

# SOME TOPICS OF FUNDAMENTAL PHYSICS ATTAINABLE WITH IACTS

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# OUTLINE

Gamma-rays recap

IACTs recap

Finger food recipes: DM, ALP and more

After dinner



# FROM OUR COOKBOOK

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Miguel Angel Sanchez-conde



Moritz Hütten



## Advances in Very High Energy Astrophysics

The Science Program of the Third Generation IACTs for Exploring Cosmic Gamma Rays

<https://doi.org/10.1142/11141> | May 2023

Pages: 250

Edited By: Reshmi Mukherjee (*Columbia University, USA*)  
and Roberta Zanin (*Max Planck Institut für Kernphysik, Germany*)

100+ DELICIOUS



## 'Dark matter and fundamental physics with IACTs'

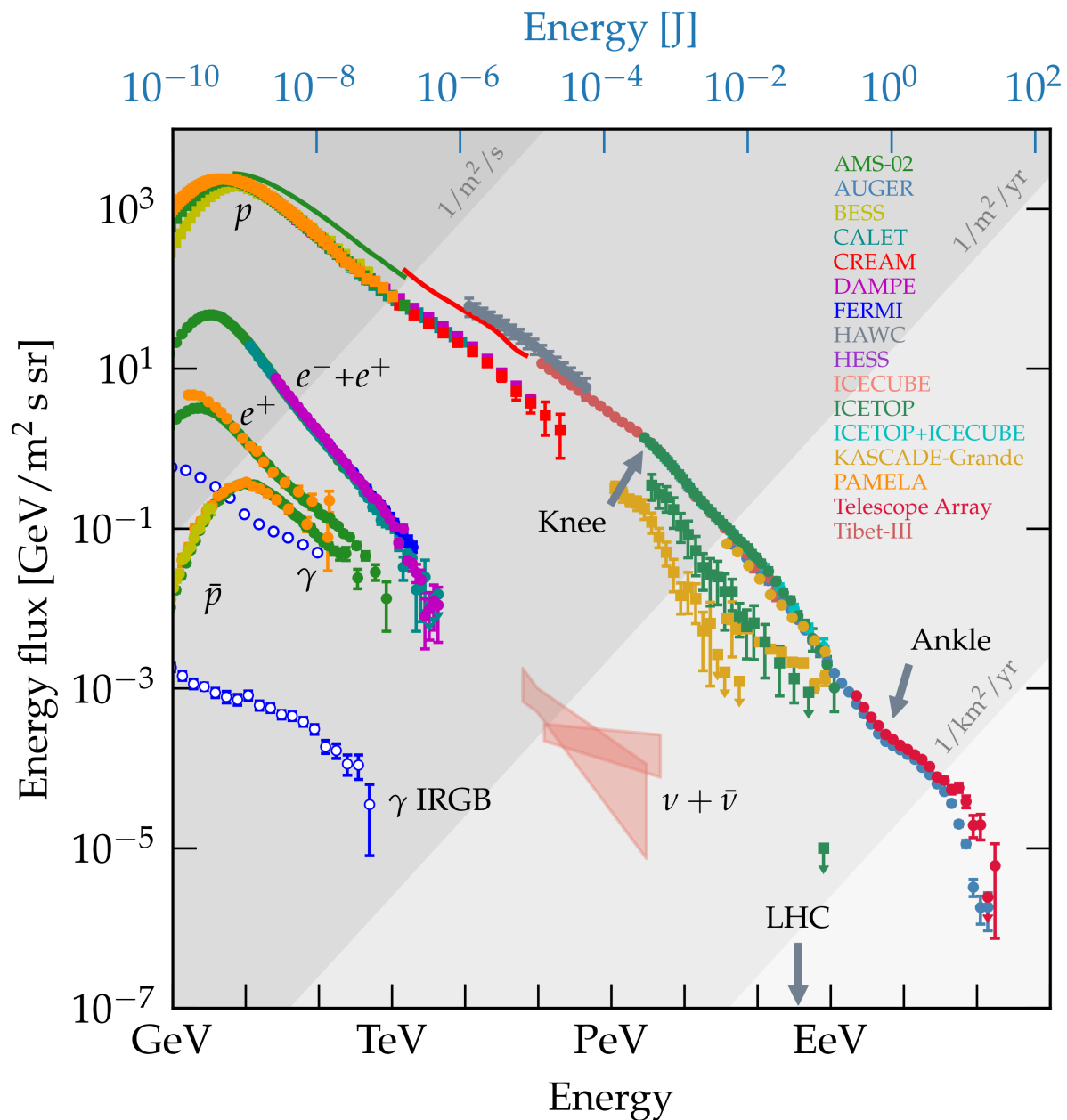
<https://arxiv.org/abs/2111.01198>



# #1 ASTROPHYSICAL GAMMA-RAY PROBES

Why they are best suited for fundamental physics (and can't possibly do that at CERN)





Evoli, Carmelo. (2018). The Cosmic-Ray Energy Spectrum. Zenodo.  
<https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.2360277>

# 1 / A NEVERENDING POWERFUL ENGINE

- Cosmic rays power up gamma rays
- Immense energy budget, e.g. a GRB can give  $10^{53}$  erg/s
- Acceleration (and emission) for kyears



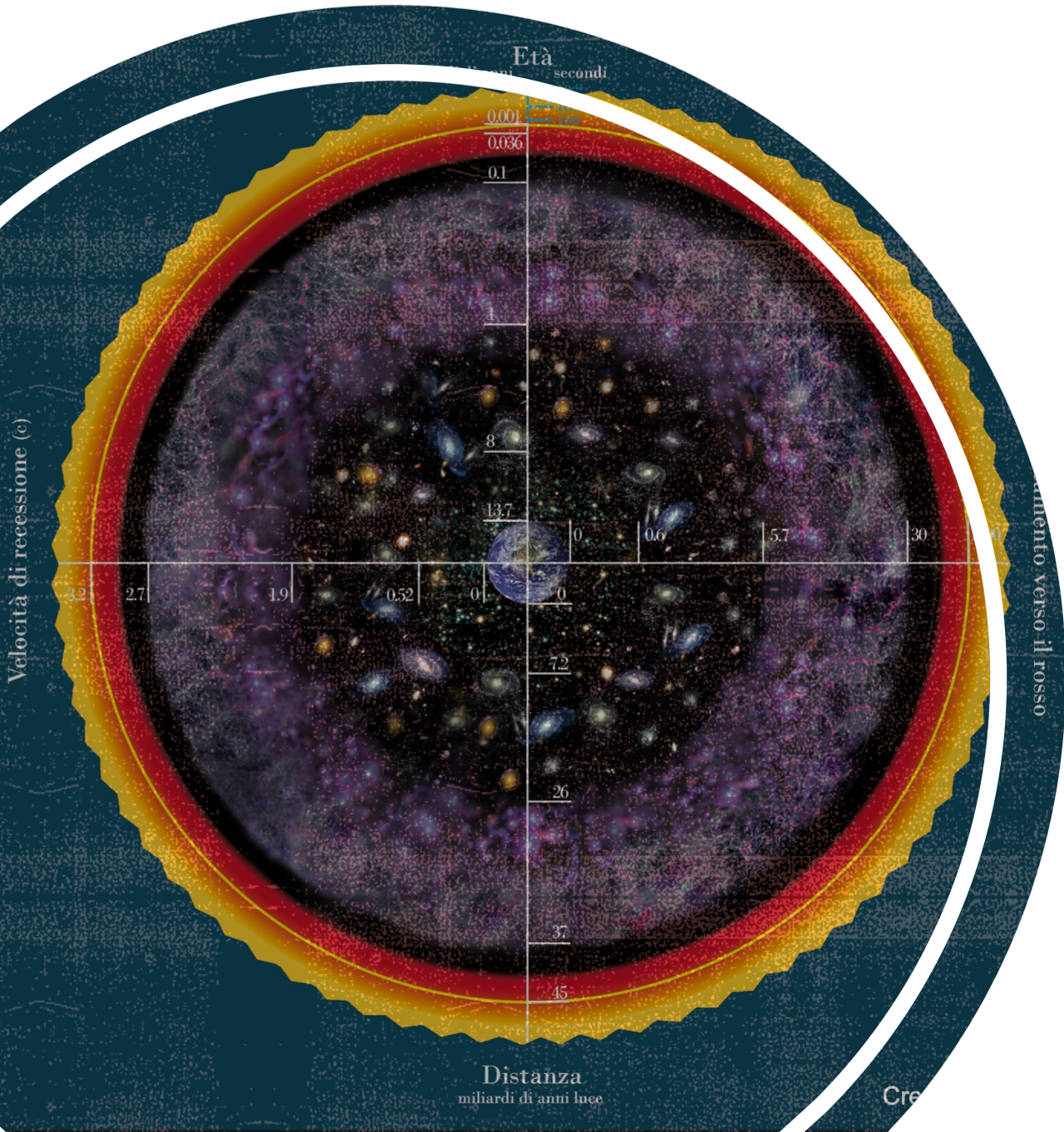
## 2/ PARTICLE INJECTION THROUGH GRAVITY

We can use the inevitable gravity  
infall

- Capture → increase **cross sections**
- Energy **budget** → e.g. around BH, NS, GRB
- Efficient energy conversion

# 3/ A HUGE FIDUCIAL VOLUME

- Signals from CMB and further
- Several direct emitters but also vast 'beam dumps'
  - particle and radiation fields everywhere



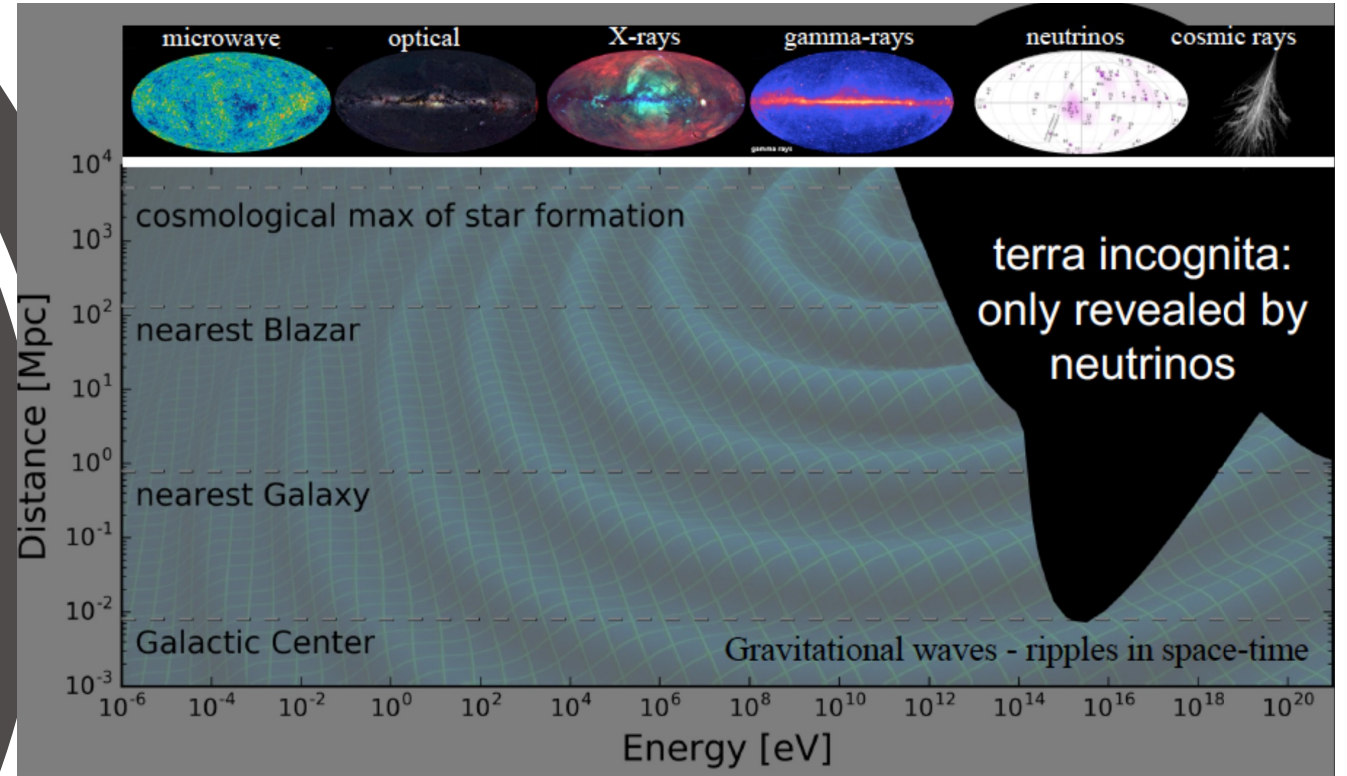
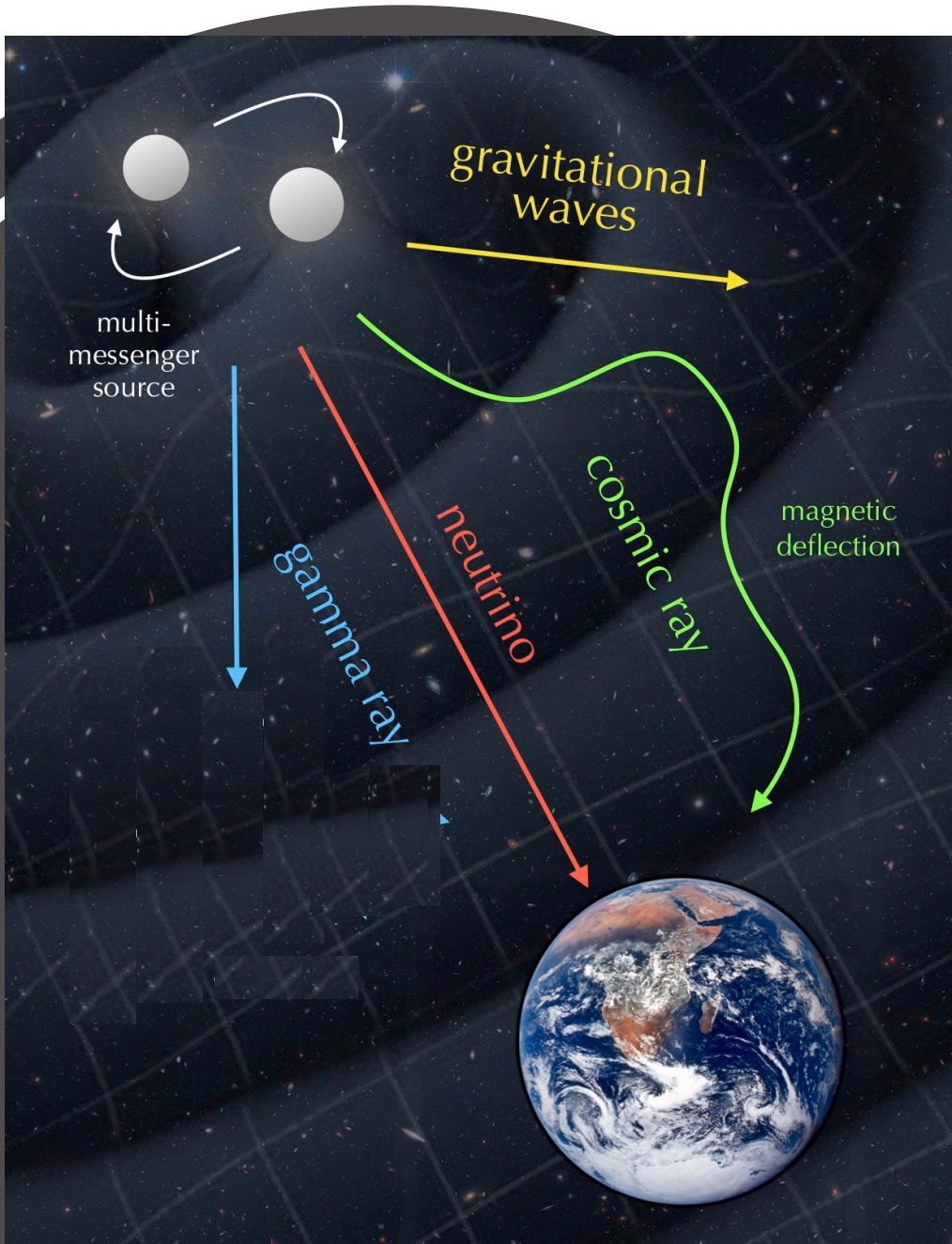


# 3/ TIME OF FLIGHT AND TRACKING

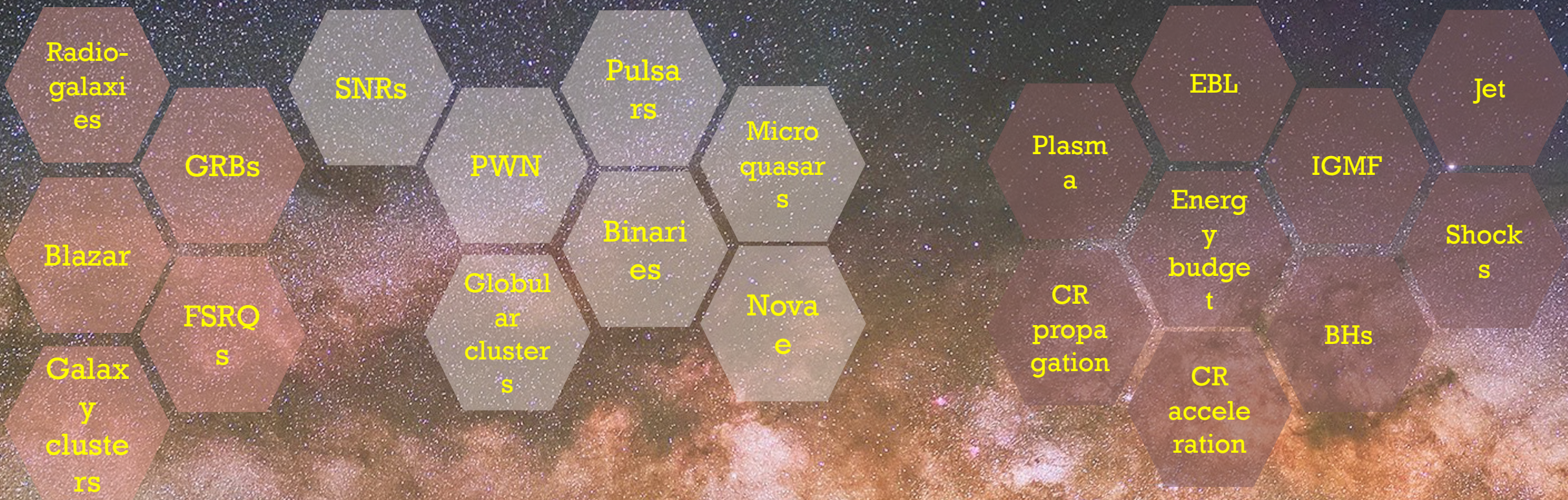
- We can trace particle interactions from similar targets at different times
- For free:
  - back when Universe was not as it was now
  - Also events have time structure



# 4/ VARIOUS SENSING SYSTEM



F. Halzen



# «ASTRONOMY» WITH GAMMA RAYS



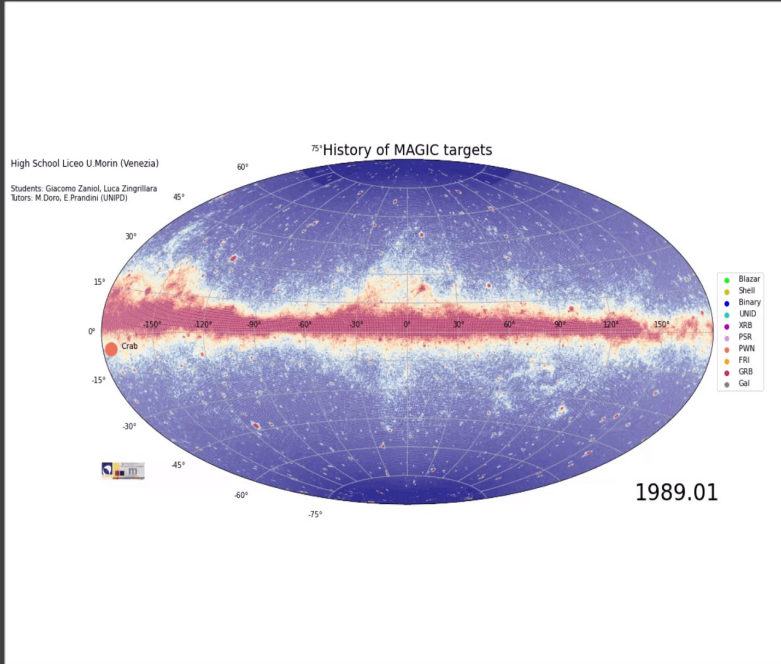
## #2 IACTS

A great instrumental success of the last decade.

