

Cosmic Ray Anisotropy with the Telescope Array Experiment

Jihyun Kim (University of Utah)

on behalf of the Telescope Array Collaboration

Cosmic Ray Anisotropy Workshop 2023

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Jihyun Kim @ CRA2023, Loyola University - Chicago



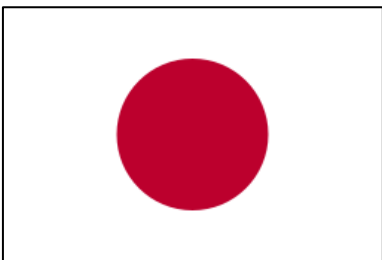
Outline

- Telescope Array (TA) Experiment
- TA Hotspot
 - Results using 14 years of data
 - Independent dataset analysis
 - Chance probability estimation
- Perseus-Pisces SuperCluster (PPSC) Excess
 - Results using 14 years of data
 - Independent dataset analysis
 - Chance probability estimation
- Summary

Telescope Array Collaboration



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Japan



Korea

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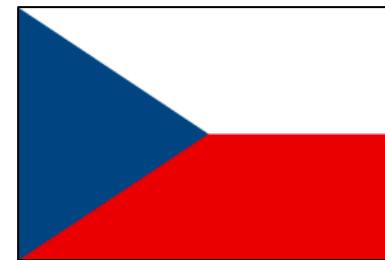
³⁷Department of Physics, Ehime University, Matsuyama, Ehime, Japan



Russia



Belgium



Czech Republic

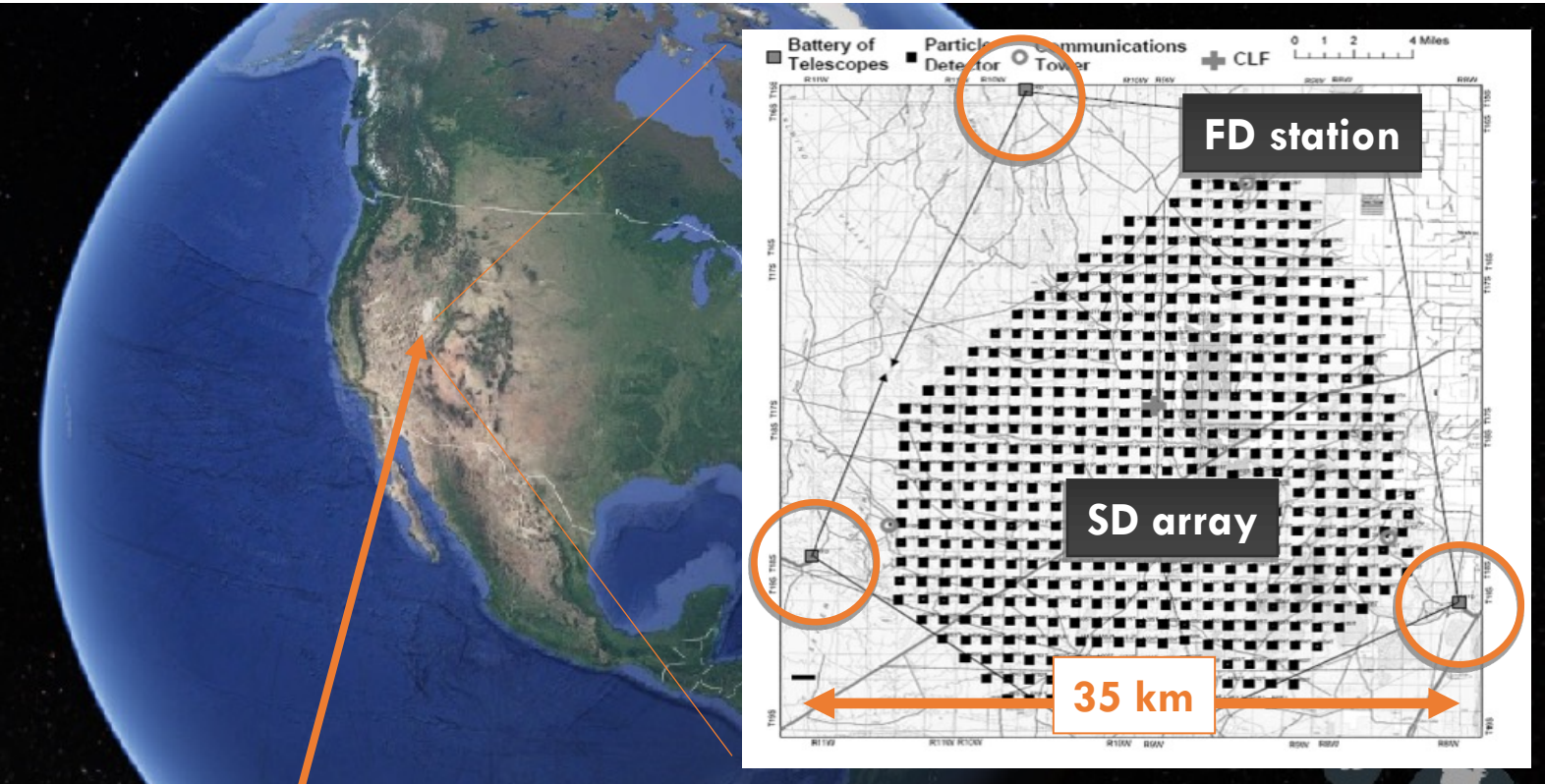


Slovenia

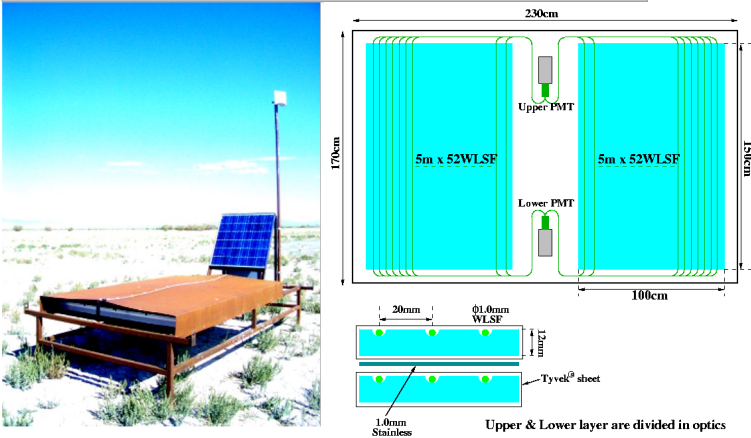
145 members, 32 institutes, 7 countries

Telescope Array (TA) experiment

- The largest cosmic ray observatory in the northern hemisphere



Surface Detector: Plastic Scintillator



Fluorescence Detector: PMT camera

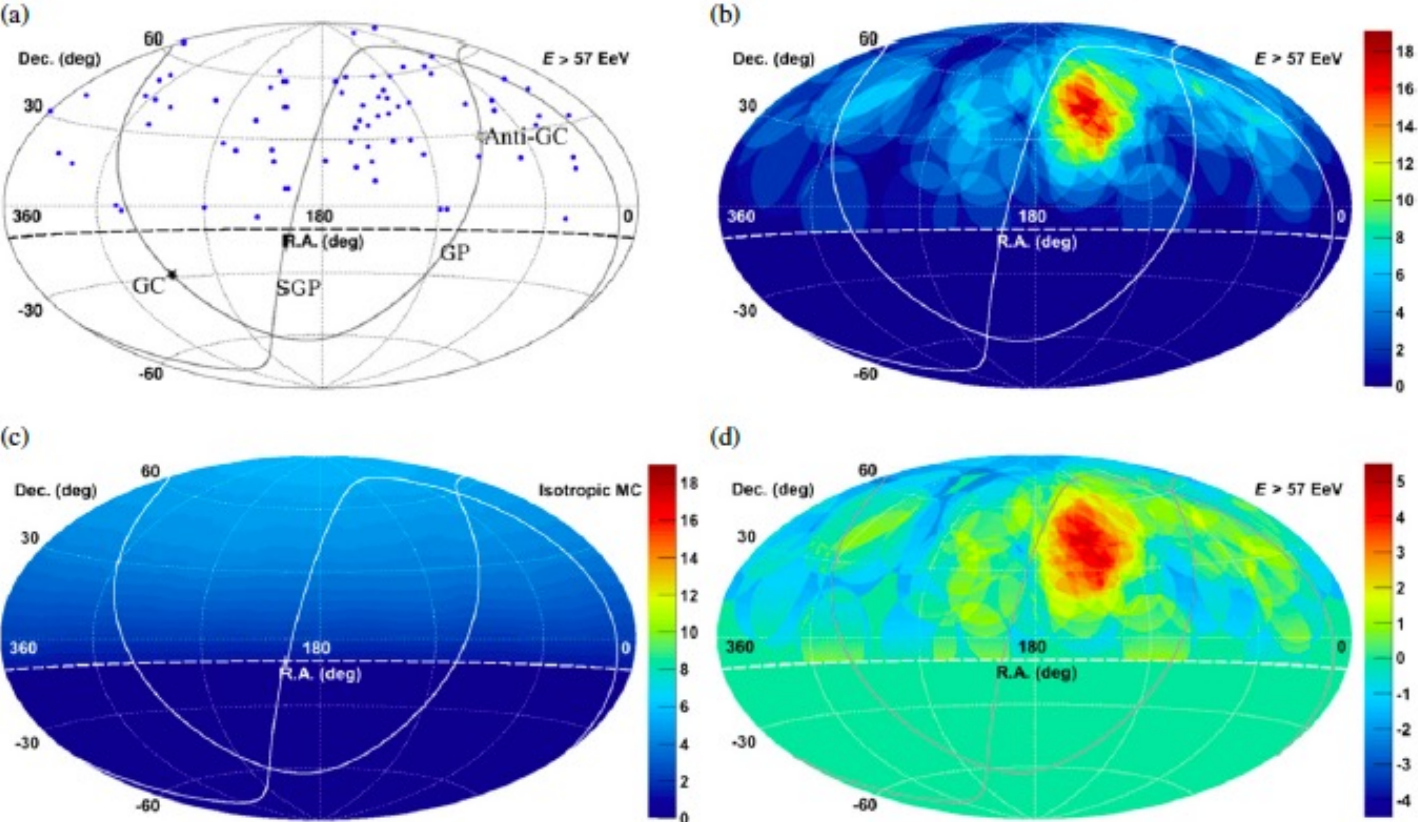


- Delta, Utah, USA. ~1 400 m above sea level
- 507 surface detector array covers ~700 km²
- 38 telescopes in 3 stations look over the array

Anisotropies in the arrival direction distributions of UHECRs

Arrival direction distribution: **What are their sources?**

- Anisotropy search is critical to narrowing down source candidates of UHECRs.



- We performed **intermediate scale anisotropy** searches.
- 72 events with $E > 5.7 \times 10^{19}$ eV (5-year TA SD data)
- Maximum local significance: 5.1σ
- Observed: 19 events
- Expected from iso.: 4.5 events
- Post-trial probability:
 $P(p_{\text{pre}} > 5.1\sigma) = 3.7 \times 10^{-4}$
 $\rightarrow 3.4\sigma$

Figure 1. Aitoff projection of the UHECR maps in equatorial coordinates. The solid curves indicate the galactic plane (GP) and supergalactic plane (SGP). Our FoV is defined as the region above the dashed curve at decl. = -10° . (a) The points show the directions of the UHECRs $E > 57$ EeV observed by the TA SD array, and the closed and open stars indicate the Galactic center (GC) and the anti-Galactic center (Anti-GC), respectively; (b) color contours show the number of observed cosmic-ray events summed over a 20° radius circle; (c) number of background events from the geometrical exposure summed over a 20° radius circle (the same color scale as (b) is used for comparison); (d) significance map calculated from (b) and (c) using Equation (1).

TA Collab. (2014)

Oversampling Searches: Li-Ma Method

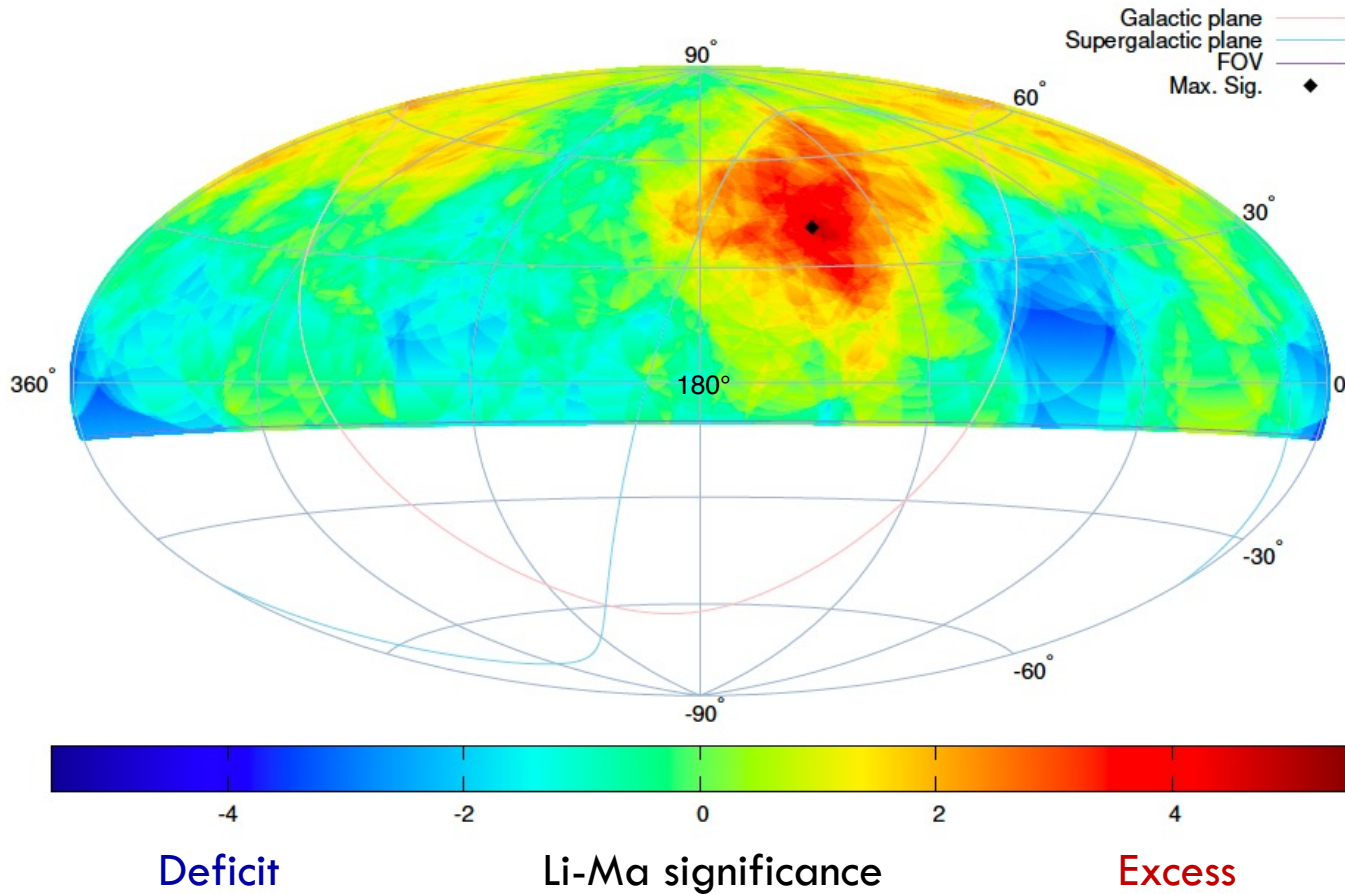
- The statistical significance of the excess of events compared to background events at each grid point is calculated by the Li-Ma method:

$$S_{LM} = \sqrt{2} \left[N_{\text{on}} \ln \left(\frac{(1+\alpha)N_{\text{on}}}{\alpha(N_{\text{on}}+N_{\text{off}})} \right) + N_{\text{off}} \ln \left(\frac{(1+\alpha)N_{\text{off}}}{N_{\text{on}}+N_{\text{off}}} \right) \right]^{1/2},$$

- $N_{\text{total}} = N_{\text{on}} + N_{\text{off}}$: total observed number of events
- N_{on} : # of events inside the circle, N_{off} : # of events outside the circle
- $N_{\text{bg}} = \alpha \cdot N_{\text{off}}$
- To determine the exposure ratio of α , we generated 10^5 events assuming an isotropic flux taking into account the geometrical exposure.
 - $\alpha = \frac{N_{\text{sim,on}}}{N_{\text{sim,off}}} = \frac{N_{\text{sim,circle}}}{(N_{\text{sim,total}} - N_{\text{sim,circle}})}$
- Field of view: 90° to -10° in declination, 0° to 360° in right ascension
- Oversampling with **25°** of angular windows

Li-Ma Significance Map with $E \geq 57$ EeV

25°-radius oversampling



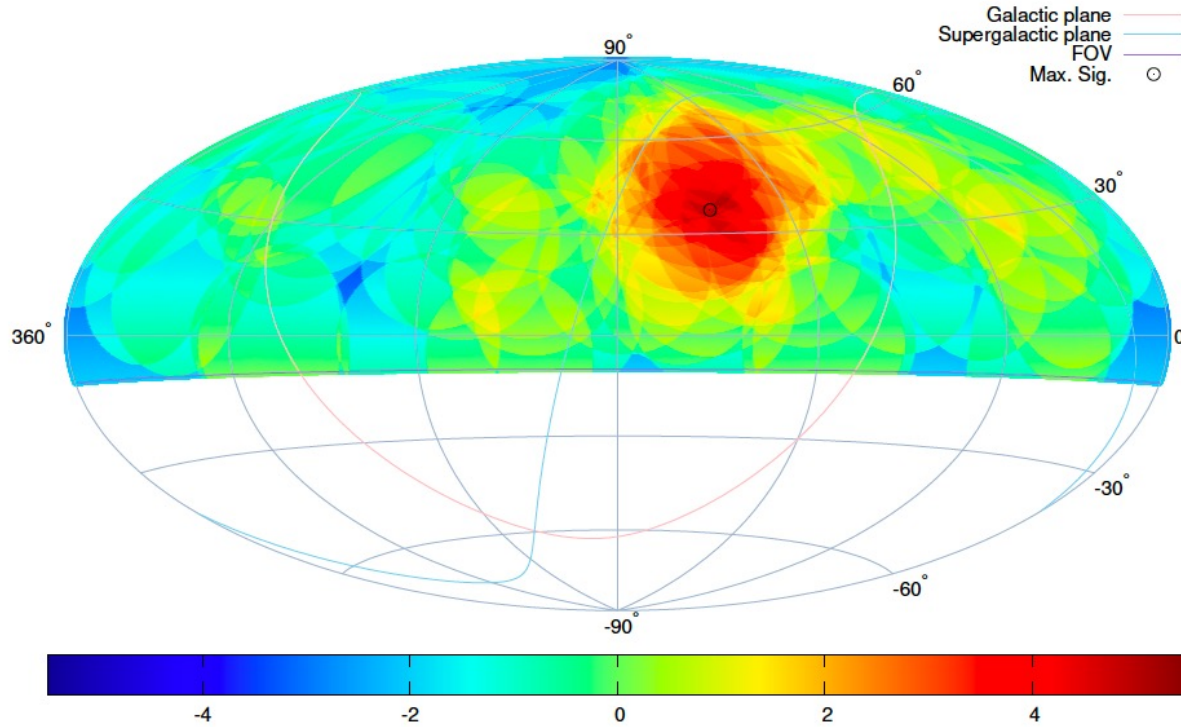
- 205 events (14-year TA SD data)
- Max local sig.: **5.1 σ** at (144.0°, 40.5°)

