sup>/s @ 100 TeV  
Spectral index:  $\sim 3$  @ 100 TeV



### Specifications:

- Angular resolution:  $\sim 0.1^\circ$  (tracks),  $< 3^\circ$  (cascades)
- Energy resolution:  $\Delta \log E \sim 0.3$  (tracks),  $\Delta E \sim 10\text{-}30\%$  (cascades)



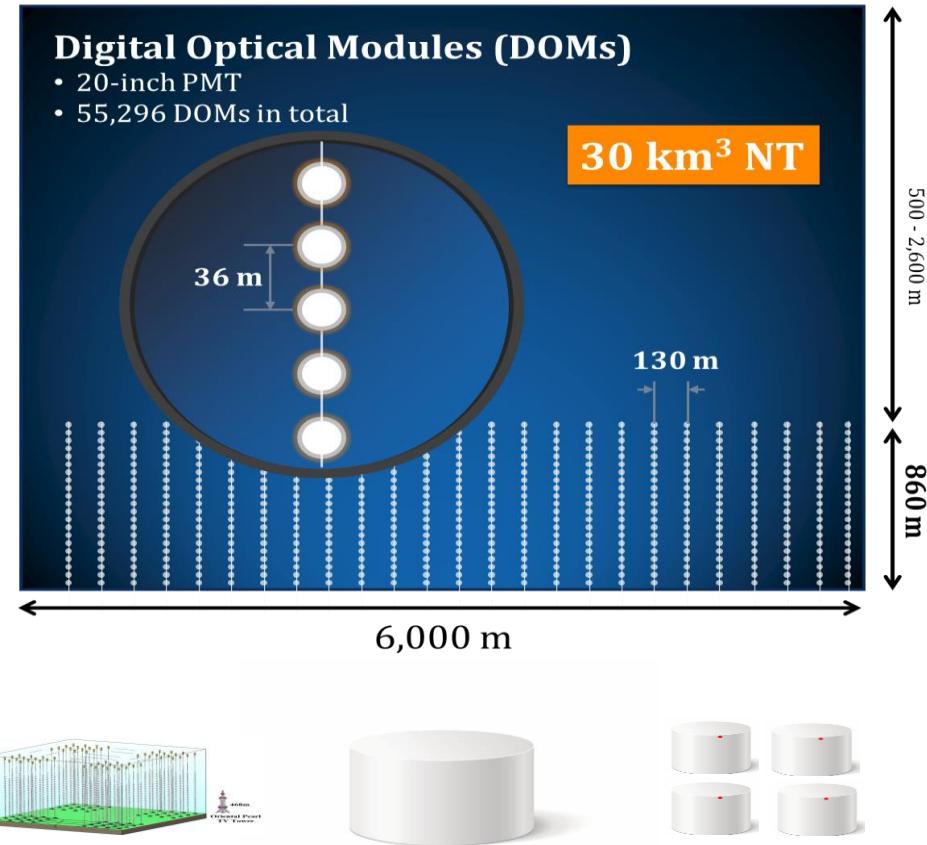
02

# HUNT project

# High-energy Underwater Neutrino Telescope

## Preliminary design ( $\lambda_a \sim 22$ m@Baikal) :

- **Area:**  $6 \times 6 = 36 \text{ km}^2$ ,  $\sim 30 \text{ km}^3$
- $D_{\text{string}} \sim 130 \text{ m}$
- $D_{\text{OM}} \sim 36 \text{ m}$
- Length  $\sim 860 \text{ m}$
- $\sim 2,304$  strings
- 24 OMs/string, ~**55K OMs**



Possible layouts.

# Optical module with 20-inch PMT



20-inch PMTs installed in LHAASO

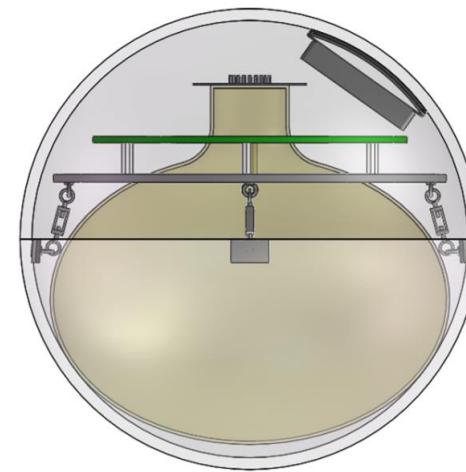
20-inch PMT:

TTS: ~7ns; QE: >25%

P/V: >2; Q: >100C

New OM is based on 20-inch PMT:  
20-inch PMT in a 23-inch glass sphere.

- Large photosensitive surface
- Larger spacing between OMs
- Larger volume with the same number of PMTs



- Wide dynamic range : 1 - 2,000PEs; Digital waveform output with 0.5GHz; > 60 KHz capability for single OM.
- White Rabbit time synchronization system: <1ns.