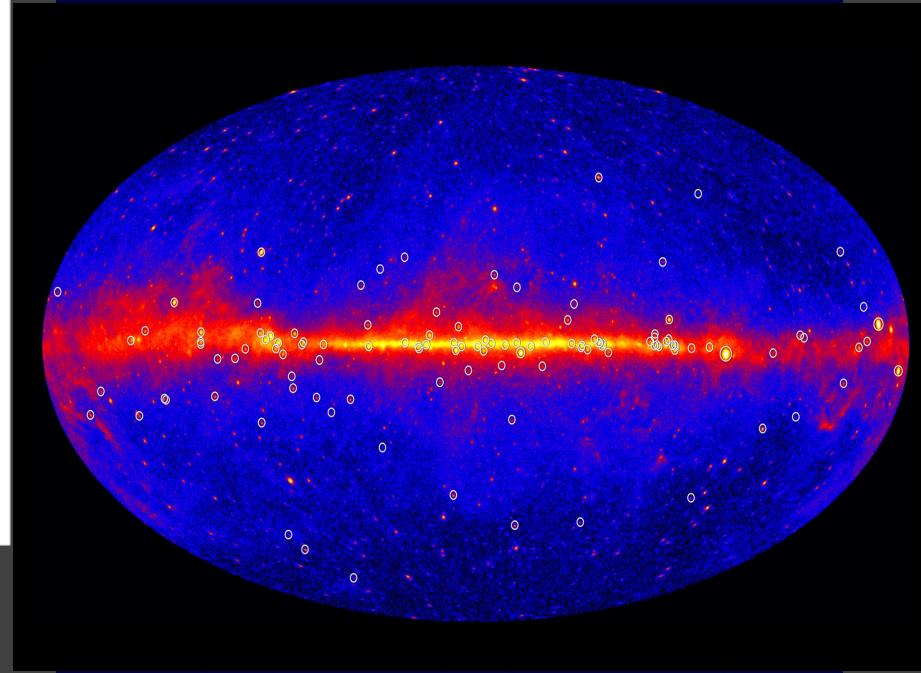
Some basic info to get the rest clearly

# GAMMA-RAY SKY: "3 REVOLUTIONS IN 3 DECADES"

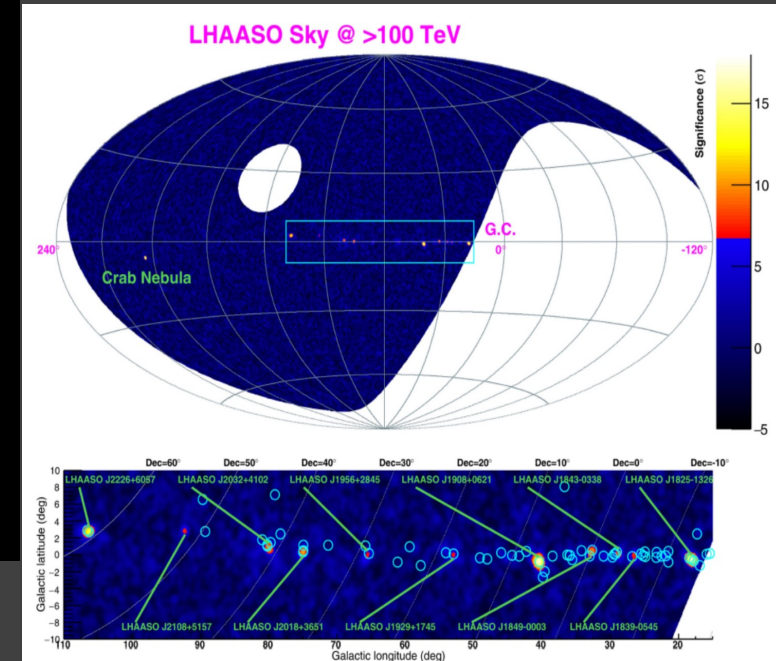
Cit. F. Aharonian



**TeV** revolution (IACT, 2000)



**GeV** revolution (AGILE, FERMI, 2010)



**PeV** revolution (LHAASO, 2020)



# GAMMA RAY (COSMIC-RAY) DETECTORS

<MeV range  
Balloons-borne  
detectors

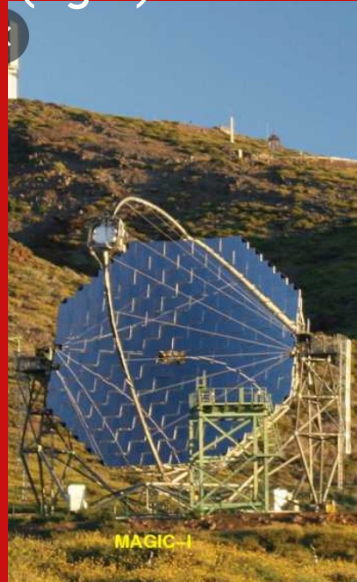


Just cosmic rays

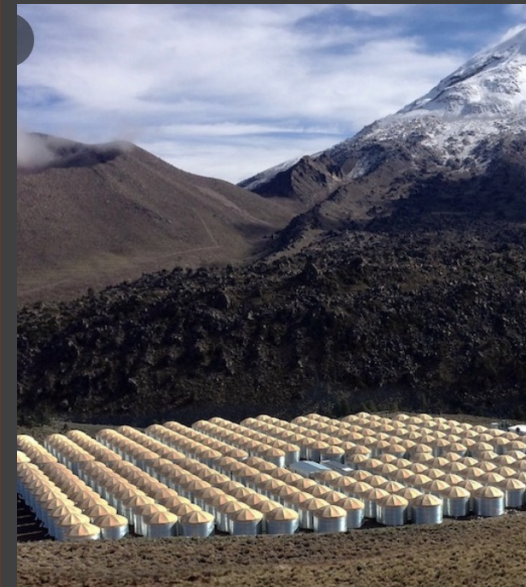
MeV-GeV  
range  
Satellite-borne  
detectors



TeV range  
Ground-based  
detectors  
(light)



TeV-PeV range  
Compact Ground-  
based detectors  
(particles)



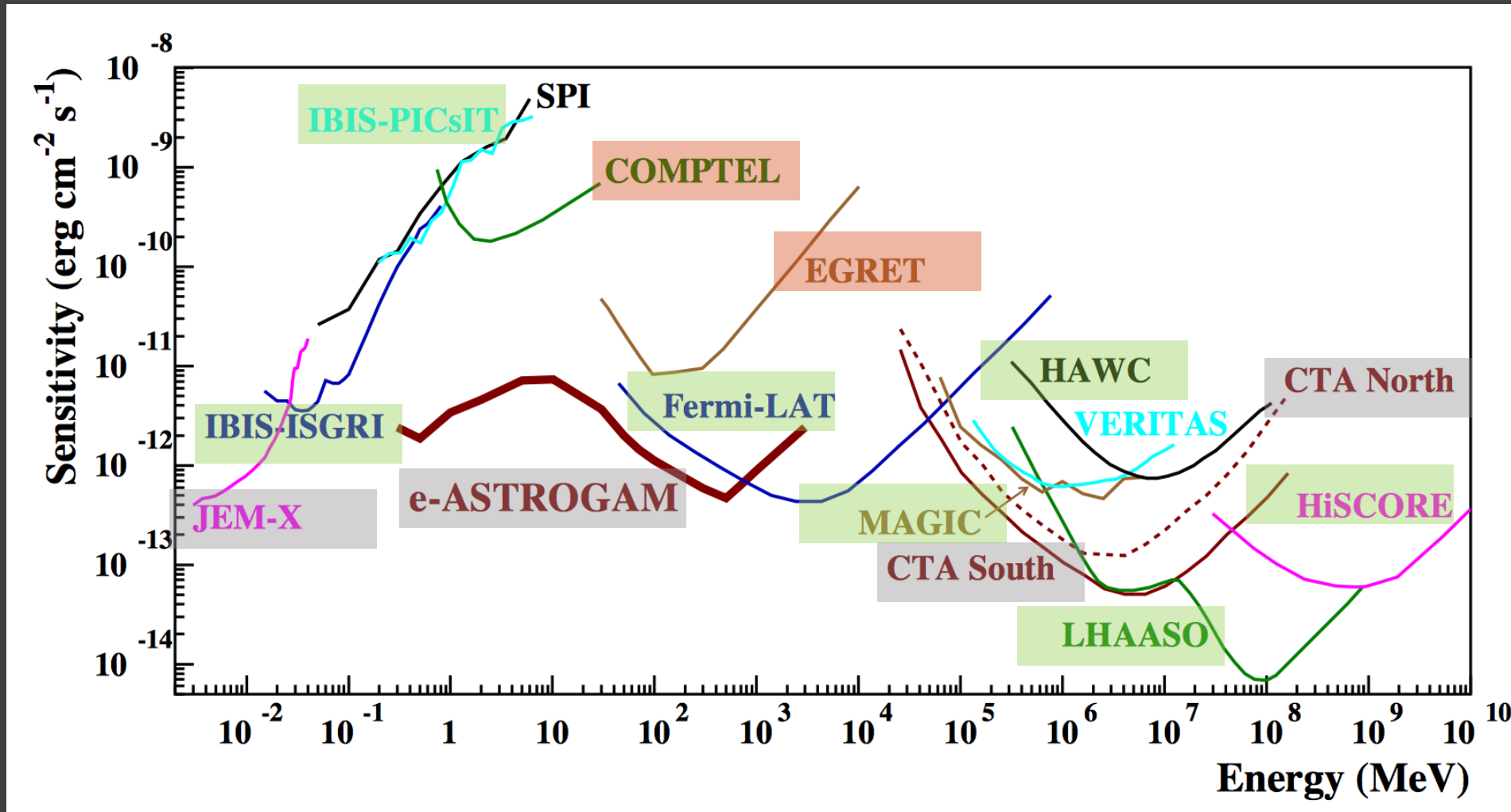
>PeV range  
Wide Ground-  
based detectors  
(particles)



ENERGY

# IACTS AND FRIENDS

Plot from de Angelis+ <https://arxiv.org/abs/1611.02232>



# MAJOR IACTS

IACT	Year	Nr. tels & diameter	Location
<del>Whipple</del>	<del>1968</del>	<del>1×12 m</del>	<del>Arizona, USA</del>
H.E.S.S.	2003	4×12 m+1×28 m	Gambseerg, Namibia
MAGIC	2004	2×17 m	La Palma, Spain
VERITAS	2007	4×12 m	Arizona, USA

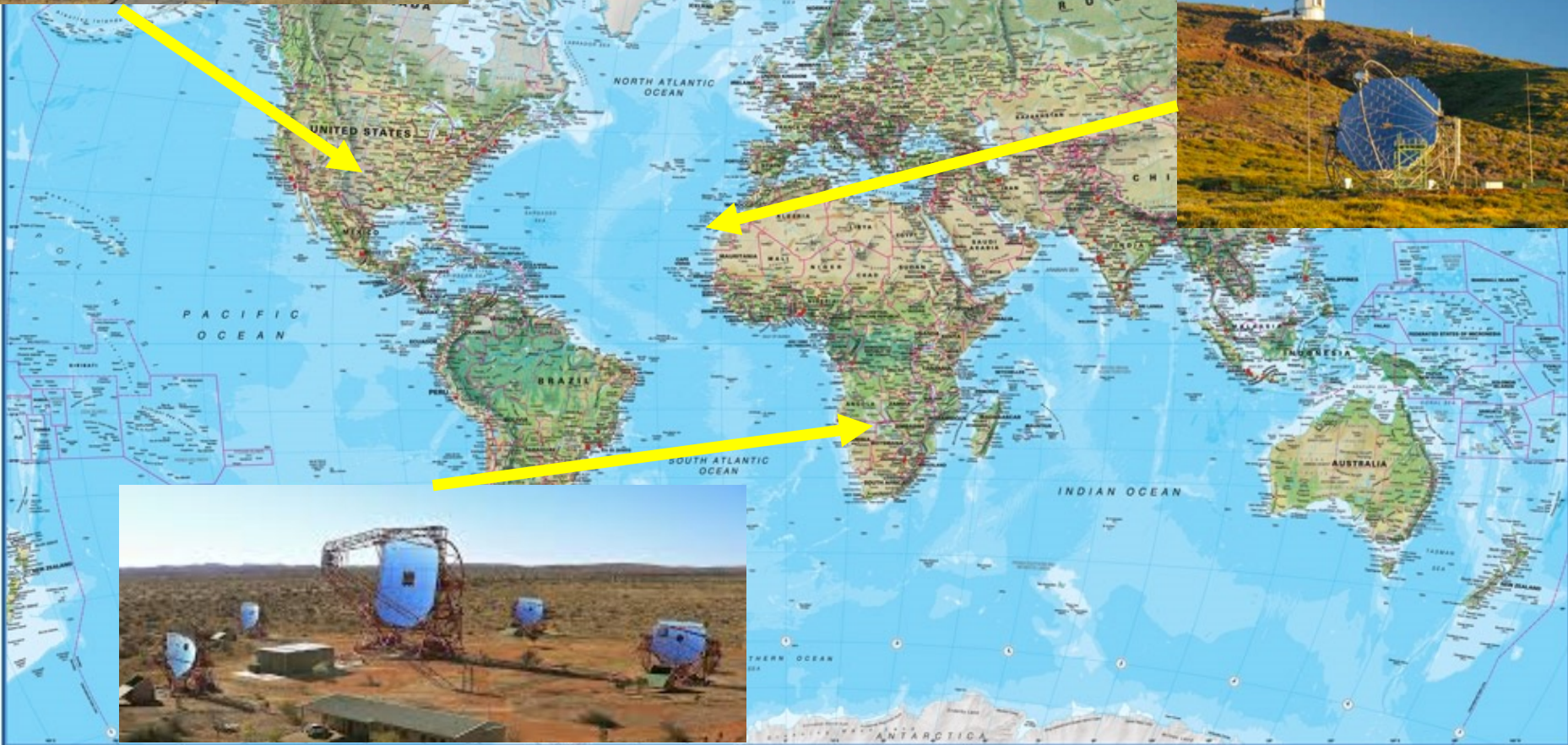
Table 1: Current major operating ground-based Cherenkov telescopes. Given are the starting year, the array multiplicity and dish diameter *in the latest configuration*, and the location. MD NIMA742 (2014) 99-106



VERITAS



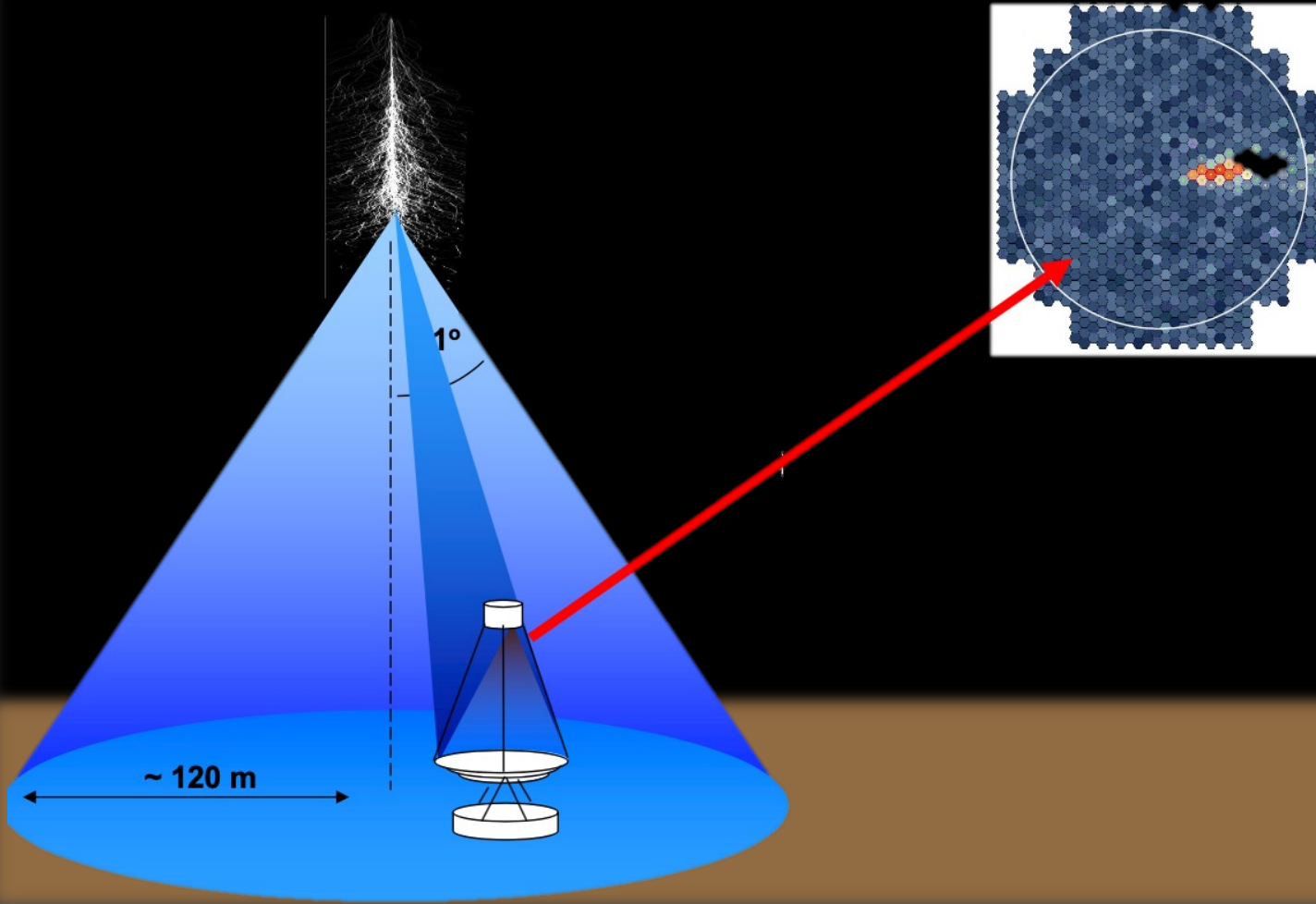
MAGIC



H.E.S.S.

Also  
TAIGA,  
MACE,  
...