Obs. : 44 events
 N_{bg} : 16.9 events } $\sim 160\%$ excess

- Post-trial probability:

$$P(S_{MC} > 5.1\sigma) = 7.4 \times 10^{-4} \rightarrow \mathbf{3.2\sigma}$$

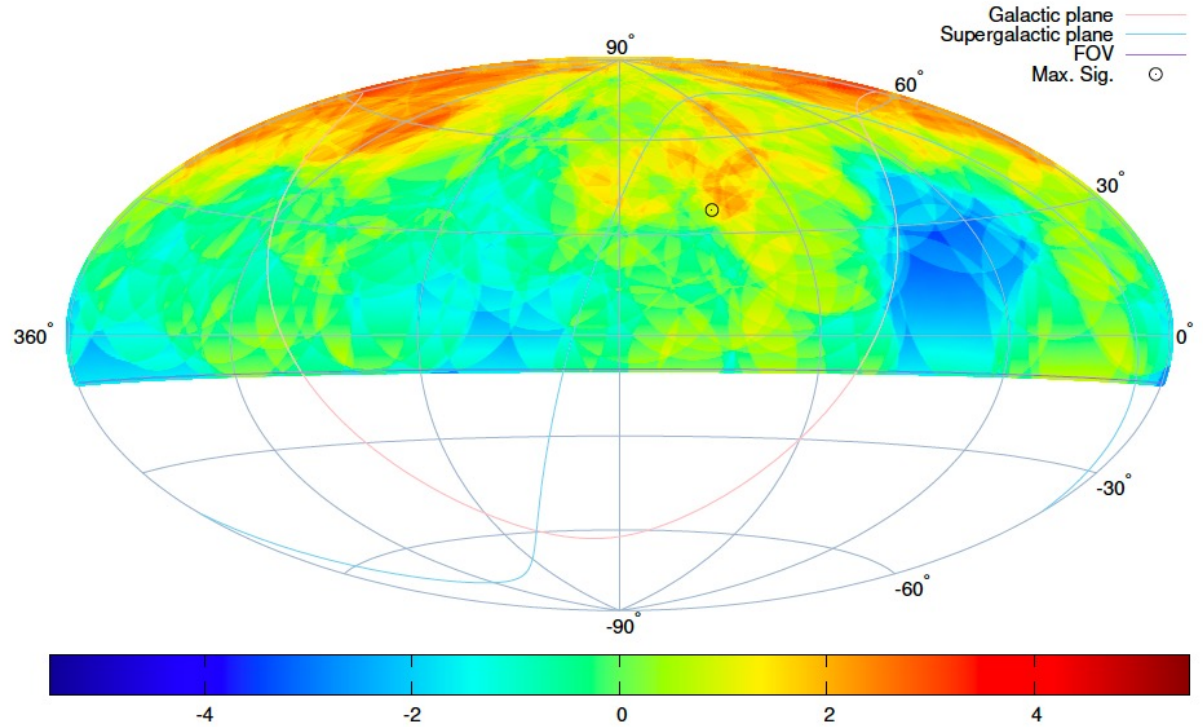
Independent Dataset Analysis



- 72 events (First 5-year)
- **5.0 σ** at (144.0°, 40.5°)

Obs. : 22 events

N_{bg} : 5.2 events

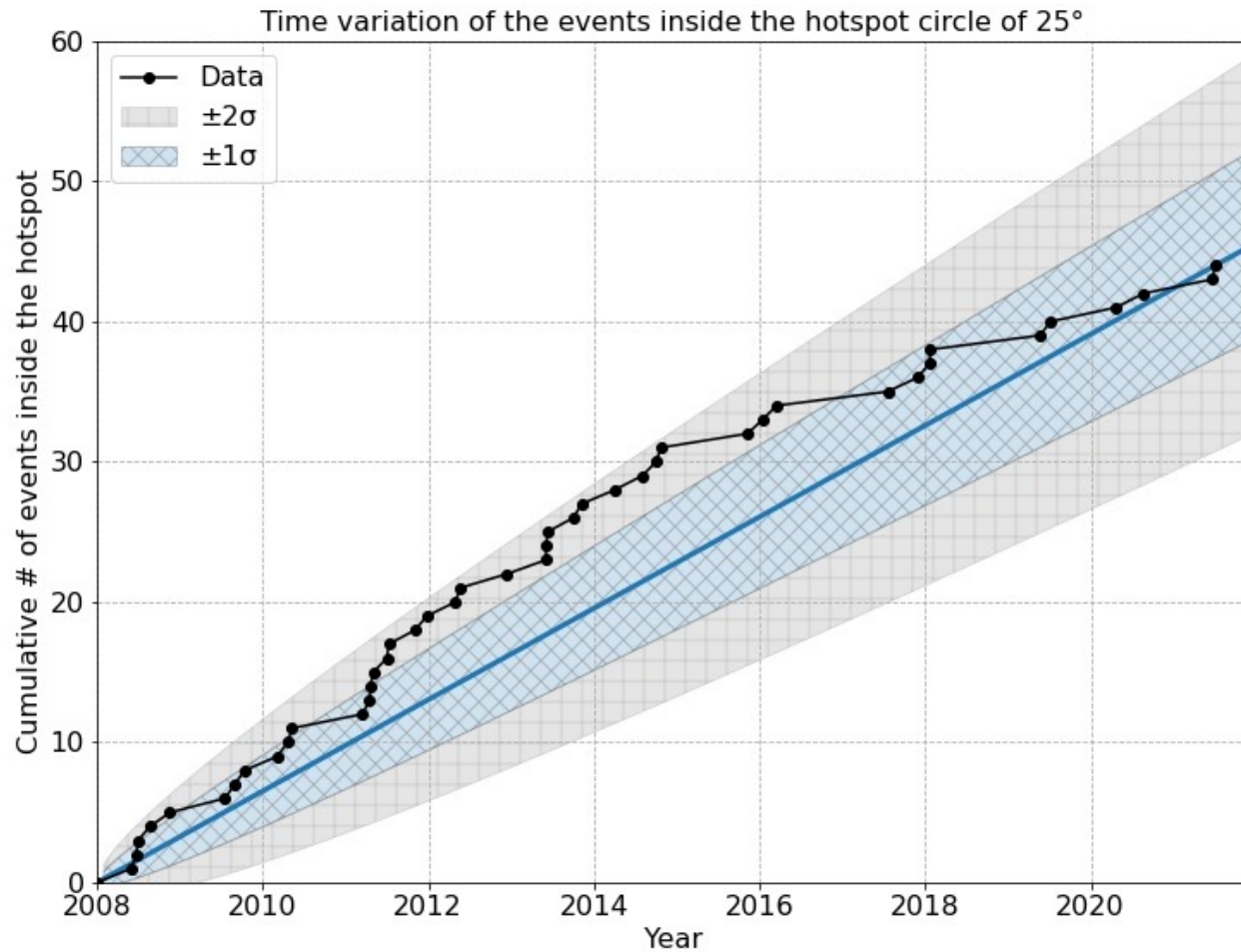


- 133 events (Last 9-year)
- **2.5 σ** at (144.0°, 40.5°)

Obs. : 22 events

N_{bg} : 11.6 events

Growth of the Hotspot

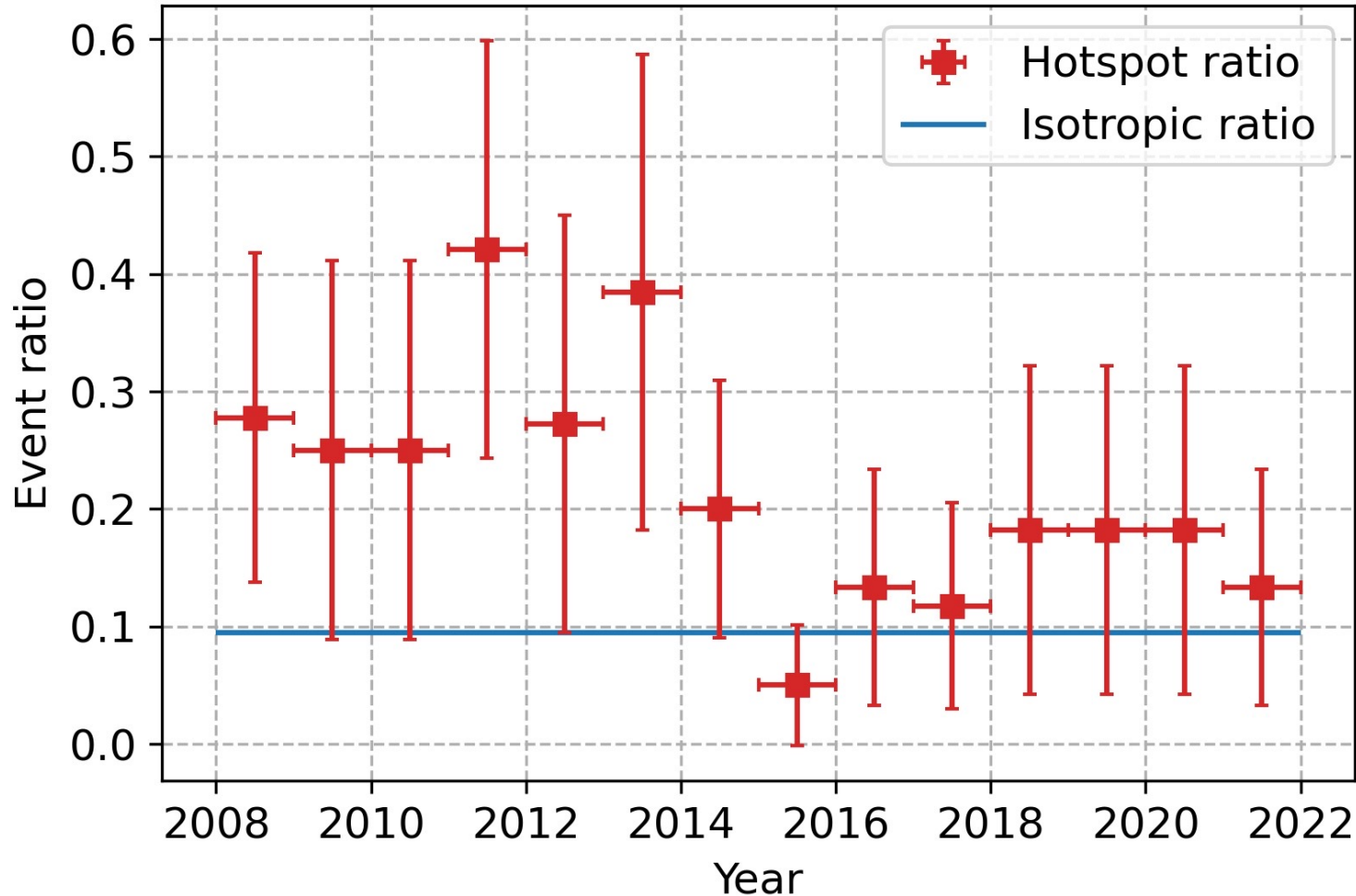


- Black dots: cumulative # of events falling inside the hotspot circle of 25°

- Blue solid line: estimated event rate inside the hotspot

The increase rate of the events inside the hotspot circle is **consistent with the linear increase within $\sim 2\sigma$.**

Event Ratio of the Hotspot



Hotspot ratio:

of events inside the hotspot / total # of events

Isotropic ratio (Hotspot aperture):

of isotropic simulation events inside the hotspot / total # of isotropic simulation events (10^5)

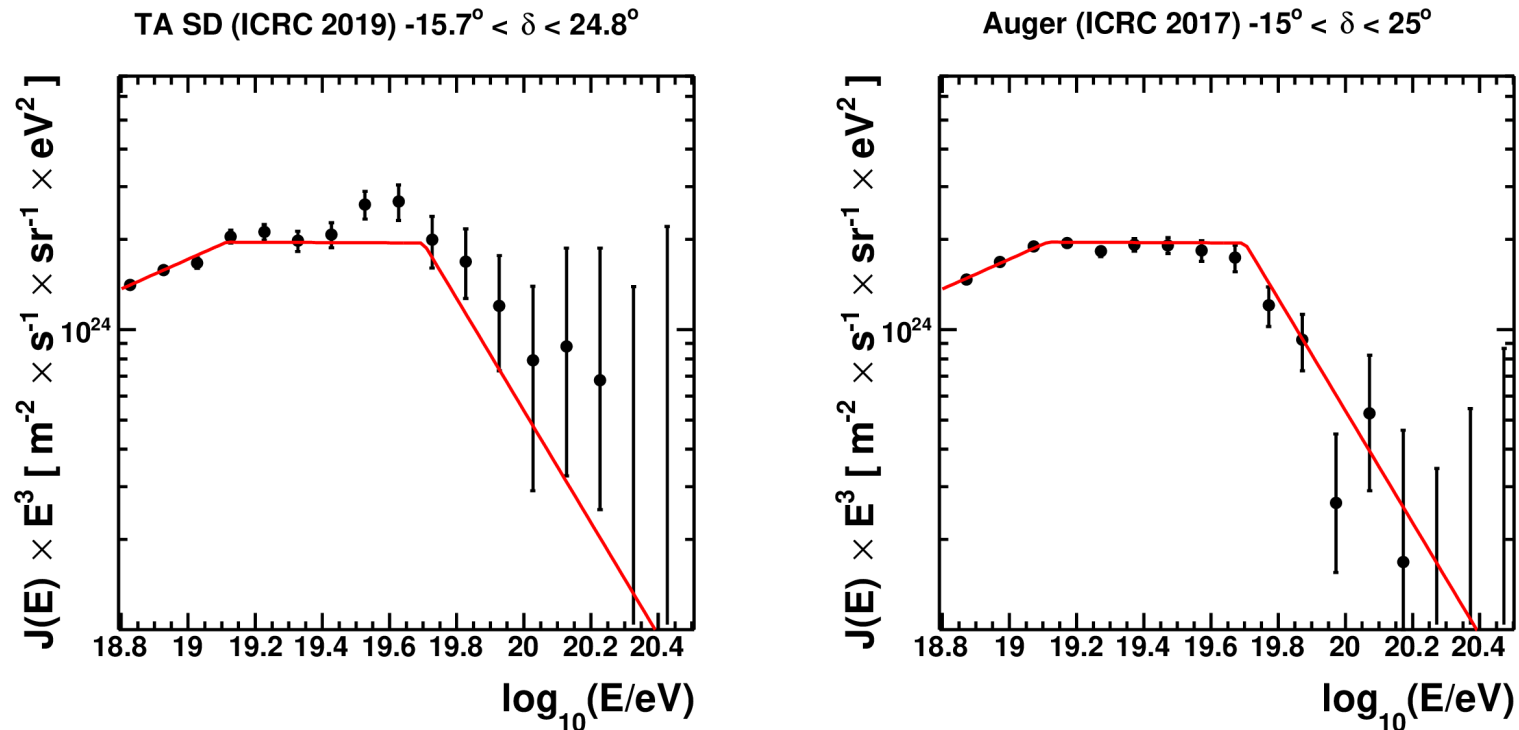
(different from the definition of α)

$$\beta = \frac{N_{\text{sim,circle}}}{N_{\text{sim,total}}}$$
$$\alpha = \frac{N_{\text{sim,on}}}{N_{\text{sim,off}}} = \frac{N_{\text{sim,circle}}}{(N_{\text{sim,total}} - N_{\text{sim,circle}})}$$

This plot shows that we observed more events inside the hotspot compared to the isotropic expectation except for one year.

New excess in the direction of
the Perseus-Pisces supercluster

Excesses in the energy spectrum



- While we were studying the spectrum mismatch between TA and Auger, we made sky maps of events for energy ranges, $E \geq 10^{19.4}$ eV, $E \geq 10^{19.5}$ eV, and $E \geq 10^{19.6}$ eV, since we were investigating whether the hotspot extends down into lower declinations at slightly lower energies.
- The maximum Li-Ma significance appeared at the location of the Perseus-Pisces supercluster for each energy range.

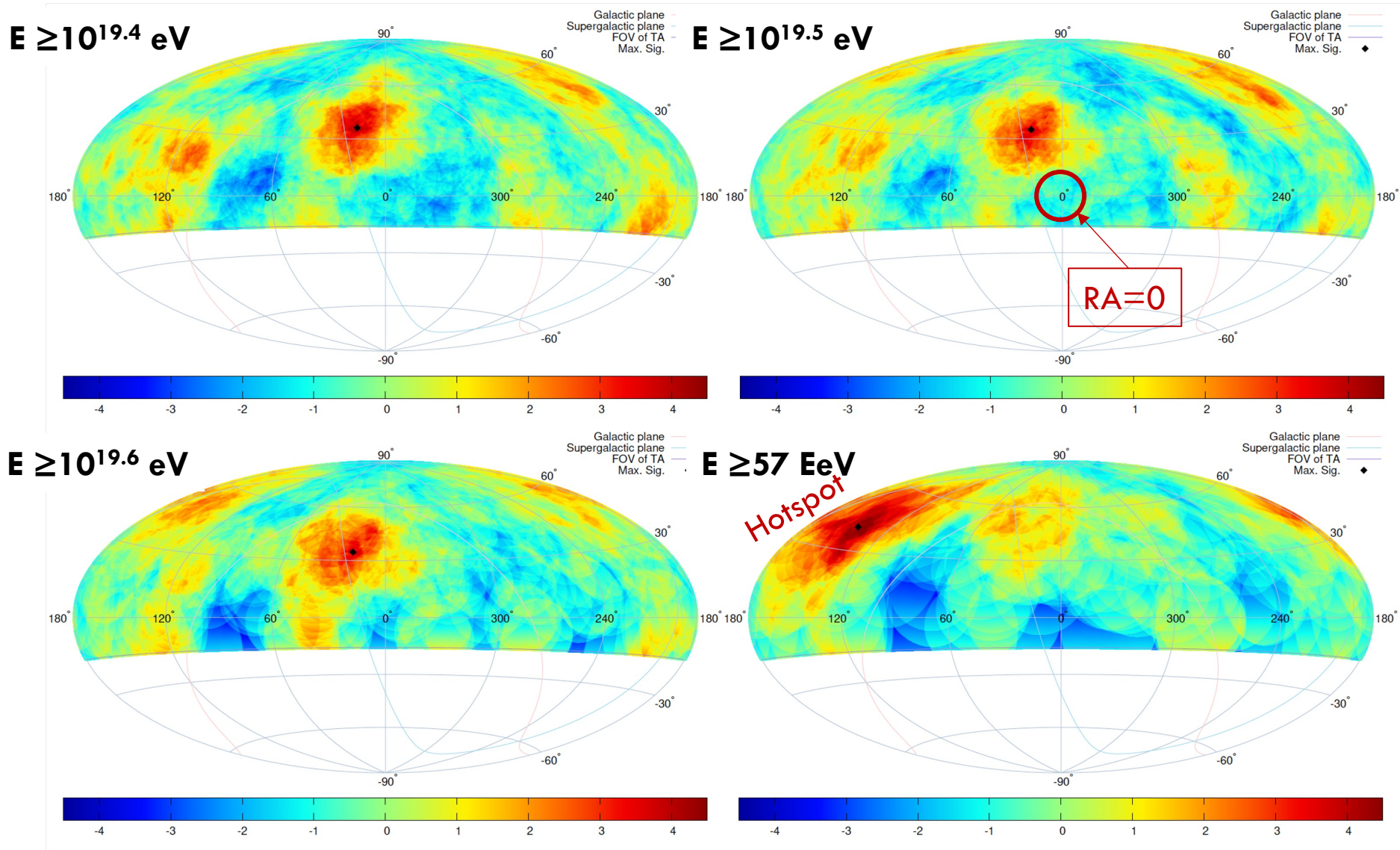
Oversampling Searches: Li-Ma Method

- The statistical significance of the excess of events compared to background events at each grid point is calculated by the Li-Ma method:

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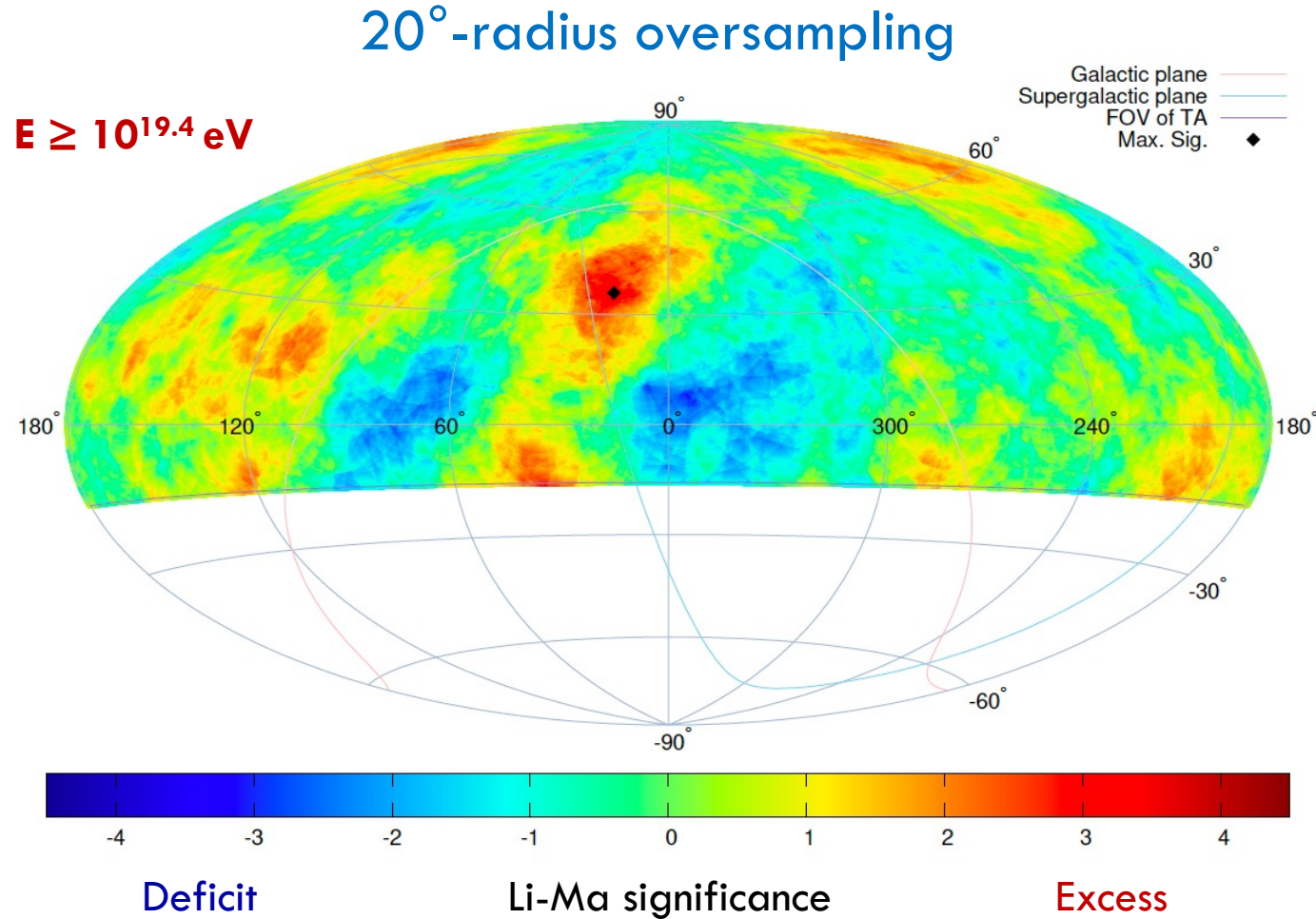
- $N_{\text{total}} = N_{\text{on}} + N_{\text{off}}$: total observed number of events
- N_{on} : # of events inside the circle, N_{off} : # of events outside the circle
- $N_{\text{bg}} = \alpha \cdot N_{\text{off}}$
- To determine the exposure ratio of α , we generated 10^5 events assuming an isotropic flux taking into account the geometrical exposure.
 - $\alpha = \frac{N_{\text{sim,on}}}{N_{\text{sim,off}}} = \frac{N_{\text{sim,circle}}}{(N_{\text{sim,total}} - N_{\text{sim,circle}})}$
- Field of view: 90° to -15.7° in declination, 0° to 360° in right ascension
- Oversampling with **20°** of angular windows

New excess in Slightly Lower Energy Events TA Collab., ICRC2021



- Li-Ma significance map: **excess (red)** / **deficit (blue)** of events compared to isotropy
- Black diamond (◆): the maximum Li-Ma significance position
- Equatorial coords. having RA=0 at center

Li-Ma Significance Map with $E \geq 10^{19.4}$ eV

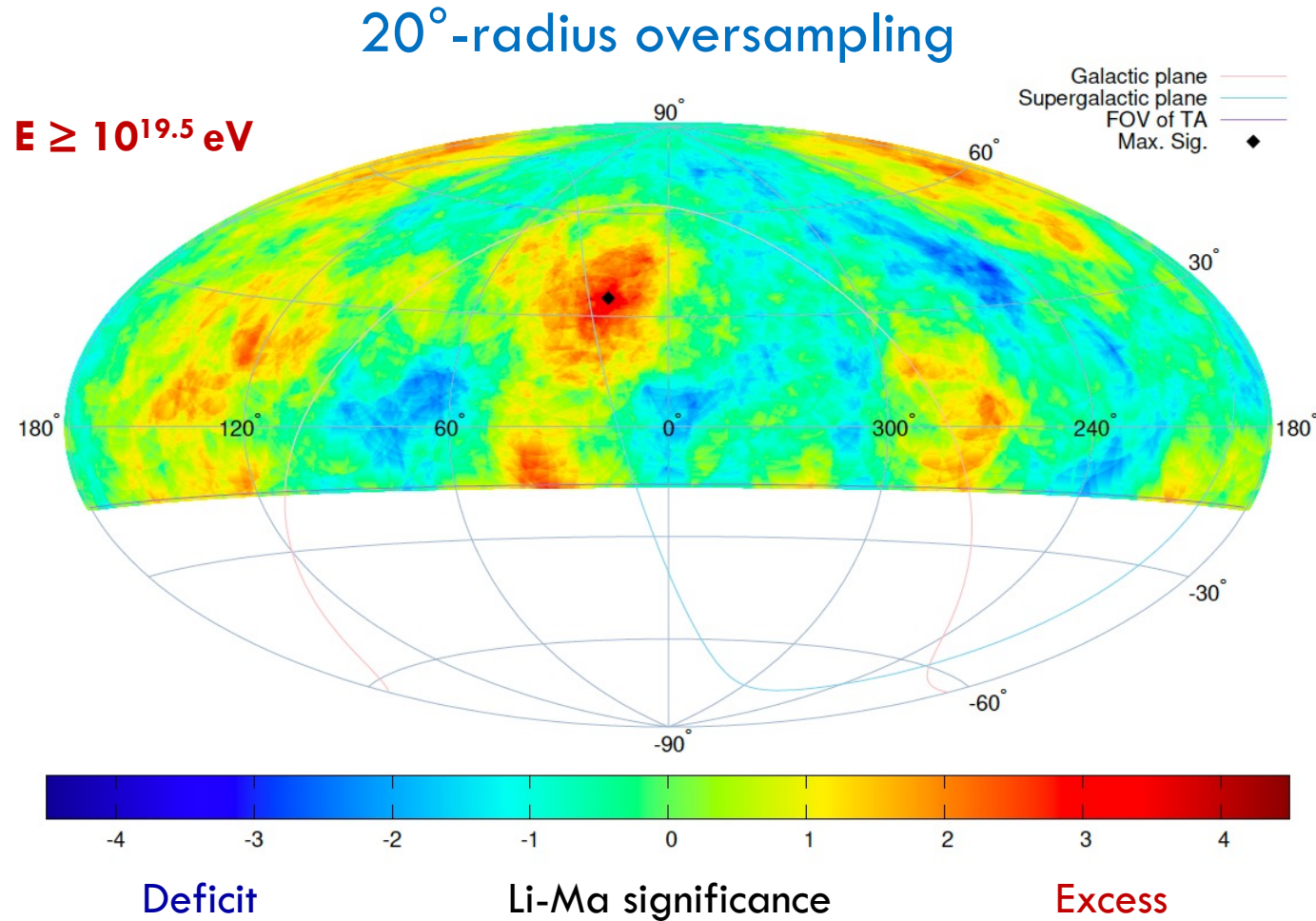


- 1060 events (14-year TA SD data)

- Li-Ma sig.: 3.8σ at $(17.4^\circ, 36.0^\circ)$

Obs.: 95 events
 N_{bg} : 61.4 events } $\sim 55\%$ excess

Li-Ma Significance Map with $E \geq 10^{19.5}$ eV

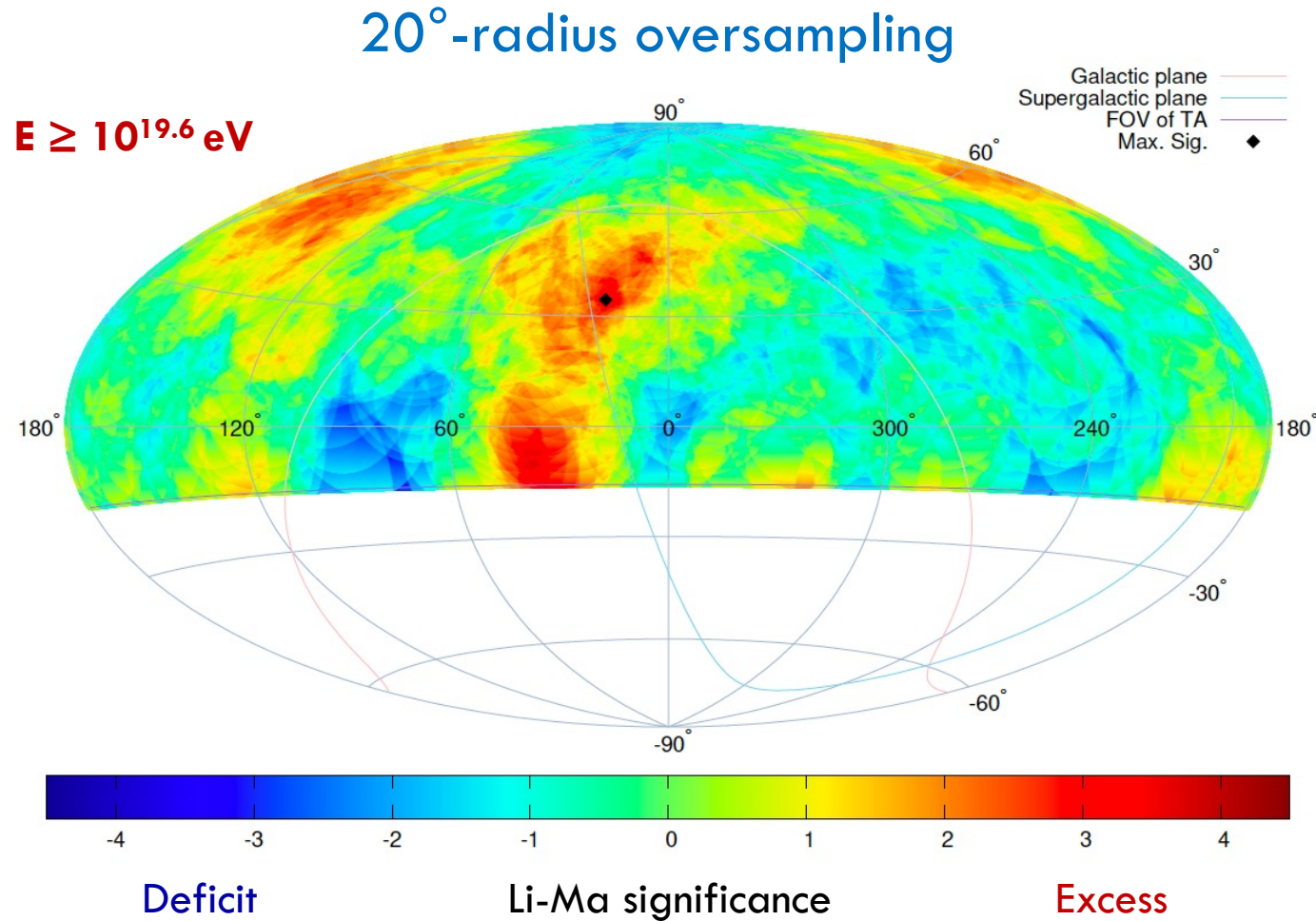


- 685 events (14-year TA SD data)

- Li-Ma sig.: 3.8σ at $(19.0^\circ, 35.1^\circ)$

Obs.: 66 events
 N_{bg} : 39.1 events } $\sim 69\%$ excess

Li-Ma Significance Map with $E \geq 10^{19.6}$ eV

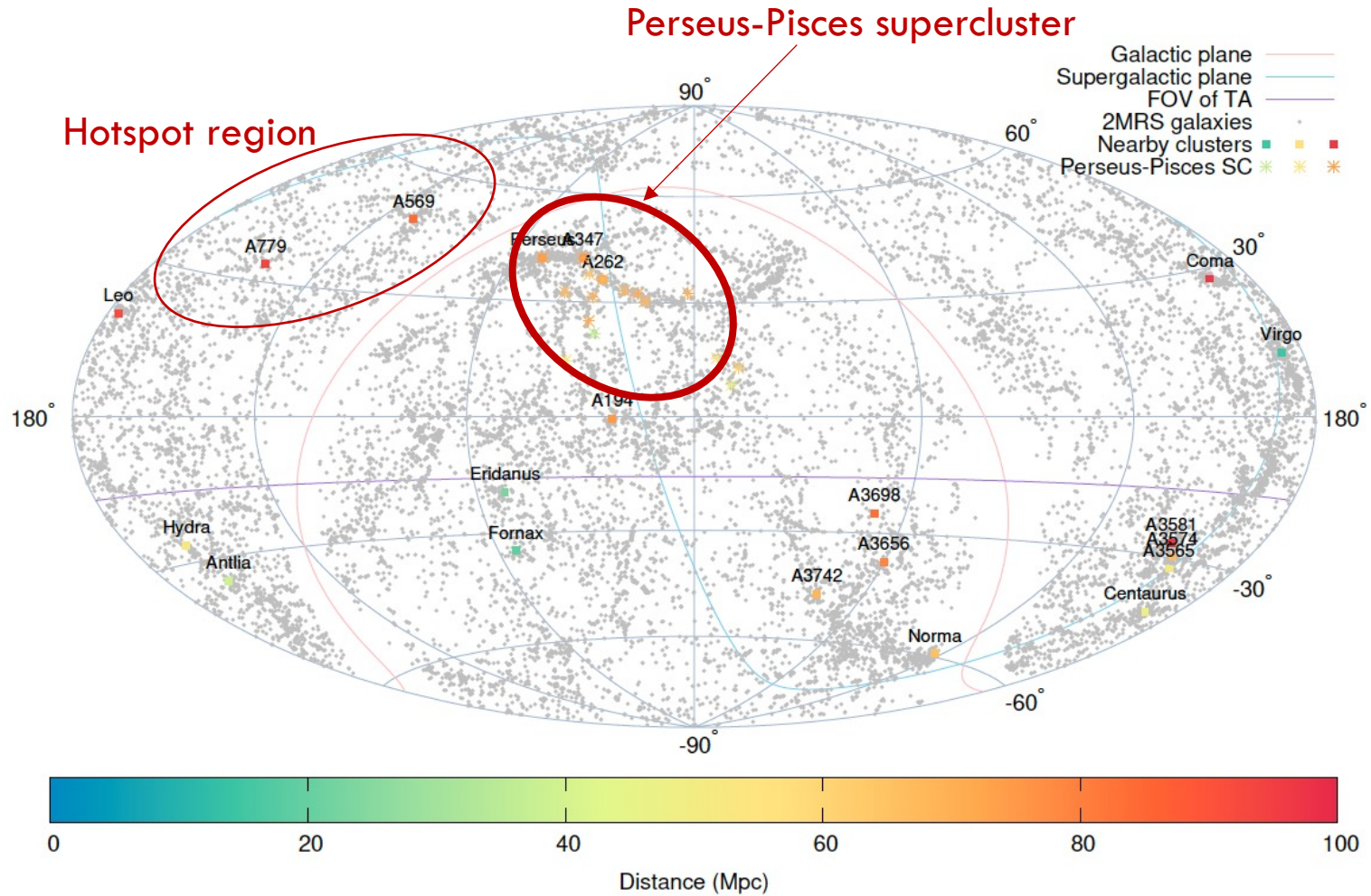


- 413 events (14-year TA SD data)

- Li-Ma sig.: 3.5σ at $(19.7^\circ, 34.6^\circ)$

Obs.: 43 events
 N_{bg} : 23.2 events } $\sim 85\%$ excess

What is Behind the New Excess?