# Candidate Site: Lake Baikal vs. South China Sea

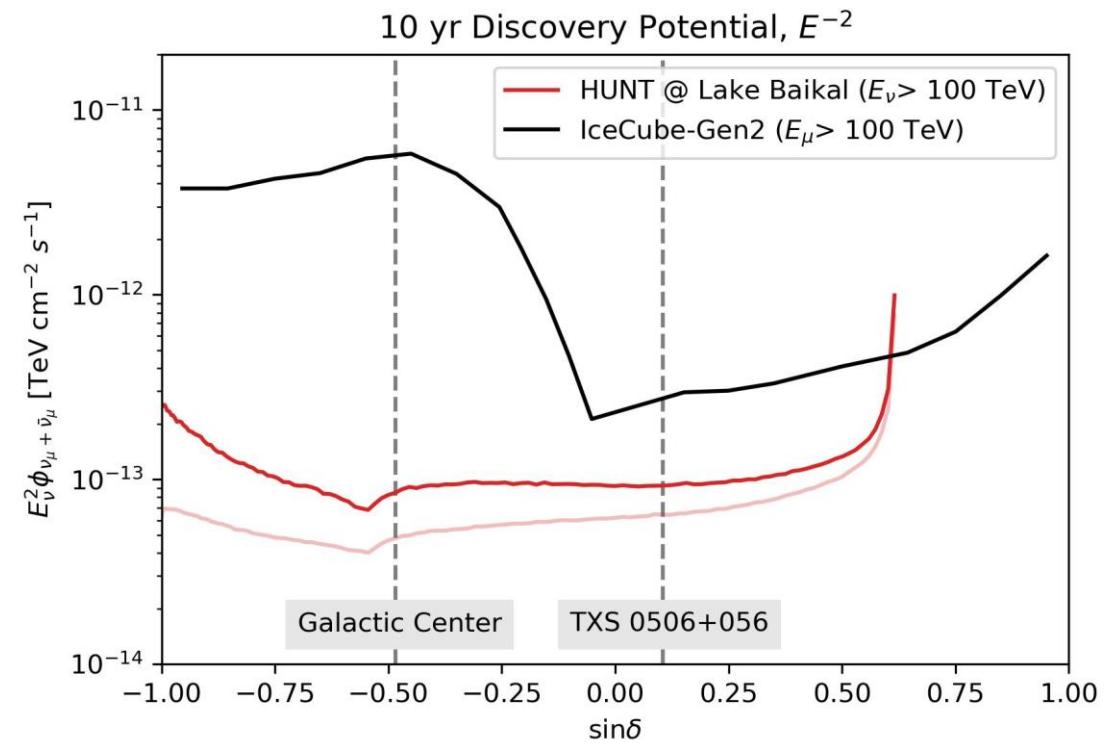
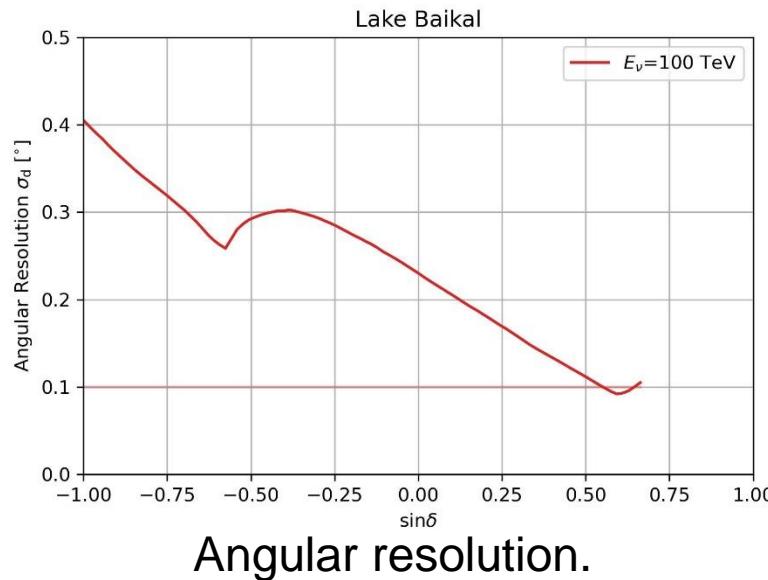
10

	Lake Baikal	South China Sea
Absorption length	~20 m	~25 m
Depth	~1366 m	~2500 m (better atmospheric muon background rejection)
Deployment Cost	~K\$ /string	High
Reparability	Work on the ice (low cost)	Difficult to be repaired
Power Supply cable	~10 km cable	~100 km cable or battery
Construction and Deployment	~5 years (Feb. to Apr. every year)	Rely on deep-ocean facilities

# Discovery potential

## Lake Baikal

- Up-going: zenith > 87 deg
- More sensitive to point-like sources with declination  $\delta$  from -50 degree to 30 degree, especially for the Galactic center.

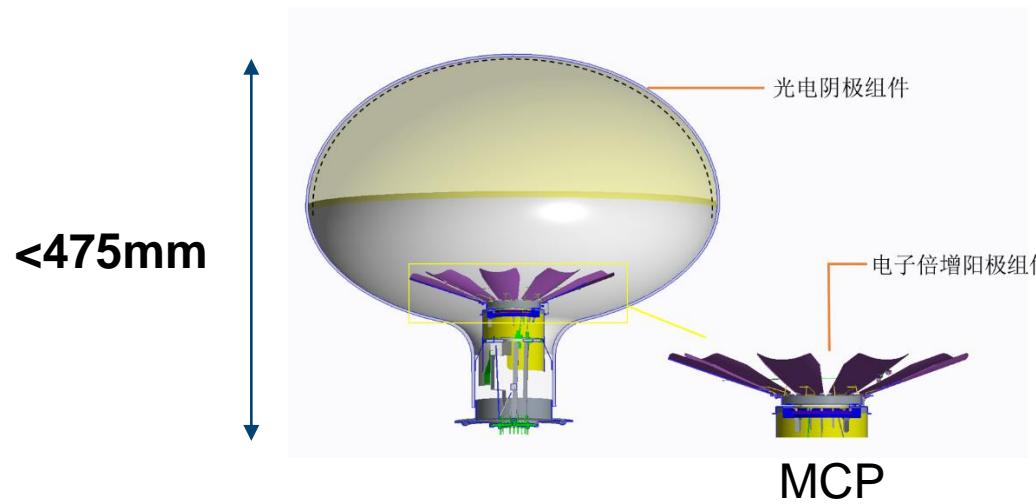


03

R&D work

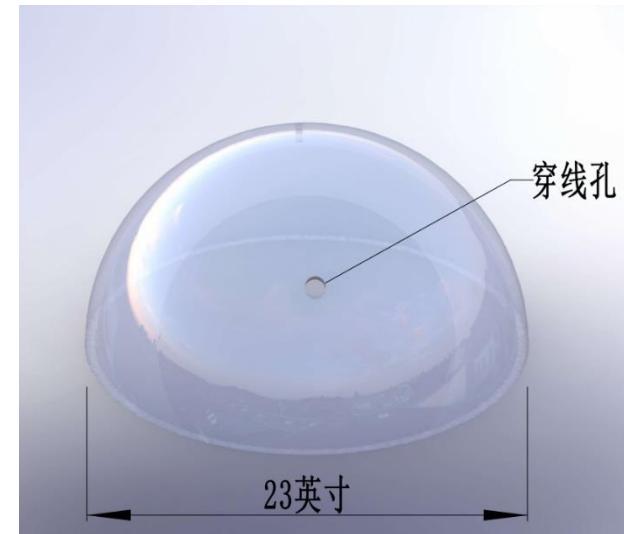
# Critical equipment

- New 20-inch PMT with short neck



Ten centimeters shorted.

