

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

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

Cecilia Lunardini

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# VHE neutrinos: the hadronic model

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- IceCube: discovery of very high energy (VHE,  $E \gtrsim 30\text{ TeV}$ ) neutrinos, *extrasolar* and *extragalactic*
- the neutrino-cosmic ray connection: hadronic model

$$\begin{aligned} p + p &\rightarrow \pi^0 + \pi^\pm , \quad p + \gamma \rightarrow n + \pi^+ / p + \pi^0 \\ \pi^0 &\rightarrow \gamma + \gamma \\ \pi^\pm &\rightarrow \mu^\pm + \nu_\mu (\bar{\nu}_\mu) , \quad \mu^\pm \rightarrow e^\pm + \nu_e (\bar{\nu}_e) + \bar{\nu}_\mu (\nu_\mu) \end{aligned}$$

# 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 → star forming regions? Galaxy clusters?
- Murase, Ahlers, and Lacki, PRD 88, 2013 121301 ; Murase, arxiv:1410.3680
- arrival direction: search for positional coincidences with known 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).

**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).

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

next steps on search for coincidences:

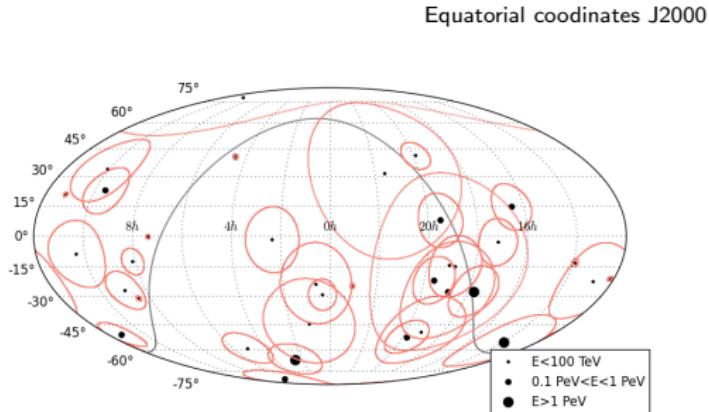
- systematic statistical approach
- synergy with astronomy
- test the star formation hypothesis

**Kimberly Emig, CL and Rogier Windhorst, to appear soon.**

## The 988 days IceCube data

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- **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

# Catalogs and selection criteria

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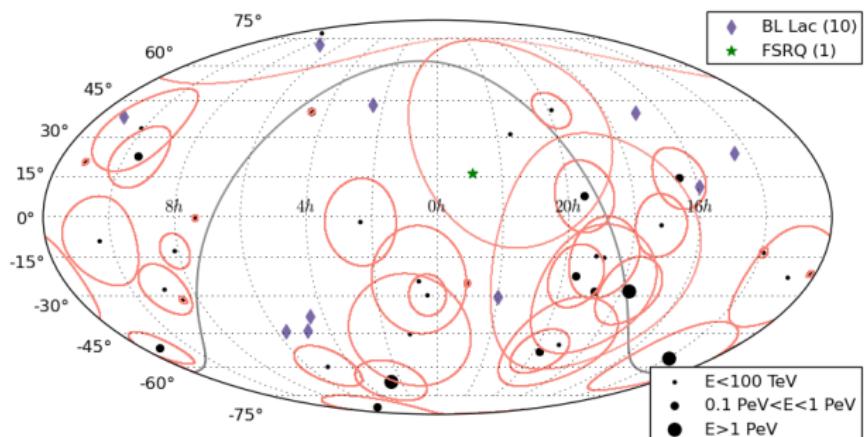
- Fermi-LAT catalog (3FGL,  $E \lesssim 500$  GeV) + TeVCat
  - Fermi-LAT Coll., arXiv:1501.02003 ; tevcat.uchicago.edu
    - $E > 100$  TeV observations too sparse, strong absorption
- Infrared Astronomical Satellite (IRAS)
  - $\sim 100\mu m$  emission indicator of star formation
- Becker, et al., arXiv:0901.1775 ; Sanders, et al., Astron. J. 126, 2003 16071664
- Create a set of candidates of suitable size:
  - same class/morphology
  - brightest:  $L_\gamma > L_{min}$