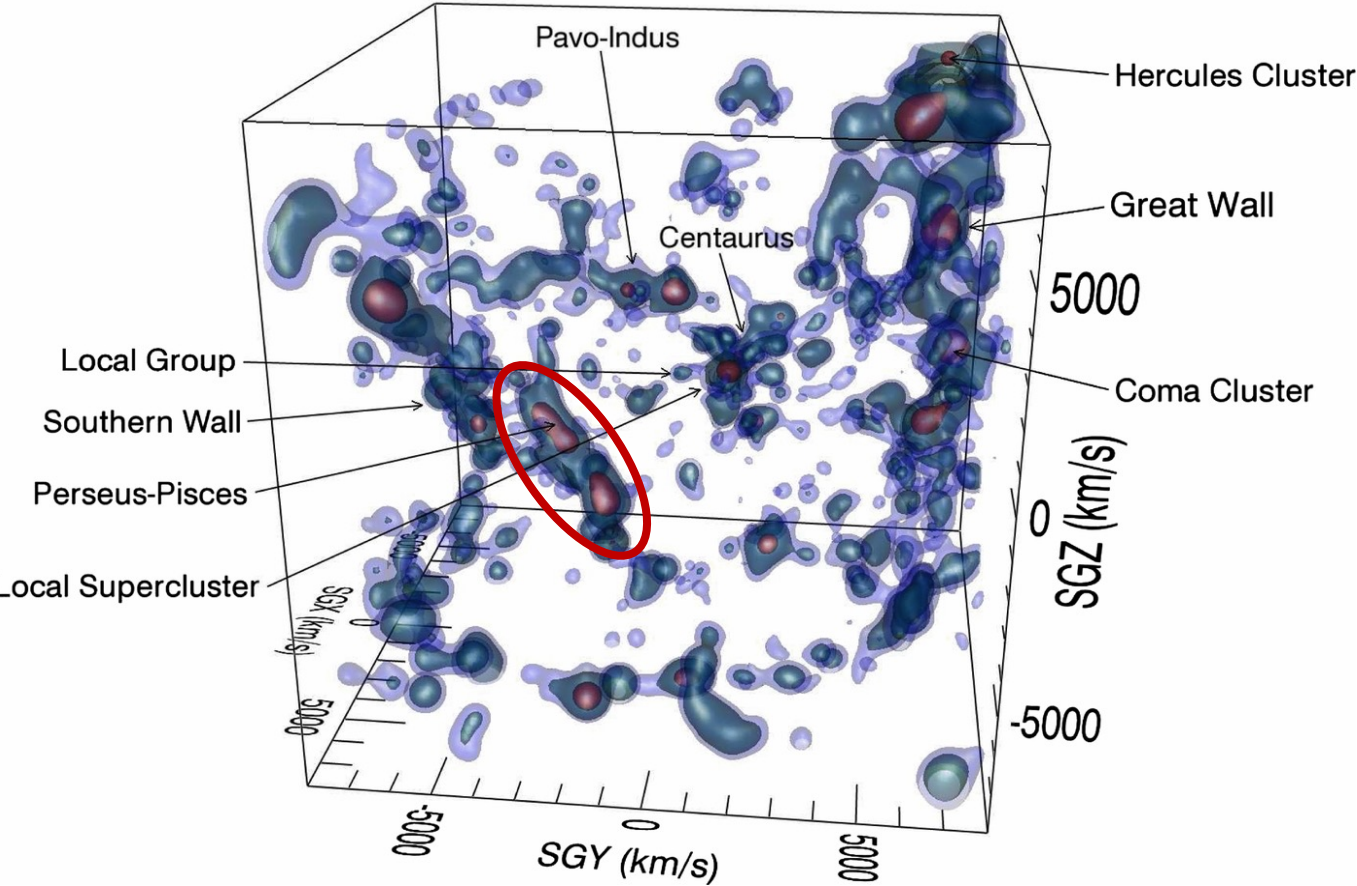


Sky map with nearby galaxies and clusters of galaxies in equatorial coordinates

- Gray dots (·): nearby galaxies from the 2MASS Redshift Survey catalog
- Colored squares (■): nearby clusters of galaxies
- Colored asterisks (*): representative elements of Perseus-Pisces supercluster

Characteristic of the Perseus-Pisces Supercluster (PPSC)

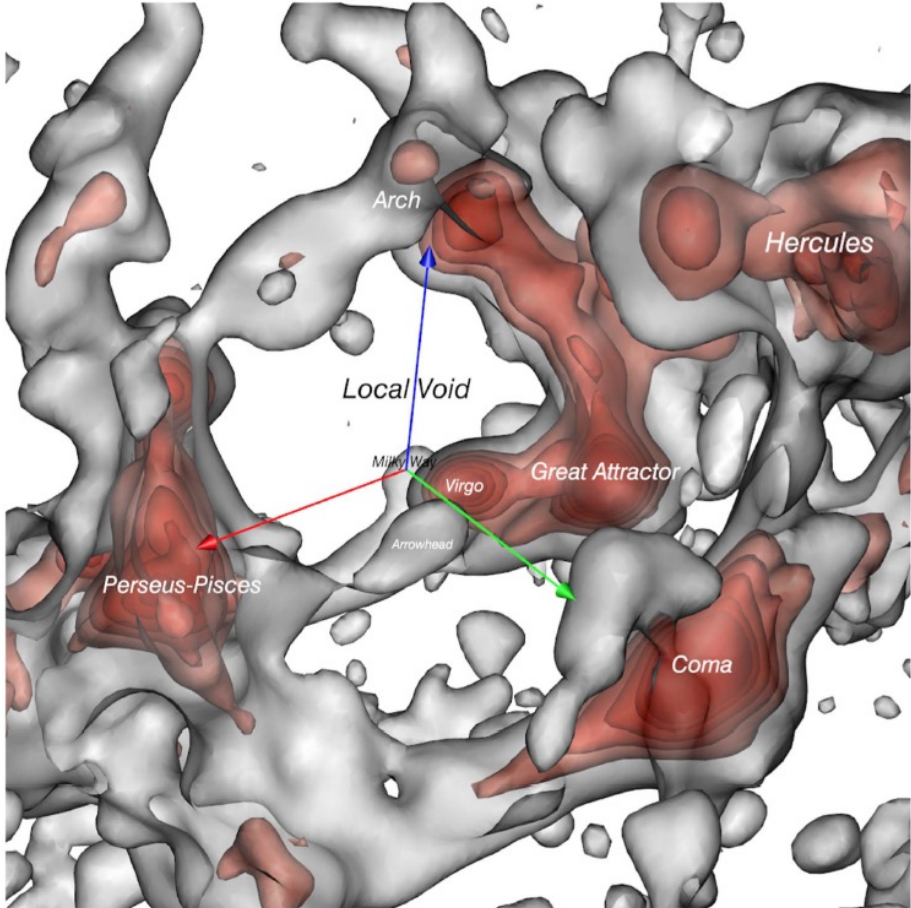
3-dimensional density maps



Courtois et al. (2013)

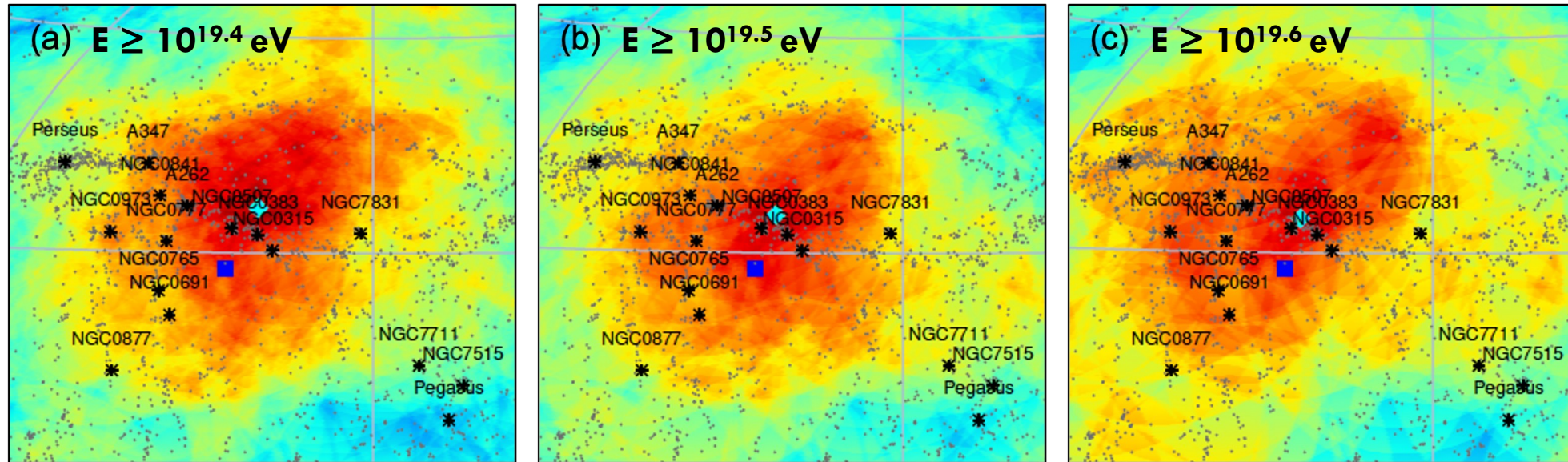
THE ASTROPHYSICAL JOURNAL, 880:24 (14pp), 2019 July 20

Tully et al.



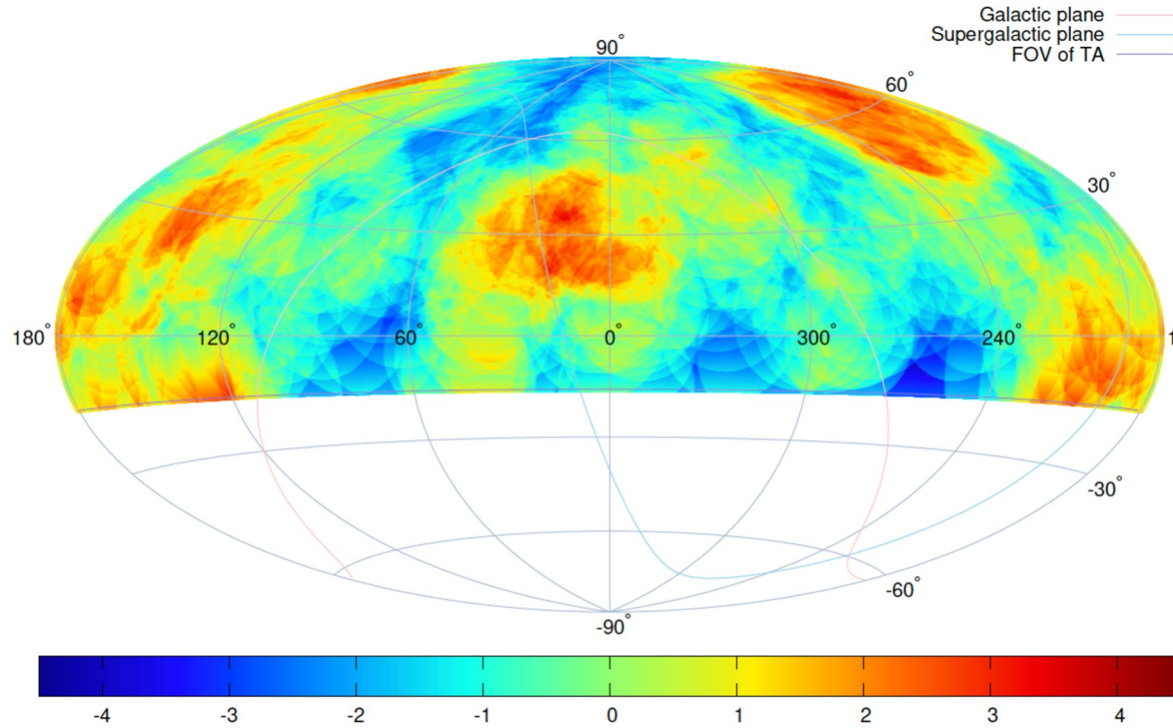
Tully et al. (2019)

PPSC Excess and representative elements of PPSC



- Black asterisks (*): the representative elements of the PPSC; Gray dots (·): Galaxies from the 2MASS Redshift Survey catalog (35 – 100 Mpc); Cyan diamonds (◆): the positions of maximum excesses; Blue squares (■): the center of the PPSC.
- It is seen that the excess is coincident with the overall distribution of the PPSC. The angular separations between the positions of the maximum excesses and the center of the PPSC are less than $\sim 10^\circ$.

Independent Dataset Analysis with $E \geq 10^{19.4}$ eV

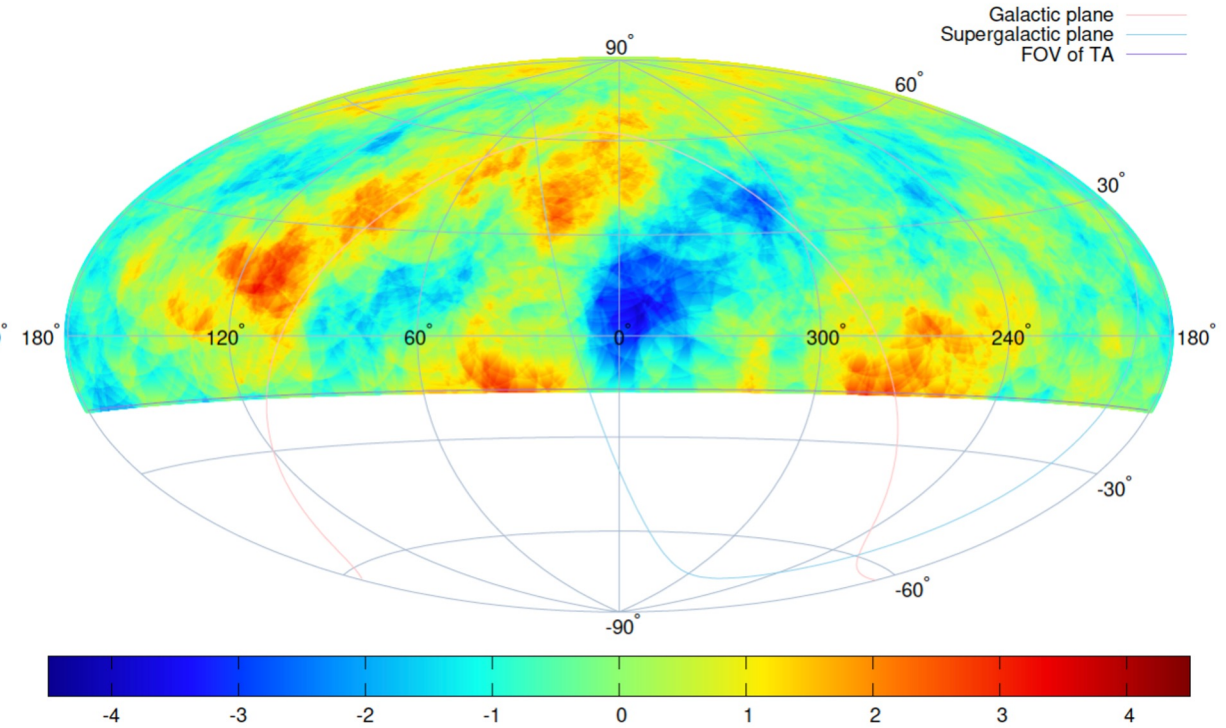


- 389 events (First 5-year)

- **3.3σ** at $(17.4^\circ, 36.0^\circ)$

Obs. : **36** events

N_{bg} : **22.4** events



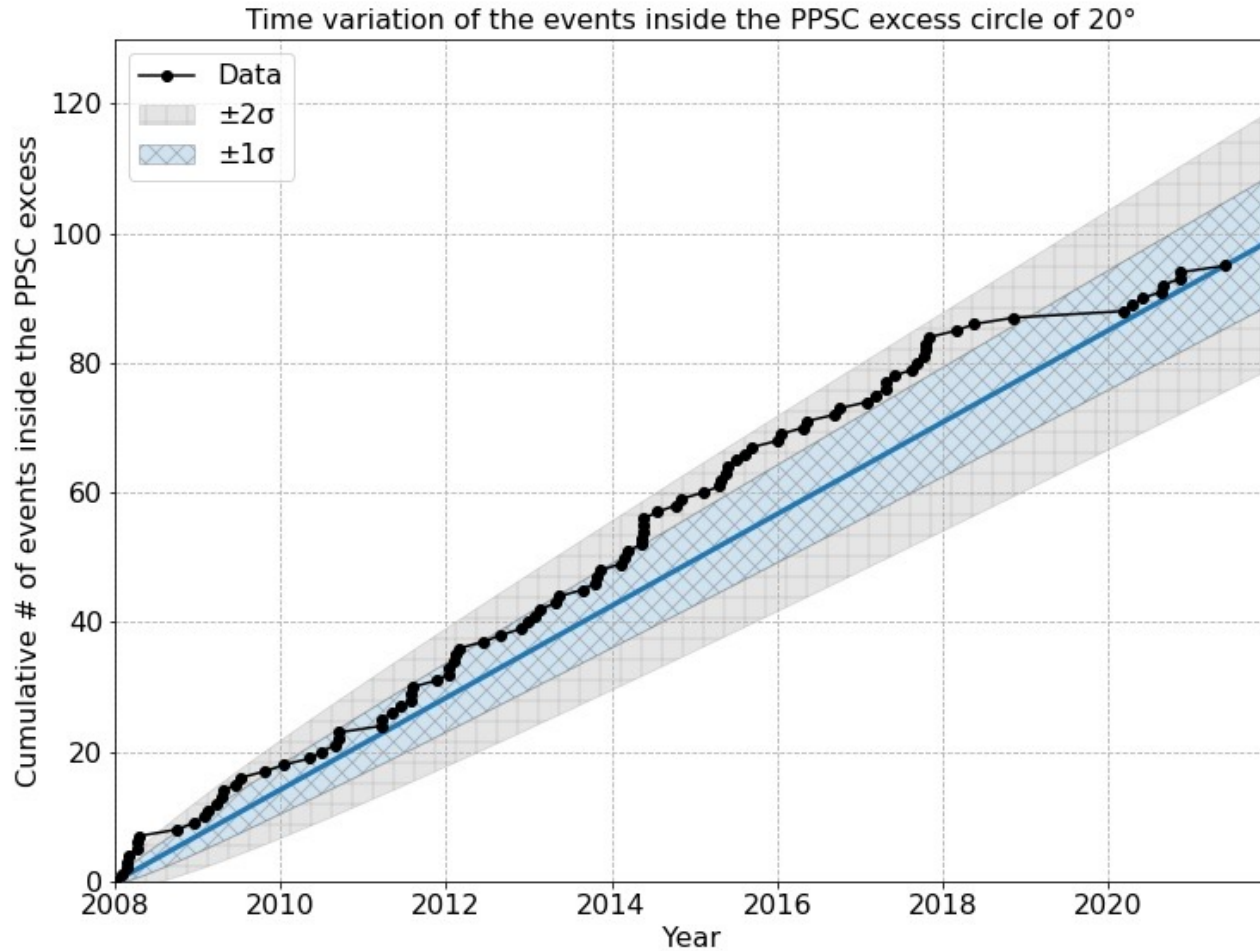
- 671 events (Last 9-year)

- **2.3σ** at $(17.4^\circ, 36.0^\circ)$

Obs. : **55** events

N_{bg} : **39.2** events

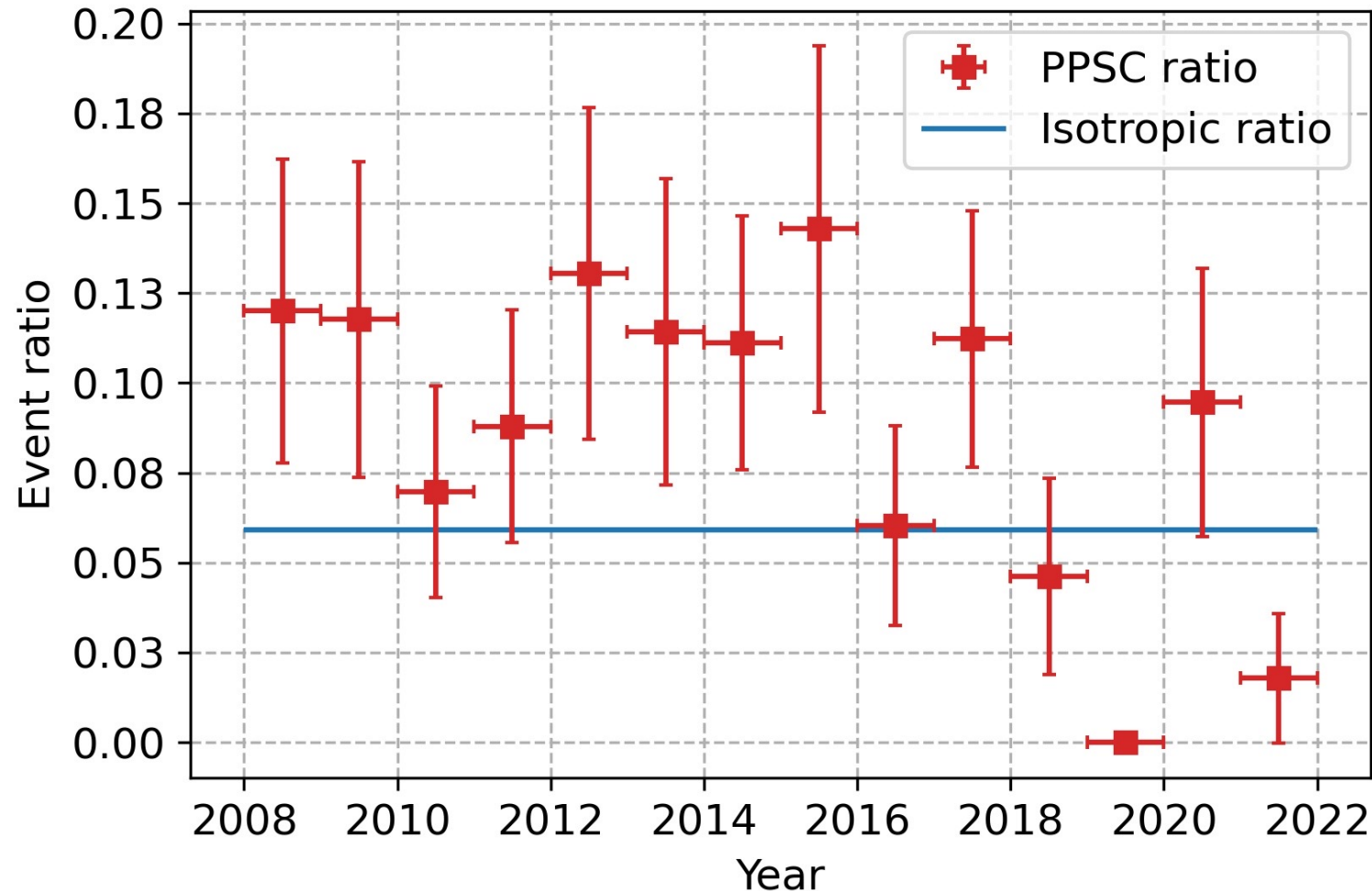
Growth of the PPSC Excess with $E \geq 10^{19.4}$ eV