- 23-inch glass sphere

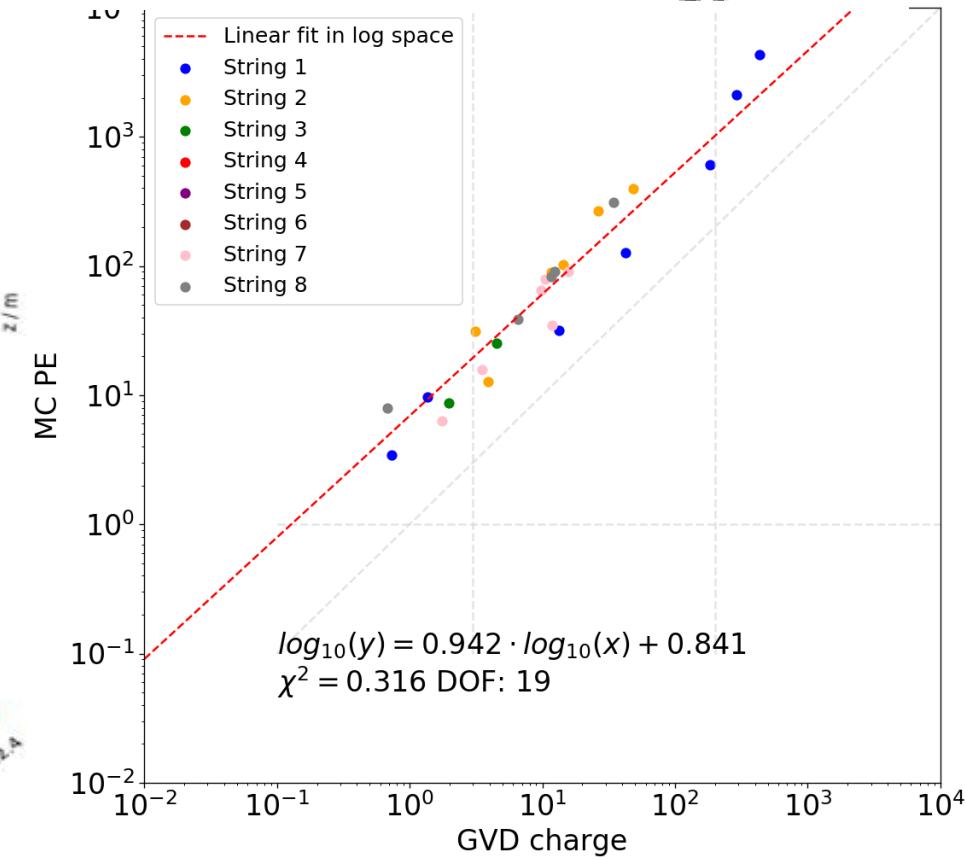
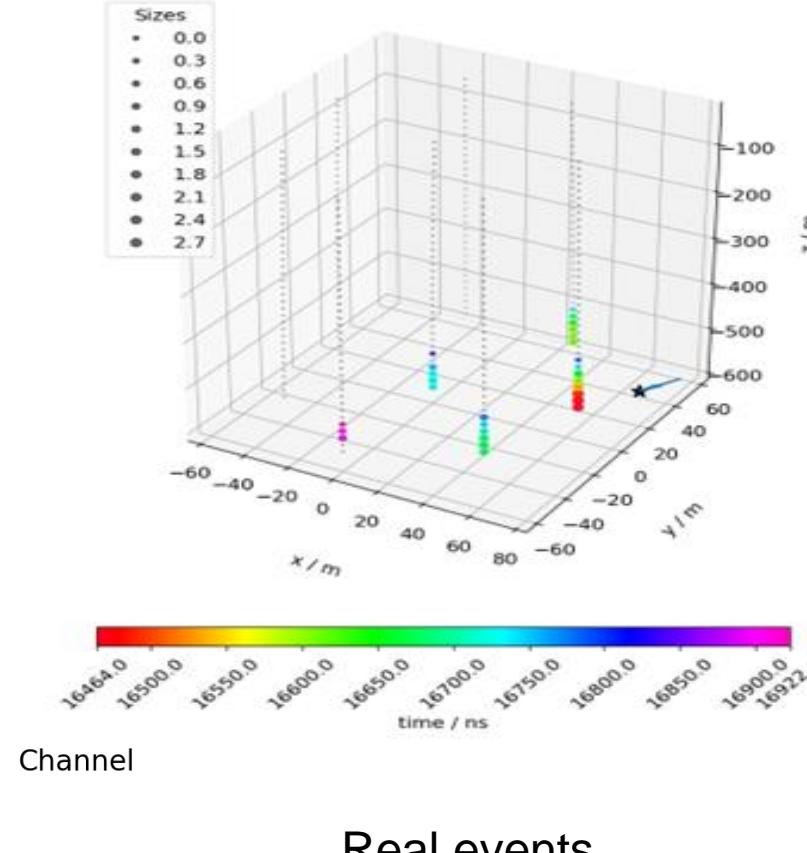
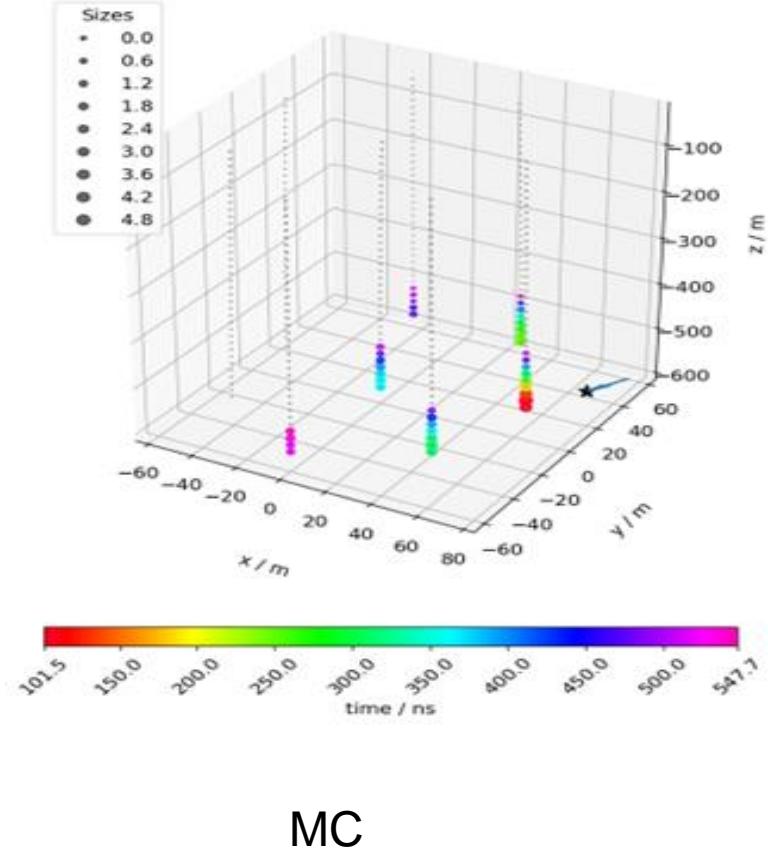


Passed 50Mpa pressure test.