# #1 GROUND-BASED IMAGING CHERENKOV



1. **Primary gamma-rays pair-produce** after few radiation lengths at 10-20 km asl
2. **Shower of electrons** dies off after few interaction lengths: particles do not reach ground
3. **Cherenkov light** emitted by 'superluminal' electrons  $v > c/n$
4. **Cherenkov photons pool** at ground



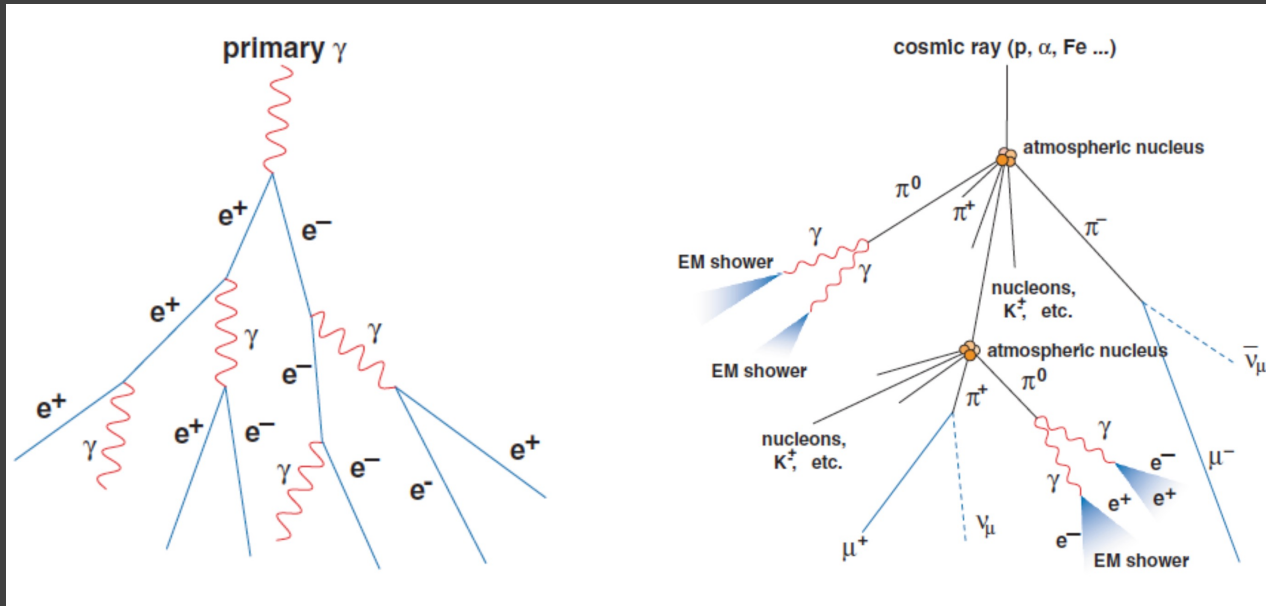
# IACTS

- **Array of telescopes**
  - $10^5$  square meter effective area
  - **FOV** about 5 deg / **PSF** = 0.1 deg
  - Picosecond relative **timing** precision
- During data-taking, e.g., MAGIC acquires **@ 200 Hz.**
  - *These are mostly hadronic showers. Gamma-rays are less than 1/1000 of this rate.*
- During data reconstruction, **only 1/1000 hadronic events survive** (very energy dependent)

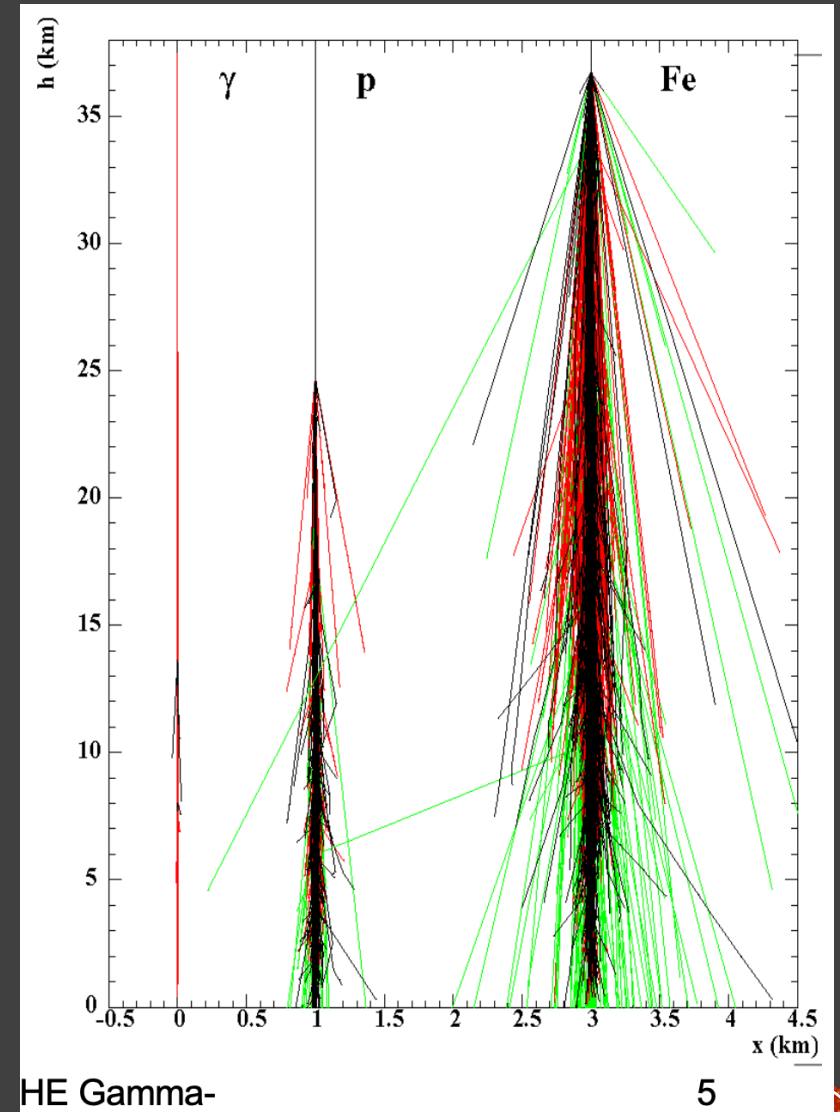
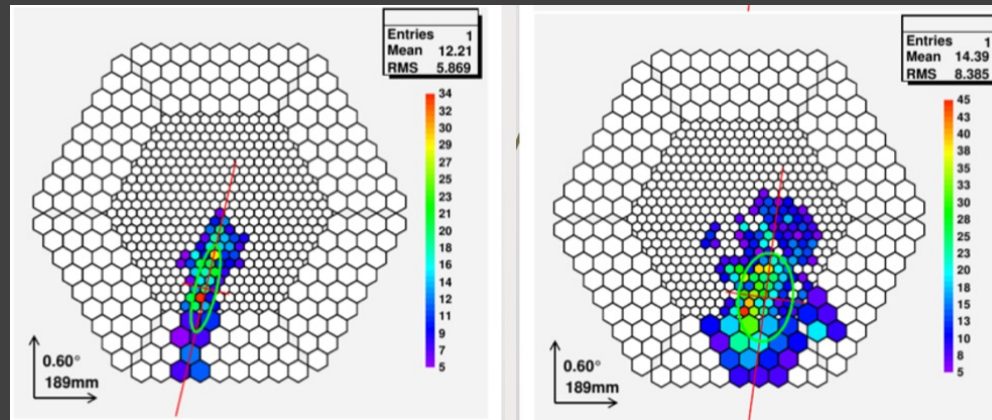


# THERE'S MORE THAN JUST GAMMAS

- Ample bkg: 1 to 1000 gammas/protons



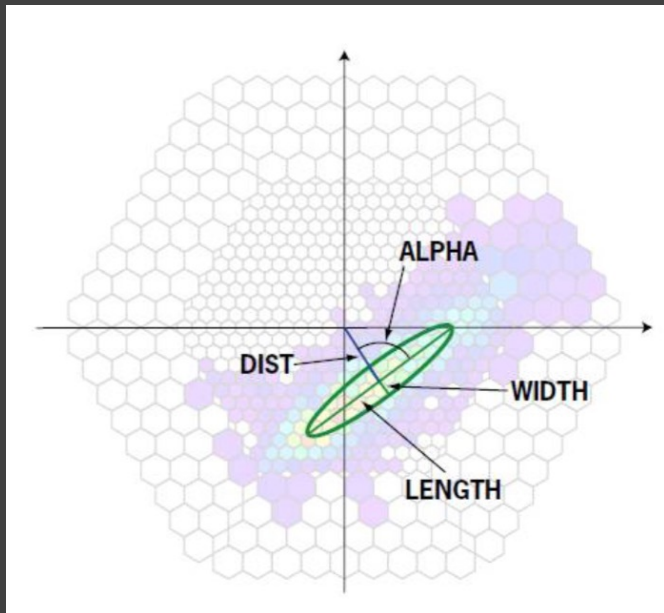
- Selection based on image momenta (Hillas criteria)



HE Gamma-

5

# EVENT TAGGING

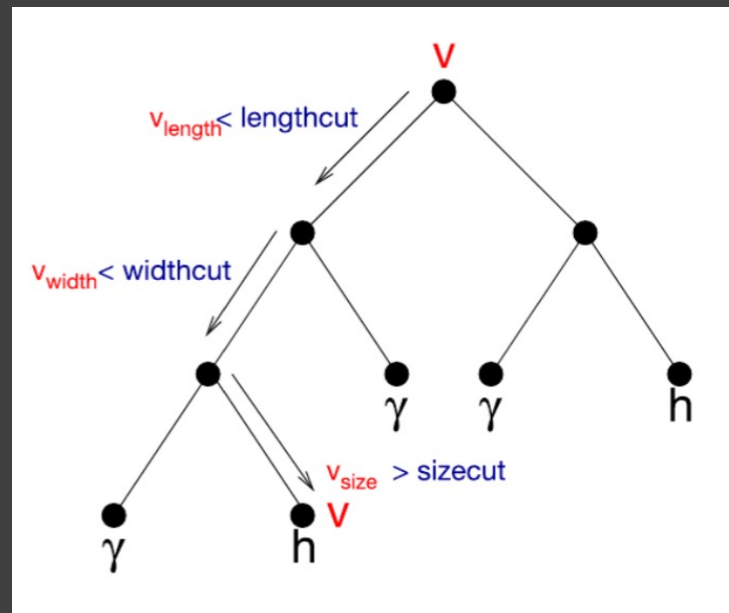


1

You “clean” the image and **extract shape parameters**

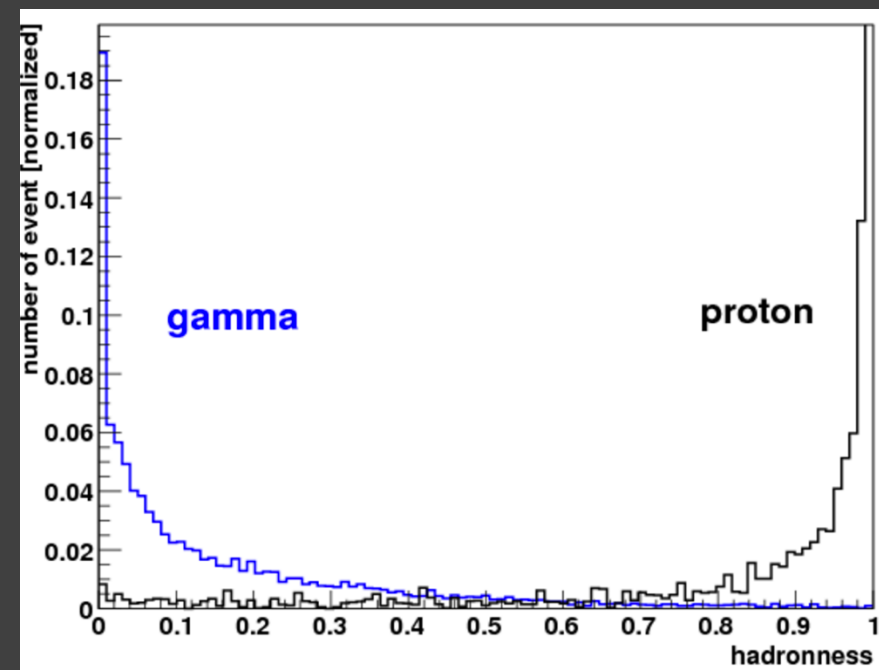
2

You make a Random Forest is a collection of **decision trees**, by comparing with Monte Carlo



3

You have classified events according to “**gammaness**” and start to make cuts

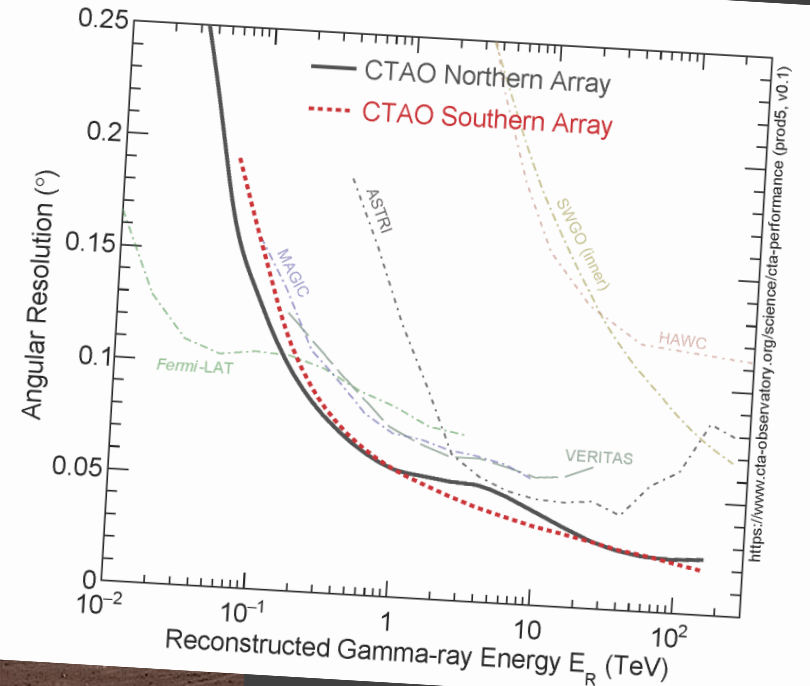
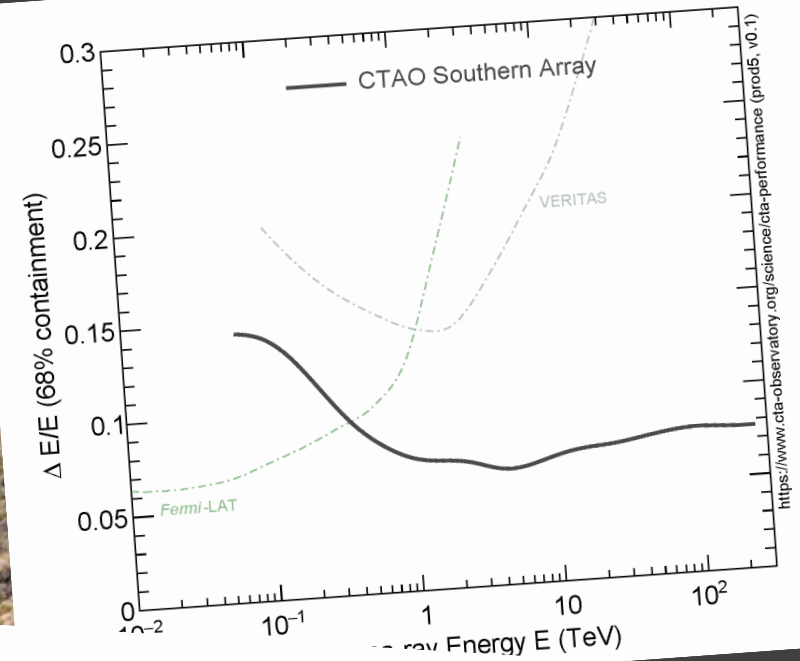
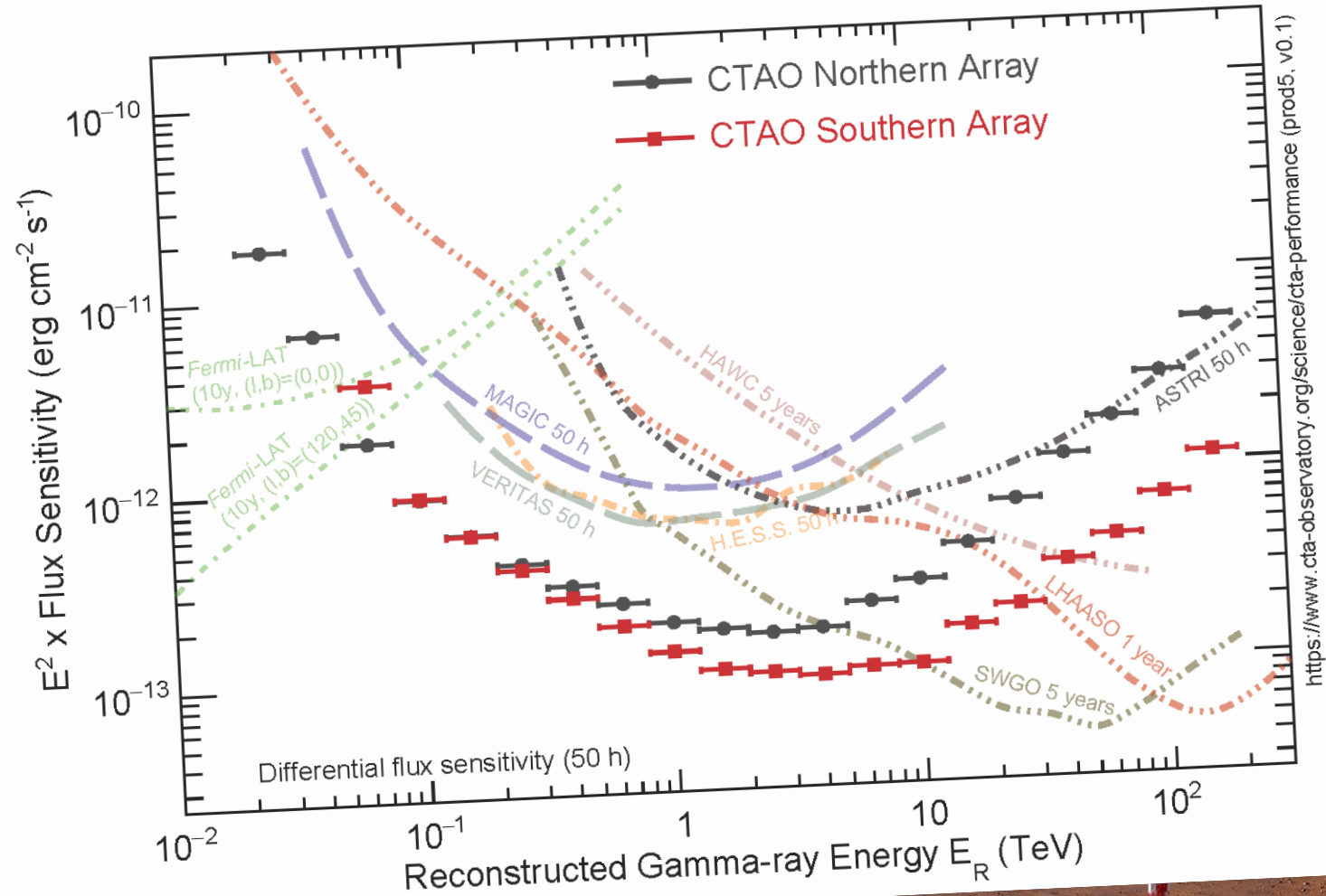




# A LOT OF 'LEFTOVERS'

- **Background events rate**
  - One large night:  $8\text{h} * 3600\text{s} * 200 = 5.76 \text{ MEvents}$
  - **Lifetime: 12 Gevents**
- In the case of MAGIC these **billions of events are safely stored in the database**
  
- ← **Is this really trash? Can there be something peculiar in these leftovers?**

# THE CTA REVOLUTION



<https://www.cta-observatory.org/science/ctao-performance>

# MENU FOR IACTS

- For large volumes, high energies
  - Dark Matter particles
  - Axion Like Particles
  - Magnetic monopoles and quark nuggets
  - Primordial black holes
  - UHE neutrinos
- For long distances, flares
  - LIV
- For synoptic view
  - Hubble constant



# DARK MATTER

Better served cold



# A TEV DM CLAIM (2006)

TABLE II. The approximate energy distribution of events reported by CACTUS compared to the prediction from various annihilating dark matter scenarios. The CACTUS observations appear to be consistent with a  $\sim 500$  GeV dark matter particle annihilating to  $b\bar{b}$ , a  $\sim 300$  GeV dark matter particle annihilating to  $W^+W^-$ , or a  $\sim 200$  GeV dark matter particle annihilating to  $\tau^+\tau^-$ . In the last column, the number of events which EGRET should have seen is given for each case.

	Total	>100 GeV	>125 GeV	EGRET
CACTUS observation	30 000	7000	4000	–
600 GeV, $b\bar{b}$	30 000	9000	5000	290
500 GeV, $b\bar{b}$	30 000	7700	3900	400
400 GeV, $b\bar{b}$	30 000	6000	2700	630
400 GeV, $W^+W^-$	30 000	9200	5100	280
300 GeV, $W^+W^-$	30 000	7100	3500	470
200 GeV, $W^+W^-$	30 000	4000	1300	1100
300 GeV, $\tau^+\tau^-$	30 000	15 000	9500	2.8
200 GeV, $\tau^+\tau^-$	30 000	9200	4200	7.2
150 GeV, $\tau^+\tau^-$	30 000	5000	1300	16



- CACTUS (Converted Atmospheric Cherenkov Telescope Using Solar-2) was a ACT located in California.
- It was originally a solar power plant called Solar Two, converted to an observatory in 2001, installing a 6 meter secondary that imaged the field onto an array of 80 PMT's.