- Black dots: cumulative # of events falling inside the PPSC excess circle of 20°
- Blue solid line: estimated event rate inside the hotspot

The increase rate of the events inside the PPSC excess circle is **consistent with the linear increase within $\sim 2\sigma$.**

Event Ratio of the PPSC Excess



PPSC excess ratio:

of events inside the PPSC / total # of events

Isotropic ratio (PPSC aperture):

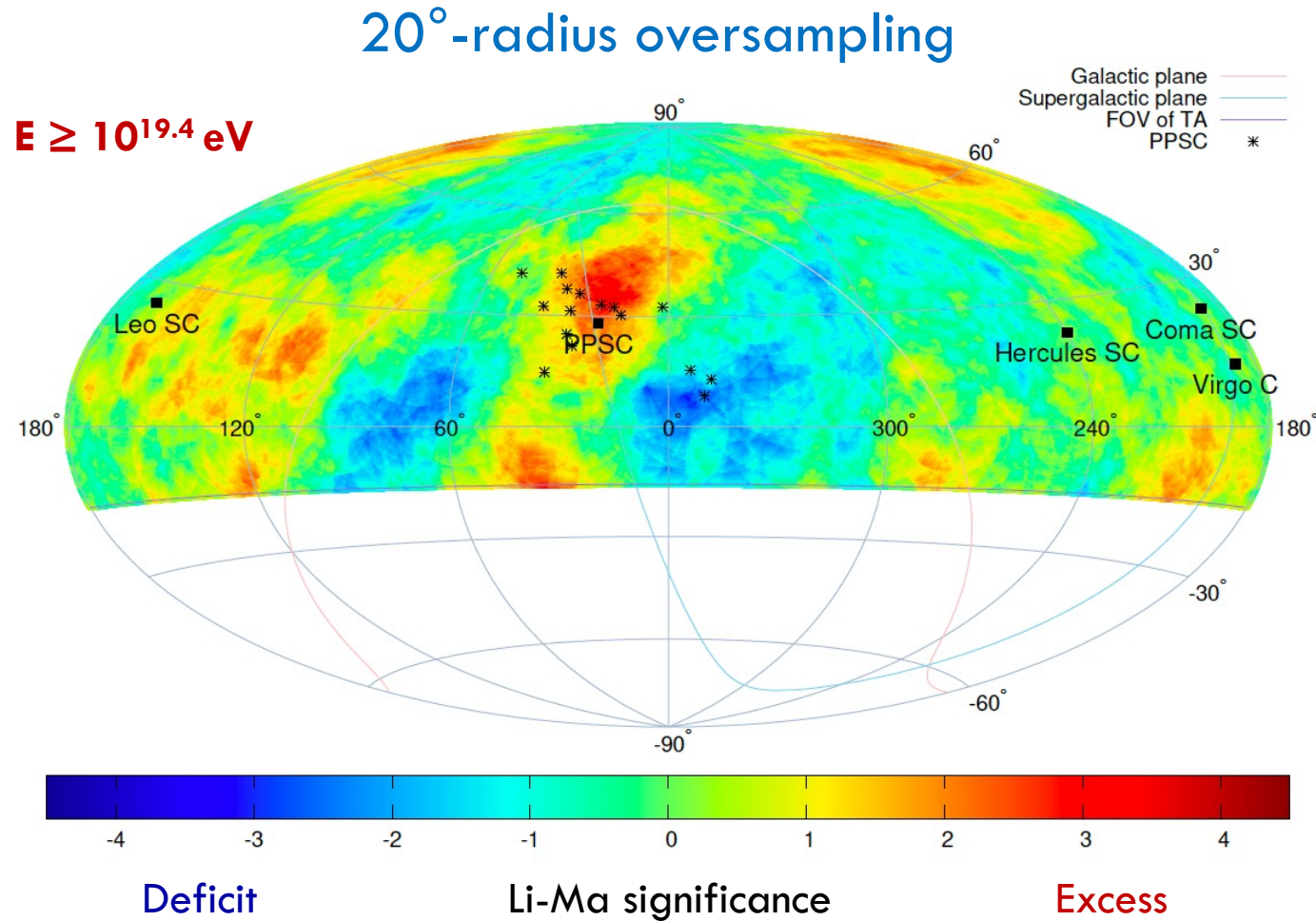
of isotropic simulation events inside the PPSC / total # of isotropic simulation events (10^5)

(different from the definition of α)

$$\beta = \frac{N_{\text{sim,circle}}}{N_{\text{sim,total}}}$$
$$\alpha = \frac{N_{\text{sim,on}}}{N_{\text{sim,off}}} = \frac{N_{\text{sim,circle}}}{(N_{\text{sim,total}} - N_{\text{sim,circle}})}$$

There are yearly variations, but we have observed higher excess ratios than the isotropic ratio during the most of observation periods.

PPSC Excess and Nearby Major Structures



- Choose all the similar major structures to the Perseus-Pisces supercluster in TA's field of view within 150 Mpc.
- Virgo cluster (17 Mpc)
PPSC (70 Mpc),
Coma supercluster (90 Mpc)
Leo supercluster (135 Mpc)
Hercules supercluster (135 Mpc)

Chance Probability Estimation

- To quantify how often this happens by chance, we generate many Monte-Carlo event sets, each containing the same number of events as the data, thrown isotropically according to the acceptance of the TA SD.
- We count as **successes** the number of sets where the point of maximum Li-Ma significance is at least as significant as in the data, and also occurs at least as close to the PPSC as in the data: $(S_{mc} \geq S_{obs})$ and $(\theta_{mc} \leq \theta_{obs})$.
- Chance probability of having equal or higher excess on top of the PPSC / major structures {PPSC, Virgo cluster, Coma SC, Leo SC, Hercules SC}

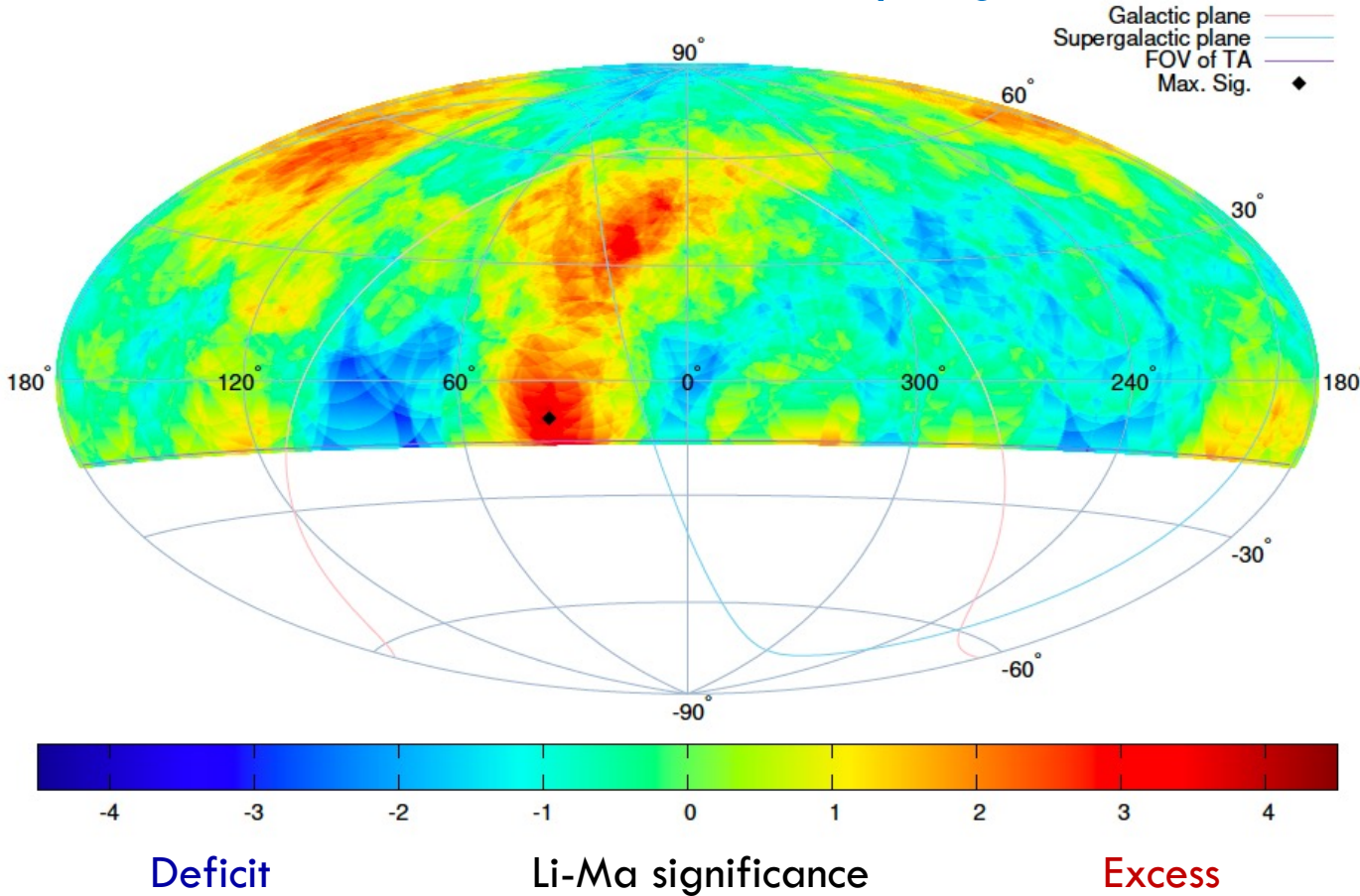
Summary of the Monte-Carlo studies that estimate the chance probability of having an excess

Energy (eV)	Events	Criteria	PPSC	Major structures
$E \geq 10^{19.4}$	1060	$(S_{mc} \geq 3.8\sigma) \& (\theta_{mc} \leq 8.6^\circ)$	3.1σ	2.5σ
$E \geq 10^{19.5}$	685	$(S_{mc} \geq 3.8\sigma) \& (\theta_{mc} \leq 7.4^\circ)$	3.2σ	2.6σ
$E \geq 10^{19.6}$	413	$(S_{mc} \geq 3.5\sigma) \& (\theta_{mc} \leq 6.8^\circ)$	3.0σ	2.4σ

- **This result indicates that a cosmic ray source may exist in the direction of PPSC.**

Li-Ma Significance Map with $E \geq 10^{19.6}$ eV

20°-radius oversampling



- 413 events (14-year TA SD data)

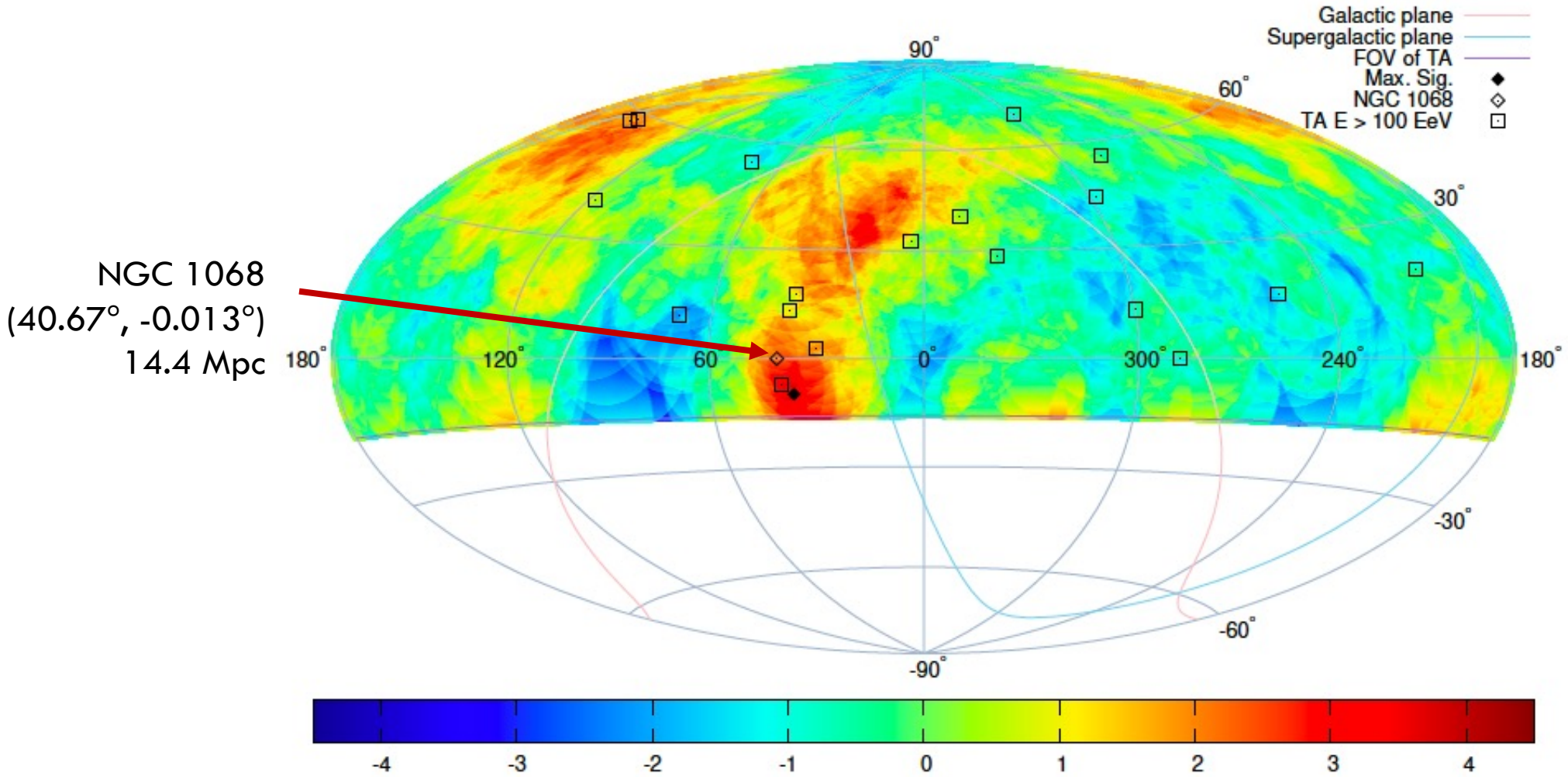
- Max local sig.: 3.9σ at $(36.3^\circ, -9.7^\circ)$

Obs.: 19 events
 N_{bg} : 6.6 events } $\sim 188\%$ excess

- Local sig. at $(19.7^\circ, 34.6^\circ)$: 3.5σ

Obs. : 43 events
 N_{bg} : 23.2 events } $\sim 85\%$ excess

PPSC Excess Map with $E \geq 10^{19.6}$ eV + NGC 1068



Evidence for neutrino emission from the nearby active galaxy NGC 1068

IceCube Collaboration*†

A supermassive black hole, obscured by cosmic dust, powers the nearby active galaxy NGC 1068. Neutrinos, which rarely interact with matter, could provide information on the galaxy's active core. We searched for neutrino emission from astrophysical objects using data recorded with the IceCube neutrino detector between 2011 and 2020. The positions of 110 known gamma-ray sources were individually searched for neutrino detections above atmospheric and cosmic backgrounds. We found that NGC 1068 has an excess of 79^{+22}_{-20} neutrinos at tera–electron volt energies, with a global significance of 4.2σ , which we interpret as associated with the active galaxy. The flux of high-energy neutrinos that we measured from NGC 1068 is more than an order of magnitude higher than the upper limit on emissions of tera–electron volt gamma rays from this source.