# Spatial coincidence with astrophysical sources

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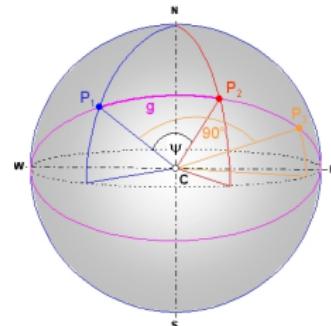
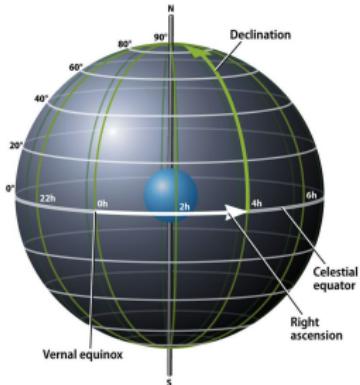
## Causality or randomness?



# Statistical analysis: the method

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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  $N$  vs 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

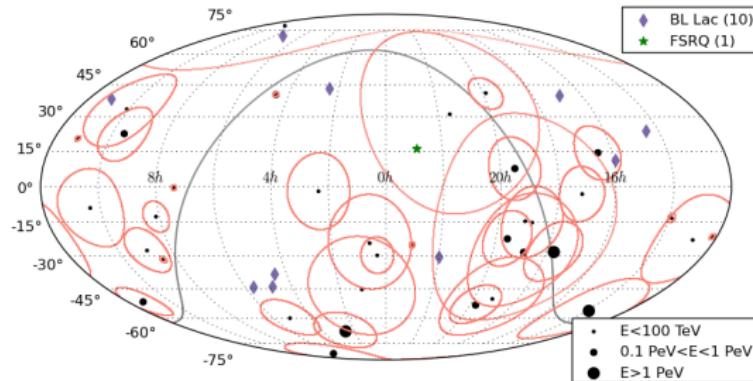
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## Active Galactic Nuclei (AGN), with jet pointing to Earth

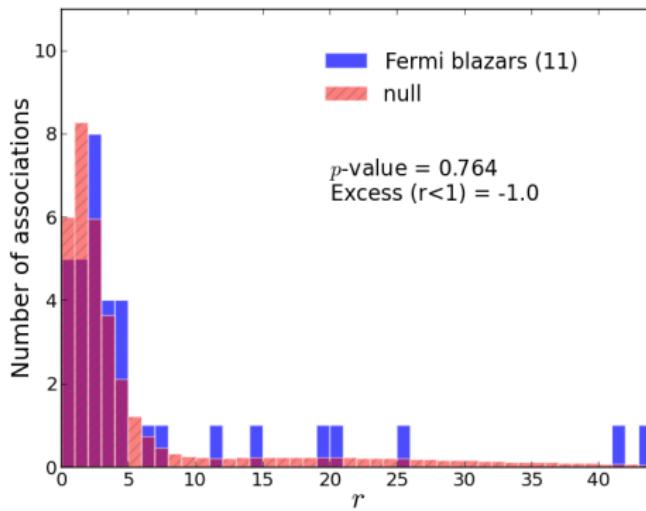
- leptonic scenario favored, hadronic model possible

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

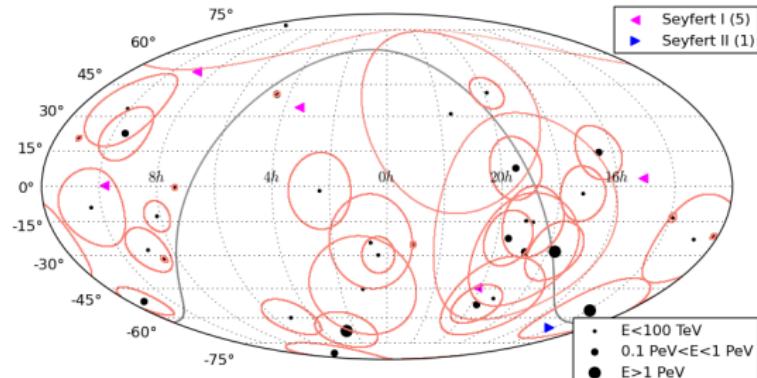


# Seyfert galaxies

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Weaker AGN emission; active star formation near nucleus