# Reproduction of Baikal-GVD events by Geant4-based simulation program.

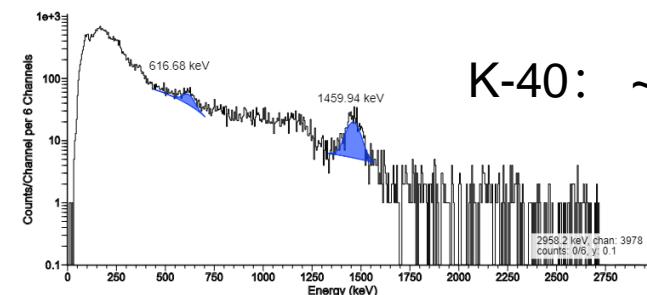
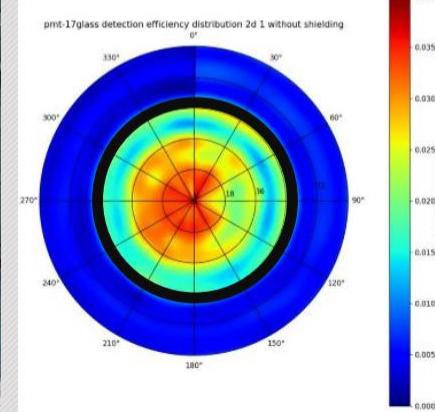
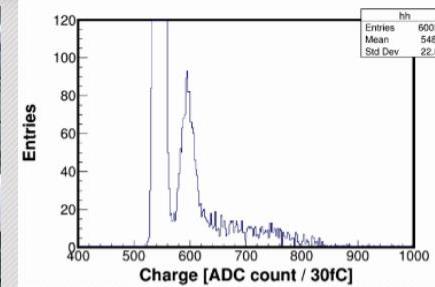
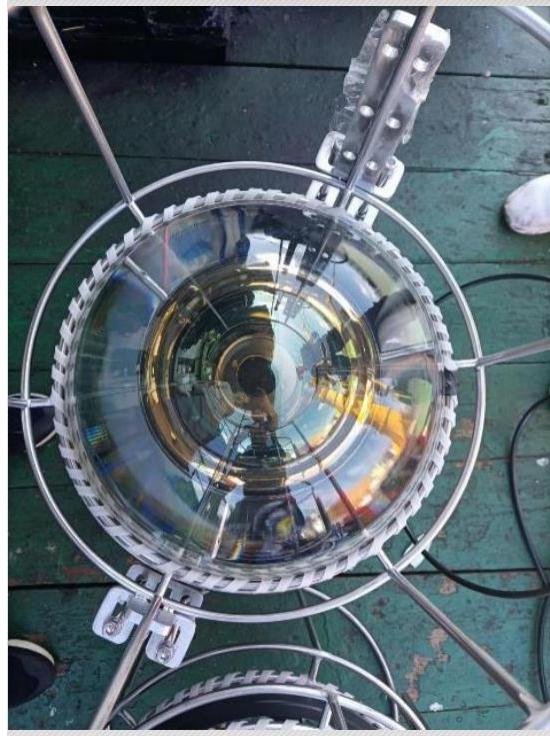
GVD210117CA Vertex pos: (75.00, 28.00, - 562.00), dir: (49.00, 57.00), energy : 246



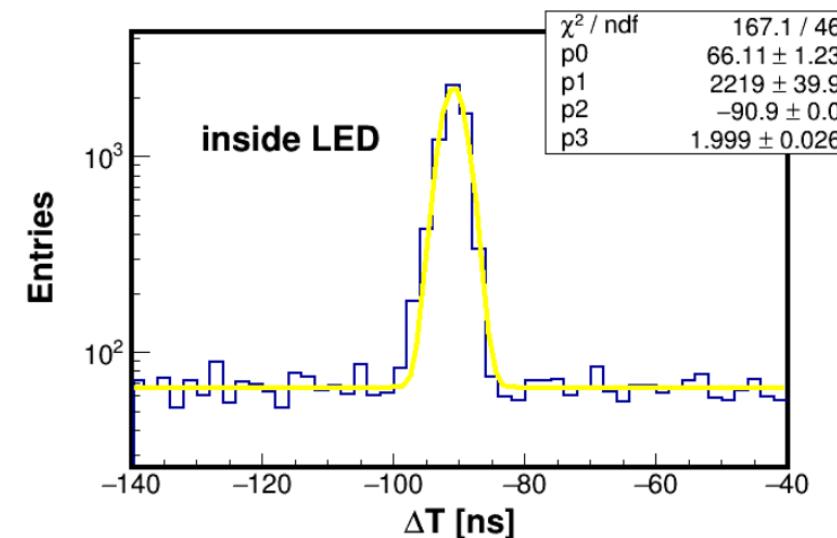
# Prototype test in South China sea

17° N, 113° 20E

- Water depth: 1800m
- LED Calibration system
- Two DOMs with 8inch PMT
- Gamma spectrometer
- 23inch glass sphere



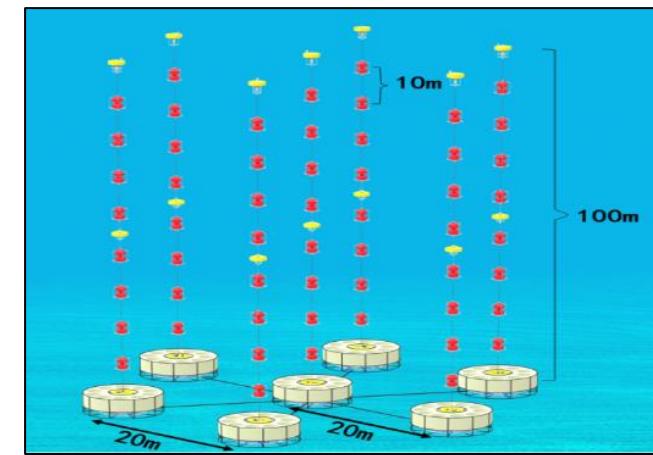
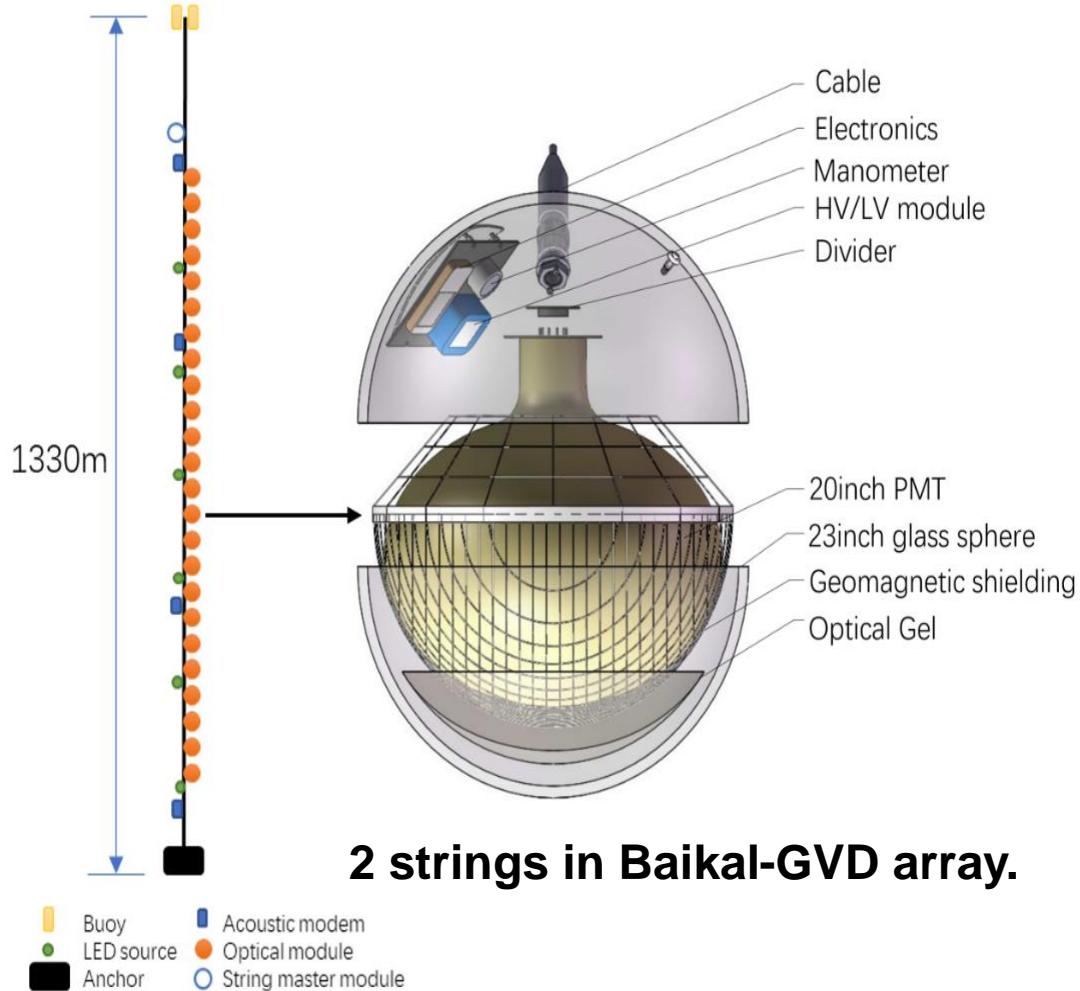
K-40: ~15Bq/L