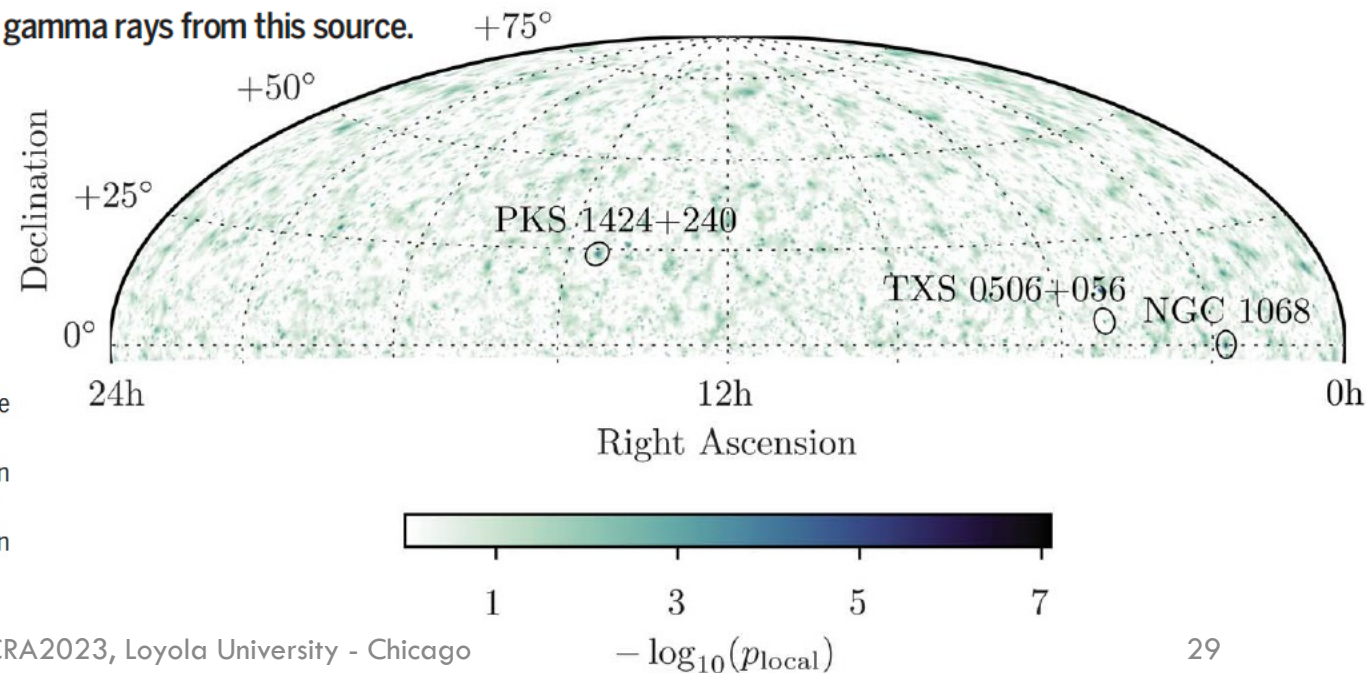
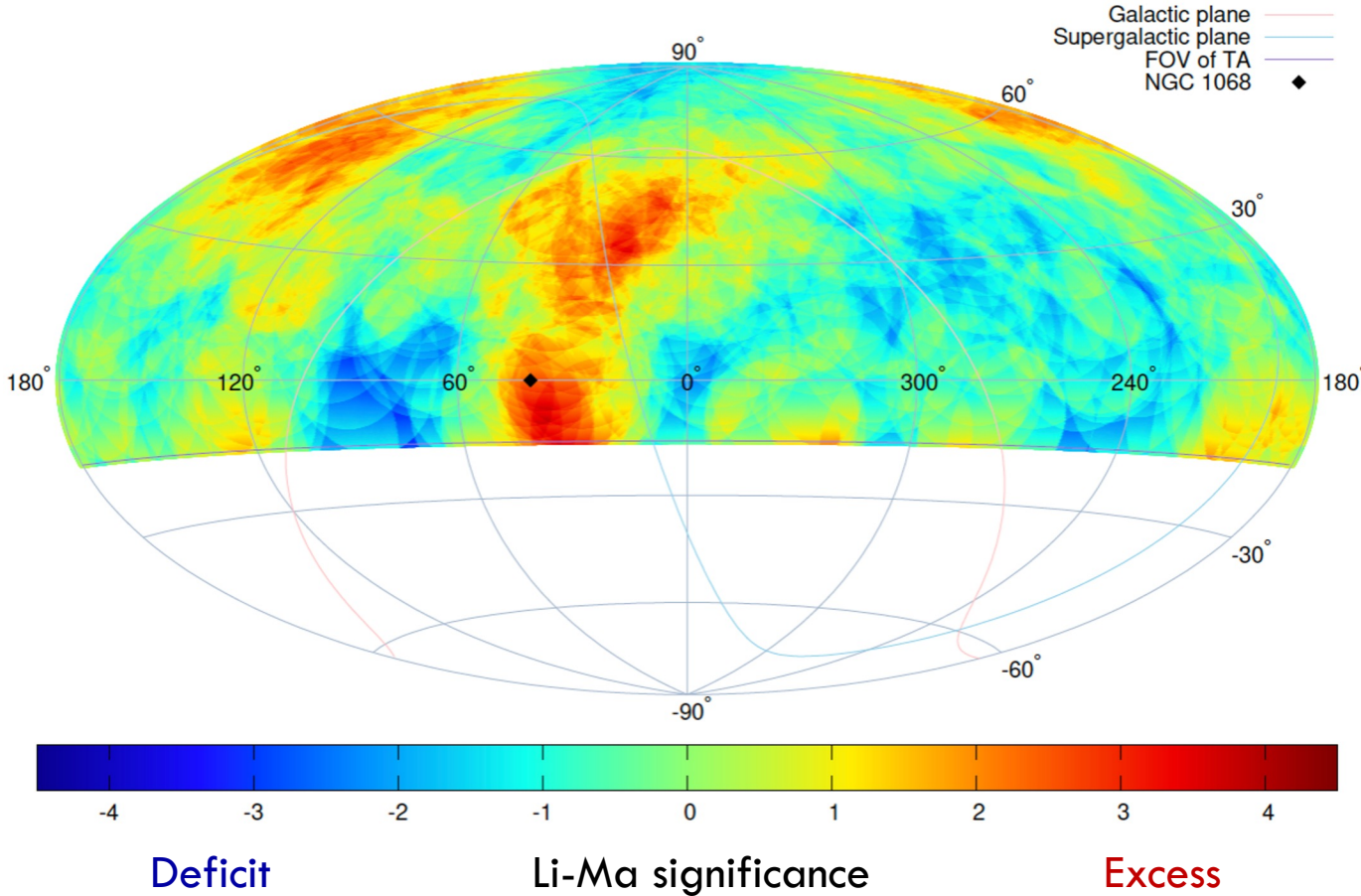


Fig. 1. Sky map of the scan for point sources in the Northern Hemisphere. The color scale indicates the logarithm of the local P value (P_{local}) obtained from our maximum likelihood analysis, evaluated (with the spectral index as a free parameter) at each location in the sky. The map is shown in equatorial coordinates on a Hammer-Aitoff projection. The black circles indicate the three most significant objects in the source list search, which are labeled. The circle around NGC 1068 contains the most significant location in the Northern Hemisphere, shown in higher resolution in Fig. 2A.

Li-Ma Significance Map with $E \geq 10^{19.6}$ eV

20°-radius oversampling

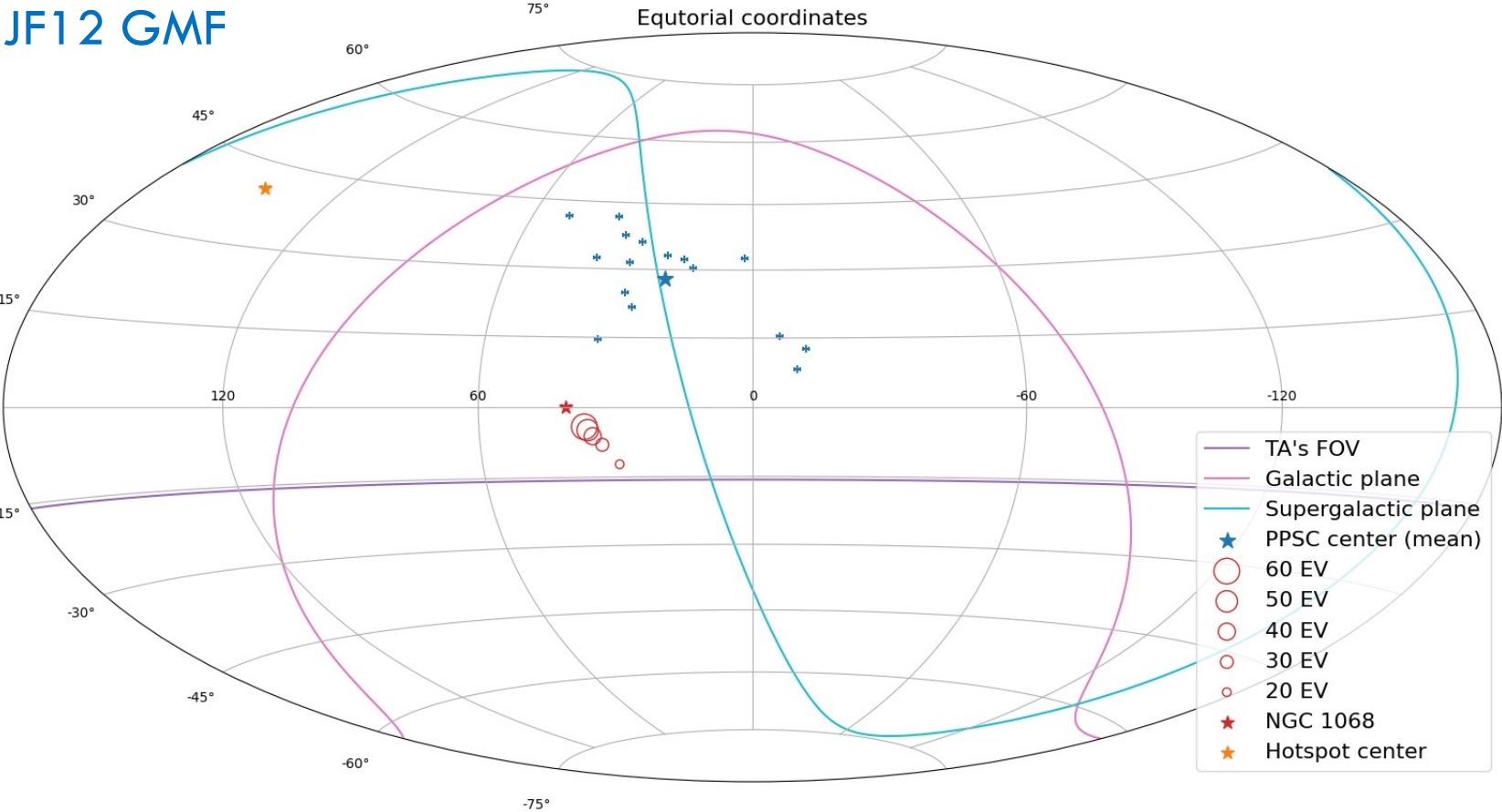


- 413 events (14-year TA SD data)

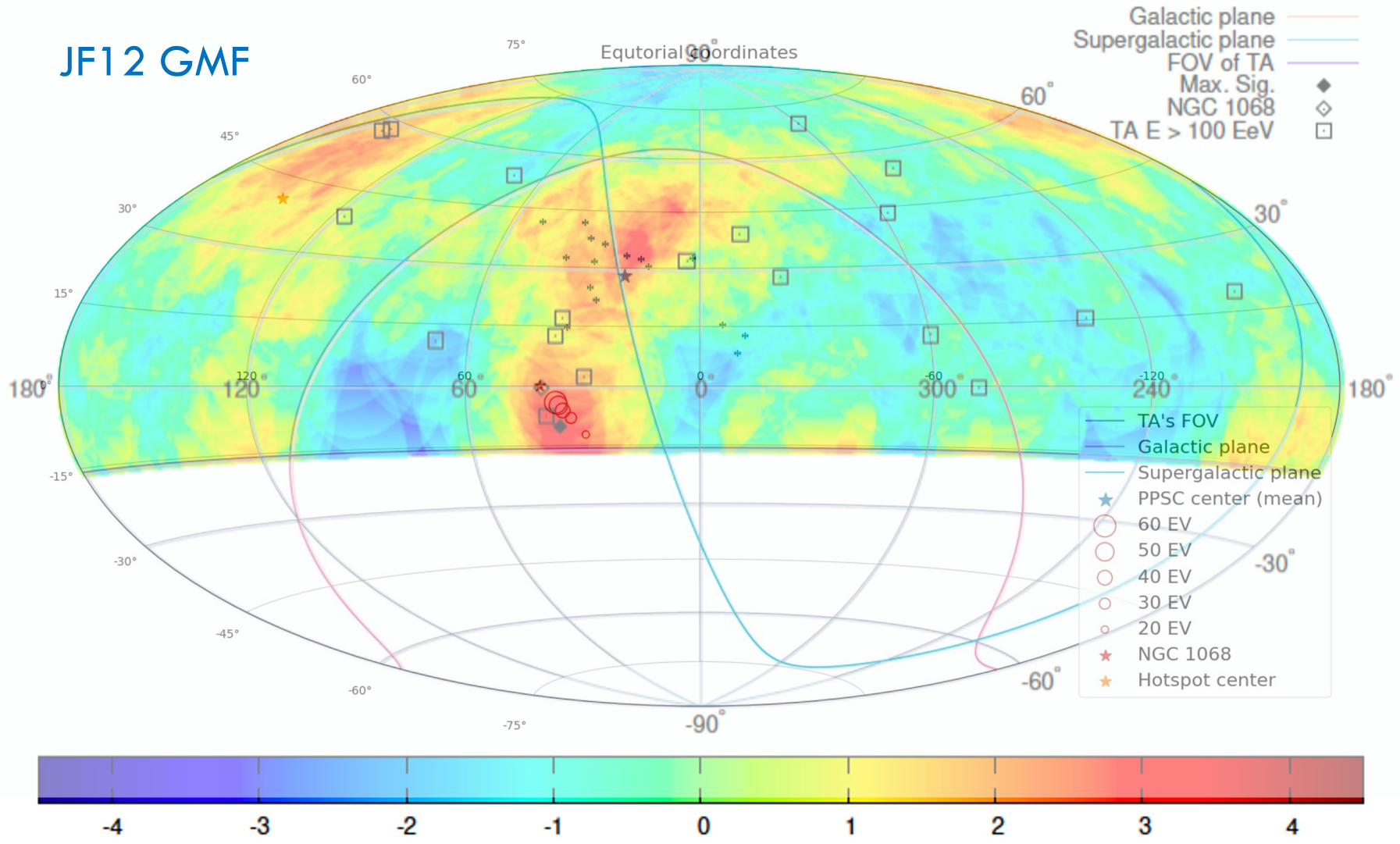
- Local significance at NGC 1068
coordinate $(40.7^\circ, 0^\circ)$: 2.5σ

Obs. : 21 events
 N_{bg} : 11.4 events } $\sim 84\%$ excess

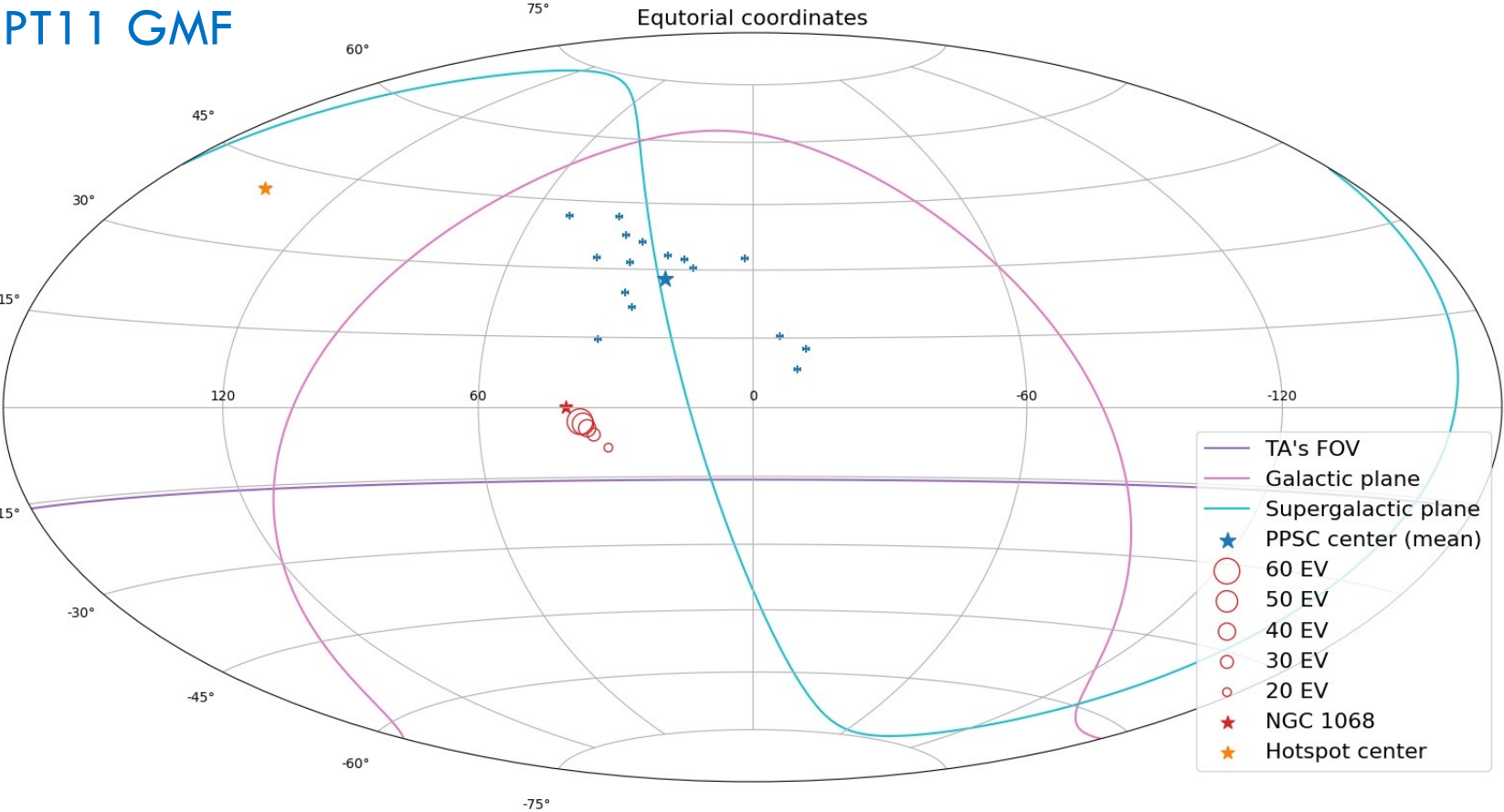
Cosmic Rays from NGC 1068 assuming JF12 GMF Model



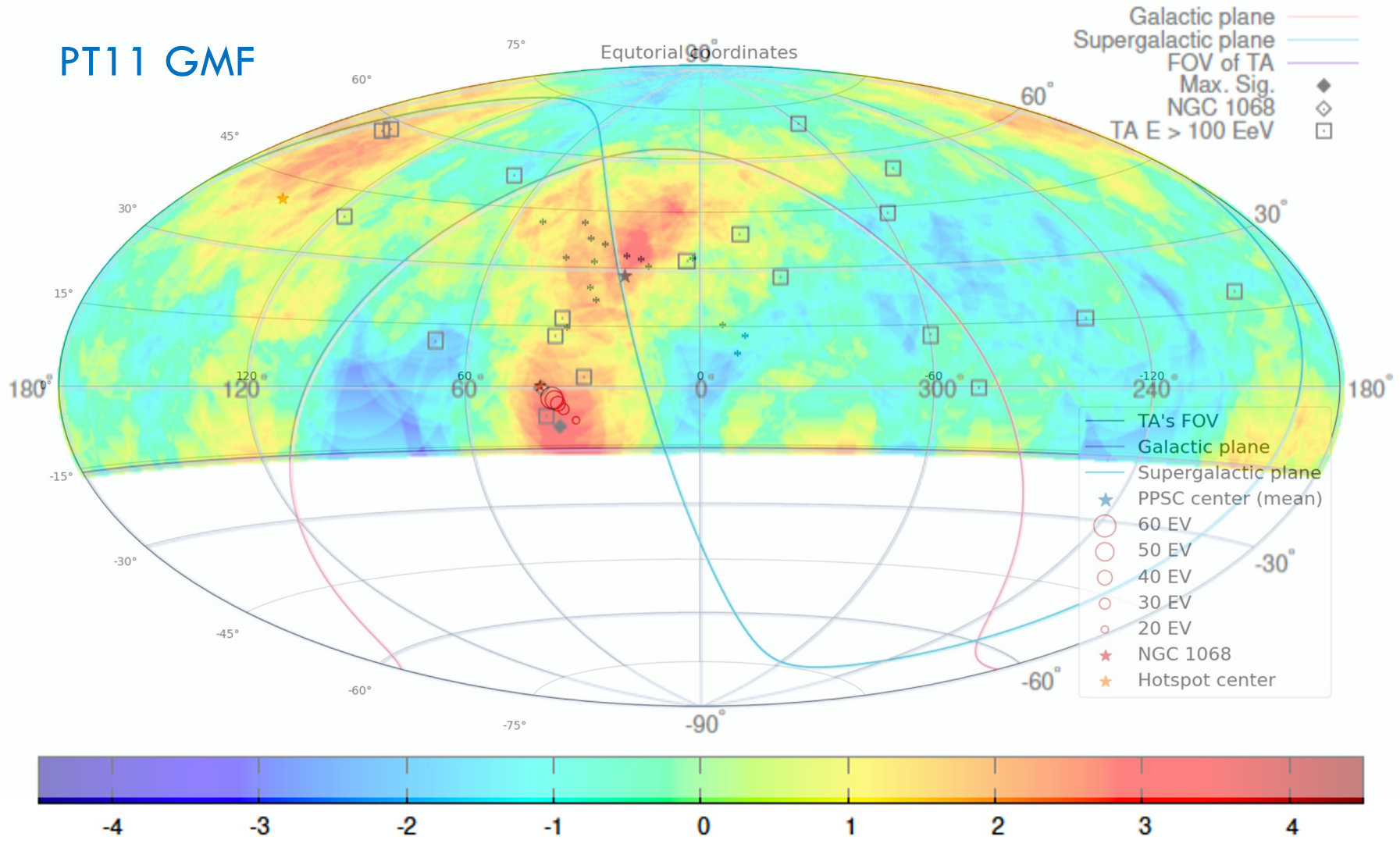
Cosmic Rays from NGC 1068 assuming JF12 GMF Model