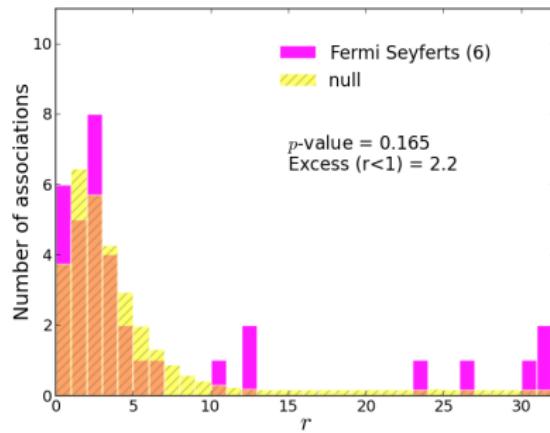


Seyfert	3FGL	Seyfert I & II	6
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non-significant excess (first bin,  $r < 1$ ), consistent with null

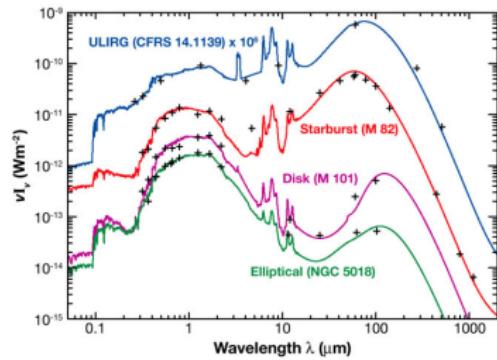


# Starburst galaxies (SBG)

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- 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

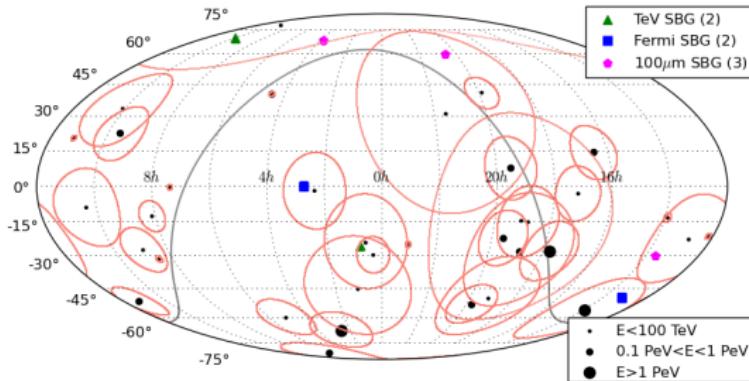


[ned.ipac.caltech.edu](http://ned.ipac.caltech.edu)

A. Loeb and E. Waxman, JCAP 0605 (2006) 003 ; 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.

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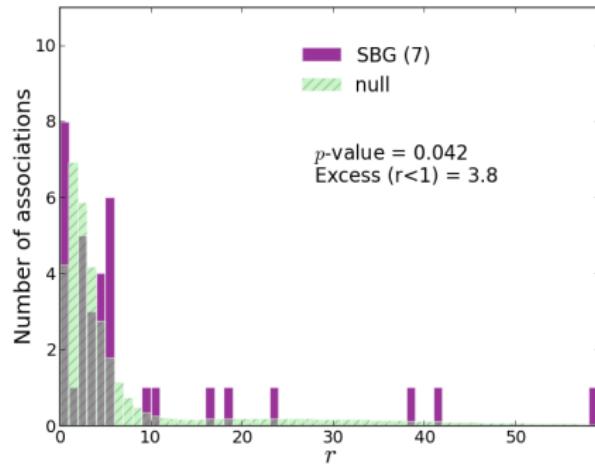
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SBG	TeVCat, 3FGL	L(100 $\mu$ m) $\geq$ 250 Jy	7
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Name	RA	dec	D (Mpc)
NGC 253	00 27 34	-25 17 22	3.1
NGC 1068	02 42 43	-00 01 33	13.7
IC 342	03 46 49	+68 05 46	4.6
M 82	09 55 53	+69 40 46	3.6
NGC 4945	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....