Time coincidence events.  
( Dom: 20m)



# Prototype string

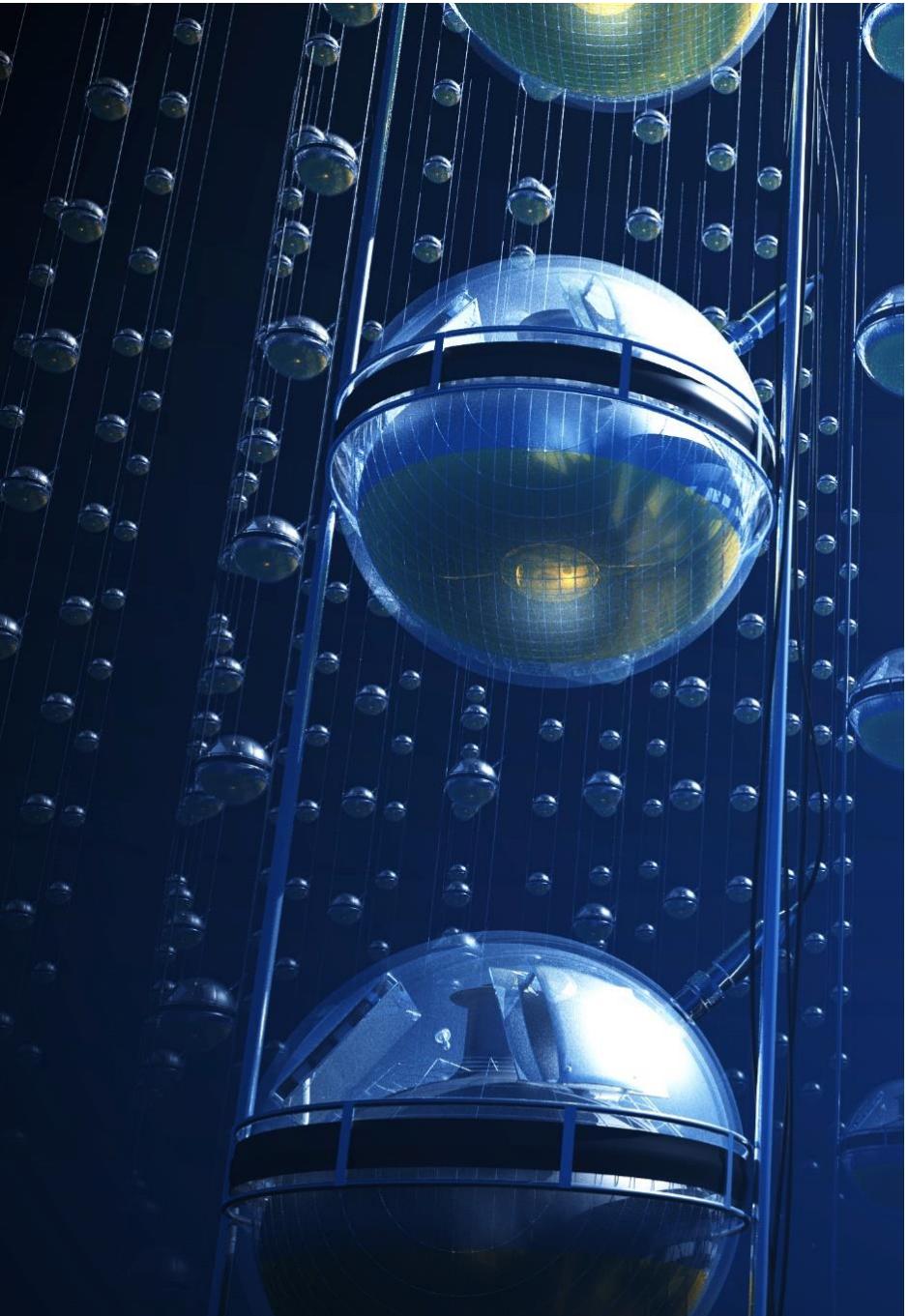


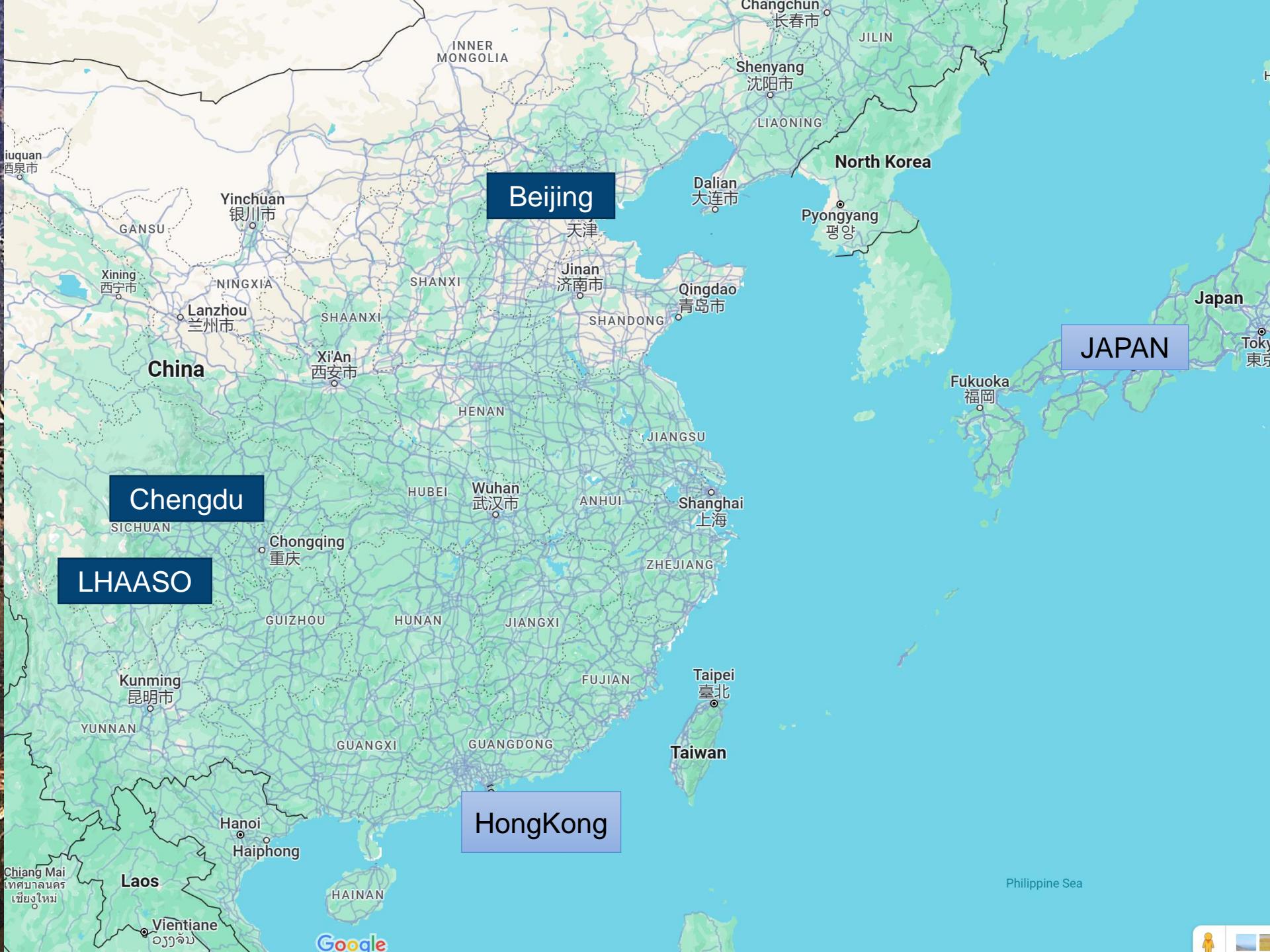
4 & 56 OMs will deployed  
in South China Sea.



# Summary

- Lots of great achievements in astrophysical neutrino observation. LHAASO discovered 43 UHE gamma-ray sources in the Milky Way.
- A 30 km<sup>3</sup> neutrino telescope proposed for the galactic HE neutrino detection.