Cosmic Rays from NGC 1068 assuming PT11 GMF Model



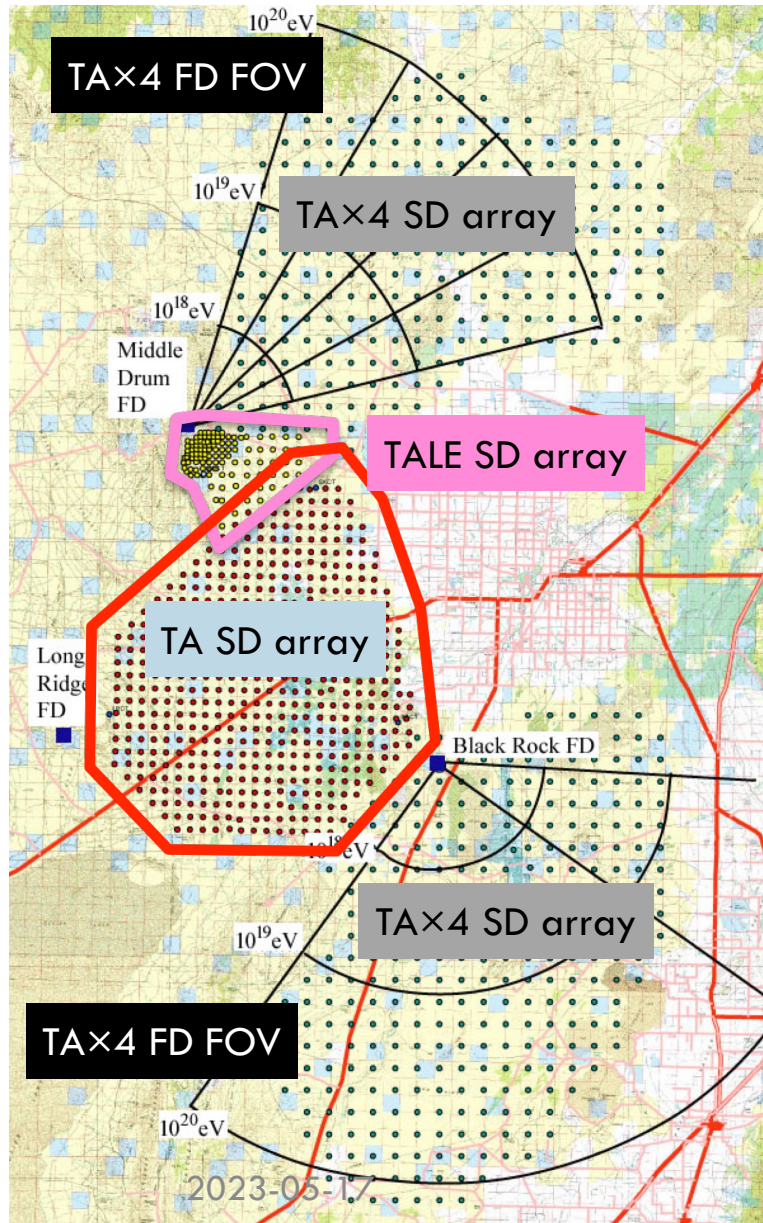
Cosmic Rays from NGC 1068 assuming PT11 GMF Model



Summary

- We have persistent evidence for **the Hotspot** at the highest energies, $E \geq 5.7 \times 10^{19}$ eV, in the Ursa Major constellation. The global significance of such excess appearing by chance anywhere in TA's field of view is estimated to be **3.2σ** .
- A new excess in slightly lower energy events, $E \geq 10^{19.4}$ eV, in the direction of **the Perseus-Pisces supercluster** has been identified. The local significance of excess is estimated to be **3.8σ** . The chance probability of having an excess as close to the PPSC as the data is estimated to be **3.1σ** .
- It indicates that **a cosmic ray source may exist in the direction of PPSC**, which is the closest supercluster other than the Local supercluster where we reside and is next to the Local Void where the magnetic field strength is presumed to be weaker than other structures in the cosmic web. It is important to study astronomical objects in the supercluster further and to increase the statistical power of northern hemisphere cosmic ray studies.
- The four-fold extension of the Telescope Array experiment, **the TA \times 4 project**, will accelerate data taking.

TAx4 project: Upgraded!!!



- Motivation
 - To study more about the highest energies and examine the implications obtained by TA
- Four times TA SD (**$\sim 3000 \text{ km}^2$**)
 - 500 new SDs with 2.08 km spacing
- Two FD stations
 - North/South stations were installed now.
- Status
 - ~ 250 TAx4 SDs were deployed in Mar. 2019.
 - Two TAx4 FD stations were constructed.
 - Data acquisition has been started.
- Prospects
 - Gives us a crucial clue to identify UHECR sources with high statistics

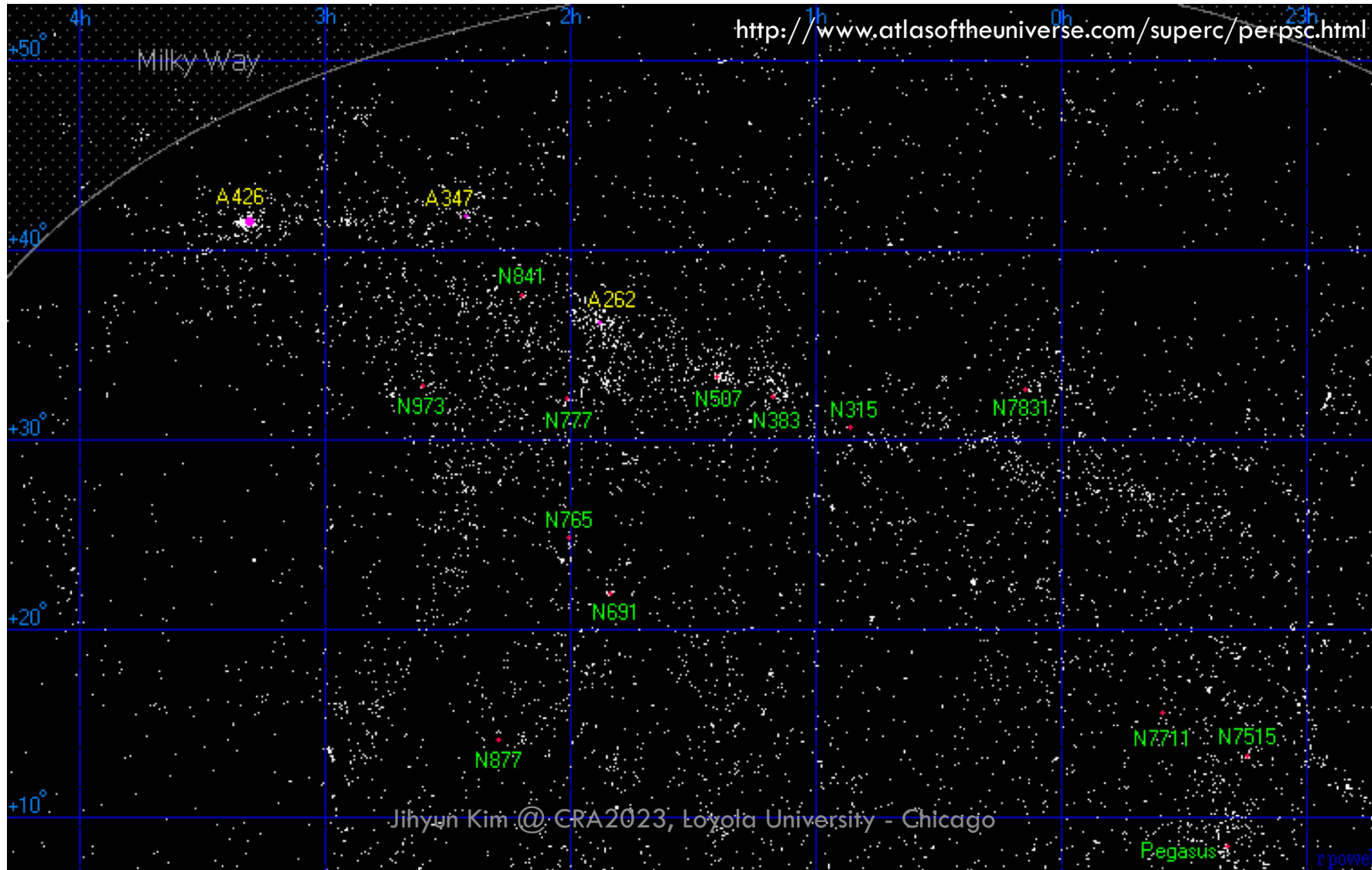
Backup

Perseus-Pisces Supercluster

- It is found that **the place where the new excess of events appears is in the region of the Perseus-Pisces supercluster (PPSC)**, which is one of the notable structures in TA's field of view.
- The PPSC is the closest supercluster other than the local supercluster we reside in. Also, it is known that it has a gigantic filamentary structure, stretching for over 300 Mpc/h (Batuski & Burns 1985)
- According to Haynes and Giovanelli (Haynes & Giovanelli 1986), the major portion of the foreground between the earth and the PPSC, and also of that beyond the PPSC, are nearly empty.
- Courtois et al. provide density contour maps after making corrections for catalog incompleteness (Courtois et al. 2013). Fig. 8 in this paper shows that the PPSC is clearly seen as an elongated structure of galaxies. In the direction of the new excess of events, no prominent structures between the earth and the PPSC, or beyond the PPSC, are seen.
- If the new excess of events in arrival direction distribution is real, **the PPSC could be responsible for it.**

Perseus-Pisces Supercluster

- Perseus-Pisces supercluster consists of **three main clusters** and some groups of galaxies.



The PPSC is a unique and significant structure in TA's field of view because it is the **closest** supercluster other than the Local supercluster where we reside, and its location is **next to the Local Void** where the magnetic field strength is presumed to be weaker than other structures in the cosmic web.

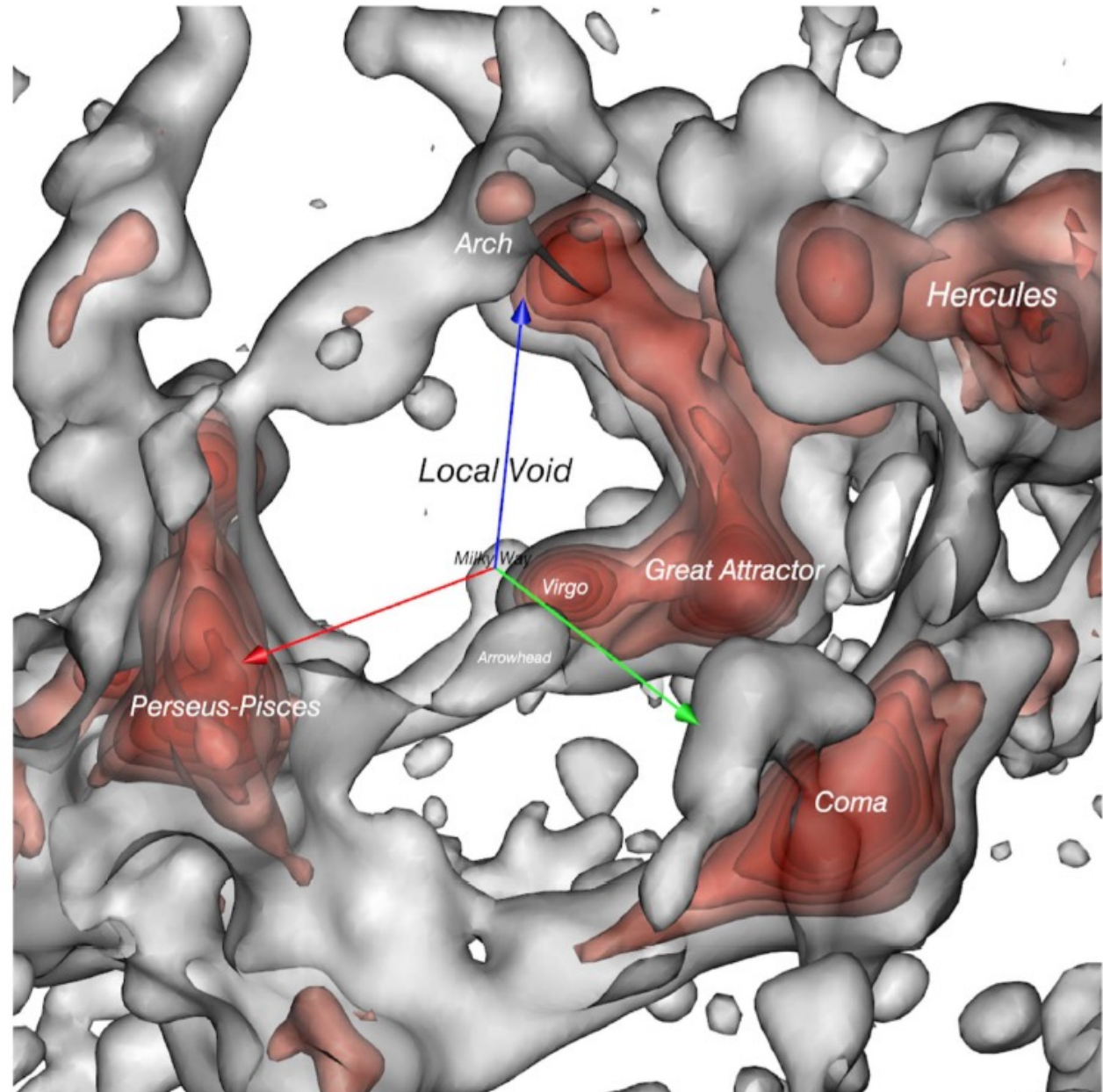


Figure 1. Overview of the structure surrounding the Local Void. Isosurfaces of density are inferred from the velocity field constructed from the Wiener Filter treatment of Cosmicflows distances, with the densest peaks in red and less dense filaments in gray. The Milky Way is at the origin of the colored arrows, 5000 km s^{-1} in length, oriented in the frame of supergalactic coordinates (red toward +SGX, green toward +SGY, blue toward +SGZ). The Local Void fills the empty region above the Milky Way in this plot. This view inward from a location at positive values of SGX, SGY, and SGZ will be referred to as the reference orientation.

“The northern puck is dominated by the LSC at the center, the Great Wall (now straight in this cylindrical projection) at 10–14.5 hr, and Pisces-Perseus at 0–5 hr.”