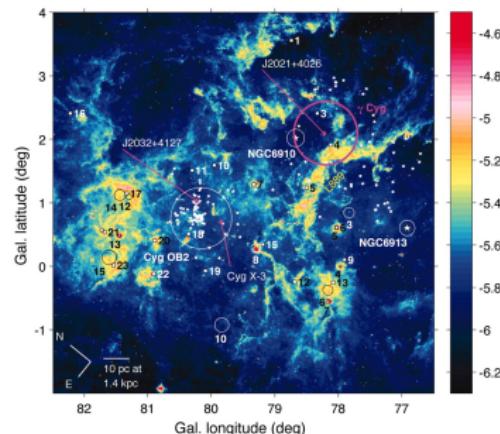
# Superbubbles and star forming regions

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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



Cygnus Cocoon, Ackermann et al., Science 334,

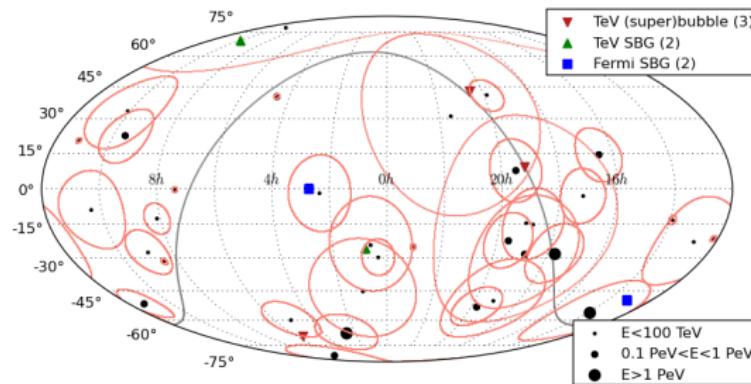
2011, 11037

# SBG + superbubbles+ star forming regions

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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

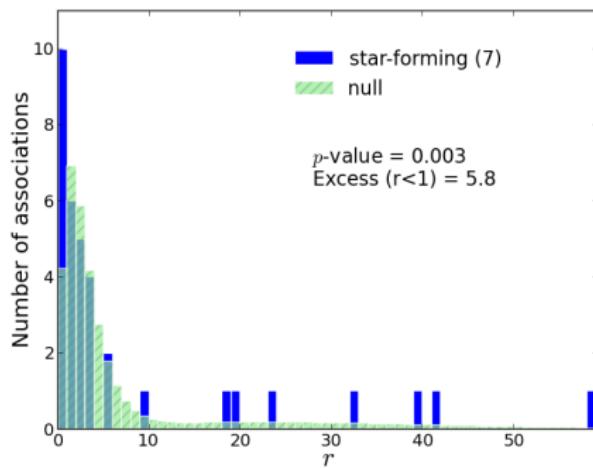
# Indication of correlation?

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*interesting excess!*

0.3% probability of random occurrence



# Are these plausible sources?

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## Sanity checks:

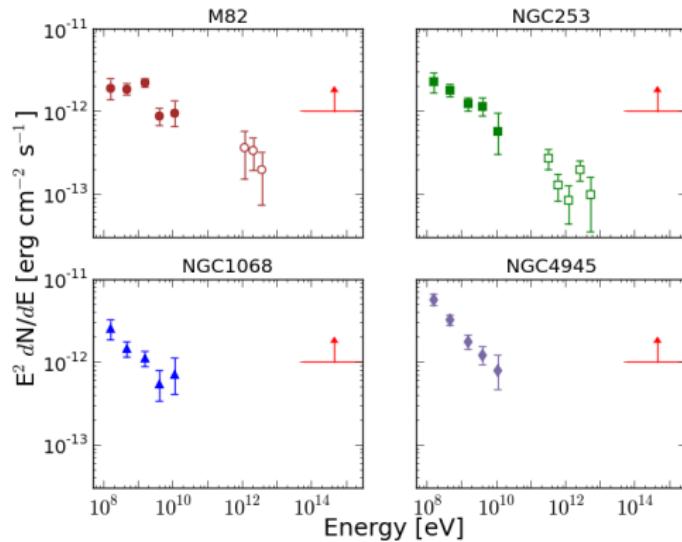
- ① sufficient flux to produce one event ?
  - assume  $\phi_\nu \sim \phi_\gamma$ , examine gamma ray spectra
- ② local vs diffuse
  - $N \sim 3 - 6$  coincidences consistent with cosmological flux expected?

