

# The TAIGA observatory - a hybrid array for high energy gamma astronomy and cosmic ray physics

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The TAIGA observatory addresses ground-based gamma-ray astronomy at energies from a few TeV to several PeV, as well as cosmic-ray physics from 100 TeV to several EeV.

### Very high energy gamma astronomy IACT arrays

About 200 sources of gamma rays with energy more than 1 TeV were discovered with Imaging Atmospheric Cherenkov Telescopes arrays: HEGRA, HESS, MAGIC, VERITAS  $S \sim 0.01 \text{ km}^2$

Very High Energy gamma-rays  
Ultra High Energy gamma-rays

### Astroparticle Physics motivation for Ultra High Energy gamma astronomy

**Pevatron sky**

Where are the cosmic ray pevatrons?

Energy of  $\gamma$  from a Galactic cosmic ray source:  
 $E_\gamma \sim E_{CR} / 10$

### Two air Cherenkov techniques: Imaging and timing

Telescope image: Orientation, size and shape

Timing station: Edge time, Rise time, amplitude

### TAIGA (Tunka Advanced Instrument for cosmic rays and Gamma Astronomy): Imaging + non-imaging techniques

Array of detector stations 100-200 m

Air-shower Light-front

Hybrid imaging timing

HISCORE - EAS energy, core position and direction.  
IACT (operation in monoscopic mode) - Gamma/ hadron separation

### The TAIGA observatory is located in the Tunka valley, 50 km from Lake Baikal

50 km from Lake Baikal

51° 48' 35" N  
103° 04' 02" E

### TAIGA Status 2019

TAIGA-HISCORE 120 detectors

3 TAIGA-IACT

1km<sup>2</sup> + 3 IACT

### TAIGA-HISCORE (High Sensitivity Cosmic Origin Explorer)

- Wide-angle time-amplitude sampling non-imaging air Cherenkov array.
- Spacing between Cherenkov stations 80-100 m  $\sim$  100-150 channels / km<sup>2</sup>.

- Accuracy positioning EAS core - 5-6 m
- Angular resolution - 0.1-0.3 deg
- Energy resolution - 10-15%
- Accuracy of  $X_{max}$  measure - 20-25 g/cm<sup>2</sup>
- Large Field of view:  $\sim$  0.6 sr

Total cost  $\sim$  2 millions \$ (for 1 km<sup>2</sup>)

Cherenkov light cone

DRS-4 board (0.5 ns step)

### TAIGA-HISCORE DAQ system: stations and central part, including redundant GPS/RbClocks.

### The TAIGA-Muon particle counter.

- Counter dimension 1x1 m<sup>2</sup>
- Wavelength shifting bars are used for collection of the scintillation light on the PMT
- Mean amplitude from cosmic muon is 23.1 photoelectrons with  $\pm 15\%$  variation (minimum to maximum).
- A clear peak in amplitude spectrum is seen from cosmic muons in a self trigger mode.

1/4 of full scale detector

### The TAIGA - IACT

The TAIGA - IACT

- 34-segment reflectors (Davis-Cotton)
- Diameter 4.3 m, area  $\sim$  10 m<sup>2</sup>
- Focal length 4.75 m
- Threshold energy  $\sim$  1.5 TeV

### The Camera of the TAIGA-IACT

- 560 PMTs (XP 1911) with 15 mm useful diameter of photocathode
- Winston cone: 30mm input size
- each pixel = 0.36 deg
- FOV  $\sim$  9.6°, PSF  $\sim$  0.07°
- Pointing accuracy  $\sim$  0.05

Basic cluster: 28 PMT-pixels. Signal processing: PMT DAQ board based on MAROC3 ASIC

### The 1 km<sup>2</sup> TAIGA setup integral point source sensitivity

TAIGA is a hybrid instrument, that combines HiSCORE, an array of wide-angle air Cherenkov timing stations for shower-front sampling, and Imaging Air Cherenkov Telescopes (IACTs). This hybrid concept allows cost-efficient instrumentation of gamma telescopes of multi km<sup>2</sup>-scale. The capabilities of these Cherenkov arrays are enhanced by muon detectors (TAIGA-Muon). The 2019y TAIGA setup will comprise the tree IACT and a HiSCORE array with 120 stations on 1.0 km<sup>2</sup> instrumented area. The detection sensitivity installation for point sources in the energy range of 30 – 200 TeV is expected to be  $2.5 \cdot 10^{-13} \text{ TeV cm}^{-2} \text{ sec}^{-1}$  for 500 h of observation or 10 detected events. The study of gamma radiation in the ultra high energy range by TAIGA is of interest not only for astrophysics, but also for testing theories predicting a violation of Lorentz invariance and to search for super-heavy dark matter