Bergstrom Hooper Phys.Rev.D 73 (2006)



# ...AFTER ~15 YEARS

MD, M.A. Sanchez-Conde, M. Huetten. <https://arxiv.org/abs/2111.01198>

Table 8.1 – continued from previous page

Target	Year	Time [h]	IACT	Limit	Ref.
Segue 1	2008 – 2009	29.4	MAGIC <sup>†</sup>	Ann.	Aleksić et al. (2011)
	2010 – 2011	(47.8)	VERITAS	A.+D.	Aliu et al. (2012)
	2010 – 2013	(92.0)		Ann.	Archambault et al. (2017)
	2010 – 2013	157.9	MAGIC	A.+D.	Aleksić et al. (2014)
				Ann.	Ahnen et al. (2016b)
Boötes 1	2010 – 2018	184	VERITAS	–	Kelley-Hoskins (2018)
	2009	14.3	VERITAS	Ann.	Acciari et al. (2010)
		(14.0)		Ann.	Archambault et al. (2017)
Coma Berenices	2010 – 2013	(8.6)	H.E.S.S.	Ann.	Abramowski et al. (2014)
	2010 – 2013	10.9		Ann.	Abdalla et al. (2018a)
	< 2018	37	VERITAS	–	Kelley-Hoskins (2018)
Fornax	2018	50.2	MAGIC	Ann.	Maggio et al. (2021)
	2010	6.0	H.E.S.S.	Ann.	Abramowski et al. (2014)
				Ann.	Abdalla et al. (2018a)
Ursa Major II Triangulum II*	2014 – 2016	94.8	MAGIC	Ann.	Ahnen et al. (2018a)
	2014 – 2016	62.4	MAGIC	Ann.	Acciari et al. (2020)
	< 2018	181	VERITAS	–	Kelley-Hoskins (2018)
Segue II	< 2018	19	VERITAS	–	Kelley-Hoskins (2018)
Canes Ven I	< 2018	14	VERITAS	–	Kelley-Hoskins (2018)
Canes Ven II	< 2018	14	VERITAS	–	Kelley-Hoskins (2018)
Hercules	< 2018	13	VERITAS	–	Kelley-Hoskins (2018)
Sextans	< 2018	13	VERITAS	–	Kelley-Hoskins (2018)
Draco II	< 2018	10	VERITAS	–	Kelley-Hoskins (2018)
Leo I	< 2018	7	VERITAS	–	Kelley-Hoskins (2018)
Leo II	< 2018	16	VERITAS	–	Kelley-Hoskins (2018)
Leo IV	< 2018	3	VERITAS	–	Kelley-Hoskins (2018)
Leo V	< 2018	3	VERITAS	–	Kelley-Hoskins (2018)
Reticulum II	2017 – 2018	18.3	H.E.S.S. <sup>†</sup>	Ann.	Abdalla et al. (2020)
Tucana II	2017 – 2018	16.4	H.E.S.S. <sup>†</sup>	Ann.	Abdalla et al. (2020)
Tucana III*	2017 – 2018	23.6	H.E.S.S. <sup>†</sup>	Ann.	Abdalla et al. (2020)
Tucana IV*	2017 – 2018	12.4	H.E.S.S. <sup>†</sup>	Ann.	Abdalla et al. (2020)
Grus II*	2018	11.3	H.E.S.S. <sup>†</sup>	Ann.	Abdalla et al. (2020)
<b>Dark satellites</b>					
1FGL J2347.3+0710	2010	8.3	MAGIC	–	Nieto et al. (2011a)
1FGL J0338.8+1313	2010-2011	10.7	MAGIC	–	Nieto et al. (2011a)
2FGL J0545.6+6018	2013-2015	8.5	VERITAS	Ann.	Nieto (2015)
2FGL J1115.0-0701	2013-2015	13.8	VERITAS	Ann.	Nieto (2015)
H3FHL J0929.2-4110	2018-2019	7.8	H.E.S.S. <sup>†</sup>	Ann.	Abdallah et al. (2021a)
3FHL J1915.2-1323	2018 – 2019	3.0	H.E.S.S. <sup>†</sup>	Ann.	Abdallah et al. (2021a)
3FHL J2030.2-5037	2018 – 2019	8.8	H.E.S.S. <sup>†</sup>	Ann.	Abdallah et al. (2021a)
3FHL J2104.5+2117	2018 – 2019	5.5	H.E.S.S. <sup>†</sup>	Ann.	Abdallah et al. (2021a)

Table 8.1 – Continued on next page

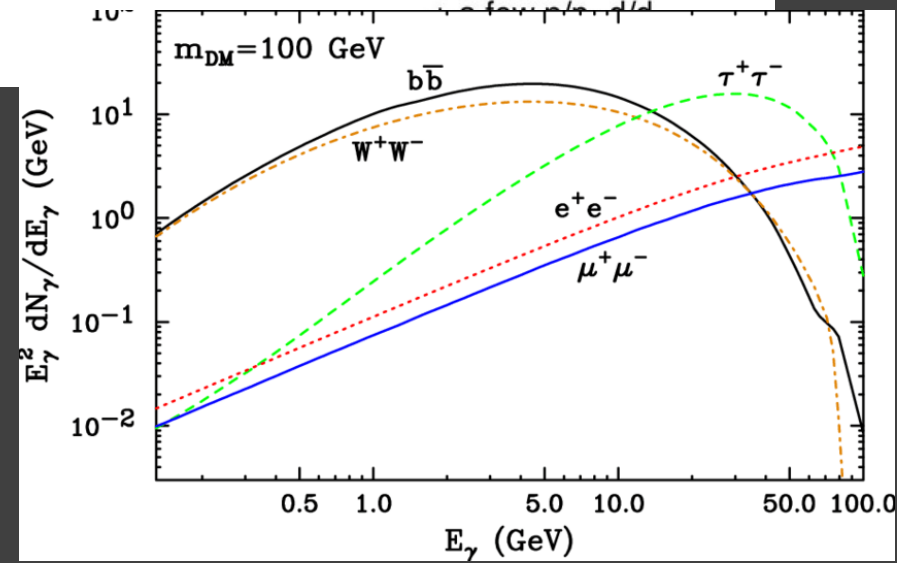
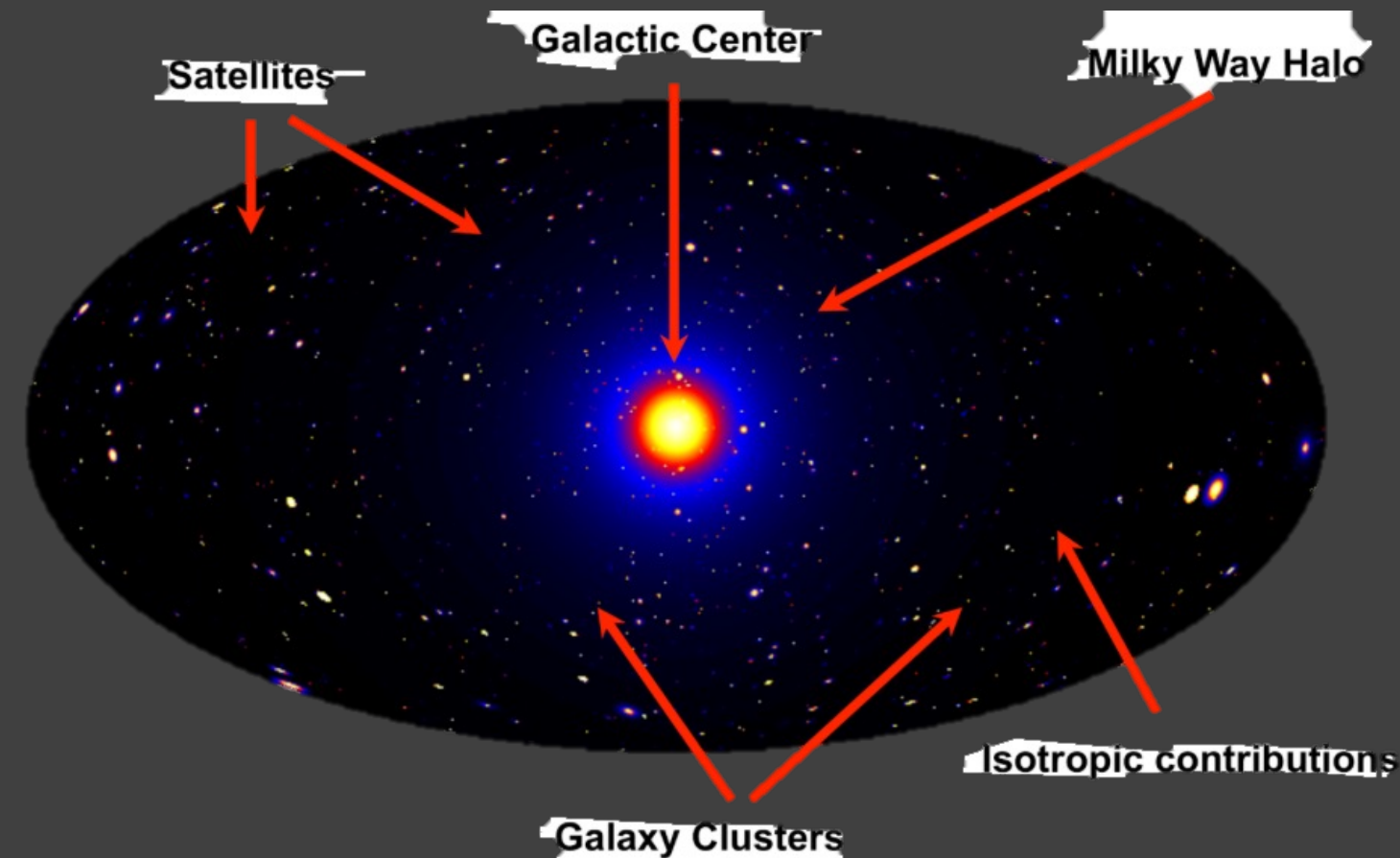
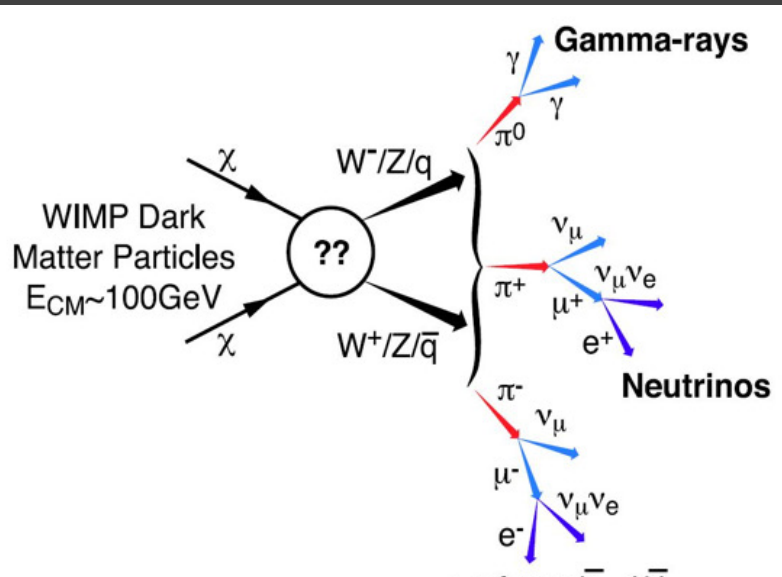
Target	Year	Time [h]	IACT	Limit	Ref.
<b>The Milky Way central region &amp; halo</b>					
MW Centre	2004	(48.7)	H.E.S.S.	Ann.	Aharonian et al. (2006)
MW Inner Halo	2004 – 2008	(112)	H.E.S.S.	Ann.	Abramowski et al. (2011)
	2010	9.1		Ann.	Abramowski et al. (2015)
	2004 – 2014	254		Ann.	Abdallah et al. (2016)
MW Outer Halo	2014 – 2020	546	H.E.S.S. <sup>†</sup>	Ann.	Montanari et al. (2021)
	2018	10	MAGIC	Decay	Ninci et al. (2019)
<b>Dwarf Satellite Galaxies</b>					
Draco	2003	7.4	Whipple	Ann.	Wood et al. (2008)
	2007	7.8	MAGIC <sup>†</sup>	Ann.	Albert et al. (2008b)
	2007	(18.4)	VERITAS	Ann.	Acciari et al. (2010)
	2007 – 2013	(49.8)		Ann.	Archambault et al. (2017)
	2007 – 2018	114		–	Kelley-Hoskins (2018)
Ursa Minor	2018	52.6	MAGIC	Ann.	Maggio et al. (2021)
	2003	7.9	Whipple	Ann.	Wood et al. (2008)
	2007	(18.9)	VERITAS	Ann.	Acciari et al. (2010)
	2007 – 2013	(60.4)		Ann.	Archambault et al. (2017)
Sagittarius	2007 – 2018	161		–	Kelley-Hoskins (2018)
	2006	(11.0)	H.E.S.S.	Ann.	Aharonian et al. (2008)
	2006 – 2012	90		Ann.	Abramowski et al. (2014)
	2006 – 2012	(85.5)		Ann.	Abdalla et al. (2018a)
Canis Major	2006	9.6	H.E.S.S.	Ann.	Aharonian et al. (2009a)
Willman 1	2007 – 2008	13.7	VERITAS	Ann.	Acciari et al. (2010)
		(13.6)		Ann.	Archambault et al. (2017)
Sculptor	2008	15.5	MAGIC <sup>†</sup>	Ann.	Aliu et al. (2009)
	2008	(11.8)	H.E.S.S.	Ann.	Abramowski et al. (2011)
				Ann.	Abdalla et al. (2018a)
Carina	2008 – 2009	12.5		Ann.	Abramowski et al. (2014)
	2008 – 2009	(14.8)	H.E.S.S.	Ann.	Abramowski et al. (2011)
	2008 – 2009	(12.7)		Ann.	Abramowski et al. (2014)
	2008 – 2010	22.9		Ann.	Abdalla et al. (2018a)

Table 8.1 – continued from previous page

Target	Year	Time [h]	IACT	Limit	Ref.
<b>Intermediate Mass Black Holes</b>					
Galactic Plane Survey	2004 – 2007	400	H.E.S.S.	Ann.	Aharonian et al. (2008a)
	2005 – 2006	25	MAGIC <sup>†</sup>	Ann.	Doro et al. (2007)
<b>Globular Clusters</b>					
M15	2002	0.2	Whipple	Ann.	Wood et al. (2008)
NGC 6388	2006 – 2007	15.2	H.E.S.S.	Ann.	Abramowski et al. (2011)
	2008 – 2009	27.2	H.E.S.S.	Ann.	Abramowski et al. (2011)
<b>Other galaxies</b>					
M33	2002 – 2004	7.9	Whipple	Ann.	Wood et al. (2008)
M32	2004	6.9	Whipple	Ann.	Wood et al. (2008)
WLM	2018	18.2	H.E.S.S. <sup>†</sup>	Ann.	Abdallah et al. (2021b)
<b>Galaxy Clusters</b>					
Abell 209	2003 – 2004	6.1	Whipple	–	Perkins et al. (2006)
Perseus (Abell 426)	2004 – 2005	13.5	Whipple	–	Perkins et al. (2006)
	2008	24.4	MAGIC <sup>†</sup>	Ann.	Aleksić et al. (2010)
	2009 – 2017	202.2	MAGIC	Decay	Acciari et al. (2018)
Fornax (Abell S0373)	2005	14.5	H.E.S.S.	Ann.	Abramowski et al. (2012)
Coma (Abell 1656)	2008	18.6	VERITAS	Ann.	Arlen et al. (2012)
<b>Line searches</b>					
MW Inner Halo	2004 – 2008	(112)	H.E.S.S.	Ann.	Abramowski et al. (2013c)
	2014	15.2	H.E.S.S. <sup>†</sup>	Ann.	Abdalla et al. (2016)
	2004 – 2014	(254)	H.E.S.S.	Ann.	Abdalla et al. (2018b)
	2013 – 2019	204	MAGIC	Ann.	Inada et al. (2021)
Segue 1 dSph	2010 – 2013	(157.9)	MAGIC	A.+D.	Aleksić et al. (2014)
Five dSph galaxies	2006 – 2012	(137.1)	H.E.S.S.	Ann.	Abdalla et al. (2018a)
Five dSph galaxies	2007 – 2013	(229.8)	VERITAS	Ann.	Archambault et al. (2017)
WLM	2018	(18.2)	H.E.S.S. <sup>†</sup>	Ann.	Abdallah et al. (2021b)
<b>Charged particles</b>					
All-electron	2004 – 2007	239	H.E.S.S.	–	Aharonian et al. (2008b, 2009b)
	2009 – 2012	296	VERITAS	–	Archer et al. (2018)
	2009 – 2010	14	MAGIC	–	Borla Tridon et al. (2011)
Moon shadow	2010 – 2011	20	MAGIC	–	Colin et al. (2011)
	2014	1.2	VERITAS	–	Bird et al. (2016)