# Gamma ray spectra: SBG

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Comparison with required  $\nu$  flux : M82, NGC253 disfavored

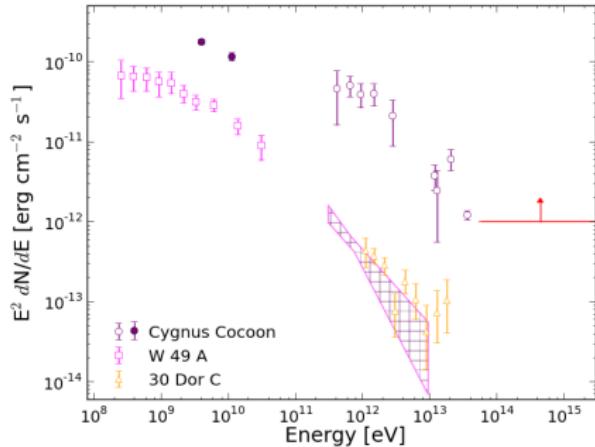


filled: Fermi-LAT ; open: HESS, VERITAS, ARGO-YBJ. Note: intergalactic absorption subtracted!

# Gamma ray spectra: superbubbles, star forming regions

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- Cygnus cocoon a possibility

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

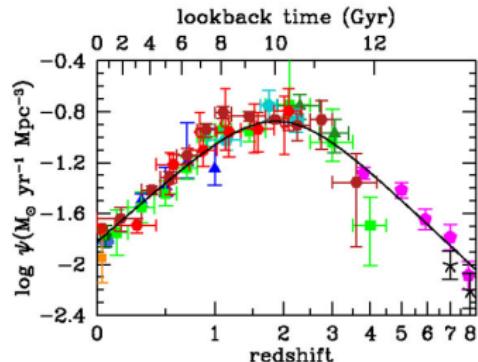
Phys. 31 (2009) 437444 ; Fox, Kashiyama, and Meszaros, ApJ. 774 (2013) 74.

# 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?



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: derivation of null distribution

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

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

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

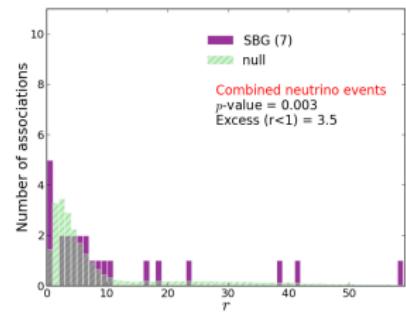
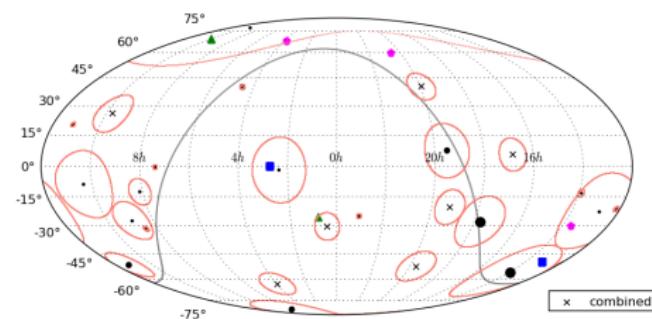
$$dP(\theta) = \frac{M}{2^M} \sin \theta (1 + \cos \theta)^{M-1} d\theta , \quad (3)$$

$$r = \theta/\sigma$$

# Backup: SBG and combined neutrinos

Star formation  
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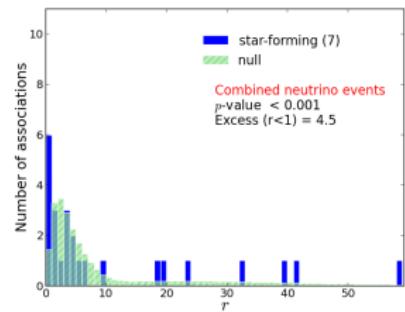
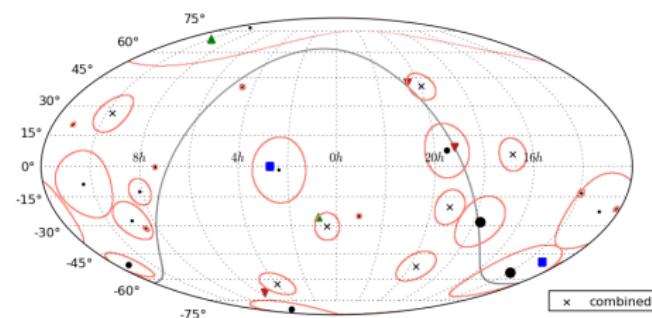
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# Backup: star form. and combined neutrinos

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# Backup: full summary table

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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

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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