- Start the prototype test in both Lake Baikal and South China Sea. CDR will be ready soon.





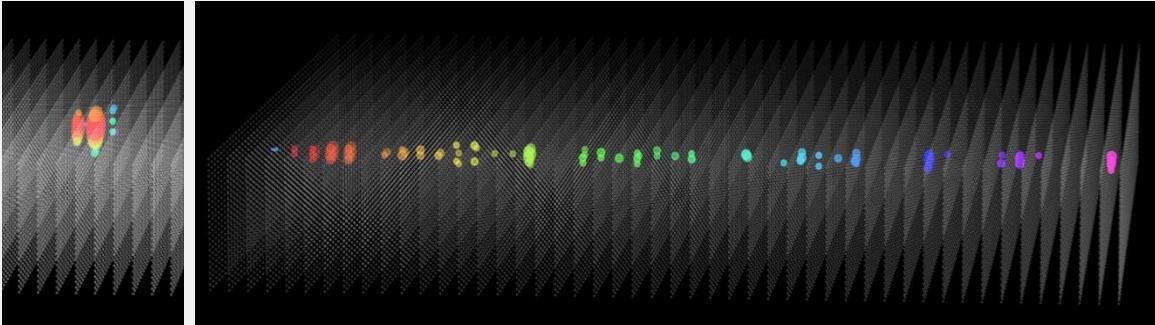
T h a n k s !

# Detector Simulation

## Simulation toolkits

- Neutrino interaction package.
- **Geant4**: simulating interactions of neutrinos and the secondary particles.
- **Opticks**: a GPU accelerated optical photon simulation for Geant4 using NVIDIA OptiX (at least **11 times** faster than using Geant4 only).