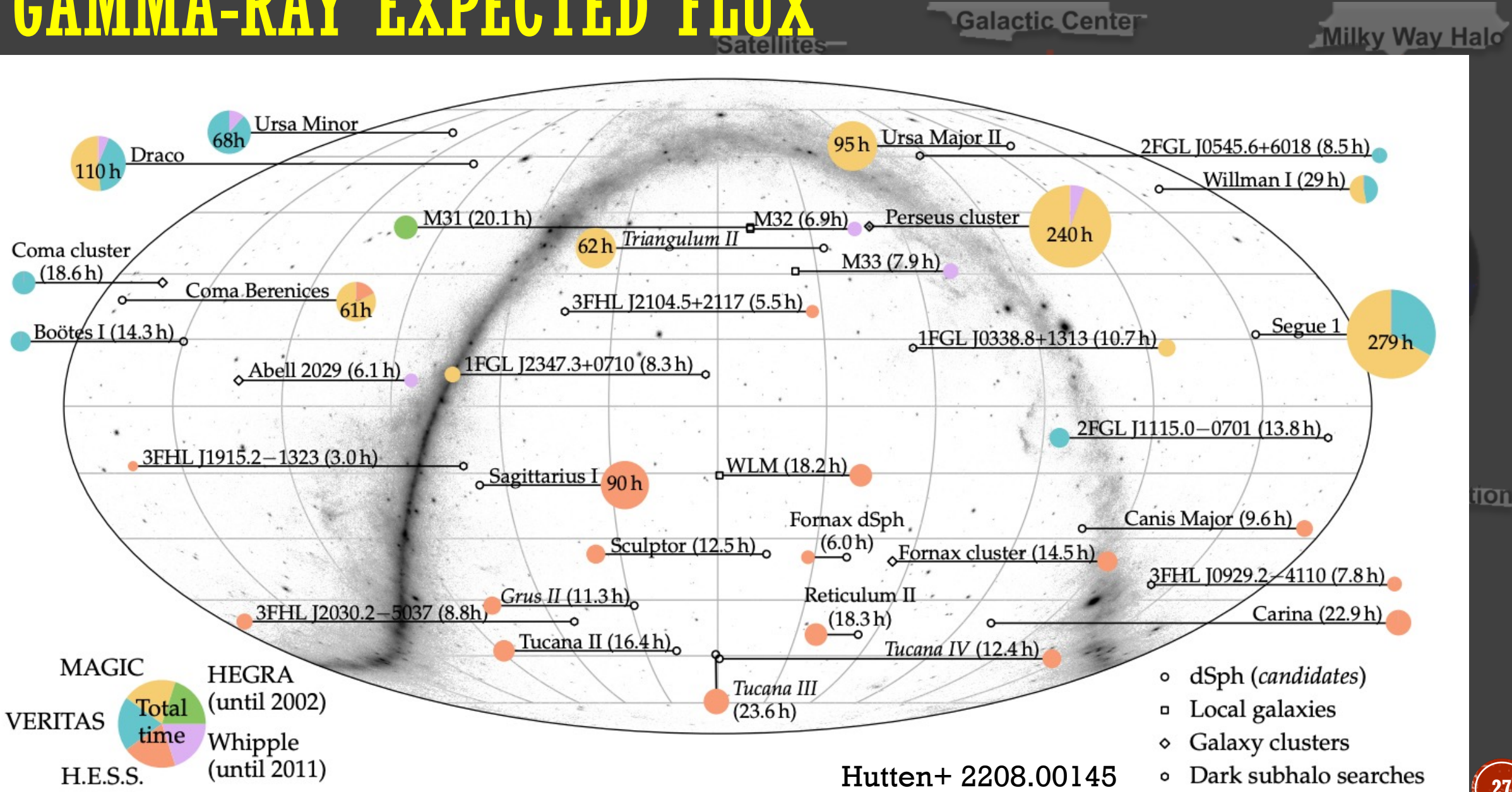
# SEVERAL TARGETS



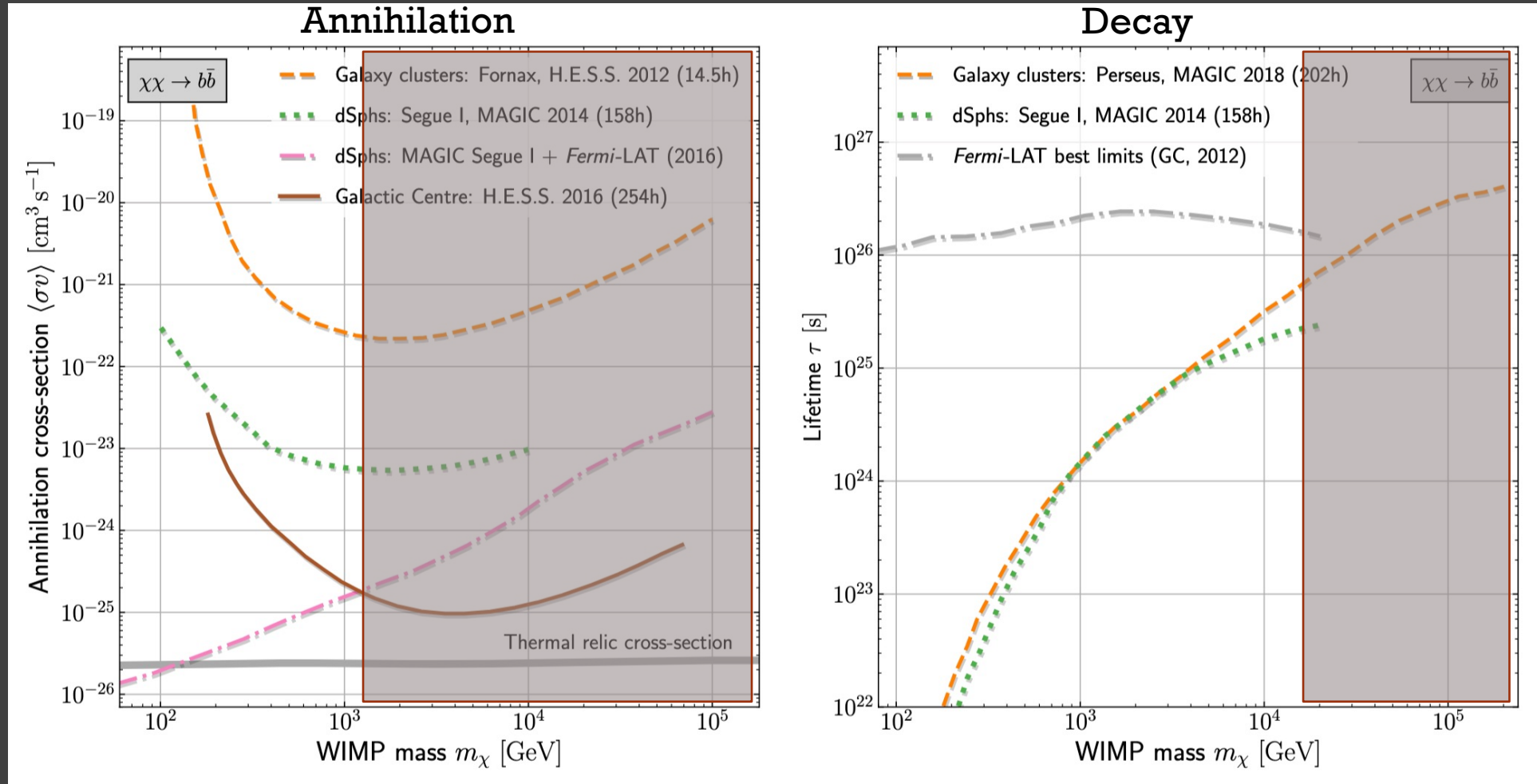
One theory

- Same spectra = multiple signatures
- Smoking gun detection and identification!

# GAMMA-RAY EXPECTED FLUX



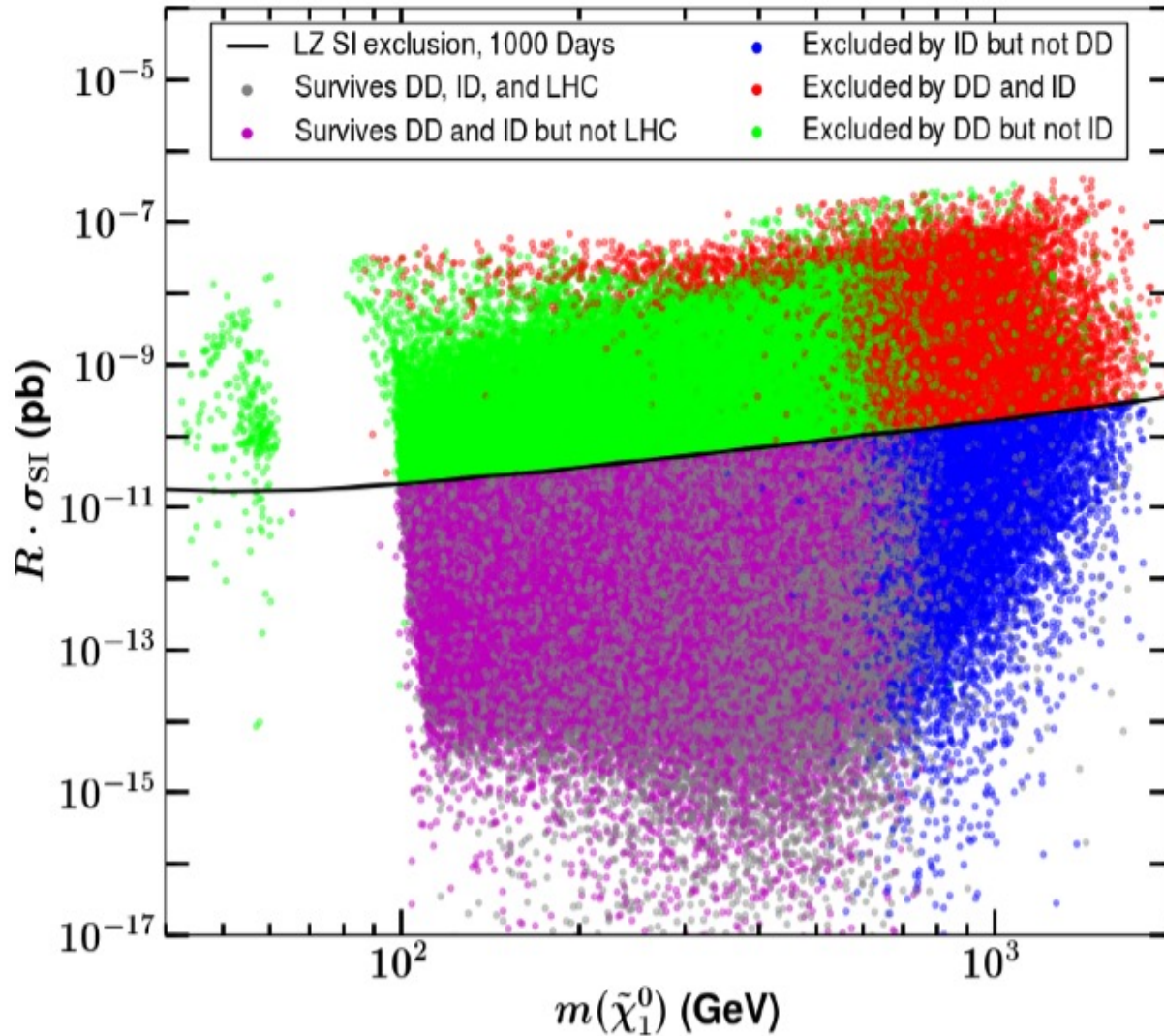
# IACT SUMMARY SO FAR



MD, M.A. Sanchez-Conde, M. Huetten. [2111.01198](#)

# STILL WORTH IT... COMPLEMENTARITY

M. Cahill-Rowley 1411.3353



- Also...upper limit at  $\sim 100$  TeV is not impenetrable:
- DM particles can be ultra-heavy  $\rightarrow$  10 PeV (Tak+ in prep)

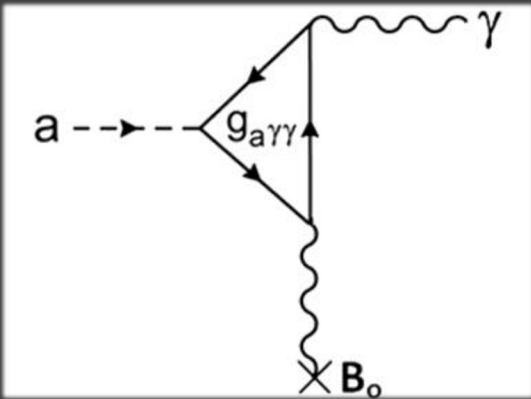
# AXION LIKE PARTICLES

The fix your every meal

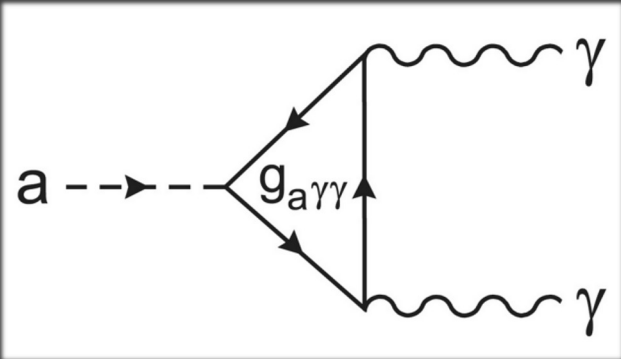


# AXIONS AND AXIONS LIKE PARTICLES

- Peccei (1977): a new particle to fix the missing CP (the axion), but too heavy not to be detected



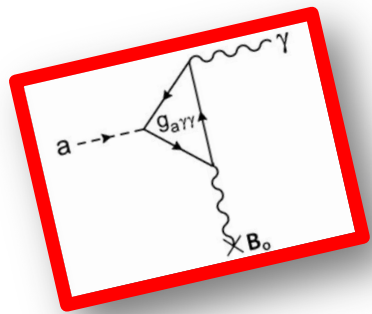
- A general axion is the ALP (invisible axion, Weinberg, 1978, Wilczek, 1978) arises in several theories BSM
  - Mixes with photons (in magnetic fields)
  - Decays in photons



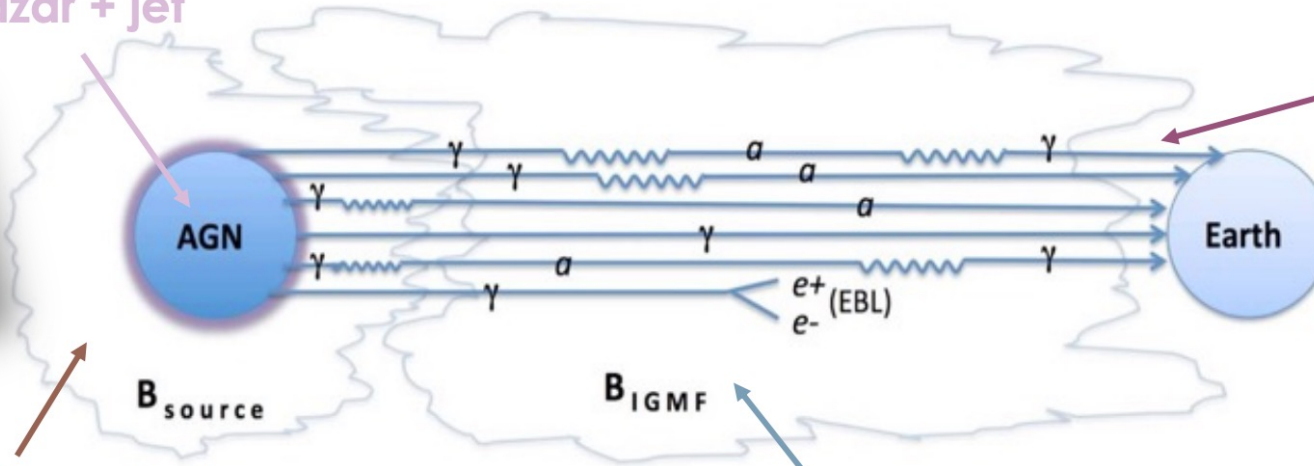
# ASTROPHYSICAL AXION LIKE PARTICLES

Ivana Batkovic

1. Mixing in the **blazar + jet**



2. Mixing in the **galaxy cluster**



3. Mixing in the **extragalactic space +**  
( $\gamma + \gamma \rightarrow e^+ + e^-$ )

4. Mixing in the **Milky Way**

Figure 6: Photon-ALP mixing in the magnetic field, credit: [arXiv:0905.3270](https://arxiv.org/abs/0905.3270)

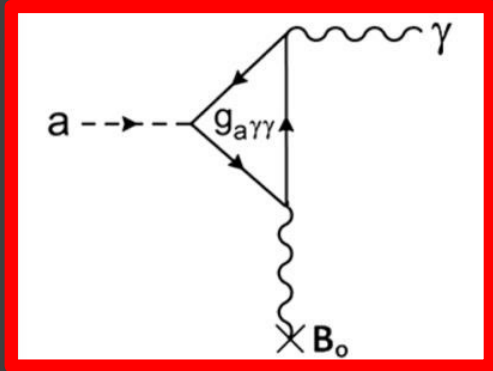
KNOWLEDGE OF THE **MAGNETIC FIELDS** IS FUNDAMENTAL FOR PRODUCING THE **ALPS** MODELS!

- ALP can travel very long distances unabsorbed, while gamma rays do not (EBL)



# ALP-B MIX AND OBSERVABLE EFFECTS

Used to explain unusual low EBL...



$$E_{crit} = 2.5 \text{ GeV} \frac{|m_{a,neV}^2 - \omega_{pl,neV}^2|}{G_{11} B_{\mu G}}$$

- $E \sim E_c$  wiggles
- $E > E_c$  full mix

## ○ Spectral Wiggles

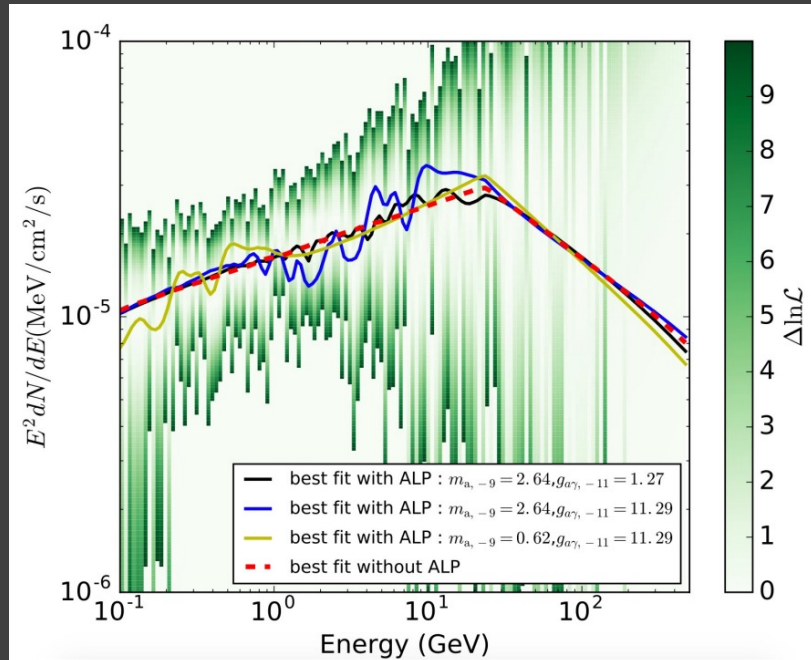


Figure 3: Spectrum fit of PKS2155-304 w & w/o ALPs, [arXiv:1311.3148](https://arxiv.org/abs/1311.3148)

## ○ Photon recovery

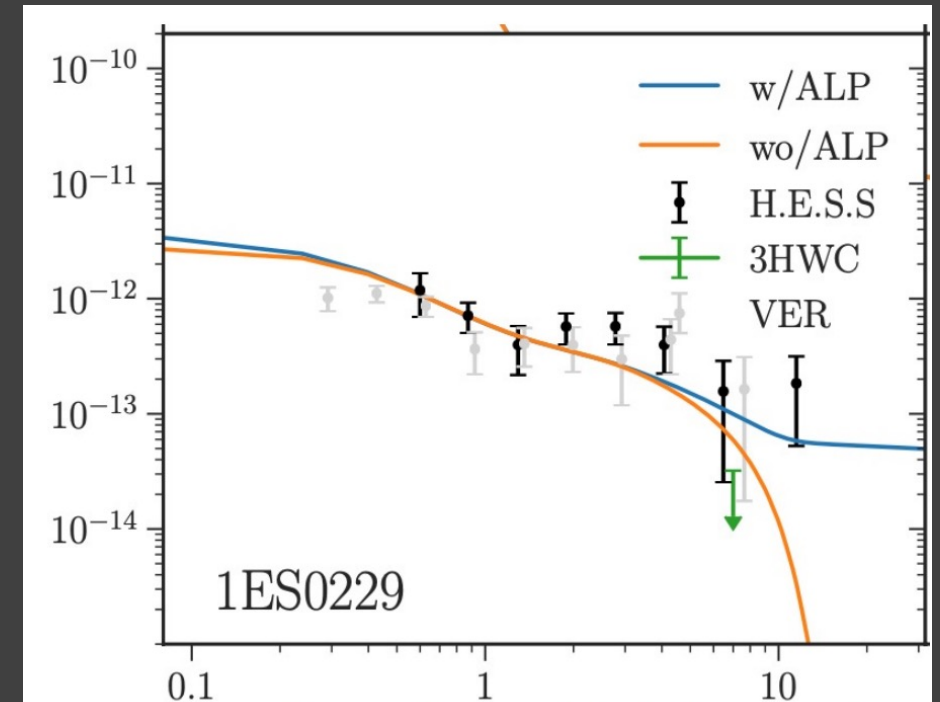
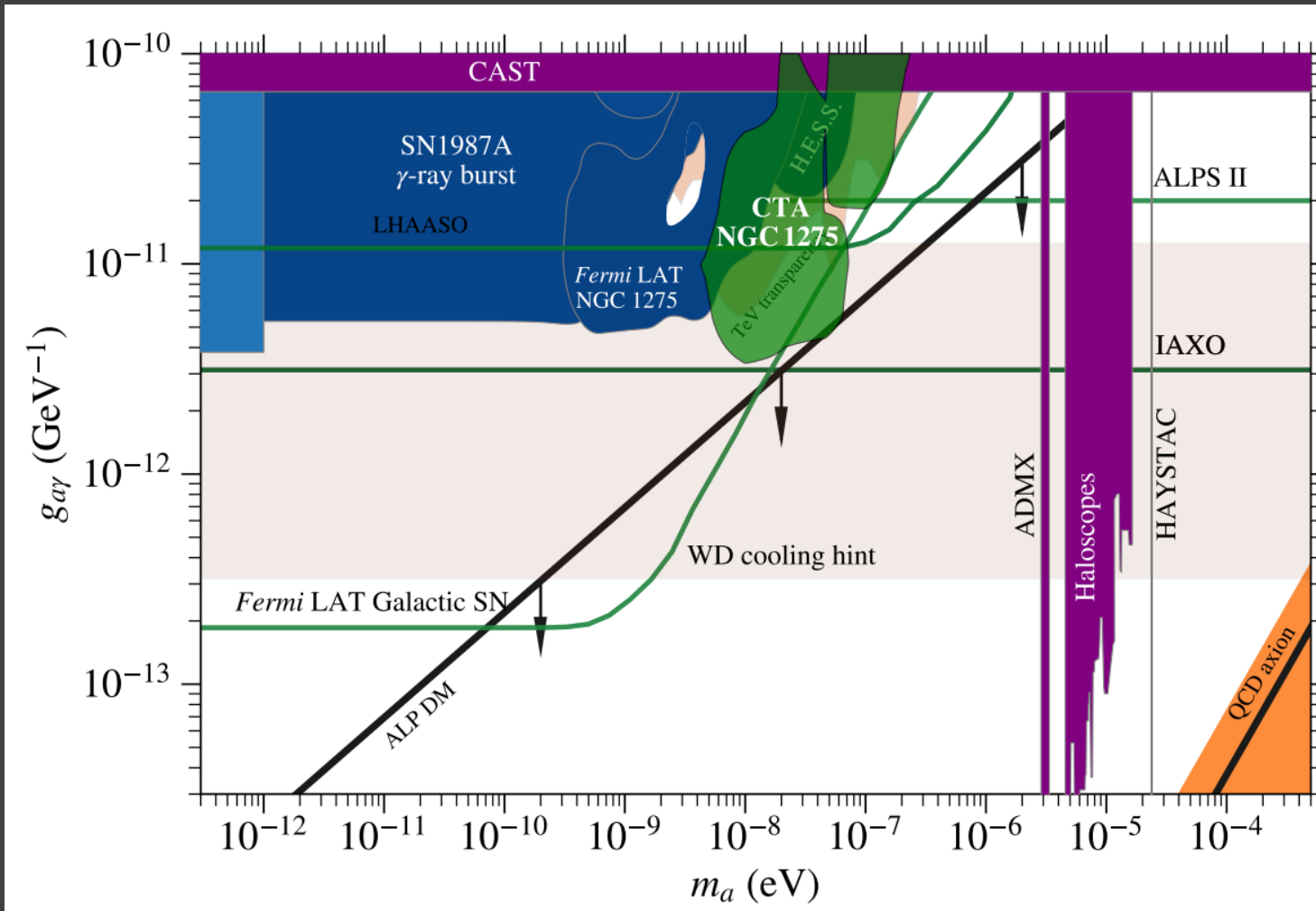