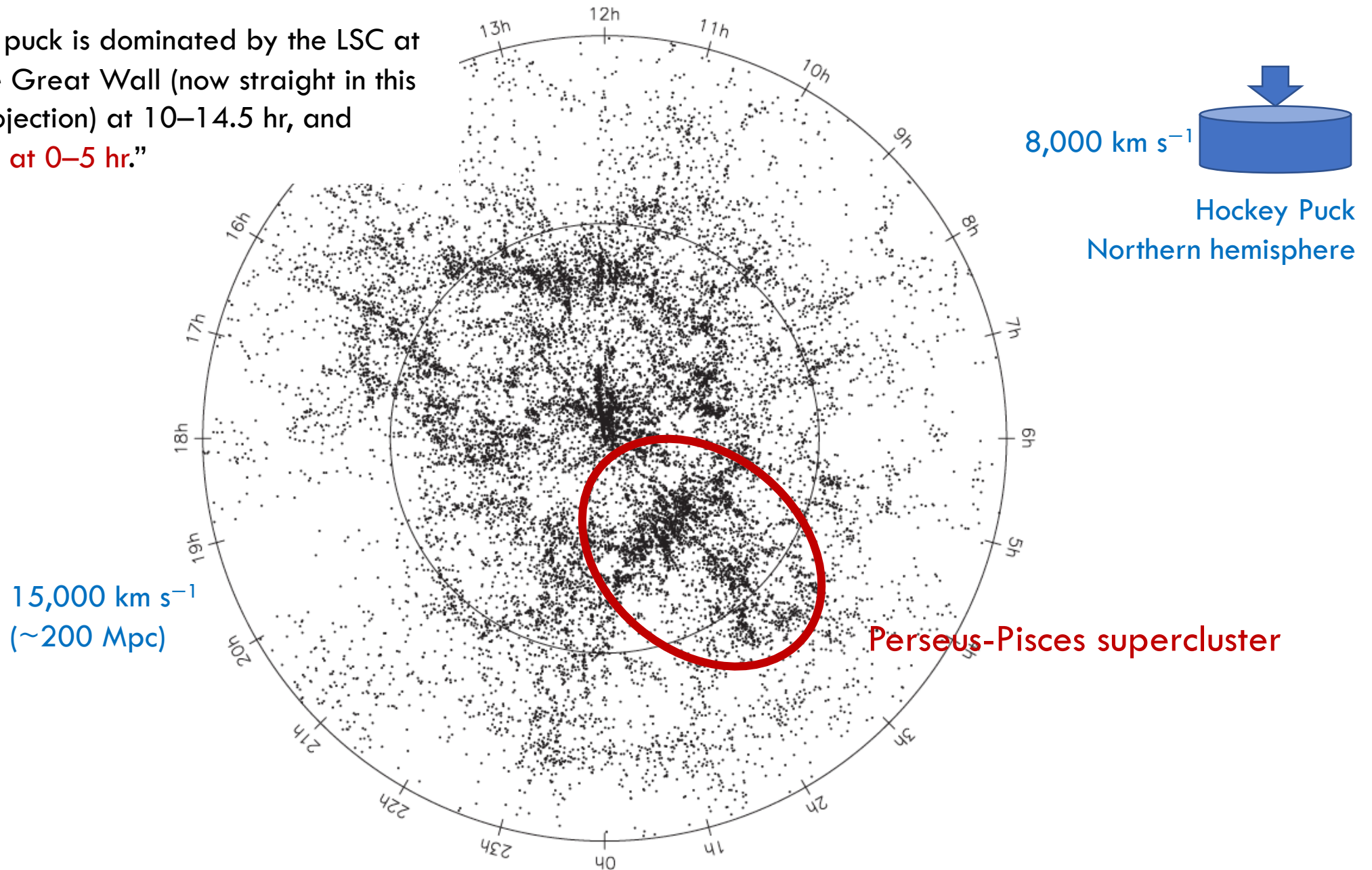
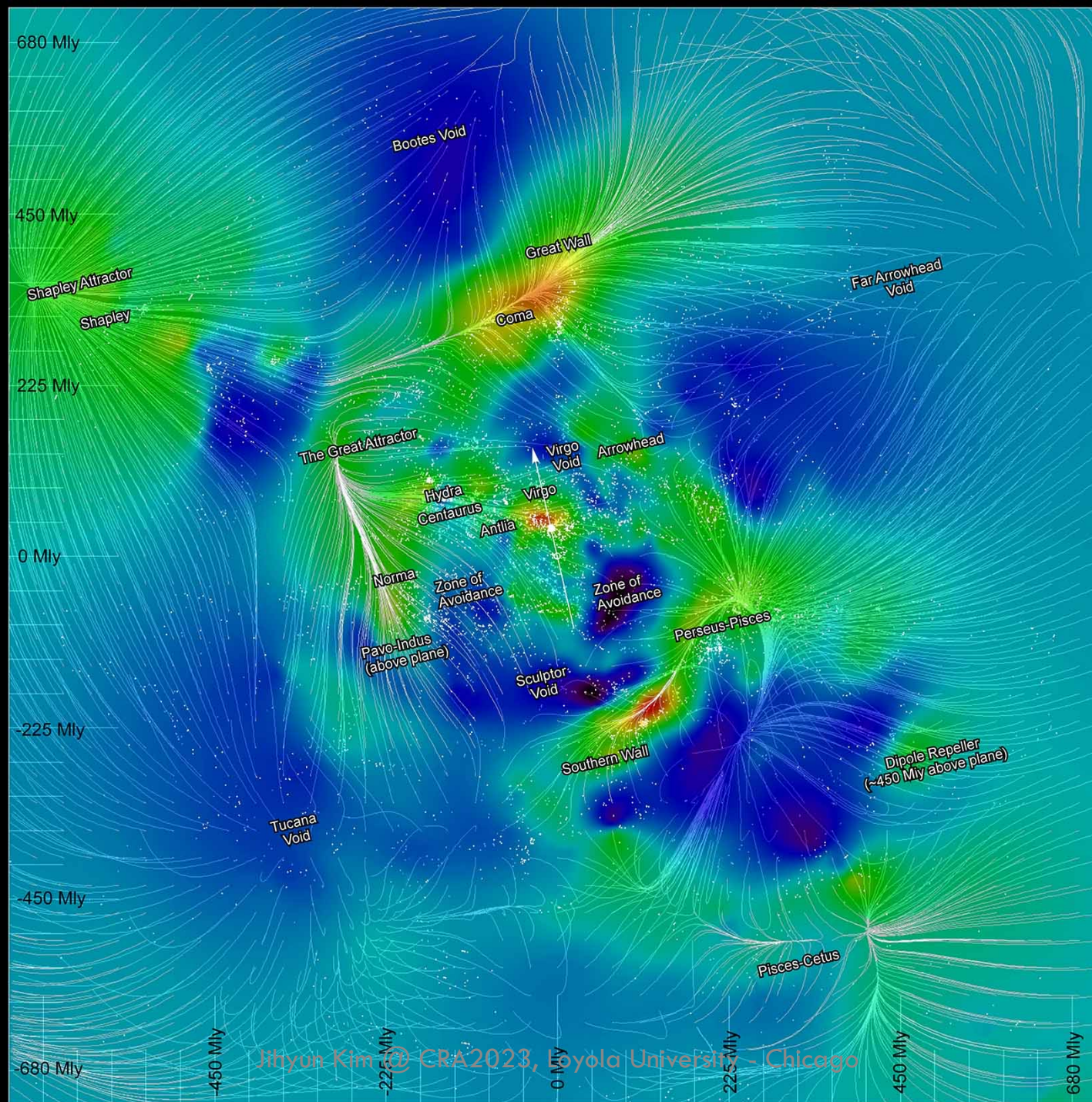
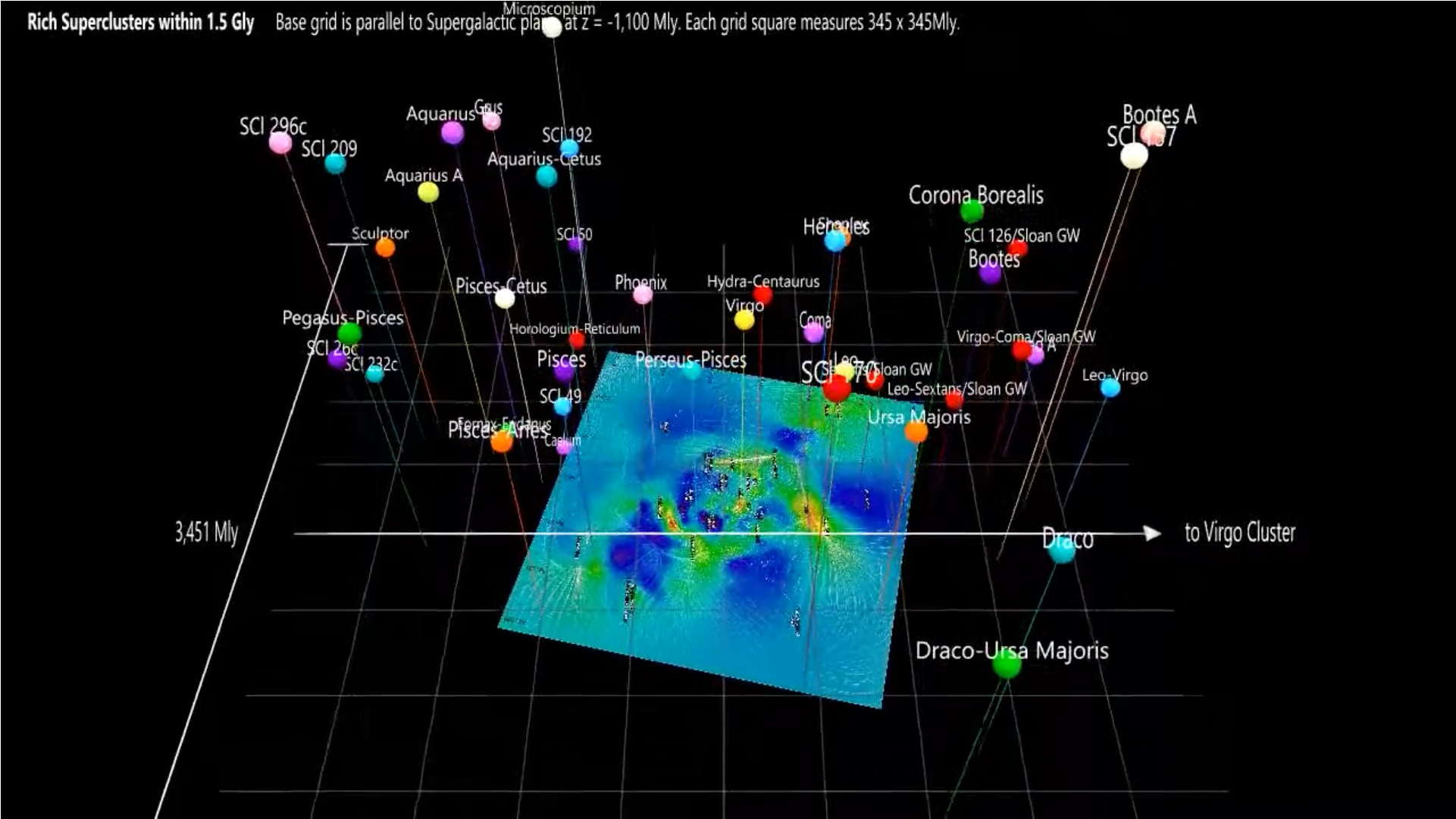


Figure 7. Hockey Puck plot—a full cylinder section—of 2MRS in the north celestial cap. The view is looking downward from the NCP, the thickness of the “puck” is 8000 km s⁻¹, and its radius is 15,000 km s⁻¹.



~208 Mpc

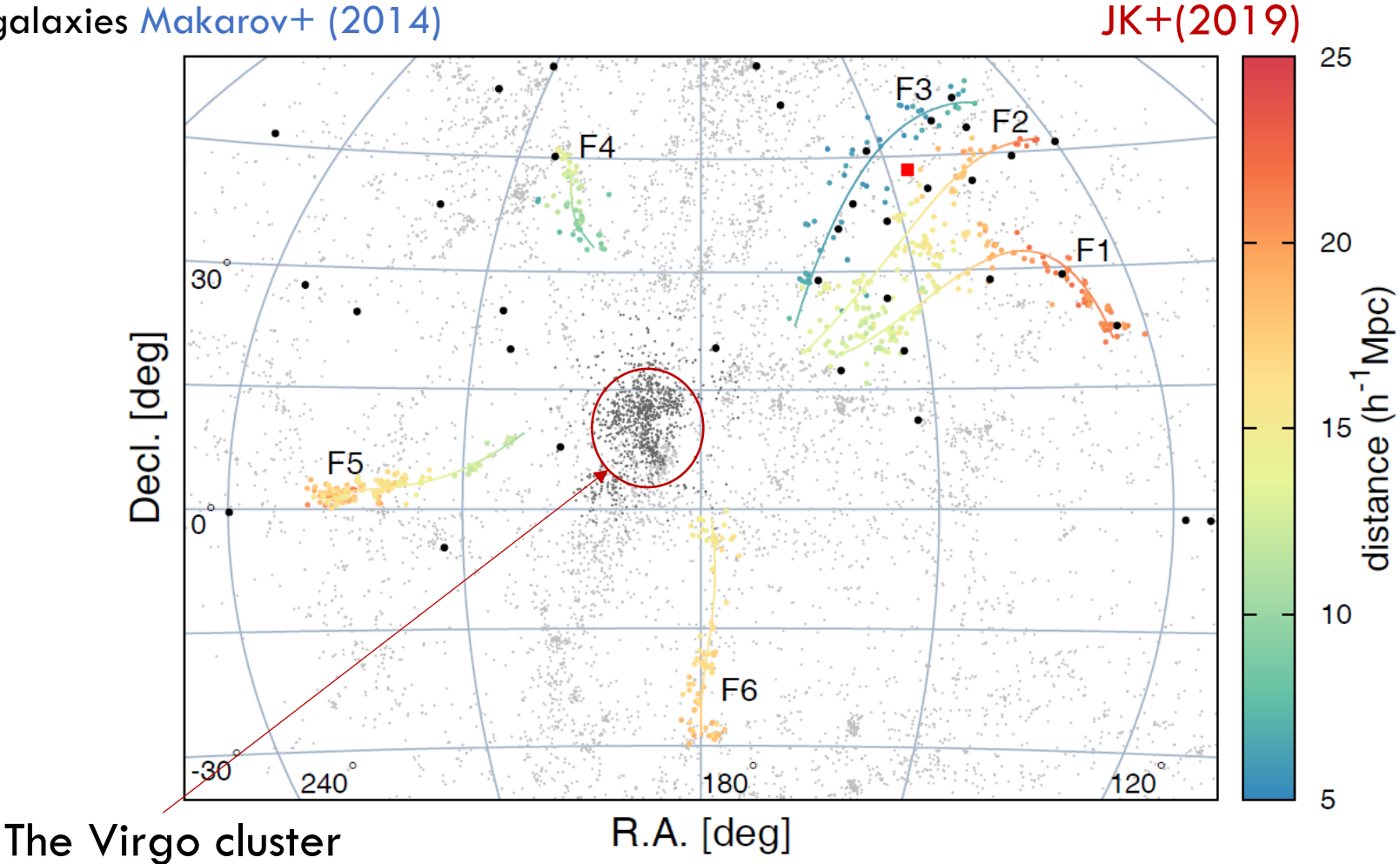
Mapping of rich superclusters within ~ 460 Mpc



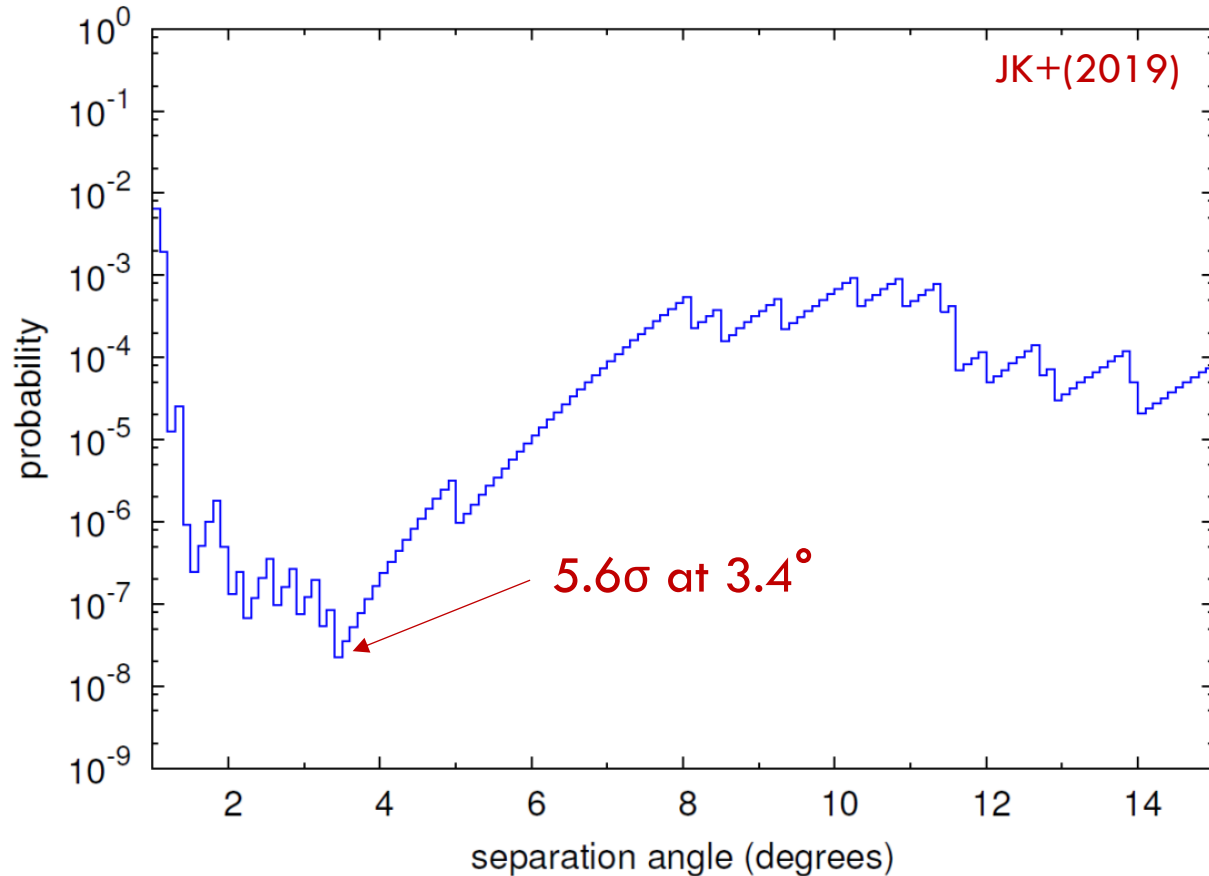
<http://www.galaxies3d.org/bey-rich-superclusters.htm>

Six filaments of galaxies connected to the Virgo cluster

black dots: TA 5-year data [TA \(2014\)](#)
color dots: filaments of galaxies [S. Kim+ \(2016\)](#)
gray dots: local galaxies [Makarov+ \(2014\)](#)



Close correlation between TA events and filaments

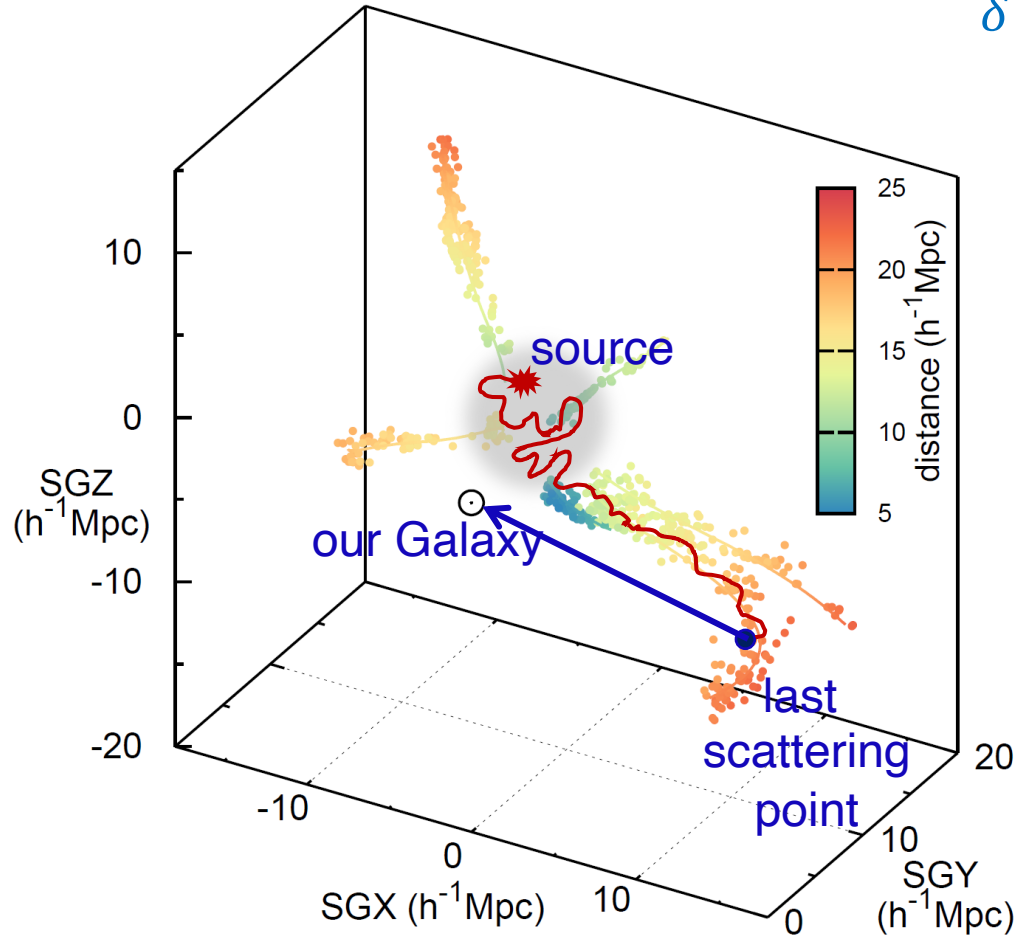


- 72 events with $E > 5.7 \times 10^{19}$ eV (5-year TA SD data)
- Maximum local significance: **5.6 σ**
 - Observed: **19** events
 - Expected from iso.: **4.2** events } **~350% excess**
- Post-trial probability: $P(p_{\text{pre}} > 5.6\sigma) = \mathbf{5.1\sigma}$

- **A close correlation** with astronomical objects with such high significance
- The estimated mass composition of UHECRs and the strength of galactic magnetic fields are consistent with observations.

A plausible model for the origin of TA hotspot

JK+(2019)



$$\delta \sim f \times \frac{\pi}{2} \left(\frac{5 \times 10^{19} \text{ eV}}{E/Z} \right) \left(\frac{L}{25 \text{ Mpc}} \right)^{1/2} \left(\frac{l_c}{1 \text{ Mpc}} \right)^{1/2} \left(\frac{B_{\text{random}}}{20 \text{ nG}} \right)$$

- UHECRs are postulated to be produced at a source (sources) inside the Virgo cluster. They **roam around** for a while because of cluster magnetic fields. Then, some of them **escape through connected filaments**.
- This picture requires
 - $B > \sim 1 \mu\text{G}$ in clusters**
 - $B > \sim 20 \text{ nG}$ in filaments**
 - (Size of cluster/filament \sim a few Mpc)