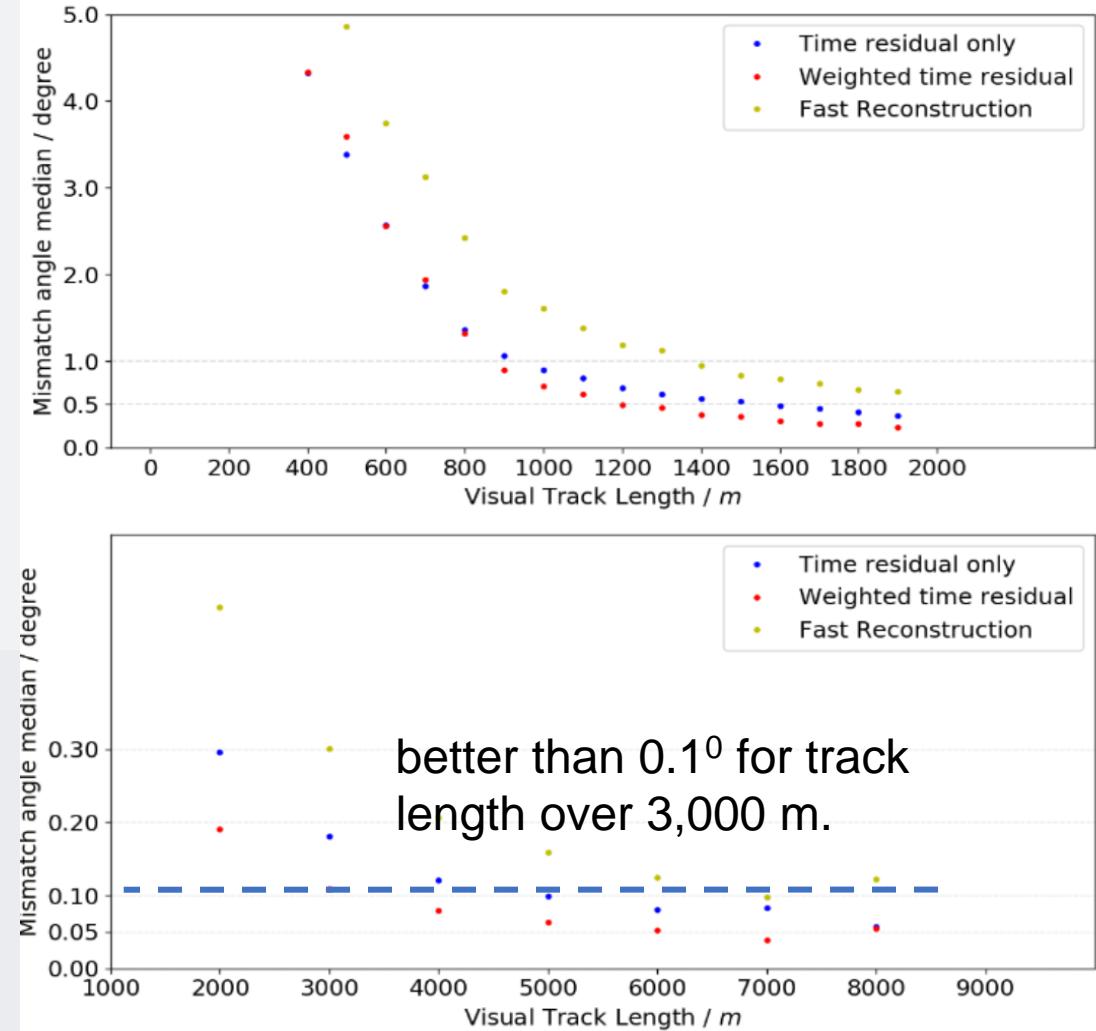
## | Morphology



Left: Cascade event induced by an 1 PeV electron.

Right: Track event induced by an 100 TeV muon.

## | Angular Resolution



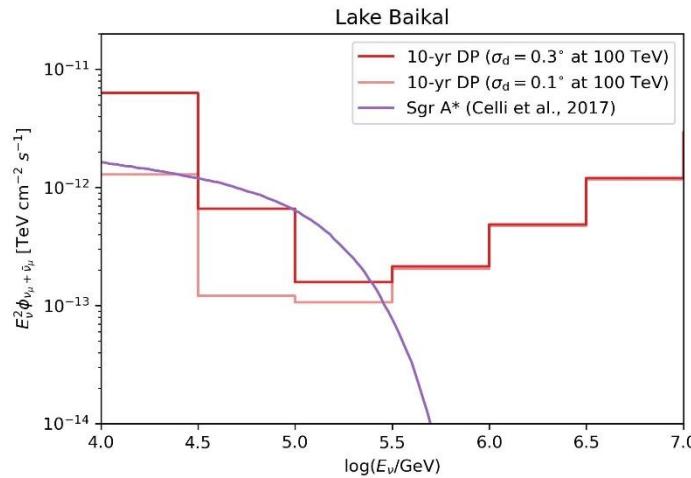
The median mismatch angle between simulated muon and reconstructed direction.

Upper: visual track length below 2,000 m.

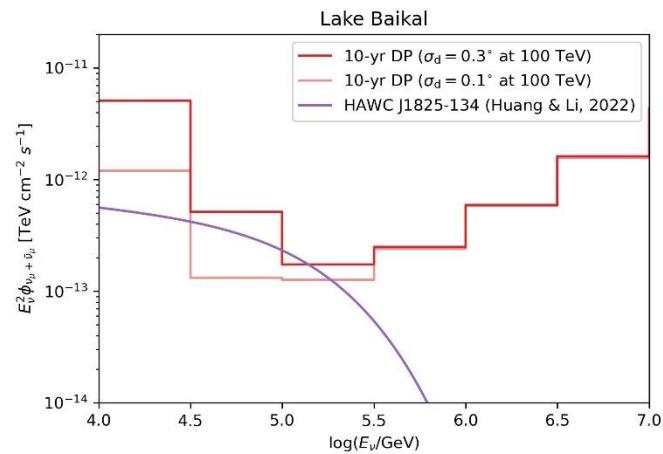
Lower: visual track length above 2,000 m.

# 10-yr discovery potential

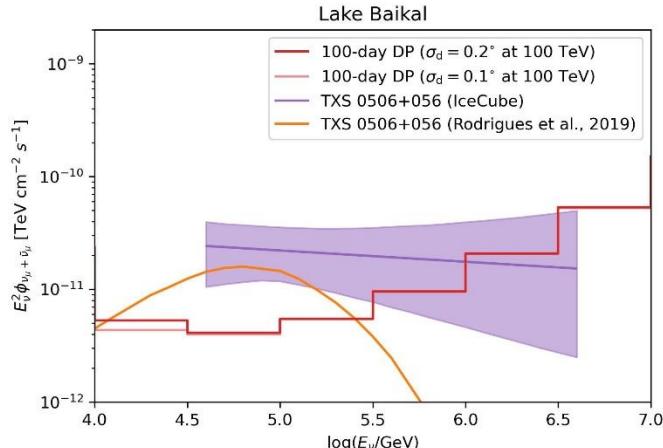
Sgr A\* ( $\delta = -29$  deg)



HAWC J1825-134 ( $\delta = -13$  deg)

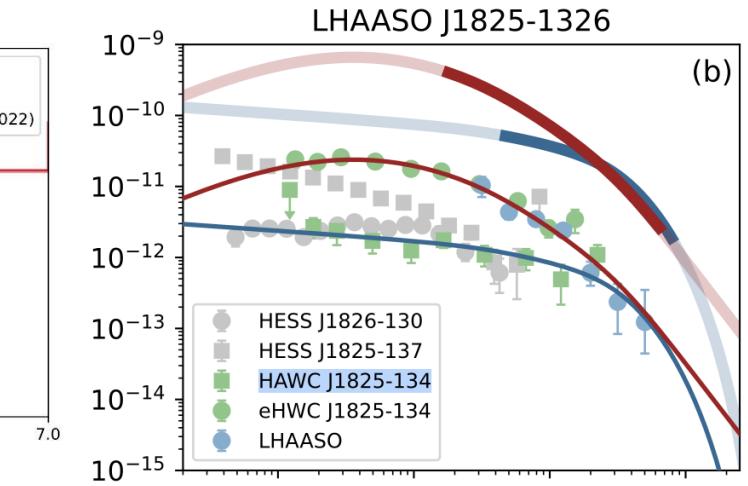


100d DP| TXS 0506+056 ( $\delta = 6$  deg)



Purple band: muon neutrino flux during the 2014-2015 activity period for TXS 0506+056