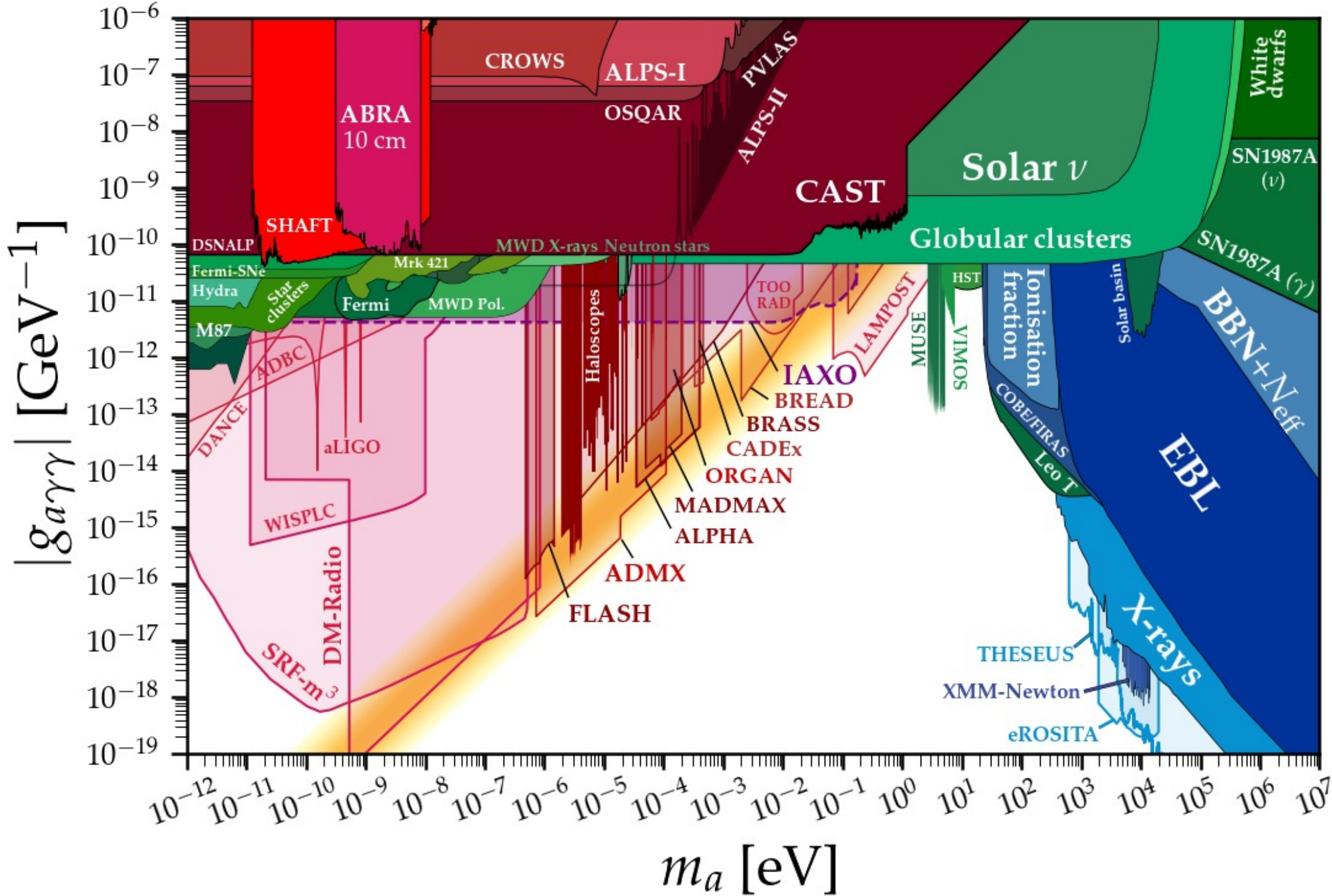
Figure 4: Simulated flux spectra w & w/o ALPs; Jacobsen et al., [arXiv:2203.04332](https://arxiv.org/abs/2203.04332)

# GAMMA-RAY LIMITS

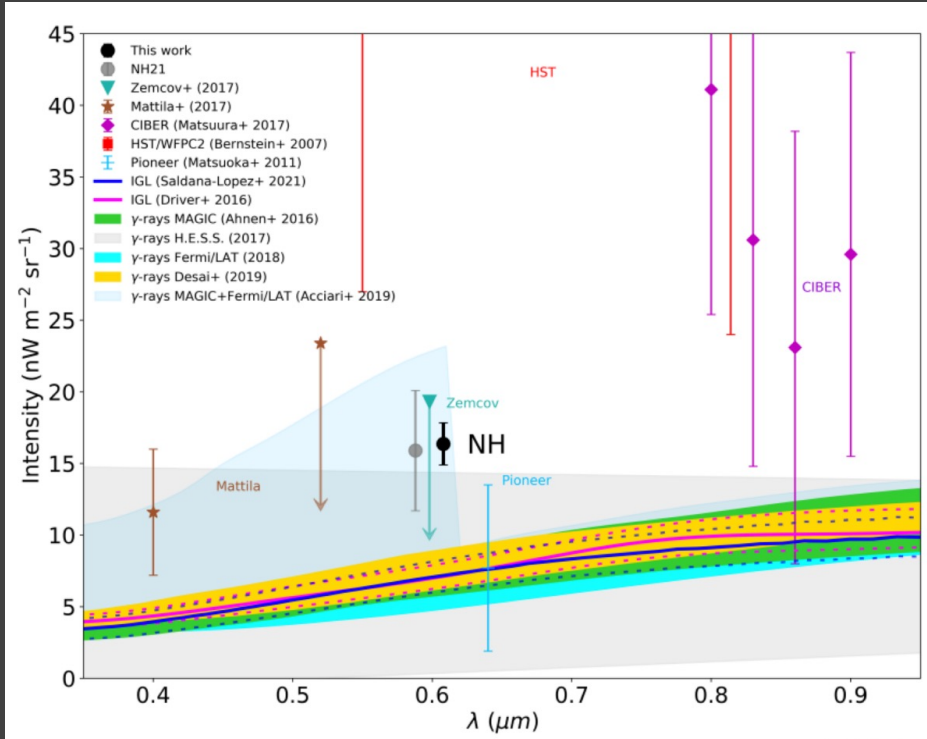
CTA coll., *JCAP* 02 (2021) 048 • e-Print: [2010.01349](https://arxiv.org/abs/2010.01349)



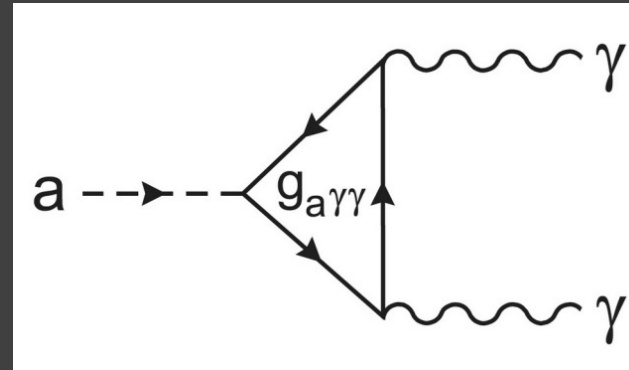
- CTA reach
- 250h NGC1275 (Perseus GC)
- Probing neV ALP
- Galaxy cluster
- Blazars jets



# ALP FIXES YOU EVERY MEAL



- A decaying ALP at eV scale...



- Lauer+ 2022 “Anomalous Flux in the Cosmic Optical Background Detected with New Horizons Observations”

...used to explain unusual high EBL...

# MAGNETIC MONOPOLES AND QUARK NUGGETS



Caution! Hot!

# MAGNETIC MONOPOLES

- In 1931, Dirac MM to explain electric charge quantization. Later on, many theories predict its existence
- Tamm and Frank (1937), Tompkins (1965), etc: MM will produce 4700 times the Cherenkov light of an electron, without producing any secondary particle

$$\frac{d^2 N}{dx d\lambda}_{\text{Monopole}}^{\text{Air}} \approx 4700 \frac{d^2 N}{dx d\lambda}_{\text{Electric}}$$

- Cherenkov emission happens deep in atmosphere and only  $\gamma > 10^3$  and  $m > 1 \text{ TeV}$  can be probed (ultrarelativistic MM)

## Signatures of Ultrarelativistic Magnetic Monopoles in Imaging Cherenkov Telescopes

Diplomarbeit

zur Erlangung des akademischen Grades  
Dipl.-Phys.  
im Fach Physik

eingereicht an der  
Mathematisch-Naturwissenschaftlichen Fakultät I  
Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

von

Gerrit-Christian Spengler  
geboren am 25.09.1983 in Darmstadt

Präsident der Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin:  
Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Christoph Marksches

Dekan der Mathematisch-Naturwissenschaftlichen Fakultät I:  
Prof. Dr. Ch. Limberg

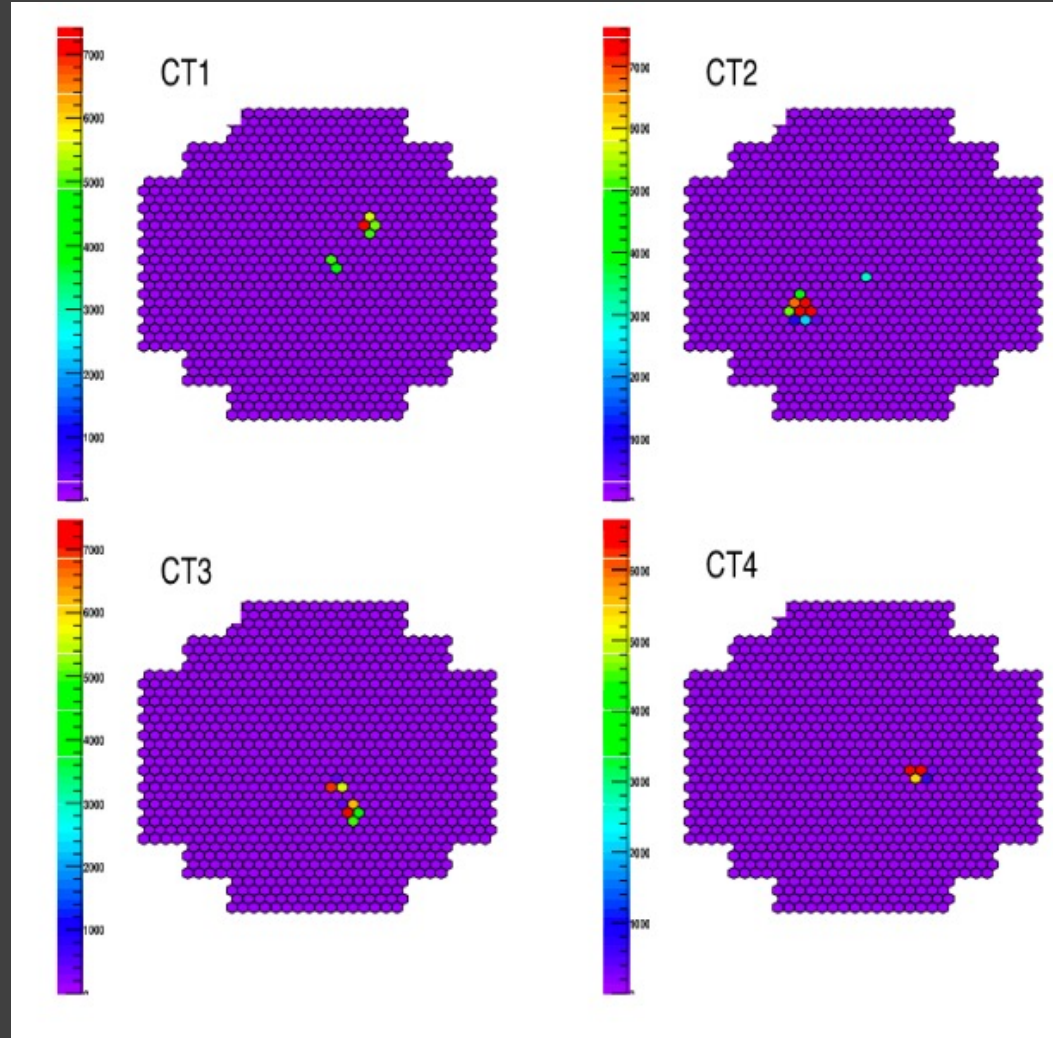
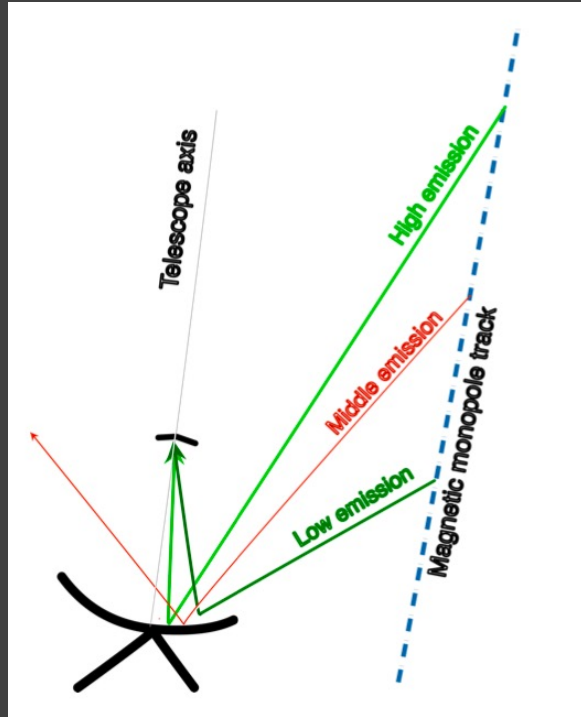
Gutachter:

1. Prof. Dr. Thomas Lohse
2. Prof. Dr. Hermann Kolanoski

eingereicht am: 30.7.2009  
Tag der mündlichen Prüfung: 16.7.2009

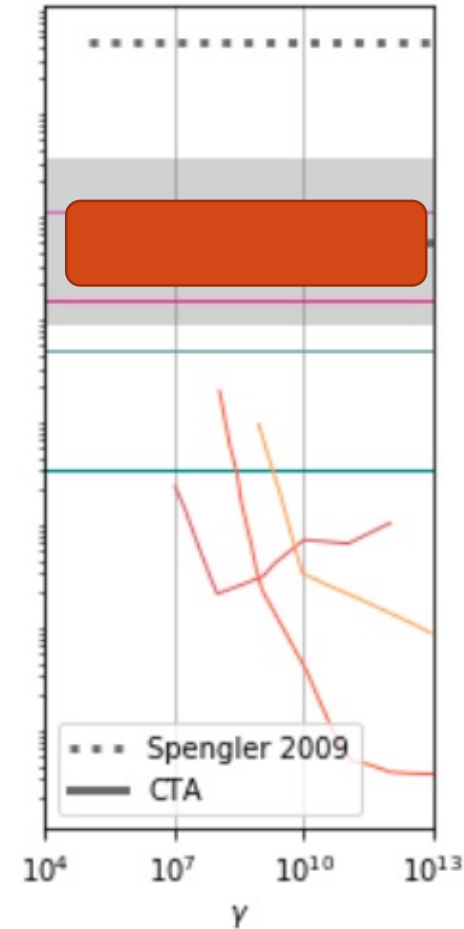
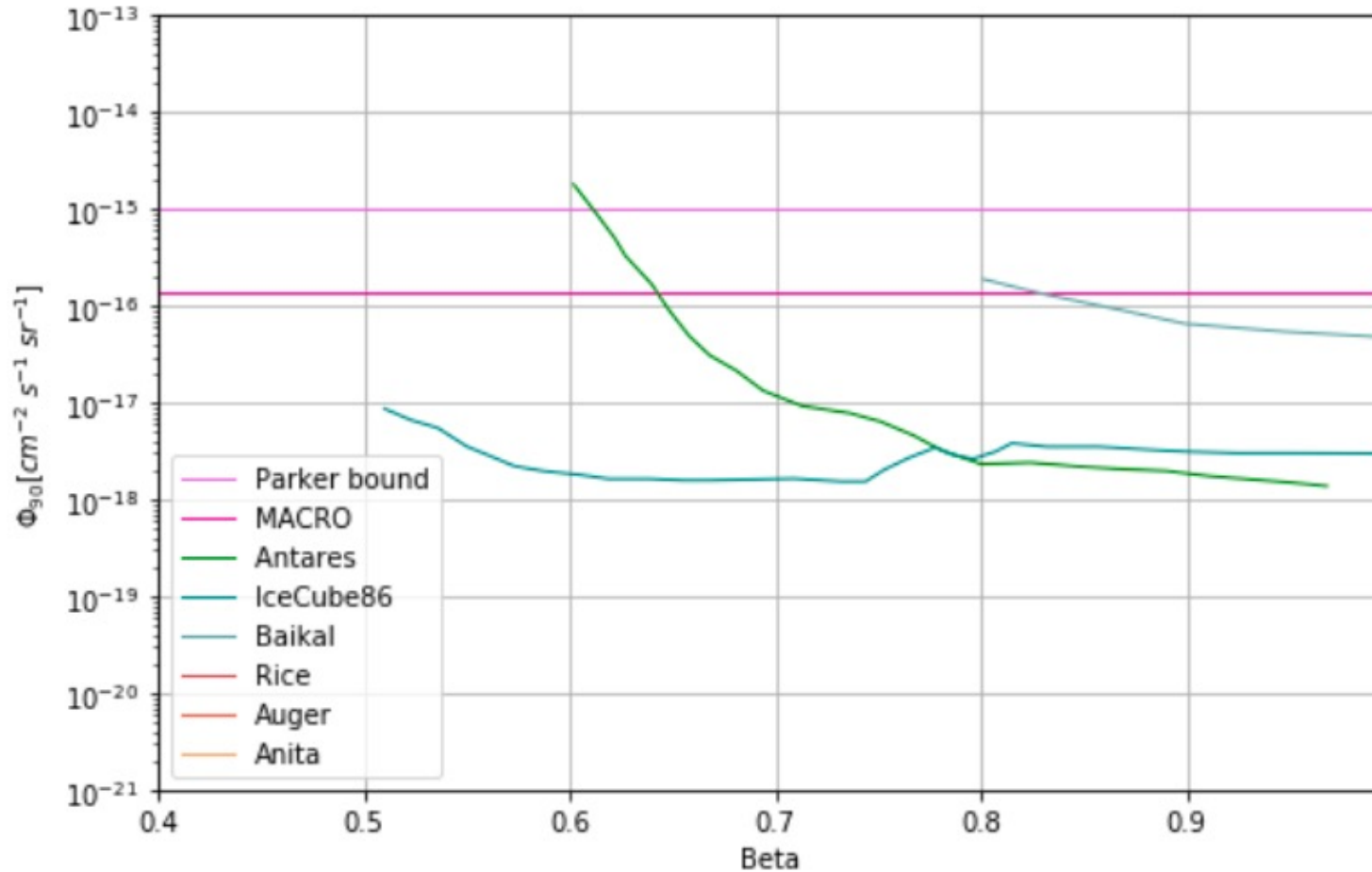
# SIGNATURES AT IACTS

G. Spengler, BSc and Spengler+ ICRC 2011



- Very peculiar rare events in IACTs
- Strong risk of throw-away from plate

# PROSPECTS



← Estimated CTA sensitivity

(MD+ Astroparticle Physics 43 (2013) 189–214 )



# QUARK NUGGETS / STRANGELETS ... ?



- Quark nuggets are **stable bound states of quarks or antiquarks** generated in the early universe:  $10^{20}$  quarks inside.
- Globally neutral, with expected **charge excess on the surface**: nuggets will be dressed with leptons
- Big and heavy...
- **When crossing the atmosphere**, the energy deposited by annihilations can be quite large : **an extensive air shower will be produced.**
- K. Lawson 2009-2015 papers+

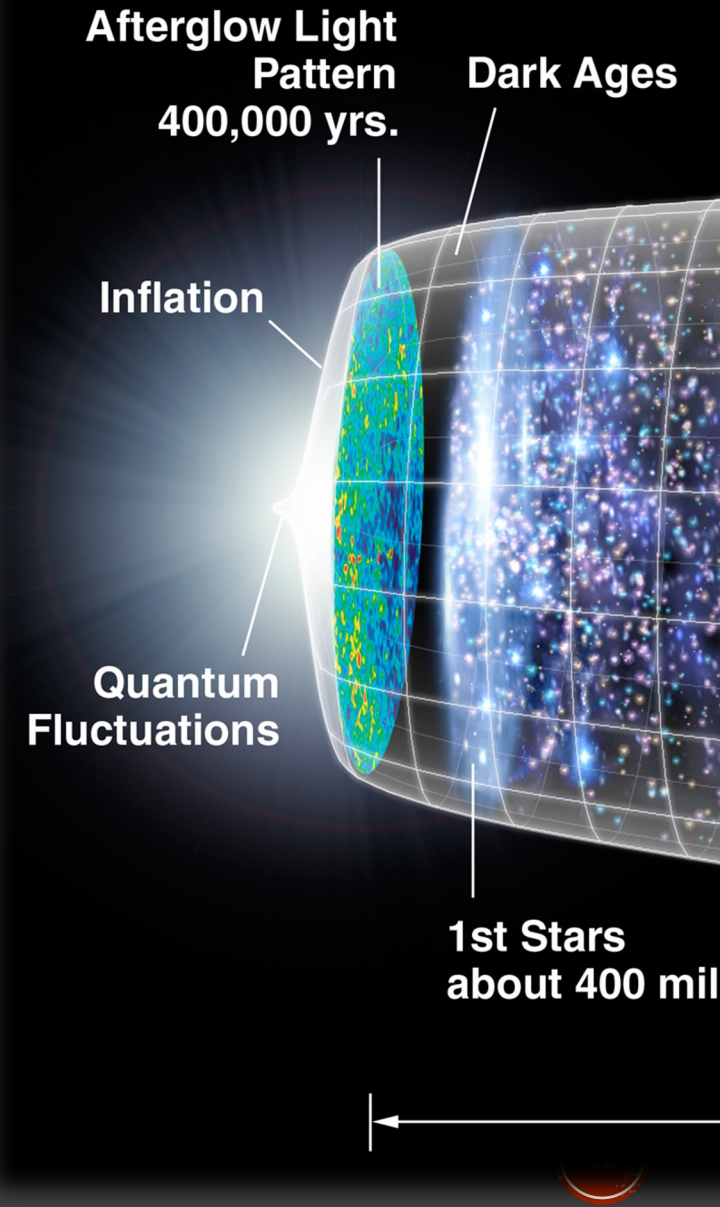
# PRIMORDIAL BLACK HOLES



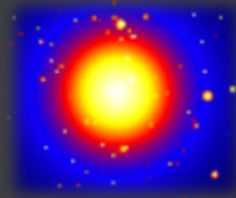
They pop!

# FACTS

- Several mechanisms to generate BHs of non-stellar-collapse origin in the early Universe [e.g. Sasaki+ 2018]
  - Collapse of overdensities
  - Phase transition
- Mass range at truly all scales, from Planck to  $\text{Sun}^n$
- Do they evolve?
  - Accretion, interaction with DM [hot!]
  - Evaporation (Hawking 1974 )
- They can constitute a fraction of DM



# PBH EVAPORATION

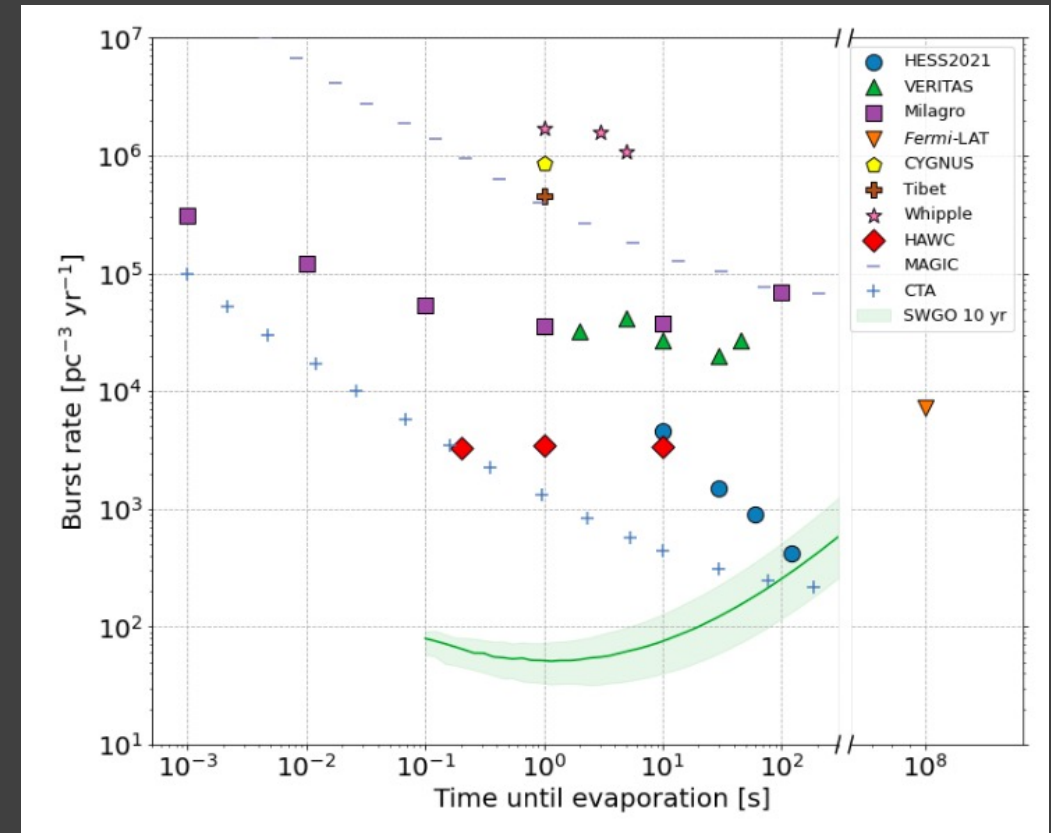


$$\tau_{\text{BH}}(M) = \frac{G^2 M^3}{\hbar c^4} \sim 10^{10} \left( \frac{M}{10^{15} \text{g}} \right)^3 \text{ [yr]}$$

Evaporation time

- 3 regimes:
  - PBH < 10<sup>15</sup>g dead by now...
  - PBH ~ 10<sup>15</sup>g evaporating today!
  - PBH > 10<sup>15</sup>g still around!
- Naïve scenarios, it depends...

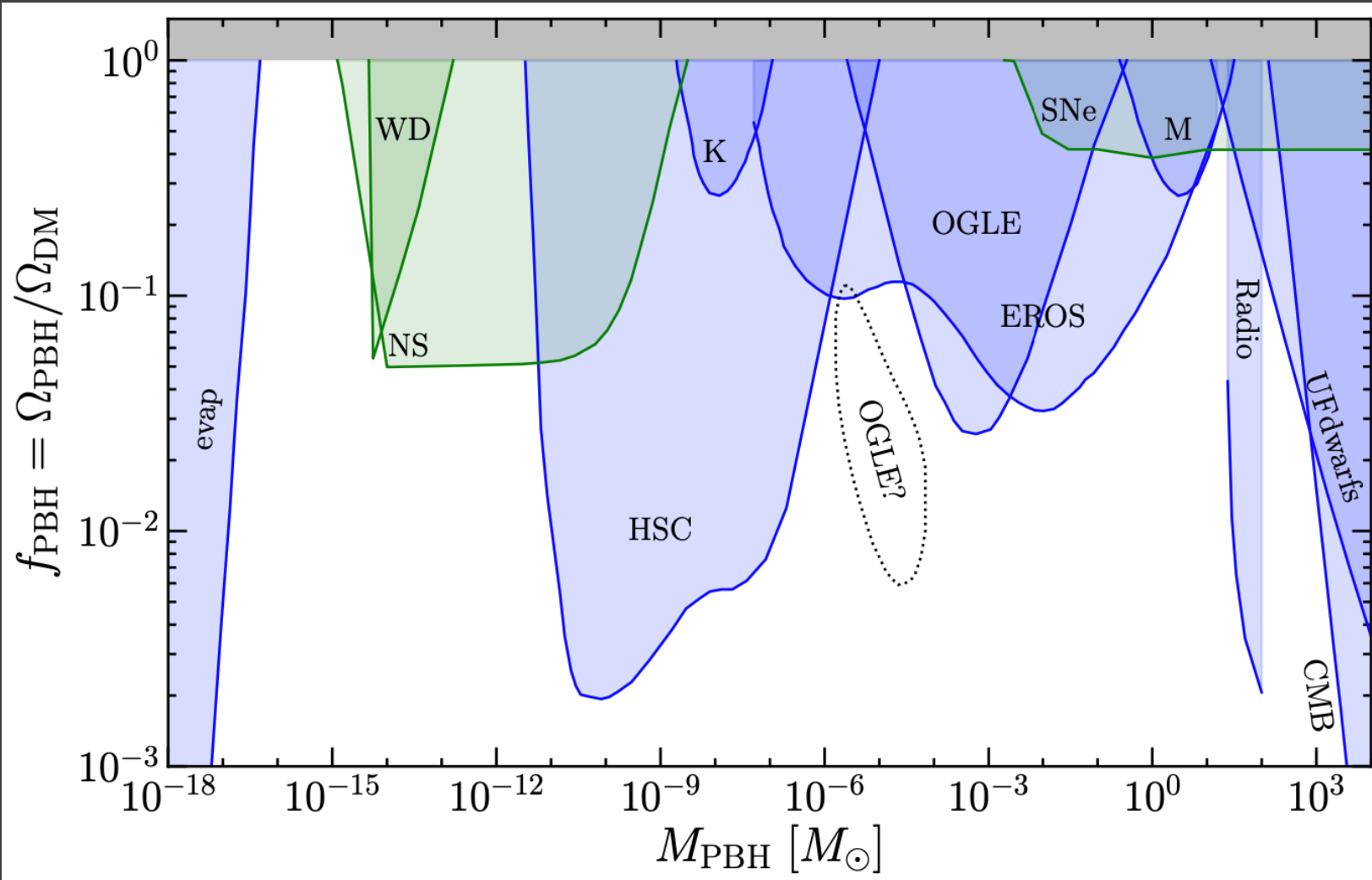
- IACTs: Observable as serendipity flashes in gamma-rays



Lopez Coto, MD, + JCAP 08 (2021) 040

# PBH LIMITS

<https://github.com/bradkav/PBHbounds>



- IACTs limits are buried within Fermi-LAT limits
- However
  - theoretical mapping not complete
  - Events could be left in the plate

# UHE NEUTRINOS



Light meal

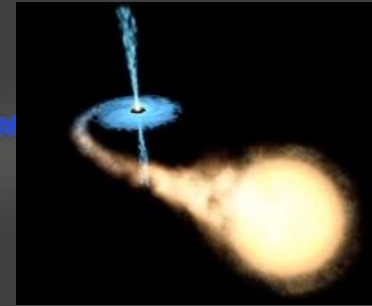
# HIGH-ENERGY NEUTRINOS

Point-like and diffuse  
emitters

Exotic emitters



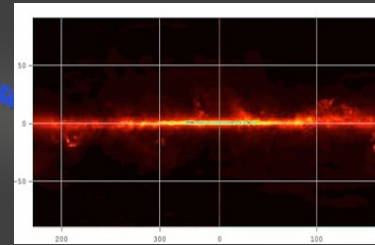
Gamma-ray bursts



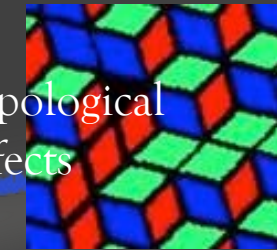
Microquasar and Blazars



Diffuse neutrinos



WIMPs



Topological  
defects

Pions production  
(at source or propagation)

$$p\gamma \rightarrow \Delta^+ \rightarrow \begin{cases} n\pi^+ \\ p\pi^0 \end{cases}$$

$$pp \rightarrow pp\pi^+\pi^-\pi^0$$

Neutrinos production  
(at source or propagation)

$$\pi^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ \nu_\mu$$

$$\mu^+ \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_\mu e^+ \nu_e$$

$$(\nu_e : \nu_\mu : \nu_\tau) = (1 : 2 : 0).$$

...and  $\nu_\tau$ ...

\* At the source if charmed mesons are produced

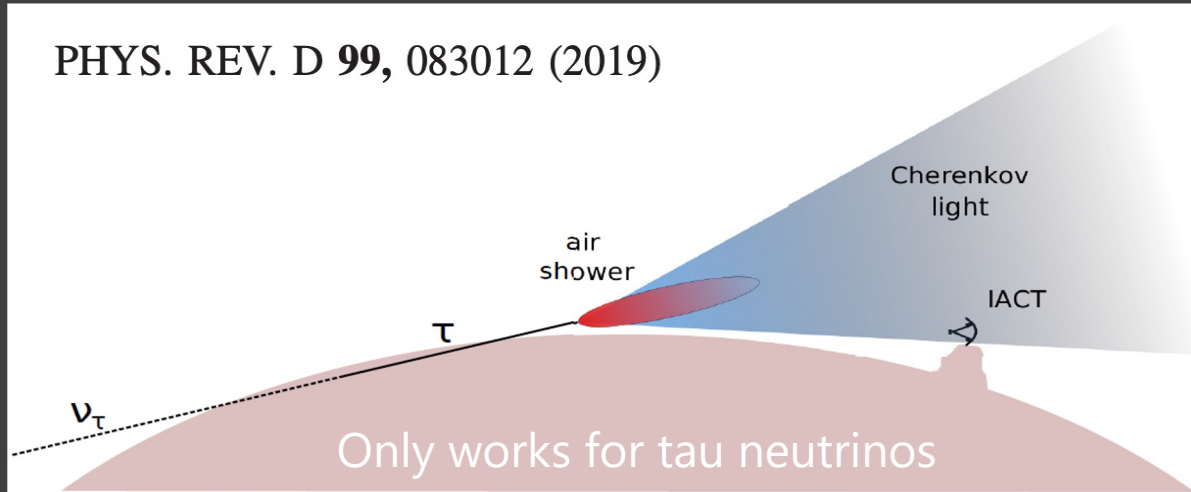
\* At the Earth, after flavor mixing

$$(\nu_e : \nu_\mu : \nu_\tau)_{Earth} = (1 : 1 : 1)$$



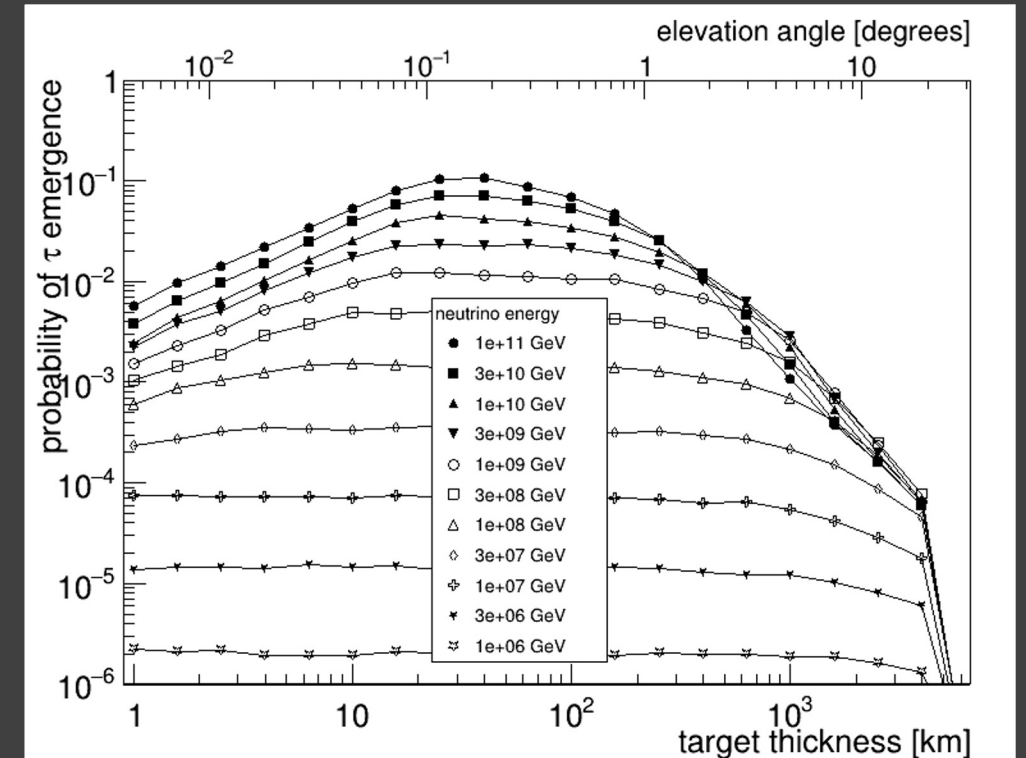
# EARTH-SKIMMING TAU NEUTRINOS

PHYS. REV. D **99**, 083012 (2019)



- The emerging UHE **tauons** can generate e.m. **atmospheric (sub)showers**

Decay	Secondaries	Probability	Air-shower
$\tau \rightarrow \mu^- \bar{\nu}_\mu \nu_\tau$	$\mu^-$	17.4%	weak showers
$\tau \rightarrow e^- \bar{\nu}_e \nu_\tau$	$e^-$	17.8%	1 Electromagnetic
$\tau \rightarrow \pi^- \nu_\tau$	$\pi^-$	11.8%	1 Hadronic
$\tau \rightarrow \pi^- \pi^0 \nu_\tau$	$\pi^-, \pi^0 \rightarrow 2\gamma$	25.8%	1 Hadronic, 2 Electromagnetic
$\tau \rightarrow \pi^- 2\pi^0 \nu_\tau$	$\pi^-, 2\pi^0 \rightarrow 4\gamma$	10.79%	1 Hadronic, 4 Electromagnetic
$\tau \rightarrow \pi^- 3\pi^0 \nu_\tau$	$\pi^-, 3\pi^0 \rightarrow 6\gamma$	1.23%	1 Hadronic, 6 Electromagnetic
$\tau \rightarrow \pi^- \pi^- \pi^+ \nu_\tau$	$2\pi^-, \pi^+$	10%	3 Hadronic
$\tau \rightarrow \pi^- \pi^+ \pi^- \pi^0 \nu_\tau$	$2\pi^-, \pi^+, \pi^0 \rightarrow 2\gamma$	5.18%	3 Hadronic, 2 Electromagnetic

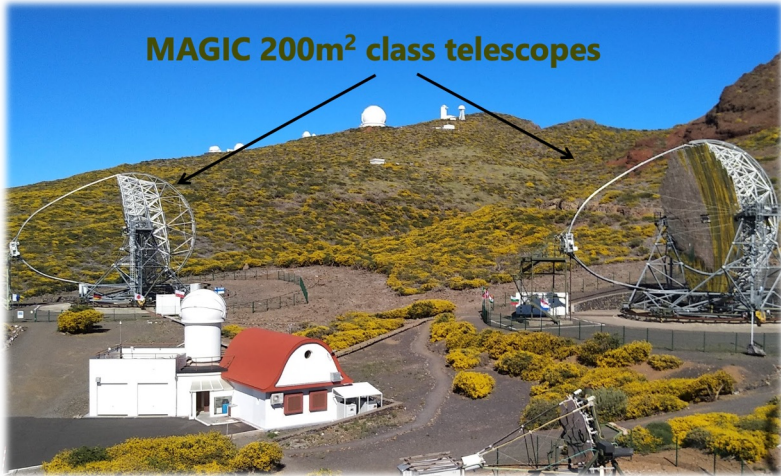


**$10^6$ - $10^{10}$  GeV UHE nu-tau**, when crossing 1-100 km of rock have significant **probability of emerge as tau-lepton**