Orange line: muon neutrino flux during the flare period

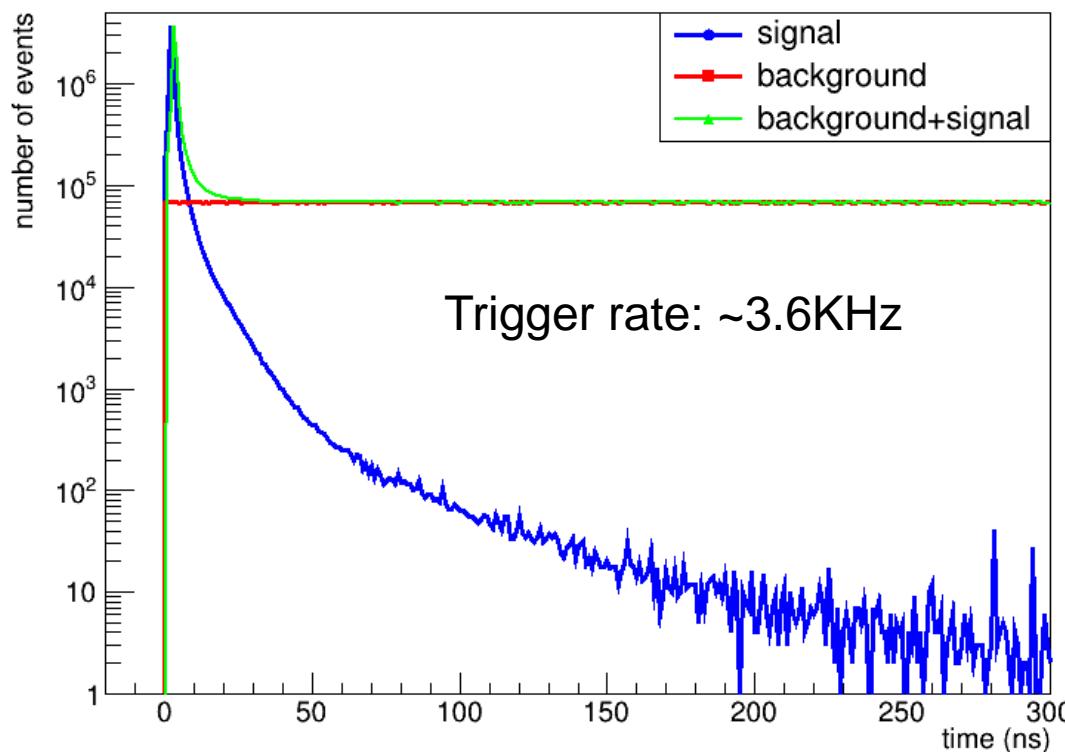


LHAASO Source	$\sigma_s$ [deg]	$\gamma_1$	$\gamma_2$	$E_c$ [TeV]	Model
J1825-1326	0.30	2.40	0.45	—	LOGP
	0.0	2.13	—	286	ECPL

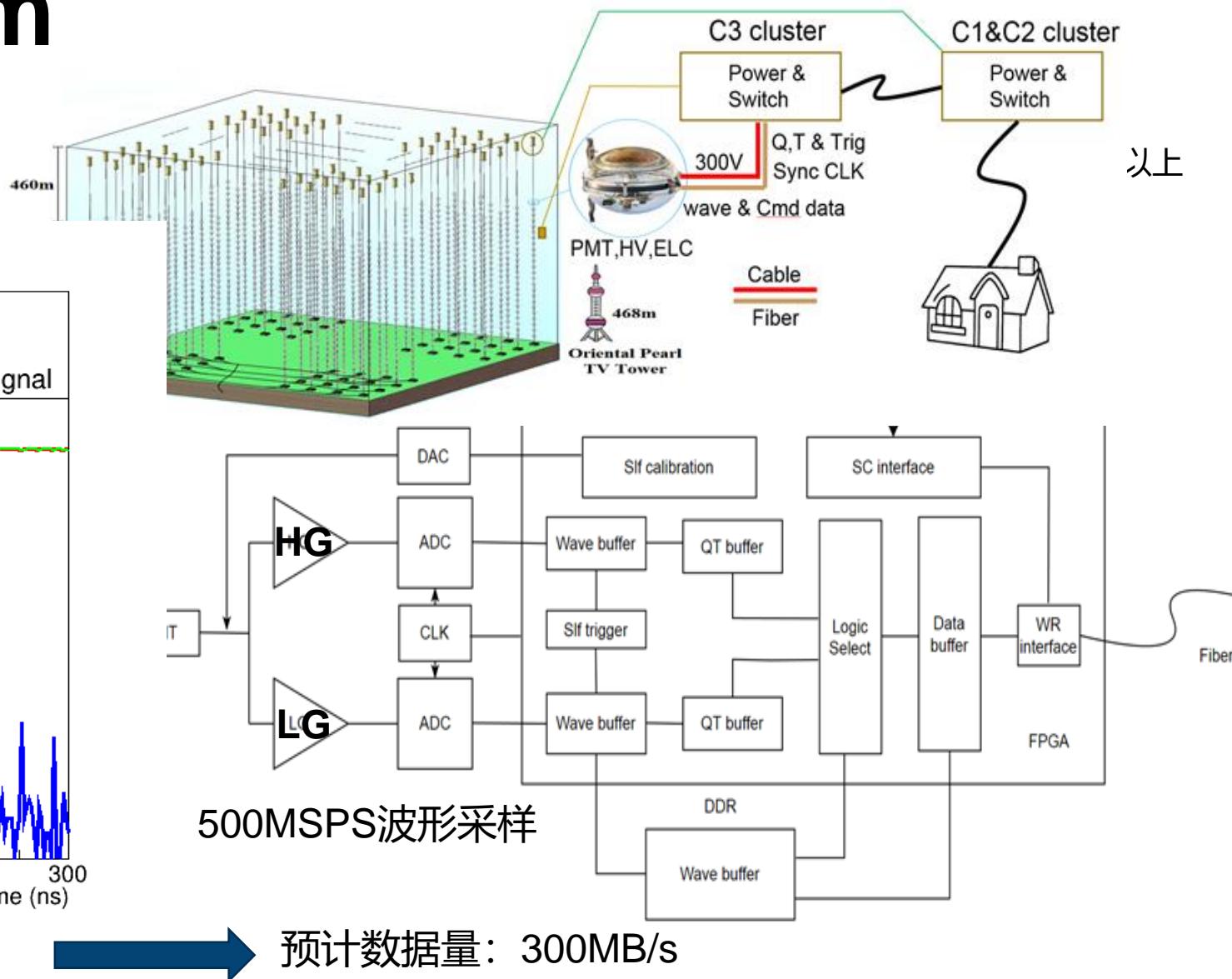
# Electronics system

参数

设计指标



电子学系统分布总体示意图





## 2,220 **20-in** PMTs deployed in LHAASO-WCDA

WCDA: Water Cherenkov Detector Array

- Excellent time performance: TTS ~ 7 ns
- High quantum efficiency: QE > 25%
- **The largest photosensitive area: 20 inch**
- Good Peak-to-valley ratio: P/V > 2.0
- Long lifetime: Q > 100 C

- Decrease the energy threshold from 300 GeV to 50 GeV
- Improve the sensitivity to transients sources
- Effective budget control
  - Made in China (NNV Technology Group Co., Ltd)