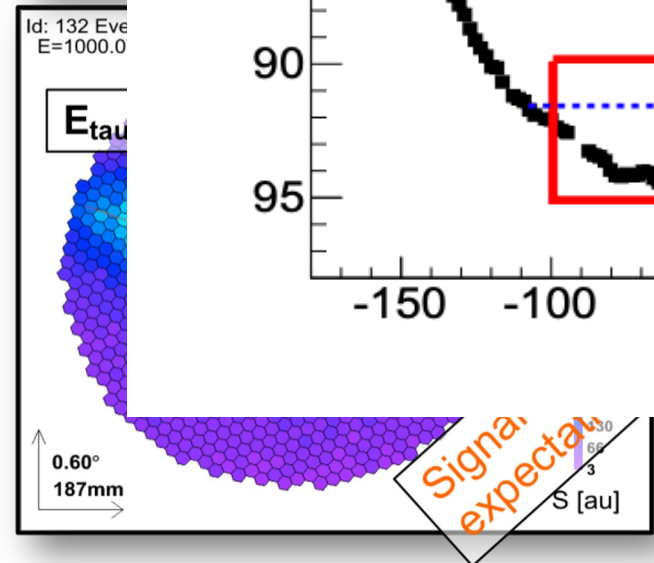
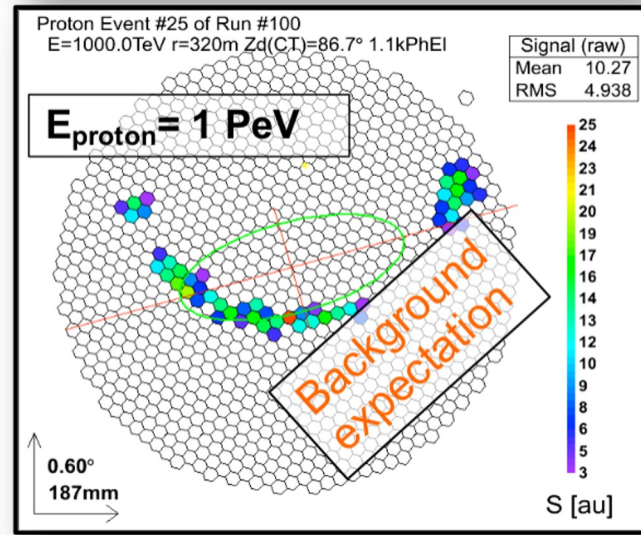
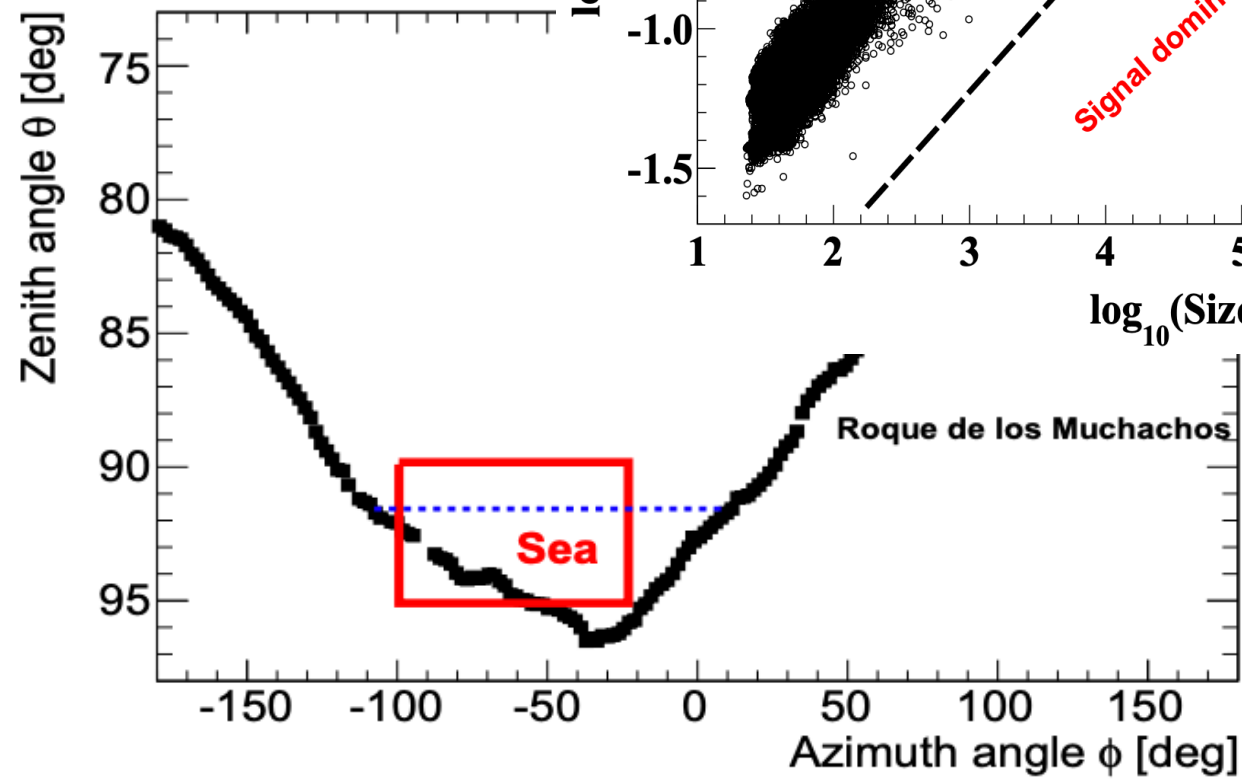
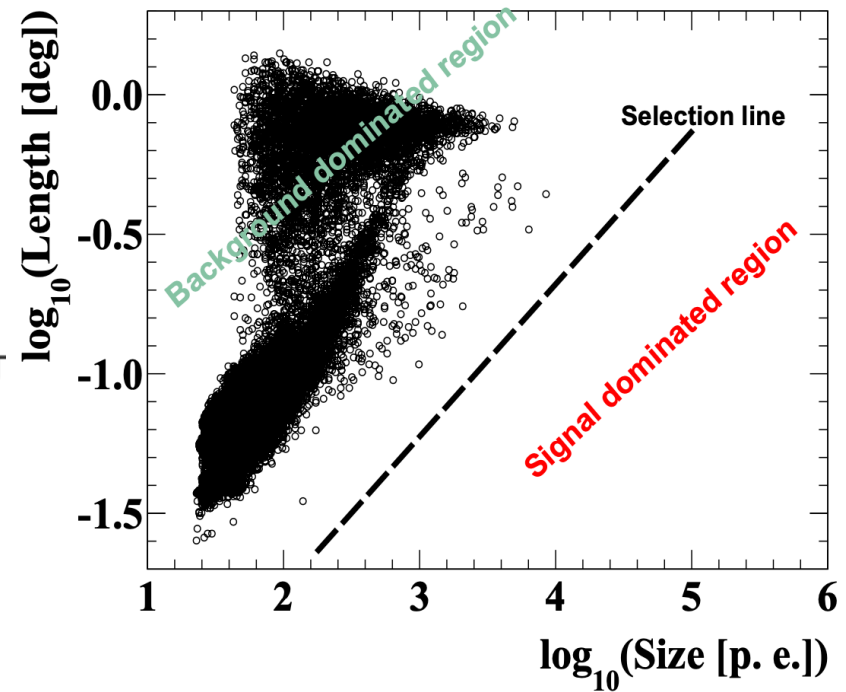
# DEMONSTRATED

# BY MAGIC

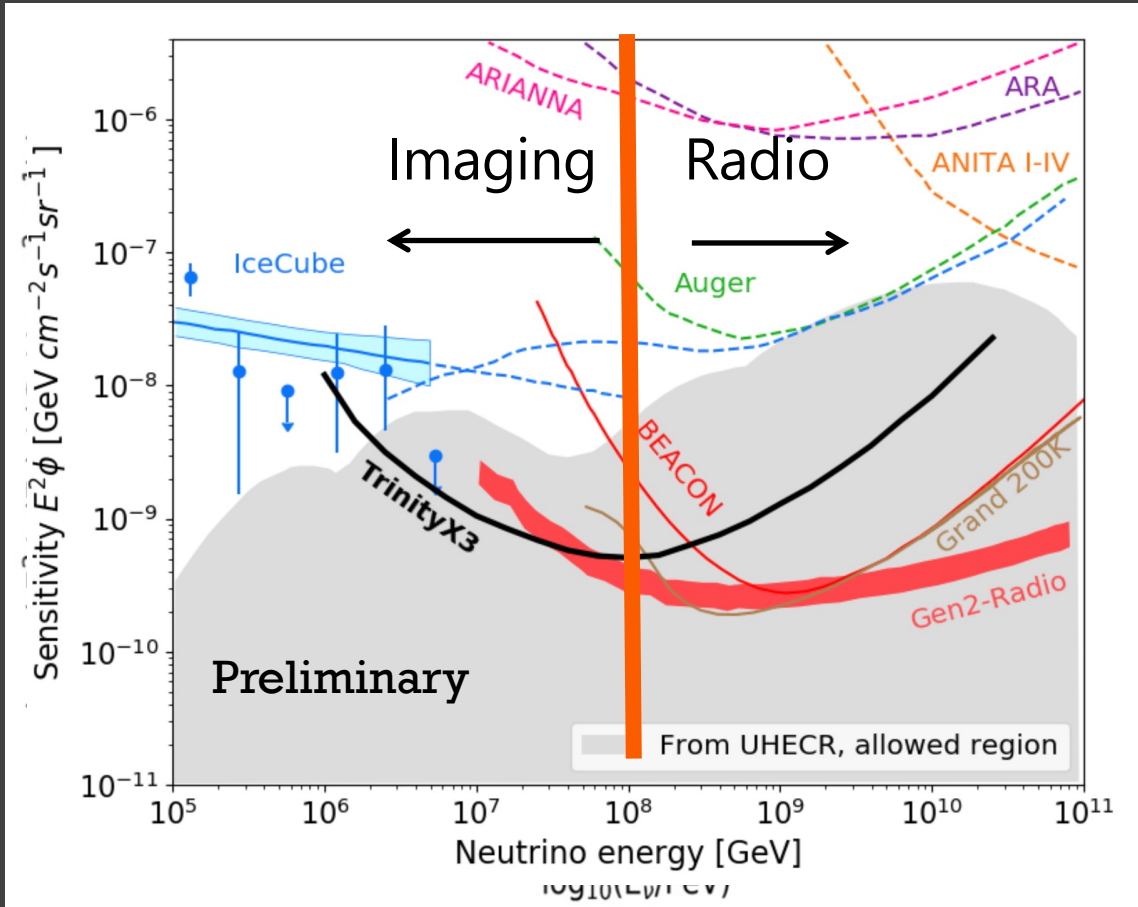


MAGIC (2018), Astropart.Phys. 102,77-88. [Dariusz Gora+]

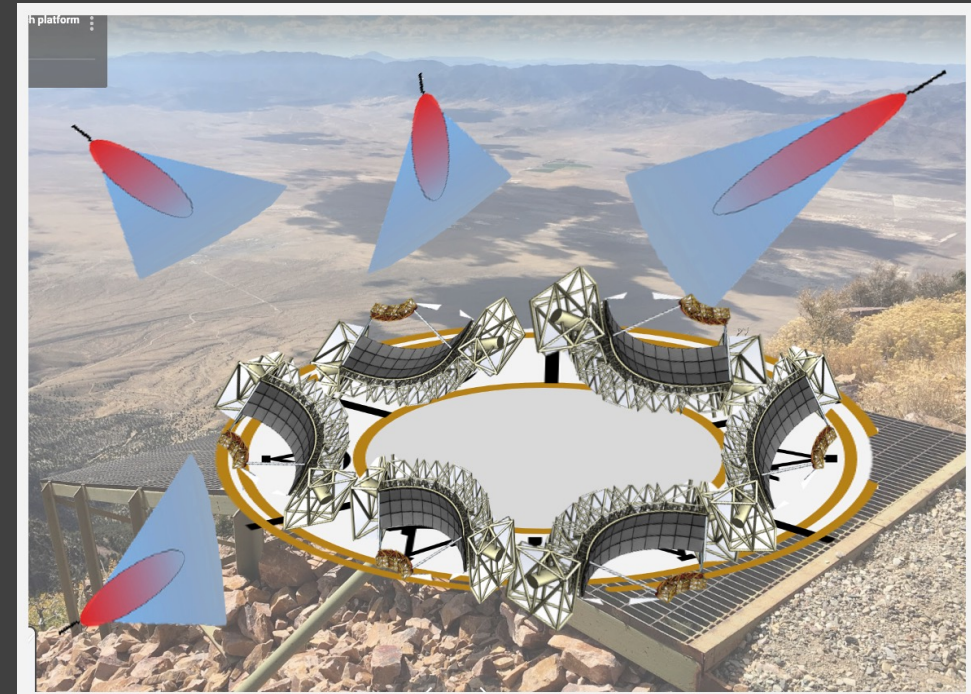
Proton injected at the top of the atmosphere (~800 km to the detector for 87°)



# RESULTS AND OUTLOOK: TRINITY



- Trinity telescopes (PI: N. Otte)
- 6x telescopes
- 60x5 FOV
- Waiting for neutrinos



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OC8GcuyFsqA>

Brown, MD, others ICRC 2021

# LORENTZ INVARIANCE

Calories depends on how fast you eat



# ENERGY-DEPENDENT TIME DELAY

$$v_\gamma = \frac{\partial E_\gamma}{\partial p_\gamma} \simeq c \left[ 1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \eta_n \frac{n+1}{2} \left( \frac{E}{E_{QG,n}} \right)^n \right]$$

- Several theories predict **E-dependent group speed of light**. Related to vacuum properties
- Energy dependence can be
  - Superluminal/subluminal
  - Linear/quadratic/...
  - Proportional/Stochastic

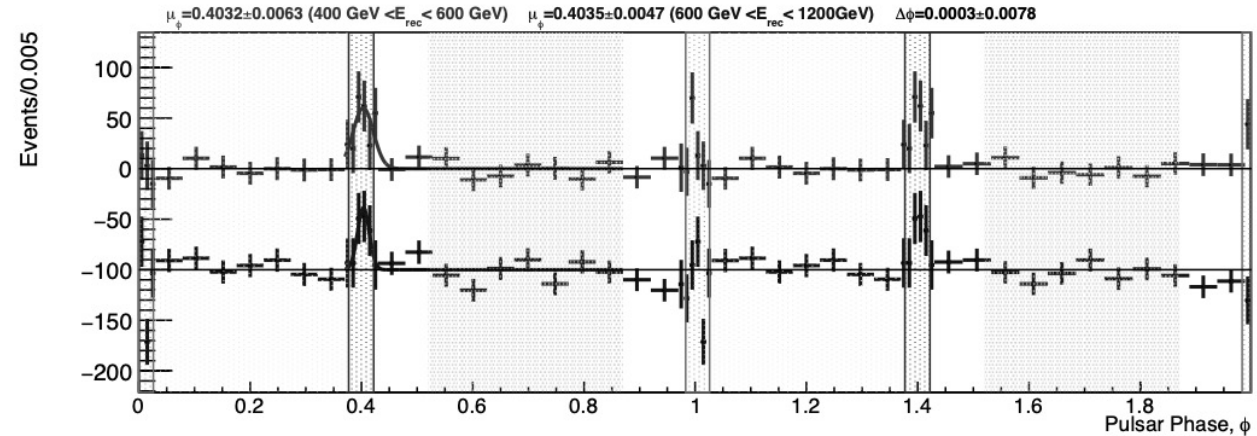


Fig. 7.9. The Crab pulsar folded light curve as measured by MAGIC. Two periods are shown, for high and low gamma-ray energies. The shaded areas define the pulse and inter-pulse regions. **Extracted from Ahnen *et al.* [2017b].**

- Tiny effect at earth, but long-distances allows for accumulation: GRBs, AGN flares, pulsar
- Best limits for quadratic dependence

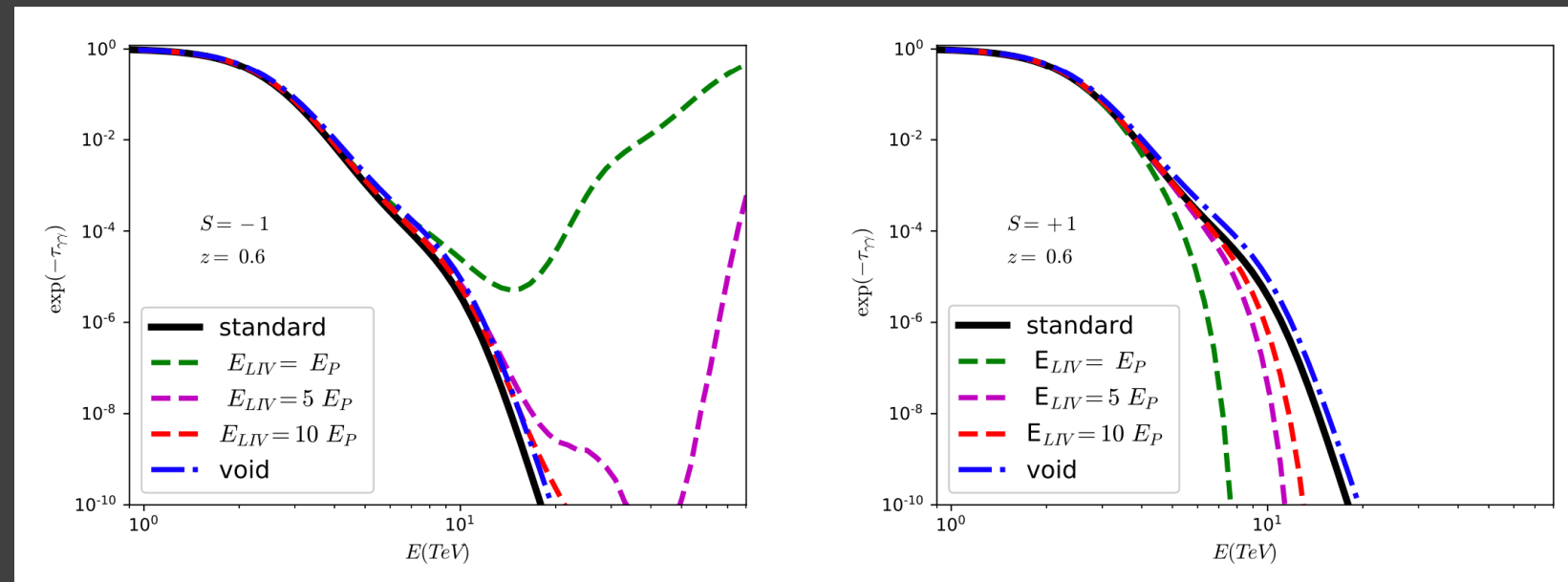
# PAIR PRODUCTION CROSS-SECTION MODIFIED

$$\epsilon'_{\text{th}} = \frac{2m_e^2 c^4}{E'(1 - \cos \theta')} - \frac{\eta_n}{2(1 - \cos \theta')} \left( \frac{E'}{E_{\text{QG},n}} \right)^n E',$$

De los Heros, Terzic

<https://arxiv.org/abs/2209.06531>

- LIV modified the cross-section for pair production.



- Spectra distorted at high energies according to distance and LIV scale

# HUBBLE CONSTANT

Let's digest this dinner



# LIGHT FROM DISTANCE LADDER

- 1/ Compare the integrated galaxy light to the VHE optical depth [Biteau, Williams 2015 *Astrophys.J.* 812 (2015)]
- 2/ Galaxy counts from VHE observation assuming EBL models [Dominguez, Prada 2013, *Astrophys.J.Lett.* 771]
- Compatible

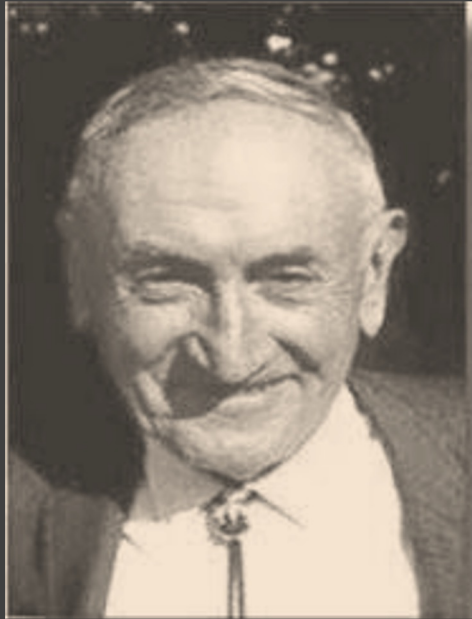
To appear in Mukherjee, Zanin +

# DINNER SERVED

“Fritz, what do you say?”







## TASTE GOOD!

- Tens of astro-laboratories with varying distance, age, energy, B-field, stability → pick your favorite
- Several theories BSM involving gamma-rays (decay, annihilation, conversion) → pick your guy



## BUT, WHO PAYS THE DINNER?

- Limits are model dependent (accuracy? likelihood?)
- Are we leaning anything at all...?



# IACT 'LEFTOVERS'

- Several studies I showed used IACT leftovers!
- CTA will generate a huge amount of 'waste' that cannot be saved (PB)
- It is of utmost importance to
  - **Envisage search pipeline for new hidden physics signal NOW!**
  - Not to throw it away forever



**AFTER DINNER,  
HAVING DRUNKED  
TOO MUCH,  
GOING BACK HOME**

**Thanks!**